

MICROCHEMISTRY, PROTEOMICS, LIPIDOMICS + NEXT GENERATION SEQUENCING

# **Direct Analysis of Heterogeneous Biotherapeutics**

Wendy Sandoval Director, Translational Mass Spectrometry Genentech, Inc. 30 September 2022 CASSS: Thermo Fisher Scientific Lunch Seminar

# **Intact Mass Measurement Approaches for Biotherapeutics**



# **Glycoproteins as biotherapeutics**

- Glycosylation is present on >50% of all human proteins
  - Role of glycosylation in the cell: Fc effector function, protein structure, more...
- >40% approved biotherapeutics are glycosylated
  - IgG-based and Fc-fusion biologics
- Glycosylation can affect pharmacological properties of biotherapeutics:
  potency, stability, bioavailability, solubility, and immunogenicity.

A single glycosylation site on a protein can produce vast molecular heterogeneity that precludes direct analysis by mass spectrometry (MS), the predominant analytical tool for glycoprotein characterization.



# Strategies to investigate glycoproteins by MS

Ease of analysis



# Increasingly complex modalities require adaptive analytical strategies



# **Intact Mass Measurement Approaches for Biotherapeutics**



# **Proton Transfer Charge Reduction (PTCR)**





**Before PTCR** 



After PTCR



# **PTCR on unresolved charge states**



\*ASMS 2019: Orbitrap Eclipse with extended mass range (8k) and PTCR

# UNIGLAMS: UNiversal Intact GLycoprotein Analysis by Mass Spectrometry

Overlapping windows of PTCR spectra are acquired and stitched together for deconvolution



Example: m/z 4000-7000, 30<sup>Th</sup> step, 60<sup>Th</sup> isolation, 10<sup>Th</sup> overlap, 100uscans, PTCR4



# **UNIGLAMS Workflow**



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### **UNIGLAMS** workflow



Narrow MS<sup>2</sup> isolation at apex to confirm ion signal

Increase PTCR in MS<sup>2</sup> isolation range to establish appropriate duration



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# **Ovalbumin contains a single N-linked glycan yet has multiple proteoforms**



# **Ovalbumin contains a single N-linked glycan yet has multiple proteoforms**





# Utility of PTCR is limited by Eclipse m/z range



# Charge reduced segmented isolation resolved proteoforms for identification



# A Phase IIb heterogeneous glycosylated cytokine Fusion protein



- CHO derived cytokine Fc-fusion protein
- Two IL-22 cytokines fused with the Fc portion of an IgG to prolong half-life
- Aglycosylated Fc to minimize effector function (N to G)
- Heavily glycosylated cytokines
  - 8 N-glycosylation sites
  - ✓ > 60 N-Glycans identified

4 N-glycosylation sites on each cytokine (N21, N35, N64, N143)







- With increase in sialic acid levels, exposure increases, in vitro potency decreases
- Drug exposure is the primary driver of in vivo PD response



Michelle Irwin Beardsley & IL22Fc dev team

# Stepping through glycoforms with UNIGLAMS



### **Stepping through Spectra on Orbitrap Ascend**



# >160 glycoforms identified by BPF from UNIGLAMS on cytokine fusion protein



00000000

Fractional

7.64

7.10

4.26

3.84

3.45

2.22

2.22

2.13

2.13

2.11

2.03

1.98

1.64

1.55

1.37

1.35

1.35

1.25

1.20

1.07

0.95

0.95

0.94

0.89

51.85

46.14

44.91

43.57

43.29

36.55

36.72

37.89

36.96

42.85

43.37

40.41

45.15

40.34

36.31

39.10

28.80

39.86

41.29

42.35

30.17

33.53

39.28

34.91

100.00

92.92

55.76

50.24

45.12

29.11

29.05

27.90

27.84

27.60

26.57

25.96

21.47

20.24

17.91

17.70

17.62

16.38

15.75

14.06

12.39

12.37

12.30

# Challenges with Ion Isolation



### **UNIGLAMS with Quadrupole isolation**



# Separation of four Sialic acid fractions with UNIGLAMS



### **Automating UNIGLAMS**



# **Intact Mass Measurement Approaches for Biotherapeutics**



# **Direct Mass Technology (DMT)**

research

pubs.acs.org/jpr



#### a.k.a. CD-MS, single particle MS, individual ion MS



CDMS Spectrum

1.0e7 8.0e6 6.0e6 nte 4.0e6 2.0e8





#### GMP Lot

25000

200000

350000

Type: Mass O m/z Re

#### TOX Lot



# **DMT workflow**

#### **ThermoFisher** scientific



Step 2. z=25 Aison 5600 5800 6000 6200 6400 6600 6800 7000

Single ion injection at each m/z

Enable Direct Mass technology mode





 $m/z \times z \rightarrow m$  for each ion MW of heterogenous molecule Step 5.



z Establish calibration curve

Step 4.

Step 3.

Intensity



Collect scans of individual ions

Nature Methods, Vol 17, 395–398, 2020

# **Some Applications of DMT**



- Membrane protein in nanodisc
- 5 min collection per CE

with Michael Marty

# DMT on the low SA Fraction: a cautionary tale of oversampling?





# DMT on the low SA Fraction: a more conservative analysis



×	97,330	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F-GlcNAc] 1[
0	97,505	1[IL22Fc] 2[G0F-GIcNAc] 1[
$\nabla$	97,760	1[IL22Fc] 2[G0F] 1[M5-G1F]
Δ	97,875	1[IL22Fc] 2[G0F-GIcNAc] 1[
⊳	98,040	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 1[HexNAc(
	98,240	1[IL22Fc] 4[G0F] 3[M5-G1F]
0	98,475	1[IL22Fc] 2[G0F-GIcNAc] 1[
☆	98,755	1[IL22Fc] 2[G0F] 2[HexNAc(
0	99,075	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 1[HexNAc(
$\nabla$	99,195	1[IL22Fc] 4[G0F] 1[M5-G1F]
Δ	99,440	1[IL22Fc] 5[G0F] 2[M5-G1F]
⊳	99,720	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 2[G0] 1[He
	100,045	1[IL22Fc] 4[G0F-GIcNAc] 1[
٥	100,275	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F-GIcNAc] 5[
÷	100,480	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F-GlcNAc] 1[
0	100,740	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 1[HexNAc(
$\nabla$	100,870	1[IL22Fc] 2[G0F] 1[M5-G1F]
Δ	100,995	1[IL22Fc] 4[G0F-GIcNAc] 5[
⊳	101,265	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F-GIcNAc] 5[
	101,385	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F-GIcNAc] 3[
٥	101,700	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 1[HexNAc(
☆	101,865	1[IL22Fc] 2[G0F] 3[M5-G1F]
0	102,150	1[IL22Fc] 4[G0F-GIcNAc] 1[
$\nabla$	102,495	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 3[G0] 2[He
Δ	102,800	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 1[HexNAc(
⊳	102,995	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 4[G0] 2[G2
	103,230	1[IL22Fc] 2[G0F-GIcNAc] 1[
0	103,410	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 4[M5-G1F]
☆	103,630	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F-GIcNAc] 5[
0	103,805	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 4[M5-G1F]
$\nabla$	104,020	1[IL22Fc] 2[G0F] 2[M5-G1F]
Δ	104,310	1[IL22Fc] 3[G0F] 1[M5-G1F]
⊳	104,525	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 1[M5-G1F]
	104,640	1[IL22Fc] 2[G0F] 3[M5-G1F]
٥	104,850	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 6[G0] 2[He
☆	105,125	1[IL22Fc] 4[G0F-GIcNAc] 1[
0	105,335	1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 6[G0] 1[He

97,035 1[IL22Fc] 1[G0F] 1[M5-G1F]

# No resolution to the resolution issue



> MW of SA15 shifts higher compared to MW of SA8





Two approaches to improve spatial resolution of heterogeneous biomolecules



- Small window isolation followed by charge reduction.
- Multiple scan windows may be merged together after deconvolution to reveal proteoforms present
- Ideal for glycoproteins and other biomoelcules with overlapping charge states



- Single particle detection at high resolution
- No deconvolution needed (so complexity not an issue)
- Useful for large molecules or complexes, membrane proteins and oligomeric structures



#### Thank you!

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