1138-92-270Shantia Yarahmadian\* (syarahmadian@math.msstate.edu), 410 Allen Hall, Mississippi State<br/>University, Mississippi State, MS 39762. A Mathematical Model for Amyloid-  $\beta$  Aggregation in the<br/>Presence of Metal Ions. Preliminary report.

The aggregation of amyloid- $\beta$  (A $\beta$ ) proteins through their self-assembly into oligomers, fibrils, or senile plaques is advocated as a key process of Alzheimer's disease. Recent studies have revealed that metal ions play an essential role in modulating the aggregation rate of amyloid- $\beta$  (A $\beta$ ) into senile plaques because of high binding affinity between A $\beta$ proteins and metal ions. Here, we proposed a mathematical model as a system of coupled kinetic equations that simulates the self-assembly of amyloid- $\beta$  (A $\beta$ ) proteins in the presence of metal ions. The numerical simulations capture four timescales in the A $\beta$  dynamics associated with three important events which include the formation of the amyloid-metal complex, the homogeneous aggregation of the amyloid-metal complexes, and the non-homogeneous aggregation of the amyloid-metal complexes. (Received February 12, 2018)