

# SMA-based Membrane Active Polymers for Membrane Protein Structural Biology

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# Milestones in the History of Membrane Protein Structural Biology



1975  
Bacterial  
Rhodopsin



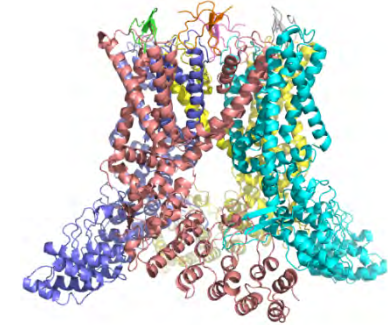
(1985) Photosynthesis Reaction Center



(1998) KcsA Potassium Channel



(2011)  $\beta$ 2 Adrenergic Receptor



(2013) TRPV1 Channel



1990  
Bacterial  
Rhodopsin

1988



Robert Huber  
Hartmut Michel  
Johann Deisenhofer

Detergent DDM

2003



Peter Agre  
Roderick MacKinnon

Hetero-overexpression

2012



Robert Lefkowitz  
Brian K. Kobilka

Lipid Cubic Phase

2017

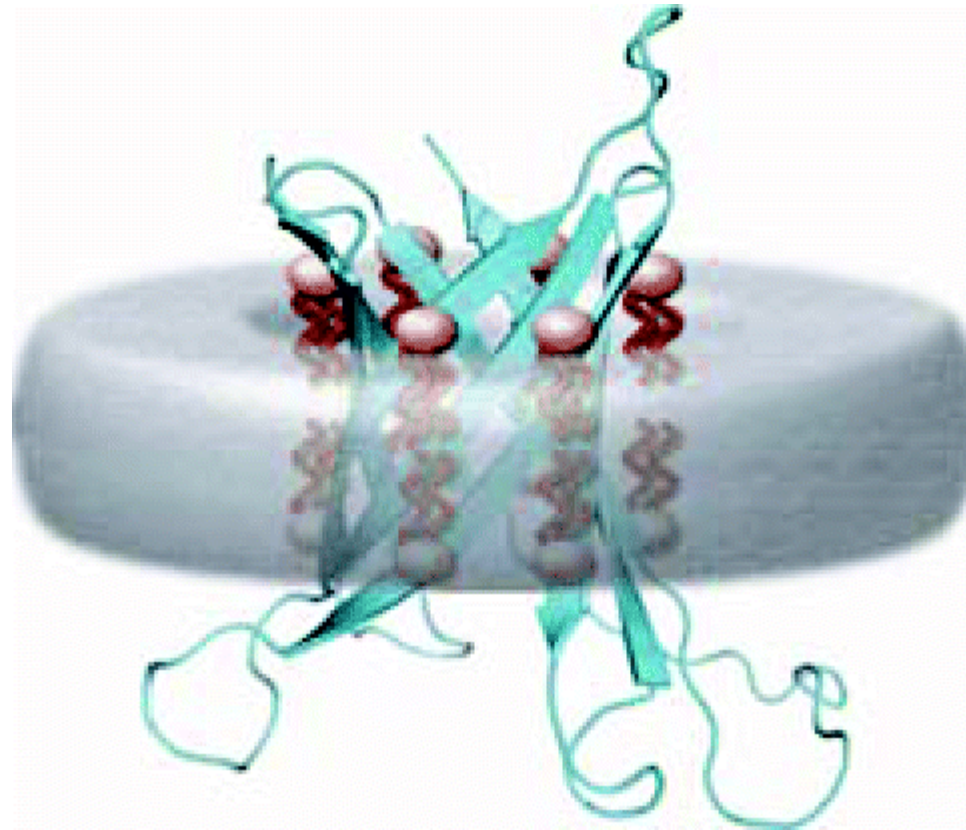


Joachim Frank  
Jacques Dubochet  
Richard Henderson

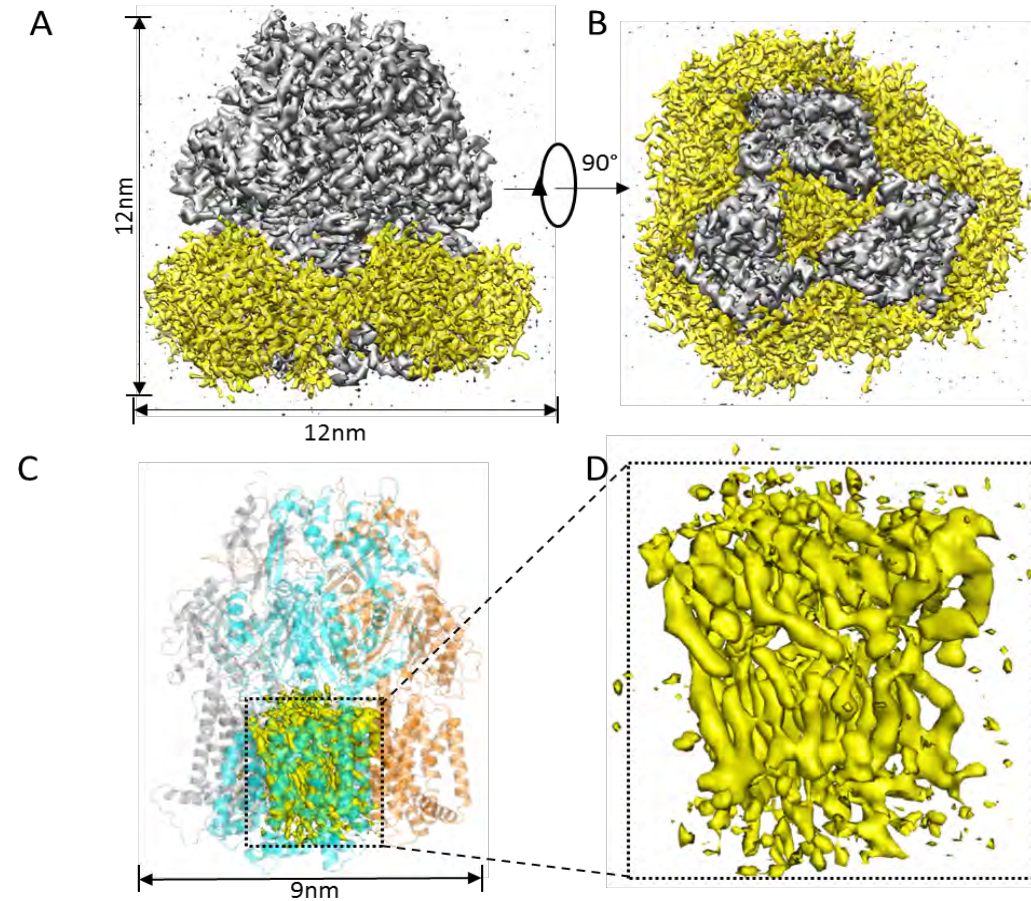
Single particle Cryo-EM

# Membrane Proteins Solubilized Intact in Lipid Containing Nanoparticles Bounded by Styrene Maleic Acid Copolymer

Timothy J. Knowles, Rachael Finka, Corinne Smith, Yu-Pin Lin,  
Tim Dafforn, Michael Overduin (2009) JACS

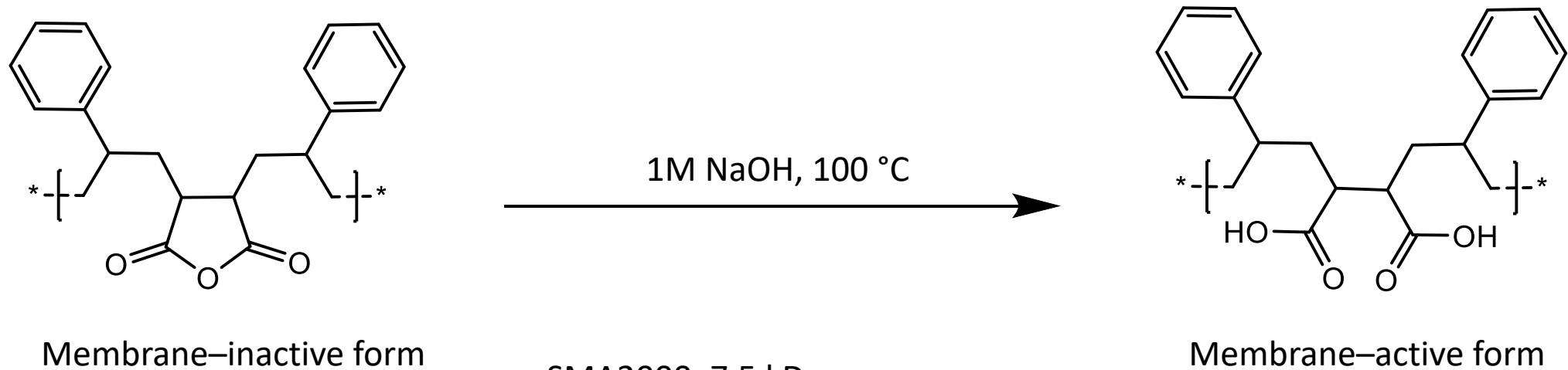
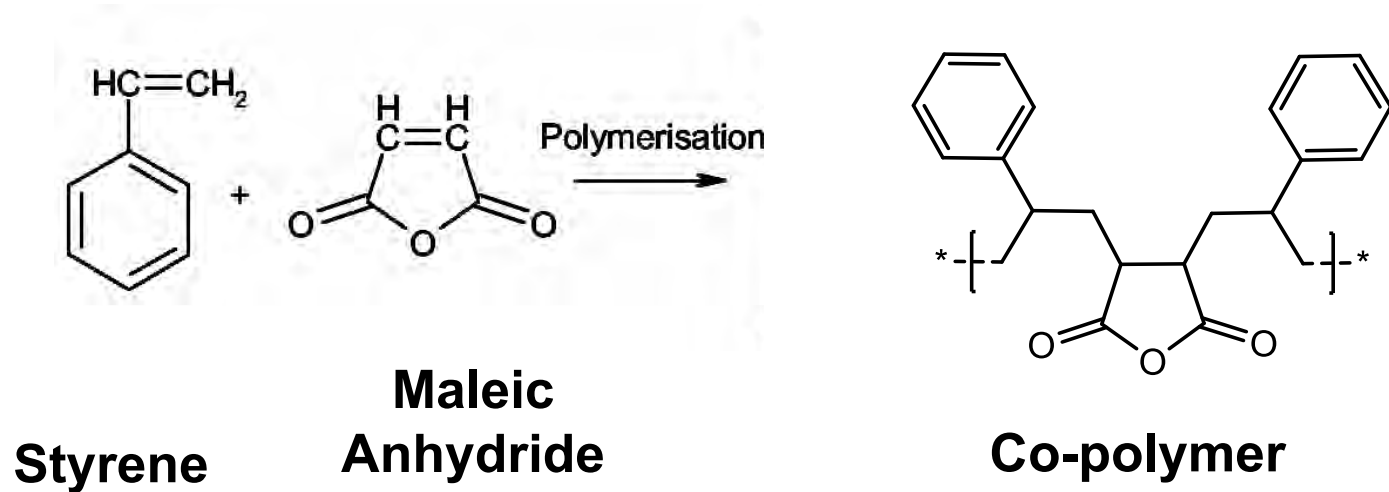


# Lipid Bilayer Associated with AcrB



Qiu W., et al., Structure and activity of lipid bilayer within a membrane-protein transporter *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A.* 2018 **115**, 12985-12990.

# Styrene Maleic Acid (SMA) Co-polymers



SMA2000, 7.5 kDa  
Maximum linear length about 240Å

# Styrene Maleic Acid (SMA) Co-polymers

1. SMA 1000
2. SMA 2000\*
3. SMA 3000\*
4. SMA 4000
5. SMA 1000I
6. SMA 2000I\*
7. SMA 3000I\*
8. SMA 4000I
9. SMA EF-30\*
10. SMA EF-40
11. SMA EF-60
12. SMA EF-80
13. SMA 1440\*
14. SMA 2021
15. SMA 2625\*
16. SMA 3840
17. SMA 17352\*

# Membrane Active Polymers

## Current Challenges and Opportunities

High-resolution structure determination:

Compatibility to divalent ions:

Compatibility to lower pH conditions:

Compatibility to both lower pH value conditions and divalent ions:

Solubility efficiency:

Nanoparticles sizes:



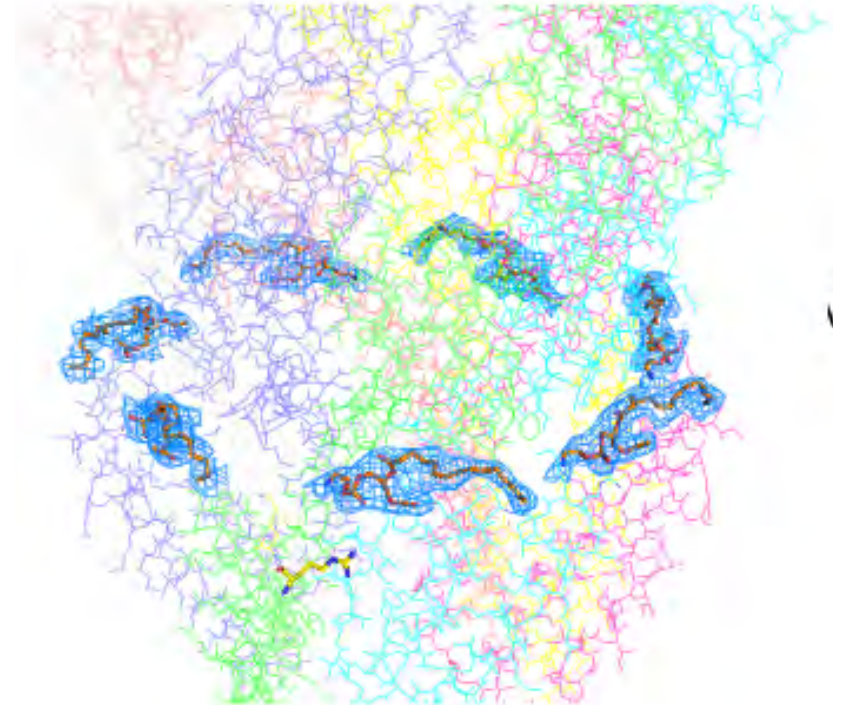
# Continued

Enzyme activity: TSPO, Ca<sup>2+</sup> dependent P-ATPase.

Channels: Mechanosensitive Channels

Transporters: ABC Transporters

Receptors: GPCRs





# SMA-based Membrane Active Polymer Library and Native Cell Membrane Nanoparticles System

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-1

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-2

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-3

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-4

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-5

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-6

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-7

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-8

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-9

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-10

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-11

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-12

S<sup>R</sup>MAP-13

...

Each of the polymers has to be tested successfully for high-resolution structure determination. High quality polymers.

Neither compatible to low pH conditions nor divalent ions

Low pH conditions only but not to divalent ions.

Low pH conditions and divalent ions.

Membrane protein with small transmembrane domains.

membrane protein with large transmembrane domains.

Bacterial cell membrane

Yeast cell membrane

Plant cell membrane

Insect cell membrane

Human cell membrane

# SMA-based Stimuli-Responsive Membrane-active Polymers

- **SMA copolymer**

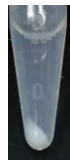
SMA copolymer for membrane proteins extraction was first reported in 2009.

- **Stimuli-Responsive Membrane-Active Polymers**  
( **$S^R$ MA-P1,  $S^R$ MA-P2,  $S^R$ MA-P3...**)

$S^R$ MA-P1



Precipitation before centrifugation



Precipitation after centrifugation

$S^R$ MA-P1 precipitates in the presence of divalent ions (10mM  $\text{CaCl}_2$ ).

$S^R$ MA-P2



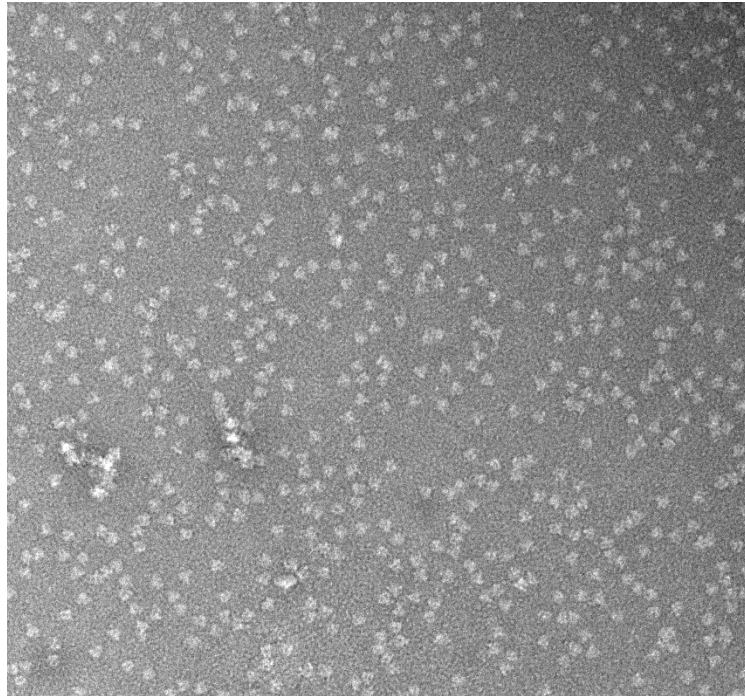
Clear solution before centrifugation



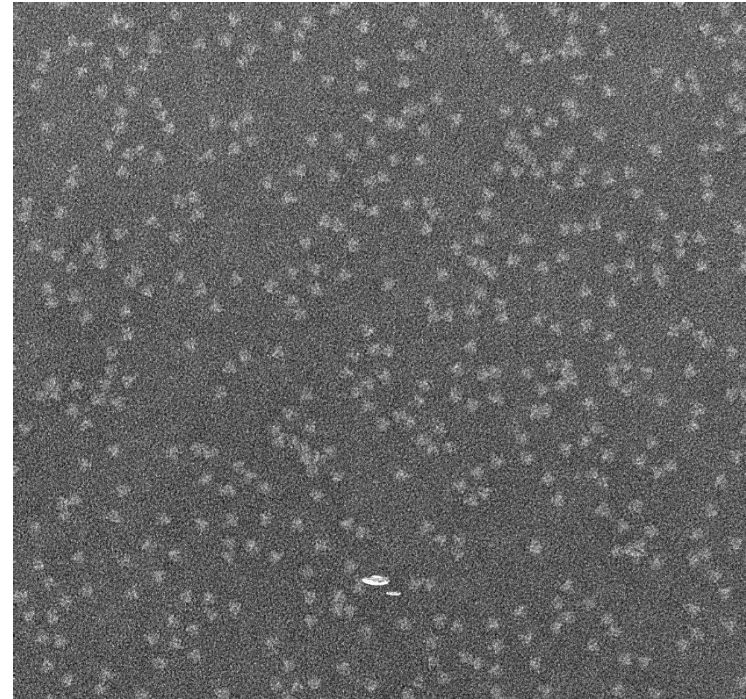
Clear solution after centrifugation

$S^R$ MA-P2 does not precipitate in the presence of divalent ions (10mM  $\text{CaCl}_2$ ).

# Native cell membrane nanoparticles

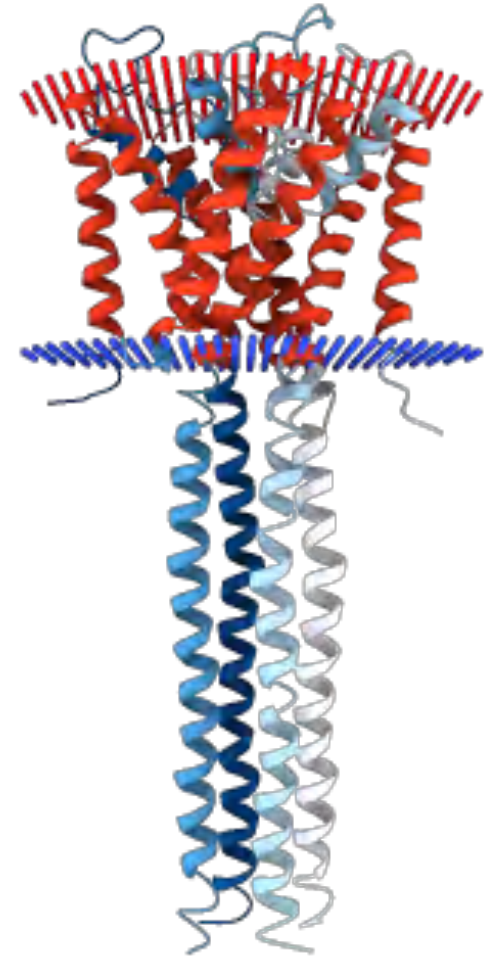
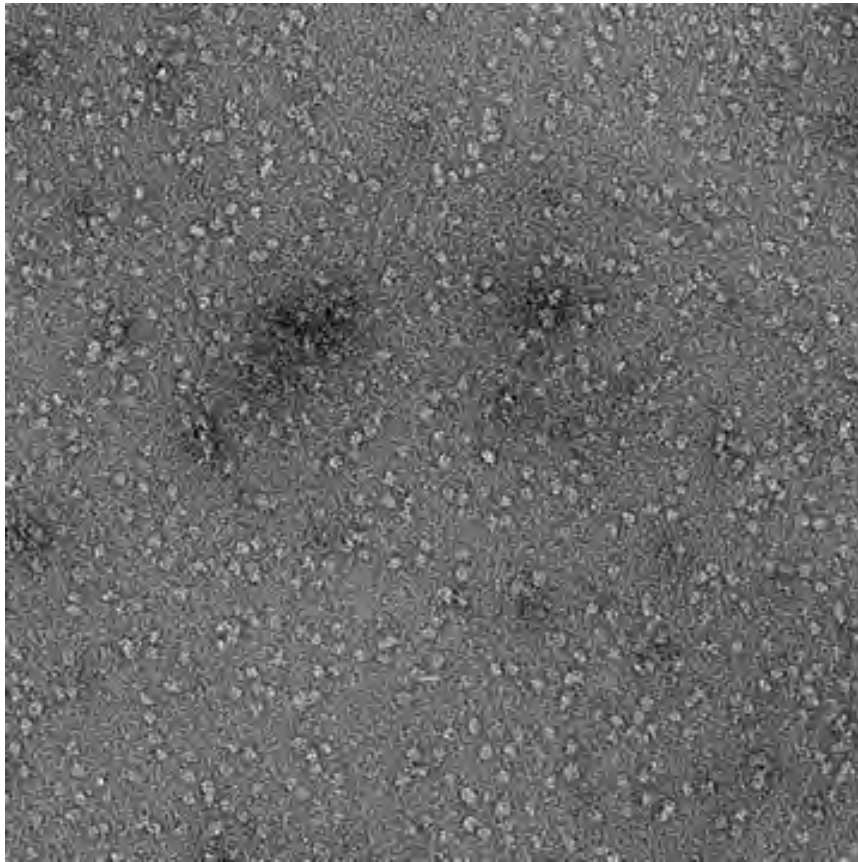


Native cell membrane nanoparticles prepared with S<sup>R</sup>MA-P1 polymer.



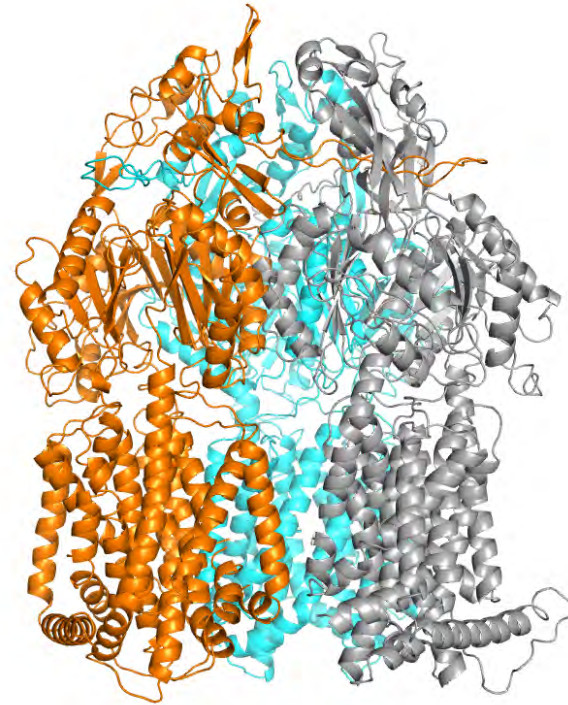
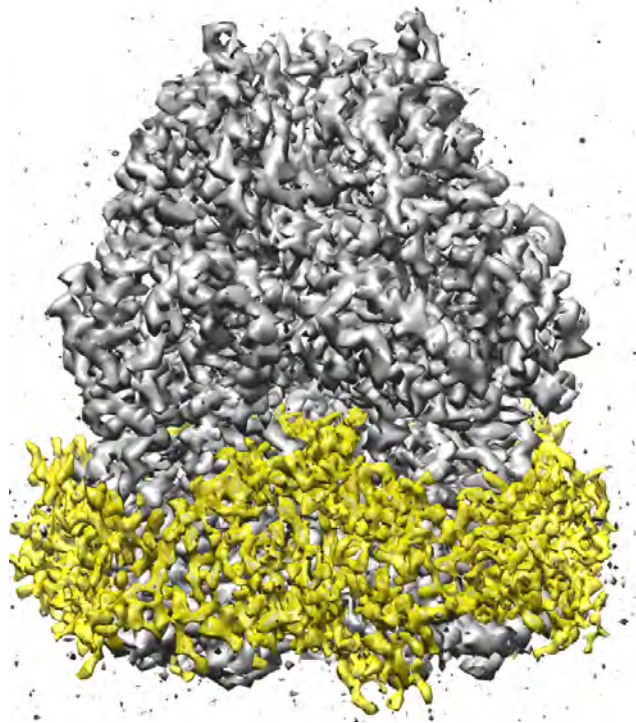
Native cell membrane nanoparticles prepared with S<sup>R</sup>MA-P2 polymer.

# Small Nanoparticles



KcsA





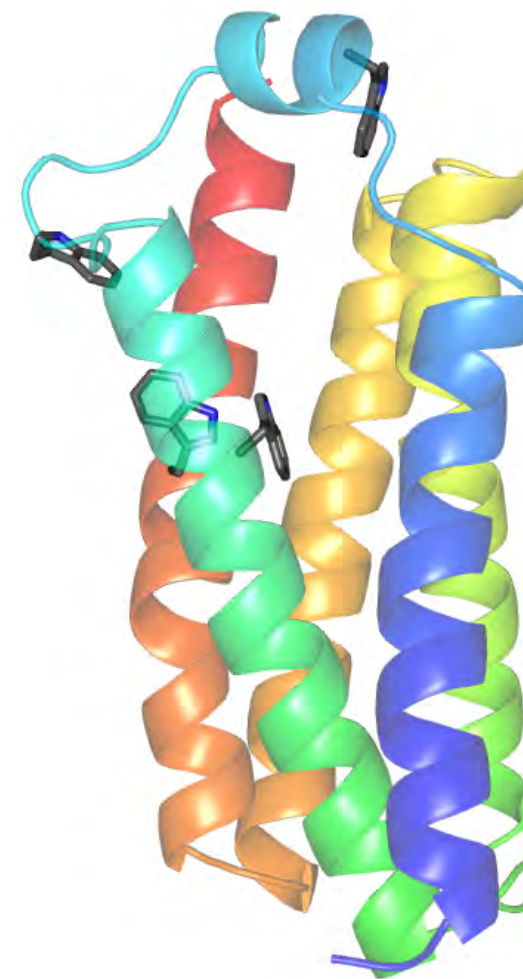
# Functional Study of Tryptophan-rich Sensory Protein (TSPO)

- TSPO proteins share very conserved structure and function. In human, it was identified as peripheral benzodiazepine receptor (PBR).
- 5 transmembrane helices.
- TSPO is an enzyme.

Crystal structures of  
*Bacillus cereus* TSPO(*Bc*TSPO)

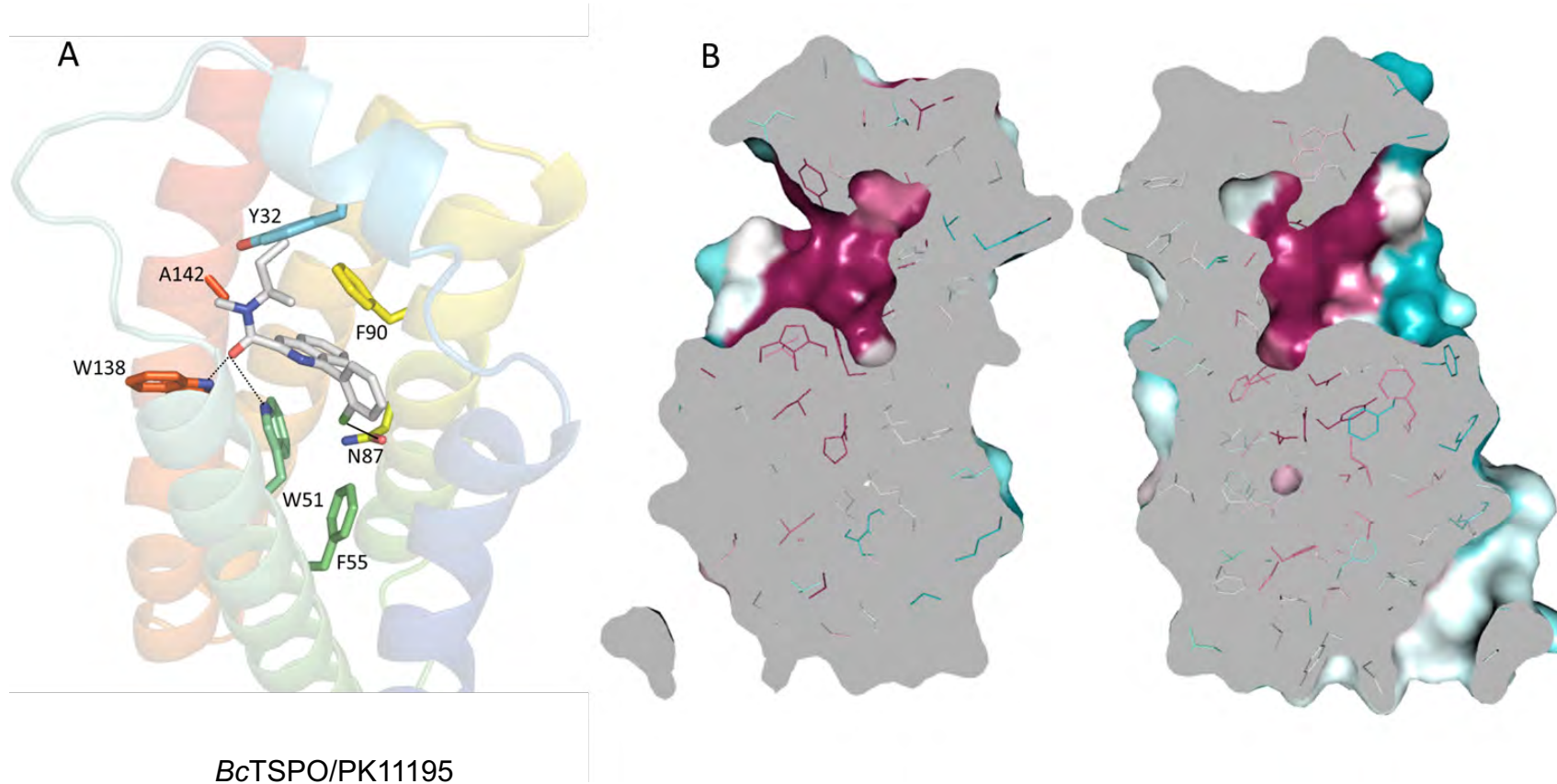
Ginter C., et al. (2013) *Biochemistry*, 52, 3609–3611.

Guo Y., et al. (2015) *Science*, 2015, 347: 551-555.

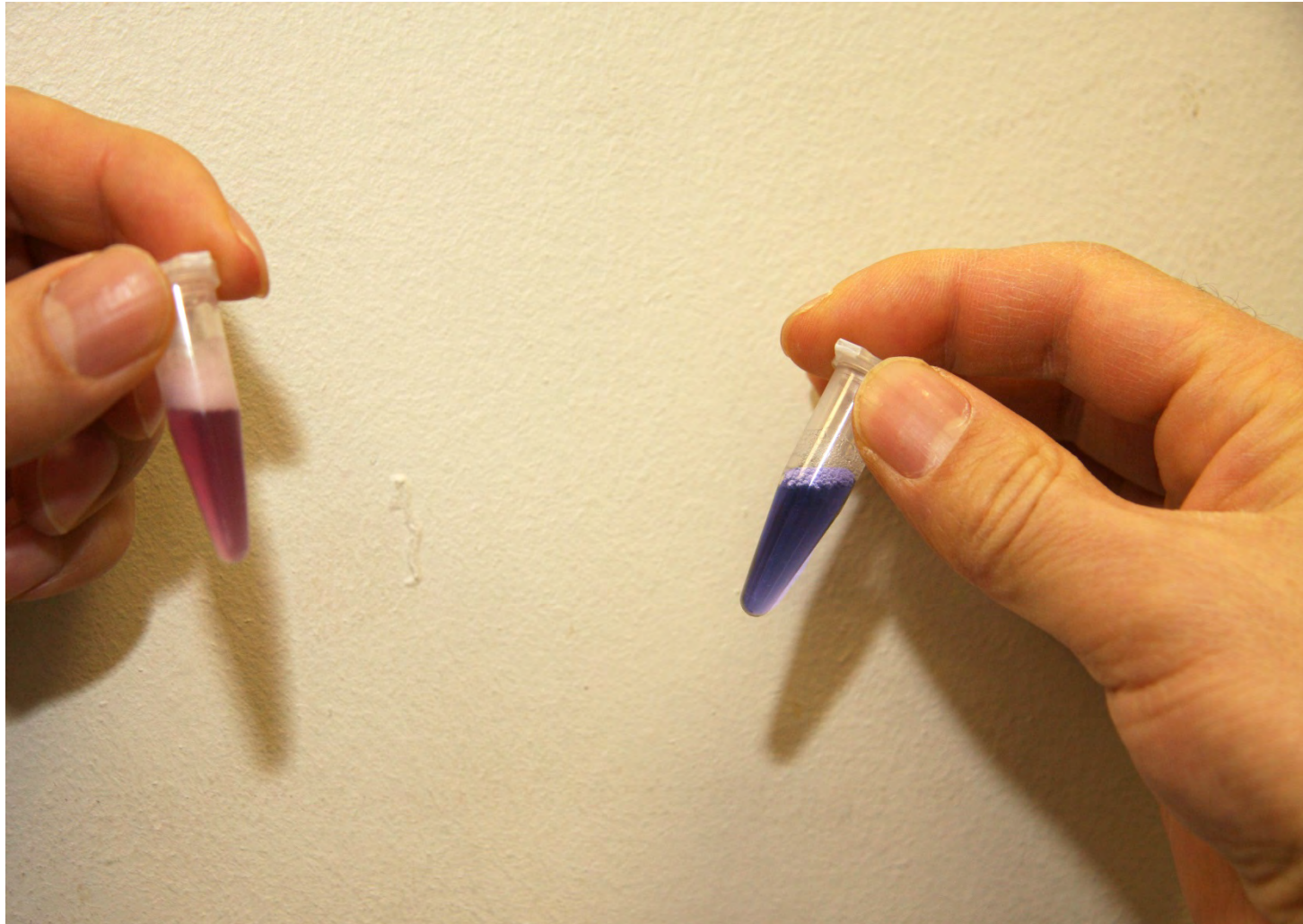




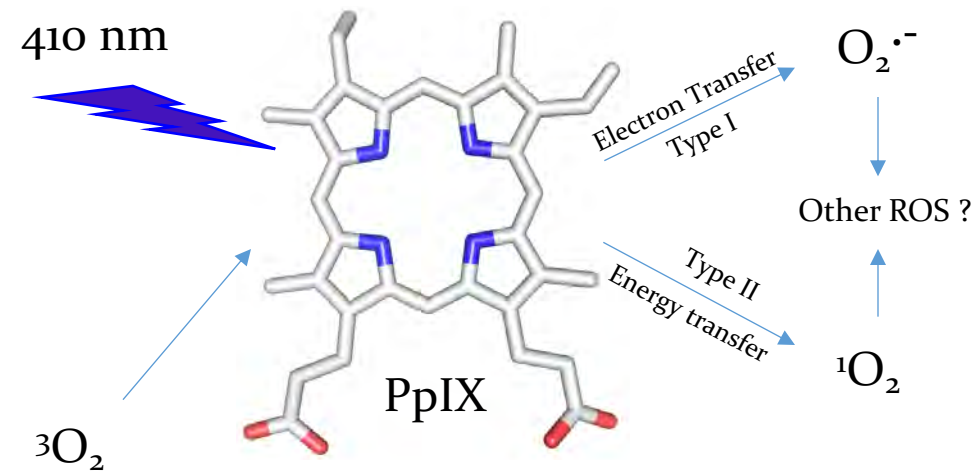
# Property of the Active Center of *Bc*TSPO



## TSPO Catalyzed Color Reaction



# Reaction Between Molecular Oxygen and Photo-excited Protoporphyrin IX (PpIX)



Dalton J. et al., (1972) Nature 235: 388.

Treffry A. and Ainsworth S. (1974) Biochem J. 137: 319-329.

Buettner G. R., and Oberley L.W. (1979) FEBS Letters 98: 18-20.

# TSPO Catalyzed Reaction

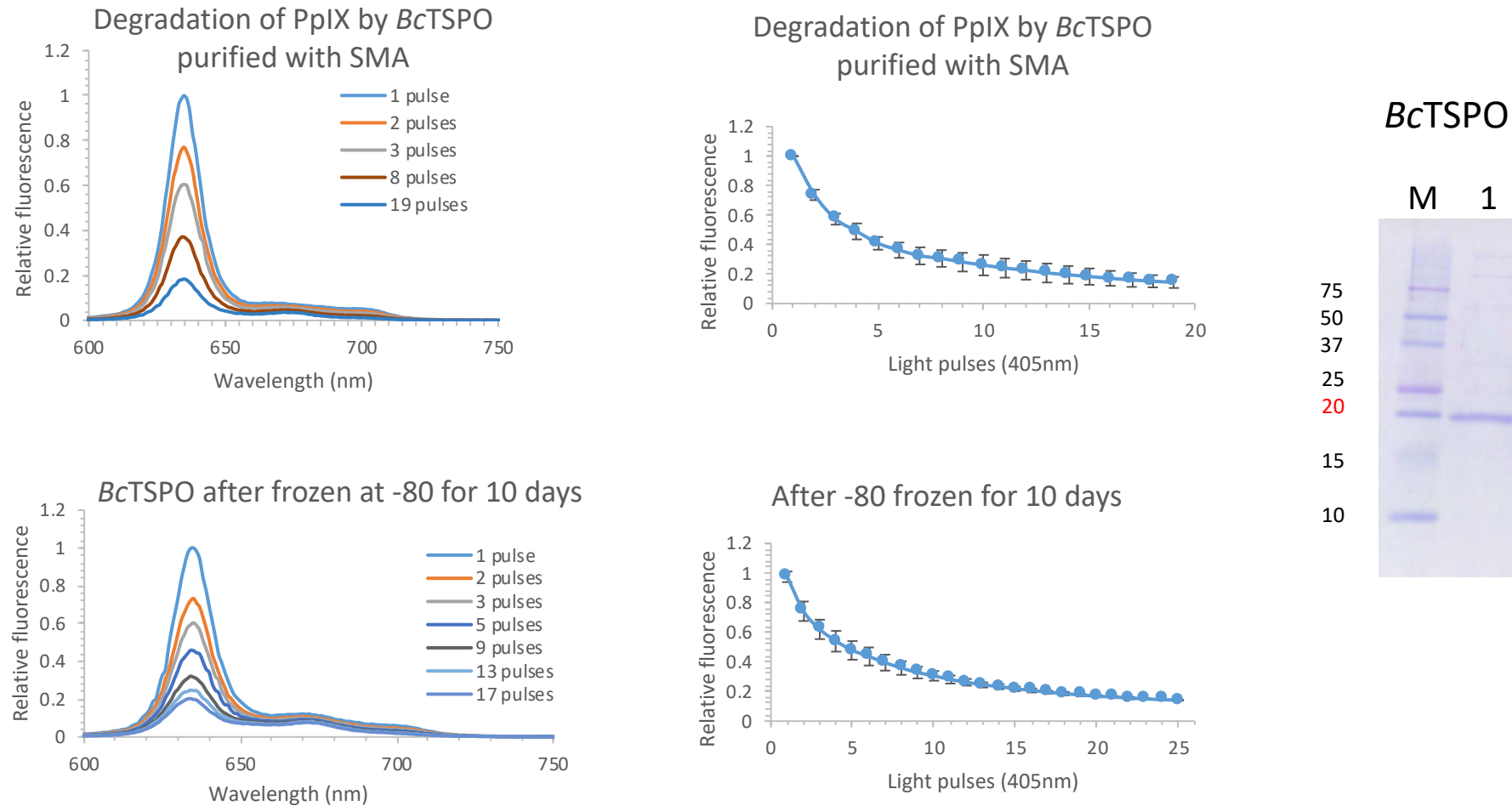
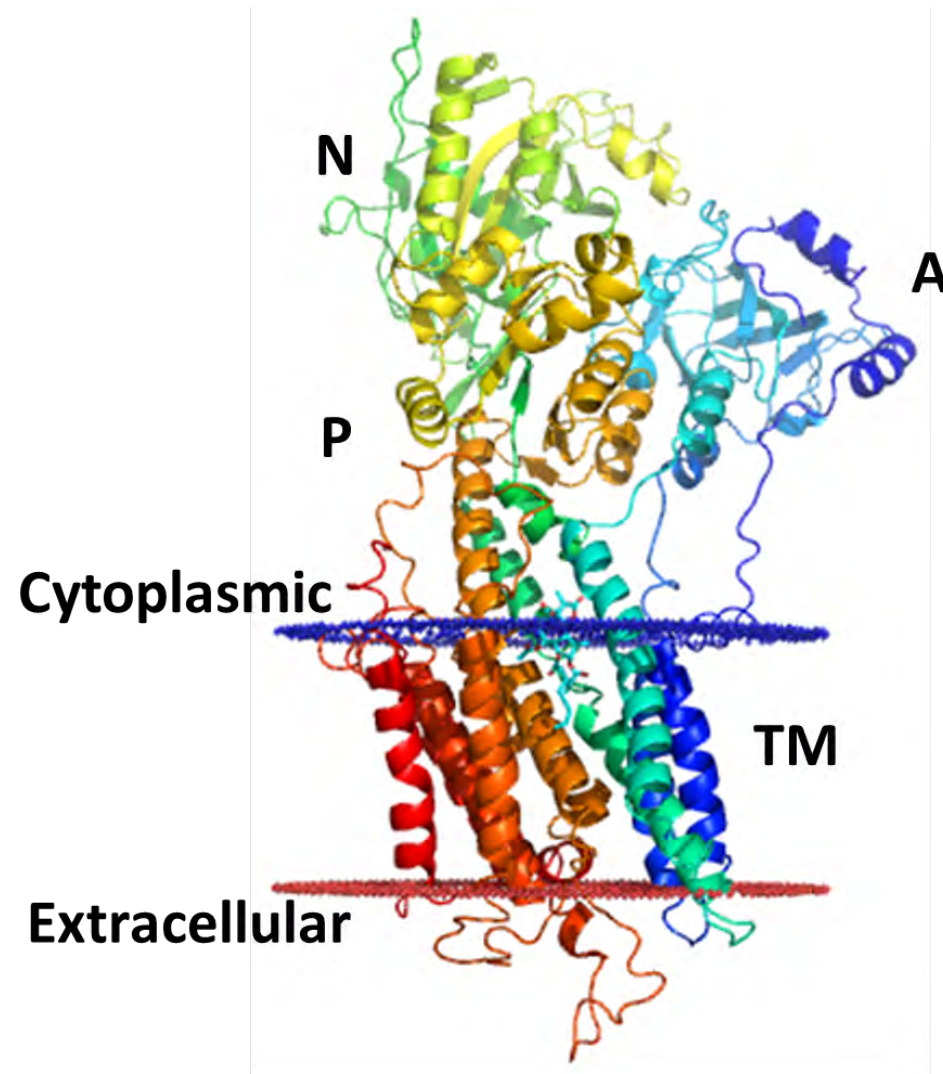


Figure 1

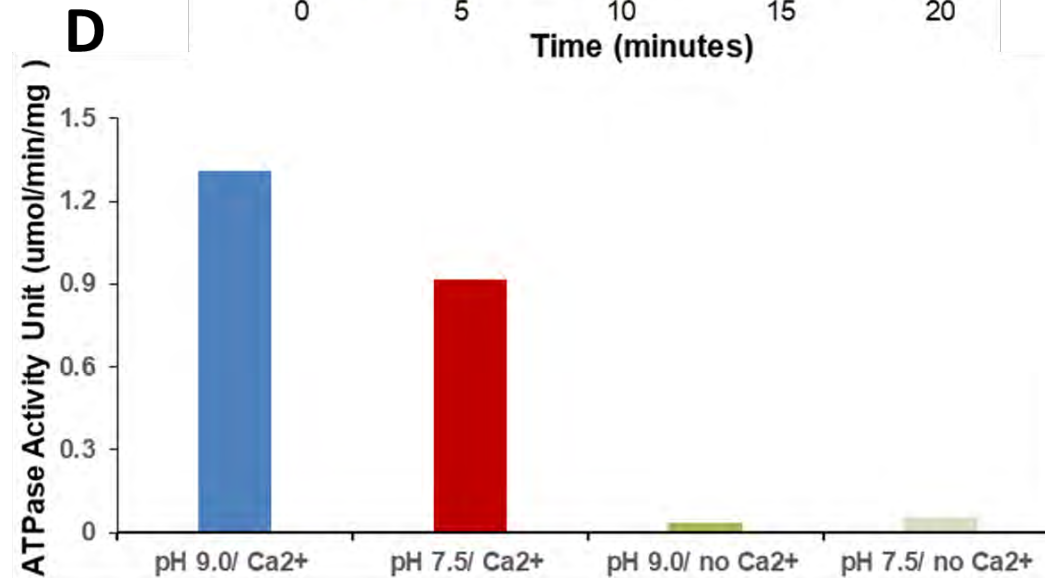
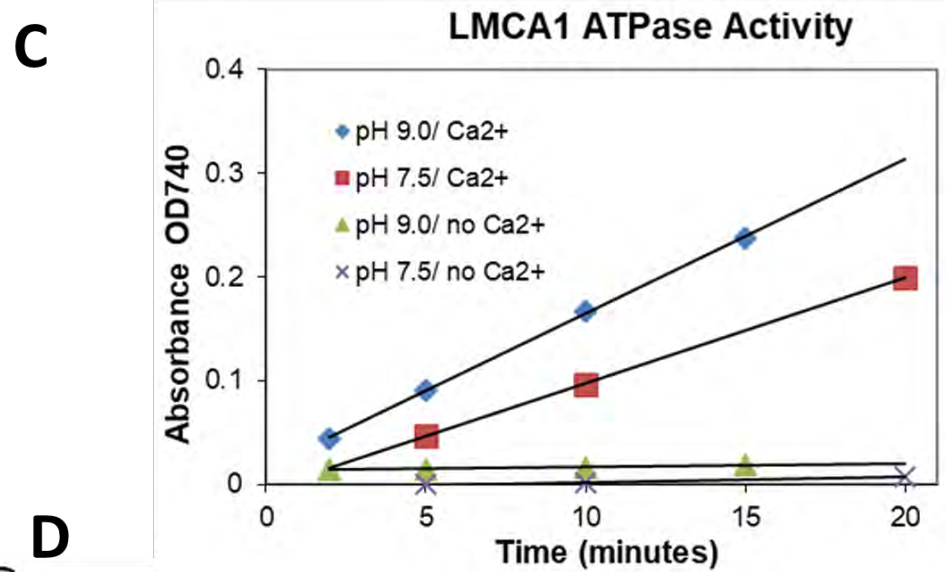
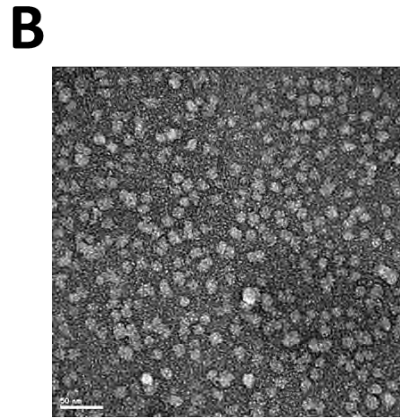
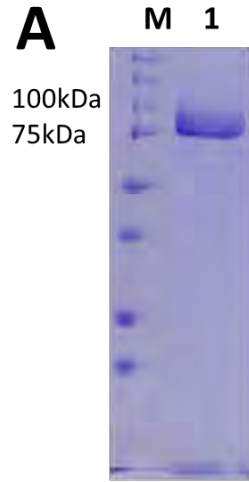
# Ca<sup>2+</sup> Dependent P type ATPase



Crystal structure of a Ca<sup>2+</sup> dependent P type ATPase PDB: 1IWO

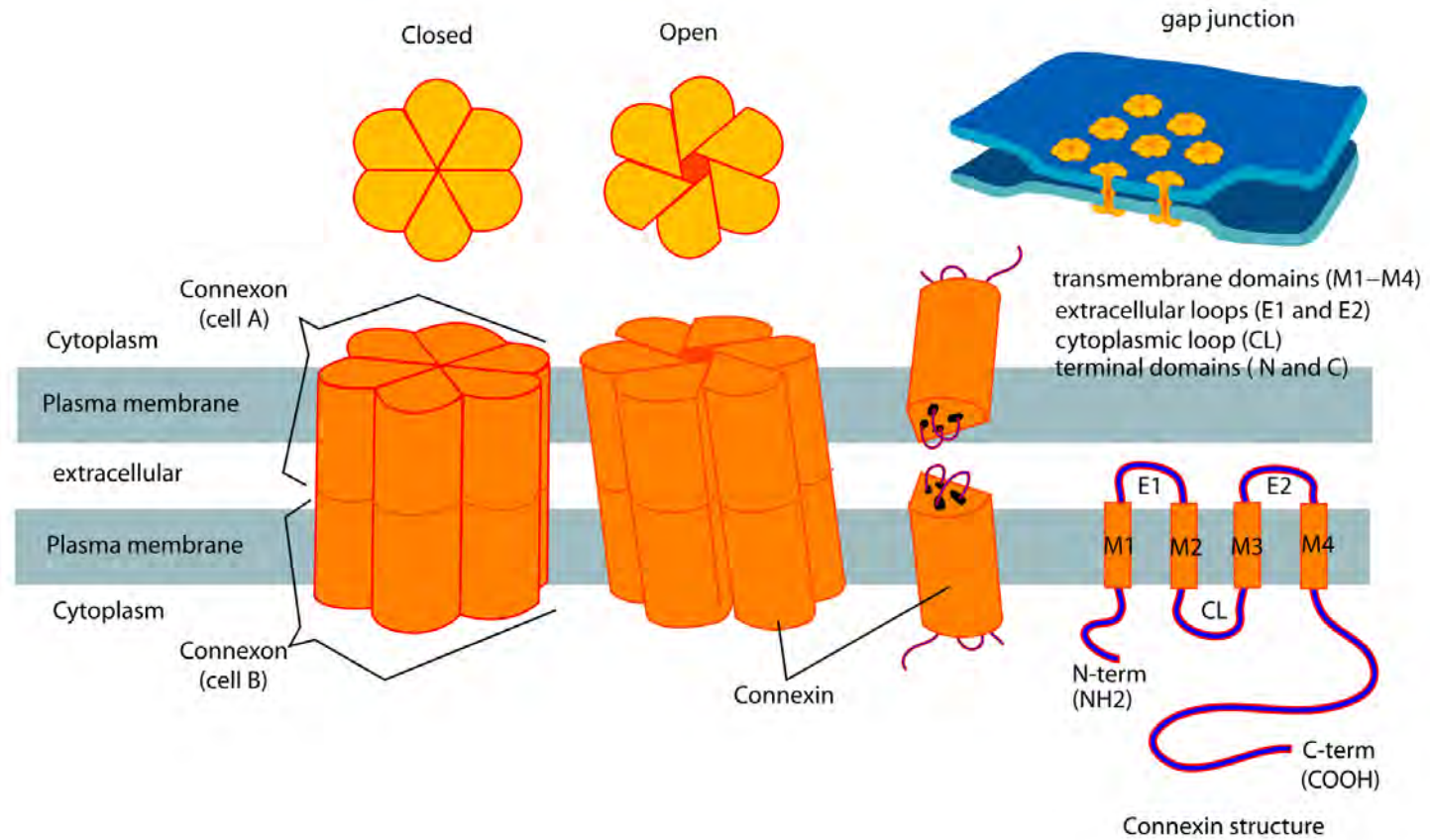


# Ca<sup>2+</sup> dependent P type ATPase





# Calcium Regulated Human Connexin Channels



2D 3D

Threshold 0.00 0.08 0.37



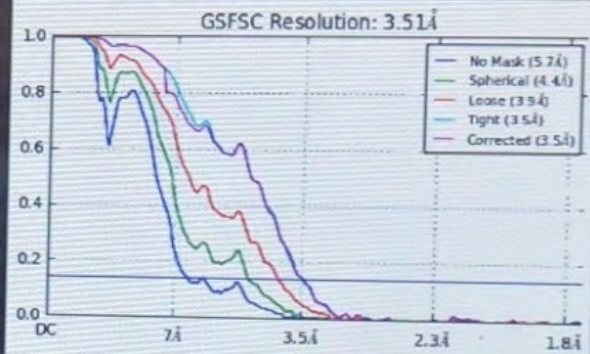
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Thursday March 12, 2020 9:22 AM 1 Active Session

J441 Running (110.2 mins. elapsed) 161,766 Particles Done iteration 9

Configure

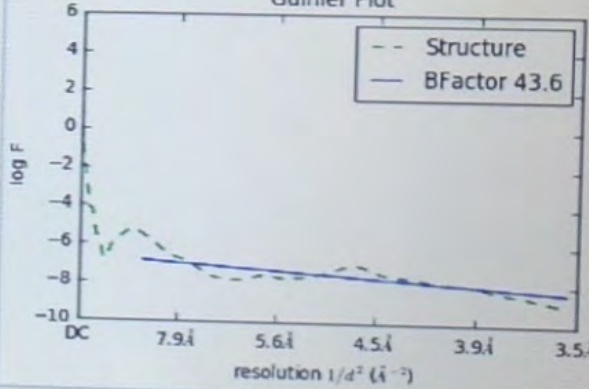
### Fourier Shell Correlation



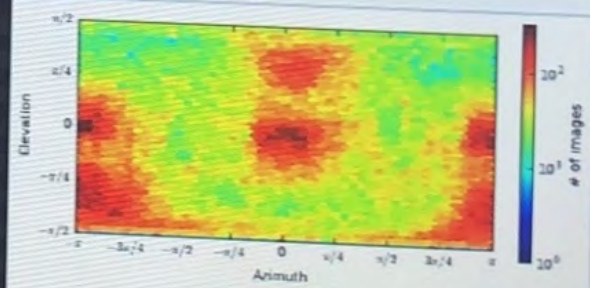
### Fourier Space Slices



### Guinier Plot



### Orientation Distribution



### Real Space Slices



Logout



# Conclusions

- A membrane active polymer library is need for membrane protein structural biology.
- We set a high standard to develop membrane active polymers.  
high-resolution structures of memteins.
- SMA co-polymers are good start materials to develop membrane active polymers, but all potential novel polymers will be considered.

# Acknowledgements

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- **Rockefeller University**  
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- **New York Structure Biology Center**  
Edward Eng, Elina, Robert, Kashyap, *et al.*
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- Amedee des Georges, Tong Wang
- **VCU School of Pharmacy**  
Startup fund
- **NIH NIGMS**  
(Native Cell Membrane Nanoparticles System)



CUNY  
ADVANCED  
SCIENCE  
RESEARCH  
CENTER



NIGMS



SIMONS  
ELECTRON  
MICROSCOPY  
CENTER

NYSBC 



NIGMS