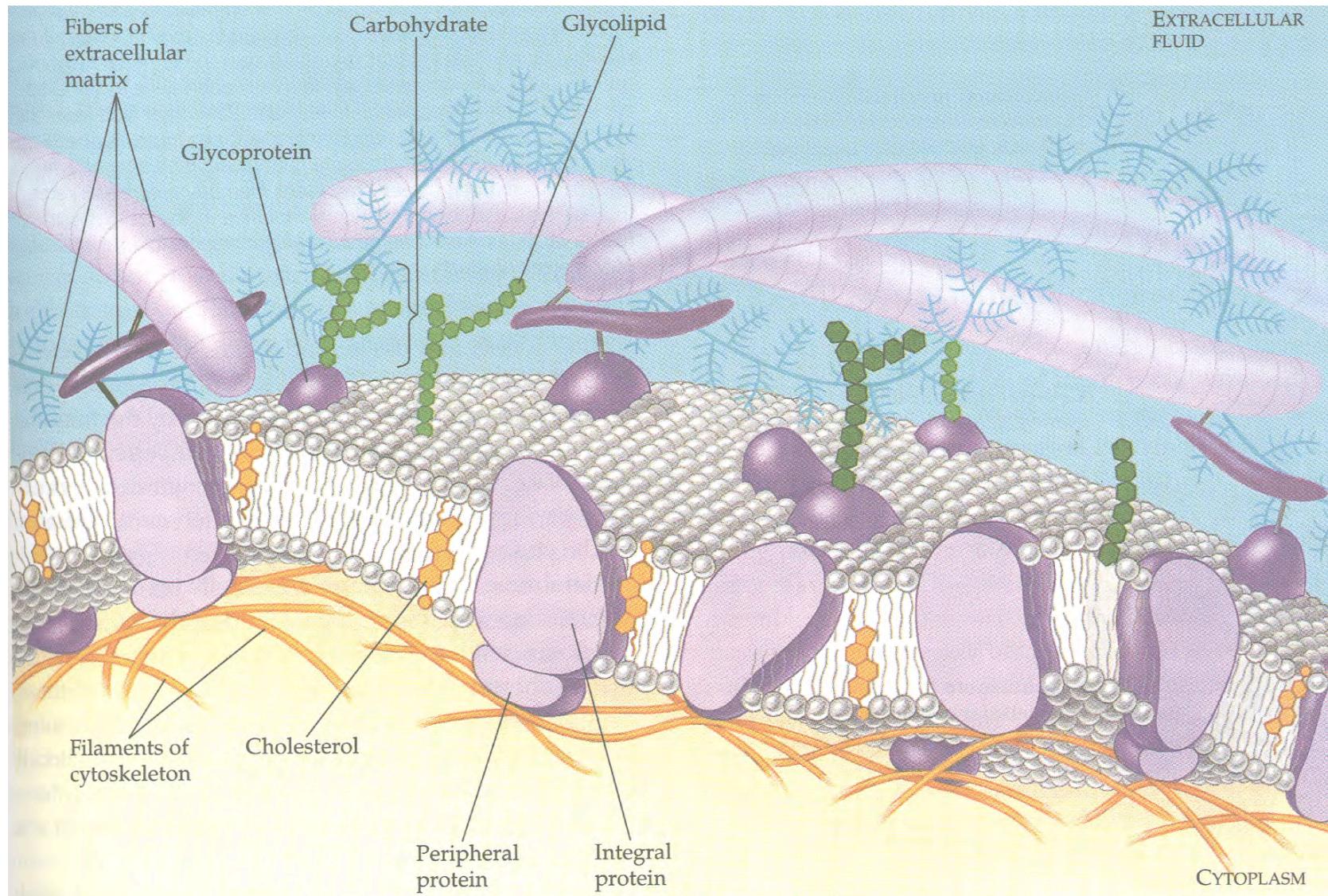


Peter Seeberger

ETH Zürich

Seeberger@org.chem.ethz.ch

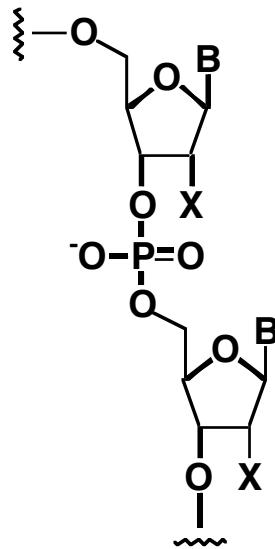
# Cell-Surface Glycoconjugates



Voet and Voet

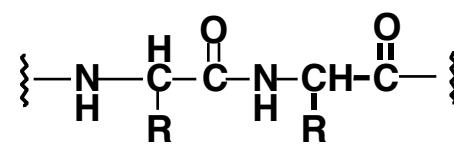
# Biopolymers: Overview

## Genomics



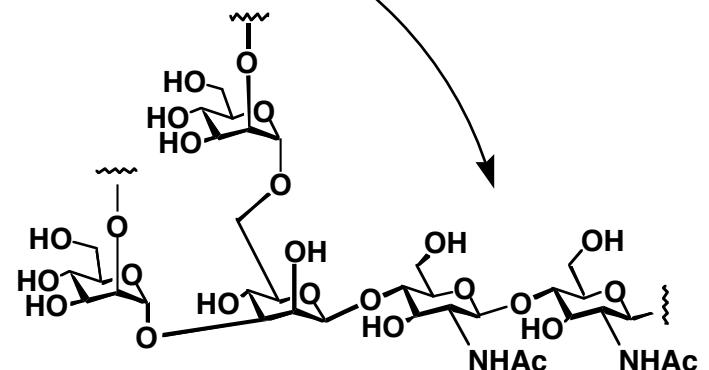
Transcription  
Translation

## Proteomics



## Glycomics

Glycosyltransferases



Replication

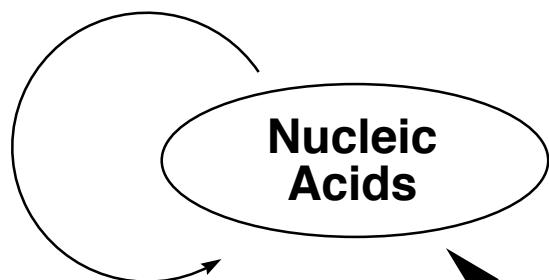
Nucleic Acids

Proteins

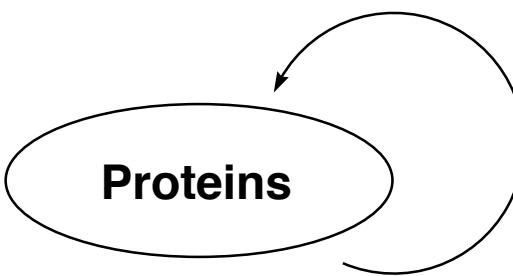
Oligosaccharides - Glycoconjugates

# Biopolymer Interactions

Nucleic Acid - Nucleic Acid  
Interactions



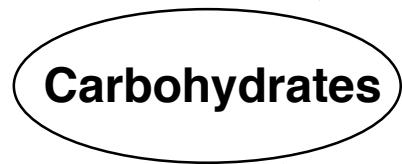
Protein - Protein  
Interactions



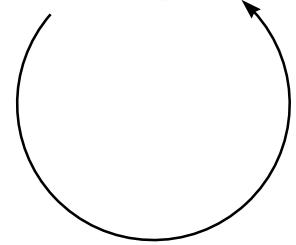
Nucleic Acid - Protein  
Interactions



Carbohydrate - Nucleic Acid  
Interactions



Carbohydrate - Protein  
Interactions



Carbohydrate - Carbohydrate  
Interactions

# Biopolymer Complexity

Oligomer size	Numbers of different oligomers		
	Nucleotides	Peptides	Carbohydrates
1	4	20	20
2	16	400	1 360
3	64	8 000	126 080
4	256	160 000	13 495 040
5	1 024	3 200 000	1 569 745 920
6	4 096	64 000 000	192 780 943 360

## Polymer Support

Polystyrene,  
many others ...

## Synthesis Strategy

Acceptor-bound

## Building Blocks

New protecting groups  
*JACS 2000, 122, 7148*

## Linkers

Octenediol,  
Esters...

*OrgLett 1999, 1, 1811*

## The Platform: Automated Solid-Phase Oligosaccharide Synthesis

## Glycosylations

Glycosyl phosphates,  
Trichloroacetimidates,  
etc.  
*JACS 2001, 123, 9545*

## Capping/Tagging

### Fluorous Tags

*Angew Chem 2001, 40, 4433*

## Automation

Scale (5 mg-100 g)  
Cycle Time  
Temperature Control  
Parallel Synthesis  
*Science 2001, 291, 1523*

## "On-Resin" Analysis

### High resolution MAS NMR

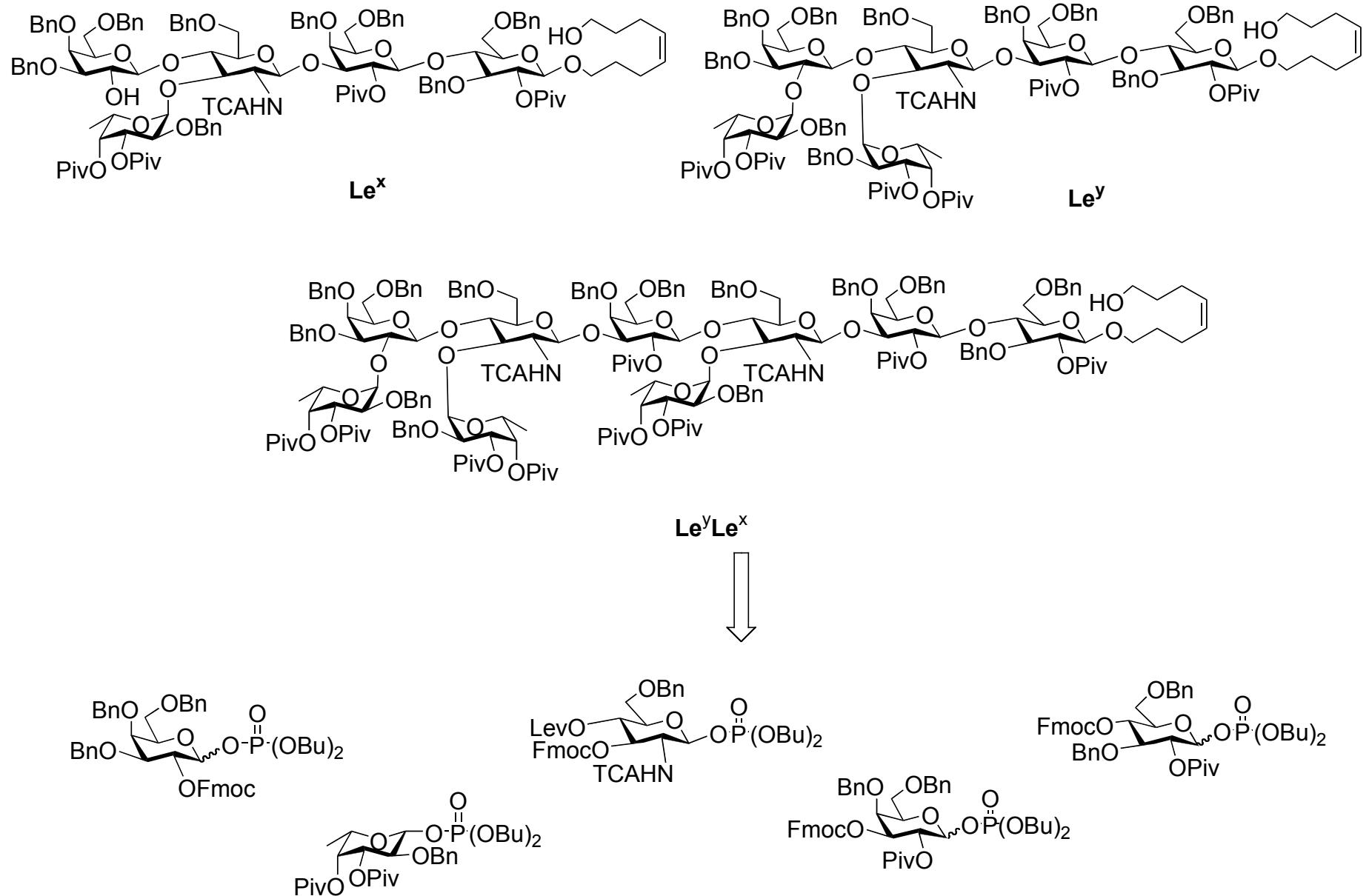
*AngewChem 1997, 36, 491*

# The Automated Oligosaccharide Synthesizer

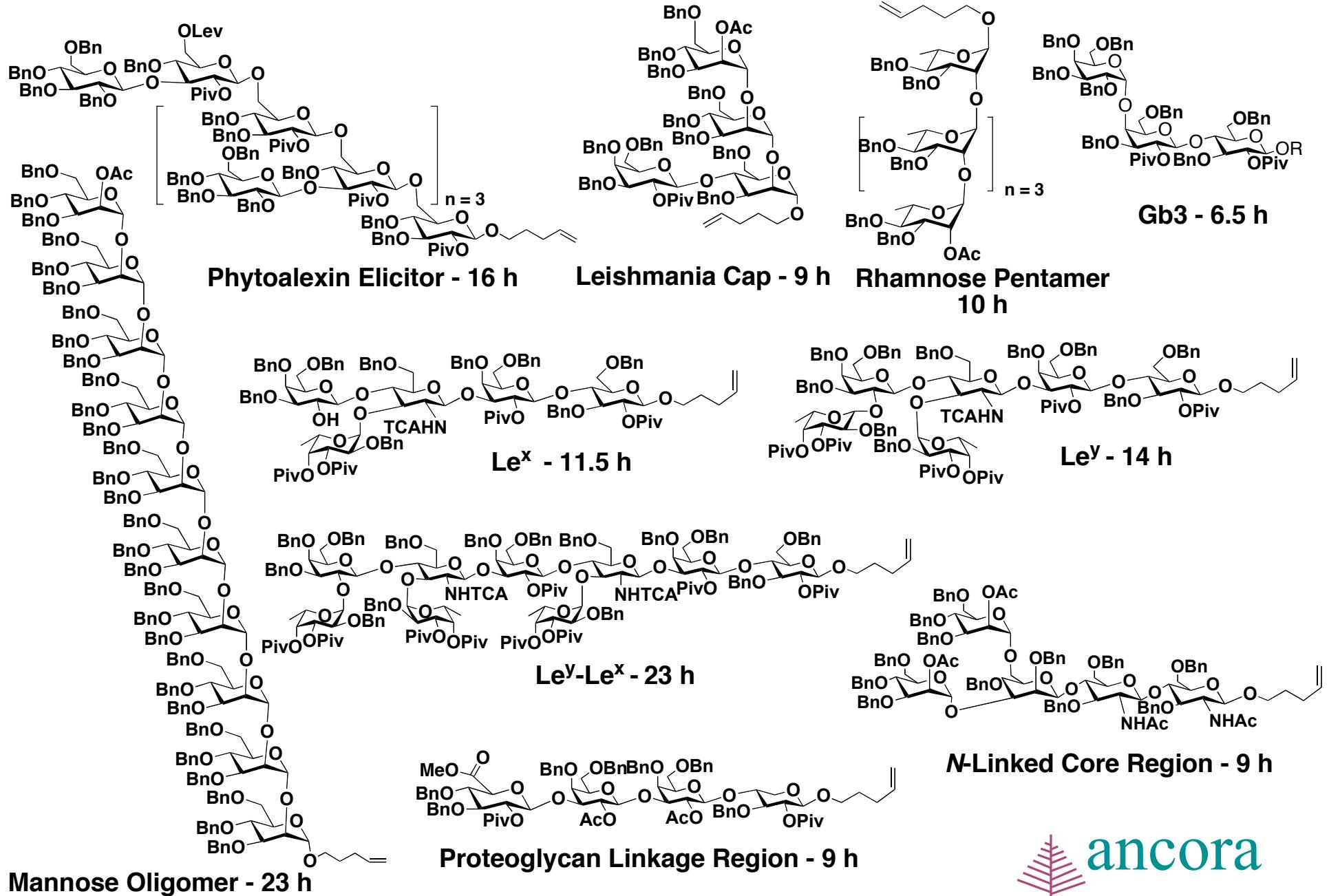


*Science* 2001, 291, 1523

# Blood Group Determinants and Tumor Associated Antigens



# Automated Synthesis of Complex Structures

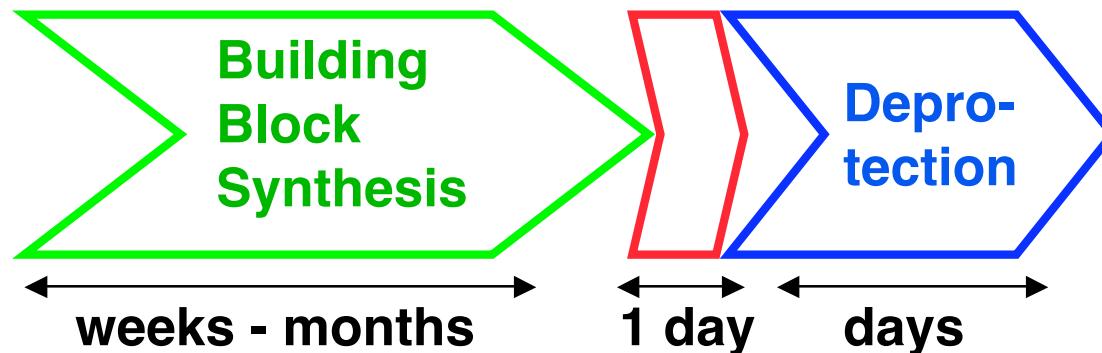


# Time Allocation During Oligosaccharide Synthesis

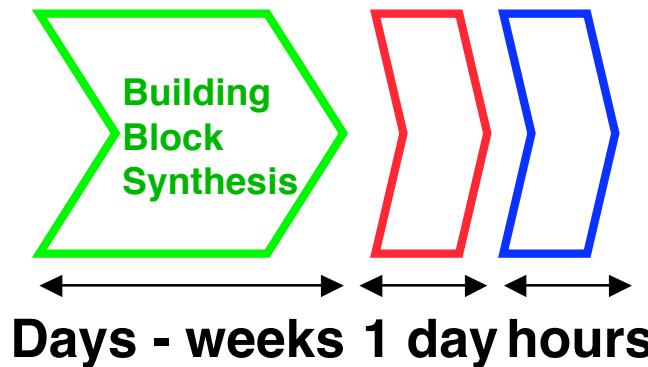
## Solution Phase



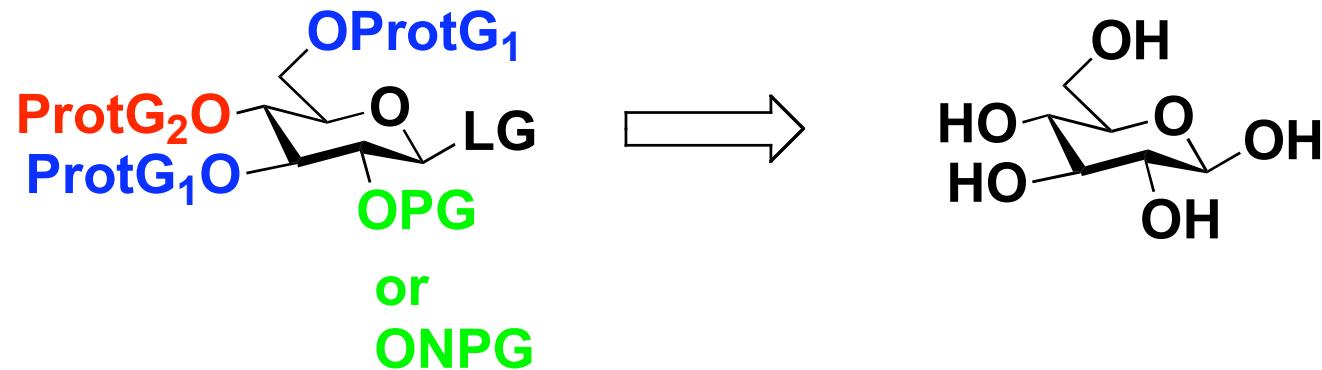
## Automated Solid Phase (currently)



## Automated Solid Phase (soon)

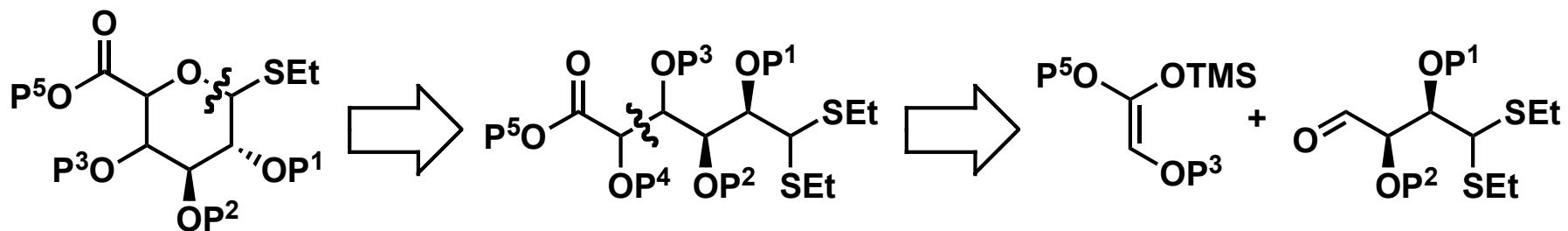


# Feeding the Automated Synthesizer: Short *De Novo* Synthesis of Fully Functionalized Uronic Acid Monosaccharides

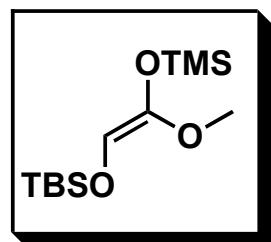
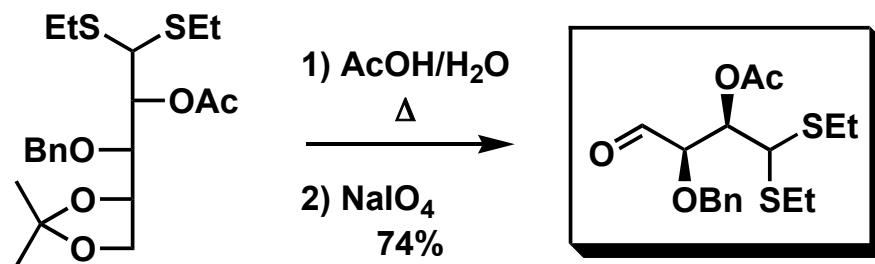
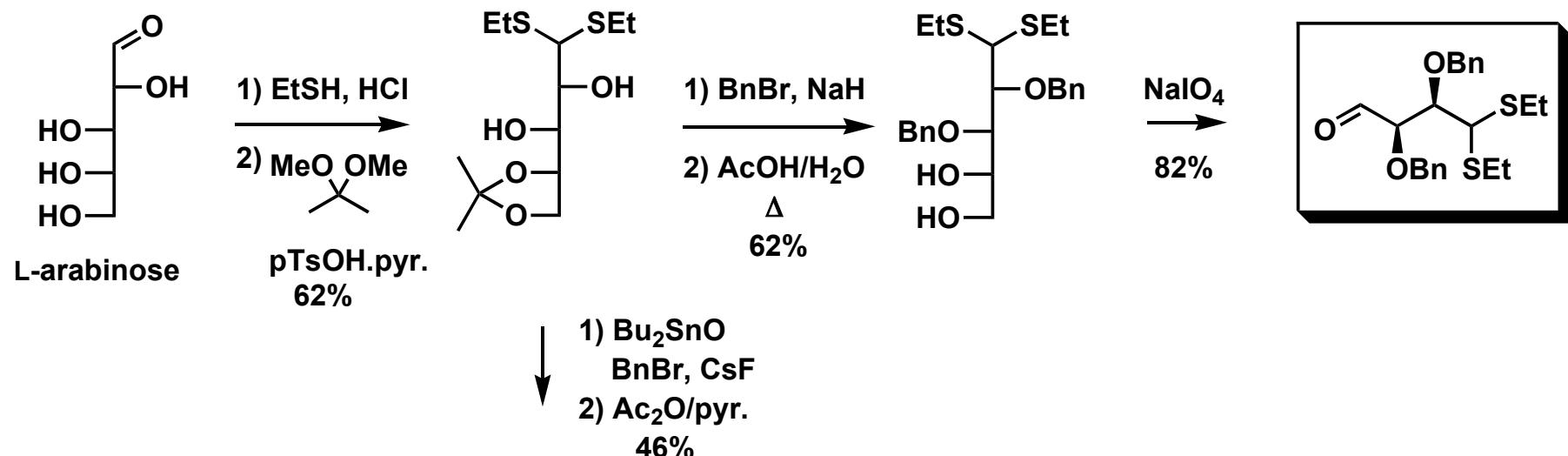


- Typically 6 to 20 steps
- Elaborate protecting group strategies
- Limiting factor for oligosaccharide synthesis

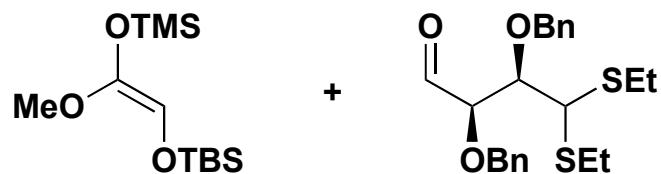
## Retrosynthesis of Hexose Thioglycosides



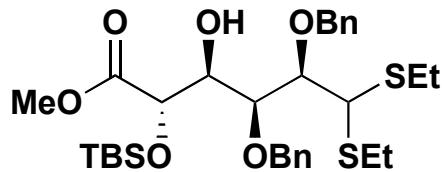
# Synthesis of Precursors



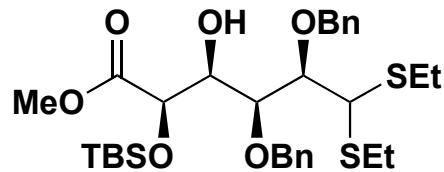
# Mukaiyama Aldol Reaction



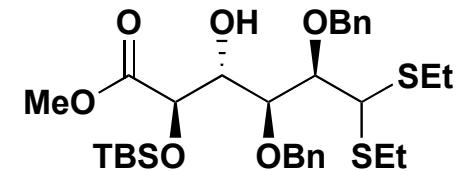
$\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$   
DCM, 0°C  
quant.  
1:1:1 mixture of  
diastereoisomers



+



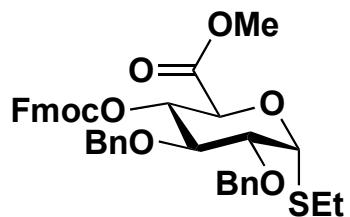
+



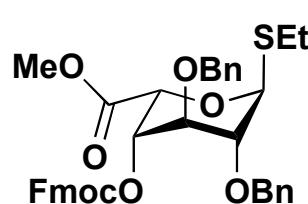
↓  
1) FmocCl  
2) HF  
3) NIS  
83%

↓  
1) FmocCl  
2) HF  
3) NIS  
89%

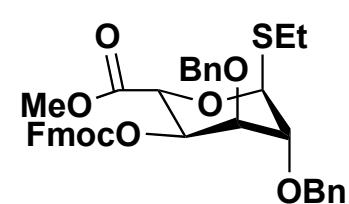
↓  
1) FmocCl  
2) HF  
3) NIS  
84%



D-Glucuronic acid

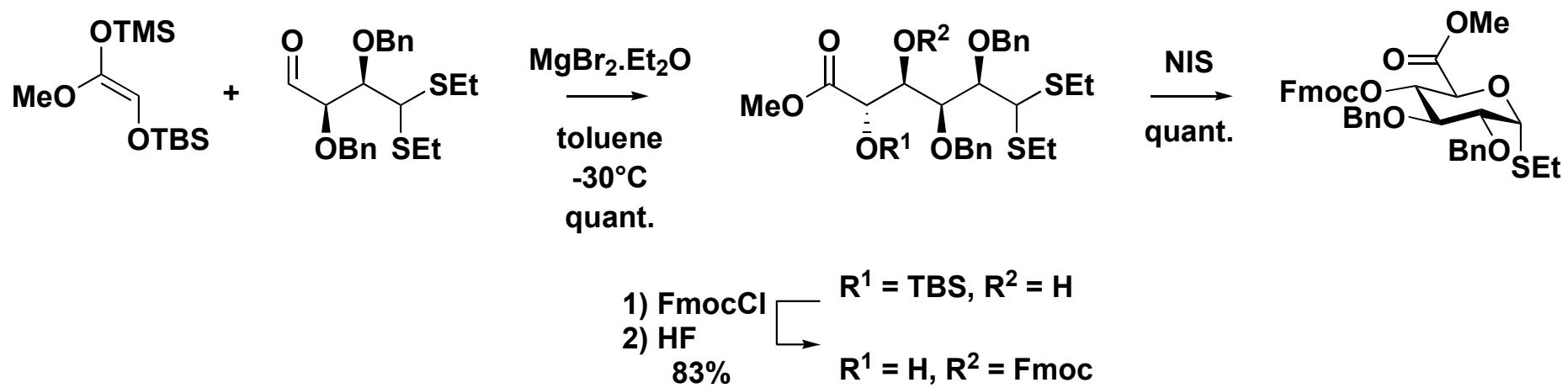


L-Iduronic acid

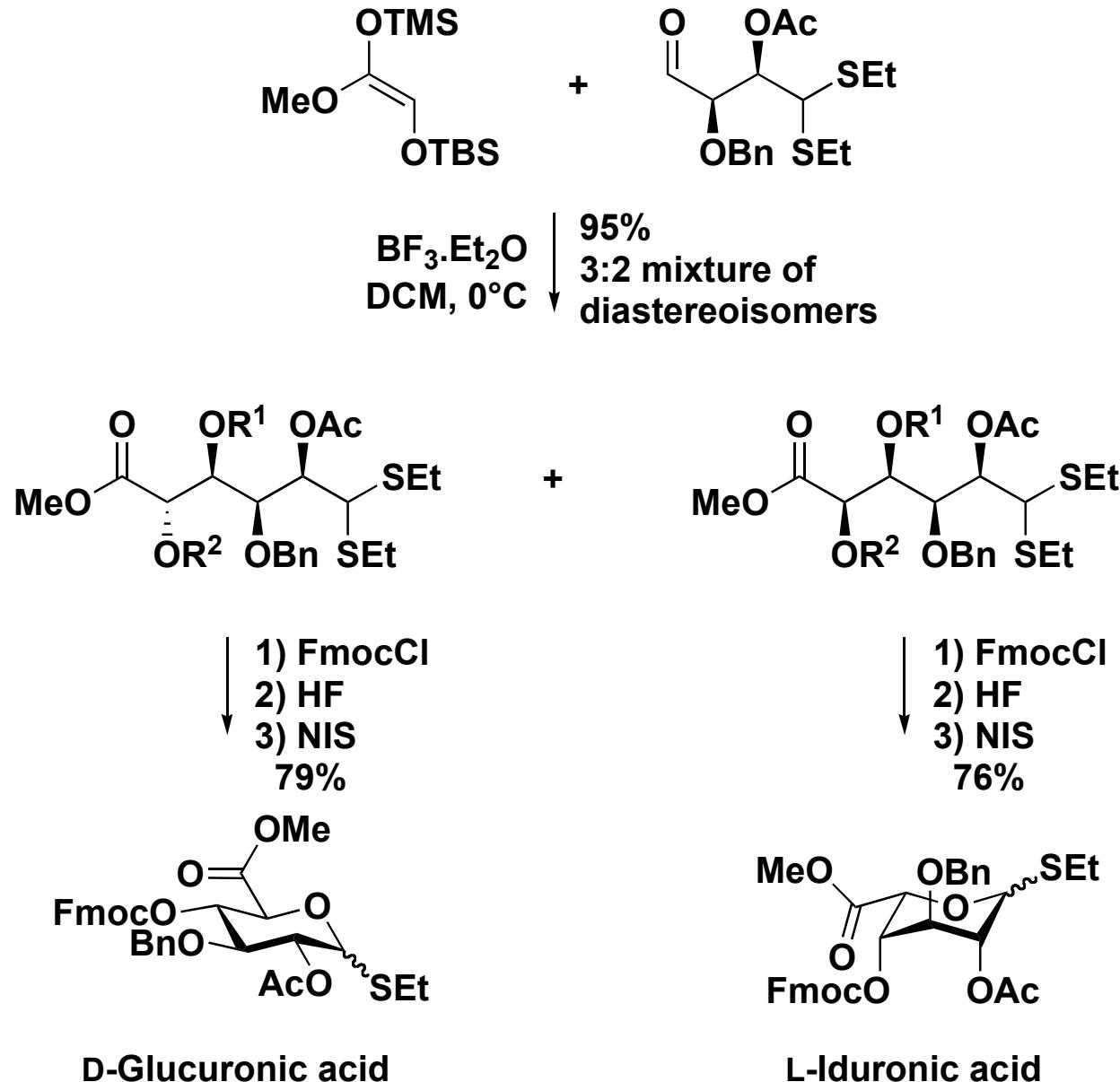


L-Altruronic acid

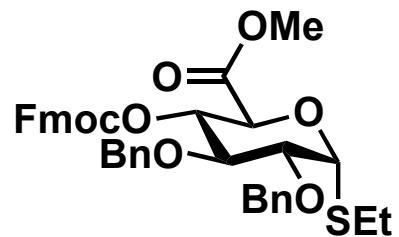
# Selective Mukaiyama Aldol Reaction



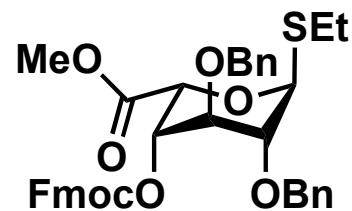
# Orthogonal Protected Building Blocks



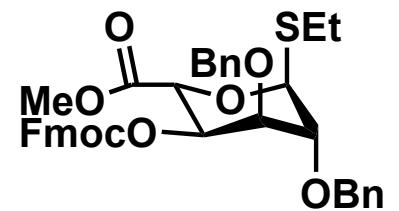
# Uronic Acid Thioglycoside Building Blocks Prepared to Date



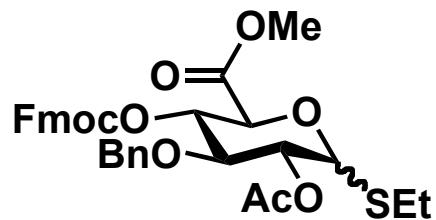
D-Glucuronic acid



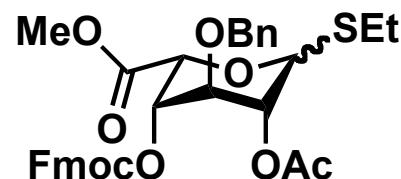
L-Iduronic acid



L-Altruronic acid

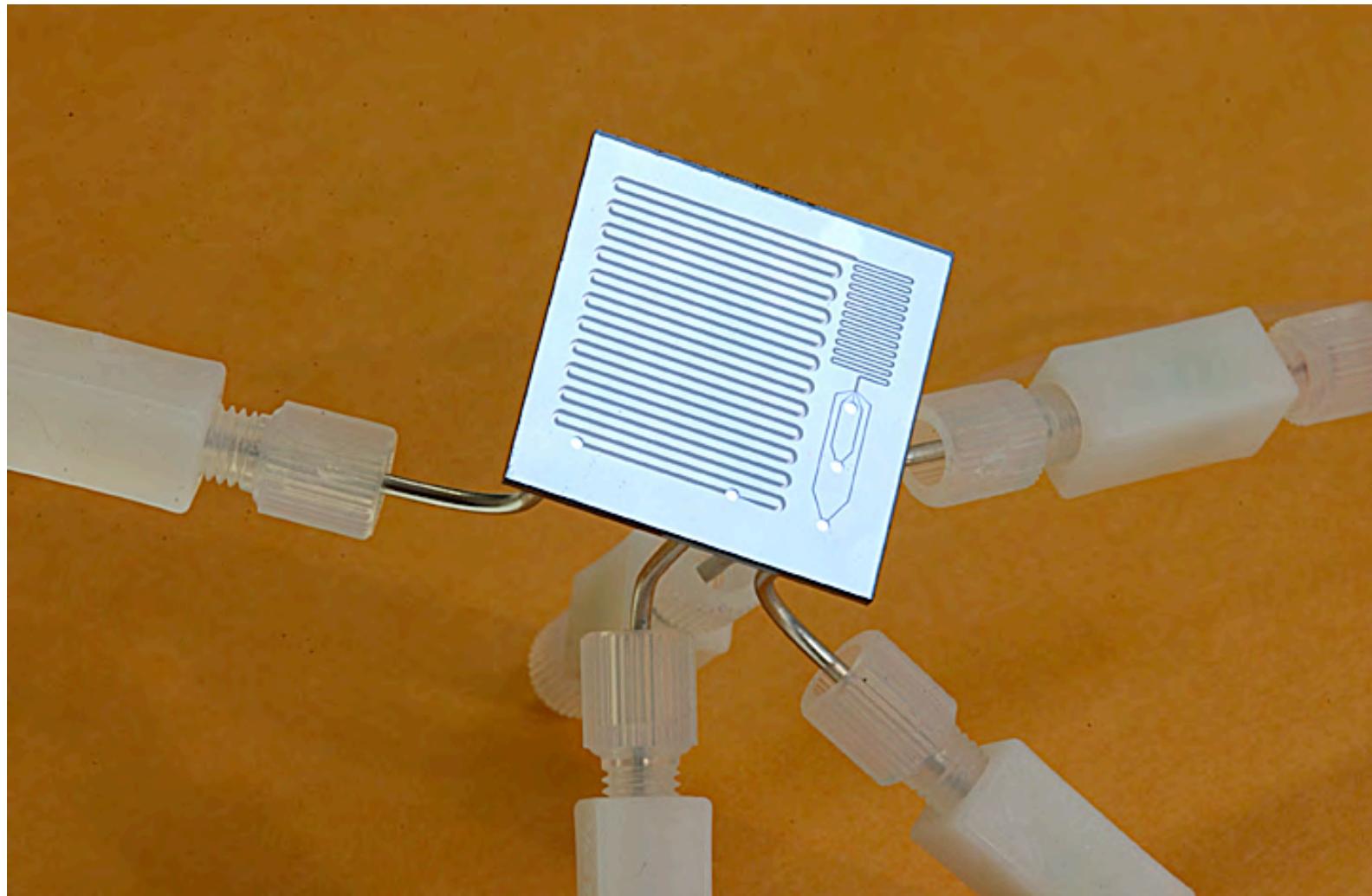


D-Glucuronic acid



L-Iduronic acid

# Interlude: Microreactors in Organic Synthesis



Geyer, K.; Codee, J.; Seeberger, P.H. *Chem. Eur. J.* 2006 in press.

# From the Discovery Lab to the Production Plant

## Discovery Chemistry

- make many different compounds
- speed is key
- 4 reactions per chemist\day
- all chemistries possible
- 10 mg - 500 mg scale
- material for biological (other) assays

## Process Chemistry

- make one (or some) compounds
- efficiency is key
- months for one process
- only some chemistries possible
- 1 g - 100s of tons/year
- clean product for sale

# Flow Trough Reactors in Chemistry

## **Discovery Chemistry   Process Chemistry   Production**

**Run 2 minutes**

**Run continuously**

**Run continuously  
Many in parallel**

**Same hardware**

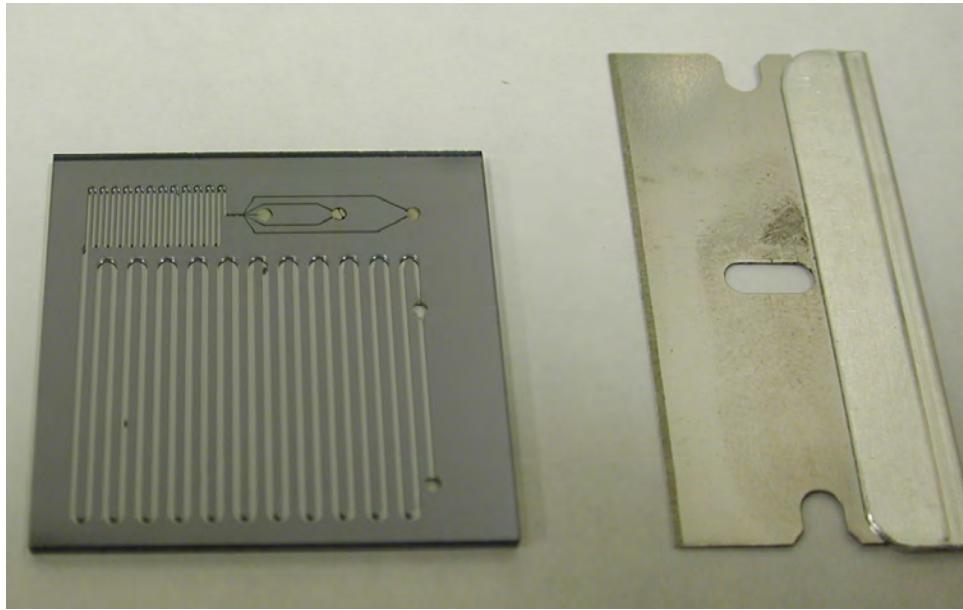
**Same flexibility**

**Same safety**

**No change of protocols**

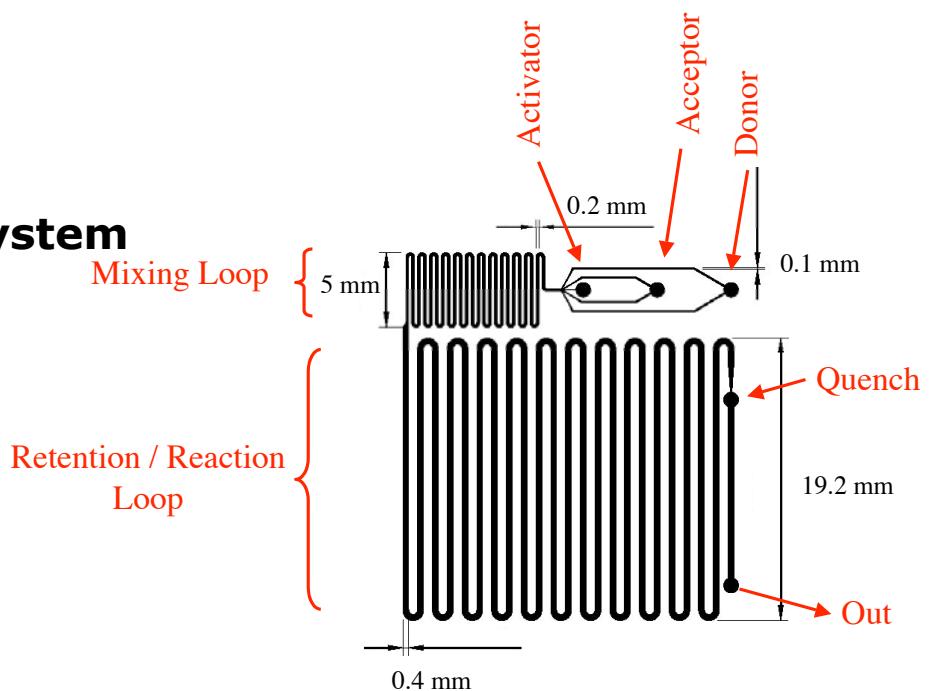
**No cleaning times/costs**

# The Etched Silicon Microreactor

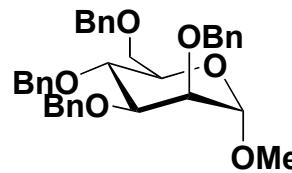
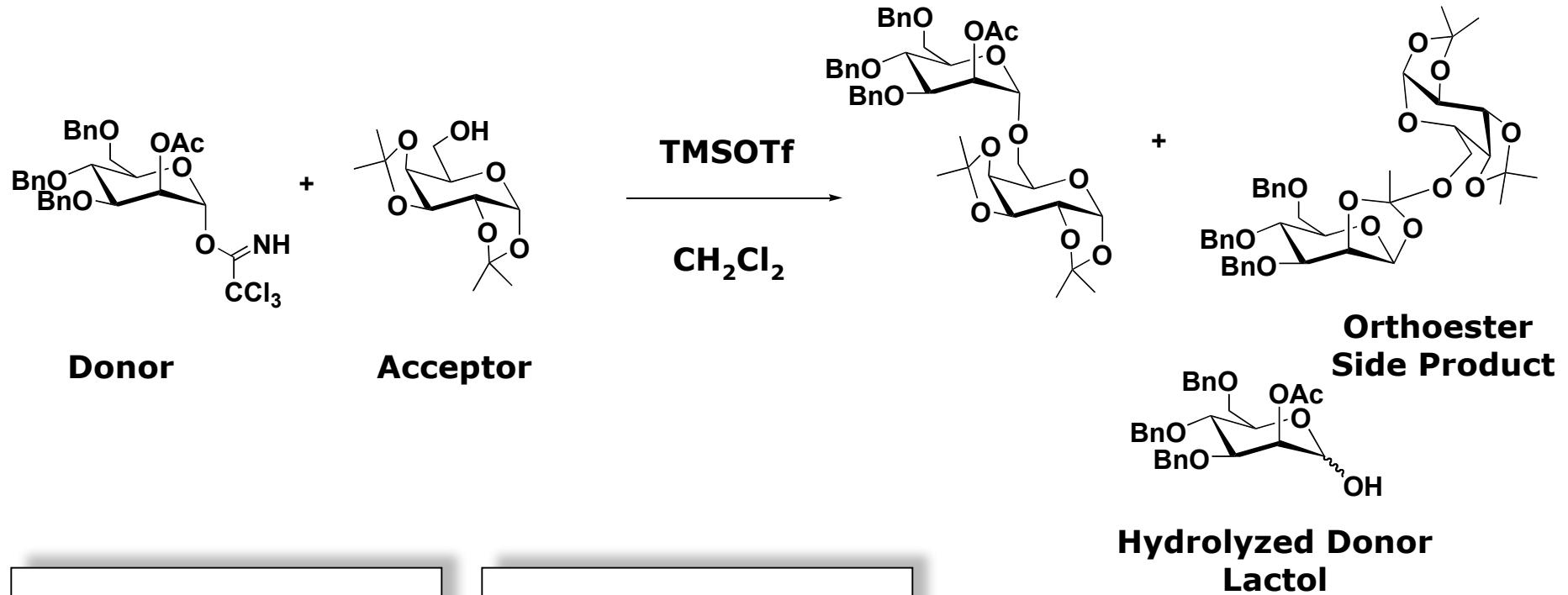


- Fabricated from etched silicon
- Reactor Volume  $\sim 78 \mu\text{l}$
- Inert under most conditions; closed system
- Temperature range  $-70^\circ\text{C}$  to  $+170^\circ\text{C}$
- Time range 13 sec to  $\sim 10$  min
- From milligram to multi-gram scale

with Prof. K. Jensen (MIT)



# Synthesis of a Disaccharide in a Microreactor

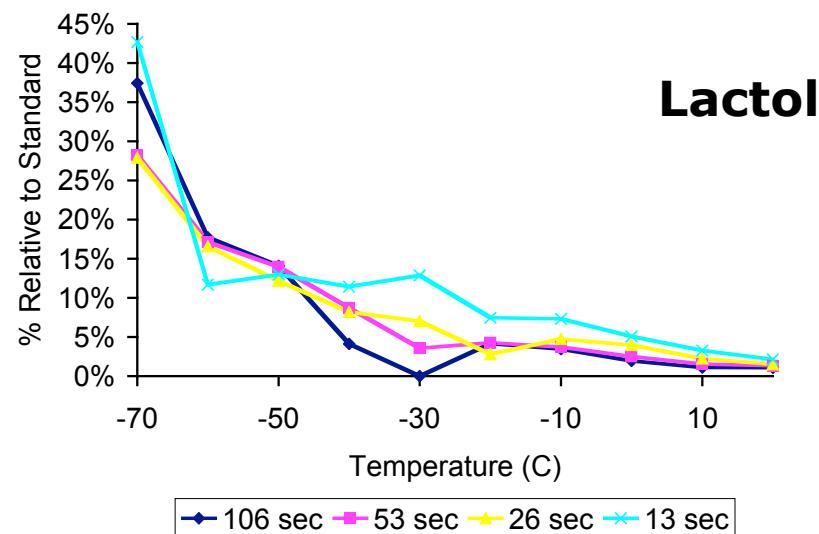
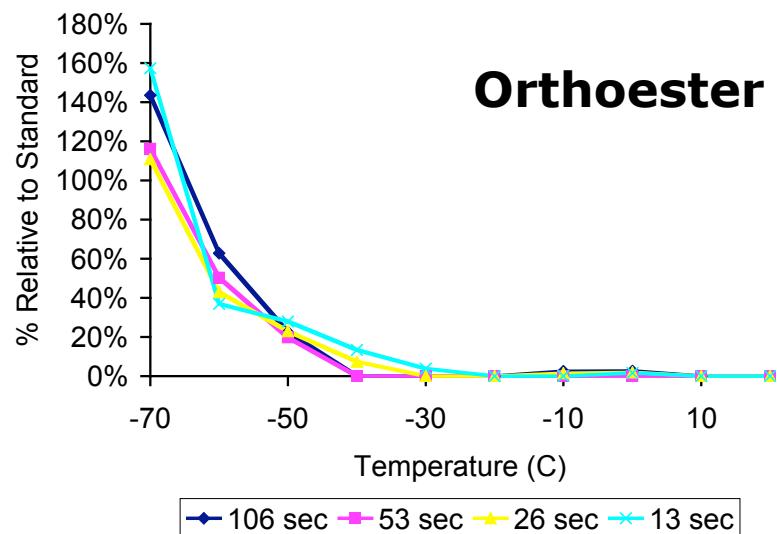
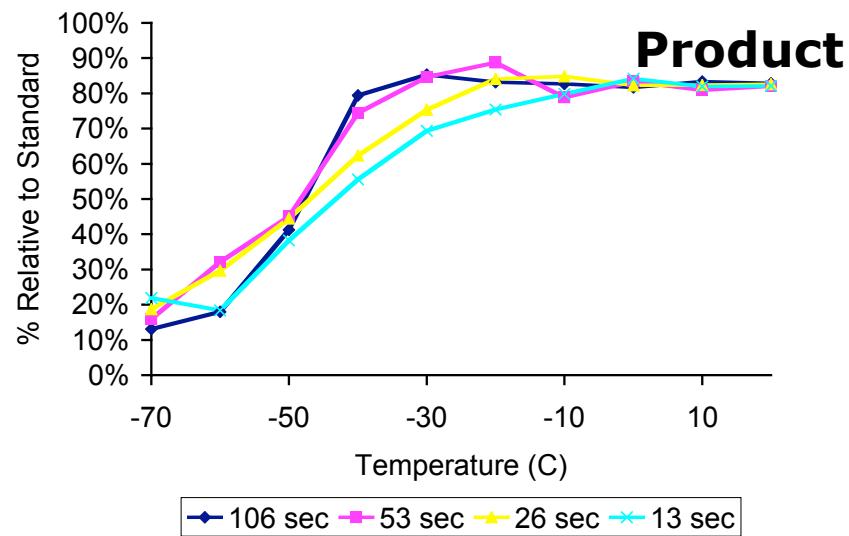
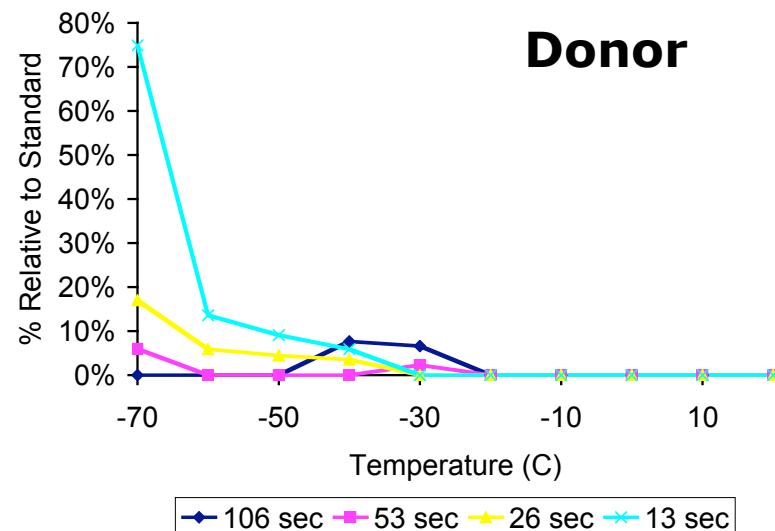


HPLC Reference  
Standard Included  
in Quench

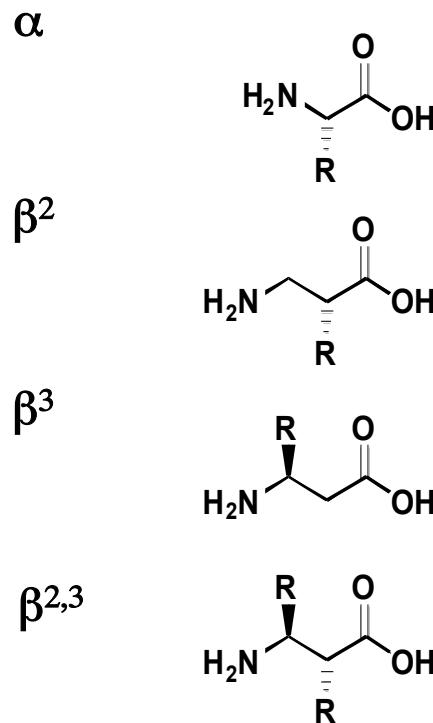
## Variables:

- **Reaction Time**
- **Reaction Temp.**
- **Donor Conc.**
- **Acceptor Conc.**

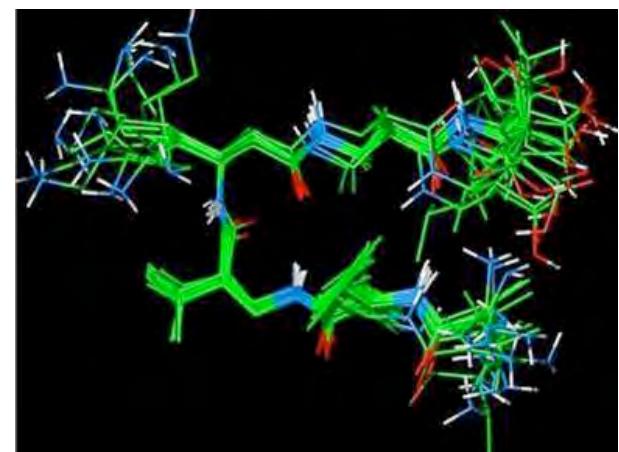
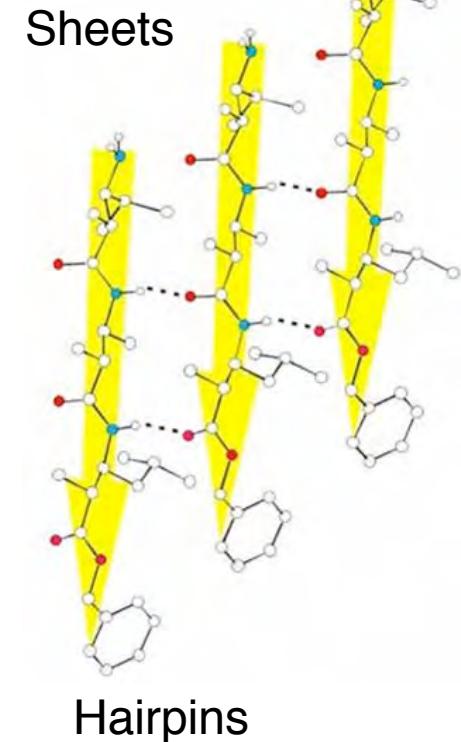
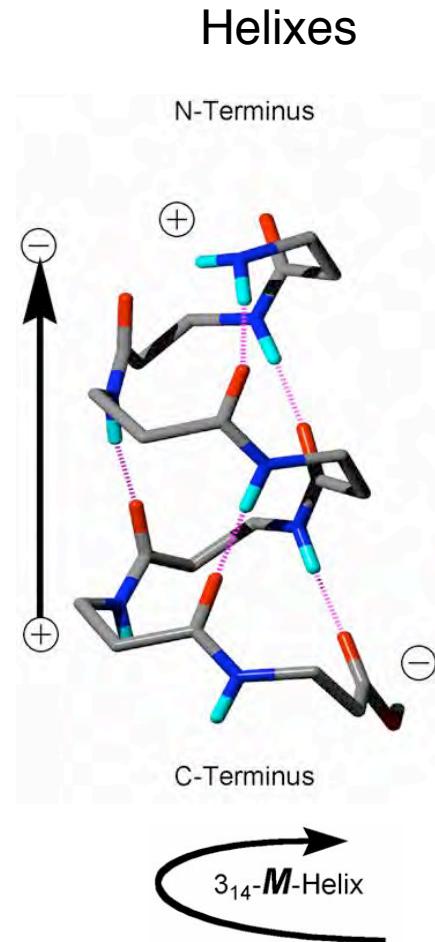
# Glycosylation Reaction Profile: Reaction Time and Temp. vs. Yield



# $\beta$ -Peptides: Novel Polymers With Interesting Structures

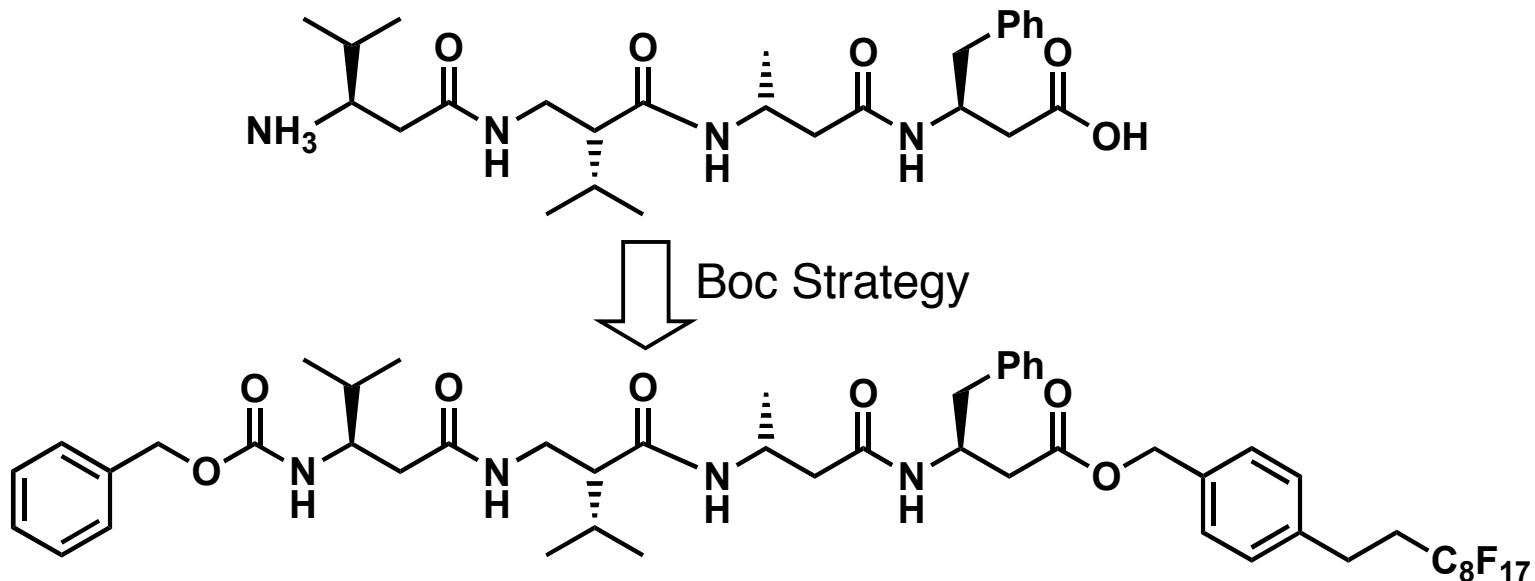


- Naturally occurring
- Metabolic stability



Seebach, Gellman

## Synthesis of a Tetrapeptide



-  $\beta^2$ ,  $\beta^3$  Turn Inducing Element

Formation of Secondary Structures?

Lack of Solubility

Coupling at High Temperatures

Need Easy Method of Purification

- Investigate structure and catalytic activity

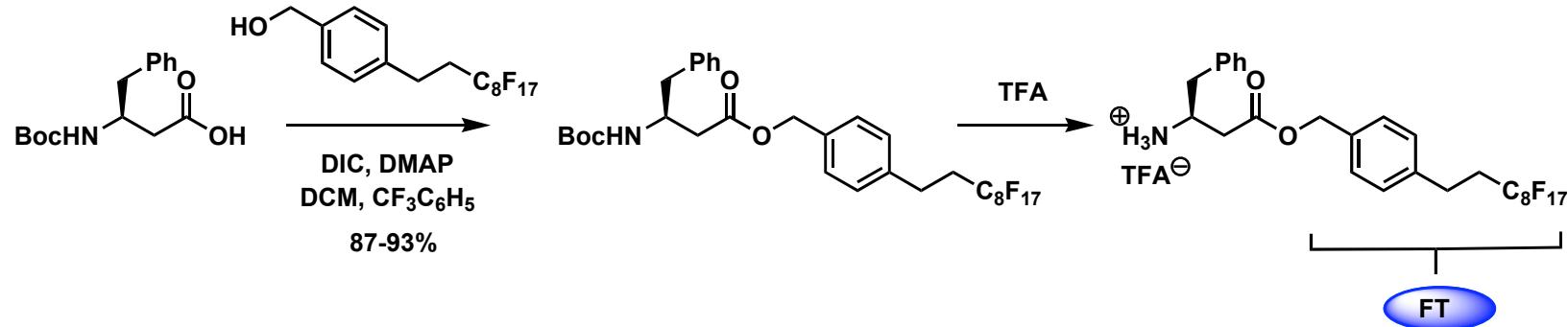
Larger quantities



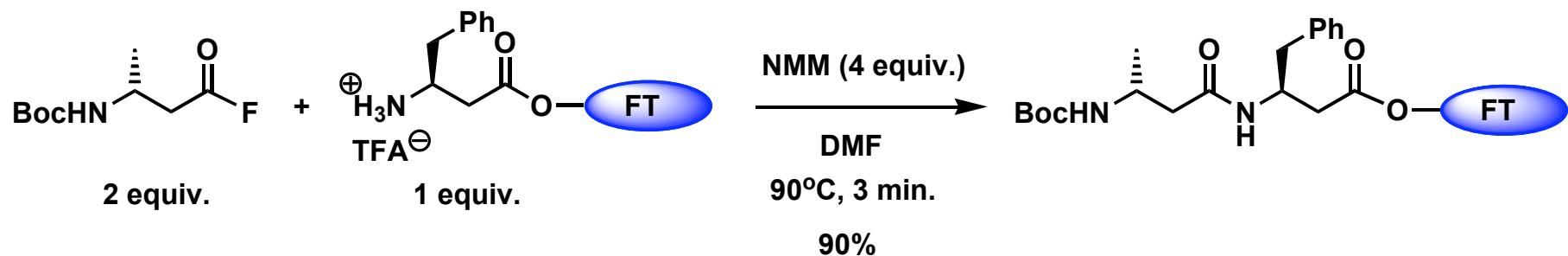
Microreactor  
Fluorous Tag

# Synthesis of a Tetrapeptide

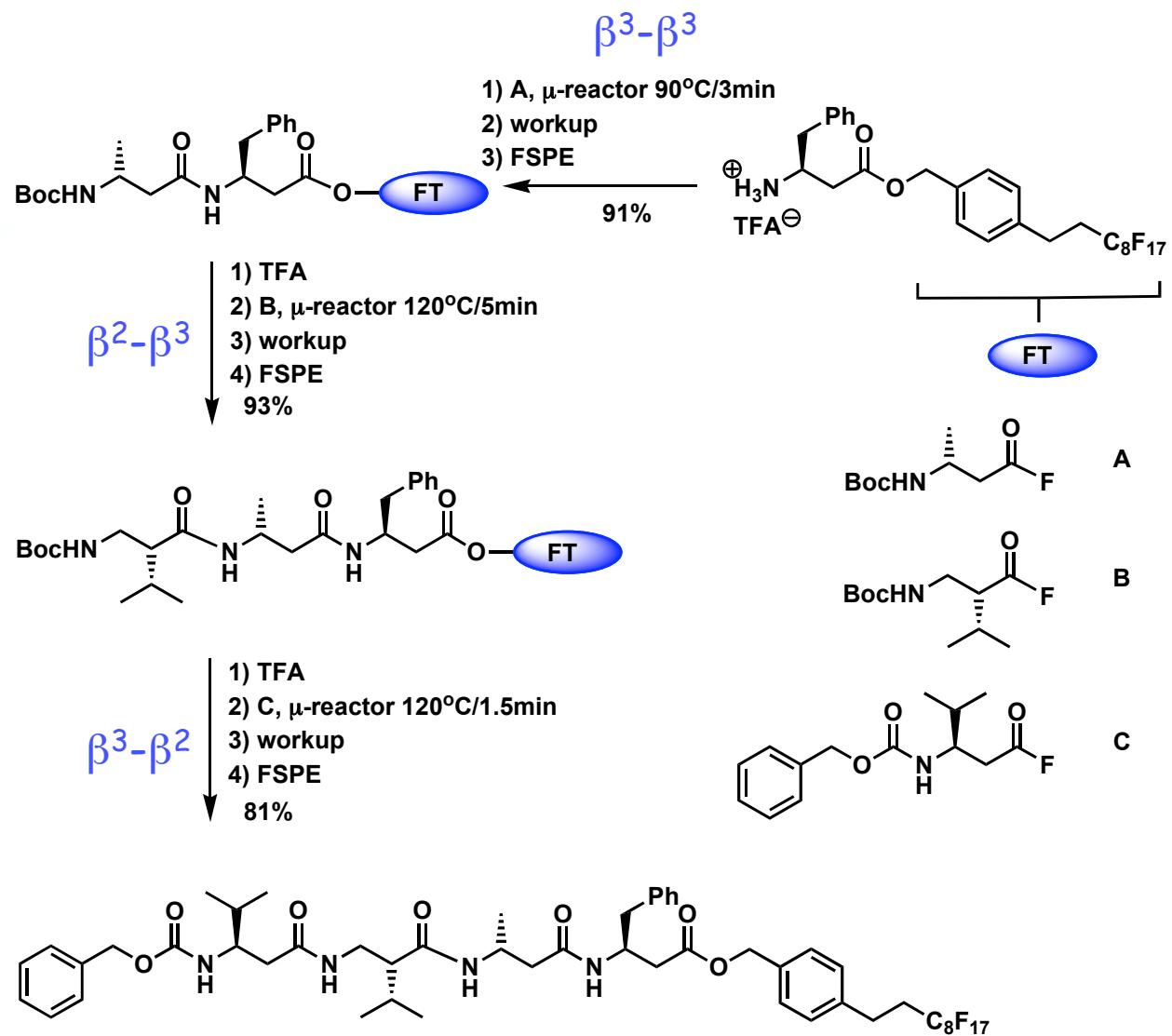
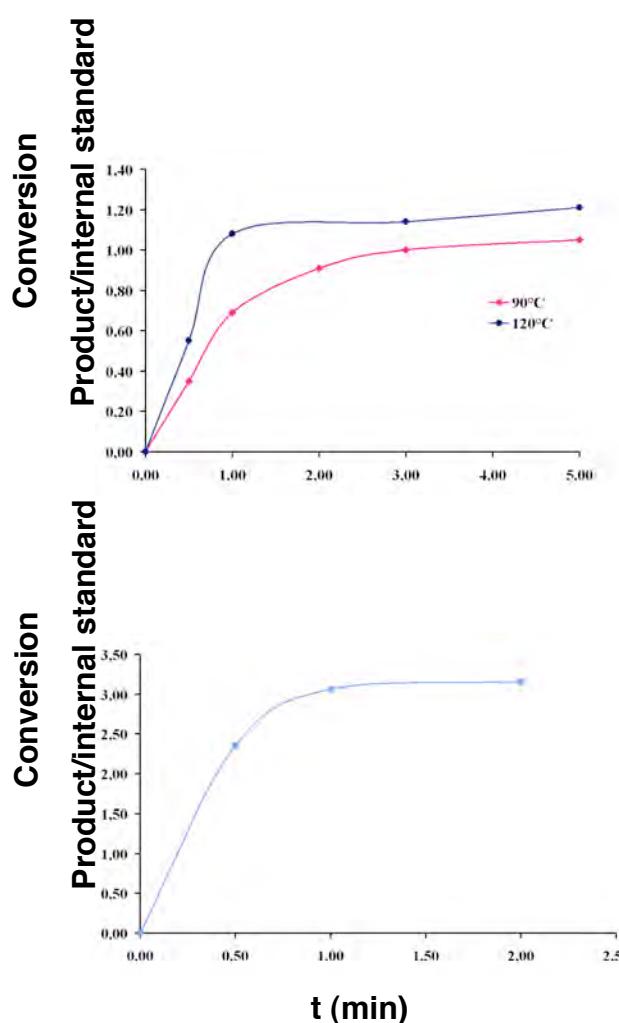
Preparation of tagged building block:



1<sup>st</sup> coupling (“optimized” conditions):



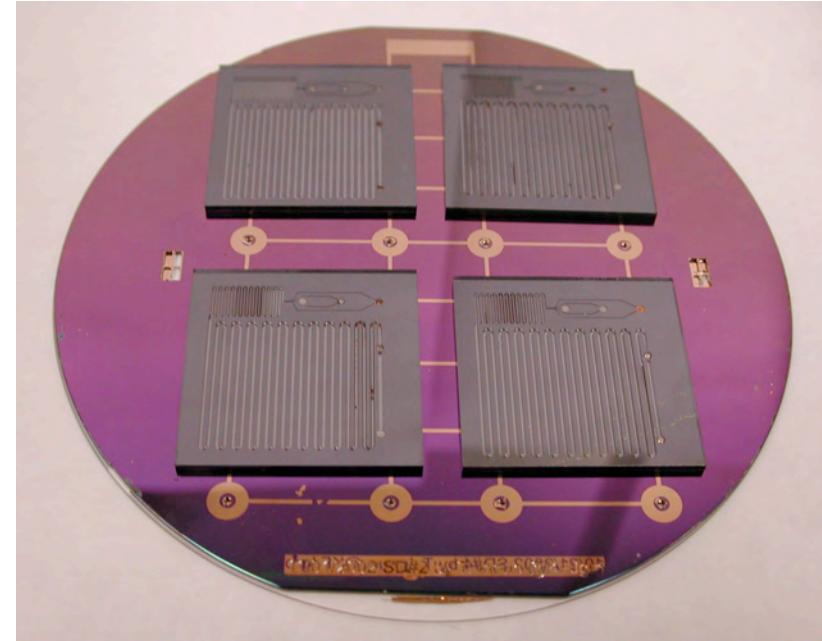
# $\beta$ -Tetrapeptide: Summary



Codée, Flögel, Seebach, Seeberger, *Angw. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* 2006 *in press.*

## Current Microreactor Work

- **Multiplexed reactors**
  - 9 reactors in parallel
  - Single wafer design
- **Improved reactor design**
  - Faster mixing
  - Wider range of reaction times
- **Integrated detection**
  - UV/Vis, IR
  - LC/MS
- **Additional reactor design for specific chemistries**
  - Chemistry-dependent
  - Multiphase



# Automated Oligosaccharide Synthesis - Applications

- ***Carbohydrate-Protein Interactions***

- HIV gp120 - cyanovirin-N interactions
- Bacterial cell adhesion
- Innate immune response
- **Heparin - protein interactions**
- Glycolipid signaling

- ***Nucleic Acid - Carbohydrate Interactions***

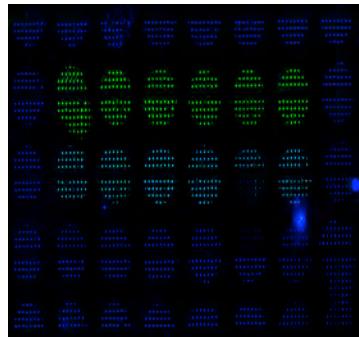
- Aminoglycoside - RNA binding

- ***Synthetic Carbohydrate Vaccines***

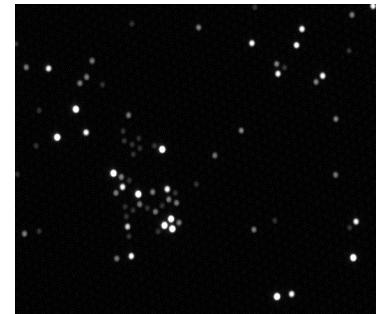
- Tropical diseases                    (**Malaria; Leishmania**)
- Bacterial Infections                (***B. anthracis; M. tuberculosis***)
- Viral Infections                    (HIV; Avian flu)
- Cancer

- ***Detection of Pathogenic Bacteria***

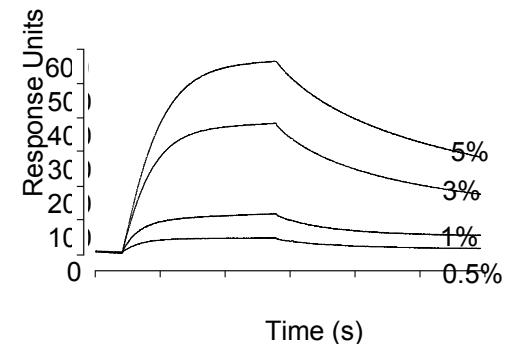
# Tools for Glycobiology



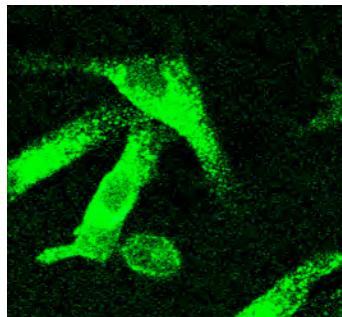
Carbohydrate arrays



Randomly ordered fiberoptic carbohydrate microarrays



Carbohydrates on gold surfaces for SPR

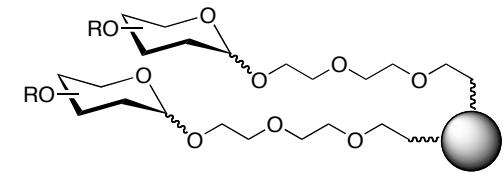


Labeled carbohydrates  
For confocal microscopy

Identify ligands

Determine binding affinity

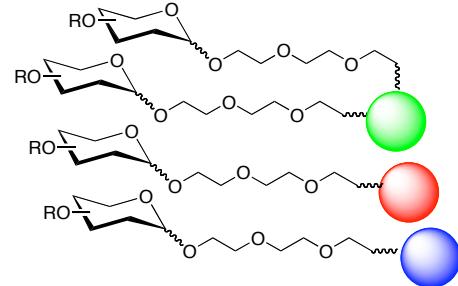
Synthetic/Isolated Oligosaccharides



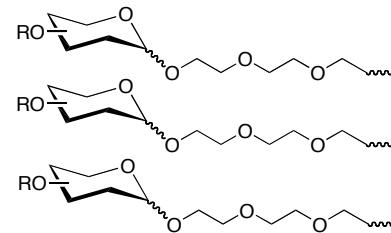
Carbohydrates on magnetic beads

Imaging

Isolate carbohydrate binding proteins



Carbohydrates on quantum dots for in vitro imaging

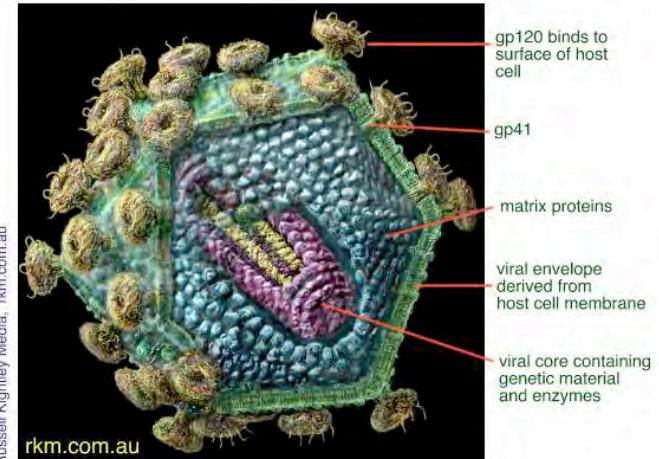


Carbohydrate affinity columns

# Carbohydrate Arrays - Applications

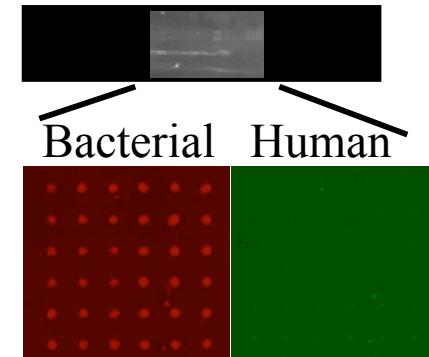
- **Incubate with proteins, antibodies**
  - Determine binding fingerprints
  - Identify new lectins
  - Screen blood for disease patterns
  - Lead structures for vaccine design

*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2003, 42, 5317  
*ChemBioChem.* 2004, 5, 379.



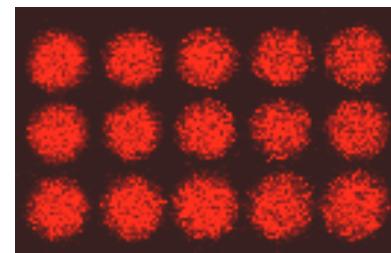
- **Incubate with RNA**
  - Aminoglycoside antibiotic selectivity
  - Resistance mechanisms and toxicity

*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2004, 43, 1591  
*Chem. Eur. J.* 2004, 10, 3308

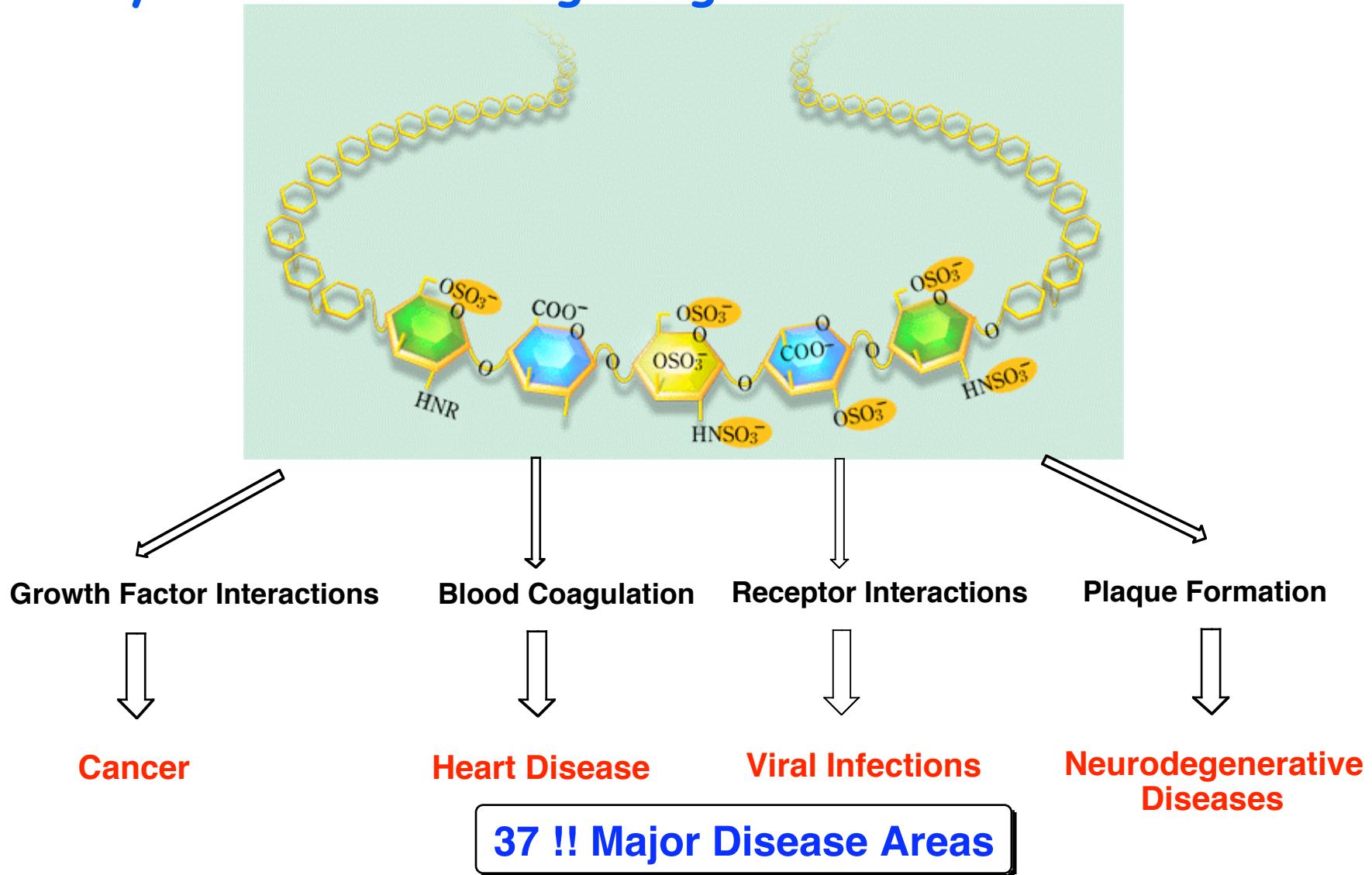


- **Incubate with cells**
  - Detect bacteria in biological samples
  - Identify cellular interactions

*Chem. Biol.* 2004, 11, 1701

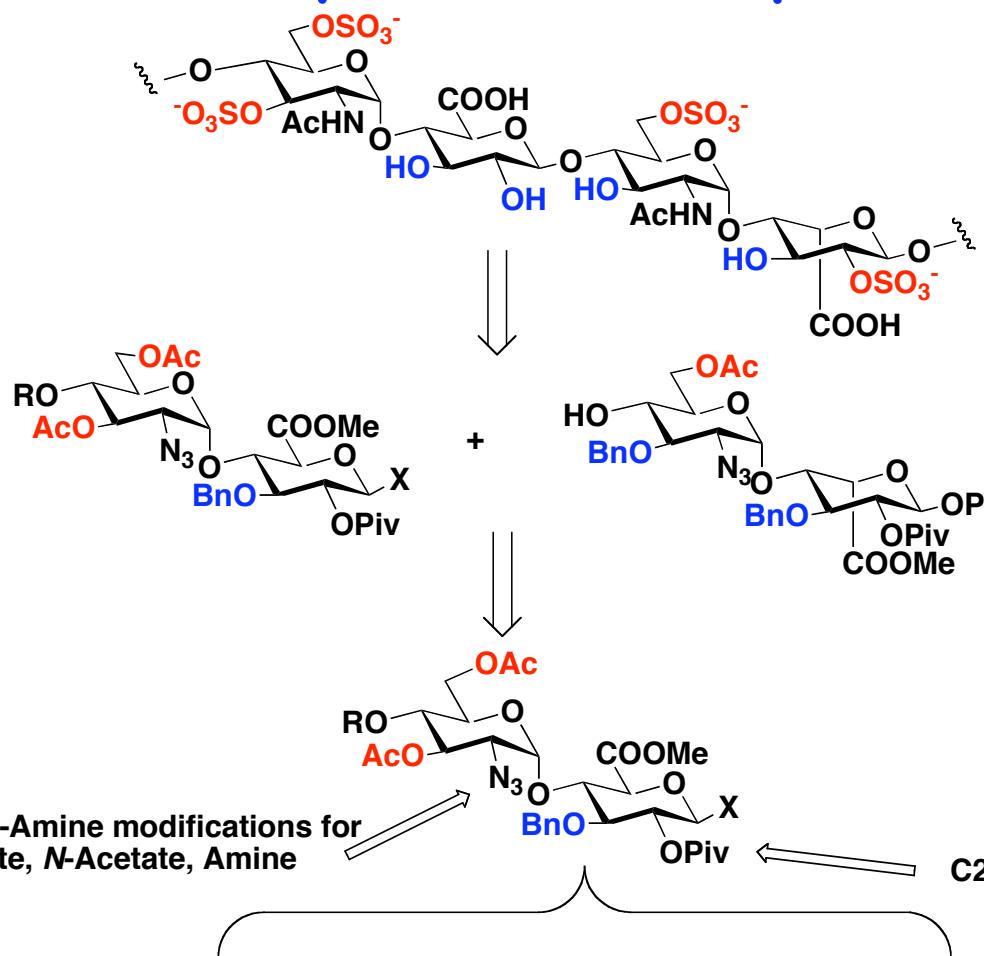


# Glycosaminoglycans: Key Mediators of Signaling at the Plasma Membrane



Can We Identify Small Molecule Inhibitors of Heparin-Protein Interactions?

# Modular Synthesis of Heparin-like Glycosaminoglycans



255 Million Decasaccharides  
5.3 Million Octasaccharides  
110,592 Hexasaccharides

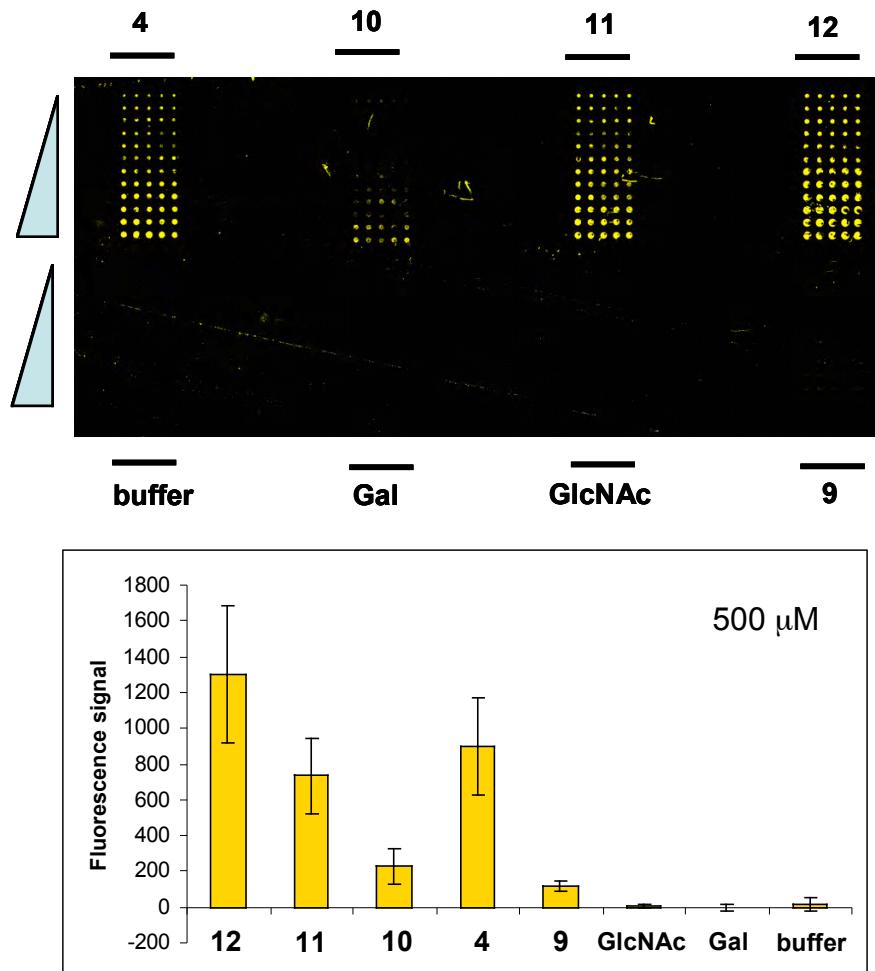
48 Modified Disaccharide Building Blocks

8 Disaccharide Building Blocks

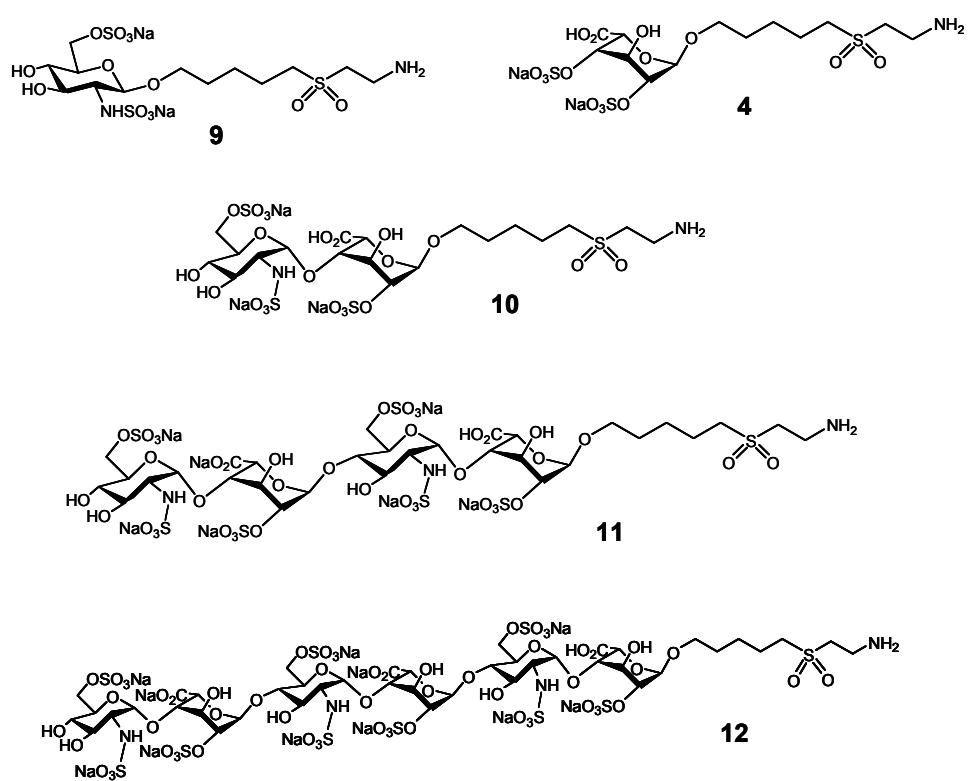
4 Glucosamine Building Blocks

1 Glucuronic Acid Building Block      1 Iduronic Acid Building Block

# Microarray Incubation with FGF-1



4 concentrations: 2, 1, 0.5, 0.25 mM

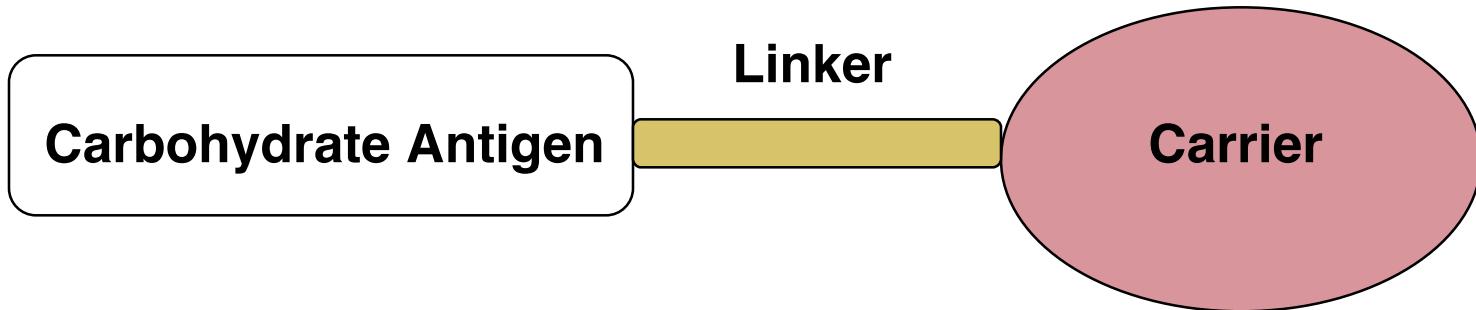


# **Heparin Chemistry and Biology: Current Work**

- **Synthesis of defined structures**
- **Automated synthesis in progress**
- **Define heparin sequences for different proteins  
(chemokines, viral receptors)**
- **Screen for small molecule inhibitors of heparin-protein interactions**
- **Synthesis and arraying of other glycosaminoglycans  
(hyaluronic acid, chondroitin sulfate etc.)**

**Synthetic Carbohydrate Antigens:  
Development of Vaccine Candidates Against  
Parasites, Bacteria and Cancer**

# **Carbohydrate Vaccine Architecture**



## **1) Carbohydrate Antigen**

- Isolated polysaccharide
- Synthetic oligosaccharide

## **2) Linker**

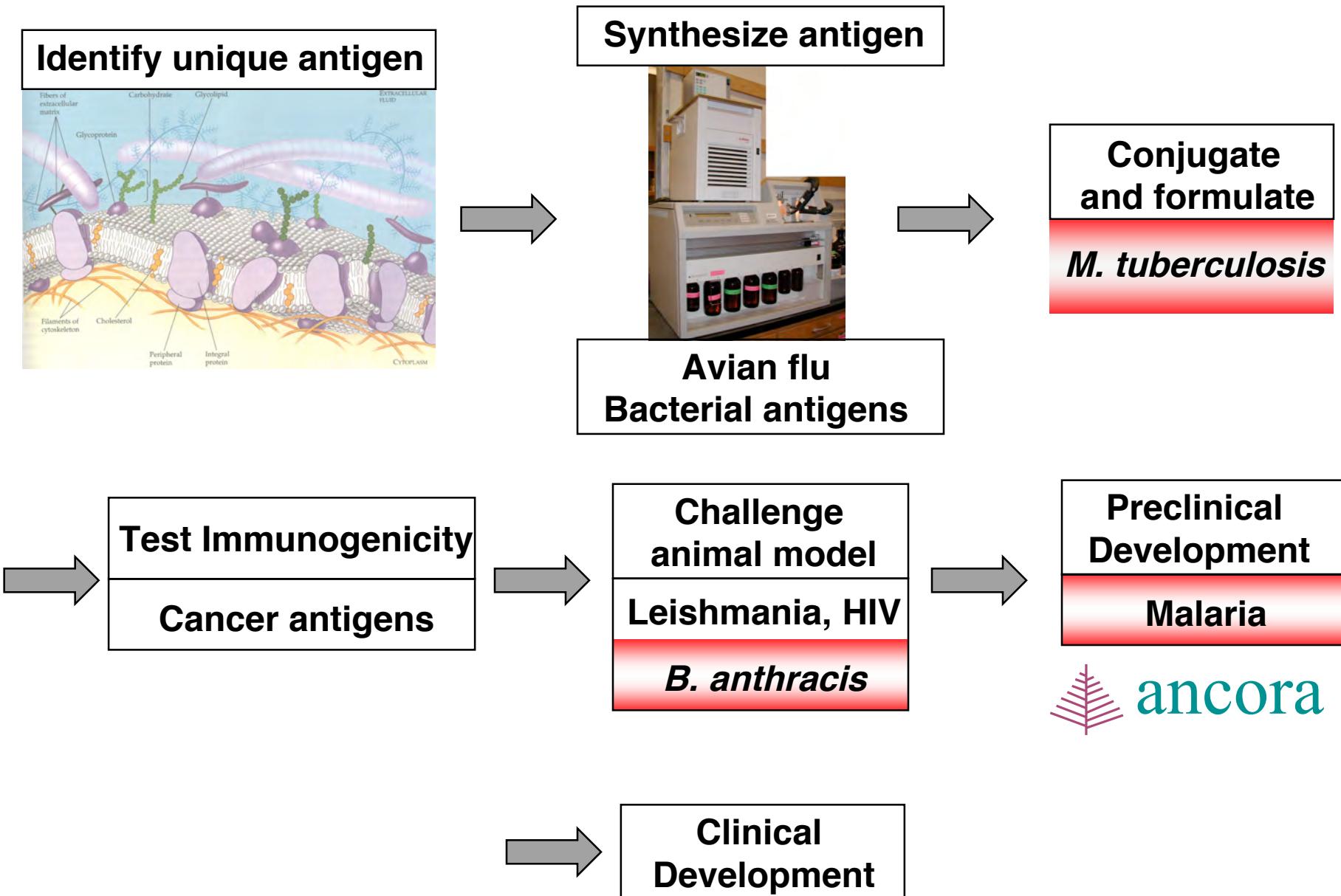
## **3) Carrier**

- Protein
- Virosome

## **4) Adjuvant**

- Alum
- Experimental adjuvants

# Carbohydrate Vaccine Development Path



# Anthrax Vaccine Candidate



**US, Autumn 2001**

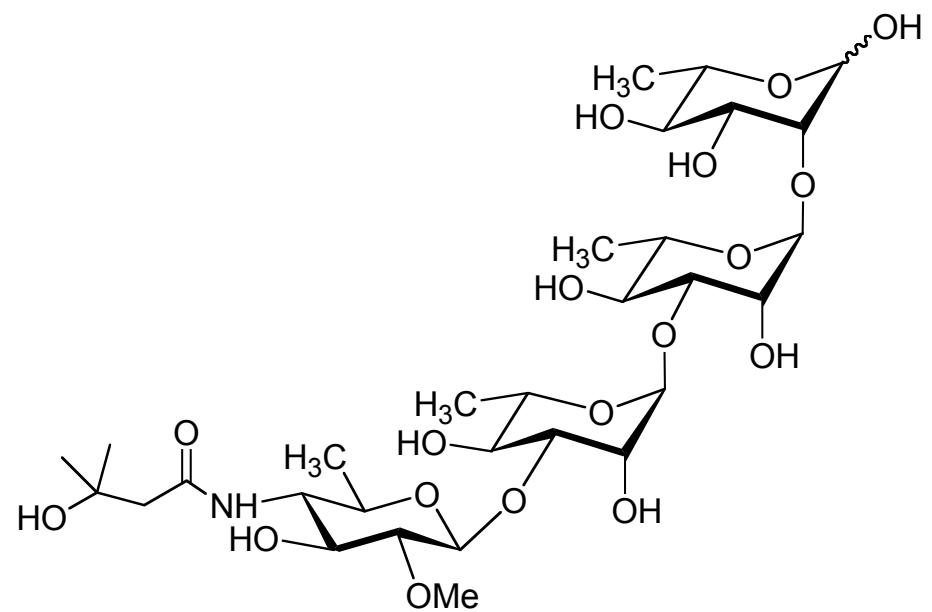
- 4 dead
- Millions terrorized
- US postal service at brink of collapse

*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2005, 44, 6315.

# An Anthrax Vaccine Candidate

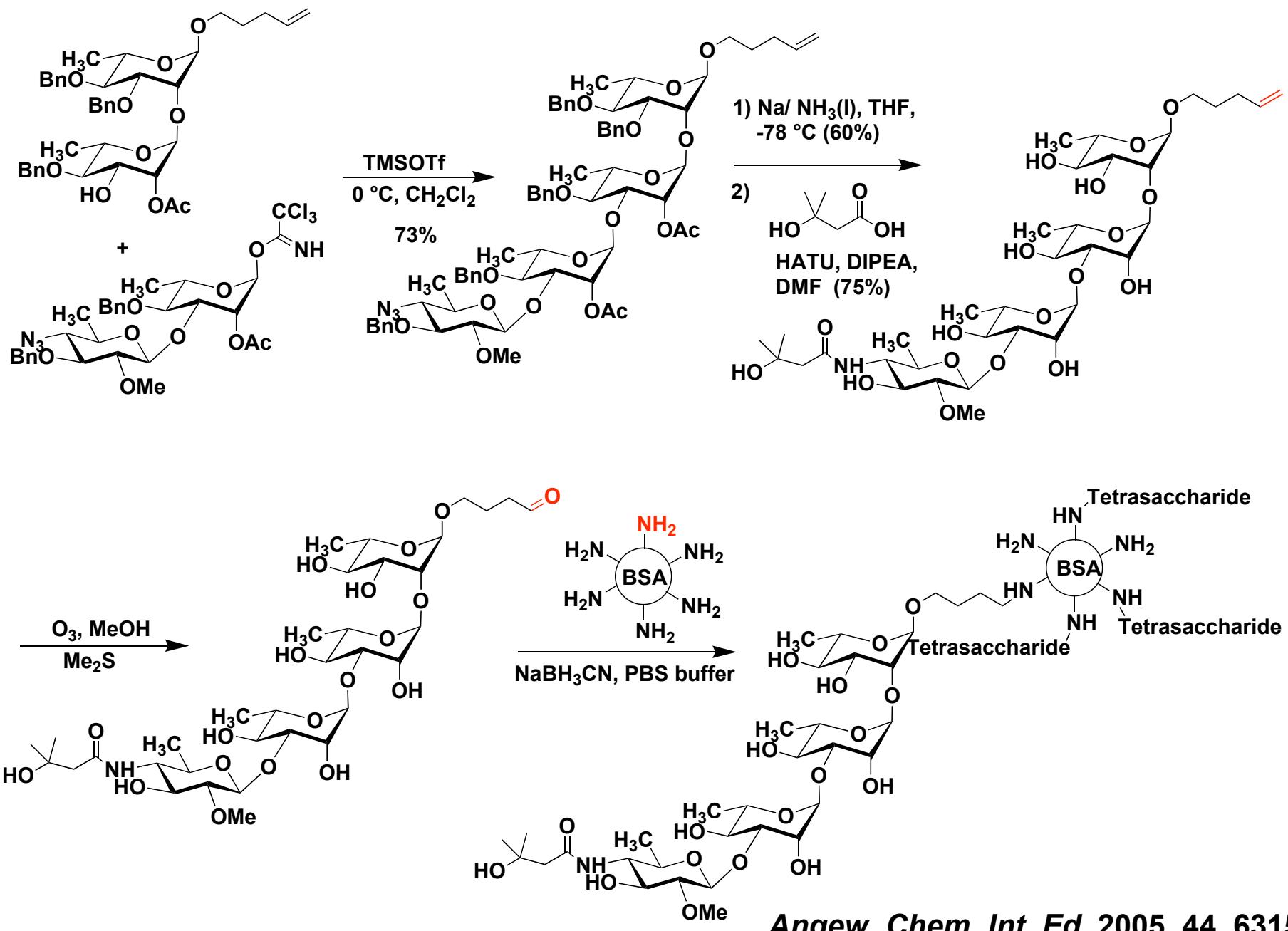


*Bacillus anthracis* with spores



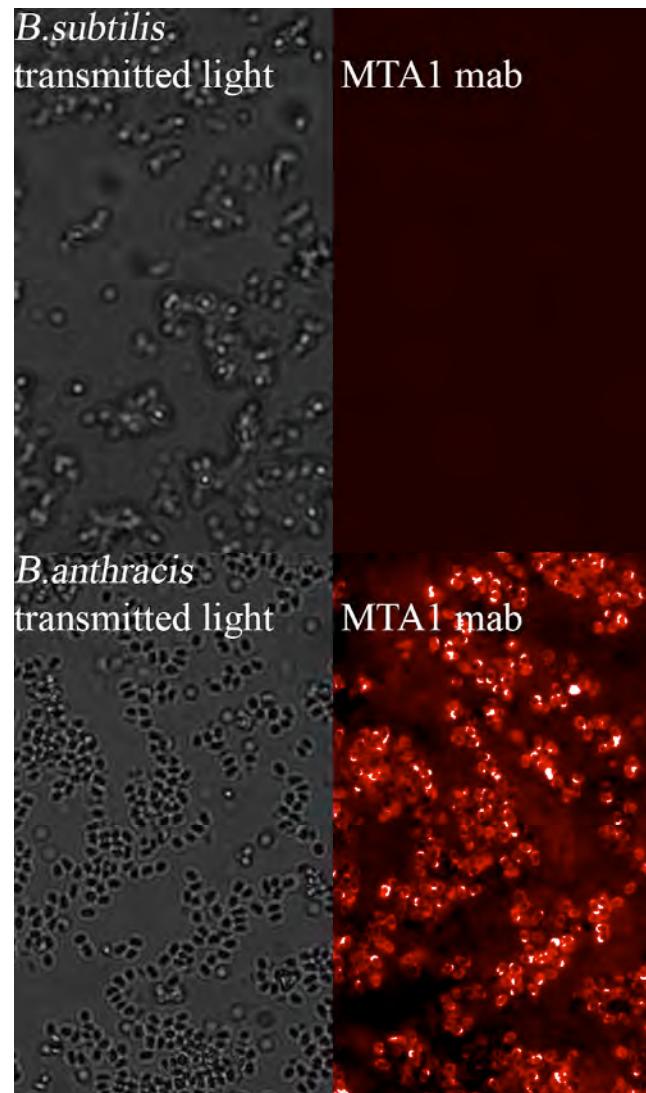
Unique tetrasaccharide antigen

# Total Synthesis and Conjugation



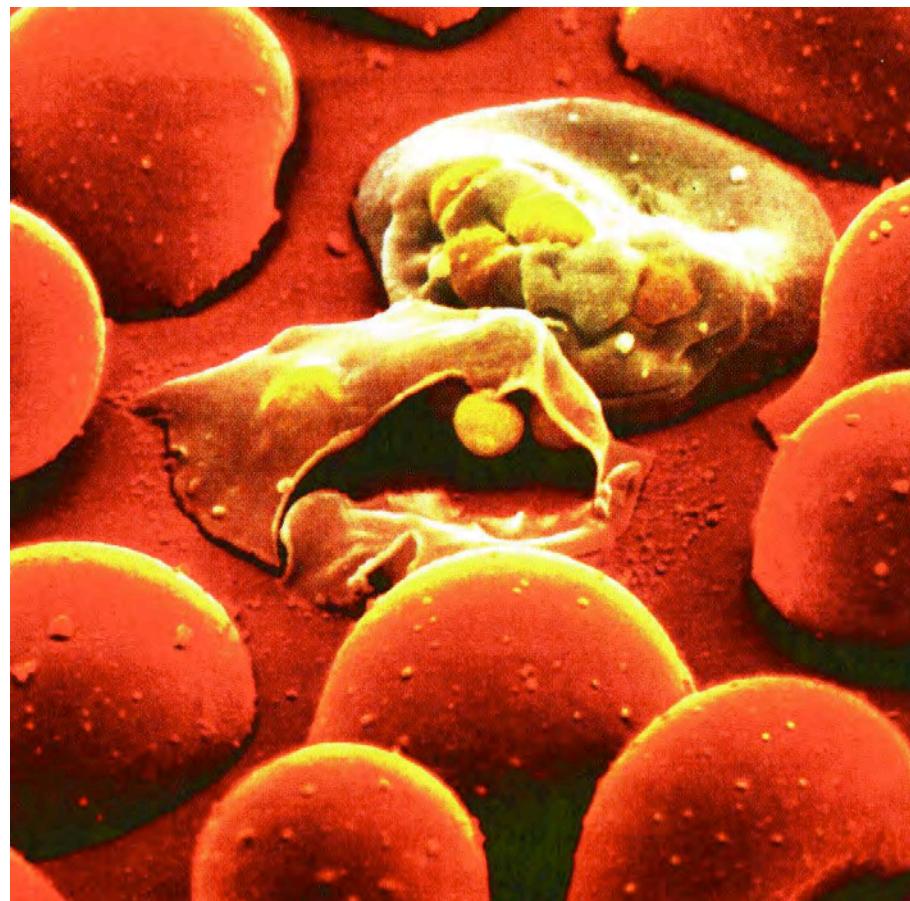
## Selective Anthrax Detection

- Excellent immune response in mice
- Hybridomas generated
- Monoclonal antibodies purified
- Superb specificity
- Test kit development in progress

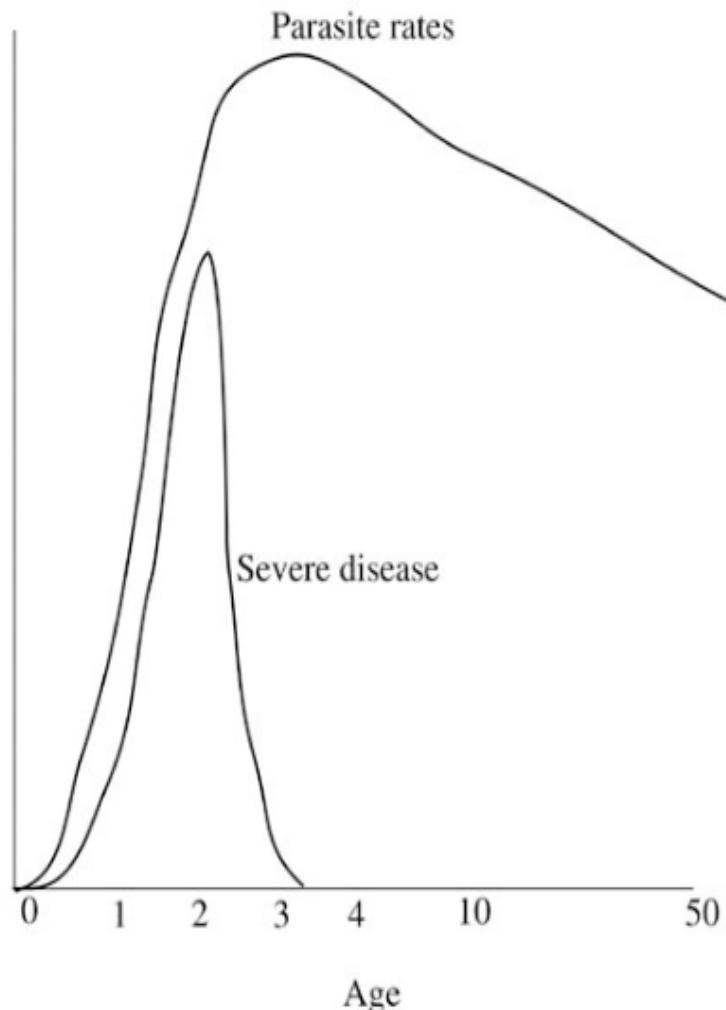


Tamborrini, M.; Werz, D.B.; Pluschke, G.; Seeberger, P.H.;  
*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.*, 2006, in press.

# An Anti-Toxin Malaria Vaccine



## Clinical and Anti-parasite Immunity to Malaria



- many protein-based vaccines explored
- carbohydrate-based vaccines very successful against other diseases

**Malaria Statistics (1994 WHO Estimate)**

- 40% of world population at risk
- 5% infected (300 million people)
- 100 million clinical cases
- 2-3 million deaths (1% of cases fatal (predominantly children < 5 years))

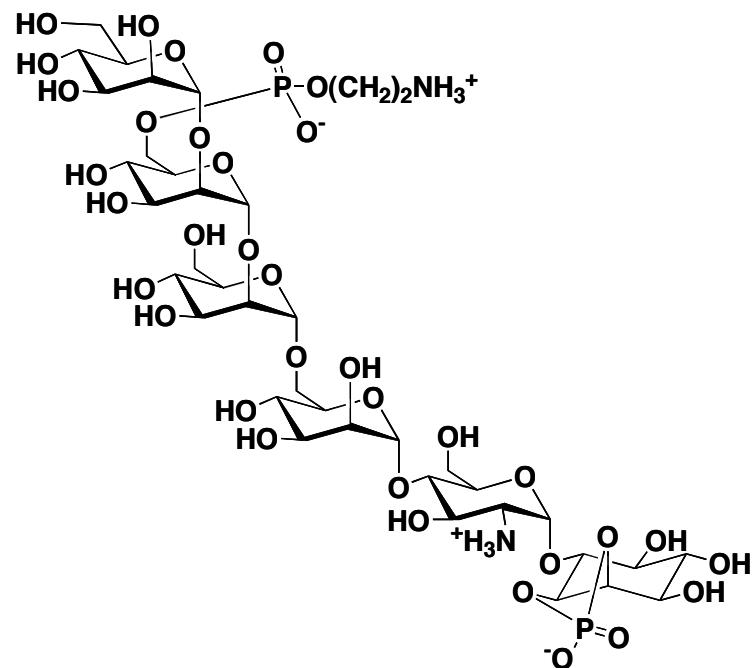
1896

Golgi Postulates Malaria Toxin



2002

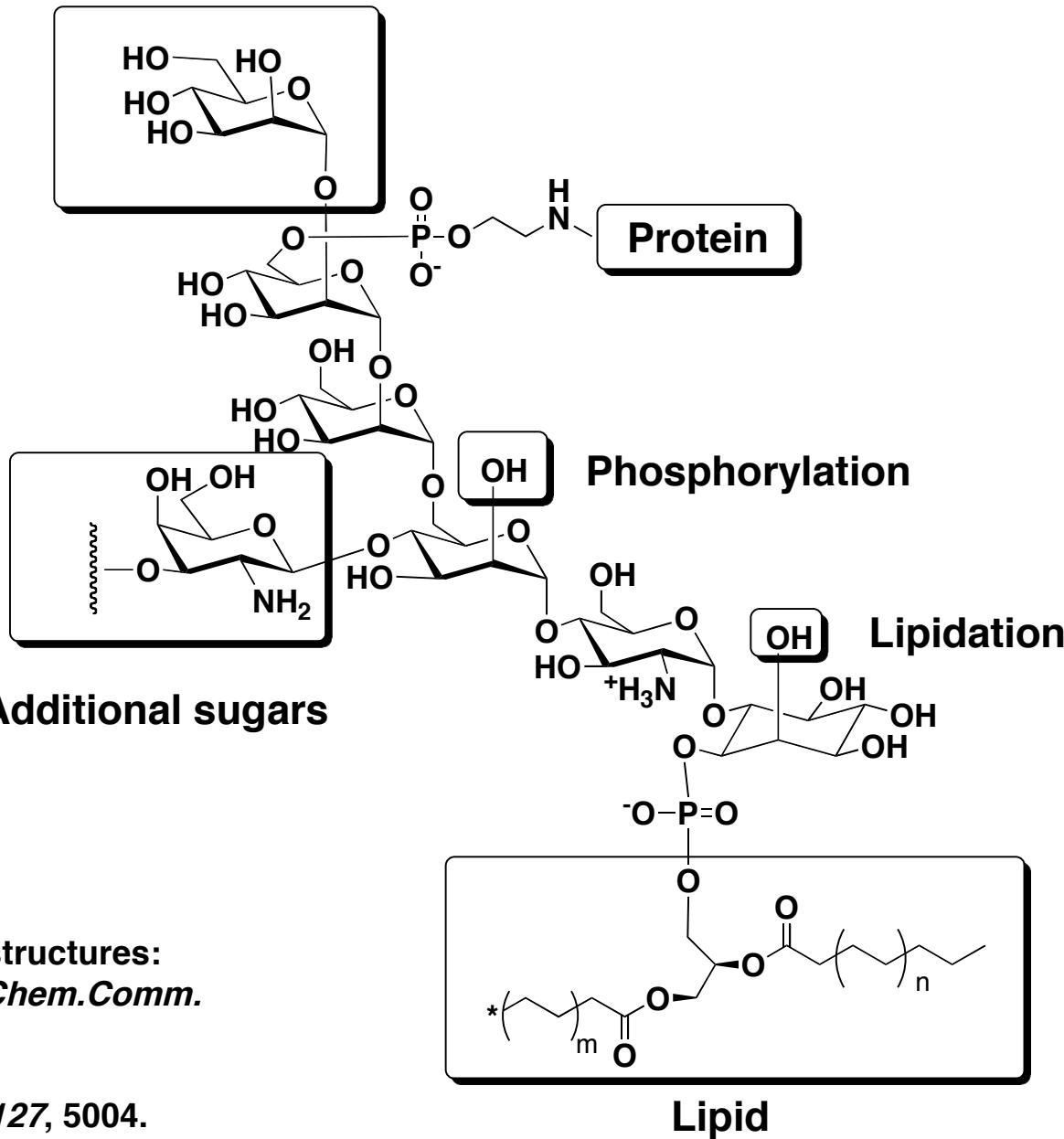
Toxin Identified



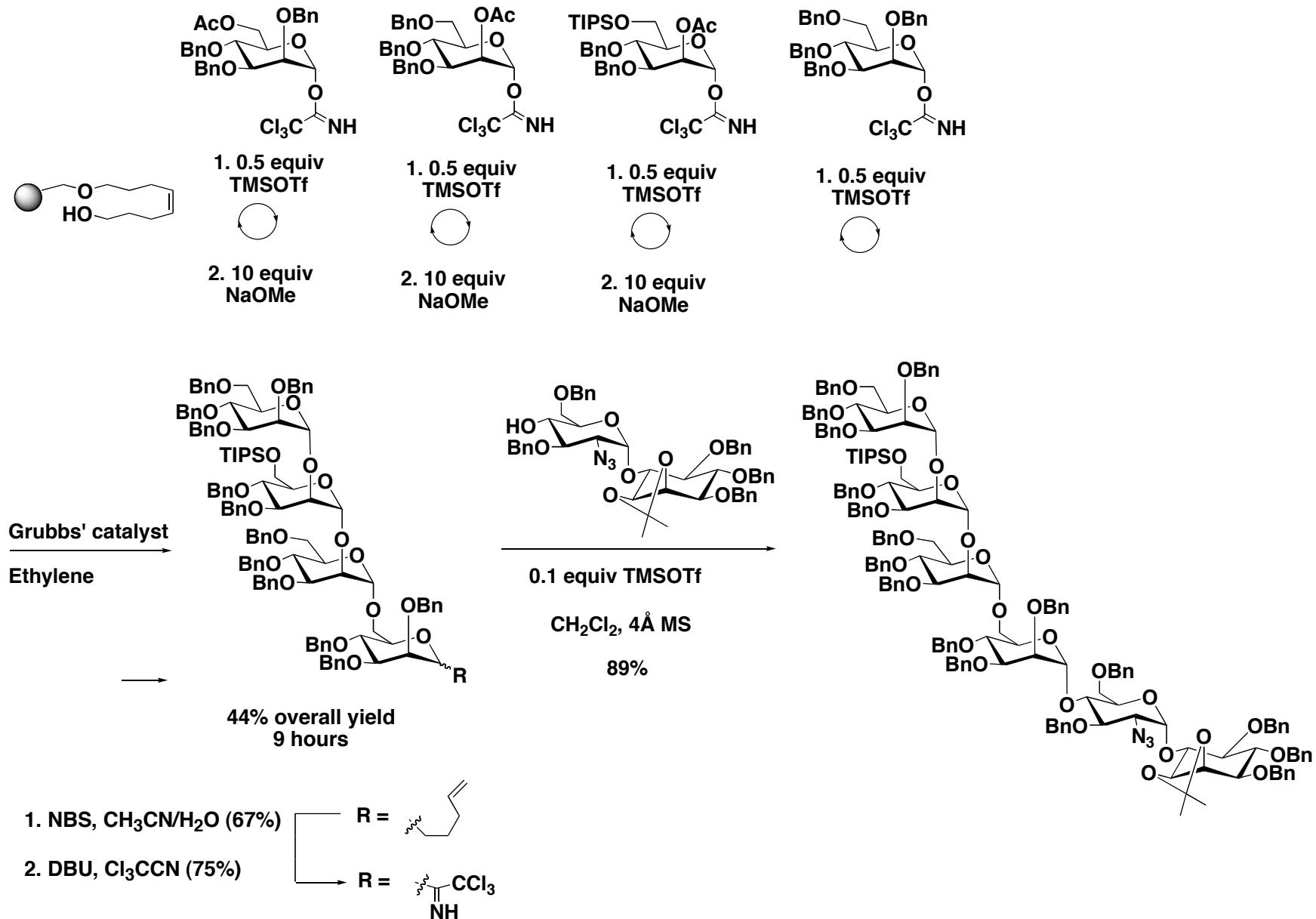
- 1) Substance isolated from *P. falciparum* - structure postulated
- 2) Synthesis of structure to confirm assignment
- 3) Use synthetic molecule as anti-toxin vaccine candidate

# Structural Diversity of GPIs

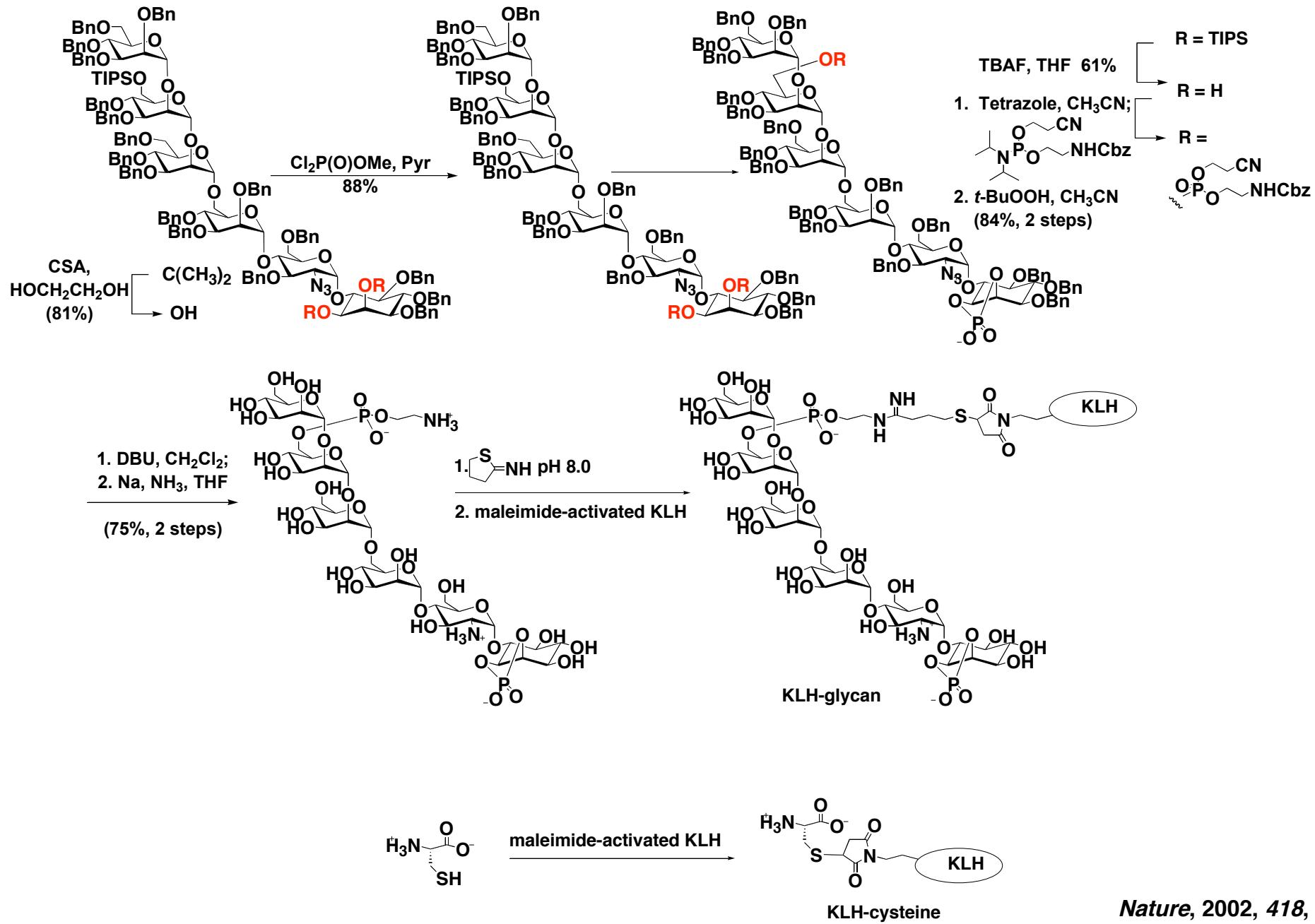
## Mannosylation



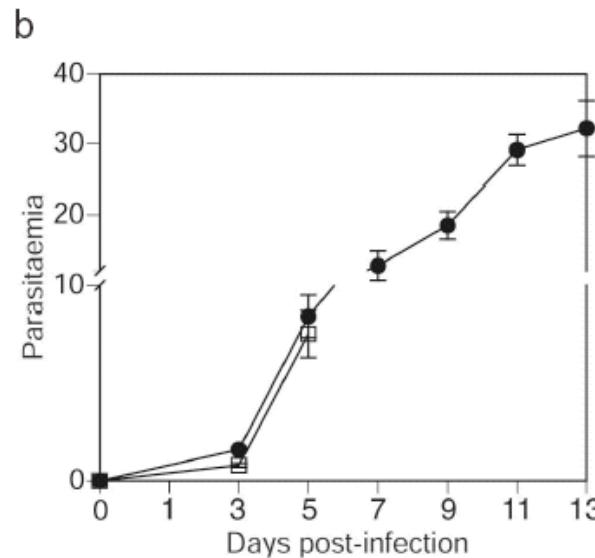
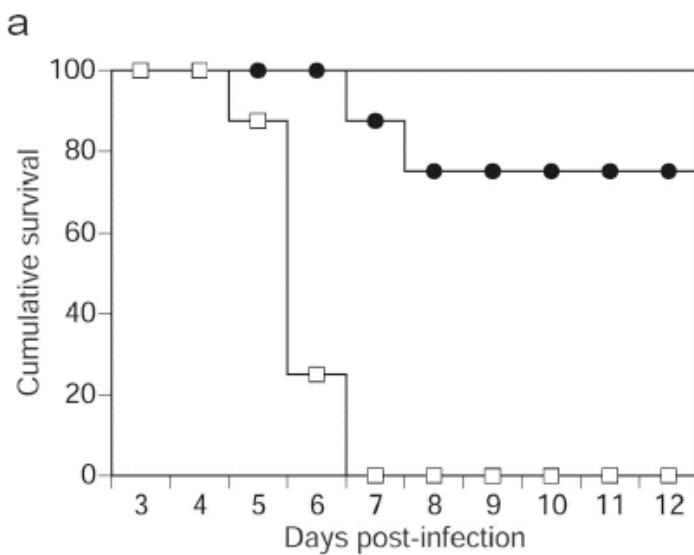
# Semi-Automated Assembly of the GPI Glycan



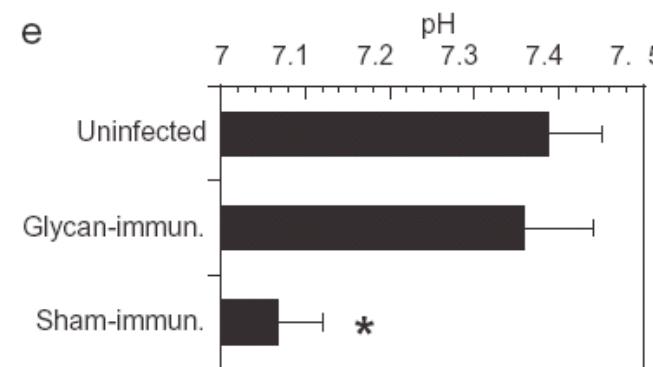
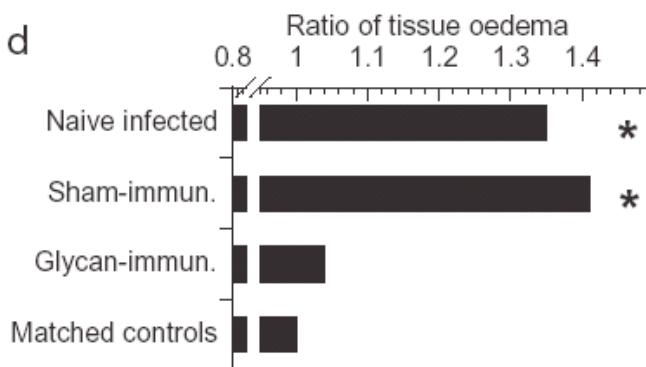
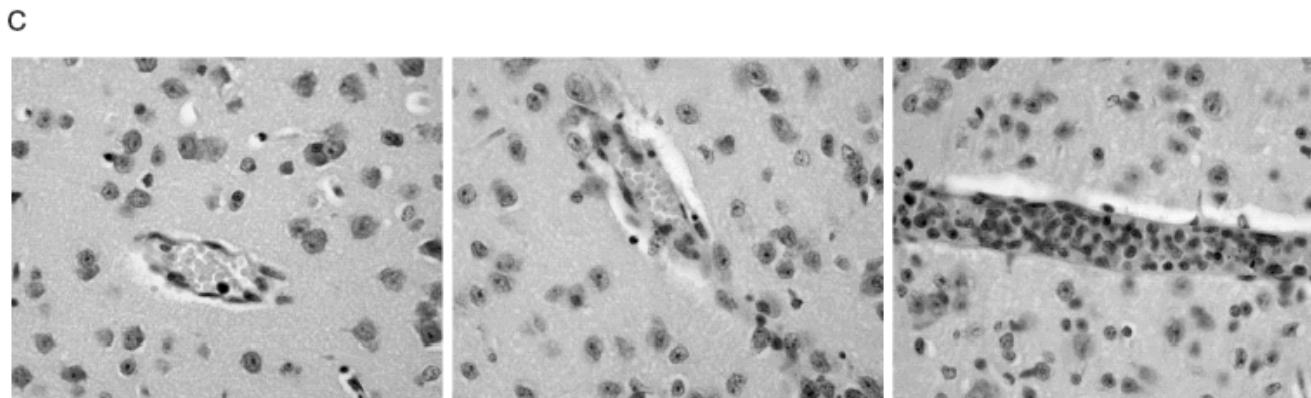
# Synthesis of a Malaria Vaccine Candidate



*Nature*, 2002, 418, 785



## Vaccinees vs Controls

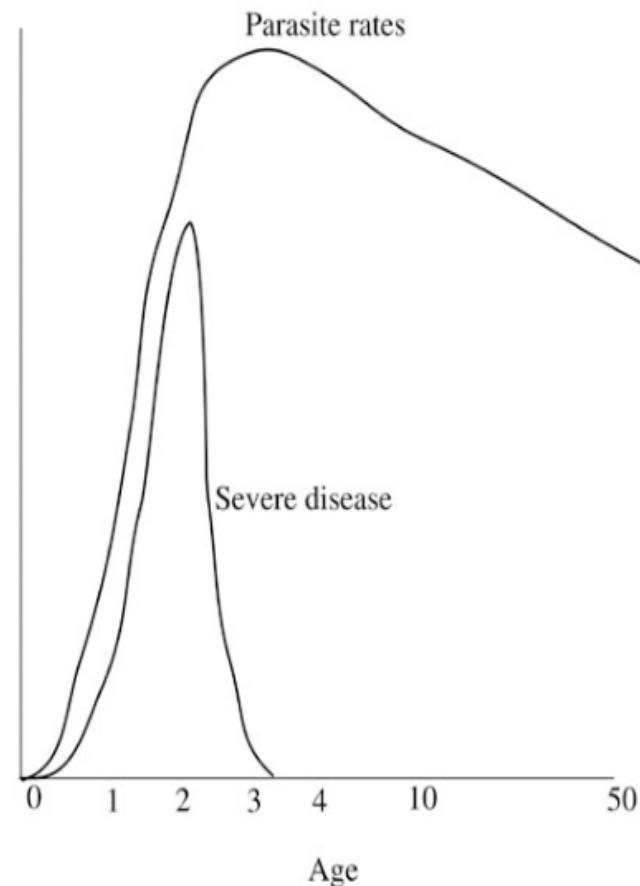


## Survival and parasitaemia

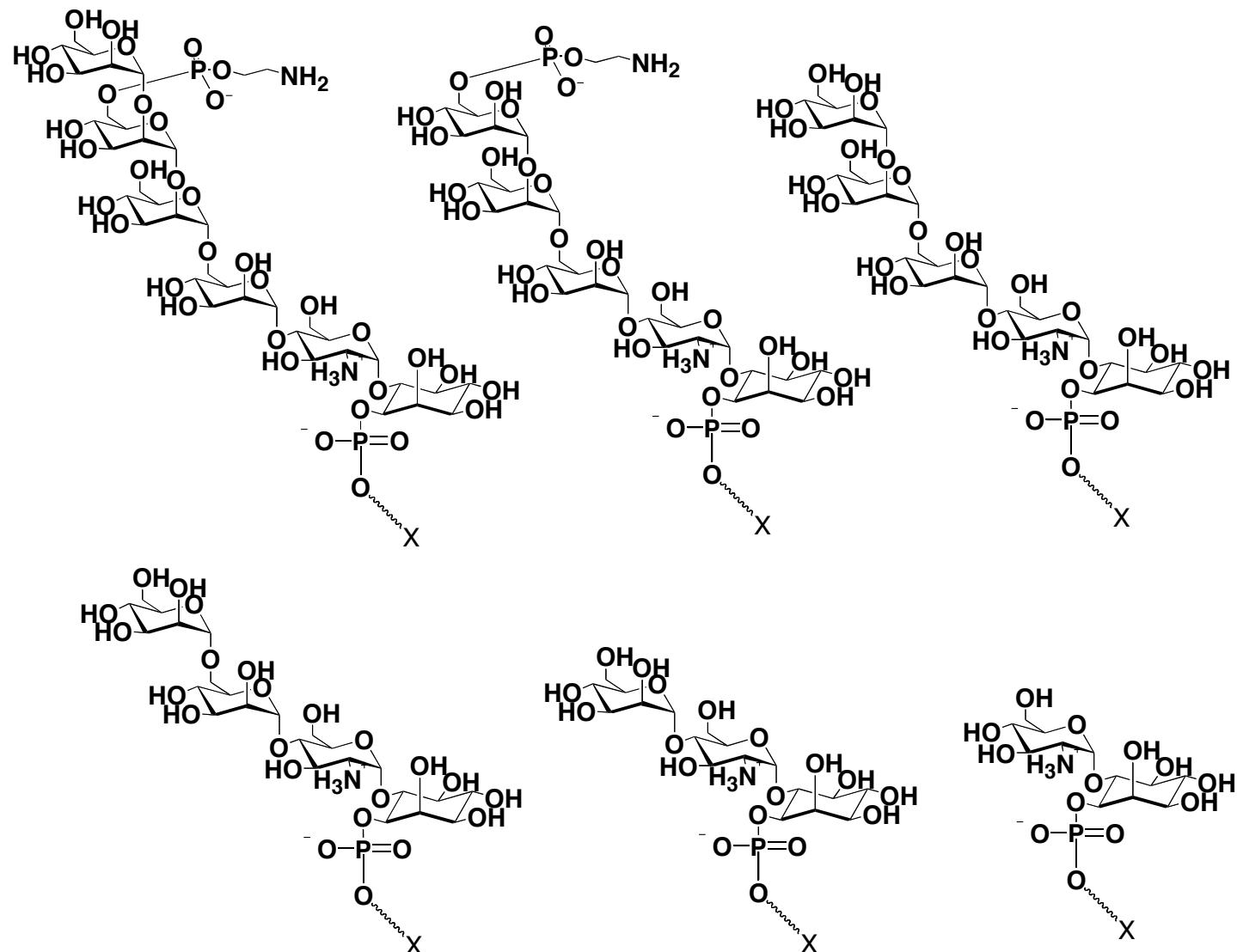
## Cerebral Histology

## Systemic Pathology

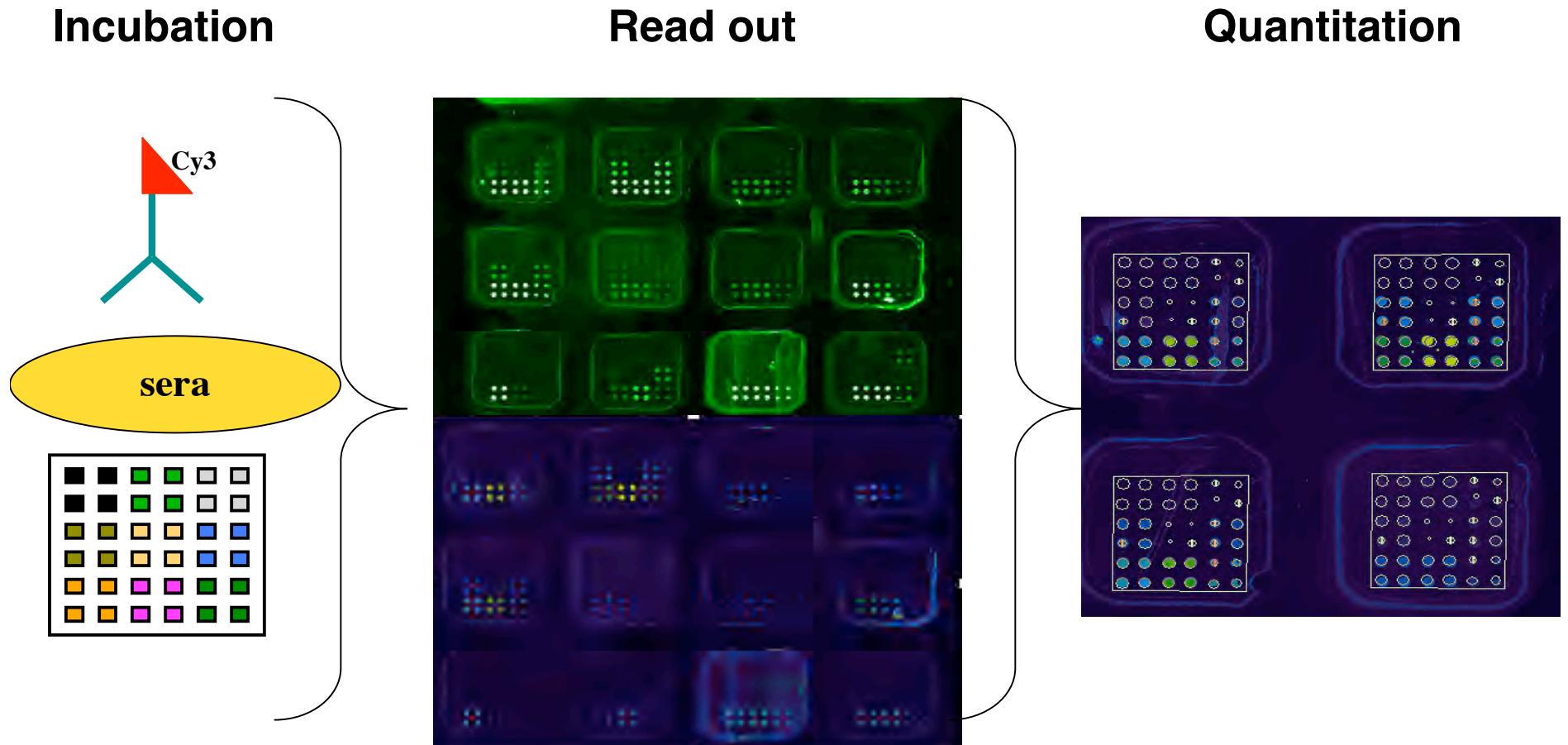
# Does an Anti-GPI Response Protect from Malaria Mortality?



# Tools for Epitope Mapping and Biosynthesis Investigations



# High Throughput Detection of Anti-GPI Antibodies on Microarrays



## GPI Microarray Results - Summary

- Fine specificities and titers differ between exposed and naive populations
- Children of mothers with specific antibodies have no antibodies
- Disease specific antibodies decline in migrants to about 40% in three years

Specific GPI Antibodies Protect Adults in Endemic Areas  
from Severe Disease



Induction of GPI-specific Antibodies Should Protect  
Naive Individuals and Small Children from Severe Disease

# **Development of an Anti-Toxin Malaria Vaccine**

- 1) Vaccination experiments in mice using additional synthetic antigens**
- 2) Scale-up and process development for synthetic antigen by *Ancora***

Synthesis	Total Yield	Linear Steps	Yield/Step	Scale
Seeberger Lab	0.26	26	79.5	10 -100 mg
Initial Ancora	2.70	27	87.5	1 - 100 g
Current Ancora	???	???	???	100 g - 5 kg

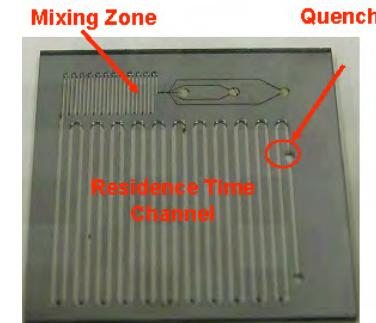
- 3) Conjugation and formulation agreement with major vaccine manufacturer**
- 4) Toxicology and preclinical studies**
- 5) Selection of sites for active and passive immunization trials**

## **GPI Biology - Current Work**

- **Epitope mapping - disease outcome correlation**
- **SAR for GPI - inflammatory response and other diseases**
- **Proteomics attack at receptors interacting with GPIs**
- **Studies of GPI biosynthesis**
- **Comparison of GPIs with PIMs and LMs**

## Current and Future Work

- 1) Innovate and improve all aspects of carbohydrate synthesis  
(common set of building blocks, better syntheses, difficult linkages, automation, work-up and purification, quality control)
- 2) Synthesize ever more complex targets from all classes of glycoconjugates in solution and on solid support (libraries of heparin oligos, glycolipids, glycoproteins, etc.)
- 3) Utilize carbohydrate arrays to study biomolecular interactions relevant to disease - identify small molecule inhibitors
- 4) Dissect signaling pathways that include glycolipids
- 5) Advance vaccine programs (parasites, bacteria, viral, cancer)
- 6) The role of carbohydrates in autoimmune diseases
- 7) Microreactors - The Roundbottom Flask of the 21st Century



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