

# BE/APH161 – PHYSICAL BIOLOGY OF THE CELL

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# ION GATING DRIVEN BY LIGANDS

- Ligand-gated channels.

## ION-CHANNEL-COUPLED RECEPTORS

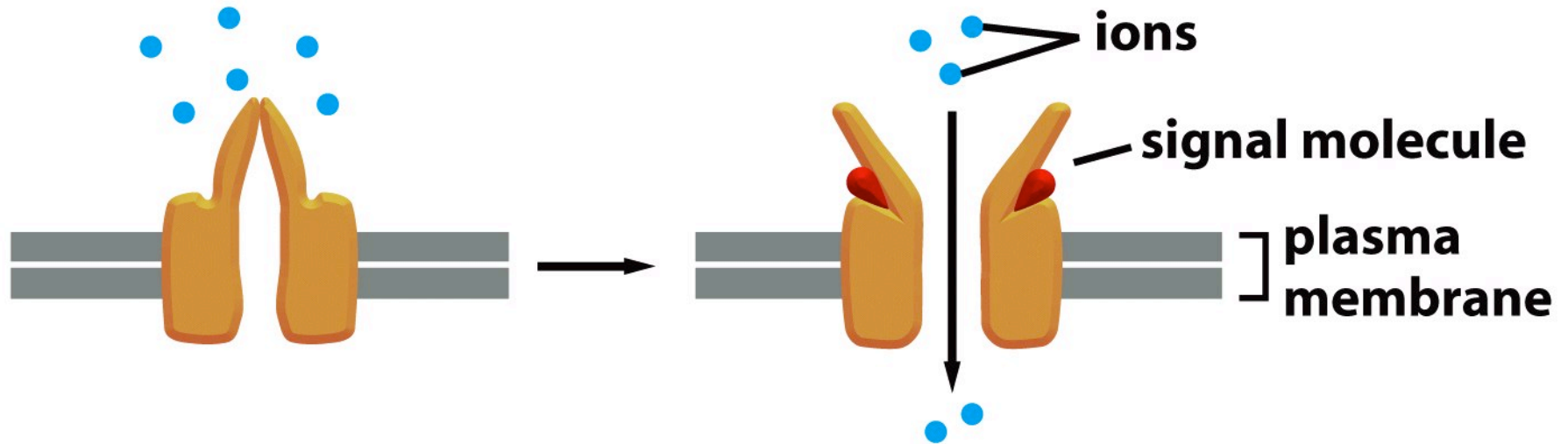
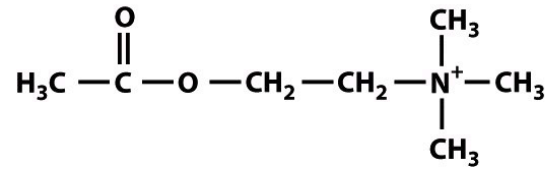


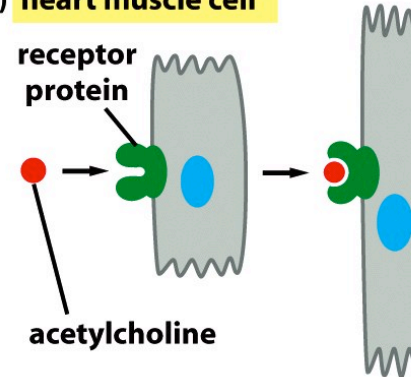
Figure 15-16a Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

# ION GATED CHANNELS: ACETYLCHOLINE

(A) acetylcholine

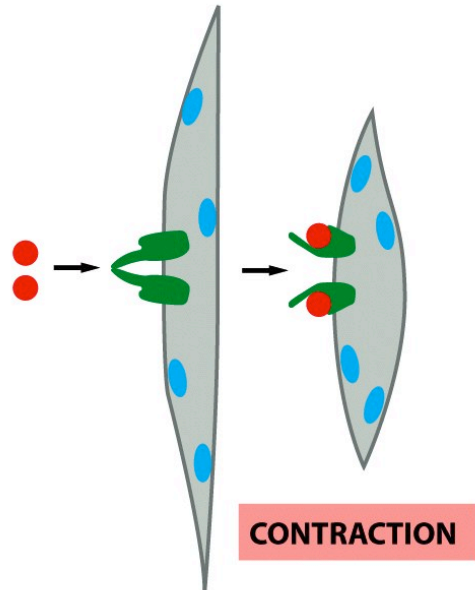


(B) heart muscle cell



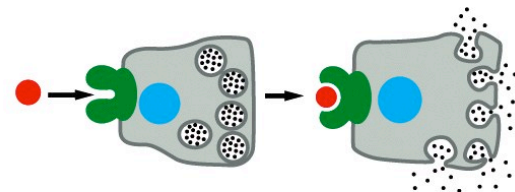
DECREASED RATE AND FORCE OF CONTRACTION

(C) skeletal muscle cell



CONTRACTION

(D) salivary gland cell

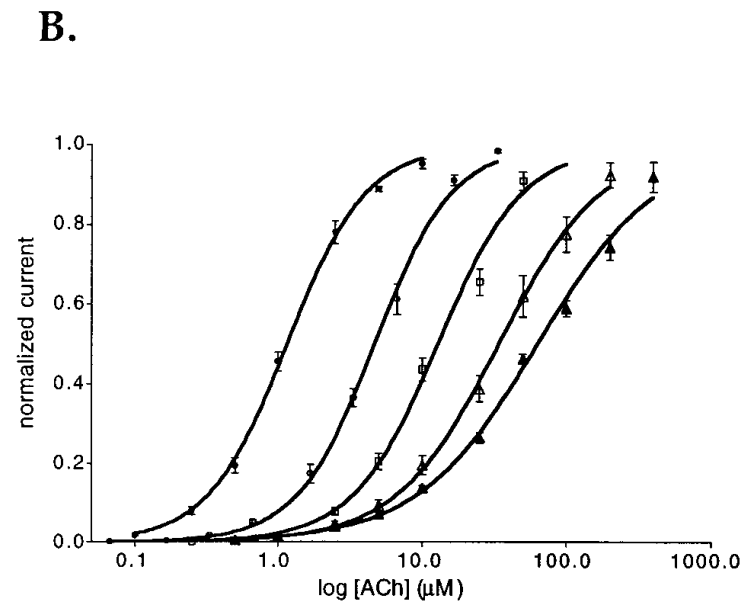
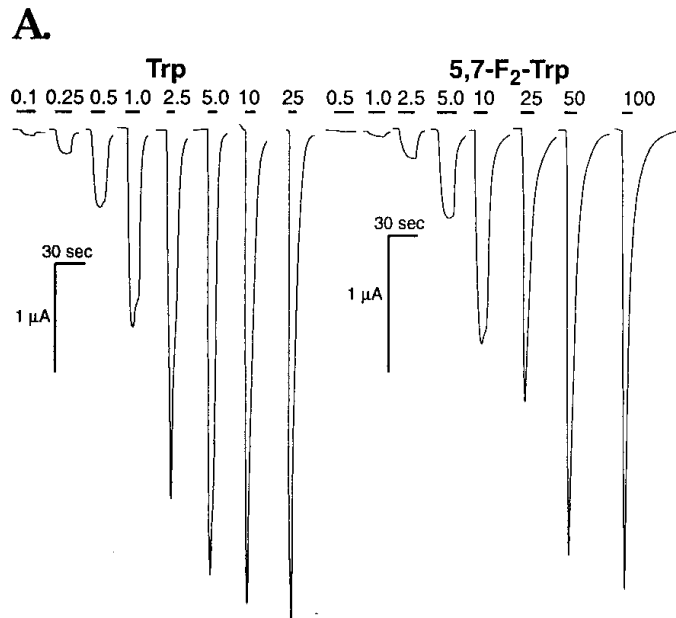


SECRETION

# DATA FOR THE GATING OF NICOTINIC ACETYLCHOLINE RECEPTOR

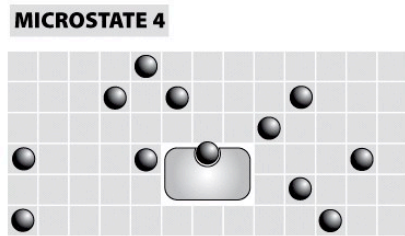
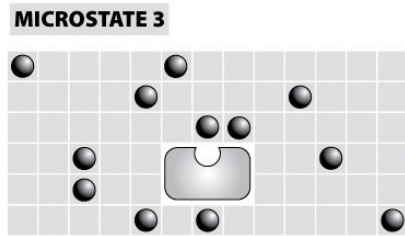
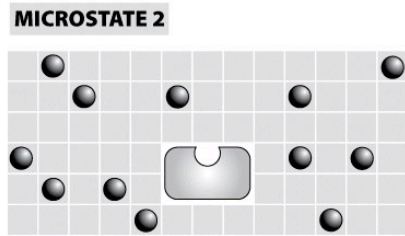
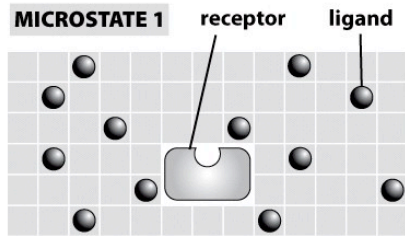
12090 Chemistry, Neurobiology: Zhong *et al.*

*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 95 (1998)*



# STATES AND WEIGHTS FOR BINDING PROBLEMS

- We work out the probability of the binding probability by making a model of the solution as a lattice.



etc.

Figure 6.1 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

	STATE	ENERGY	MULTIPLICITY	WEIGHT
(A)		$L\varepsilon_{sol}$	$\frac{\Omega!}{L!(\Omega-L)!} \approx \frac{\Omega^L}{L!}$	$\frac{\Omega^L}{L!} e^{-\beta L\varepsilon_{sol}}$
(B)		$(L-1)\varepsilon_{sol} + \varepsilon_b$	$\frac{\Omega!}{(L-1!(\Omega-L+1)!} \approx \frac{\Omega^{L-1}}{(L-1)!}$	$\frac{\Omega^{L-1}}{(L-1)!} e^{-\beta[(L-1)\varepsilon_{sol} + \varepsilon_b]}$

Figure 6.4 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

# BINDING CURVES AND BINDING FREE ENERGY

- These simple binding curves illustrate the way in which the binding probability depends upon the  $K_d$  or the binding energy.

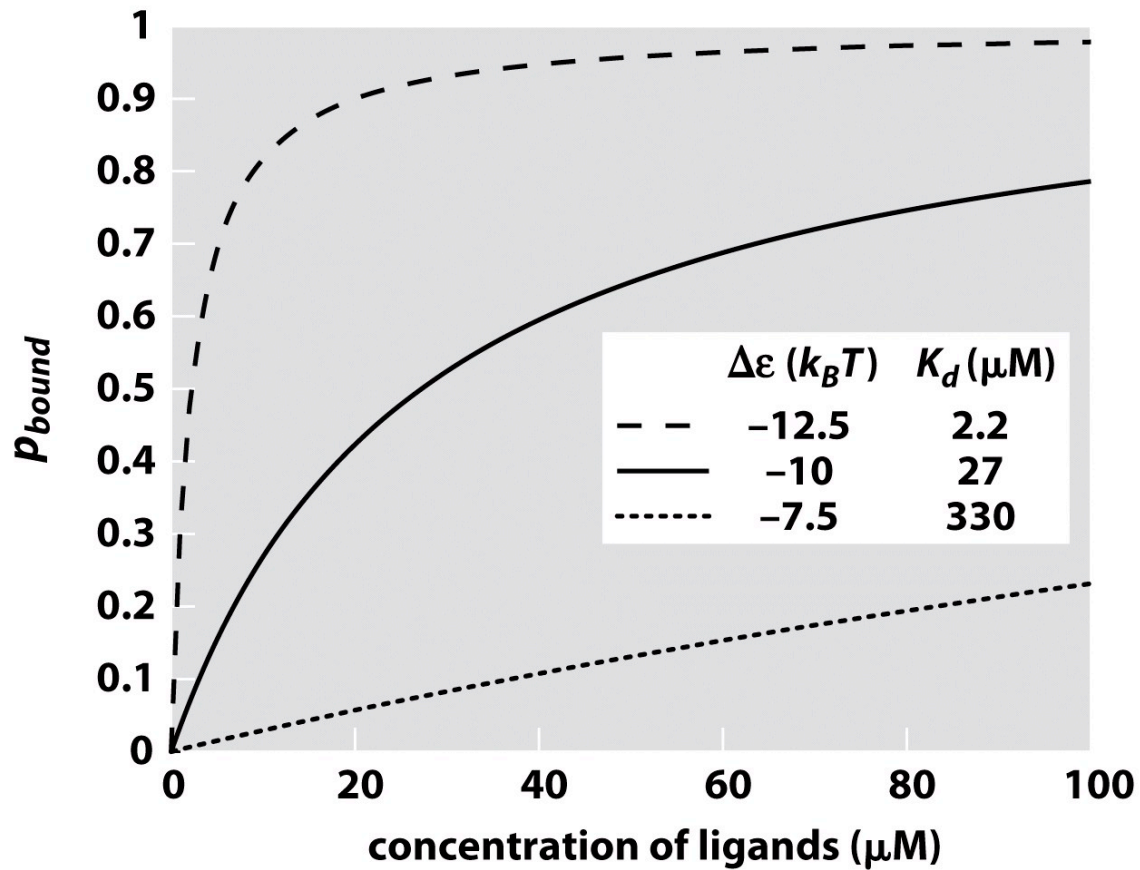


Figure 6.6 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

# EXPLORING PROMOTER ARCHITECTURE: CAN WE COMPUTE HOW CELLS DECIDE?

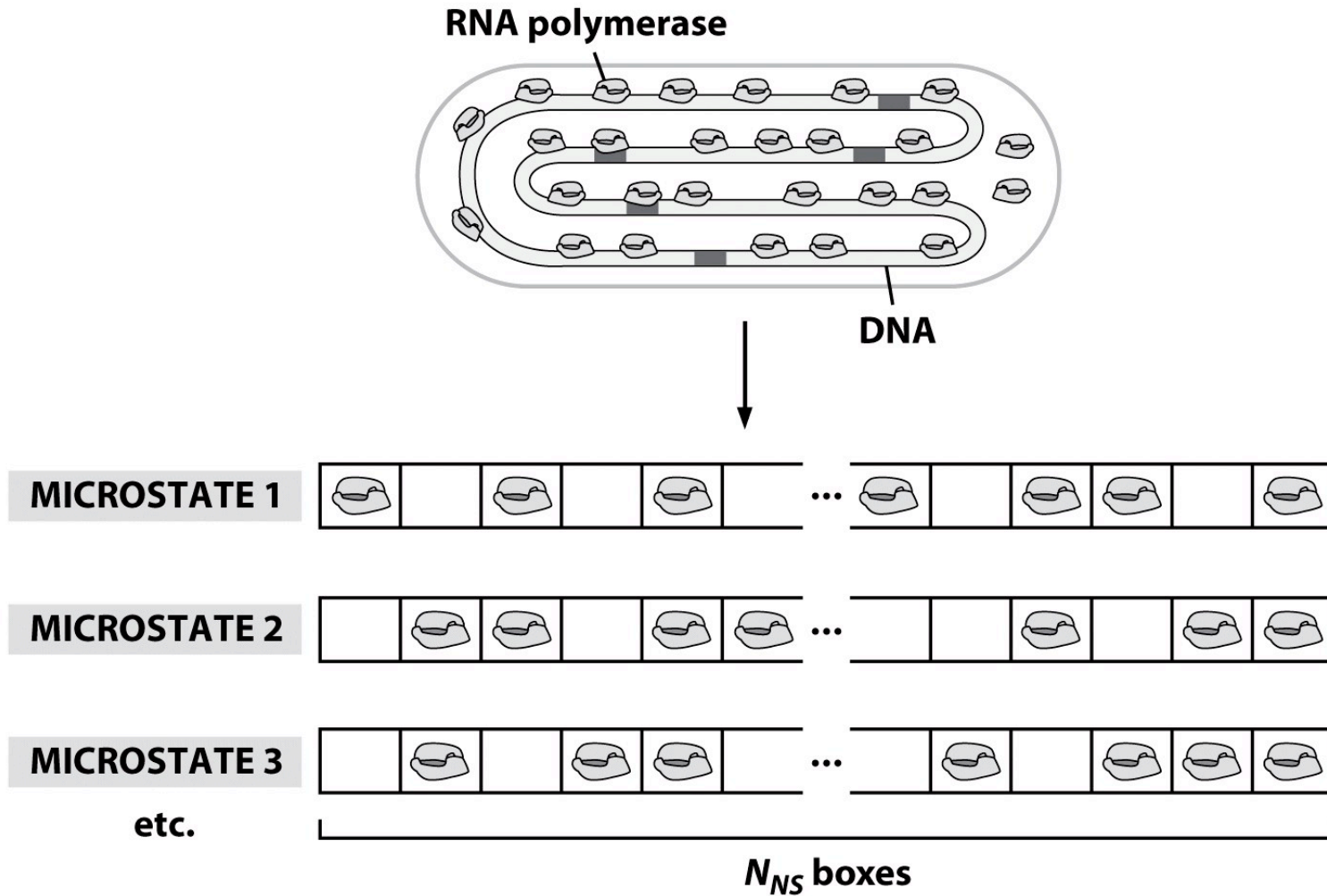


Figure 6.9 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

# EXPLORING PROMOTER ARCHITECTURE: CAN WE COMPUTE HOW CELLS DECIDE?

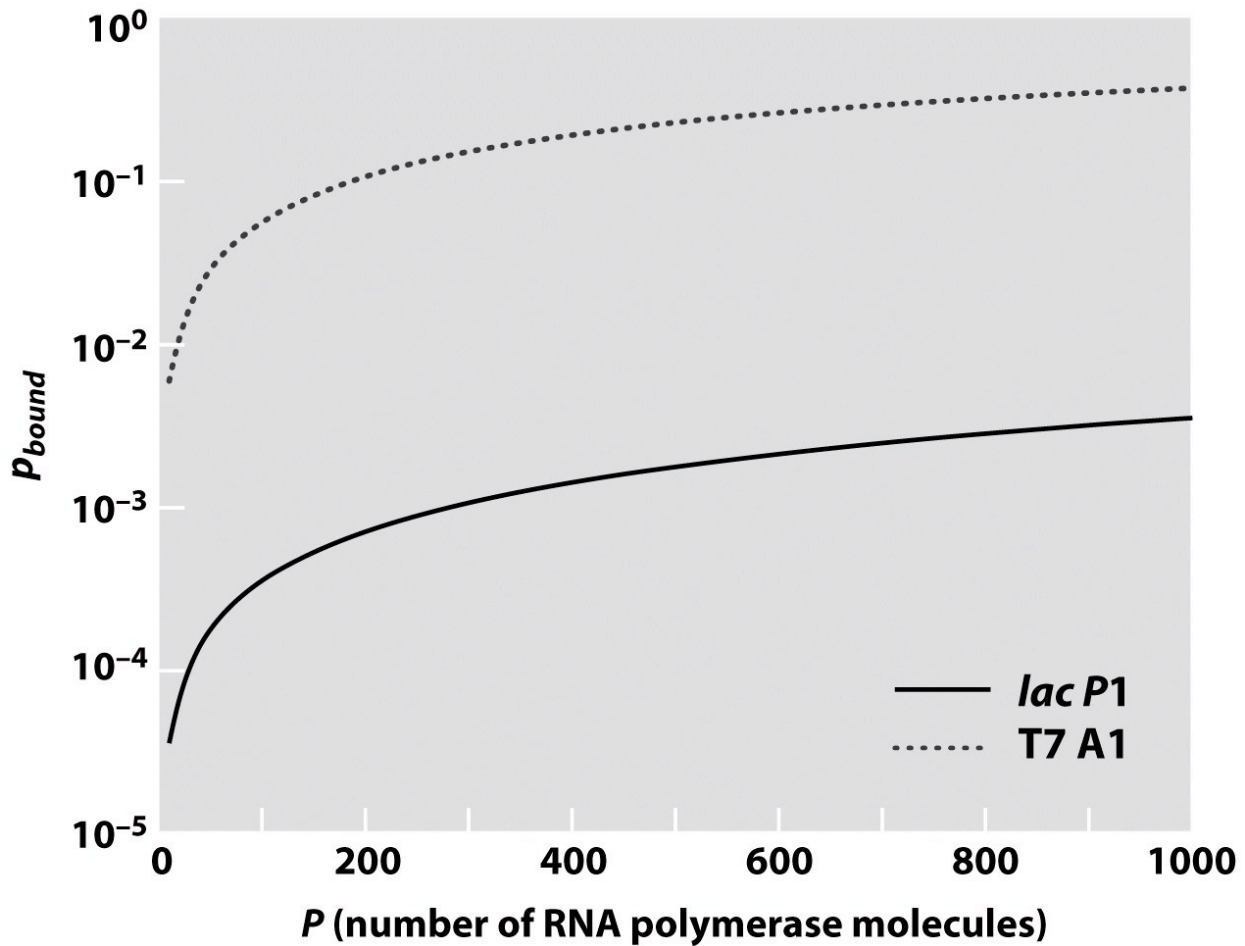
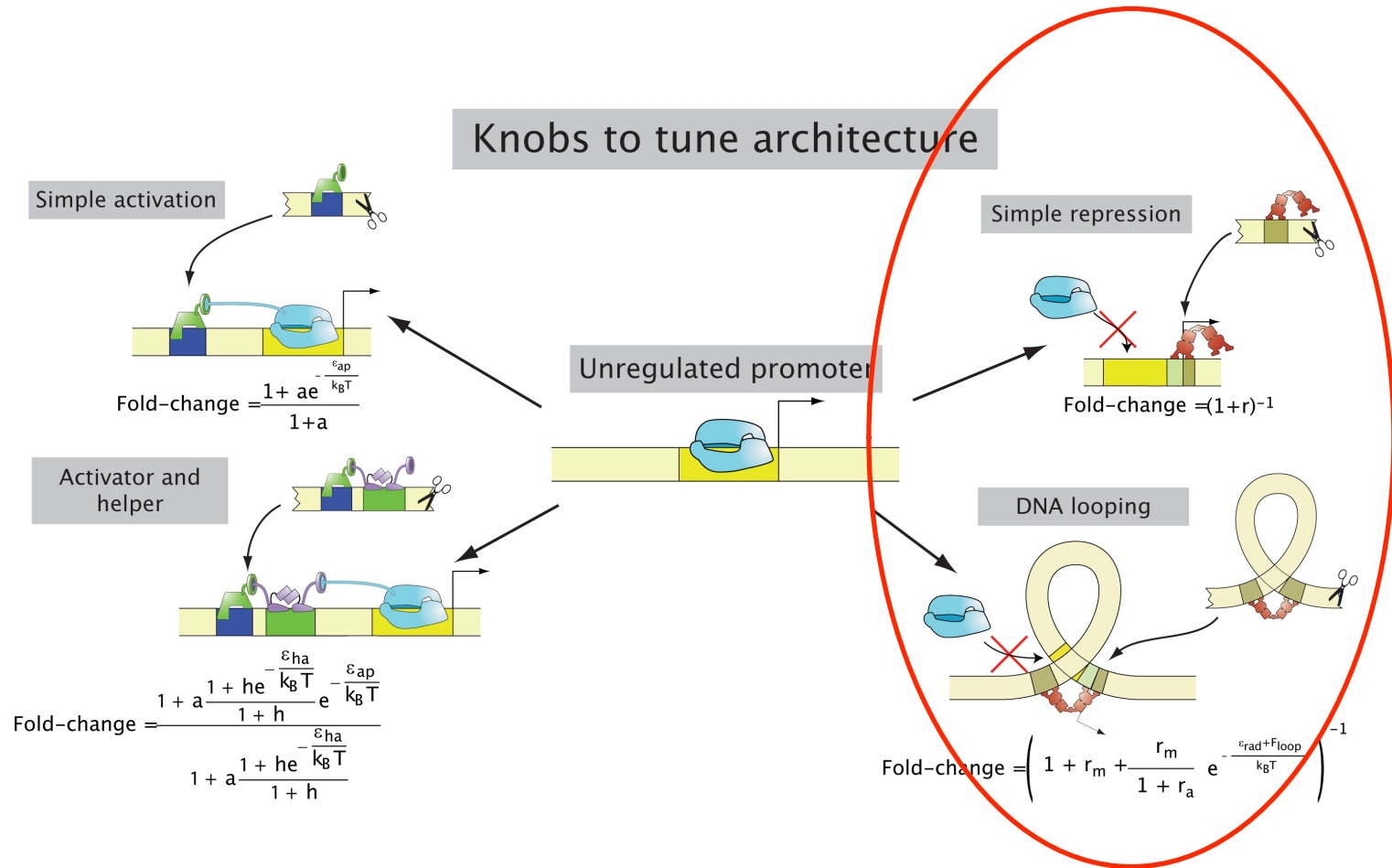


Figure 6.13 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)



# WHERE WE ARE HEADED: CAN WE COMPUTE HOW CELLS DECIDE?



# SOME OTHER EXAMPLES

- Data and fits using our binding formula.

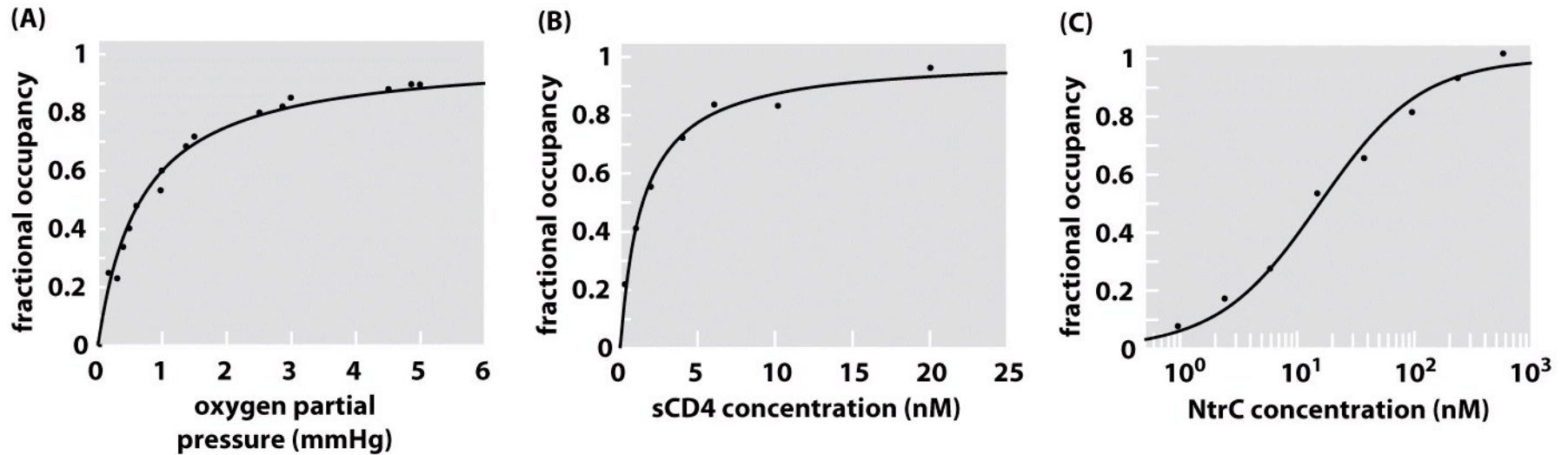


Figure 6.26 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

# SOME OTHER EXAMPLES

## RECEPTORS MODELS FOR BINDING, TRAFFICKING AND SIGNALING

Douglas A. Lauffenburger  
University of Illinois

Jennifer J. Linderman  
University of Michigan

New York Oxford  
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS  
1993

Table 2-1 Sample receptor/ligand binding parameters

Receptor	Ligand	Cell type	$R_T$ (#/cell)	$k_f$ ( $M^{-1}min^{-1}$ )	$k_d$ ( $min^{-1}$ )	$K_D$ (M)	$t_{95\%}$ ( $L_0 = K_D$ ) (min)	Reference
Transferrin	Transferrin	HepG2	$5 \times 10^4$	$3 \times 10^6$	0.1	$3.3 \times 10^{-8}$	15	Ciechanover <i>et al.</i> (1983)
Fc <sub>γ</sub>	24G2 Fab	Mouse macrophage	$7.1 \times 10^3$	$3 \times 10^6$	0.0023	$7.7 \times 10^{-10}$	650	Mellman and Unkeles (1980)
Chemotactic peptide	FNLLP	Rabbit neutrophil	$5 \times 10^4$	$2 \times 10^7$	0.4	$2 \times 10^{-8}$	3.7	Zigmond <i>et al.</i> (1982)
Interferon	Human interferon- $\alpha$	A549	900	$2.2 \times 10^6$	0.072	$3.3 \times 10^{-10}$	20	Bajzer <i>et al.</i> (1989)
TNF	TNF	A549	$6.6 \times 10^3$	$9.6 \times 10^6$	0.14	$1.5 \times 10^{-10}$	11	Bajzer <i>et al.</i> (1989)
$\beta$ -adrenergic	Hydroxybenzylpindolol	Turkey erythrocyte	—	$8 \times 10^6$	0.08	$1 \times 10^{-10}$	19	Rimon <i>et al.</i> (1980)
$\alpha_1$ -adrenergic	Prazosin	BC3H1	$1.4 \times 10^4$	$2.4 \times 10^6$	0.018	$7.5 \times 10^{-11}$	83	Hughes <i>et al.</i> (1982)
Insulin	Insulin	Rat fat cells	$1 \times 10^3$	$9.6 \times 10^6$	0.2	$2.1 \times 10^{-8}$	7.5	Lipkin <i>et al.</i> (1985b)
EGF	EGF	Fetal rat lung	$2.5 \times 10^4$	$1.8 \times 10^6$	0.12	$6.7 \times 10^{-10}$	12.5	Water <i>et al.</i> (1990)
Fibronectin	Fibronectin	Fibroblasts	$5 \times 10^3$	$7 \times 10^6$	0.6	$8.6 \times 10^{-7}$	2.5	Akiyama and Yamada (1985)
Fc <sub>ε</sub>	IgE	Human basophils	—	$3.1 \times 10^6$	0.0015	$4.8 \times 10^{-10}$	1000	Prusansky and Patterson (1986)
IL-2 (heavy chain)	IL-2	T lymphocytes	$2 \times 10^3$	$2.3 \times 10^7$	0.015	$6.5 \times 10^{-10}$	100	Smith (1988)
IL-2 (light chain)	IL-2	T lymphocytes	$1.1 \times 10^4$	$8.4 \times 10^6$	24	$2.9 \times 10^{-8}$	0.06	
IL-2 (heterodimer)	IL-2	T lymphocytes	$2 \times 10^3$	$1.9 \times 10^6$	0.014	$7.4 \times 10^{-12}$	110	

Shown are the measured number of receptors per cell  $R_T$ , the association rate constant  $k_f$ , the dissociation rate constant  $k_d$ , and the equilibrium dissociation constant  $K_D = k_d/k_f$ . The time required to reach 95% of equilibrium receptor binding when no bound receptors are initially present,  $t_{95\%} = -\ln(0.05)/(k_f(1 + L_0/K_D))$  for the case of  $L_0 = K_D$ . HepG2 = human hepatoma cell line; 24G2 Fab = Fab portion of 24G2 antibody against receptor; FNLLP = *N*-formylmethionylleucylphenylalanine; A549 = human lung alveolar carcinoma; TNF = tumor necrosis factor; hydroxybenzylpindolol is an antagonist to the receptor; EGF = epidermal growth factor; IgE = immunoglobulin E; IL-2 = interleukin 2; prazosin is an antagonist to the receptor; BC3H1 = smooth muscle-like cell line; RBL = rat basophilic leukemia cell line.

# GIBBS' SECOND LAW

- One idea only: to find the privileged terminal state of a system, maximize the entropy.
- A corollary: minimize the free energy – this is for a system in contact with a heat bath.
- My point here is to get us all to think about the chemical potential.

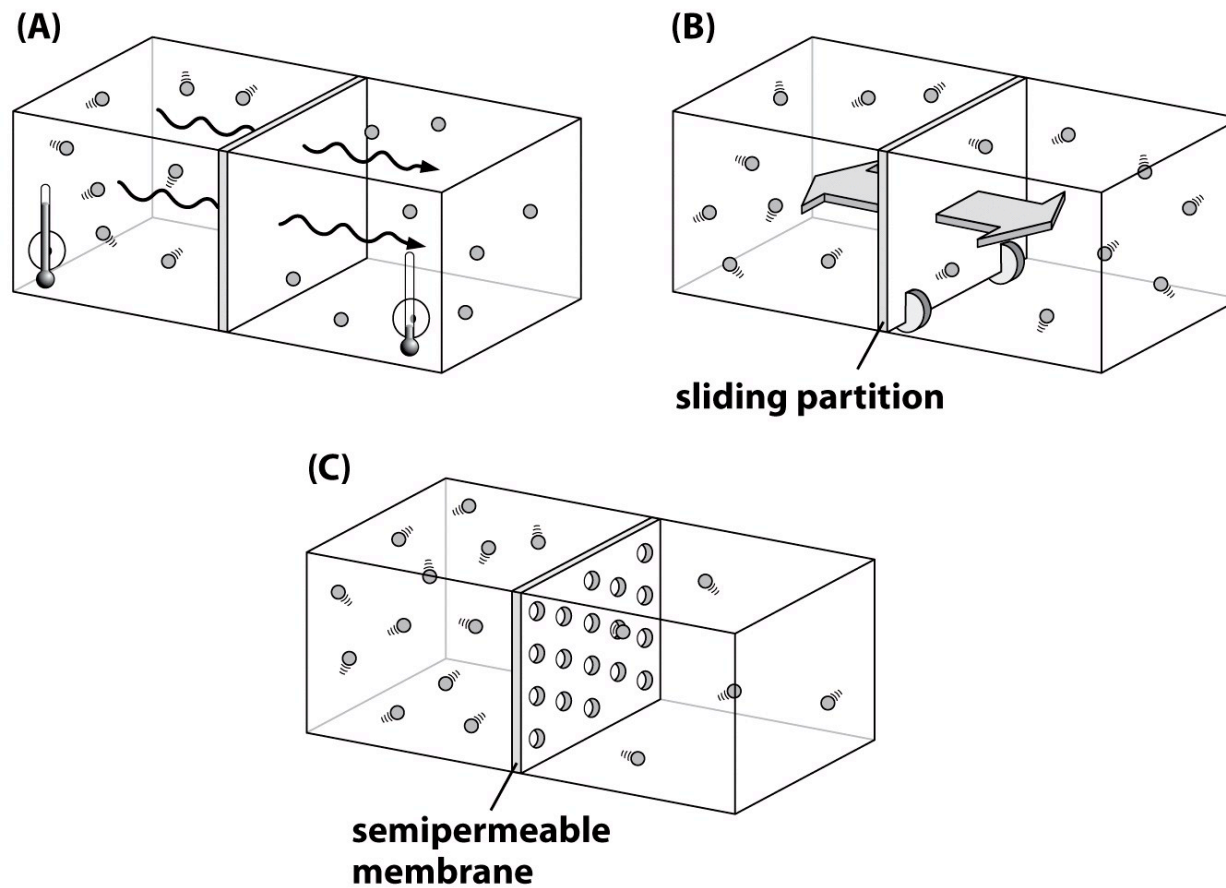
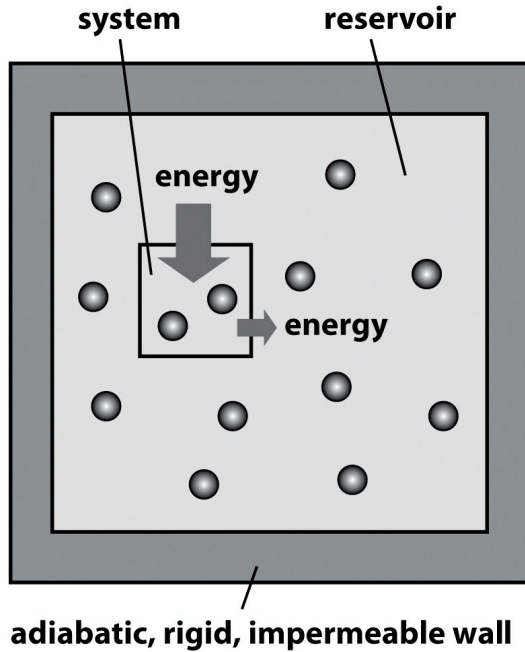


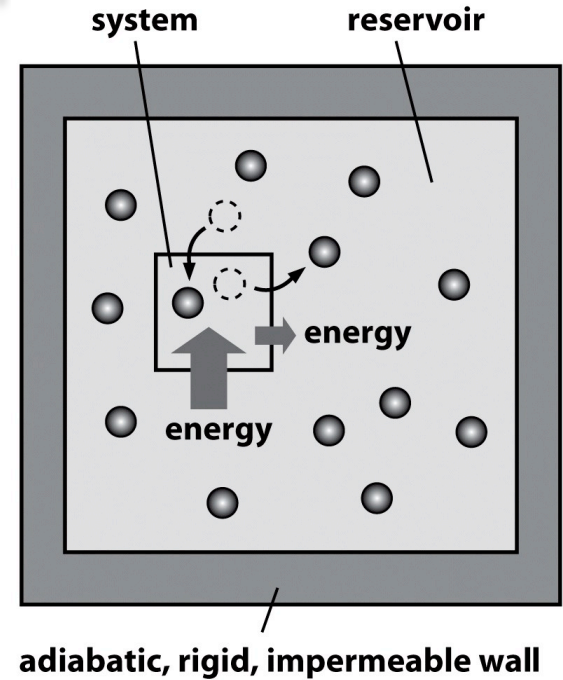
Figure 5.27 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

# THE GIBBS DISTRIBUTION

System in contact with an energy reservoir



System in contact with a particle and energy reservoir



Probability for finding the system in microstate  $i$ :

$$p(E_i) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-E_i/k_B T} \quad \leftarrow \text{ Boltzmann distr.}$$

$$Z = \sum_{i=1}^N e^{-E_i/k_B T} \quad - \text{ partition f.}$$

$$\beta = 1/k_B T$$

$$\langle E \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^N E_i p(E_i) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{i=1}^N E_i e^{-E_i/k_B T} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \ln Z$$

$T_{\text{reservoir}}$  controls av. energy  $\langle E \rangle$  of the system

Probability for finding the system in microstate  $i$ :

$$p(E_s^{(i)}, N_s^{(i)}) = \frac{e^{-\beta(E_s^{(i)} - \mu N_s^{(i)})}}{Z}$$

Gibbs distr.

$$\text{grand partition f.} \quad Z = \sum e^{-\beta(E_s^{(i)} - N_s^{(i)} \mu)}$$

$$\langle N \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_i N_i e^{-\beta(E_i - N_i \mu)} = \frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ln Z$$

$\mu_{\text{res.}}$  controls av. # of particles  $\langle N \rangle$  in the syst.

# LIGAND-RECEPTOR BINDING: STATE VARIABLE DESCRIPTION

- Consider a single receptor in contact with the surrounding heat bath and particle reservoir.
- Two-state (b/u),  $\sigma$  is an indicator of the state of binding
- The energy is

$$E = \varepsilon_b \sigma$$

$$\varepsilon_b < 0$$

*favorable interaction  
btw L and R*

- Evaluate aver. # of ligands bound,  $\langle N \rangle$ :

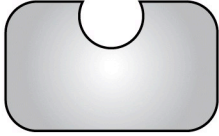
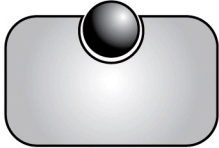
$$\langle N \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_i N_i e^{-\beta(E_i - N_i \mu)}$$

*Contact of the system with a thermal reservoir* (pointing to  $E_i$ )  
*Contact with a particle reservoir* (pointing to  $N_i \mu$ )

$$Z = \sum_{\sigma=0}^1 e^{-\beta(\varepsilon_b \sigma - \mu \sigma)} = 1 + e^{-\beta(\varepsilon_b - \mu)}$$

$$\langle N \rangle = \frac{e^{-\beta(\varepsilon_b - \mu)}}{1 + e^{-\beta(\varepsilon_b - \mu)}}$$

can also be computed as  $\frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ln Z$

STATE	WEIGHT
 $\sigma = 0$	1
 $\sigma = 1$	$e^{-\beta(\varepsilon_b - \mu)}$
$p(E_s^{(i)}, N_s^{(i)}) = \frac{e^{-\beta(E_s^{(i)} - \mu N_s^{(i)})}}{Z}$	

- Recall that the chem.potential of an ideal solution is  $\mu = \mu_0 + k_B T \ln(c/c_0)$

$$\Rightarrow \langle N \rangle = \frac{\frac{c}{c_0} e^{-\beta \Delta \varepsilon}}{1 + \frac{c}{c_0} e^{-\beta \Delta \varepsilon}}$$

$\Delta \varepsilon = \varepsilon_b - \mu_0$  is the energy difference upon taking the ligand from solution and placing it on the receptor

# COOPERATIVITY AND BINDING

- Interestingly, many (if not most) of the real world binding problems we care about in biology do not satisfy the simple binding model (sometimes called the Langmuir adsorption isotherm) we have worked out so far.
- The classic example (i.e. the hydrogen atom of binding problems) is hemoglobin.

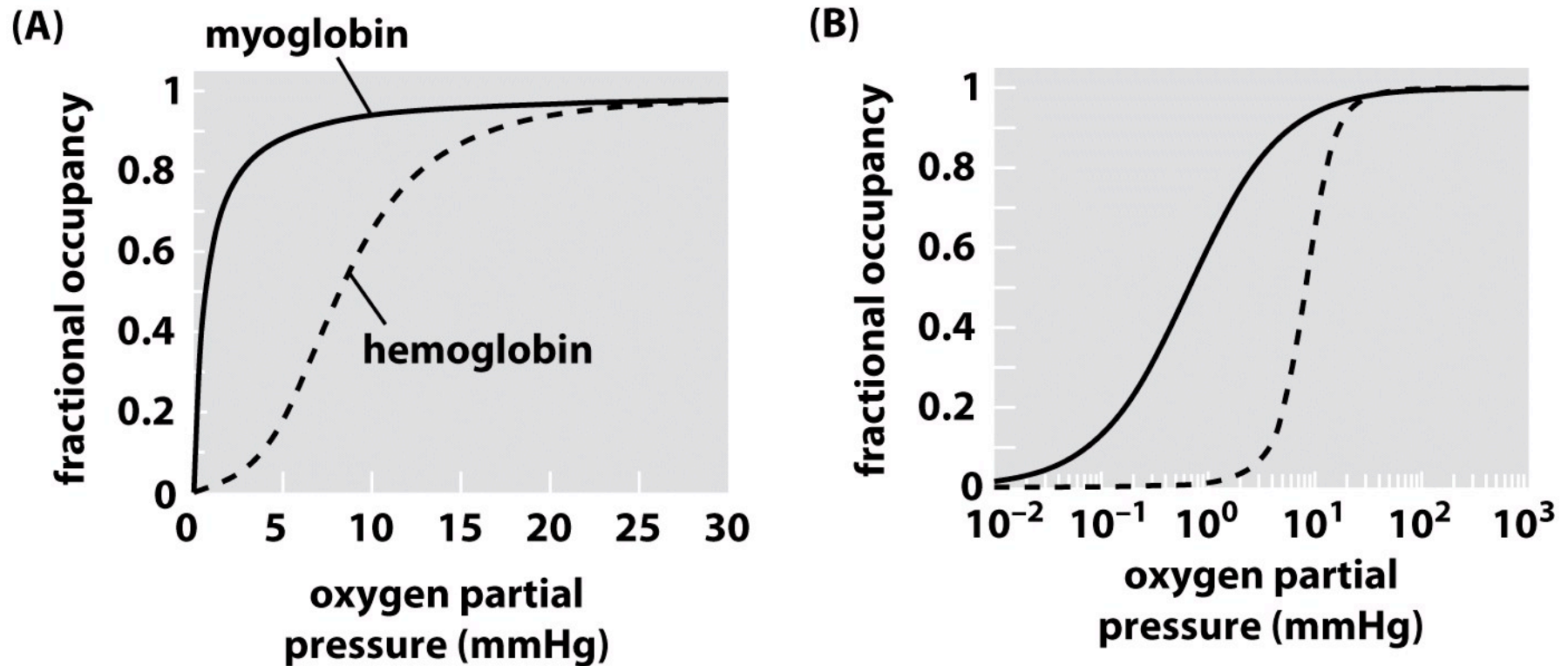
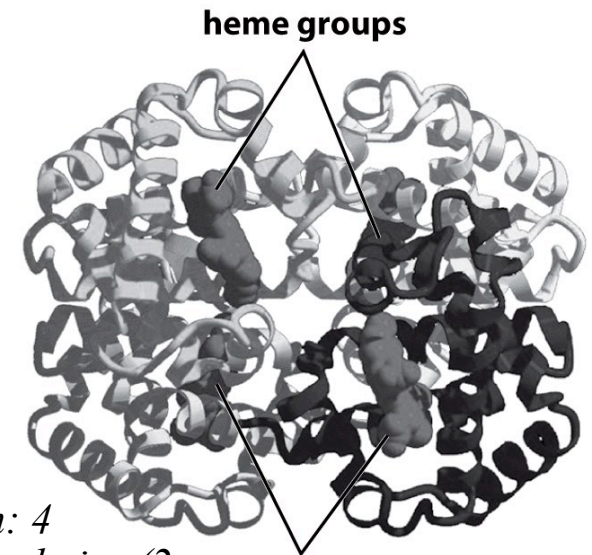


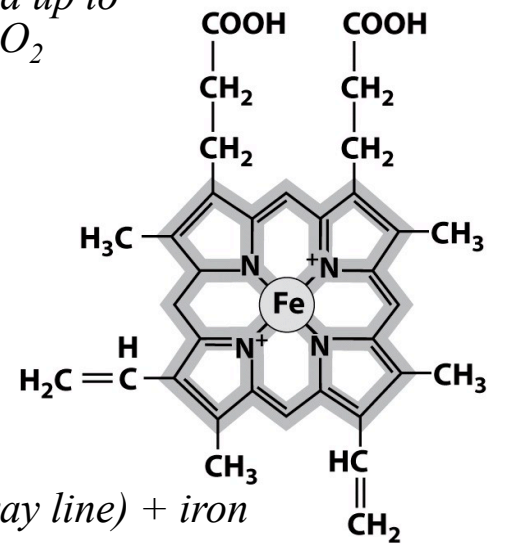
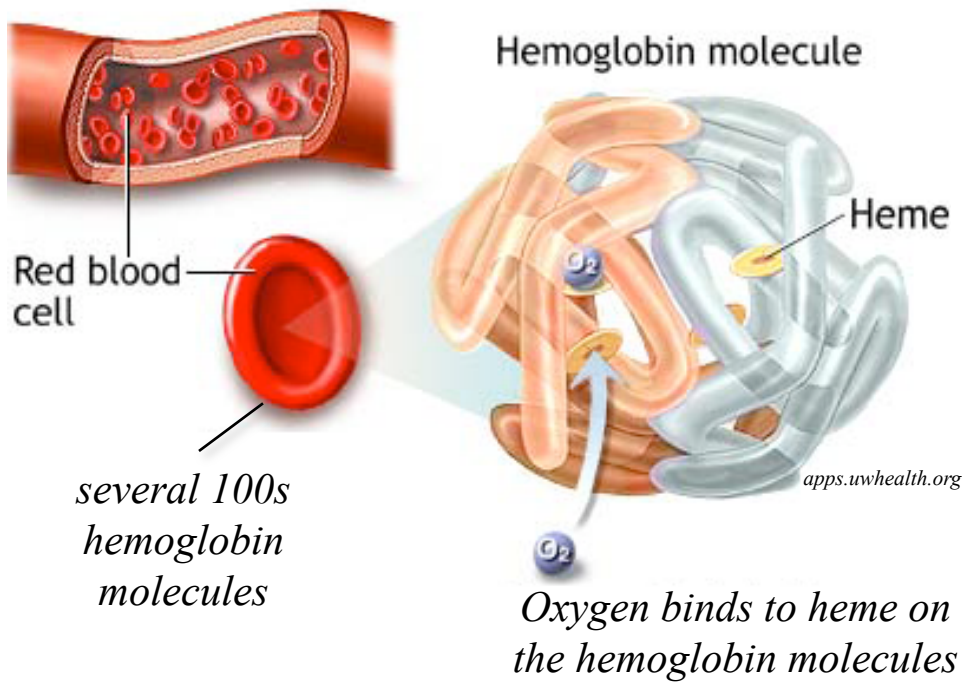
Figure 4.4 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

# HEMOGLOBIN AS A CASE STUDY IN COOPERATIVITY

- Hemoglobin - the classic example of ligand-receptor binding
- Cooperativity: the binding energy for a given ligand depends upon the # of ligands that are already bound to the receptor
- Intuitively: conformational change upon binding => the next ligand experiences a different binding energy



*The protein hemoglobin: 4 polypeptide chains (2  $\alpha$ -chains, 2  $\beta$ -chains), each carries a heme group => protein can bind up to 4 molecules of  $O_2$*



*The heme group includes a porphyrin ring (gray line) + iron*



# THE NATURE OF THE HILL FUNCTION

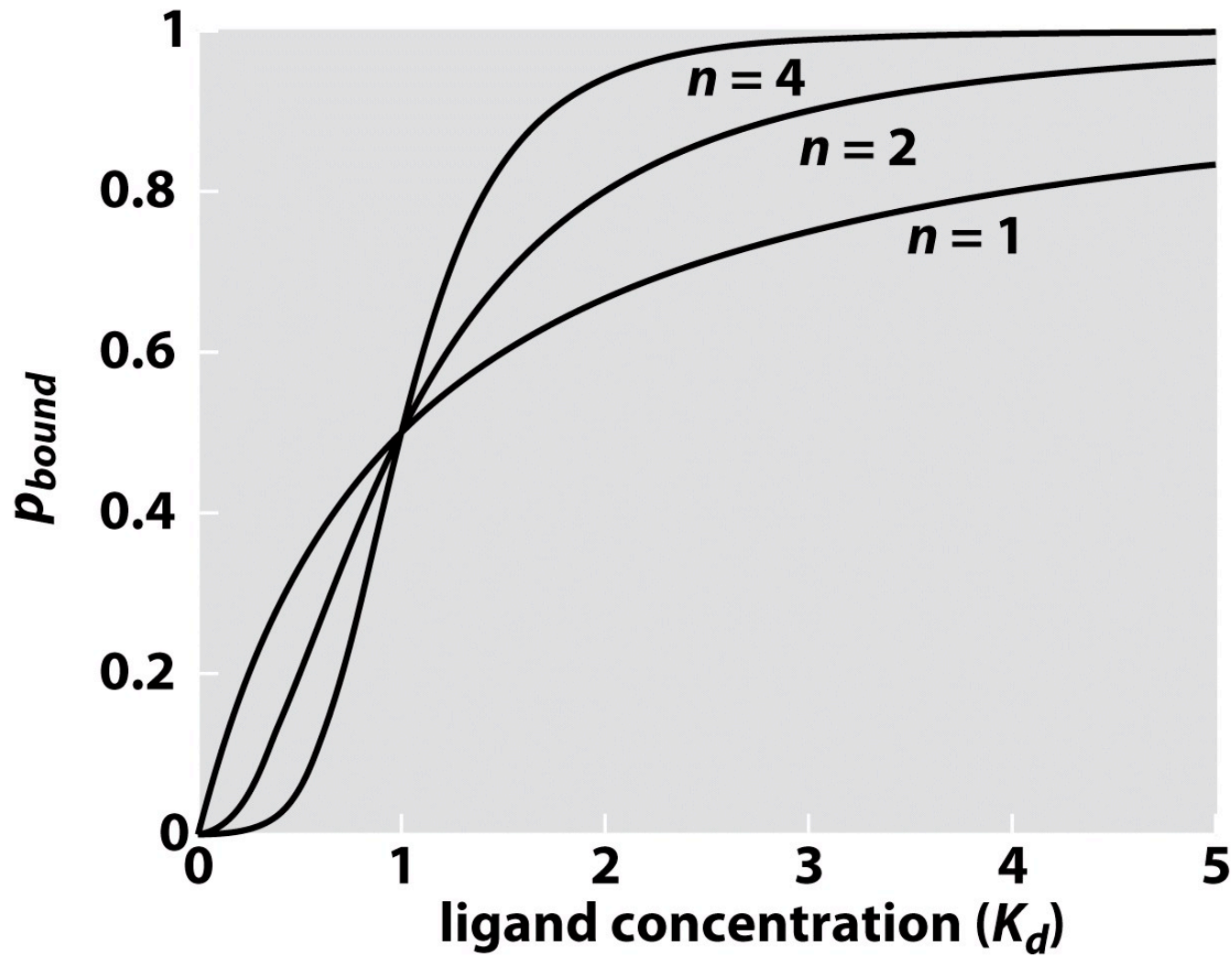


Figure 6.27 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

# HEMOGLOBIN AS A CASE STUDY IN COOPERATIVITY

- Hemoglobin-oxygen binding: language of two-states occupation variables. State of system is described with the vector

$$(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \sigma_3, \sigma_4)$$

where  $\sigma_i$ :  $\sigma_i = 0$  (unbound),  $\sigma_i = 1$  (bound)

- Q.: what is the average # of bound  $O_2$  molecules a function of the  $O_2$  concentration (or partial pressure)?

## A TOY MODEL OF A DIMOGLOBIN

- To illustrate the idea of cooperativity: imagine a fictitious dimoglobin [=dimeric hemoglobin] molecule which has 2  $O_2$  binding sites (e.g., *clams*)

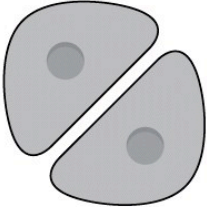
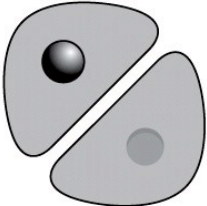
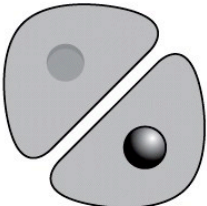
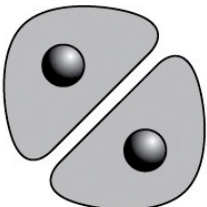
- $(\sigma_1, \sigma_2) \Rightarrow 4$  distinct states

- The energy of the system:

$$E = \underbrace{\varepsilon(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2)} + \underbrace{J\sigma_1\sigma_2}$$

Energy associated with  $O_2$  being bound to one of the 2 sites

measure of the cooperativity

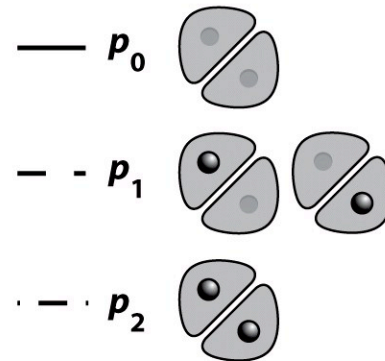
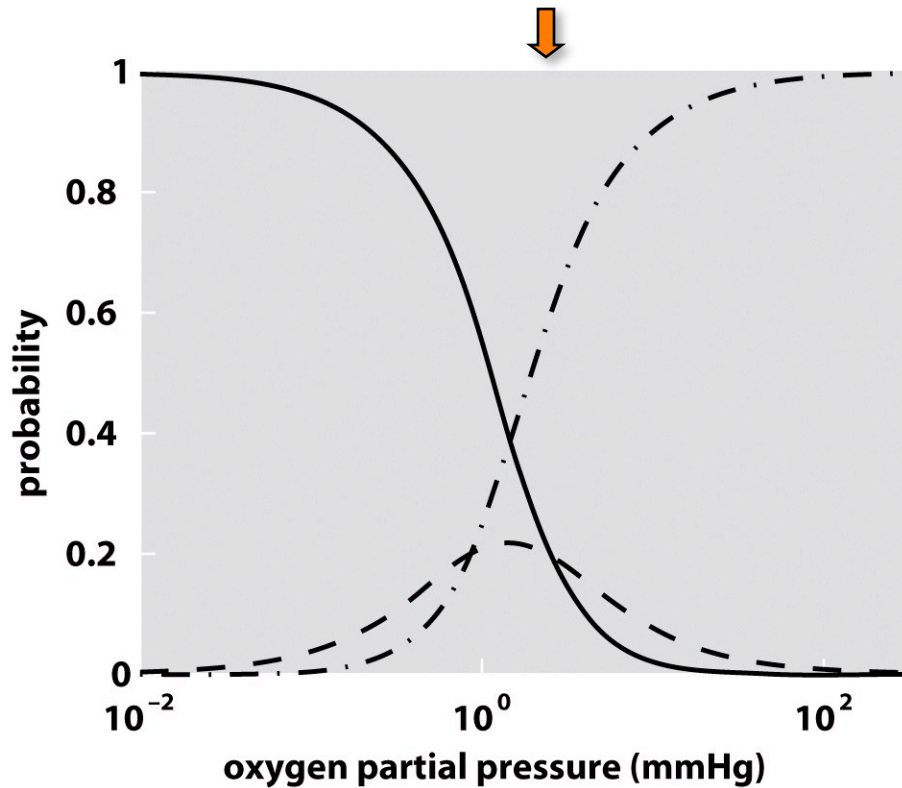
STATE	WEIGHT
	1
	$e^{-\beta(\varepsilon-\mu)}$
	$e^{-\beta(\varepsilon-\mu)}$
	$e^{-\beta(2\varepsilon+J-2\mu)}$

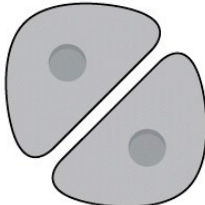
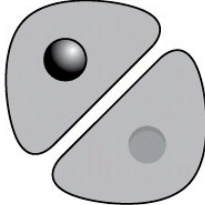
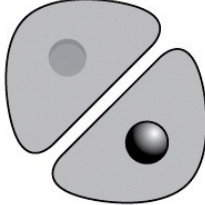
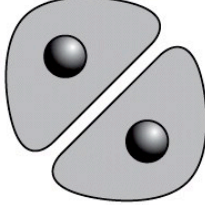
# A TOY MODEL OF $\lambda$ DIMOGLOBIN

- The grand partition function (sum over the 4 states):

$$Z = 1 + \underbrace{e^{-\beta(\varepsilon-\mu)} + e^{-\beta(\varepsilon-\mu)}}_{\text{Single occupancy}} + \underbrace{e^{-\beta(2\varepsilon+J-2\mu)}}_{\text{Both sites occupied}}$$

- $\Rightarrow$  compute the probabilities for each classes of states: unoccupied, single occupancy, double occupancy



STATE	WEIGHT
	1
	$e^{-\beta(\varepsilon-\mu)}$
	$e^{-\beta(\varepsilon-\mu)}$
	$e^{-\beta(2\varepsilon+J-2\mu)}$

Parameters used:  $\Delta\varepsilon = -5 k_B T$ ,  $J = -2.5 k_B T$ ,  $c_0 = 760$  mmHg

# TALKING ACROSS THE MEMBRANE

- Membrane proteins are characterized in some cases by transmembrane alpha helices and cytosolic domain that passes along the signal.

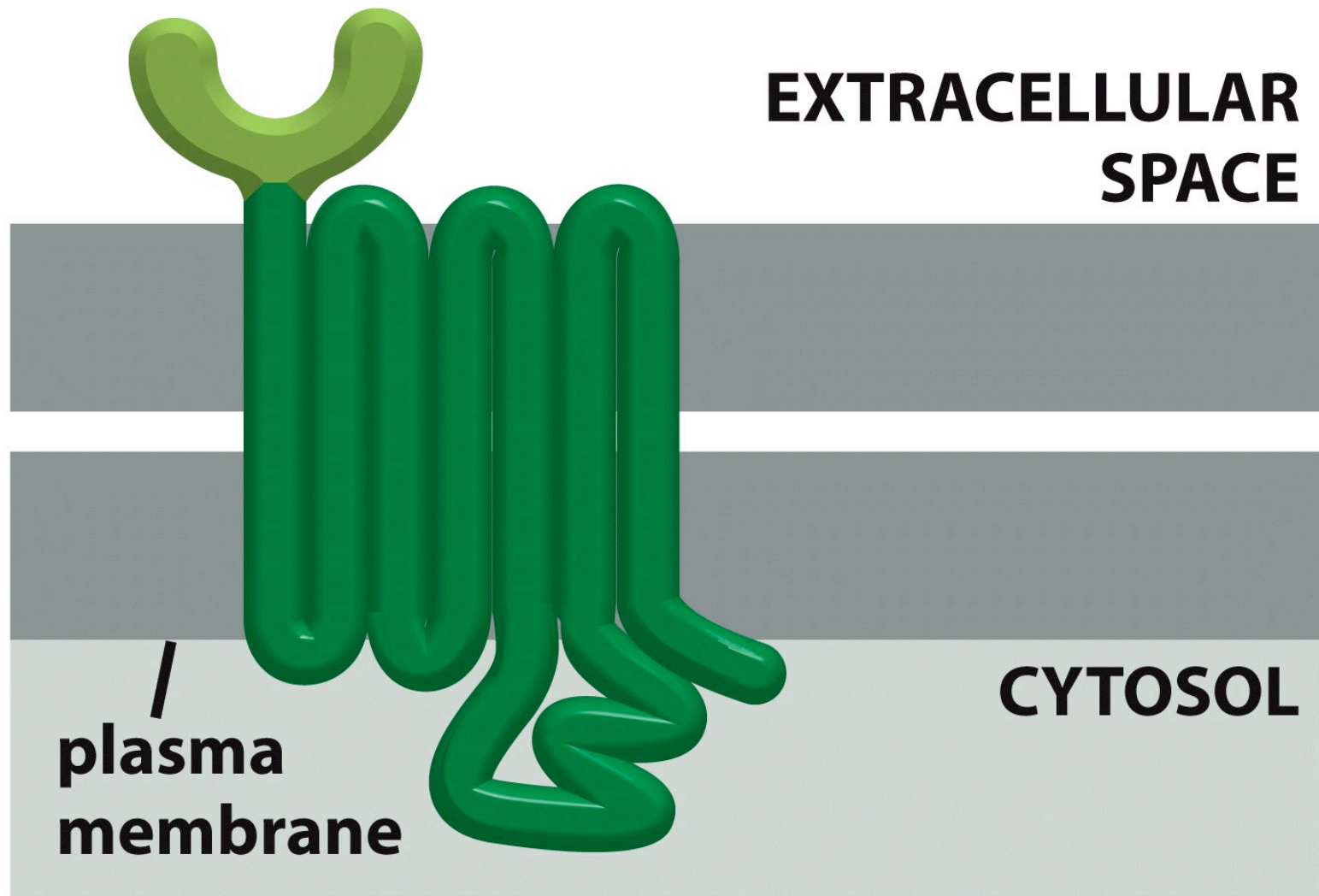


Figure 15-30 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

# COUPLING RECEPTORS TO ENZYME ACTION

- Receptor binding changes the probability of the “active” state.

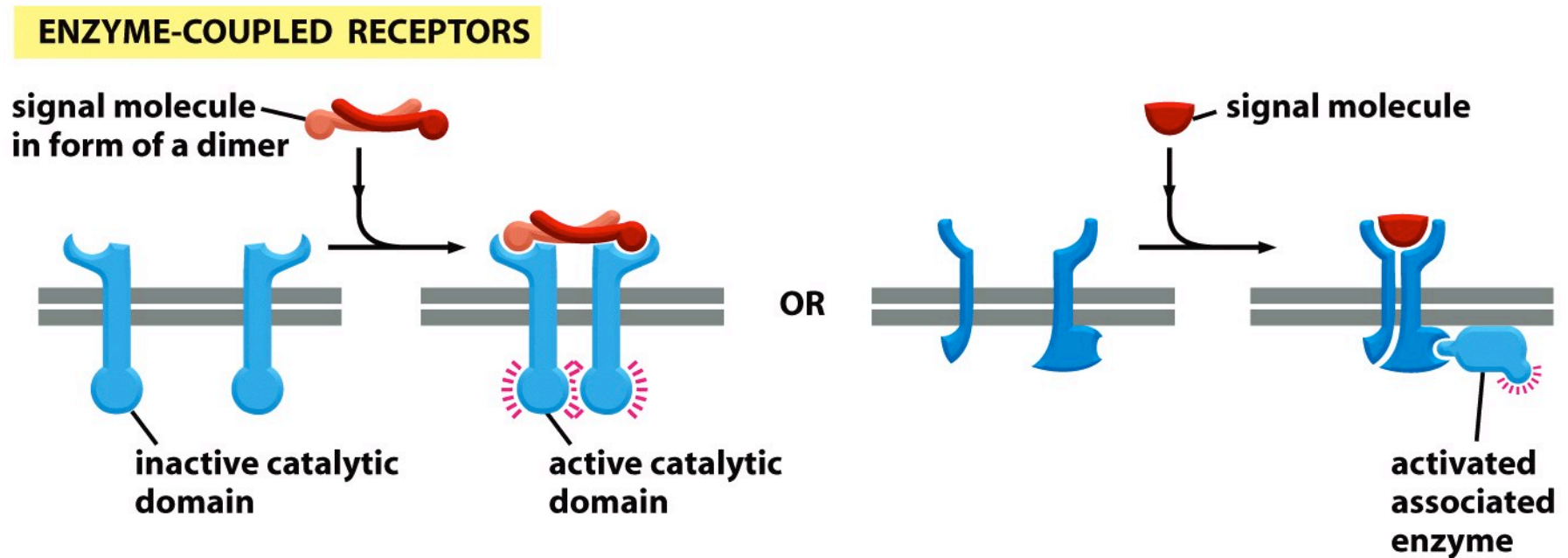


Figure 15-16c Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

# DOING WORK TO CHANGE THE PROTEIN STATE

- A wonderful and important topic for our consideration is that of posttranslational modifications.
- One of the tricks performed by the cytoplasmic side of a receptor (or its partners) is to do some posttranslational modification.

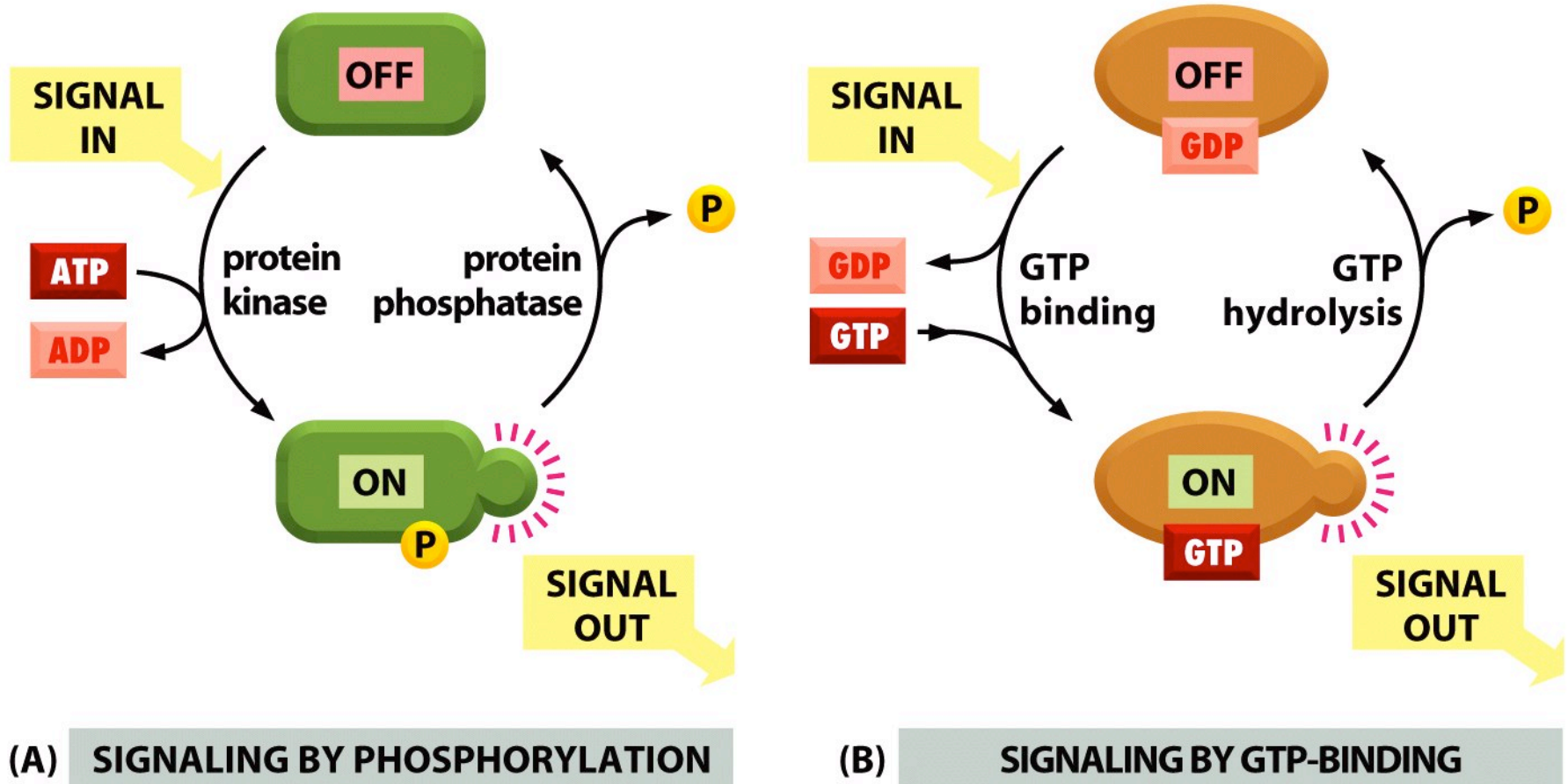


Figure 15-18 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

# PHOSPHORYLATION

- In bio systems, changes in enviro. conditions => the activity of an enzyme must be rapidly altered
- One of the most important regulatory modes in all of biology: regulation of protein activity by covalent attachment of phosphate groups
- The substrate for protein phosphorylation: target protein and ATP
- The enzyme: protein kinase  
(transfers the terminal phosphate group from ATP to a chemical group on a protein)
- A phosphate group carries 2 “-” charges  
=> causes a dramatic change in the local charge distribution on the surface of the protein  
=> drastic, large scale effect on protein structure and ability to bind
- This alteration is reversible: protein phosphatase

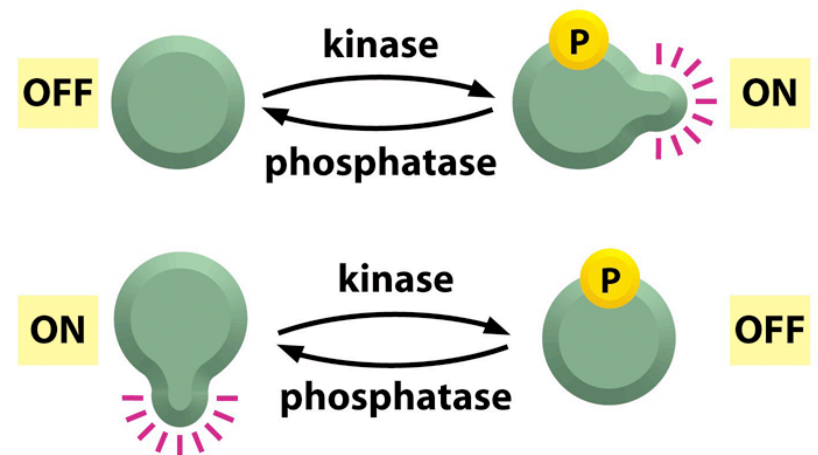
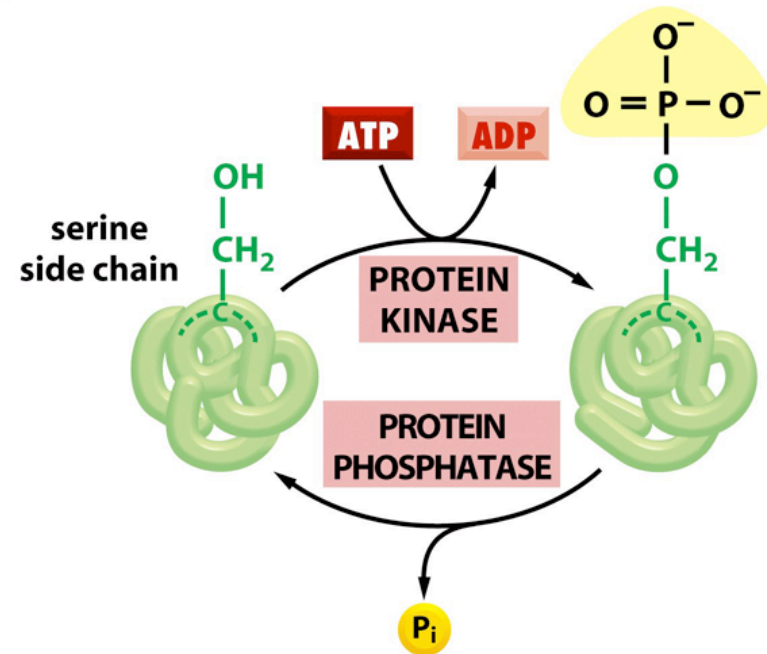


Figure 3-64b Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

# THE DIVERSITY OF KINASES

- “The whole molecular control network, leading from the receptors at the cell surface to the genes in the nucleus, can be viewed as a computing device; and, like that other computing device, the brain, it presents one of the hardest problems in biology.”
- Catalytic domains shown in green Roughly 250 aa long.

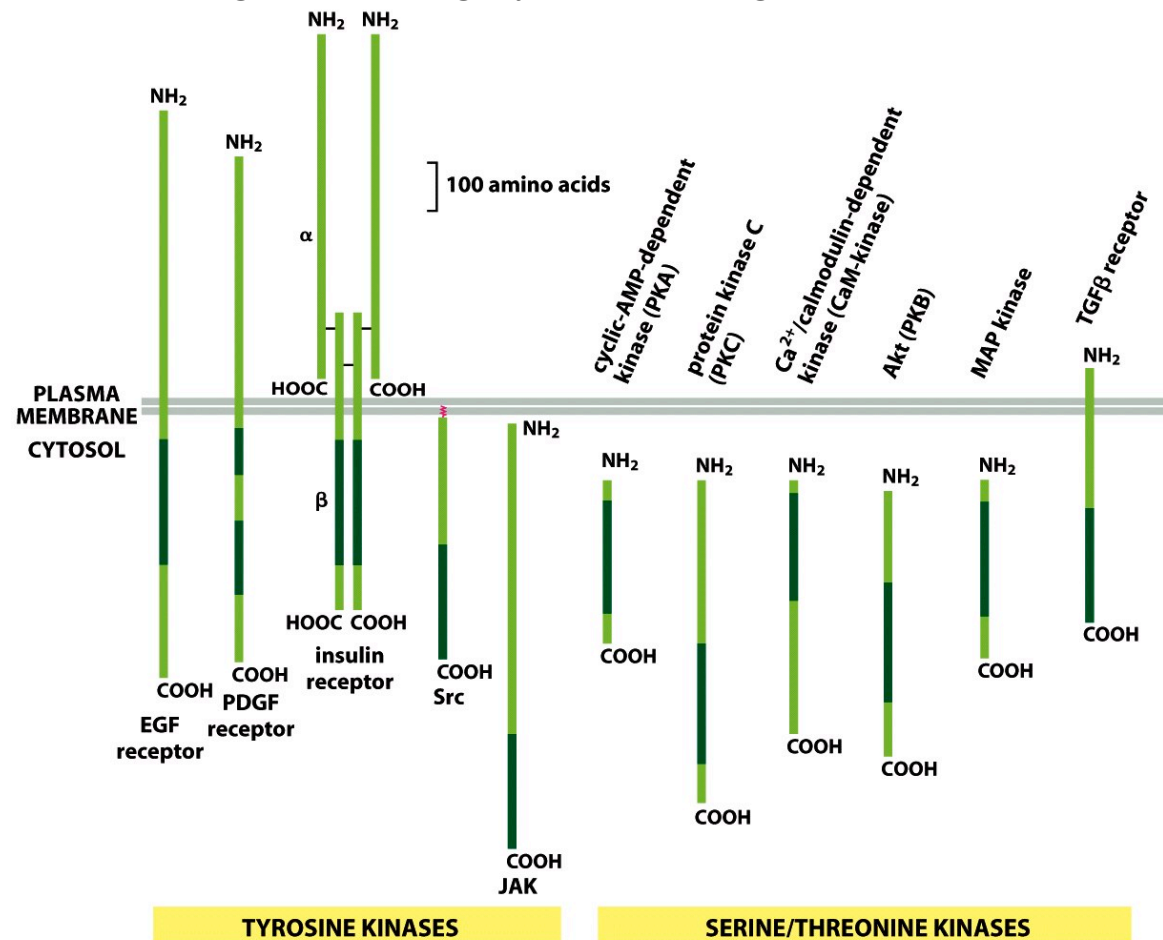


Figure 15-70 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)



# PHOSPHORYLATION: TWO INTERNAL STATE VARIABLES

- What is the fraction of activated proteins? How does it depend on the state of phosphorylation?

- Model:

The “structural” state of the protein (active/inactive):

$$\sigma_s: \quad \begin{aligned} \sigma_s = 0 &\Rightarrow \text{inactive,} \\ \sigma_s = 1 &\Rightarrow \text{active} \end{aligned}$$

The state of phosphorylation of the protein:

$$\sigma_p: \quad \begin{aligned} \sigma_p = 0 &\Rightarrow \text{unphosphorylated,} \\ \sigma_p = 1 &\Rightarrow \text{phosphorylated} \end{aligned}$$

- The state of phosphorylation can alter the relative energies of the active and inactive states  
 $\Rightarrow$  at equilibrium, most of the phosphorylated molecules will be in active form
- $I_1$  and  $I_2$  are the electrostatic interaction energies btw the two charges in the active and inactive states

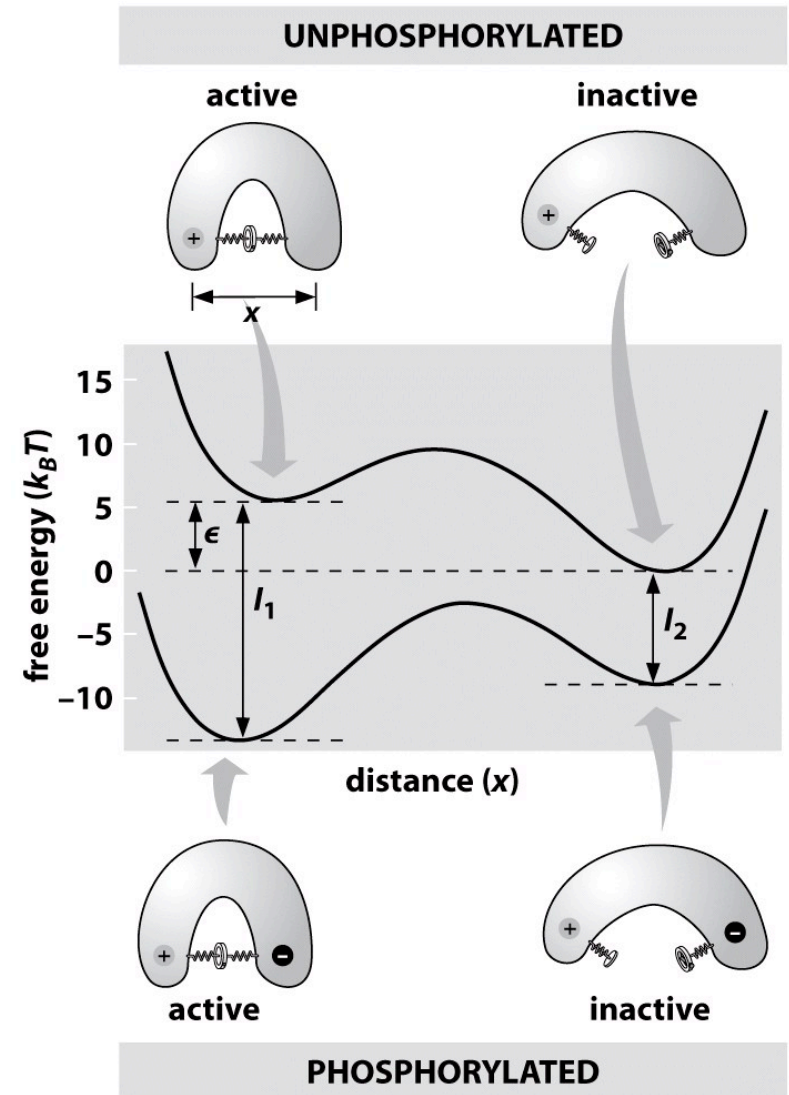


Figure 7.10 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

# PHOSPHORYLATION: TWO INTERNAL STATE VARIABLES

- Using the  $\sigma$  variables, the free energy of the protein is

$$G(\sigma_P, \sigma_S) = (1 - \sigma_P)[(1 - \sigma_S)0 + \sigma_S \epsilon] + \sigma_P[(1 - \sigma_S)(-I_2) + \sigma_S(\epsilon - I_1)]$$

which simplifies to

$$G(\sigma_P, \sigma_S) = \epsilon \sigma_S - I_2 \sigma_P + (I_2 - I_1) \sigma_S \sigma_P$$

=> states&weights:

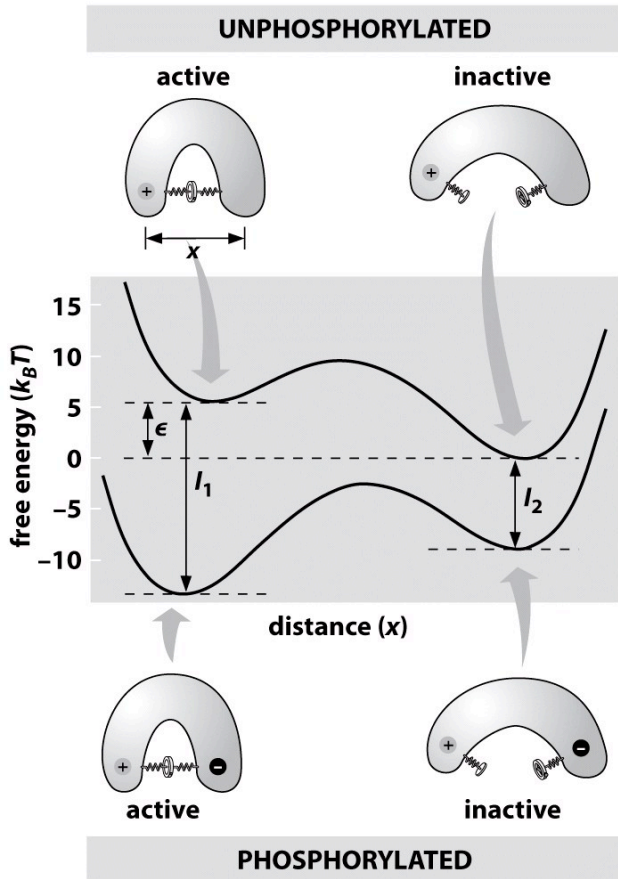


Figure 7.10 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

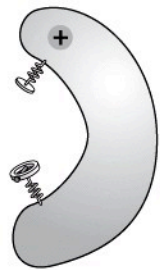
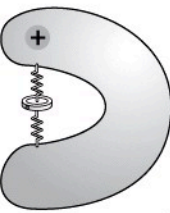
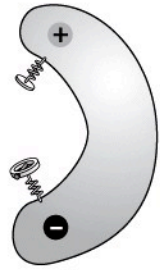
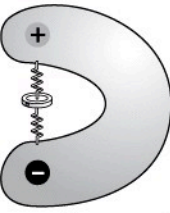
STATE	ENERGY	WEIGHT
 $\sigma_P = 0, \sigma_S = 0$	0	1
 $\sigma_P = 0, \sigma_S = 1$	$\epsilon$	$e^{-\beta \epsilon}$
 $\sigma_P = 1, \sigma_S = 0$	$-I_2$	$e^{\beta I_2}$
 $\sigma_P = 1, \sigma_S = 1$	$\epsilon - I_1$	$e^{-\beta(\epsilon - I_1)}$

Figure 7.11 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

# PHOSPHORYLATION: TWO INTERNAL STATE VARIABLES

- From the states and weights:

$$p_{\text{active}} = \frac{e^{-\beta G(\sigma_S=1, \sigma_P=0)}}{\sum_{\sigma_S=0,1} e^{-\beta G(\sigma_S, \sigma_P=0)}} = \frac{e^{-\beta \epsilon}}{e^{-\beta \epsilon} + 1}$$



Probability of the protein being in the *active state*, if it is *not phosphorylated*

$$p_{\text{active}}^* = \frac{e^{-\beta G(\sigma_S=1, \sigma_P=1)}}{\sum_{\sigma_S=0,1} e^{-\beta G(\sigma_S, \sigma_P=1)}} = \frac{e^{-\beta(\epsilon - I_1)}}{e^{-\beta(\epsilon - I_1)} + e^{\beta I_2}}$$



Probability of the protein being in the *active state*, if it is *phosphorylated*

- The change in activity due to phosphorylation:

$$\frac{p_{\text{active}}^*}{p_{\text{active}}} = \frac{1 + e^{\beta \epsilon}}{1 + e^{\beta(\epsilon + I_2 - I_1)}}$$

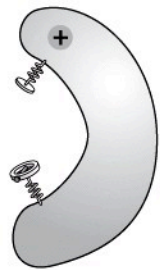
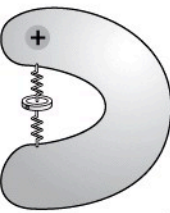
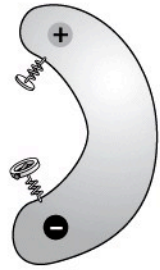
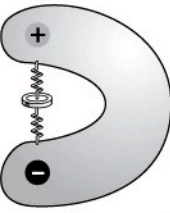
STATE	ENERGY	WEIGHT
	0	1
$\sigma_P = 0, \sigma_S = 0$		
	$\epsilon$	$e^{-\beta \epsilon}$
$\sigma_P = 0, \sigma_S = 1$		
	$-I_2$	$e^{\beta I_2}$
$\sigma_P = 1, \sigma_S = 0$		
	$\epsilon - I_1$	$e^{-\beta(\epsilon - I_1)}$
$\sigma_P = 1, \sigma_S = 1$		

Figure 7.11 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

# PHOSPHORYLATION: TWO INTERNAL STATE VARIABLES

$$\frac{p_{\text{active}}^*}{p_{\text{active}}} = \frac{1 + e^{\beta\varepsilon}}{1 + e^{\beta(\varepsilon + I_2 - I_1)}}$$

- In the toy model in the figure,

$$\varepsilon \approx 5 k_B T$$

$$I_2 - I_1 \approx -10 k_B T$$

$$\Rightarrow p_{\text{active}}^*/p_{\text{active}} \approx 150$$

-increase in activity upon phosphorylation

- In the cell, the increase in activity upon phosphorylation spans from factors of 2 to 1000.

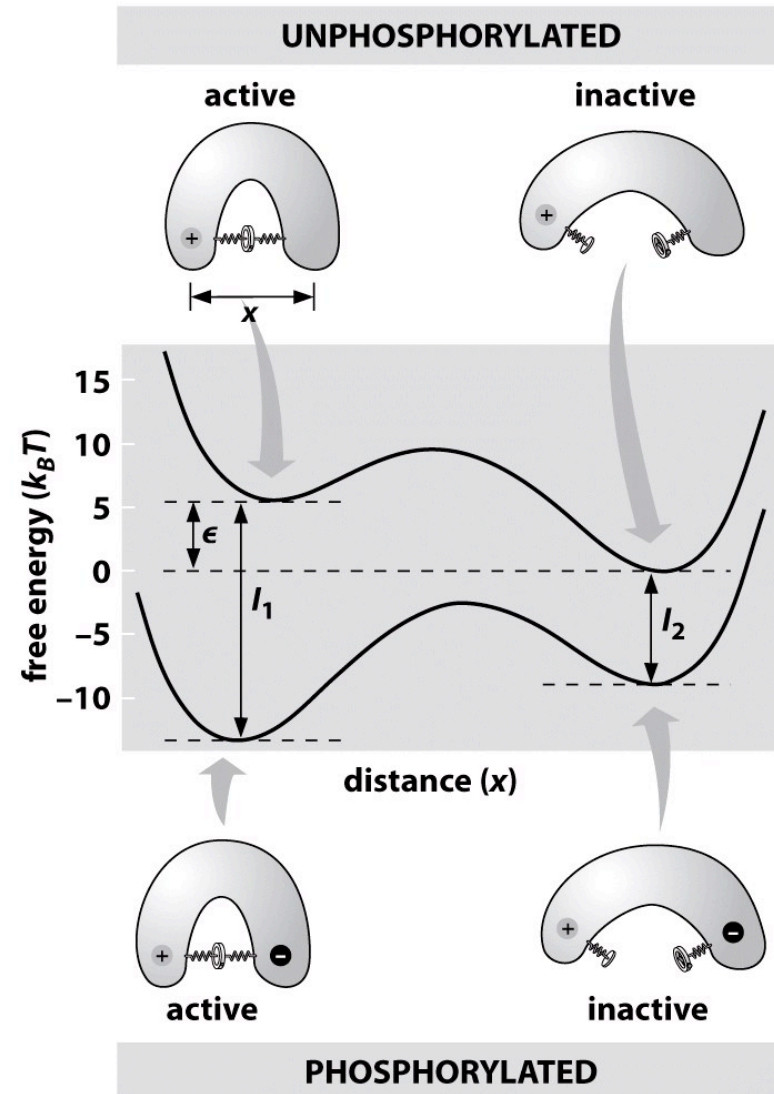


Figure 7.10 Physical Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2009)

# EUKARYOTIC SIGNAL TRANSDUCTION

- A more precise realization of the implementation of signaling.
- We begin with an example that is simple both conceptually and mathematically, namely, prokaryotic two-component signal transduction..

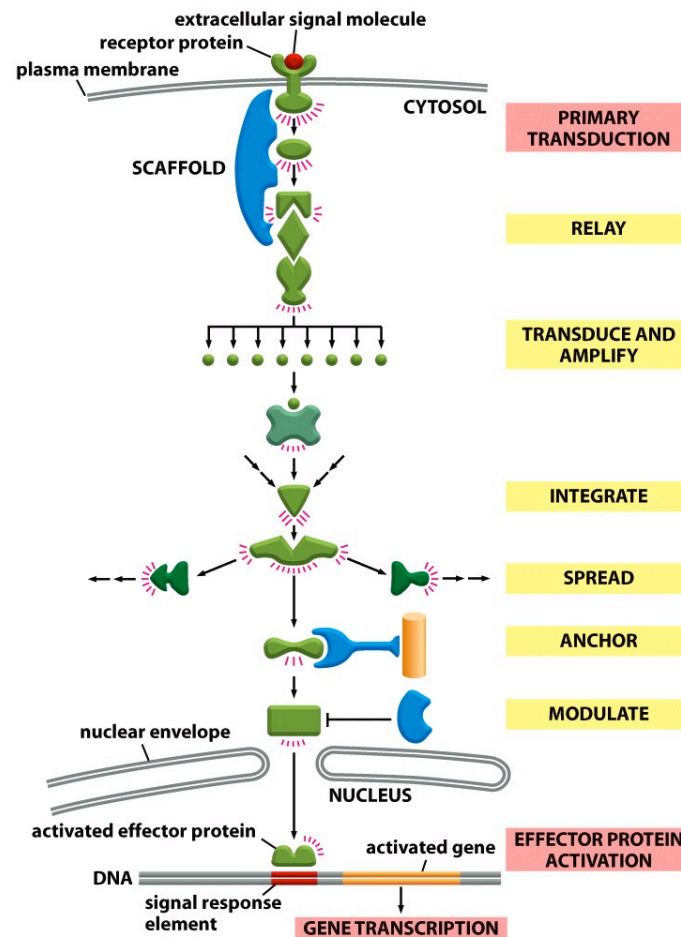
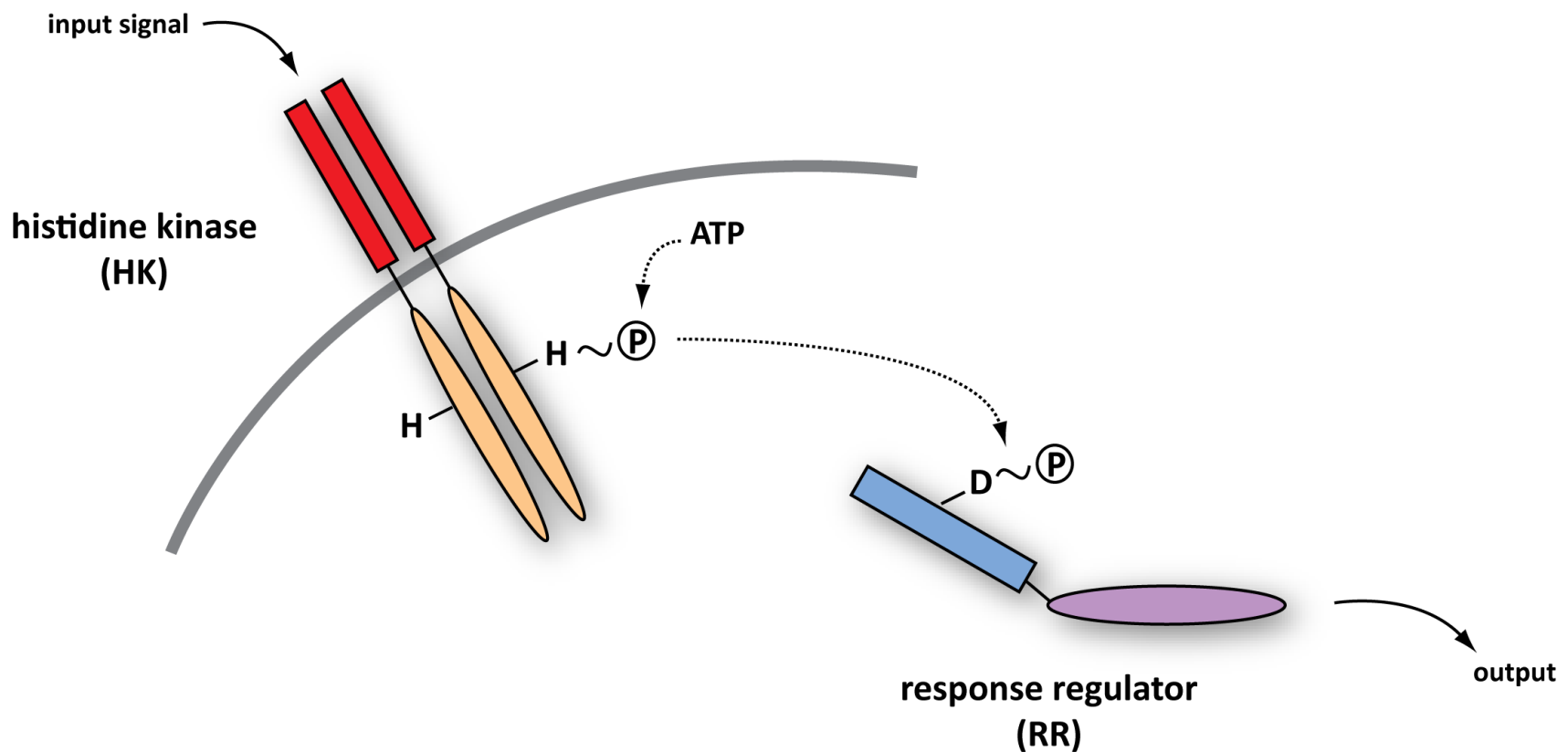


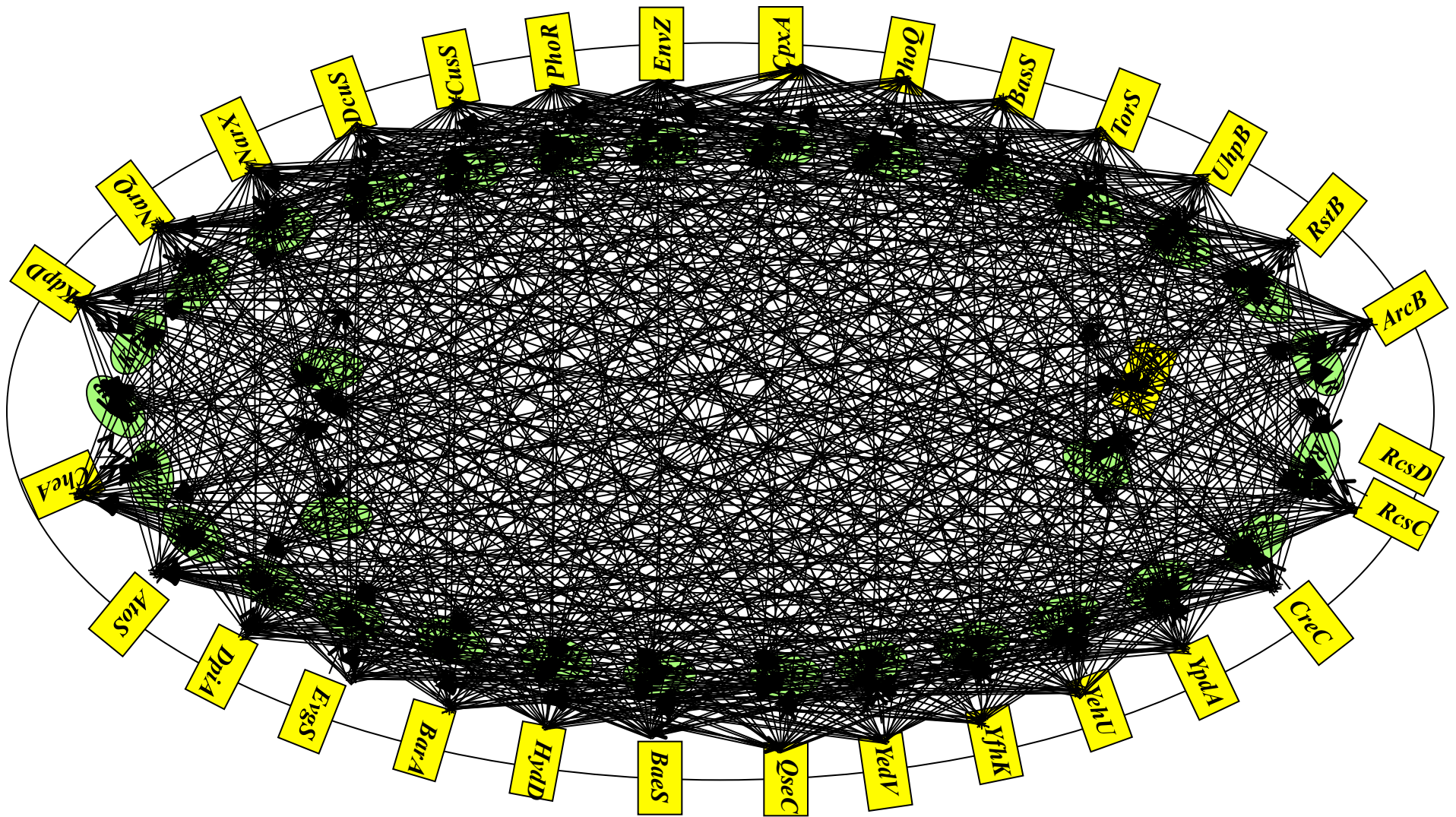
Figure 15-17 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

## TWO-COMPONENT SIGNAL TRANSDUCTION

- Next few slides are courtesy of Michael Laub (MIT) and Mark Goulian (Upenn) – experts in the quantitative dissection of signaling networks.
- This figure shows the generic features of the two-component signal transduction systems.



# COORDINATING MULTIPLE SIGNALING SYSTEMS IN A SINGLE CELL



*animation by Mark Goulan*

# PHOSPHOTRANSFER PROFILING



(use complete set of purified RRs)

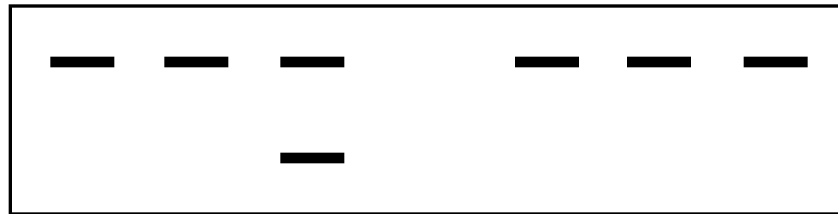
- RR1 RR2 RR3 ..... RR44

incubate,  
separate by  
SDS-PAGE



HK~P →

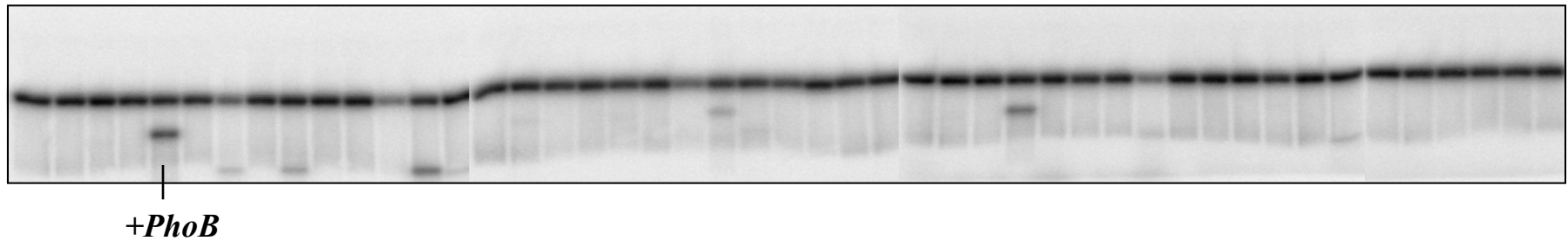
RR~P →



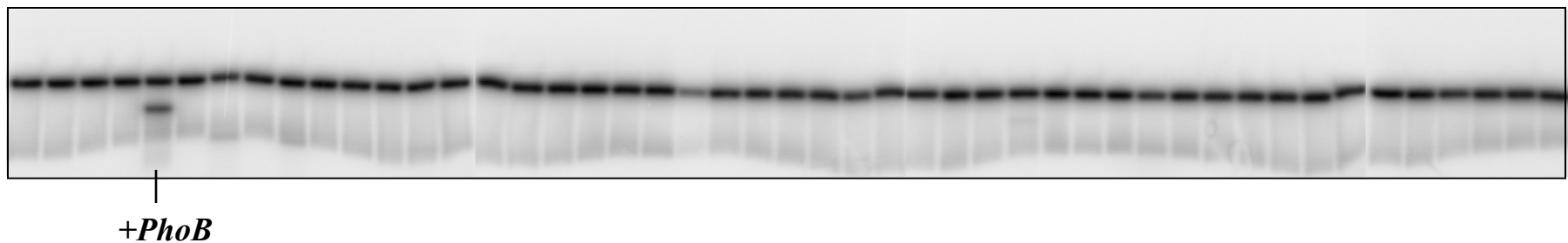


# ASSESSING SPECIFICITY: PHOSPHOTRANSFER PROFILING

*C. crescentus* PhoR profile – 60 min phosphotransfer reactions



*C. crescentus* PhoR profile – 5 min phosphotransfer reactions



→ *histidine kinases exhibit a strong kinetic preference in vitro for their in vivo cognate substrate*

→ *specificity based on molecular recognition*

# SIGNAL INTEGRATION

- Once we finish with our concrete example of chemotaxis, we will turn to the way in which cells decide where to put new actin filament and that will make us face this question of signal integration.

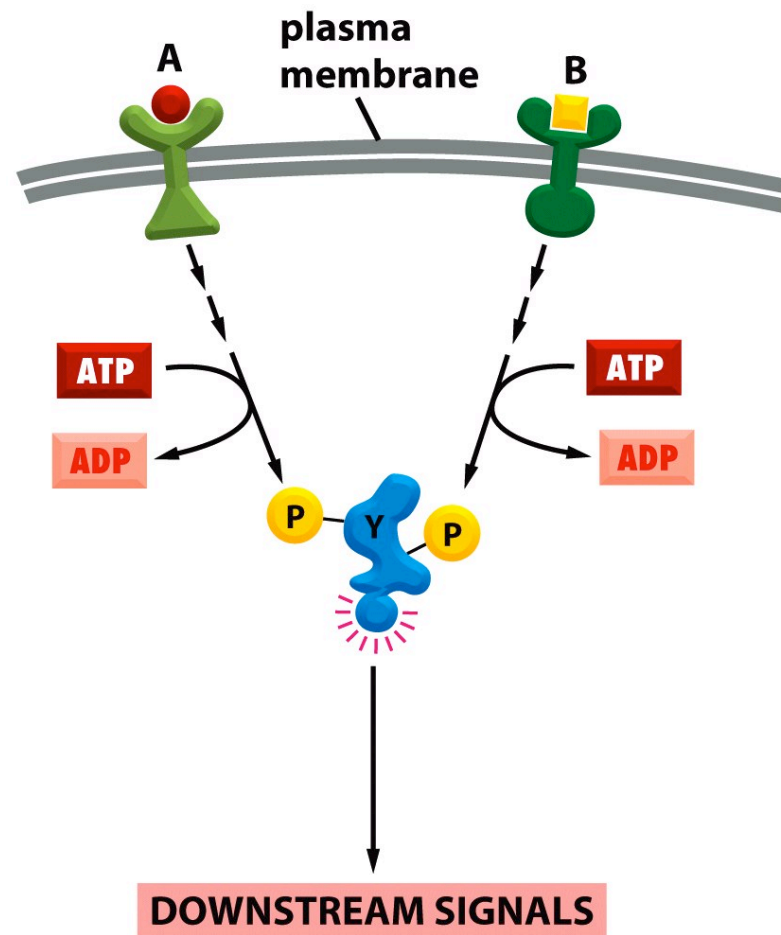


Figure 15-20 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

# G-PROTEIN COUPLED RECEPTORS AS AN EXAMPLE

## G-PROTEIN-COUPLED RECEPTORS

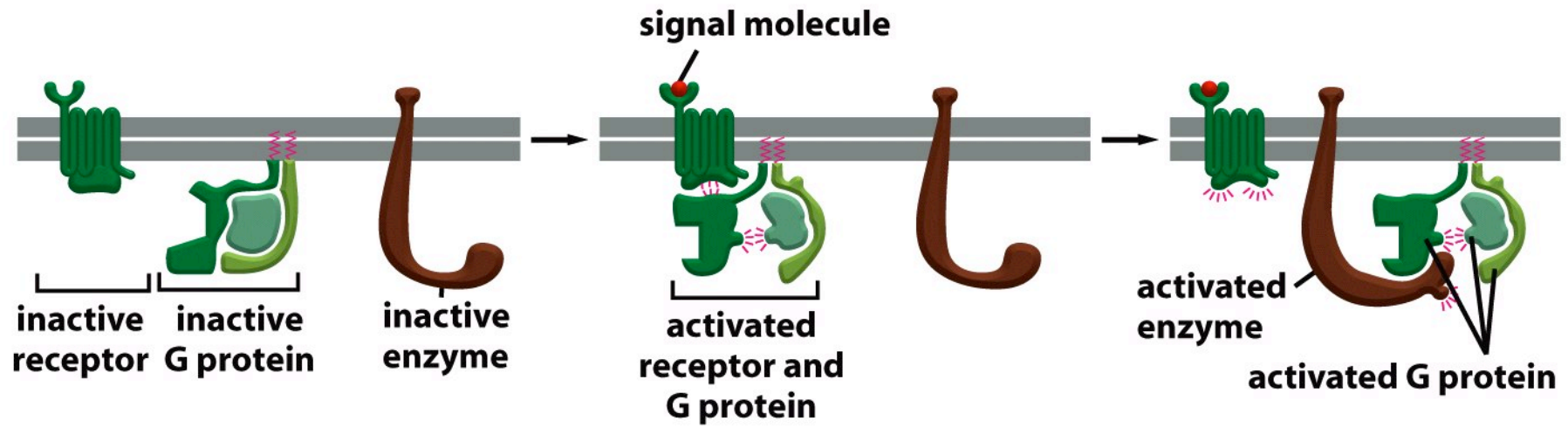


Figure 15-16b Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)