

# Bacterial-Toxin Inhibition using Multivalent Scaffolds

Sarah-Jane Richards & Matthew I.  
**Gibson**

Department of Chemistry, University of Warwick, UK

[S-J.Richards@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:S-J.Richards@warwick.ac.uk)

[www.warwick.ac.uk/go/gibsongroup](http://www.warwick.ac.uk/go/gibsongroup)



7<sup>th</sup> RSC Biomaterials Chemistry Meeting, Sheffield. 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>  
January 2013

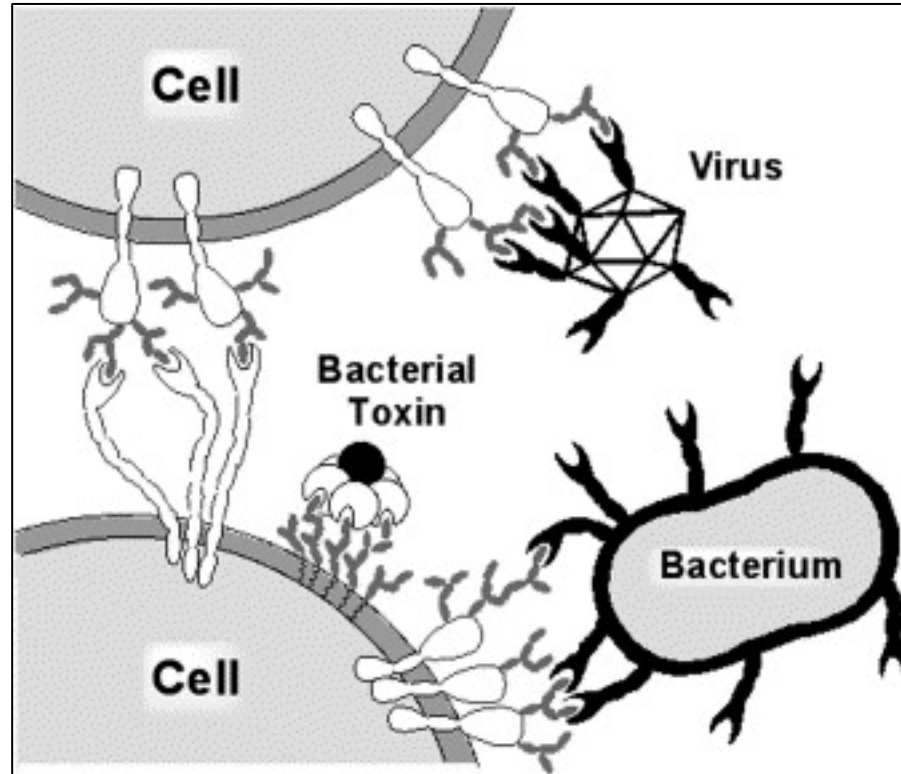
THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**WARWICK**

# Protein-Carbohydrate Interactions

Cell signalling

Fertilisation

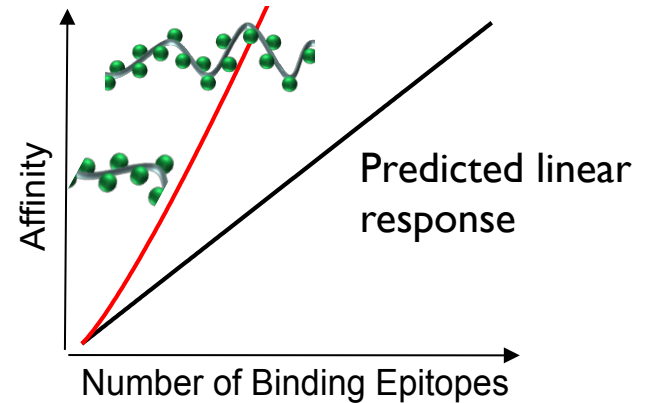
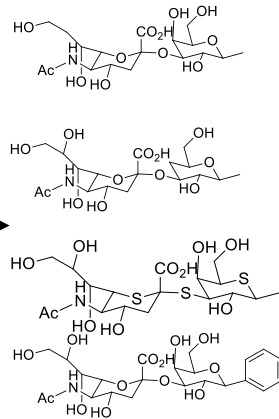
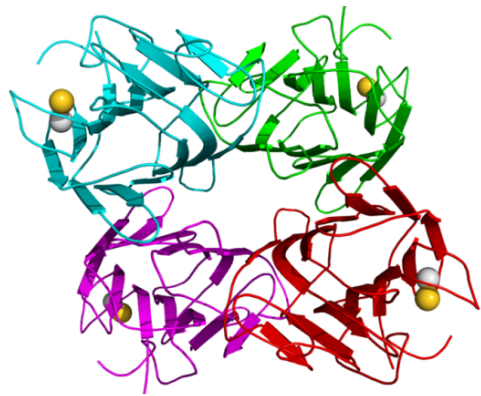
Inflammation



Cellular adhesion of

- Viruses
- Bacterium
- Bacterial toxins

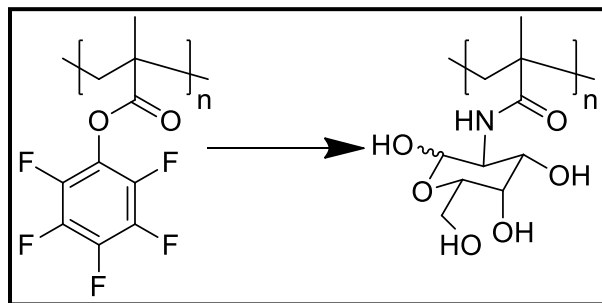
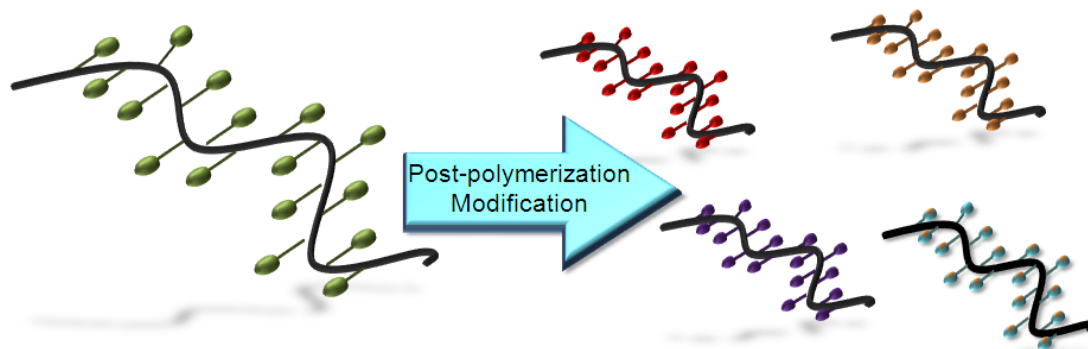
# Why Materials?



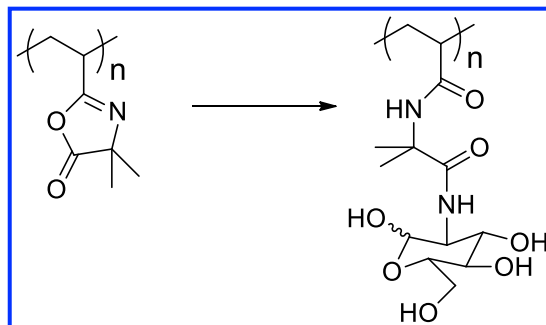
Structural Biology – Organic Synthesis

Cell Surface Glycans – Materials Science/multivalency

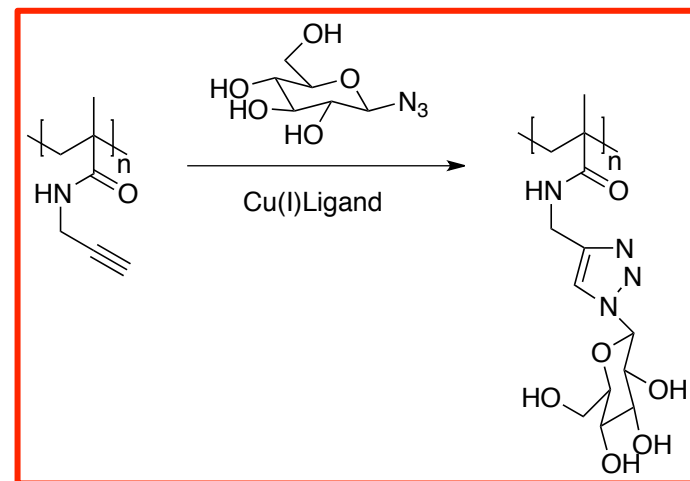
# Glycopolymers by Post-Polymerisation Modification



Gibson, M. I. et al., *J. Pol. Sci. A.*, **2009**, 47, 4332



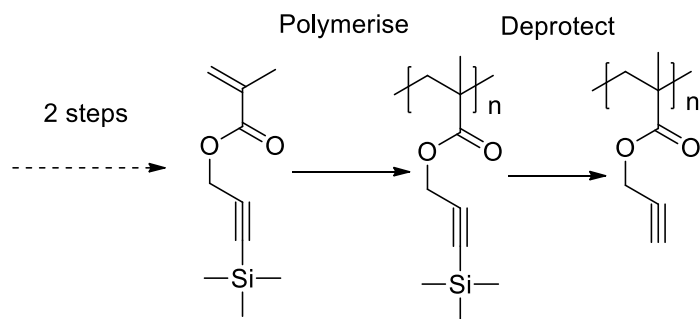
Jones, M.W.; *Polym. Chem.*, **2013**, *In press*



Haddleton, D. M. et al., *JACS*, **2006**, 128, 4823

# Practicalities

Scaffold synthesis can be inefficient



- Monomer synthesis is not always straightforward
- Atom efficiency is poor
- Copolymers require knowledge of reactivity ratios

## Variables:

Polymer Length

Carbohydrate

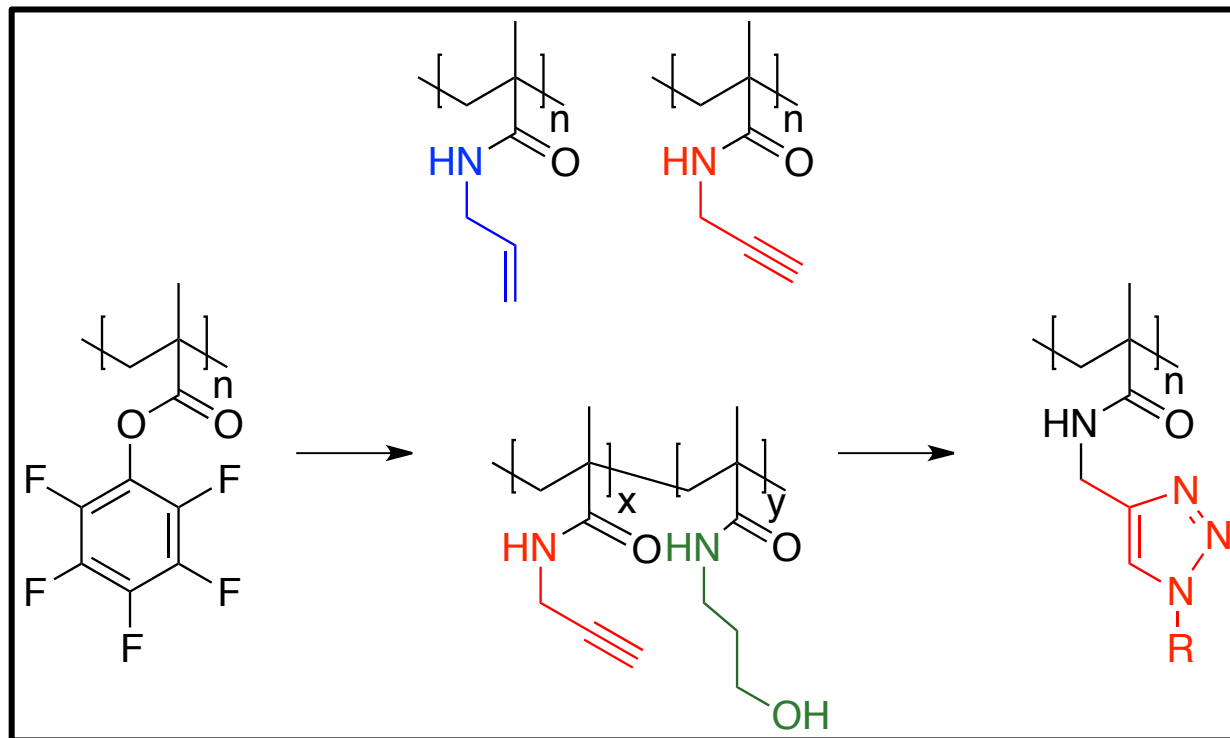
Linker Length

Co-monomers

Linking to non-azides

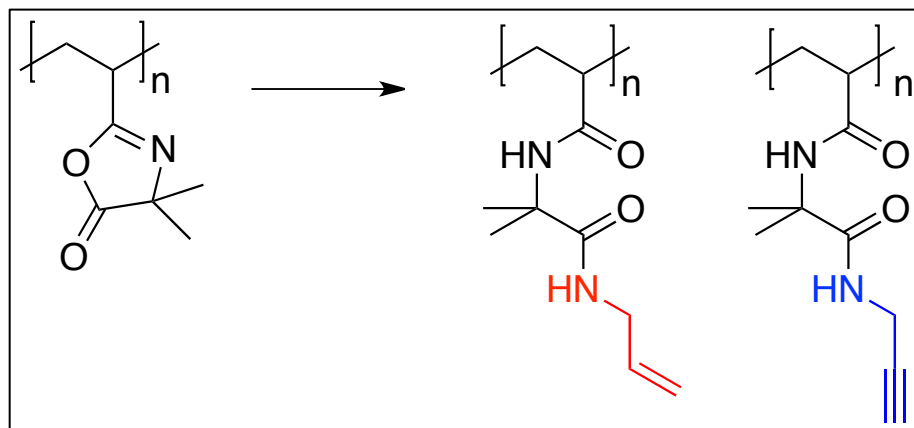
Our Solution:

*“Tandem post-polymerisation modification”*

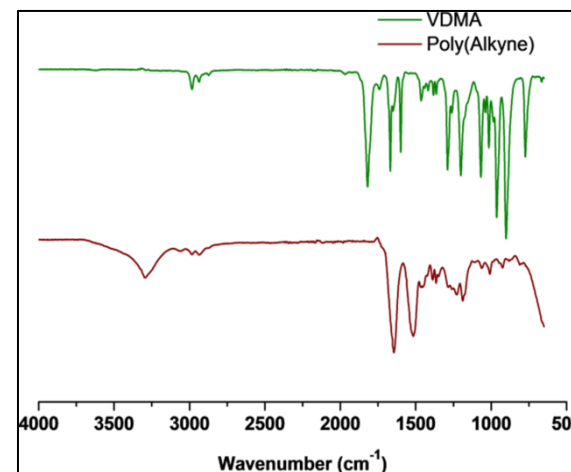
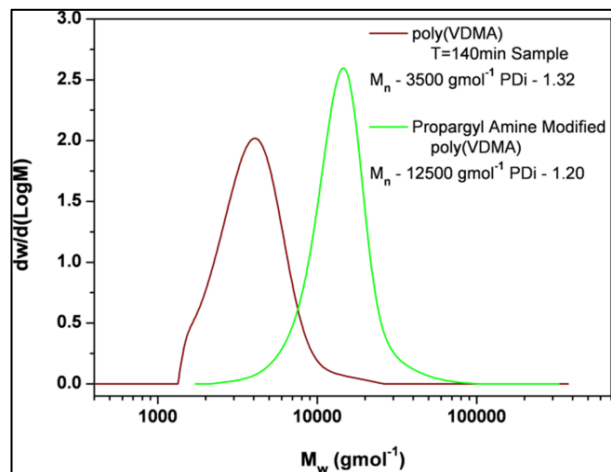


- Easy to make 50 gram scale
- 1 column/distillation
- Compatible with RAFT/ATRP
- Quantitative functionalisation with non-hindered amines
- Density control
- Sequentially modified polymer libraries

# Improved Synthesis with Poly(azlactones)

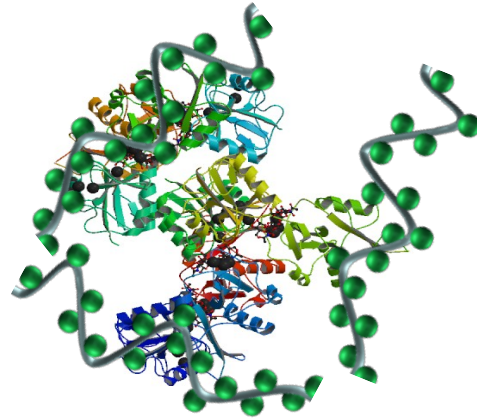
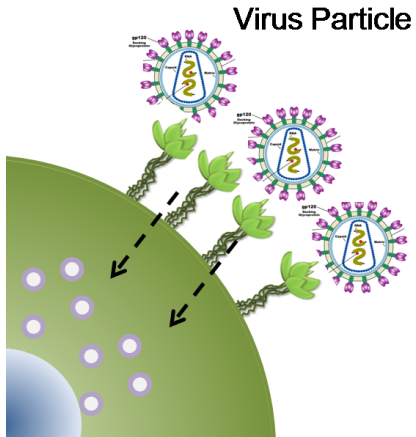


- 100 % Atom efficient
- Quantitative conversion with unhindered amines
- Scalable synthesis of monomer
- One-pot, two step synthesis/post-polymerisation modification possible

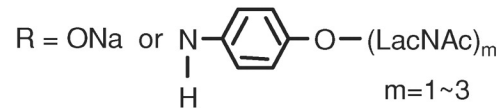
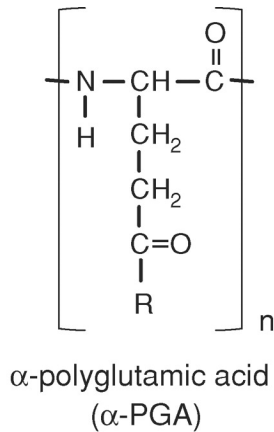


Jones, M.W., Richards, S-J., Haddleton, D. M., Gibson, M. I.; *Polym. Chem.*, **2013**, *In press*

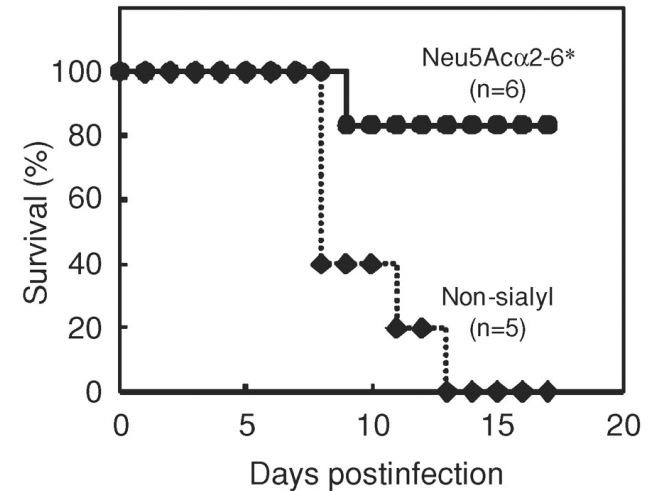
# Applications: Anti-adhesion Therapy



Interactions can be inhibited at nM of glycopolymers



(LacNAc)<sub>3</sub>-glycopolymer



Influenza inhibition in mice



# Selective Binding of Cholera-Toxin



Enzymatic domain → Induces toxic effect

Carbohydrate binding domain → Binds to epithelial cells to promote cell uptake

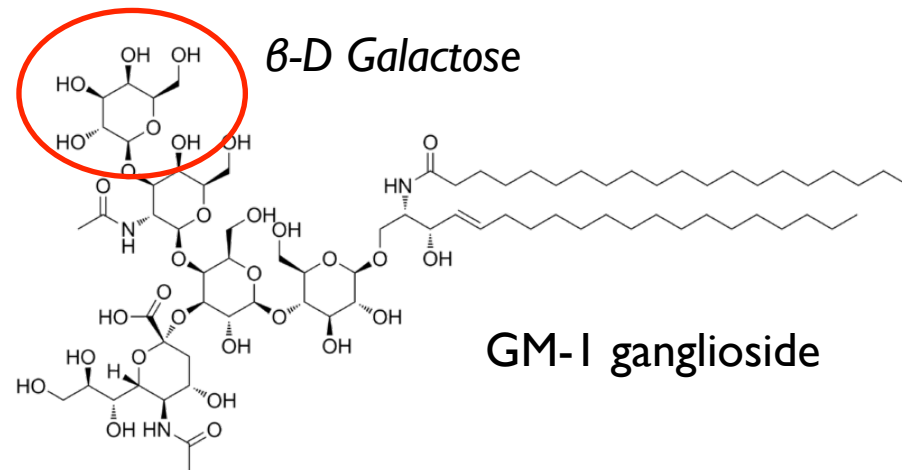
Anti-adhesion therapy does not target bacteria, so less evolutionary stress



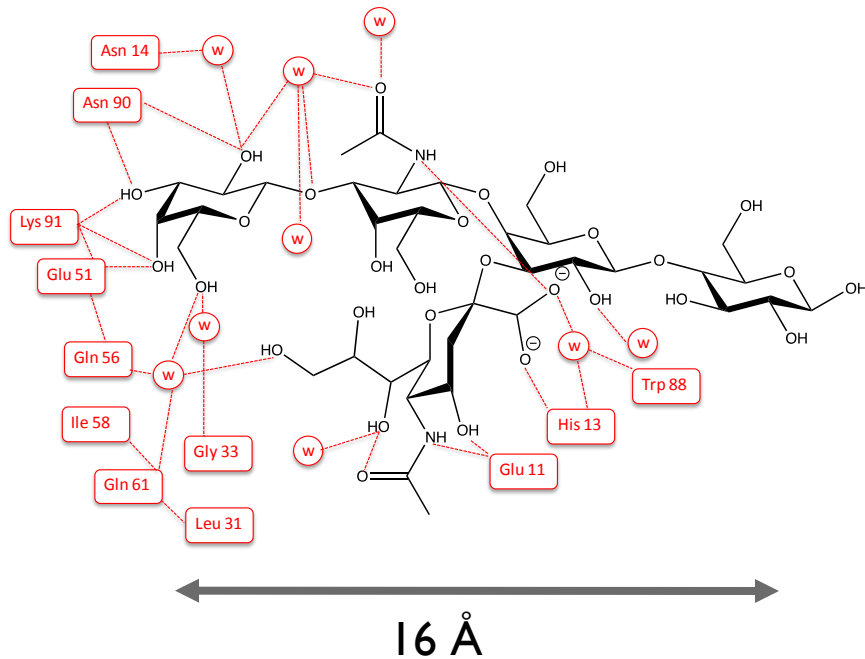
Galectins – at least 13

Sigma-Aldrich – 8 Galactose-'specific' lectins

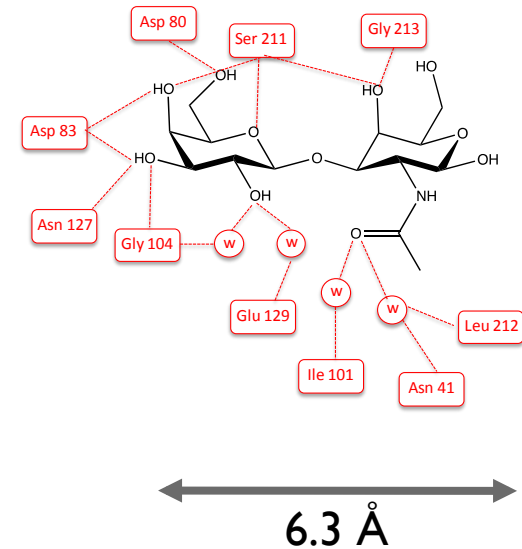
*How do we engineer a high-affinity binder for cholera toxin, without total synthesis of complex carbohydrates?*



## Cholera Toxin

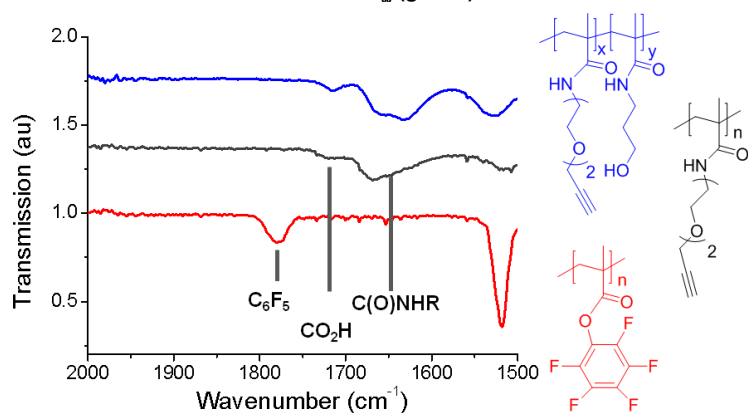
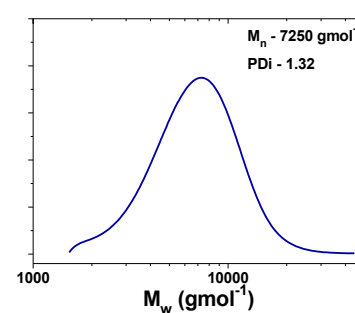
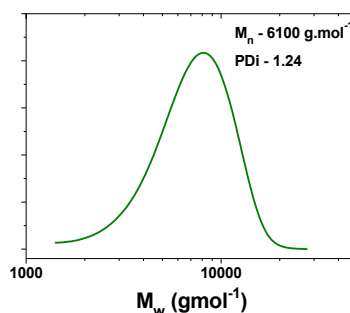
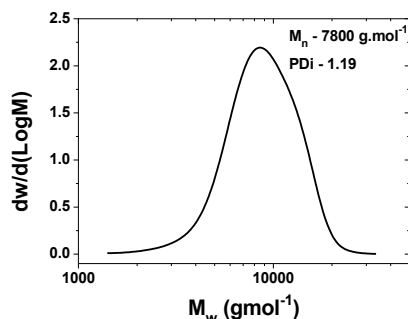
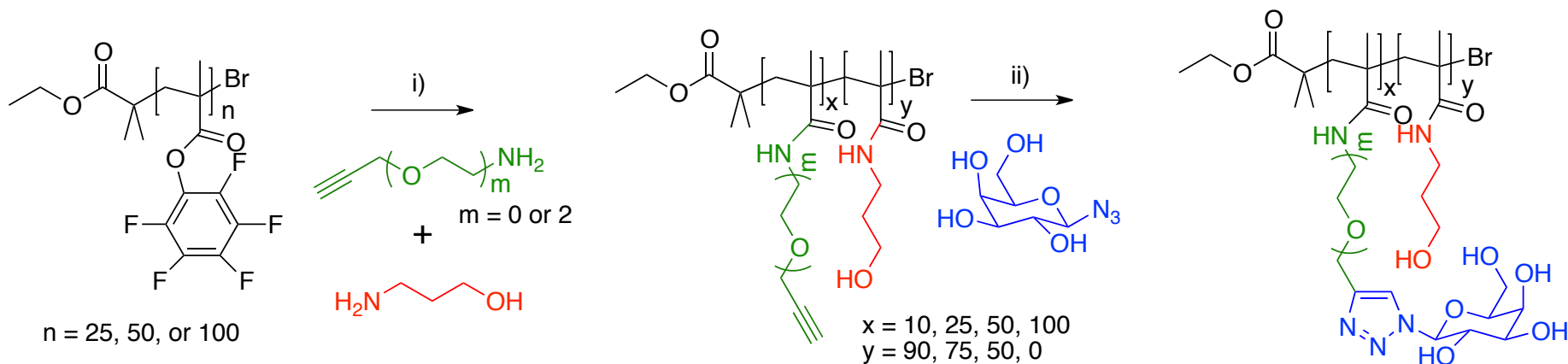


## Peanut Agglutinin



*Can glycan accessibility be used as a tool for lectin discrimination?*

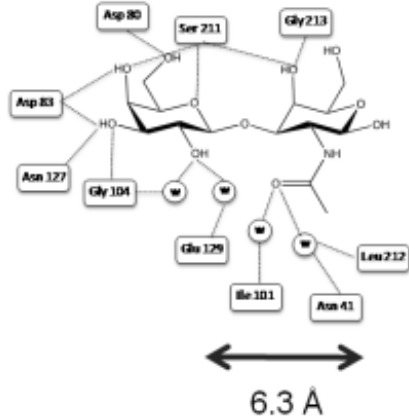
# Glycopolymer Library



Polymer	DP <sup>[a]</sup>	Linker <sup>[b]</sup>	Density <sup>[c]</sup>	$M_w/M_n$ <sup>[d]</sup>
GP1	18	Short	100	1.29
GP2	33	Short	100	1.27
GP3	70	Short	100	1.26
GP4	18	Long	100	1.32
GP5	33	Long	100	1.28
GP6	70	Long	100	1.27
GP7	33	Long	50	1.23
GP8	33	Long	25	1.21
GP9	33	Long	10	1.20

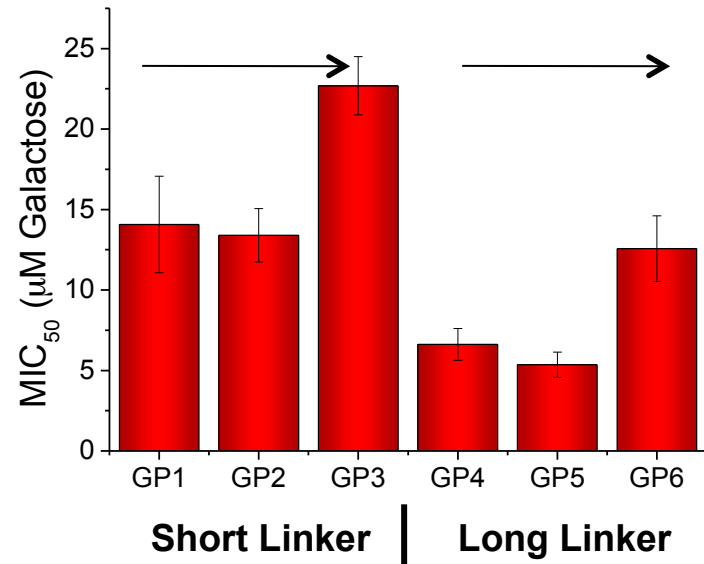
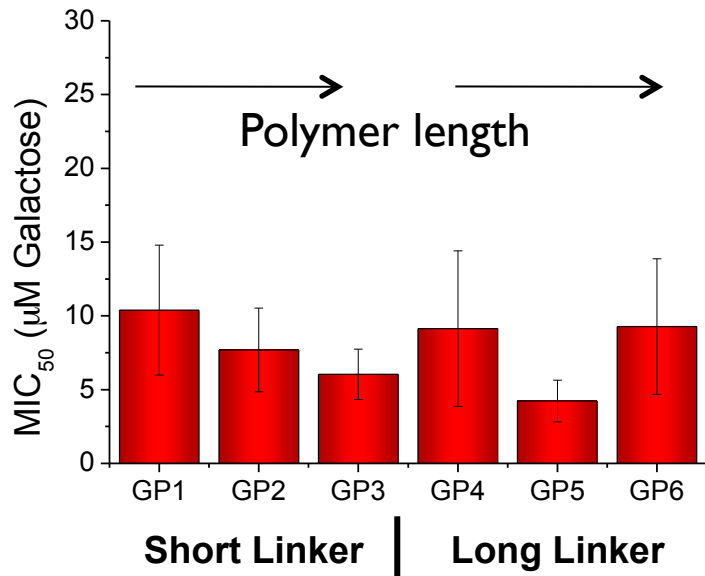
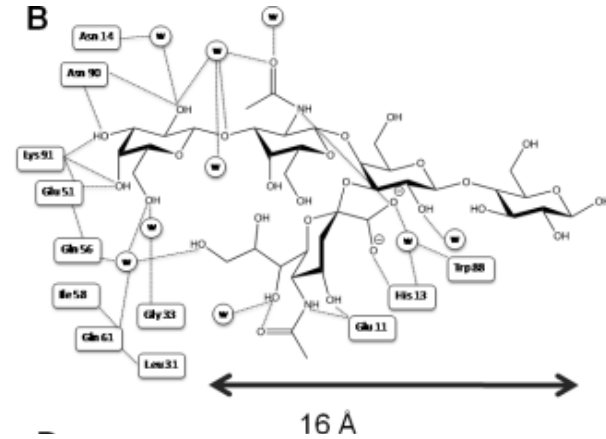
# Peanut Agglutinin

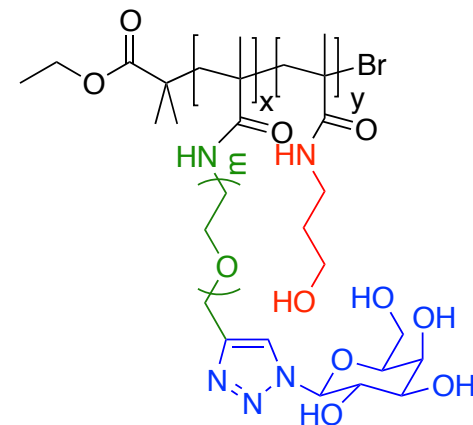
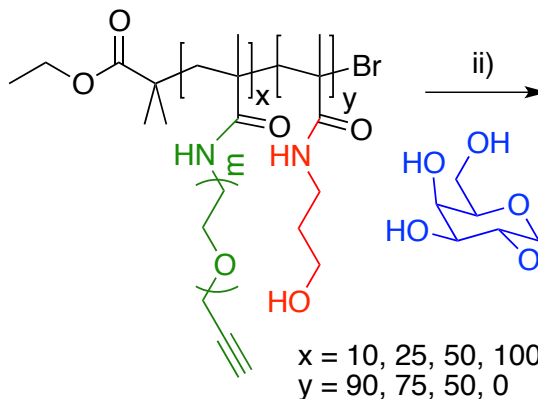
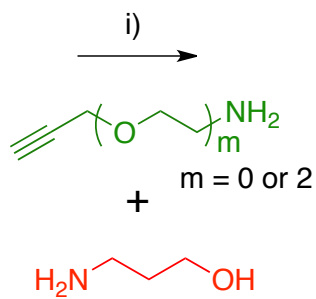
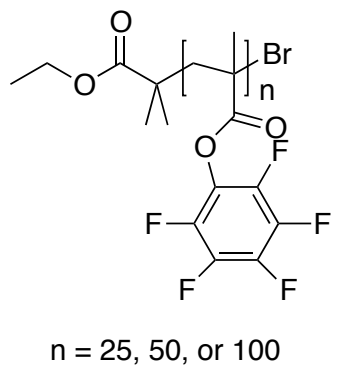
A



# Cholera Toxin

B

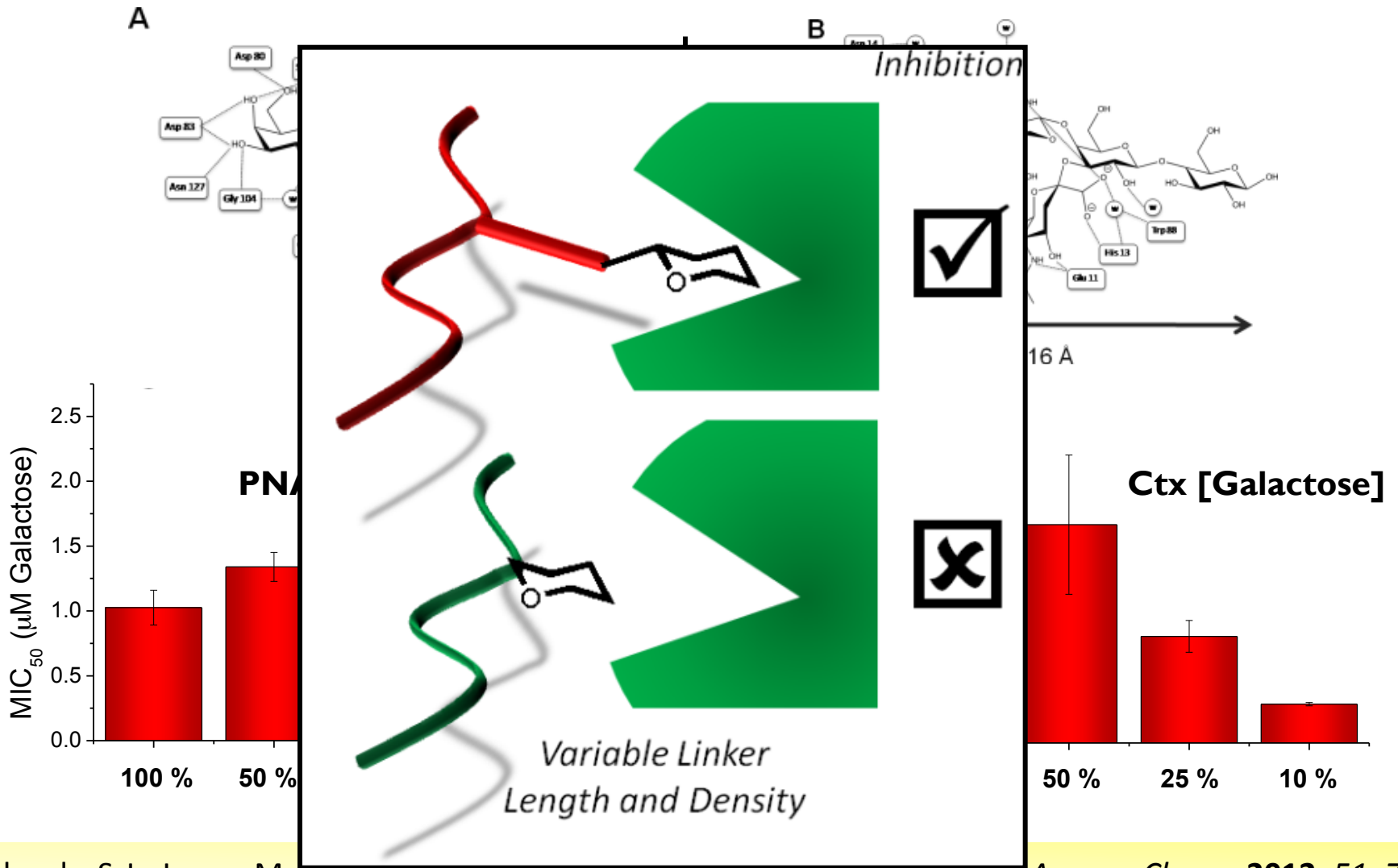




- Degree of polymerisation
- Linker length
- *Carbohydrate density*

# Peanut Agglutinin

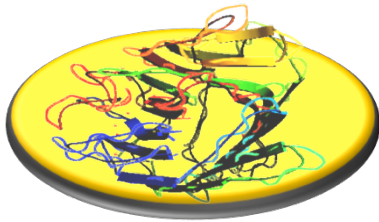
# Cholera Toxin



Richards, S-J., Jones, M. W., Hunnabun, M. T., Haddleton, D. M., Gibson, M. T.; *Angew. Chem.*, **2012**, *51*, 7812

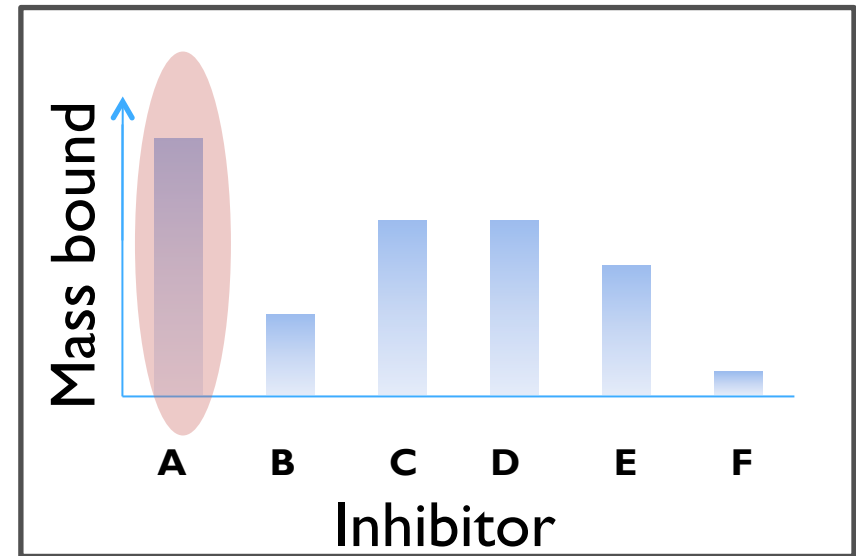
# What is the 'best' polymer for lectin binding?

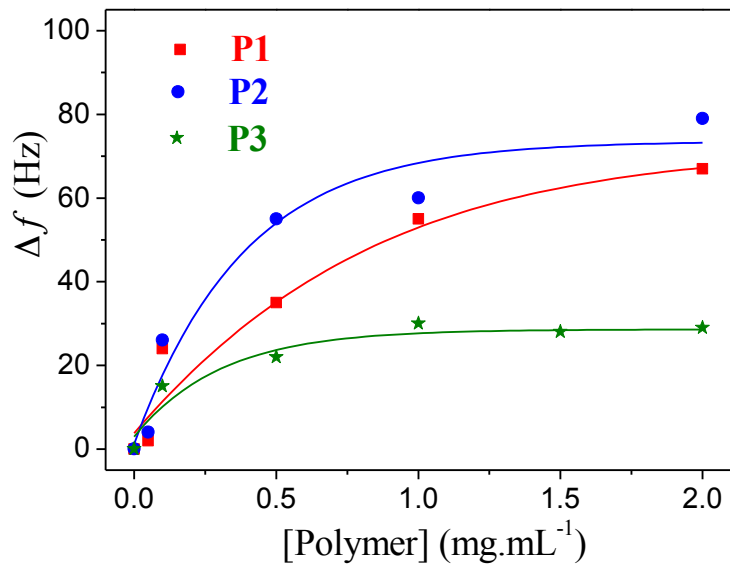
## How do you determine what is the best polymer?



Absorption to protein functionalised surface

- Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR)
- Quartz Crystal Microbalance (QCM)
- Enzyme-linked assays (ELISA)



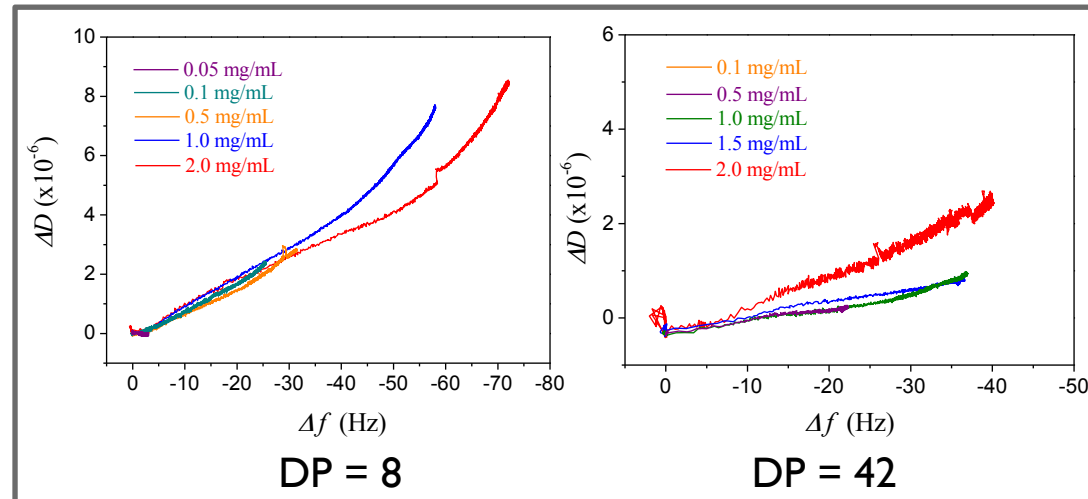
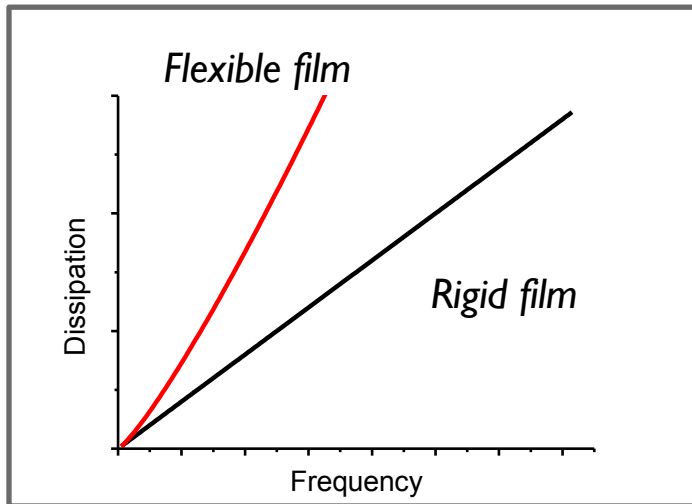


Molecular weight P3 > P2 > P1

- Largest polymer shows smallest shifts
- Does this imply weakest binding?
- What is effect of polymer chain length?

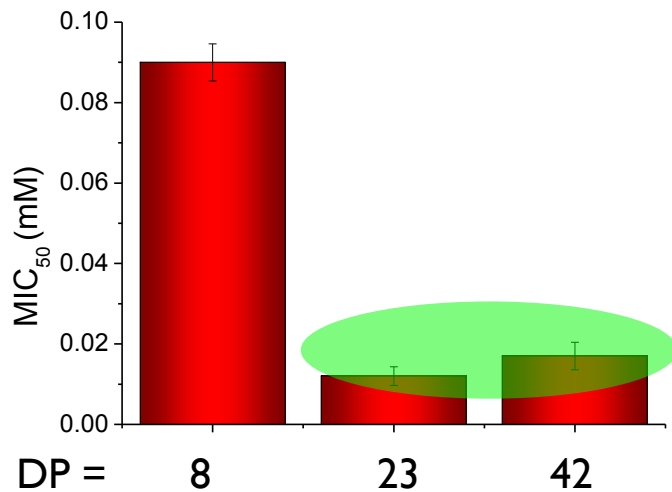


QCM-d allows film properties to be probed

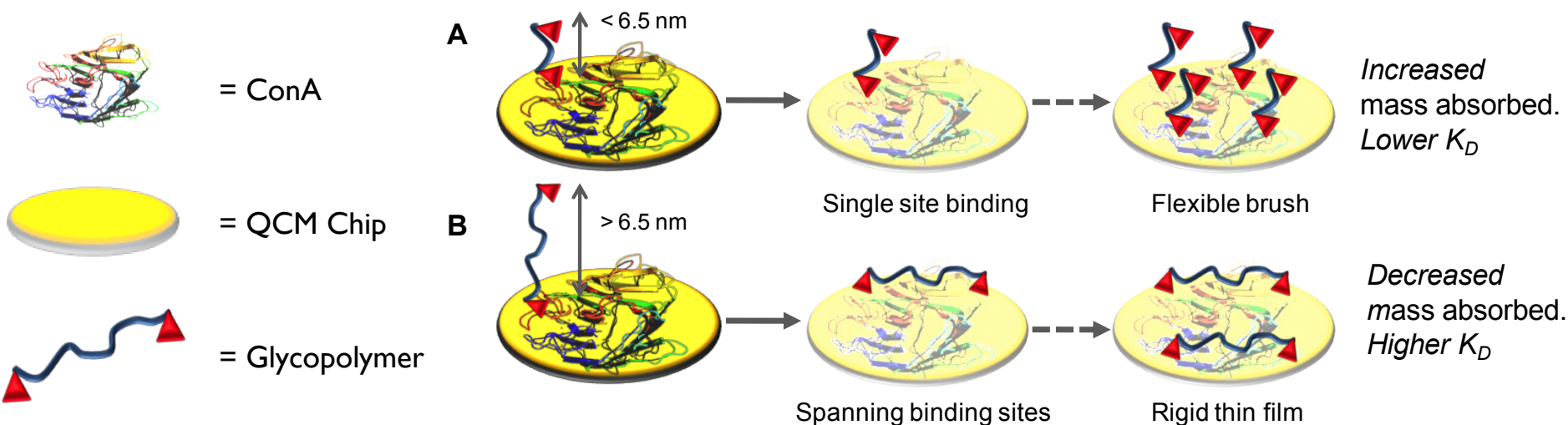
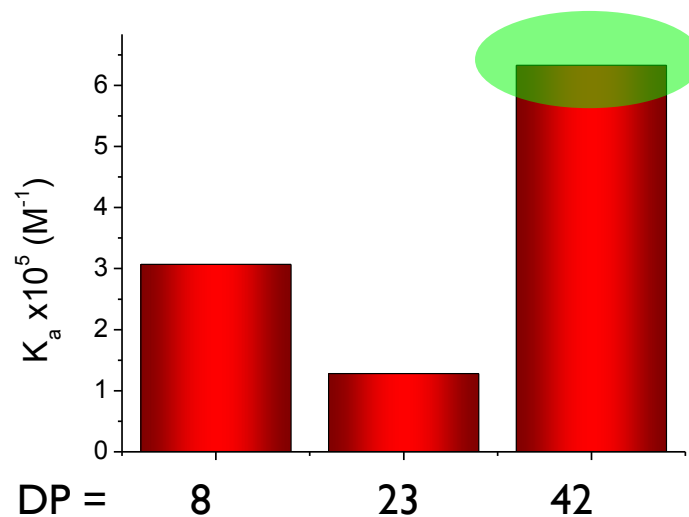




## Solution phase inhibition

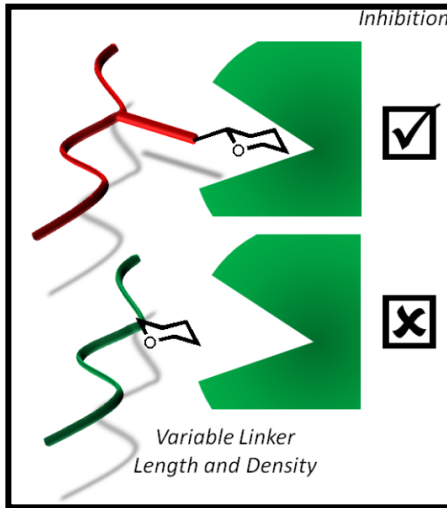


## Surface Binding Affinity

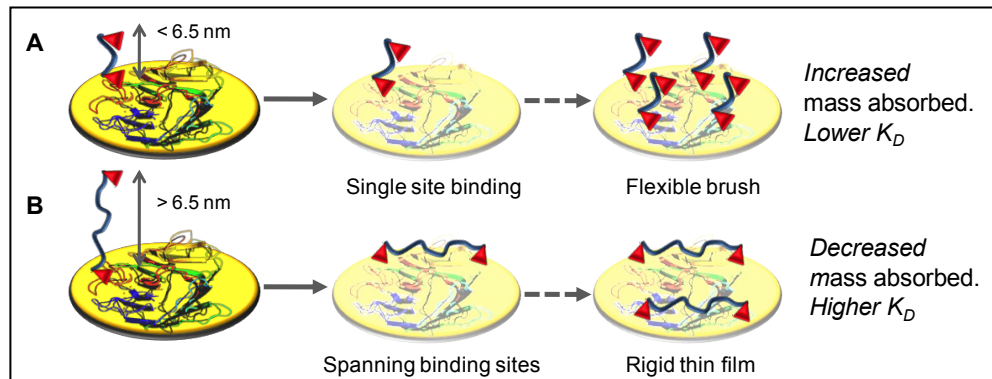


Gou.Y., Richards, S-J., Haddleton D. M., Gibson, M. I.; *Polymer Chemistry*, 2012, 3, 1634

# Summary



- Tandem Post-Polymerisation Modification
- Multivalent inhibitors that have good affinity AND specificity



- A number of techniques are required to determine the 'best' polymer.

# Acknowledgements



**Matthew  
Gibson**

**Dave Haddleton**

**Mathew Jones**

**Yanzi Gou**

**Mark Hunaban**

## **MIG Group Current**

- *Robert Deller*
- *Dan Phillips*
- *Caroline Moore*
- *Tom Congdon*
- *Alaina Emmanuella*
- *Lucienne Otten*
- *Daniel Mitchel*
- *Lewis Mann*
- *Rebecca Williams*

## **Recent**

- *Dr Mat Jones*
- *Matthew Summers*
- *Mark Hunaban*
- *Charline Wilmet*
- *Devian Patel*
- *Abdul Sahid*

## **Collaborators**

- *Del Besra (B'ham)*

# Bacterial-Toxin Inhibition using Multivalent Scaffolds

Sarah-Jane Richards & Matthew I. Gibson

Department of Chemistry, University of Warwick, UK

[S-J.Richards@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:S-J.Richards@warwick.ac.uk)

[www.warwick.ac.uk/go/gibsongroup](http://www.warwick.ac.uk/go/gibsongroup)



7<sup>th</sup> RSC Biomaterial Chemistry Meeting, Sheffield. 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> January 2013

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
WARWICK