



Electrical and Electronics Engineering

EE-517

Bio-Nano-Chip Design



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**1. LECTURES by videos
(on SWITCHtube)**

**1. Q/A on Zoom
(link by Moodle)**



Q1

Which Master Program are you following?

- A. Electrical Engineering
- B. Microengineering
- C. Robotics
- D. Life Science
- E. Chemical Engineering
- F. Material Science
- G. Mechanical Engineering
- H. Others



Q2

How did you get aware of this course?

- A. By a generic list of optional courses
- B. By the specific list of options of my minor/specialization
- C. By a professor who suggested me
- D. By another student who suggested me

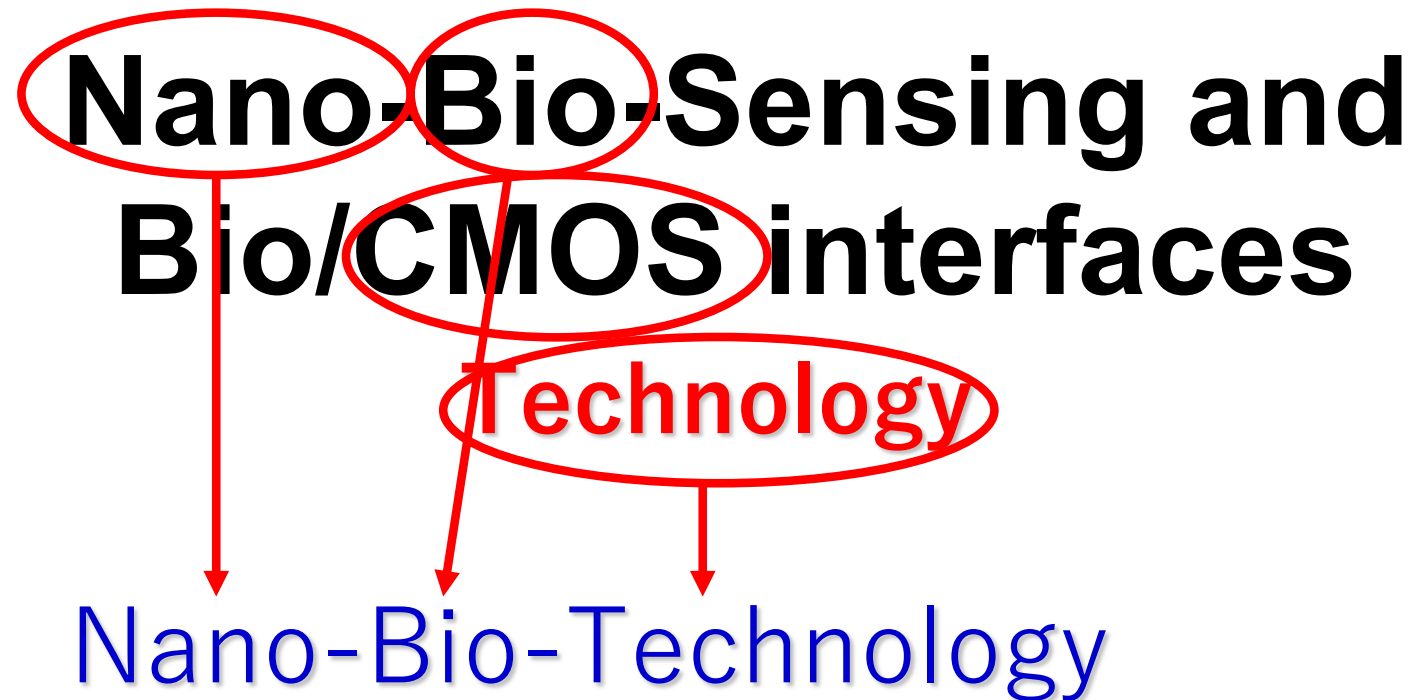


Q3

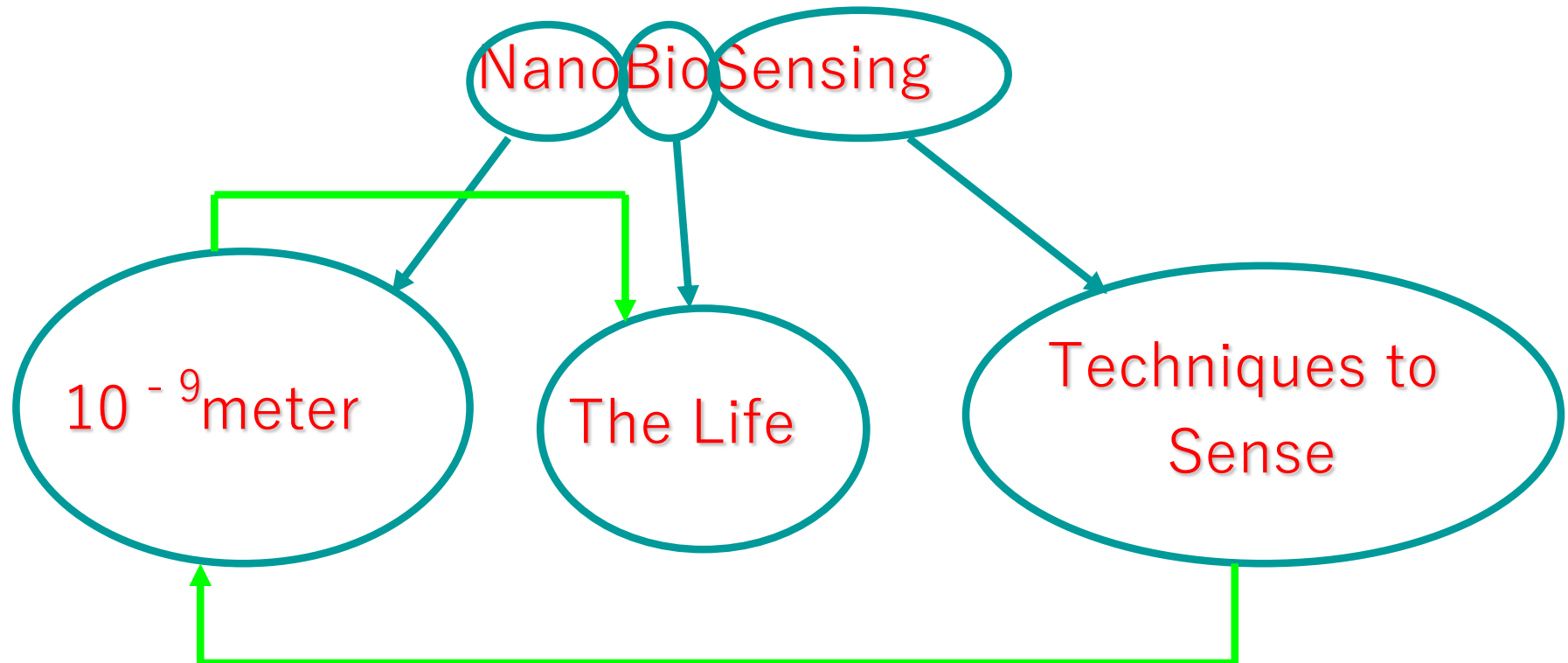
Why did you choose this course?

- A. For basic knowledge
with generic interest
- B. For a specific interest
- C. I heard that's a good
course
- D. I heard that's an easy
course
- E. I need credits any way

What's about The Course?



What's about Nano-Bio-Sensing?



That means “techniques at the nano-metric scale to sense information related to biological processes”

The Motivation



- 100.000 \$ (machinery)
- 1.000 \$ the single μ -array

Labeled



Label-Free

- 50 \$ (machinery)
- 0.05 \$ the single strip

The Quicklab project by Siemens



Glucometer on iPhone



Next step: the future already begun

How to use the FreeStyle Libre System



1. **Apply sensor** with applicator

2. **Scan sensor** using FreeStyle Libre Reader

3. **Get reading** on the reader

FOR FULL INSTRUCTIONS
www.freestylelibre.co.uk >

OVERVIEW
HOW TO USE
FIND OUT MORE

Glucose Personal Diagnostics on our Skin



Q4

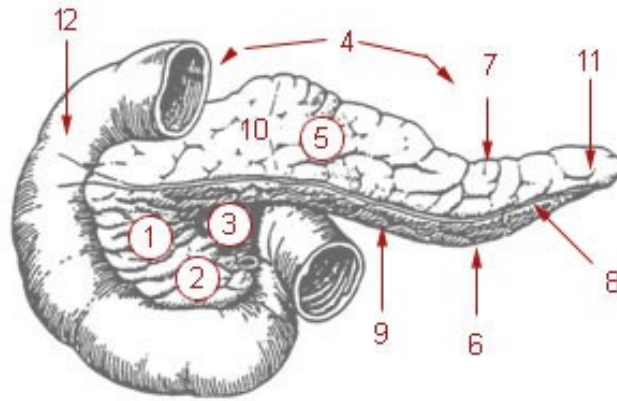
Does the pancreas just measure the glucose and produce insulin?

- A. Yes, nothing else
- B. Yes, that's the central organ for our glucose metabolism
- ☒ C. No, but that's one of its important functions
- D. No, but that's its most important functions
- ☒ E. Not at all

The Pancreas Functions

IN-put Signals

Bile acids →
pH →
Syrinic proteases →
Glucose →
Glycagone pancreatic →
.....



OUT-put Signals

insulin
Lipase
Fospholipase A
Cholesterol esterase
Endopeptidase
Esopeptidase
Elastase
Ribonuclease
Enterochinase
.....

What to sense?

Simple Molecules	Glucose (Diabetes)
	Cholesterol (heart attack)
Proteins	AFP (Hepato Carcinoma)
	PSA (Prostate)
DNA sequences	PC-1 gene (prostate cancer)
	p53 gene (Hepato Carcinoma)

Bio-Markers may be simple molecules,
proteins or genes

What else to sense?

Endogenous Metabolites	Insulin (Diabetes)
	β-blockers (heart attack)
Anti-cancer compounds	Cyclophosphamide (Breast Cancer)
	Docetaxel (Prostate Cancer)
Anesthetics	Propofol (surgery)
	Midazolam (surgery)

Endogenous and Exogenous Metabolites
are usually simple molecules

What to sense?

**Simple
Molecules**

Glucose (Diabetes)

Cholesterol (heart attack)

Proteins

AFP (Hepato Carcinoma)

PSA (Prostate)

**DNA
sequences**

PC-1 gene (prostate cancer)

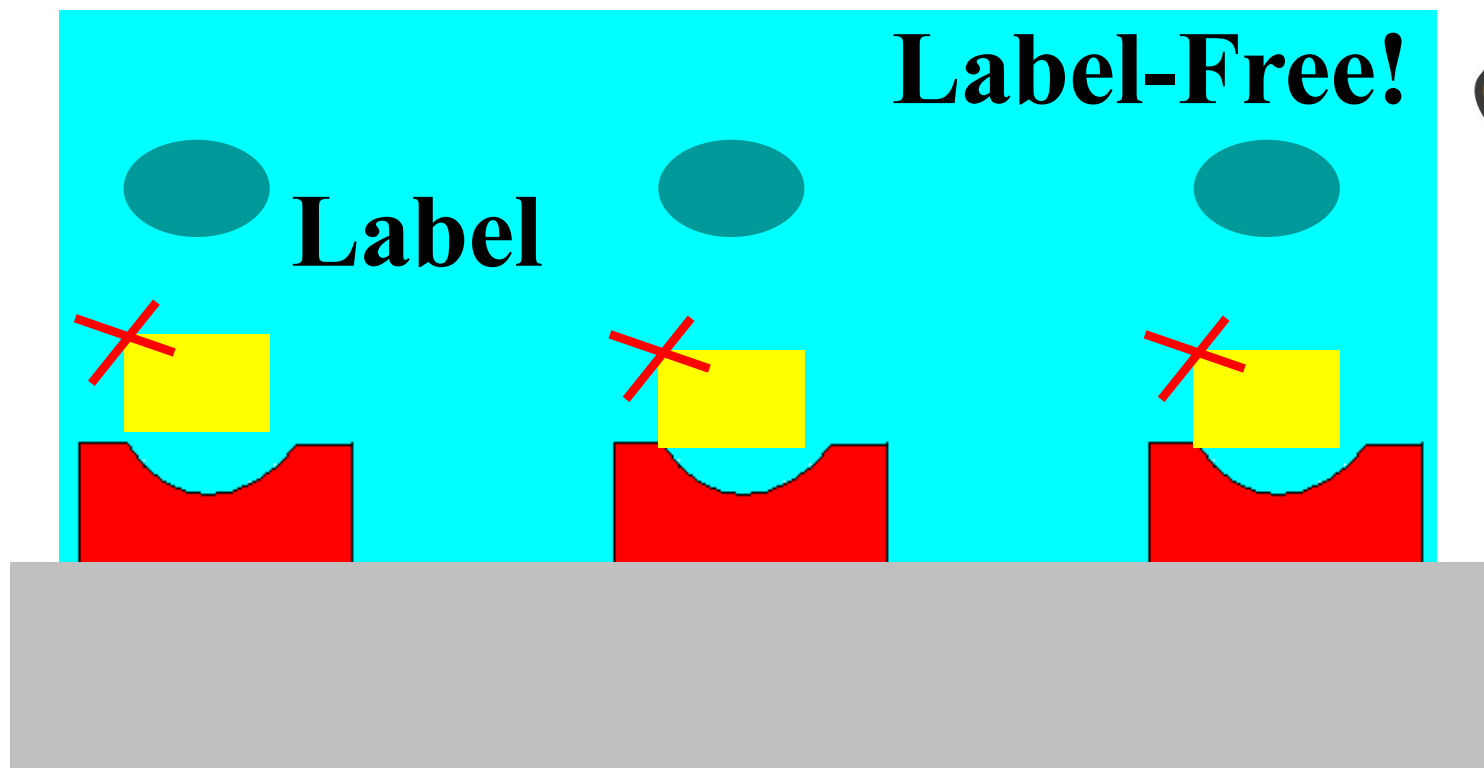
p53 gene (Hepato Carcinoma)



**How to
detect Bio-
Markers?**

**Bio-Markers may be simple molecules,
proteins or genes**

Measuring Bio-Markers



The Measure of Bio-markers may be performed in a labeled manner or in label-free mode



Q5

Do we can measure any other molecule like we do for glucose?

- A. Yes, of course!
- B. Yes, but it requires efforts
- C. Yes, but requires little modifications
- D. Yes, but depends by the applications
- ☒ E. Not at all



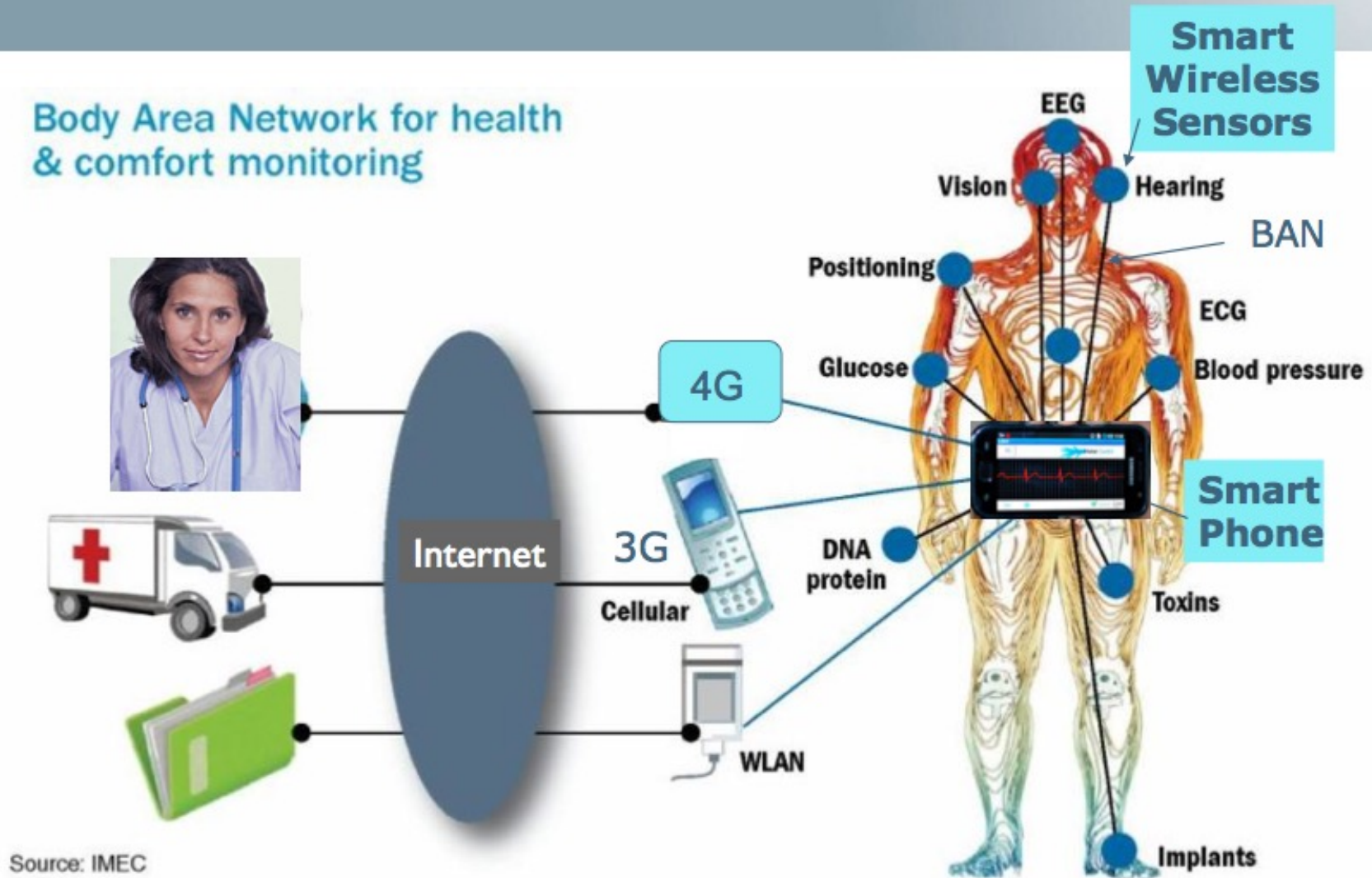
Q6

Why we do not measure directly the insulin?

- A. Since an insulin sensor doesn't exist
- B. Since an insulin sensor does exist but it's too expensive
- ☒ C. Since an insulin sensor does exist but it's not enough sensitive
- D. Since an insulin sensor does exist but it's not commercially available
- E. Since that's not useful

Fully-Connected Human++

Body Area Network for health
& comfort monitoring



Source: IMEC

Courtesy, Hugo De Man (IMEC)

The Time' forecast on Human++



[TIME, February 2011]

Chips under the skin?



Under the skin: how insertable microchips could unlock the future

Volunteers in Melbourne have had microchips inserted for three months, designed to unlock doors and carry out other tasks. Will they really be any use?

THEGUARDIAN.COM

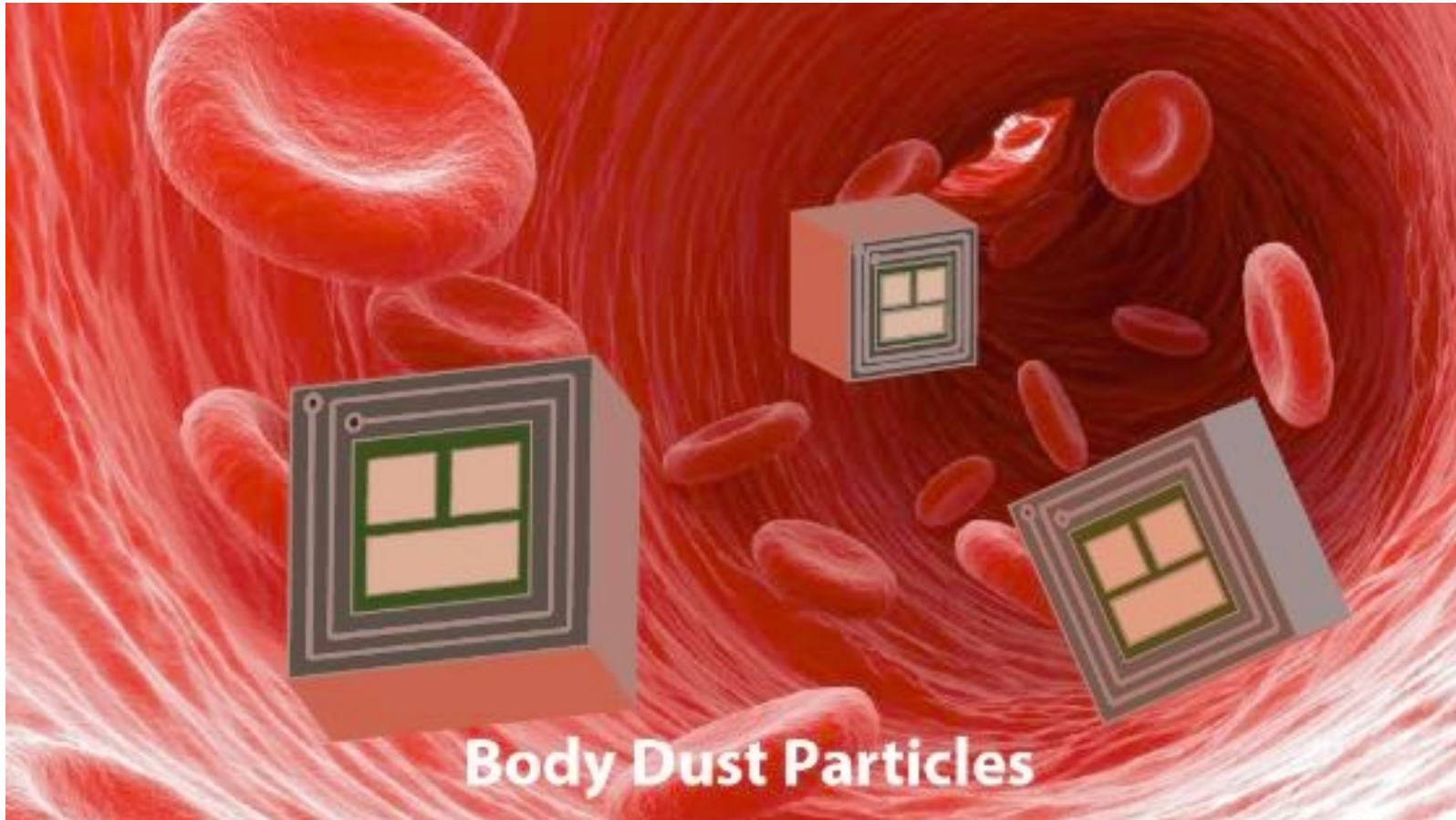
[The Guardian, October 2017]

How small Chips under the skin?



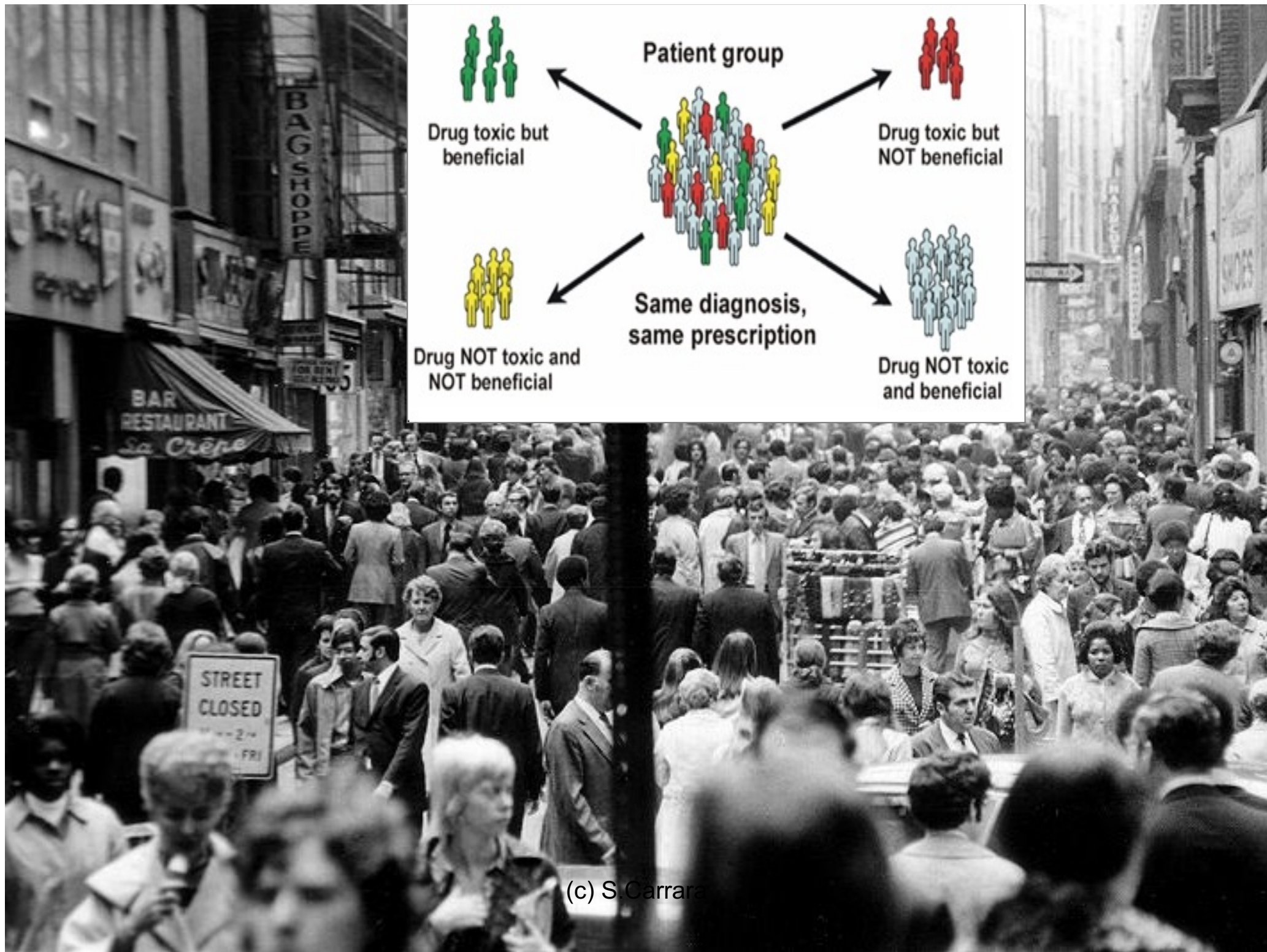
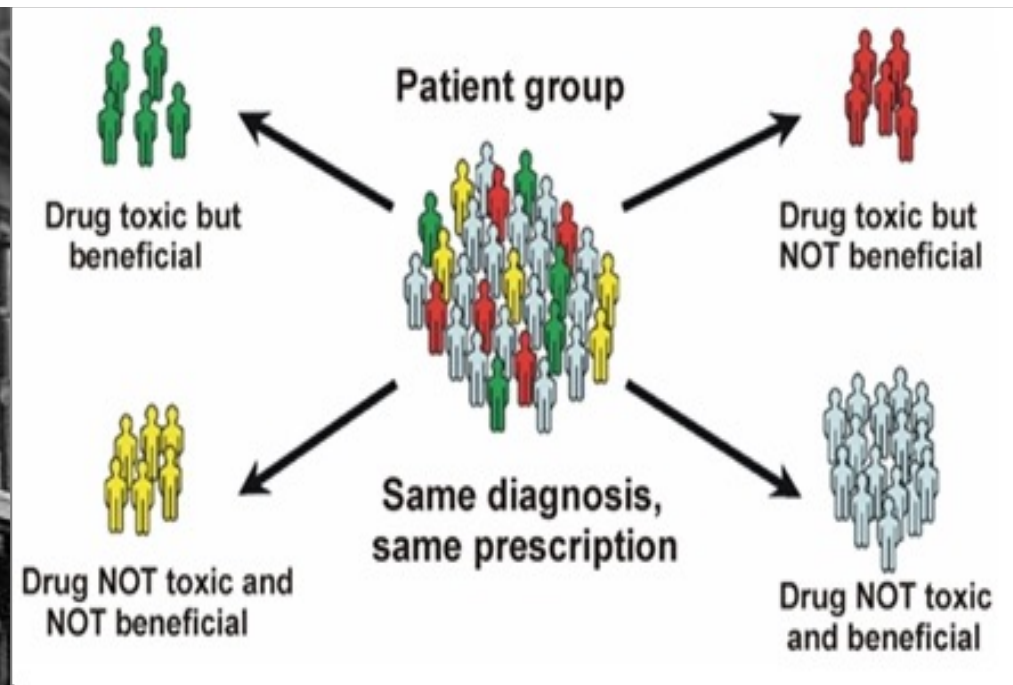
[1966 Sci. Fi. movie titled “Fantastic Voyage”]

Body Dust: Drinkable CMOS Bioelectronics

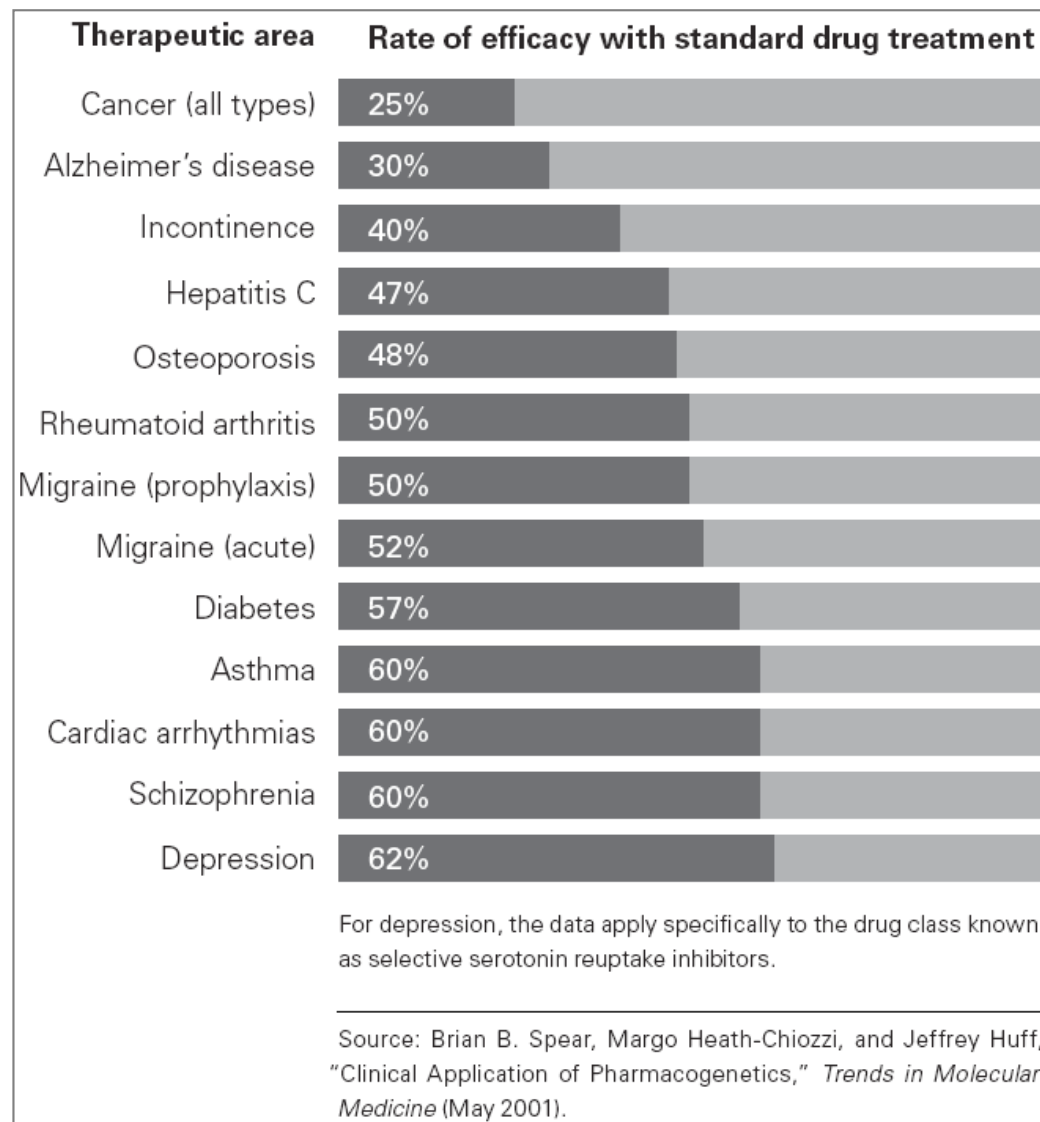


Tracking cancer-cell developing “drinkable” electronic sensors

<https://actu.epfl.ch/news/tracking-cancer-cell-development-with-drinkable-el/>



Low efficacy of used compounds



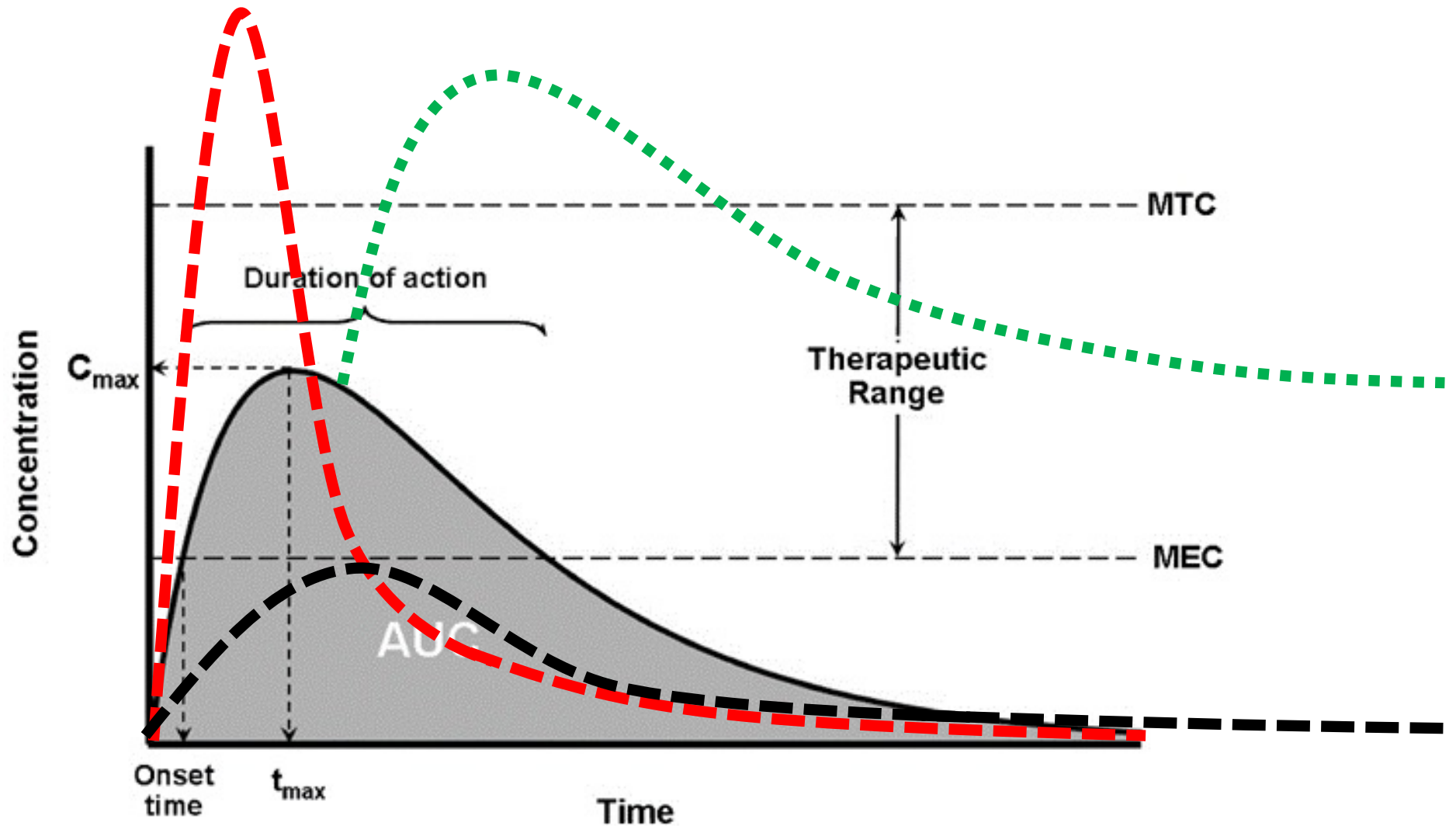


Q7

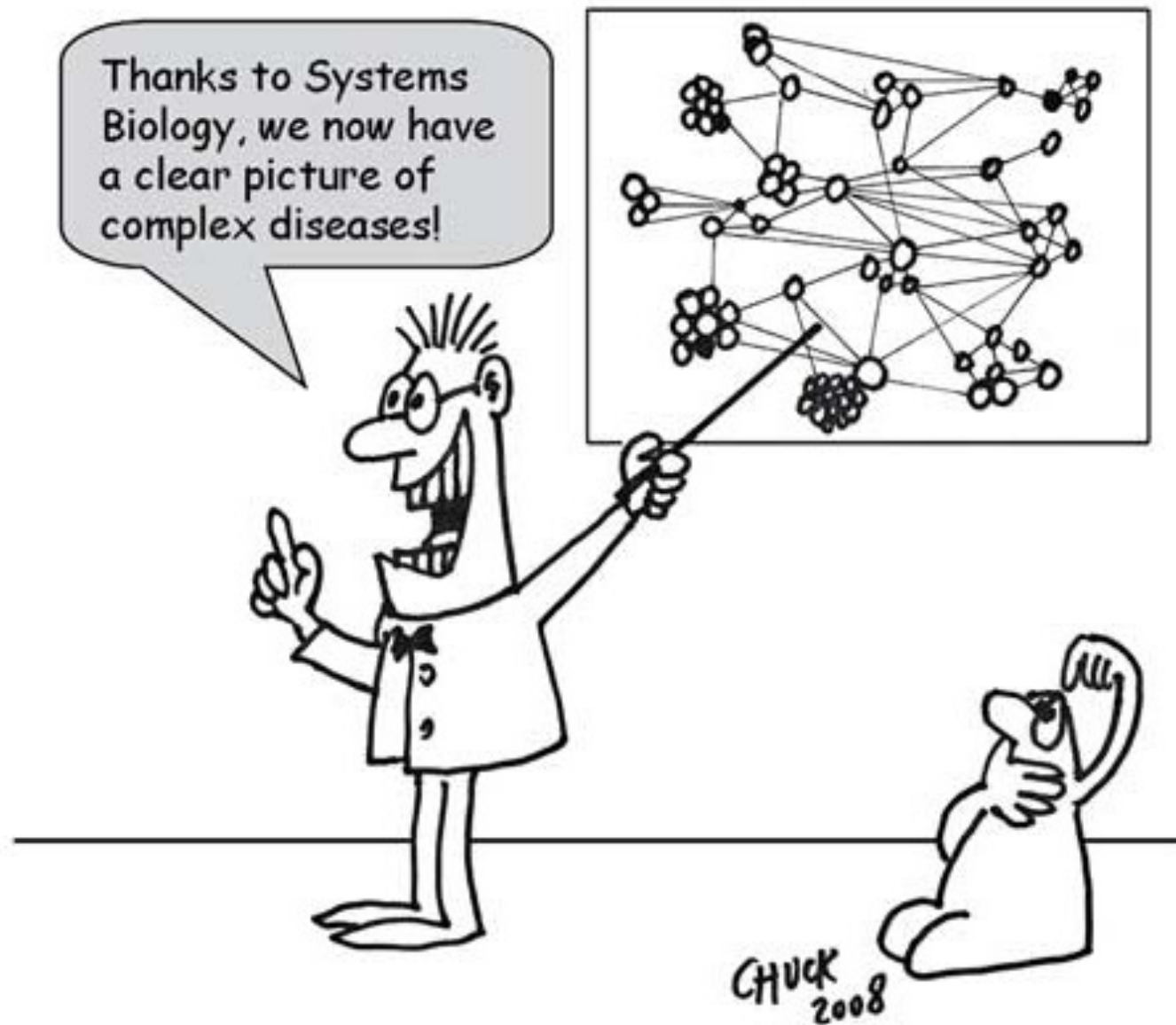
Why different outputs from same kind of patients?

- A. Since therapy effect is random
- B. Since patient's response to therapy is random
- C. Since therapy effect depends on dose
- ☒ D. Since therapy effect depends on patient
- E. No reasons

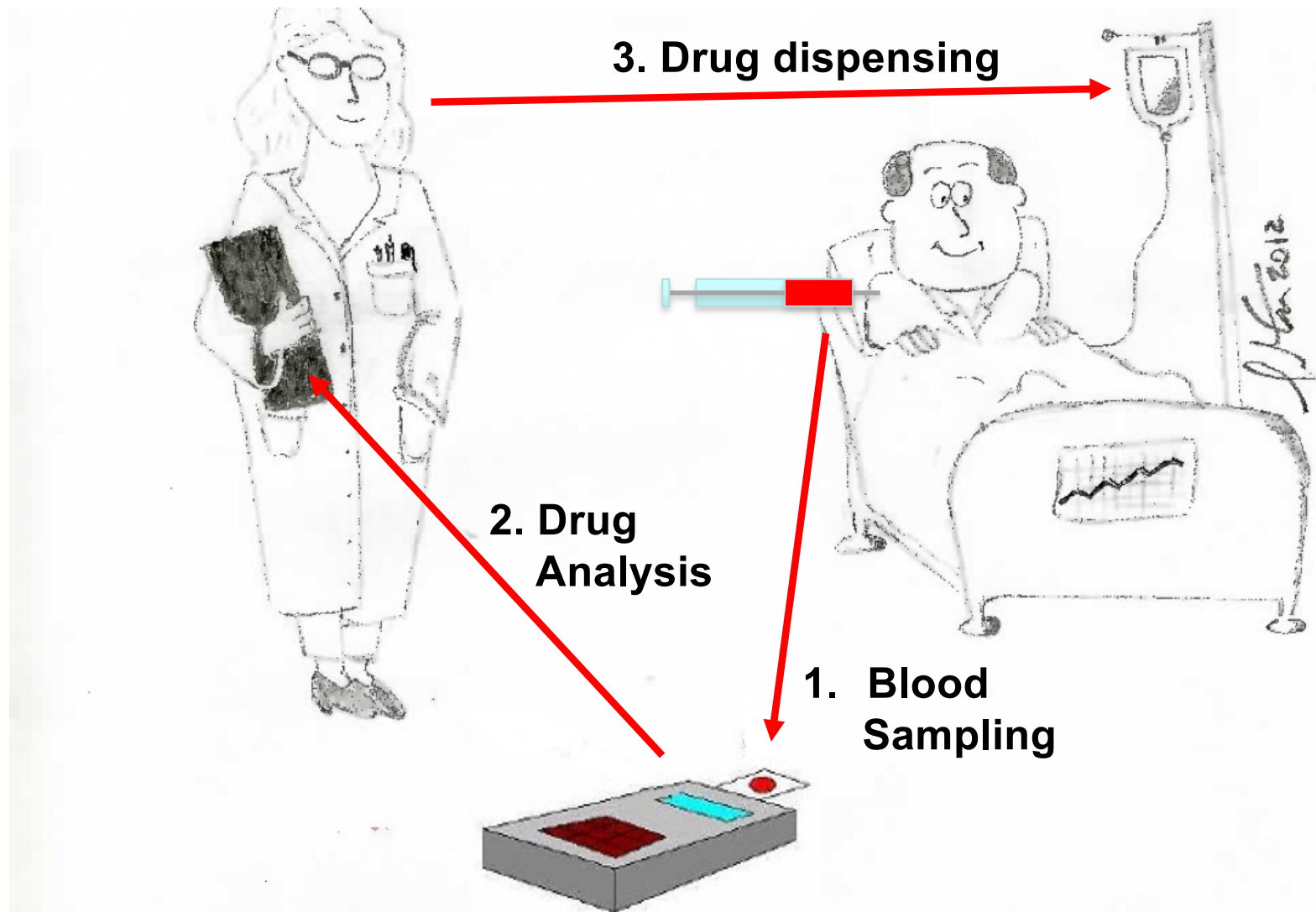
Personalized Therapy: the right dose in the right moment!



System Biology is not enough



Personalized Therapy



Drugs injection based on patient's pharmacokinetics

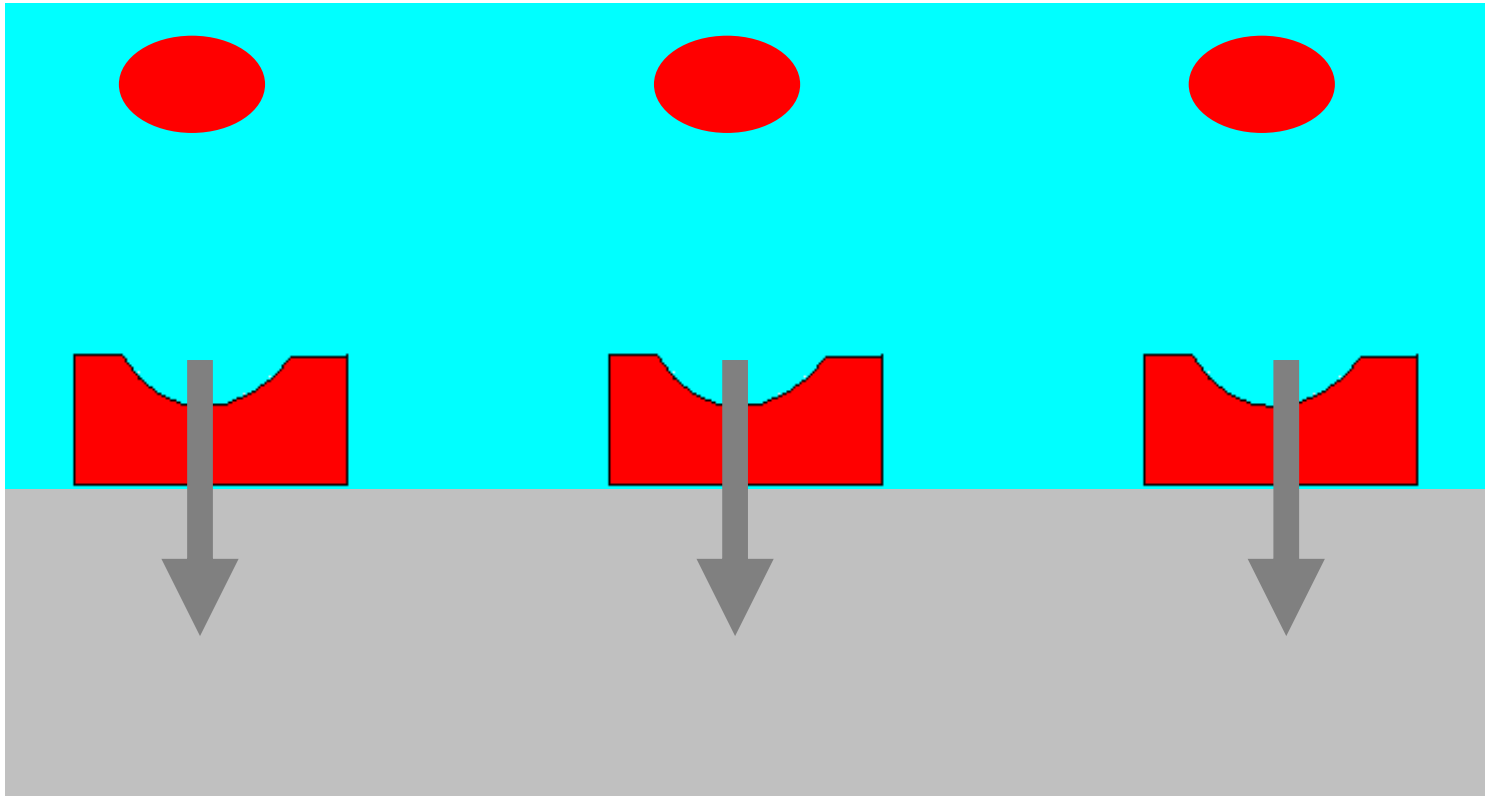
The need for new Bio/CMOS systems

TARGETS

Endogenous metabolites	Exogenous metabolites
Glucose	
Lactate	
Glutamate	
Cholesterol	
	Benzphetamine
	Dextromethorphan
	Cyclophosphamide
	Flurbiprofen
	Naproxen



CMOS/Sample interface



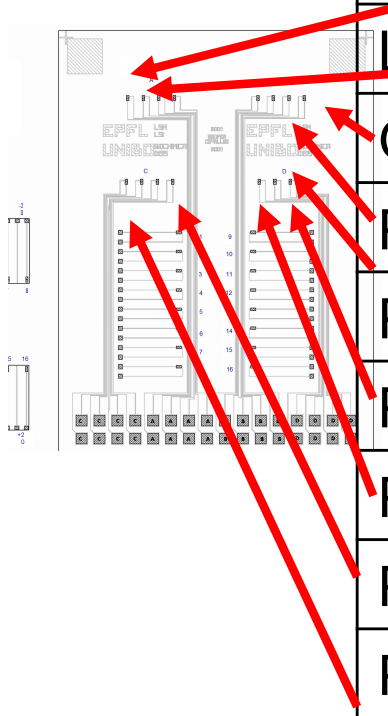
The interface between the CMOS circuit and the bio-sample needs to be deeply investigated and organized

Applications in Personalized Therapy

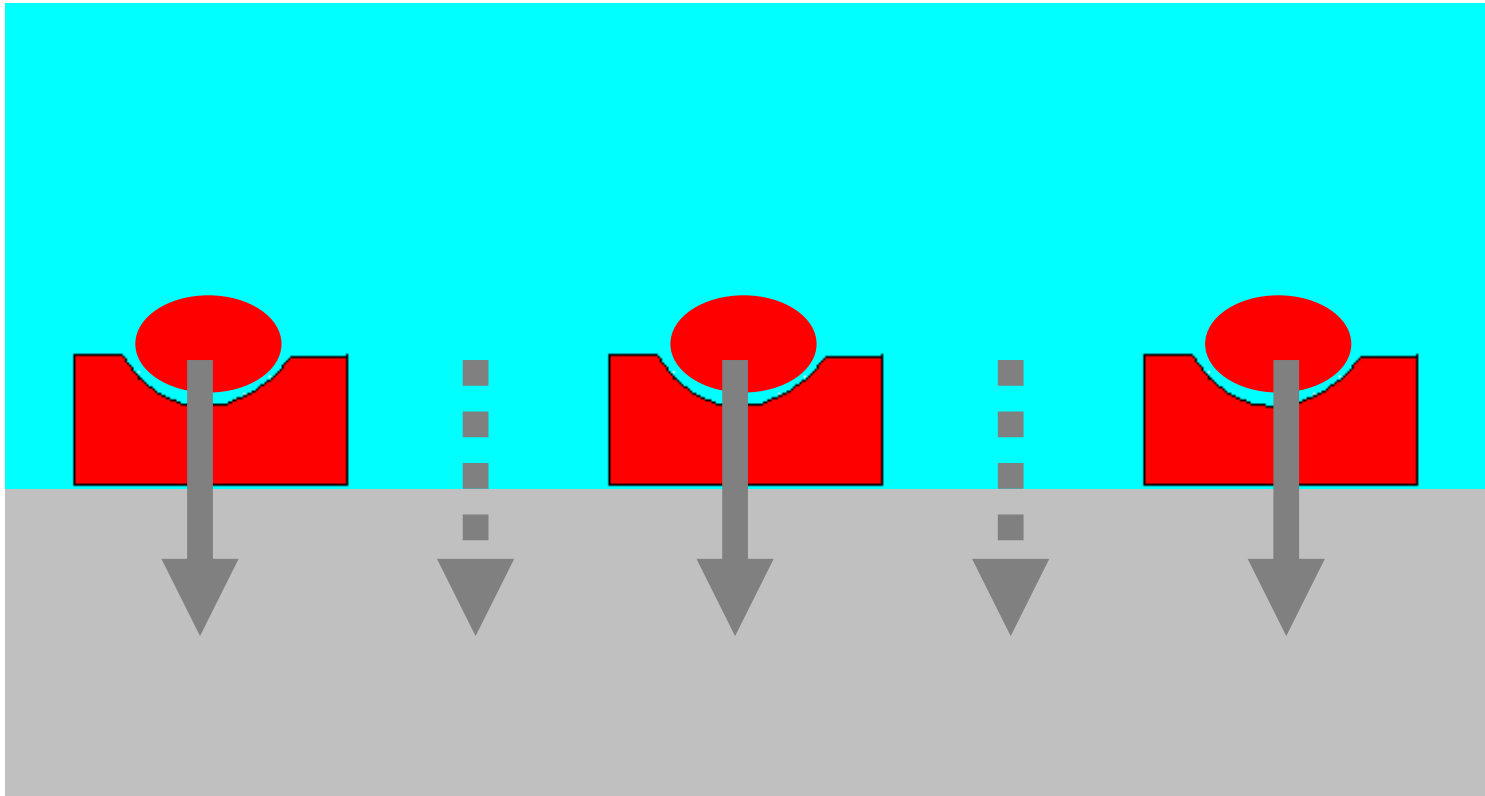


TARGETS

Probe Enzymes	Endogenous metabolites	Exogenous metabolites
Glucose Oxidase	Glucose	
Lactate Oxidase	Lactate	
Glutamate Oxidase	Glutamate	
P450 11A1	Cholesterol	
P450 2B4		Benzphetamine
P450 3A4		Dextrometorphane
P450 3A4		Cyclophocphamide
P450 2C9		Flurbiprofene
P450 2C9		Naproxene



CMOS/Sample interface



The interface between the CMOS circuit and the bio-sample needs to be deeply investigated and organized

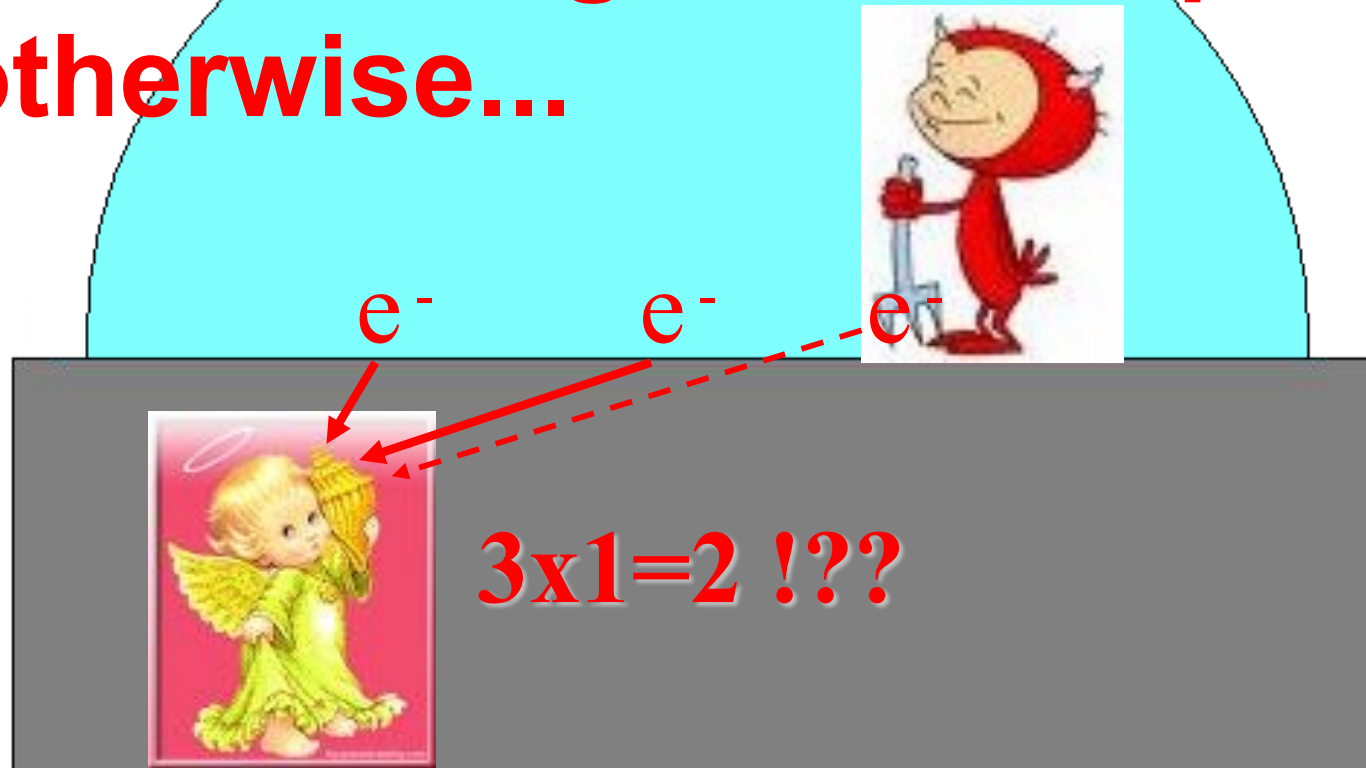


Q8

Does present implantable CMOS chips allow metabolism monitoring?

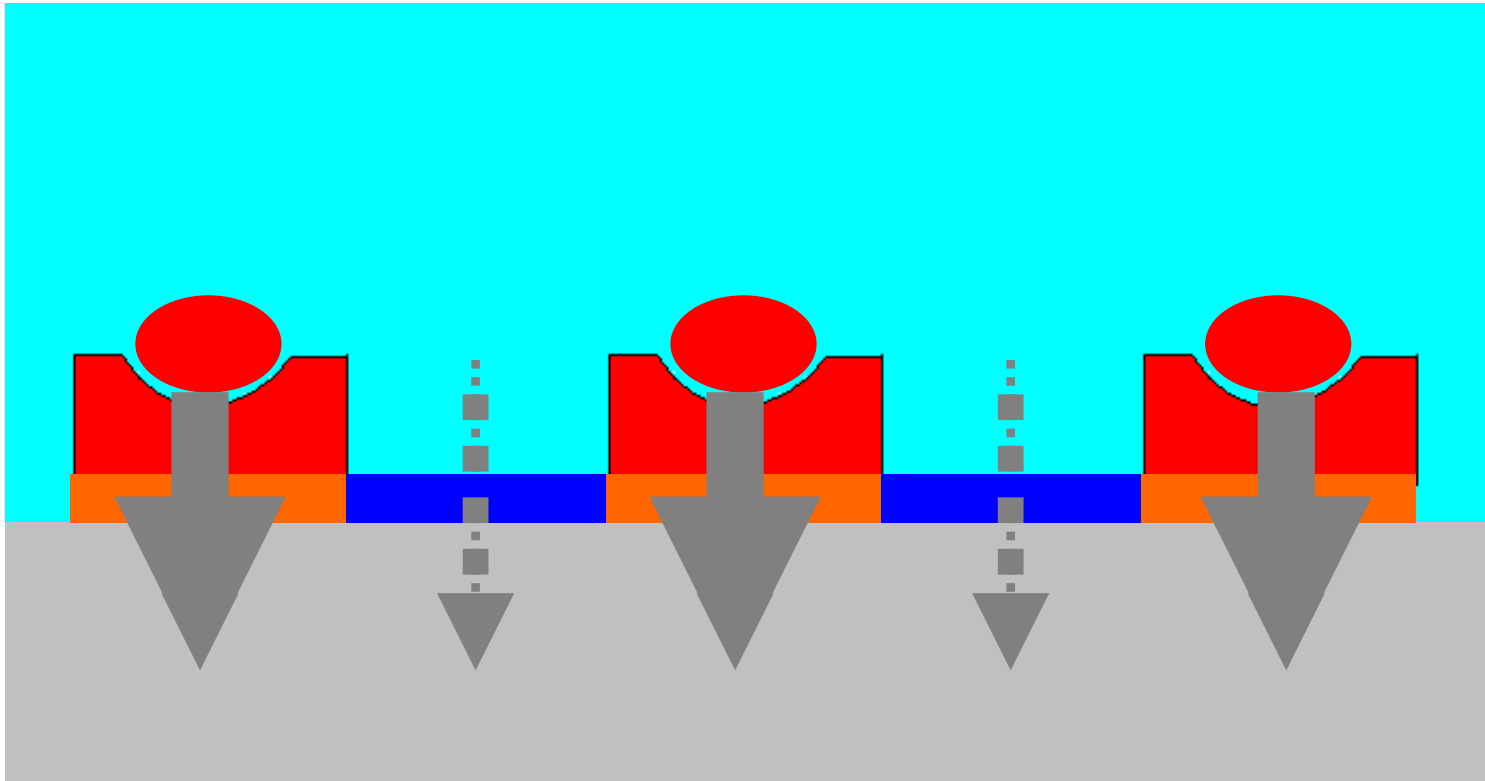
- ☒ A. Not really
- ☐ B. No if monitoring is non-related to glucose
- ☐ C. No if monitoring is related to more metabolites
- ☐ D. Yes, since they measure average parameters
- ☐ E. Yes, that's easy to be done

**New Paradigms are required
otherwise...**



**Excellent CMOS technology is not sufficient if
molecules are not doing their own job at the
Bio/CMOS interface!**

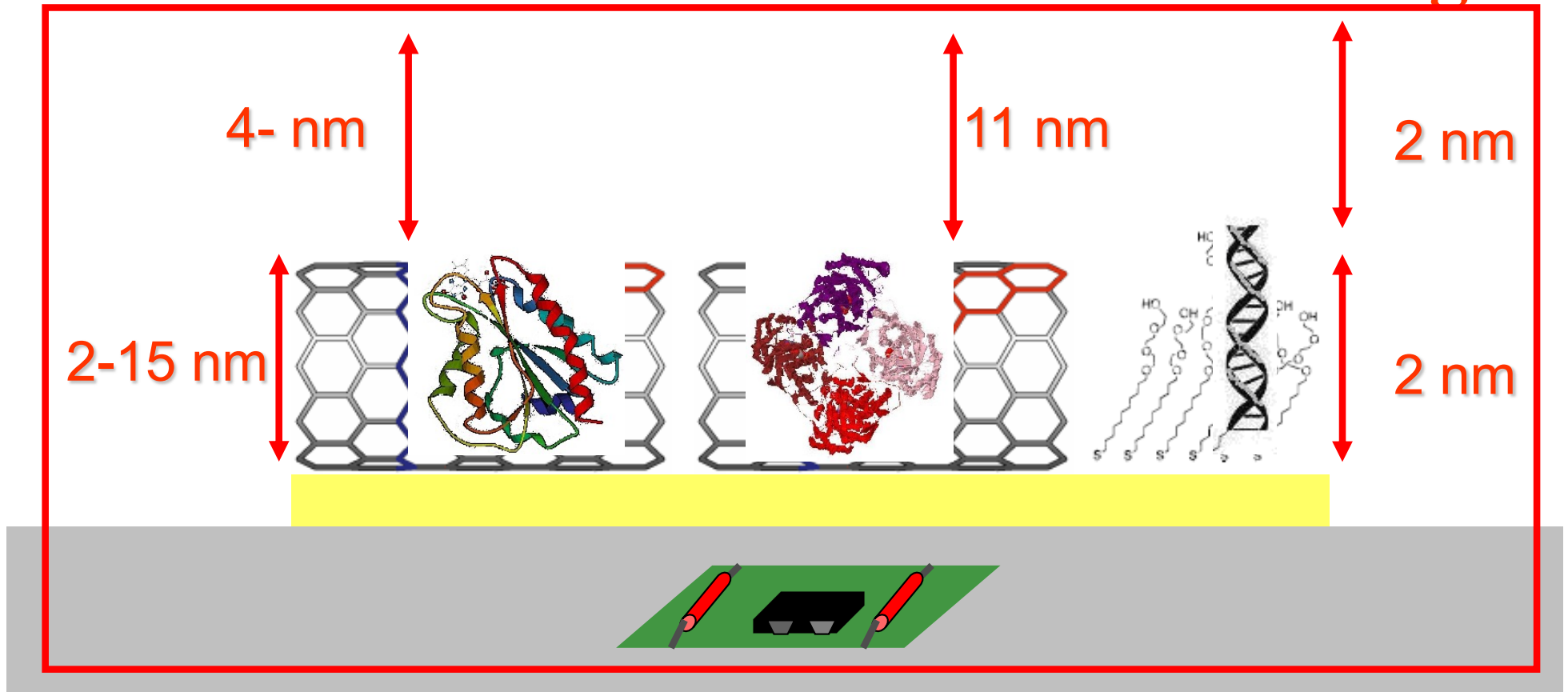
CMOS/Sample interface



The interface between the CMOS circuit and the bio-sample needs to be deeply investigated and organized

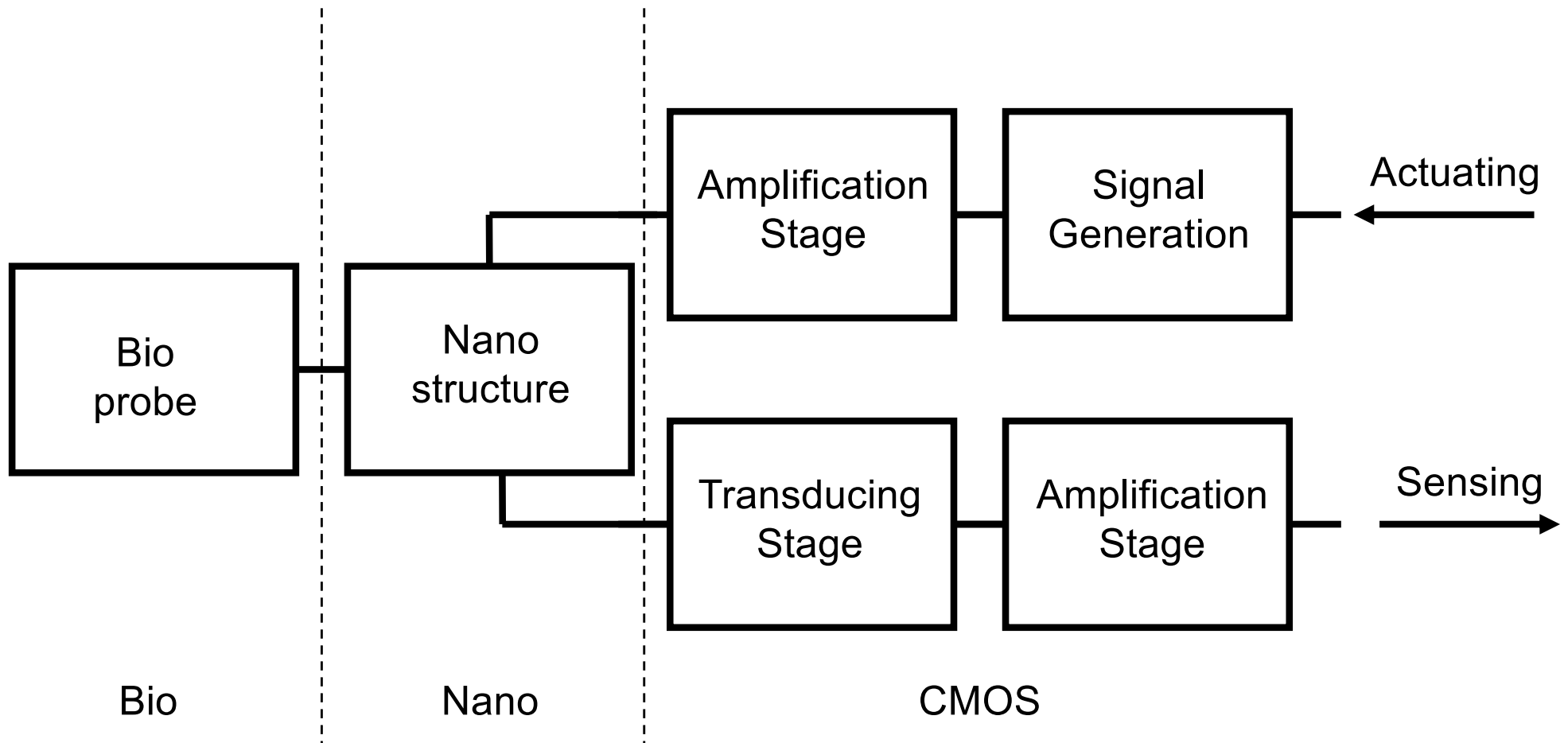
New Approach

Bio/Nano/CMOS Co-Design!



New paradigms for Nano-Bio-CMOS co-design are required to succeed in chip bio-sensing

Design of the all interfaces



The Bio/Nano/CMOS interface

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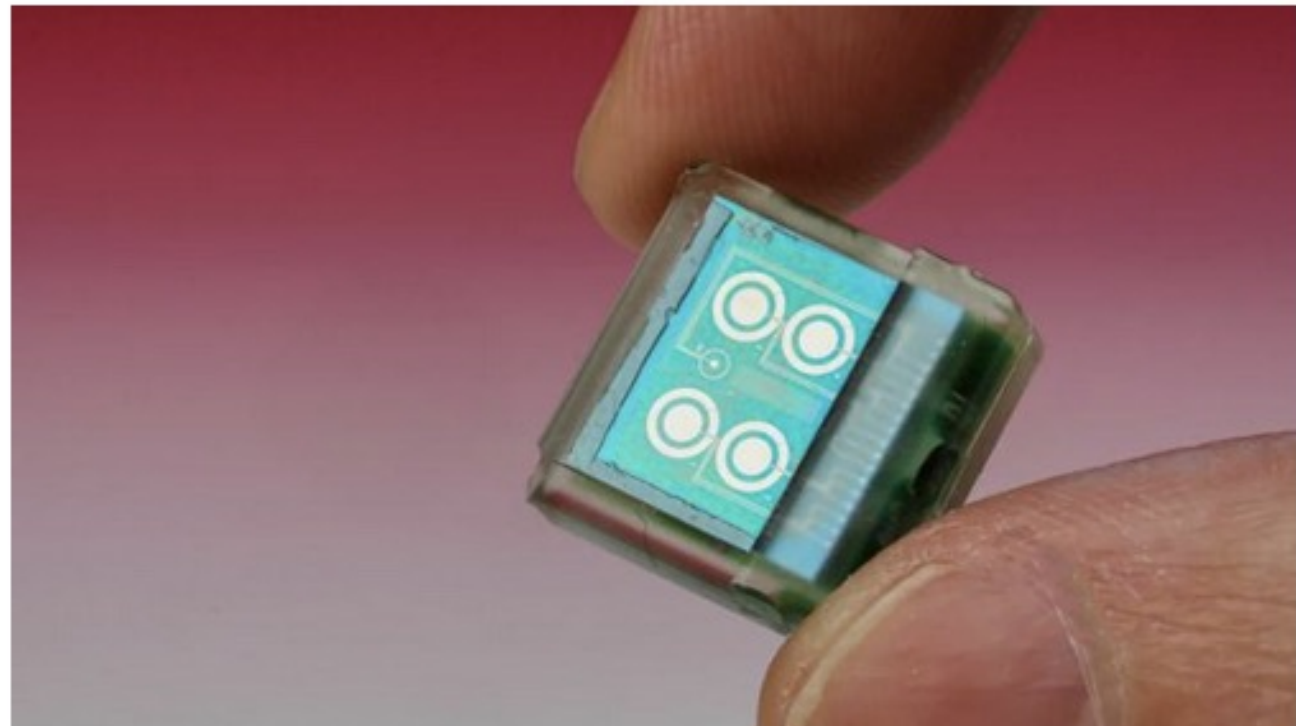
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A subcutaneous biosensor chip to revolutionize tomorrow's medicine

May 29, 2015 9:26 AM

[Relaxnews](#)





Q9

Does future implantable CMOS metabolism-monitors will ever been accepted by everyone?

- A. Not really
- B. No if there is not a life threat
- C. No if monitoring is not-related to more metabolites
- ☒ D. Yes, but easier by young generations
- E. Yes, that's easy to be accepted
- ☒ F. > 50%

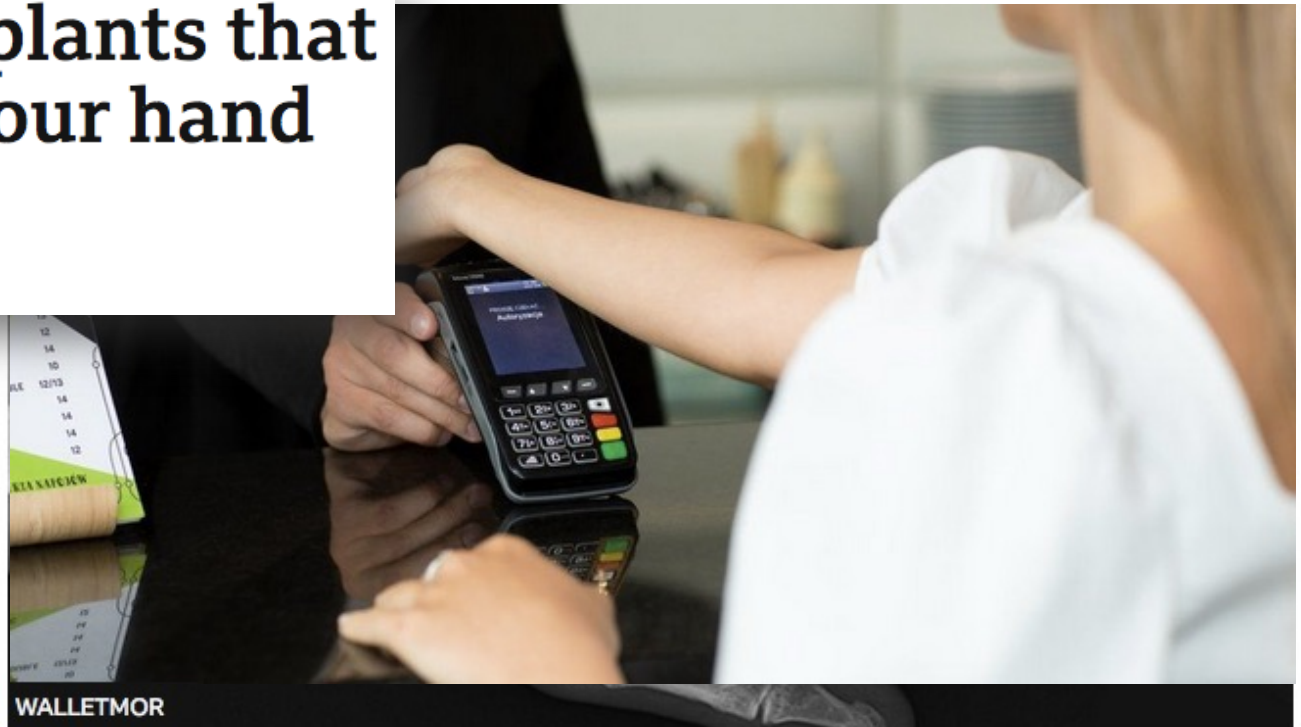
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The microchip implants that let you pay with your hand

By Katherine Latham
Business reporter

© April, 11th, 2022



WALLETMOR
An x-ray showing a Walletmor implant, which are injected into a person's hand after a local anaesthetic

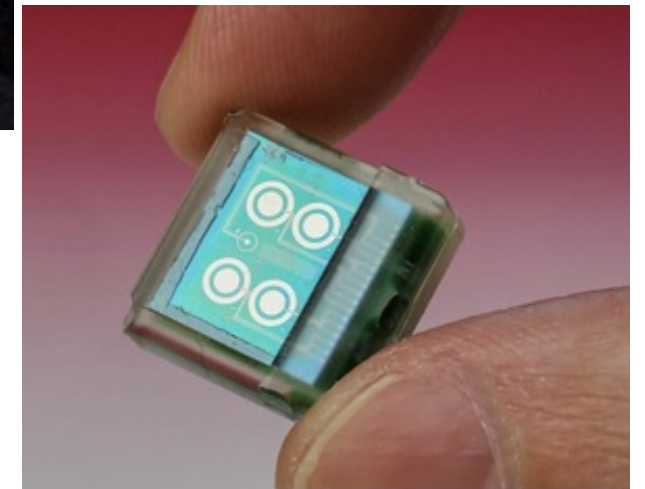
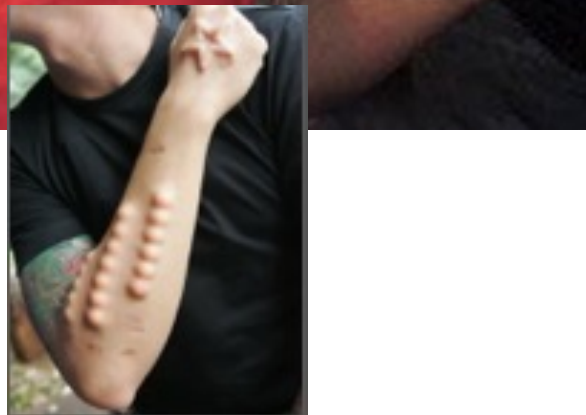
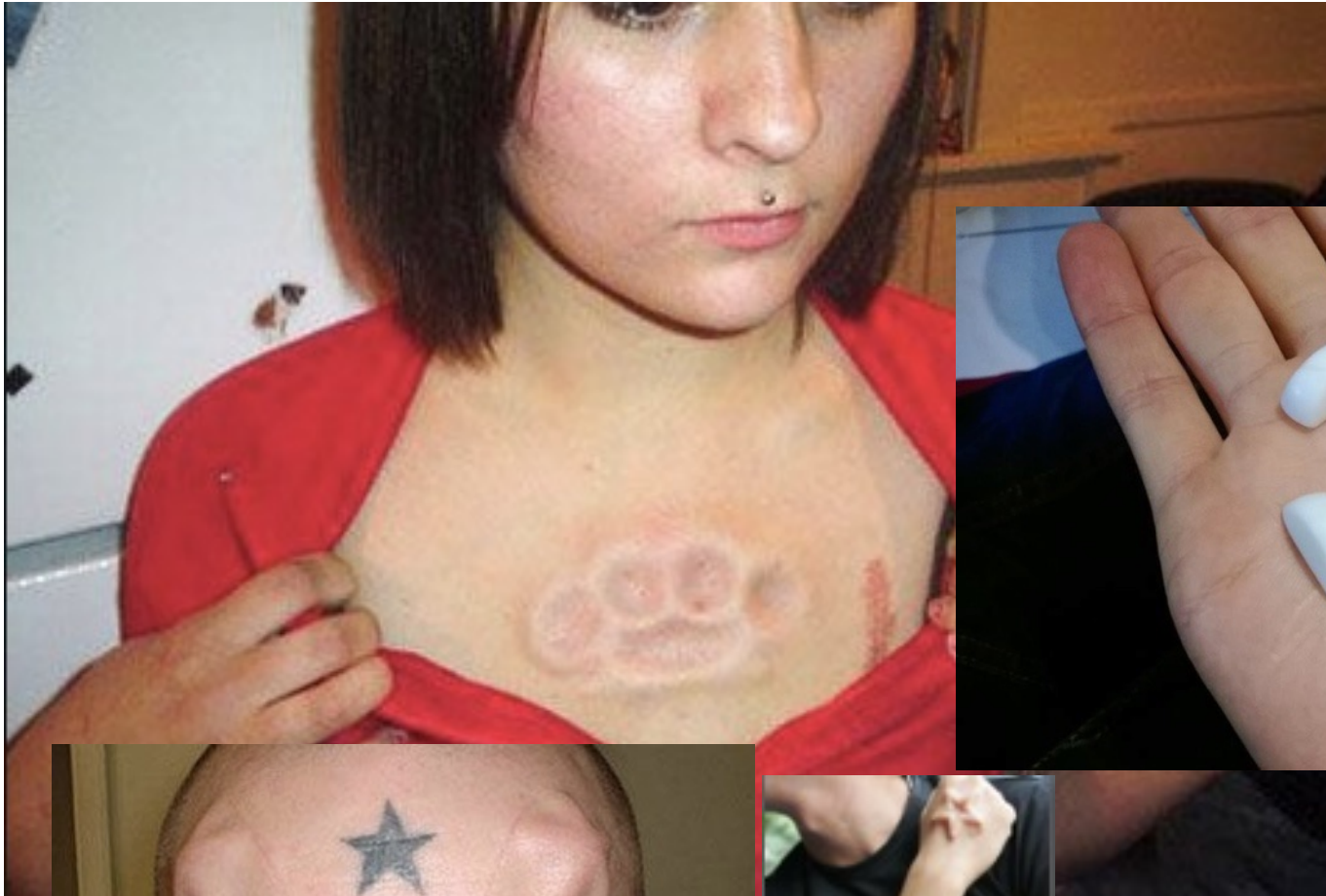
For many of us, the idea of having such a chip implanted in our body is an appalling one, but a 2021 survey of more than 4,000 people across the UK and the European Union found that 51% would consider it.

Chips under the skin?



[EuroNews, June 2015]

Under the skin for body sculpting

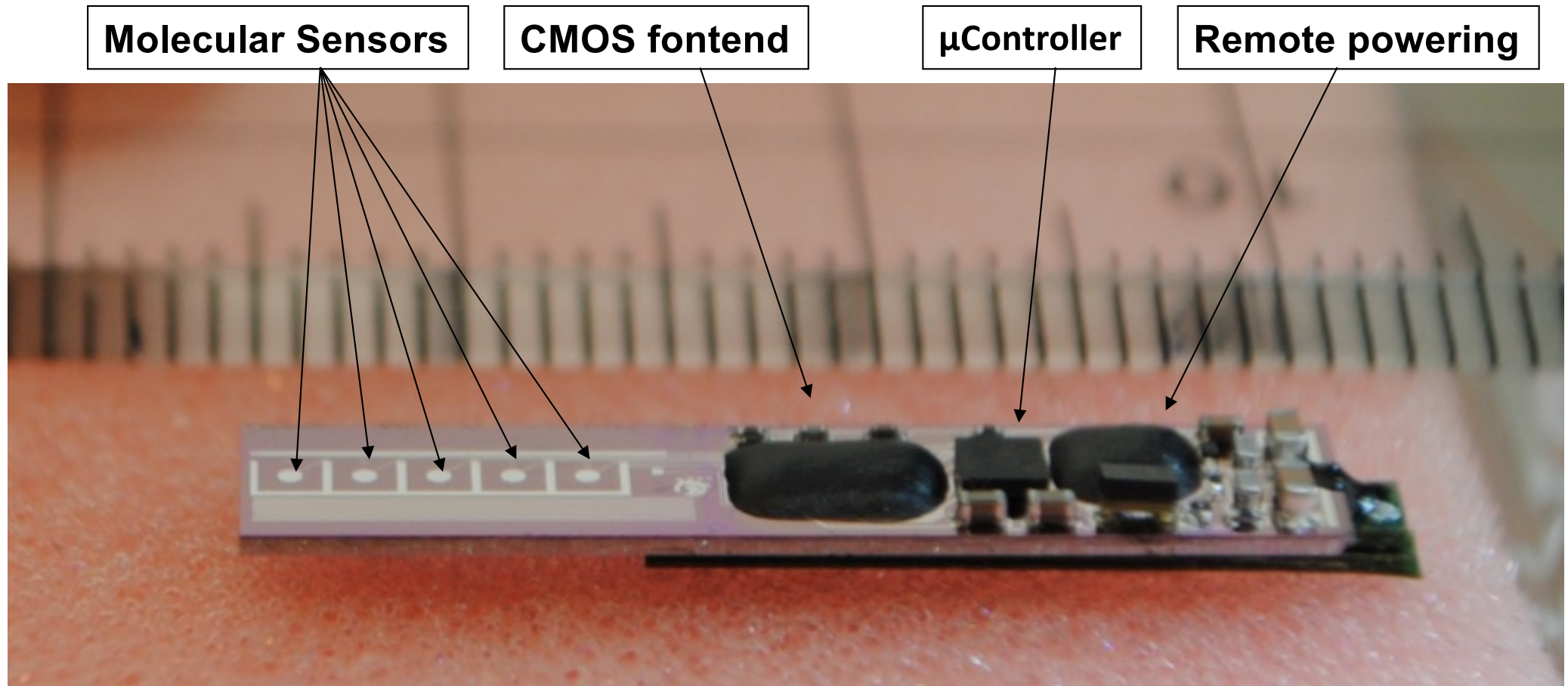


(c) S.Carrara

Enhancing human being



Size and Shape to be injectable as a Needle?



The IC has been fabricated in UMC 0.18 technology and interfaced to the passive multi-panel platform

ECG monitoring by Medtronic



Mark Phelps by Medtronic, and the Reveal LINQ™ system



Q10

May we built a CMOS interface working with all kind of biosensors?

- A. Some times, not always
- B. No if the CMOS is not in contact with the hosting body
- C. Might be but that's not easier to be done
- D. Yes, since we need biological functions
- ☒ E. Not at all

EE-517: Bio-Nano-Chip Design

Subject of the week	Chapter' paragraphs*
Introduction to Bio-Nano-Chip design, and Conductive Solutions	§1.1-1.5, §2.1-2.7, §2.14-15
Biological molecules: Proteins and DNA building blocks	§3.5-9, §4.13 and §4.17-18
Biological molecules interactions (DNA, Antibodies, Oxidases and Cytochromes)	§4.4-17 and §4.19-23
Biosensors Principle with DNA, Antibodies, and Enzymes	§6.1-4 and §8.2
Biosensors Principle by Redox reactions and Faradaic processes	§8.4-8
Nanotechnology for molecular assembly on chip' surfaces (absorption models)	§5.1
Nanotechnology for checking molecular assembly on chip' surfaces (SPR+ AFM)	§5.2
Nanotechnology to prevent electron transfer	§6.3-7
Nanotechnology to enhance electron transfer in redox reactions	§8.4-8, and 8.3 and 8.9
Chip design for electrochemical sensing: basic configurations and equivalent circuits	§9.1-9.2
Amperometric biosensing in constant-bias (Current-to-Voltage & FTCC Methods)	§9.1.2 and 9.3-5
Amperometric biosensing in voltage-scan (VDCM & DDSM Methods)	§10.3-5
Label-free capacitance detection (CBCM & FTCM Methods)	§7.2-6
Review for final exam	

Bio

Nano

CMOS

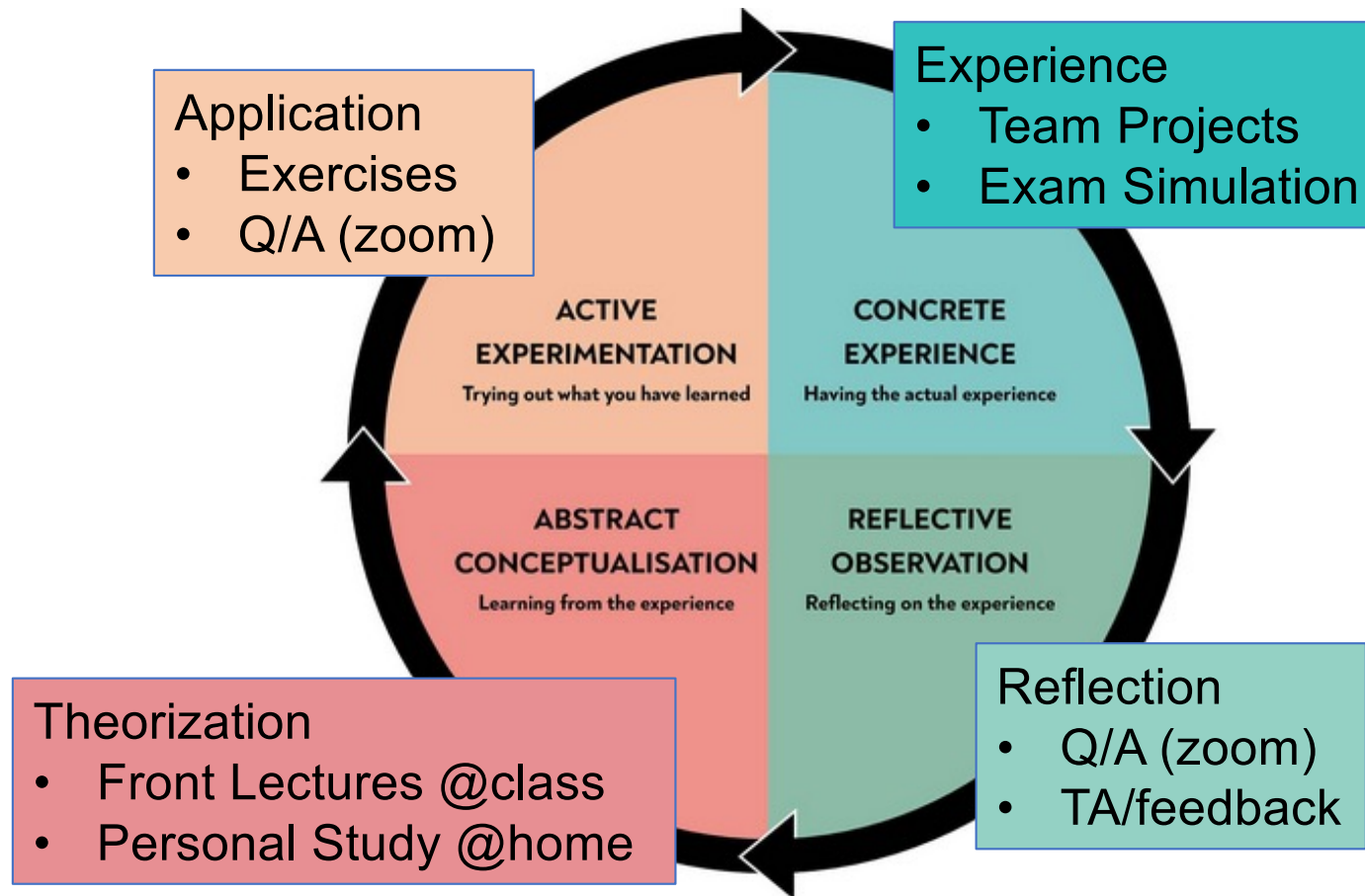
* textbook : Sandro Carrara, Bio/CMOS interfaces and Co-Design, Springer publisher, New York, 2013



Master in Electrical and Electronics Engineering

EE-517: Bio-Nano-Chip Design





Kolb experimental learning cycle

The Course Textbook

Bio/CMOS Interfaces and Co-Design – Springer

link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-1-4614-4690-3

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Sandro Carrara

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Authors: Sandro Carrara

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Table of contents (10 chapters)

Front Matter

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Book Chapter

Introduction

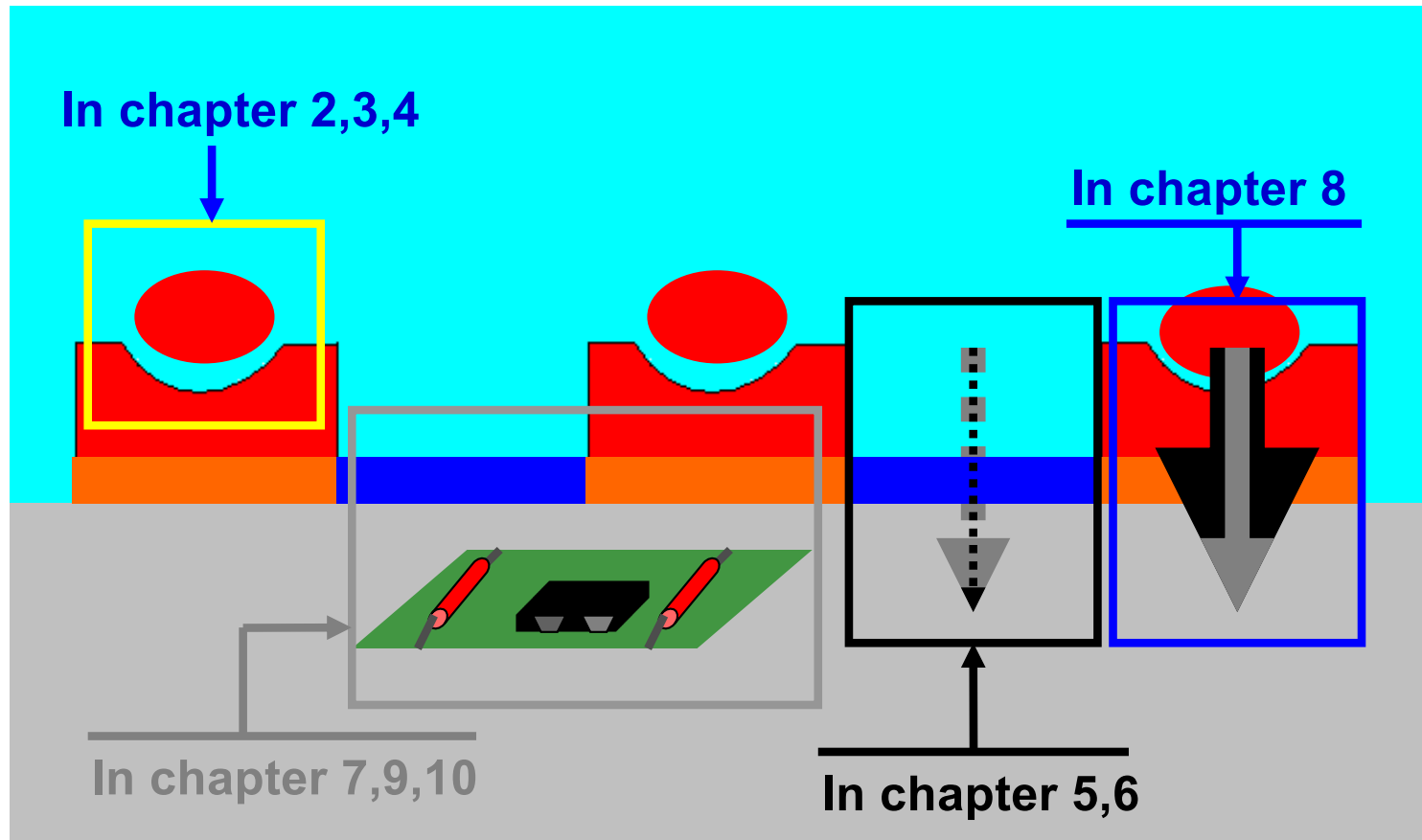
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Other actions

Bio/CMOS interface book



Introduction to Personal electronics, Distributed Diagnostics, and Bio/CMOS interfaces in Chapter 1

Lecture #1

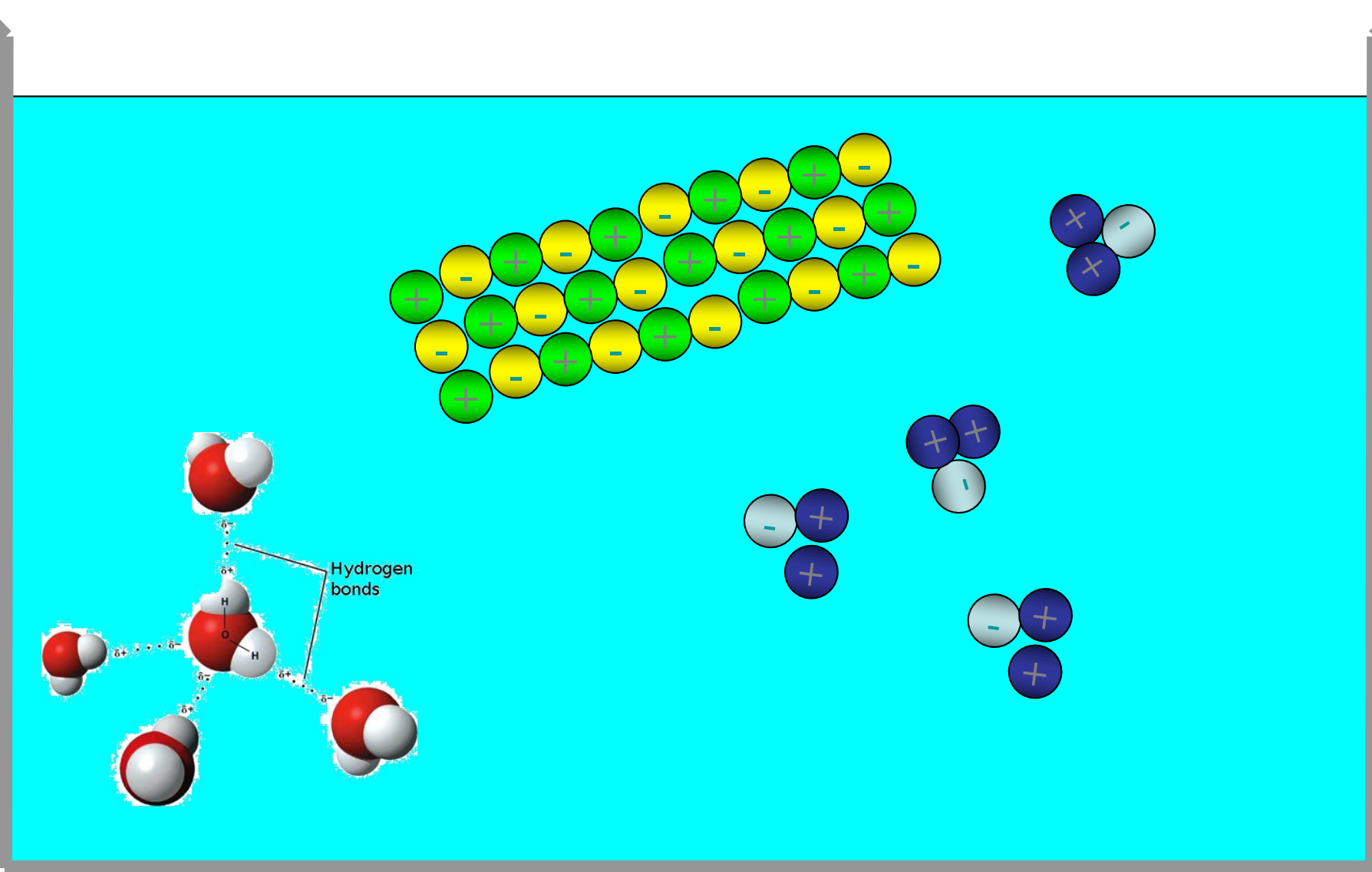
Conductive Solutions

Lecture Outline

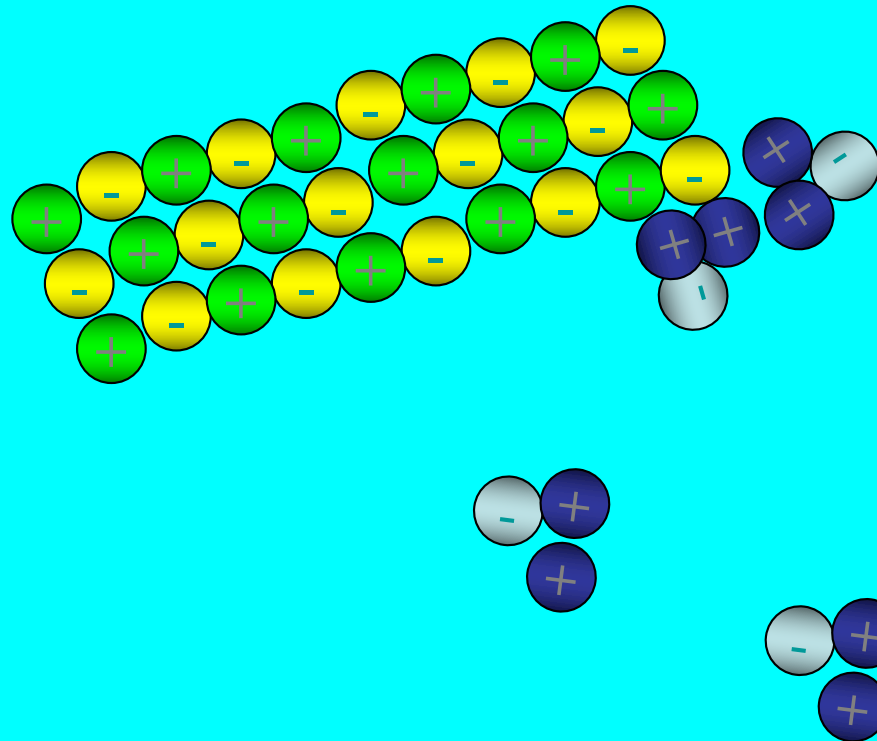
(Book Bio/CMOS: Chapter' paragraphs § 2.1-2.7 and § 2.14-15)

- Solutions of ionic solutes
- Solutions of electrolytes
- Conductive Solutions
- Helmholtz planes
- Redox reactions
- pH

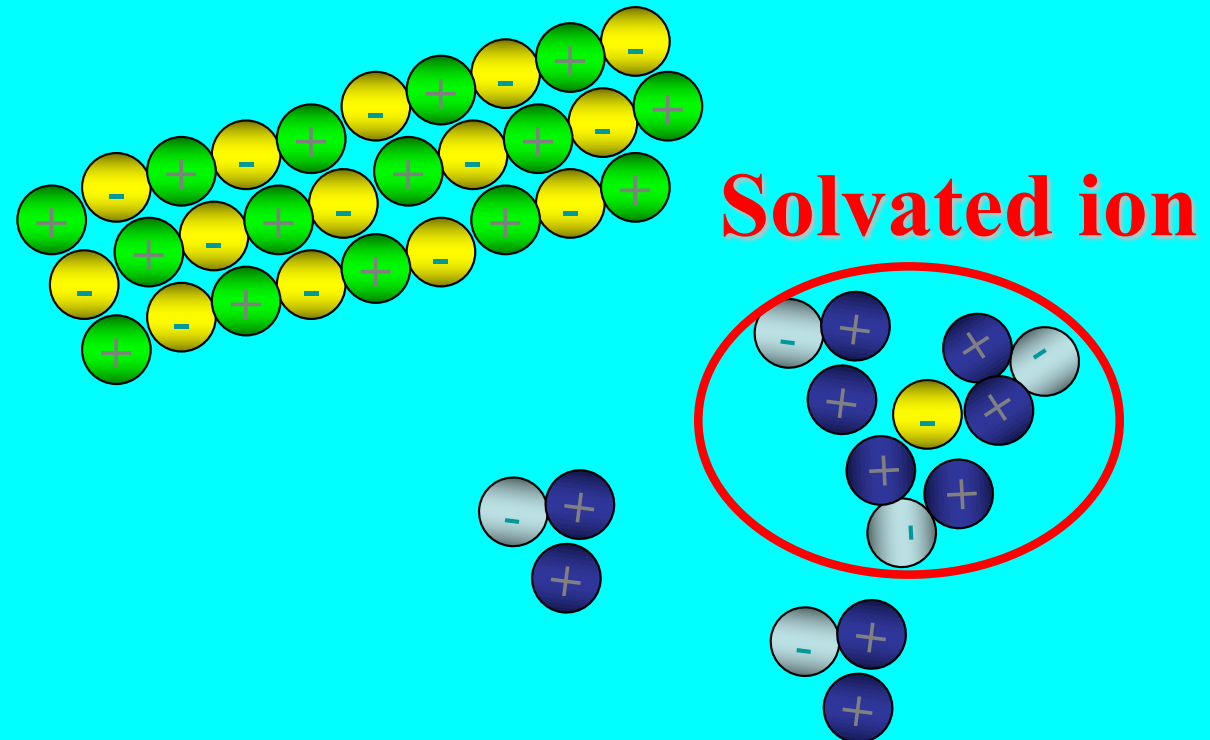
Liquid Solution: Ionic Solid in liquid



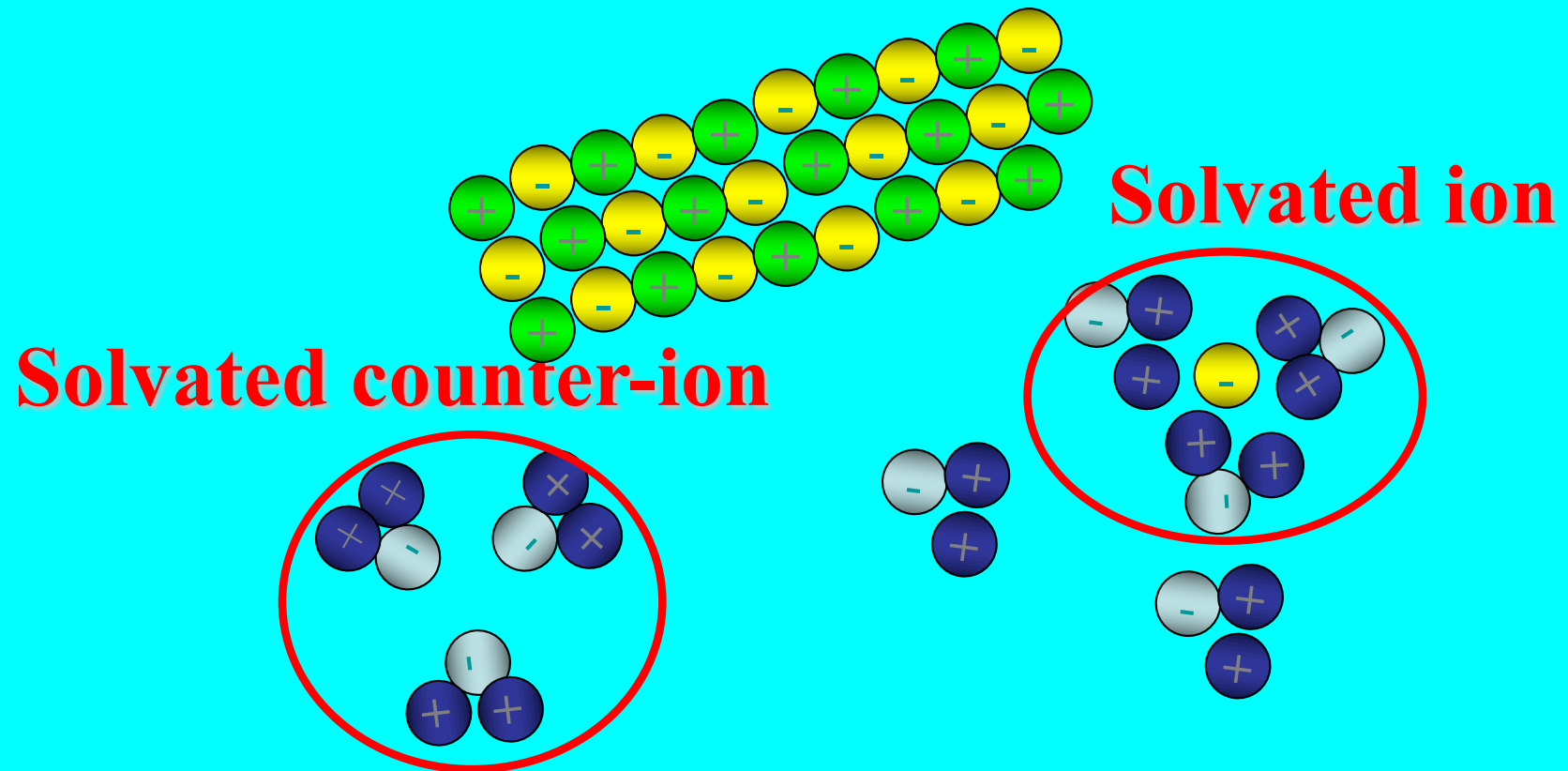
Liquid Solution: Ionic Solid in liquid



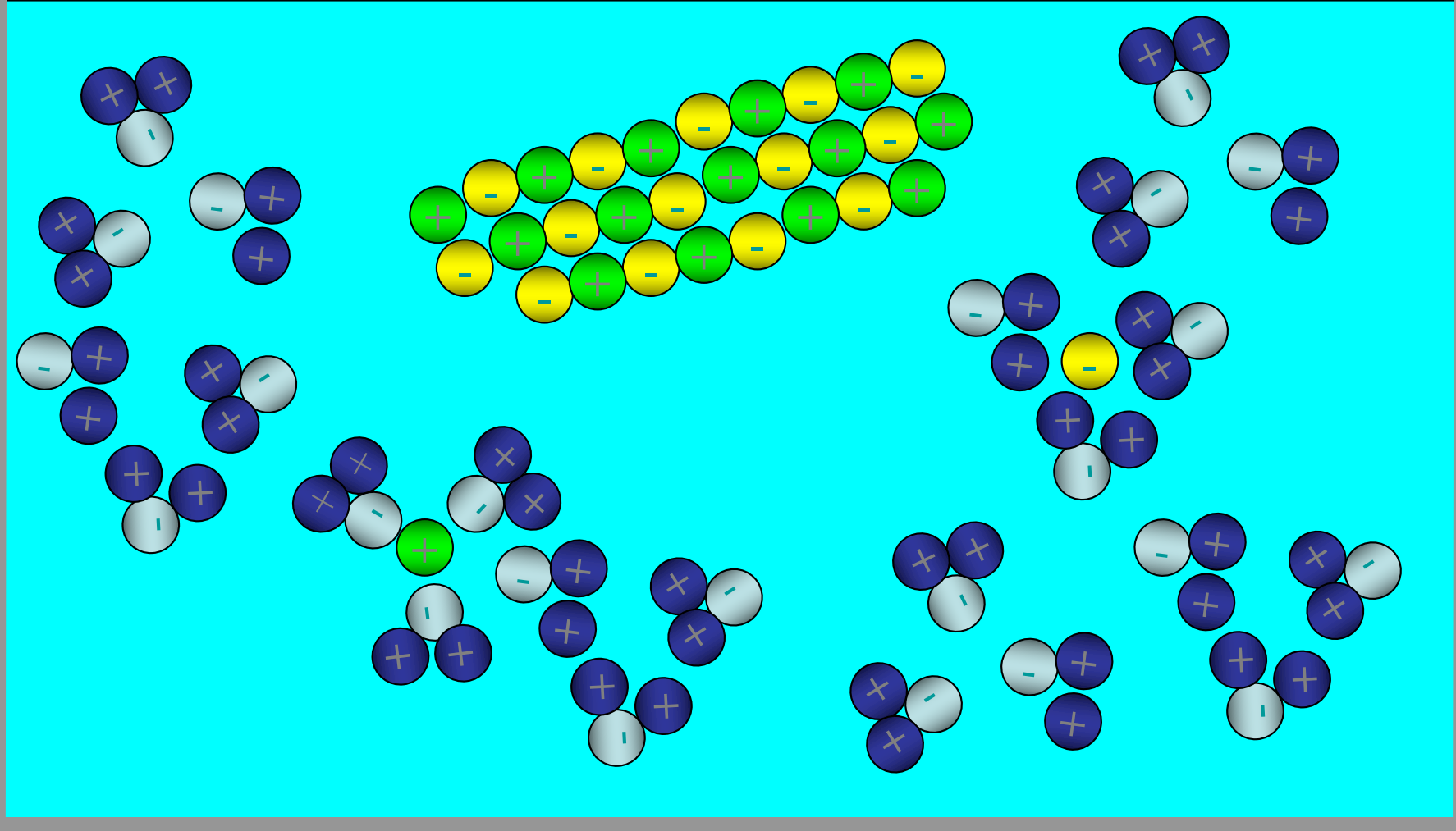
Liquid Solution: Ionic Solid in liquid



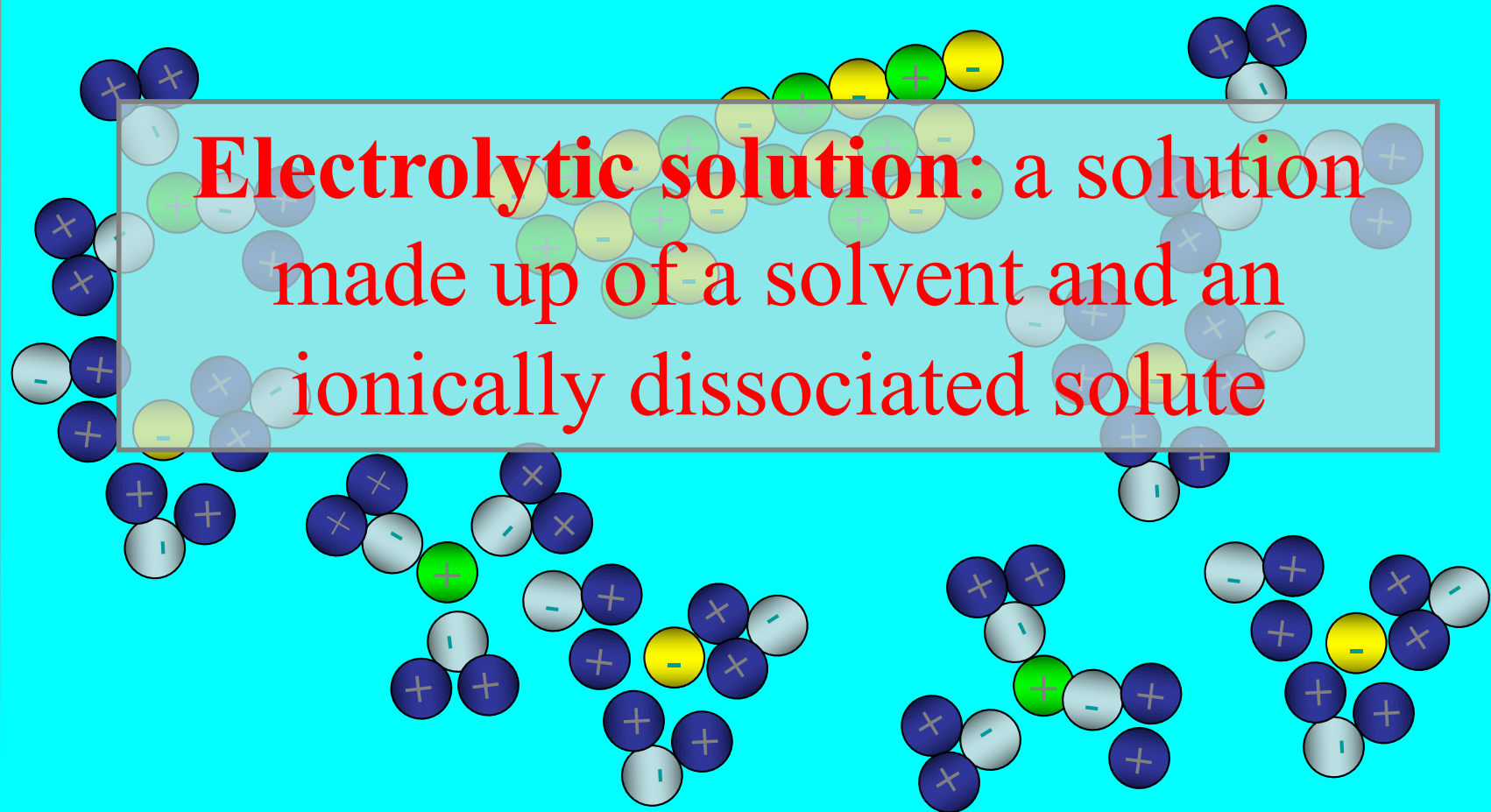
Liquid Solution: Ionic Solid in liquid



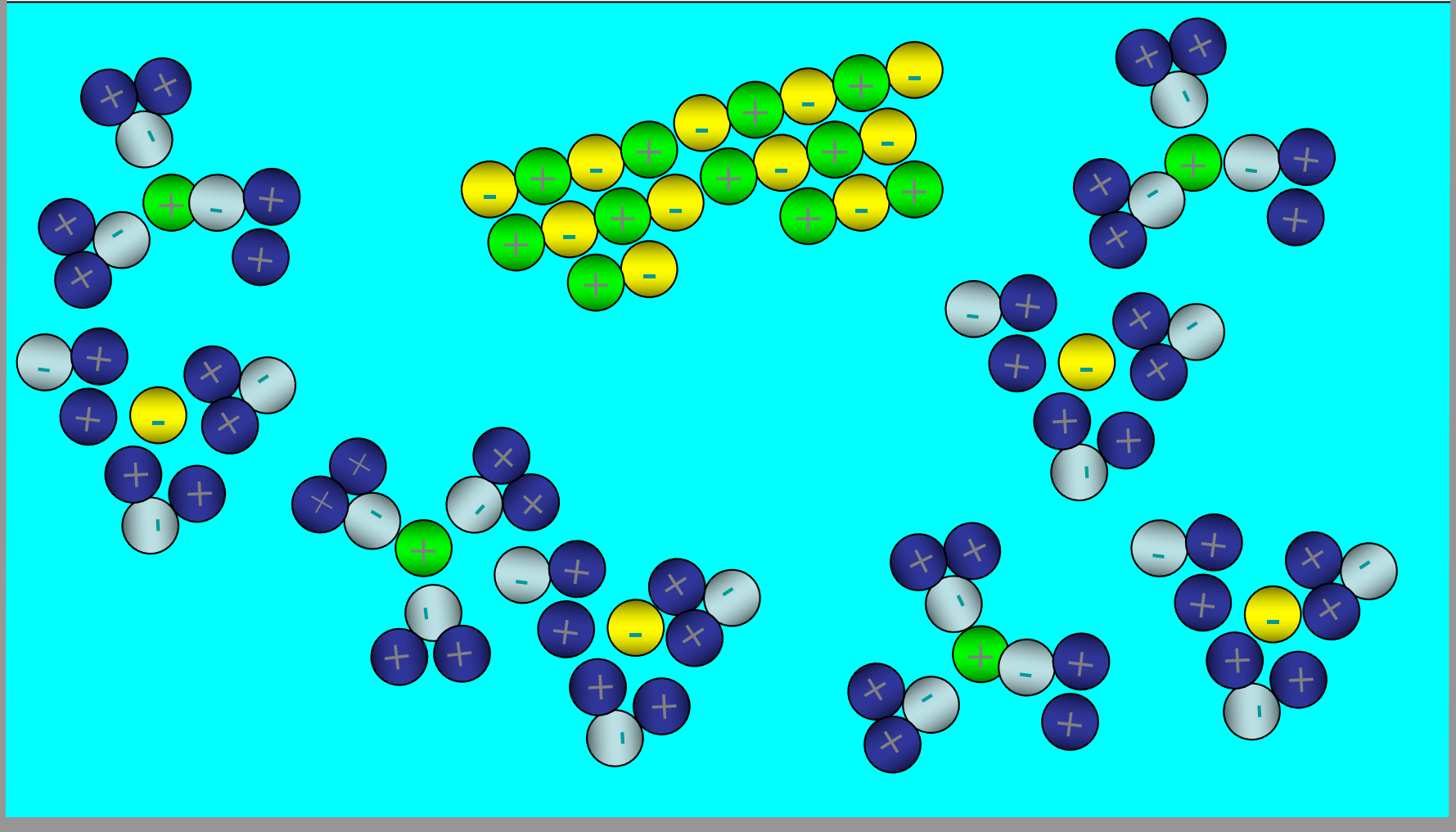
Liquid Solution: Ionic Solid in liquid



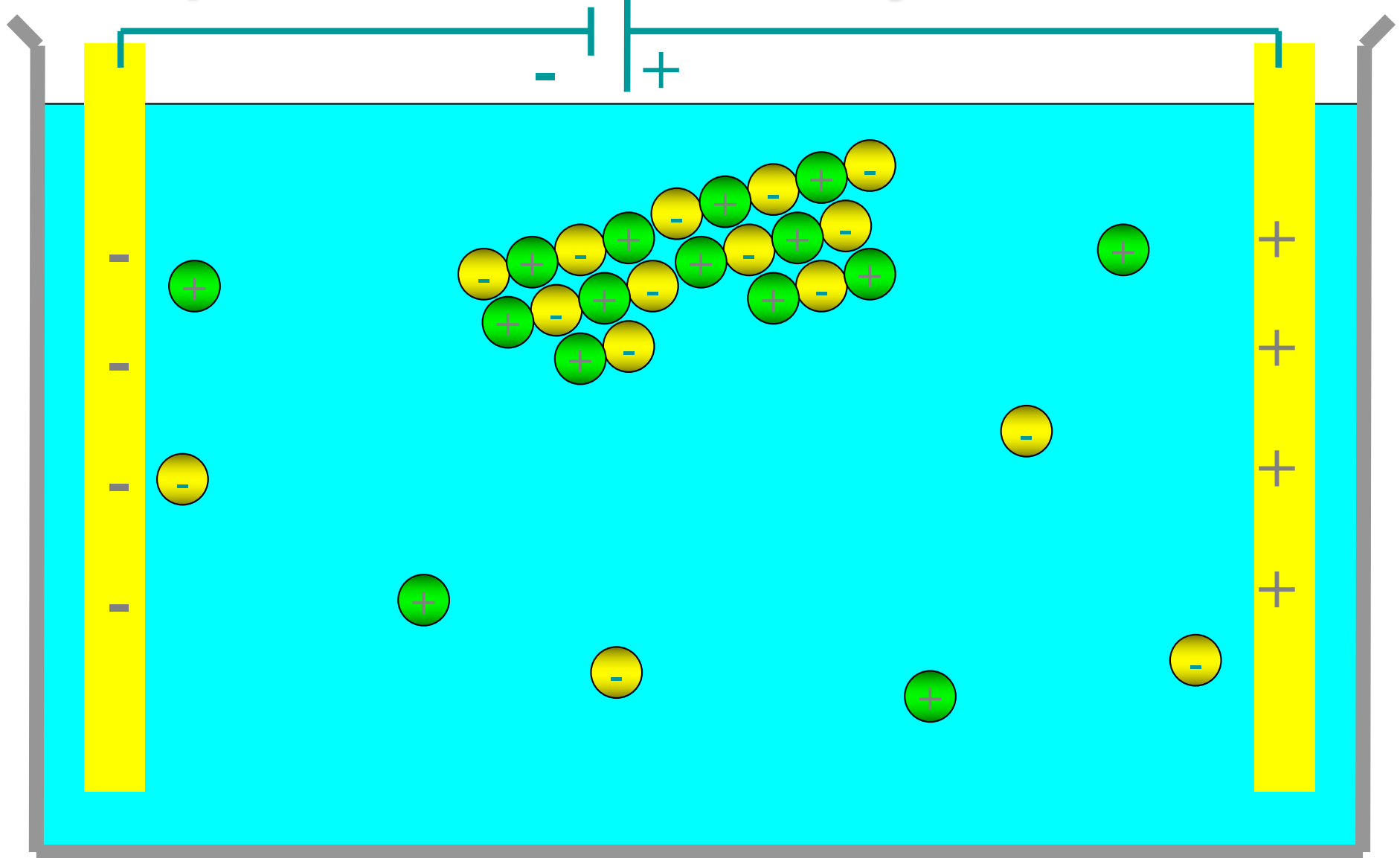
Liquid Solution: Ionic Solid in liquid



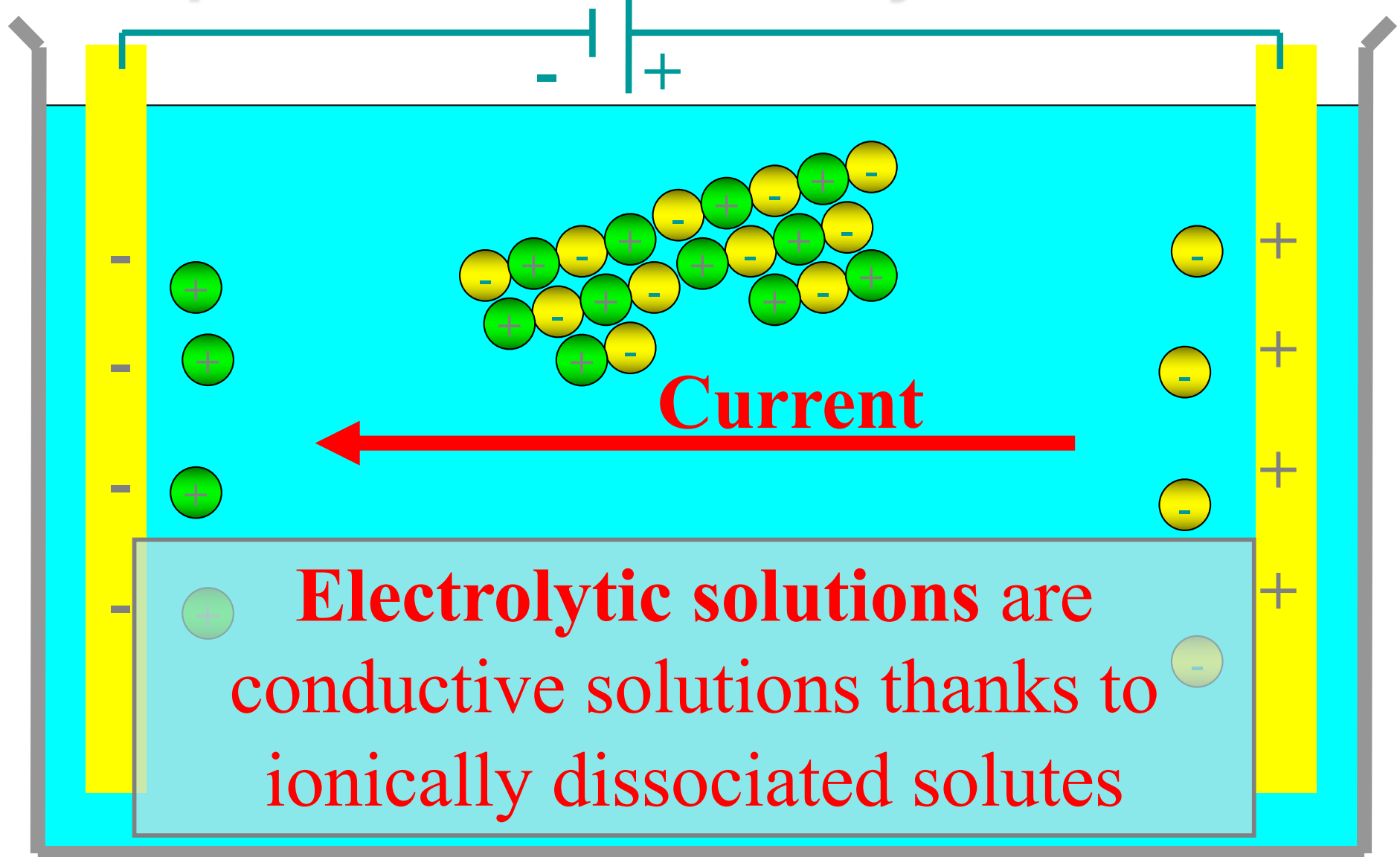
Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution

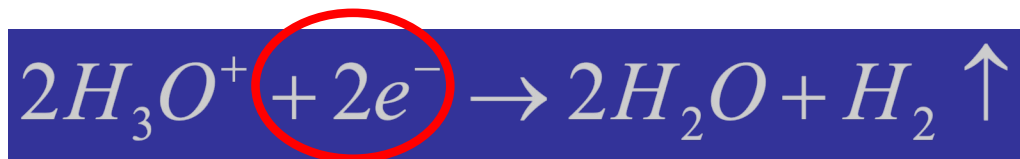


Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



Ionic Solution of HCl

Dissociation of Chloride Acid

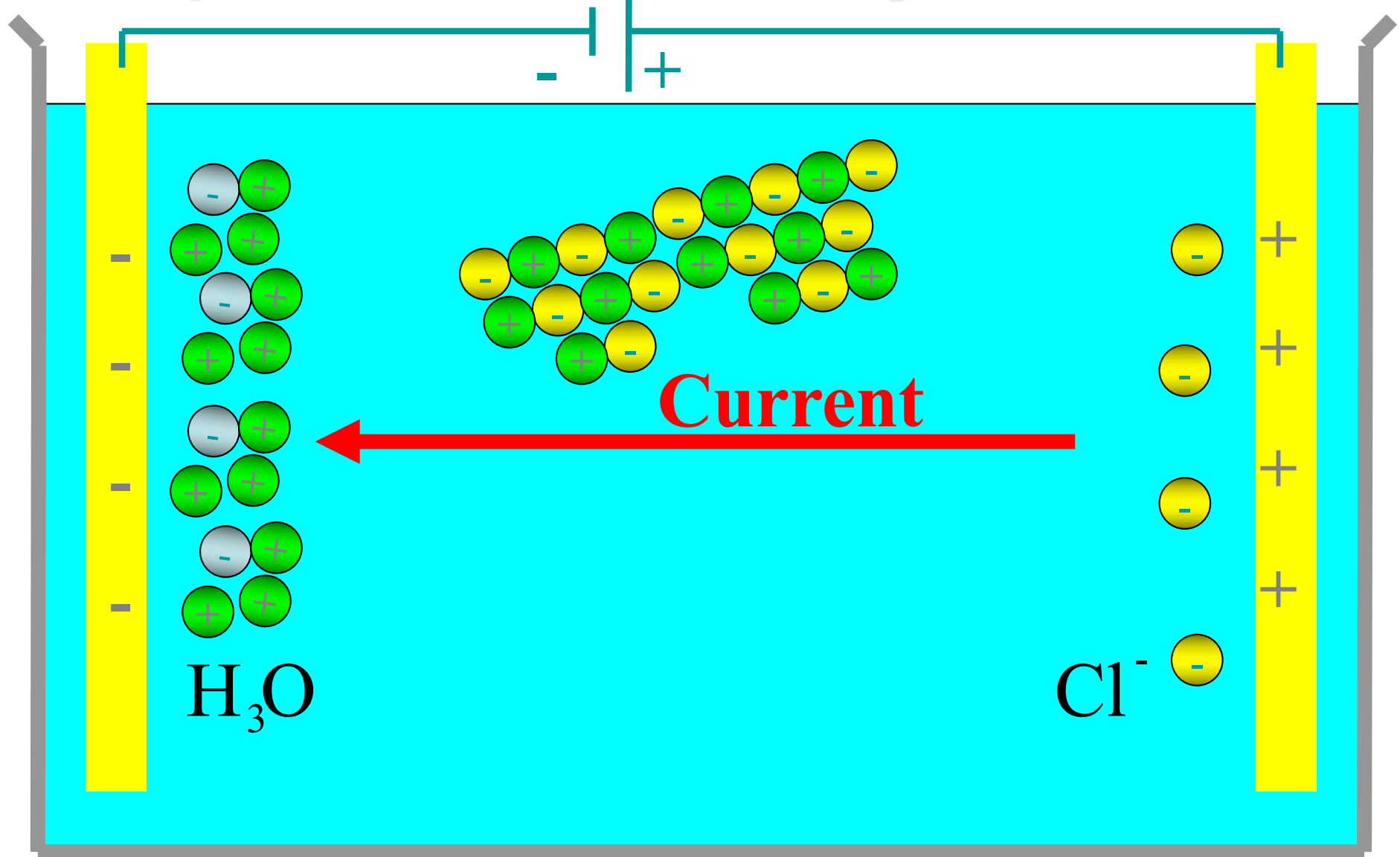


- **Electrode (Cathode)**

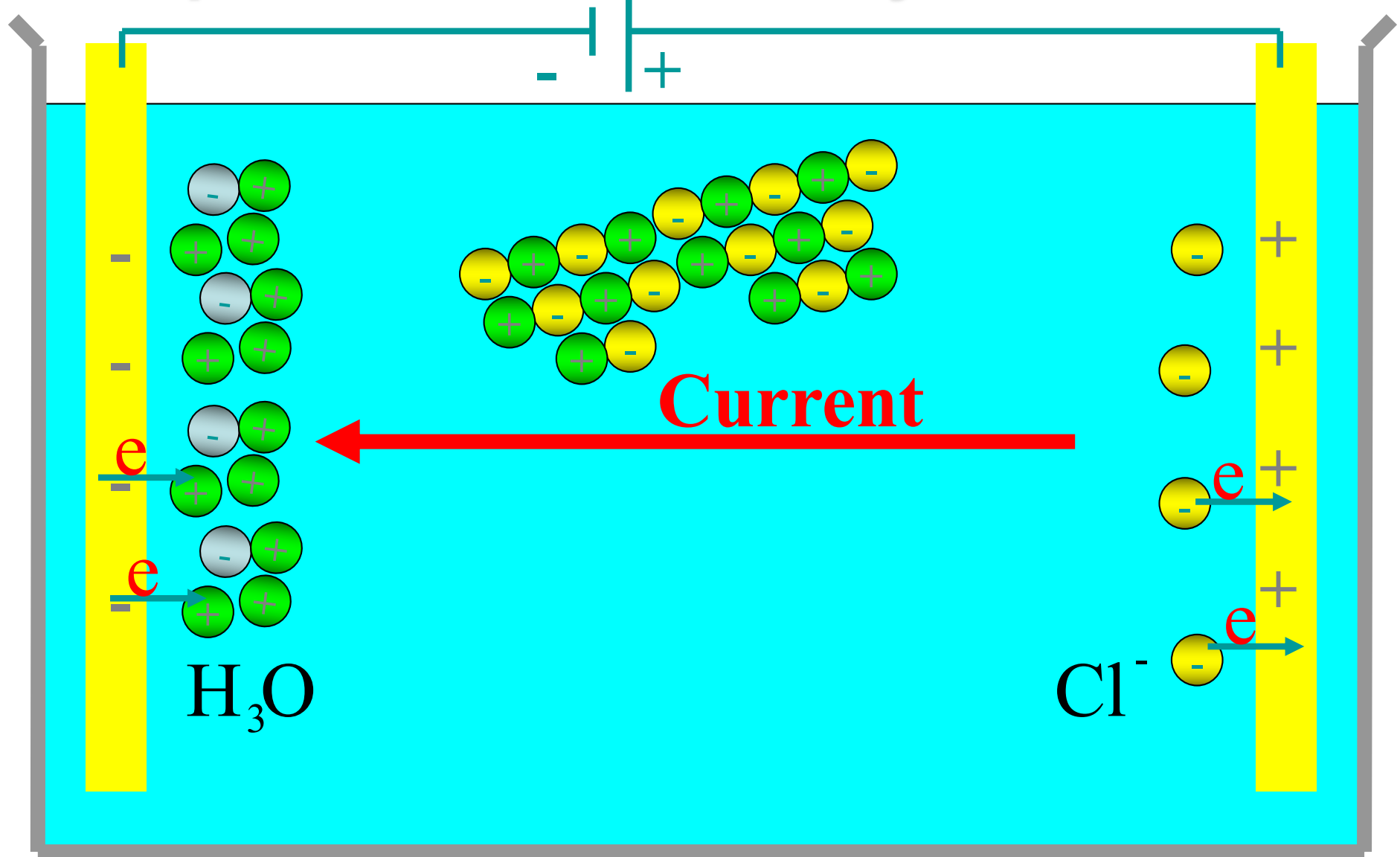


+ **Electrode (Anode)**

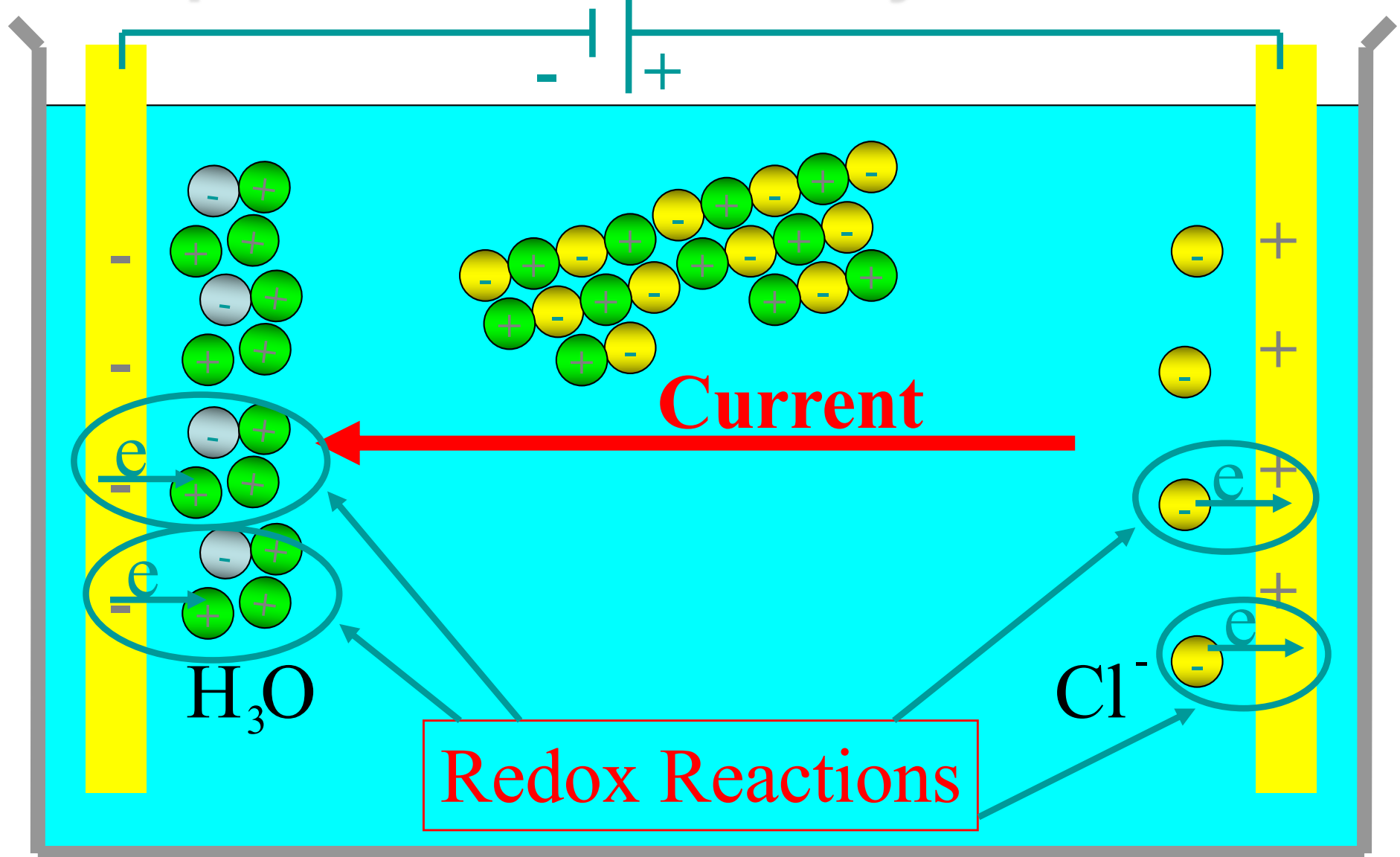
Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



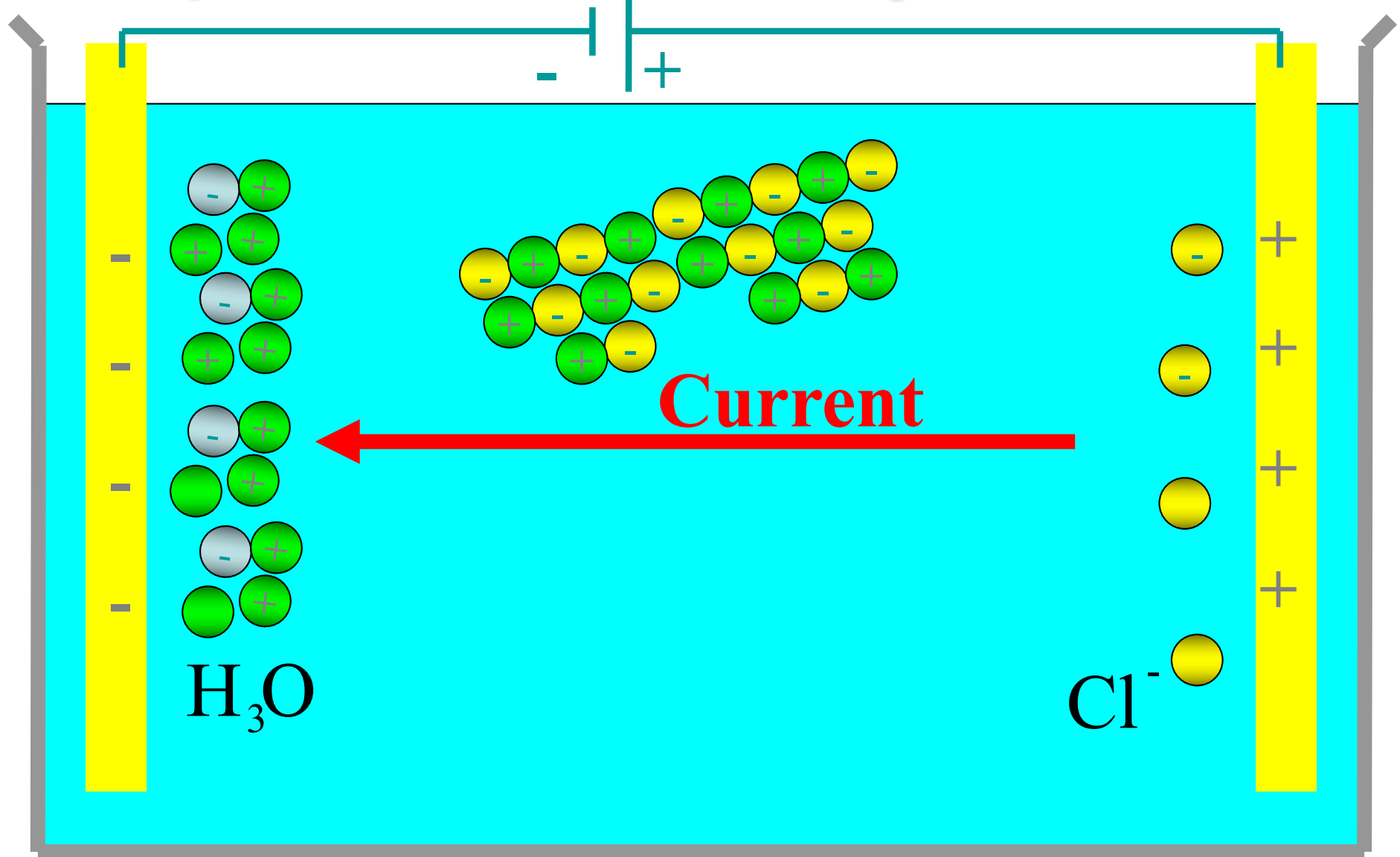
Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



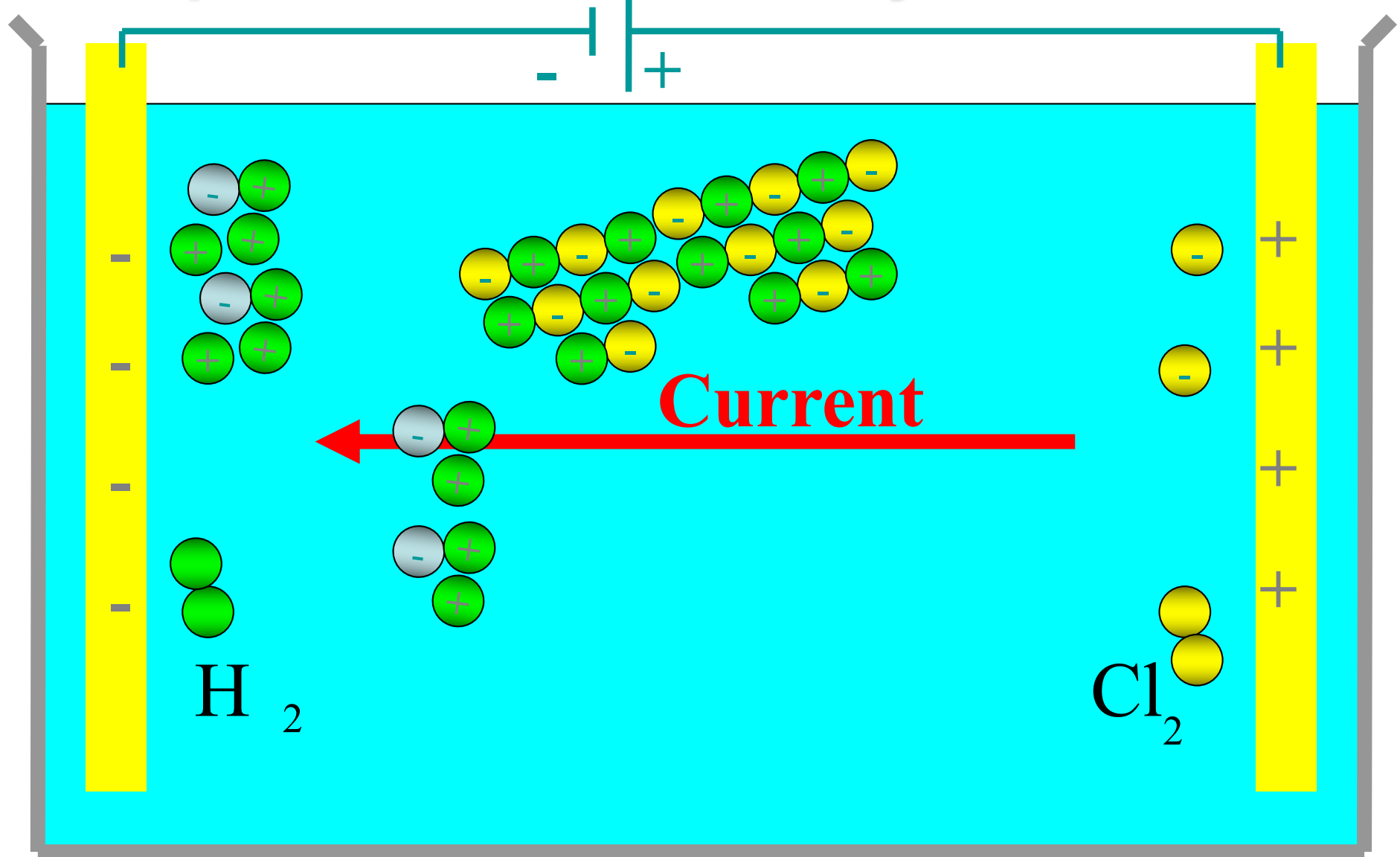
Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



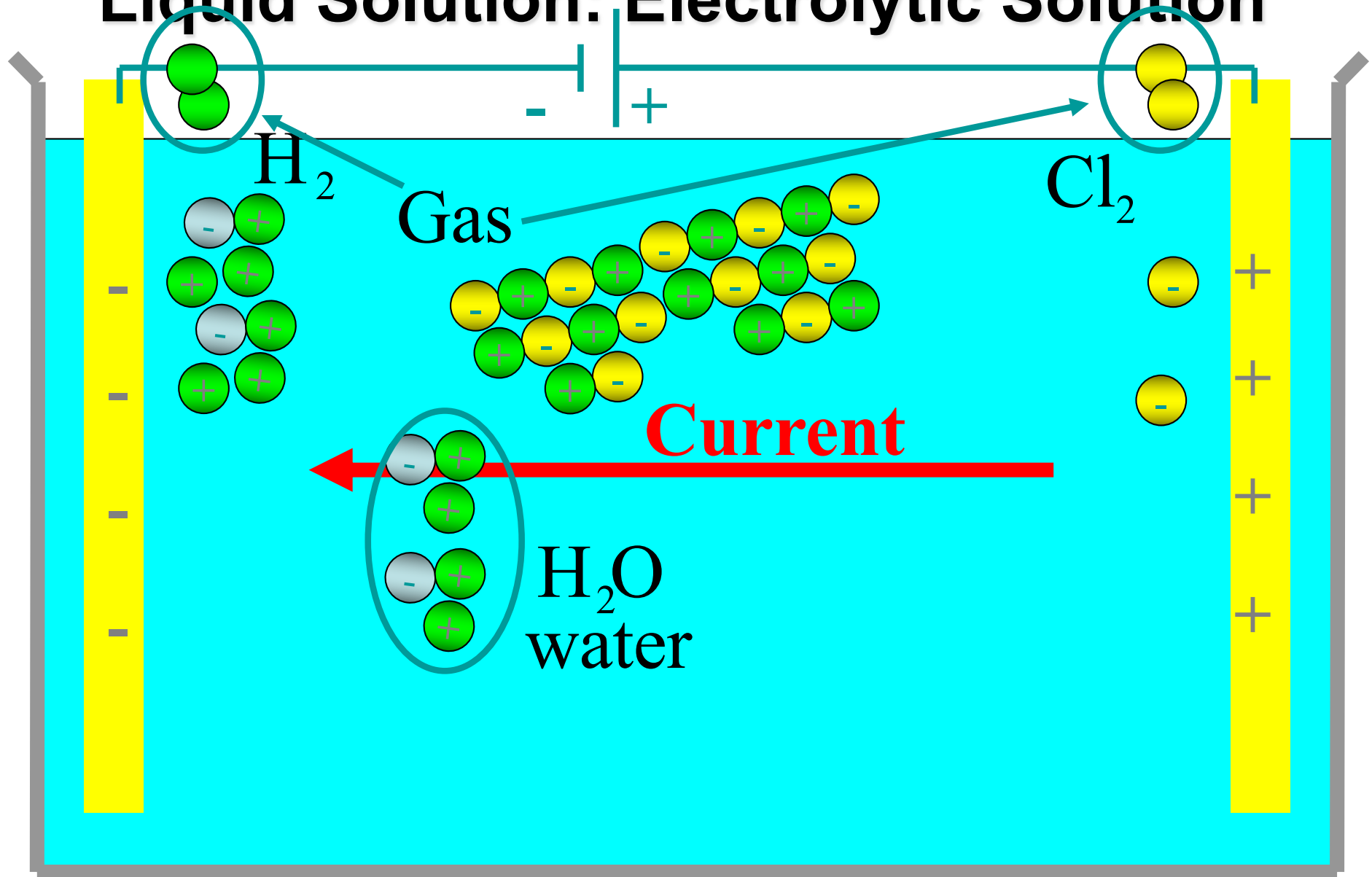
Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



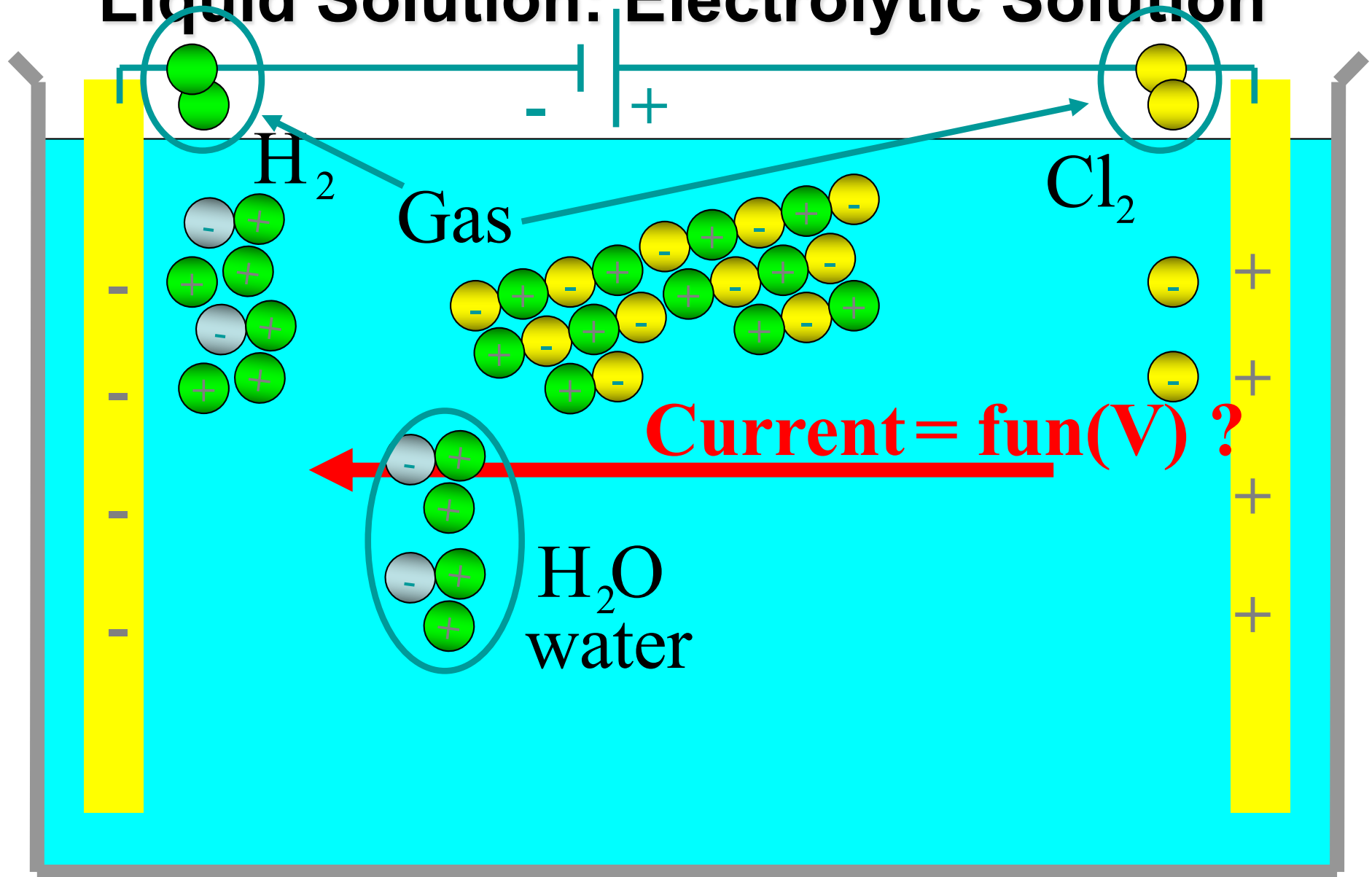
Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



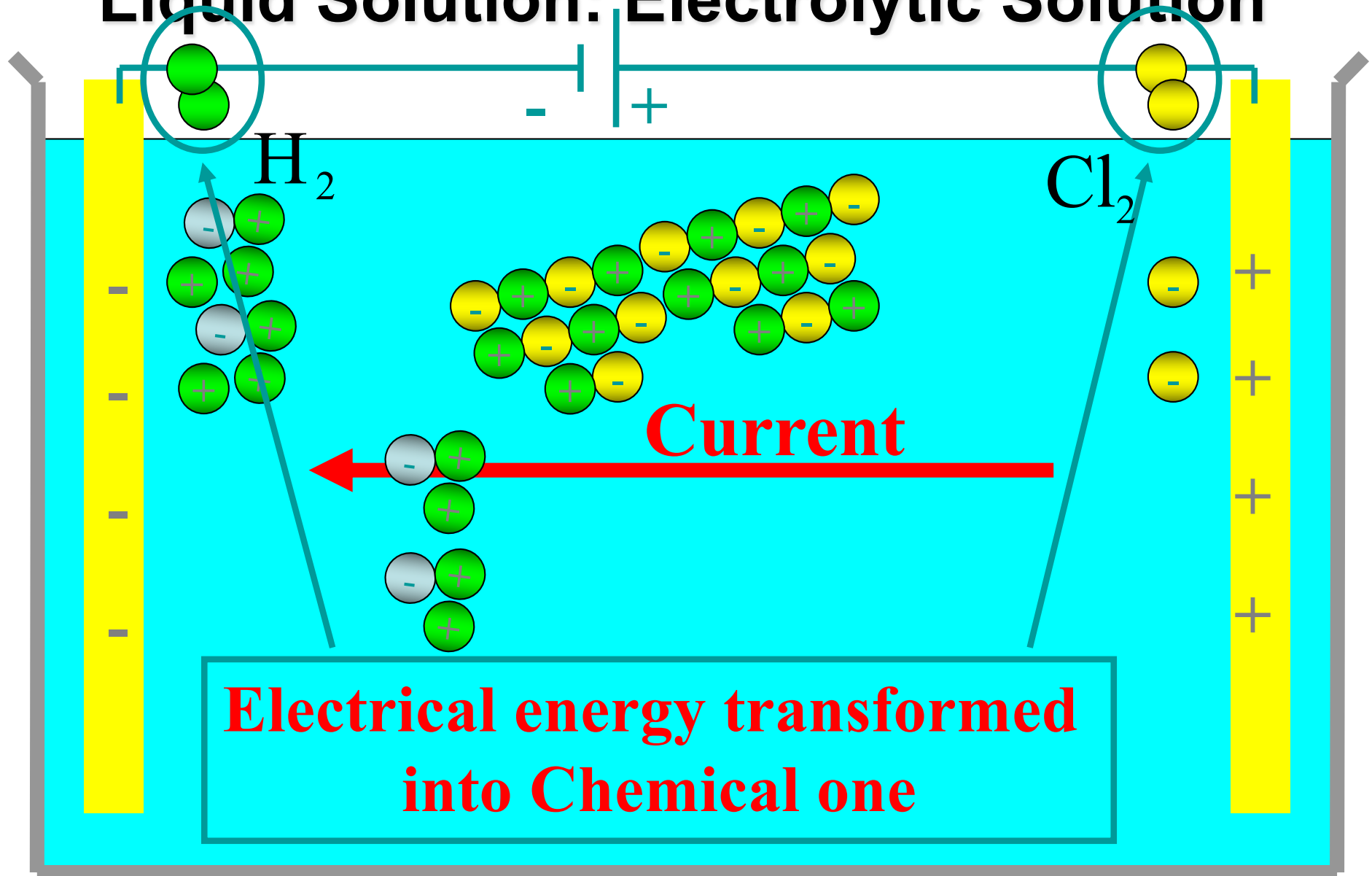


Q11

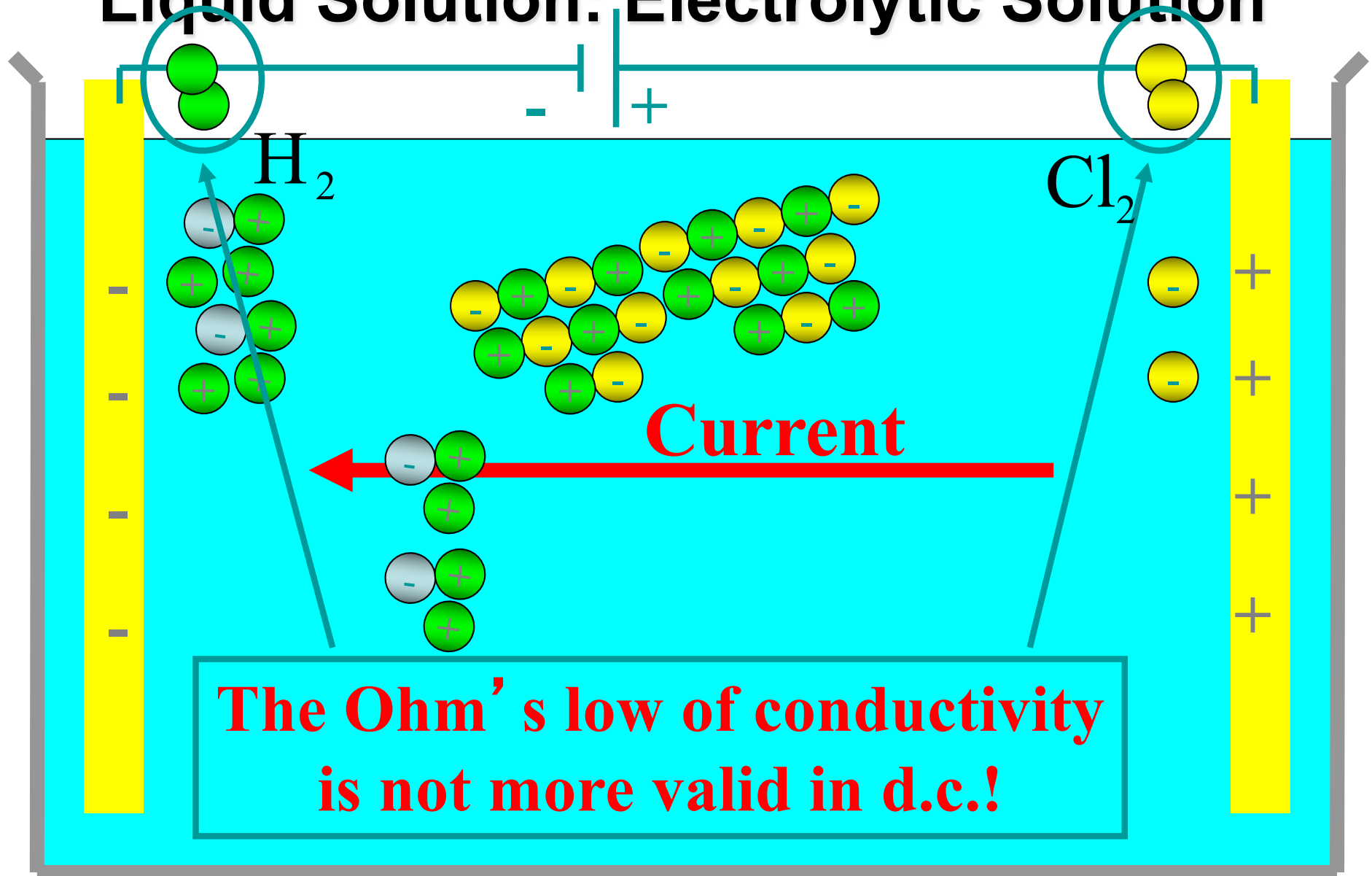
Does the Ohm law is still valid
in electrolytic solutions?

- A. Yes, of course!
- B. It depends on kind of solution
- C. It depends on the concentration of the solution
- ☒ D. It depends on kind of current
- E. Not at all!

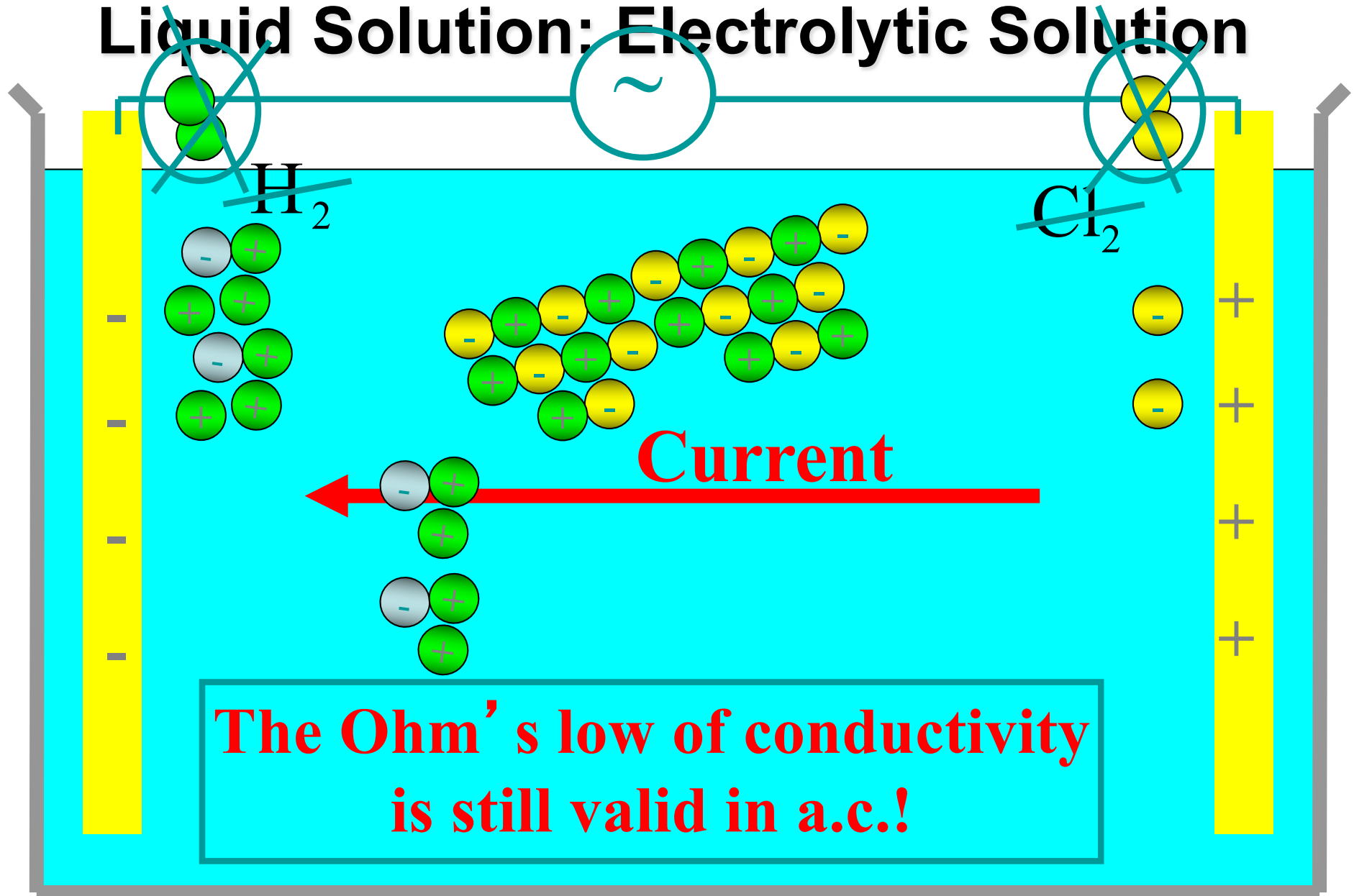
Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution

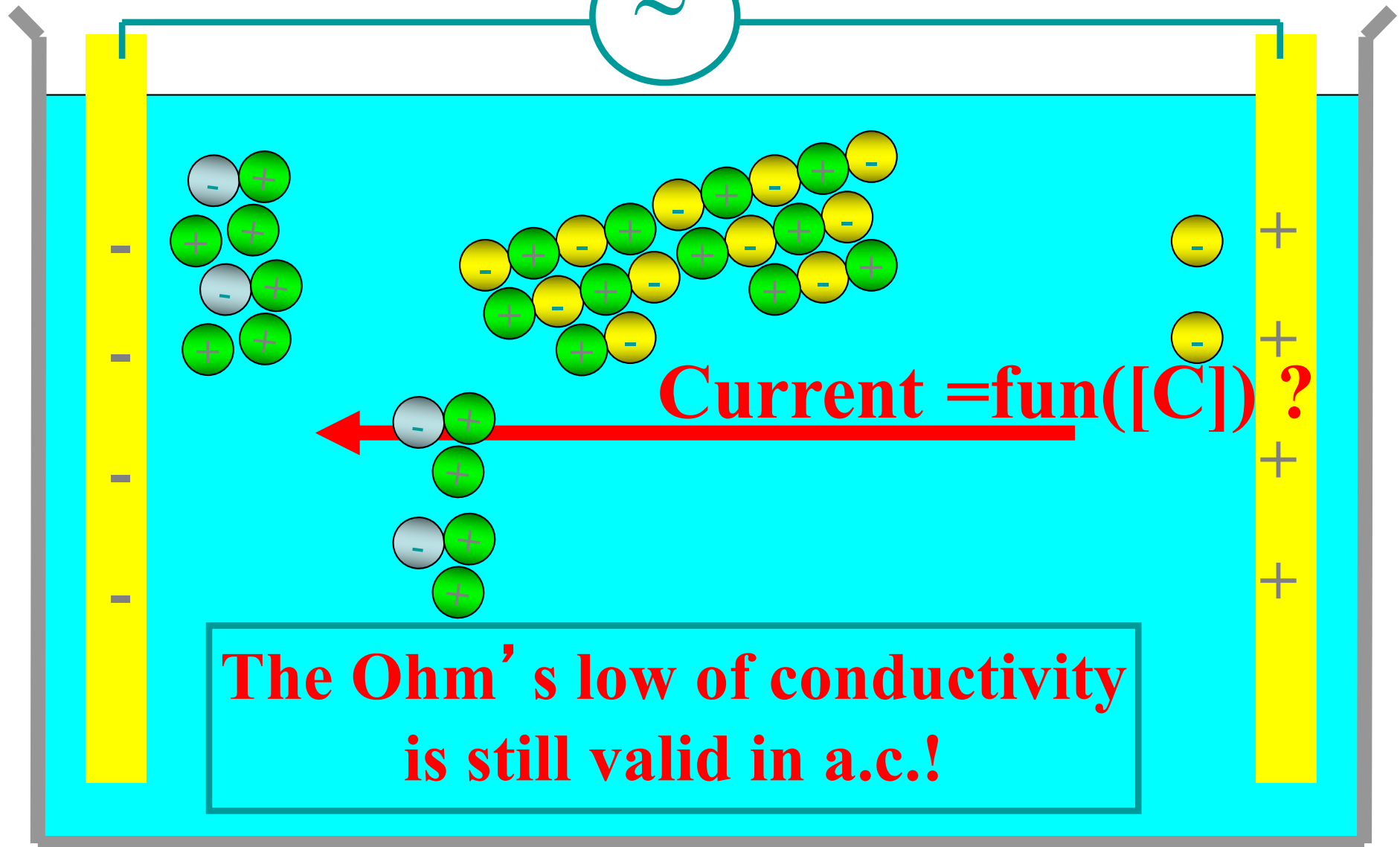


Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



**The Ohm's law of conductivity
is still valid in a.c.!**

Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution





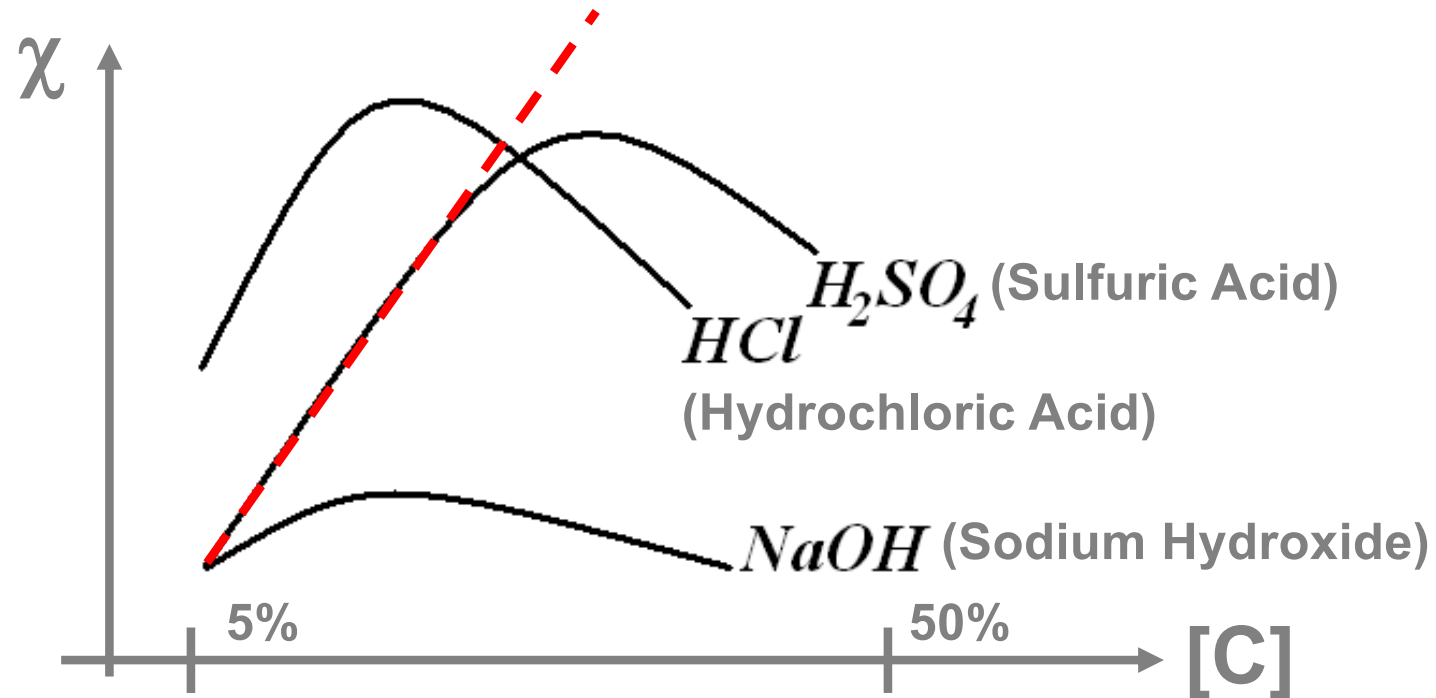
Q12

Does the conductivity is linear with the solution' concentration?

- A. Yes, of course!
- B. It depends on kind of solution
- ☒ C. It depends on the concentration of the solution
- D. It depends on kind of current
- E. Not at all!

a.c. Conductivity in Ionic Solutions

Solution Conductivity



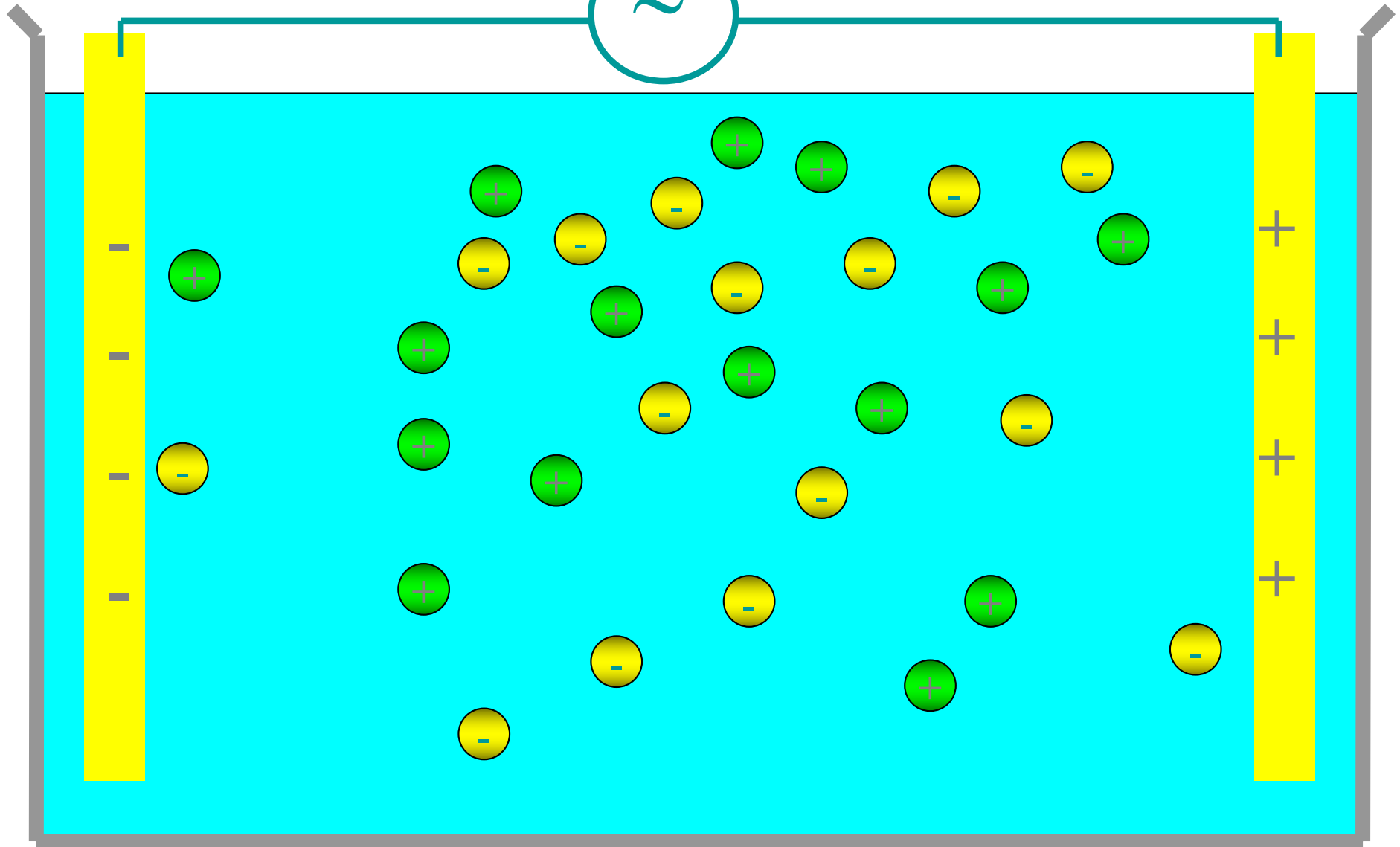


Q13

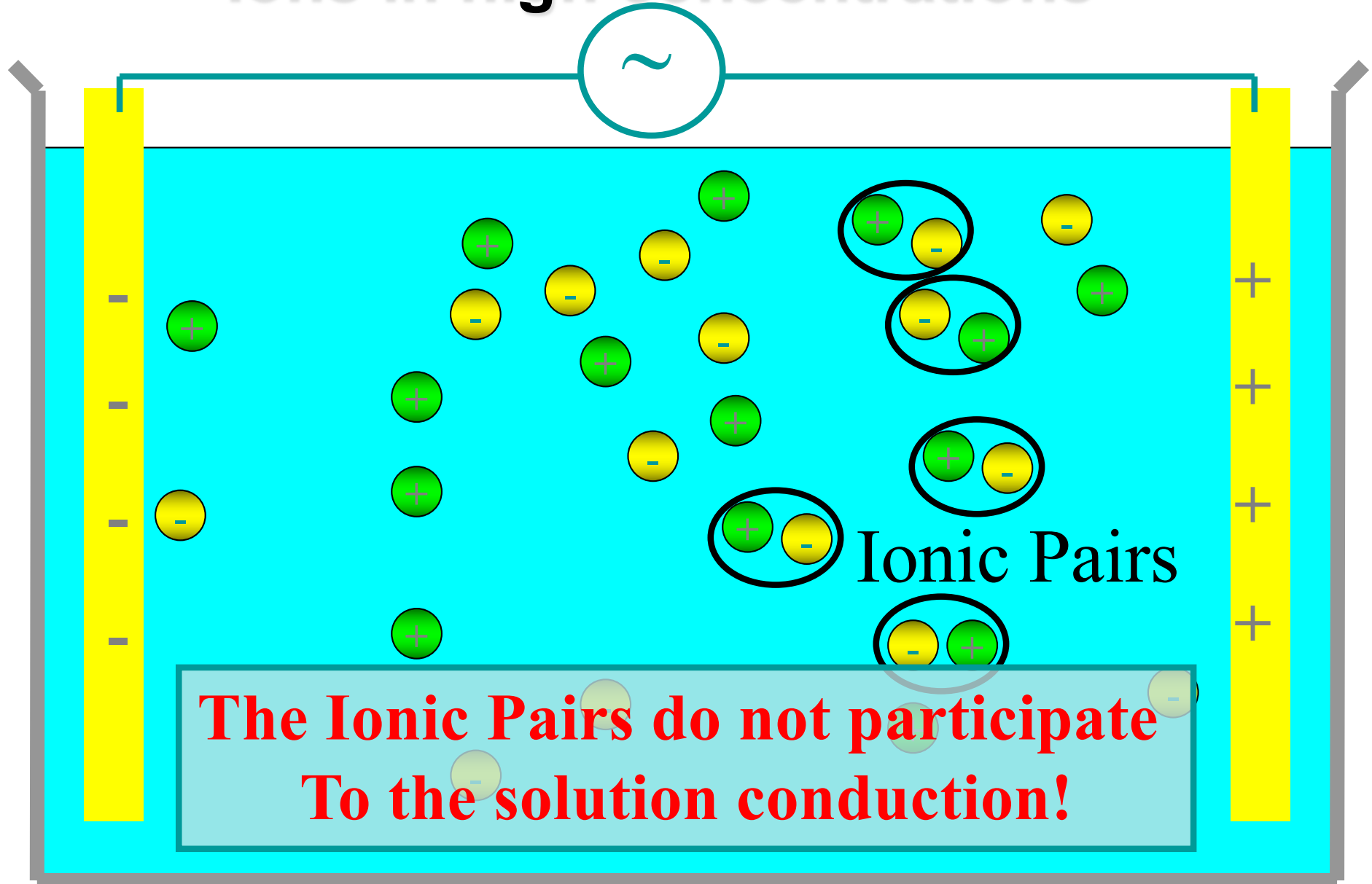
Why the conductivity goes down for higher solution' concentrations?

- A. Too much ions moving!
- B. Too faster ions' velocity
- C. Saturated number of ions available for the conductivity
- ☒ D. Less ions available for the conductivity
- E. No idea...

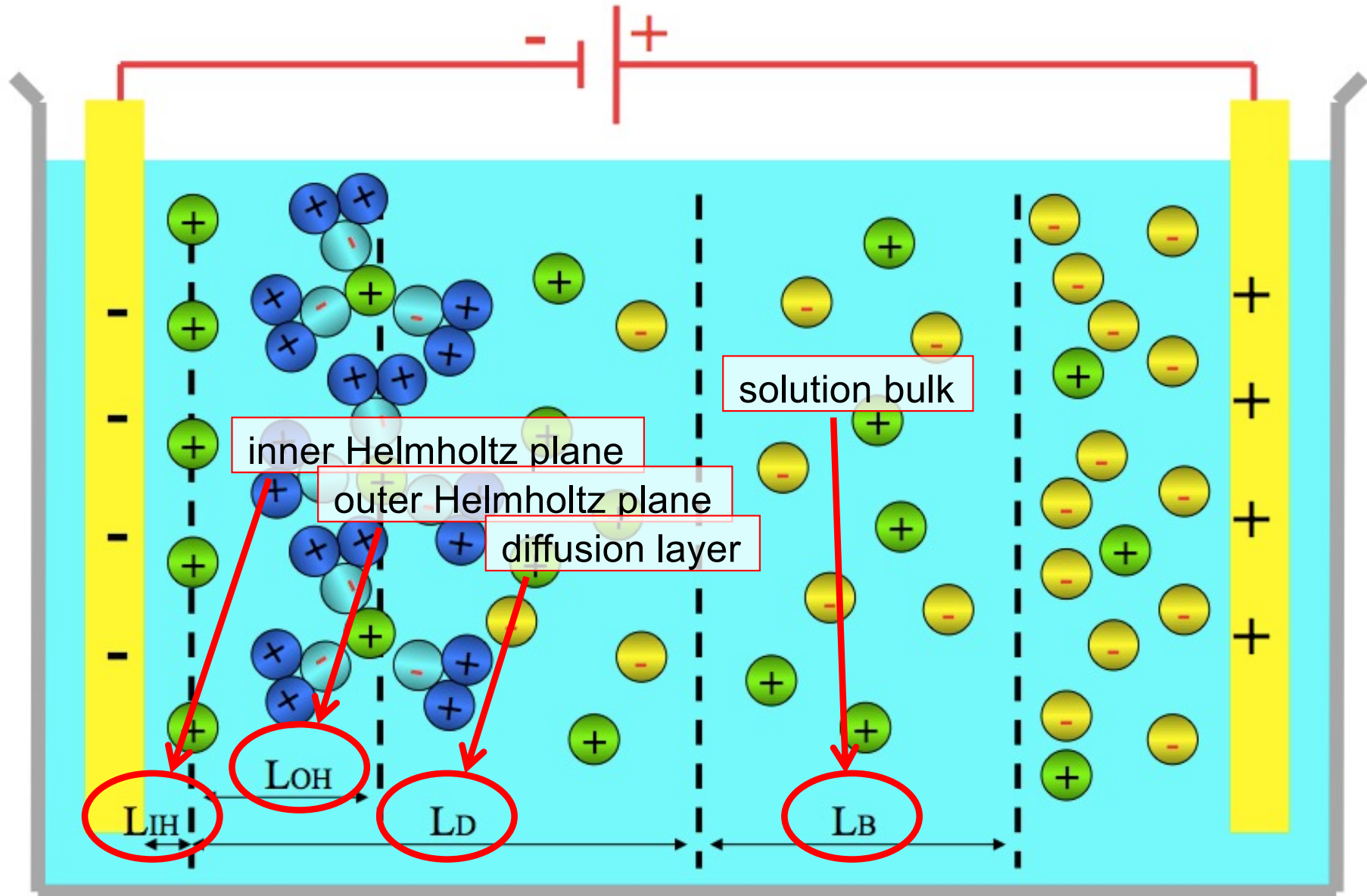
Ions in high concentrations



Ions in high concentrations



Helmholtz Planes



Debye Length

Charge density: $\rho_e = \sum_i z_i e n_i$

z_i = charge of species i (e.g. +2, -1, etc.)

n_i = concentration of species i (number per volume)

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 0$$

In the bulk

$$\nabla^2 \phi = -\frac{\rho_e}{K\epsilon_0}$$

Close to electrodes

For perturbation away from equilibrium at finite temperature

$$\hat{\phi} \equiv \phi - \phi_0 \qquad \rho_e = \sum_i z_i e n_{i0} \exp\left(-\frac{z_i e \hat{\phi}}{k_B T}\right)$$

Debye Length

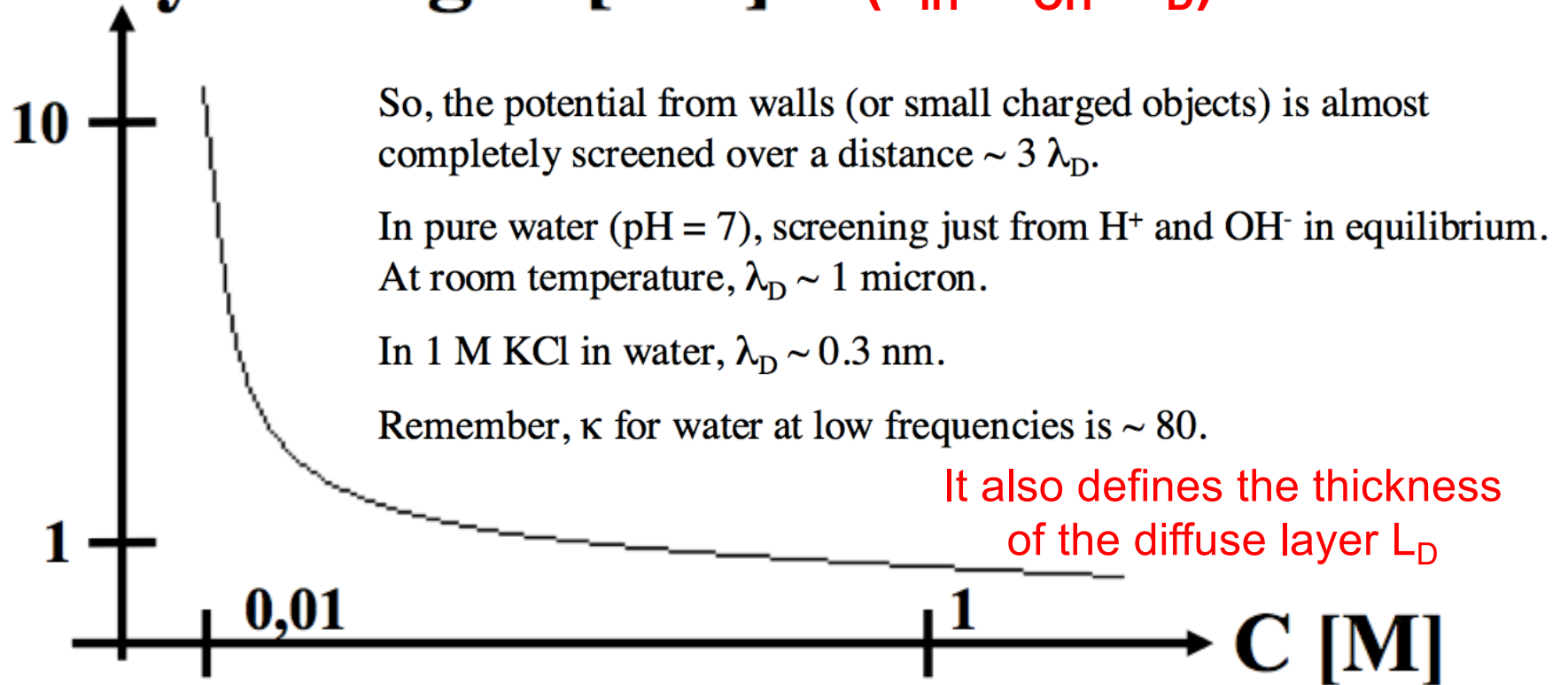
$$\nabla^2 \hat{\phi} = -\frac{1}{\kappa \epsilon_0} \sum_i z_i e n_{i0} \exp\left(-\frac{z_i e \hat{\phi}}{k_B T}\right) \approx -\frac{1}{\kappa \epsilon_0} \cancel{\sum_i z_i e n_{i0}} + \frac{e^2}{\kappa \epsilon_0 k_B T} \sum_i z_i^2 n_{i0} \hat{\phi} \equiv \frac{1}{\lambda_D^2} \hat{\phi}$$

~ 0 for equilibrium neutrality

$$\lambda_D \equiv \left(\frac{e^2}{\kappa \epsilon_0 k_B T} \sum_i z_i^2 n_{i0} \right)^{-1/2}$$

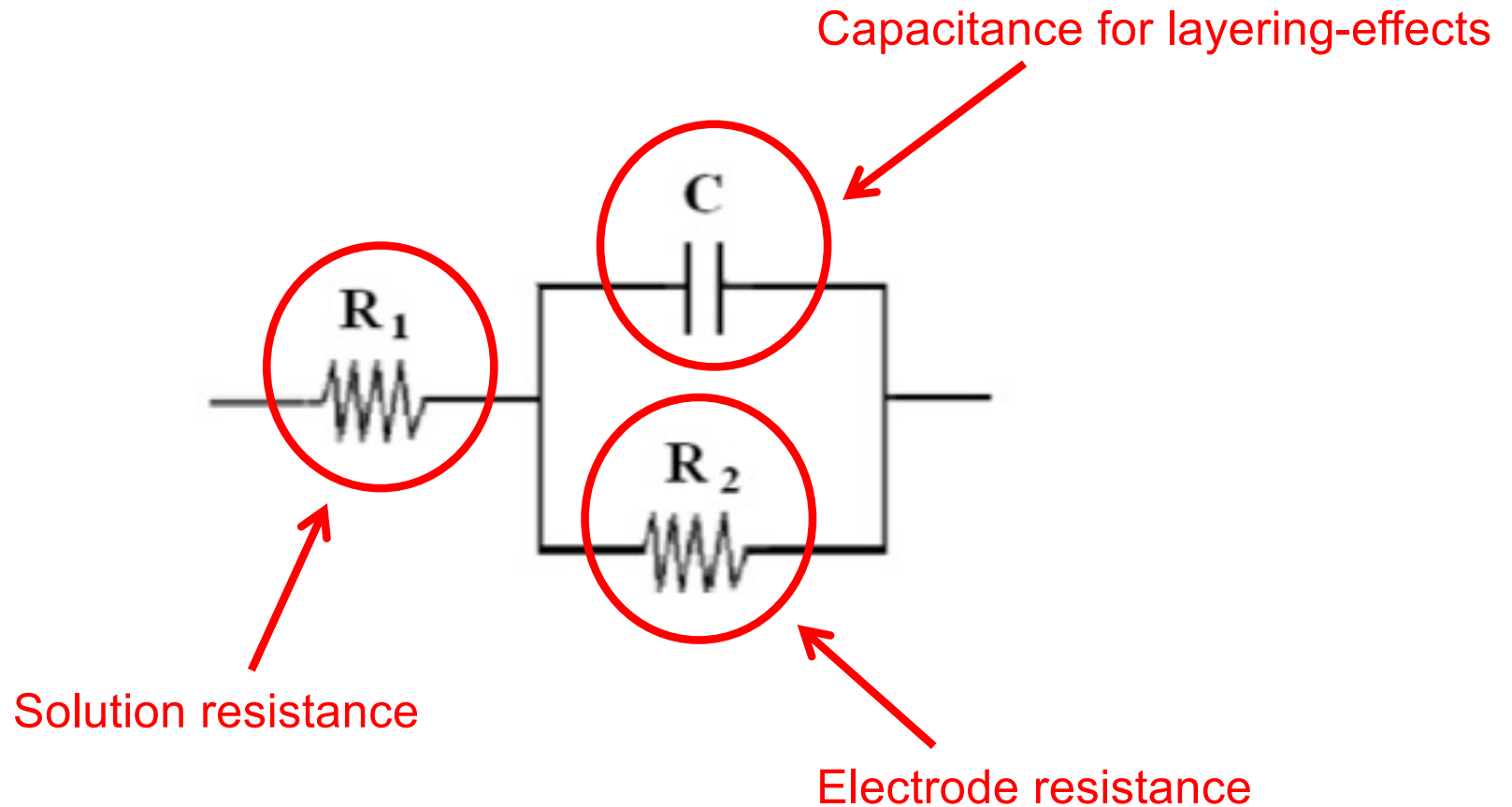
Debye Length

$$\text{Debye Length [nm]} = (L_{\text{IH}} + L_{\text{OH}} + L_{\text{D}})/3$$



The Debye Length is defined as the region of charge carrier's net electrostatic effect in solution

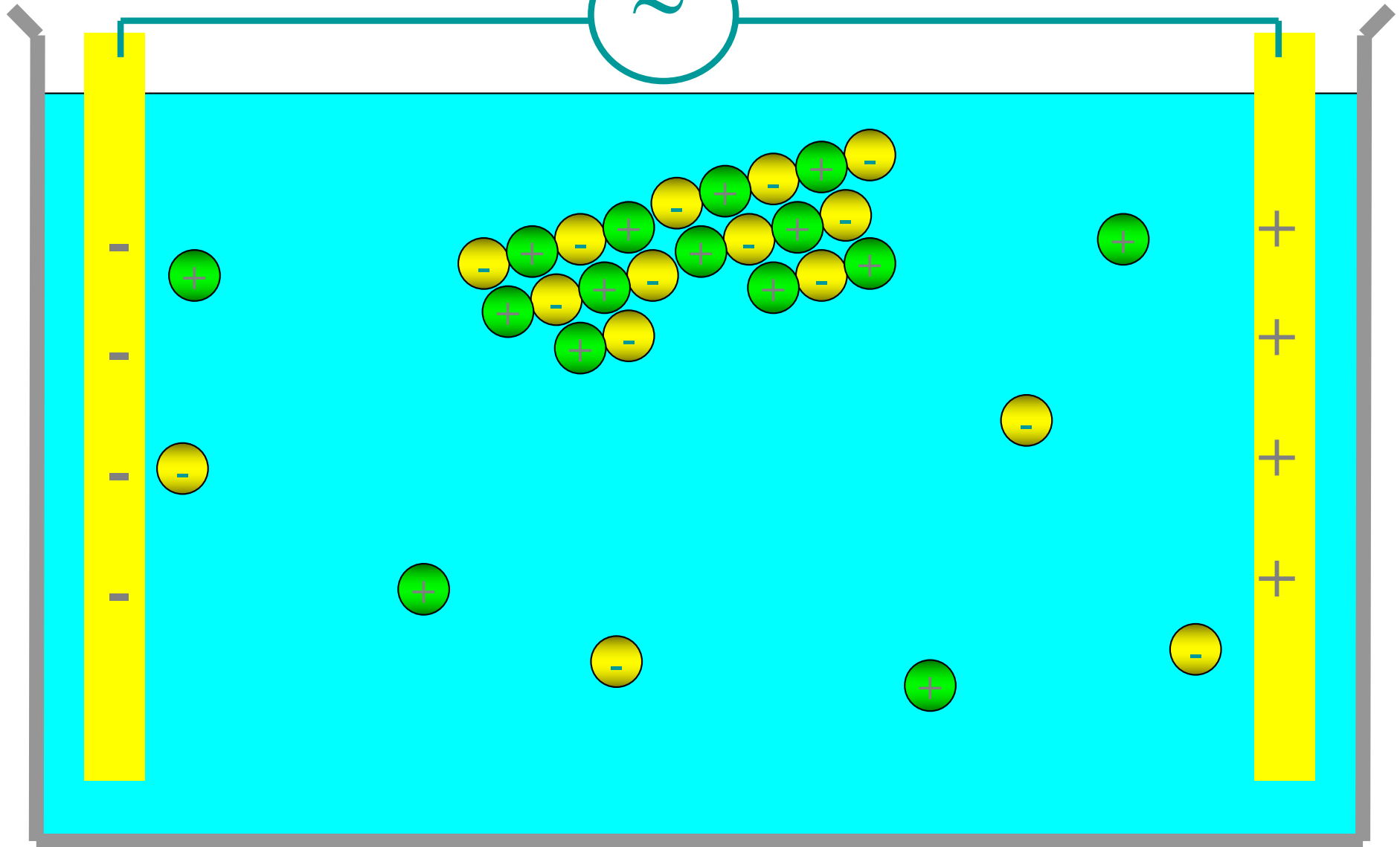
Equivalent Circuit with Layering effects



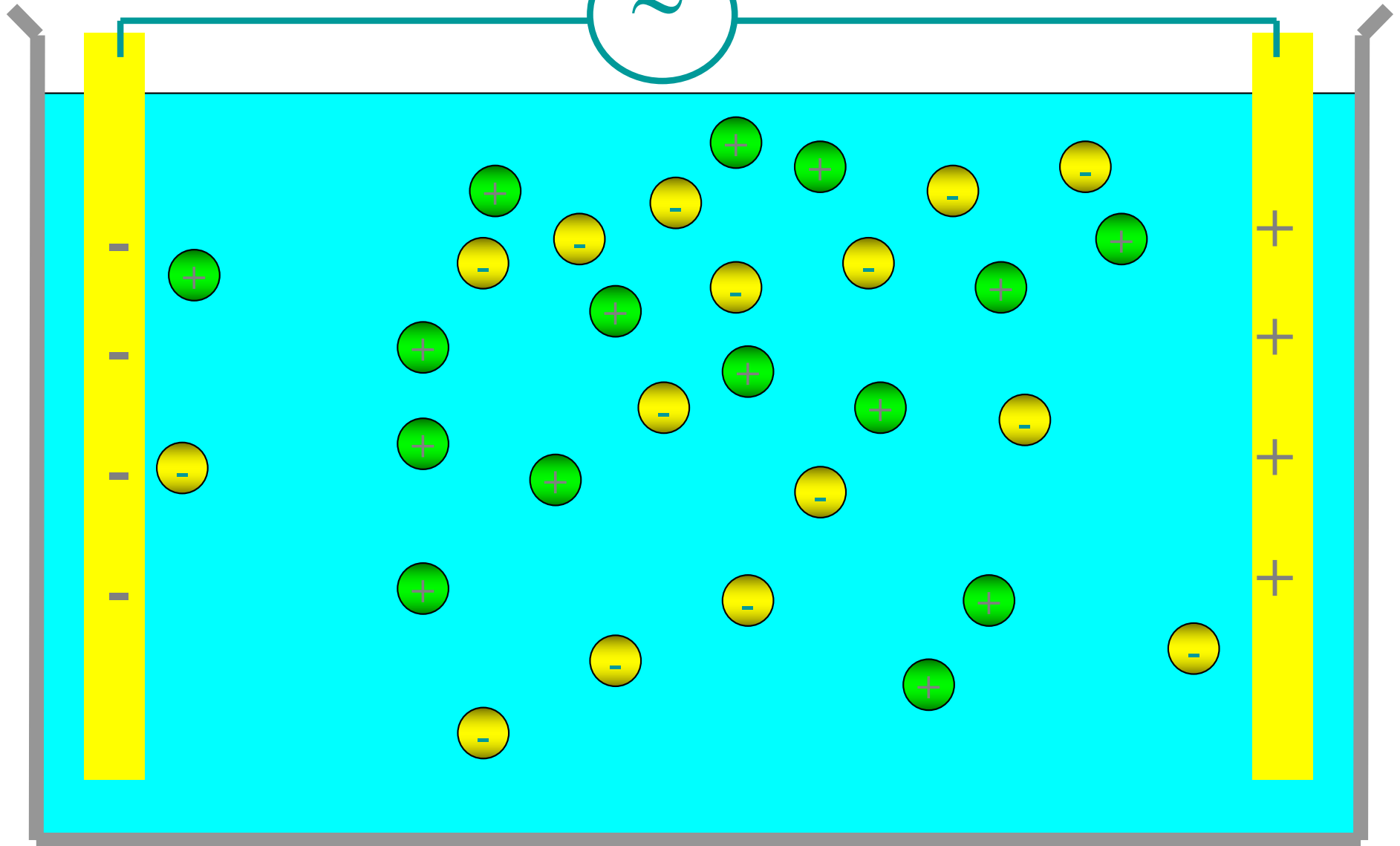
Kind of Electrolytes

- **Strong Electrolytes**
- **Weak Electrolytes**

Weak Electrolyte



Strong Electrolytes

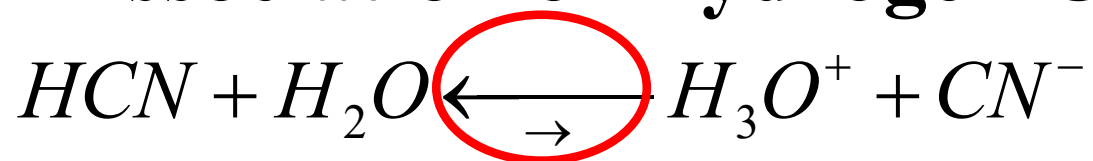


Hard and weak Electrolytes

Dissociation of the Sodium Chloride

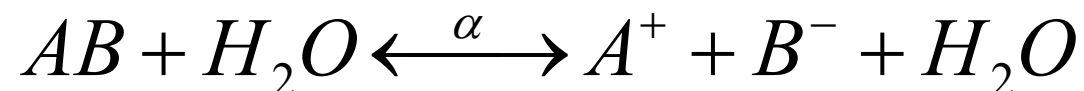


Dissociation of Hydrogen Cyanide



α = Dissociation Degree

Equilibrium Constant



$$K = \frac{[A^+][B^-]}{[AB]} = \frac{\alpha[AB]_0 \alpha[AB]_0}{(1-\alpha)[AB]_0} = \frac{\alpha^2}{1-\alpha} [AB]_0$$

**Actually true only for weak electrolytes
in small concentration!**

Kind of Electrolytes

- **Strong Electrolytes**

Salts

Strong Acids

Strong Bases

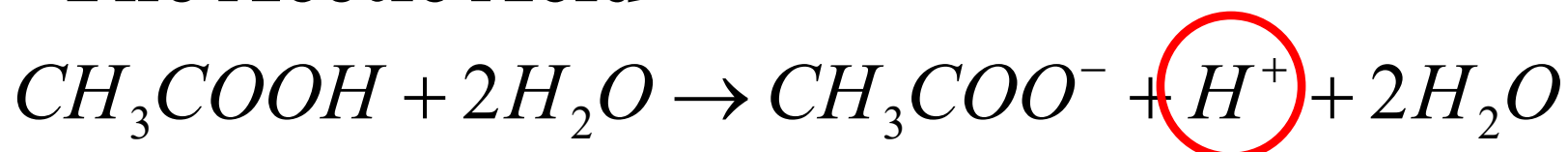
- **Weak Electrolytes**

Weak Acids

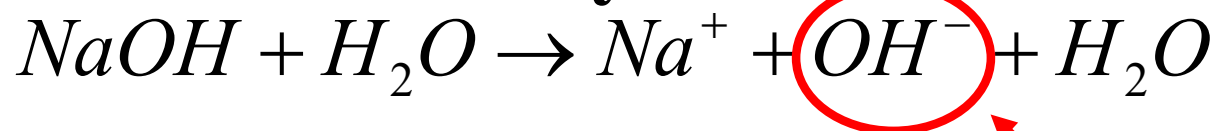
Weak Basis

Acid or Basic Solutions

The Acetic Acid



The Sodium Hydroxide



Acid

Base

Arrhenius definition

(Not actually true but enough for our aims)



Q14

How much is
the pH of pure water?

- A. 0
- B. Lower than 5
- ☒ C. 7
- D. Larger than 25
- E. infinite

Water is neither a base nor an acid

Water dissociation



$$K = \frac{[H_3O^+][OH^-]}{[H_2O]^2}$$

$$[H_2O] = 1 \rightarrow K_w = [H_3O^+][OH^-]$$

Water Ionic product

$$\Delta G^0 = -RT \ln K_w = \Delta G^0_{H_3O^+} + \Delta G^0_{OH^-} - 2\Delta G^0_{H_2O}$$

Definition of pH

Water dissociation

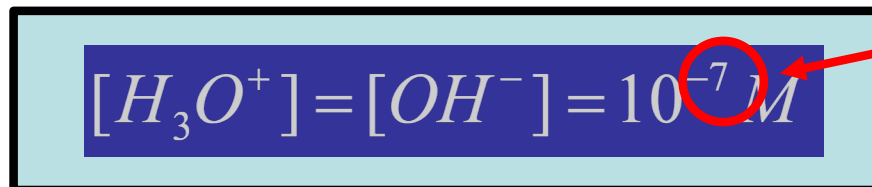
$$\Delta G^0 = -RT \ln K_w = \Delta G^0_{H_3O^+} + \Delta G^0_{OH^-} - 2\Delta G^0_{H_2O}$$

$$\ln K_w = -\frac{\Delta G^0_{H_3O^+} + \Delta G^0_{OH^-} - 2\Delta G^0_{H_2O}}{RT}$$

$$\ln K_w = -14$$

$$K_w = [H_3O^+][OH^-] = 10^{-14}$$

pH=7, means “neutral pH”


$$[H_3O^+] = [OH^-] = 10^{-7} M$$

Acid, Neutral, or Basic Solutions

$[H_3O^+] > 10^{-7} M \rightarrow \text{Acid Solution}$

$[H_3O^+] = 10^{-7} M \rightarrow \text{Neutral Solution}$

$[H_3O^+] < 10^{-7} M \rightarrow \text{Basic Solution}$

$$pH = \text{Log}\left(\frac{1}{[H_3O^+]}\right); \begin{cases} < 7 \rightarrow \text{Acid Solution} \\ 7 \rightarrow \text{Neutral Solution} \\ > 7 \rightarrow \text{Basic Solution} \end{cases}$$