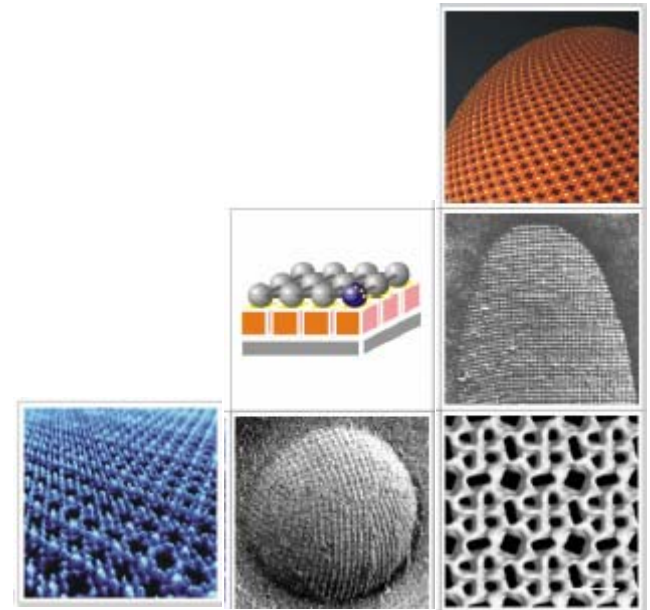


Drug delivery

Protein based
Drug delivery systems

S-layer proteins as basic building blocks in a biomolecular construction kit



Outline

- Development of a (bio)molecular construction kit
- Description of S-layer proteins (basic principles)
- S-layers as nano-scale patterning elements for life- and non- life science applications (selected examples)

Which are the basic building blocks in a biomolecular construction kit

- Biological molecules (e.g. Proteins, Lipids, Glycans, Nucleic acids)
- Chemically or Genetically Modified Molecules
- Chemically Synthesized Molecules

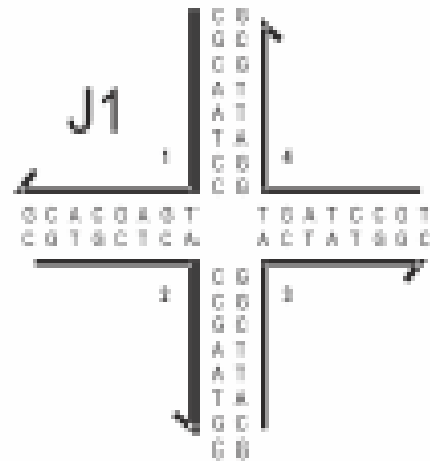
Key capabilities

- Self-assemble
- Molecular recognition
- Adaptable and evolved structure & function
- Dynamic structures

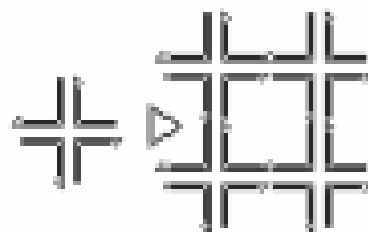
Basic Structures (Patterning Elements) for Generating Complex Supramolecular Structures

- DNA
- Monomolecular crystalline bacterial cell surface layers (S-layers)

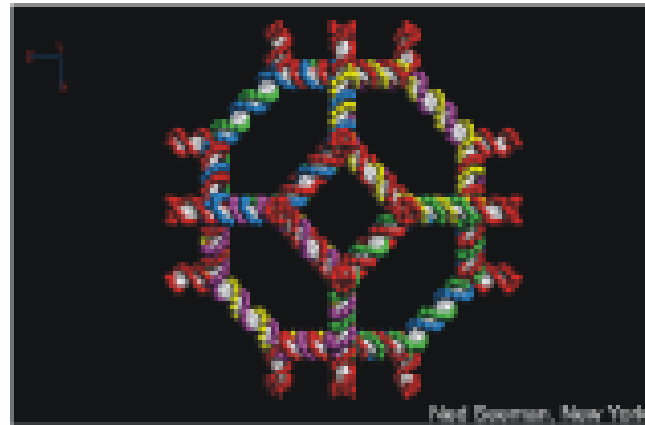
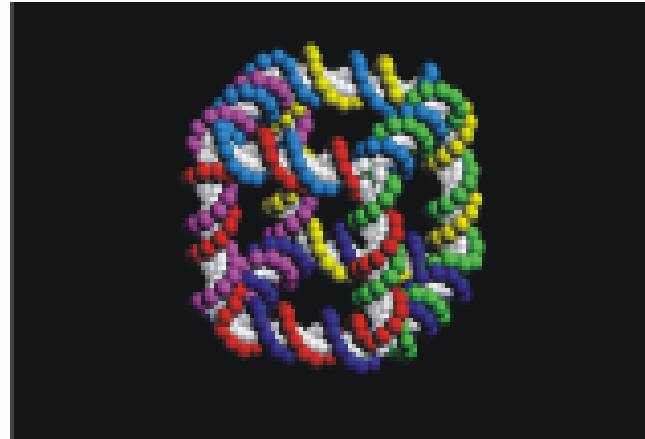
Nanoscale Assembly and Manipulation of Branched DNA (Ned Seeman, NY University)



basic structure: junction J1



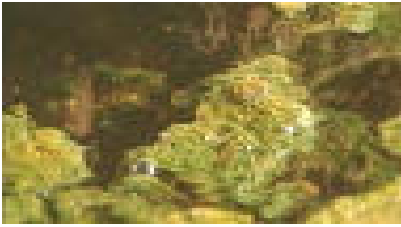
main features of "nanoscale assembly"





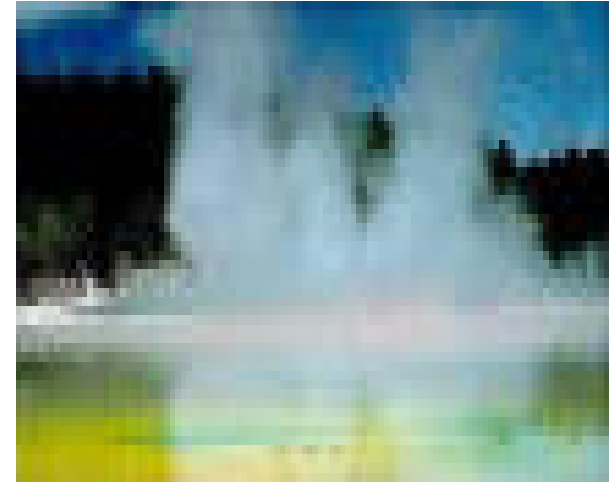
EXTREMOPHILES

NATURE'S ULTIMATE SURVIVORS

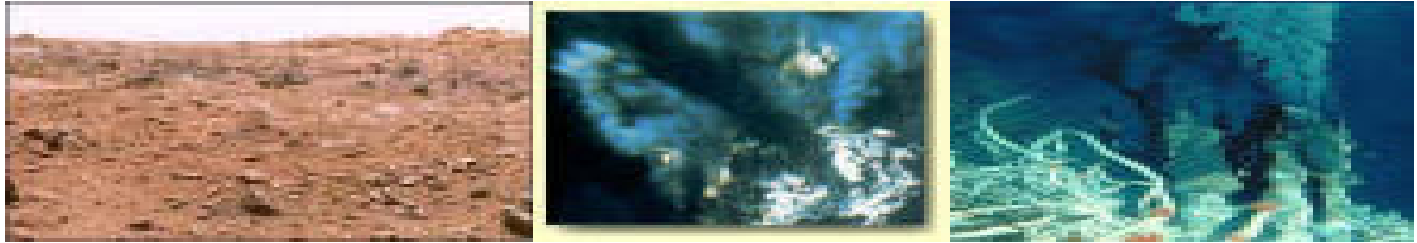


EXTREMOPHILES

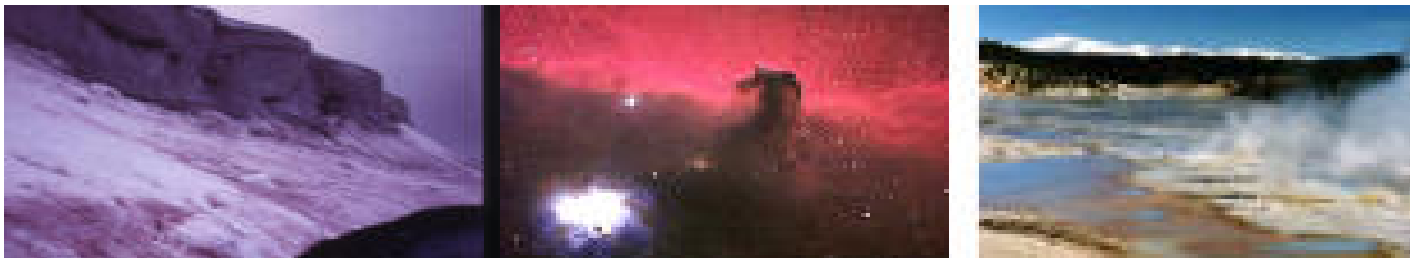
- I. What are they?
- II. Types of Extremophiles
- III. Extreme Prokaryotes
- IV. Extreme Eukaryotes
- V. Extreme Viruses
- VI. Evolution of Extremophiles
- VII. Biotechnological Uses
- VIII. Industrial Uses
- IX. Extraterrestrial Extremophiles?



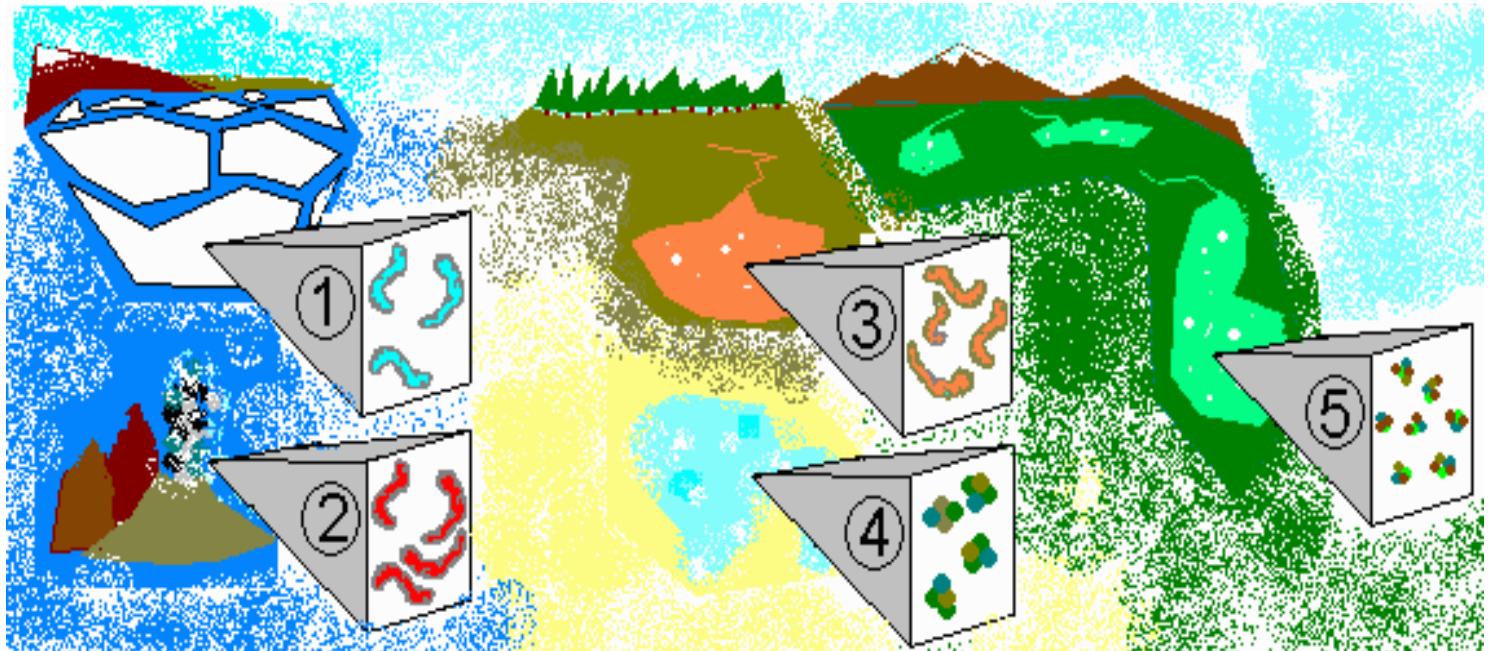
What are Extremophiles?



Extremophiles are microorganisms— whether viruses, prokaryotes, or eukaryotes— that survive under harsh environmental conditions that can include atypical temperature, pH, salinity, pressure, nutrient, oxic, water, and radiation levels



Types of Extremophiles



1) Psychrophiles

Microbes that live in cold environments like sea ice and the arctic and antarctic ice packs.

2) Thermophiles

Microbes that live in very hot environments like deep sea vents and volcanic lakes.

3) Alkaliphiles

Microbes that live in basic environments like soda lakes.

4) Halophiles

Microbes that live in very salty environments like salt lakes and salt mines.

5) Acidophiles

Microbes that live in acidic environments like sulphur springs.

Types of Extremophiles

Other types include:

- **Barophiles** -survive under high pressure levels, especially in deep sea vents
- **Osmophiles** –survive in high sugar environments
- **Xerophiles** -survive in hot deserts where water is scarce
- **Anaerobes** -survive in habitats lacking oxygen
- **Microaerophiles** -survive under low-oxygen conditions only
- **Endoliths** –dwell in rocks and caves
- **Toxitolerants** -organisms able to withstand high levels of damaging agents. For example, living in water saturated with benzene, or in the water-core of a nuclear reactor



Environmental Requirements

EXTREMOPHILES



-20 °C

Physical
Temperature

50 °C



115 °C

Eukaryotes

Psychrophiles

Mesophiles

Thermophiles

Hyperthermophiles



-3

0

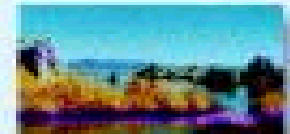
3

6

9

12

Chemical
pH



Eukaryotes

Extreme Acidophiles

Acidophiles

Neutralophiles

Alkalophiles

Surviving the Extremes

Extremophiles Can Survive:

- 113 to 200 °C
- - 15 °C
- pH < 0.0
- pH > 11
- 1200 atmospheres
- 0% oxygen
- 20-40 million years dormancy
- 2 1/2 years in space, etc.

EXTREME PROKARYOTES

Hyperthermophiles

HYPERTHERMOPHILES at
the base of the tree of Life

Eubacteria:

Aquifex pyrophilus 85° C

Thermotoga maritima 80° C

Archaeobacteria:

Acidianus infernus 88° C

Pyrodictium abyssi 105° C

Pyrococcus furiosus 100° C

DATA FROM STETTER (1994)

-Members of
domains Bacteria
and Archaea

-Held by many
scientists to have
been the earliest
organisms

-Early earth was
excessively hot,
so these
organisms would
have been able to
survive

Morphology of Hyperthermophiles

- Heat stable proteins that have more hydrophobic interiors, which prevents unfolding or denaturation at higher temperatures
- Have chaperonin proteins that maintain folding
- Monolayer membranes of dibiphytanyl tetraethers, consisting of saturated fatty acids which confer rigidity, preventing them from being degraded in high temperatures
- Have a variety of DNA-preserving substances that reduce mutations and damage to nucleic acids, such as reverse DNA gyrase and Sac7d
- They can live without sunlight or organic carbon as food, and instead survive on sulfur, hydrogen, and other materials that other organisms cannot metabolize

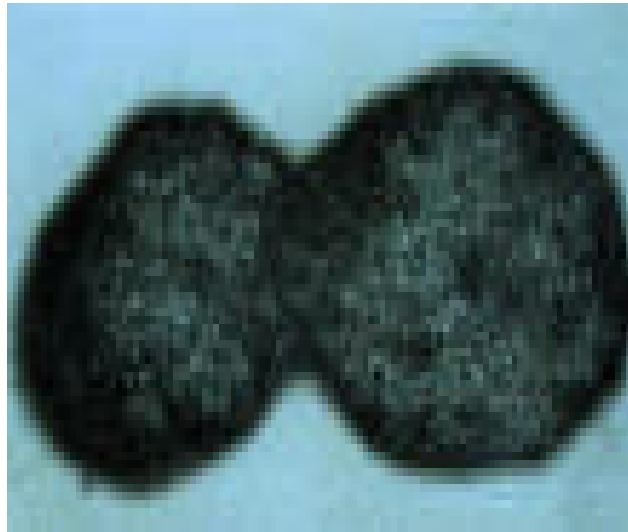


The red on these rocks is produced by *Sulfolobus solfataricus*, near Naples, Italy

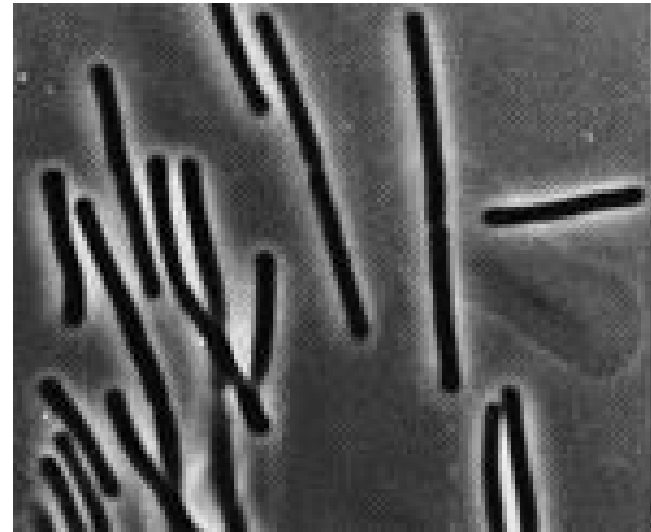
Some Hyperthermophiles



Frequent habitats include volcanic vents and hot springs, as in the image to the left



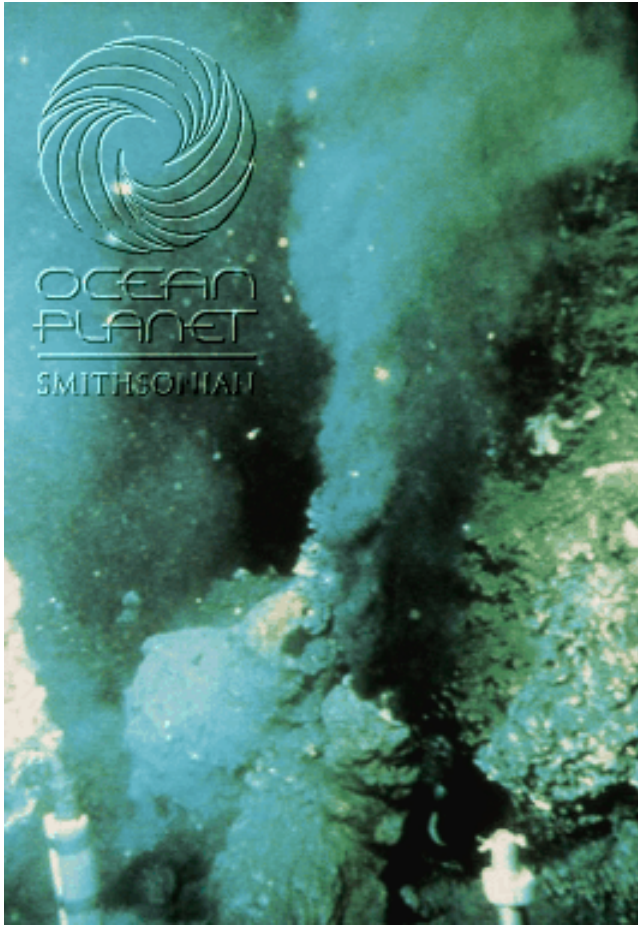
Pyrococcus abyssi 1 μ m



Thermus aquaticus 1 μ m



Deep Sea Extremophiles



The **deep-sea floor** and **hydrothermal vents** involve the following conditions:

low temperatures (2-3° C) – where only **psychrophiles** are present

low nutrient levels – where only **oligotrophs** present

high pressures – which increase at the rate of 1 atm for every 10 meters in depth (as we have learned, increased pressure leads to decreased enzyme-substrate binding)

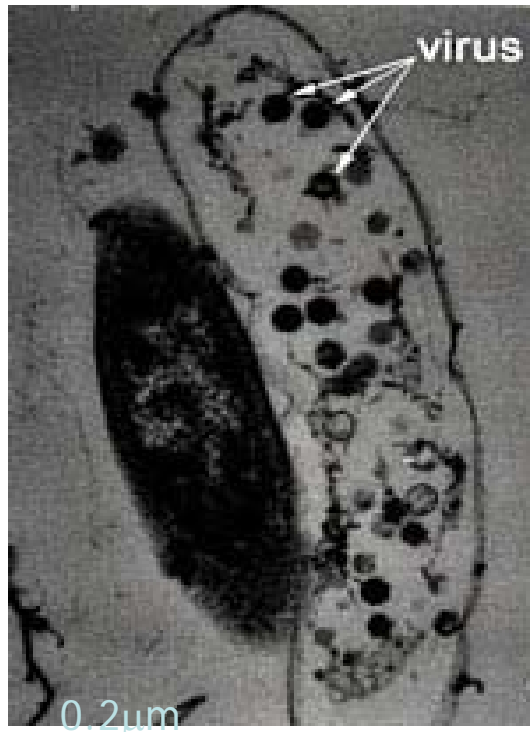
barotolerant microorganisms live at 1000-4000 meters

barophilic microorganisms live at depths greater than 4000 meters

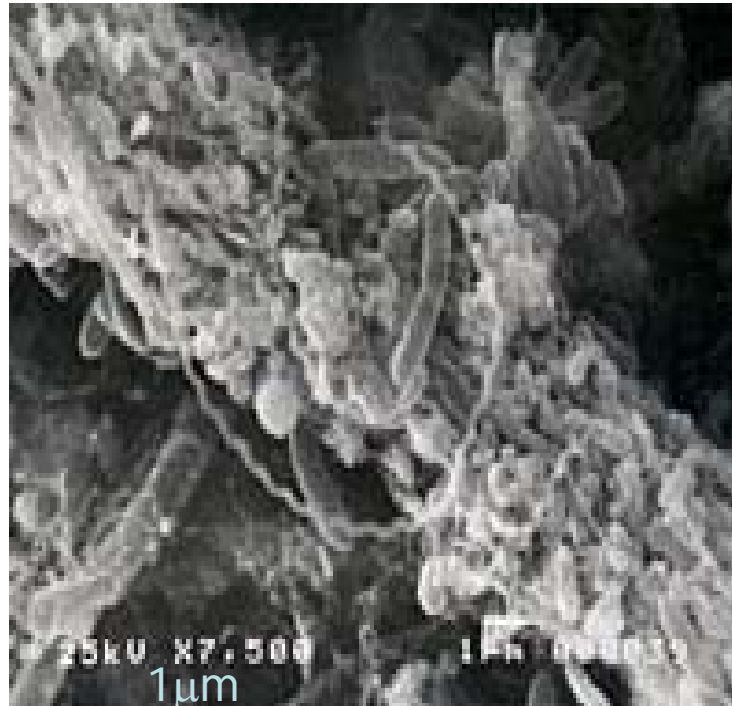
A **black smoker**, a submarine hot spring, which can reach 518- 716°F (270-380°C)



Extremophiles of Hydrothermal Vents



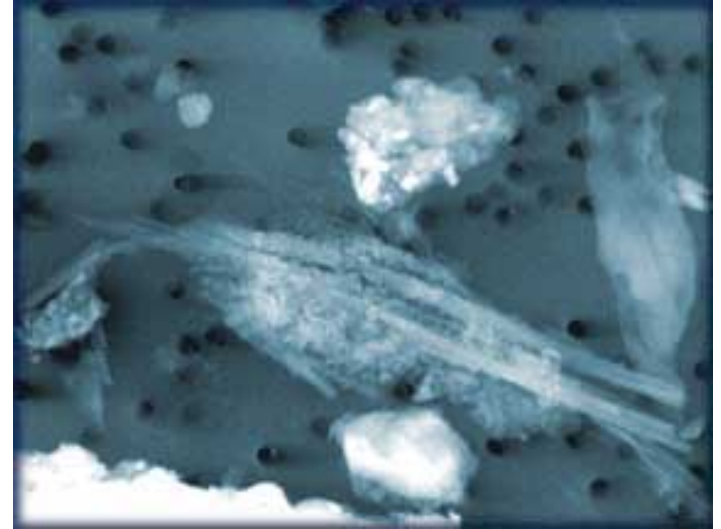
A cross-section of a bacterium isolated from a vent. Often such bacteria are filled with viral particles which are abundant in hydrothermal vents



A bacterial community from a deep-sea hydrothermal vent near the Azores

Natural springs which vent warm or hot water on the sea floor near mid-ocean ridges. Associated with the spreading of the earth's crust. High temperatures and pressures

Psychrophiles



Some microorganisms thrive in temperatures well below the freezing point of water, such as in Antarctica

Some researchers believe that psychrophiles live in conditions mirroring those found on Mars



Psychrophiles possess:



-proteins rich in α -helices and polar groups which allow for greater flexibility

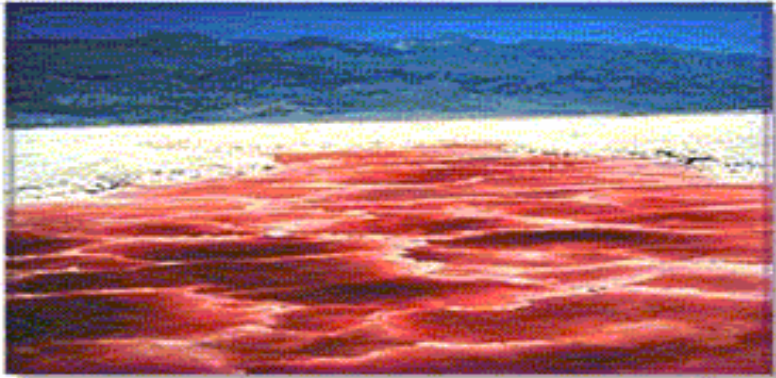
-“antifreeze proteins” that maintain liquid intracellular conditions by lowering freezing points of other biomolecules

-membranes that are more fluid, containing unsaturated *cis*-fatty acids which help to prevent freezing

-active transport at lower temperatures



Halophiles



The vivid red brine (teeming with halophilic archaeobacteria) of Owens Lake contrasts sharply with the gleaming white deposits of soda ash (sodium carbonate). The picturesque Inyo Range can be seen in the distance.



-Divided into mild (1-6%NaCl), moderate (6-15%NaCl), and extreme (15-30%NaCl)

-Halophiles are mostly obligate aerobic archaea

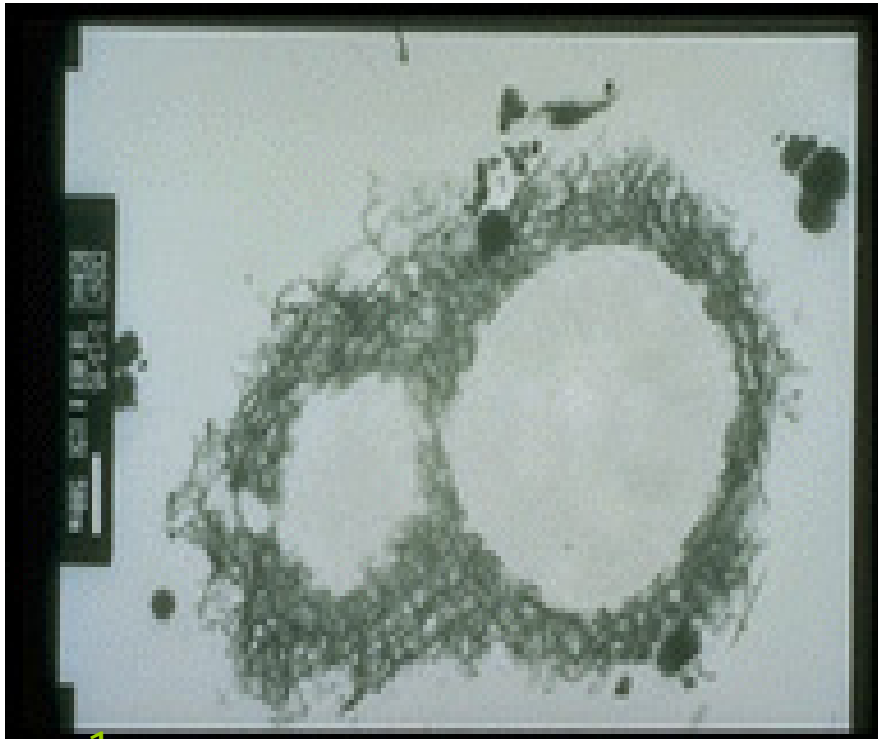
How do halophiles survive high salt concentrations?

-by interacting more strongly with water such as using more negatively charged amino acids in key structures

-by making many small proteins inside the cell, and these, then, compete for the water

-and by accumulating high levels of salt in the cell in order to outweigh the salt outside

Barophiles



1 μm

A sample of barophilic bacteria from the earth's interior

-Survive under levels of pressure that are otherwise lethal to other organisms

-Usually found deep in the earth, in the deep sea, hydrothermal vents, etc

-scientists believe that barophiles may be able to survive on the Moon and other places in space

Xerophiles

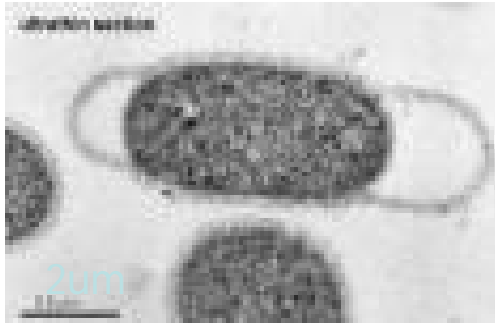


Extremophiles which live in water-scarce habitats, such as deserts

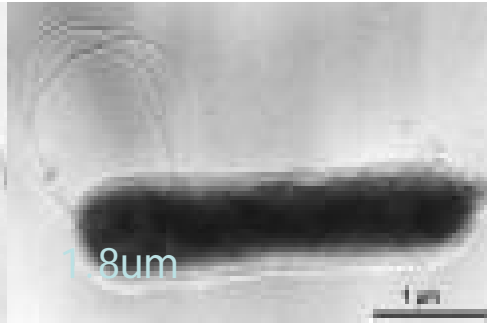
Produce **desert varnish** as seen in the image to the left

Desert varnish is a thin coating of Mn, Fe, and clay on the surface of desert rocks, formed by colonies of bacteria living on the rock surface for thousands of years

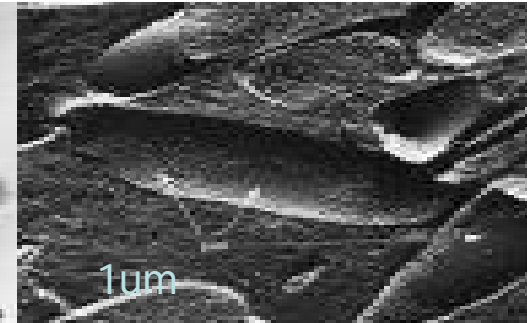
SOME COMMON GENERA OF PROKARYOTE EXTREMOPHILES



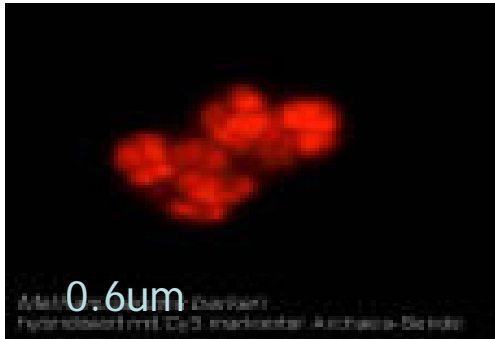
Thermotoga



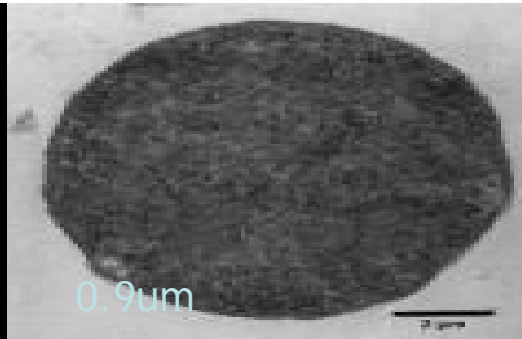
Aquifex



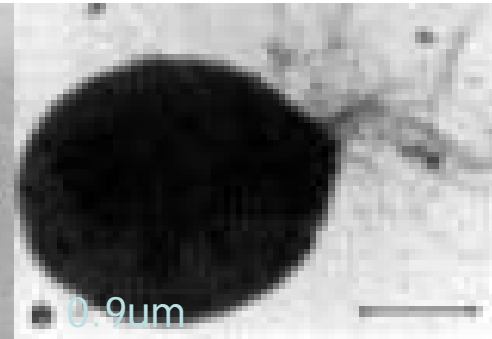
Halobacterium



Methanosarcina



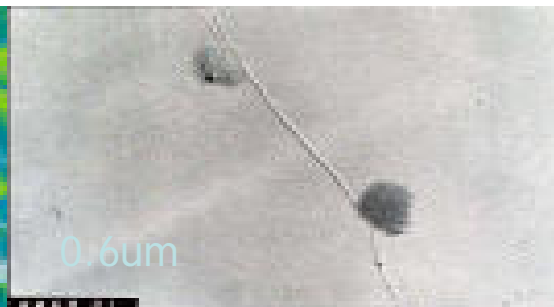
Thermoplasma



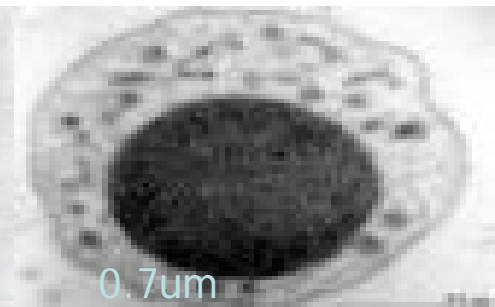
Thermococcus



Thermoproteus



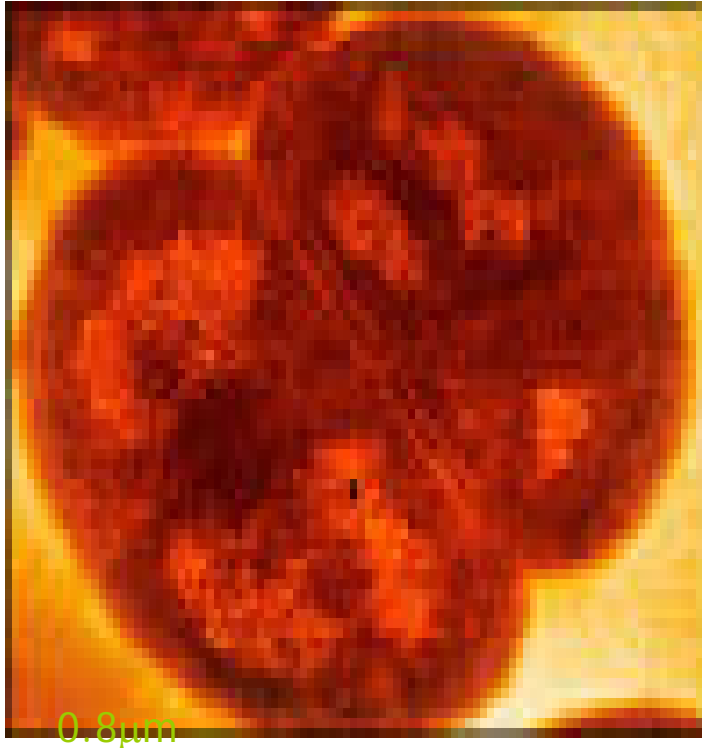
Pyrodictium



Ignicoccus

Deinococcus radiodurans

The Radiation Resistor



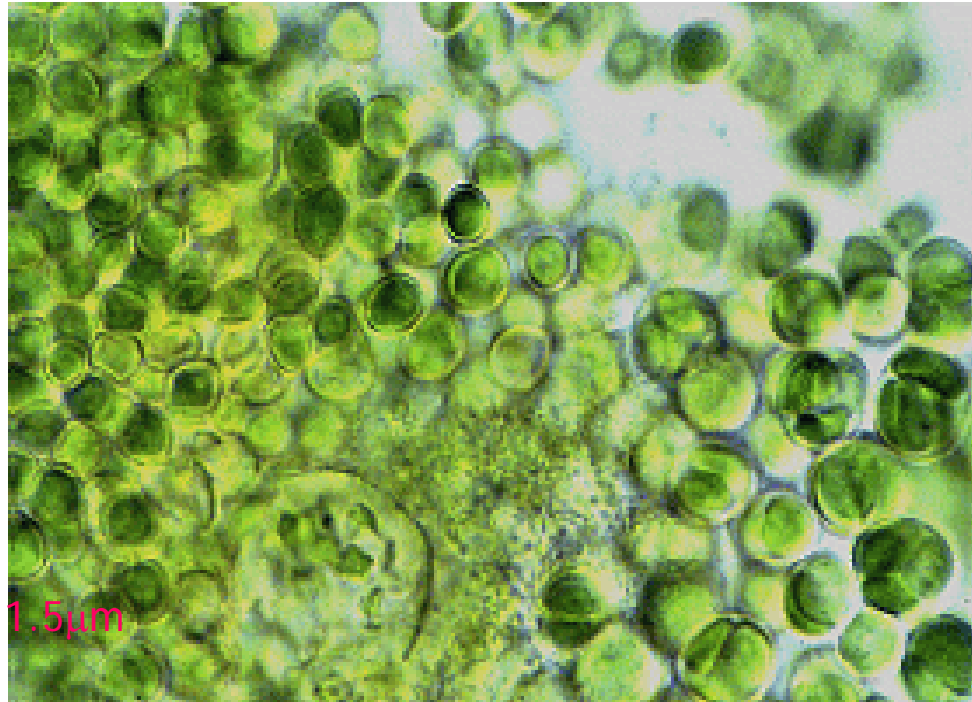
- Possesses extreme resistance to up to 4 million rad of radiation, genotoxic chemicals (those that harm DNA), oxidative damage from peroxides/superoxides, high levels of ionizing and ultraviolet radiation, and dehydration

- It has from four to ten DNA molecules compared to only one for most other bacteria

- Contains many DNA repair enzymes, such as RecA, which matches the shattered pieces of DNA and splices them back together. During these repairs, cell-building activities are shut off and the broken DNA pieces are kept in place

Chroococcidiopsis

The Cosmopolitan Extremophile



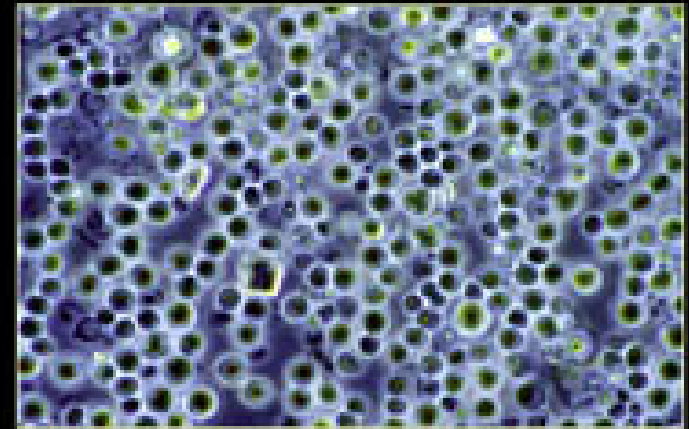
-A cyanobacteria which can survive in a variety of harsh environments, such as hot springs, hypersaline habitats, hot, arid deserts throughout the world, and in the frigid Ross Desert in Antarctica

-Possesses a variety of enzymes which assist in such adaptation

EXTREME EUKARYOTES

THERMOPHILES/ACIDOPHILES

Cyanidium caldarium



2 μ m

Cyanidium is a genus of red algae. This species is acidophilic and thermotolerant. Note that where the stream is cooler to the right, Zygonium dominates.



EXTREME EUKARYOTES

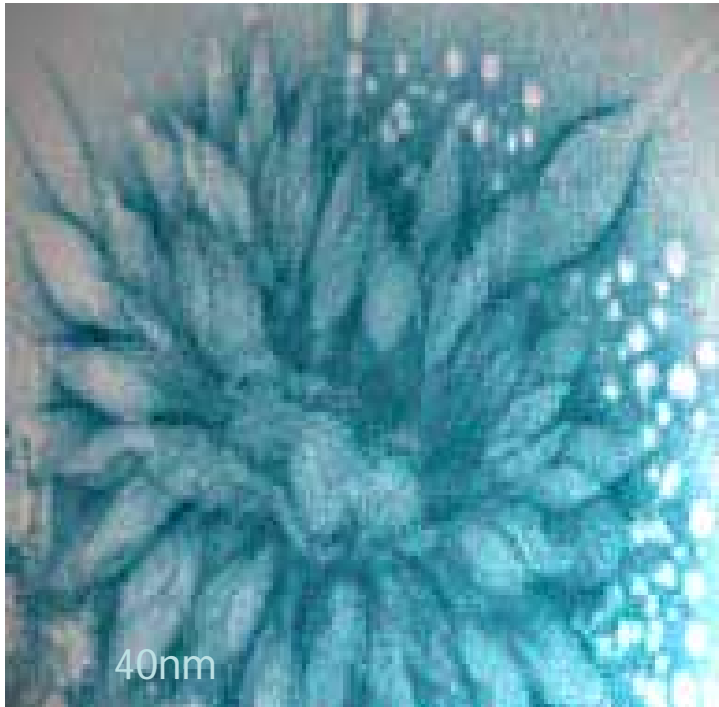
ENDOLITHS



Quartzite from Johnson Canyon, California. Sample shows green bands of endolithic algae. Rock is 9.5 cm wide

- Endoliths (also called hypoliths) are usually algae, but can also be prokaryotic cyanobacteria, that exist within rocks and caves
- Often are exposed to anoxic (no oxygen) and anhydric (no water) environments

EXTREME VIRUSES



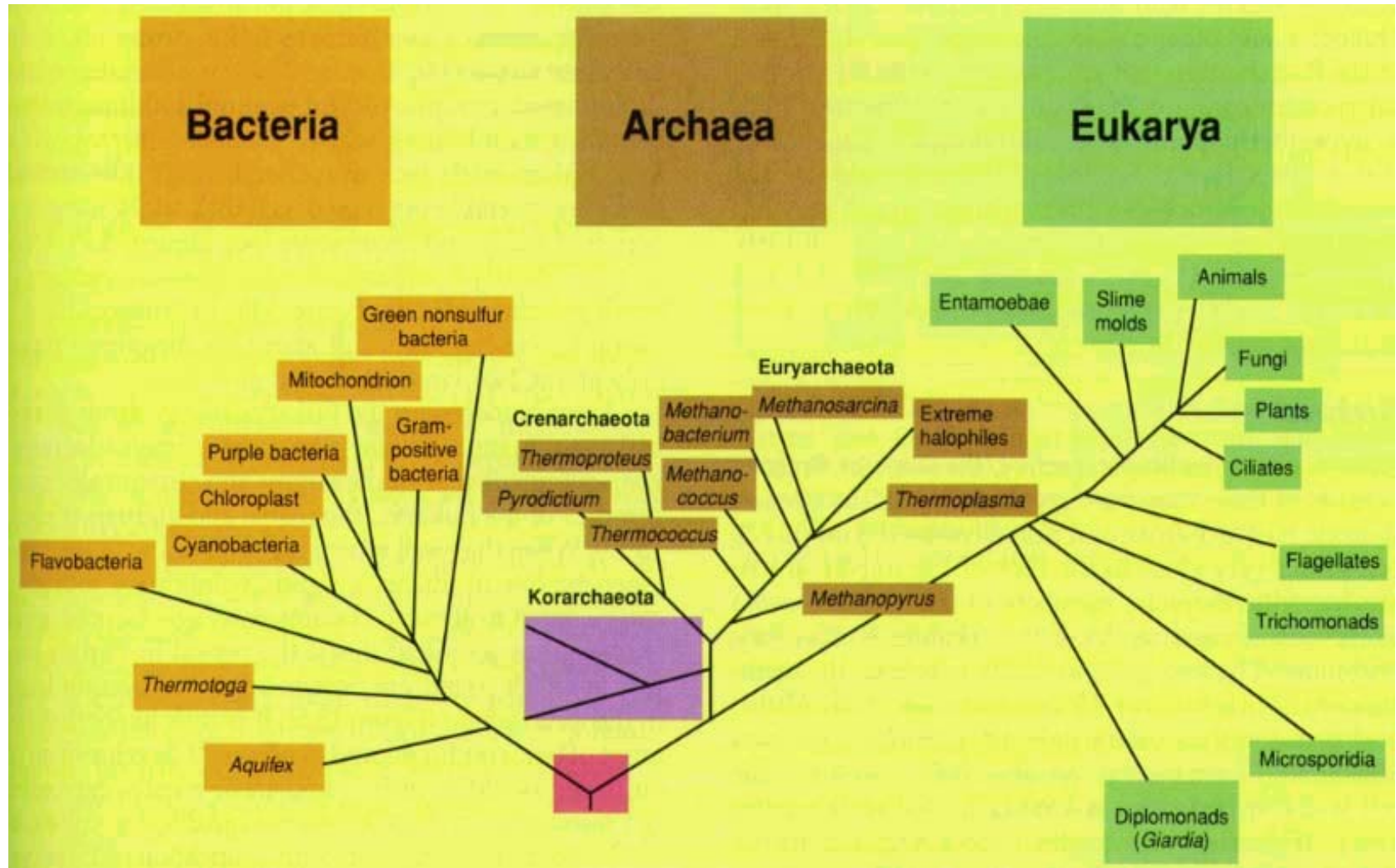
**Virus-like particles
isolated from the extreme
environment of
Yellowstone National Park
hot springs**

**Viruses are currently being
isolated from habitats where
temperatures exceed 90°C**

**Instead of the usual
icosahedral or rod-shaped
capsids that known viruses
possess, researchers have
found viruses with novel
propeller-like structures**

**These extreme viruses often
live in hyperthermophile
prokaryotes such as
*Sulfolobus***

CLASSIFICATION OF EXTREMOPHILES

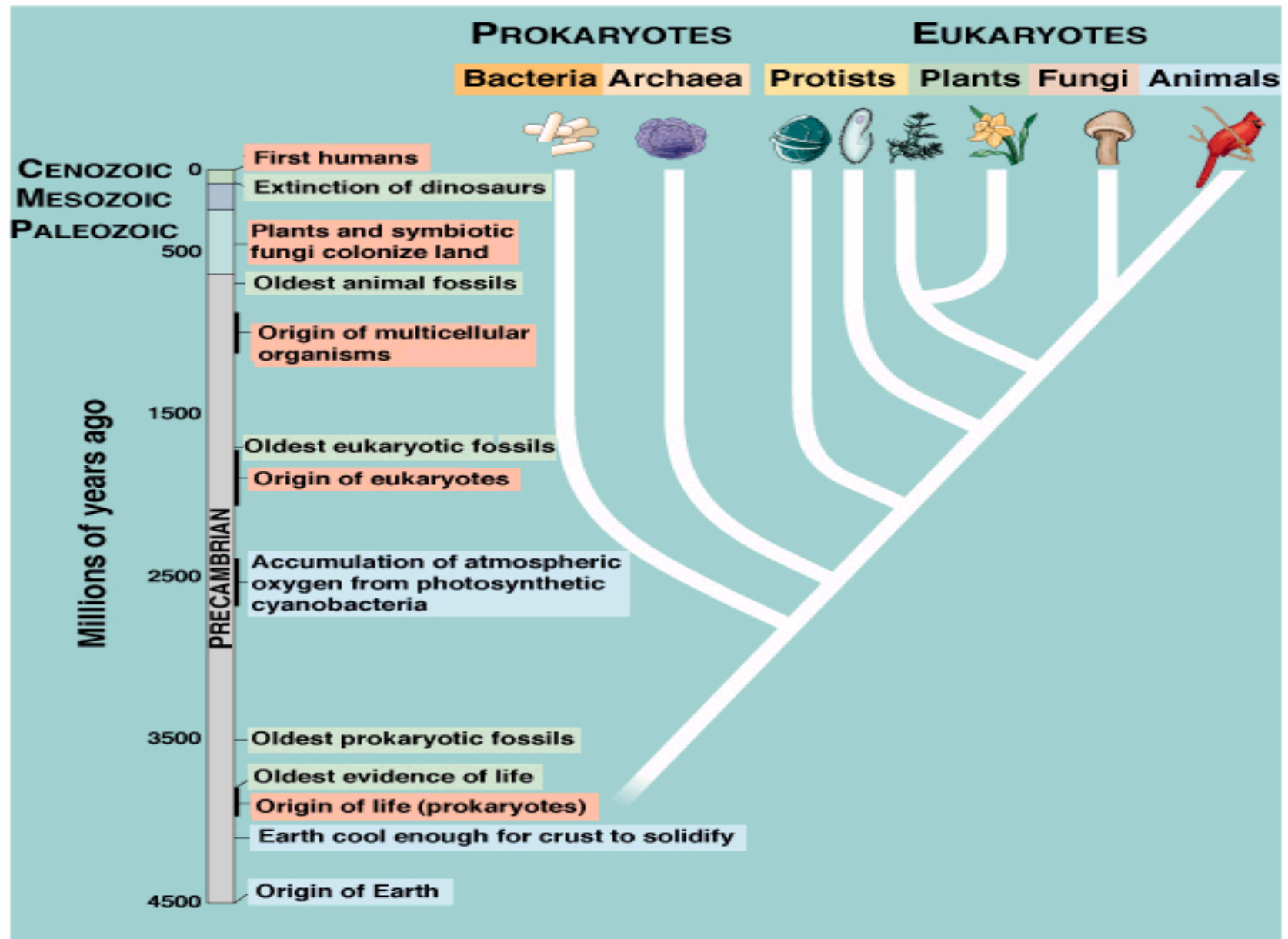


Extremophiles are present among Bacteria, form the majority of Archaea, and also a few among the Eukarya

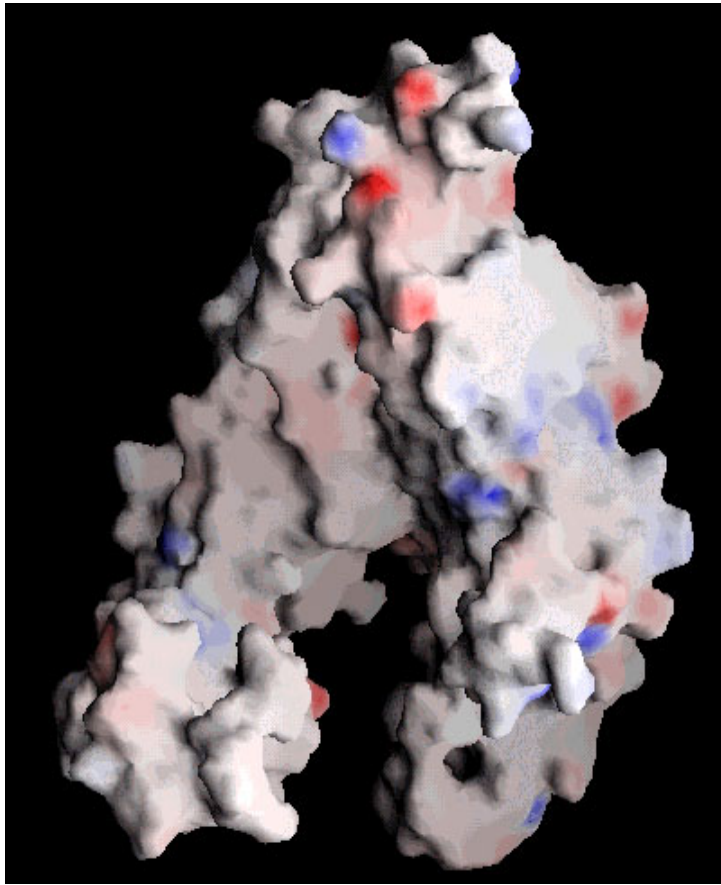
PHYLOGENETIC RELATIONSHIPS

- Members of Domain **Bacteria** (such as *Aquifex* and *Thermotoga*) that are closer to the root of the “tree of life” tend to be hyperthermophilic extremophiles
- The Domain **Archaea** contain a multitude of extremophilic species:
 - Phylum **Euryarchaeota**-consists of methanogens and extreme halophiles
 - Phylum **Crenarchaeota**-consists of thermoacidophiles, which are extremophiles that live in hot, sulfur-rich, and acidic solfatara springs
 - Phylum **Korarchaeota**-new phylum of yet uncultured archaea near the root of the Archaea branch, all are hyperthermophiles
- Most extremophilic members of the Domain **Eukarya** are red and green algae

Chronology of Life



Taq Polymerase

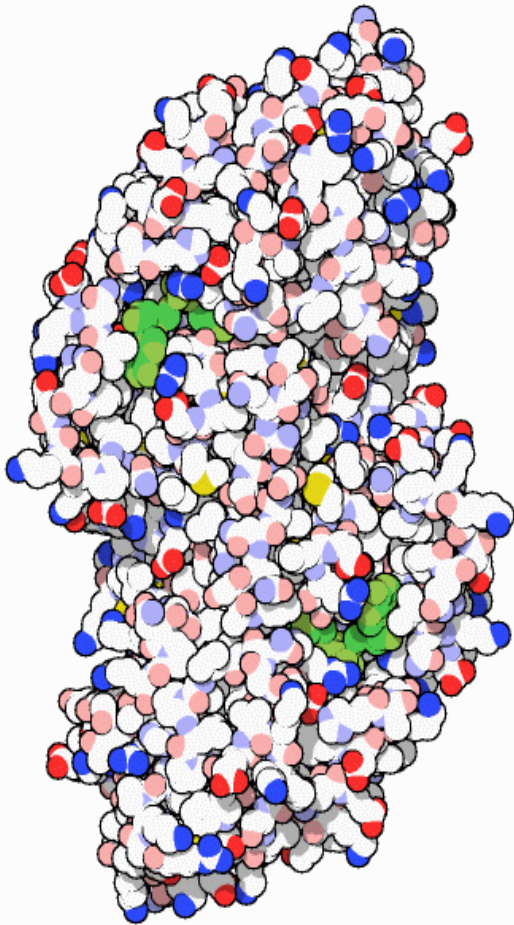


Isolated from the hyperthermophile *Thermus aquaticus*

Much more heat stable

Used as the DNA polymerase in the very useful Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) technique which amplifies DNA samples

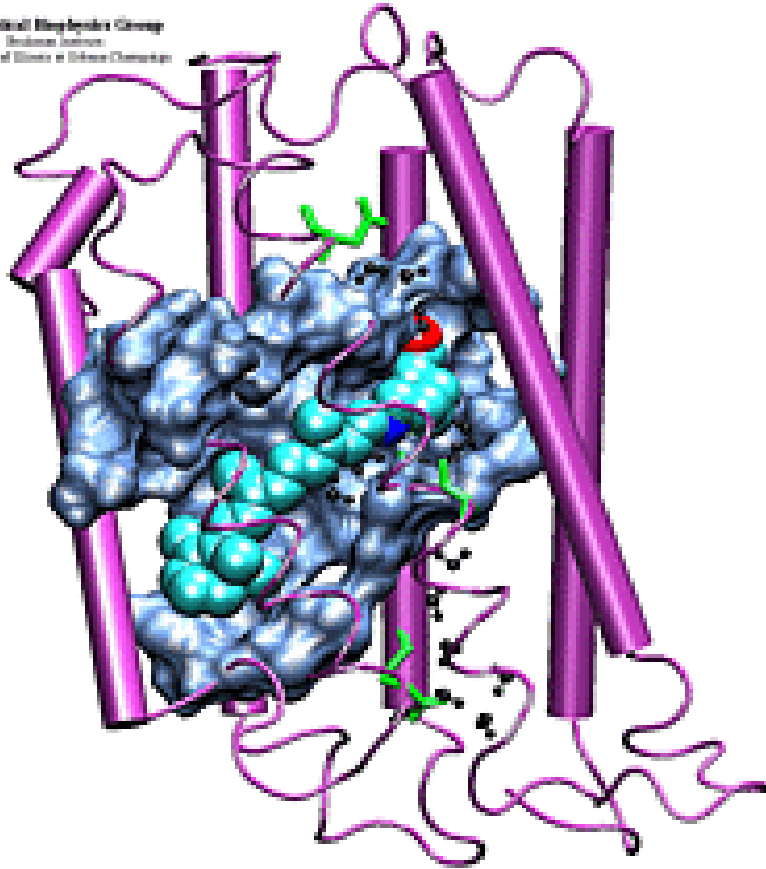
Alcohol Dehydrogenase



- Alcohol dehydrogenase (ADH), is derived from a member of the archaea called *Sulfolobus solfataricus*
- It works under some of nature's harshest volcanic conditions: It can survive to 88°C (190°F) - nearly boiling - and corrosive acid conditions (pH=3.5) approaching the sulfuric acid found in a car battery (pH=2)
- ADH catalyzes the conversion of alcohols and has considerable potential for biotechnology applications due to its stability under these extreme conditions

Bacteriorhodopsin

Theoretical Biophysics Group
Rudolf Peierls
University of Oxford & Oxford Chemistry



-Bacteriorhodopsin is a trans-membrane protein found in the cellular membrane of *Halobacterium salinarium*, which functions as a light-driven proton pump

-Can be used for electrical generation

CONCLUSIONS

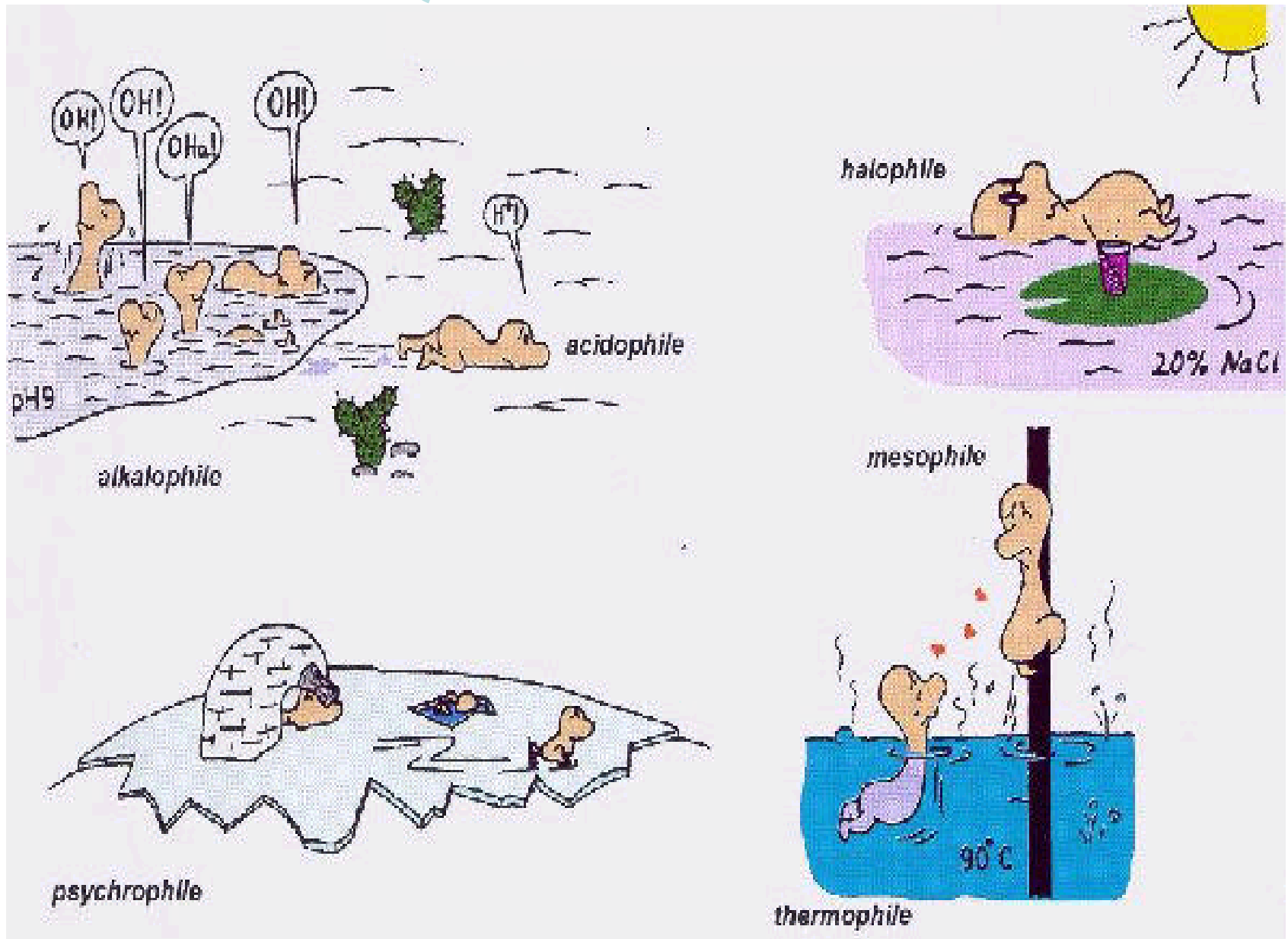
-Extremophiles are a very important and integral part of the earth's biodiversity

They:

- reveal much about the earth's history and origins of life**
- possess amazing capabilities to survive in the extremes**
- are proving to be beneficial to both humans and the environment**
- may exist beyond earth**

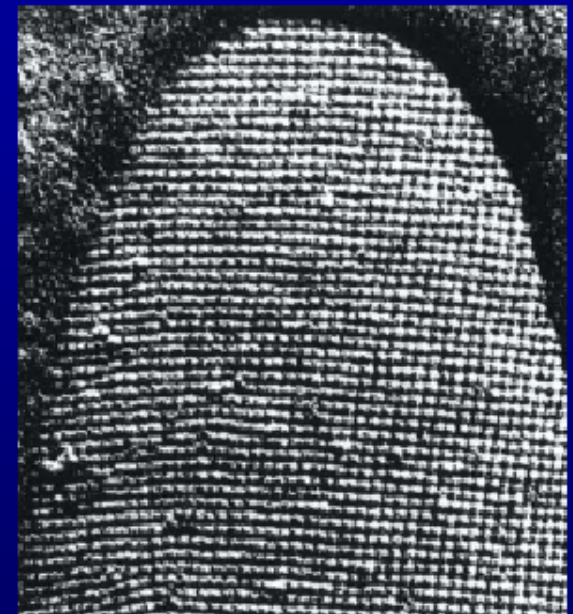


Questions?



What are S-Layers ? (Surface Layers)

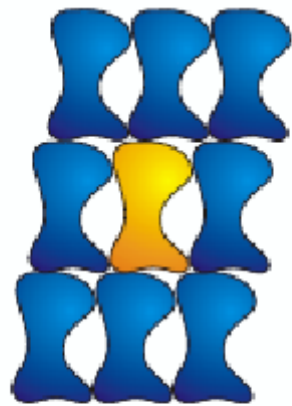
- The most common surface structure in prokaryotic organisms (bacteria, archaea).
- Highly ordered protein arrays composed of single protein or glycoprotein subunits.
- The simplest type of membranes developed during biological evolution.
- They completely cover the cell surface during all stages of bacterial growth and division.



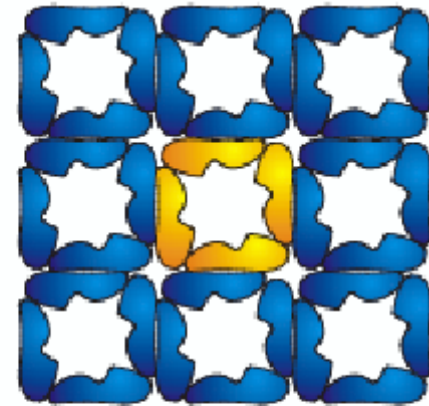
Freeze-etched preparation of a cell

Lattice Types of S-layer Proteins

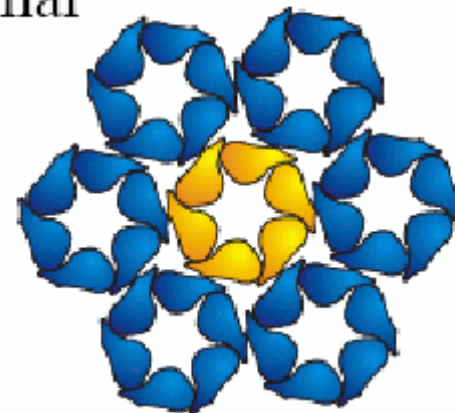
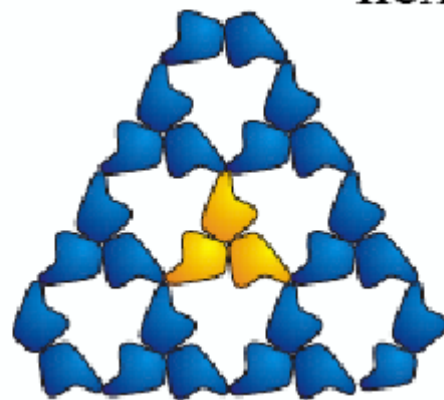
oblique



square



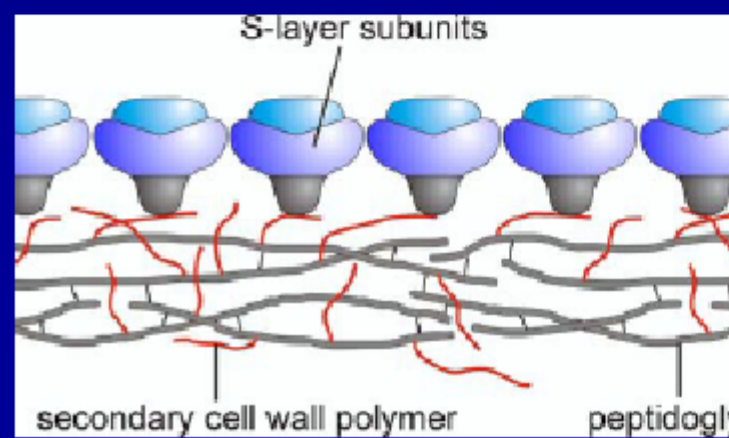
hexagonal



Binding Mechanism of S-Layer Subunits

In bacteria, the S-layer subunits are linked to each other and to the underlying cell envelope layer by non-covalent interactions.

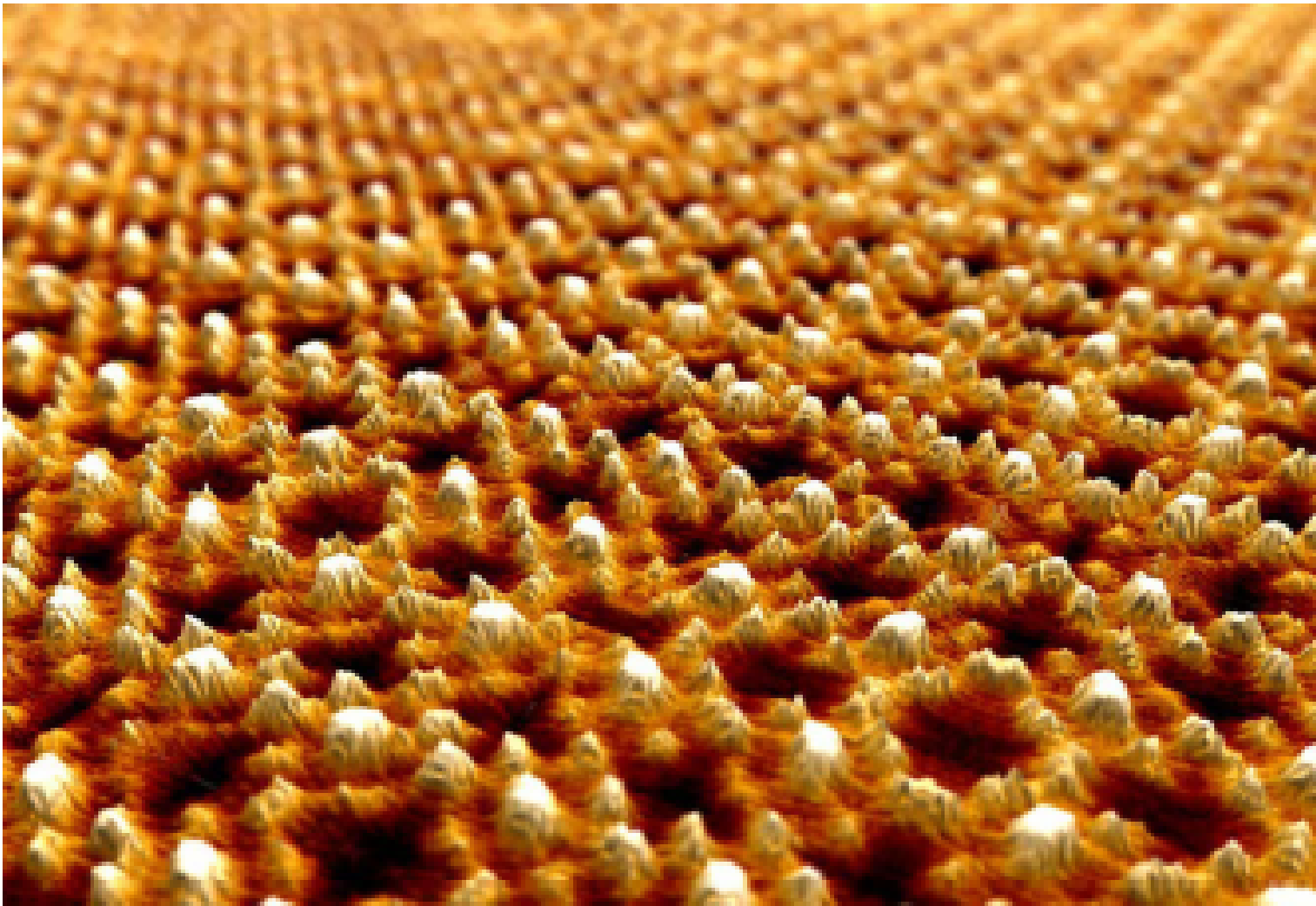
The N-terminal region of S-layer proteins from Gram-positive organisms recognizes a distinct type of secondary cell wall polymer as the proper binding site.



WPs are covalently linked to the peptidoglycan backbone.

S-layer subunits can be extracted from cell wall fragments with chaotropic agents (e. g. GdCl₃) and form self-assembly products after removal of the disintegrating agent.

Top-on view of the S-layer lattice of SbpA

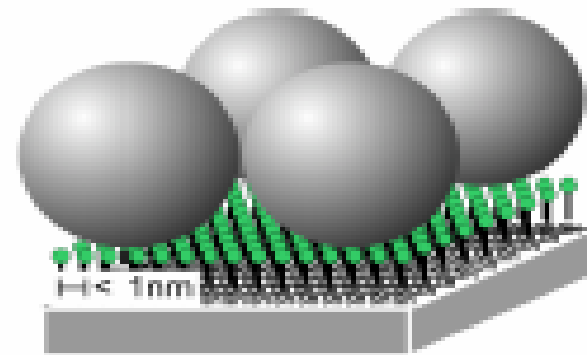


NanoBiotechnological applications of functional S-layer arrays

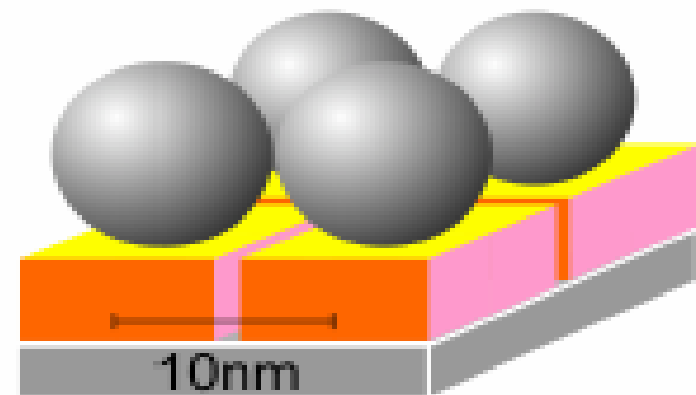
- Ultrafiltration membranes
- Matrices for a well defined binding of functional molecules and nanoparticles (biosensors, nano electronics and optics).
- Supporting structure for functional lipid membranes (planar membranes, liposomes and nanocapsules).
- Drug delivery and drug targeting systems (artificial viruses).

Strategies for modification and functionalization of solid supports

- Self-assembled monolayers (SAMs)



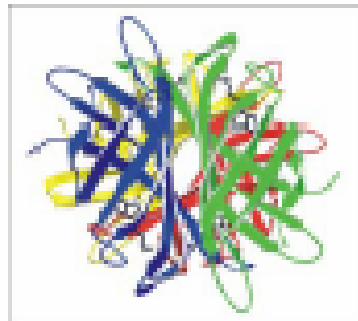
- S-layers lattices



Binding by Functional Domains on S-layer Fusion Proteins

SbsB / Streptavidin Fusion Proteins

Streptavidin (per subunit
of the tetramer:
13 270 Da; 126 aa)



Biotin (244 Da)

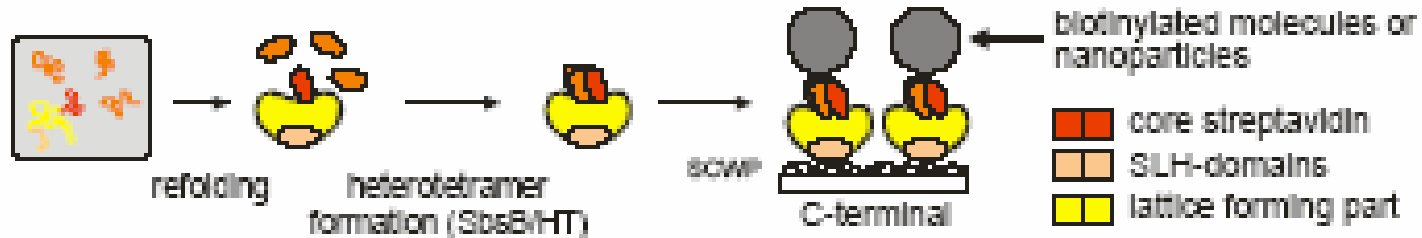
$$K_a = 2,5 \times 10^{13} \text{ M}^{-1}$$

The highest affinity
interaction between a
protein and a ligand
known in nature.

"C-terminal fusion proteins (BS1)"

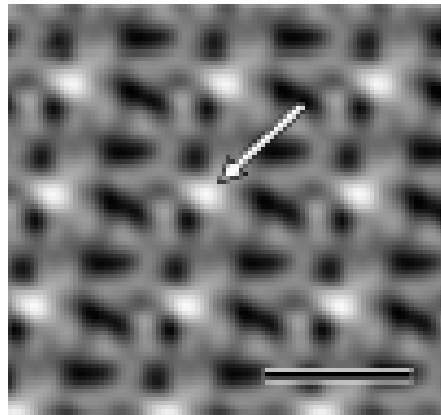


"N-terminal fusion proteins (S1B32)"

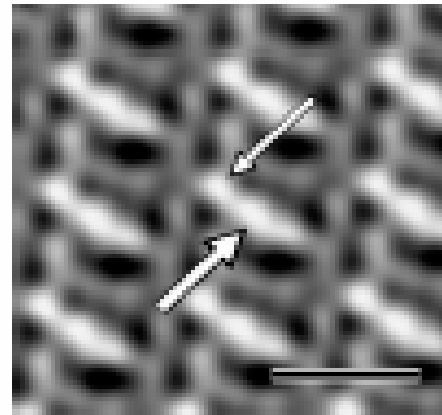


Moll et al., PNAS, 99 (2002) 14646

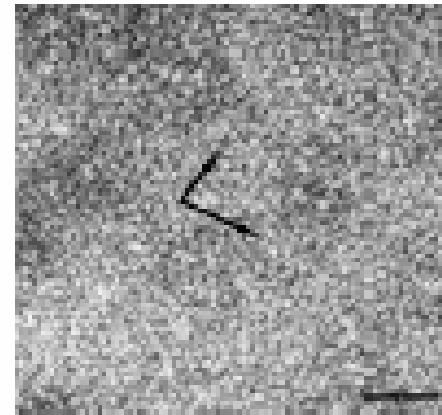
SbsB / Streptavidin fusion proteins



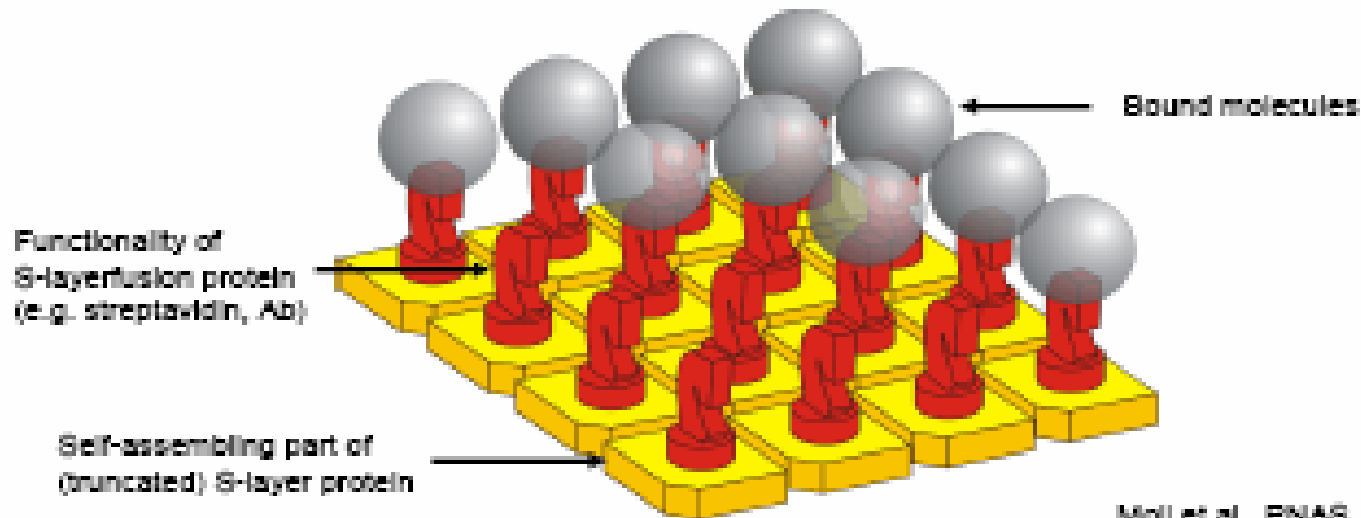
Native SbsB S-layer protein.
Bar, 10nm



SbsB/Stv fusion protein.
Bar, 10nm.



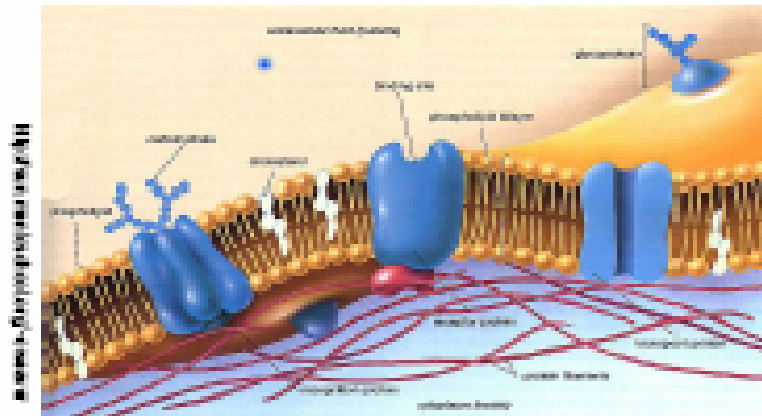
Biotinylated ferritin bound on BS1. Bar, 100nm.



Applications of S-layer Fusion Proteins

- Sensing layers for label free detection systems (SPR, SAW, QCM-D)
- Functionalization of liposomes or lipid/plasmid particles as targeting and delivery systems
- Development of anti-allergic vaccines
- Stabilization of Langmuir lipid layers
- Metal binding structures (fusion of metal binding peptides)
- Binding of nanoparticles

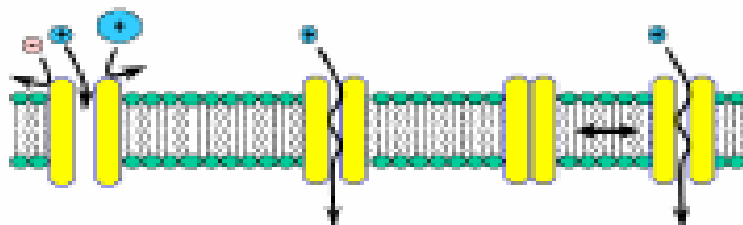
Biomimetic Cell Membranes



Cell membrane: fluid mosaic model

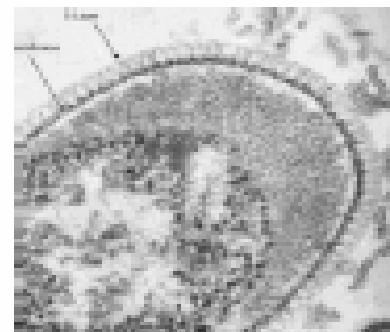
Specific membrane functions

1. selectivity
2. binding
3. opening / closing

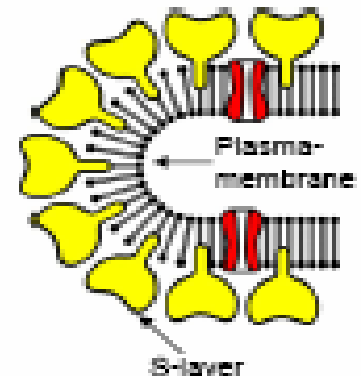


Archaeal cell envelope structure

A supramolecular structure optimized in ~ 3,5 billions of years under extreme environmental conditions (120°C, pH 0, concentrated salt solutions, 1100 bar).

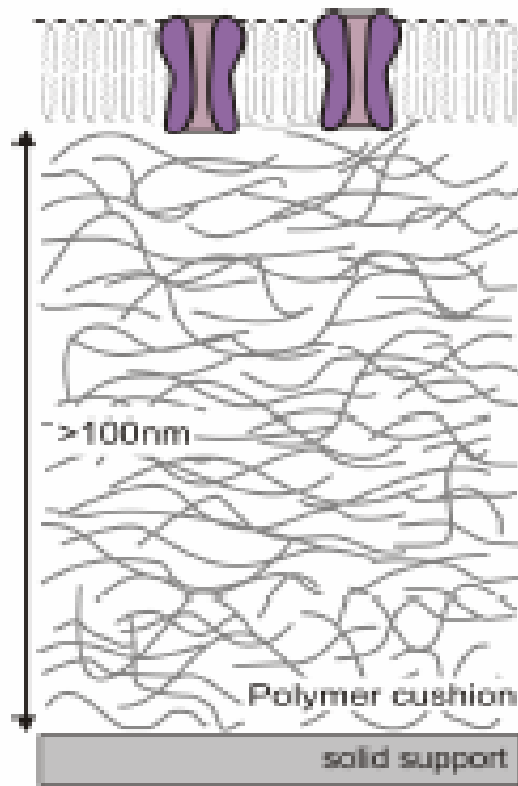


TEM of an archaeal cell



S-layer

Biomimetic Lipid Membrane (Semifluid Membrane Model)



Sackmann, *Science* 271 (1995) 43

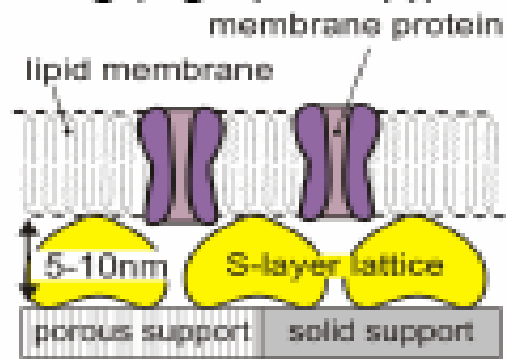
- S-layer stabilized solid supported lipid membranes
- S-layer acts as stabilizing structure, tethering structure and ionic reservoir

• Applications:

Membrane Sensors, Lab-on-a-chip devices,
High Throughput Screening (e.g. lipid chip),
DNA sequencing



Schiller et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*
42 (2003) 208



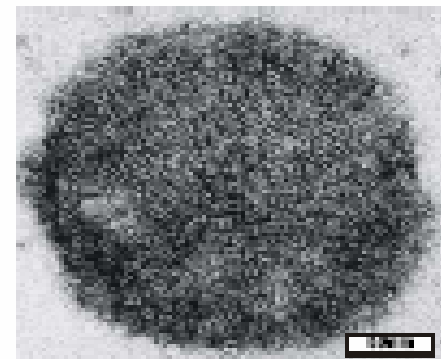
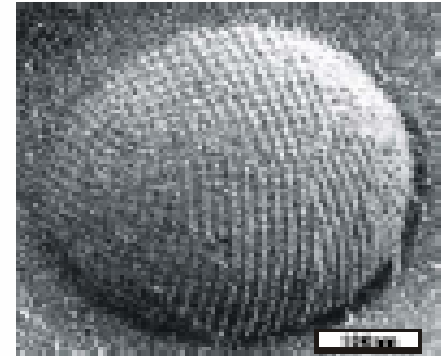
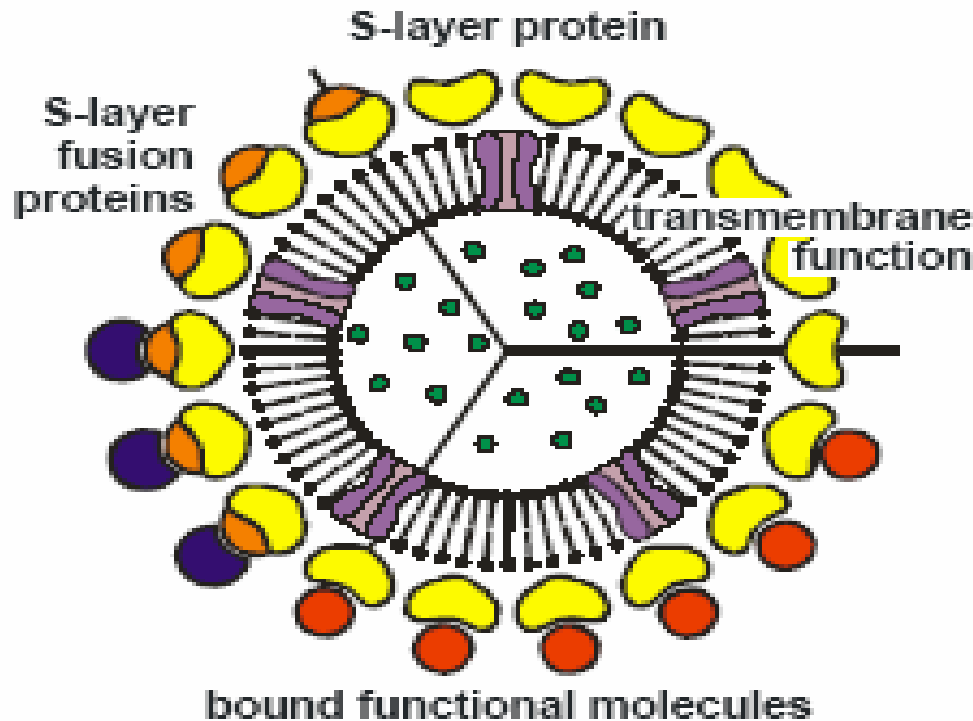
Schuster et al., *Langmuir* 17 (2001) 489
Schuster et al., *Langmuir* 19 (2003) 2392
Guffar et al. *BBA* 1661 (2004) 154

Application potential of S-layer-supported lipid membranes

- Exploiting functional lipid membranes at meso- and macroscopic scale:
 - ~30 % of all proteins found in various organisms are membrane proteins
 - > 50 % of the proteins interact with membranes
 - ~ 15 % of the most sold drugs act on ion channels
 - ~ 60 % of the ethical drugs affect membrane proteins
- Linking silicon technology and solid state physics with biological systems (e.g. coupling cells to surfaces)

Biosensors, HTScreening, Diagnostics, Lab-on-a-chip

S-Layer coated liposomes



Properties and Application Potential of S-layer coated liposomes

Properties:

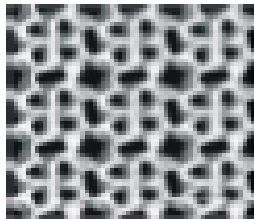
- Higher (mechanical and thermal) stability
- Monomolecular coating with functional molecules

Applications:

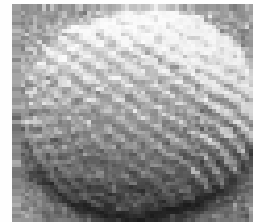
- Drug-targeting and drug-delivery
- Artificial viruses (inclusion of nucleic acid) for gene therapy

Summary

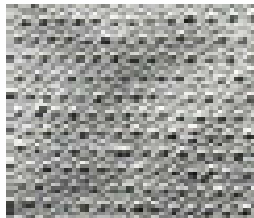
Basic research on structure, genetics, chemistry, morphogenesis and function of S-layers has led to a broad spectrum of applications in molecular nanotechnology and biomimetics:



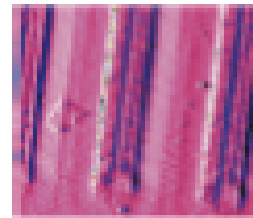
Isoporous ultrafiltration membranes



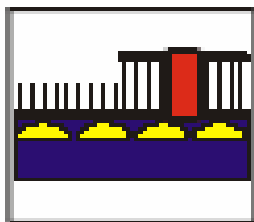
Vaccines, artificial viruses, drug delivery and targeting, gene therapy



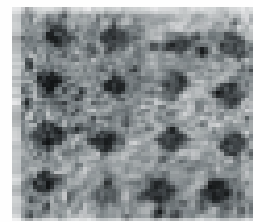
Matrices for controlled immobilization of molecules



Patterning by microlithographic procedures



Biomimetic lipid membranes



Nanoelectronic applications