

Technology Note

High throughput screening of one-bead-one-compound peptide libraries using intact cells

Choi-Fong Cho, Babak Behnam Azad, Leonard G. Luyt, and John Lewis

ACS Comb. Sci., **Just Accepted Manuscript** • DOI: 10.1021/co4000584 • Publication Date (Web): 02 Jul 2013Downloaded from <http://pubs.acs.org> on July 8, 2013**Just Accepted**

“Just Accepted” manuscripts have been peer-reviewed and accepted for publication. They are posted online prior to technical editing, formatting for publication and author proofing. The American Chemical Society provides “Just Accepted” as a free service to the research community to expedite the dissemination of scientific material as soon as possible after acceptance. “Just Accepted” manuscripts appear in full in PDF format accompanied by an HTML abstract. “Just Accepted” manuscripts have been fully peer reviewed, but should not be considered the official version of record. They are accessible to all readers and citable by the Digital Object Identifier (DOI®). “Just Accepted” is an optional service offered to authors. Therefore, the “Just Accepted” Web site may not include all articles that will be published in the journal. After a manuscript is technically edited and formatted, it will be removed from the “Just Accepted” Web site and published as an ASAP article. Note that technical editing may introduce minor changes to the manuscript text and/or graphics which could affect content, and all legal disclaimers and ethical guidelines that apply to the journal pertain. ACS cannot be held responsible for errors or consequences arising from the use of information contained in these “Just Accepted” manuscripts.

1
2
3
4 1
5
6 2 **High throughput screening of one-bead-one-compound peptide**
7 **libraries using intact cells**
8 3
9 4
10
11 5
12
13 6
14

15 7 Choi-Fong Cho¹, Babak Behnam Azad², Leonard G. Luyt², John D. Lewis¹
16 8
17 9
18 10
19 11

20 12
21 13 ¹ Translational Prostate Cancer Research Group, University of Alberta, 5-142C Katz Group
22 14 Building, 114th St and 87th Ave, Edmonton, AB T6G 2E1 CANADA

23 15
24 16 ² Departments of Chemistry, Oncology, Medical Imaging, Western University, London, ON,
25 17 N6A 5C1 Canada
26 18
27 19
28 20
29 21
30 22
31 23
32 24
33 25

34 26
35 27
36 28
37 29
38 30
39 31
40 32
41 33
42 34
43 35
44 36
45 37
46 38
47 39
48 40
49 41
50 42
51 43
52 44
53 45
54 46
55 47
56 48
57 49
58 50
59 51
60 52

21 Keywords: OBOC library, cell-based screen, MALDI-TOF mass spectrometry, cross-linking,
22 RGD peptide, integrin, COPAS biosorter

29 Correspondence: John D. Lewis, Ph.D.
30 Frank and Carla Sojonky Chair in Prostate Cancer Research
31 Department of Oncology
32 University of Alberta
33 5-142C Katz Group Building
34 114th St and 87th Ave
35 Edmonton, AB T6G 2E1 Canada
36 Phone: (780) 492-6113
37 Email: jdlewis@ualberta.ca

1
2
3 **Abstract**
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2
3 Screening approaches based on one-bead-one-compound (OBOC) combinatorial libraries
4 have facilitated the discovery of novel peptide ligands for cellular targeting in cancer and other
5 diseases. Recognition of cell surface proteins is optimally achieved using live cells, yet screening
6 intact cell populations is time-consuming and inefficient. Here, we evaluate the COPAS large
7 particle biosorter for high throughput sorting of bead-bound human cell populations. When a
8 library of RGD-containing peptides was screened against human cancer cells that express $\alpha_v\beta_3$
9 integrin, it was found that bead-associated cells are rapidly dissociated when sorted through the
10 COPAS instrument. When the bound cells were reversibly cross-linked onto the beads, however,
11 we demonstrate that cell-bead mixtures can be sorted quickly and accurately. This reversible
12 cross-linking approach is compatible with MALDI-TOF/TOF mass spectrometry-based peptide
13 sequence deconvolution. **This approach should allow one to rapidly screen an OBOC library and
14 identify novel peptide ligands against cell surface targets in their native conformation.**
15
16
17
18

1 Introduction

Recent advancements in nanotechnology have combined targeting molecules with imaging agents and/or therapeutics into a single entity, enhancing their site-specific delivery while reducing off-target toxicities¹⁻⁴. While peptides isolated from biological systems (i.e. phage display libraries) have provided many valuable targeting agents⁵⁻⁷, they are likely to be susceptible to proteolytic degradation under physiological conditions. For this reason, peptides that are discovered using these approaches can be unsuitable for *in vivo* studies⁸. One-bead-one-compound (OBOC) library screening methods are a chemistry-based alternative to peptide ligand discovery, and have been used previously to identify novel ligands for molecular imaging^{3, 9-12}, protein inhibition^{13, 14} and directed therapy of diseases¹⁵⁻¹⁷. OBOC libraries are comprised of 90 micron-sized beads each bearing a unique ligand, and can be synthesized using straightforward chemistries¹⁸ and screened in parallel against cell surface targets¹⁹. The primary advantage of OBOC peptide libraries is the incorporation of non-natural components, such as D-amino amino acids, or the incorporation of cyclic, turned or branched ligands⁹. This facilitates the identification of peptide ligands that are resistant to proteolytic degradation, making them more suitable for *in vivo* applications.

For the purpose of OBOC library screening, the target protein is typically modified with a chemical or fluorescent tag²⁰⁻²². While this approach is feasible for many targets, proteins must be purified and derivatized prior to screening. This increases the risk that these proteins would adopt an altered conformation and could impair their function²³. In many cases, this approach will not account for changes in conformation due to protein activation. For cell surface proteins and/or proteins that typically form complexes with other cell surface proteins, the presence of the plasma membrane and binding partners may be required for proper folding and the display of biologically relevant epitopes. These limitations can be addressed through the development of cell-based assays to screen OBOC libraries. Indeed, screening approaches using living cells have been successfully utilized to discover ligands against human cancer cell lines including Jurkat T-leukemia¹⁰, T-lymphoma²⁴, and breast cancer¹². Nevertheless, conventional methods for isolating rare positive hits from a large OBOC library through manual techniques are inefficient and challenging.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60

1
2 To increase the throughput of library screening, instruments such as the Complex Object
3 Parametric Analyzer and Sorter (COPAS) from Union Biometrica have been employed to isolate
4 high affinity ligands from OBOC libraries using purified target proteins²⁵⁻²⁷. We initially
5 evaluated this platform to sort OBOC combinatorial libraries that had been incubated with living
6 cells, and found that associated cells rapidly dissociated from the library beads once they were
7 passed through the instrument. We hypothesized that by stabilizing the binding of cells to their
8 associated library beads, it would be possible to utilize an automated sorting approach. To this
9 end, we evaluated a reversible chemical cross-linking method to stabilize the association of cells
10 and library beads and assessed the impact on sorting in the COPAS instrument.

11
12 An important element of screening throughput is the efficient deconvolution of hit
13 peptides, which we have previously addressed through a MALDI-TOF/TOF (matrix-assisted
14 laser desorption/ionization-time of flight) mass spectrometry (MS) approach²⁸. This strategy
15 allows one to perform photochemical cleavage of the peptide from the solid support, followed by
16 transfer of the peptide to the MALDI target, peptide desorption-ionization using MALDI-TOF
17 and sequence determination based on the fragmentation pattern. We were concerned, however,
18 that chemical cross-linking might interfere with accurate sequence determination using mass
19 spectrometry. To test the compatibility of reversible cross-linking with this approach, we
20 performed a library screen using $\alpha_v\beta_3$ integrin-expressing fluorescent cancer cells and a focused
21 OBOC peptide library. Utilizing a library comprised of RGD sequences fused with a
22 representative mixture of amino acids, the cancer cells were cross-linked to the library beads and
23 then sorted using the COPAS instrument. The resultant hits were sequenced using the on-bead
24 MS approach and sequence results were compared between beads that were cross-linked, not
25 cross-linked, or first cross-linked and then treated with heat to reverse the cross-links in order to
26 determine the impact on sequencing accuracy.

1 Methodology

3 Peptide library synthesis

4 Fmoc-based solid-phase peptide synthesis was carried out using an APEX 396
5 autosynthesizer (AAPPTEC) with 0.05 mequiv of 0.26 mmol/g TentaGel S NH₂ (0.27 mmol/g)
6 resin. A threefold excess of Fmoc-ANP and subsequently, the protected amino acids was used in
7 coupling reactions. Fmoc removal was carried out using a solution of 20% piperidine in DMF
8 (N,N-dimethylformamide) over two cycles (10 and 20 min). Amino acid activation was carried
9 out with three equivalents of HBTU and six equivalents of DIPEA (N,N-
10 diisopropylethylamine), which was followed by amino acid coupling over 30 and 120 min
11 cycles. Deprotection of peptide side chains was accomplished using a solution of 88% TFA (v/v)
12 + 5% H₂O (v/v) + 5% phenol (m/v) + 2% triisopropylsilane (v/v) over 6 hrs.

14 OBOC library screening using live cancer cells

15 $\alpha_v\beta_3$ integrin-expressing MDA-MB-435 breast cancer cells were labeled with green
16 fluorescent protein. Approximately 1,000 beads containing each peptide were equilibrated with
17 serum-free DMEM in a 12-well plate. MDA-MB-435 cells were detached from the flask by
18 EDTA and resuspended in serum-free DMEM. 200,000 of MDA-MB-435 cells were added into
19 each well containing the library beads and placed in a shaking incubator (50 rpm) for 1 hr at
20 37°C. The beads were washed twice with PBS, and then imaged under the Olympus IX70
21 inverted fluorescent microscope. The cells were then fixed onto the beads with 4% formaldehyde
22 for 5 minutes at room temperature, and washed twice with PBS.

24 Sorting of positive hits using COPAS

25 The beads from each well were inserted into the COPAS large particle flow cytometer
26 (Union Biometrica), and sorted into a 96 well plate. Firstly, the sorting threshold was established
27 with empty TentaGel beads that have never been previously treated with cells. This step is
28 necessary because TentaGel beads auto-fluoresce, especially in the green (excitation wavelength
29 488 nm) and red (excitation wavelength 561 nm) channel. The instrument was then gated to only
30 analyze and isolate beads with fluorescence well above the set threshold. This population
31 represents beads that have the strongest association with cells. Any beads with fluorescent

1 intensity higher than the set threshold were sorted into a 96-well plate. Beads that were isolated
2 were imaged under the Olympus IX70 inverted fluorescent microscope. The beads were treated
3 rigorously with ethanol to remove any bound cells, and washed several times with water.

4 5 **MALDI TOF MS/MS sequence analysis**

6 Cleavage of peptides from TentaGel beads was carried out using UV irradiation. All care
7 was taken to prevent light exposure to synthesized peptides prior to ANP-linker cleavage. For
8 this reaction, approximately 1-3 peptide conjugated TentaGel beads were placed in 200 μ L of
9 MilliQ water in an open-top 384 well polypropylene plate. UV irradiation was carried out using a
10 365 nm UV lamp (UV Products, Upland, CA, model EL25, 8 mWcm⁻²) over 2 hours. Water
11 was added periodically in order to prevent wells from drying, thus reducing possible peptide
12 decomposition. The resulting peptide-containing solution was then used for MALDI-TOF/TOF
13 analysis.

14 In a typical experiment, the exact molecular ion mass [M+H]⁺ of a peptide is determined
15 using MS analysis. MS/MS spectra are subsequently recorded for the desired molecular ion peak,
16 previously observed by MS. This was then followed by manual deconvolution of all peptide
17 sequences in this study.

18 19 20 **Results**

21 22 **Sorting OBOC library bead/cell mixtures using COPAS**

23 Large format automated sorters such as the COPAS from Union Biometrica have been
24 used previously to separate positive hits from OBOC libraries based on fluorescence^{27, 29, 30}.
25 Given the potential advantages of screening these libraries against live cell populations, we
26 sought to evaluate the ability of the COPAS instrument to sort cell-bound beads. To this end,
27 beads coated with RGD-containing GRGDS peptide were incubated with $\alpha_v\beta_3$ integrin
28 expressing MDA-MB-435 fluorescent breast cancer cells as we have done previously³. After
29 passing the bead-bound cell mixture through the COPAS biosorter, the vast majority of the
30 fluorescent cells had dissociated from the beads. Considering the high affinity for $\alpha_v\beta_3$ integrin

1
2
3 1 for its peptide ligand RGD, we concluded that it would be impractical to sort live cell-bead
4 2 populations using the COPAS instrument without stabilizing the cell-bead interactions.
5
6
7 3

4 **Cross-linking of live cells and peptide library beads enables automated sorting**

5 The COPAS large format particle sorter utilizes a low flow rate and gentle air-based
6 sorting technique to minimize physical damage to sorted samples. Despite this, we found that
7 live cells were rapidly dissociated from the library beads when passed through the instrument. To
8 overcome this limitation, we evaluated the impact of cross-linking the cells onto the library bead
9 prior to sorting. It was expected that this would prevent the cells from detaching during the
10 fluorescence-based bead sorting process in the COPAS instrument, and peptides with the
11 strongest affinity for cells could then be sorted individually into a 96-well plate (Figure 1). There
12 was some concern that the cross-linking process would impact MALDI MS-based peptide
13 sequence determination, so to test this, a focused peptide library incorporating a GRGDS base
14 peptide sequence and two additional amino acid residues was synthesized. The additional amino
15 acids represented the majority of possible combinations, including GRGDSYT, GRGDSTW,
16 GRGDSWK, GRGDSVP, GRGDShL, GRGDSFA, and GRGDSPS (Figure 2).

17 After peptide deprotection, the focused library of RGD-containing peptides was
18 incubated with live MDA-MB-435 cells expressing green fluorescent protein (GFP) (Figure 3a
19 and Supplementary Figure 1). The beads were then washed to remove any unbound cells, fixed
20 in 3% formaldehyde, and then loaded into the COPAS instrument. To distinguish between the
21 bead and cell populations, TentaGel beads or MDA-MB-435 GFP cells alone were evaluated by
22 COPAS (Figure 3b). Plotting by forward and side scatter, the bead and cell populations were
23 largely separated, allowing the discrimination of the bead population (Figure 3b). Final gating
24 and sorting thresholds were defined using a control population of TentaGel beads coated with
25 AGD (negative control) peptide subjected to incubation with cells, fixation and washes
26 equivalent to the experimental beads (Figure 3c). As we opted not to prescreen the library to
27 remove highly autofluorescent beads, up to 12.5% of negative control beads were selected as
28 positive hits (Figure 3c). Microscopy confirmed that this population consisted of beads with
29 abnormally high auto-fluorescence but with no cells bound onto them. These false-positive beads
30 can be excluded using several approaches, including manually identifying and removing them
31 after sorting³⁰.

1
2
3 1 While there was significant association of MDA-MB-435 cells with all of the RGD-
4 containing peptide-coated beads, the degree of association was strongly dependent upon the
5 2 identity of the two C-terminal amino acid residues. MDA-MB-435 cells interacted most strongly
6 3 with the GRGDSWK, GRGDSPS and GRGDSFA peptides, with 80.3%, 68.1% and 48% of
7 4 these beads selected as positive respectfully (Figure 3d). The sorted positive beads were then
8 5 examined using fluorescence microscopy, and all were significantly coated with fluorescent cells
9 6 (Figure 3a and Supplementary Figure 1). The GRGRDSYT, GRGDShL, GRGDSTW and
10 7 GRGDSVP have relatively weaker associations with MDA-MB-435 cells, resulting in much
11 8 lower sorting rates of 14.6%, 26.6%, 16.2% and 23%, respectively (Figure 3c and
12 9 Supplementary Figure 2).
13 10
14 11

12 **Comparison of peptide sequence deconvolution pre- and post-fixation/sorting**

13 Peptide sequences were determined using a previously described MALDI TOF/TOF
14 approach²⁸ to evaluate the impact of fixation and sorting on the sequence deconvolution.
15 Peptides were fully deprotected using an aqueous trifluoroacetic acid/scavenger cocktail. Since
16 all peptides were conjugated to the resin via a light sensitive linker, they were first cleaved under
17 a UV light prior to sequencing by MALDI-TOF/TOF. Overall, the obtained mass spectra from
18 unfixed and fixed/sorted beads exhibited similar signal to noise ratios and the derived peptide
19 sequences were identical (Figure 4 and Supplementary figure 3). The difference between the
20 expected and observed values (ΔM) from all peptides before fixation was comparable with the
21 ΔM obtained after fixation and sorting. Reversal of the cross-links was also attempted by heating
22 the beads at 60°C for 10 minutes and then 95°C for 15 minutes, however, this resulted in
23 insufficient peptide fragmentation which was inadequate for sequence deconvolution. This
24 demonstrates that cross-linking cells onto beads stabilized their association for automated sorting
25 yet did not negatively impact sequence deconvolution using mass spectrometry approaches.
26 These results suggest that it is possible, through fixation with formaldehyde, to combine cell-
27 based assays with an automated sorting method to provide a viable method for high-throughput
28 cell-based screening of combinatorial libraries.
29
30

1 Discussion and conclusion

2 Here, we demonstrate the usefulness of a cross-linking method to improve the association
3 of cells and ligand-displaying library beads during automated sorting. A live cell-based OBOC
4 library screening approach can facilitate the identification of high affinity ligands to target
5 proteins in their native conformation. Typically, one would incubate fluorescent target cells with
6 a combinatorial library and allow the cells to associate with beads that display high affinity
7 ligands. Upon cross-linking of the cells onto their associated beads, beads with high numbers of
8 associated fluorescent cells can then be sorted individually into each well of a 96-well plate
9 using an automated sorter. The cross-linking step does not prevent accurate sequence
10 determination using MALDI MS/MS approaches. Indeed, the average ΔM values from test
11 peptides after fixation and sorting are equivalent to those obtained from peptides before fixation,
12 indicating that the accuracy of sequence deconvolution is not compromised upon cross-linking of
13 bound cells to their associated beads. This somewhat surprising observation is likely due to the
14 fact that a majority of the bead surface does not directly interact with the cells, which leaves
15 sufficient uncrosslinked peptides on the bead surface for cleavage and deconvolution. Reversing
16 the crosslinks by heating the beads resulted in insufficient fragmentation for sequence
17 deconvolution, presumably due to breakdown of the peptides under these conditions.

18 Given that RGD peptides bind $\alpha_v\beta_3$ integrin with high affinity³¹⁻³⁴, we conducted proof-
19 of-principle experiments using a focused peptide library containing GRGDS flanked by two
20 additional amino acids. These additional amino acids were varied to determine whether the
21 cross-linking step will interfere with MS-based sequencing. Cysteine was excluded to avoid the
22 formation of disulfide linkages, while methionine was omitted to avoid oxidation. Isoleucine and
23 glutamine were excluded because they are isobaric to leucine and lysine respectively, making
24 them indistinguishable by MALDI MS. Interestingly, the composition of these two amino acids
25 significantly affect the binding affinity of the peptides to cells (Figure 3c and Supplementary
26 Figure 2), consistent with other studies³⁵⁻³⁷.

27 This method offers a significant improvement in efficiency compared to currently used
28 approaches. Other studies demonstrating the isolation of novel affinity ligands from OBOC
29 libraries using live cells^{12,38} are typically time-consuming and tedious because hit beads must be
30 isolated manually. Using the COPAS biosorter allows the accurate sorting of up to 300 beads per

1
2
3 1 second, making it feasible to complete an entire screen in less than a week. This straightforward
4 approach relies on the direct interaction between the cells and peptide-coated library beads,
5 2
6 3 minimizing the risk of false positives. False positives are typically caused by non-specific
7 interactions that can arise when extrinsic biomacromolecules such as antibodies are incorporated
8 4
9 5 into the screening process as in magnetic-based separation approaches³⁹. The specificity of this
10 6
11 7 screening approach can be further optimized by first subtracting out non-specific beads using
12 8
13 9 cells that do not express the target protein, which also can significantly narrow down the number
14 10
15 11 of hits isolated for subsequent analysis. Beads that are not sorted can be collected and recovered
16 12
17 13 by the COPAS instrument and utilized for subsequent rounds of screening.
18 14

19 10 A significant challenge facing peptide screening approaches is the reduction or
20 11 elimination of false positives, particularly when sorting by fluorescence using instruments such
21 12 as the COPAS. Visualization of OBOC library beads by fluorescence microscopy reveals that a
22 13 substantial population of beads exhibit significant auto-fluorescence, likely due to the intrinsic
23 14 fluorescence of certain amino acids. Indeed, others have reported that peptides from false
24 15 positive beads were rich in Leu/Ileu, His, Phe, and Tyr³⁰. In our data (Figure 3c), we found that
25 16 12.5% of the control beads with no prior exposure to cells were sorted as positives due to high
26 17 auto-fluorescence. To mitigate this issue during screening, several approaches can be taken
27 18 beyond merely increasing the stringency of sorting. First, one can optimize the library through a
28 19 preliminary sort through the COPAS instrument to eliminate highly auto-fluorescent beads prior
29 20 to mixing with cells. Second, during the screening phase, one can utilize the optional Profiler II
30 21 software (Union Biometrica) associated with the COPAS to exclude events that consist of a
31 22 single broad fluorescence peak rather than a grouping of several high intensity peaks that
32 23 correspond to fluorescent cells. Third, since the false positive beads are easily discerned under a
33 24 fluorescence microscope, they can be manually excluded subsequent to sorting as others have
34 25 described³⁰.

35 26 The primary advantage of utilizing a live cell OBOC library screening approach is that
36 27 the likelihood of identifying ligands that recognize the native conformation of the target protein
37 28 is substantially increased. This may also be advantageous to screen for ligands against cell
38 29 surface receptors that adopt specific conformations under certain conditions. For example, a
39 30 decrease in extracellular pH causes conformational changes in integrins, which facilitate their
40 31 activation⁴⁰. Additionally, ligand binding regulates the function of several extracellular surface

1
2
3 1 receptors, i.e. G-protein-coupled receptors⁴¹, through the establishment of new conformational
4
5 2 equilibrium. This sets the stage for the identification of ligands that are selective for specific
6
7 3 protein conformations or activation states. Ultimately, this could be applied to a personalized
8
9 4 medicine approach by screening for ligands specific for cells collected from patients (i.e.
10
11 5 localized vs. metastatic cancers).
12
13 6 Overall, the ability to screen live cells in a high throughput manner to identify novel ligands will
14
15 7 facilitate efforts in molecular imaging and targeted drug delivery.
16
17 8

17 9 **Acknowledgements**

19 10 This study was supported by Prostate Cancer Canada Grant 2011-742 to JDL and Ontario
20
21 11 Institute for Cancer Research - Smarter Imaging Program to LGL and JDL. We thank Amber
22
23 12 Ablack for her technical help.
24
25 13

1
2
3 **1 Figure legends**
4

5
6
7 **3 Figure 1. Cell-based screening of OBOC peptide libraries to identify high affinity ligands to**
8
9 **4 cellular targets using the COPAS biosorter.** Beads incubated with live fluorescent cells are
10 washed, fixed with 3% formaldehyde and loaded into the sorter. Bead hits with strong
11
12 **6 interactions with cells exhibit high fluorescence and are sorted into a 96-well plate, while beads**
13
14 **7 with few bound cells are excluded.**

15
16
17
18 **9 Figure 2. Design of focused library of integrin-binding peptides.** GRGDS-containing
19
20 **10 heptameric peptides were synthesized on TentaGel beads via a photo-cleavable linker. Two**
21 **11 additional amino acid residues (indicated in blue) were incorporated into a library to evaluate**
22 **12 sorting and MS deconvolution.**

23
24
25
26
27 **14 Figure 3. Establishing the sorting parameters for library beads coated with intact cells.** (a)
28
29 **15 TentaGel beads containing GRGDSPS peptide incubated with MDA-MB-435 GFP cells (left)**
30 **16 and fixed with 3% formaldehyde (right). Beads with the highest association for cells were sorted**
31 **17 using the COPAS instrument. (b) Dot plot showing the bead or cell population. EXT represents**
32 **18 extinction (measurement of total light scatter), TOF stands for time of flight, and FLU1**
33 **19 represents the green fluorescence intensity. (c) Dot plot showing the cell-bead populations and**
34 **20 their sorting profiles. The upper panel shows the two distinct bead and cell population (indicated**
35 **21 by arrows) and the beads were gated for sorting. The bottom panel shows the green fluorescence**
36 **22 intensity of each bead (gated from the upper panel). The sort gate was established using negative**
37 **23 control TentaGel beads that has undergone cell treatment, fixation and washes so that only beads**
38 **24 with cells attached (higher fluorescent intensities) were sorted. GRGDSPS-TentaGel beads with**
39 **25 MDA-MB-435 GFP were then inserted into the COPAS instrument, and beads with the highest**
40 **26 association with cells were sorted into a 96-well plate. (d) The percentage of beads that were**
41 **27 sorted by the COPAS instrument for each RGD-containing peptide.**

42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53 **29 Figure 4. On-bead MALDI-TOF/TOF MS sequencing of peptide before and after fixation.**
54
55 **30 MS/MS spectra of H-GRGDSPS-NH₂ before fixing with formaldehyde (left), and after fixing**
56
57

1 plus sorting (right). Peptide sequences from both samples were successfully attained. Fragments
2 labeled b_j^a and y_j^a were calculated by complementarity. The average ΔM values are indicated in
3 blue.

4
5 **Supplementary figure 1. Cells remained bound onto the RGD-containing library bead after**
6 **fixation and sorting.** TentaGel beads containing a series of RGD-containing peptides incubated
7 with MDA-MB-435 GFP cells (left), fixed with 3% formaldehyde (middle) and sorted using the
8 COPAS biosorter (right).

9
10 **Supplementary Figure 2. Establishing the sorting parameters for the remaining test library**
11 **beads coated with intact cells.** Dot plot showing the cell-bead population and sorting profiles.
12 The upper panel shows the two distinct bead and cell population (indicated by arrows) and the
13 beads were gated for sorting. The bottom panel shows the green fluorescence intensity of each
14 bead. The sort gate was established using negative control TentaGel beads that has undergone
15 cell treatment, fixation and washes so that only beads with cells attached (higher fluorescent
16 intensities) were sorted. RGD-containing TentaGel beads with MDA-MB-435 GFP were then
17 inserted into the COPAS instrument, and beads with the highest association with cells were
18 sorted into a 96-well plate.

19
20 **Supplementary Figure 3. On-bead MALDI-TOF/TOF MS sequencing of the remaining test**
21 **peptides before and after fixation.** MS/MS spectra of RGD-containing peptides before fixing
22 with formaldehyde (left), and after fixing plus sorting (right). Peptide sequences from both
23 samples were successfully attained. Fragments labeled b_j^a and y_j^a were calculated by
24 complementarity. The average ΔM values are indicated in blue.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
References

1. Kostarelos, K.; Bianco, A.; Prato, M., Promises, facts and challenges for carbon nanotubes in imaging and therapeutics. *Nat Nanotechnol* 2009, 4, 627-33.
2. Brunel, F. M.; Lewis, J. D.; Destito, G.; Steinmetz, N. F.; Manchester, M.; Stuhlmann, H.; Dawson, P. E., Hydrazone ligation strategy to assemble multifunctional viral nanoparticles for cell imaging and tumor targeting. *Nano letters* 2010, 10, 1093-7.
3. Cho, C. F.; Amadei, G. A.; Breadner, D.; Luyt, L. G.; Lewis, J. D., Discovery of novel integrin ligands from combinatorial libraries using a multiplex "beads on a bead" approach. *Nano Lett* 2012, 12, 5957-65.
4. Steinmetz, N. F.; Cho, C.-F.; Ablack, A.; Lewis, J. D.; Manchester, M., Cowpea mosaic virus nanoparticles target surface vimentin on cancer cells. *Nanomedicine (London, England)* 2011, 6, 351-64.
5. Sun, X.; Niu, G.; Yan, Y.; Yang, M.; Chen, K.; Ma, Y.; Chan, N.; Shen, B.; Chen, X., Phage display-derived peptides for osteosarcoma imaging. *Clinical cancer research : an official journal of the American Association for Cancer Research* 2010, 16, 4268-77.
6. Beck, S.; Jin, X.; Yin, J.; Kim, S.-H.; Lee, N.-K.; Oh, S.-Y.; Jin, X.; Kim, M.-K.; Kim, E.-B.; Son, J.-S.; Kim, S.-C.; Nam, D.-H.; Kim, S.-H.; Kang, S.-K.; Kim, H.; Choi, Y.-J., Identification of a peptide that interacts with Nestin protein expressed in brain cancer stem cells. *Biomaterials* 2011, 32, 8518-28.
7. Desimmie, B. A.; Humbert, M.; Lescrinier, E.; Hendrix, J.; Vets, S.; Gijsbers, R.; Ruprecht, R. M.; Dietrich, U.; Debyser, Z.; Christ, F., Phage display-directed discovery of LEDGF/p75 binding cyclic peptide inhibitors of HIV replication. *Mol Ther* 2012, 20, 2064-75.
8. Schumacher, T. N.; Mayr, L. M.; Minor, D. L., Jr.; Milhollen, M. A.; Burgess, M. W.; Kim, P. S., Identification of D-peptide ligands through mirror-image phage display. *Science* 1996, 271, 1854-7.
9. Aina, O. H.; Marik, J.; Liu, R.; Lau, D. H.; Lam, K. S., Identification of novel targeting peptides for human ovarian cancer cells using "one-bead one-compound" combinatorial libraries. *Molecular cancer therapeutics* 2005, 4, 806-13.
10. Peng, L.; Liu, R.; Marik, J.; Wang, X.; Takada, Y.; Lam, K. S., Combinatorial chemistry identifies high-affinity peptidomimetics against $\alpha 4\beta 1$ integrin for in vivo tumor imaging. *Nature Chemical Biology* 2006, 2, 381-389.
11. Brown, K. C., Peptidic tumor targeting agents: the road from phage display peptide selections to clinical applications. *Current pharmaceutical design* 2010, 16, 1040-54.
12. Yao, N.; Xiao, W.; Wang, X.; Marik, J.; Park, S. H.; Takada, Y.; Lam, K. S., Discovery of targeting ligands for breast cancer cells using the one-bead one-compound combinatorial method. *Journal of medicinal chemistry* 2009, 52, 126-33.
13. Meldal, M.; Svendsen, I.; Breddam, K.; Auzanneau, F. I., Portion-mixing peptide libraries of quenched fluorogenic substrates for complete subsite mapping of endoprotease specificity. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 1994, 91, 3314-8.
14. Lam, K. S.; Liu, R.; Miyamoto, S.; Lehman, A. L.; Tuscano, J. M., Applications of one-bead one-compound combinatorial libraries and chemical microarrays in signal transduction research. *Accounts of chemical research* 2003, 36, 370-7.

- 1
2
3 1 15. Salmon, S. E.; Liu-Stevens, R. H.; Zhao, Y.; Lebl, M.; Krchňák, V.; Wertman, K.;
4 2 Sepetov, N.; Lam, K. S., High-volume cellular screening for anticancer agents with
5 3 combinatorial chemical libraries: a new methodology. *Molecular diversity* 1996, 2, 57-63.
6 4 16. Kumaresan, P. R.; Wang, Y.; Saunders, M.; Maeda, Y.; Liu, R.; Wang, X.; Lam, K. S.,
7 5 Rapid discovery of death ligands with one-bead-two-compound combinatorial library methods.
8 6 *ACS combinatorial science* 2011, 13, 259-64.
9 7 17. Liu, T.; Qian, Z.; Xiao, Q.; Pei, D., High-throughput screening of one-bead-one-
10 8 compound libraries: identification of cyclic peptidyl inhibitors against calcineurin/NFAT
11 9 interaction. *ACS combinatorial science* 2011, 13, 537-46.
12 10 18. Lam, K. S.; Salmon, S. E.; Hersh, E. M.; Hruby, V. J.; Kazmierski, W. M.; Knapp, R. J.,
13 11 A new type of synthetic peptide library for identifying ligand-binding activity. *Nature* 1991, 354,
14 12 82-4.
15 13 19. Luo, J.; Zhang, H.; Xiao, W.; Kumaresan, P. R.; Shi, C.; Pan, C. X.; Aina, O. H.; Lam, K.
16 14 S., Rainbow beads: a color coding method to facilitate high-throughput screening and
17 15 optimization of one-bead one-compound combinatorial libraries. *J Comb Chem* 2008, 10, 599-
18 16 604.
19 17 20. Lam, K. S., Enzyme-linked colorimetric screening of a one-bead one-compound
20 18 combinatorial library. *Methods in molecular biology (Clifton, N.J.)* 1998, 87, 7-12.
21 19 21. Alluri, P. G.; Reddy, M. M.; Bachhawat-Sikder, K.; Olivos, H. J.; Kodadek, T., Isolation
22 20 of protein ligands from large peptoid libraries. *Journal of the American Chemical Society* 2003,
23 21 125, 13995-4004.
24 22 22. Lehman, A.; Gholami, S.; Hahn, M.; Lam, K. S., Image subtraction approach to
25 23 screening one-bead-one-compound combinatorial libraries with complex protein mixtures.
26 24 *Journal of Combinatorial Chemistry* 2006, 8, 562-570.
27 25 23. Miyamoto, S.; Liu, R.; Hung, S.; Wang, X.; Lam, K. S., Screening of a one bead-one
28 26 compound combinatorial library for beta-actin identifies molecules active toward Ramos B-
29 27 lymphoma cells. *Analytical biochemistry* 2008, 374, 112-20.
30 28 24. Townsend, J. B.; Shaheen, F.; Liu, R.; Lam, K. S., Jeffamine derivatized TentaGel beads
31 29 and poly(dimethylsiloxane) microbead cassettes for ultrahigh-throughput in situ releasable
32 30 solution-phase cell-based screening of one-bead-one-compound combinatorial small molecule
33 31 libraries. *Journal of combinatorial chemistry* 2010, 12, 700-12.
34 32 25. Hwang, S. H.; Lehman, A.; Cong, X.; Olmstead, M. M.; Lam, K. S.; Lebrilla, C. B.;
35 33 Kurth, M. J., OBOC small-molecule combinatorial library encoded by halogenated mass-tags.
36 34 *Organic letters* 2004, 6, 3829-32.
37 35 26. Hu, B.-H.; Jones, M. R.; Messersmith, P. B., Method for screening and MALDI-TOF MS
38 36 sequencing of encoded combinatorial libraries. *Analytical chemistry* 2007, 79, 7275-85.
39 37 27. Cha, J.; Lim, J.; Zheng, Y.; Tan, S.; Ang, Y. L.; Oon, J.; Ang, M. W.; Ling, J.; Bode, M.;
40 38 Lee, S. S., Process Automation toward Ultra-High-Throughput Screening of Combinatorial One-
41 39 Bead-One-Compound (OBOC) Peptide Libraries. *Journal of laboratory automation* 2012.
42 40 28. Amadei, G. A.; Cho, C.-F.; Lewis, J. D.; Luyt, L. G., A fast, reproducible and low-cost
43 41 method for sequence deconvolution of 'on-bead' peptides via 'on-target' maldi-TOF/TOF mass
44 42 spectrometry. *Journal of mass spectrometry : JMS* 2009.
45 43 29. Garske, A. L.; Denu, J. M., SIRT1 top 40 hits: use of one-bead, one-compound acetyl-
46 44 peptide libraries and quantum dots to probe deacetylase specificity. *Biochemistry* 2006, 45, 94-
47 45 101.

- 1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
- 1 30. Marani, M. M.; Martinez Ceron, M. C.; Giudicessi, S. L.; de Oliveira, E.; Cote, S.; Erra-
2 Balsells, R.; Albericio, F.; Cascone, O.; Camperi, S. A., Screening of one-bead-one-peptide
3 combinatorial library using red fluorescent dyes. Presence of positive and false positive beads. *J*
4 *Comb Chem* 2009, 11, 146-50.
- 5 31. Garrigues, H. J.; Rubinchikova, Y. E.; Dipersio, C. M.; Rose, T. M., Integrin
6 alphaVbeta3 Binds to the RGD motif of glycoprotein B of Kaposi's sarcoma-associated
7 herpesvirus and functions as an RGD-dependent entry receptor. *Journal of virology* 2008, 82,
8 1570-80.
- 9 32. Pfaff, M.; Tangemann, K.; Muller, B.; Gurrath, M.; Muller, G.; Kessler, H.; Timpl, R.;
10 Engel, J., Selective recognition of cyclic RGD peptides of NMR defined conformation by alpha
11 IIb beta 3, alpha V beta 3, and alpha 5 beta 1 integrins. *The Journal of Biological Chemistry*
12 1994, 269, 20233-20238.
- 13 33. Schaffner, P.; Dard, M. M., Structure and function of RGD peptides involved in bone
14 biology. *Cellular and molecular life sciences : CMLS* 2003, 60, 119-32.
- 15 34. Pytela, R.; Pierschbacher, M. D.; Ruoslahti, E., A 125/115-kDa cell surface receptor
16 specific for vitronectin interacts with the arginine-glycine-aspartic acid adhesion sequence
17 derived from fibronectin. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States*
18 *of America* 1985, 82, 5766-70.
- 19 35. Scarborough, R. M.; Rose, J. W.; Naughton, M. A.; Phillips, D. R.; Nannizzi, L.; Arfsten,
20 A.; Campbell, A. M.; Charo, I. F., Characterization of the integrin specificities of disintegrins
21 isolated from American pit viper venoms. *The Journal of biological chemistry* 1993, 268, 1058-
22 65.
- 23 36. Rahman, S.; Aitken, A.; Flynn, G.; Formstone, C.; Savidge, G. F., Modulation of RGD
24 sequence motifs regulates disintegrin recognition of alphaIIb beta3 and alpha5 beta1 integrin
25 complexes. Replacement of elegantin alanine-50 with proline, N-terminal to the RGD sequence,
26 diminishes recognition of the alpha5 beta1 complex. *The Biochemical journal* 1998, 335 (Pt 2,
27 247-57.
- 28 37. Shiu, J.-H.; Chen, C.-Y.; Chen, Y.-C.; Chang, Y.-T.; Chang, Y.-S.; Huang, C.-H.;
29 Chuang, W.-J., Effect of P to A mutation of the N-terminal residue adjacent to the Rgd motif on
30 rhodostomin: importance of dynamics in integrin recognition. *PloS one* 2012, 7, e28833.
- 31 38. Gagnon, M. K. J.; Hausner, S. H.; Marik, J.; Abbey, C. K.; Marshall, J. F.; Sutcliffe, J. L.,
32 High-throughput in vivo screening of targeted molecular imaging agents. *Proceedings of the*
33 *National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 2009, 106, 17904-9.
- 34 39. Qi, X.; Astle, J.; Kodadek, T., Rapid identification of orexin receptor binding ligands
35 using cell-based screening accelerated with magnetic beads. *Molecular bioSystems* 2010, 6, 92-7.
- 36 40. Paradise, R. K.; Lauffenburger, D. A.; Van Vliet, K. J., Acidic extracellular pH promotes
37 activation of integrin $\alpha(v)\beta(3)$. *PloS one* 2011, 6, e15746.
- 38 41. Bokoch, M. P.; Zou, Y.; Rasmussen, S. G. F.; Liu, C. W.; Nygaard, R.; Rosenbaum, D.
39 M.; Fung, J. J.; Choi, H.-J.; Thian, F. S.; Kobilka, T. S.; Puglisi, J. D.; Weis, W. I.; Pardo, L.;
40 Prosser, R. S.; Mueller, L.; Kobilka, B. K., Ligand-specific regulation of the extracellular surface
41 of a G-protein-coupled receptor. *Nature* 2010, 463, 108-12.

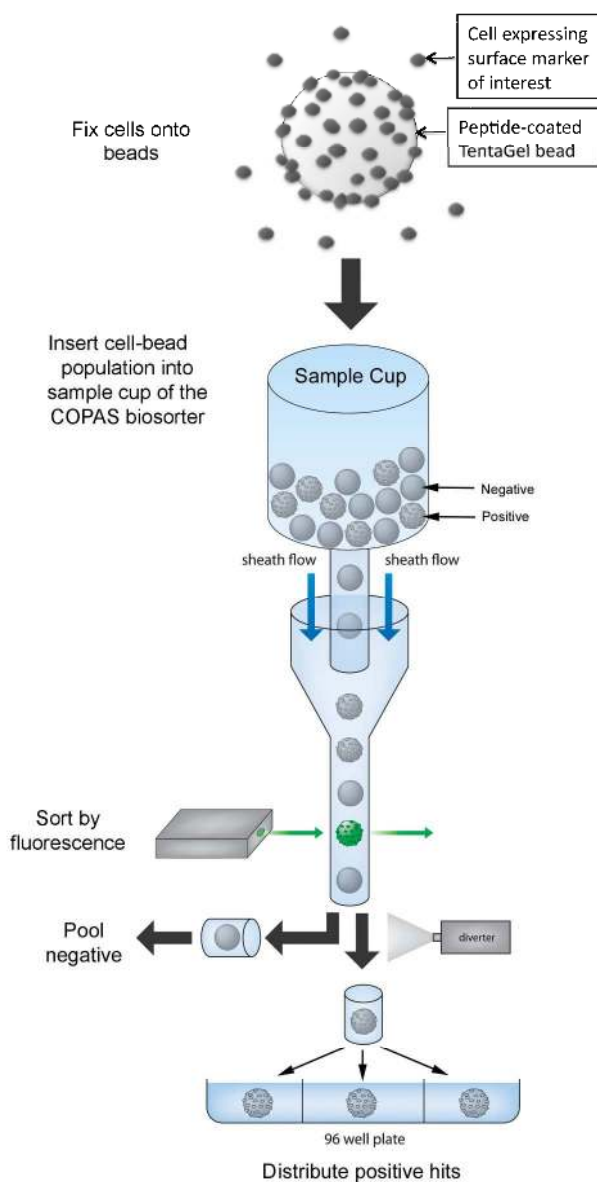


Figure 1. Cell-based screening of OBOC peptide libraries to identify high affinity ligands to cellular targets using the COPAS biosorter. Beads incubated with live fluorescent cells are washed, fixed with 3% formaldehyde and loaded into the sorter. Bead hits with strong interactions with cells exhibit high fluorescence and are sorted into a 96-well plate, while beads with few bound cells are excluded.

138x250mm (300 x 300 DPI)

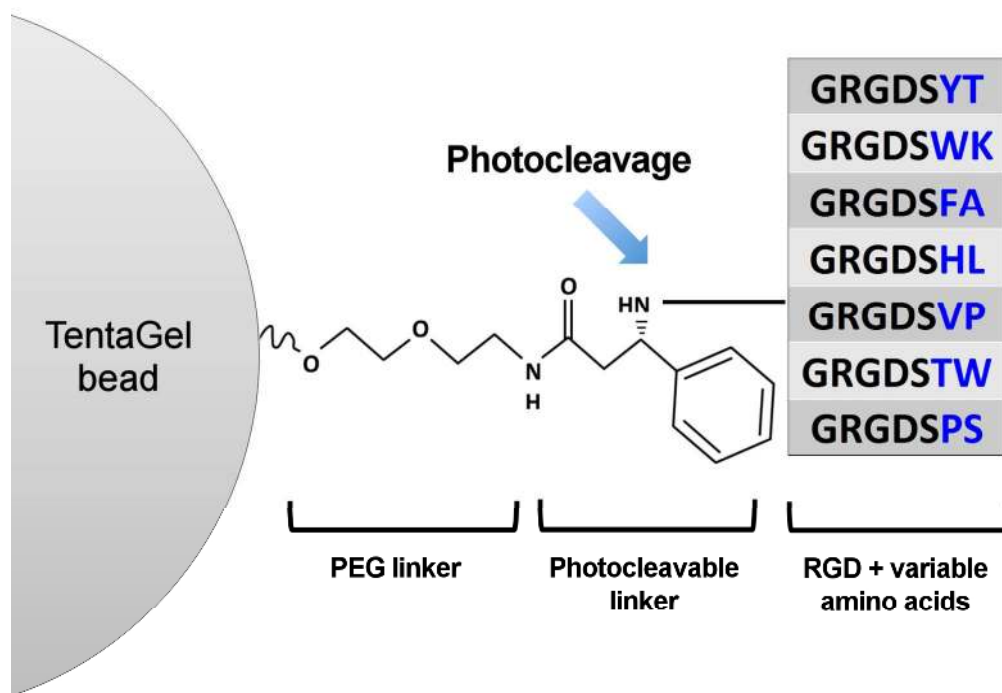


Figure 2. Design of focused library of integrin-binding peptides. GRGDS-containing heptameric peptides were synthesized on TentaGel beads via a photo-cleavable linker. Two additional amino acid residues (indicated in blue) were incorporated into a library to evaluate sorting and MS deconvolution.
148x103mm (300 x 300 DPI)

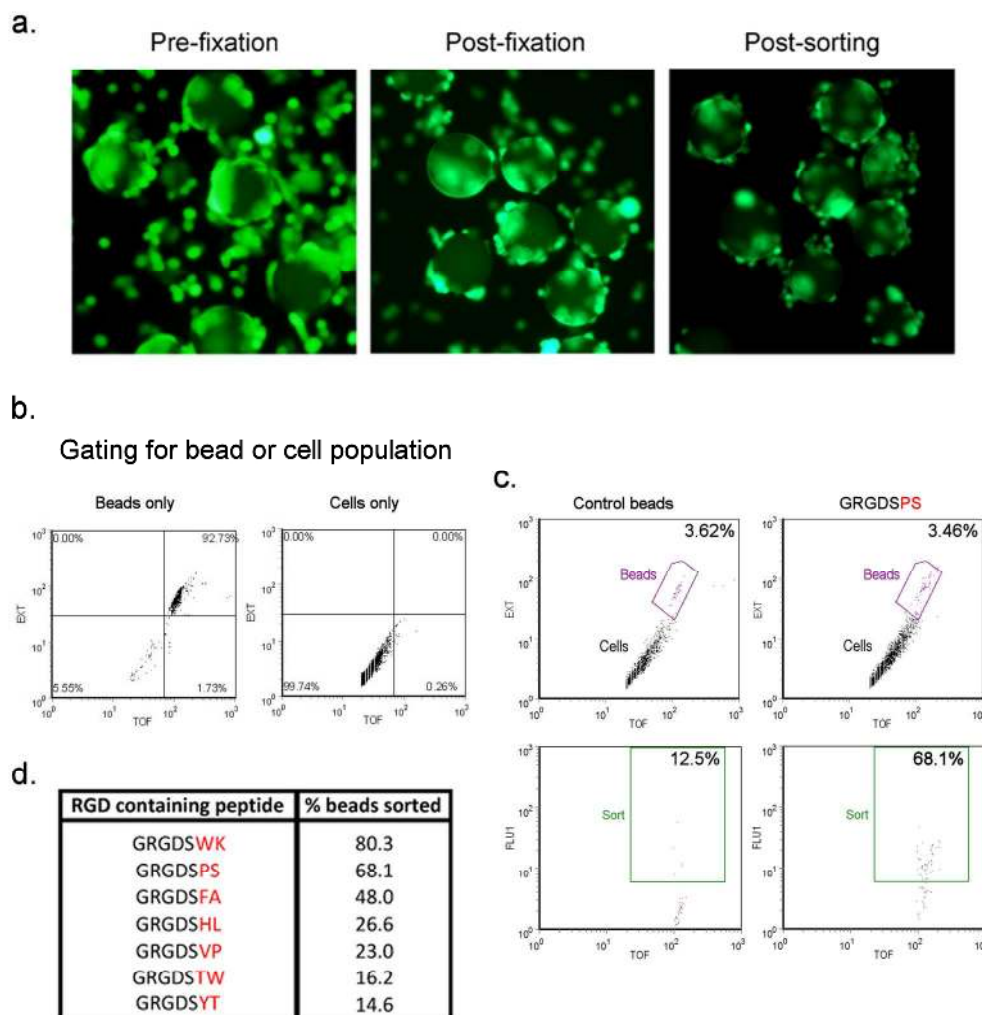


Figure 3. Establishing the sorting parameters for library beads coated with intact cells. (a) TentaGel beads containing GRGDSPS peptide incubated with MDA-MB-435 GFP cells (left) and fixed with 3% formaldehyde (right). Beads with the highest association for cells were sorted using the COPAS instrument. (b) Dot plot showing the bead or cell population. EXT represents extinction (measurement of total light scatter), TOF stands for time of flight, and FLU1 represents the green fluorescence intensity. (c) Dot plot showing the cell-bead populations and their sorting profiles. The upper panel shows the two distinct bead and cell population (indicated by arrows) and the beads were gated for sorting. The bottom panel shows the green fluorescence intensity of each bead (gated from the upper panel). The sort gate was established using negative control TentaGel beads that has undergone cell treatment, fixation and washes so that only beads with cells attached (higher fluorescent intensities) were sorted. GRGDSPS-TentaGel beads with MDA-MB-435 GFP were then inserted into the COPAS instrument, and beads with the highest association with cells were sorted into a 96-well plate. (d) The percentage of beads that were sorted by the COPAS instrument for each RGD-containing peptide.

177x195mm (300 x 300 DPI)

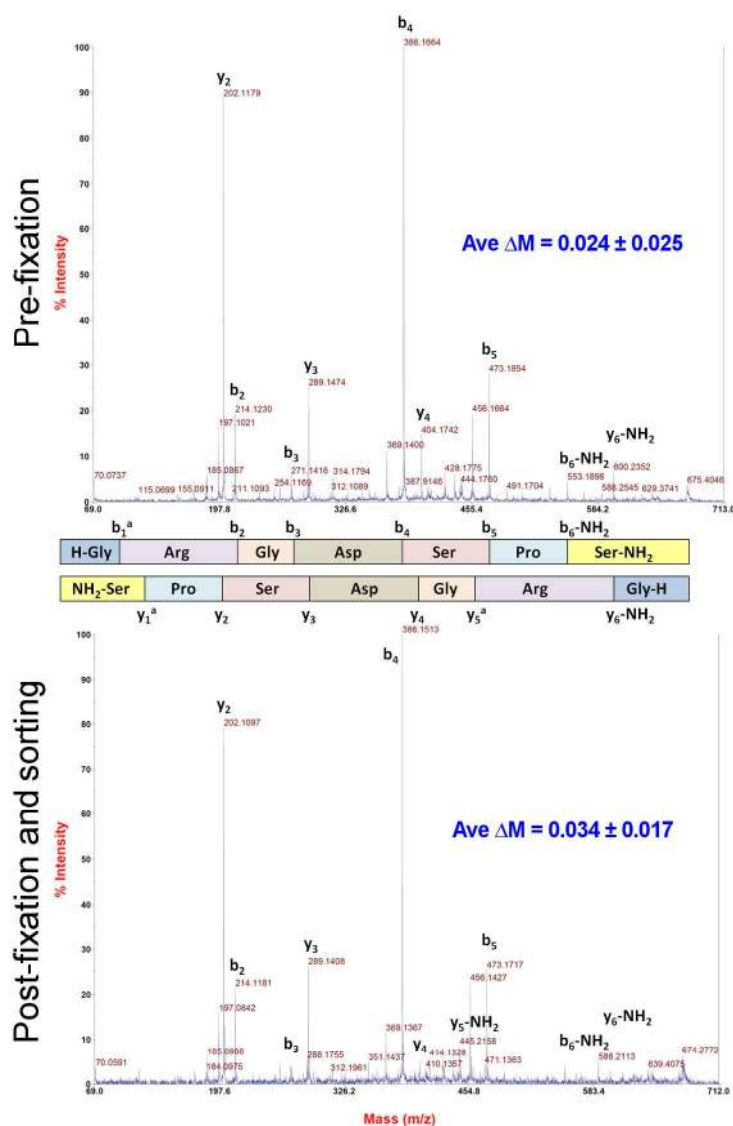
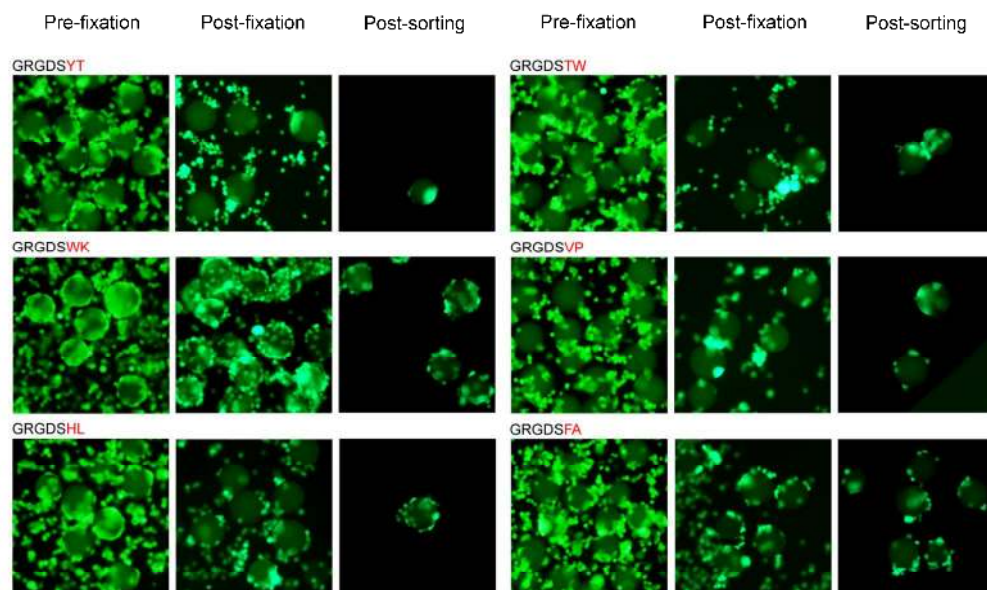
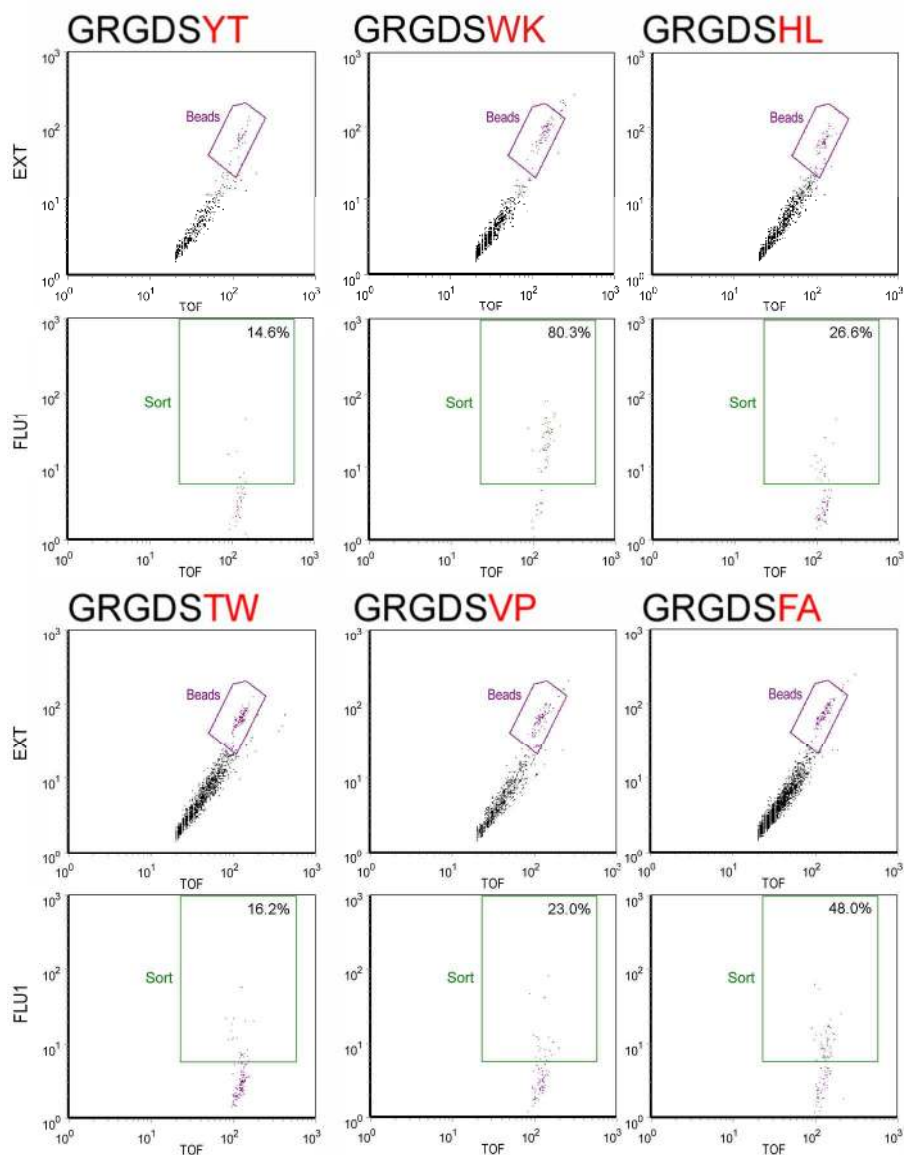


Figure 4. On-bead MALDI-TOF/TOF MS sequencing of peptide before and after fixation. MS/MS spectra of H-GRGDSPS-NH₂ before fixing with formaldehyde (top), and after fixing plus sorting (bottom). Peptide sequences from both samples were successfully attained. Fragments labeled b_ja and y_ja were calculated by complementarity. The average ΔM values are indicated in blue.
545x771mm (87 x 87 DPI)

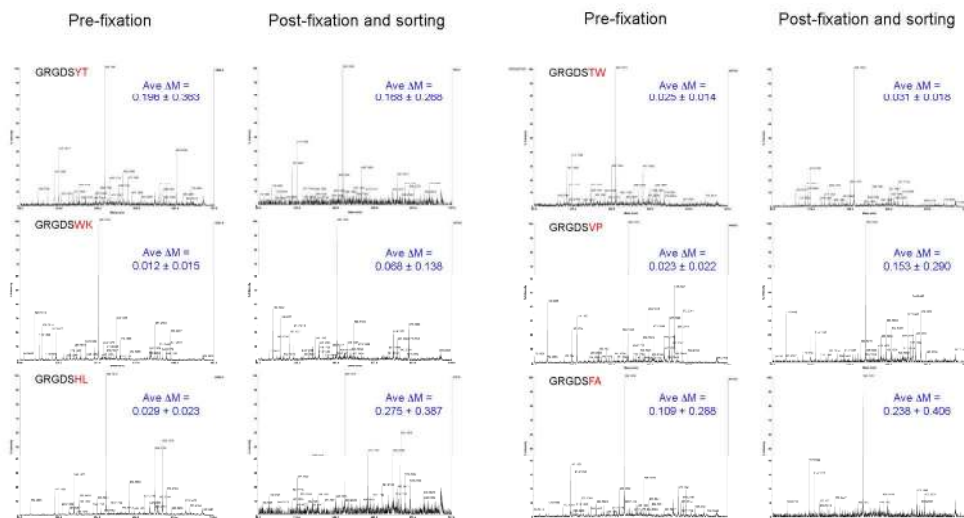


Supplementary figure 1. Cells remained bound onto the RGD-containing library bead after fixation and sorting. TentaGel beads containing a series of RGD-containing peptides incubated with MDA-MB-435 GFP cells (left), fixed with 3% formaldehyde (middle) and sorted using the COPAS biosorter (right).
314x236mm (300 x 300 DPI)



Supplementary Figure 2. Establishing the sorting parameters for the remaining test library beads coated with intact cells. Dot plot showing the the cell-bead population and sorting profiles. The upper panel shows the two distinct bead and cell population (indicated by arrows) and the beads were gated for sorting. The bottom panel shows the green fluorescence intensity of each bead. The sort gate was established using negative control TentaGel beads that has undergone cell treatment, fixation and washes so that only beads with cells attached (higher fluorescent intensities) were sorted. RGD-containing TentaGel beads with MDA-MB-435 GFP were then inserted into the COPAS instrument, and beads with the highest association with cells were sorted into a 96-well plate.

191x254mm (300 x 300 DPI)



Supplementary Figure 3. On-bead MALDI-TOF/TOF MS sequencing of the remaining test peptides before and after fixation. MS/MS spectra of RGD-containing peptides before fixing with formaldehyde (left), and after fixing plus sorting (right). Peptide sequences from both samples were successfully attained. Fragments labeled bja and yja were calculated by complementarity. The average ΔM values are indicated in blue.
195x106mm (300 x 300 DPI)

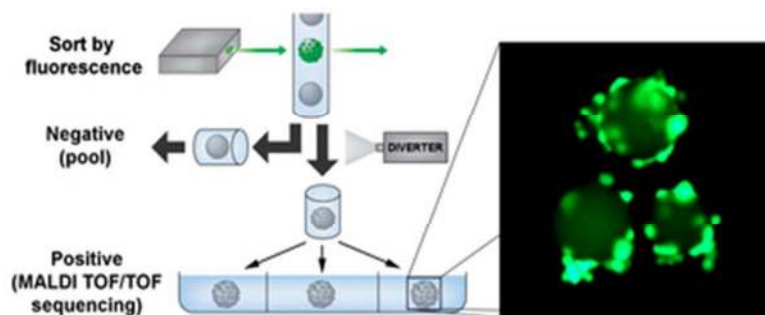


Table of Contents Image:
Journal: ACS Combinatorial Science
Manuscript ID: co-2013-000584
Title: "High throughput screening of one-bead-one-compound peptide libraries using intact cells"
Author(s): Cho, Choi-Fong; Behnam Azad, Babak; Luyt, Leonard; Lewis, John

34x13mm (300 x 300 DPI)