

Tallinn University
School of Natural Sciences and Health

STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONALITY OF SEAWEED-DERIVED POLYSACCHARIDES

Rando Tuvikene

**Fostering Japanese-Estonian research cooperation
in the field of Bioengineering and Biotechnology**



Tokyo, 2024



TALLINN UNIVERSITY



25 years of research on algal polysaccharides.

Furcellaran – a specific type
of carrageenan from
Furcellaria lumbricalis.



エストニアにおけるフルセラリア

Furcellaria lumbricalis の資源と利用

Rando Tuvikene

バルト海は、商業的な海藻種の成長に適さない物理的条件が卓越しているため、天然海藻資源の採取という意味ではあまり大きな役割を担っていない。バルト海では約160種の海藻が見つかっているが、そのうち、*Furcellaria lumbricalis* (Hudson) J. V. Lamouroux (以前は*F. fastigiata*とされていた)は、この海域で大規模に収穫されている唯一の海藻である。バルト海では、*F. lumbricalis*に2つの異なる生態型が見つかっている。本種の付着型はバルト海の海藻生育帯下部の硬い基質でふつうにみられる。一方、海底に付かずに横たわる非付着型の*F. lumbricalis*は非常にユニークである。

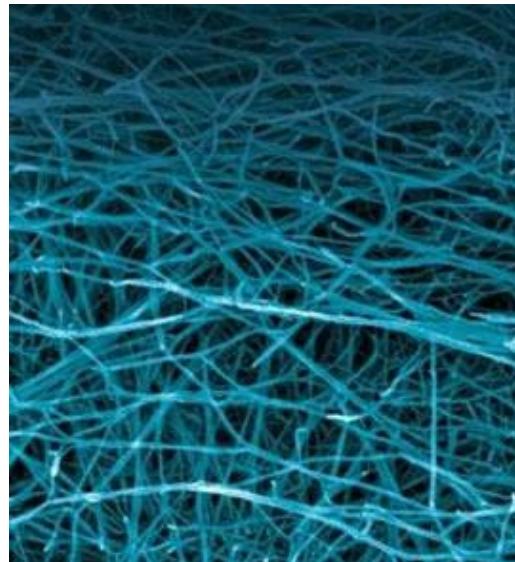


Furcellaria lumbricalis, 200 000 t wet weight.

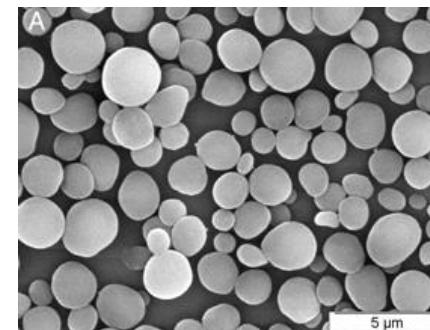
Seaweed-specific polysaccharides



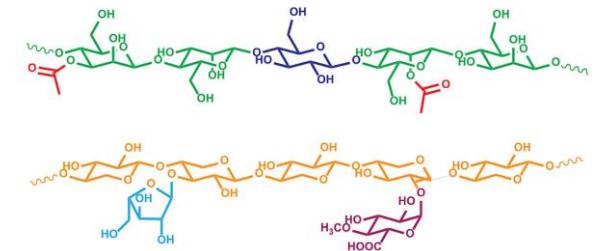
Cellulose



Floridean starch



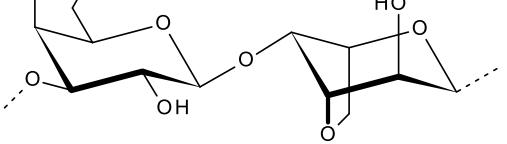
Xylans, mannans



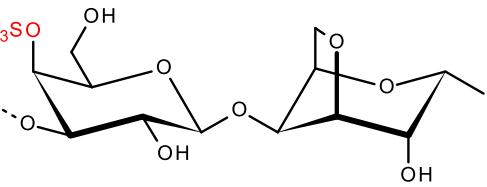
PHYCOCOLLOIDS

Phycocolloids – hydrocolloids deriving from seaweeds.

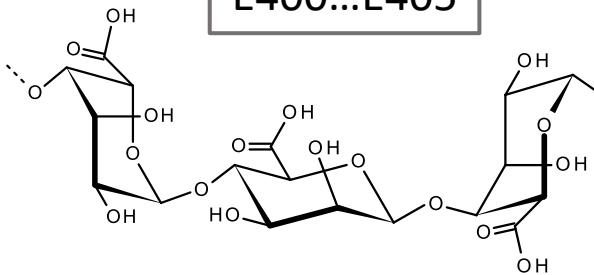
Agars
E406



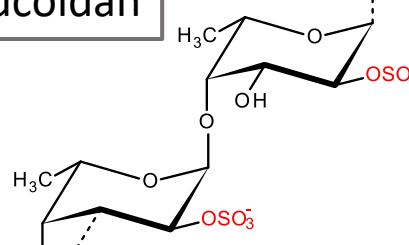
Carrageenans
E407



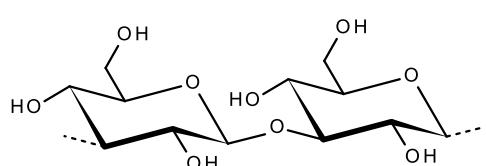
Alginates
E400...E405



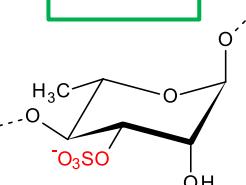
Fucoidan



Laminaran



Ulvan



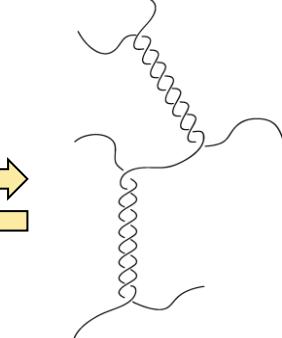
GELATION PROCESS – GALACTANS

$\text{Li}^+, \text{Na}^+ \ll \text{Ca}^{2+}, \text{Cu}^{2+}, \text{NH}_4^+ < \text{K}^+, \text{Cs}^+ < \text{Rb}^+$

Non-specific action



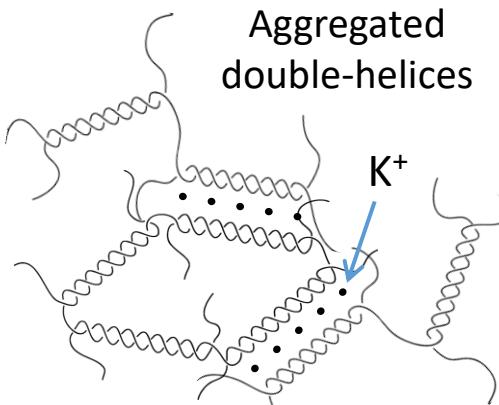
Random coils



Ordered double-helices

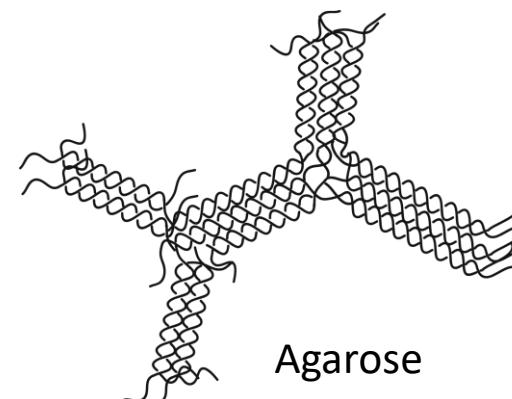


30 °C



Kappa carrageenan

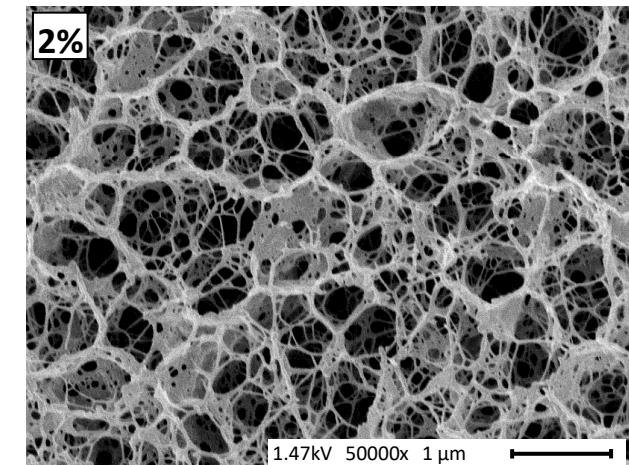
Aggregated double-helices



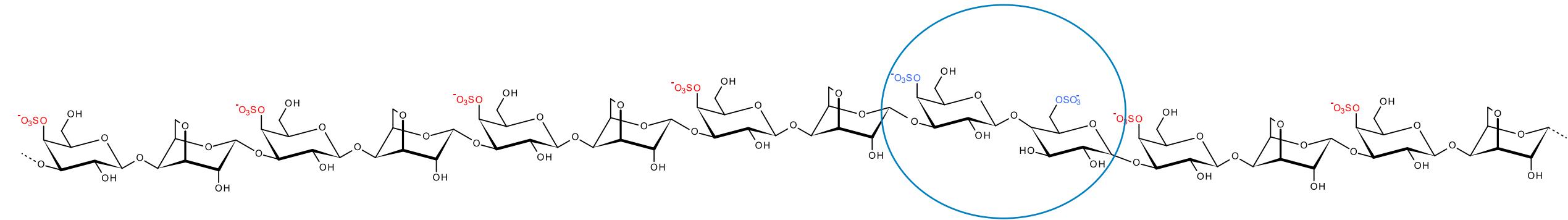
Agarose

90 °C

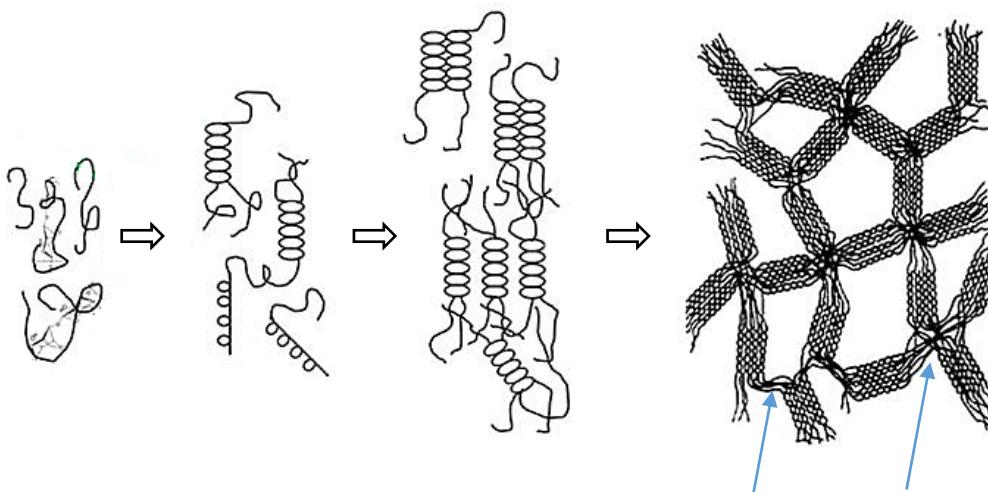
Cooling process



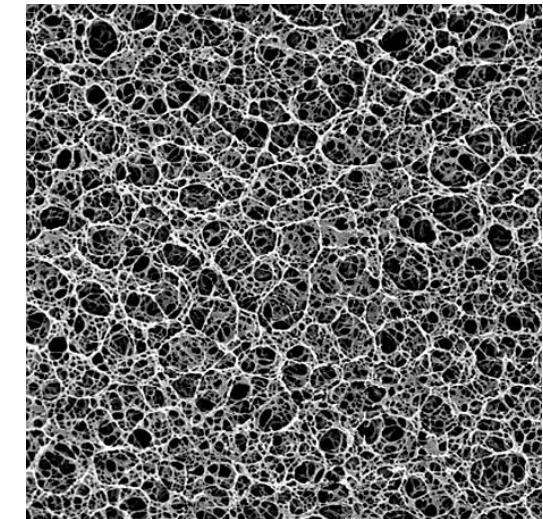
IRREGULARITIES IN THE STRUCTURE



Irregularity

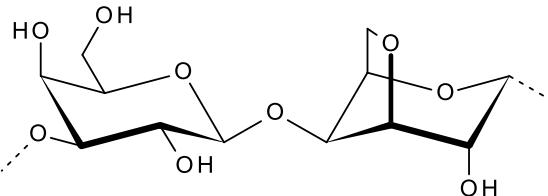


Irregularities

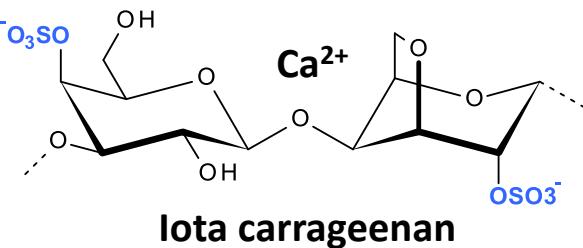


Random irregularities in the structure stabilize the overall gel structure

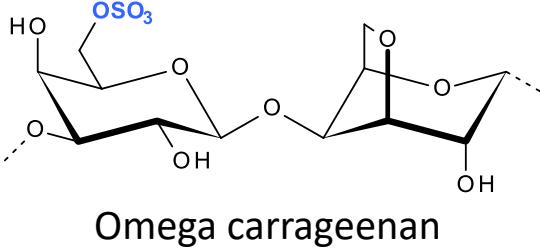
WEAK GELS



Beta carrageenan

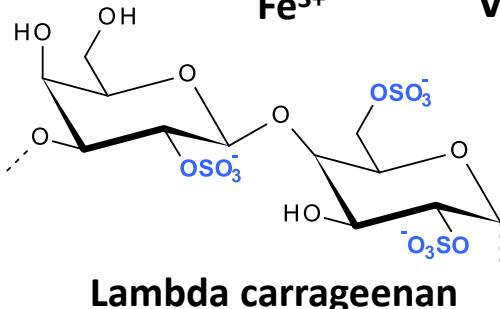


Iota carrageenan



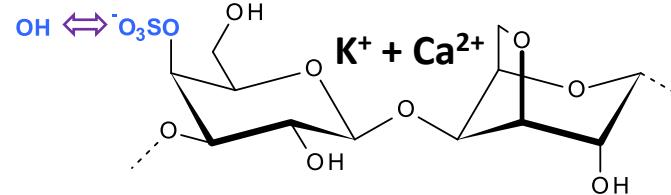
Omega carrageenan

Fe³⁺

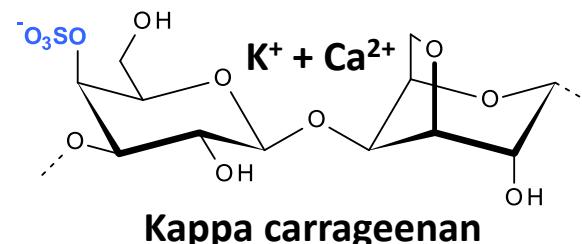


Lambda carrageenan

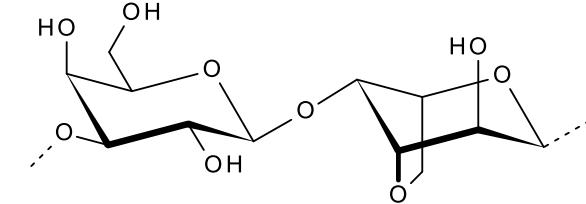
STRONG GELS



Furcellaran

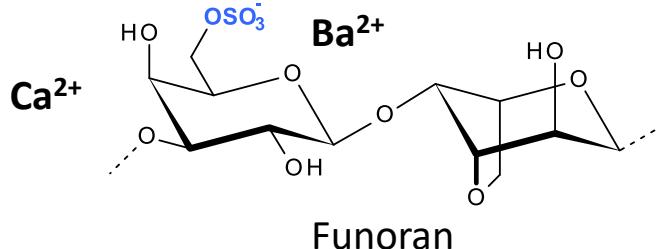


Kappa carrageenan



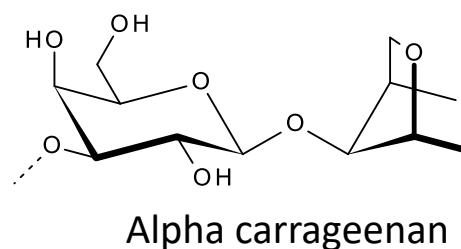
Agarose

LOW-VISCOSITY SOLUTIONS

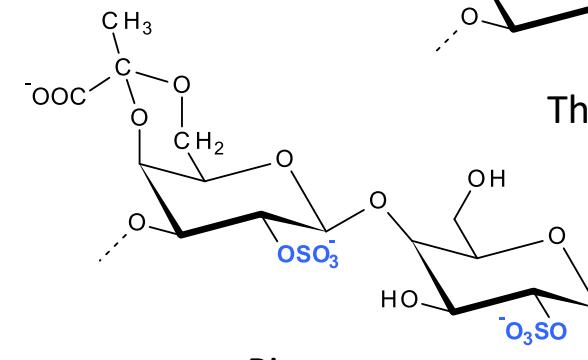


Funoran

VISCOUS SOLUTIONS

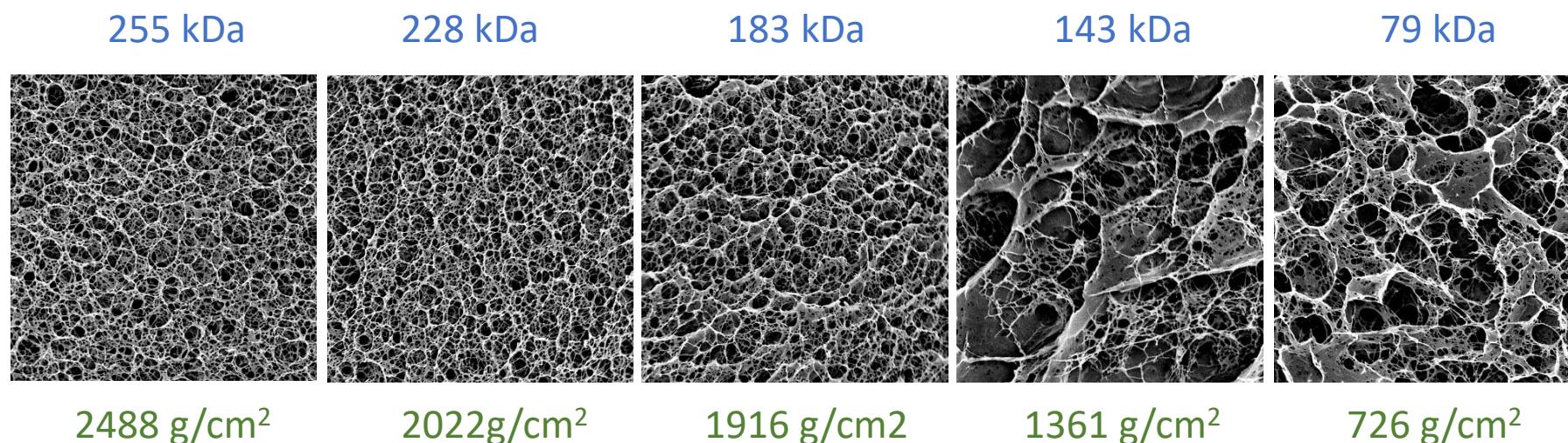
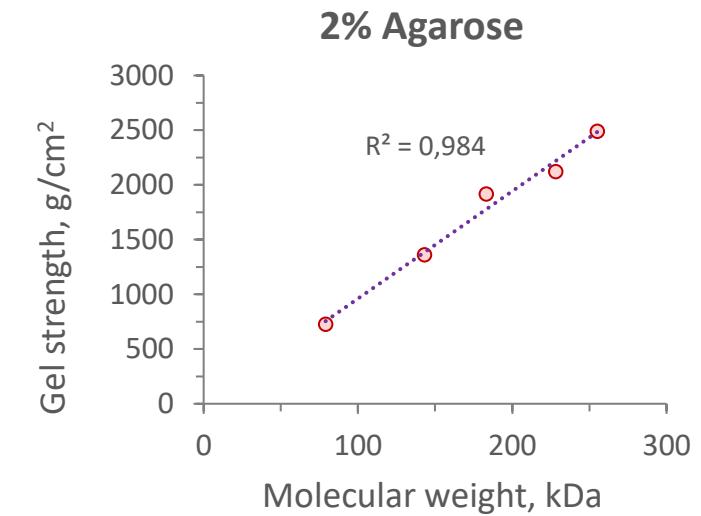
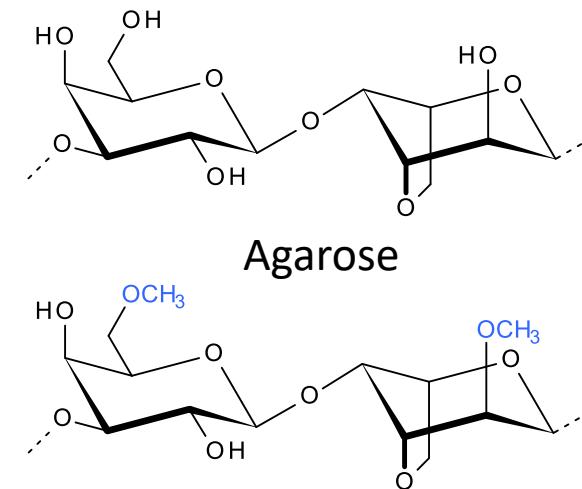
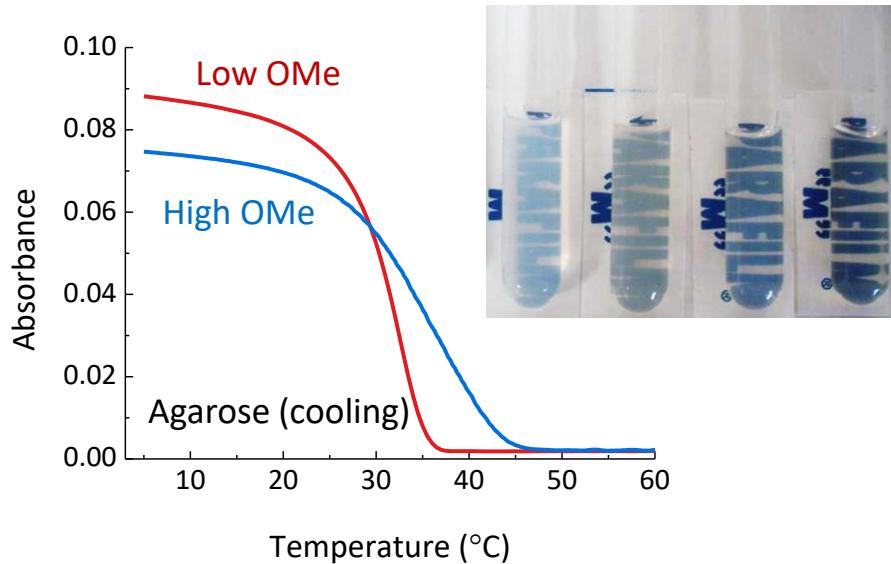


Alpha carrageenan



Pi carrageenan

GEL PROPERTIES

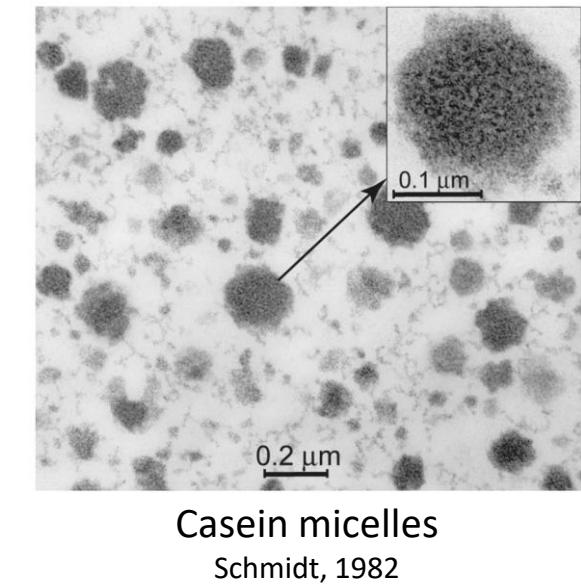
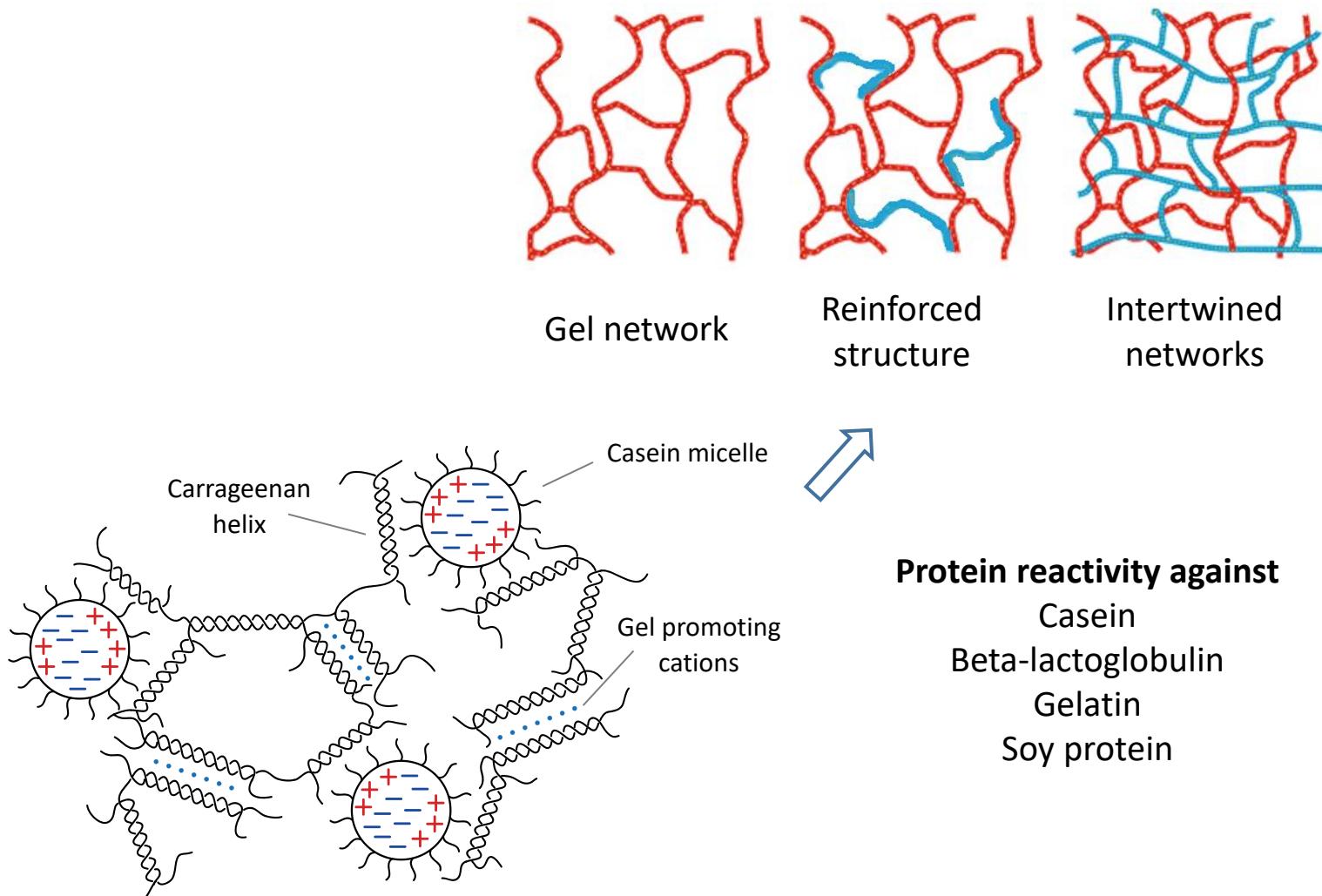


2.2% agarose gels, size of the micrographs: 8x8 μm^2

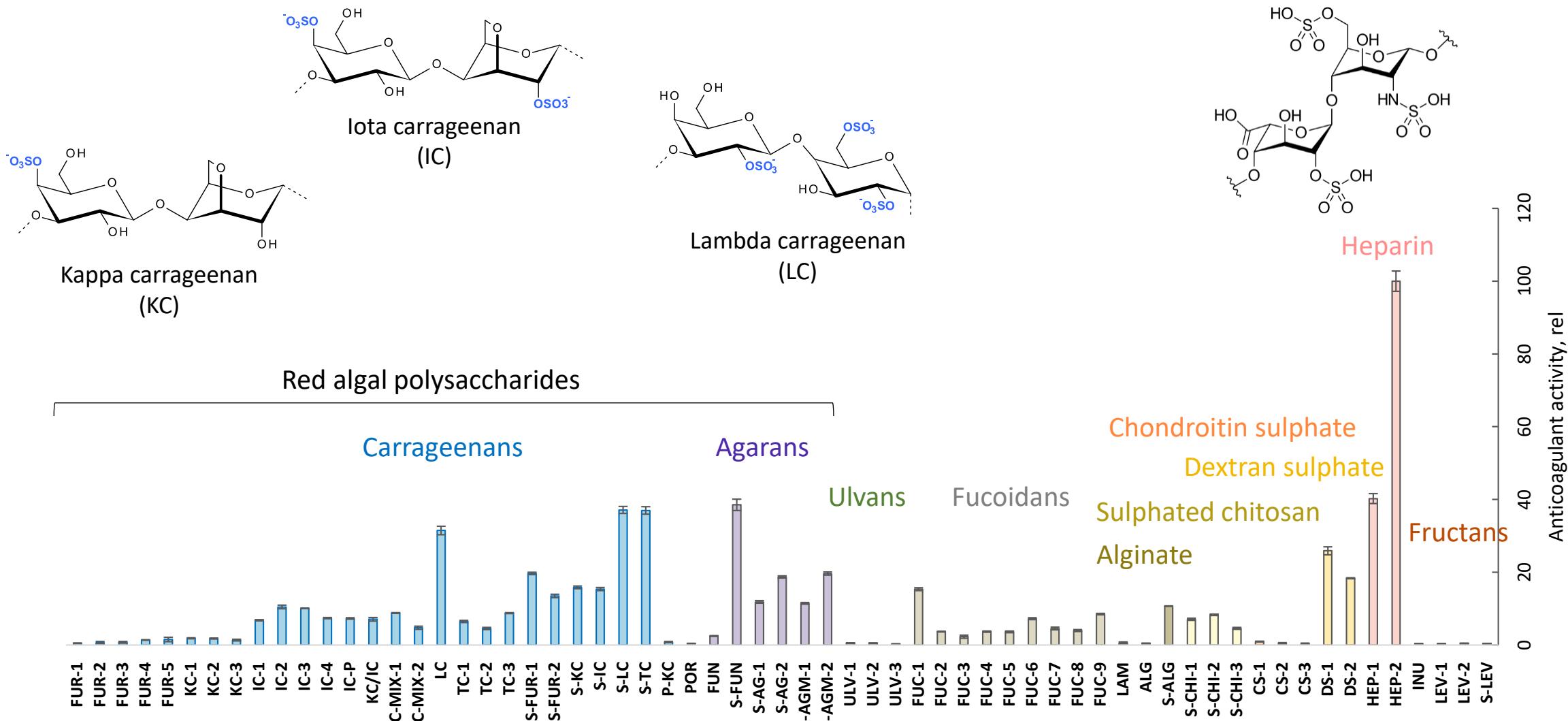
SEAWEED CULTIVATION EXPERIMENTS



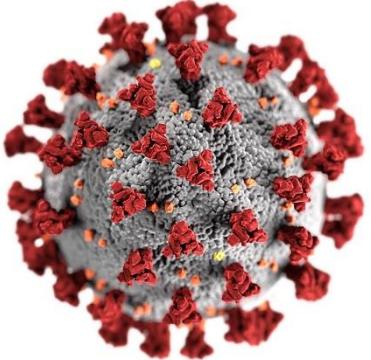
PROTEIN REACTIVITY



ANTICOAGULANT ACTIVITY



ANTIVIRAL PROPERTIES



SARS-CoV-2

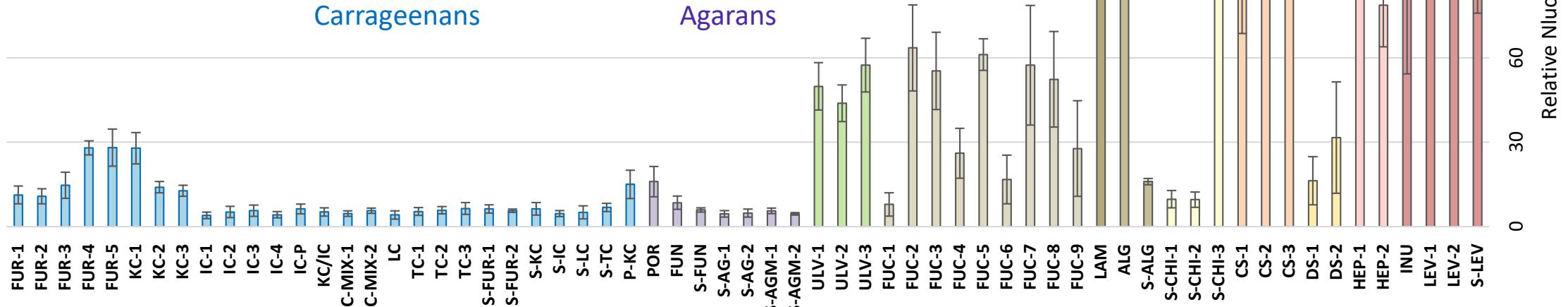
Bind to the **surface proteins** of the virus.



Carragelose®
(iota carrageenan)

Red algal polysaccharides

Carrageenans



CLARIFYING PROPERTIES



Semi-refined *Chondrus crispus* is often used.

Some carrageenans are effective clarifying agents for beer wort, beer and wine.

Lower Mw → Lower effect



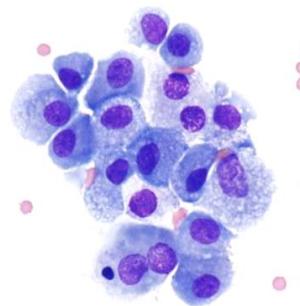
Reduction of protein haze in wines



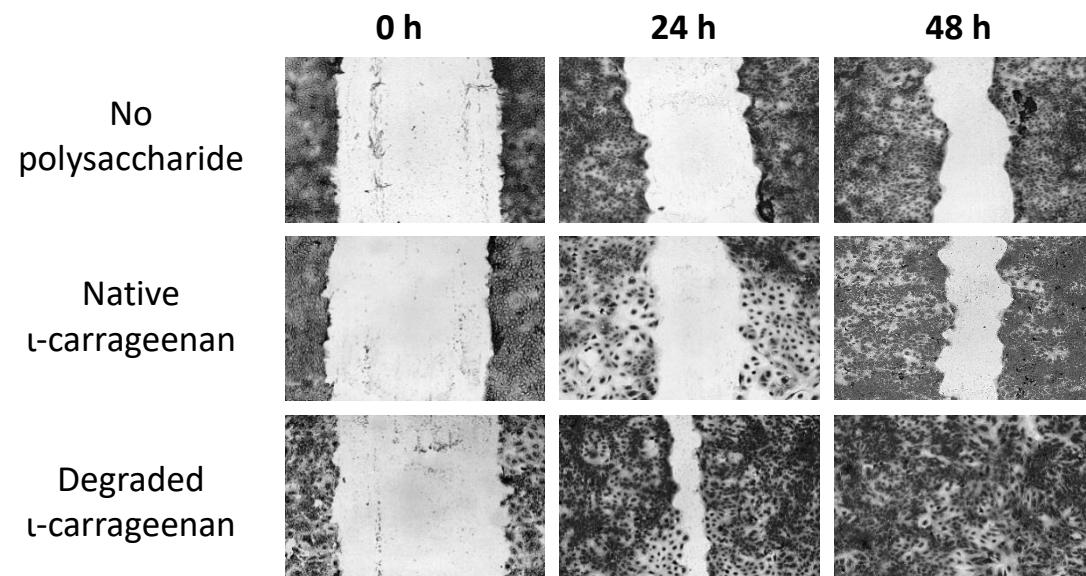
- (a) Blank
- (b) Furcellaran (2.5 ppm)
- (c) Furcellaran (10 ppm)
- (d) Furcellaran (40 ppm)
- (e) Iota carrageenan (20 ppm)

BIOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES

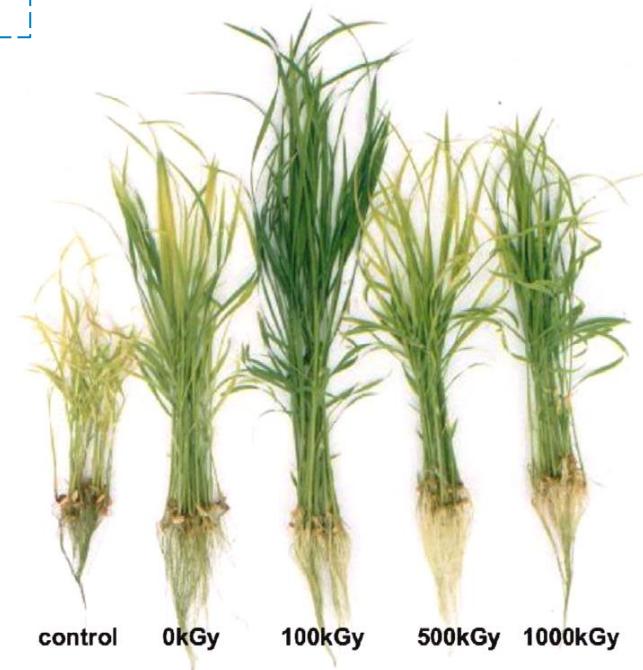
Effect on immune cells
(macrophages)



Sulphated polysaccharides often show diverse biological activities.



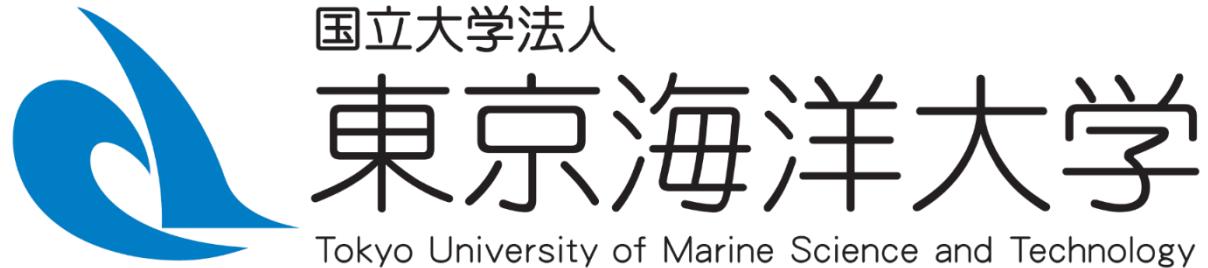
Effect of carrageenan preparations (125 μ g/mL) on HaCaT cell migration.



Rice seedlings treated with native and irradiated ι -carrageenan samples.

L.V. Abad, et al., Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research B, 2014, 336, 167–172.

POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES



2010 – 2012

Postdoctoral studies: „Structure-property relations of red algal galactans of different sulfation levels“ (硫酸基含有量の異なる紅藻類由来多糖の構造と溶液物性の関係).



Shinagawa campus



POLYSACCHARIDES FROM SEAWEED SPECIES OF JAPAN



Gloiopeltis furcata



Meristotheca papulosa



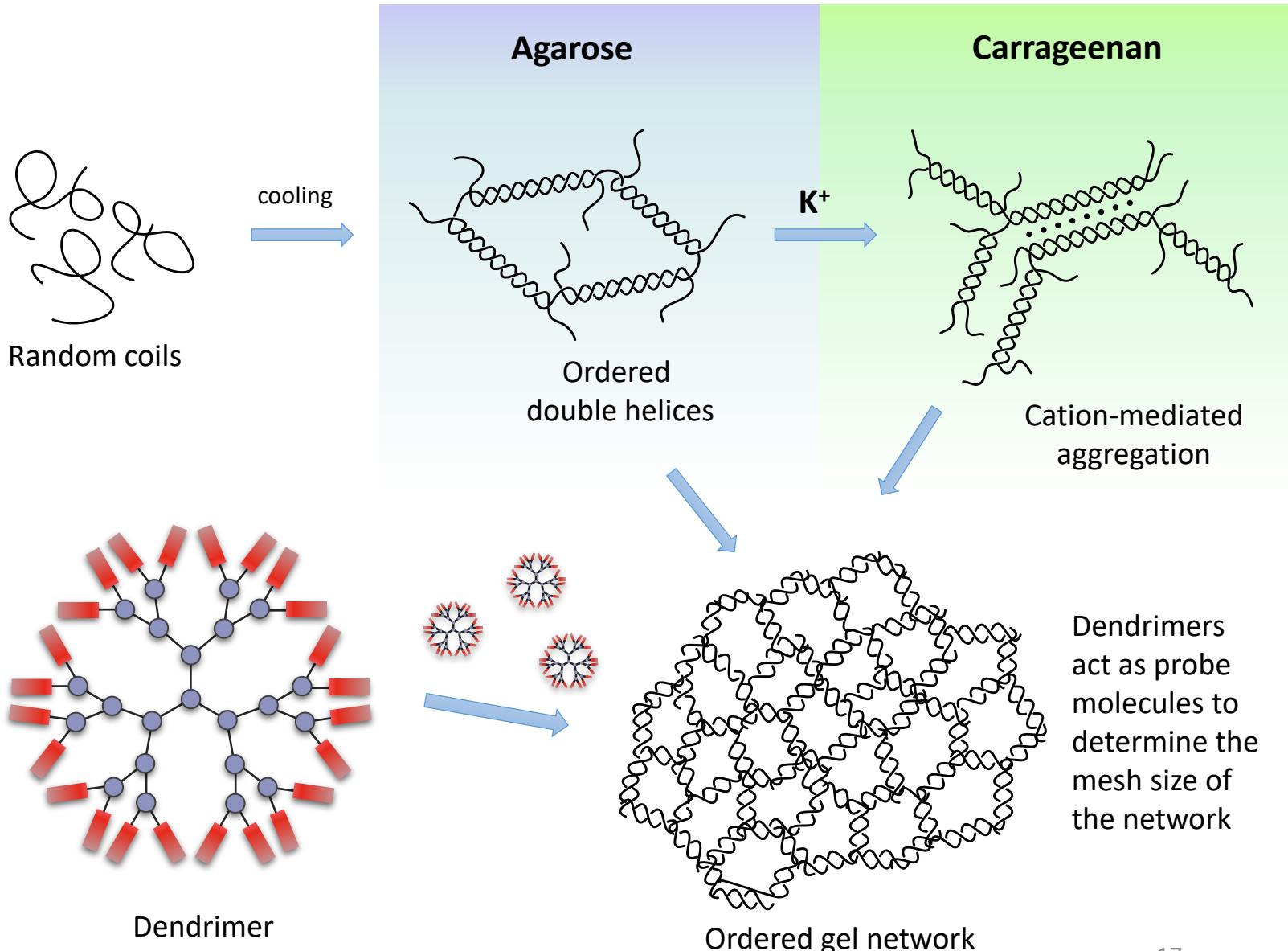
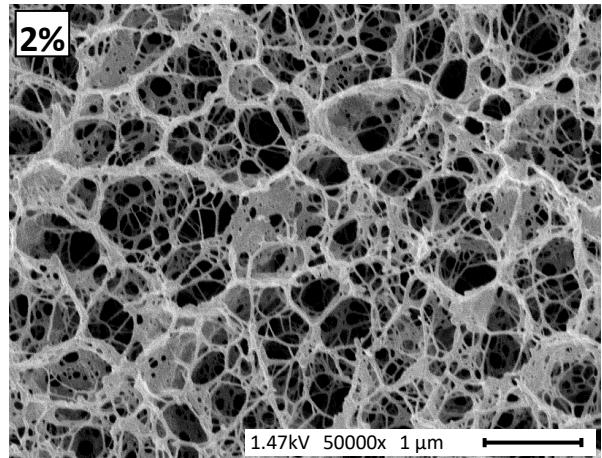
Pyropia yezoensis



Gelidium elegans



GEL STRUCTURE BY GRADIENT NMR



FUNORAN



Gloiopeltis sp (フノリ)



函館産
ふのり



粒タイプ



Funoran – polysaccharides from the red algae of the genus *Gloiopeletis*.

Soluble in **cold water**.

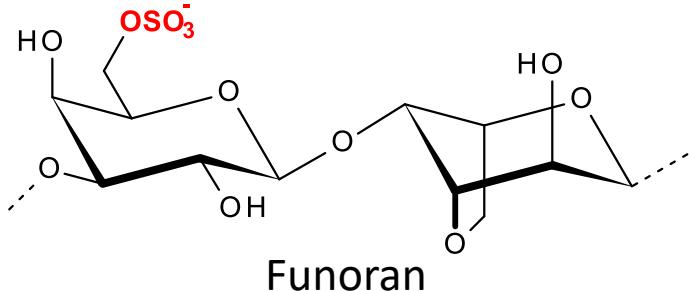
Forms **viscous solutions**.

Glue-like properties at high concentration.



SULPHATED AGAROSES – FUNORAN

6-O-sulfated agaroses from
Gloiopektis species.



Dissolution at 20 °C (1.5% funoran)

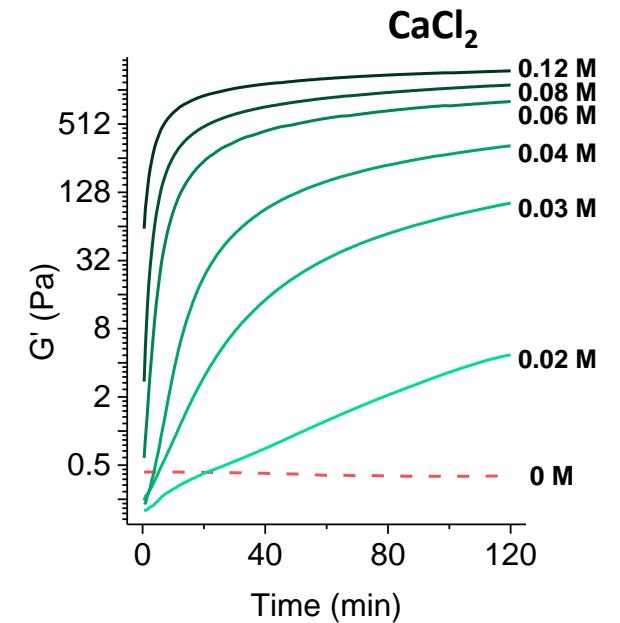
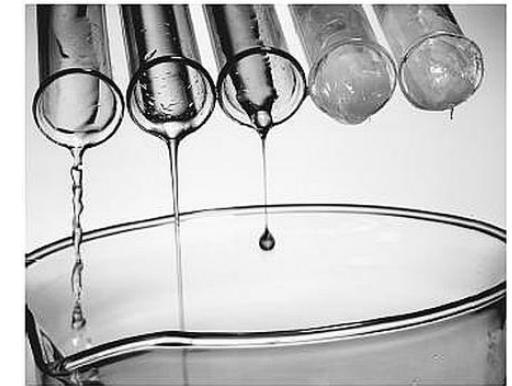
+ CaCl_2 solution

Rapid mixing

Gelation after 2 min

Transparent gels

Demonstrating funoran gelation
10 years after discovering the
phenomenon (local media of
Estonia).



1.5% funoran solutions at 15°C.

SULPHATED AGAROSES – FUNORAN

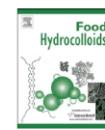
Food Hydrocolloids 43 (2015) 481–492



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Food Hydrocolloids

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/foodhyd



Funorans from *Gloiopelets* species. Part I. Extraction and structural characteristics

Rando Tuvikene ^{a, b, d, *}, Marju Robal ^a, Daisuke Fujita ^c, Kadri Saluri ^a, Kalle Truuus ^a,
Yuri Tashiro ^d, Hiroo Ogawa ^d, Shingo Matsukawa ^d

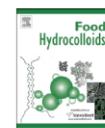
Food Hydrocolloids 43 (2015) 649–657



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Food Hydrocolloids

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/foodhyd



Funorans from *Gloiopelets* species. Part II. Rheology and thermal properties

Rando Tuvikene ^{a, b, e, *}, Marju Robal ^a, Hugo Mändar ^c, Daisuke Fujita ^d, Kadri Saluri ^a,
Kalle Truuus ^a, Tom Brenner ^e, Yuri Tashiro ^e, Hiroo Ogawa ^e, Shingo Matsukawa ^e

Algal Research 76 (2023) 103334



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Algal Research

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/algal



Structural and physicochemical characterization of funoran extracted from *Gloiopelets furcata* by different methods

Marwa E. Atya ^{a, d}, Xi Yang ^a, Yuri Tashiro ^b, Rando Tuvikene ^c, Shingo Matsukawa ^{a, *}

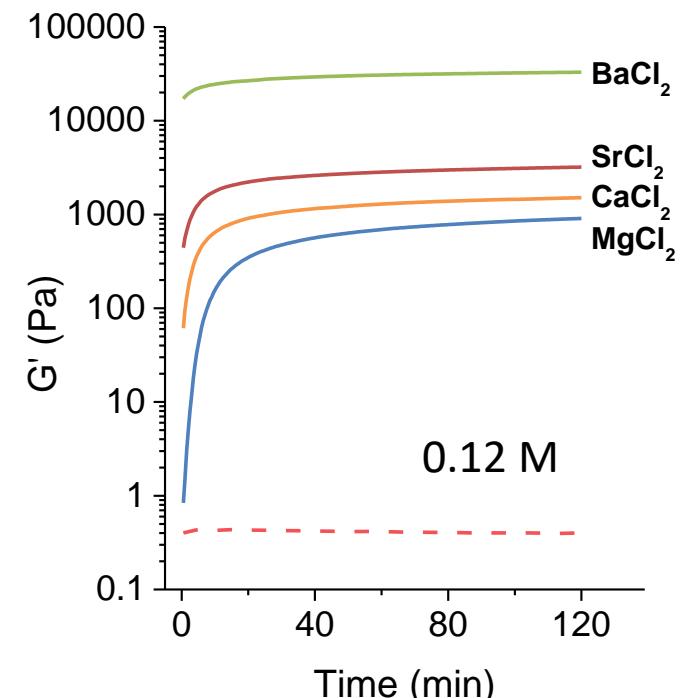
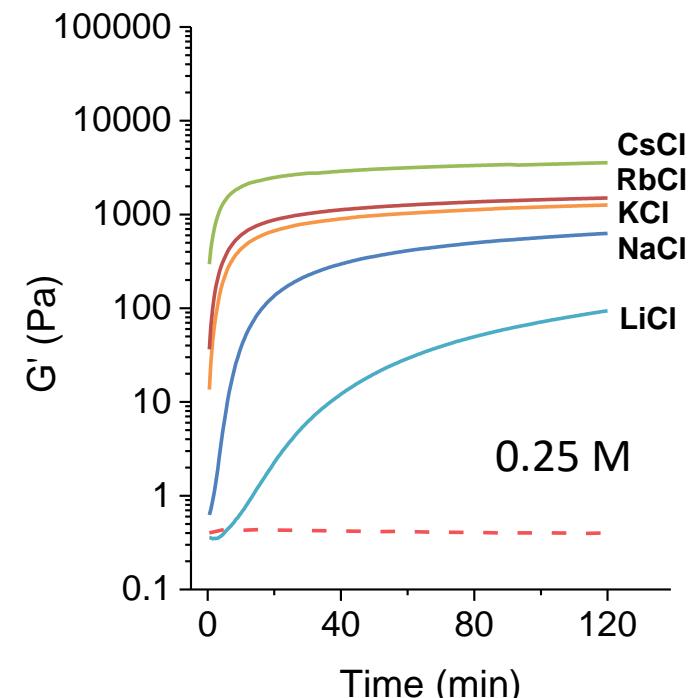
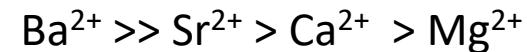
^a Department of Food Science and Technology, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology, 4-5-7 Konan, Minato-ku, 108-8477 Tokyo, Japan

^b Kyoto Prefectural University, Kyoto 606-8522, Japan

^c School of Natural Sciences and Health, Tallinn University, Narva mnt 29, 10120 Tallinn, Estonia

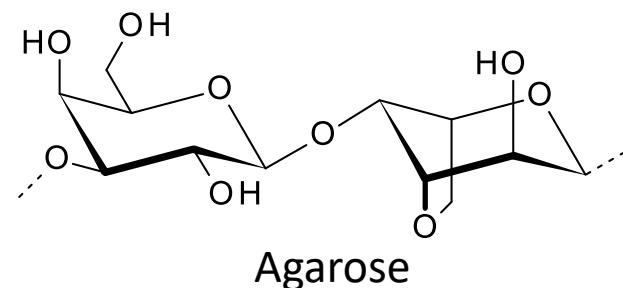
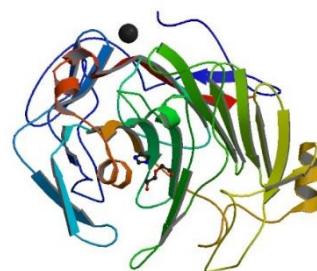
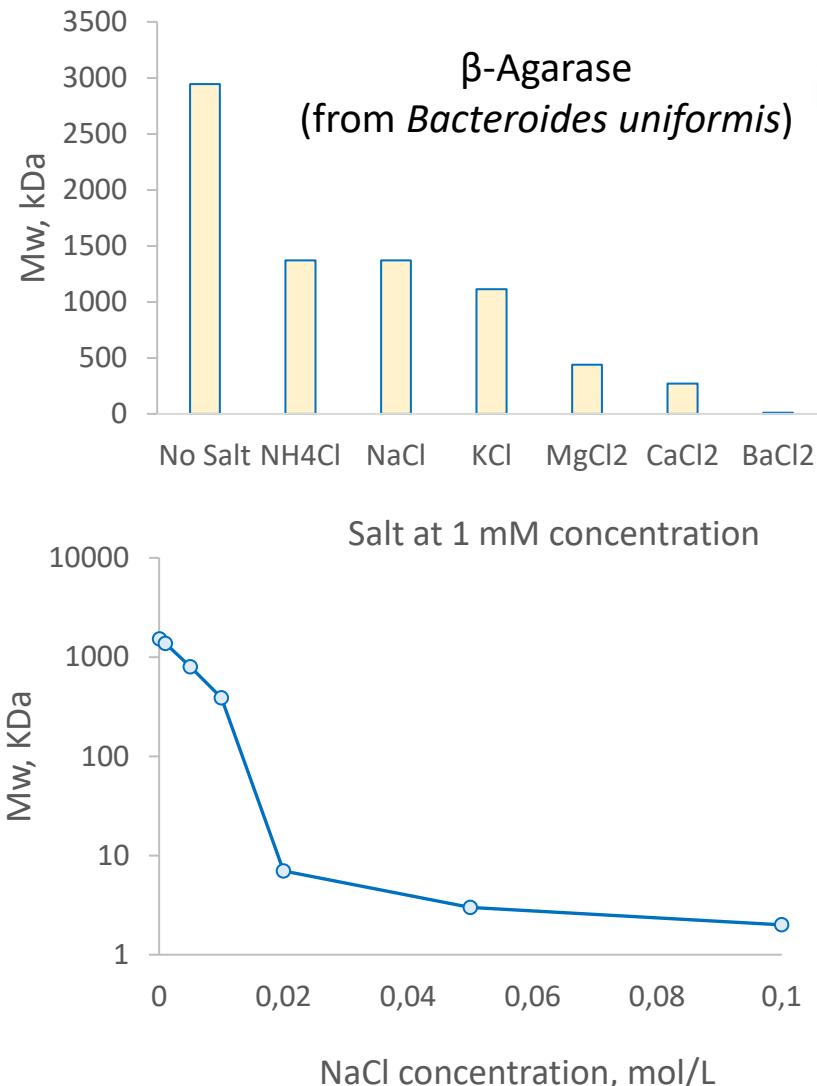
^d National Institute of Oceanography and Fishers, Egypt

Cations enhance funoran gel formation in the orders:

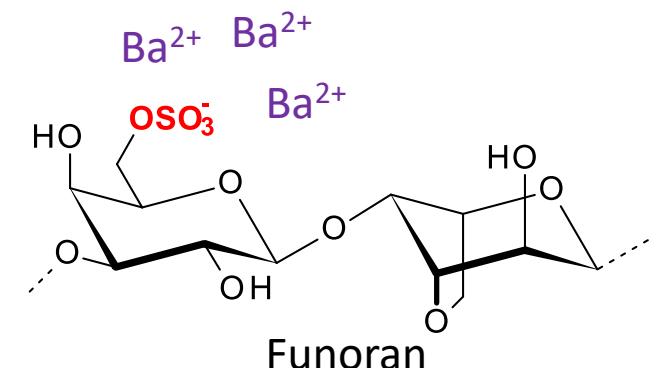


1.5% funoran solutions at 15 °C in the presence of various salts.

SULPHATED AGAROSES – FUNORAN



Shielding effect



Biocatalysis and Agricultural Biotechnology 43 (2022) 102394



ELSEVIER

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Biocatalysis and Agricultural Biotechnology

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/bab



Fermentation optimization, purification and biochemical characterization of a porphyrin degrading enzyme with funoran side-activity from *Zobellia uliginosa*

Md Musa Howlader, Andres Niroda, Renu Geetha Bai, Amal D. Premaratna,
Rando Tuvikene*

School of Natural Sciences and Health, Tallinn University, Narva mnt 29, 10120, Tallinn, Estonia



RESEARCH AND ITS FOCUS

Bipolymers

Isolation, purification

Characterization

Functionalisation

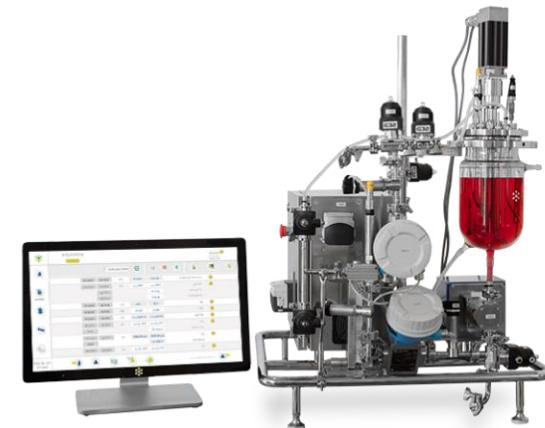
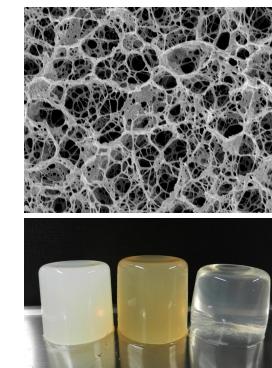
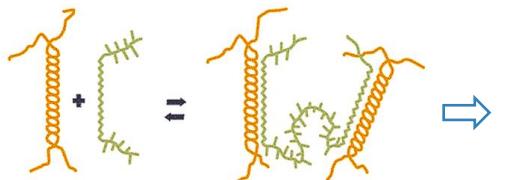
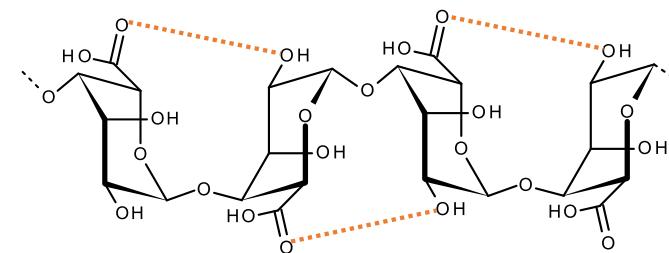
Interactions

Applications

Structure-property relations of polysaccharides

Biopolymers from **marine biomasses**

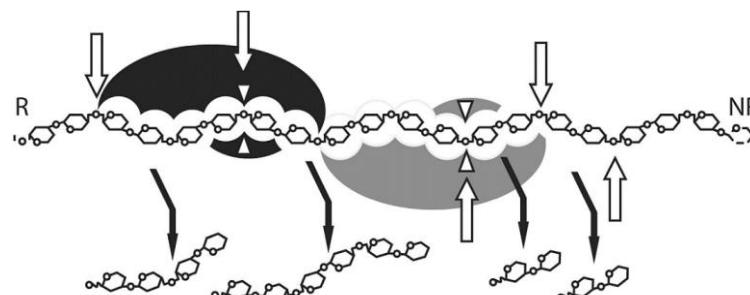
Polysaccharide degrading **enzymes**



**Rheological properties
(texture, viscosity)**



Biological activities



MODIFICATION, STRUCTURAL UPGRADING

**Chemical, physical, enzymatic
modification**

THANK YOU FOR THE ATTENTION!