

# A molecular dynamics approach to understand SL(sphingolipid)-BamA interactions

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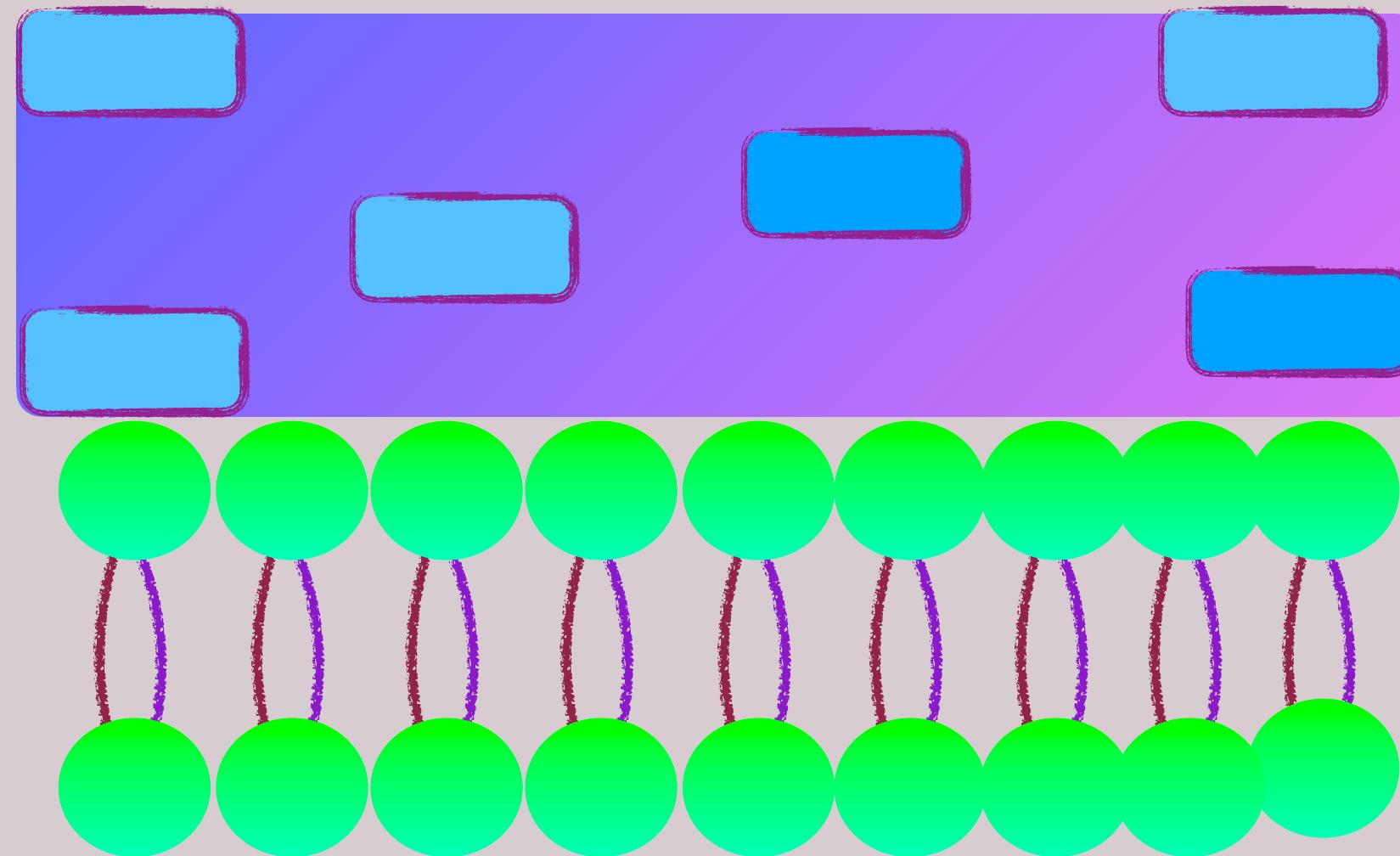
August 29th, 2022

# Outline

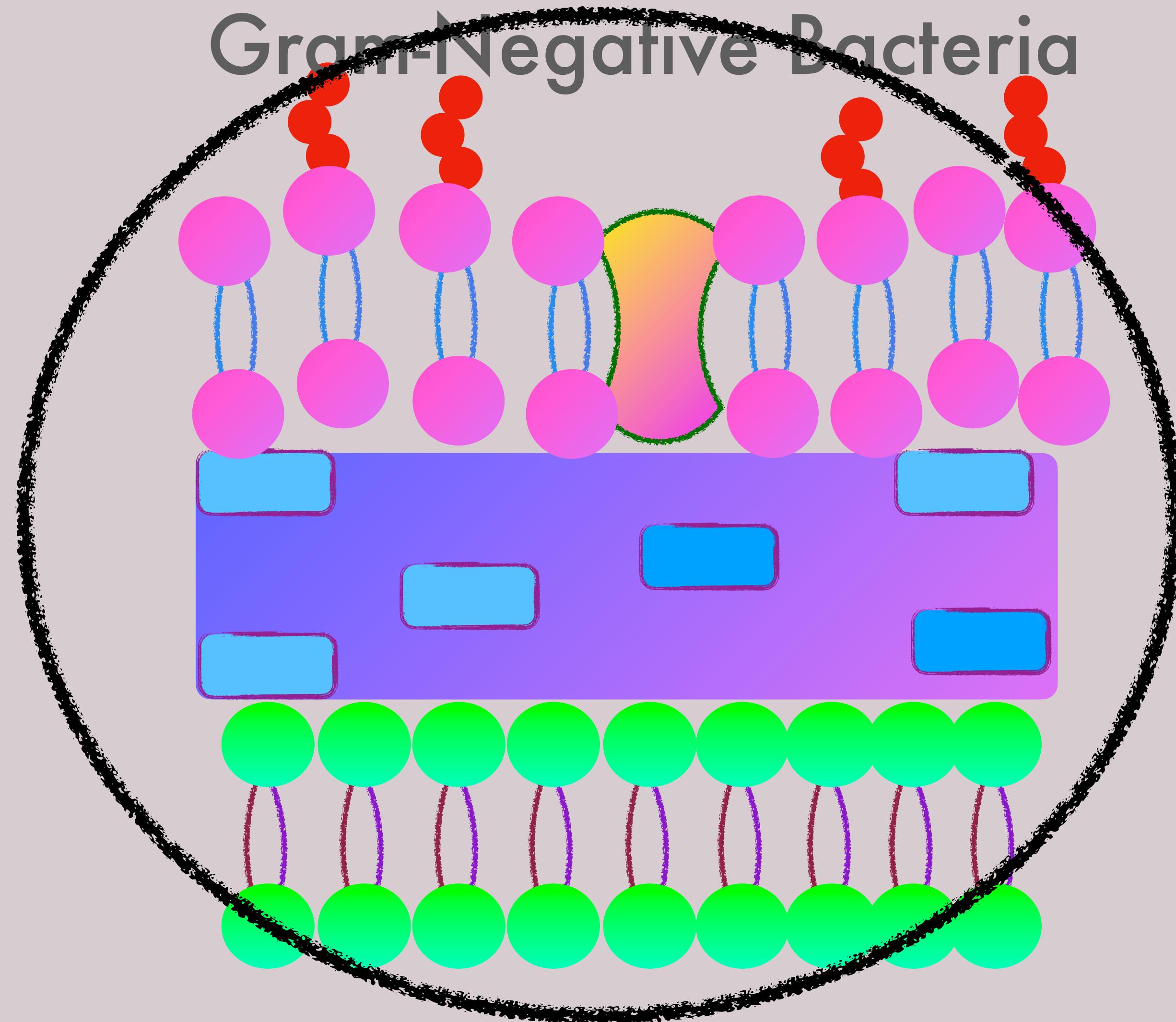
- Background
- Main Question
- Preliminary Work
- Back to Main Question and Hypothesis
- Projects aims (rationale and approach)
- Timeline
- Summary

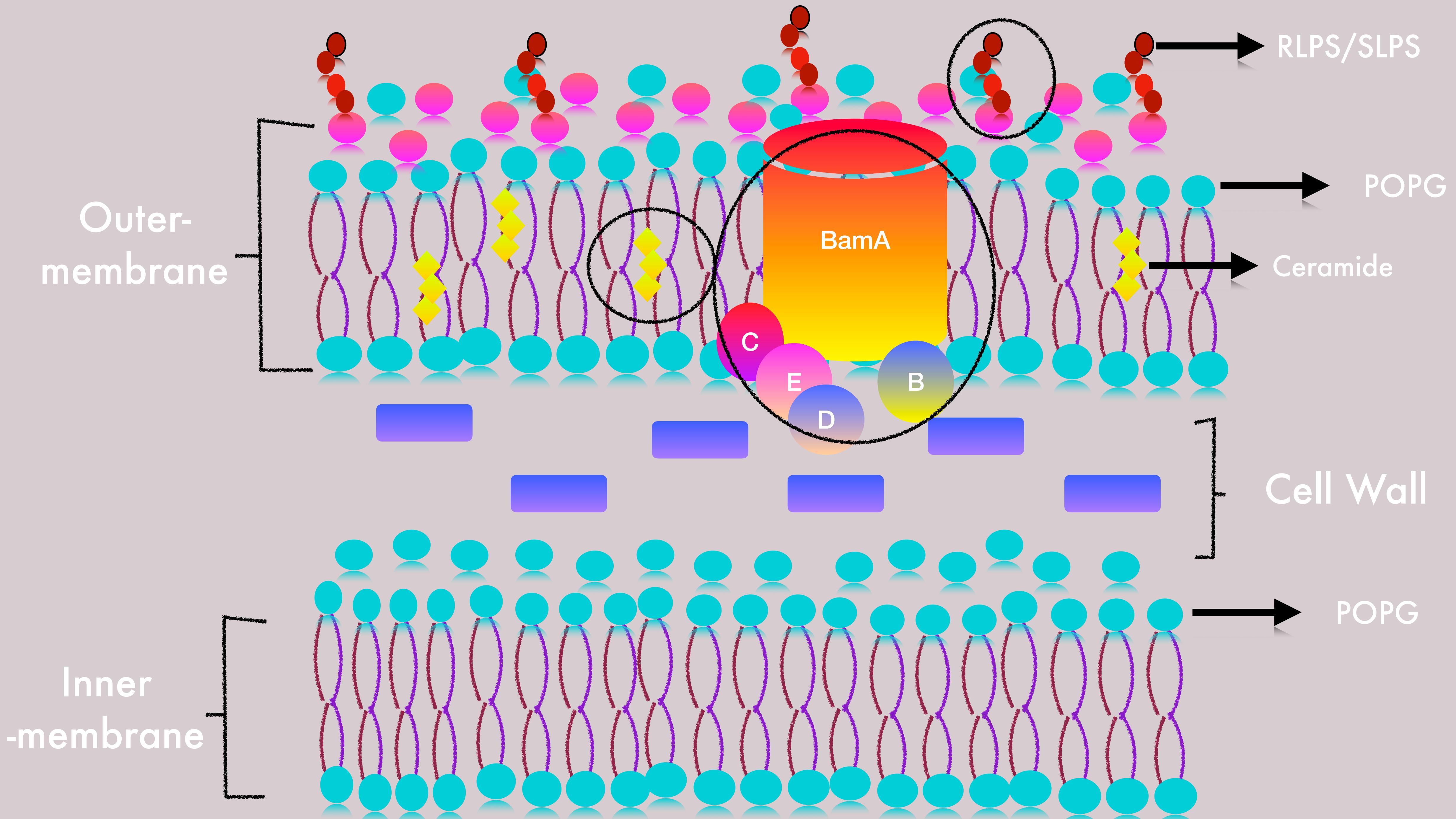
# Bacteria Cell Wall

Gram-Positive Bacteria

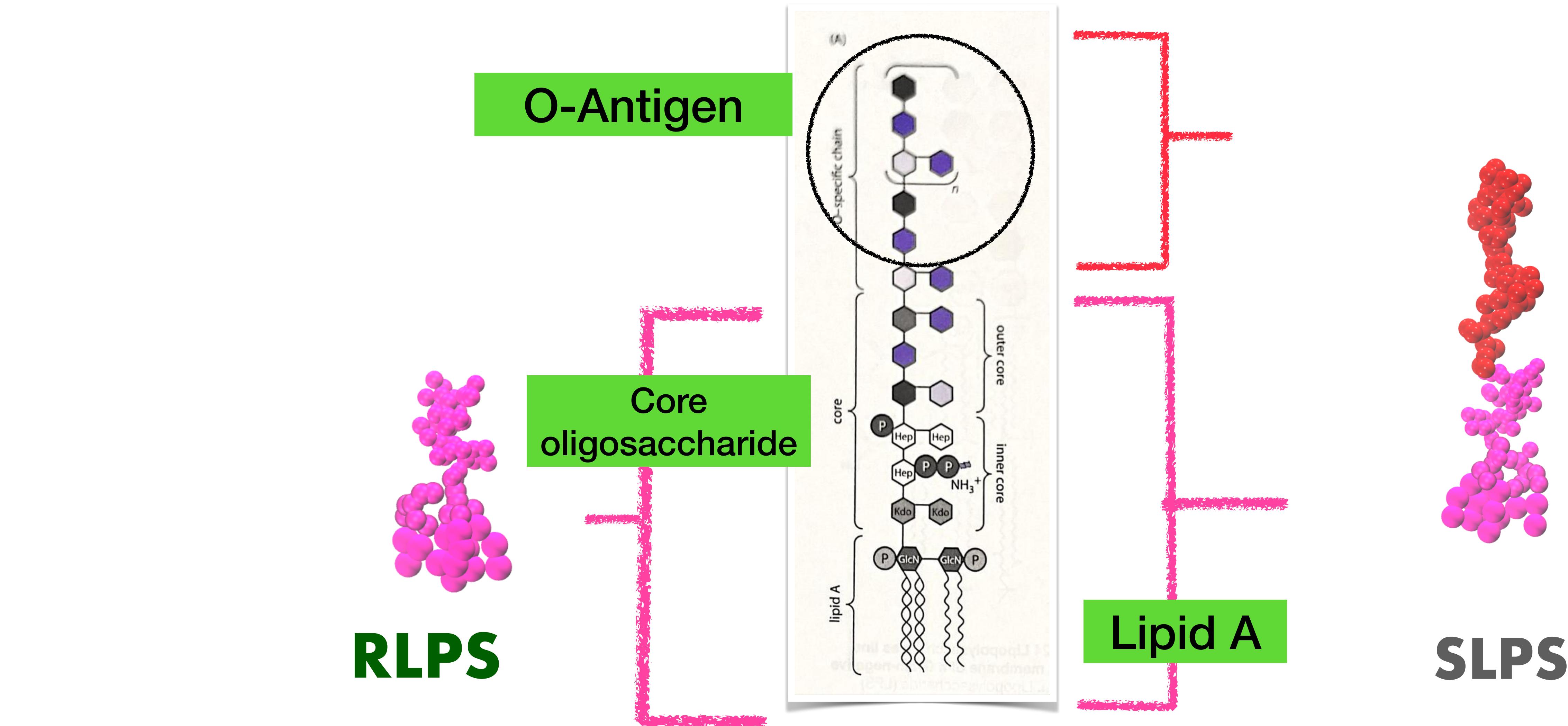


Gram-Negative Bacteria





# Lipopolysaccharide (LPS)



**Purpose:** Prevent passive diffusion of hydrophobic solutes like antibiotics and detergents.

# Sphingolipids(ceramide)

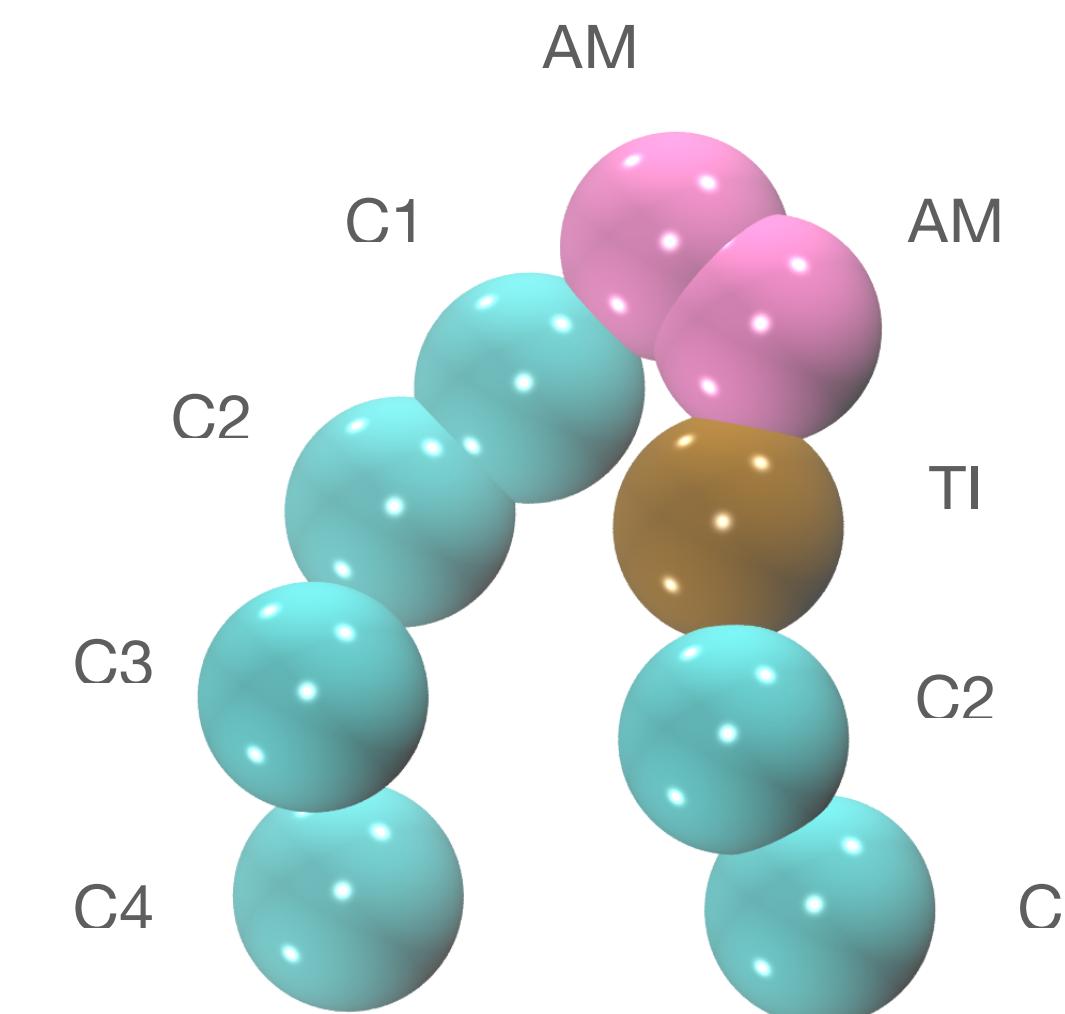
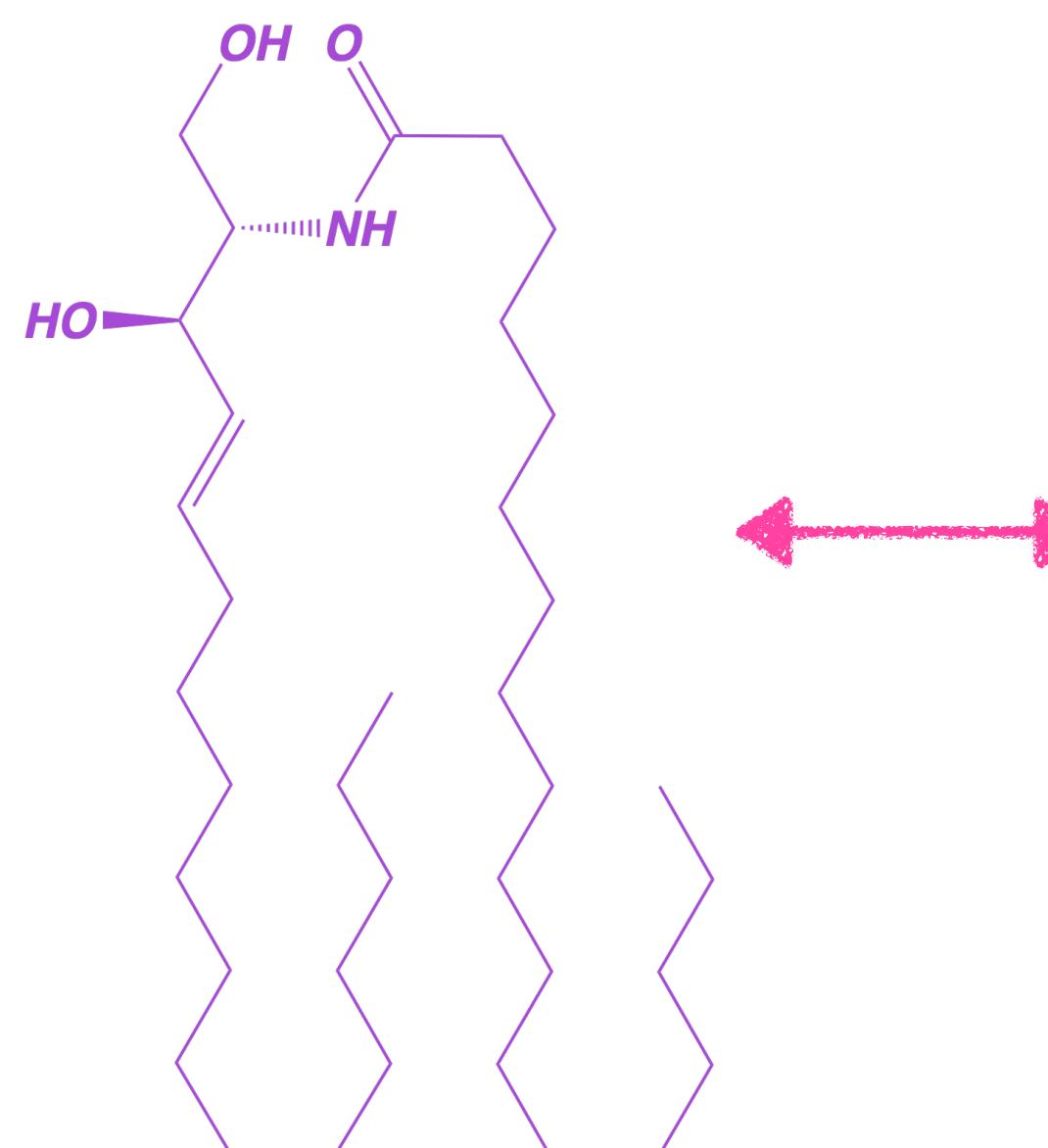
Phosphate  
starvation

Hexosyl-hexuronosyl-  
ceramide glycosphingolipid  
(GSL)

LPS from  
Shingomonadaceae  
family

Caulobacter  
crescentus

Klein Lab

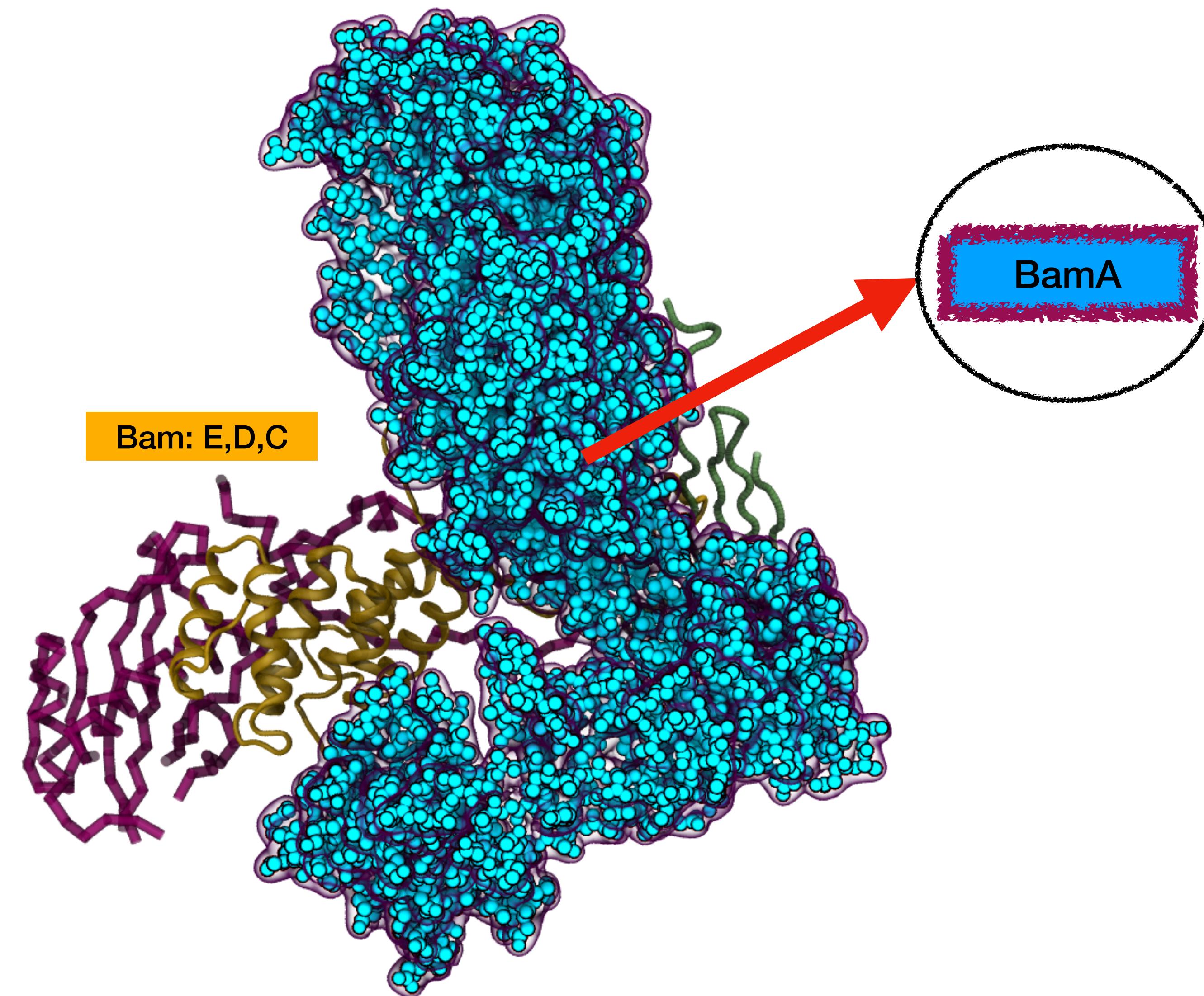


Coarse-grain representation of ceramide

Purpose on  
C.crescentus?

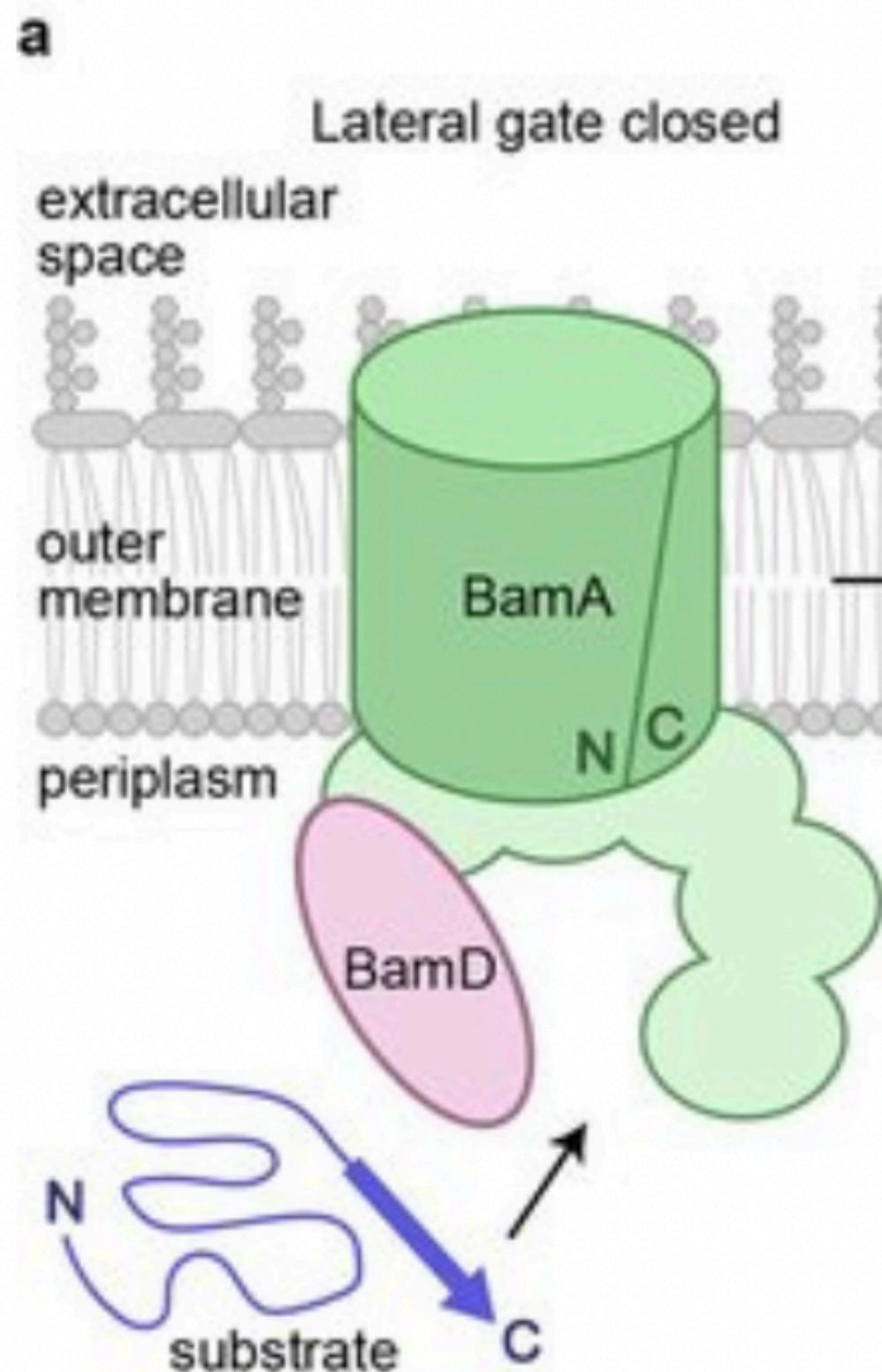
Brannigan  
Lab:Ceramide disrupts  
LPS packing

# $\beta$ -barrel assembly machinery (BAM)



Purpose: Folding and inserting OMPs into the OM.

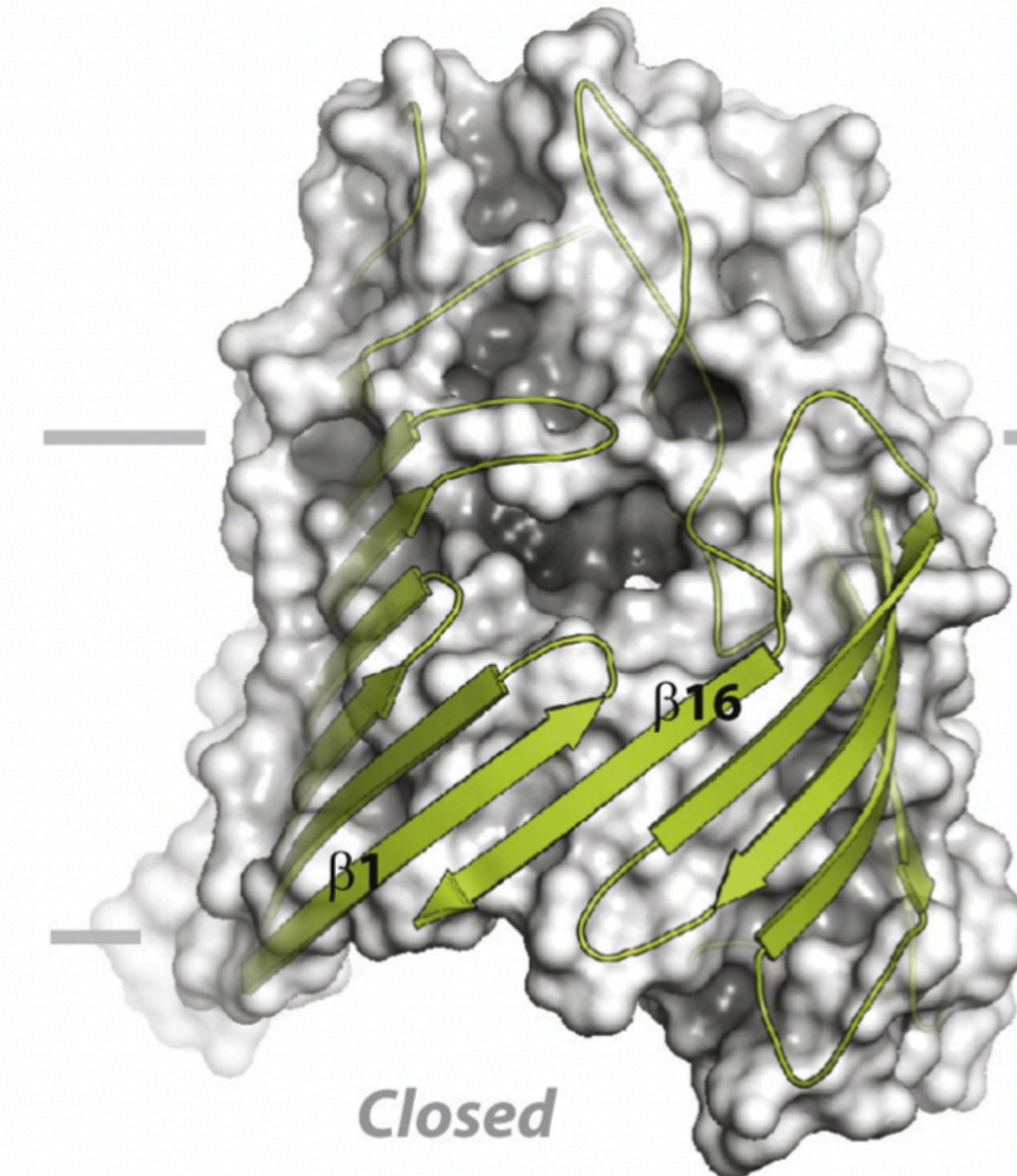
# Proposed model of $\beta$ -barrel assembly by BamA



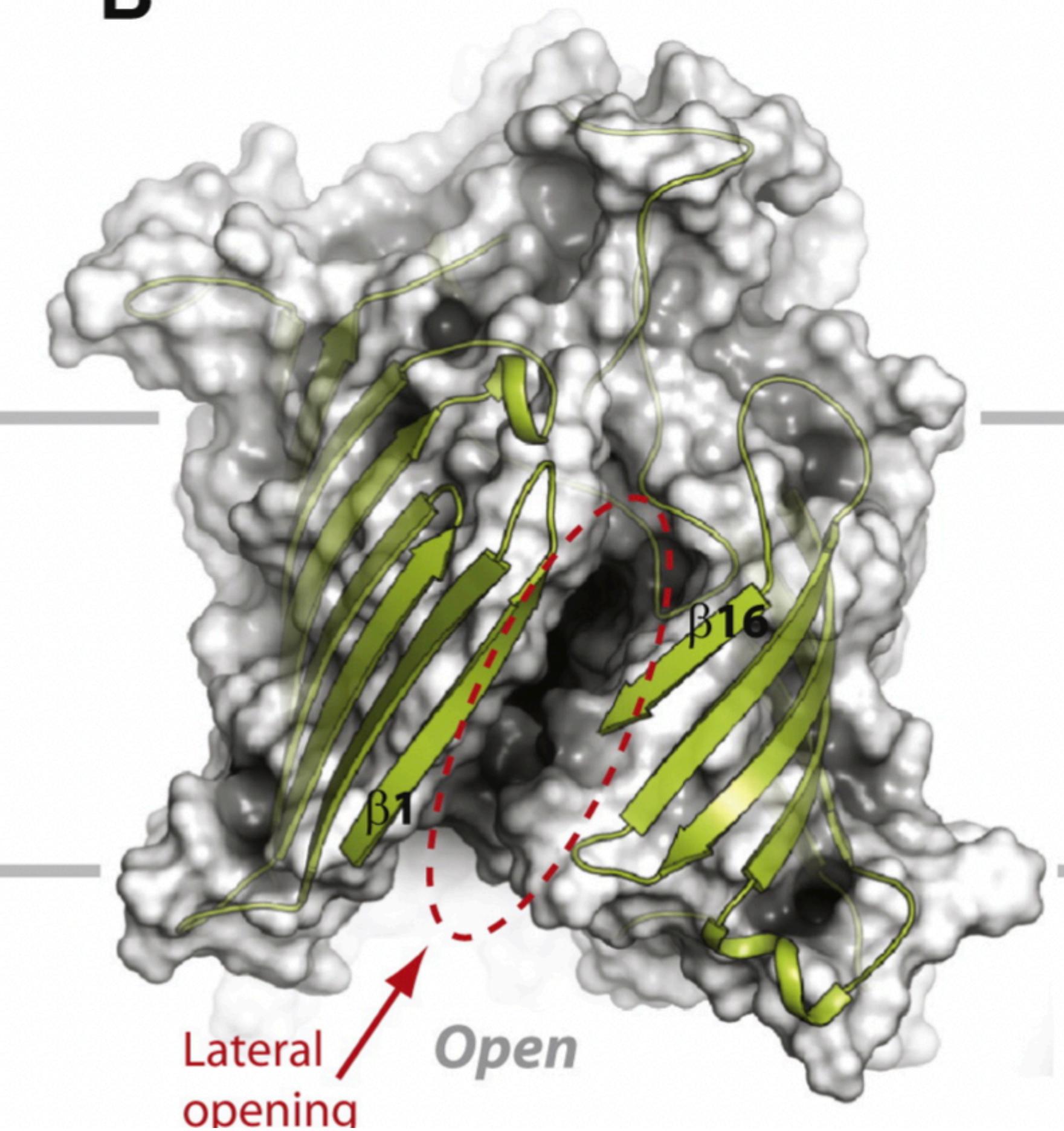
# What conformations does BamA takes on the OM?

**Close gate**

A



B

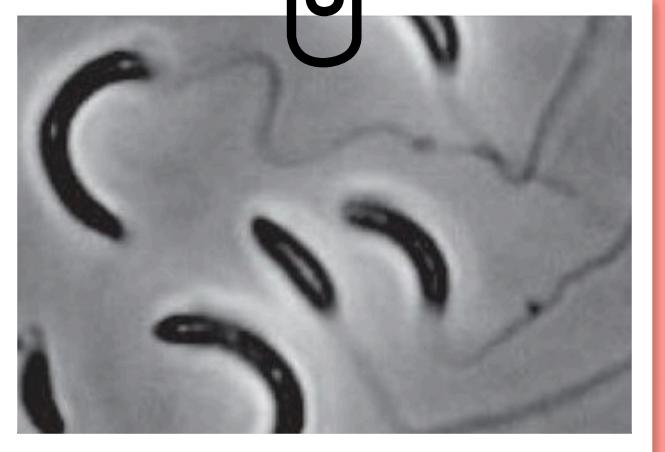


**Open gate**

# Main Question

Where does ceramide binds to  
BamA ?

# What is the motivation of my project?

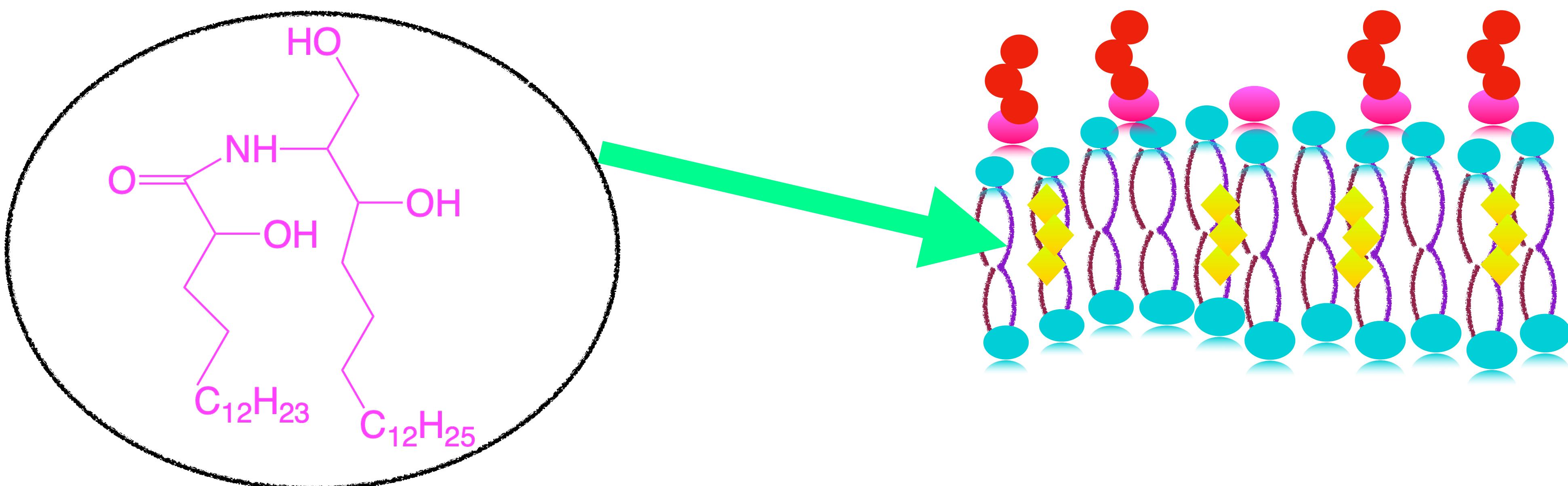


Klein Lab

Investigate how ceramides  
affect OM functionality and  
biophysical properties

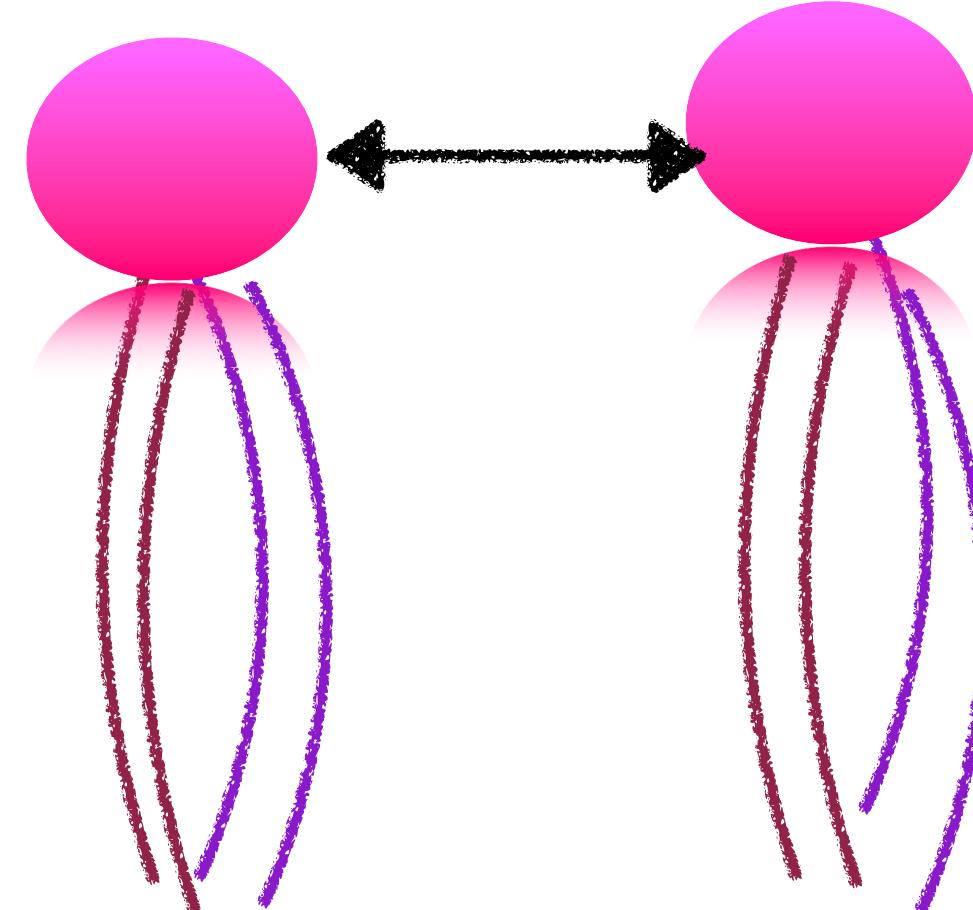
# Preliminary Work

Characterize the role of SLs(ceramide) on the outer membrane structure.

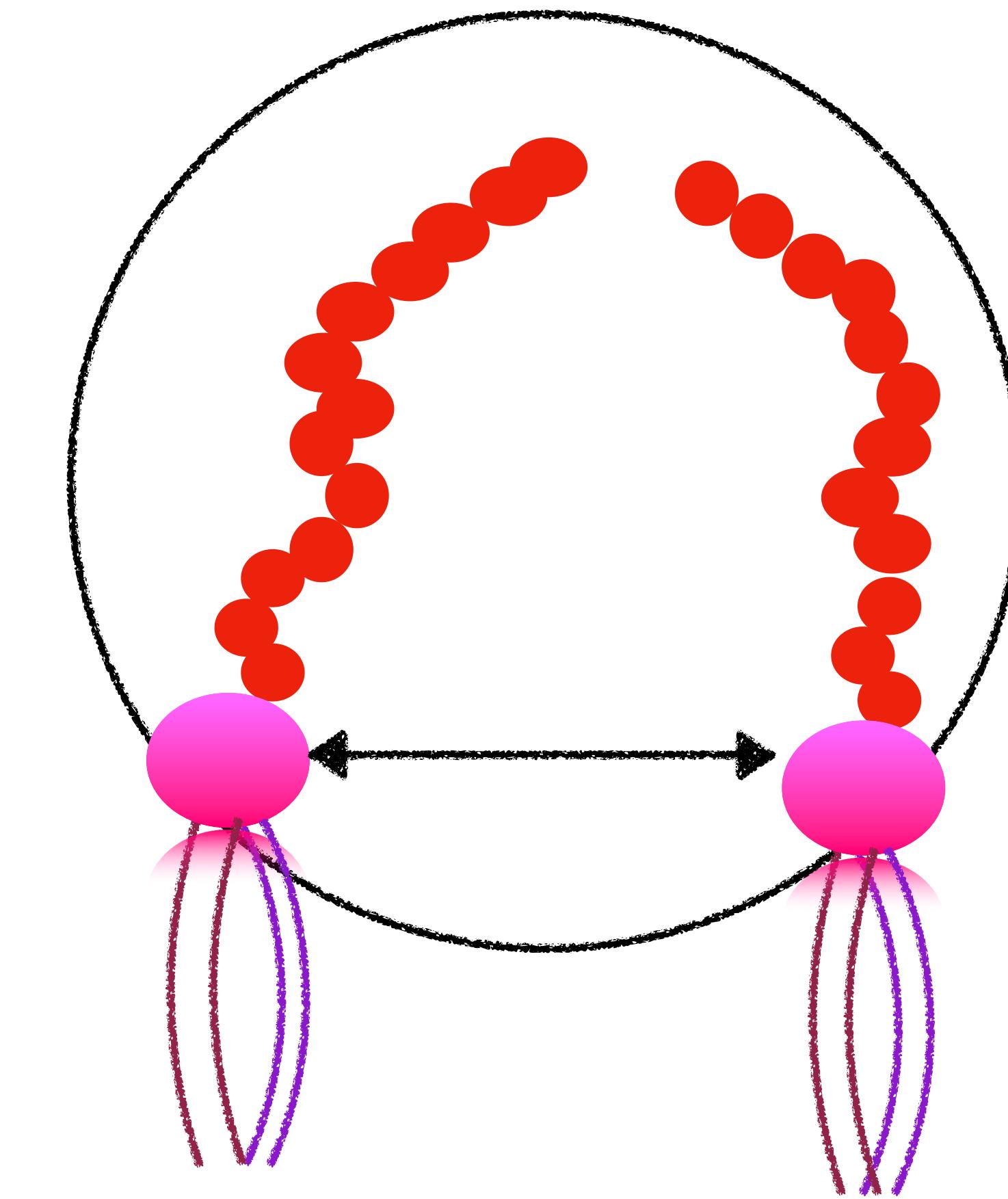
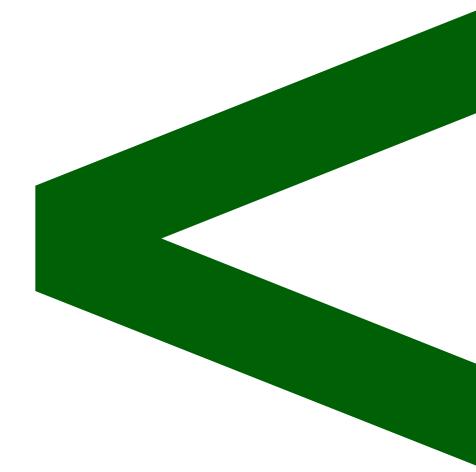


SLs (ceramide) disrupts LPS packing.

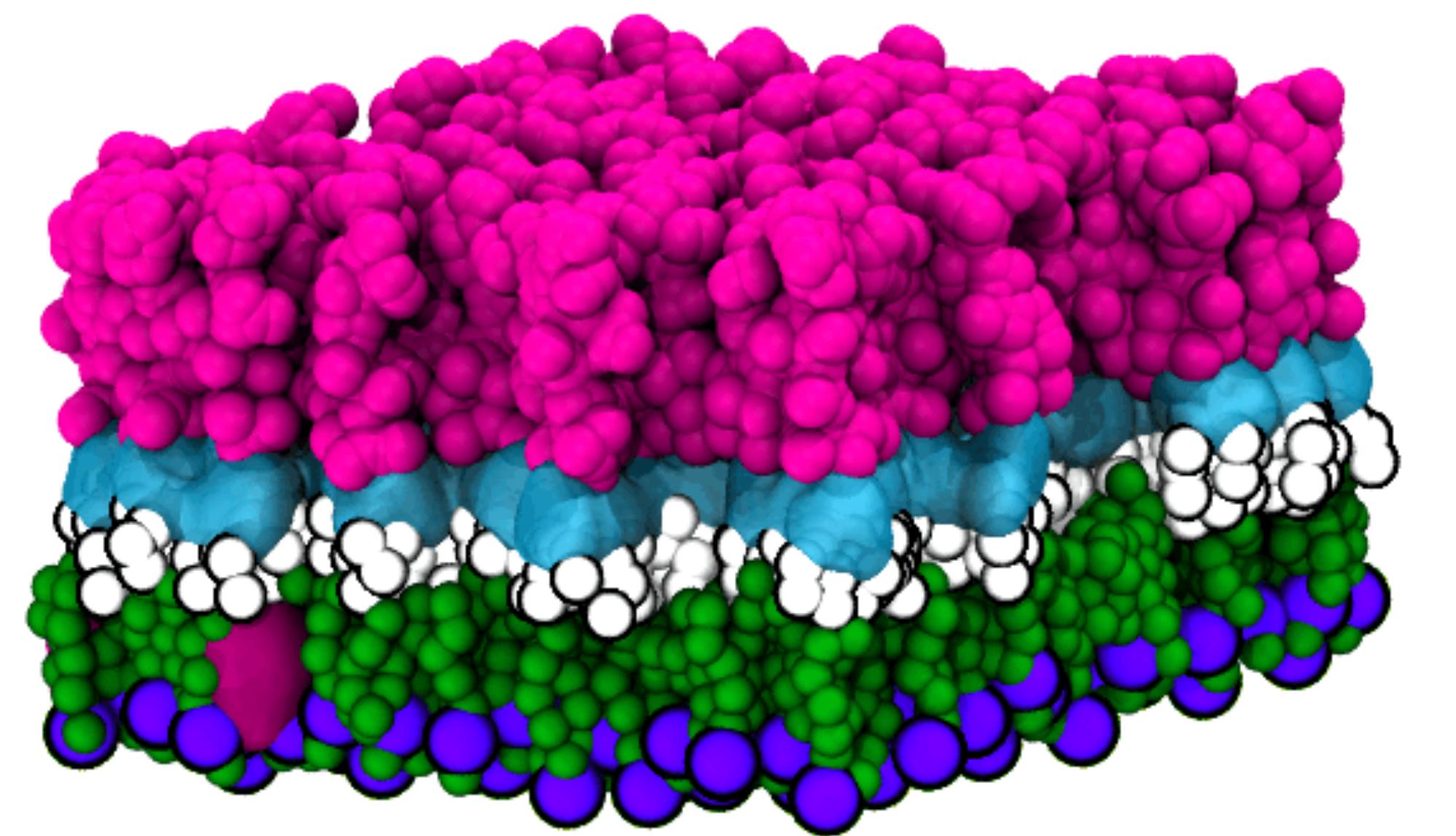
# How do ceramides disrupt LPS packaging ?



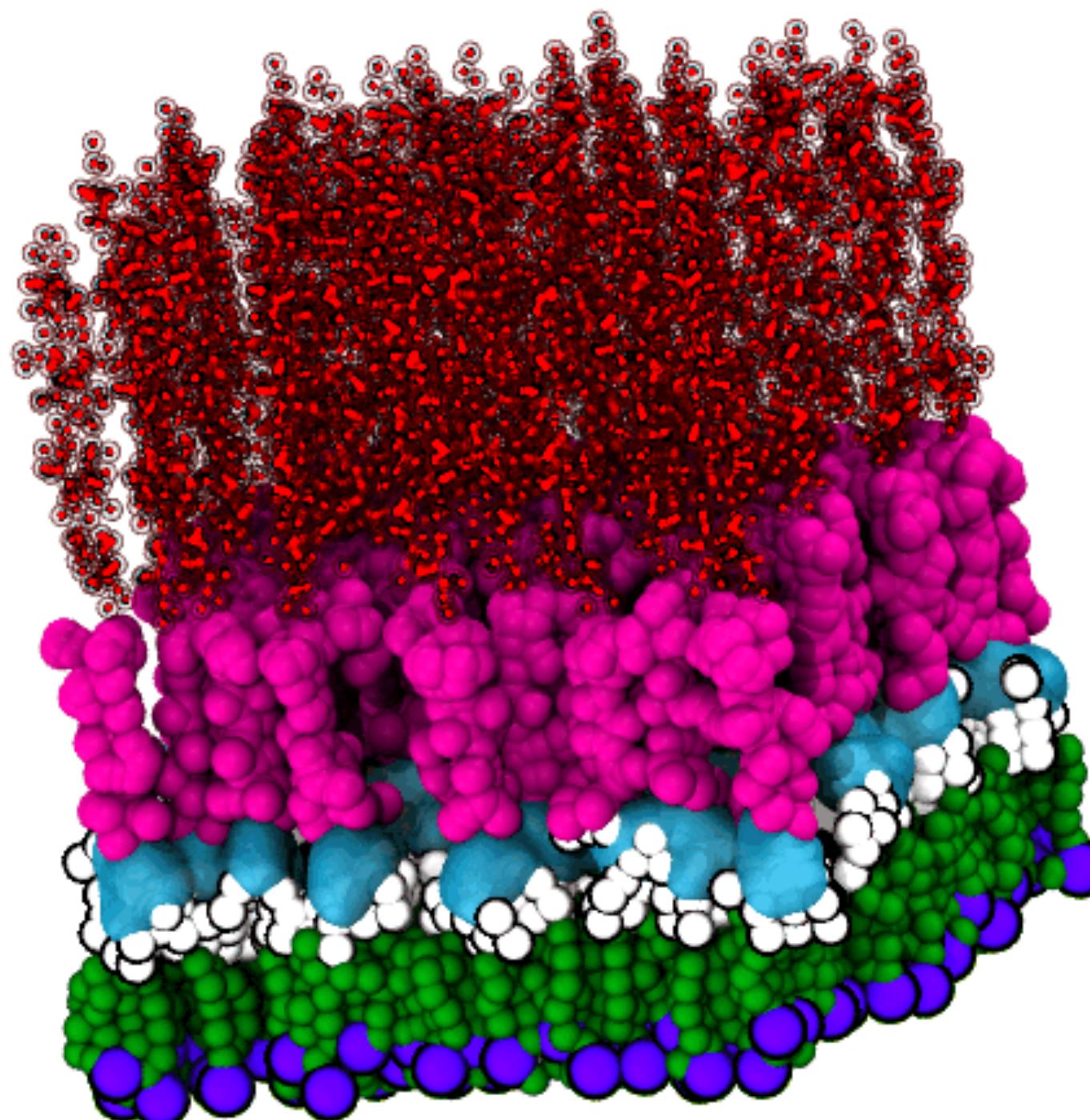
Area per lipid of RLPS



Area per lipid of SLPS

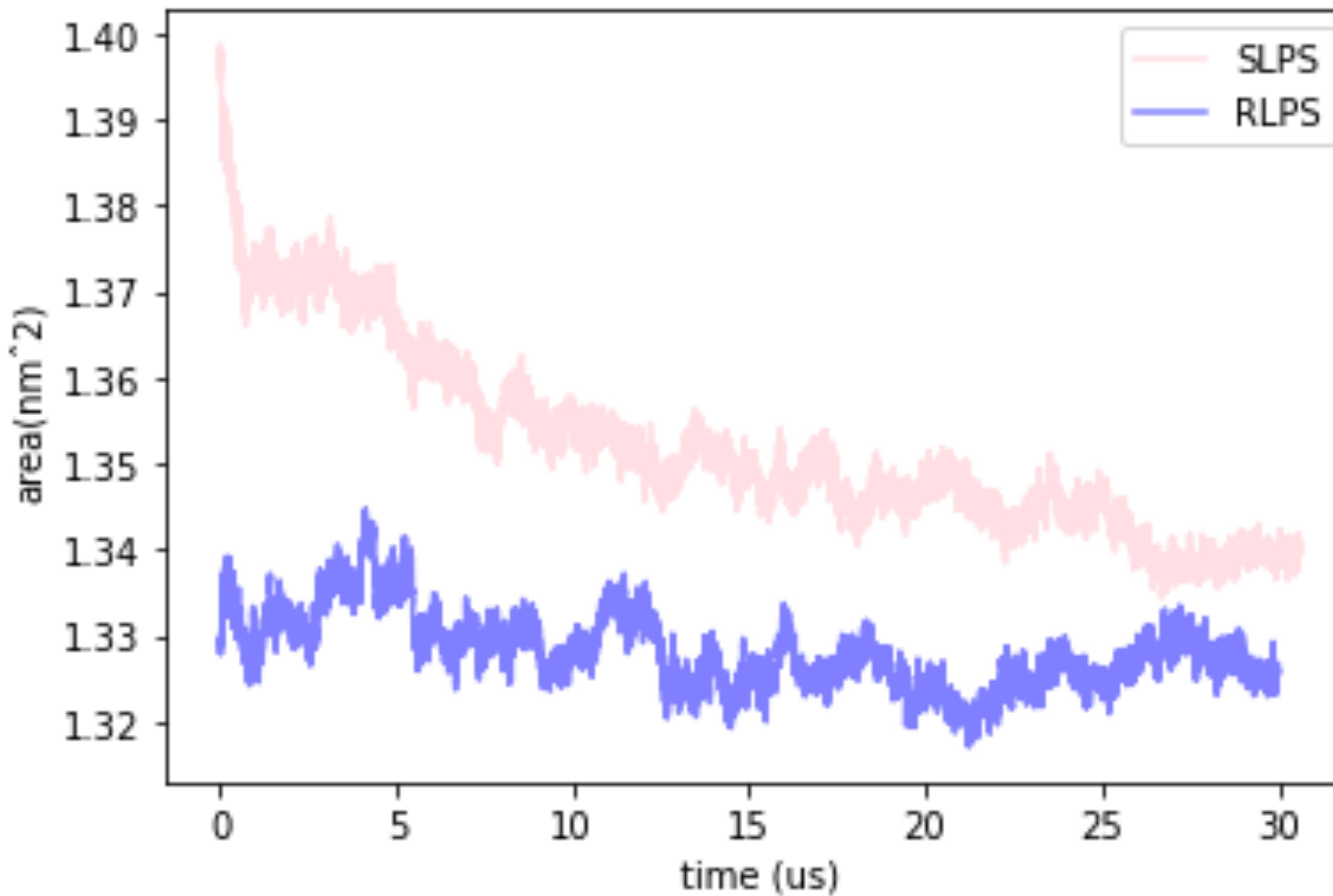


**RLPS**

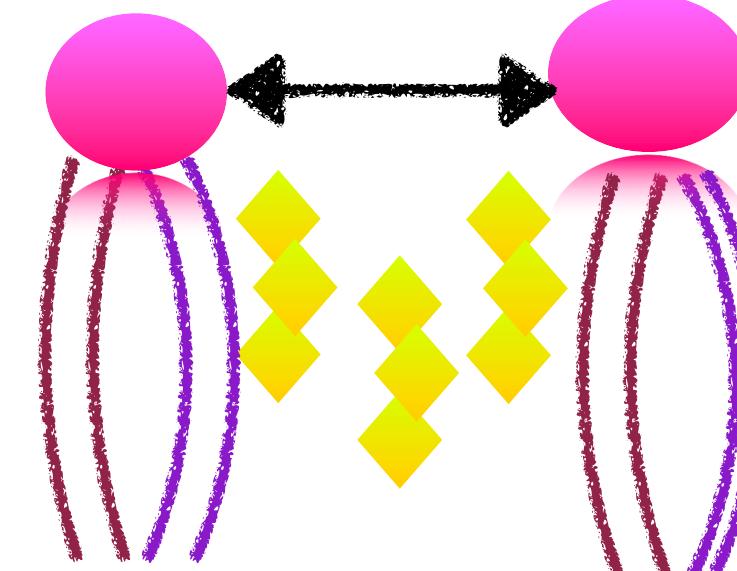
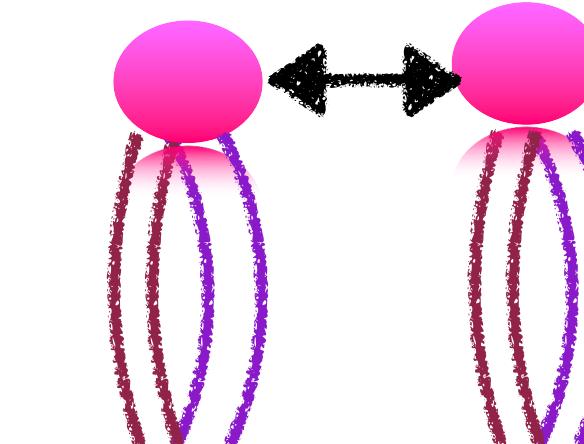


**SLPS**

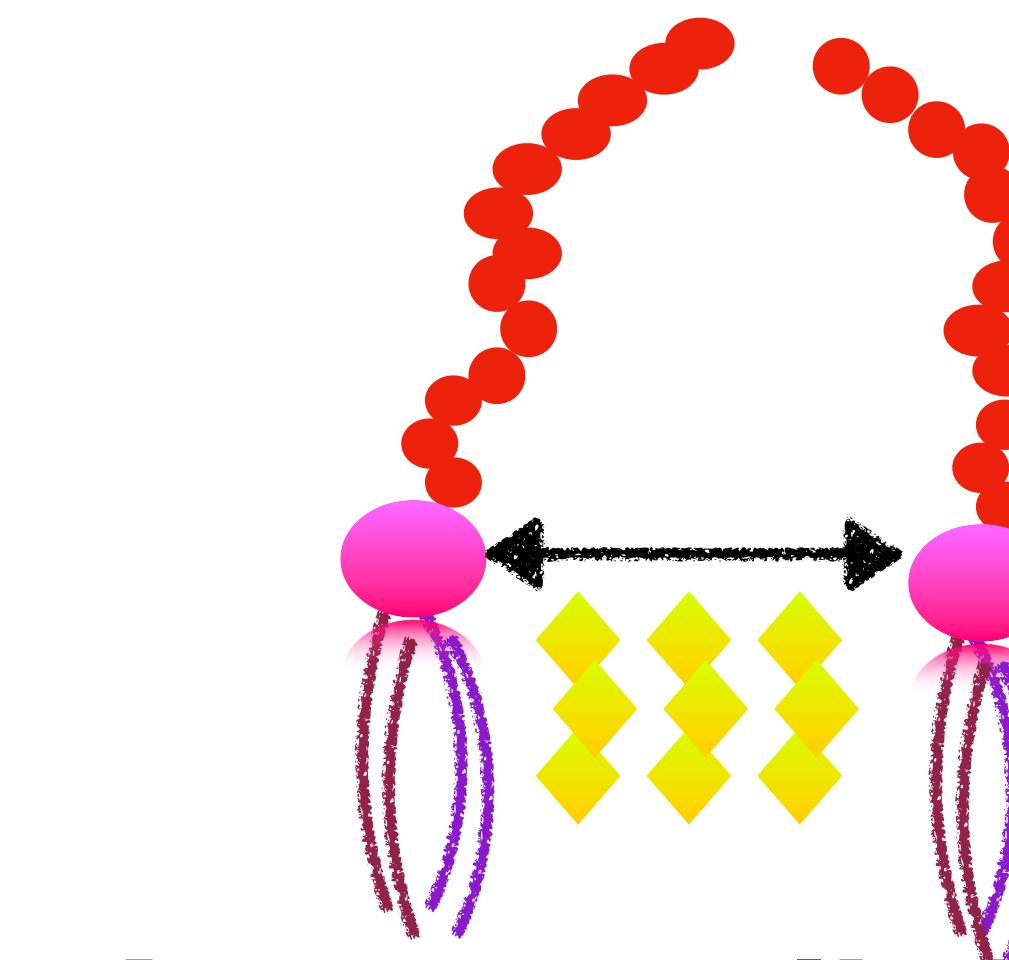
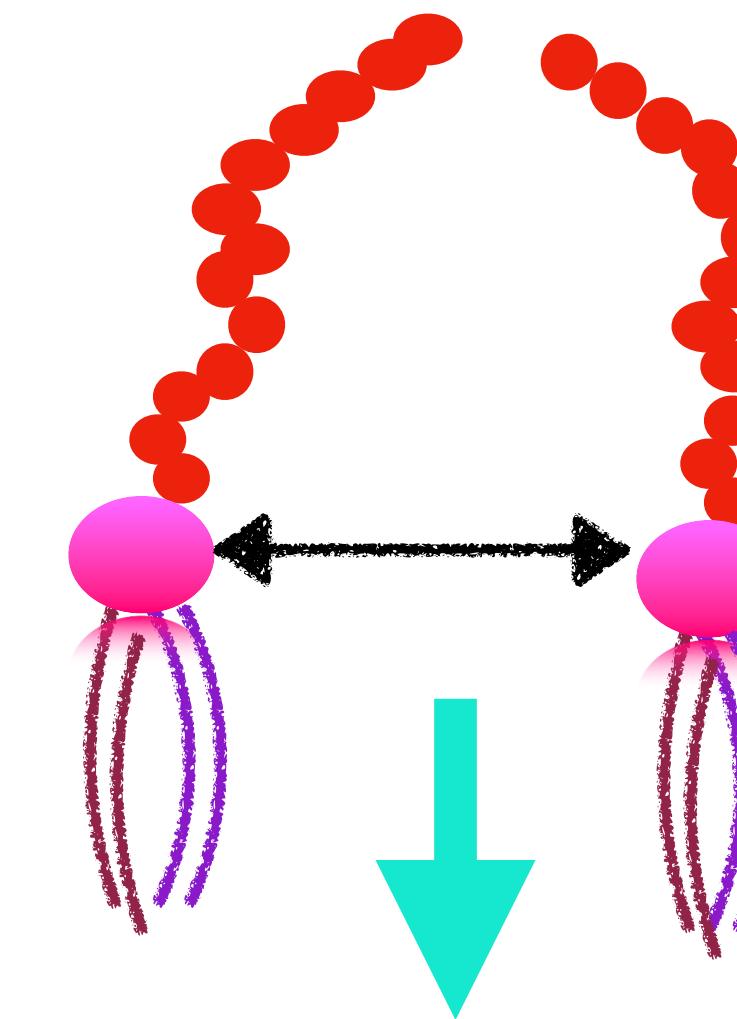
# Packing evidence, SLPS is less condense



# Change in area per lipid with ceramide

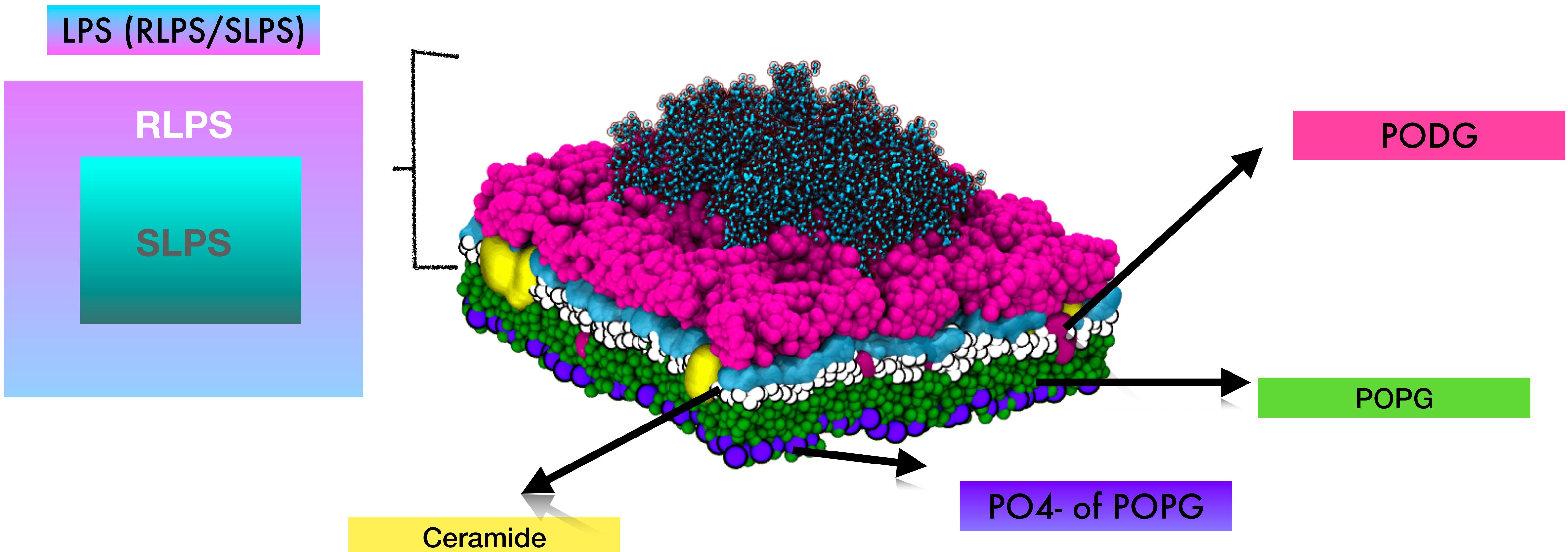


Area per lipid of  
RLPS increase

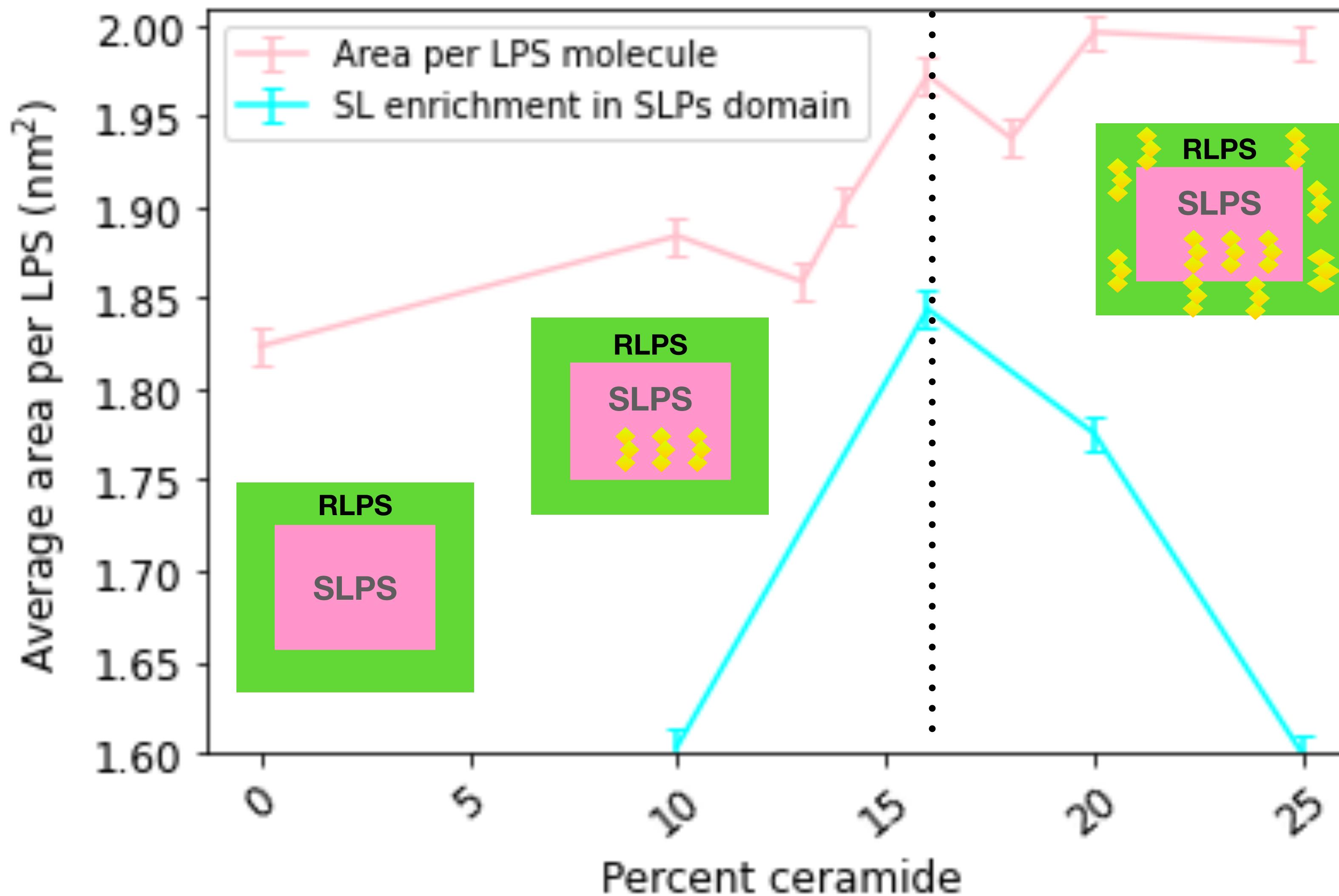


Area per lipid of  
SLPS same

# Ceramide in two domains SLPS and RLPS



# Ceramide disrupts LPS packing



# Main Question

Where does ceramide binds to BamA ?

## Hypothesis

SLs regulates BamA complex activity by direct interactions with BamA protein.

# Aims Project

**Aim 1a. Modelling the caulobacter BamA protein and lipids to run the simulations**

**Aim 1b. Build lipids in insane to run the simulations**

**Aim 2. Run the simulations and analyze the density distribution of ceramide.**

**Aim 1a. Modelling the caulobacter BamA protein and lipids to run the simulations**

**Aim 1b. Build lipids in insane to run the simulations**

## Rationale

### Aim 1a. Modelling the *caulobacter* BamA protein

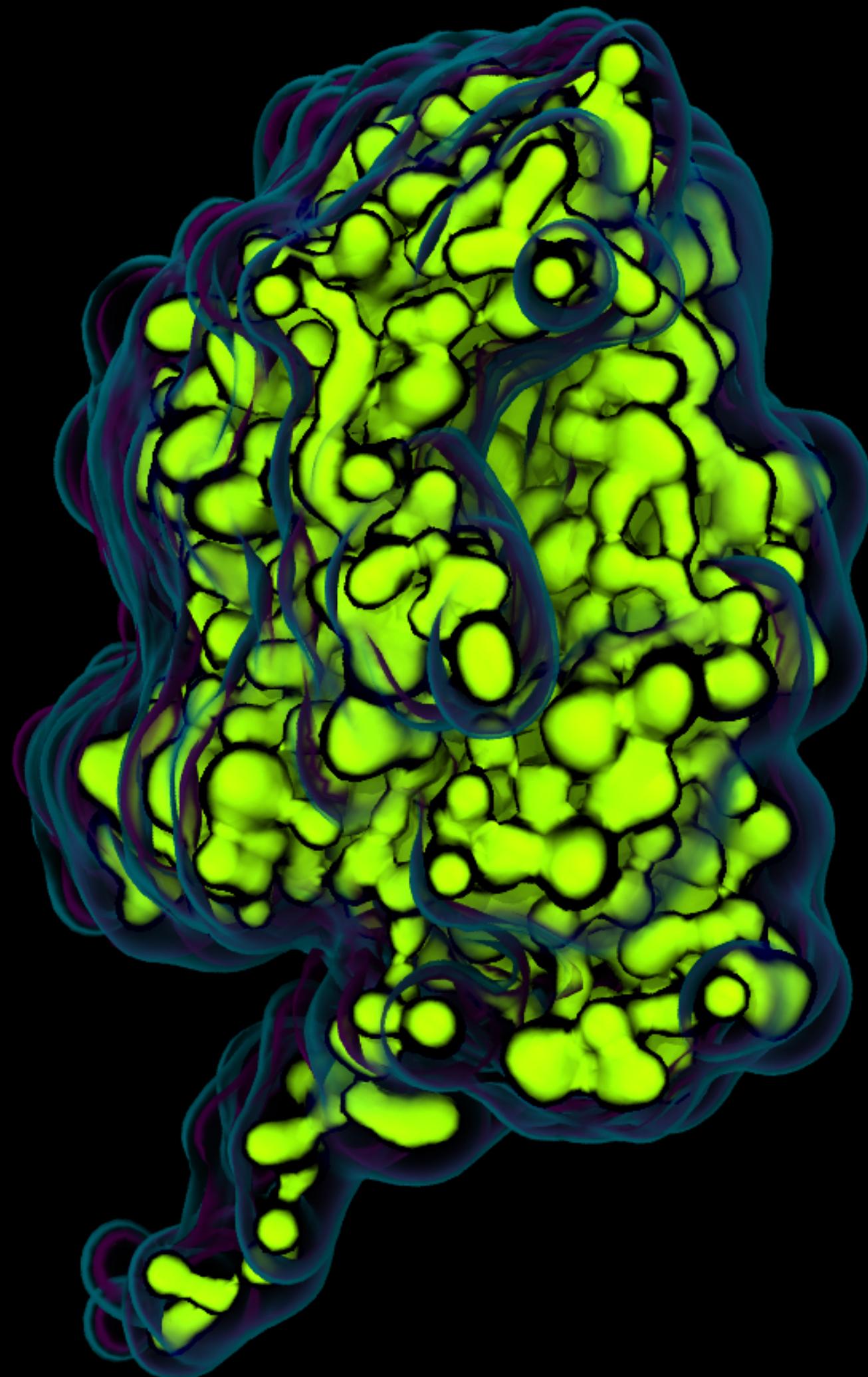
- The **chemical structure** of BamA of *E.coli* differs from **BamA** of *C.crescentus*.
- Switch from *E.coli* system to a ***C.crescentus* system**.
- Work with the most **accurate/realistic** system.

## Approach

### Aim 1a. Modelling the caulobacter BamA protein

- Build Caulobacter BamA protein from sequence A0A0H3C9L0.
- Assign the spatial coordinates to the just build BamA protein by MODELLER.
- Refinement of side chain by SQRWL and molprobitiy.
- Set up a Atomistic Simulation.
- Coarse grain the final structure.

# BamA coarse grain of E.coli



## Rationale

### Aim 1b. Build lipids in insane to run the simulations

- The **chemical structure** of LPS of E.coli differs from **LPS** of C.crescentus.
- C. Crescentus OM presents **anionic** ceramide and **neutral** ceramide in the OM.

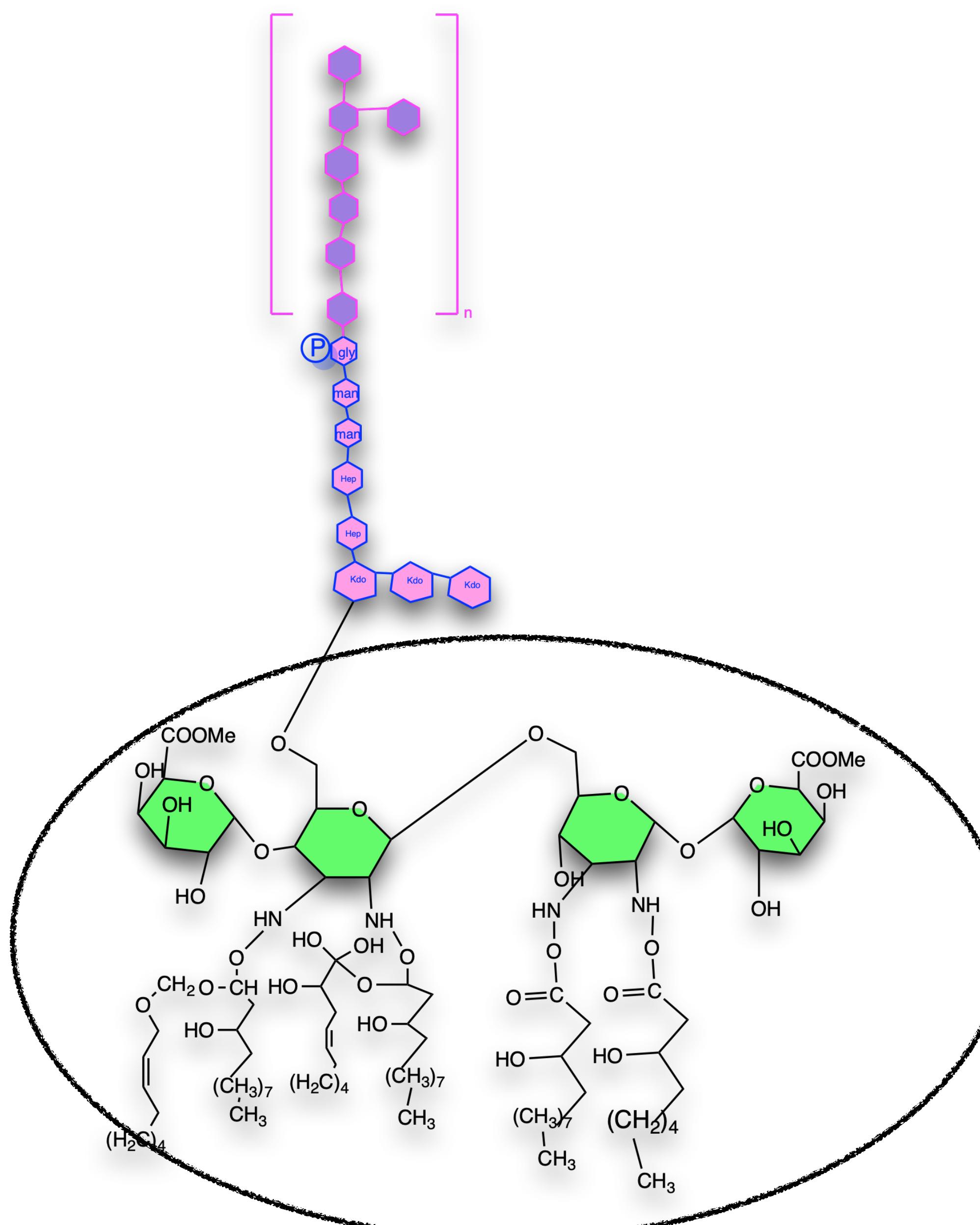
## Approach

Aim 1b. Build lipids in insane to run the simulations

Add the chemical structure of RLPS, SLPS, anionic ceramide  
on insane.py

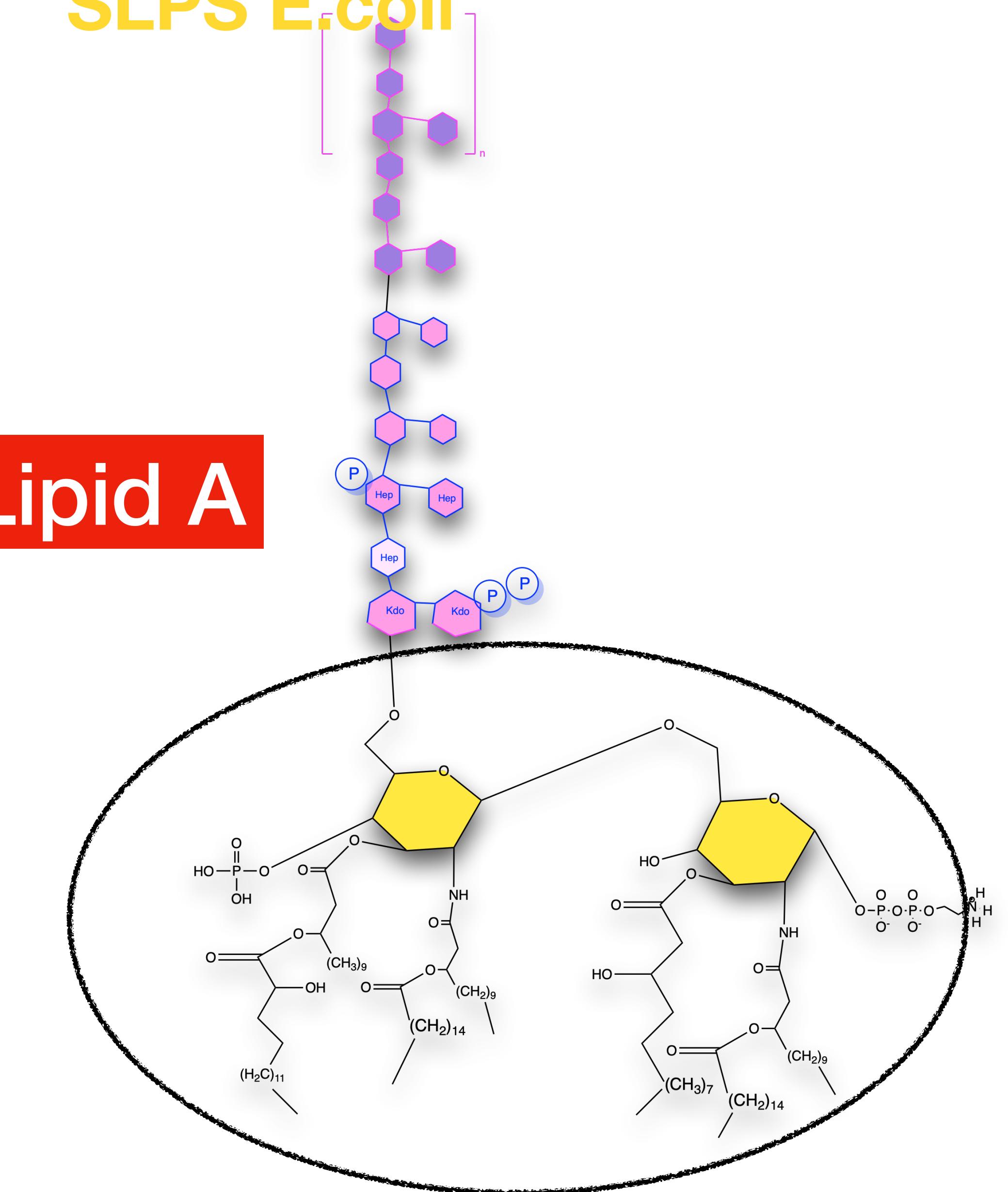
# Differences in chemicals structures LPS

SLPS C.crescentus



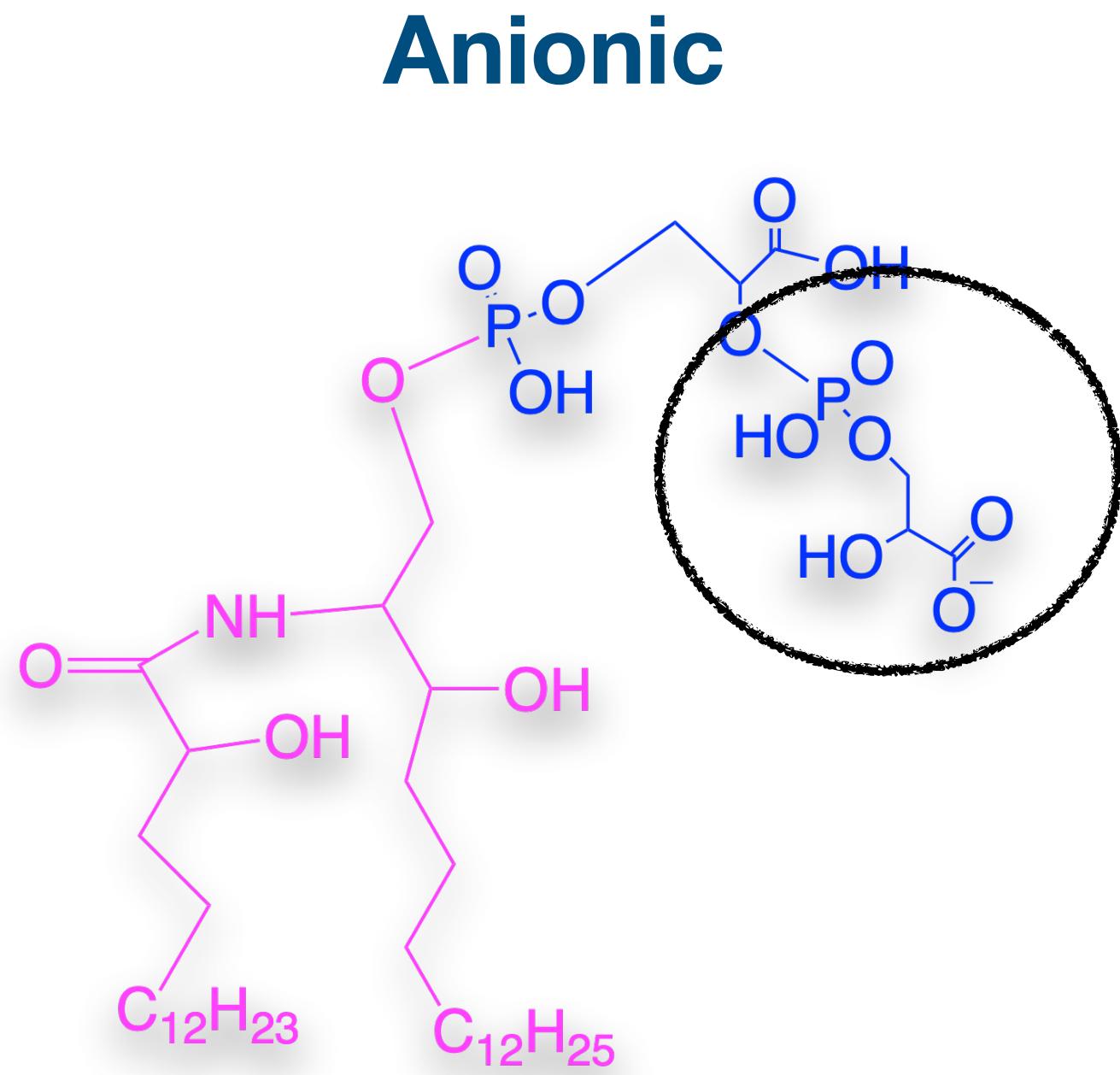
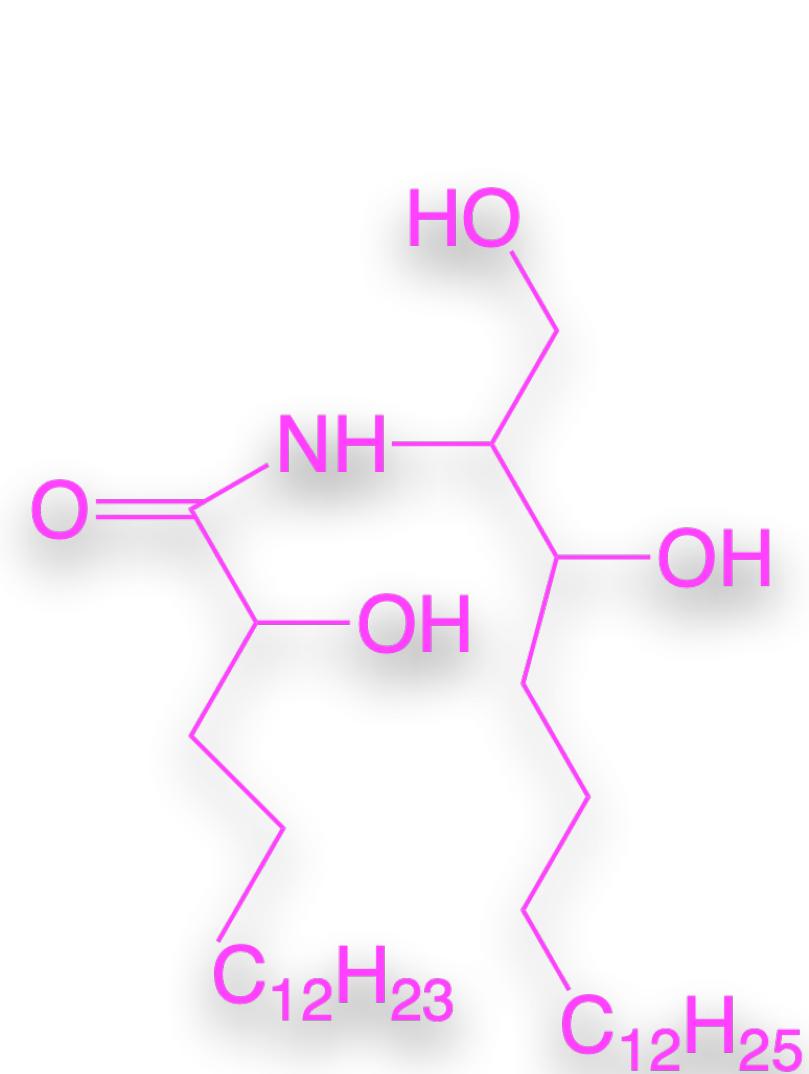
SLPS E.coli

Lipid A



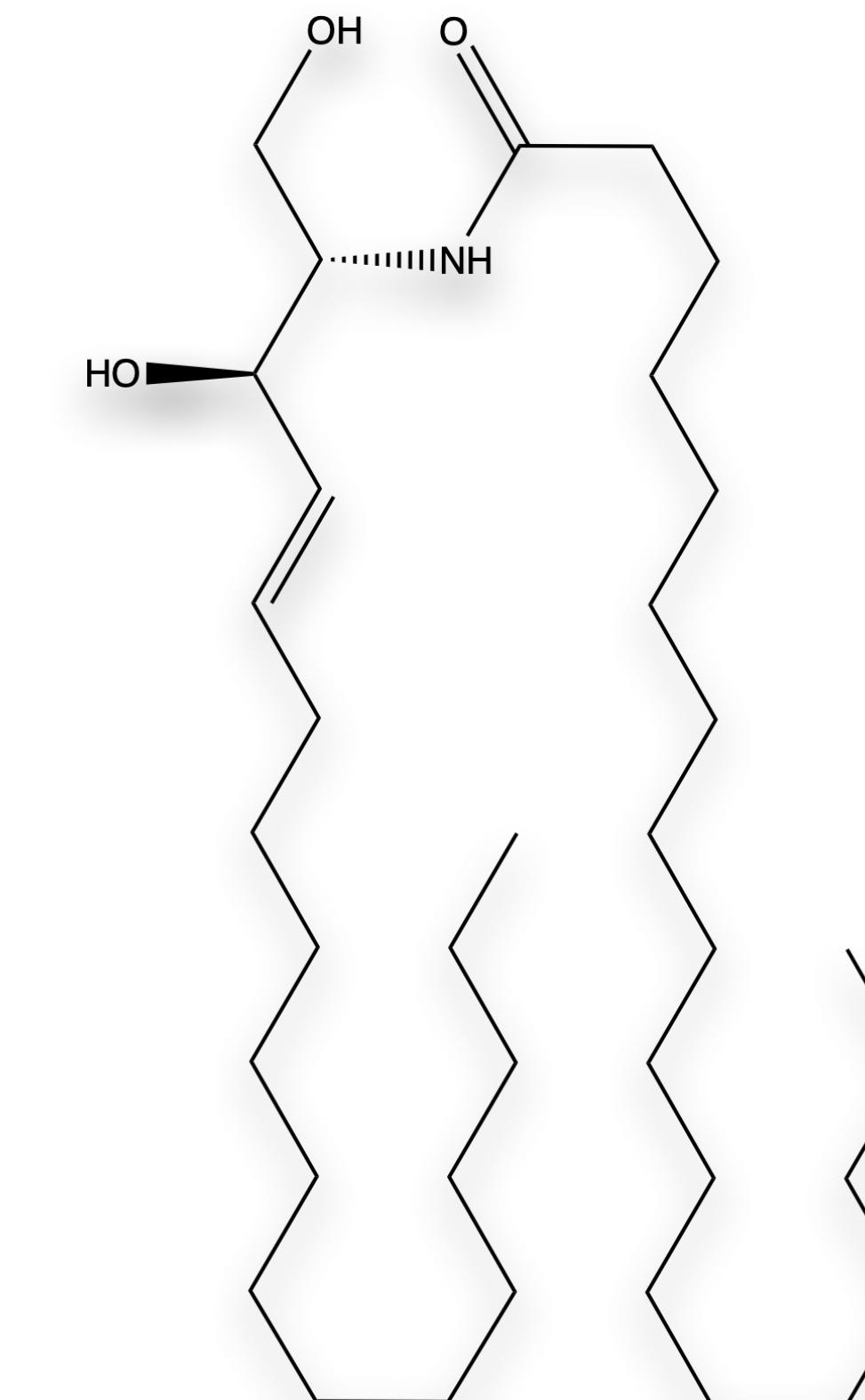
# Differences in chemicals structures ceramide

Ceramide C.crescentus



**HEADGROUP**

Ceramide E.coli



Aim 2. Run the simulations and analyze the density distribution of ceramide.

## Aim 2.Rationale

Aim 2. Run the simulations and analyze the density distribution of ceramide.

- To know where ceramide it is on the outer membrane.
- To know how ceramide it is distribute (bind) around BamA.

## Aim 2.Approach

Aim 2. Run the simulations and analyze the density distribution of ceramide.

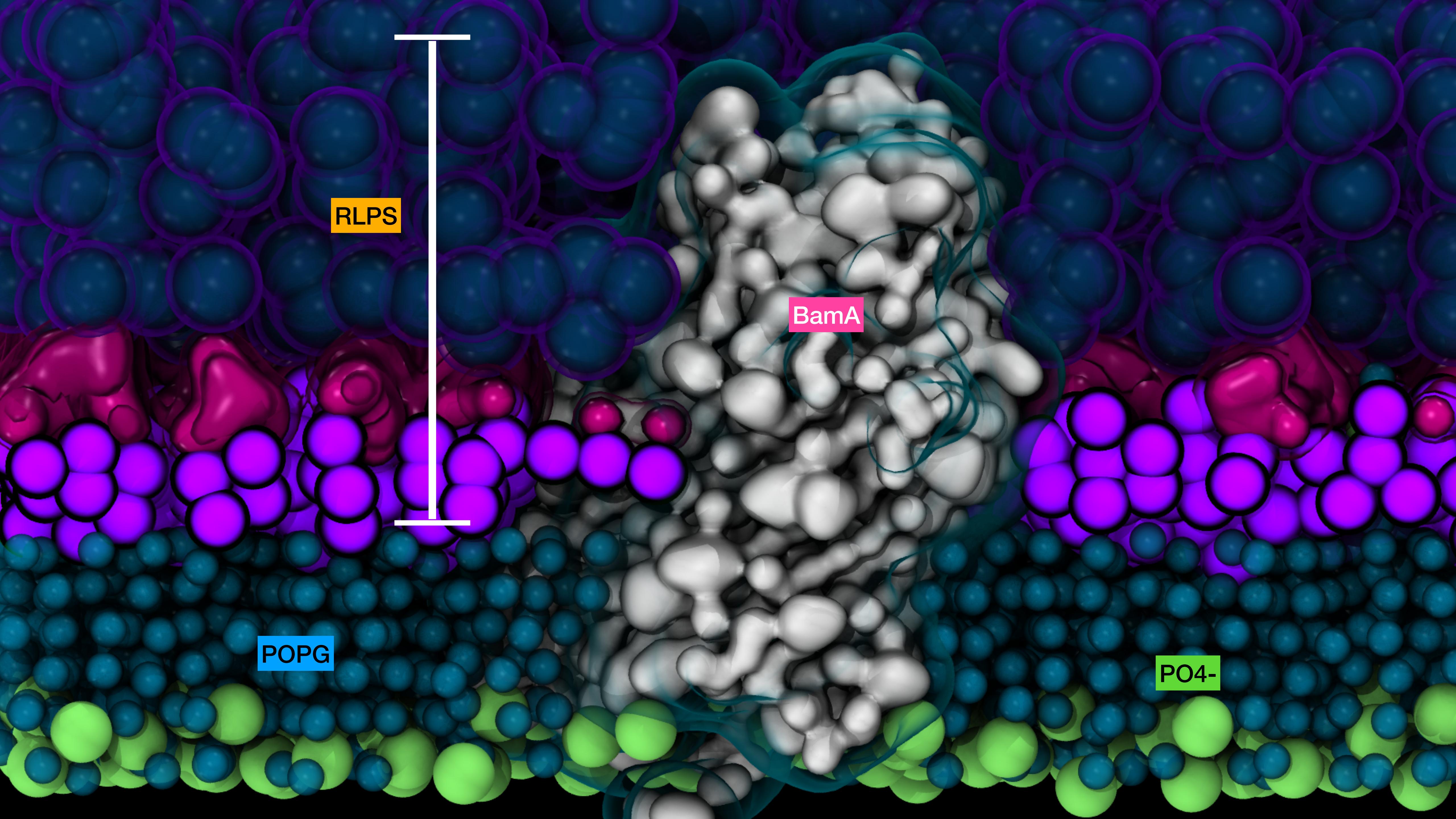
- Four sets of simulations to run :

RLPS:SLPS:POPG: Ceramide : Anionic Ceramide

2:2:1:1:X

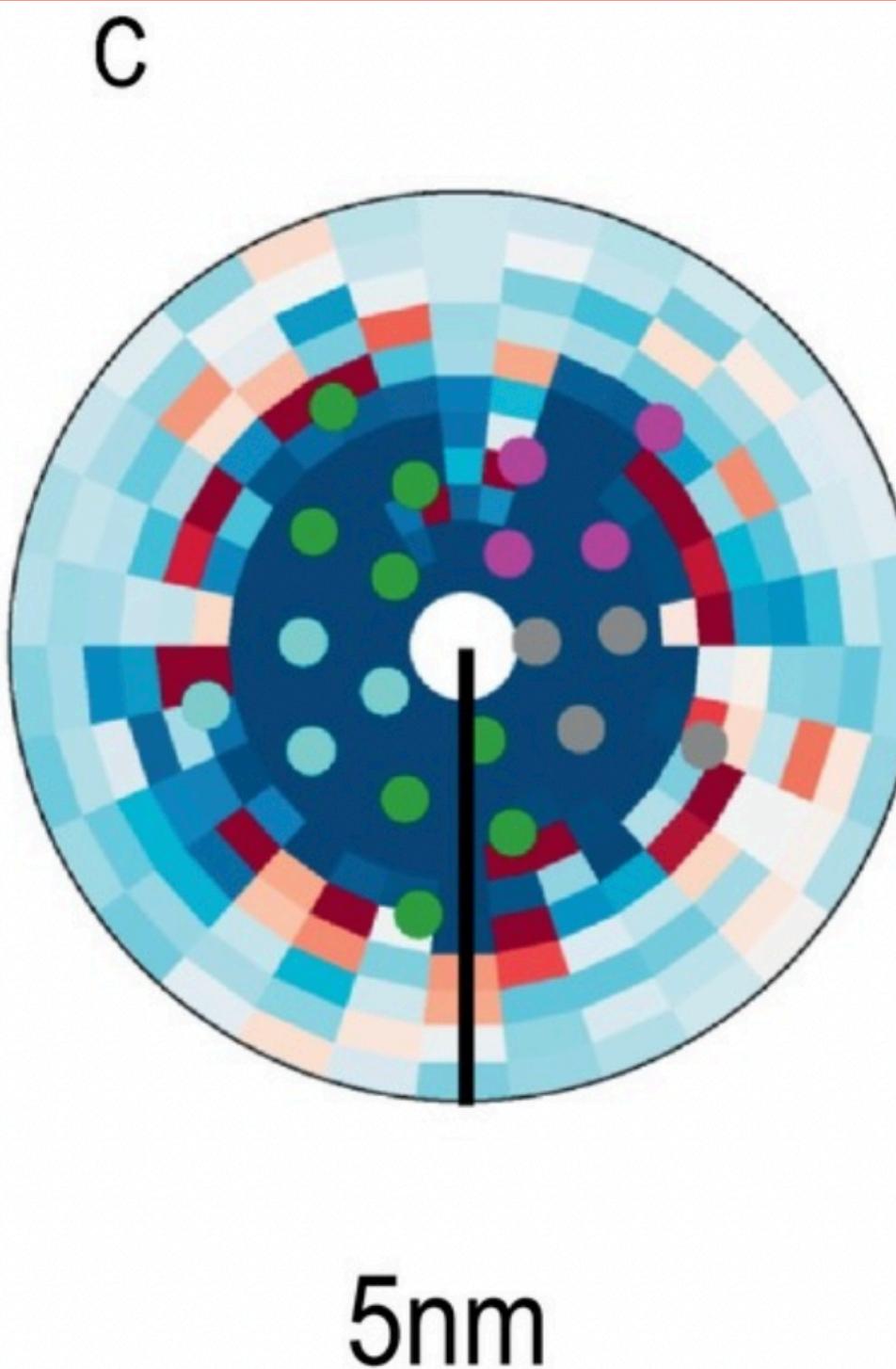
BamA open No AC	BamA close No AC
BamA open AC	BamA close AC

- Density distribution will be calculate with the software Nougat from Brannigan Lab.

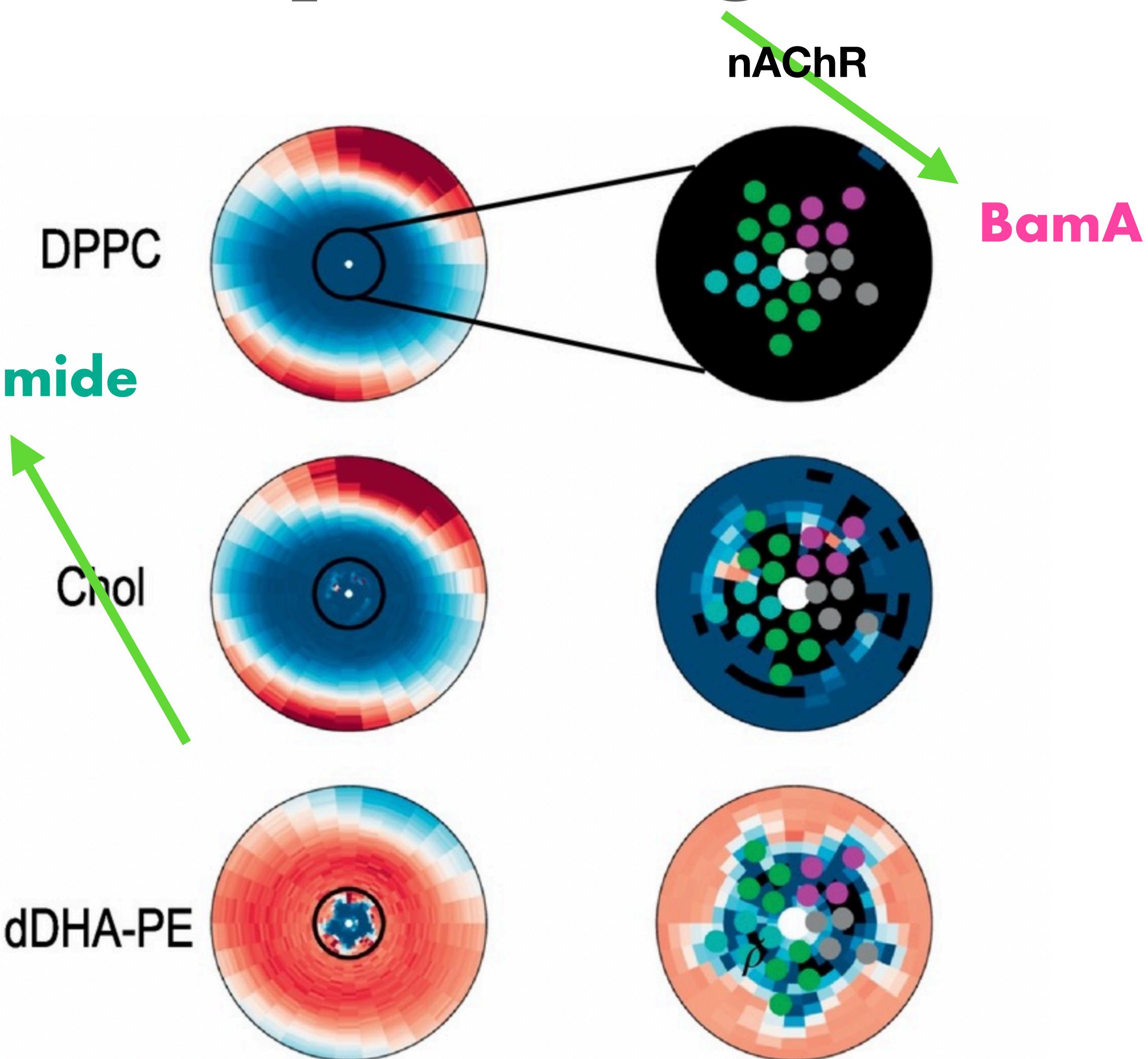
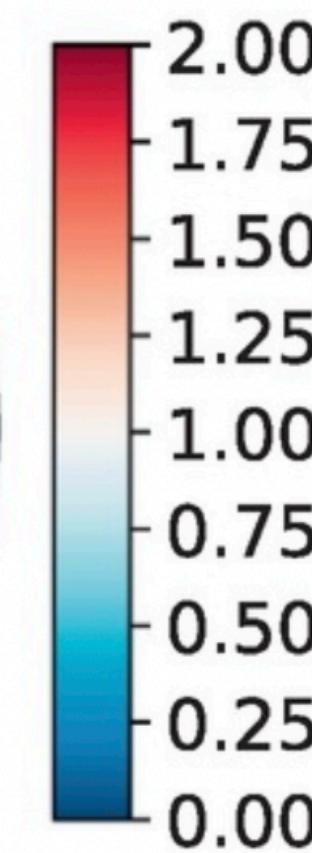


# Density Distribution by Nougat

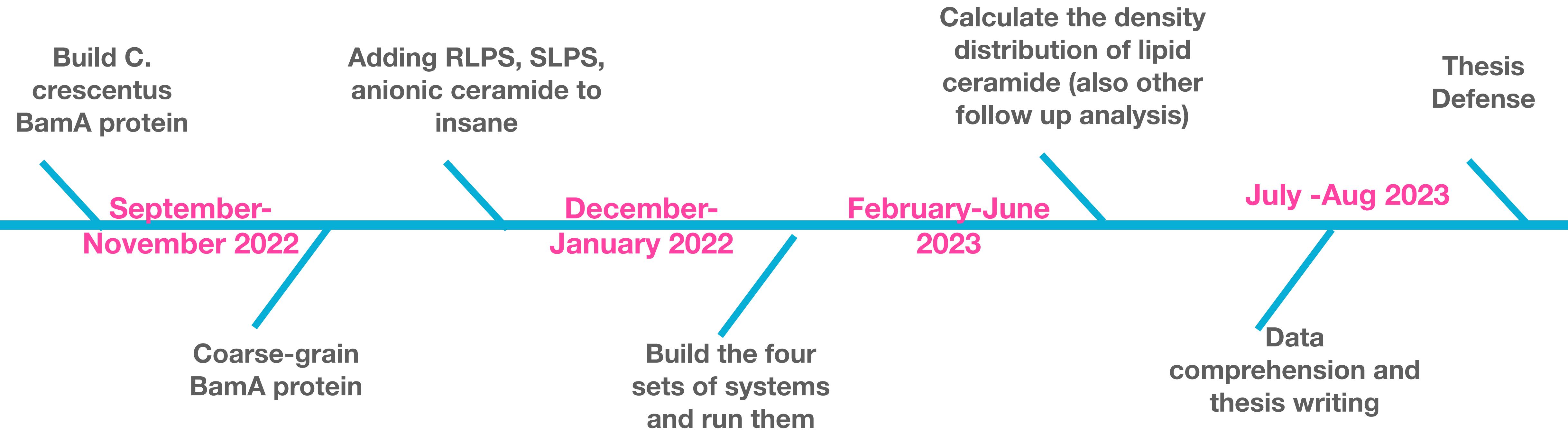
Normalized density ( $\tilde{\rho}$ ) of beads of lipid (Chol) around system of study nAChR



$\tilde{\rho}_{Chol}$



# Timeline



# Summary

**Main Question: Where does ceramide binds to BamA ?**

**Hypothesis: SLs regulates BamA complex activity by direct interactions with BamA protein.**

Aim 1a. Modelling the caulobacter BamA protein

Aim 1b. Build lipids in insane to run the simulations

Aim 2. Run the simulations and analyze the density distribution of ceramide.