

# Carbohydrate Engineering for Generating Sialylated Glycoproteins in Insect Cells

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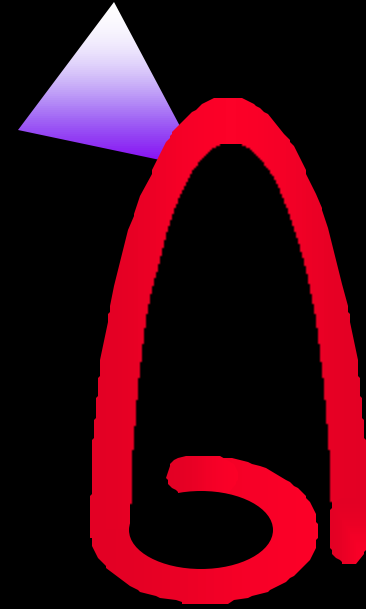
# Oligosaccharide Processing



folded  
polypeptide



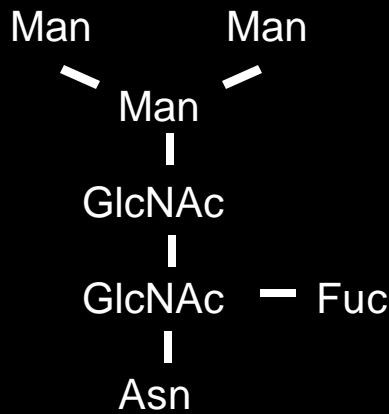
sugar processing  
enzymes



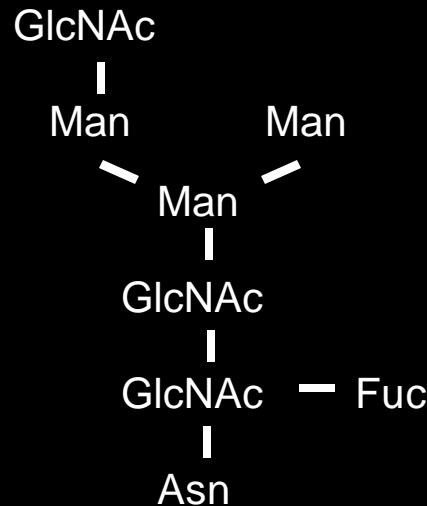
active  
sugar-modified  
protein

# N-glycan Processing: Insect versus Mammalian

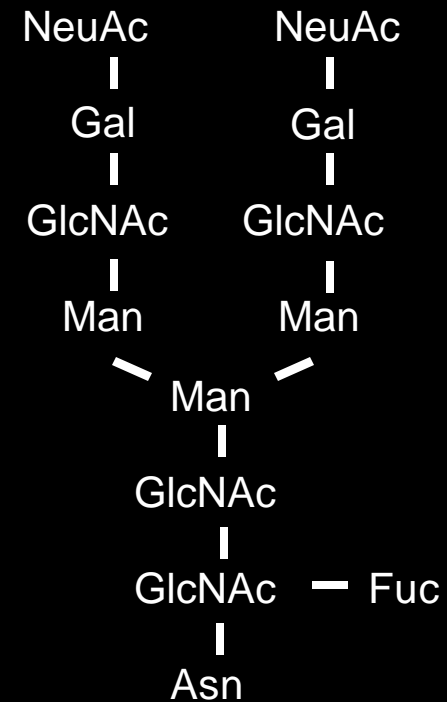
*Paucimannosidic  
(Low Mannose)*



*Hybrid*



*Complex*



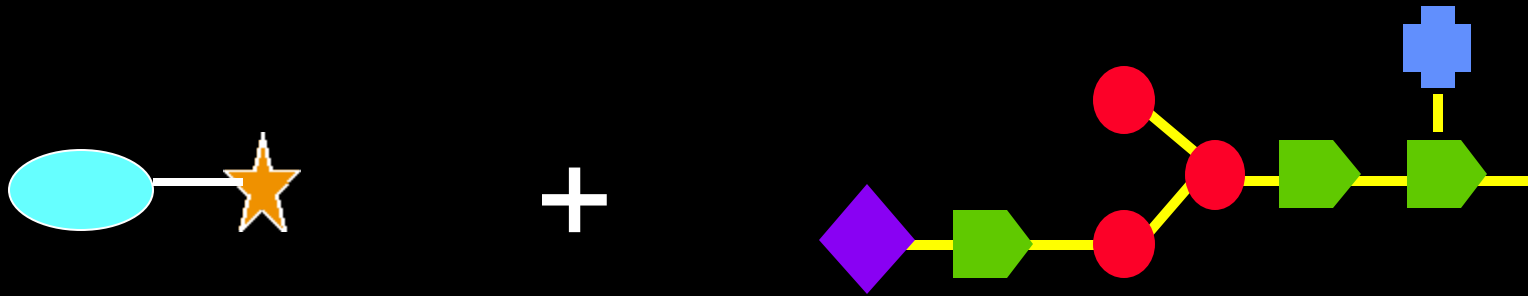
Insect Cells

Mammalian Cells

# Importance of Sialylation: (N-acetylneuraminic acid, NeuAc)

- ◆ Protein Structure
- ◆ Protein Stability
- ◆ Biological Activity
- ◆ *In Vivo* Circulatory Half-Life

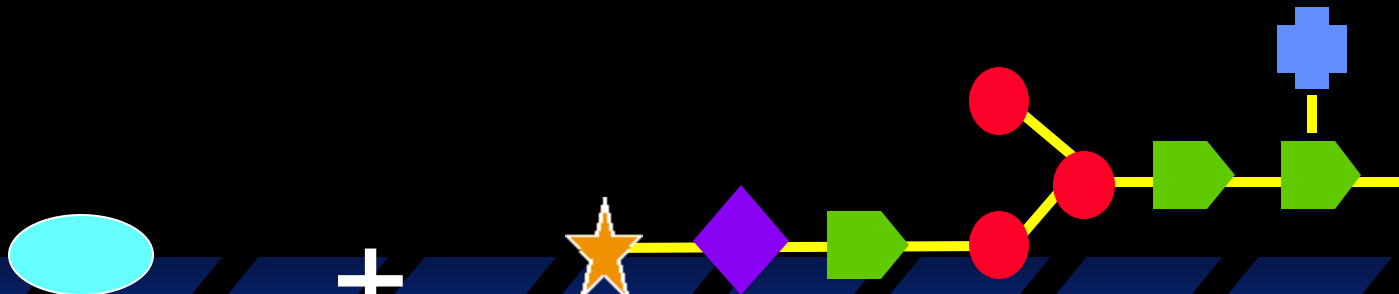
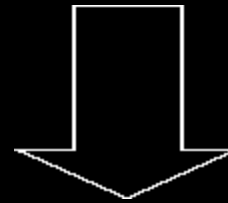
# Sialylation Reaction



CMP-NeuAc  
(Cytidine Monophospho-  
N-acetylneuraminic acid/Sialic Acid)

Galactose-terminated Structure

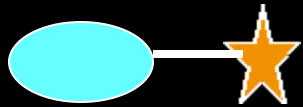
*Sialyltransferase*



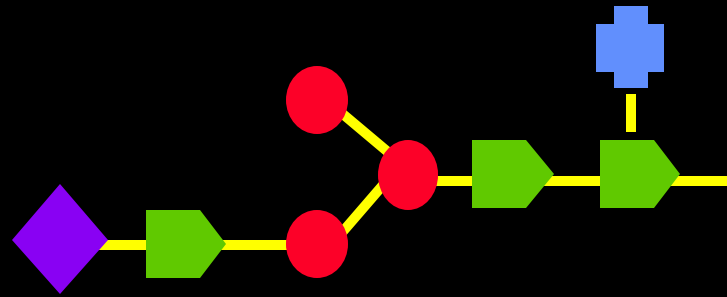
CMP

Sialylated Structure  
(terminal NeuAc)

# Sialylation Reaction



+

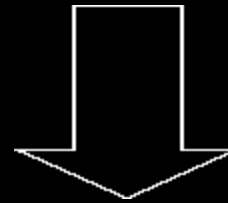


**CMP-NeuAc**

(Cytidine Monophospho-  
N-acetylneuraminic acid/Sialic Acid)

Galactose-terminated Structure

◀ □-DJ/MI



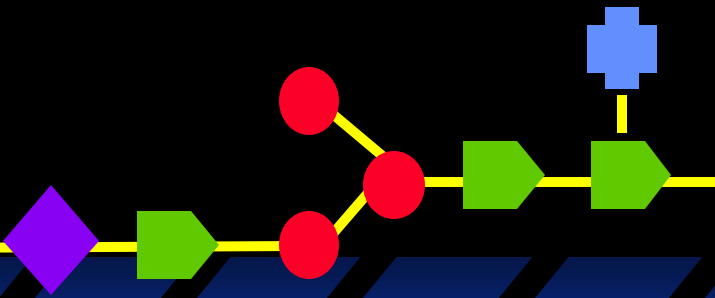
*Sialyltransferase*



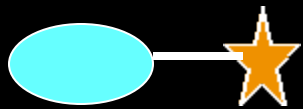
CMP +



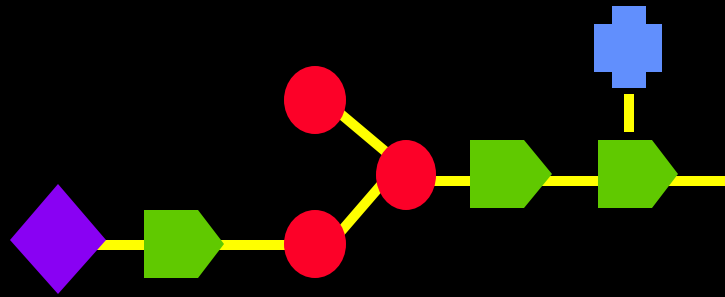
Sialylated Structure  
(terminal NeuAc)



# Sialylation Reaction



+

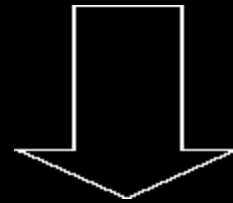


**CMP-NeuAc**

(Cytidine Monophospho-  
N-acetylneuraminic acid/Sialic Acid)

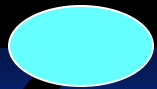
Galactose-terminated Structure

◀ □-DJ/M



*Sialyltransferase*

◀ -DJ



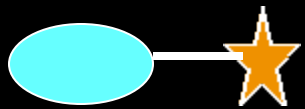
+



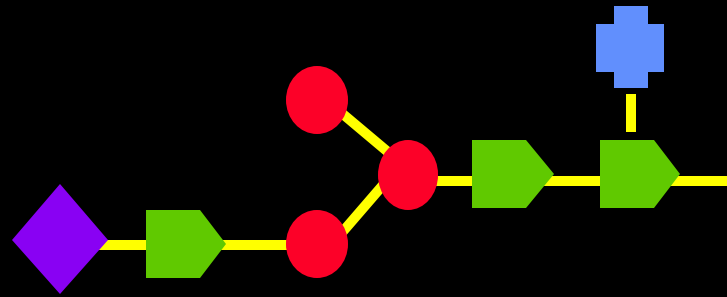
Sialylated Structure  
(terminal NeuAc)

CMP

# Sialylation Reaction



+

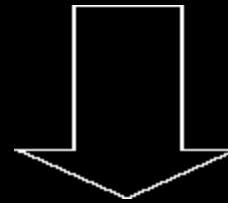


**CMP-NeuAc ?**

(Cytidine Monophospho-  
N-acetylneuraminic acid/Sialic Acid)

Galactose-terminated Structure

◀ □-DJ/MI



*Sialyltransferase*

◀ -DJ



CMP +

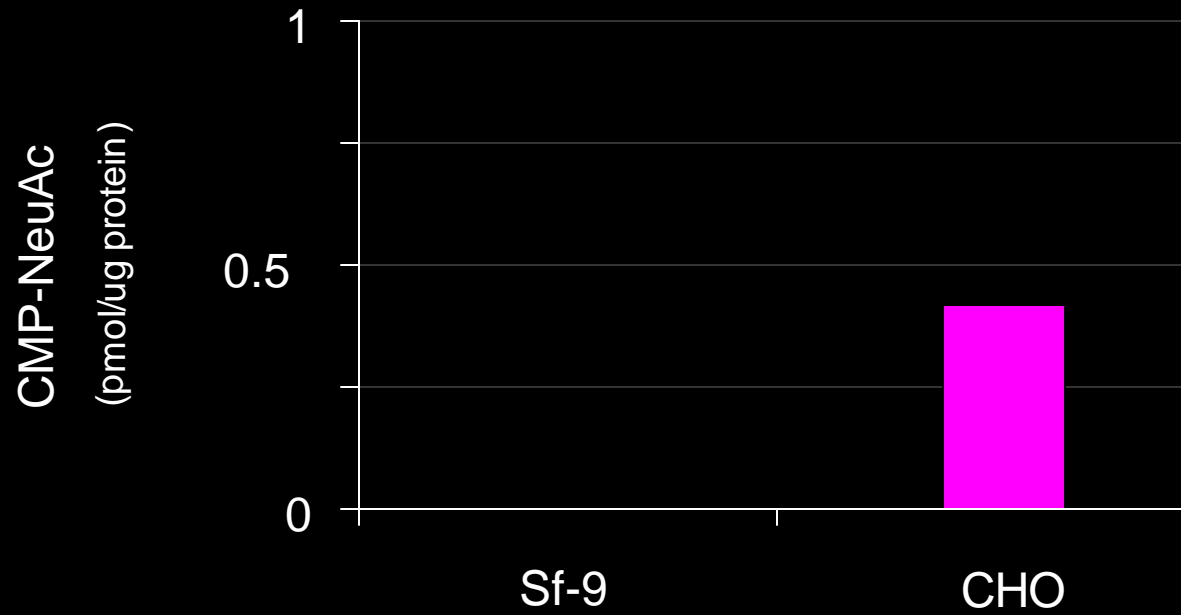


Sialylated Structure  
(terminal NeuAc)

?

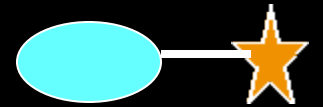


# CMP-NeuAc Levels

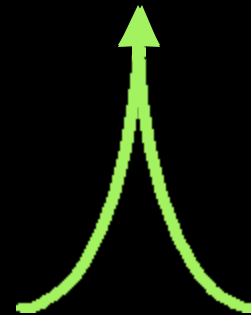
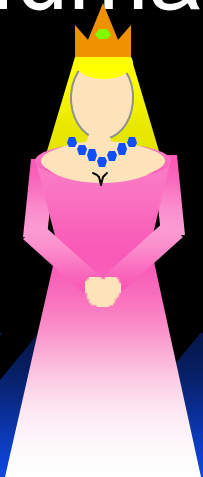


# Engineer Sialic Acid Pathway

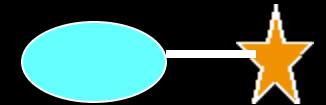
Insects



Humans



DNA



CMP-NeuAc

# Sialic Acid Pathway Reconstruction



UDP-N-acetylglucoseamine (UDP-GlcNAc)



*UDP-GlcNAc Epimerase*

N-acetylmannoseamine (ManNAc)



*Sialic Acid*

*Phosphate Synthase*

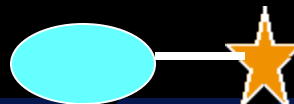
N-acetylneuraminic acid (NeuAc)



*CMP-Sialic Acid*

*Synthase*

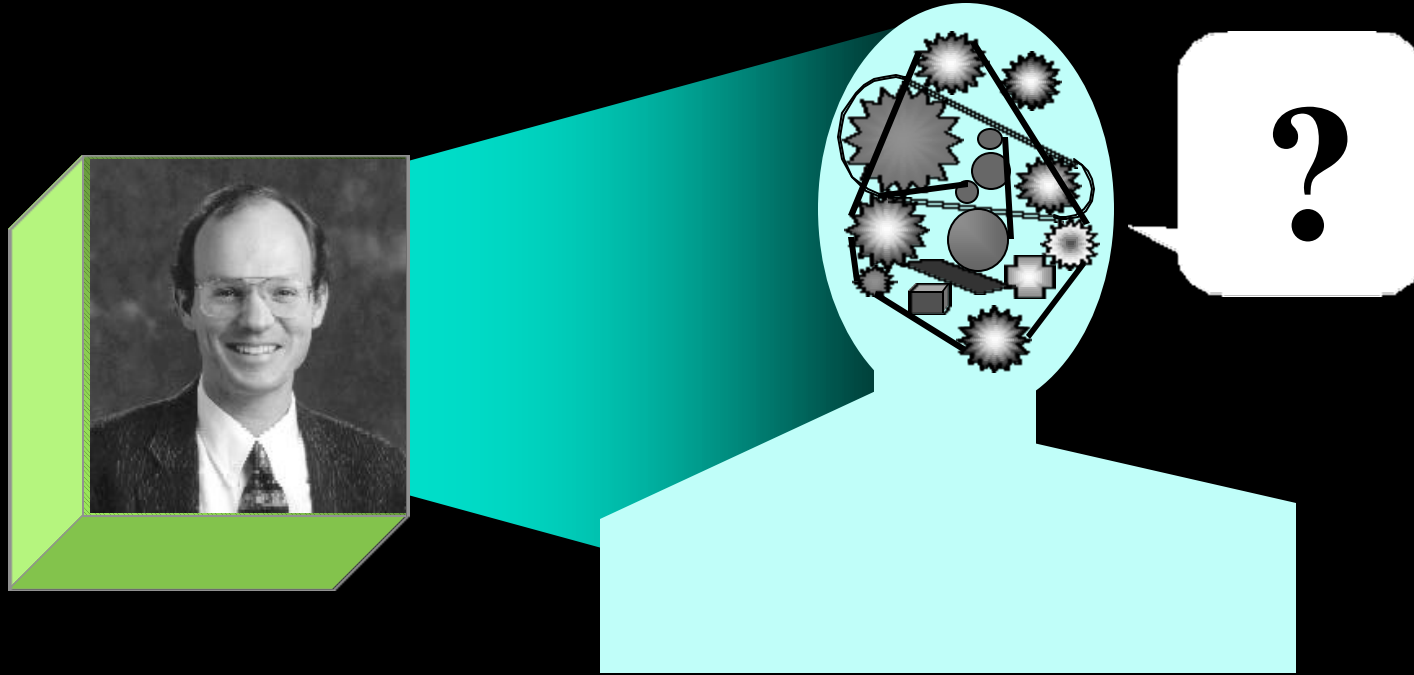
CMP-NeuAc



CMP N-acetylneuraminic acid (CMP-NeuAc)



One problem with this  
strategy.....



**The human genes are UNKNOWN...**

# Sialic Acid Pathway Reconstruction

UDP-GlcNAc



*UDP-GlcNAc Epimerase*

ManNAc

?



*Sialic Acid  
Phosphate Synthase*

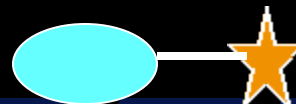
NeuAc

?

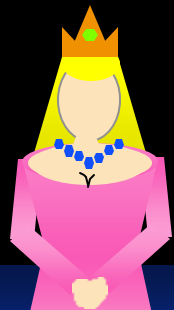


*CMP-Sialic Acid  
Synthase*

CMP-NeuAc



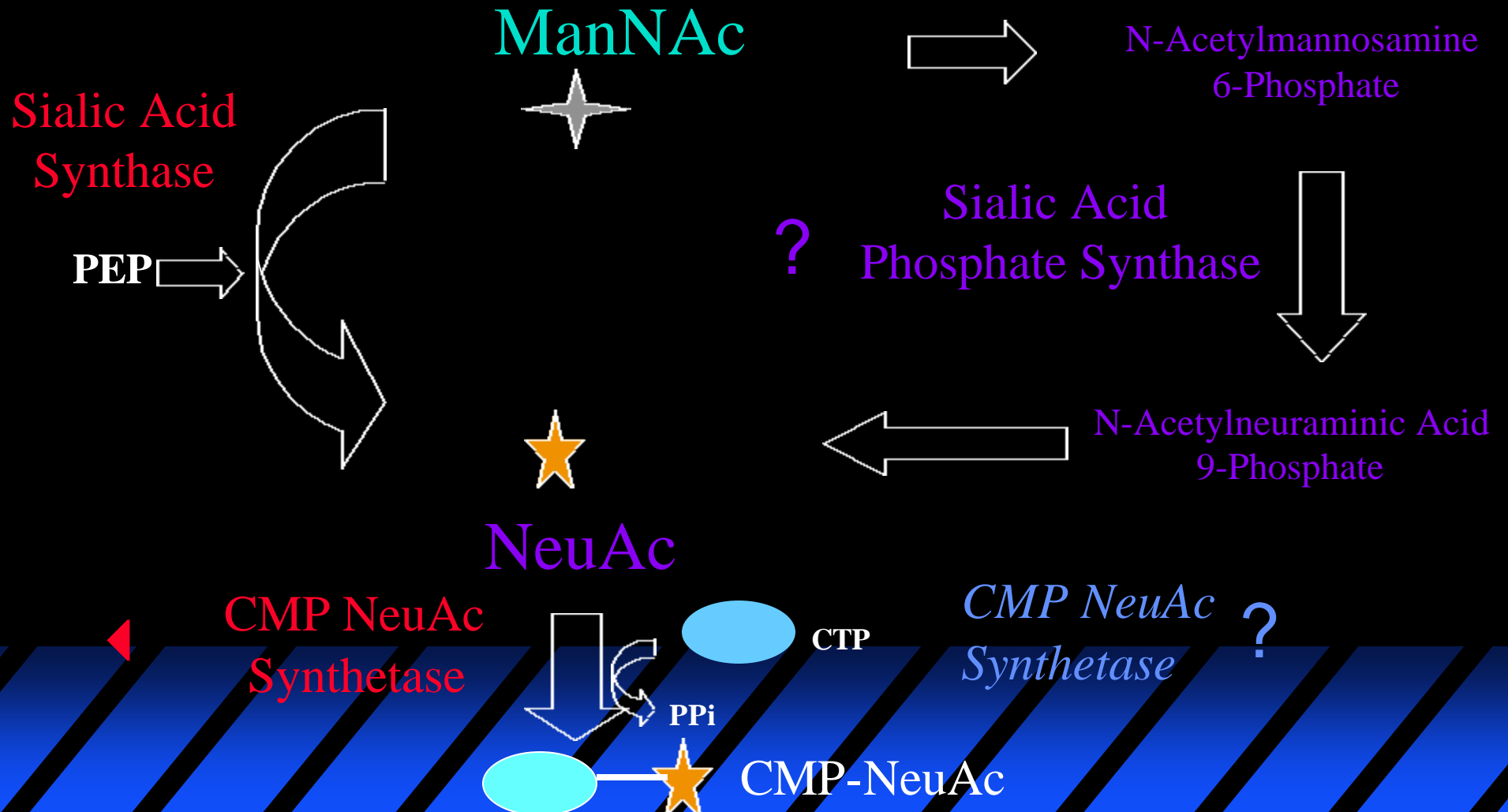
?



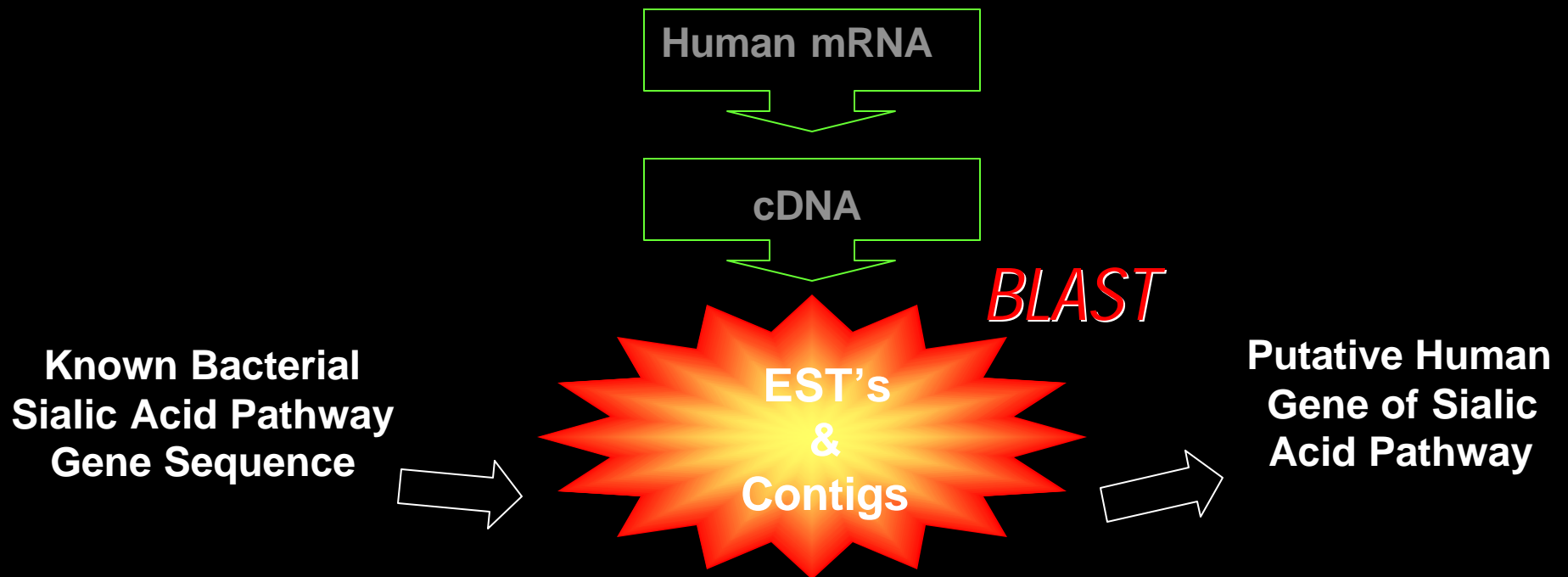
# But the bacterial genes are known...

BACTERIAL ◀

HUMAN ?



# Identify putative human genes from bacterial homologs?



Human Genome Sciences, Inc., Databases

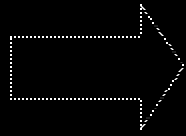
# Sialic Acid Pathway Reconstruction

UDP-GlcNAc

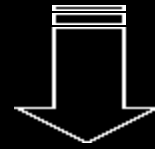


*UDP-GlcNAc Epimerase X*

◀ ManNAc  
(from medium)



◀ ManNAc



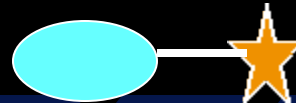
*Sialic Acid  
Phosphate Synthase* ?

? NeuAc



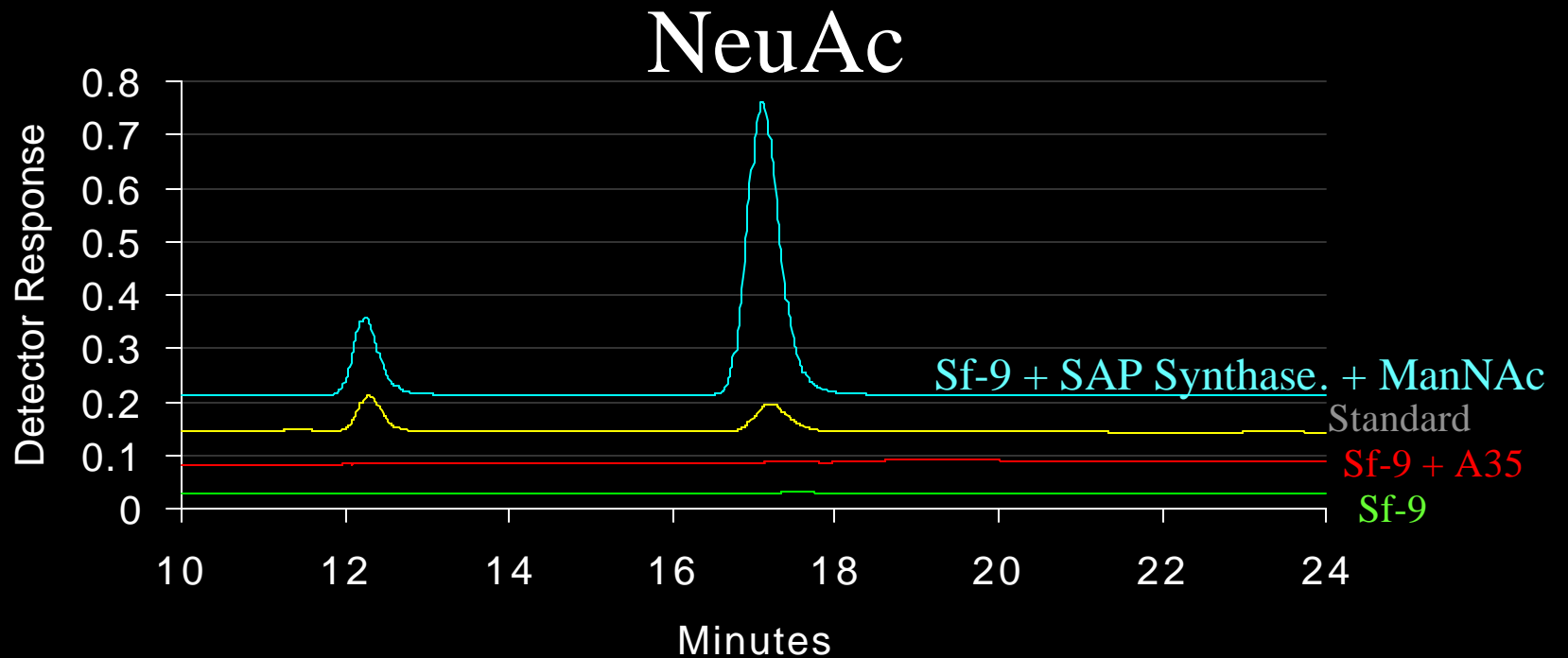
*CMP-Sialic Acid  
Synthase* ?

?  
CMP-NeuAc





# Sialic Acid Phosphate Synthase Infection with ManNAc Feeding



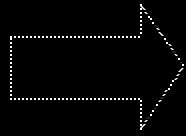
# Sialic Acid Pathway Reconstruction

UDP-GlcNAc

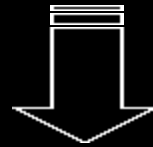


*UDP-GlcNAc Epimerase X*

◀ ManNAc  
(from medium)



◀ ManNAc



*Sialic Acid  
Phosphate Synthase*

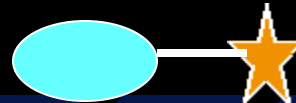
◀ NeuAc



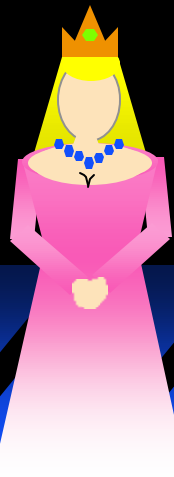
*CMP-Sialic Acid  
Synthase*

?

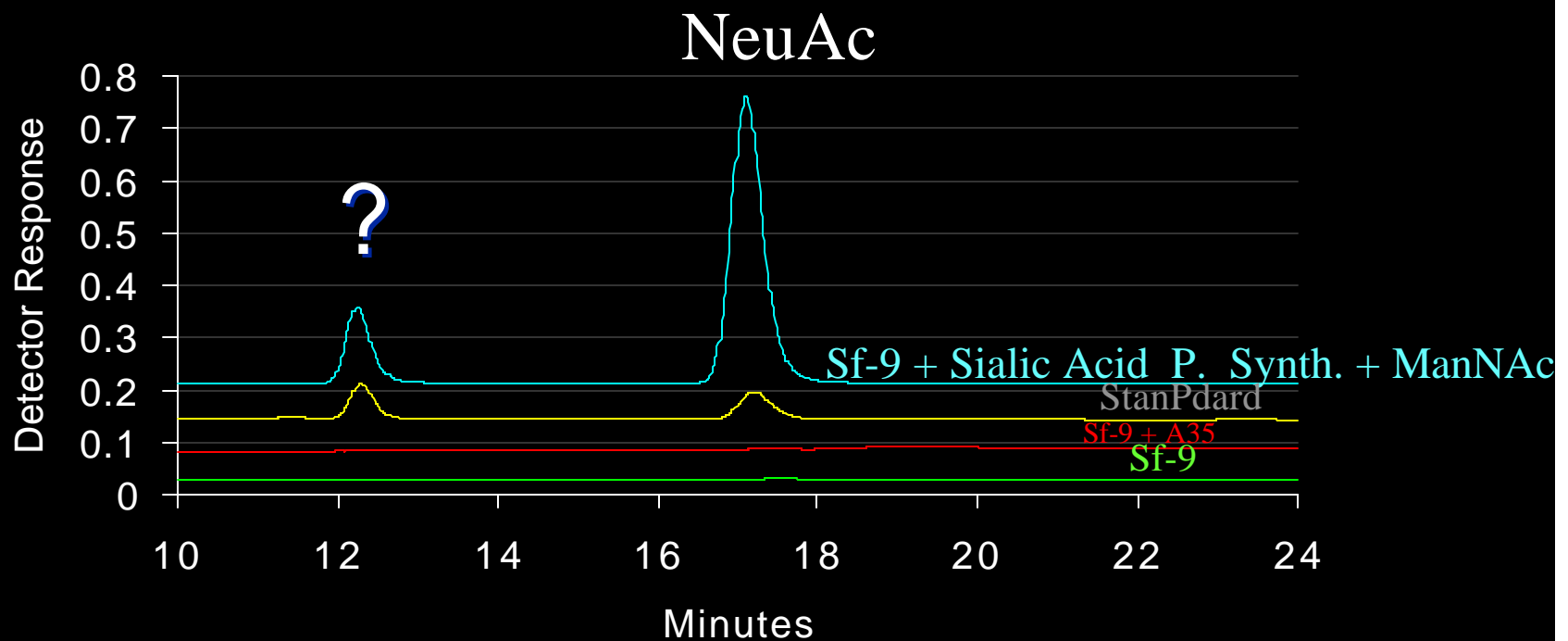
CMP-NeuAc



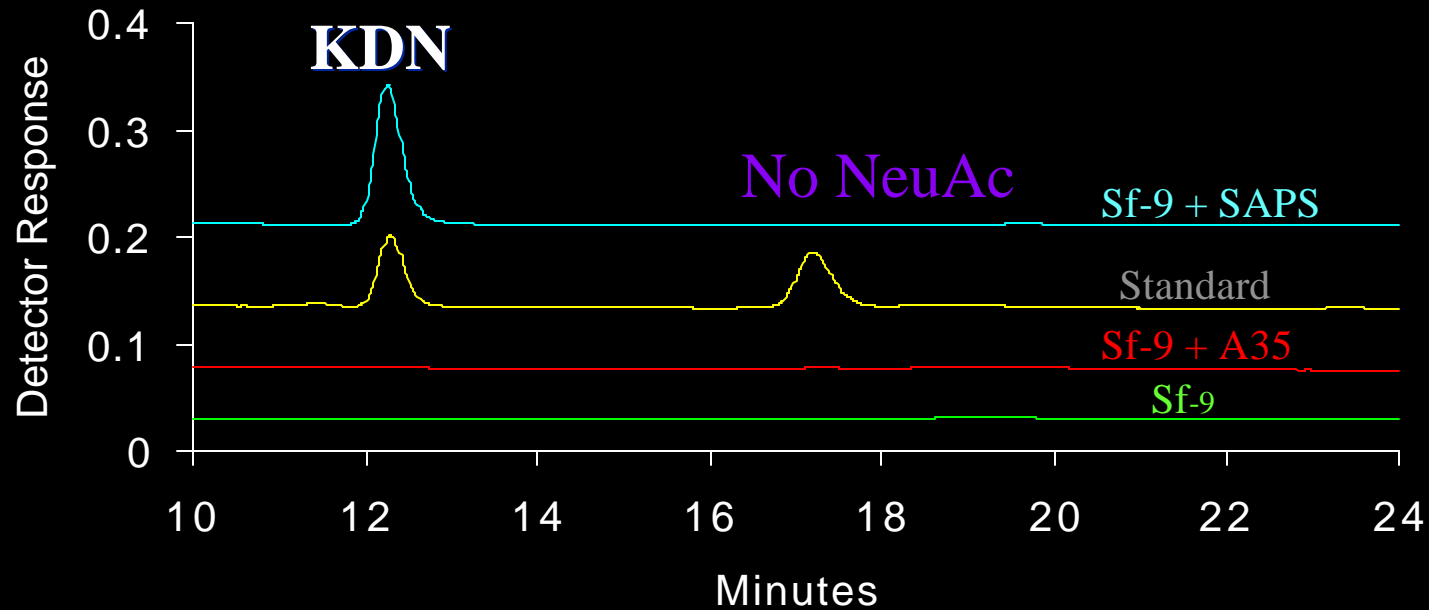
?



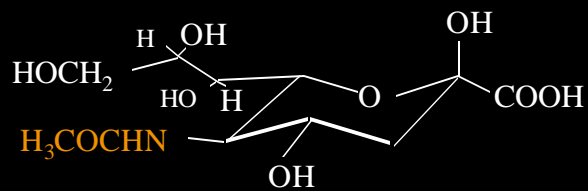
# Sialic Acid Phosphate Synthase Infection with ManNAc Feeding



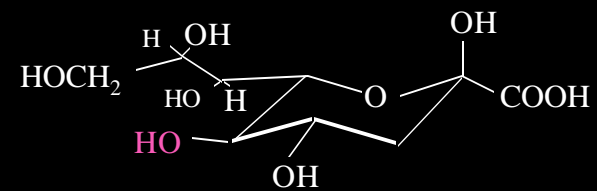
# Sialic Acid Phosphate Synthase Infection without ManNAc Feeding



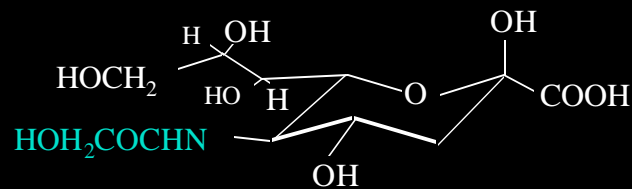
# The Sialic Acids



*N*-Acetylneuraminic Acid  
(NeuAc)



3-Deoxy-D-glycero-D-galacto-  
Nonulosonic Acid  
(KDN)



*N*-Glycolylneuraminic Acid  
(Neu5Gc)

# Sialic Acid Pathway Reconstruction

◀ UDP-GlcNAc



*UDP-GlcNAc Epimerase* ▶

? ManNAc



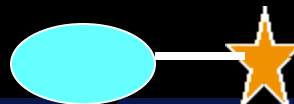
*Sialic Acid Phosphate Synthase* ▶

? NeuAc



*CMP-Sialic Acid Synthase*

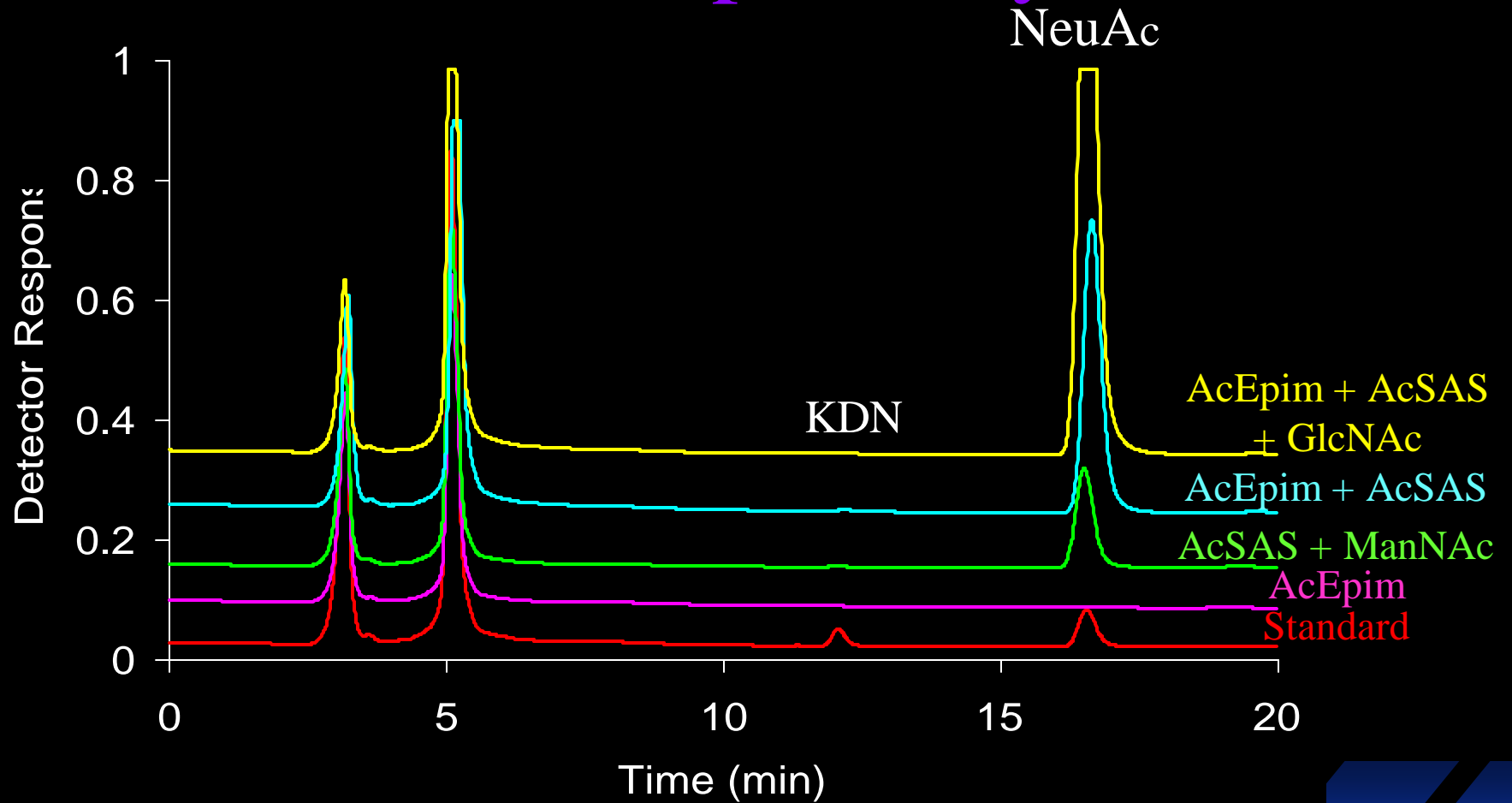
CMP-NeuAc



?



# UDP-GlcNAc Epimerase + Sialic Acid Phosphate Synthase



# Sialic Acid Pathway Reconstruction

◀ Native Insect Metabolism



◀ UDP-GlcNAc



*UDP-GlcNAc Epimerase*



◀ ManNAc



*Sialic Acid Phosphate Synthase*

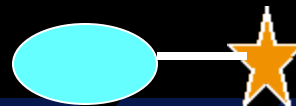


◀ NeuAc



*CMP-Sialic Acid Synthase*

CMP-NeuAc



?





# Sialic Acid Pathway Reconstruction

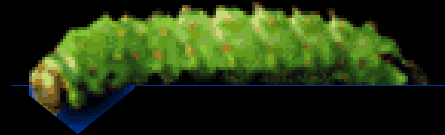
◀ Insect Metabolism



◀ GlcNAc



◀ ◀ UDP-GlcNAc



*UDP-GlcNAc Epimerase*



◀ ◀ ManNAc



*Sialic Acid Phosphate Synthase*

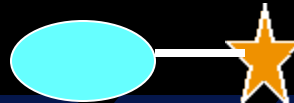


◀ ◀ NeuAc



*CMP-Sialic Acid Synthase*

CMP-NeuAc



?



# Sialic Acid Pathway Reconstruction

◀ Insect Metabolism



◀ UDP-GlcNAc



*UDP-GlcNAc Epimerase*



◀ ManNAc



*Sialic Acid  
Phosphate Synthase*



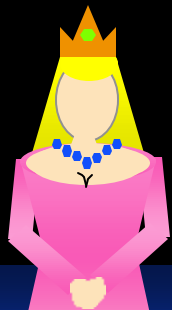
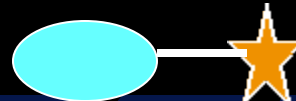
◀ NeuAc



*CMP-Sialic Acid  
Synthase*



CMP-NeuAc



# Sialic Acid Pathway Reconstruction

Insect Metabolism

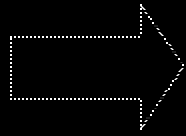


UDP-GlcNAc



*UDP-GlcNAc Epimerase X*

◀ ManNAc  
(from medium)



◀ ManNAc



*Sialic Acid  
Phosphate Synthase*



◀ NeuAc

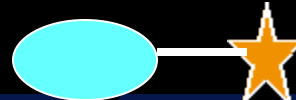


*CMP-Sialic Acid  
Synthase*

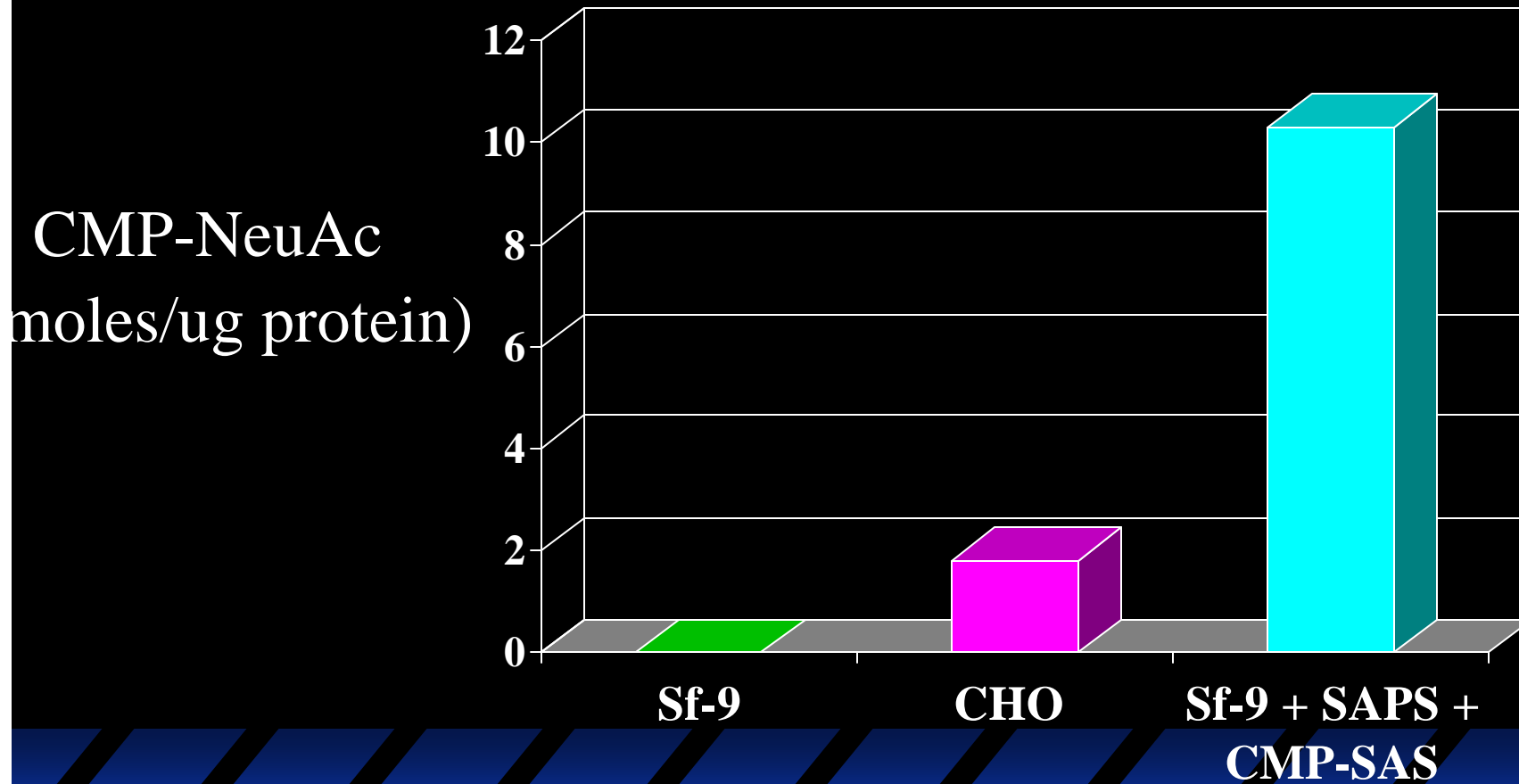


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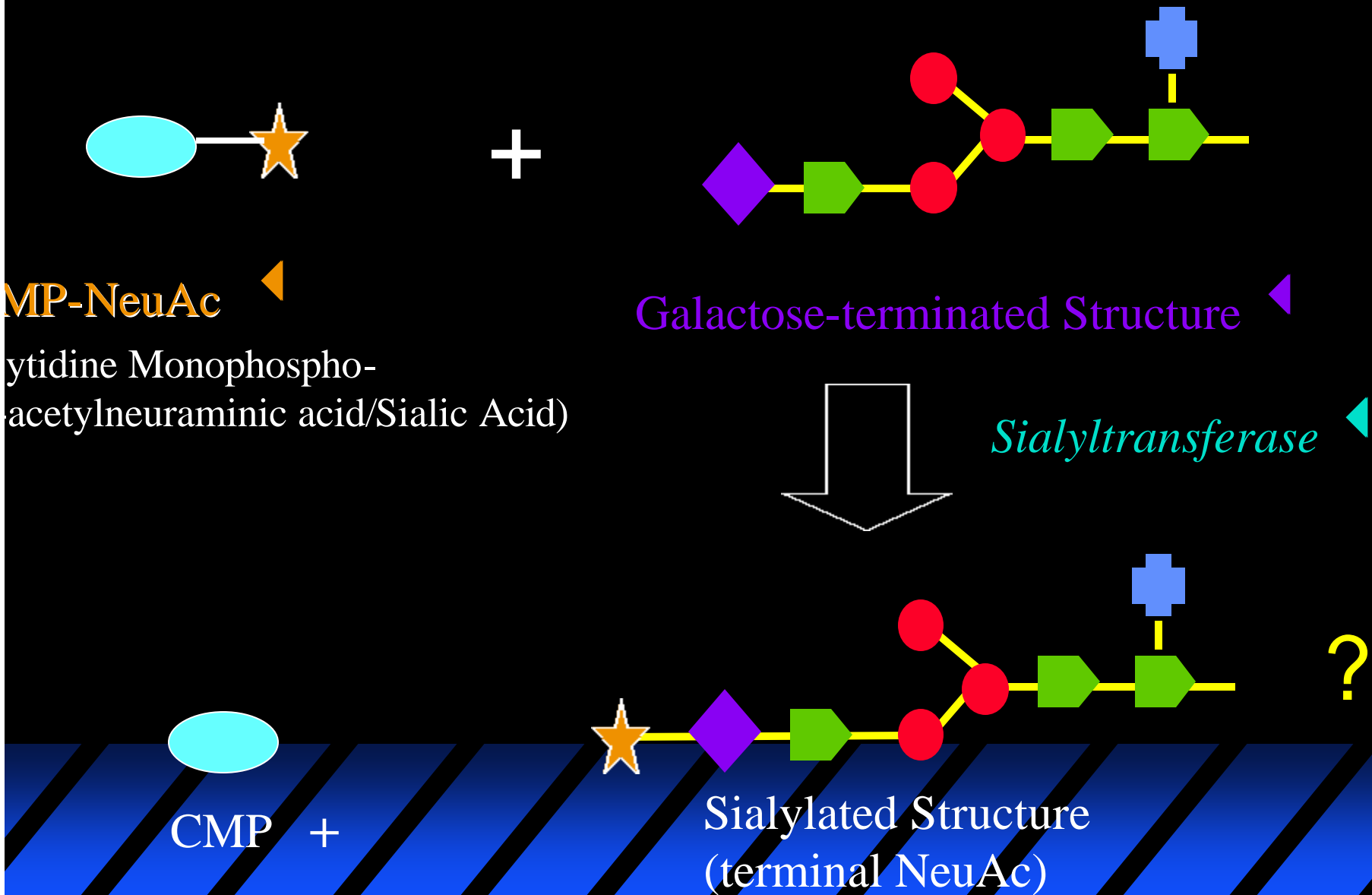
CMP-NeuAc



# CMP-NeuAc Levels: SA Phosphate Synthase + CMP-SA Synthase + ManNAc



# Sialylation Reaction



# Acknowledgements

- ◆ Johns Hopkins University

- Yuan C. Lee
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