

Supporting Information

Automated Glycan Assembly of ¹⁹F-labeled Glycan Probes Enables High-Throughput NMR Studies of Protein–Glycan Interactions

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A. General materials and methods

All chemicals used were reagent grade and used as supplied unless otherwise noted. The automated syntheses were performed on a home-built synthesizer developed at the Max Planck Institute of Colloids and Interfaces. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck silica gel 60 F254 plates (0.25 mm). Compounds were visualized by UV irradiation or dipping the plate in a staining solution (sugar stain: 10% H₂SO₄ in EtOH; CAM: 48 g/L ammonium molybdate, 60 g/L ceric ammonium molybdate in 6% H₂SO₄ aqueous solution). Flash column chromatography was carried out by using forced flow of the indicated solvent on Fluka Kieselgel 60 M (0.04 – 0.063 mm). Analysis and purification by normal and reverse phase HPLC was performed by using an Agilent 1200 series. Products were lyophilized using a Christ Alpha 2-4 LD plus freeze dryer. ¹H, ¹³C and HSQC NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian 400-MR (400 MHz), Varian 600-MR (600 MHz), or Bruker Biospin AVANCE700 (700 MHz) spectrometer. Spectra were recorded in CDCl3 by using the solvent residual peak chemical shift as the internal standard (CDCl₃: 7.26 ppm ¹H, 77.0 ppm 13 C) or in D₂O using the solvent as the internal standard in ¹H NMR (D₂O: 4.79 ppm ¹H). High resolution mass spectra were obtained using a 6210 ESI-TOF mass spectrometer (Agilent) and a MALDI-TOF autoflex[™] (Bruker). MALDI and ESI mass spectra were run on IonSpec Ultima instruments. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 1600 FTIR spectrometer. Optical rotations were measured by using a Perkin-Elmer 241 and Unipol L1000 polarimeter.

B. Building blocks

Building blocks **1** and **4** were synthesized according to previous literature procedures.1,2 Building blocks **2**, **3**, and **5** were purchased from GlycoUniverse (Germany, product codes Gal32.11140202, GlcN30.15131402, Fuc32.020202 respectively). Merrifield resin equipped with a photocleavable linker (**L1**, loading 0.30 mmol/g) was prepared according to previous literature.³

C. Automated glycan assembly

General materials and method

The automated syntheses were performed on a home-built synthesizer developed at the Max Planck Institute of Colloids and Interfaces. All solvents used were HPLC-grade. The solvents used for the building block, activator, TMSOTf and capping solutions were taken from an anhydrous solvent system (J.C. Meyer) and further dried with molecular sieves (4 Å) for moisture-sensitive solutions. The building blocks were co-evaporated three times with toluene and dried for 1 h on high vacuum before use. Oven-heated, argon-flushed flasks were used to prepare all moisture-sensitive solutions. Activator, capping, deprotection, acidic wash and building block solutions were freshly prepared and kept under argon during the automation run. All yields of products obtained by AGA were calculated on the basis of resin loading. Resin loading was determined following previously established procedures.⁴

Preparation of stock solutions

- **Building block solution**: Between 0.06 and 0.10 mmol of building block (depending on the BB, see Module C1 and C2) was dissolved in DCM (1 mL).
- **NIS/TfOH activator solution**: 1.35 g (6.0 mmol) of recrystallized NIS was dissolved in 40 mL of a 2:1 v/v mixture of anhydrous DCM and anhydrous dioxane. Then triflic acid (55 μL, 0.6 mmol) was added. The solution is kept at 0°C for the duration of the automation run.
- **Fmoc deprotection solution**: A solution of 20% piperidine in DMF (v/v) was prepared.
- **Lev deprotection solution**: Hydrazine acetate (550 mg, 5.97 mmol) was dissolved in pyridine/AcOH/H2O (40mL, v/v, 32:8:2) and sonicated for 10 min.
- **TMSOTf solution**: TMSOTf (0.45 mL, 2.49 mmol) was added to DCM (40 mL).
- **Capping solution**: A solution of 10% acetic anhydride and 2% methanesulfunic acid in DCM (v/v) was prepared.

Modules for automated synthesis

Module A: Resin preparation for synthesis (20 min)

All automated syntheses were performed on 0.0135 mmol scale. Resin (**L1**, 45 mg) was placed in the reaction vessel and swollen in DCM for 20 min at room temperature prior to synthesis. During this time, all reagent lines needed for the synthesis were washed and primed. After the swelling, the resin was washed with DMF, THF, and DCM (three times each with 2 mL for 25 s).

Module B: Acidic wash with TMSOTf solution (20 min)

The resin was swollen in 2 mL DCM and the temperature of the reaction vessel was adjusted to -20 °C. Upon reaching the low temperature, TMSOTf solution (1 mL) was added drop wise to the reaction vessel. After bubbling for 3 min, the acidic solution was drained and the resin was washed with 2 mL DCM for 25 s.

*Time required to reach the desired temperature.

Module C1: Thioglycoside glycosylation (35 min-55 min)

The building block solution (0.10 mmol of BB in 1 mL of DCM per glycosylation) was delivered to the reaction vessel. After the set temperature was reached, the reaction was started by dropwise addition of the NIS/TfOH activator solution (1.0 mL, excess). The glycosylation conditions $(T_1, T_2, t_1,$ and t_2) are building block dependent and are reported in a table below. After completion of the reaction, the solution was drained and the resin was washed with DCM, DCM:dioxane (1:2, 3 mL for 20 s) and DCM (two times, each with 2 mL for 25 s). The temperature of the reaction vessel was increased to 25 °C for the next module.

The AGA glycosylation conditions employed for thioglycoside BBs were previously reported.^{1,2}

Module C2: Glycosyl phosphate glycosylation (45 min)

The building block solution (0.06 mmol of BB in 1 mL of DCM per glycosylation) was delivered to the reaction vessel. After the set temperature was reached, the reaction was started by drop wise addition of the TMSOTf solution (1.0 mL, stoichiometric). After completion of the reaction, the solution was drained and the resin washed with DCM (six times, each with 2 mL for 25 s). The temperature of the reaction vessel was increased to 25 °C for the next module.

The AGA glycosylation conditions employed for the glycosyl phosphate BB were previously reported.²

Module D: Capping (30 min)

The resin was washed with DMF (two times with 2 mL for 25 s) and the temperature of the reaction vessel was adjusted to 25 °C. 2 mL of Pyridine solution (10% in DMF) was delivered into the reaction vessel. After 1 min, the reaction solution was drained and the resin washed with DCM (three times with 3 mL for 25 s). 4 mL of capping solution was delivered into the

reaction vessel. After 20 min, the reaction solution was drained and the resin washed with DCM (three times with 3 mL for 25 s).

*Time required to reach the desired temperature.

Module E1: Fmoc deprotection (9 min)

The resin was washed with DMF (three times with 2 mL for 25 s) and the temperature of the reaction vessel was adjusted to 25 °C. 2 mL of Fmoc deprotection solution was delivered to the reaction vessel and kept under Ar bubbling. After 5 min, the reaction solution was drained and the resin washed with DMF (three times with 3 mL for 25 s) and DCM (five times each with 2 mL for 25 s). The temperature of the reaction vessel was decreased to -20 °C for the next module.

Module E2: Lev deprotection (65 min)

The resin was washed with DCM (three times with 2 mL for 25 s). DCM (1.3 mL) was delivered to the reaction vessel and the temperature of the reaction vessel was adjusted to 25 °C. 2 mL of Lev deprotection solution was delivered to the reaction vessel that was kept under pulsed Ar bubbling for 30 min. This procedure was repeated twice. The reaction solution was drained and the resin washed with DMF (three times with 3 mL for 25 s) and DCM (five times each with 2 mL for 25 s).

Note:

With the current setup the automated synthesizer has four BB lines. Therefore, for AGA syntheses requiring the use of five BBs (*i.e.* AGA of **F-Le^x** , **F-H type 2**, and **F-Le^y**) a first cycle with BB **1** was performed and, upon completion, BB **1** was replaced by BB **5** solution to continue the AGA.

Post-synthesizer manipulations (Post-AGA)

Module F: On-resin methanolysis

The resin was suspended THF (4 mL). 0.4 mL of NaOMe in MeOH (0.5 M) was added and the suspension was gently shaken at room temperature. After micro-cleavage (see Module G1) indicated the complete removal of benzoyl groups, the resin was repeatedly washed with MeOH (2mL x 3) and DCM (2mL x 3).

Module G: Cleavage from solid support

The oligosaccharides were cleaved from the solid support using a continuous-flow photoreactor as described previously.⁵

Module G1: Micro-cleavage from solid support

Trace amount of resin (around 20 beads) was dispersed in DCM (0.1 mL) and irradiated with a UV lamp (6 watt, 356 nm) for 10 minutes. ACN (10 µL) was then added to the resin and the resulting solution analyzed by MALDI.

Module H1: Hydrogenolysis

The crude compound obtained from *Module G* was dissolved in 2 mL of EA:*t*BuOH:H2O (2:1:1). 100% by weight Pd-C (10%) was added and the reaction was stirred in H_2 bomb with 60 psi pressure. The reaction progress was monitored to avoid undesired side products formation. Upon completion, the reaction was filtered and washed with EA, *t*BuOH and H2O. The filtrates were concentrated *in vacuo.*

Module H2: Hydrogenolysis at ambient pressure

The crude compound obtained from *Module G* was dissolved in 2 mL of EA:*t*BuOH:H₂O (2:1:1). 100% by weight Pd-C (10%) was added and the reaction was stirred in a flask equipped with a H₂ balloon. The reaction progress was monitored to avoid undesired side products formation. Upon completion, the reaction was filtered and washed with EA, *fBuOH* and H₂O. The filtrates were concentrated *in vacuo.*

Module I: Purification

The purification of the crudes was conducted using a C_{18} silica column or reverse phase HPLC (Agilent 1200 Series, Method B and Method C). The pure compound was analyzed using analytical HPLC (Agilent 1200 Series, Method A).

- Method A: (Hypercarb column, 150 x 4.6 mm, 3 μm) flow rate of 0.7 mL/min with H₂O (0.1% formic acid) as eluents [isocratic (5 min), linear gradient to 30% ACN (30 min), linear gradient to 100% ACN (5 min)].
- **Method B:** (Hypercarb column, 150 x 10 mm, 5 µm), flow rate of 3 mL /min with H₂O (0.1% formic acid) as eluents [isocratic (5 min), linear gradient to 30% ACN (30 min), linear gradient to 100% ACN (5 min)].
- **Method C:** (Manual reverse phase C₁₈ silica gel column chromatography): H₂O (0.1% formic acid, 10 mL), 3% MeOH (10 mL), 6% MeOH (10 mL), 9% MeOH (10 mL), 15% MeOH (10 mL).

Following final purification, all deprotected products were lyophilized on a Christ Alpha 2-4 LD plus freeze dryer prior to characterization.

Oligosaccharides synthesis

Figure S1 Collection of ¹⁹F labelled Lewis type-II antigens synthesized by AGA.

$$
\mathsf{F}\text{-}\mathsf{Lac}
$$

Automated synthesis, global deprotection, and purification afforded **F-Lac** as a white solid (1.17 mg, 20% overall yield).

Analytical data for **F-Lac**:

¹H NMR (600 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 4.67 – 4.55 (m, 1H, **H-1 Glc**, H-3 Glc), 4.54 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H, **H-1 Gal**), 4.50 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.05 – 3.92 (m, 4H), 3.87 (dd, *J* = 12.3, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (dd, *J* = 11.8, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.78 – 3.65 (m, 4H), 3.64 – 3.53 (m, 3H), 3.01 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, C*H2*-NH³ + linker), 1.70 (h, *J* = 7.4, 6.8 Hz, 4H, 2x C*H²* linker), 1.47 (p, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H, *CH²* linker). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 102.81 (s, **C-1 Gal**), 101.11 (d, *J* = 12.1 Hz, **C-1 Glc**), 94.77 (d, *J* = 183.6 Hz, C-3 Glc), 75.46 (d, *J* = 16.9 Hz), 75.18, 73.80 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz), 72.57, 71.72 (d, J = 18.1 Hz), 70.92, 70.17 (s, CH₂-O linker), 68.43, 60.79, 59.77, 39.31 (s, CH₂-

NH³ + linker), 28.07 (s, *C*H² linker), 26.49 (s, *C*H² linker), 22.01 (s, *C*H² linker). ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ -192.23 (dt, *J* = 52.1, 14.0 Hz). (ESI-HRMS) m/z 430.208 [M+H]⁺ $(C_{17}H_{33}FNO_{10}$ requires 430.208).

RP-HPLC of F-Lac (ELSD trace, Method A, t_R **= 21.4 min)**

¹⁹F NMR of F-Lac (564 MHz, D2O)

-80 -90 -100 -110 -120 -130 -140 -150 -160 -170 -180 -190 -20
f1 (ppm) $\overline{30}$ $\frac{1}{20}$ $\overline{10}$ $\overline{0}$ -10 -20 -30 -40 -50 -60 -70

Synthesis of **F-nLac⁴**

Automated synthesis, global deprotection, and purification afforded **F-nLac⁴** as white solid (1.64 mg, 16% overall yield).

Analytical data for **F-nLac4**:

¹H NMR (700 MHz, Deuterium oxide) 4.71 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, **H-1**), 4.59 (dt, *J* = 52.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H, H-3 Glc), 4.53 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, **H-1**), 4.48 (t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 2H, 2x **H-1**), 4.16 (s, 1H), 4.07 – 3.89 (m, 5H), 3.89 – 3.65 (m, 14H), 3.64 – 3.50 (m, 5H), 3.00 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H, C*H2*-NH³ + linker), 2.04 (s, 3H, C*H³* NHAc), 1.73 – 1.64 (m, 4H, 2x C*H²* linker), 1.53 – 1.43 (m, 2H, *CH²* linker). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Deuterium oxide) δ 174.84, 102.83 (s, **C-1**), 102.80 (s, **C-1**), 102.66 (s, **C-1**), 101.13 (s, **C-1**) 94.72 (d, *J* = 184.3 Hz, C-3 Glc), 82.13, 78.14, 75.57, 75.29, 74.72, 74.50, 73.81, 72.44, 72.12, 71.66, 70.90, 70.15 (s, *C*H2-O linker), 69.92, 68.48, 68.18, 60.96, 60.72, 59.78, 55.14, 39.28 (s, *C*H² linker), 28.06 (s, *C*H² linker), 26.33 (s, *C*H² linker), 22.11 (s, *C*H³ NHAc), 21.99 (s, *C*H² linker). ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, Deuterium oxide) δ -192.16 (dt, *J* = 52.1, 14.0 Hz). (ESI-HRMS) m/z 795.344 [M+H]⁺ (C₃₁H₅₆FN₂O₂₀ requires 795.341).

F NMR of F-nLac⁴ (376 MHz, D2O)

Automated synthesis, global deprotection, and purification afforded **F-Le^x** as a white solid (1.1 mg, 8% overall yield).

Analytical data for **F-Le^x** :

¹H NMR (700 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 5.14 (s, 1H, **H-1 Fuc α-1,3**), 4.89 – 4.83 (m, 1H, H-5 Fuc α-1,3), 4.72 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, **H-1**), 4.67 – 4.51 (m, 2H, H-3 Glc, **H-1**), 4.50 – 4.44 (m, 2H, 2x **H-1**), 4.21 – 4.13 (m, 1H), 4.06 – 3.82 (m, 11H), 3.82 – 3.64 (m, 10H), 3.59 (ddt, *J* = 17.3, 10.2, 3.8 Hz, 5H), 3.51 (t, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, C*H2*-NH³ + linker), 2.03 (s, 3H, C*H³* NHAc), 1.68 (p, *J* = 7.8, 7.1 Hz, 4H, 2x C*H²* linker), 1.46 (p, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, C*H²* linker), 1.18 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H, C*H³* Fuc). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Deuterium oxide) δ 170.97 (s, *C*=O NHAc), 102.82 (s, **C-1**), 102.46 (s, **C-1**), 101.71 (s, **C-1**), 101.13 (s, **C-1**), 98.54 (s, **C-1 Fuc α-1,3**), 94.73 (d, *J* = 178.3 Hz, C-3 Glc), 82.16, 75.07, 74.85, 74.71, 73.81, 73.01, 72.42, 71.85, 70.99, 70.15 (s, *C*H2-O linker), 69.92, 69.14, 68.29, 68.16, 67.65, 66.63 (s, C-5 Fuc α-1,3), 61.44, 60.73, 59.58, 39.29 (s, CH₂-NH₃+ linker), 28.06 (s, CH₂ linker), 26.35 (s, CH₂ linker), 22.19 (s, *C*H³ NHAc), 21.99 (s, *C*H² linker), 15.24 (s, *C*H³ Fuc). ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, Deuterium oxide) δ -192.15 (dt, J = 52.2, 14.0 Hz). (ESI-HRMS) m/z 941.403 [M+H]⁺ (C₃₇H₆₆FN₂O₂₄ requires 941.398).

¹⁹F NMR of F-Le^x (376 MHz, D2O)

COSY NMR of F-Le^x (D2O)

Synthesis of **F-H type 2**

Automated synthesis, global deprotection, and purification afforded **F-H type 2** as a white solid (1.3 mg, 10% overall yield).

Analytical data for **F-H type 2**:

¹H NMR (700 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 5.32 (s, 1H, **H-1 Fuc α-1,2**), 4.71 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H, **H-1**), 4.68 – 4.44 (m, 4H, 4x **H-1**, H-3 Glc), 4.23 (q, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H, H-5 Fuc α-1,2), 4.20 – 3.64 (m, 25H), 3.64 – 3.50 (m, 2H), 3.47 (m, 1H), 3.01 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, C*H2*-NH³ + linker), 2.05 (s, 3H, C*H³* NHAc), 1.80 – 1.62 (m, 4H, 2x C*H²* linker), 1.46 (p, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H, C*H²* linker), 1.27 – 1.20 (d, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 3H, C*H³* Fuc). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Deuterium oxide) δ 170.79 (s, *C*=O NHAc), 102.82 (s, **C-1**), 102.68 (s, **C-1**), 101.13 (s, **C-1**), 100.19 (s, **C-1**), 99.35 (s, **C-1 Fuc α-1,2**), 94.75 (d, *J* = 196.3 Hz, C-3 Glc), 82.07, 76.39, 75.85, 75.58, 75.19, 75.04, 74.70, 73.76, 73.46, 72.00, 71.61, 70.15 (s, *C*H2-O linker), 69.94, 69.55, 69.05, 68.14, 66.87 (s, C-5 Fuc α-1,2), 61.05, 60.68, 59.78, 55.33, 39.28 (s, CH₂-NH₃+ linker), 28.06 (s, CH₂ linker), 26.33 (s, CH₂ linker), 22.13 (s, *C*H³ NHAc), 21.99 (s, *C*H² linker), 15.24 (s, *C*H³ Fuc). ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, Deuterium oxide) δ -192.17 (dt, *J* = 52.1, 14.1 Hz). (ESI-HRMS) m/z 941.404 [M+H]⁺ (C37H66FN2O²⁴ requires 941.398).

F NMR of F-H type 2 (564 MHz, D2O)

I: (Method B, $t_R = 22.0$ min)

Automated synthesis, global deprotection, and purification afforded **F-Le^y** as a white solid (0.8 mg, 5% overall yield).

Analytical data for **F-Le^y** :

¹H NMR (700 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 5.28 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H, **H-1 Fuc α-1,2**), 5.12 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H, **H-1 Fuc α-1,3**), 4.89 (q, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H, H-5 Fuc **α-1,3**), 4.73 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, **H-1**), 4.59 (dt, *J* = 52.3, 8.8 Hz, 1H, H-3 Glc), 4.54 – 4.50 (m, 2H, 2x **H-1**), 4.48 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H, **H-1**), 4.26 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H, H-5 Fuc α-1,2), 4.16 – 4.13 (m, 1H), 4.05 – 3.90 (m, 7H), 3.90 – 3.64 (m, 17H), 3.63 – 3.55 (m, 5H), 3.46 (ddd, *J* = 10.1, 5.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.05 – 2.99 (m, 2H, C*H2*- NH³ + linker), 2.03 (s, 3H, C*H³* NHAc), 1.69 (dp, *J* = 13.8, 7.1 Hz, 4H, 2x C*H²* linker), 1.47 (qd, *J* = 9.6, 8.9, 6.5 Hz, 2H, C*H²* linker), 1.27 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, C*H³* Fuc), 1.24 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, C*H³* Fuc). ¹³C NMR (176 MHz, Deuterium oxide) δ 170.92 (s, *C*=O NHAc), 102.88 (s, **C-1**), 101.20 (s, **C-1**), 101.13 (s, **C-1**), 100.22 (s, **C-1**), 99.44 (s, **C-1 Fuc α-1,2**), 98.60 (s, **C-1 Fuc α-1,3**), 94.83 (d, *J* = 182.8 Hz, C-3 Glc), 82.16, 76.40, 75.63, 75.39, 74.87, 74.76, 73.88, 73.83, 73.56, 73.09, 71.95, 71.85, 71.72, 70.22 (s, *C*H2-O linker), 70.02, 69.74, 69.19, 68.75, 68.29, 68.22, 67.72, 66.92 (s, C-5 Fuc α-1,2), 66.80 (s, C-5 Fuc α-1,3), 61.48, 60.75, 59.86, 59.80, 56.15, 39.35 (s, CH₂-NH₃+ linker), 28.13 (s, CH₂ linker), 26.40 (s, CH₂ linker), 22.28 (s, CH₃ NHAc), 22.06 (s, *C*H² linker), 15.46 (s, *C*H³ Fuc), 15,44 (s, *C*H³ Fuc). ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, Deuterium oxide) δ -192.16 (dt, *J* = 52.4, 14.1 Hz). (ESI-HRMS) m/z 1087.462 [M+H]⁺ $(C_{43}H_{76}FN_{2}O_{28}$ requires 1087.456).

RP-HPLC of F-Le^y (ELSD trace, Method A, t^R = 23.0 min)

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F NMR of F-Le^y (564 MHz, D2O)

Synthesis of **CF3-H type 2**

S1 was prepared by automated synthesis according to previously established protocols.²

S1 (250 μg, 0.27 μmol) was dissolved in DMSO (150 μL) and a triethylamine solution (10 μL, 0.1 M in DMSO, 1 μmol) was added. A solution of ethyltrifluoroacetate (20 μL, 0.1 M in DMSO, 2 μmol) was added and the mixture stirred at RT overnight. The reaction was then diluted with water, lyophilized, and purified by RP HPLC (Method B, $t_R = 38.6$ min). CF_3 -type 2 was obtained as a white solid (140 μg, 51% yield).

Analytical data for **CF3-H type 2**:

¹H NMR (600 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 5.32 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 1H, **H-1 Fuc α-1,2**), 4.72 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 1H, **H-1**), 4.56 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, **H-1**), 4.49 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, **H-1**), 4.46 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H, **H-1**), 4.23 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H, H-5 Fuc α-1,2), 4.16 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, 1H), 4.02 – 3.87 (m, 5H), 3.87 – 3.57 (m, 22H), 3.51 – 3.45 (m, 1H), 3.35 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H, C*H2*-NH³ + linker), 3.33 – 3.29 (m, 1H), 2.06 (s, 3H, C*H³* NHAc), 1.70 – 1.59 (m, 4H, 2x C*H²* linker), 1.42 (p, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H, C*H²* linker), 1.24 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H, C*H³* Fuc). ¹⁹F NMR (564 MHz, Deuterium oxide) δ -75.92. (ESI-HRMS) m/z 1057.372 [M+Na]⁺ (C₃₉H₆₅F₃N₂O₂₆Na required1057.367).

RP-HPLC of the crude reaction mixture (ELSD trace, Method A)

F NMR of CF3-H type 2 (564 MHz, D2O)

* The peak at -122.29 ppm is a fluoride impurity

D. NMR studies of glycan-protein interactions

General materials and methods

Chemicals

All commercial carbohydrates and building blocks were purchased from Carbosynth (UK) or TCI (Germany).

Recombinant proteins

The non-labelled or ¹⁵N-labeled LecA⁶, LecB⁷ and BambL⁸ were purified in soluble form as reported previously. LecA labelled with 5-fluorotryptophan (5FW) was expressed and purified as described previously.⁹ Human Langerin ECD, DC-SIGN CRD and ECD constructs were expressed in inclusion bodies and prepared as described previously.^{10,11}

¹⁹F NMR

¹⁹F NMR was used to screen F-glycans for bacterial (LecA, LecB, BambL), mammalian lectins (Langerin, DC-SIGN), and sialyltransferases (α(2,3)-sialyltransferase from Pasteurella multocida (Pmα23ST) and α(2,6)-sialyltransferase from Photobacterium damsela (Pdα26ST)). The enzymes α(2,3)-sialyltransferase from *Pasteurella multocida* (Pmα23ST, *E. coli* EC no. 2.4.99.4), and α(2,6)-sialyltransferase from *Photobacterium damsela* (Pdα26ST, *E. coli* EC no. 2.4.99.1) were purchased from Sigma Aldrich. All experiments were performed on a Bruker Ascend™700 (AvanceIII HD) spectrometer equipped with a 5 mm TCI700 CryoProbe™ in 3 mm tubes (Norell S-3-800-7) at 298 K. The proteins were screened at 10 µM (or 67 mU/mL for enzymes) against F-glycans: **F-Lac**, **F-nLac4**, **F-Le^x** , **F-H type 2** and **F-Le^y** in 25 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 150 mM NaCl, 10% D₂O, 25 uM TFA and 5 mM CaCl₂ at 298 K. For this, proteins were mixed at 1:1 in volume ratio with the F-glycans resulting in the concentrations of 10 μ M (or 67 mU/mL for enzymes) and 50 µM, respectively. The enzymes were screened in the absence of donor (*i.e.* CMP-Neu5Ac). ¹⁹F spectra were recorded with 512 scans, a spectral width of 10 ppm, a transmitter offset at -190 ppm, acquisition time of 2 s and 1 s relaxation time. T2-filtered spectra were recorded using a CPMG pulse sequence with a 180° pulse repetition rate of 0.38 s using same acquisition and relaxation times.^{12,13} ¹⁹F R₂-filtered experiments for 0.6 mM **F-H type 2** and 0.15 mM LecA were performed with a CPMG pulse sequence with a 180° pulse repetition rate of 0, 0.24, 0.48, 0.72, 0.96 and 1.2 s using the same buffer and acquisition conditions as described above. ¹⁹F and CPMG NMR spectra of 50 µM **CF3-H type 2** were recorded in presence of 10 µM DC-SIGN ECD and 5 µM BambL with 16 scans, a spectral width of 10 ppm, a transmitter offset at -75 ppm, acquisition time of 2 s and 1 s relaxation time. Data were recorded without proton decoupling. All spectra were analyzed in MestReNova 11.0.0 (Mestrelab Research SL). The binding strength (**Figure 1B**) was defined depending on the changes observed in the NMR after addition of the protein. A decrease in peak intensity higher than -25% or a CSP higher than 0.01 ppm in the normal 19 F NMR was interpreted as strong binding (blue), a decrease in peak intensity higher than -25% in the CPMG filtered ¹⁹F NMR as weak/medium binding (light blue), and a decrease in peak lower than -25% in normal or CPMG filtered 19 F NMR as no binding (white).

K^d determination with F-glycans in ¹⁹F NMR

To derive the affinities of BambL to **F-H type 2** and **F-Le^y** , we recorded ¹⁹F NMR of 50 µM compound alone and in presence of BambL (6.25 µM to 100 µM) in 25 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 150 mM NaCl (TBS) with 25 μ M TFA and 10% D₂O at 298 K. ¹⁹F spectra were recorded with 512 scans, a spectral width of 5 ppm, a transmitter offset at -191 ppm, acquisition time of 2 s and 1 s relaxation time. All spectra were normalized to internal reference trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) at - 75.6 ppm and analyzed for the changes in the peak intensities. The decreasing intensity of Fglycan peak in the free state was followed to determine the *K^d* values of **F-H type 2** and **F-Le^y** . Next, we normalized the changes in the fluorine peak intensities (*Inormalized*) following the equation (1) resulting in values plotted on Y-axis.

$$
I_{normalized} = \frac{I_0 - I_{measured}}{I_0} \quad (1),
$$

where *I⁰* was F-glycan in the reference spectrum without protein, *Imeasured* was F-glycan with protein. The *K^d* values were calculated according to the one- and two−site binding models in Origin(Pro) 2020b (OriginLab Corp., USA) from three independent titrations.

1H-¹⁵N HSQC and TROSY NMR

To validate binding F-glycans to DC-SIGN CRD and BambL, we ¹⁵N-labeled proteins for ¹H-¹⁵N HSQC and TROSY NMR, respectively. All ¹H-¹⁵N HSQC and TROSY experiments were measured on a Bruker Ascend™700 (AvanceIII HD) spectrometer equipped with a 5 mm TCI700 CryoProbe™ in 3 mm tubes (Norell S-3-800-7) at 298 K and 310 K, respectively.

Briefly, ¹⁵N DC-SIGN HSQC and ¹⁵N BambL TROSY experiments were recorded with 100 µM protein in 20 mM HEPES pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl with 5 mM CaCl₂, 10% D₂O and 100 μ M 4.4dimethyl-4-silapentane-1-sulfonic acid (DSS) as internal reference. A ¹H-¹⁵N HSQC pulse sequence *hsacf3gpph19* with 128 increments and 8 scans per increment was applied for ¹⁵N DC-SIGN CRD. A ¹H-¹⁵N TROSY pulse sequence *trosyf3gpphsi19* with 128 increments and 32 scans per increment was applied for ¹⁵N BambL. We recorded ¹⁵N HSQC NMR of DC-SIGN CRD in presence of 1 mM **F-H type 2** and 250 µM **F-Le^y** or **F-Le^x** . ¹⁵N TROSY NMR titration experiments of ¹⁵N BambL were recorded with 30 to 600 µM **F-H type 2** or 90 to 880 µM **F-Le^y** . Data were processed with NMRpipe¹⁴ and further analyzed with CcpNmr analysis.¹⁵

¹H-¹⁵N HSQC DC-SIGN CRD resonances were assigned as reported previously.¹¹ ¹H-¹⁵N TROSY BambL resonances were indexed with IDs from 1 to 72 due to a lack of the protein backbone resonance assignment. Next, resonance IDs from BambL and DC-SIGN CRD spectra were transferred to the spectra obtained in the presence of F-glycan for a comparison of the changes in the peak intensities and chemical shift perturbations (CSPs) indicating a slow and fast exchange regimes on the chemical shift timescale, respectively. The changes in peak intensities upon addition of F-glycans were calculated in CcpNmr analysis followed by normalization according to Equation (1). The K_d values were calculated according to the one−site binding model in Origin(Pro) 2020b (OriginLab Corp., USA).

The changes in chemical shift perturbations (CSPs) were calculated according to Equation (2):

$$
\Delta \delta = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} \left[\Delta \delta_H^2 + (\alpha \Delta \delta_N)^2 \right]} (2)
$$

in which δ is the difference in chemical shift (in ppm) and α is an empirical weighting factor of 0.14 for all amino acid backbone resonances.¹⁶ The threshold value was set based on three independent measurements of reference spectra to 0.01 ppm and 0.005 ppm for LecA, BambL and DC-SIGN CRD, respectively.

Protein-observed ¹⁹F (PrOF) NMR

To validate binding of **F-H type 2** to LecA, we recorded protein-observed ¹⁹F (PrOF) NMR with recombinant 5FW LecA as reported previously.⁹ Briefly, 150 µM 5FW LecA was recorded alone and in presence of 1 mM $F-H$ type 2 in 25 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 150 mM NaCl, 5 mM CaCl₂ with 10% D2O and 50 µM TFA as internal reference at 310 K. Data analysis was performed in MestReNova 11.0.0 (Mestrelab Research SL) after applying the exponential function (30 Hz) and baseline correction.

Real-time ¹⁹F NMR kinetic measurement

The enzymes β-galactosidase (*E. coli*, CAS: 9031-11-2), and α(2,3)-sialyltransferase from *Pasteurella multocida* (Pmα23ST, *E. coli* EC no. 2.4.99.4) were purchased from Sigma Aldrich. The enzymatic reactions with β-galactosidase (0.15 μM), and Pmα23ST (100 mU/mL) were performed at 310 K in 25 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.8, 150 mM NaCl with 2 mM $MgCl₂$, 100 µM TFA and 10% D2O. The concentration of **F-Lac** was 250 µM. The reactions with β-galactosidase were monitored every 149 s. All data were recorded without proton decoupling with 32 scans, acquisition time of 2 s and relaxation delay of 1 s. All spectra were referenced to TFA at -75.6 ppm. To derive the kinetics we used the peak integral of product at -194.8 ppm to derive its concentration. Data were analyzed with nonlinear least-squares methods in the GraphPad Prism 8 software. The best fit of the experimental data provides the value of K_M the Henri−Michaelis−Menten equation. To monitor the sialylation of 250 µM **F-Lac** and **F-nLac⁴** with Pmα23ST, we used the buffer conditions reported above with 275 µM CMP-Neu5Ac and recorded data at time points: 0 min, 13 min, 32 min, and 246 min. All data were recorded without proton decoupling with 128 scans, acquisition time of 2 s and relaxation delay of 1 s. All spectra were referenced to TFA at -75.6 ppm. To determine the yield of this reaction, we used the ratio of peak integrals of substrate and product at -192.1 ppm and -192.3 ppm, respectively.

Note to the ¹⁹F NMR experiments

All the experiments described in this study were performed without ¹H-¹⁹F decoupling due to the lack of the specific hardware component in the spectrometer used. The ¹⁹F NMR analysis would benefit in sensitivity and resolution when recording $^{19}F(^{1}H$ } NMR spectra.

Figure S2 *Binding of F-glycans to mammalian and bacterial lectins.* ¹⁹F and CPMG NMR spectra of F-glycans alone (*gray*) and in presence of DC-SIGN ECD (*blue*). A chemical shift perturbation of fucosylated Lewis antigens in presence of BambL (**C**, *upper panel*) in ¹⁹F NMR is shown (*dashed line*). Decrease in peak intensity (*dashed line*) in CPMG NMR indicates binding of fucosylated Lewis antigens to bacterial: LecA (**A**), LecB (**B**) and BambL (**C**, *lower panel*) and mammalian: Langerin ECD (**D**) DC-SIGN ECD (**E**) lectins. No binding to F-glycans has been observed in presence of Langerin ECD.

Differences in signal-to-noise ratio were observed for the spectra acquired with different quality of shimming.

Figure S3 *Binding of sialyltransferases to F-glycans.* CPMG NMR of F-glycans alone and in presence of Pmα23ST or Pdα26ST in the absence of CMP-Neu5Ac donor. F-glycan binding to both enzymes is shown as a reduction in peak intensity in presence of enzymes (*orange*).

Figure S4 *Interaction of F-Le^x and Le^x with a mammalian lectin DC-SIGN***. A** HSQC NMR of ¹⁵N-labeled DC-SIGN CRD binding to Le^x. **B** HSQC NMR of ¹⁵N-labeled DC-SIGN CRD binding to **F-Le^x** . **C** CPMG NMR spectra of 25 µM **F-Le^x** alone (*gray*) and in presence of increasing concentration of DC-SIGN ECD: 2.5, 5, 10, 25 and 50 µM (*blue*). The largest difference in a bound *vs* free state was observed at 50 µM DC-SIGN ECD.

Figure S5 *Binding of CF3-H type 2 to BambL in ¹⁹F NMR.* ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of **CF3-H type 2** alone and in presence of BambL (6 µM). Given that **CF3-H type 2** undergoes a slow exchange in presence of BambL a new peak for the bound ligand arises (*arrow*). This proves that the CF₃ reporter does not have to be near the carbohydrate-binding site of a lectin and can be placed even in remote position (*i.e.* aminopentyl linker attached to the reducing end) of the glycan in order to be detected in 19F NMR.

Figure S6 *Weak interaction of F-H type 2 with DC-SIGN CRD***. A** HSQC NMR of ¹⁵N-labeled DC-SIGN CRD in complex with **F-H type 2**. **F-H type 2** promoted CSPs in the carbohydratebinding site of DC-SIGN CRD (321Leu and Lys368) and remote parts of DC-SIGN CRD (*not shown*) similarly to D-mannose. **B** The magnitude of **F-H type 2** interaction with DC-SIGN CRD was comparable to D-mannose showing a weaker interaction of **F-H type 2** compared to **F-Le^x** or **F-Le^y** .

Figure S7 Interaction of *F-Le^y with a bacterial lectin BambL***. A** ¹⁹F and CPMG NMR screening of F-glycan (25 µM) alone and in presence of BambL (10 µM). DC-SIGN interacts with **F-Le^y** as shown in ¹⁹F NMR titration spectra (*left panel*) and one-site-binding model fit used to derive the dissociation constant (K_d) of F-Le^y to BambL (*right panel*). The apparent K_d was calculated using changes in peak intensity (*arrow*) and estimated to be at P:L ratio of 1:0.38 which (referenced to the concentration of 25 μ M **F-Le**^y in this assay) corresponds to K_d of 9.2 \pm 1.5 µM. **B** TROSY NMR verified **F-Le^y** binding to ¹⁵N-labeled BambL. Given that BambL has two binding sites, peaks showing a slow (60, 7 and 30), intermediate and fast exchange (5, 17 and 25) on the chemical shift timescale have been observed upon titration of **F-Le^y** . **C** CSP plot showing the resonances perturbed in presence of α-Me-L-fucose and **F-Le^y** . This verifies that **F-Le^y** targets the carbohydrate-binding site of BambL. Notably, the magnitude of **F-Le^y** promoted effects is similarly to L-fucose suggesting that the avidity effect does not contribute to **F-Ley**

interaction with BambL, but is rather due to binding of L-fucose alone. One-site model for slow (D) and fast exchange (E) peaks was applied to derive the K_d values of 17 ± 3 µM and 245 ± 29 µM, respectively.

Figure S8 *F-H type 2 binding to a bacterial lectin LecA***. A** A ribbon diagram of the crystal structure of a LecA monomer (PDB: 1OKO) bound to galactose (*orange*) in a Ca²⁺-dependent manner (*green sphere*). The four tryptophanes (*blue*) are labelled with 5-fluorotryptophanes for PrOF NMR. **B** ¹⁹F R2-filtered NMR assay performed on **F-H type 2** and the decay curves of 0.6 mM **F-H type 2** alone (*grey*) and in presence of 0.15 mM LecA (*blue*). **C** PrOF NMR spectrum of 5-fluorotryptophan labelled (5FW) LecA alone (*grey*) and in presence of **F-H type 2** (*blue*). **F-H**

type 2 binds weakly the carbohydrate-binding site of 5FW LecA as shown by CSP and peak intensity decrease of W42 and W33 resonances, respectively. **D** Shown is a TROSY NMR spectrum of ¹⁵N-labeled LecA bound to **F-H type 2**, which perturbs resonances similarly to α-Me-D-galactose (*e.g.* 68, 15 and 75). **D** The magnitude of **F-H type 2** promoted perturbations is lower compared to α-Me-D-galactose as shown in a CSP plot.

Table S1 List of residue IDs in a CSP plot indicating an assigned resonance in ¹⁵N-labeled DC-SIGN CRD (n.a. = not assigned)

 $\overline{}$

Figure S9 *Enzymatic sialylation of F-Lac with Pmα23ST confirmed by HPLC.* RP-HPLC trace (ELSD trace, Method A) shows consumption of the starting material ($F-Lac$, $t_R = 21.4$ min, *top*) and formation of a new peak in the crude reaction mixture after 246 min ($F-SLac$, $t_R = 28.1$ min, *bottom*). HPLC retention times match previously reported data.17

Figure S10 *Enzymatic sialylation of F-nLac with Pmα23ST.* **A** Real-time ¹⁹F NMR monitoring of **F-nLac⁴** incubated with Pmα23ST in the presence of CMP-Neu5Ac. No chemical shift perturbation was observed after 6 h incubation time. **B** RP-HPLC trace (ELSD trace, Method A) shows incomplete consumption of the starting material (F-nLac₄, t_R = 28.1 min, *top*) and formation of the sialylated product ($F\text{-snLac}_4$, $t_R = 33.3$ min, *bottom*) in the crude reaction mixture.

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