The Career of Carolyn Bertozzi

Group Meeting: November 12, 2008 David A Nagib



Key Reviews

Prescher, J. A.; Bertozzi, C. R. Chemistry in Living Systems. Nature Chem. Biol. 2005, 1, 13-21. Dube, D. H.; Bertozzi, C. R. Metabolic Oligosaccharide Engineering as a Tool for Glycobiology. Curr. Opin. Chem. Biol. 2003, 7, 616 Bertozzi, C. R.; Kiessling, L. L. Chemical Glycobiology. Science 2001, 291, 2357-2364.

Seminal Publications

In vivo Imaging of Membrane-Asociated Glycans in Developing Zebrafish. Science 2008, 320, 664-667. Chemical Remodelling of Cell Surfaces in Living Animals. Nature 2004, 430, 873-877. A Small Molecule Modulator of Poly-a2,8-Sialic Acid Expression on Cultured Neurons and Tumor Cells. Science 2001, 294, 380-382. Cell Surface Engineering by a Modified Staudinger Reaction. Science 2000, 287, 2007-2010. Engineering Chemical Reactivity on Cell Surfaces Through Oligosaccharide Biosynthesis. Science 1997, 276, 1125-1128.

The Career of Carolyn Ruth Bertozzi Biographical Notes

Education (b. 1966 - Boston, MA)

A.B.: Harvard University (1988); J. Grabowski - photoacoustic calorimetry

Bell Labs (1988); C. Chidsey - electron transfer materials

 Coadsorption of Ferrocene-Terminated and Unsubstituted Alkanethiols on Gold: Electroactive Self-Assembled Monolayers. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1990, **112**, 4301-4306

Ph.D.: University of California, Berkeley (1993); M. D. Bednarski - oligosaccharide interactions

- Carbon-Linked Galactosphingolipid Analogs Bind Specifically to HIV-1 gp120. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1992, 114, 1063
- Antibody Targeting to Bacterial Cells Using Receptor-Specific Ligands. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1992, 114, 2242
- A Receptor-Mediated Immune Response Using Synthetic Glycoconjugates. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1992, 114, 5543

Postdoc: University of California, San Francisco (1996): S. D. Rosen - leukocyte trafficking

- The Selectins and Their Ligands. Curr. Opin. Cell Biol. 1994, 6, 663
- Current Professional Appointments

T.Z. and Irmgard Chu Distinguished *Professor of Chemistry* at UC Berkeley *Professor of Molecular and Cell Biology* at UC Berkeley *Investigator* of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute *Director of the Molecular Foundry*, a nanoscience institute at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory

Notable Awards

Ernst Schering Prize (2007); Havinga Medal, Univ. Leiden (2005); lota Sigma Pi Agnes Fay Morgan Research Award (2004); Member: National Academy of Sciences (2005) & American Academy of Arts and Sciences (2003); Fellow: AAAS (2002); Irving Sigal Young Investigator Award of the Protein Society (2002), ACS Award in Pure Chemistry (2001); Presidential Early Career Award in Science and Engineering (PECASE) (2000); Joel H. Hildebrand Chair (1998-2000); Arthur C. Cope Scholar Award (ACS) (1999); MacArthur Foundation Award (1999) Horace S. Isbell Award in Carbohydrate Chemistry (ACS) (1997)

Editorial boards: Curr Opin in Chem Biol (Editor-in-Chief), ACS Chem Biol, Perspectives in Med Chem

Publications:

2 books, 14 reviews (including ones in Science, Nature, Cell, Chem. Soc. Rev., & Acc. Chem. Res.), and >200 publications (20 publications in 2008 alone, including in *Science*, *JACS* (4), *Angew* (2), *Biochem* (2), & *PNAS*)





The Bertozzi Group Research Areas: Background

Living systems: composed of networks of interacting biopolymers, ions, and metabolites



Complex array of cellular processes ... cannot be observed by examination of isolating purified biomolecules Goal: Track molecules within their native environs *Most popular ('08 Nobel-winning) tagging strategy:* Green fluorescent protein (GFP) Applications (many): Protein expression & localization Limitations: Large structural perturbations may influence expression, localization, or function Not amenable to glycans, lipids, nucleic acids, or 1000s of small organic metabolites

New approach: Since glycosylations are the most complex and ubiquitous of the types of post-translational modifications, an oligosaccaride-based probe could better elucidate their role in cell recognition & inter-cellular communication

The Bertozzi Group Research Areas: Challenges & Strategy

Key Questions



Approach: Employ chemical tools to uncover the role of cell surface oligosaccarides by designing (1) a new, synthetic probe, which allows for the (2) detection and isolation of (3) proteins, glycans, and lipids



= bioorthogonal chemical reporter

The bioorthogonal chemical reporter strategy

Non-native, non-perturbing chemical handles that can be (1) introduced via cellular metabolism, and (2) modified in living systems through highly selective reactions with exogenously delivered probes

Bioorthogonal chemical reporters Design of a chemical reporter and bioorthogonal reaction

Requirements for bioorthogonality

- 1) Reactive: should involve a rapid reaction, unaided by auxiliary reagents, with innocuous (or no) byproducts
 - similar to antibody-antigen kinetics
- 2) Selective: must avoid the abundance of nucleophiles, reducing agents, and other functionality present in cells
 - amines, isothiocyanates, thiols, and maleimides → too promiscuous (may label irrelevant targets)
- 3) Robust: must possess adequate metabolic stability and bioavailability
 - physiological environment, typically 37°C, pH 6-8





State of the Art Bioorthogonal chemical reporters: *pre-Bertozzi*

Peptide sequences: tetracysteine motif

- A hexapeptide chemical reporter (CCXXCC) can be:
- (1) genetically incorporated into proteins, and subsequently
- (2) covalently labeled in living cells with membrane-permeant biarsenical dyes



Griffin, B.A. Griffin, B.A., Adams, S.R. & Tsien, R.Y. Science 1998, 281, 269-272.

The Bertozzi Approach Probing sugars

Metabolic oligosaccharide engineering

•Unnatural monosaccharides are taken up by cells, transformed by the cell's biosynthetic machinery, and ultimately incorporated into glycoconjugates. Some are secreted or remain in the cell; the majority become cell surface glycoproteins



Glycobiology 101 The diverse array of glycan structures

Major classes of glycan structures



•Sialic acid - typical monosaccharide cap of olicosaccharides

- Cancer associated glycans
 - •Altered glycosylation patterns are a hallmark of the tumor phenotype



•Polysialic acid (PSA) expression is normally restricted to embryonic development; overexpressed in tumors



•High levels of the capping monosaccharide sialic acid suggests high metastatic ability of many types of cancer (acidic functionality may promote entry into bloodstream)

Dube, D. H.; Bertozzi, C. R. Nature Rev. Drug Disc. 2005, 4, 477-88.

The Bertozzi Approach Probing sialosides

Metabolic oligosaccharide engineering

•Unnatural monosaccharides are taken up by cells, transformed by the cell's biosynthetic machinery, and ultimately incorporated into glycoconjugates. Some are secreted or remain in the cell; the majority become cell surface glycoproteins



Mahal, L. K.; Yarema, K. J.; Bertozzi, C. R. Science 1997, 276, 1125-1128.

The Bertozzi Approach Probing sialosides

Metabolic oligosaccharide engineering

•Unnatural N-acyl manosamines are taken up by cells, transformed by the cell's biosynthetic machinery, and ultimately incorporated into sialosides. Some are secreted or remain in the cell; the majority become cell surface glycoproteins



The sialic acid biosynthetic pathway is permissive of unnatural ManNAc analogs (at the NAc position)

ManNAc 6-kinase is the bottleneck enzyme, which allows for competitive introduction of exogenous analogs

Mahal, L. K.; Yarema, K. J.; Bertozzi, C. R. Science 1997, 276, 1125-1128.

Bertozzi's chemical reporters The carbonyl group

Ketones and aldehydes

- (1) Very small functional group will not perturb system
- (2) Stabilized Schiffs bases (oximes & hydrazones) are favored in water and quite stable under physiological conditions



Biosynthetic incorporation of ketone groups into cell-surface-associated sialic acid & subsequent chemical labelling



Mahal, L. K.; Yarema, K. J.; Bertozzi, C. R. Science 1997, 276, 1125-1128.

Initial Success The carbonyl group as chemical reporter



Quantitative analysis (via flow cytometry) confirmed ketone expression in three human cell lines



Mahal, L. K.; Yarema, K. J.; Bertozzi, C. R. Science 1997, 276, 1125-1128.

Controls & Applications The carbonyl group as chemical reporter

Demonstrated the ketone groups are displayed on the cell surface as sialoglycoconjugates



Demonstrated the oncological immunotargeting strategy by delivery of ricin toxin A (RTA) chain





Mahal, L. K.; Yarema, K. J.; Bertozzi, C. R. Science 1997, 276, 1125-1128.

Anti-tumor applications The chemical reporter as a small molecule inhibitor

Polysialic acid (PSA) expression is a post-translational modification of neural proteins, commonly overexpressed in tumors



Mahal, L. K.; Charter, N. W.; Angata, K.; Fukuda, M.; Koshland, D. E., Jr.; Bertozzi, C. R. Science 2001, 294, 380-382.

Scope & Limits 1st generation chemical reporters

Ketones and aldehydes



* Proof of principle: small, organic molecule as a non-perturbing chemical reporter of glycans & lipids

Bioorthogonal vs biorestricted

- Optimal pH = 5-6, not achievable in most tissues *in vivo* (restricted to specific cultured cells; *in vitro*)
- Endogenous keto-metabolites interfere with oxime/hydrazone chemistry (i.e. sugars, pyruvates, oxaloacetate, and various cofactors, such as pyridoxal phosphate)
- Restricted to environs devoid of carbonyl electrophiles; cell surface & extracellular environment

The Azide 2nd generation chemical reporters

Bioorthogonal functional group: the azide

• mildly electrophilic; does not react with hard nucleophiles (i.e. amines) • does not react appreciably with H_2O • resistant to oxidation • only 3 atoms

Common misconceptions of azide stability & toxicity

Myth: azides are unstable to heat	<i>Truth</i> : azides are prone to decomposition at elevated temperatures (>100°C), but are quite stable at physiological temperatures
Myth: azides are unstable to light	<i>Truth</i> : azides are well-known photocrosslinkers, but do not photodecompose in the presence of ambient light
Myth: azides are toxic	<i>Truth</i> : the azide anion (i.e. NaN ₃) is a widely used cytotoxin, but organic azides have no intrinsic toxicity

Current applications in medicine

- reverse transcriptase inhibitors, such as AZT, used to treat HIV
- azido group increases lipophilicity, which promotes more facile permeation of cell membranes as well as the blood-brain barrier



Staudinger ligation 2nd generation chemical reporters

Classical Staudinger reaction



Modified Staudinger reaction: *introduction of an intramolecular trap*



Staudinger ligation as bioorthogonal chemical reaction under physiological conditions (H₂O, pH ~7)



Cell surface engineering via Staudinger ligation The azide as chemical reporters

Fluorescent avidin labelling allows for verification of biosynthetic incorporation of azide group



Quantitative analysis (via flow cytometry) confirmed azide expression in three human cell lines



Cell surface engineering via Staudinger ligation Verification of cell surface selectivity & bioorthogonality



OCH₃

Trialkyl-

Triaryl-

phosphine phosphine phosphine

100

50

0

No

Trialkyl phosphine DOES generate appreciable sulfides (C)

Saxon, E.; Bertozzi, C. R. Science 2000, 287, 2007-2010.

Protein modification Additional applications of the Staudinger ligation

Incorporation of azides into recombinant proteins requires initial uptake by methionyl-tRNA



Protein modification Additional applications of the Staudinger ligation

Incorporation of azides into recombinant proteins requires initial uptake by methionyl-tRNA



Kiick, K. L.; Saxon, E.; Tirrell, D. A.; Bertozzi, C. R. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 2002, 99, 19-24.

Azide incorporation Chemoselective modification of recombinant proteins



Quantification of the rate of activation of MetRS

a.a. analog	k _{cat} /k _m (s ⁻¹ μM ⁻¹)	k _{cat} /k _m (rel to Met)
Met	5.47x10 ⁻¹	1
AHA	1.42x10 ⁻³	1/390
hexynoic	1.16x10 ⁻³	1/500
norleucine	5.22x10 ⁻⁴	1/1050

• Both the *homo*-azide and alkyne chains were incorporated into MetRS at similar rates

Azide incorporation Chemoselective modification of recombinant proteins

Translational activity was then assessed using a methionine auxotroph of E. coli



Quantification of the rate of activation of MetRS and corresponding synthesized protein, mDHFR

a.a. analog	k _{cat} /k _m (s⁻¹ μM⁻¹)	k _{cat} /k _m (rel to Met)	relative protein yield
Met	5.47x10 ⁻¹	1	100 %
AHA	1.42x10 ⁻³	1/390	100 %
hexynoic	1.16x10 ⁻³	1/500	100 %
norleucine	5.22x10 ⁻⁴	1/1050	57 %

- Both the *homo*-azide and alkyne chains were incorporated into MetRS at similar rates
- Both supported complete protein synthesis

• Complementary mass spec & peptide sequencing analyses confirmed azide (AHA) incorporation, with ~96% replacement of methionine

Kiick, K. L.; Saxon, E.; Tirrell, D. A.; Bertozzi, C. R. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 2002, 99, 19-24.

In living organisms Metabolic oligosaccharide engineering & Staudinger ligations in mice

Metabolic oligosaccharide engineering performed in vivo in a living animal for the first time



• Peracetylated ManNAz (Ac₄ManNAz) will passively diffuse into cells more readily than the free ManNAz

• Carboxyesterases, which exist at high levels in rodent serum, convert Ac₄ManNAz to ManNAz relatively quickly

Staudinger ligations performed *ex vivo* on isolated mouse splenocytes



- Mice are euthanized on the 8th day and their splenocytes (cells rich in sialosides) are isolated
- Staudinger ligation is performed ex vivo with a phosphine bearing a Flag peptide, whose antibody is fluorescent

Prescher, J. A.; Dube, D. H.; Bertozzi, C. R. *Nature* **2004**, *430*, 873-877.

In living organisms Metabolic oligosaccharide engineering & Staudinger ligations in mice



- Flow cytometry analysis similar to in vitro studies
 - No adverse physiological effects on mice over 7 days, as determined by monitoring feeding habits, weights, and overall activity
 - 3% of natural sialic acid in the heart were replaced with SiaNAz
 - · Liver is known to secrete numerous sialylated glycoproteins
 - However, heart & kidney labelling may be a product of significantly lower levels of UDP-GlcNaC-2-epimerase (ManNAc)





In living organisms: in vivo

Metabolic oligosaccharide engineering & Staudinger ligations in mice

Metabolic oligosaccharide engineering AND Staudinger ligations performed *in vivo* in a living animal for the first time



Staudinger ligations then performed both ex vivo on isolated mouse splenocytes AND in vivo in living mice



Gray bars represent *in vivo* Staudinger ligation
Black bars represent the same, with additional *ex vivo* Staudinger ligation

ack bars represent the same, with additional ex vivo Staudinger ligation

Prescher, J. A.; Dube, D. H.; Bertozzi, C. R. *Nature* **2004**, *430*, 873-877.

Scope & Limits 2nd generation chemical reporters

Azides & phosphines



• Bioorthogonal: azides & triaryl phosphines are abiotic functional groups that undergo reaction at pH~7 with no toxic effects

- Applications
 - modify glycans on living cells: Science 2000 287, 2007 and animals: Nature 2004, 430, 873
 - enrich glycoprotein subtypes from various proteomes: Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 2003, 100, 14846
 - impart new functionality to recombinant proteins: Biochemistry 2004, 43, 12358
 - "traceless Staudinger" is also now available to exclude phosphine oxide from product: Org. Lett. 2000, 2, 2141
- Remaining limitations
 - oxidation of phosphine by air or metabolic enzymes is the only side reaction that diminishes the scope of the probe

Click chemistry 3rd generation chemical reporters

Bioorthogonal functional groups: *the azide & the alkyne*



Click chemistry

- Huisgen [3+2] cycloaddition is thermodynamically favorable; however, requires elevated temperatures or pressures
- Alkynes can be activated by appending α-esters; but prone to Michael additions (NOT bioorthogonal)
- Sharpless' Cu(I)-catalyzed cycloaddition: accelerated ~106-fold (25 x faster than Staudinger ligation in cell lysates)
- Reaction proceeds regioselectively in physiological conditions with no background labelling
- Cellular toxicity of Cu(I) catalyst is only major limitation

Huisgen, R. *Angew. Chem. Int. Edn. Engl.* **1963**, *2*, 565–598. Rostovtsev, V.V., Green, L.G., Fokin, V.V. & Sharpless, K.B. *Angew. Chem. Int. Edn. Engl.* **2002**, *41*, 2596–2599.

Strain-promoted cycloaddition 3rd generation chemical reporters

Catalyst-free [3+2] cycloaddition



Reaction features

• Eight-membered ring creates ~18 kcal/mol of strain; released in transition state, upon reaction with azide



Protein modification Applications of the strain-promoted cycloaddition

Incorporation of azides into recombinant proteins requires initial uptake by methionyl-tRNA



A new screening procedure for the identification of *tRNA synthetase* activity was developed based on cell surface probes



Link, A. J.; Vink, M. K.; Agard, N. J.; Prescher, J. A.; Bertozzi, C. R.; Tirrell, D. A. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 2006, 103, 10180-10185.

Protein modification made easy Identification of 3 mutant MetRS strains

Fluorescence histograms of cells expressing azide-amino acids



Mutations found in MetRS clones that enable incorporation of azide-amino acids were all located in the binding site



Link, A. J.; Vink, M. K.; Agard, N. J.; Prescher, J. A.; Bertozzi, C. R.; Tirrell, D. A. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 2006, 103, 10180-10185.

In vivo click chemistry 2nd generation Cu-free click chemistry reagents

Electron-withdrawing groups, in addition to ring strain, significantly enhance the rate of [3+2] cycloaddition



• Dynamic processes in living cells are now accessible upon removal of cytotoxic copper catalyst



Baskin, J. M.; Prescher, J. A.; Laughlin, S. T.; Agard, N. J.; Chang, P. V.; Miller, I. A.; Lo, A.; Codelli, J. A.; Bertozzi, C. R. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* **2007**, *104*, 16793-16797.

In vivo imaging Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells

In vivo imaging of glycoproteins in living Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells via rate-enhanced, Cu-free click chemistry



• Time lapse imaging monitors the trafficking of the labeled cell-surface glycans.

• Strong signal colocalized with transferrin uptake to endosomes and a Golgi marker, saturated at 30 min ($t_{1/2} \approx 15$ min)

Baskin, J. M.; Prescher, J. A.; Laughlin, S. T.; Agard, N. J.; Chang, P. V.; Miller, I. A.; Lo, A.; Codelli, J. A.; Bertozzi, C. R. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* **2007**, *104*, 16793-16797.

Dynamic in Vivo *imaging* Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells

Dynamic *in vivo* imaging of glycan trafficking using different color fluorescent labels



*** Provides a new platform for *evaluating the kinetics of glycan internalization and subcellular partitioning* to the endosomal, Golgi, and lysosomal compartments on the minute, hour, and day time scales ***

Baskin, J. M.; Prescher, J. A.; Laughlin, S. T.; Agard, N. J.; Chang, P. V.; Miller, I. A.; Lo, A.; Codelli, J. A.; Bertozzi, C. R. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.* **2007**, *104*, 16793-16797.

Imaging zebrafish glycans From cell cultures to living organisms

Dynamic *in vivo* imaging of zebrafish was chosen as a model organism because of its amenability to optical imaging



- Robust dose-dependant metabolic labelling was observed, similar to that of mammalian cells (with no background).
- No observed toxicity resulting from treatment with Ac₄GalNAz or DIFO reagents.
- Several glycoproteins (β-hexosamine, β-integrin, lysosome-associated membrane protein, nicastrin scavenger receptor
 - B, and Thyl) were isolated and identified, corresponding to known or predicted sites of mucin-type O-linked glycosylation.

Imaging zebrafish glycans From cell cultures to living organisms

in vivo imaging revealed differences in the cell-surface expression, intracellular trafficking, and tissue distribution of glycans



epidermis in jaw (dotted line)

(Red) old glycans; (Green) new glycans (1 hour later)

DNA cell adhesion Multi-disciplinary applications of chemical reporters

DNA-coated AFM cantilevers and DNA-bearing cells are prepared independantly



Cell adhesion and the patterning of live cells is promoted by complimentary base pairing





Hsiao, S. C.; Crow, A. K.; Lam, W. A.; Bertozzi, C. R.; Fletcher, D. A.; Francis, M. B. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 2008, 120, 8601-8605.

Medicinal nanotubes

Multi-disciplinary applications of chemical reporters

Biomimetic engineering of carbon nanotubes (CNTs) as mucin mimics, conveys aqueous solubility properties to CNTs



Chen, X.; Lee, G. S.; Zettl, A.; Bertozzi, C. R. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2004, 43, 6112-6116.

A nanotube attached to an atomic force microscope (AFM) tip serves as a "nanoneedle"



Chen, X.; Kis, A.; Zettl, Z.; Bertozzi, C. R. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 2007, 104, 8218-8222.

M. tuberculosis Additional research areas in the Bertozzi group

Sulfate metabolism & assimilation in *M. tuberculosis* mycobacteria is vital for survival in heavily oxidative environments



Goal: to develop small molecule inhibitors of ATP sulfurylase as potential drug leads against *M. tuberculosis*

Review: Schelle, M. W.; Bertozzi, C. R. ChemBioChem 2006, 7, 1516-24.

Summary The Bertozzi Group

Research theme:

To employ chemical tools to uncover the role of cell surface oligosaccarides involved in cell recognition & intercellular communication



Science 1997, 276, 1125-1128