Adventures of natural products chemists into "lipidomics world "



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRENTO

Graziano Guella

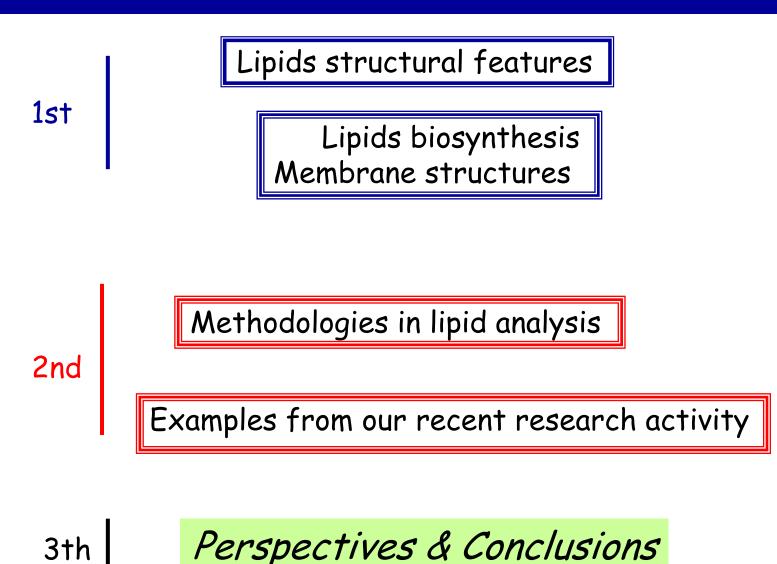
- Bioorganic Chemistry Lab-Dept. of Physics
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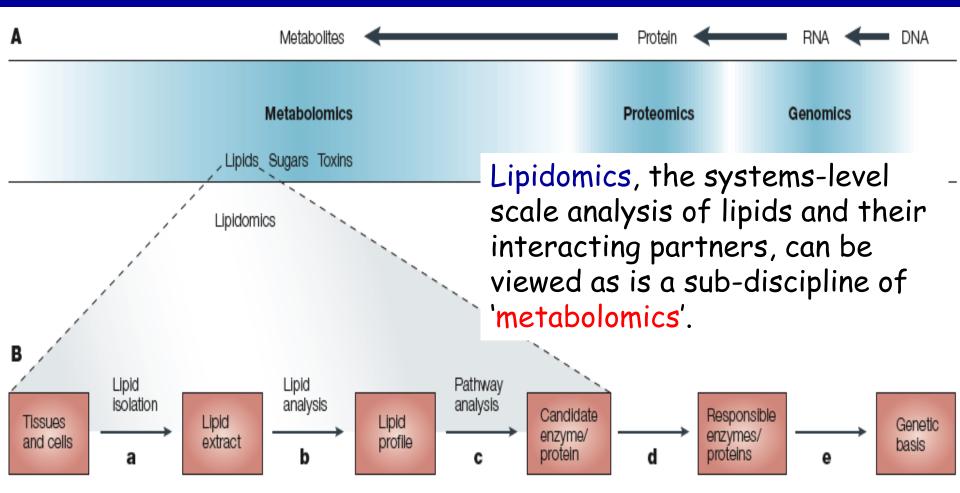
Napoli, 5-9 Giugno 2011



LECTURE OUTLINE



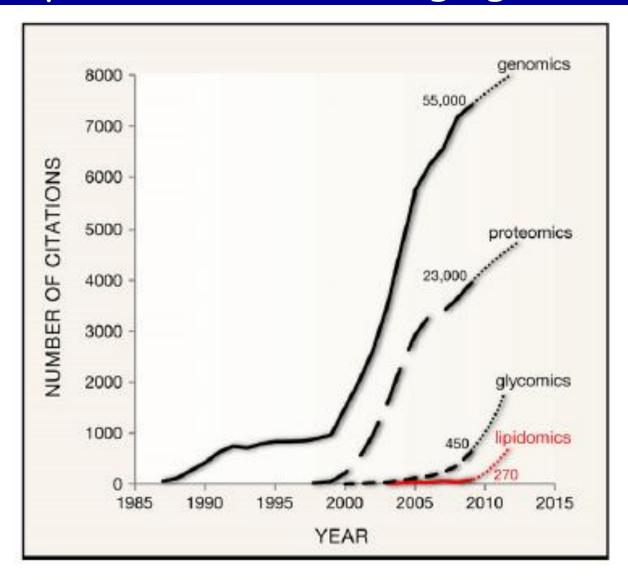
From DNA to lipids and... from lipids to DNA



Genes encode proteins that collectively, and together with environmental factors, lead to the metabolite inventory of a cell, tissue or body fluid.

M.R. Wenk, Nature 2005

Lipidomics is an emerging field...

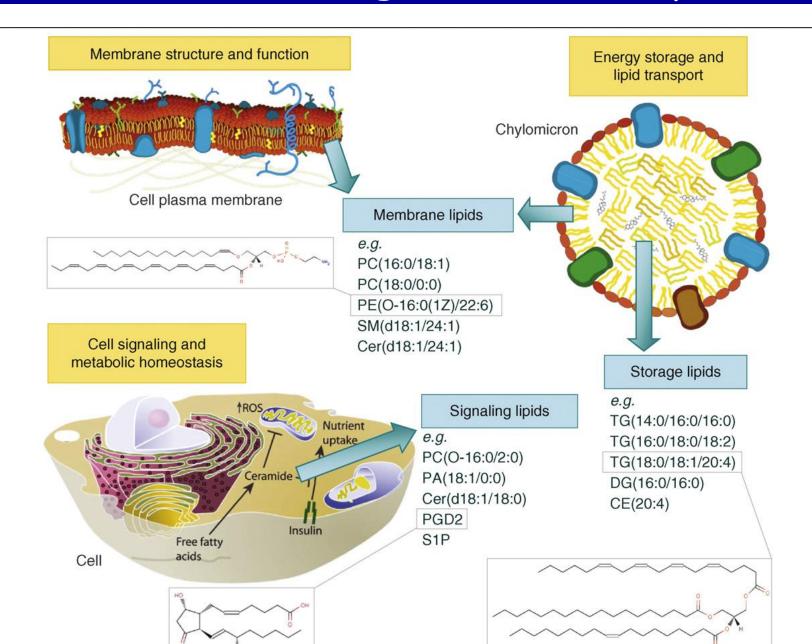


M.R. Wenk, Lipidomics: New Tools and Applications", Cell 2010

A Global Approach to Lipid Analysis in Biological Systems

- Lipids are broadly defined as hydrophobic or amphiphilic small molecules that originate either entirely or in part from two distinct types of building blocks: ketoacyl and isoprene groups.
- Lipids are structurally highly diverse owing to the many possible variations of the lipid building blocks and how these blocks are linked. It has conservatively estimated that the theoretical number of lipids covering major lipid classes is close to 200 000.
- □ Lipids are very abundant in biological systems, constitute 50% of the mass of most animal cell membranes and exhibit an important degree of specialization in specific cellular compartments.
- Maintenance of an appropriate lipid composition in the cellular membranes is required to ensure membrane fluidity, topology of attached proteins, activity of membrane-bound enzymes, degree of exposure of surface proteins, lateral mobility of receptors and activation of specific signaling pathways.

Diverse biological roles of lipids



STRUCTURAL ASPECTS OF LIPIDS

Lipids : definition

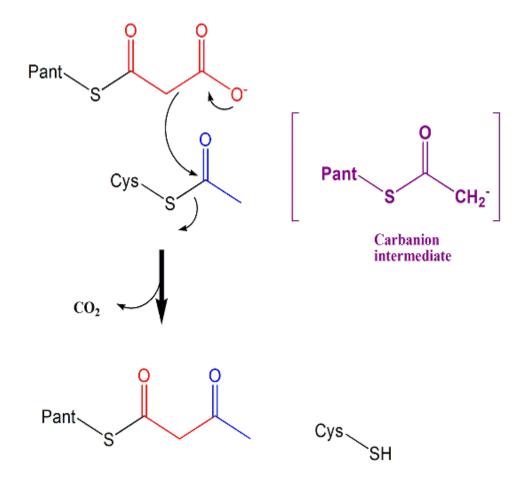
The major difference between lipids and other major components of living tissue is their solubility in organic solvents. Lipids are defined either by these solubility characteristics or by the presence of long hydrocarbon chains; however, not all lipids satisfy both definitions.

Lipids may be broadly defined as hydrophobic or amphiphilic small molecules that originate entirely or in part from two distinct types of biochemical subunits or "building blocks": ketoacyl and isoprene groups.

Fahy, E. et al, Journal of Lipid Research, 2005, 46, 839

Lipids classification: biosynthetic routes

1: Carbanion-based condensation

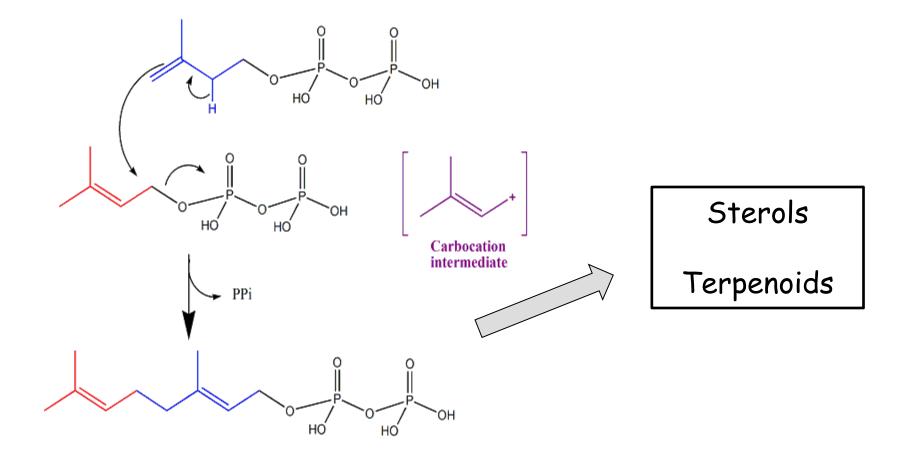


CATEGORIES

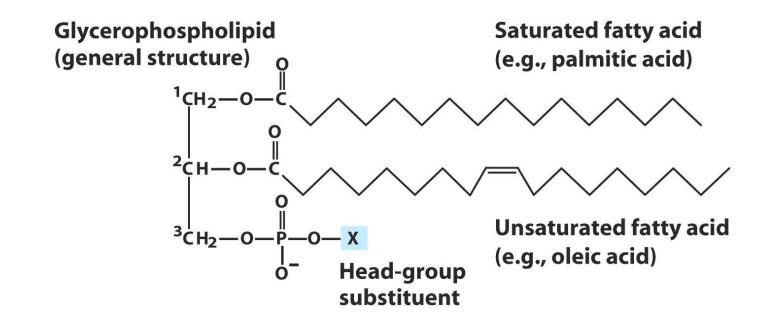
Fatty Acyls Glycerolipids Glycerophospholipids Sphingolipids Saccharolipids Polyketides

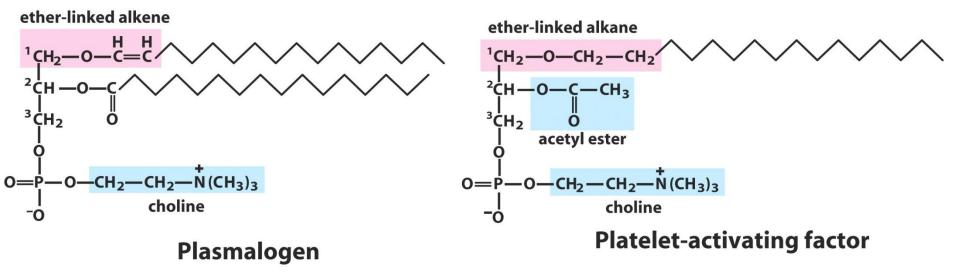
Lipids classification: biosynthetic routes

2: Carbocation-based condensation



Structural diversity of glycerophospholipids

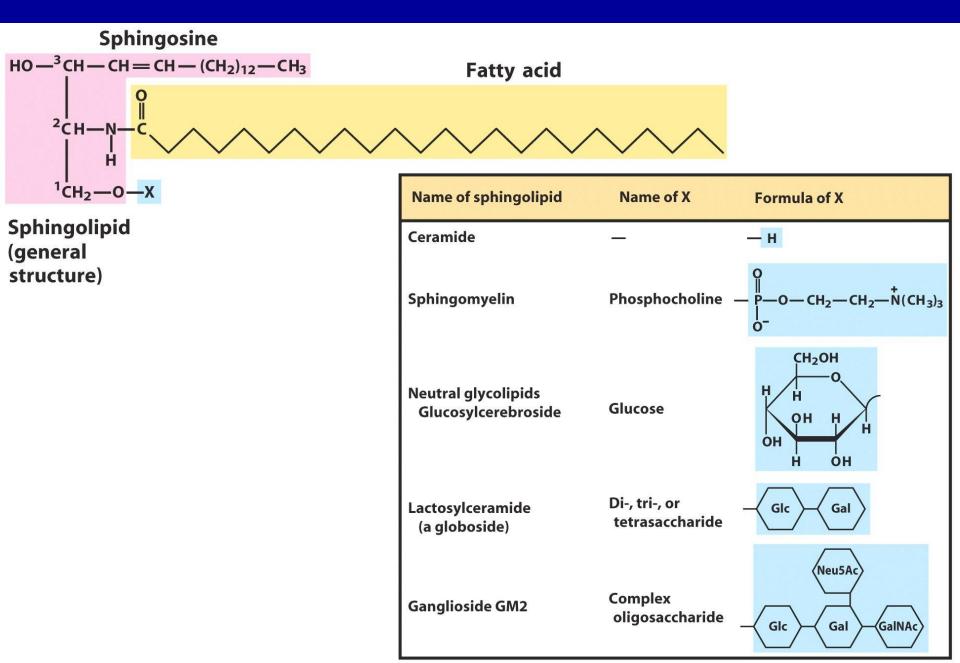




Structural diversity of glycerophospholipids

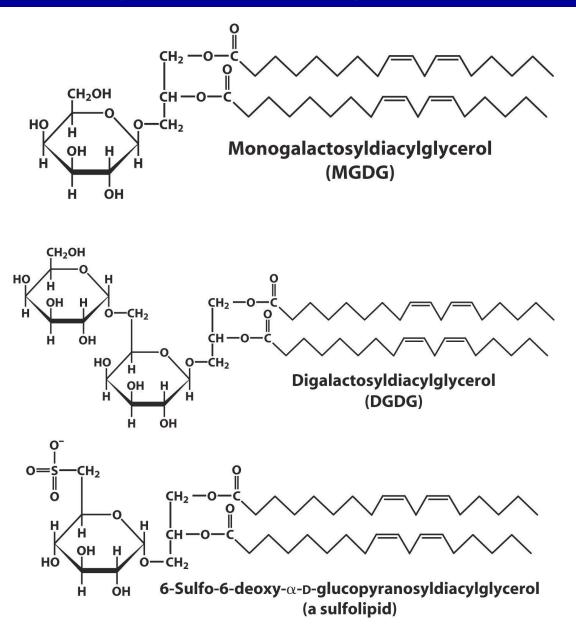
Name of glycerophospholipid	Name of X	Formula of X	Net charge (at pH 7)
Phosphatidic acid	_	— Н	- 1
Phosphatidylethanolamine	Ethanolamine		0
Phosphatidylcholine	Choline	$-CH_2-CH_2-N(CH_3)_3$	0
Phosphatidylserine	Serine		- 1
Phosphatidylglycerol	Glycerol	— CH ₂ —CH —CH ₂ —OH	- 1
Phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate	<i>myo-</i> Inositol 4,5- bisphosphate	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	- 4
Cardiolipin	Phosphatidyl- glycerol	СH ₂ СНОН 0 СН2	- 2
		CH—O—C—R ¹ CH2—O—C—R ² CH2—O—C—R ²	

Structural diversity of sphingolipids

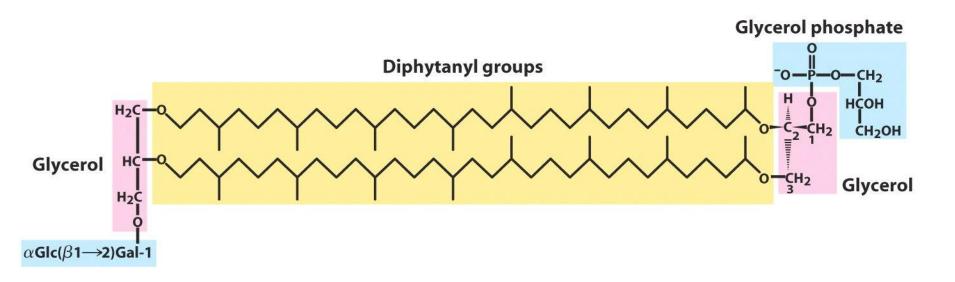


Galactolipids and Sulfolipids in Chloroplasts

- Galactose (or DiGal or TriGal) attached to C3 of glycerol
- Sulpholipids contain sulphonate on sugar
- Sulphonate charge replaces typical phosphate charge



Archael "Extremophile" Lipids



- Longer acyl chains and dual head groups can can replace 2 normal phospholipids
 - Replace a bilayer with a monolayer
- Ether linkages
- More stable at high temperatures, acid environments

Lipids chemical diversity

Chemodiversity of lipids given by:

- Backbone type : glycerol or sphingosine
- Head type : Phospho- or glyco
- Acyl, alkyl, vinyl-ether, isoprenyl and oxidized chains
- Number of chains: MAG, DAG, TAG, Lyso PL, PAF etc..
- Chains length and unsaturation index
- Double bonds positions and E/Z stereochemistry: ω -6/ ω -3 PUFA
- Regioisomeric distribution of the chains at sn-1 and sn-2
- Phospho-heads types: PC,PE, PG, PS,PI, CL, lyso
- Absolute stereochemistry at sn-2 of glycerol and of oxylipins chiral centers (hydroperoxy- derivatives produced by LOXs)

How to call POPC in the new nomenclature system?

Compound ID : LMGP01010005

http://www.lipidmaps.org/



1-hexadecanoyl-2-(9Z-octadecenoyl)-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine

Database identifier

- -Digits 1-2: Database: LM (LIPID MAPS)
- -Digits 3-4: Category: GP (Glycerophospholipids)
- -Digits 5-6: Class: 01 (Glycerophosphocholines)
- -Digits 7-8: Subclass: 01 (Diacylglycerophosphocholines)

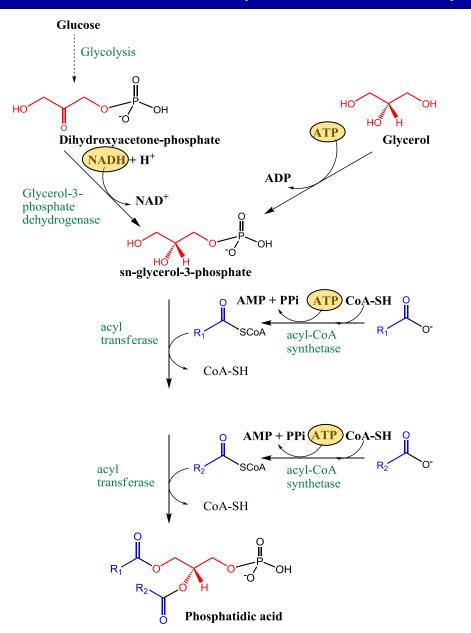
-Digits 9-?: Optional additional class levels (typ. not required)

-Last 4 digits: Unique identifier within subclass: 0005

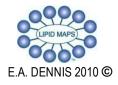
This system can specify 1.68 million individual lipids. Advantages of this alphanumeric system of lipid nomenclature for database storage and retrieval (bioinformatics manageability).

BIOSYNTHETIC PATHS TO PHOSPHOLIPIDS

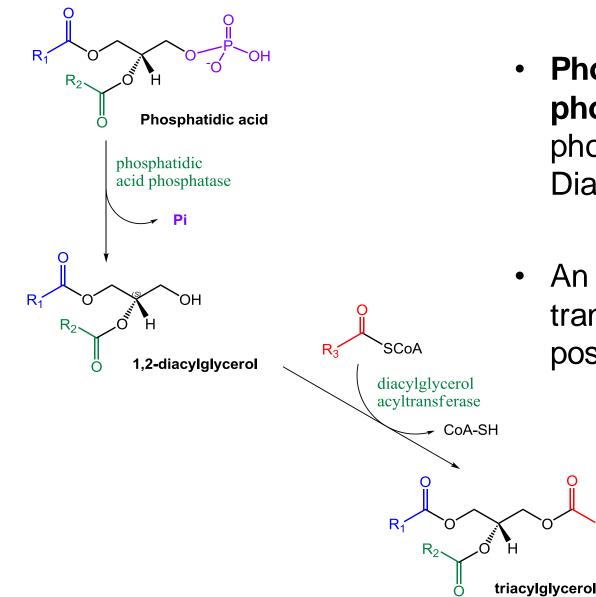
Biosynthesis of phosphatidic acid



- Precursors
 - Fatty acids
 - sn-glycerol-3-phosphate
- *sn*-glycerol-3-phosphate is produced from the
 - Reduction of DHAP by glycerol phosphate dehydrogenase OR
 - Phosphorylation of glycerol by glycerol kinase and ATP
- Acyl transferases perform two successive esterifications with fatty acyl Co A to generate phosphatidic acid



Biosynthesis of triacylglycerols (TAGS)

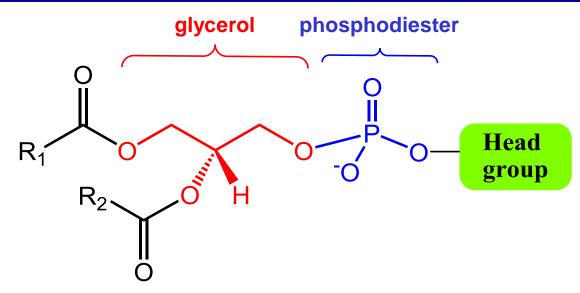


- Phosphatidic acid phosphatase removes the phosphate producing 1,2-Diacylglycerol
- An acyl transferase transfers an acyl CoA to position 3.

 R_3

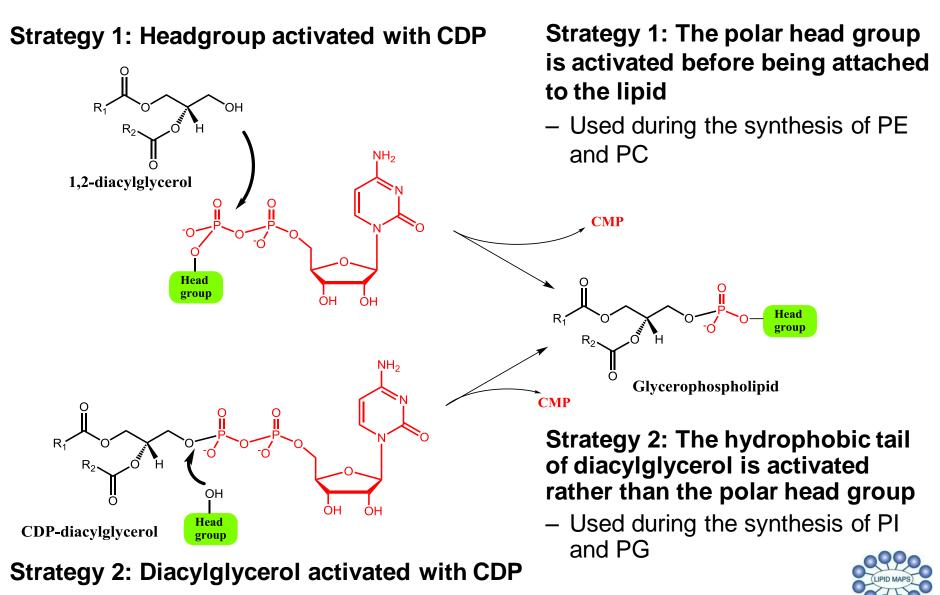


Biosynthesis of glycerophospholipids (GPL)



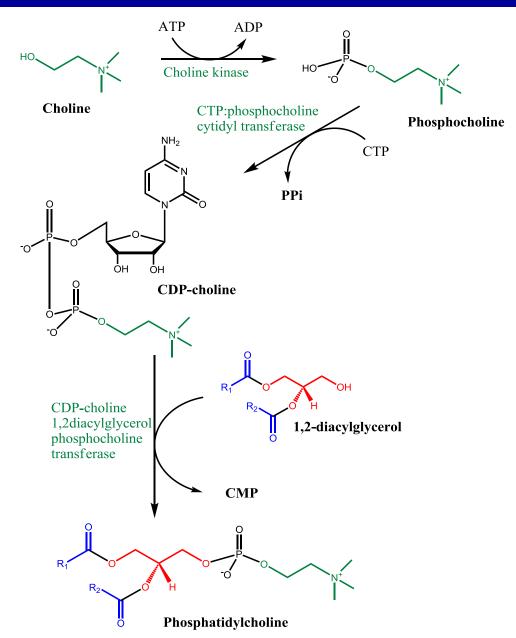
- Glycerophospholipids (or phospholipids) can be made from
 - Phosphatidic acid OR
 - Diacylglycerol
- There are many different head groups which can be linked to the C3 of glycerol by a phosphodiester bond
- Cytidine triphosphate (CTP) provides the synthetic energy in the synthesis of all PLs

Biosynthesis of glycerophospholipids (GPL)



E.A. DENNIS 2010 ©

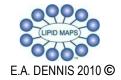
De novo synthesis of phosphatidylcholine (PC)



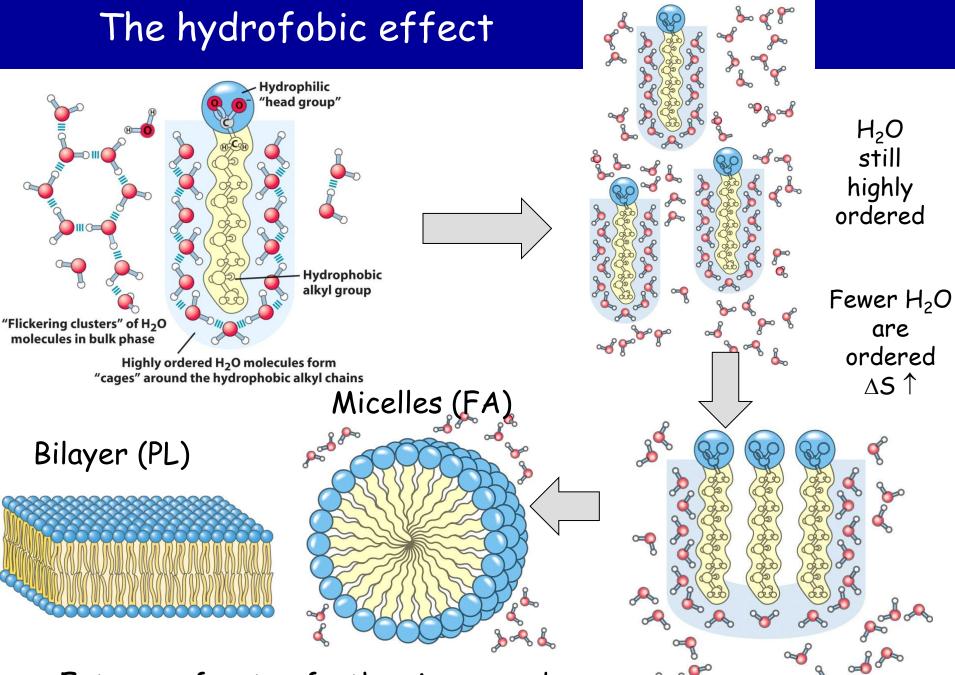
- PC is the most abundant phospholipid in eukaryotic cells
- PC is also known as lecithin

De Novo Synthesis

- Choline is phosphorylated
- Cytidyltransferase makes CDPcholine
- C3 OH groups of DAG attacks the phosphoryl groups of the activated CDP-choline displacing CMP and yielding the glycerophospholipid

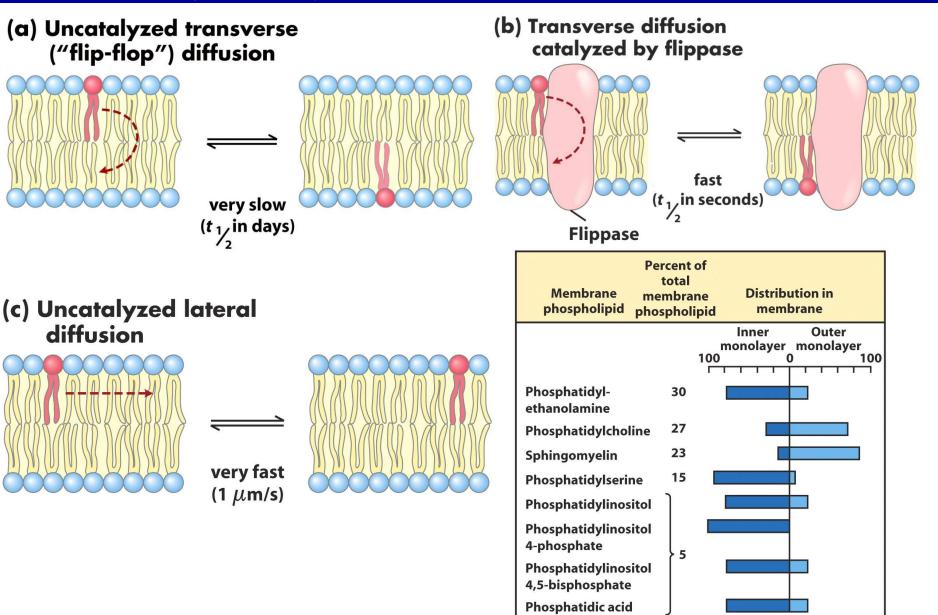


BIOPHYSICAL ASPECTS OF LIPIDS

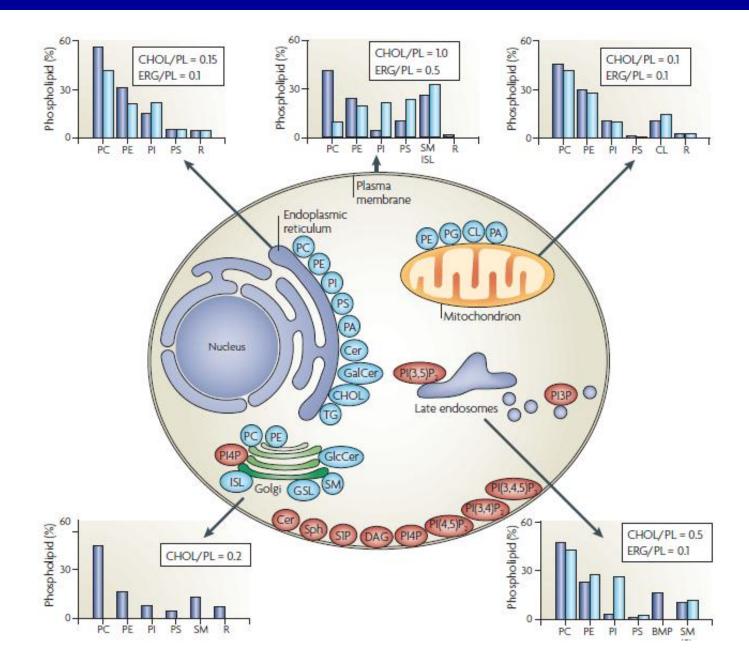


Entropy of water further increased

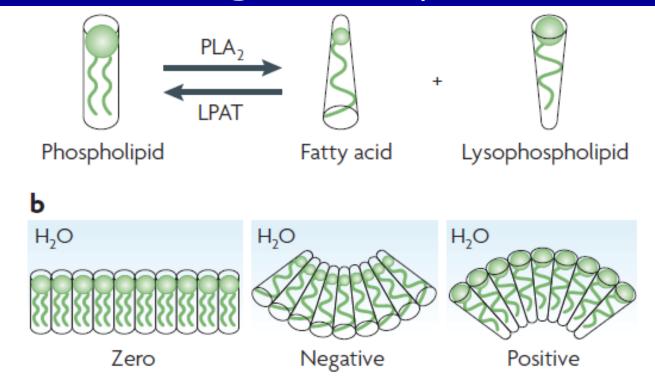
Lipids dynamics in cell membranes



Lipid composition of cell membranes



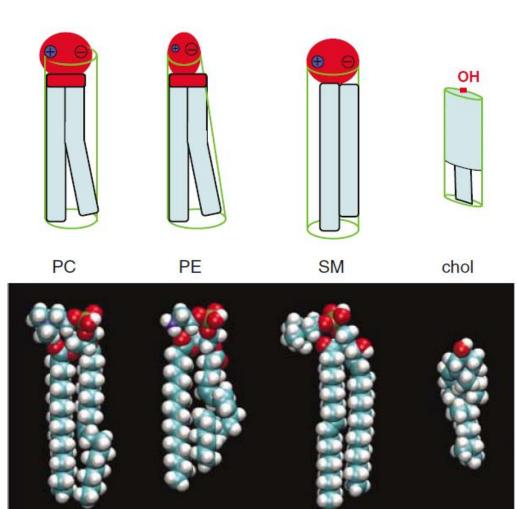
Structure-geometry relationships



Phospholipids in which the polar head group and the fatty acid chains have similar sizes are thought to adopt a cylindrical shape in membranes (filled circles symbolize the polar head groups, wavy lines represent the fatty-acid chains).

In an aqueous environment, cylindrical lipids produce stable planar monolayers, whereas conical and inverted-conical lipids produce monolayers with negative or positive curvature, respectively.

Structure-geometry relationships



PEs have a small head group relative to its acyl chains and fits better on the inner leaflet of a spherical lipid bilayer. This conical shape creates a stress in the bilayer: the PE-containing monolayer has a tendency to adopt a negative curvature

On the other hand, PC or SM have a larger polar head group and fit better in the outer leaflet (as lysoPLwhich, however form micelles when present in pure liquid form). They tend to order membranes via their

Cellular lipidomics, Van Meer, EMBO straight chains and their high Journal 2005, 24, 3159 affinity for the flat ring structure of cholesterol (chol).

Structure-geometry relationships

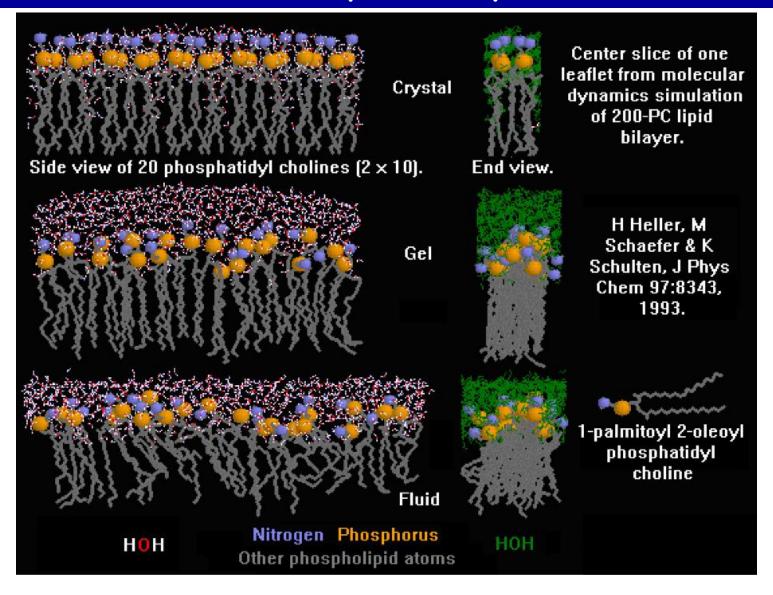
LIPIDS Lysophospholipids Detergents	PHASE	MOLECULAR SHAPE
Phosphatidylcholine Sphingomyelin Phosphatidylserine Phosphatidylinositol Phosphatidylglycerol Phosphatidic Acid Cardiolipin Digalactosyldiglyceride	Lβ Bilayer	Cylindrical
Phosphatidylethanolamine Cardiolipin - Ca ²⁺ Phosphatidic Acid - Ca ²⁺ Phosphatidic Acid (pH<3.0) Phosphatidylserine (pH<4.0) Monogalactosyldiglyceride	Hexagonal (H _{II})	Cone

Lipid phases in membranes

	Liquid-crystalline, liquid-disordered I _d (L _d or L _a) S = Low	Unsaturated hydrocarbon chains are found in most glycerophospholipids, so these tend to be enriched in
	D ₇ = Fast (-1 µm ² s ⁻¹)	liquid, disordered phases
β	Solid gel s _o (or L _B)	Long, saturated hydrocarbon chains are found in sphingomyelin (SM), so
	S = High	SM-rich mixtures tend to adopt
	D _T = Slow (10 ⁻³ μm ² s ⁻¹)	solid-like phases;
	Liquid-ordered, 'raft' I _o (or L _o)	Sterols by themselves do not form bilayer phases, but together with a
	S = High	bilayer-forming lipid, the liquid-
	D _τ = Fast (-1 μm ² s ⁻¹)	ordered phase can form.
S = the order parameter of a segment of acyl chain		This remarkable phase has the high order of a solid but the high translational mobility of a liquid.

 D_T = the translational diffusion coefficient.

What does a lipid bilayer look like?



<u>http://blanco.biomol.uci.edu/</u> <u>http://www.umass.edu/microbio/rasmol/slicealt.htm</u>

Summary of factors affecting lipid organization

Temperature and double bonds saturation

- High temperature and unsaturation favors La & HII
- Low temperature and saturation favors Lb

<u>Lipid shape</u>

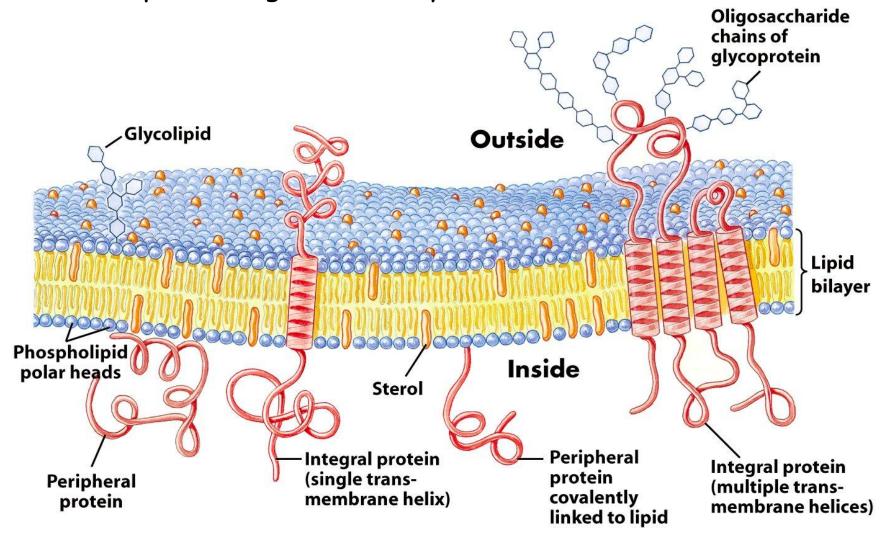
- Predominantly bilayer lipids: PC, PI, DGDAG, PS, PG, CL
- Non-bilayer lipids: PE, CL (Me⁺²), Plasmalogens, MGDAG.
- High unsaturation or temperature favors non-bilayer

Local pH and ionic strength

Reduction of charge repulsion for PA and CL favors nonbilayer.

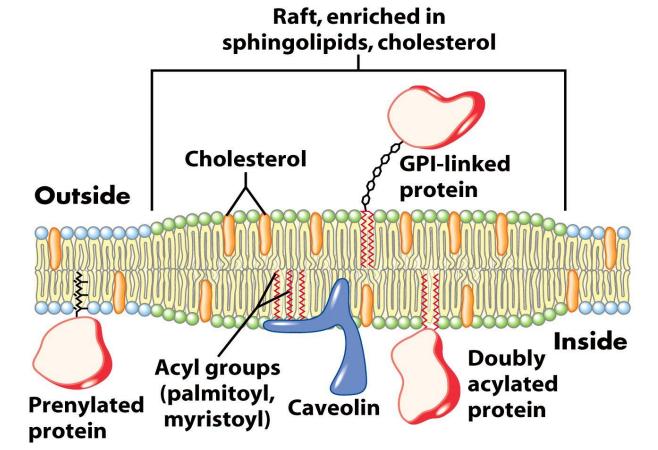
Membranes : fluid mosaic or...

The original description of the "fluid-mosaic" model suggested that membrane proteins were floating in a homogenous bed of excess lipid arranged in a bilayer



Membranes : fluid mosaic or heterogenous?...

The lipid-lipid and lipid-protein interactions appear to be much more dynamic than first appreciated. Lipid microdomains rich in cholesterol, sphingomyelin, and glycolipids, called "lipid rafts", play a role in cell signaling by their relative abundance of (GPI)anchored proteins as well as receptor and non-receptor kinases.



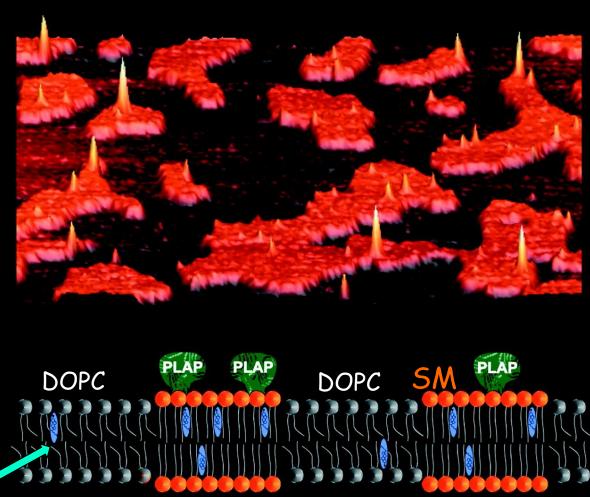
Lipid Rafts: evidences by Atomic Force Microscopy

When added to a preformed sphingolipid/DOPC bilayer, intestinal alkaline phosphatase showed preferential insertion into the sphingomyelin domains

AFM reveals sphingomyelin rafts (orange) protruding from a DOPC background (black) in a mica-supported lipid bilayer.

Placental alkaline phosphatase (PLAP; yellow peaks), a GPI-anchored protein, is shown to be almost exclusively raft associated.

cholestero



Henderson R M et al. Physiology 2004;19:39-43

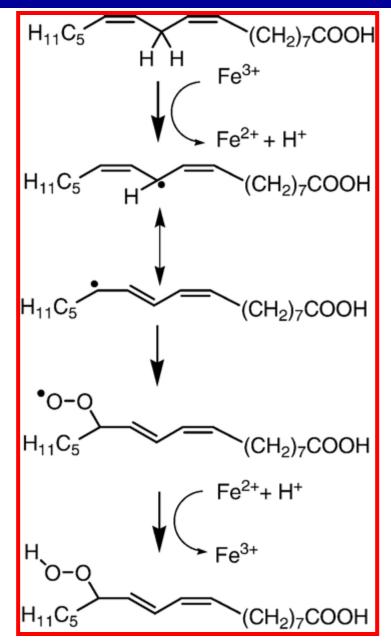
CHEMICAL ASPECTS OF LIPIDS

Lipid Oxidation and Lipids as Markers of Disease

Polyunsaturated fatty chains possess a bis-allylic carbon which is particularly susceptible to oxidation.

These protons can be abstracted, either by enzymes (such as LOX and COX) in the initial step of eicosanoid production or by free radicals leaving a carbon with an unpaired electron.

This carbon-centered free radical undergoes molecular rearrangement to form a conjugated diene and then reacts with oxygen (O_2) to form a peroxyl radical



ANALYTICAL METHODS FOR LIPIDS ANALYSIS

How to analyze entire cellular lipidome?

Identification of all cellular lipids - lipidome Analytical platforms with high sample throughput Ability to quantify lipids at a broad dynamic range

Data processing & handling Pattern-recognition; Data-mining Integration with other "omics" data

Traditional methods for Lipids analysis: multi-step approaches

Extraction of lipids

- TAGs, PLs, glycolipids etc

Chromatographic separation of lipids

- TLC: (followed by derivatisation, scraping off bands, detection, quantification)
- LC: normal or reversed-phase

Separation of PL classes

- HPLC: with UV/fluorescence detection (w/wo derivatisation)
- HPLC: with ELSD detection

Fraction collection

- Collection of separated PL classes Hydrolysis

- Fatty acids
- Polar head group

Derivatisation

Derivatisation of fatty acids

 Identification of derivatised fatty acids using GC and/or GC-MS

There are also:

- enzymatic hydrolysis to determine ۲, fatty acid positions
- determination of phosphorous content P

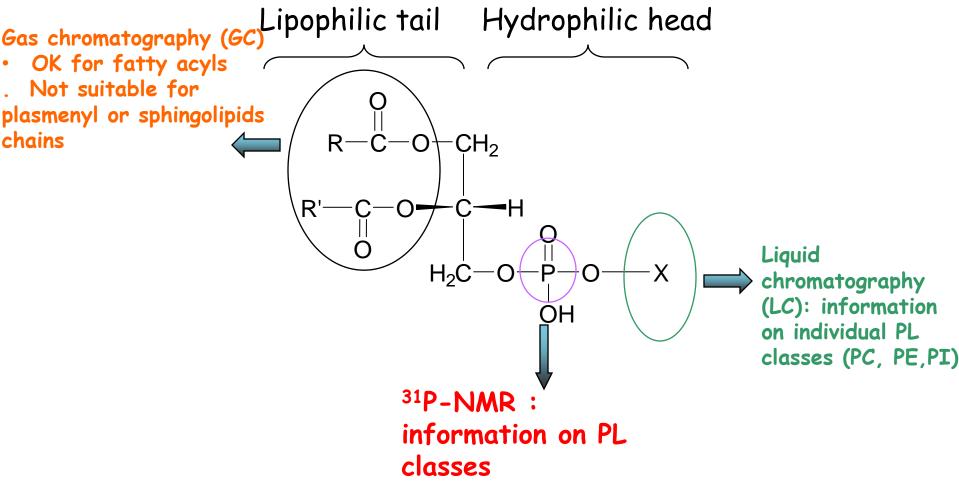
Lack of universal HPLC detector for direct measurement of PLs.



These approaches give a global overview of compositional information regarding PLs 41

Mass spectrometry	High resolution NMR		
 ESI (electron spray ionization) 	Most common nuclear probes are		
 MALDI (matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization) 	¹ H and ³¹ P Investigation of the composition,		
 coupling with HPLC or TLC 	structure and dynamics of biomembranes		
Merits	Merits		
 High sensitivity 	Not destructive		
 Direct profiling of mixtures 	Quantitative measurements		
Limits	Limits		
 Difficulties in quantitative analysis 	Low sensitivity		
	Strong signals overlap even at		
 Not adequate for structural definition of new lipids 	high magnetic fields		

What do actual methods measure?



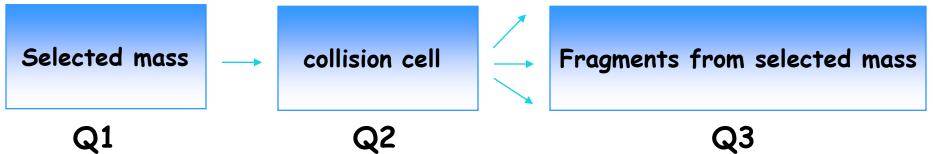
Different methods give different information but it is often difficult to put it in a unique "information ensemble"

Mass spectrometric approaches

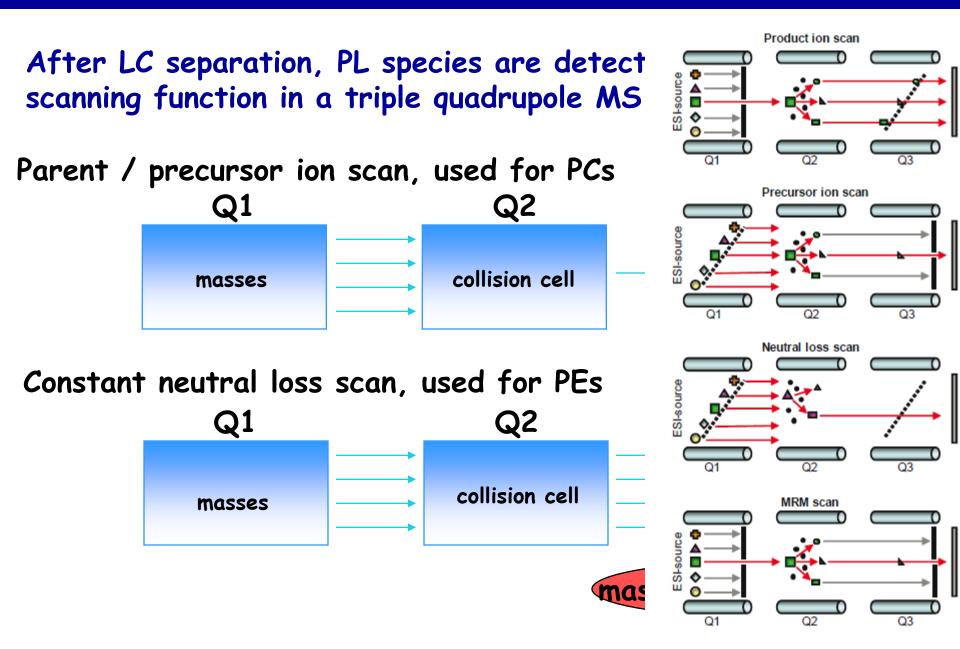
• GC-MS

- analysis of derivatised fatty acids
- FAB-MS/MS
 - first applications of characterising intact PLs
 - suffered from background suppression effects
- API techniques
- ESI-MS is most widely used
 - with chromatographic separation (RP and NP phase)
 - without chromatographic separation (direct infusion experiments)

Schematic of MS/MS experiments

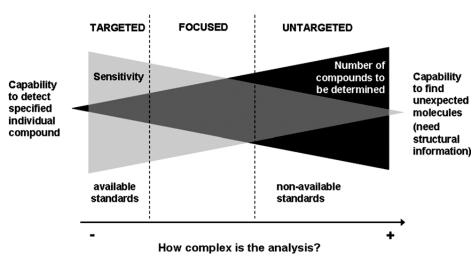


Separation and identification by LC-MS/MS

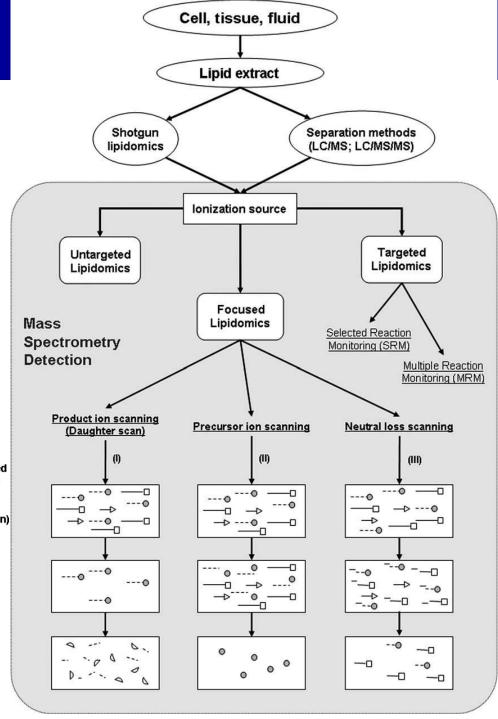


Challenges in lipidomics

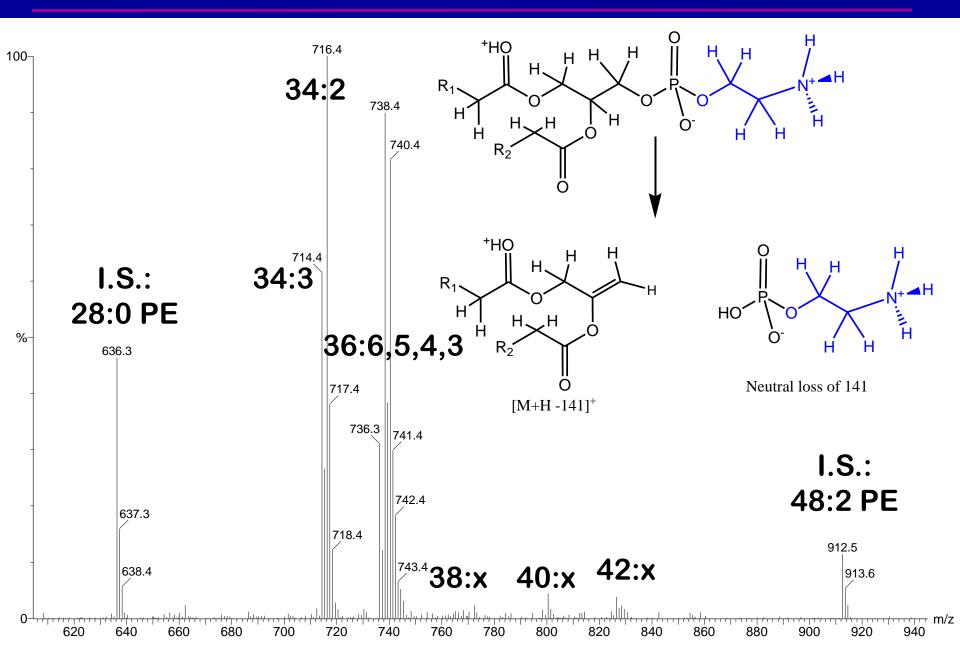
Complexity of the different lipidomics strategies and capability to detect a number of individual molecular compounds



Trends in Analytical Chemistry, 28, 4, 2009



Phosphatidylethanolamines: Ions that lose a neutral fragment of 141



NMR-based approaches

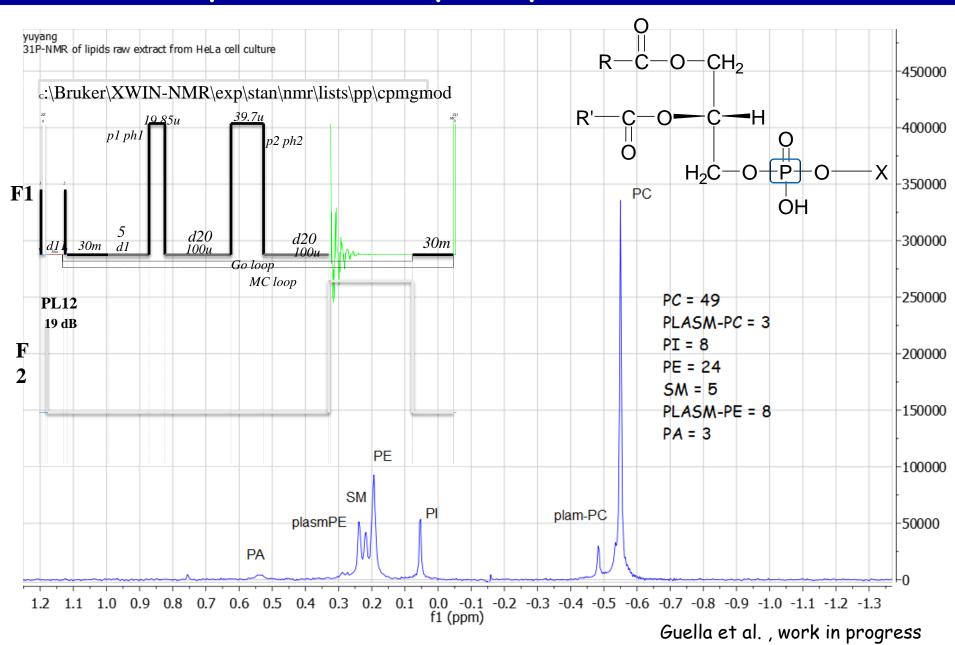
NMR spectroscopy (${}^{1}H$, ${}^{13}C$, and ${}^{31}P$ -NMR) is a powerful tool for:

- the elucidation of molecular structures of purified new lipids
- the determination of lipid profile in lipids mixtures
- for investigating the structure and dynamics of lipid membranes

For the analysis of phospholipid mixtures, ³¹P-NMR is by far the most appropriate approach. The linear response and relatively high speed of ³¹P-NMR allows for accurate and selective analysis with high sample throughput.

NMR continue to make important contributions, in particular in the characterization of **dynamic protein-lipid interactions** that are important regulatory mechanisms of trans-membrane proteins and ion channels. However, the restricted movement of lipids in macromolecular aggregates such as bilayers or lipoproteins leads **to line broadening** and poor resolution, and therefore *in vivo* measurements are limited.

³¹P-NMR spectrum : lipids profile of HeLa cells



RESULTS FROM OUR RECENT INVESTIGATIONS

Our first look into microalgal lipidomics

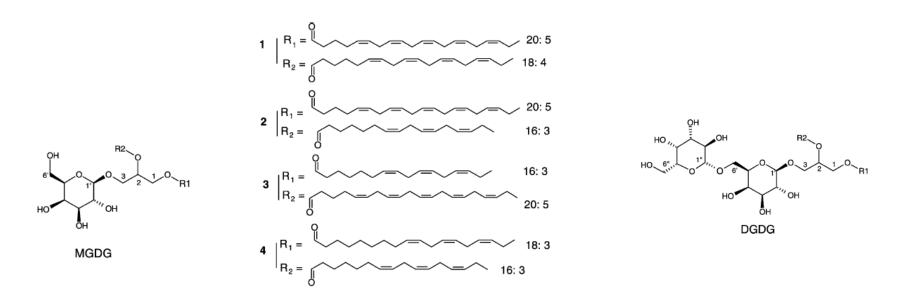
RAPID COMMUNICATIONS IN MASS SPECTROMETRY *Rapid Commun. Mass Spectrom.* 2003; 17: 1982–1994 Published online in Wiley InterScience (www.interscience.wiley.com). DOI: 10.1002/rcm.1142



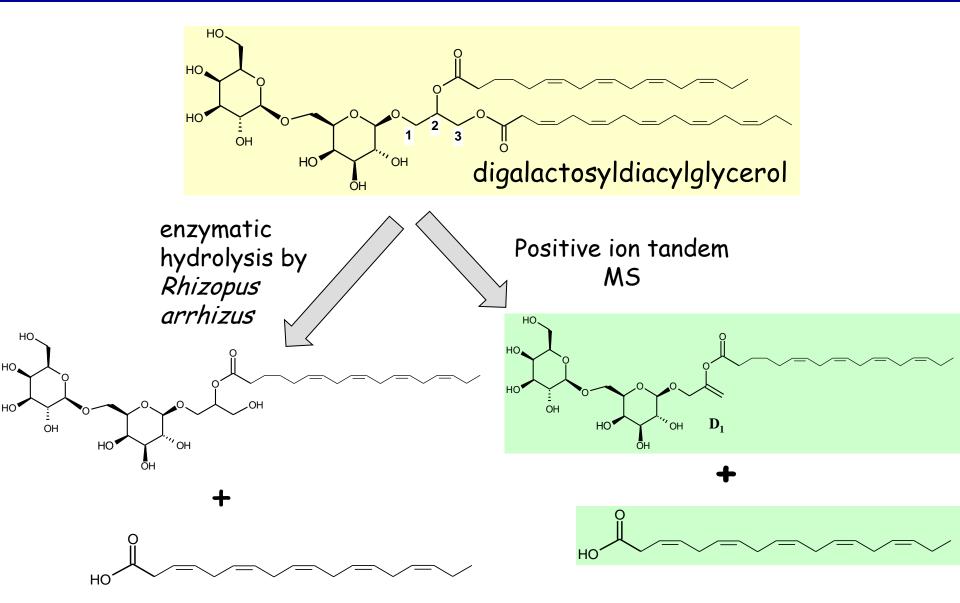
A new solution for an old problem: the regiochemical distribution of the acyl chains in galactolipids can be established by electrospray ionization tandem mass spectrometry

Graziano Guella*, Rita Frassanito and Ines Mancini

Laboratorio di Chimica Bioorganica, Facoltà di Scienze MFN, Università di Trento, 38050 Povo-Trento, Italy

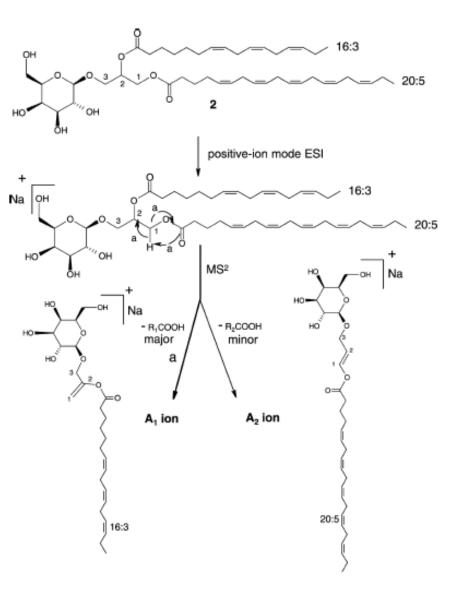


DETERMINATION OF THE REGIOSPECIFICITY OF THE TWO ACYL LINKAGES OF GALACTOLIPIDS



Guella et al. RCMS 2003

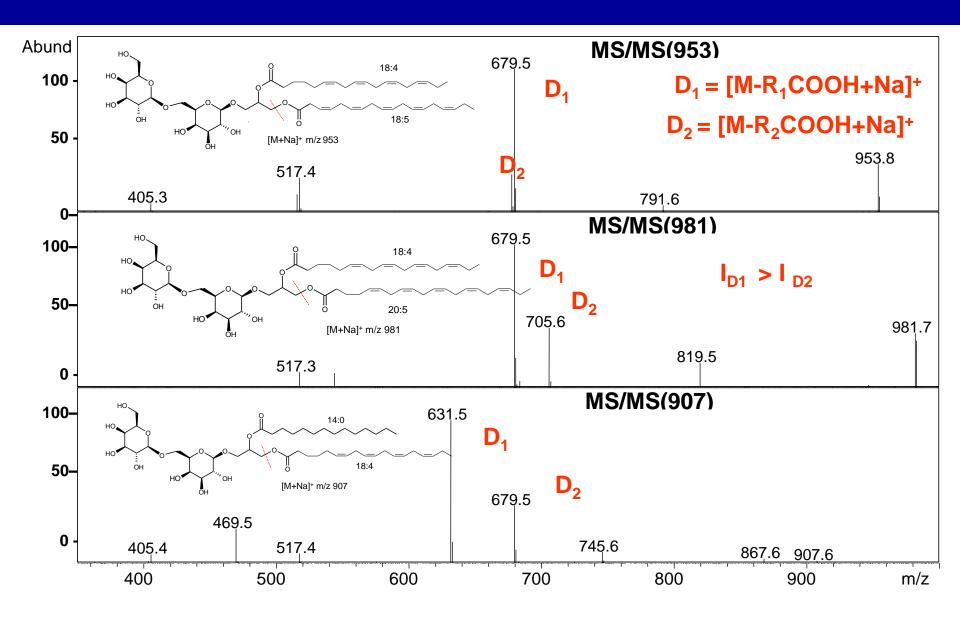
Outcome from ESI (+) tandem MS experiments



The positional distribution of the acyl chains in galactolipids can be established knowing that, in positive-ion mode ESI-MS² measurements, the loss of the carboxylic acid linked to the sn-1 glycerol position always produces a more intense peak than that derived from the loss of the sn-2 linked acyl chain.

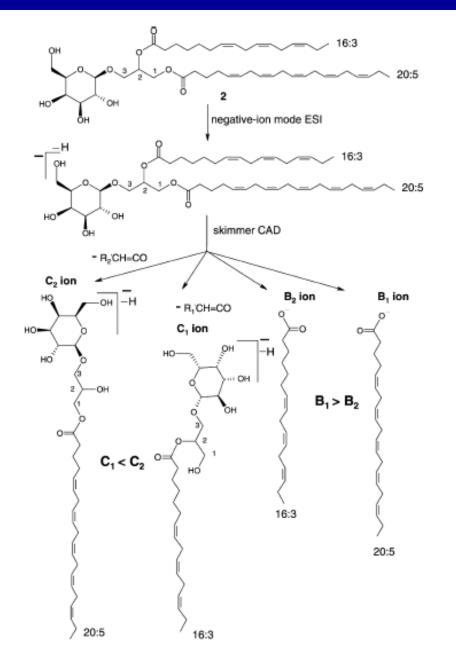
Guella et al. RCMS 2003

Positive ion MS² spectra of the [M+Na]⁺ ions of DGDGs



Guella et al. RCM5 2003

Outcome from ESI (-) in source CAD experiments

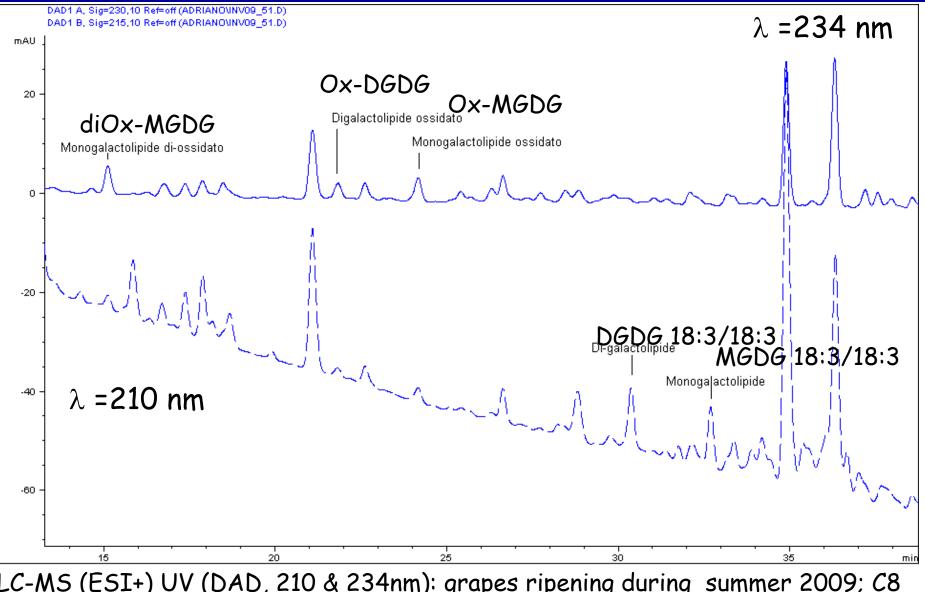


In the negative-ion mode, the C1/C2 ratio represents a valuable parameter in the determination of galactosyl regiochemistry when acquired by skimmer CAD fragmentations, but this structural information is not reliable when acquired by MS² experiments.

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Appunti 🗔 Carattere 🗔 Allineamento	5a Numeri	Ta Stili	Celle		difica	
A1 • C18 phenomenex Kinetex 2.6u 100A; gradiente 30:70>0:100 MeOH-H2O+AmmAcet 28mM 7:3 / MeOH+AmmAcet 12mM; flow 1ml/min; DAD200-350 canali 215,254; ESI+; inj 5ul;						
A B C D	E F	G	Н	I	A	
C18 phenomenex Kinetex 2.6u 100A; gradiente 30:70>0:100 MeOH-H2O+AmmAcet 28mM 7:3 / MeOH+AmmAcet 12mM; flow 1ml/min; DAD200-350 canali 215,254; ESI+; inj 5ul;						
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	40226025 2195745	0,60	0,70		16:0/18:3	
	52476373 18994878	11,19	13,03		16:0/16:1	
	51895261 3252618	0,77	0,90	PC	38:6	
	26126544 2087453	0,39	21,29		18:0/20:3	
	5129058 578899	0,08	0,92		016:1/16:1	
	77804927 10029341	7,11	8,27		16:0/18:2	
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/	19639722 31323072	7,73	8,99		16:0/16:0	
	57784571 4373577	0,86		PC???	????	
	20600808 1218724	0,31	39,00		16:0/18:1	
	19479248 87685029	28,55	33,23		16:0/18:1	
	61729349 29770939	11,33	13,19		18:1/18:1	
,	61929775 4156301	0,92	1,07	PC	38:4	
28 21 FIC 790 5 712 5 ± ΔII 23.7 23.4 24.2 112 M M M ESI data PC plasma-PC PE PI 663,607,551,485 PC - 678 PC 704-706 PC	PC 730-732-734 PC 756-7	1 68 58-760-762 / PC 786-788 / PC 806-808-810	A A		∠ PE 577-60 4 ▶ 1	
Selezionare la destinazione quindi INVIO o scegliere Incolla.						

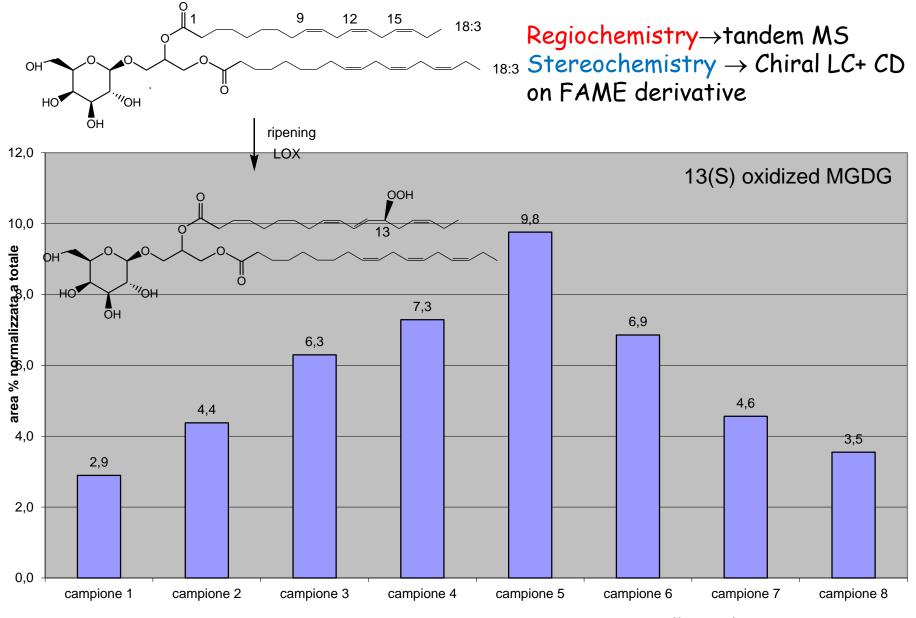
Guella et al. , work in progress

Fruit ripening : an oxidative stress?



LC-MS (ESI+) UV (DAD, 210 & 234nm): grapes ripening during summer 2009; C8 column, MeOH/H₂O (NH₄OAc 28 mM) Guella et al., work in progress

Fruit ripening : an oxidative stress?



Guella et al. , work in progress

Conclusions

- Little is known about complex fatty acids and phospholipids in many taxa (e.g., algae and (cyano)bacteria).
- Profiling/Fingerprinting of large sample sets is possible with current analytical platforms
- Current lipid profiling platforms screen only for common known lipids and lipid classes
- Lipidomics studies have been mainly promoted by researchers from biochemistry, analitycal chemistry, medical or pharmaceutical fields
- Natural products chemists would welcome into this field wherein they can contribute with their "great expertise" to developing new methods and to resolving structural problems

Lipidomics is waiting for natural products chemists!!