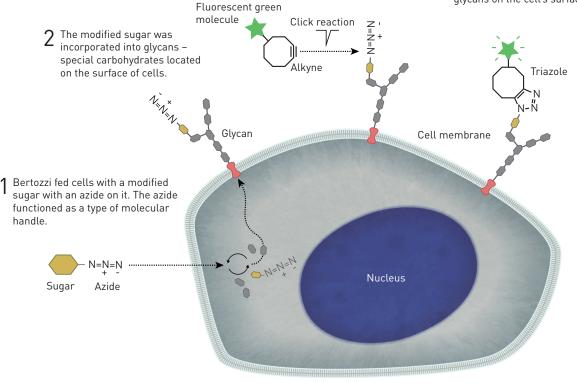
Bioorthogonal chemistry illuminates the cell

- 3 In the next step, Bertozzi used an alkyne that was forced into a ring-shaped molecule. The alkyne clicked with the azide.
- 4 A fluorescent green molecule sat on the ring-shaped molecule. This allowed Bertozzi to track the glycans on the cell's surface.



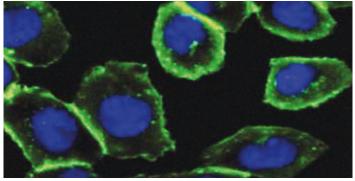


Image from Proc Natl Acad Sci USA (2007) 104:16793-16797

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Bertozzi used the strain-promoted click reaction to track glycans. They have a green glow in the picture. The cell nucleus is coloured blue. Thanks to the glycans' green glow, Bertozzi was able to follow them in the