

# An Outlook to Biothermodynamics

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## Biothermodynamics Overview, Historical Remarks

1. Photosynthesis
2. Lipid Membranes : Phase Transition  
DMPC-EOS (E2)
3. Proteins : Thermal Denaturation
4. Metabolism of Bacteria  
Kleiber's Law



Bacteria Escherichia Coli  
Th. Escherich, 1919

# Biothermodynamics (BTH):

**Application of Thermodynamics, i.e. Thermostatistics (TST) and Thermodynamics of Irreversible Processes (TIP) to Biological and Bioengineering Systems.**

## **Biotechnology (BT):**

**Technology using living systems like cells, bacteria, fungi etc. as chemical reactors.**

White BT	Industrial sized biocatalytic processes (fermentation) Breweries, Production vitamine B12, steroid hormones etc.;
Green BT	Plants and transgene variations for production of biofuels etc. in biorefineries;
Red BT	Medical applications of substances and processes related to living organisms, as for example interferones etc. (cancer, viruses)
Yellow BT	Pharmaceutical molecules, recombinant proteins, penicilline and other fungi;
Blue BT	Seawater based microorganisms as reactors; extremophiles... Extraction noble metals from seawater, production of new molecules

# Fields of Research in Biothermodynamics

3rd Int. Symposium on Biothermodynamics  
DECHEMA, Bologna, September 2010

## Biomolecules

# Protein adsorption on surfaces

# Protein folding, interactions and stability

## Bacteria

# Active mass transport in biological membranes

# Thermodynamics of metabolic pathways

# Intracellular Thermodynamics

## Bioreactors

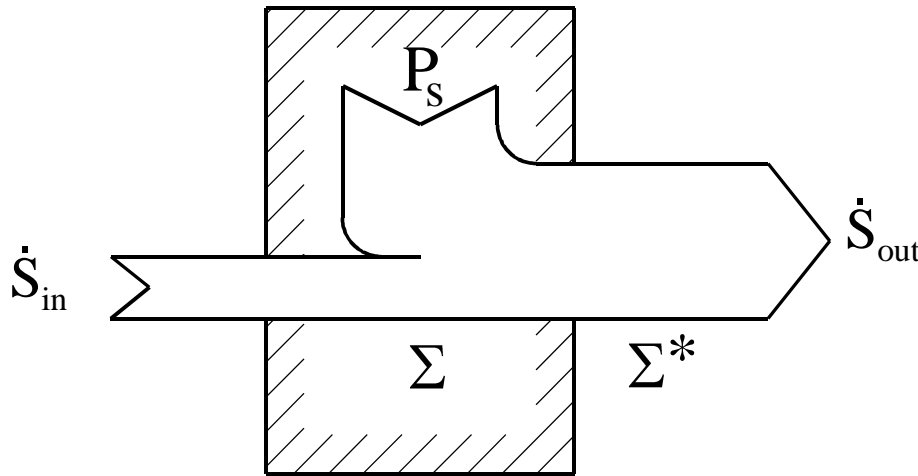
# Biocalorimetry

# Thermodynamics of downstream processing

# Thermodynamics in biological energy conversion processes

# Thermodynamic aspects of Systems Biology

# 1. Thermodynamics of Photosynthesis



E. Schrödinger (~1940)

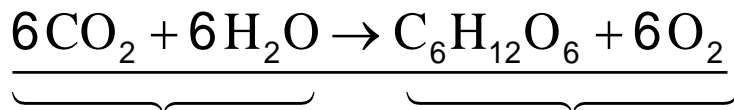
Evaporation of Additional Water:

$$\dot{S}_{in} = \dot{S}_{out} + 0.24 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{mol K}} \cdot \dot{n}_{GL}$$

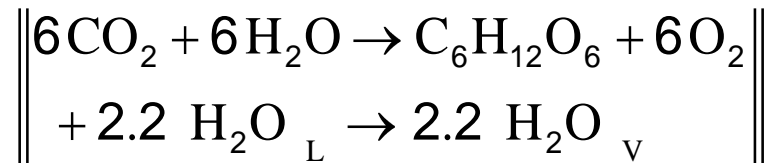
$$2.2 | \dot{S}_{H_2O_L} = \dot{S}_{H_2O_V} - 0.11 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{mol K}} \cdot \dot{n}_W$$

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$$\dot{n}_W = 2.2 \cdot \dot{n}_{GL}$$



$$= \dot{S}_{out} + 0.24 \frac{\text{kJ}}{\text{mol K}} \cdot \dot{n}_{GL}$$

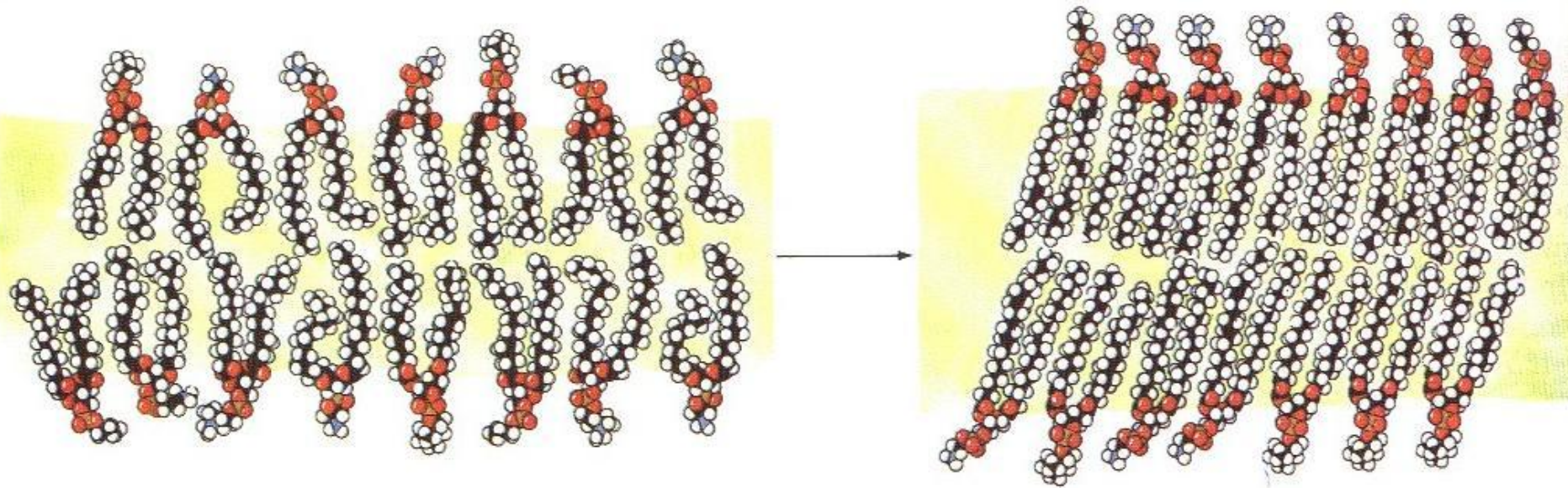


2<sup>nd</sup> Law:  $\dot{S}_{in} \leq \dot{S}_{out} \quad ?$

## 2. Lipid Membranes, Phase Transition Fluid - Gel

$$T > T_t(p, \dots)$$

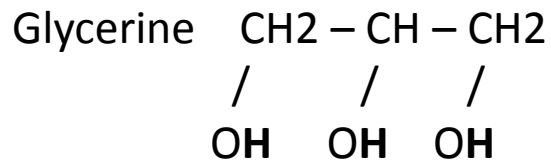
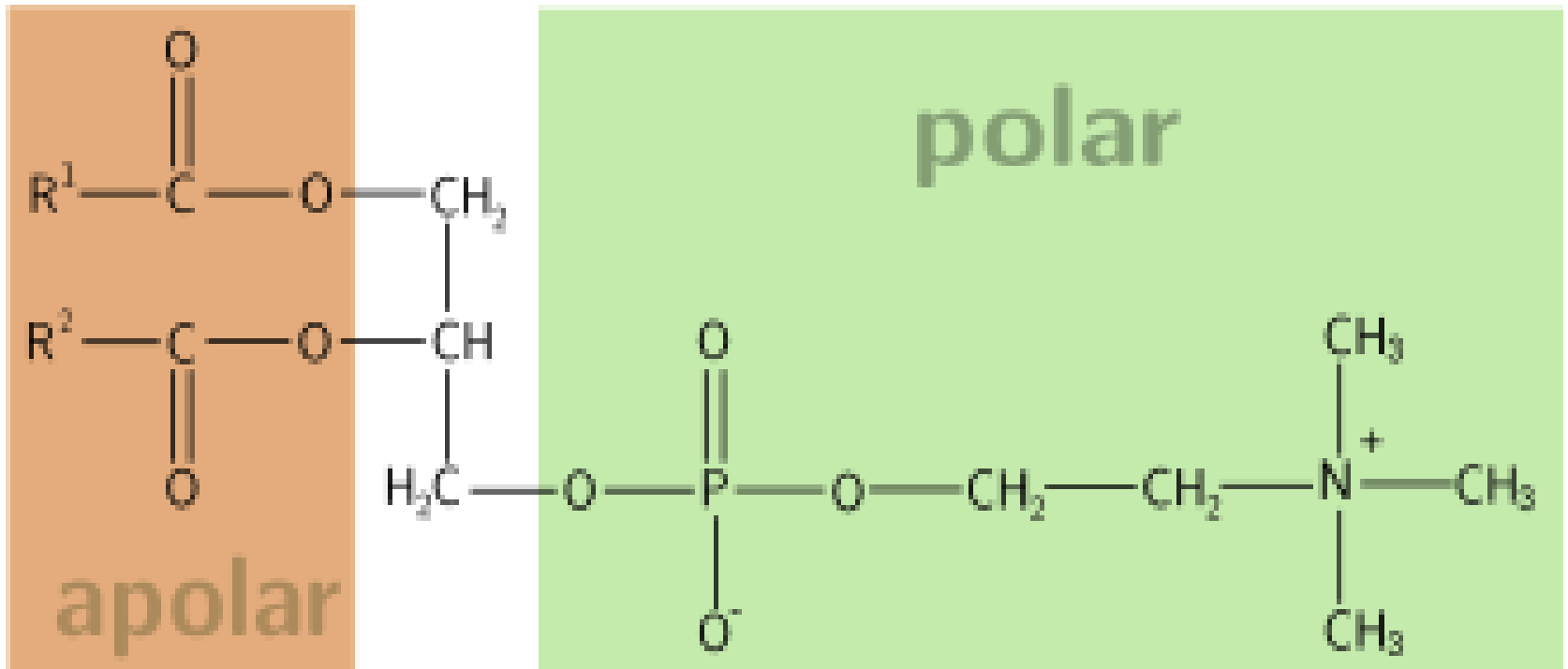
$$T < T_t(p, \dots)$$



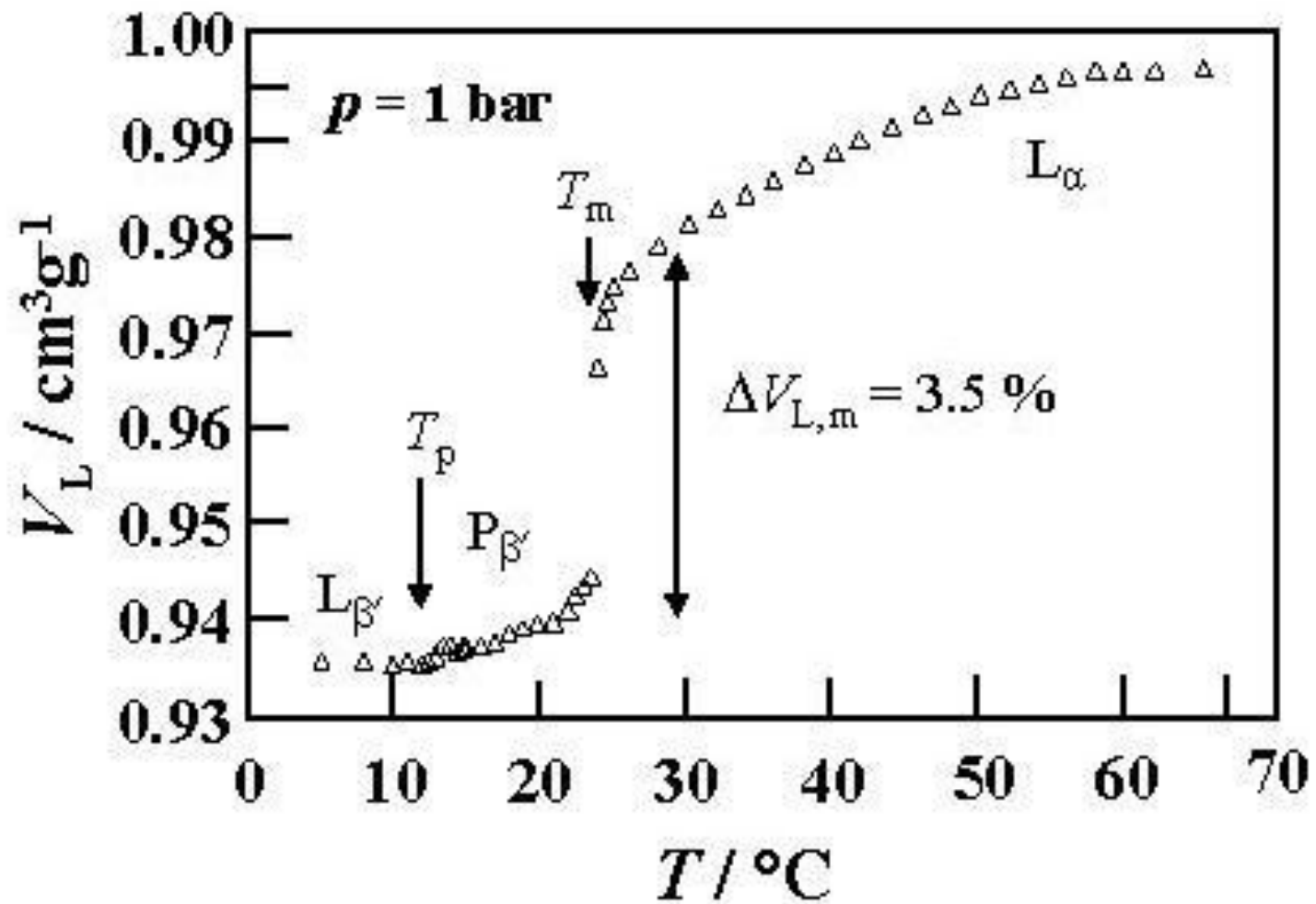
Lipid by-layer formed of phosphatidylcholine (Voet & Voet, p. 288)

# DMPC – Struktur: Phosphatidylcholine / Lecithine

Fatty acids



Choline



Temperature and pressure dependence of the specific volume of DMPC<sup>\*)</sup> in water.  
 (R. Winter, JNE 6-22, 2007) <sup>\*)</sup>1,2-dimyristoyl-s,n-glycero-3-phosphatidylcholine

# DMPC Thermal Equation of State (EOS)

Aliphatic tails of DMPC-molecules may aggregate/adsorb on each other.

Degree of aggregation:

Free volume

$$\alpha(v) := \frac{v_0 - v}{v_0 - b_0} \quad 0 < \alpha(v) < 1$$

$$\beta(v) := \frac{v - b_0}{v_0 - b_0}$$

Fluid state      Gel state

Fractality

EOS: 
$$p(\alpha, T) := A(T) \cdot \alpha + B(T) \cdot \alpha^2 + D(T) \cdot \alpha^3 + C(T) \cdot \frac{\alpha^\gamma}{1 - \alpha^\gamma} \quad \gamma := 1$$

Virial expansion ...

Adsorption term

$$A(T) := A_0 \cdot [1 + a \cdot (T - T_0)]$$

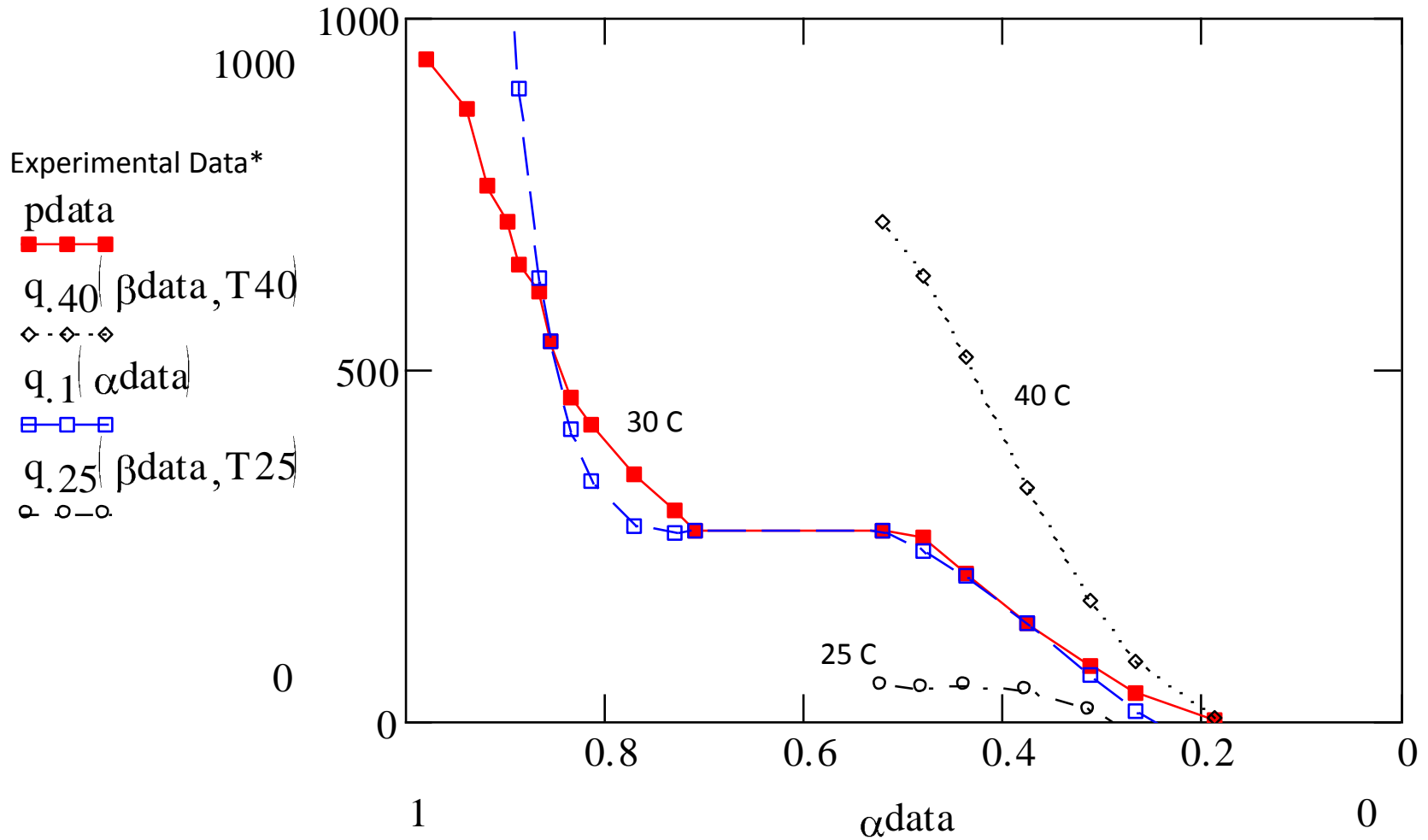
A= -1873 bar	a=-0.54
B=7942	b=-0.051
D=-8997	d=-0.429
C=333.34	c=-2.534

.....

$$D(T) := D_0 \cdot [1 + d \cdot (T - T_0)]$$

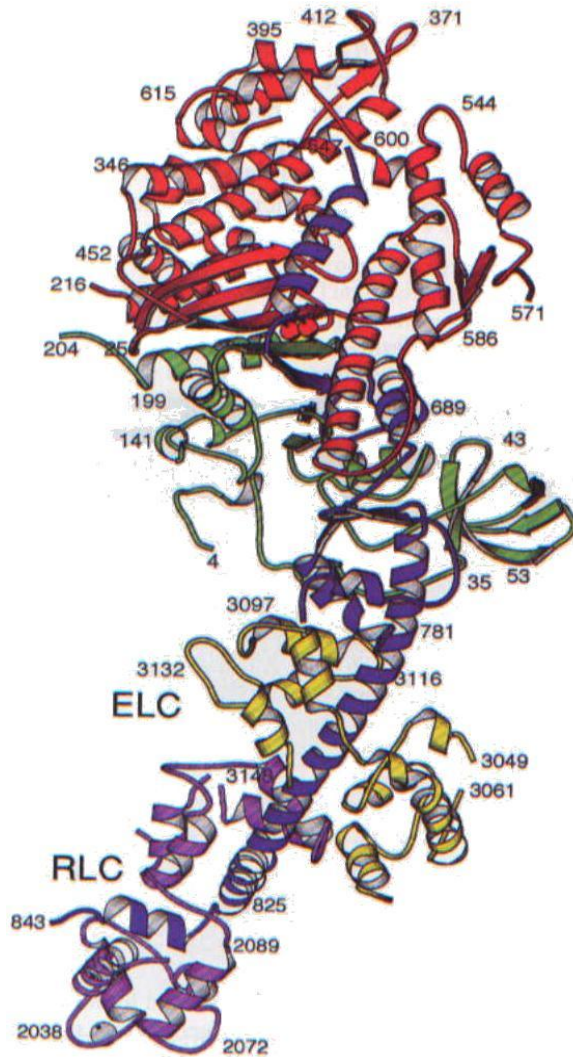


# DMPC Thermal Equation of State (EOS) Correlation of Isothermal Data



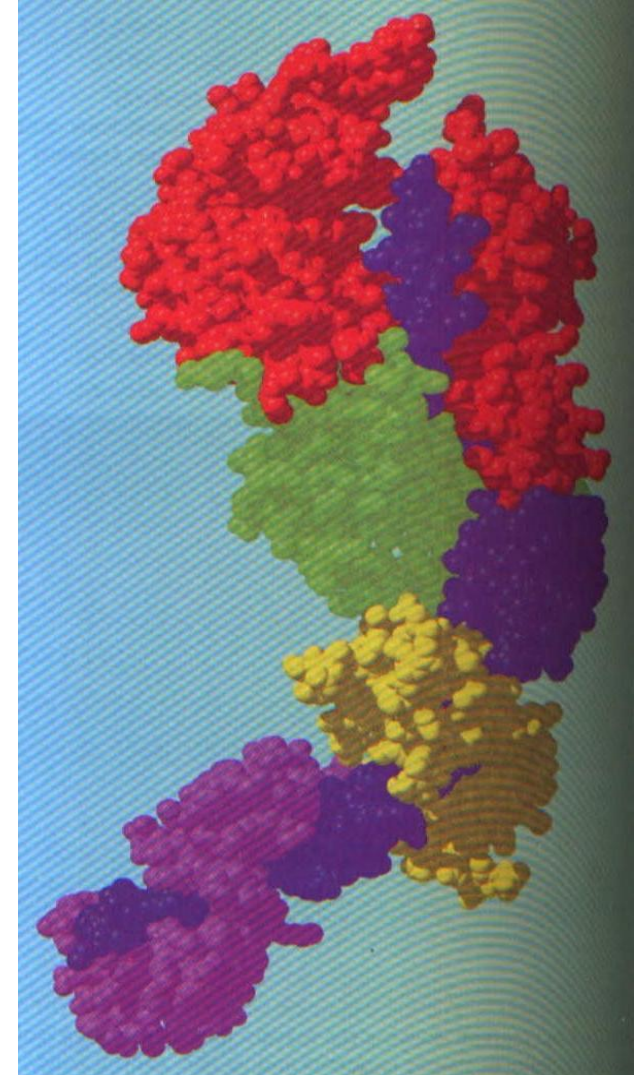
\* R. Winter et al., JNE 32(2007), p.41

### 3. Proteins (Example): Myosin from Chicken Muscle



Secondary Structure

Voet&Voet  
Biochemistry  
Wiley,N.Y.  
1995

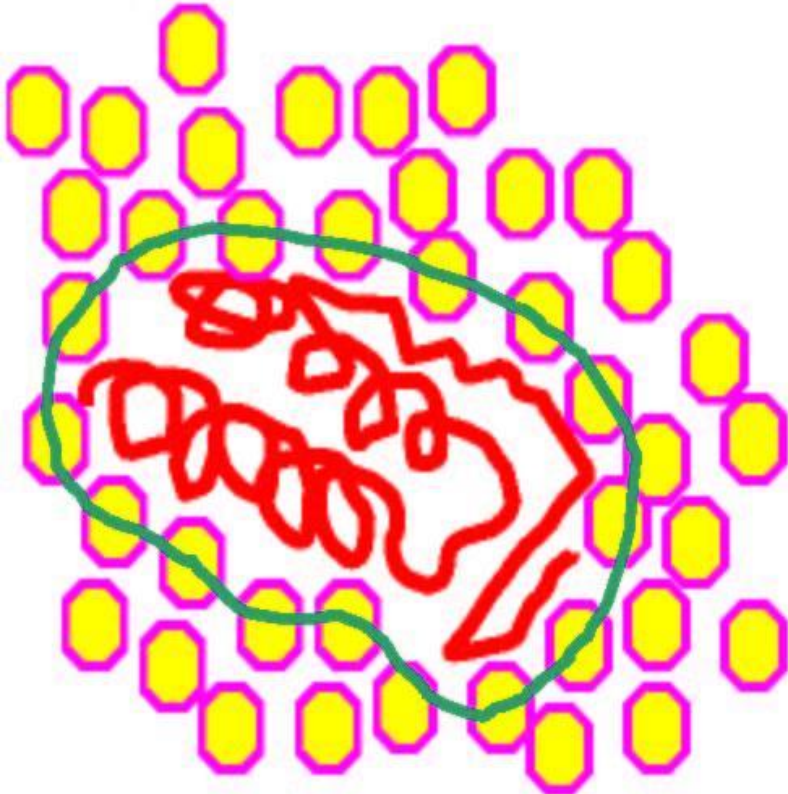


Tertiary Structure (X-Ray)

## Protein(P) - Water(W) Interactions (E4)

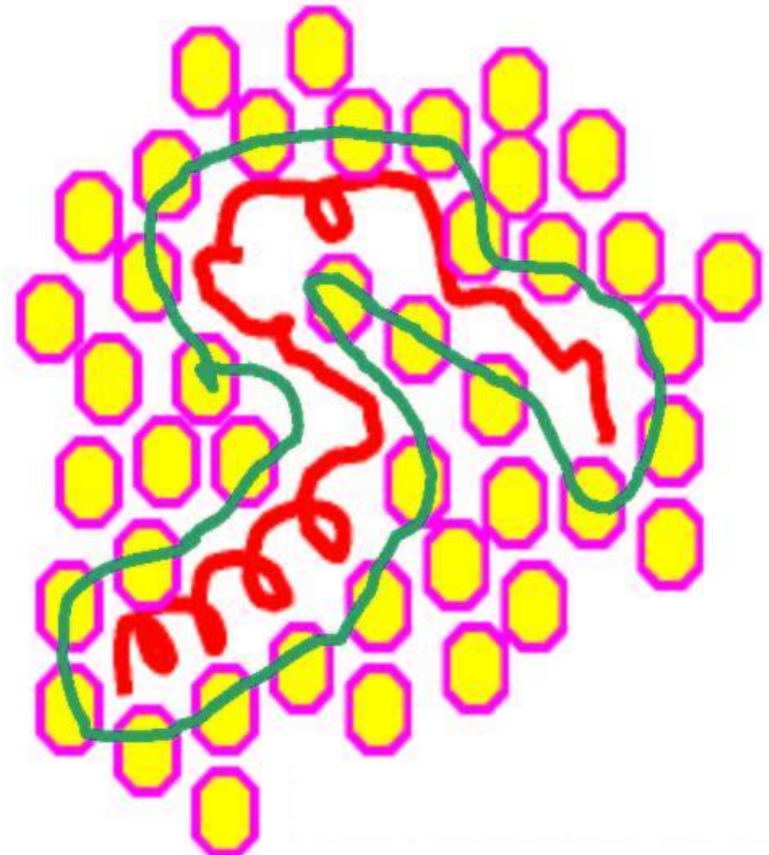
P: Conformational Changes, Unfolding

W: Adsorption, Intrusion, Coating of (P) > Stabilization



Ref.:Randolph

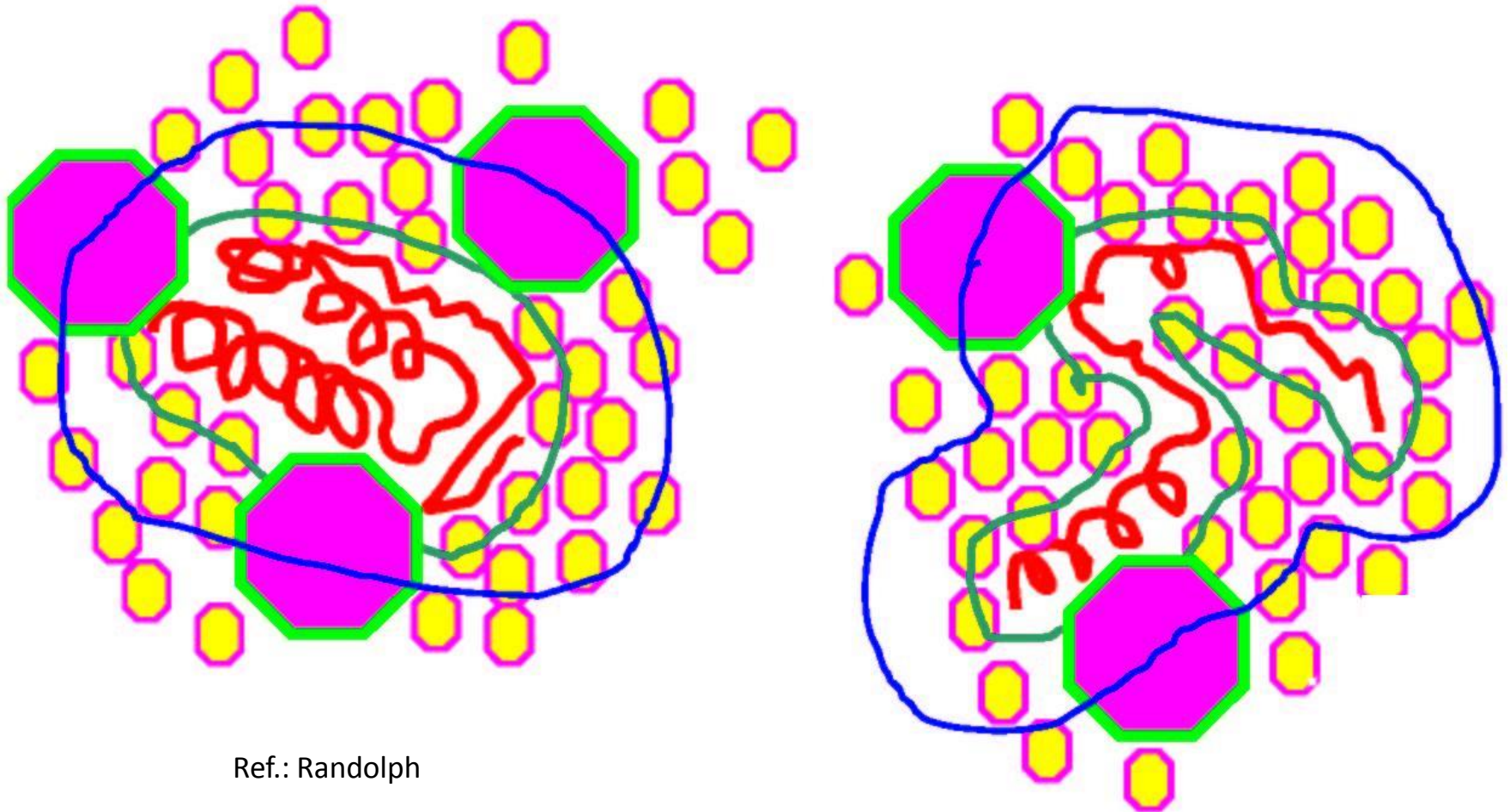
Native State (N):  
compact, surface area small



Unfolded State (D):  
expanded, surface area high

# Protein(P) - Water(W) – Sugar(S) Interactions

S: Adsorption, Desorption upon unfolding of protein.



Ref.: Randolph

S-W: Coadsorption on surface may stabilize (P).

# Thermal Denaturation of Myoglobin

## Experimental Data

153 Amino acids

Seize:  $(44 \times 44 \times 25) \text{Å}^3$

Molecular Weight  $\approx 18 \text{kD}$

N ... Native (folded) State

D ... Denaturated (unfolded) State

Equilibrium at  $T = \text{const}$ ,  $p = \text{const}$

$$\Delta G_{\text{DN}}(p, T) = -RT \ln \left( \frac{\gamma_{\text{D}} x_{\text{D}}}{\gamma_{\text{N}} x_{\text{N}}} \right)$$

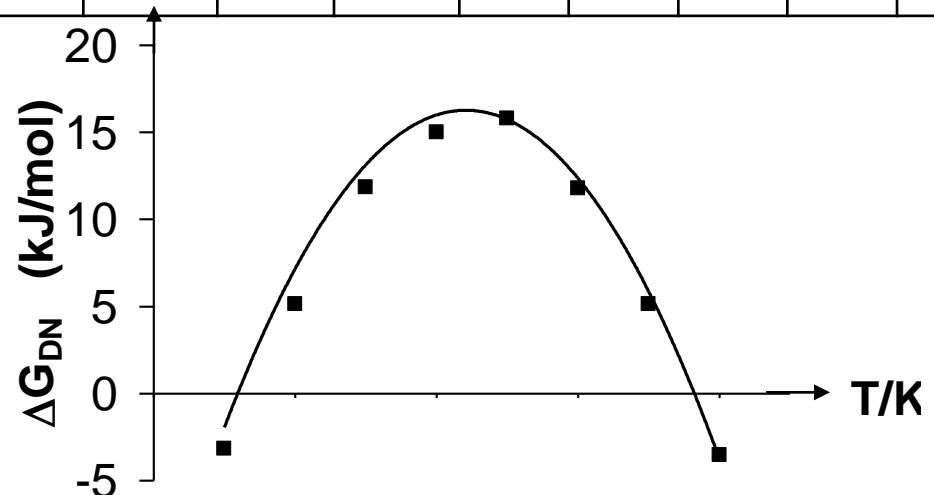
$$\Delta G_{\text{DN}} = \mu_{\text{D0}} - \mu_{\text{N0}}$$

$$\text{Approx.: } \gamma_{\text{D}} = \gamma_{\text{N}} = 1$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{DN}} > 0 \rightarrow x_{\text{D}} \ll x_{\text{N}} \dots \text{N} \dots \text{stable}$$

$$\Delta G_{\text{DN}} < 0 \rightarrow x_{\text{D}} \gg x_{\text{N}} \dots \text{N} \dots \text{unstable}$$

T/K	270	280	290	300	310	320	330	340
$\Delta G_{\text{DN}}$ (kJ/mol)	-3.16	5.13	11.8	15	15.8	11.8	5.13	-3.53
$\Delta H_{\text{DN}}$ (kJ/mol)	-289.	-204	-115	-23	72.2	170	272	376
$\Delta S_{\text{DN}}$ (kJ/mol K)	-1.06	0.75	-0.44	0.13	0.18	0.49	0.81	1.12



# 4. Kleiber's Law of Metabolism in Aerobic Living Systems

Allometry

Metabolic Rate

$$\Gamma = a T, T_0 M^\gamma$$

$$a \cong (1 - 2) \text{mW} / \text{g}$$

$$\frac{2}{3} < \gamma \leq 1$$

$$\gamma \cong \frac{3}{4}$$

B. Ahlborn, Zoological Physics

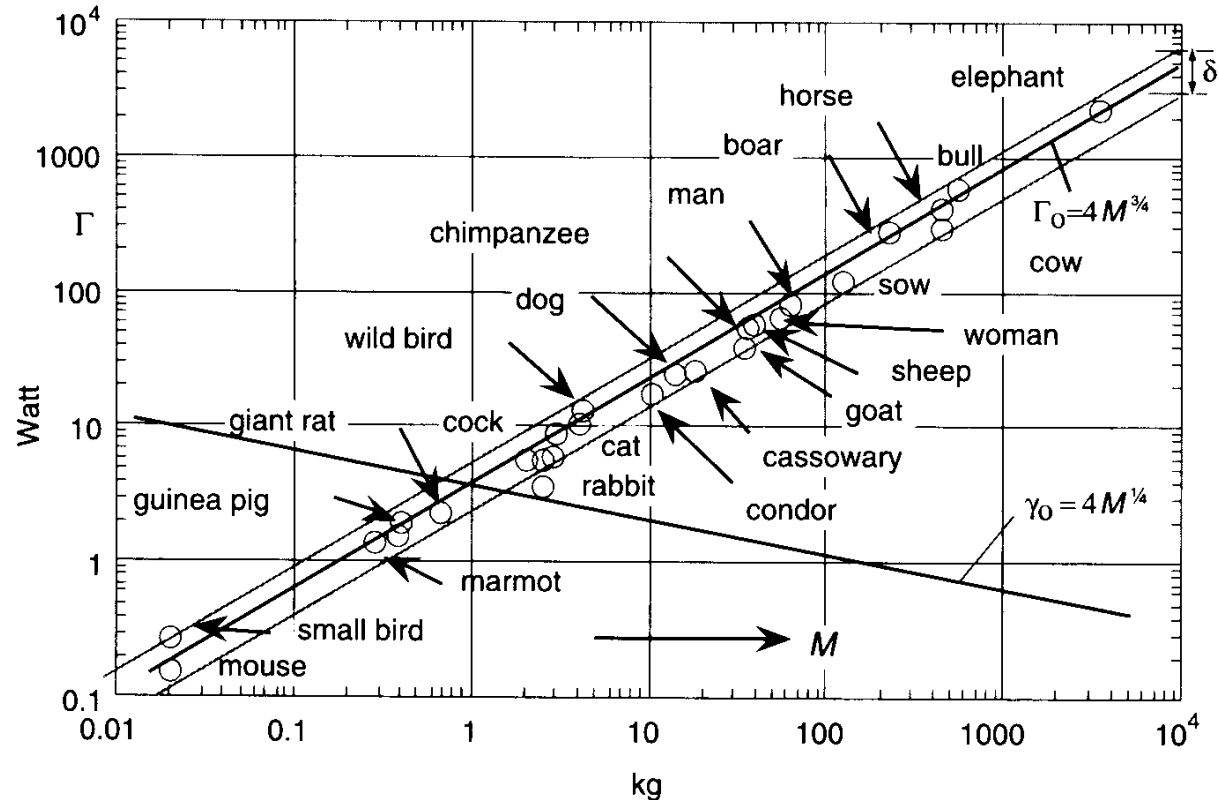


Figure A3

Metabolic rate of oxygen consumption based living systems. Mouse-Elephant-curve, B. Ahlborn, 2004. This curve also holds for bacteria ( $M \cong 10^{-4}$  g).



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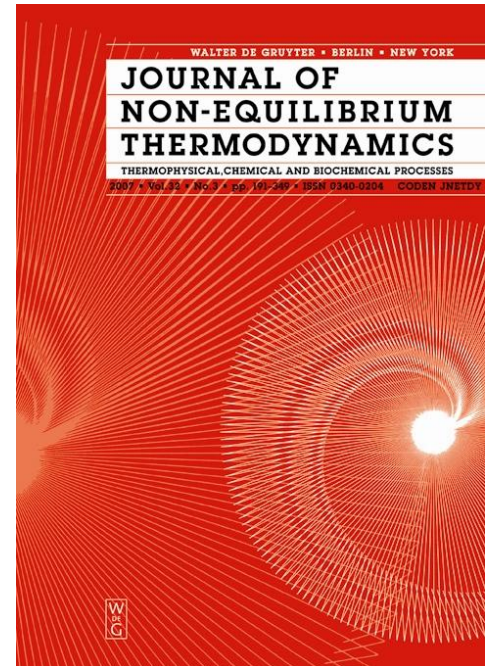
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## **KISS**

Keep it smart and simple.

## **MORENE**

More research needed.

**Ötztaler Alpen, 5-9-2007**

**Similaunhütte, 3012m, (T= -10C / -30C)**

