



Critical Enzymes for Sustainable Biofuels from Cellulose



Project acronym: CESBIC

Name: Paul Walton

ERA-IB-2 final conference, Berlin, 16./17.02.2016

Project partners

- *Department of Chemistry, University of York, UK*
- *Department of Biochemistry, University of Cambridge, UK*
- *Department of Chemistry, University of Copenhagen, Denmark*
- *CNRS Marseilles, France*
- *Novozymes A/S, Denmark*
- *Total project budget: Euros 2.1 million*



Introduction

- *Project objectives (problem to be solved)*

Discovery of new 'LPMO' (GH61) enzymes—particularly on new substrates

Determination of mechanism of action

Population of CAZy database

Evaluation for industrial use

- *General project approach*

Genomics, activity testing, structure and spectroscopy, evaluation



Technical overview

1) Background

2) What was achieved:

Discovery of LPMO classes AA11 and AA13

Overview of known LPMO

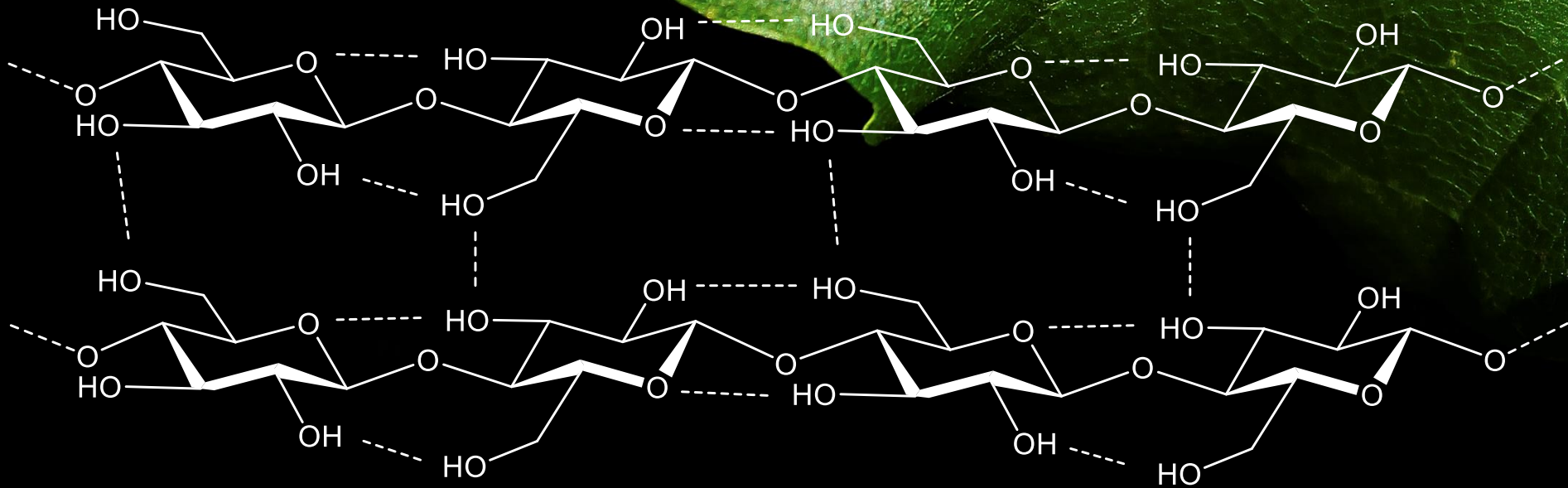
Mechanism insights

3) Future



Biomass and Cellulose

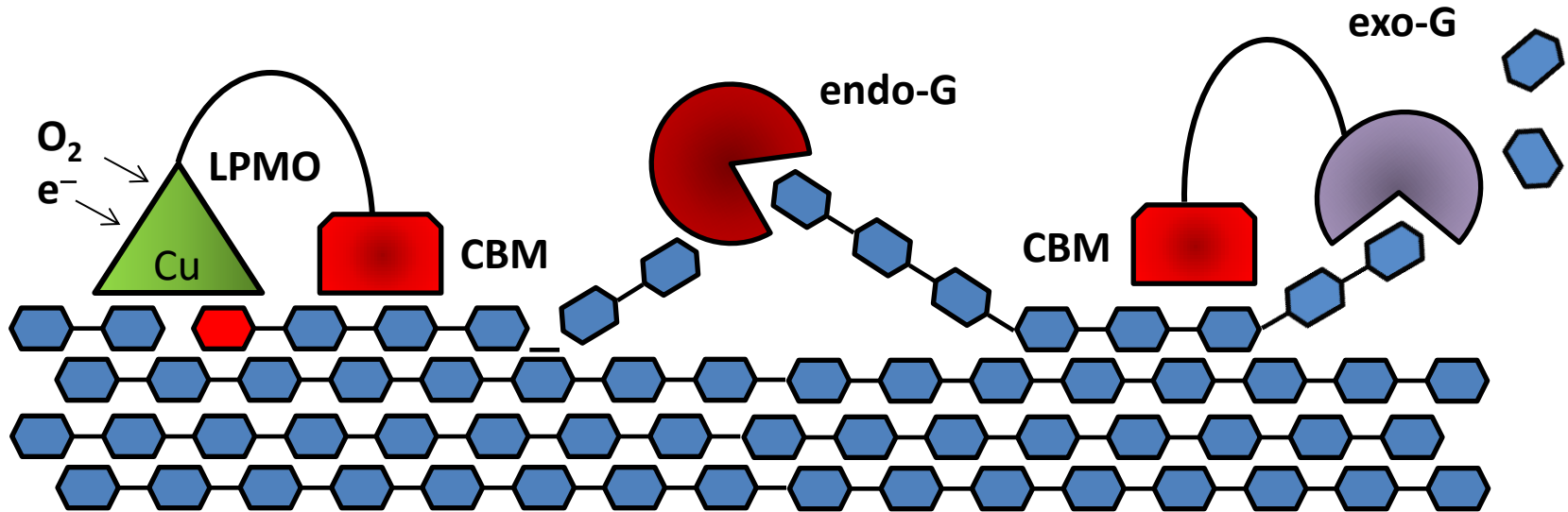
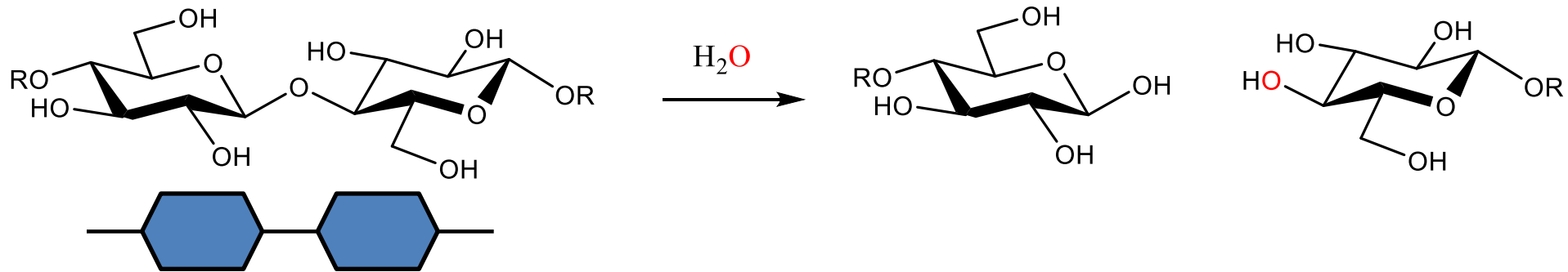
~1,000,000,000 tonnes cellulose produced annually
368 million dry tonnes of dry biomass annually in US alone



Perlack, et al. 2005. *Biomass as feedstock for a bioenergy and bioproducts Industry: the technical feasibility of a billion-ton annual supply.*

Oak Ridge National Laboratory Report ORNL/TM-2005/66, US Dept. of Energy, Oak Ridge, TN

Fungal and bacterial biomass breakdown

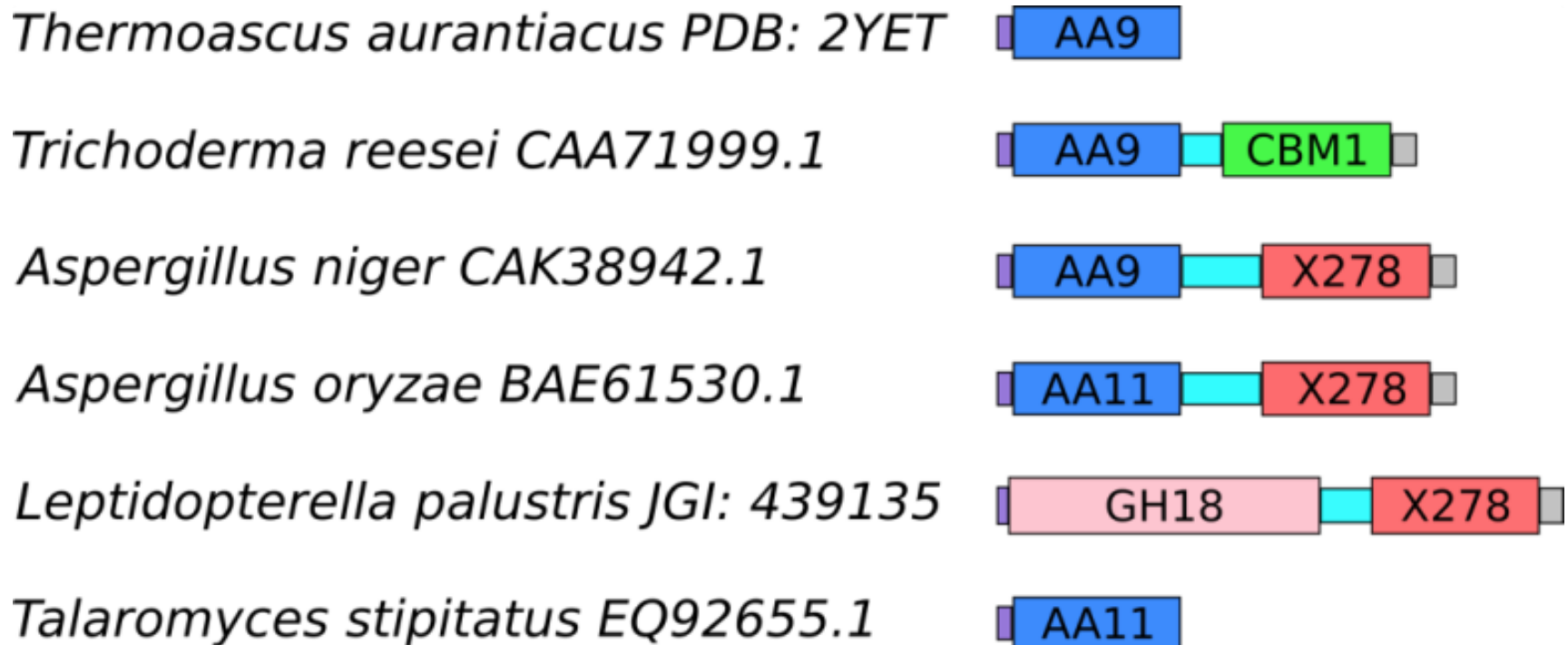


endo-GH endo-acting glycosidic hydrolase
exo-GH exo-acting glycosidic hydrolase
CBM carbohydrate binding module

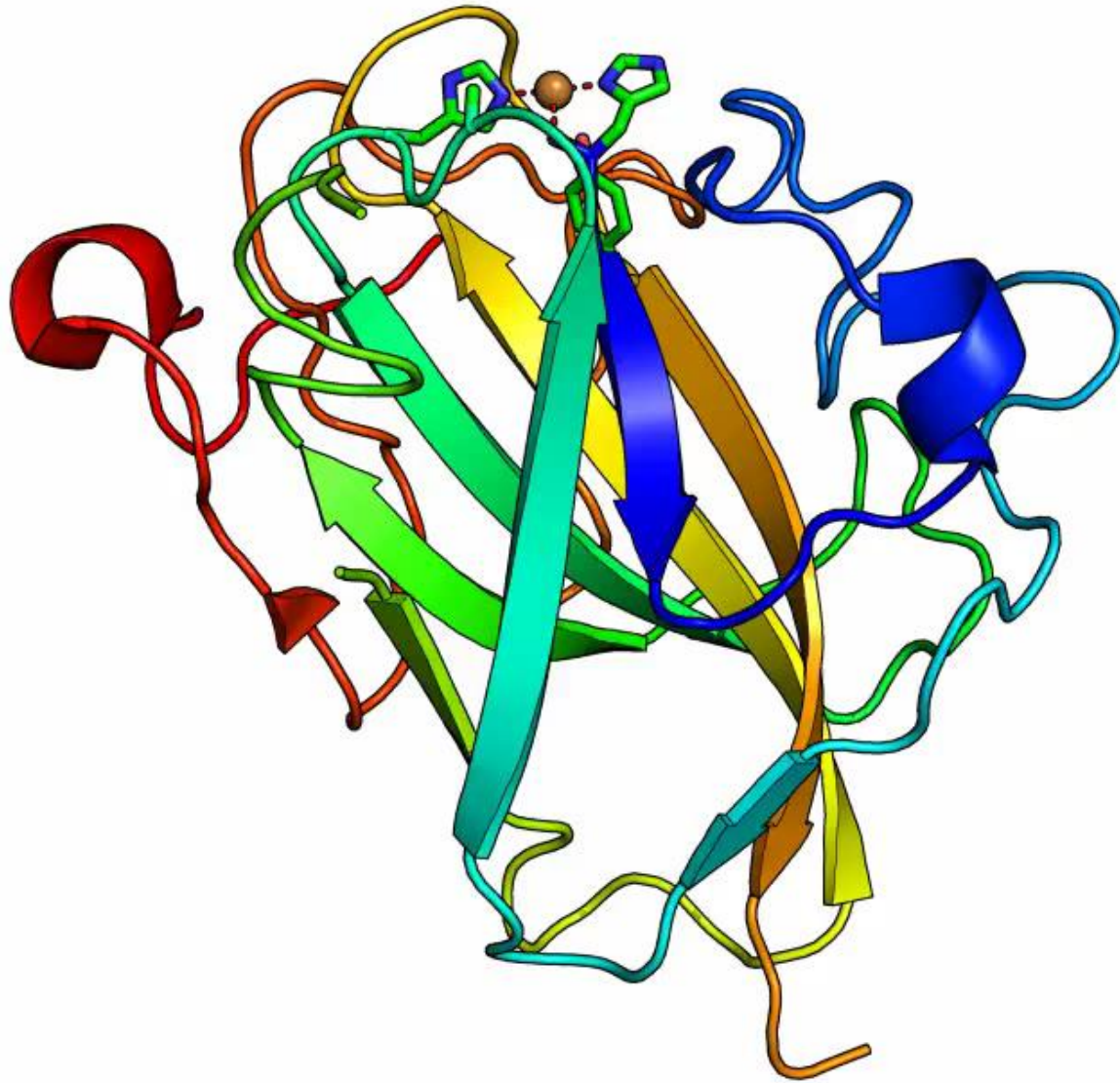


Discovery of LPMO class AA11

Module 'walking'



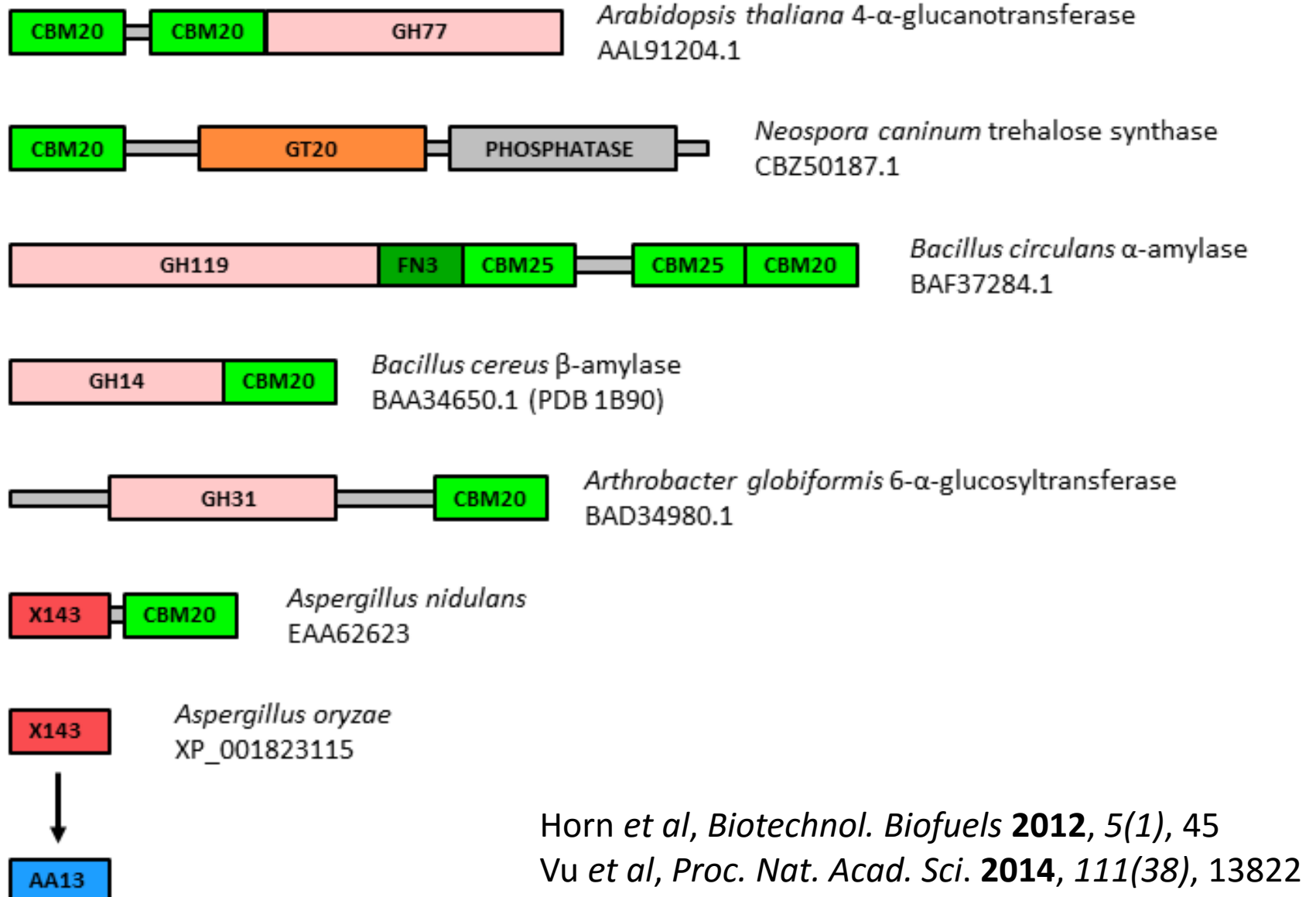
Structure





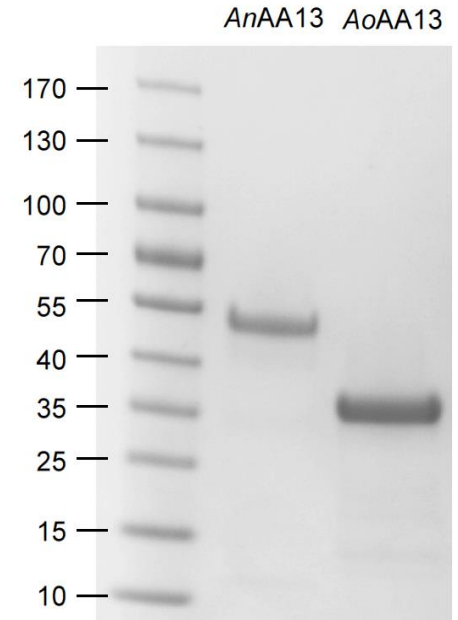
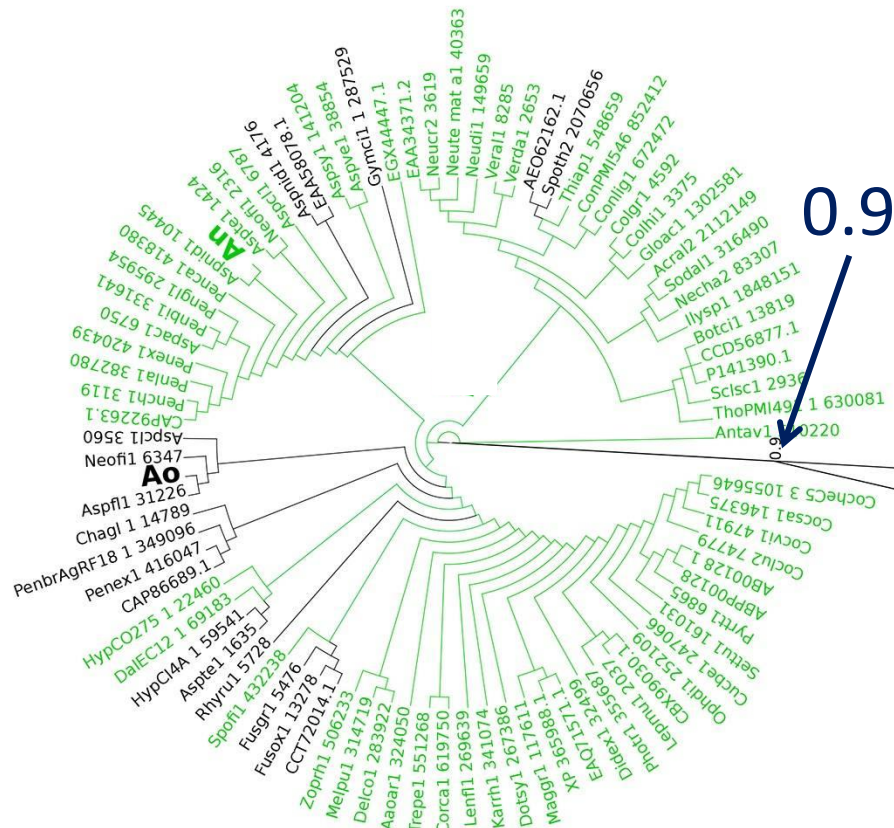
Discovery and properties of LPMO class AA13

CAZy module walking



AA13 family in CAZy

AA13



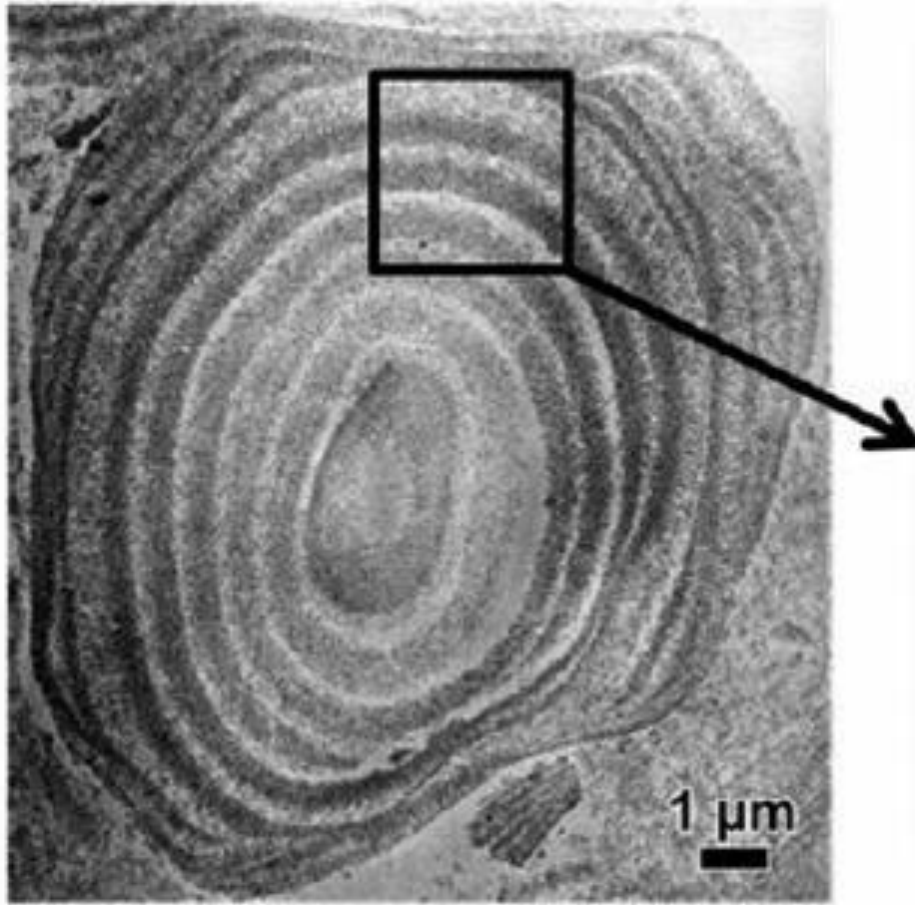
0.9

AA10

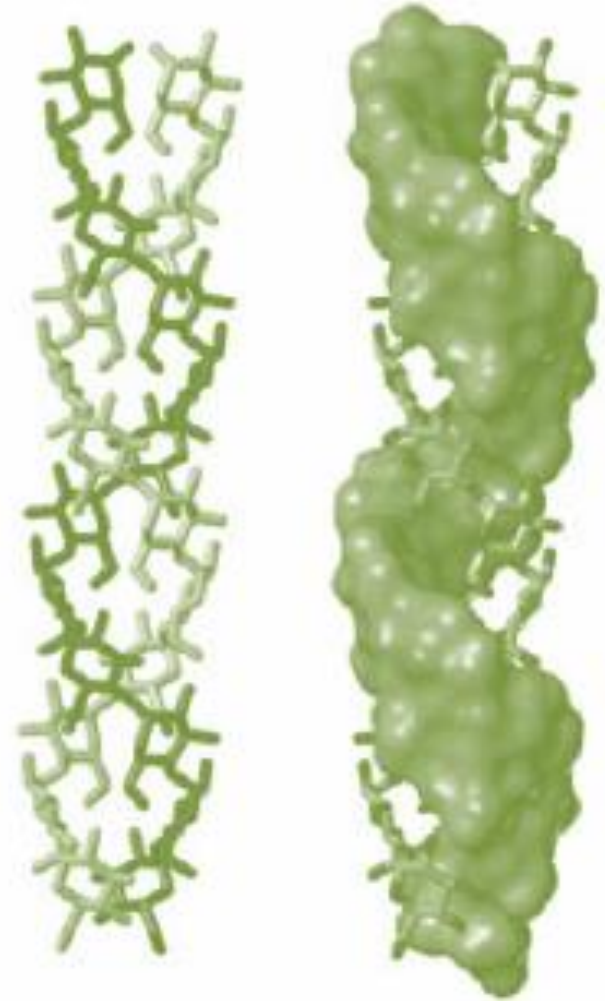
AA11

AA9

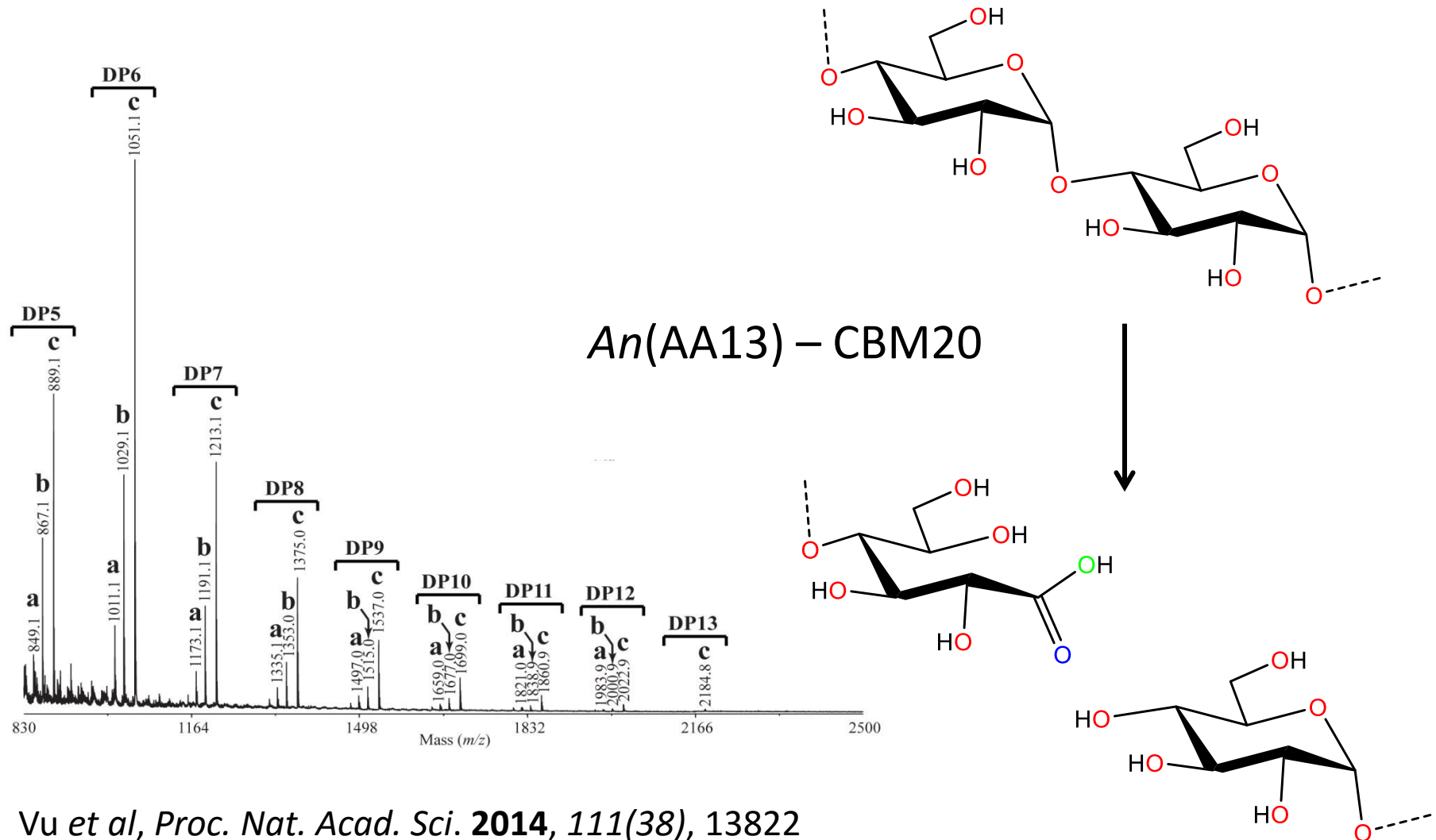
Crystalline and retrograded starch



Maize grain starch granule



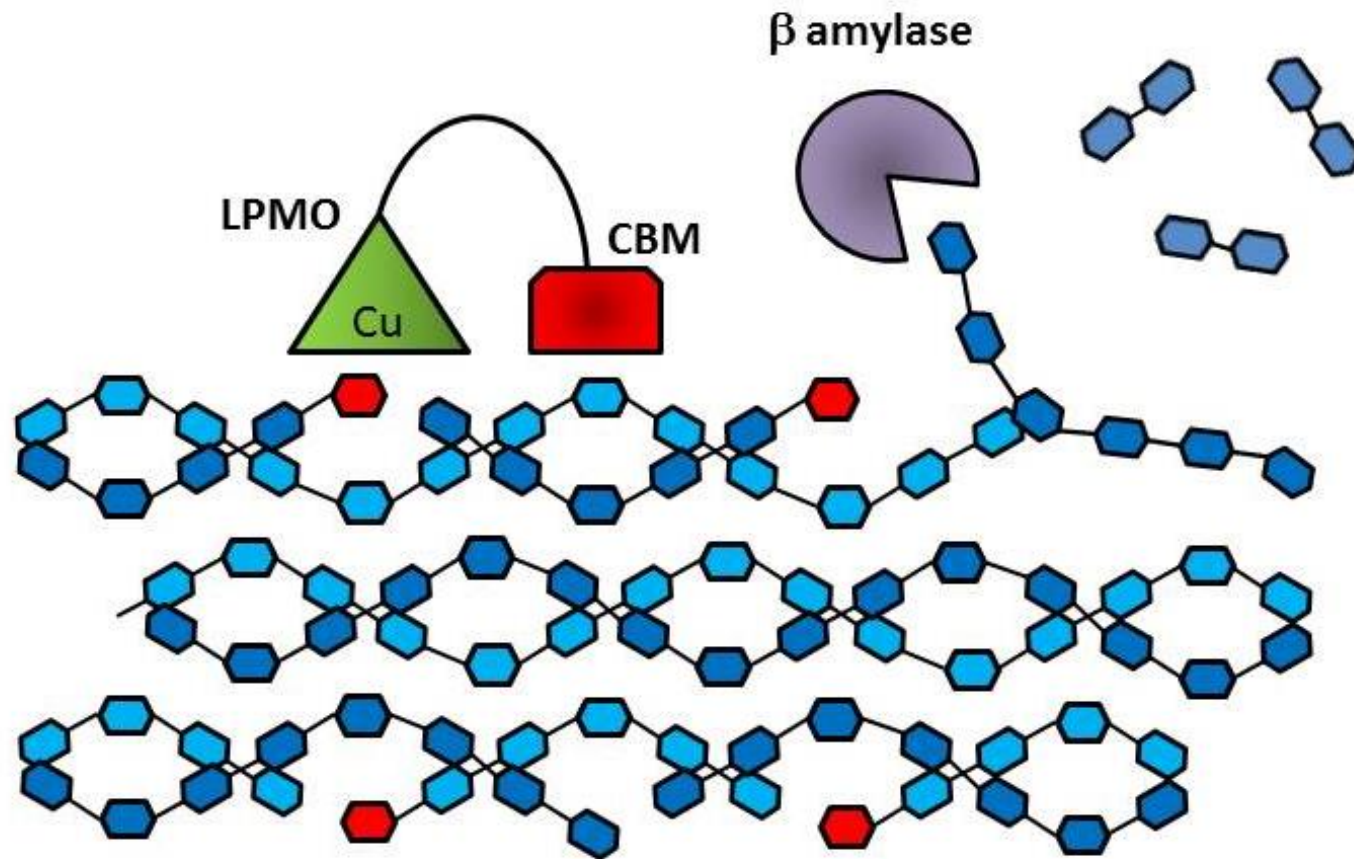
Activity on retrograded starch



Vu *et al*, *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci.* **2014**, 111(38), 13822

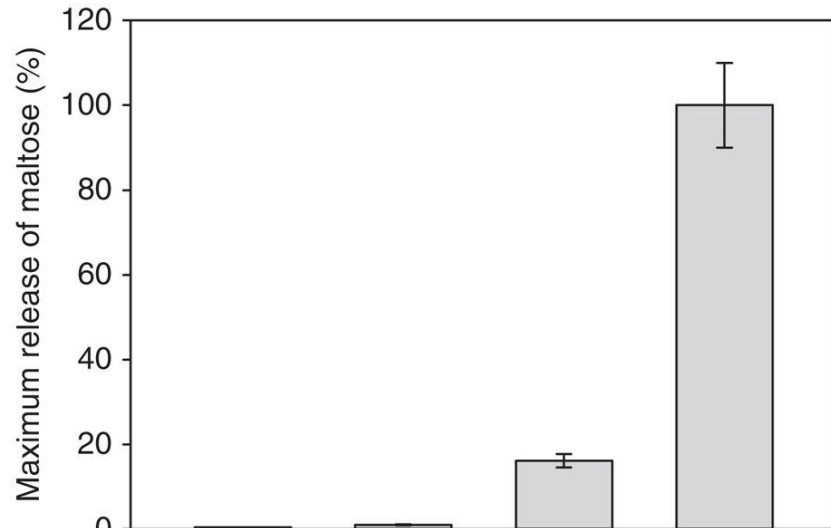
No activity on PASC, chitin, polygalacturonan, pectin, Arabidopsis stem walls

Boosting of β amylase activity



Boosting of β amylase activity

Release of maltose

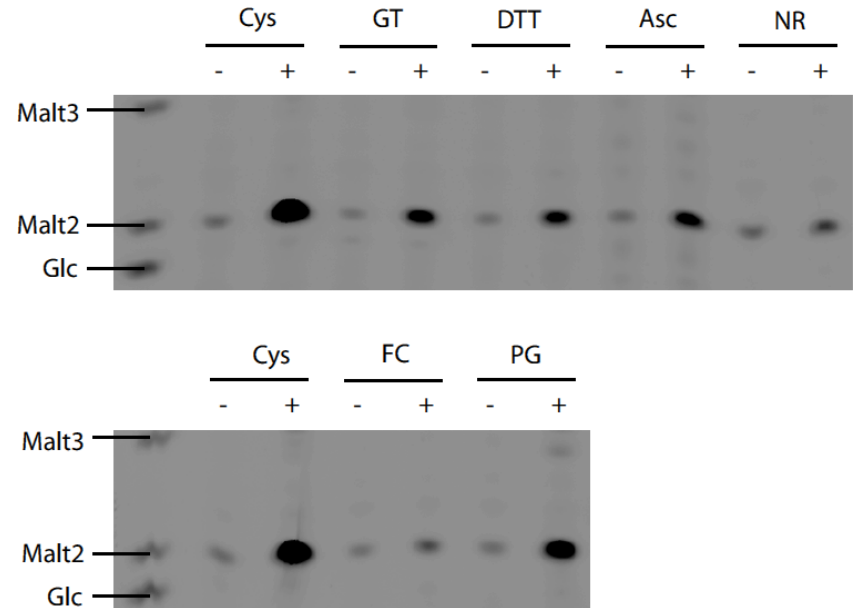


An (AA13)	+	-	+	+
Cysteine	+	+	-	+
β -amylase	-	+	+	+

4 h, 25 °C,

2.5% of total starch release

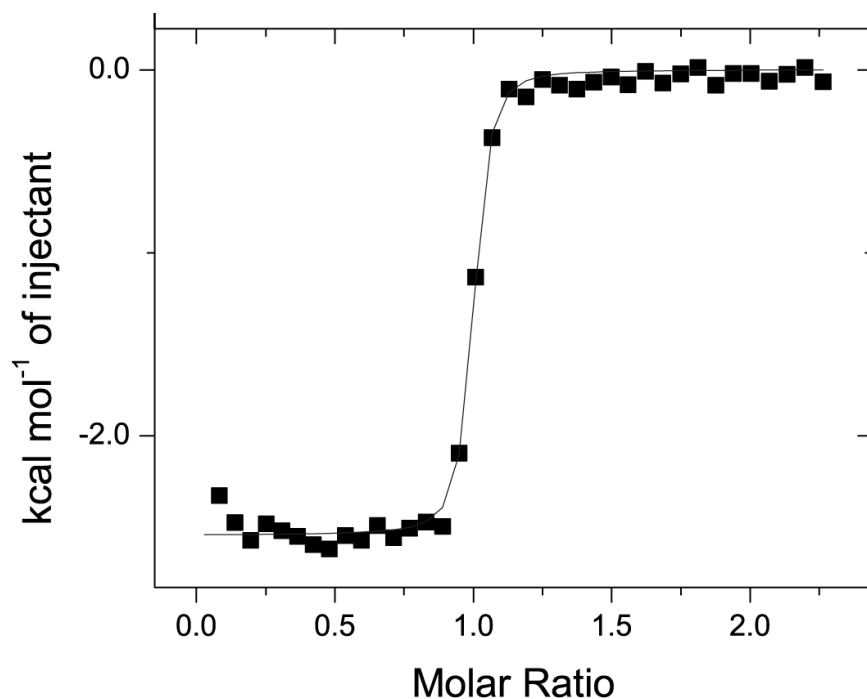
PAGE gel reducing agent assay



+/-, with and without AnAA12; Cys, cysteine; GT, glutathione; DTT, dithiothreitol; Asc, ascorbate; NR, no reductant; FC, ferrocyanide; PG, pyrogallol

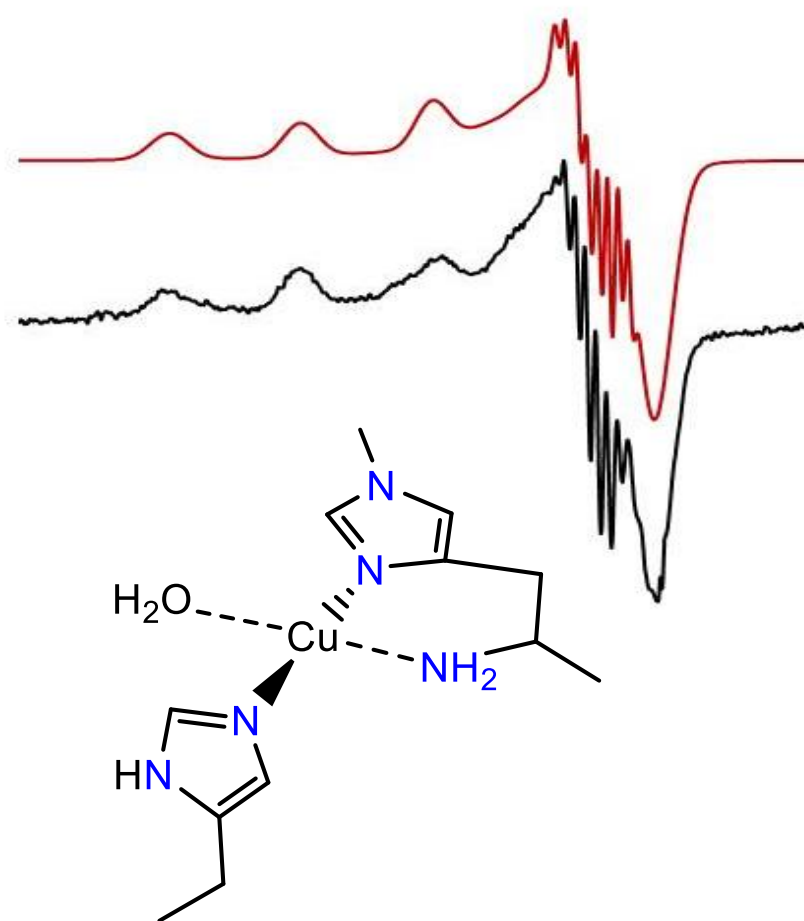
Physico chemical properties of An(AA13)–CBM20 and Ao(AA13)

ITC of An(AA13) -- CBM20 with Cu^{2+}

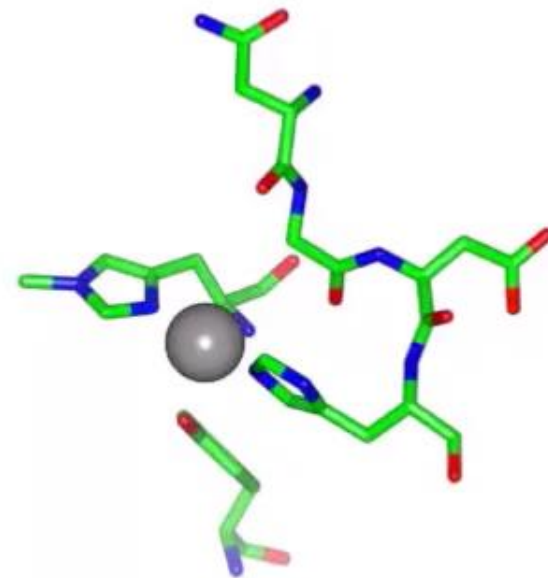
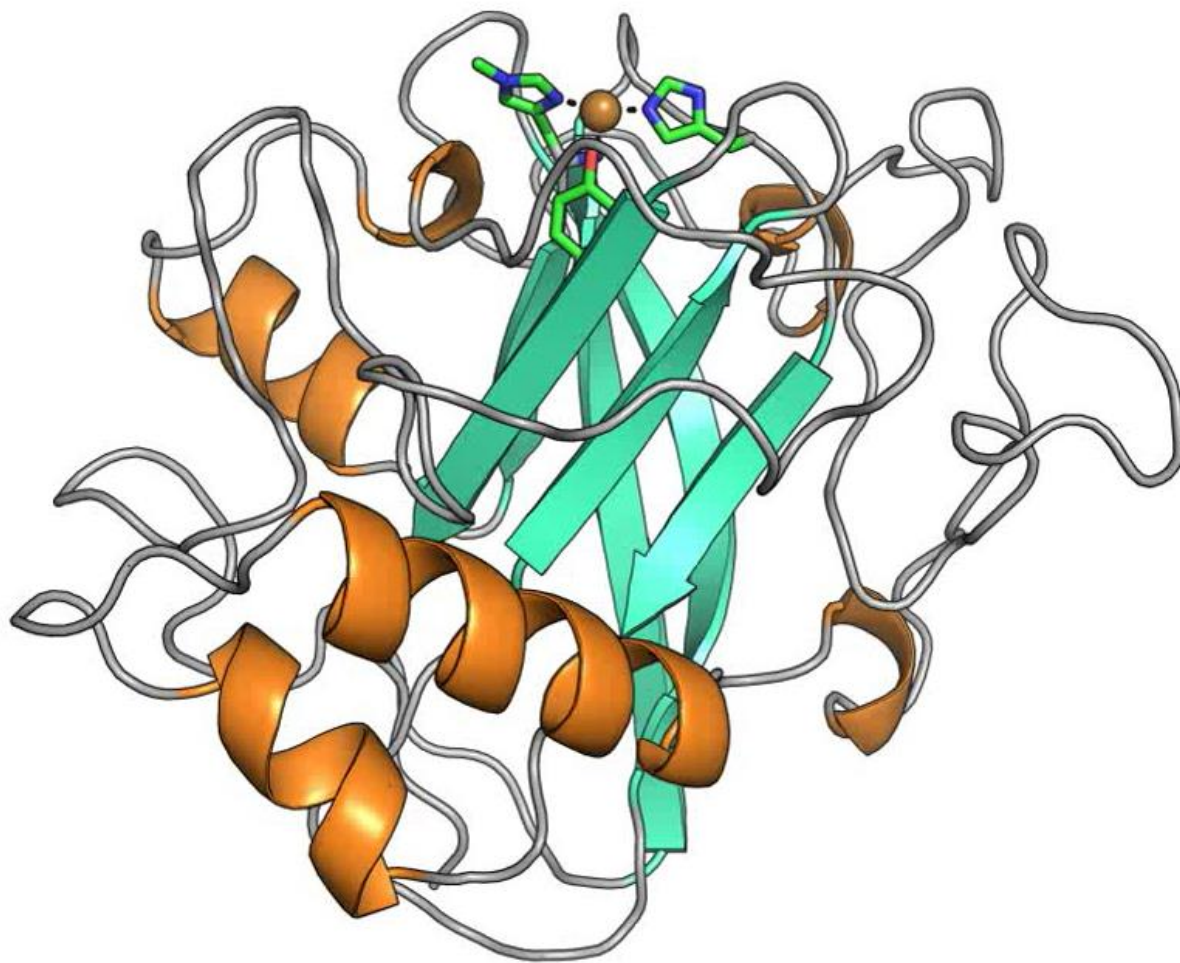


Copper binding is tight, ~ 20 nM for both

CW X-band EPR (150 K)

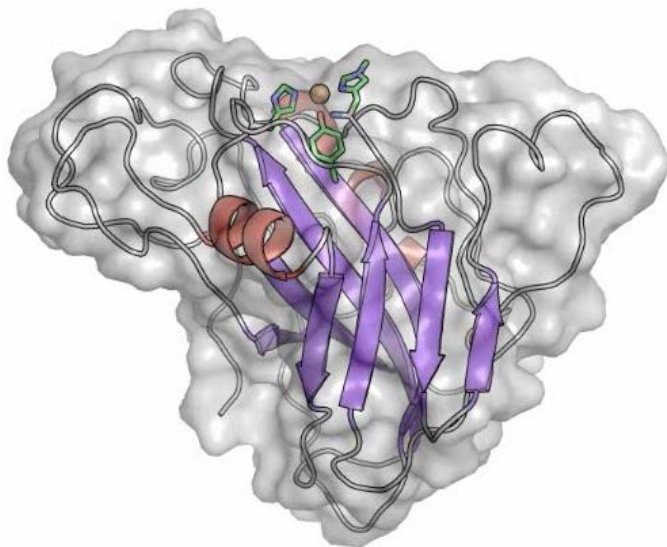


Structure of Ao(AA13)

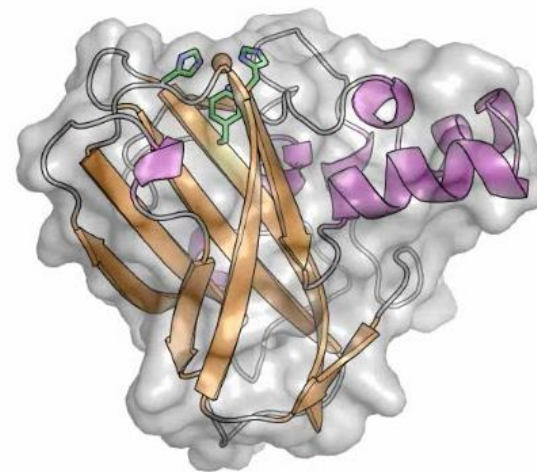


Lo Leggio et al
1.5 Å resolution
R(free) 17%
PDB, 4OPB

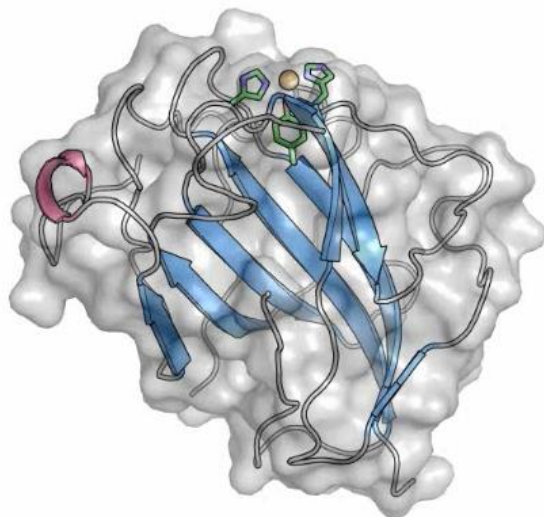
AA9



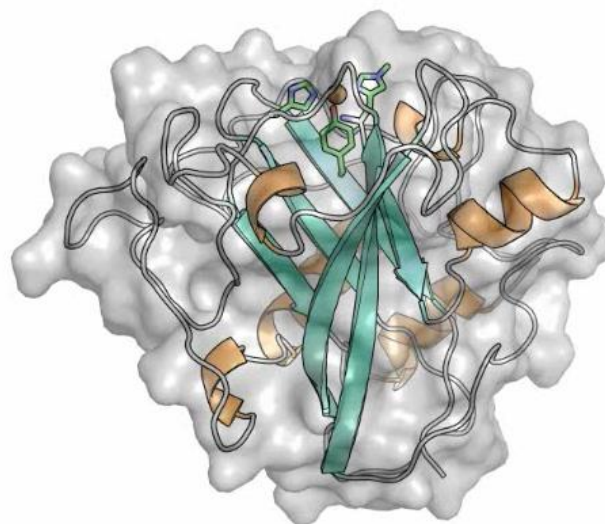
AA10



AA11



AA13

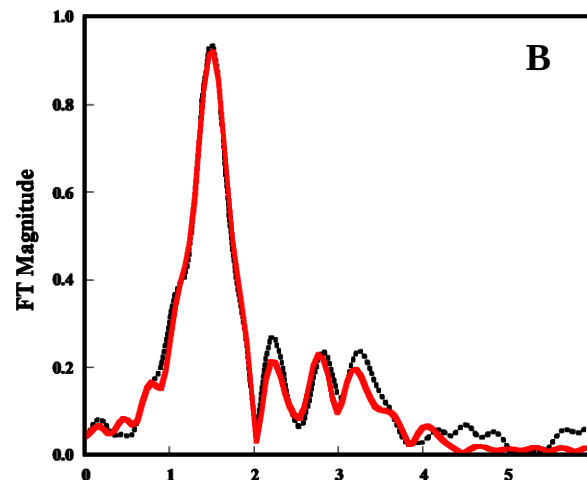
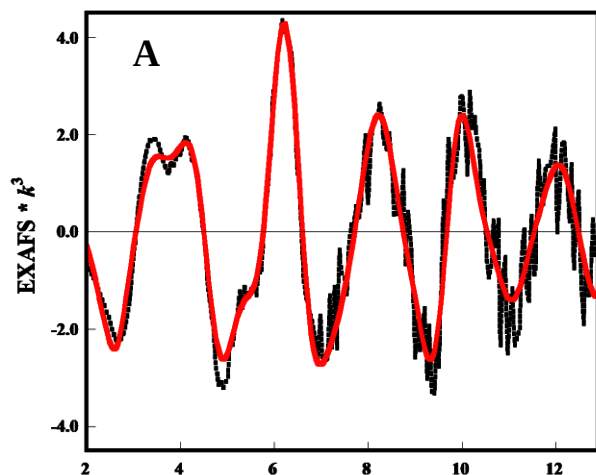


3zud, 2yoy, 4mai, 4opb

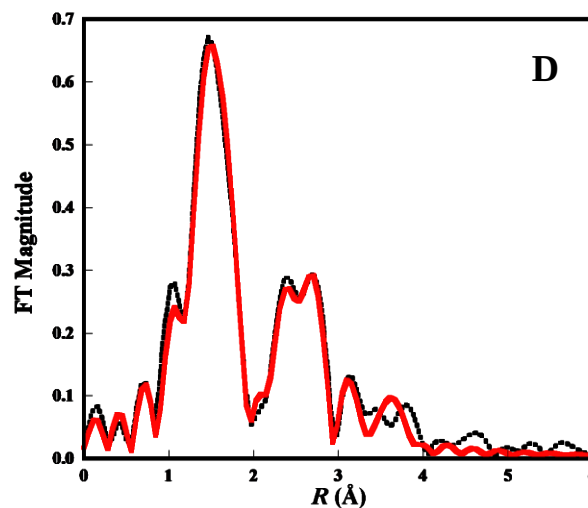
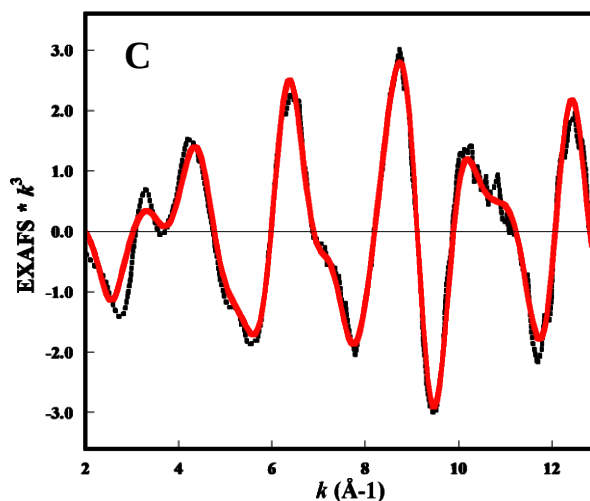


Cu-O₂ chemistry

EXAFS on Cu-AA9 (ex substrate)

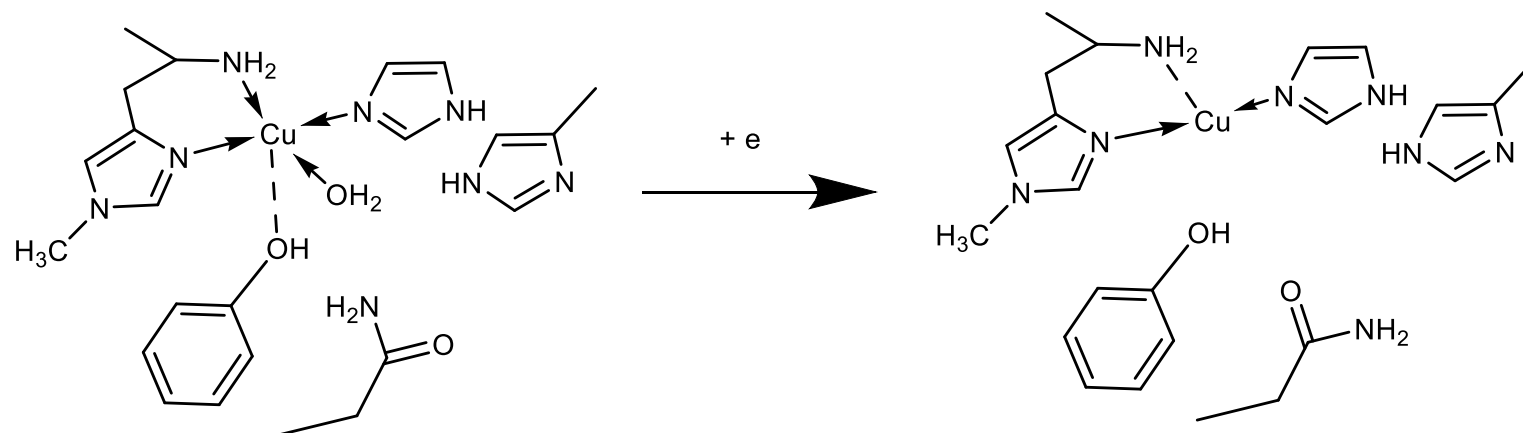


Cu(II)



Cu(I)

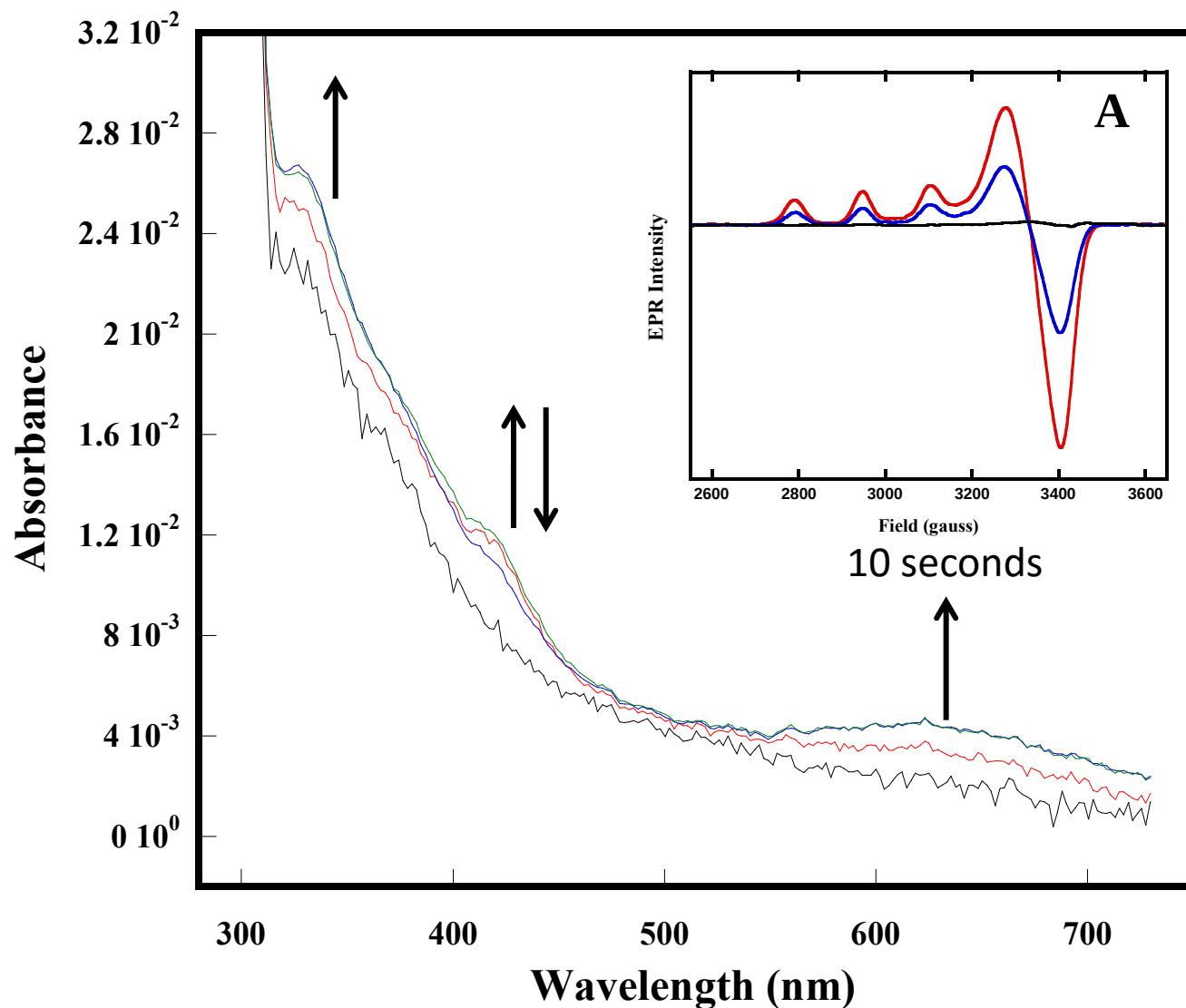
Reduction of Cu(II) to Cu(I)



Kjaergaard, Solomon, Davies, Walton et al *Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci.* **2014**, 8797.

See also Wu et al, *J. Biol. Chem.* **2013**, 288, 1282 for Cu(I)-AA9 structure

Reaction of O_2 with Cu(I)-AA9, pH 5

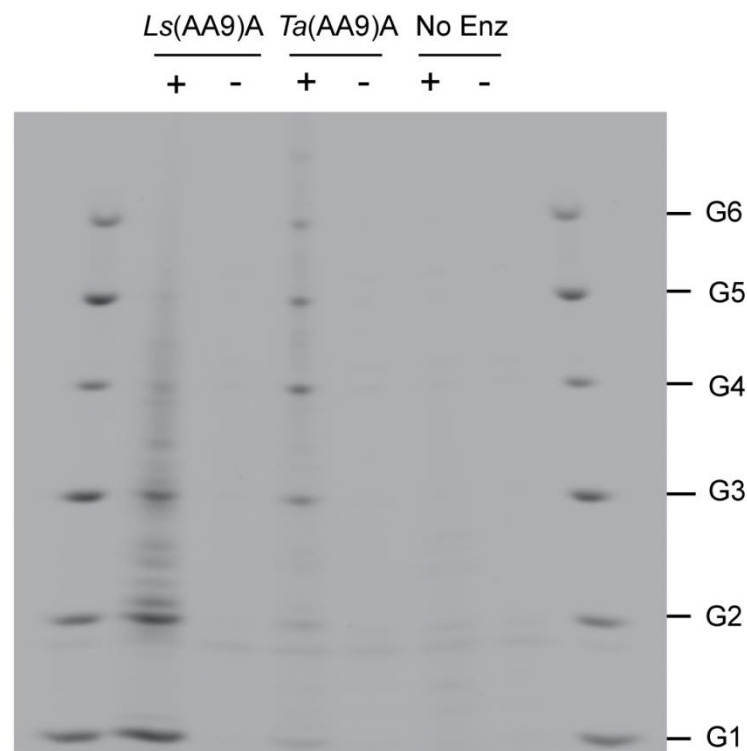


Reformation of
Cu(II)—AA9

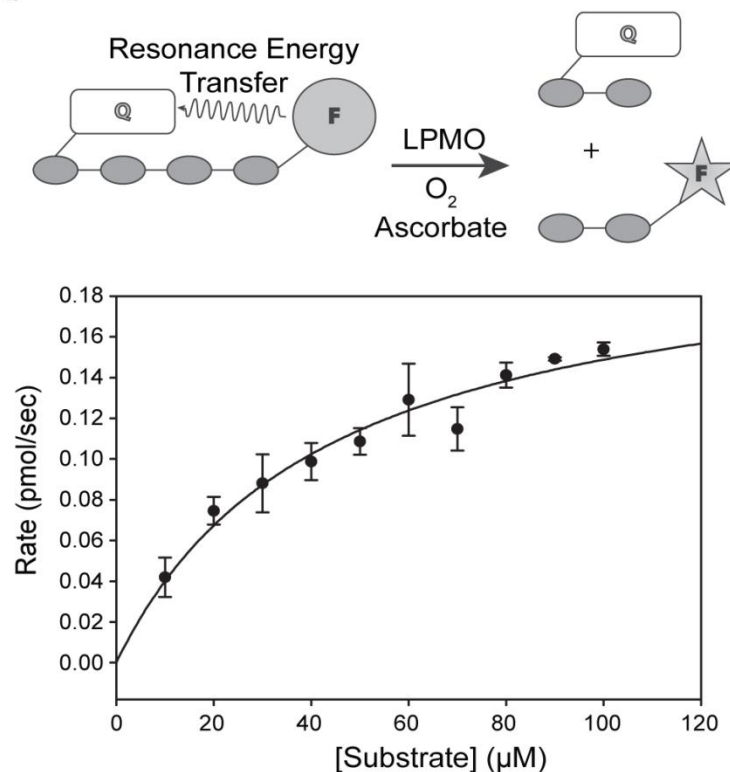
0.15 s^{-1}

Structure with substrate: new LPMO activity on oligosaccharides

a



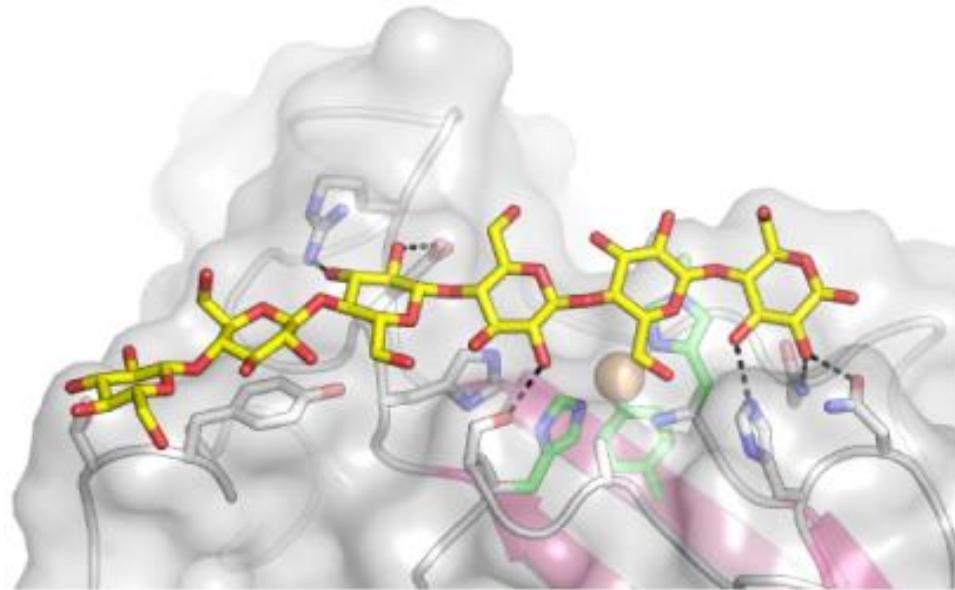
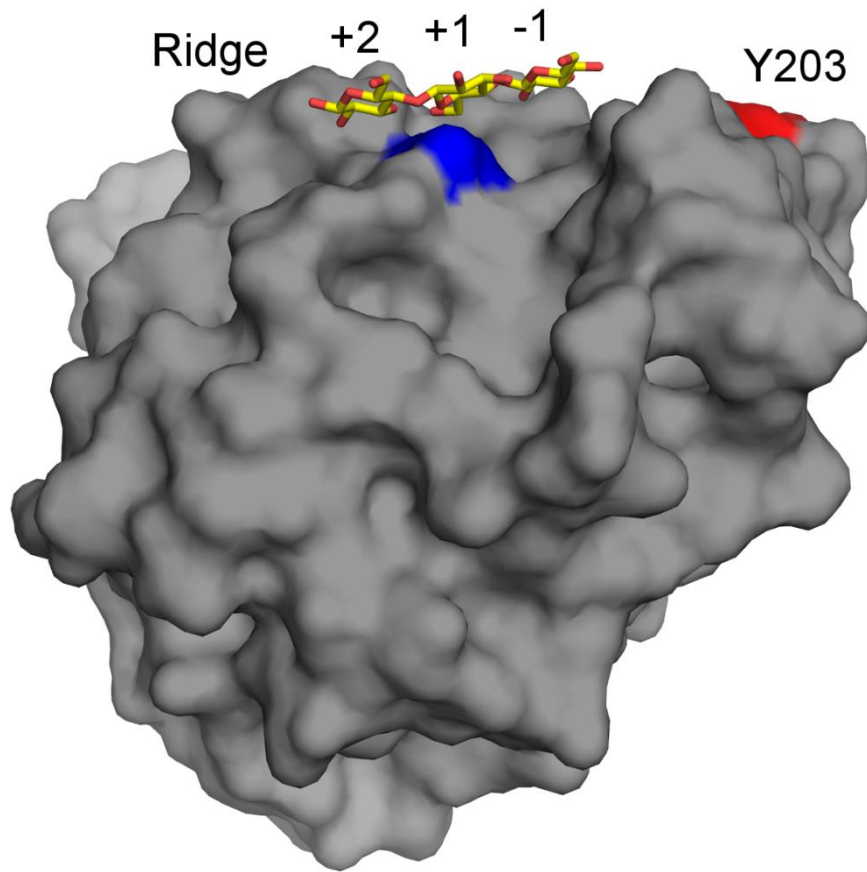
b



$$K_m = 43(9) \mu\text{M}, k_{cat} = 0.11(1) \text{ s}^{-1}$$

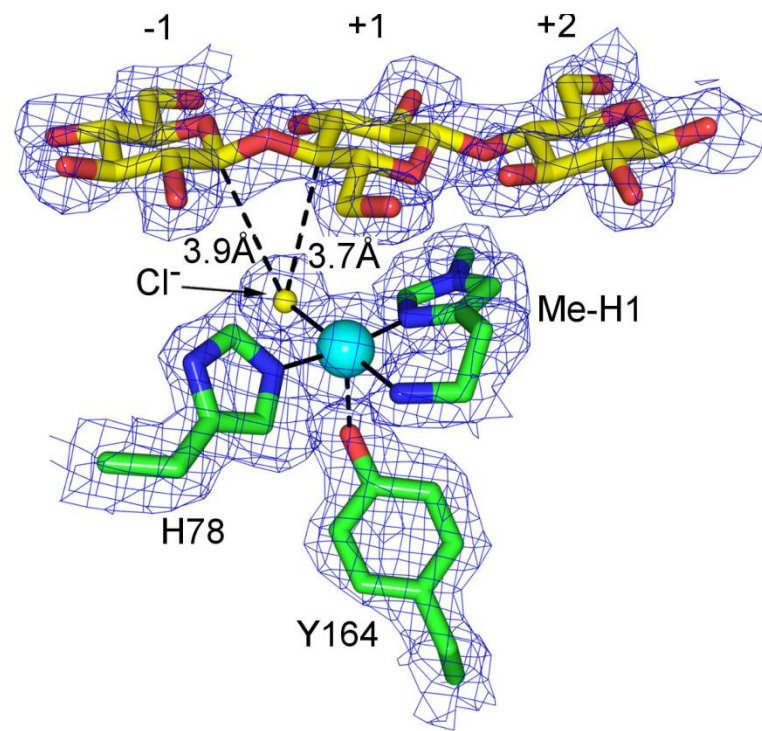
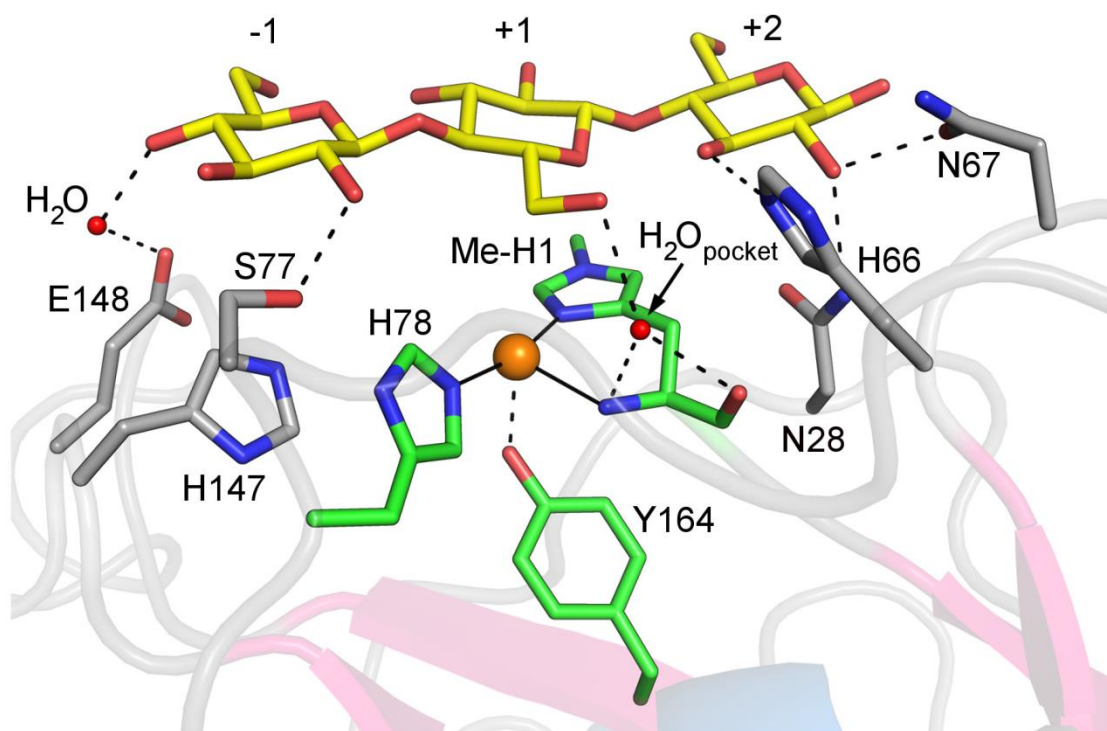
300 K, pH 7.0

Structure with substrate



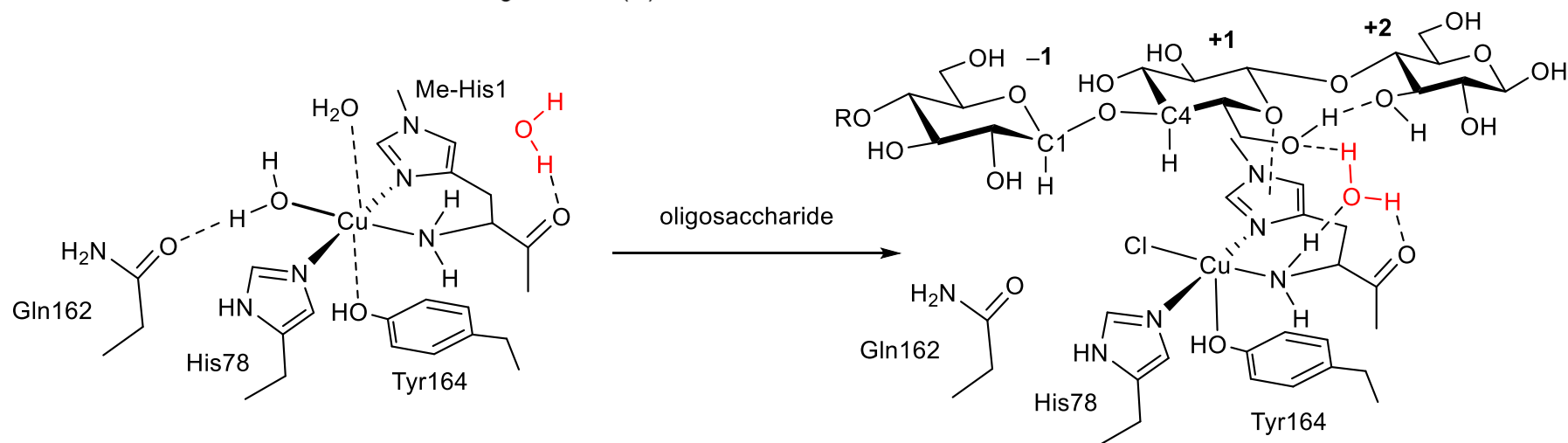
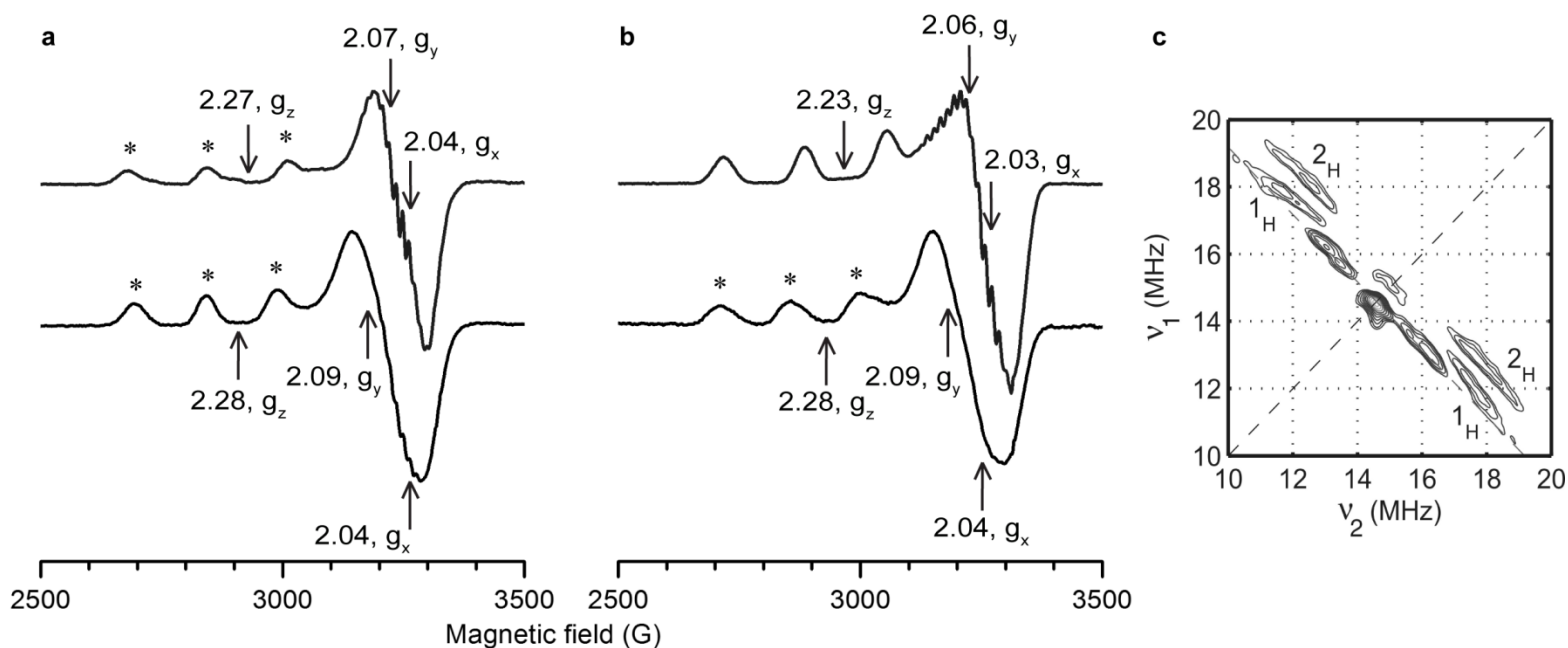
Lo Leggio,...Walton et al *Nature Chem. Biol.* **2016.**

Structure with substrate



Lo Leggio,...Walton et al *Nature Chem. Biol.* **2016.**

EPR spectroscopy

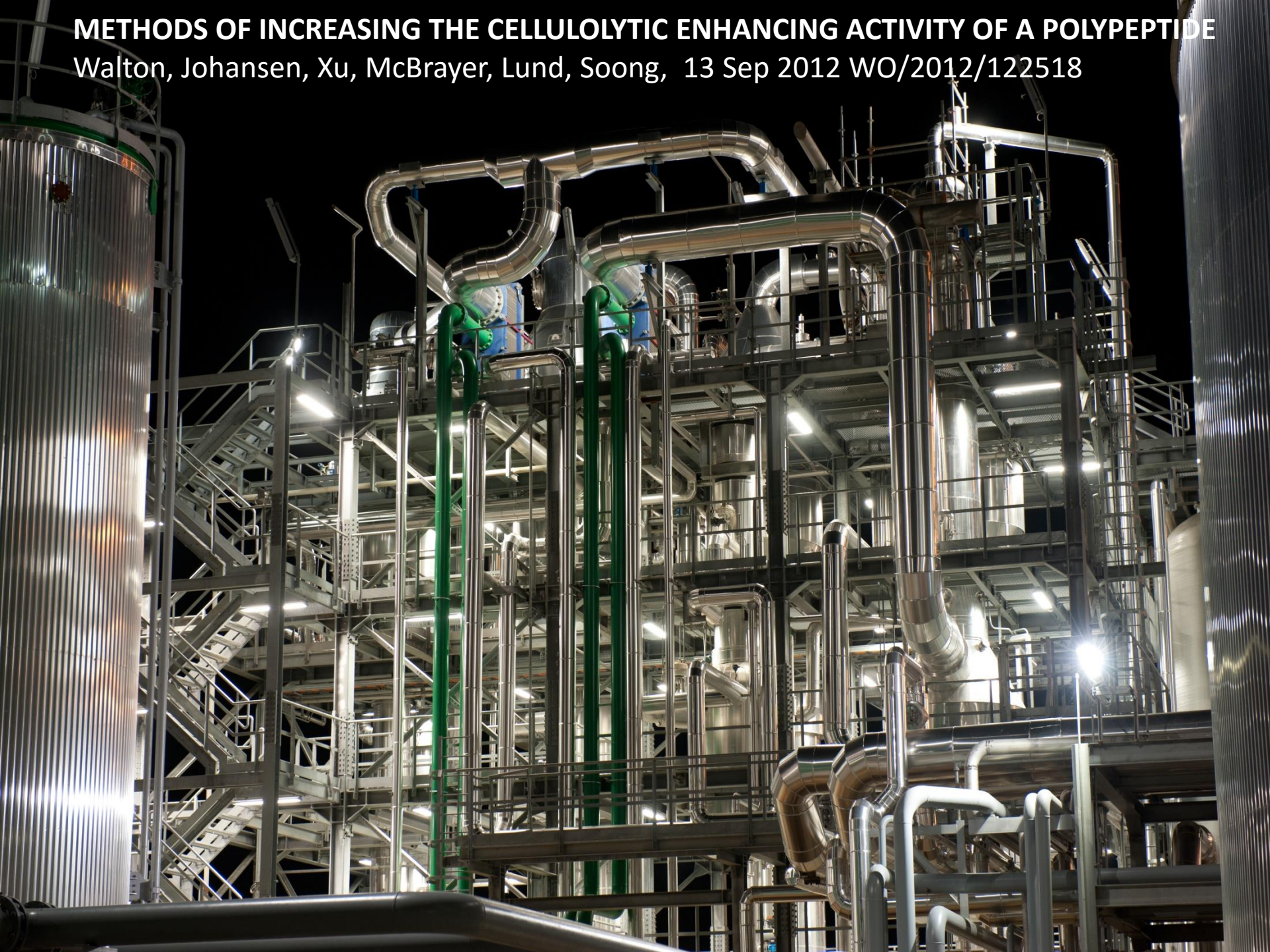




Cellulosic bioethanol plant,
Crescentino Italy

METHODS OF INCREASING THE CELLULOLYTIC ENHANCING ACTIVITY OF A POLYPEPTIDE

Walton, Johansen, Xu, McBrayer, Lund, Soong, 13 Sep 2012 WO/2012/122518





Summary

- *Proposal: discovery, characterisation and use of new LPMOs*
- *New LPMO classes: AA11 and AA13*
*Nature Chem. Biol. **2014**, 122.*
*Nature Commun. **2015**, #5961*
- *New mechanistic insights*
*Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci., **2014**, 8797.*
*Nature Chem. Biol. **2016**, in press*
- *New entries on CAZy database.*
- *More understanding of biomass degradation by LPMOs*



General Evaluation

- *Collaboration has allowed us to compete on an international stage. Unique combination of genomics, biochemistry, molecular biology, spectroscopy*

Publications:

Nature Chem. Biol. **2014**, 122.

Nature Commun. **2015**, #5961

Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci., **2014**, 8797.

Nature Chem. Biol. **2016**.

Trends in Biotechnology, **2015**, 747 (review).

- *Feedback to ERA-IB: more funding?*



Contact details

- paul.walton@york.ac.uk

Paul Walton

Department of Chemistry

University of York

Heslington

YORK

YO10 5DD

