

COST ACTION CA 17140
NANO2CLINIC
CANCER NANOMEDICINE - FROM THE
BENCH TO THE BEDSIDE



**UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI TRIESTE**

STSM - September 2021
Pr. Sabrina PRICL

Cancer Nanomedicine via Dendrimer Nanocarriers

Aura TINTARU





Centre Interdisciplinaire de Nanoscience de Marseille – UMR 7325

5 Research Departments : 120 permanents; 60 PhD and post-docs
Aix-Marseille Université, Campus Luminy

Overview



Nano2Clinic
CA17140

Main research project: DENDRIMERS

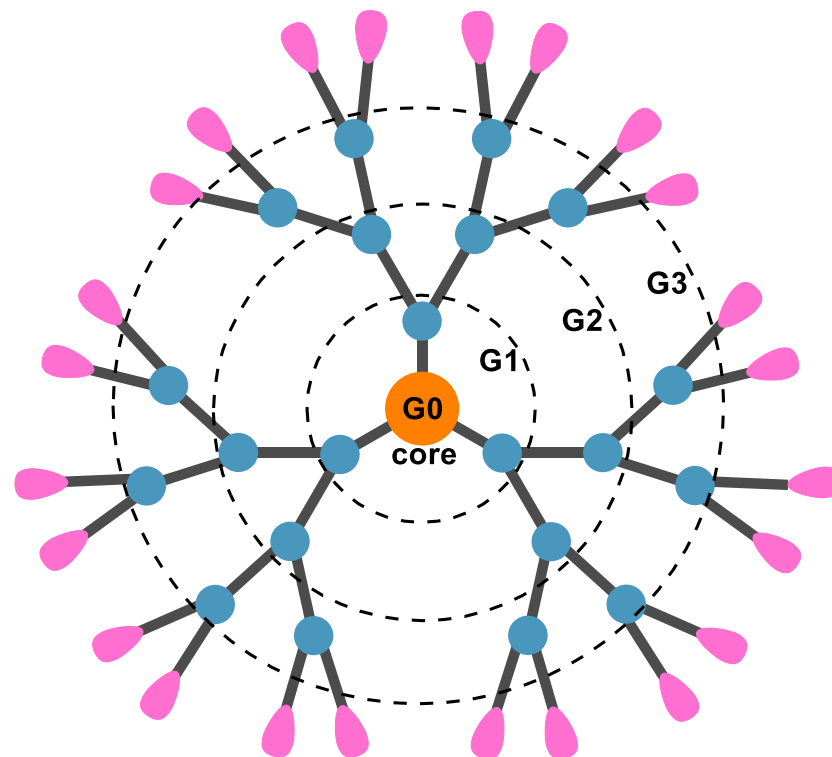
Complex molecules



Vectorisation agents



Original analytical approaches
adapted to each specific topic



Combinative approach: NMR-MS

Overview



Nano2Clinic
CA17140

Main research project: DENDRIMERS

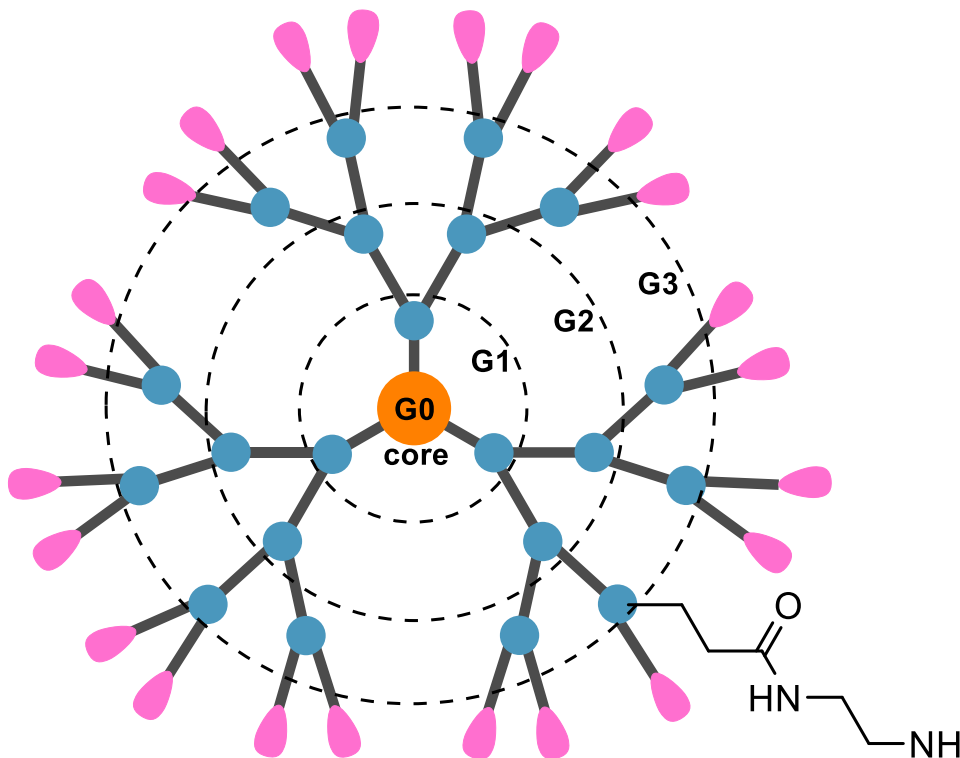
Complex molecules



Vectorisation agents



Original analytical approaches
adapted to each specific topic



PAMAM – poly(amido)amine

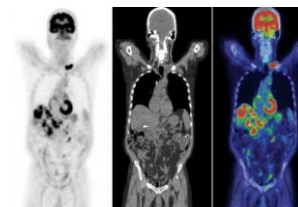
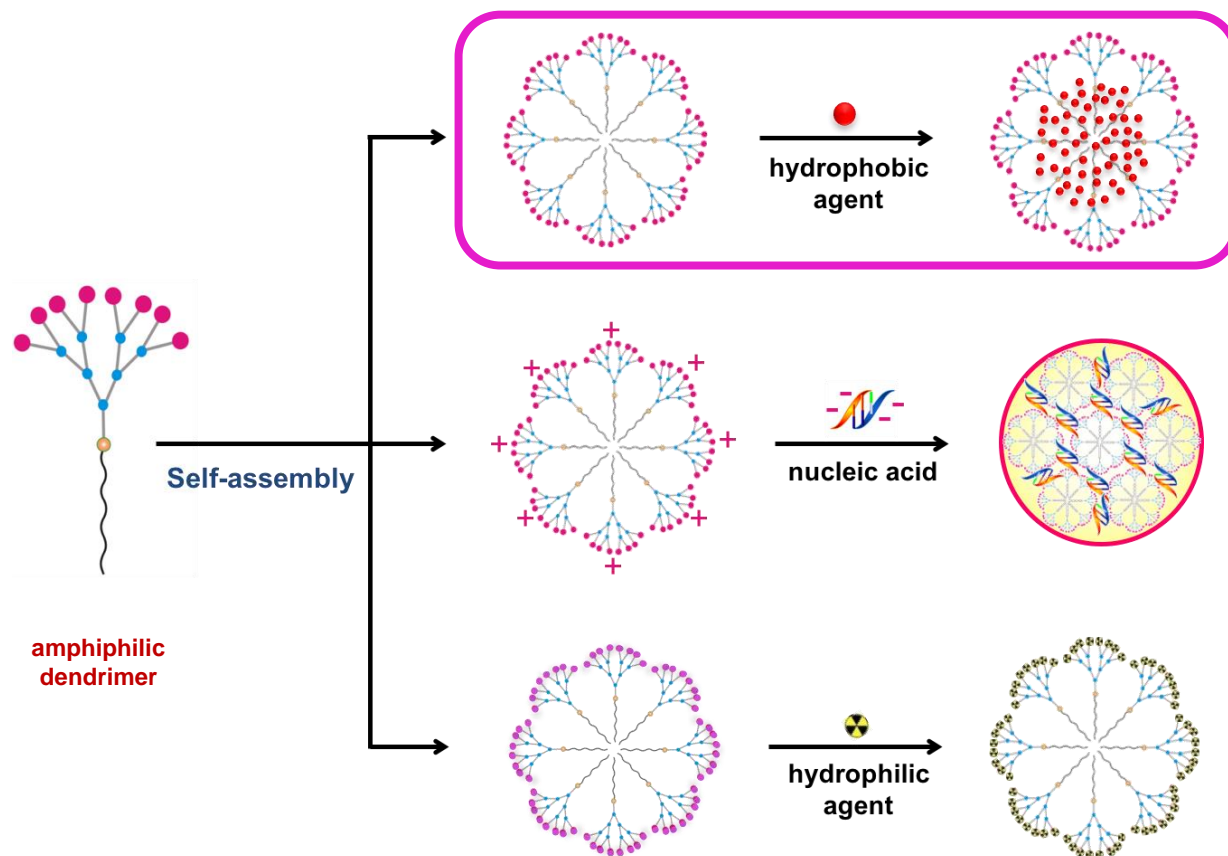
Combinative approach: NMR-MS

Main goal: Accurate characterization

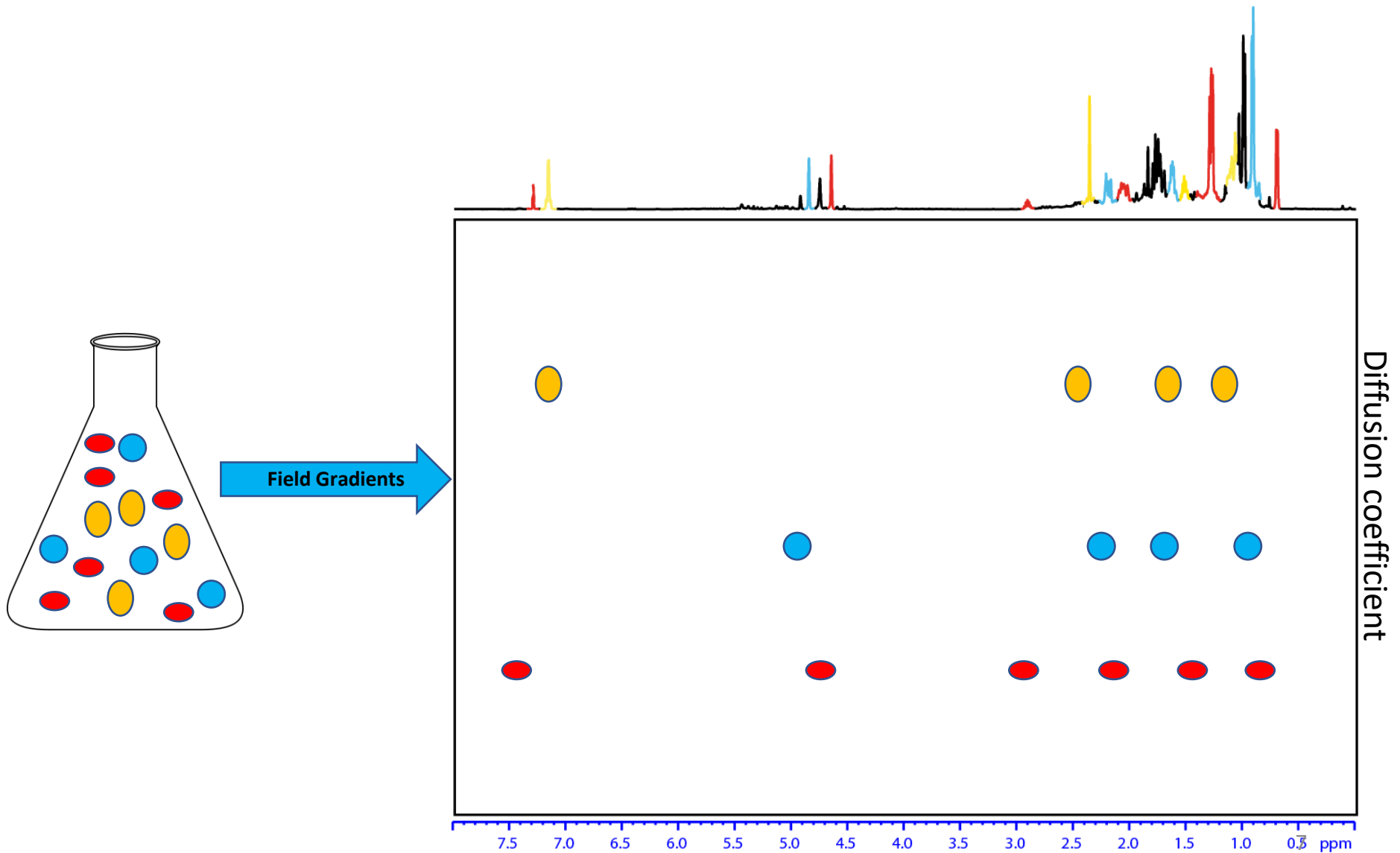
February 23rd, 2023

Overview

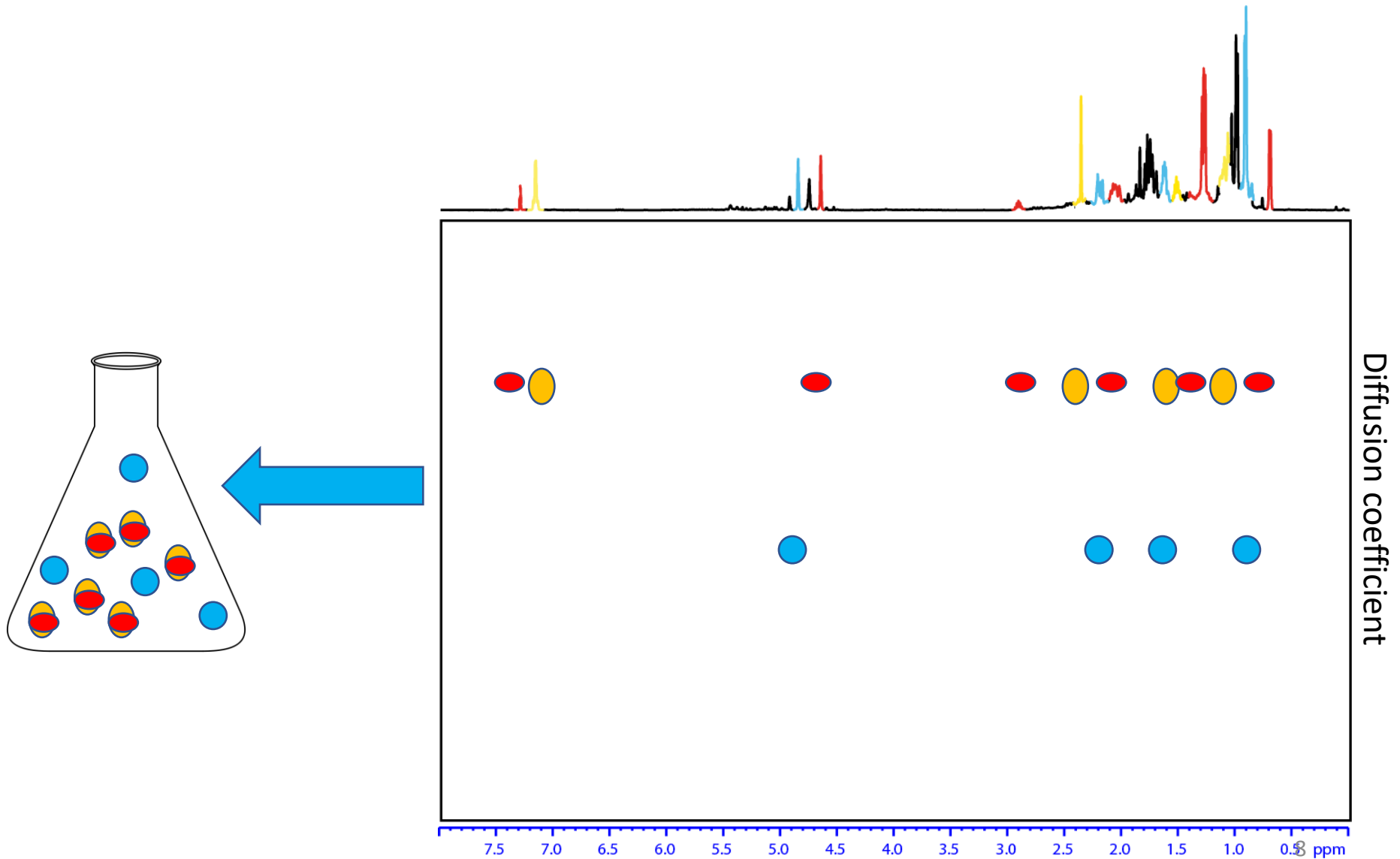
Amphiphilic Dendrimers



Diffusion NMR



Diffusion NMR

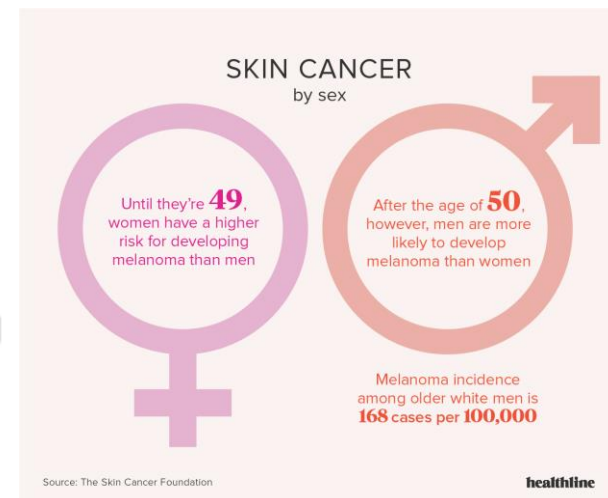
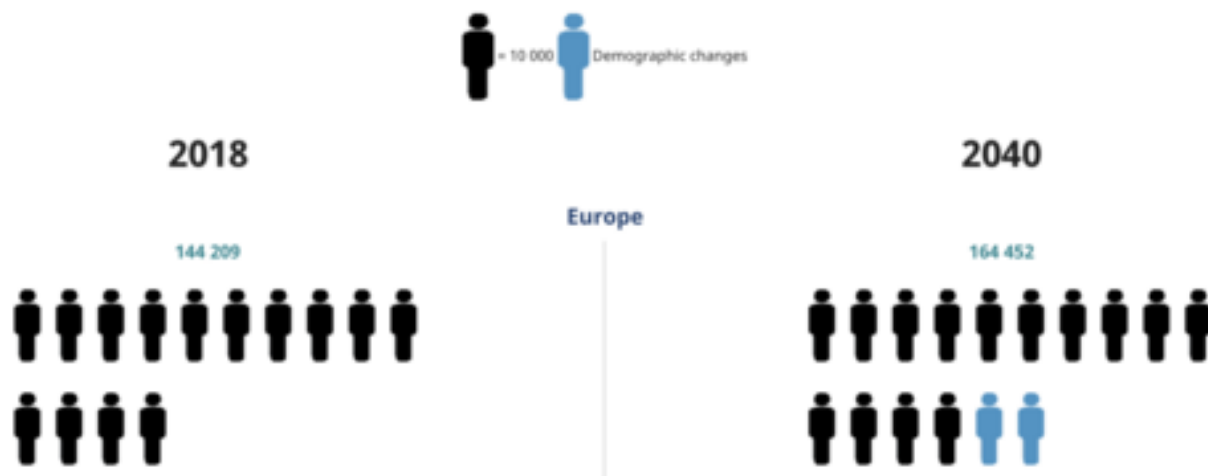


Melanoma in brief

- Cancer starting from pigment-producing cells, mostly but not only in the skin
- Survival very dependent on stage: Detected early, high chances of survival by surgery alone (95% cured). Detected late, fatal prognosis (average survival 6- 9 months without new medicines)
- 144 000 new cases / year in Europe
- 27 000 deaths / year in Europe
- Traditional therapies alone (surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy) not effective once the disease has spread
- 10 new therapies plus combinations approved since 2011
- Patient highly dependent on innovative approaches to development of and access to new therapies

Melanoma in facts

Estimated number of incident cases from 2018 to 2040, melanoma of skin, both sexes, all ages



Main limitations of today therapies (based on BRAF inhibitors)

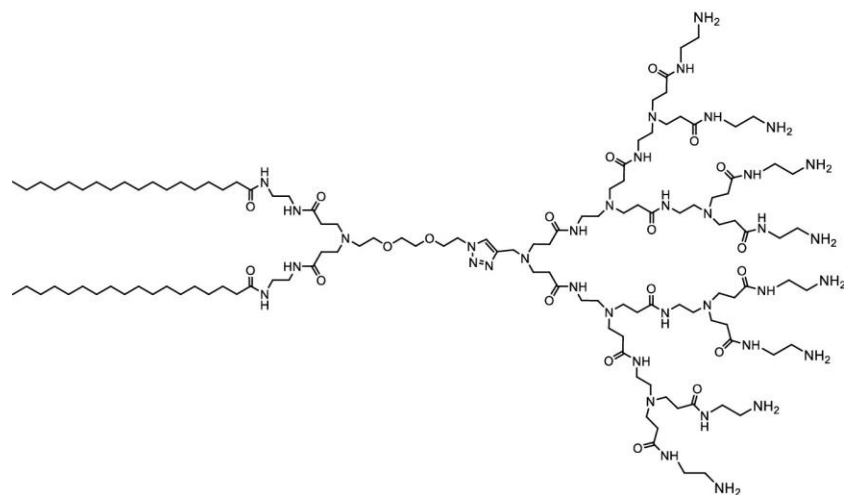
- side effects
- oral administration less efficient than intravenous

} Proof of concept :
BRAFinhib delivery by nanocarrier

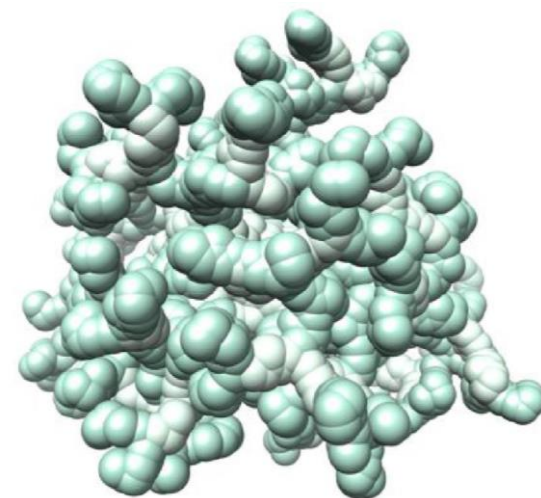
Nanocarrier Formation



Nano2Clinic
CA17140



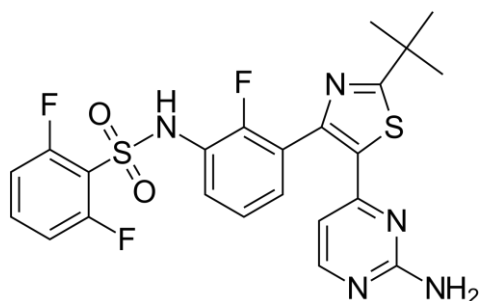
Self-assembly



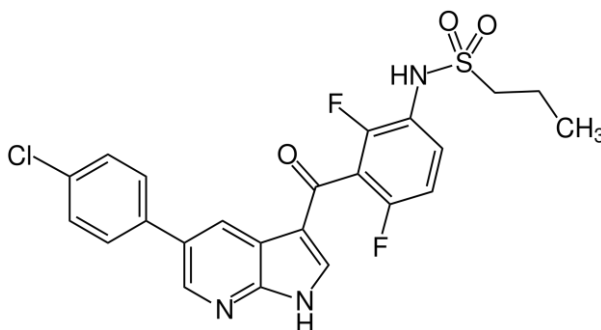
?



Drug Loading



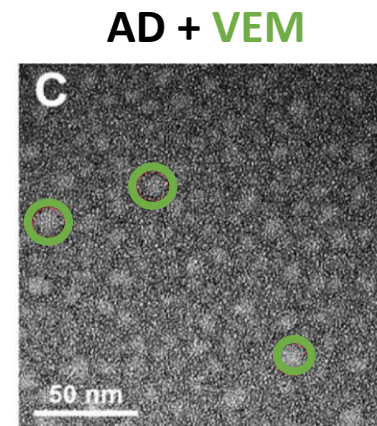
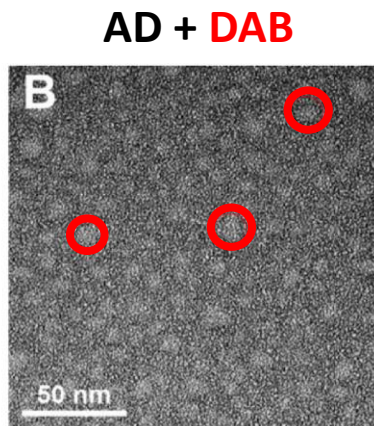
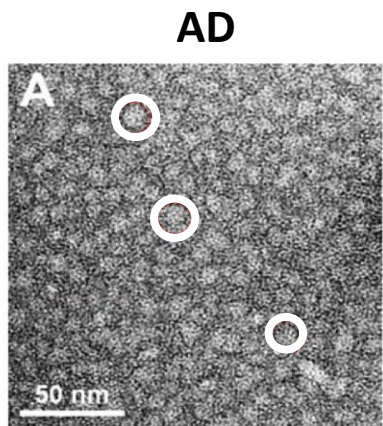
Vemurafenib



Dabrafenib

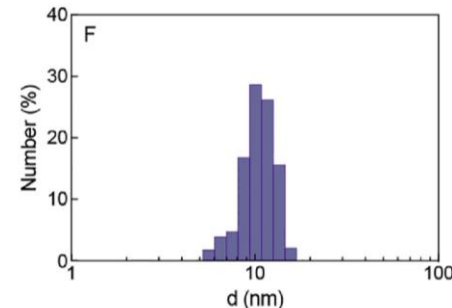
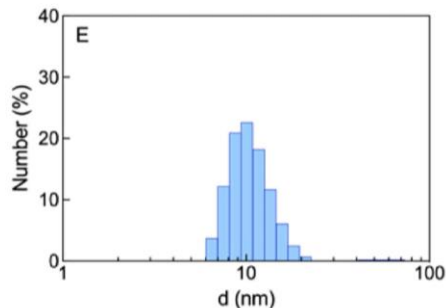
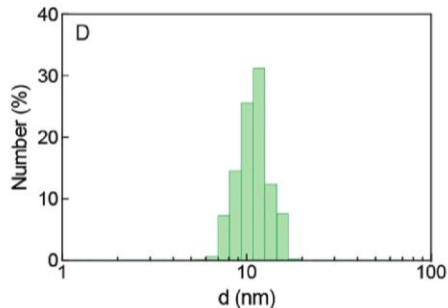
Nanocarrier Observation

TEM

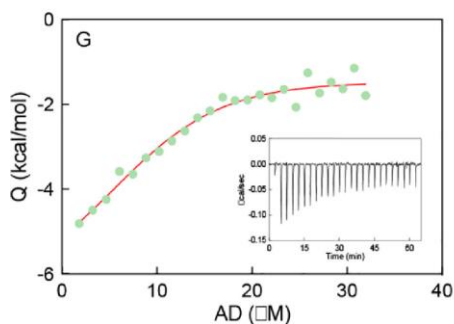


~4nm

DLS

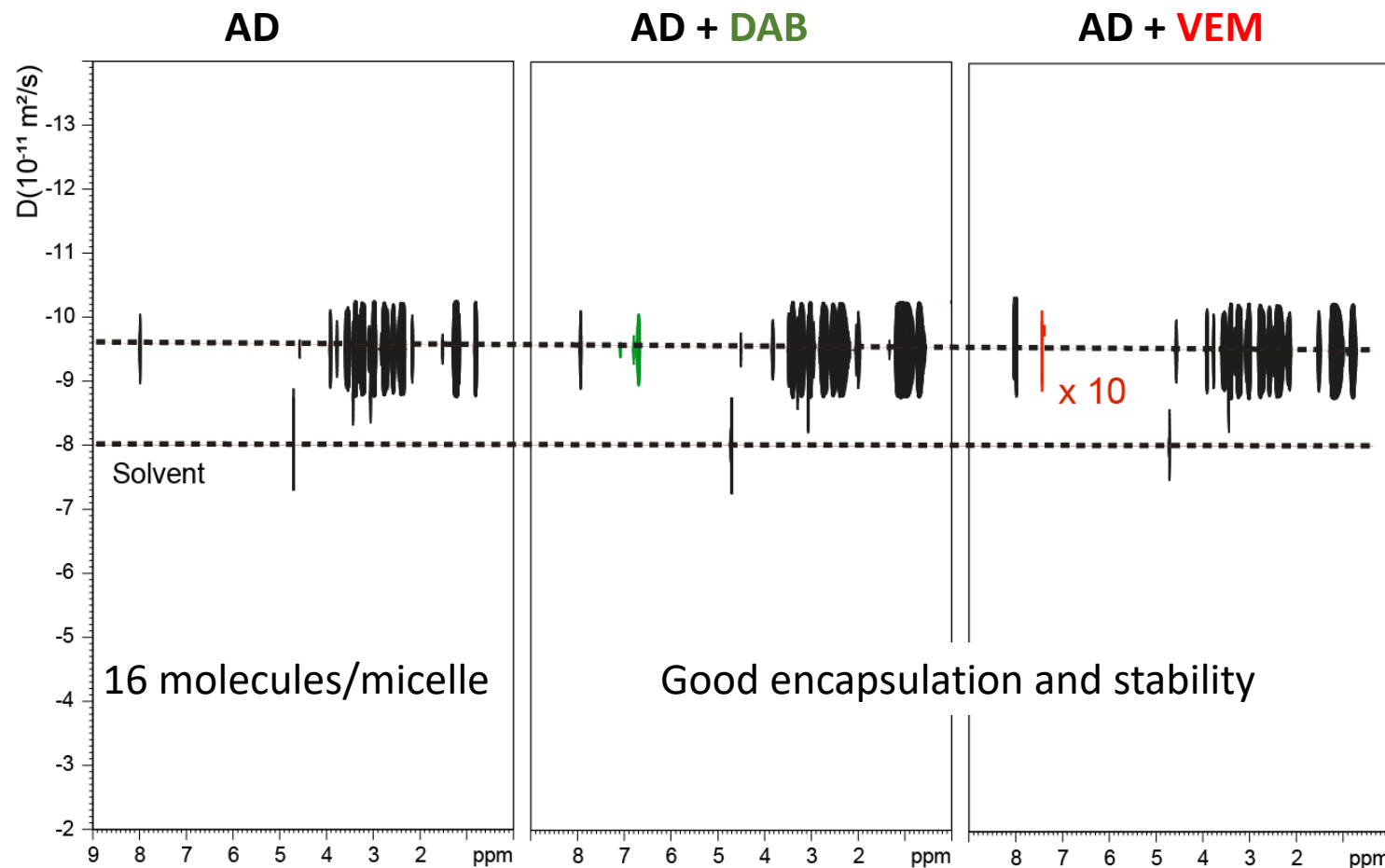


ITC



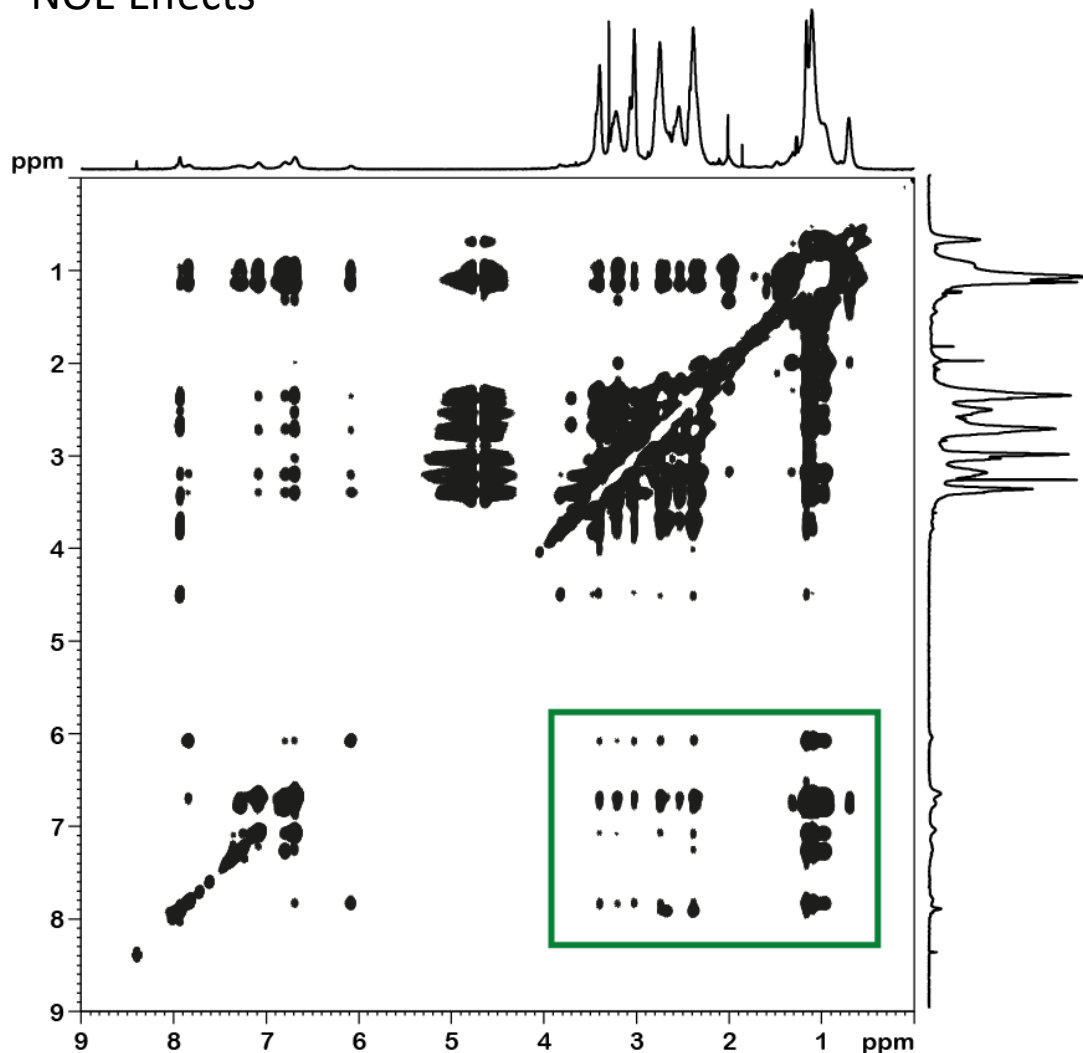
Nanocarrier Characterization

Diffusion NMR (DOSY)

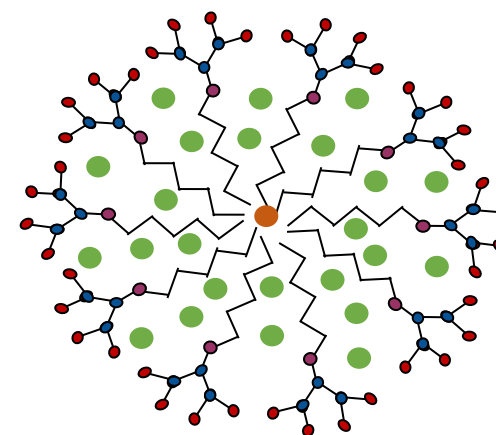
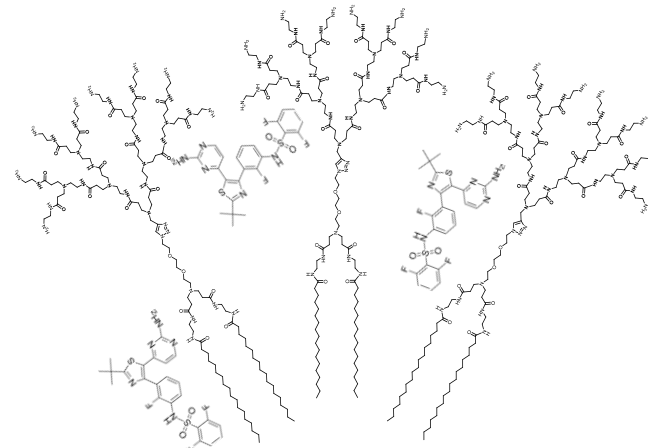


Nanocarrier Characterization

NOE Effects



AD/Dabrafenib



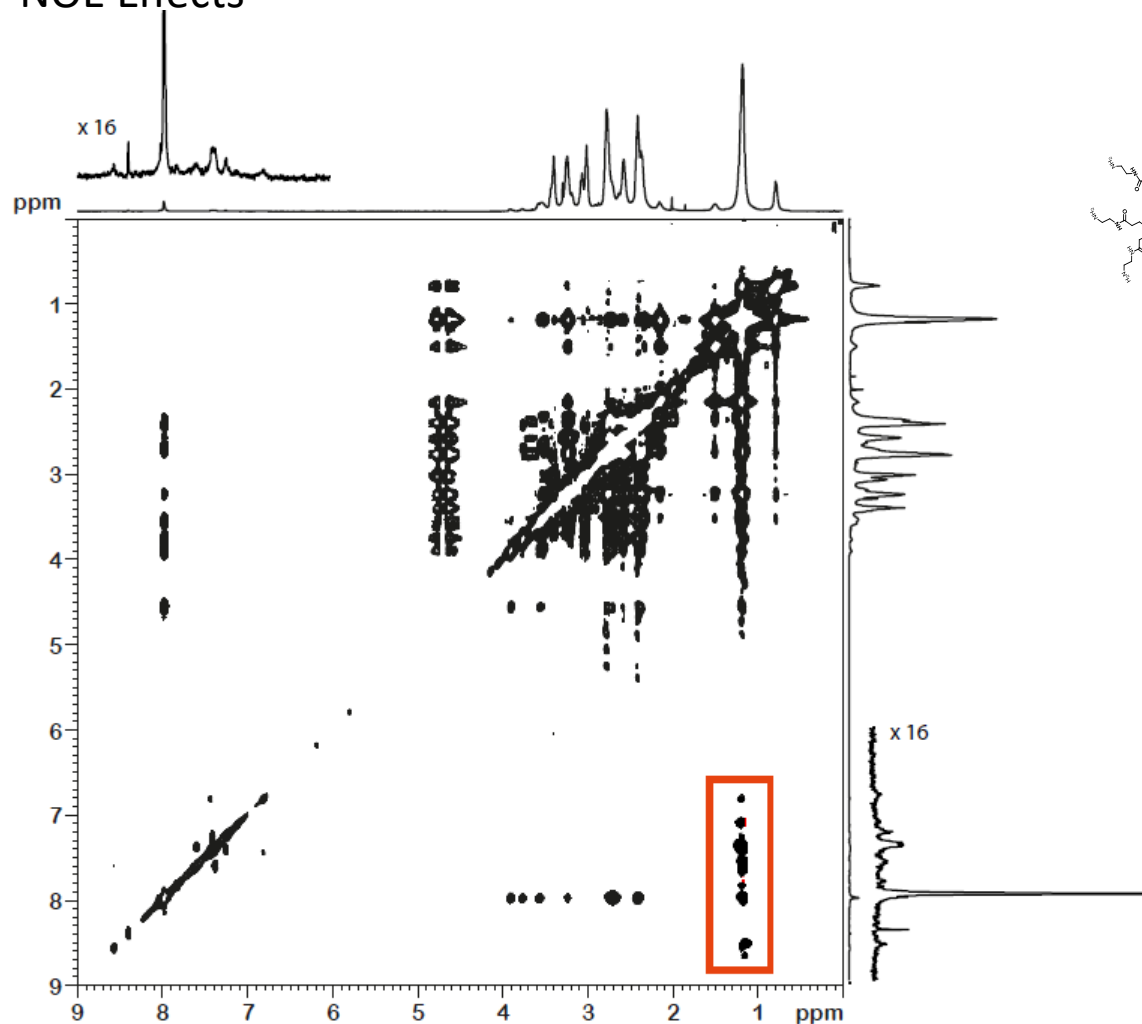
DAB interacts with the
hydrophobic & hydrophilic part

Nanocarrier Characterization

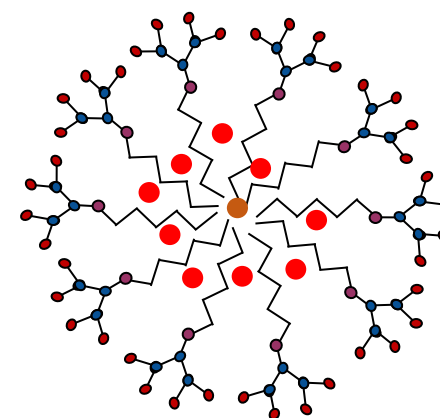
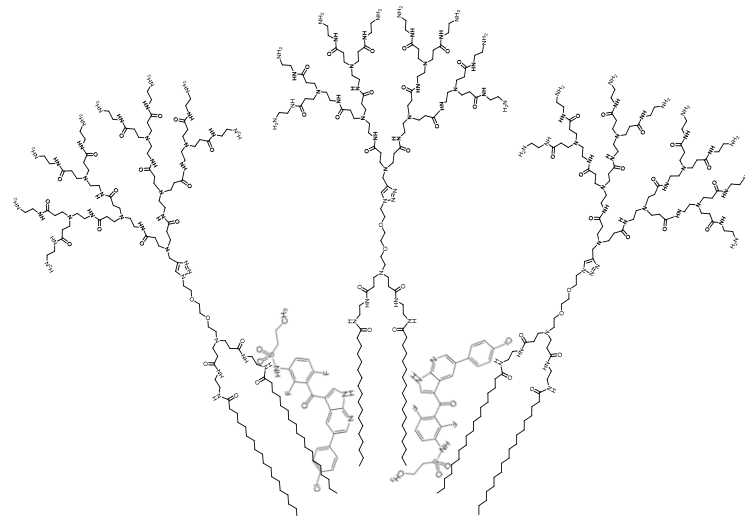


Nano2Clinic
CA17140

NOE Effects



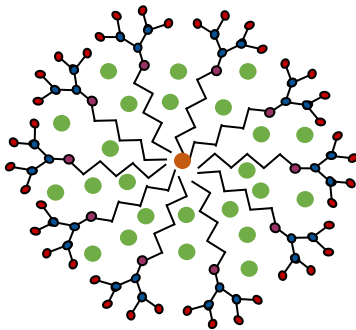
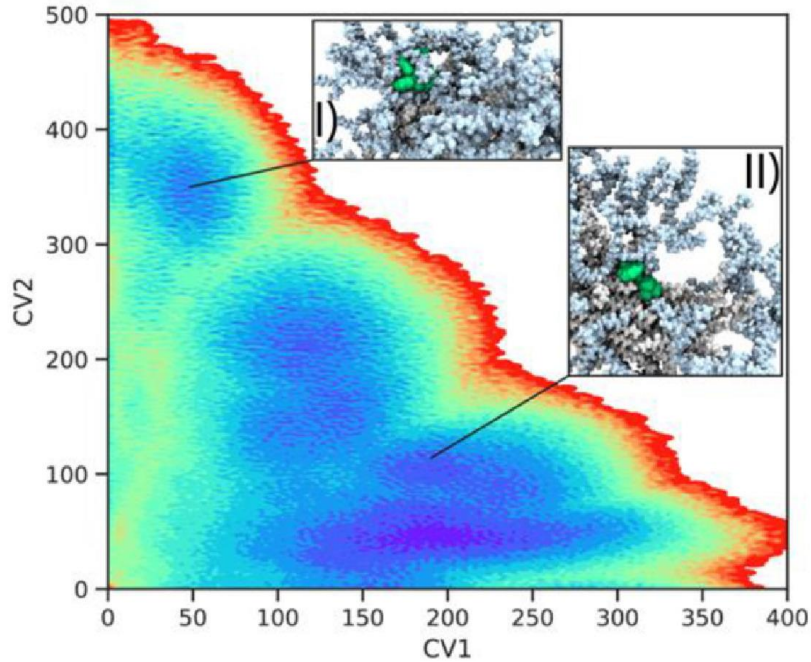
AD/Vemurafenib



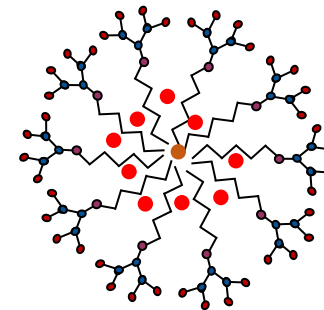
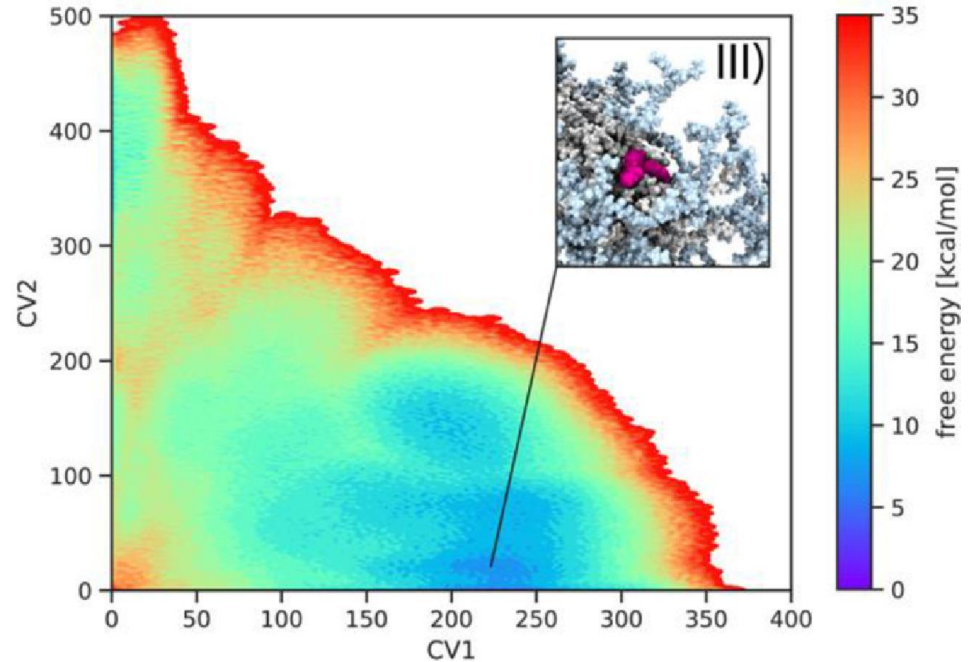
VEM interacts with the
hydrophobic part

Nanocarrier Characterization

Dabrafenib



Vemurafenib

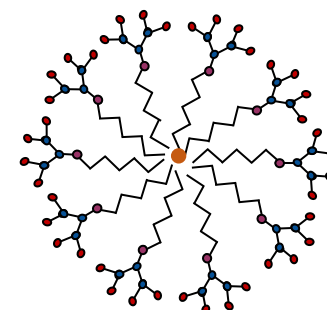
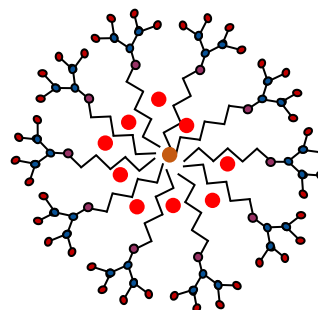
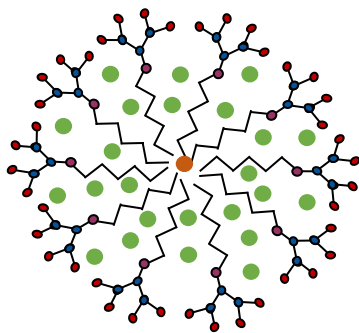
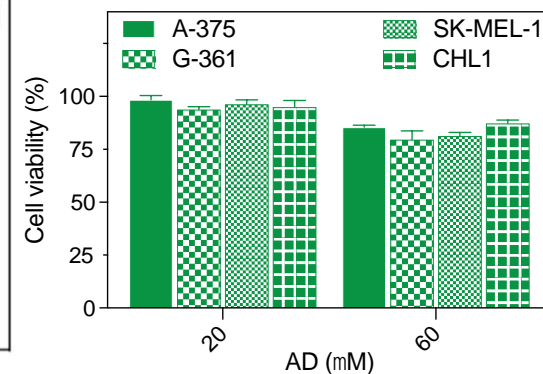
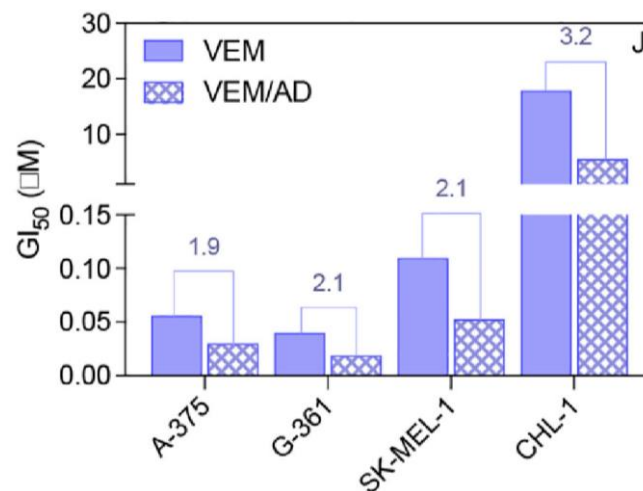
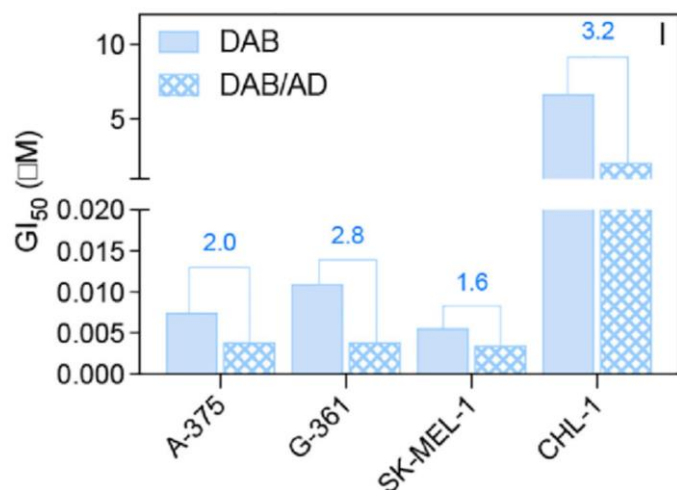


In vitro Anticancer Activity Assays



Nano2Clinic
CA17140

4 human malignant melanoma cells



February 23rd, 2023

Conclusion

- **Successful formulation of drug loaded nanomicelles using amphiphilic dendrimers (AD)**
- **Stability of the DAB/AD and VEM/AD carriers**
- **Good anticancer activity**
- **NM/drug: Promising improvement compared with free drug**



Nanocarriers for « natural » drugs delivery



Controllable structure

Stable formulation

High drug payload

Low toxicity

Stabilisation

Controlled targeting

Novel and powerful dendrimer nanocarriers



Why natural products?



Nano2Clinic
CA17140

- The simplest definition for a **natural product** is a **small molecule** that is produced by a **biological source**.
- **One third** of the new reported molecules are obtained from **plants**
- A full **40 percent** of the drugs behind the pharmacist's counter in the Western world are derived from plants that people have used for centuries
- **Cosmetic industry** : The Natural and Organic Cosmetics market in the U.S. is estimated at **5 Billion US dollars** in **2020**
- **Corsica** island: aprox. **3000** species (> 2500 indigens)

High POTENTIAL for new pharmaceuticals development!!

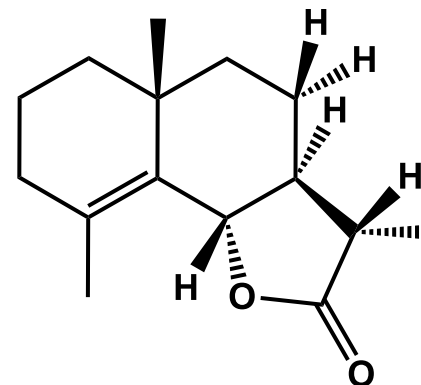
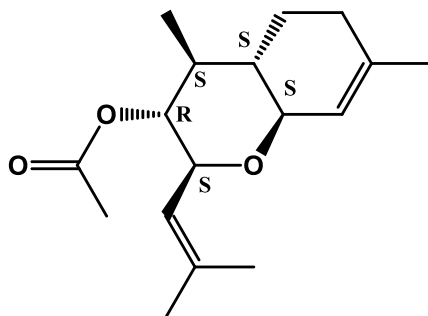
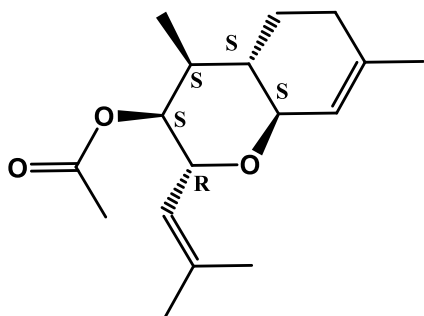
February 23rd, 2023



Senecio transiens



Frullania tamarisci



High POTENTIAL for new pharmaceuticals development!!

STSM « Results »

- 1 published publication
- 2 publications to be submitted soon
- 1 project submitted for ANR funding request
- 1 fruitful collaboration



Acknowledgments



**UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI TRIESTE**

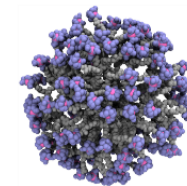
Sabrina PRICL

Erik Laurini

Domenico MARSON

Maria RUSSI

Fulvia FELLUGA



COST ACTION CA 17140
NANO2CLINIC
CANCER NANOMEDICINE - FROM THE
BENCH TO THE BEDSIDE



Ling PENG's Group



Pr. Alain MUSELLI

Dr. Stéphane ANDREANI

Dr. Anaïs PANNEQUIN

