# Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB) BB 101

Dr. Sandip Kaledhonkar

Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering

Email: sandipk@iitb.ac.in

Phone: 7706

# Systems and Control Engineering





Administration Academics Research Gallery FAQ's Contact Us People



Room Booking Status

#103 - Class Room

#104 - Seminar Room

The Systems and Control group, formed in 1977, is a unique interdisciplinary program in the country that offers post-graduate education in the broad area of Systems and Control. The nine faculty members of the group have varied research backgrounds, that includes nonlinear control, robotics, path-planning, embedded control, coordination of autonomous vehicles, multi-agent systems, game theory, information theory, combinatorics, sliding mode control and applications, fractional-order modelling and control, optimization and optimization-based control, and stochastic processes. Other faculty members of the institute with an interest in the field also participate in the activities of the group. The alumni of the group are employed in many reputed academic institutes, ISRO/DRDO and research laboratories, and corporate R & D units of the country.

# Feedback & control in complex systems

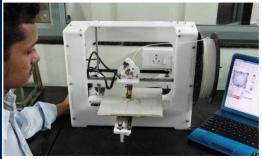
Air planes Air ships











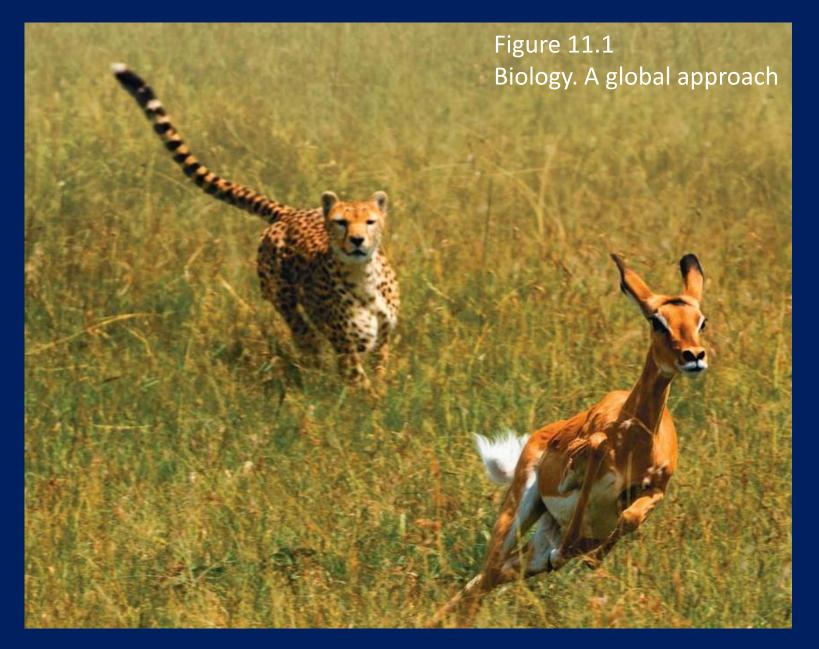






convert waste vegetable oil etc. to biodiesel

# Fight or flight

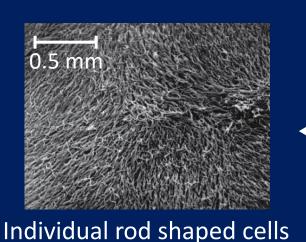


# Cellular messaging

- Based on visual and other sensory inputs,
   Adrenal glands secrete hormones
   These hormones trigger the metabolic responses
- When the prey is being hunted by the predator...
   Muscles perform at the highest level to run faster
   Heart beats faster carry more oxygen to muscles
   Breathing is accelearted need more oxygen
- Cells communicate with each other, coordinate with each other

How do cells talk to each other?

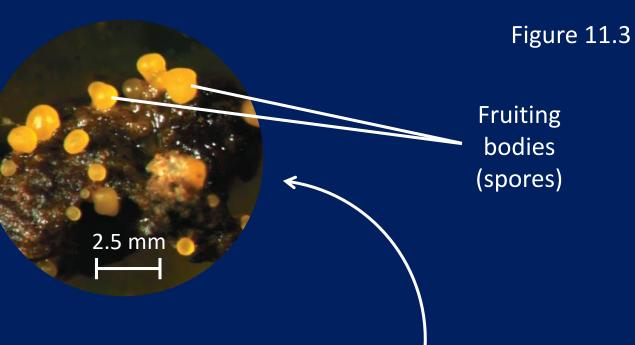
# Signaling is not unique to multi-cellular organisms



favourable conditions

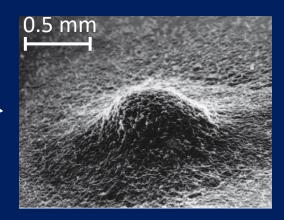
soil dwelling bacteria

Myxococcus xanthus



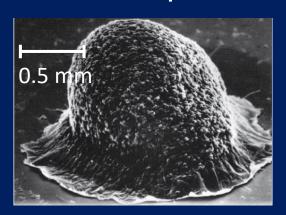
Food scarcity

Starving cells send out a chemical signal



Aggregation in progress

Cells collectively form fruiting body



Spore-forming structure (fruiting body)

### Quorum sensing

quorum: the smallest number of people who must be present at a meeting in order for decisions to be made (www.merriam-webster.com)

A concentration of signaling molecules allows bacteria to sense local population density in a process called quorum sensing

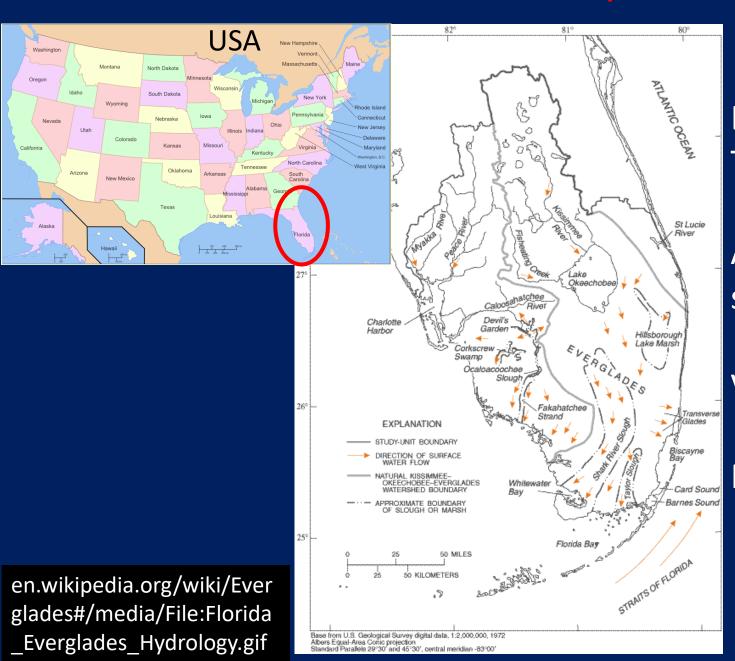
# Signaling mechanisms are conserved

Even unicellular organisms talk to each other

Mechanisms by which cells send/receive signals process the signal let other cells know about the signal...

Evolutionarily conserved...
same mechanisms are encountered again and again
mechanisms are universal

# Inch deep, mile wide



Everglades: a unique ecosystem Tropical wetlands

An unusual characteristic: very shallow but very wide

Vertical gradient: 2 inches per mile

River flow: half a mile a day

Source: Wikipedia

# Class 8: learning objectives

- Cell signaling in yeast concept of signal transduction
- Local and long distance signaling illustrative schematics
- Signal transduction an overview
- Illustrative examples
  - Reception
  - Transduction
  - Response

# Cell signaling in yeast

Yeast Can be haploid or diploid



Saccharomyces cerevisiae
False color electron micrograph

https://www.sciencenews.org/article/yeast-life-span-calorie-restriction-may-be-wash

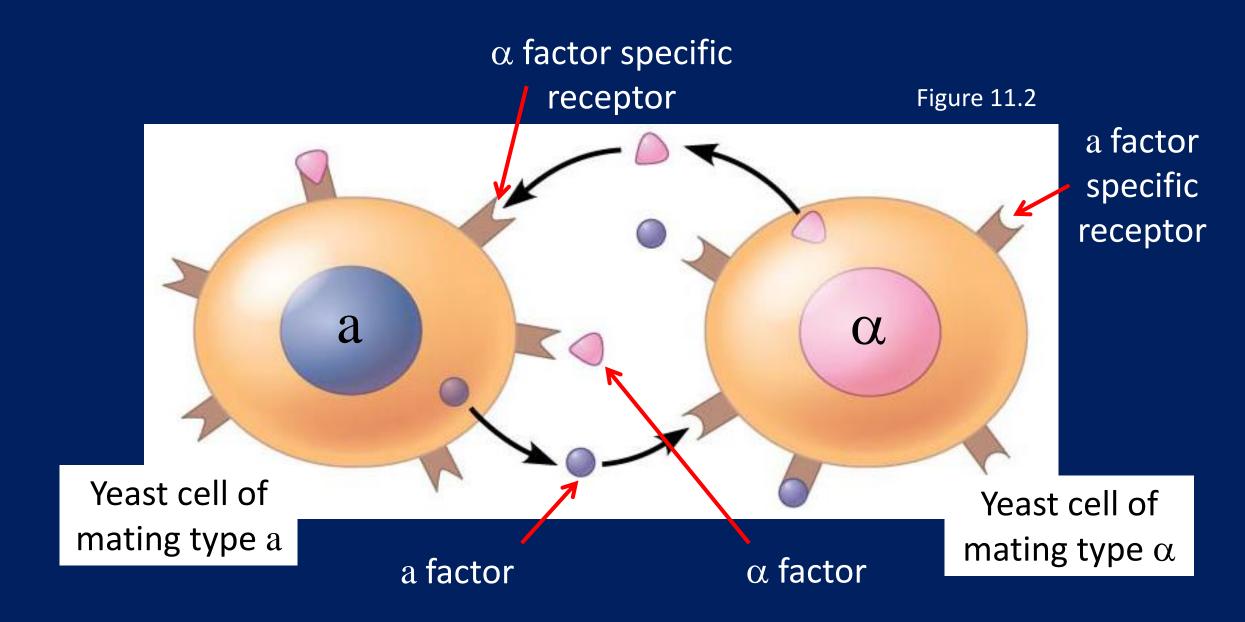
**HAPLOIDS** 

Mating type a

Mating type  $\alpha$ 

Can switch from a to  $\alpha$  during cell division

# Exchange of mating factors



# Mating

 $\boldsymbol{a}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$  factors bind to their respective receptors

Trigger responses inside the cell

Responses lead to fusion of the two yeast cells

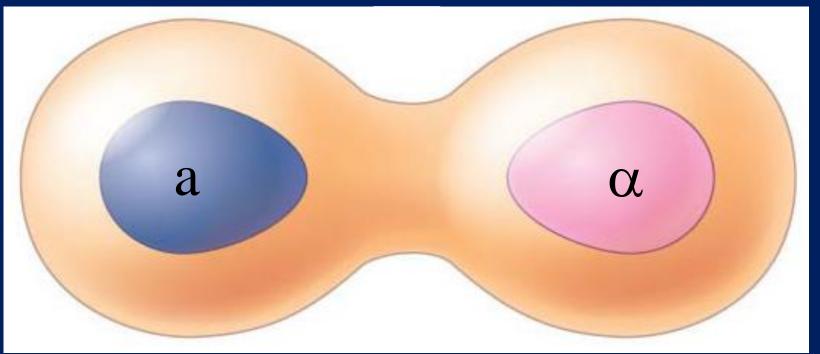
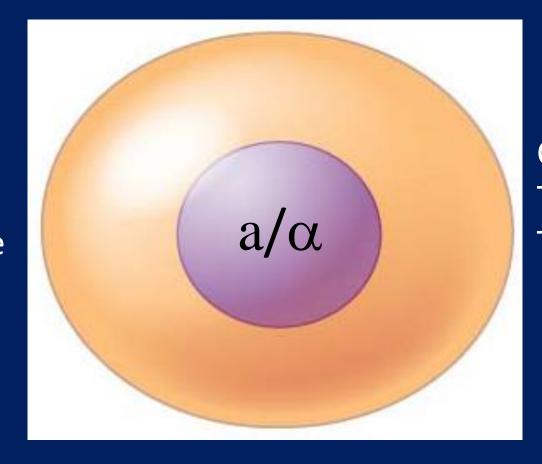


Figure 11.2

# Formation of an $a/\alpha$ diploid cell

Nucleus of the fused cell includes all genes from both a and  $\alpha$  cells

Can undergo mitosis Two diploids Both will be  $a/\alpha$  type



Can undergo meiosis Two type a haploids Two type  $\alpha$  haploids

Figure 11.2

# Signal transduction

transduce (*verb*): to convert energy or message into another form (www.merriam-webster.com)

Communication among microbes... insight into cell communication in multicellular organisms

A chemical outside a cell...
triggers a response inside the cell

Mating in yeast...
illustrates the concept of cell surface receptors
intra-cellular signal transduction in response to an external signal

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# Local (neighbor) signaling

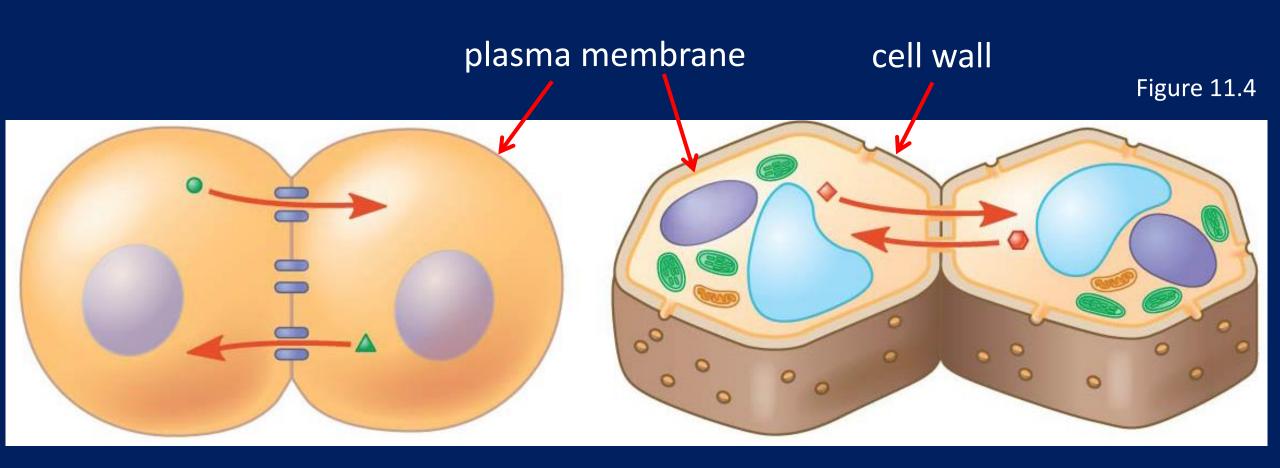
Local signaling: cells communicate by direct contact

Animal and plant cells have cell junctions

These junctions directly connect the cytoplasm of adjacent cells

Signaling substances can pass freely between adjacent cells

# Cell junctions

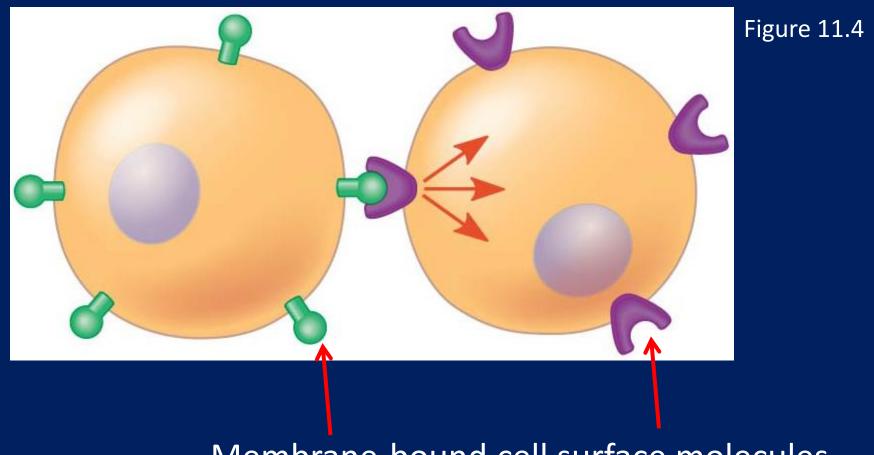


gap junctions (animal cells)

plasmodesmata (plant cells)

# Cell-cell recognition

In embryonic development and immune response



Membrane-bound cell surface molecules

### Paracrine signaling

 Animal cells communicate using secreted messenger molecules that travel only short distances

para- means nearby, beside

Examples

Growth factors – stimulate nearby target cells to grow and divide

Neurotransmitters – transmit signal from one nerve cell to another

Paracrine signaling in plants: not well understood

# Paracrine signaling

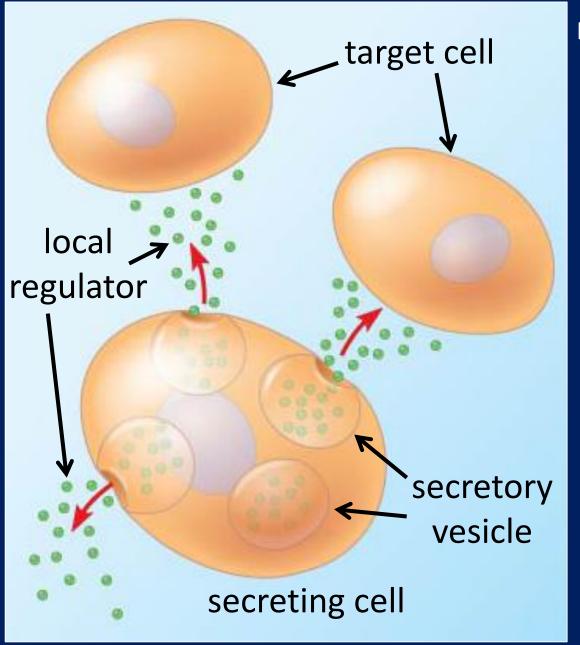


Figure 11.5

# Synaptic signaling

neuron neurotransmitter vesicle neurotransmitter synapse target neuron (gets stimulated)

Figure 11.5

Electrical signals trigger release of neuro-transmitters

# Long distance signaling: hormones

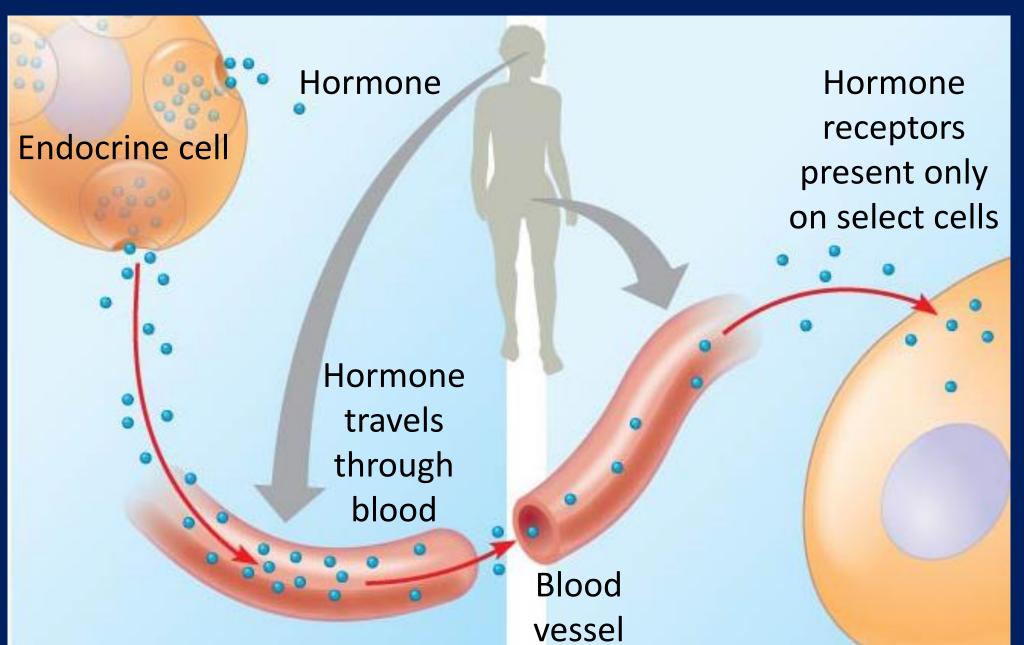
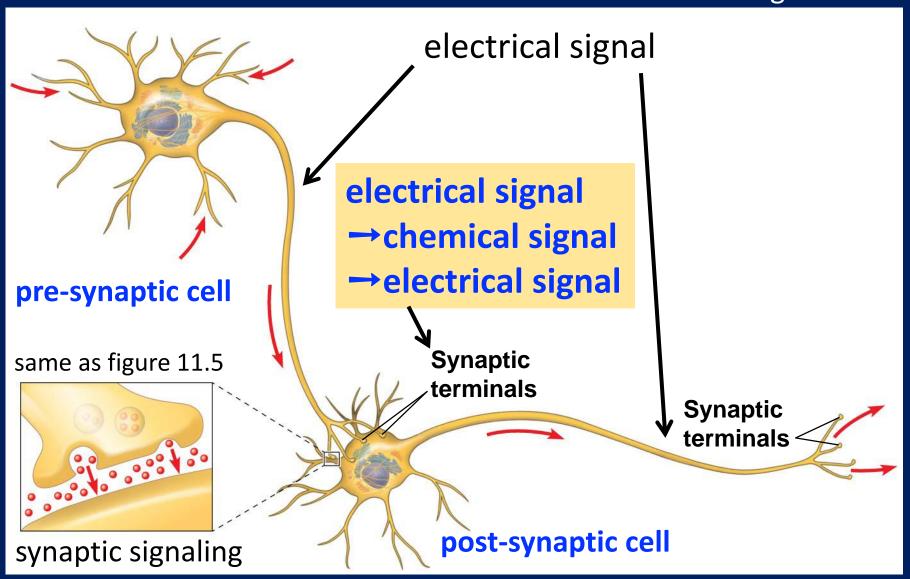


Figure 11.5

# Long distance signaling: nerve impulses

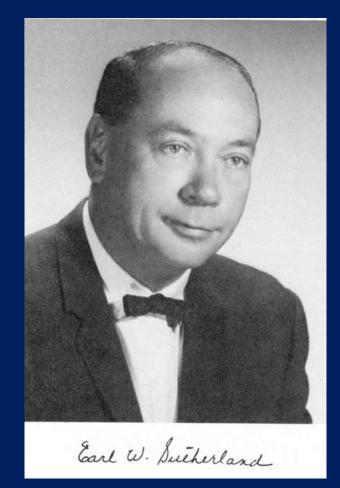
Figure 48.4



# Class 8: learning objectives

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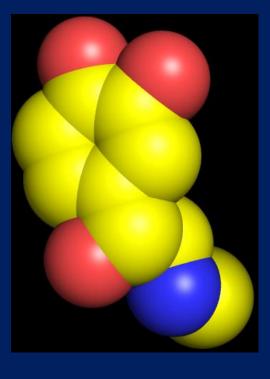
# How does adrenaline mobilize energy?



Earl W. Sutherland Nobel prize in 1971 Vanderbilt University

Figure 9.1. Biology. A global approach

from 4LDO.pdb



Molecular model of adrenaline

www.nasonline.org

# Signal transduction: three stages

# Reception

knock on the door

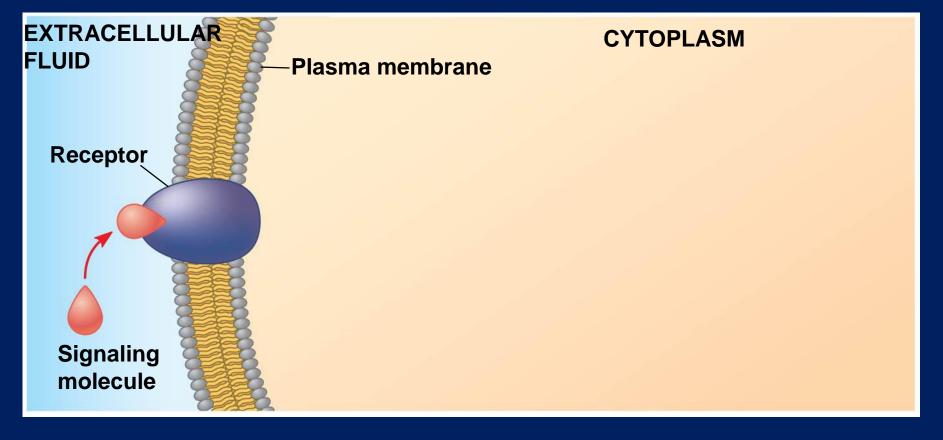
# **Transduction**

domestic help opens the door talks to the visitor



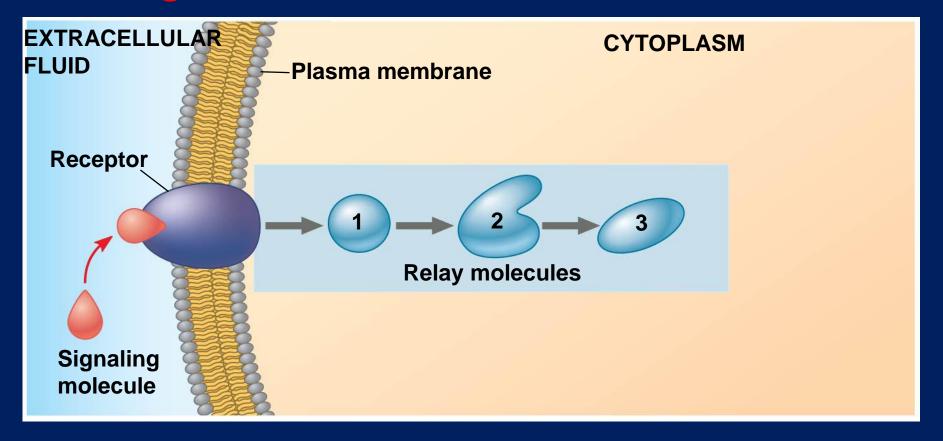
informs the Master of the house Master acts on the message

# Signal transduction: 1. Reception



A signaling molecule binds to a cell surface receptor Receptor is on the target cell Figure 11.6

# Signal transduction: 2. Transduction



Binding leads to a change in the shape of the receptor Shape change leads to a cellular response Can be in one step; often, in multiple steps involves relay molecules

Figure 11.6

# Signal transduction: 3. Response

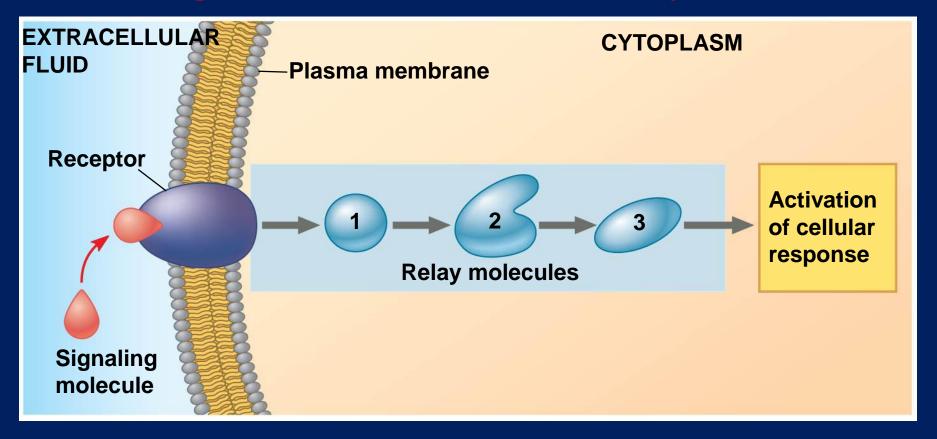


Figure 11.6

#### Response can be of different types:

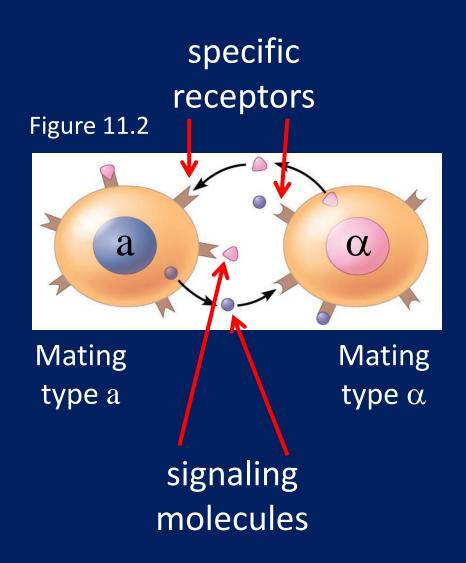
- 1. Catalysis of a reaction by an enzyme
- 2. Rearrangement of the cytoskeleton
- 3. Activation of specific genes (gene expression)

# Signal reception by mobiles



Cells have a variety of receptors; signaling molecules are also varied Signaling molecules and receptors bind only their respective partners

# Exchange of mating factors



Signaling molecule = LIGAND

Receptor and ligand have complementarity
This ensures specificity

Receptors are cell surface molecules

Ligand binding induces shape change

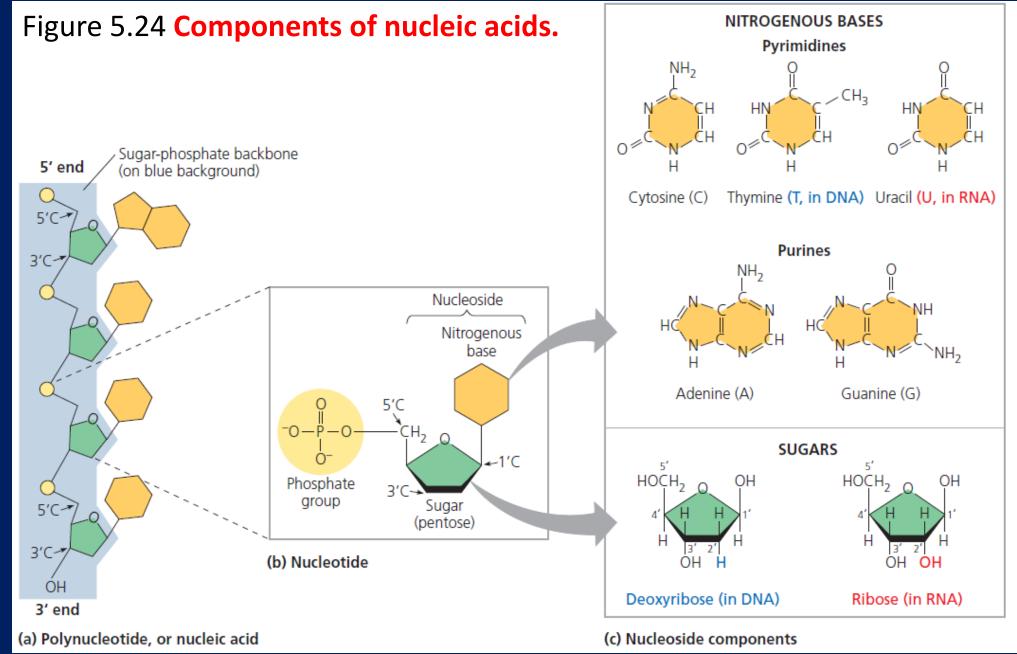
Shape change can

- a) directly trigger a response
- b) relay the signal to trigger a response

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BB101 Biology Autumn 2016-



### **Nucleotides in DNA**

5'-end CH3 3'-end

Figure 16.5

Thymine (T)

Adenine (A)

Nitrogenous bases

Cytosine (C)

Guanine (G)

A nucleotide

Sugar

phosphate

backbone

#### Dual role of nucleotides

Nucleotides have other roles also

ATP is an energy currency

GTP, CTP, TTP, UTP (from uracil) are also energy currencies, but far less widely used than ATP

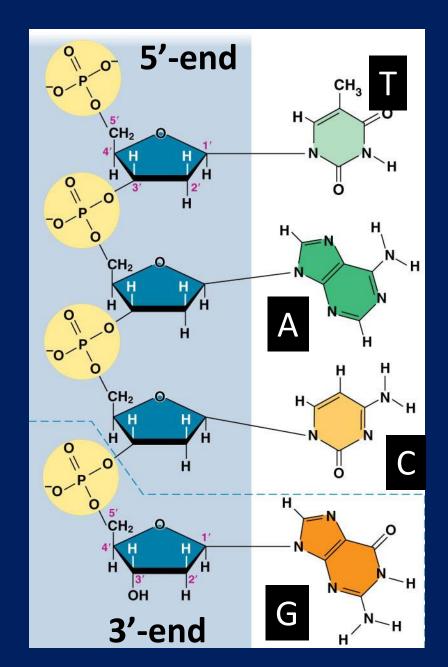
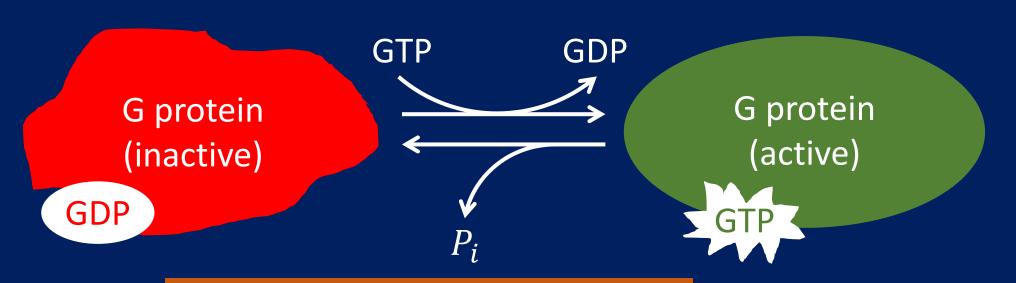


Figure 16.5

GTP plays an important role in signal transduction

### **G** proteins

- G proteins are a large family of proteins found ubiquitously
- They act as molecular switches
- Exchange GTP/GDP as part of signaling events



Energy is spent in conversion from active to inactive state

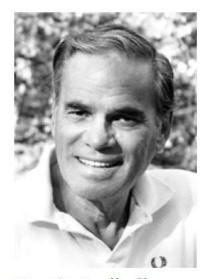
Change in shape or conformation

### **G** proteins

# The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 1994



Alfred G. Gilman Prize share: 1/2

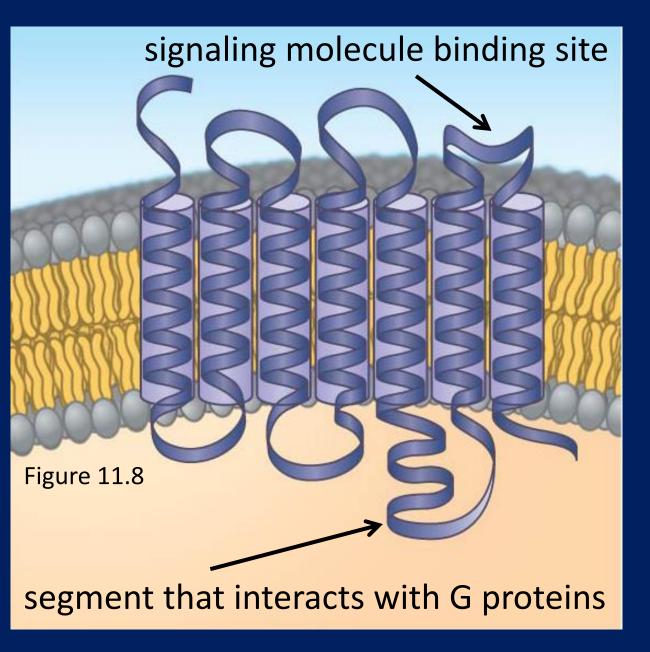


Martin Rodbell
Prize share: 1/2

Discovered while working with impure ATP

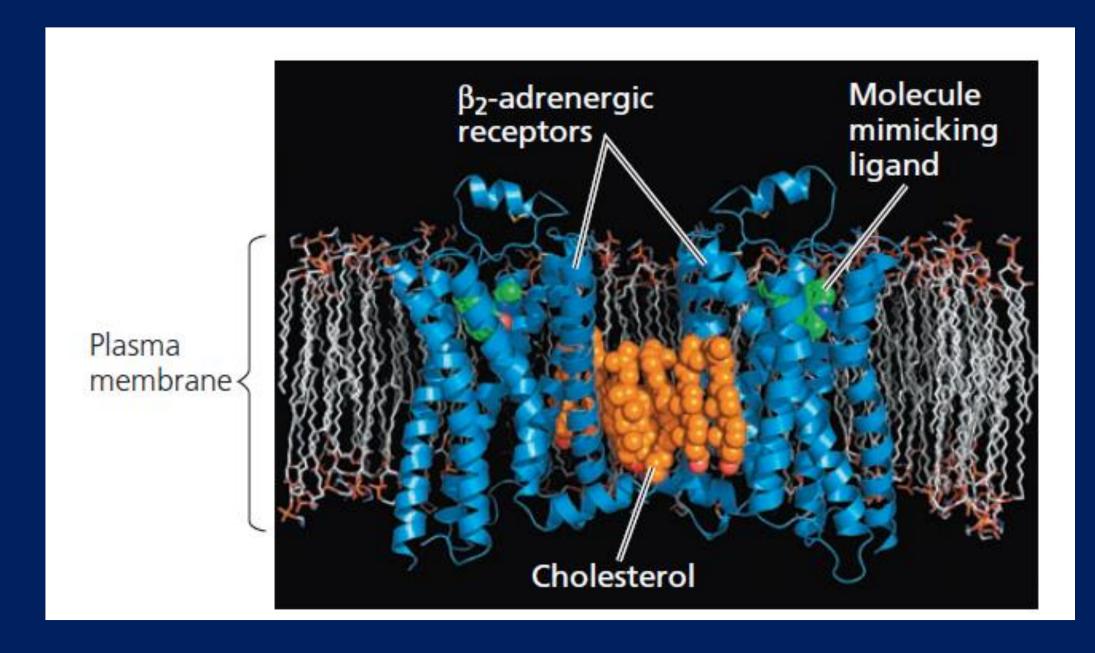
The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 1994 was awarded jointly to Alfred G. Gilman and Martin Rodbell "for their discovery of G-proteins and the role of these proteins in signal transduction in cells"

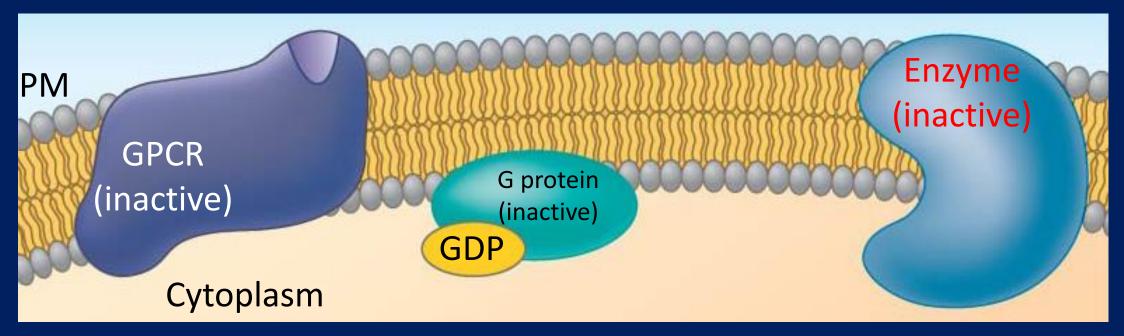
### G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs)



- Extremely widespread
- Involved in a variety of processes embryonic development vision, taste, smell, ...
- Involved in several human diseases e.g., cholera, pertussis, botulism
- ~60% of all medicines used today target GPCRs
- Share a common architecture seven transmembrane receptors

# G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs)





GPCR is in an inactive conformation
G protein is also inactive (since it is bound to GDP)
Enzyme is also inactive (since it is NOT bound by G protein)

Figure 11.8

Ligand binding site of GPCR is on the outside G protein binding site of GPCR is on the inside

PM: plasma membrane

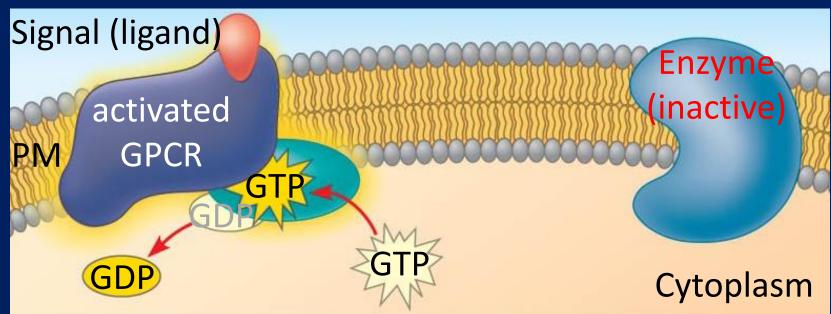
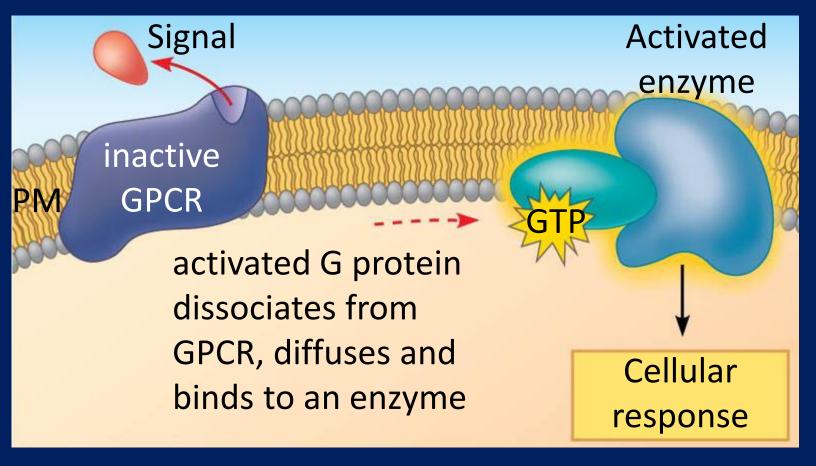


Figure 11.8

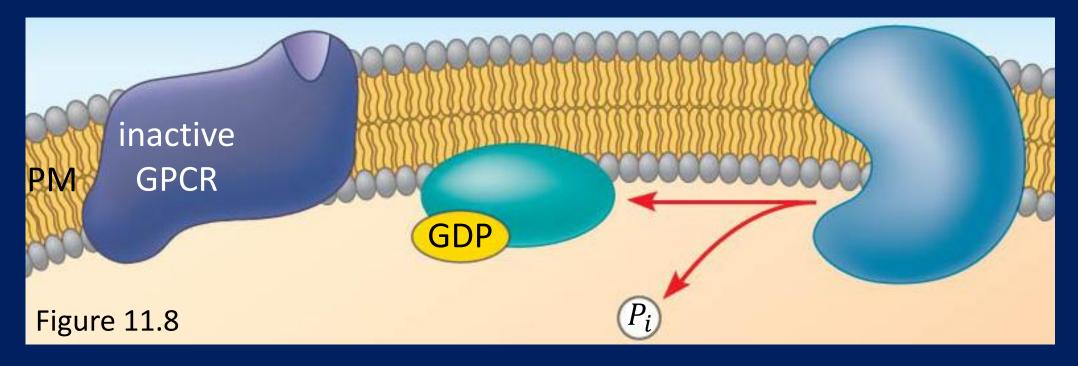
- 1. Signaling molecule (ligand) binds to GPCR on the outside
- 2. Binding induces change of shape (conformation)
- 3. Change of shape leads to binding of G-protein on the inside
- 4. Binding leads to exchange of GDP with GTP
- 5. GTP binding activates the G protein

Reversible binding of the signal (ligand) [ligand] determines  $binding \rightleftharpoons dissociation$ 

Figure 11.8



Activated enzyme triggers a cellular response



- Changes in the enzyme and G protein are transient
- G protein has GTPase activity hydrolyzes GTP to GDP and P<sub>i</sub>
- G protein is now GDP-bound dissociates from the enzyme
   This is a built-in controlling mechanism

## Ligand-gated ion channel

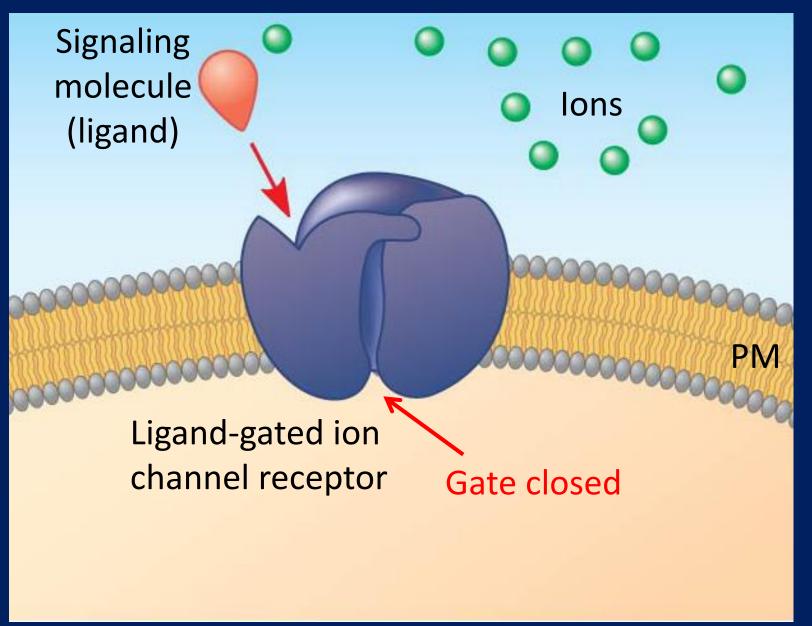


Figure 11.8

# Ligand-gated ion channel

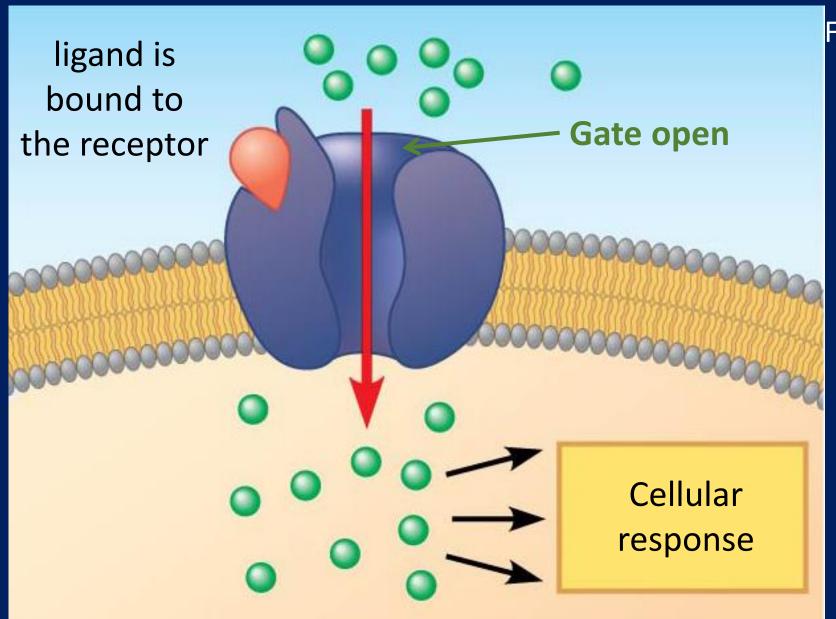
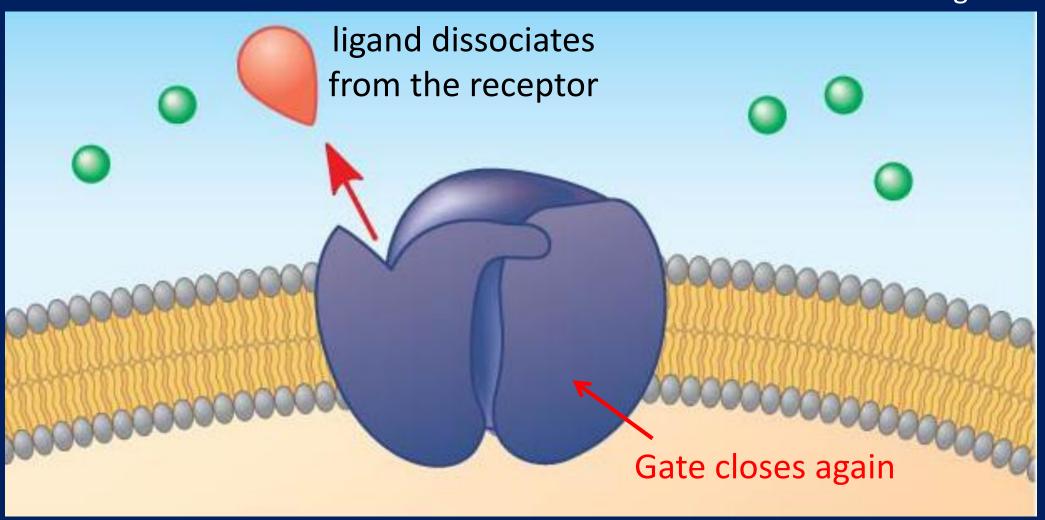


Figure 11.8

# Ligand-gated ion channel

Figure 11.8



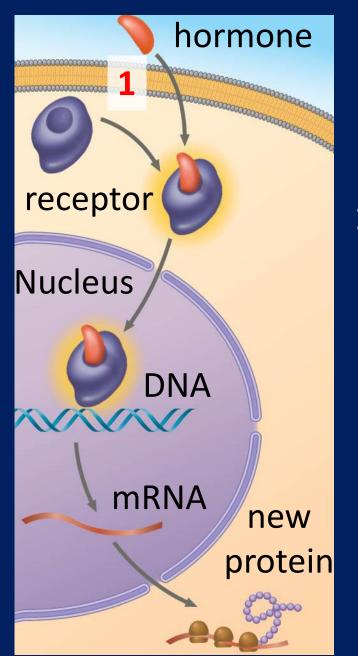


Figure 11.9

The steroid hormone passes through the cell membrane

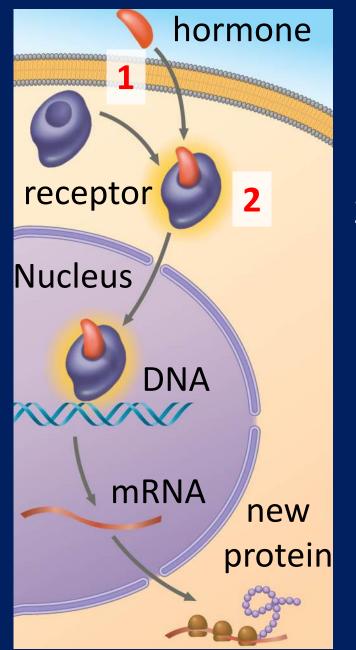


Figure 11.9

Hormone binds to its specific receptor in the cytoplasm

Binding activates the receptor

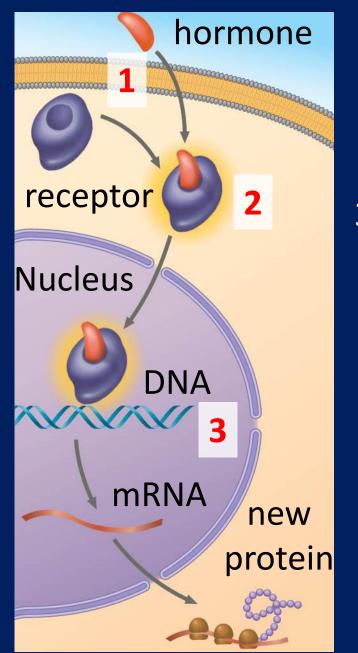


Figure 11.9

3. Hormone – receptor complex enters the nucleus

Binds to specific genes on the chromosome

Binding triggers transcription

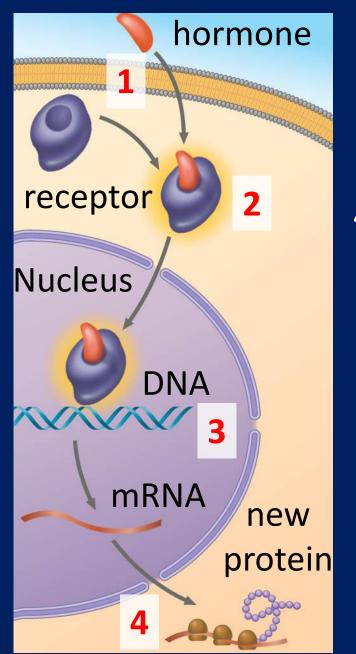


Figure 11.9

4. Specific protein is synthesized

With the synthesis of the protein, signaling is complete

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#### Cascade

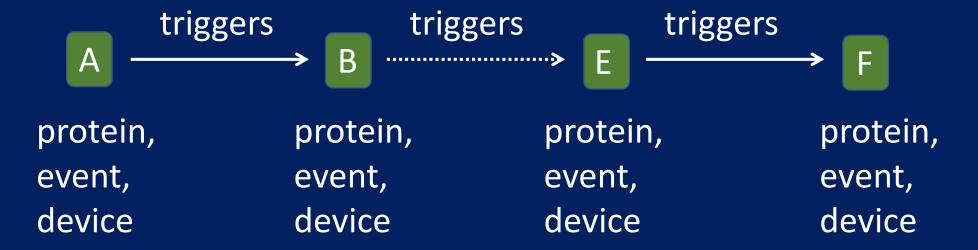


cascade (noun)

- A small, steep waterfall
- A large number of things that happen quickly in a series

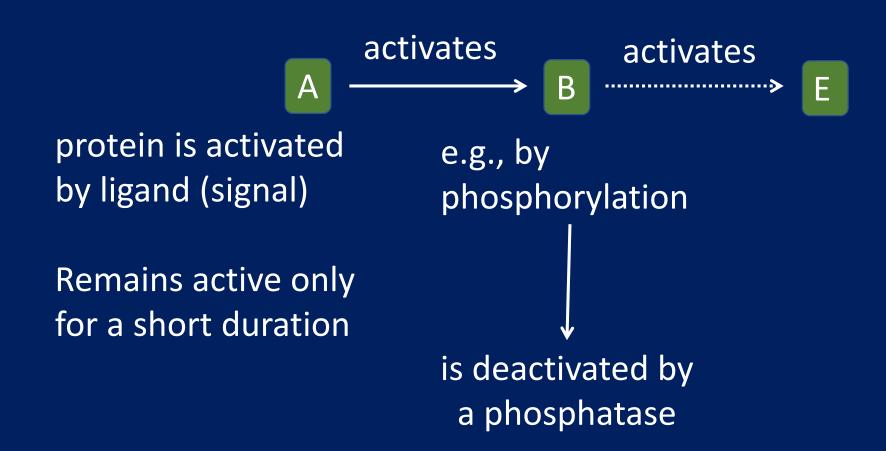
(www.merriam-webster.com)

#### Cascade



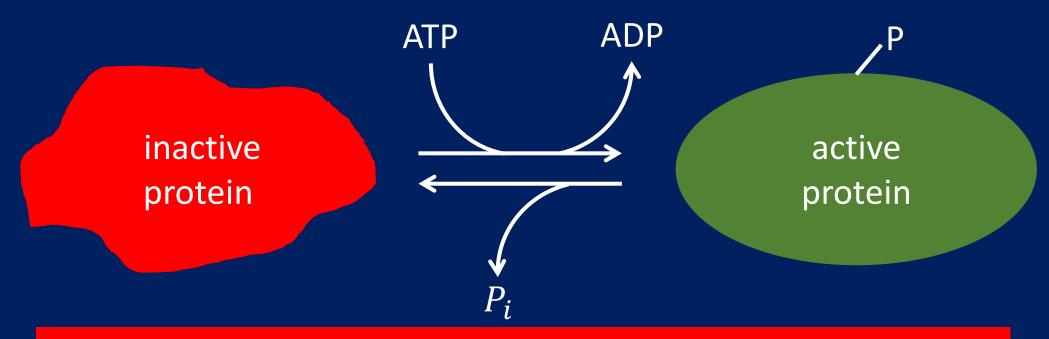
What is the advantage?

#### Cascade



### Kinase and phosphatase

Kinase (an enzyme which phosphorylates the protein)

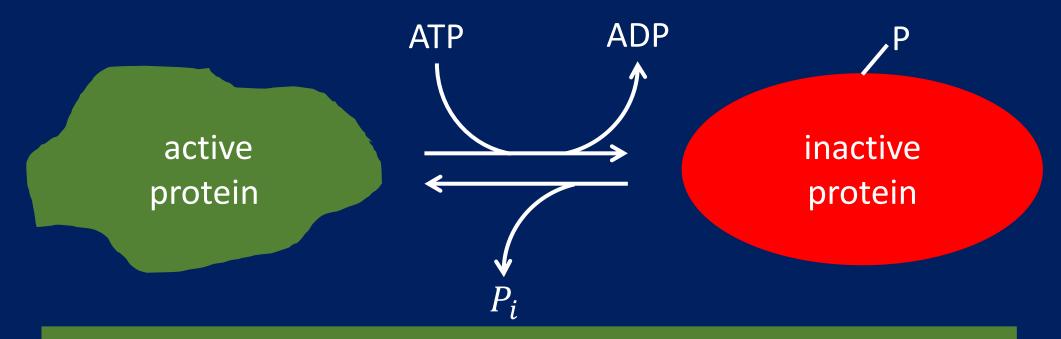


Phosphatase (an enzyme which dephosphorylates the protein)

Phosphorylation – dephosphorylation bring about shape (conformation) changes

### Kinase and phosphatase

Kinase (an enzyme which phosphorylates the protein)



Phosphatase (an enzyme which dephosphorylates the protein)

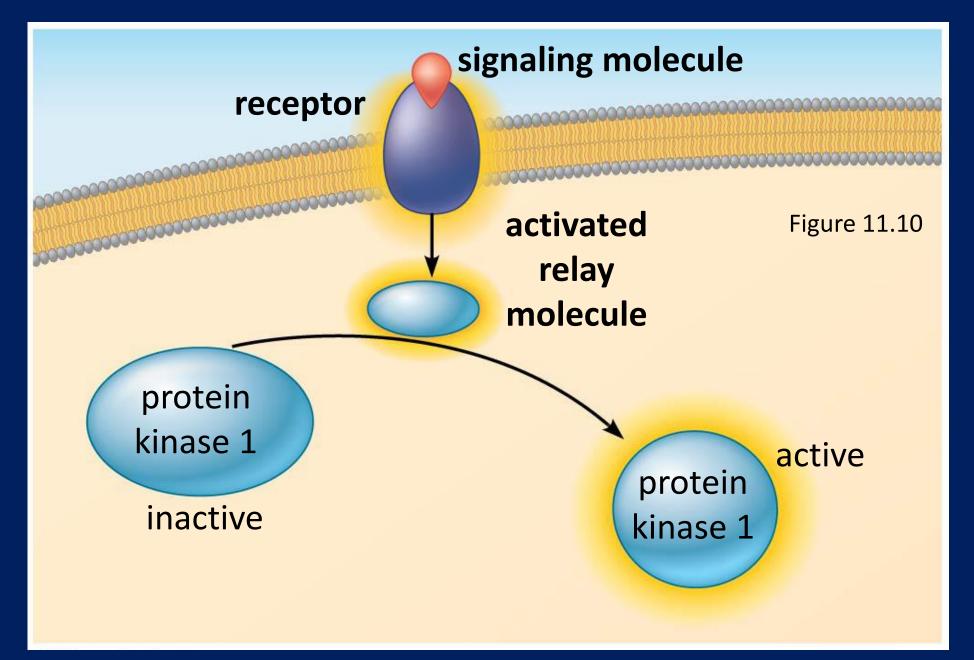
Phosphorylation – dephosphorylation bring about shape (conformation) changes

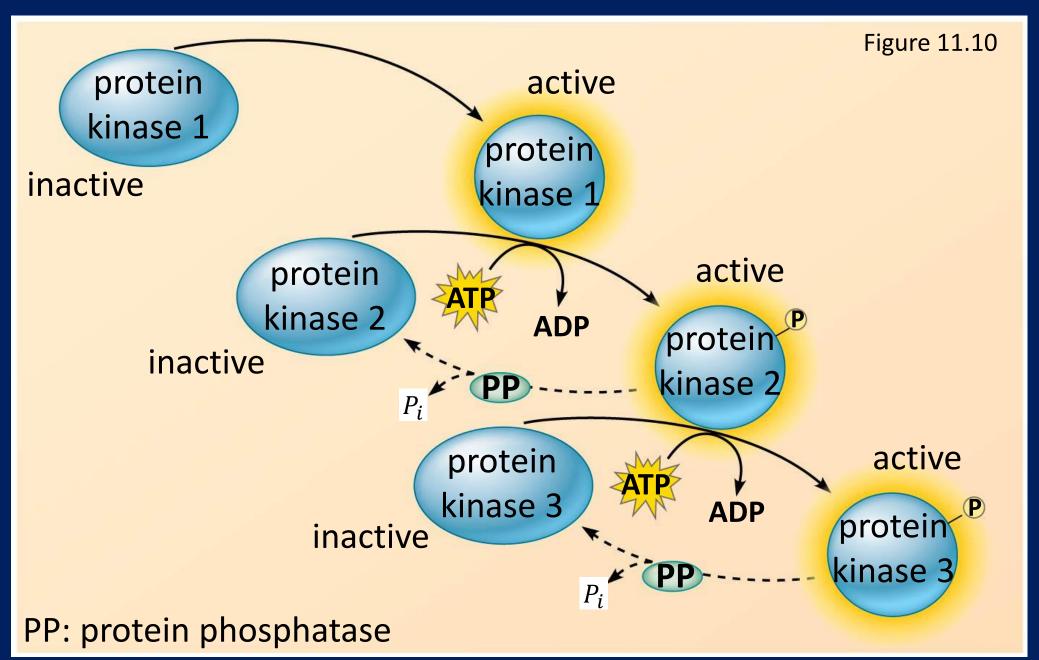


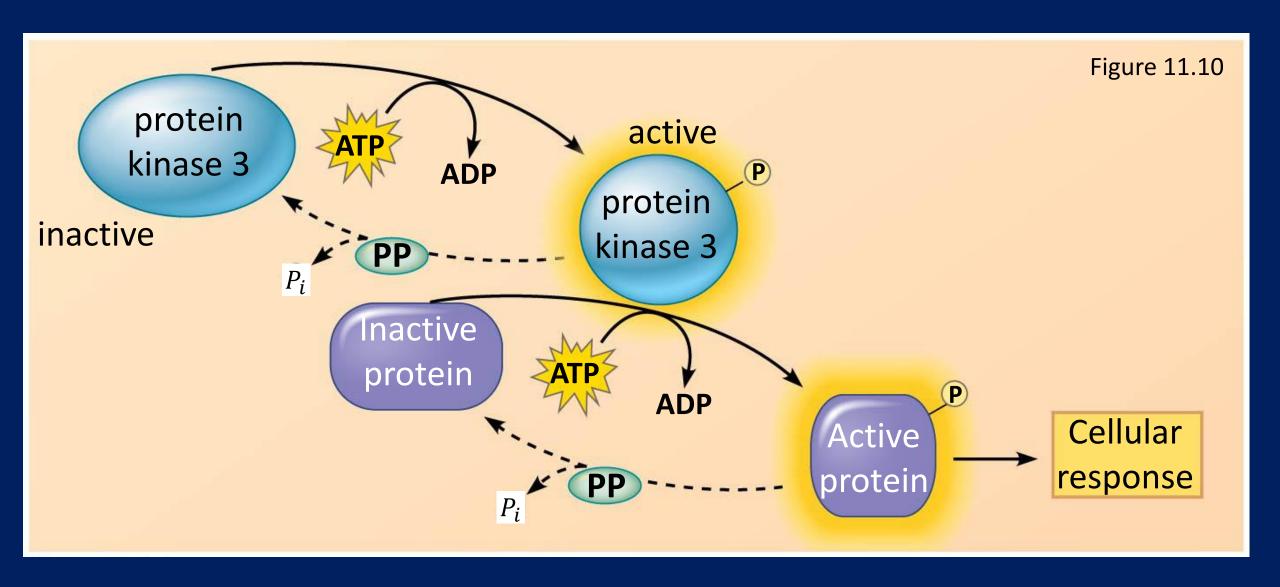
Signal transduction usually involves multiple steps

**Dominos** 

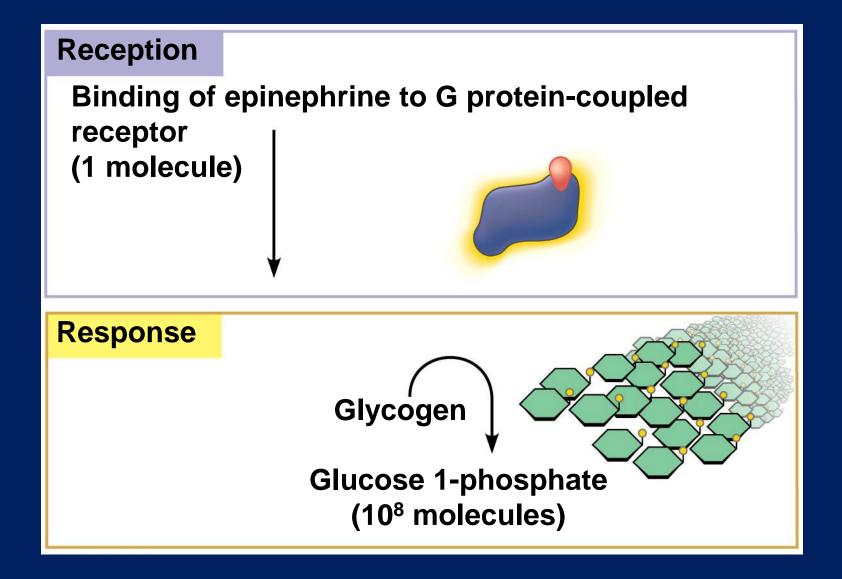
- Multistep pathways can greatly amplify a signal
- Binding of ligand to the receptor triggers the first step
- Domino effect: sequential activation of proteins
- Each step involves signal transduction usually, a change in the shape of a protein



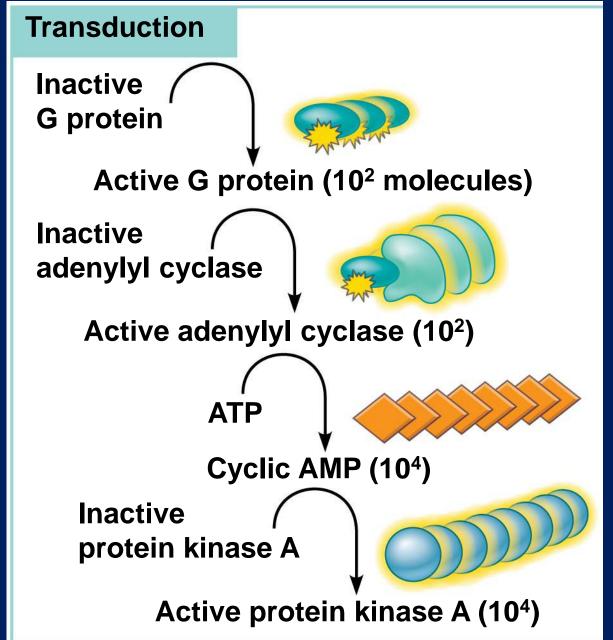




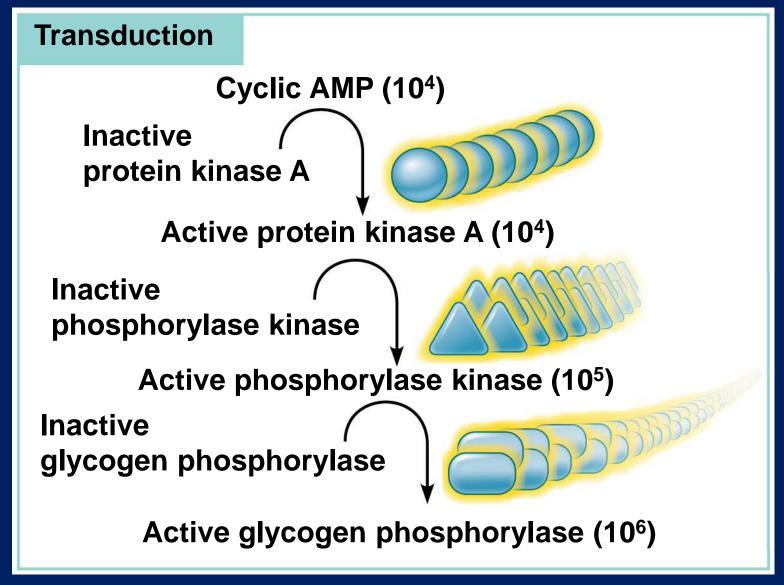
# Signal amplification by cascades



# Signal amplification by cascades



## Signal amplification by cascades

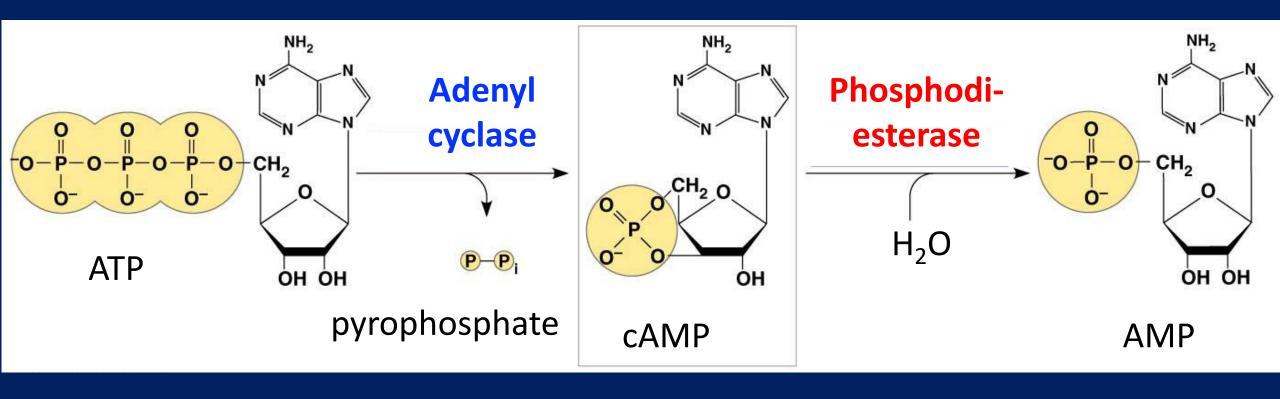


### Second messenger

AMP: adenosine monophosphate

cyclic AMP: cAMP

Figure 11.11



# cAMP and G protein signaling pathway

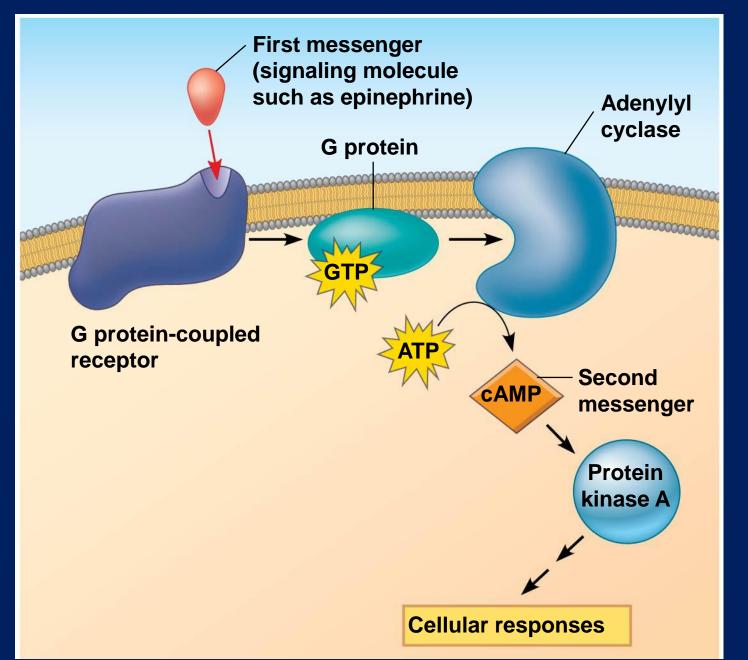


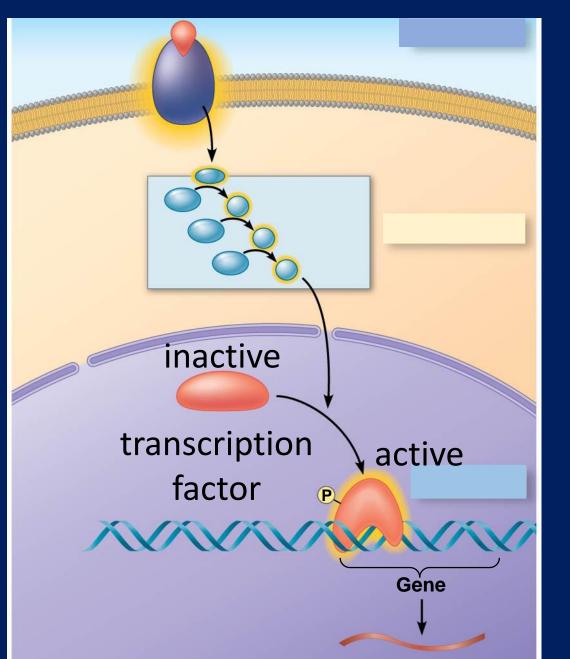
Figure 11.12

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## Response

Figure 11.15



Reception

**Transduction** 

Response