

Coiled-coil Peptides to Promote the Death of Cancer Cells

Amanda Acevedo-Jake¹, Bram Mylemans², Peiyu Zhang³, Boguslawa Korona⁴, Thomas Edwards³, Laura Itzhaki⁴, Derek N. Woolfson², Andrew J. Wilson¹



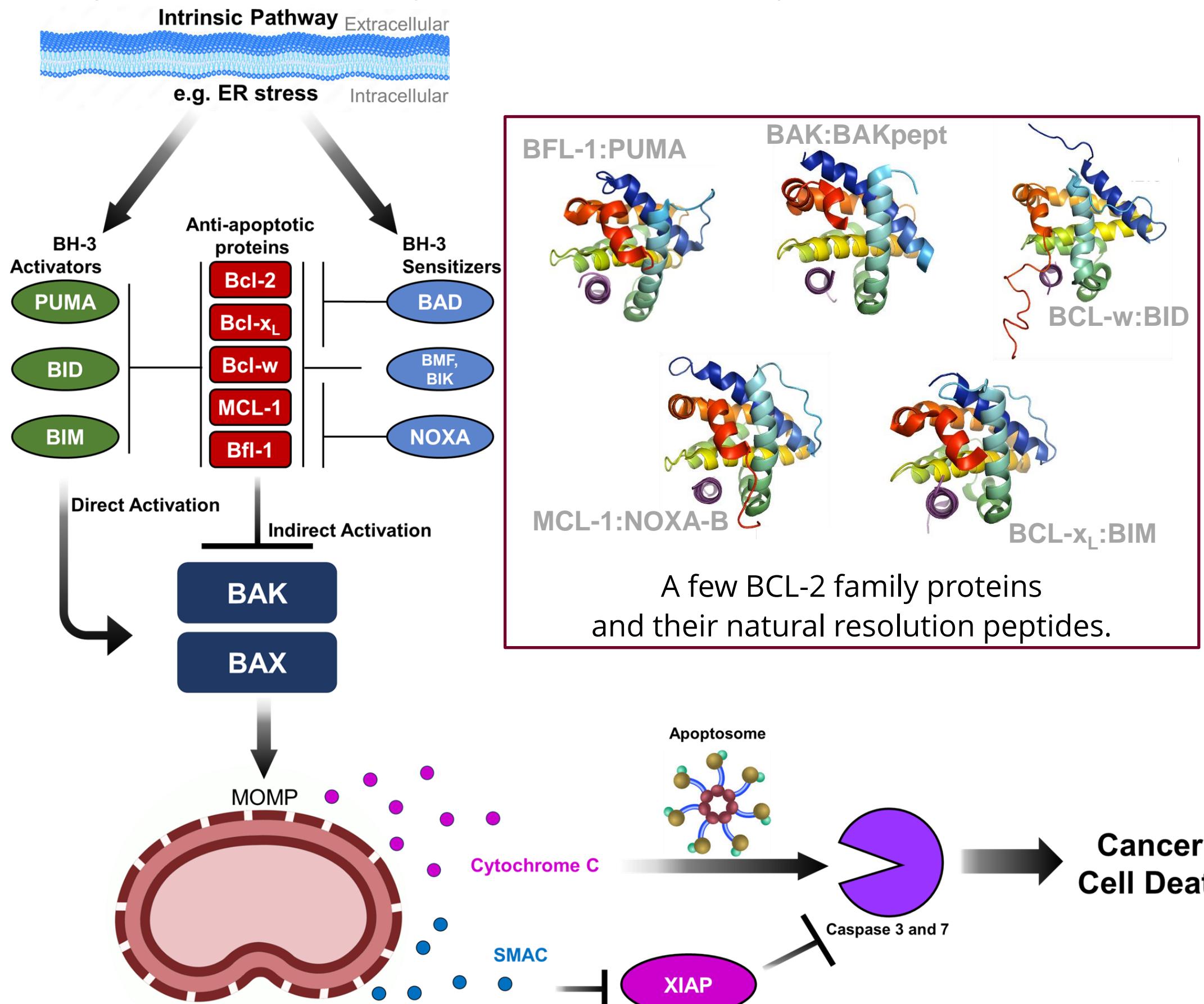
UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

BCL-2 Family Proteins, Cell Death and Cancer

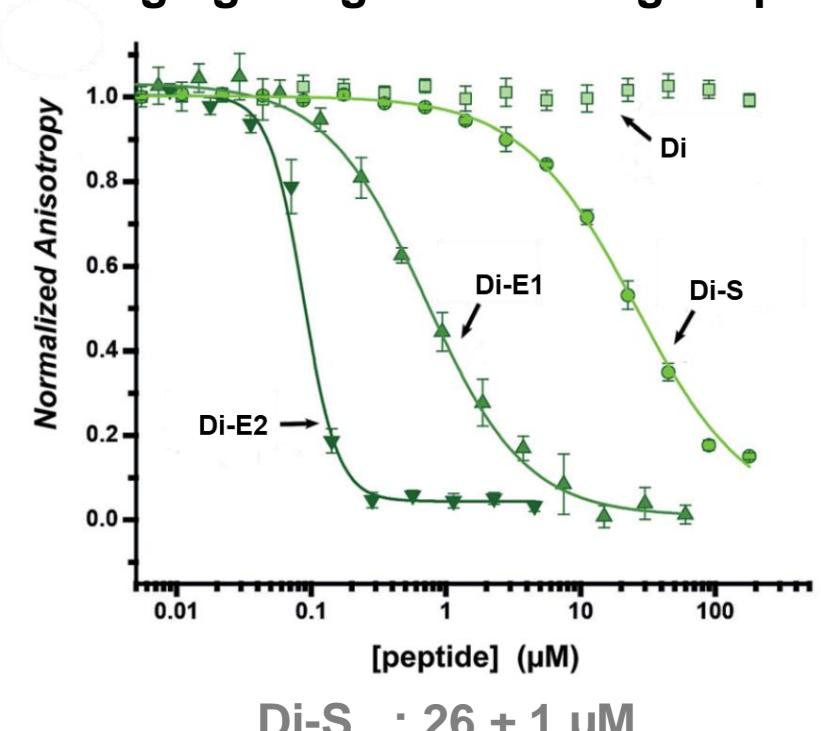
BCL-2 proteins are unnaturally abundant in cancer and prevent the death of tumor cells.



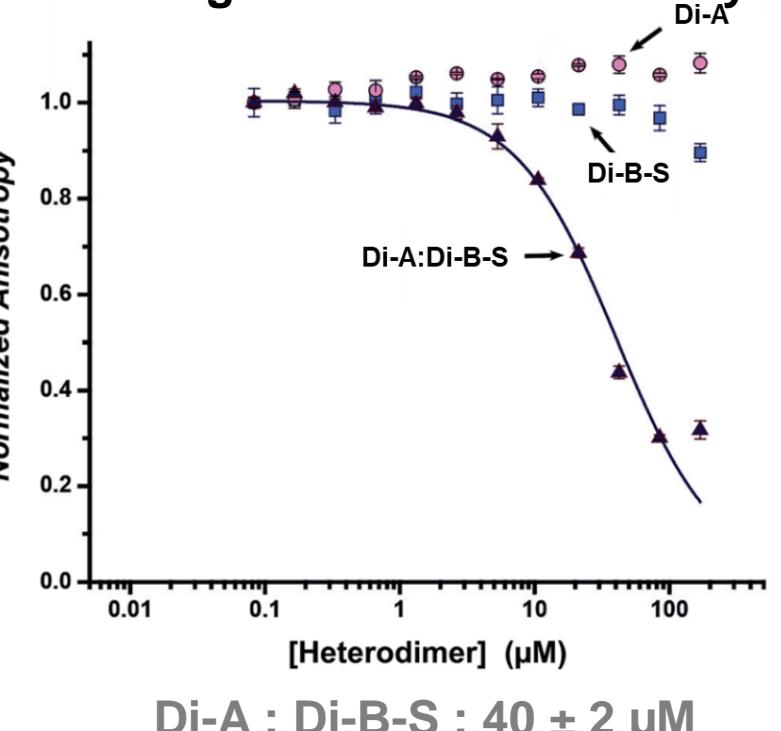
Measuring Binding of Scaffolds

Fluorescence anisotropy can be used to determine binding if one component contains a dye.

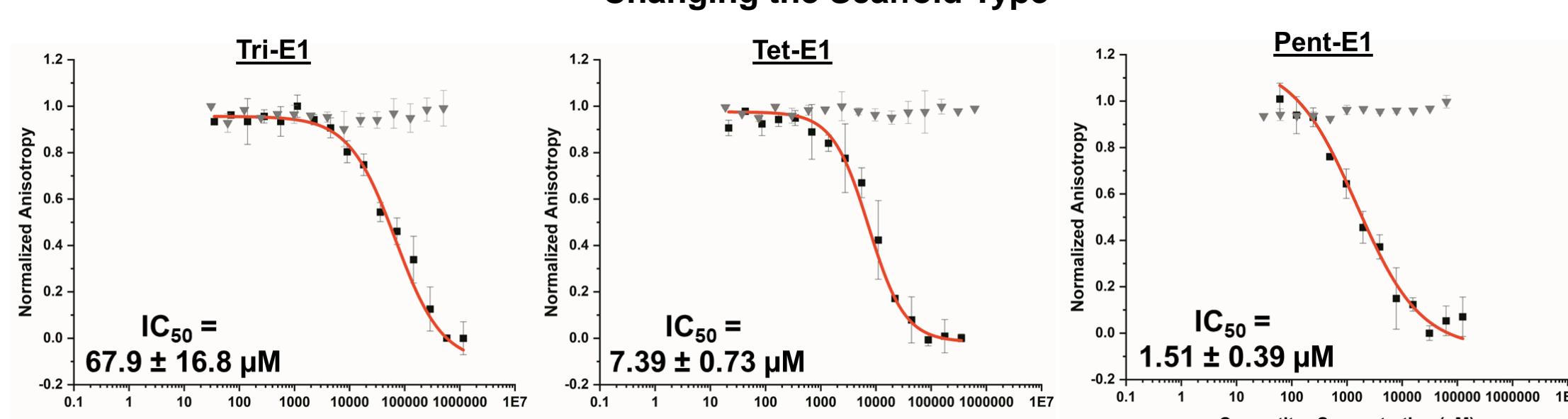
Changing Length of Binding Sequence



Binding Site on One Side Only

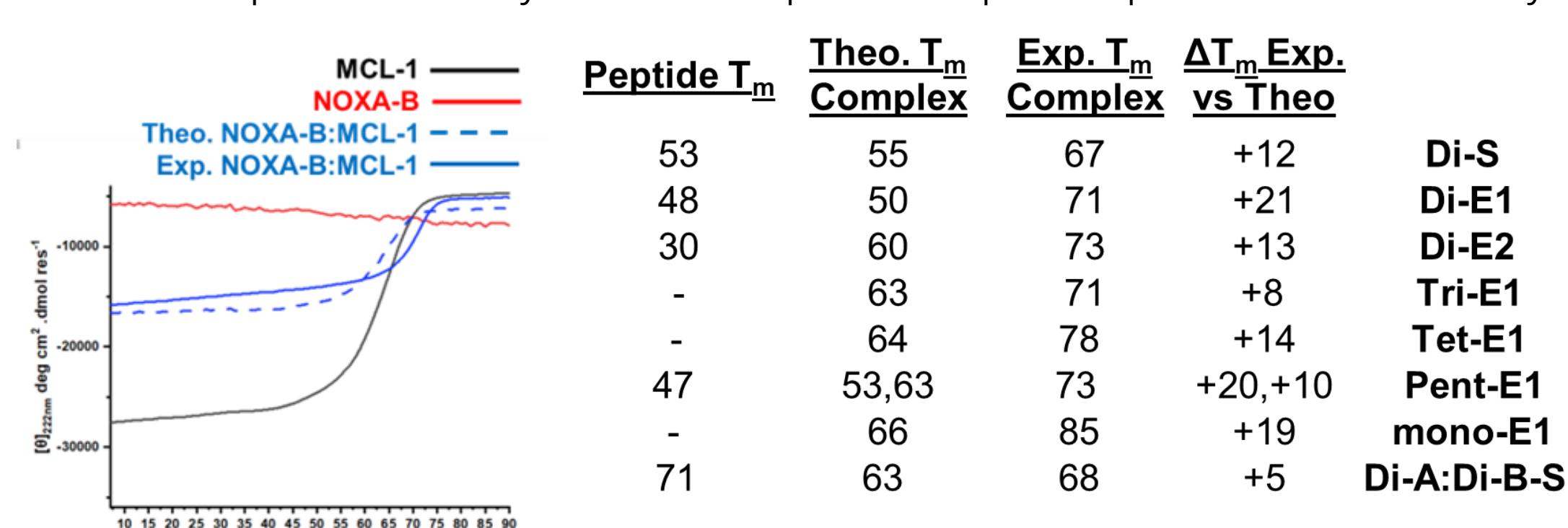


Changing the Scaffold Type



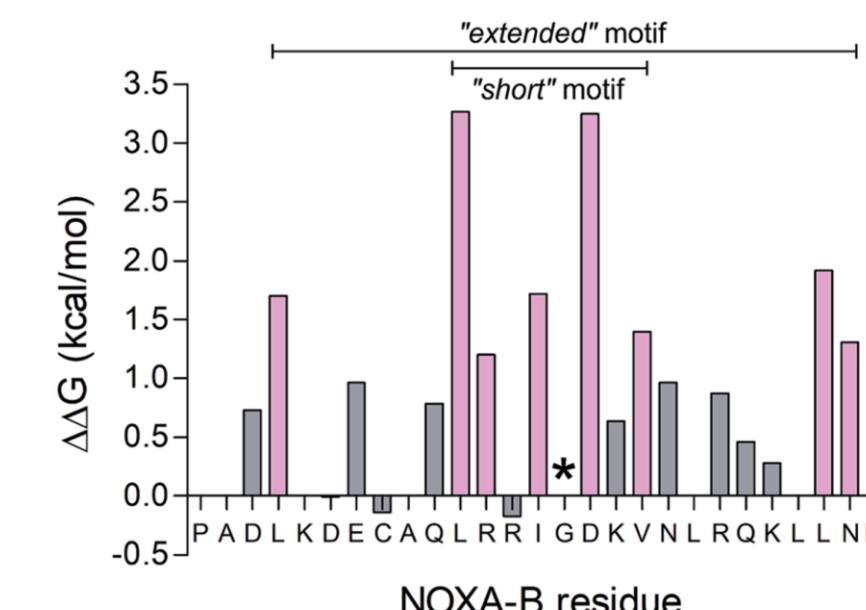
Binding Cooperativity

How does the predicted stability of the scaffold:protein complex compare to the actual stability?



Mimicking Nature's Resolution Peptides

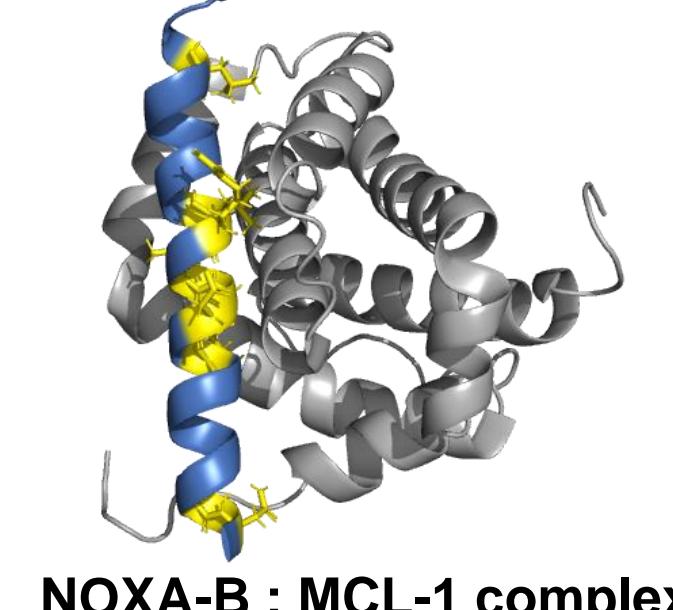
Finding stabilizing interactions and altering the structure of the peptide scaffold.



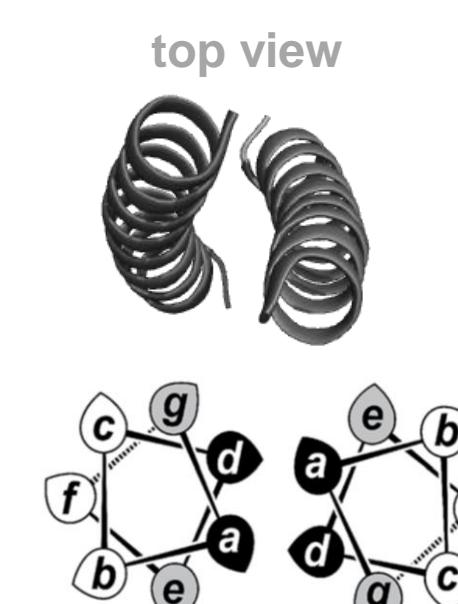
side view



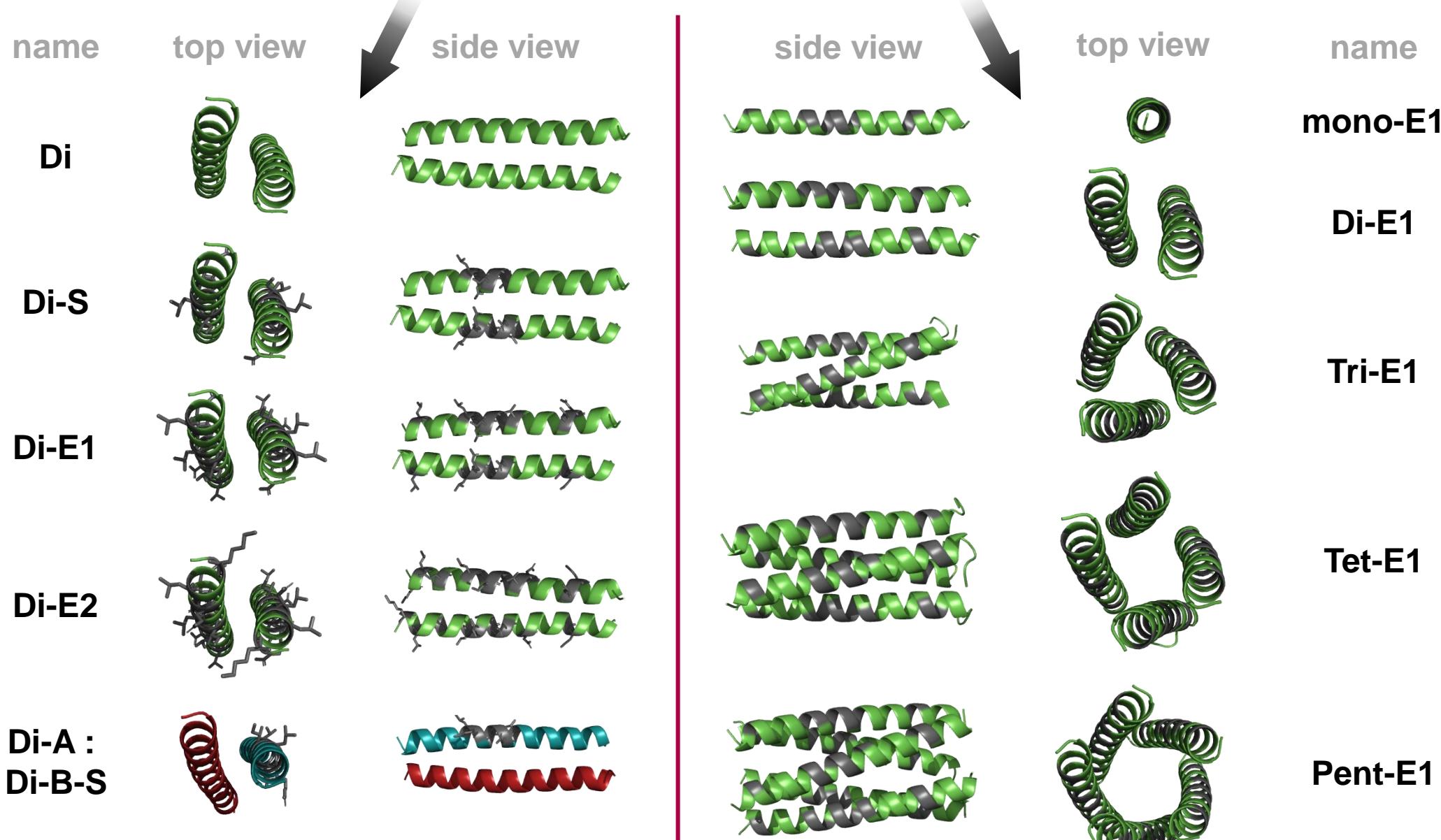
Coiled coil peptides
Stable scaffold
Well understood
Can be designed
Regular repeat



side view



How does changing the mimicked sequence and the scaffold type affect binding?

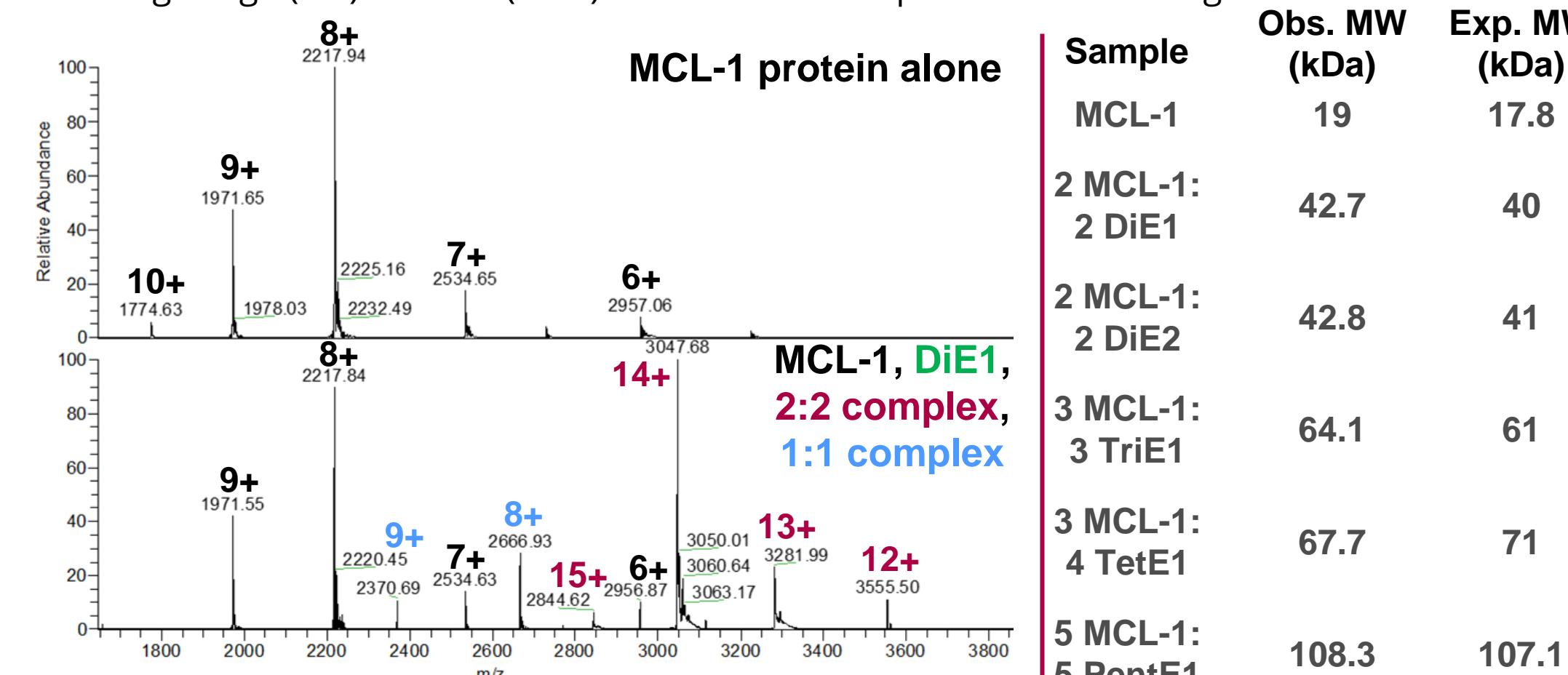


Peptide Library

heptad	gabcdef	gabcdef	gabcdef
NOXA-B	P AD I KDEC	AQ L RIG	D K VNLRLQ
Di	Ac-G EIAALKQ	EIAALKK	EIAALKQ
Di-S	Ac-G EIAALKQ	E I LRLIG	D N VALKQ
Di-E1	Ac-G E I LALKQ	E I LRLIG	D N VALKQ
Di-E2	Ac-G K I L E Q	E I LRLIG	D N VNL K Q
Tri-E1	Ac-G E I L A IKQ	E I LR I IG	D N V A IKQ
Tet-E1	Ac-G E I L A IKQ	E I LR I IG	D L V A IKQ
Pent-E1	Ac-G E F L A FKQ	E F LR I FG	D F V N FKQ
mono-E1	Ac-G E A L A AKQ	E A LA I G	D A V A AKQ
Di-A	Ac-G E I A A LEQ	E I A A LEK	E I A A LEQ
Di-B-S	Ac-G K I AALKQ	K I LR I G	D N VALKQ

Confirming the Expected Interaction

Using a high (MS) and low (FIDA) resolution technique to observe designed interaction.



Conclusions

- Stabilizing interactions bind target cancer protein regardless of scaffold
- Inclusion of stabilizing interactions does not prevent scaffold folding
- Scaffolds can recruit multiple copies of target cancer protein (multivalent)
- Scaffolds and target cancer protein interact in the designed manner

References:

1. Al-Odat, O. S. et al. MCL-1 Inhibition: Managing Malignancy in Multiple Myeloma. *Front. Pharmacol.* **2021**, DOI: 10.3389/fphar.2021.699629.
2. Fletcher, J. M et al. De Novo Coiled-Coil Peptides as Scaffolds for Disrupting Protein-Protein Interactions. *Chem. Sci.* **2018**, DOI: 10.1039/c8sc02643b.
3. Moerka, N. J. Fluorescence Polarization (FP) Assays for Monitoring Peptide-Protein or Nucleic Acid-Protein Binding. *Curr. Prot. In Chem. Biol.*, **2009**, DOI: 10.1002/9780470559277.ch090102.
4. Greenfield, N. J. Circular Dichroism Analysis for Protein-Protein Interactions. *Methods Mol. Biol.*, **2004**, 10.1385/1-59259-762-9:055.
5. Pedersen, M. E. Flow-Induced Dispersion Analysis (FIDA) for Protein Quantification and Characterization, **2019**, 10.1007/978-1-4939-9213-3-8.
6. Bellamy-Carter, J. et al. Discovering Protein-Protein Interaction Stabilizers by Native Mass Spectrometry. *Chem. Sci.*, **2021**, 10.1039/dtsc01450a.