

A mass spectrum plot with a blue background and white peaks. The x-axis is labeled 'm/z' and has numerical markers at 0, 400, 600, 800, 1000, 1200, and 1400. The y-axis represents relative intensity. The most prominent peak is at approximately m/z 750. Other significant peaks are visible at approximately m/z 300, 500, 900, and 1100.

THE FLYING IONS

A UAB Mass Spec Interest Group

**“I know my protein is
modified...why couldn't you
find it?”**

Matt Renfrow, PhD

Wednesday, March 25th 2009

I Know My Protein is Modified- Why Can't You Find It?

Matthew B. Renfrow

**Assistant Professor
Department of Biochemistry &
Molecular Genetics**

**The Flying Ions MSIG
March 25, 2009**



Ernie PTM

Success Stories

Glycosylation

O-glycosylation IgA1

N-glycosylation IgA1

N-glycosylation HIV gp120

Oral bacterial protein

O-GlcNAc signaling



Ubiquitination

Histone ____ (in vitro reaction)

Phosphorylation

Drosophila protein

Oxidative Modifications

hCKB (in vitro / in vivo)

hBAT (in vitro)



High Resolution Mass Spectrometry

Major Points for locating sites of modification

**Assumptions: This is NOT protein discovery.
Requires some level of familiarity.**

#1 Requirement for locating a site of MODIFICATION:

You must see the fragment!

#2 Major Point: Scale doesn't matter if you are not

Sampling the MODIFIED FORM

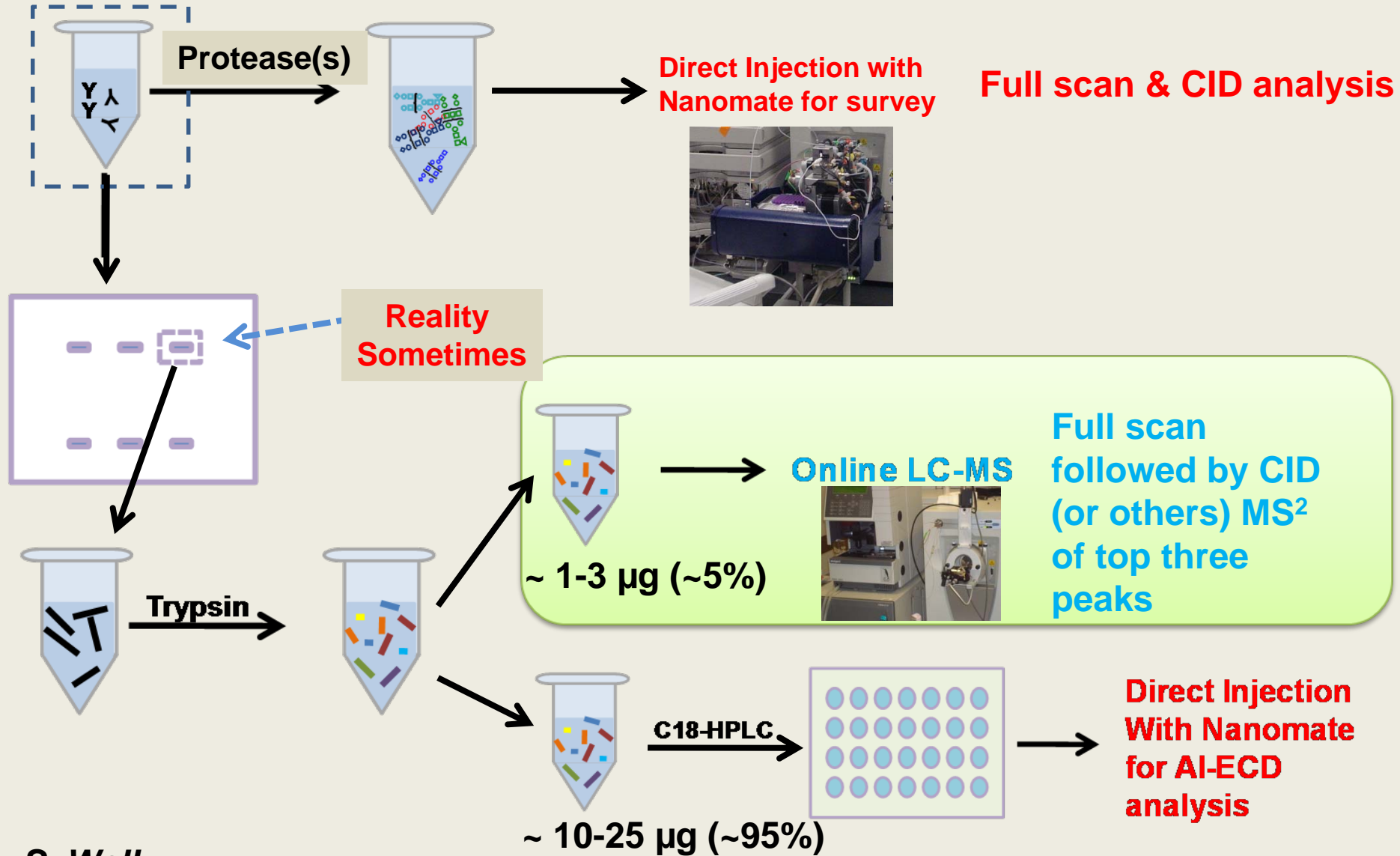
#3 MAJOR POINT: What can potentially **mask your
modification and how can you get around that?**

#4 Major Point: How do you visualize the results?

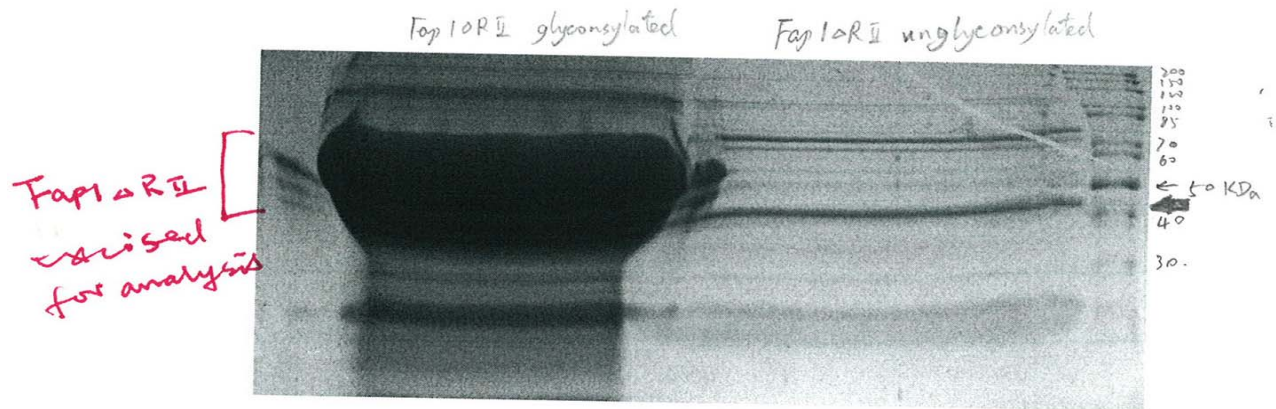
Qualitative alone may not work?

Analysis of PTM's

Prep of interest



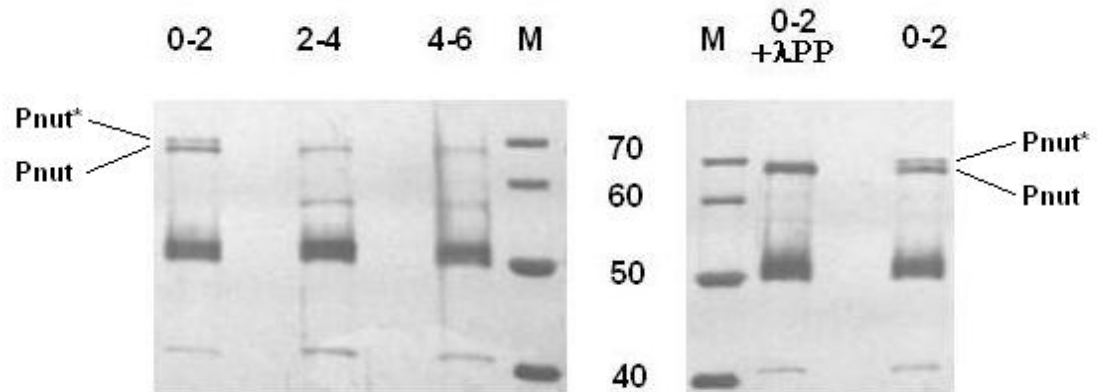
Committed to the analysis



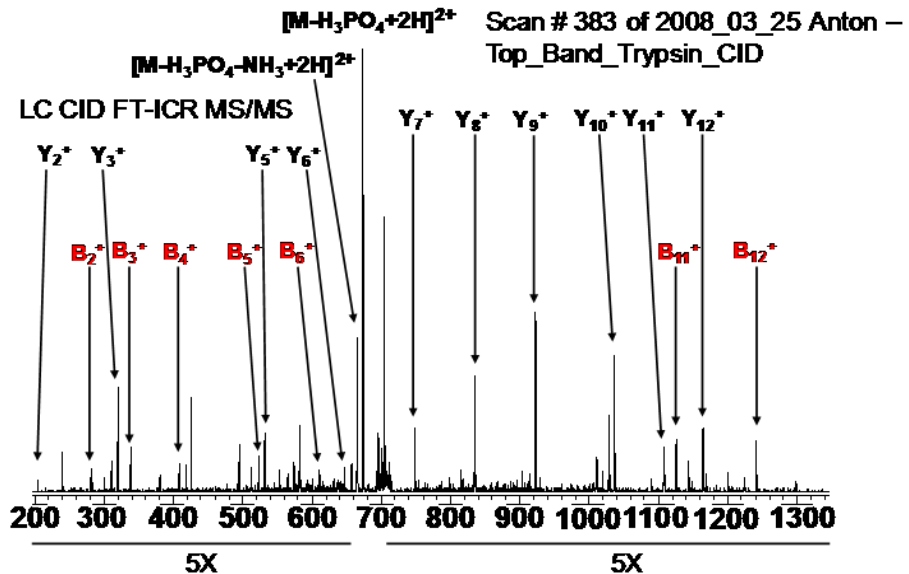
H. Wu,
Pediatric Dentistry

Phosphorylation analysis

1. Their characterized complex
2. Previously worked on identifying components
3. They knew what it took to isolate this complex before we ever saw the sample.
4. You can do discovery of Phosphorylation sites.



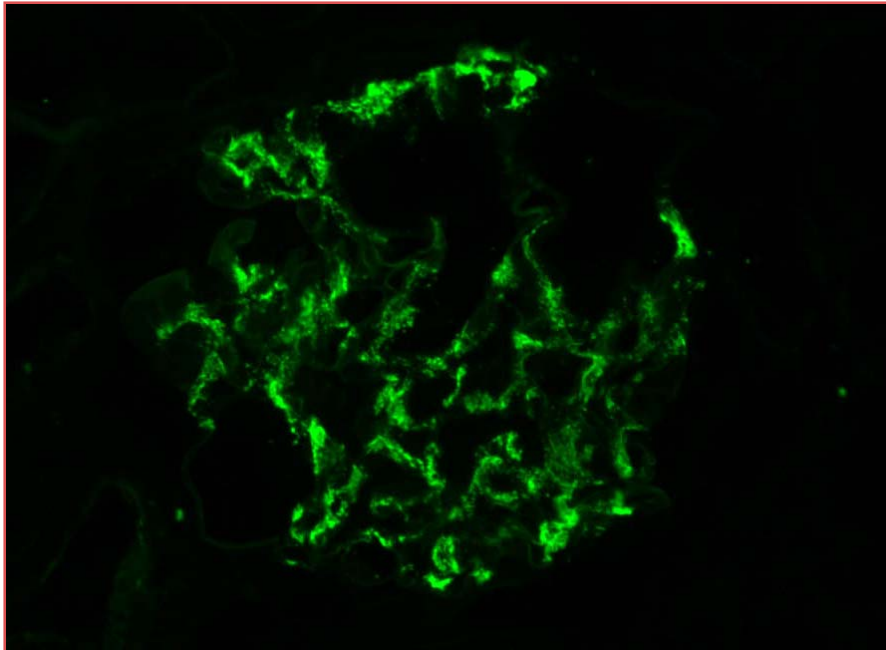
pS L G A N S S T D N V D G K



A. Svitin

I. Chesnokov, Biochemistry

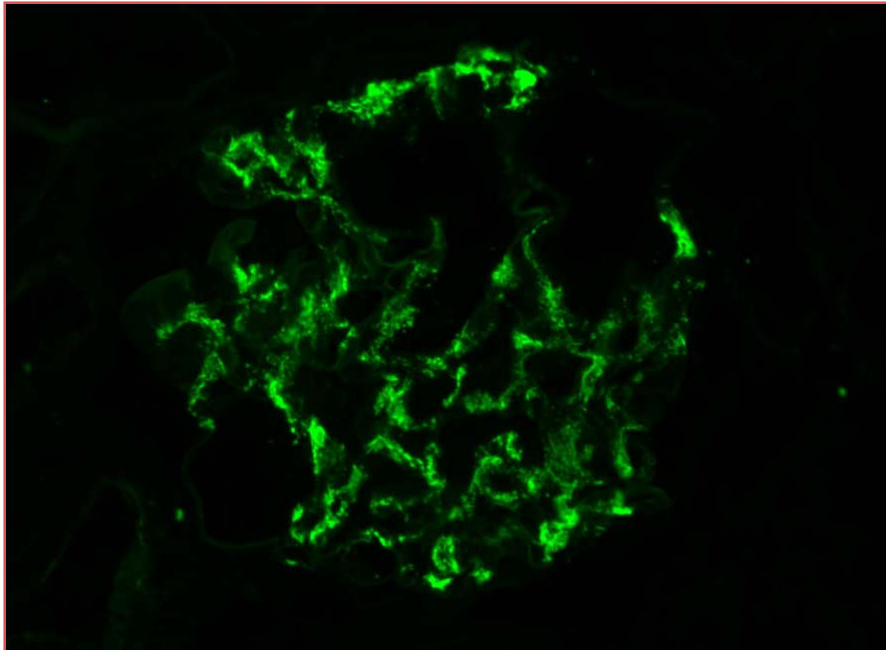
IgA Nephropathy (IgAN)



Immunofluorescence stained kidney biopsy

- **Most predominant form of glomerulonephritis**
- **Children & young adults**
- **Male:female ~ 2 : 1**
- **20-40% of IgAN patients will require dialysis or kidney transplant within 25 – 30 years after onset**
- **Caused by deposition of IgA induced circulating immune complexes (CIC's) in the kidney and in serum of IgAN patients**

IgA1 O-glycosylation



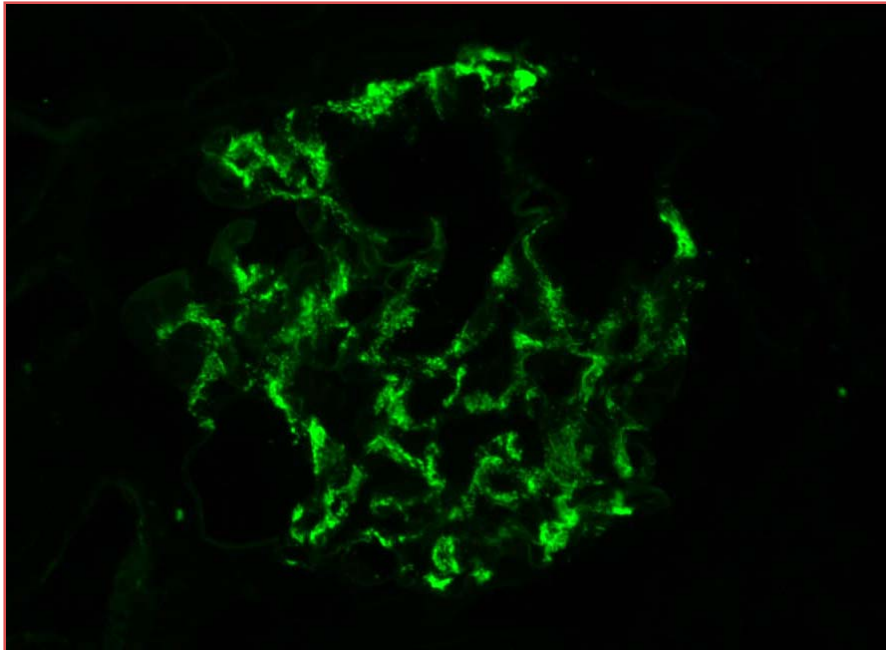
Immunofluorescence stained kidney biopsy

- **Modified protein involved in disease pathogenesis.**
- **Biomarker**
- **MS Analytical Challenge**

KEEP IN MIND THE FOLLOWING

- **Source of the sample**
- **Orders of Magnitude (modified vs. unmodified)**
- **What assumptions are being made about the sample?**
- **What assumptions are being made about the sample prep?**
- **Microheterogeneity (total population)**

Why MS needed?



Immunofluorescence stained kidney biopsy

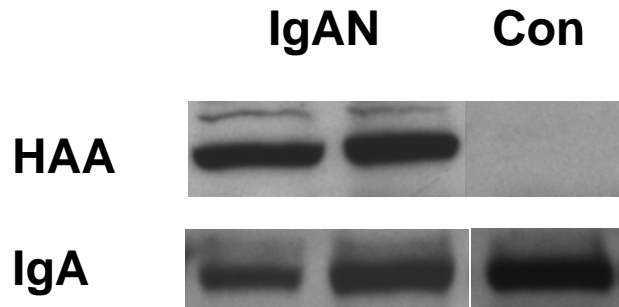
- **Locate sites of modification?**
- **Changes in O-glycans linked to the disease.**

IgA1 HR lectin analysis

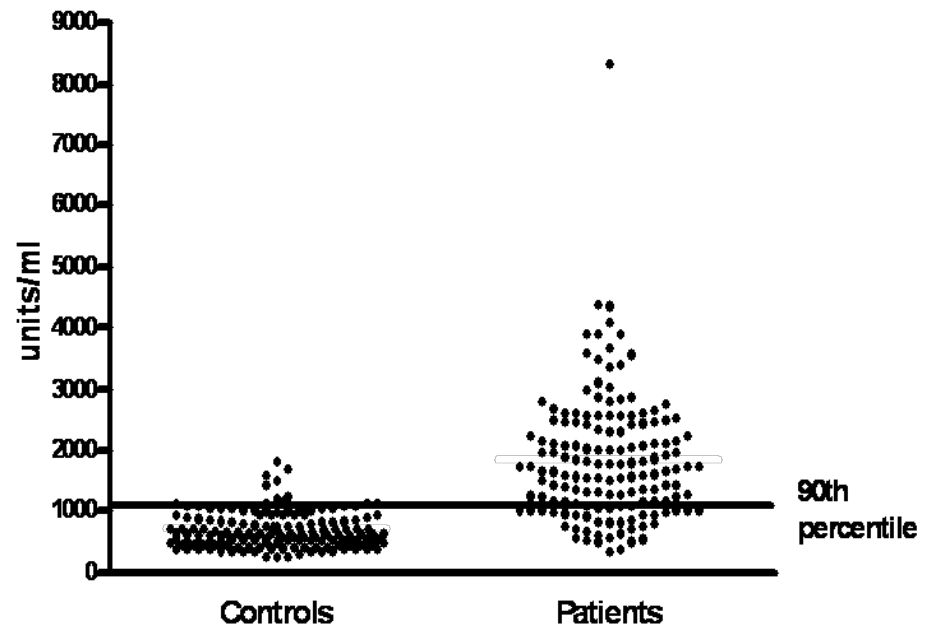
Total Serum IgA1

HA ELISA assay

Glycan Specific Lectin Western Blots



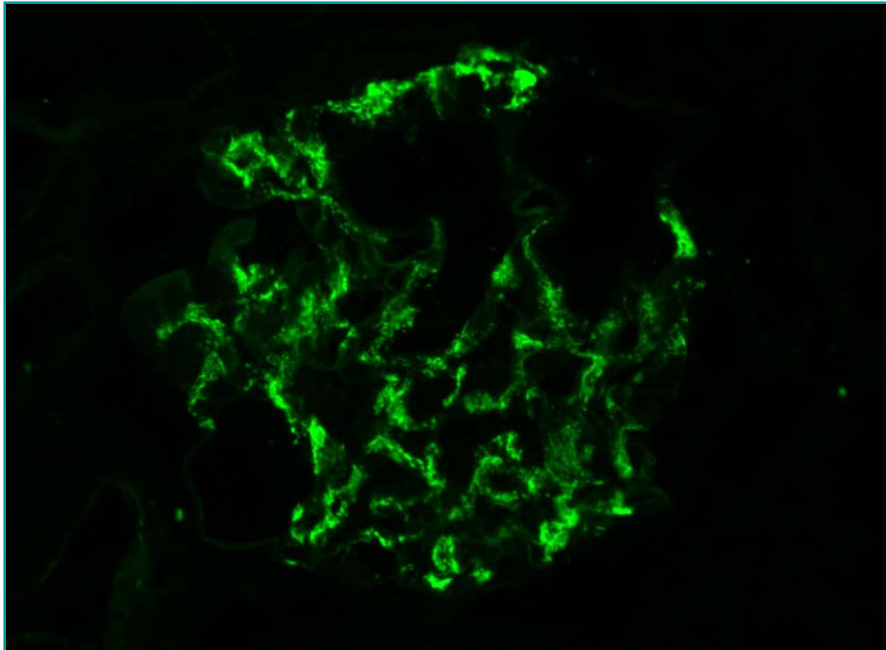
Gal-deficient IgA1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$



Moldeveanu et al., KI (2007)

Moore et al., MI (2007)

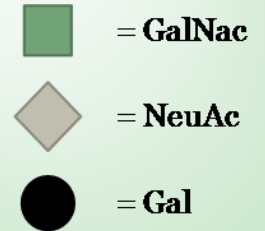
Why MS needed?



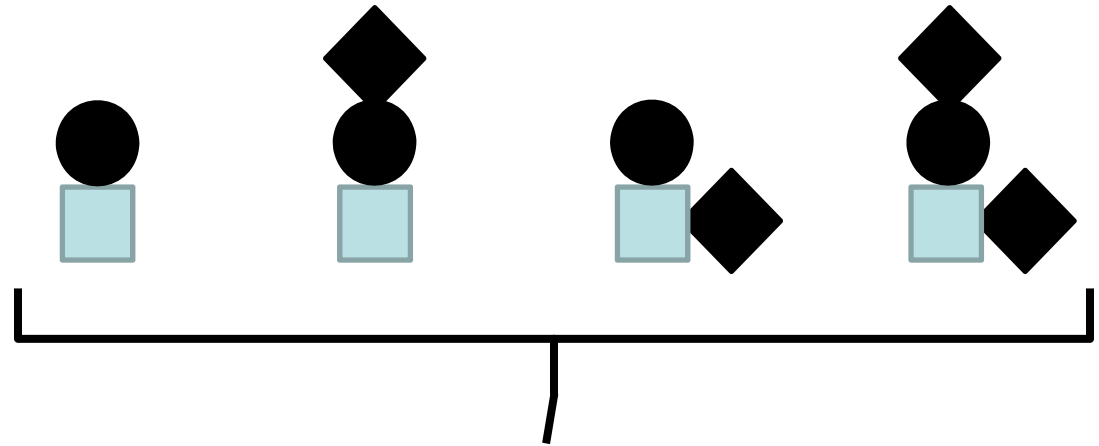
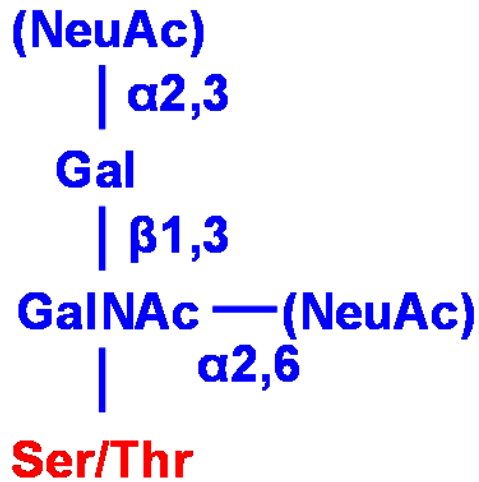
Immunofluorescence stained kidney biopsy

- **Locate sites of modification?**
- **Changes in O-glycans linked to the disease.**
- **Where do these changes occur? (specific or random sites)**

IgA1 Hinge Region



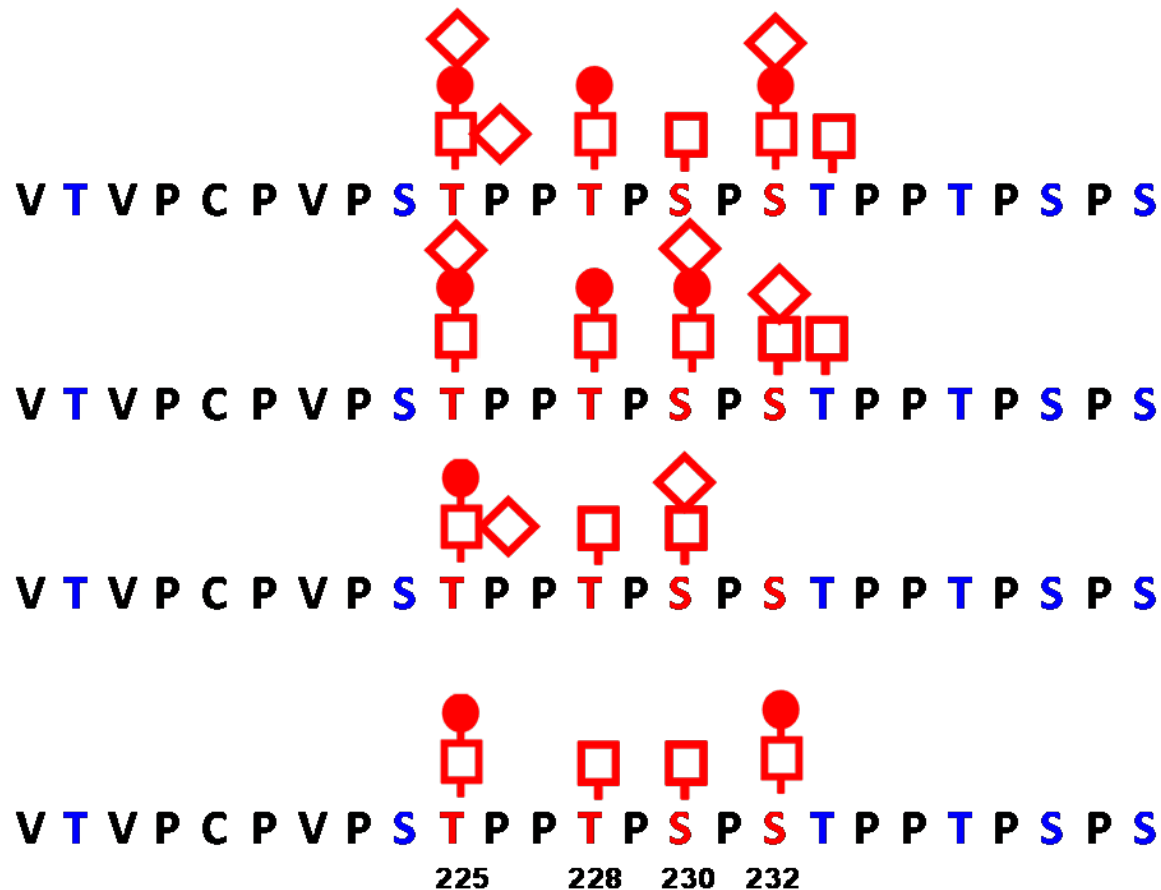
O-glycosylation



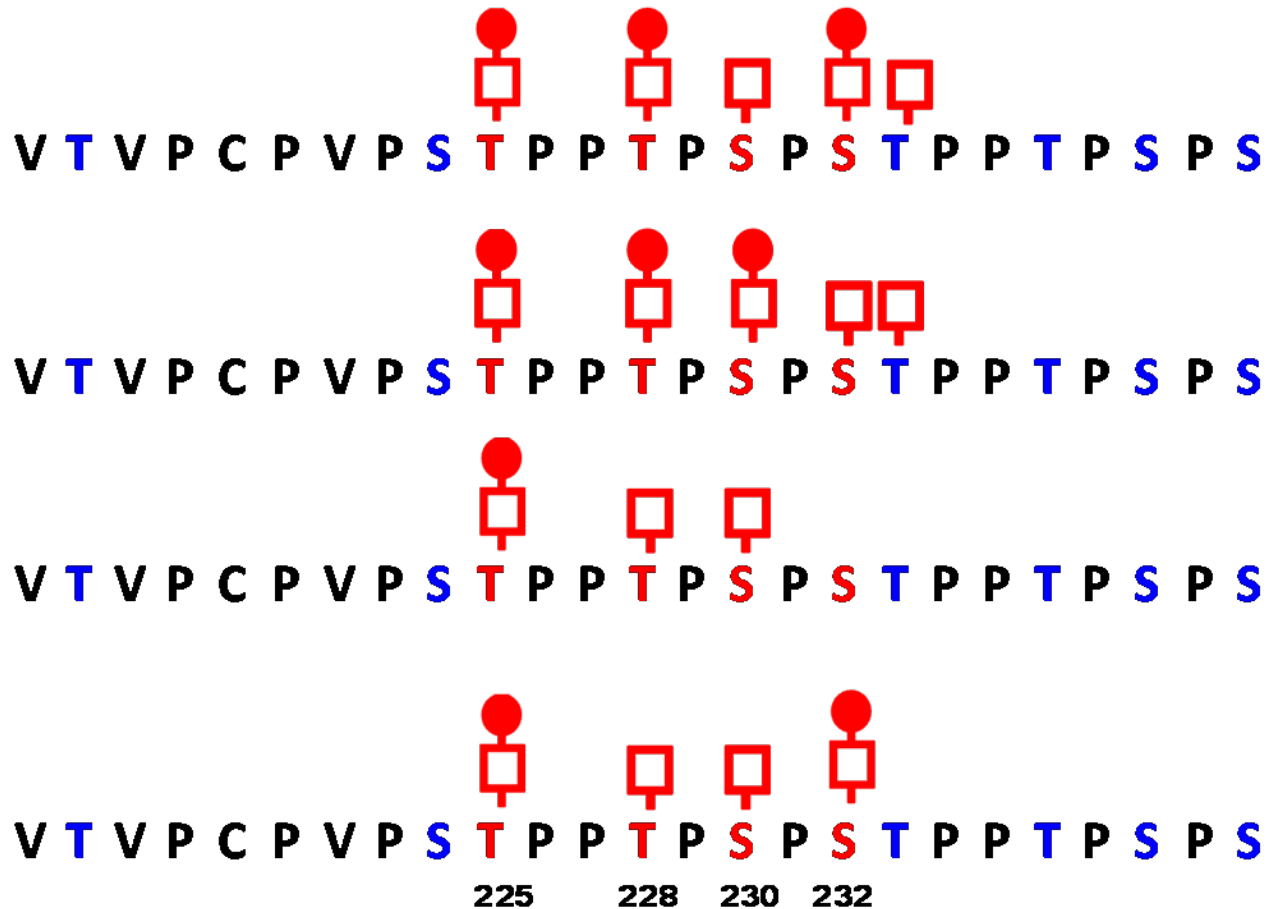
V T V P C P V P S T P P T P S P S T P P T P S P S C C H P P

IgA1 Population

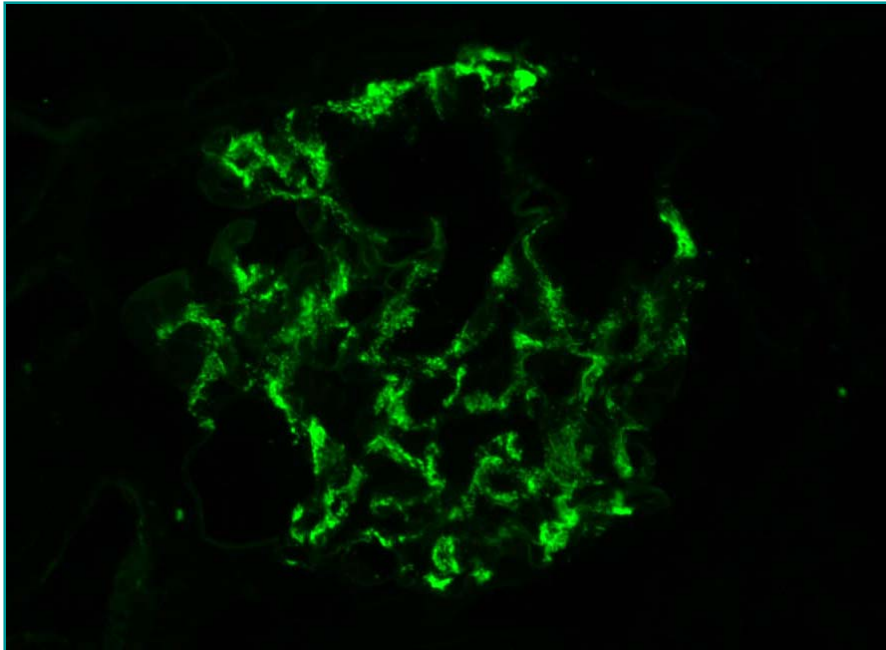
Many possible combinations



IgA1 Population Microheterogeneity



Why MS needed?



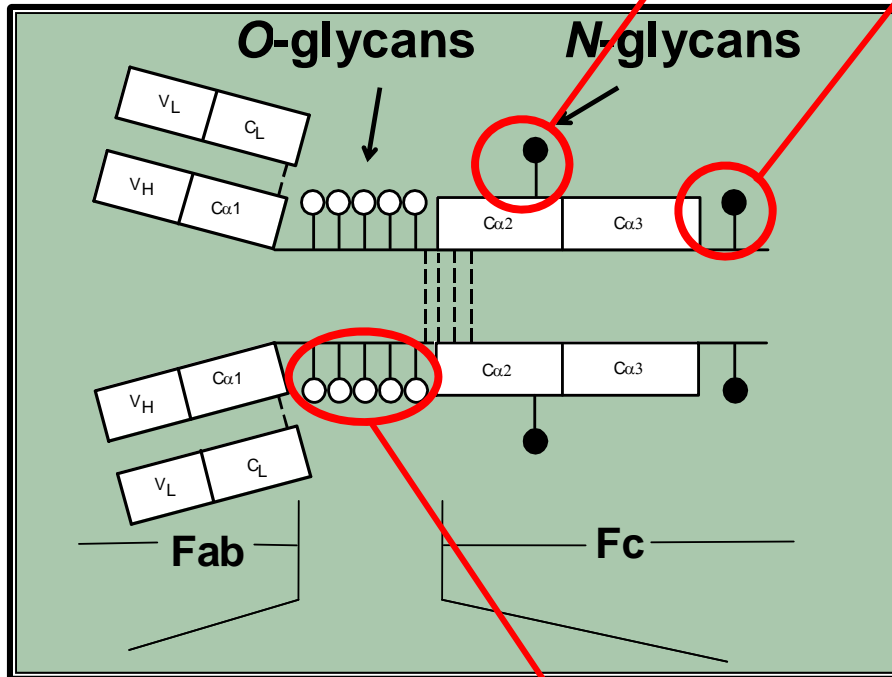
Immunofluorescence stained kidney biopsy

- **Locate sites of modification?**
- **Changes in O-glycans linked to the disease.**
- **Where do these changes occur? (specific or random sites)**
- **What is the pathogenic form of IgA1?**
- **What does the normal POPULATION of IgA1 look like?**

IgA1

LSLHRPALEDLLL**G**SEAN**L**TC**T**LTGLR

LAGKPTHV**N**VSVVMAEVDGTCY



HY**T**N**P**S**Q**D**V**T**V**P**C**P**V**P**S**T**P**P**T**P**S**P**S**T**P**P**T**P**S**P**S**C**H**P**R**

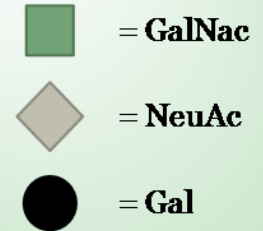
PVP

PPPC

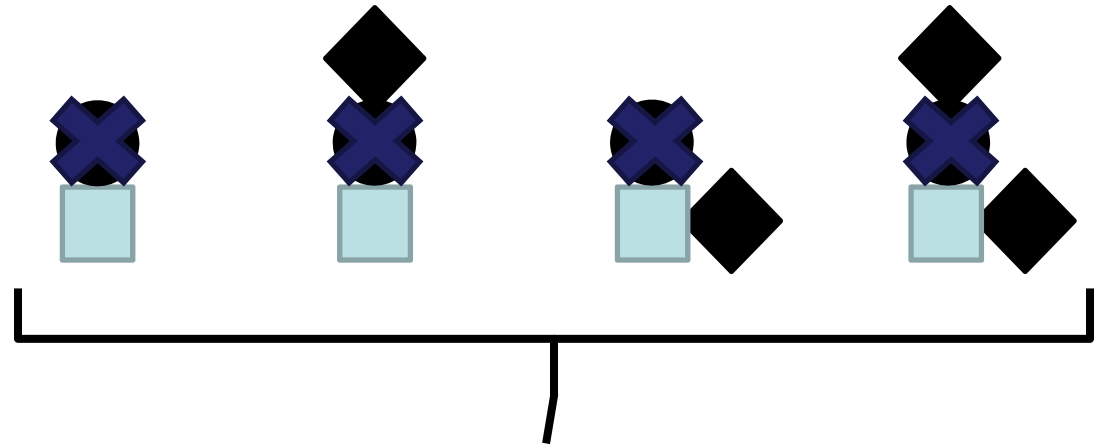
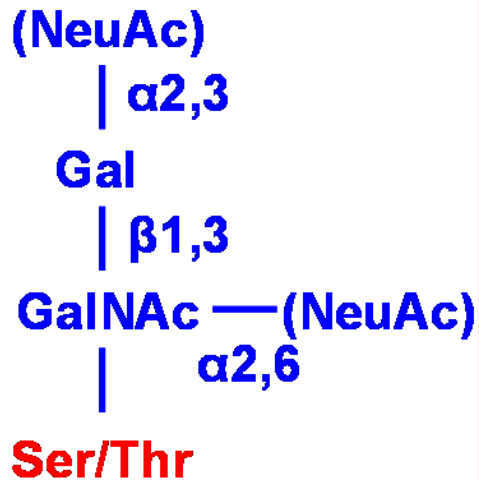
IgA2

Hinge Region

Gal-deficient IgA1 O-glycosylation



O-glycosylation



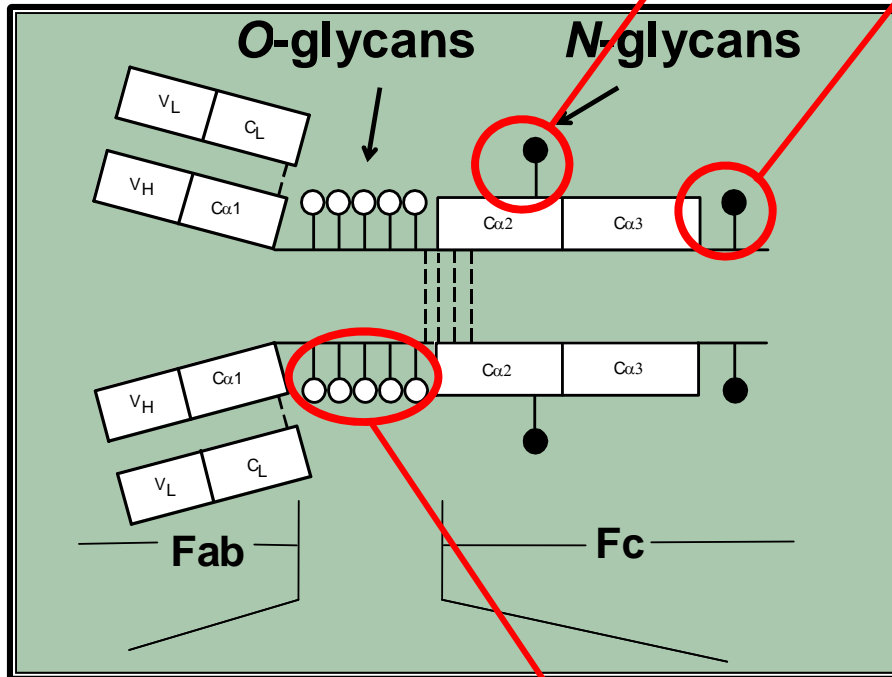
V T V P C P V P S T P P T P S P S T P P T P S P S C C H P P

#1 Requirement for locating a site of MODIFICATION:
You must see the fragment!

IgA1

LSLHRPALEDLLL**G**SEAN**L**TC**T**LTGLR

LAGKPTHV**N**VSVVMAEVDGTCY



HY**T**N**P**S**Q**D**V**T**V**P**C**P**V**P**S**T**P**P**T**P**S**P**S**T**P**P**T**P**S**P**S**C**H**P**R**

PVP ————— P P P P C IgA2

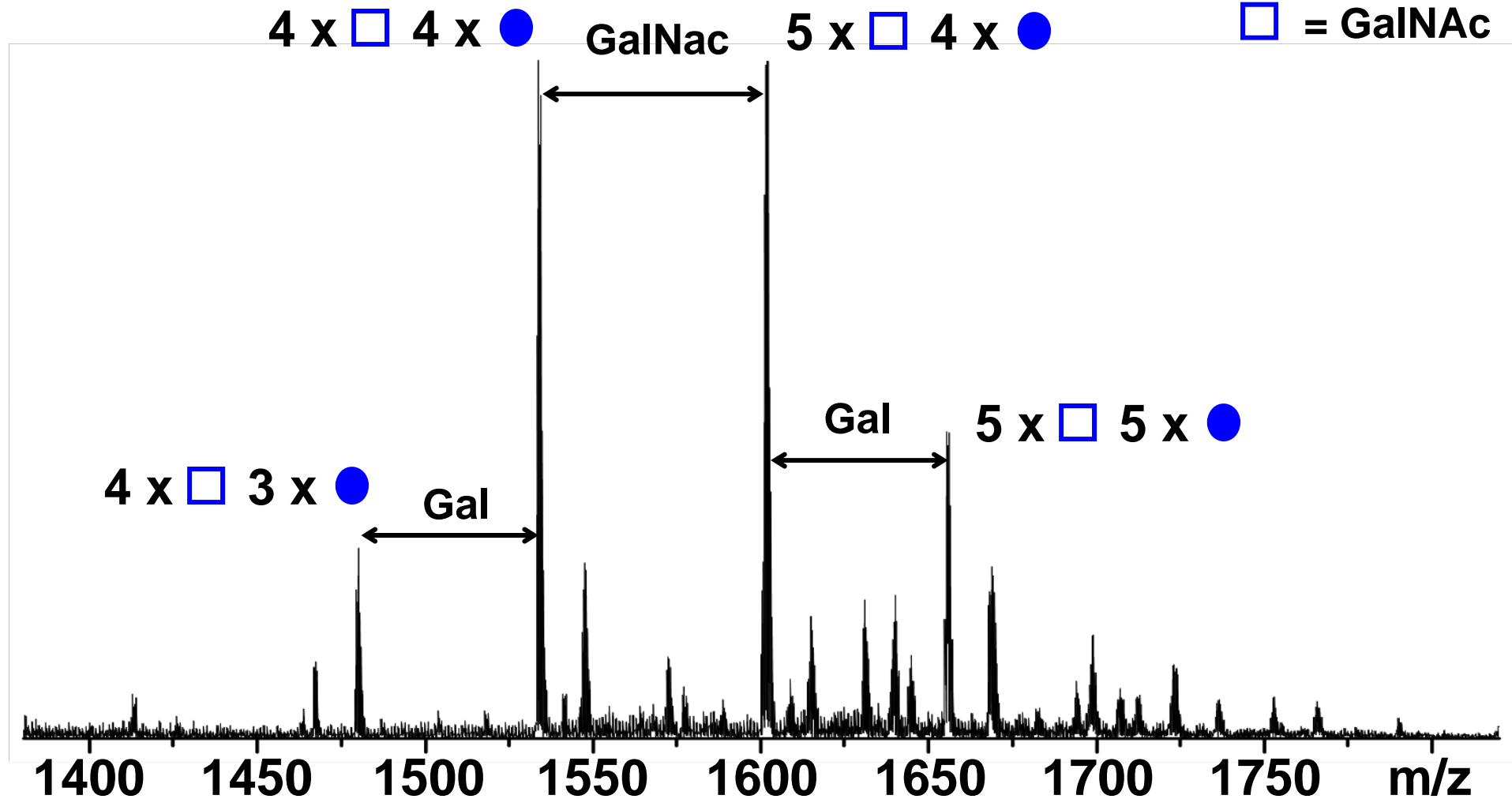
Hinge Region

2003, starting with 500 mg of IgA1

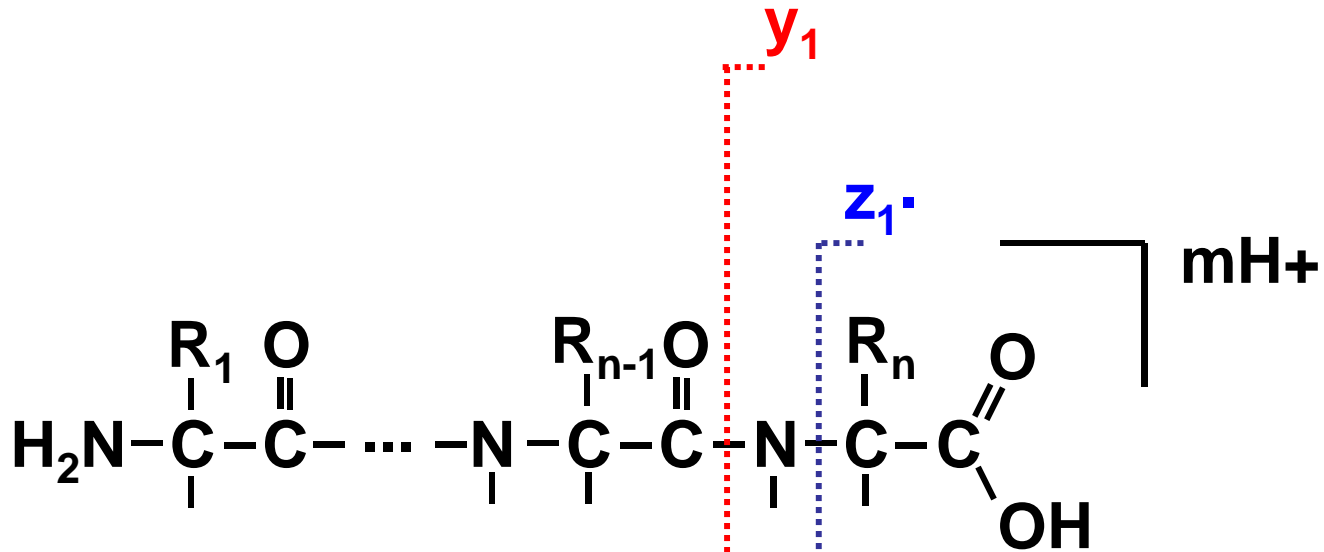
V T V P C P V P S T P P T P S P S T P P T P S P S C C H P R L

● = Gal

□ = GalNAc



How do Peptides Cleave?



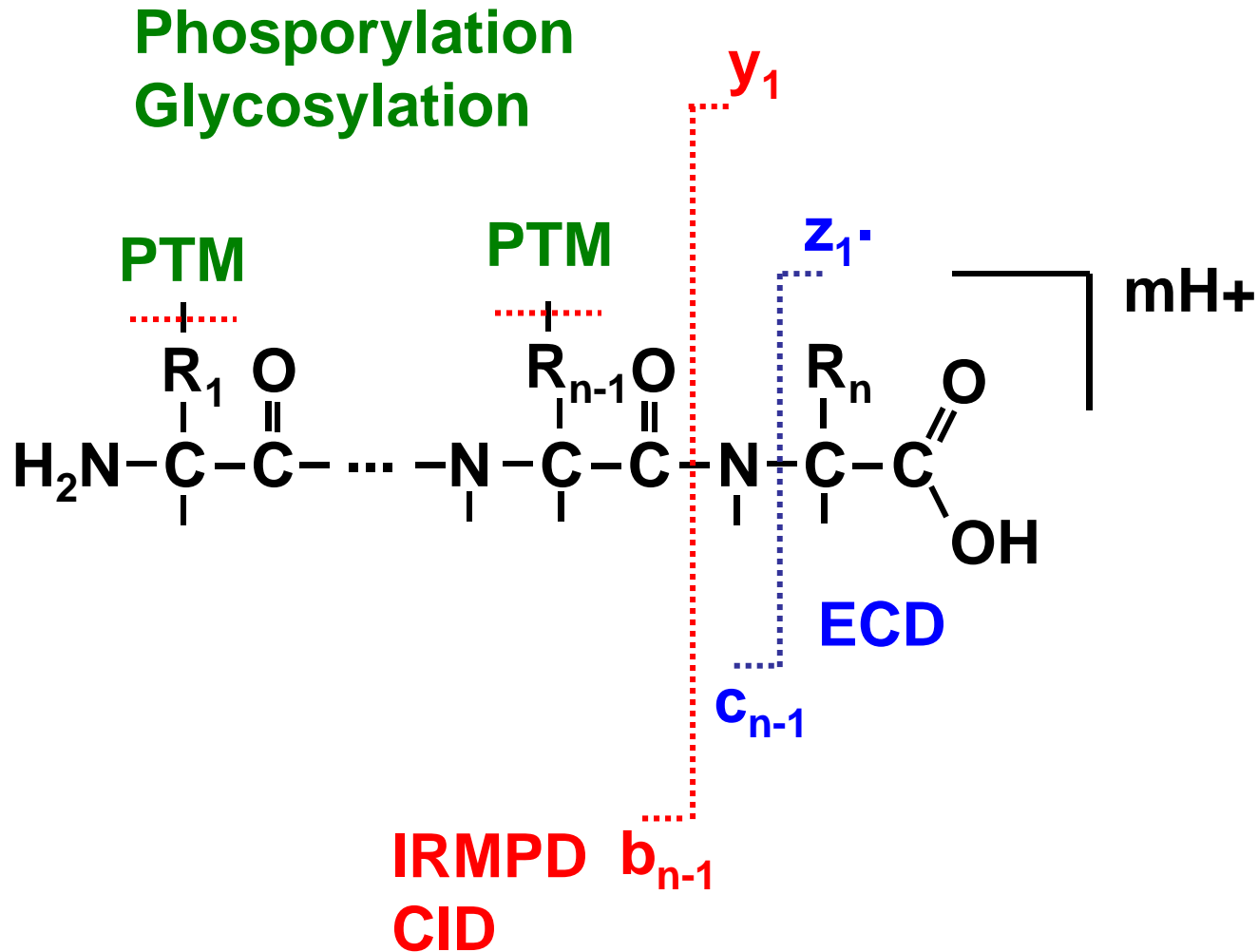
slow heating
methods

IRMPD
CID b_{n-1}

ECD

electron radical
chemistry

How do Peptides With PTMs Cleave?



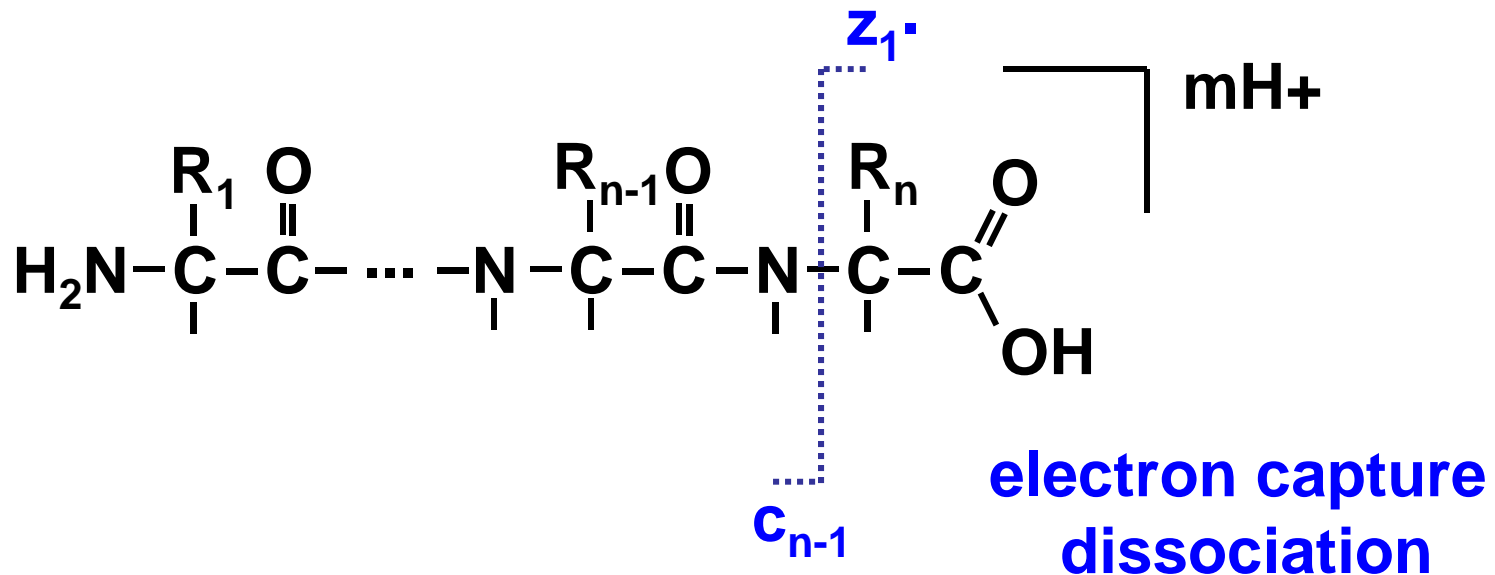
Can We Locate O-glycosylation Sites?

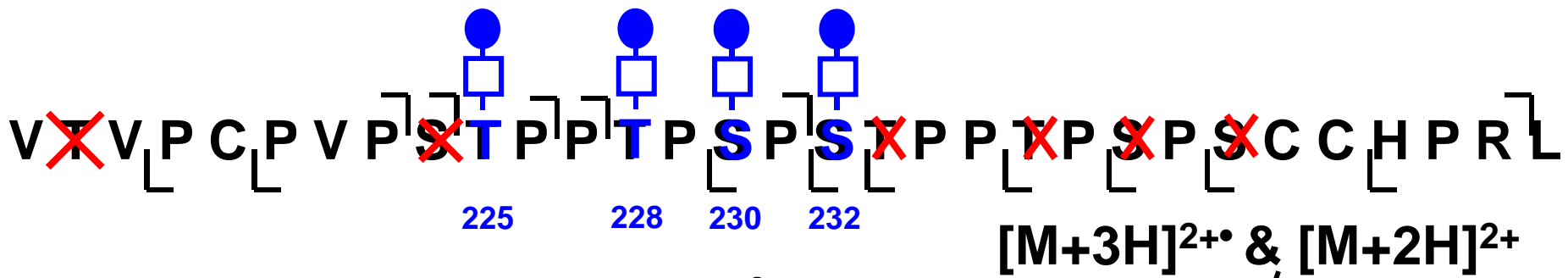
V T V P C P V P S T P P T P S P S T P P T P S P S C C H P R L

T S T T S S T T S S

P V P S T P P T P S P S T P P T P S P S

P P P P P P P P P P P

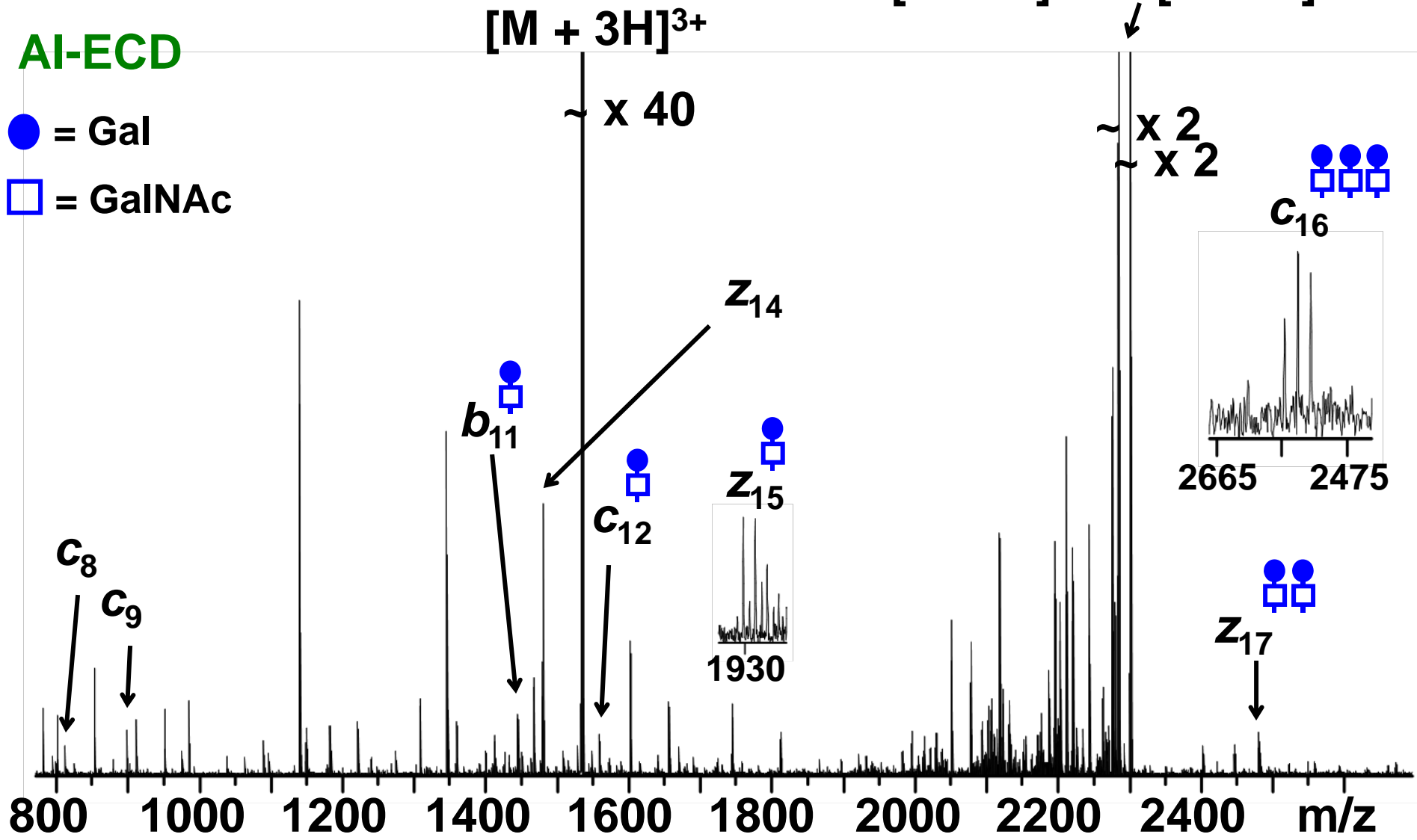


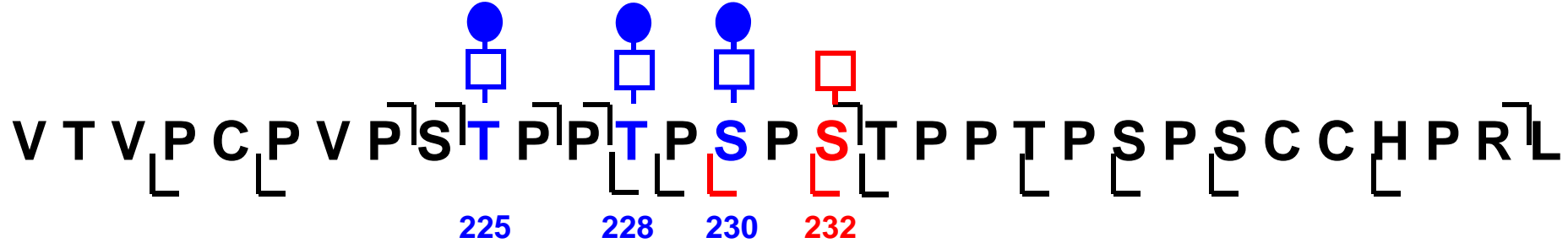


AI-ECD

● = Gal

□ = GalNAc





AI-ECD

$[M + 3H]^{3+}$

$[M+3H]^{2+}$ & $[M+2H]^{2+}$

- = Gal
- = GalNAc
- = Gal deficient GalNAc

x 50

x 2
x 2

b_{11}

z_{15}

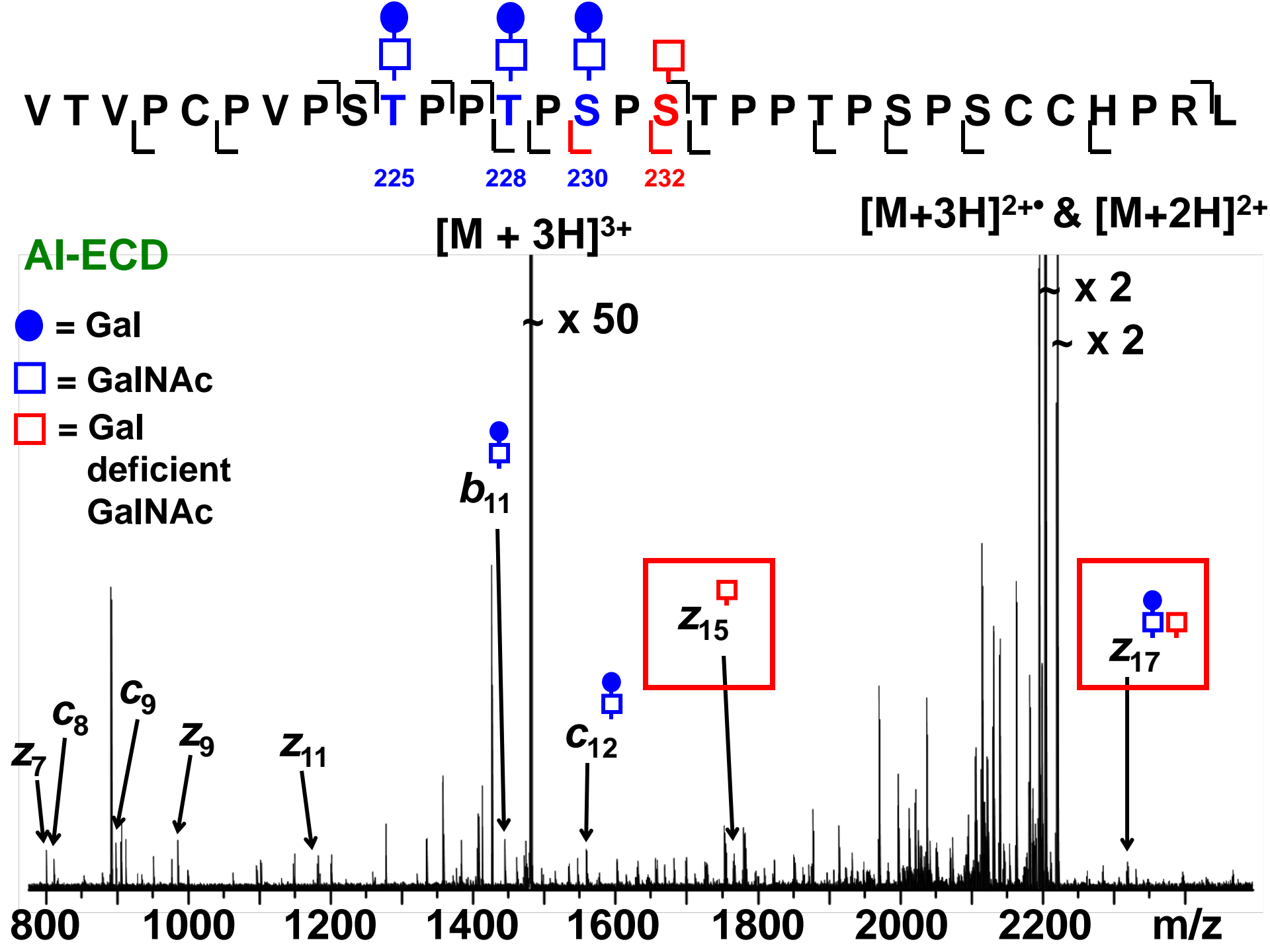
z_{17}

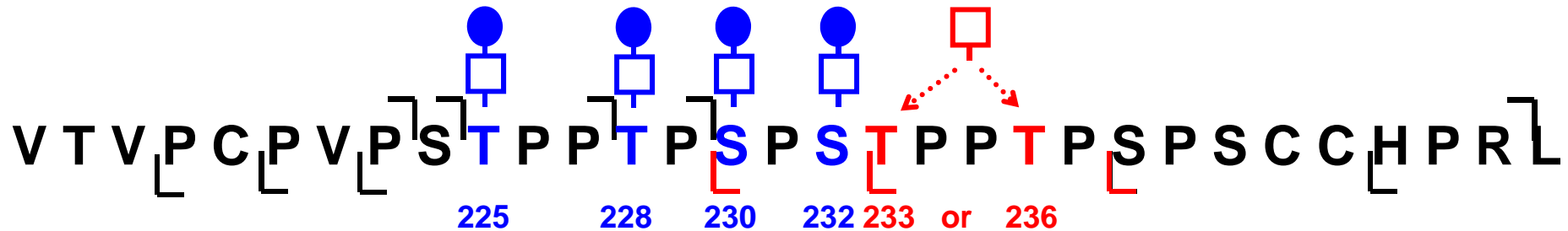
z_7 c_8 c_9 z_9

z_{11}

c_{12}

800 1000 1200 1400 1600 1800 2000 2200 m/z





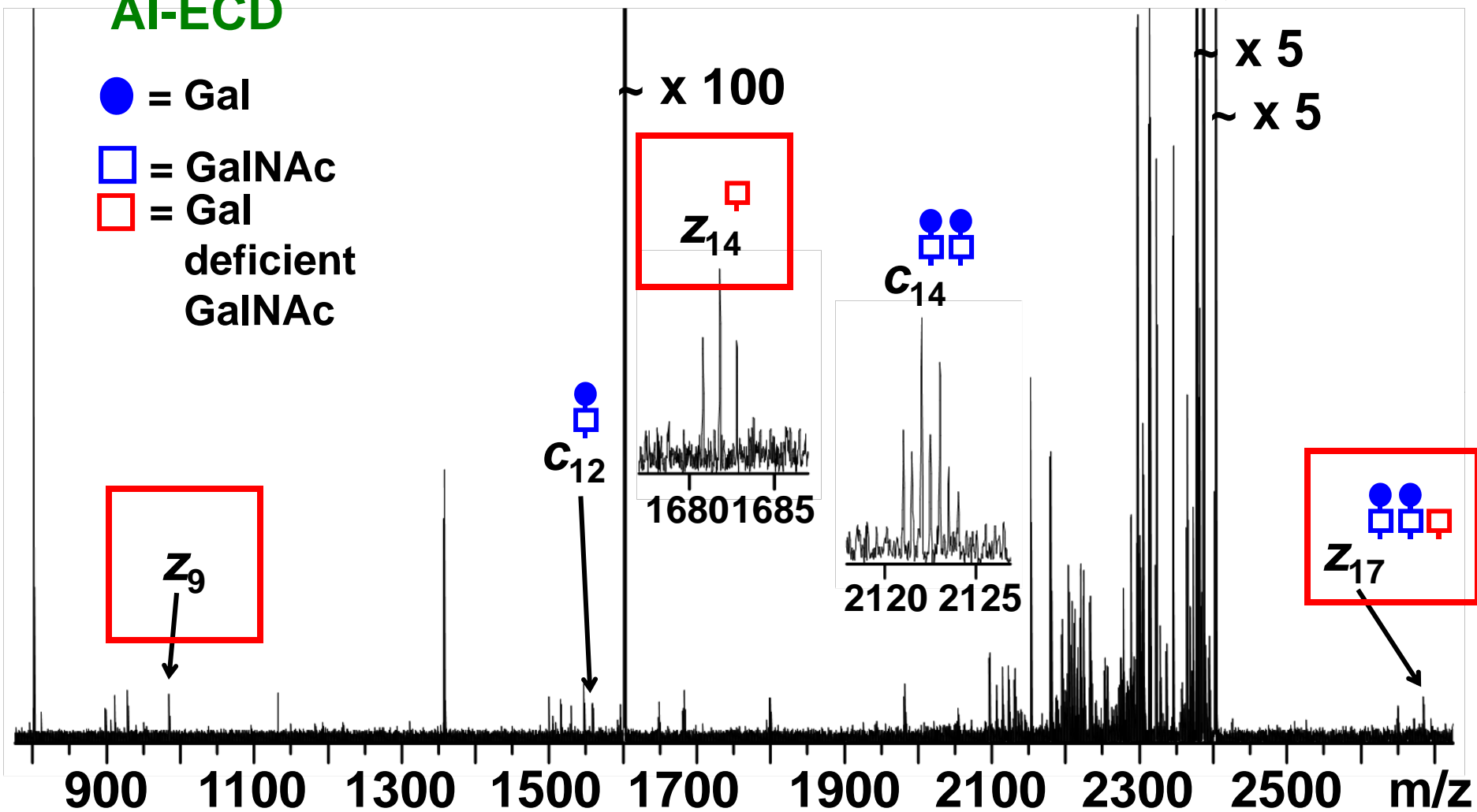
$[M + 3H]^{3+}$

$[M+3H]^{2+}$ & $[M+2H]^{2+}$

2v

AI-ECD

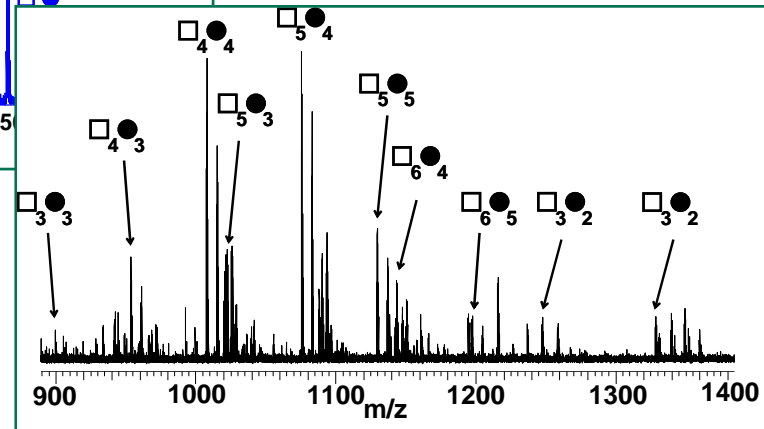
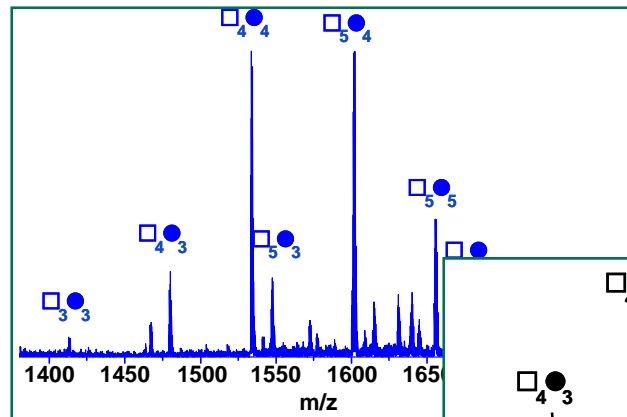
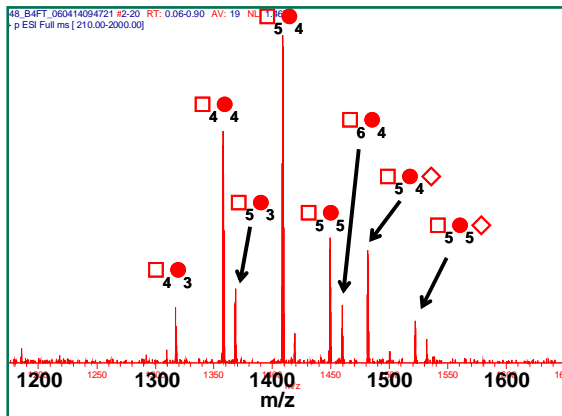
- = Gal
- = GalNAc
- = Gal deficient GalNAc



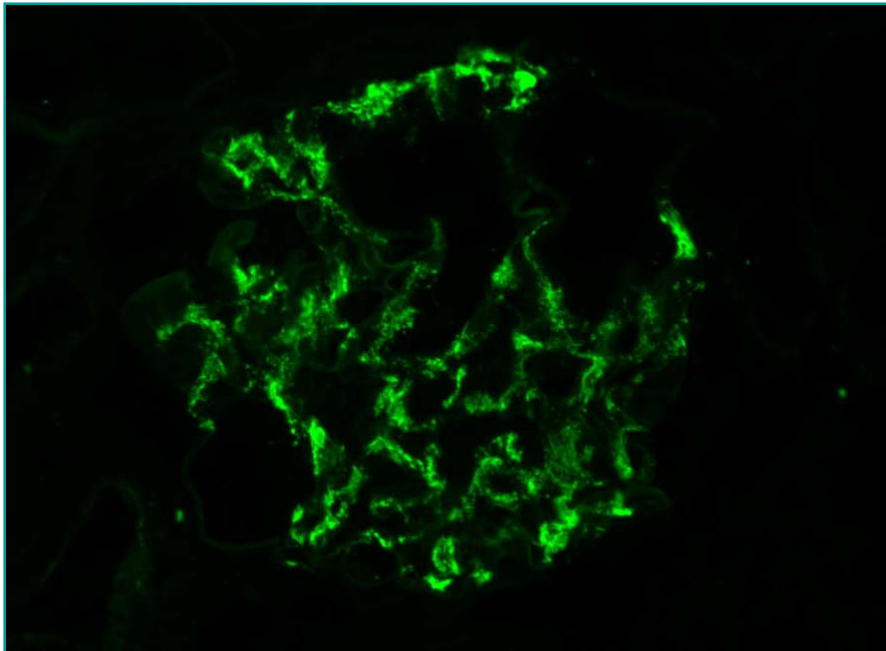
Scaling Down MS profiles

HYTNPSQDVTVPVPCVPSTPPTPSPSTPPTPSPSCCHPR
VTVPVPCVPSTPPTPSPSTPPTPSPSCCHPRL
VPSTPPTPSPSTPPTP

2003 – 500 mg
2004 – 500 µg
2005 – 100 µg – 25 µg
2006 – 10 µg – **250 ng**



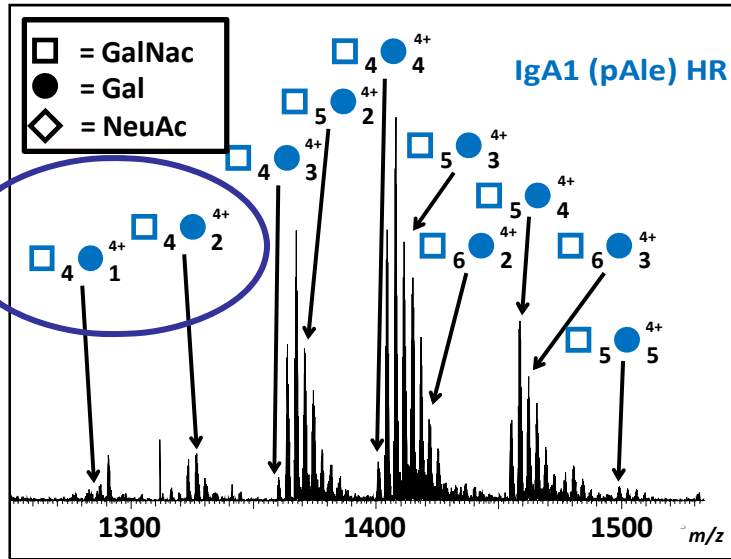
Why MS needed?



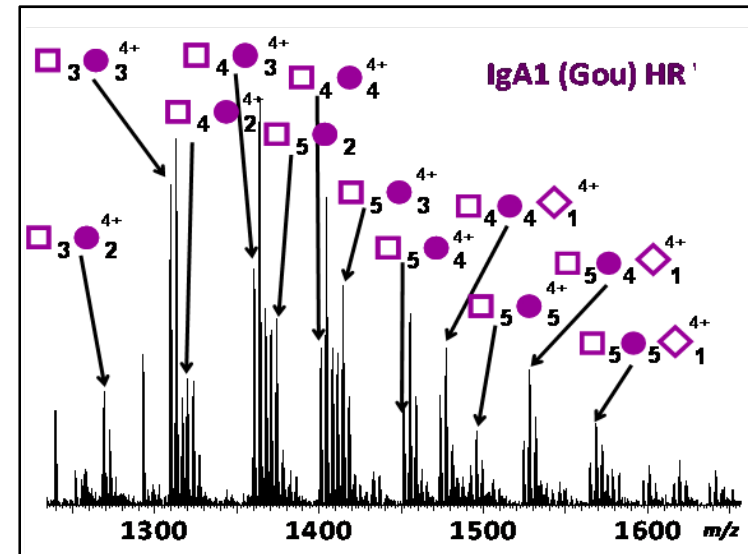
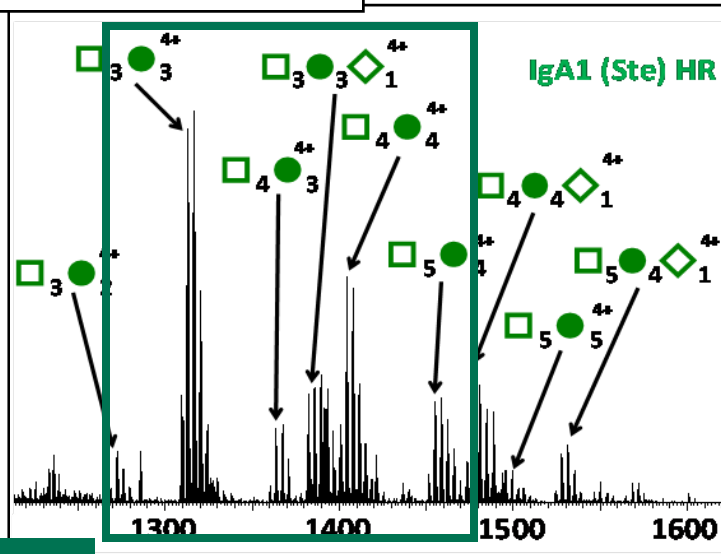
Immunofluorescence stained kidney biopsy

- Locate sites of modification?
- Changes in O-glycans linked to the disease.
- Where do these changes occur? (specific or random sites)
- What is the pathogenic form of IgA1?
- What does the normal POPULATION of IgA1 look like?

myeloma IgA1 HR LC FT-ICR MS profiles



We can see clear differences in profiles

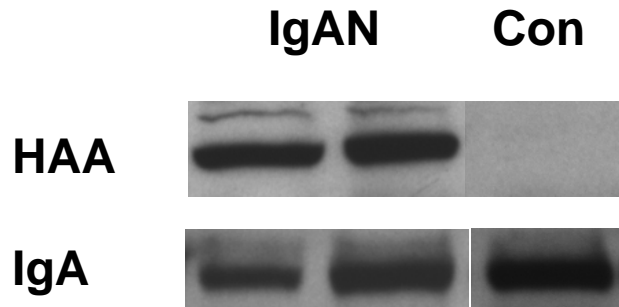


IgA1 HR lectin analysis

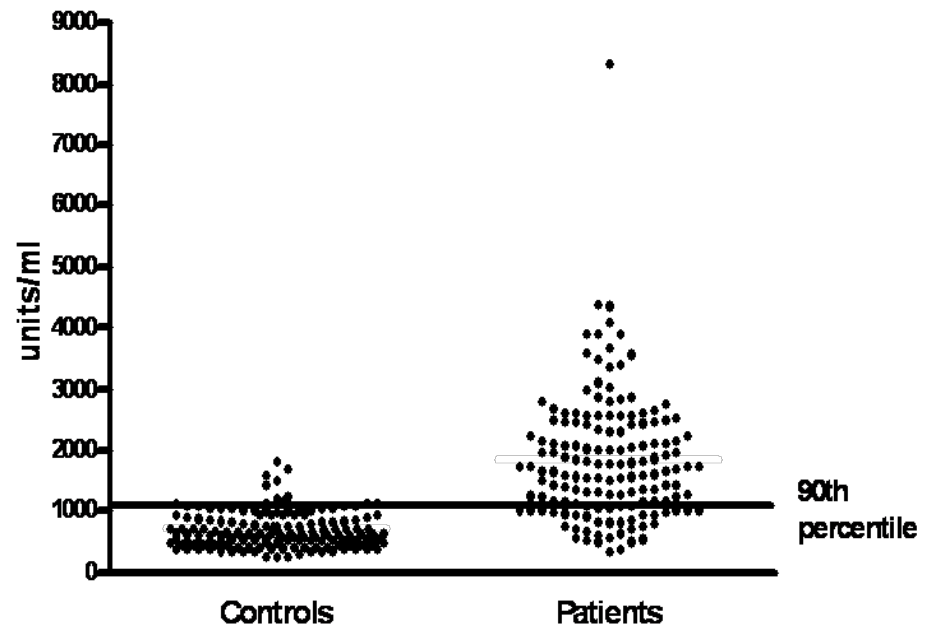
Total Serum IgA1

HA ELISA assay

Glycan Specific Lectin Western Blots



Gal-deficient IgA1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$

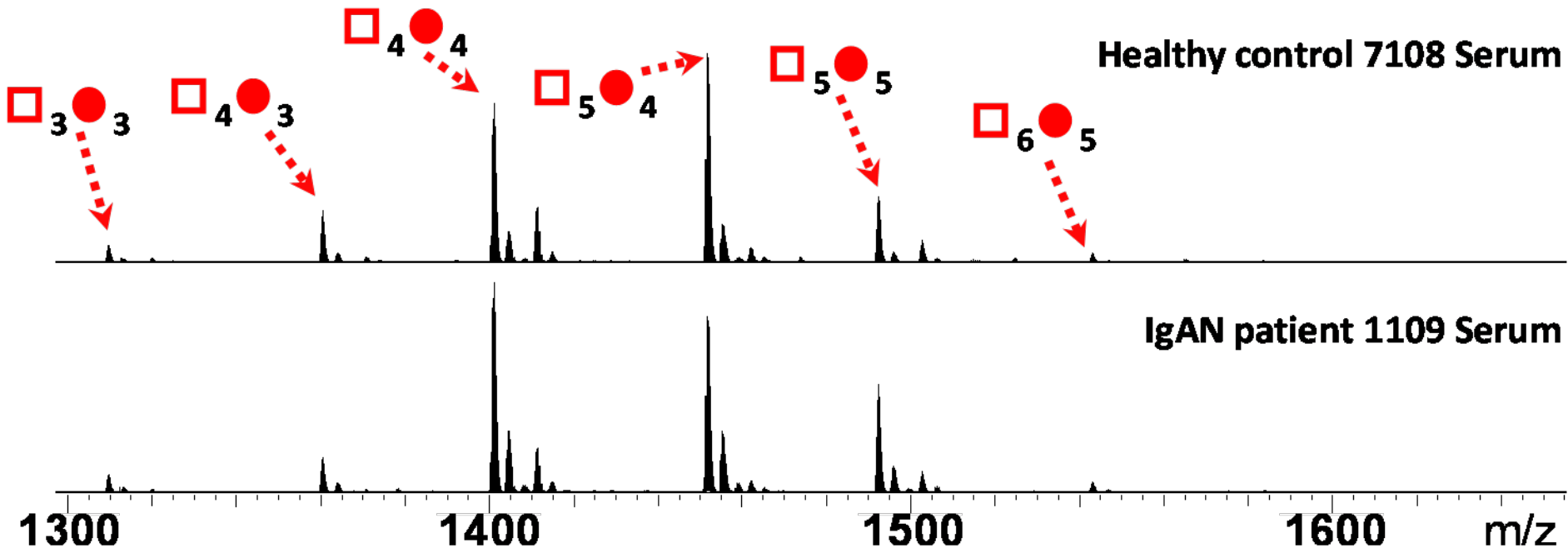


Moldeveanu et al., KI (2007)

Moore et al., MI (2007)

IgAN Patient vs Healthy control Serum IgA1

LC-FT-ICR MS



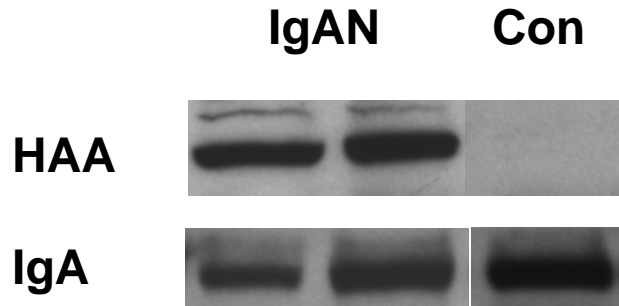
**#2 Major Point: Scale doesn't matter if you are not
Sampling the PATHOGENIC (or modified) FORM**

IgA1 HR lectin analysis

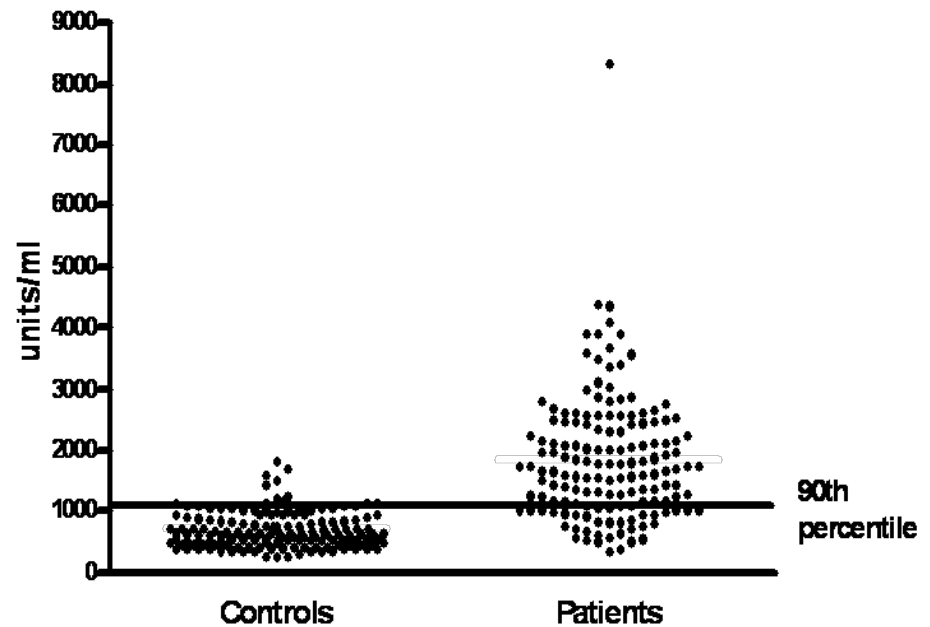
Total Serum IgA1

HA ELISA assay

Glycan Specific Lectin Western Blots



Gal-deficient IgA1 $\mu\text{g/ml}$



Moldeveanu et al., KI (2007)

Moore et al., MI (2007)

Let's think about our analytical sample



IgA1

- Monomeric, multimeric, polymeric

#3 MAJOR POINT: What can potentially mask your modification and how can you get around that?

- Unmodified protein (**by an order of magnitude**)
- Other proteins (**by two or more orders of magnitude**)
- Can you select of the modified form
(gel shift, isoelectric focusing, enrichment)

Immunoprecipitation is not a cure all.

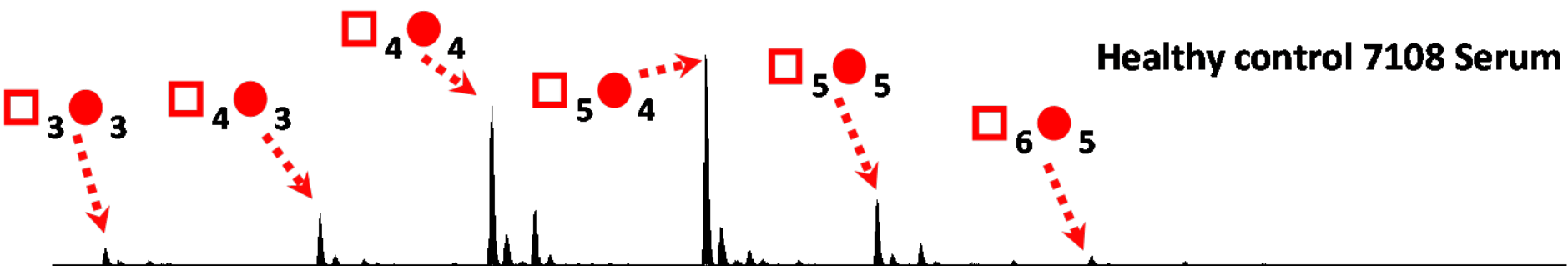


- Lectins react with primarily polymeric
- **CIC's represent <1% of Serum IgA1 (<1 µg/ml)**

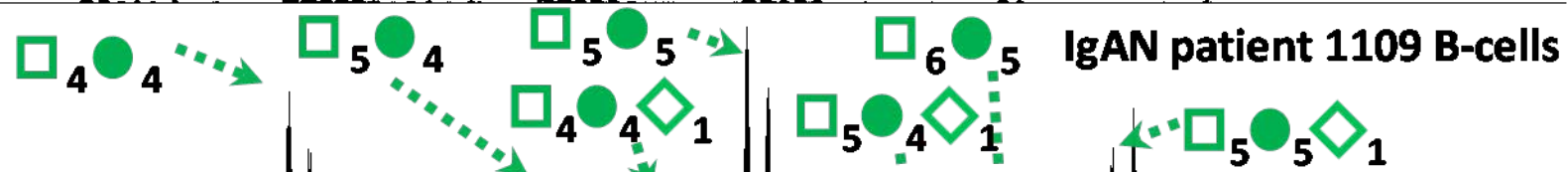
Cultured B-cells from IgAN patients

LC-FT-ICR MS

Healthy control 7108 Serum



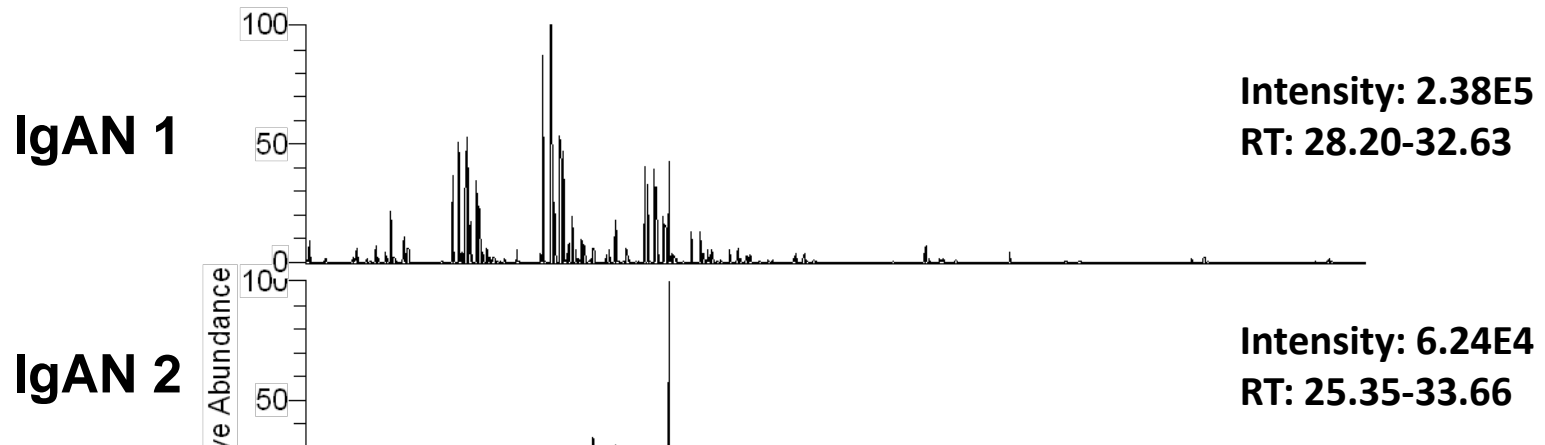
IgAN patient 1109 Serum



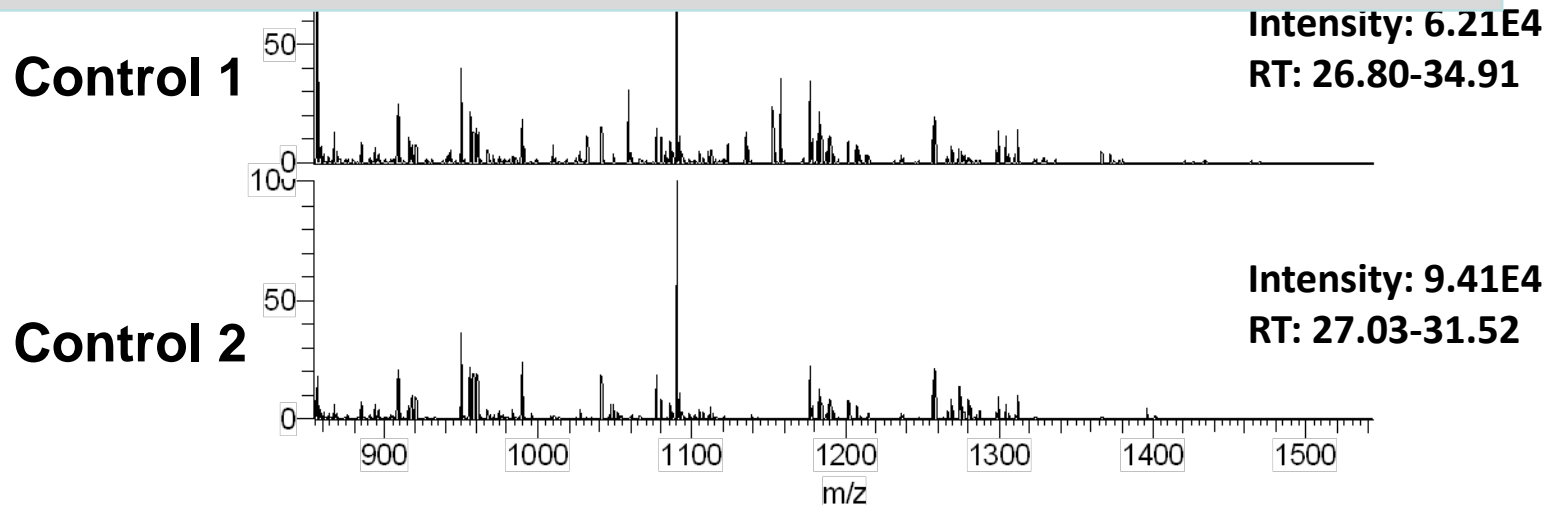
IgAN patient 1109 B-cells

1300 1400 1500 1600 m/z

LC-MS of Cultured B-cells from IgAN patients vs. healthy controls

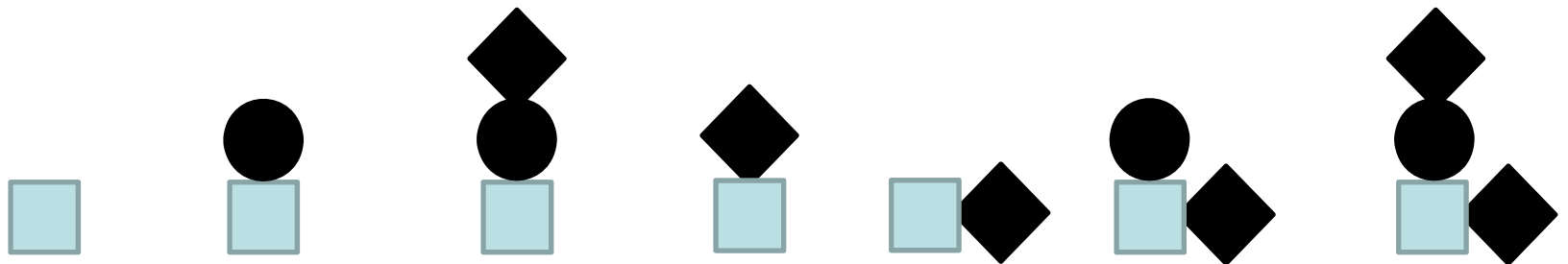


#4 Major Point: How do you visualize the results?
Qualitative alone may not work?



Cultured B-cells from IgAN patients vs. H Controls

	IgAN1				IgAN2				Control1				Control2			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Gal deficient sp.	54.4	51.6	50.0	47.3	10.2	2.6	10.9	2.9	1.4	0.1	2.6	0.2	0	0	0	0
SA Gal deficient sp.	3.0	1.8	5.6	3.6	17.5	15.1	18.1	16.6	20.7	9.0	23.4	10.7	14.9	1.6	20.0	2.2
Full Gal Sp	38.0	41.6	38.6	42.6	10.6	5.7	10.5	5.7	5.4	0.4	5.0	0.5	4.0	0.8	5.8	1.4
SA Full Gal sp.	4.7	5.0	5.7	6.4	62.1	76.7	60.6	74.7	72.6	90.8	68.9	88.5	81.2	97.6	74.1	96.3



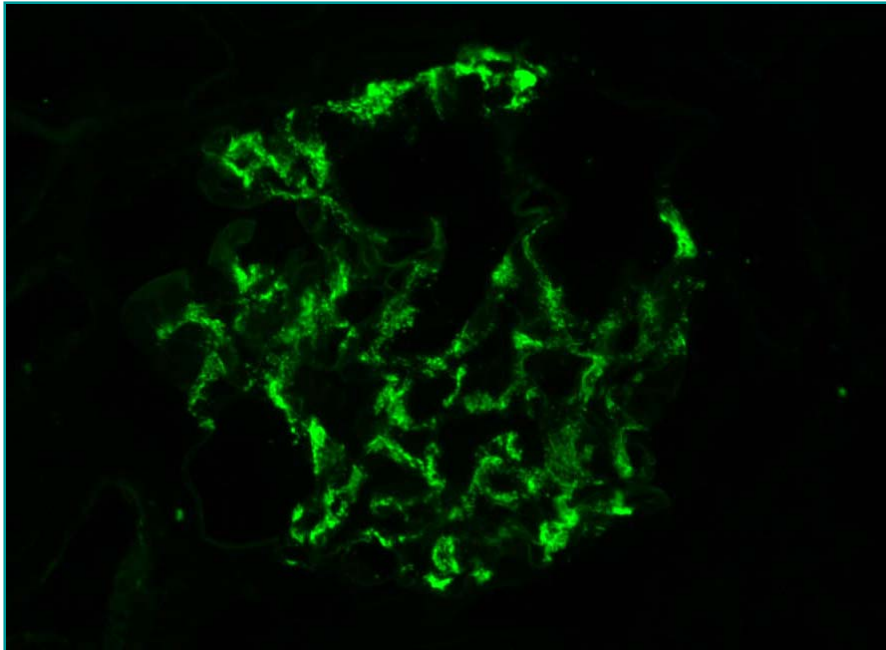
Neuraminidase treatment	IgAN1		IgAN2		Control1		Control2	
	(+)	(-)	(+)	(-)	(+)	(-)	(+)	(-)
HAA-IgA reactivity (ELISA)	1.717	0.772	1.268	0.379	0.509	0.359	0.404	0.241

Serum IgA1 vs CIC IgA1

Gal-deficient glycoforms more abundant in CICs

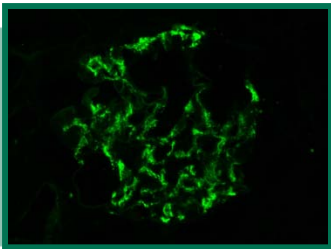
3051 mono					3051 IC					
RT:	mi mass	RT of Max Abundance	MA	Relative Abundance	O-glycans	RT:	mi mass	RT of Max Abundance	MA	Relative Abundance
25-33	5799.5545	28-29	7.E+05	1.00	(Hex) ₄ (HexNAc) ₅	28-31	5799.50292	30-31	1.E+04	1.00
28-32	5596.4609	28-29	5.E+05	0.71	(Hex) ₄ (HexNAc) ₄	29-33	5596.4225	30-31	1.E+04	1.00
29-33	5434.4117	30-31	4.E+05	0.57	(Hex) ₃ (HexNAc) ₄	30-33	5434.3733	31-32	1.E+04	1.00
28-33	5637.4765	29-30	3.E+05	0.43	(Hex) ₃ (HexNAc) ₅	29-32	5637.4637	30-31	7.E+03	0.70
29-32	5231.3385	29-30	1.E+05	0.14	(Hex) ₃ (HexNAc) ₃	30-33	5231.2933	31-32	3.E+03	0.30
28-32	5887.5465	29-30	1.E+05	0.14	(Hex) ₄ (HexNAc) ₄ (NeuAc) ₁	30-33	5887.4821	31-32	2E+03	0.20
26-30	5961.6025	27-28	1.E+05	0.14	(Hex) ₅ (HexNAc) ₅	28-31	5961.54972	29-30	3.E+03	0.30
30-33	5069.2725	31-32	9.E+04	0.13	(Hex) ₂ (HexNAc) ₃	32-33	5069.2157	32-33	1.E+03	0.10
29-33	5272.3517	30-31	9.E+04	0.13	(Hex) ₂ (HexNAc) ₄	31-34	5272.3165	32-33	2.E+03	0.20
29-33	5725.5061	39-31	7.E+04	0.10	(Hex) ₃ (HexNAc) ₄ (NeuAc) ₁	30-33	5725.4429	31-32	9.E+02	0.09
27-30	6090.6157	28-29	6.E+04	0.09	(Hex) ₄ (HexNAc) ₅ (NeuAc) ₁	29-31	6090.5929	30-31	2.E+03	0.20
28-31	5928.5565	29-30	5.E+04	0.07	(Hex) ₃ (HexNAc) ₅ (NeuAc) ₁					-
31-33	4907.1981	31-32	2.E+04	0.03	(Hex) ₁ (HexNAc) ₃					-
27-29	6252.6321	28-29	2.E+04	0.03	(Hex) ₅ (HexNAc) ₅ (NeuAc) ₁	29-31	6253.6833	29-30	5.E+02	0.05

MS answers our questions?

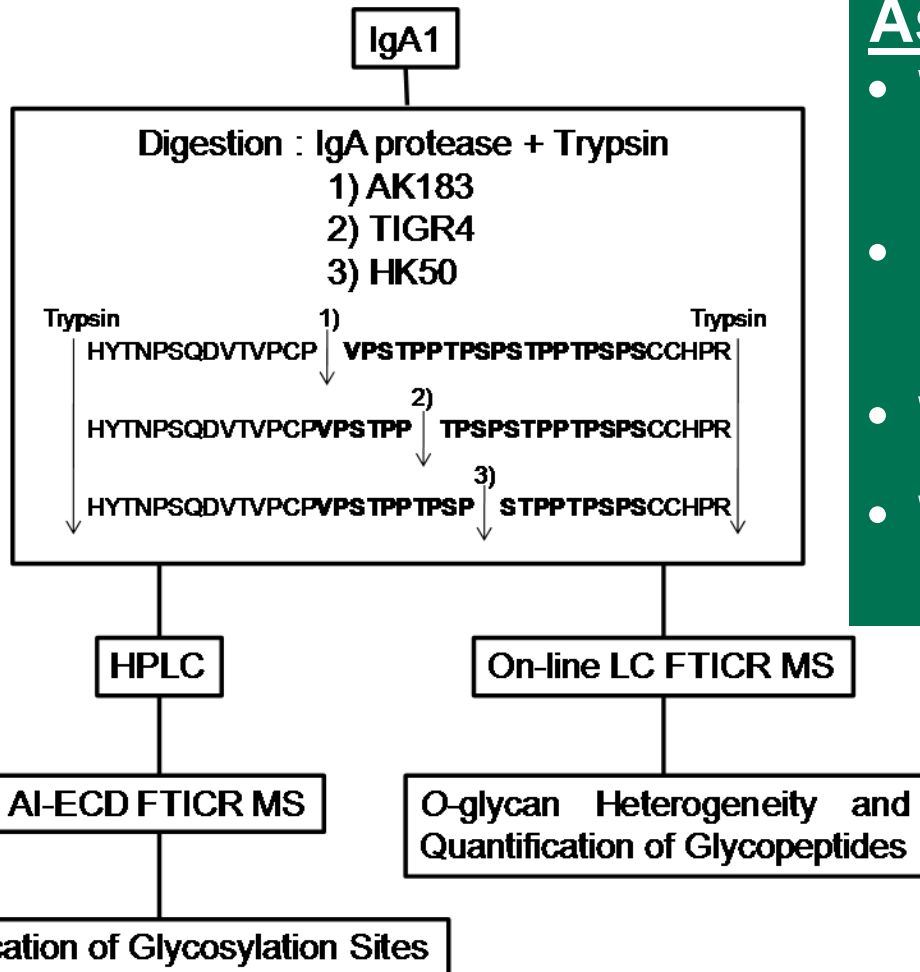


Immunofluorescence stained kidney biopsy

- **Locate sites of modification?**
- **Changes in O-glycans linked to the disease.**
- **Where do these changes occur? (specific or random sites)**
- **What is the pathogenic form of IgA1?**
- **What does the normal POPULATION of IgA1 look like?**



Conclusions (WORKFLOW)



Ask the right questions?

- What is the source of the IgA1?
- How do we avoid the “healthy” IgA1?
- What is normal?
- What glycoforms are pathogenic?



Working through your PTM analysis

- #1 Requirement for locating a site of MODIFICATION:
You must see the fragment!**
- #2 Major Point: Scale doesn't matter if you are not
Sampling the MODIFIED FORM.**
- #3 MAJOR POINT: What can potentially mask your
modification and how can you get around that?**
- #4 Major Point: How do you visualize the results?
Qualitative alone may not work?**

Next Meeting:



**“Pretty pictures and more,
turning a mass spec into a
(chemical) microscope.**

Eric Monroe, PhD

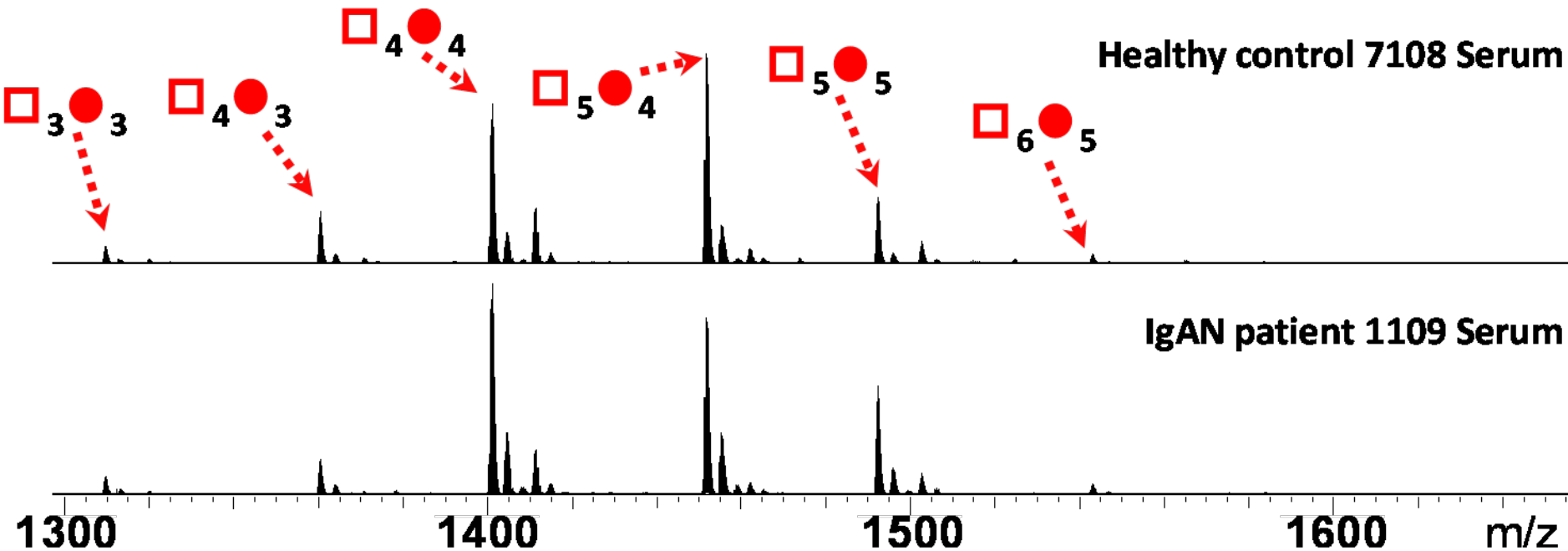
Wednesday, April 15th 2009

Normal distribution of O-glycans is disrupted

LC-FT-ICR MS

Healthy control 7108 Serum

IgAN patient 1109 Serum



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FT-ICR MS instrumentation

Ernie (Electron Capture Dissociation)

Protein ID

IP's and Column Fractions

RP C18 Chromatography (LC-MS)

Protein PTM's

LC-MS

Offline preparation

4 Fragmentation techniques

CID / PQD

ECD

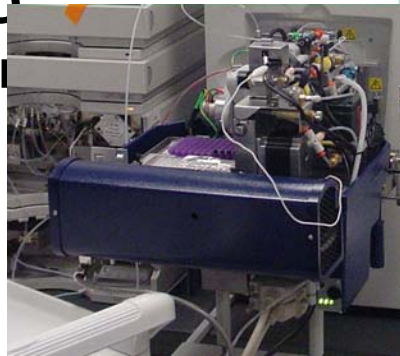
IRMPD

Direct infusion

Lipids

Organics

Anything



High Resolution Mass Spectrometry

FT-ICR MS instrumentation

Heidi (Hydrogen/Deuterium Exchange)

Dynamic Structural Analysis

Protein-Protein

Protein-Ligand

Protein-Nucleic Acid

Protein-Ligand-Coactivator

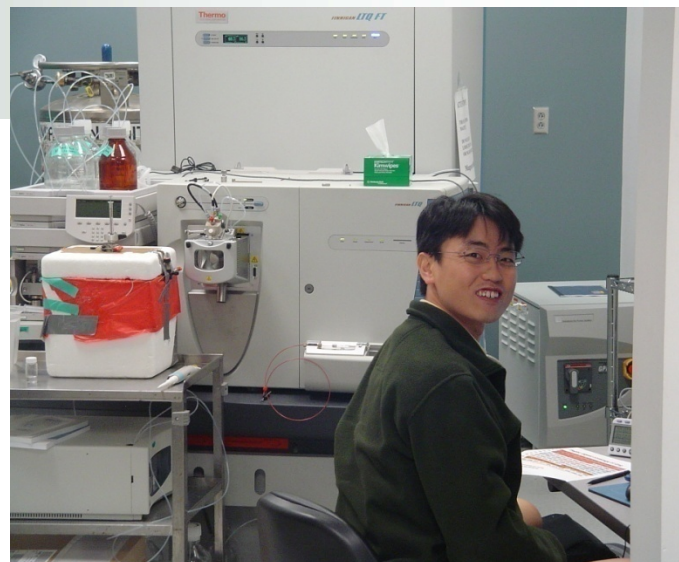
Peter Prevelige Group

HIV/Bacteriophage

Capsid Structures

Steve Barnes Group

HBat active site



High Resolution Mass Spectrometry