

# Microcalorimetry

Introduction to characterizing  
biopolymer binding and  
kinetics reactions by ITC



# Why use ITC?

- Completely general technique
  - Provides information on thermodynamics of the reaction
- Technique of choice for affinity measurements
  - Natural, unmodified ligands and substrates. No immobilization
- Equally useful for macromolecules and small molecules
- Compatible with essentially any buffer or additive
- Reactions conducted isothermally at any temperature between 2 to 80 °C



# Nano ITC

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# A Choice of Sample Volume Cells with Nano ITC



# Nano ITC - Burette and Titration Syringe

Embedded linear actuator

Threaded syringe mount

Spring loaded electronic connections for wire free operation

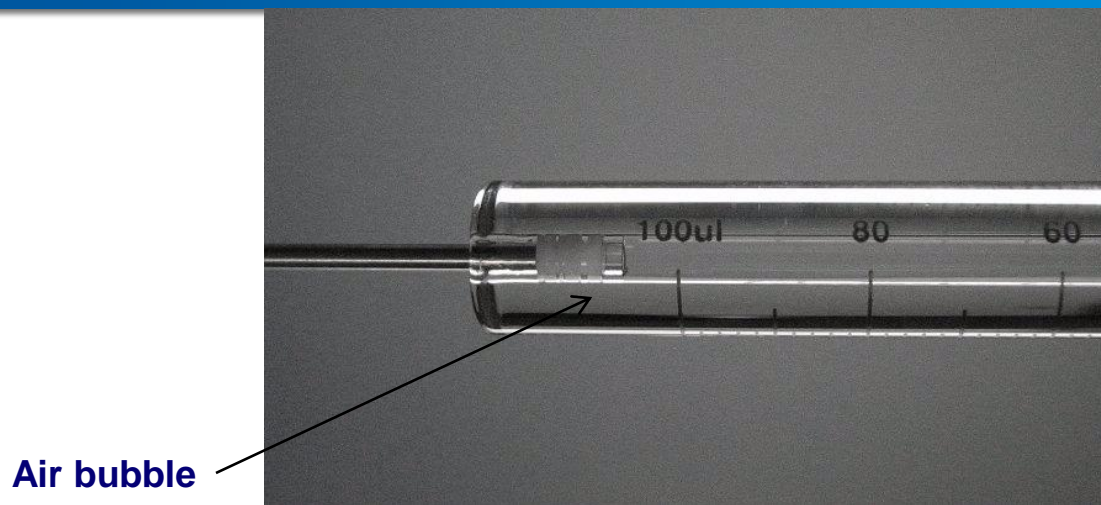
Twisted stirrer paddle



Standard Volume (1 mL) – 100  $\mu\text{L}$  and 250  $\mu\text{L}$  syringe

Low Volume (190  $\mu\text{L}$ ) – 50  $\mu\text{L}$  syringe

# Titration Syringe



100 µL Syringe



Burette & Syringe  
Assembly





# Nano ITC Ready for Titration



- Guide the buret with injection needle, needle first, into the top opening of the calorimeter
- Gently push the buret handle downward and rotate it slightly clockwise to secure the buret in place



# New Affinity ITC Instruments



**Affinity  
ITC**



**Affinity ITC  
Auto**



# Affinity ITC Auto

**Cell Fill  
Arm**

**Cell Fill  
Wash  
Station**



# Semi-Auto Affinity ITC

**Access  
Port for  
Sample &  
Reference  
Cells**



**Injection  
Syringe  
Arm**

**Injection  
Syringe  
Wash  
Station**

# AccuShot™ Injection Technology

## ➤ AccuShot Hardware:

- Sample injection cannula separate from stirring mechanism
- Small cannula (0.010" ID)
- High precision stepper motor for injection syringe plunger ensures accurate volume delivery (Inj vol precision = 0.01  $\mu$ L)

## ➤ AccuShot Control:

- User Selectable injection volumes in ITCRun
- Last minute editing of injection volumes and spacing ensures optimum use of reagents
- Save and retrieve experiment templates



**Injection Syringe:**  
250  $\mu$ L syringe  
for SV and LV



**Injection Cannula:**  
Delivers sample  
at top of stirring  
paddle

# FlexSpin™ Stirring Technology



# Nano ITC - Specification Comparison

	<b>SV Nano ITC (Gold or Hastelloy Reaction Vessel)</b>	<b>LV Nano ITC (Gold Reaction Vessel)</b>
<b>Min Detectable Heat (<math>\mu\text{J}</math>)</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.05</b>
<b>Response time (s)</b>	<b>13 / 18</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Recommended Stirring Speed (rpm)</b>	<b>350 / 250</b>	<b>350</b>
<b>Short Term Noise (<math>\mu\text{W}</math>)</b>	<b>0.0025</b>	<b>0.0014</b>
<b>Syringe Volume (<math>\mu\text{L}</math>)</b>	<b>250 or 100</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Minimum Injection Volume (<math>\mu\text{L}</math>)</b>	<b>0.26 or 0.12</b>	<b>0.06</b>
<b>Temp. Stability (<math>\mu^\circ\text{C}</math> at <math>25^\circ\text{C}</math>)</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>50</b>

# Affinity ITC - Specification Comparison

	<b>SV Affinity ITC (Gold / Hastelloy Reaction Vessel)</b>	<b>LV Affinity ITC (Gold / Hastelloy Reaction Vessel)</b>
<b>Min Detectable Heat (<math>\mu\text{J}</math>)</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.04 / 0.05</b>
<b>Response time (s)</b>	<b>13 / 18</b>	<b>3.3 / 11</b>
<b>Recommended Stirring Speed (rpm)</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>125</b>
<b>Short Term Noise (<math>\mu\text{W}</math>)</b>	<b>0.0025</b>	<b>0.0013 / 0.0014</b>
<b>Injection Syringe Volume (<math>\mu\text{L}</math>)</b>	<b>up to 250</b>	<b>Up to 250</b>
<b>Injection Volume Precision (<math>\mu\text{L}</math>)</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.01</b>
<b>Temp. Stability (<math>\mu^\circ\text{C}</math> at <math>25^\circ\text{C}</math>)</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>8 / 50</b>



# Nano and Affinity ITC – Same specs

	<b>SV Affinity ITC (Gold / Hastelloy Reaction Vessel)</b>	<b>LV Affinity ITC (Gold / Hastelloy Reaction Vessel)</b>
<b>Active Cell Volume (mL)</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.190</b>
<b>Minimum Load Volume (mL)</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.25</b>
<b>Baseline Stability (<math>\mu</math>W/hr)</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>0.02</b>
<b>Cell Geometry</b>	<b>Fixed Cylindrical</b>	<b>Fixed Cylindrical</b>
<b>Temp. Control</b>	<b>Active heating and cooling</b>	<b>Active heating and cooling</b>
<b>Temp. Range (<math>^{\circ}</math> C)</b>	<b>2 – 80</b>	<b>2 - 80</b>

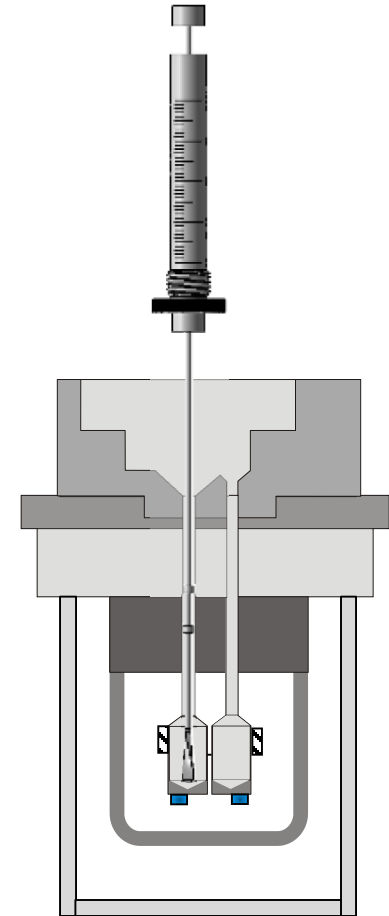
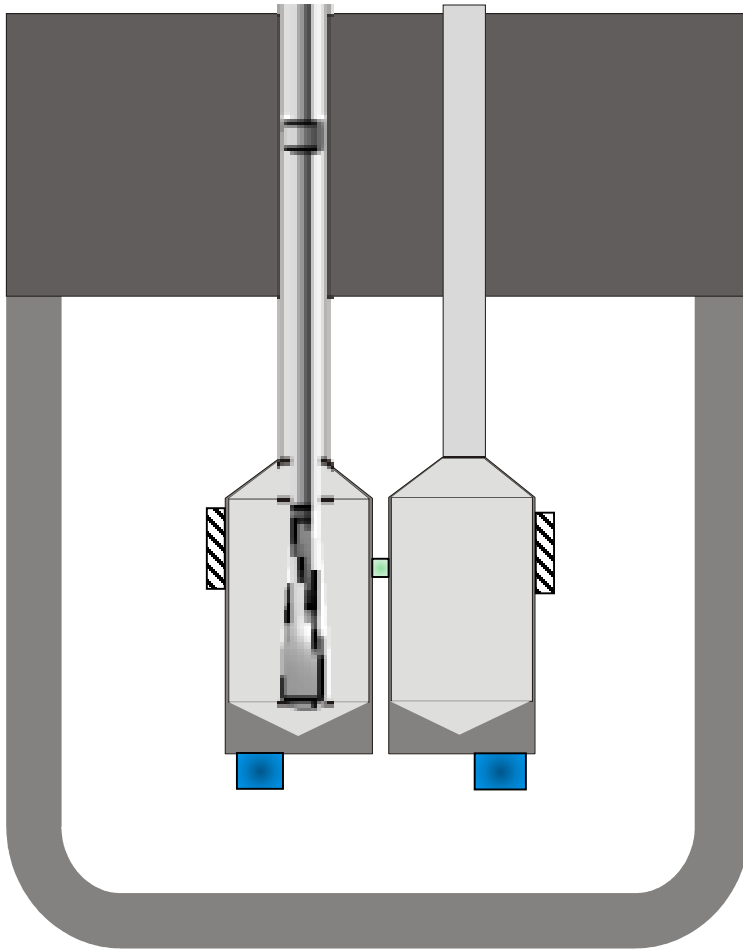
# Sample and Reference Cell Configuration



**Sample Cell  
Access Tube**

**Reference Cell  
Access Tube**

# ITC cells



# Basics of ITC

1. Mix two solutions
2. Measure the Heat ( $q$ )
3. Fit data using an assumed model

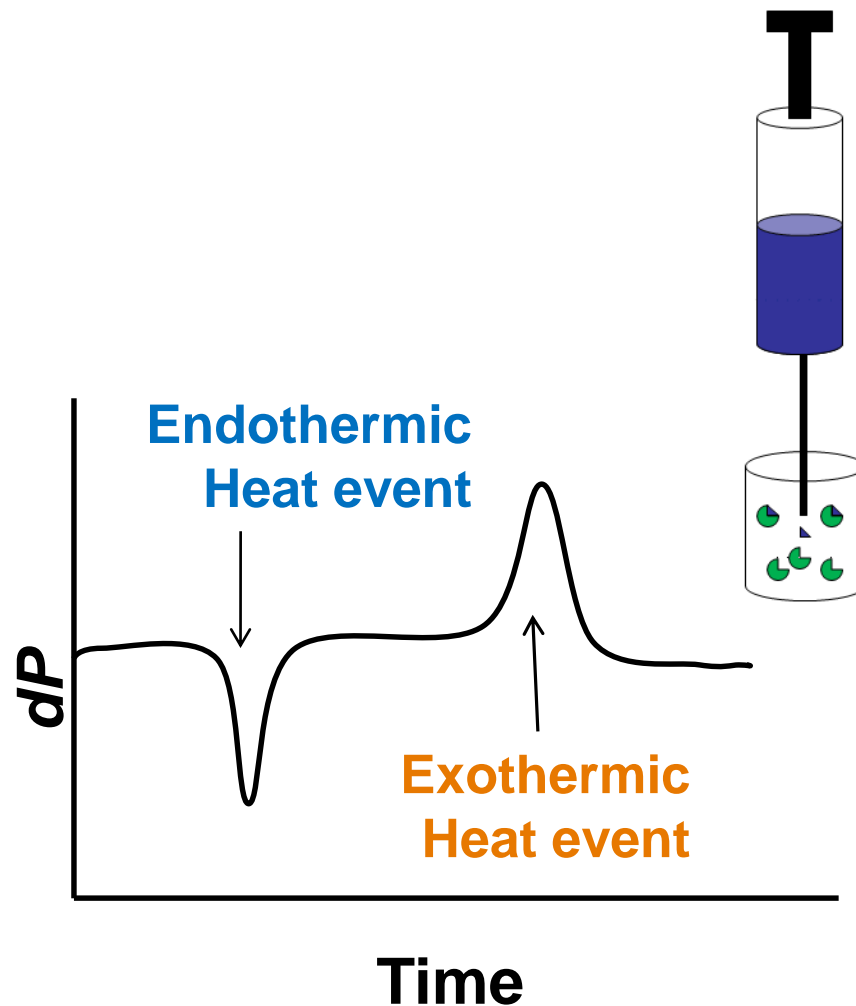
## **Quantify:**

$K_d$ ,  $\Delta G$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $\Delta S$ , stoichiometry, CMC  
 $\Delta C_p$ ,  $\Delta[H^+]$ ,  
 $K_m$ ,  $k_{cat}$

4. Analyze data

## **Rationalize:**

Structural changes  
Lead optimization



# ITC Thermogram

- Fit of the data provides:

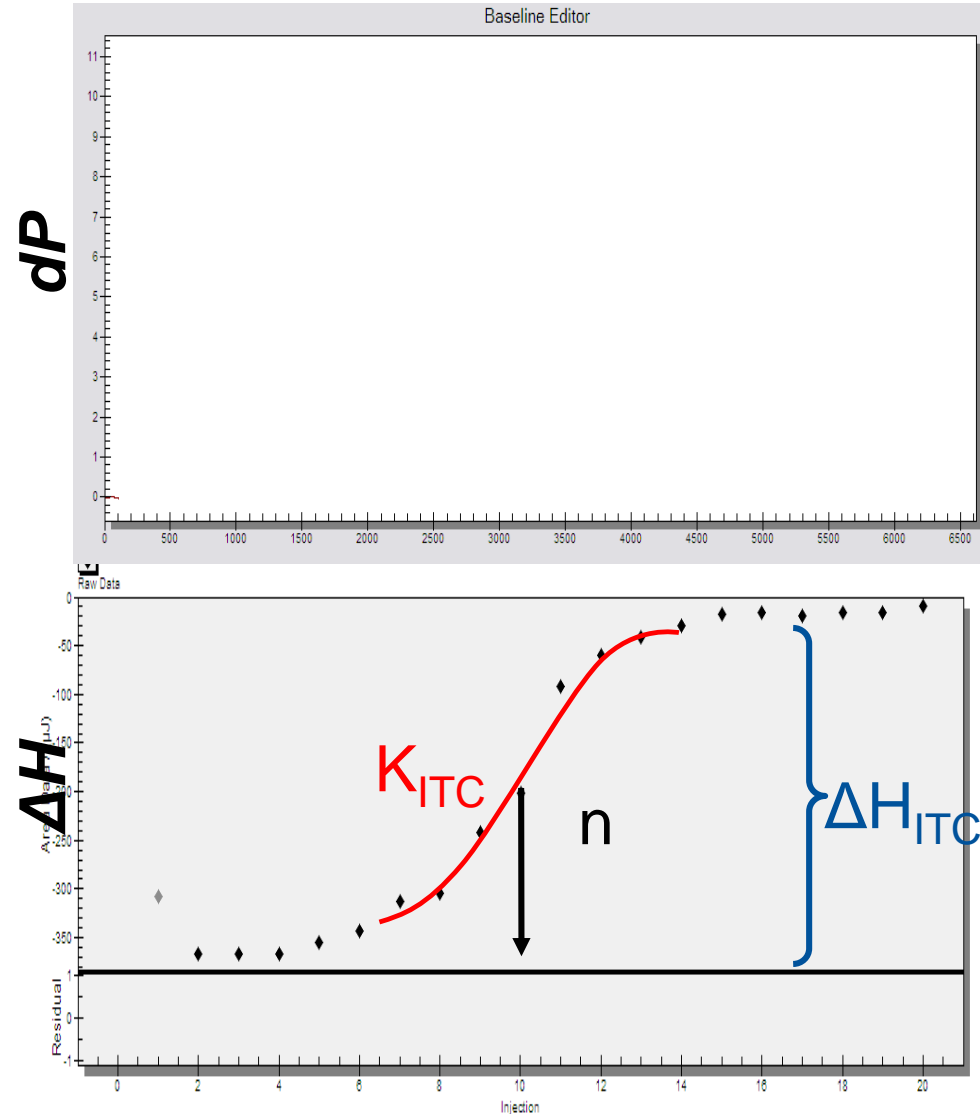
- Enthalpy ( $\Delta H_{ITC}$ )
- Stoichiometry ( $n$ )
- Binding constant  
( $10^3 < K_{ITC} < 10^8$ )

- Thermodynamic parameters:

- $\Delta G = -RT \ln(K)$
- $\Delta G = \Delta H - T \Delta S$

- Heat Capacity

- $\Delta C_p = (\partial \Delta H / \partial T)_p$



# Prior to Any Study: ITC Calibration

- “Calibration of nanowatt isothermal titration calorimeters with overflow reaction vessels”

- *Analytical Biochemistry* 417 (2011) 247-255

- Addresses:

1. Chemical calibration
  - HCl into Tris
2. Cell volume calibration
  - HCl into  $\text{KHCO}_3$
3. Injection volume calibration
  - Mass Difference



# WHY ITC?

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- Binding between macromolecules:
  - binding constant
  - stoichiometry
  - enthalpy
  - entropy
  - free energy
- Competition experiments
- Binding to complex macromolecular targets (e.g., higher order complexes/liposomes)
- Nanomaterial association
- Enzyme kinetics

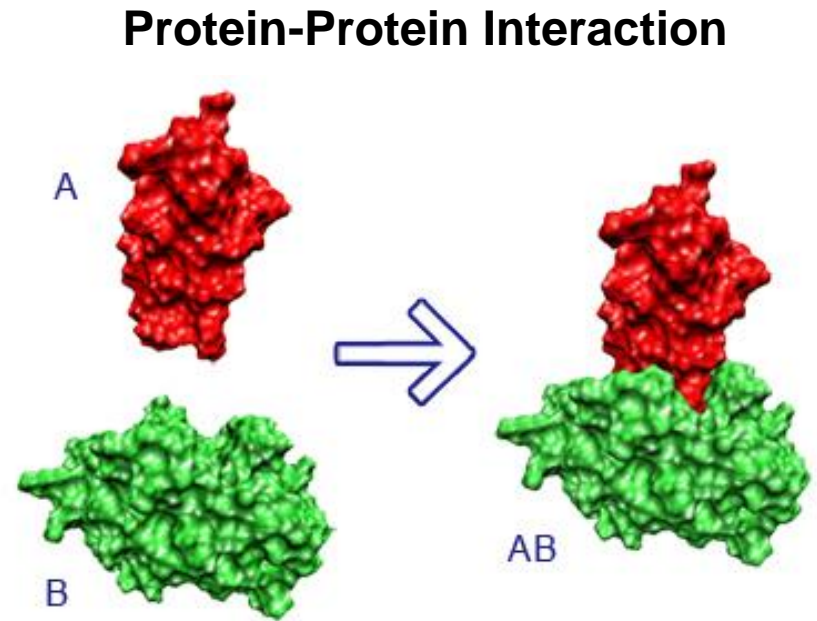
**Experimental approaches are applicable to all macromolecules,  
not just proteins**

# Binding interactions

- Measure the affinity of binding between two or more molecules (complex)

- Protein-Protein, Protein-DNA, Protein-RNA, Protein-Lipid  
Protein-Carbohydrate, Protein-Metal ion
- DNA-DNA, DNA-RNA, DNA-Metal ion
- Protein-Nanomaterial, DNA-Nanomaterial, Antibody-Nanomaterial
- Etc. – Any interacting molecules

- The affinity of an interaction is a basic chemical property of the interaction.
- Researchers identify the affinity of an interaction, so they can then try and block/strengthen the interaction to influence a therapeutic-cellular response.
  - Drug discovery,
- Enthalpy and stoichiometry provide additional information
  - Type of binding (hydrophobic/H-bonding)
  - Ratio of binding



# Application: Incremental titration & binding

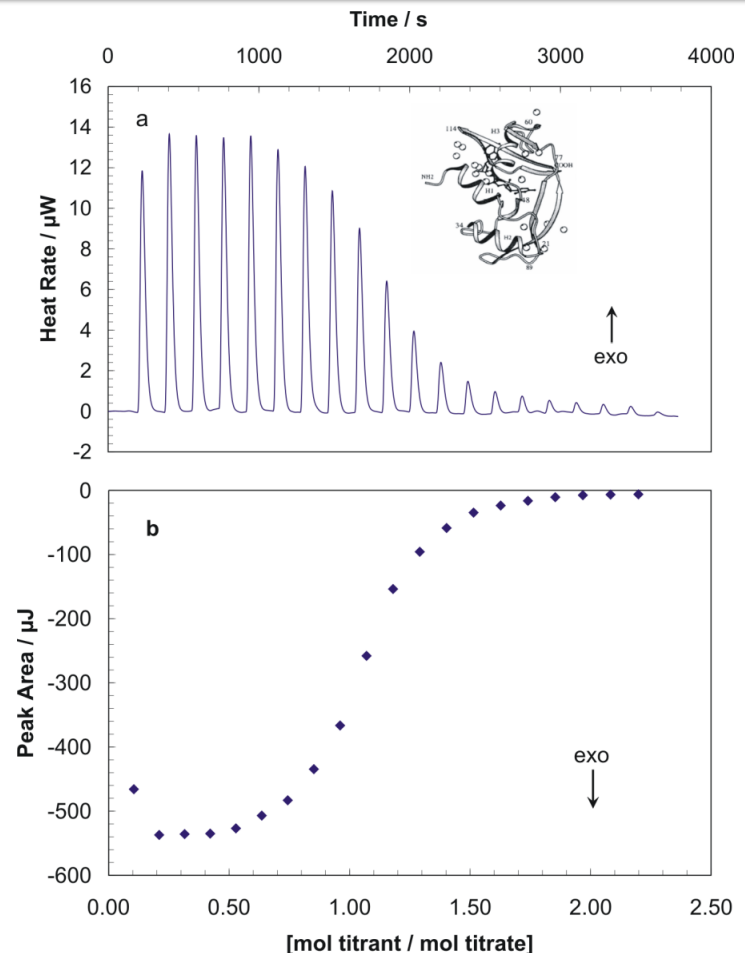
## 2'-CMP titrated into RNase A

### Setup

- 1.6 mM 2'CMP (titrant)
- 80  $\mu$ M Rnase A (titrand)
- 20  $\times$  5 mL injections at 25  $^{\circ}$ C

### Results

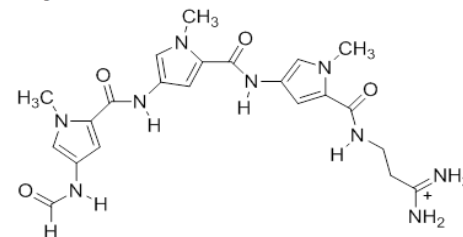
- $n = 1$
- $K_a = 1 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1}$
- Enthalpy of binding: -65 KJ/mol



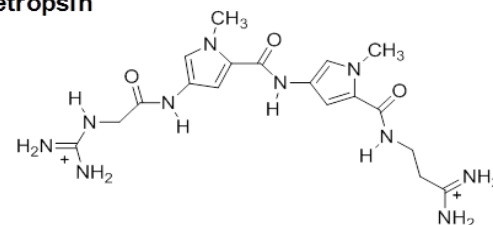
# Incremental & DNA-ligand binding

- Thermodynamic data defines the driving forces of a binding.
- This is a piece of information for fragment based drug design, biotherapeutic characterization and other process analysis steps where a subsequent toxicity or in vivo failure can be quite expensive.

Distamycin



Netropsin



AAATTT

5'-GCGAAATTTCCG<sup>T</sup> C  
CGCTTTAAAGCC<sub>C</sub> T

AATT

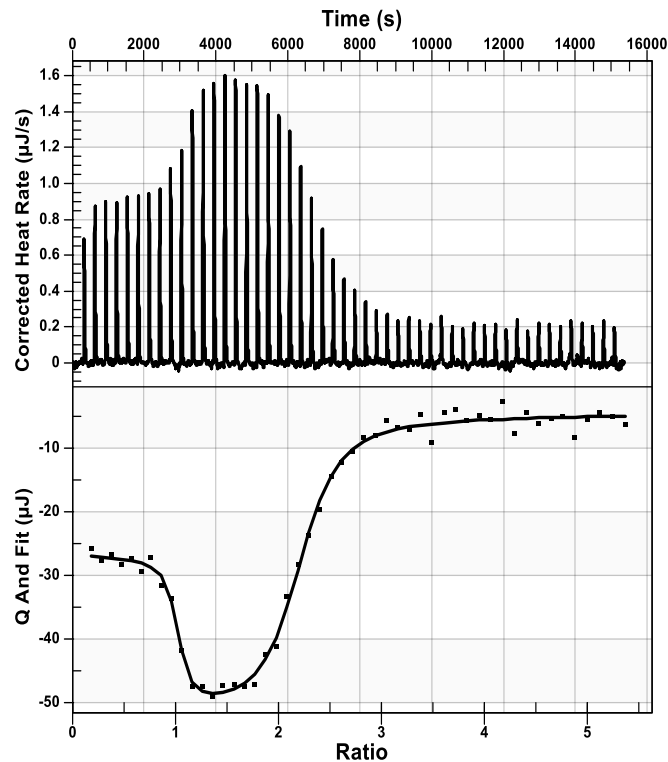
5'-GCGAATTCCG<sup>T</sup> C  
CGCTTAAGGC<sub>C</sub> T

Anticancer agents. Alters DNA conformation

Application Note: Shuo Wang, Manoj M. Munde, PhD., W. David Wilson, PhD., Georgia State University.

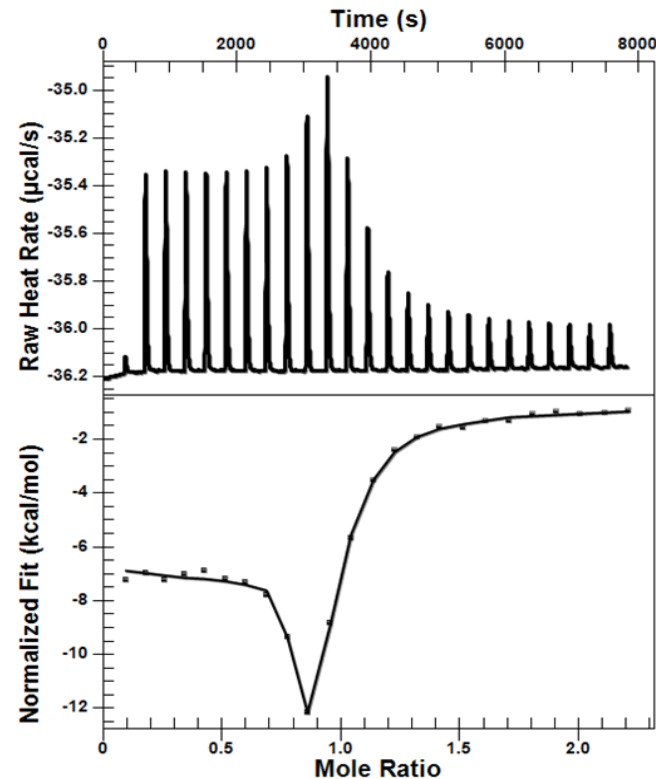
# DNA Binding Studies

## Distamycin → DNA



- SPR data indicated 1 site.
- 2D NMR & ITC data agree, 2 sites
- Negative cooperativity

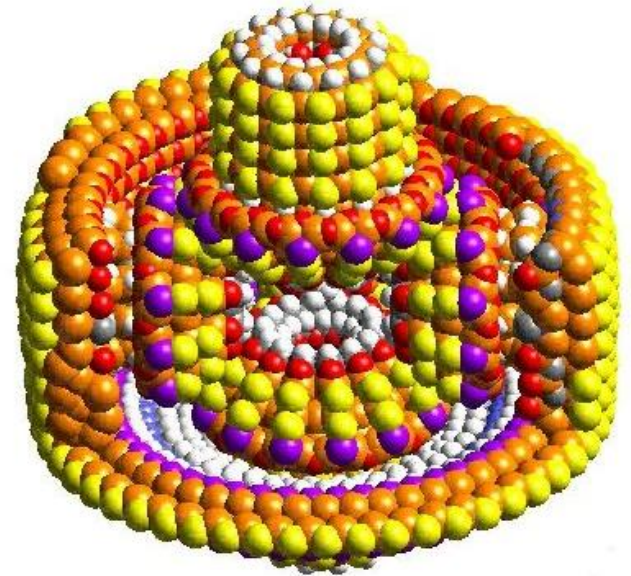
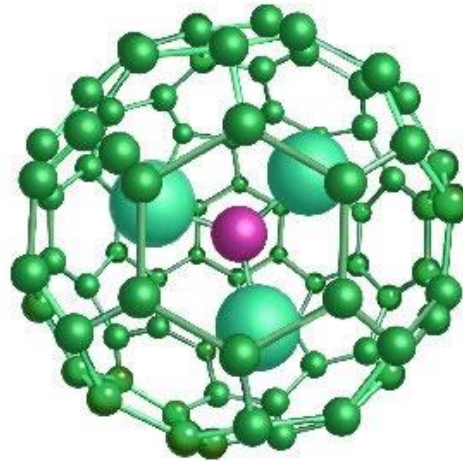
## Netropsin → DNA



- Biphasic nature
  - Explanation: netropsin binds to the AATT site with and without a strongly bound water molecule.
  - 1:1 with different thermodynamics.

# Application: Material Characterization

- **Micelle formation (CMC)**
- **Material Aggregation (CAC)**
- **Material Association/Association**
  - **Nanomachines**
- **Vesicle formation**



Nanomaterials are often coordinated with biological material and therapeutics as a novel approach to treat disease.

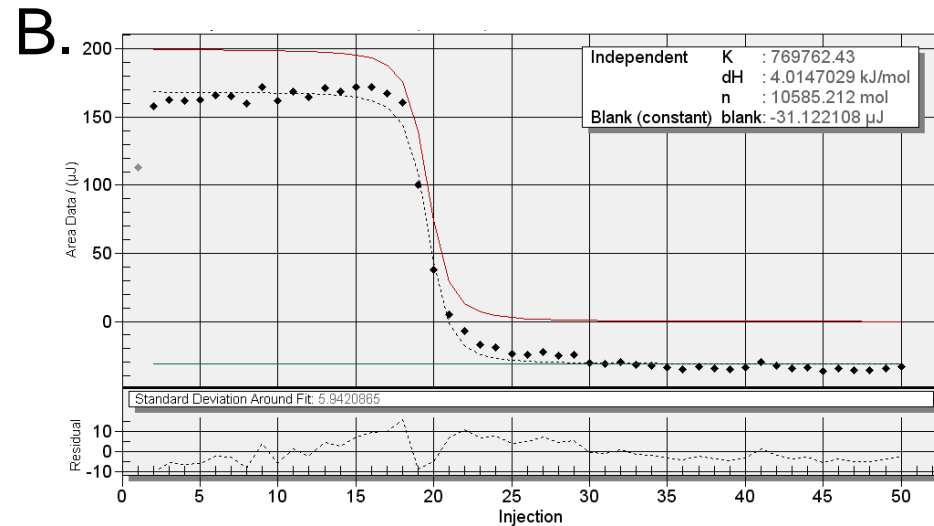
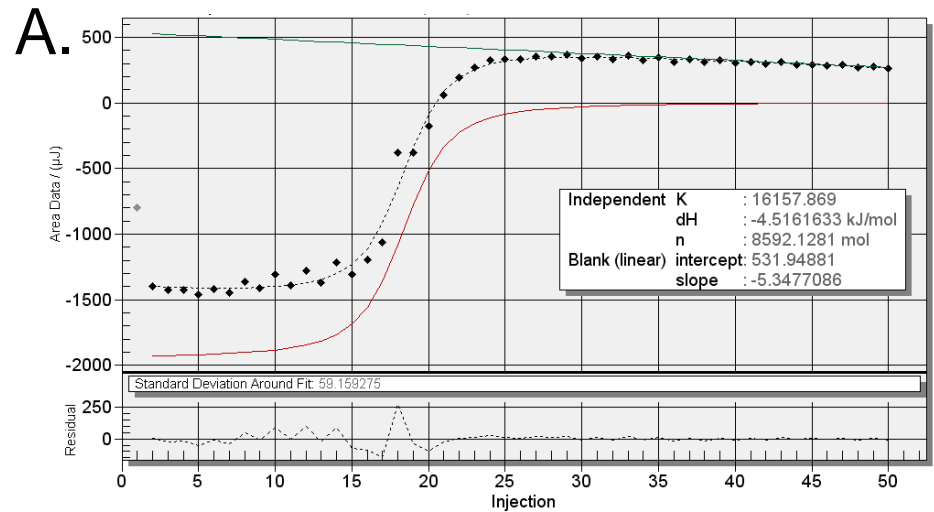


# Determining the Critical Micelle Concentration

- Critical micelle concentration (CMC) is the concentration at which detergents aggregate to form micelles.

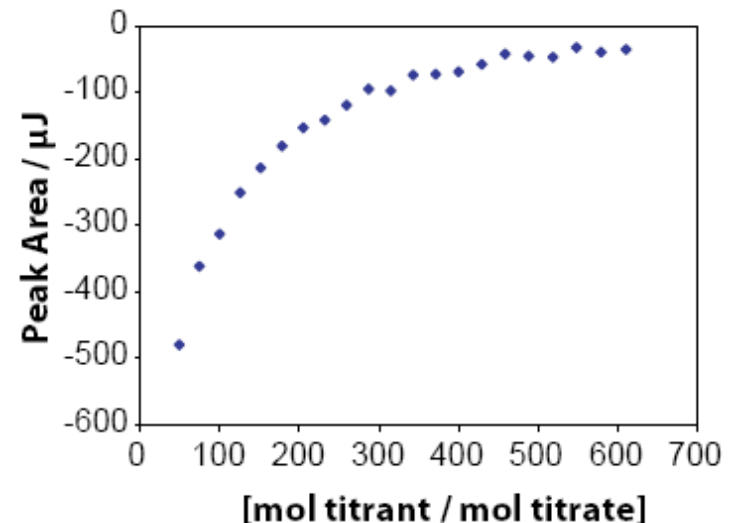
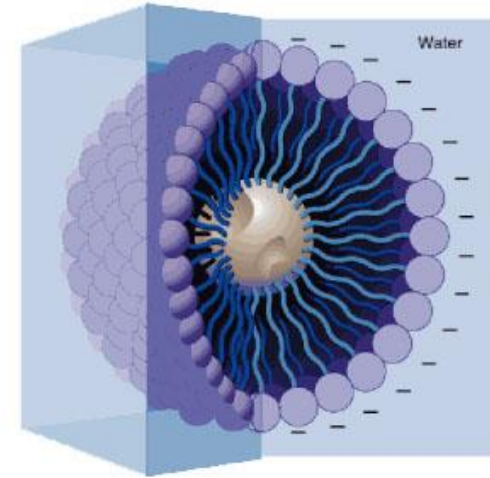
- Titrate concentrated detergent suspension (micelles) into buffer/water  
**(A) SDS (B) CDAP.**

- Initially micelles dissociate in sample cell. At CMC, detergent in the sample cell aggregates. Midpoint of the inflection is the CMC (n).

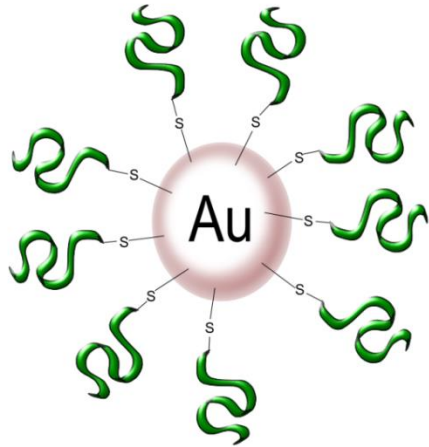


# Application #3: Interactions with Vesicles or Micelles

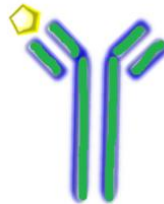
- Macromolecule binding to vesicles/micelles often used as models for drug binding
- Binding (actually partitioning) is usually non-specific, so no fixed stoichiometry, but  $K_a$  and enthalpy can be determined
- Cyclosporin A titrated into DPPC vesicles
- $K_a = 390 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ,  $\Delta H = -61 \text{ kJ/mol DPPC}$
- Weak 'binding' consistent with partitioning



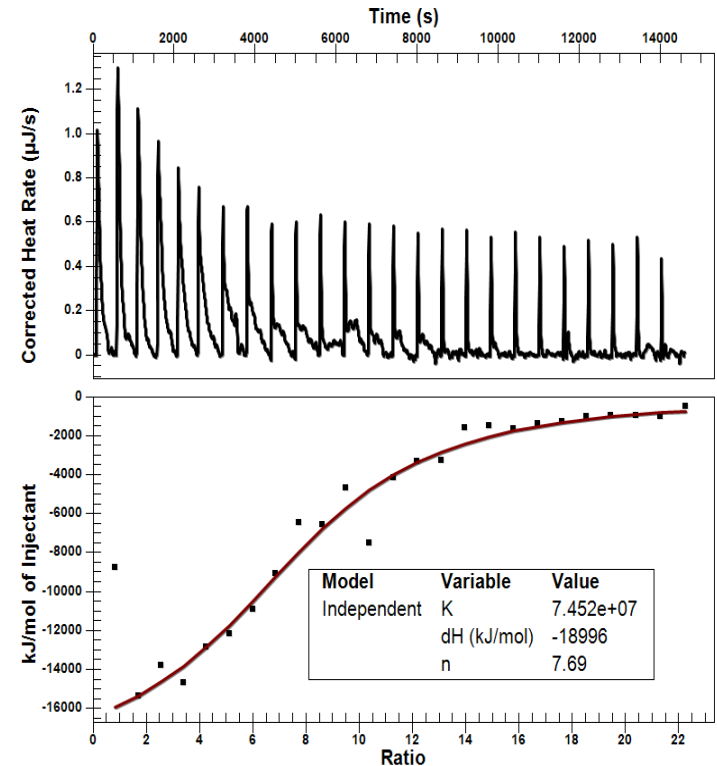
# Application 4: Functionalizing Nanoparticles or other Macromolecular Assemblies with Antibodies



Next step after functionalizing the np with an antibody is binding of the antigen.



## Titration of Antibody ( $\mu\text{M}$ ) into Gold Nanoparticles (nM)

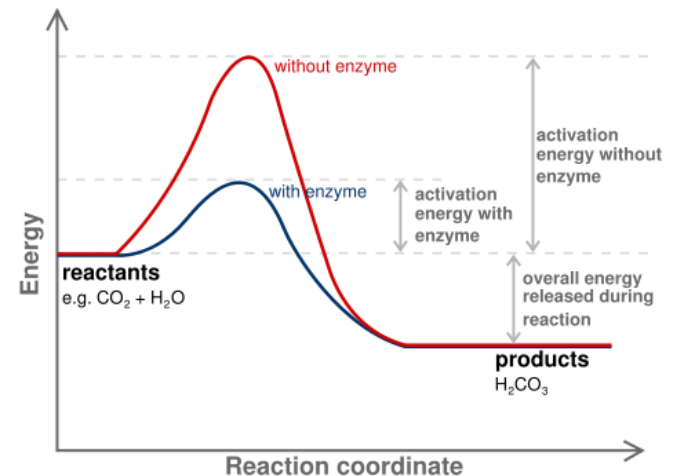


- Minimal detectable heat for the LV =  $0.05 \mu\text{J}$  and SV is  $0.1 \mu\text{J}$
- LV ITC is 2x more sensitive than the SV, but the SV can hold 5x more moles ( $170 \mu\text{L}$  v  $950 \mu\text{L}$  active volume).

# Enzymes

- Macromolecules (proteins and RNA) that catalyze (*i.e.*, increase the rates of) chemical reaction

- Kinase
- Phosphatase
- Oxidoreductase/Dehydrogenase
- Ligase
- Isomerase
- Helicase



- In enzymatic reactions, the molecules at the beginning of the process are called substrates, and the enzyme converts them into different molecules, called the products.

# Enzyme Kinetics

The rate or velocity ( $v$ ) of the reaction is given by the Michaelis-Menten relationship:

$$v = d[P]/dt = (v_{\max}[S])/(K_M + [S])$$

$v_{\max}$  = maximum velocity at saturating substrate concentration  $[S]$

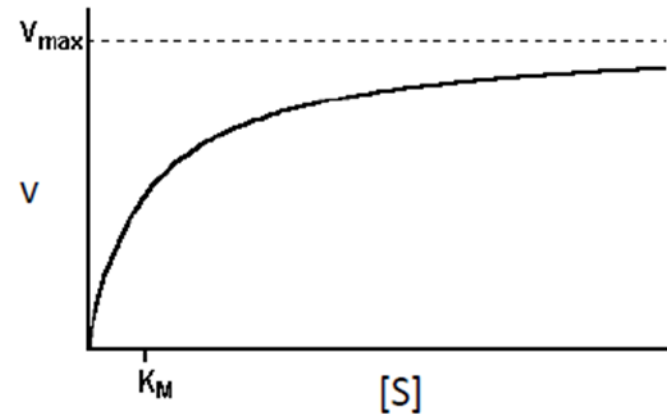
$K_M$  = Michaelis-Menten constant or the value of  $[S]$  at which  $v = (V_{\max}/2)$

$[P]$  = concentration of the product released

Enzyme turnover number ( $k_{\text{cat}}$ ):

$$k_{\text{cat}} = v_{\max}[E]$$

$[E]$  = total enzyme concentrations



# Application #5: Kinetic Studies Using ITC

The signal measured is thermal power

Power =  $dQ/dt$ , where  $Q$  = heat,  $t$  = time

$$Q \text{ (kJ)} = n\Delta H$$

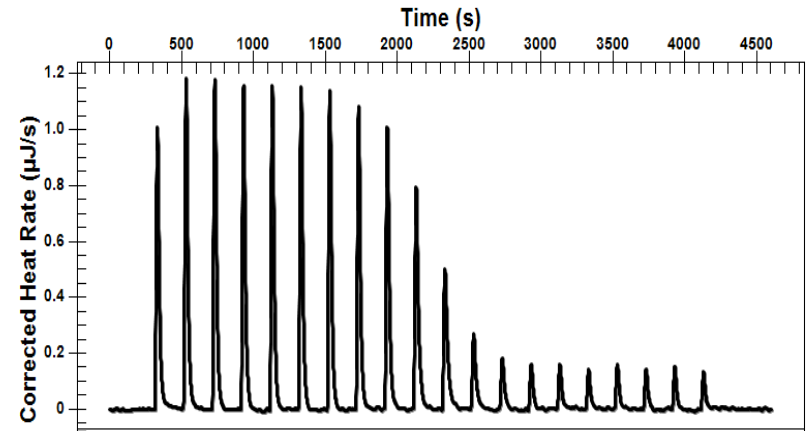
$n$  = number of moles of product released

$\Delta H$  = enthalpy change associated with the rxn

$$n = V[P]$$

$[P]$  = concentration of product released

$V$  = reaction/cell volume



Therefore,  $Q = V \Delta H[P]$        $V$  and  $\Delta H$  are constants – makes for easier math!

Differentiate with respect to time:

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = V * \Delta H * \frac{d[P]}{dt}$$

$$\frac{d[P]}{dt} = \frac{1}{V} * \frac{1}{\Delta H} * \frac{dQ}{dt}$$

$$\text{Rate}(v) = \frac{1}{V} * \frac{1}{\Delta H} * \frac{dQ}{dt}$$

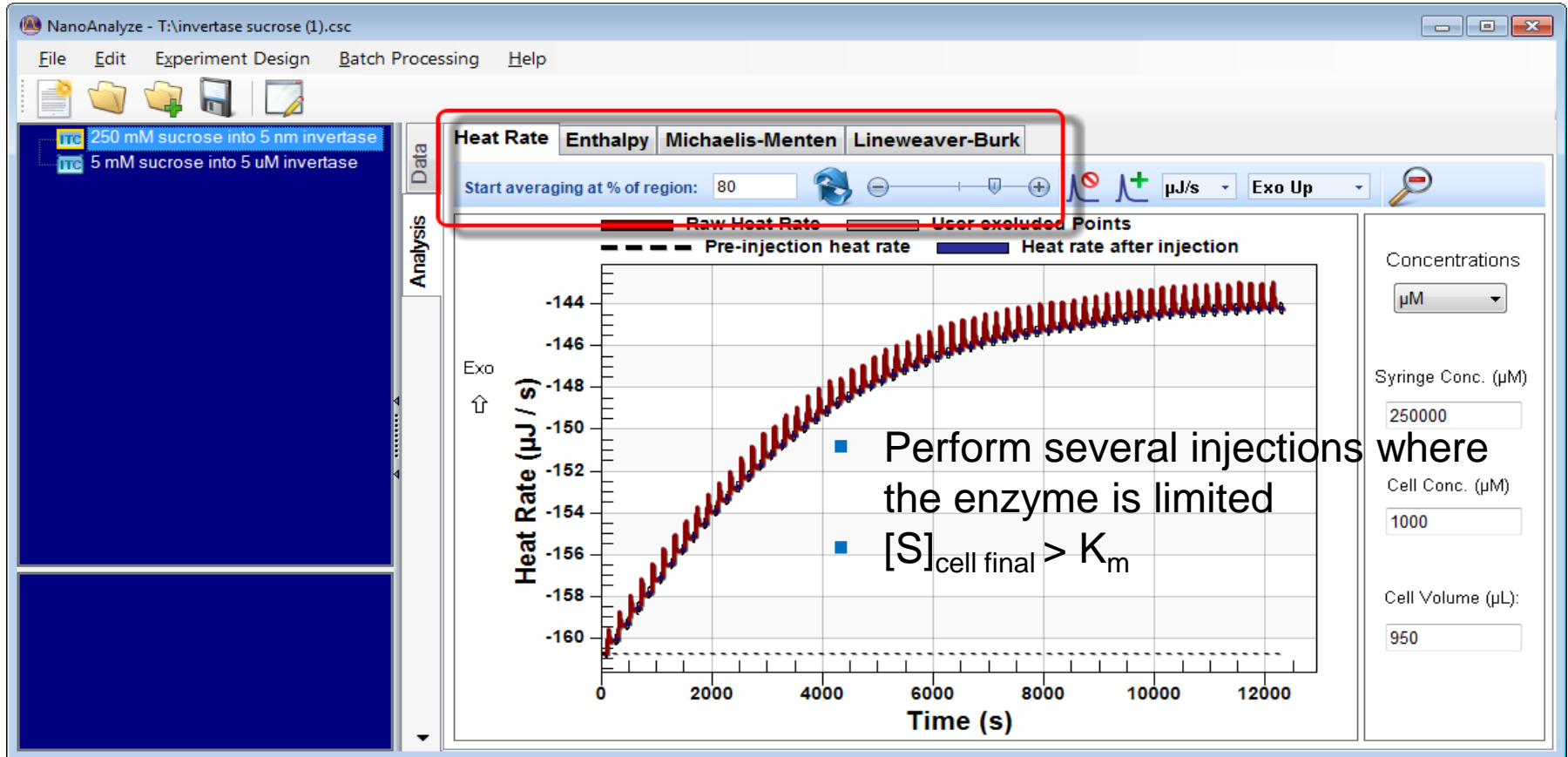
The rate can be measured if  $[S]$  is known and  $[E]$  is in excess.

$K_M$ ,  $v_{\max}$ , and  $k_{\text{cat}}$  can be subsequently determined from a plot of  $v$  vs  $[S]$



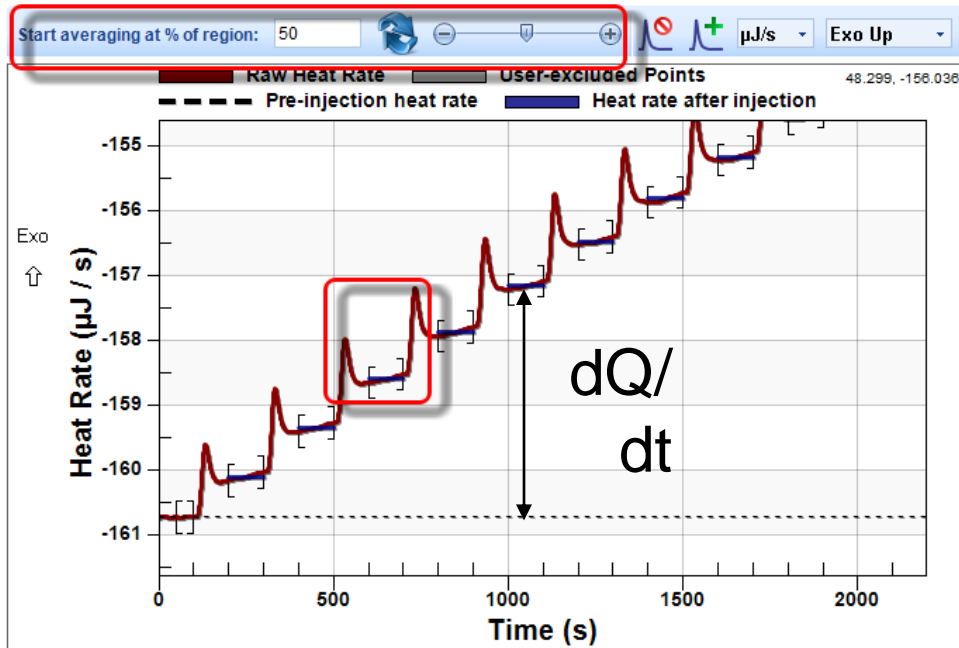
# MIM Enzyme Kinetics

250 mM Sucrose → 5 nM enzyme



- In a successful titration final baseline plateaus.
- The plateau is related to the maximum turnover, or  $v_{\text{max}}$ .

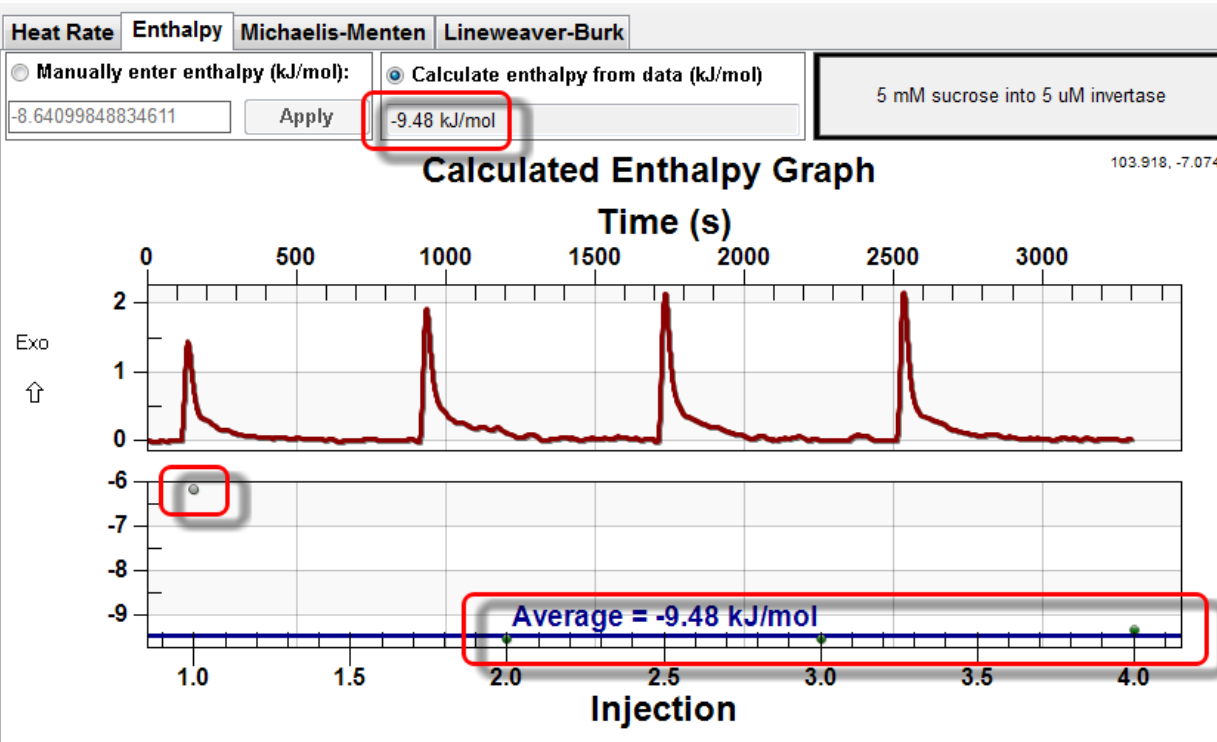
# Determine Turnover (cont. 1)



1. Determine the differential power prior to the first injection.
2. Determine baseline/differential power after the injection. The injection is NOT the event, the shift in the baseline IS the event. The baseline shifts because there is a continuous event (Substrate  $\rightarrow$  Product) that is occurring that elevates the baseline.

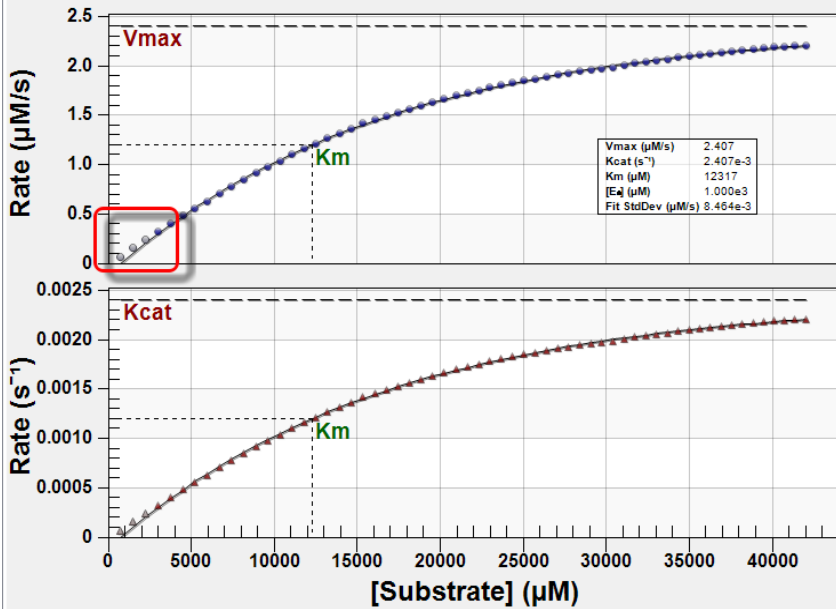
# MIM Titration B: Determine Enthalpy

- Perform several injections where the enzyme will not be limited and all substrate is converted into product.
- For this case: 25 mM Sucrose  $\rightarrow$  7.4  $\mu$ M enzyme
- All of the sucrose is turned into product and this titration measures the  $\Delta H$  for this process.
- Note: plot normalized heat to get the kJ/mol value that is needed later.

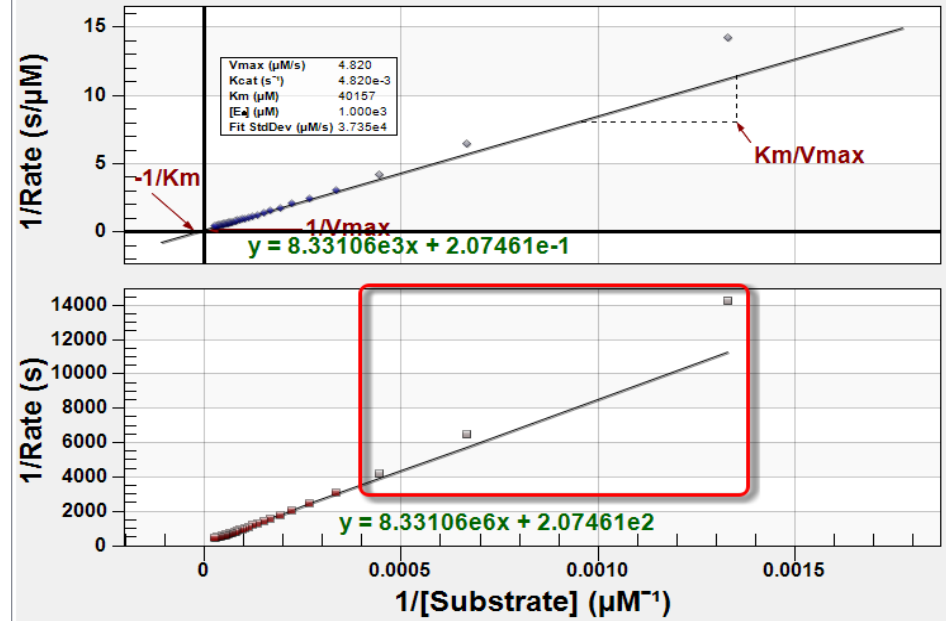


# M-M or L-B Plots

Michaelis-Menten

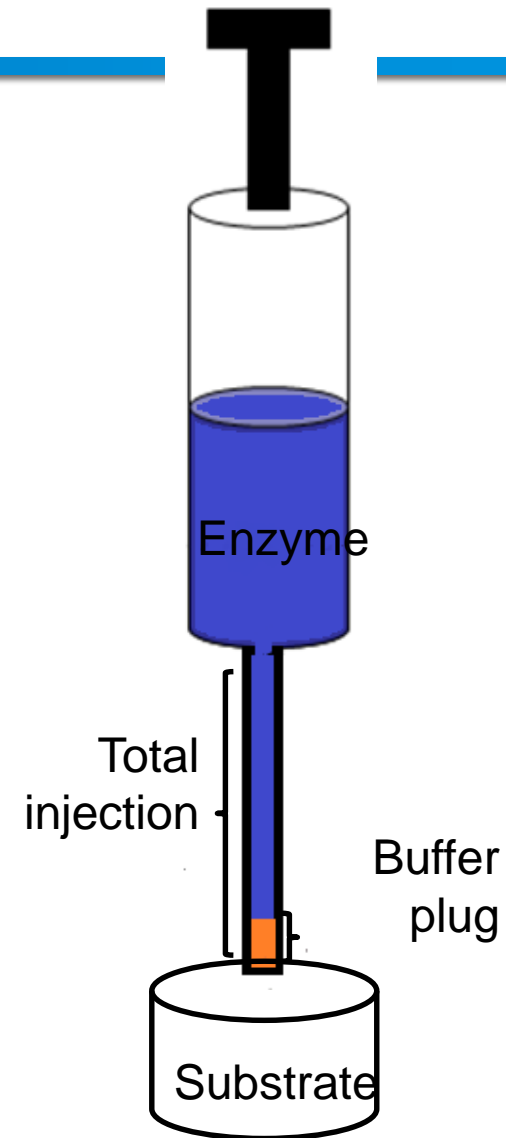


Lineweaver-Burk

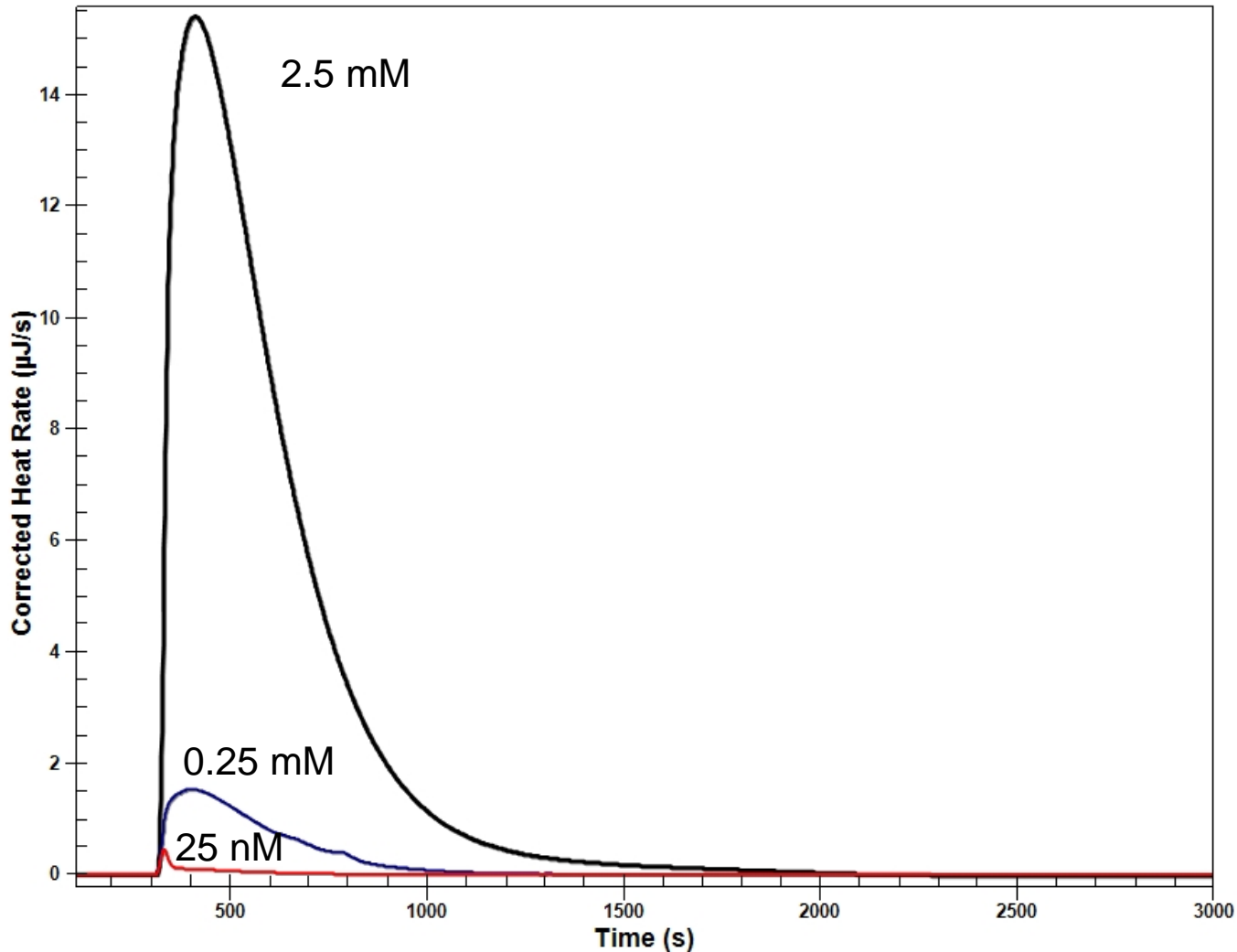


# Single Injection Method (SIM) Kinetics

- Usually a moderate concentration of the substrate is used (mM or  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and a relatively high concentration of enzyme is in the syringe ( $\mu\text{M}$  or nM).
- To avoid starting the reaction early, the last few  $\mu\text{L}$  of the injection syringe are filled with buffer. The single injection is set-up to deliver the buffer plug and some enzyme
  - ie) 3  $\mu\text{L}$  plug + 5  $\mu\text{L}$  enzyme = 1 x 8  $\mu\text{L}$  injection
- The heat flow ( $dQ/dt$ ) is directly proportional to the rate with which the reaction is formed.
  - Most experiments will be completed in 1+ hour(s).
- Instrument response time consideration: design experiments where the ratio of enzyme to substrate in the calorimetric cell resulted in a reaction completion times at least one order of magnitude than the instrumental response time.
  - This typically means use more substrate



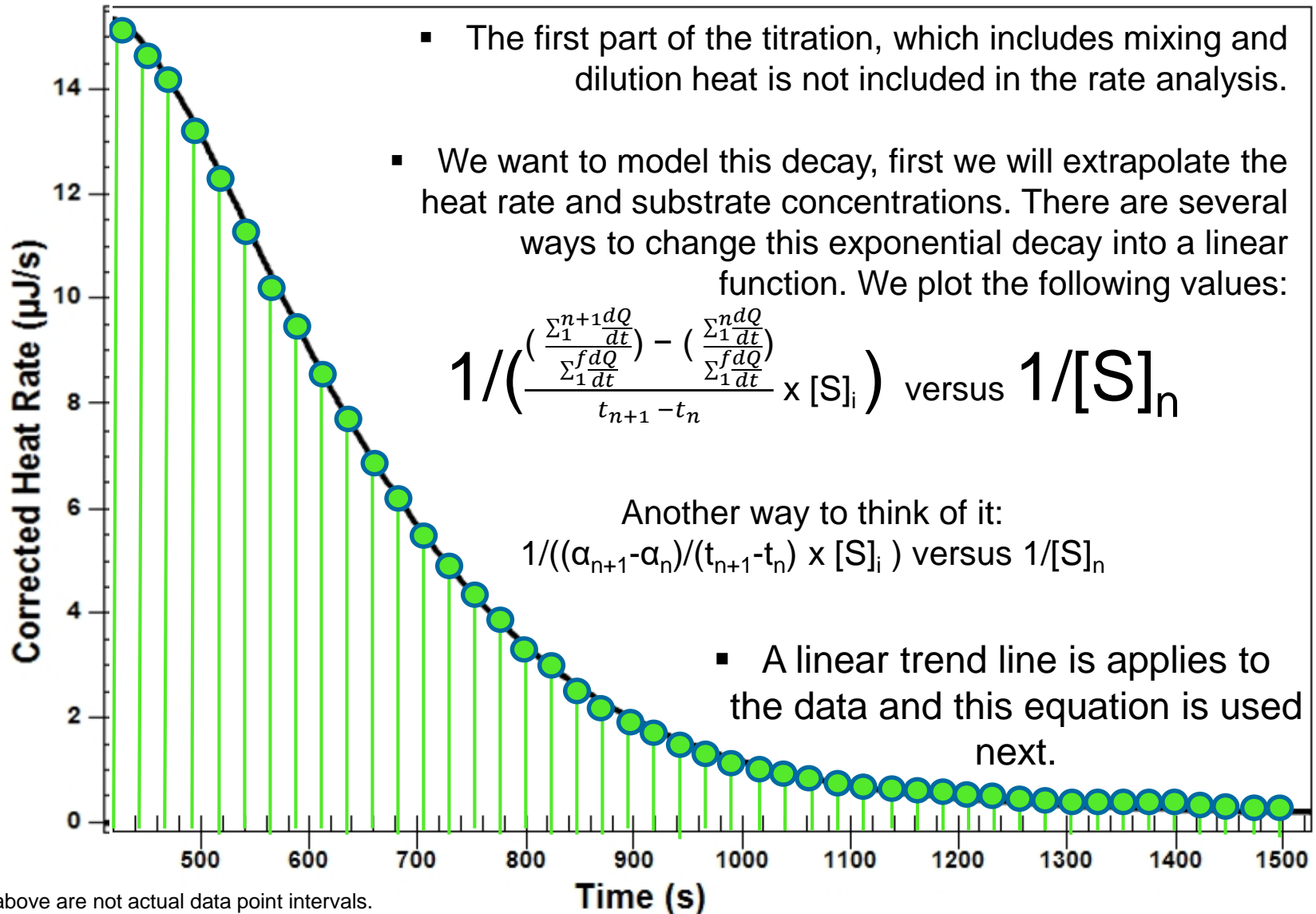
# Invertase, Titrated into Varying Sucrose



5 $\mu\text{L}$  of 37  $\mu\text{M}$   
Invertase,  
titrated into  
varying  
concentrations  
of Sucrose.

100 mM  
Glycine Buffer  
pH 5.65

# SIM Kinetics



Points above are not actual data point intervals.



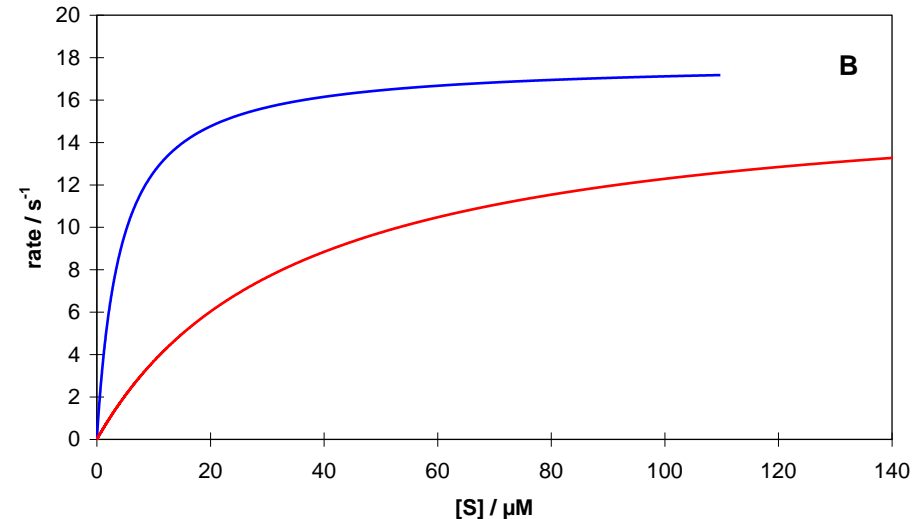
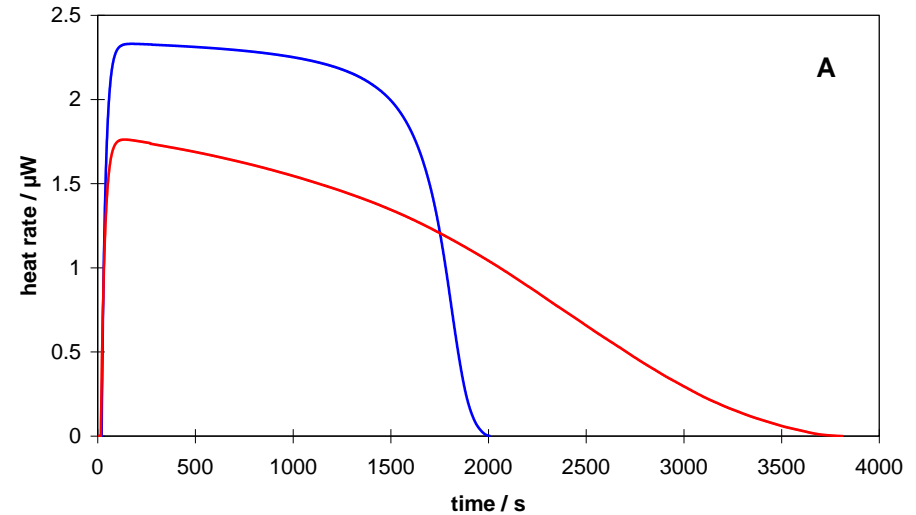
# Application #5: Enzyme Kinetics and Enzyme Inhibition (Single Injection)

**Blue:** 10  $\mu\text{L}$   $5.1 \times 10^{-7}$  M trypsin injected into 950  $\mu\text{L}$   $1.44 \times 10^{-4}$  M BAEE

**Red:** plus  $1.36 \times 10^{-4}$  M benzamidine

**(-) inhibitor:**  $K_M = 4.17 \mu\text{M}$ ;  $V_{\text{max}} = 0.091 \mu\text{Mol/s}$ ,  $k_{\text{cat}} = 17.8 \text{ s}^{-1}$

**(+) inhibitor:**  $K_M = 35.1 \mu\text{M}$ ;  $V_{\text{max}} = 5.9 \times 10^{-4} \mu\text{Mol/s}$ ,  $k_{\text{cat}} = 0.11 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ,  $K_i = 18.4 \mu\text{M}$

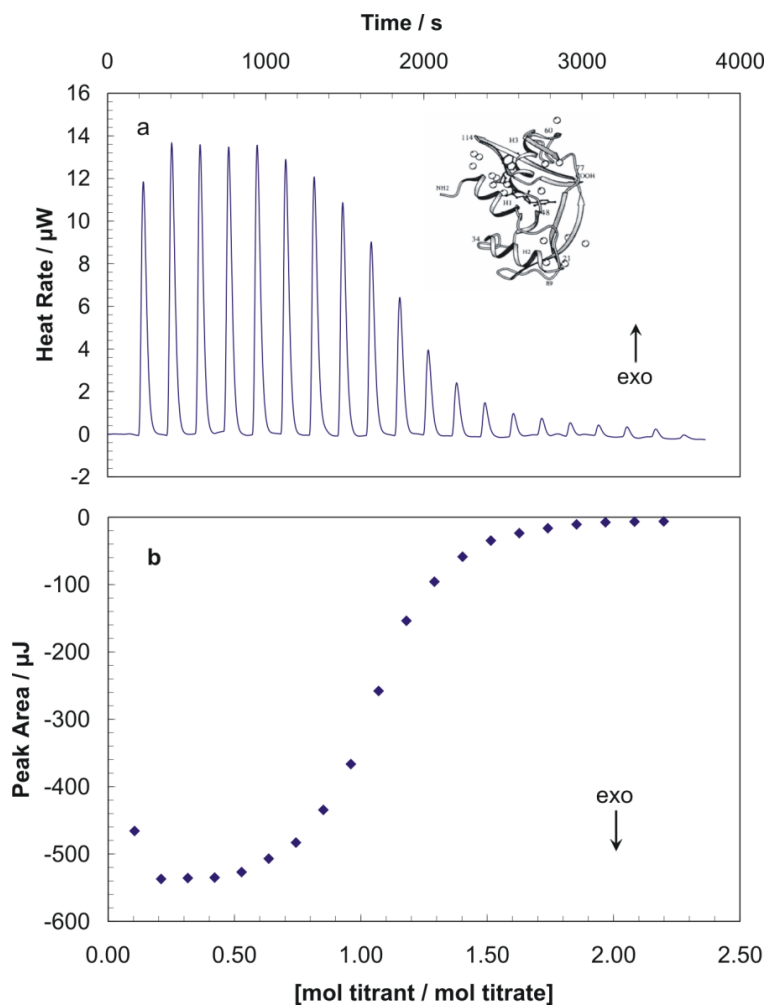


# Techniques



# Technique 1: Broadening the Binding Constant Range

## 2'-CMP titrated into RNase A



The shape of the binding curve determines the accuracy of  $K_a$  and  $\Delta H$ .

What if  $K_a$  is outside  $10^3 - 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}$ ?

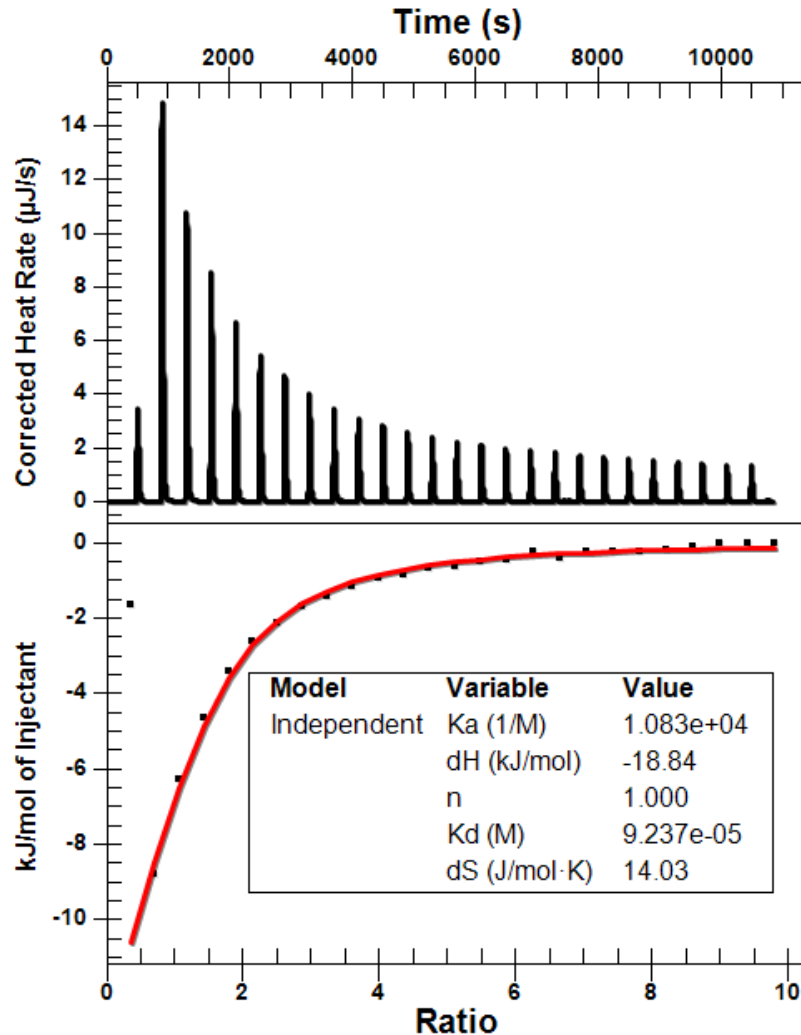
# Technique 1: Broadening the Binding Constant Range: Weak Affinity

**Five Tips for fitting data in which  $K_{ITC}n[M]_{cell} < 1$  or  $K_a < 10^3$**

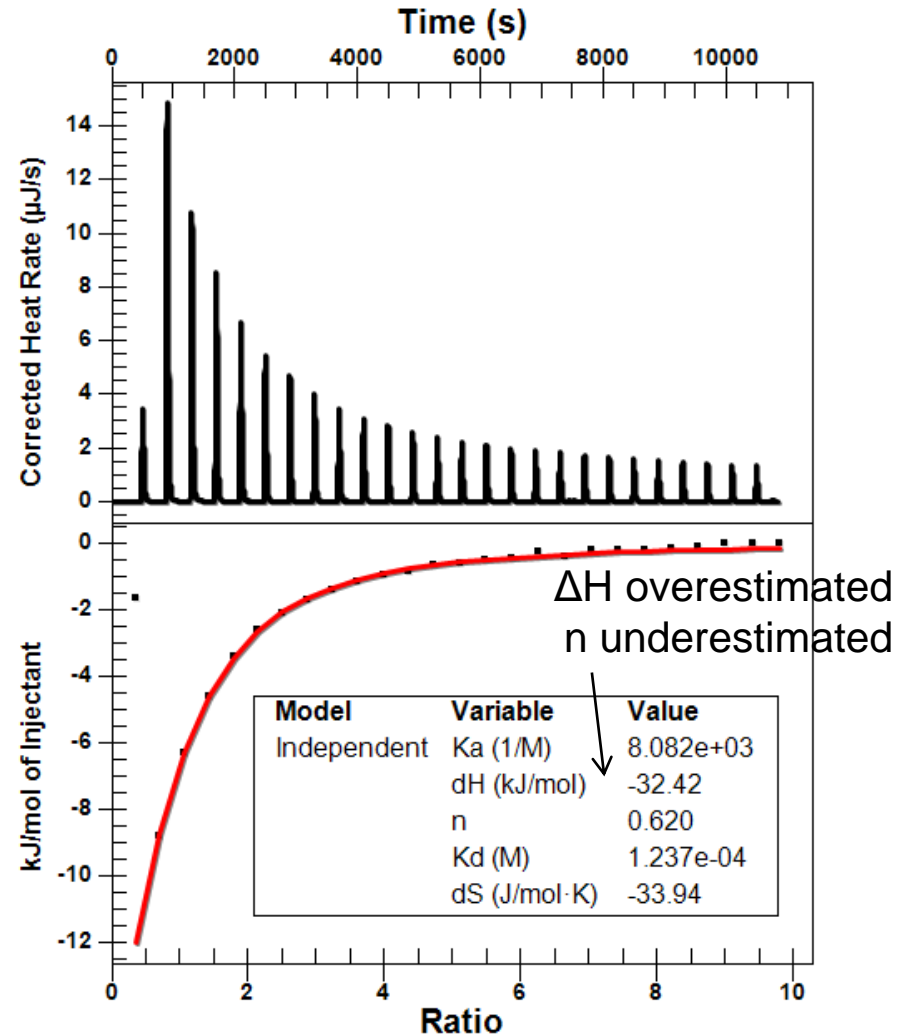
- 1) The reaction must be carried out to a molar ratio well past the reaction stoichiometry.  
Reload injection syringe and append the two sets of data.
- 2) Ligand and macromolecule concentrations must be accurately known.
- 3) Reaction stoichiometry (or enthalpy) must be known.
- 4) The experiment has adequate signal to noise.
- 5) Perform titration so that final stoichiometry is different  
Fitting algorithms should converge upon one solution – try Universal Fit.

# Weak Binding - Data fitting Techniques

## Fixed "n"

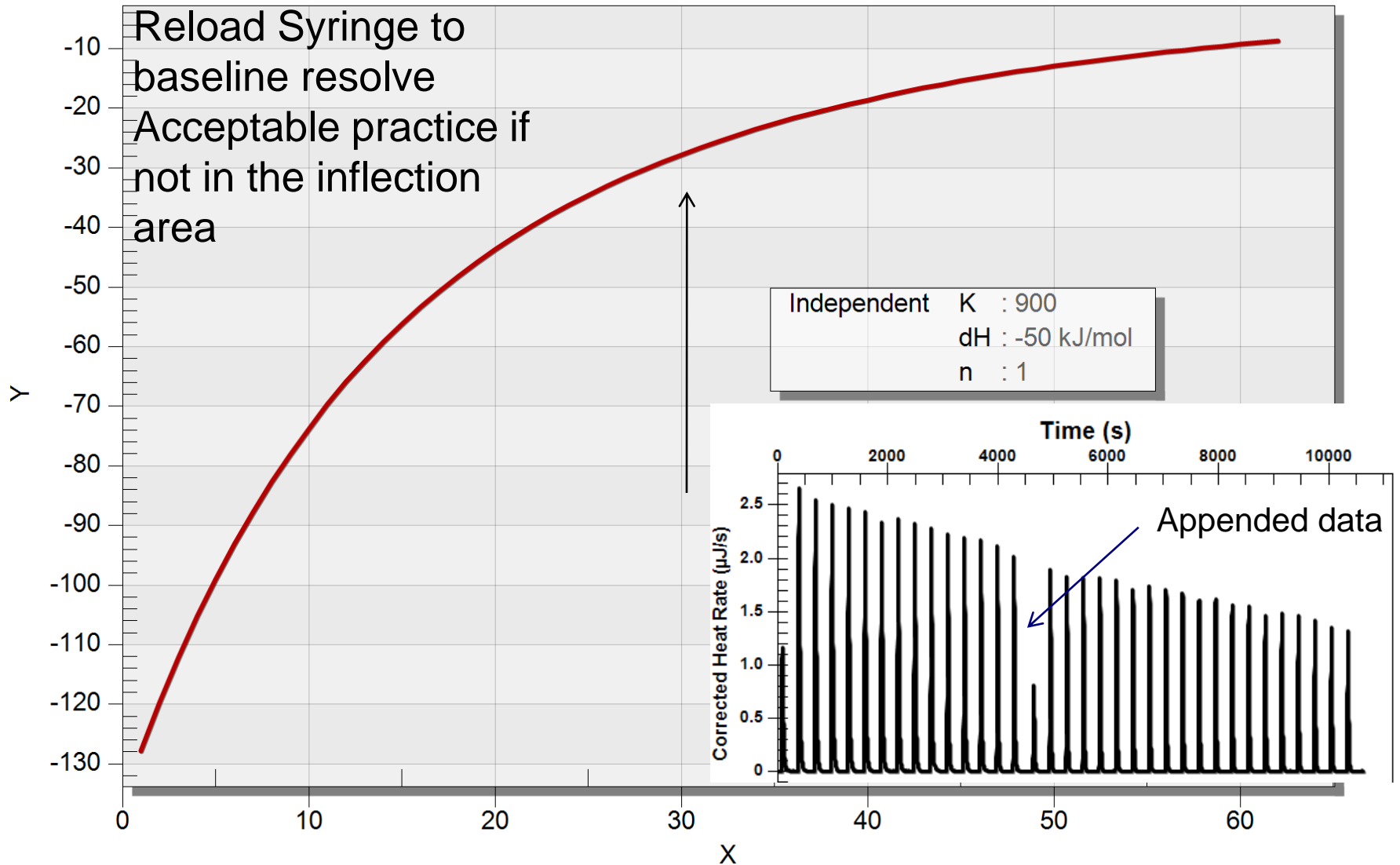


## Floating "n"



# Low Ka

## Modeling data for 4 mM titrant $\rightarrow$ 100 $\mu$ M titrand



# Technique 1: Broadening the Binding Constant Range: Weak or Strong Affinity

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- Modeling data is Important
- Concentration determination

# Competition Technique for Weak Binding

## 5'-CMP titrated into RNase A

### Setup

#### Experiment 1 (Red)

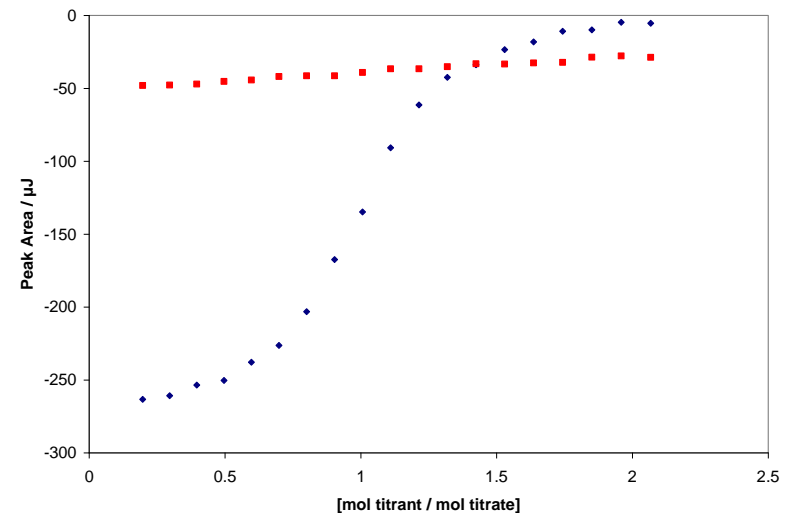
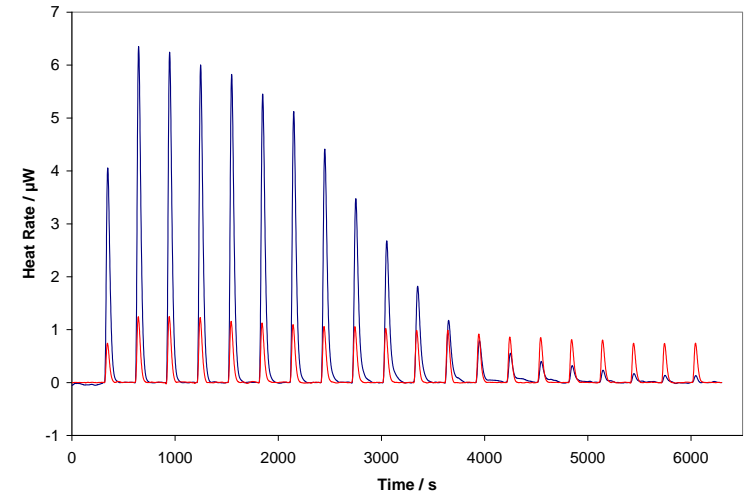
- 1.3 mM 5'CMP (titrant)
- 70  $\mu$ M RNase A (titrand)
- 20  $\times$  5 mL injections at 25  $^{\circ}$ C

#### Experiment 2 (Blue)

- 1.3mM 2'CMP (titrant)
- 0.32  $\mu$ M 5'CMP and 70  $\mu$ M RNase A (titrand)

### Results – Competition experiment

- $n = 1$
- $K_a = 3.1 \times 10^3 \text{ M}^{-1}$
- Enthalpy of binding: -47 kJ/mol

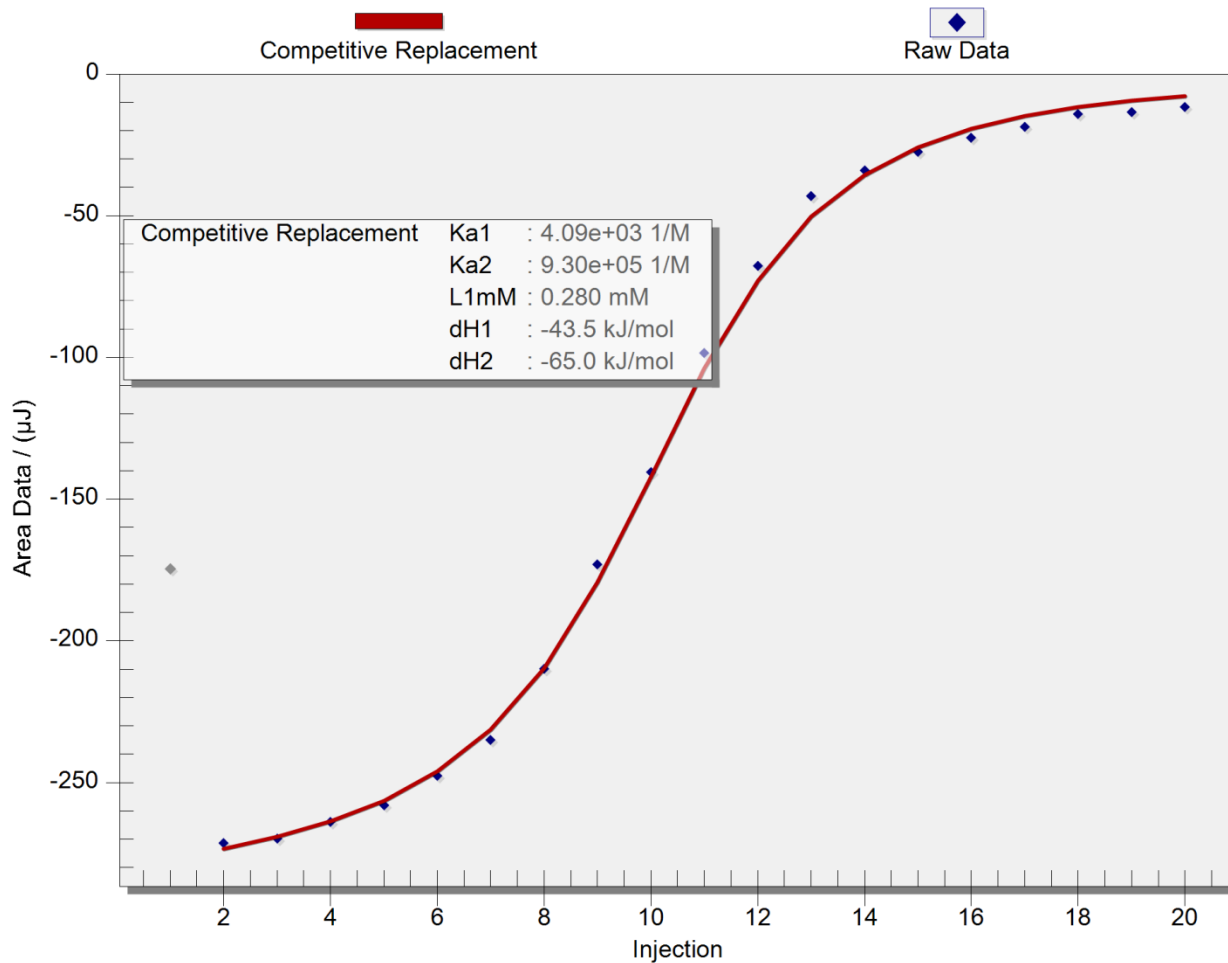


**Measure affinity of very tight binding of molecules**



# Competition: Weak Affinity

1.3 mM 2'CMP  $\rightarrow$  70  $\mu$ M Rnase + 0.28 mM 5'CMP

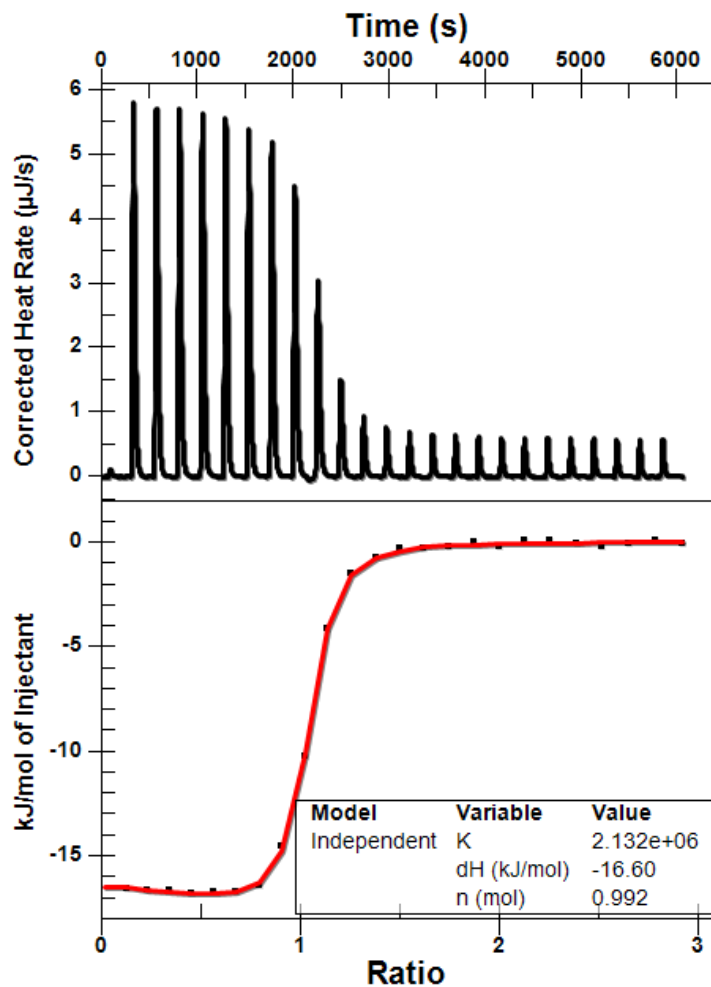


Variables

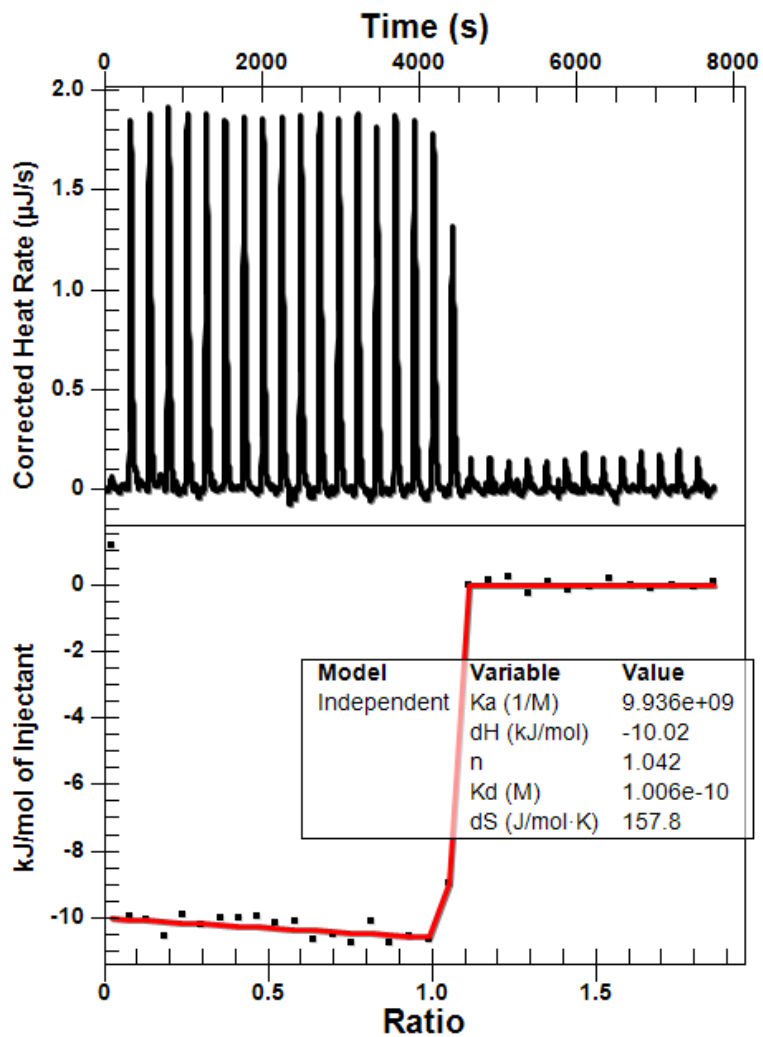
Name	Value
Ka1 (1/M)	4.09e+03
Ka2 (1/M)	9.30e+05
L1mM (mM)	0.280
dH1 (kJ/mol)	-43.5
dH2 (kJ/mol)	-65.0

# Competition Technique for Tight Binding

Ca into EDTA



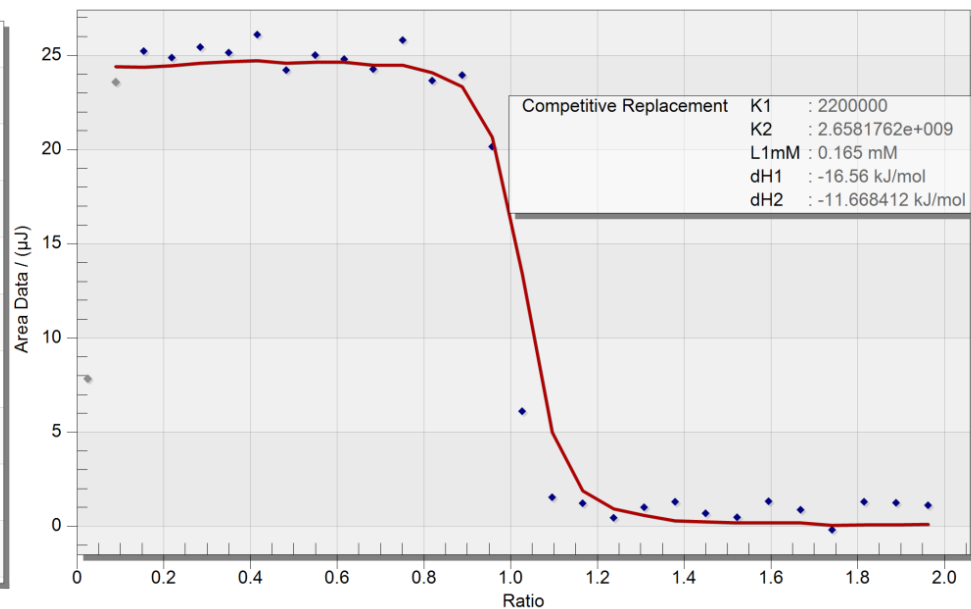
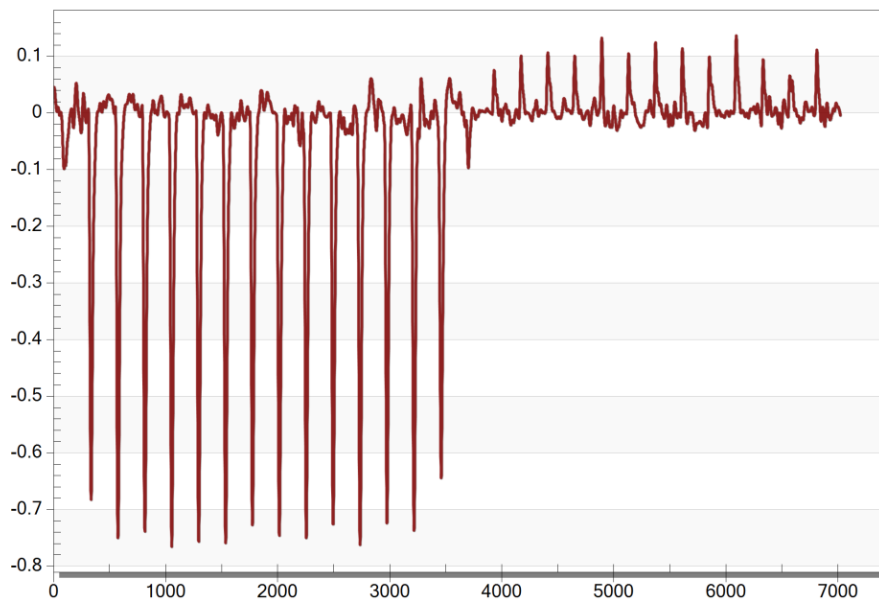
Zn into EDTA



# Competition: High Affinity

1 mM Zn<sup>2+</sup> titrated into 85 μM EDTA + 165 μM Ca<sup>2+</sup>

1 mM Zn into 0.085 mM EDTA + 0.165 mM Ca

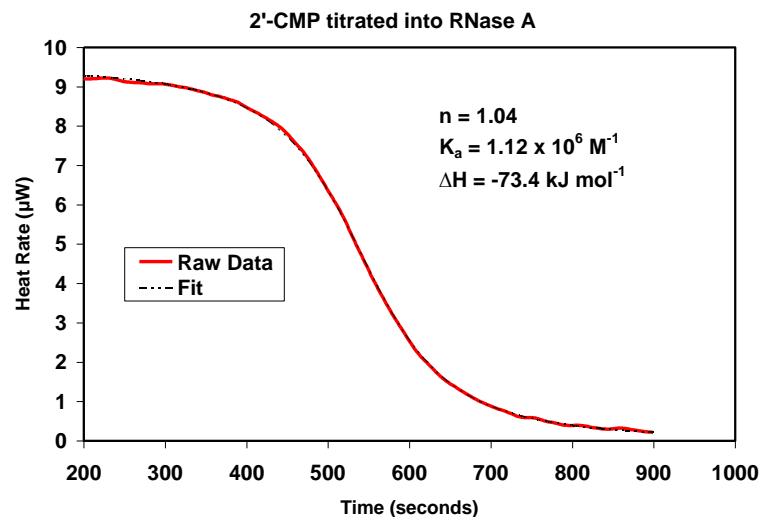
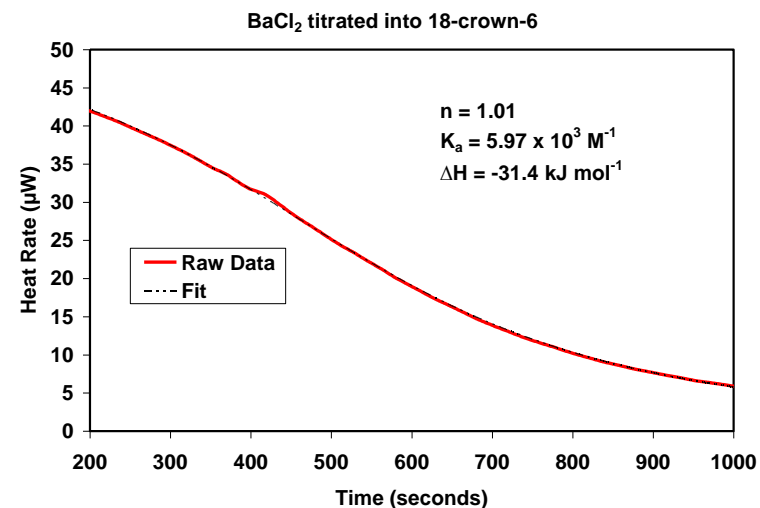


Variables

Name	Value	Vary
K1	2.30e+06	
K2	3.20e+09	✓
L1mM (mM)	0.165	
dH1 (kJ/mol)	-16.6	
dH2 (kJ/mol)	-11.7	✓

# Continuous titration & binding

- **Typical ITC experiment**
  - 20 - 30 data points
  - 1 - 2 hours (SV) & 0.5 to 1 hour (LV)
- **Continuous ITC experiment**
  - > thousand data points
  - 8 - 20 minutes (0.05 - 0.15 mL titrant/sec)
  - More data points at inflexion of binding isotherm

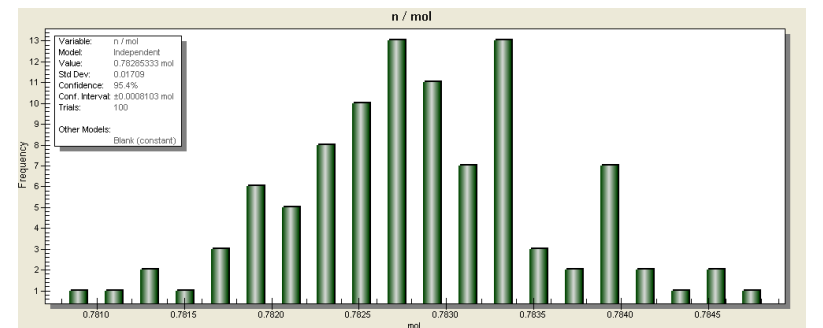
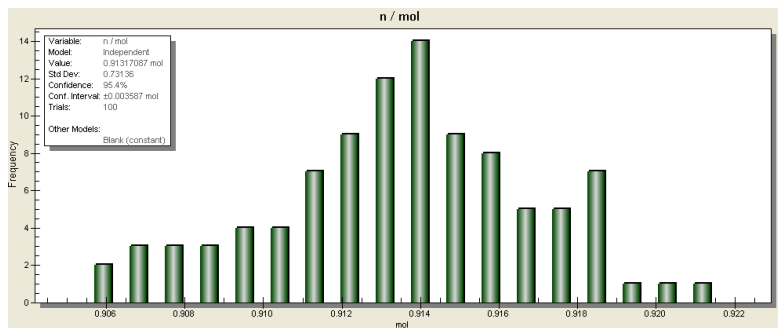
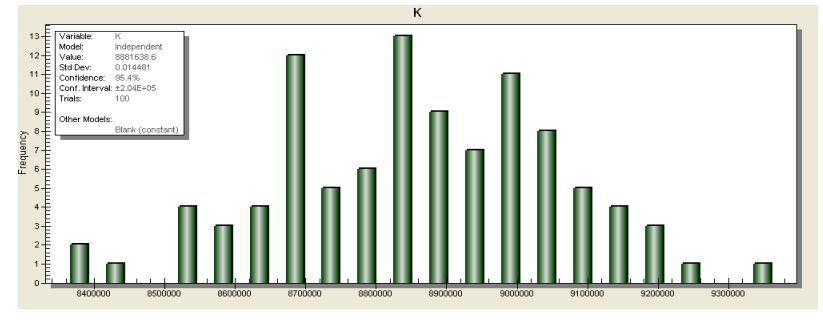
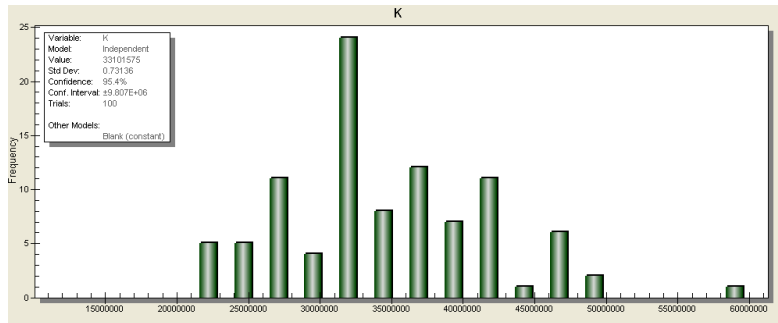
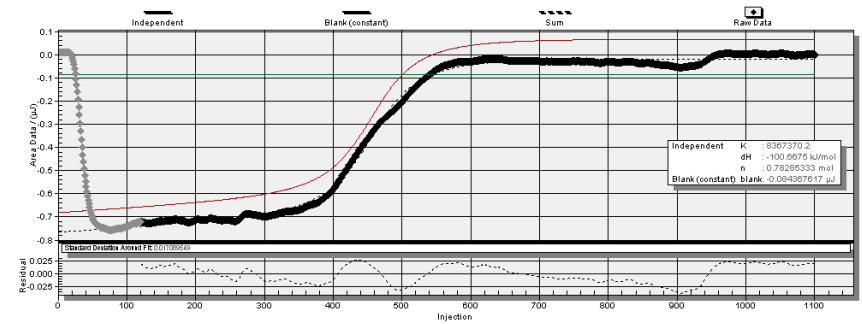
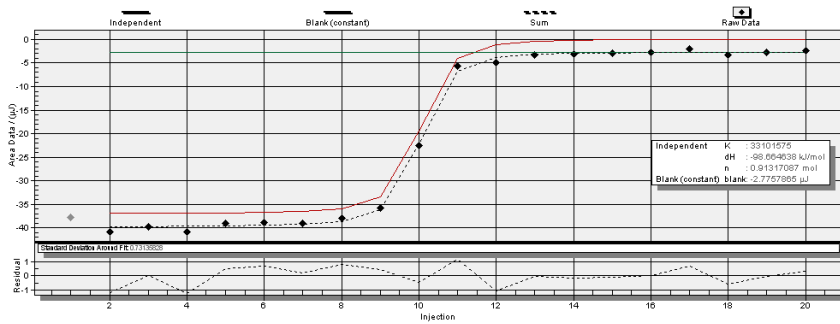


# Incremental vs. Continuous titration

## Incremental titration

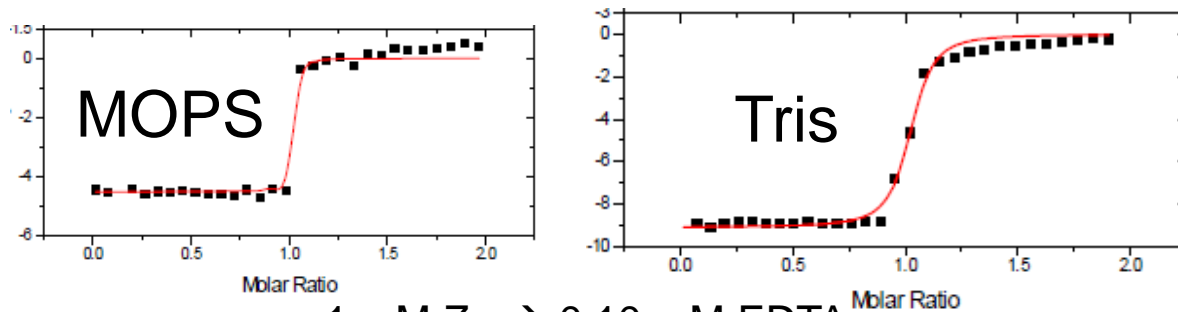
vs

## Continuous titration



# Technique 1 Recap: Broadening the Binding Constant Range: Weak or Strong Affinity

1. Use the continuous titration to increase the reliability of strong  $K_a$
2. Know concentrations for weak  $K_a$  and append data sets
3. Competition
  - ◆ Special consideration when determining appropriate concentrations
4. Change conditions: buffer, pH, temperature



1 mM Zn  $\rightarrow$  0.10 mM EDTA  
100 mM Buffer pH 7.4

# Technique 2: Temperature Variation

---

- Two Effects to Investigate:

1. Solvation

2. Heat capacity determination

- ◆  $\Delta C_p = (\partial \Delta H / \partial T)_p$

# Technique 2: Temperature Variation

## Vary the temperature.

Uncover the temperature dependence of  $\Delta H$ .

- This dependence is related to the macromolecule's hydrophobic interactions more specifically, solvation.
- If  $\Delta H$  is more exothermic at a higher temperature, it is believed that hydrophobic bonds are formed.
- If  $\Delta H$  is less exothermic at the higher temperature, it is considered that hydrophobic bonds are broken.

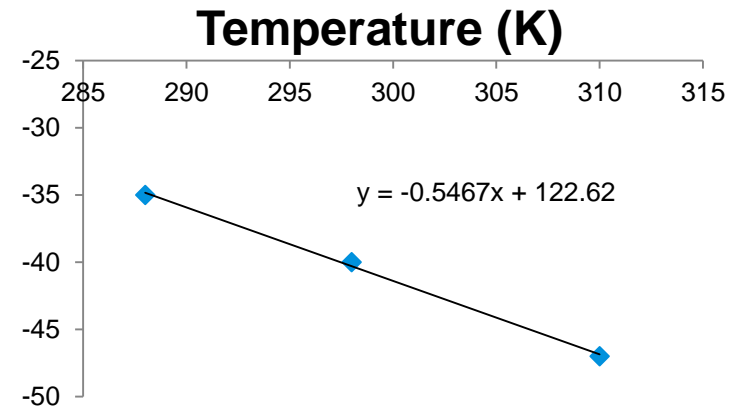


# Technique 2: Temperature Effects, Heat Capacity

$\Delta C_p$  is also related to enthalpy and entropy

$$\Delta C_p = \left( \frac{\partial \Delta H}{\partial T} \right)_p$$

$$\Delta C_p = T \frac{\delta \Delta S}{\delta T}$$



$\Delta C_p$  in biological reactions involves changes that affect ordered water  
-  $\Delta C_p$  indicates a decrease in the amount of ordered water  
+  $\Delta C_p$  increase in amount of ordered water (PNAS (1977), 74, 2236-2240)

In case of L binding to P, if  $\Delta C_p < 0$ , this is associated with ligand-induced structural changes that bury hydrophobic residues and liberate solvent (JACS (1964), 86, 4302)

# Technique 3: Utilizing the Reverse Titration

## ***Unexpected stoichiometry, Unexpected enthalpy or unsure of concentration?***

Before proceeding with developing a new mechanism, design an experiment in which the macromolecule is titrated into a solution of the ligand.

Forward:

Reverse

*Ligand (L) → Macromolecule (M)    M → L*

# Obtaining meaningful ITC data: unexpected stoichiometry

Unexpectedly low stoichiometry could be due to:

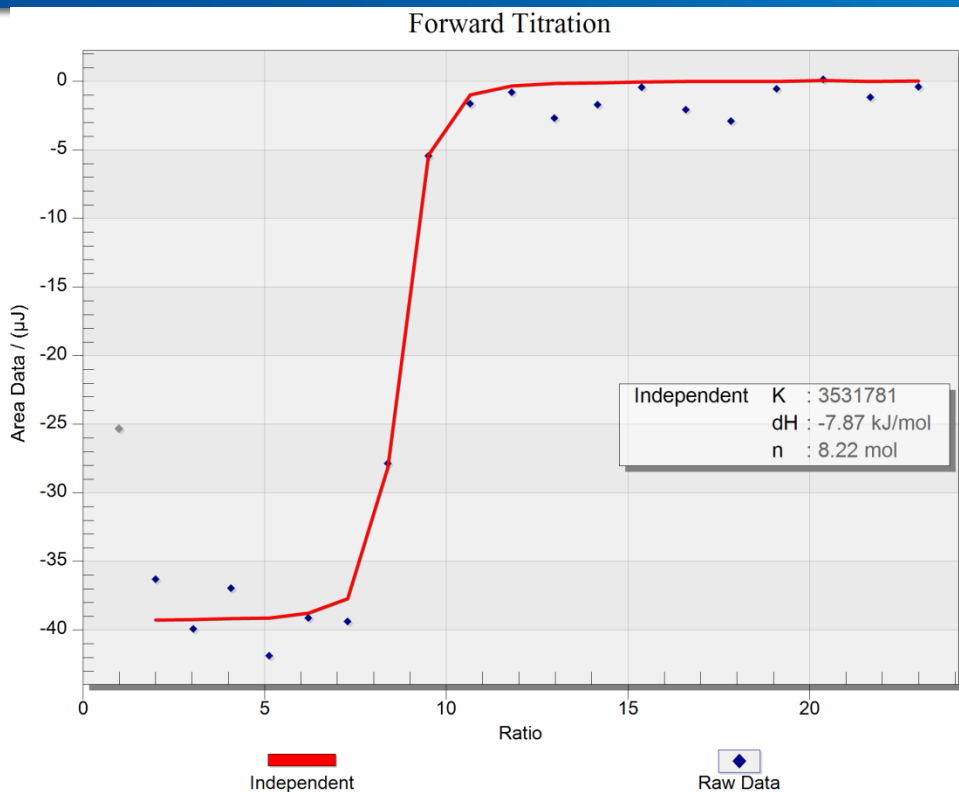
- [receptor] lower than anticipated
- [ligand] higher than anticipated
- Receptor contains contaminating proteins
- Receptor is partially unfolded
- Multiple binding sites
- Wrong binding model
- Insufficient curvature in data: change concentrations
- Experimental Artifact

# Technique 3: Utilizing the Reverse Titration: Reaction Stoichiometry is Unclear

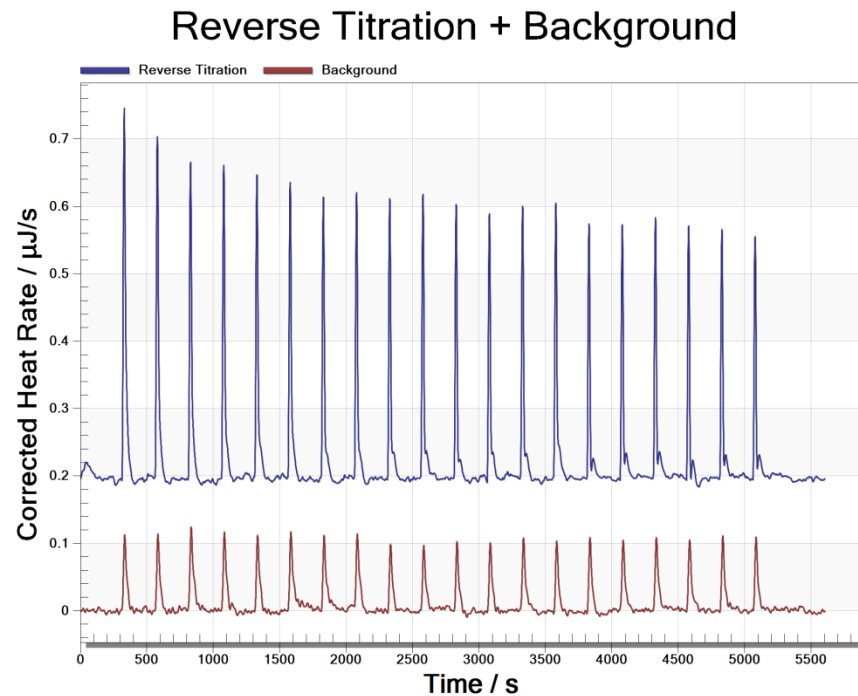
- Case 1:  $A \rightarrow B$
- $n = 0.7$
- $dH = 100$
  
- Is the interaction really 1:1 or 1:2?
  
- Run a reverse titration ( $B \rightarrow A$ ).
- If  $\Delta H \sim 140$  kJ/mol then it could be 1A:2B, [B] greater than expected
- If  $\Delta H \sim 70$  kJ/mol then it could be 1:1, [B] less than expected

For this relationship to be true, you must know the concentration of A.

# Technique 3: Utilizing the Reverse Titration

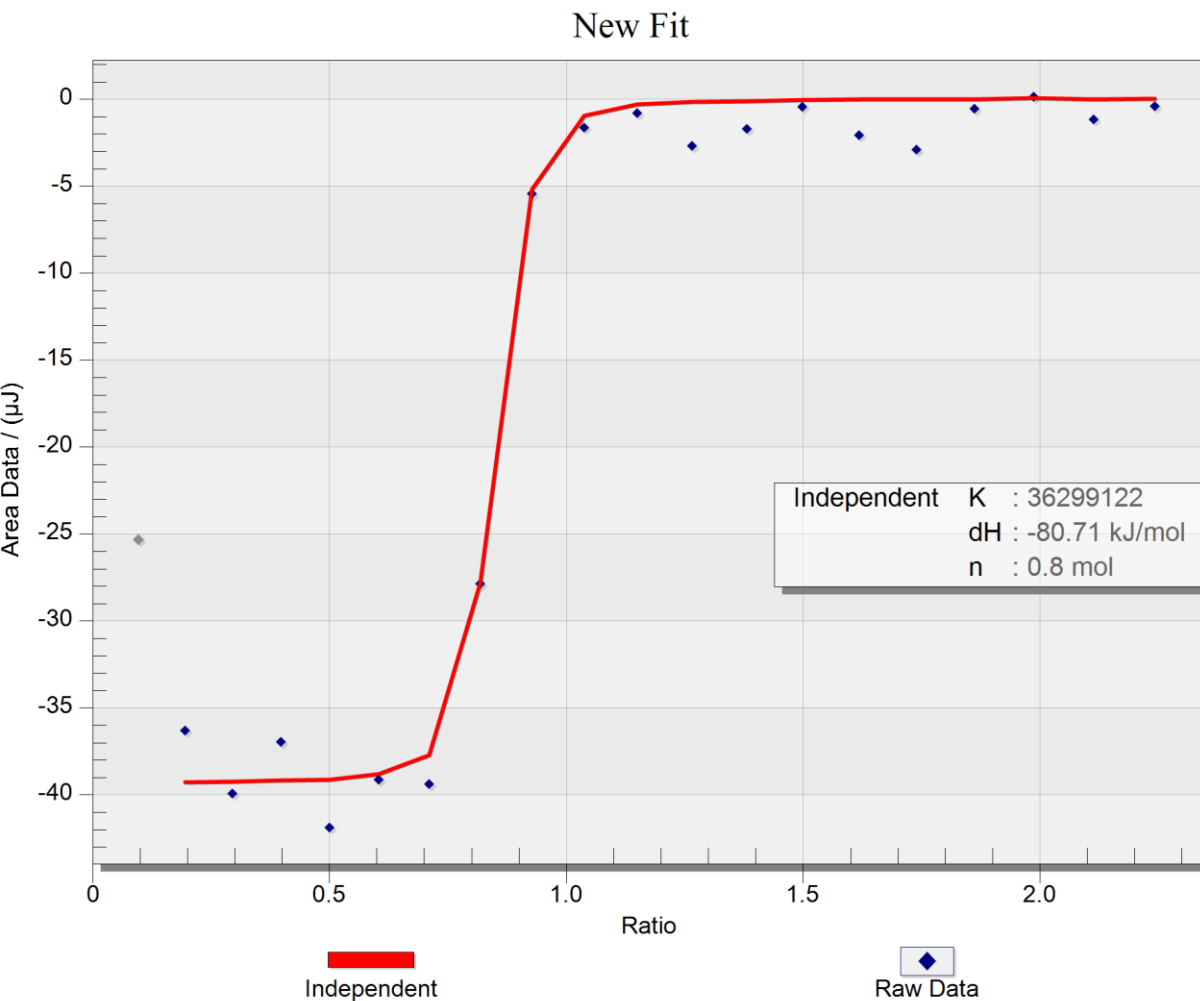


Forward Titration:  
 $\Delta H = -7.87 \text{ kJ/mol}$   
 $n = 8.17 \text{ mol}$



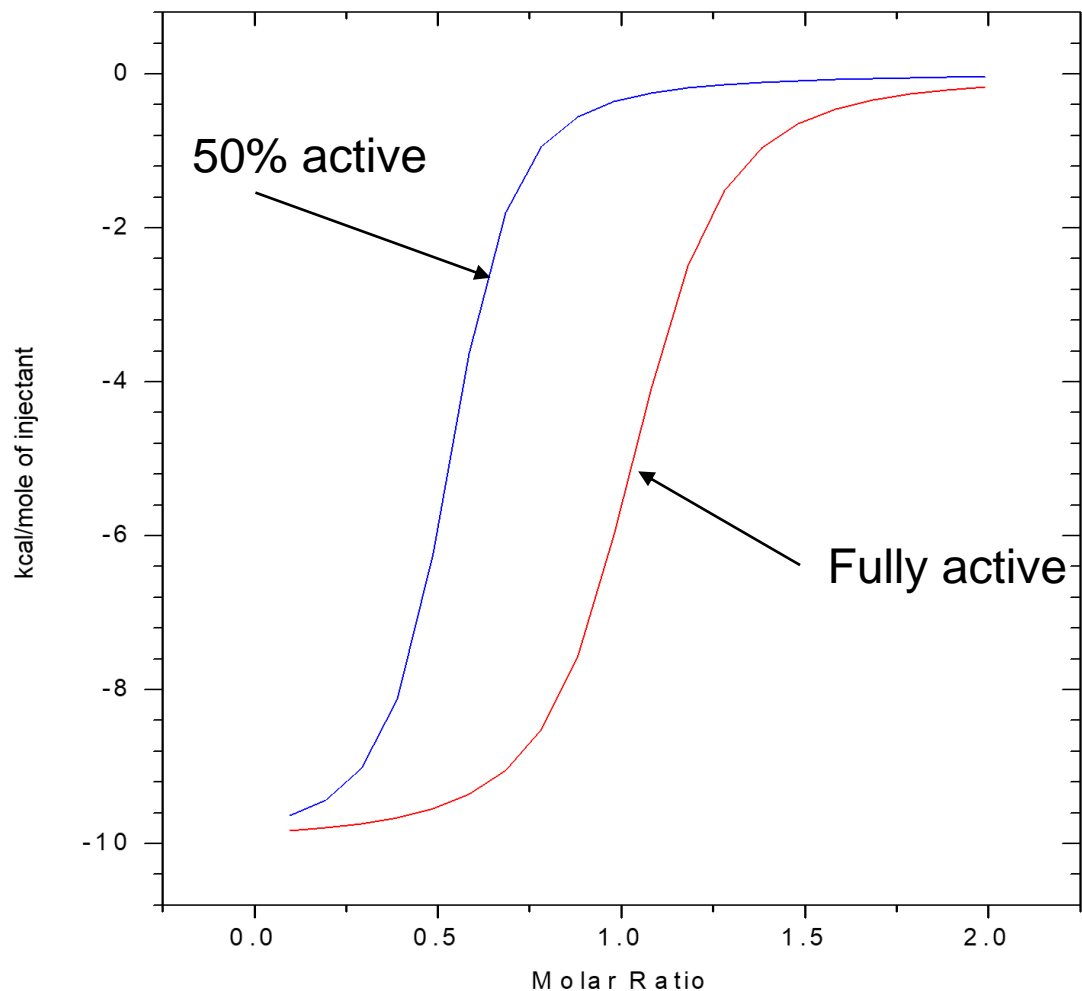
Reverse Titration: -9 µJ  
Background: -2.96 µJ  
 $\Delta H = -80.4 \text{ kJ/mol}$   
(-6 µJ/750 nmoles/injection)

# Technique 3: Utilizing the Reverse Titration



The concentration of titrant was changed to have agreement between  $\Delta H$  and unexpected stoichiometry is resolved!

# Concern with Technique 3: Quality Control



- Protein Quality
  - Anti-quinidine antibody batches compared
  - Activity of antibodies immobilized on metal beads quantitatively measured

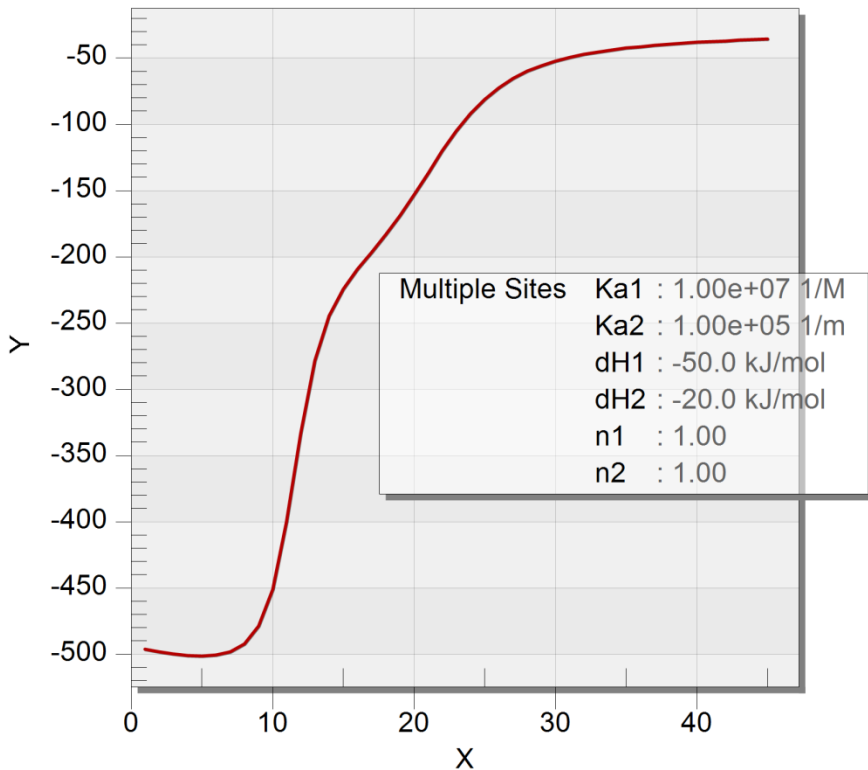
# Technique 3: Utilizing the Reverse Titration: Resolution of Sequential Events

- Another important use of this method is when the forward titration contains multiple chemical events.
- Titrating ligand into the macromolecule leads to an initial chemical environment where the macromolecule is in excess and higher order complexes ( $LM_n$ ) may form.
- If the overall binding constant,  $\beta$ ,  $\gg$  individual  $K$  values, it may not be possible to drive the concentration of ligand high enough to break up this complex.
- Conducting the reverse titration ( $M \rightarrow L$ ), the ligand is originally in excess and sequential binding of macromolecule is expected
  - if  $K_{n+1} \gg K_n$ , it is still possible that the individual species in the sequential process will not be observed.

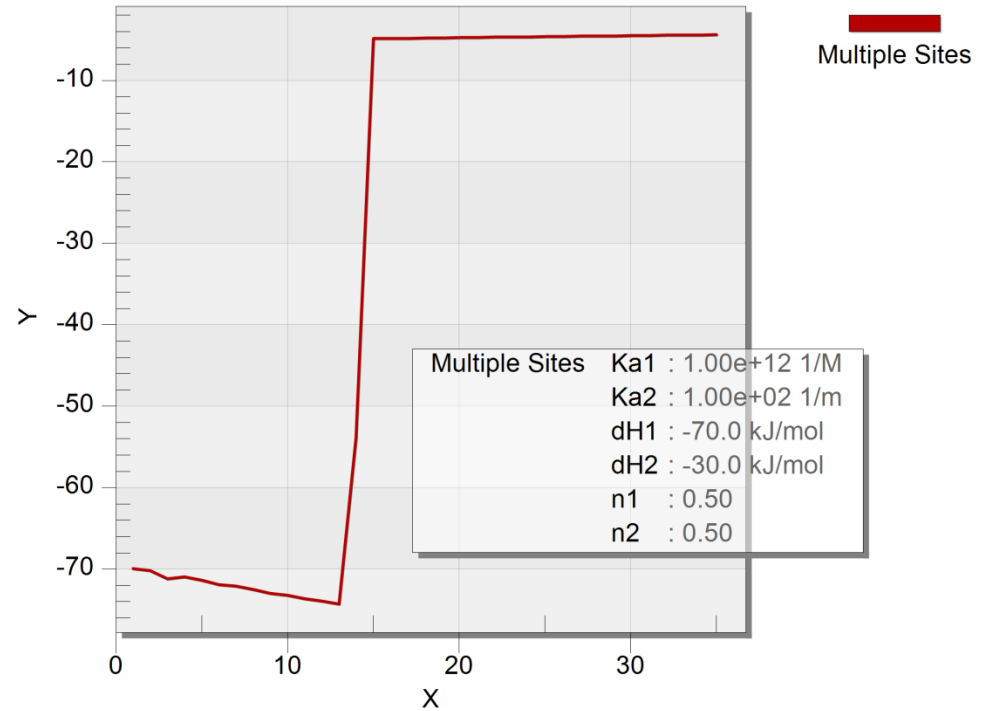


# Reverse Titration

M → L  
Final M<sub>2</sub>L



L → M



Here,  $K_{a1}$  is the  $\beta$   
 $K_{a2}$  is the dissociation of M<sub>2</sub>L  
and formation of ML

# Technique 3: Utilizing the Reverse Titration

## Recap

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- The reverse titration can be used when the stoichiometry is unexpected or when the stoichiometry is well-defined.

# Linked Equilibria

## Origin of the heat

$$\Delta q_{\text{measured}} = \Delta q_{\text{binding}} + \Delta q_{\text{dilution}} + \Delta q_{\text{injection}} + \Delta q_{\text{other}}$$

Observed enthalpy of ligand-binding is given by:

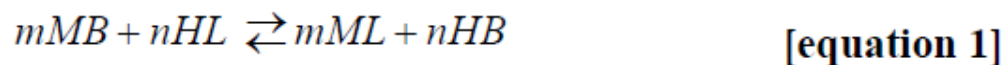
No Proton Uptake →  $\Delta H_{\text{obs}} = \Delta H_{\text{int}}$  (Buffer-independent)

Proton Uptake →  $\Delta H_{\text{obs}} = \Delta H_{\text{int}} + \Delta m \cdot \Delta H_{\text{ion}}$  (Buffer-dependent)

where  $\Delta H_{\text{obs}}$  = Observed enthalpy  
 $\Delta H_{\text{int}}$  = Intrinsic enthalpy due solely to ligand binding  
 $\Delta H_{\text{ion}}$  = Ionization enthalpy of the reaction buffer  
 $\Delta m$  = Number of protons exchanged

# Technique 4: Quantifying Protons Released

Data analysis begins by listing the components that make up the overall binding enthalpy,  $\Delta H_{ITC}$ , which comes from fitting the data (equation 1).



Reaction	Enthalpic Designation
$mM + L \rightleftharpoons mML$	$m \Delta H_{ML}, K_{ML}^m$
$mMB \rightleftharpoons mM + B$	$-m\Delta H_{MB}, K_{MB}^{-m}$
$n(H + B \rightleftharpoons HB)$	$n\Delta H_{HB}, K_{HB}^n$
$H_nL \rightleftharpoons L + nH$	$-n\Delta H_{HL}, K_{HL}^{-n}$

**Scheme 1. Set of coupled reactions for a metal (M) binding a ligand (L);  $m$  is the number of metals that bind the ligand and  $n$  is the number of protons that are released for this binding process.**

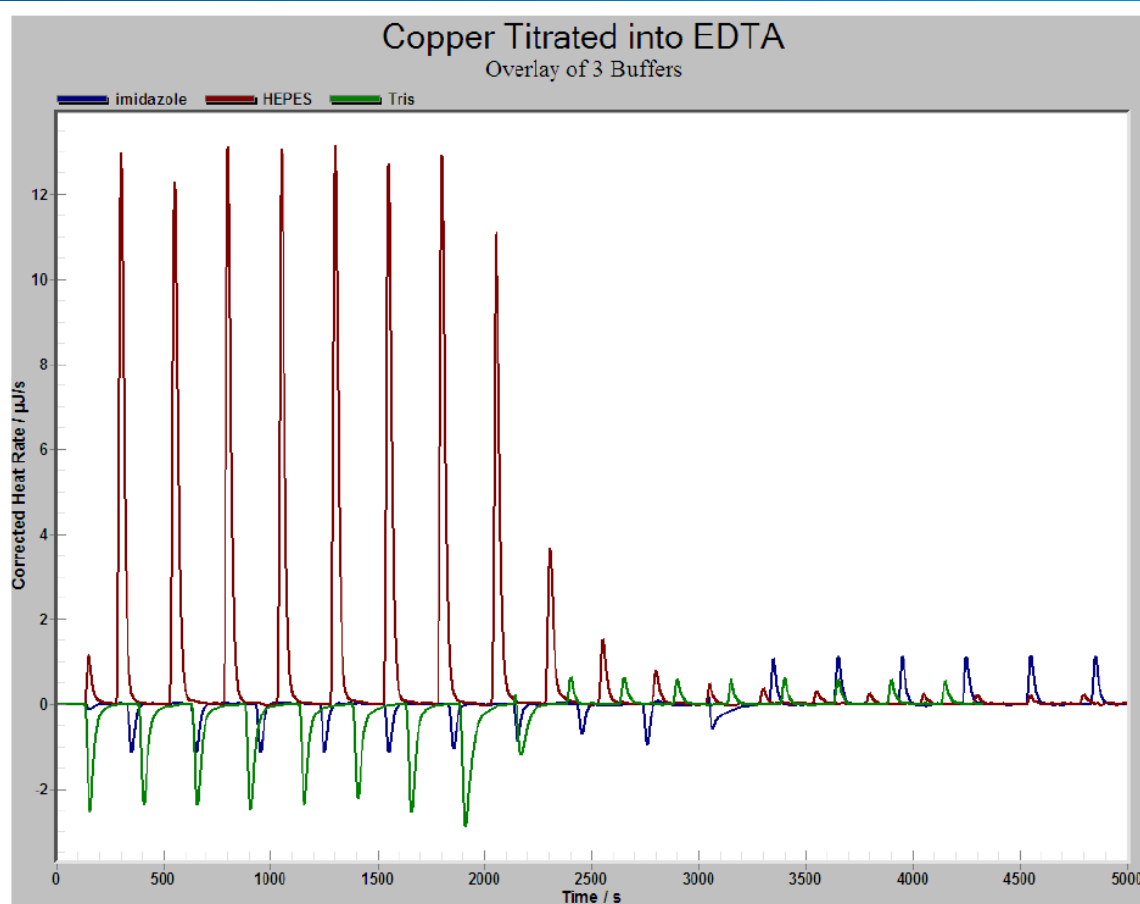
# Technique 4: Quantifying Protons Released

$$\Delta H_{ITC} = \Delta H_{M-EDTA} + n_3 \Delta H_{H-Buffer} - \Delta H_{M-Buffer} - n_1 \Delta H_{H-EDTA} - n_2 \Delta H_{H_2-EDTA}$$

Protons released,  $n_1$ ,  $n_2$  and  $n_3$ , take into consideration the percentage of each species in solution, where  $n_3 = n_1 + n_2$ , which depends on the  $pK_a$ 's of EDTA.

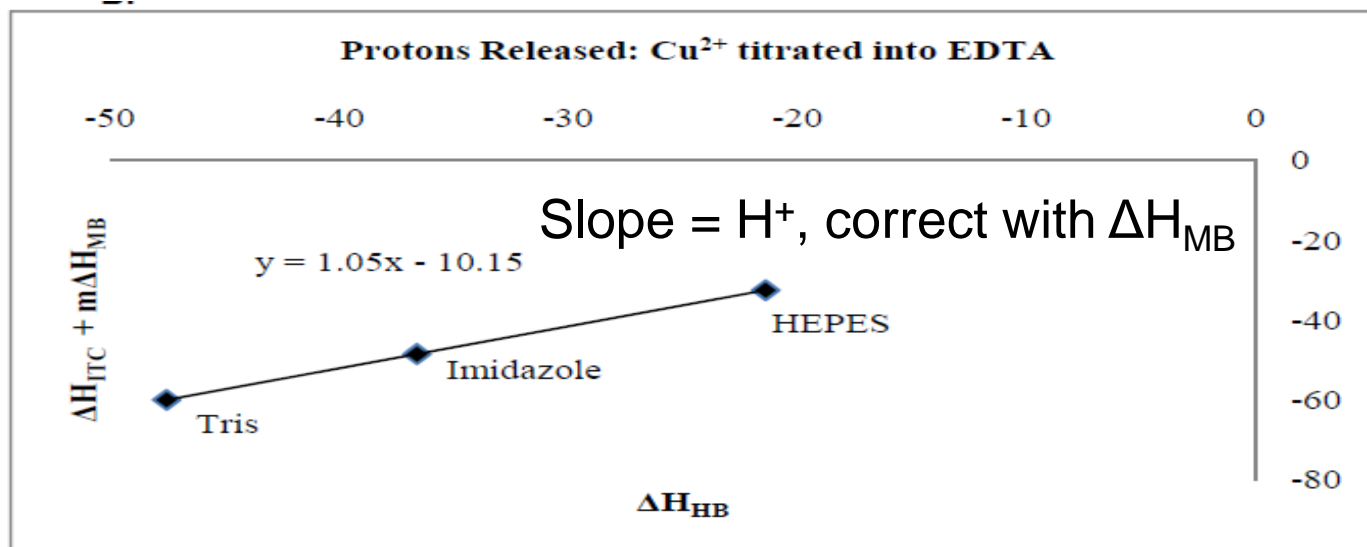
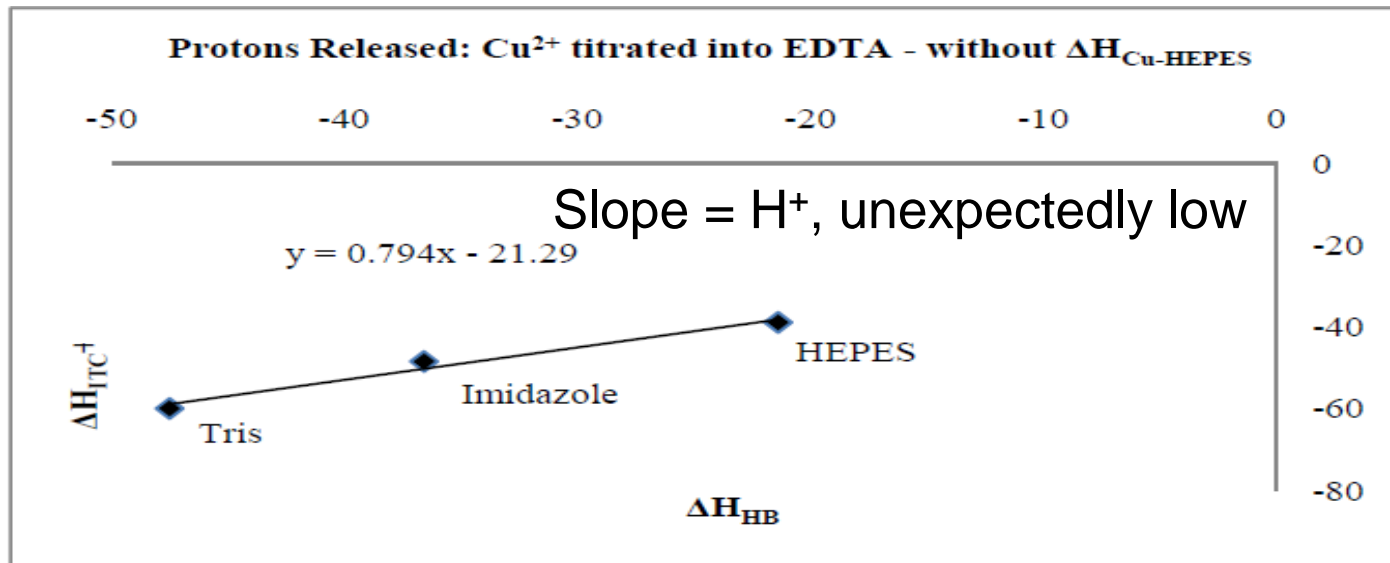
<i>Reaction</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>ΔH (kJ/mol)</i>
$Cu^{2+} + EDTA^{4-} \rightleftharpoons CuEDTA^{2-}$	1	-34 (5)
$EDTAH^{3-} \rightleftharpoons EDTA^{4-} + H^+$	0.95	-23 (5)
$EDTAH_2^{2-} \rightleftharpoons EDTA^{4-} + 2H^+$	0.05	-40 (5)
$CuBuffer^{2+} \rightleftharpoons Cu^{2+} + Buffer$	1	?
$HBuffer^+ \rightleftharpoons H^+ + Buffer$	1.05	NIST(5)

# Technique 4: Quantifying Protons Released



$$\Delta H_{ITC} + \Delta H_{M-Buffer} = n_3 * \Delta H_{H-Buffer} + (\Delta H_{M-EDTA} n_1 * \Delta H_{H-EDTA} - n_2 * \Delta H_{H_2-EDTA})$$

# Technique 4: Quantifying Protons Released:

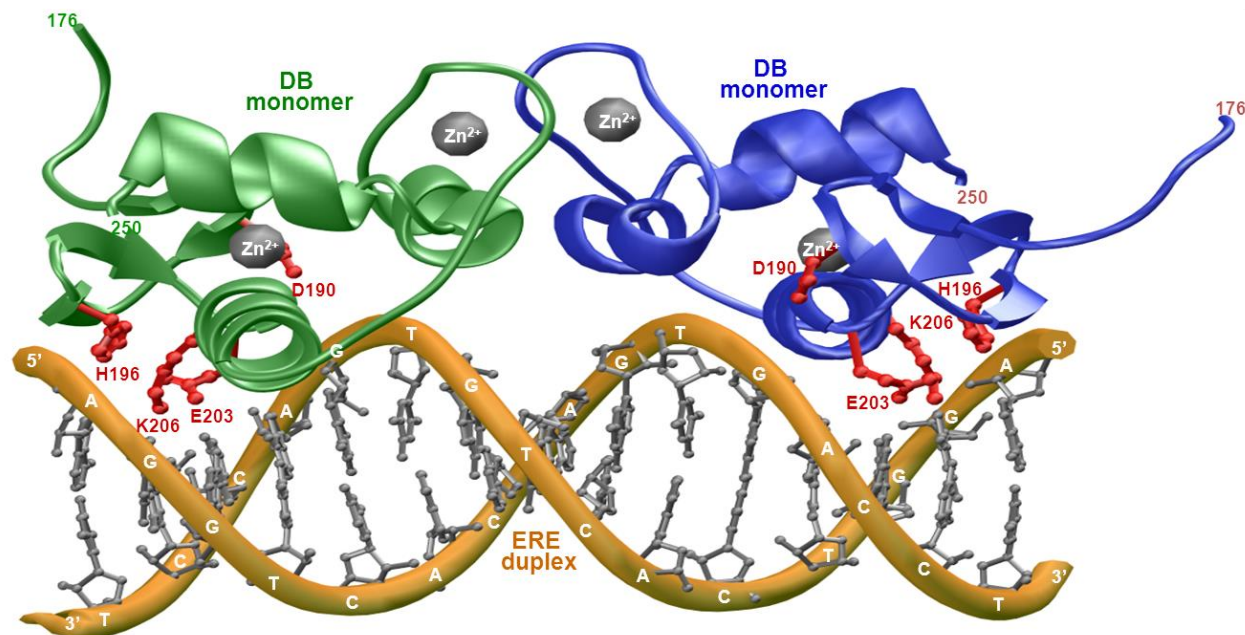


# Technique 4: Quantifying Protons Released

- For many systems plotting  $\Delta H_{\text{H-Buffer}}$  v.  $\Delta H_{\text{ITC}}$  will provide the number of protons released.
  - If the ligand has additional chemistry with the buffer, then this needs to be considered.
- Systems with secondary chemistry occurring require more consideration.
- In order to determine which method is correct for your system, write down all possible chemistry occurring in the reaction cell.



# Technique 5: Buffer Independency and Linked Equilibria



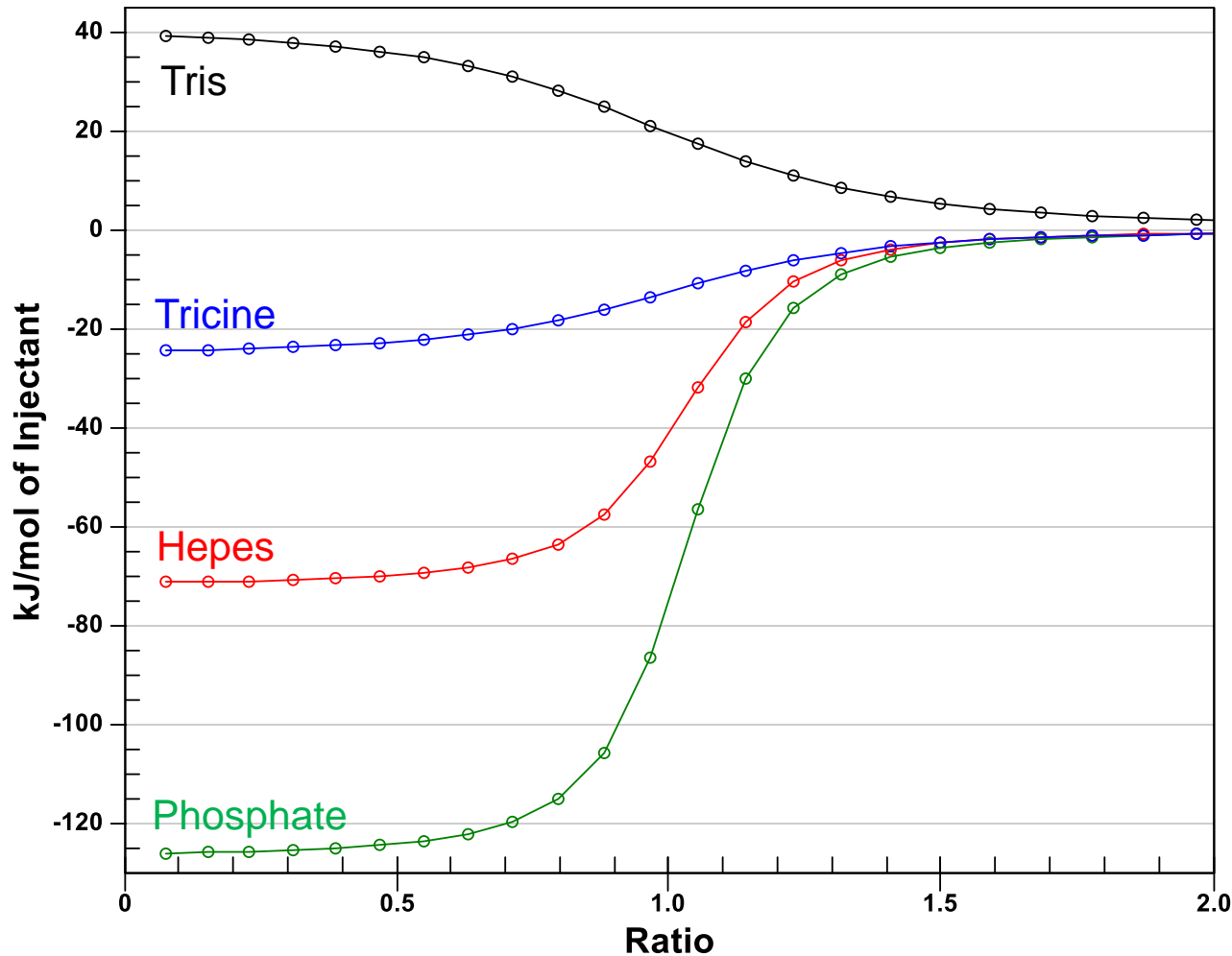
Binding of ER $\alpha$  to DNA is coupled to proton uptake at H196 and E203

Macromolecular interactions are often coupled to linked equilibria such as:

- (1) Folding/Unfolding
- (2) Oligomerization/Dissociation
- (3) Counterion release
- (4) Protonation

# Technique 5: Buffer Independent Enthalpic Values and Protons Released

Binding of ER $\alpha$  to DNA in various buffers analyzed by ITC:



# Technique 5: Buffer Independent Enthalpic Values and Protons Released

Binding of ER $\alpha$  to DNA in various buffers analyzed by ITC:

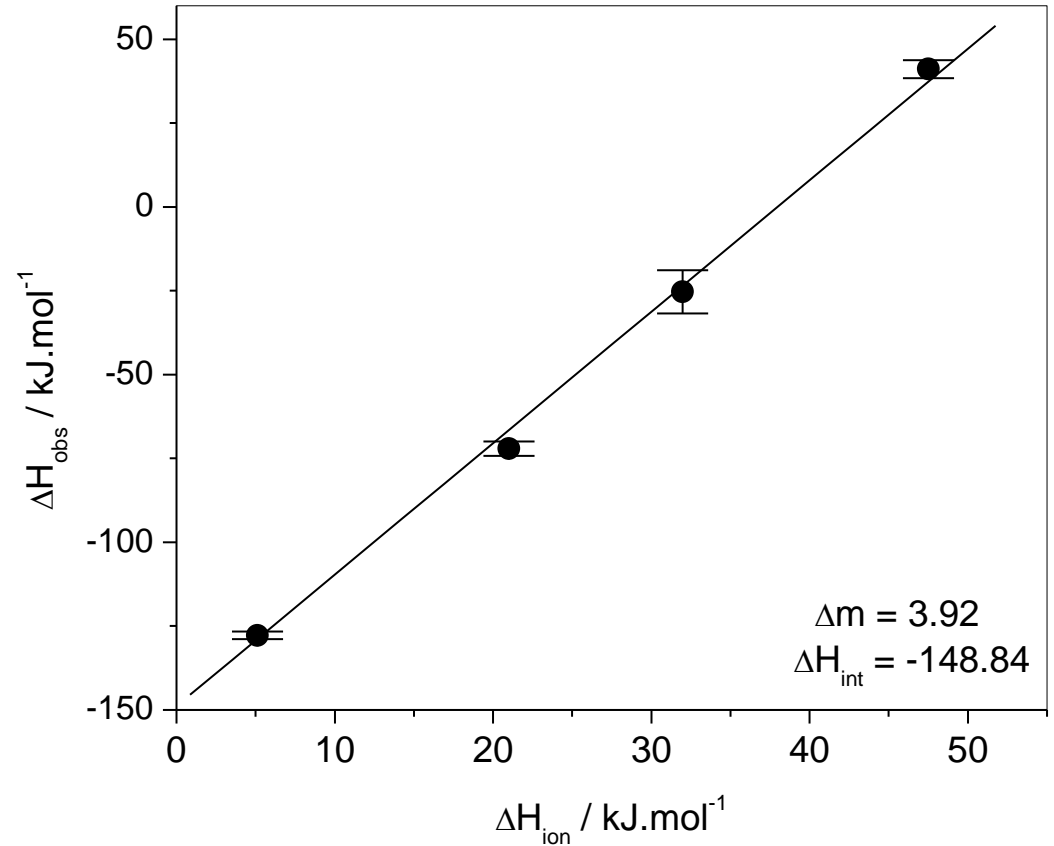
Binding enthalpy is given by:

$$\Delta H_{\text{obs}} = \Delta H_{\text{int}} + \Delta m \cdot \Delta H_{\text{ion}}$$

A plot of  $\Delta H_{\text{obs}}$  vs  $\Delta H_{\text{ion}}$  is a straight line:

Slope =  $\Delta m$

Y-intercept =  $\Delta H_{\text{int}}$



# Technique 6: ITC and Linked Equilibria (Counterion Release)

Electrostatically charged macromolecules such as DNA do not “swim” freely in solution but the negatively charged phosphate backbones are tightly shielded with cations so as to neutralize the net charge close to zero

Such cations are referred to as “counterions” → Green spheres

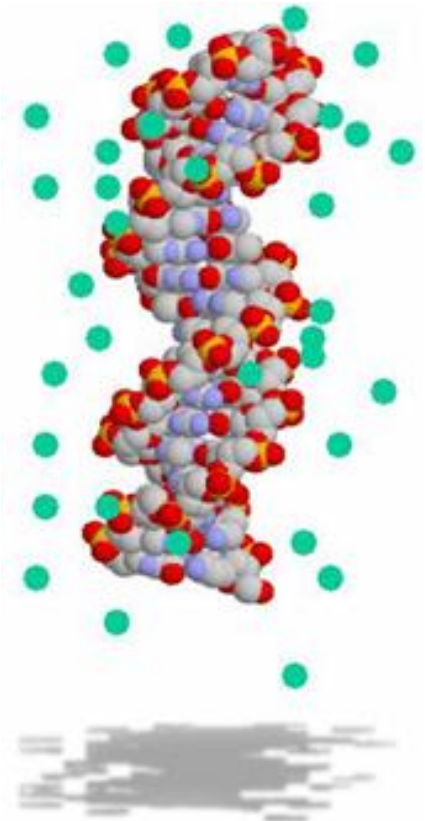
Upon binding to a target protein, the counterions are displaced from the DNA backbone in an entropically-favorable manner

Such release of counterions provides a major contribution to the free energy ( $\Delta G$ ) associated with protein-DNA interactions

How can we determine the contribution due to the counterion displacement ( $\Delta G_{\text{ion}}$ ) to the overall  $\Delta G$  for protein-DNA interactions?

Knowledge of  $\Delta G_{\text{ion}}$  sheds key thermodynamic insights into the role of ionic interactions driving protein-DNA interactions

Additionally, comparison of  $\Delta G_{\text{ion}}$  for the binding of a transcription factor to different gene promoters may provide insights into the differential binding at atomic level



# Technique 6: ITC and Linked Equilibria (Counterion Release)

Free energy change ( $\Delta G$ ) upon ligand binding can be dissected into two major constituent components by the following relationship:

$$\Delta G = \Delta G_{\text{lig}} + \Delta G_{\text{ion}} = RT \ln K_d$$

where  $\Delta G_{\text{lig}}$  is the contribution due to direct ligand binding and  $\Delta G_{\text{ion}}$  is the contribution due to the indirect displacement of counterions upon ligand binding

$\Delta G_{\text{ion}}$  at a given NaCl concentration can be calculated from the following relationship based on the polyelectrolyte theory:

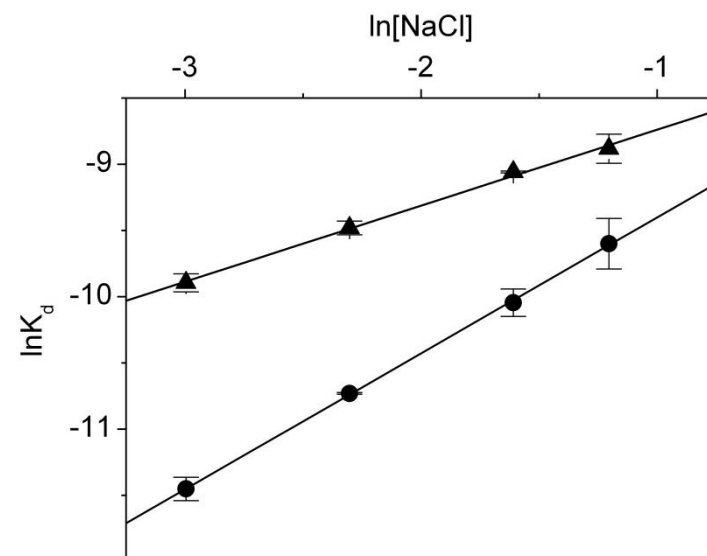
$$\Delta G_{\text{ion}} = \psi RT \ln [\text{NaCl}]$$

where  $\psi$  is the fractional degree of net counterions displaced upon ligand binding

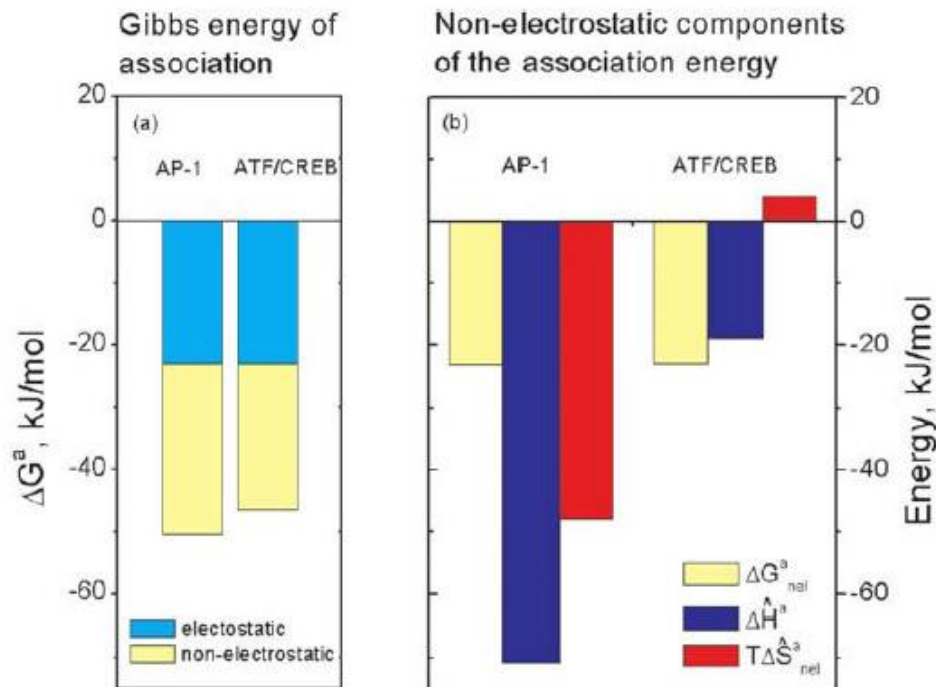
$\psi$  can be calculated from the slope of a plot of  $\ln K_d$  versus  $\ln [\text{NaCl}]$  assuming the following linear relationship based on thermodynamic linkage:

$$\ln K_d = \psi \ln [\text{NaCl}] + \ln K_0$$

where  $\psi$  and  $\ln K_0$  are respectively the slope and the y-intercept of  $\ln K_d - \ln [\text{NaCl}]$  plot



# GCN4-bZIP Binding to DNA



- **Specificity of bZIP is due to the non-electrostatic component of the binding energy**
- **Electrostatic component is purely entropic**
- **Nonelectrostatic component has enthalpic and entropic contributions:**
  - **Changes in conformation**
  - **Dehydration**
  - **Direct protein-DNA interactions**

\* Peter L. Privalov and Anatoly I. Dragan, 2006

# Technique 6: ITC and Linked Equilibria (Heat Capacity Change)

Heat capacity change ( $\Delta C_p$ ) is a key thermodynamic parameter associated with macromolecular interactions

$\Delta C_p$  is defined as change in enthalpy ( $\Delta H$ ) per unit change in temperature ( $T$ ) as expressed by Kirchhoff's law:

$$\Delta C_p = d(\Delta H)/dT$$

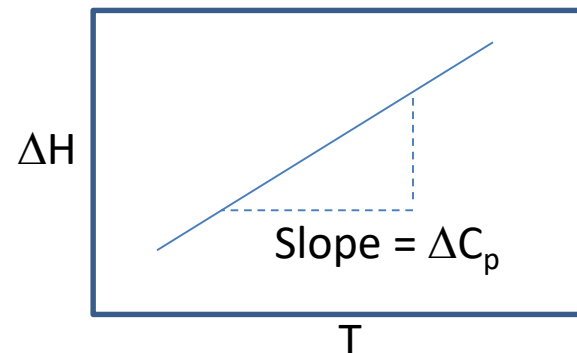
Consider the following observation:

$$C_{p(\text{water})} = 4 \times C_{p(\text{aluminum})}$$

In other words, heat needed to raise the temperature of water by  $1^\circ\text{C}$  is four times that needed for aluminum (assuming equimolar quantities of both substances)

Clearly,  $\Delta C_p$  is telling us something about the differential properties of molecular structure of these substances

For macromolecular interactions,  $\Delta C_p$  is typically determined from the slope a plot of  $\Delta H$  versus  $T$  (over the temperature range  $15\text{-}35^\circ\text{C}$ )



# Technique 6: ITC and Linked Equilibria (Heat Capacity Change)

Changes in the solvent accessible surface area (SASA) are often associated with macromolecular interactions

Knowledge of such change in SASA ( $\Delta$ SASA) can provide important structural insights into macromolecular interactions

A small value of  $\Delta$ SASA may be indicative of two macromolecules coming together in a rigid-body fashion

A large value of  $\Delta$ SASA may be indicative of structural or conformational changes associated with macromolecules

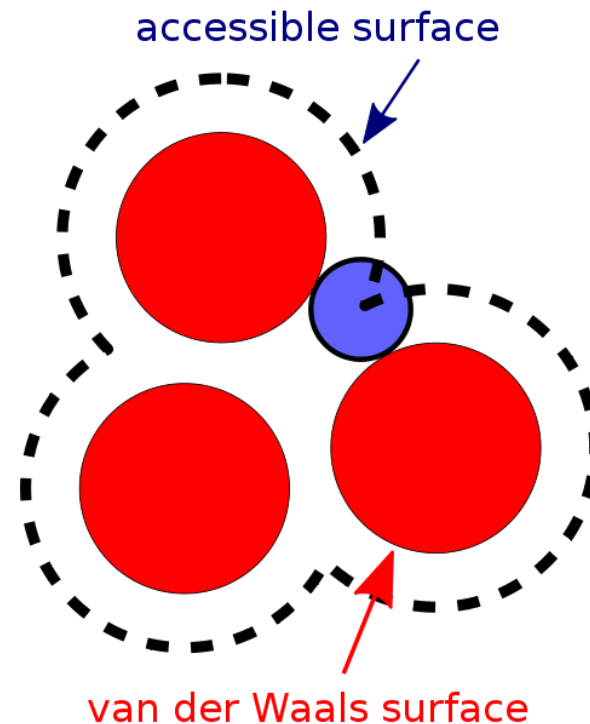
$\Delta$ SASA can be calculated from knowledge of  $\Delta C_p$  (heat capacity change) and  $\Delta H_{60}$  (enthalpy change at 60°C) by solving the following simultaneous equations for  $\Delta$ SASA<sub>polar</sub> and  $\Delta$ SASA<sub>apolar</sub>:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta C_p &= a[\Delta \text{SASA}_{\text{polar}}] + b[\Delta \text{SASA}_{\text{apolar}}] \\ \Delta H_{60} &= c[\Delta \text{SASA}_{\text{polar}}] + d[\Delta \text{SASA}_{\text{apolar}}]\end{aligned}$$

where a, b, c and d are semi-empirically determined co-efficients

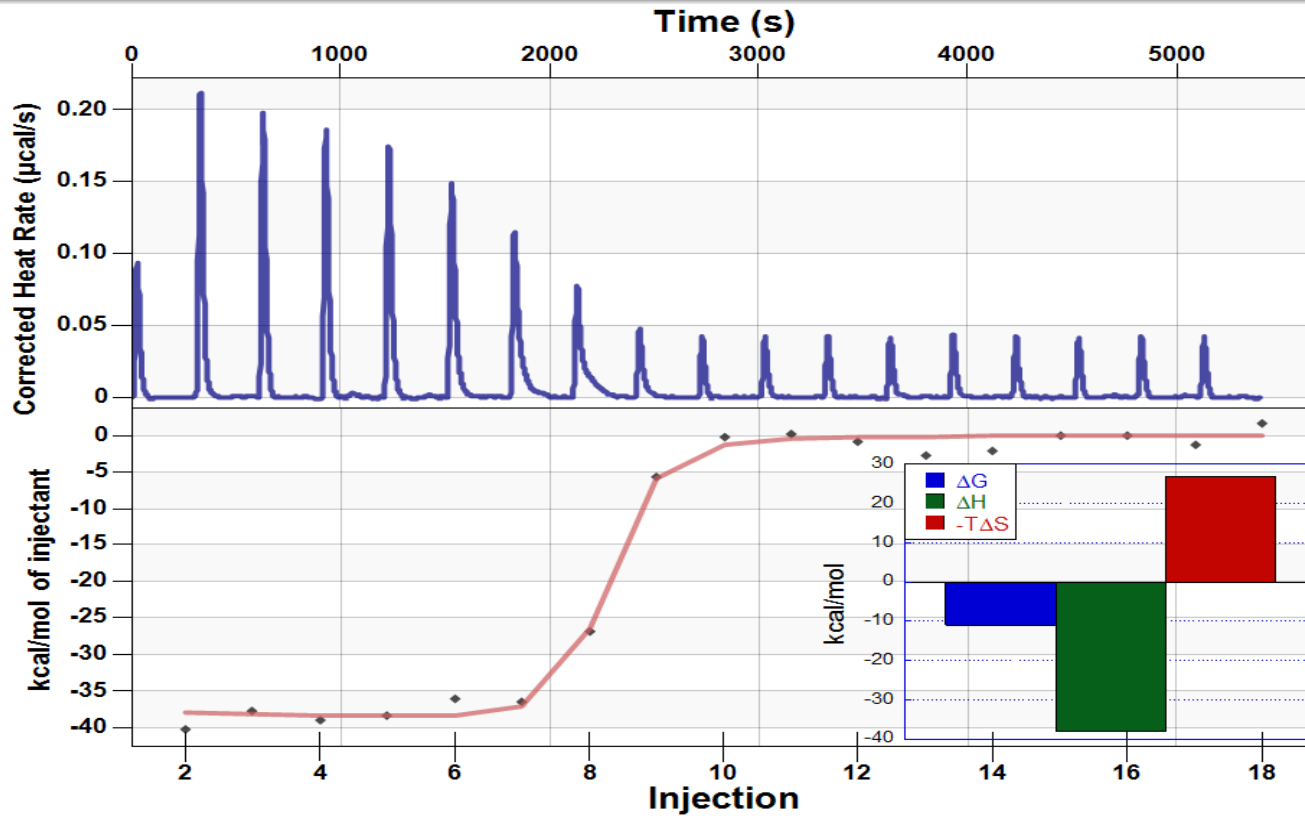
## **But Beware!**

Anomalously large changes in  $\Delta C_p$  can also result from linked equilibria such as protonation and entrapment of water molecules within interfacial cavities upon macromolecular associations



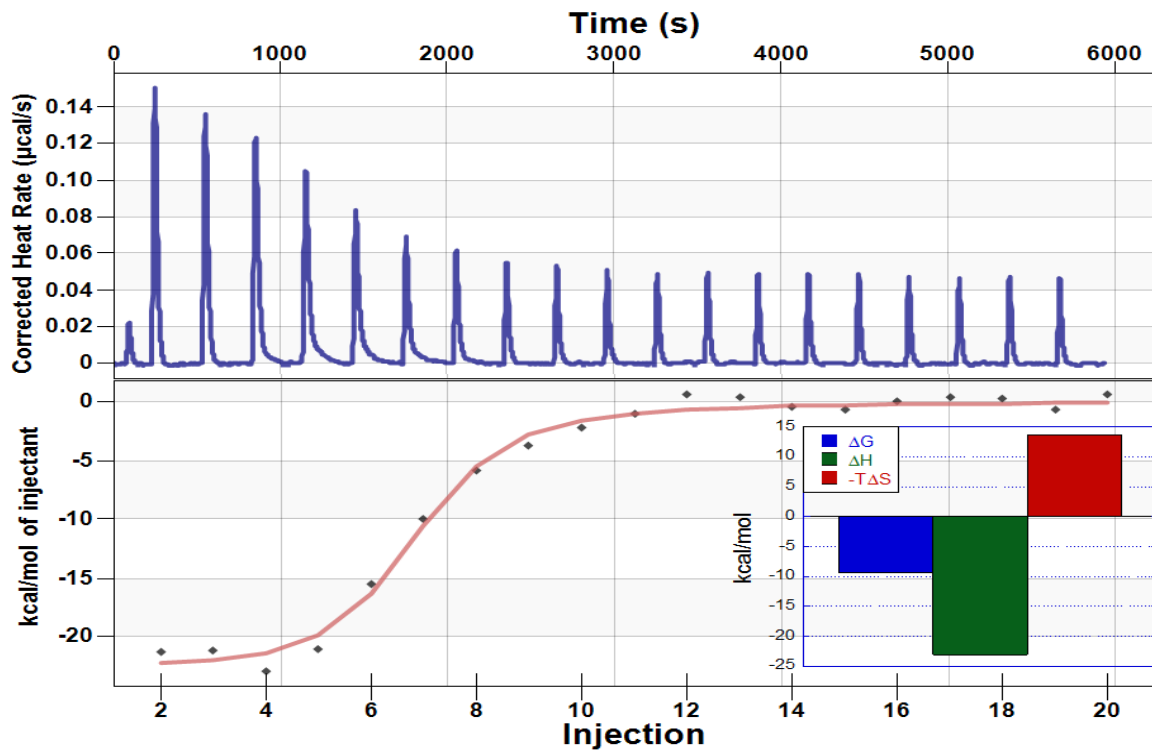


# Technique 7: Screening Protein-Protein Inhibitors



- Titration of sCD4 into gp120 using Nano ITC LV
- $K_a = 1.2 \times 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1}$  ;  $K_d = 1/K_a$  of 8.3 nM
- Binding enthalpy,  $\Delta H$ , is -38.0 kcal/mol
- Entropy contribution to the binding Gibbs energy = 27.0 kcal/mol (1 cal = 4.184 joules)

# Technique 7: Screening Protein-Protein Inhibitors



$$A = K_{app}/K_a$$

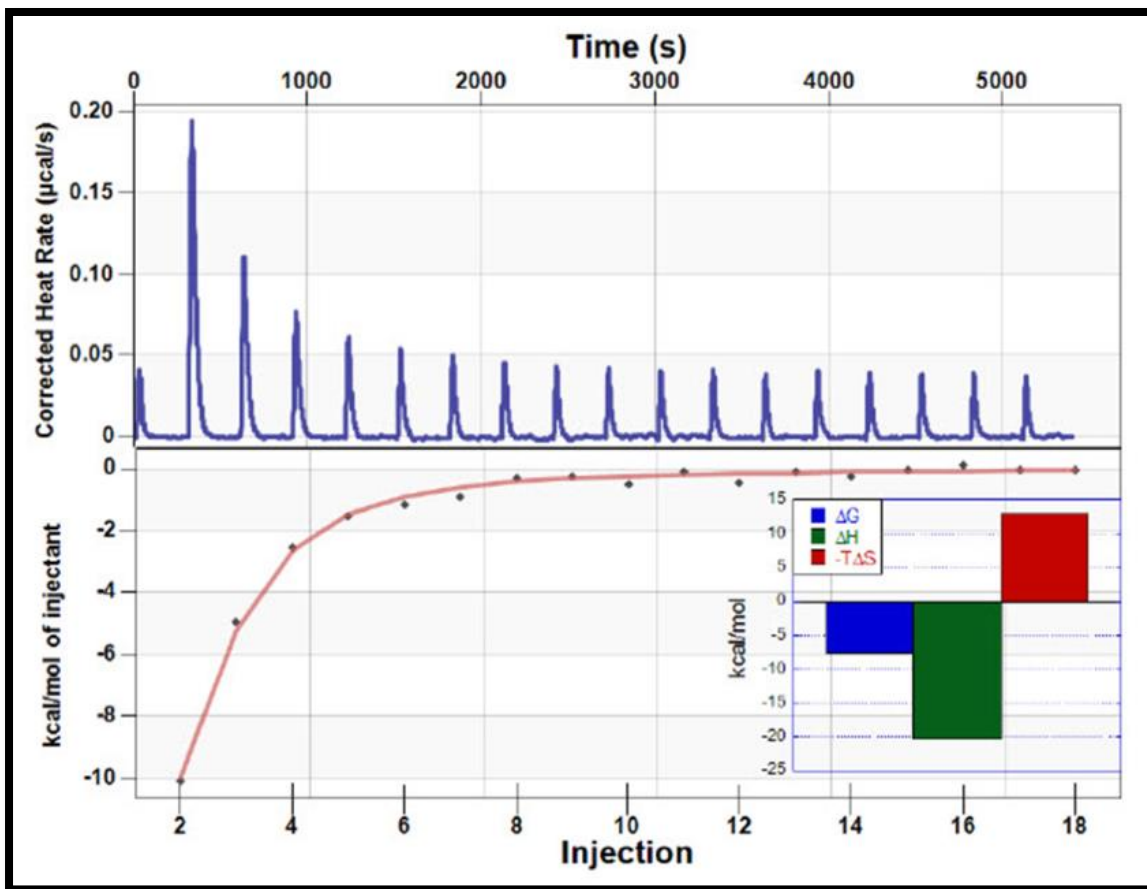
$$A = 0.064$$

- Titration of sCD4 into gp120 + 200µM of NBD-556, (MW = 337.84); low affinity sCD4/gp120 inhibitor
- $K_{app} = 7.7 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1}$  ;  $K_{d,app} = 1/K_{app}$  of 130 nM
- Apparent binding enthalpy = -23.0 kcal/mol
- Apparent entropy contribution to binding is 13.6 kcal/mol

# Technique 7: Screening Protein-Protein Inhibitors

- The magnitude of the decrease can be expressed in terms of the ratio  $A = K_{app}/K_a$ .
- If  $A = 1$ , then the compound has no effect on the protein/protein interaction.
- If  $A < 1$ , then the compound has an inhibitory effect.
- If all the compounds are screened at the same concentration, then the parameter  $A$  suffices to rank them in terms of their inhibitory potency.
- If a compound is found that exhibits an  $A$  value greater than one. This compound actually increases the binding affinity acting as an agonist of the protein/protein interaction.

# Technique 7: Screening Protein-Protein Inhibitors



- Titration of 300 μM NBD-556 into 5 μM gp120
- $K_I = 3.3 \times 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1}$  ;  
 $K_{d,I} = 1/K_I$  of 3.0 μM
- Binding enthalpy = -20.4 kcal/mol ;
- Entropy contribution to binding = 12.9 kcal/mol

$$\beta = \frac{A(1+K_I[I]) - 1}{K_I[I]}$$

β value = 0.05

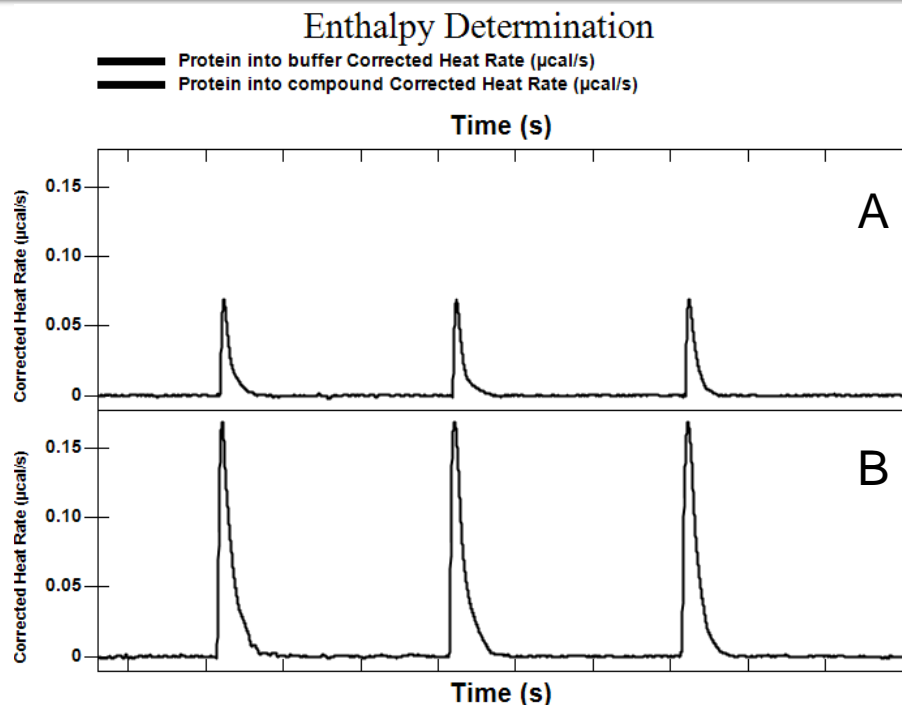
# Technique 7: Screening Protein-Protein Inhibitors

- If  $\beta = 0$ , the inhibitor is absolutely competitive, i.e. either the inhibitor or the protein is bound but not both
- 
- If  $\beta = 1$  the compound does not affect the binding affinity of the protein.
- For small molecular weight compounds  $\beta$  can assume a value between 0 and 1. The presence of the small molecule can be thought of as a mutation that lowers the affinity but not abolishes the binding of the protein for its partner.
- The parameter  $\beta$  can be calculated from the ITC data

# Technique 7: Screening Protein-Protein Inhibitors

- NBD-556 is characterized by ITC as a moderately competitive inhibitor
- The optimization of protein/protein inhibitors requires maximization of the binding affinity and modulation of the degree of competitiveness,  $\beta$ . (0.05)
- This guides the development of more or less competitive inhibitors according to the specific design needs.
- Due to the large size of the protein/protein binding footprint when compared to the size of a ~500 MW molecule, inhibitor optimization also requires tracking of the degree of competitiveness since binding affinity alone does not reflect inhibitor potency.
- ITC has unique ability to guide the optimization of protein/protein inhibitors

# Technique 8: Enthalpy Screen



Data courtesy of E. Freire & P. Ross: Johns Hopkins University

With Nano-ITC LV:

(A) protein into buffer ( $Q_B$ )

(B) protein into compound ( $Q_P$ )

Injections: 2.02  $\mu\text{L}$  into 170  $\mu\text{L}$

$$\Delta H = \frac{Q_P - Q_B}{\text{mols}_P}$$

Injection #	$Q_P$ ( $\mu\text{cal}$ )	$Q_B$ ( $\mu\text{cal}$ )	$\Delta H$ (Kcal/mol)	$\frac{Q_P - Q_B}{Q_P}$
1	-15.85	-4.55	-2.33	71%
2	-15.92	-4.49	-2.36	72%
3	-15.93	-4.71	-2.31	70%

# The data has been fitted, now what?

---

Consider what contributes to enthalpy and entropy.

## Entropy

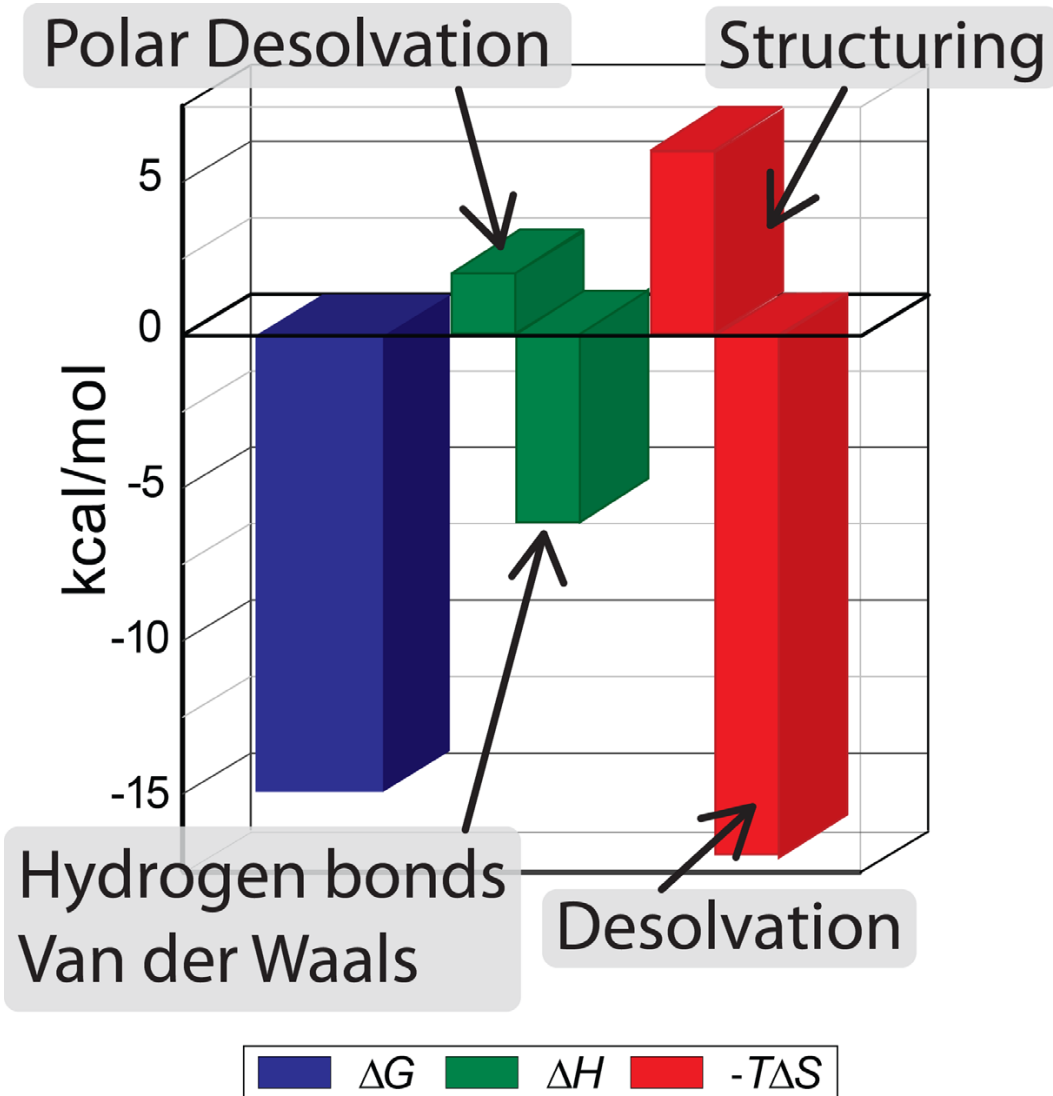
- Hydrophobic interactions
- Solvation entropy due to release of water (favorable)

## Enthalpy

- Directly associated to number and strength of H-bonds broken or formed
- Choice of solvent important



# Different Contributions to Binding

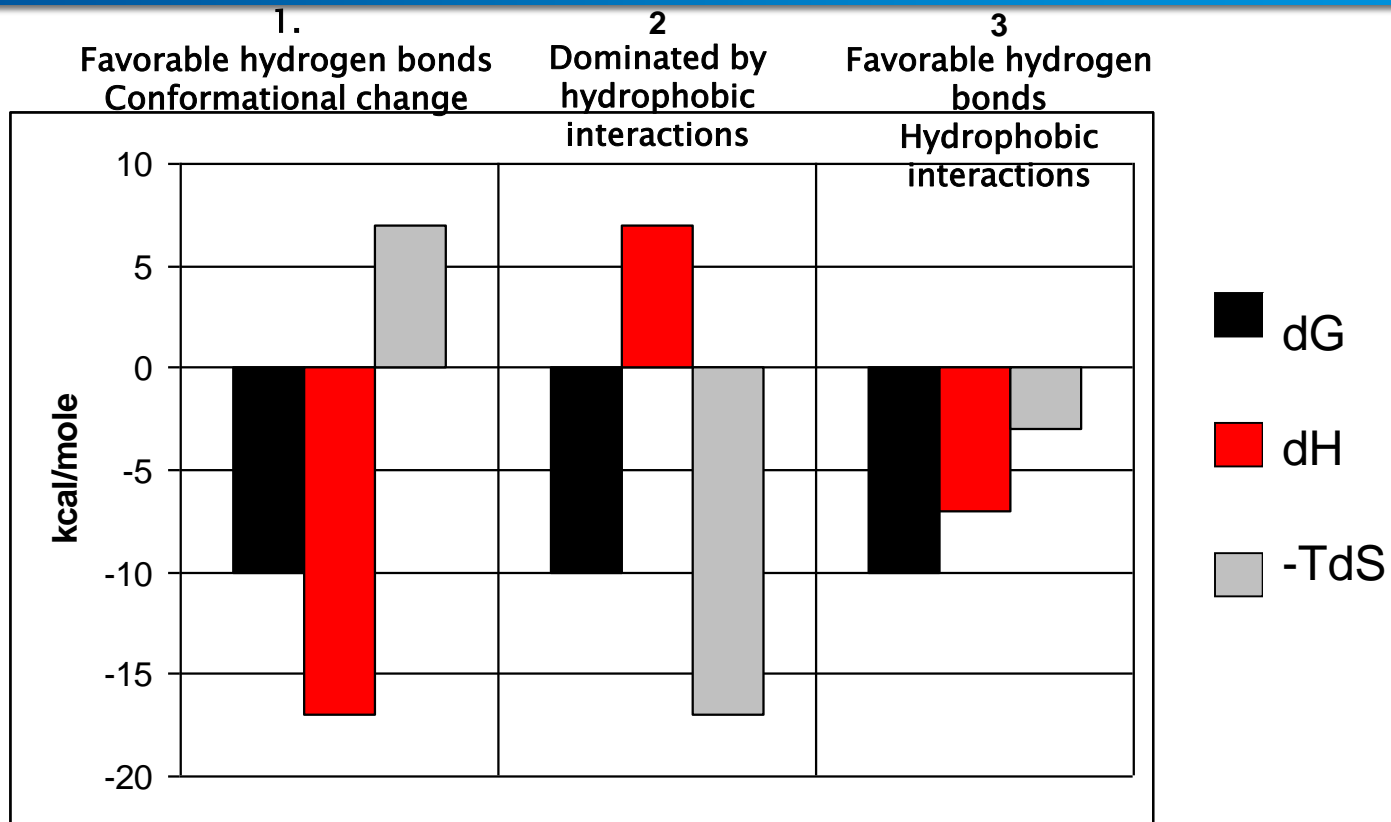


Remember

$$\Delta G = -RT \ln K_a$$

$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$$

# Assigning “Why”



## Entropy

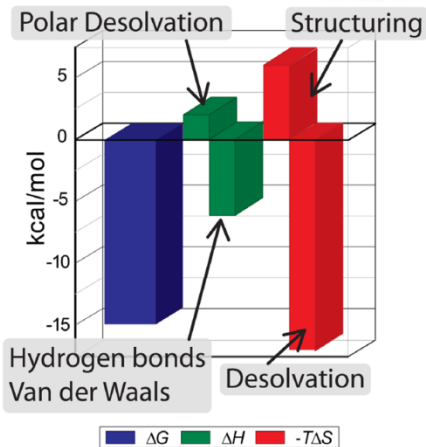
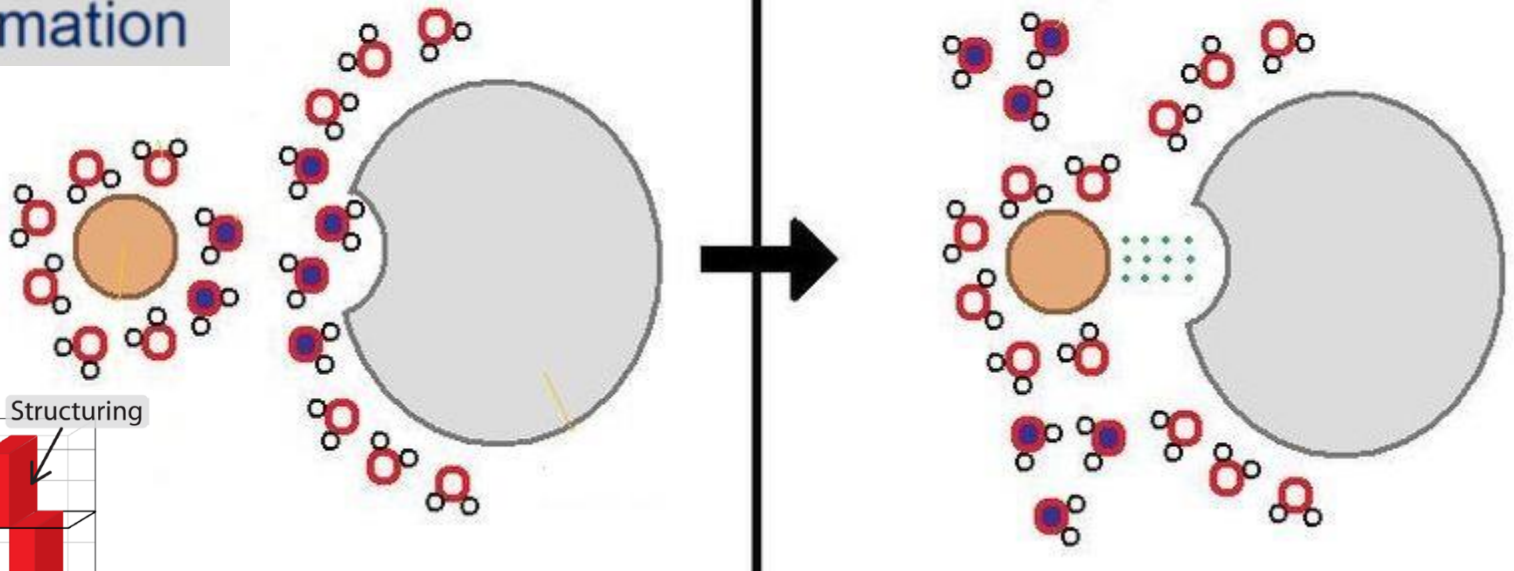
- Hydrophobic interactions
- Solvation entropy due to release of water (favorable)

## Enthalpy

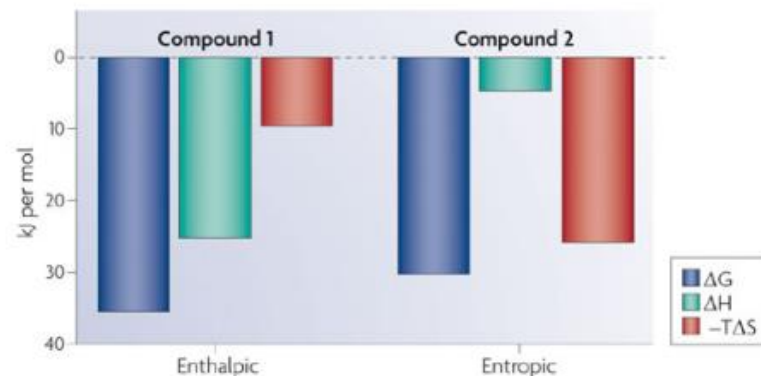
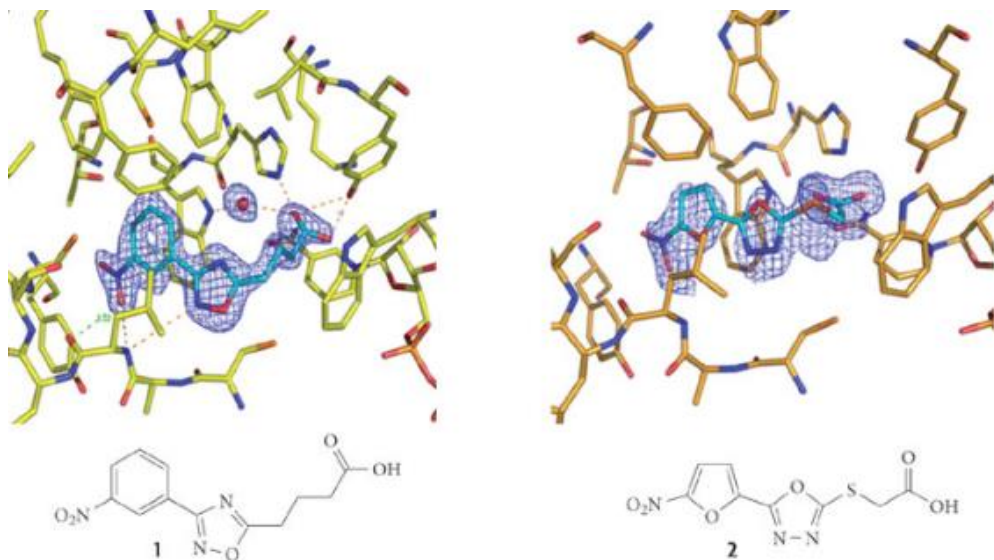
- Directly associated to number and strength of H-bonds broken or formed
- Choice of solvent important

# Enthalpy and Entropy “describe binding”

- Desolvation
- H-Bonds
- Van der Waals
- Conformation



# Example of how Enthalpy and Entropy “describe binding”



Ladbury, Klebe, Freire. *Nature Reviews*. 2010. Vol 9, pp 23-27

$\Delta G/K_a$  is similar.

1.  $\Delta H$  is 5x greater for compound 1.

Why?

Compound 1: H-bonding of water in pocket.

Compound 2:  $\Delta H$  penalty because of polar desolvation

2. Entropy is more favored for compound 2.

Why?

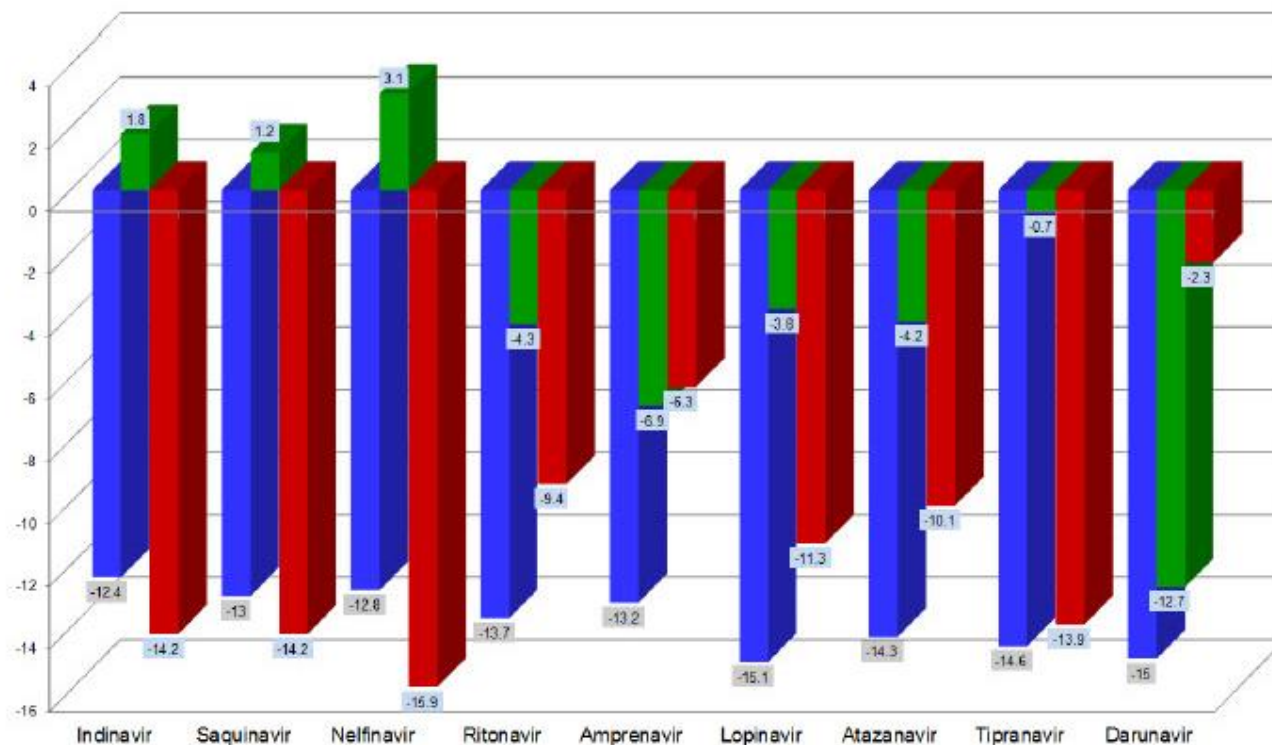
Compound 1 requires structuring

Compound 2 more desolvation

# ITC: Biopharmaceutical Characterization

## All FDA-Approved HIV-1 Protease Inhibitors

$\Delta G$   $\Delta H$   $-\Delta S$



$\Delta H$  = Specificity

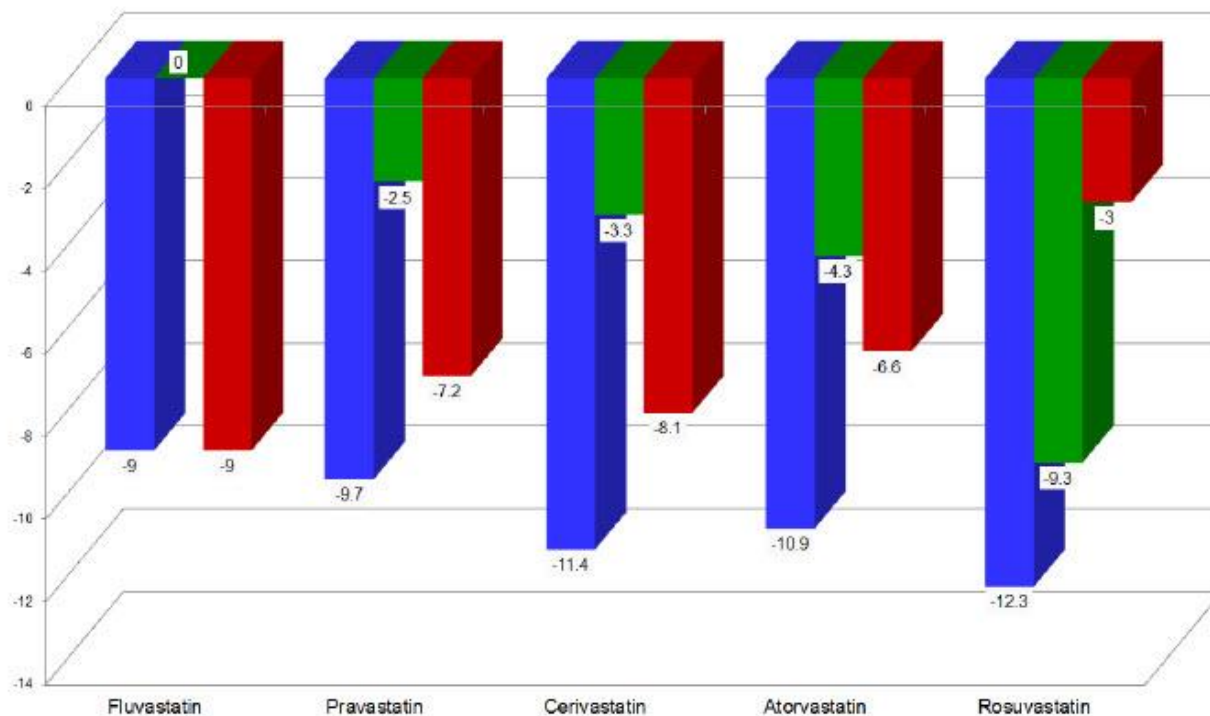
12 Years

Freire, E. (2008) Drug Discovery Today 13, 869-874

# ITC: Biopharmaceutical Characterization

## Thermodynamic Signature of Statins

$\Delta G$   $\Delta H$   $-T\Delta S$



Over time  
statin drugs  
have also  
had less  
side-effects –  
correlation?

Freire, E. (2008) Drug Discovery Today 13, 869-874

**Questions?**



**Obtaining meaningful ITC binding data:  
NanoAnalyze Experiment Design**

**NanoAnalyze Experiment Design - Demonstration**





---

# Experiment Setup

# Obtaining Meaningful ITC Binding Results: Choosing Correct Concentrations

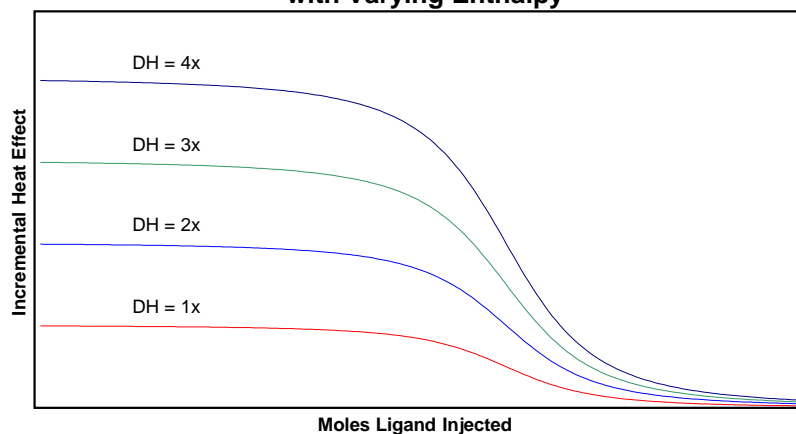
- Choosing correct ligand and receptor concentrations requires an estimate of stoichiometry and  $K_a$ , often from spectroscopic measurements. ITC is then used to determine  $K_a$  accurately
  - Weak binding (low  $K_a$ ) – may be limited by concentration
    - may use multiple syringes and combine results
  - Strong binding (high  $K_a$ )
    - minimize concentration or injection volume
    - try competitive binding (displacement) experiment
- Use Experiment Design module to alter  $K_a$ , binding model, stoichiometry and concentrations, and see the effect on the binding curve. Requires ‘best guess’ inputs of stoichiometry,  $K_a$  and binding model
- Unsure about the parameters – NanoAnalyze Experiment Design

# Obtaining Meaningful ITC Binding Results

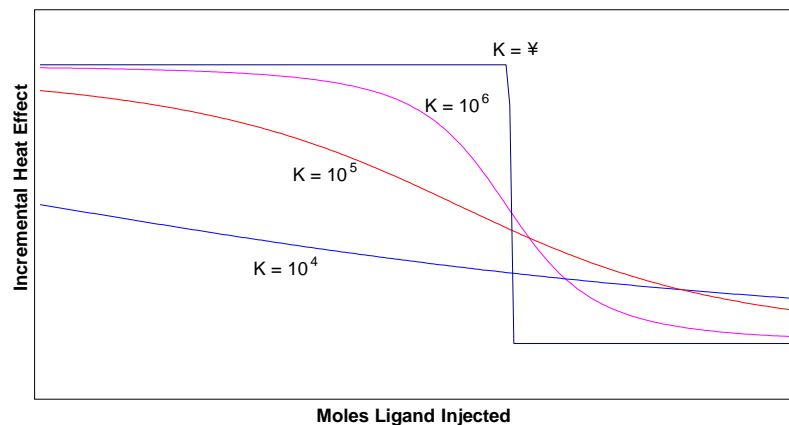


$$K = \frac{[AB]}{[A][B]}$$

Constant Equilibrium Constant  
with Varying Enthalpy

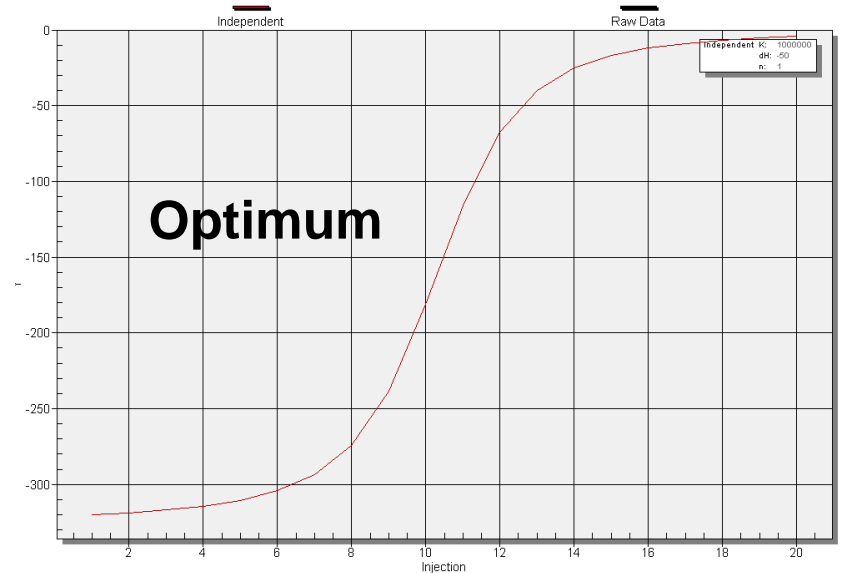
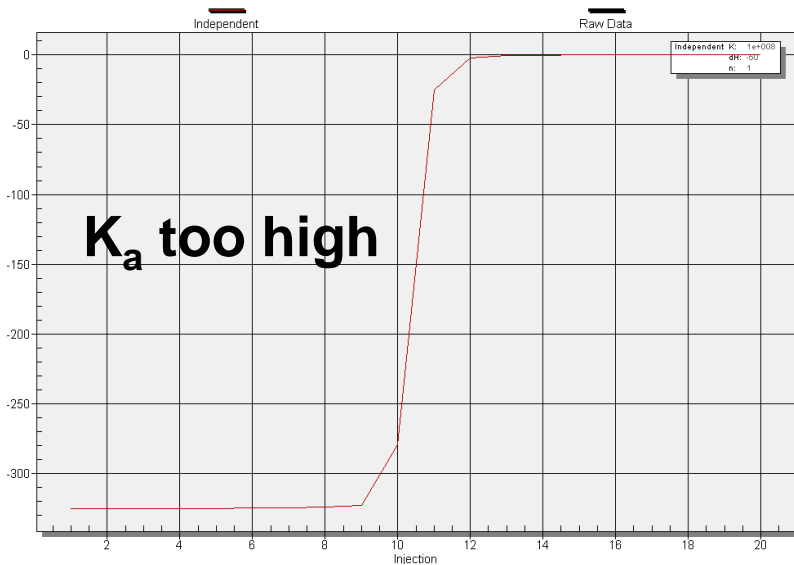
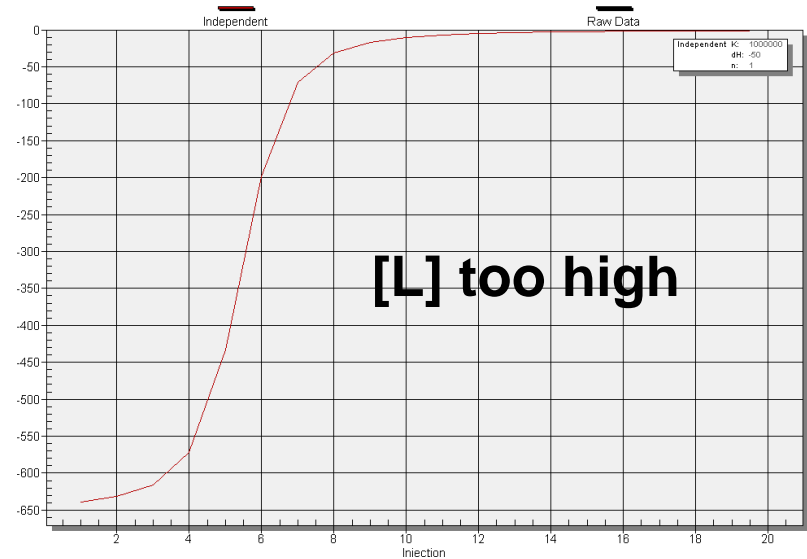
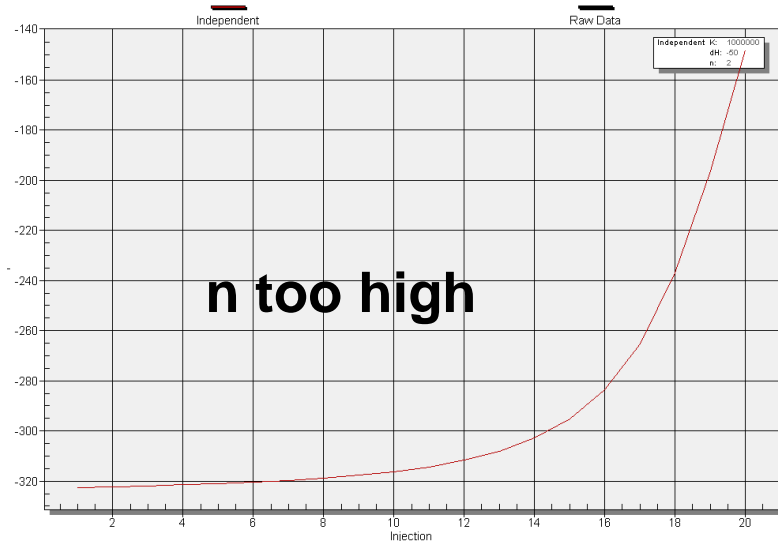


Constant Enthalpy with  
Varying Equilibrium Constant



- Generally want to obtain stoichiometry (n), enthalpy ( $\Delta H$ ) and binding constant ( $K_a$ ) from one experiment
- Enthalpy is directly measured. Receptor should be saturated with ligand at end of titration
- To obtain  $K_a$ :  $10 < K_f C_R < 1000$
- $C_R$  is typically 10 – 100 mM,  $K_a$  is typically  $10^3$  to  $10^9$  M<sup>-1</sup>

# Obtaining Meaningful ITC Binding Data: NanoAnalyze Experiment Design



# Obtaining Meaningful ITC data: Sample Preparation

- All reactions produce heat. Ensure only the desired reaction is measured.
  - pH, ionic strength, choice of buffer and temperature
- Diluting a compound produces or absorbs heat ('heat of dilution').
  - To minimize heat of dilution of buffer 'contaminants' in protein and ligand solution: 1) dialyze protein and ligand 2) use the used dialysis buffer to dissolve the ligand 3) perform 'blank' experiment (titrate ligand into buffer), then subtract blank from 'real experiment' data. Caution: analyze blank data for indications of ligand-buffer interactions.
    - Dialyze samples to minimize heat of dilution.
- Determine concentration and purity
  - Multiple techniques (i.e. Spectrophotometricly and SDS-PAGE)
- Degas samples if necessary

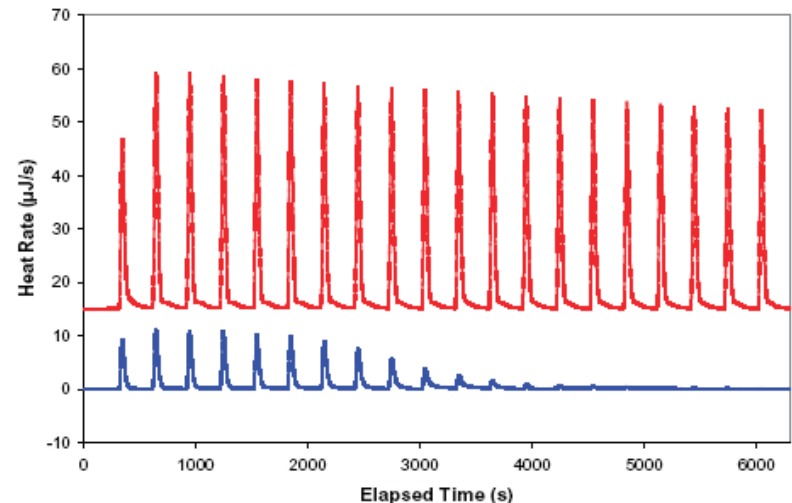
# Obtaining meaningful ITC data: Experiment Optimization

- Small heat of binding? Change temperature, pH and/or buffer
- Temperature:  $\Delta H$  is temperature and system dependent, varies with  $\Delta C_p$ . Conduct experiment at relevant temperature where binding has measurable  $\Delta H$ .
- Different buffers have different enthalpies of ionization, affect  $\Delta H$  of binding. If low enthalpies observed, use buffer with high ionization enthalpy
- Low enthalpy may indicate that a non-optimal pH is being used.

**ITC is like any other experimental technique: Requires Optimization**

# Obtaining Meaningful ITC Data: Organic Solvents/Additives

- Reducing agents
  - Use TCEP instead of DTT or  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol
- Solubility problems
- Non-aqueous solvents have different viscosities and heat capacities.
- Match [organic] in reference and sample cell?
- Any mismatch in [organic] can result in
  - heat of dilution masking
  - heat of binding
- Example: 5% DMSO
  - decreases affinity of RNase A.



# Obtaining Meaningful ITC Data: Unexpected Stoichiometry

- Unexpectedly low stoichiometry could be due to:
  - [receptor] lower than anticipated
  - [ligand] higher than anticipated
  - Receptor contains contaminating proteins
  - Receptor is partially unfolded
  - Multiple binding sites
  - Wrong binding model
  - Insufficient curvature in data: change concentrations
  - Solvent protonation
    - ◆ Study different buffers at the same pH



# Obtaining Meaningful ITC Data: Obvious, But Often Forgotten

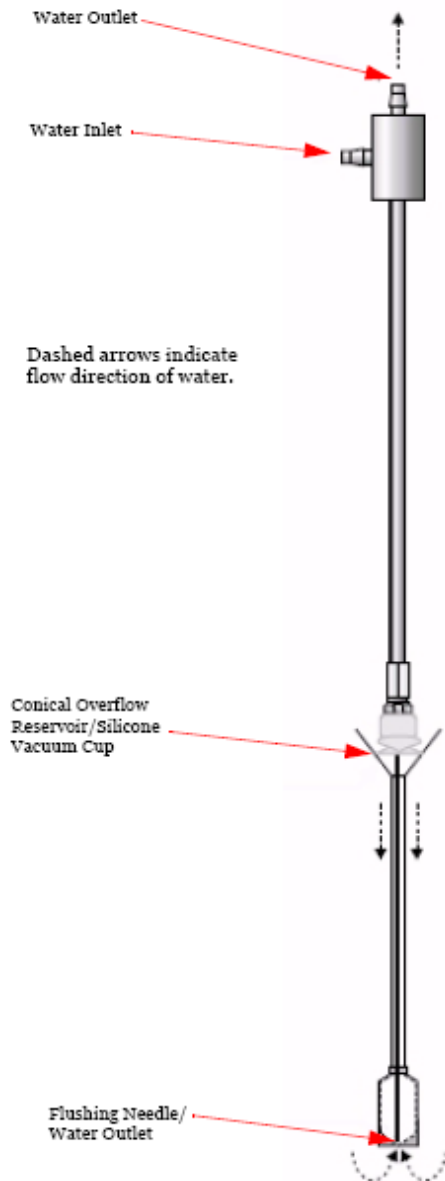
- Ensure syringe is scrupulously clean to eliminate titration of contaminants and ensure reproducible delivery of titrant. No air bubbles
- Clean cell aggressively as required
- To minimize syringe-tip diffusion, divide equilibration into three phases: sample equilibration (no syringe); equilibration with syringe (no stirring), equilibration with stirring
- Ensure baseline is stable before proceeding to the next step
- Stirring speed is a compromise: increased speed increases noise, but too slow stirring causes trailing in binding data.
- Does binding occur within seconds (or a least minutes)?

# ITC Instruments

## Focus on Cleaning



# Nano ITC Maintenance

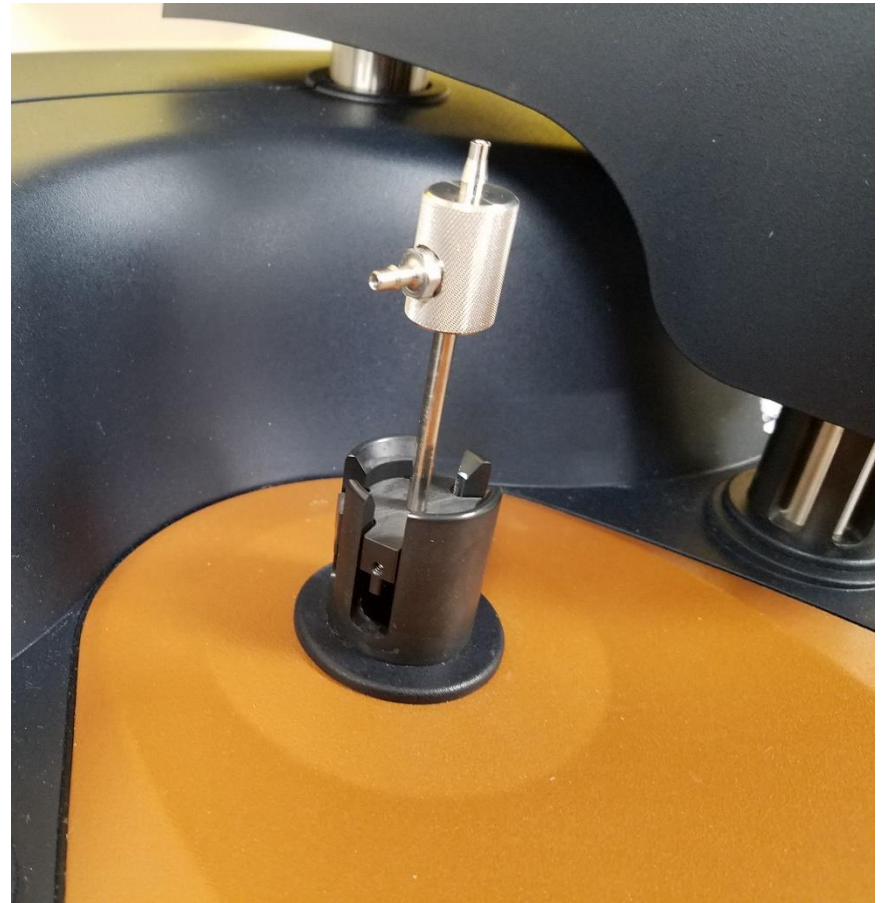
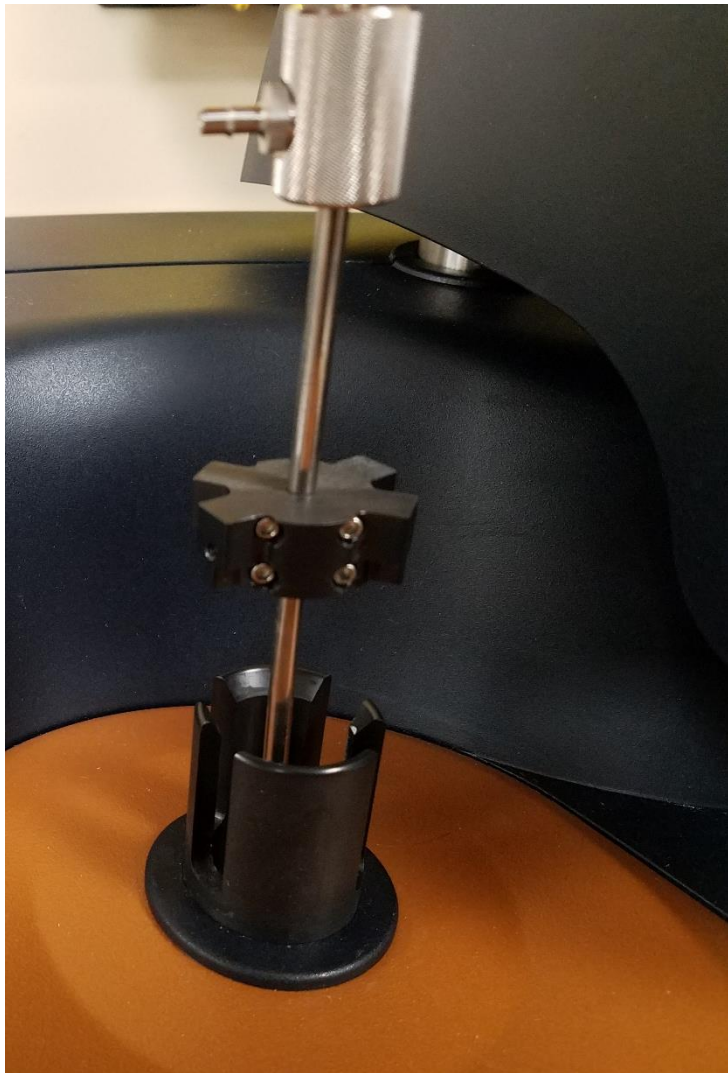


- Easy-to-use cleaning tool for simple and rapid preparation of the ITC cell for another sample
- High-volume flushing of sample cell with Degassing Station accessory



# Affinity ITC Maintenance

- Same tool, but with a fixture at the top to hold it steady within the alignment tab.



# Cleaning Station

- Cleaning station allows you to program up to 3 different cleaning solutions with volumes and several steps. Works with cleaning tool and sidearm flask.



# Cleaning Station

- Cleaning station allows you to program up to 3 different cleaning solutions with volumes and several steps. Works with cleaning tool and sidearm flask.

## Rear Panel Connections:



Clean/Rinse Solvent Ports

Solvent outlet to instrument

USB to Computer

Cleaning Port to Waste Flask

Power Port

Pump Exhaust Outlet



# Cleaning your ITC cell

- Contrad 70
  - Rinses cleanly
  - Very low concentration in syringe (0.8% and rinse with methanol then water)
  - 0.8%-2% in the cell
- 4N NaOH
- 50% Formic acid
  - Can use up to 4N Nitric acid
- For Lipids, use ethanol or methanol
- Can use Peptidases for proteins
- Use appropriate solvents for your chemistry
  - Try to avoid Toluene, pay attention to miscibility
  - May want to go through Methanol or Acetone to get to hydrophobic solvents

# My Cleaning Protocol - Cell

- Start with 5% Contrad-70, 20% Methanol, 1M NaOH
  - Rinse cell with cleaning syringe
- 4N NaOH, heat cell to 65°C for 30-60 min
  - Cover cell
- Cool cell back to 25°C, then rinse with 300-500 mL DI water
  - **Rinsing room temp fluids through a hot cell can damage sensors**
- 50% Formic acid, heat cell to 65°C for 30-60 min
  - Cover cell
- Cool cell back to 25°C, then rinse with 800 mL DI water
  - **Rinsing room temp fluids through a hot cell can damage sensors**
- Be sure to rinse out your loading syringe well
  - Use a squirt bottle to back fill the syringe and then push out with the plunger. Do this at least 10x



# My Cleaning Protocol - syringe

---

- Try to clean with only buffer and water if possible
- If you need to clean the syringe, use a low concentration of Contrad
  - Typically I use 0.8% Contrad 70
- After washing with the detergent, rinse with some alcohol (Methanol or Ethanol) to break the surface tension of the surfactant.
- Then rinse thoroughly with water
- Run a water into water (or buffer into buffer) experiment to make sure that the syringe is fully rinsed.

# My Cleaning Protocol

---

Run a water into water ITC run to verify that the cell is clean

Sometimes the first run is not ideal, so run a second without further cleaning.

If the peaks have a larger heat at first then come down, it may indicate that your syringe is not completely rinsed

You have stripped the ions from the cell with this aggressive cleaning. Make sure that you rinse the cell several times with buffer before loading sample to condition the cell.

I recommend running this cleaning procedure anytime you are having issues or a suspect baseline. This is probably worth running every 3-6 months as a preventative maintenance procedure as well.

**ITC**

# **Data Collection and Analysis Software**



# ITCRun - ITC Data Collection Software

The screenshot displays the ITCRun software interface. At the top, the status bar shows '100.00% Full (52.0 μL)', '25.00 °C', and '-165.000 μW'. Below this is a toolbar with icons for file operations and instrument control. The main interface is divided into several panels:

- Instrument Control:** Stiring Rate (RPM) is set to 350. Syringe Size (μL) is 50. Temperature Set Point (°C) is 25. Data Interval is 1.
- Auto Save Experiment:** Save data every 5 minutes.
- Experiment Details:** Syringe Concentration (mM) is .1. Cell Concentration (mM) is .08.
- Experiment Setup:** Incremental Titration is selected. A table shows 13 injections with an interval of 200s and volume of 2.02 μL.
- Equilibration:** Auto Equilibrate is selected. Start Delay is 300s. Expected Heats are Small, Medium, or Large. Timeout is 1800s. Initial Baseline is 200s. Final Baseline is 0s.

Injection	Injection Interval (s)	Volume (μL)
1	200	2.02
2	200	2.02
3	200	2.02
4	200	2.02
5	200	2.02
6	200	2.02
7	200	2.02
8	200	2.02
9	200	2.02
10	200	2.02
11	200	2.02
12	200	2.02
13	200	2.02

## ■ ITC User Interface

- Flexible Titration Setup
- User adjustable Baseline Auto Equilibrate
- Real-time monitor of titration hardware movement/position
- Real-time titration data display
- Flexible zoom In/Out features

# ITCRun Experiment Setup

- Set the injection parameters

Set  
method

The screenshot displays the ITCRun software interface. The main window has a menu bar (File, Experiment, Buret, Help) and a toolbar with icons for file operations and control. The status bar shows '100.00% Full (250.0  $\mu\text{L}$ )', '25.00  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ', and '-165.000  $\mu\text{W}$ '. The 'Status' is 'Idle'. The 'Setup' tab is active, showing 'Instrument Control' (Stiring Rate: 250 RPM, Syringe Size: 250  $\mu\text{L}$ , Temperature Set Point: 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Data Interval: 1) and 'Experiment Setup' (Incremental Titration selected, Setup... button highlighted). A 'Setup Injections' dialog box is open, showing 'Injection Interval (s): 300', 'Injection Volume ( $\mu\text{L}$ ): 10', and 'Number of Injections: 25'. The 'Actual' volume is 10  $\mu\text{L}$ . The dialog also includes 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons and a note: '\*Adjusted to match the resolution of the mechanism.'

# ITCRun Experiment Setup

- Monitor/check temperature

Monitor

Control

The screenshot displays the ITCRun software interface. At the top, the status bar shows '100.00% Full (250.0 μL)', '25.00 °C', and '-165.000 μW'. Below this, the 'Monitor' tab is active, showing 'ONLINE' status. The 'Instrument Control' section includes fields for Stiring Rate (RPM) set to 250, Syringe Size (μL) set to 250, Temperature Set Point (°C) set to 25, and Data Interval set to 1. The 'Experiment Setup' section shows 'Incremental Titration' selected. The 'Equilibration' section has 'Auto Equilibrate' selected with 'Medium' expected heats. The 'Auto Save Experiment' section has 'Save data every 10 minutes' checked. The 'Experiment Details' section has empty fields for Syringe Concentration (mM), Cell Concentration (mM), and a text area for Comments.

# ITCRun Experiment Setup

- Select the experiment type

Select  
Experiment  
type

The screenshot shows the ITCRun software interface. The main window is titled "ITCRun" and has a menu bar with "File", "Experiment", "Buret", and "Help". Below the menu bar is a toolbar with various icons. The status bar at the top right shows "100.00% Full (250.0  $\mu$ L)", "25.00  $^{\circ}$ C", and "-165.000  $\mu$ W". Below the status bar are three status indicators: "ONLINE" (green circle), "EQUILIBRATE" (black circle), and "PROGRAM" (black circle). The "Status:" field shows "Idle".

The main window is divided into several sections:

- Setup** (selected), **Monitor**, and **Data** tabs.
- Instrument Control**: Stiring Rate (RPM): 250, Syringe Size ( $\mu$ L): 250, Temperature Set Point ( $^{\circ}$ C): 25, Data Interval: 1.
- Auto Save Experiment**:  Save data every 10 minutes.
- Experiment Details**: Syringe Concentration (mM):, Cell Concentration (mM):, Comments: (text area).
- Experiment Setup**:
  - Radio buttons:  Incremental Titration,  Continuous Titration,  Electrical Pulses.
  - Buttons: Insert... (+), Delete (X), Setup... (gear), Save As... (floppy), Load (folder).
  - Table: Injection, Injection Interval (s), Volume ( $\mu$ L).
- Equilibration**:
  - Radio buttons:  Start Delay (s): 300 (No data collected.),  Auto Equilibrate.
  - Expected Heats:  Small,  Medium,  Large.
  - Timeout (s): 7200.
  - Initial Baseline (s): 300 (Collected points before first injection.)
  - Final Baseline (s): 0 (Collected points after last injection.)

# ITCRun Experiment Setup

- Set the syringe size and stirring speed

Stir speed  
and  
syringe size

The screenshot displays the ITCRun software interface. At the top, the status bar shows '100.00% Full (250.0 μL)', '25.00 °C', and '-165.000 μW'. The 'Setup' tab is active, showing various control panels. In the 'Instrument Control' panel, 'Stiring Rate (RPM)' is set to 250 and 'Syringe Size (μL)' is set to 250. The 'Experiment Setup' panel shows 'Incremental Titration' selected. The 'Equilibration' panel shows 'Auto Equilibrate' selected with 'Medium' heat expected. A red arrow points from the text 'Stir speed and syringe size' to the 'Stiring Rate (RPM)' and 'Syringe Size (μL)' fields.



# ITCRun Experiment Setup

- Set the injection parameters

Set  
method

The screenshot displays the ITCRun software interface. The main window has a menu bar (File, Experiment, Buret, Help) and a toolbar with icons for file operations and control. The status bar shows '100.00% Full (250.0  $\mu\text{L}$ )', '25.00  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ', and '-165.000  $\mu\text{W}$ '. The 'Status' is 'Idle'. The 'Setup' tab is active, showing 'Instrument Control' (Stiring Rate: 250 RPM, Syringe Size: 250  $\mu\text{L}$ , Temperature Set Point: 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , Data Interval: 1) and 'Experiment Setup' (Incremental Titration selected, Setup... button highlighted). A 'Setup Injections' dialog box is open, showing 'Injection Interval (s): 300', 'Injection Volume ( $\mu\text{L}$ ): 10', and 'Number of Injections: 25'. The 'Actual' volume is 10  $\mu\text{L}$ . The dialog also includes 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons and a note: '\*Adjusted to match the resolution of the mechanism.' A red arrow points from the text 'Set method' to the 'Setup...' button in the 'Experiment Setup' section.

# ITCRun Experiment Setup

- Save the injection parameters (optional)

Save

The screenshot displays the ITCRun software interface. The main window is titled 'ITCRun' and has a menu bar with 'File', 'Experiment', 'Buret', and 'Help'. Below the menu bar is a toolbar with various icons. The main area is divided into several sections: 'Instrument Control' with fields for 'Stiring Rate (RPM): 250', 'Syringe Size (μL): 250', 'Temperature Set Point (°C): 25', and 'Data Interval: 1'; 'Auto Save Experiment' with a checked 'Save data every 10 minutes' option; 'Experiment Details' with fields for 'Syringe Concentration (mM)', 'Cell Concentration (mM)', and a 'Comments' text area; and 'Equilibration' with options for 'Start Delay (s): 300', 'Auto Equilibrate', 'Expected Heats' (Small, Medium, Large), and 'Timeout (s): 7200'. A 'Save As...' dialog box is open over the main window, showing the 'Save in:' location as 'ITC Methods' and the 'File name:' as 'Method1'. The 'Save as type:' is set to 'ITC experiment configuration files (\*.itccfg)'. A red arrow points from the word 'Save' to the 'Save As...' button in the dialog box.

10	300	10
11	300	10
12	300	10
13	300	10

# ITCRun Experiment Setup

- Load previously saved parameters (optional)

Load

The screenshot displays the ITCRun software interface. The main window has a menu bar (File, Experiment, Buret, Help) and a toolbar. Below the toolbar are status indicators for ONLINE, EQUILIBRATE, and PROGRAM. The interface is divided into several sections: Setup, Monitor, and Data. The Setup section includes Instrument Control (Stiring Rate (RPM): 250, Syringe Size (μL): 250, Temperature Set Point (°C): 25, Data Interval: 1) and Auto Save Experiment (Save data every 10 minutes). The Experiment Details section includes Syringe Concentration (mM), Cell Concentration (mM), and Comments. The Equilibration section includes Start Delay (s): 300, Auto Equilibrate (Selected), Expected Heats (Small, Medium, Large), Initial Baseline (s): 300, and Final Baseline (s): 0. An 'Open' dialog box is overlaid on the main window, showing the file 'Method1.itccfg' selected in the 'ITC Methods' folder. The 'File name' field contains 'Method1.itccfg' and the 'Files of type' dropdown is set to 'ITC experiment configuration files (\*.itccfg)'. A red arrow points from the word 'Load' to the 'Load' button in the main window.

10	300	10
11	300	10
12	300	10
13	300	10

# ITCRun Experiment Setup

## System/Baseline Auto-Equilibration

The screenshot displays the ITCRun software interface. At the top, the status bar shows '100.00% Full (250.0 µL)', '25.00 °C', and '-165.000 µW'. The 'EQUILIBRATE' mode is selected. The 'Setup' tab is active, showing various control panels. The 'Equilibration' section is highlighted with a red box and contains the following settings:

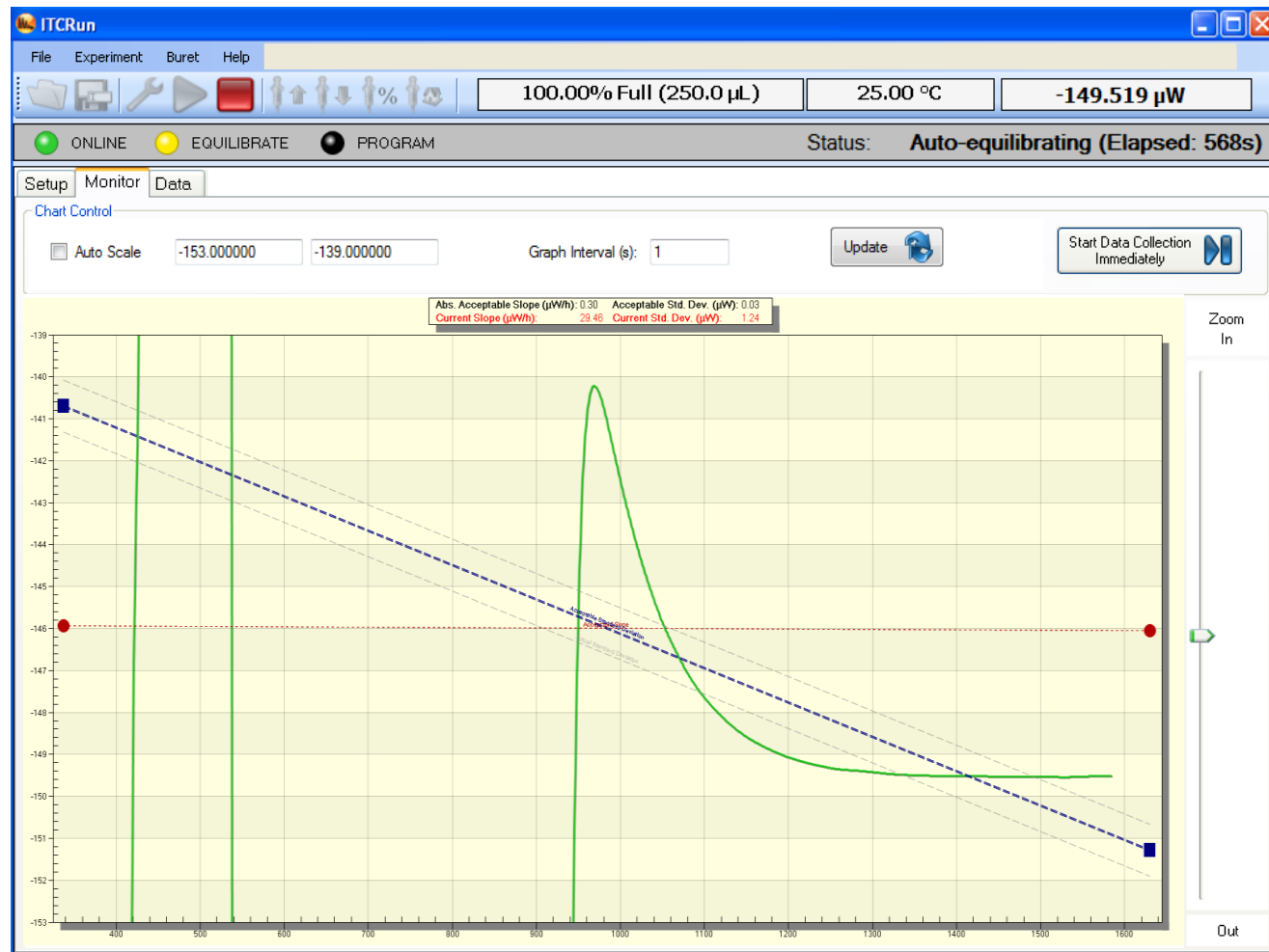
- Start Delay (s): 300 (No data collected.)
- Auto Equilibrate
  - Small
  - Medium
  - Large
- Timeout (s): 7200
- Initial Baseline (s): 300 (Collected points before first injection.)
- Final Baseline (s): 0 (Collected points after last injection.)

The 'Experiment Setup' section includes a table of injection parameters:

Injection	Injection Interval (s)	Volume (µL)
1	300	10
2	300	10
3	300	10
4	300	10
5	300	10
6	300	10
7	300	10
8	300	10
9	300	10
10	300	10
11	300	10
12	300	10
13	300	10

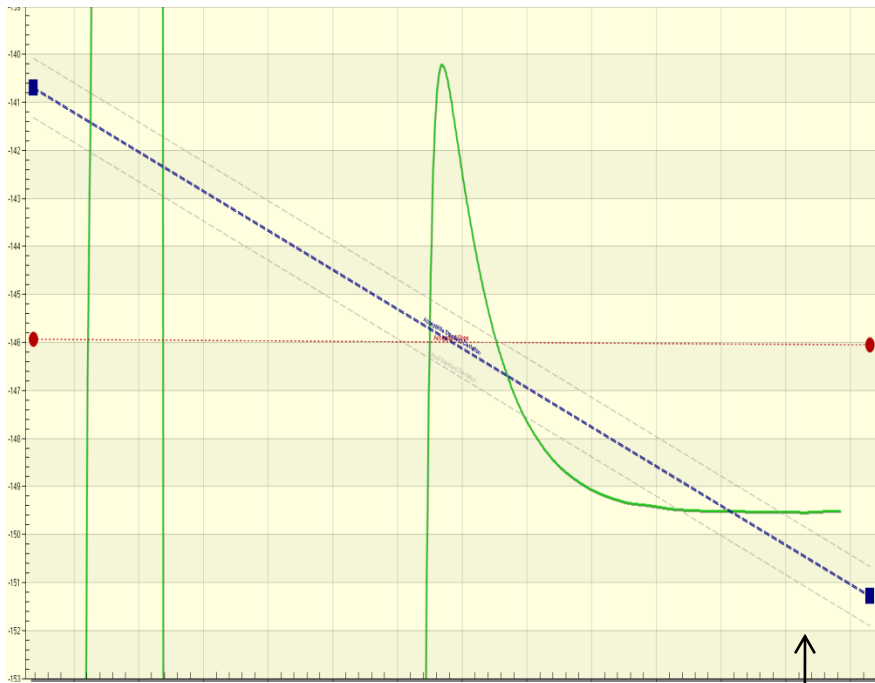
# ITCRun Experiment Setup

## System/Baseline Auto-Equilibration

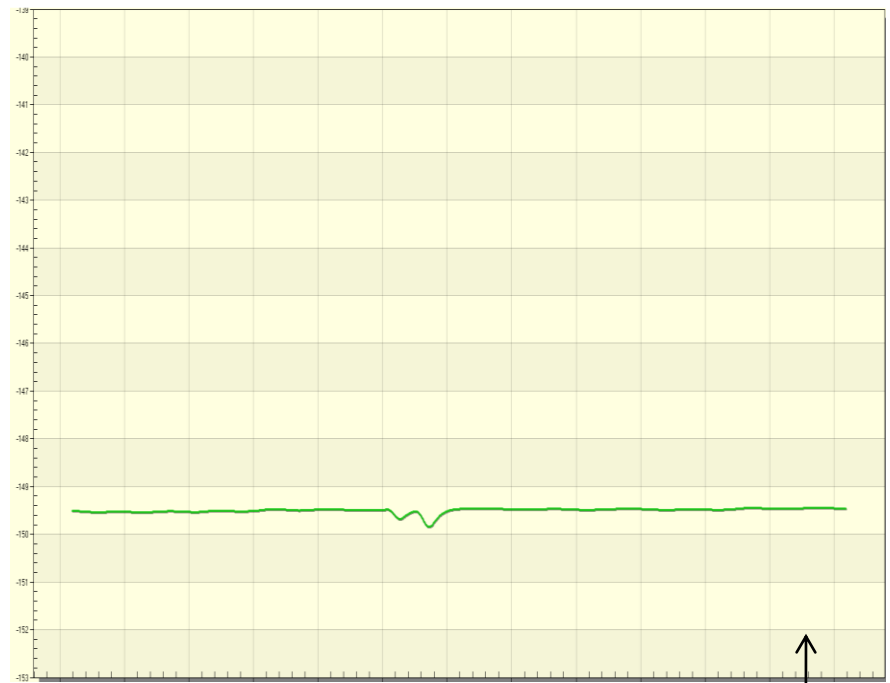


# ITCRun Experiment Setup

## System/Baseline Auto-Equilibration



~10 minutes



~30 minutes

# ITC Data analysis

TA Instruments –Waters LLC  
Microcalorimetry Applications



# Nano ITC Data Fitting



- Full Suite of ITC data fitting models
  - Independent
  - Minimized Independent
  - Multiple sites
  - Competitive replacement
  - Blank (linear or constant)
  - Dimer dissociation
- Flexible Overlay Graphing
  - Flexible display of multiple graphs
  - User selectable format for graph export
- Statistics on results ( $K_a$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $n$ )
  - User adjustable fitting iterations
  - Confidence interval calculations
  - Visual graph of fitting iteration results
  - Statistics on results ( $K_a$ ,  $\Delta H$ ,  $n$ )
- New Report Creation features
  - Integrate text with tables and graphs
  - User selectable format



# Model Overview

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- **Blank models for fitting**
  - Blank (constant)
  - Blank (linear)
- **Most common**
  - Independent model (single sites or multiple equivalent sites)
  - Multiple Sites
  - Competitive Replacement
  - Dimer dissociation
- **Other models**
  - Cooperative
  - Enthalpy Screening
  - Sequential (Two sites)
  - Sequential (Three sites)

# NanoAnalyze ITC Fitting Models

**Data Columns**      **Default Fit Values**

**Data Dependence**

Name	Column #
CellVolume	7
InjectionVolume	3
MolesCell	5
MolesSyringe	4

**Script variables**

Name	Value	Vary	Min	Max
K	5000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	10	1e10
dH (kJ/mol)	-50	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	-2000	2000
n	1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1e-3	1000

**Logic**

```
Function definition    Globals    Constants
A = MolesSyringe(i)
B = MolesCell(i)*n
C = -K*A*K*B*(CellVolume(i)/1e6)
Bound = [-C-sqr(C*C-4*K*K*A*B)]/(2*K)
if OverflowMode then
  OldBound = OldBound*(CellVolume(i)/(CellVolume(i)+InjectionVolume(i)))
end if
y = 1e9*(Bound-OldBound)*dH
OldBound = Bound
i = i + 1
```

**Fitting Equations & Constants**

# Model Overview

- **Blank (constant)** – a constant integer value is fit to the data. This model is often used in conjunction with another fitting model as a background correction factor.
- **Blank (linear)** – the same as the blank (constant) but with a slope and intercept.
- **Independent model** – it models an interaction of “n” ligands with a macromolecule that has one binding site (or multiple equivalent binding sites).
- **Multiple Sites** – this model allows for fitting to two independent sites, each with a unique K, n, and  $\Delta H$ .
- **Competitive Replacement** – this model allows for fitting a K, n, and  $\Delta H$  of one ligand while the thermodynamic values for another bound ligand are known. It was designed for measurement of very weak or very tight binding ligands.
- **Dimer dissociation** – this model is used for a dimer dissociation experiment where a concentrated solution of dimer dissociates when it enters a lower concentration environment.

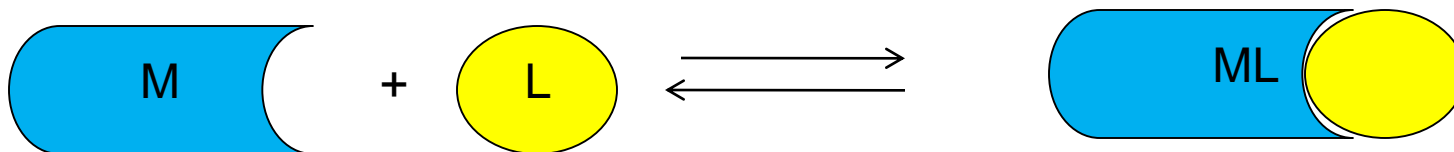
# Model Overview

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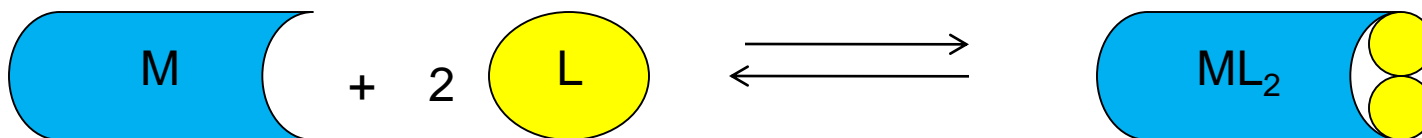
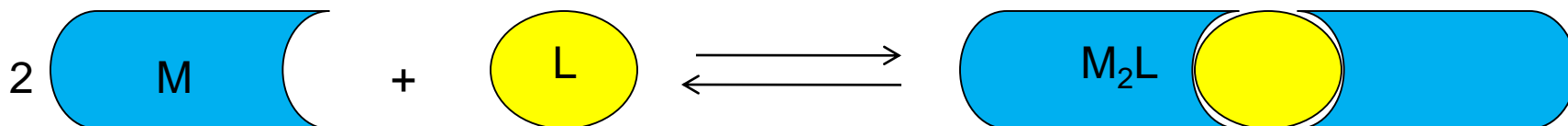
- **Enthalpy Screening** – this is designed to be able to calculate  $\Delta H$  from a series of data with only the first few injections are done.
- **Sequential (Two sites)** – this is a sequential model with two binding sites where the first binding site has to be populated before the second binding site will accept a ligand.
- **Sequential (Three sites)** – similar to the two site above, but there is a third site where both of the first two sites have to be populated before the third site can bind.

# Independent Model

- The independent model is a one-site model and can be used for 1:1 interactions.



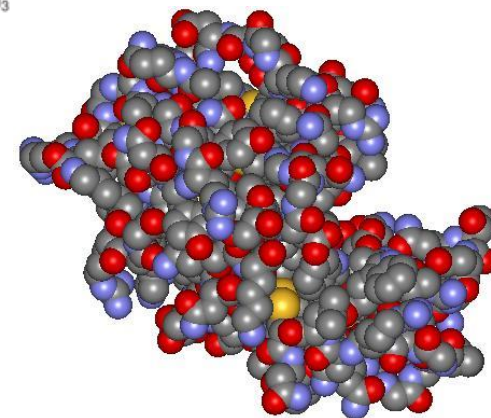
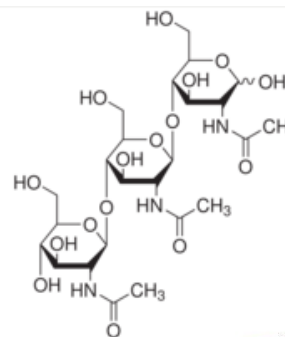
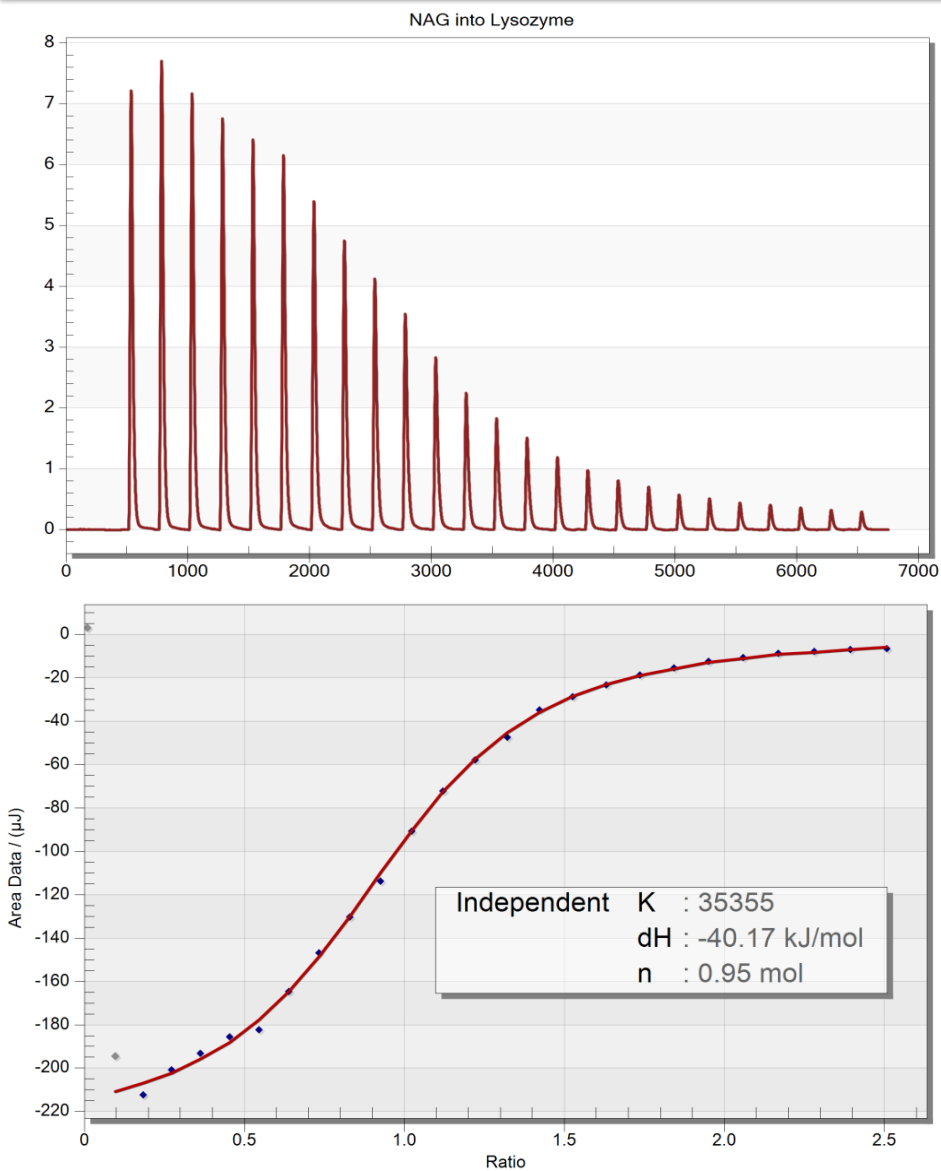
- Higher stoichiometric ratios can also be appropriately fit to this model as long as the association is concerted.



- A binding isotherm for this type of interaction will have a sigmoid shape

For more information see Freire E.; Mayorga O.; Straume M. "Isothermal Titration Calorimetry" *Analytical Chemistry*, 1990 62, 950A-959A

# Independent Model

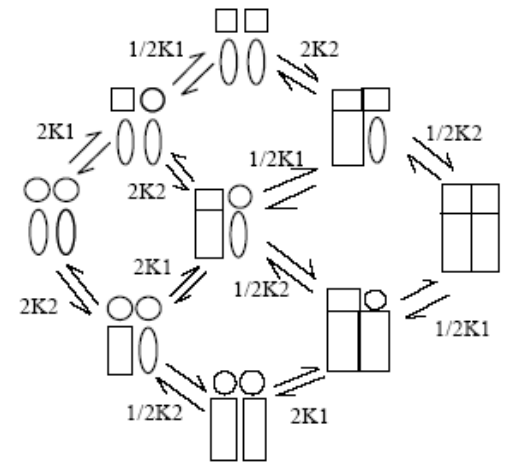


N,N',N''-triaceetylchitotriose  
(NAG)<sub>3</sub> → Lysozyme

100 mM Na<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> pH 3.0

# Multiple Site Model

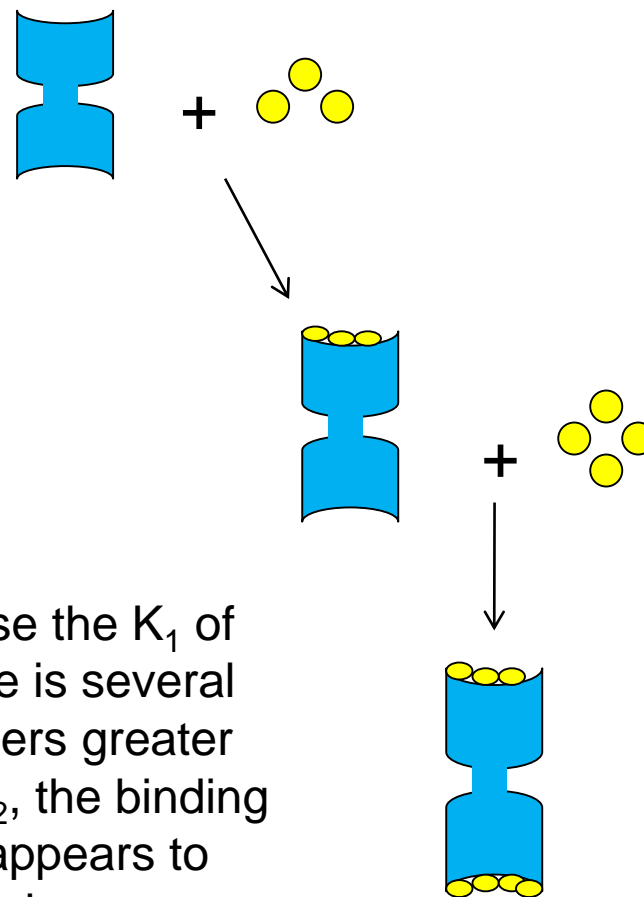
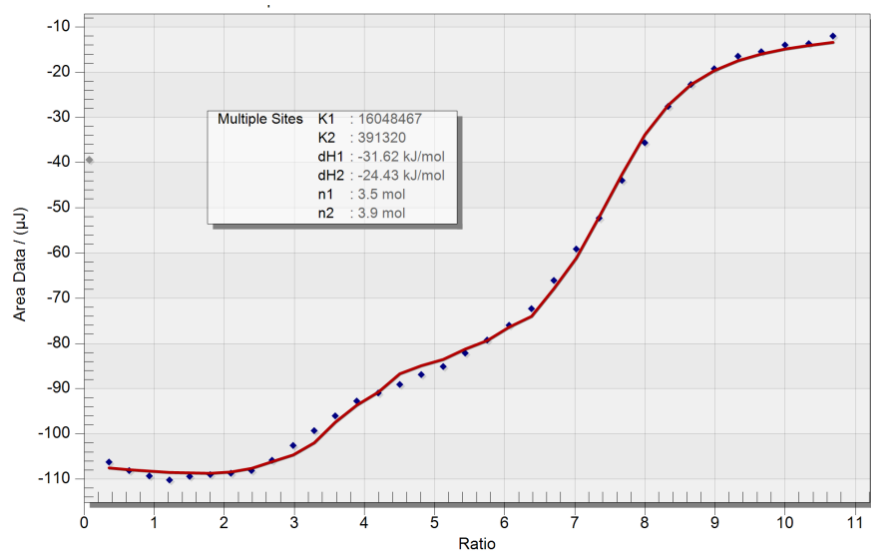
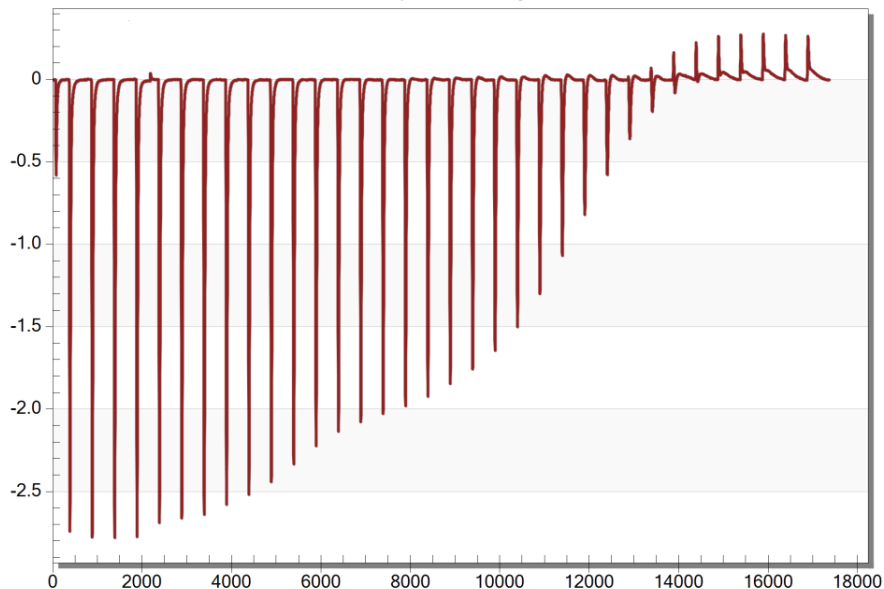
- The multiple site model is a two-site independent model. The ligand binds two chemically distinct sites on a receptor molecule.
- A binding isotherm for this type of interaction can have two inflections or a single asymmetrical inflection.
- The shape of the curve depends on the affinities of the ligand. If the affinities are similar then the isotherm will have a single asymmetrical inflection. If the affinities are several log-orders different, then two inflections could be observed.



Rectangular regions represent the subunits to which the Ligand is bound.

# Multiple Site protein-ligand interaction

Multiple Site Binding

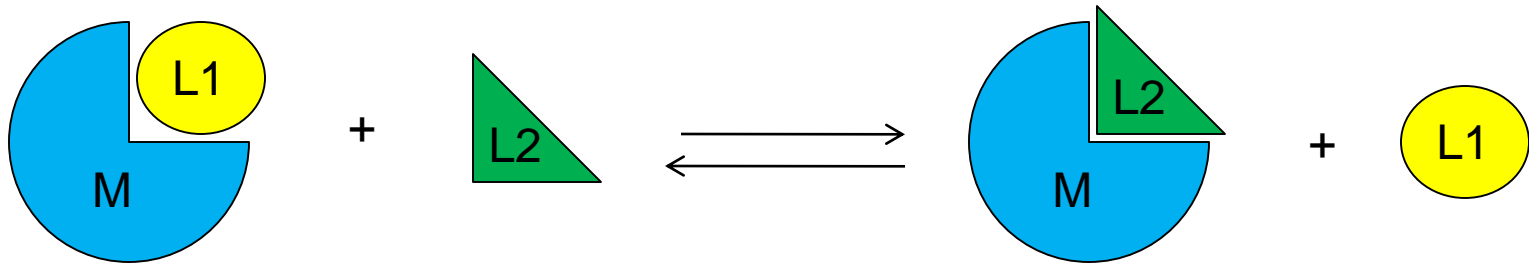


Because the  $K_1$  of one site is several log-orders greater than  $K_2$ , the binding event appears to approach a sequential interaction.



# Competitive Replacement

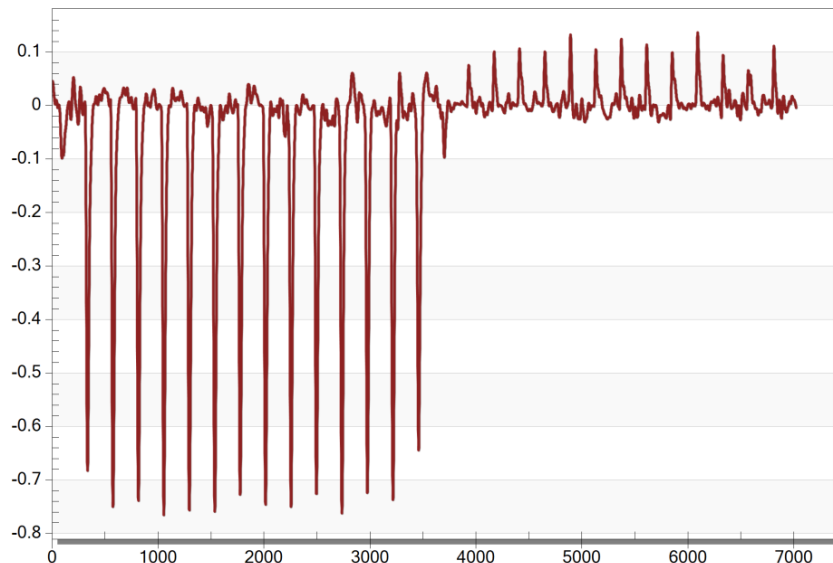
- This model allows fitting  $K$ ,  $n$ , and  $\Delta H$  of one ligand when the thermodynamic values for another bound ligand are known.
- When setting up the experiment, magnitude of the difference in the  $K_a$  values dictate the suggested concentration of the bound ligand, L1. For many cases L1 will need to be in excess of the macromolecule.
- To determine preliminary experimental conditions it is suggested that a user model the expected results. These conditions can be optimized during experimentation.



For examples and information see Khalifah et al., *Biochemistry* 1993, 32, 3058-3066 and Valazquez Campoy, and Freire *Biophys. Chem.* 2005, 115, 115-124.

# Competitive Replacement

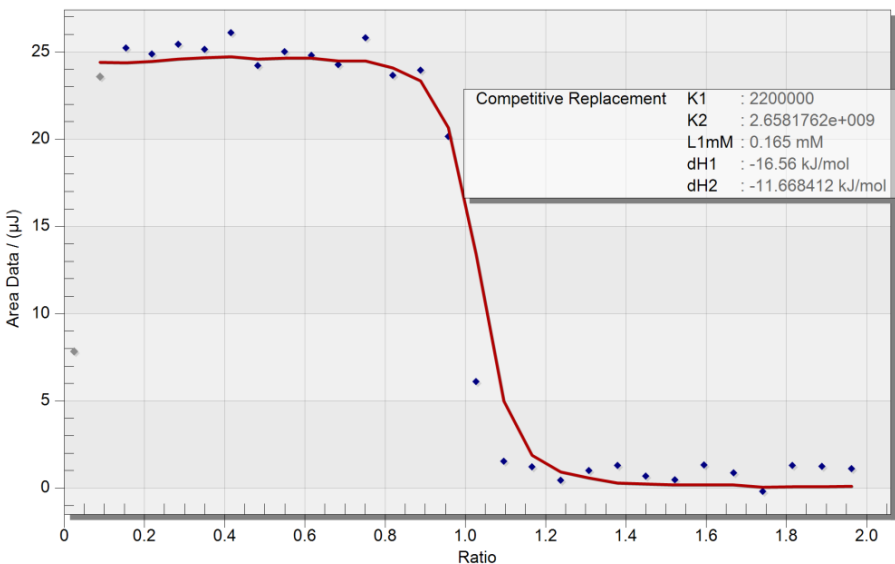
1 mM Zn into 0.085 mM EDTA + 0.165 mM Ca



Zn  $\rightarrow$  Ca-EDTA

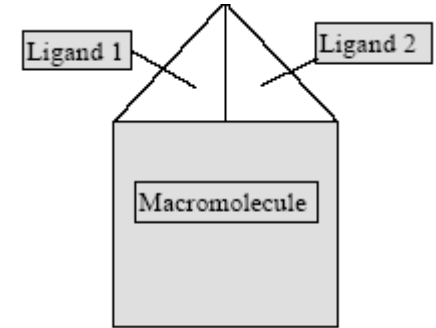
The thermodynamic values of the weaker binding ligand,  $L_1$ , were directly measured.

To fit the data, the  $K_1$ ,  $\Delta H_1$  and  $L_1$  values were inserted and not varied while the fitting algorithm was applied.



# Cooperative Model

- The cooperative model assumes at least two binding sites on a macromolecule, whereby the binding functions are dependent. For two binding sites the variables that define the cooperative binding are of  $\Delta H$  and  $\beta$ .

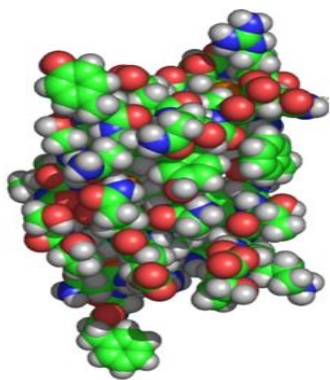
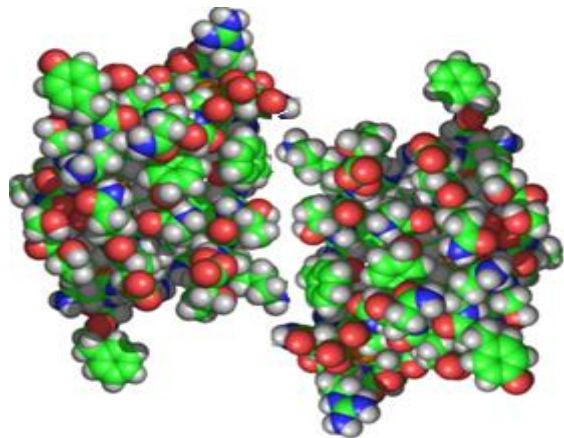


- Typical cooperative interactions can have a “U” shaped binding isotherm; however, the shape of the isotherm is concentration dependent. For example, interactions that have “U” shaped isotherm at one concentration can have sigmoid-shape isotherm at lower concentrations.

- Or fit with the multiple site and apply the Hill equation
  - $n(\text{Hill}) = 2/(1+((K1/(2*K2))^{1/2}))$
  - $n(\text{Hill}) > 1 = \text{cooperative}$

For more details refer to J. Wyman, S. J. Gill *Binding and Linkage*. University Science Books 1990.

# Dimer Dissociation

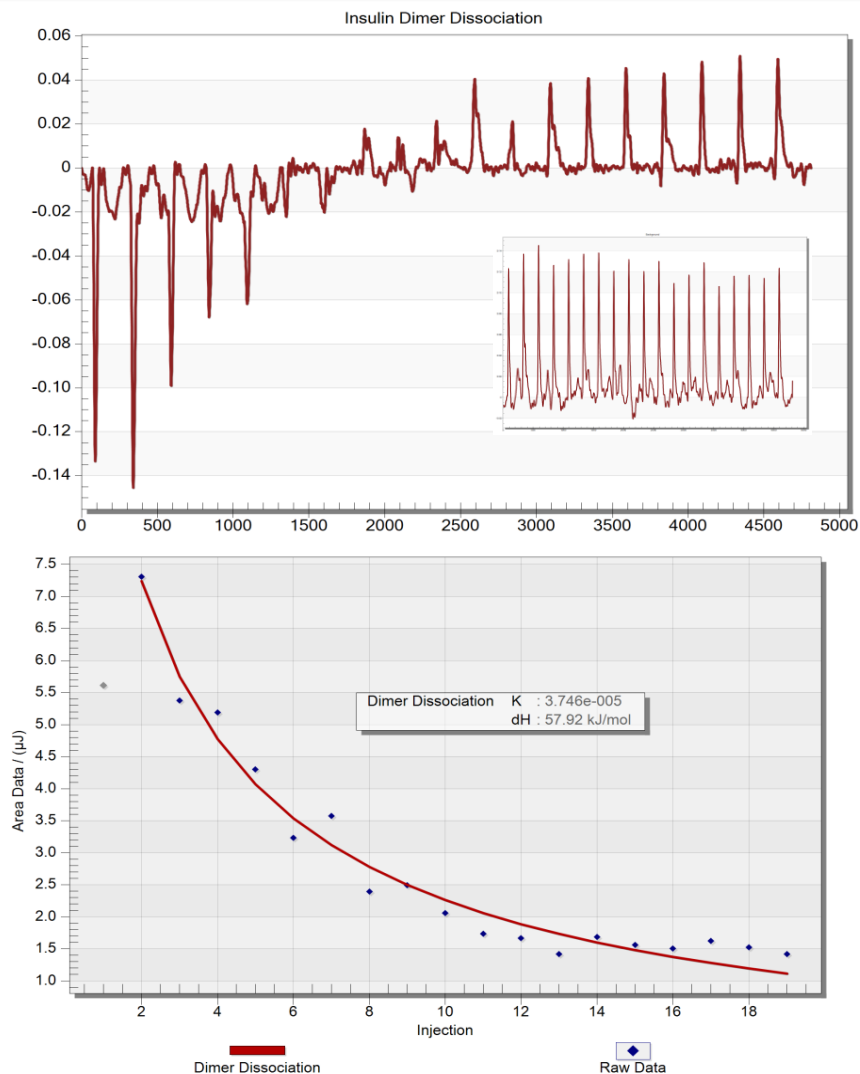


Human Insulin

**The dimer dissociation** model is used to study dissociation events. The  $K$  expressed the  $K_d$  (dissociation constant)

Experimentally, a concentrated solution of dimer dissociates when it enters the cell that contains buffer.

# Dimer Dissociation



For 0.2 mM human insulin at pH 2.8 the  $K_d = 37 \mu\text{M}$  and  $\Delta H = 58 \text{ kJ/mol}$

This data are consistent with the ITC literature values for bovine insulin collected at pH 2.5

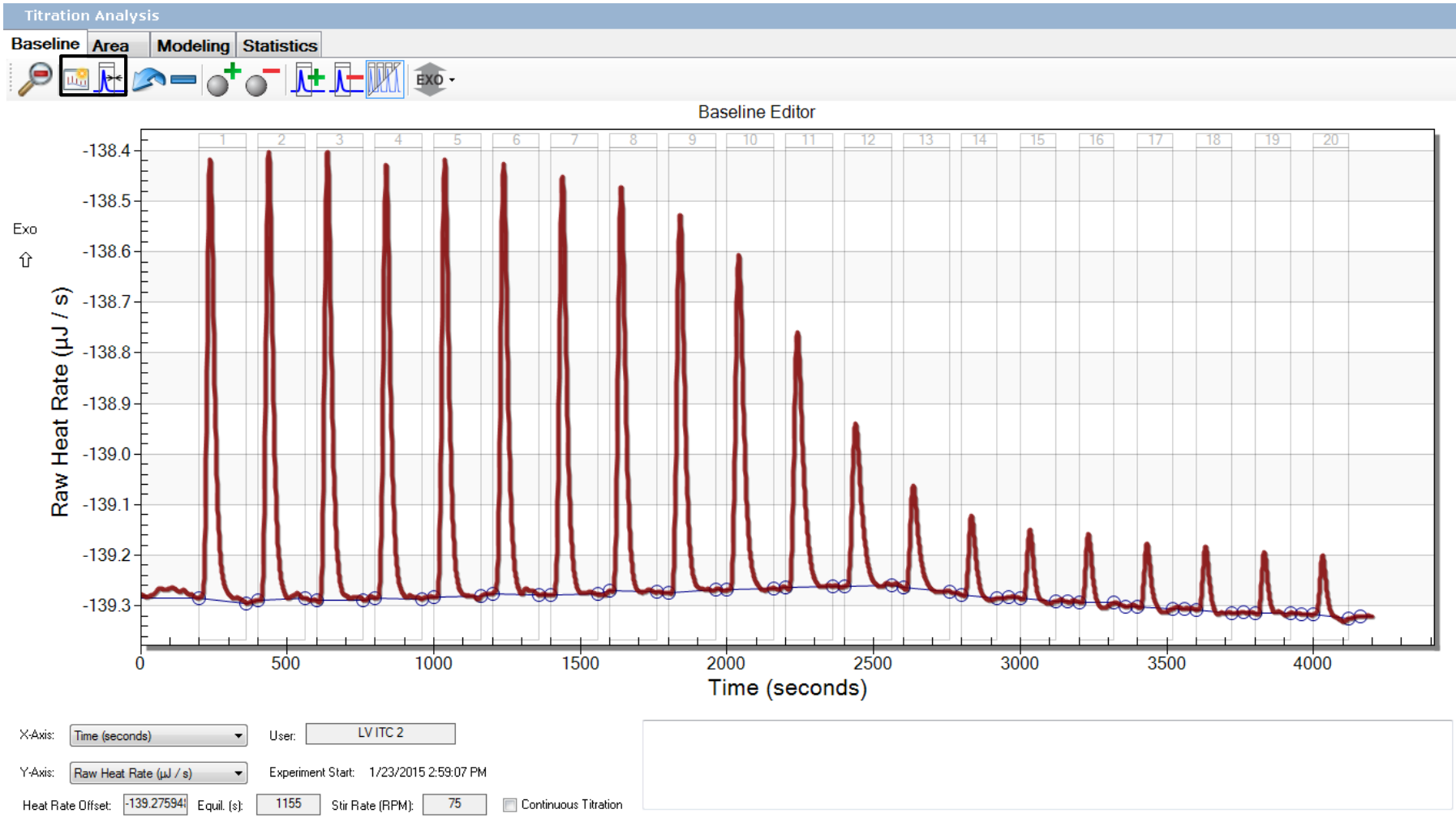
( $K_d = 14 \mu\text{M}$  and  $\Delta H = 41 \text{ kJ/mol}$ )

**Lovatt, Cooper, Camilleri, Eur Biophys. J. (1996) 24:354-357**

Because of differences in the conditions such as pH, as mentioned in the Lovatt paper, and the type of insulin, bovine versus human, the thermodynamic values are expected to deviate slightly from each other.

Top Figure is the raw data, inset is background of buffer into buffer and the bottom figure is the integrated, normalized, and fit data.

# NanoAnalyze – Baseline & Integration Settings



# NanoAnalyze – Area Correction, Volumes, Moles

## Titration Analysis

Baseline Area Modeling Statistics

### Experiment parameters

Syringe Concentration (mM):

Cell Concentration (mM):

Initial Cell Volume (μL):

Default Injection Volume (μL):

Temperature (°C):

Use Default Injection Volume

### Area correction

Subtract Constant:

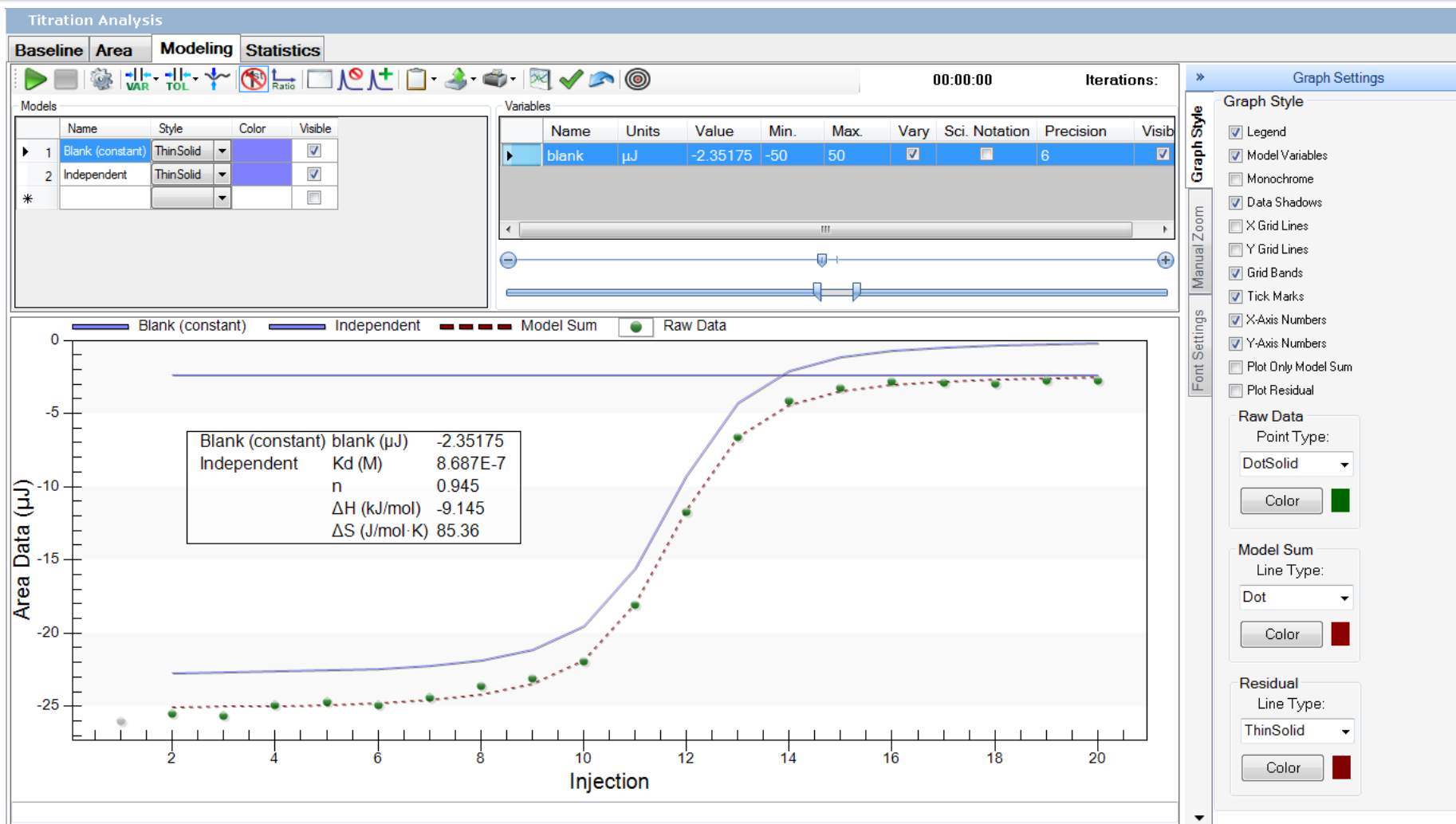
Blank:

Average Area  Injection by Injection

Partially Filled Cell

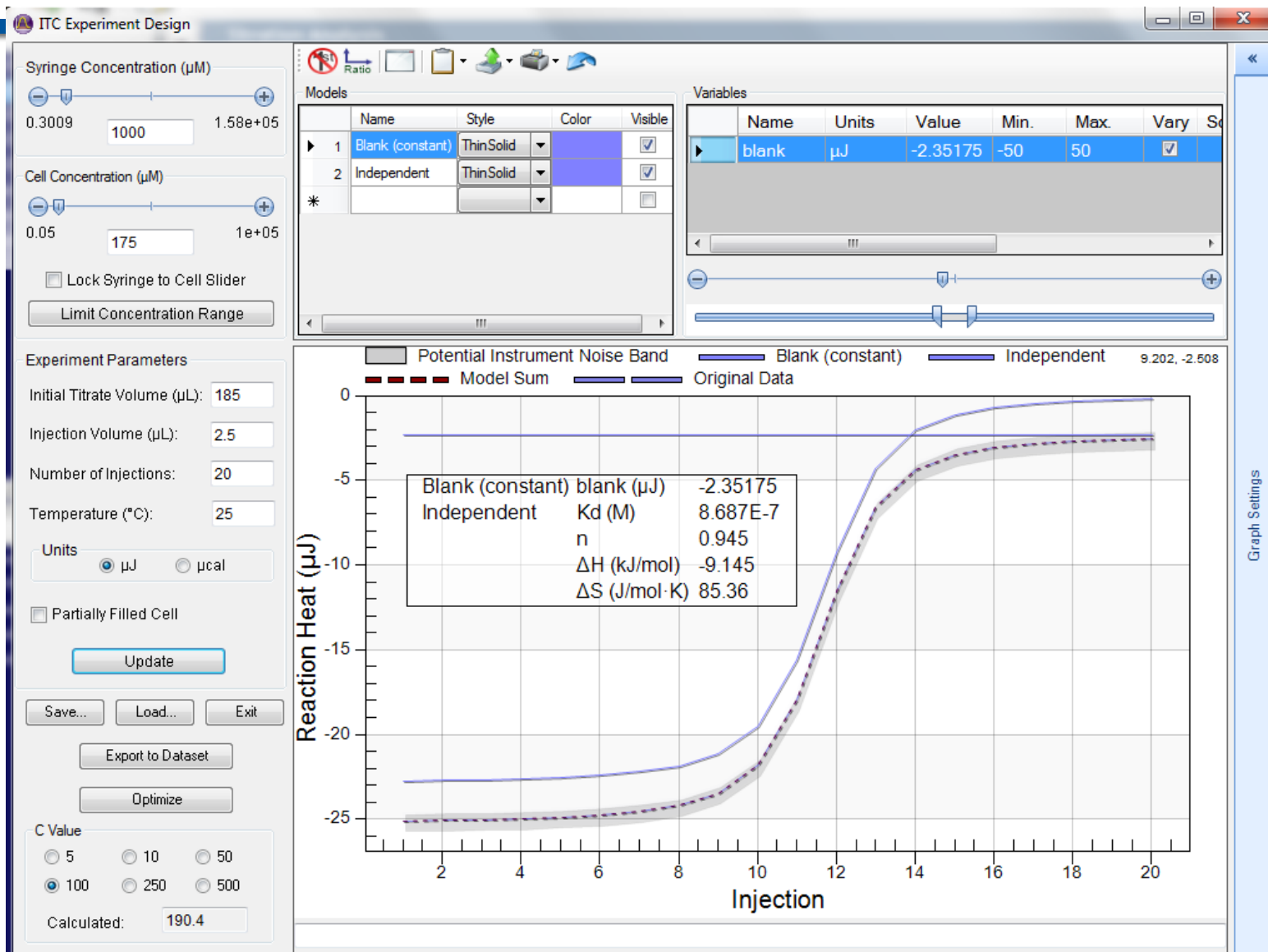
	Injection	Q (μJ)	Corrected Q (μJ)	Inj Volume	Moles(Syringe)	Moles(Cell)	Moles(Syringe) / Moles(Cell)	Cell Volume
▶	1	-25.99	-25.99	2.5	2.5e-09	3.194e-08	0.07828	185
	2	-25.5	-25.5	2.5	4.966e-09	3.151e-08	0.1576	185
	3	-25.61	-25.61	2.5	7.399e-09	3.108e-08	0.2381	185
	.	....	....	--	.....	.....	.....	...

# NanoAnalyze – Data Modeling





# Optimization to Experimental Design



# NanoAnalyze - Multiple Graph Display

Remove Reset Alignment Filter Fit Zoom Out Export To Clipboard... Export To File... Print Set As Default

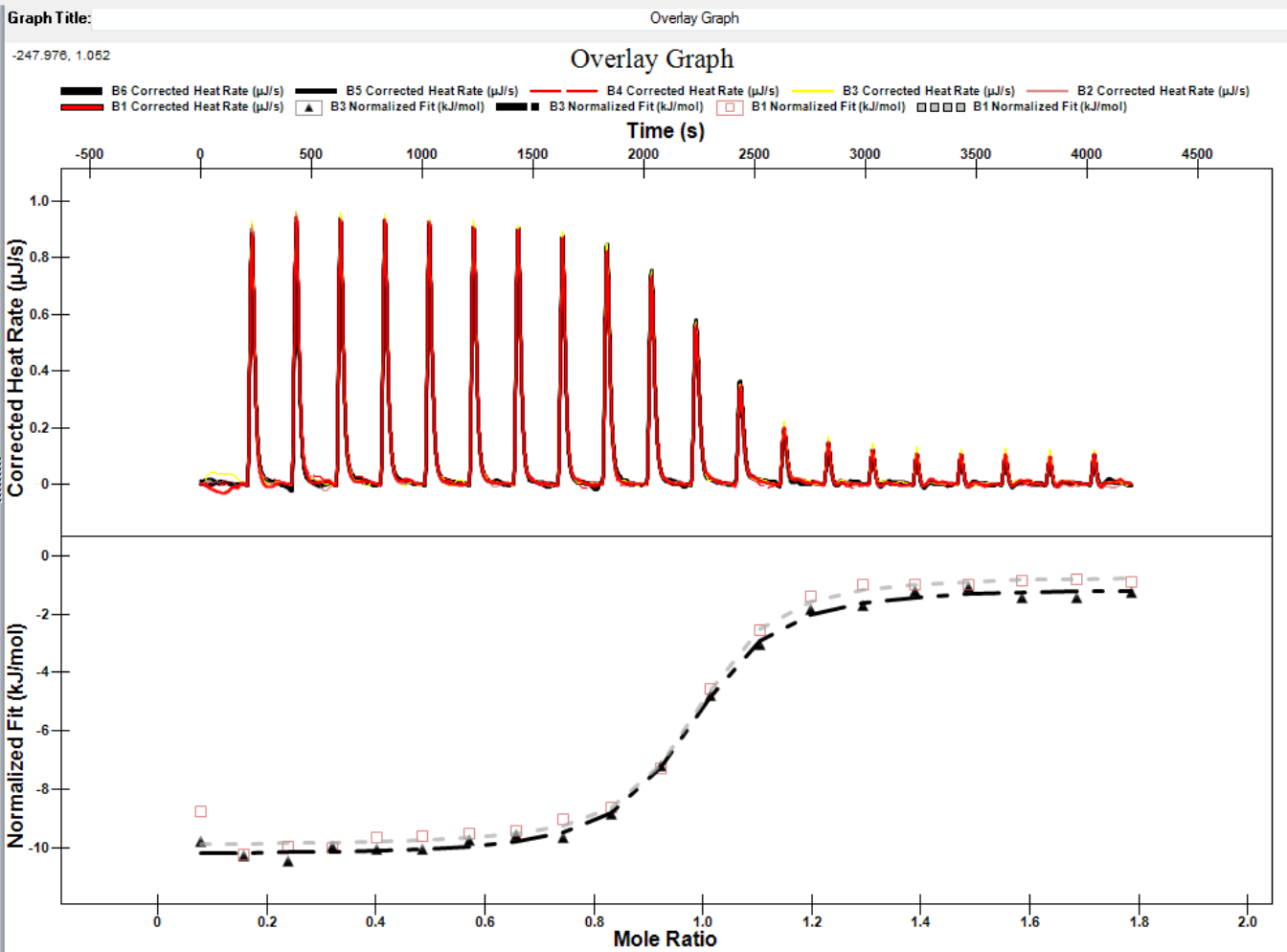
Datasets To Graph

Drop Primary graph items here

- B6
- B5
- B4
- B3
- B2
- B1

Drop Secondary graph items here

- B6
- B5
- B4
- B3
- B2
- B1



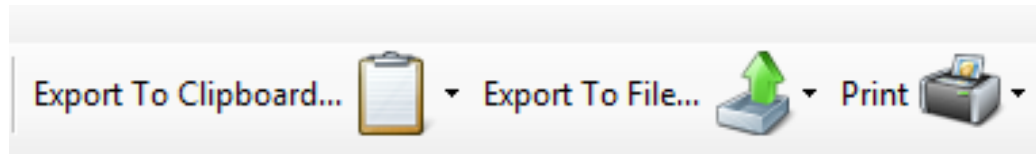
Graph Settings

Graph Style

- Lock X
- Lock Y
- Legend
- Tags
- Split Graph
- Model Variables
- Monochrome
- Data Shadows
- X Grid Lines
- Y Grid Lines
- Grid Bands
- Tick Marks
- Primary X-Axis Numbers
- Primary Y-Axis Numbers
- Secondary X-Axis Numbers
- Secondary Y-Axis Numbers
- Show Excluded Data
- Show Annotations

Reset

# NanoAnalyze – Graph & Data Export Options



- 5 options for image export
- Easy data export to spreadsheet format

# Need Assistance?

- Check the online manuals and error help.
- Contact the TA Instruments Helpline
  - Phone: **302-427-4070** M-F 8-4:30 EST
    - ◆ Select [Microcalorimetry](#) Support
  - Email:  
**[microcalorimetersupport@tainstruments.com](mailto:microcalorimetersupport@tainstruments.com)**
- Call your local Technical or Service Representative
- Call the TA Instruments
  - Phone: **302-427-4000** M-F 8-4:30 EST
- Check out our Website: [www.tainstruments.com](http://www.tainstruments.com)

# Thank You

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The World Leader in Thermal Analysis,  
Rheology, and Microcalorimetry

