

# Physical Pharmacology

Chem.physics, math, molecular structure to understand the following:

## Drug and Drug-action-related Matter

- Drug substances , bio-molecules, phases, solutions, membranes, and body compartments

## Equilibria and Kinetics of Processes Associated with Drugs

- Crystallization, dissolution, diffusion, osmosis, effusion, permeation, state transitions, chemical and conformational transitions, dynamics, molecular binding and dissociation, elimination/accumulation

## Disciplines

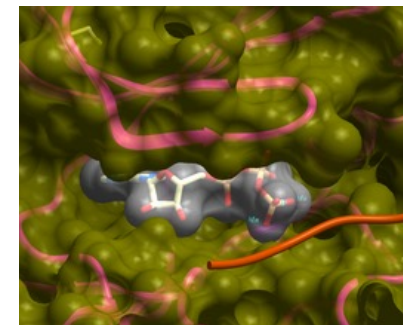
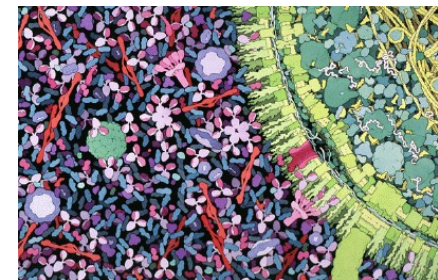
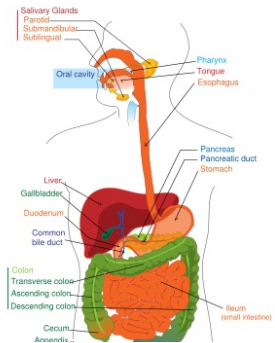
- Thermodynamics
- Kinetics
- Molecular Structure

*The Skaggs School of Pharmacy and  
Pharmaceutical Sciences*

*Ruben Abagyan, ©2023*

*Paul Jackson*

*Website: <http://ruben.ucsd.edu>*



# Learning Objectives

- Energy, Work, Pressure, Temperature, SI units, Gas Constant
- Tell from a drug structure *how many* molecules are in  $X$  g of substance, or in  $Y$  liters of gas
- Calculate a *kg-mass* of an individual drug molecule
- From molecular weight of a drug calculate at what *speed* a drug molecule is moving at any  $T$
- Memorize the Avogadro number and the Gas constant
- Memorize the formula for kinetic energy and energy per degree of freedom of a mole of molecules
- Figure out the *units* of the gas constant
- Tomorrow: Gas Law, Barometric formula

# Classifying and Naming Drugs

- **Therapeutic types** (physiological change), e.g.
  - Antihypertensive; Anticoagulants; ..
  - Antipsychotics; Hallucinogens; ..
- **Pharmacological types** (specific molecular mechanism of action), e.g.
  - Beta-adrenergic blockers; Calcium-channel blockers,..
- **Drug molecule type, size and properties**
- **Names: chemical** (e.g. (RS)-2-(4-(2-methylpropyl)phenyl)propanoic acid)
  - **generic** (e.g. Ibuprofen)
  - **brand name** (many), e.g. Advil, Motrin, .. Differences include:
    - Inactive ingredients; bioavailability; prices, ownership rights, etc.
- **Drug addiction/abuse potential, Controlled subst., Schedules:**
  - **I** (Heroin, LSD, marijuana, Ecstasy, ..) **II** (<15mg Hydrocodone, Fentanyl, Adderall, Ritalin)
  - **III** (<90mg of codeine, ketamine, testosterone, anabolic steroids)
  - **IV** (Xanax, Soma, Darvon, Darvocet, Valium, Ativan, Ambien, Tramadol,..)
  - **V** (limited quantities of narcotics, cough preparations, etc.)

# How big are drugs ? Physical Dimensions

SI unit for size: a meter

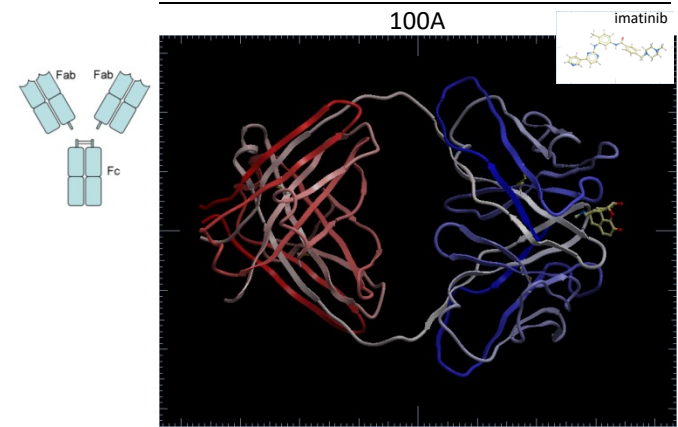
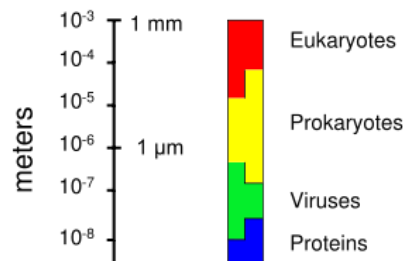
Ångströms and nanometers:

- **1Å = 10<sup>-10</sup> m** and **1nm = 10<sup>-9</sup> m = 10 Å**
- Interatomic distance **C-H ~ 1Å, C-C ~1.5Å**
- Small Drugs: from **5Å to 25Å** (PROTACs are larger)
- Drugs from natural products : up to **10Å - 35Å**
- Diameter of DNA : **20Å**
- Protein Drugs, antibodies, drug targets: **50Å to 100Å**
- Biological Membrane **60Å** with proteins up to **100Å**
- HIV virus ~ **1000Å = 100nm** ( 0.1 μm )

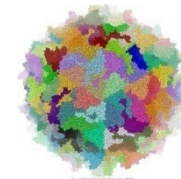
**Microns , μm = 10<sup>-6</sup>m:**

- Bacteria 1-10 μm visible in microscope
- Red Blood Cell ≡ nucleus of typical eukaryotic cell: 6-9 μm

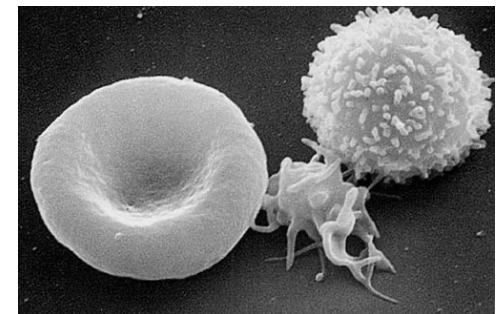
Anders Jonas Ångström  
1814-1874, measured  
wavelengths of light in  
Aurora Borealis spectra



Morphine ~ 5Å, Antibody Fab ~ 100Å



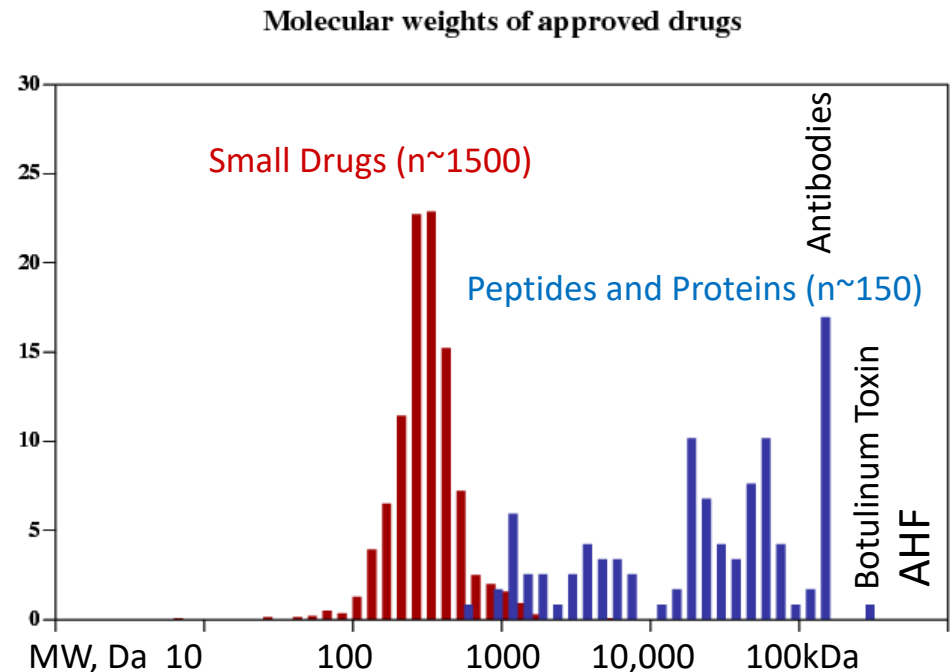
Poliovirus (x100)



2-3 x 10<sup>13</sup> erythrocytes in human body  
5-6K in 1mm<sup>3</sup> (4-11K white blood cells, 150-400K platelets)  
Each with 270 million hemoglobin molecules  
**7.5 to 8.7 μm in diameter and**  
**1.7 to 2.2 μm in thickness**

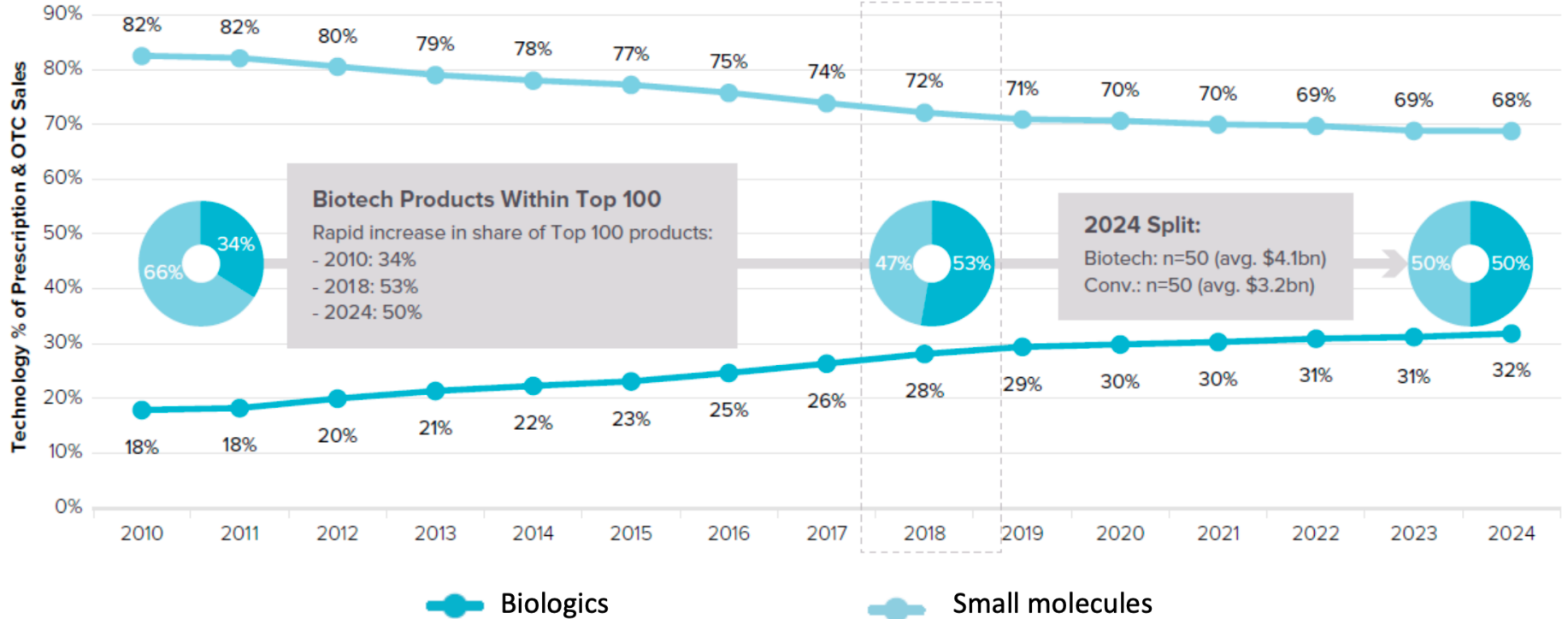
# Sizes of drugs by MW: the extremes

- The smallest drug is noble gas Xenon (**Xe**): just **one atom**, but relatively heavy (131Da, or 131g/mol). It is used as an anesthetic. **Lithium** is even smaller active ingredient.
- Nitrous Oxide, **N<sub>2</sub>O** (44 Da) is colorless gas, used for euphoria, sedation, pain relief. Inhaled.
- The largest single molecule drugs are proteins (~150 kDa for IgG). **Assemblies** may include viral (-like) or **nano particles**, . Human recombinant anti-hemophilic factor (AHF) or Factor VIII, 2332 residues, glycosylated, produced by insect cells



# Biologics (biopolymers) move up but are still a minority

## Worldwide Drug Sales: Biologics vs. Small molecule



Administration: Parenteral (IM, IV, SQ,..)

Cost: high

Credits: Anthony O'Donohue, 263A class

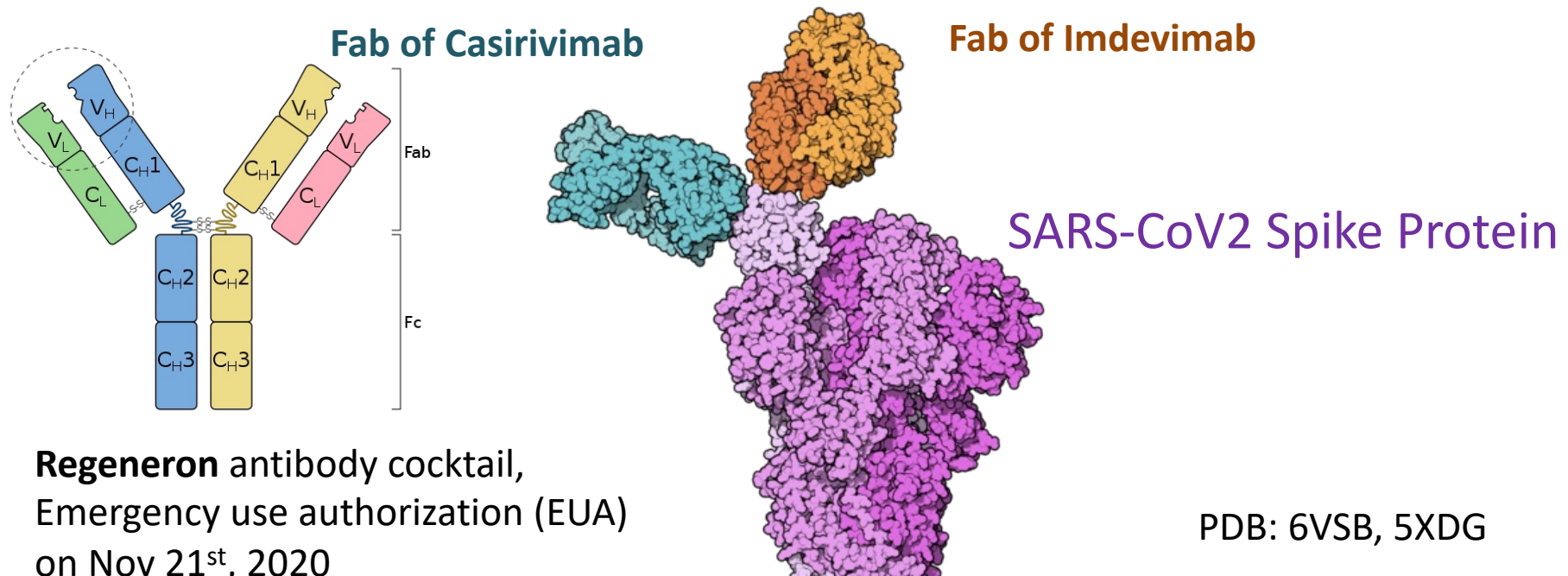
EvaluatePharma World Review 2019

EUAed Covid19 antibodies: Tixagevimab + Cilgavimab (EVUSHELD™), EUA

Previously EUAed: casirivimab plus imdevimab, sotrovimab, and bebtelovimab not active against Omicron subvariants

# Large Drugs: Spike Antibodies

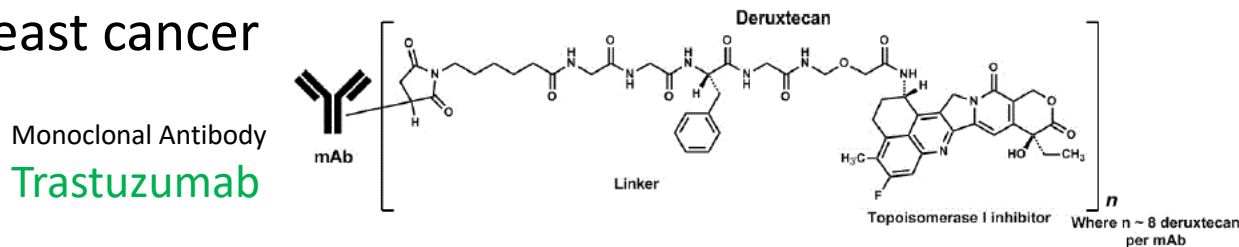
## Casirivimab + Imdevimab



# Large and New: Antibody-Drug conjugates and Vaccines

- Antibody-drug-conjugate (ADC)

Dec 2019: [Enhertu](#) : HER2-directed-ADC vs metastatic breast cancer



- Sars-CoV2 vaccines

- Pfizer (mRNA)
- Moderna (mRNA)
- CovonaVac (from Sinovac)
- ..

**Wisconsin pharmacist, 46, ruined hundreds of doses of Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine 'because he thought they were unsafe'**



Steven Brandenburg, 46, was arrested in Wisconsin last week following an investigation into the 57 spoiled vials of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine

Share 1.4k 227 comments 1 video

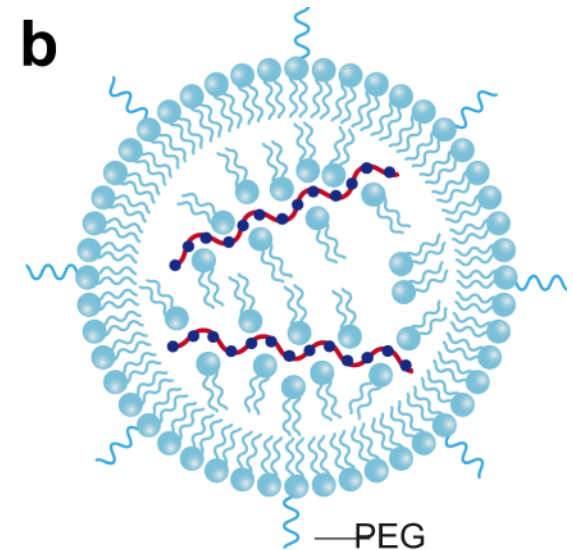
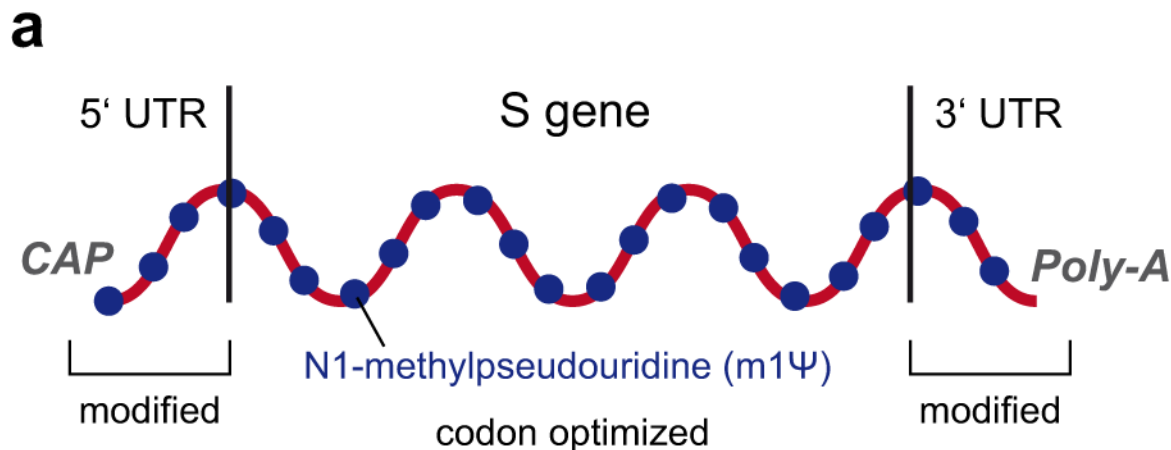
Ref: F.Krammer, Nature, 2020, SARS-CoV-2 vaccines in development



# Moderna and Pfizer Rna Vaccines in LipidNanoParticle

Composition: LNP of several lipids, PEG, RNA

Size: sub-micron, < 1 $\mu$ m



UTR—untranslated region. **b** Schematic of a lipidnanoparticle (LNP) used for delivery of mRNA vaccines. PEG—polyethyleneglycol

Credit: Heinz, F.X., Stiasny, K. Distinguishing features of current COVID-19 vaccines: knowns and unknowns of antigen presentation and modes of action. *npj Vaccines* 6, 104 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41541-021-00369-6>

# Drug Giants: Luxturna: Viral carrier + Gene

First FDA approved gene therapy:

Luxturna (Spark Therapeutics),  
a.k.a. **voretigene neparvovec-rzyl**

Disease class:

Inherited retinal dystrophies (IRDs)  
mutations in one of 220 genes  
one of frequent offenders: RPE65

Drug: Adeno Associated Virus 2 vector with  
RPE65 gene ( AAV2-RPE65 )

Approval: 2017, 27 out of 29 gained vision

Price tag: \$850,000 per one treatment

AAV2 virus: icosahedral (12v, 20 faces)

**60 proteins:** VP1,VP2, VP3,

Capsid MW: 3.9 Mdaltons (>300K C)

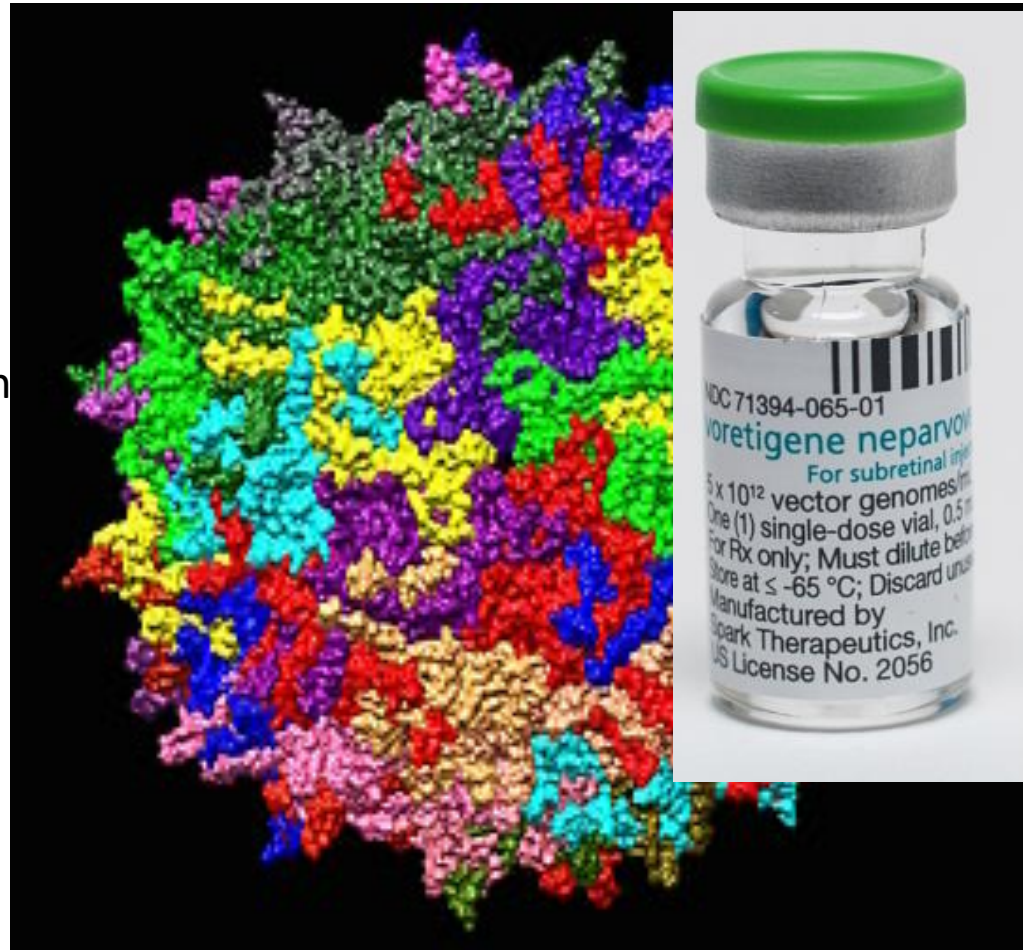
**Subretinal injection**

Also:

Kymriah/(tisagenlecleucel) 2017, CAR-T for leukemia:

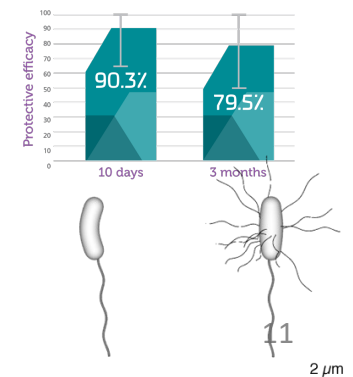
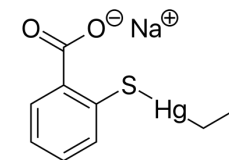
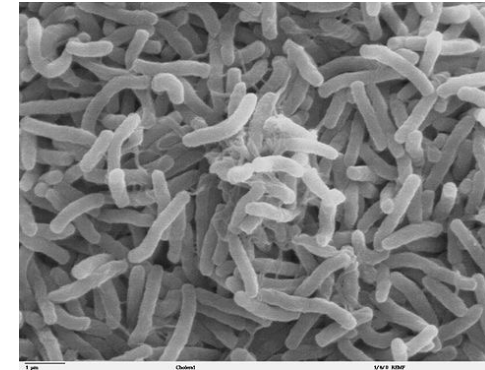
**Vaccines, Cell therapies, Crispr/CAS9** for gene editing,

Fecal Transplants, parasitic worms in helminthic therapies



# Large and Complex Pharmaceuticals: Cholera Vaccine (Vaxchora, FDA appr. 2016)

- Single-dose oral cholera vaccine
- Targets predominant *Vibrio cholerae* serogroup O1
- Makes an incomplete, nontoxic “toxin”.
- *V. Cholera* : ~4000 genes, DNA 4M base pairs
- Excipients in other vaccines (from CDC site)
  - flu/Afluria vaccine: beta-propiolactone, **thimerosal** (multi-dose vials), monobasic sodium phosphate, dibasic sodium phosphate, monobasic potassium phosphate, potassium chloride, calcium chloride, sodium taurodeoxycholate, neomycin sulfate, polymyxin B, egg protein, sucrose
  - MMRV (Measles, Mumps, Rubella, and Varicella) Vaccine: sucrose, hydrolyzed gelatin, sorbitol, monosodium L-glutamate, sodium phosphate dibasic, human albumin, sodium bicarbonate, potassium phosphate monobasic, potassium chloride, potassium phosphate dibasic, neomycin, bovine calf serum, chick embryo cell culture, WI-38 human diploid lung fibroblasts, MRC-5 cells



# How many molecules in 1 mole?

- **Avogadro number**  $N_A$  (rule of 6)  $\approx 2 \times 10^{23}$

$$6.022 \times 10^{23}$$

$$n_{\text{moles}} [\text{mol}] = \text{Mass} [\text{g}] / \text{MolWeight} [\text{g/mol}]$$

What contains  $N_A$  molecules?

- 1 mole of anything (tautology)
- 12g of carbon
- (*Molecular Weight in atomic units*) grams of any substance
- ~22.4 liters of any gas at 273.15K and 1atm

One mole of substance  $\equiv$  Avogadro number of substance molecules.



Amedeo Avogadro (1776-1856), Torino, Italy. Count of Quaregna and Cerreto

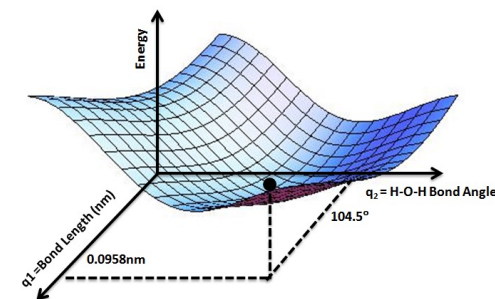
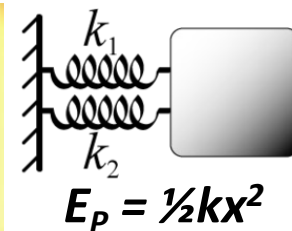
In 1811, hypothesized that equal volumes of gases contained equal number of molecules.  $N_A$  is a.k.a. Loschmidt's number. Josef Loschmidt and Jean Baptiste Jean Perrin gave increasingly accurate estimates of  $N_A$

# Energy : Main Entity in Physics and Chemistry

- **Ability of therapeutics to affect bio molecules is defined and guided by energy balance.**
- **Energy**  $\equiv$  capacity to do work
- The **kinetic energy**,  $E_k$  of a body is the energy the body of mass  $m$  possesses as a result of its *motion* at speed  $v$  is.

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

- The **potential energy**,  $E_p$ , is a result of its *position, composition or condition*. Drugs: **electrostatic energy, other interaction types,**
- Only energy ***difference*** makes physical sense. For that reason the position at which the potential energy is zero is arbitrary (e.g. infinite separation of two charges).

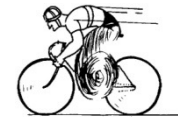


# Conservation of Energy

Kinetic Energy + Potential Energy  
Movement (K) + Position (P)

$$E_{total} = E_K + E_P$$

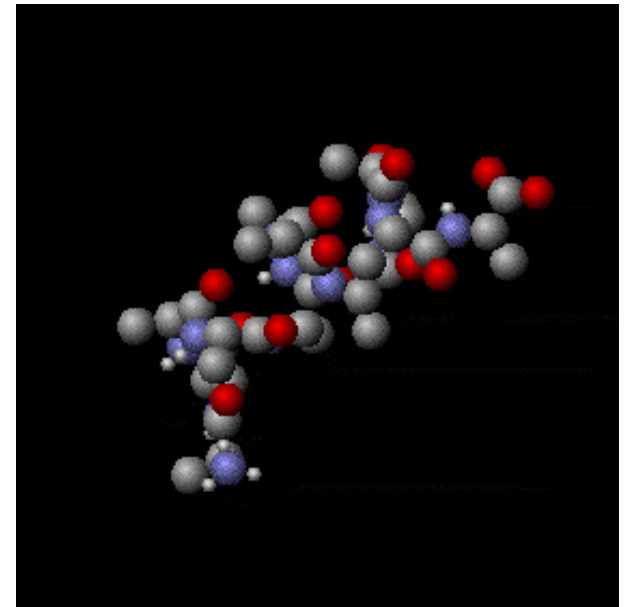
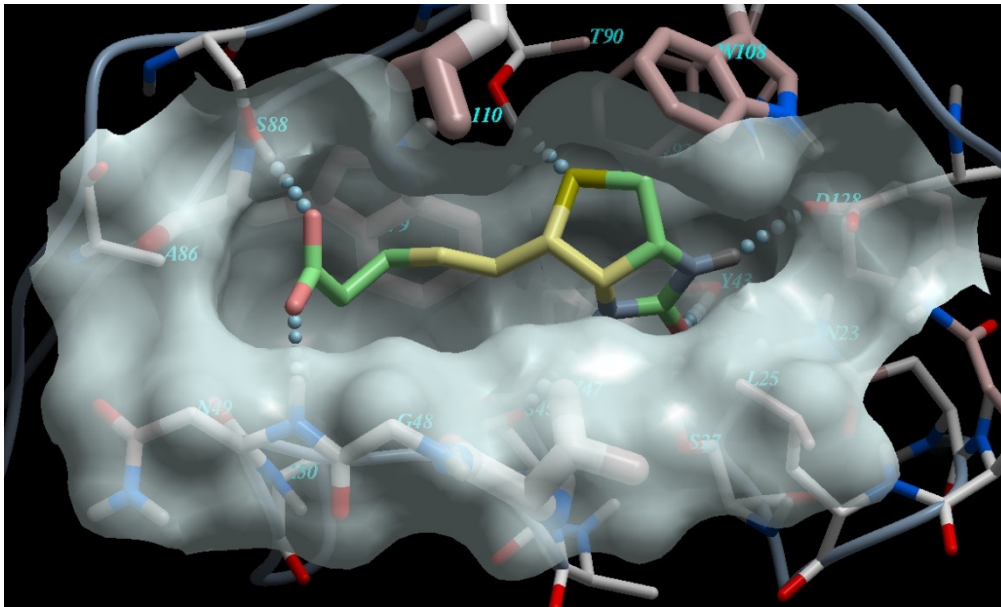
- **The total energy is conserved**
- The total energy can be changed  
**Work  $\equiv$  Force • Distance**
- What happens when a cannon ball is dropped ?
- **Temperature** is the average energy of random molecular movements per degree of freedom



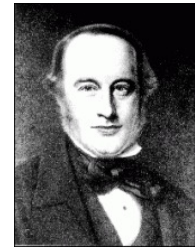
Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz  
1646-1716 , Germany,  
*vis viva* , living force,  
conservation of energy

# Seeking a minimum of energy

- Every *mechanical system with dissipation* seeks to achieve a **minimum** of potential energy within constraints



# Energy Units



**James Prescott Joule**

1818-1889

English physicist and brewer

- The SI units: kilogram, meter, second
- The SI unit for energy is **Joule**.

$$J = \text{kg m}^2 \text{ s}^{-2} \quad (E_K = \frac{1}{2}mv^2).$$

- **Calories** are also used as a measure of energy. One calorie is the energy needed to increase the temperature of 1 gram of water by 1° C.

$$1 \text{ cal} \approx 4.184 \text{ J}$$

$$1 \text{ kcal} \approx 4.184 \text{ kJ}$$

(beware of the food Calories!)

- **Electron-volts (eV):**

$$1 \text{ eV} = 1.602176565 \times 10^{-19} \text{ Joules}$$

**NUTRITION**

TYPICAL VALUES	PER 100 g SERVING (1/10 OF THE PACK)
Energy Value (Calories)	1480 kJ 350 kcal
Protein	9 g MEDIUM
Carbohydrate (of which Sugars)	76 g HIGH 0.4 g LOW
Fat (of which Saturates)	1 g LOW 0.3 g LOW
Fibre	1 g LOW
Sodium	Trace g LOW

**GUIDELINE DAILY AMOUNTS**

Each 100g serving provides 350 Calories, 1 gram of Fat and no Salt.  
Use the following table as a daily guideline:

Each Day	Women	Men
Calories	2000	2500
Fat	70g	95g
Salt	5g	7g

If you eat fewer or more Calories, adjust the Fat and Salt accordingly.



# Temperature : Energy Equipartition in thermal equilibrium

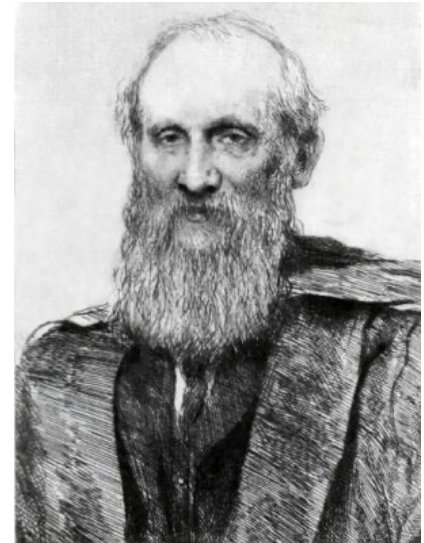
- Absolute temperature is a measure of energy per degree of freedom
- Every excited *degree of freedom* of one molecule in a mixture carries energy is proportional to the **Absolute** temperature ( Kelvin, K)

$$e_{DF} = \frac{1}{2} k_B T$$

- For  $N_A = 6 \cdot 10^{23}$  molecules,

$$E_{\text{mole\_of\_DF}} = \frac{1}{2} RT$$

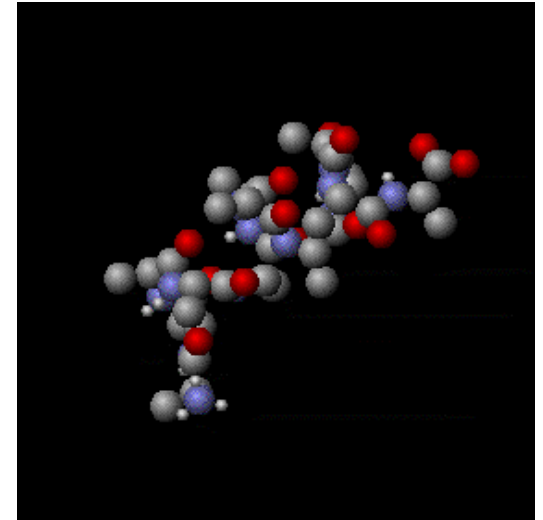
- R is the universal gas constant



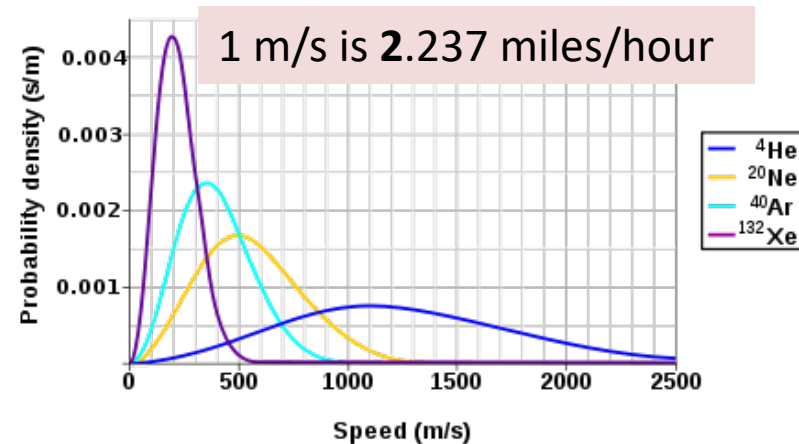
William Thomson, Lord Kelvin 1824-1907 UK  
In 1821 wrote "On an Absolute Thermometric Scale". Coined the term "thermodynamics"

# Counting Degrees of Freedom

- For Molecules in Gas:
  - External DF:  $6=3+3$ 
    - 3 one atom, 5 for linear
  - Internal: from 0 to  $3N_{\text{at}}-6$
- **Vibrations: One vibration = Two DFs**
  - Bond length
  - Bond angle
  - Torsion angle
- Vibrational DF may not be excited at room temperature
- More DFs are excited as temperature increases to reach a limit of  $3N$  potential and  $3N$  kinetic degrees of freedom in a crystal

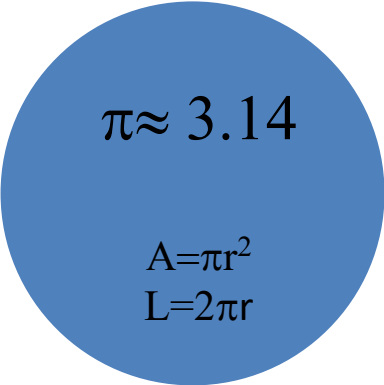


Maxwell-Boltzmann Molecular Speed Distribution for Noble Gases



# Gas Constant and Kinetic Energy of a Molecule

- $R = 8.314 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$



$\pi \approx 3.14$

- Mnemonic device:  $8.\pi$

$A = \pi r^2$   
 $L = 2\pi r$

- $R = 1.9872 \sim 2 \text{ cal K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$

- For 3 translational degrees of freedom of movement of one atom in a gas:

$$E_{\text{one atom in gas}} [\text{J}] = \frac{3}{2} k_B T = 2 \cdot 10^{-23} [\text{J/K}] T [\text{K}]$$

$$E_{\text{one mole}} [\text{J}] = \frac{3}{2} R T = (1.5 * 8.314) [\text{J/K}] T [\text{K}] \sim 13T$$

# Temperature units, $k_B$ and $R$

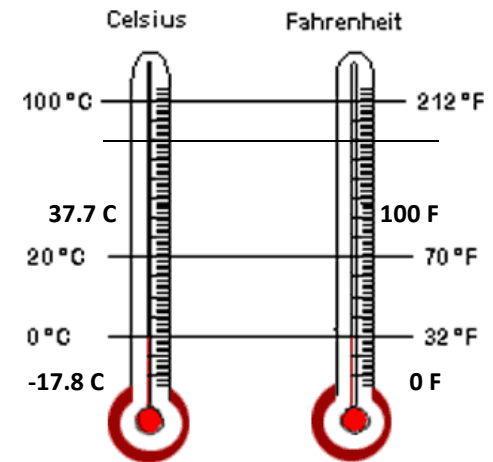
- **Kelvin (K):**  $273.15 + ^\circ\text{C}$
- **Celsius:**  $^\circ\text{C} = \text{K} - 273.15$   
(freezing and boiling temperatures of water are 0. and 100., body temperature  $36.6^\circ\text{C}$ )
- **Fahrenheit :**  $^\circ\text{F} = ^\circ\text{C} \cdot 1.8 + 32.$   
(human body temperature is 98.6, fever  $100^\circ\text{F}$ )
- We will work only in  $^\circ\text{C}$  and  $^\circ\text{K}$
- $k_B = 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$
- $R = k_B N_{\text{Avogadro}}$
- $R = 8.314 \text{ J/(K mol)}$



Anders Celsius, 1730

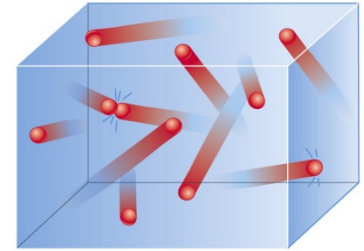


Daniel Gabriel Fahrenheit, 1724



# Temperature defines internal energy of molecules

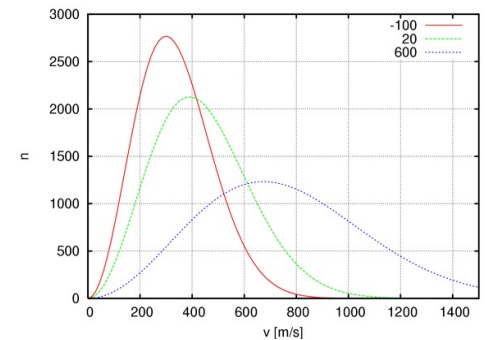
The mean energy of one mole of vibrations is  $R T_{\text{Kelvin}}$



**$RT$  at 300K**

**0.6 kcal/mol**

**2.5 kJ/mol**



$\frac{1}{2} RT$  – thermal energy (kinetic,potential) per mole of one degree of freedom

$RT$  – in drug binding (or rate) constants all energies are divided by  $RT$

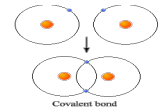
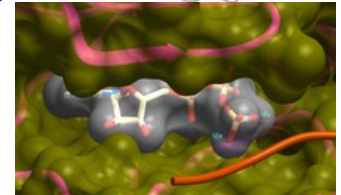
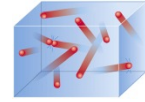
$3 (\frac{1}{2} RT)$  – thermal energy of translational movement of a molecule

# Energy Scale

All numbers are per mole= $N_A$  of particles  
"One" means "One mole of"

Energy in Joules or calories per mole of events

- 2.5 kJ      0.6 kcal      one vibration at 300K
- 20-30 kJ      5-10 kcal      Protein unfolding
- 40-60 kJ      10-15 kcal      nanomolar drug binding
- 160-320      40-80 kcal      visible light photons
- 300-700kJ      70-150kcal      breaking a chemical bond
- 510 M kJ      120 M kcal      alpha-particle. Polonium-210 has a half-life of 138 days and a decay alpha particle energy of 5.3 MeV.
- Reminder: 1 kcal : 1 kg of water by  $1^\circ$ , 1 bagel = 150 kc
- Energy of 1 particle is  $E/N_A$



Mr. Litvinenko dying from Polonium 210 poisoning

# SI and PChem Units

Unit	SI	Pharmacology	Comment
Length	m, Meter	Å, nm, μm, cm	
Temperature	K, Degree Kelvin	Celsius, K	Do not use F
Time	s, Second	s	
Mass	kg, kilogram	g = 10 <sup>-3</sup> kg, Da (Dalton), mg, μg	
Energy	J, Joule	kJ, kcal, Cal (?)	Do not use Cal
Substance	mole	mole	6.022 10 <sup>23</sup>
Volume	m <sup>3</sup>	L = 10 <sup>-3</sup> m <sup>3</sup> , mL,	

Volume	Linear Size	Mass of water
1 m <sup>3</sup> (SI)	1 m	1 tonne (metric ton): 1000 kg
1 L	10 cm	1 kg
1 mL	1 cm	1 g
1 μL	1 mm	1 mg

# Review

- SI units for length: meter
- Smaller units: Å, nm, μm
- Sizes of drugs, proteins, membrane, cells
- Mole, **Avogadro (6)**:  $N_A \sim 6 \cdot 10^{23}$
- Kinetic energy =  $\frac{1}{2} mv^2$
- Conservation of energy
- **Equipartition** & absolute T
- 1 mole (ie  $N_A$ ) of degrees of freedom carries  $\frac{1}{2} RT$ , (1 has  $\frac{1}{2}kT$ )
- Temperature:  $\frac{1}{2} mv^2 = \frac{3}{2} RT$
- Celsius (**273.15**) and Fahrenheit
- Energy units: J, cal, kcal, Cal, eV
- **Gas constant (8.π)** **8.314** JK<sup>-1</sup>mol<sup>-1</sup>
- Boltzmann constant ( $R/N_A$ )
- **RT** at room temperature **0.6kcal/mol & 2.5 kJ/mol**
- Energies of drug binding, photon, unfolding
- 1 calorie = 4.184 Joules