



**Mathematics
describes only a little of
Daily Life**

But

Mathematics* Creates

our

Standard of Living



Mathematics Creates
our
Standard of Living

Mathematics replaces
Trial and Error
with Computation



How can we use mathematics to describe biological systems?

I believe some biology is
Physics ‘as usual’
‘Guess and Check’

But you have to know which biology!

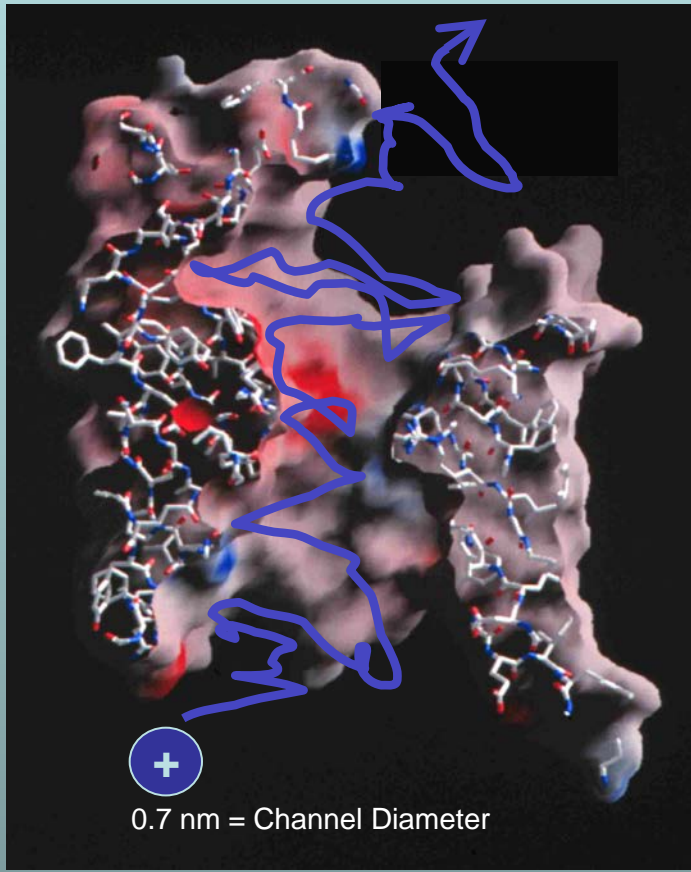
Ion Channels are the Valves of Cells

Ion Channels are the Main Controllers of Biological Function

Selectivity

Different Ions
carry
Different Signals

Chemical Bonds are lines
Surface is Electrical Potential
Red is negative (acid)
Blue is positive (basic)

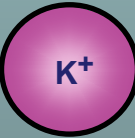


~30 Å
Figure of ompF porin by Raimund Dutzler

Ions in Water

are the
Liquid of Life

Hard Spheres



3 Å

Ion Channels are Biological Devices

Natural nano-valves* for atomic control of biological function

Ion channels coordinate contraction of cardiac muscle, allowing the heart to function as a pump

Ion channels coordinate contraction in skeletal muscle

Ion channels control all electrical activity in cells

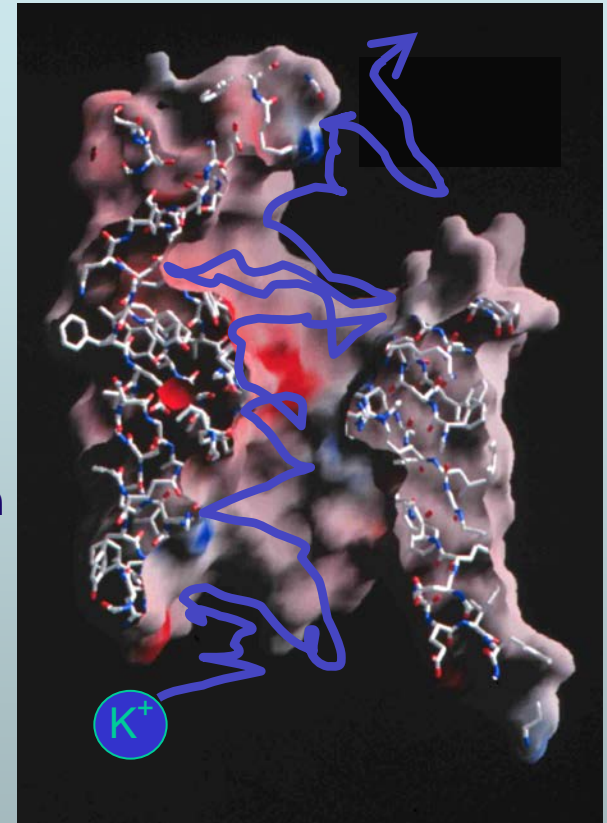
Ion channels produce signals of the nervous system

Ion channels are involved in secretion and absorption in all cells: kidney, intestine, liver, adrenal glands, etc.

Ion channels are involved in thousands of diseases and many drugs act on channels

Ion channels are proteins whose genes (blueprints) can be manipulated by molecular genetics

Ion channels have structures shown by x-ray crystallography in favorable cases



← ~30 Å →

*nearly pico-valves: diameter is 400 – 900 picometers

Thousands of Molecular Biologists Study Channels every day,

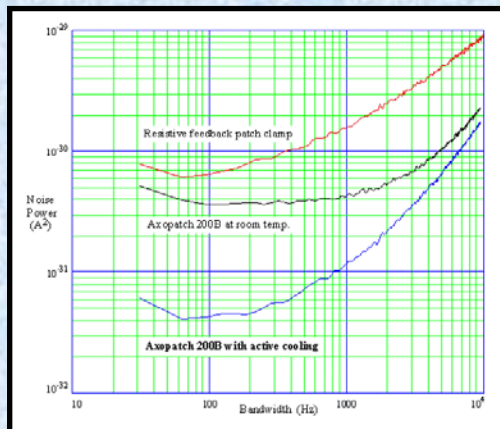
One protein molecule at a time

This number is not an exaggeration.

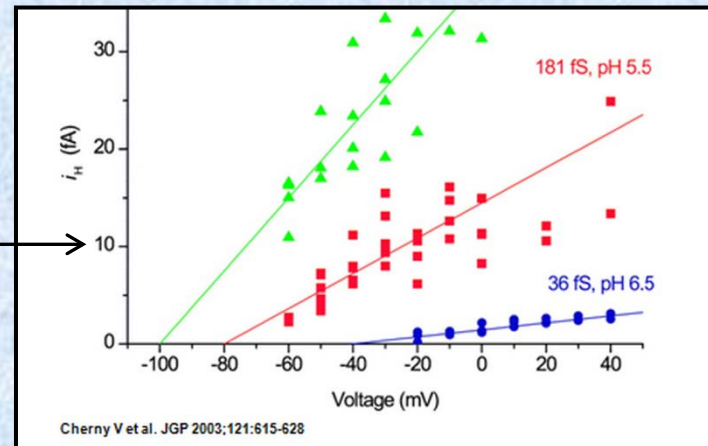
We have sold >10,000 AxoPatch amplifiers



AxoPatch 200B



Femto-amps
(10^{-15} A)



Ion Channel Monthly

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Popular publications for March ([view most recent](#))

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2. [The Angelman Syndrome Protein Ube3A Regulates Synapse Development by Ubiquitinating Arc](#), *Cell*
3. [AMPA receptors--another twist?](#) *Science*
4. [Molecular Basis of Calcium Signaling in Lymphocytes: STIM and ORAI](#), *Annu Rev Immunol*
5. [Neurological Channelopathies](#), *Annu Rev Neurosci*
6. [New antiarrhythmic drugs for treatment of atrial fibrillation](#), *Lancet*
7. [A Glial Signal Consisting of Gliomedin and NrCAM Clusters Axonal Na⁺ Channels during the Formation of Nodes of Ranvier](#), *Neuron*
8. [Small Molecule Activators of TRPM13](#), *Chem Biol*
9. [Truncated \(beta\)-amyloid peptide channels provide an alternative mechanism for Alzheimer's Disease and Down syndrome](#), *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*
10. [Modelling the molecular mechanisms of synaptic plasticity using systems biology approaches](#), *Nat Rev Neurosci*

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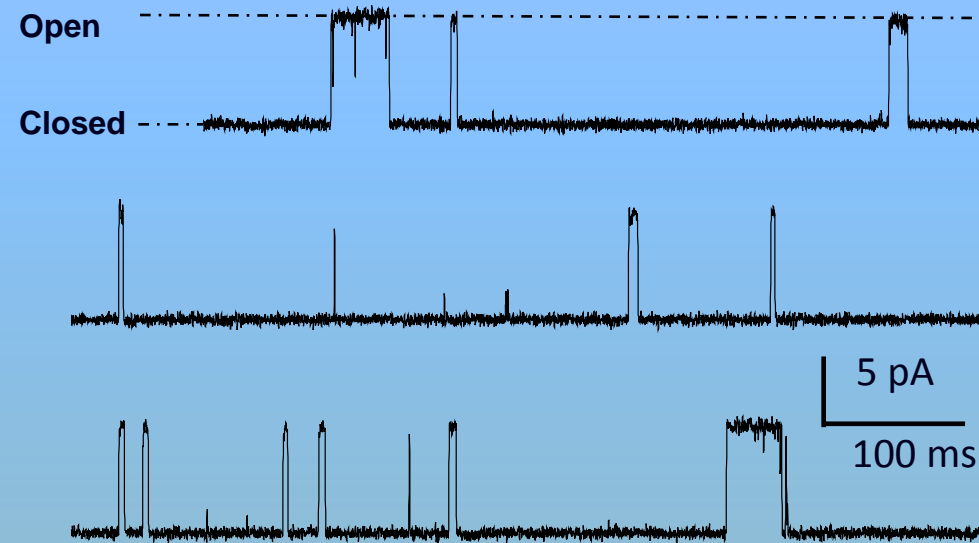
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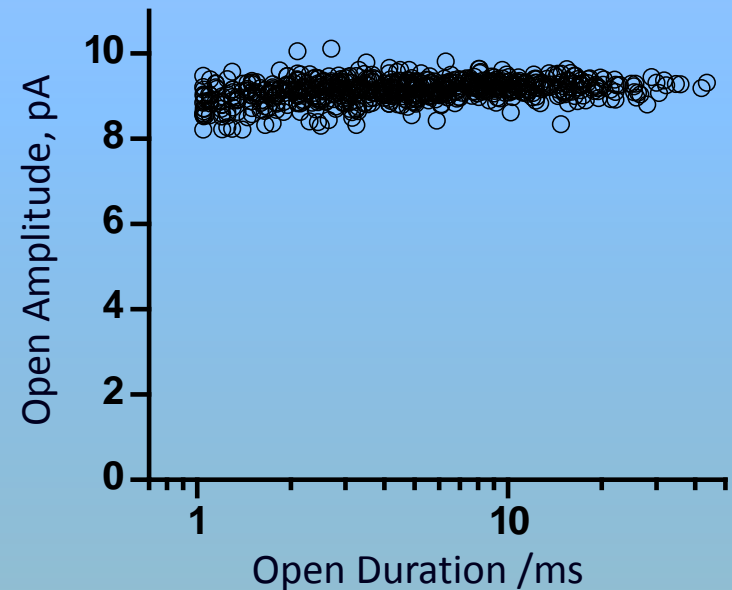
Why not forward
this to your colleagues?
They'll thank you
for it!

Channel Structure Does Not Change once the channel is open

Current vs. time



Amplitude vs. Duration



Lowpass Filter = 1 kHz Sample Rate = 20 kHz

Typical Raw Single Channel Records

Ca²⁺ Release Channel of Inositol Trisphosphate Receptor: slide and data from Josefina Ramos-Franco. Thanks!

Channels are only Holes
Why can't we understand and build them?

Where to start?

Why not compute all the atoms?

Multi-Scale Issues

Journal of Physical Chemistry C (2010)114:20719, invited review

Computational Scale	Biological Scale	Ratio
<u>Time</u> 10^{-15} sec	10^{-4} sec	10^{11}
<u>Space</u> 10^{-11} m	10^{-5} m	10^6
<u>Spatial Resolution</u>	<i>Three Dimensional</i> $> (10^4)^3$	$>10^{12}$
<u>Solute Concentration</u>	10^{-11} to 10^1 M	10^{12}

**Biological Scales Occur Together in Physiological Function
so must be**

Computed Together

This may be impossible in simulations

Physicists and Engineers rarely try

Why can't we understand and build channels?

**Uncalibrated Simulations
will not make devices that
actually work**

Calibration is Hard Work
particularly for Non-Ideal systems

with

Interactions

correlations, steric repulsion, flows

Non-ideal Properties have been

MEASURED

with great accuracy for some 70 years in hundreds of papers and tens of books

>139,175 Data Points *on-line IVC-SEP Technical University of Denmark*

http://www.cere.dtu.dk/Expertise/Data_Bank.aspx

“It is still a fact that over the last decades,
it was easier to fly to the moon
than to describe the
free energy of even the simplest salt solutions
beyond a concentration of 0.1M or so.”
Kunz, W. "**Specific Ion Effects**"
World Scientific Singapore, 2009; p. 11.

Compilations of Specific Ion Effects

1. **>139,175 Data Points** on-line **IVC-SEP Technical University of Denmark**
http://www.cere.dtu.dk/Expertise/Data_Bank.aspx
2. Pytkowicz, R.M., *Activity Coefficients in Electrolyte Solutions. Vol. 1.* 1979, Boca Raton FL USA: CRC. 288.
3. Zemaitis, J.F., Jr., D.M. Clark, M. Rafal, and N.C. Scrivner,
Handbook of Aqueous Electrolyte Thermodynamics. 1986, New York: Design Institute for Physical Property Data, American Institute of Chemical Engineers
4. Kontogeorgis, G.M. and G.K. Folas, *Models for Electrolyte Systems. Thermodynamic Models for Industrial Applications.* 2009: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. 461-523.

Life occurs in Interacting Solutions

Force Fields are Calibrated
Ignoring Interactions with ions

but

Chemically Specific Properties

come from

Interactions

in Ionic Solutions

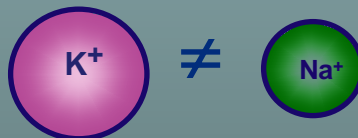
Ideal Ions are Identical

if they have the same charge

in ideal solutions



But in the real world



Calibration is Hard Work

**Force Fields must be RE-calibrated
in each Biological Solution
to verify
Equilibrium Potentials
(chemical potentials)**

*Fitting Real Experiments
requires Accurate Chemical Potentials in mixtures
like Ringer Solution that contain Ca^{2+}*

Channels are Identified by Equilibrium Potentials

Where do we start?

Physics ‘As Usual’
‘Guess and Check’

start with

Stochastic Derivation

Later becomes a Guess

*when we include biological adaptation
of Correlations and Crowded Charge*

We start with Langevin equations of charged particles



*Opportunity
and Need*

Simplest stochastic trajectories
are
Brownian Motion of Charged Particles

Einstein, Smoluchowski, and Langevin ignored charge
and therefore
do not describe Brownian motion of ions in solutions

We use
Theory of Stochastic Processes

to go
from Trajectories to Probabilities

*Once we learn to count Trajectories of Brownian Motion of Charge,
we can count trajectories of Molecular Dynamics*

Langevin Equations

Positive cation,
e.g., $p = \text{Na}^+$

$$\ddot{x}_k^p - \frac{f_k^p(\tilde{x}; q_k)}{m} = -\gamma \dot{x}_k^p + \sqrt{\frac{2\gamma kT}{m}} \dot{w}_k^p$$

Negative anion,
e.g., $n = \text{Cl}^-$

$$\ddot{x}_k^n - \frac{f_k^n(\tilde{x}; q_k)}{m} = -\gamma \dot{x}_k^n + \sqrt{\frac{2\gamma kT}{m}} \dot{w}_k^n$$

Newton's Law

Friction & Noise

Electric Force

from all charges including
Permanent charge of **Protein**,
Dielectric Boundary charges,
Boundary condition charge

Electric Force from Poisson Equation

not assumed

Excess
'Chemical'
Force

Electric Force
from all charges including
Permanent charge of **Protein**,
Dielectric Boundary charges,
Boundary condition charge,
MOBILE IONS

$$f_k^P(\vec{x}) - f_{xs} = q_k(\vec{x}) \operatorname{div} \left(e \epsilon_0 \epsilon(\vec{x}) \vec{E} \right) = \frac{e}{\epsilon_0} \mathbf{P}(\vec{x}) + \frac{e}{\epsilon_0} \sum_i z_i \rho_i(\vec{x})$$

Total Force

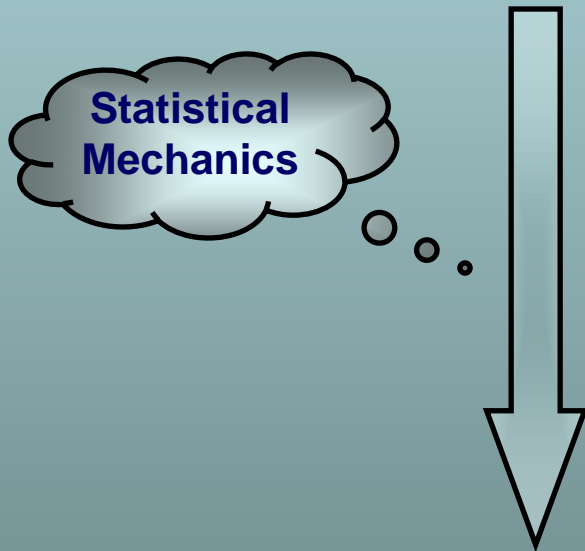
Implicit Solvent
'Primitive' Model

Equilibrium Thermodynamics

Configurations

Boltzmann Distribution

$$\lim N, V \rightarrow \infty$$



Thermodynamics

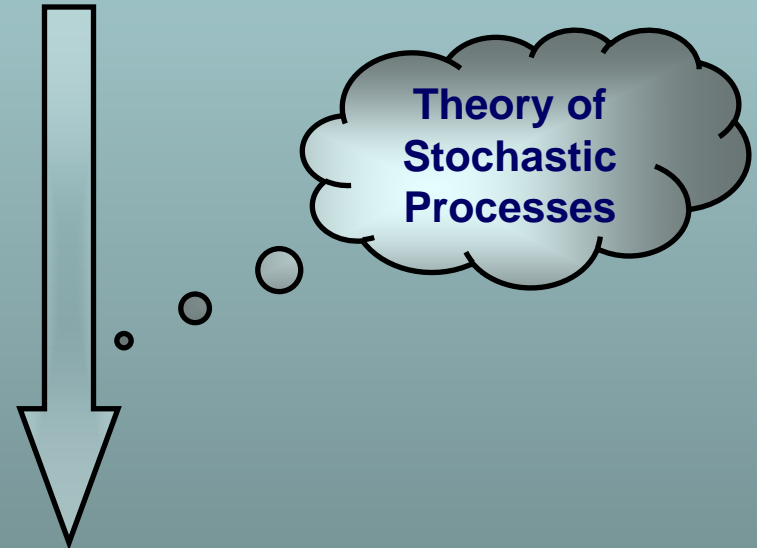
Nonequilibrium

Schuss, Nadler, Singer & Eisenberg

Trajectories

Fokker Planck Equation

Finite OPEN System



Device Equation

From Trajectories to Probabilities

Sum the trajectories

Sum satisfies Fokker-Planck equation

$$0 = \sum_j \mathcal{L}_j^p p(\tilde{x}, \tilde{v}) + \sum_j \mathcal{L}_j^n p(\tilde{x}, \tilde{v})$$

Main Result of Theory of Stochastic Processes

$p(\tilde{x}, \tilde{v}) = \Pr \left\{ \{x, v\}_{j=1}^{2N} \right\} =$ **Joint** probability density of position and velocity

with Fokker Planck Operator

$$\mathcal{L}_j^c p = -v_j^c \cdot \nabla_{x_j^c} p + \nabla v_j^c \cdot \left(\gamma v_j^c - f_j^c / m_j^c \right) p + \nabla \cdot \nabla_{v_j^c} \frac{\gamma kT}{m_j^c} p$$

Coordinates are positions and velocities of N particles in $12N$ dimensional phase space

Conditional PNP

Derived by Summing Trajectories and evaluating Marginal Probability

Electric Force $\nabla \bar{\phi}$ depends on Conditional Density of Charge

$$\nabla_y \cdot \left[\frac{\epsilon_0 \epsilon(y)}{e} \nabla_y \bar{\phi}(y|x) \right] = P(y) + \rho_+(y|x) - \rho_-(y|x)$$

Permittivity, Dielectric Coefficient, Charge on Electron
Channel Protein
Closure Needed 'Guess and Check'

Nernst-Planck gives UNconditional Density of Charge

$$\nabla_y \cdot \left[\frac{1}{m\gamma(x)} \rho_+(x) \left[e \nabla_y \bar{\phi}(y|x) \Big|_{y=x} - (\text{Other Forces}) \right] \right] = 0$$

Mass
Friction

Everything Interacts

Theory of Stochastic Processes and Thermodynamics

Closures

do not deal easily

with strong interactions

because

Strong Interactions are not Perturbations

Usual Stochastic Processes and Law of Mass Action
are not good enough so we 'Guess and Check'

Everything Interacts

Strong Interactions
are
not Perturbations

so we
Guess and Check

‘Theory of Stochastic Processes’
and
‘Law of Mass Action’
are **not** enough

Poisson-Nernst-Planck (PNP)

Poisson's Equation

$$-\epsilon_0 \nabla \cdot \left(\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) \nabla \phi(\mathbf{x}) \right) = eP(\mathbf{x}) + e \sum_i z_i \rho_i(\mathbf{x})$$

Dielectric Coefficient $\epsilon(\mathbf{x})$
 Permittivity ϵ_0
 Channel Protein $P(\mathbf{x})$
 Proton charge Valence z_i
 Number Densities $\rho_i(\mathbf{x})$

Drift-diffusion & Continuity Equation

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{x}) = 0; \quad -\mathbf{J}_i(\mathbf{x}) = D_i(\mathbf{x}) \rho_i(\mathbf{x}) \frac{1}{kT} \nabla \mu_i(\mathbf{x})$$

Flux $\mathbf{J}_i(\mathbf{x})$
 Diffusion Coefficient $D_i(\mathbf{x})$
 Thermal Energy kT
 Chemical Potential $\mu_i(x)$

$$\mu_i(\mathbf{x}) = z_i e \phi(\mathbf{x}) + kT \ln \left(\frac{\rho_i(\mathbf{x})}{\rho^*} \right) + \mu_i^{\text{ex}}(\mathbf{x})$$

Valence Proton charge z_i
 Thermal Energy kT
 Chemical Correlations $\mu_i^{\text{ex}}(\mathbf{x})$

Semiconductor Equations: One Dimensional PNP

Poisson's Equation

$$-\frac{\epsilon_0}{A(x)} \frac{d}{dx} \left(\epsilon(x) A(x) \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right) = eP(x) + e \sum_i z_i \rho_i(x)$$

Dielectric Coefficient ϵ_0
 Cross sectional Area $A(x)$
 Permanent Charge of Protein $P(x)$
 Valence Proton charge z_i
 Number Densities $\rho_i(x)$

Drift-diffusion & Continuity Equation

$$\frac{dJ_i}{dx} = 0 \quad -J_i = D_i(x) A(x) \rho_i(x) \frac{d\mu_i}{dx}$$

Flux J_i
 Diffusion Coefficient $D_i(x)$
 Number Densities $\rho_i(x)$
 Chemical Potential μ_i

Chemical Potential $\mu_i(x)$

$$\mu_i(x) = z_i e \phi(x) + kT \ln \left(\frac{\rho_i(x)}{\rho^*} \right) + \underbrace{\mu_i^{\text{ex}}(x)}_{\text{Special Chemistry}}$$

valence proton charge z_i
 Thermal Energy kT
 Special Chemistry $\mu_i^{\text{ex}}(x)$

Devices obey 'Semiconductor Equations'

Devices (nearly always) require Flow

Devices do not exist at equilibrium

Poisson-Nernst-Planck *PNP*

PNP at Zero Flow (chemical equilibrium) gives
Gouy-Chapman, nonlinear Poisson-Boltzmann,
linearized (!) Debye-Hückel

Ions at low resolution become Points in PNP

PNP

contains only

Correlations of Means

How do we Check?

start with

***Robust Biological Function
Selectivity***

How do we check the theory?

Compare with Biological Function!

Our task is to
Discover & Understand Biological Function



Inverse
Problem

Burger, Eisenberg and Engl (2007)
SIAM J Applied Math 67: 960-989

Selectivity

Potassium K^+ \neq Na^+ Sodium

Ions are not Ideal

Existence of Life

implies the

Existence of Robust Multiscale Models

Biology Tells us there

is a Simple Model

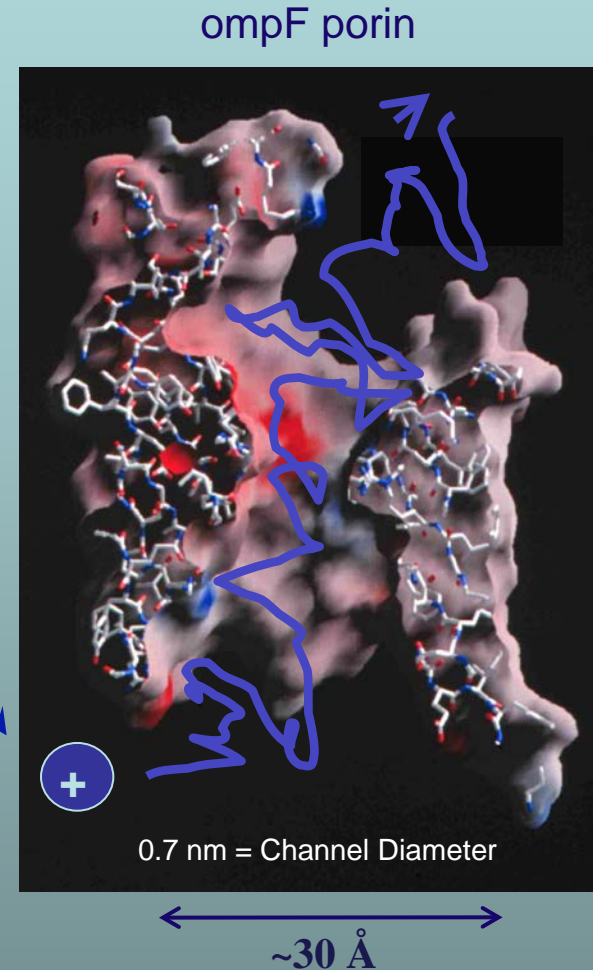
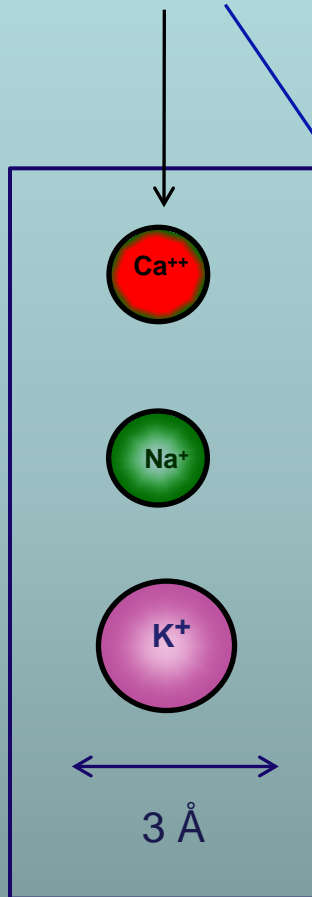
of

Selectivity

and other vital functions

Channels are Selective

Different Ions Carry Different Signals through Different Channels



Flow time scale is 0.1 msec to 1 min

Figure of ompF porin by Raimund Dutzler

Diameter matters

In ideal solutions $\text{K}^+ = \text{Na}^+$

Channels are Selective

Different Types of Channels

use

Different Types of Ions

for

Different Information

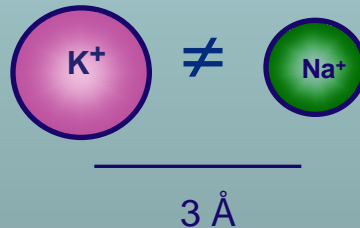
Channels are Selective

because

Diameter Matters

Ions are NOT Ideal

Potassium K^+ \neq Na^+ Sodium



Ideal Ions are Identical

if they have the same charge

In ideal solutions $K^+ = Na^+$

Modelers and Mathematicians, Bioengineers: this is reverse engineering

How does the
Channel control Selectivity?

Inverse Problem

Many answers are possible

Central Issue

Which answer is right?

**Core Math Problem has actually been solved
using Tikhonov Regularization as in the
Inverse Problem of a Blast Furnace**

Burger, Eisenberg and Engl (2007) SIAM J Applied Math 67: 960-989

How does the
Channel control Selectivity?

Inverse Problems: many answers possible

Central Issue

Which answer is right?

Key is

ALWAYS

Large Amount of Data

from

Many Different Conditions

Goal:

Understand Selectivity

well enough to

Fit Large Amounts of Data

from many solutions and concentrations

and to

Make a Calcium Channel

atomic scale

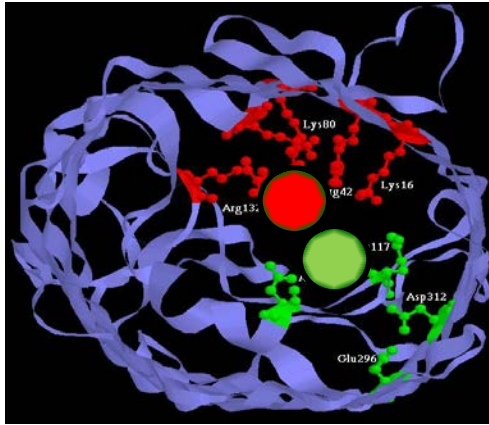
atomic $\times 10^{10} = \text{MACRO}$

MACRO scale

Experiments have built

Atomic Scale

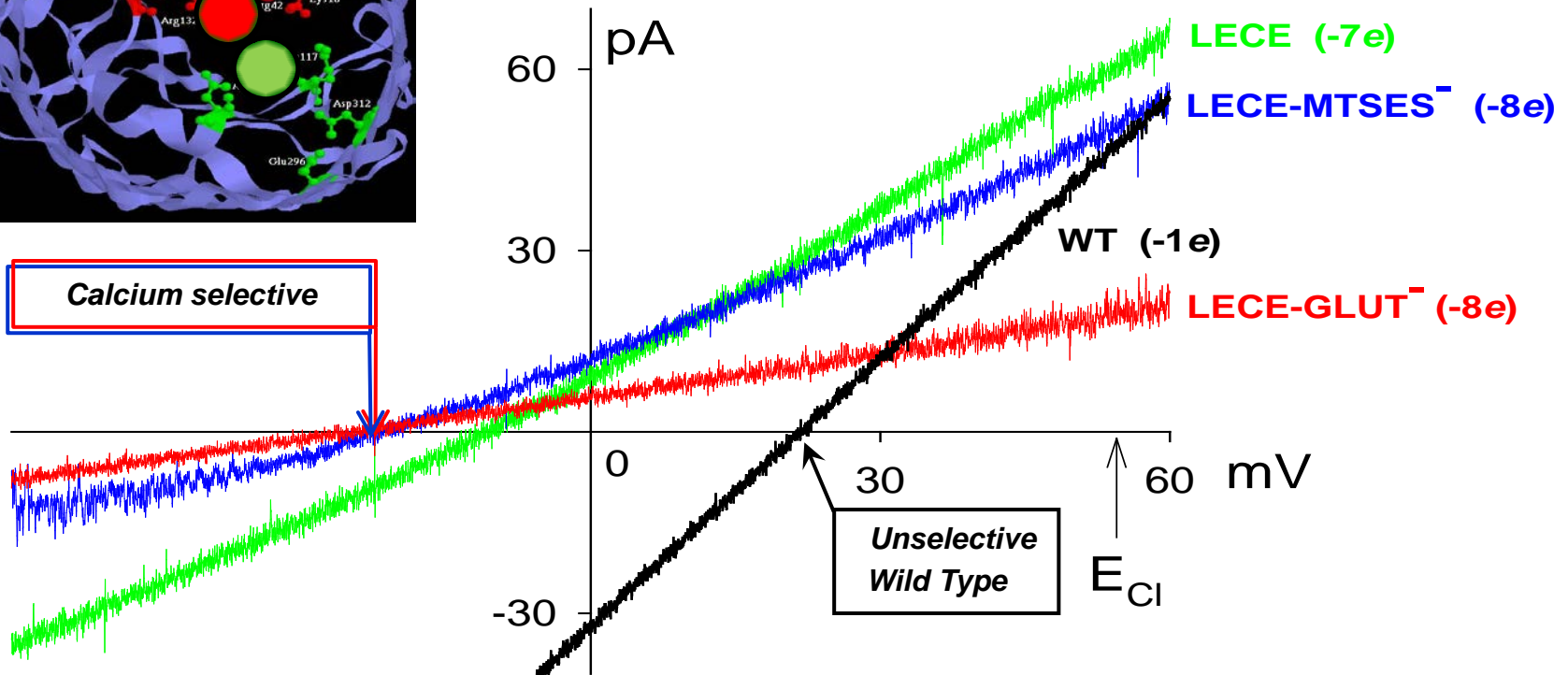
Two Synthetic Calcium Channels



Calcium selective

Designed by Theory

Glutathione derivatives



As density of permanent charge increases, channel becomes calcium selective

$E_{rev} \rightarrow E_{Ca}$ in 0.1M || 1.0 M $CaCl_2$

Macro Scale

built by Henk Miedema, Wim Meijberg of BioMade Corp., Groningen, Netherlands

35

Miedema et al, *Biophys J* 87: 3137–3147 (2004)

How do we Model?

**Physics ‘As Usual’
‘Guess and Check’**

start with

Biological Adaptation
‘Crowded Charges’

Working Hypothesis

Biological Adaptation is

Crowded Ions

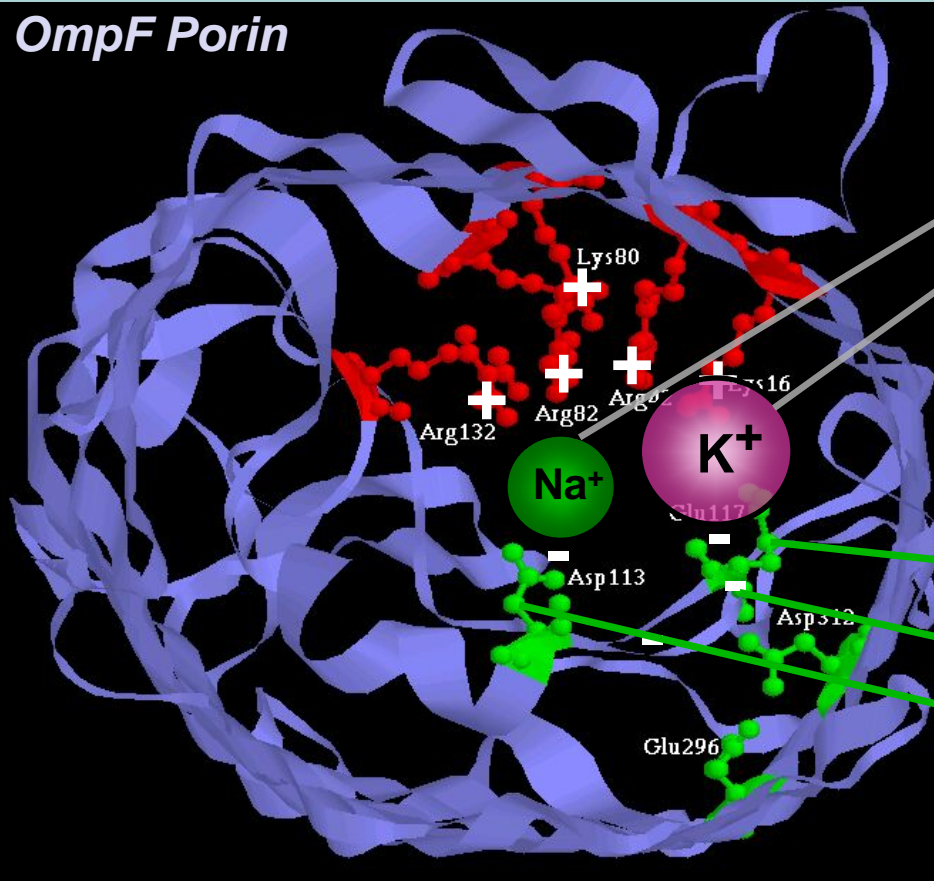
and

Crowded Side Chains

Active Sites of Proteins are Very Charged

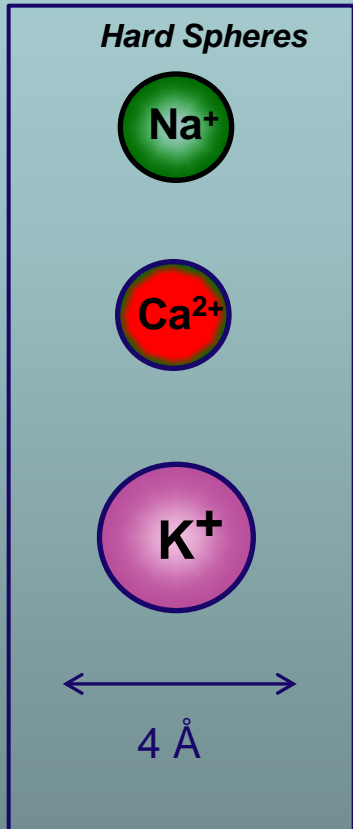
7 charges ~ 20 M net charge = $1.2 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

liquid **Water** is **55 M**
solid **NaCl** is **37 M**



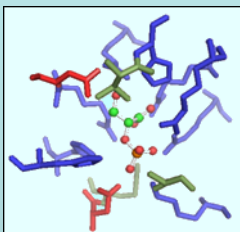
Ions are Crowded

Induced Fit of Side Chains

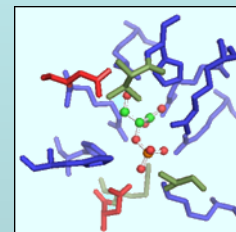


Selectivity Filters and Gates of Ion Channels are **Active Sites**

Figure adapted from Tilman Schirmer



Charge Density 22 M



		#AA	MS_A^3	CD_MS+	CD_MS-	CD_MSt
EC1:Oxidoreductases	Average	47.2	1,664.74	7.58	2.82	10.41
	Median	45.0	1,445.26	6.12	2.49	8.70
EC2:Transferases	Average	33.8	990.42	13.20	6.63	19.83
	Median	32.0	842.43	8.18	6.71	14.91
EC3:Hydrolases	Average	24.3	682.88	13.14	13.48	26.62
	Median	20.0	404.48	11.59	12.78	23.64
EC4:Lyases	Average	38.2	1,301.89	13.16	6.60	19.76
	Median	28.0	822.73	10.81	4.88	16.56
EC5:Isomerases	Average	31.6	1,027.15	24.03	11.30	35.33
	Median	34.0	989.98	9.05	7.76	16.82
EC6:Ligases	Average	44.4	1,310.03	9.25	9.93	19.18
	Median	49.0	1,637.98	8.32	7.95	17.89
Total <i>n= 150</i>	Average	36.6	1,162.85	13.39	8.46	21.86
	Median	33.0	916.21	8.69	7.23	16.69



EC#: Enzyme Commission Number based on chemical reaction catalyzed
#AA: Number of residues in the functional pocket
MS_A^3: Molecular Surface Area of the Functional Pocket (**Units Angstrom^3**)
CD_MS+: Charge Density (**positive**)
CD_MS-: Charge Density (**negative**)
CD_MSt: Total Charge density

Jimenez-Morales,
 Liang,
 Eisenberg

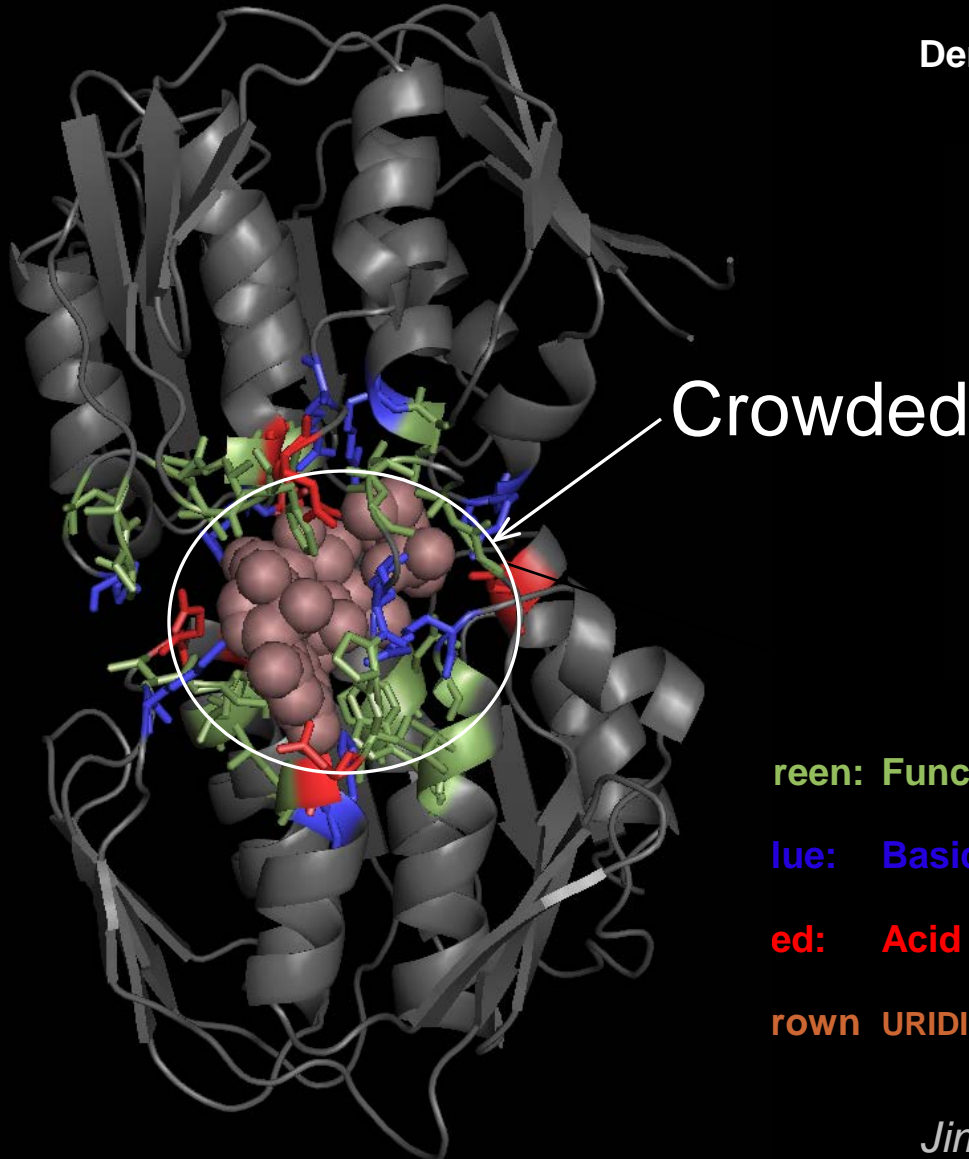
EC2: TRANSFERASES

Average Charged Density: 19.8 Molar

Example:
UDP-N-ACETYLGLUCOSAMINE ENOLPYRUVYL
TRANSFERASE (PDB:1UAE)

Functional Pocket Molecular Surface Volume:
1462.40 Å³

Density Charge: 19.3 Molar (11.3 M+. 8 M-)



reen: Functional pocket residues

ue: Basic = Probably Positive charged = R+K+H

ed: Acid = Probably Negative charged = E + Q

rown URIDINE-DIPHOSPHATE-N-ACETYLGLUCOSAMINE

Jimenez-Morales, Liang, Eisenberg

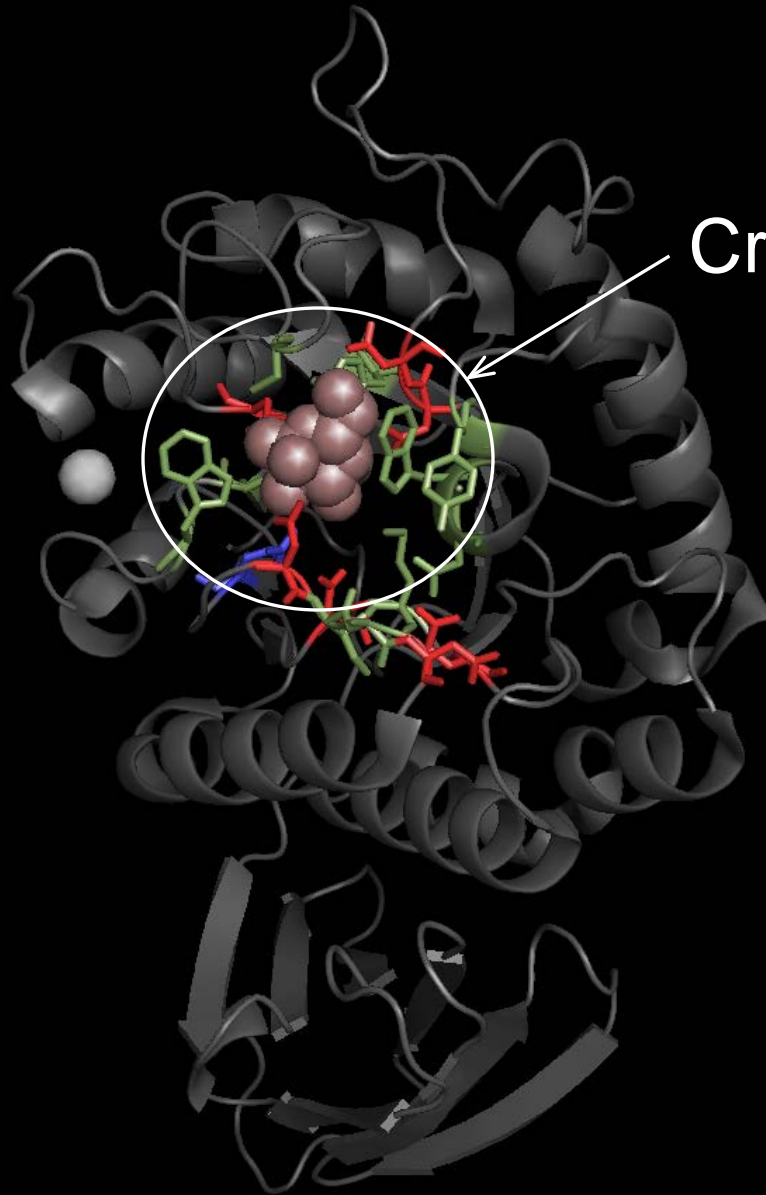
EC3: HYDROLASES

Average Acid/Base Density: 26.6 Molar

Example:
ALPHA-GALACTOSIDASE (PDB:1UAS)

Functional Pocket Molecular Surface Volume:
286.58 Å³

Density Charge: 52.2 Molar (11.6 M+, 40.6 M-)



Crowded



Green: Functional pocket residues

Blue: Basic = Probably Positive charged = R+K+H

Red: Acid = Probably Negative charged = E + Q

Brown ALPHA D-GALACTOSE

Ions in Water are the Liquid of Life

They are not ideal solutions

**Everything
Interacts
with
Everything**

For Modelers and Mathematicians

Tremendous Opportunity for Applied Mathematics

Chun Liu's Energetic Variational Principle

EnVarA

Working Hypothesis

Biological Adaptation is
Crowded Ions *and* Side Chains

Everything interacts

'law' of mass action assumes nothing interacts

Everything Interacts

Mathematics of Chemistry

must deal

Naturally

with

Interactions

Law of Mass Action does not!

'Law' of mass action assumes nothing interacts

So this is a great opportunity for new mathematics and applications!



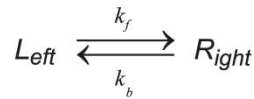
CHEMICAL PHYSICS LETTERS

Editors:
DAVID CLARY
MITCHIO OKUMURA
VILLY SUNDRÖM

Frontiers Editor:
RICHARD SAYKALLY

Frontier research in molecular sciences,
materials and biological systems

Revise the
'Law' of Mass Action
to include
Interactions



$$J_k = \underbrace{C_k(L)}_{\text{Source Concentration}} \underbrace{\left(\frac{D_k}{l}\right)}_{\text{Diffusion Velocity}} \underbrace{\text{Prob}\{R|L\}}_{\text{Conditional Probability}} - \underbrace{C_k(R)}_{\text{Length}} \underbrace{\left(\frac{D_k}{l}\right)}_{\text{Length}} \underbrace{\text{Prob}\{L|R\}}_{\text{Conditional Probability}}$$

Frontiers Article Eisenberg, p. 1-6, this issue

Great Opportunity for New Mathematics and Its Applications

Variational Approach EnVarA

Conservative

Dissipative

$$\overbrace{\frac{\delta E}{\delta \vec{x}}} - \overbrace{\frac{1}{2} \frac{\delta \Delta}{\delta \vec{u}}} = 0$$

Energetic Variational Analysis

EnVarA

being developed by

Chun Liu

Yunkyong Hyon and Bob Eisenberg

creates a

Field Theory of Ionic Solutions

that allows boundary conditions and flow

and deals with

Interactions of Components Self-consistently

Central Result of Physical Chemistry

Electrolytes
in a solution are a
Highly Compressible Plasma
of Interacting Spherical Particles

although the

Liquid

itself is

Incompressible

Debye-Hückel and Poisson-Nernst-Planck *PNP*
cannot describe these interactions of spheres

Learned from Douglas Henderson, J.-P. Hansen, and Stuart Rice...Thanks!

Variational Principles Deal with Interactions Consistently and Automatically

Chun Liu,
with YunKyong Hyon, and Bob Eisenberg

EnVarA

$$\overbrace{\frac{\delta E}{\delta \vec{x}}}^{\text{Conservative 'Force'}} - \overbrace{\frac{1}{2} \frac{\delta \Delta}{\delta \vec{u}}}^{\text{Dissipative 'Force'}} = 0$$

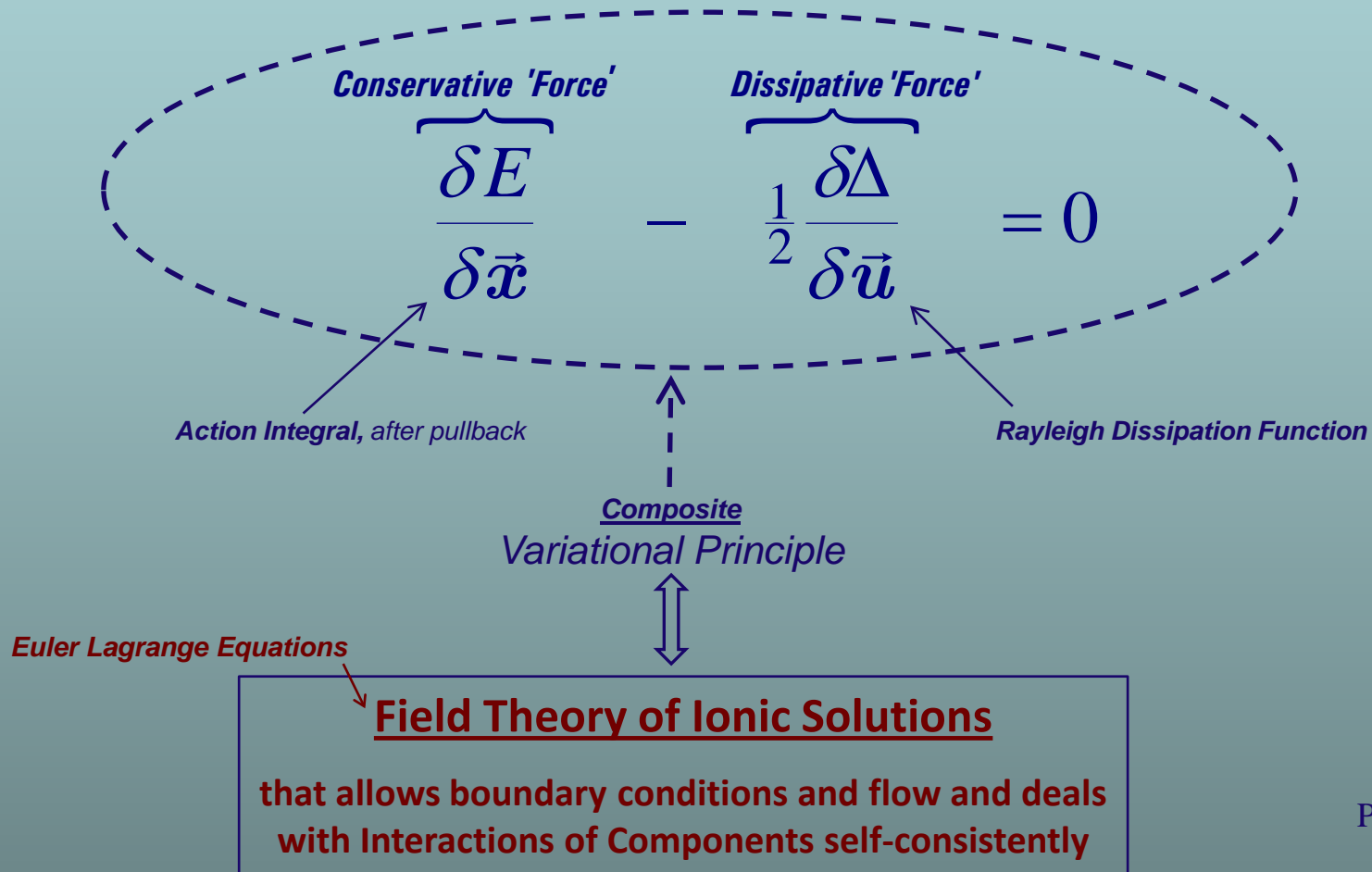
New Component (or Scale)
implies
New Field Equations (Euler Lagrange)
by
Algebra Alone
No new Assumptions

Energetic Variational Approach

EnVarA

Chun Liu, Rolf Ryham, Yunkyong Hyon, and Bob Eisenberg

Mathematicians and Modelers: two different 'partial' variations written in one framework, using a 'pullback' of the action integral



Variational Analysis of Ionic Solution

EnVarA

Generalization
of Chemical Free
Energy

$$E(\text{Primitive Phase}; t) = \int \left[\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \rho |\vec{u}_{IP}|^2}_{\text{Hydrodynamic Kinetic Energy}} + \underbrace{w(\rho)}_{\text{Hydrodynamic Potential Energy Equation of State}} \right]$$

Macroscopic (hydrodynamic)

$$+ \lambda \left[\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \epsilon |\nabla \phi|^2}_{\text{Electrostatic}} + \underbrace{k_B T (c_n \log c_n + c_p \log c_p)}_{\text{Entropy}} + \underbrace{E(\text{Solid Spheres})}_{\text{Finite Size Effect}} \right] d\vec{x}$$

Dielectric Coefficient from Poisson Eq. → ϵ
 Number Densities → c_n, c_p
 Lennard Jones → $E(\text{Solid Spheres})$
 Lagrange Multiplier → λ

Microscopic (atomic)

Dissipation Principle for Ions

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \overbrace{\frac{d}{dt} \int \left\{ k_B T \sum_{i=n,p} c_i \log c_i + \frac{1}{2} \left(\rho_0 + \sum_{i=n,p} z_i e c_i \right) \phi + \sum_{i,j=n,p} \frac{c_i}{2} \int \tilde{\Psi}_{i,j} c_j d\bar{y} \right\} d\bar{x}}^{\text{Dissipative}} \\
 & = - \int \underbrace{\left\{ \sum_{i=n,p} \frac{D_i c_i}{k_B T} \left| k_B T \frac{\nabla c_i}{c_i} + z_i e \nabla \phi - \sum_{j=n,p} \nabla \int \tilde{\Psi}_{i,j} c_j d\bar{y} \right|^2 \right\}}_{\text{Conservative}} d\bar{x}
 \end{aligned}$$

Annotations in the diagram:
 - **time**: points to $\frac{d}{dt}$
 - **Thermal Energy**: points to $k_B T$
 - **Number Density**: points to c_i
 - **Permanent Charge of protein**: points to ρ_0
 - **valence proton charge**: points to $z_i e$
 - **Hard Sphere Terms**: points to $\tilde{\Psi}_{i,j}$

c_i number density; $k_B T$ thermal energy; D_i diffusion coefficient; n negative; p positive; z_i valence

Field Equations with Lennard Jones Spheres

Non-equilibrium variational field theory *EnVarA*

Nernst Planck Diffusion Equation

for number density c_n of negative n ions; positive ions are analogous

Diffusion Coefficient

$$\frac{\partial c_n}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot \left[D_n \left\{ \nabla c_n + \frac{c_n}{k_B T} \left(z_n e \nabla \phi - \int \frac{12 \epsilon_{n,n} (a_n + a_n)^{12} (\vec{x} - \vec{y})}{|\vec{x} - \vec{y}|^{14}} c_n(\vec{y}) d\vec{y} - \int \frac{6 \epsilon_{n,p} (a_n + a_p)^{12} (\vec{x} - \vec{y})}{|\vec{x} - \vec{y}|^{14}} c_p(\vec{y}) d\vec{y} \right) \right\} \right],$$

Thermal Energy

Coupling Parameters

Ion Radii

Number Densities

Poisson Equation

Dielectric Coefficient

$$\nabla \cdot (\epsilon \nabla \phi) = - \left(\rho_0 + \sum_{i=1}^N z_i e c_i \right) \quad i = n \text{ or } p$$

Permanent Charge of Protein

valence proton charge

Energetic Variational Approach

EnVarA across biological scales: molecules, cells, tissues

developed by Chun Liu

with

(1) Hyon, Eisenberg

Ions in

Channels

(2) Bezanilla, Hyon, Eisenberg

Conformation Change of

Voltage Sensor

(3) Ryham, Eisenberg, Cohen

Virus fusion to

Cells

(4) Mori, Eisenberg

Water flow in

Tissues



**Multiple
Scales**

creates a new

Multiscale Field Theory of Interacting Components

that allows boundary conditions and flow
and deals with

Ions in solutions self-consistently

Energetic Variational Analysis

EnVarA

Chun Liu, Yunkyong Hyon and Bob Eisenberg

New Interpretations

likely to be

Controversial

but

Quantitative and Testable

Energetic Variational Approach

developed by Chun Liu

Preliminary Results

demonstrate

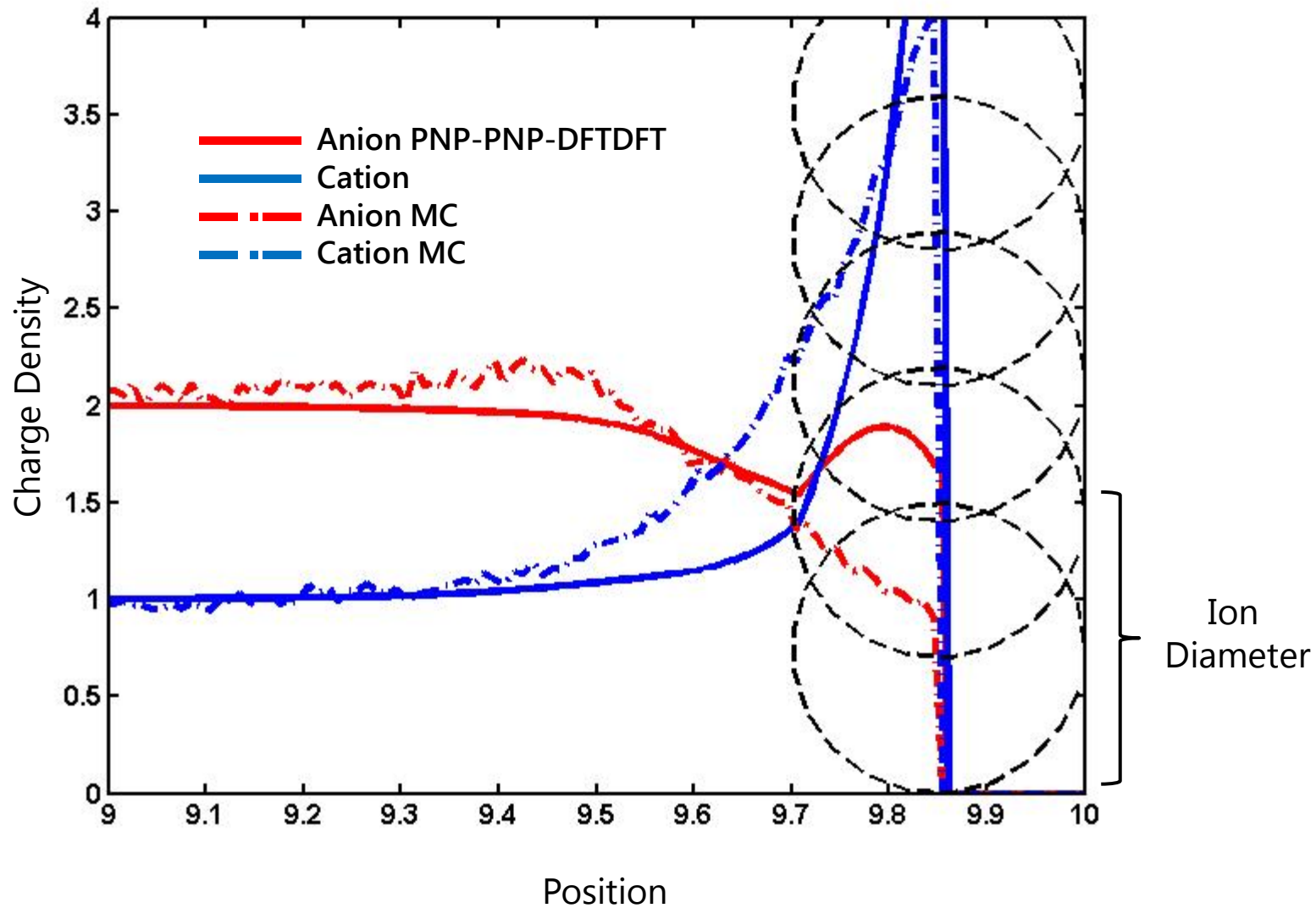
Feasibility

for

Classical Unsolved Problems

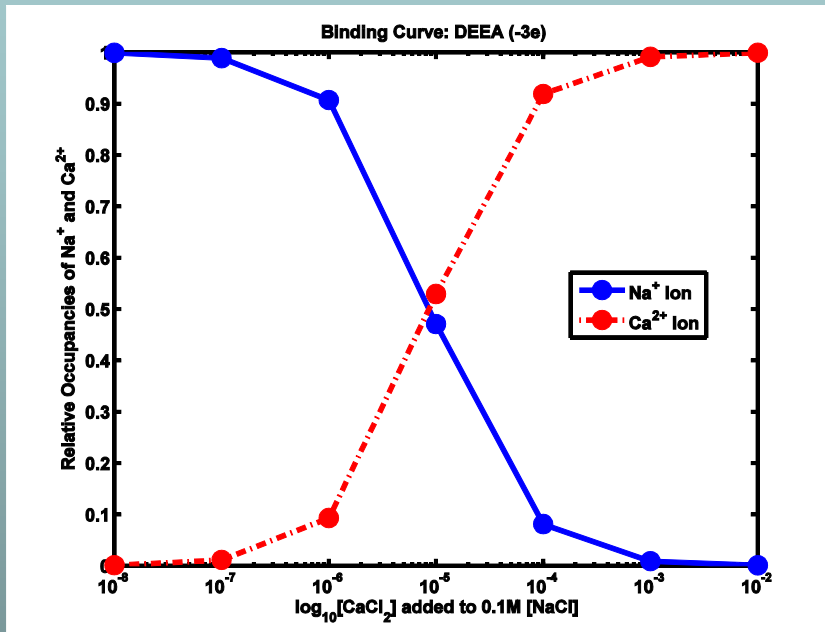
Layering: Classical Interaction Effect

Comparison between PNP-DFT and MC

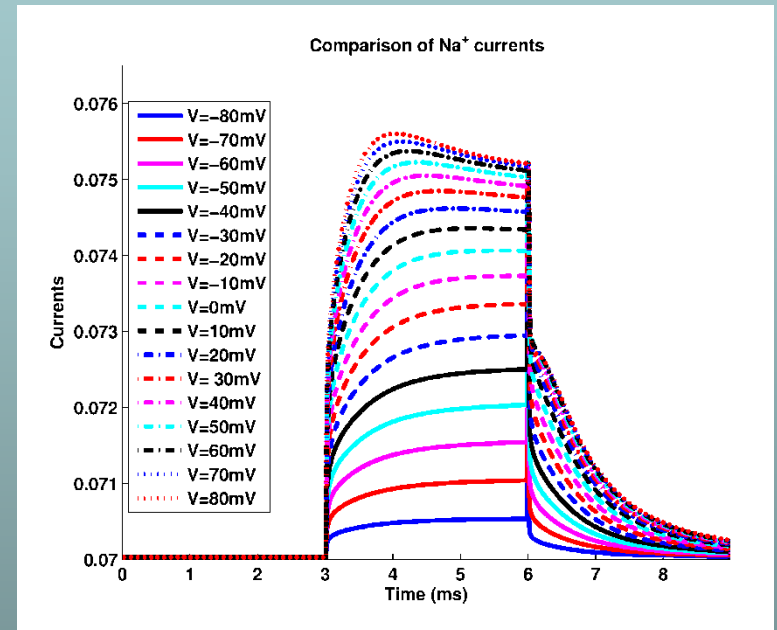


Nonequilibrium Computations with Variational Field Theory *EnVarA*

Binding Curves



Current Voltage **Time** Curves



Energetic Variational

Approach

EnVarA

New mechanisms*

(e.g., active transport)

can be added

* if they define an energy and its variation

Energy defined by simulations or theories or experiments is OK

Full micro/macro treatment is needed for an Atomic Model, with closure, as in liquid crystals

back to the

Calcium Channel

then

Sodium Channel

Selectivity Filter

Crowded with Charge

L type Ca Channel

Selectivity Filter

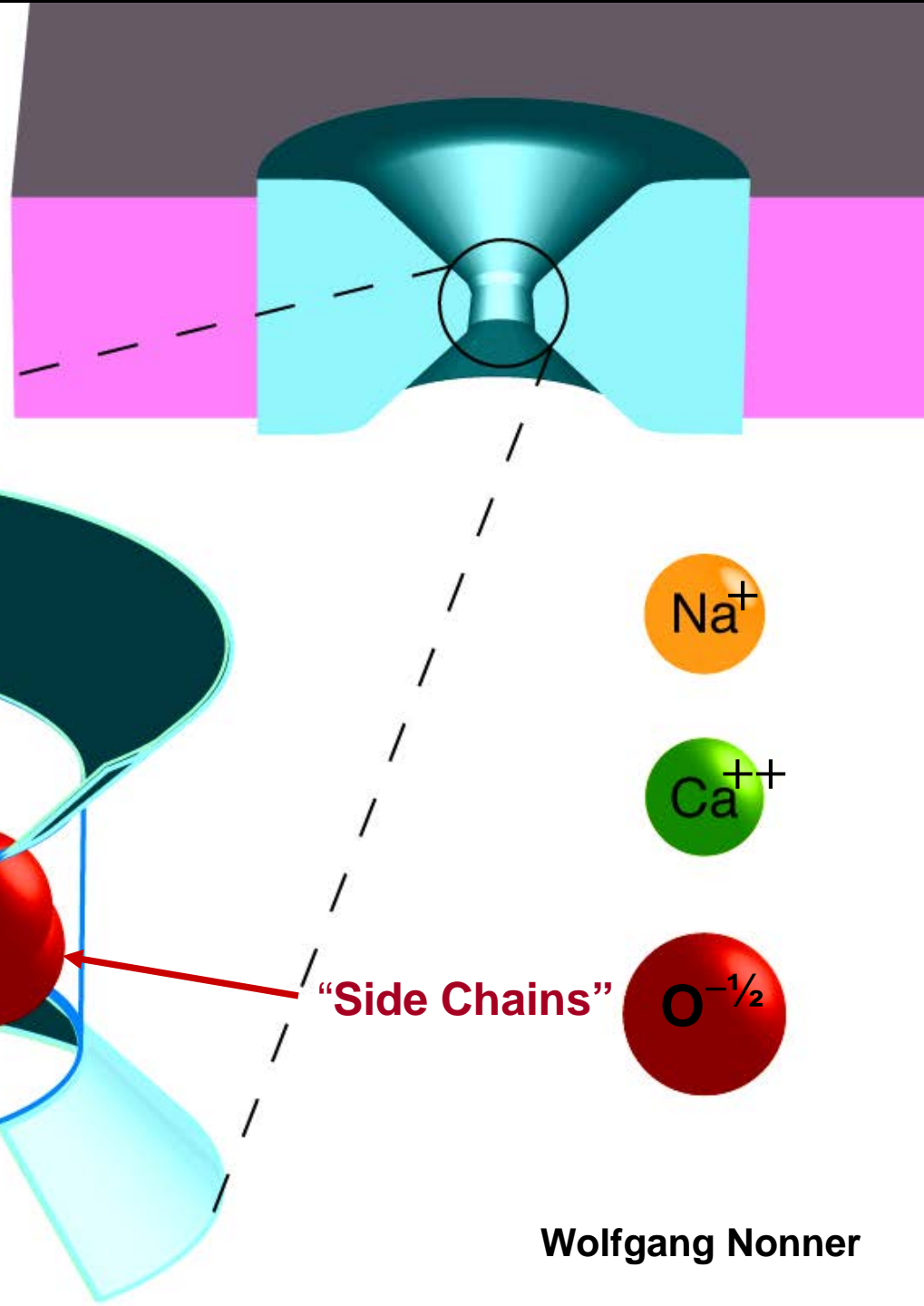
“Side Chains”

Na⁺

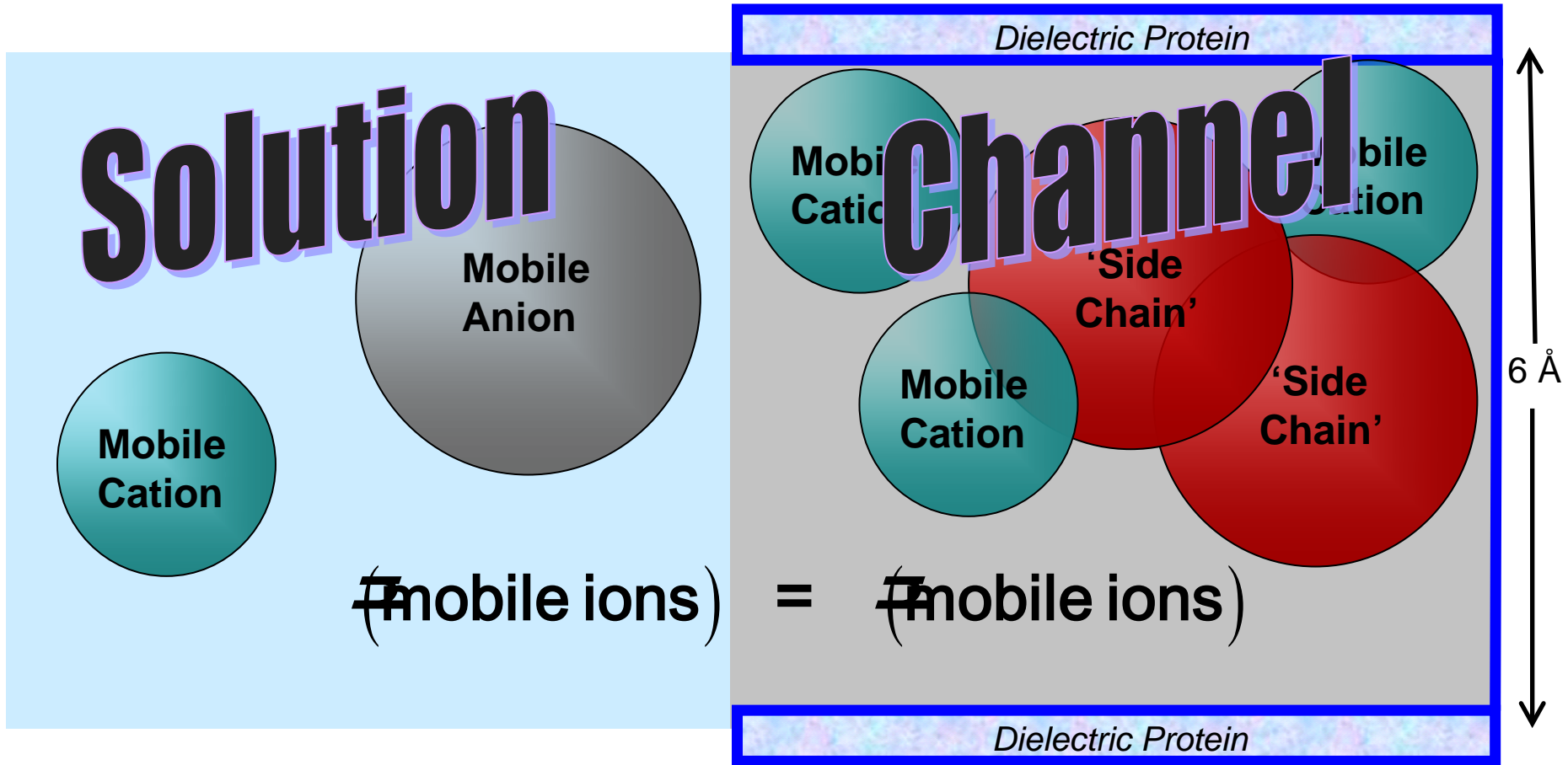
Ca⁺⁺

O^{-1/2}

Wolfgang Nonner



Ion 'Binding' in Crowded Channel



Classical Donnan Equilibrium of Ion Exchanger

large mechanical forces

Side chains move within channel to their equilibrium position of minimal free energy.

We compute the Tertiary Structure as the structure of minimal free energy.

Solved with Metropolis Monte Carlo

MMC Simulates Location of Ions
both the mean and the variance

Produces Equilibrium Distribution
of location
of Ions and 'Side Chains'

MMC yields Boltzmann Distribution with correct Energy, Entropy and Free Energy

Other methods

give nearly identical results:

Equilibrium Multiscale

MSA (mean spherical approximation)

SPM (primitive solvent model)

DFT (density functional theory of fluids),

Non-equilibrium Multiscale

DFT-PNP (Poisson Nernst Planck)

EnVarA... (Energy Variational Approach)

etc

Metropolis Monte Carlo

Simulates Location of Ions

both the mean and the variance

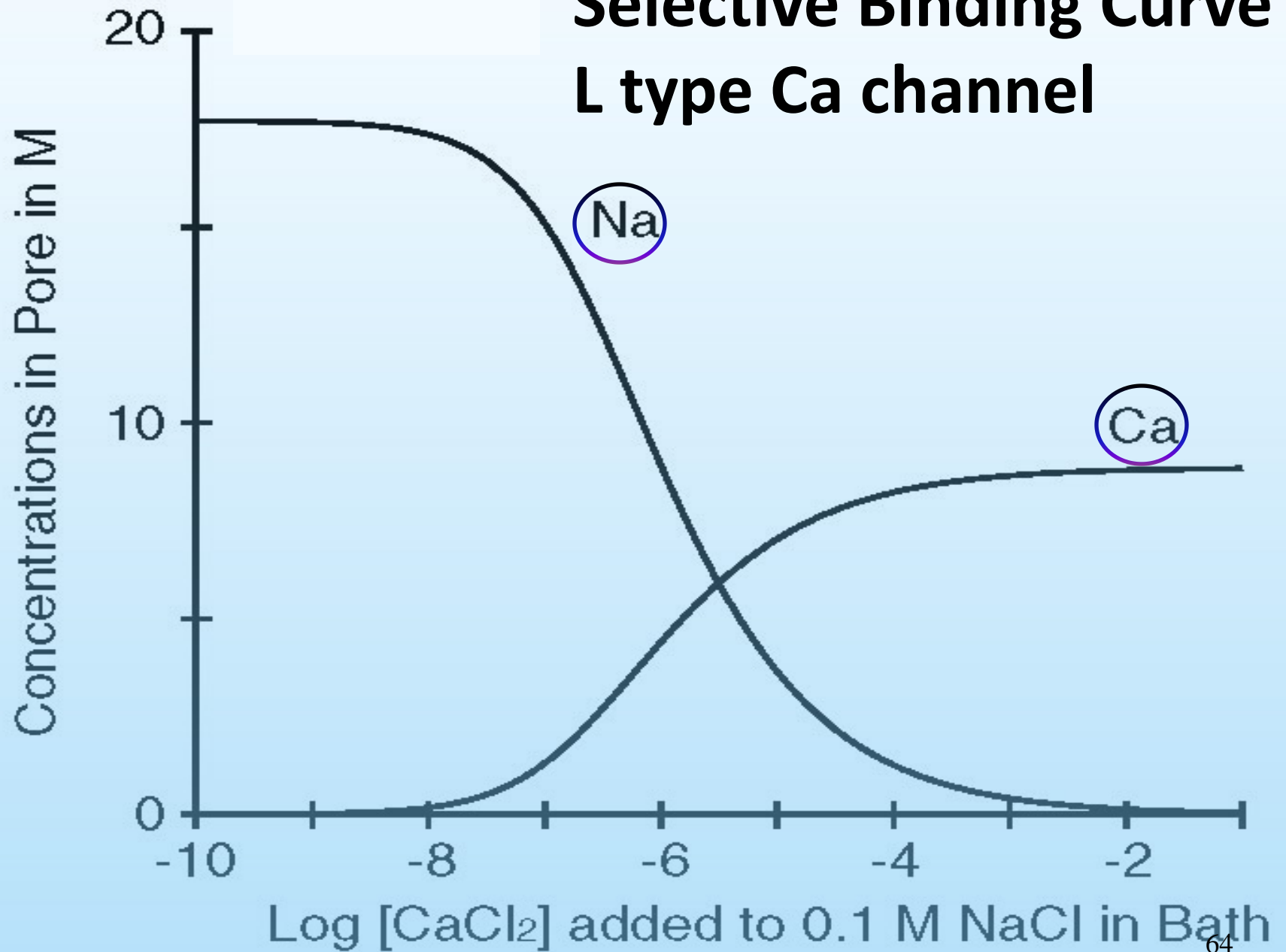
Details:

- 1) Start with Configuration A , with computed energy E_A
- 2) Move an ion to location B , with computed energy E_B
- 3) If spheres overlap, $E_B \rightarrow \infty$ and configuration is rejected
- 4) If spheres do not overlap, $E_B \rightarrow 0$ and configuration is accepted
- 5) If $E_B < E_A$: accept new configuration.
- 6) If $E_B > E_A$: accept new configuration with probability $\exp[-(E_A - E_B)/k_B T]$

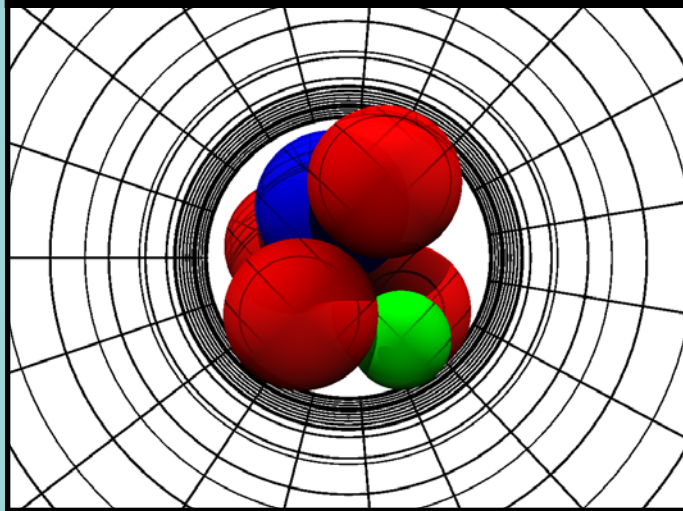
Key idea

MMC chooses configurations with a Boltzmann probability and weights them evenly instead of choosing them from uniform distribution and then weighting them with $\exp(-E/k_B T)$

Selective Binding Curve L type Ca channel

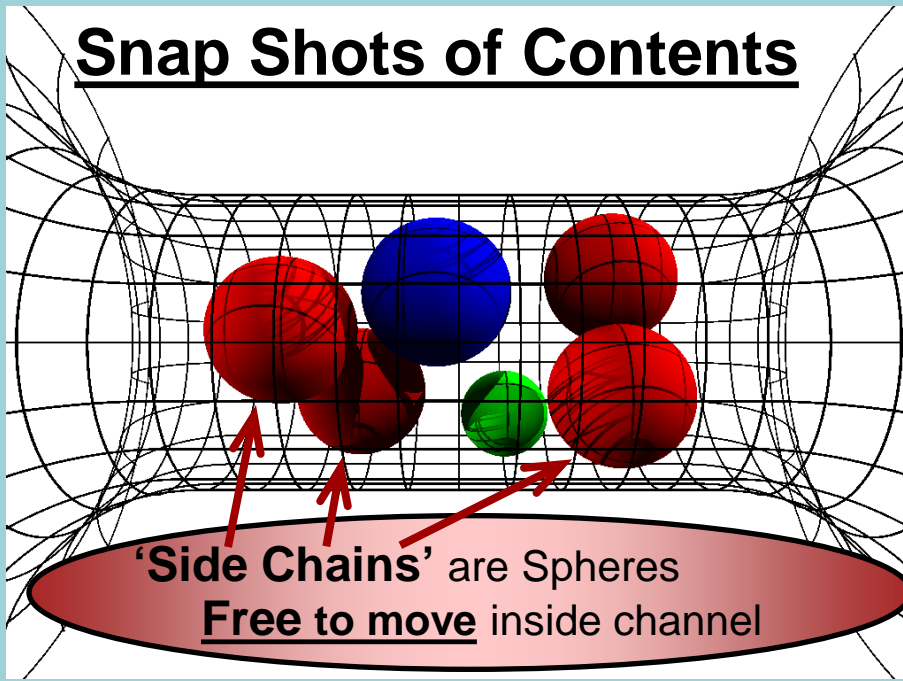


Radial Crowding is Severe



6 Å

Snap Shots of Contents



Crowded Ions

Ion Diameters

'Pauling' Diameters

Ca⁺⁺

1.98 Å

Na⁺

2.00 Å

K⁺

2.66 Å

'Side Chain' Diameter

Lysine K

3.00 Å

D or E

2.80 Å

Channel Diameter 6 Å

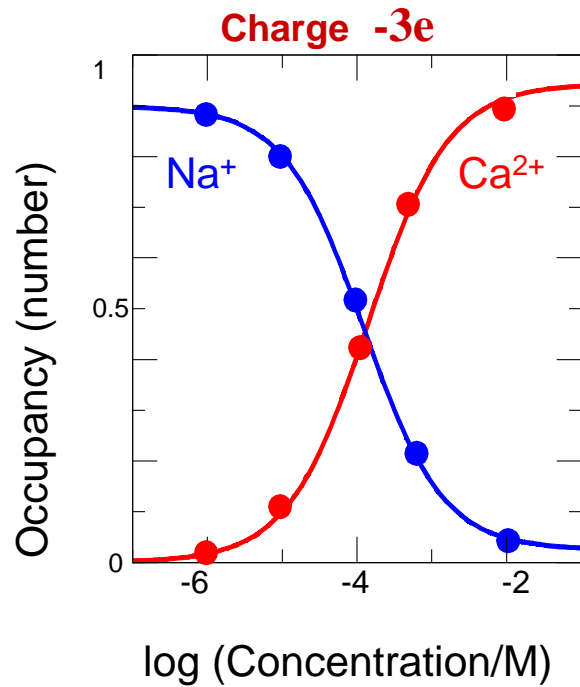
*Parameters are Fixed in all calculations
in all solutions for all mutants*

Experiments and Calculations done at pH 8

65

Ca Channel

E
E
E
A



EEEE has full biological selectivity
in similar simulations

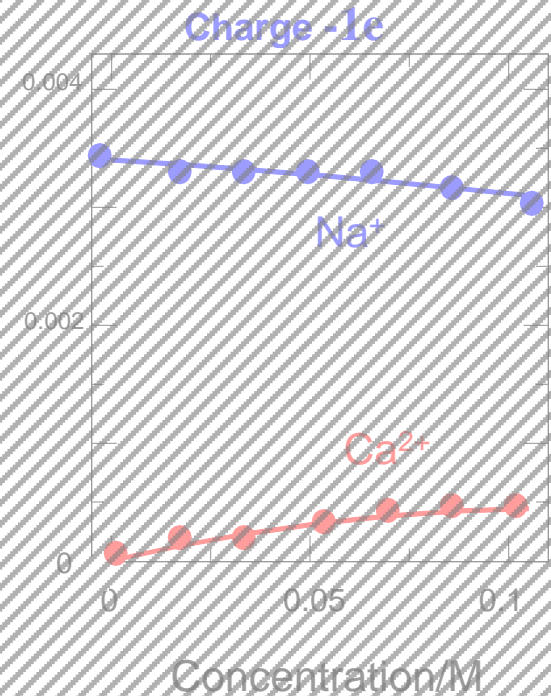
Mutation



Same Parameters

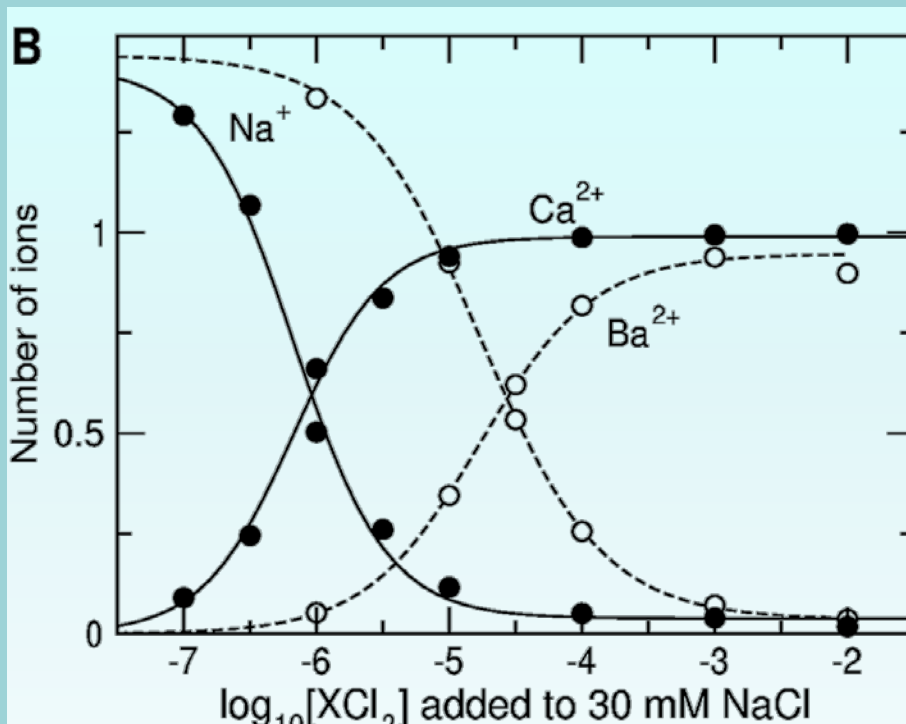
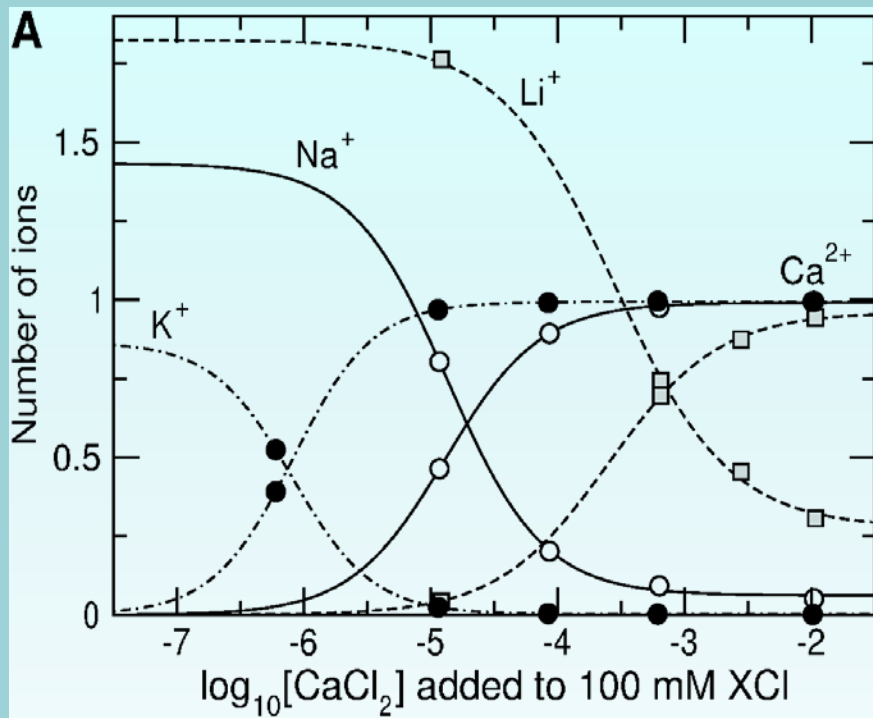
Na Channel

D
E
K
A



Boda, et al

Na, K, Li, Ca, Ba Binding in Calcium Channel

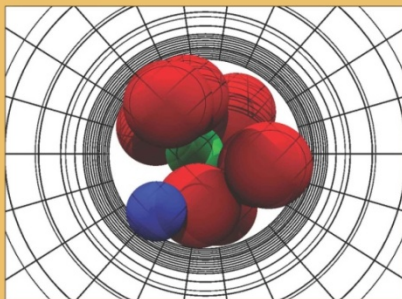
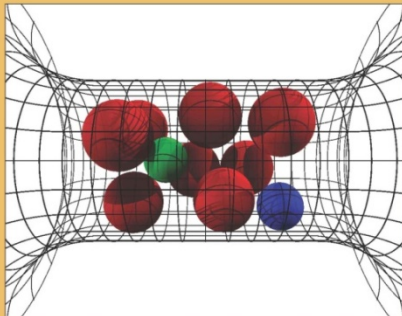


Calcium Channel

has been examined in ~35 papers, e.g.,

JGP

The Journal of General Physiology
Vol 133 • No 5 • May 2009



www.jgp.org

- Nonner, W., D. P. Chen, and B. Eisenberg. 1998. Anomalous Mole Fraction Effect, Electrostatics, and Binding in Ionic Channels. *Biophysical Journal* 74:2327-2334.
- Nonner, W., L. Catacuzzeno, and B. Eisenberg. 2000. Binding and Selectivity in L-type Ca Channels: a Mean Spherical Approximation. *Biophysical Journal* 79:1976-1992.
- Nonner, W., D. Gillespie, D. Henderson, and B. Eisenberg. 2001. Ion accumulation in a biological calcium channel: effects of solvent and confining pressure. *J Physical Chemistry B* 105:6427-6436.
- Boda, D., W. Nonner, D. Henderson, B. Eisenberg, and D. Gillespie. 2008. Volume exclusion in calcium selective channels. *Biophys. J.:biophysj*.107.122796.
- Boda, D., M. Valisko, B. Eisenberg, W. Nonner, D. Henderson, and D. Gillespie. 2006. Effect of Protein Dielectric Coefficient on the Ionic Selectivity of a Calcium Channel. *Journal of Chemical Physics* 125:034901.
- Boda, D., T. Varga, D. Henderson, D. Busath, W. Nonner, D. Gillespie, and B. Eisenberg. 2004. Monte Carlo simulation study of a system with a dielectric boundary: application to calcium channel selectivity. *Molecular Simulation* 30:89-96.
- Boda, D., M. Valisko, B. Eisenberg, W. Nonner, D. Henderson, and D. Gillespie. 2007. The combined effect of pore radius and protein dielectric coefficient on the selectivity of a calcium channel. *Physical Review Letters* 98:168102.

Most of the papers are available at

ftp://ftp.rush.edu/users/molebio/Bob_Eisenberg/Reprints

<http://www.phys.rush.edu/RSEisenberg/physioeis.html>

Selectivity

comes from

Electrostatic Interaction

and

Steric Competition for Space



Repulsion

Location and Strength of Binding Sites
Depend on Ionic Concentration and
Temperature, etc

Rate Constants are Variables

Challenge

from leading biophysicists

Walter Stühmer and Stefan Heinemann

Max Planck Institutes, Göttingen, Leipzig

Explain the Mutation

Calcium Channel into Sodium Channel

DEEA  ***DEKA***

*Calcium
Channel*

*Sodium
Channel*

DEKA Sodium Channel

has very different properties from Ca channel,

e.g., 'binding' curve,
Na⁺ vs Ca⁺⁺ selectivity
Na⁺ vs K⁺ selectivity

Sodium Channel

specifically, the

DEKA Sodium Channel 6 Å

Aspartate

Glutamate

Lysine

Alanine

D

E

K

A

Acid

Acid

Basic

Aliphatic

Negative

Negative

Positive

Neutral

QUALITATIVELY DIFFERENT Properties from the Calcium Channel

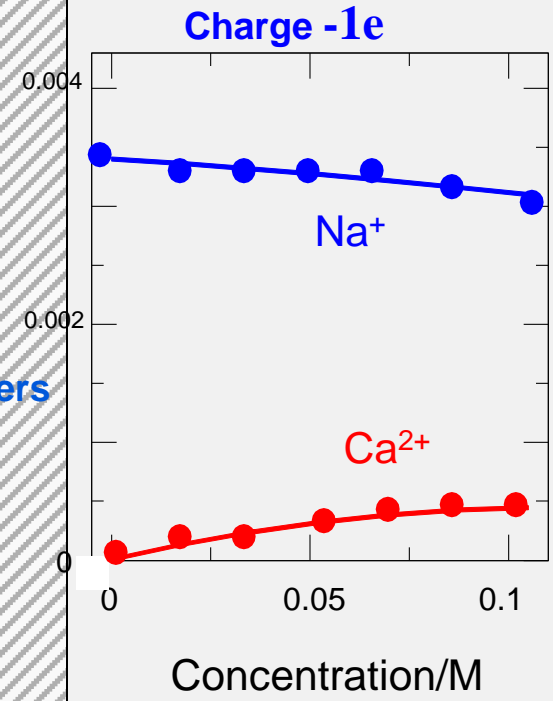
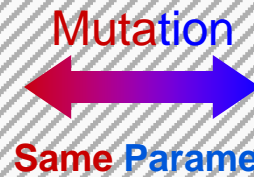
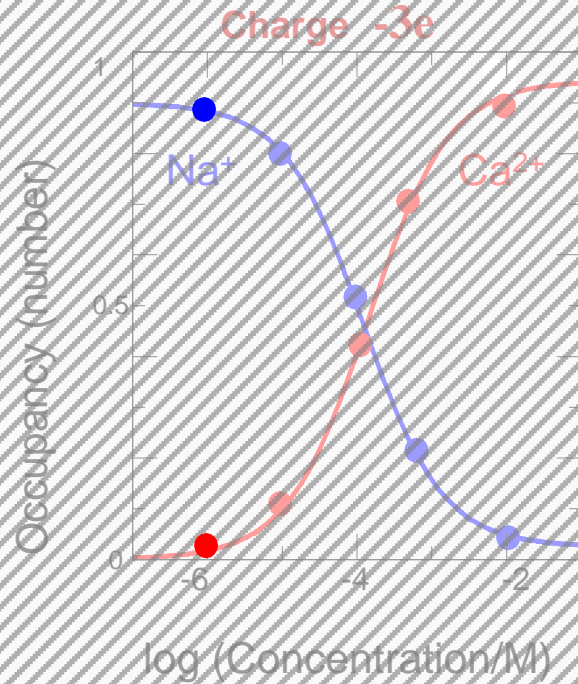
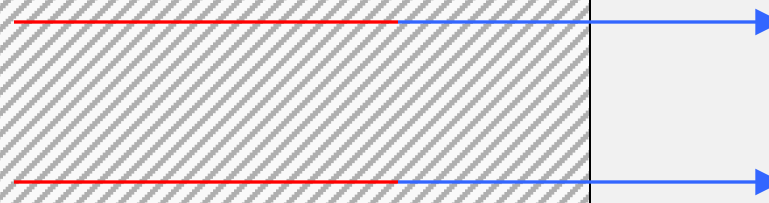
Ca Channel

Na Channel



E
E
E
A

D
E
K
A



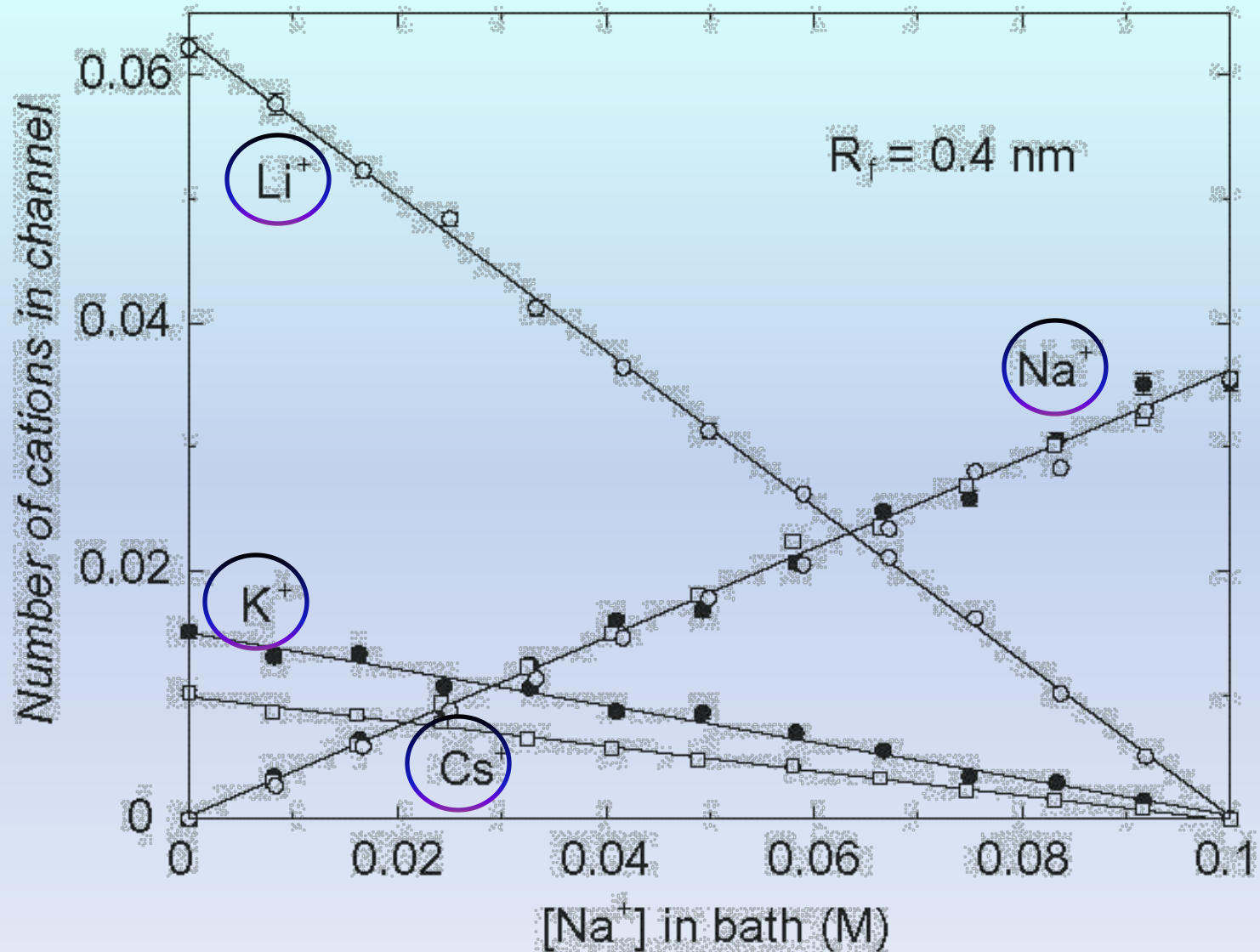
EEEE has full biological selectivity
in similar simulations

Nothing was changed
from the
EEEEA Ca channel
except the amino acids

**Calculated DEKA Na Channel
Selects**

Ca²⁺ vs. Na⁺ and also K⁺ vs. Na⁺

Na, K, Li, Cs Binding in Sodium Channel



Miracle

**We can actually compute the
Structures that determine Selectivity**

New Miracle???

**Can *EnVarA* actually compute the
Function of these systems?**

Supplementary Material

How does the Channel Select?

How?

Usually Complex Answers*

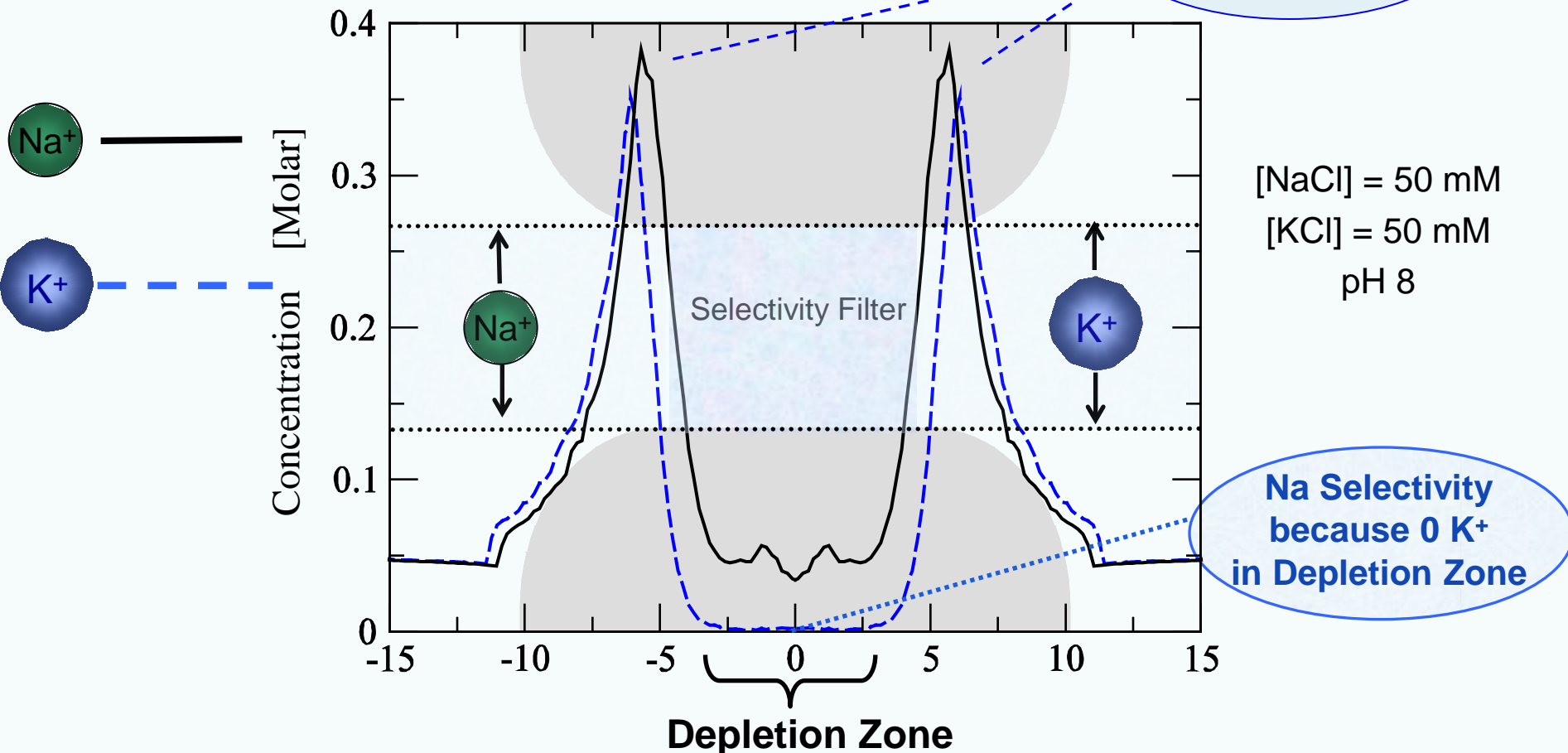
How does DEKA Na Channel Select Na^+ vs. K^+ ?

- * Gillespie, D., Energetics of divalent selectivity in the ryanodine receptor.
Biophys J (2008). 94: p. 1169-1184
- * Boda, et al, Analyzing free-energy by Widom's particle insertion method.
J Chem Phys (2011) 134: p. 055102-14

Amazingly simple, not complex

Size Selectivity is in the Depletion Zone

Na⁺ vs. K⁺ Occupancy

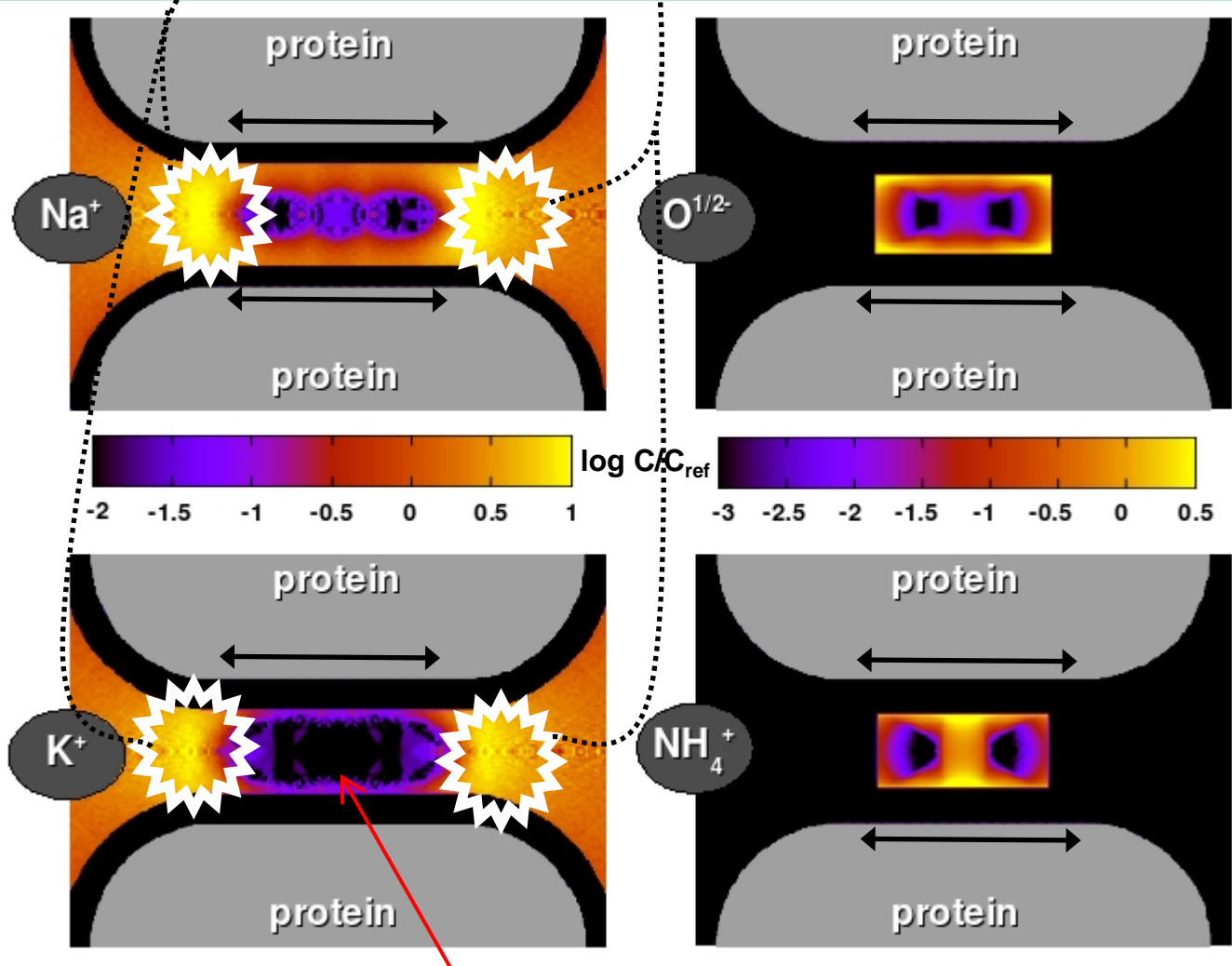


of the DEKA Na Channel, 6 Å

Size Selectivity

Binding Sites

NOT selective



*Binding Sites are outputs of our INDUCED FIT Model of Selectivity, *not structural inputs*
 [NaCl] = [KCl] = 50 mM

Ion Diameter	
Ca ⁺⁺	1.98 Å
Na ⁺	2.00 Å
K ⁺	2.66 Å
'Side Chain' Diameter	
NH ₄ ⁺ Lys or K	3.00 Å pH 8
O ^{1/2-} D or E	2.80 Å pH 8
Na Channel DEKA 6 Å	

Na vs K Size Selectivity is in **Depletion Zone**

BLACK = Depletion=0

Amazingly simple, not complex

Control Variables

Conductance of DEKA Na⁺ channel

Selectivity Depends Steeply on Diameter

Selectivity depends only on diameter

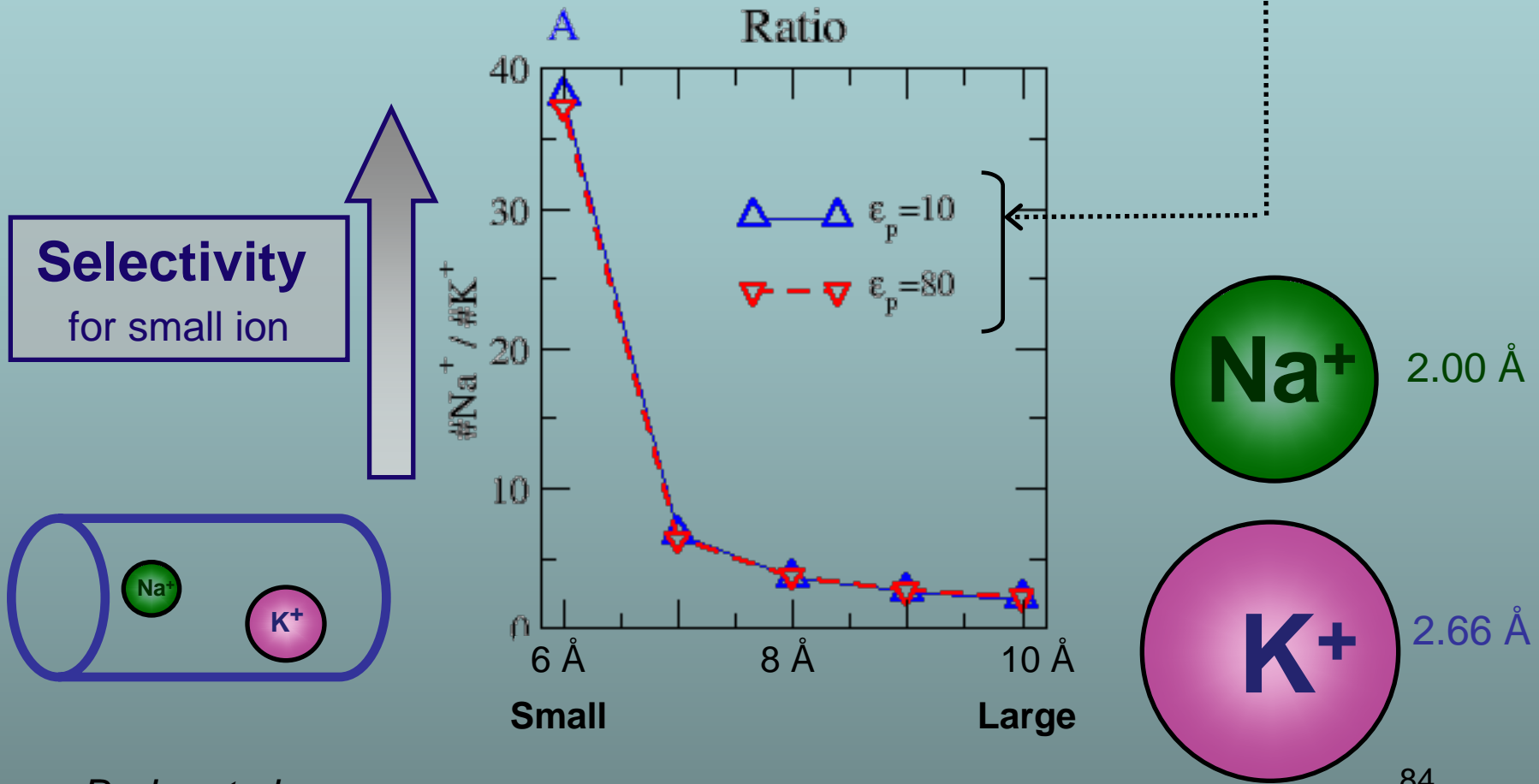
Amazingly, $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Contents} \\ \text{and} \\ \text{Selectivity} \end{array} \right\}$ Control Variables
are
Orthogonal*

***Orthogonal:**

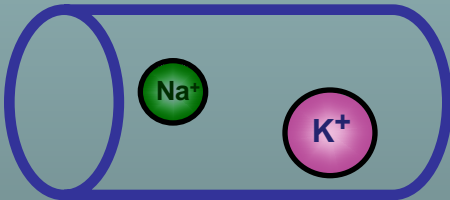
Selectivity	depends	only	on Structure
Conductance	depends	only	on Contents
Conductance	depends	not	on Structure
Selectivity	depends	not	on Dielectric

Boda, et al

Na⁺ vs K⁺ (size) Selectivity (*ratio*) Depends on Channel Size, *not* Protein Dielectric Coefficient*



Selectivity
for small ion



Boda, et al

*in DEKA Na Channel

Control Variables

Conductance of DEKA Na⁺ channel

Conductance Depends Steeply on Dielectric

Contents of Channel depend only on dielectric

Amazingly, $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Contents} \\ \text{and} \\ \text{Selectivity} \end{array} \right\}$ Control Variables
are
Orthogonal*

*Orthogonal:

Selectivity	depends	only	on Structure
Conductance	depends	only	on Contents
Conductance	depends	not	on Structure
Selectivity	depends	not	on Dielectric

Boda, et al

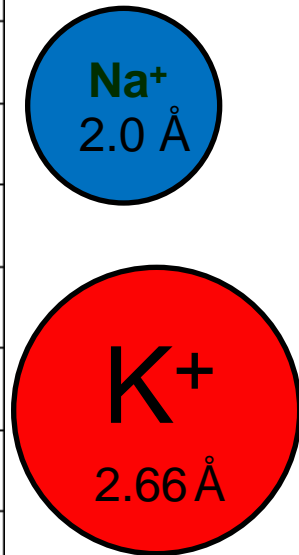
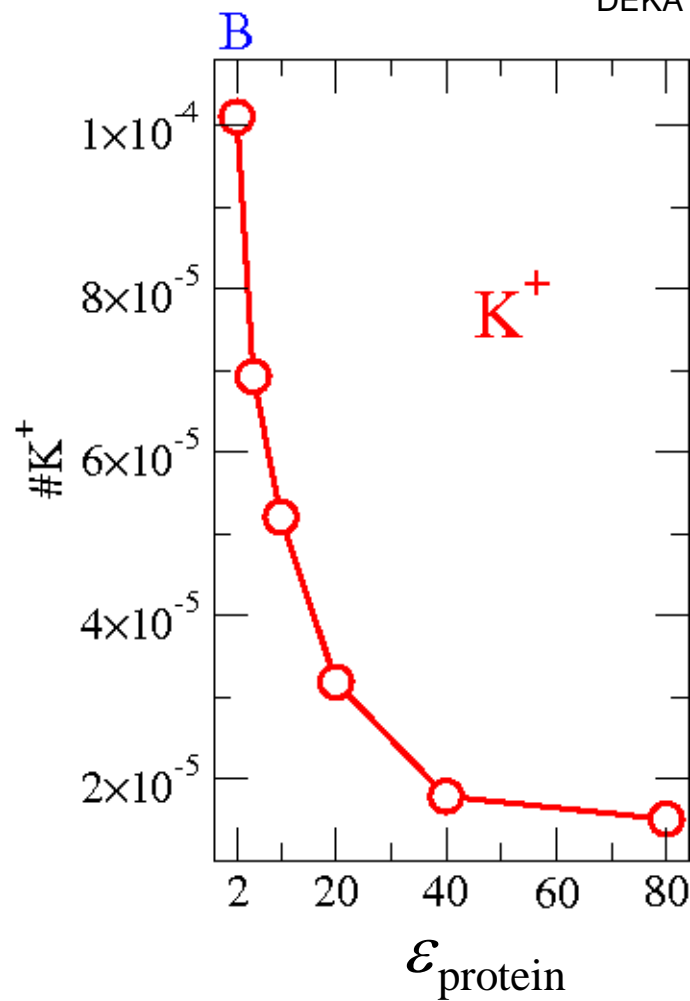
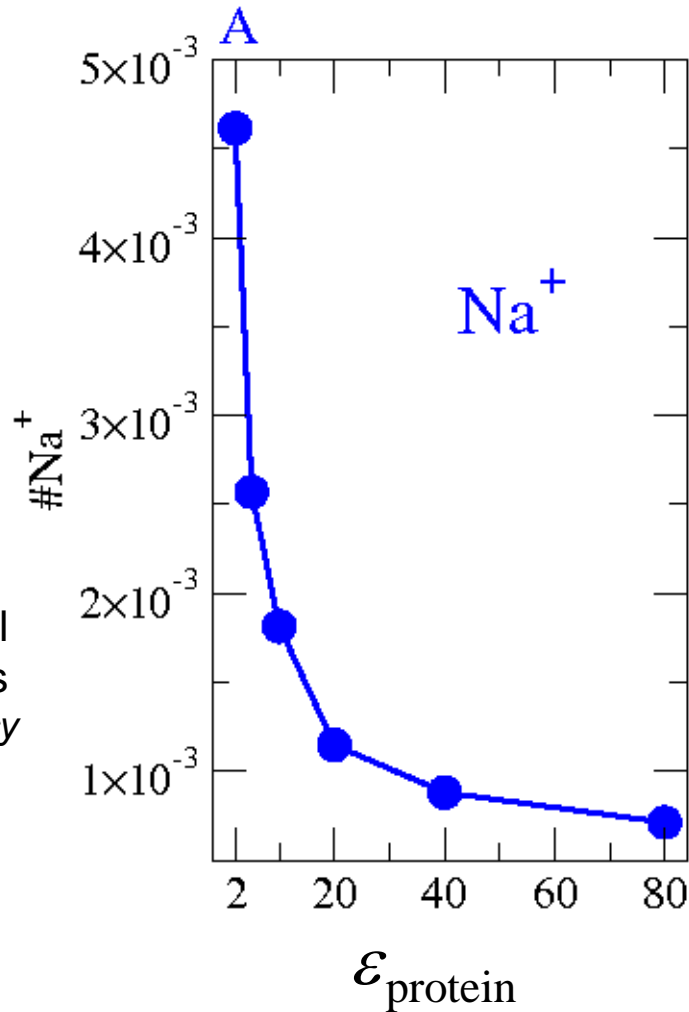
Control Variable

Channel Contents (occupancy)

depends on

Protein Polarization (dielectric)

DEKA Na Channel, 6 Å



**Static
Structure**

Channel Diameter
and
Dielectric Coefficient
emerge as

**Dynamic
Structure**

Orthogonal Control Variables*

in simulations of the Na channel,
but not the Ca channel.

**These emerge as outputs. They are not inputs.*

What does the protein do?

Channel and Contents
form a

Self-Organized Structure

with Side Chains at position of
Minimum Free Energy

Protein Fits the Substrate

“Induced Fit Model of Selectivity”

What does the protein do?

(for biologists)

Certain **MEASURES** of structure are
Powerful **DETERMINANTS** of Function

e.g., Volume, Dielectric Coefficient, etc.

Induced Fit Model of Selectivity

Atomic Structure is not pre-formed

Atomic Structure is an important output of the simulation

What does the protein do?

Protein maintains

Mechanical Forces*

Volume of Pore

Dielectric Coefficient/Boundary

Permanent Charge

** Driving force for conformation changes ??*

for
Biologists:
a Word Picture

How does Calcium Selectivity Work?
qualitatively

How does it work qualitatively?

(for biologists)

2 Ca⁺⁺

are

LESS CROWDED

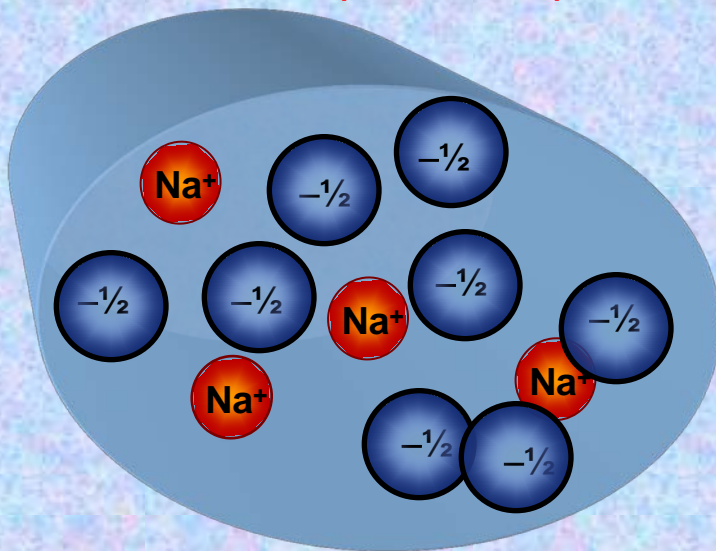
than 4 Na⁺

Selectivity from Crowded Charges

2 Ca^{++} are less crowded than 4 Na^{+}

Ca Channel Filled with Na^{+}

(not to scale)



Channel Protein

Glutamate Oxygens = 4e

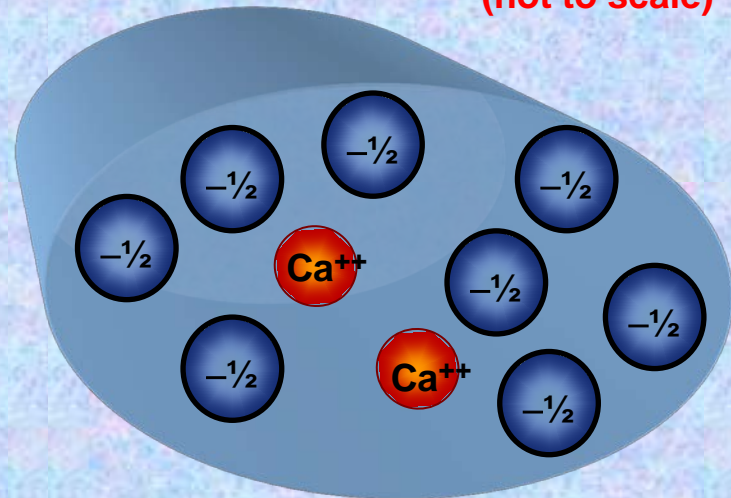
8 of $-\frac{1}{2}$ charge each

Volume 0.38 nm^3

Dielectric Constant 64

Ca Channel Filled with Ca^{++}

(not to scale)



Outside the Filter

Bulk Solution

NaCl and CaCl_2

Ionic Selectivity in Protein Channels
Crowded Charge Mechanism

4 Negative Charges
of glutamates of protein

DEMAND

4 Positive Charges
nearby

either 4 Na⁺ or 2 Ca⁺⁺

Ionic Selectivity in Protein Channels

Crowded Charge Mechanism

Simplest Version: MSA

2 Ca^{++} are **LESS CROWDED** than 4 Na^+ ,

Ca^{++} **SHIELDS BETTER** than Na^+ , so

Protein Prefers Ca^{++}

because

Ca^{++} is less crowded

Binding Sites* are **outputs**
of our Calculations

Induced Fit Model of Selectivity

Our model has no preformed
structural binding sites

but

Selectivity is very Specific

*Selectivity is in the Depletion Zone,
NOT IN THE BINDING SITE
of the DEKA Na Channel

Selectivity

comes from

Electrostatic Interaction

and

Steric Competition for Space



Repulsion

Location and Strength of Binding Sites
Depend on Ionic Concentration and
Temperature, etc

Rate Constants are Variables

Supplementary Material

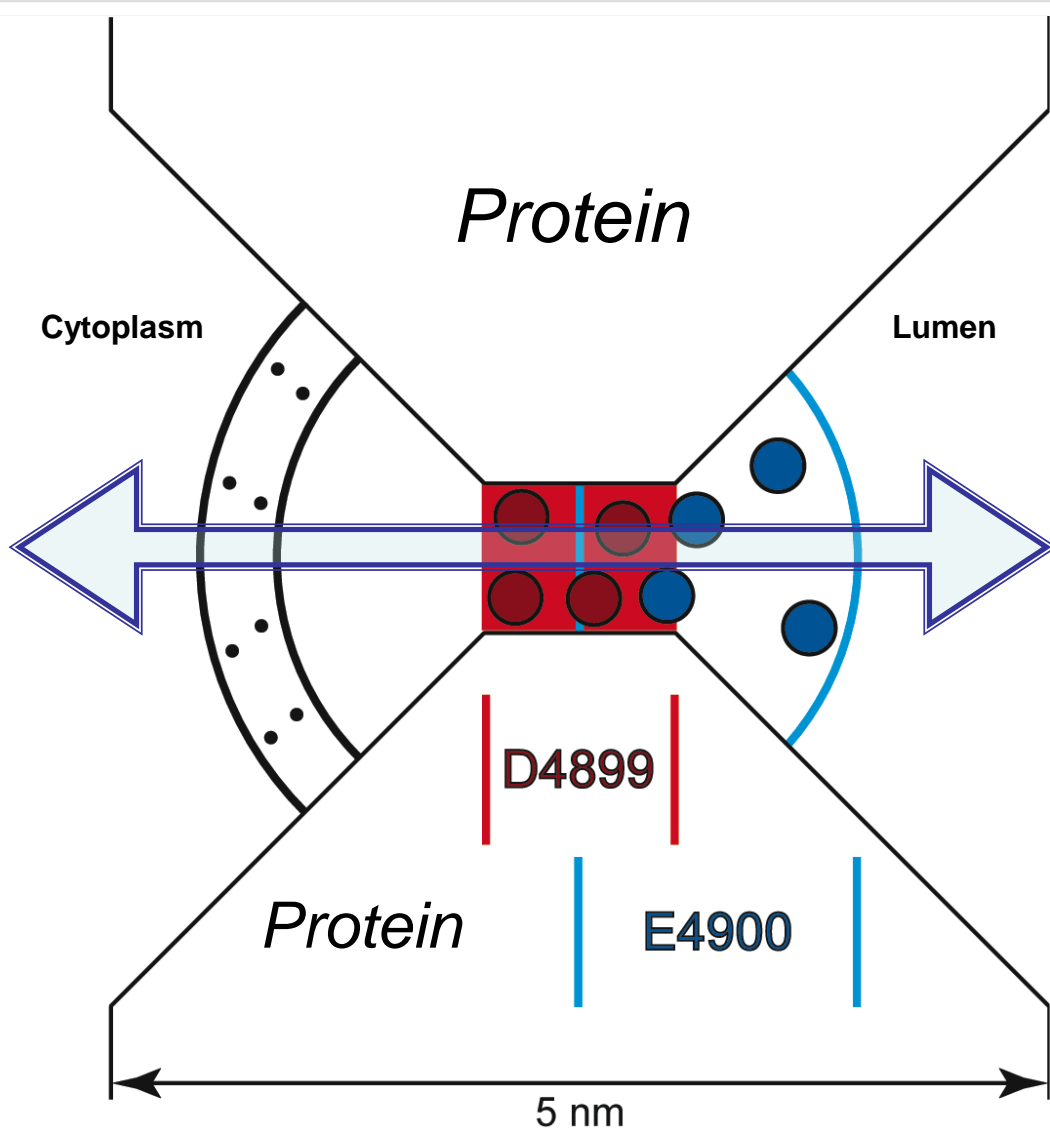
RyR Channel: Current Voltage Curves

Best Evidence is from the
RyR Receptor

Gillespie, Meissner, Le Xu, et al,
not Bob Eisenberg

- **More than 120 combinations of solutions & mutants**
- **7 mutants with significant effects fit successfully**

The Geometry



Selectivity Filter

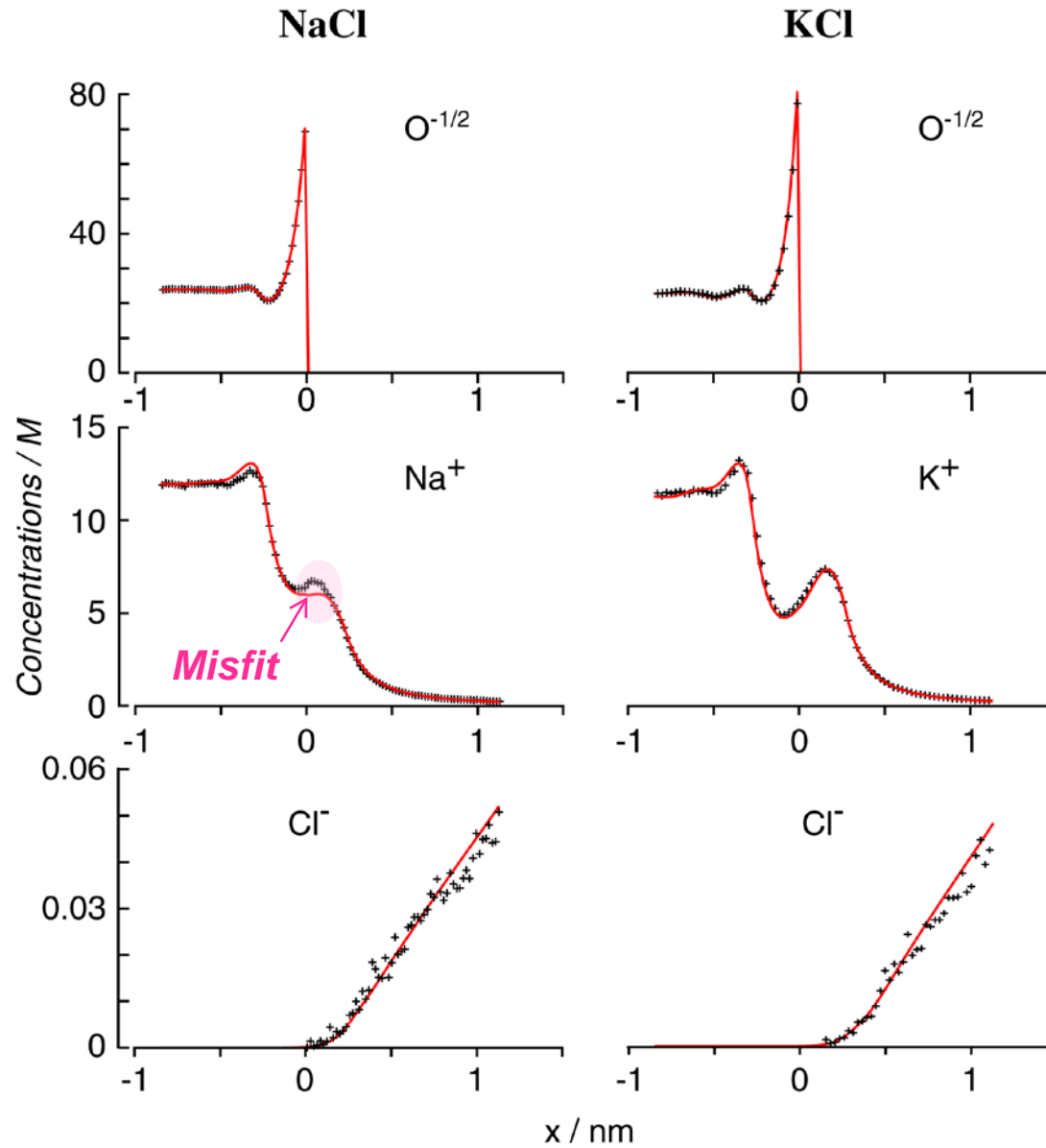
- is 10 Å long and 8 Å in diameter
- confines four **D4899** negative amino acids.

Four **E4900** positive amino acids are on luminal side, overlapping D4899.

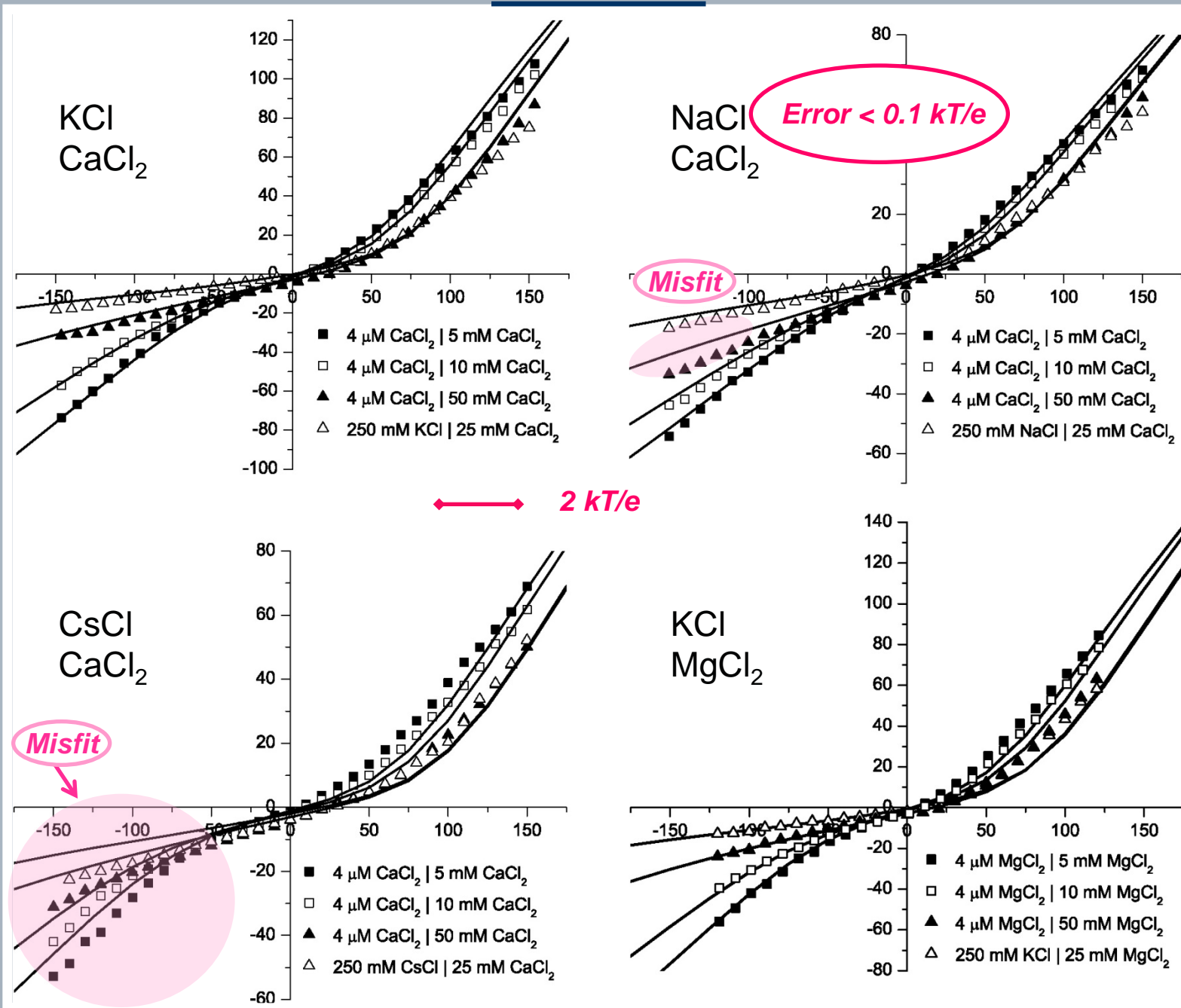
Cytosolic distributed charge

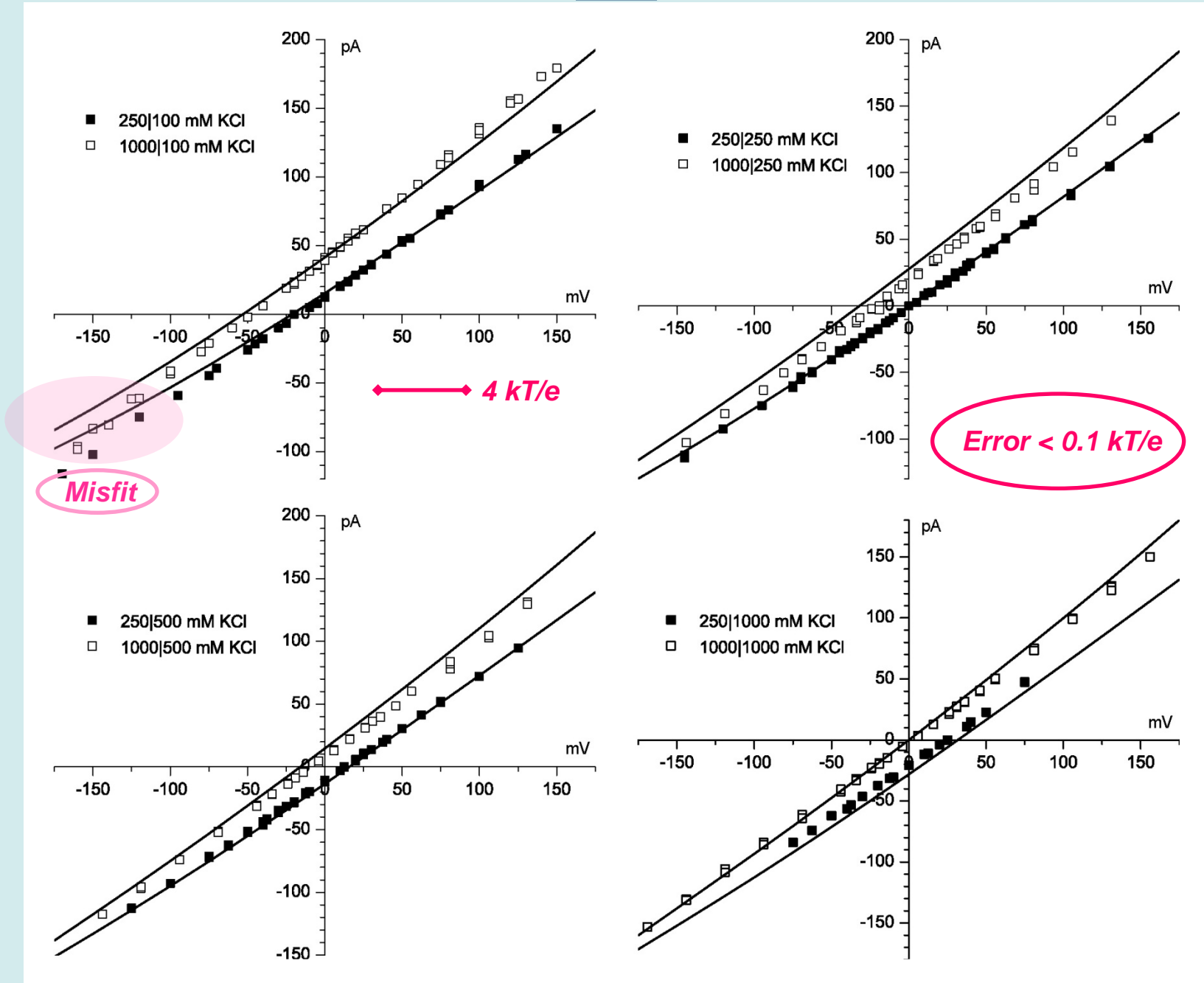
DFT/PNP vs Monte Carlo Simulations

Concentration Profiles



Divalents

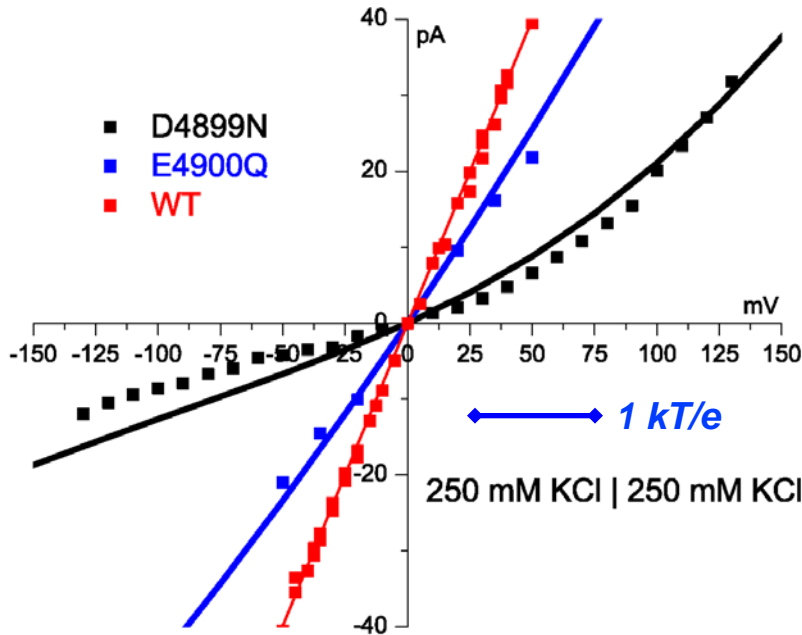




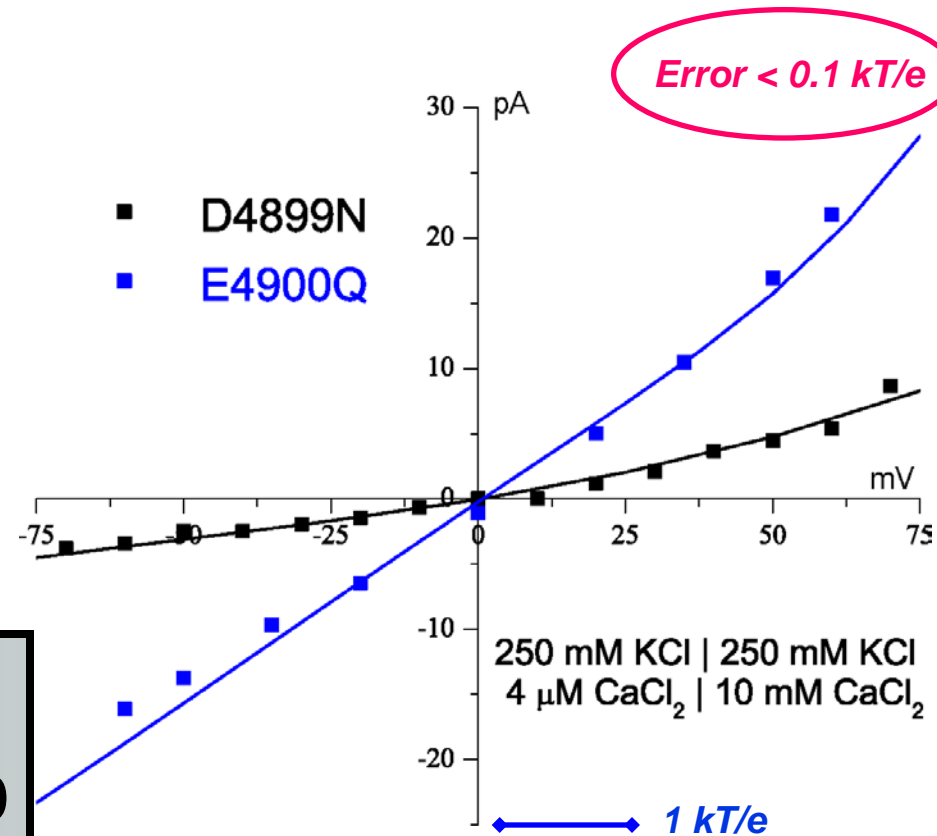
Theory fits Mutation with Zero Charge

No parameters adjusted

Theory Fits Mutant in K



Theory Fits Mutant in K + Ca



Protein charge density
wild type* **13 M** \Rightarrow **0 M** in D4899

Water is 55 M

**some wild type curves not shown, 'off the graph'*

Gillespie *et al*

J Phys Chem 109 15598 (2005)

***Vaccination
against
Traditional Models***

**Traditional Biochemistry
and
Traditional Molecular Dynamics
Assume
Ideal Solutions**

Ions in Water and Life are NOT ideal

Life Occurs in ~130 mM salt solutions

Ions in Water are the Liquid of Life

**No gas phase models of
traditional channel biochemistry**

Liquids are not Gases

Rate Constants are Variables

**No discussions of individual trajectories of
Structural Biologists**

Counting and Statistics are essential

Computation Starts From Crystal Structure *when available* *but*

Crystal Structures cannot determine Selectivity
because

- 1) Crystal Structures are measured in only one unphysiological solution**
- 2) Crystal Structures are not accurate enough**
- 3) Crystal Structures do not give entropy**

Selectivity

Depends Sensitive on Self-organized Structure and their Flexibility

Induced Structure is Different in Different Solutions

so

Structure must be Computed!

Rate constants are variables that change dramatically with conditions

James Clerk Maxwell

**“I carefully abstain
from asking molecules
where they start...**

I only count them,

**avoiding all personal enquiries
which would only get me into trouble.”**

slightly reworded from Royal Society of London, 1879, Archives no. 188
In Maxwell on Heat and Statistical Mechanics, Garber, Brush and Everitt, 1995