



**EE-517**

# Bio-Nano-Chip Design



**EE-517**

# Bio-Nano-Chip Design

- 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

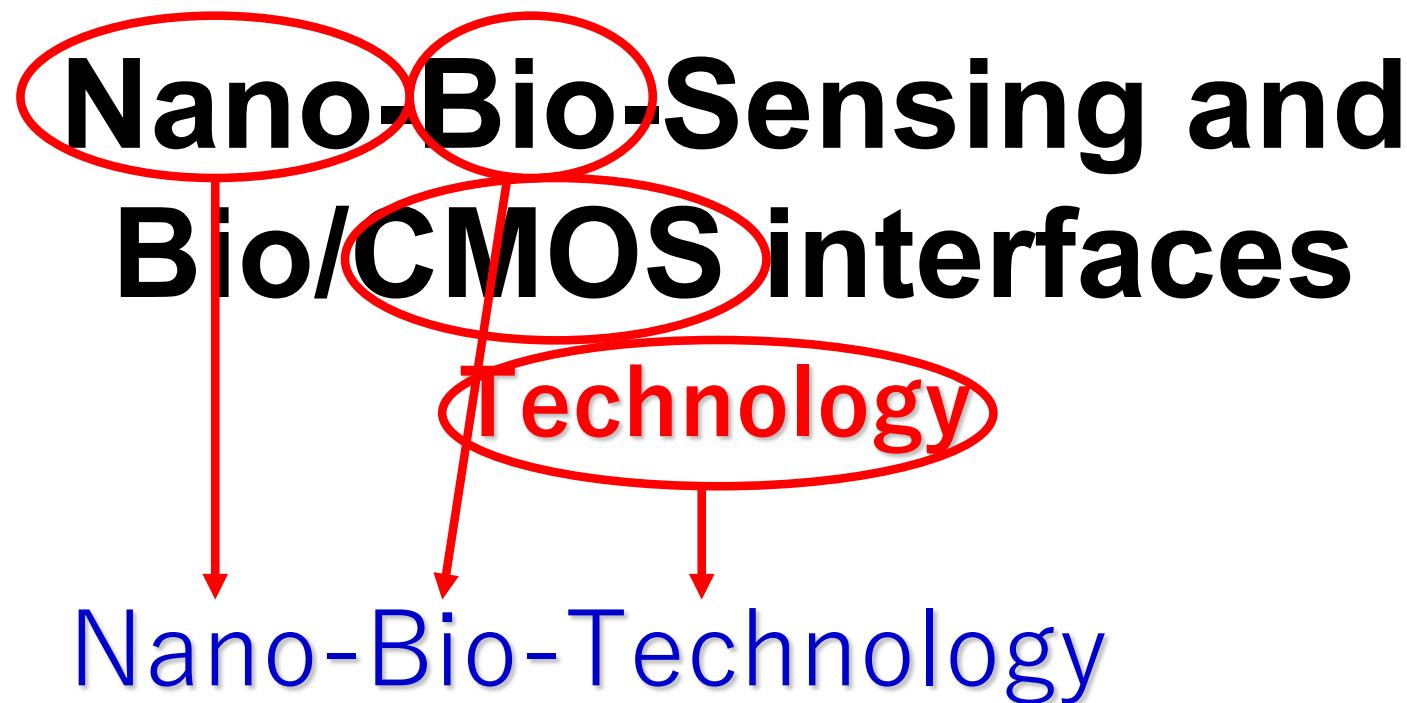


Q3

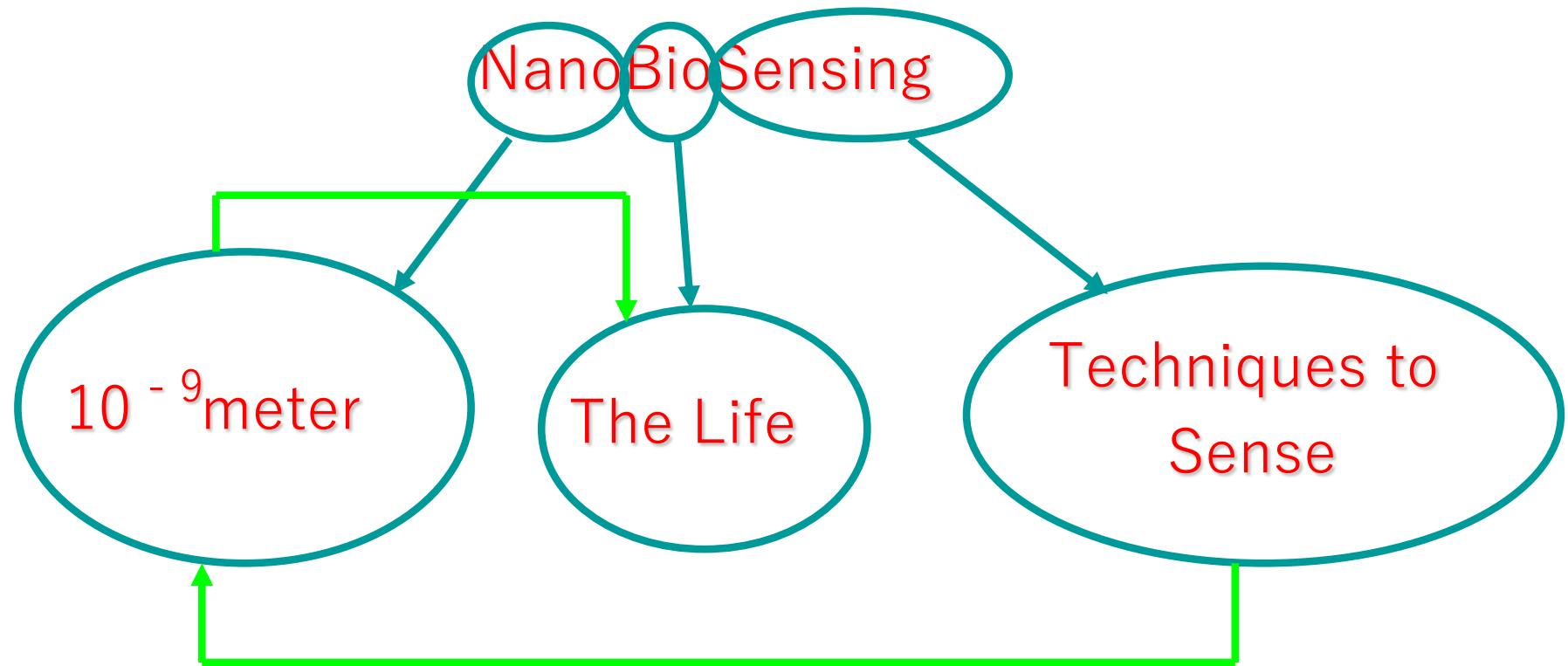
## Why did you choose this course?

- 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?

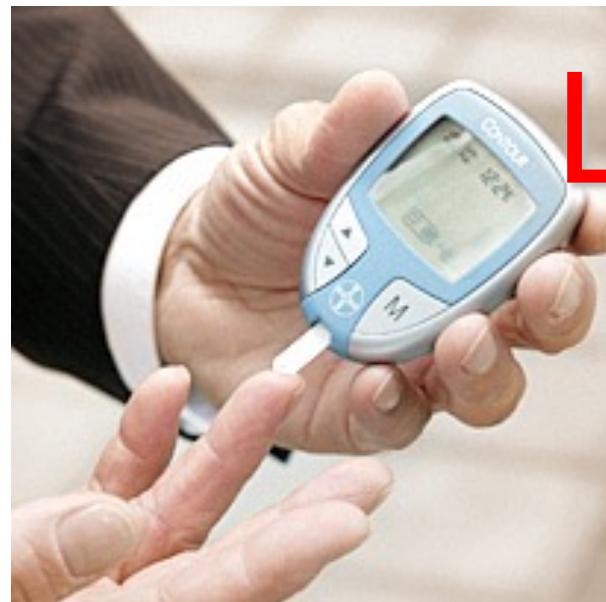


That means “techniques at the nano-metric scale to sense information related to biological processes”

# The Motivation



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



Label-Free

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

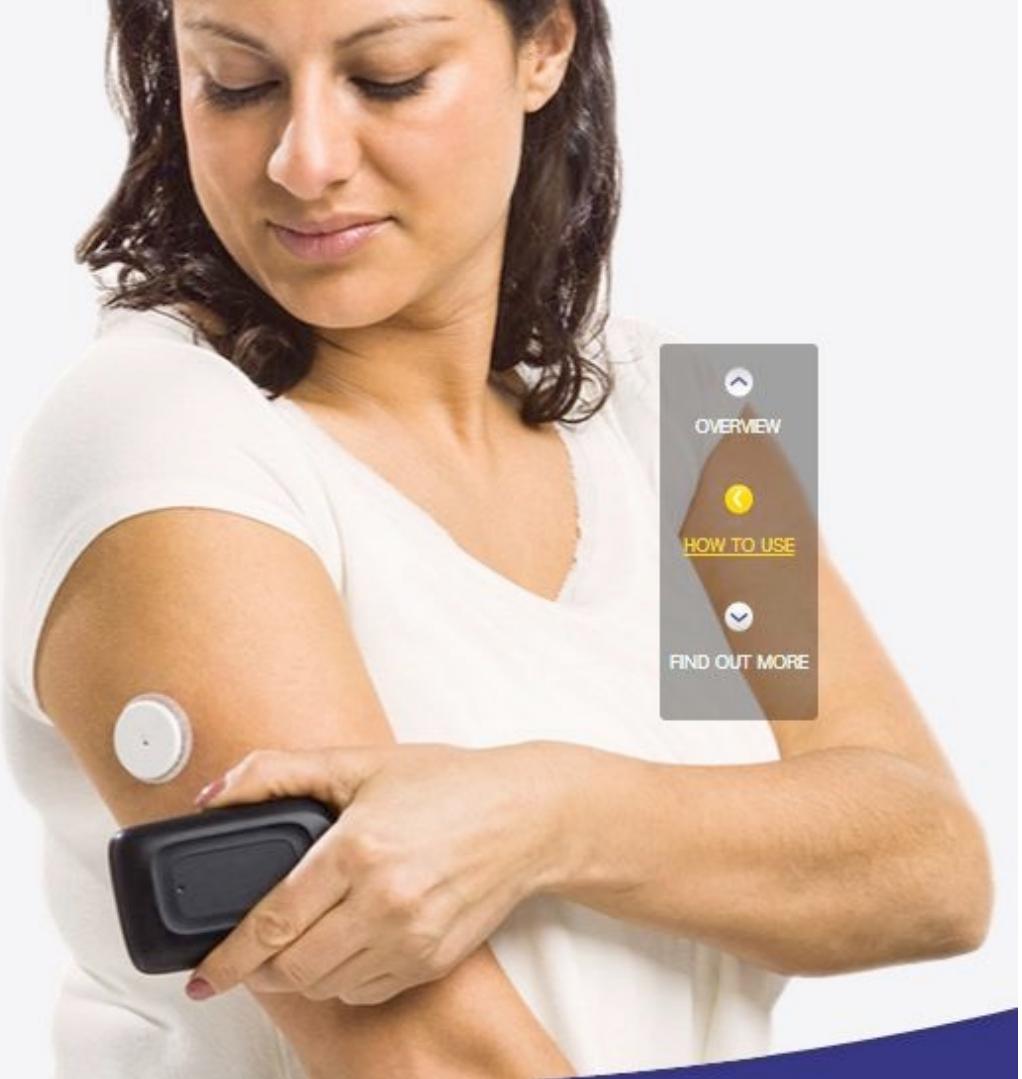
# The Quicklab project by Siemens



# 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](http://www.freestylelibre.co.uk)

OVERVIEW

HOW TO USE

FIND OUT MORE

Glucose Personal Diagnostics on our Skin

(c) S.Carrara

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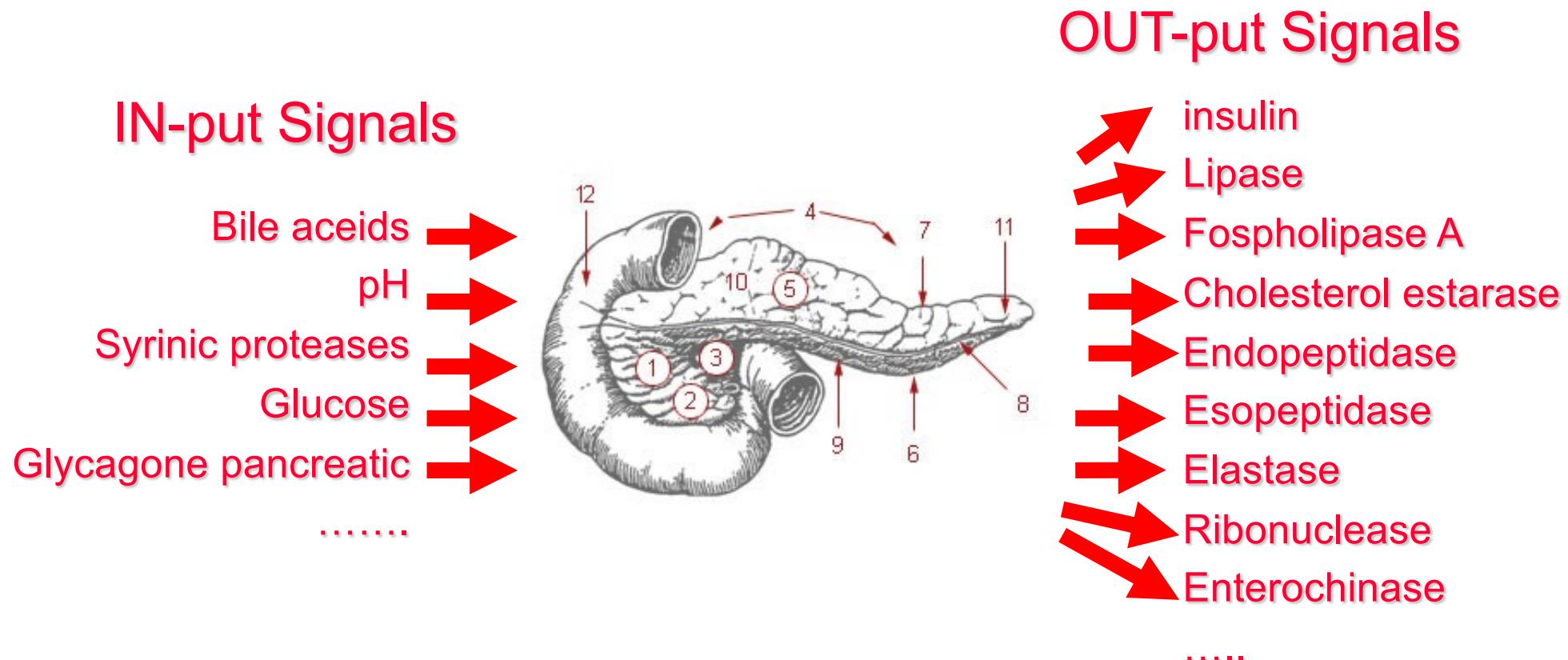


Q4

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



# 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?

<b>Endogenous Metabolites</b>	<b>Insulin (Diabetes)</b> <b><math>\beta</math>-blockers (heart attack )</b>
<b>Anti-cancer compounds</b>	<b>Cyclophosphamide (Breast Cancer)</b> <b>Docetaxel (Prostate Cancer)</b>
<b>Anesthetics</b>	<b>Propofol (surgery)</b> <b>Midazolam (surgery)</b>

Endogenous and Exogenous Metabolites  
are usually simple molecules

# What to sense?

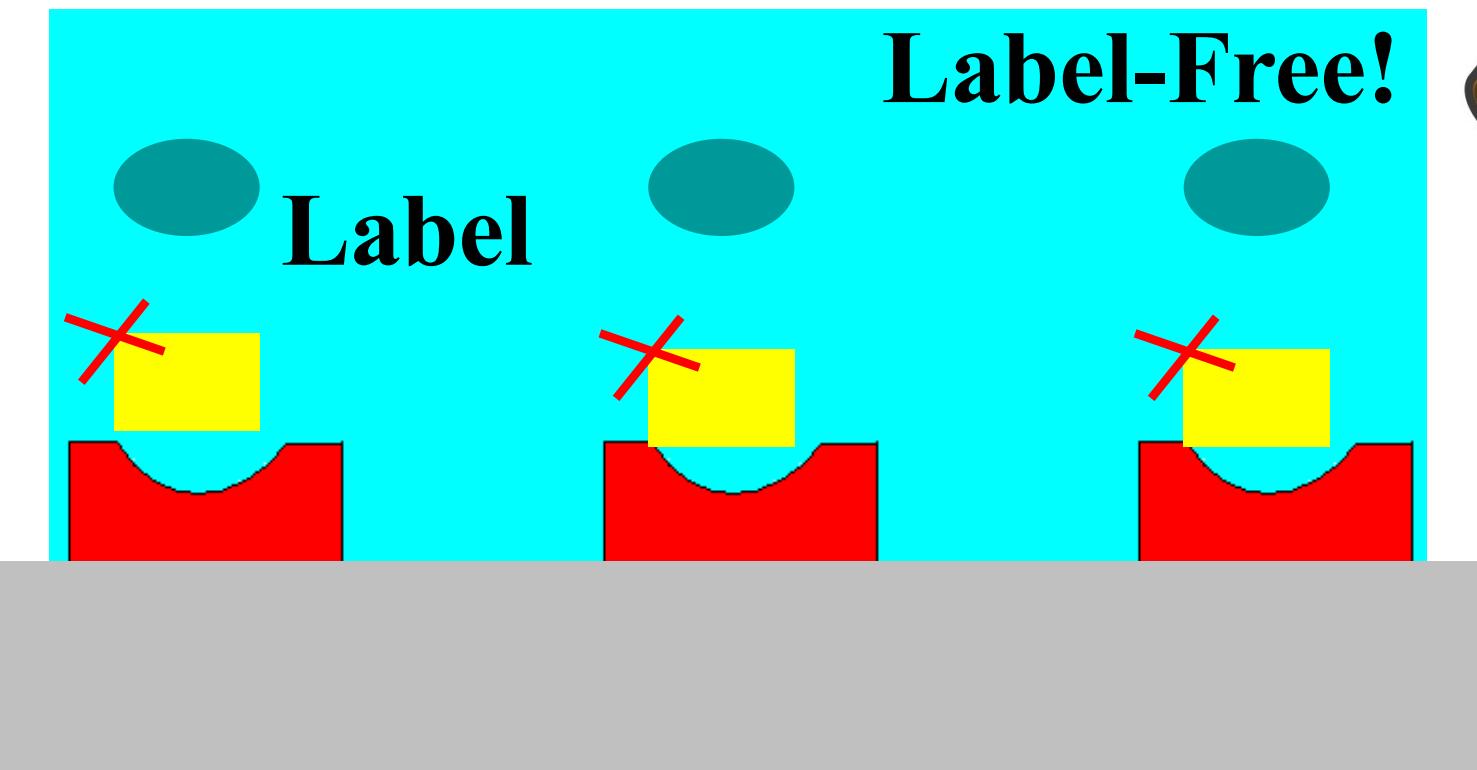
Simple Molecules	Glucose (Diabetes) Cholesterol (heart attack )
Proteins	AFP (Hepato Carcinoma) PSA (Prostate)
DNA sequences	PC-1 gene (prostate cancer) p53 gene (Hepato Carcinoma)



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**



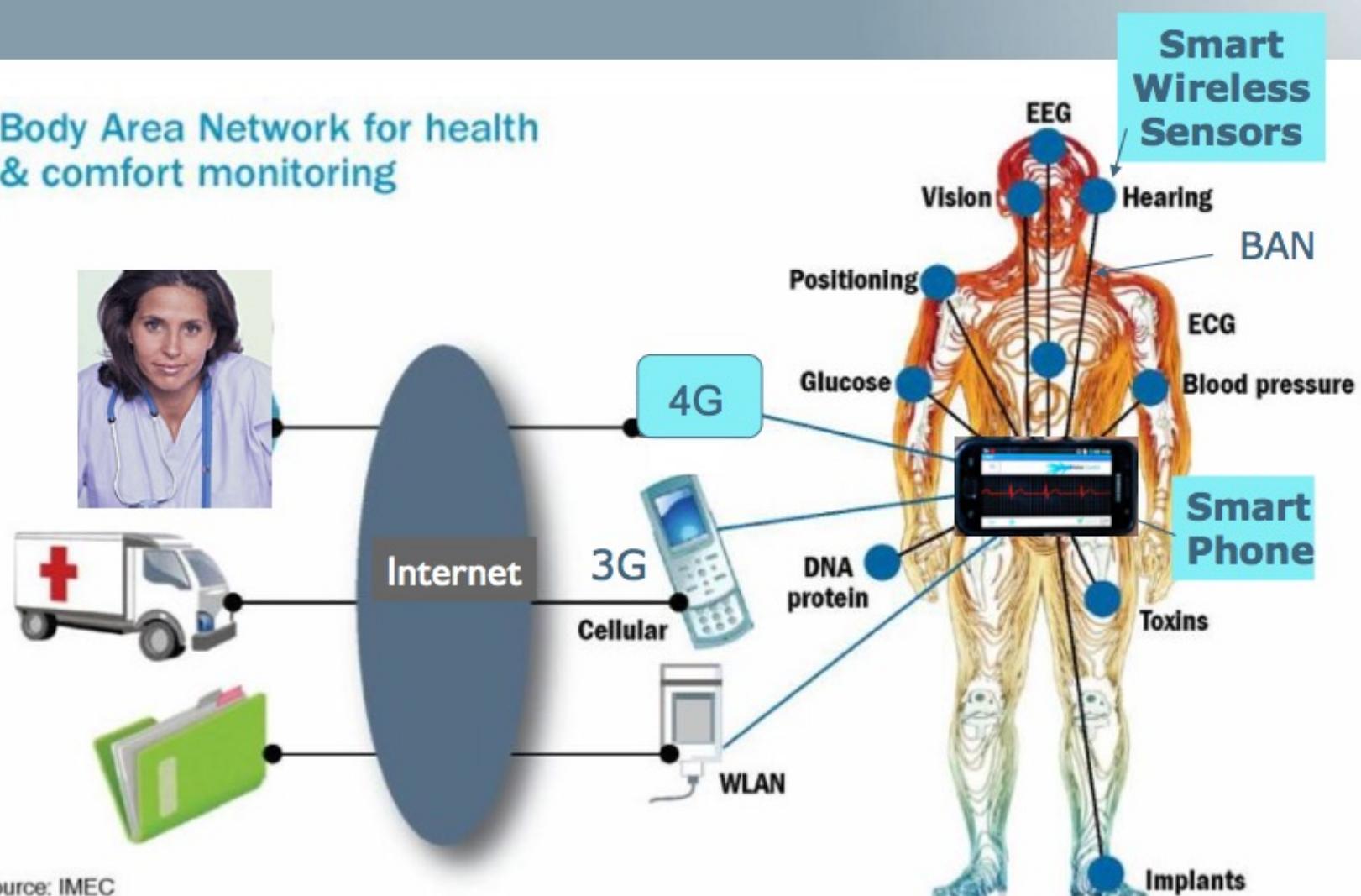
Q6

# 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]

(c) S.Carrara

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# Chips under the skin?



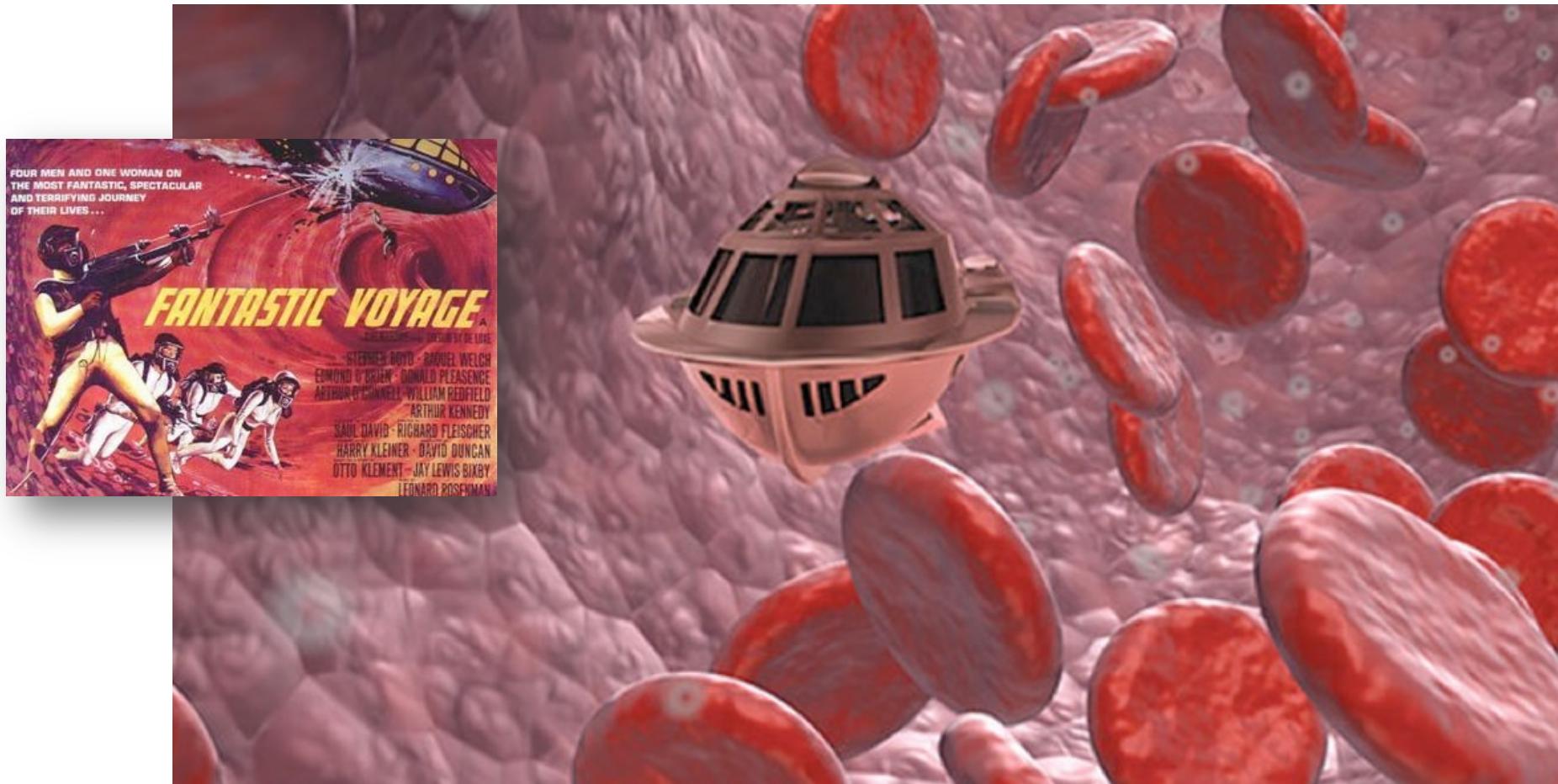
## Under the skin: how insertable microchips could unlock the future

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

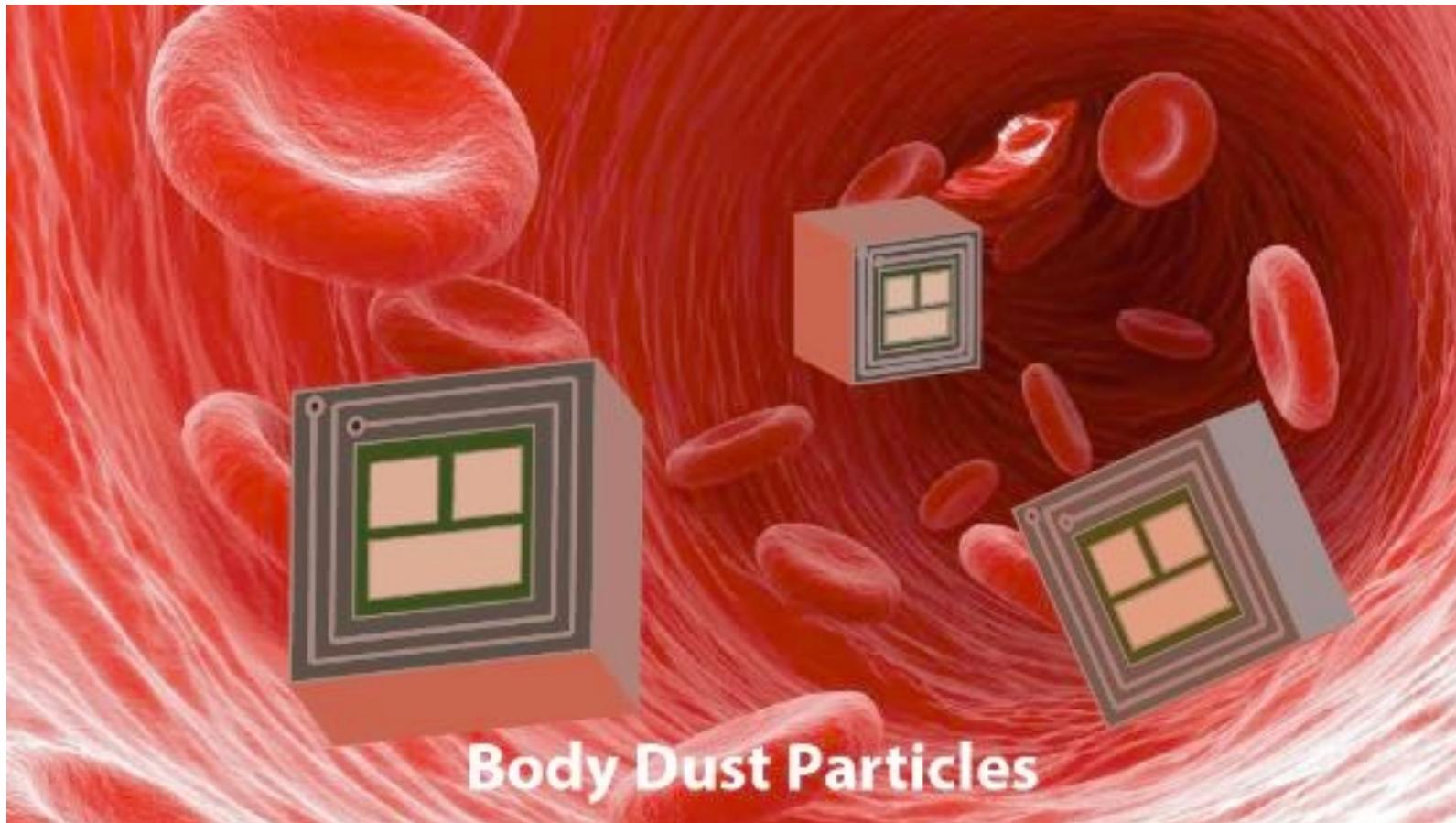
[The Guardian, October 2017]

# How small Chips under the skin?



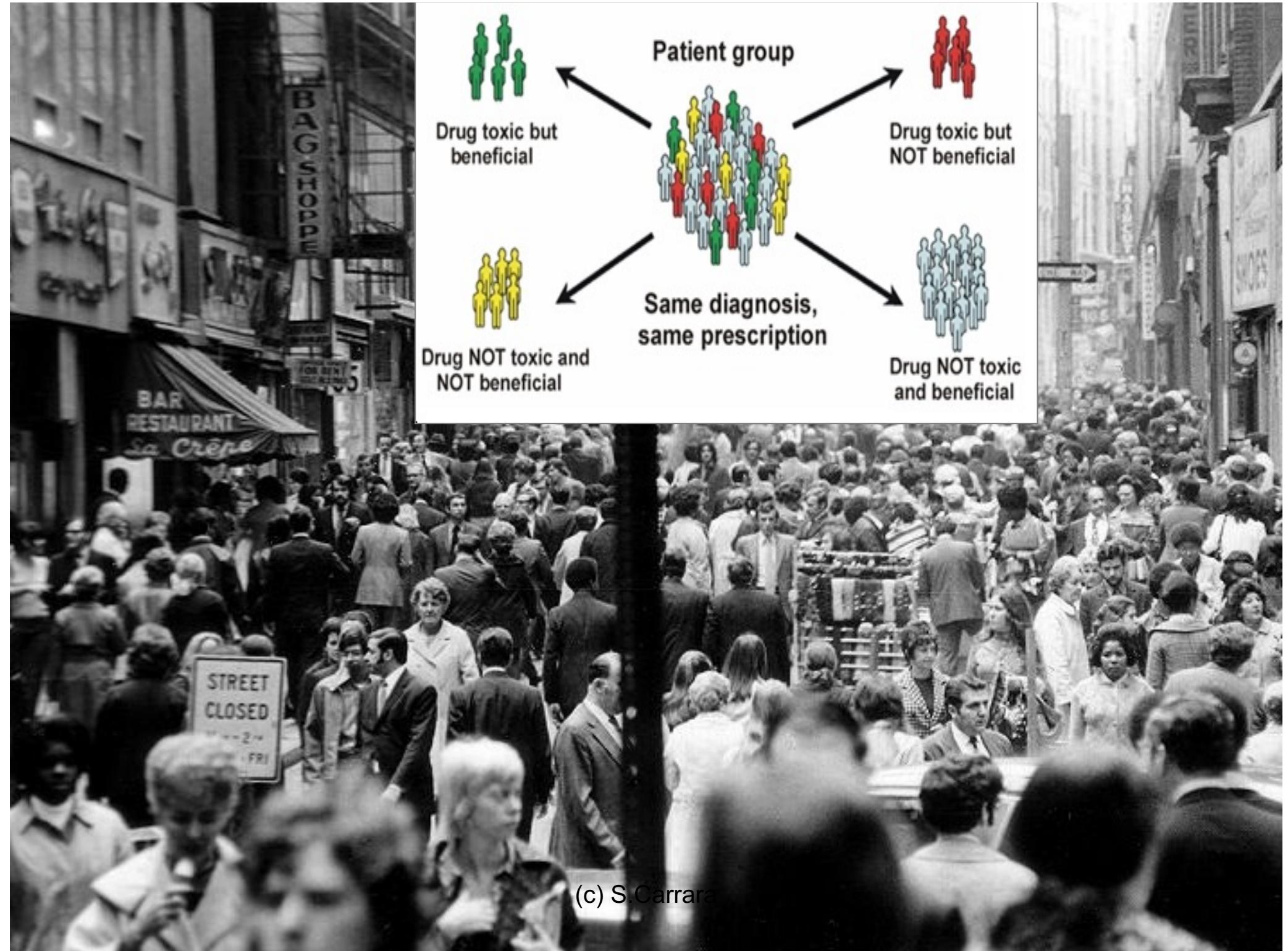
[1966 Sci. Fi. movie titled “Fantastic Voyage”]

# Body Dust: Drinkable CMOS Bioelectronics

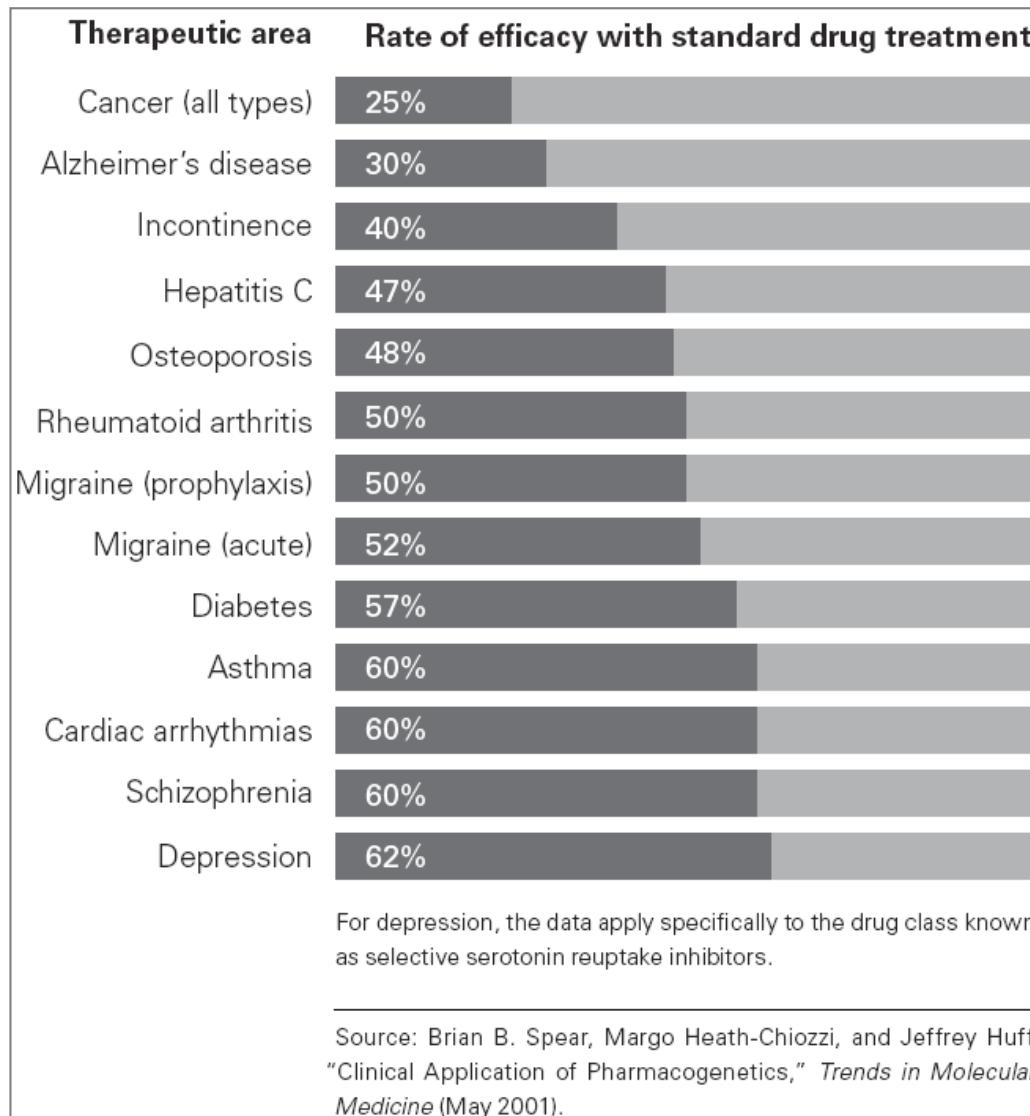


Tracking cancer-cell developing “drinkable” electronic sensors

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



# Low efficacy of used compounds



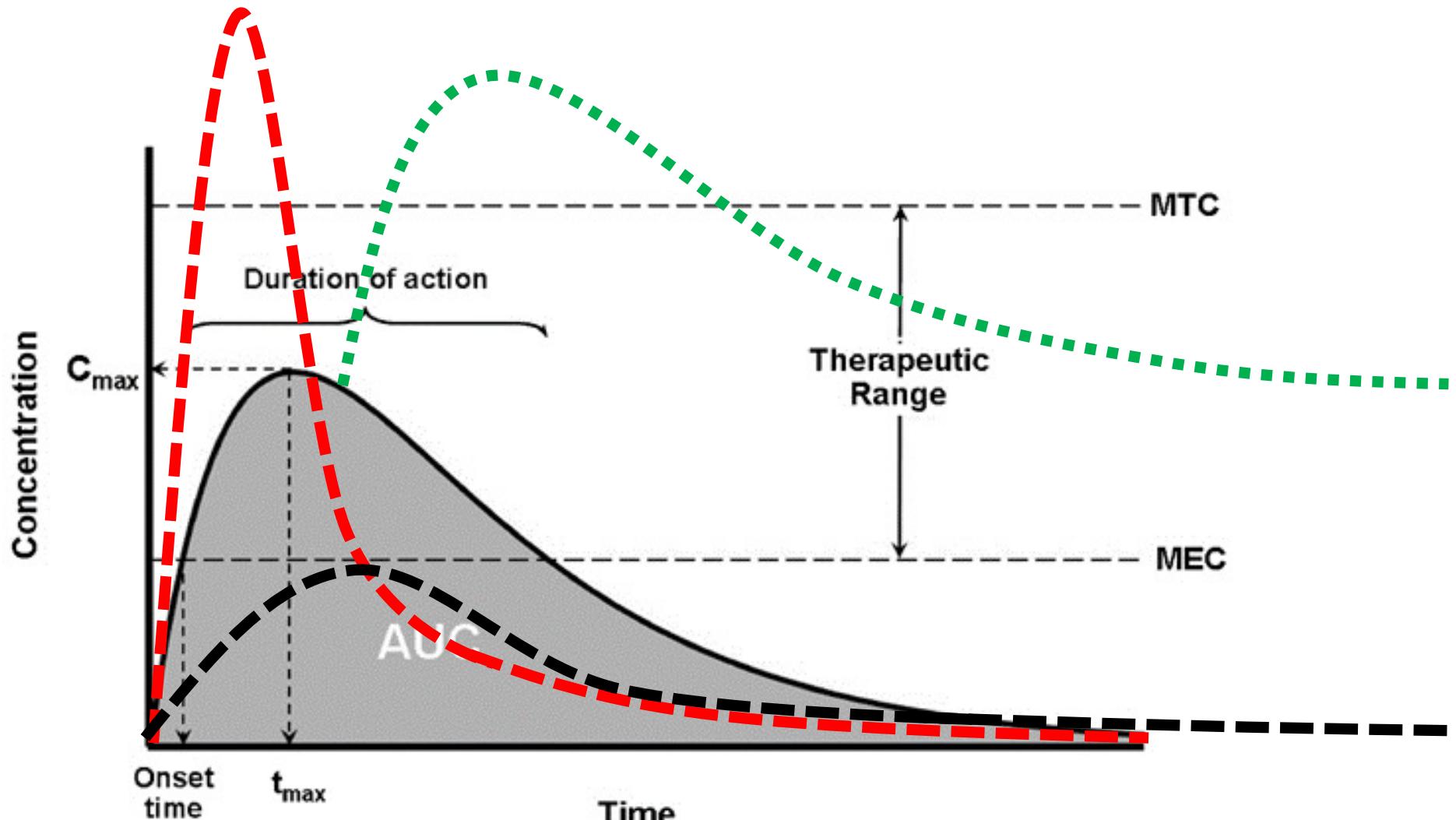


Q7

# Why different outputs from same kind of patients?

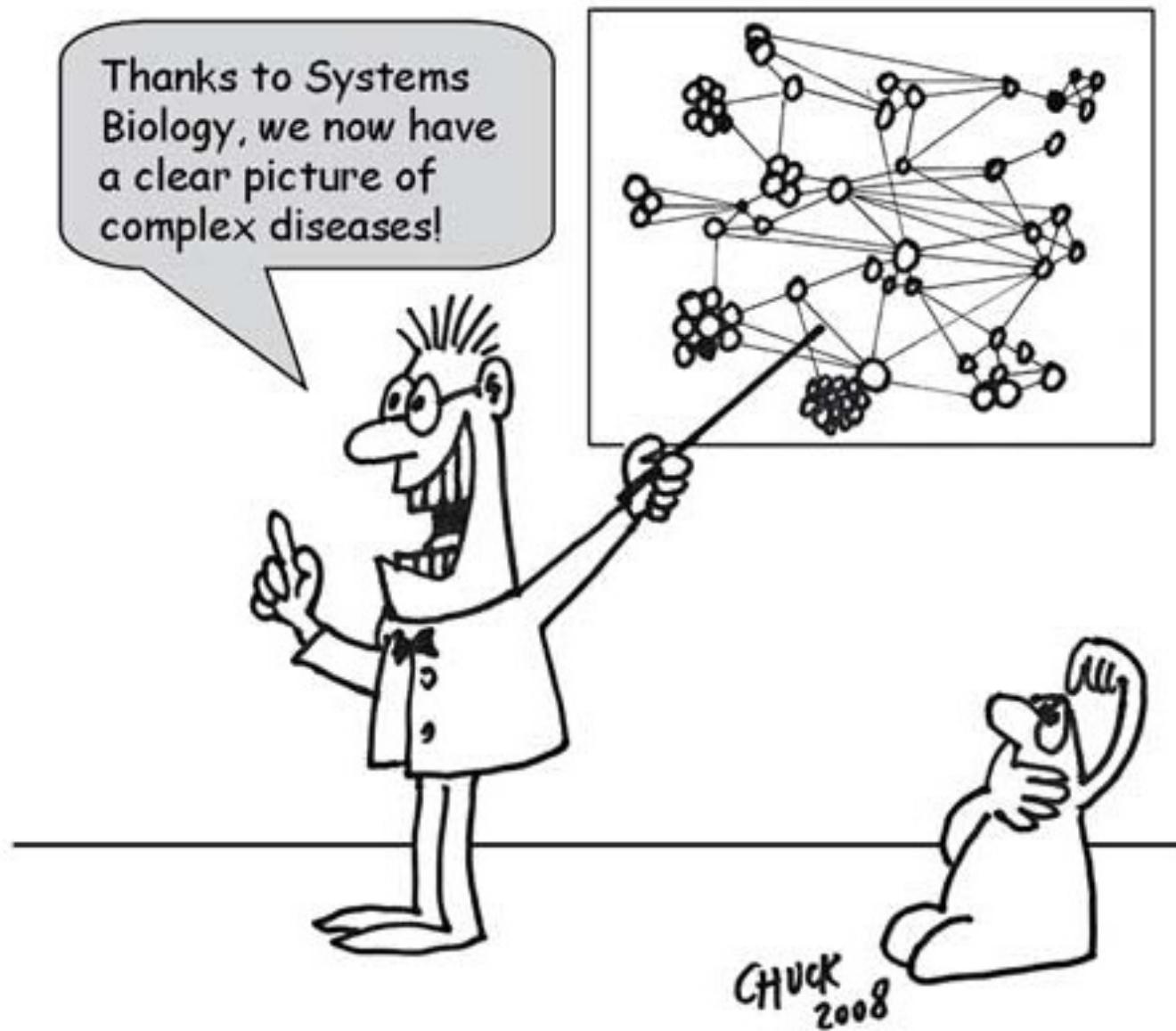
- A. Since therapy effect is random
- B. Since patient's response to therapy is random
- C. Since therapy effect depends on dose
- D. Since therapy effect depends on patient
- E. No reasons

# Personalized Therapy: the right dose in the right moment!

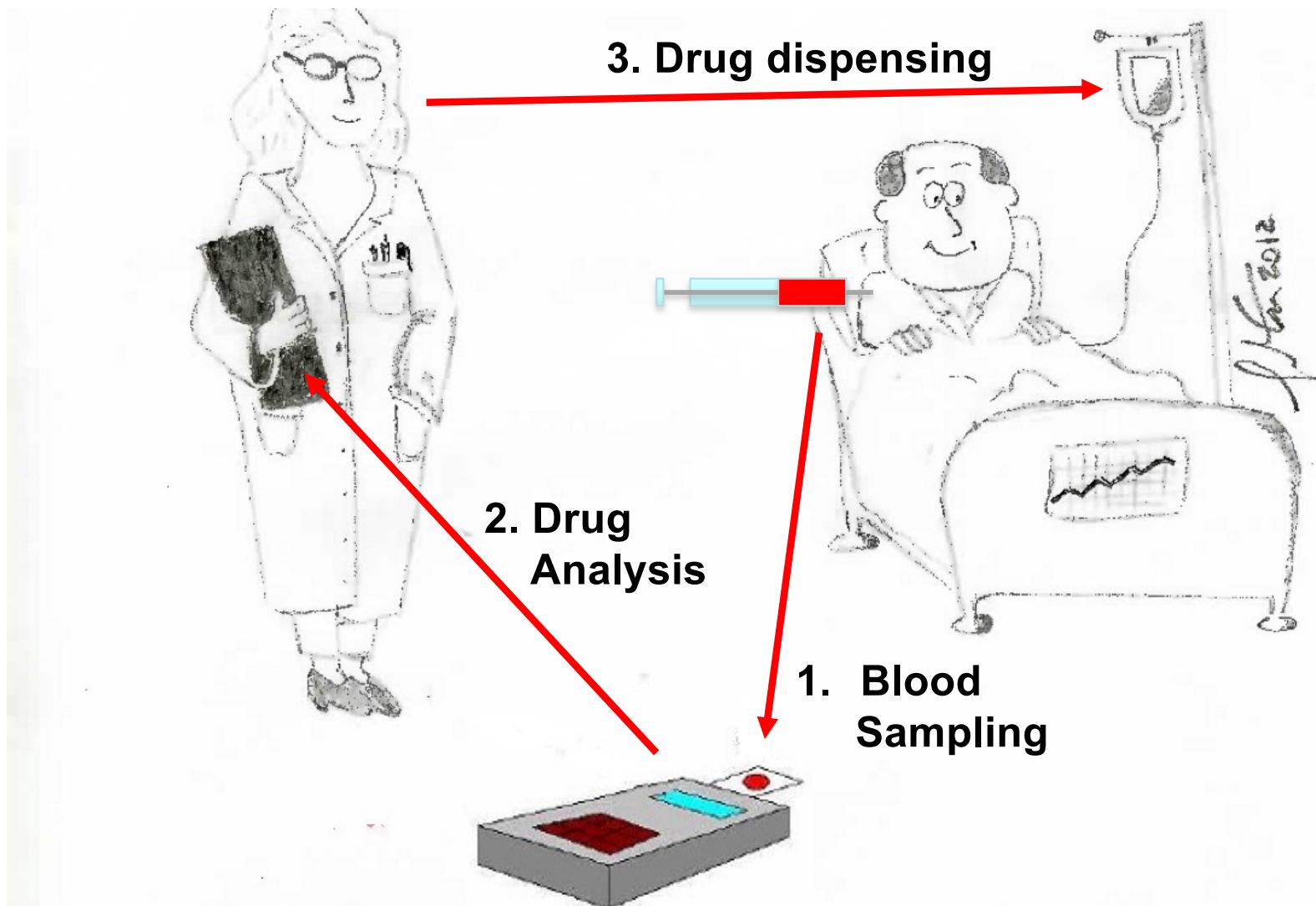


(c) S.Carrara

# System Biology is not enough

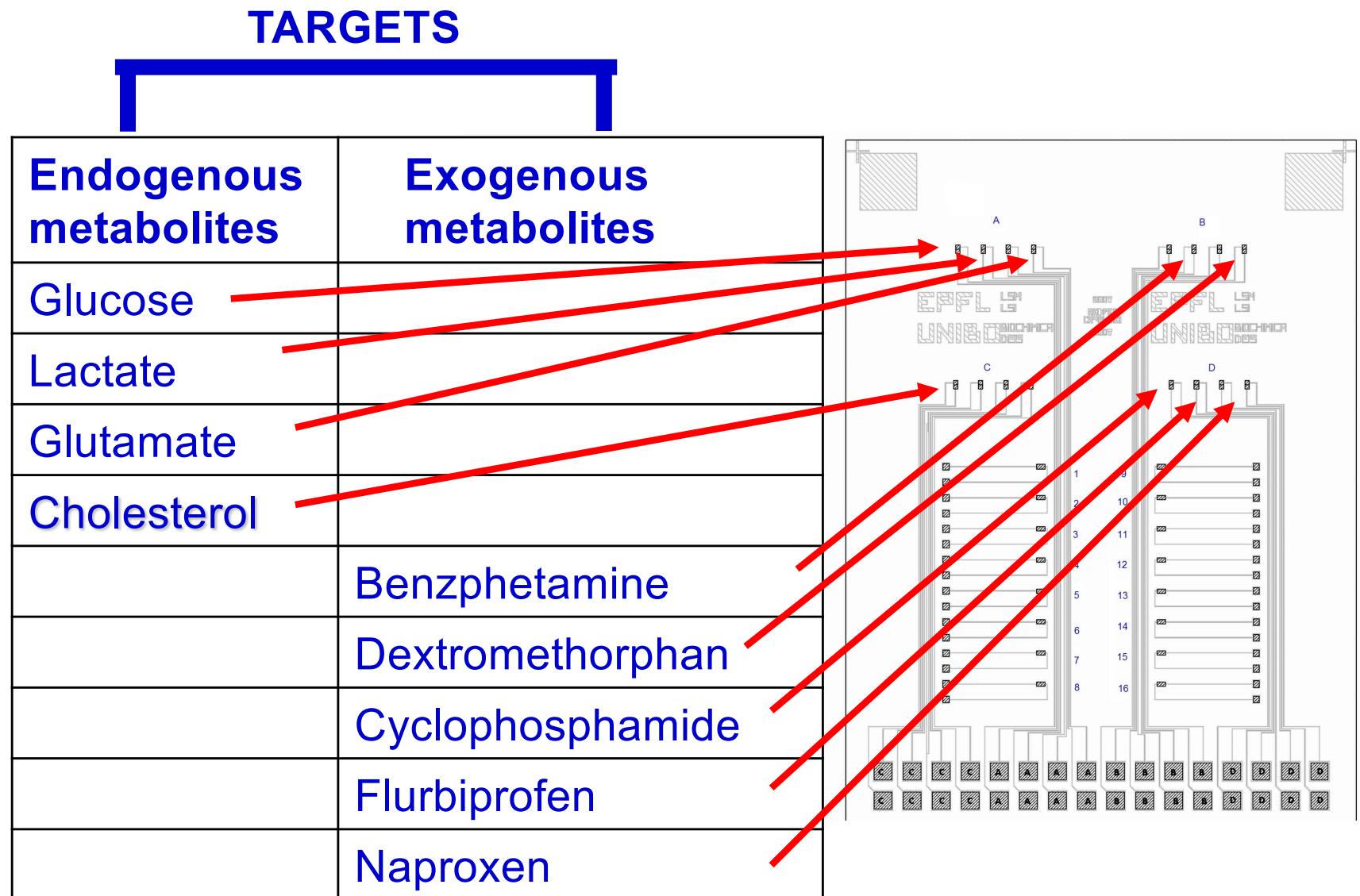


# Personalized Therapy

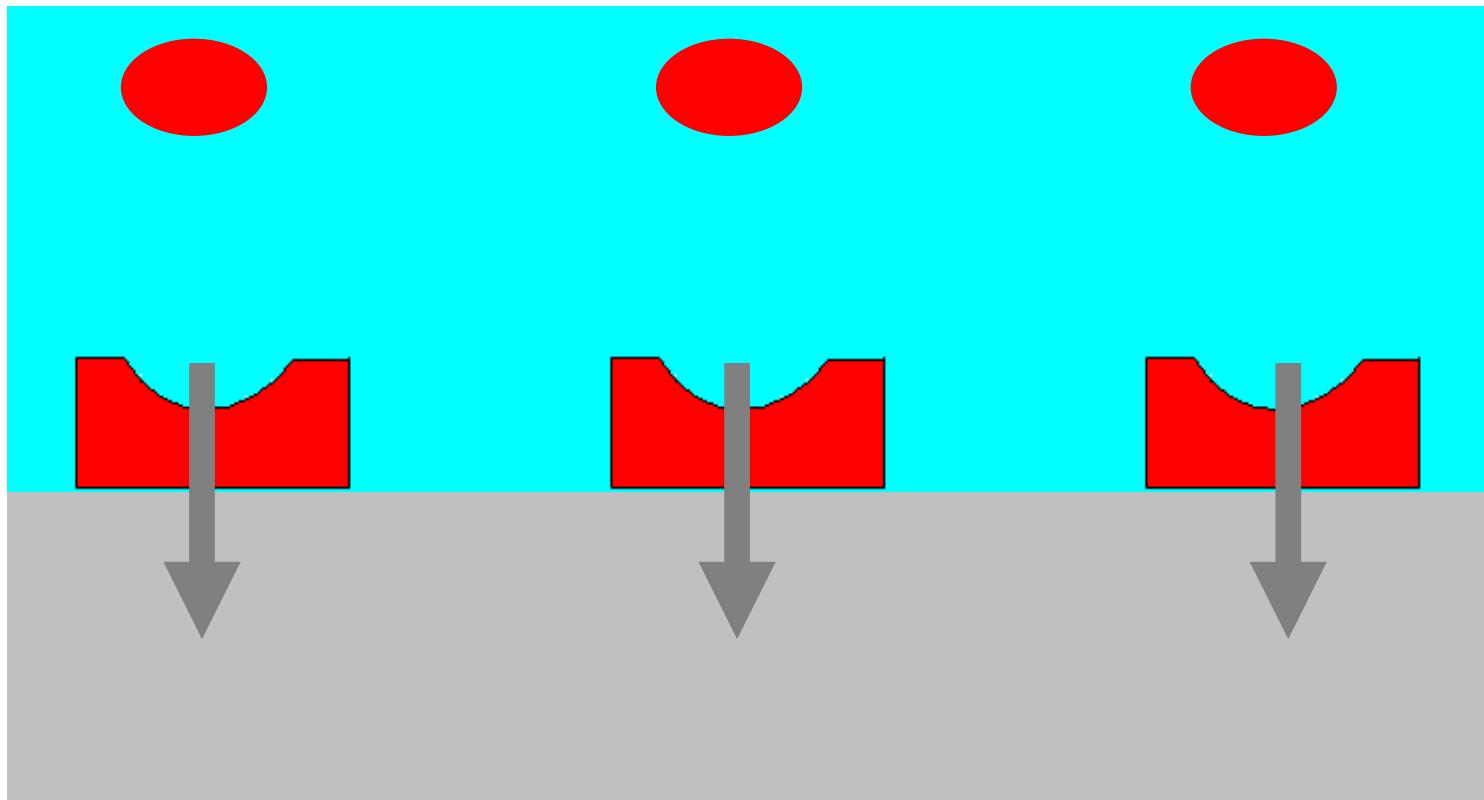


Drugs injection based on patient's pharmacokinetics

# The need for new Bio/CMOS systems

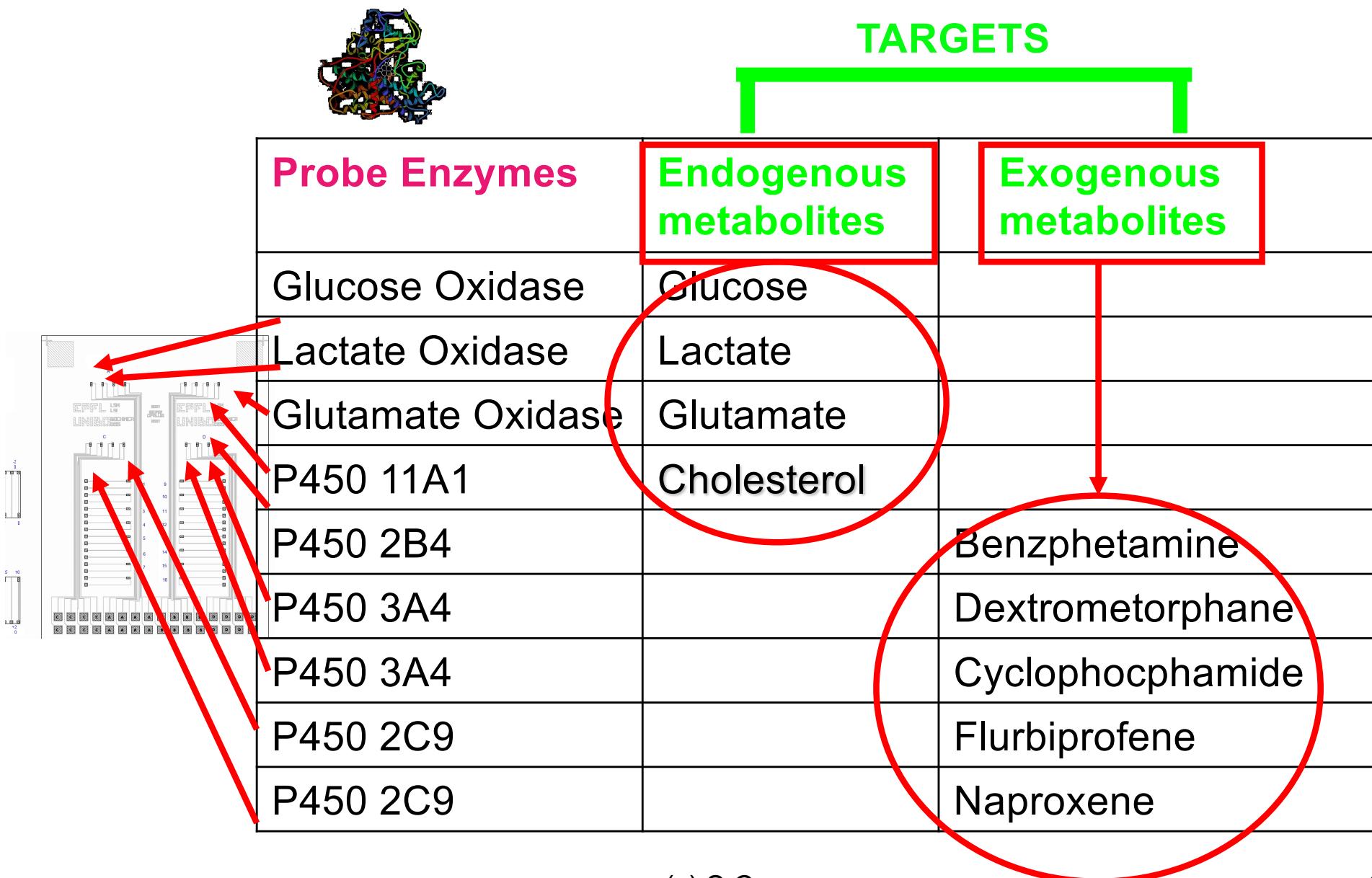


# CMOS/Sample interface

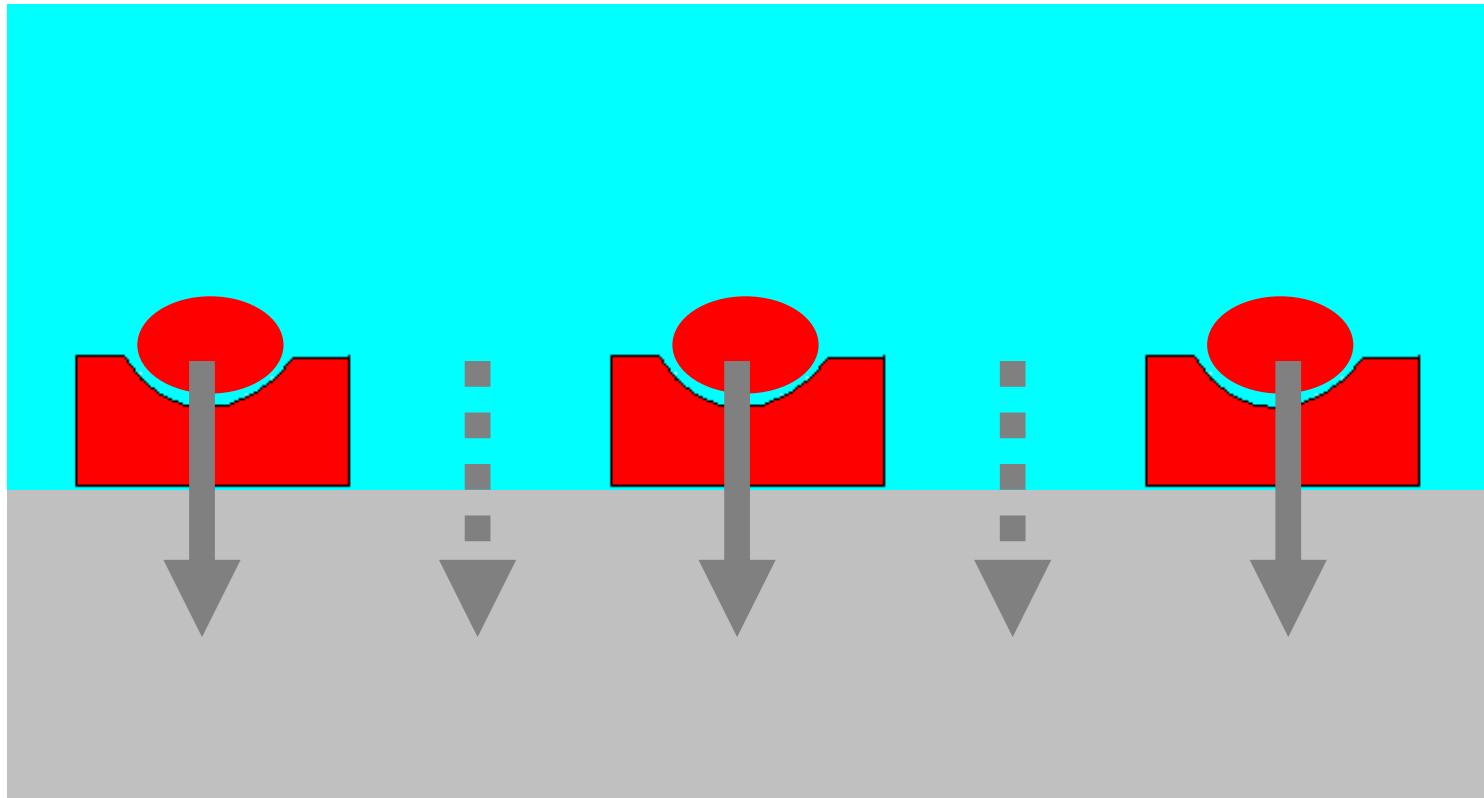


The interface between the CMOS circuit and the bio-sample needs to be deeply investigated and organized

# Applications in Personalized Therapy



# CMOS/Sample interface



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

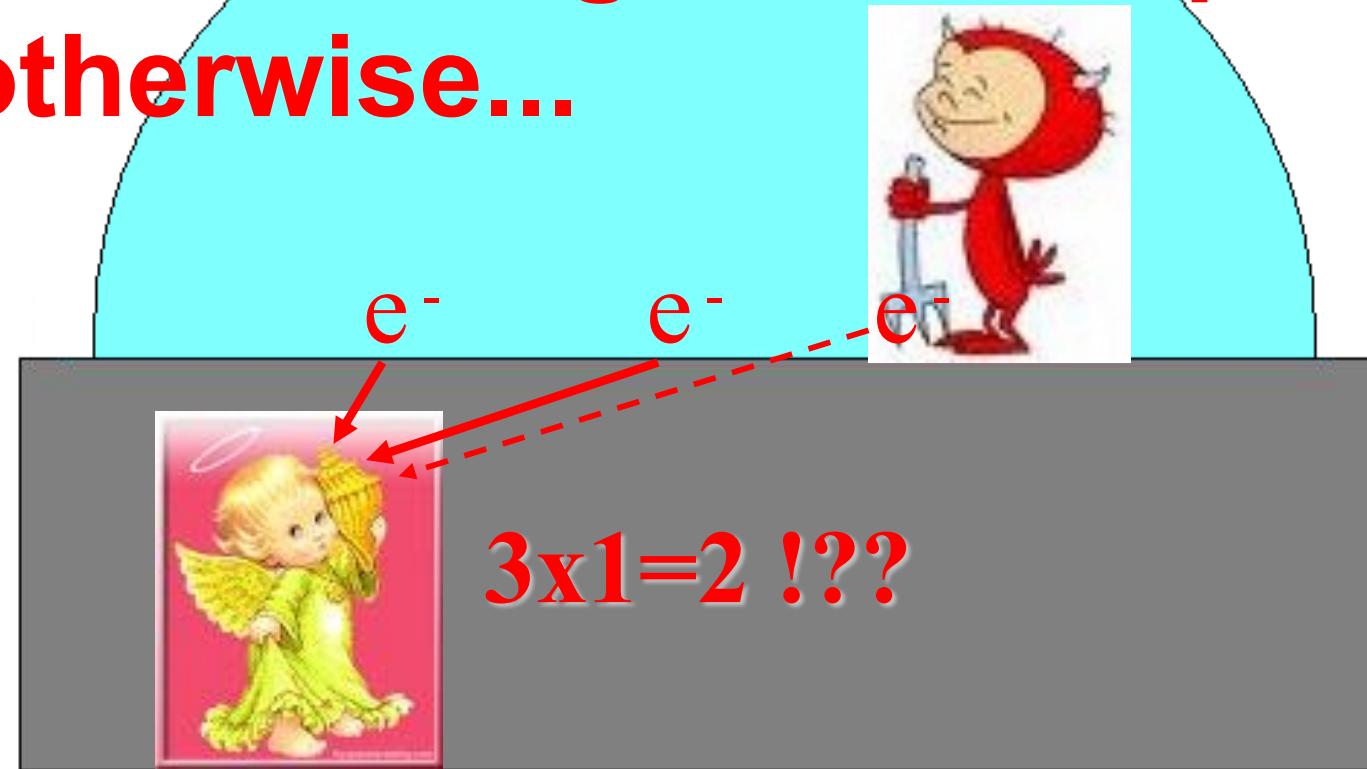


Q8

## Does present implantable CMOS chips allow metabolism monitoring?

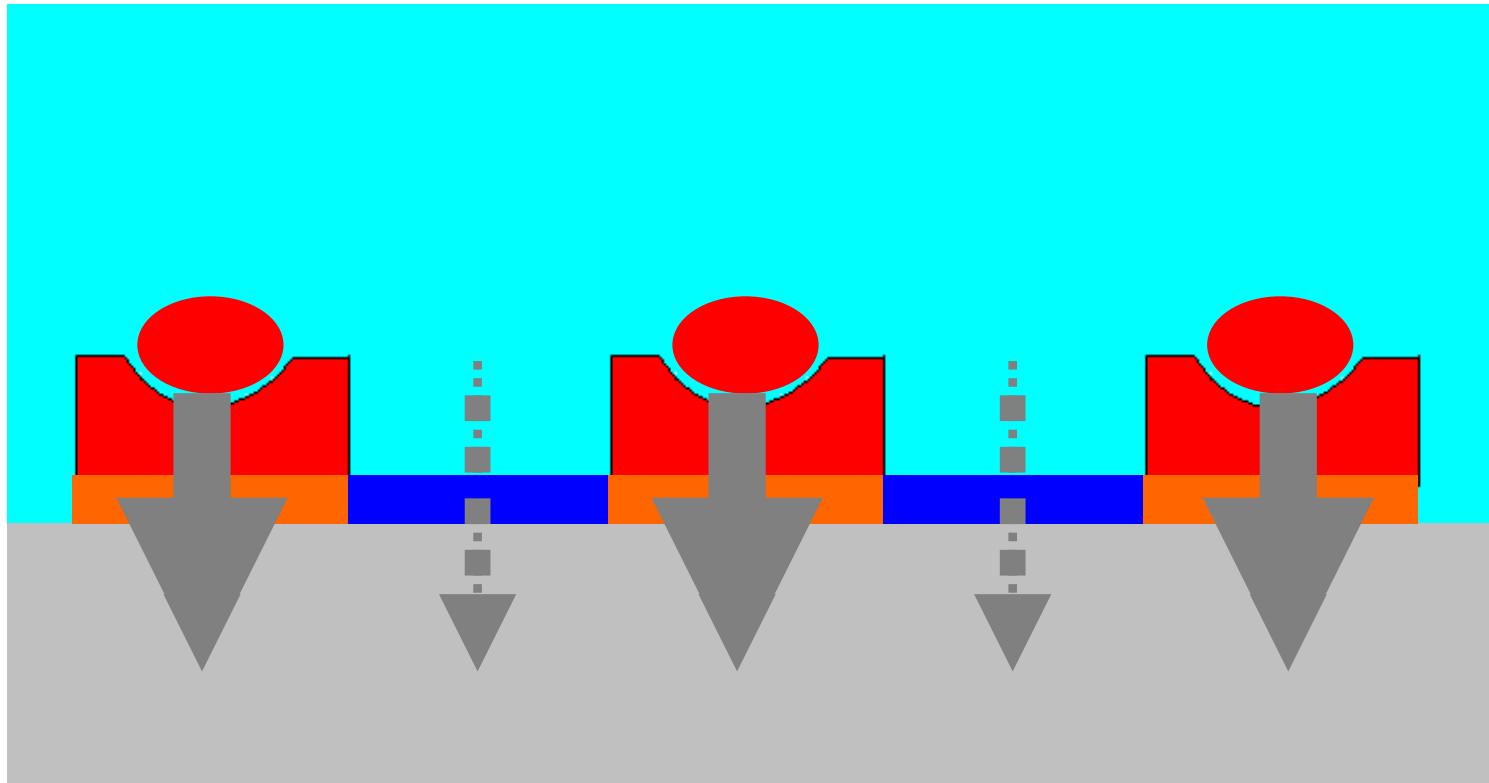
- A. Not really
- B. No if monitoring is non-related to glucose
- C. No if monitoring is related to more metabolites
- D. Yes, since they measure average parameters
- E. Yes, that's easy to be done

# New Paradigms are required otherwise...



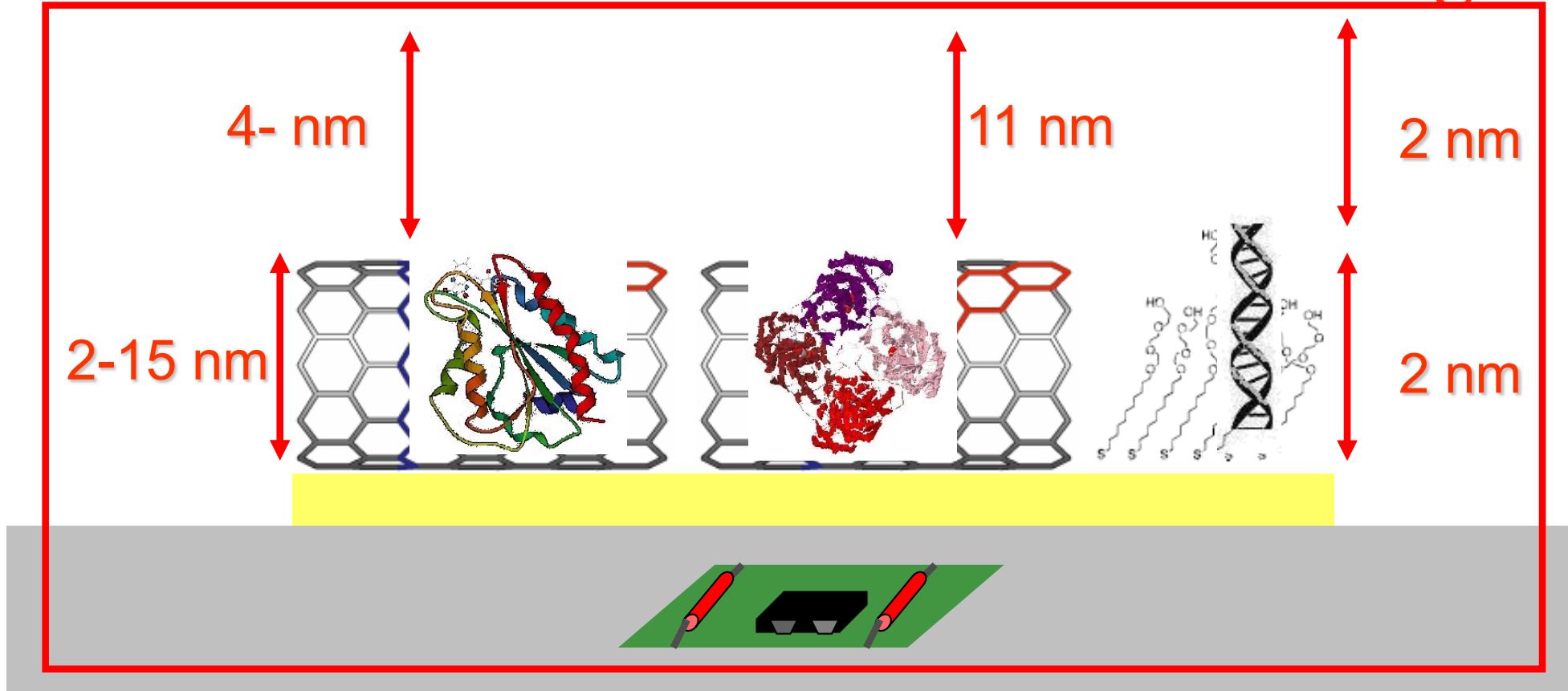
**Excellent CMOS technology is not sufficient if molecules are not doing their own job at the Bio/CMOS interface!**

# CMOS/Sample interface



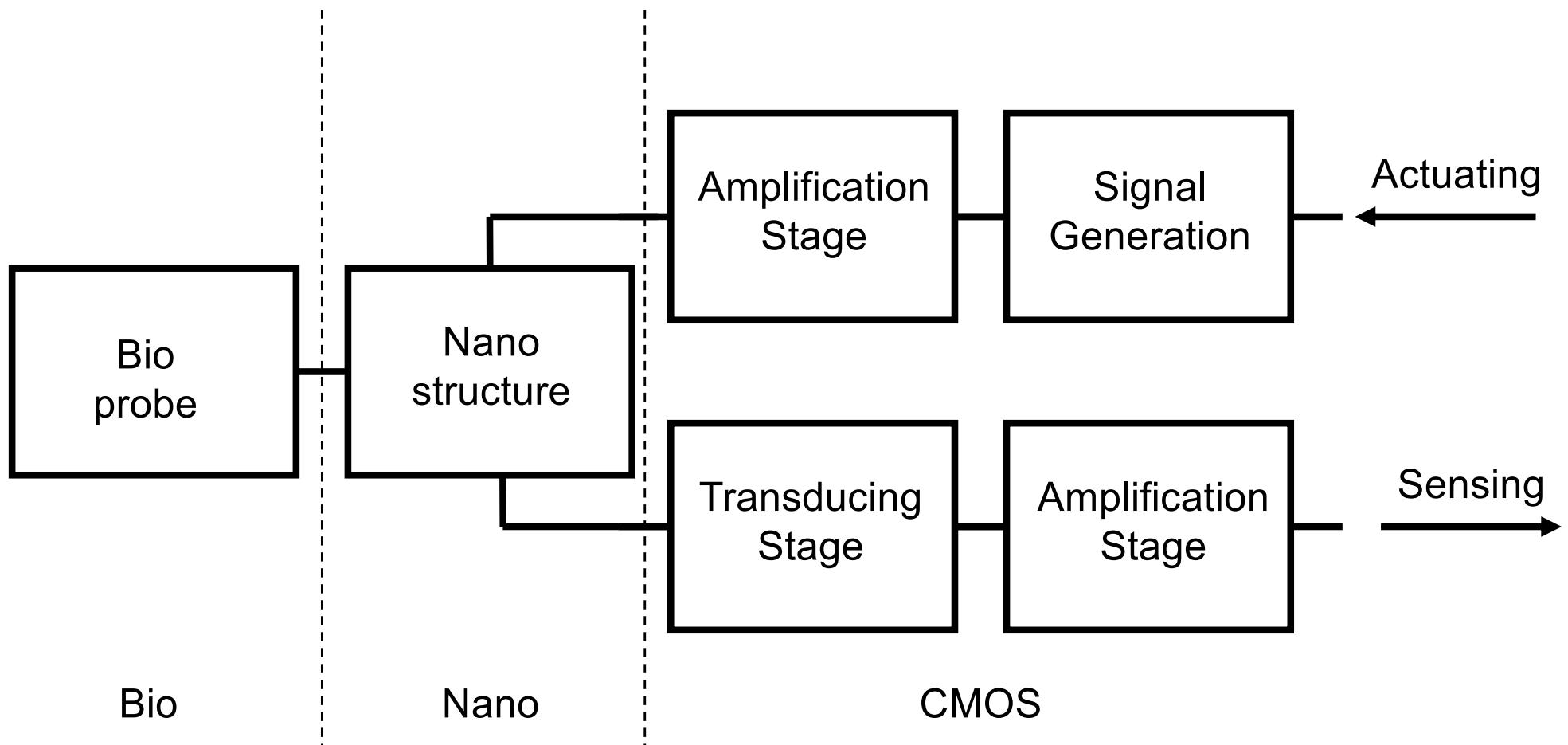
The interface between the CMOS circuit and the bio-sample needs to be deeply investigated and organized

# 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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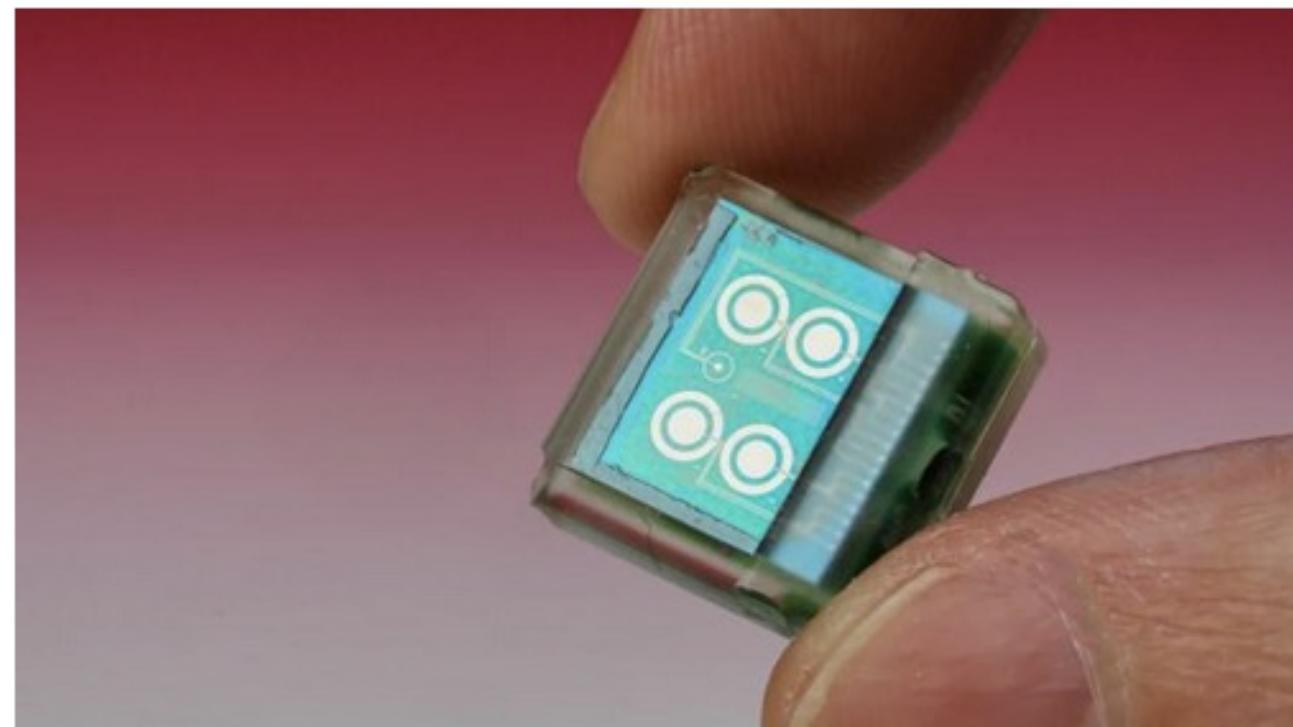


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# A subcutaneous biosensor chip to revolutionize tomorrow's medicine

May 29, 2015 9:26 AM

[Relaxnews](#)



(c) S.Carrara



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%

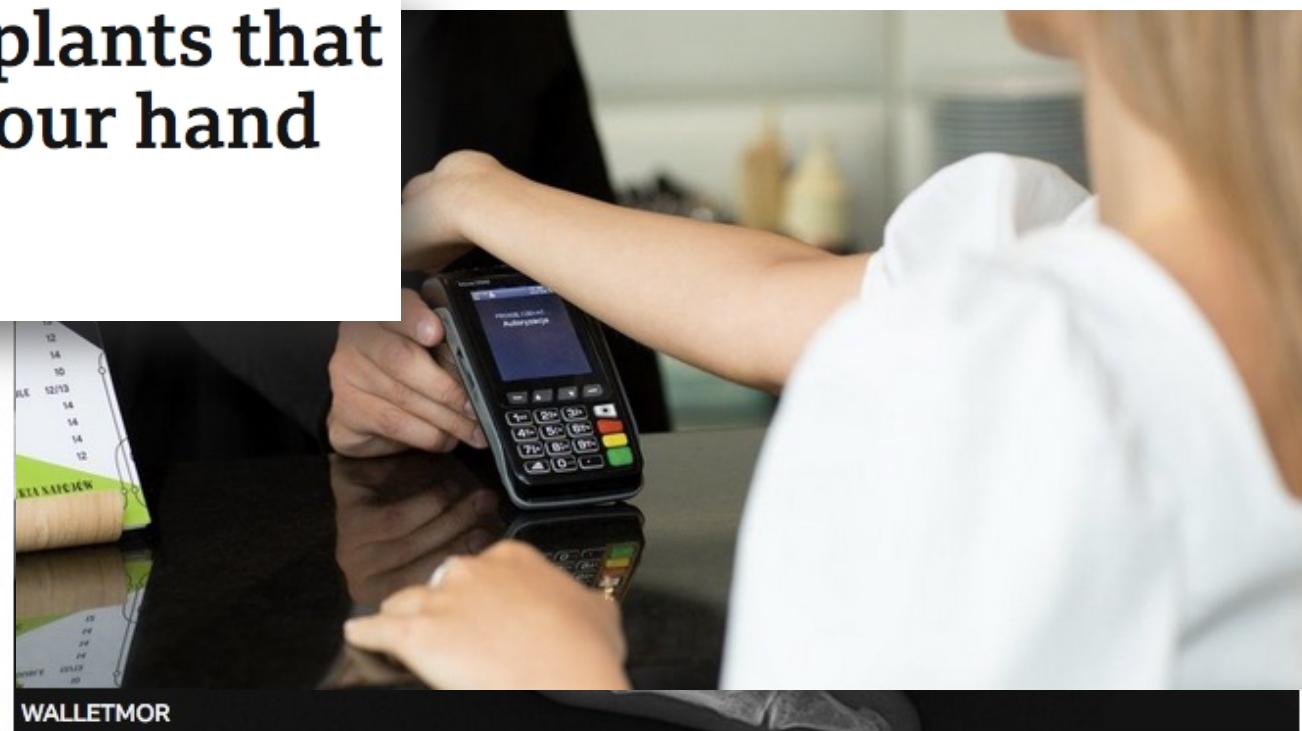
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## The microchip implants that let you pay with your hand

By Katherine Latham  
Business reporter

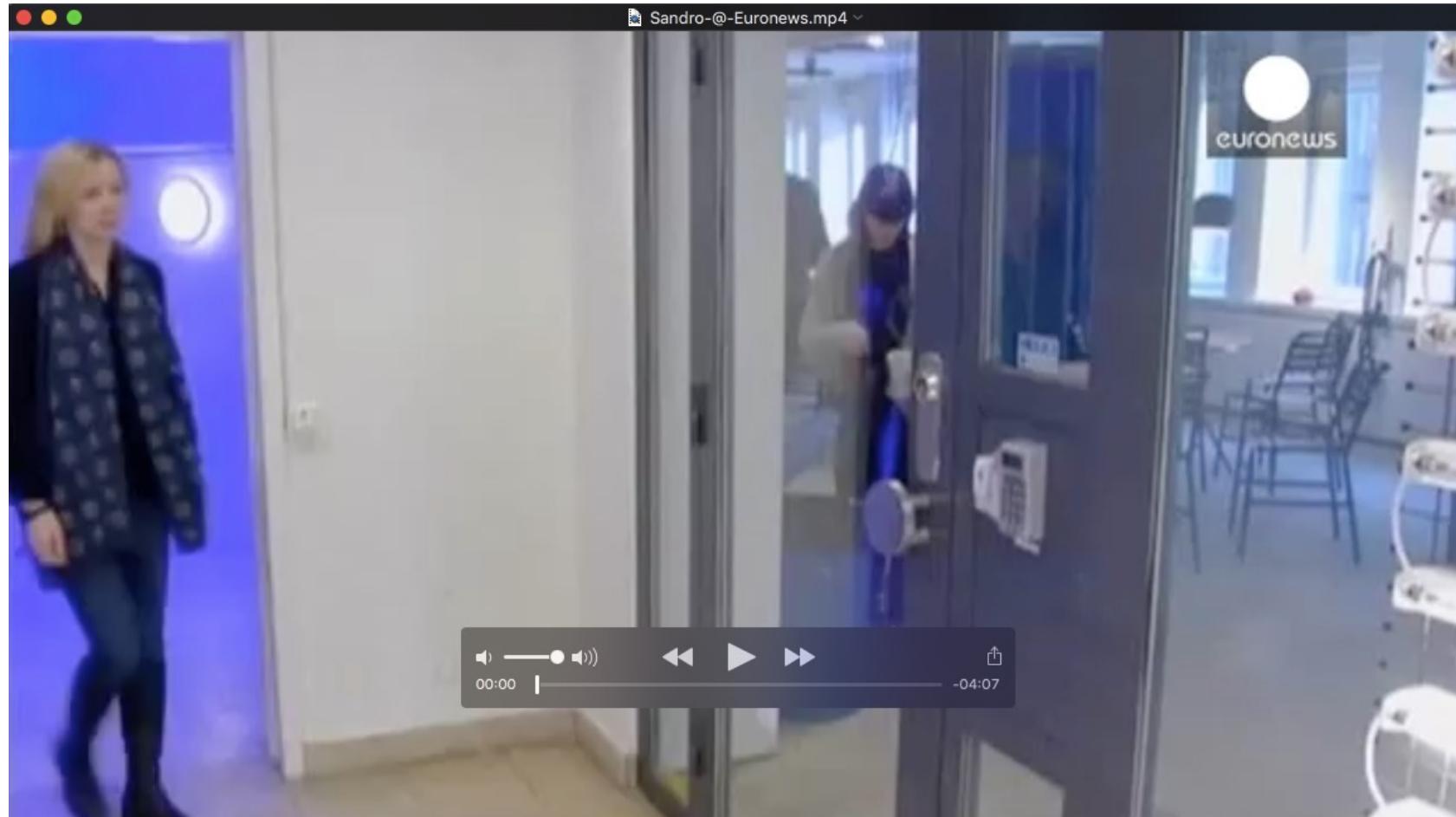
April, 11th , 2022



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

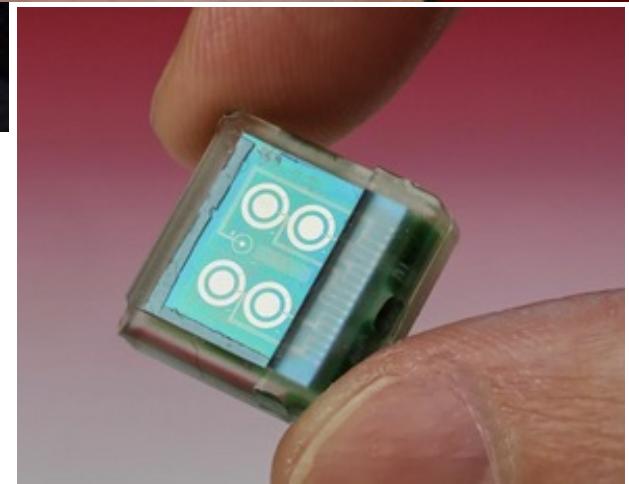
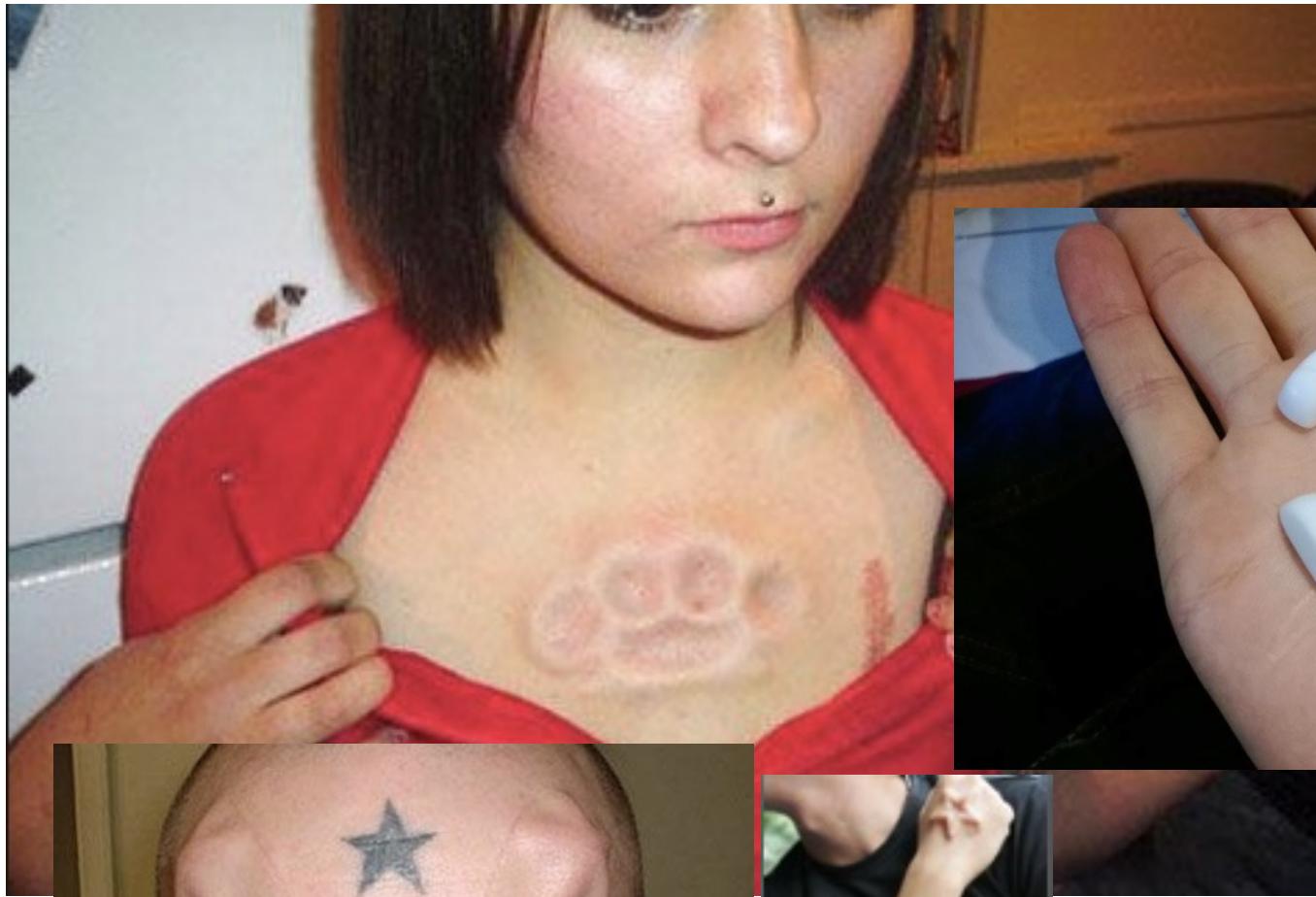
For many of us, the idea of having such a chip implanted in our body is an appalling one. but a 2021 survey of more than 4,000 people across the UK and the European Union found that 51% would consider it.

# Chips under the skin?



[EuroNews, June 2015]

# Under the skin for body sculpting

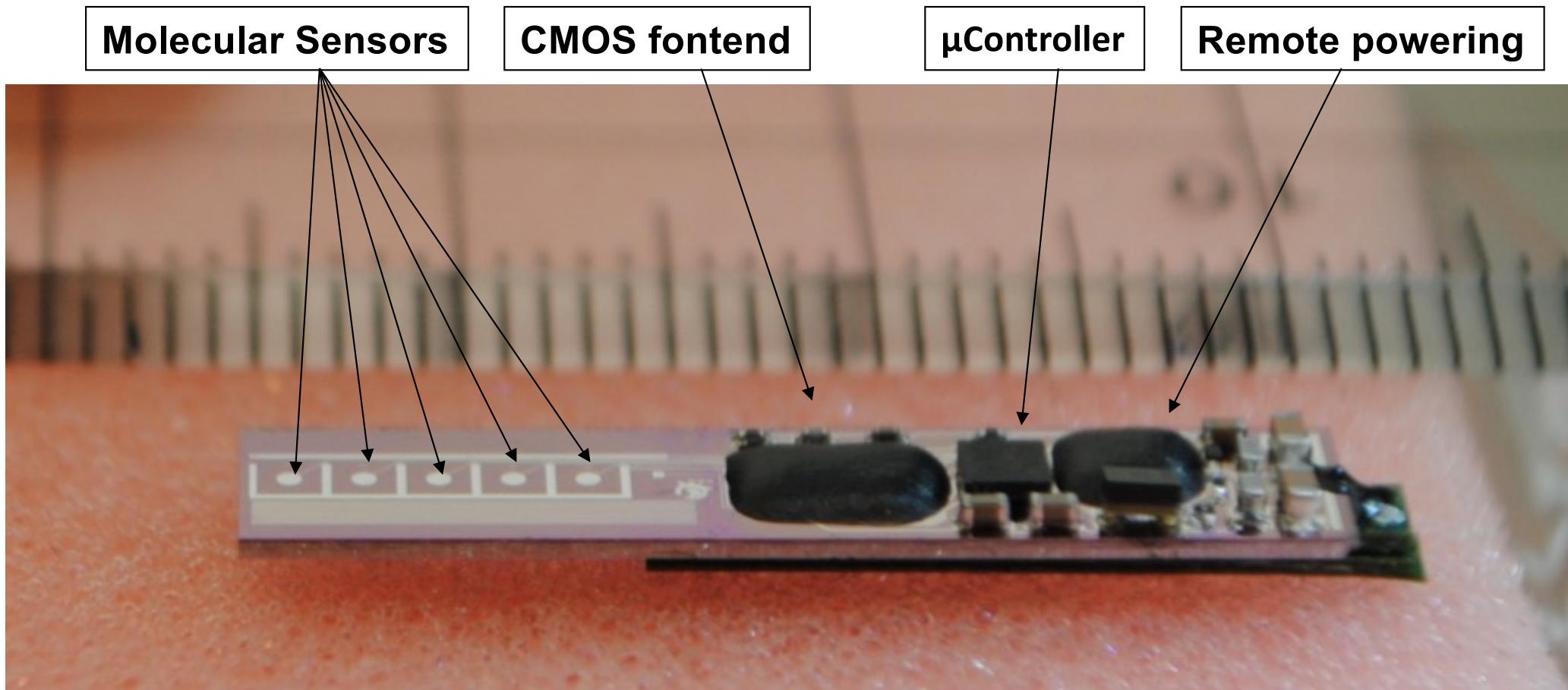


(c) S.Carrara

# 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	CMOS

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



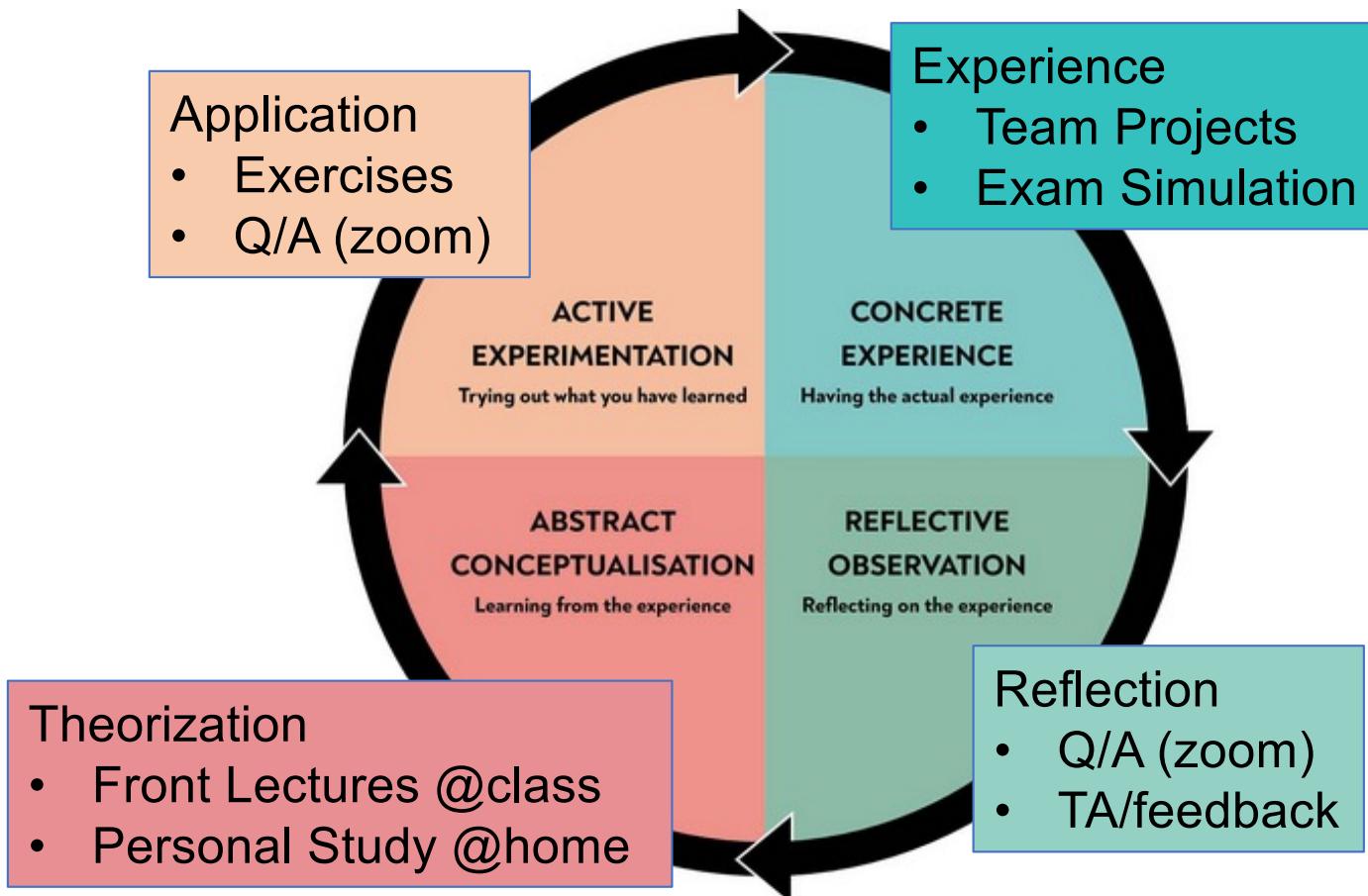
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gianluca.barbruni@epfl.ch

ata.golparvar@epfl.ch

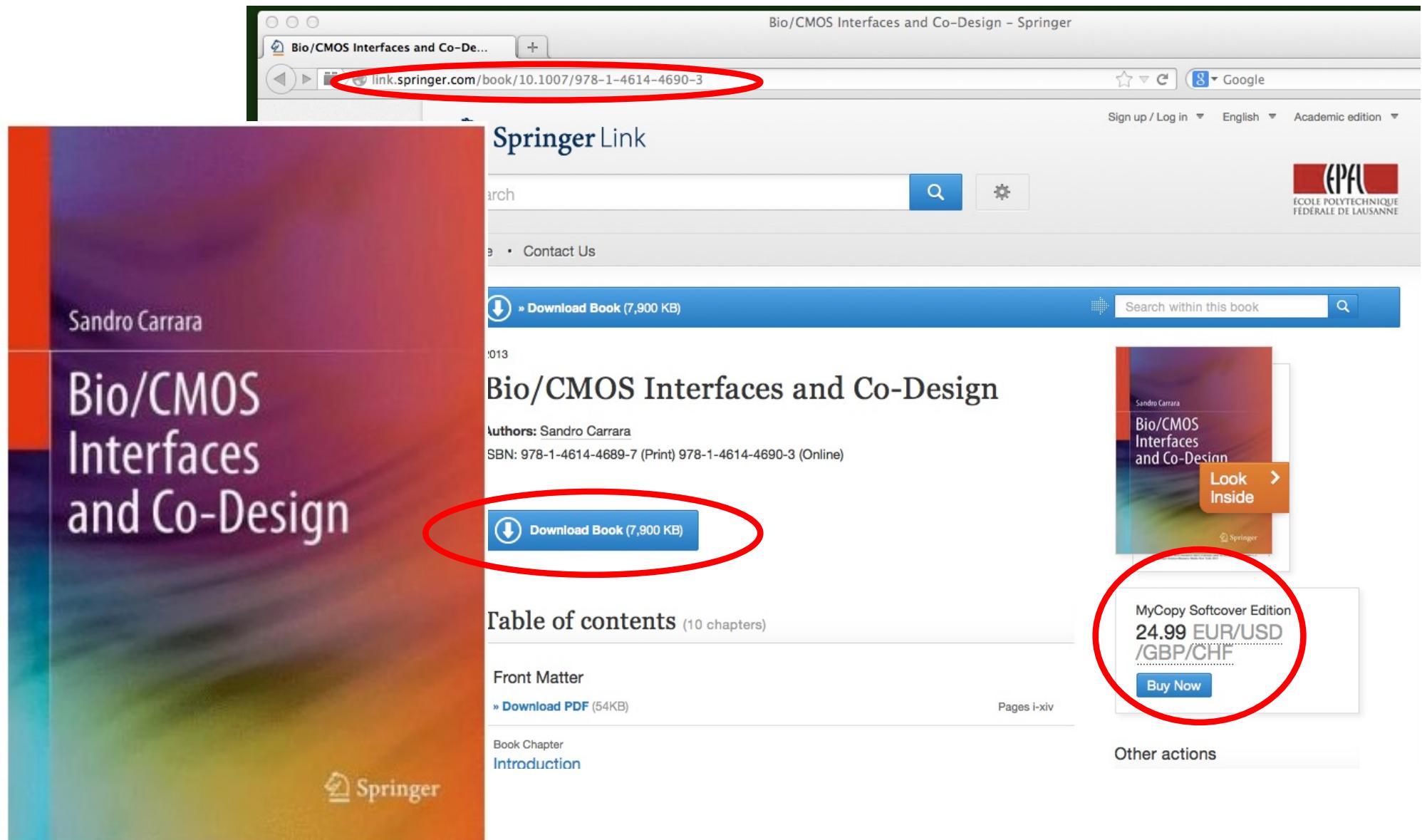
sandro.carrara@epfl.ch

### 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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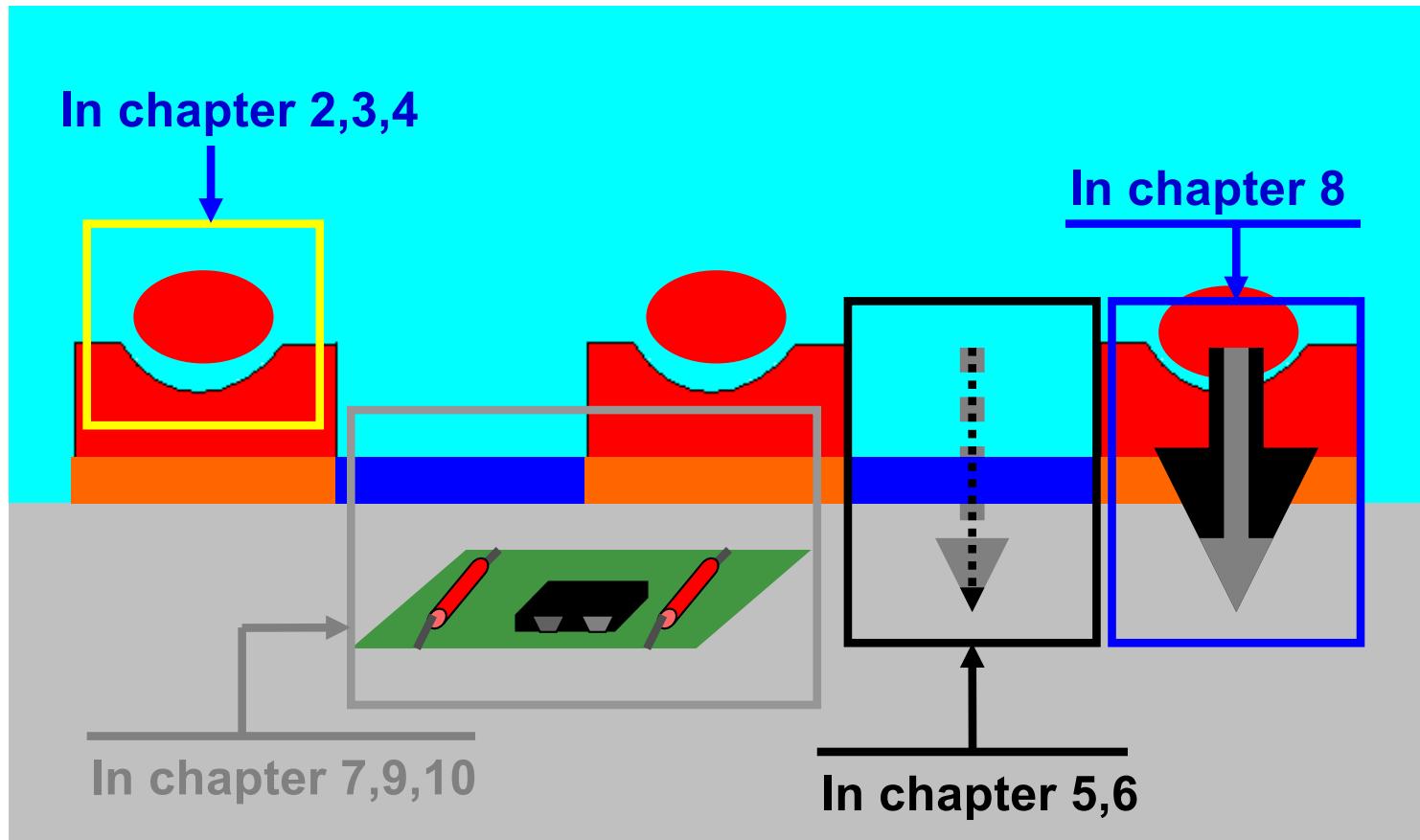
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# Bio/CMOS interface book



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

# Lecture #1

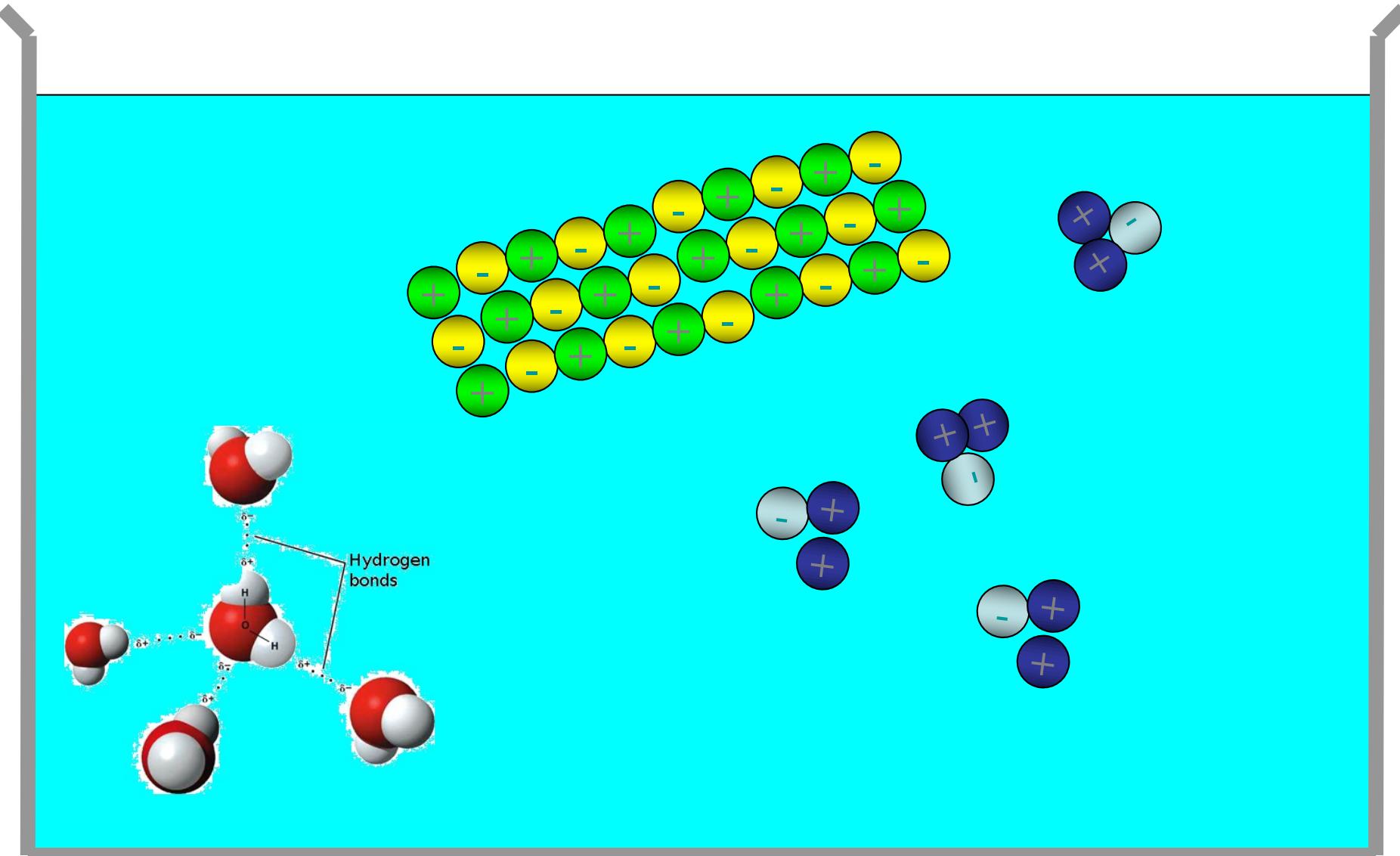
## Conductive Solutions

# Lecture Outline

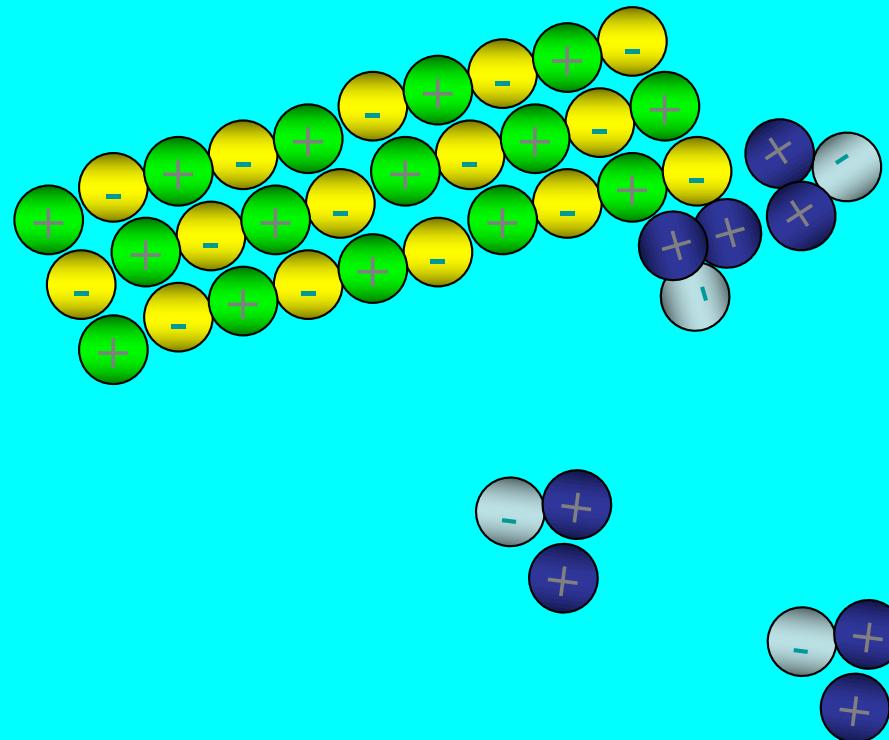
(Book Bio/CMOS: Chapter' paragraphs § 2.1-2.7 and § 2.14-15)

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

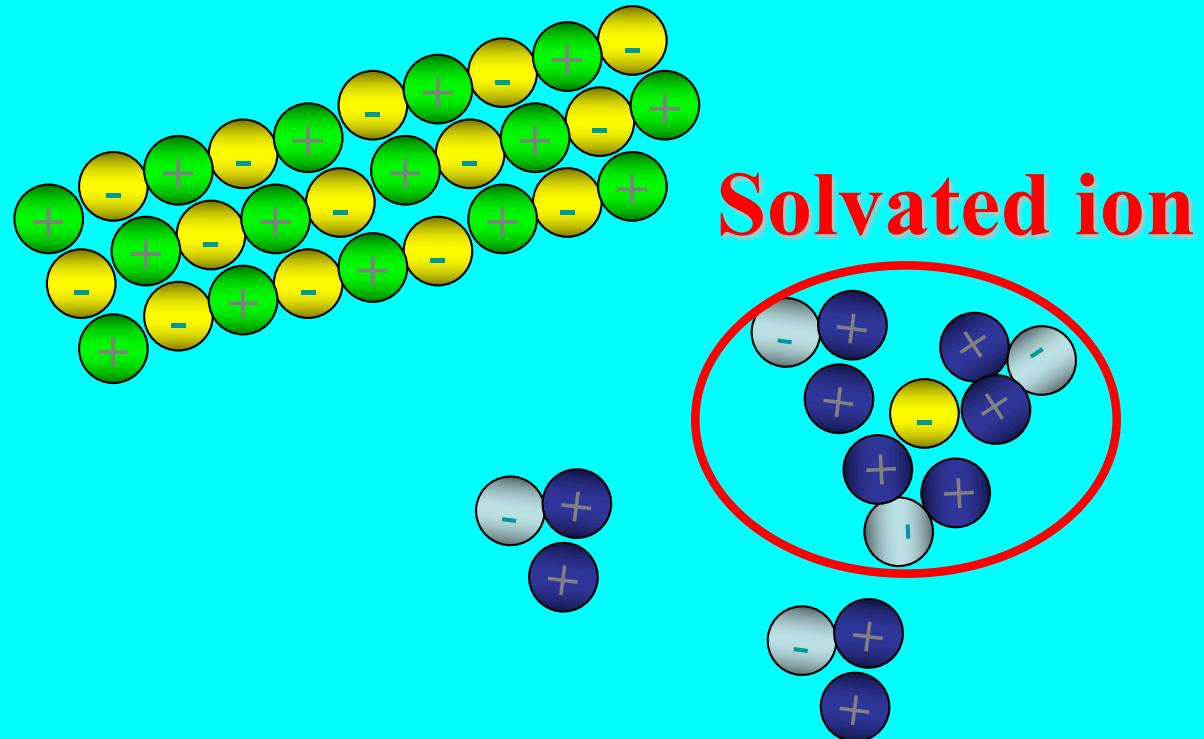
# Liquid Solution: ionic Solid in liquid



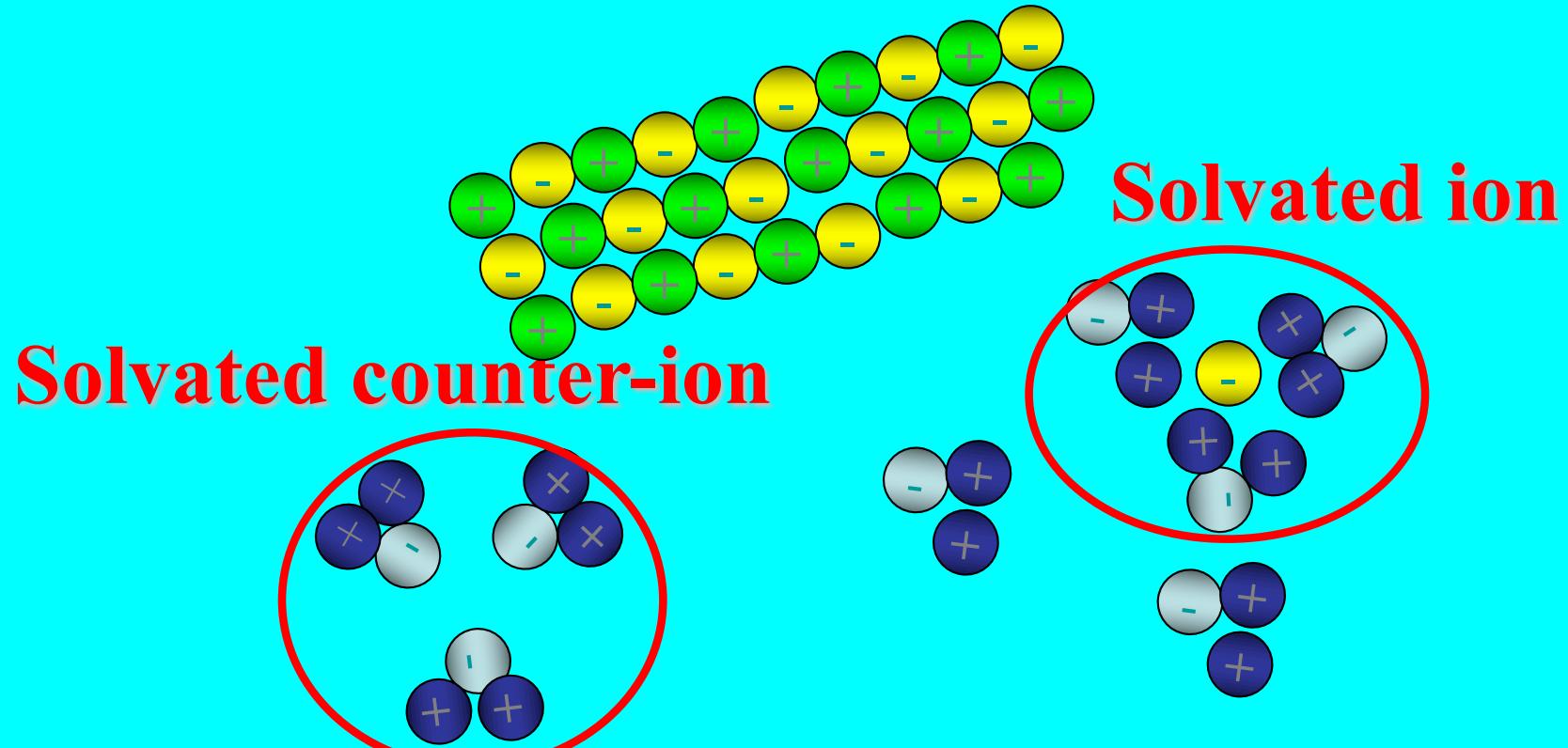
# Liquid Solution: ionic Solid in liquid



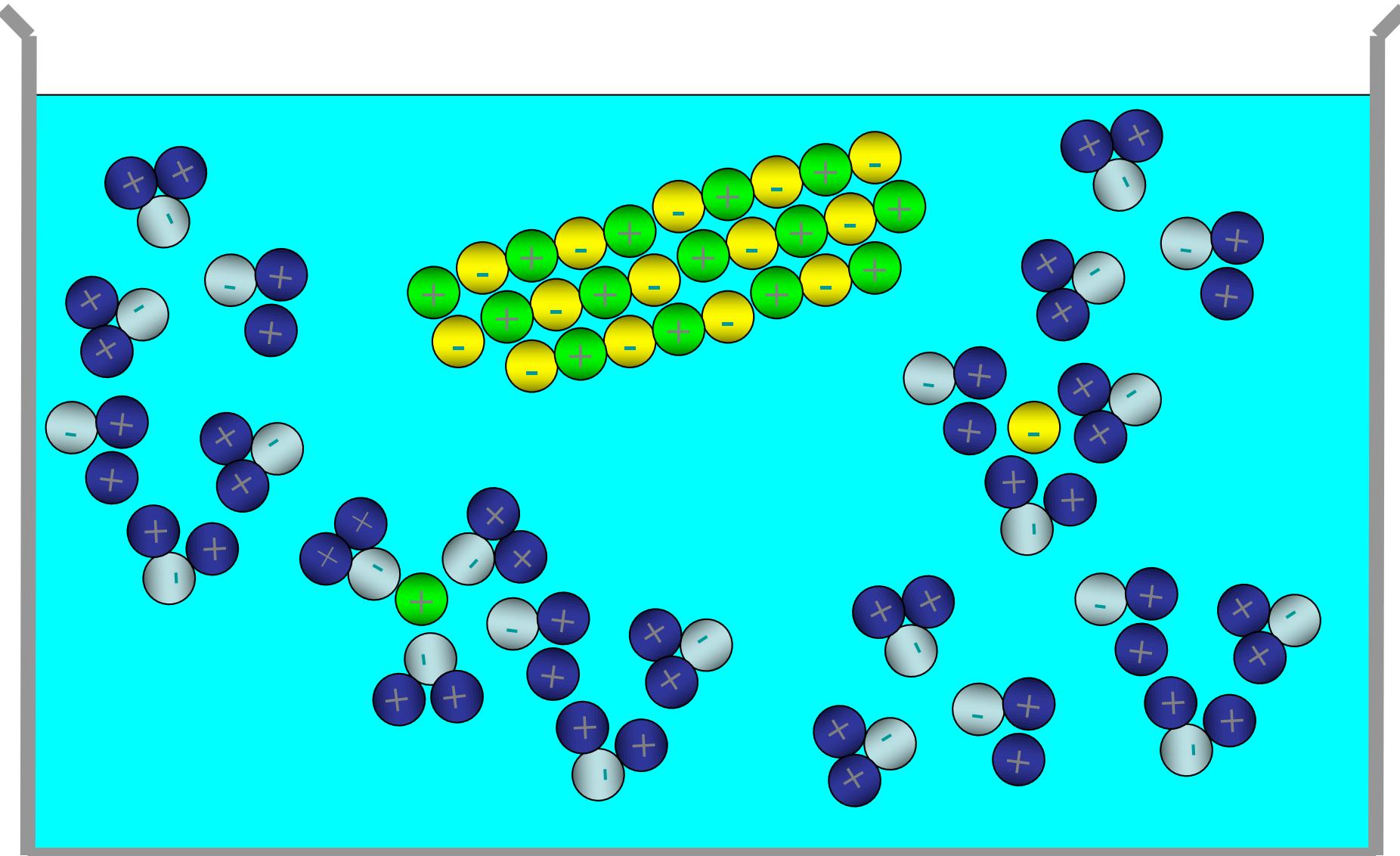
# Liquid Solution: Ionic Solid in liquid



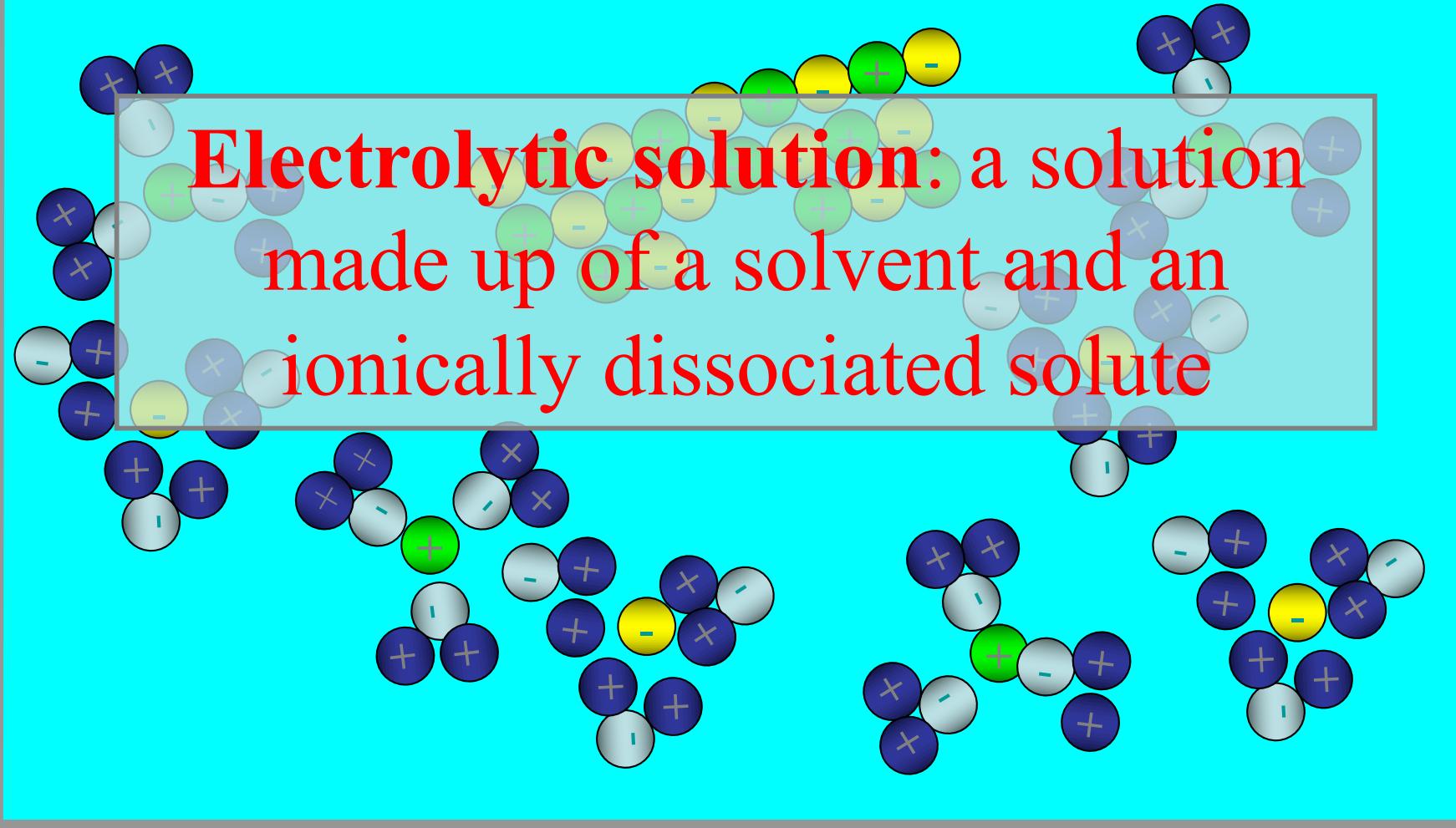
# Liquid Solution: Ionic Solid in liquid



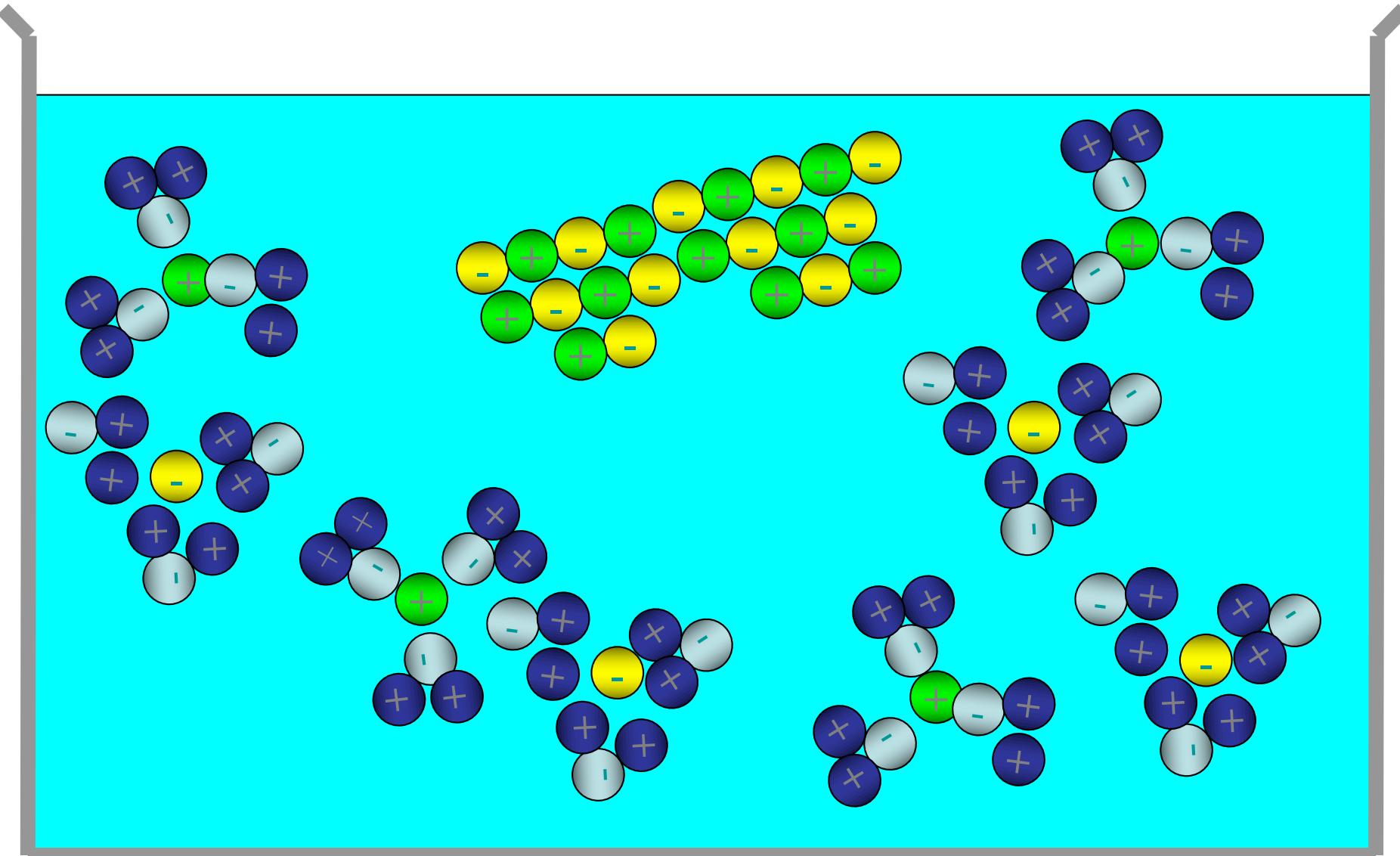
# Liquid Solution: Ionic Solid in liquid



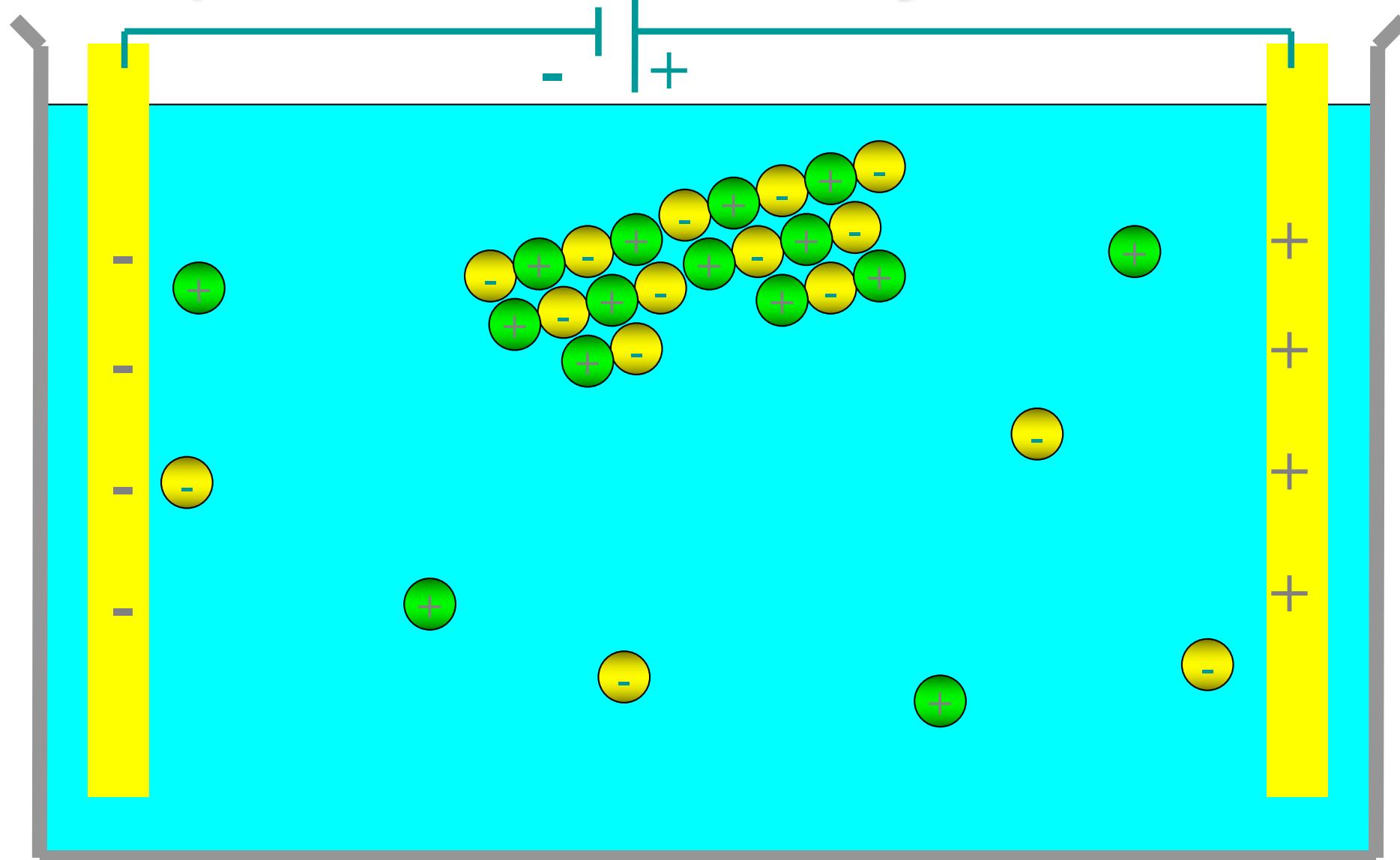
# Liquid Solution: Ionic Solid in liquid



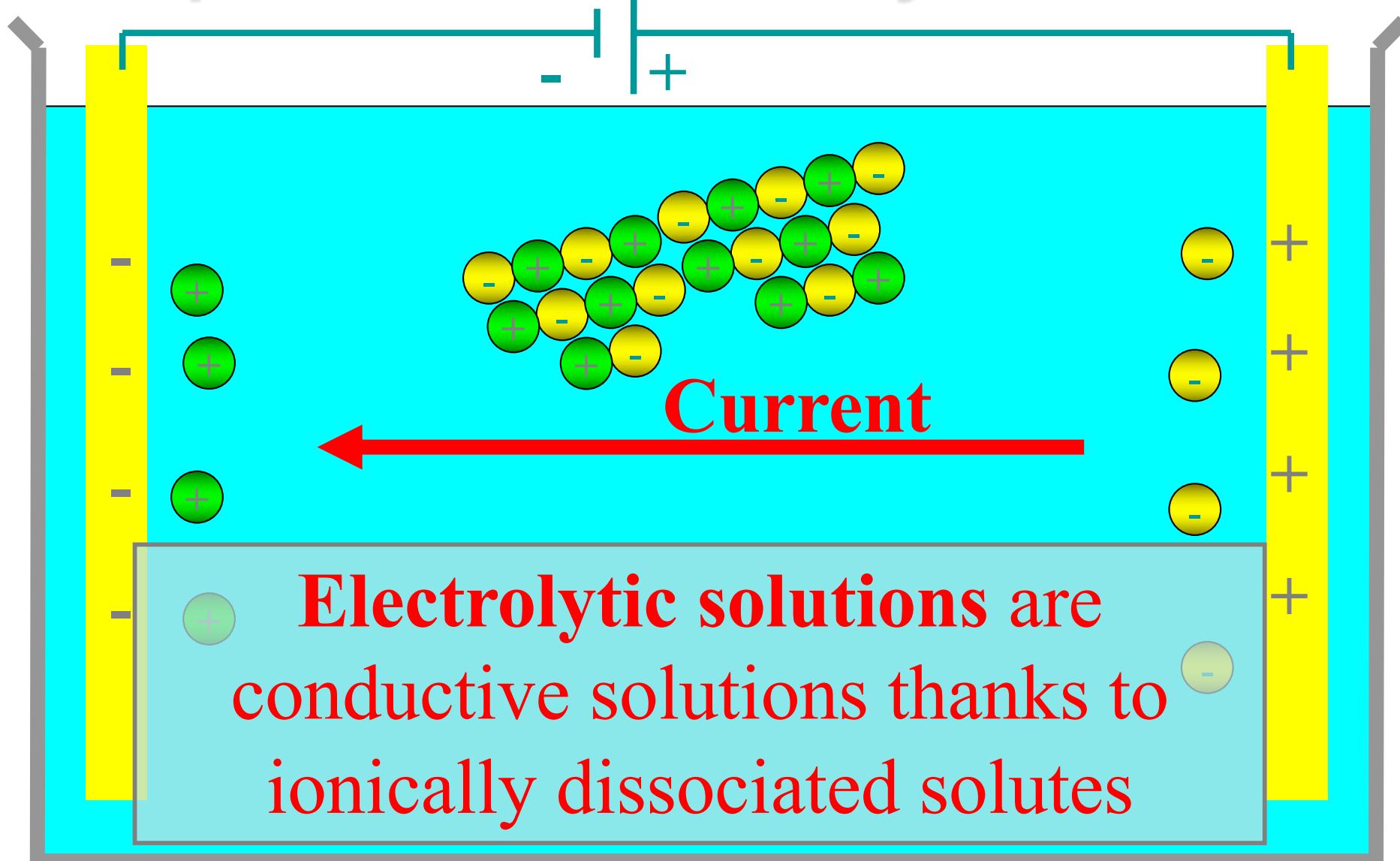
# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



# Ionic Solution of HCl

## Dissociation of Chloride Acid

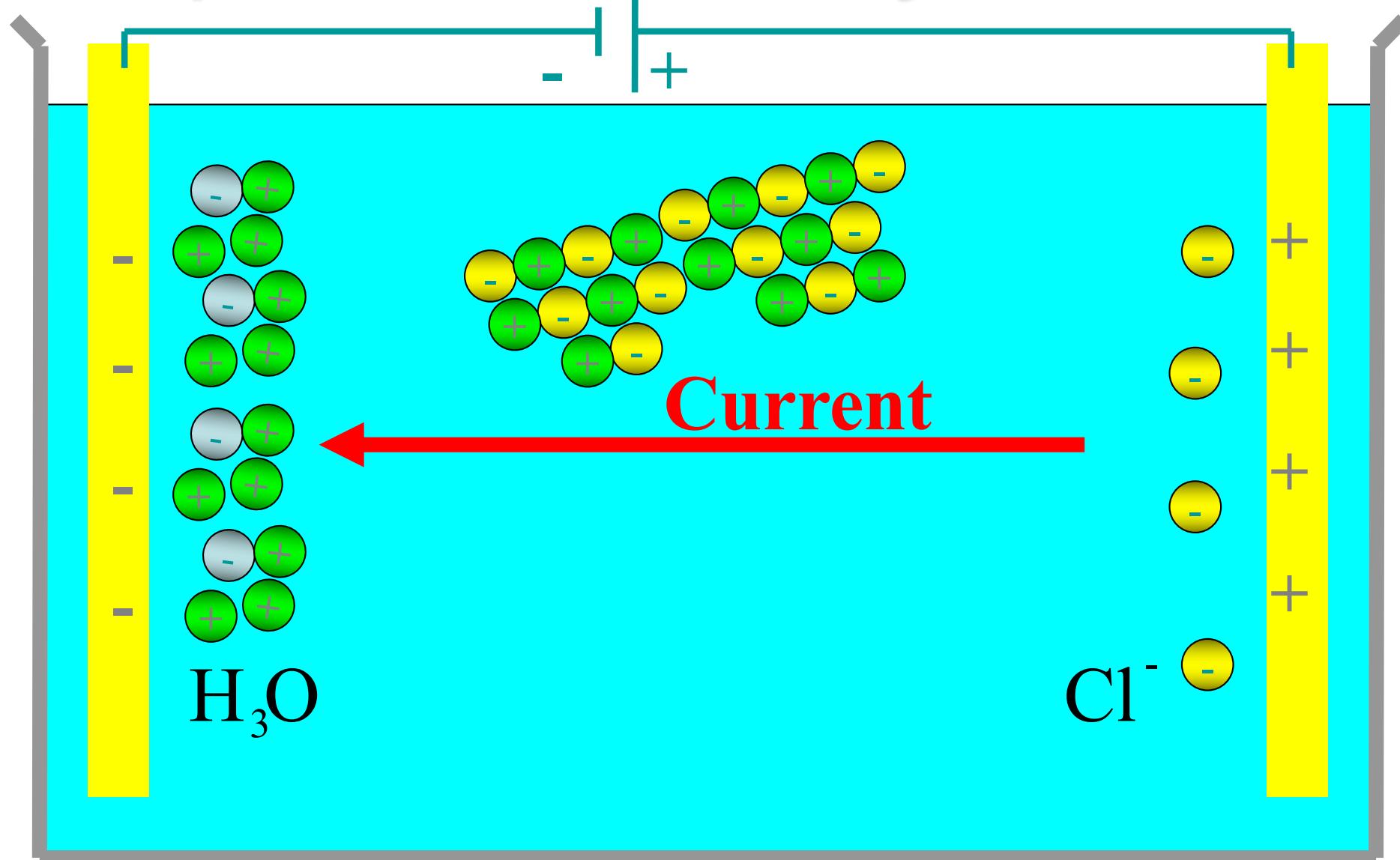


- Electrode (Cathode)

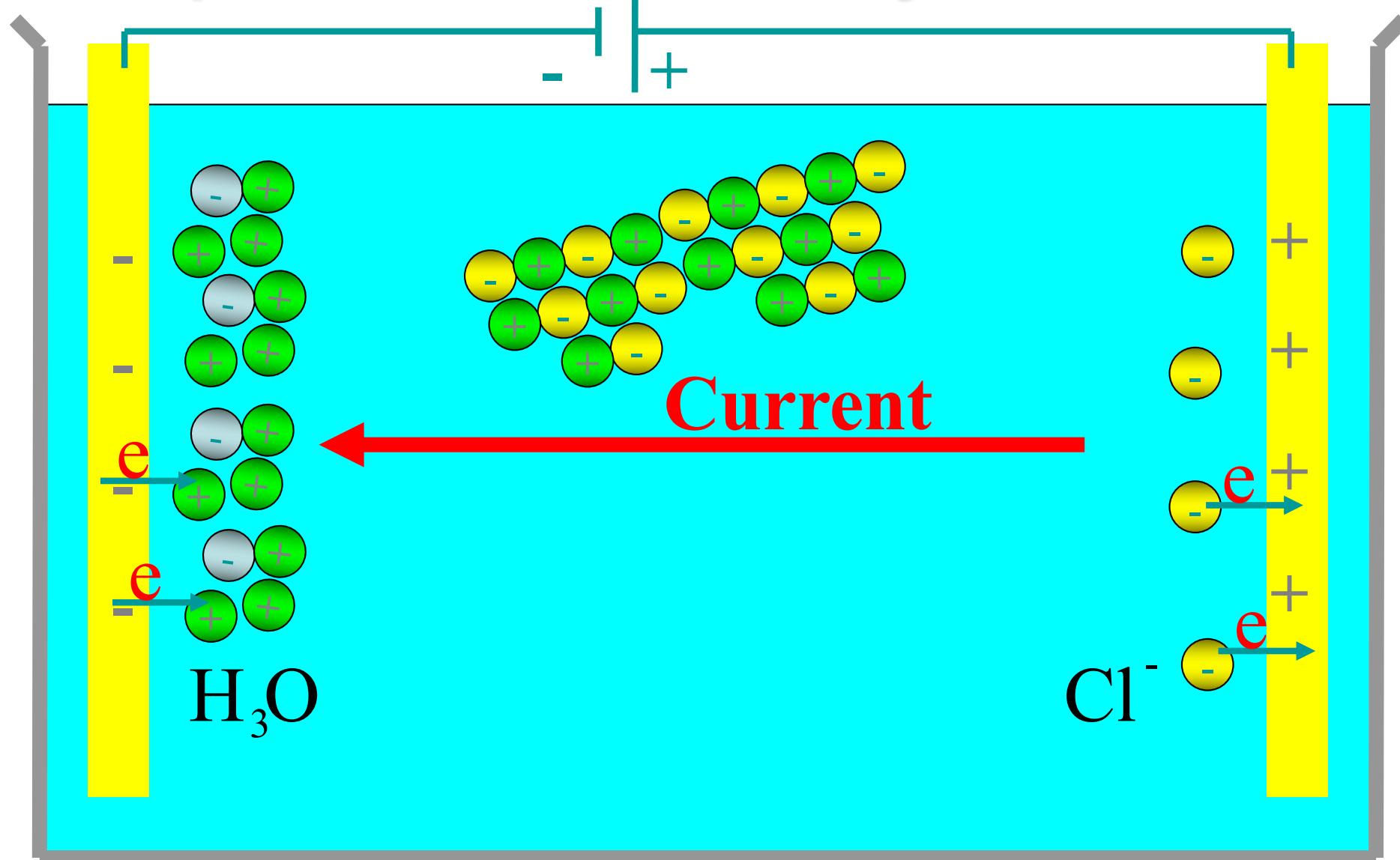


+ Electrode (Anode)

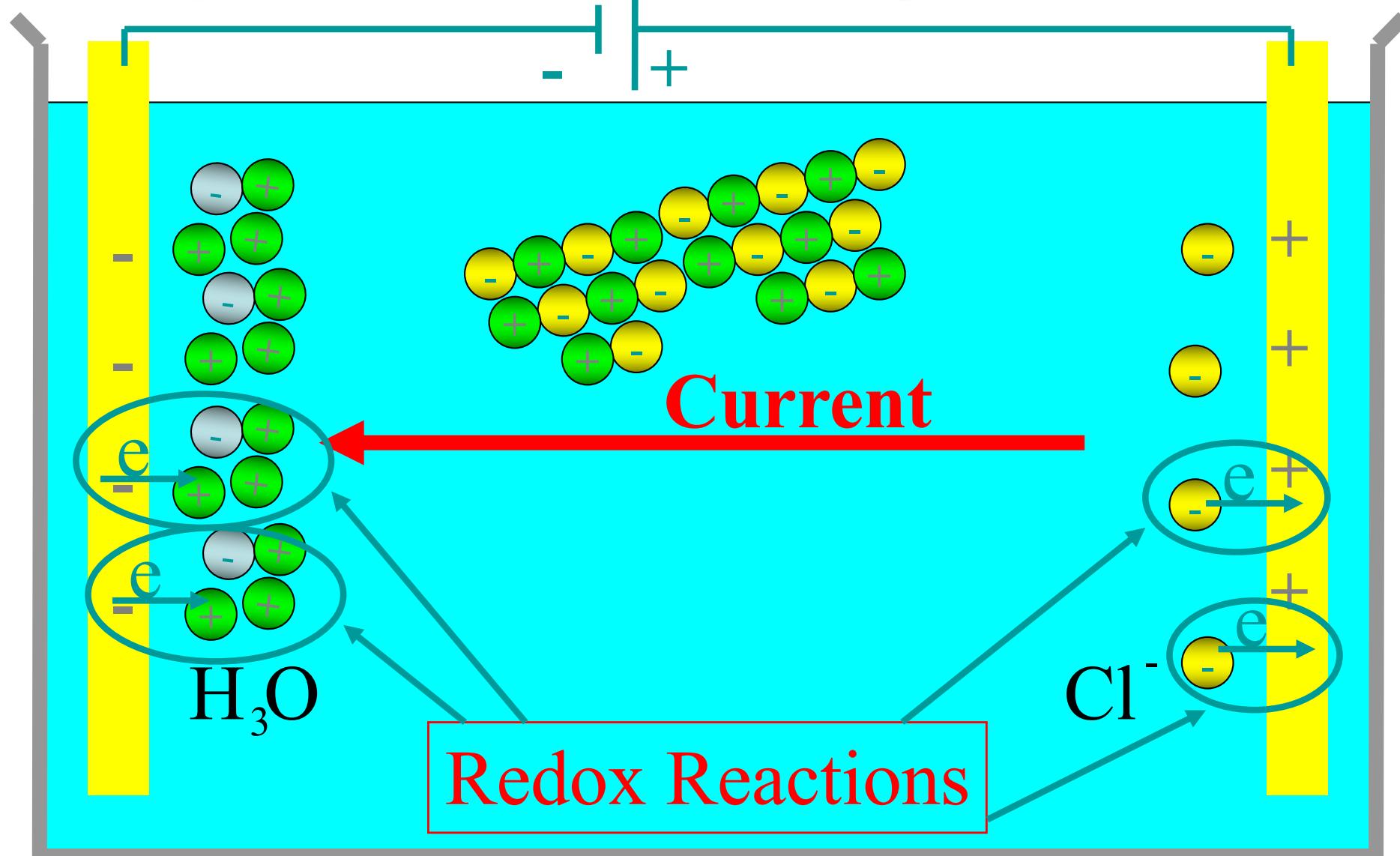
# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



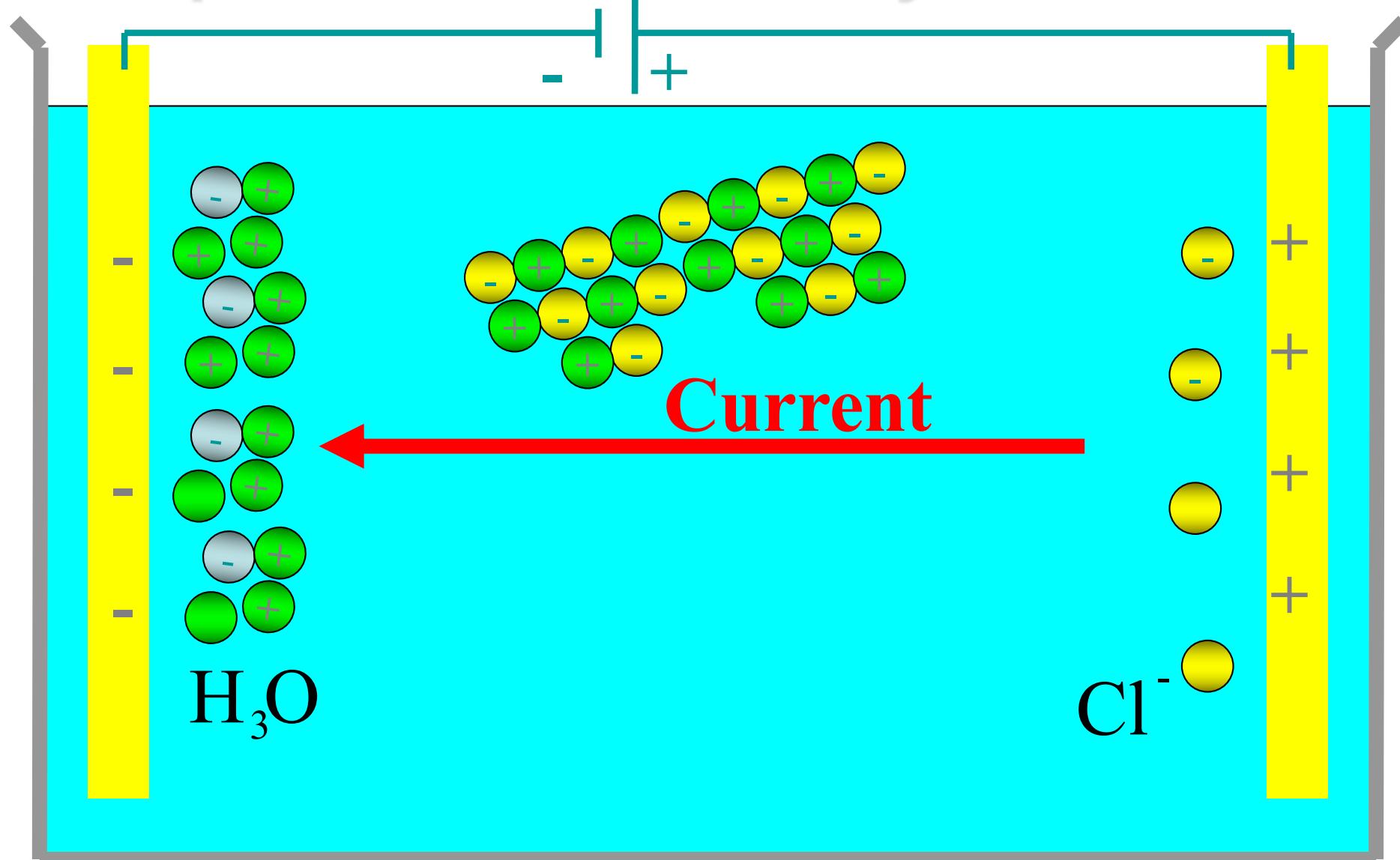
# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



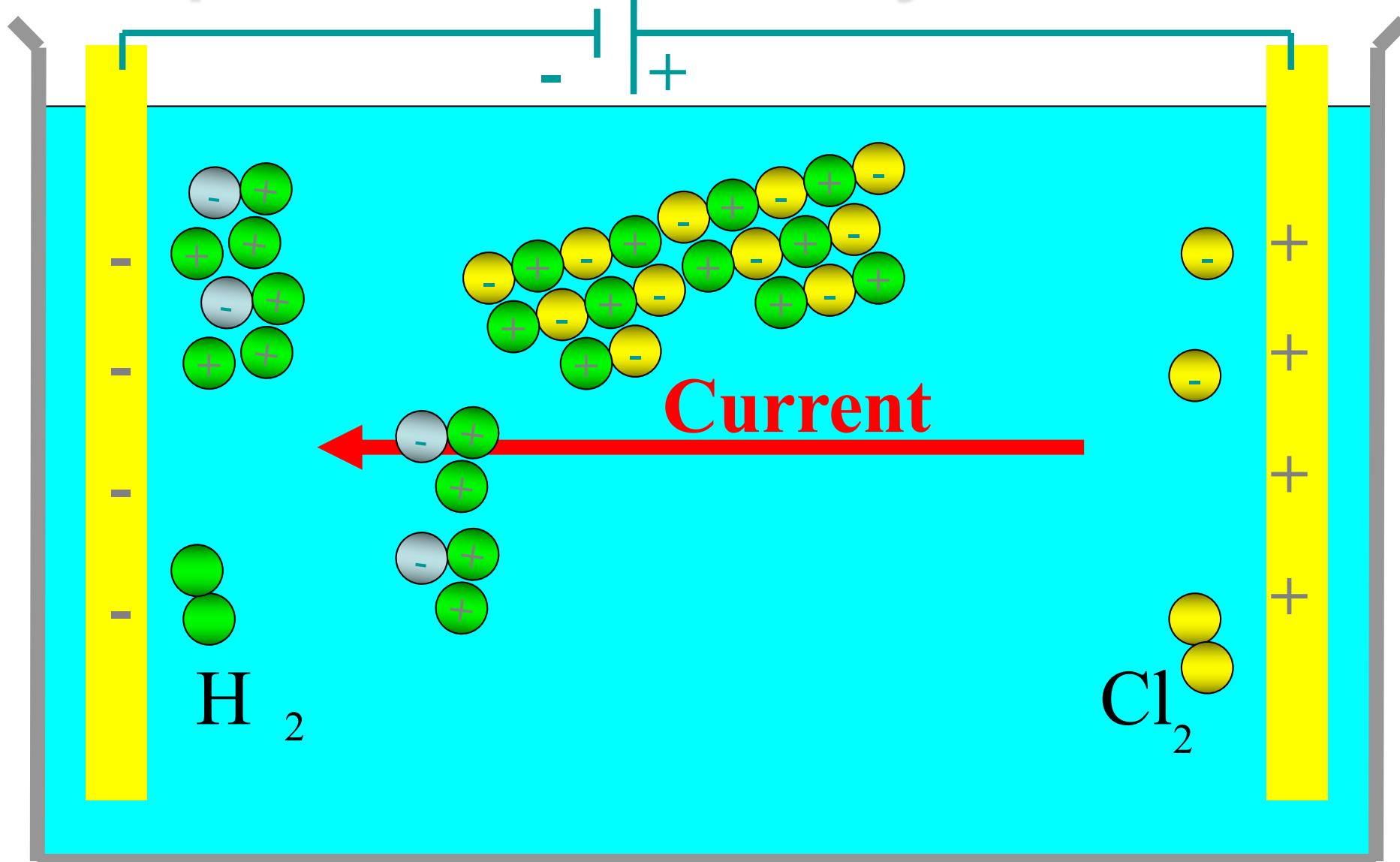
# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



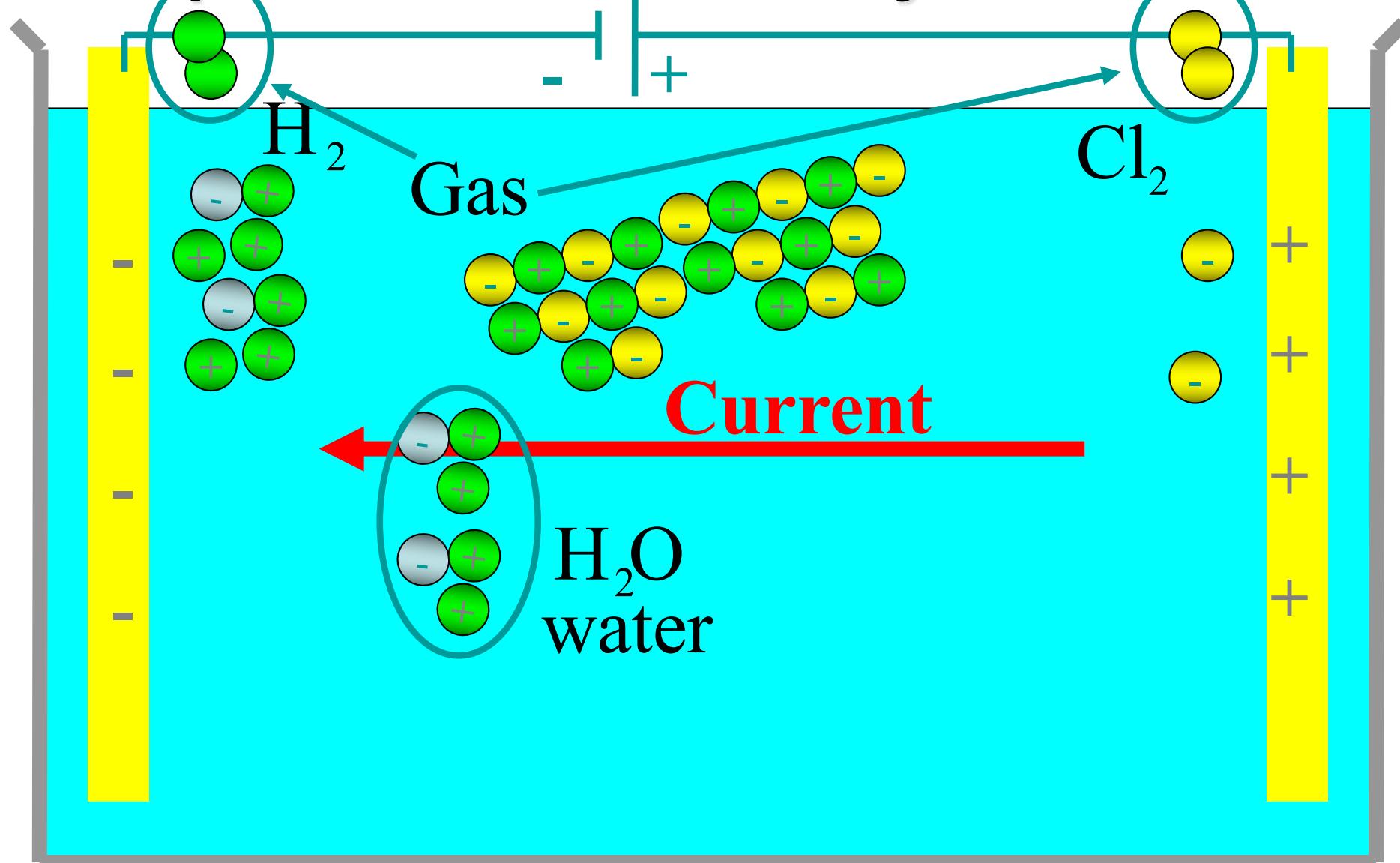
# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



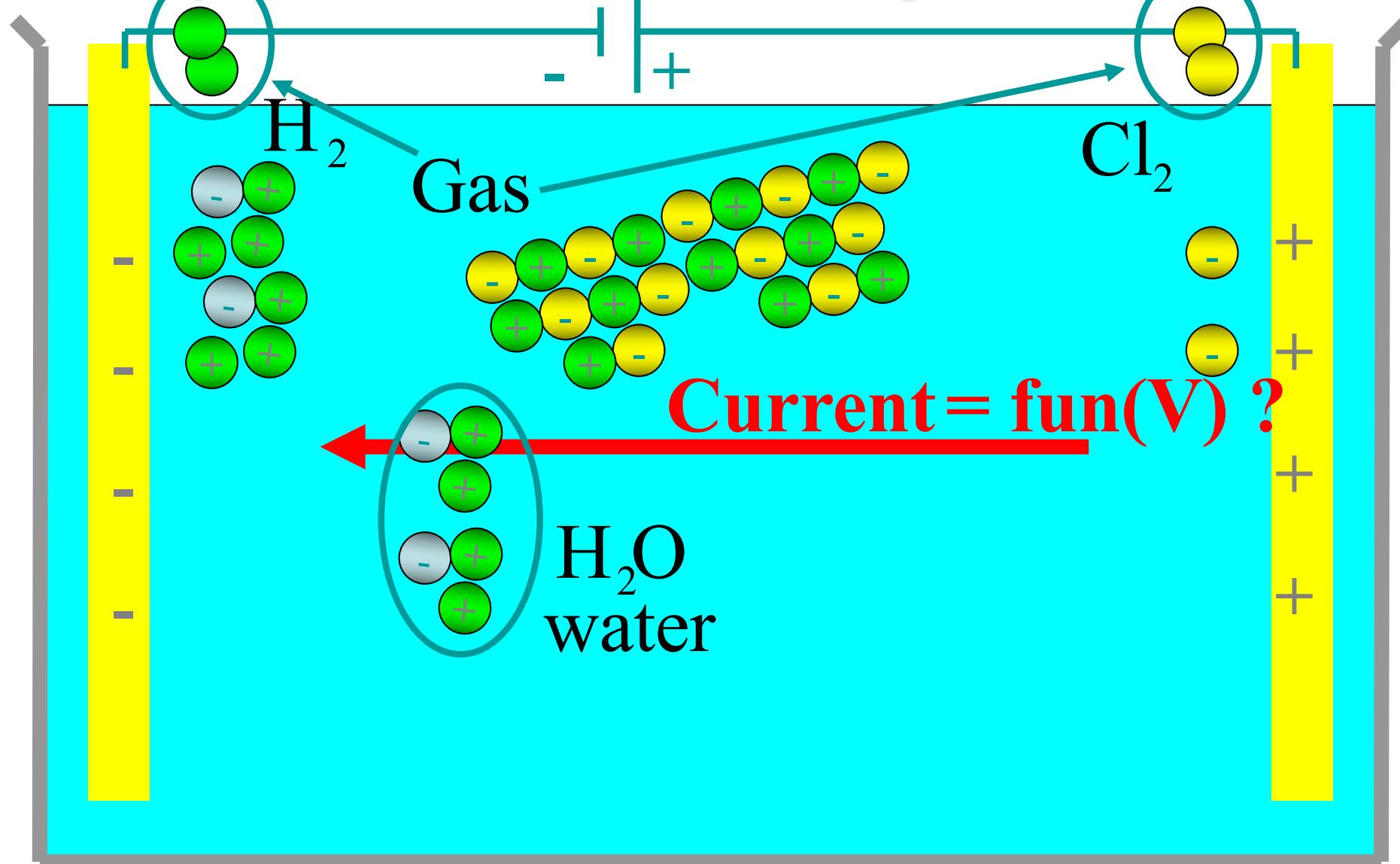
# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



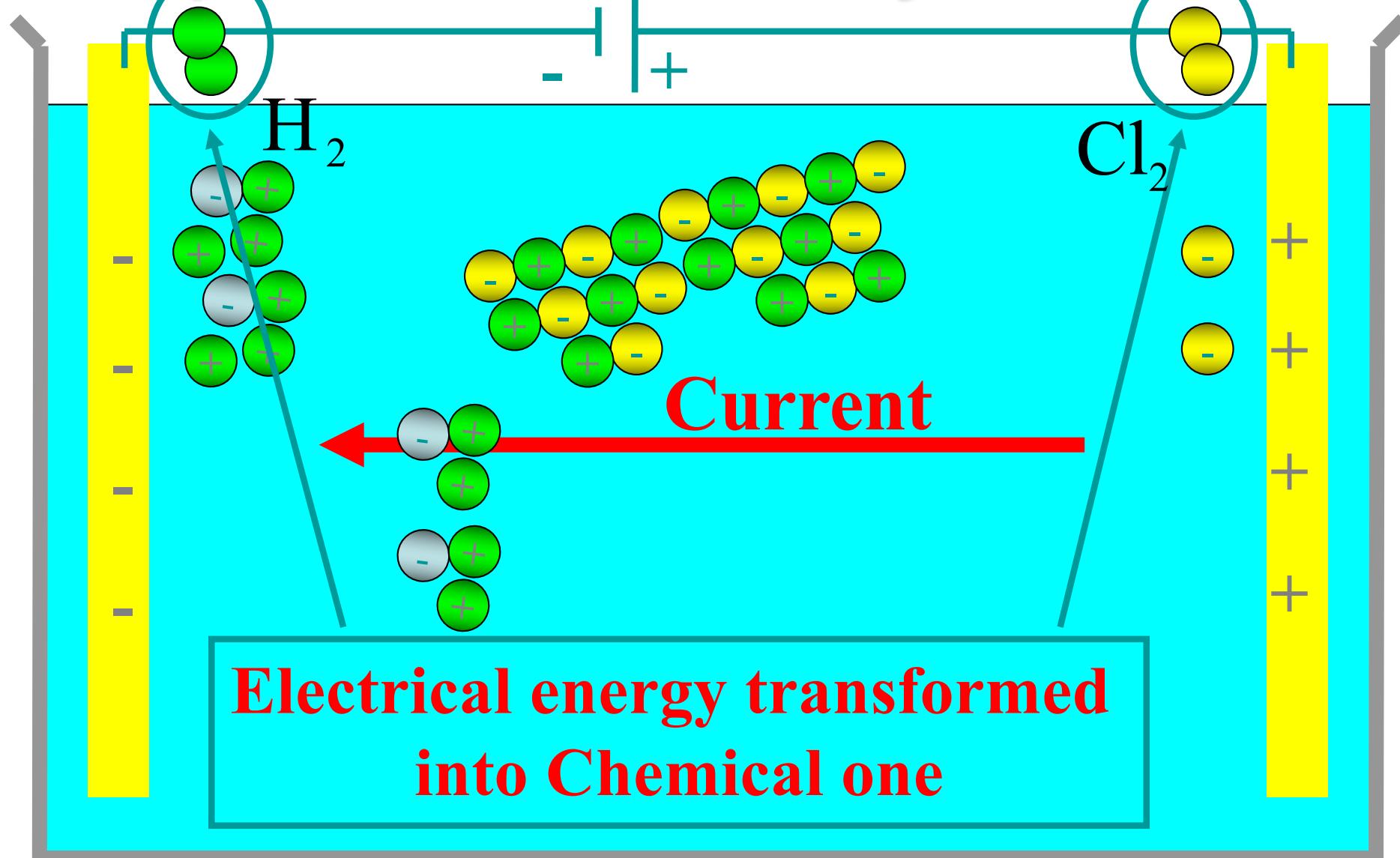


Q11

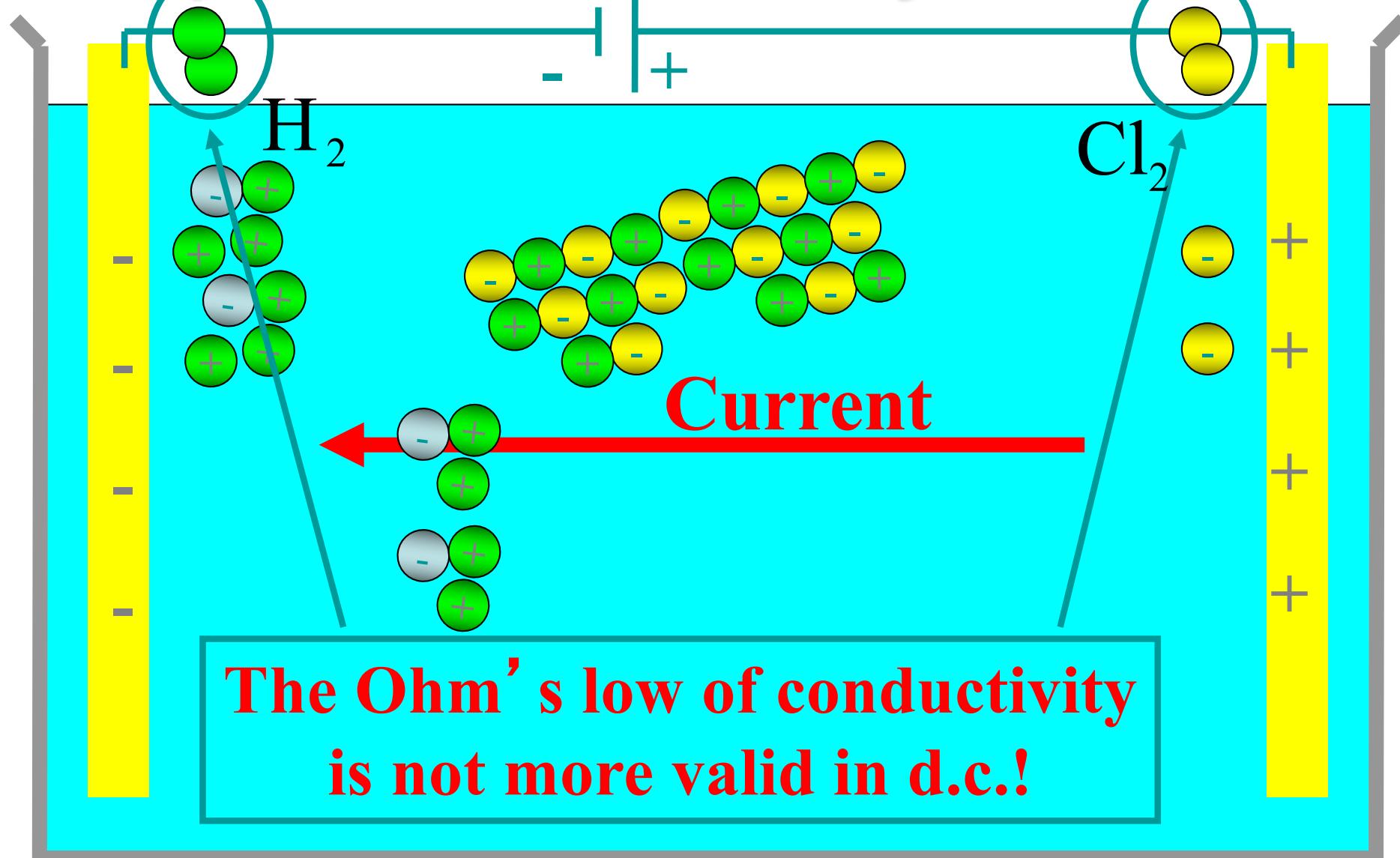
# Does the Ohm law is still valid in electrolytic solutions?

- 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!

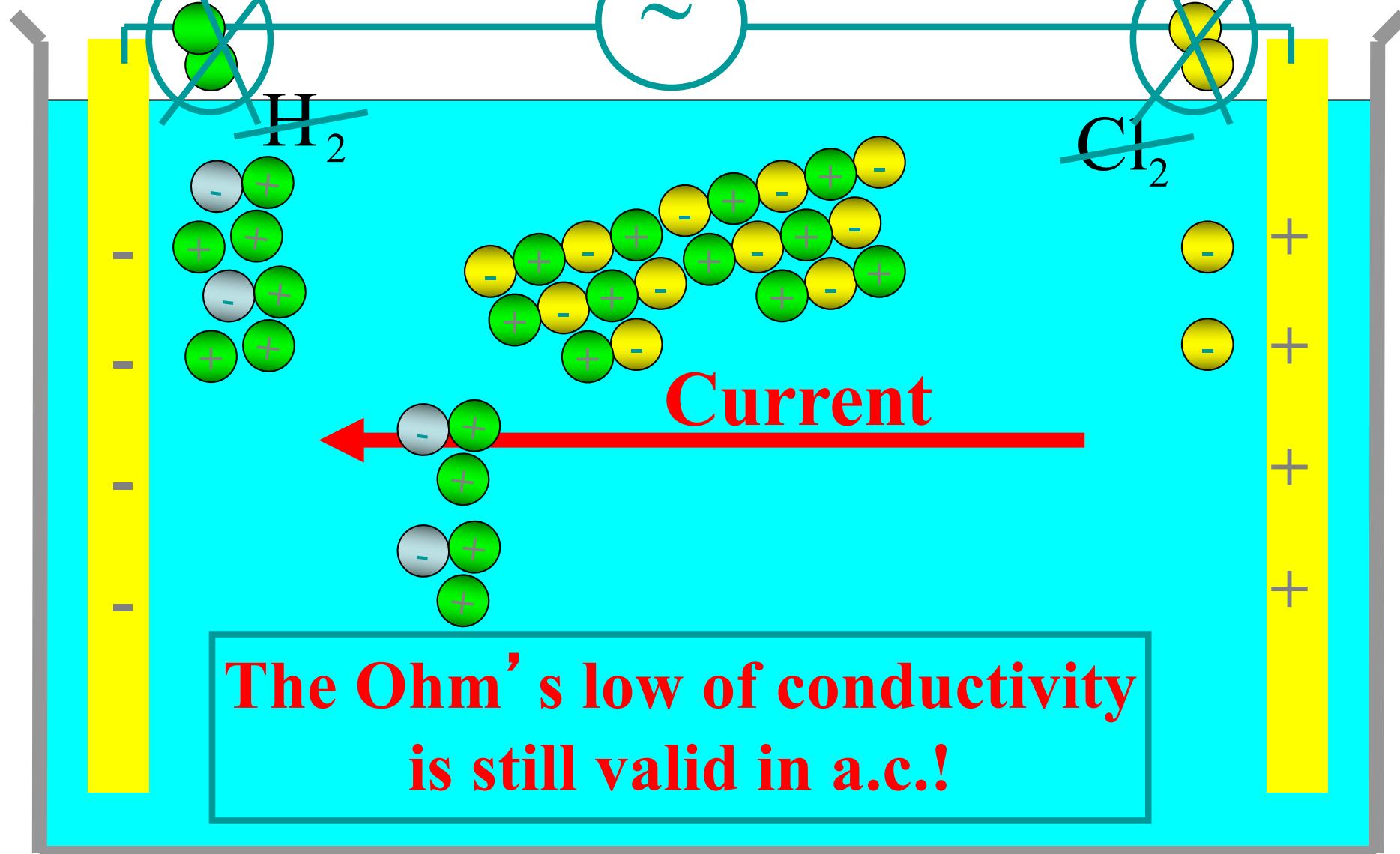
# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



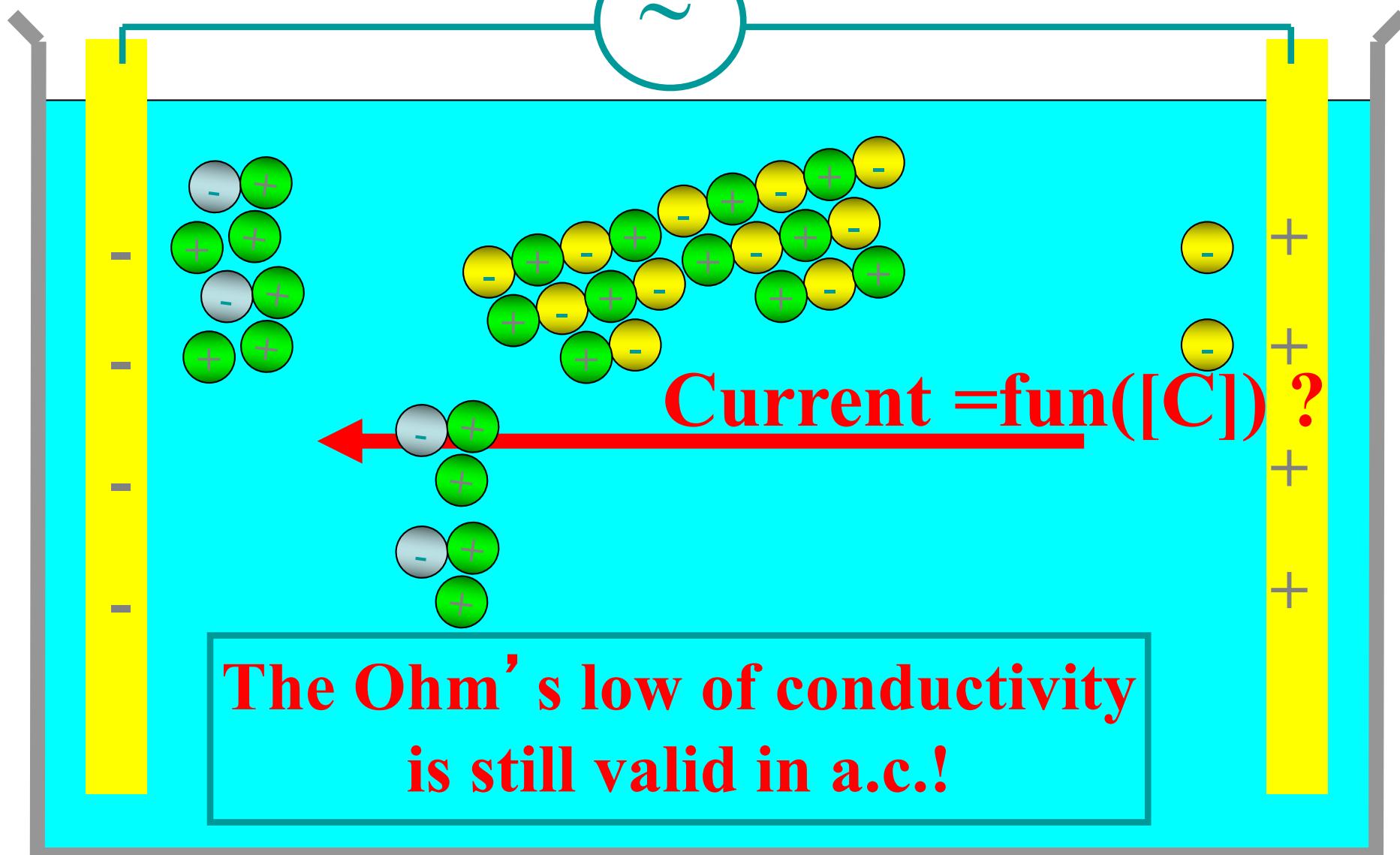
# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution



# Liquid Solution: Electrolytic Solution





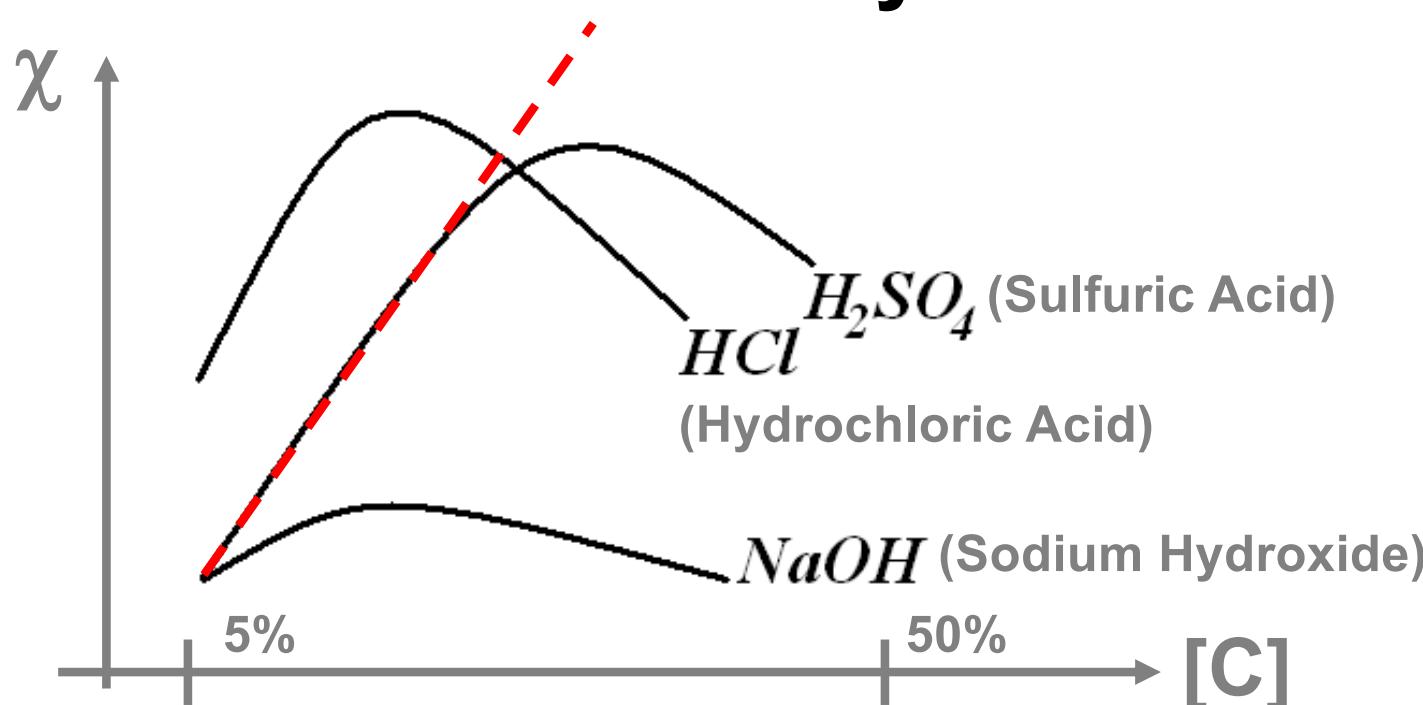
Q12

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



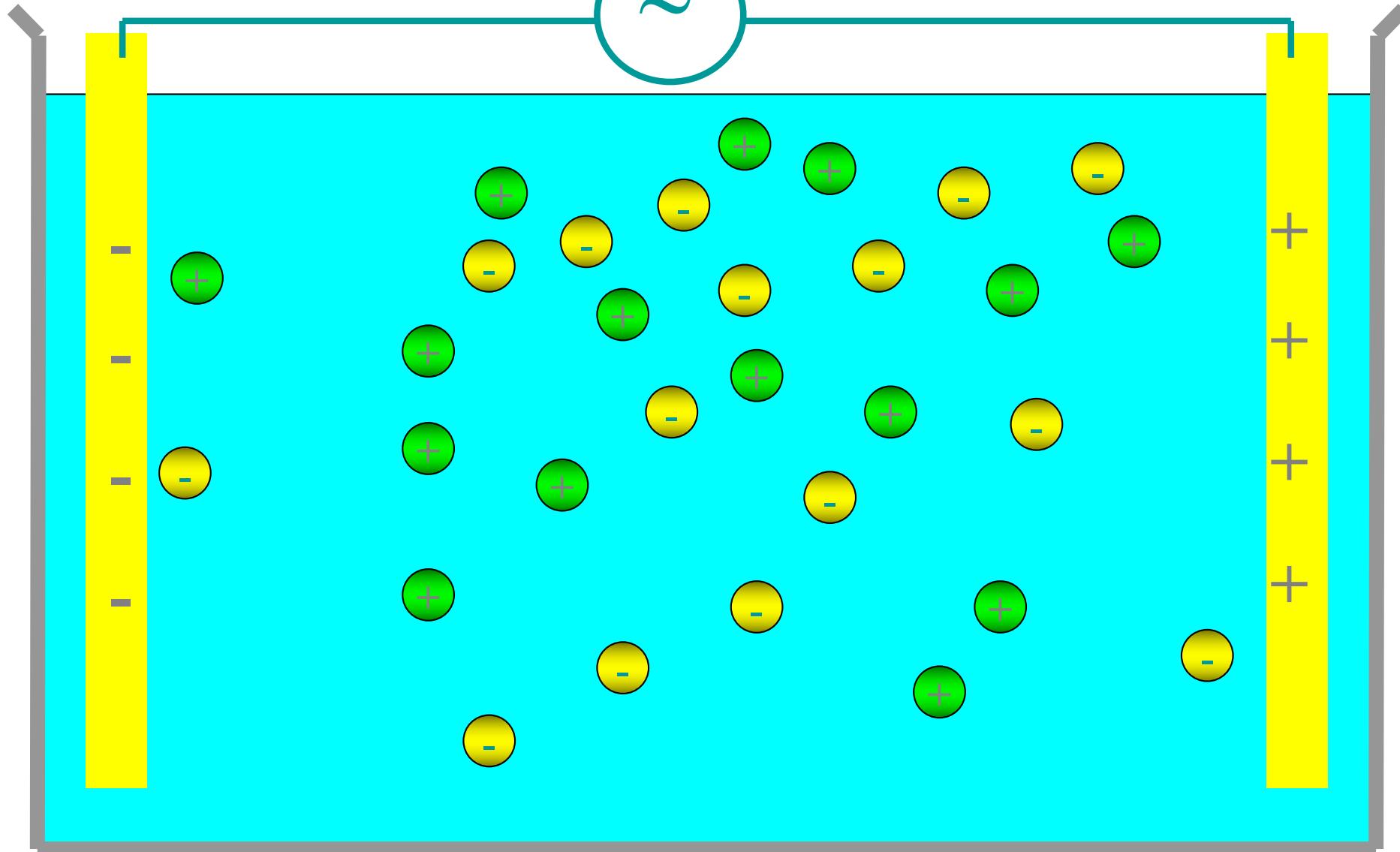


Q13

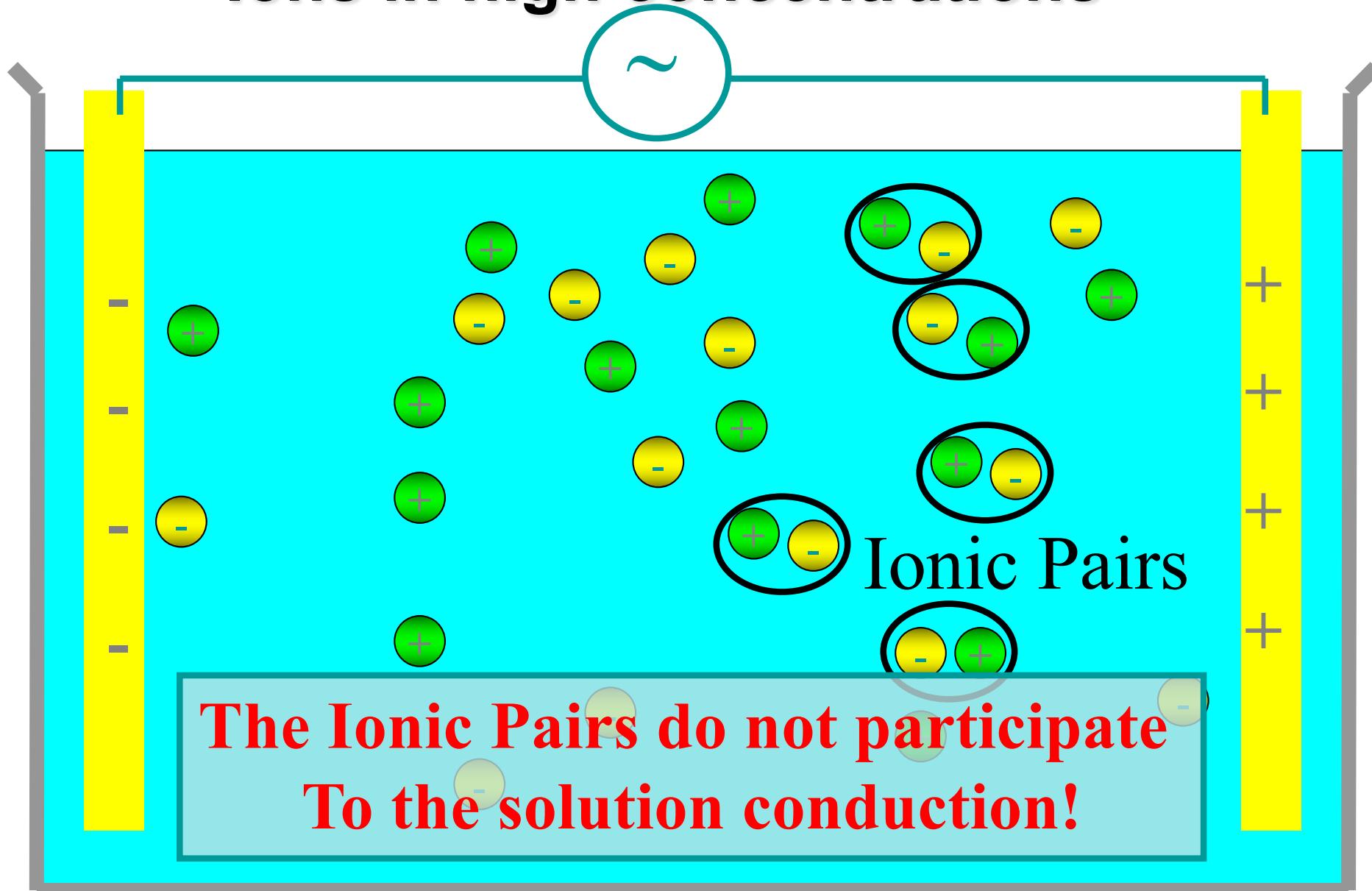
# Why the conductivity goes down for higher solution' concentrations?

- 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...

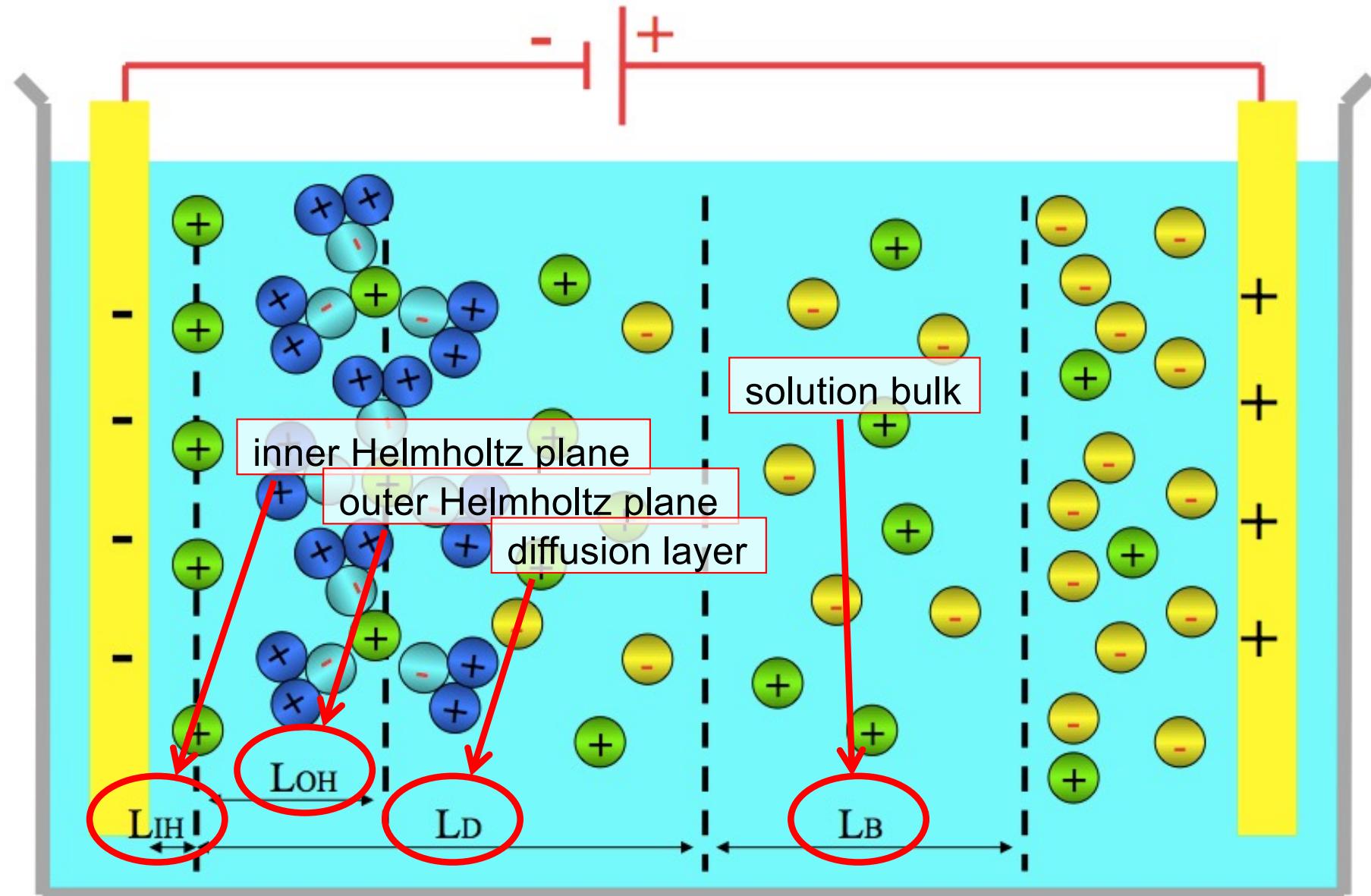
# Ions in high concentrations



# 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)

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 0 \quad \text{In the bulk}$$

$$\nabla^2 \phi = -\frac{\rho_e}{\kappa \epsilon_0} \quad \text{Close to electrodes}$$

For perturbation away from equilibrium at finite temperature

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

# Debye Length

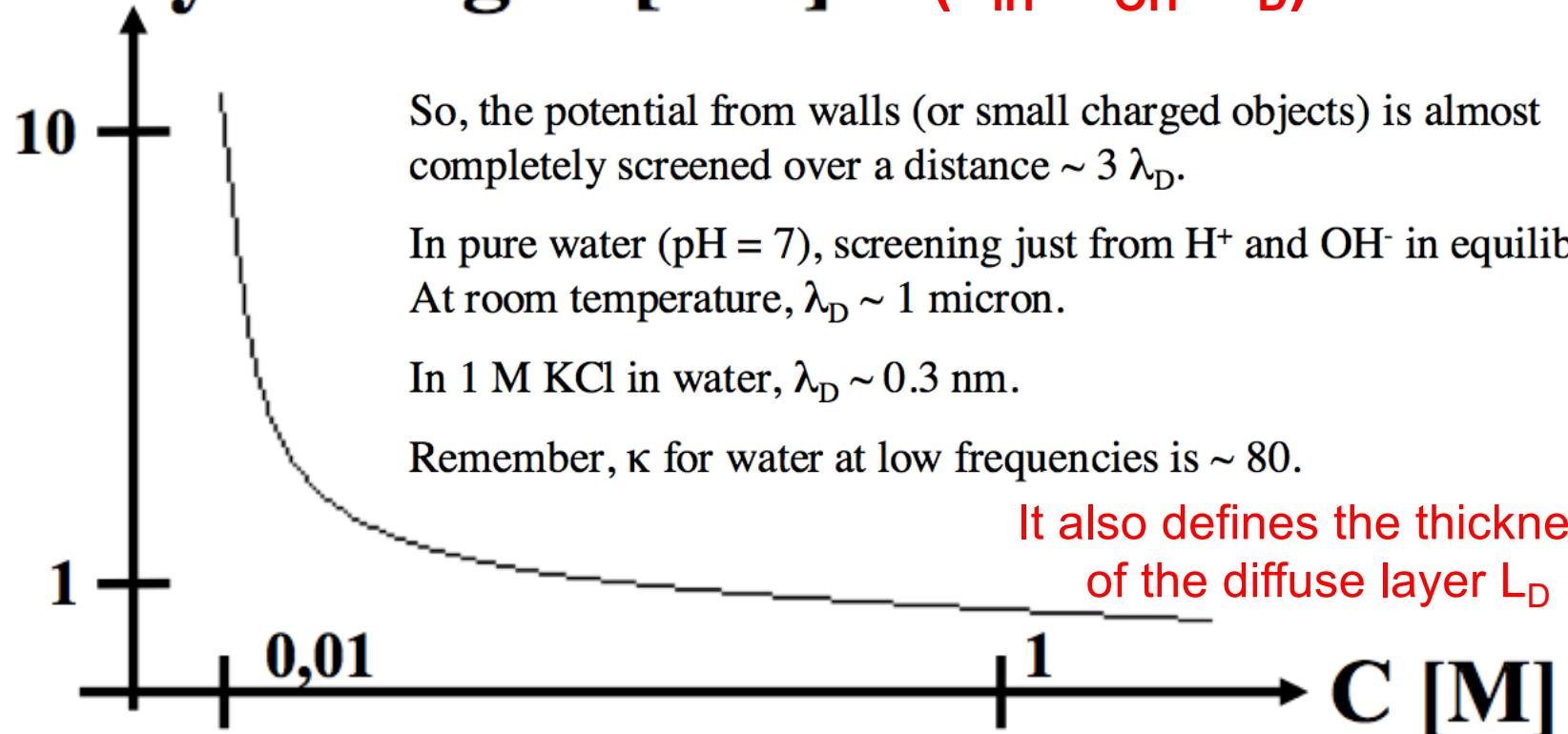
$$\nabla^2 \hat{\phi} = -\frac{1}{\kappa \epsilon_0} \sum_i z_i e n_{i0} \exp\left(-\frac{z_i e \hat{\phi}}{k_B T}\right) \approx -\frac{1}{\kappa \epsilon_0} \sum_i z_i e n_{i0} + \frac{e^2}{\kappa \epsilon_0 k_B T} \sum_i z_i^2 n_{i0} \hat{\phi} \equiv \frac{1}{\lambda_D^2} \hat{\phi}$$

$\sim 0$  for equilibrium neutrality

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

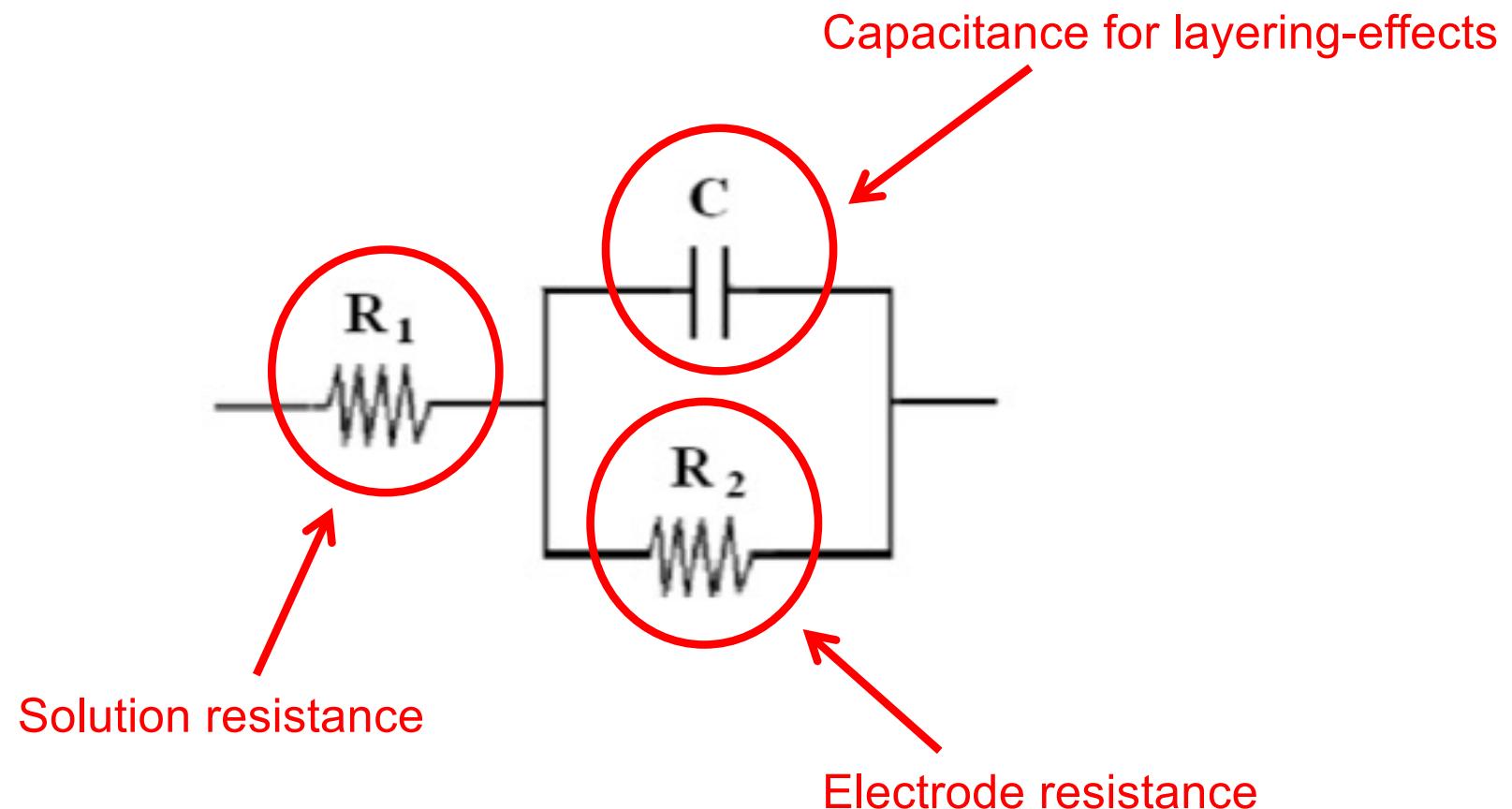
# Debye Length

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



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

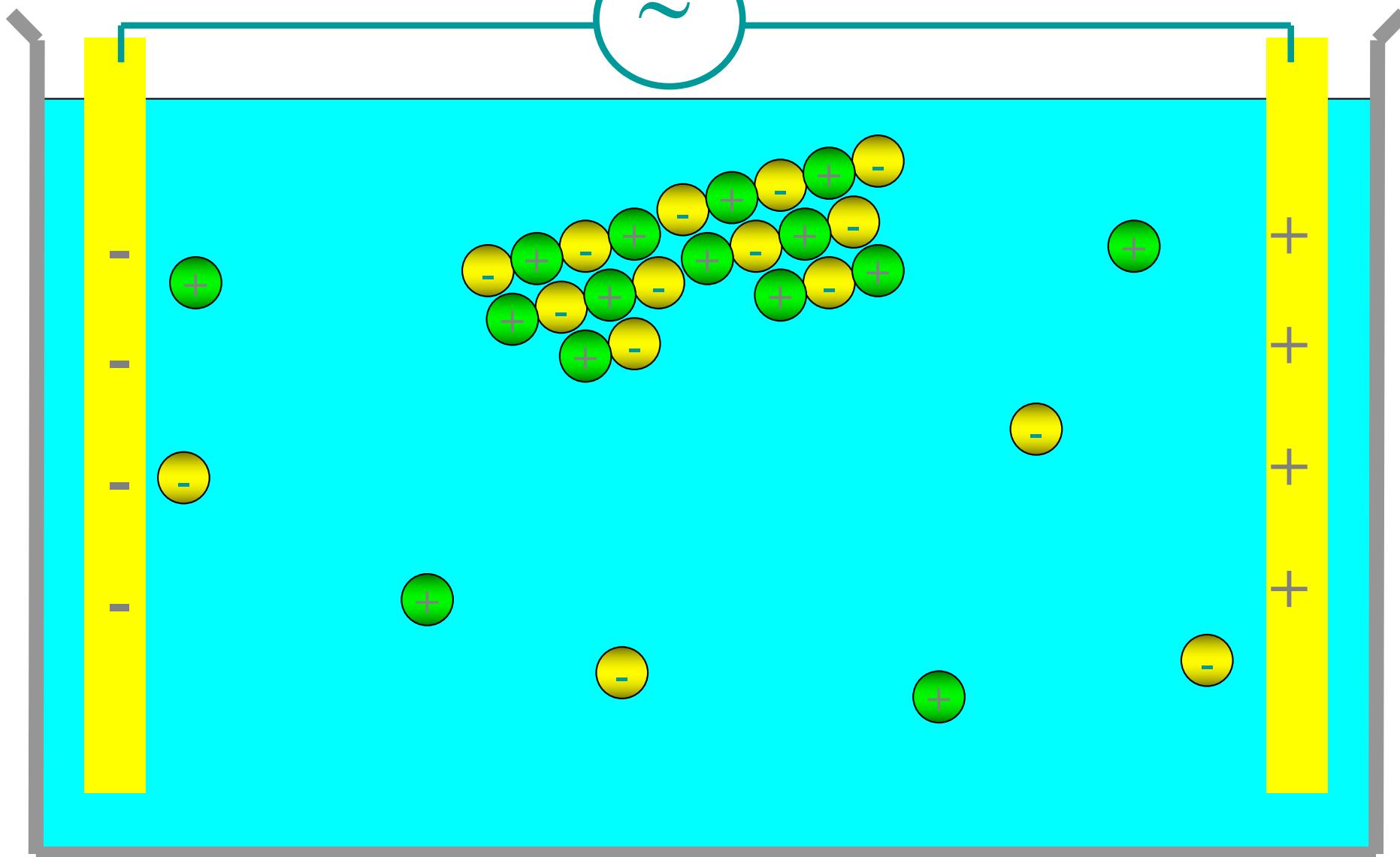
# Equivalent Circuit with Layering effects



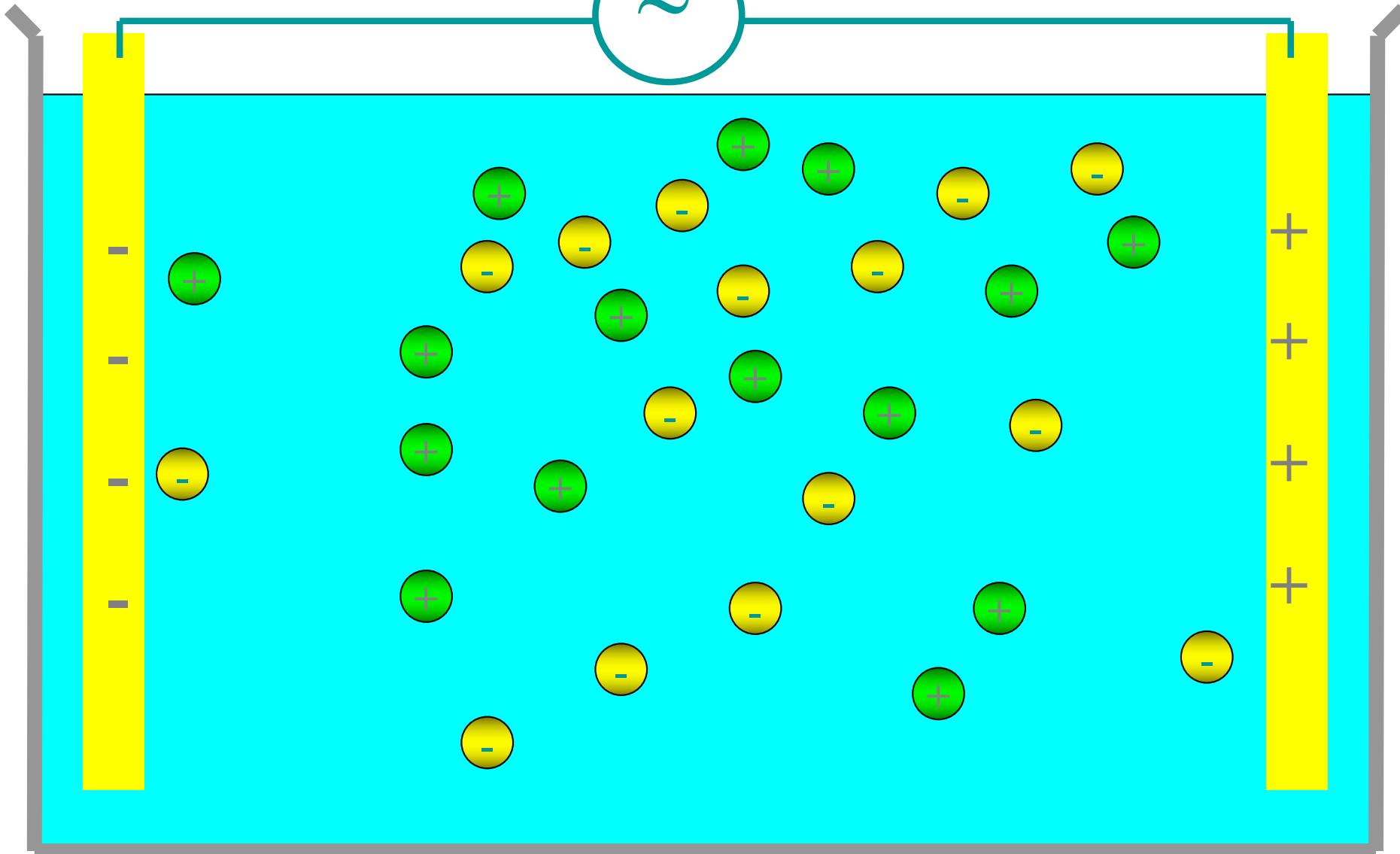
# Kind of Electrolytes

- Strong Electrolytes
- Weak Electrolytes

# Weak Electrolyte



# Strong Electrolytes

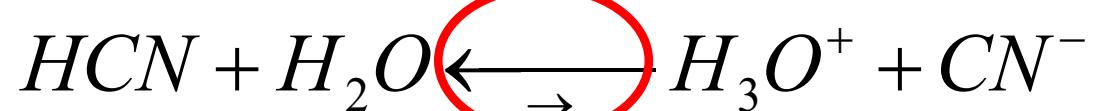


# Hard and weak Electrolytes

## Dissociation of the Sodium Chloride

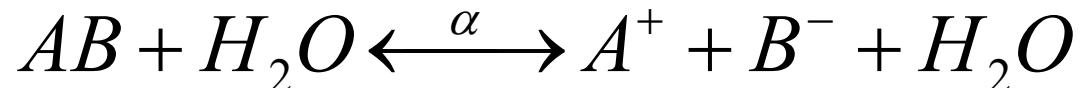


## Dissociation of Hydrogen Cyanide



$\alpha$  = 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

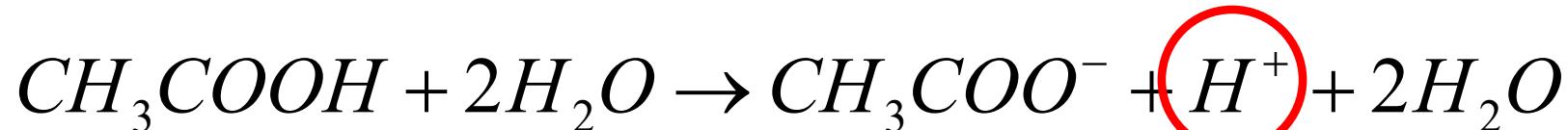
- **Weak Electrolytes**

Weak Acids

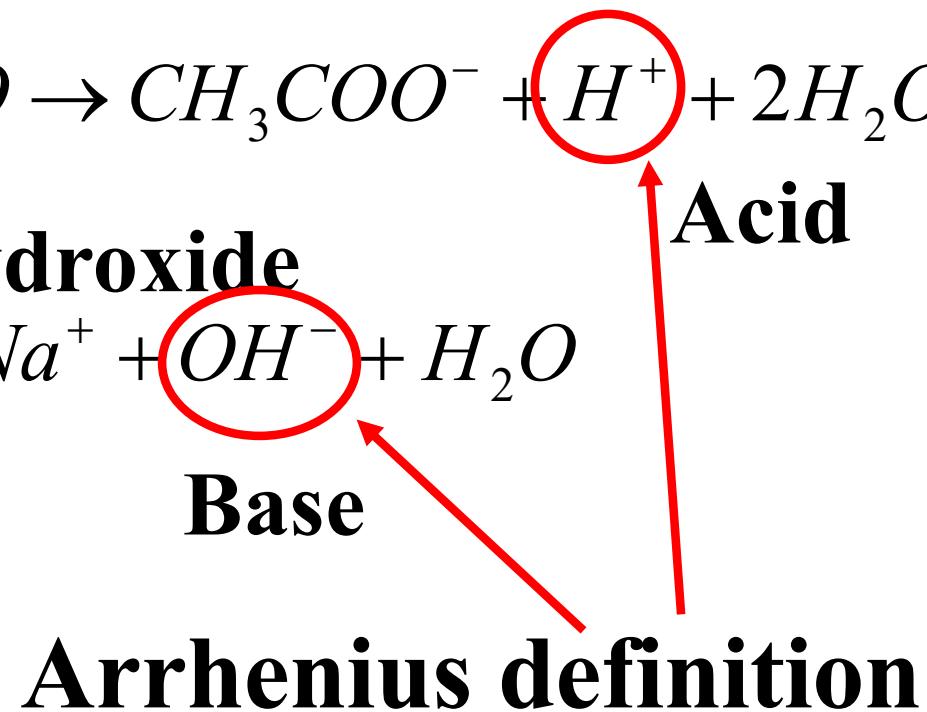
Weak Basis

# Acid or Basic Solutions

## The Acetic Acid



## The Sodium Hydroxide



(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

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

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

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

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