

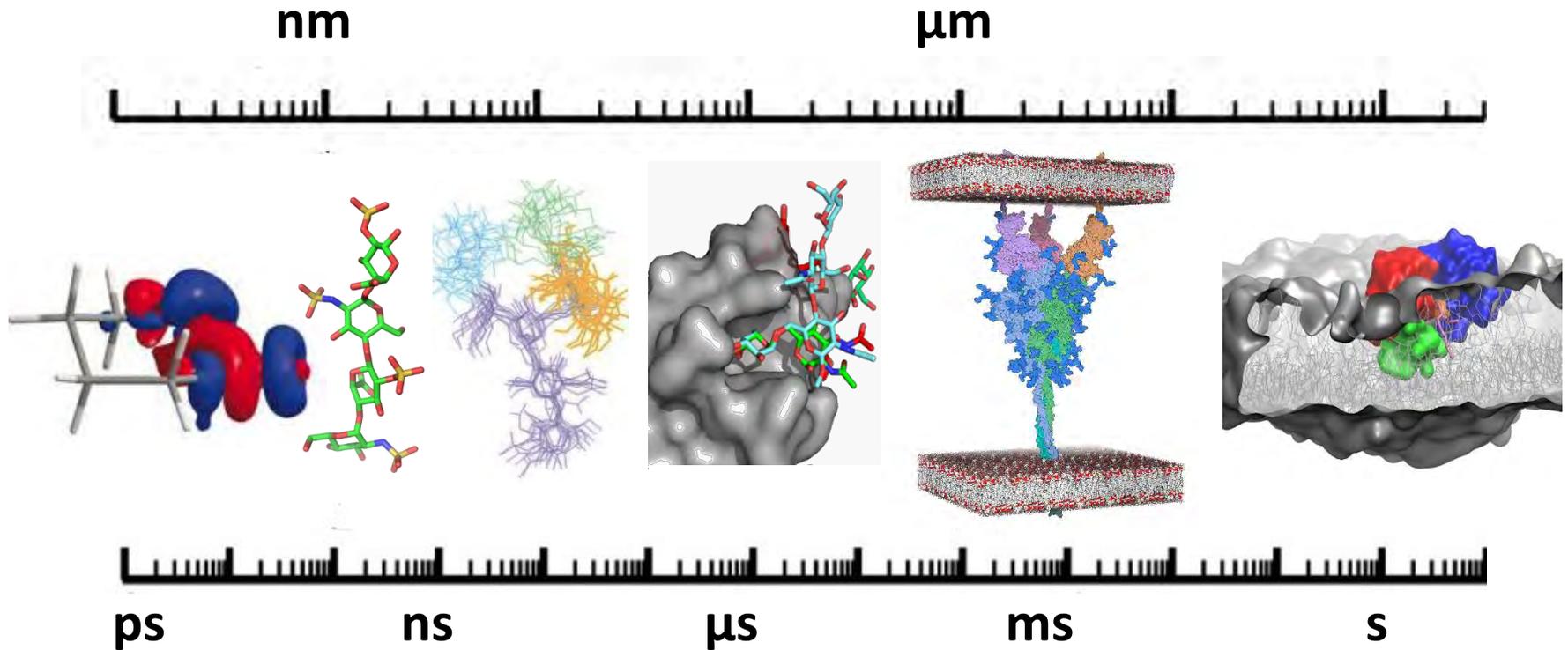
**From  
Monosaccharides to  
Polysaccharides  
From Structures to  
3D Databases**

Serge Pérez, Grenoble, June 2023

# Structural Glycobiology

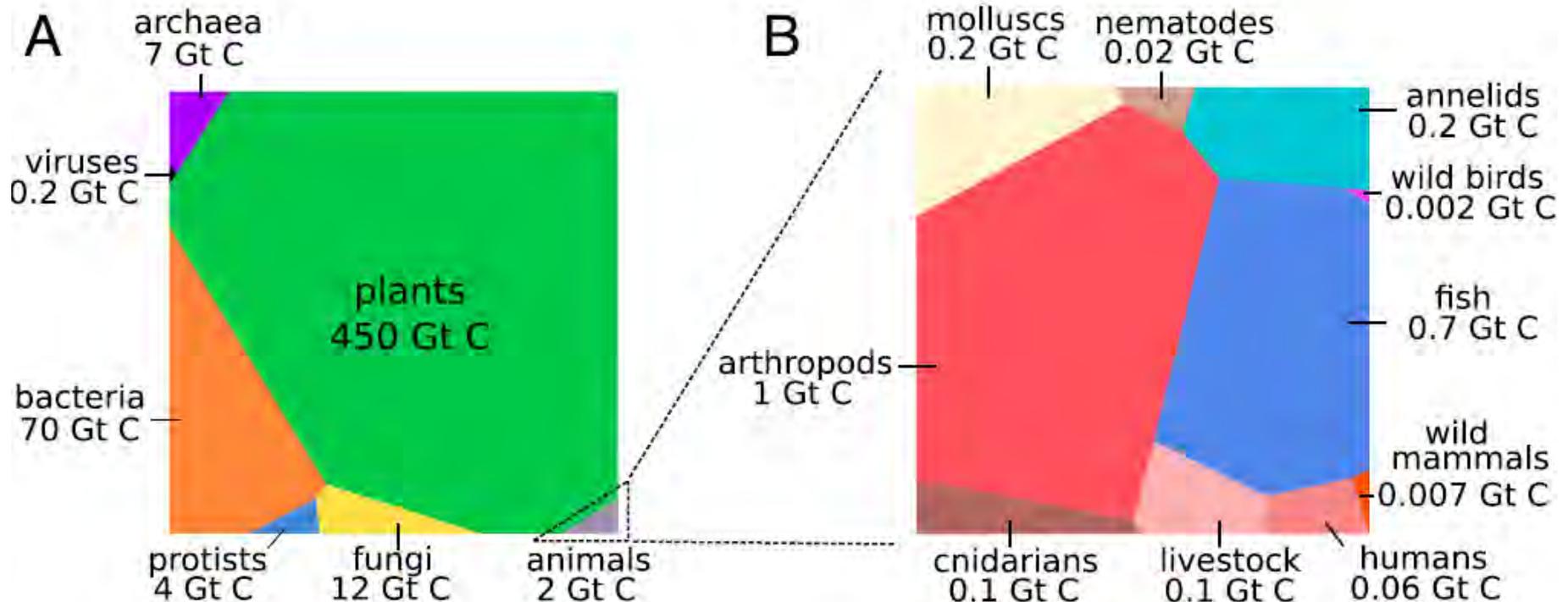
structural glycobiology is the study of how complex glycans are built.

A variety of imaging methods are used, to view molecules in three dimensions to see how they are assembled, how they function, and how they interact.

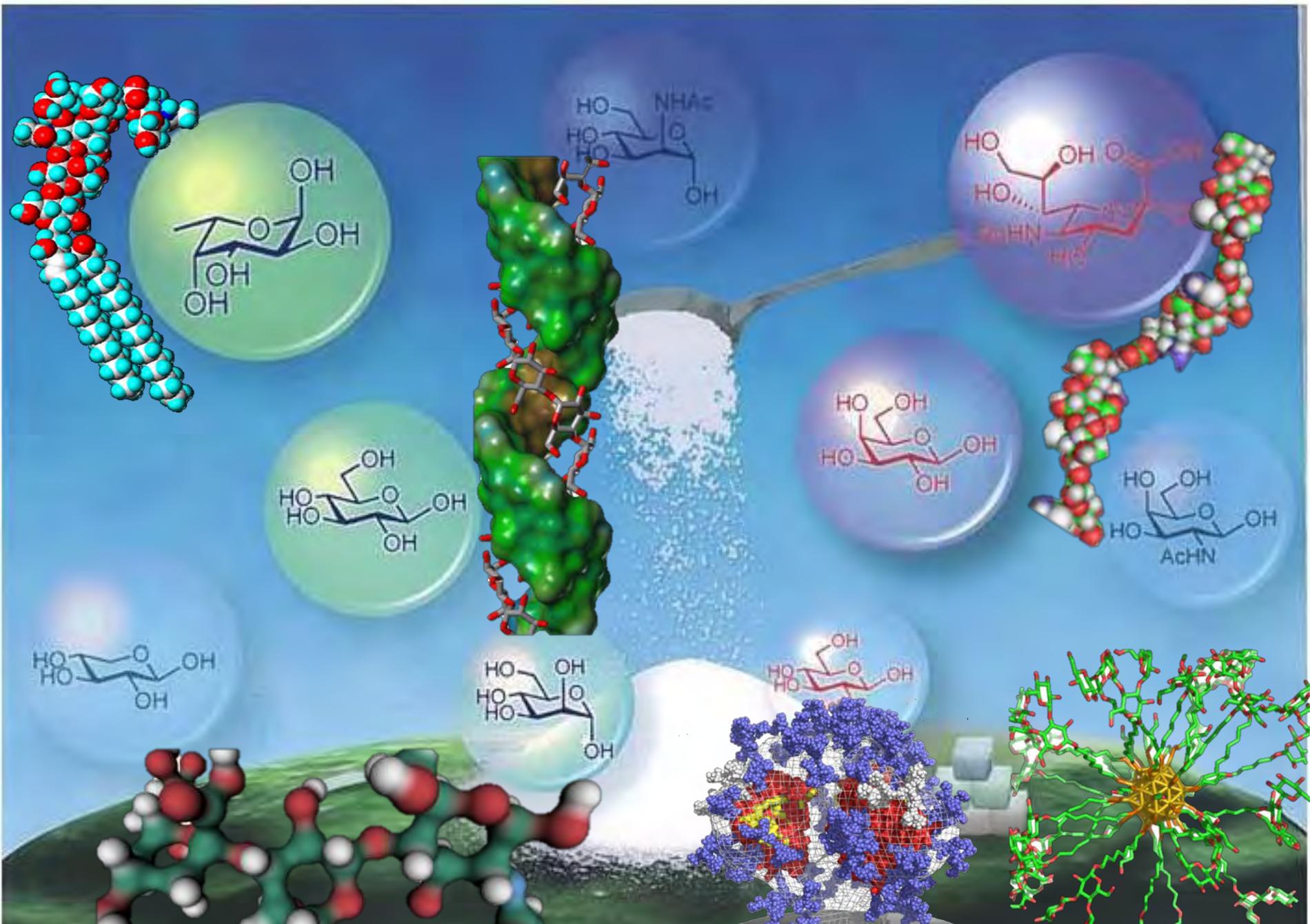


Where are such complex glycans found ?

# The Global Biomass Distribution (Gigatons Carbon)

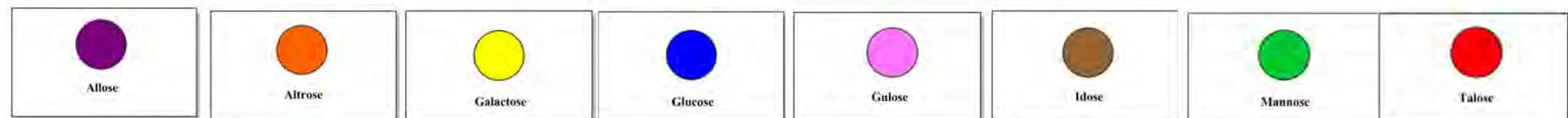
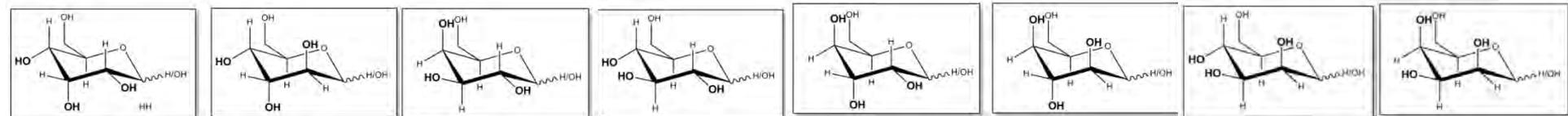
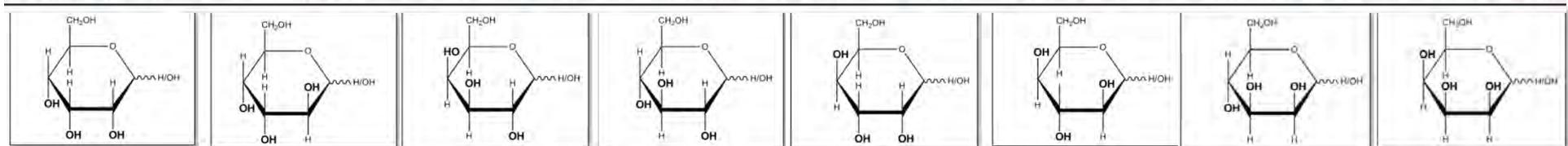
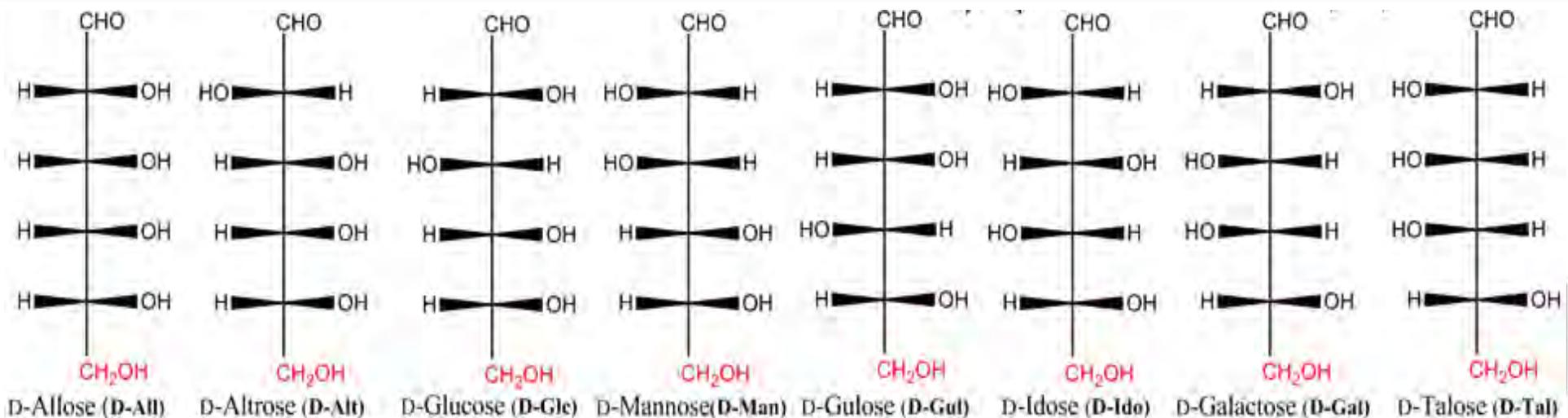


4 Gt C fossil oil extracted / year





# Evolution of the Depiction of Monosaccharides



Fischer assigned the dextrorotatory glucose (via glucaric acid) the projection with the OH group at C5 pointing to the right. But the absolute configuration was established in 1951 (Bijvoet) by X-ray crystallography

# Symbol Nomenclature for Graphical Representation of Glycans (2015), *Glycobiology*, 25, 1323-1324

Hexose	Glc 	Man 	Gal 	Gul 	Alt 	All 	Tal 	Ido 	
HexNAc	GlcNAc 	ManNAc 	GalNAc 	GulNAc 	AltNAc 	AllNAc 	TalNAc 	IdoNAc 	
Hexosamine	GlcN 	ManN 	GalN 	GulN 	AltN 	AllN 	TalN 	IdoN 	
Hexuronate	GlcA 	ManA 	GalA 	GulA 	AltA 	AltA 	TalA 	IdoA 	
DeoxyHexose	Qui 	Rha 			6dAltA 		6dTal 		Fuc 
Deoxy HexNAc	QuiNAc 	RhaNAc 							FucNAc 
Dideoxy Hexose	Oli 	Tyv 		Abe 	Par 	Dig 	Col 		
Pentose		Ara 	Lyx 	Xyl 	Rib 				
Nonulosonate		Kdn 				Neu5Ac 	Neu5Gc 	Neu 	
Assigned (i)	Bac 	ManHep  LD	Kdo 	Dha 	ManHep  DD	MurNAc 	MurNGc 	Mur 	
Assigned (ii)	Api 	Fru 	Tag 	Sor 	Psi 				

# Extending the Symbolic Representation of Monosaccharides



**Residue Letter Name: Rib, Ara, Xyl, Lyx, All, Alt, Glc, Man, Gul, Ido, Gal, Tal,....**

[O-ester and ethers]: (when present) are shown attached to the symbol with a number, e.g.

6Ac for 6-*O*-acetyl group, 3S for 3-*O*-sulfate group

6P for 6-*O*-phosphate group, 6Me for 6-*O*-Methyl group

36Anh for 3,6-anhydro, Pyr for pyruvate group

## Absolute Configuration: D or L

The D-configuration for monosaccharide and the L configuration for Fucose and Idose are implicit and does not appear in the symbol. Otherwise the L configuration, is indicated in the symbol, as in the case of Arabinose or L-Galactose.

For those occurring in the furanose form, a letter *N* or *S* is inserted in the symbol, indicating the northern (*N*) or Southern (*S*) conformation of the five membered ring.

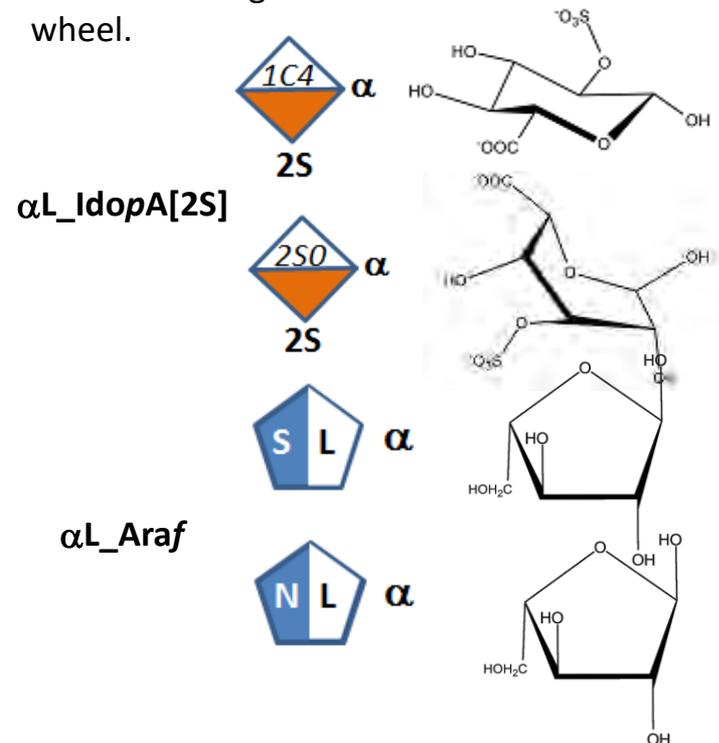
## Anomeric Configuration.

The nature of the glycosidic configuration ( $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ ) is explicitly set within the symbol.

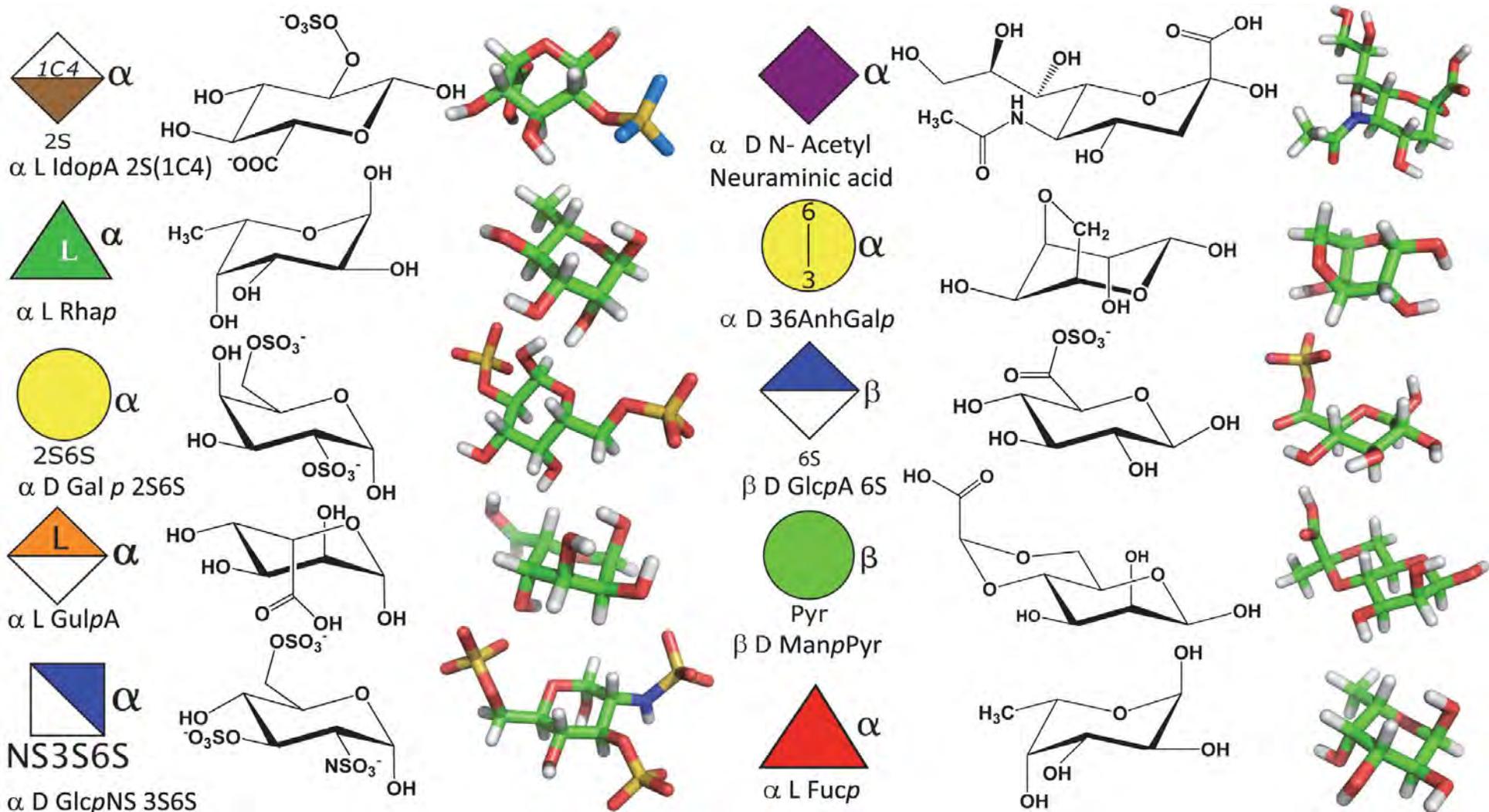
## Ring Conformation.

All pyranoses in the D-configuration are assumed to have  ${}^4C_1$  chair conformation; those in the L configuration are assumed to have  ${}^1C_4$  chair conformation. Otherwise, the ring conformation is indicated in the symbol, as  ${}^2S_0$  in the case of  $\alpha$ -L-Idopyranose.

*N* or *S* indicates the conformation of the five membered rings on the conformational wheel.

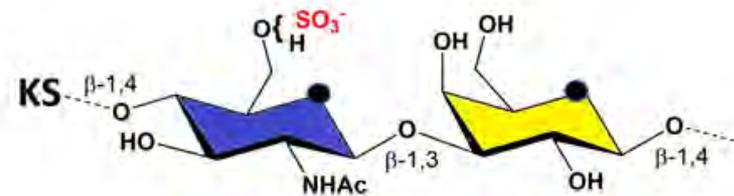
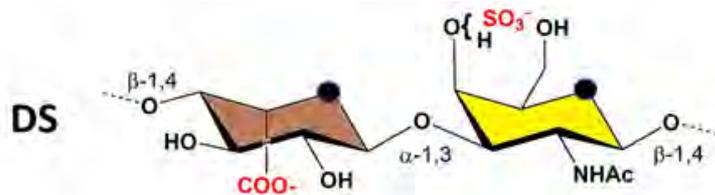
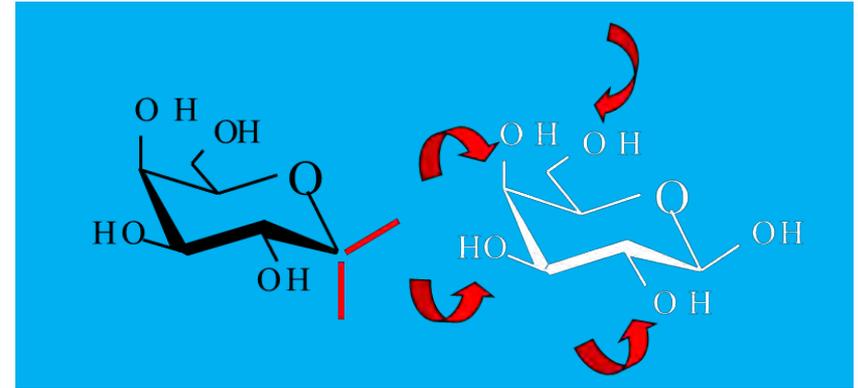


# From Symbol Representation to 3D-Structures



# Disaccharides & Higher Oligosaccharides

- Have a very high number of monomers (substitution...).
- Have many different ways of connecting monomers.
- Have branching points.



All chemical compounds are described with IUPAC, Simplified Molecular Input Line Entry Specification syntax (SMILES), and InChi encodings that are readable by the vast majority of chemo-informatics tools.

Glycans are encoded in GlycoCT,  
WURCS (Web3 Unique Representation of Carbohydrate Structures)  
LINUCS (Linear Notation for Unique description of Carbohydrate Sequences).

# From Monosaccharides to Polysaccharides Through Crystallography

**X-ray** interact with the spatial distribution of Valence electrons.

**Neutrons** are scattered by the atom nuclei.

**Electrons** feel the influence of both the positively charged atomic nuclei and the surrounding electrons.

# Molecular & Crystal Structures of Carbohydrates

## Experimental Conditions and Limitations (X and N)

X-ray and Neutron have wavelengths in the same order as the interatomic distances (Angstrom).

**Electron** are the scattering elements of the incident X-ray

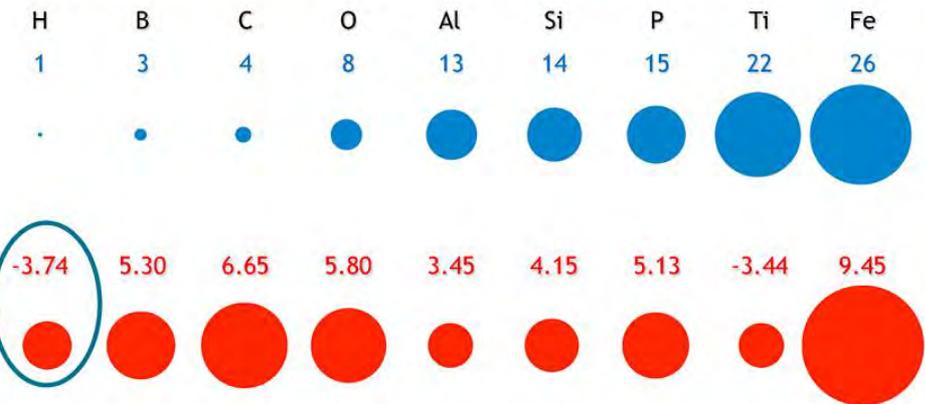
**Nuclei** are the scattering elements of the incident Neutron radiation

X-ray

Scattering proportional to Z

Neutron

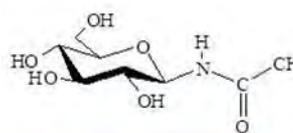
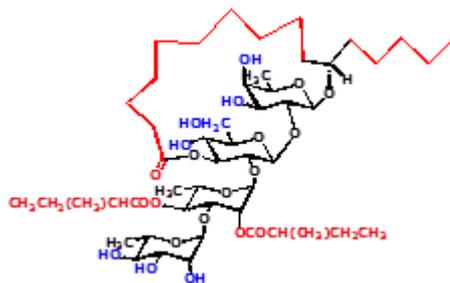
Scattering not proportional to Z



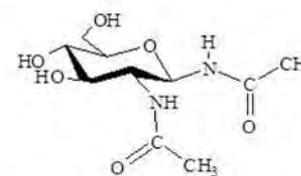
Single crystals usually grown by slow evaporation of saturated solution under well controlled environments

X-ray: Dimensions 0.2 – 0.5 mm / Synchrotron X-ray : 20-30  $\mu\text{m}$

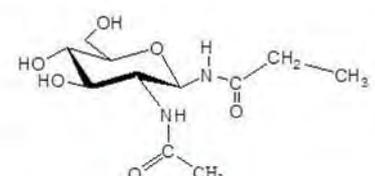
Neutron: Dimensions over 1.0 mm all dimensions



P212121



P21



P21

# Molecular & Crystal Structures of Carbohydrates

## Crystalline Conformations of Oligosaccharides

Cambridge Structural Data Base (CSDB) ~ 4000 entries

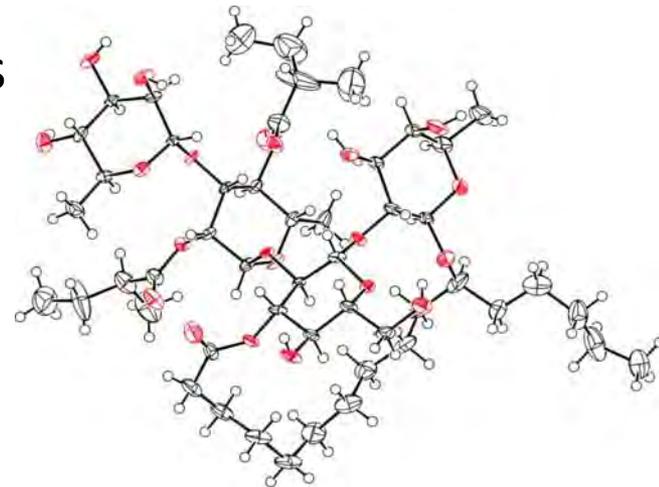
Unsubstituted disaccharides ~ 60 structures

Unsubstituted trisaccharides ~ 30 structures

Unsubstituted tetraccharides < 5 structures

Cyclodextrins & cyclic oligoamyloses : > 300 structures

Difficulty to crystallize oligosaccharides having molecular weight 1000 to 5000



# Molecular & Crystal Structures of Carbohydrates

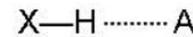
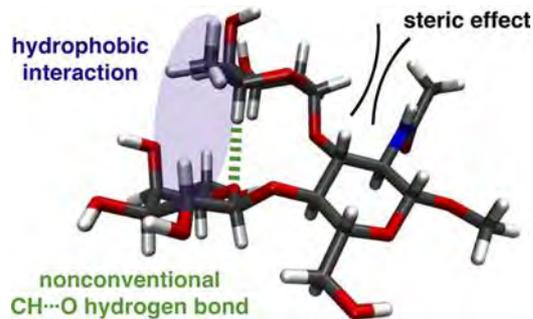
## Hydrogen Bonding in Crystalline Oligosaccharides

Analysis of high accurate X-ray analysis – Neutron diffraction

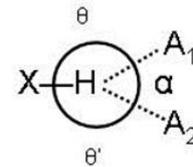
$$dX-dN = (C-H) = -0.096(7)$$

$$dX-dN = (O-H) = -0.155(10)$$

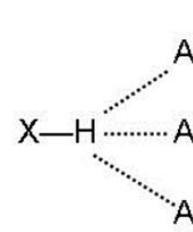
### CHO bonds



$$X-H \cdots A \sim 160^\circ \pm 20^\circ$$



$$\alpha + \theta + \theta' \sim 360^\circ$$



$$X-H \cdots A_1 > 90^\circ$$

$$X-H \cdots A_2 > 90^\circ$$

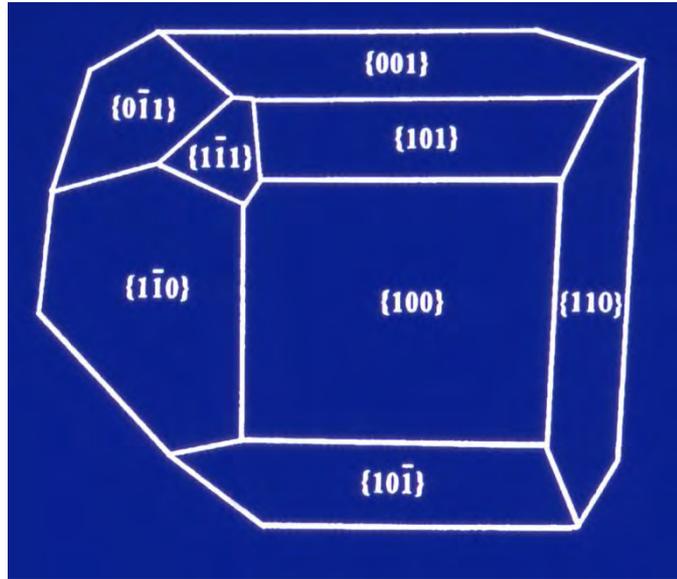
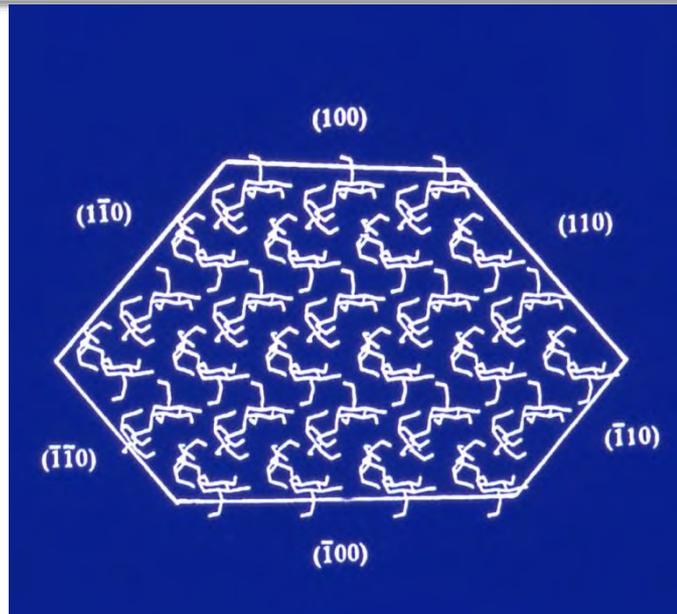
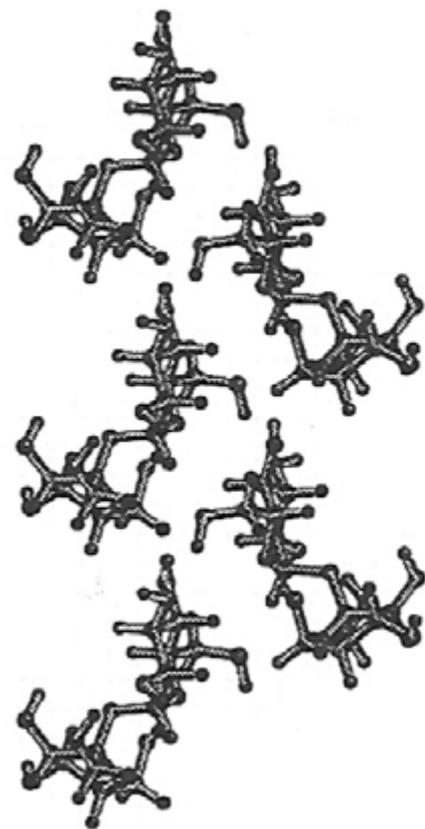
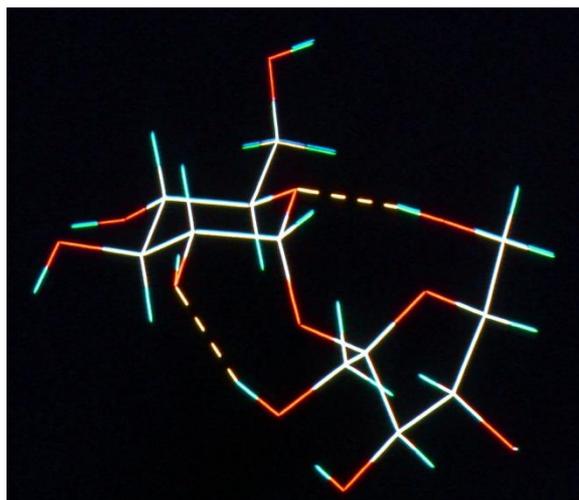
$$X-H \cdots A_3 > 90^\circ$$

Maximize the Hydrogen Bond interactions throughout the participation of all hydroxyl groups and as many rings oxygen. Two and three-centered bonds

Maximize cooperativity by forming as many finite and infinite chains of hydrogen bonds as possible.

# Molecular & Crystal Structures of Carbohydrates

## Packing Features



# Molecular & Crystal Structures of Carbohydrates

## Powder Diffraction

1. Identification of Crystalline Polymorphs
2. Solving Crystal Structures – Rietveld Method + Molecular Modelling

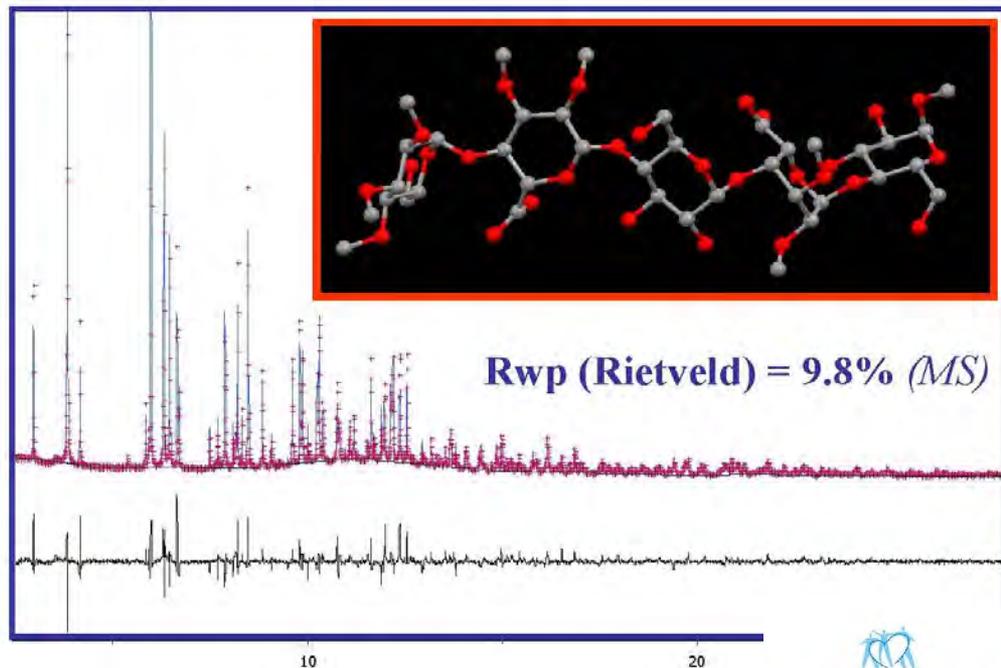


Synthetic Pentasaccharide

ID31@ESRF,  $\lambda = 0.8 \text{ \AA}$

Monoclinic  $P2_1$

$a=15.54$ ,  $b=8.83$ ;  $c=17.67$ ,  $\beta=94.6$



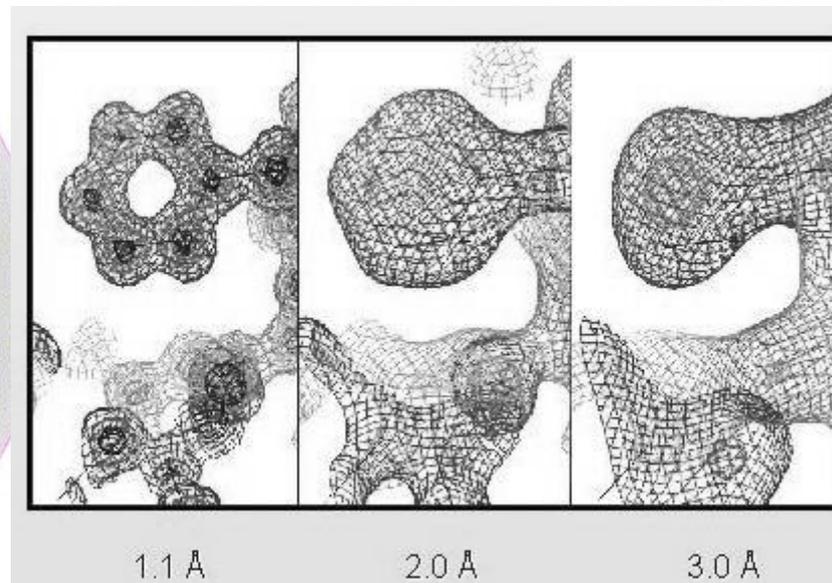
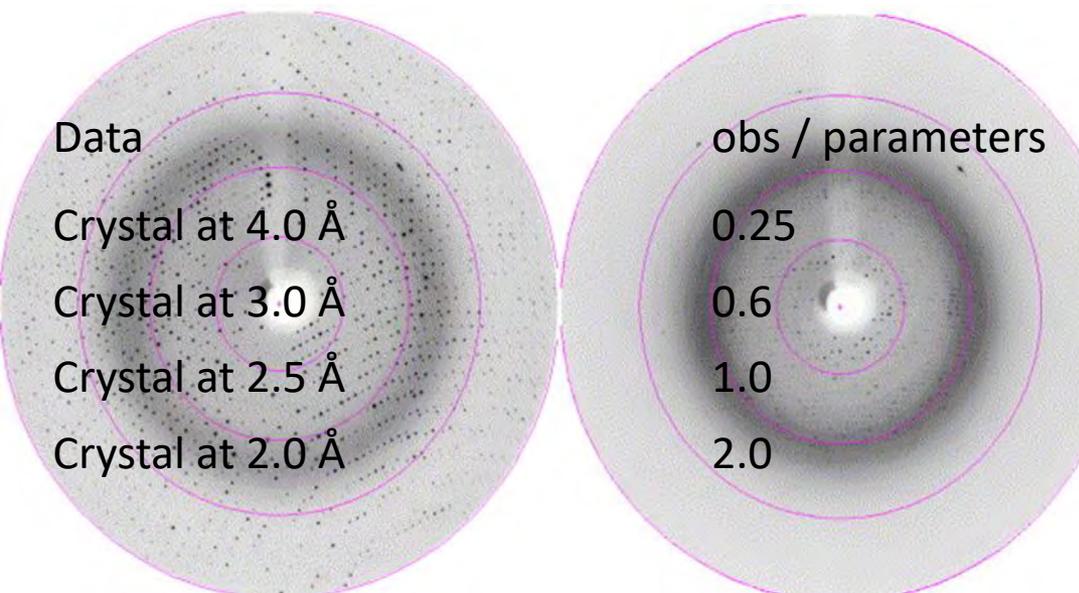
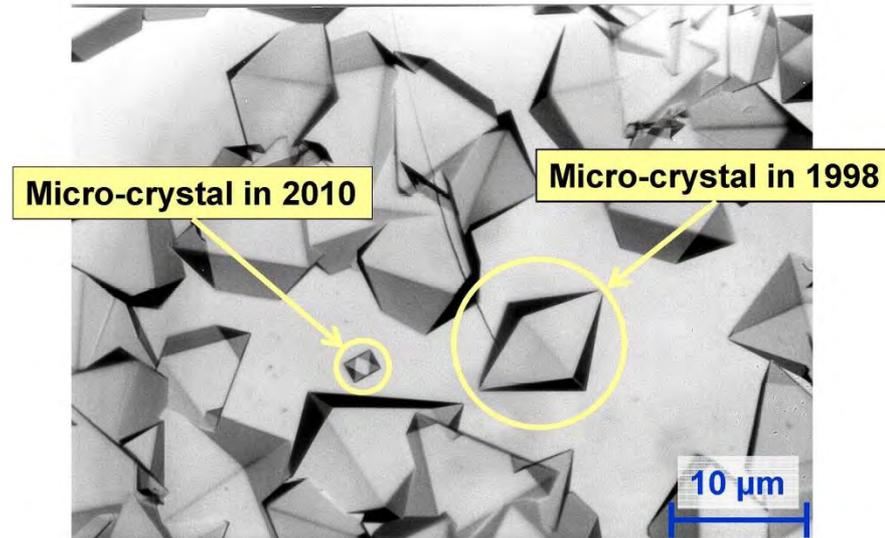
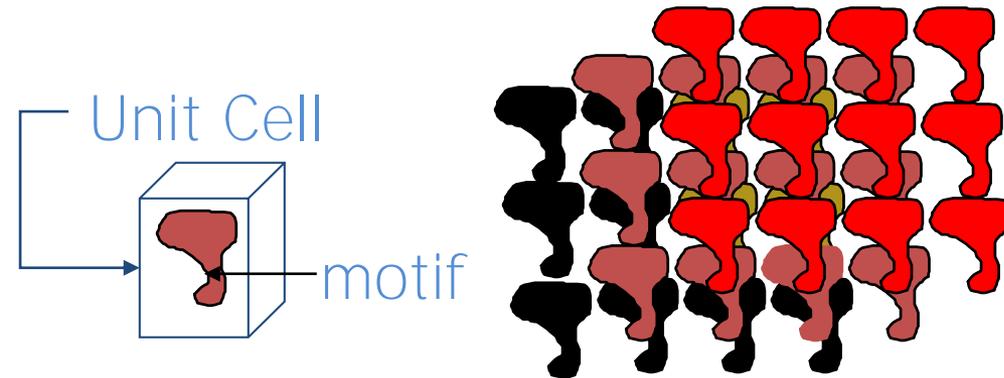
$R_{wp} \text{ (Rietveld)} = 9.8\% \text{ (MS)}$

10

20

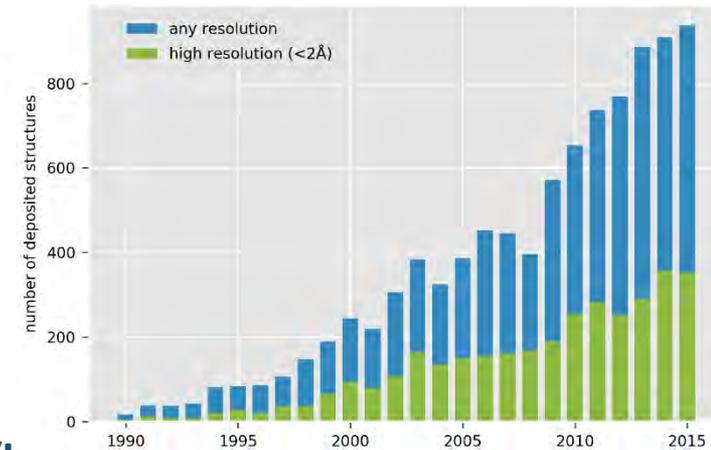
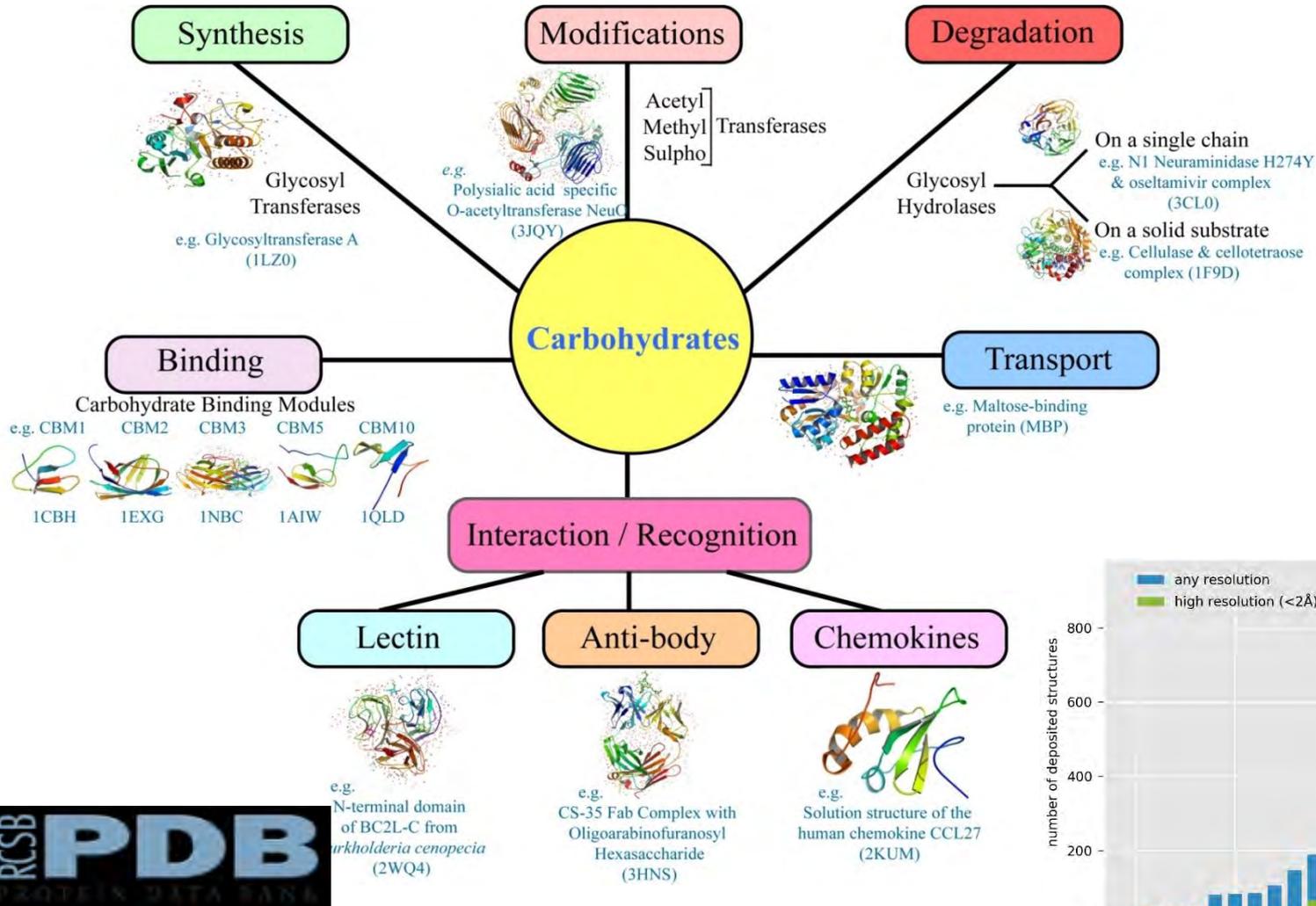
# Crystalline Conformations of Oligosaccharides in Proteins

## Experimental Conditions and Limitations



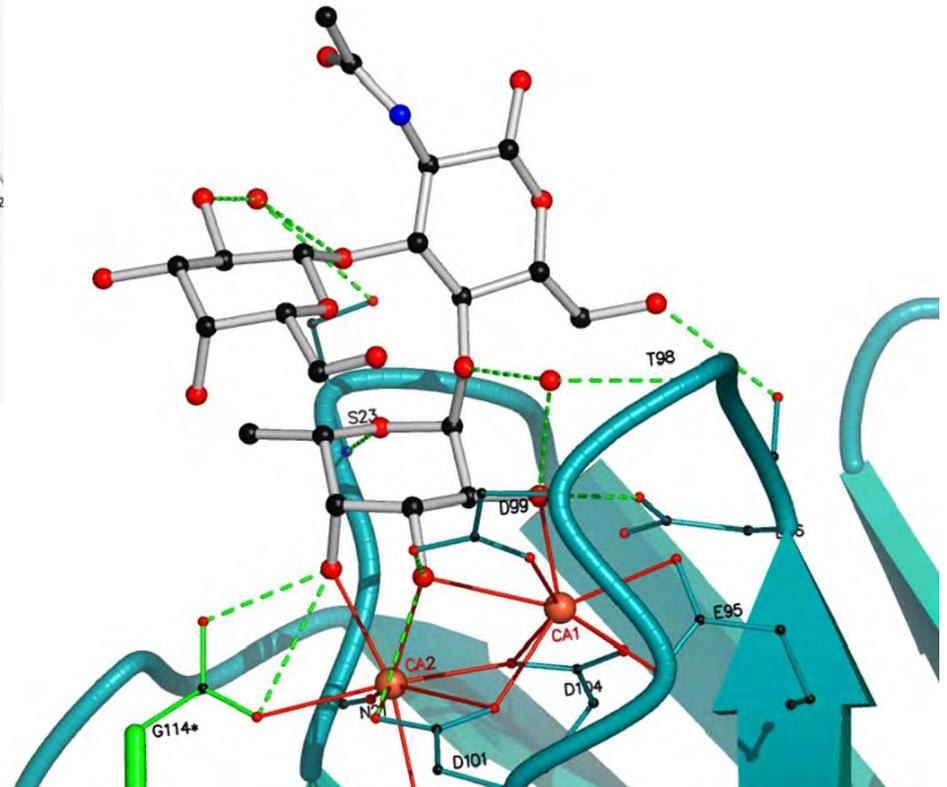
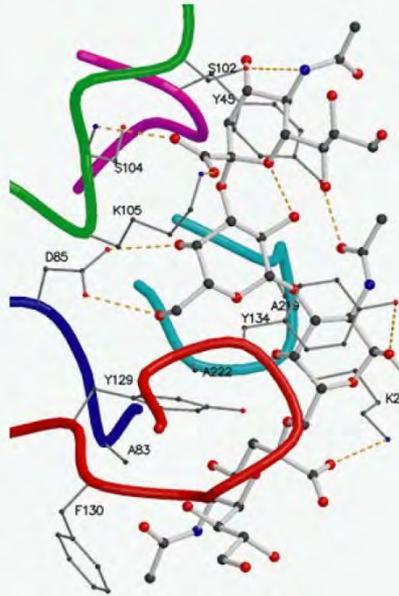
# Protein-Carbohydrate Crystal Structures

## Protein-Carbohydrate Interactions



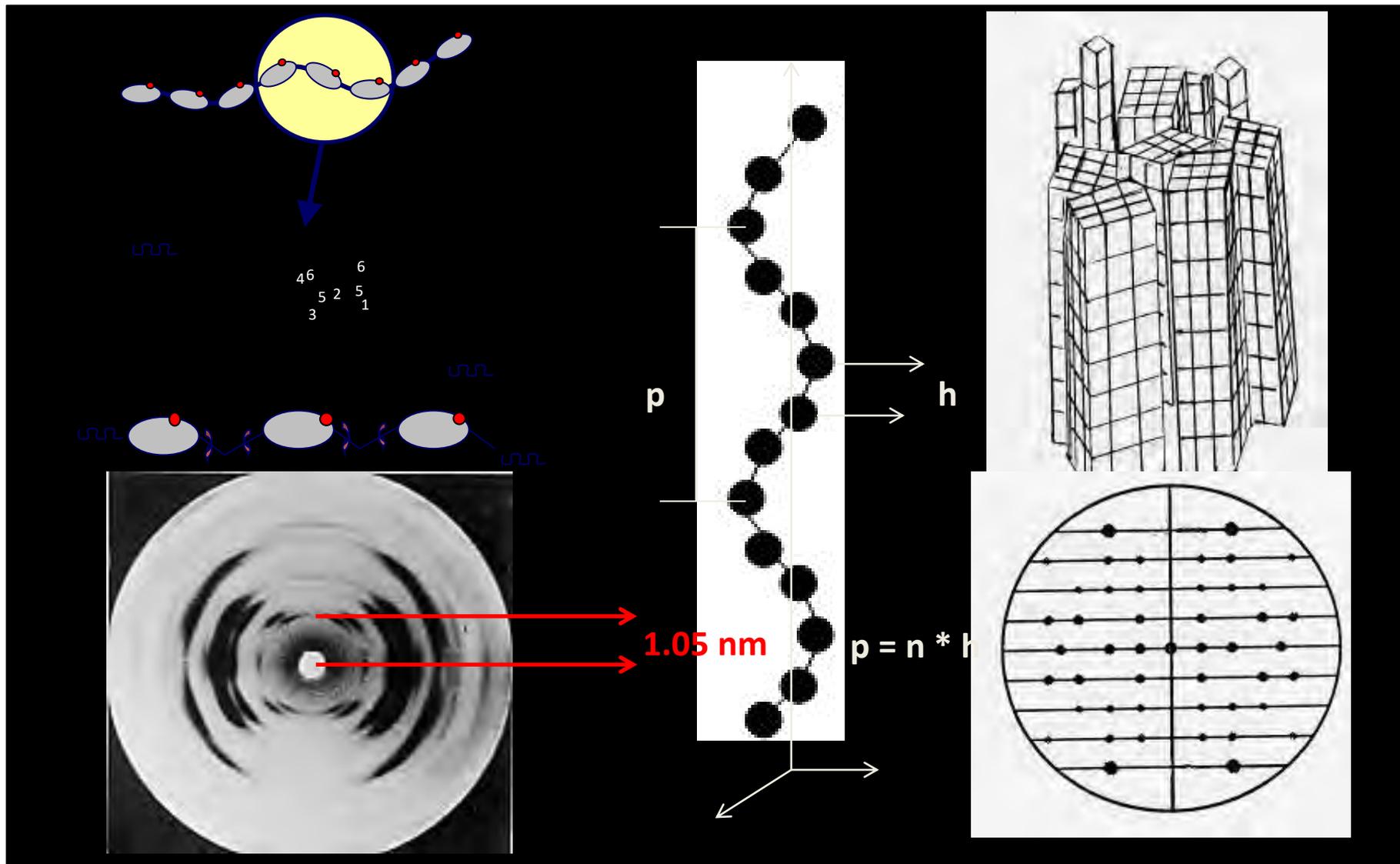
# Crystalline Conformations of Oligosaccharides in Proteins

## Oligosaccharides -Lectin Complexes



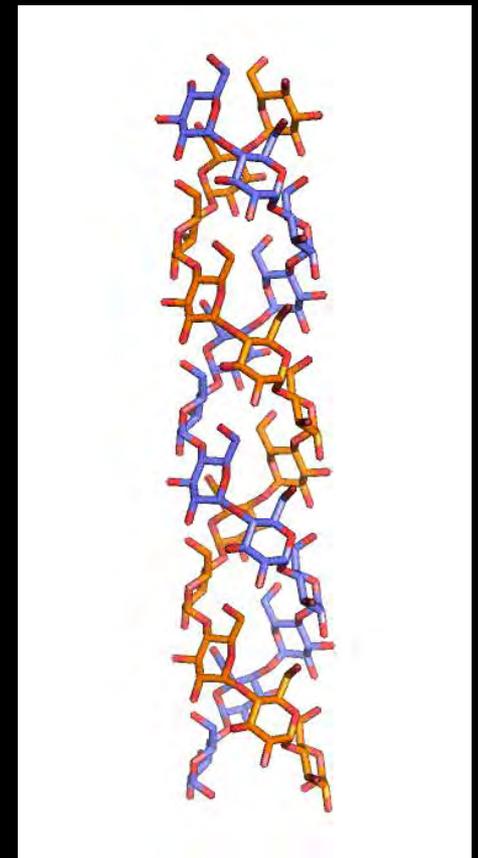
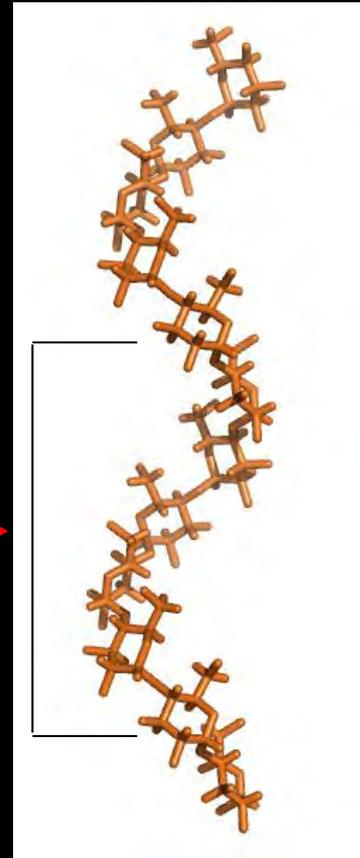
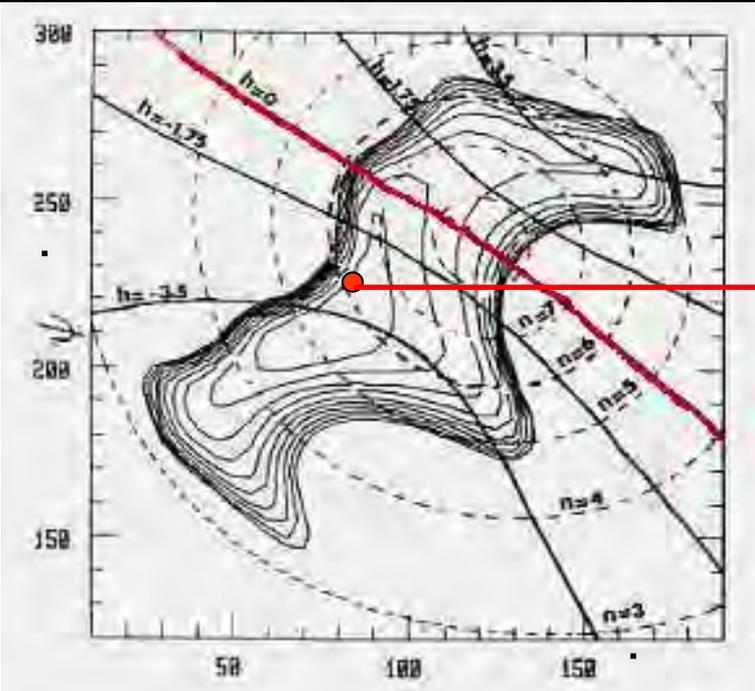
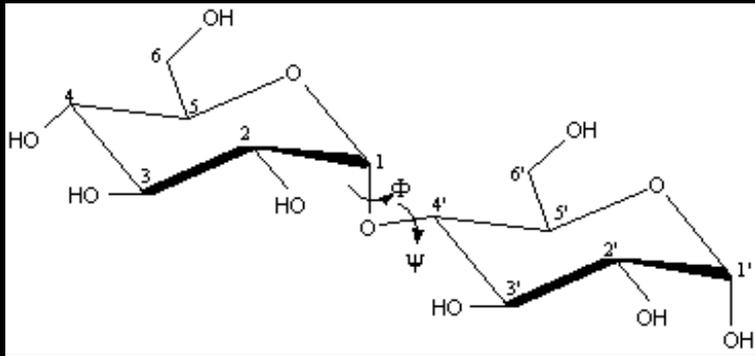
# Crystalline Conformations of Polysaccharides

## X-Ray Fiber Diffraction of Polysaccharides



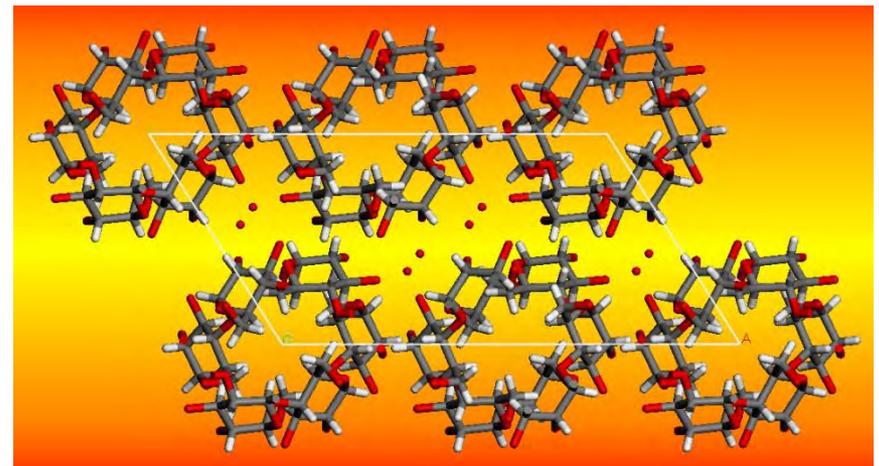
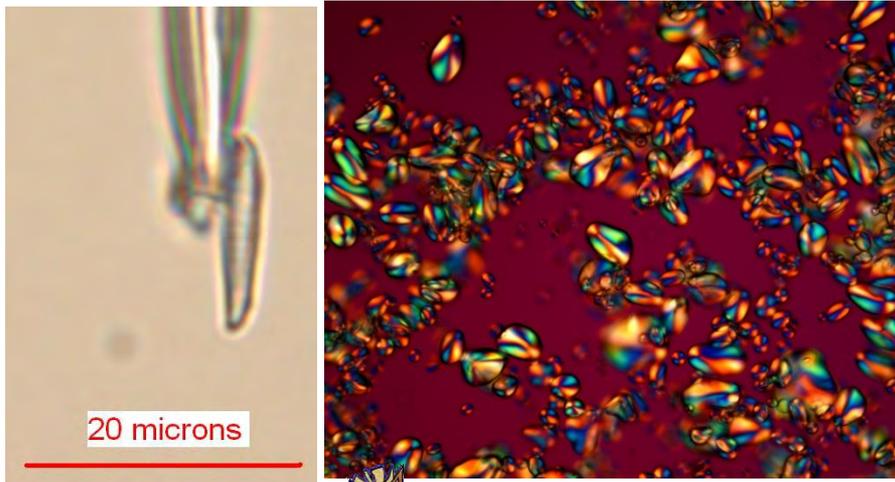
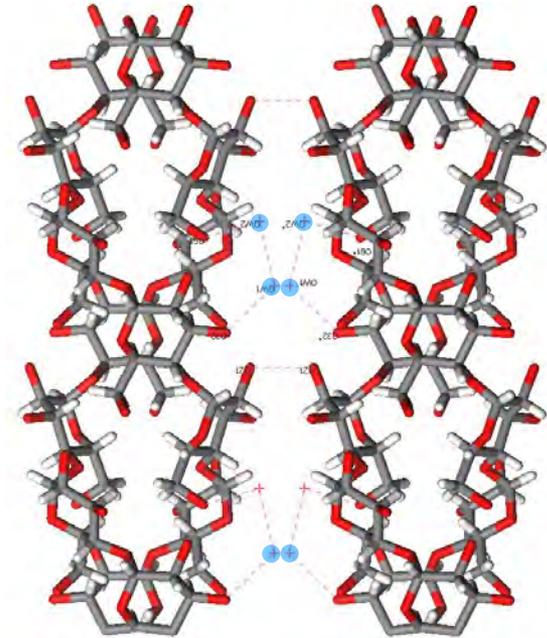
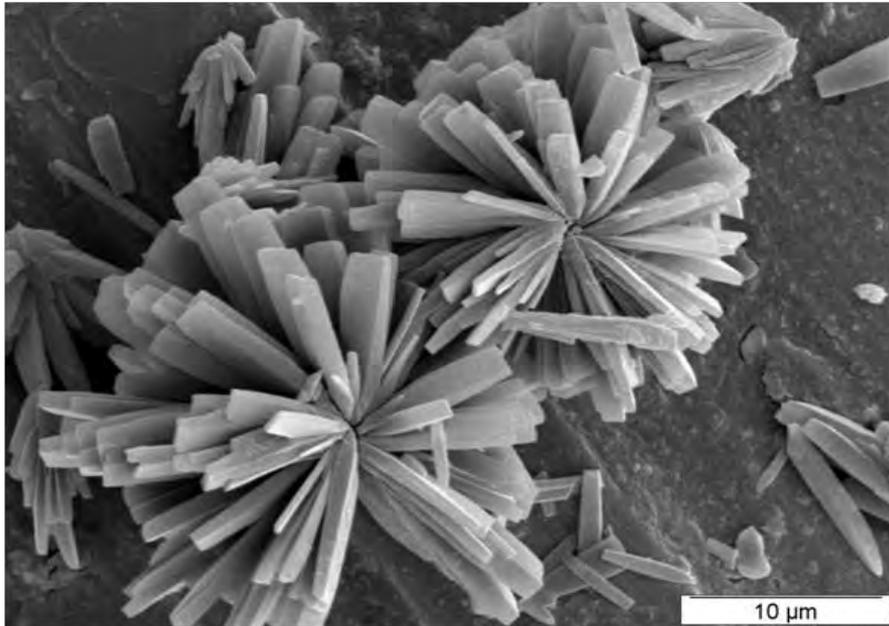
# Crystalline Conformations of Polysaccharides

## X-Ray Fiber Diffraction of Polysaccharides



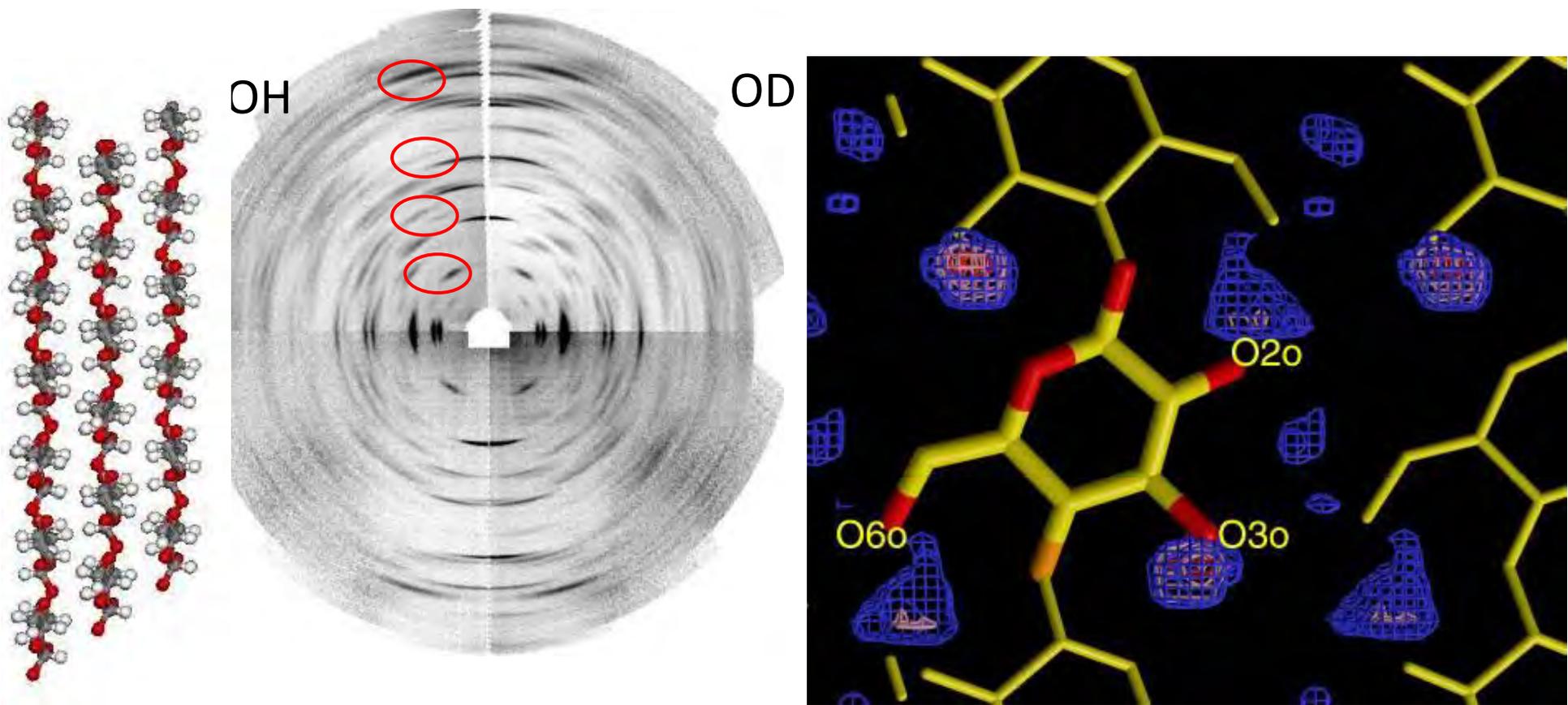
# Crystalline Conformations of Polysaccharides

## Synchrotron X-Ray Diffraction of Polysaccharides



# Crystalline Conformations of Polysaccharides

X-Ray Fiber Diffraction using Synchrotron and Neutron Radiations



# Crystalline Conformations of Polysaccharides

## Electron Diffraction of Polysaccharides

**Electrons are charged particles** and interact with matter through the Coulomb forces. The incident electrons feel the influence of both the positively charged atomic nuclei and the surrounding electrons.

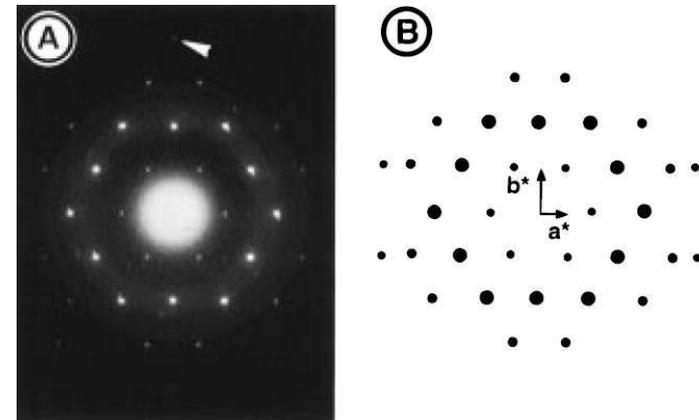
Electron diffraction of solids is usually performed in a **Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM)** where the electrons pass through a thin film of the material to be studied. The resulting diffraction pattern is then observed on a fluorescent screen, recorded on photographic film, on imaging plates or using a CCD camera.

**ED is subjected to several important limitations.**

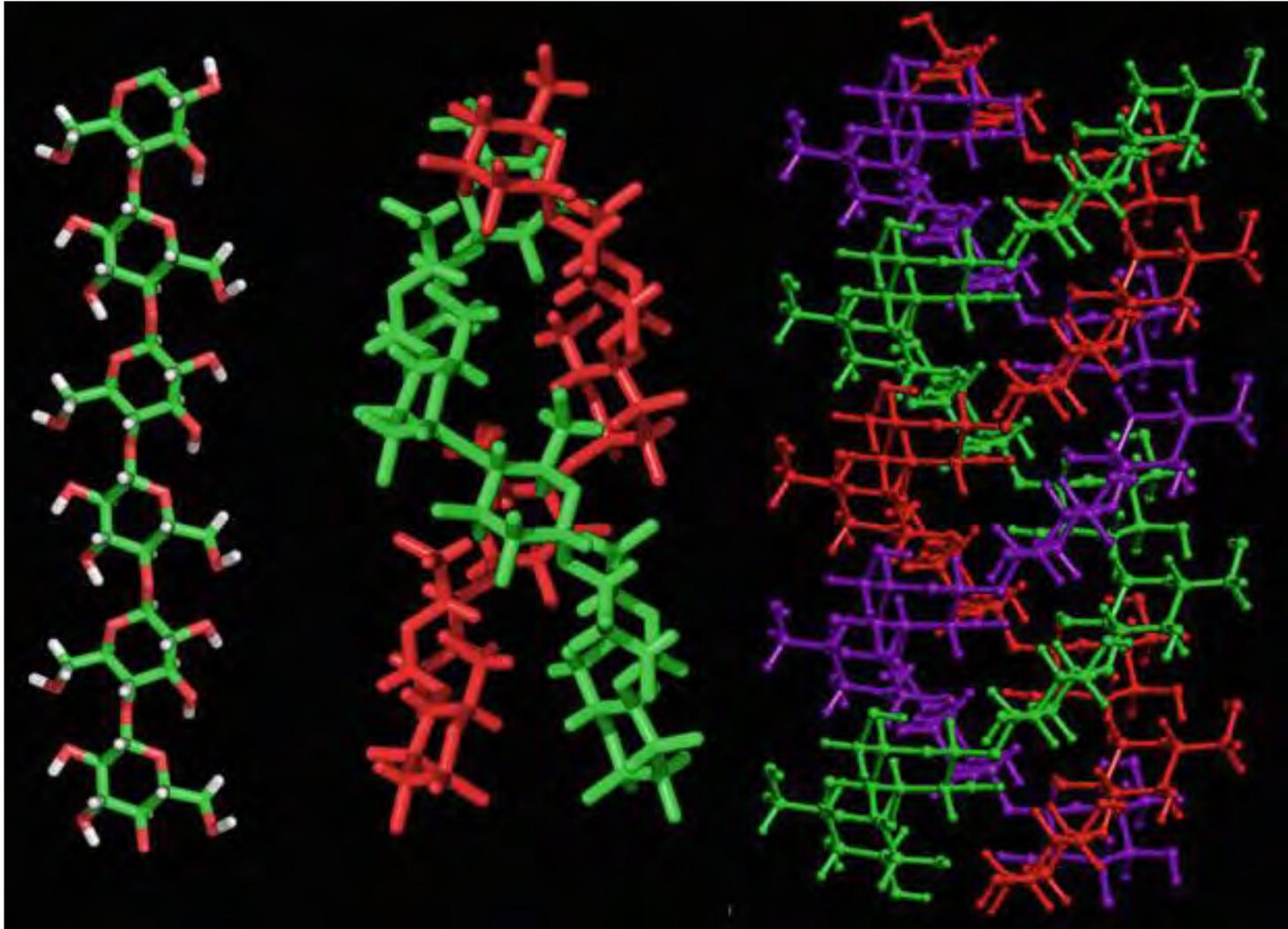
The sample must be electron transparent, i.e. the sample thickness must be of the order of 100 nm or less.

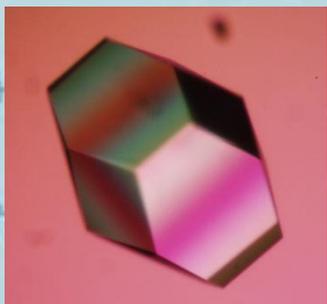
Need careful and time consuming sample preparation.

Many samples are vulnerable to radiation damage caused by the incident electrons.



# Helical Structures of Polysaccharides

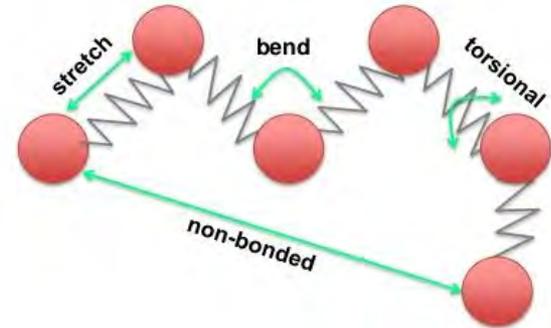
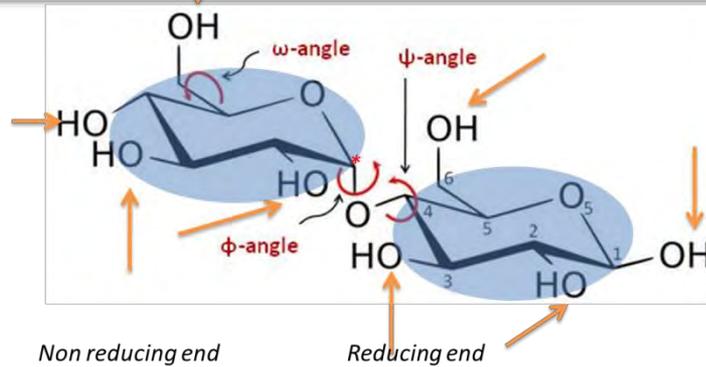




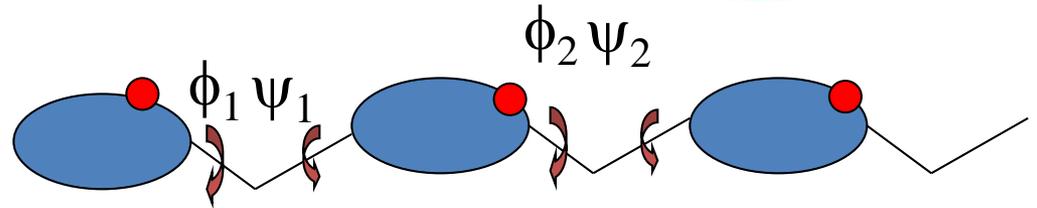
**From *in cubo*  
to  
*in silico***



# Conformational Space of Oligosaccharides



## Combinatorial building



## Assumption:

Because of the bulky and (almost) rigid nature of the monosaccharide unit, the conformation of each linkage is independent on the other

## Methods :

Combine the lowest energy minima of each disaccharide map

## Not true for

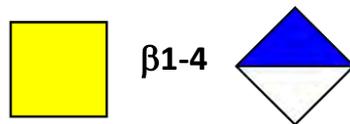
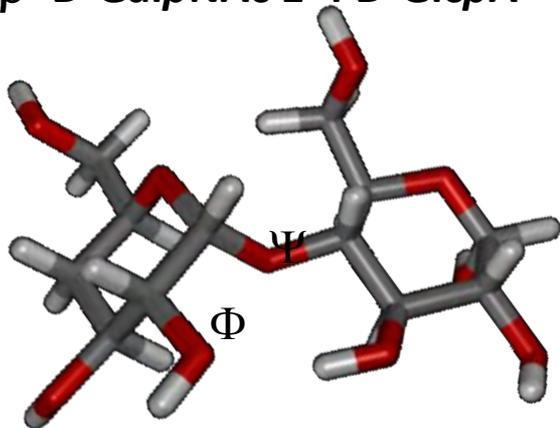
- long range interactions
- branched structures

....

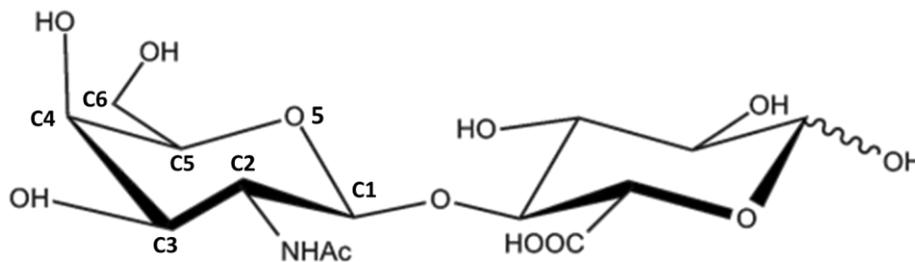
**But very useful for building starting structures!**

# Disaccharide: Structural Descriptors

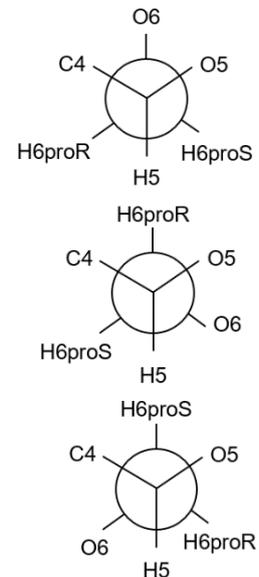
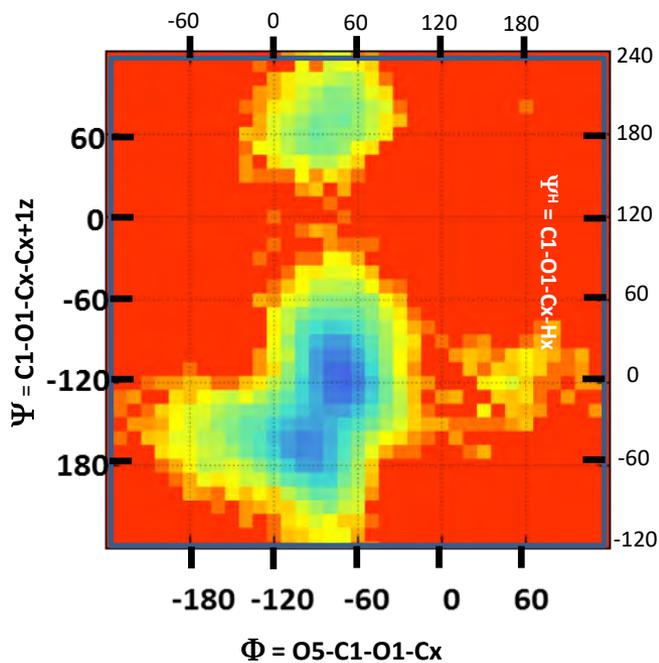
$\beta$ -D-GalpNAc 1-4 D-GlcpA



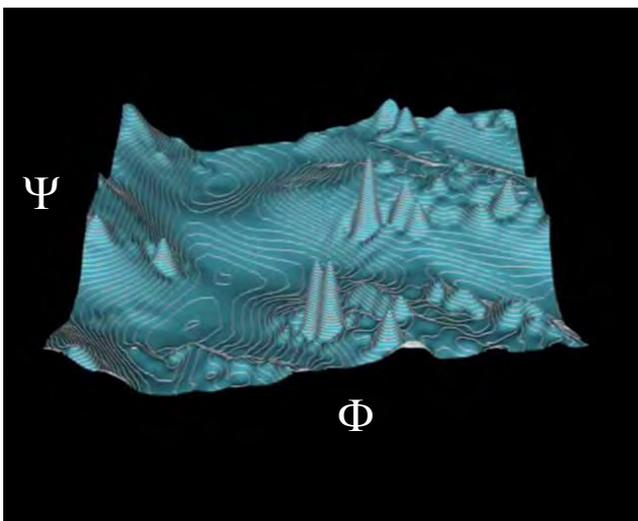
GalpNAc  $\beta$ 1-4 GlcpA



$\Phi^H = H1-C1-O1-Cx$



- $(\Phi, \Psi) = -80; -120$
- $(\Phi, \Psi) = -100; -160$
- $(\Phi, \Psi) = -90; 70$
- $(\Phi, \Psi) = 60; -120$



# Molecular Mechanics / Dynamics

Initial positions given by the PDB

Initial velocities determined based on a Boltzmann distribution of velocities at the target temperature

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{a} = -\frac{dU}{dr}$$

New positions and velocities through integration

MD run → trajectory

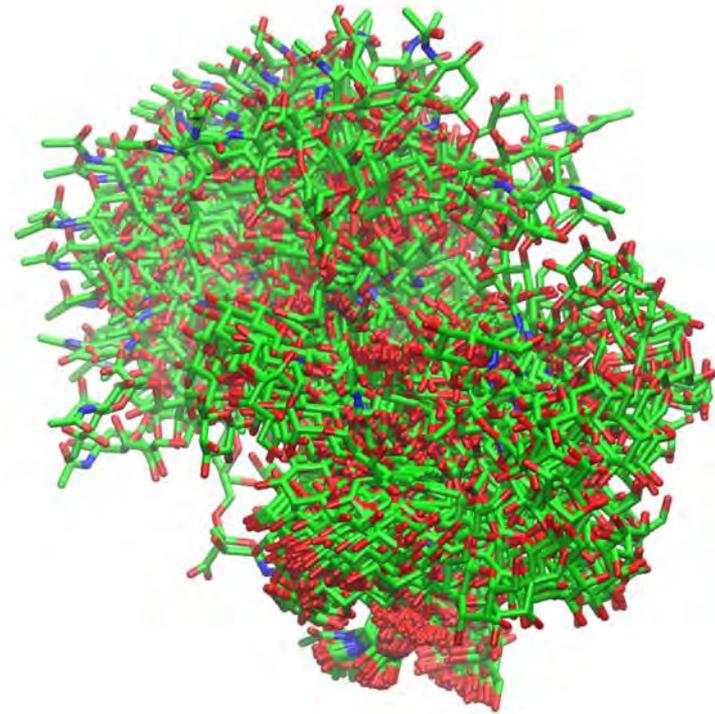
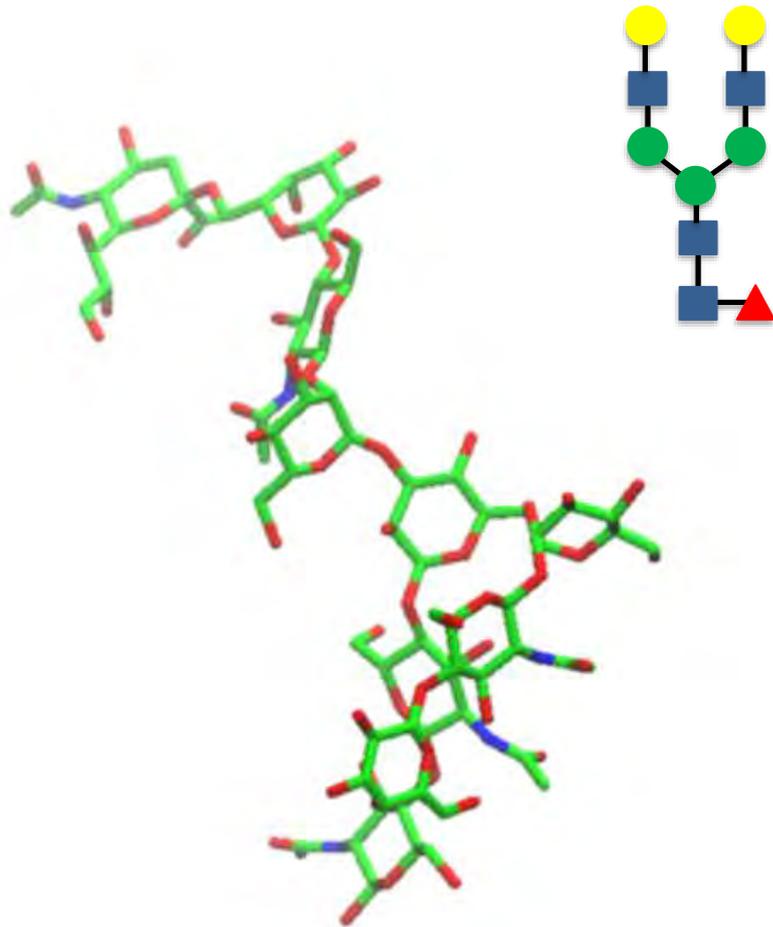
## THE FORCE FIELD

$$v^{\text{Coulomb}}(r) = \frac{Q_1 Q_2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r},$$

$$v^{\text{LJ}}(r) = 4\epsilon \left[ \left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^{12} - \left(\frac{\sigma}{r}\right)^6 \right].$$

$$\begin{aligned} U_{\text{intramolecular}} = & \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{bonds}} k_{ij}^r (r_{ij} - r_{\text{eq}})^2 \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{bend angles}} k_{ijk}^\theta (\theta_{ijk} - \theta_{\text{eq}})^2 \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{torsion angles}} \sum_m k_{ijkl}^{\phi, m} (1 + \cos(m\phi_{ijkl} - \gamma_m)) \end{aligned}$$

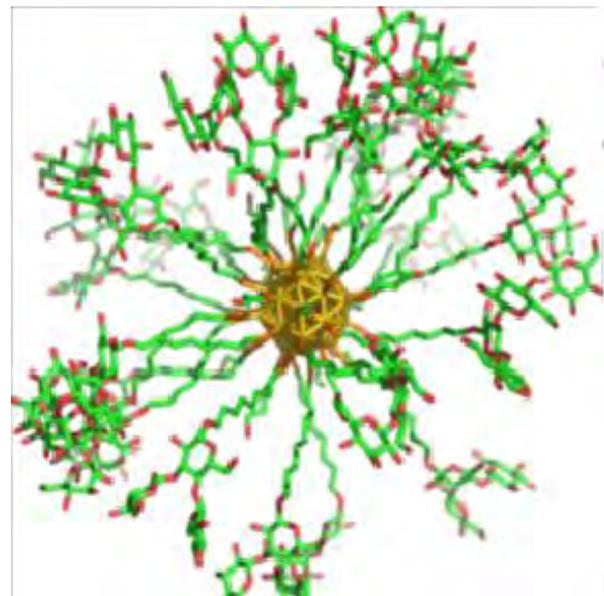
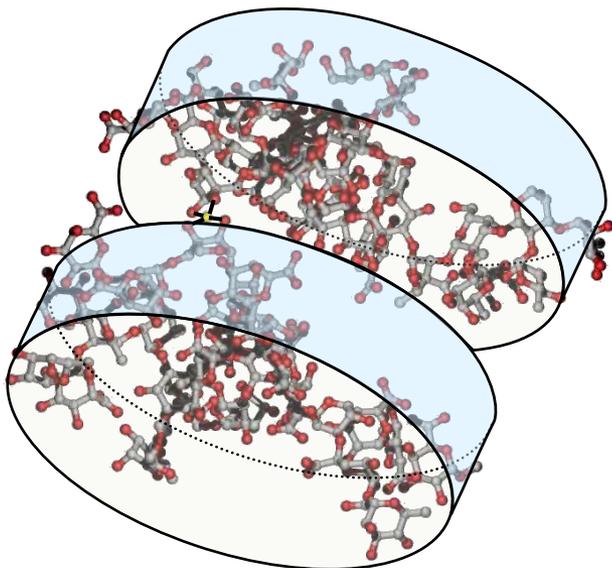
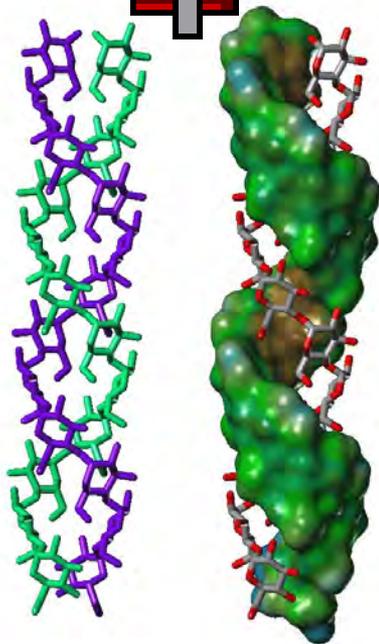
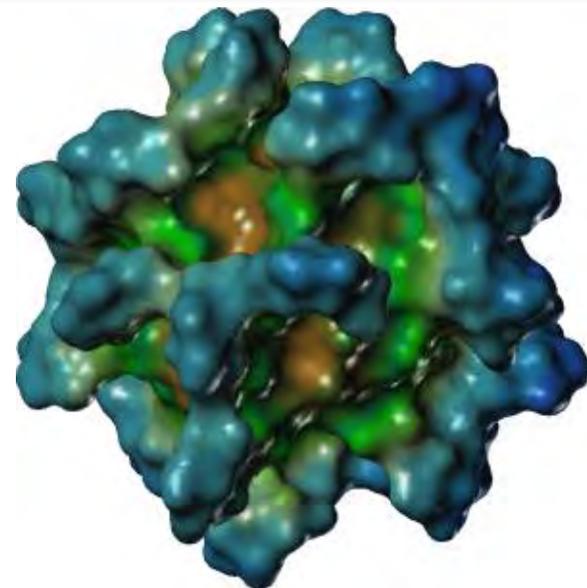
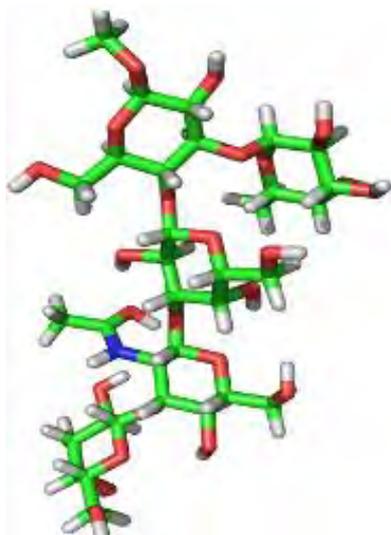
# Glycans Can be Highly Flexible and Dynamic



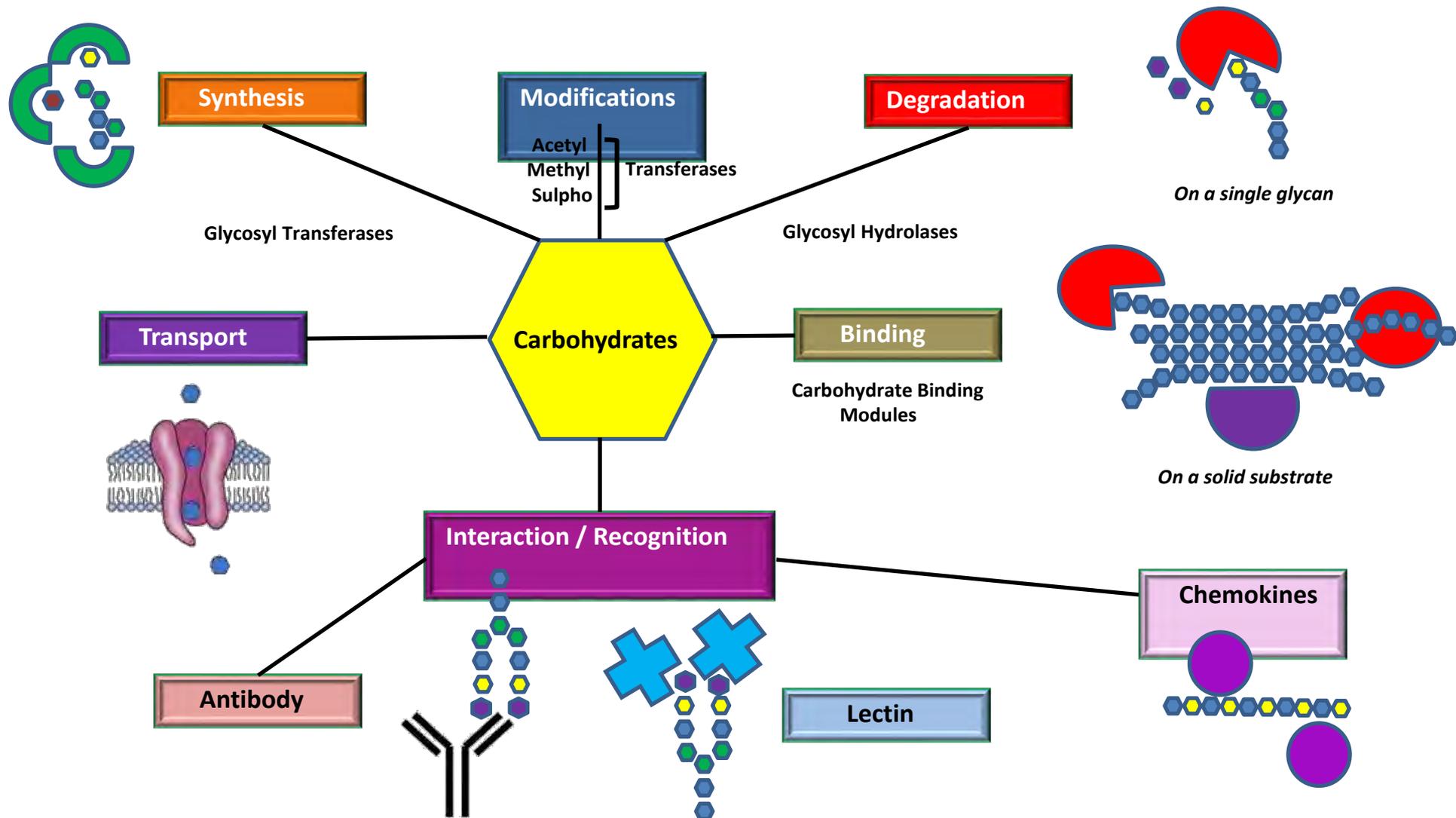
This ensemble of different structures is not necessarily 'a mess' not all possible conformations are allowed or equally populated and some of these conformations may actually be functionally important

250 ns single trajectory

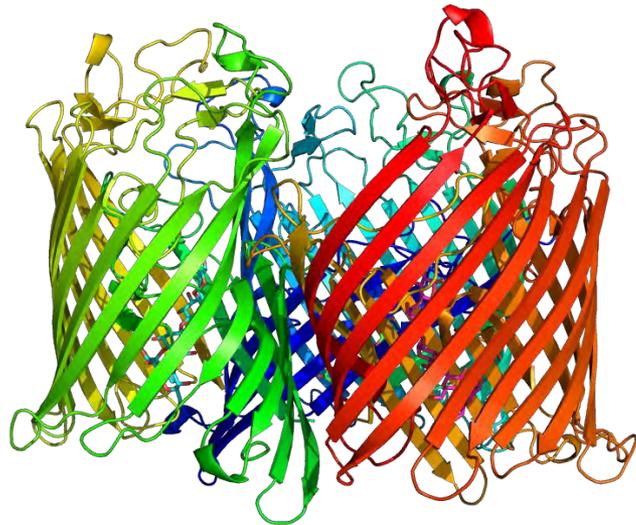
# Molecular Modeling at work



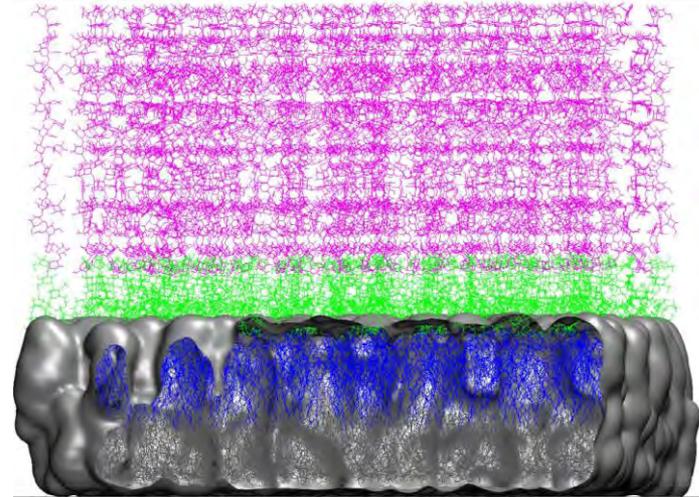
# Glycan Active Proteins



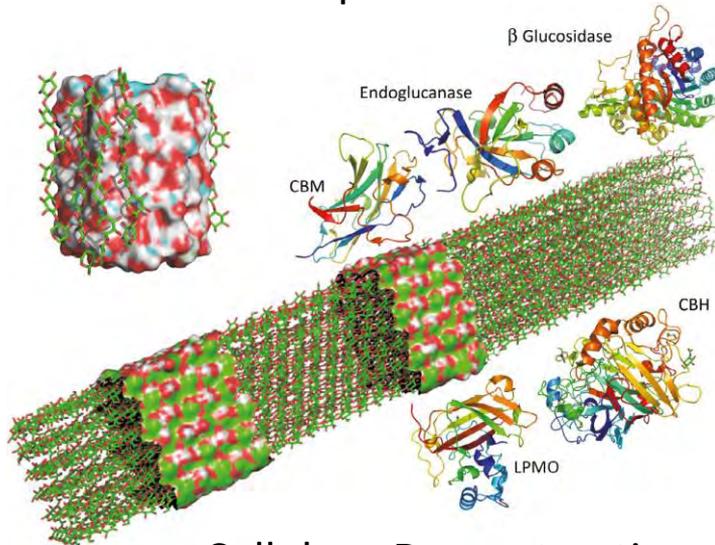
# A Wide Range of Applications



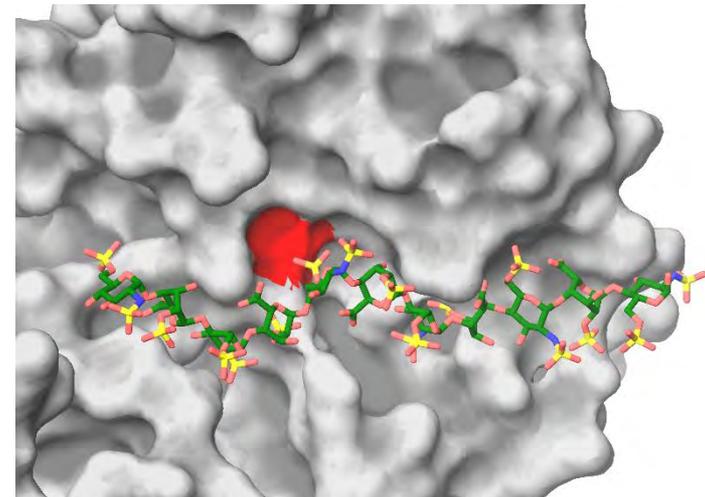
Transport



Lipopolysaccharides



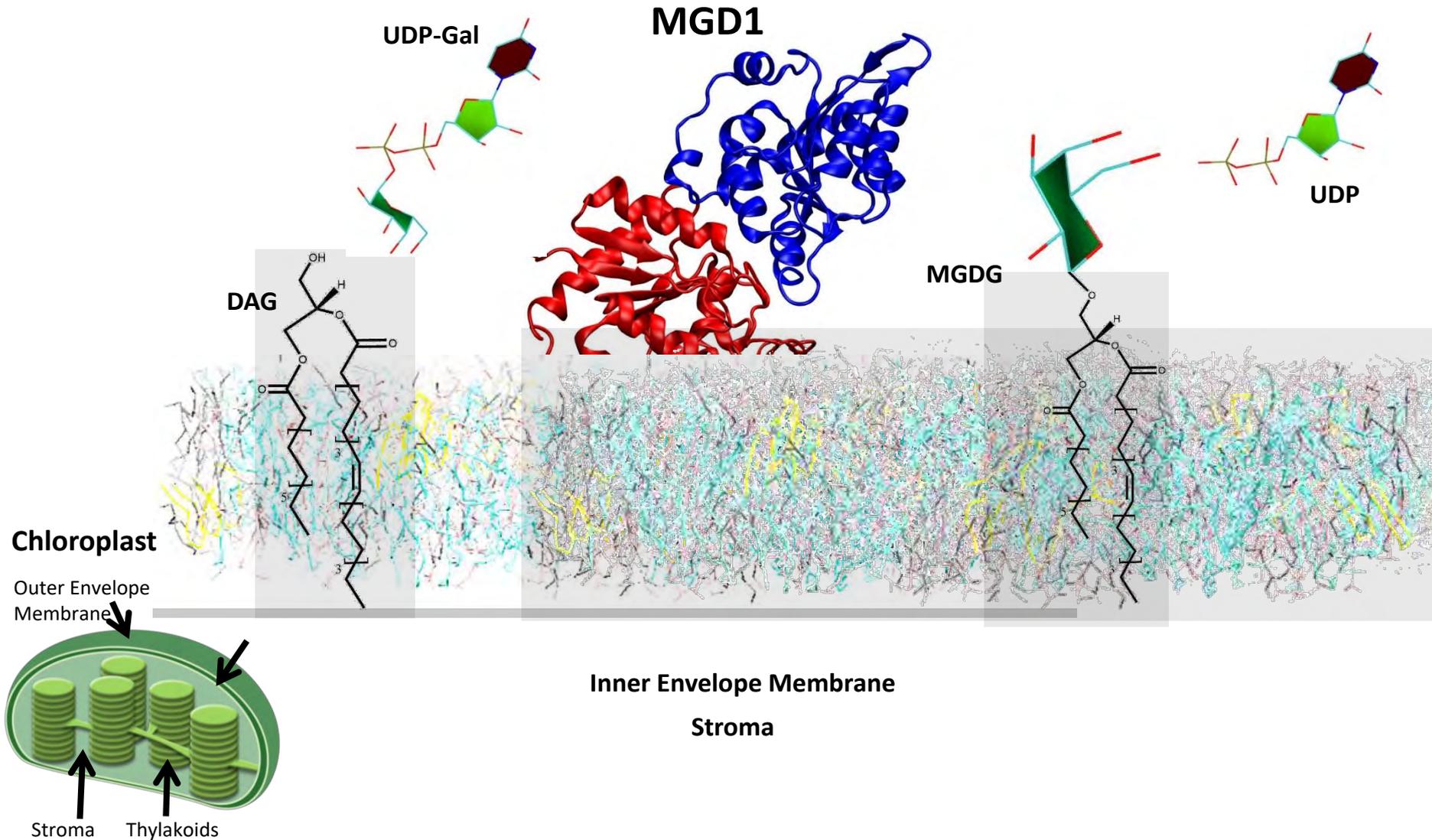
Cellulose Deconstruction

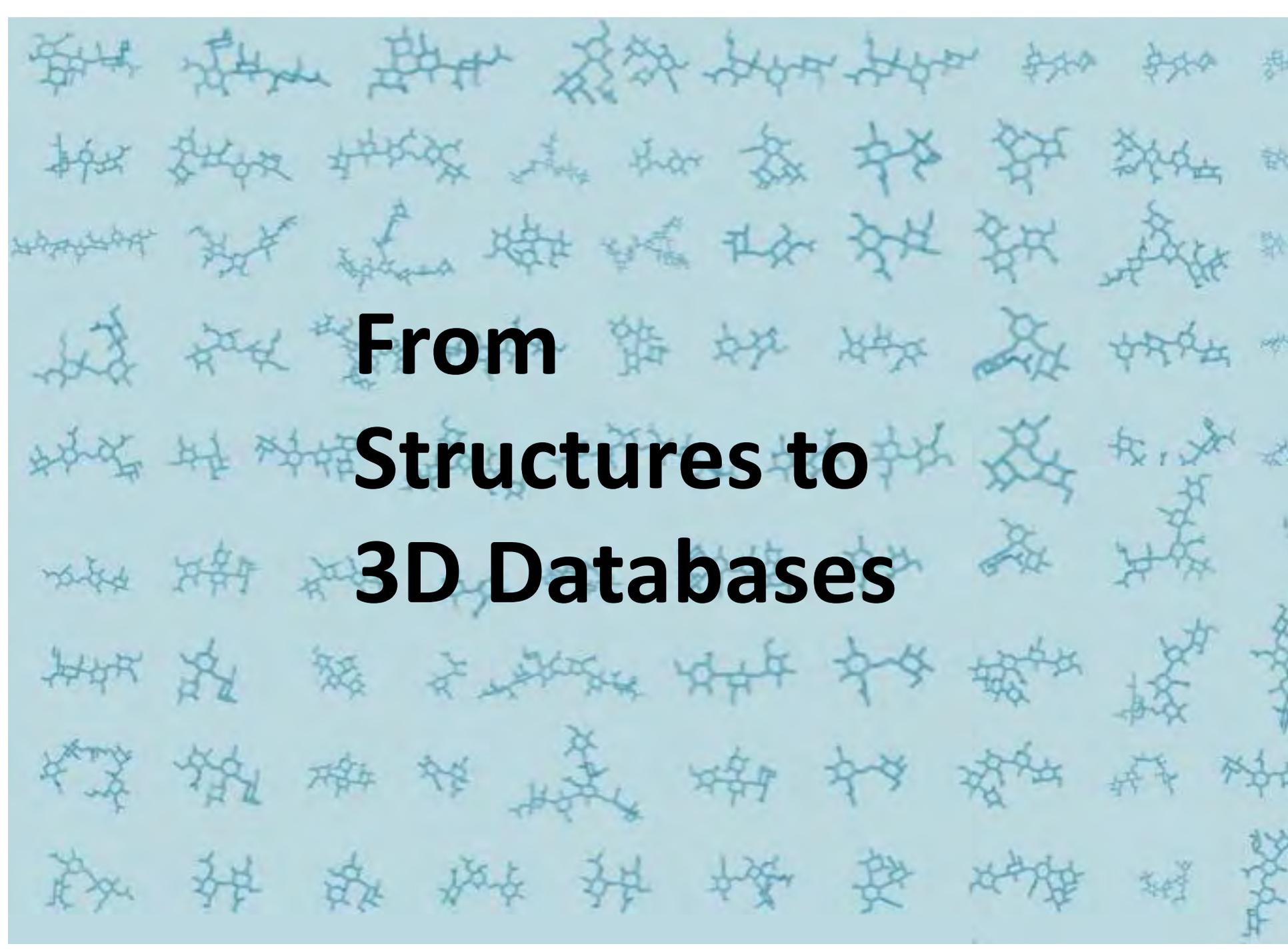


GlycosaminoGlycan Protein  
Interaction



# Membrane Assisted Biosynthesis of Glycolipid

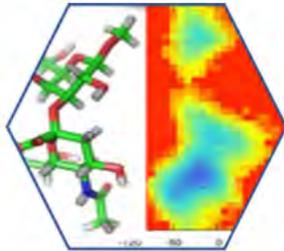


The background of the slide is a light blue grid filled with various chemical structures, likely representing a dataset of molecules. The structures are rendered in a light blue color and are scattered across the entire page, creating a textured, scientific backdrop.

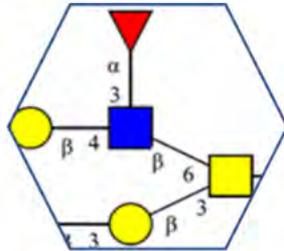
# **From Structures to 3D Databases**

# Glyco3D:<https://glyco3d.cermav.cnrs.fr/home.php>

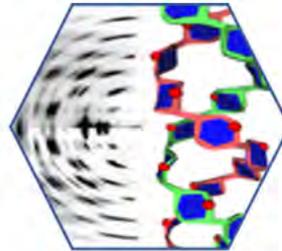
## GLYCO3D 2.0



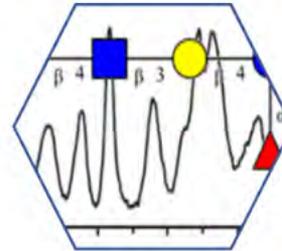
Disac3-DB



BioOligo-DB



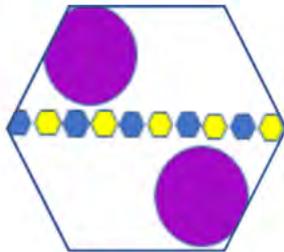
Polysac3-DB



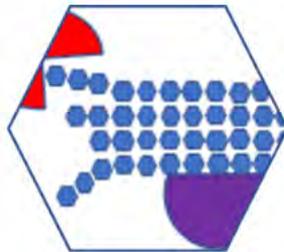
NMR oligo



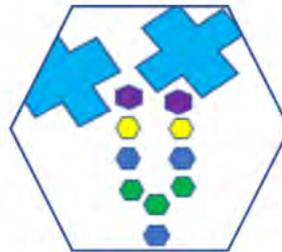
EPS-DB



GAG-DB



CBMcarb-DB



Unilectin



mAbscarb-DB



Polys-Glycan Builder



Monosac-DB

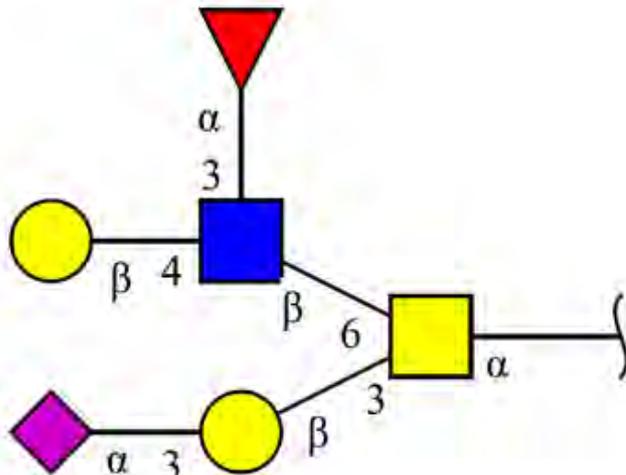
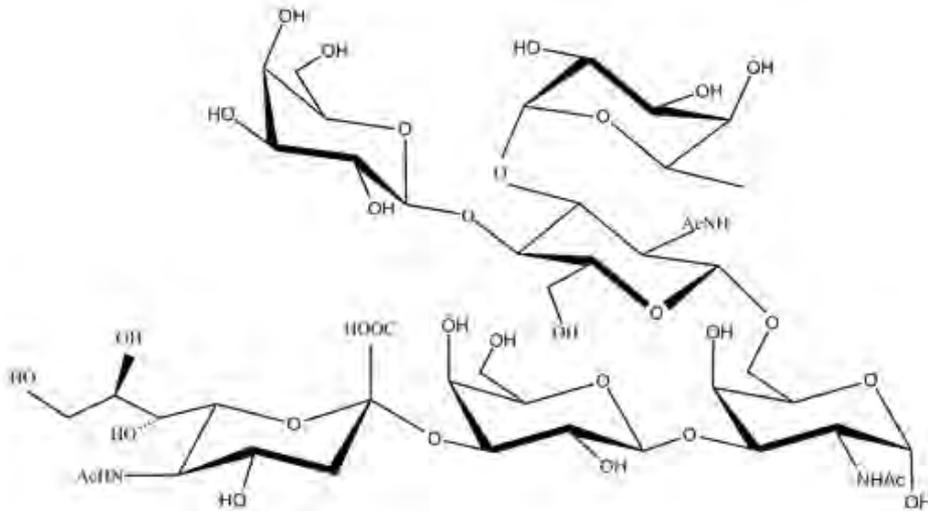


Other tools

# Encoding of Glycan Structures

## Lewis X and Sialyl Acid on Core 2

Neu5Ac a2-3 Gal b1-3 (Gal b1-4 (Fuc a1-3) GlcNAc b1-6) GalNAc



RES

1b:a-dgal-HEX-1:5

2s:n-acetyl

3b:b-dgal-HEX-1:5

4b:a-dgro-dgal-NON-2:6 | 1:a | 2:keto | 3:d

5s:n-acetyl

6b:b-dglc-HEX-1:5

7s:n-acetyl

8b:a-lgal-HEX-1:5 | 6:d

9b:b-dgal-HEX-1:5

LIN

1:1d(2+1)2n

2:1o(3+3)3d

3:3o(3+2)4d

4:4d(5+1)5n

5:1o(6+1)6d

6:6d(2+1)7n

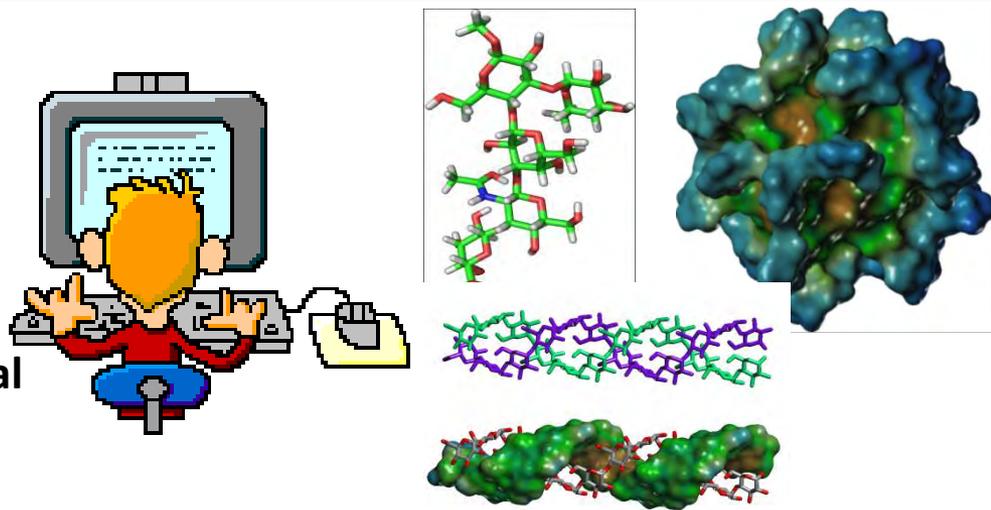
7:6o(3+1)8d

8:6o(4+1)9d

GlycoCT

# e-Glycoscience

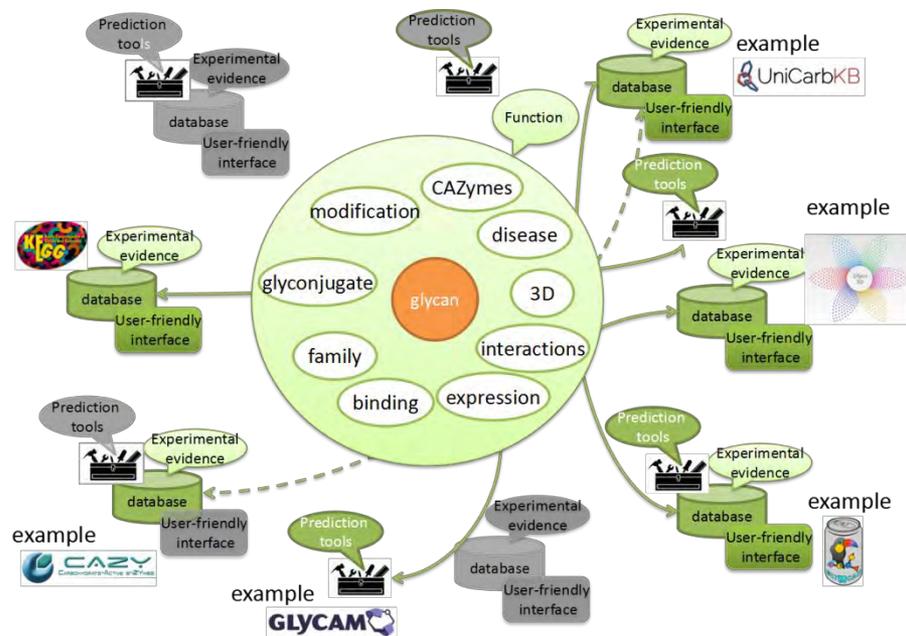
**Continued advances in molecular modeling** has generated insights for understanding glycan structures and properties. Robust, validated informatics tools are developed in to enable accurate and fast determination of complex carbohydrate and glycoconjugate structural prediction, computational modeling, and data mining.



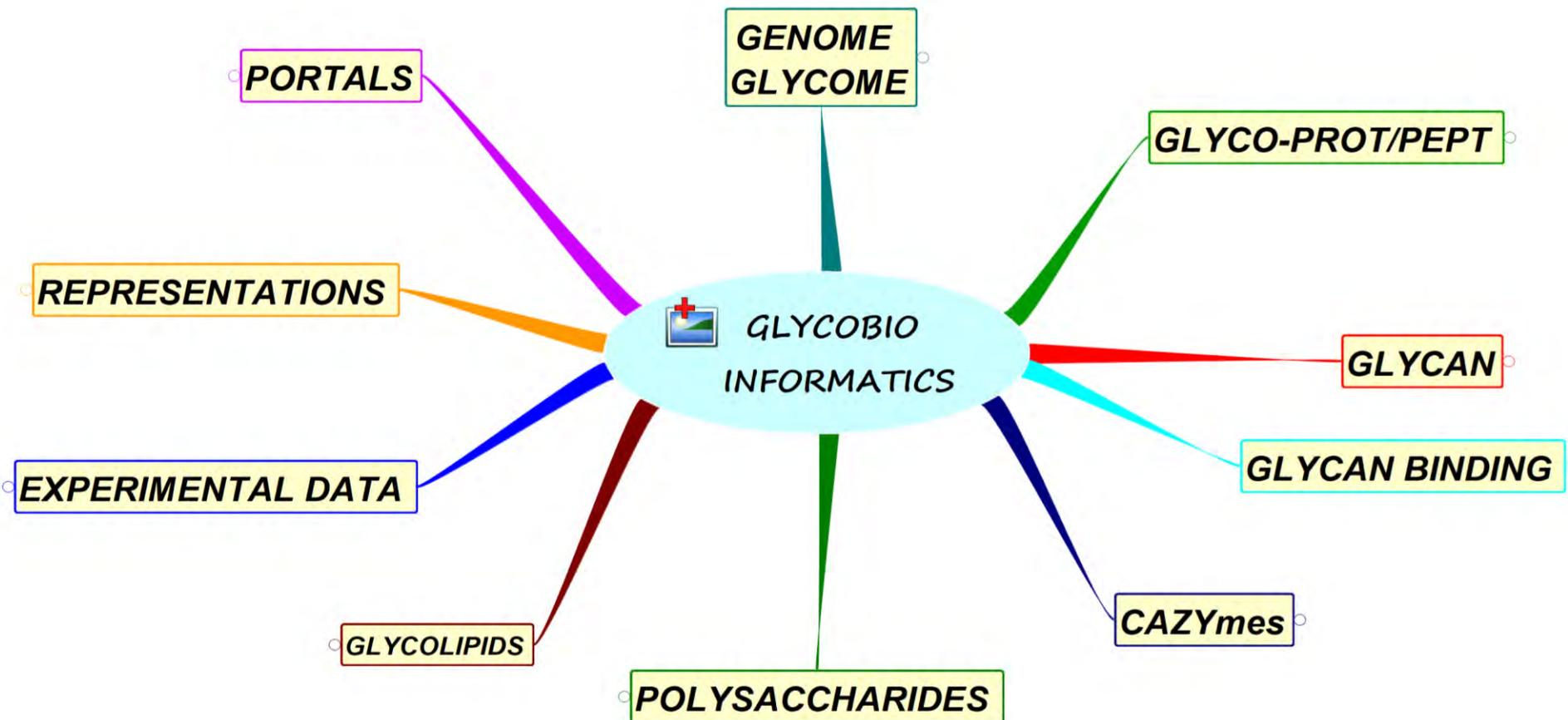
**Database** have been developed and cover including mammalian, plant and microbial carbohydrates and glycoconjugates.

The carbohydrate structural database needs to be fully cross-referenced with databases that provide complementary biological information.

There should be a requirement for deposition of new structures into the database using a reporting standard for minimal information.



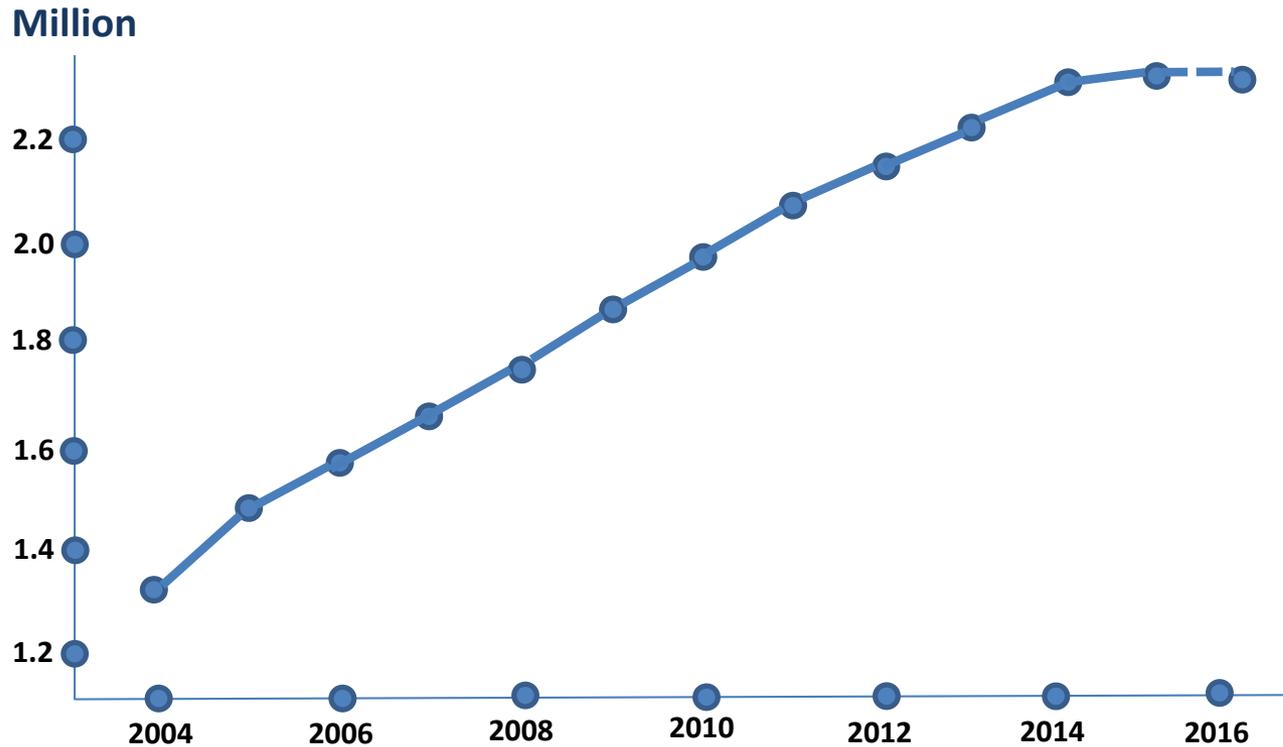
# Tools and DataBases



## **GlyGen: Computational and Informatics Resources for Glycoscience**

This web portal allows exploring this data and performing unique searches that cannot be executed in any of the integrated databases alone.

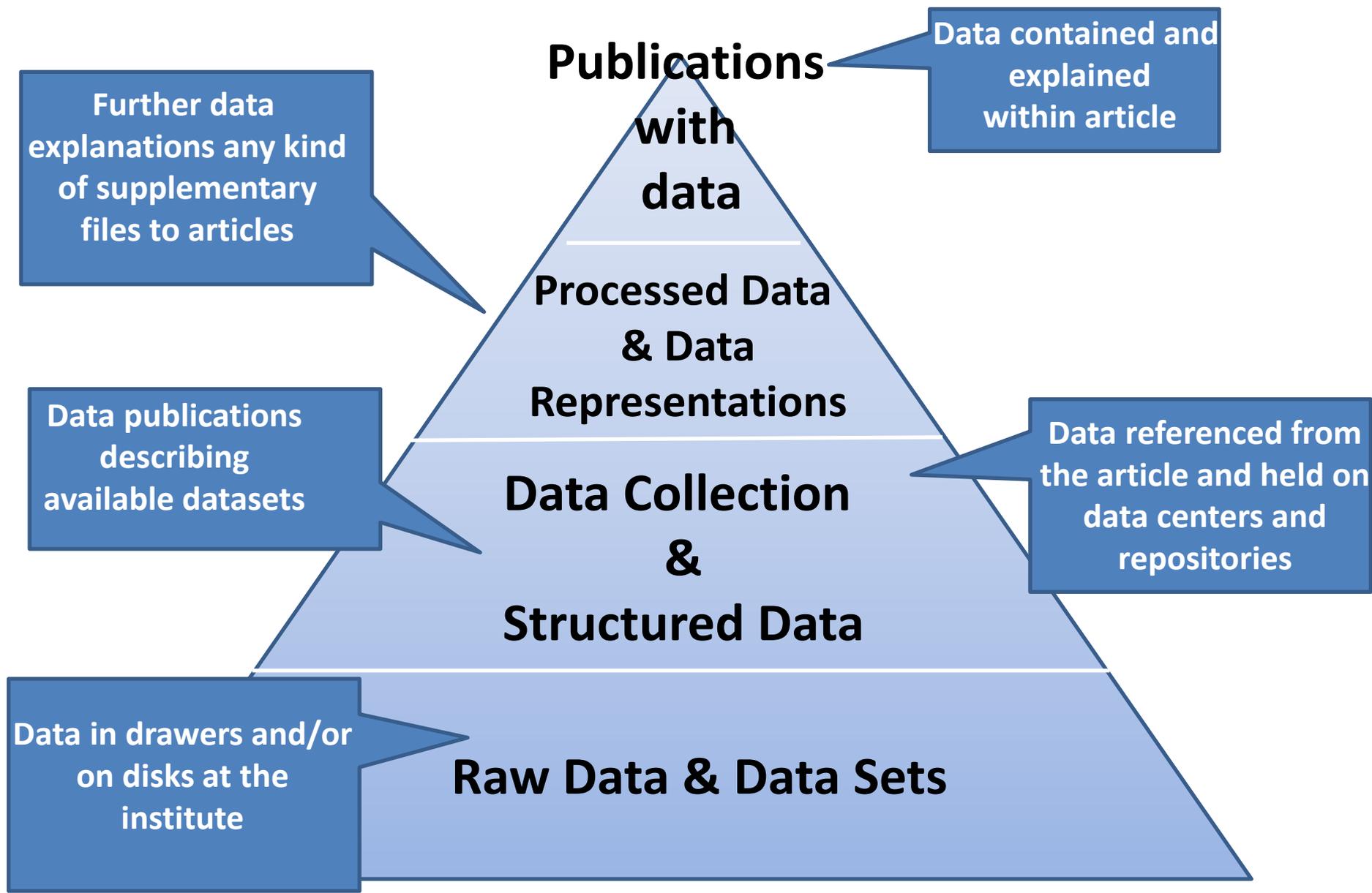
# An avalanche of data...



Global scientific output doubles every nine-years

Number of active researchers world-wide 8 Millions

# All available of data...



**Publications  
with  
data**

Data contained and explained within article

Further data explanations any kind of supplementary files to articles

**Processed Data  
& Data  
Representations**

Data publications describing available datasets

**Data Collection  
&  
Structured Data**

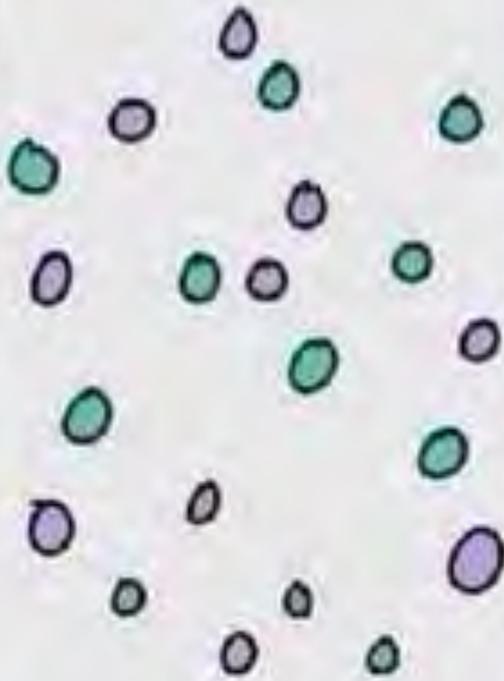
Data referenced from the article and held on data centers and repositories

Data in drawers and/or on disks at the institute

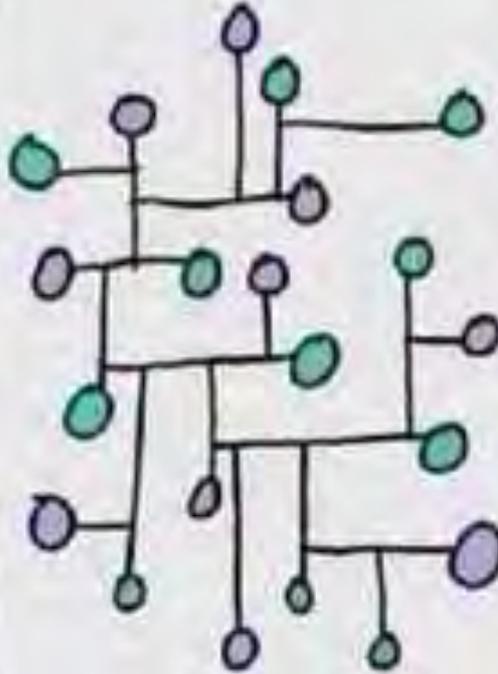
**Raw Data & Data Sets**

# Knowledge, Experience, Creativity

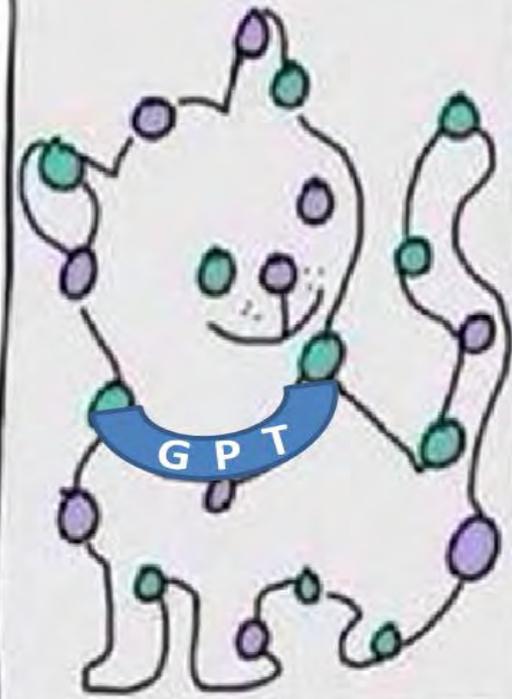
Knowledge



Experience



Creativity



# Be FAIR to Glycans...

**Update on Standards:** Glycan data management and exchange require consolidation and compliance to standards,: Minimum Information Data Required for Glycomics (**MIRAGE**)

**FAIR Principles; *Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability and Reusability.***

Many data are not fully characterized, the lack of information on the metadata (explaining and characterizing the measured or computed data), the ontologies relationships in metadata), and the workflow of different research groups are difficult to adjust. ***Most research data are neither, findable nor interoperable.***

**TRUST Principles: *Transparency, Responsibility, User focus, Sustainability, Technology***

**Cross-Referencing:** Linking experimental, theoretical, and biological data using **common schemes** and **ontology** will generate a new level of Glycoscience

**Data Modeling:** Implementing multiscale data (spatial & temporal) faces heterogeneities: simulation steups, force fields, meaning and representation of the produced data  
Need for selection and compressions stratiefies compatible with the type and amount of data

**Big Data and AI Approach :** *Standardized, structured & well annotated data required to Deep Learning methods*

*It is to realize that  
Structural Glycoscience  
may be fun and challenging*

*I Thank you and invite you to visit....*

*Glycopedia*



news

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resources

