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# Characterizing Protein-Adjuvant Interactions in Vaccines

## 2 Overview

- Project
- What is in a Vaccine
- Protein Adjuvant Interactions
- Effects of Freeze Thaw Cycles on Adjuvants
- Effects of Freeze Thaw Cycles on Microstructure of Adjuvant and Complexes
- Summary
- Future Research/ Acknowledgements

### 3 Project

- Define the interactions between proteins and adjuvants – Binding Isotherm
- Determine the effects of freeze thaw cycles on adjuvants and their interactions – Binding Isotherms, Microscopy, and Dynamic Light Scattering
- Develop understanding of how freeze thaw cycles affect microstructures of proteins, adjuvants, and complexes – Small Angle Neutron Scattering

# 4 Vaccines

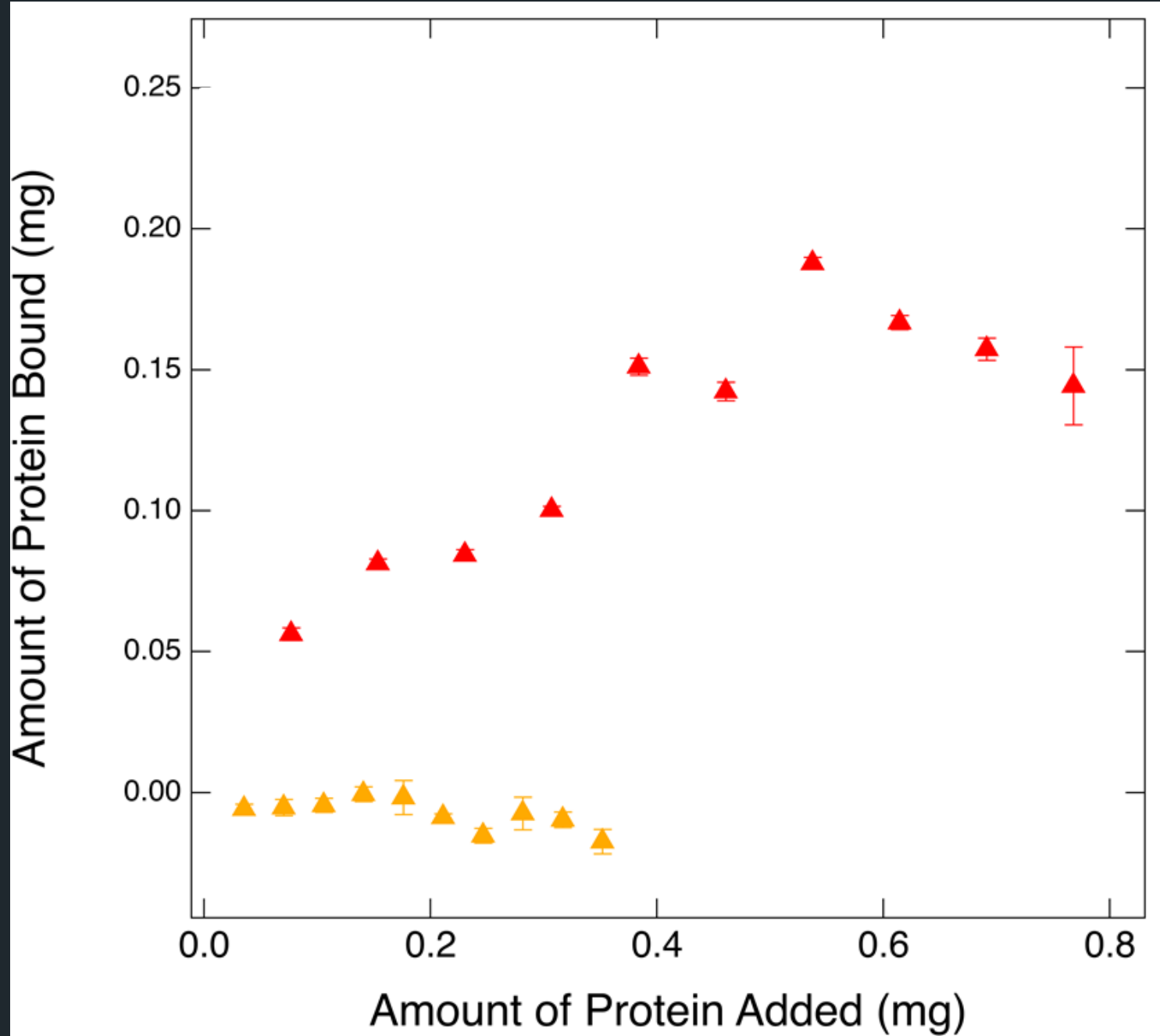
- Purpose
- Components:
  - Antigen
  - Adjuvant
  - Excipients





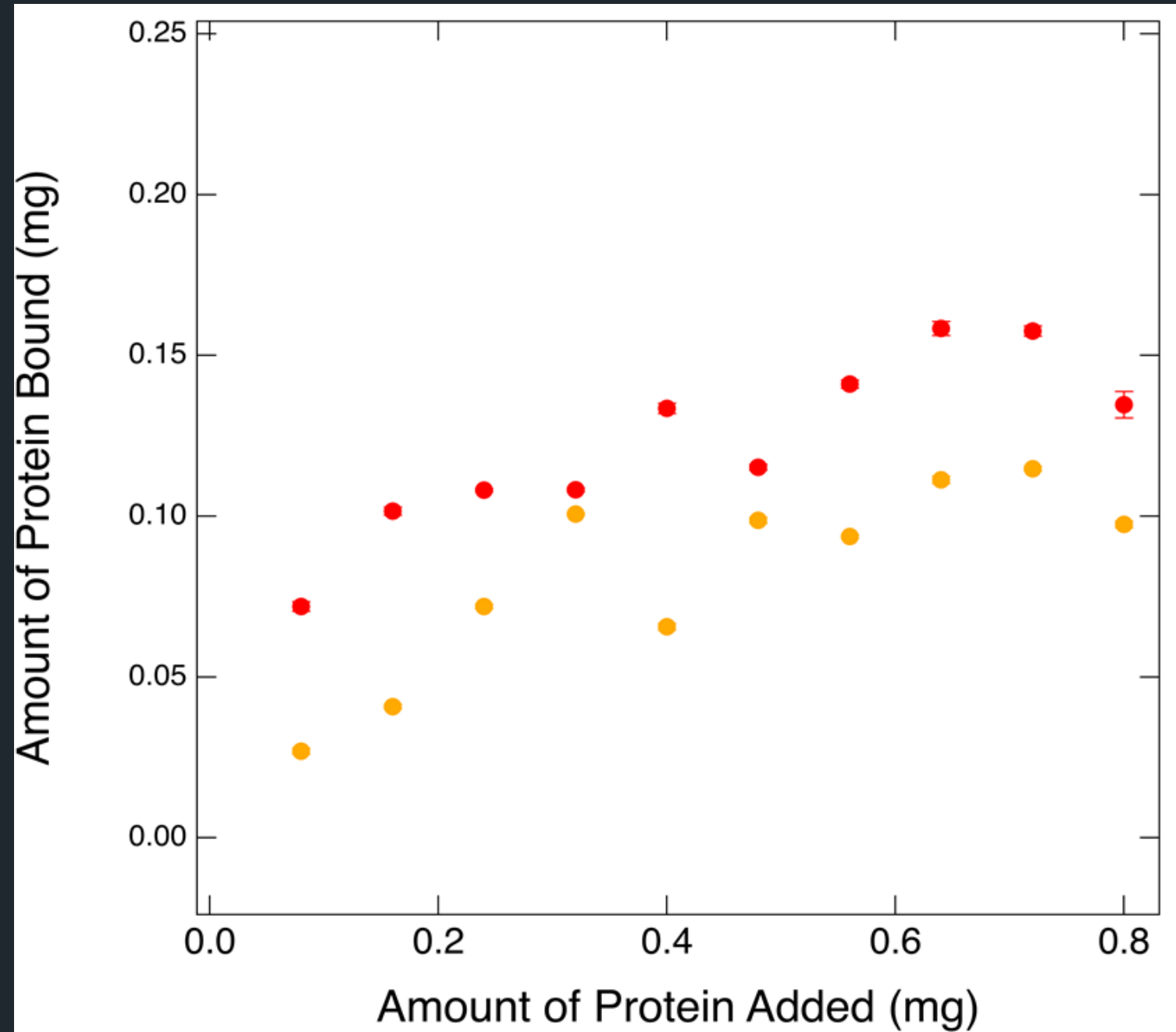
# 6 Protein Adjuvant Interactions: Binding Isotherm

Aluminum Hydroxide +  
Ovalbumin  
Aluminum Phosphate +  
Ovalbumin



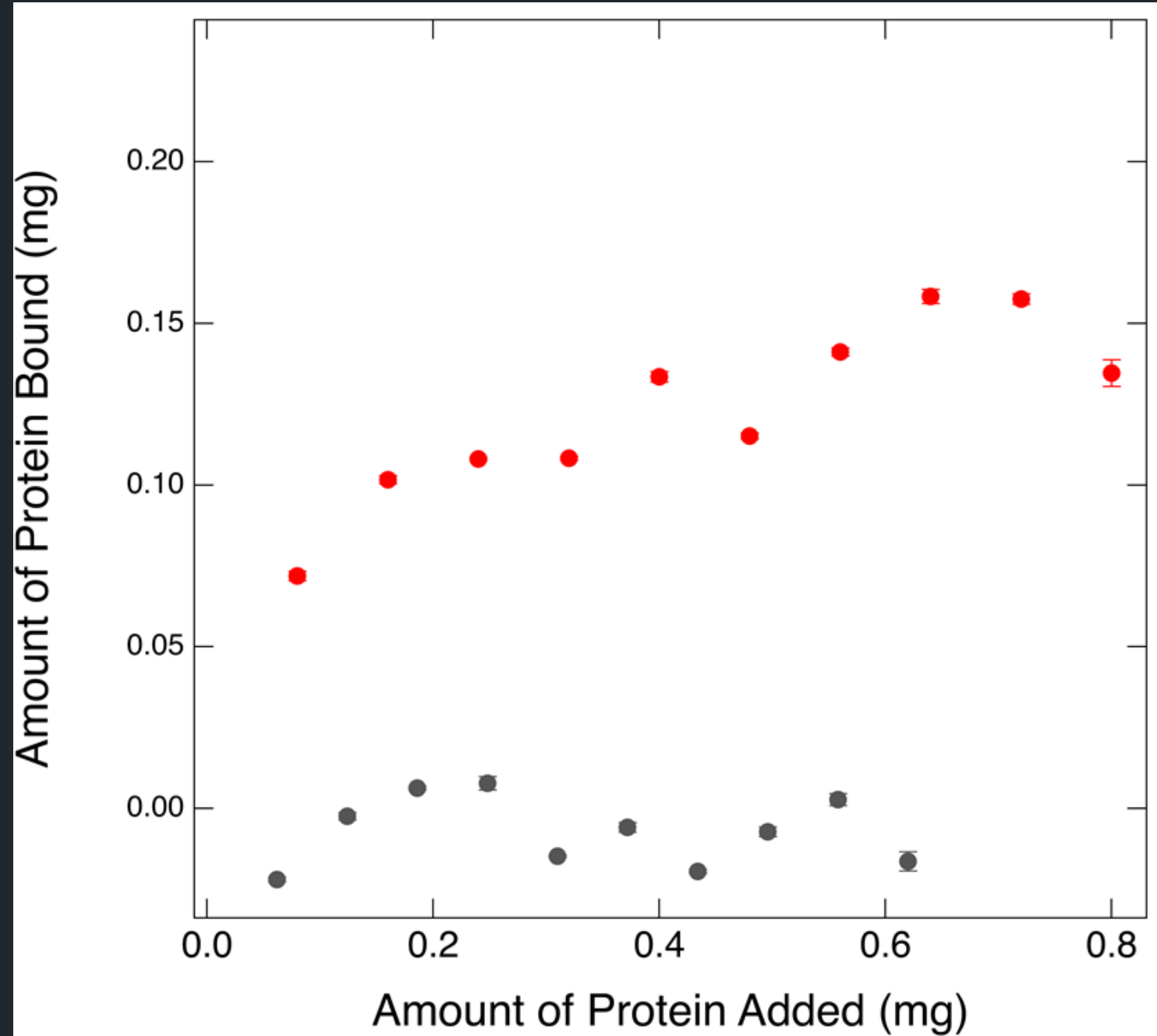
# 7 Protein Adjuvant Interactions: Binding Isotherm

Aluminum Hydroxide +  
Lysozyme  
Aluminum Phosphate +  
Lysozyme



# 8 Protein Adjuvant Interactions: Binding Isotherm

Aluminum Hydroxide +  
Lysozyme in  
Phosphate Buffer  
Aluminum Hydroxide +  
Lysozyme in Sodium  
Chloride Buffer







# 9 Effects of Freeze Thaw Cycles on the Adjuvants

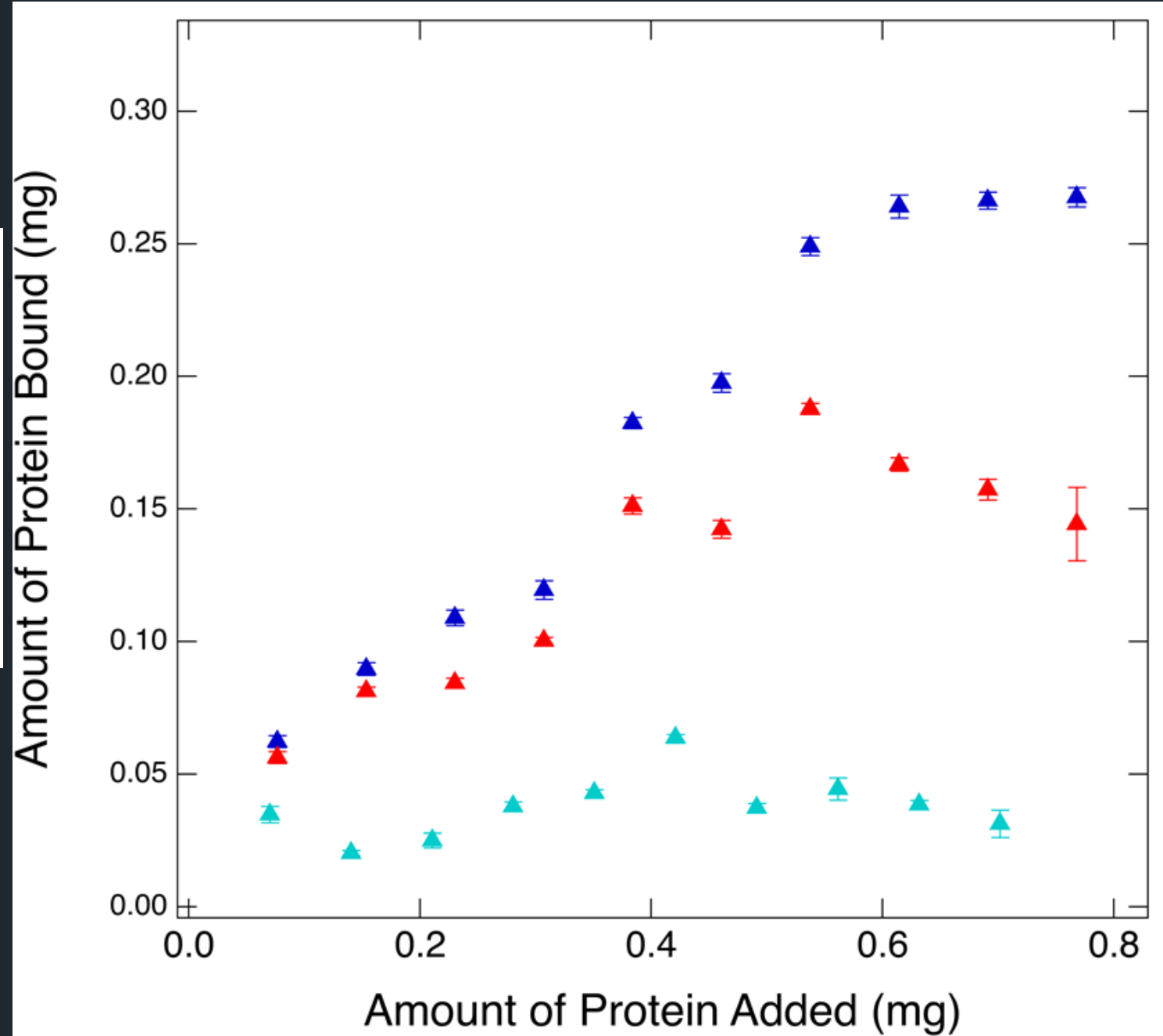
- Importance of Freeze Thaw Cycles
- Experiments

# 10 Effects of Freeze Thaw Cycles on Adjuvants: Binding Isotherms

FT Aluminum Hydroxide & Ovalbumin Complex

Fresh Aluminum Hydroxide & Ovalbumin Complex

FT Aluminum Hydroxide + Ovalbumin

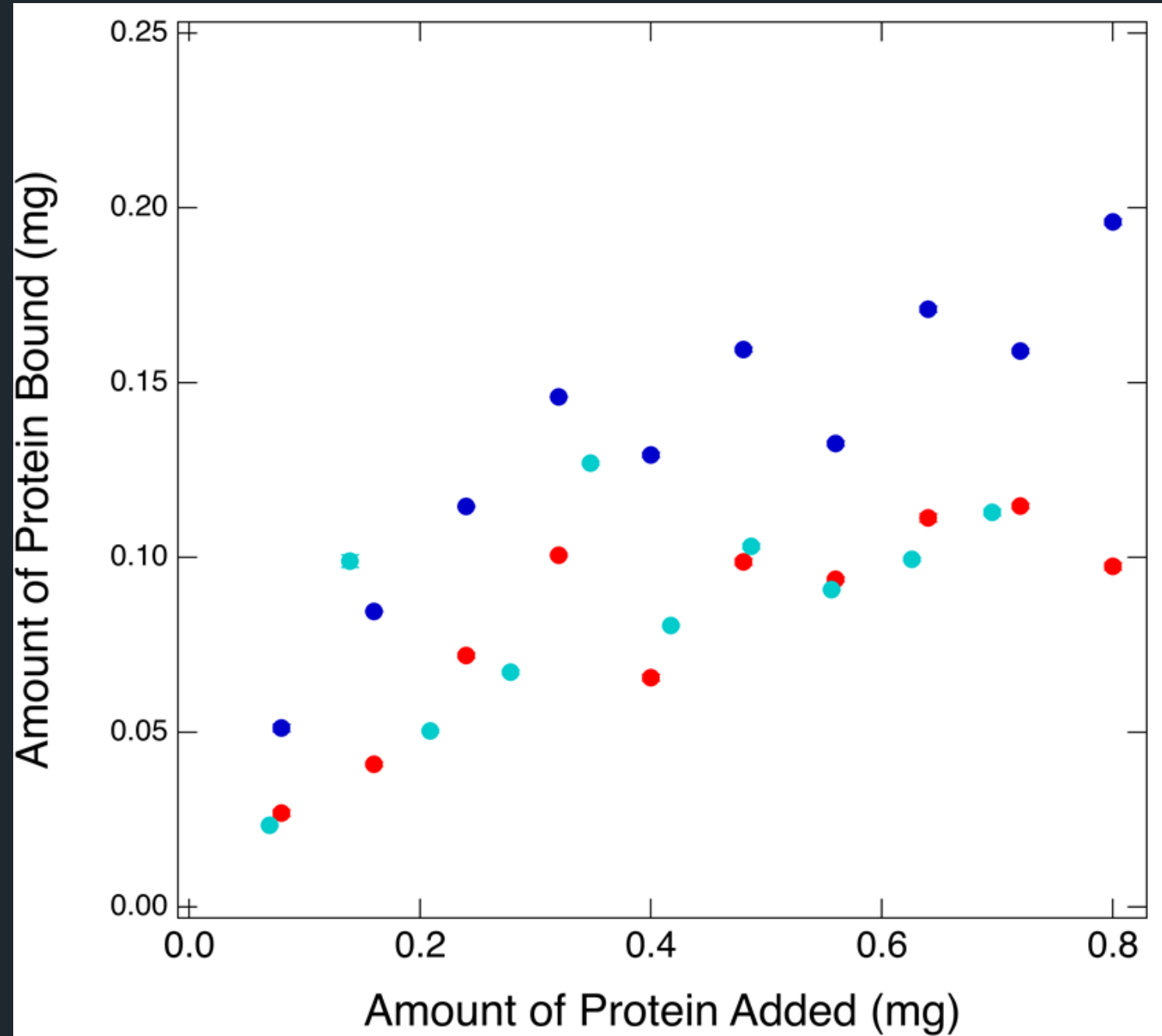


# 11 Effects of Freeze Thaw Cycles on Adjuvants : Binding Isotherms

FT Aluminum Phosphate  
& Lysozyme Complex

Fresh Aluminum  
Phosphate & Lysozyme  
Complex

FT Aluminum Phosphate  
+ Lysozyme



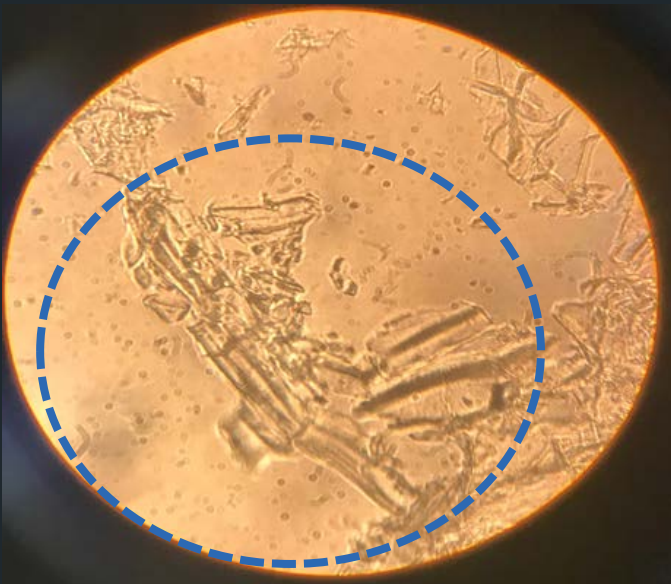
12 Effects of Freeze Thaw Cycles on Adjuvants: Microscopy  
40x Magnification



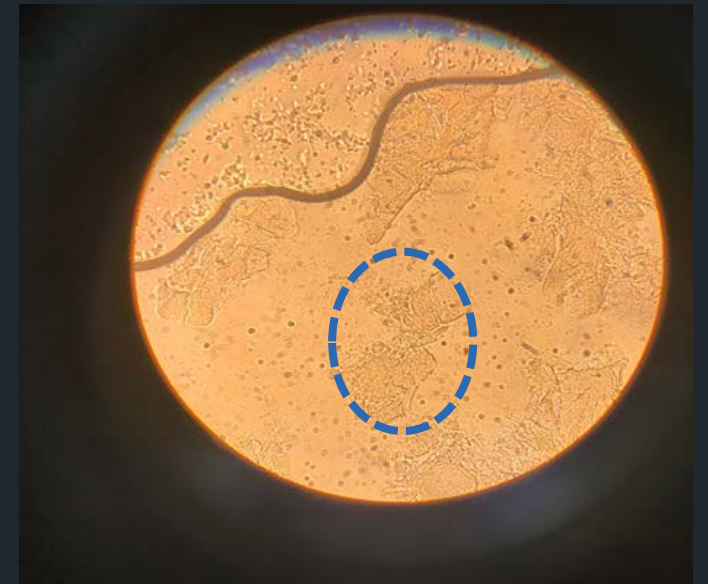
Aluminum Hydroxide:  
Fresh



Aluminum Phosphate:  
Fresh



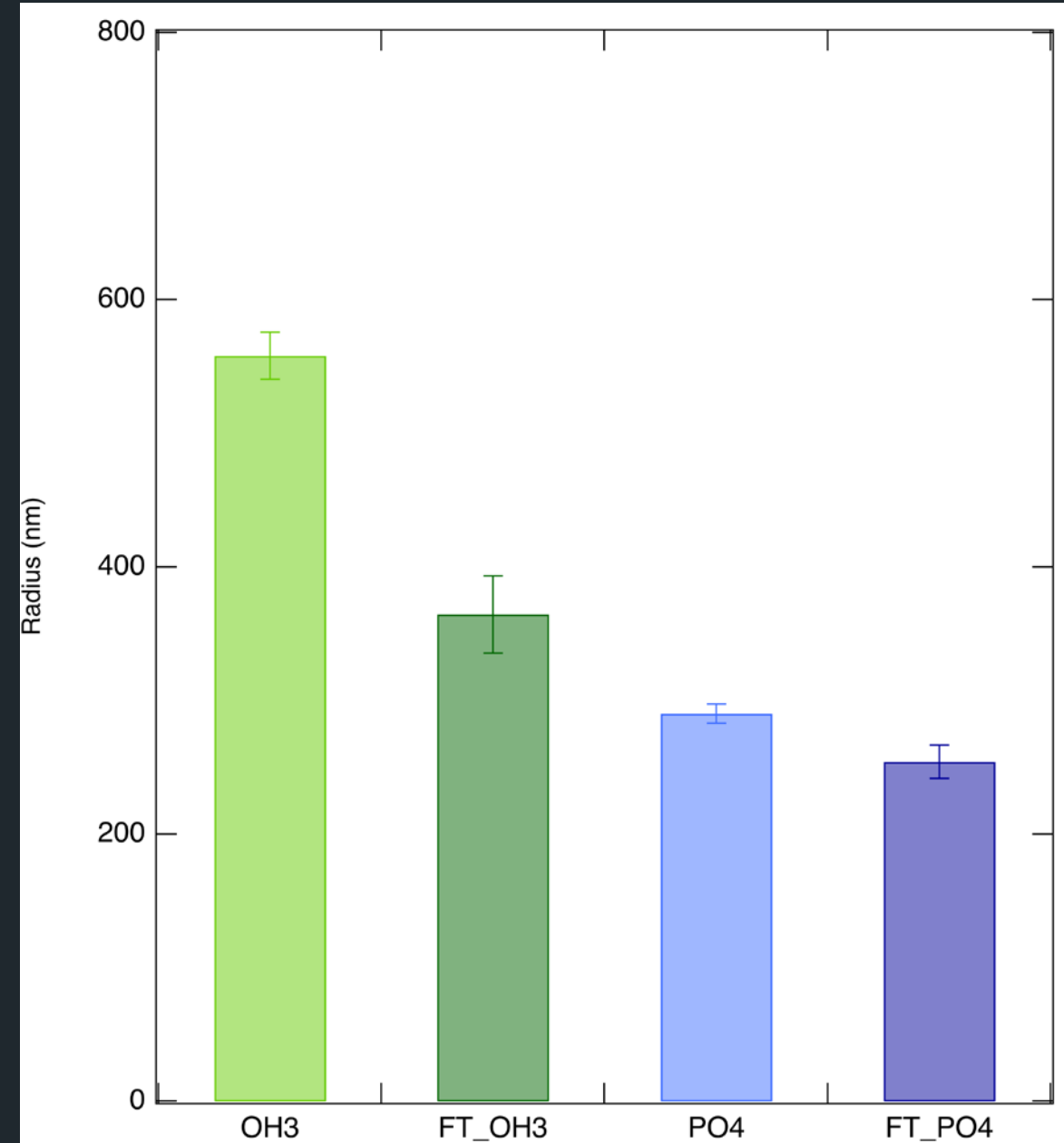
Aluminum Hydroxide:  
Freeze-Thawed



Aluminum Phosphate:  
Freeze-Thawed

# 13 Effects of Freeze Thaw Cycles on Adjuvants: Dynamic Light Scattering

Fresh Aluminum Hydroxide  
FT Aluminum Hydroxide  
Fresh Aluminum Phosphate  
FT Aluminum Phosphate

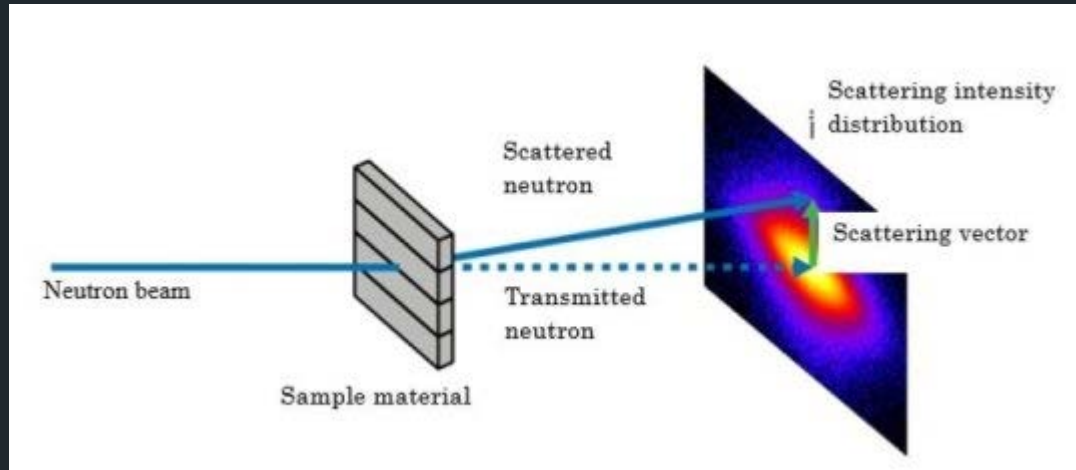




# 14 Effects of Freeze Thaw Cycles on Microstructures

- Importance of Understanding the Effects of Freeze Thaw on Microstructures
  - Adjuvants
  - Proteins
  - Complexes
- Experiment

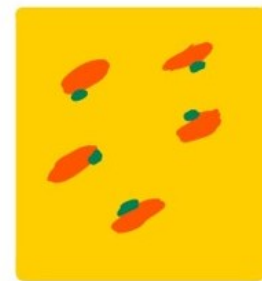
# 15 Effects of Freeze Thaw Cycles on Microstructures: SANS and Contrast Matching



## Small Angle Neutron Scattering

## Contrast Matching

Solvent  
Protein  
Adjuvant



Solvent  
Protein  
Adjuvant



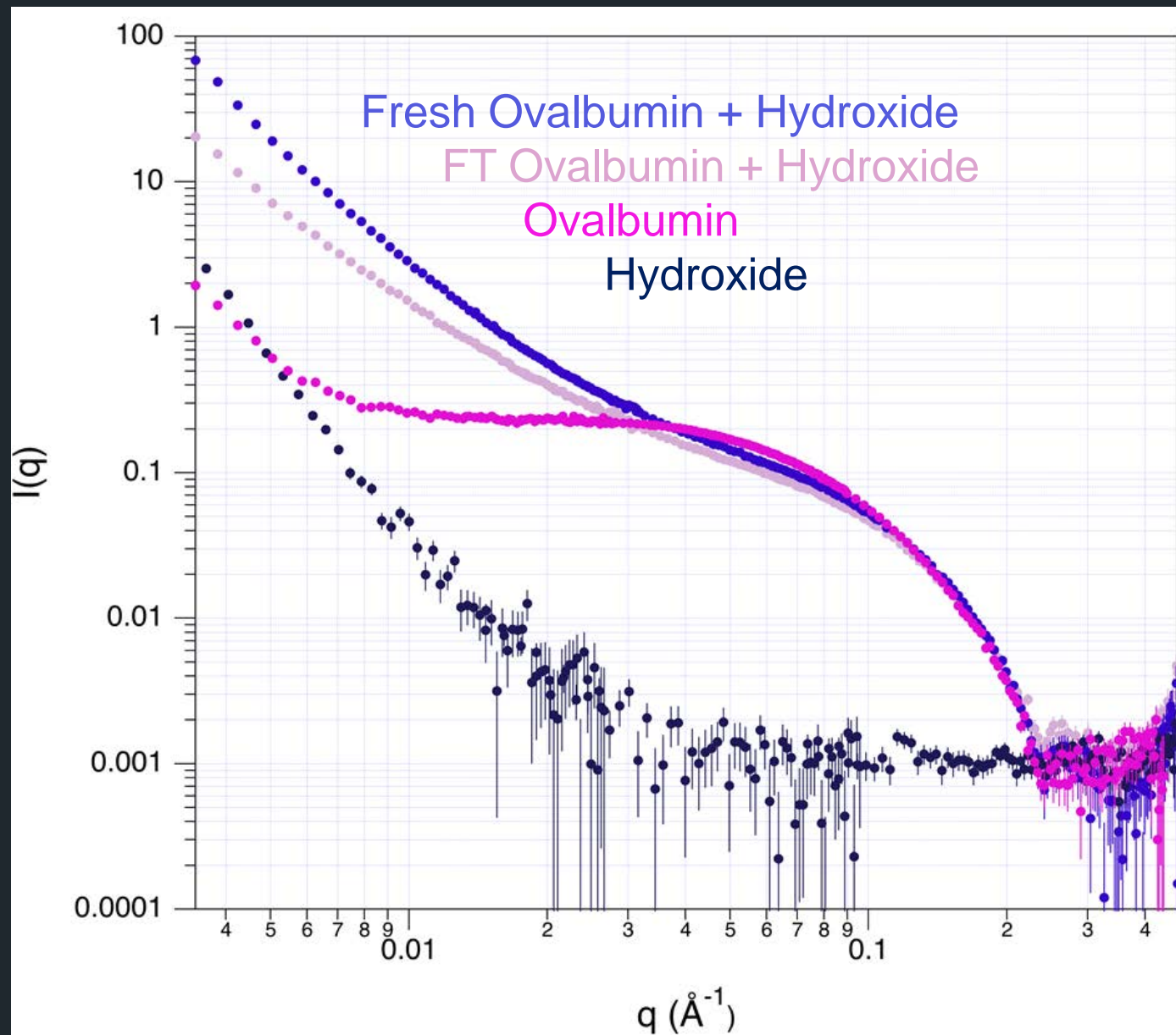
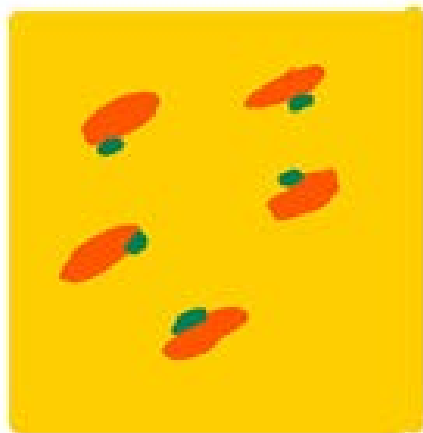
Solvent  
Protein  
Adjuvant





# Effects of Freeze Thaw Cycles on Microstructures: Small Angle Neutron Scattering

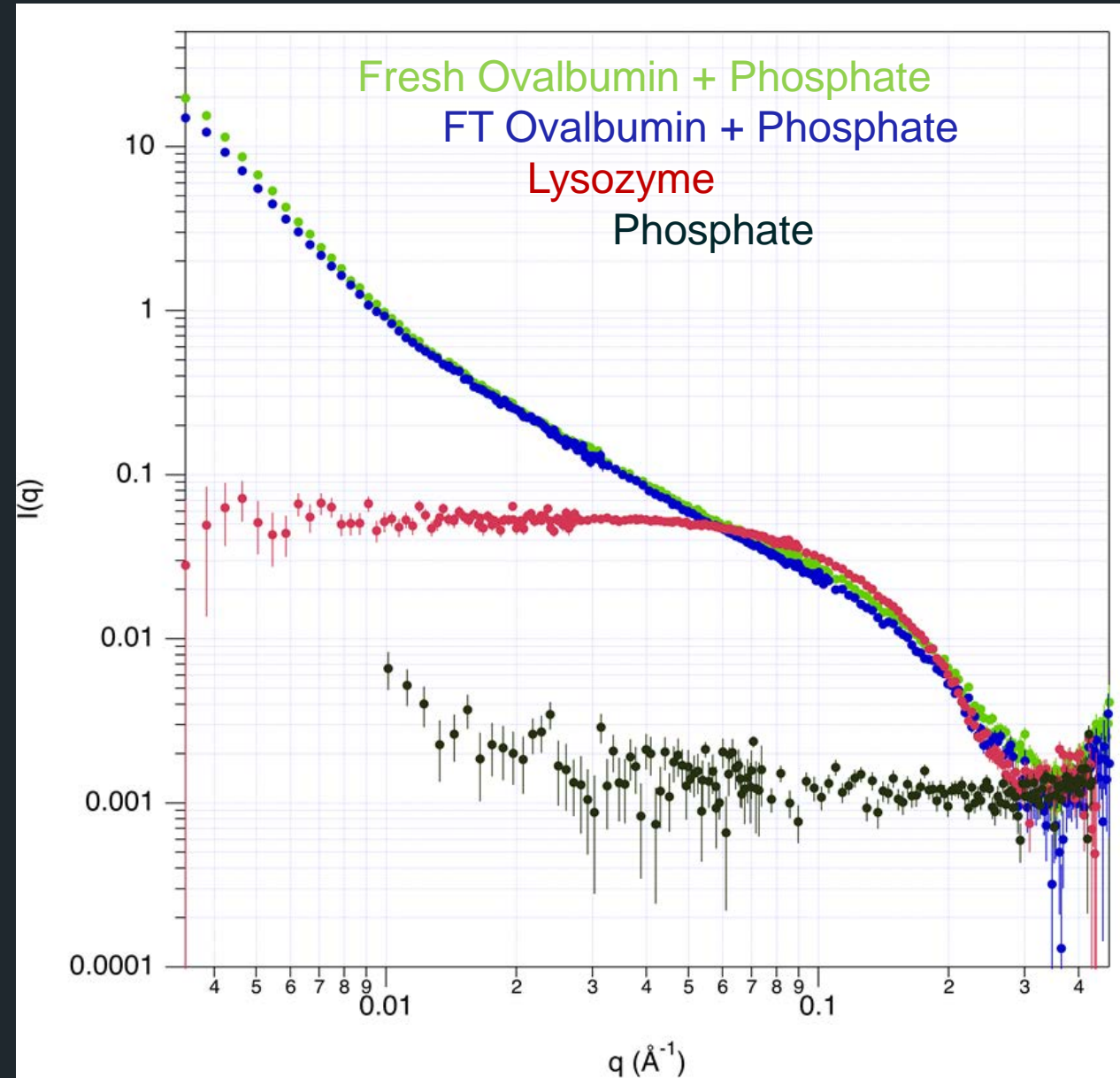
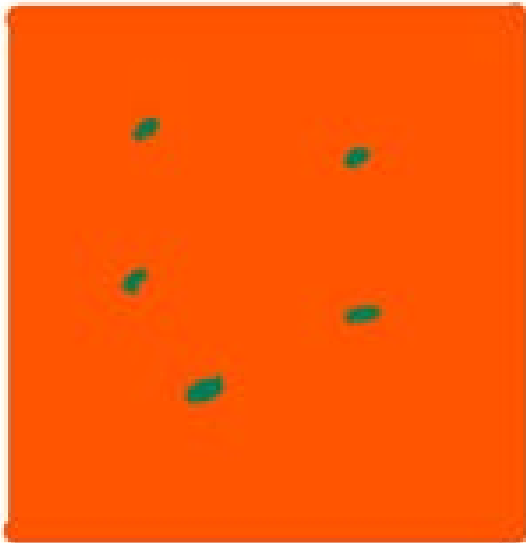
Solvent  
Protein  
Adjuvant





# 17 Effects of Freeze Thaw Cycles on Microstructures: Small Angle Neutron Scattering

Solvent  
Protein  
Adjuvant





# 18 Summary

- Interactions between proteins and adjuvants
  - Electrostatic interactions
  - Ligand exchange
- Effects of freeze thaw cycles on adjuvants and their interactions
  - Aggregation Hydroxide > Phosphate
  - More aggregation= less binding
- Effects of freeze thaw on microstructures of proteins, adjuvants, and complexes
  - Complexes form new structures
  - Protein 3D conformation is Maintained
  - Little change in adjuvant characteristics after freeze-thaw

# 19 Future Research/Acknowledgements

- Binding Isotherms in Sodium Chloride buffer
- Differential Scanning Calorimetry
- Dr. Amy Xu
- NIST/NCNR
- CHRNS
- SURF Directors
- Dr. Kathryn Sarachan
- Wilson College





# Experimental Conditions

|                   | Ovalbumin | Lysozyme | Al(OH) <sub>3</sub> | AlPO <sub>4</sub> |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Isoelectric point | 4.5       | 11.3     | ~11                 | 4 – 5.5           |

