

A Molecular Arms Race: The Immune System versus HIV Pamela J. Bjorkman, Division of Biology and Biological Engineering, Caltech









Ideal way to protect against HIV/AIDS: A vaccine





Viral diversity and antibody diversity during infection



Characterize antibodies from HIV-infected patients

Most antibodies are strain-specific, but rare antibodies from rare patients are broadly neutralizing.



We call these **bNAbs** for **b**roadly **N**eutralizing **A**ntibodies.

Broadly neutralizing anti-HIV antibodies



5-10% of HIV+ individuals develop broadly neutralizing serum antibodies





We can't (yet) make a vaccine to elicit bNAbs in animal models or humans.

bNAbs could be used for passive delivery-based prophylaxis or therapy in humans. bNAbs protect primates in virus challenge experiments

Baba et al., Nat Med (2000); Mascola et al., Nat Med (2000) Ferrantelli et al., JID (2004); Hessell et al., Nature (2007) Hessell et al., PLoS Pathog (2009) Structural studies of bNAb epitopes reveal mechanisms by which NAbs avoid or utilize the glycan shield on Env trimer



HIV-1 spikes are heavily glycosylated (~50% of mass; ~30 PNGSs per monomer).

Mass spectroscopy has identified *N*glycans at individual PNGSs in soluble HIV-1 Env trimer (BG505 SOSIP.664)

Behrens et al., 2016, Cell Reports

PNGS = Potential *N*-linked Glycosylation Site



Glycoproteins in crystal structures are rarely natively glycosylated because heterogeneous glycosylation usually impedes crystallization



Adapted from Binley et al., 2010, J Virol

Paper	Env trimer	Fab(s)	Endo H?	Resolution	Form of glycan	Schematic glycan
Julien et al., 2013, <i>Science</i>	BG505 from GnTI-/- cells	PGT122	Yes	4.7 Å	High mannose; Man ₅₋₉ where protected from Endo H; otherwise core GlcNAc	endo H
Pancera et al., 2014, <i>Nature</i>	BG505 from GnTI-/- cells	PGT122, 35O22	Yes	3.5 Å	High mannose; Man ₅₋₉ where protected from Endo H; otherwise core GlcNAc	endo H
Do Kwon et al., 2015, <i>NSMB</i>	BG505 from GnTI-/- cells	None	Yes	3.72 Å	High mannose; Man ₅₋₉ where protected from Endo H; otherwise core GlcNAc	endo H
Scharf et al., 2015, <i>Cell</i>	BG505 from kif-treated cells	8ANC195	No	3.58 Å	High mannose; Man ₉	
Kong et al., 2015, <i>Acta</i> <i>Cryst D</i>	BG505 from GnTI-/- cells	8ANC195, PGT128	Yes	4.6 Å	High mannose; Man ₅₋₉ where protected from Endo H; otherwise core GlcNAc	endo H
Garces et al., 2015, <i>Immunity</i>	BG505- N137A from GnTI-/- cells	3H/109L, 35022	Yes	3.0 Å	High mannose; Man ₅₋₉ where protected from Endo H; otherwise core GlcNAc	endo H
Stewart- Jones et al., 2016, <i>Cell</i>	SOSIPs from GnTI-/- cells	scFv VRC01, PGT122, 35O22	No	3.4 Å – 3.7 Å	High mannose; Man ₅₋₉ described as "fully glycosylated"	

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Gristick, von Boehmer et al., 2016, <i>NSMB</i>	BG505 from wt HEK cells	10-1074, IOMA	No	3.5 Å and 3.9 Å	Fully AND natively glycosylated; Complex and high mannose glycans	

IOMA-10-1074-BG505 crystal structures (3.9 Å and 3.5 Å)



10-1074: Asn332_{gp120} glycan-directed V3 loop bNAb in clinical trials IOMA: New CD4bs bNAb with unusual CD4-mimetic properties BG505: soluble native-like gp140 Env trimer (SOSIP)

Harry Gristick

Structures of IOMA–10-1074-BG505 prepared from higher and lower MW SEC fractions show differences in glycosylation



Harry Gristick

Natively-/fully-glycosylated Env trimer in IOMA–10-1074–BG505 crystal structure reveals most complete view of ordered glycans yet obtained





Complex glycans

High mannose glycans

Exposed protein surface area that is not conserved We compared ordered *N*-glycans at each PNGS in our two structures, the cryo-EM structure (5FUU), a BG505 HM crystal structure (5FYL), and mass spectroscopy assignments



We resolved the complete epitope of 10-1074 in the context of native glycosylation





Scharf et al., 2016, Elife

IOMA is not as potent as more heavily mutated VRC01-class bNAbs, but is more potent than CD4bs bNAbs with similar levels of SHM



Lotta von Boehmer Michel Nussenzweig Rockefeller Univ

IOMA is framed by complex-type *N*-glycans attached to N197_{gp120} and N276_{gp120}



Harry Gristick

Mapping accessible areas onto natively-glycosylated BG505 reveals antibody-vulnerable glycan holes that can be targeted by strain-specific antibodies



Areas of contiguous red (left) that are white/light purple (right) are sites of low sequence conservation potentially accessible to antibodies. Can find one such site on **BG505** adjacent to N241_{gp120}.

See McCoy et al., 2016, "Holes in the Glycan Shield of the Native HIV Envelope Are a Target of Trimer-Elicited Neutralizing Antibodies, *Cell Reports*.

The HIV-1 Env utilizes multiple strategies to avoid antibodies



- Glycan shield
- Rapid mutation
- Hide conserved regions in interfaces
- Low density of Env spikes

Few and far between: how HIV may be evading antibody avidity Klein and Bjorkman, 2010, PLoS Pathogens

For most viruses, two identical Fabs in IgGs permit bivalent binding through <u>inter</u>-spike crosslinking.





Influenza



Measles



Few and far between: how HIV may be evading antibody avidity Klein and Bjorkman, 2010, PLoS Pathogens

For most viruses, two identical Fabs in IgGs permit bivalent binding through <u>inter</u>-spike crosslinking.



Unlike other viruses, HIV has very few spikes, and the spikes are far apart – most antibodies can't bind with both Fabs.



Zhu et al., 2006, Nature

HIV's low spike density plus its rapid mutation – a deadly combination



Engineer Abs that can crosslink between spikes?



Can't make <u>inter</u>-spike crosslinking reagents that consistently crosslink because inter-spike distances vary even on a single virion. <u>Intra</u>-spike cross-linking would allow bivalent binding (avidity) despite low spike density.





How to make bivalent reagents that bind to ≥2 epitopes within a single spike trimer? Modeling based on Env trimer structures?

HIV-1 Env exists in multiple conformations on virions



Galimidi et al., 2015, Cell

Compare neutralization potencies of CD4bs homo-diFab as a function of dsDNA linker length



Galimidi et al., 2015, Cell

Best separation distance for CD4bs homo-diFabs: ~210 Å



Images from Merk & Subramaniam, 2013, Curr Opin in Struct Biol 23:268-76

Rachel Galimidi

100-

80-

60-

40-

20-

0-

100-

80-

60-

40-

20-

0-

0

20

IC₅₀ (nM)

0

20

IC₅₀ (nM)

3BNC60 lgG lC₅₀: 16 nM 3BNC60 Fab IC₅₀: 210 nM

40

3BNC60 IgG IC₅₀: NT

40

60

dsDNA bridge length (bp)

60

Optimal 3BNC60 homo-diFab is much more potent than 3BNC60 IgG when compared against many HIV strains



Galimidi et al., 2015, Cell

Optimal homo-diFab and hetero-diFab reagents show there is enormous potential for improving bNAbs by using intra-spike cross-linking to achieve synergistic neutralization



What about using avidity to suppress viral escapes?

Preliminary *in vitro* evolution data suggest suppression of HIV-1 escape mutations by PG16-50bp-3BNC60 hetero-diFab



Day

Intra-spike cross-linking can overcome HIV evasion of avidity

- Measuring method reveals dynamic information about Env conformations during neutralization
 - Compare optimal distances for Tier 1 versus Tier 2; CD4-dependent versus CD4independent strains
- Up to 100-fold increases in geometric mean potency achieved with first generation intra-spike crosslinking reagents (homo- and hetero-diFabs)
 - Supports hypothesis that low spike density contributes to vulnerability of anti-HIV antibodies to spike mutations
 - Ideal anti-HIV therapeutic for passive delivery would utilize avidity to achieve intra-spike crosslinking (using protein-based linkers, not DNA)
 - Reduce the concentration required for sterilizing immunity
 - Render HIV's low spike density irrelevant
 - Hopefully would be resistant to Env mutations (in vitro evolution results)
 - Analogous to using several drugs or antibodies during ART, simultaneous binding to different epitopes would also reduce/abrogate sensitivity to Env mutations

Understanding structural changes in Env induced by CD4 and coreceptor binding could facilitate design of new therapeutic targets



Adapted from Didigu and Doms, Viruses 2012, 4, 309-324

HIV-1 Env exists in different conformations on virions



Liu et al., 2008, Nature; Merk & Subramaniam, 2013, Curr Opin in Struct Biol

Another conformational state of HIV-1 Env

3.58 Å crystal structure of 8ANC195-Env trimer complex



~17Å single particle EM structure of 17b-CD4-8ANC195-Env complex



Env conformation is mid-way between partially open and open

Env conformation is closed

Env trimer in CD4-bound partially-open 8.9 Å cryo-EM structure: V1V2 undergoes ~40 Å conformational change and interacts with CD4



Env trimer in CD4-bound partially-open 8.9 Å cryo-EM structure: V1V2 undergoes ~40 Å conformational change and interacts with CD4



V1V2 V3 gp120 gp41 sCD4

Wang et al., 2016, PNAS

Natively-glycosylated Env

Harry Gristick Lotta von Boehmer (RU) Anthony West

Michel Nussenzweig (RU)

Single particle EM Haoqing Wang

Michael Schamber Michael Seaman, CAVD Neutralization Facility Donor samples: Florian Klein, Gerd Fätkenheuer (U of Cologne)

> Funding: HIVRAD P01, BMGF Funding for EM: NIH P50 Cheetah center

Intra-spike crosslinking reagents

Rachel Galimidi Anthony West (Joshua Klein → Google)

Devashish Joshi, Maria Politzer, Shiyu Bai, Pri Gnanapragasam Caltech Protein Expression Center Michael Seaman, CAVD Neutralization Facility

Funding: BMGF, NIH Director's Pioneer Award