

Supplementary Material

Structural Polymorphism of Chitin and Chitosan in Fungal Cell Walls from Solid-State NMR and Principal Component Analysis

Liyanage D. Fernando^{1,†}, Malitha C. Dickwella Widanage^{1,†}, Jackson Penfield², Andrew S. Lipton³, Nancy Washton³, Jean-Paul Latgé^{4,&}, Ping Wang⁵, Liqun Zhang², Tuo Wang^{1,*}

¹ Department of Chemistry, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, United States

² Department of Chemical Engineering, Tennessee Technological University, Cookeville, TN, United States

³Environmental Molecular Sciences Laboratory, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland,

WA, United States

⁴Unité des Aspergillus, Département de Mycologie, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France

⁵ Departments of Microbiology, Immunology and Parasitology, Louisiana State University Health

Sciences Center, New Orleans, LA, United States

& Current address: Institute of Molecular biology and Biotechnology, University of Crete,

Heraklion, Greece

Supplementary Material



Supplementary Figure S1. 2D ¹³C-¹³C DQ-SQ spectra of *A. fumigatus*. The full spectra (left) and selected regions of chitin signals (right) are shown. Chitin carbon peaks are labeled, and the carbon connectivity are shown in magenta lines.



Supplementary Figure S2. 2D ${}^{13}C{}^{-13}C$ correlation spectra resolving chitin polymorphs in different fungi including (**A**) *A. fumigatus*, (**B**) *A. nidulans*, (**C**) *C. albicans*, and (**D**) *C. auris*. ${}^{13}C{}^{-13}C$ correlation spectra detect intramolecular interaction of chitin peaks. Different chitin forms are annotated using alphabetic letters and ambiguous chitin types are labeled in blue and ambiguous carbon sites are underlined.



Supplementary Figure S3. 2D ¹³C-¹³C correlation spectra of *A. fumigatus* showing the increased content of chitin after treatment by caspofungin. The chitin signals are highlighted using boxes in light orange, which have higher intensity in the drug-treated sample.



Supplementary Figure S4. PCA of different fungal chitin forms. (A) PCA scores of fungal species and their respective allomorphs. The color code is kept the same as **Fig. 4**. *A. sydowii* allomorphs are shown at different salt concentrations, and *A. fumigatus* allomorphs are shown in the presence and absence of antifungal drugs. (B) Variance explained by each principal component. (C) Loadings for the PCA results. Both PC1 and PC2 are defined by a CO shift in the same direction, while the C4 shift contributes in the opposite direction. PC3 and PC1 likewise share an inverse relationship to C1. The results delineated how the chemical shift difference in different chitin forms.



Supplementary Figure S5. PCA scores of *A. fumigatus* chitin with and without antifungal drugs. (A) PCA scores of the control sample (light blue), caspofungin-treated culture (orange), and amphotericin B-containing sample (dark blue) are shown. Arrows in orange and blue represent the changes induced by the caspofungin and AmB, respectively. The antifungal drug effect appears inconsistent and subtle from the perspective of the two dominant PC's. (B) Variance explained by each principal component. PC1 and PC2 account for almost 66% of the variation. (C) PCA loadings.



Supplementary Figure S6. Effects from hypersaline conditions. (A) PCA scores of *A. sydowii* chitin allomorphs at different salt concentrations. Each allomorph is coded labeled. Arrows in magenta represent the changes induced by a higher concentration of NaCl (from 0.5 M to 2.0 M). PC1 and PC2 scores are dominated by the differences between chitin allomorphs from E to D, to C, to B, then to A with PC1 increasing, rather than the salt concentration. Scores are distributed at the extreme ranges in both PC1 and PC2 for different allomorphs, while salt concentration caused only limited changes. (B) Variance explained by each principal component. The SVD of the matrix produced 8 PCs with the first 2 PCs being able to describe 87% of the variance. (C) PCA loadings. The effect of increasing salt concentration has a small but consistent effect on the chitin structure with respect to PC1: increasing the salt concentration has varied effects on the PC2 score, which is mostly defined by the δ_{C4} chemical shift. Increasing the salt concentration has varied effects on the PC2 score, which is mostly defined by the offer different by PC2 loadings.



Supplementary Figure S7. 2D ${}^{13}C{}^{-13}C$ correlation spectra resolving chitosan signals in *A. sydowii*. These ${}^{13}C{}^{-13}C$ correlation spectra detect intramolecular cross-peaks. All chitin types are labeled with letters A-E. Blue boxes indicate the chitosan peaks, absence of CH₃ and CO peaks at 22 and 174 ppm (F1 dimension) confirms the chemical structure of these molecules.



Supplementary Figure S8. Information related to the PCA scores of *A. sydowii* chitosan allomorphs. Variance explained by each principal component (left), and the PCA loadings (right) are shown. The first 2 PCs describe 87% of the variance.



Supplementary Table S1: Experimental and processing parameters of 2D ssNMR. 2D CP ${}^{13}C{}^{-13}C$ and ${}^{13}C{}^{-15}N$ correlation experiments allowed to resolve rigid chitin intramolecular peaks. The experimental parameters include the ${}^{1}H$ Larmor frequency, total experiment time (t), recycle delay (d1), number of scans (NS), The number of points for the direct (td2) and indirect (td1) dimensions, the acquisition time of the direct dimension (aq2) and the evolution time of indirect dimension (aq1), spectral width (sw1 and sw2), mixing time (t_m), increment delay (IN_F). The processing parameters include the window function and associated parameters.

				Acquisition parameters									Processing parameters			
Sample	Experiment	ω _{0, 1H} (MHz)	t (h)	d1 (s)	NS	td2	td1	aq2 (ms)	aq1 (ms)	sw2 (ppm)	sw1 (ppm)	t _m (ms)	IN_F (µs)	Window function	Parameters	
								A. f	fumagi	tus						
W/o drug	CORD	800	4.2	1.7	16	2400	560	17.9	7.2	332.8	191.1	53	26	QSINE	SSB 6	
	N(CA)CX	800	1.3	1.7	16	2400	180	17.9	9.0	332.8	123.3	30	100	GM	LB -5.0, GB 0.1	
+Caspo	CORD	800	4.2	1.7	16	2400	560	17.9	7.2	332.8	191.1	53	26	QSINE	SSB 6	
	N(CA)CX	800	1.3	1.7	16	2400	180	17.9	9.0	332.8	123.3	30	100	GM	LB -5.0, GB 0.1	
+AmB	CORD	850	9.1	2	32	2496	512	24.9	5.1	233.9	167.1	53	20	QSINE	SSB 4, Tdeff 1400(F2)	
A. nidulans																
	DARR	850	9.1	2	32	2496	512	24.96	5.1	233.9	167.1	100	20	QSINE	SSB 2.8, Tdeff 1400(F2)	
								Ca	ndida s	sp.						
C.albicans	CORD	800	3.2	1.5	16	2400	490	17.9	7.1	332.8	171.3	53	29	QSINE	SSB 2.6	
C.auris	CORD	800	3.2	1.5	16	2400	490	17.9	7.1	332.8	171.3	53	29	QSINE	SSB 4	
								<i>A</i> .	sydow	rii						
0.5 M NaCl	DARR	850	4.5	2	16	2496	512	24.96	5.1	233.9	167.1	100	20	QSINE	SSB 3	
2 M NaCl	DARR	850	4.5	2	16	2496	512	24.96	5.1	233.9	167.1	100	20	QSINE	SSB 3	

Туре	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	СО	CH3	Sources	References
α-chitin	103.9	54.6	72.9	82.8	75.4	60.5	172.6	22.5	Crab shell	Jang, et al. 2004 ¹
	104.0	54.8	73.4	82.9	75.6	60.6	173.0	22.6	Crab shell	Kono, et al. 2004 ²
	104.1	55.1	73.2	83	75.7	60.9	173.7	22.7	Crab shell	Kaya, et al. 2017 ³
	104.5	55.4	73.6	83.2	76.0	61.0	173.7	23.1	Crab shell	Tanner, et al. 1990 ⁴
	104.4	55.3	73.6	83.3	76.0	61.3	174.2	23.1	I. basta	Brunner, et al. 2009 ⁵
	104.6	55.6	73.7	83.6	76.0	61.1	173.0	23.1	Lobster tendon	Tanner, et al. 1990 ⁴
β-chitin	104.8	56.0	74.5	83.7	75.4	59.9	174.8	23.3	Wet squid pen	Tanner, et al. 1990 ⁴
	104.2	55.2	74.8	84.1	74.8	60.9	173.1	22.5	Squid	Jang, et al. 2004 ¹
	104.1	55.2	74.2	83.4	73.6	60.8	173.6	22.8	Squid pen	Kono, et al. 2004 ²
	105.4	55.3	73.1	84.5	75.5	59.9	175.6	22.8	Diatoms spins	Tanner, et al. 1990 ⁴
	105.3	55.2	73.1	84.4	75.4	59.8	175.5	22.7	Tevnia tube dried	Tanner, et al. 1990 ⁴
	105.2	55.2	74.5	83.1	75.4	59.2	175.0	24.1	Tevnia tube hydrated	Tanner, et al. 1990 ⁴
	105.3	55.8	73	84.4	75.4	59.8	175.0	23.4	C. cryptica	Kolbe, et al. 2021 ⁶
	105.3	55.6	73	84.4	75.4	59.8	175.8	22.7	T. rotula	Brunner, et al. 2009 ⁵
	104.3	55.6	75.2	84	75.2	61.7	174.4	22.9	Cuttle fish	Kaya, et al. 2017 ³
γ-chitin	103.7	54.8	73.1	82.7	75.4	61.1	173.4	22.6	Lucainade	Jang, et al. 2004 ¹
	104.3	55.3	73.5	83	75.7	61.3	173.4	22.7	Cocoon of O. dubia	Kaya, et al. 2017 ³
Chitosan	104.7	56.8	74.1	85.7	74.1	60.7	/	/		Heux, et al, 2000^7
	104.1	56.6	74.4	84.3	74.6	59.8	/	/	Crab tendon	Tabeta, et al, 1987 ⁸
	105.0	56.4	75.5	85.6	75.0	60.3	/	/	Crab shell	Tabeta, et al, 1987 ⁸

Supplementary Table S2: ¹³C chemical shifts (ppm) of chitin microfibrils (α -chitin, β -chitin, γ -chitin) and chitosan molecules from literature. Not applicable (/).

Supplementary Material

										l
	105.7	56.8	75	84.5	75.0	60.9	/	/	Shrimp shell	
	102.7	57.3	73.9	82.7	73.9	61.9	/	/	annealed	
Type I	101.0	56.0	70.8	85.1	74.8	61.7	/	/	HNO ₃	Tabeta, et al, 1987 ⁸
	99.3	55.6	70.2	84.1	74.2	62.3	/	/	HClO ₄	
	99.7	56.0	70.6	85.1	74.2	60.0	/	/	HBr	
	98.7	55.6	70.0	84.7	73.8	61.3	/	/	HI	
Type II	100.5	55.2	71.2	79.4	74.4	59.5	/	/	HCl	Tabeta, et al, 1987 ⁸
	100.3	55.2	71.0	79.1	74.4	59.8	/	/	H_2SO_4	
	100.9	55.8	70.8	79.5	74.4	59.2	/	/	H ₃ PO ₄	
	99.5	55.8	70.6	78.4	74.4	58.4	/	/	HIO ₄	

Supplementary Table S3: ¹³C chemical shifts of chitin and chitosan in different fungi observed from 2D 13 C- 13 C correlation spectra. Alphabetical letters used to denote different allomorphs. The units are in ppm. Ambiguous chitin forms are in italics, ambiguous carbon sites are underlined. Not applicable (/). Unidentified (-).

Chitin/ Chitosan	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	СО	CH ₃	Experiment methods			
				Aspergi	llus fumigo	itus			`			
a	104.3	55.7	73.2	83.9	75.2	60.7	173.9	23.3				
b	104.2	55.2	73.3	82.9	75.6	60.9	174.7	22.8				
с	103.0	55.7	73.4	84.1	74.9	60.4	174.9	23.4	130 130 52 0000			
d	103.6	55.1	73.4	83.3	75.8	60.4	174.4	22.7	¹³ C ⁻¹³ C 53 ms CORD			
e	104.0	54.9	73.9	82.7	76.1	60.5	173.6	22.4				
f	103.2	55.2	73.3	84.3	75.2	61.3	174.3	22.7				
g	<u>104.5</u>	55.1	74.1	83.7	75.0	<u>60.4</u>	<u>174.4</u>	22.4				
h	<u>103.5</u>	55.6	73.2	83.4	<u>74.9</u>	<u>61.8</u>	<u>175.1</u>	22.8				
Aspergillus nidulans												
a′	104.2	55.4	73.6	84.1	75.6	60.2	1725	22.9	^{13}C ^{13}C 53 ms COPD			
b′	103.2	55.7	73.9	83.6	75.9	60.5	174.6	23.1	C- C 55 IIIS CORD			
c	104.0	55.6	72.9	83.4	75.6	60.0	174.6	23.1				
ď	102.6	54.5	73.6	83.1	75.4	60.7	173.4	22.3				
				Asperg	gillus sydov	vii						
Α	103.3	55.5	72.9	84.5	76.2	60.7	174.6	22.7				
В	103.5	55.2	73.4	84.4	75.9	60.0	173.4	22.7				
С	103.5	55.4	73.3	83.7	75.9	60.7	173.4	22.7				
D	103.6	55.0	73.2	83.4	75.5	60.5	174.1	22.4				
E	103.2	54.8	73.5	82.5	75.2	60.9	175.1	22.4	¹³ C- ¹³ C 100 ms DARR			
chitosan a'	102.2	55.6	74.5	80.4	74.9	60.7	/	/				
chitosan b'	101.9	55.7	72.9	80.0	74.3	60.5	/	/				
chitosan c'	102.9	55.7	72.5	79.7	75.3	60.9	/	/				
chitosan d'	101.4	55.5	73.5	79.1	75.3	61.0	/	/				
				Rhizo	pus delema	ır						
i	104.2	55.2	74.0	83.1	75.1	60.7	174.9	23.3				
j	104.3	55.2	73.8	84.2	75.0	60.8	174.9	23.6	¹³ C- ¹³ C 53 ms CORD			

k	104.2	54.9	74.0	83.1	75.1	58.9	175.7	22.8					
chitosan a	101.9	56.0	72.5	79.6	75.0	60.3	/	/					
chitosan b	98.0	56.4	72.5	79.8	75.1	60.4	/	/					
chitosan c	98.3	57.5	70	77.0	75.4	60.4	/	/					
Candida albicans													
1	102.5	55.5	73.2	84.2	75.9	60.4	175.2	22.9					
m	103.0	55.0	73.4	83.8	75.6	60.4	174.9	22.9	13 - 13				
n	103.9	54.6	73.1	83.0	75.7	60.3	174.2	22.5	^{13}C - ^{13}C 53 ms CORD				
0	103.9	54.3	73.2	82.5	75.5	60.5	173.9	22.3					
				Can	ndida auris	5							
1	102.1	55.4	73.3	84.1	75.8	60.8	175.5	22.6					
m	103.0	55.0	73.2	83.7	75.0	60.6	175.7	23.2					
n	103.5	54.4	73.2	83.1	75.6	60.7	174.3	22.6	¹³ C- ¹³ C 53 ms CORD				
0	103.9	54.2	73.3	82.4	75.5	60.8	174.2	22.3					



Supplementary Table S4: Drug Effect on Chitin types in *A. fumigatus*. Chemical shift difference and RMSD of each type is calculated. The units are in ppm. Δ denotes the difference of with drug and without drug. w/o drug = without drug.

				Ca	aspofung	in				
		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	СО	CH ₃	RMSD (ppm)
With drug	а	104.3	55.7	73.2	83.9	75.2	60.7	173.9	23.3	
w/o drug	a	104.2	55.2	73.2	83.7	74.8	60.6	173.1	23.5	
	Δ	0.1	0.5	0	0.2	0.4	0.1	0.9	-0.2	0.4
With drug	b	104.2	55.2	73.3	82.9	75.6	60.9	174.7	22.8	
w/o drug	b	104.2	54.9	73.3	82.9	75.5	60.7	174.5	22.8	
	Δ	0	0.3	0	0	0.1	0.2	0.2	0	0.1
With drug	c	103	55.7	73.4	84.1	74.9	60.4	175.0	23.4	
w/o drug	c	103.1	55.4	73.1	84.1	74.1	60.3	175.0	23.1	
	Δ	-0.1	0.3	0.3	0	0.8	0.1	0	0.3	0.3
With drug	d	103.6	55.1	73.4	83.3	75.8	60.4	174.4	22.7	
w/o drug	d	103.5	55.2	73.2	83.4	75.8	60.5	173.8	22.6	
	Δ	0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	0	-0.1	0.5	0.1	0.2
With drug	e	104.0	54.9	73.9	82.7	76.1	60.5	173.6	22.4	
w/o drug	e	104.0	54.9	73.7	82.6	75.5	60.6	174.9	22.3	
	Δ	0	0	0.2	0.1	0.6	-0.1	-1.3	0.1	0.5
With drug	f	103.2	55.2	73.3	84.3	75.2	61.3	174.3	22.7	
w/o drug	f	103.5	55.2	73.2	84.2	75.2	60.6	174.3	22.5	
	Δ	-0.3	0	0.1	0.1	0	0.7	0	0.2	0.3
				Am	photerici	n B				
With drug	a	104.3	55.7	73.2	83.8	75.2	60.7	173.9	23.3	
w/o drug*	a	103.7	55.4	73.6	83.9	74.9	60.7	173.6	22.8	
	Δ	0.5	0.3	-0.4	-0.1	0.2	0	0.4	0.5	0.3
With drug	b	104.2	55.2	73.3	82.9	75.6	60.9	174.7	22.8	
w/o drug	b	104.0	55.2	73.4	82.9	74.9	60.6	174.1	22.7	
	Δ	0.2	0	-0.1	0.0	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.3

Supplementary Material

With drug	с	103.0	55.7	73.4	84.1	74.9	60.4	174.9	23.4	
w/o drug	с	103.0	56.2	73.8	83.8	74.9	60.5	175.7	23.1	
	Δ	0	-0.5	0.4	0.3	0	-0.1	-0.7	0.3	0.3
With drug	d	103.6	55.1	73.4	83.3	75.8	60.4	174.4	22.7	
w/o drug	d	103.8	54.7	73.3	83.5	75.6	60	174.1	22.8	
	Δ	0.2	0.4	0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.4	0.3	-0.1	0.3
With drug	e	104	54.9	73.9	82.7	76.1	60.5	173.6	22.4	
w/o drug	e	103.4	54.7	73.6	82.8	75.9	60.3	174.4	22.5	
	Δ	0.6	0.2	0.3	-0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.8	-0.1	0.3
With drug	f	103.2	55.2	73.3	84.3	75.2	61.3	174.3	22.7	
w/o drug	f	103.3	55.6	73.4	84.2	75	60.8	174.3	23.0	
	Δ	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.5	0	-0.4	0.3

Supplementary Table S5: Salt effect on chitin types in *A. sydowii*. Δ denotes the chemical shift difference of samples prepared using 0.5 M and 2.0 M NaCl. RMSD indicates the chemical shift difference between each chitin type in 0.5 M and 2 M NaCl *A. sydowii* samples (ppm).

		C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	C6	СО	CH ₃	RMSD (ppm)
0.5 M	А	103.3	55.5	72.9	84.5	76.2	60.7	174.6	22.7	(ppiii)
2 M	А	103.4	55.2	73.0	84.4	76.0	61.3	175.0	23.1	
	Δ	-0.1	0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.6	-0.4	-0.4	0.3
0.5 M	В	103.5	55.2	73.4	84.4	75.9	60.0	173.4	22.7	
2 M	В	103.3	55.1	73.2	83.8	75.8	60.2	174.7	22.3	
	Δ	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.1	-0.2	-1.3	0.4	0.6
0.5 M	С	103.5	55.4	73.3	83.7	76.0	60.7	173.4	22.7	
2 M	С	103.5	55.1	73.3	83.3	75.6	60.8	173.4	22.3	
	Δ	0	0.3	0	0.4	0.4	-0.1	0	0.5	0.3
0.5 M	D	103.6	55	73.2	83.4	75.5	60.5	174.1	22.4	
2 M	D	103.6	55	73.2	83.0	75.3	60.8	174.2	22.5	
	Δ	0	0	0	0.3	0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.2
0.5 M	Е	103.2	54.8	73.5	82.5	75.2	60.9	175.1	22.4	
2 M	E	103.6	54.4	73.3	82.1	75.3	60.9	174.4	22.4	
	Δ	-0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4	-0.1	0	0.7	0.0	0.4

Supplementary References

- 1. Jang, M. K.; Kong, B. G.; Jeong, Y. I.; Lee, C. H.; Nah, J. W., Physicochemical characterization of α-chitin, β-chitin, and γ-chitin separated from natural resources. *Journal of Polymer Science Part A: Polymer Chemistry* **2004**, *42* (14), 3423-3432.
- 2. Kono, H., Two-dimensional magic angle spinning NMR investigation of naturally occurring chitins: Precise 1H and 13C resonance assignment of α -and β -chitin. *Biopolymers: Original Research on Biomolecules* **2004**, *75* (3), 255-263.
- Kaya, M.; Mujtaba, M.; Ehrlich, H.; Salaberria, A. M.; Baran, T.; Amemiya, C. T.; Galli, R.; Akyuz, L.; Sargin, I.; Labidi, J., On chemistry of γ-chitin. *Carbohydrate polymers* 2017, *176*, 177-186.
- 4. Tanner, S. F.; Chanzy, H.; Vincendon, M.; Roux, J. C.; Gaill, F., High-Resolution Solid-State C-13 Nuclear-Magnetic-Resonance Study of Chitin. *Macromolecules* **1990**, *23* (15), 3576-3583.
- 5. Brunner, E.; Ehrlich, H.; Schupp, P.; Hedrich, R.; Hunoldt, S.; Kammer, M.; Machill, S.; Paasch, S.; Bazhenov, V.; Kurek, D., Chitin-based scaffolds are an integral part of the skeleton of the marine demosponge Ianthella basta. *Journal of structural biology* **2009**, *168* (3), 539-547.
- 6. Kolbe, F.; Ehren, H. L.; Kohrs, S.; Butscher, D.; Reiß, L.; Baldus, M.; Brunner, E., Solid-state NMR spectroscopic studies of 13 C, 15 N, 29 Si-enriched biosilica from the marine diatom Cyclotella cryptica. *Discover Materials* **2021**, *1* (1), 1-12.
- Heux, L.; Brugnerotto, J.; Desbrieres, J.; Versali, M. F.; Rinaudo, M., Solid state NMR for determination of degree of acetylation of chitin and chitosan. *Biomacromolecules* 2000, 1 (4), 746-751.
- 8. Saito, H.; Tabeta, R.; Ogawa, K., High-resolution solid-state ¹³C NMR study of chitosan and its salts with acids: conformational characterization of polymorphs and helical structures as viewed from the conformation-dependent ¹³C chemical shifts. *Macromolecules* **1987**, *20* (10), 2424-2430.