

Engineered charge redistribution of Gp2 proteins through guided diversity for improved PET imaging of epidermal growth factor receptor

Brett A. Case, Max A. Kruziki, Sadie M. Johnson, and Benjamin J. Hackel*

University of Minnesota – Twin Cities, Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, 421 Washington Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455

* Correspondence: 421 Washington Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455, hackel@umn.edu, 612.624.7102

Library	Pre-sorting Population	Post-sorting Population	T (°C)	Target (nM)	Parental Clone	
					T _m (°C)	K _D (nM)
EGFR	Naïve	#1	60	20	71 ± 2	18 ± 8
	#1	#2a	60	2		
	#1	#2b	80	20		
	#2(a+b)	#3	80	2		
	#3	Final	4	deplete non-specific		
InsR	Naïve	#1	50	20	78	2.4 ± 0.4
	#1	#2a	50	2		
	#1	#2b	60	20		
	#2(a+b)	Final	4	deplete non-specific		
rlgG	Naïve	#1	50	2	80 ± 2	2.3 ± 1.4
	#1	#2	60	2		
	#2	Final	4	deplete non-specific		

Table S1. Library sorting conditions for charge mutated Gp2 libraries with parental clone *in vitro* characteristics.

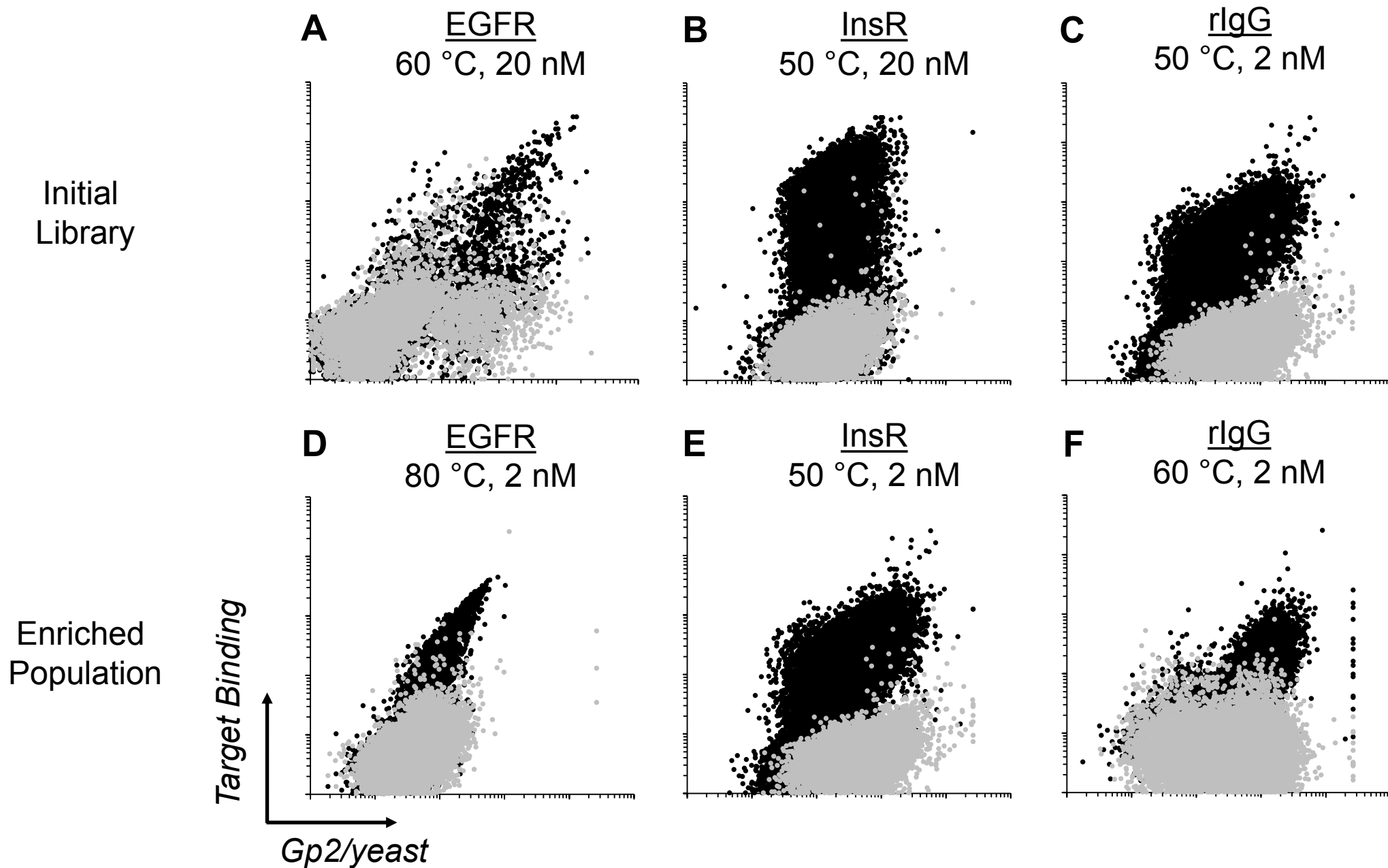


Figure S1. First Generation Library Selections. Naïve (**A, B, C**) and terminal (**D, E, F**) GαE, GαI, and GαR populations sorted for stability and binding with (black) and without (gray) their respective recombinant target.

Name	1	14	20	23	24	27	30	31	42	44	Loop 1	Loop 2	Charge (+/-)	Net Charge	Total Charge	T_m (°C)	K_D (nM)	Yield (mg/L)
GαE22	L	E	T	Y	A	L	H	S	R	P	SRGDSYW	PMYWHIYY	2/2	0	4	60	6.3 ± 1.4	1.8 ± 0.4
GαE24	L	E	Q	D	T	V	E	W	R	Q	SRGDSYW	PMYWHIYY	2/4	-2	6	ND	ND	< 50
GαE25A	L	E	P	D	A	E	E	T	R	P	SRGDSYW	PMYWHIYY	2/5	-3	7	64	4.9 ± 0.7	1.8 ± 1.2
GαE25B	I	E	E	D	P	Q	E	R	Q	P	SRGDSYW	PMYWHIYY	2/5	-3	7	ND	ND	< 50
GαE35	L	E	Q	D	E	K	E	T	R	P	SRGDSYW	PMYWHIYY	3/5	-2	8	87 ± 1	8.8 ± 0.6	2.1 ± 0.5
GαE36	K	E	E	D	E	Q	E	W	R	Q	SRGDSYW	PMYWHIYY	3/6	-3	9	59	2.3 ± 1.1	5.0 ± 0.3
GαE57	K	E	E	D	E	E	E	R	R	R	SRGDSYW	PMYWHIYY	5/7	-2	12	79	9.4 ± 4.1	2.7 ± 0.1

Table S2. Mutated positions, paratope (loop) sequences, and *in vitro* characteristics of Gp2 clones recovered in flow cytometry sorts against EGFR derived from A431 cell lysate. K_D values represent equilibrium dissociation constants from titrations of mutants against A431 cells using flow cytometry (n = 3). Midpoint denaturation temperatures (T_m) were determined with circular dichroism spectroscopy of purified proteins (n = 1 - 3). Yield is reported as recovered mass of purified protein per L of culture (n = 3).

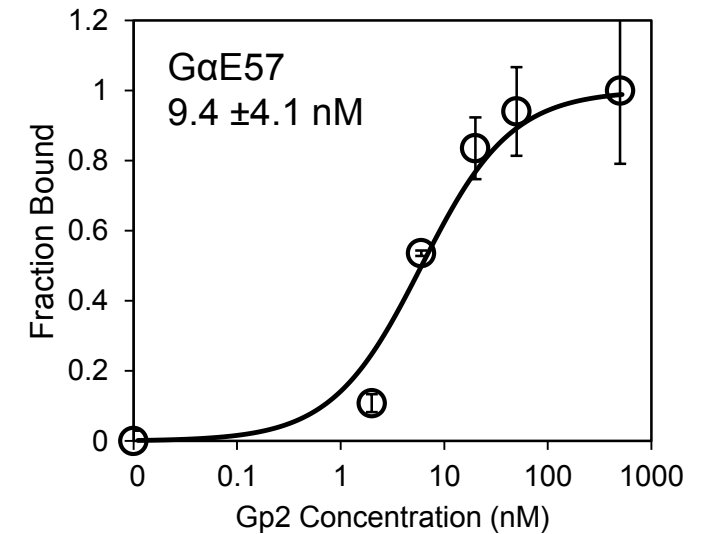
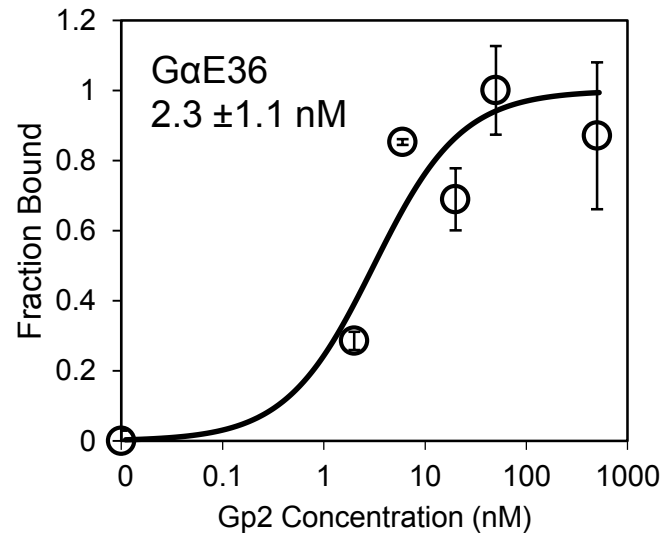
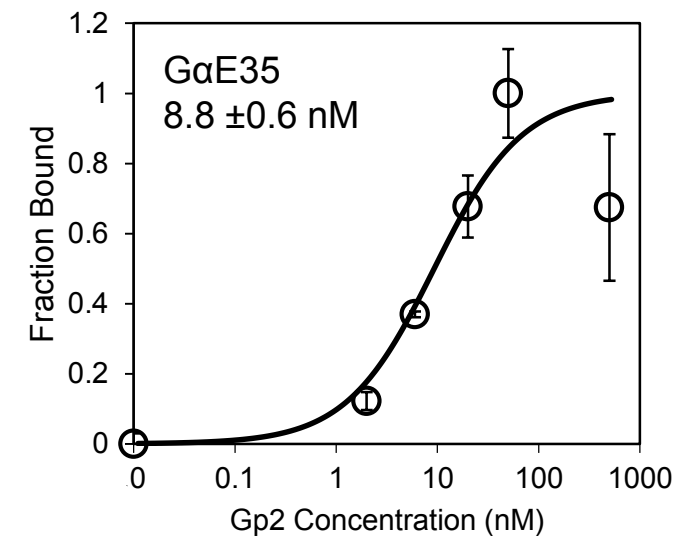
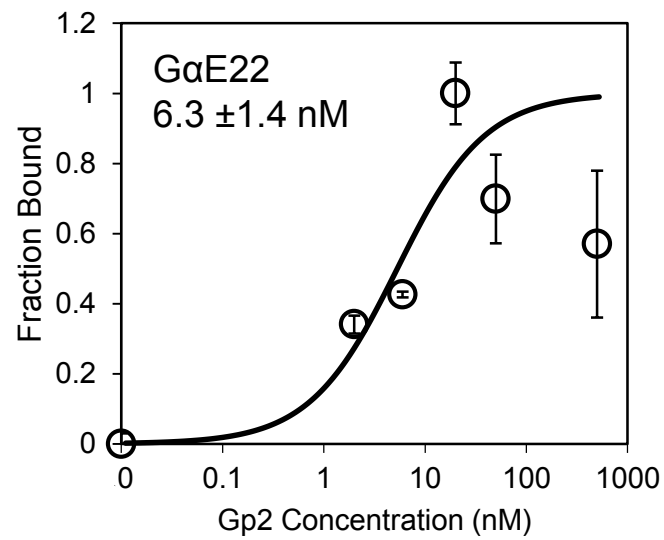
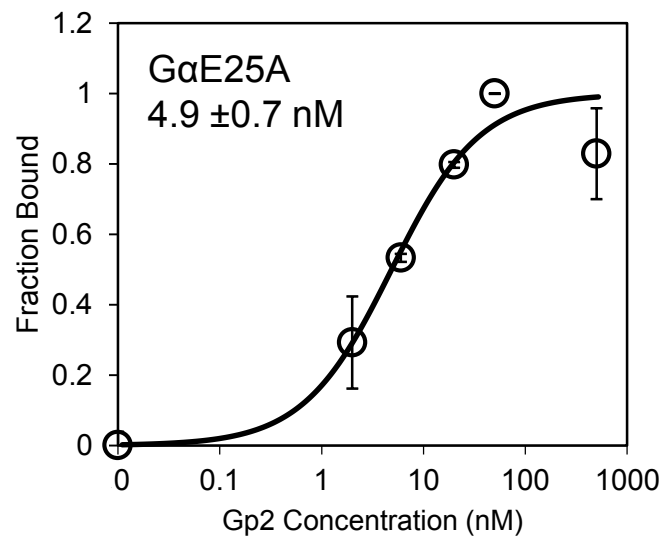


Figure S2. Anti-EGFR Gp2 Affinity titrations. A431 cells were incubated on ice with 2, 6, 20, 50, or 500 nM Gp2 ligand followed by labeling with fluorescein-conjugated anti-His₆ antibody and median fluorescence analysis via flow cytometry. Equilibrium dissociation constants were calculated using a 1:1 binding model (n = 3).

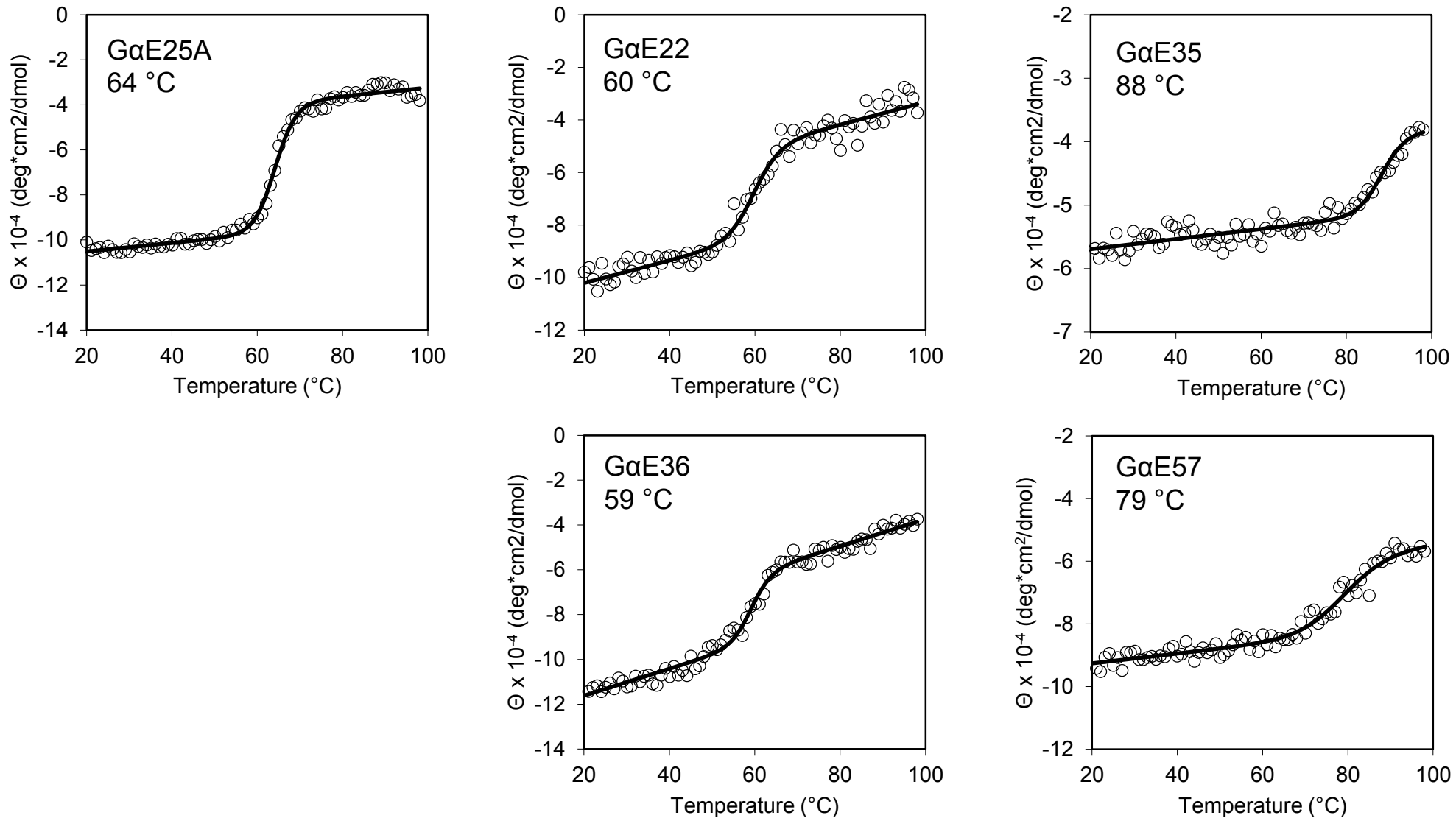


Figure S3. Anti-EGFR Gp2 Thermal denaturation curves. Purified ligands were scanned at a wavelength of 220 nm during heating from 20 to 98 °C (2 °C/min). The midpoint of denaturation (T_m) was determined using a two-state protein unfolding model.

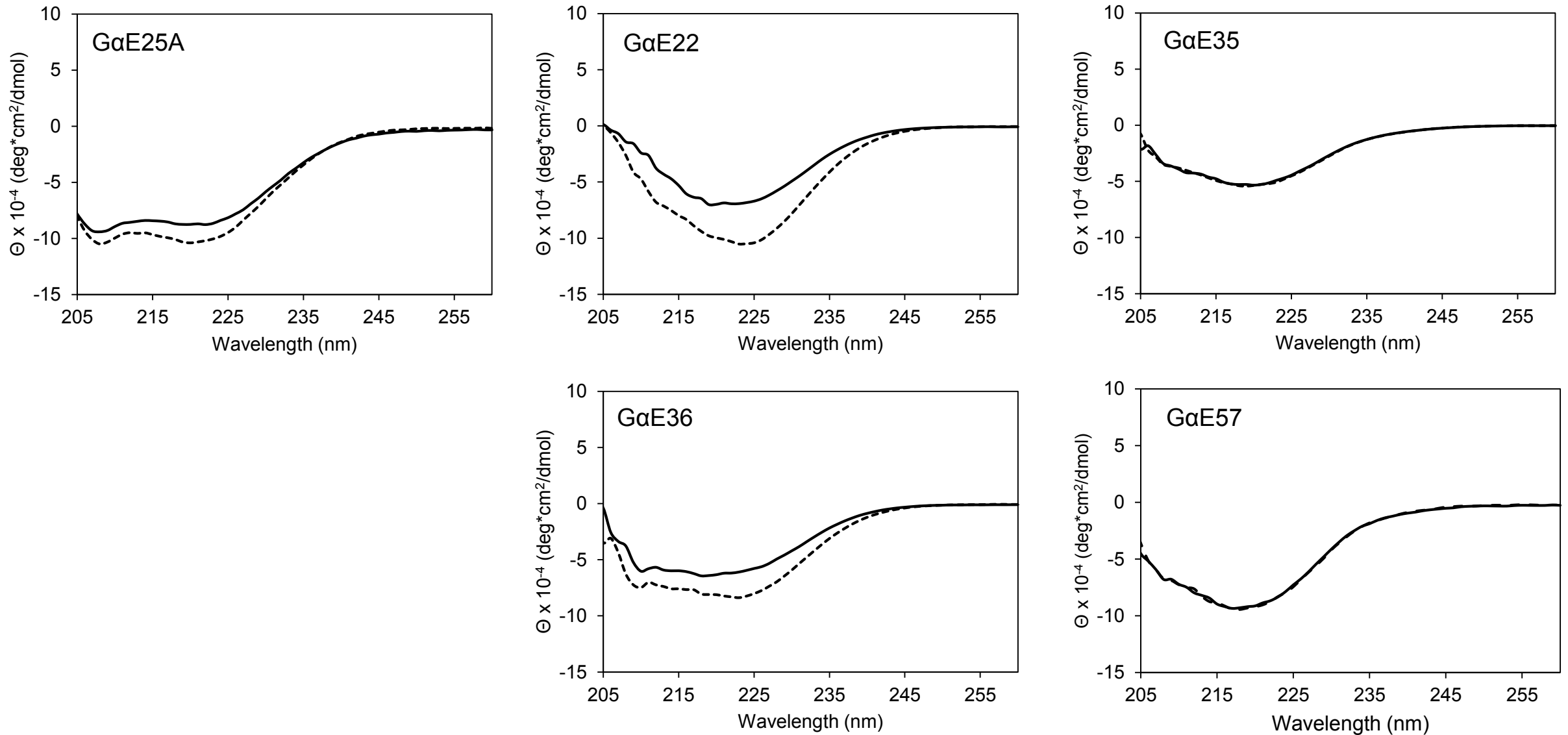
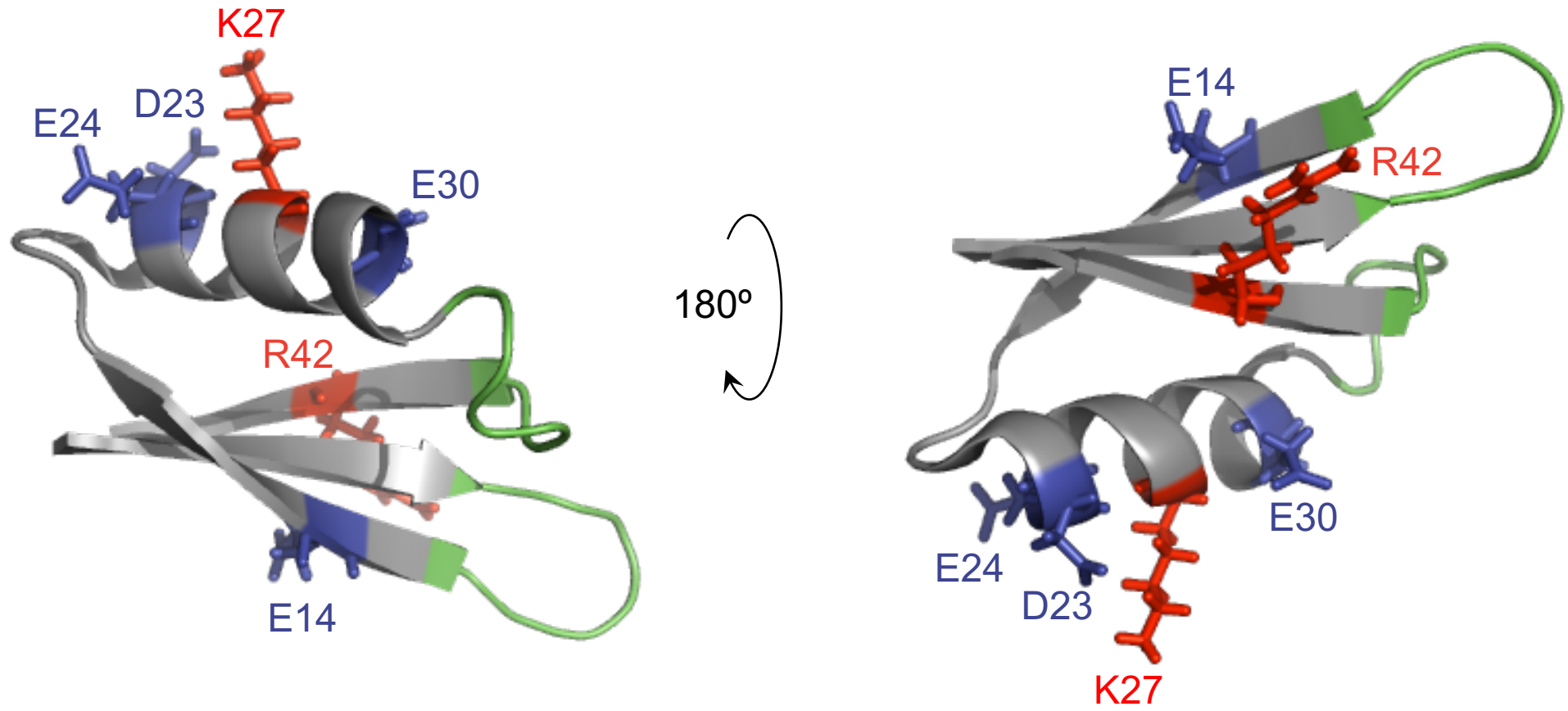


Figure S4. Circular dichroism spectroscopy of recovered mutants. Purified anti-EGFR Gp2 mutants were analyzed by circular dichroism spectroscopy in triplicate between 205 and 260 nm wavelengths before (---) and after (—) thermal denaturation and cooling.



1 10 20 30 40
GαE35: L F W A T V S R G D • S Y W F E V P V Y A Q T L D E A L K L A E T Q Y P M Y H • I Y Y V T R V P P

Figure S5. (A) Approximate structure, based on PDB: 2WNM, and sequence of the GαE35 ligand with acidic (blue), basic (red), and paratope (green) residues highlighted.

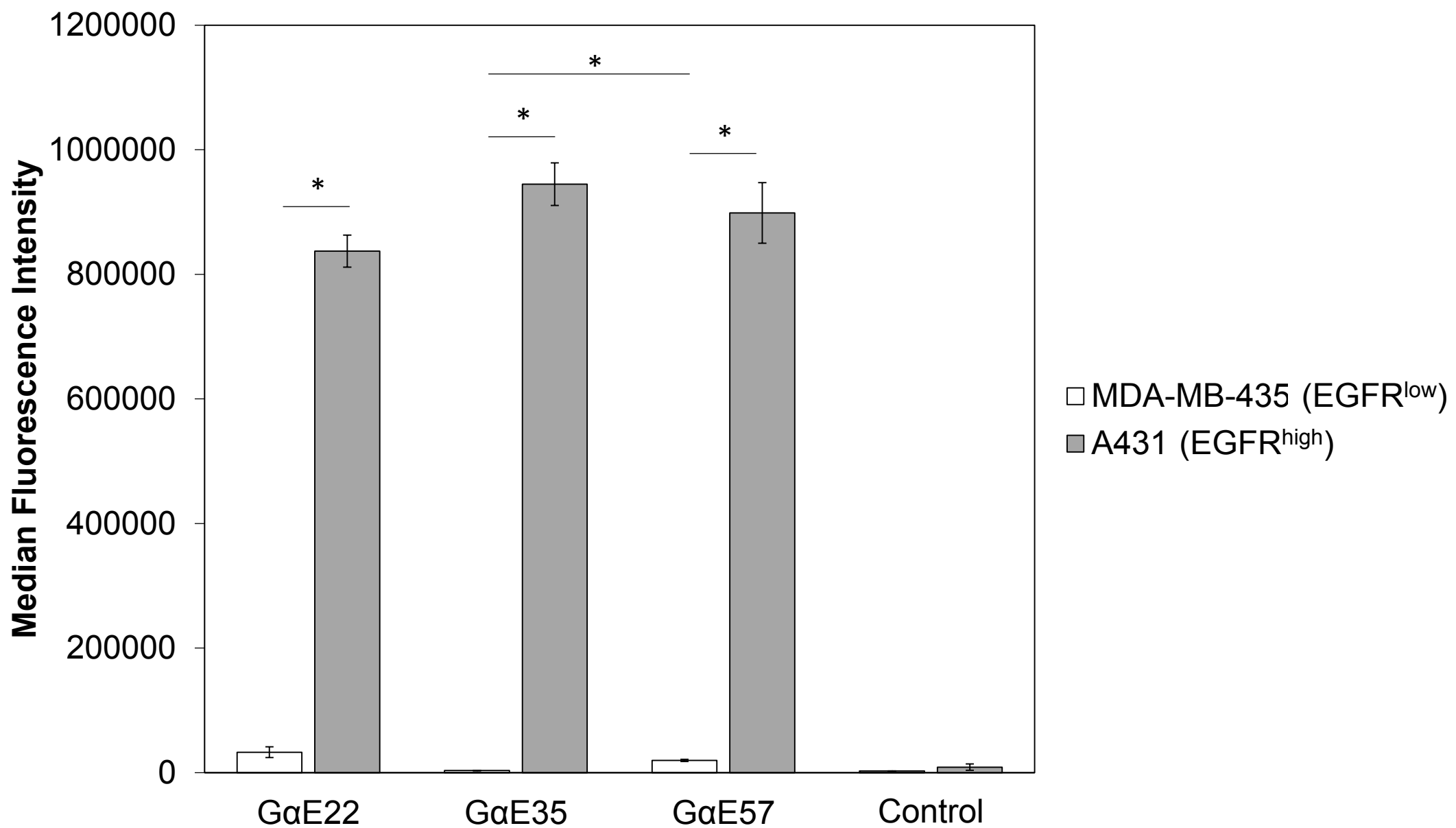


Figure S6. EGFR binding specificity. MDA-MB-435 (EGFR^{low}) and A431 (EGFR^{high}) cells were incubated on ice with 500 nM Gp2 ligand, labeled with fluorescein-conjugated anti-His₆ antibody, and median fluorescence signal determined with flow cytometry (n = 3) (* signifies p ≤ 0.001).

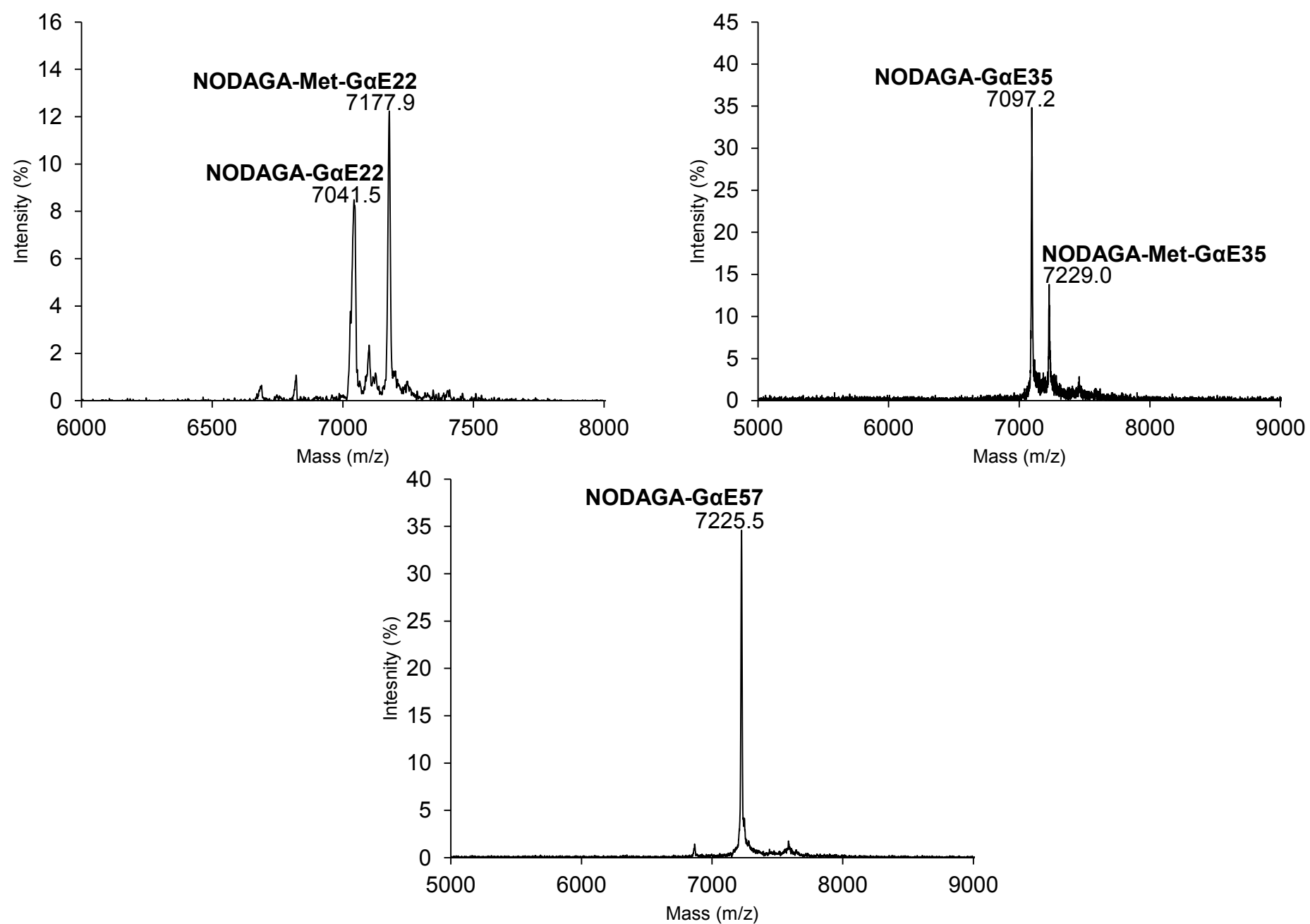


Figure S7. Matrix-assisted laser desorption ionization mass spectrometry (MALDI-MS) of NODAGA-conjugated GαE22, GαE23, and GαE57.

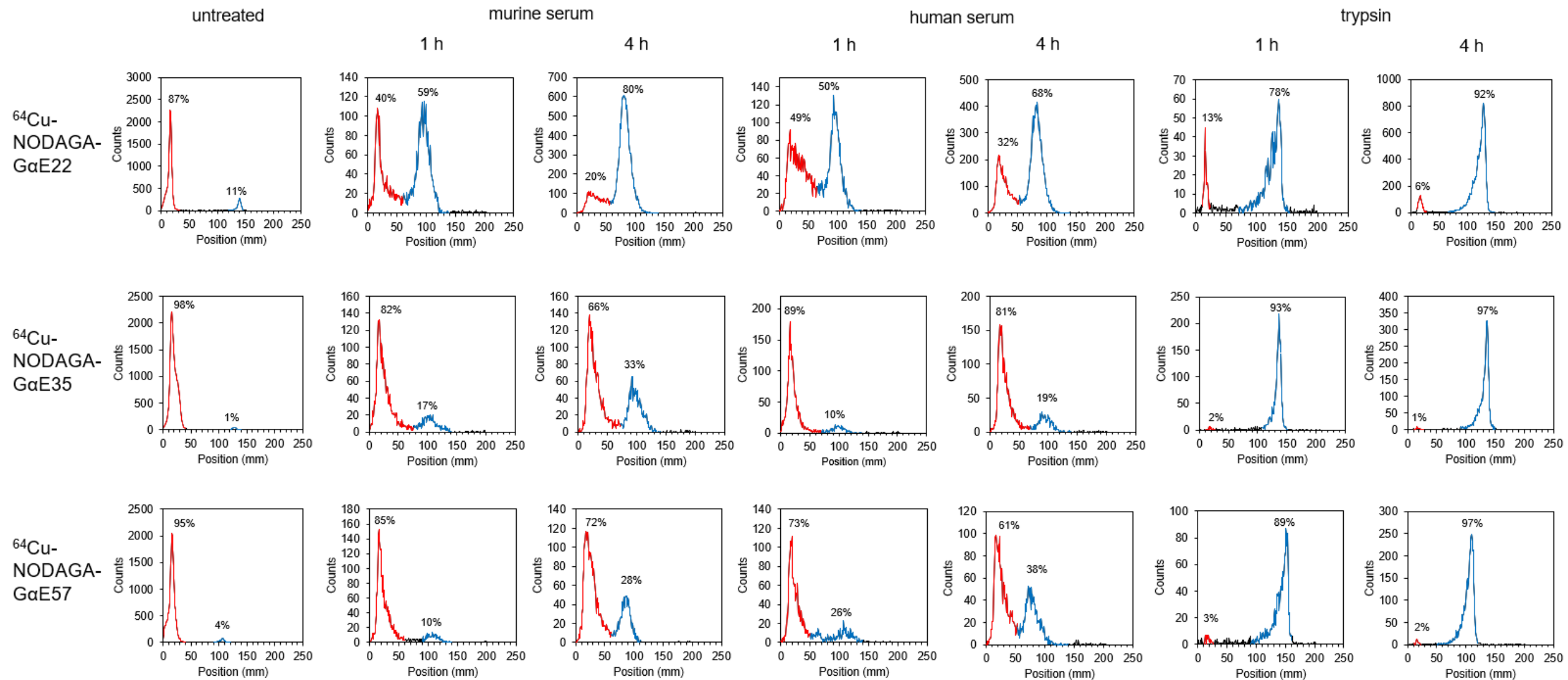


Figure S8. Radio-thin-layer chromatography of radiolabeled GαE clones left untreated, in serum, or trypsin.