

Mechanisms of antagonism of HIV-specific CD4+ T cell responses

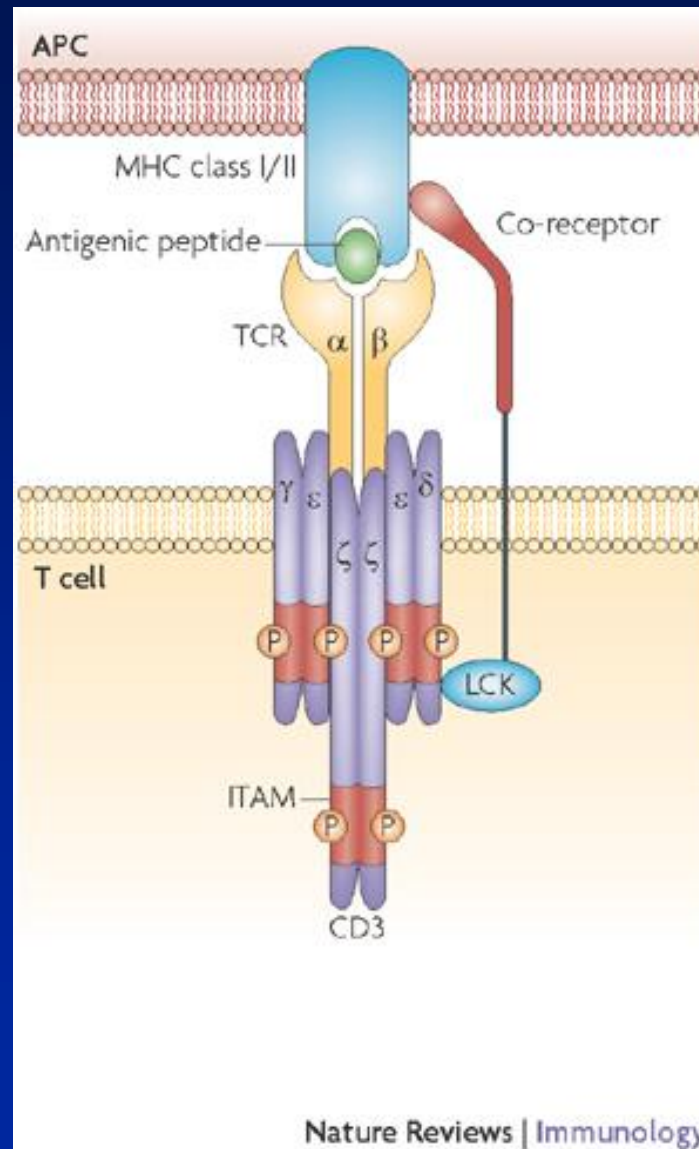


Problems

- Virus escape from immune recognition
- Antagonism of T cell responses



Peptide-MHC-TCR interaction

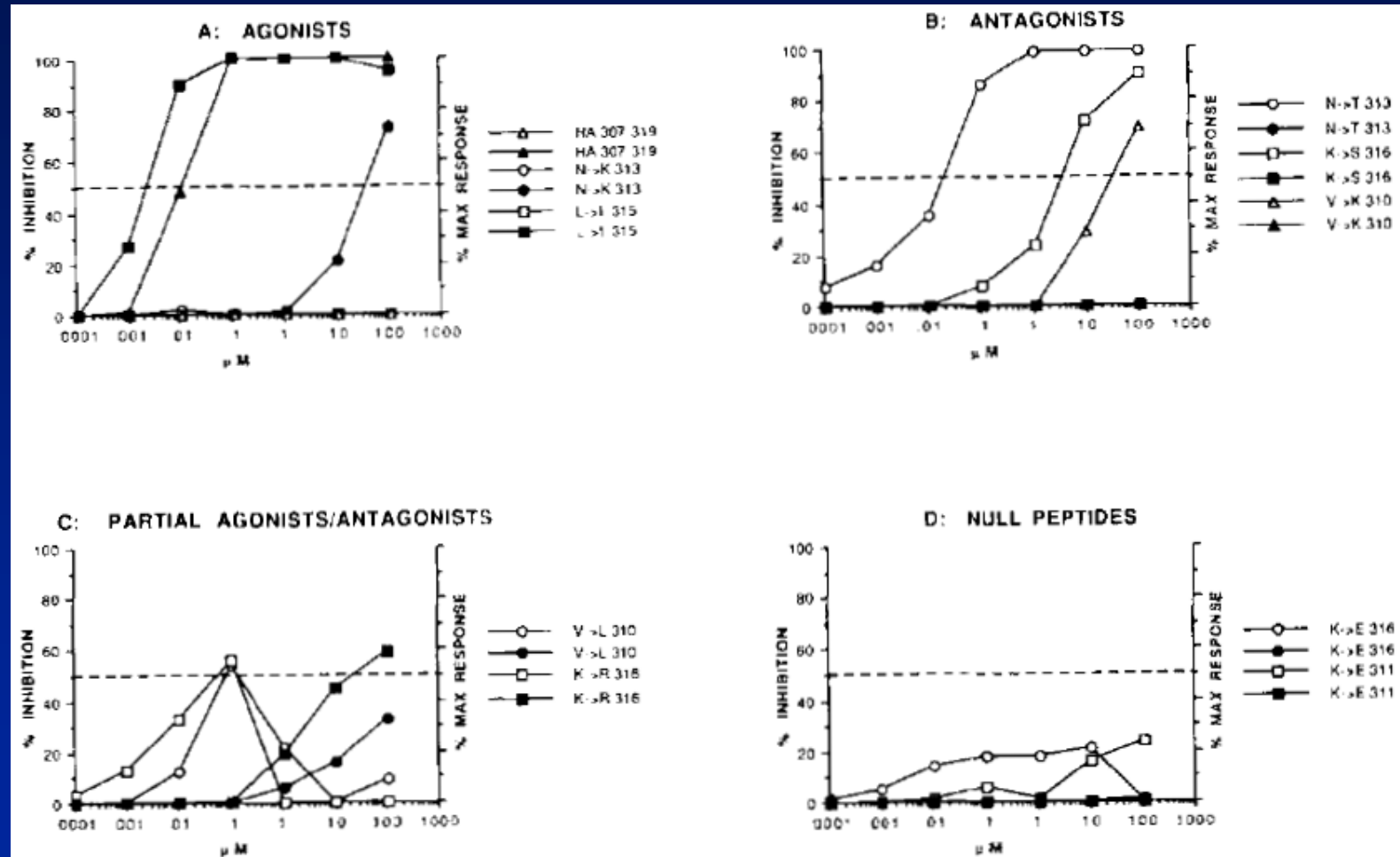


T cell antagonism

- Variants of a peptide recognized by a T cell can block recognition of the original peptide



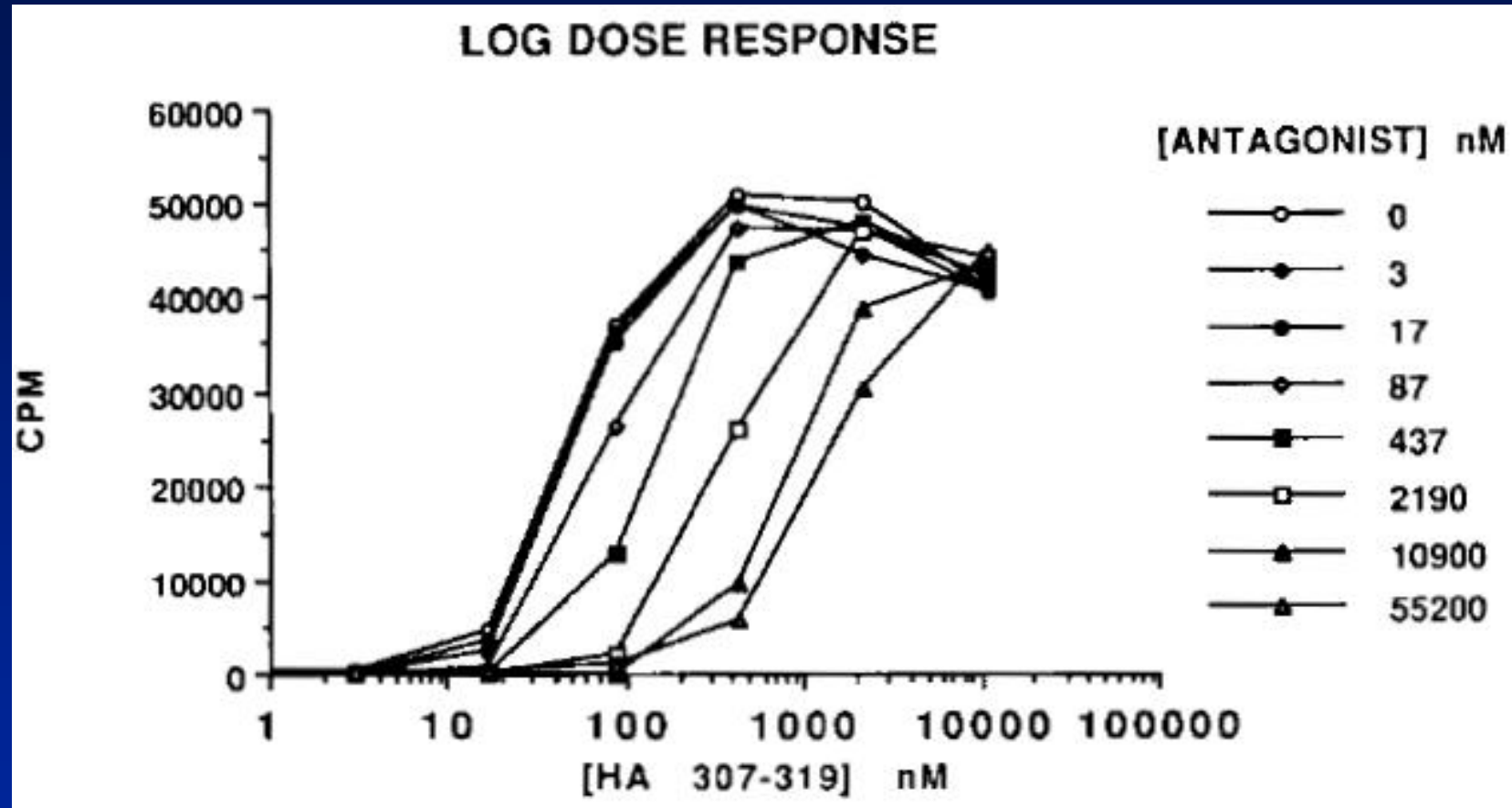
Classes of peptides



Alexander et al. J. Immunol 1993



CD4+ T cell antagonism



Alexander et al., J Immunol 1993

DeMagistris et al., Cell 1992

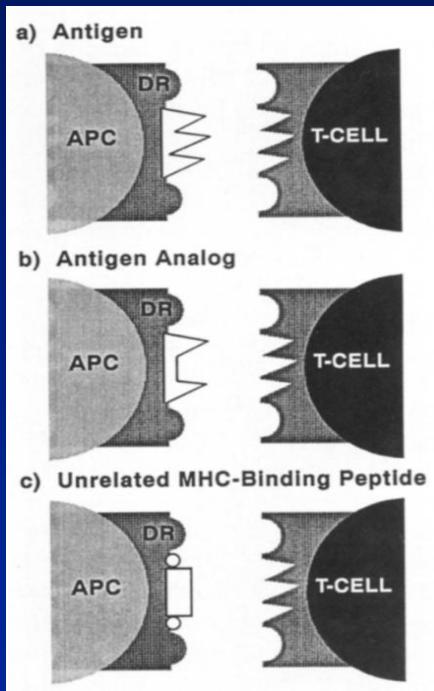
Ostrov et al., J Immunol 1993

Racciopi et al., J Exp Med 1993

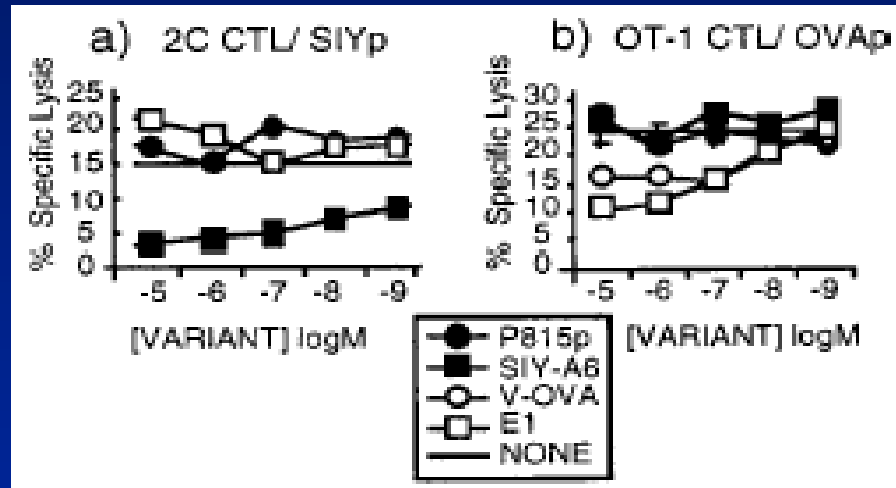
Mechanism of action of TCR antagonism

No dominant
negative signal in
CD8+ T cells

Dominant negative
signal in CD4+ T cells

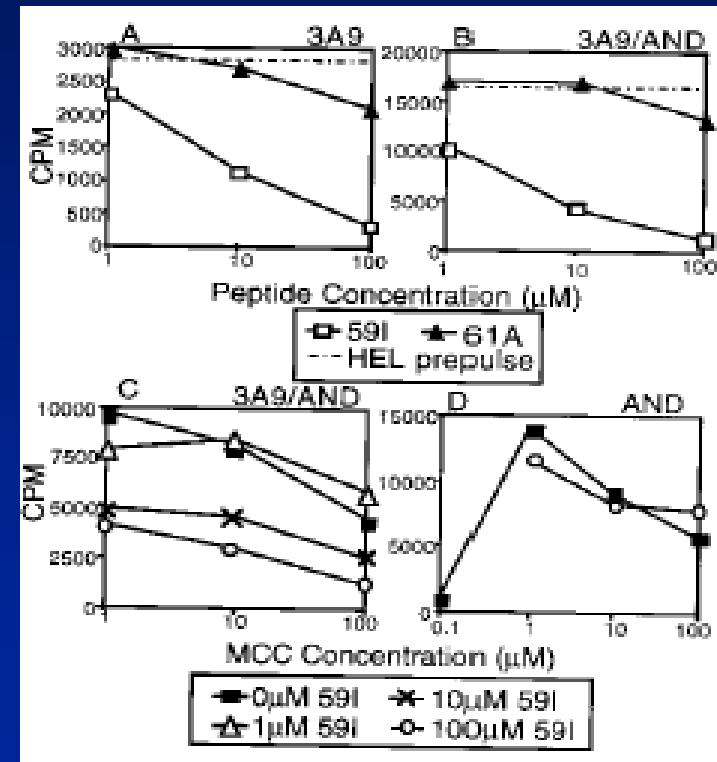


De Magistris et al.,
Cell 1992



Daniels et al., J Immunol 1999

Stotz et al., J Exp Med 1999

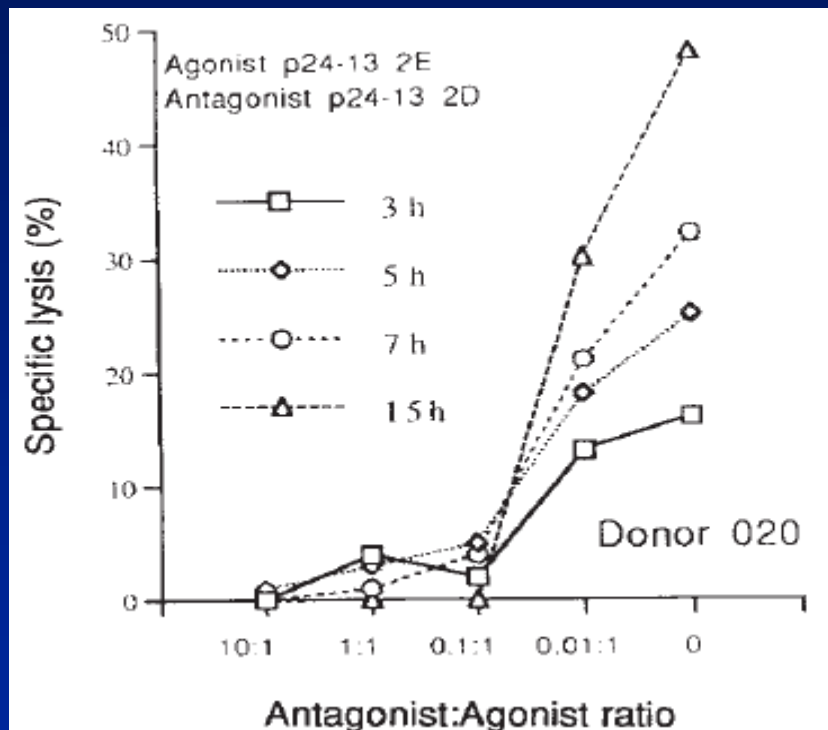


Robertson et al., J Immunol 1999



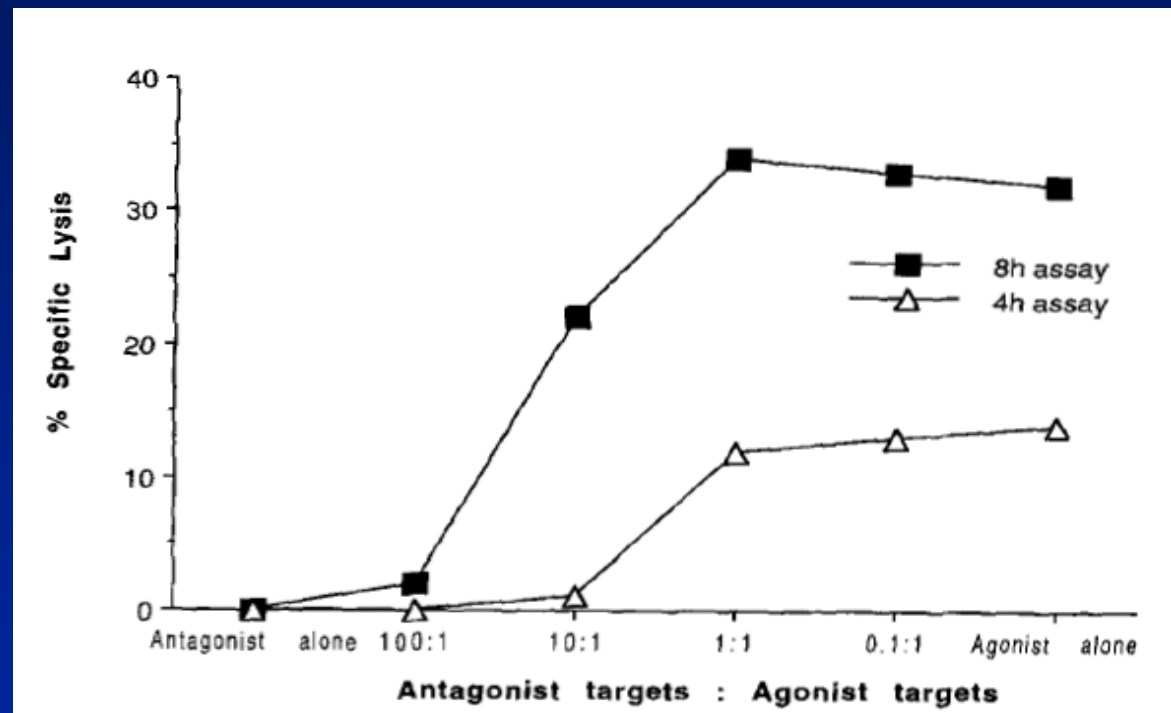
Antagonism in HIV infection

Antagonism of CTL response in HIV



Klenerman et al., Nature 1994

Antagonism of HIV Vaccine response



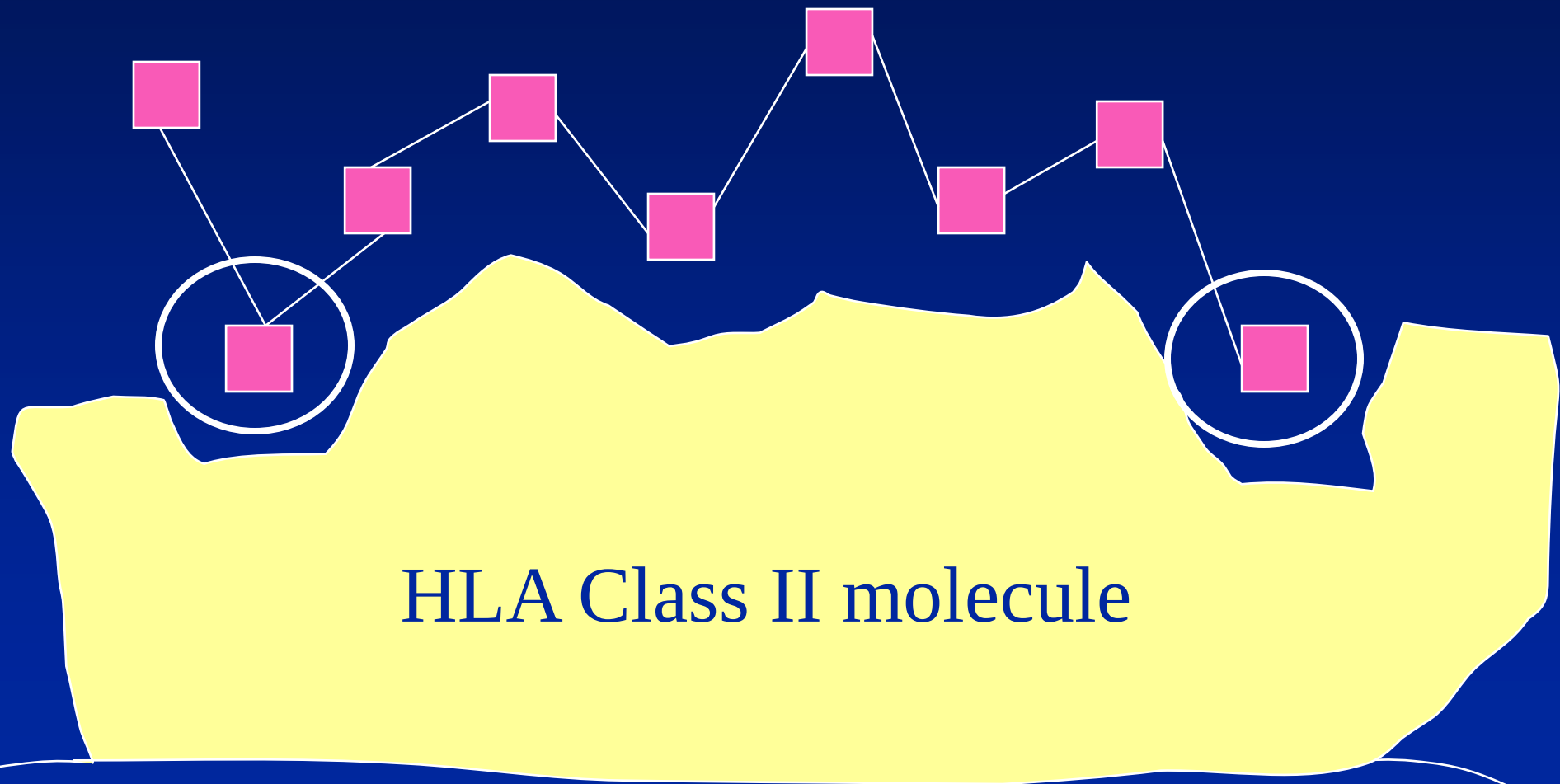
Kent et al., J Immunol 1997



T cell antagonism by a variant
peptide shorter than the full
length epitope



Viral peptide in HLA Binding Groove

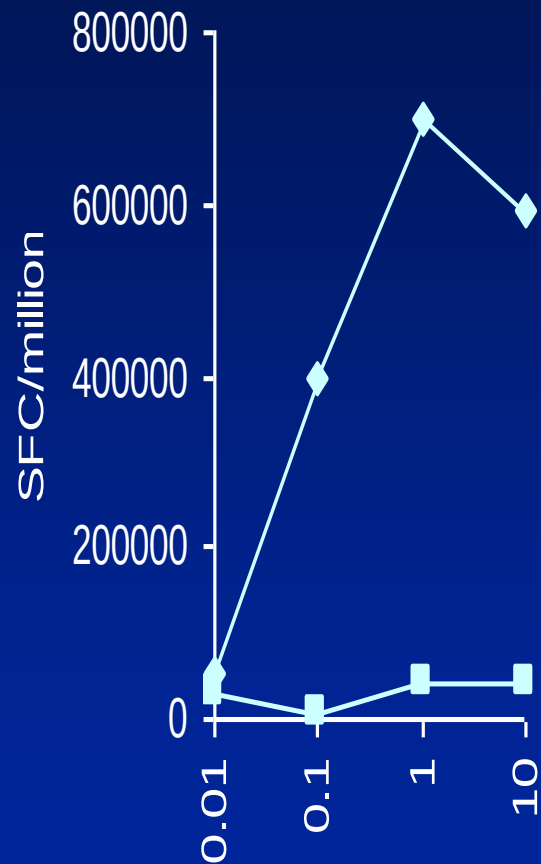


Clone	HLA restriction	Minimum epitope
AC-01 Clone 1	DQ5	EEKAFSPEVIP (161-171)
AC-01 Clone 2	DQ7	EPRGSDIAGT (231-240)
AC-25 Clone 3	DR1	PEVIPMSALSEGATP (167-182)
161J Clone 4	DR4	EVIPMFALS (168-177)
CTS01 Clone 5	DQ7	VHAGPIAPG (219-227)



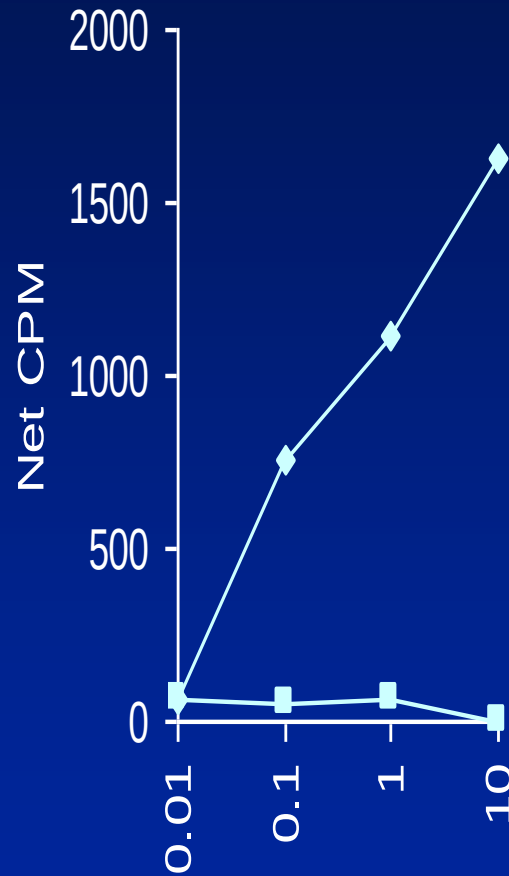
Shorter peptide PG13 not active

IFN- γ



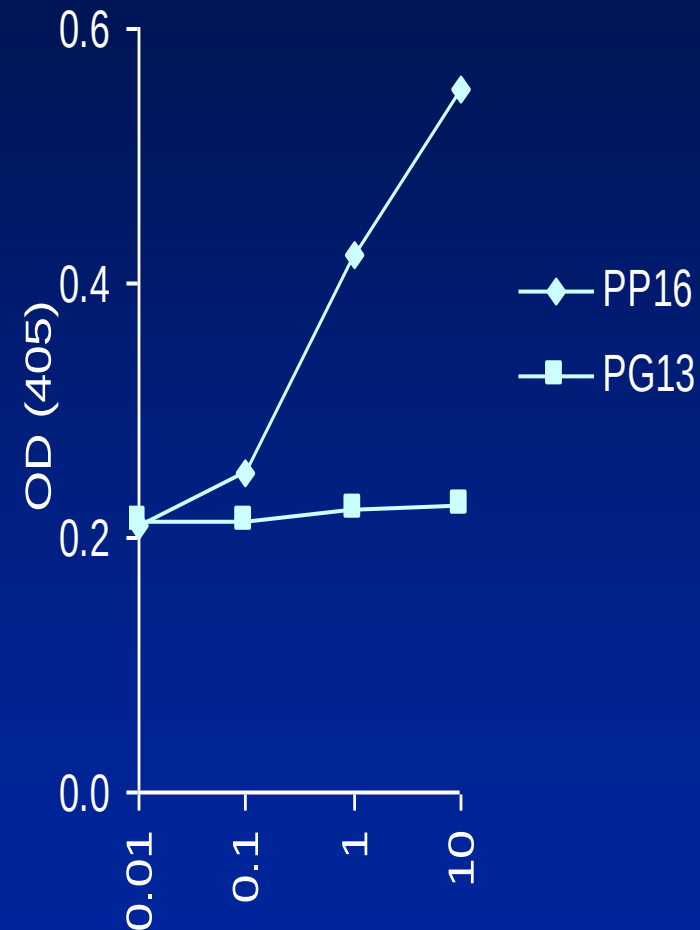
Concentration ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)

Proliferation

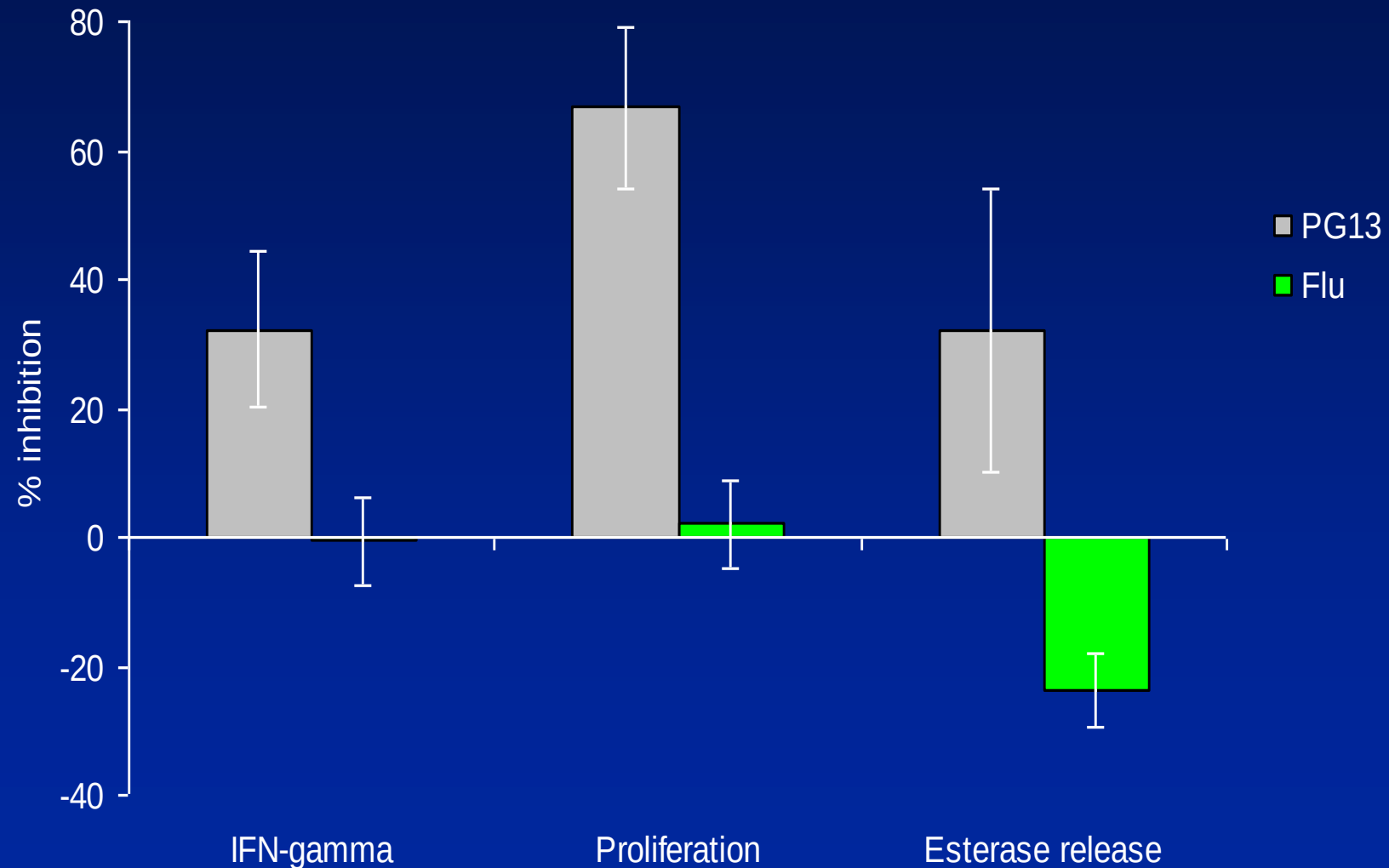


Concentration ($\mu\text{g/ml}$)

Serine esterase



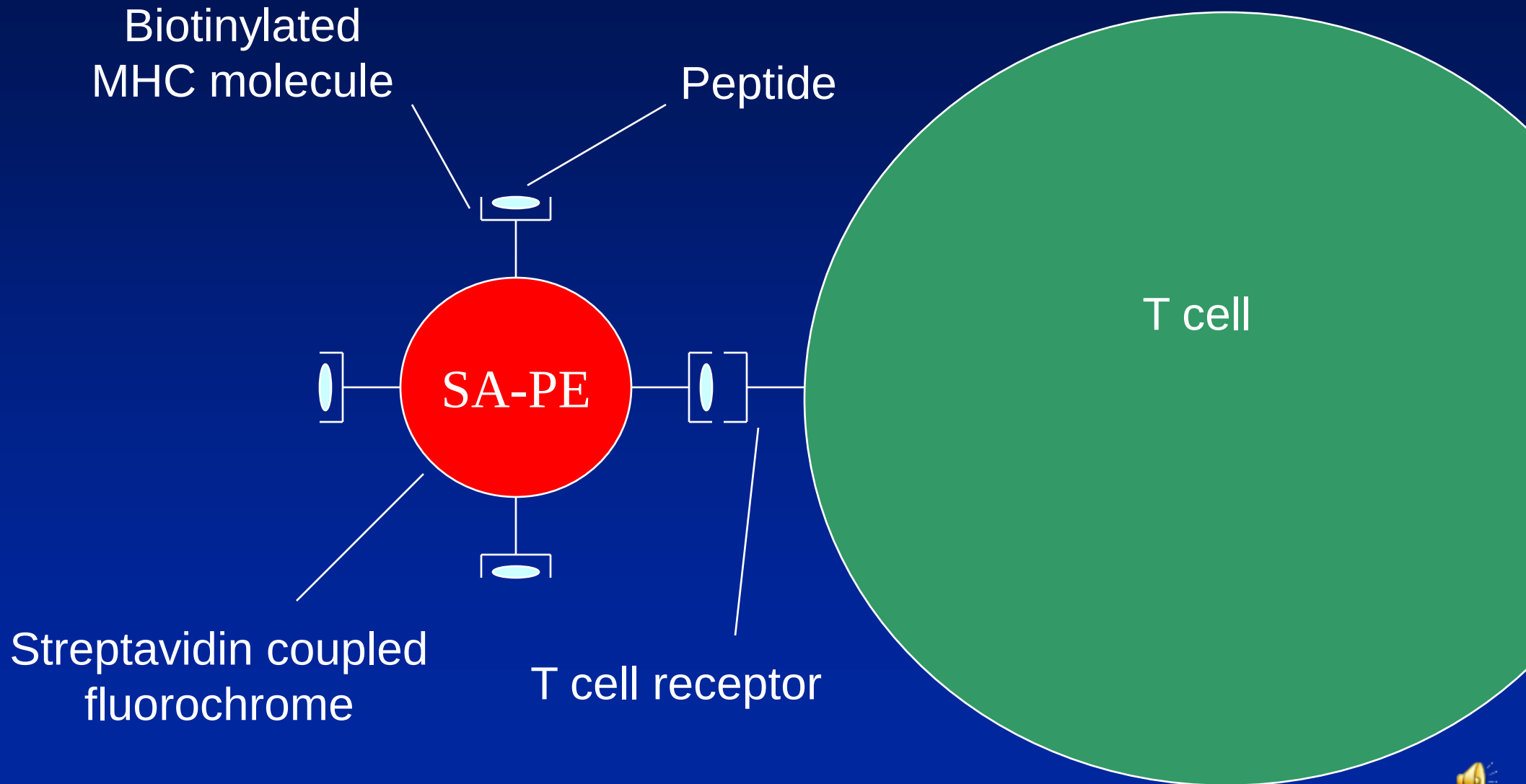
Antagonism by shorter peptide PG13



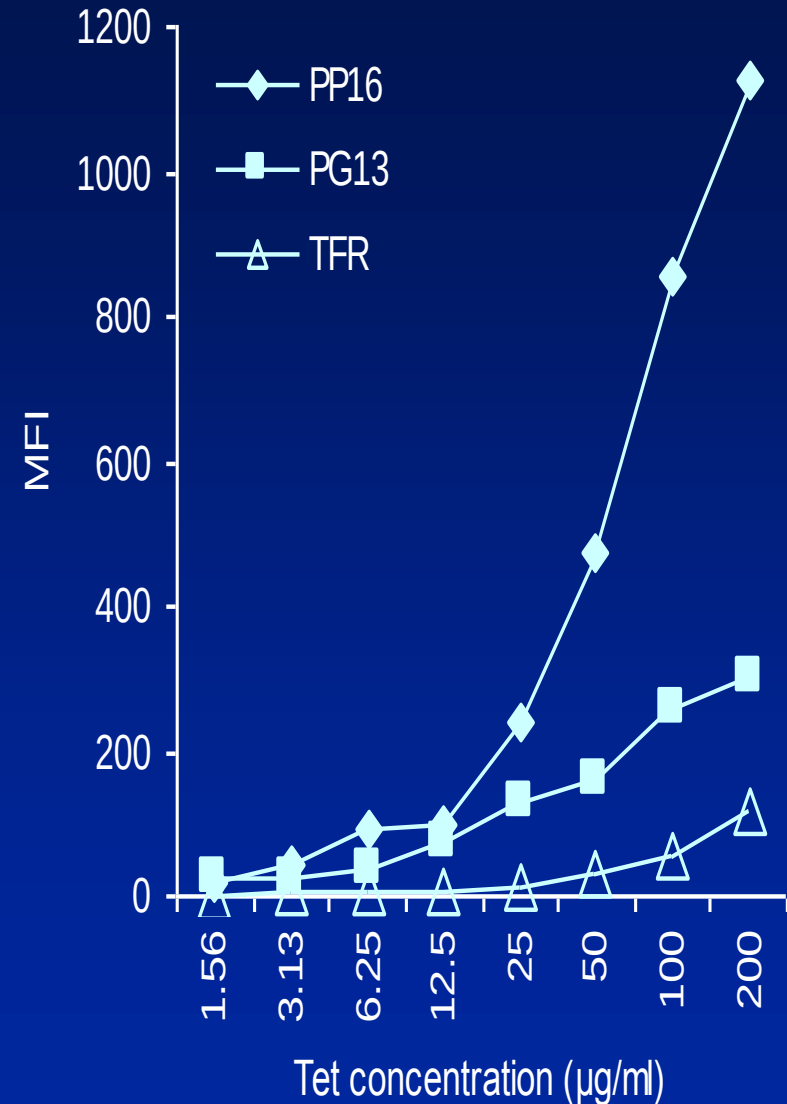
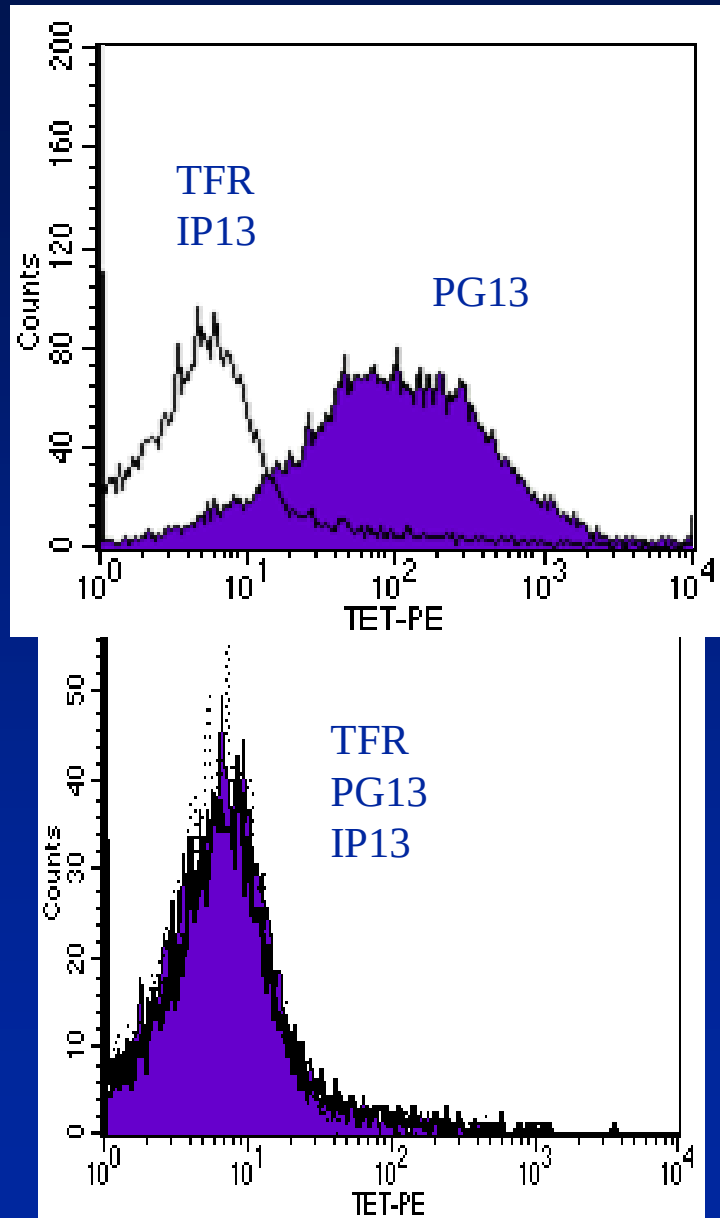
Why is the shorter peptide PG 13
an antagonist?



Tetramer staining

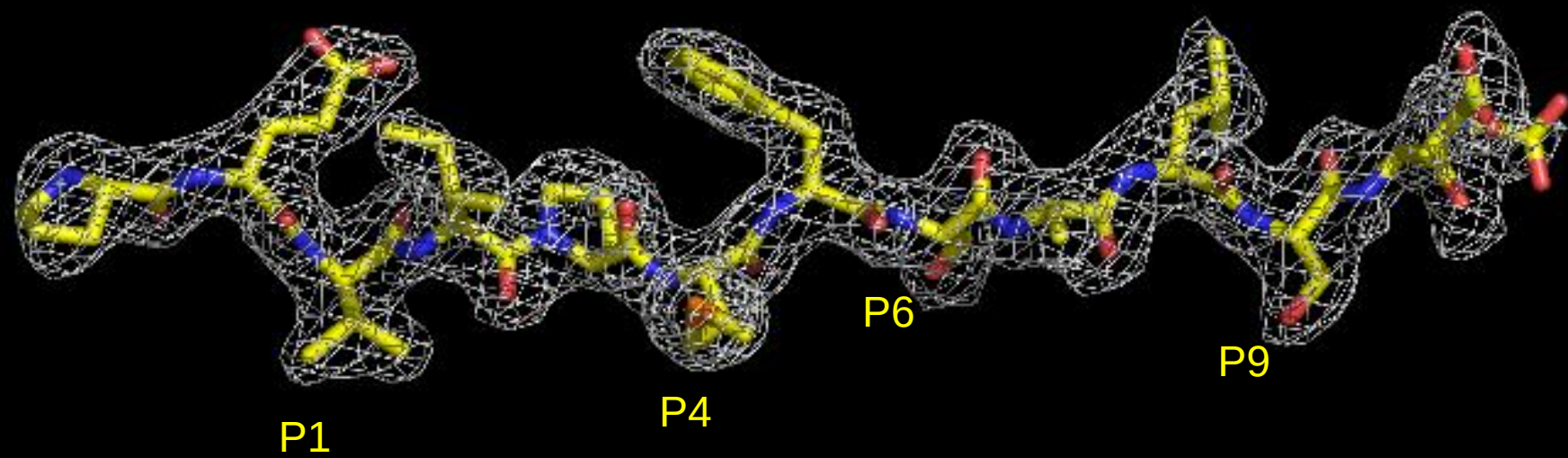


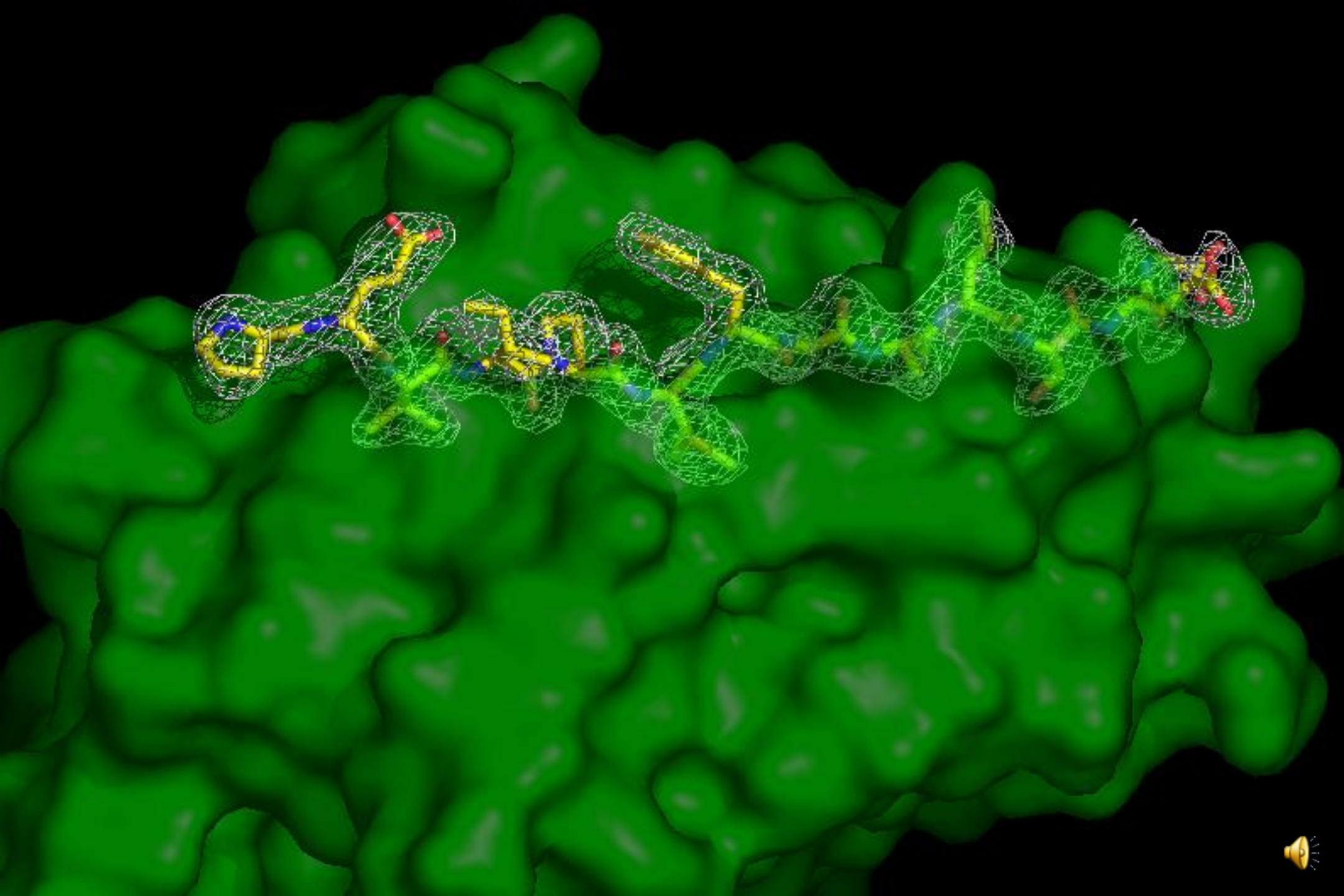
PG 13 tetramer binds with less avidity than PP16

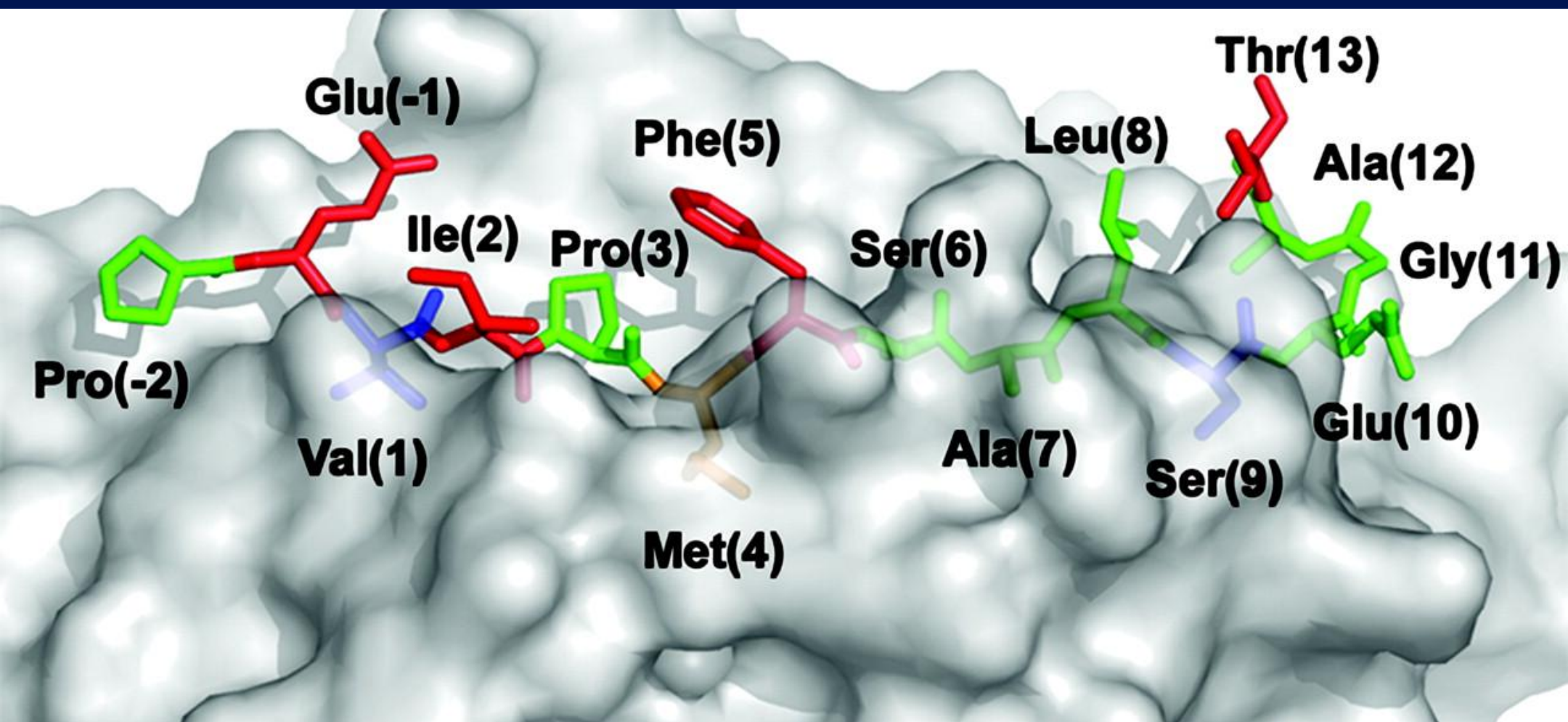


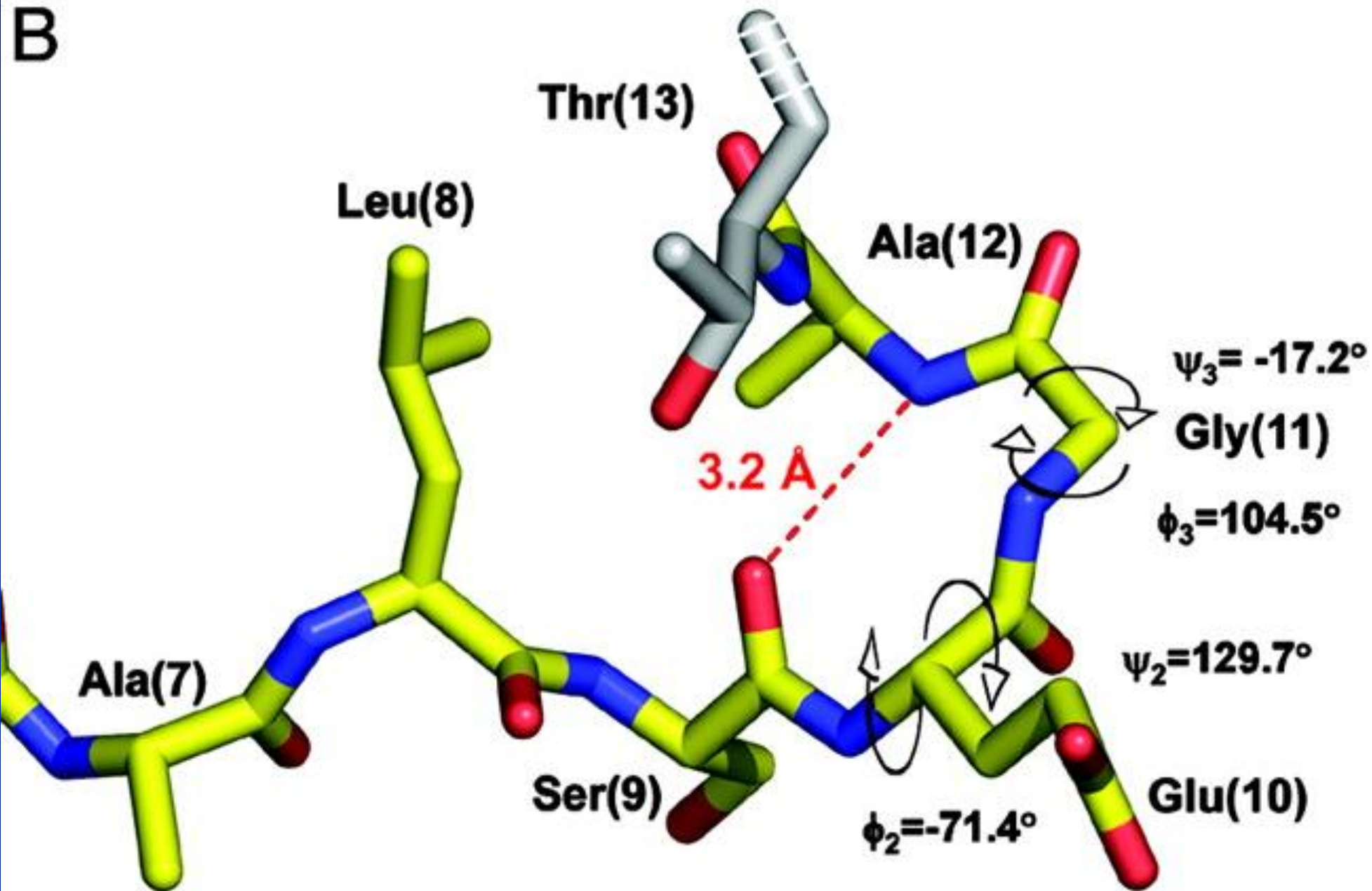
Does binding of shorter vs.
longer peptide reveal function?



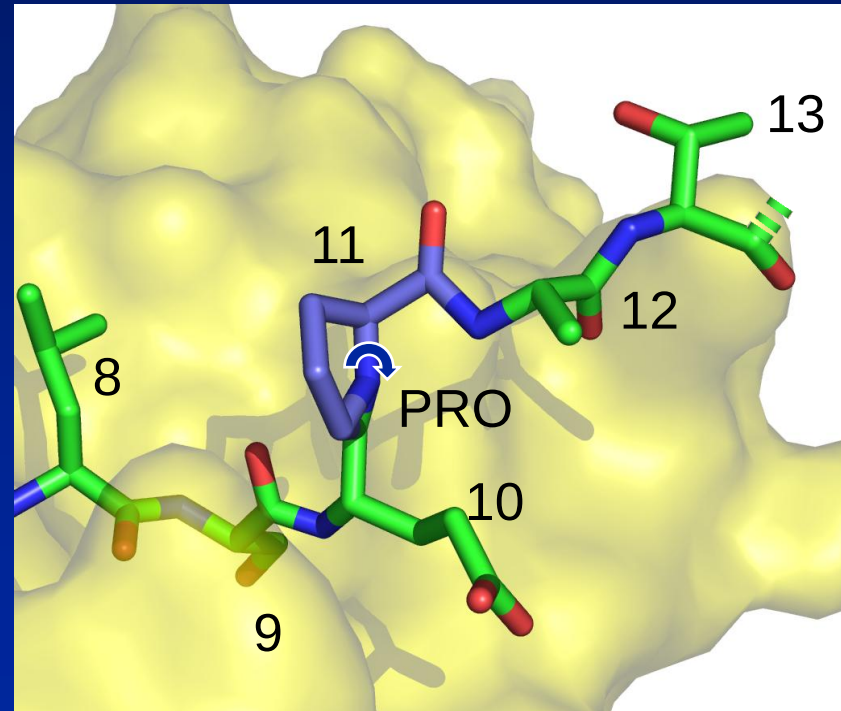
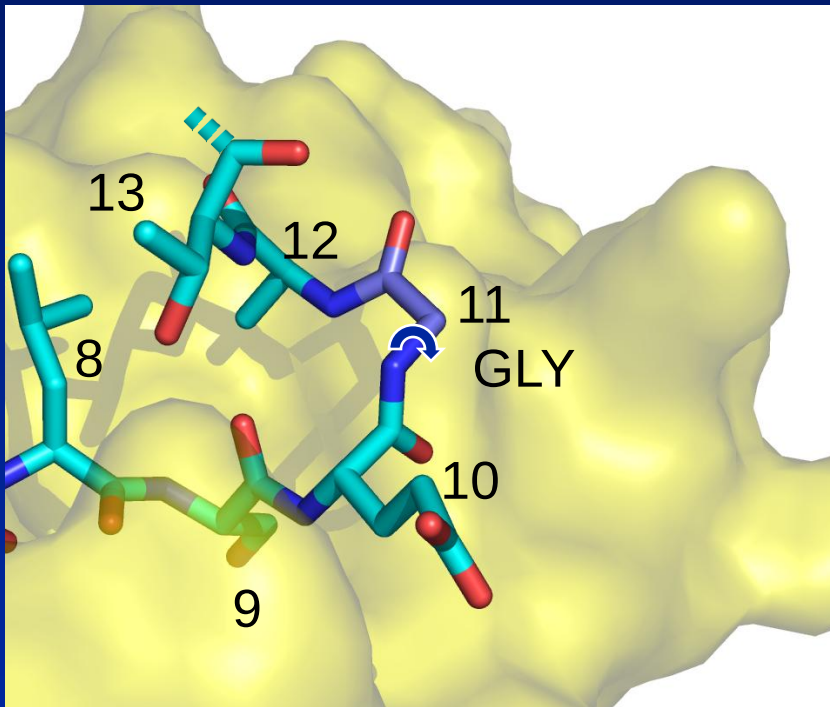




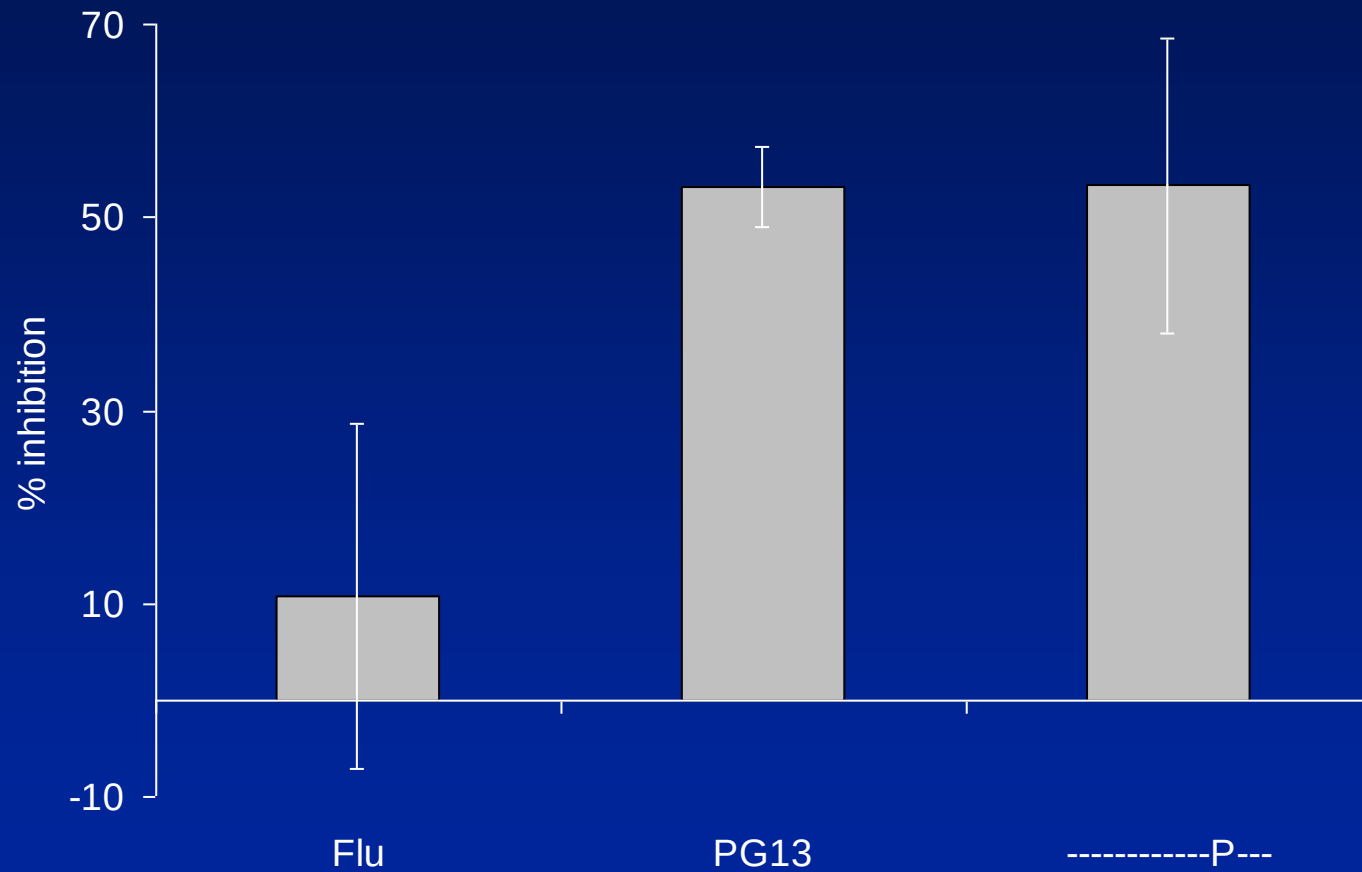


B

Glycine turn abolished



Engineered antagonist peptide



Conclusions I

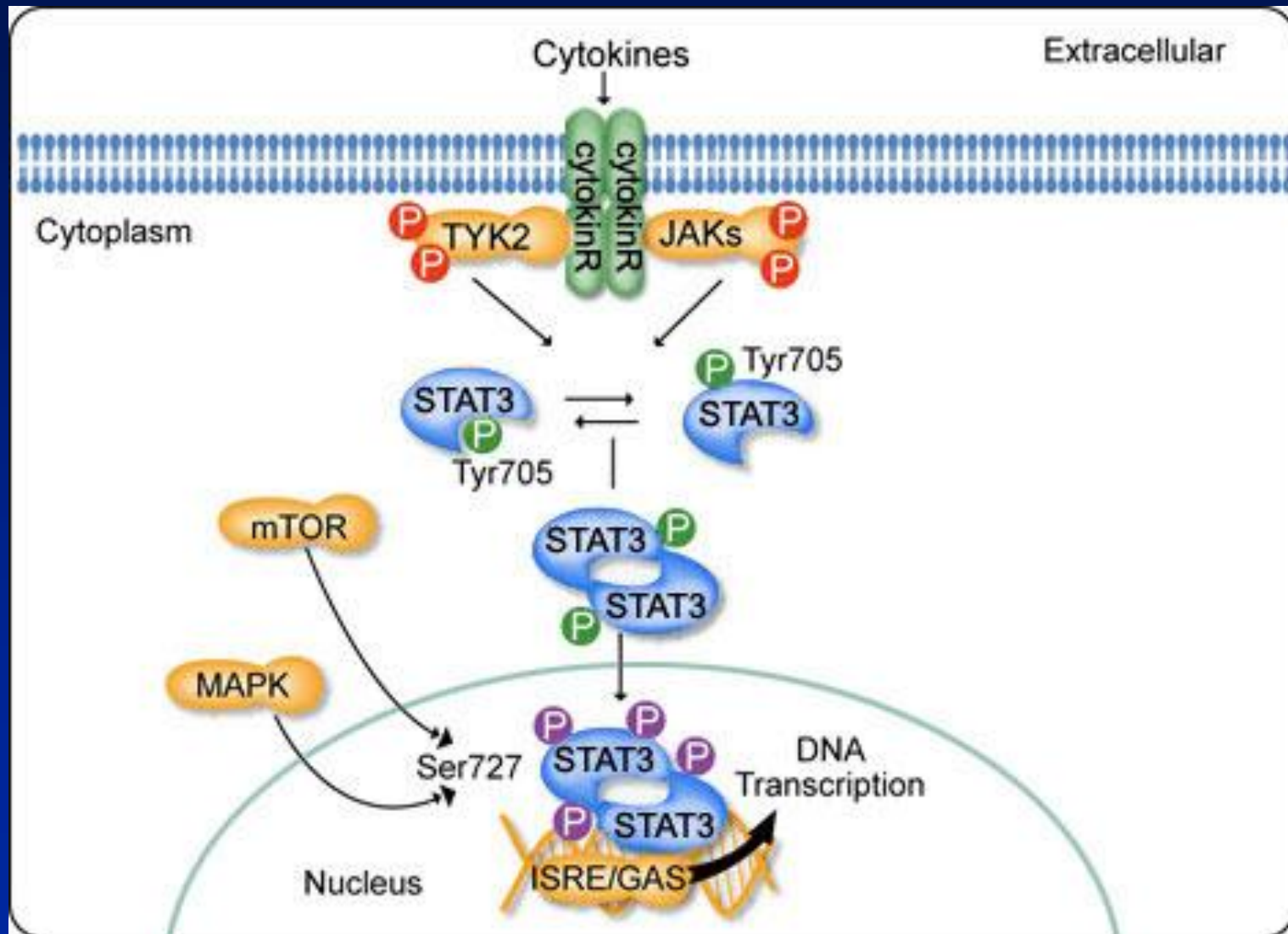
- Residues outside the MHC binding core can interact with and activate the T cell
- Partial T cell receptor engagement results in antagonism
- Antagonist peptide-MHC maintains ability to bind TCR with lower affinity than agonist



What gene pathways are
disrupted after antagonist peptide
exposure?



STAT signaling pathway



Activation truncated by antagonist

Time (min)

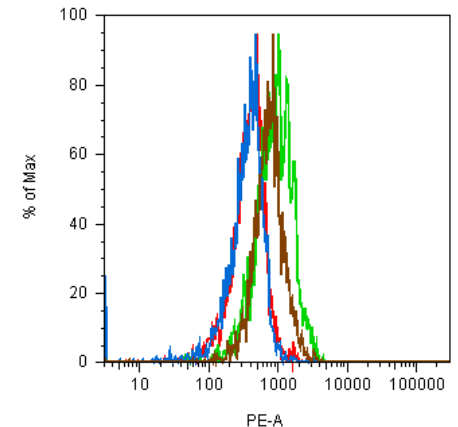
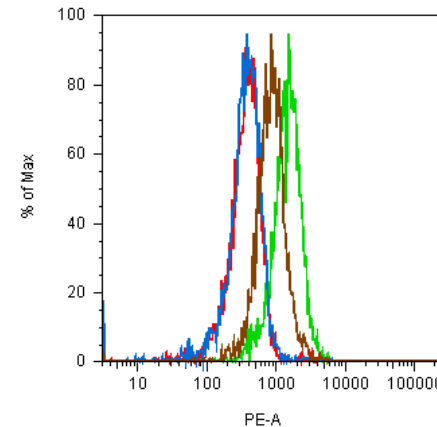
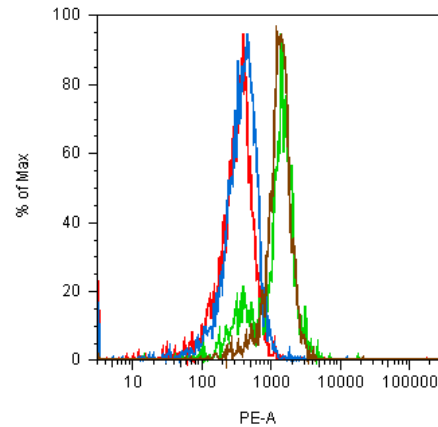
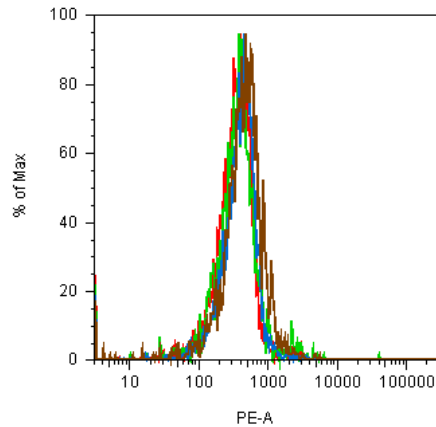
60

120

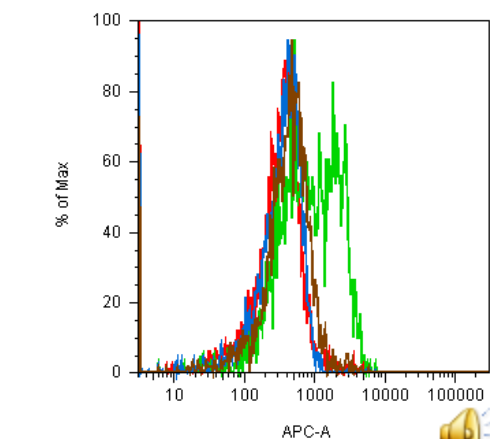
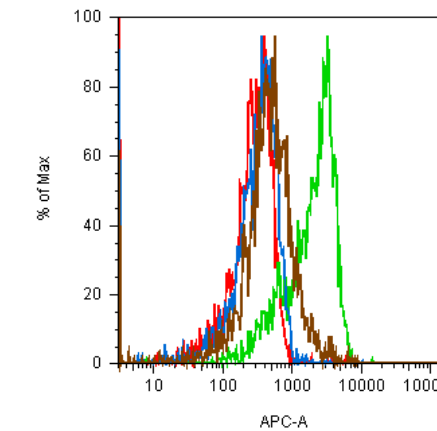
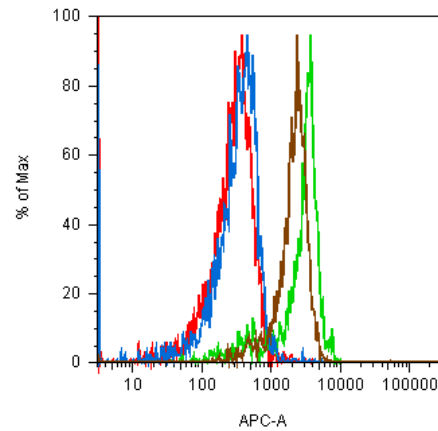
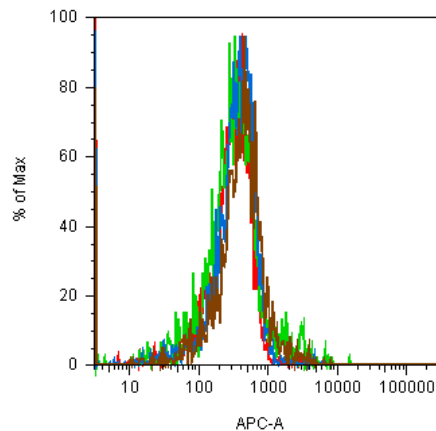
180

240

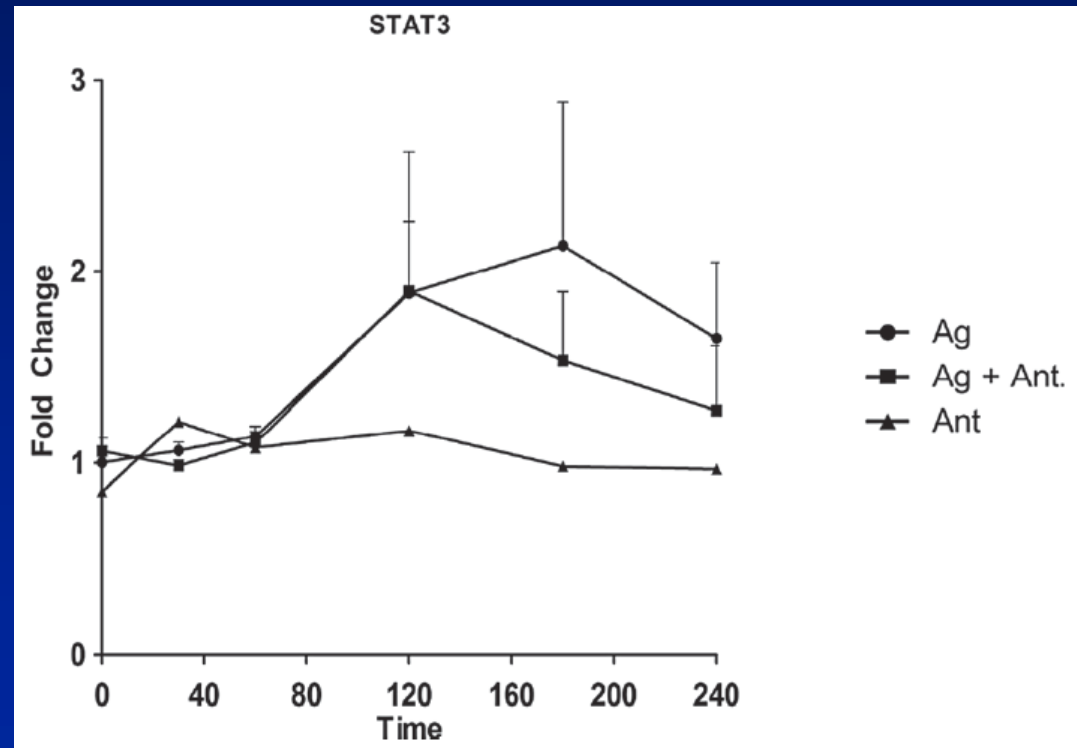
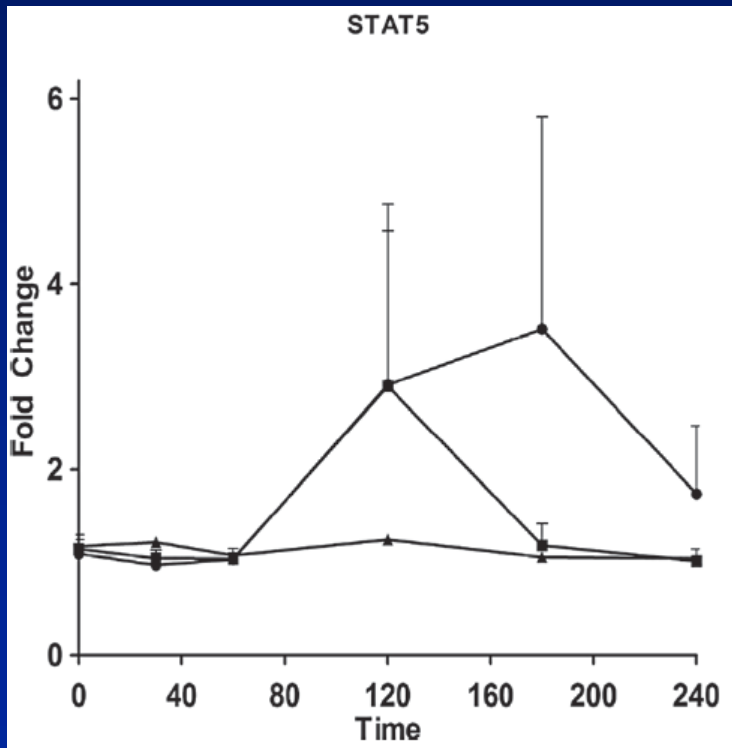
S
T
A
T
3



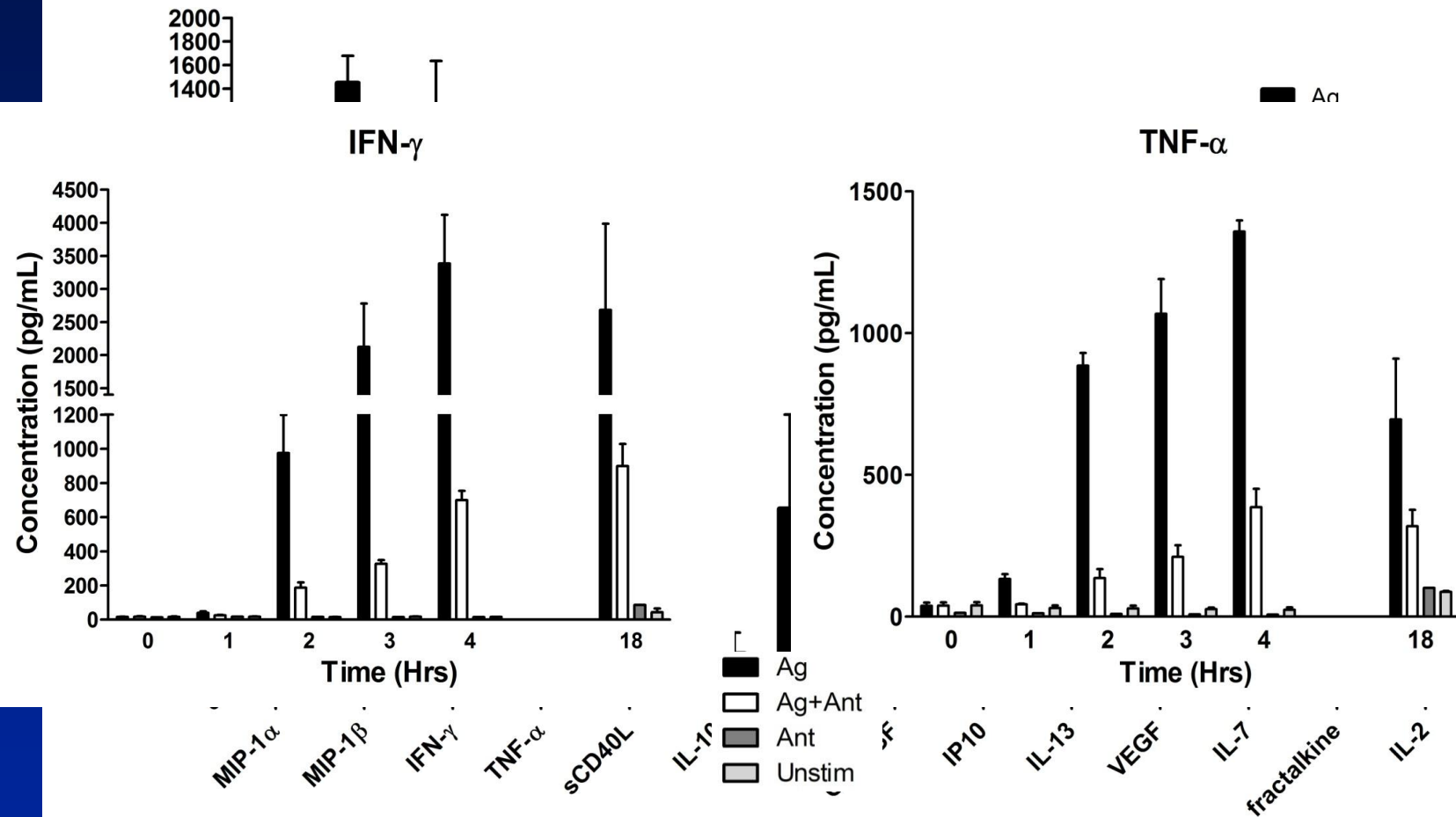
S
T
A
T
5



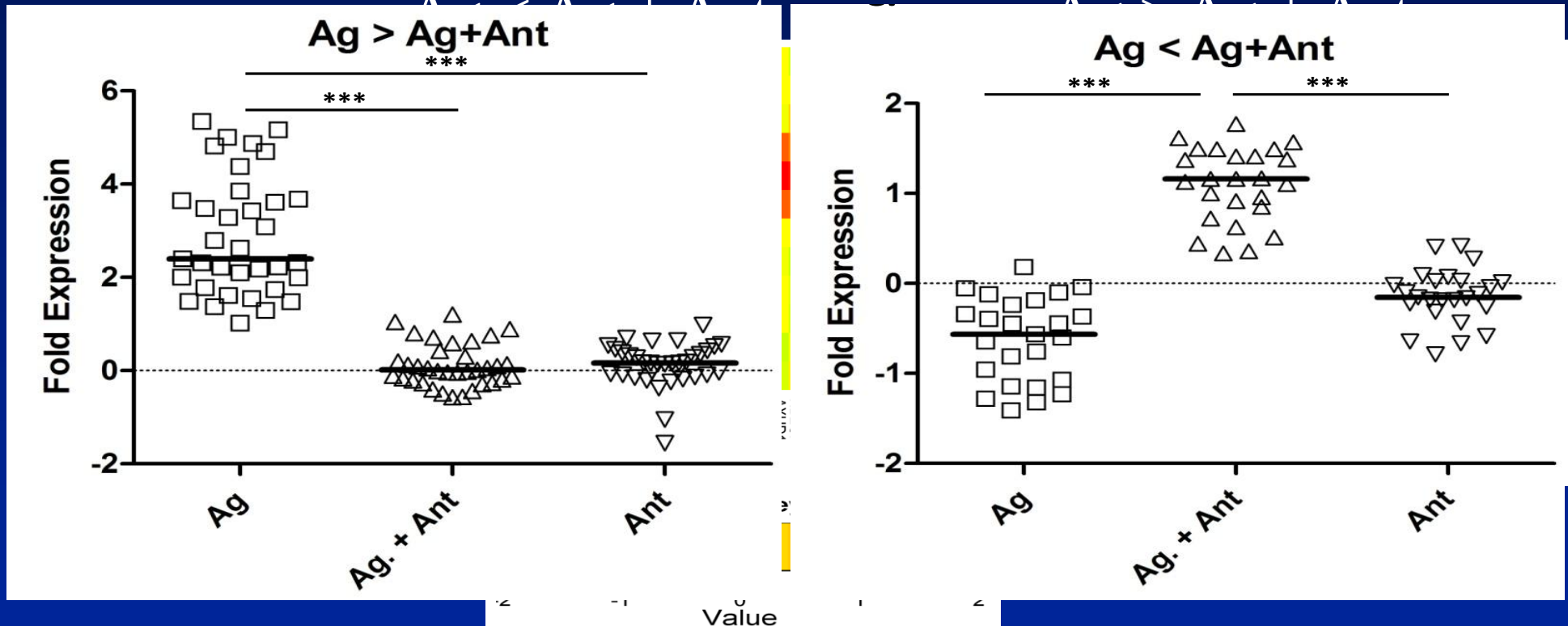
Activation truncated by antagonist



Multiplex detection of secreted cytokines



Genes with 1.5 fold greater difference in expression between Ag and Ag+Ant

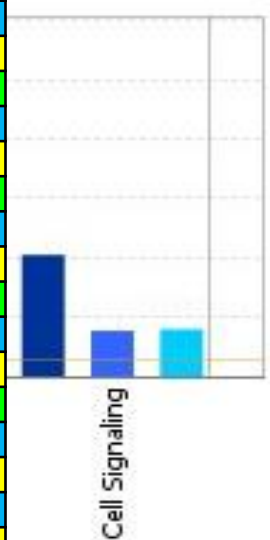
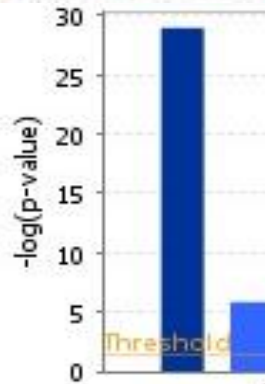


IPA Comparison of gene array data

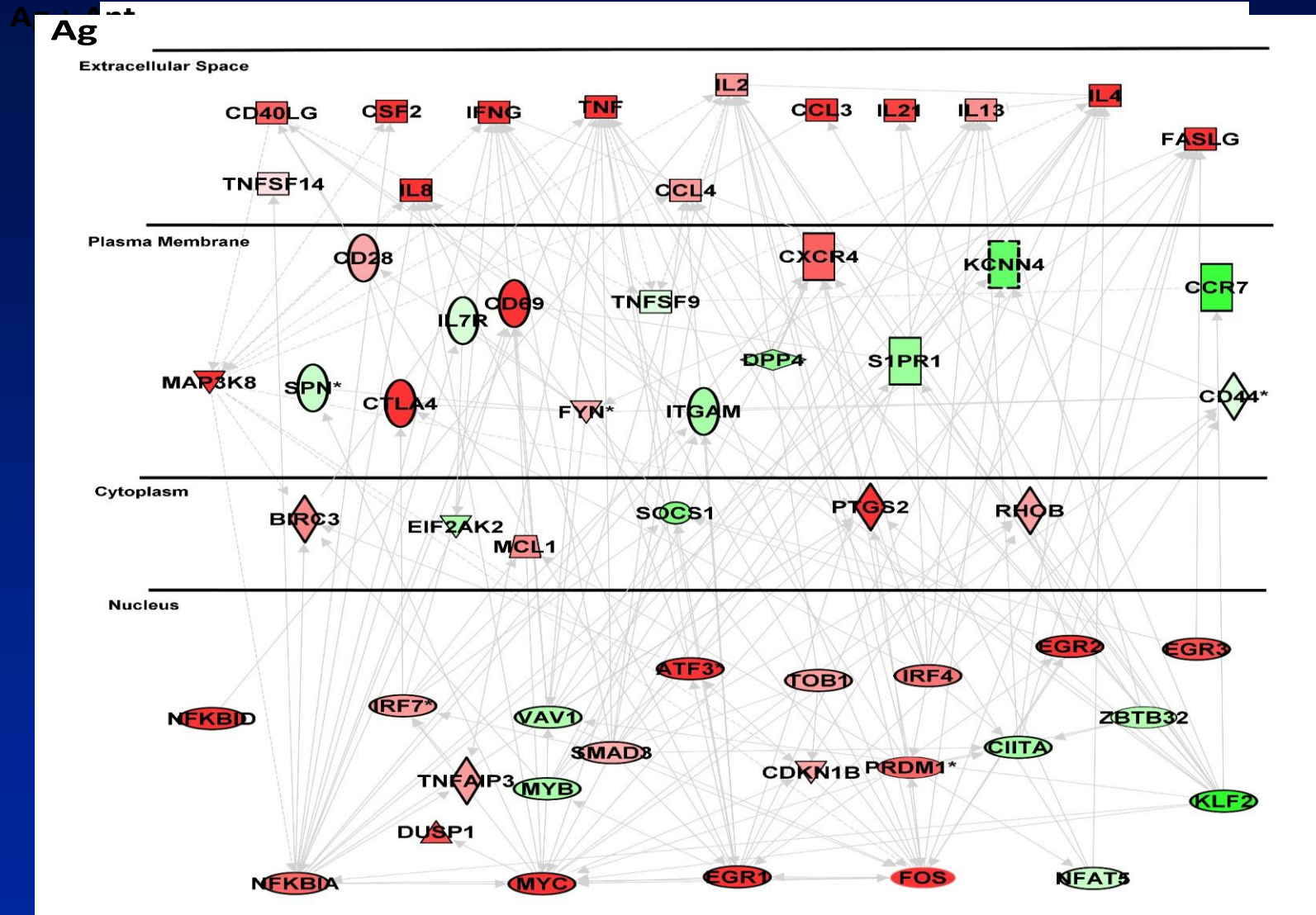
Yellow = Ag, Green = Ag + Ant,
Blue = Ant

Annotated Function	p-Value	Predicted Activation State	Activation z-score	# Molecules
activation of T lymphocytes	2.93E-19		1.541	45
	6.31E-04		0.179	18
	6.09E-09	Decreased	-3.854	53
differentiation of lymphocytes	1.67E-23		1.442	59
	4.54E-04		-0.364	23
	6.73E-08		-1.987	64
expansion of T lymphocytes	3.65E-11		1.565	20
	3.05E-04		-0.057	10
	6.40E-05		0.969	23
proliferation of lymphocytes	3.88E-24		0.736	74
	9.01E-04		0.074	30
	7.01E-16		-1.965	109
proliferation of T lymphocytes	9.20E-26		0.753	69
	8.85E-04		-0.870	26
	5.10E-17		-1.099	98
T cell homeostasis	3.94E-21		1.157	57
	3.30E-04		-0.300	24
	7.70E-12		-1.233	76
function of T lymphocytes*	8.27E-17	Increased	2.064	36
	3.88E-06		-0.48	37
stimulation of leukocytes*	4.53E-13	Increased	3.173	24
	2.44E-05	Decreased	-2.971	24
stimulation of lymphocytes*	1.07E-14	Increased	3.128	22
	6.92E-06	Decreased	-2.296	22
stimulation of T lymphocytes*	1.74E-14	Increased	2.833	20
	4.31E-06	Decreased	-2.419	18

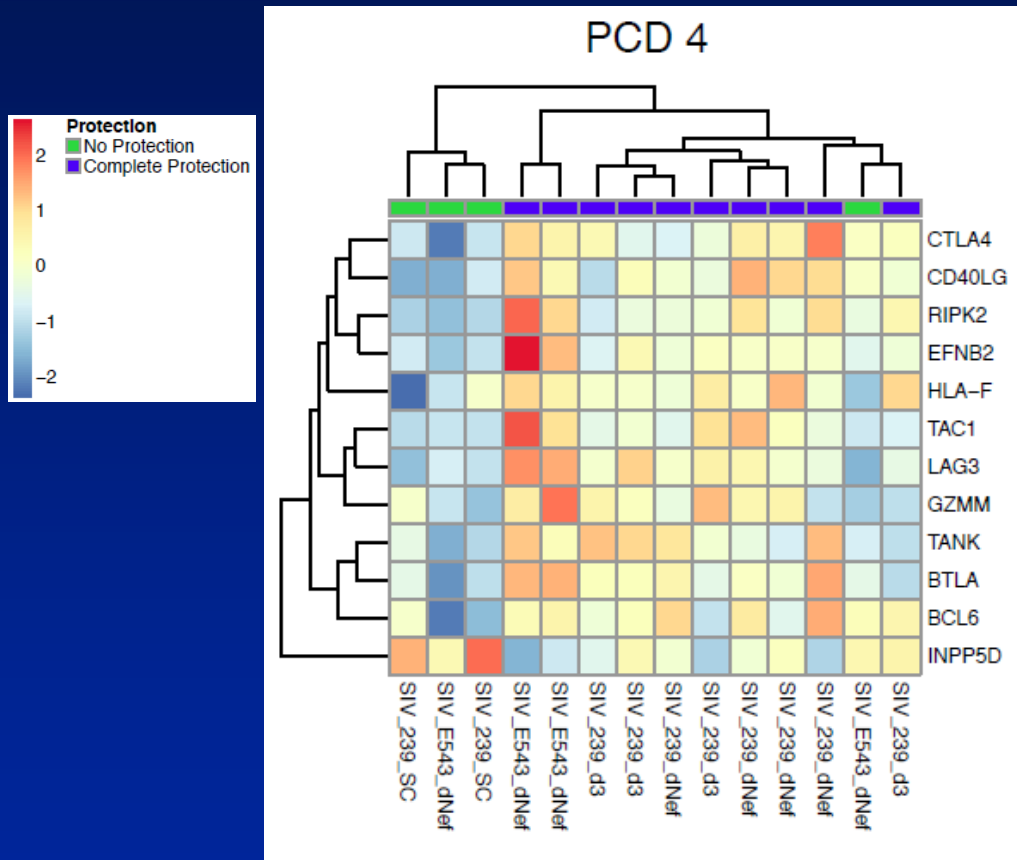
■ Ag ■ Ag+Ant



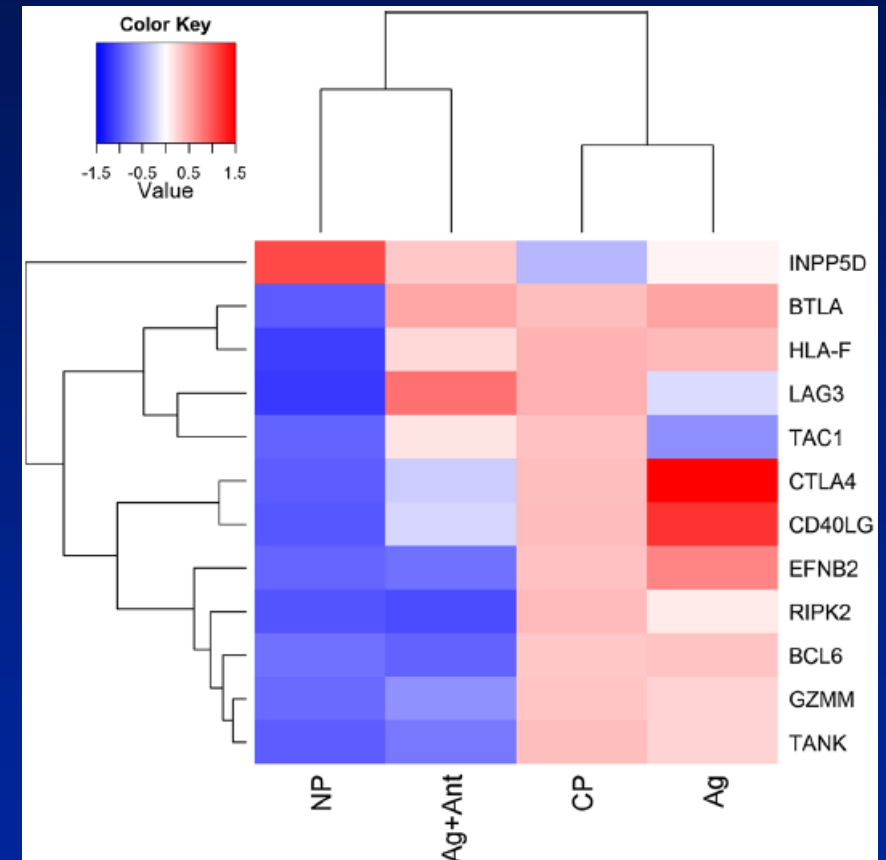
IPA Comparison of gene array data



Gene expression profile of T cell stimulation matches that of SIV vaccine trial



Fukazawa et al., Nat Med 2012



Jacobs et al., Retrovirology 2014



Conclusions II

- Antagonism results in aborted activation due to a dominant negative signal
- Link to existing vaccine study where Ag + Ant treatment showed similar profile to vaccine failure



Acknowledgments

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