

Lipids and their properties

Electron crystallography of membrane proteins
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Overview

- Lipid- definition classification
- Physical properties of lipids
 - Lipid polymorphism
 - Lipid phase diagrams
 - Lipid phase transition temperature
 - Lipid mobility
- Synthesis of new lipids for 2D crystallization of membrane proteins

Lipid -definition

Lipid: any molecule (MW 100-5000) that contains a substantial portion of aliphatic or aromatic hydrocarbon.

Lipids

- hydrocarbons
- oil
- waxes
- cholesterol, steroids
- vitamins (such as vitamins A,D,E and K)
- (mono-di-tri)glycerides
- phospholipids
- soap
- detergents
- surfactants
-

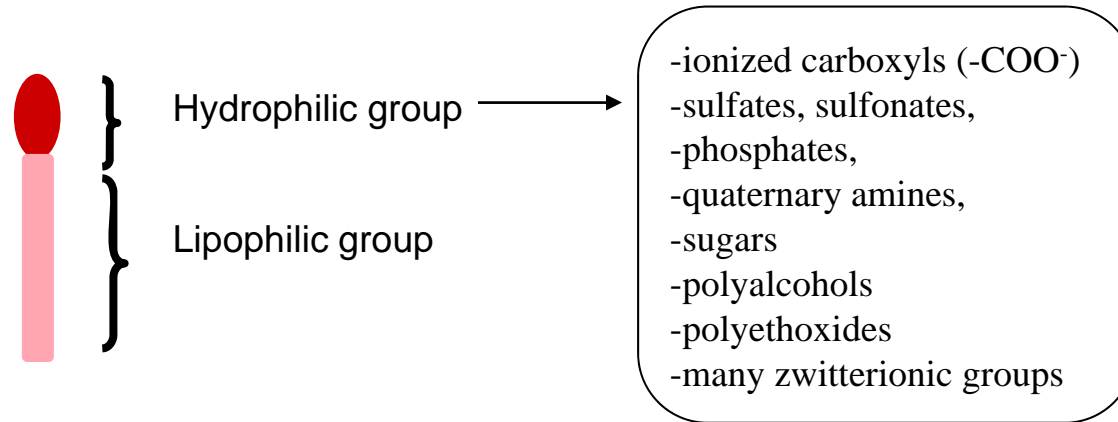
Biological functions

- Structural component of the membranes
- Energy storage
- Intermediate in signalling pathways
-

Lipids classification based on interactions with water

The physical-chemistry properties of the lipids are dependent on the amphiphilic structure

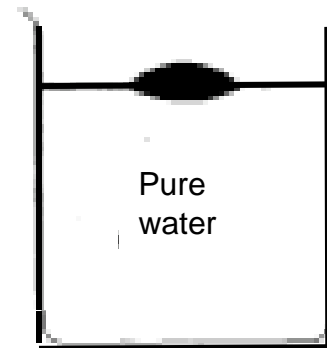
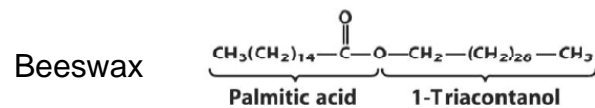
The behaviour of a given lipid depends on the **Hydrophilic-Lipophilic Balance HLB**



I. Nonpolar lipids

-They are insoluble in water, very soluble in organic solvent (hexane, chloroform or benzene)

Long chain hydrocarbons i.e. octadecane $\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_{16}\text{CH}_3$



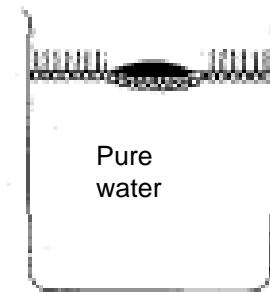
Lipids classification based on interactions with water

II. Polar lipids

Class I: insoluble in water , Nonswelling amphiphiles

Form a stable monolayer Soluble in organic solvent

- triglycerides
- long-chain un-ionized fatty acids
- cholesterol**
- many fat-soluble vitamins (vitamins A,D,E,and K)
- Solubility $<10^{-10}M$

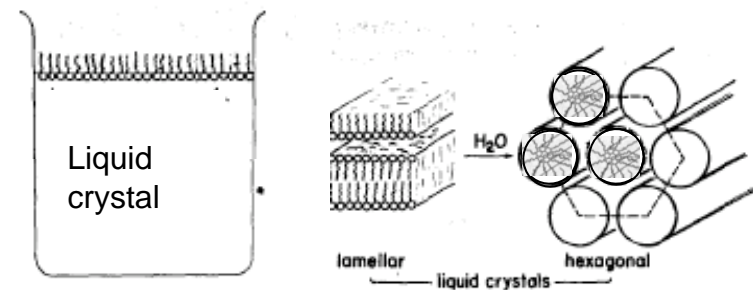


Class II: insoluble in water , Swelling amphiphiles

Form a stable monolayer sparingly soluble in organic solvent
soluble in amphiphilic solvent such as ethanol

Lipids from membrane

- Phospholipids
- cerebrosides
- lipoproteins
- monoglycerides

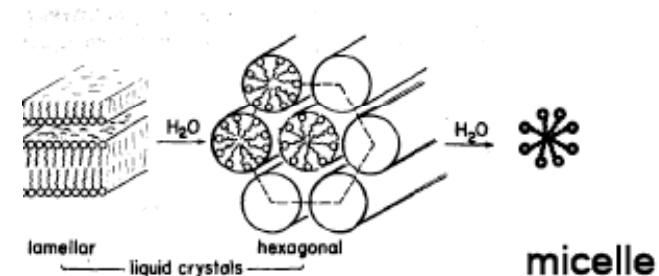
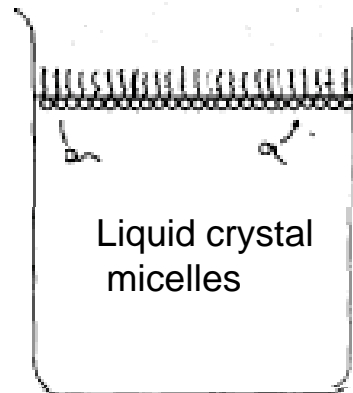


Class III: soluble amphiphiles

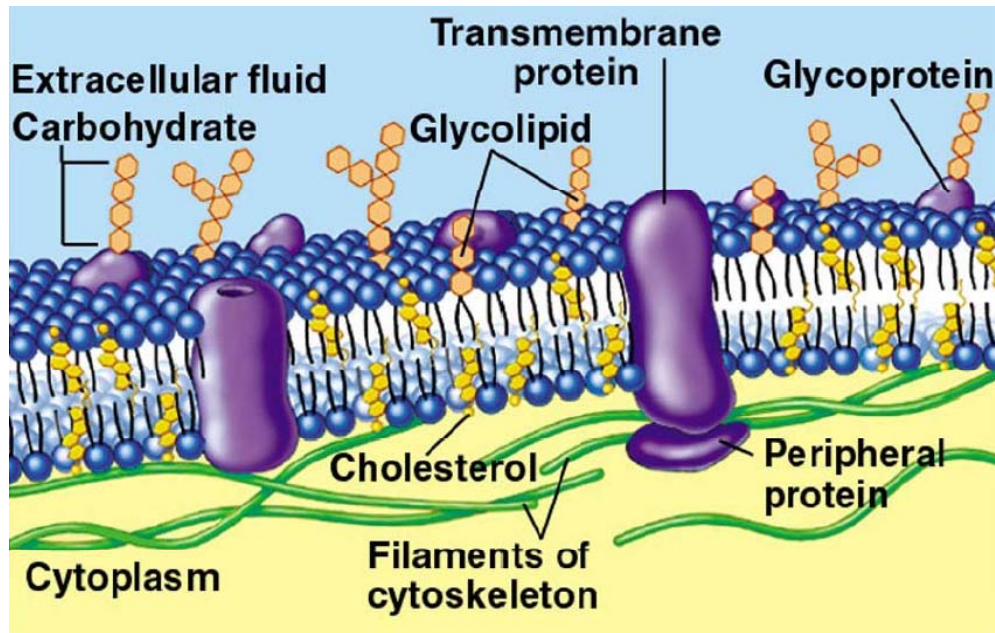
Form an instable monolayer
insoluble in organic solvent

Soaps, lysolecithin, **detergents**,
bile salts

Solubility $>10^{-4}M$,
(Saponine: $10^{-2}M$)



Structure of a membrane



A membrane is a barrier that defines a boundary to a cell and/or organelle

-Prokaryotes

- Only membrane is plasma membrane and in the case of Gram negative bacteria (eg E. coli) an additional outer membrane

-Eukaryotes

- Plasma membranes
- Organelles membranes
 - Mitochondria
 - Nucleus
 - Lysosomes
 - Endoplasmic reticulum

-Enveloped viruses

- nucleic acid core is surrounded by a simple membrane)

•But is it really just simply a barrier??

- Insulation
- Most membranes are electrically polarized
- Mediate cell-cell adhesion
- Signal and nerve transmission
- Cell identity and antigenicity
- Energy storage (lipids)

The structure of membrane lipids

Three major kinds of membrane lipids

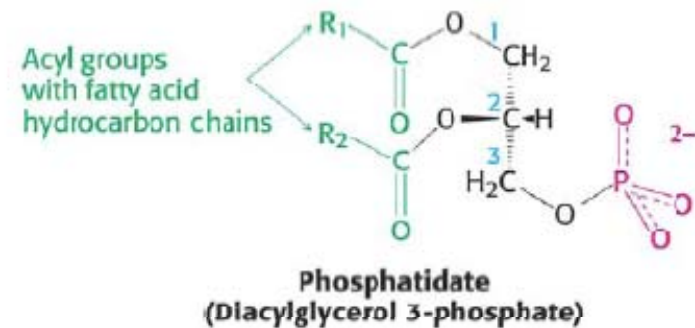
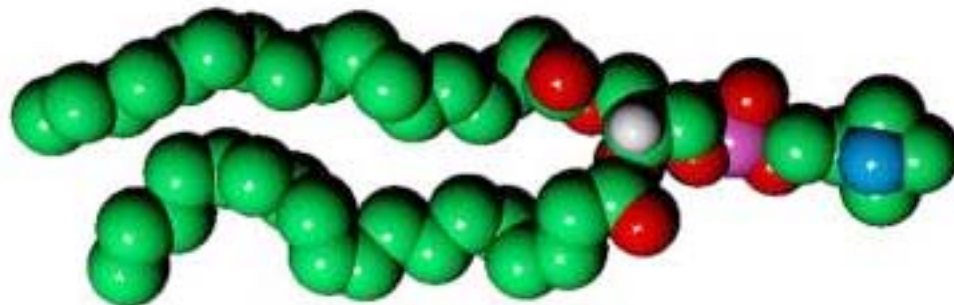
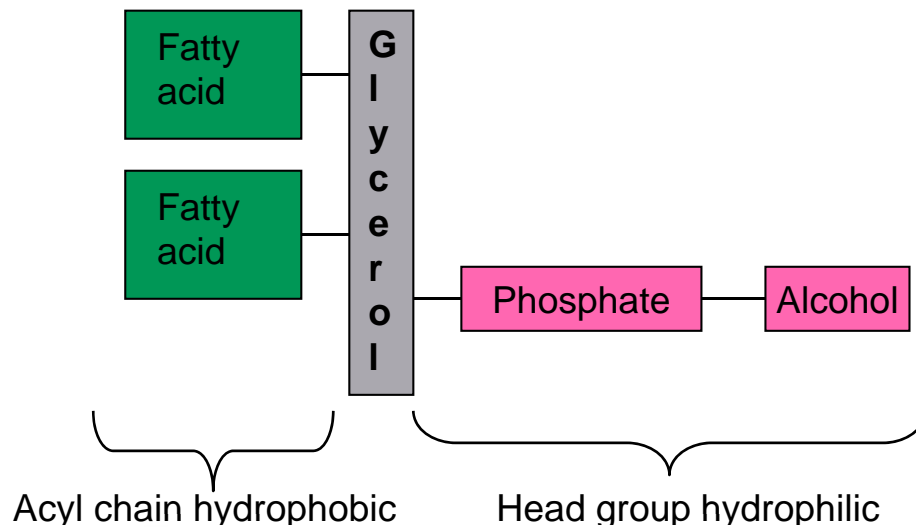
- Phospholipids (glycerophospholipids, sphingolipids)
- Glycolipids
- Cholesterol

Phospholipids-Glycerophospholipids

Nomenclature Naming is complicated (due to historical reasons)

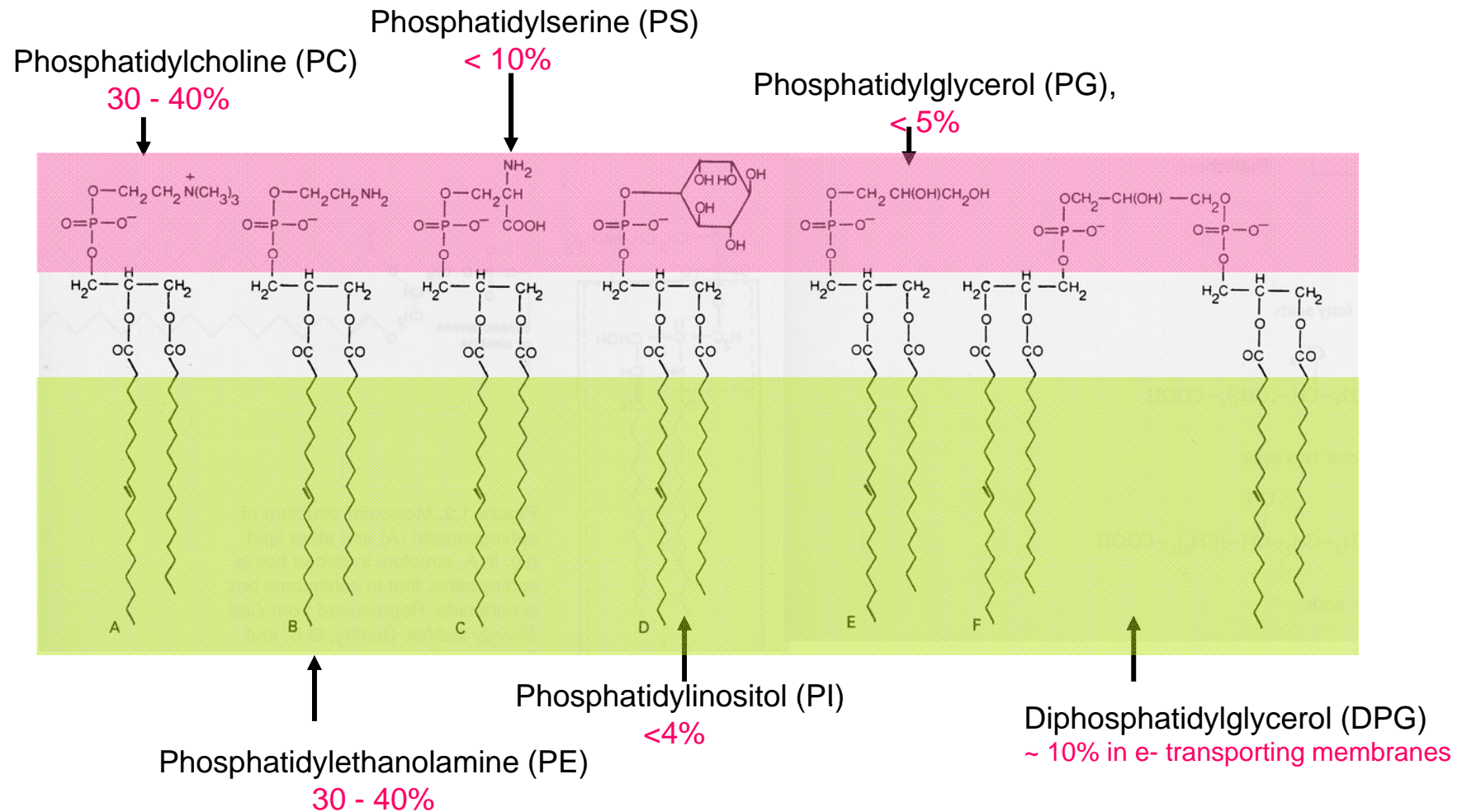
It is formalized now but some older names are still in common use (eg. Lecithin is still used for phosphatidylcholine).

IUPAC-IUB is the defining authority though

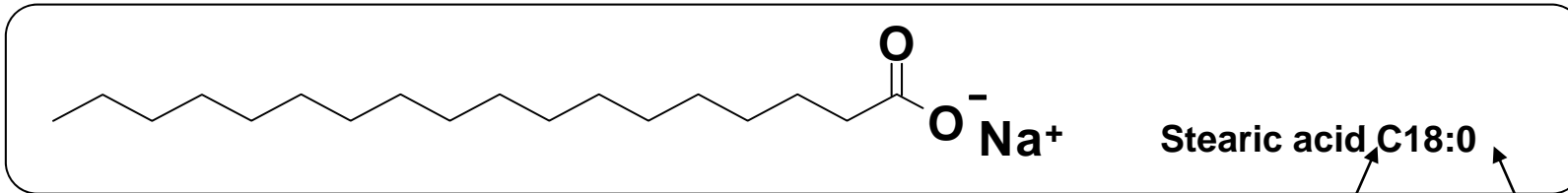
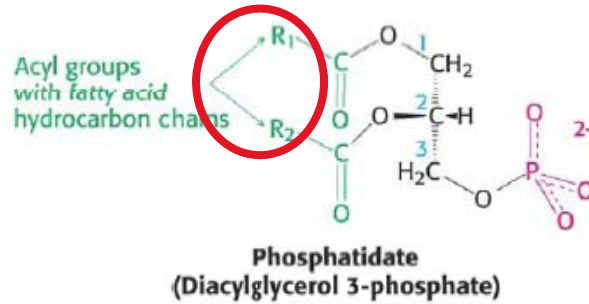


Some common glycerophospholipids found in membranes

- Typical %ages for eukaryotic cell membrane
- All lipids are zwitterionic or anionic



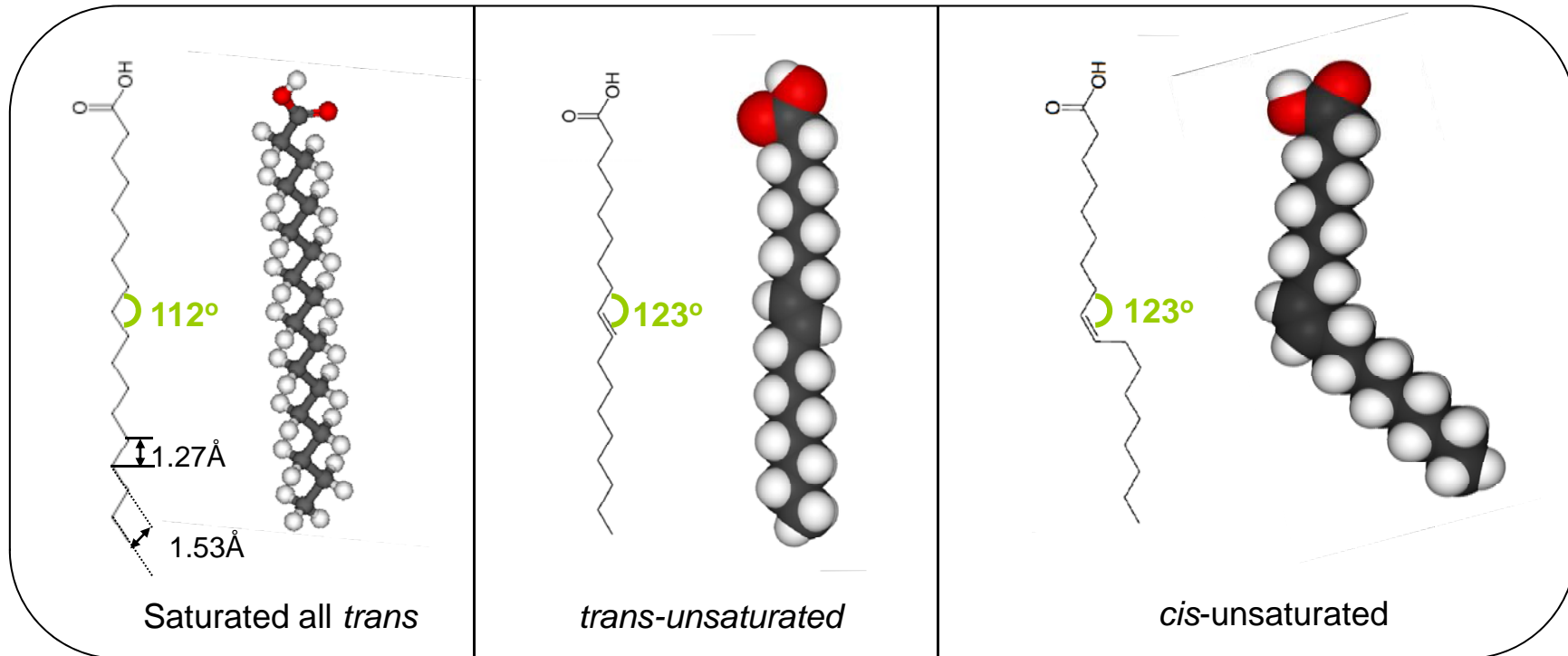
fatty acids



No of Cs No of C=C units

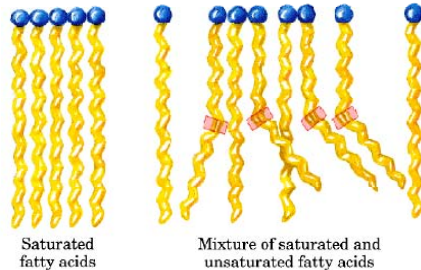
Common Name	Chain length: unsaturation	Systematic Name
Lauric	12:0	Dodecanoic acid
Myristic	14:0	Tetradecanoic acid
Palmitic	16:0	Hexadecanoic acid
Palmitoleic	16:1 (9-cis)	9-Hexadecenoic acid
Stearic	18:0	Octadecanoic acid
Oleic	18:1 (9-cis)	9-Octadecenoic acid
Linoleic	18:2 (9-cis, 12cis)	9,12-Octadecadienoic acid
Arachidonic	20:4 (5, 8, 11, 14 -cis)	5,8,11,14-Eicosatetraenoic acid

The structure of fatty acids: cis-unsaturated and trans-unsaturated acids

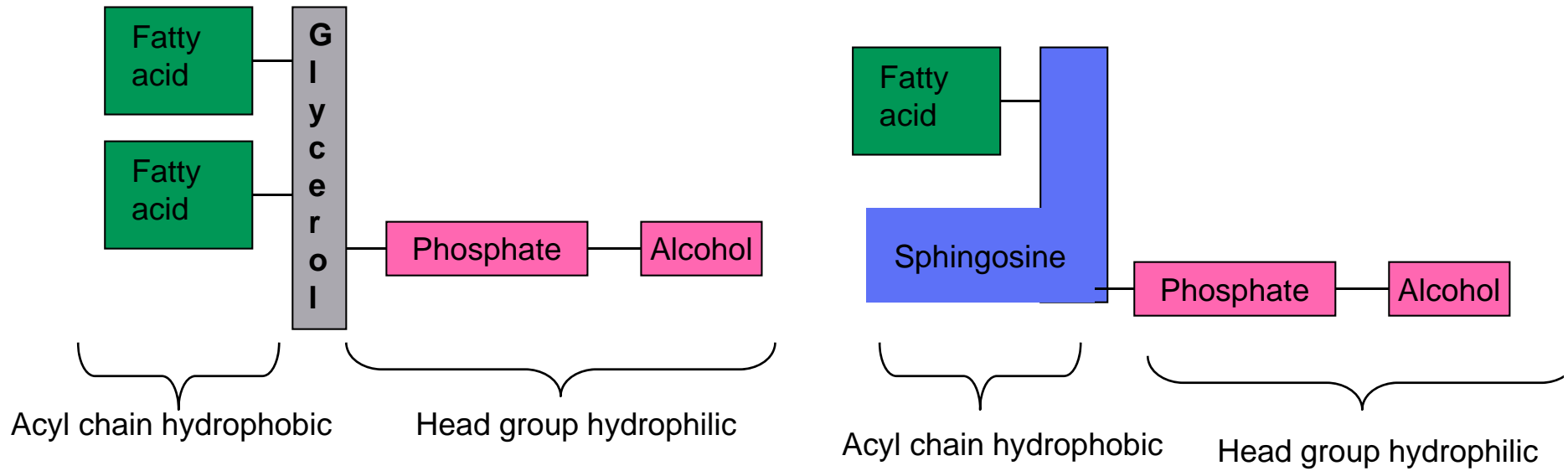


$T_m = 45^\circ\text{C}$

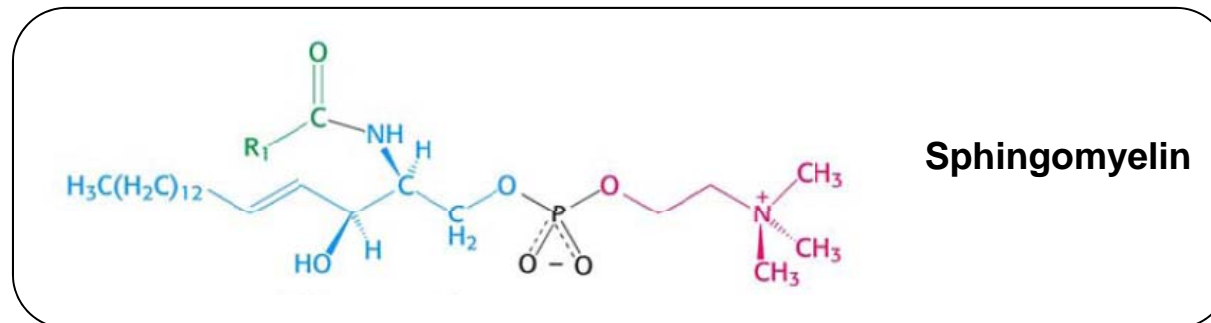
$T_m = 32^\circ\text{C}$



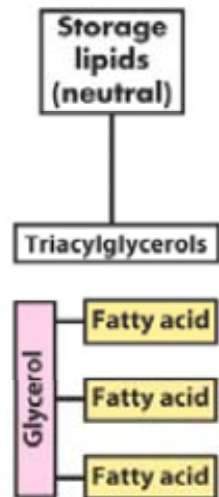
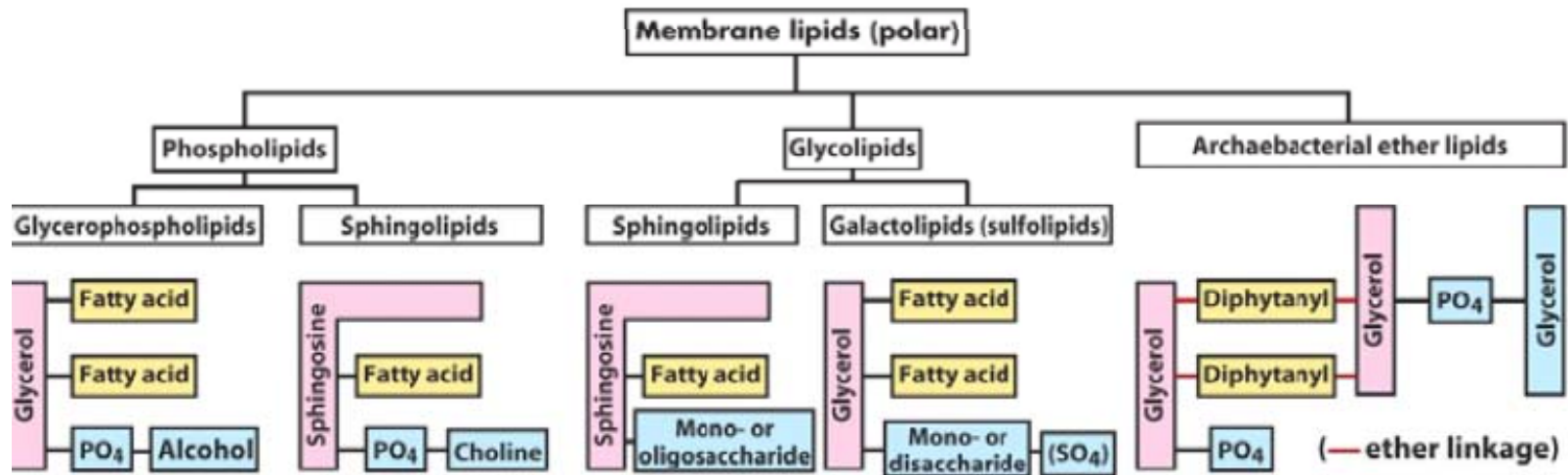
Phospholipids-Sphingolipids



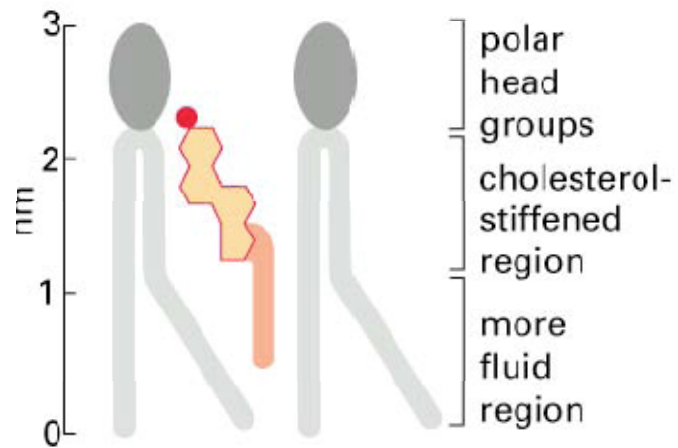
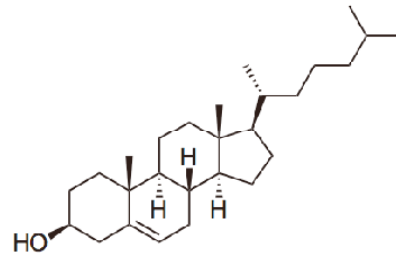
Sphingosine



Sphingomyelin



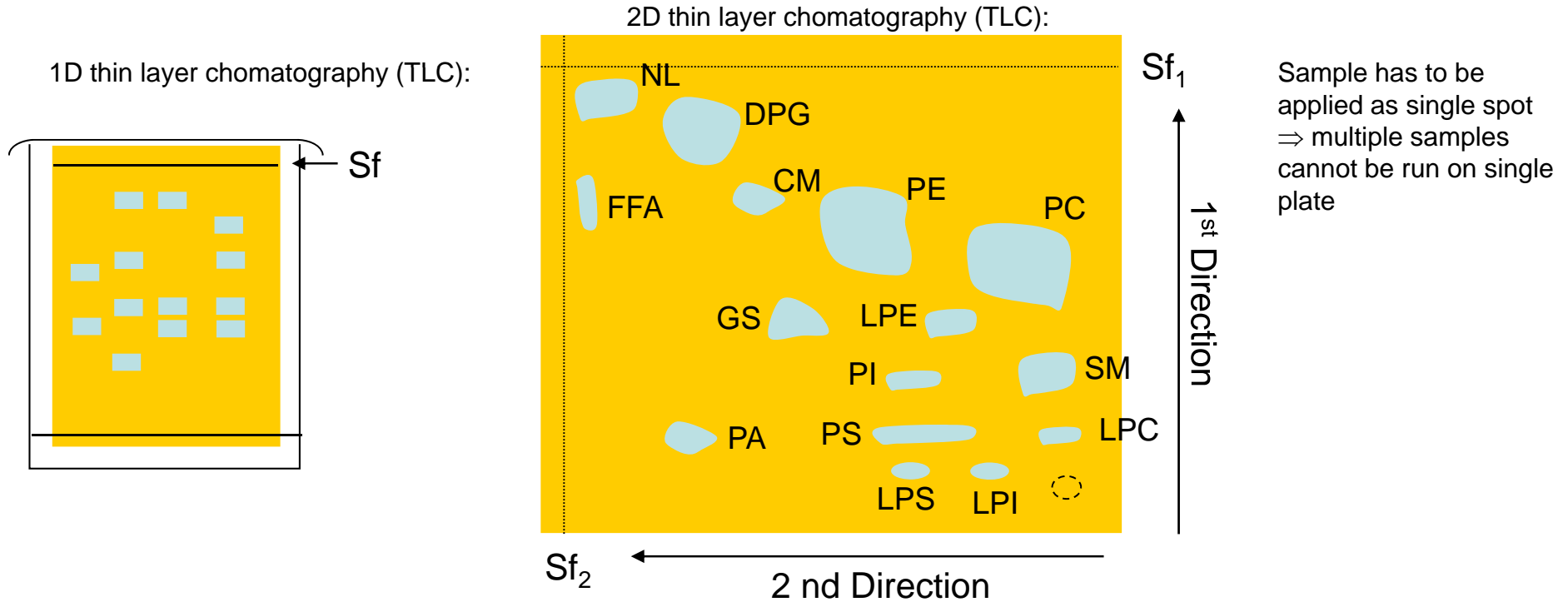
Cholesterol



Lipid extraction from membranes and characterization

Lipid extraction

Lipid separation using Thin Layer Chromatography technique lipids are separated according to polarity



Solvent: chloroform/methanol/30% aq. Ammonia/ water (90:54:5.5:5.5)
 chloroform/methanol/acetone/glacial/acetic acid/water (60:20:80:20:10)

LPC: Lyso-PC GS: gangliosides
 LPE: Lyso-PE PA: phosphatidic acid
 LPI: Lyso-PI FFA: free fatty acid
 LPS: Lyso-PS CM: ceramide monohexoside
 NL: neutral lipids PI: phosphatidylinositol
 DPG: diphosphatidylglycerol
 SM: sphingomyelin PE: phosphatidylethanolamin
 PS: phosphatidylserine PC: phosphatidylcholine

Lipid polymorphism

Behaviour of lipids in aqueous medium varies considerably

Lytotropic transitions: variation of water content at constant temperature

Driven by **HYDROPHOBIC EFFECT**

Cohesive forces between hydrocarbon tails → minimization of hydrocarbon-water contact area

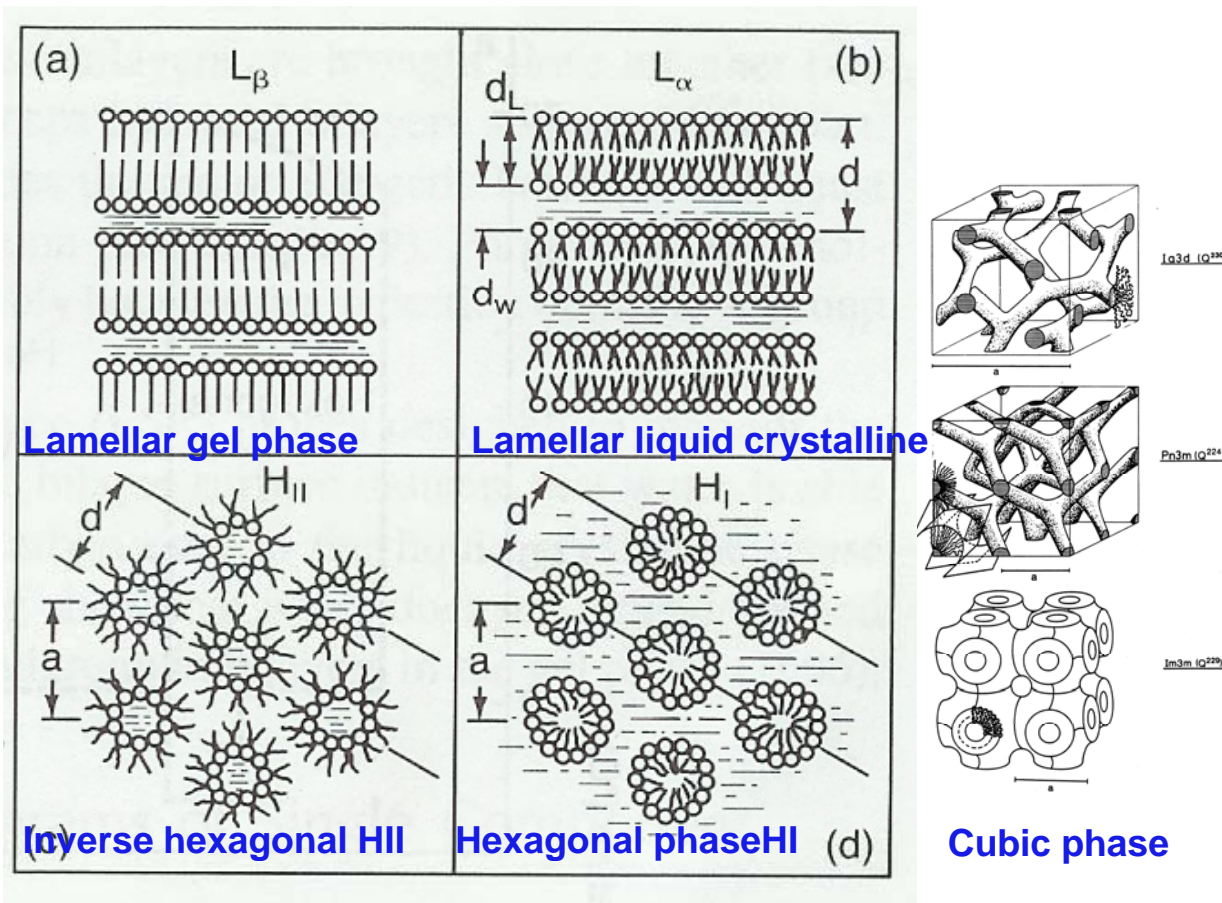
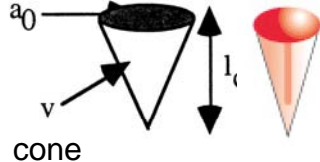


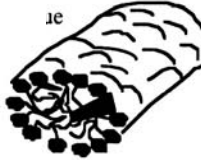

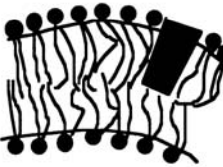
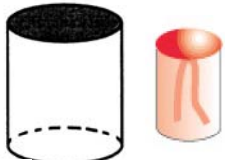
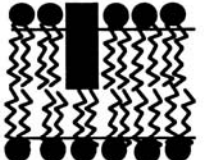
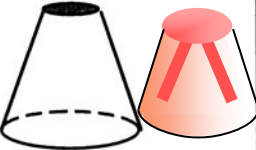
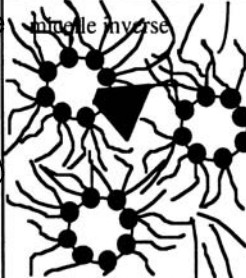


Table 1 Principal Lyotropic Mesophases

Solidlike lamellar phases		
Type	Name	Phase structure
3-D	L_c	3-D crystal
2-D	L_c^{2D}	2-D crystal
	$P_{\beta'}$	Rippled gel
	P_{δ}	Ordered ribbon phase
	B	Ordered ribbon phase?
1-D	L_{β}	Untilted gel
	$L_{\beta'}$	Tilted gel
	$L_{\beta I}$	Interdigitated gel
	$L_{\alpha\beta}$	Partial gel
Fluid phases		
Type	Name	Phase structure
1-D	L_{α}	Fluid lamellar
2-D	H	Hexagonal
	H^c	Complex hexagonal
	R	Rectangular
	M	Oblique
3-D	Q	Cubic
	T	Tetragonal
	R	Rhombohedral
	O	Orthorhombic

Phospholipid polymorphic phase preferences

$P = \frac{v}{a_0 l_c}$	Lipid	shape	Phases
<1/3	Detergent with one chain SDS low salt	 <p>cone</p>	
1/3-1/2	Lipid with one chain, small polar head SDS or CTAB high salt	 <p>Truncated cone</p>	
1/2-1	Two chains lipid fluid PC sphingomyelin	 <p>Truncated cone</p>	
1	Two chains lipid small polar head PE	 <p>cylindrical</p>	
>1	Unsaturated chains, high Temp cardiolipin plus Ca ²⁺	 <p>Inverted truncated cone</p>	

micelle

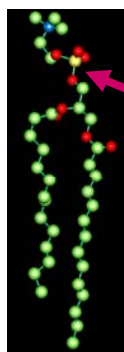
cylindrical micelle

Flexible bilayer vesicle

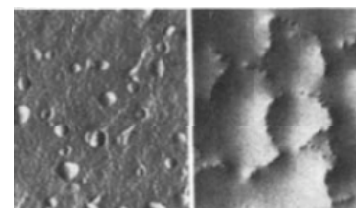
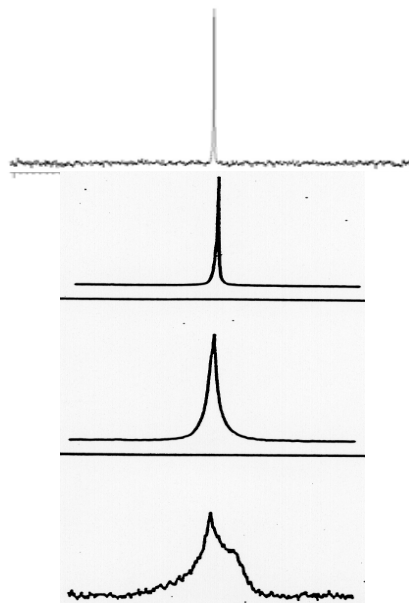
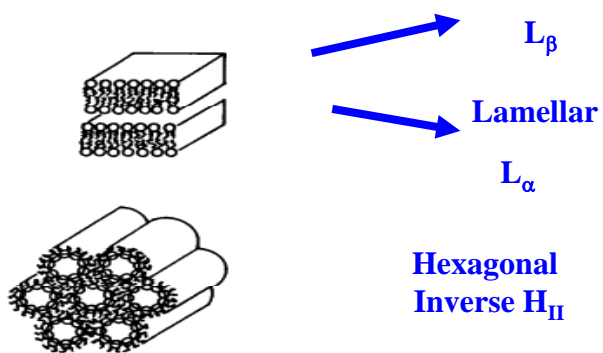
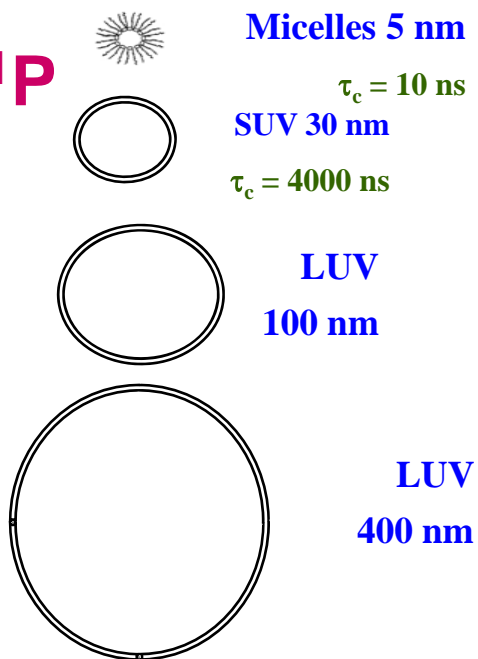
flat bilayer

Inverted micelle

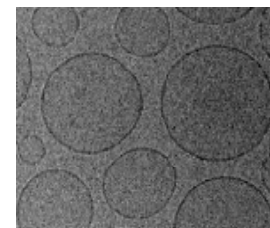
Polymorphism: identification of structures of lipids using ^{31}P -NMR and EM



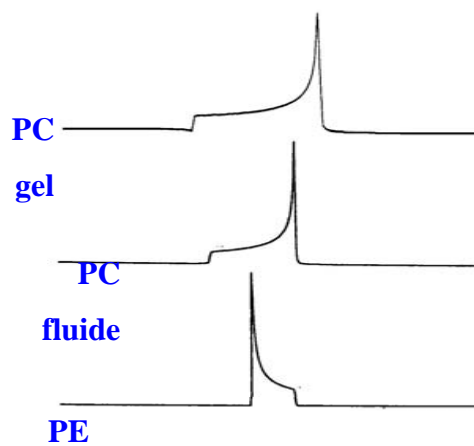
^{31}P



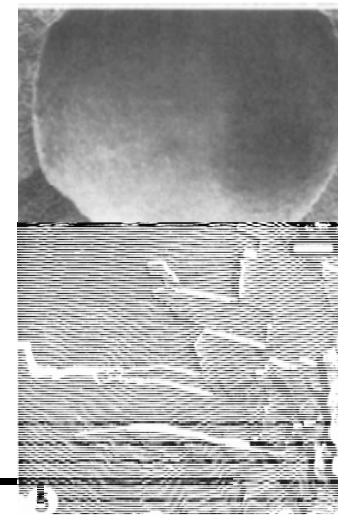
Freeze-fracture



Cryo-EM

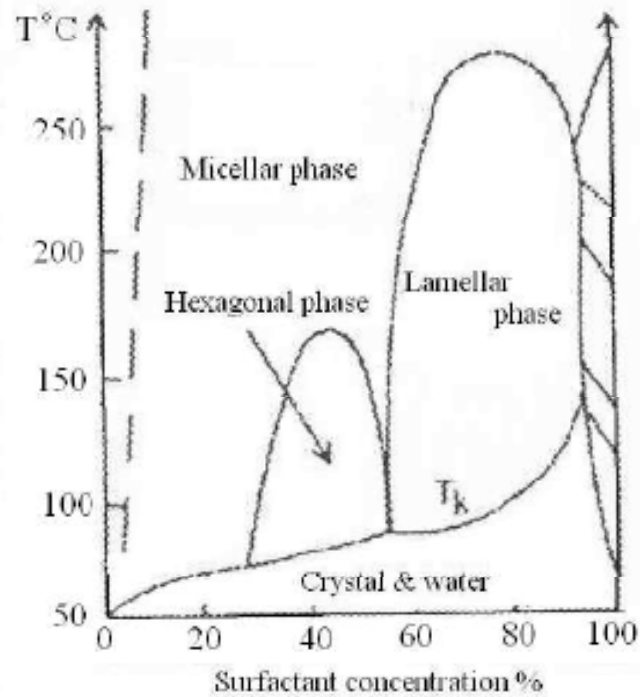


50 0 -50
 ^{31}P (ppm)

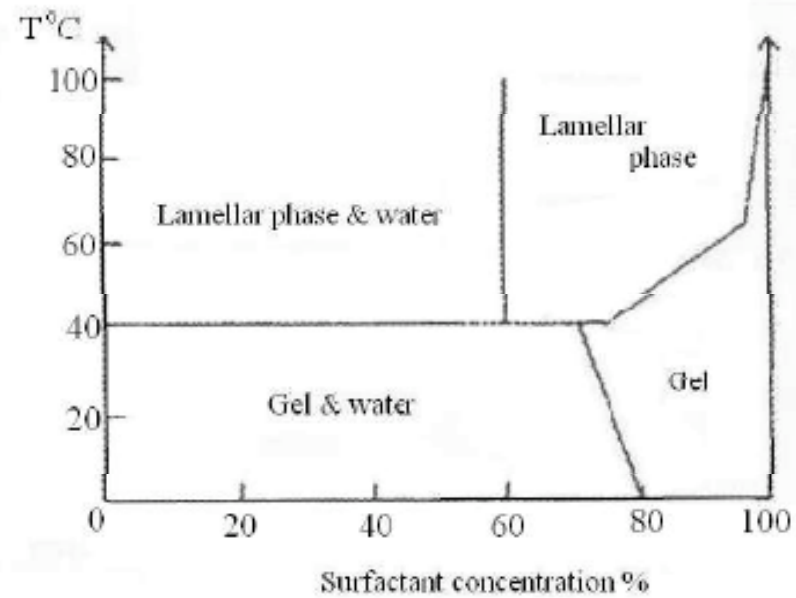


Freeze-fracture

Typical lipid phase diagrams

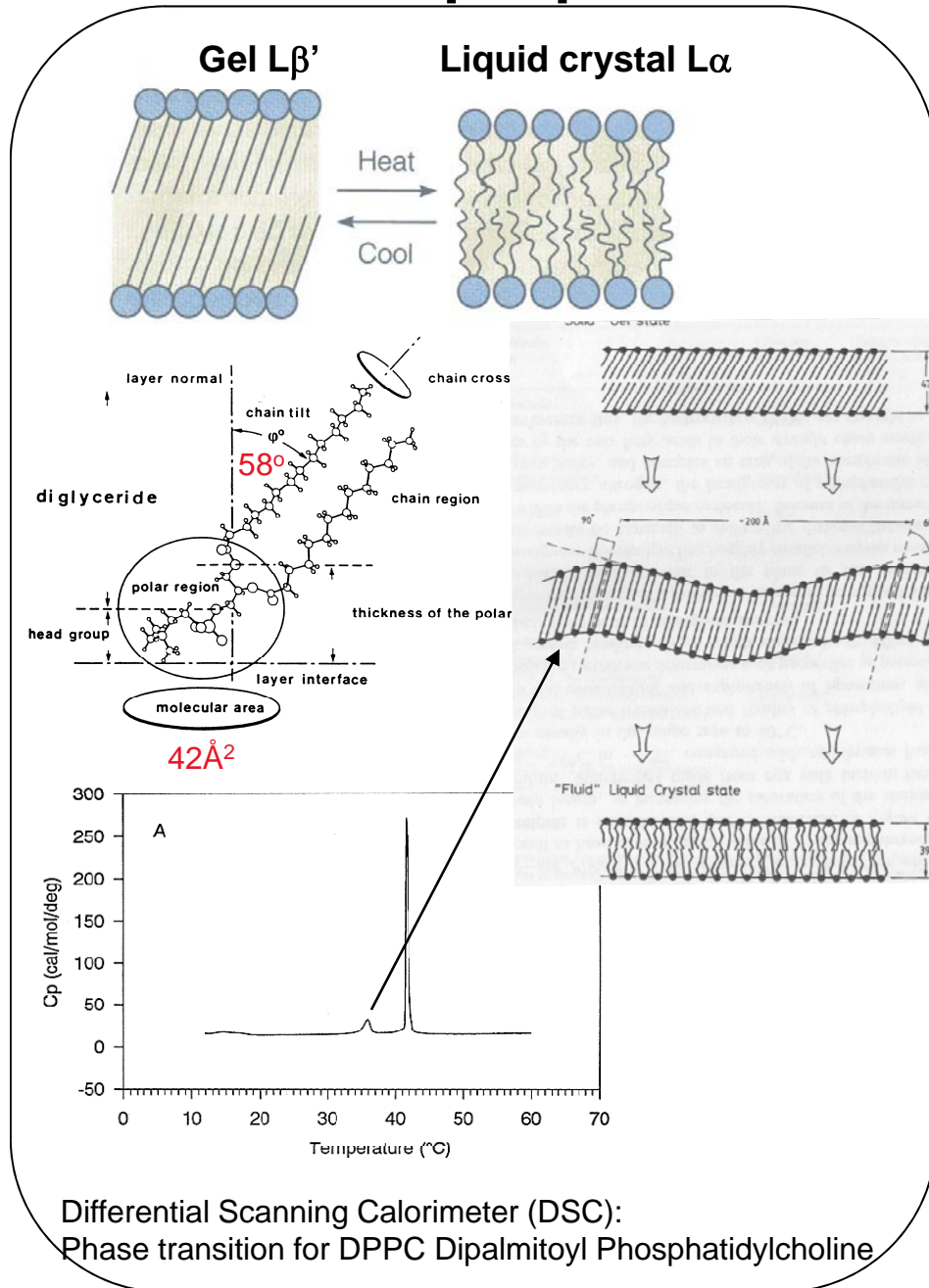


Soluble lipid



Insoluble lipid

Lipid phase transition temperatures



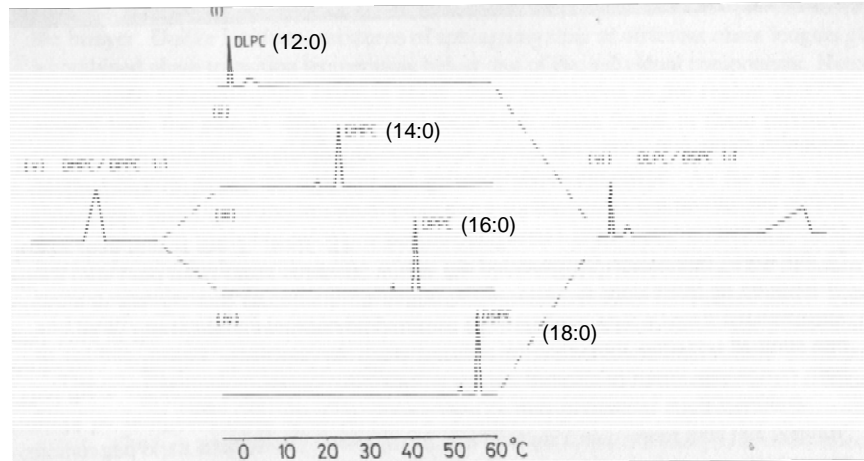
Parameters which affects the phase transition T_m

- T_m increases with increased tail length
- T_m decreases with increased double bonds
- T_m decreases with increasing head size

Phosphatidylcholine			Phosphatidylglycerol (Sodium Salt)		
Product		T_m $^{\circ}\text{C}$	Product		T_m $^{\circ}\text{C}$
12:0 PC	DLPC	-1	12:0 PG		-3
13:0 PC		14	14:0 PG		23
14:0 PC	DMPC	23	16:0 PG		41
15:0 PC		33	18:0 PG		55
16:0 PC		41	18:1 PG		-18
17:0 PC		48	16:0-18:1 PG		-2
18:0 PC		55	Phosphatidylserine (Sodium Salt)		
19:0 PC		60	14:0 PS		35
20:0 PC		66	16:0 PS		54
21:0 PC		72	18:0 PS		68
22:0 PC		75	18:1 PS		-11
23:0 PC		79	16:0-18:1 PS		14
24:0 PC		80	Phosphatidic Acid (Sodium Salt)		
16:1 PC		-36	12:0 PA		31
18:1c9 PC	DOPC	-20	14:0 PA		50
18:1t9 PC		12	16:0 PA		67
18:1c6 PC		1	18:0 PA		75
18:2 PC		-53	18:1 PA		-8
18:3 PC		-60	16:0-18:1 PA		28
20:4 PC		-70	Phosphatidylethanolamine		
14:0-16:0 PC		35		T_m $^{\circ}\text{C}$	T_{h1} $^{\circ}\text{C}$
14:0-18:0 PC		40	12:0 PE		29
16:0-14:0 PC		27	14:0 PE		50
16:0-18:0 PC		49	16:0 PE		63
16:0-18:1 PC	PCPOPC	-2	18:0 PE		74
16:0-22:6 PC		-27	20:0 PE		83
18:0-14:0 PC		30	18:1c9 PE		-16
18:0-16:0 PC		44	18:1t9 PE		38
18:0-18:1 PC		6	18:2 PE		-40
18:1-16:0 PC		-9			-30
18:1-18:0 PC		9	16:0-18:1 PE		25
					71

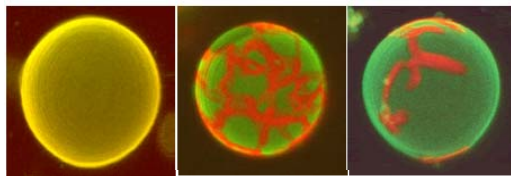
Phase transition of mixture of lipids

Microcalorimetry curves showing phase transitions of membranes containing single components or mixtures of phospholipids



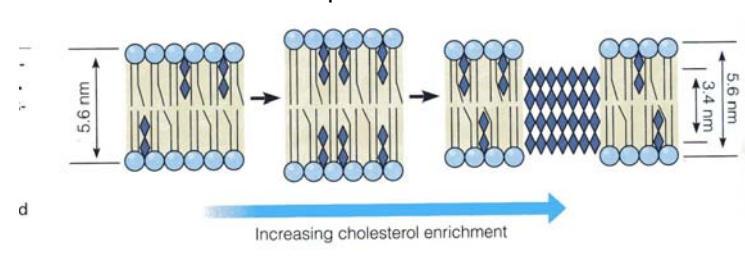
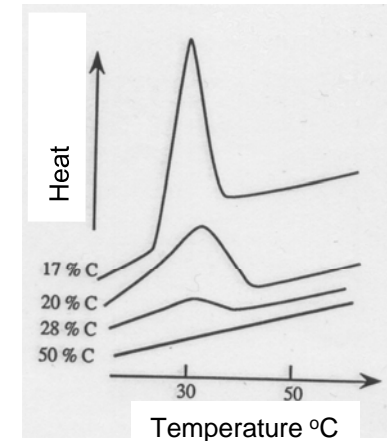
If the T_m of the individual lipids are close to each other
 -> Single phase transition

If the T_m of the individual lipids differ greatly from each other
 -> Lipids will undergo phase transition independently from each other
 Non ideal mixing, Separation of phases



Phase separation visualized using giant unilamellar vesicle and confocal microscopy

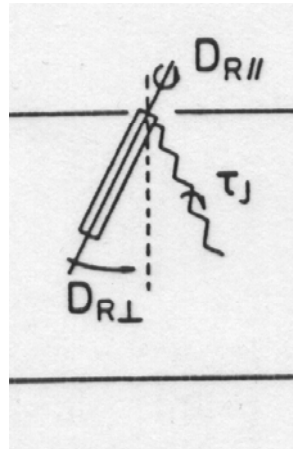
Influence of Cholesterol on phase transition



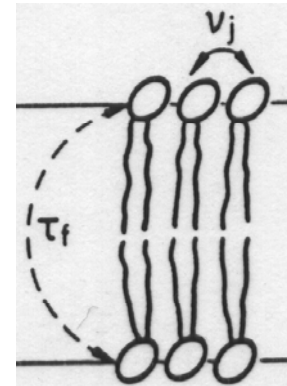
- Cholesterol has a little effect of the position of the phase transition
- Cholesterol is able to abolish completely the heat of transition
- At low temp, rigid cholesterol destabilizes gel phase by disrupting efficient tail packing
- At high temp, cholesterol destabilizes liquid crystal by decreasing motional freedom

Mobility of lipids

Rotation



Flip-flop

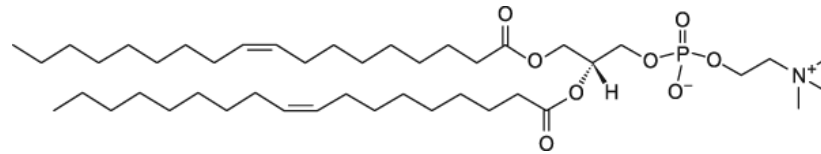


Motional modes of the lipid molecules in a biological membranes

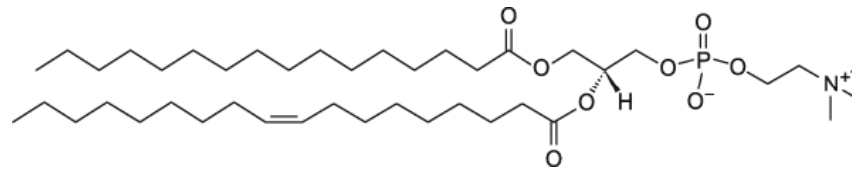
D_T ($\text{cm}^2\text{sec}^{-1}$)	D_R parallel (sec^{-1})	D_R perpend (sec^{-1})	Flip-flop half time
Liquid crystal: 10^{-7} Gel phase: 10^{-11}	10^9	10^9	DOPC > 11days Lyso PC 100 hr PA 30-40 mins

Typical lipids used for 2D crystallization of membrane protein

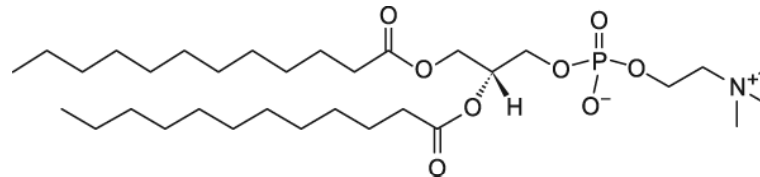
DOPC 18:1 ($T_m = -20^\circ\text{C}$) DOPA,DOPE, DOPG



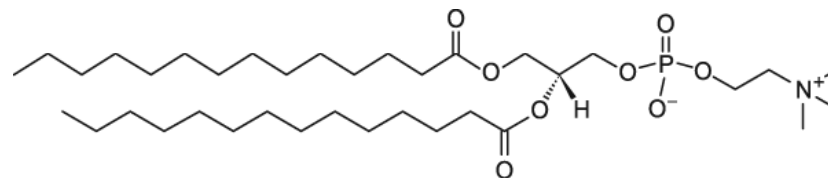
POPC 16:0-18:1 ($T_m = -2^\circ\text{C}$) POPS POPE, POPA



DLPC 12:0 ($T_m = -1^\circ\text{C}$)



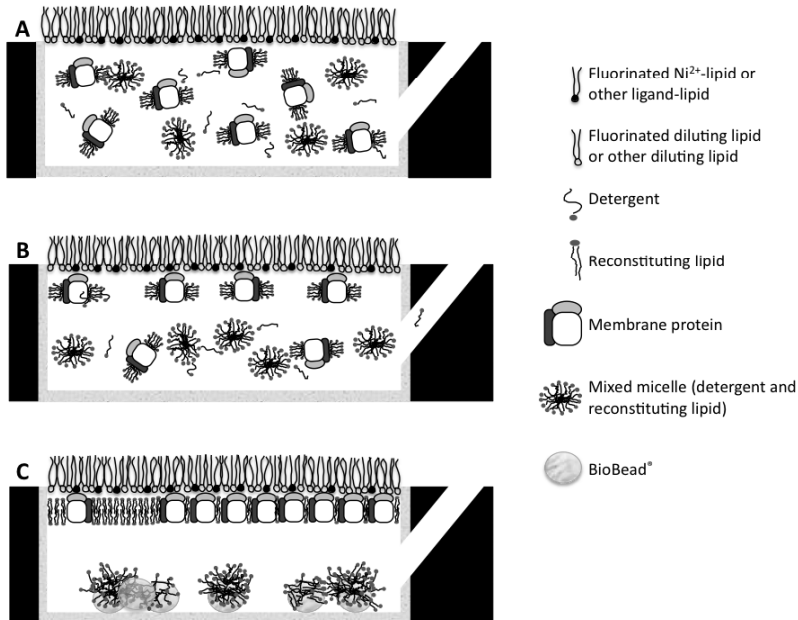
DMPC 14:0 ($T_m = 23^\circ\text{C}$) DMPS DMPG



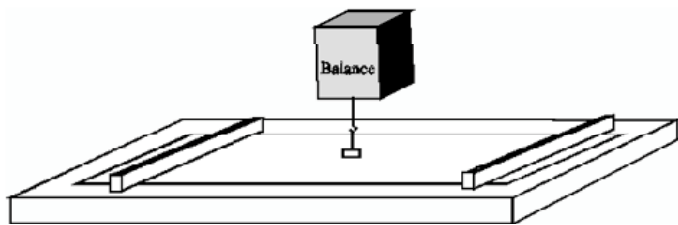
2D crystallization on lipid monolayer

Required property for the lipid forming the monolayer at the air-water interface,
lipid monolayer should be in a FLUID state (liquid expanded phase)

Figure 3



Langmuir film balance with a Wilhelmy plate



Typical π -A isotherm

