

Fibrillar Self-Assembly of a Chimeric Elastin-Resilin Inspired Engineered Polypeptide

Angelo Bracalello ¹, Valeria Secchi ^{2,*}, Roberta Mastrantonio ², Antonietta Pepe ¹, Tiziana Persichini ²,
Giovanna Iucci ², Brigida Bochicchio ^{1,*} and Chiara Battocchio ^{2,*}

¹ Department of Sciences, University of Basilicata, Via Ateneo Lucano, 10, 85100 Potenza, Italy;
angelo.bracalello@unibas.it (A.B.); antonietta.pepe@unibas.it (A.P.)

² Department of Sciences, University of Roma Tre, Via della Vasca Navale, 79, 00146 Rome, Italy;
roberta.mastrantonio@uniroma3.it (R.M.); tiziana.persichini@uniroma3.it (T.P.); giovanna.iucci@uniroma3.it (G.I.)

* Correspondence: chiara.battocchio@uniroma3.it (C.B.); valeria.secchi@uniroma3.it (V.S.);
brigida.bochicchio@unibas.it (B.B.); Tel: +39 06 5733 3400 (C.B.)

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Gene *rel*

5' GGTAAGAAAAAGCCGGTATCGGATACCTATGGCGCTCCTGGCGGCGGTAATGGCGGGCGTCCGA
GCGATACATATGGTGCCCCGGGTGGAGGGAACGGCGGACGCCCCGAGTGACACCTATGGCGCACCAG
GCGGAGGGAATGGCGGTTCGCCCTCCGATACGTACGGTGCGCCAGGTGGCGGCAACGGTGGGCGTC
CGGGCCTGGGCGGCGTAGGTCTGGGCGGTGTAGGTCTTGGTGGCGTTGGTAAG3'

Gene *eln*

5' GGTGCCCCGTCCGGGTGTGGGTGTTGGCGGTATTCCGACCTATGGTGTGGGTGCCGGCGGTTTTTC
CGGGTTTTTGGTGTGGTGTGGGCGGTATCCCGGGTGTTCGCCGGCGTGCCGAGCGTTGGCGGTGTCC
CGGGCGTGGGCGGTGTTCCGGGTGTCGGCATTCTAAACTGGGCGGTCTGGGTGTGGGCGGTCTGG
GTGTGCCGGGTGTTGGCGGTCTGGGCGGTTCGTGGCGATAGCCCGCTGGGCGGTCTGGGCGTTGGCG
GTCTGGGCGTTCCTGGTGTGGGCGGTTTTAGGCAAAGGTGCACGTCCGGGTGTTGGTGTCCGGCGTA
TTCCGACGTACGGTGTGGGCGCTGGCGGTTTTCCGGGTTTCGGCGTTGGCGTTGGCGGTATTCCGG
GTGTTGCCGGTGTCCCGAGTGTGGGCGGTGTTCTGGTGTCCGGCGGTGTGCCGGGCGTTGGTATCT
CCGGTAAGCCTGGT3'

Figure S1. The designed oligonucleotide sequences of the (A) *rel*, and (B) *eln* genes. *rel* gene codifies for K-Res-(LGGVG)₃-K and *eln* gene codifies for EX20-K-EX30_18-RGD-EX30_18-K-EX20-K.

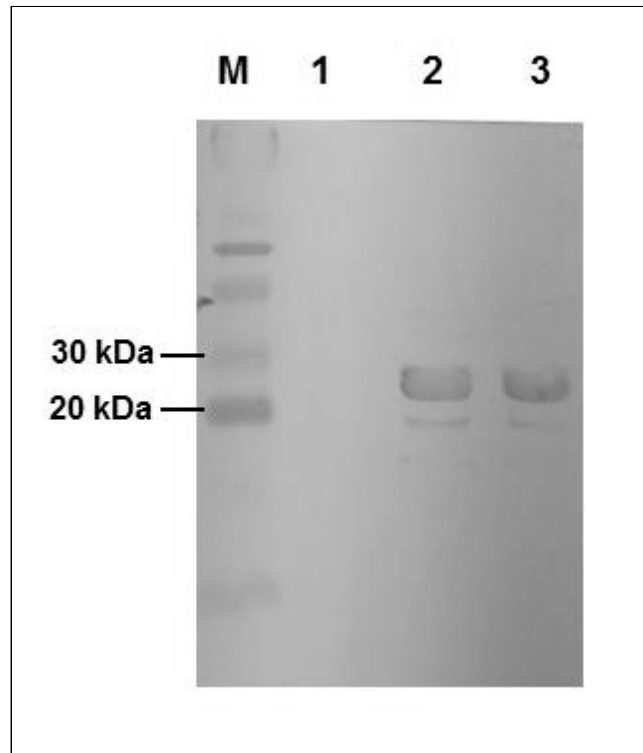


Figure 2. Western blotting analysis of His₆ RE polypeptide in induced and uninduced BL21DE3 cells. Total cell lysates were size fractionated in a 12%-4% SDS-PAGE gel. The fractionated proteins were transferred to a PVDF membrane and the RE polypeptide was detected by incubation with monoclonal anti-polyhistidine peroxidase conjugate antibody (Sigma). Lane M: ColorBurst™ electrophoresis marker (8,000-220,000 Da, Sigma); lane 1: uninduced culture; lane 2,3: induced culture.

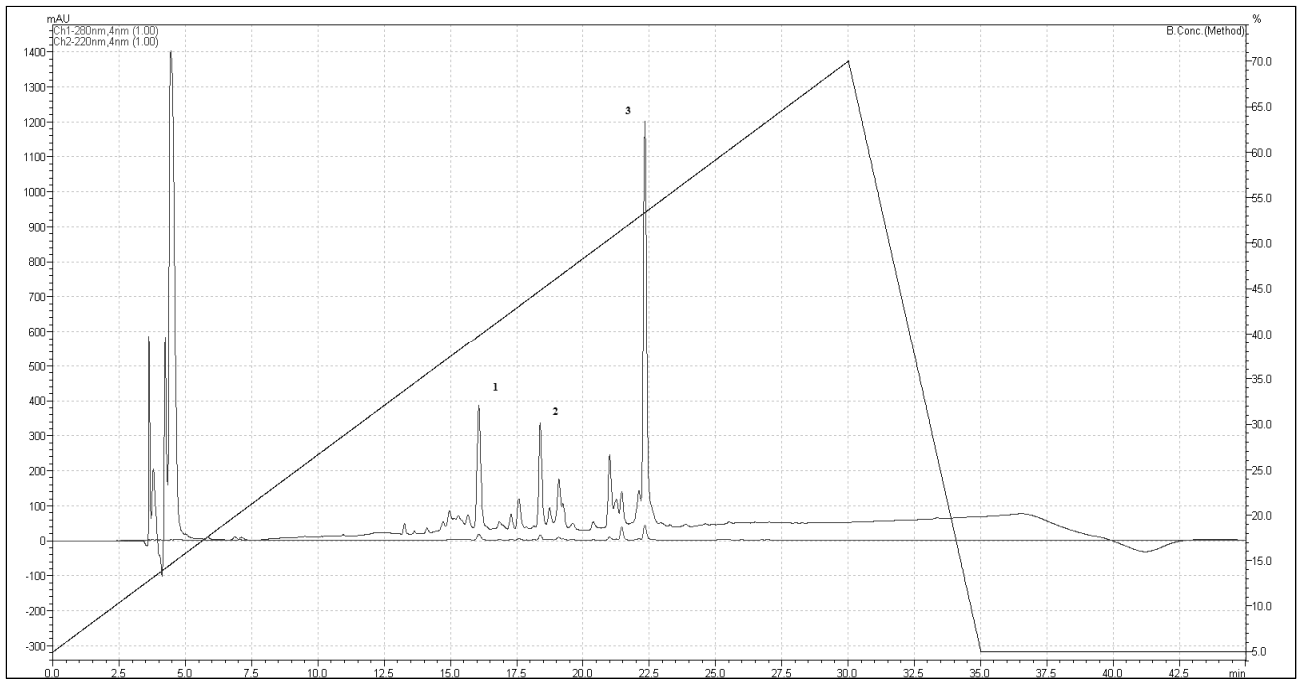


Figure S3. RP-HPLC chromatogram of RE polypeptide. Three fractions were collected at the following retention time 16.2 (peak 1), 18.6 (peak 2) and 22.4 min (peak 3).

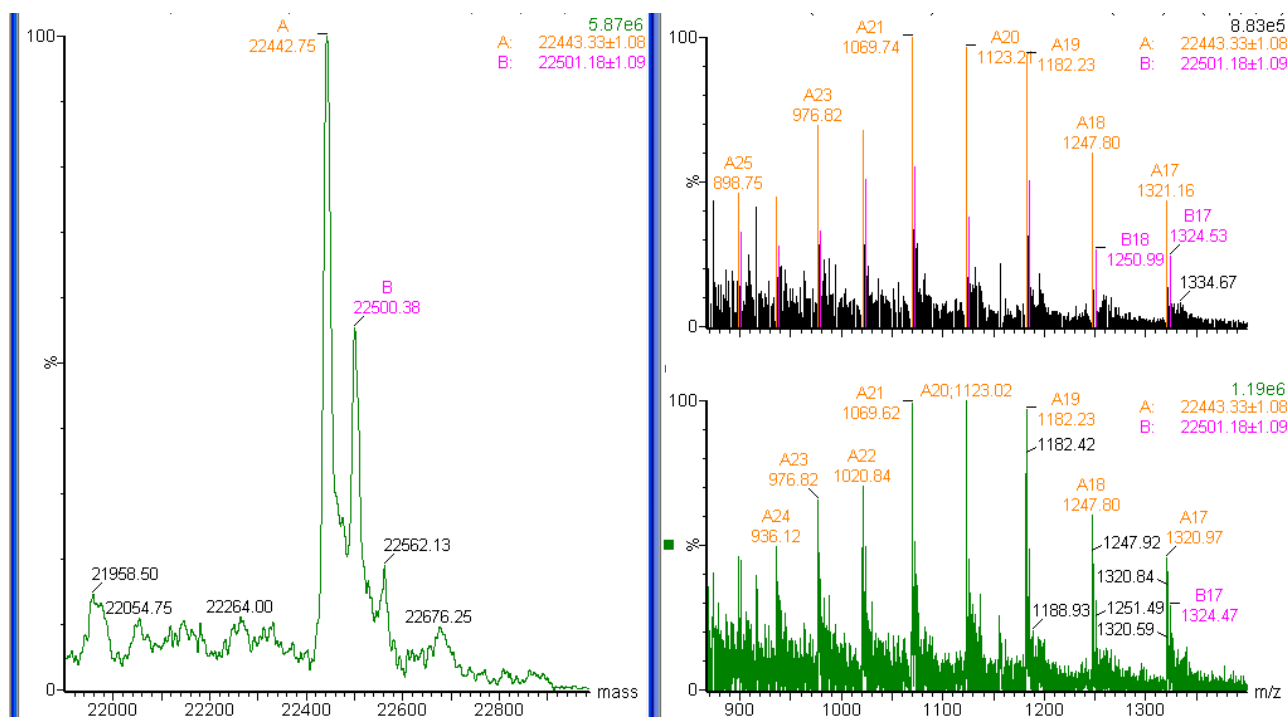


Figure S4. ESI-MS spectrum of RE polypeptide: deconvoluted mass spectrum (left); experimental ESI-MS spectra showing multiply charged ions of RE polypeptide (right). An label corresponds to $[M+nH]^{n+}$, while Bn label corresponds to $[M+(n-2)H+Na+K]^{n+}$.

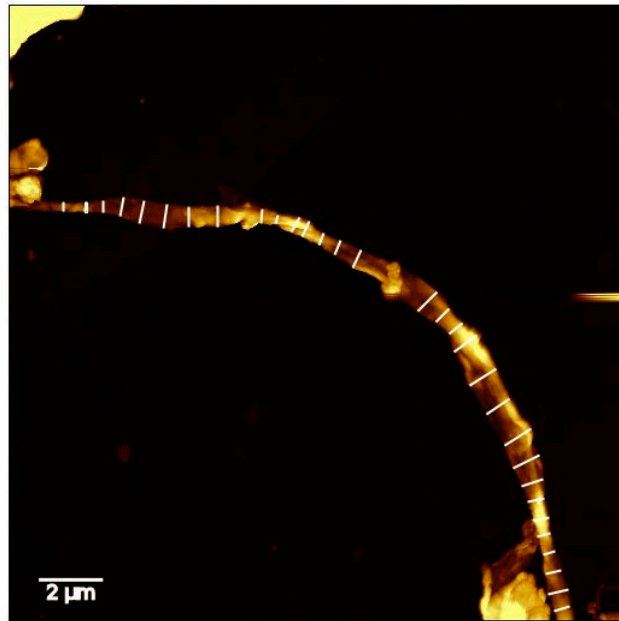


Figure S5. AFM image of aggregated RE polypeptide. The white lines highlight the diameter measurements performed by ImageJ measurement tool. The mean diameter of the fiber is 0.588 ± 0.210 μm (n=33), ranging from a minimum value of 0.283 μm to a maximum measured value of 1.005 μm.

Table S1: Details on utilized PCR protocols

Primers	Sequences ^a	PCR cycles ^b
<i>rel</i> forward <i>rel</i> reverse	5'-GGTAAAAAAAAAGCCGGTATCG-3' 5'- <u>GAAGACGA</u> ACCAAGCTTACCAACGCCA-3'	95 °C x 5'; 35 cycles: 95 °C x 1', 56 °C x 1', 70 °C x 1'; 70 °C x 5'.
<i>eln</i> forward <i>eln</i> reverse	5'-GAAGACGATGGTGCCCGTCCGGGTGT-3' 5'- <u>GAAGACGA</u> ACCAGGCTTACCGGAGATAC-3'	95 °C x 5'; 35 cycles: 95 °C x 1', 58 °C x 1', 70 °C x 1'; 70 °C x 5'.
<i>re</i> forward <i>re</i> reverse	5'- GACGACGACAAGATGGGTAAAAAAAAAGCCGGTATCG- 3' 5'- GAGGAGAAGCCCGGTTAACCAGGCTTACCGGAGATAC- 3'	95° C x 5'; 30 cycles: 95°C x 1', 60°C x 1', 70 °C x 1'; 70 °C x 5'

^a BbsI restriction site is underlined; the T (in bold) downstream of the BbsI restriction site, is necessary to restore the correct nucleotide sequence of the chimeric gene;

^b PCR reaction utilized Eurotaq polymerase (EuroClone), dNTP (Amersham) in a Thermal Cycler peqSTART96 (Sigma);

Table S2. Experimental and theoretical results of amino acid composition of RE

	Molar ratio		Molar ratio		
	Experimental	Theoretical	Experimental	Theoretical	
Asx	13.9	13	Ile	5.88	6
Thr	5.88	6	Leu	11.95	12
Ser	8.25	9	Tyr	5.88	6
Glx	0.29	-	Phe	4.08	4
Pro	26.37	27	His ^a	8.73	6
Gly	106.34	105	Lys	7.97	8
Ala	11.00	11	Arg	7.30	7
Val	34.91	35	Cys	n.d.	-
Met	n.d.	2	Trp	n.d.	-

^a His quantification is affected by the high peak of Gly that elutes near His retention time

Table S3. C1s, O1s, N1s SR-XPS data

<i>Table S3. C1s, O1s, N1s SR-XPS data</i>				
C1s	Center	Area	FWHM	Assignment
RE				
	285.00	58551.8	1.46	C-C
	286.48	13565	1.46	C-N;C-O
	288.45	8525.1	1.46	N-C=O--H
Aggregated RE				
	285.00	1869.9	1.4	C-C
	286.55	845.28	1.4	C-N;C-O
	287.786	598.834	1.4	N-C=O
O1s	Center	Area	FWHM	Assignment
RE				
	531.56	1620	1.78	N-C=O
	532.52	1893	1.78	O-C
	534.06	145	1.78	Phys. H ₂ O
Aggregated RE				
	531.60	4606	1.26	N-C=O
	534.36	854	1.26	O-C
	535.50	133	1.26	Phys. H ₂ O
N1s	Center	Area	FWHM	Assignment
RE				
	399.24	435	2.17	
	400.78	128	2.17	
Aggregated RE				
	398.86	345	1.57	
	400.50	53	1.57	