

# Quantification of Glycated Hemoglobin by MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometry

**Jane Y. Yang, David A. Herold**

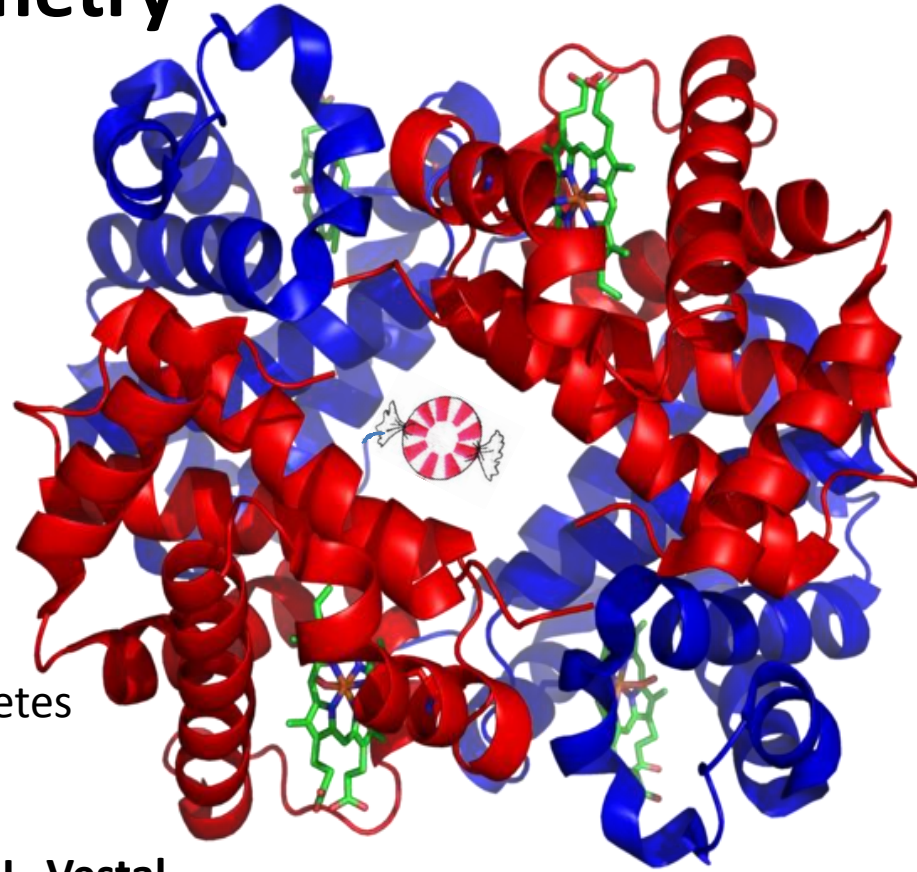
Department of Pathology,  
University of California San Diego,  
9500 Gilman Drive  
La Jolla, CA 92093-9113

**Mark W. Duncan**

University of Colorado School of Medicine  
Division of Endocrinology, Metabolism & Diabetes  
Aurora, CO 80045

**Stephen J. Hattan, Kenneth C. Parker, Marvin L. Vestal**

SimulTof Systems, 60 Union Avenue, Suite 1-R, Sudbury, MA 01776

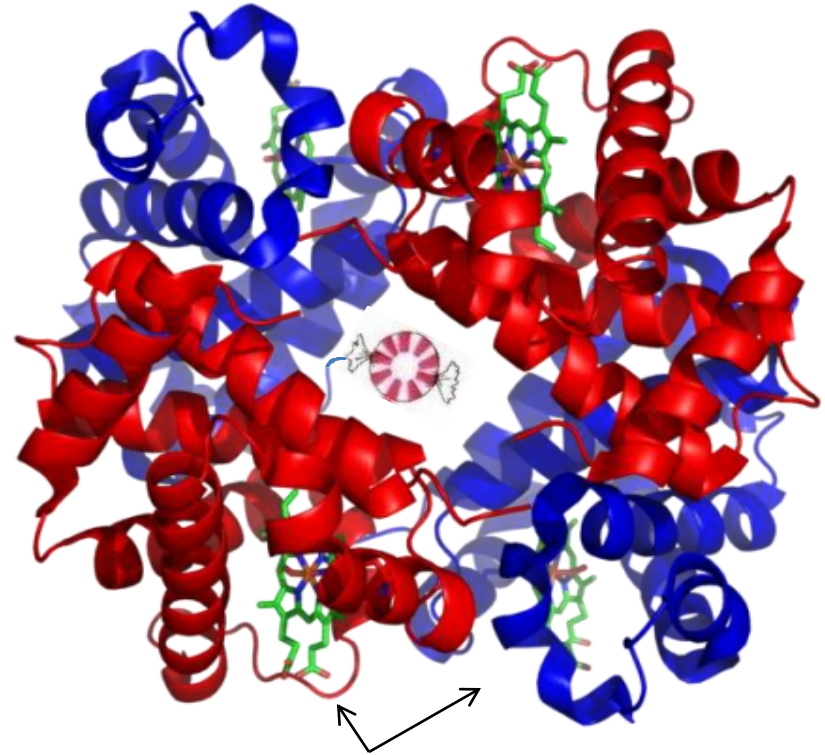


# Hemoglobin (Hb) / Hb-A1c

## Hemoglobin

Protein in red blood cells (erythrocytes)

- Primary function is respiratory
  - Transports oxygen / carbon dioxide
- Four globulin chains
  - Normal adult
    - 2 alpha-chains ( $\alpha$ -Hb)
    - 2 beta-chains ( $\beta$ -Hb)
  - All chains contain an embedded heme-group



Heme (green)

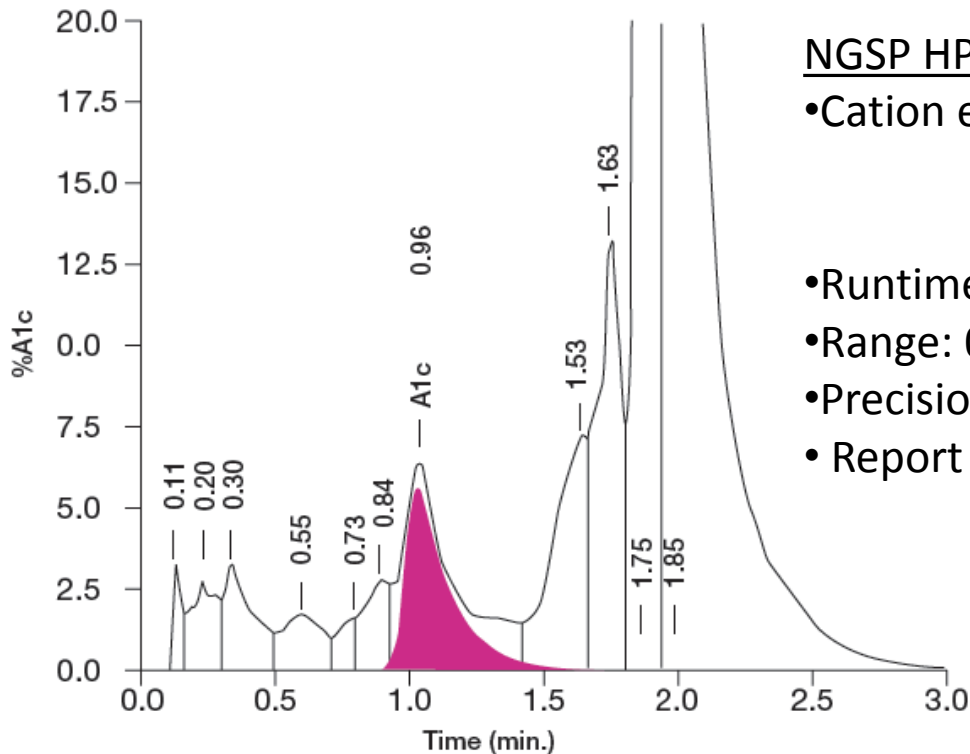
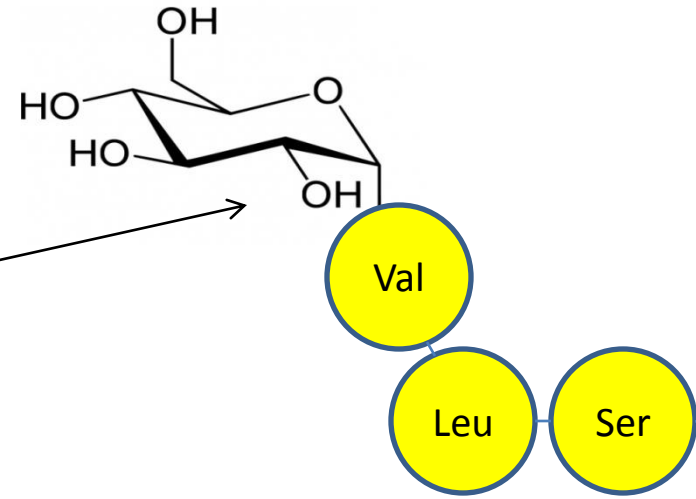
## Hemoglobin A1c

- Glycation of N-terminal valine of the Hb beta-chain
  - Non-enzymatic, [glucose]-dependent
- Serves as an average measure of blood glucose over the past 2 to 3 months
- $\beta$ -Hb contains 11 lysine residues that can also undergo glycation



# NGSP techniques and MALDI-TOF

- Glycation causes change in molecular charge and mass
  - Glucose addition
    - reduction in molecular charge (-1)
    - addition (+ 162 Da) in molecular mass



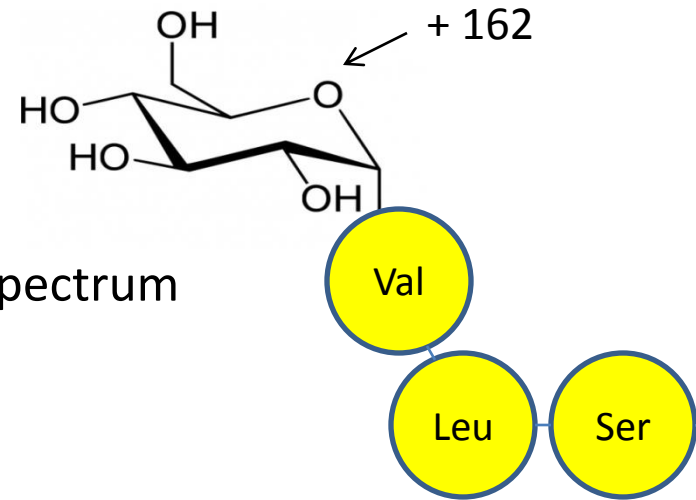
## NGSP HPLC Method

- Cation exchange chromatography
  - difference in charge state
  - Heme abs. (415nm)
- Runtime: 3 min
- Range: 0 – 20% HbA1c
- Precision  $\leq 2\%$
- Report % A1c as a ratio
$$[ A1c / (H\beta + A1c) ] * 100 = \% A1c$$

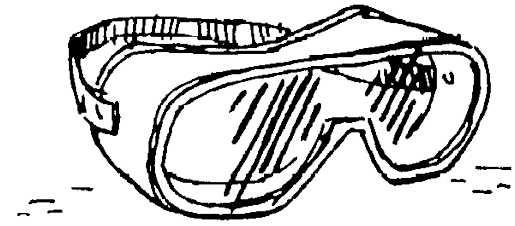
Example HPLC Chromatogram

# Why MALDI-TOF ?

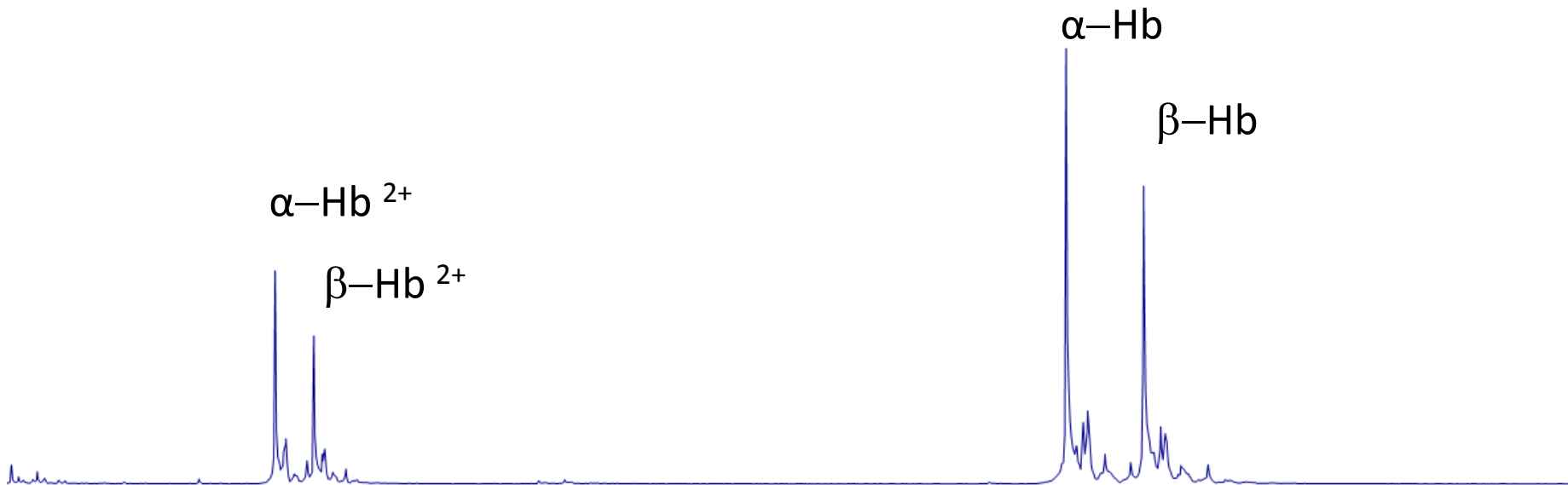
- accurate across a wide mass range  
linear mode 500 – 100000 and beyond in single spectrum
- precise, quantitative
- requires  $\ll 1 \mu\text{L}$  of sample
- fast, high throughput
  - single analyses time scale  $\sim 20$  seconds
  - multiple replicates analyses, 5x  $\sim$  minutes
  - reanalysis may be done if necessary
- Potential for the provision of additional information



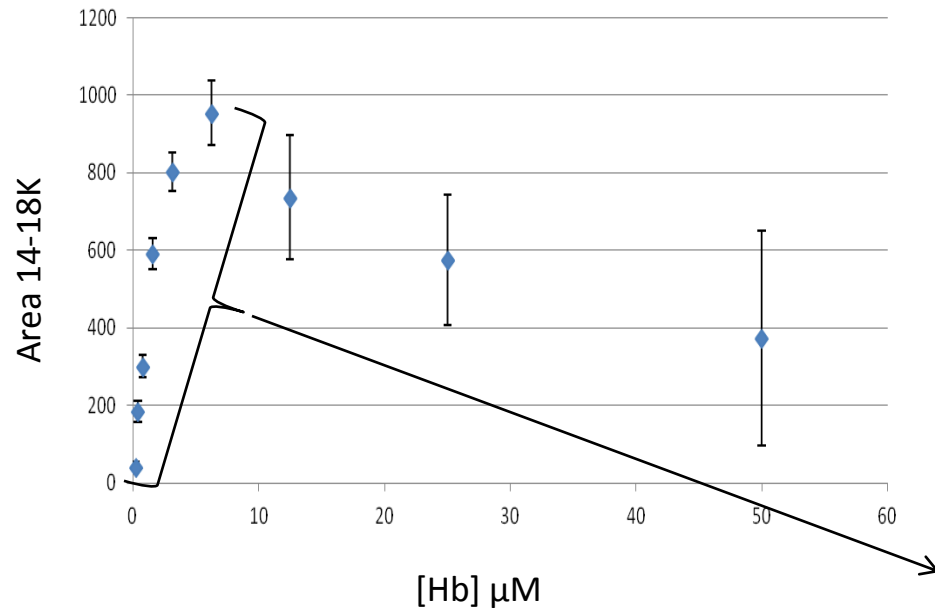
# Investigations



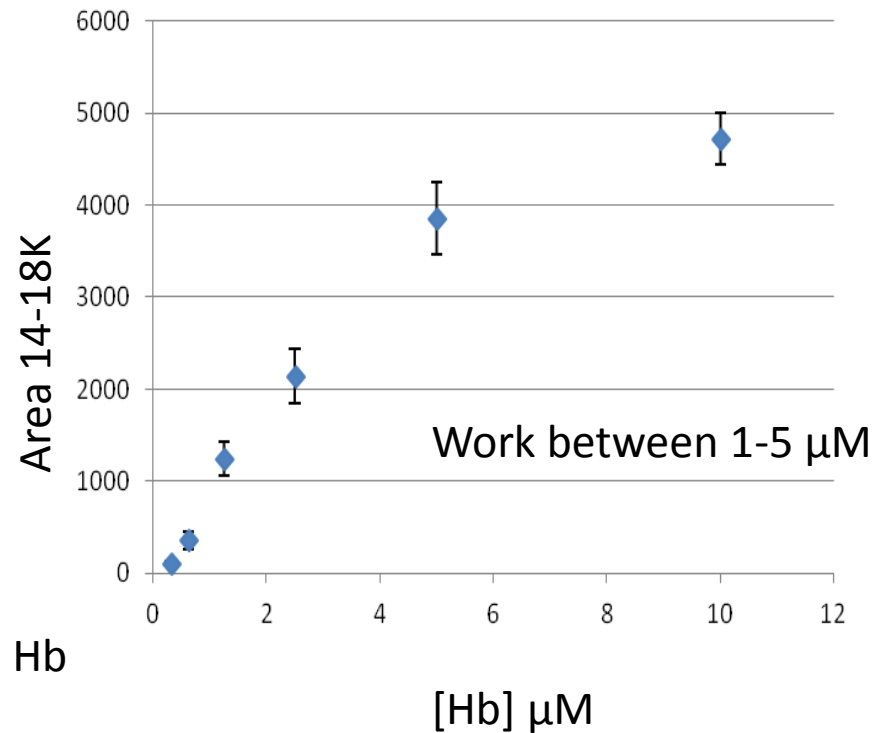
- **Practicality** – method development
- **Reproducibility** - precision of procedure / measurements
- **Stability** - of target analyte
- **Range** - measurement across clinically relevant domain
- **Accuracy** - comparison with NGSP validated technique (HPLC)



# [Where] to work ?



Range: 0.2 – 10  $\mu\text{M}$   
Signal: 14-18 kDa  
Measurements: 5x each



- Serial dilution 50.0 – 0.2  $\mu\text{M}$  Hb
- quantitative response  $\sim$  0.2- 5.0  $\mu\text{M}$
- **1:2000 dilution of whole blood**  $\sim$  2.0  $\mu\text{M}$  Hb

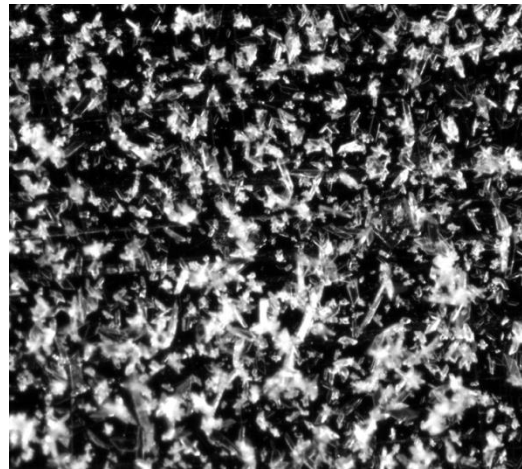
Work between 1-5  $\mu\text{M}$

# Sample Preparation

- Sinapinic acid (30% CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 0.1% TFA)
- $\mu$ Focus MALDI Plate 2600  $\mu$ m (Hudson Surface Technology)
- Samples spotted as 5x replicates

## Other matrices examined

- Alpha-cyano
- DHB
- Super-DHB
- HABA
- 3-HPA
- Ferrulic acid
- Trans 3,5-*bis* (trifluoromethyl) cinnamic acid
- 3,4,5 Trimethoxycinnamic acid



Crystals  $\sim$  10-20  $\mu$ m





# Sample Acquisition

- SimulTOF 100 MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer (SimulTof Systems, Sudbury, MA)

## *Capabilities:*

- *Max accelerating voltage 20 kV*
- *Max laser pulse frequency 5000 Hz*
- *Max scan speed 10 mm/s*

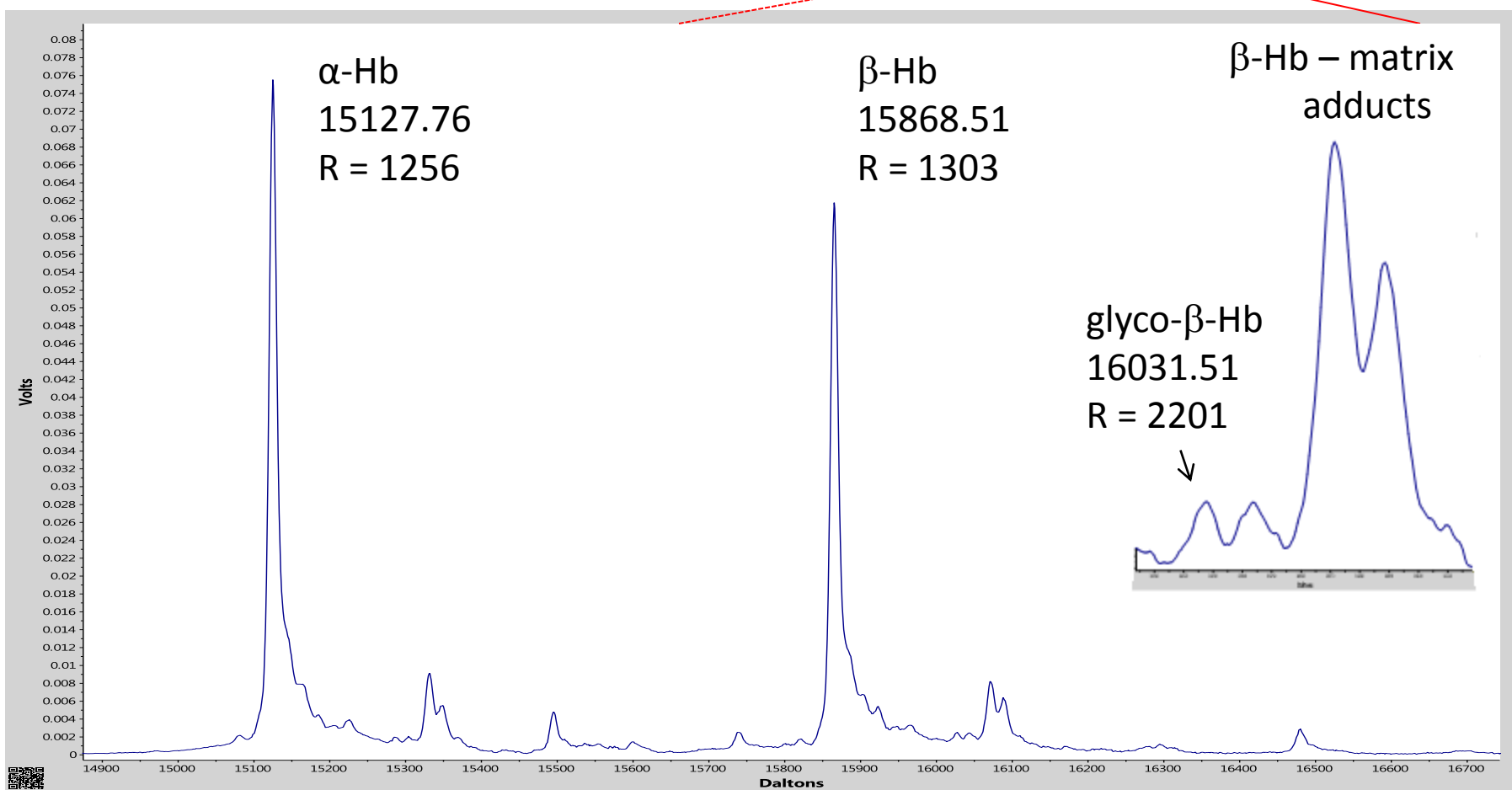
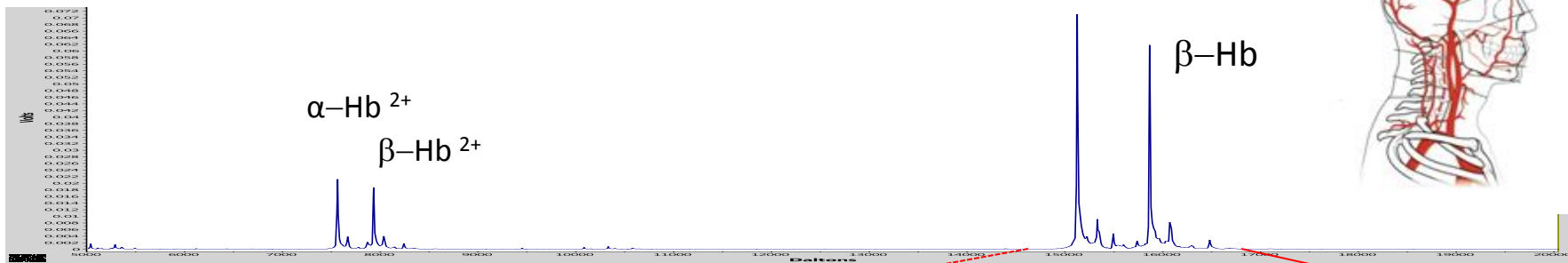
## Acquisition parameters

- Linear mode using positive-ion polarization
- Acceleration voltage 20 kV
- Mass range 5000 – 20,000 Dalton
- Focus mass 15,000
- Laser pulse frequency 1000 Hz
- Laser pulse energy 12  $\mu$ J
- **Scan rate 1 mm/s**
- **Spot size 2.6  $\mu$ m**
- **100  $\mu$ m raster to cover each sample position**

***Red = adjustable parameters that determine acquisition speed***



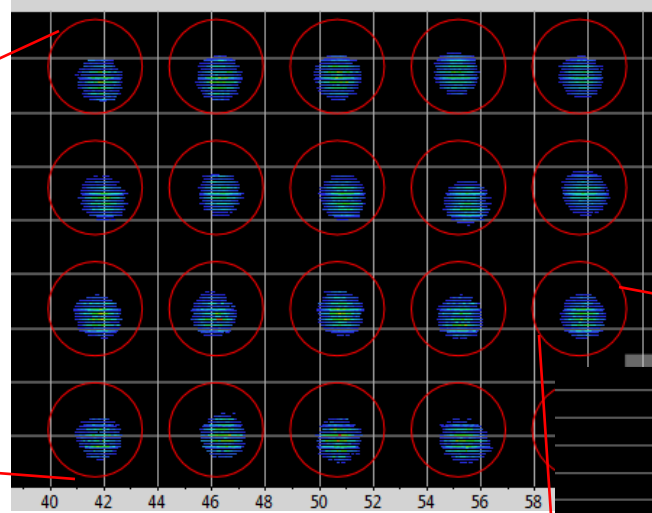
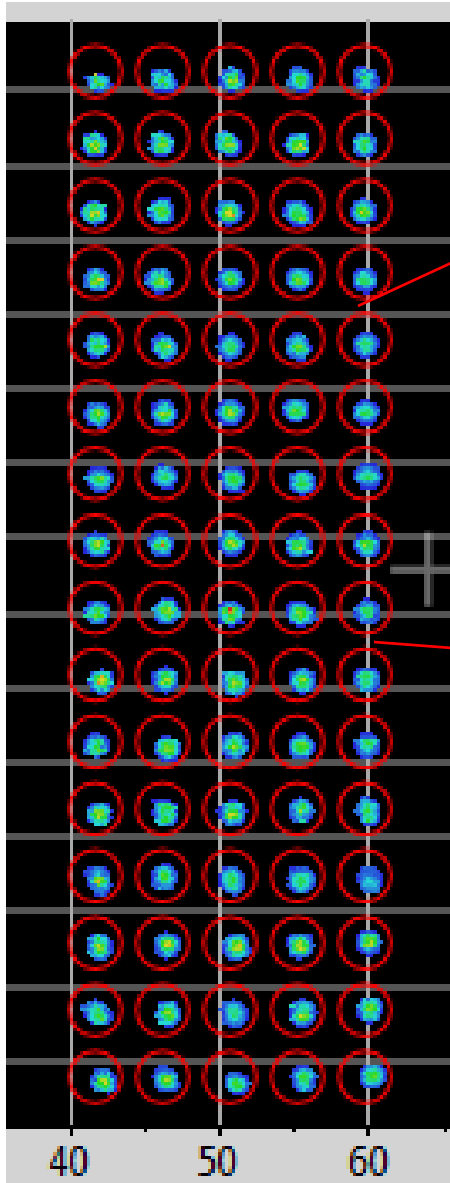
# mass spectrum of whole blood (5 -20 kDa)



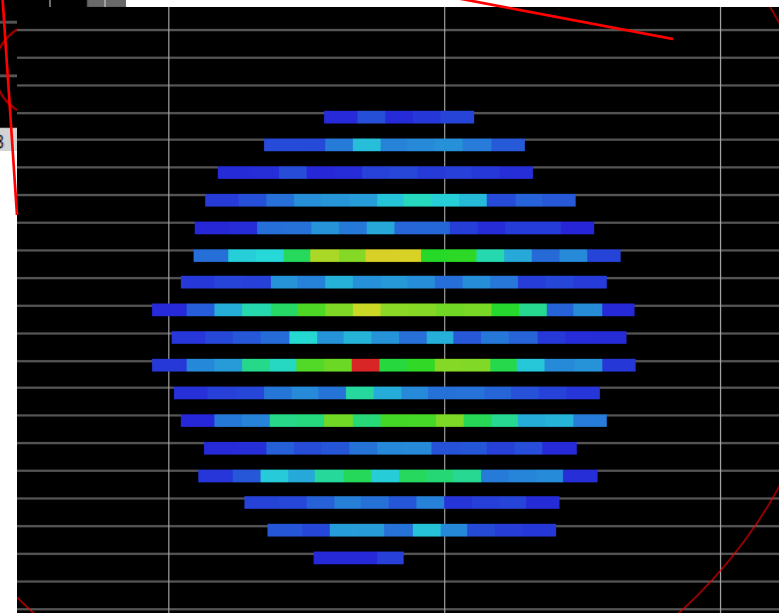
Microscope slide-sized plate

# Sample Acquisition cont.

16 samples / 5x replication.

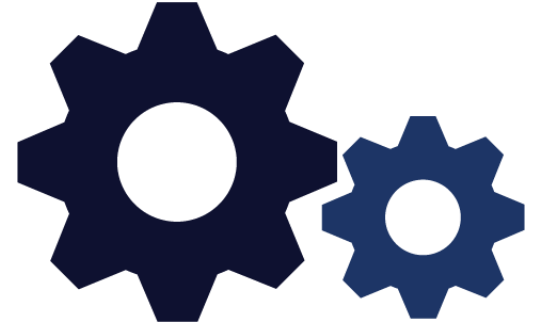


100 shots / spectrum  
~ 200 spectra / spot



Each pixel = 1 spectrum

# Post Acquisition Data Processing

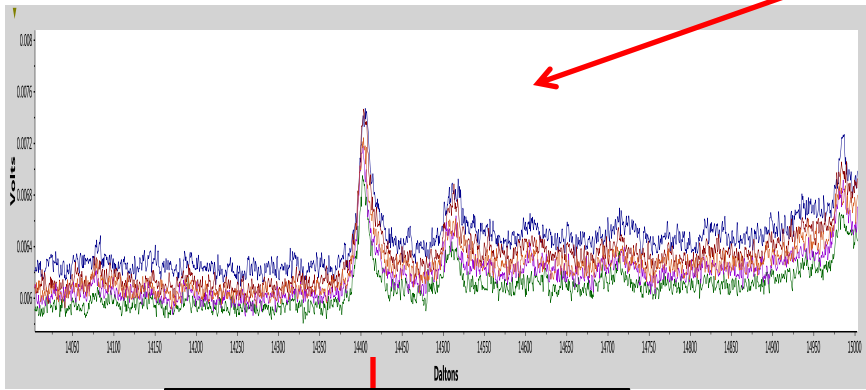
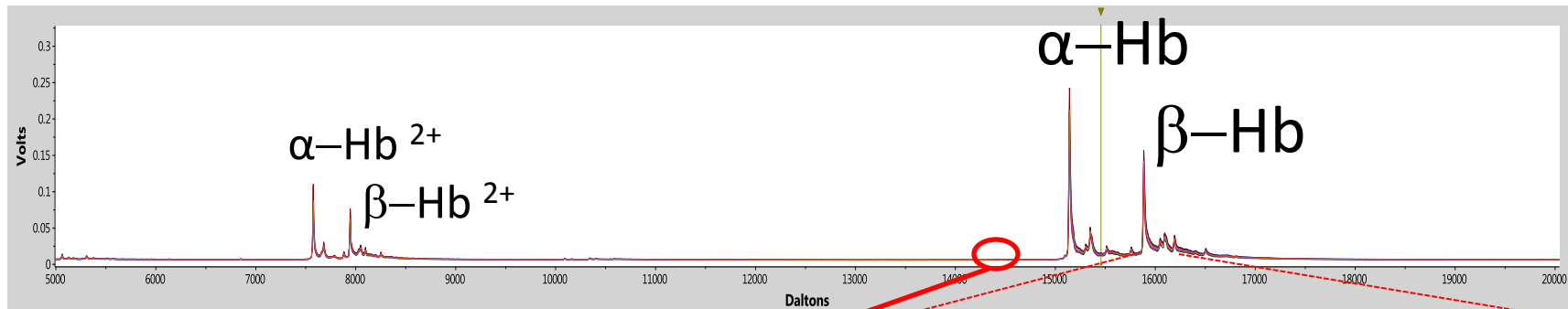


- **Average all spectra** > 20 mV signal intensity / spot
- **Baseline corrected** spot-averaged spectra
- **Calibrate** spot-averaged spectra
  - M<sup>+1</sup> and M<sup>+2</sup> ions of hemoglobin  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunits  
( $\alpha = 7,564.37, 15,127.74, \beta = 7,934.75, 15,868.51$  Da)
- **Quantify** by integration of signals from  $\beta$ -Hb and ( $\beta$ -Hb + 162 (glucose))
- **Report** as a ratio of the percentage of total glycation on the  $\beta$  chain

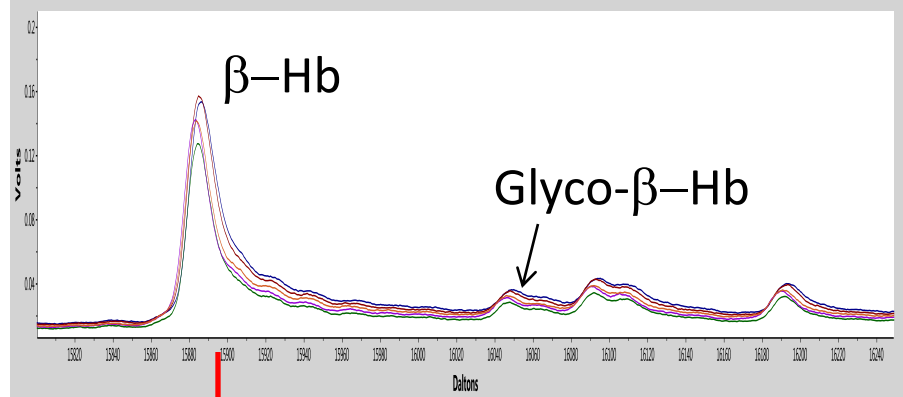
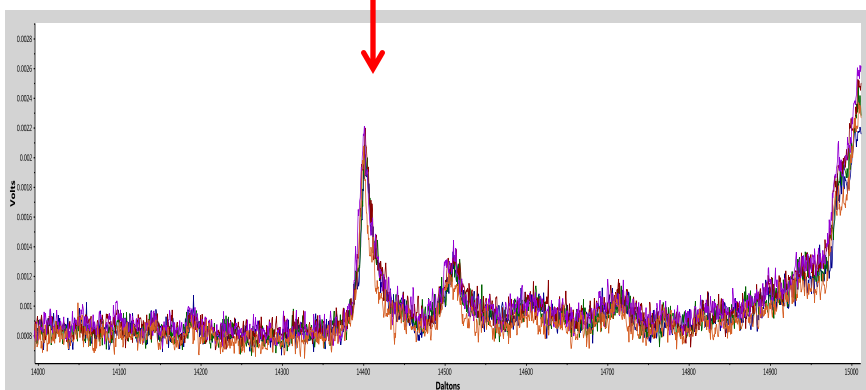
$$\left[ \frac{(\text{H}\beta + 162)}{(\text{H}\beta + (\text{H}\beta + 162))} \right] * 100 = \% \text{ Glyco-}\beta\text{-Hb}$$

(can also be done for glyco- $\alpha$ -Hb)

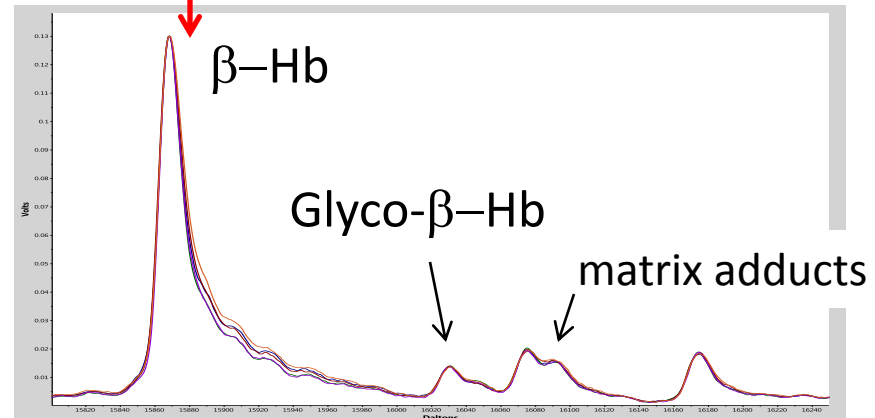
# Data Processing



1. Baseline correction

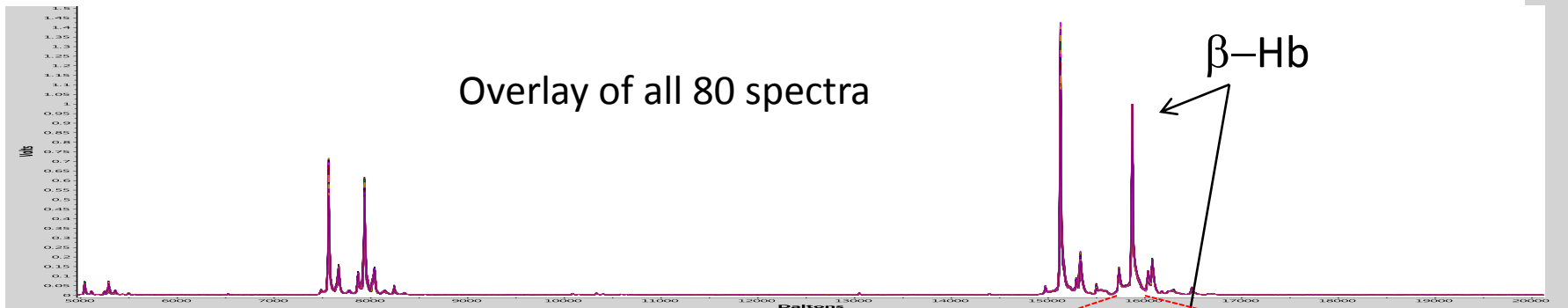


2. Calibration & normalization



# Reproducibility

Overlay of all 80 spectra



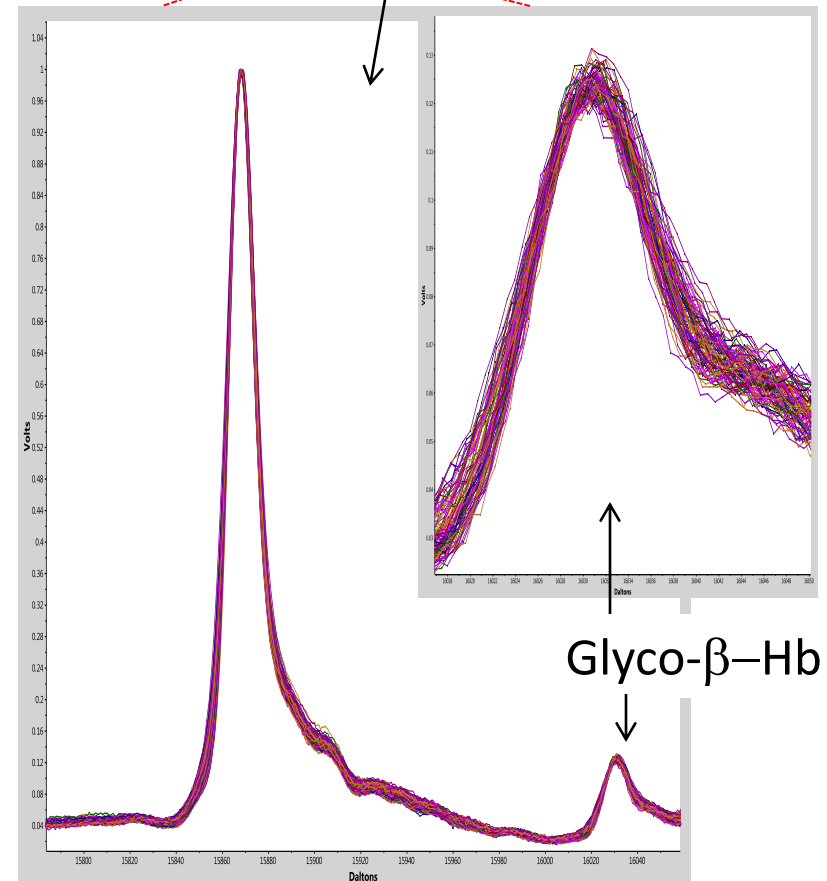
## Reproducibility experiment

- 1 sample across plate
- Processed 16 samples  
5x replicates
- Ave CV for 16 < 1.00%
- CV for 16 Glyco ratios 1.22 %

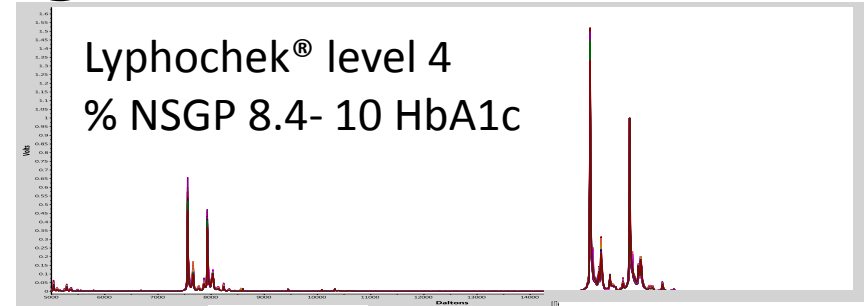
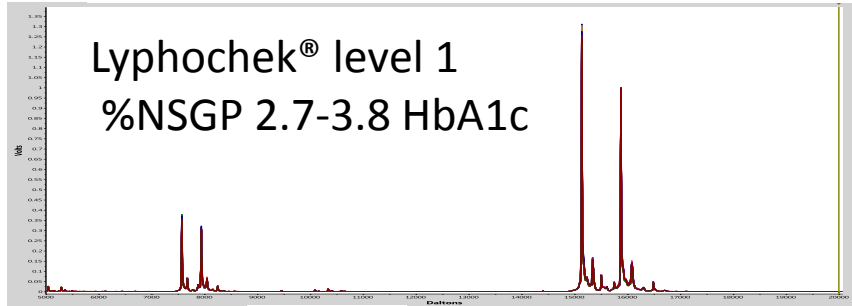
80 spots

~ 16,000 spectra

	GlyHb/Hb%	CV %
T 1	13.52	1.39
T 2	13.48	0.71
T 3	13.20	0.62
T 4	13.07	0.99
T 5	13.07	0.96
T 6	13.11	0.90
T 7	12.98	0.67
T 8	12.99	1.19
T 9	13.05	0.96
T 10	12.99	0.99
T 11	13.08	0.92
T 12	13.01	0.66
T 13	13.16	1.00
T 14	13.15	0.84
T 15	13.22	0.70
T 16	13.17	0.85
<b>Average</b>	<b>13.14</b>	<b>0.90</b>
<b>Std Dev</b>	<b>0.16</b>	
<b>Rel Std Dev</b>	<b>1.22</b>	

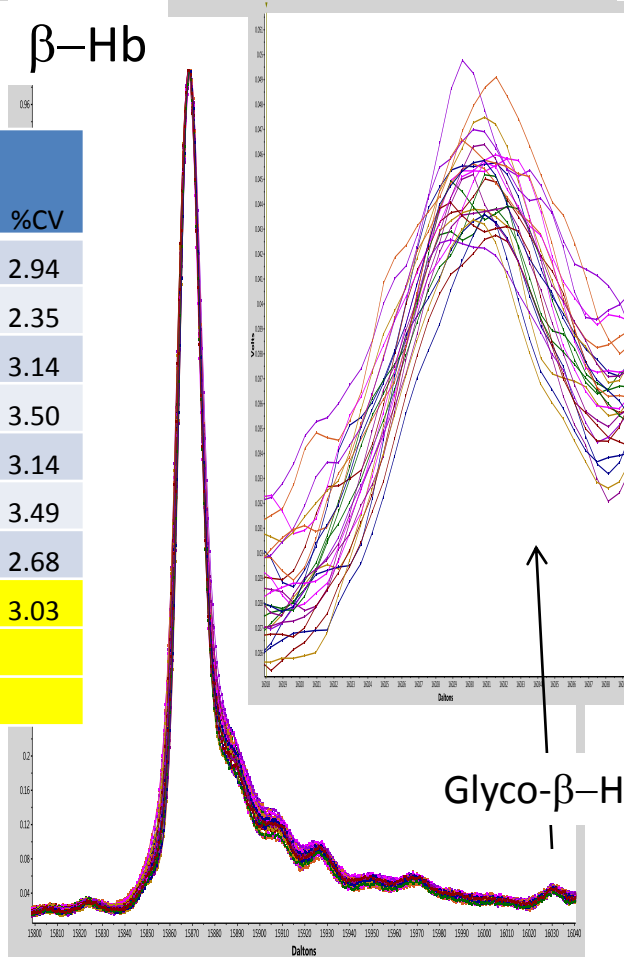


# Low and mid range HbA1c Stds



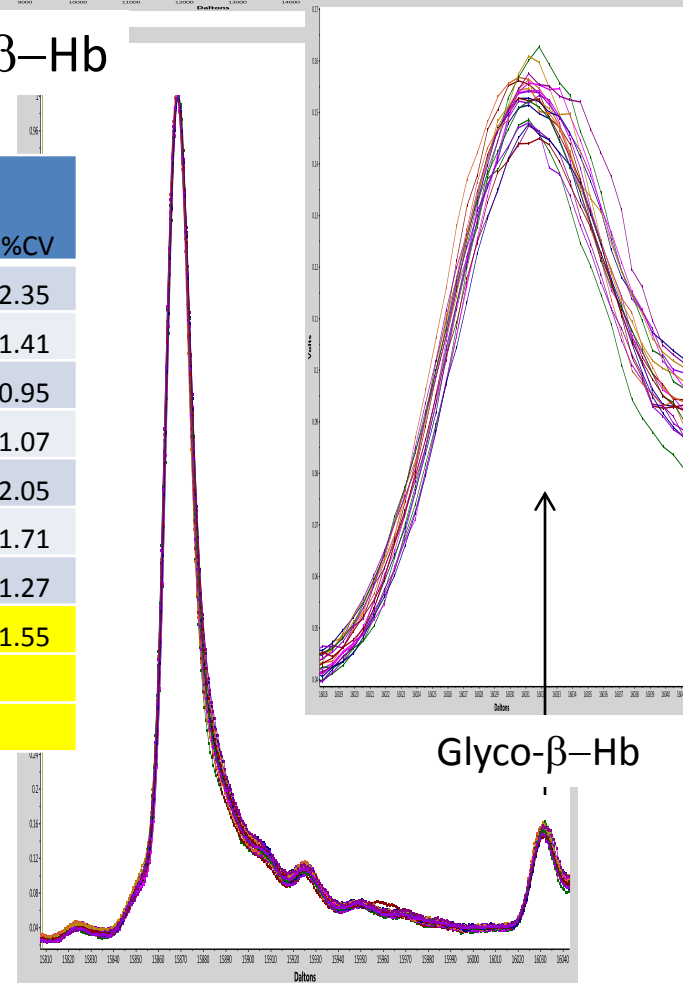
$\beta$ -Hb

Level 1 Std	GlyHb/ Hb%	%CV
T1	5.19	2.94
T2	4.96	2.35
T3	4.99	3.14
T4	4.94	3.50
T5	5.07	3.14
T6	4.75	3.49
T7	4.91	2.68
<b>AVE</b>	<b>4.97</b>	<b>3.03</b>
<b>Std Dev</b>	<b>0.14</b>	
<b>% CV</b>	<b>2.74</b>	



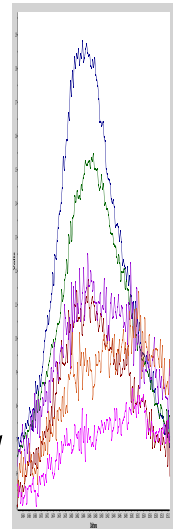
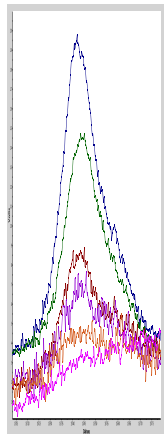
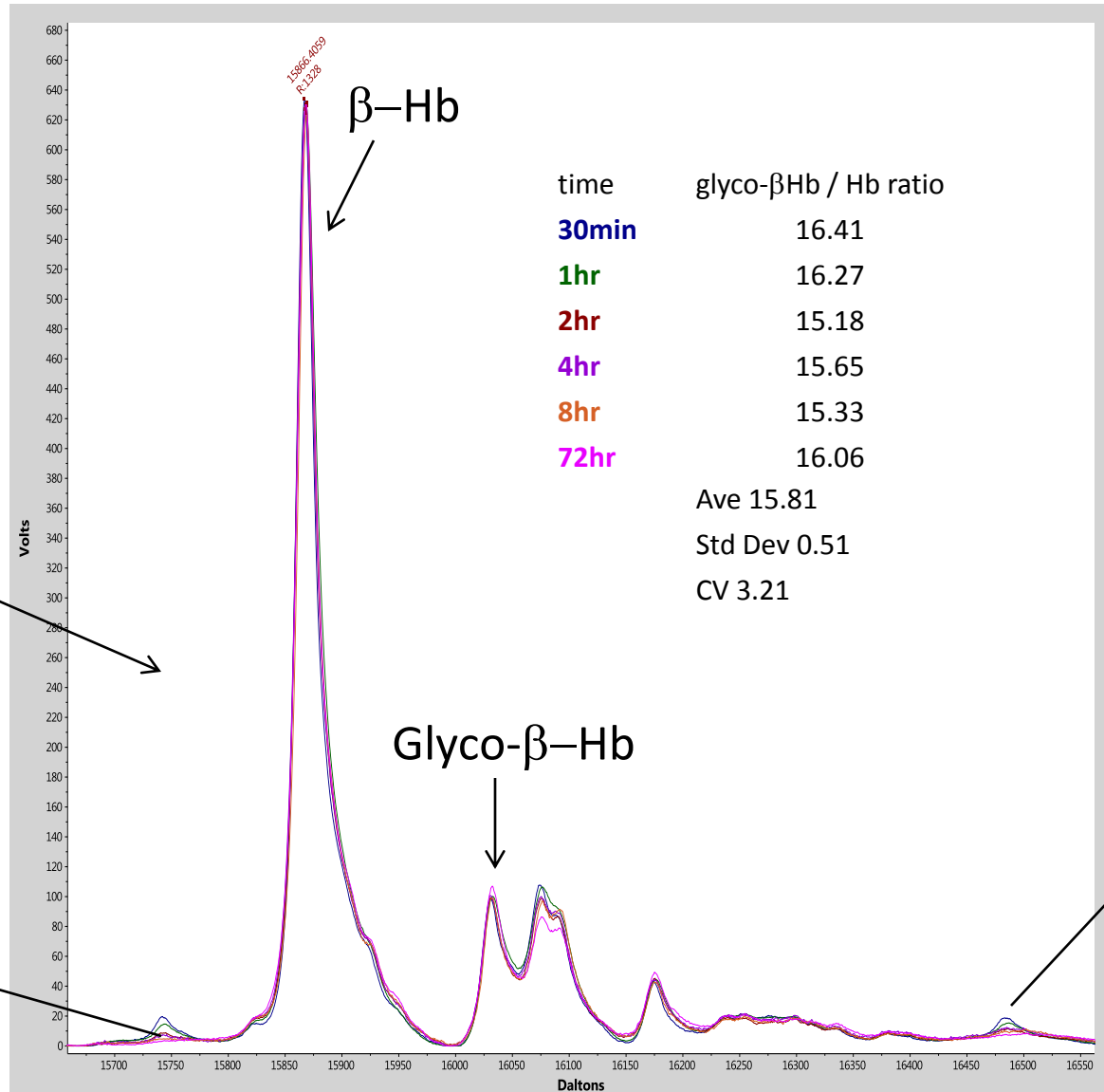
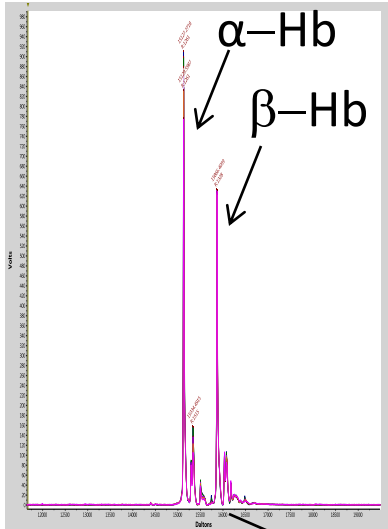
$\beta$ -Hb

Level 4 Std	GlyHb/ Hb%	%CV
T1	13.97	2.35
T2	13.81	1.41
T3	14.12	0.95
T4	13.48	1.07
T5	13.58	2.05
T6	13.62	1.71
T7	13.36	1.27
<b>Ave</b>	<b>13.70</b>	<b>1.55</b>
<b>Std Dev</b>	<b>0.21</b>	
<b>% CV</b>	<b>1.55</b>	



Glyco- $\beta$ -Hb

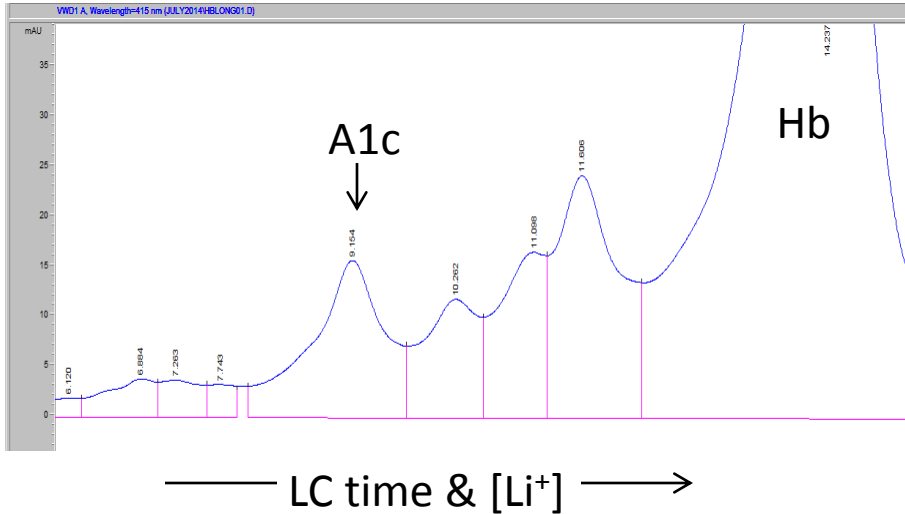
# Stability / Time Course of Glyco- $\beta$ -Hb / Hb Ratio



Some things are happening?



# Isolation of A1c for Calibration Curve Construction



- Agilent 1100 series LC
- Mono S 5/50 GL column

Buffers

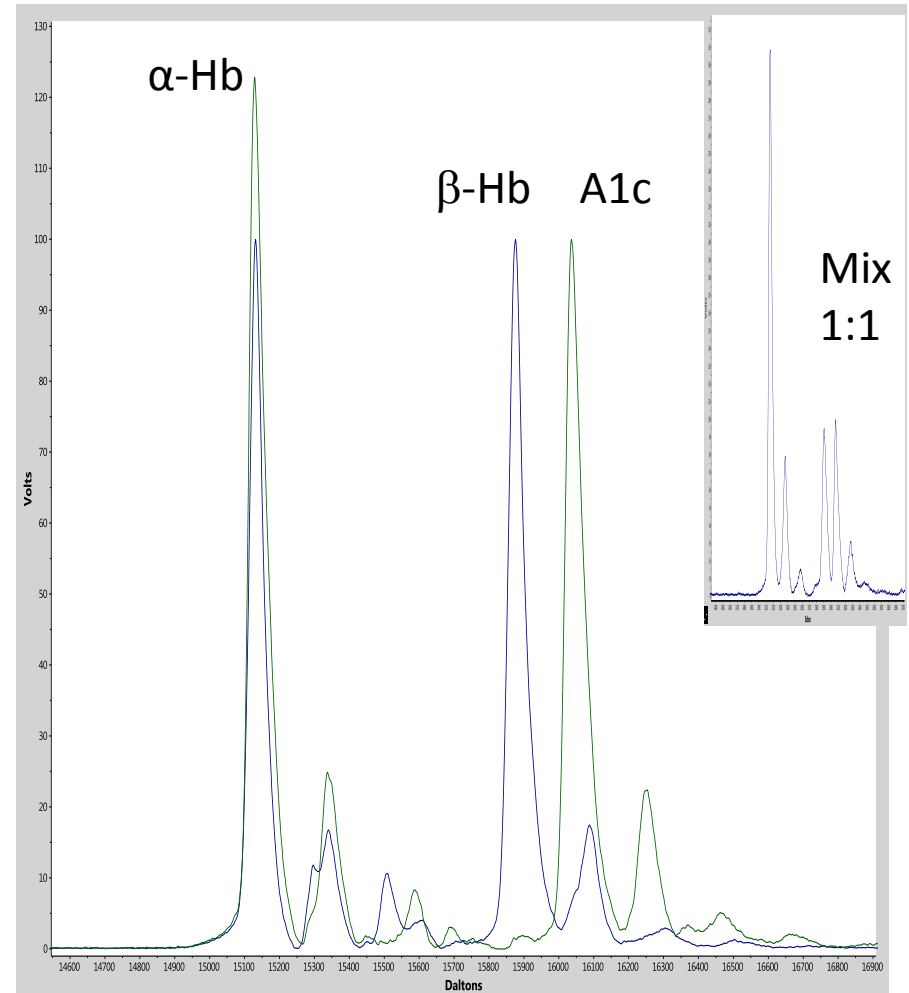
A = 10 mM Na Malonate pH 5.7

B = 10 mM Na Malonate pH 5.7, 0.3 M LiCl

Detection 415 nm

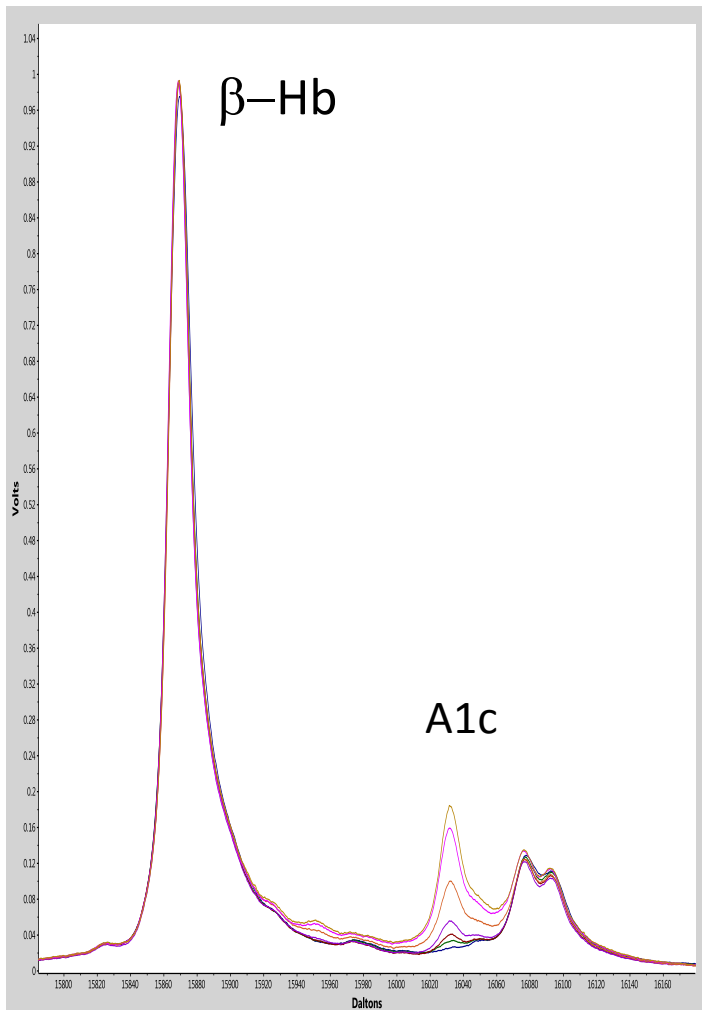
**CLIN. CHEM. 32/10, 1867-1 872 (1986)**

Measurement of Hemoglobin A1C by a New Liquid-Chromatographic Assay: Methodology, Clinical Utility, and Relation to Glucose Tolerance Evaluated. Jan-Olof Jeppsson, Per Jemtorp, Sundkvist, KanEnglund, and Virve Nylunde

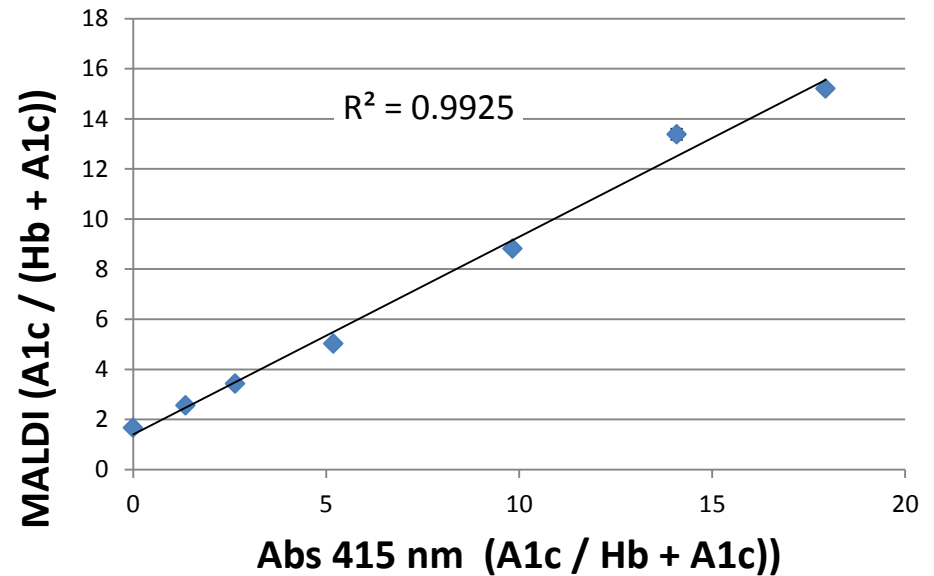


Spectra from purified materials

# Calibration Curve Cont.



Avg	Std	CV
1.67	0.07	4.03
2.56	0.02	0.74
3.42	0.05	1.35
5.02	0.04	0.81
8.82	0.08	0.95
13.38	0.22	1.62
15.20	0.07	0.48



H <sub>2</sub> O $\mu$ L	A1c $\mu$ L	Hb $\mu$ L	Matrix $\mu$ L	[Hb] $\mu$ M	[A1c] $\mu$ M	% A1c	% A1c/Hb + A1c
20	0	20	60	1.88	0		
19	1	20	60	1.88	.026	1.37	1.36
18	2	20	60	1.88	.051	2.73	2.64
16	4	20	60	1.88	.104	5.47	5.19
12	8	20	60	1.88	.208	10.93	9.83
8	12	20	60	1.88	.312	16.44	14.08
4	16	20	60	1.88	.416	21.92	17.94

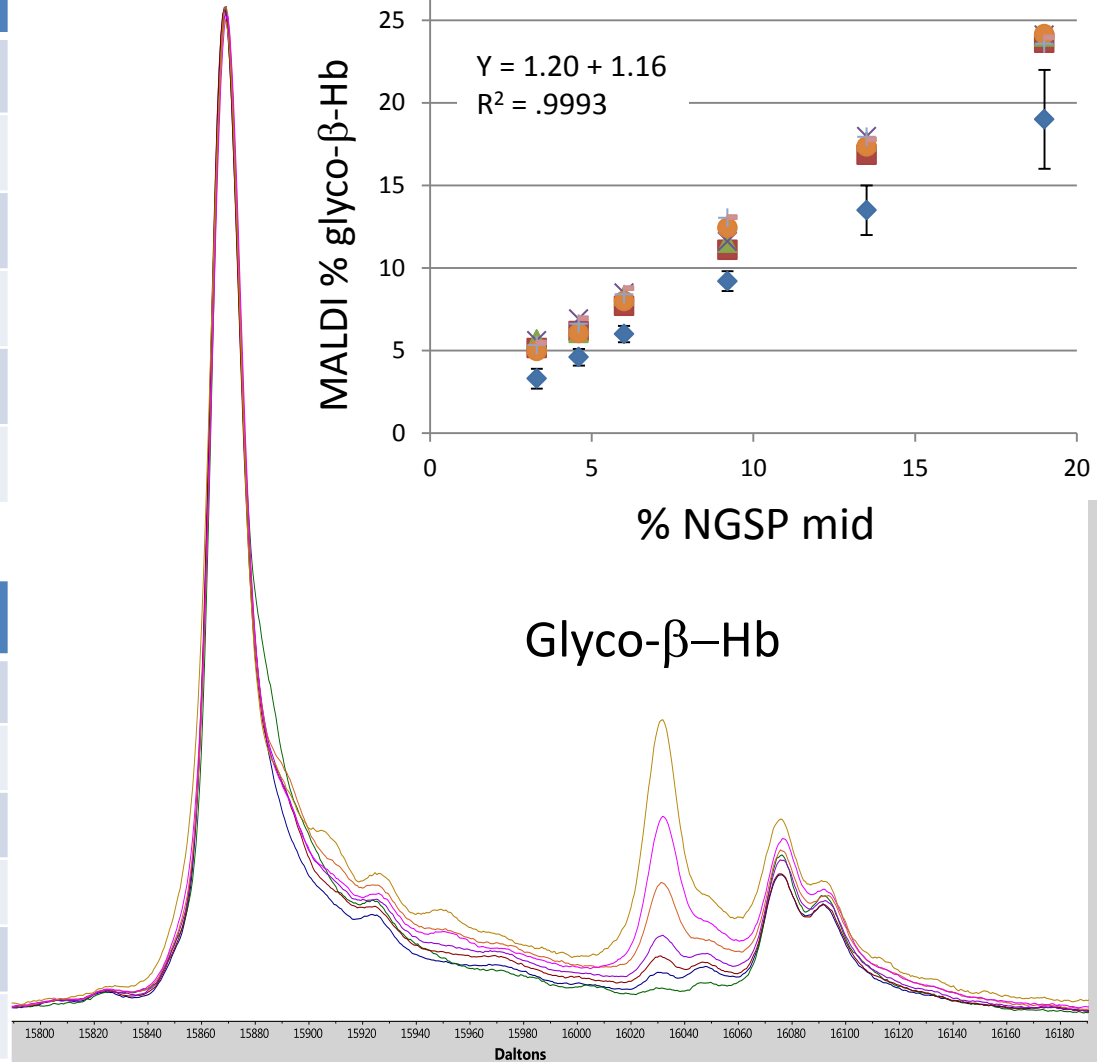
Linear response across clinically relevant range

# Analysis of Lyphochek® Hemoglobin A1c Linearity Set

	Expected HbA1c (%NGSP)
Level 1	2.7 - 3.8 %
Level 2	4.1 - 5.1 %
Level 3	5.5 - 6.5 %
Level 4	8.4 - 10 %
Level 5	12 - 15 %
Level 6	16 - 22 %

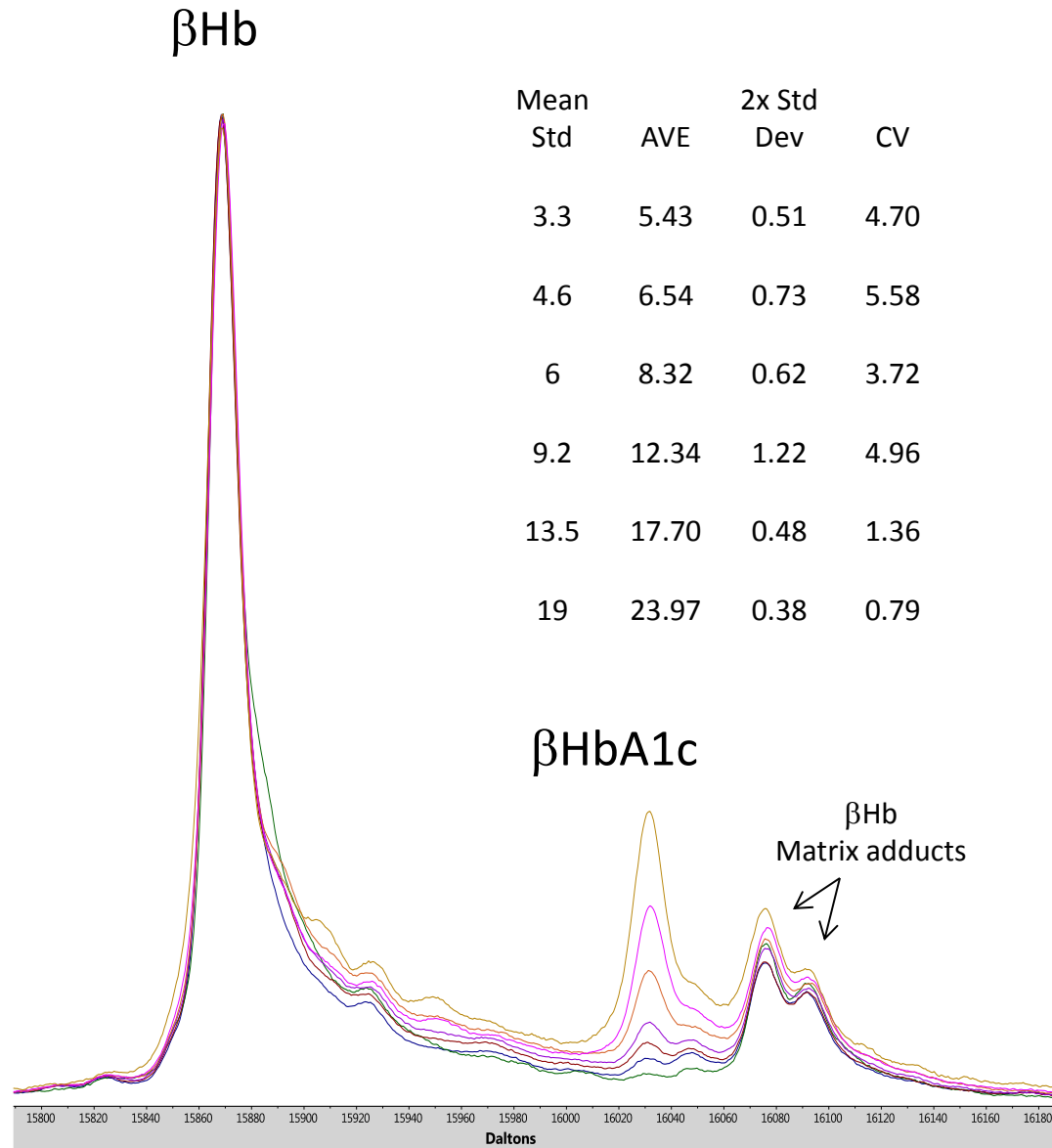
mid	Ave	Std Dev	CV
3.3	5.39	0.26	4.75
4.6	6.49	0.39	5.99
6	8.23	0.37	4.46
9.2	12.16	0.77	6.34
13.5	17.58	0.39	2.20
19	23.92	0.23	0.95

β - Hb



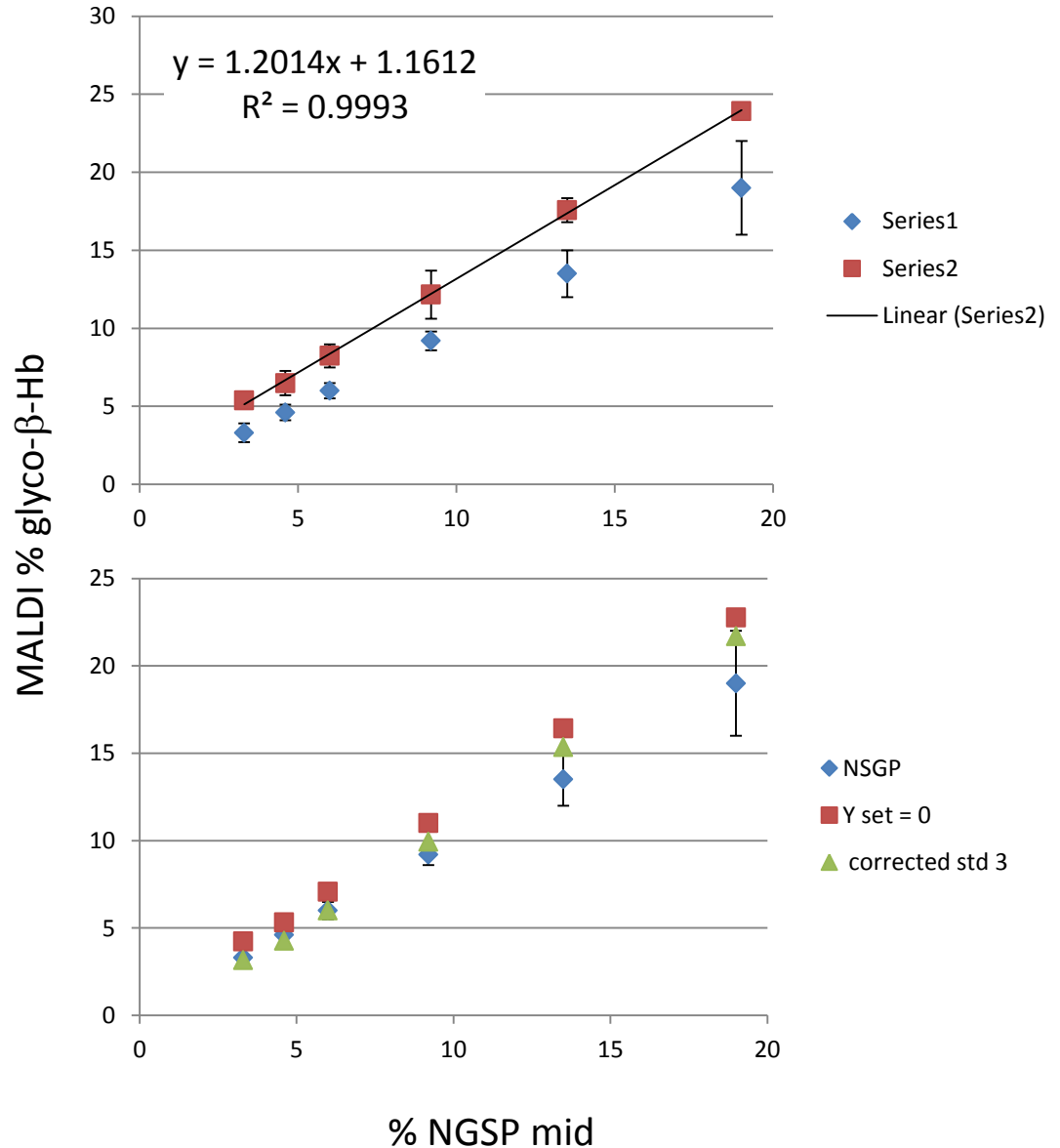
# Analysis of Lyphochek<sup>®</sup> Hemoglobin A1c Linearity Set

	Expected HbA1c (%NGSP)
Level 1	2.7 - 3.8 %
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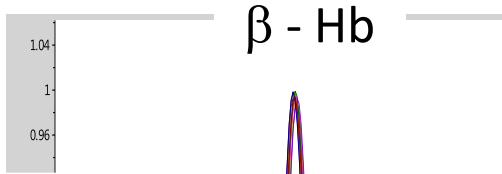


# Lyphochek<sup>®</sup> Hemoglobin A1c Linearity Set cont.

	HbA1c %NGSP	Ave	Y set = 0	Corr.std 3
Level 1	2.7 - 3.8 %	5.39	4.23	3.16
Level 2	4.1 - 5.1 %	6.49	5.33	4.26
Level 3	5.5 - 6.5 %	8.23	7.07	6.00
Level 4	8.4 - 10 %	12.16	11.00	9.93
Level 5	12 - 15 %	17.58	16.42	15.35
Level 6	16 - 22 %	23.92	22.76	21.69

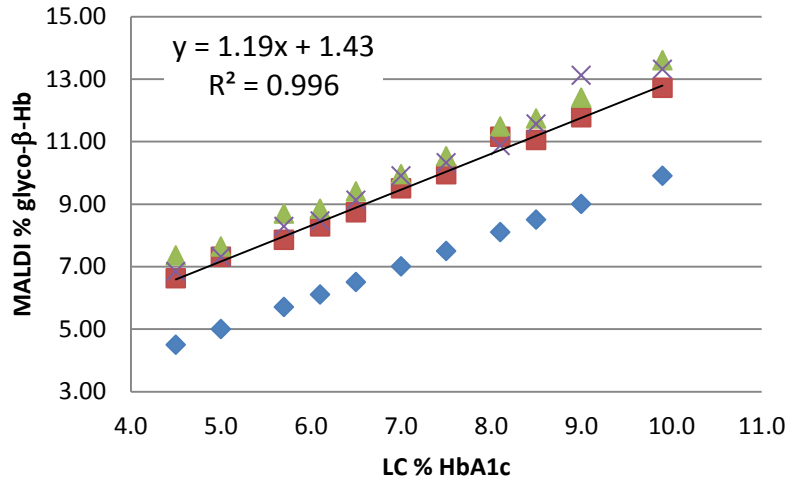


# Blood Samples Jan. 2015, 3 plates, 11 samples

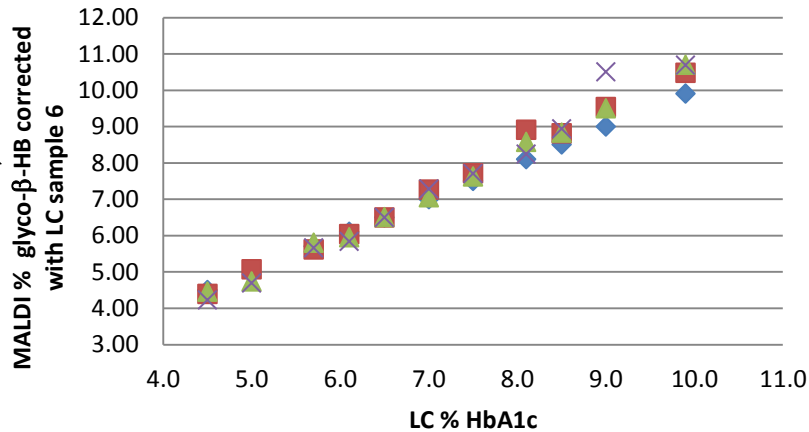


$\beta$  - Hb

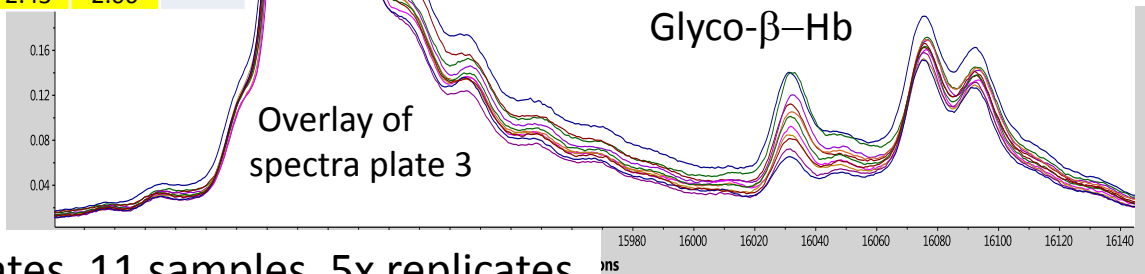
LC % A1c	T1	T2	T3	Ave
9.00	11.78	12.40	13.12	12.43
9.90	12.72	13.59	13.31	13.21
8.10	11.15	11.47	10.86	11.16
8.50	11.05	11.73	11.56	11.45
7.50	9.95	10.52	10.32	10.27
6.50	8.74	9.40	9.12	9.09
6.10	8.28	8.85	8.46	8.53
5.00	7.31	7.64	7.31	7.42
4.50	6.63	7.35	6.84	6.94
7.00	9.50	9.95	9.90	9.78
5.70	7.86	8.70	8.28	8.28
Ave				
% CV	2.09	2.43	2.06	



- ◆ Bio Rad
- T1
- ▲ T2
- × T3
- Linear (T1)



- ◆ LC % A1c
- T1
- ▲ T2
- × T3



Overlay of spectra plate 3

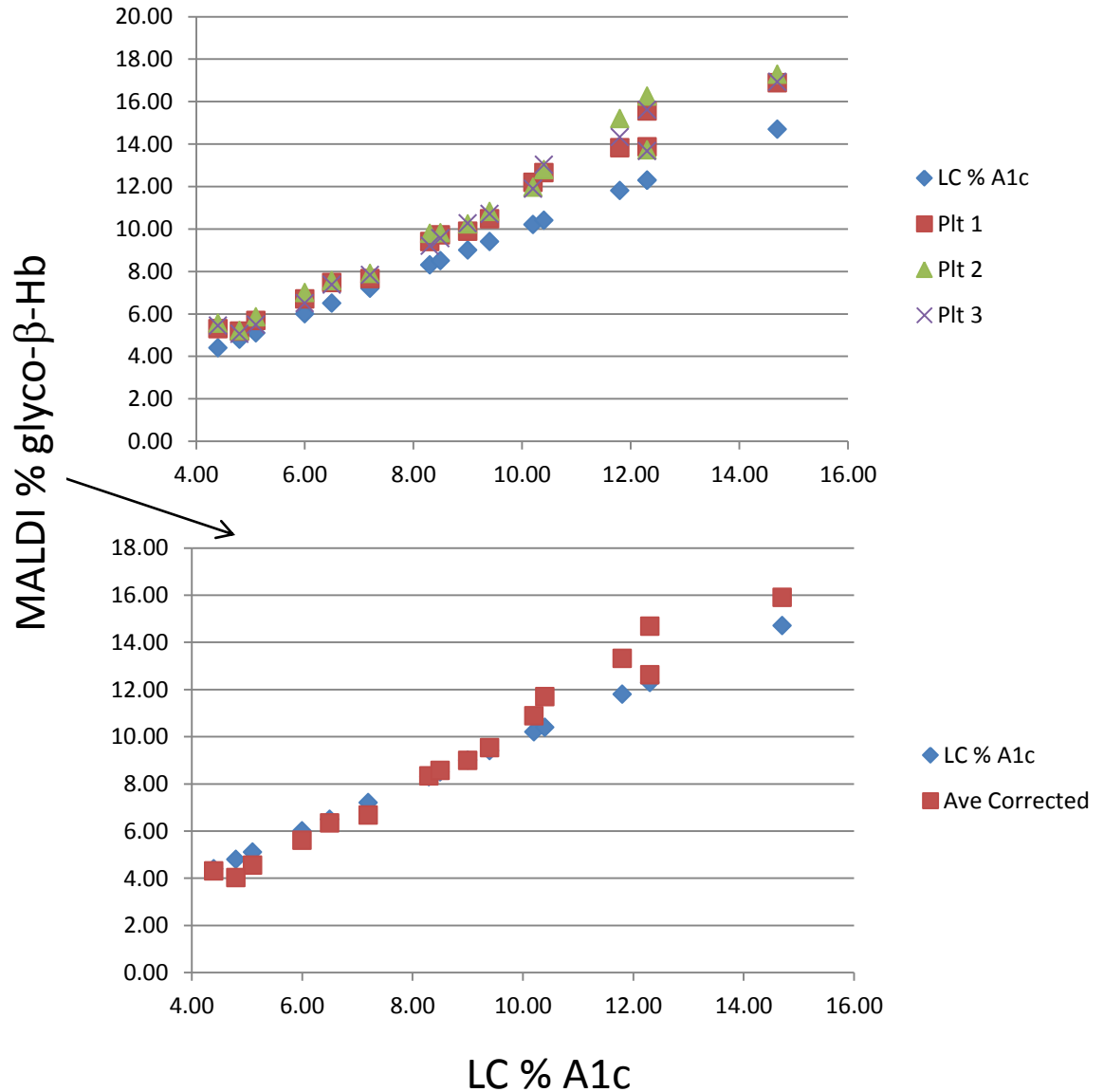
Glyco- $\beta$ -Hb

3 plates, 11 samples, 5x replicates

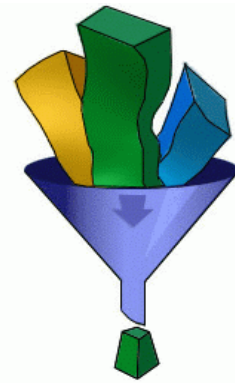
ms

# Samples Nov 2014, 3 plates, 16 samples

LC % A1c	Plt 1 % glyco-β-Hb	Plt 2 % glyco-β-Hb	Plt 3 % glyco-β-Hb	AVE
11.80	13.82	15.19	14.33	14.45
5.10	5.69	5.86	5.48	5.68
7.20	7.66	7.91	7.84	7.80
6.50	7.47	7.56	7.37	7.47
8.30	9.41	9.80	9.20	9.47
9.40	10.48	10.81	10.70	10.67
6.00	6.71	7.00	6.50	6.73
9.00	9.88	10.24	10.26	10.13
4.80	5.18	5.22	5.06	5.15
12.30	13.86	13.72	13.67	13.75
12.30	15.56	16.26	15.61	15.81
4.40	5.29	5.56	5.45	5.43
14.70	16.89	17.29	16.92	17.03
10.20	12.20	11.96	11.89	12.02
10.40	12.66	12.79	13.02	12.82
8.50	9.72	9.82	9.56	9.70
Ave CV	% 1.73	% 2.55	% 2.56	



# Summary



## MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry

- Promising analytical platform for measuring glycated hemoglobin
- Diluted whole blood sample, no fasting required
- Reproducible / quantitative
- Accurate across clinically relevant range
- Fast, potentially high-throughput, reduced cost of analysis



# Future



- Develop methods that use additional MS information to verify estimates of glyco- $\beta$ -Hb
  - glyco- $\alpha$ -Hb ratio
  - glyco- $\beta$ -Hb  $^{2+}$  ratio
- Investigate relationship between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  chain glycation
- Automate sample handling
- Implement calibration standard into analysis
- Run more samples