

# DEMAX Activities, collaborations, projects

Hanna Wacklin-Knecht, Zoe Fisher, Anna Leung, Oliver Bogojevic

# DEMAX & the ESS instrument suite

## Chemical Deuteration:

- Synthesis of surfactants and lipids
- H/D exchange, chemical synthesis, purification and analysis
- Enzyme immobilisation and enzymatic catalysis
- Lipid purification/analysis from biomass

## Biological Deuteration:

- Protein & lipid biodeuteration
- Cell culturing of bacteria, yeasts, algae
- Protein purification/characterisation
- Protein crystallisation

## Collaborations

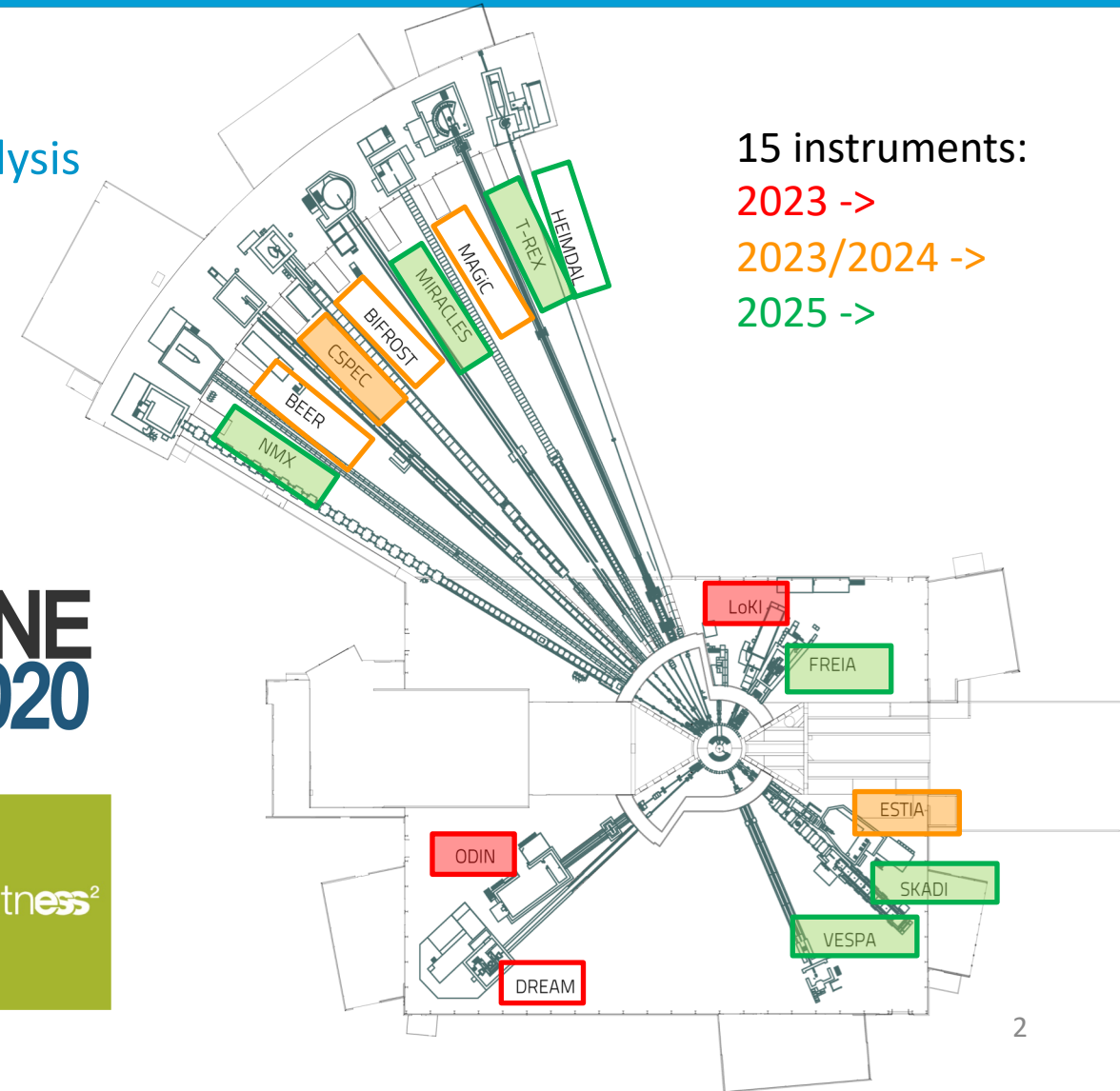
- SINE2020 & DEUNET
- Brightness<sup>2</sup>
- LENS WG3

## Grant Projects:

- LU VR grant
- LU PhD student projects



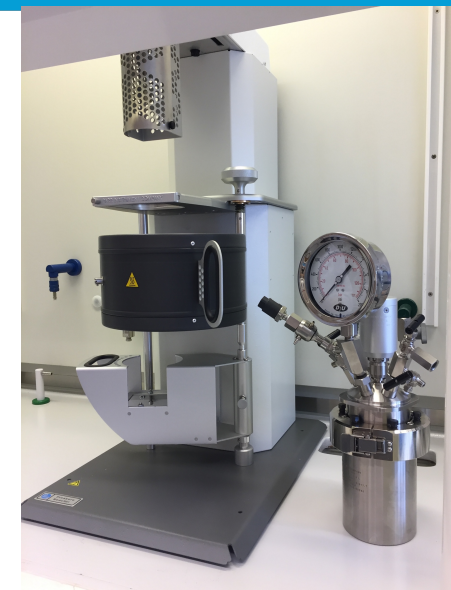
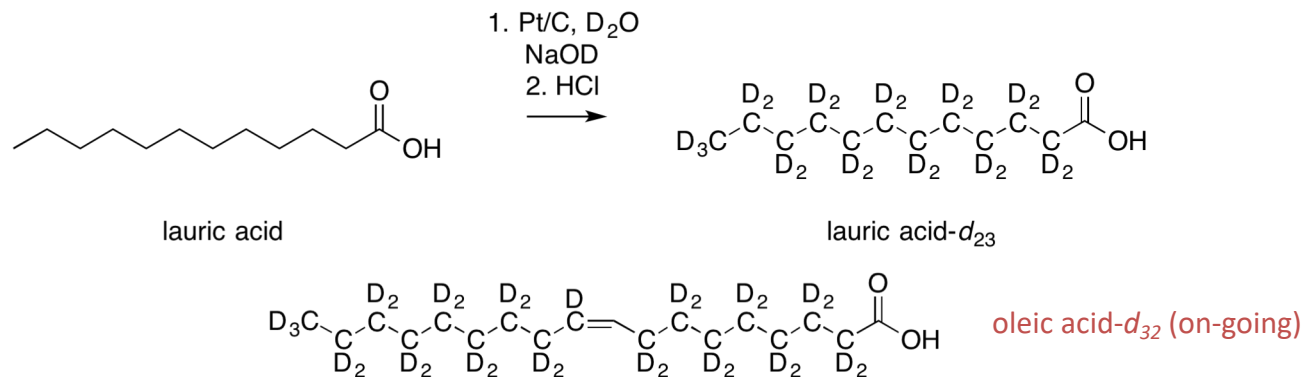
LUND UNIVERSITY



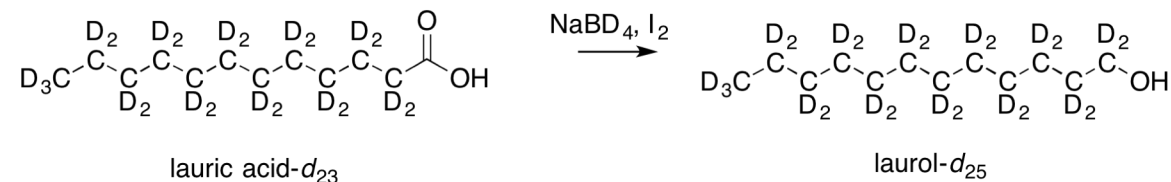
# Chemical Deuteration

## H/D exchange, chemical synthesis of fatty acids/surfactants

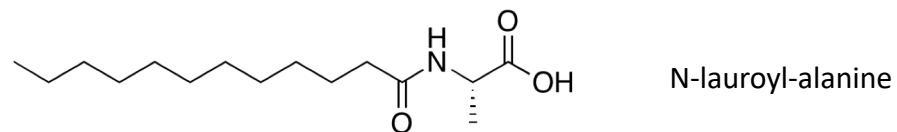
- Perdeuteration of saturated fatty acids (C9, C12, C16, C18:1):



- Method of reducing deuterated carboxylic acids to deuterated alcohols without  $\text{LiAlD}_4$  (no longer commercially available!):



- Synthesis of chiral amino acid surfactants



# Chemical Deuteration

## SINE2020 WP5: Immobilised enzyme catalysis for biopolymer synthesis

This project receives funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 654000

The enzymatic synthesis of perdeuterated D- and L-lactic acid-d<sub>4</sub> and polymerisation of their lactides to polylactic acid.



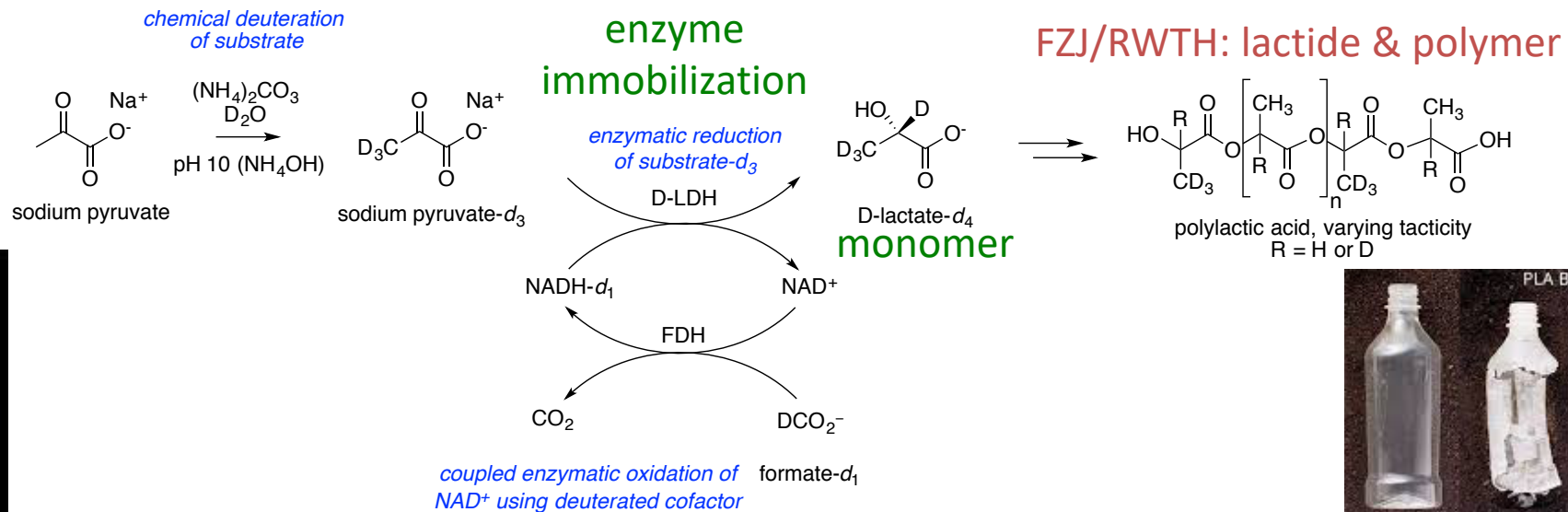
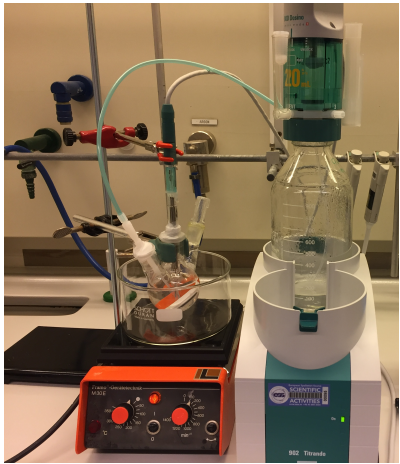
Anna E. Leung<sup>1</sup>, Andreas Raba<sup>2#</sup>, Klaus Beckerle<sup>3</sup>, Jürgen Allgaier<sup>2\*</sup>, Hanna P. Wacklin-Knecht<sup>1,4\*</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>Institute for Inorganic Chemistry, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

<sup>4</sup>Division of Physical Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, Lund University, Sweden



# Chemical Deuteration

Immobilised enzymes for lipid synthesis – Oliver Bogojevic

This project receives funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 654000

## Enzymatic Synthesis

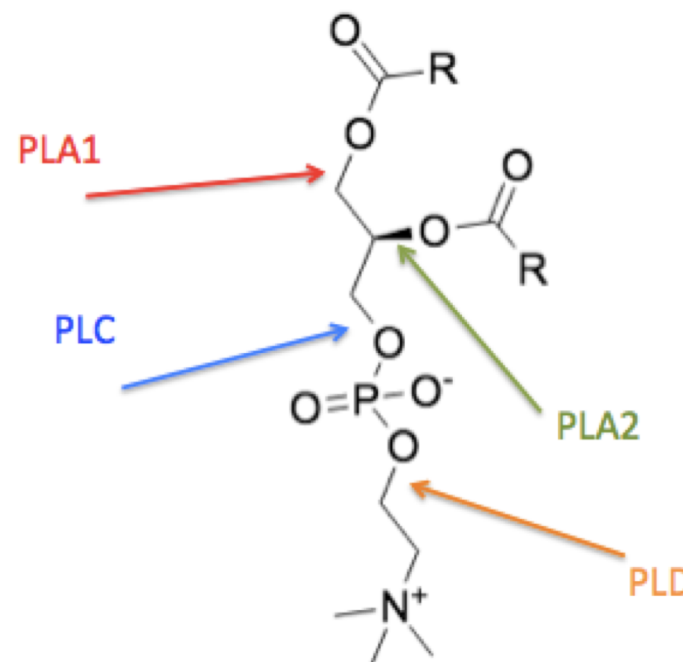
- + CLEAN and GREEN – few by products/no toxic chemicals
- + Highly specific – shortens reactions/purifications
- + Immobilised enzymes can be reused

## Application to lipid deuteration:

- different enzymes attack selectively in different positions
- Can be used to swap d-fatty acids h-fatty acids

## Commercial enzymes available:

- Lipases (1,3 specific), PLA<sub>2</sub>, PLA<sub>1</sub>



SINE  
2020

R = fatty acid  
chain

WP2 A strategy to deliver neutrons for Europe and beyond

- Task 2.3B: Deuteration For Soft Matter and Life Sciences ESS-STFC

- i) chemical and/or microbial production of perdeuterated fatty acids and lipids, followed by
- ii) enzymatic synthesis of complex novel deuterated compounds.

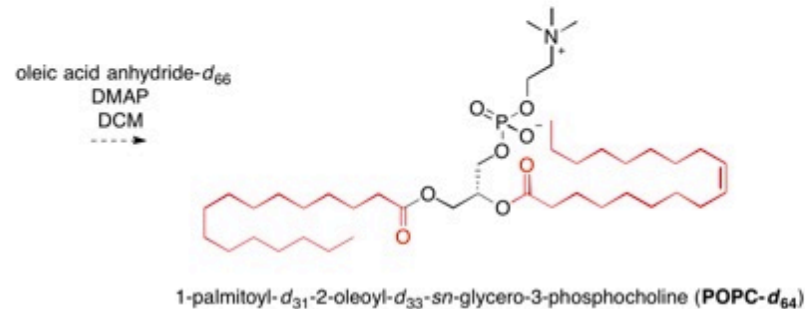
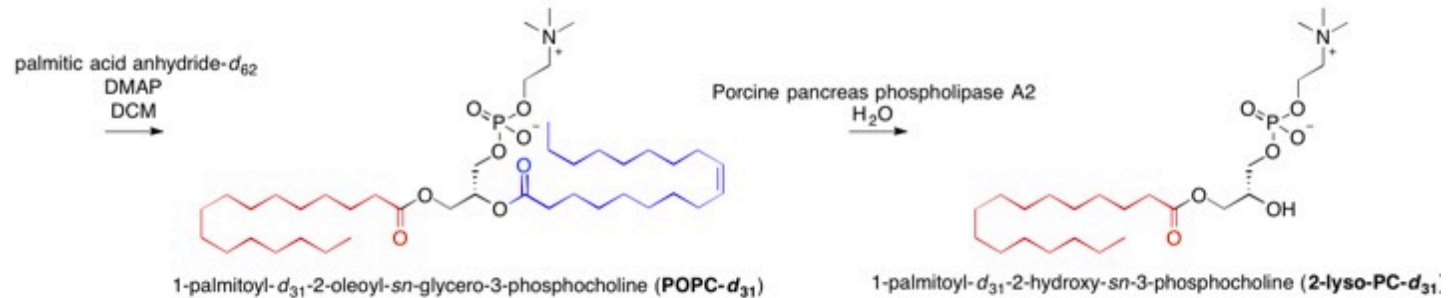
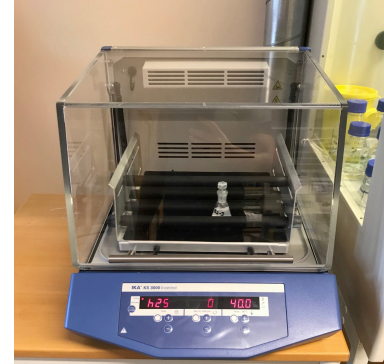
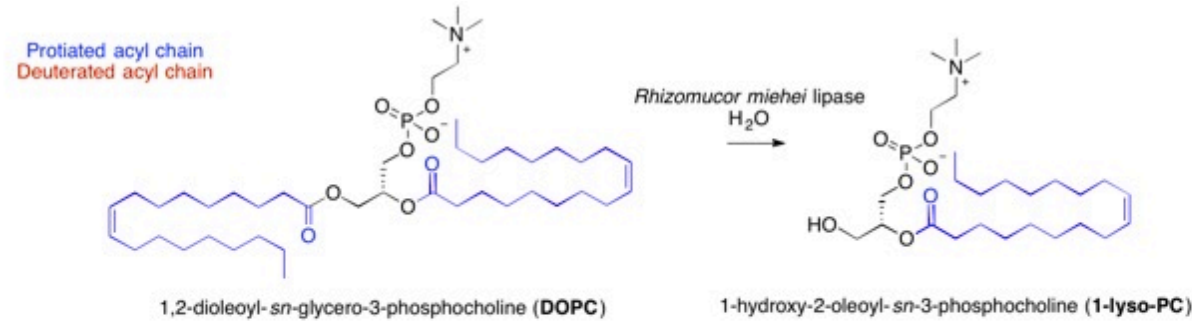


# Chemical Deuteration

Immobilised enzymes for lipid synthesis – Oliver Bogojevic

BrightnESS<sup>2</sup> is funded by the European Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020, under grant agreement 823867

## Combined enzymatic/chemical approach for facile POPC synthesis (100mg):



### Practical considerations:

- ✓ Acyl-migration
- ✓ Enzyme activity
- ✓ Solubility
- ✓ Mixing
- ✓ Reaction monitoring

# Lipid Extraction, purification, analysis

## Biodeuterated lipids from Pichia Pastoris yeast biomass



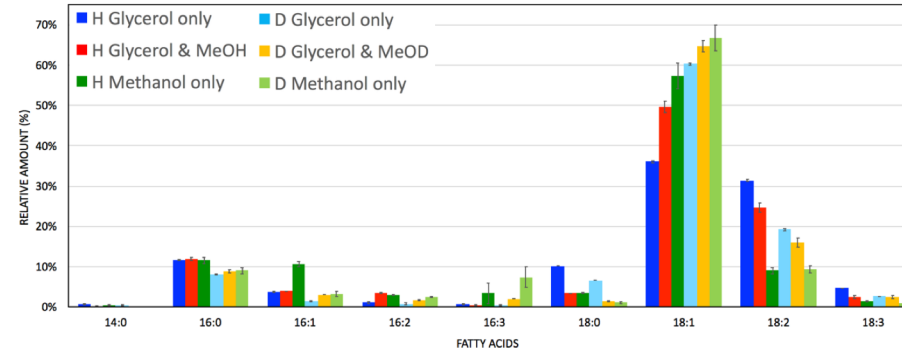
### Current capabilities:

- ✓ Total lipid extracts
- ✓ Non-polar lipid separation
- ✓ Total phospholipid extracts
- ✓ Sterols
- ✓ Analysis, %d (TLC, GC, MS)

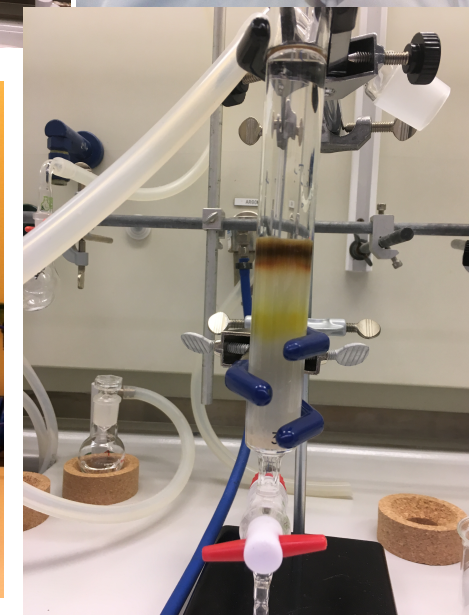
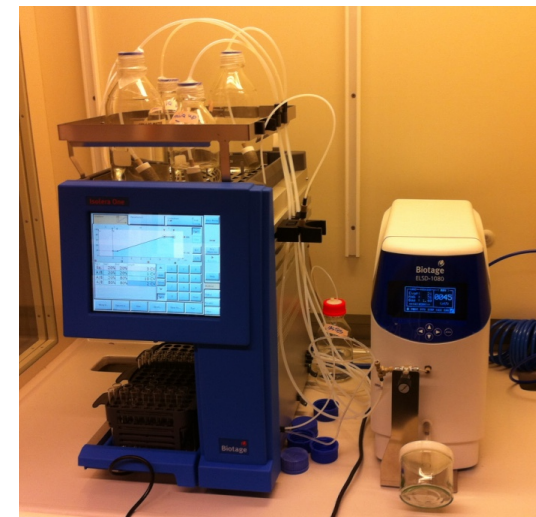
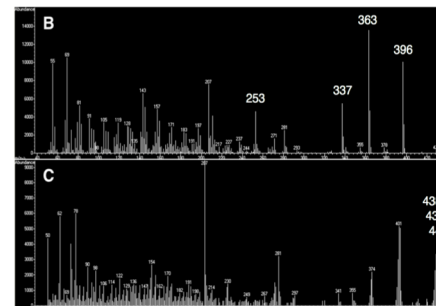
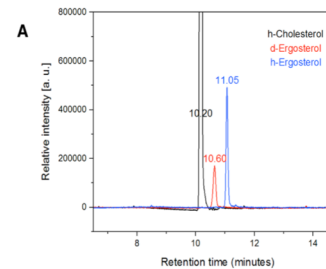
### On-going:

- Separation of phospholipid classes
- Reverse-phase HPLC

### Effect of carbon source on lipid composition



### d-ergosterol



# Biological deuteration

Crude Biomass – yeast, algae, bacteria



Extracted products: recombinant proteins (*E. coli*), total lipid extract (*P. pastoris*)

Type	How?	Level of D incorporation	Application	\$
H/D exchange	In vitro	25-30% labile H	Crystallography	\$
Partial deuteration	In vivo	65-80 % (unlabeled C-source, recycled or fresh D <sub>2</sub> O)	Matched-out product for SANS, NR, crystallography – spectroscopy? imaging?	\$\$
Perdeuteration	In vivo	Minimal media, D-carbon source, fresh D <sub>2</sub> O	SANS, NR, crystallography, spectroscopy, QENS, NSE etc.	\$\$\$
Perdeuteration	In vivo	Rich media, D-algal extract, fresh D <sub>2</sub> O	SANS, NR, crystallography, spectroscopy, QENS, NSE etc.	\$\$\$



# Biological deuteration

– projects with LP3, Katarina Koruza, Manuel Orozco (LU), Akos Vegvari (KI); LANL (algae)

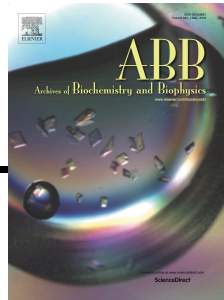
Developed cost-effective methods to maximize protein yield and D-incorporation in *E. coli*, including biophysical characterization of recombinant proteins



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/yabbi](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/yabbi)



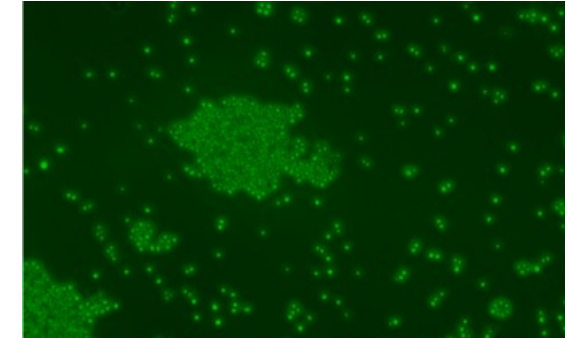
Deuteration of human carbonic anhydrase for neutron crystallography: Cell culture media, protein thermostability, and crystallization behavior

K. Koruza<sup>a</sup>, B. Lafumat<sup>a</sup>, Á. Végvári<sup>b</sup>, W. Knecht<sup>a</sup>, S.Z. Fisher<sup>a,c,\*</sup>

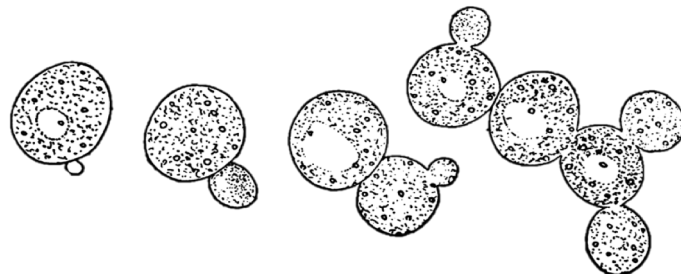
<sup>a</sup> Department of Biology & Lund Protein Production Platform, Lund University, Sölvegatan 35, Lund 22362, Sweden

<sup>b</sup> Department of Medical Biochemistry & Biophysics, Karolinska Institute, Scheeles väg 2, Stockholm 17177, Sweden

<sup>c</sup> Scientific Activities Division, European Spallation Source ERIC, Tunavägen 24, Lund 22100, Sweden



Growing algae as source of D-nutrients for rich broth preparation.  
Presently: *Botryococcus braunii*  
Coming soon: *Scenedesmus obliquus*



Yeast – growing *P. pastoris* under perdeuterated conditions for total lipid extract  
*Future: protein expression*

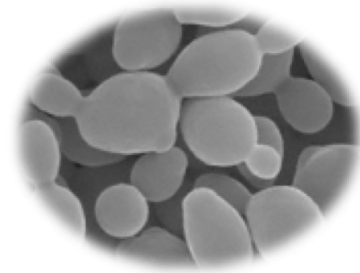
# Lipid BioDeuteration in yeast

Yeast cell cultures and biomass production at LP3

Yeasts contain all major lipid phospholipid classes (PC, PE, PI, PS, CL), sterols, glycerolipids, sphingolipids

Composition depends on

- i) Species and strain
- ii) Growth conditions
- iii) GM



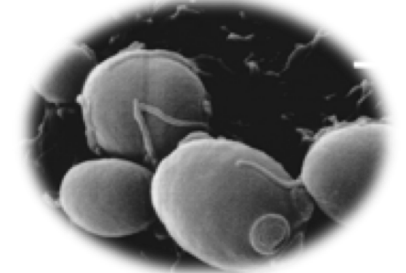
***Pichia pastoris***

**Widely used for protein and lipid production**



***Rhodotorula glutinis***

**Oleaginous yeast, high producer of triglycerides**



***Candida glabrata***

**Human pathogen, drug resistance model**

## Current capabilities:

- ✓ Shaker flask cultures
- ✓ Up to 500mg per-deuterated total lipid extracts from *P. Pastoris*
- ✓ Up to 50mg perdeuterated lipid extracts from *C. glabrata*

On-going/next steps:

- Growth conditions for oleaginous yeasts (e.g. *R. glutinis*)
- Optimisation of lipid production in bioreactors (pH control)



# Lipid BioDeuteration in yeast

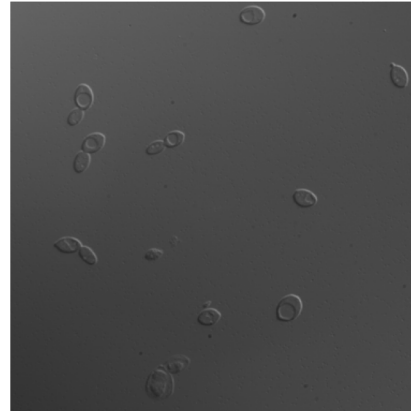
## Oleaginous yeasts for glycerolipid production

Oleaginous yeasts can produce up to 60wt% as storage fats – mainly triglycerides

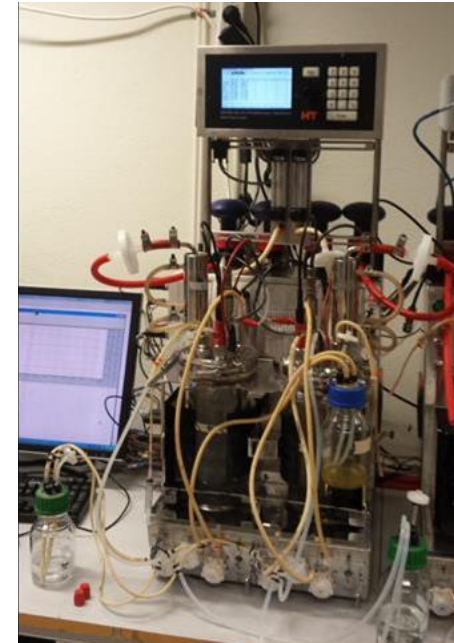
FA composition depends on

- i) Species and strain
- ii) Growth conditions

Control of pH and nutrients important for high-fat content - fermentor cultures



Hydrogenated *Rhodotorula glutinis*



*Rhodotorula glutinis*

Oleaginous yeast,  
high producer of linoleic acid

### Current capabilities:

- ✓ Shaker flask cultures
- ✓ Fermentor cultures ( $^1\text{H}$ ) of *R. glutinis* and *P. Pastoris*

On-going/next steps:

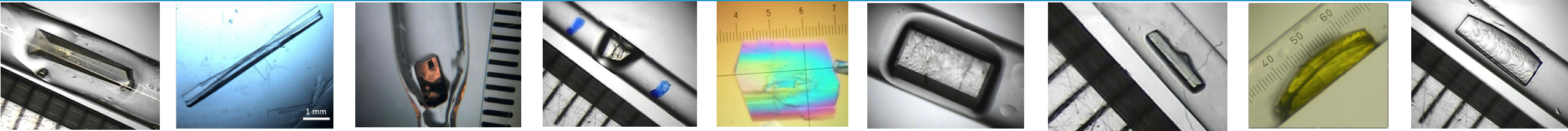
- Growth conditions for further oleaginous yeasts (e.g. *Yarrowina*)
- Optimal carbon source €€€
- Selection of strains suitable for perdeuteration

EU Internship chem lab assistant from Berlin LM School August 2019 for lipid analysis

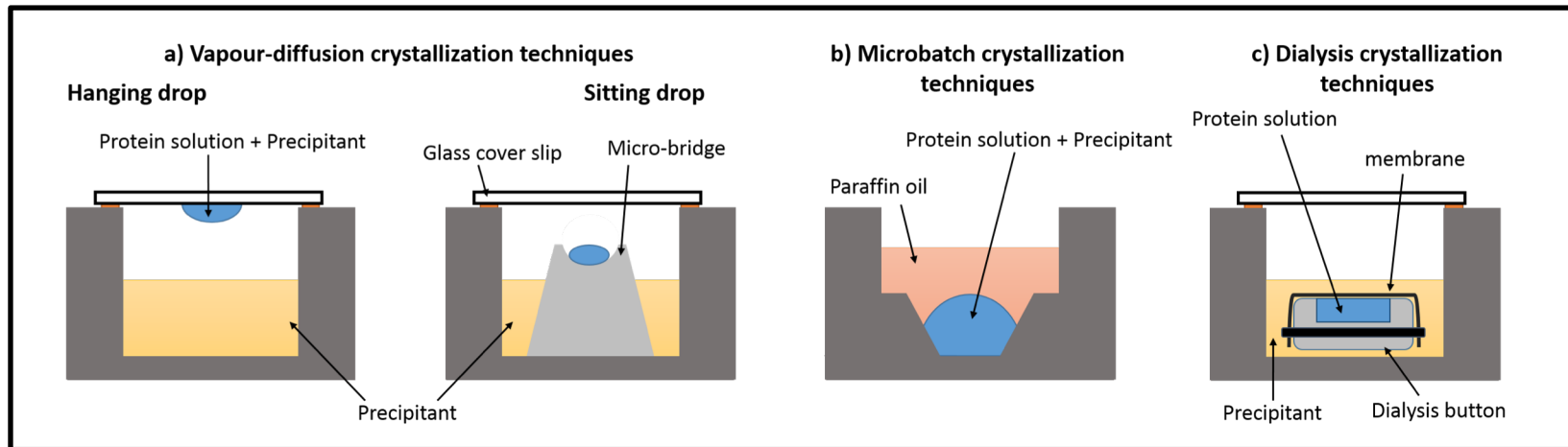


# Crystallization

– large single crystals (> 0.5 mm<sup>3</sup> today)



- Crystallization: micro & macroseeding, crystal feeding, dialysis, large volume sitting drop vapour diffusion, (macro)batch (with/without oil), temperature control/pH/precipitant



Characterization of proteins: ESI-MS & MALDI-TOF (D-incorporation, intact mass), DLS, Nanotemper Thermofluor (stability, aggregation), low and high-throughput screening (Oryx8, Mosquito, by hand), large crystal growth, X-ray testing/data collection at BioMAX.

# Crystallization

– methods developed & services offered (in collaboration with LP3)



Journal of Structural Biology 205 (2019) 147–154

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Journal of Structural Biology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jysbi](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jysbi)



Using neutron crystallography to elucidate the basis of selective inhibition of carbonic anhydrase by saccharin and a derivative

Katarina Koruza<sup>a</sup>, Brian P. Mahon<sup>b,f</sup>, Matthew P. Blakeley<sup>c</sup>, Andreas Ostermann<sup>d</sup>, Tobias E. Schrader<sup>e</sup>, Robert McKenna<sup>f</sup>, Wolfgang Knecht<sup>a</sup>, S. Zoë Fisher<sup>a,b,g,\*</sup>

research papers



Perdeuteration, crystallization, data collection and comparison of five neutron diffraction data sets of complexes of human galectin-3C

Francesco Manzoni<sup>a,b</sup>, Kadhivel Saraboji<sup>a,†</sup>, Janina Sprenger<sup>a</sup>, Rohit Kumar<sup>a</sup>, Ann-Louise Noresson<sup>c</sup>, Ulf J. Nilsson<sup>c</sup>, Hakon Leffler<sup>d</sup>, Zoë Fisher<sup>e,g</sup>, Tobias Schrader<sup>f</sup>, Andreas Ostermann<sup>g</sup>, Leighton Coates<sup>h</sup>, Matthew P. Blakeley<sup>i</sup>, Esko Oksanen<sup>a,b</sup> and Derek T. Logan<sup>a,\*</sup>

Received 16 August 2016  
Accepted 3 October 2016

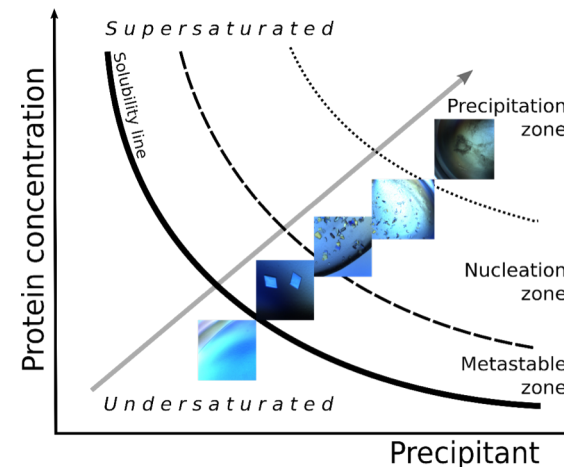
Edited by J. Newman, Bio21 Collaborative Crystallisation Centre, Australia

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<sup>§</sup> Current address: European Spallation Source ERIC, Box 176, S-221 00 Lund, Sweden.

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\*Correspondence e-mail: [derek.logan@biochemistry.lu.se](mailto:derek.logan@biochemistry.lu.se)



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Neutron Crystallographic Studies Reveal Hydrogen Bond and Water-Mediated Interactions between a Carbohydrate-Binding Module and Its Bound Carbohydrate Ligand

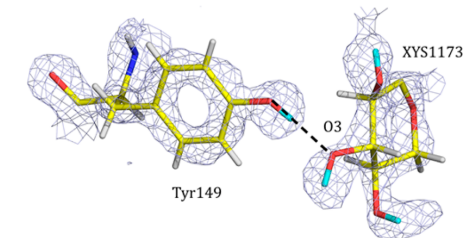
S. Zoë Fisher,<sup>†</sup> Laura von Schantz,<sup>‡,§,¶</sup> Maria Håkansson,<sup>§</sup> Derek T. Logan,<sup>§,||</sup> and Mats Ohlin<sup>\*,‡</sup>

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Article

From Initial Hit to Crystal Optimization with Microseeding of Human Carbonic Anhydrase IX—A Case Study for Neutron Protein Crystallography

Katarina Koruza<sup>1,\*</sup>, Bénédicte Lafumat<sup>1</sup>, Maria Nyblom<sup>1</sup>, Wolfgang Knecht<sup>1</sup> and Zoë Fisher<sup>1,2,\*</sup>



- Systematic optimization, phase diagram mapping, microseeding, batch methods.
- Making complexes with ligands: soaking vs. dry co-crystallization



WP5 Chemical Deuteration (ESS, ILL, STFC, FZJ)

- DEUNET

WP6 XTALGEN (ILL, ESS, FZJ)

- Phase diagram characterisation for proteins (ESS, FZJ)

2015-2019



WP2 A strategy to deliver neutrons for Europe and beyond

- Task 2.3B: Deuteration For Soft Matter and Life Sciences ESS-STFC

2019 - 2021

i) chemical and/or microbial production of perdeuterated fatty acids and lipids, followed by  
ii) enzymatic synthesis of complex novel deuterated compounds.



WG3 Working Group 3: Synergies in technological development and operation

- Task 3.x Deuteration Technologies (Chem, Bio, Xtal) ESS, ILL, STFC, FZJ

# DEUNET – SINE2020 Sustainability report

## DEUNET achievements enabled by SINE2020:

1. Establishment of a new chemical deuteration laboratory at ESS
2. Access to STFC deuteration facility to European users
3. Development of methods for lipid deuteration, and separation from cell cultures at ILL
4. R&D in enzymatic and chemical synthesis of chiral biopolymers and lipids at FZJ and ESS.



Currently funded ESS	FTE	STFC	FTE	ILL	FTE	FZJ	FTE
2 scientists	2	4 scientists	4	1 technician	0.2	-	-
		1 technician	1				
		2 Post-docs	2				
		3 PhD students	2				

### Conclusions and recommended actions:

- 1) Continued staffing resources for a sustainable DEUNET
- 2) Inclusion of biodeuteration/macromolecular crystallisation facilities in DEUNET
- 3) Continued R&D and international networking to facilitate innovation in neutron science
- 4) A cross-facility working group on inter-facility access to deuteration

# DEUNET – Deuteration Network

- next meeting 25-26 April Lund @ LINXS



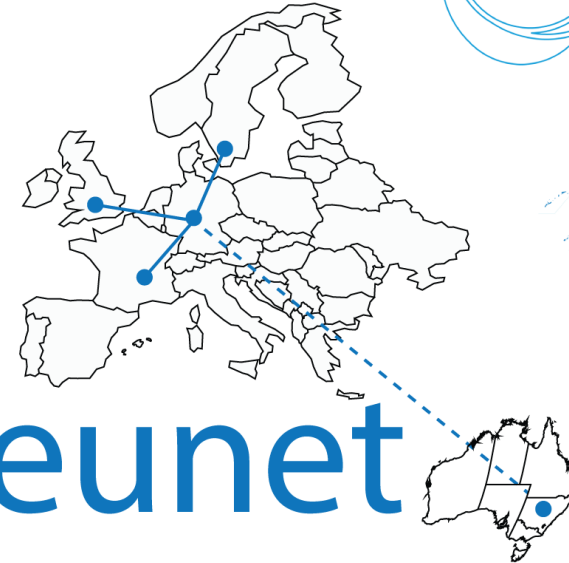
New members: ANSTO NFD, JPARC-MLZ, LP3

DBI Net possible new collaboration with ORNL/US deuteration

*Larodan Lipids* first industrial partner interested in distributing deuterated (and non-deuterated) products

Discussion on post-SINE2020 DEUNET and LENS

Continuation funding – seeking opportunities for new projects





## WG3 : Synergies in technological development and operation - Task 3.x Deuteration Technologies (Chem, Bio, Xtal) ESS, ILL, STFC, FZJ



### 4 Pillars:

- chemical deuteration
- biological deuteration
- macromolecular crystallisation
- networking and synergies

### Priorities aligned to outcomes of SINE2020 WP5 and WP6:

1. Identifying new R&D projects and collaborations aligned to future research themes and priorities in Europe
2. Networking with international deuteration facilities
3. Cross-facility working group on deuteration user access in Europe

# Lipid composition and antibiotic resistance in *C. glabrata* (0.3FTE HWK)

3-year project funded by Swedish Research Council VR grant nr. 2016-01164 (2017-2020)



W. Knecht

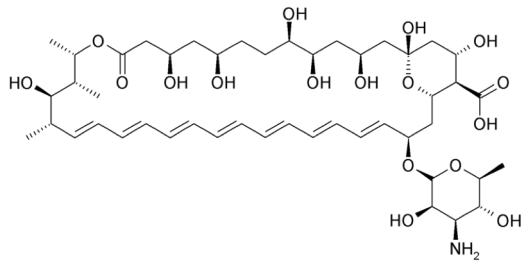


EUROPEAN SPACE SOCIETY

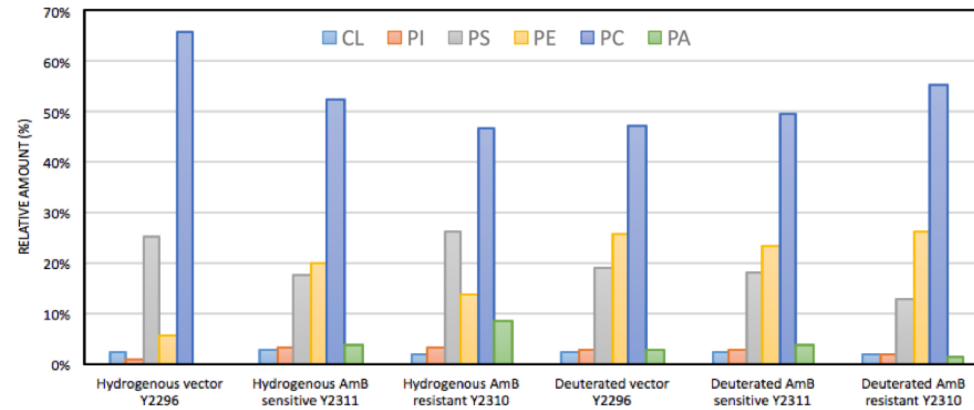


(Olena Ishchuk)

iRNA used to up/downregulate genes – strains chosen for increased/decreased Amphotericin B resistance

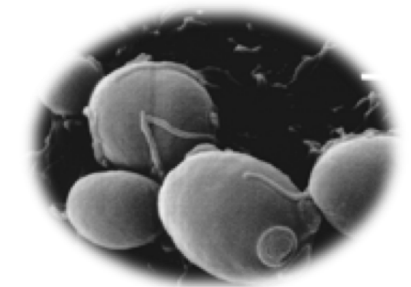
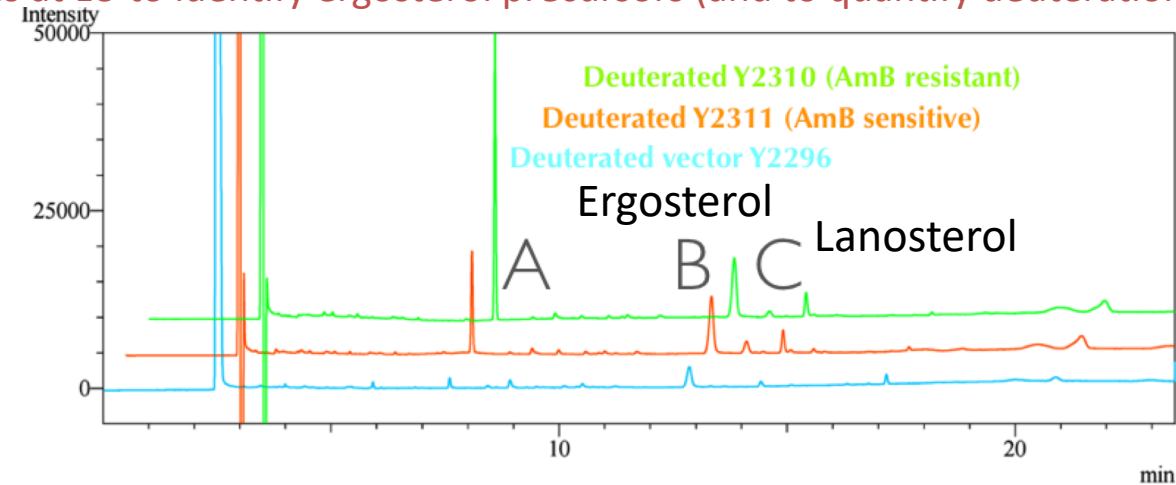
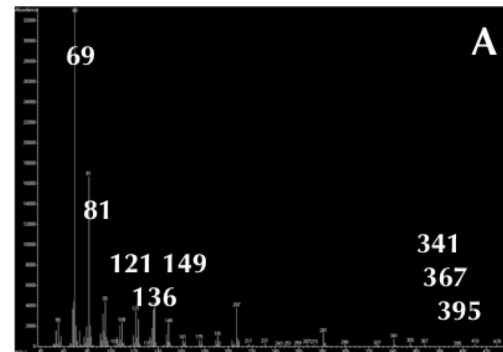
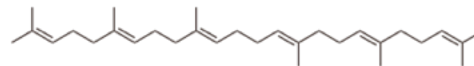


Alterations in sterol biosynthesis lead to accumulation of squalene - NR show SQ to be located in the centre of membranes where it prevents AmB insertion.



## Squalene

Detailed GC-MS analysis at LU to identify ergosterol precursors (and to quantify deutereration)



*Candida glabrata*  
Human pathogen

GC-MS difficult to access in LU teaching labs

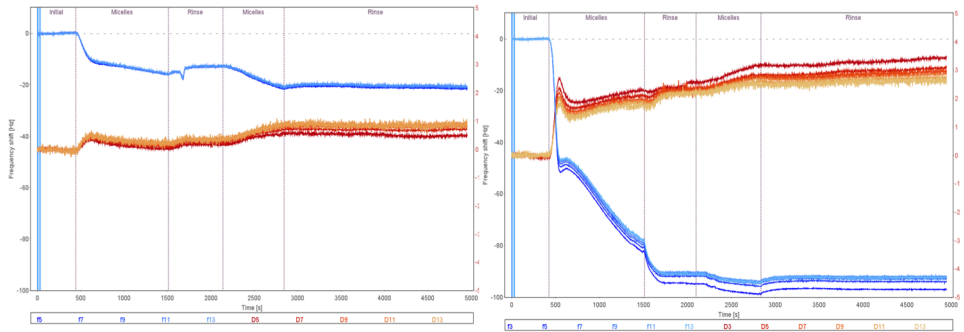
User-provided strains can be cultured, but further GM work would require a molecular biologist.

# Reconstitution and function of human DHODH in membranes (Manuel Orozco PhD LU 2018-2022)

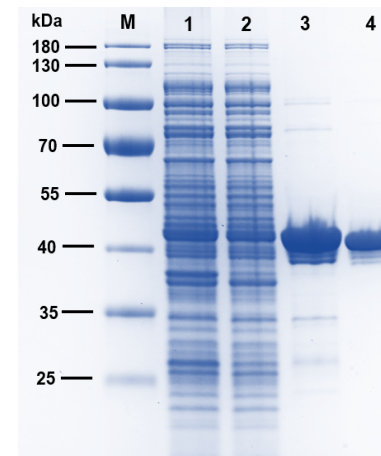
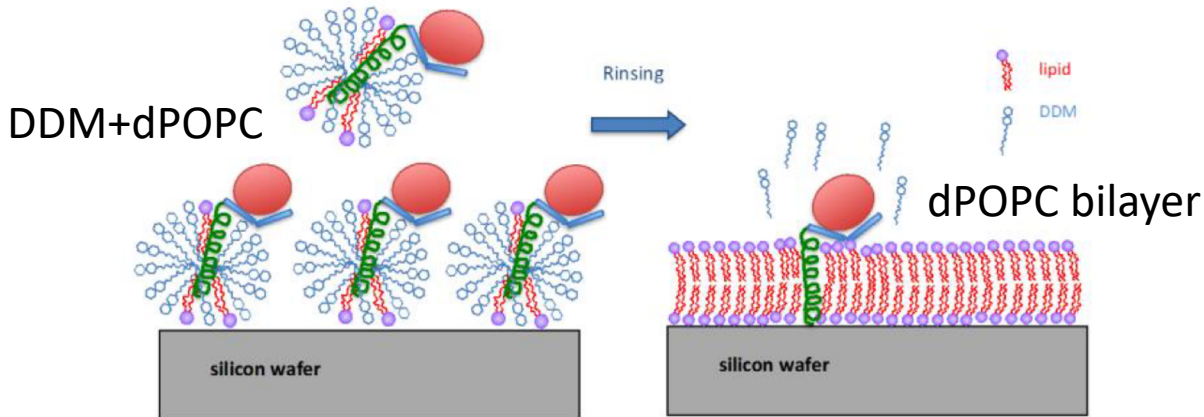
- Purification of full length DHODH and solubilisation with DDM for SANS and NR studies of lipid-DDM reconstitution process into supported lipid bilayers



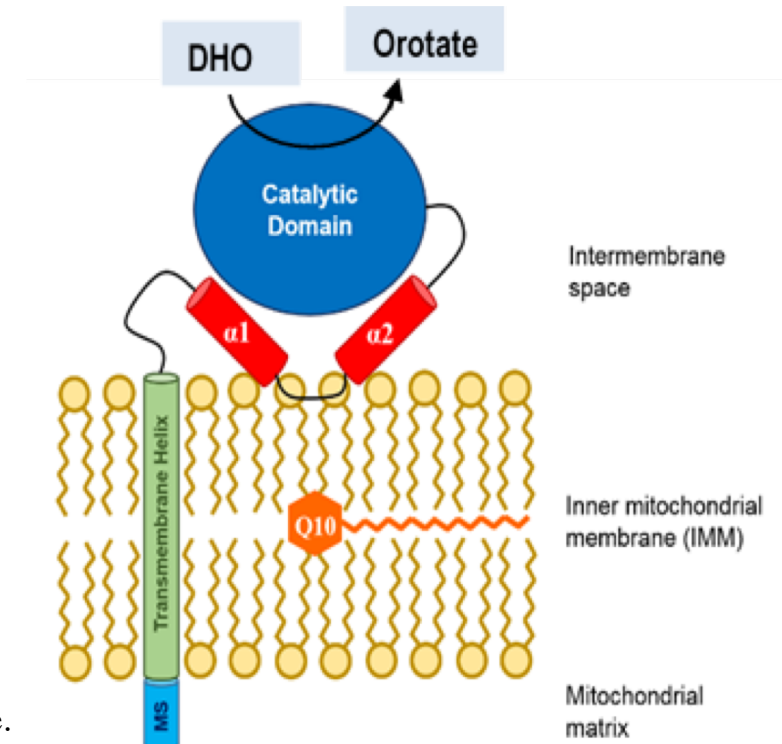
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Reconstitution of full-length DHODH into supported lipid bilayers by detergent/lipid micelle adsorption monitored by QCM-D. *Left*: lipids only (80% POPC, 10% cardiolipin and 10% Q<sub>10</sub>). *Right*: lipids and DHODH (10:1 mol/mol).



Purification of full-length hDHODH from *E. coli*.  
 1 crude cell lysate.  
 2 solubilized fraction  
 3 metal affinity column eluate.  
 4, purified DHODH in DDM.



# Questions to STAP:

- Commercial access to deuterated products?
  - i) For industrial neutron users
  - ii) Sale of products to commercial vendors

E.g. Larodan Lipids (SE) is interested in purchasing or distributing excess deuterated (and non-deuterated) products from DEMAX.