

# Both Ligands and Macromolecular Crowders Preferentially Bind to Closed Conformations of Maltose Binding Protein

*Archishman Ghosh<sup>†‡</sup>, Pieter E. S. Smith<sup>†</sup>, Sanbo Qin<sup>†‡</sup>, Myunggi Yi<sup>§</sup>, and Huan-Xiang Zhou<sup>†‡\*</sup>*

<sup>†</sup> Institute of Molecular Biophysics, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida 30302, United States

<sup>‡</sup> Department of Chemistry and Department of Physics, University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 60607, United States

<sup>§</sup> Department of Biomedical Engineering, Pukyong National University, Busan, 48513, South Korea

\*E-mail: hzhou43@uic.edu

*Supporting Information*

Table S1. Parameters from fitting of titration data

<i>Two-state model for wild-type MBP<sup>a</sup></i>			
Titrant	$K_{d:app}$ ( $\mu$ M) or $K_d^C$ (mM) <sup>b</sup>	$\lambda_f$ or $\lambda_p$ (nm)	$\lambda_b$ or $\lambda_{CP}$ (nm)
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =0)	<b>1.2 ± 0.1<sup>c</sup></b>	<b>345.8 ± 0.1</b>	<b>350.0 ± 0.1</b>
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =100 g/L)	1.9 ± 0.3	344.0 ± 0.1	349.8 ± 0.2
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =200 g/L)	3.9 ± 0.2	343.0 ± 0.1	349.9 ± 0.1
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =300 g/L)	8 ± 1	343.0 ± 0.1	350.3 ± 0.1
Ficoll ([L] <sub>T</sub> =0)	<b>2.0 ± 0.5</b>	<b>345.6 ± 0.1</b>	<b>341.5 ± 0.4</b>
<i>Three-state model for wild-type MBP<sup>a</sup></i>			
	$K_d$ ( $\mu$ M) or $K_d^C$ (mM)	$\lambda_p$ (nm)	$\lambda_b$ or $\lambda_{CP}$ (nm)
Maltose and Ficoll	<b>1.3 ± 0.1</b>	<b>345.8 ± 0.1</b>	<b>350.0 ± 0.1</b>
	<b>1.5 ± 0.2</b>		<b>341.8 ± 0.2</b>
<i>Two-state model for A96F</i>			
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =0)	<b>0.33 ± 0.05</b>	<b>345.9 ± 0.1</b>	<b>349.3 ± 0.1</b>
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =50 g/L)	0.67 ± 0.05	344.0 ± 0.1	349.4 ± 0.1
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =100 g/L)	0.91 ± 0.09	343.5 ± 0.1	349.2 ± 0.1
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =200 g/L)	1.6 ± 0.2	342.6 ± 0.1	349.7 ± 0.2
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =300 g/L)	2.2 ± 0.1	341.8 ± 0.1	349.6 ± 0.1
Ficoll ([L] <sub>T</sub> =0)	<b>0.54 ± 0.09</b>	<b>346.1 ± 0.3</b>	<b>342.3 ± 0.2</b>
<i>Three-state model for A96F</i>			
Maltose and Ficoll	<b>0.42 ± 0.04</b>	<b>346.1 ± 0.1</b>	<b>349.4 ± 0.1</b>
	<b>0.91 ± 0.09</b>		<b>343.2 ± 0.1</b>
<i>Two-state model for A96W</i>			
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =0)	<b>0.036 ± 0.006</b>	<b>346.5 ± 0.1</b>	<b>349.3 ± 0.1</b>
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =100 g/L)	0.053 ± 0.003	344.0 ± 0.04	349.3 ± 0.04
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =200 g/L)	0.097 ± 0.010	343.5 ± 0.1	349.1 ± 0.1
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =300 g/L)	0.22 ± 0.02	343.3 ± 0.1	349.3 ± 0.1
Ficoll ([L] <sub>T</sub> =0)	<b>0.35 ± 0.04</b>	<b>346.1 ± 0.2</b>	<b>343.6 ± 0.1</b>
<i>Three-state model for A96W</i>			
Maltose and Ficoll	<b>0.019 ± 0.002</b>	<b>346.4 ± 0.1</b>	<b>349.3 ± 0.1</b>
	<b>0.47 ± 0.05</b>		<b>343.2 ± 0.1</b>
<i>Two-state model for I329W</i>			
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =0)	<b>0.014 ± 0.009</b>	<b>346.4 ± 0.04</b>	<b>349.7 ± 0.03</b>
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =100 g/L)	0.030 ± 0.006	344.4 ± 0.1	350.1 ± 0.1
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =200 g/L)	0.056 ± 0.011	344.4 ± 0.1	350.6 ± 0.1
Maltose ([C] <sub>T</sub> =300 g/L)	0.12 ± 0.01	343.6 ± 0.1	350.8 ± 0.1
Ficoll ([L] <sub>T</sub> =0)	<b>0.65 ± 0.11</b>	<b>346.4 ± 0.2</b>	<b>343.1 ± 0.2</b>

<i>Three-state model for I329W</i>			
Maltose and Ficoll	<b>0.012 ± 0.002</b>	<b>346.4 ± 0.1</b>	<b>349.7 ± 0.1</b>
	<b>0.70 ± 0.11</b>		<b>343.2 ± 0.1</b>

<i>Two-state model for A96W/I329W</i>			
Ficoll ( $[L]_{T=0}$ )	0.45 ± 0.11	348.9 ± 0.3	345.9 ± 0.3

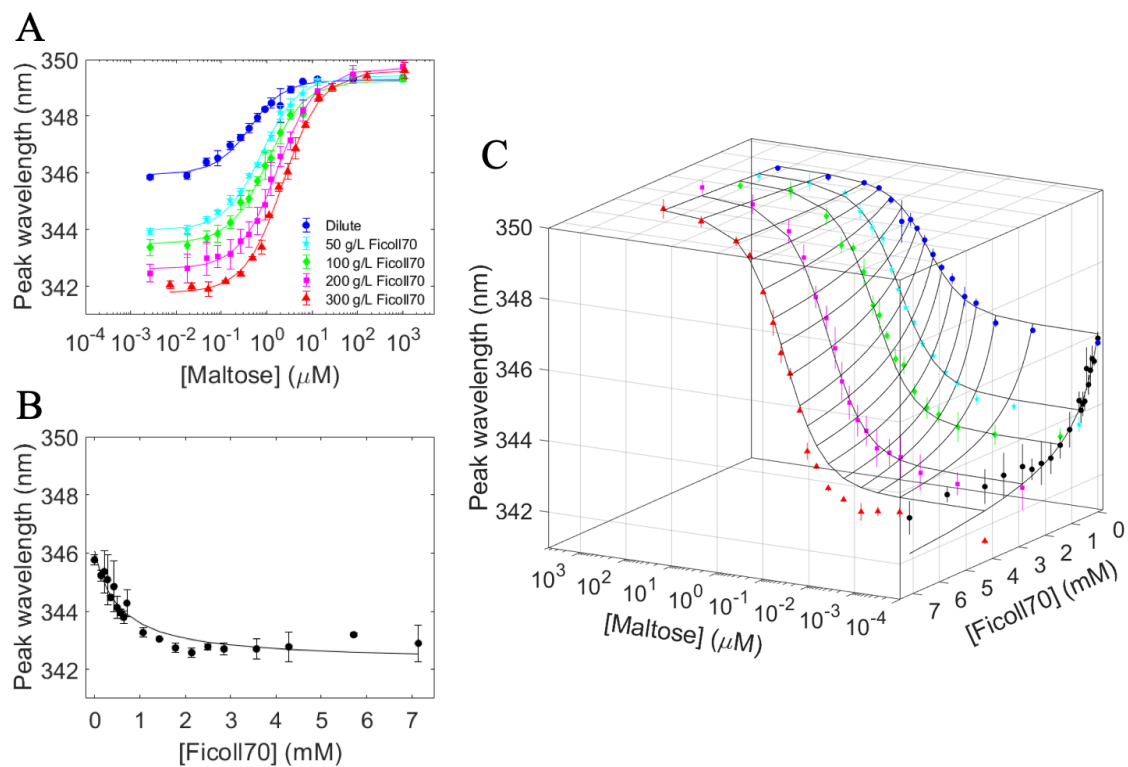
<i>Two-state model for MBP-NBD in Ficoll70</i>			
	$K_{d,app}$ (μM)		
	Peak wavelength with 280 nm excitation	Fluo. intensity at 550 nm with 500 nm excitation	
Maltose ( $[C]_{T=0}$ )	5.8 ± 0.4	29 ± 1	
Maltose ( $[C]_{T=50}$ g/L)	14 ± 1	30 ± 1	
Maltose ( $[C]_{T=100}$ g/L)	30 ± 2	61 ± 1	
Maltose ( $[C]_{T=200}$ g/L)	61 ± 3	145 ± 3	

<i>Two-state model for MBP-NBD in BSA</i>			
Maltose ( $[C]_{T=0}$ )		26 ± 0.7	
Maltose ( $[C]_{T=50}$ g/L)		219 ± 14	
Maltose ( $[C]_{T=100}$ g/L)		469 ± 22	

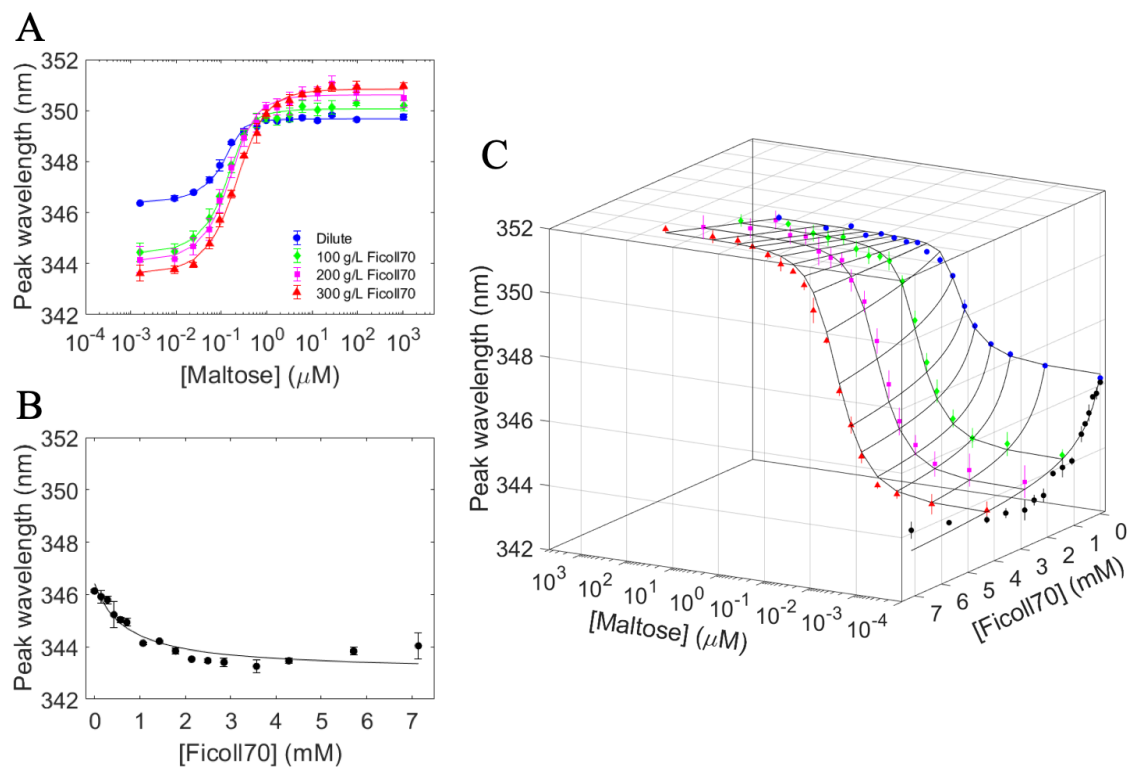
<sup>a</sup>Taken from Miklos et al. (2013).

<sup>b</sup> $K_{d,app}$  (μM) applies to rows where maltose is the titrant;  $K_d^C$  (mM) applies to rows where Ficoll70 is the titrant.

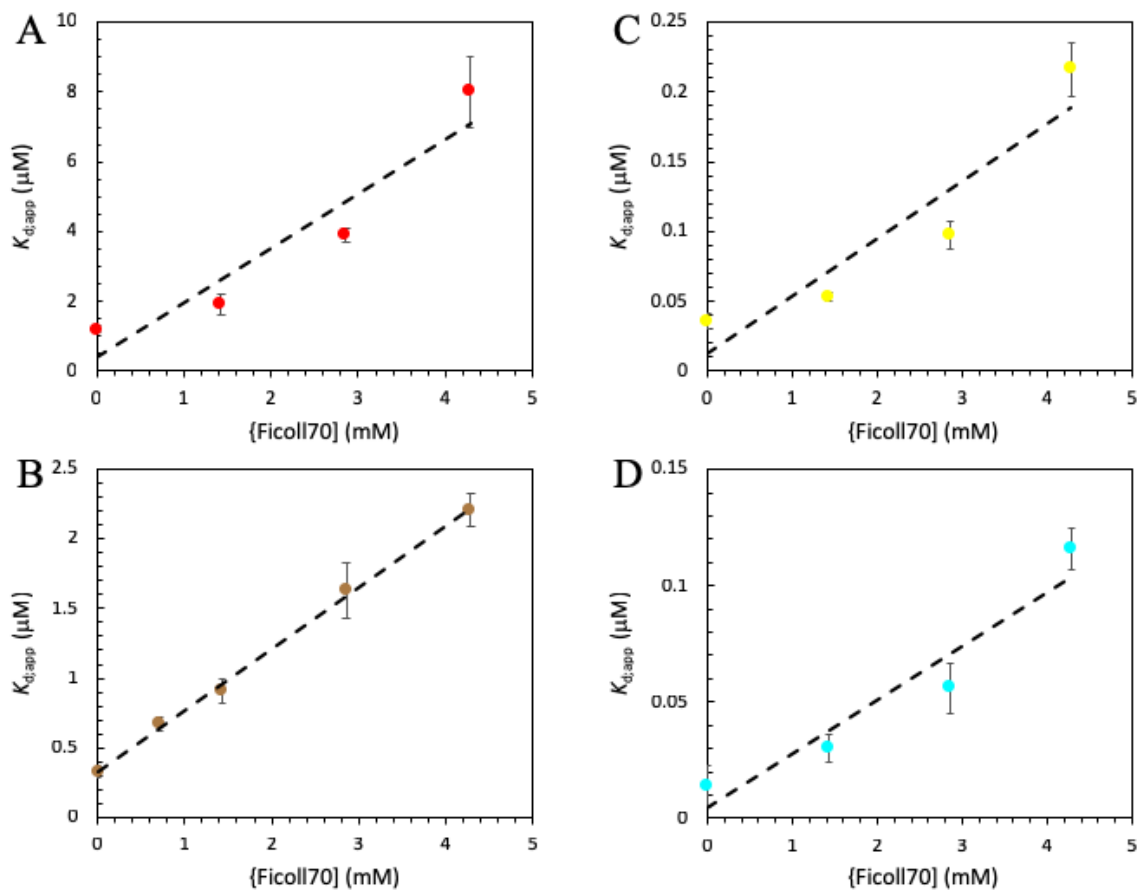
<sup>c</sup>Bold entries are obtained in both two-state and three-state fits. Whereas the two-state model was used to independently fit five or six titration curves, the three-model in essence provides a constrained, simultaneous fit of all these titration curves. The degree of agreement between the corresponding parameters in the two- and three-state fits is thus a measure of the soundness of the three-state competitive model.



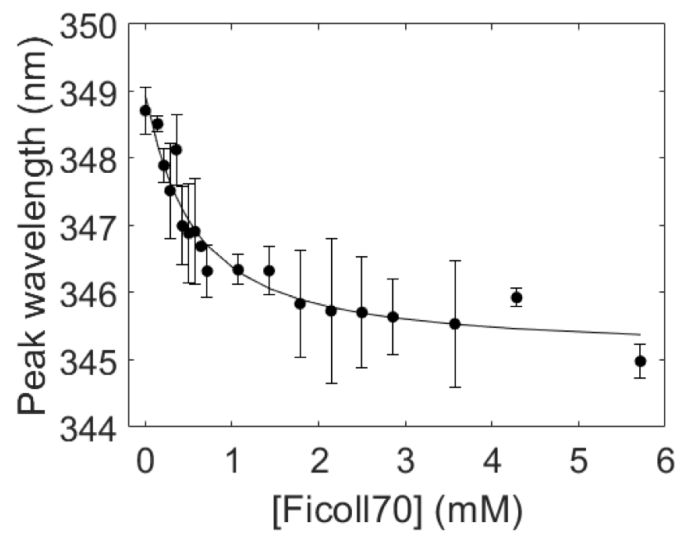
**Figure S1.** (A) Two-state fit of binding isotherms from titrating maltose into the A96F mutant in the absence or presence of fixed concentrations of Ficoll70. (B) Two-state fit of the binding isotherm from titrating Ficoll70. (C) Three-state fit of all the binding isotherms.



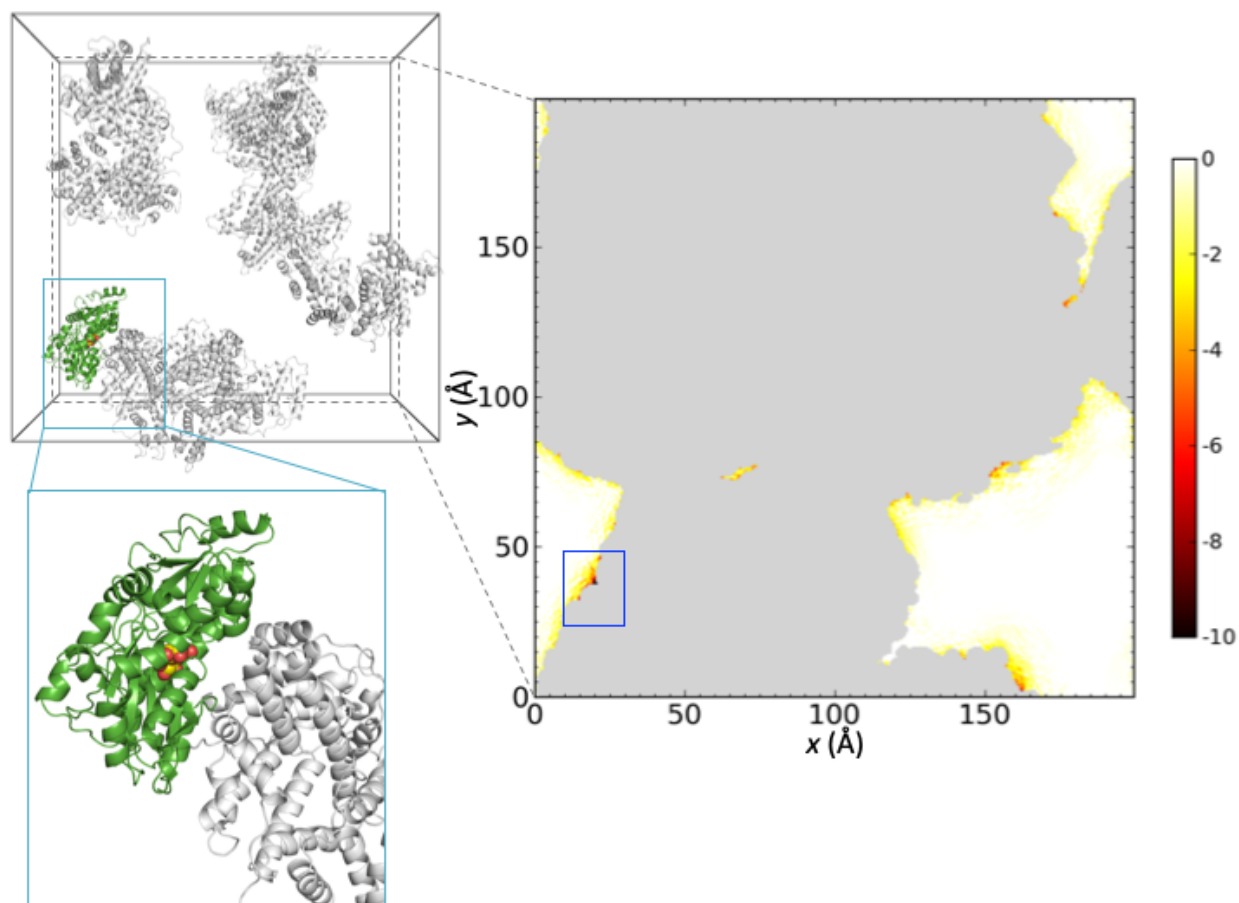
**Figure S2.** (A) Two-state fit of binding isotherms from titrating maltose into the I329W mutant in the absence or presence of fixed concentrations of Ficoll70. (B) Two-state fit of the binding isotherm from titrating Ficoll70. (C) Three-state fit of all the binding isotherms.



**Figure S3.** Linear dependence of the apparent maltose dissociation constants on Ficol70 concentration, expected for a three-state competitive model. (A) Wild-type MBP. (B) A96F mutant. (C) A96W mutant. (D) I329W mutant.

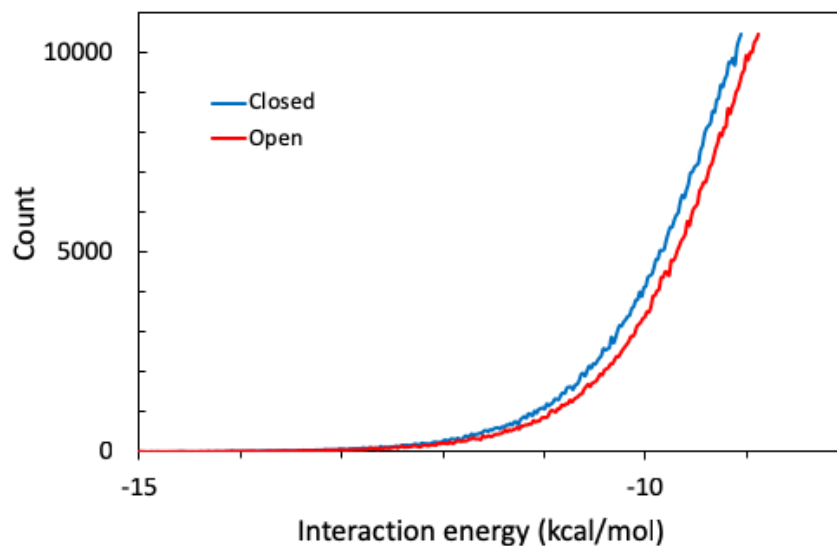


**Figure S4.** Two-state fit of the binding isotherm from titrating Ficoll70 into the A96W/I329W mutant.



**Figure S5.** FMAP calculation of the protein-crowder interaction energies. An MBP molecule (green) is fictitiously placed into many locations inside a cubic box with side length of 200 Å containing eight BSA molecules (gray), representing a concentration of 110 g/L. The interaction energies within a slice of the crowder solution are displayed as colors according to a scale (in kcal/mol) shown on the right. The particular MBP molecule displayed is within a “hot” region (center of blue rectangle). An enlarged view of the pose with this MBP molecule docked to a neighboring BSA molecule is shown at lower bottom.





**Figure S6.** Histograms of MBP-BSA pairwise interaction energies. MBP is either in the closed form (blue curve) or open form (red curve). By the FMAP method,  $2 \times 10^6$  MBP placements in a box of BSA molecules with the lowest interaction energies were obtained. Out of these, the interaction energies were further calculated by an atom-based method and the results were collected for  $1.52 \times 10^5$  MBP placements (the remaining placements were newly found to have clashes with the crowdors). The latter results were grouped into bins with 0.02 kcal/mol width, and the count in each bin is displayed.