



• The study of glycobiology necessitates material science approaches



Beyond the Genome: Encoding information with glycans



- Glycans are not encoded by genes
- Glycan structures reflect physiological state of cells
- Glycans can create diversity beyond that of the Genome and the Proteome
- Glycans are difficult to synthesize and characterize

Glycopoteins – breaking the sugar code



Mucin glycoproteins protect surfaces of epithelial cells



9C2713 [RM] © www.visualphotos.com

Intestinal epithelium, TEM Don W. Fawcett

Essentials of Glycobiology http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK1908/



Mucins carry a diverse range of branched glycan structures



Singh and Hollingsworth Trends Cell Biol. 16, 467 (2006)



Mucin glycosylation changes in response to altered physiological state



Singh and Hollingsworth Trends Cell Biol. 16, 467 (2006)



Cancer-specific glycans can be explored for therapeutic gains



- diagnostic and prognostic biomarkers
- cancer vaccine targets
- antigens for targeted delivery of therapeutics



Specificity of glycan recognition is achieved through multivalency



face-to-face

low binding affinity for single glycans ($K_d \sim 100 \ \mu M$)

multivalency enhances binding avidity (K_d~ 10 nM)



bind-and-slide

enhanced avidity is the result of prolonged persistence time of the complex

crosslinking is associated with activation of signaling cascades

Brewer J. Biol. Chem. 282, 28256 (2007)



Glycan multivalency in receptor binding



Kiessling and Grim Chem. Soc. Rev. 42, 4476 (2013)

Receptor oligomerization and signal transduction





Kiessling and Grim Chem. Soc. Rev. 42, 4476 (2013)



Glycopolymers – versatile mucin mimetics



Kiessling and Grim Chem. Soc. Rev. 42, 4476 (2013)



RAFT glycopolymers to probe mucin biology



- synthetically tractable
- uniform glycan structures and programmable valency
- extended, mucin-like architectures
- well-defined lengths matching the dimensions of native mucins
- functionalized for surface immobilization and probe conjugation



Design of mucin-mimetic glycodomain





Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 48, 4973 (2009)

Synthesis of mucin mimetics



Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 48, 4973 (2009)



Methods to measure interactions of glycoconjugates with proteins

Isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC):



Molar Ratio



Methods to measure interactions of glycoconjugates with proteins

Competition assays with soluble glycoconjugates:





Glycan arrays enable high-throughput analysis of lectin specificities

current microarrays now encompass more than 600 mammalian glycans





Rillahan and Paulson Annu. Rev. Biochem. 80, 797 (2011)



Mucin mimetics allow for control over glycan presentation in microarrays

CONVENTIONAL ARRAY



poorly controlled glycan presentation

MUCIN MIMETIC ARRAY



polymer structure dictates spatial glycan arrangements



Evaluation of the effects of GalNAc valency on lectin binding



GalNAc valency: 70-170 maximum length ~ 25 nm



polymer spacing on array ~ 35 nm

The polymers were recognized by soybean agglutinin (SBA)

Quantitative evaluation of binding avidities



Gordus and MacBeath J. Am. Chem. Soc. 128, 13668 (2006)



Mucin mimetic array reveals differences in lectins' sensitivity to GalNAc valency



Godula and Bertozzi J. Am. Chem. Soc. 134, 15732 (2012) Brewer J. Biol. Chem. 282, 28256 (2007) Oyelaran et al J. Proteom. Res. 8, 3529 (2009)



The two profiles represent the basic modes of lectin recognition



Brewer J. Biol. Chem. 2007, 282, 28256



Mucin mimetic array can reveal higher-order binding interactions



Mucin mimetic array with variable glycopolymer surface density



75

150

400



average polymer spacing



SBA crosslinks mucin mimetics at valencies below 110





No crosslinking is observed in monomeric lectins





Helix pomatia agglutinin (HPA) does not crosslink the surface-bound mimetics







Gupta *et al Biochemistry* 33, 7495 (1994) Sanchez *et al J. Biol. Chem.* 281, 20171 (2006)



Hypothesis: mode and kinetics of binding likely determine the extent of crosslinking



face-to-face binding rapid and "irreversible"



bind-and-slide mode reversible and dynamic Pathogens utilize cell surface glycans to gain entry into host cells



pulmonary epithelial cell

swine flu: 3' and 6' recognizes both linkages



Array platform to study Influenza A interactions with surface glycans



Huang, Cohen, Fisher, Schooley, Gagneux, Godula ChemComm (ASAP 2015)



Modeling infection: the "There and back again" approach



Chris Fisher



The "There and back again" strategy



transient modification synchronized with membrane self renewal

Godula and Bertozzi *JACS 132*, 9963 (2010) Godula, Rabuka, Umbell, Bertozzi and Parthasarathy *JACS 131*, 10263 (2009) Rabuka, Forstner, Groves, Bertozzi *JACS 130*, 5947 (2008)

Glycopolymer assembly via "reverse" ligation of reducing glycans





Assembly of mucin mimetics for sialoglycan display in microarrays





Huang, Cohen, Fisher, Schooley, Gagneux, Godula ChemComm (ASAP 2015)



Construction and characterization of a density variant sialoglycan array



Huang, Cohen, Fisher, Schooley, Gagneux, Godula ChemComm (2015)



Binding of H1N1 Influenza virus to mucin-mimetic glycan array



Huang, Cohen, Fisher, Schooley, Gagneux, Godula ChemComm (2015)



Priming the glycocalyx of MDCK cells for Influenza A infection





Mucins create physical barriers



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The mucin paradox



- bulky glycoproteins, such as MUC1, are overexpressed in aggressive cancers
- mucins may provide protection and enable survival in host tissues
- the rigidity of mucins may affect cancer cell adhesion and spreading



Mucin may promote formation of focal adhesions in soft tissues





Model for mechanical priming of cancer cells for adhesion



Paszek et al. PLoS Comp. Biol. 5, e1000604 (2009)



Lipid-terminated mucin mimetics are fluid in supported lipid bilayers



J. Am. Chem. Soc. 131, 10263 (2009)



Mucin mimetics accommodate upright orientation in supported lipid bilayers

Fluorescence Interference Contrast (FLIC) Microscopy



Lambacher & Fromherz, *Appl. Phys. A* 1996, *63*, 207 Boxer *et al. Langmuir* 2005, *21*, 4976

for ~30 nm mucin mimetic:	
h _{lipid-TR}	5.5 ± 0.9 nm
h _{mimetic-AF}	16.7 ± 1.1 nm
Δh	11.2 ± 1.2 nm
$\Delta h \sim 1/2 L = 15 nm$	

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 131, 10263 (2009)



Construction of a synthetic Glycocalyx





Mucin mimetics slow adhesion of MCF10A epithelial cells to fibronectin substrates





Long mucin mimetic drives the formation of focal adhesions





Long mucin mimetics are excluded from focal adhesions









Long mucin mimetics enhance cell survival in a soft matrix

50 *** 40 cell death (%) 30 20 10 0 cont no no ont polymer length

Conclusion:

The biomechanical properties of the Glycocalyx allow cancer cells to adhere and survive in soft tissues.

The Glycocalyx controls cellular activity



Glycomaterials to probe and influence glycan interactions



Roy et al *BJPS 49*, 85 (2013)



Glycodendrimers – soluble multivalent ligands to stimulate antibody response





Glycodendrimers – soluble multivalent ligands to inhibit pathogen interactions



G2 mannosylated glycodendrimer 500-fold more potent than mannose

Roy et al *BJPS 49*, 85 (2013) Turnbull, Stoddart, Rev. Mol. Biol. *90*, 231 (2002)



Glyco-nanoparticles for biomedical use



multifunctional surfaces optical properties label-free detection (Au)

Roy et al *BJPS 49*, 85 (2013)