

A combined approach to size,  
heterogeneity, conformation & flexibility  
of bio-macromolecules

**Steve Harding**

*National Centre for Macromolecular Hydrodynamics*



Size (mol wt.) & heterogeneity:

- SEC-MALLs – mol wt distributions
- AUC sedimentation equilibrium analysis –  $M^*$  & distributions
- AUC sedimentation velocity analysis –  $g^*(s)$  & distributions

# • Size (mol wt.) and heterogeneity: **SEC-MALLs**

Biochemical Society Transactions 19 (1991) 510-511

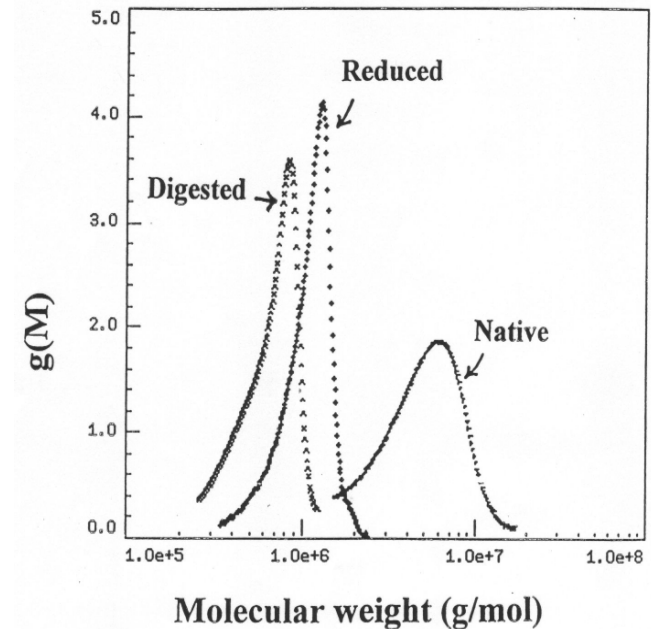
## Gel permeation chromatography–multi-angle laser light scattering characterization of the molecular mass distribution of 'Pronova' sodium alginate

J. C. Horton, S. E. Harding and J. R. Mitchell

University of Nottingham, Department of Applied Biochemistry and Food Science, School of Agriculture, Sutton Bonington, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 5RD, U.K.

A relatively recent innovation in total intensity laser light scattering has been to replace the isolated

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International Journal of Biological Macromolecules  
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INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF  
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STRUCTURE, FUNCTION AND INTERACTIONS

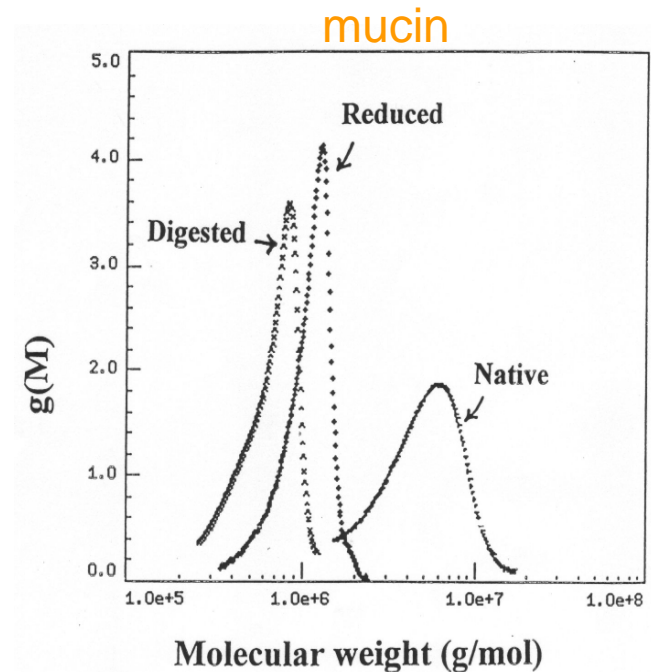
## Rapid size distribution and purity analysis of gastric mucus glycoproteins by size exclusion chromatography/multi angle laser light scattering

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<sup>a</sup>University of Nottingham, Department of Applied Biochemistry and Food Science, Sutton Bonington, Loughborough, LE12 5RD, UK

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Received 10 July 1995; revision received 29 August 1995; accepted 5 September 1995



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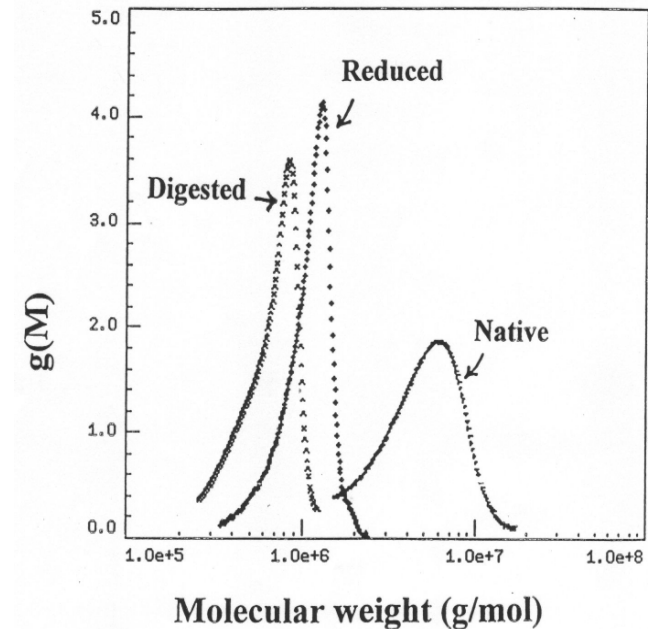
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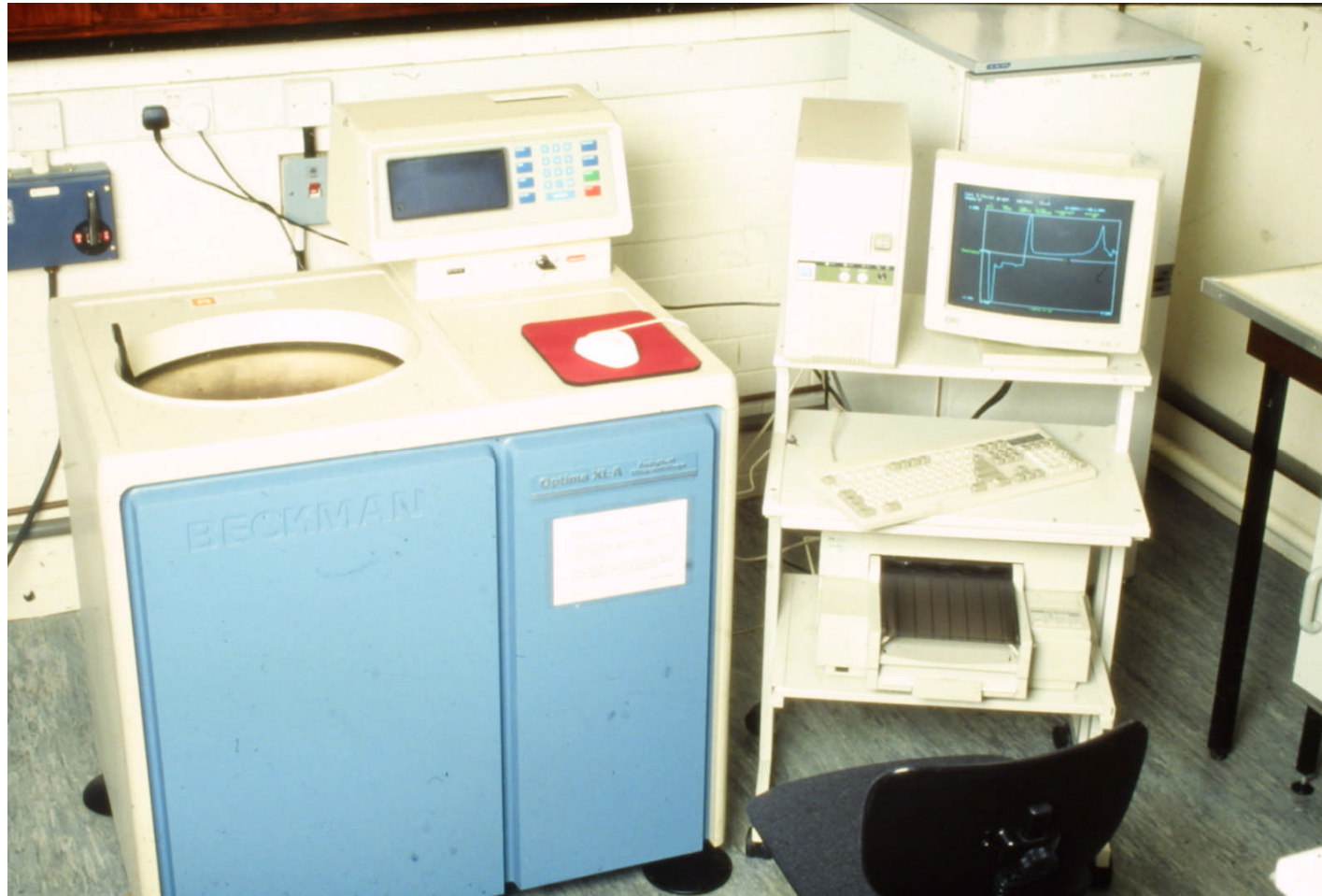
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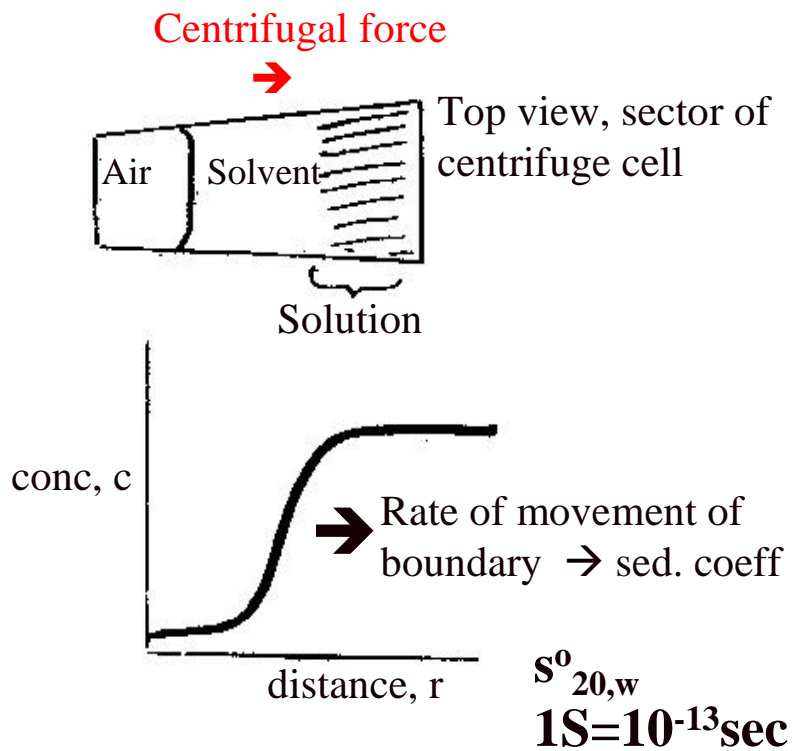
- Size (mol wt.) and heterogeneity: **Analytical ultracentrifuge**



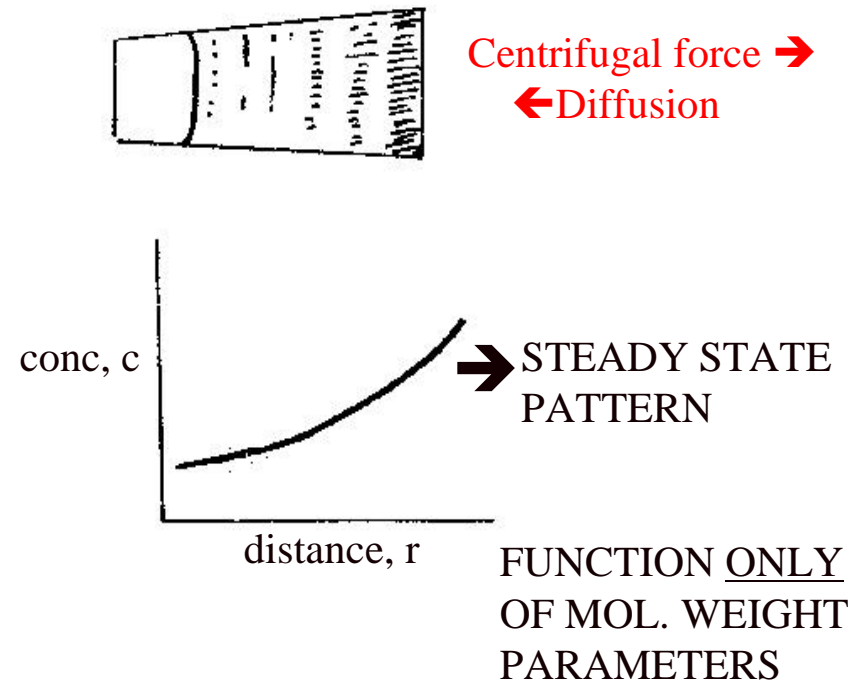


- Size (mol wt.) and heterogeneity: **Analytical ultracentrifuge**

## Sedimentation Velocity



## Sedimentation Equilibrium

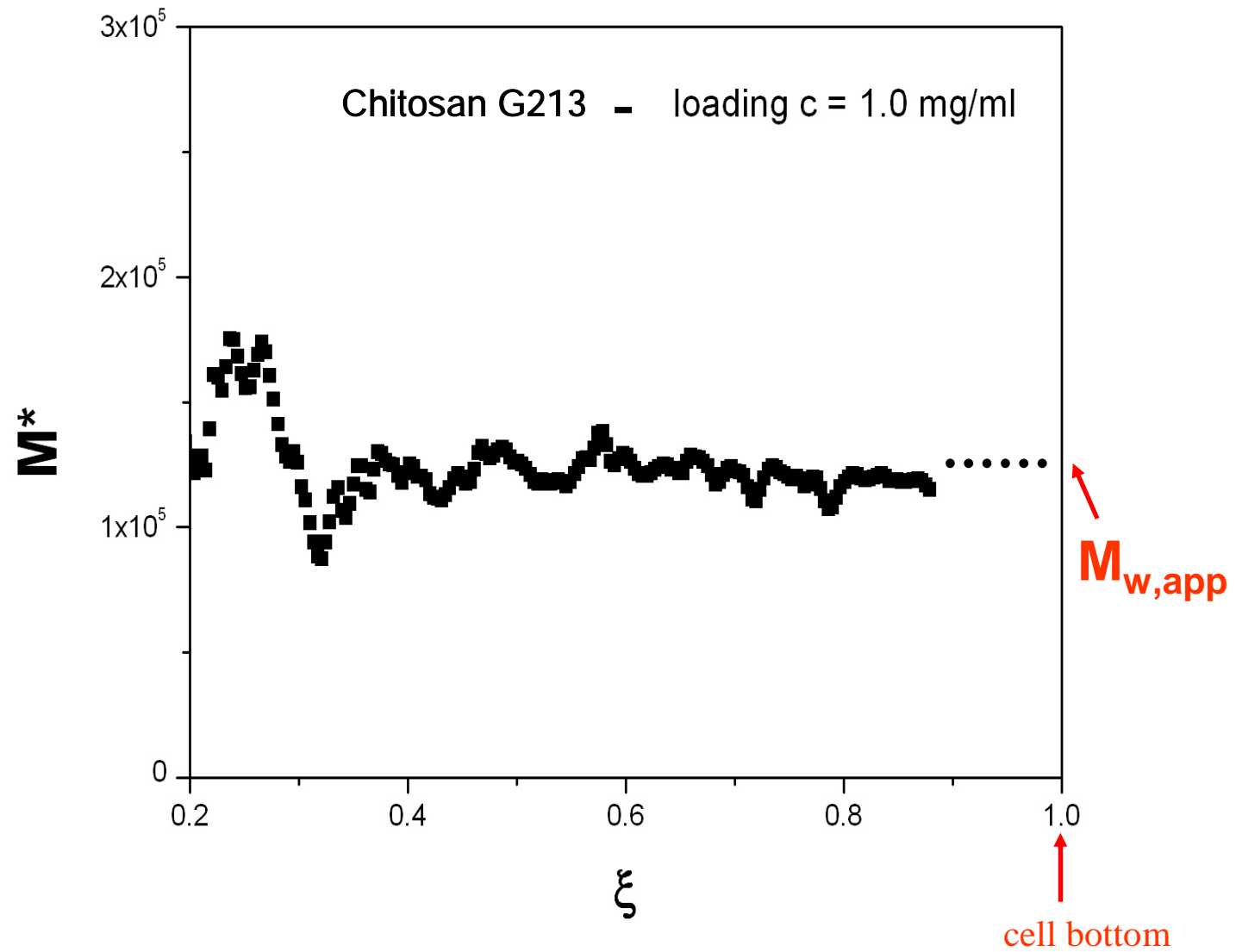


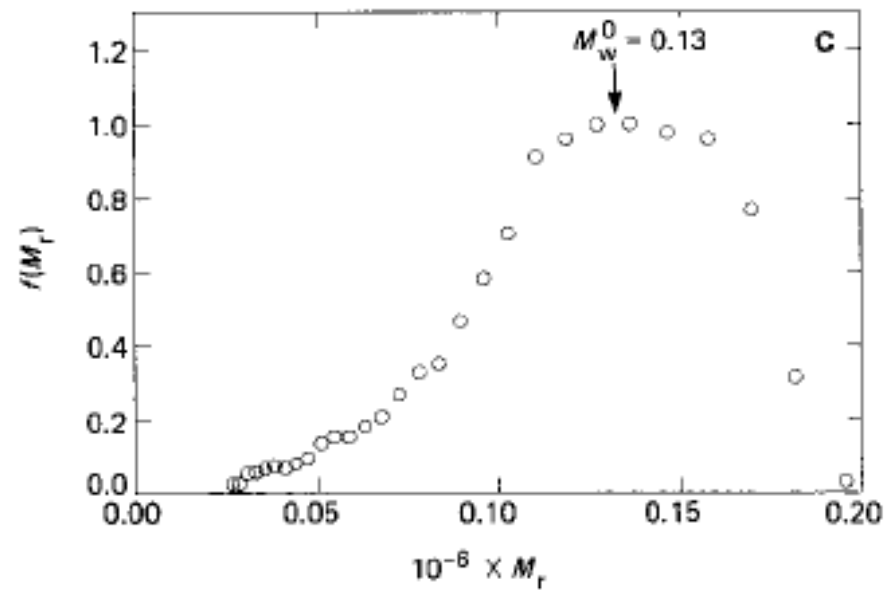
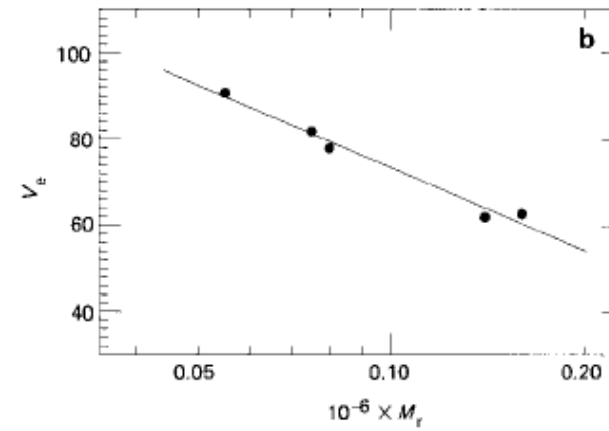
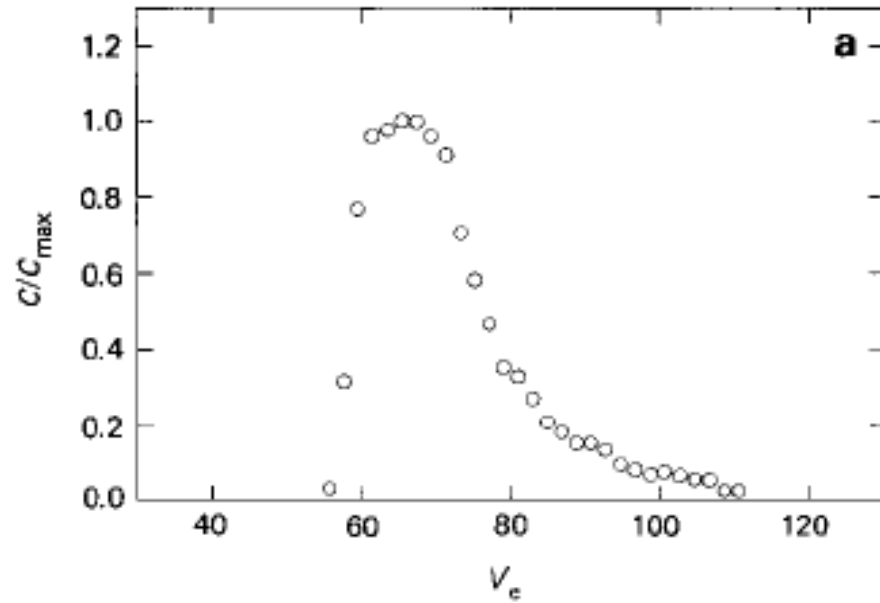


## *M\* analysis of sedimentation equilibrium*

$$M^*(r) = j(r) / \left\{ kJ(a)(r^2 - a^2) + 2k \int_a^r r \cdot j(r) \, dr \right\}$$

## Sedimentation equilibrium $M^*$ plot





*SEC - sedimentation equilibrium mol. wt distribution: alginate*

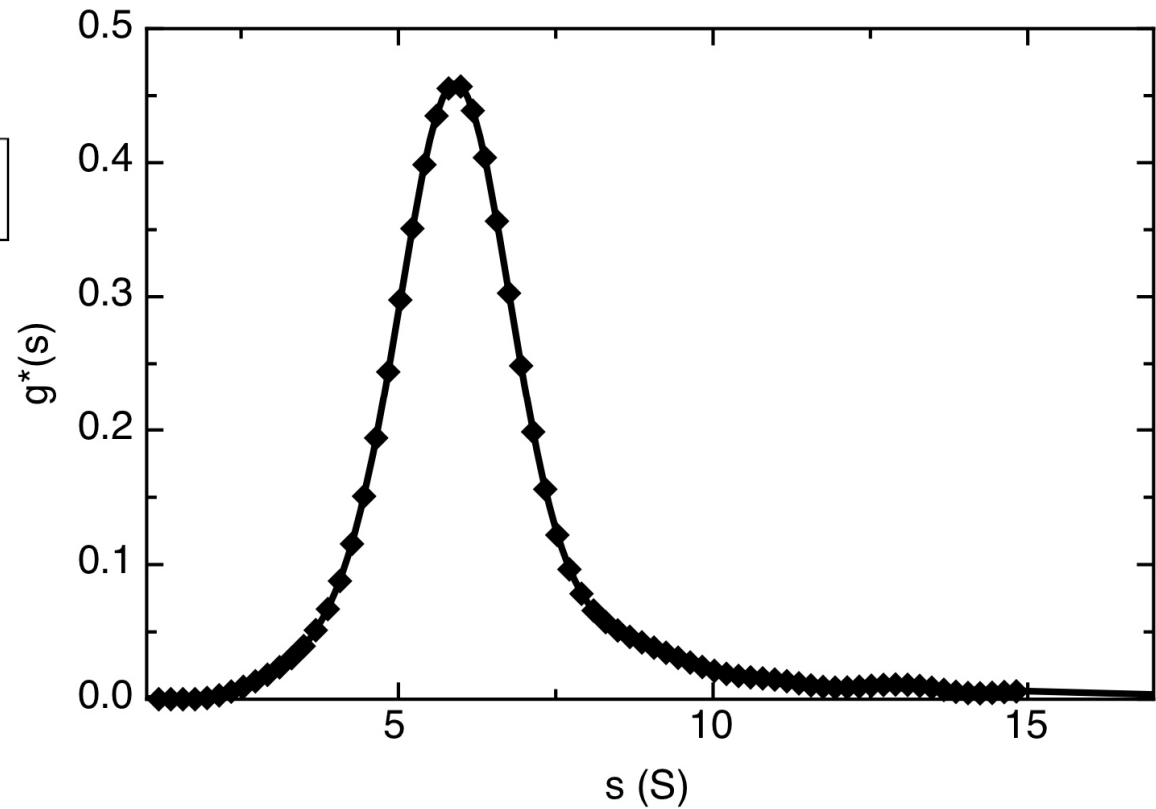
Ball, Harding & Mitchell (1988)

## Sedimentation velocity $g^*(s)$ plot

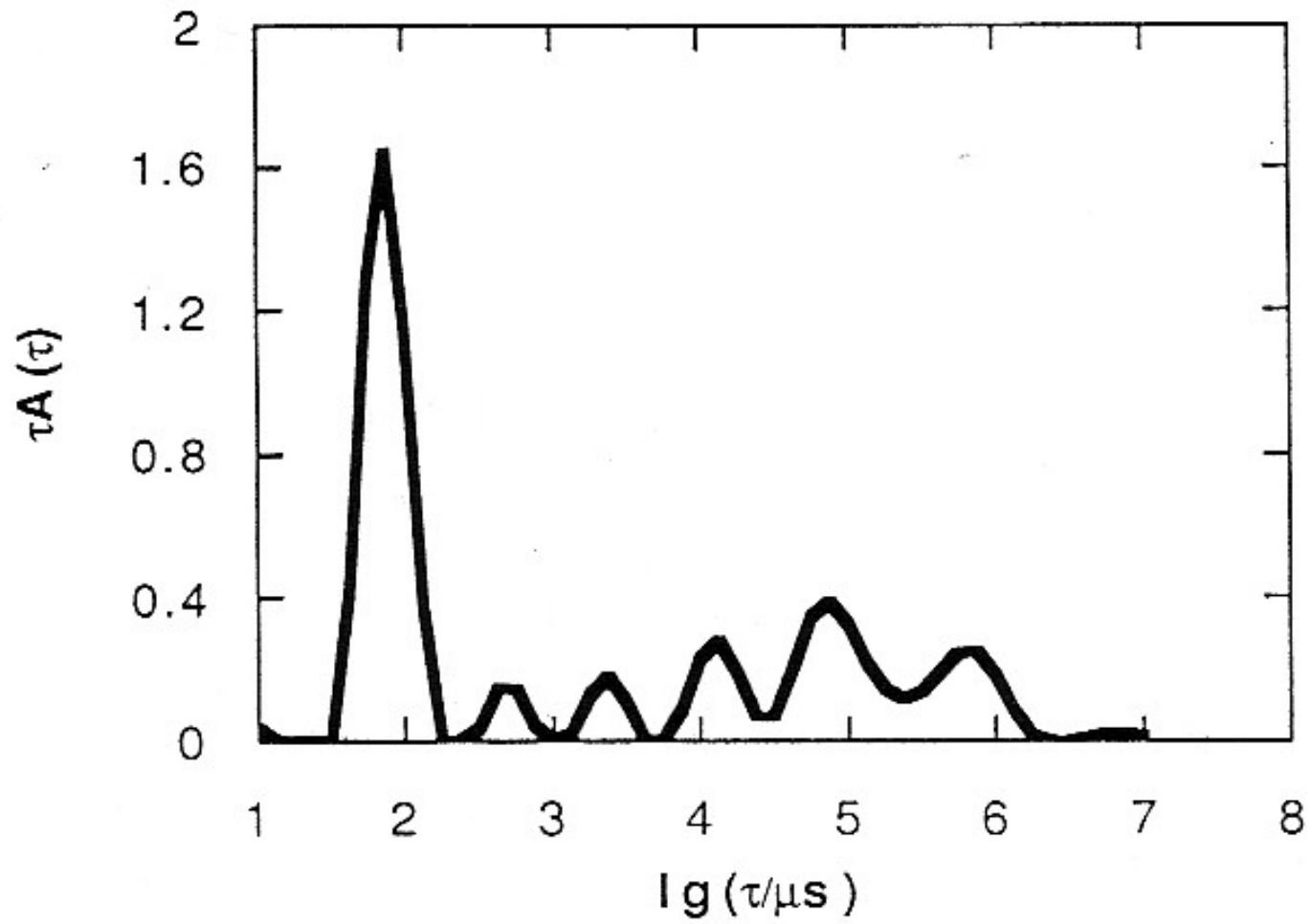
*Lamm (1923) equation:*

$$\frac{\partial \chi}{\partial t} = (1/r) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left[ rD \frac{\partial \chi}{\partial r} - s\omega^2 r^2 \chi \right]$$

*Numerical solutions to the Lamm equation by Claverie et al (1975) & implemented by Todd & Haschemayer (1981)*

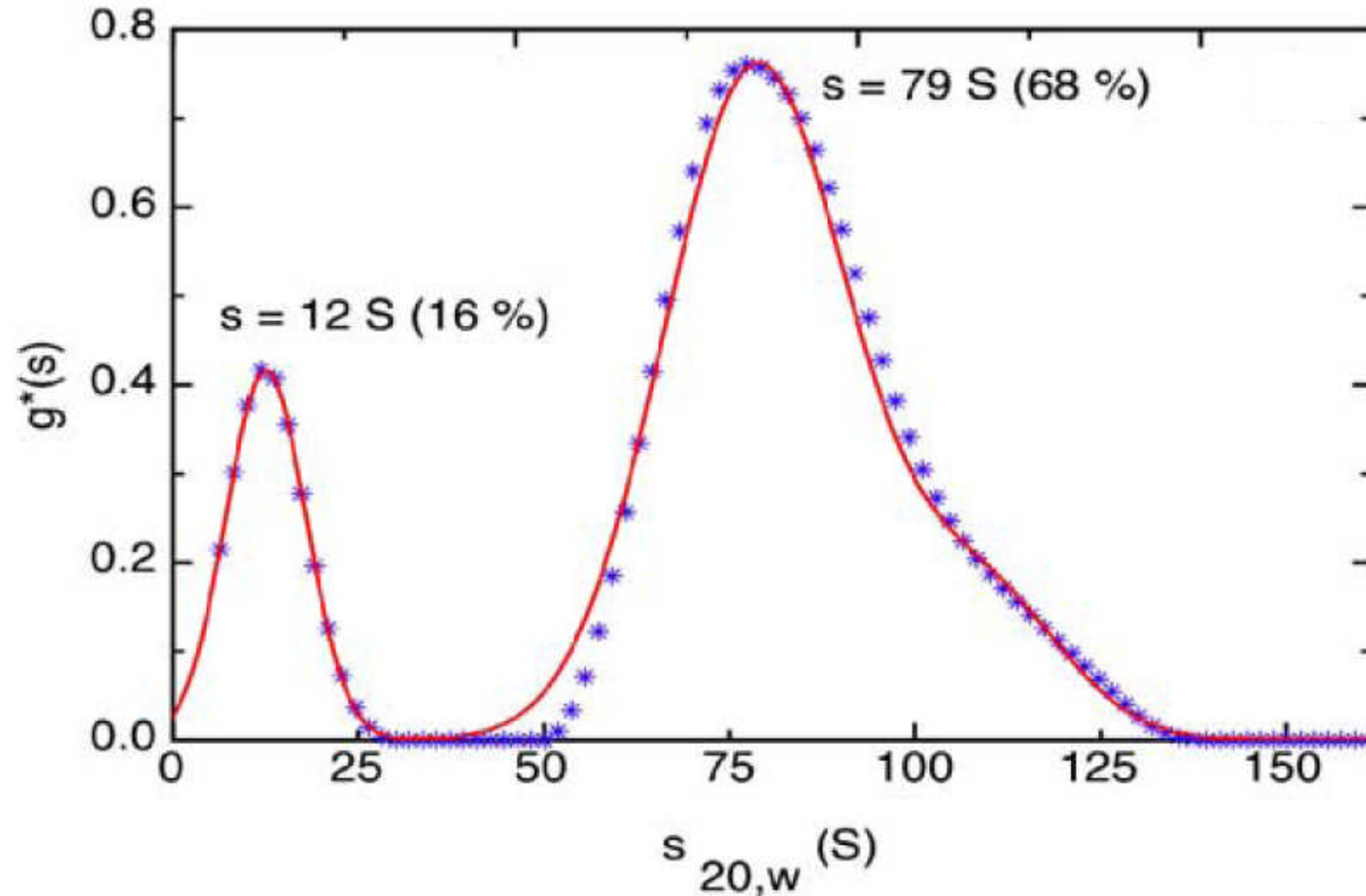


## *DLS analysis: Contin plot*



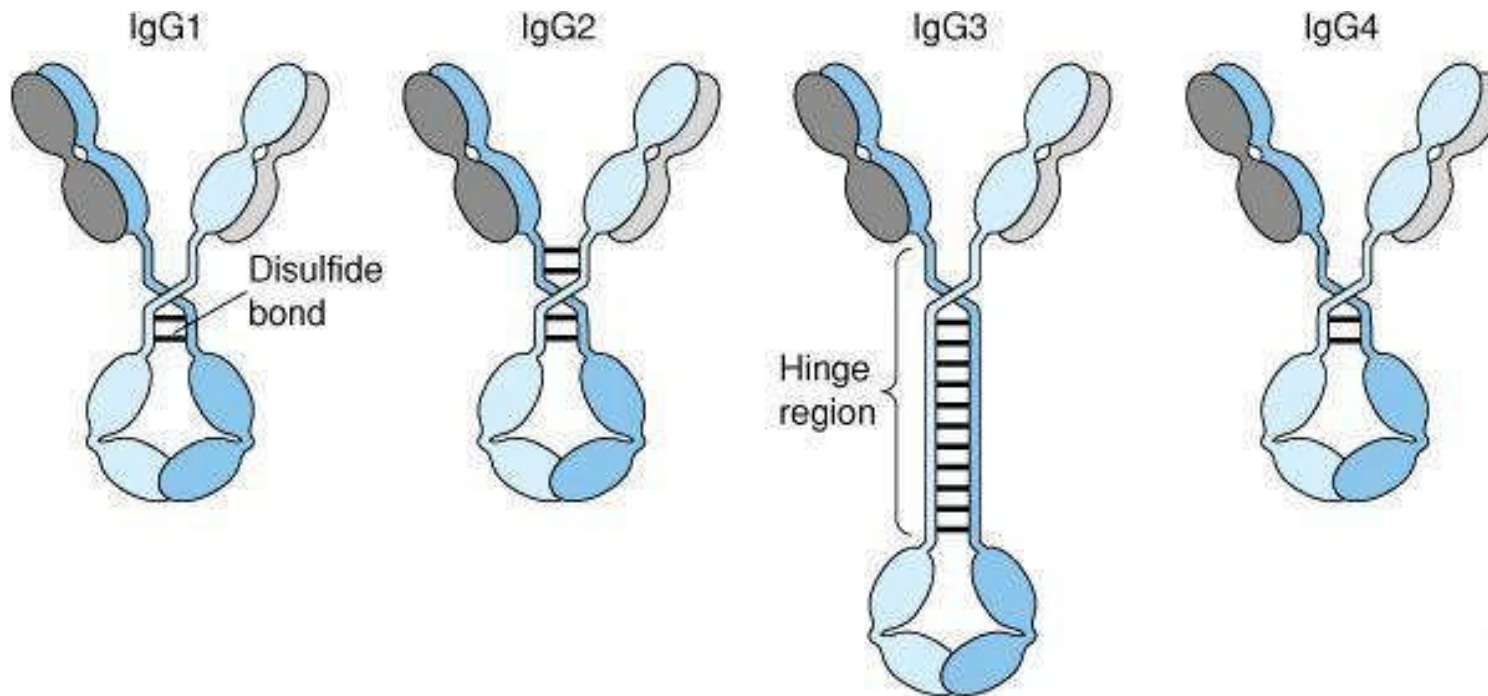


## Sedimentation velocity $g^*(s)$ plot: starch



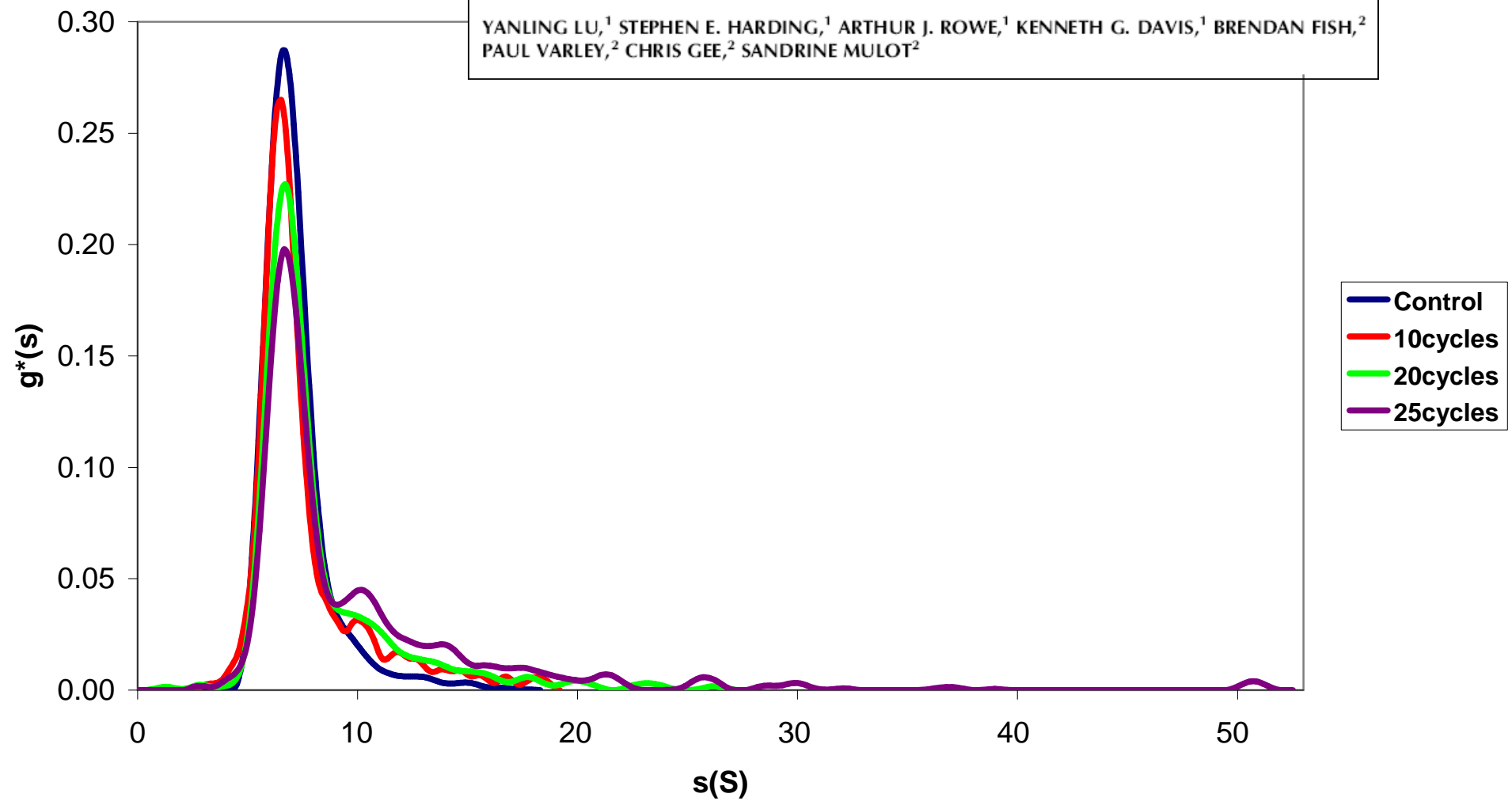
*R. Tester, T Patel, S. Harding, Carbohydrate Research (2006)*

*.....consider antibodies used in therapies, and their state of aggregation after bioprocessing*

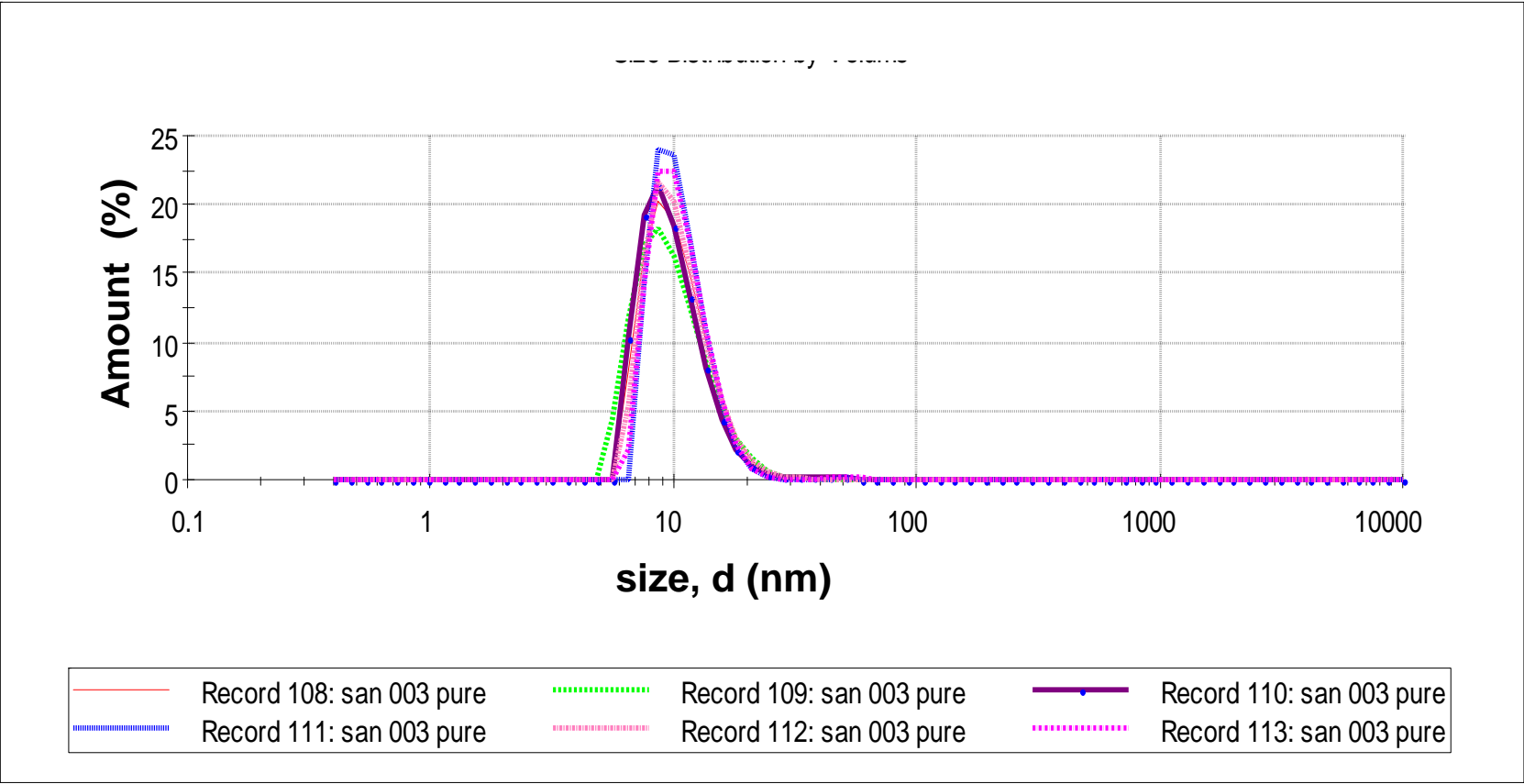


*Size distribution by sedimentation velocity of a bioprocessed IgG4 antibody*

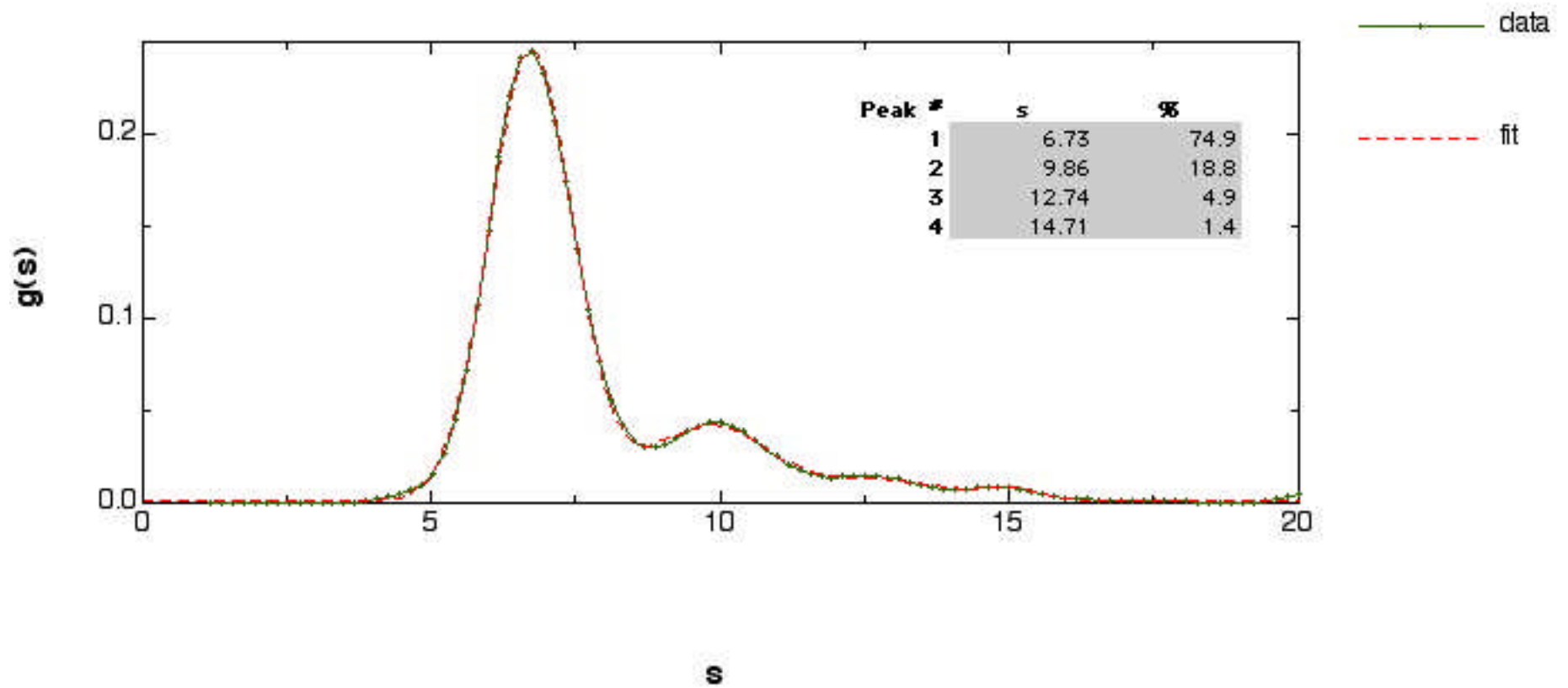
960 JOURNAL OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES, VOL. 97, NO. 2, FEBRUARY 2008  
**The Effect of a Point Mutation on the Stability of IgG4 as Monitored by Analytical Ultracentrifugation**  
YANLING LU,<sup>1</sup> STEPHEN E. HARDING,<sup>1</sup> ARTHUR J. ROWE,<sup>1</sup> KENNETH G. DAVIS,<sup>1</sup> BRENDAN FISH,<sup>2</sup>  
PAUL VARLEY,<sup>2</sup> CHRIS GEE,<sup>2</sup> SANDRINE MULOT<sup>2</sup>



Size distribution by DLS of a bioprocessed IgG4 antibody

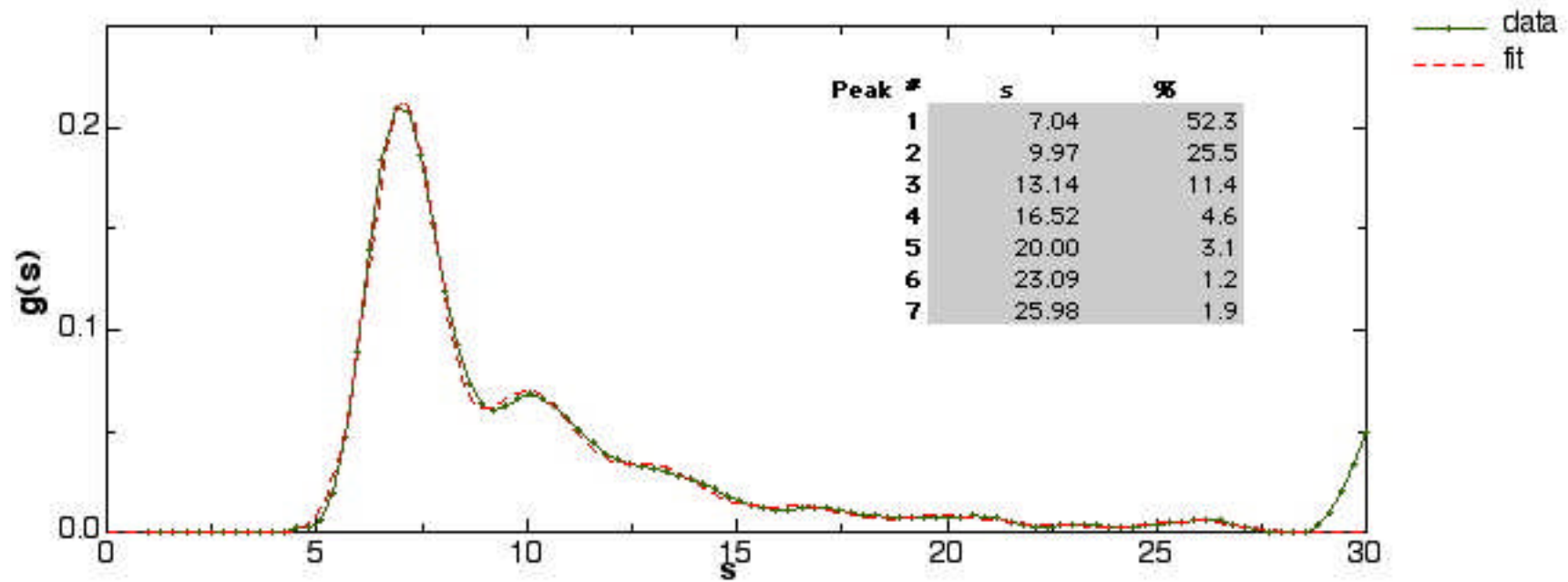


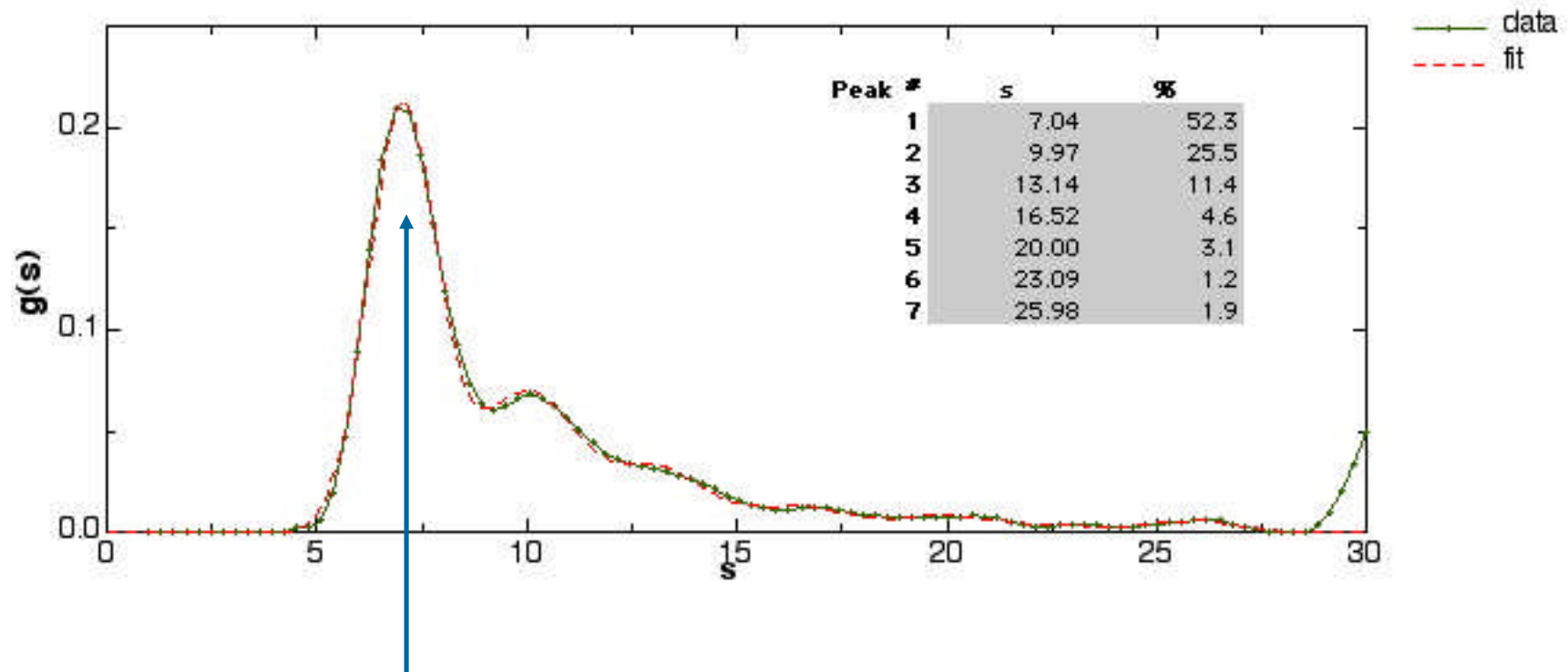
...provides an excellent assessment of the quality/ the extent of heterogeneity





*...this preparation is even worse!*





*Also, changes in sedimentation coefficient of monomer may reflect change in conformation*

Molecular conformation & flexibility:

- general conformation – conformation zoning
- flexibility – persistence length using global methods
- whole body or ellipsoid representations
- bead model representations



AMVn

Anton Paar



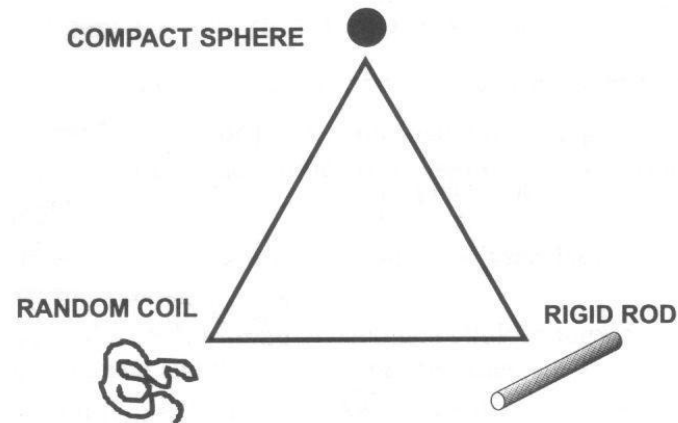
Automated Micro Viscometer

Test SETTINGS

Temp	20.00°C
Method	
Wear. System	
Instr. Settings	
Dens	0.9982 g/cm³

F1 F2 F3 F4 F5

- General molecular conformation: Haug triangle and power law coeffs

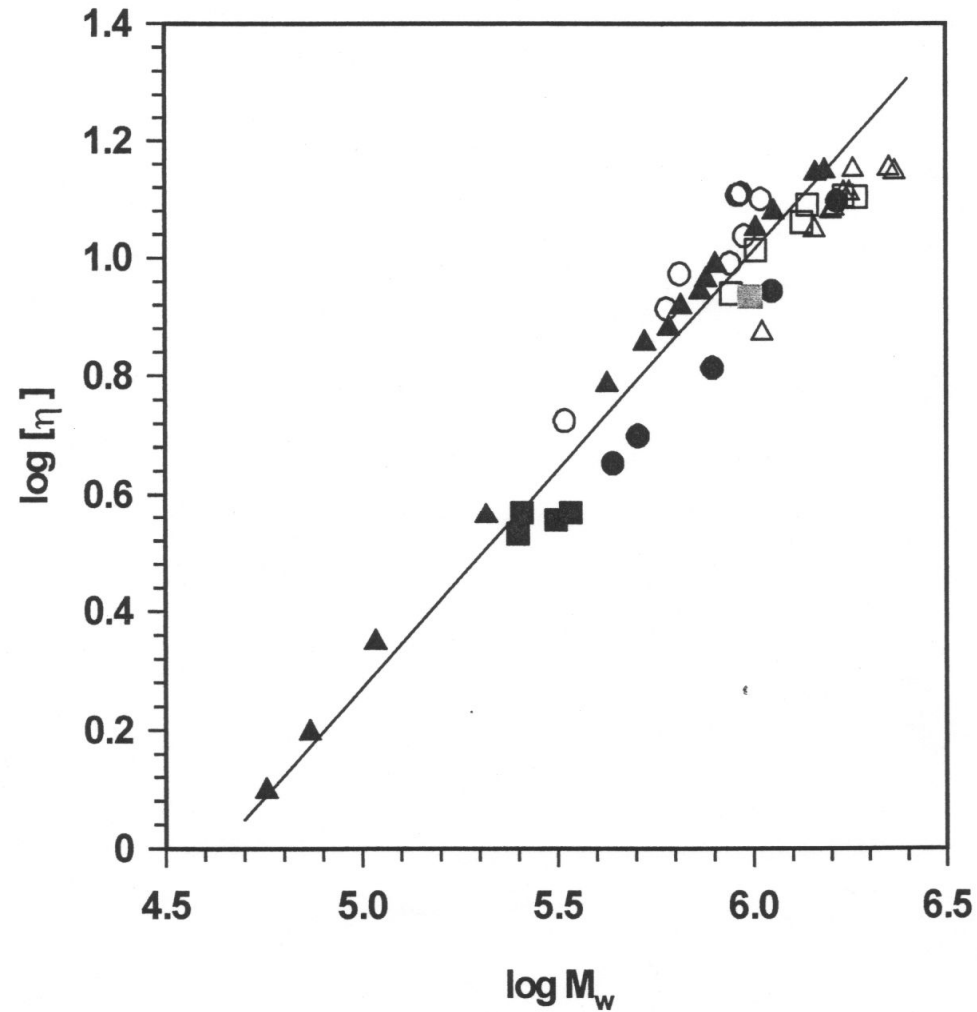


<i>Sphere</i>	<i>Rod</i>	<i>Coil</i>
$[\eta] \sim M^0$	$[\eta] \sim M^{1.8}$	$[\eta] \sim M^{0.5-0.8}$
$S_{20,w}^0 \sim M^{0.67}$	$S_{20,w}^0 \sim M^{0.15}$	$S_{20,w}^0 \sim M^{0.4-0.5}$
$R_g \sim M^{0.33}$	$R_g \sim M^{1.0}$	$R_g \sim M^{0.5-0.6}$



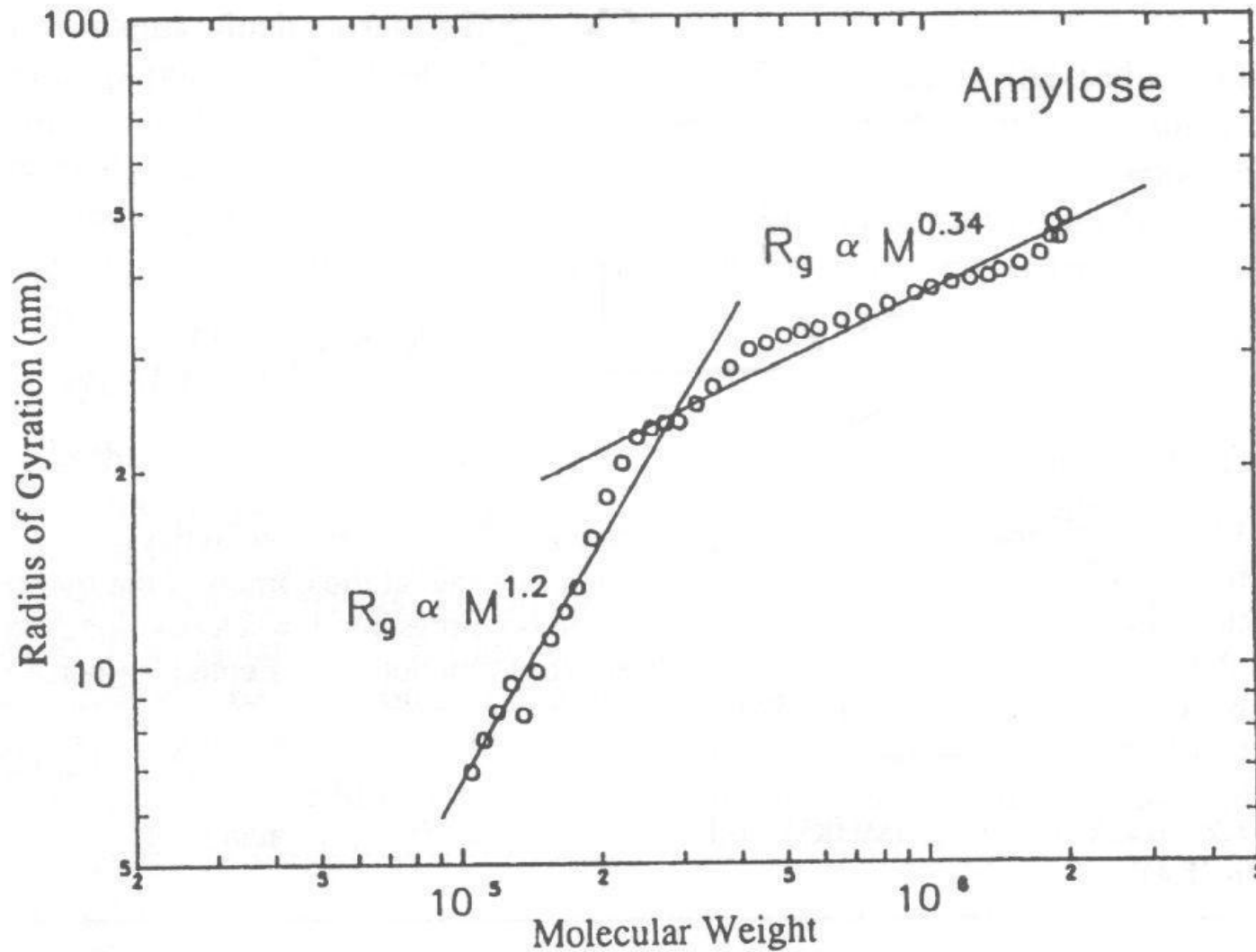
# Mark-Houwink-Kuhn-Sakurada Power law plot

Galactomannans  
 $a=0.74\pm 0.01$

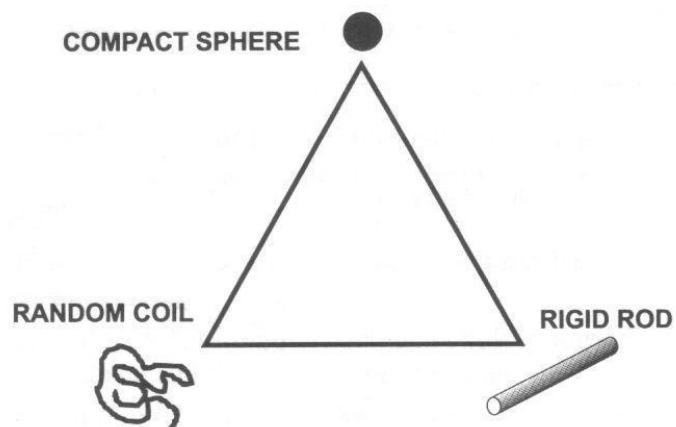


Picout et al (2003) *Biomacromolecules* 2,  
1301-1309

# Change in Conformation



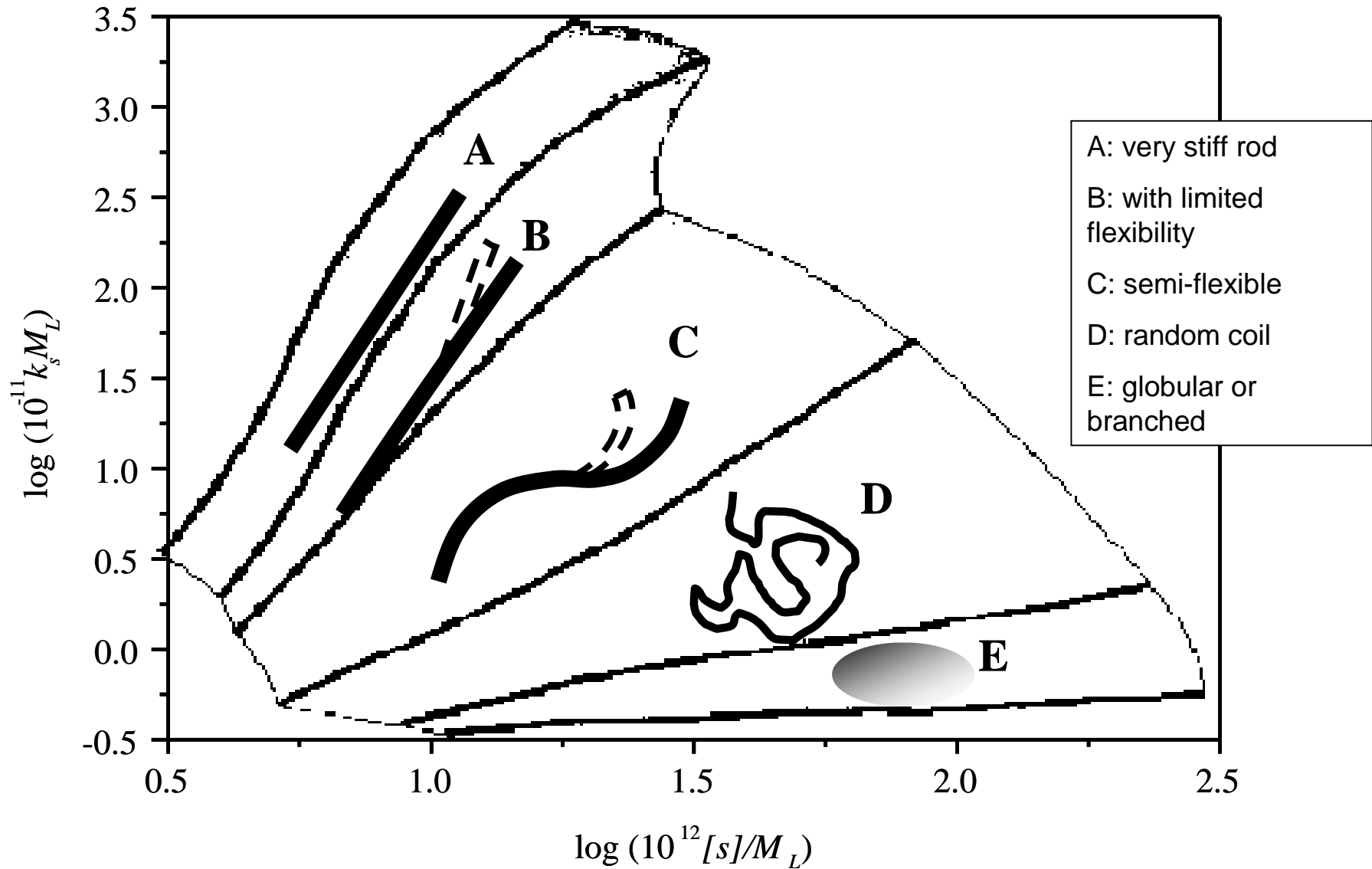
Rollings J (1992) in *Laser Light Scattering in Biochemistry* (Harding, Sattelle & Bloomfield eds)



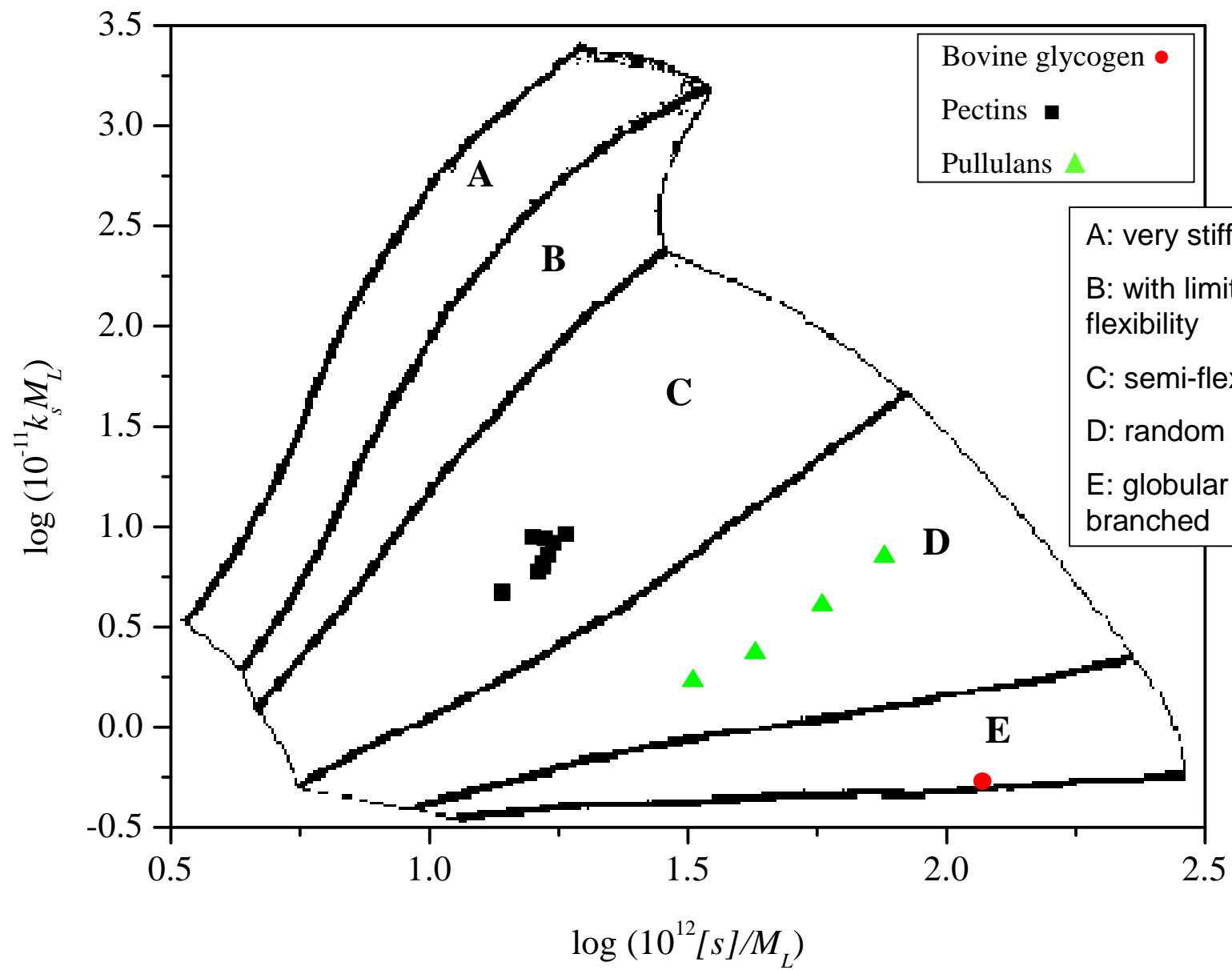
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$R_g \sim M^{0.33}$	$R_g \sim M^{1.0}$	$R_g \sim M^{0.5-0.6}$
$k_s/[\eta] \sim 1.6$	$k_s/[\eta] < 1$	$k_s/[\eta] \sim 1.6$



## Conformation Zoning:



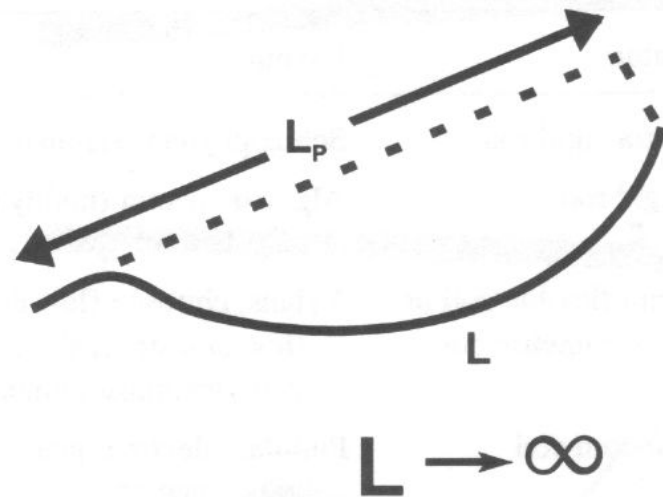
Pavlov et al. (1997). *Trends in Analytical Chemistry*, **16**, 401-405.



## *Measure of flexibility: persistence length $L_p$*

Theoretical limits: 0 (random coil)  $\rightarrow \infty$  (perfect rod)

Practical limits  $\sim 2\text{nm} \rightarrow 200\text{nm}$



## “Bushin-Bohdanecky” relation

$$\left(\frac{M_w^2}{[\eta]}\right)^{1/3} = A_0 M_L \Phi^{-1/3} + B_0 \Phi^{-1/3} \left(\frac{2L_p}{M_L}\right)^{-1/2} M_w^{1/2}$$

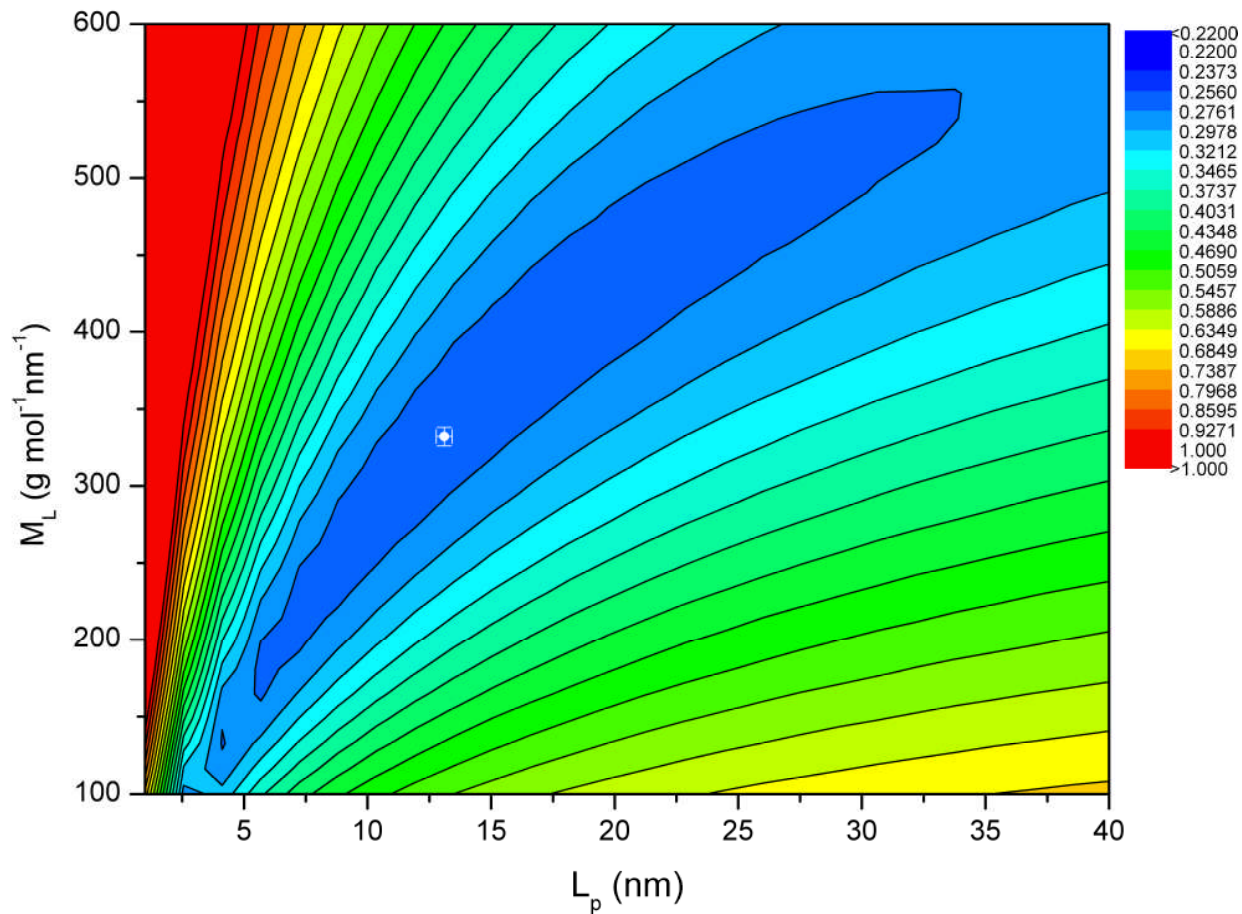
## “Yamakawa-Fujii” relation

$$s^0 = \frac{M_L (1 - \bar{v} \rho_0)}{3\pi\eta_0 N_A} \times \left[ 1.843 \left(\frac{M_w}{2M_L L_p}\right)^{1/2} + A_2 + A_3 \left(\frac{M_w}{2M_L L_p}\right)^{-1/2} + \dots \right]$$



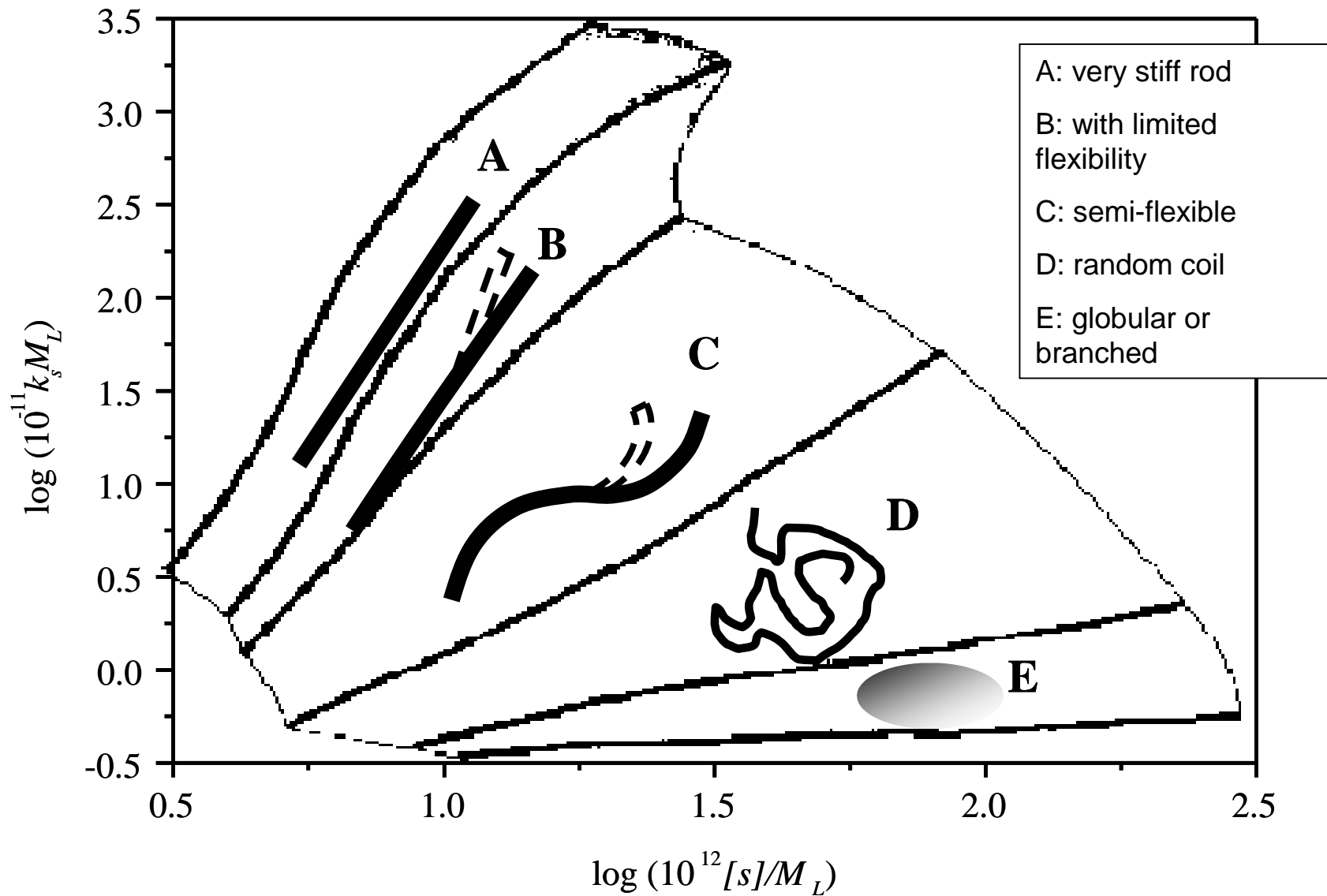
- Molecular conformation: flexibility analysis

*"Hydfit" or Global analysis: Garcia de la Torre & Ortega, Biomacromolecules (2007)*



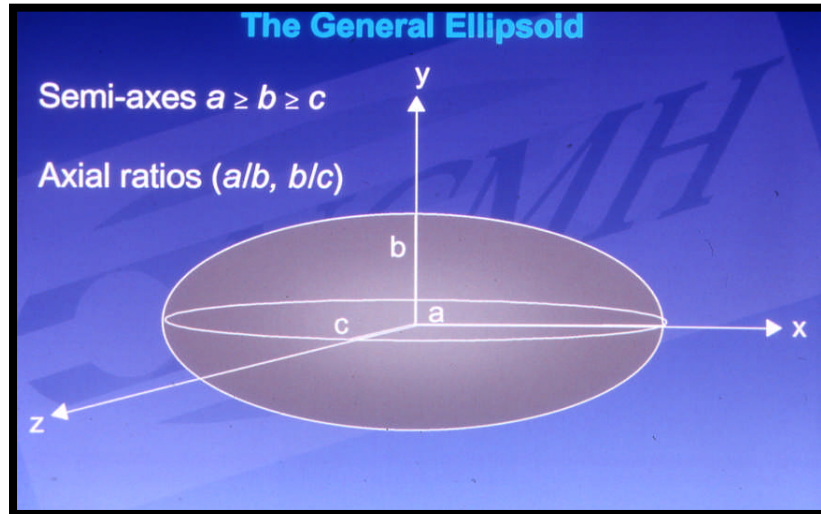
Konjac glucomannan,  $L_p \sim 13$ nm (Kok et al, 2009)

## Conformation Zoning:



Pavlov et al. (1997). *Trends in Analytical Chemistry*, **16**, 401-405.

- Molecular conformation: ellipsoid representation



**ELLIPS algorithms** [www.nottingham.ac.uk/ncmh](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/ncmh)

**Universal\_Param:** Calculates shape parameter from  $s, D, [\eta], B$

**ELLIPS1** Evaluates  $a/b$  for prolate or oblate ellipsoid from shape parameter

**ELLIPS2** Evaluates shape parameter from  $(a, b, c)$  or  $(a/b, b/c)$

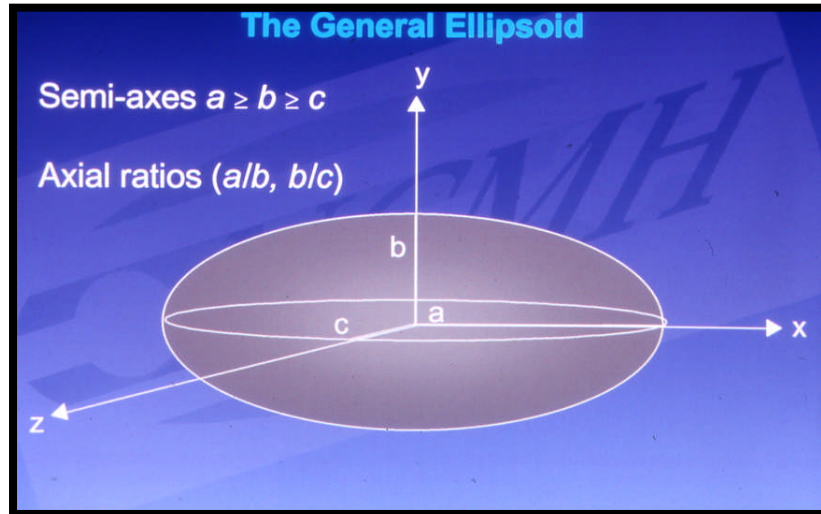
**ELLIPS3** Evaluates  $(a/b, b/c)$  from combinations of hydration independent shape functions.

**ELLIPS4** Evaluates  $(a/b, b/c)$  from electro-optic decay combined with other hydrodynamic data.

**ELLIPSDRAW** 3D plot of ellipsoid from  $(a/b, b/c)$

**COVOL** Evaluates  $B$  from  $(a/b, b/c)$

- Molecular conformation: ellipsoid representation



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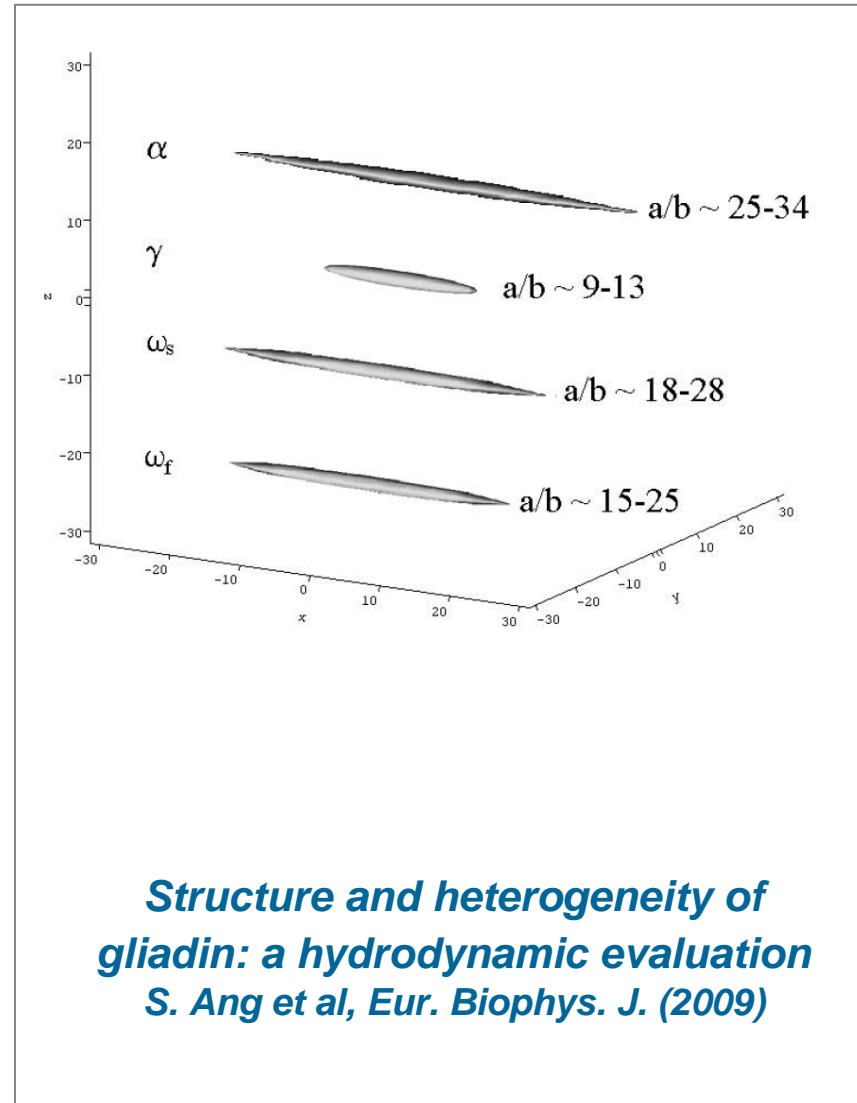
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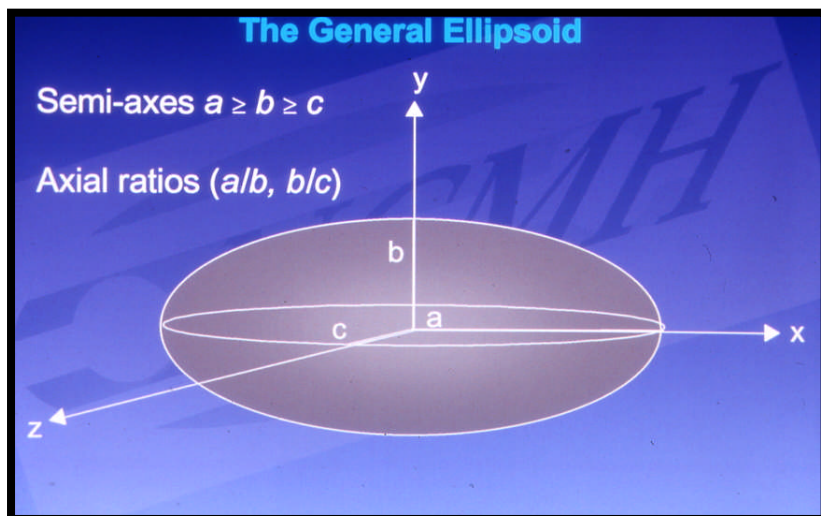
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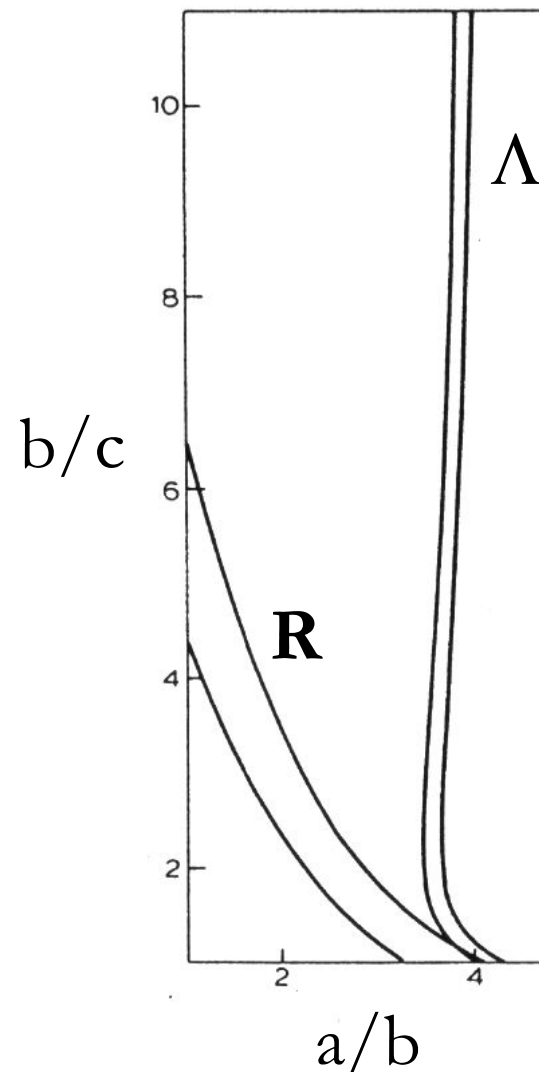
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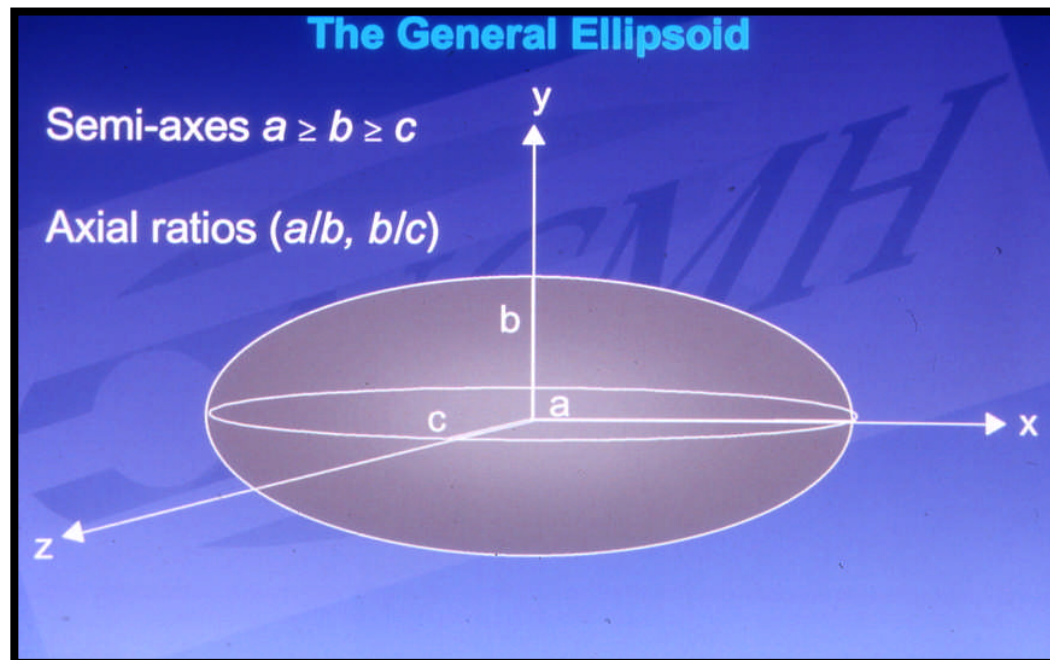
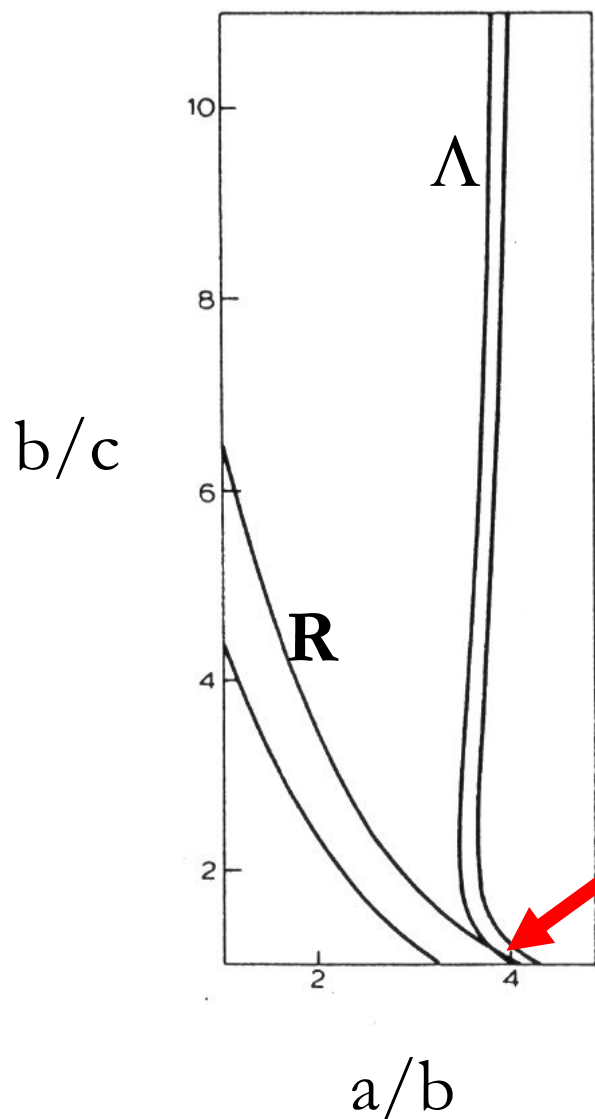
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## *ELLIPS3 applied to neurophysin monomers*

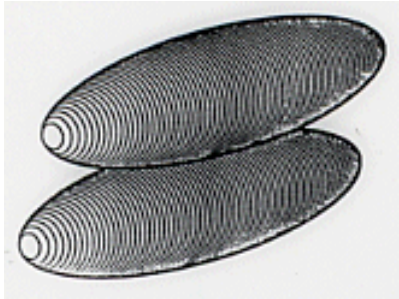
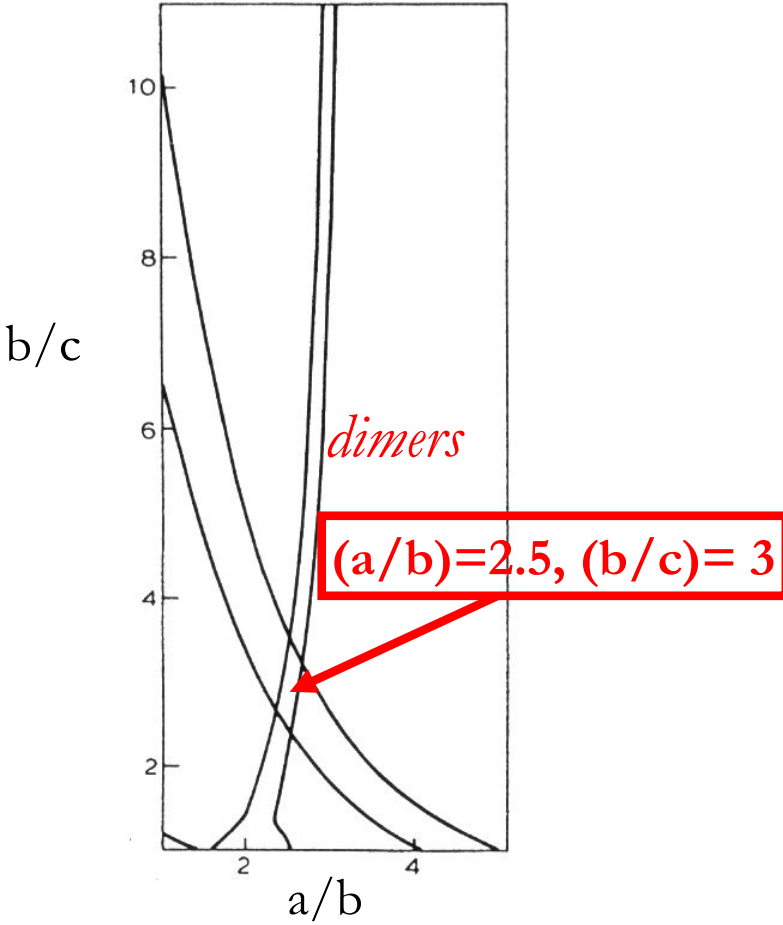
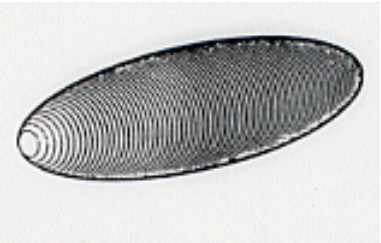
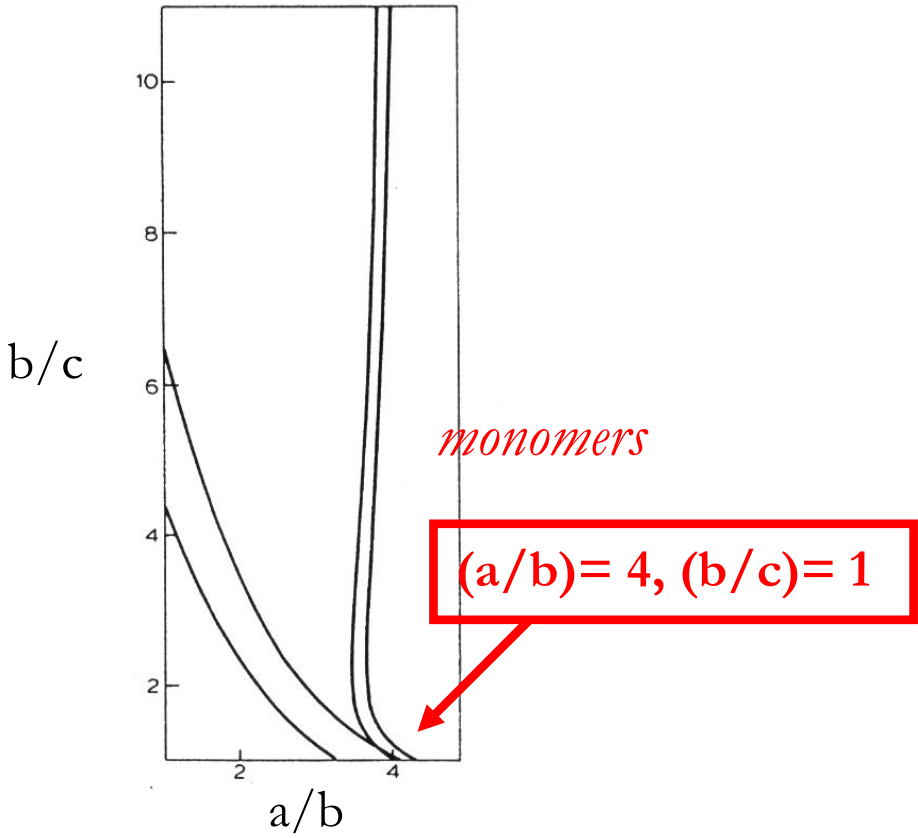


$$(a/b) = 4, (b/c) = 1$$

Shape parameters  $R$  and  $\Lambda$  are from sedimentation, viscosity and fluorescence measurements

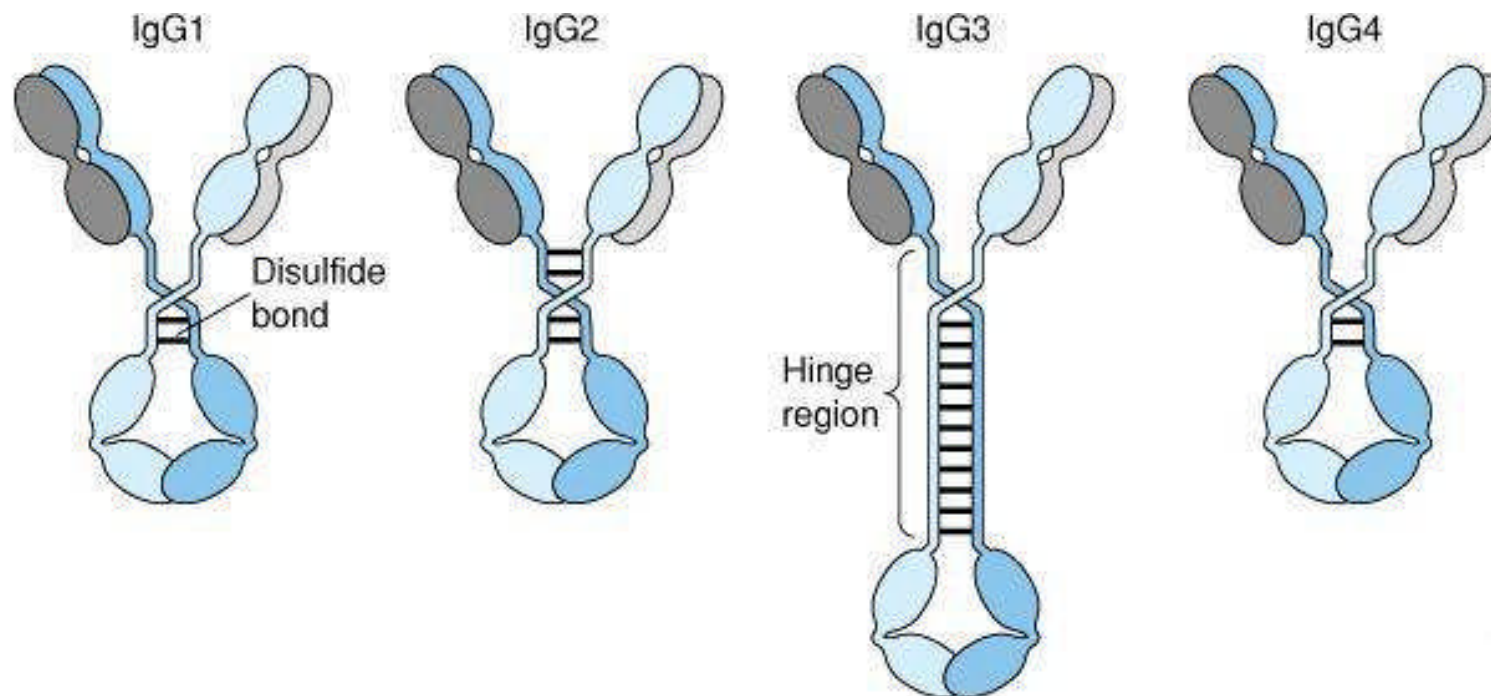


# Neurophysin dimerises – here's what happens

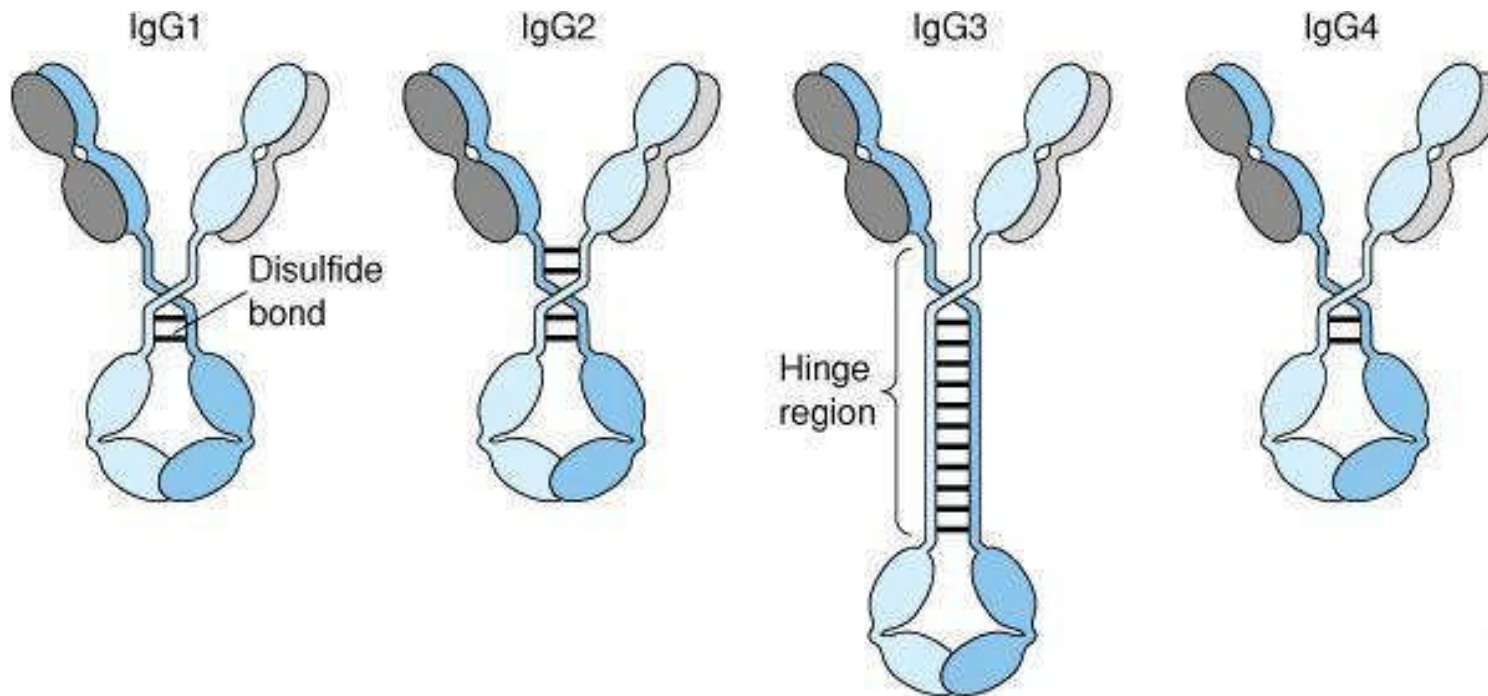




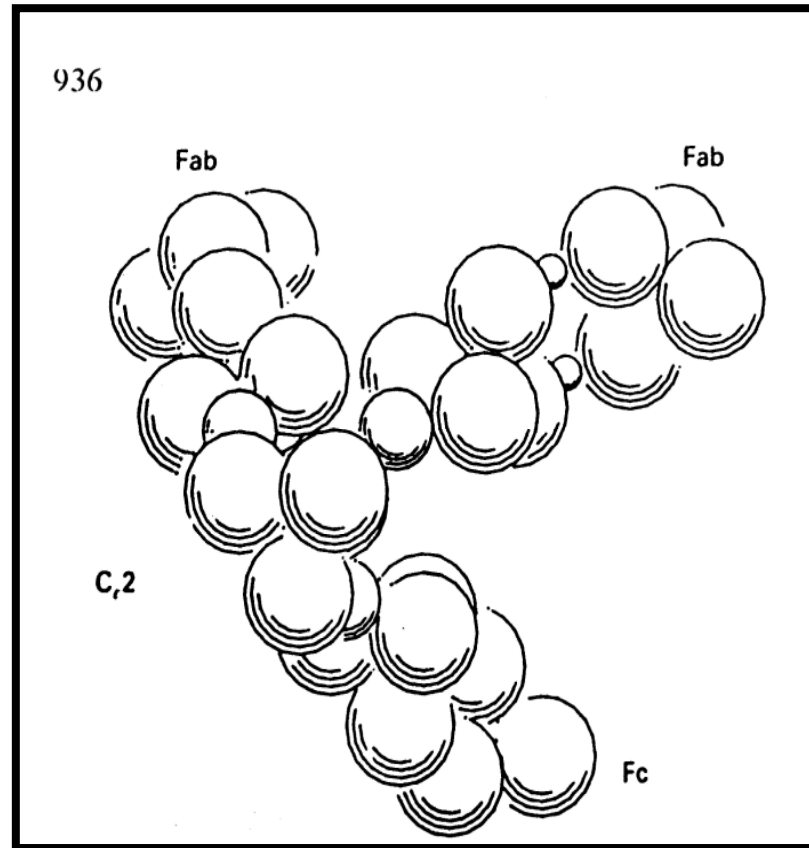
*.....whole-body ellipsoids won't do for complicated shapes like antibodies.....*



.....whole-body ellipsoids won't do for complicated shapes like antibodies..... so use bead modelling



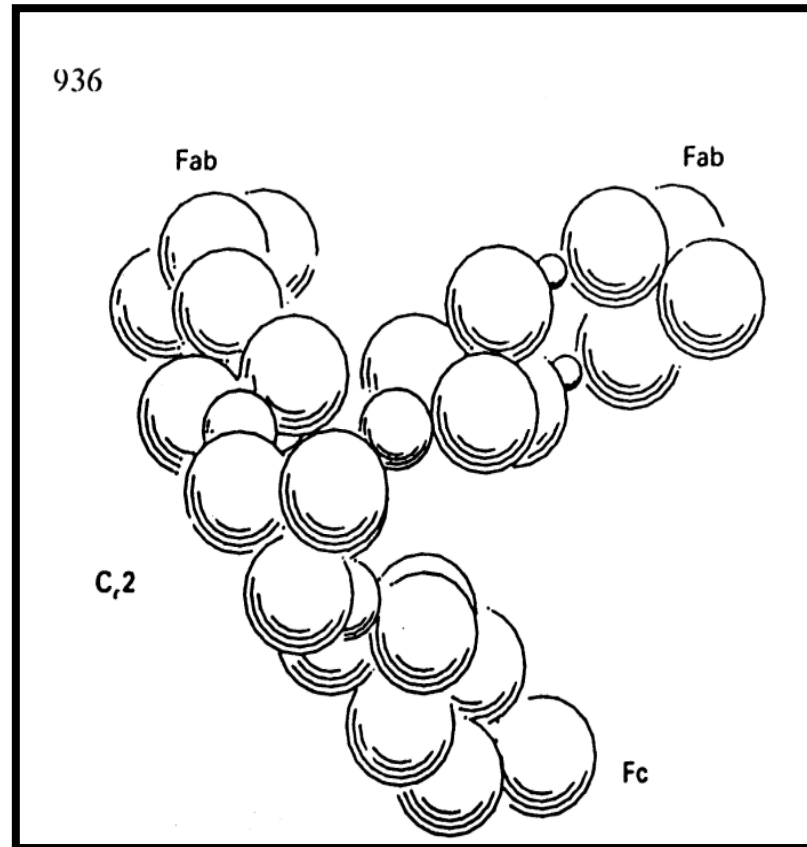
- Molecular conformation: bead modelling



- Molecular conformation: bead modelling

*1<sup>st</sup> demonstration  
that IgE is cusp  
shaped, 1990*

*Bead model:  $s=7.26S$ ,  
 $R_g=6.8nm$*



936

BIOCHEMICAL SOCIETY TRANSACTIONS

1990

### A model for the solution conformation of rat IgE

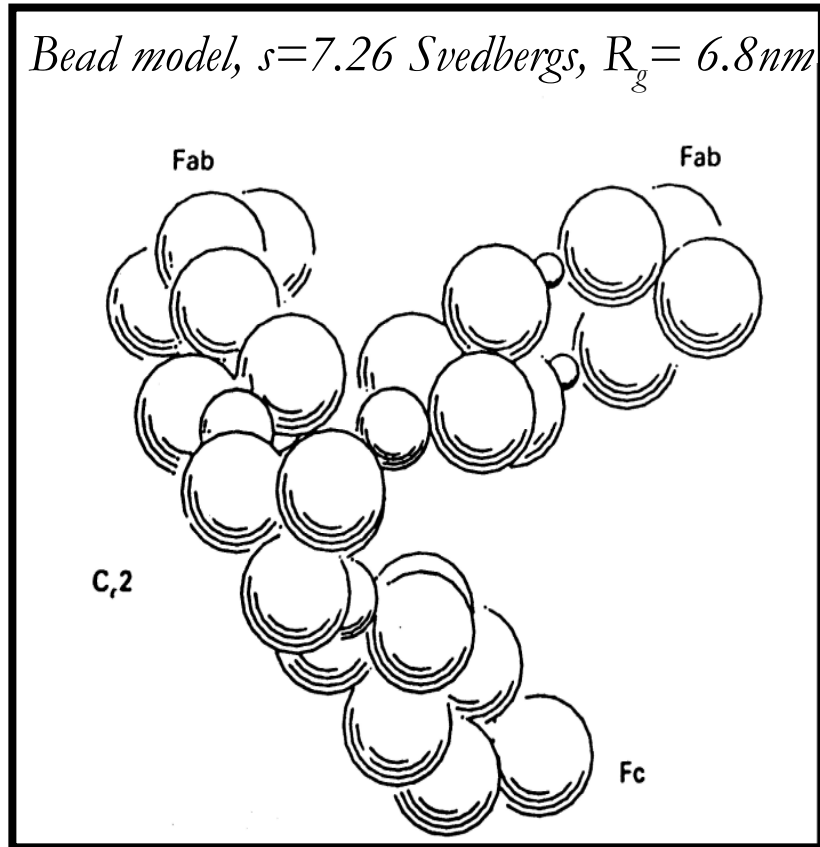
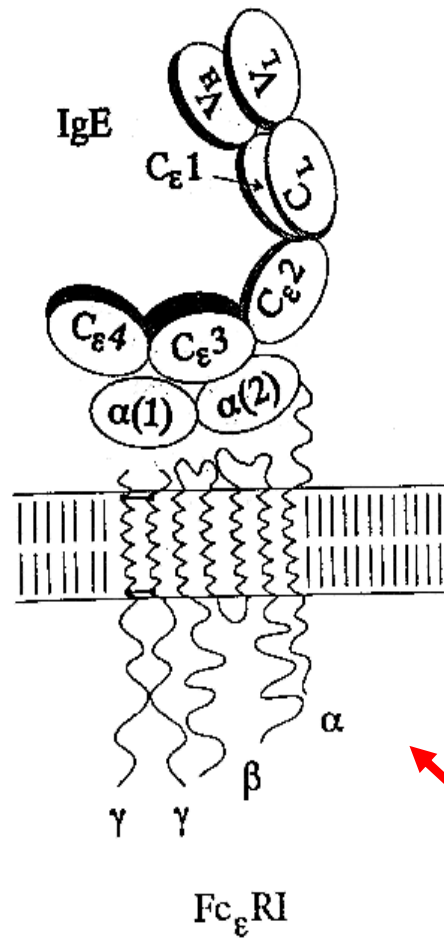
KENNETH G. DAVIS,\* MARTIN GLENNIE,†  
STEPHEN E. HARDING\* and DENNIS R. BURTON‡

\*Department of Applied Biochemistry and Food Science,  
Nottingham University Agricultural School, Sutton  
Bonington, Loughborough LE12 5RD, U.K., †Tenovus  
Research Laboratory, Southampton General Hospital,

then tried to reproduce the experimental parameters from models which incorporate as many of the known structural and immunological properties of antibodies as possible.

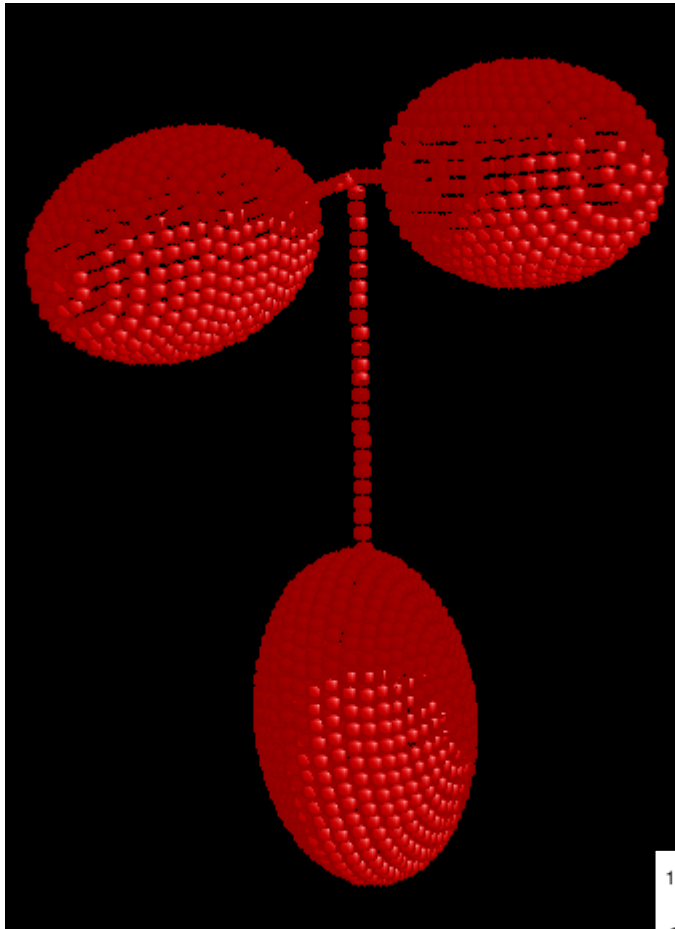
Immunoglobulin E (IgE) is found in monomeric form in serum and possesses five immunoglobulin domains in its heavy chain as well as being glycosylated at various sites. Two

# Consistent with function....

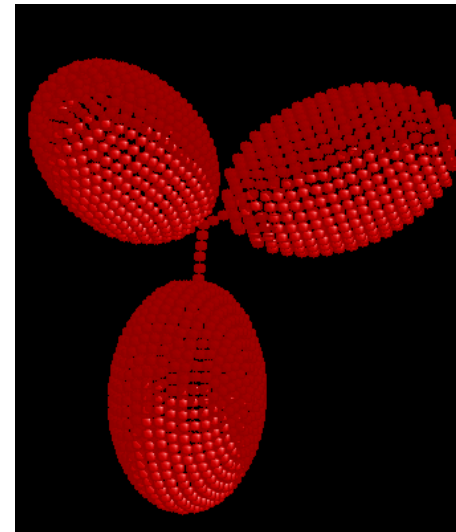


*High Affinity  
Receptor*

# Conformation of engineered antibodies from $s$ , $R_g$ , $D_{max}$ , $[\eta]$ and crystal structure of the domains

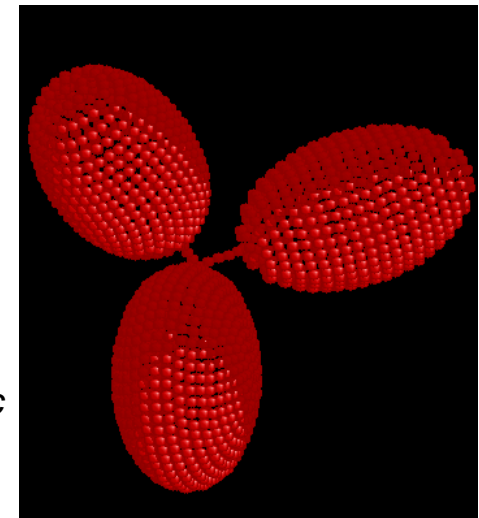


*A model of chimeric IgG3 wild type*



*A model of chimeric IgG3 m15 with 15aa in hinge.*

*A model of chimeric hinge deleted IgG3 HM5.*



1688

Biophysical Journal Volume 91 September 2006 1688–1697

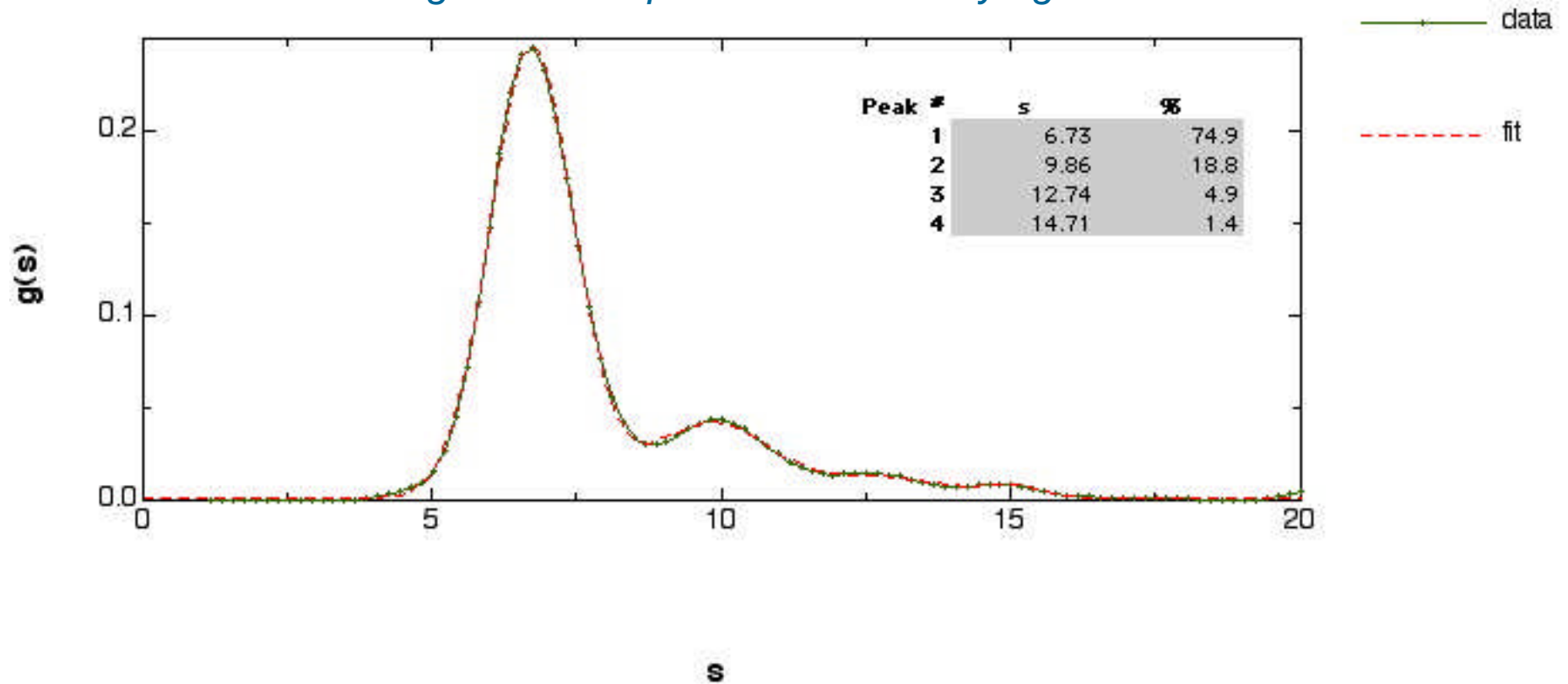
## Crystallohydrodynamics of Protein Assemblies: Combining Sedimentation, Viscometry, and X-Ray Scattering

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## Challenge: conformation determination in mixed systems

... here's our heterogeneous bioprocessed antibody again







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Macromolecular  
Hydrodynamics



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