

Bob Eisenberg

(more formally, Robert S. Eisenberg)

Curriculum Vitae

June 19, 2012

Work co-ordinates

Address

Department of Molecular Biophysics and Physiology
Rush University
1750 West Harrison, Room 1291 Jelke
Chicago IL 60612

Phone numbers

Voice: (312)-942-6467
Department FAX: (312)-942-8711
FAX to email: (801)-504-8665
Skype Phone Number (708)-459-8089
Email: beisenbe@rush.edu

Short Scientific Biography

I received my A.B. (summa cum laude) at Harvard College after three years of study with John Edsall as tutor. I started studying electrical properties of cells at Harvard Medical School (Physiology) with John Pappenheimer and at his recommendation I was accepted into Steve Kuffler's Nerve Muscle Training Program at the Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole. At the MBL for three summers, I got to know Alan Hodgkin, Bob Taylor, K.C. Cole, John Moore, and too many others to name. I went to University College London for my Ph.D. with Paul Fatt as supervisor, where Bernard Katz was Chairman. Alan Hodgkin was my external examiner (and scientific hero!) and Andrew Huxley my mentor, for many years. My Ph.D. thesis and later work for a decade or two used engineering methods (impedance measurements: dielectric spectroscopy of single cells) to determine the electrical structure of cells and tissues (skeletal muscle, cardiac muscle, lens of the eye). I developed mathematical models to describe the electrical and physical structure mostly using methods of singular perturbation theory (working with Julian Cole, Victor Barcion, and Art Peskoff). I helped Brenda Eisenberg use statistical sampling methods of stereology to measure the structure. As a postdoc at Duke (Physiology), Brenda and I showed that glycerol treatment disconnected the T-tubular system of skeletal muscle, and Peter Gage and I studied the electrical properties of the resulting detubulated preparation. I rose through the academic ranks at UCLA, and was appointed the first Chairman of the Department of Physiology at Rush Medical College in Chicago when I was 33 years old. I am still there, in the same position.

I served as Chairman of the Physiology Study Section of the NIH for several years, and Director of Research (etc) for the American Heart Association (Chicago Branch). After single channel recording was discovered, I introduced Alan Finkel (Axon Instruments), Rick Levis, and Jim Rae to the patch clamp technique, and invented the integrating headstage after thinking hard about how to increase the impedance and reduce the noise of the feedback element in a current to

voltage converter. Together we designed the Axopatch amplifier that is used by thousands of channologists to this day.

I have spent many years working on ion channels, which are protein nanovalves that control an enormous range of biological function. I am trying to understand the current that flows through the channel, in a range of solutions of different composition, over a range of voltages. Working with Zeev Schuss, I showed how the flux over a potential barrier of any shape could be evaluated analytically, starting from a description of the stochastic trajectories of diffusion. ‘Eyring models’ of transition state theory arise as a special case of very high symmetrical barriers and it is hardly easier to compute than the general formulas.

Zeev Schuss, Boaz Nadler, Amit Singer, and I went on to show how mean field models can be derived from a model of the stochastic trajectories of ions in solution, using the techniques of probability theory and a classical closure approximation.

I adopted the drift diffusion equations of semiconductor physics, introduced them with their use of doping to represent the permanent charge of side chains of proteins (e.g., the acidic and basic side chains glutamate and lysine), and gave them the nickname PNP to remind people that proteins could have charge distributions like those of transistors and might (conceivably) function that way.

Working with Wolfgang Nonner, then Dirk Gillespie, Dezső Boda, Doug Henderson and others, I showed how the properties of concentrated electrolytes (as summarized in the primitive model of ionic solutions) can account for selectivity of two important types of channels, the L-type calcium channel of the heart and the voltage activated Na^+ channel of nerve.

I also

- (1) helped design and build selective channels using nonselective bacterial channels (ompF porin) as the ‘substrate’ (with Hank Miedema, et al, from Groningen),
- (2) helped design abiotic ionic channels (which Zuzanna Siwy builds),
- (3) helped Weishi Liu apply geometric perturbation theory to ion channels,
- (4) used the mathematics of inverse problems to design the selectivity and permanent charge of channels, assisting Heinz Engl and Martin Burger. This paper is particularly unusual since it is one of the few cases in which an inverse problem of significance to biology could be solved in detail and with quite robust results.
- (5) worked with Dezső Boda, Doug Henderson, Dirk Gillespie and Wolfgang Nonner to extend the crowded charge model of selectivity from calcium channels to the Na channel of nerve, showing that the same model can explain both (very different) types of channels *without changing any parameters*, just by reproducing the mutation (known from experiment) to change one channel type into another, EEEA \leftrightarrow DEKA, i.e. Glu-Glu-Glu-Ala \leftrightarrow Asp-Glu-Lys-Ala. This work shows that a single model with just one set of never changing parameters can account for the selectivity properties of two very different types of channels (Na channel of nerve and Ca channel of muscle). When the side chains in the channel protein are changed in the model, the protein changes selectivity just as it does in life. This work also reveals control parameters for the Na channel: the dielectric coefficient changes the contents of the channel, and has almost no effect on Na^+ vs. K^+ selectivity. The diameter of the selectivity filter changes the Na^+ vs. K^+ selectivity and has almost no effect on the contents of the channel.

(6) showed (with the same collaborators) that calcium selectivity does not arise from models of the L-type Ca channel that do not allow Glu residues to mix with ions.

(7) suggested that the simple model of selectivity works so well because it computes the important structures of the selectivity filter. These models put the ‘side chains’ into their optimal position (with minimal free energy) and thus determines the ‘optimal’ relation of side chains and permeating ions. These methods compute a self-organized selectivity filter in which the induced fit of side chains and ions is determined by the positions of the ions and side chains at thermodynamic equilibrium. The model computes the structure of the selectivity filter and that structure changes significantly from one solution to another.

(8) started to apply the energy variational principle developed by Chun Liu and collaborators to problems in ion permeation, selectivity, gating (with YunKyong Hyon and Chun) and to new subjects of water movement (with Yoichiro Mori and Chun) and vesicle formation and fusion (with Fred Cohen, Rolf Ryham, and Chun). The variational principle allows the coupling of different interacting structures and different physical properties of a single system in a mathematically well defined and (automatically) self-consistent way. It produces different partial differential equations and boundary conditions depending on the structures, physics, and coupling included in the underlying model. It thus seems ideally suited to the complexity of ions and water in solution, channels, and tissues, as well as to the interactions of multiple systems and physics that produce flow of ions and water and movement of membranes and cells and tissues in biological systems.

(9) Along the way, I helped Amit Singer (working with Zeev Schuss) show why the charge distribution of table salt (NaCl) does not produce sparks and electrocute those who touch it. Safety in salt is a consequence of probability theory, among other things, as all salt eaters should be glad to know.

(10) Moving to new methods and questions, I grew curious about the density of charged amino acids in active sites. The density of charge is enormous in ion channels and I wondered if it was also high in active sites of enzymes in general. Jie Liang, David Jimenez-Morales and I have used some wonderful search algorithms designed and implemented by Jie and David and found huge densities of acid (presumably negative) and basic (presumably positive) side chains in active sites, some 20 Molar (for comparison solid sodium chloride is 37 Molar). This very special charged environment seems likely to have been selected by evolution for a particular physical reason that we do not know.

(11) The traditional laws of chemistry do not apply well in environments as crowded as ion channels or active sites so I looked up the derivation of the classical ‘law’ of mass action that is taught to every graduate student in chemistry and most undergraduates as well. I found to my horror that the law is true (with constant rate constants) only when solutions are infinitely dilute and have no interactions between solutes. Since all ionic solutions have solutes that interact through the electric field, ionic solutions should not be described as they almost always have been in biochemistry and physiology. Ionic solutions do not obey the ‘law’ of mass action (with constant rate constants). Thousands of papers explain interactions by invoking conformation changes of enzymes and channels, or assuming complex reaction schemes and allosteric interactions (for example). Those explanations and schemes nearly always use rate constants that are constant. If they used variable rate constants that capture physical interactions of ions, the schemes and explanations would surely change dramatically, and might disappear altogether in some cases.

Internet Coordinates

Web Sites

- (1) Departmental Site: <http://www.phys.rush.edu/> with a 'Chairman's Message' at <http://www.phys.rush.edu/physiomsg.html> leading to Personal Site <http://www.phys.rush.edu/RSEisenberg/>
- (2) Thanks to Nanohub at Purdue University, a lecture of mine from 2008 is available for viewing at <http://www.nanohub.org/resources/4726/> [Talk]: Ionic Selectivity in Channels: complex biology created by the balance of simple physics. Nanotechnology 501 Lecture Series: Purdue University.
- (3) Thanks to Institute for Mathematics and its Applications, University of Minnesota, my lecture of December 2008 is available (with slides) at [Talks and PDF], i.e., <http://www.ima.umn.edu/2008-2009/W12.8-12.08/abstracts.html#Eisenberg-Robert>
- (4) Thanks to the Mathematical Biology Institute, Ohio State University, my lecture (with slides) from April 2011 is available at [MBI April 2011](http://beta.mbi.ohio-state.edu/video/player/?id=549&title=Ions+in+Channels%3A+important+biology+ready+for+mathematical+analysis), i.e., <http://beta.mbi.ohio-state.edu/video/player/?id=549&title=Ions+in+Channels%3A+important+biology+ready+for+mathematical+analysis>
- (5) Thanks to Lancaster University Physics Department. Slides from Bob's lecture of July 2011 at [Lancashire July 2011](http://www.physics.lancs.ac.uk/FluctuationsConference2011/talks.htm). i.e., www.physics.lancs.ac.uk/FluctuationsConference2011/talks.htm

PNP Online <http://www.pnponline.org/> Interactive software for running Poisson Nernst Planck theory, with Brice Burgess.

FTP Sites

- 1) [Reprints](#) available on this [hyperlink](#) or by anonymous ftp from [ftp.rush.edu](ftp://ftp.rush.edu).
(sign on as anonymous; for password; use your email address)
Migrate to [/molebio/Bob_Eisenberg/Reprints](ftp://molebio/Bob_Eisenberg/Reprints) or just click on this hyperlink
- 2) PNP is available in various flavors,
 - a. PNPonline is at <http://www.pnponline.org/> thanks to Brice Burgess
 - b. from [ftp.rush.edu](ftp://ftp.rush.edu) at [/pub/PNP/](ftp://ftp.rush.edu/pub/PNP/); [/pub/Hollerbach/](ftp://ftp.rush.edu/pub/Hollerbach/); [/pub/Nonner/](ftp://ftp.rush.edu/pub/Nonner/), thank you: D. Chen, U. Hollerbach, W. Nonner and S-W. Chiu.
 - c. See a much more modern (2008) version from Department of Chemistry, Northwestern University, Laboratories of Mark Ratner and George Schatz labs <https://www.nanohub.org/resources/2469>
- 3) Files of single channel currents with noise are in [/pub/Noise](ftp://ftp.rush.edu/pub/Noise), written in collaboration with Rick Levis (*deceased*, 2005).

Education

Elementary School: New Rochelle, New York

High School, 1956-59. Horace Mann School, Riverdale, New York City, graduated in three years with honors and awards in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Latin, English and History.

Undergraduate, 1959-62. Entered Harvard College with Advanced Placement as a sophomore, concentrated in Biochemical Sciences, Prof. J.T. Edsall tutor and mentor; advisor in Physiology Prof. J.R. Pappenheimer; graduated in three years A.B., *summa cum laude*.

Summer work, 1960-61. Nerve Muscle Program at Marine Biological Laboratory directed by Prof. S.W. Kuffler.

Doctoral work: University College London 1962-65 (Ph.D. in Biophysics: B. Katz, Chairman); Supervisor, P. Fatt; External Examiner, A.L. Hodgkin. Mentor (over several decades): A.F. Huxley.

Personal

Home co-ordinates:

Address: 7320 Lake Street, Unit 5, River Forest IL 60305

Phone: (708)-366-6332

Personal FAX: (801)-504-8665 and also (775)-256-9463

Born in Brooklyn, New York, April 25, 1942: Citizen of the United States.

Social Security Number 075-xx-xxxx.

Married Ardyth Eisenberg, 1991.

Children (mother, Brenda Russell):

Benjamin Russell Eisenberg, born March 17, 1969.

Grandchild, mother Angelle Moutoussamy

Crystal Lynn Moutoussamy, born March 19, 1994

Emily Ruth Eisenberg, born February 8, 1973. Husband, Benjamin Taylor

Jill Anna Trowbridge (formerly Eisenberg), born November 7, 1974.

Grandchildren, father John Trowbridge

James Louis Trowbridge, born August 15, 1997.

Holly Sophia Trowbridge, born July 11, 2000.

Henry Samuel Trowbridge, born January 15, 2004.

Alastair Solomon Trowbridge, born January 10, 2006

Sally Lynn Eisenberg, born June 20, 1979.

Family Christmas Letters: [\[2001\]](#) [\[2003\]](#) [\[2004\]](#) [\[2005\]](#) [\[2006\]](#) [\[2007\]](#) [\[2008\]](#) [\[2009\]](#)
[\[2010\]](#) [\[2011\]](#)

[Family Photos](#) (unedited) from many years are at [Family photos](#) or

<https://picasaweb.google.com/111845037112506820480>

Academic Positions

Main Positions

Rush Medical College, Chicago IL. Rush Employee ID 010207

1995- ... Chairman of Molecular Biophysics and Physiology (*Department renamed*)

1976 - ... Endowed Chair “The Francis N. and Catherine O. Bard Chair of Physiology ”

1976-1995 Chairman of Physiology

University of California at Los Angeles

1975-1976 Professor of Biomathematics and Physiology,
Chairmen: Carol Newton, W. Mommaerts

1970-1975 Associate Professor, Department of Physiology

1968-1970 Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology

Duke University, Durham NC

Associate, 1965-1968. Department of Physiology, Duke University,
Chairman: D. Tosteson. Post-doctoral fellow of P. Horowicz, along with P. Gage,
C. Armstrong, etc.

Secondary Positions

Visiting Scholar, Department of Mathematics, Pennsylvania State University, 2011 – ...,
PSU ID 9 82583348

Adjunct Professor, Department of Bioengineering, University of Illinois Chicago 2007- ...
UIN 658809751

Senior Scientist, Argonne National Laboratory (Mathematics and Computer Science Division,
2005 – 2011 Badge number B0 56980 A

Schlumberger Visiting Professor, University of Cambridge (UK) 2002

Visiting Fellow, Corpus Christi College, University of Cambridge (UK) 2002

Visiting Professor, 2000-2003 Computational Electronics, Beckman Institute, University of
Illinois, Urbana Champaign

Visiting Scientist, 1991-1995. Department of Physics, Brookhaven National Laboratory,
Upton, Long Island, NY.

Visiting Professor, Miller Institute for Basic Research in Science, University of California,
Berkeley, October-February, 2012-2013

Honors

Editorial Board, Journal of General Physiology, 1970-1991

Editorial Board, Journal of Computational Electronics, 2001-...

Associate Editor, Comments on Theoretical Biology, 1987-...

Associate Editor, News in Physiological Sciences, 1988-1992

Harvard College Scholarship

A.B. received *summa cum laude*

Phi Beta Kappa: member of “Senior Sixteen”

L.J. Henderson award for thesis in Biochemical Sciences

Senior Common Room Award for “Most Promising Scholar”
 Schlumberger Visiting Professor, University of Cambridge (UK)
 Visiting Fellow, Corpus Christi College, University of Cambridge (UK)
 Schlumberger Medal, Physical Chemistry
 Plenary Lecture at European Mathematics Society/AMAM 2003
 Member Executive Board, American Physical Society (2002-2004)
 Fellow, American Physical Society (Division of Biological Physics)
 Argonne National Laboratory: Director’s Seminar
 Senior and Life Member of the IEEE
 Institute of Medicine of Chicago
 Keynote Speaker, Oak Ridge National Laboratory and University of Tennessee, Knoxville.
 Summer School on Biophysics: Computational and Theoretical Challenges (2010).
 Keynote Speaker, Lancaster University: Conference on Fluctuations and Coherence. (2011)
 see www.physics.lancs.ac.uk/FluctuationsConference2011/talks.htm
 Keynote and Summary Speaker, National Taiwan University Taipei “Workshop on
 Mathematical Models of Electrolytes Applied to Molecular Biology”, January,
 2012, Tai-Chia Lin 林太家 Organizer)
 Miller Visiting Professor, Miller Institute for Basic Research in Science and Department of
 Chemistry, University of California, Berkeley, October-February, 2012-2013.

Grant Support

Continuous Grant Support (without interruption) thanks to a combination of NSF, NIH, and DARPA from approximately 1970 to 2011. Miscellaneous additional grants from AHA, MDA, Chicago Heart, etc.

Scientific Administration

FIRST CHAIRMAN OF DEPARTMENT OF MOLECULAR BIOPHYSICS AND PHYSIOLOGY, appointed 1976, thriving, if not burgeoning, see science at <http://www.phys.rush.edu/physiofac.html>

AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY

Councilor (First term: 2000-2004)
 Councilor (Second term: 2005-2009)
 Member of Executive Board (2002-2004)
 Member, Committee on Committees (2003- 2006, 2009)
 Member, Audit Committee (2004 - 2007), Chair Audit Committee (2005 – 2006)
 Division of Biological Physics
 Executive Board (2001- ...)

BIOPHYSICAL SOCIETY

Member of U.S. National Committee International Union of Pure and Applied
 Biophysics (1978-1983)
 Member of Council (1983-1986).
 Member of Executive Board (1983-1986).
 Member of Program Committee (1984).

Chairman of Nominating Committee (1985).
 Chairman of Science Public Policy Committee (1985-1987).

CHICAGO CHAPTER OF SOCIETY FOR NEUROSCIENCE

Member of Council (1981-1984), Meeting Organizer, then President.

CHICAGO HEART ASSOCIATION

Member, Vice Chairman, then Chairman of the Research Council (1982-1986).
 Member, Vice Chairman, then Chairman of Research Review Committee (1976-1986;
 1989).

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH

Member (1979-1981), then Chairman (1981-1983) of Physiology Study Section.
 Member *ad hoc* (2004) Modeling & Analysis of Biological Systems Study Section.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Member, Steering Committee on Biology and Mathematics (1989, 1996).

PENNSYLVANIA MUSCLE INSTITUTE

Member (1980-1982; 1989-1990), then Chairman (1982-1987; 1989-1990) of the External Advisory Board, University of Pennsylvania, Director: A. Somlyo (1980-1987); Y. Goldman (1989-1990).

SOCIETY OF GENERAL PHYSIOLOGISTS

Councilor; Chairman, Membership Committee.

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

External review of Graduate Program, Department of Physiology (1988).

Invited Lectures On-Line

Lectures: available on-line click here [\[PPTX\]](#) and

- (1) Thanks to Nanohub at Purdue University, a lecture from 2008 is available for viewing at <http://www.nanohub.org/resources/4726/> [Talk]: Ionic Selectivity in Channels: complex biology created by the balance of simple physics. Nanotechnology 501 Lecture Series: Purdue University.
- (2) Thanks to Institute for Mathematics and its Applications, University of Minnesota, a lecture of December 2008 is available (with slides) at [\[Talks and PDF\]](#), i.e., <http://www.ima.umn.edu/2008-2009/W12.8-12.08/abstracts.html#Eisenberg-Robert>
- (3) Thanks to the Mathematical Biology Institute, Ohio State University, a lecture (with slides) from April 2011 is available at [MBI April 2011](#), i.e., <http://beta.mbi.ohio-state.edu/video/player/?id=549&title=Ions+in+Channels%3A+important+biology+ready+for+mathematical+analysis>
- (4) Thanks to Lancaster University Physics Department. Slides from Bob's lecture of July 2011 at [Lancashire July 2011](#). i.e., www.physics.lancs.ac.uk/FluctuationsConference2011/talks.htm

Invited Lectures

Albert Einstein College of Medicine
 American Chemical Society, National Meeting, Division of Physical Chemistry
 American Chemical Society, National Meeting, 2008, Division of Physical Chemistry
 Symposium: Water Mediated Interactions, Dor Ben-Amotz, H. Asbaugh,
 Organizers.
 American Heart Association
 AMA Institute (1966)
 American Mathematical Society, 2012, Central Section, co-organizer (with Weishi Liu and
 Chun Liu) and speaker in “Special Session on Mathematics of Ion Channels: Life's
 Transistors”
 American Physical Society (Division of Biological Physics) March Meeting, 2000
 American Physical Society (Division of Biological Physics) March Meeting, 2006
 American Physical Society (Division of Biological Physics) March Meeting 2009
 American Chemical Society Meeting, San Francisco, 2000
 American Physiological Society Meeting: 1978, 1979, 1983
 Argonne National Laboratory Chemical Sciences
 Argonne National Laboratory Material Sciences Division
 Argonne National Laboratory Mathematics and Computer Sciences Division
 Argonne National Laboratory Biology Division
 Argonne National Laboratory: Director’s Seminar
 Association of Chairmen of Departments of Physiology
 Australian National University (Canberra)
 Baylor University
 Biological Chemists of the Federal Republic of Germany
 Biophysical Society, 1991: *in* Symposium on Ion Channels in Intracellular Membranes
 Biophysical Society, 2007: *in* Symposium on Modeling as a Tool in Biophysics; Sponsor
 American Physical Society (Division of Biological Physics)
 Biozentrum (Basel, Switzerland): Minicourse on Electrophysiology
 Biozentrum (Basel, Switzerland): Selectivity in Channels (Seminar in Structural Biology)
 Boston University (Department of Mathematics)
 Brandeis University (Department of Biochemistry, Host: Chris Miller, 1986;
 Department of Chemistry, Host: Judy Herzfeld, 2008)
 Brigham Young University (Zoology), ~1998
 Brigham Young University (Chemistry), 2010
 Brigham Young University (Computer Science), 2010
 Brigham Young University (Zoology and Neuroscience), 2010
 Brookhaven National Laboratory (Department of Physics)
 California Institute of Technology (Biology)
 California Institute of Technology (Applied Mathematics)
 Cambridge University (England) Physiology: Foster Club
 Cambridge University (England) Chemistry, *in* the “Lennard Jones Lecture Series”
 Cambridge University (England) Pharmacology
 Cambridge (England): Schlumberger Lecture, 2002
 Cambridge University (England) Centre for Computational Chemistry
 CCNY, Department of Physics, Mike Lubell Chairman

CECAM: Ionic Transport: from Nanopores to Biological Channels (Organizers Mounir Tarek and Mark Sansom, Lyon (2007)
 Centro de Investigacion y de Estudios del Avanzados (Mexico City)
 Chicago Heart Association Cardiovascular Research Forum
 Chicago Medical School
 Chinese Academy of Sciences CAS (Beijing) Institute of Computational Mathematics (Ben-Zhou Lu, host, 2012)
 City of Hope, Duarte, California
 K.S. Cole Symposium (FASEB Federation of American Societies of Experimental Biology, 1974)
 Colorado State University (Fort Collins: Department of Chemistry)
 Columbia University, Department of Chemical Engineering
 Conference on Fluctuations, Escape, and Optimal Control Traverse City MI
 Conference of N.Y. Academy of Science, 1977
 Cornell University Medical School: Department of Physiology
 Cornell University: Department of Chemistry
 Courant Institute (NYU) Seminar “Mostly Biomathematics” (2004)
 Courant Institute (NYU) Joint Seminar with Chun Liu, Yoichiro Mori, “Mostly Biomathematics (2010)
 DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency)
 Many workshops.
 Director’s Seminar, 2001
 DSRC (Defense Sciences Research Council) Workshop on Biosensors
 Dominican University (River Forest IL)
 Duke University Department of Physiology. Hosts Dan Tosteson and Paul Horowicz, 1964.
 DuPont Experimental Station, Wilmington DE
 European Mathematics Society: Plenary Lecture at AMAM 2003 (Applied Math ...)
 Participant (not speaker) at EMBO Meeting in honor of retirement of Max Perutz at Kings College, Cambridge, 1980
 Emory University
 Fine Structure Society (Rosemont IL 1995)
 Florida State University: Inaugural Workshop for Computational Science, 2000
 FOCUS 2000, DARPA workshop, Session Leader, Speaker, Plenary Session
 Fordham University, Biology and Mathematics Seminar October 2010
 Frontiers in Mathematical Biology: NSF-NIH Meeting, 2010 CSCAMM University of Maryland, Invited Speaker
 Frontiers in Applied and Computational Mathematics FACM, 2012, NJIT
 Free University of Berlin Institute of Chemistry and Biochemical Modeling
 Fudan University, Shanghai, Department of Mathematics, Lectures on Biomathematics, 2011, organizer Chun Liu.
 Gordon Conference on Smooth Muscle, 1973
 Gordon Conference on Skeletal Muscle, 1980
 Gordon Conference on Skeletal Muscle, 1983
 Gordon Conference on Skeletal Muscle, 1985
 Gordon Conference on Solid State Ionics, 1990
 Gordon Conference on Ion Channels, 1998
 Gordon Conference on Ion Channels, 2000
 Gordon Conference on Water, 2010

Grinnell College, Department of Biology
 Harvard University (Neurobiology)
 Hebrew University, Jerusalem: Fritz Haber Lecturer in Physical Chemistry
 Hebrew University, Jerusalem: Bat Sheva (de Rothschild) Seminar
 Hebrew University, Jerusalem: Protein Dynamics and thermodynamics, participant and session chair.
 Henderson Symposium (Basic and Applied Statistical Mechanics of Condensed Matter, Brigham Young University, 2004)
 HRL (formerly Hughes Research Lab) Malibu: Physics Colloquium, 1999.
 HRL (formerly Hughes Research Lab) Malibu: Colloquium, 2005.
 ICIAM 6th International Congress on Industrial & Applied Mathematics Zurich 2007, Co-organizer, two minisymposia: Direct and inverse problems in channels and membranes. Organizer Martin Burger, Co-organizer Heinz Engl.
 IEEE International Conference on Pattern Recognition (1994), presented by Amir Averbuch and Moshe Israeli
 IIT (Illinois Institute of Technology) Department of Biological, Chemical and Physical Science (Hosts: Grant Bunker and Larry Scott)
 IIT (Illinois Institute of Technology) Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (Host: Marco Saraniti).
 IIT (Illinois Institute of Technology) Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering (Host: Darsh Wasan)
 IIT (Illinois Institute of Technology) Department of Mathematics (Host: Shuwang Li)
 Intel Workshop on Early Disease Detection (Sept 2002)
 Institute for Mathematics and its Applications (IMA), Solvation Workshop (December 2008) see link [\[Talks and PDF\]](#) or address <http://www.ima.umn.edu/2008-2009/W12.8-12.08/abstracts.html#Eisenberg-Robert>
 Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, IPAM, UCLA, Ion Channels (2002)
 Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, IPAM, UCLA, Inverse Problems, Lecture and Workshop (2003)
 Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, IPAM, Lake Arrowhead UCLA Conference: Inverse Problems Reunion (2005)
 Institute for Pure and Applied Mathematics, IPAM, Lake Arrowhead UCLA Conference: Inverse Problems Reunion (2006)
 Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara, Conference on Electrostatic Effects in Complex Fluids and Biophysics, 1998
 International Conference on Circuit/System Theory, Sydney, Australia (1970)
 International Conference on Computational Nanoscience
 International Conference on Unsolved Problems of Noise and fluctuations in physics, biology, and high technology, Bethesda, 2002
 International Filter Symposium, Santa Monica, CA, 1972
 International Workshop on Computational Electronics: IWCE-5, 1997, Notre Dame.
 International Workshop on Computational Electronics, IWCE-6, 1998, Osaka
 International Workshop on Computational Electronics, IWCE-8, 2001, UIUC
 International Workshop on Computational Electronics, IWCE-9, 2003, Roma, Italia
 International Workshop on Computational Electronics, IWCE-11, 2006, Vienna, Austria
 Jacobs University Bremen Germany
 Johns Hopkins (Department of Biology)
 Johns Hopkins (Department of Biomedical Engineering)

Kansas University (Mathematics, 2005, 2007)
 Kavli Institute of Theoretical Physics, University of California Santa Barbara:
 Evolutionary Perspectives on Mechanisms of Cellular Organization 2010
 Laboratory of Molecular Biology, MRC, Cambridge England
 Lancaster University (Department of Physics)
 Lancaster University: Keynote Speaker at Conference on Fluctuations and Coherence.
 (organizer Peter McClintock, 2011) see
 www.physics.lancs.ac.uk/FluctuationsConference2011/talks.htm
 Liblice Conference (5th) on Statistical Mechanics of Liquids, 1998
 Los Alamos National Laboratory (Center for Nonlinear Studies)
 Loyola University, Department of Physiology, Maywood, Illinois
 Marquette University: Department of Biology
 Marquette University: Department of Mathematics
 Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole
 Mathematical Biosciences Institute, Ohio State University, Speaker at “Modeling and
 computation of biomolecular structure and dynamics” April, 2011 [MBI 2011](http://www.mbi.ohio-state.edu/video/player/?id=549&title=Ions+in+Channels%3A+important+biology+ready+for+mathematical+analysis), i.e.,
<http://beta.mbi.ohio-state.edu/video/player/?id=549&title=Ions+in+Channels%3A+important+biology+ready+for+mathematical+analysis>
 Max Planck Institute (Goettingen: Erwin Neher. Am Fessberg series) 2007
 Max Planck Institute (Goettingen. MPI for Dynamics and Self-organization. Computational
 Neuroscience 2009)
 Max Planck Institute (Heidelberg: Ken Holmes)
 Max Planck Institute (Heidelberg: Bert Sakmann)
 Mayo Clinic, Pharmacology, John Blinks.
 Mayo Clinic, Physiology, Stuart Taylor.
 McMaster University: Department of Physics (Hamilton, Ontario)
 McGill University: Department of Biomedical Engineering, Jay Nadeau (March 2010)
 Medical College of Virginia
 Medical College of Wisconsin
 Medical Research Council, Mill Hill, England
 Merck, Sharpe, and Dhome
 Mesilla Conference on Physical Chemistry (2001), Las Cruces New Mexico
 Michigan State University (2011) Quantitative Biology and Mathematics, host Guowei Wei
 and Michael Garavito
 MIT Bio-Informatics Seminar (with the Whitehead Institute)
 Monash University, Australia: Electrical Engineering
 Monash University, Australia: Department of Physiology
 NASA Ames: Biomolecular Systems
 National Science Foundation (first MOBS Seminar: Modeling of Biological Systems)
 NATO Advanced Research Workshop. Ionic Soft Matter, Lviv, Ukraine
 National Taiwan University Taipei “Energetic Variational Approaches to Elastic Complex
 Fluids and Molecular Biology” January, 2010
 National Taiwan University Taipei “Workshop on Mathematical Models of Electrolytes
 Applied to Molecular Biology”, January, 2012, Tai-Chia Lin 林太家 Organizer)
 New Mexico Institute of Technology and Mining (Socorro)
 Dept of Mathematics (host, Bxiang Wang), March 2011
 New York University Medical School (Physiology)
 New York University (Biology: Tamar Schlick’s Group)
 NIH NINCDS

NIH Arthritis Institute
 NIH GMS
 NISTI-NIGMS Digital Biology Speaker (2003)
 NIST Physical and Chemical Properties Division
 NJIT (New Jersey Institute of Technology, Newark) Department of Mathematics, 2011
 Northwestern University: Evanston, Applied Mathematics
 Northwestern University Evanston Chemistry Colloquium
 Northwestern University Evanston Chemistry
 George Schatz & Mark Ratner Laboratory (2010)
 Northwestern Univ Evanston, Mathematics “Conversations in Mathematics & Biology”
 Northwestern University: Evanston, Neurosciences
 Northwestern University Evanston, Physics and Engineering Sciences
 Northwestern University: Chicago, Physiology
 Notre Dame, Department of Electrical Engineering
 Notre Dame, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry
 Novartis Foundation Symposium: Gramicidin and Related Peptides, 1998
 Novartis Foundation Meeting: Physical Models of Ion Permeation, 2000
 Oak Ridge National Laboratory and University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Summer School
 on Biophysics: Computational and Theoretical Challenges (2010).
 Oregon Health Sciences University (Vollum Institute)
 Oxford University (England) Department of Physiology
 Oxford University (England) Department of Biochemistry (2011)
 Oxford University Biochemical Society (England)
 Oxford University Seminar in Physical and Theoretical Chemistry (England)
 Oxford University Seminar in Chemistry (Hagan Bayley)
 Oxford University OCIAM Mathematics in Medicine 5th Study Group (October, 2005)
 Oxford University OCIAM Mathematics in Medicine: Ion Channels (March, 2006)
 Oxford University Occam Mathematical modelling of ion channels (September 2011)
 PacifiChem (meeting of American Chemical Society, 2000)
 PacifiChem (meeting of American Chemical Society, 2005)
 Penn(sylvania) State University, Department of Mathematics,
 IMA-PIP Workshop on Numerical Simulation of Complex Fluids and MHD
 Polytechnic University (NY) Department of Chemical Engineering (2010)
 Pierre & Marie Curie University (UPMC) Department of Physical Chemistry (Pierre Turq,
 Jean-Pierre. Hansen) 2009
 Princeton University Program in Applied Mathematics (October 2009)
 Purdue University: Department of Biology
 Purdue University: Department of Electrical Engineering: Solid State Physics,
 Organizer: Mark Lundstrom
 Purdue University Physical Chemistry Seminar Series, 2008, Organizer Dor Ben-Amotz
 available at <http://www.nanohub.org/resources/4726/> [PDF]
 Radon Institute (RICAM) EMS (European Mathematics Society) Linz, Austria (2006)
 Minicourse (3 days) Lectures on Ion Channels
 Radon Institute (RICAM), Linz, Austria, Special Semester on Quantitative Biology (2007)
 Ionic Channels
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Department of Mathematics
 Rice University Colloquium in Computational and Applied Mathematics (March 2010)
 Rowland Institute (Cambridge MA)

Rush Medical College (Physiology, 1975)
 Rush Medical College (Pharmacology, 2008)
 Salk Institute (Host: Steven Kuffler)
 Salk Institute (Host: C. Stevens)
 Sandia National Laboratory (Laura Frink/Grant Heffelfinger)
 Sandia National Laboratory Biophysical Discussion (Susan Rempe)
 Satellite Meeting (Debrecen) of International Physiological Congress, 1980
 Schlumberger Cambridge Research
 Scripps Research Institute La Jolla
 Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) “Recent Progresses on Coulomb Many Body Systems” (Xiangjun Xing and Wei Cai, 2012)
 Simon Fraser University (Vancouver) Department of Physics
 SISSA and ICTP Trieste, Italy Theoretical Biophysics and Structural Biology
 SISSA and ICTP Trieste, Italy. Challenge: correcting Einstein’s mistake
 Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics:
 Invited lecture, Conference on Applied Probability in Science & Engineering Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics
 Invited lecture, symposium on “Ionic Channels in Biological Membranes”. Annual meeting, 1993
 Invited lecture, Symposium on Ionic Channels, 2001, Annual meeting
 Invited lecture, Symposium Electrodifussion: Modeling, Analysis, Simulation, and Applications, 2005, Annual Meeting. New Orleans
 Invited lecture, Co-organizer Symposium Multiscale Modeling of Electrochemical Systems, 2006, Annual Meeting, Boston.
 Invited Lecture, Symposium, Multiscale Nonlinear Problems in Biology, 2007, Conference on Dynamical Systems
 SPIE Annual Meeting (1994) *in* Symposium “Mathematical Imaging: Wavelet Applications” (presented by Amir Averbuch and Moshe Israeli)
 Stanford University (Department of Electrical Engineering)
 State University of New York (Albany)
 State University of New York (Stony Brook)
 Taft School Centennial Symposium
 Technical University of Vienna (Mathematics)
 Telluride Science Research Center Symposium on Biological Ion Channels (2003)
 Telluride Science Research Center Symposium on Biophysical and Biochemical Properties of Ion Channels in Epithelia (2004)
 Telluride Science Research Center Symposium Biological Ion channels: Structure and Function (2005)
 Texas Instrument Corporation (1966)
 Thomas Jefferson University: Daniel Baugh Institute
 TIDS12 Transport in Disordered Systems 12th Annual Meeting, Marburg, 2007
 TMR Meeting on Kinetics, Goteborg Sweden, 2000, Plenary Speaker
 Tulane University (1967)
 UCLA: Biology Department (1968)
 UCLA: Jerry Lewis Muscle Disease Center
 UCLA: Physiology Department
 UCLA: Molecular Biology Institute
 UCLA: Department of Anesthesiology

UCLA School of Engineering, Mechanics and Structures
 UCLA Department of Bioengineering
 University College (London): Biophysics
 University College (London): Physiology
 University of Buffalo (SUNY) Department of Physiology and Biophysics
 University of Buffalo (SUNY) Department of Electrical Engineering
 University of California (Berkeley) Chemical Engineering, Chakraborty Group
 University of California (Berkeley) Colloquium in Physics Department (Marvin Cohen)
 University of California (Irvine) Miledi Group
 University of California (Irvine) Colloquium in Physics
 University of California (San Diego) McCammon Group
 University of California (San Diego) Department of Mathematics (Bo Li, Host).
 University of California (San Francisco, Biochemistry, ~ 1970)
 University of California (San Francisco, Biochemistry, 2007)
 University of Chicago: Applied Mathematics. Organizer Victor Barcion
 University of Chicago ‘Computations in Science Seminars’,
 Organizers, L Kadanoff & Wendy Zhang
 University of Chicago: Department of Biophysics. Organizer, George Eisenman
 University of Chicago: Department of Physics (Franck Institute), Leo Kadanoff
 University of Chicago: Department of Physiology Organizer, Harry Fozzard
 University of Chicago: Department of Chemistry Organizer, Graham Fleming
 University of Colorado (Boulder): Applied Mathematics
 University of Colorado (Denver): Physiology
 University of Florida Department of Chemistry, Charles Martin’s Nanogroup
 University of Gröningen, Netherlands (Department of Chemistry)
 University of Hawaii (von Bekesy Laboratory)
 University of Heidelberg Bioquant-Vorlesung Seminar, 2007
 University of Heidelberg: Bioms-Bioquant Lecture *in* the Workshop on Transport,
 Signaling and Structure Formation in Cellular Systems: Mathematics Meets
 Experiments
 University of Illinois (Chicago): Department of Chemistry
 University of Illinois (Chicago): Department of Physics
 University of Illinois (Chicago): Department of Bioengineering, 2007, 2009
 University of Illinois Medical School (Chicago): Department of Biochemistry
 University of Illinois Medical School (Chicago): Department of Ophthalmology
 University of Illinois Medical School (Chicago): Department of Physiology
 University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana): Physiology
 University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana): Biological Physics
 University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana): Physics, Beckman Institute
 University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana): Theoretical and Computational Biophysics
 Group, Klaus Schulten
 University of Illinois (Champaign-Urbana): Computational Electronics
 University of Linz, Oesterreich (Austria). Johan Radon Institute of Applied Mathematics.
 University of Maryland (Baltimore): Physiology
 University of Maryland (Baltimore): Biochemistry
 University of Maryland (College Park): Electrical Engineering, Electrophysics Series
 University of Maryland (College Park): Institute for Physical Science and Technology
 University of Maryland (College Park): CSCAMM

University of Massachusetts (Amherst) Department of Chemistry
 University of Miami: Biophysics and Physiology
 University of Michigan: Michigan Interdisciplinary Mathematics Meeting.
 University of Michigan: Seminar in Applied and Interdisciplinary Mathematics
 University of Münster, Westfälischen Wilhelms-Universität Germany,
 Department of Applied Mathematics
 University of New South Wales, Australia
 University of Notre Dame (Department of Electrical Engineering)
 University of North Carolina (Physiology) Host Gerry Oxford and Barry Palotta
 University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill) Dept of Biochemistry Host Gerhard Meissner.
 University of North Carolina (Charlotte) Joint Seminar Mathematics and Bioinformatics
 University of Oklahoma, Department of Physiology 1968
 University of Pannonia (Veszprém Hungary): Department of Physical Chemistry Dezső
 Boda, 2009
 University of Pennsylvania, Department of Physiology, Department of Chemistry,
 Department of Biology
 University of Rochester (Physiology)
 University of Rochester (Neurology)
 University of Rochester (Neuromuscular Center)
 University of Sydney, Australia
 University of Texas (Austin), Physics and Mathematics Seminar (Irene Gamba, host)
 University of Texas (Austin), Colloquium in Physics (Harry Swinney, host)
 University of Texas (Austin) ICES/Computational Life Sciences and Biology Seminar:
 “Ionic Selectivity: A Physical Analysis of Vital Chemistry” (Ron Elber, host)
 University of Texas (Austin) Center for Nonlinear Dynamics (Harry Swinney, host)
 University of Texas (Austin) Center for Nonlinear Dynamics (Mark Raizen, host)
 University of Texas (Galveston)
 University of Texas (Southwestern: Dallas)
 University of Tokyo (Neuroscience)
 University of Utah
 University of Vermont
 University of Vienna, Department of Mathematics
 University of Washington
 University of Wisconsin Madison (Electrical Engineering)
 University of Wisconsin Madison (Contemporary Biochemistry)
 University of Wisconsin Madison (Biochemistry, 2011, Julie Mitchell, host)
 University of Wisconsin Milwaukee
 USA-Japan Seminar Excitation-Contraction Coupling, Tokyo 1971
 Vanderbilt University Colloquium on Physics
 Washington University, St. Louis, Physiology
 Washington University, St. Louis, Center for Computational Chemistry
 Weizmann Institute, Rehovot: Bat Sheva (de Rothschild) Seminar.
 Weizmann Institute, Rehovot: Chemistry Department
 Western Nerve Net (San Diego)
 Westfaelisch Wilhelms University Muenster Applied Mathematics
 Westfaelische Wilhelms University Meunster
 Multiscale Simulation for Ion Channels (2009)

Workshop on Wavelets: 16th International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Biology and Medicine Society.
 World Congress on Medical Physics and Biomedical Engineering, 1994.
 Yale University (Department of Physiology)
 Yale University (Section of Neuroscience)
 Yale University (Department of Mathematics and Computational Science)
 Yangtze Conference on Fluids and Interfaces
 Zhejiang University, Hangzhou. Symposium Department of Mathematics, 2011, organizer, Fang-Hua Li of the Courant Institute, NYU

Symposia Organized

- Chairman, Mini-symposium on **The Lens as a Syncytium**, Biophysical Society Meeting, 1980.
- Co-Chairman, with Brian Salzberg, **Symposium on Fine Processing in the Fine Processes of the Nervous System**, Biophysical Society Meeting, 1984.
- Chairman of Symposium and Luncheon **Calcium Signals in Muscle**, Biophysical Society Meeting, 1985
- Chairman of Symposium. **Nerve Impulse: From Conduction to Channels by way of Conductance** at the 100th Anniversary Meeting of the American Physiological Society, 1987.
- Chairman of Symposium. **Skeletal Muscle Physiology: an Update** at the 100th Anniversary Meeting of the American Physiological Society, 1987.
- Chairman of Minisymposium. **Moving through (Biological) Channels**, Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics Conference on Applied Probability in Science and Engineering, New Orleans, 1990.
- Chairman of Minisymposium. **Ionic Movement through Biological Channels**. Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Annual Meeting. Chicago, 1990.
- Organizer of Workshop: **From Structure to Permeation in Open Ionic Channels**. Biophysical Society Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., 1993
- Chairman of Symposium: **Ionic Channels: Natural Nanotubes**. American Physical Society Annual Meeting, 2000.
- Chairman and Organizer of **Novartis Foundation Meeting: Physical Models of Ion Permeation**, 2000
- Chairman and Organizer of **Symposium at International Conference on Computational Nanoscience, 2001: Nanostructure Simulation from thin oxides to biological ion channels**.
- Co-organizer of **Yangtze Conference on Fluids and Interfaces** (Chief Organizers Kwong-Yu Chan and D Henderson). Chairman, Ion Channels Session, 2001. see J. Colloid Interface Sci. 2002 246: p.222.
- Organizer and Chairman of **Nanostructures: biological ion channels to thin oxides**. Nanotech 2003, San Francisco.

- Co-organizer and Chairman (with Dirk Gillespie) of **Physical Models of Ion/Protein Interactions**, American Physical Society (Division of Biological Physics) March, 2003. Austin, TX.
- Chairman (Organizer Maria Kurnikova) **Physics of Ion Interactions with Proteins**, March, 2004, American Physical Society, Montreal Quebec Canada.
- Member, Organizing Committee, NATO Advanced Research Workshop. **Ionic Soft Matter** Lviv Ukraine, 2004.
- Helper to Andrij Trokhymchuk and David Busath, **Festschrift for Doug Henderson**, Brigham Young University, 2004.
- Co-organizer, with Heinz Engl, **RICAM Seminar on Ion Channels**, Johan Radon Institute of Applied Mathematics, University of Linz (Austria), 2004.
- Organizer and Chair, **Multiscale Analysis in Biology: Computation**, American Physical Society, March, 2005, Los Angeles.
- Organizer and Chair: **MultiScale Analysis of Ions in Solutions, Proteins, and Channels: Analysis**, American Physical Society, March, 2005, Los Angeles.
- Problem Presenter: **Mathematics in Medicine Study Group**, Mathematics Institute, Oxford University, Sept. 2005, March 2006
- Organizer and Chair: **Physical Models of Ion Channels**, American Physical Society, March 2006, Baltimore.
- Helper to Chris Breward: Oxford University OCIAM **Mathematics in Medicine: Ion Channels**, March, 2006.
- Member, Organizing Committee for **Special Semester on Quantitative Biology analyzed by Mathematical Methods**: RICAM (Radon Institute for Computational and Applied Math); (Oct 2007- Jan 2008: Johannes Kepler Univ of Linz, Austria) <http://www.ricam.oeaw.ac.at/ssqbm/>
- Co-organizer (with Martin Burger, Peter Pohl, Heinz Engl) of Workshop on Ion Channels, Oct 8-12, 2007
- Co-organizer, with Martin Bazant of Symposium, **Multiscale Modeling of Electrochemical Systems** SIAM (Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics), 2006.
- Organizer of ARO Sponsored Meeting, **Calibrating Simulations**, at Rush University Medical Center, January 2007.
- Facilitator of Annual Reciprocal Symposia between Biophysical Society and Division of Biological Physics of the American Physical Society, commencing 2007. Planned to be the first in a continuing series.
- Organizer of Symposium (Sponsored by American Physical Society Division of Biological Physics) **Modeling as a Tool in Biophysics**, at Biophysical Society Annual Meeting, 2007. Planned to be the first in a continuing series.
- Co-organizer: **Direct and inverse problems in channels and membranes**, ICIAM 6th International Congress on Industrial & Applied Mathematics Zurich 2007, Organizer Heinz Engl; co-organizer Martin Burger, pair of minisymposia.

Lecturer Short course on **Channel Biophysics**, 10 hours, ICTP and SISSA Theoretical Biophysics and Structural Biology, Trieste, Italy, Organizer Paolo Carloni.

Co-organizer: Symposium on **Inhomogeneous Electrolytes** Northwest and Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting American Chemical Society Co-organizer Douglas Henderson, June 2008.

Organizer and Speaker: Workshop “Biophysics of Membrane Bound Channels” American Physical Society, Division of Biological Physics, March 2009.

Co-organizer: National Taiwan University “Energetic Variational Approaches to Elastic Complex Fluids and Molecular Biology” January, 2010, Organizer Tai-Chia Lin

Equipment and Software Designed

Wide band amplifiers for microelectrode recording (with several collaborators, see publications 3, 9, 11, 16, 22, and 24).

Software for computing and analyzing impedance measurements with wide band amplifiers (*ibid.*)

Axopatch Amplifier for patch clamp recording, with R. Levis, J. Rae, and A. Finkel, sold by Axon Instruments, Burlingame CA, now part of Molecular Devices Sunnyvale CA.

Perfusing Pipettes, a hardware kit available from ALA Scientific, for perfusing patch pipettes.

PNP Online <http://www.pnponline.org/> Interactive software for running Poisson Nernst Planck theory, with Brice Burgess

Patent Application, PCT/NL2003/000013 Liquid Based Electronic Device (from BioMade, Groningen, Netherlands.) Patent Application was subsequently withdrawn, but it is an interesting idea, nonetheless, in my biased view, PCT/NL2003/000013 Liquid Based Electronic Device (from BioMade, Groningen, Netherlands.) [[PDF](#)]

Patent Application, Mathematical Design of Ion Channel Selectivity via Inverse Problems Technology (with Heinz Engl and Martin Burger, from Rush University) [[PDF](#)]

Professional Societies

American Association for Advancement of Science

American Mathematical Society

American Physiological Society

American Physical Society, Fellow

American Society of Cell Biologists

Biophysical Society

Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Senior Member

Mathematical Association of America

New York Academy of Sciences

Physiological Society, England (Associate Member)

Royal Society of Chemistry (UK)

Society of General Physiologists

Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
 Society of Neuroscience
 Institute for Strategic Studies (London: 1963-1992)

Research Interests

1960's-1980's:

Electrical properties of cells and tissues. The relationship between the structure of biological tissues and the pathways for current flow: measurements of linear electrical properties to determine equivalent circuits of skeletal and cardiac muscle, nerve, the lens of the eye, and epithelia.

The modeling of tissues of complex geometry and the solution—in physically meaningful form—of the differential (or difference) equations which describe such tissues. Thus, models of the three dimensional spread of current in spherical and cylindrical cells; models of the spread of current in the random network of transverse tubules in skeletal muscle; models of current flow in the clefts of cardiac muscle; models of current flow in epithelia; models of current flow in dendritic trees.

The use of mathematics (ranging from singular perturbation theory to numerical simulation) to provide insight into the physical meaning of complex theory.

1960's-1990's:

Excitation-contraction coupling in skeletal and cardiac muscle; particularly, the junction between the tubular system and the sarcoplasmic reticulum and the mechanism of calcium release from the sarcoplasmic reticulum.

The electrical properties of the sarcoplasmic reticulum and its ionic channels as seen in patch clamp measurements from skinned muscle fibers.

1980's – 2000's:

Analysis of ionic channels, experimental and theoretical: properties of single channels in epithelia, particularly “pressure activated” channels. Single channels in sarcoplasmic reticulum of skinned muscle fibers.

Design of patch clamp amplifiers, headstage, holders with “zero excess” noise.

Optimal detection of single channel events using signal detection theory.

Measurement of open channel noise.

Theoretical analysis of ion movement through channels using an hierarchy of models from molecular dynamics to continuum electrostatics.

Simulations of the molecular dynamics of channel proteins.

Stochastic analysis of flux over barriers: first passage times, concentration boundary conditions and ionic fluxes.

PNP model of the open channel. Poisson-Nernst-Planck model of open channels, in which the potential distribution through the channel is calculated not assumed. PH model of the open channel, the Poisson Hydrodynamic model including temperature changes.

Coupling of fluxes, active transport, gating, and gating currents in a permanently open channel of one conformation as predicted by the PNP model in complex geometries and the PH model.

The stochastic generalization of the PNP model.

Simulations of the molecular dynamics of the entry process models of gramicidin.

2000 -2010:

Design and construction of ion channels as useful devices.

Thus, building design tools for understanding current flow in bulk solution, ion channels, and proteins in general.

Computation of macroscopic properties of ionic solutions and channels from higher resolution models, using Langevin-Poisson, Monte Carlo Poisson, or Molecular Dynamics Poisson methods.

Mathematical analysis of macroscopic properties of ionic solutions and channels starting from higher resolution models, using Langevin-Poisson, Monte Carlo Poisson, or Molecular Dynamics Poisson methods.

Simulations and theories of gating and conformational change.

Construction of nonequilibrium statistical mechanics starting from the properties of chaotic trajectories computed with Poisson and molecular dynamics. Statistical mechanics as stochastic processes.

Crowded Charge model of protein function, specifically, ion selectivity and permeation in ion channels.

Variational Principles (built on the energetic variational approach of Chun Liu) applied to ions in channels, ions and water in solutions, cells, and macroscopic tissues, and to vesicles and viruses fusing with membranes.

2010 - ... :

Role of Crowded Charge in Enzyme Function. The density of acid and base side chains is so large at active sites that it appears to be a ‘universal’ feature that is a biological adaptation with an unknown function. Searching for that function, I ask a speculative question: *what is the role of the high charge density and crossed conditions of at active sites? Does it significantly constrain solutions of the Schroedinger equation?*

Field theory of ionic solutions. It seems clear that ‘everything’ interacts with everything else in ionic solutions, because of the range of the electric field, and often the effects of the finite size of ions on the shape of the electric field, and on entropy directly. Selfconsistent treatments are needed for such interacting systems in other areas of science and I suspect that the failures of classical theories of electrolytes arise because those classical theories are not selfconsistent. A field theory offers the additional substantial advantages of incorporating boundary conditions in a natural way. It thus can deal with nonequilibrium conditions arising from spatially nonuniform boundary conditions (e.g., the power supplies that make digital devices or biological cells work). It seems that a selfconsistent field theory of ionic solutions is needed. It is now practicable because of advances in applied mathematics. It should be clearly understood that ionic solutions are

usually highly concentrated where they are most important, in and near the electrodes of electrochemical cells, in and near enzymes and enzyme active sites, ion channels, transporters, and binding proteins.

Field theory of chemical reactions. Chemical reactions usually occur in ionic solutions. Chemical reactions have been analyzed classically as if they occur in vacuum, or in ideal ionic solutions, at infinite dilution. It seems that a selfconsistent field theory of chemical reactions is needed. It is now practicable because of advances in applied mathematics. It seems that a selfconsistent field theory of chemical reactions is needed. It is now practicable because of advances in applied mathematics.

Administrative Work

UCLA

Member of Committee for Graduate Students.

First Year Advisor for Graduate Students.

Member of numerous review committees for promotions: received commendation from Vice Chancellor Saxon for work on review committees.

Member of Advisory Committee for the Jerry Lewis Muscular Dystrophy Center.

Rush Medical College

Chairman, Department of Physiology, then Department of Molecular Biophysics and Physiology. First holder of “The Francis and Catherine Bard Chair of Physiology”

Department has approximately 15 tenure track faculty since 1976 and approximately 9,000 sq ft of usable research space. All faculty with research space (i.e., 4 laboratories) have had NIH or equivalent funding without interruption, thanks to their significant personal productivity. Key members (alphabetical order) in research: Lothar Blatter, Fred Cohen (viral fusion); Tom DeCoursey (H^+ ion channels); Mike Fill (Ryanodine Receptor); Dirk Gillespie (selectivity); Josefina Ramos-Franco (IP_3 receptor); Eduardo Rios (Ca^{++} movement). Key members in Medical School Teaching, Joel Michael, Tom Shannon, and Dirk Gillespie; in Nursing Teaching Joe Zbilut (deceased).

Academic Administration.

Member of College Councils.

Chairman of Promotions and Appointments Committee.

Member, Vice Chair, then Chair of Search Committee for Microbiology Chair.

Vice Chairman of Search Committee for Dean of the Medical College.

Member, Search Committee for Dean of the Graduate College.

Member, Search Committee for Pediatrics Chair.

Member, Search Committee for Microbiology Chair

Teaching

General responsibility for all teaching activities of the Department at Rush, including course and curriculum reorganization. Physiology Lectures for medical and nursing students.

Graduate students:

J. Leung, R. Mathias, E. Engel, R. Levis, R. Milton (with R. Mathias), J. Tang, P. Gates, J. Wang, A. Hainsworth (with R. Levis), P. Dull (summer student), Dirk Gillespie, Amy Del Medico (summer student), Boaz Nadler (in significant part: Zeev Schuss, supervisor); Amit Singer (in significant part: Zeev Schuss, supervisor), Janhavi Giri (Bioengineering, University of Illinois, Chicago).

Post-doctoral fellows:

John Howell, Peter Vaughan, Bert Mobley, Art Peskoff, Richard Mathias, Eli Engel, Richard Levis, Richard Milton (with Rick Mathias), Kim Cooper, Peter Gates, Dunapin Chen, John Tang, Danuta Rojewska, Dirk Gillespie,; Trudy van der Straaten (with Umberto Ravaioli), Sheila Wigger-Aboud (with Marco Saraniti), Jim Fonseca.

Community Activity

AVENUE BANK OF OAK PARK: Director, Member, then Chairman of Audit Committee, Executive Committee, and Marketing Committee (1987-1992).

AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO: Member, Board of Governors, Executive Committee, and President's Cabinet (1984-1986). Member Research Council (1989-1990) and Chairman, Committee on Human Experimentation.

TAFT SCHOOL (Connecticut): Speaker at Centennial Symposium, and Seminar/Discussion Group.

PRESIDENT 7320 Condo Association. (1997– 2003; 2007; 2009-2012)

TOWN TALK Telluride Science Research Center (part of Pinhead Lecture Series) 2003.

ARMY RESEARCH OFFICE talk to North Carolina Ventures Program for High Schools 2005

ROBERT S. EISENBERG

PUBLICATIONS

[Reprints](#) available on this [hyperlink](#) or by clicking [[PDF](#)] here or below.

(Last update: June 19, 2012)

[[Laboratory of Robert S. Eisenberg](#)]

Papers: Electrical properties of tissues, mostly experimental:

1. Eisenberg, R.S. and Hamilton, D. Action of γ -aminobutyric acid on *Cancer borealis* muscle. Nature 198: 1002-1003 (1963). [[PDF](#)]
2. Eisenberg, R.S. Impedance of single crab muscle fibers. Ph.D. Thesis, University of London (1965). [[PDF](#)]
3. Eisenberg, R.S. Equivalent circuit of single crab muscle fibers as determined by impedance measurement with intracellular electrodes. J. Gen. Physiol. 50: 1785-1806 (1967). [[PDF](#)]
4. Eisenberg, R.S. and Gage, P.W. Frog skeletal muscle fibers: change in the electrical properties of frog skeletal muscle fibers after disruption of the transverse tubular system. Science 158: 1700-1701 (1967). [[PDF](#)]
5. Gage, P.W. and Eisenberg, R.S. Action potentials without contraction in frog skeletal muscle fibers with disrupted transverse tubules. Science 158: 1702-1703 (1967). [[PDF](#)]
6. Horowicz, P., Gage, P.W. and Eisenberg, R.S. The role of the electrochemical gradient in determining potassium fluxes in frog striated muscle. J. Gen. Physiol. 51: 193s-203s (1968). [[PDF](#)]
7. Eisenberg, B. and Eisenberg, R.S. The transverse tubular system in glycerol treated muscle. Science 160: 1243-1244 (1968). [[PDF](#)]
8. Eisenberg, B. and Eisenberg, R.S. Selective disruption of the sarcotubular muscle: A quantitative study with exogenous peroxidase as a marker. J. Cell Biol. 39: 451-467 (1968). [[PDF](#)]
9. Gage, P.W. and Eisenberg, R.S. Capacitance of the surface and transverse tubular membrane of frog sartorius muscle fibers. J. Gen. Physiol. 53: 265-278 (1969). [[PDF](#)]
10. Eisenberg, R.S. and Gage, P.W. Ionic conductance of the surface and transverse tubular membrane of frog sartorius fibers. J. Gen. Physiol. 53: 279-297 (1969). [[PDF](#)]
11. Gage, P.W. and Eisenberg, R.S. Action potentials, after potentials, and excitation-contraction coupling in frog sartorius fibers without transverse tubules. J. Gen. Physiol. 53: 298-310 (1969). [[PDF](#)]
12. Eisenberg, R.S., Howell, J. and Vaughan, P. The maintenance of resting potentials in glycerol treated muscle fibers. J. Physiol. 215: 95-102 (1971). [[PDF](#)]
13. Vaughan, P., Howell, J. and Eisenberg, R.S. The capacitance of skeletal muscle fibers in solutions of low ionic strength. J. Gen. Physiol. 59: 347-359 (1972). [[PDF](#)]

14. Eisenberg, R.S., Vaughan, P. and Howell, J. A theoretical analysis of the capacitance of muscle fibers using a distributed model of the tubular system. *J. Gen. Physiol.* 59: 360-373 (1972). [[PDF](#)]
15. Leung, J. and Eisenberg, R.S. The effects of the antibiotics gramicidin-A, amphotericin-B, and nystatin on the electrical properties of frog skeletal muscle. *Biochem. Biophys. Acta. Amsterdam* 298: 718-723 (1973). [[PDF](#)]
16. Valdiosera, R., Clausen, C. and Eisenberg, R.S. Measurement of the impedance of frog skeletal muscle fibers. *Biophys. J.* 14: 295-315 (1974). [[PDF](#)]
17. Valdiosera, R., Clausen, C. and Eisenberg, R.S. Circuit models of the passive electrical properties of frog skeletal muscle fibers. *J. Gen. Physiol.* 63: 432-459 (1974). [[PDF](#)]
18. Valdiosera, R., Clausen, C. and Eisenberg, R.S. Impedance of frog skeletal muscle fibers in various solutions. *J. Gen. Physiol.* 63: 460-491 (1974). [[PDF](#)]
19. Mobley, B.A., Leung, J. and Eisenberg, R.S. Longitudinal impedance of skinned frog muscle fibers. *J. Gen. Physiol.* 63: 615-637 (1974). [[PDF](#)]
20. Mobley, B.A., Leung, J. and Eisenberg, R.S. Longitudinal impedance of single frog muscle fibers. *J. Gen. Physiol.* 65: 97-113 (1975). [[PDF](#)]
21. Eisenberg, R.S. and Rae, J.L. Current-voltage relationships in the crystalline lens. *J. Physiol.* 262: 285-300 (1976). [[PDF](#)]
22. Mathias, R.T., Eisenberg, R.S. and Valdiosera, R. Electrical properties of frog skeletal muscle fibers interpreted with a mesh model of the tubular system. *Biophys. J.* 17: 57-93 (1977). [[PDF](#)]
23. Eisenberg, R.S., Mathias, R.T. and Rae, J.L. Measurement, modeling and analysis of the linear electrical properties of cells. *Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.* 303: 343-354 (1977). [[PDF](#)]
24. Mathias, R.T., Rae, J.L. and Eisenberg, R.S. Electrical properties of structural components of the crystalline lens. *Biophys. J.* 25: 181-201 (1979). [[PDF](#)]
25. Rae, J.L., Eisenberg, R.S. and Mathias, R.T. The lens as a spherical syncytium. Ed. Satish K. Srivastava. Elsevier North Holland Inc. **Red Blood Cell and Lens Metabolism.** pp. 277-292 (1980). [[PDF](#)]
26. Mathias, R.T., Rae, J.L. and Eisenberg, R.S. The lens as a nonuniform spherical syncytium. *Biophys. J.* 34: 61-85 (1981). [[PDF](#)]
27. Eisenberg, B. and Eisenberg, R.S. The *T-SR* junction in contracting single skeletal muscle fibers. *J. Gen. Physiol.* 79: 1-20 (1982). [[PDF](#)]
28. Rae, J.L., Thomson, R.D. and Eisenberg, R.S. The effect of 2-4 dinitrophenol on cell to cell communication in the frog lens. *Exp. Eye Res.* 35: 597-610 (1982). [[PDF](#)]
29. Rae, J.L., Mathias, R.T. and Eisenberg, R.S. Physiological role of the membranes and extracellular space within the ocular lens. *Exp. Eye Res.* 35: 471-490 (1982). [[PDF](#)]
30. Eisenberg, R.S., McCarthy, R.T., and Milton, R.L. Paralysis of frog skeletal muscle fibres by the calcium antagonist D-600. *J. Physiol.* 341: 495-505 (1983). [[PDF](#)]

31. Levis, R.A., Mathias, R.T., and Eisenberg, R.S. Electrical properties of sheep Purkinje strands. Electrical and chemical potentials in the clefts. *Biophys. J.* 44: 225-248 (1983). [[PDF](#)]
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