

# **Distribution of Sialic Acids on Mucins and Gels: A Defense Mechanism**

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## SUPPORTING MATERIAL

### FIGURE LEGEND

- S1. (A) A set of typical force curves, all at the same scale, showing single interaction peaks in the (inverted) force-extension domain. Only curves showing such a single interaction event were analysed.  
(B) A number distribution of all analysed force curves showing the distribution of rupture distances, confirming the modal separation at a distance consistent with PEG-lectin dimensions.
- S2. A comparison of 10,000 (A), 100,000 (B) and 1,000,000 (C) randomly-generated datasets of the same number of interaction events for an example acquired force-volume data set from an impression sample, showing that there is no improvement in resolution or precision in increasing the number of datasets beyond 10,000.
- S3. Single energy barrier fit for the MAA- and SNA-functionalised tips, (a) and (b) respectively, showing the higher values of sum of least squares compared with two regime and Tees model fits.
- S4. Force spectroscopy data on MAA (as contrasted with force volume data on the same system), performed over a lower loading rate regime, and yielding a lower dissociation constant of  $0.17 \pm 0.06 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

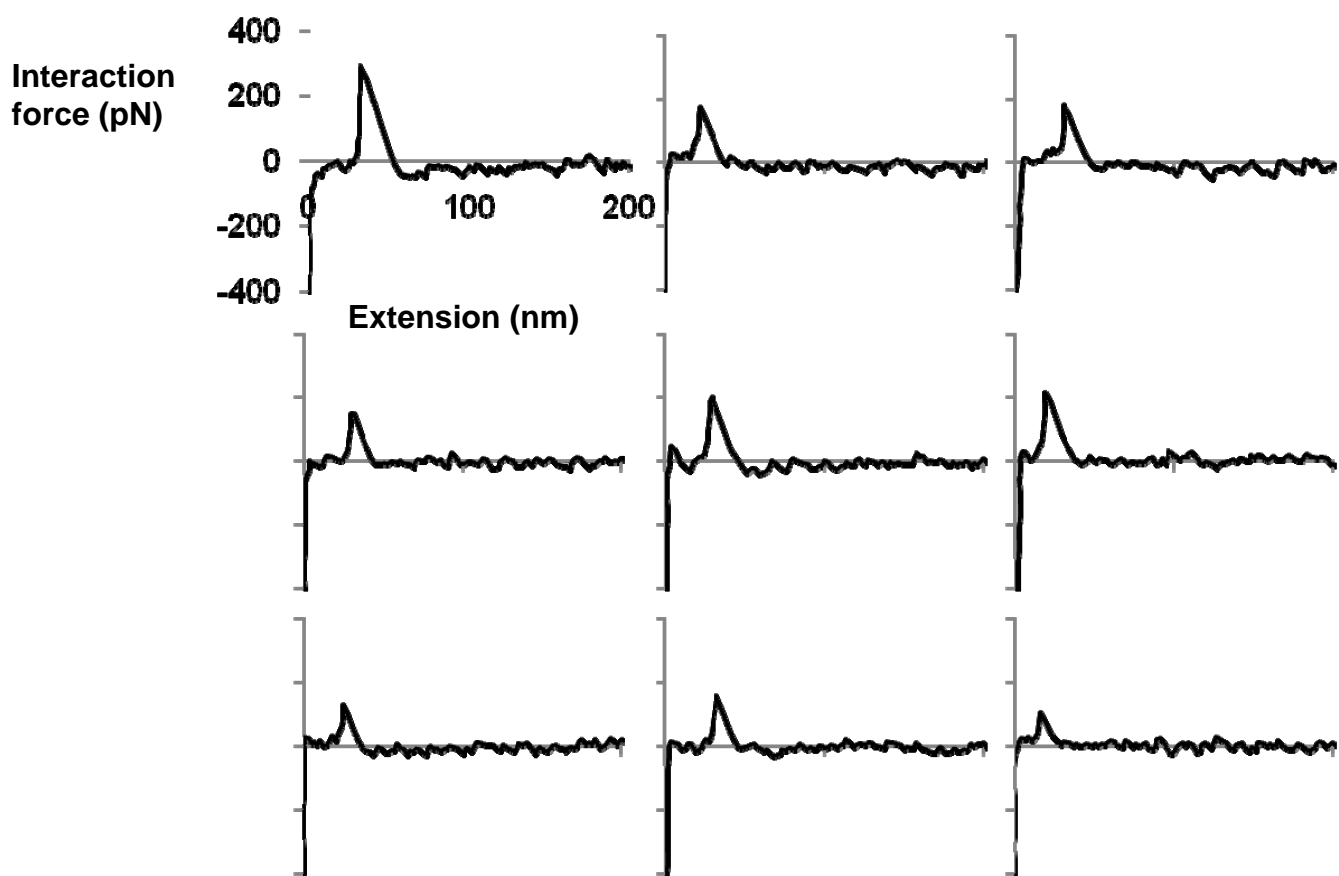
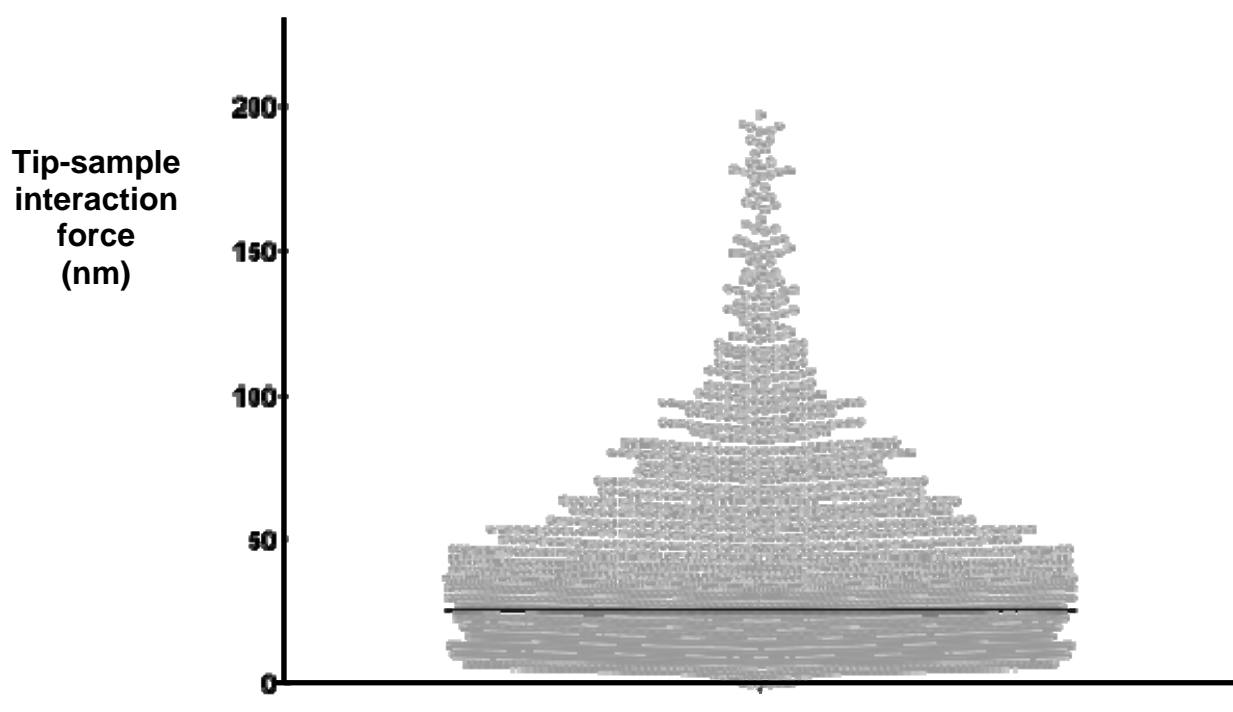


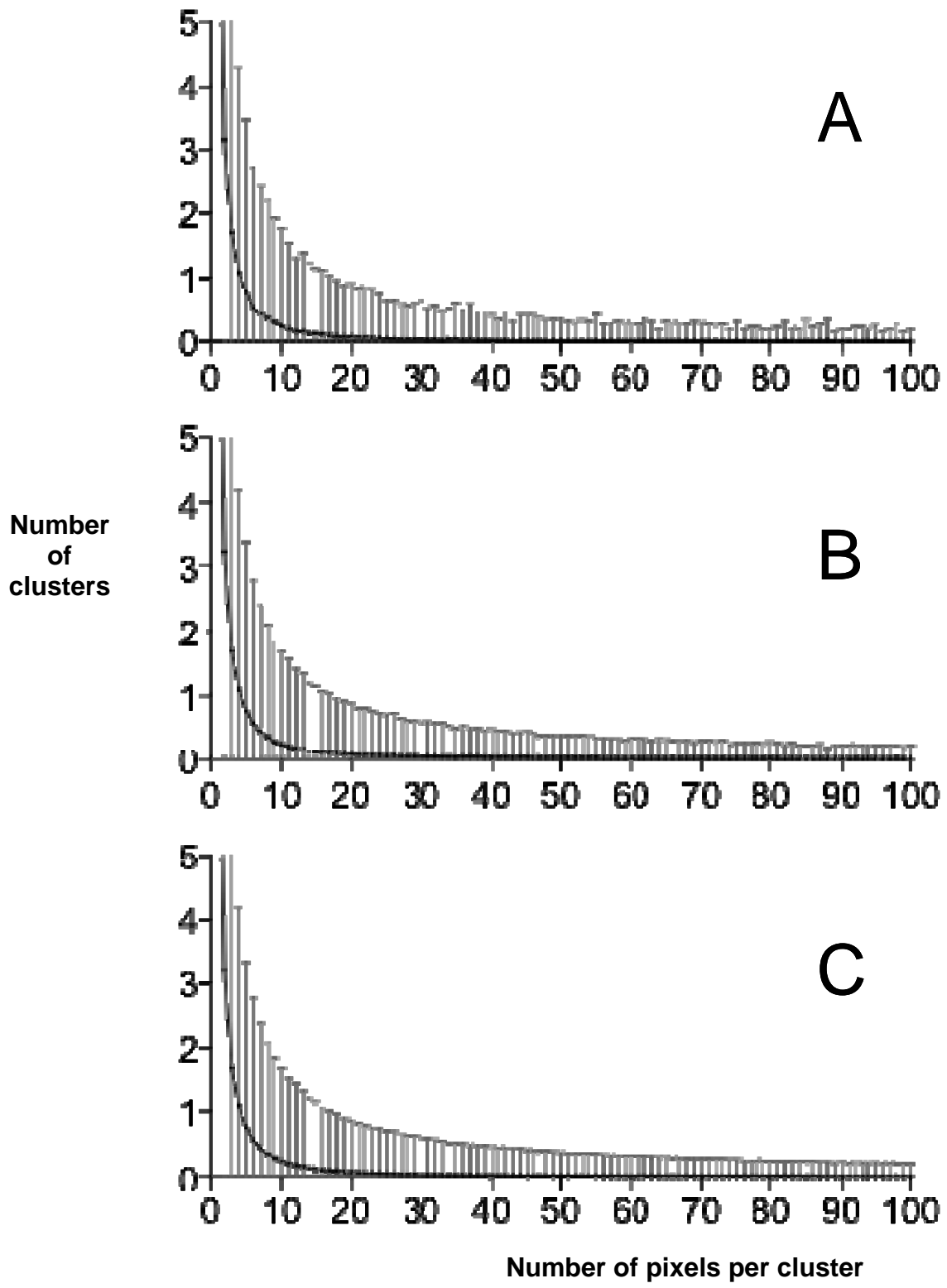
Figure S1 A

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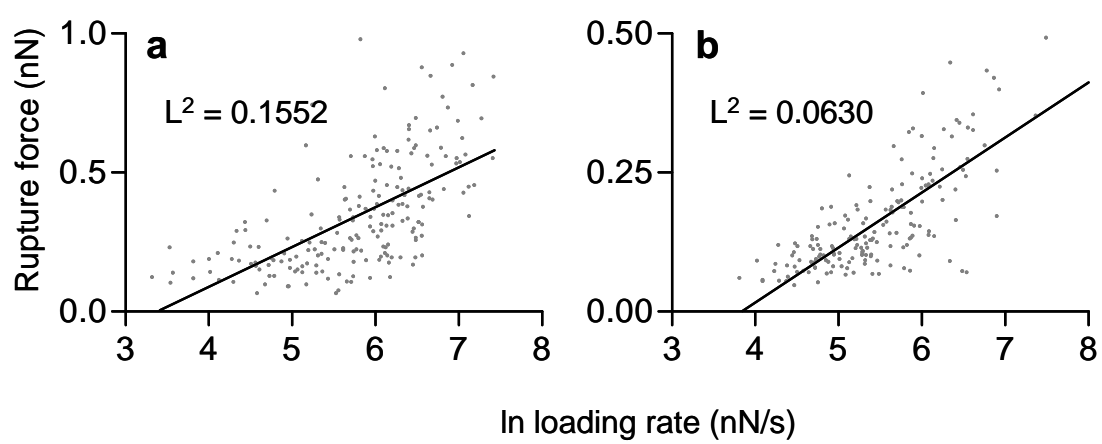


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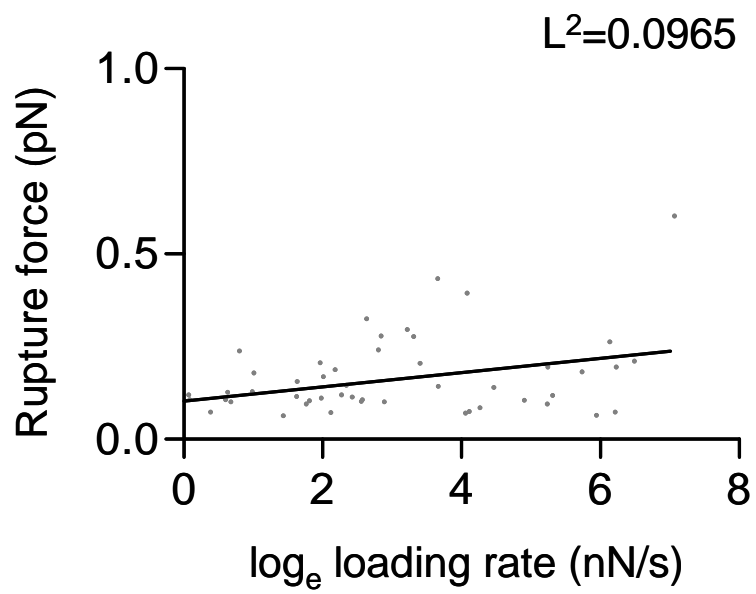
Figure S1 B



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10 Figure S2



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