

# Chapter 8

① Plasma membrane: 5-10 nm thick (can't be observed by LM)

The 2 hydrophilic heads are dark in EM.

→ all membranes (plasma, cytoplasmic, nuclear) in plants, animals or microorganisms are same ultrastructure! (same structure & function)



The trilaminar appearance of membs. plasma and sarcoplasmic memb.

\* An overview of membrane functions:

① Compartmentalization: memb. form cont. sheets that enclose intracellular compartments. (acid hydrolases within vesicles)

② Scaffold for biochemical activities: memb. provides a framework that organizes enzymes of effective activities. (carbon fixation)

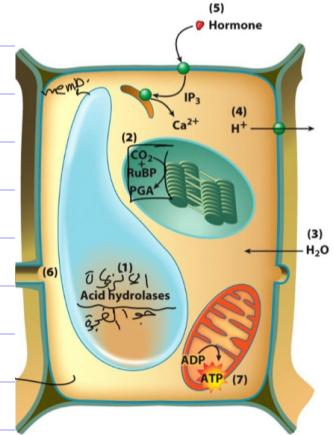
③ Selectively permeable barriers: regulates exchange of substances b/w comp. (H<sub>2</sub>O) {زجاجة الماء}

④ Transporting solutes: memb. proteins facilitate the movement of substances. (H<sup>+</sup>) {نقل الأملاح إلى الخلية}

⑤ Responding to external signals: memb. receptors sense the signals from outside to specific ligands. (Hormones)

⑥ Intracellular interactions: memb. mediate recognition and interaction between adjacent cells. (plasmodesmata)

⑦ Energy transduction: memb. transduce photosynthetic energy from chemical → ATP and store it.



→ A brief history of study on plasma membranes:

memb. were found to be lipidic because of their dissolving power was matched to that of oil.

the lipid bilayer accounted for the 2:1 ratio of lipids to cell surface. (bilayer, each layer consists of two lipids)

→ the most favored orientation was that hydrophilic must face the aqueous solutions.

→ evidences that it's not just lipids?

- 1) **Lipid Solubility**: was next to a sub. to penetrate it.
- 2) **Surface tension**: was calculated much lower than pure lipids; explained by the presence of proteins.

\* proteins in lipid bilayer  $\longleftrightarrow$  individual complexes

\* the plasma memb. is dynamic; *cur of its fluidity*.

→ the memb. is **Lipid-protein** held together by **non-covalent bonds**; the lipid bilayer is a structural backbone and barrier to prevent random movement of sub.

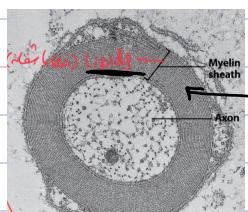
→ The ratio of lipid to protein varies depending on the type of:

- a) cellular membrane.
- b) the organism.
- c) the cell.

∴ ratio of lipids to cell surface = 2:1 / Lipids to protein: varies

The myelin sheath has  
a low protein-lipid ratio.

[lipid ↑]



Cause: acts as electrical insulation (↓ε) to the nerve cell.  
by a thick layer of lipids (↓Lc)

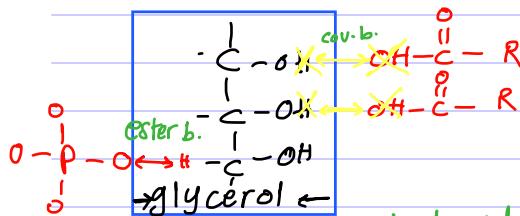
inner mitochondrial  
memb. has a  
high protein-lipid ratio  
[protein ↑]

Cause: contains the protein carriers of ETC.

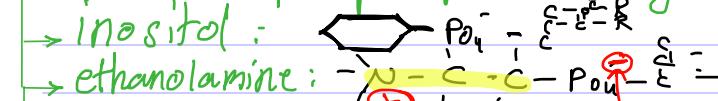
→ (phospholipids)

Membrane Lipids are amphiphatic with 3 main types:

1) **phosphoglycerids**: diacylglycerides (2 of fatty acids attached to glycerol) attached to phosphate group by ester bond.  
∴ they're phospholipids built on a glycerol backbone.

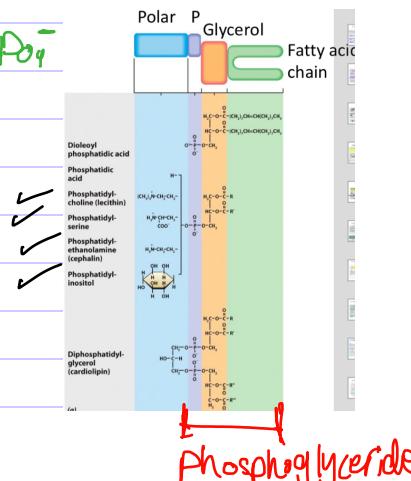
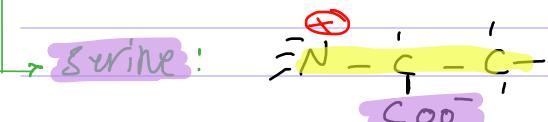


→ most phospholipids have hydrophilic groups attached to PO3^-



→ ethanolamine:

hydrophilic head ✓

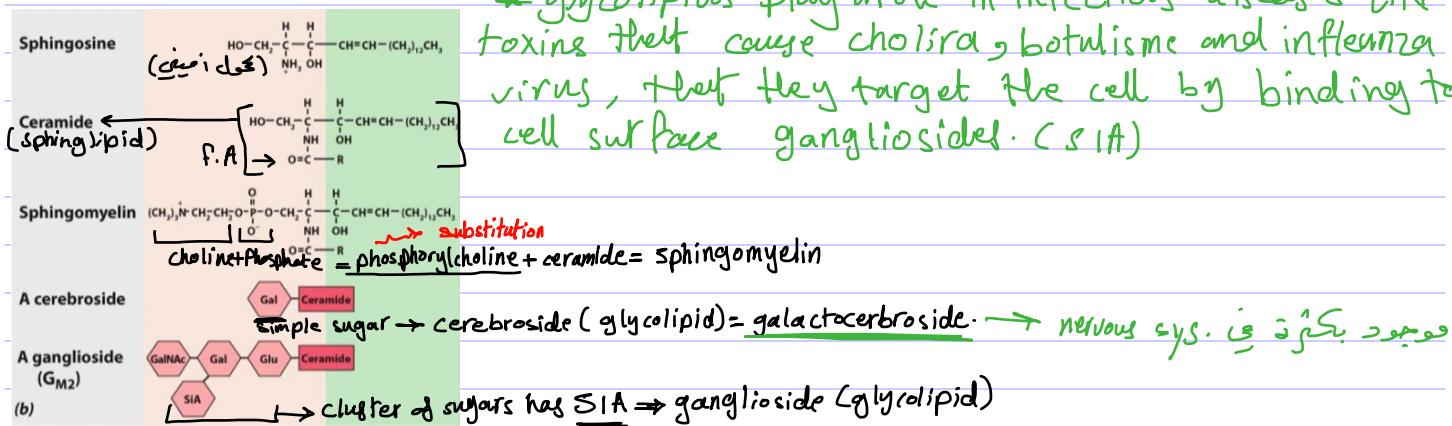


Fatty acyl chains are hydrophobic, unbranched hydrocarbons (16 to 22 C), it may be saturated, monounsaturated, polyunsaturated.

\* Sphingolipids are ceramides formed by (Sphingosine + fatty acids)

What is Sphingosine ?? It's an amino alcohol containing a long hydrocarbon chain.

Sphingolipids consist of sphingosine linked to fatty acids by its amino group, called a ceramide.



Cholesterol: Smaller and less amphiphatic lipid that form in animals.

\* 50% of animal membrane lipids = Sterols

\* it has OH-group is oriented toward memb. surface (external)

\* its carbon rings are flat and rigid that prevent the movement of phospholipid bilayer fatty acid tails.

### The nature and importance of Lipid bilayer :-

\* cell membranes have unique (distinct) composition of lipids, differing in lipid type, head groups and fatty acyl chains.

\* Lipid composition determines  $\xrightarrow{\text{influence}}$  Physical State of memb. (L, solid)  $\xrightarrow{\text{influence}}$  influence memb. protein activity.

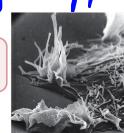
(precursor) Lipids  $\xrightarrow{\text{influence}}$  messengers that regulate cellular functions.

$\rightarrow$  The entire lipid bilayer is 6 nm thick. ( $60 \text{ \AA}$ )  $60 \times 10^{-10} = 6 \times 10^{-9}$  m. It's always cont. and unbroken sheets, forming extensive interconnected networks within the cell. (Mitochondria, chloroplast and Golgi apparatus) are double memb. bounded organelles.

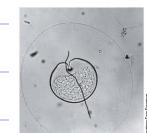
\* lipid bilayer is flexible ; as these 3 :-

it helps to maintain the internal cell composition and separate the electric charge across the plasma memb.

Movement: ruffling of the plasma membrane of a migrating cell



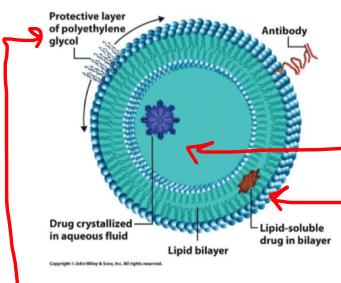
Division: invagination of the plasma membrane during cell division



Fusion: plasma membranes of sperm and egg unite



memb. J, art, 1/2



- the lipid bilayer can self-assemble easily in vitro.
- phospholipids assemble walls that is fluid-filled spherical vesicles (liposomes)
- can deliver drugs or DNA within the body; they can be linked to its wall or in its lumen.

Liposomes: synthetic vesicles

- They are specific to a target cell, contain a specific protein on its surface specific binding to it.
- \* how not to classify it strange (no phagocytosis)?
- by protective layer that protect it from immune destruction.

## Cealyx, a stealth liposome containing doxorubicin "therapy to breast cancer"

⇒ The asymmetry of lipid bilayer:-

consist of 2 distinct leaflets that have a distinctly different lipid composition  
outer leaflet contains mostly PC and SM layer is independent, semi-stable basis.

→ outer leaflet: higher PC + SM

→ inner leaflet: higher PI + PS + PE

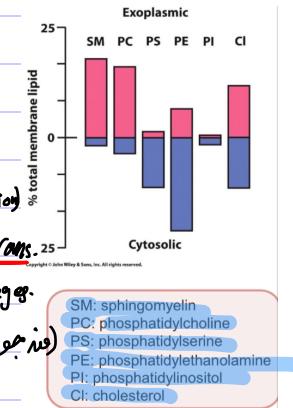
→ Ch (Cholesterol) [Outer] = [Inner]

\* PE (inner) provides memb. dynamics, curvature for division (fusion)

\* PI (inner) can be phosphorylated to phosphatidylinositol for signal trans.

\* PS (outer) on aging lymphocytes marks for destruction by macrophages.

(inner): PS bind to lysine and arginine on adjacent proteins (!!!)



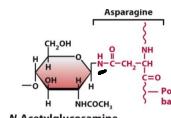
## Membrane Carbohydrates:

- plasma membrane have (2-10)% by weight with 90% glycoproteins and 10% glycolipids. it play a role in mediating the interaction of a cell and
- carboh. don't like cytosol



## Glycoproteins (90%)

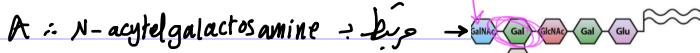
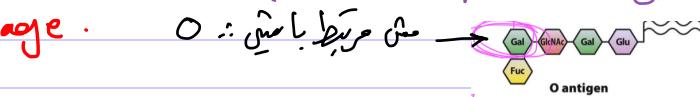
have short, branched hydrophilic oligosaccharide (<15 sugars); which can be attached to amino group by N-linkage or O-linkage.



Two types of linkages that join sugars to a polypeptide chain

## Glycolipids (10%)

of RBCs plasma memb. determine person's B type.



Both → AB ← AB

Blood-group antigens  
(gangliosides)

\* Membrane Proteins :- it attaches to the bilayer asymmetrically giving a sidedness of the membrane.

**Integral** (dynamic ↔ laterally movement)

(25-30)% of proteins  
60% of current drug targets

**peripheral** (dynamic ↔ or recruited weak bond)

outside the bilayer  
"attached non-covalently  
to it" (lipid-protein)

**Lipid-anchored**

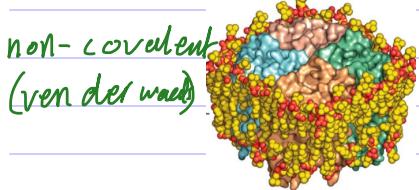
bound in

outer leaflet  
inner leaflet  
anchored by long hydrocarbon chain:  
e.g. Sph + Rho that are implicated in transformation of normal cell → malignant cell

→ Channel protein cores are hydrophilic  
but aquaporines cores are hydrophobic

functions of receptors, channels or agents - membrane "skeleton" to that transporters & during photosynthesis provide a mechanical support - receptors, enzymes or respiration.

within the lipid bilayers their fatty acyl chains are attached by van der waals to the integral proteins to form a lipid shell



(fibrillar network)

- anchor for integral proteins and cell adhesion.  
- enzymes, specialized coats - e.g. - scrapie protein or factors that transmit transmembrane signals.

→ peripheral proteins associate with the mem. by weak electrostatic bonds, can be solubilized by extraction with high salt concentration solutions.

\* specific sites of memb. proteins can form important functional interactions with specific lipid molecules.

e.g.: KcsA K<sup>+</sup> channels (tetrameric) : 4 subunits with anionic lipids  
it doesn't open normally in a bilayer that lacks a specific lipid molecule.

\* usually are globular proteins (to have a core for transferring subs.)  
\* it was understood by the results of freeze-fracture replication.

\* **Membrane fluidity** :- } (physical state)



1 if the temperature of bilayer is kept relatively warm (37°C), the lipid exists in a relative fluid state → individual lipids can rotate around their axis or move laterally within the plane.

Fatty acid	cis Double bonds	M.p. (°C)
Stearic acid	0	70
Oleic acid	1	13
Linoleic acid	2	-9
Linolenic acid	3	-17
Eicosapentaenoic acid (EPA)*	5	-54

The higher degree of unsaturation the lower the melting point.  
+ the shorter the fatty acyl the lower the melting point.

→ Cholesterol abolishes the sharp transition temps. and creates a condition of intermediate fluidity, it increases memb. durability & decreases memb. permeability.

\* Internal temperature can fluctuate the temp. so cells respond to it by altering phospholipid composition. If the temp. is lowered, cells can remodel memb. to make them more cold resistant. (How?)

→ Remodeling is accomplished by:

- desaturating single bonds to form = bonds
- reshuffling (mix) chains btw different lipids to form 2 unsaturated fatty acyl chains

by desaturases

phospholipases (splits the glycerol backbone to fatty acid chain)  
acyl-transferases (transfer F.A. chains between phospholipids)

\* Lipid Rafts: Cl + SM on the outer leaflet, they provide a favorable environment for cell receptors and GPI-anchored proteins.

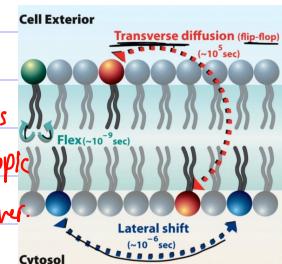
The dynamic nature of plasma memb:-

The phospholipid can move:

- 1- laterally: it takes seconds, in the same leaflet.

2- flip-flop: it takes hours to days; it is in 2 leaflets

↳ (why?) the hydrophilic head has to pass through hydrophobic tails. (so?) flippase moves them from one leaflet to another.



The diffusion of protein after cell fusion:-

Labeled proteins have shown that memb. protein can move btw fused cells.

\* Cell fusion is induced by virus or polyethylene glycol.

restrictions:

\* protein can be labeled and tracked with fluorescence recovery after photobleaching (FRAP) & single particle tracking (SPT)

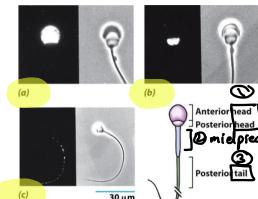
FRAP & SPT are similar

\* SPT is applied on individual proteins & it uses TIRF: total internal reflection fluorescent microscope which has a high tracking ability.

\* the rate of diffusion by FRAP is different depending on protein's type. lipid bilayer is rigid & slow, C-terminal is more -> plasma memb. → is slow

\* epithelial cells of intestinal wall or kidney tubules are highly polarized whose surfaces carry out different functions.

The apical plasma memb. absorbs sub. from lumen



sperms may have the most highly differentiated structure

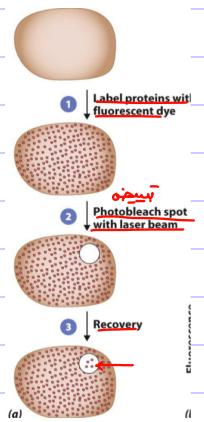
each having its own specialized function

The lateral plasma memb. interacts with neighboring epithelial cells.



The base of

adheres to an underlying basement memb.



FRAP

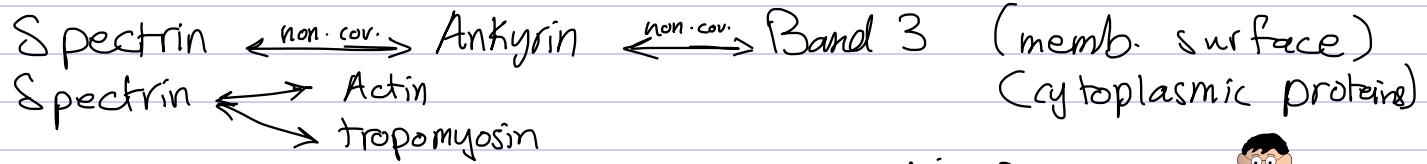
3-3 on slides: Band 3 is 2 homodimers of glycoproteins that exchange  $\text{Cl}^-$  and  $\text{HCO}_3^-$  across RBC memb.

\* Glycophorin A: is a dimer with 16 oligosaccharides chains bearing -ve charge to prevent cells from clumping.

\* RBC (erythrocyte) is the most studied memb.  $\rightarrow$  preparation ?? "ghosts" can be prepared by hemolysis (put it in hypotonic soln.) for isolation of intact memb.

\* Memb. proteins can be purified by fractionation by SDS-PAGE electrophoresis.  $\rightarrow$  Step 1 & Step 2

⑤ The major component of internal memb. skeleton is **spectrin**.



\* 8.9 :-

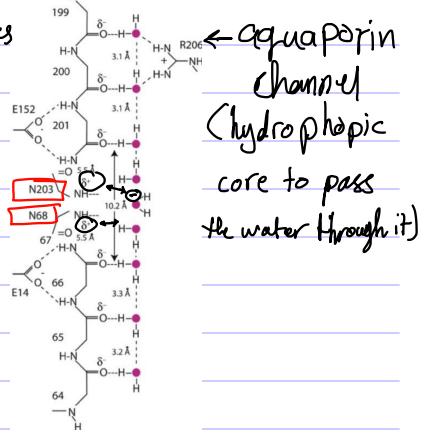
Selective permeability allows for separation and exchange of materials across the plasma membrane

Substances move across membranes by:

- 1) simple diffusion through the lipid bilayer;
- 2) simple diffusion through an aqueous, protein-lined channel;
- 3) diffusion facilitated by a protein transporter;
- 4) active transport, requires an energy-driven protein "pump" to move substances against a concentration gradient

\* 8.10: easy, just read it from slides

A pair of positive charged residues ( $\text{N}203$ ) & ( $\text{N}68$ ) attract the oxygen of each water molecule to prevent H-bonds.



\* 8.11, 8.12; 8.13: on slides