

## SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS AND METHODS

*Chemical cross-linking of apoA-I on discrete-sized particles*—DMPC:apoA-I complexes were prepared by the cholate dialysis method. Chemical cross-linking of apoA-I on the particles in solution was carried out with a 100 molar excess of Bis(sulfosuccinimidyl)suberate (BS<sup>3</sup>) for 1 hr at room temperature (1). The reaction mixture was subjected to NDGGE. Gel slices containing different-sized particles were sliced out and minced in the SDS-PAGE sample buffer. After an overnight incubation, extracted apoA-I was recovered from the supernatant following a brief centrifugation and subjected to SDS-PAGE analysis.

*Circular dichroism spectroscopy*—The circular dichroism (CD) spectroscopy was conducted as described previously (2,3). Briefly, the CD spectra were recorded using an AVIV 62DS spectropolarimeter (Lakewood, NJ) equipped with a thermoelectric temperature controller and interfaced to a personal computer. The instrument was calibrated with (1S)-(+)-10-camphorsulfonic acid. The CD spectra were measured with apoA-I or ( $\Delta$ 43)apoA-I in solution (PBS) or in POPC complexes from 260 to 190 nm every 0.5 nm with 4 s averaging per point and a 2 nm bandwidth. A 0.01 cm path length cell was used for obtaining the spectra. The CD spectra were signal averaged by adding four scans, baseline corrected. All the CD spectra were recorded at 25°C with protein concentration of 7.7  $\mu$ M. We have confirmed that the spectra were concentration-independent in the concentration range of 2.5 to 25  $\mu$ M for both apoA-I and ( $\Delta$ 43)apoA-I (2).

The mean residue ellipticity,  $[\theta]_{\text{MRE}}$  (deg cm<sup>2</sup> dmol<sup>-1</sup>), was calculated using the following equation:  $[\theta]_{\text{MRE}} = (\text{MRW} \times \theta) / (10cl)$ ,

where MRW is the mean residue weight (molecular weight of the protein divided by the number of amino acids in the protein),  $\theta$  is the observed ellipticity in degrees,  $c$  is the concentration of the protein in grams per milliliter, and  $l$  is the path length of the cell in centimeters. The percent helicity of the protein was estimated from the following equation:

%  $\alpha$ -helix =  $([\theta]_{222} + 3000) / (36000 + 3000) \times 100$ , where  $[\theta]_{222}$  is the mean residue ellipticity at 222 nm (4).

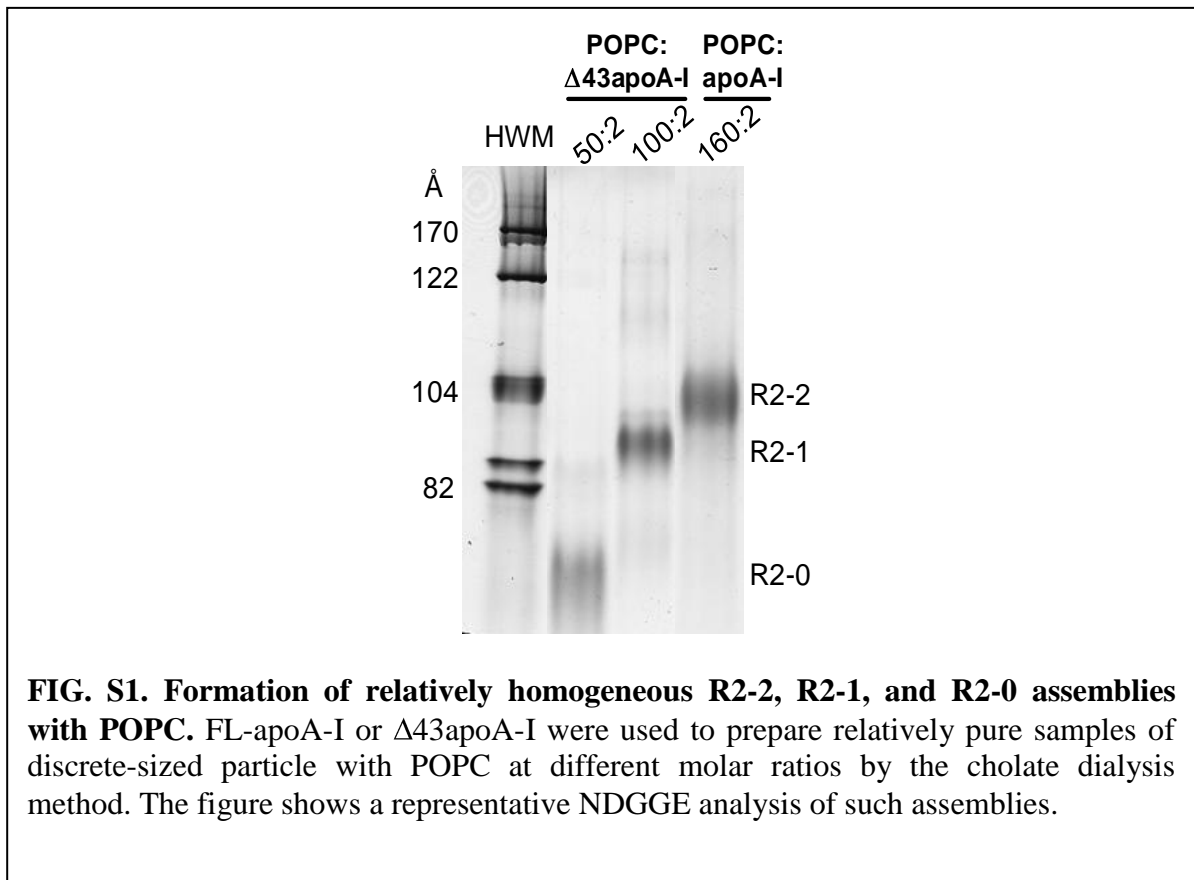
*Electron microscopy*—The transmission electron microscopic analysis of the particles was carried out as described previously (5). Briefly, the complexes were adsorbed to hydrophilic, carbon and Formvar-coated grids. Samples were negatively stained for 20 s with 2% phosphotungstic acid, pH 7.0. Digital images were taken using a Philips CM-30 electron microscope operated at 80 keV accelerating voltage. For quantification, at least 10 arbitrarily selected fields were chosen and more than 200 particles were measured.

## REFERENCES

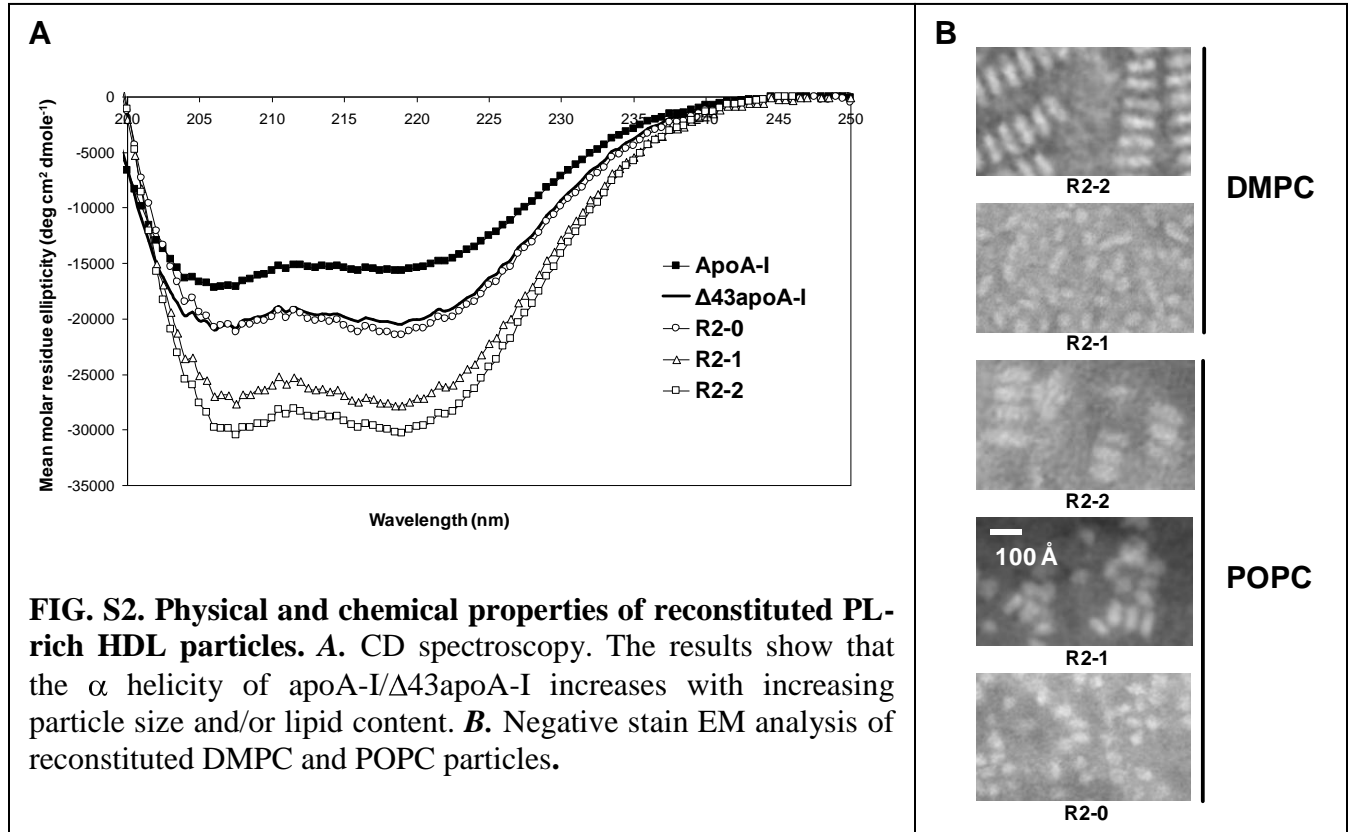
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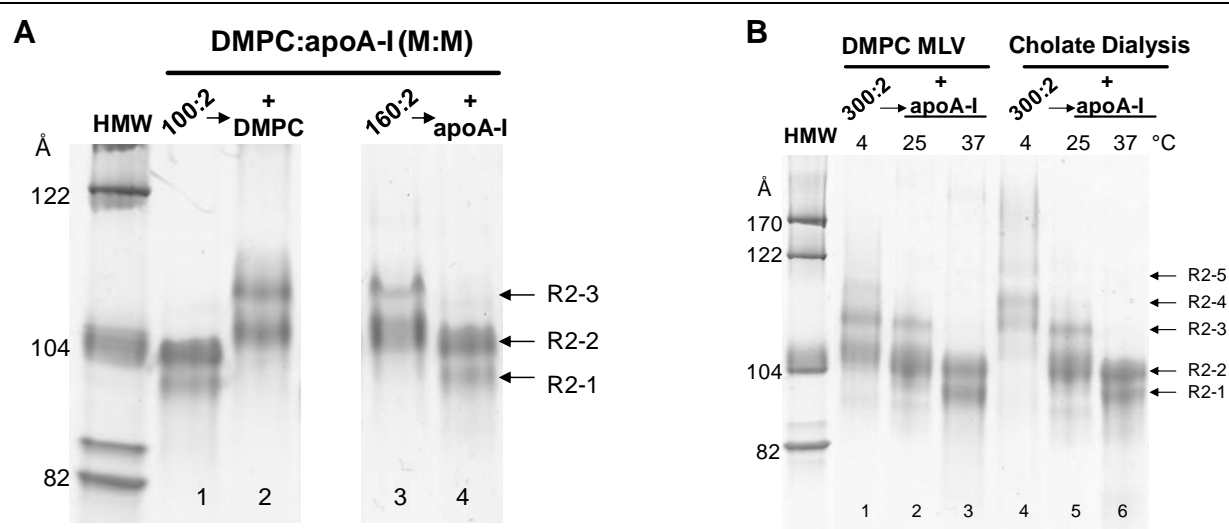
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### SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURES

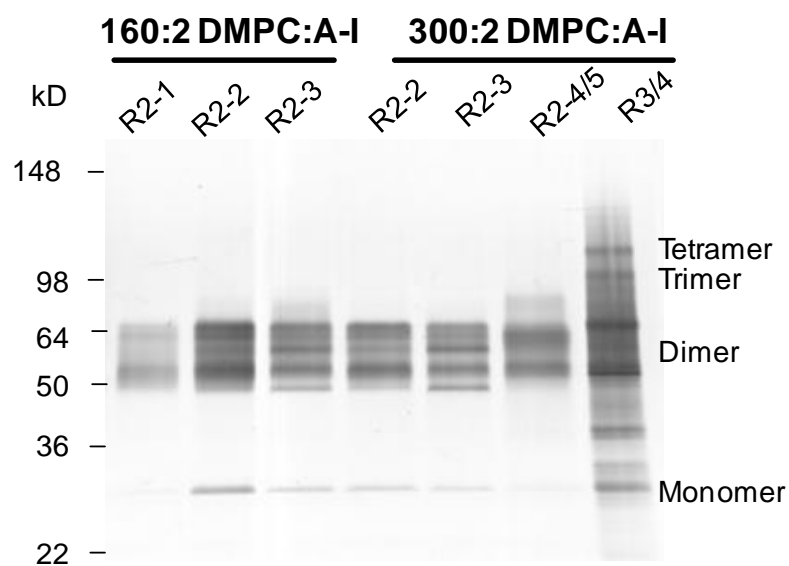


**FIG. S1. Formation of relatively homogeneous R2-2, R2-1, and R2-0 assemblies with POPC.** FL-apoA-I or  $\Delta 43$ apoA-I were used to prepare relatively pure samples of discrete-sized particle with POPC at different molar ratios by the cholate dialysis method. The figure shows a representative NDGGE analysis of such assemblies.





**FIG. S3. Interconversion between pre-formed DMPC:apoA-I R2 assemblies.** The NDGGE (4-20% polyacrylamide gels) were run for 48 hrs and stained with colloidal blue. **A**, DMPC:apoA-I complexes at 100:2 (lane 1) and 160:2 (lane 3) molar ratios were formed by the cholate dialysis method. Additional DMPC in the form of MLV (lane 2) or apoA-I (lane 4) were added to these pre-formed assemblies to reach a final DMPC:apoA-I ratio of 200:2 (lane 2) and 80:2 (lane 4), respectively. The mixture was incubated for 16 hrs at 25°C before analyzed by NDGGE. The results showed that addition of DMPC or apoA-I to pre-formed assemblies led to the formation of larger and smaller particles, respectively. **B**, DMPC:apoA-I complexes (300:2) were formed either by the spontaneous interaction of apoA-I with DMPC MLV (lane 1) or by the cholate dialysis method (lane 4). Additional apoA-I was added to the pre-formed assemblies to reach a final DMPC:apoA-I ratio of 150:2 and incubated for 16 hrs at 25°C (lane 2 & 5) or 37°C (lane 3 & 6). The results showed that the addition of apoA-I drove the formation of smaller particles regardless of the preparation methods and that increase of incubation temperature further reduced the size of the particles formed with additional apoA-I.



**FIG. S4. SDS-PAGE analysis of chemically cross-linked apoA-I on different-sized DMPC:apoA-I particles.** The gel was stained with silver. The results showed that all R2 particles have two apoA-I, whereas that R3/4 particles have three/four apoA-I.