

BB 101: MODULE II  
***PHYSICAL BIOLOGY***

# Review

- Proteins and their structures
- Proteins are free energy minimizers
- Microstate and Macrostate
- Relations  $G = H - TS$  and  $G = -k_B T \ln Z$
- $S = k_B \ln W$
- HP model and a Toy model of protein folding
- Some aspects of real protein folding

# Gene-Expression

- All these cells of a human body have EXACTLY the same DNA i.e. cells that form your eye, cells that form your skin, cells that form your bone
- Same “genetic code” but works differently, how?
- We roughly know that each cell uses slightly different parts of DNA i.e. Cells in your eye “expresses” (reads) a set of different “genes” from cells in your skin

# Gene-Expression

- Cells can “regulate” packaging and reading of DNA depending on many factors, including the external environment
- There are many proteins involved in regulating this; these proteins bind onto DNA to regulate “gene expression” (reading of genes)
- We can again use free-energy minimization to understand dna-protein binding and its dynamics

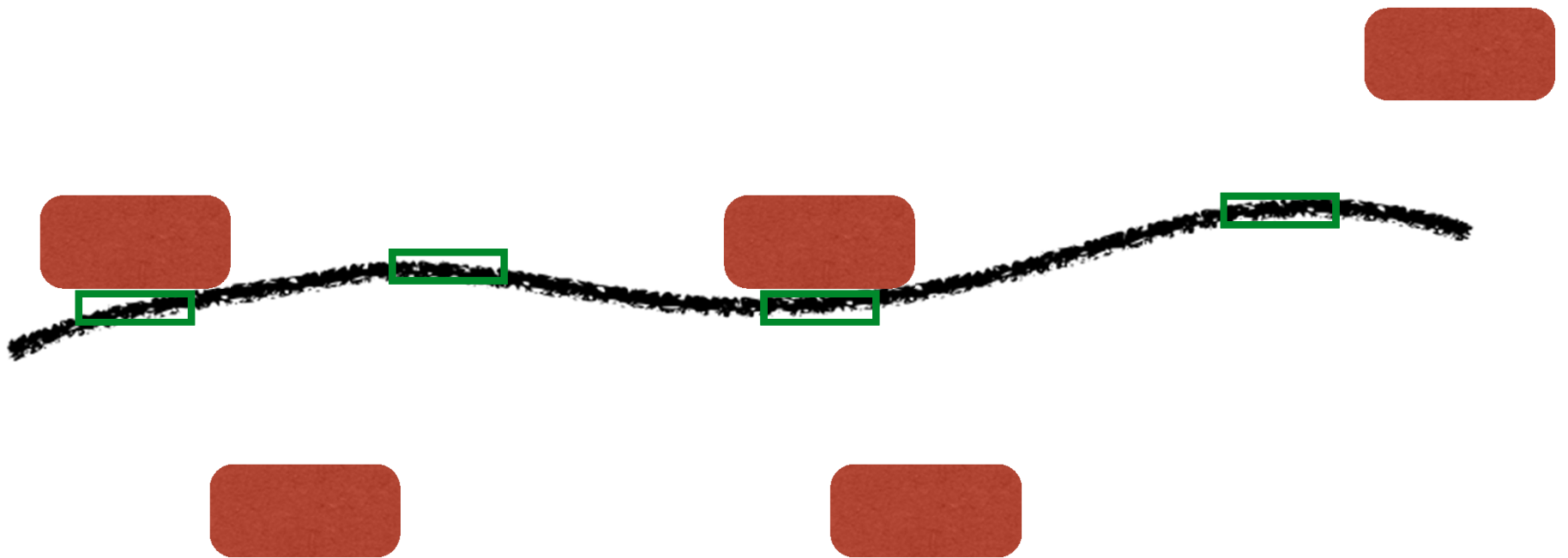
# Protein-DNA Binding

- Typically, proteins and DNA are oppositely charged
- Interaction energy favors binding; just like positive and negative charges to come together

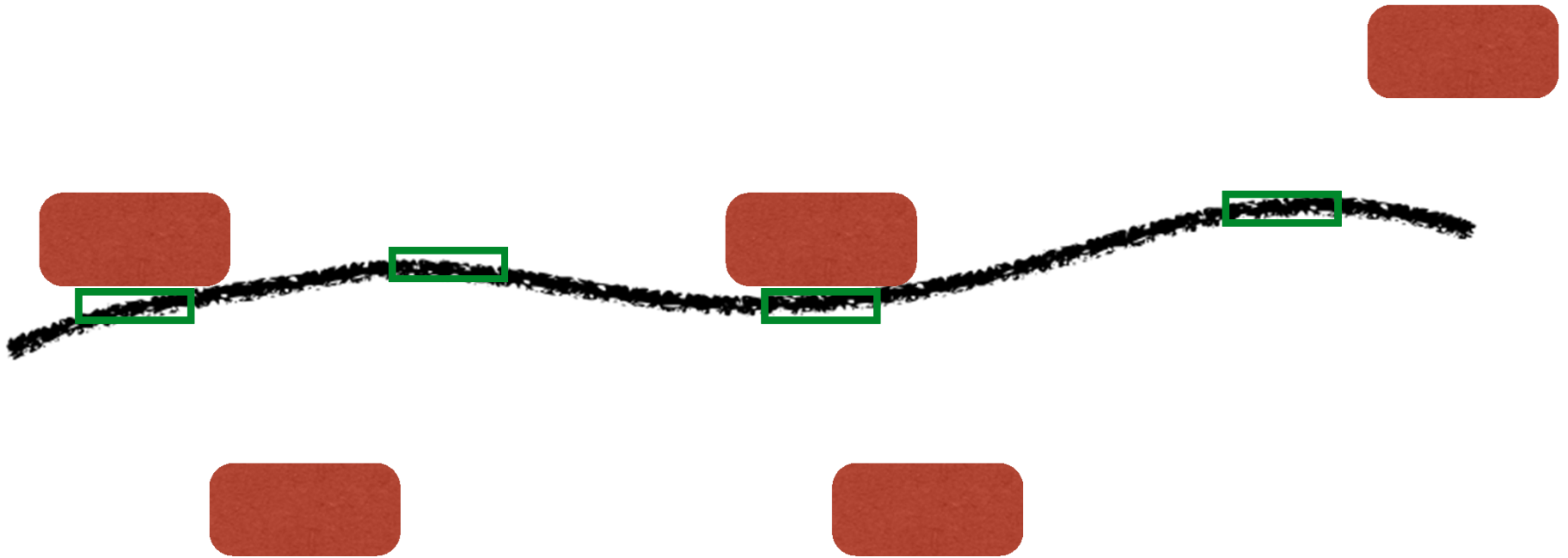


# Protein-DNA Binding

Imagine a DNA with  $N$  binding sites (locations) where a certain protein can bind with high affinity

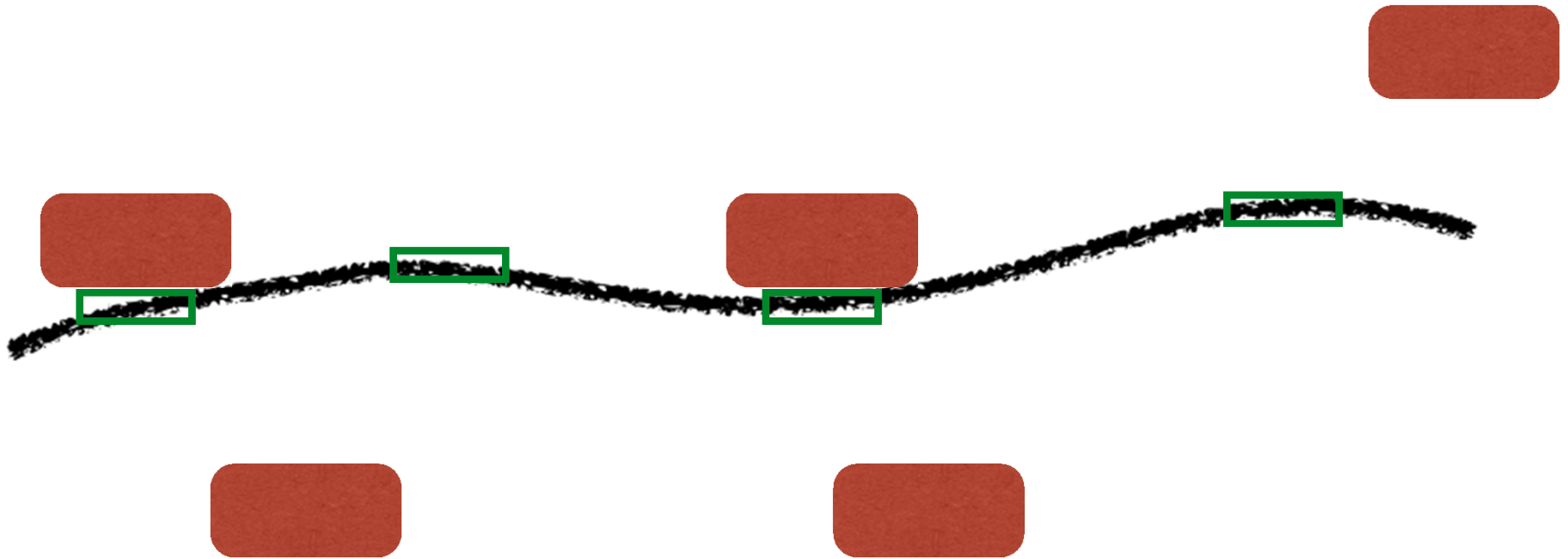


# Protein-DNA Binding



If you do an experiment, how many of those “locations” will be occupied by proteins?

# Protein-DNA Binding



Imagine a “state” with  $m$  proteins bound. ( $m < N$ )

In this picture  $m=2$ ,  $N=4$



# Protein-DNA Binding

- If  $m$  proteins are bound then What is the total energy gain?
- Assume each protein binding gives a constant energy change  $-\varepsilon k_B T$

# Protein-DNA Binding

$$U = -m\varepsilon k_B T = -N\rho\varepsilon k_B T$$

In other words,  $\varepsilon$  is the binding energy of a protein: energy it gains by binding

Density of proteins

$$\rho = \frac{m}{N}$$

# Protein-DNA Binding

Imagine a “macro-state” with  $m$  proteins bound. ( $m < N$ )

What is the entropy?

# Protein-DNA Binding

What is the entropy?

“m” proteins, “N” binding locations

Number of arrangements (“micro-states”)?

# Protein-DNA Binding

“m” proteins, “N” binding locations

Number of arrangements (number of “micro-states”)

$$W = \frac{N!}{m! (N - m)!}$$

# Protein-DNA Binding

$$S = k_B \ln W = k_B \ln \left( \frac{N!}{m! (N - m)!} \right)$$

Use Sterling's Approximation

$$\ln p! \approx p \ln p - p$$

# Protein-DNA Binding

With Stirling's approximation, one can rewrite entropy as

$$S = -k_B N [\rho \ln \rho + (1 - \rho) \ln(1 - \rho)]$$

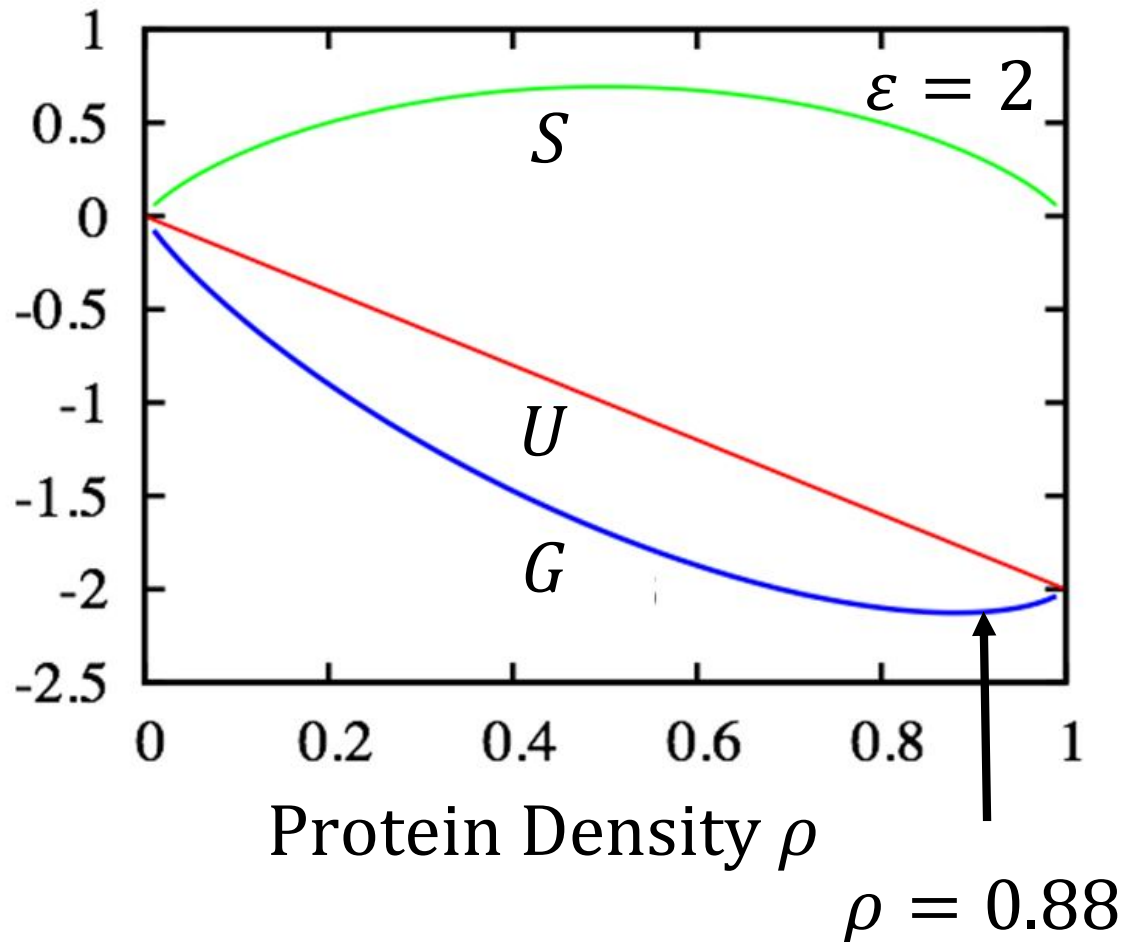
$$G = U - TS$$

$$G = -N\rho\varepsilon k_B T - k_B T N [\rho \ln \rho + (1 - \rho) \ln(1 - \rho)]$$

$$\frac{G}{Nk_B T} = -\rho\varepsilon - \rho \ln \rho + (1 - \rho) \ln(1 - \rho)$$

# Protein-DNA Binding

The protein-DNA system would like to go to its minimum free energy “macro-state”



$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial \rho} = 0$$

$$\rho = \frac{e^{\varepsilon}}{1 + e^{\varepsilon}}$$

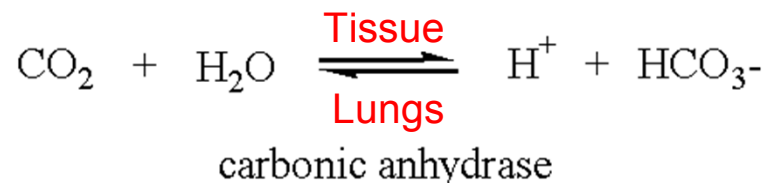


# ENZYMES

# Why Enzymes are required?

Enzyme	Nonenzymatic $t_{1/2}^*$	$k_{\text{non}}^* (\text{s}^{-1})$	$k_{\text{cat}}^\dagger (\text{s}^{-1})$	$k_{\text{cat}}/K_m^\dagger (\text{s}^{-1} \text{M}^{-1})$	Rate enhancement ( $k_{\text{cat}}/k_{\text{non}}$ )	Catalytic proficiency $[(k_{\text{cat}}/K_m)/k_{\text{non}}] (\text{M}^{-1})$
OMP decarboxylase	78,000,000 years	$2.8 \times 10^{-16}$	39	$5.6 \times 10^7$	$1.4 \times 10^{17}$	$2.0 \times 10^{23}$
Staphylococcal nuclease	130,000 years	$1.7 \times 10^{-13}$	95	$1.0 \times 10^7$	$5.6 \times 10^{14}$	$5.9 \times 10^{19}$
Adenosine deaminase	120 years	$1.8 \times 10^{-10}$	370	$1.4 \times 10^7$	$2.1 \times 10^{12}$	$7.8 \times 10^{16}$
AMP nucleosidase	69,000 years	$1.0 \times 10^{-11}$	60	$5.0 \times 10^5$	$6.0 \times 10^{12}$	$5.0 \times 10^{16}$
Cytidine deaminase	69 years	$3.2 \times 10^{-10}$	299	$2.9 \times 10^6$	$1.2 \times 10^{12}$	$9.1 \times 10^{15}$
Phosphotriesterase	2.9 years	$7.5 \times 10^{-9}$	2100	$4.0 \times 10^7$	$2.8 \times 10^{11}$	$5.3 \times 10^{15}$
Carboxypeptidase A	7.3 years	$3.0 \times 10^{-9}$	578	$6.6 \times 10^6$	$1.9 \times 10^{11}$	$2.2 \times 10^{15}$
Ketosteroid isomerase	7 weeks	$1.7 \times 10^{-7}$	66000	$3.0 \times 10^8$	$3.9 \times 10^{11}$	$1.8 \times 10^{15}$
Triosephosphate isomerase	1.9 days	$4.3 \times 10^{-6}$	4300	$2.4 \times 10^8$	$1.0 \times 10^9$	$5.6 \times 10^{13}$
Chorismate mutase	7.4 hours	$2.6 \times 10^{-5}$	50	$1.1 \times 10^6$	$1.9 \times 10^6$	$4.2 \times 10^{10}$
Carbonic anhydrase	5 s	$1.3 \times 10^{-1}$	$1 \times 10^6$	$1.2 \times 10^8$	$7.7 \times 10^6$	$9.2 \times 10^8$
Cyclophilin, human	23 s	$2.8 \times 10^{-2}$	13000	$1.5 \times 10^7$	$4.6 \times 10^5$	$5.3 \times 10^8$

\*Nonenzymatic reaction rate constants were obtained for OMP decarboxylase and staphylococcal nuclease from the present work, for adenosine and cytidine deaminases from (5), for AMP nucleosidase from (25), for phosphotriesterase from (26), for carboxypeptidase A from (3), for ketosteroid isomerase from (27), for triosephosphate isomerase from (28), for chorismate mutase from (4), for carbonic anhydrase from (2), and for cyclophilin from (3). †Enzyme reaction rate constants were obtained for OMP decarboxylase from (7), for staphylococcal nuclease from (29), for adenosine deaminase from (30), for AMP nucleosidase from (31), for phosphotriesterase from (26), for carboxypeptidase A from (32), for ketosteroid isomerase from (33), for triosephosphate isomerase from (34), for chorismate mutase from (4), for carbonic anhydrase from (35), and for cyclophilin from (36).



***~10<sup>7</sup> fold enhancement in rate with enzyme***

# Enzymes

- Enzymes speed up the events which are thermodynamically very unfavorable such as Breaking covalent bonds, forming covalent bonds and moving large structures

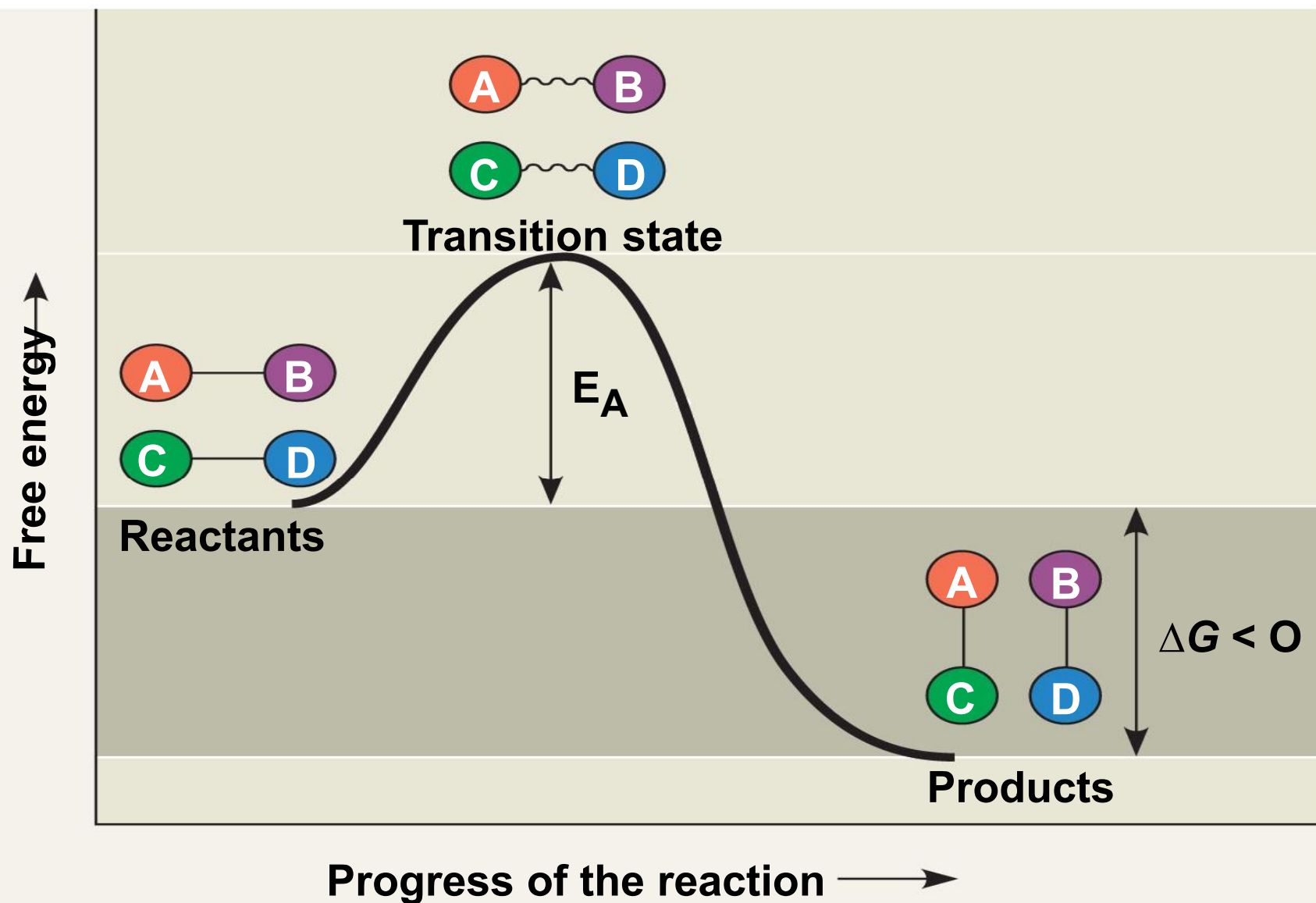
*Biological systems do so through use of Enzymes*

- **Enzymes are catalytic proteins**
- **catalyst** is a chemical agent that speeds up a reaction without being consumed by the reaction

# The Activation Energy Barrier

- Every chemical reaction between molecules involves bond breaking and bond forming
- The initial energy needed to start a chemical reaction is called the free energy of activation, or activation energy ( $E_A$ )
- Activation energy is often supplied in the form of heat from the surroundings

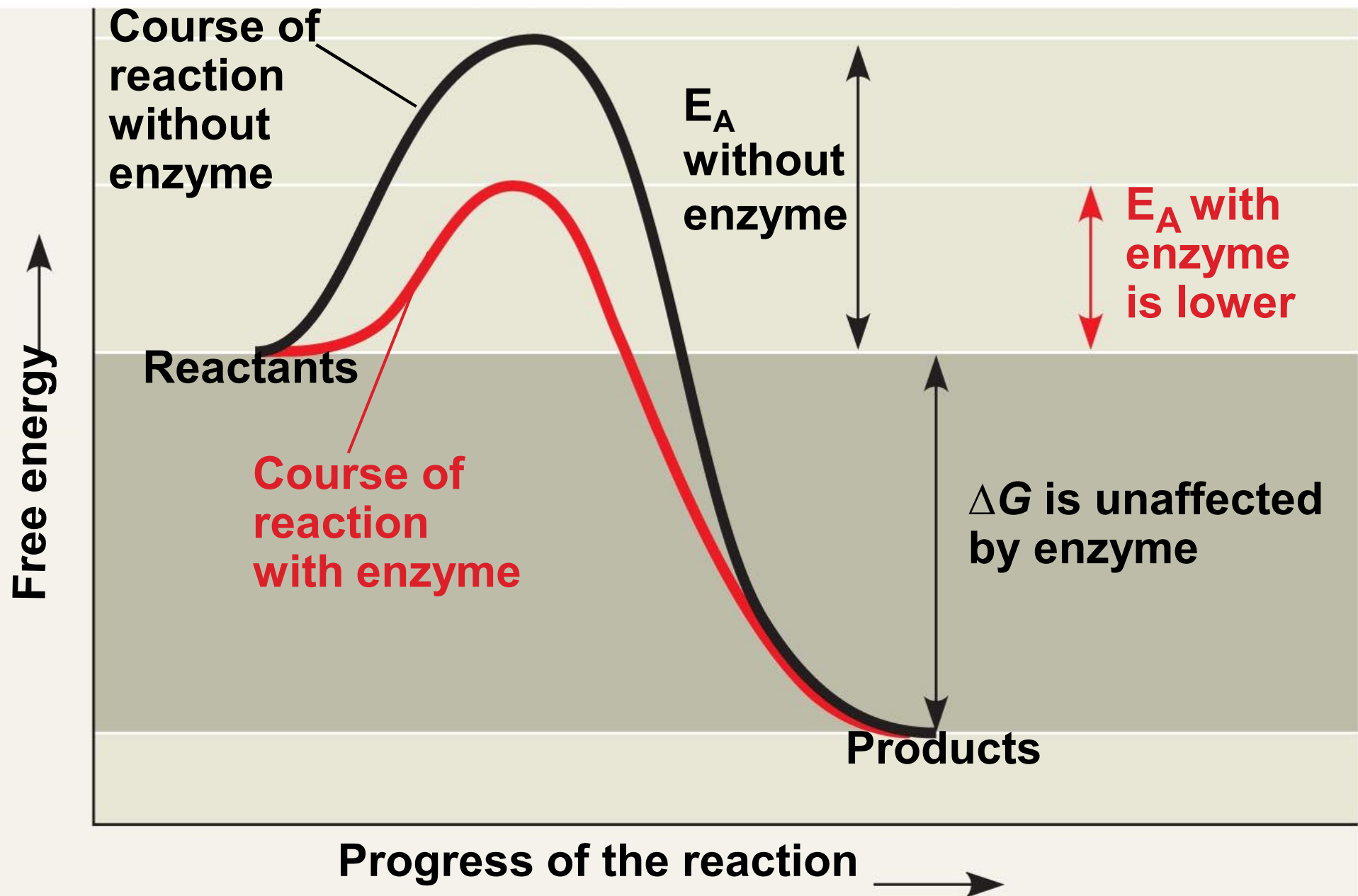
# The Activation Energy Barrier



# How Enzymes Lower the Activation Energy Barrier

- Enzymes catalyze reactions by lowering the  $E_A$  barrier
- Enzymes do not affect the change in free energy ( $\Delta G$ ); instead, they hasten reactions that would occur eventually

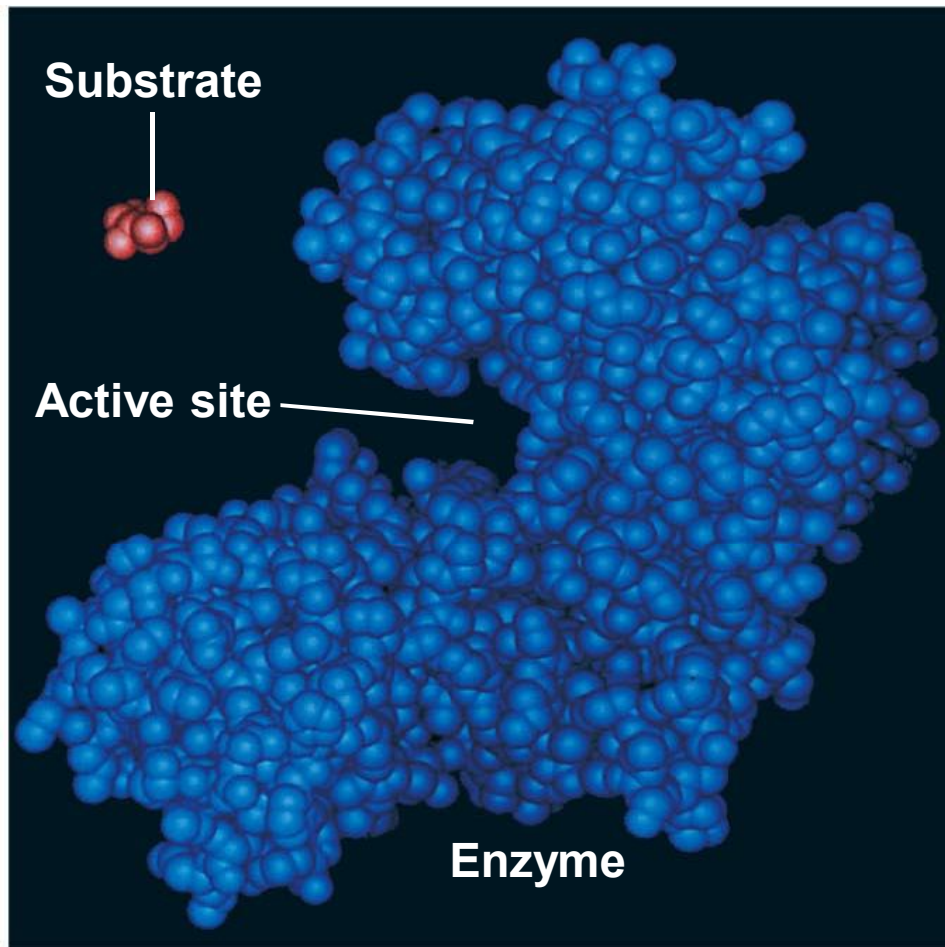
# How Enzymes Lower the Activation Energy Barrier



# Substrate Specificity of Enzymes

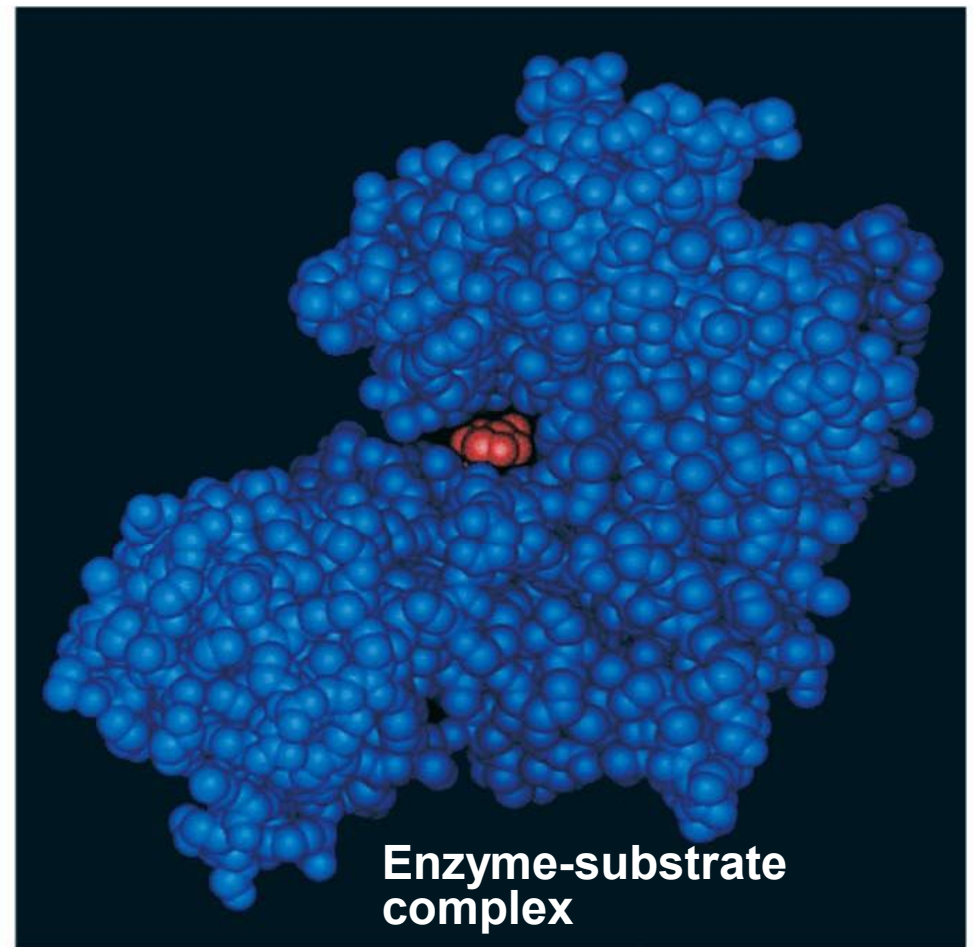
- The reactant that an enzyme acts on is called the enzyme's **substrate**
- The enzyme binds to its substrate, forming an **enzyme-substrate** complex
- The **active site** is the region on the enzyme where the substrate binds
- **Induced fit** of a substrate brings chemical groups of the active site into positions that enhance their ability to catalyze the reaction





**(a)**

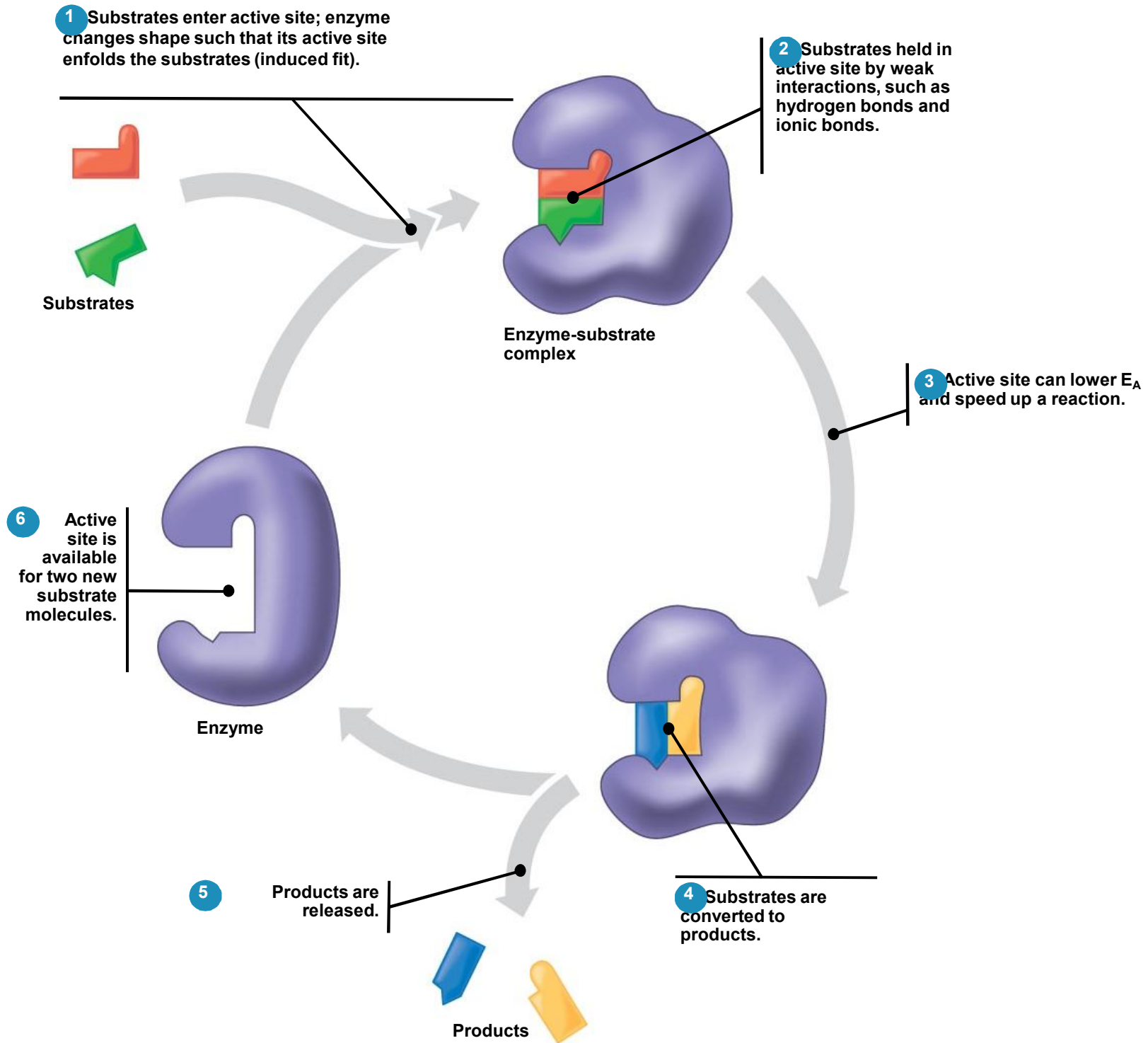
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**(b)**

# Enzymatic reaction and Lowering of Activation Barrier

- In an enzymatic reaction, the substrate binds to the active site of the enzyme
- The active site can lower an  $E_A$  barrier by
  1. Orienting substrates correctly
  2. Straining substrate bonds
  3. Providing a favorable microenvironment
  4. Covalently bonding to the substrate



# Enzymes in Action

Watch animation of enzyme joining  
two substrate molecules on  
following link:

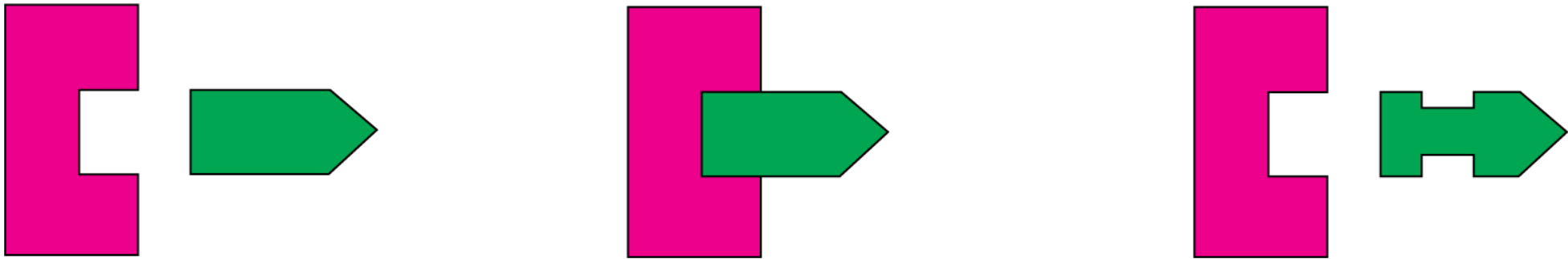
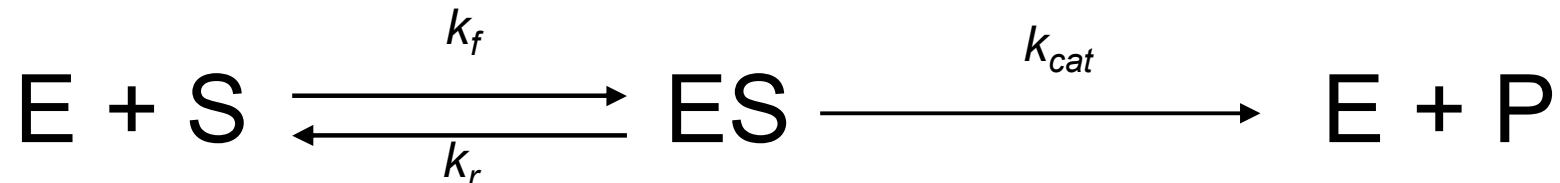
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r1ryDVgx0zw>

Watch animation of enzyme  
breaking a substrate molecule on  
following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Nw6XOqKuWg>

# A simple model of Enzyme Kinetics

L. Michaelis and M. Menten, proposed a mathematical model of single-substrate enzyme reaction



## Variables

[E]: free enzyme molecules  
[S]: free substrate molecules  
[ES]: enzyme-substrate complexes  
[P]: free product molecules

## Parameters

$k_f$ ,  $k_r$ ,  $k_{cat}$ : reaction rates

***Michaelis-Menten Kinetics***

# A simple model of Enzyme Kinetics

Master equation for  $[ES]$ : 
$$\frac{d[ES]}{dt} = k_f [E][S] - k_r [ES] - k_{cat} [ES]$$

In steady state: 
$$\frac{d[ES]}{dt} = 0$$

$$[ES] = \frac{[E][S]}{\frac{k_r + k_{cat}}{k_f}} = \frac{([E]_0 - [ES])[S]}{\frac{k_r + k_{cat}}{k_f}} = \frac{([E]_0 - [ES])[S]}{K_m}$$

$$[ES] = \frac{[E]_0 [S]}{K_m + [S]} \qquad K_m = \frac{k_r + k_{cat}}{k_f}$$

# A simple model of Enzyme Kinetics

Velocity of reaction tells you how rapidly production is being formed

$$v = \frac{d[P]}{dt} = k_{cat}[ES] = \frac{k_{cat}[E]_0[S]}{K_m + [S]}$$

$$v = \frac{v_{max}[S]}{K_m + [S]}$$

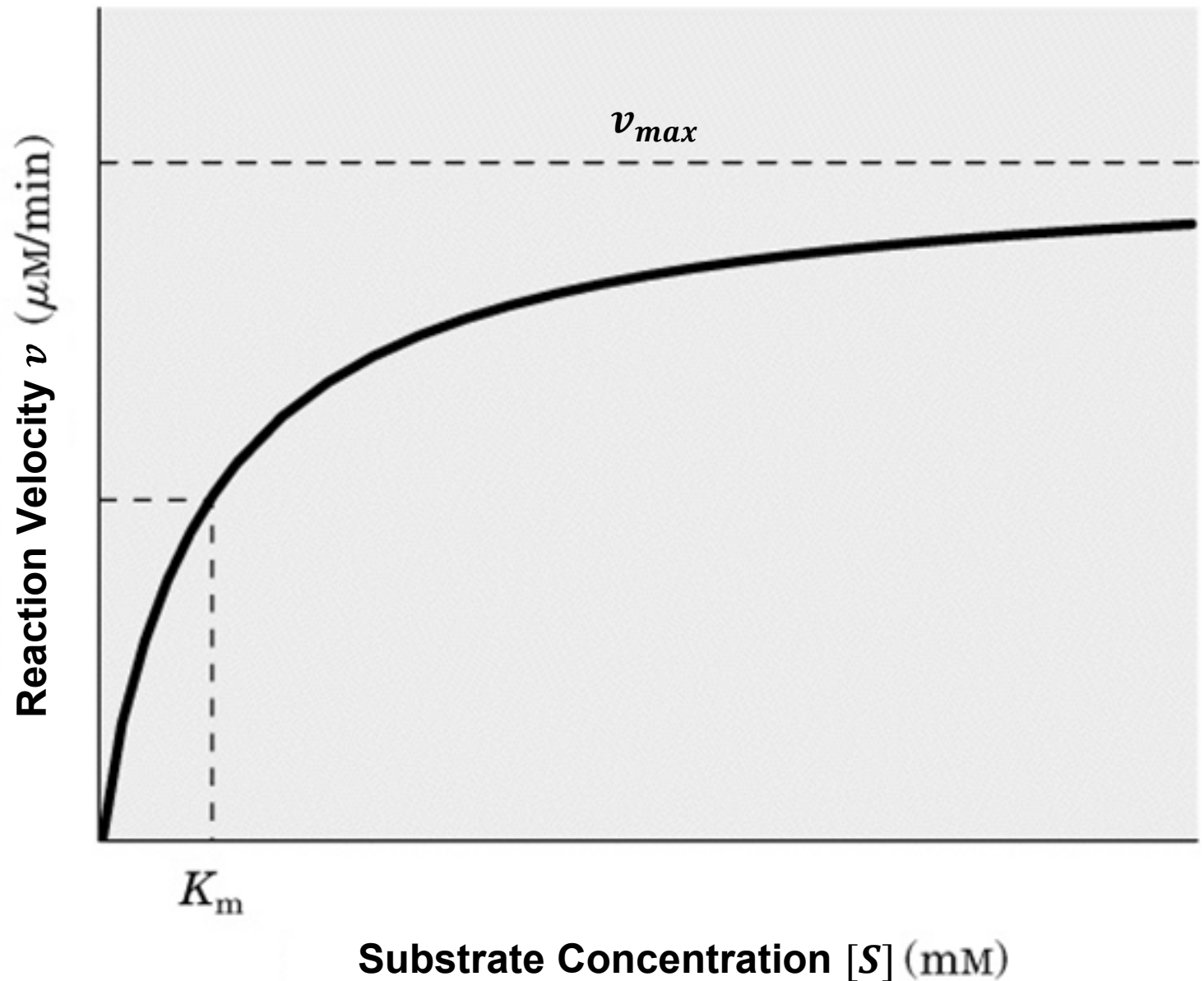
*Michaelis-Menten Rule*

$$v_{max} = k_{cat}[E]_0$$

Where  $K_m = \frac{k_r + k_{cat}}{k_f}$  is called Michaelis Constant

# A simple model of Enzyme Kinetics

$$v = \frac{v_{max}[S]}{K_m + [S]}$$

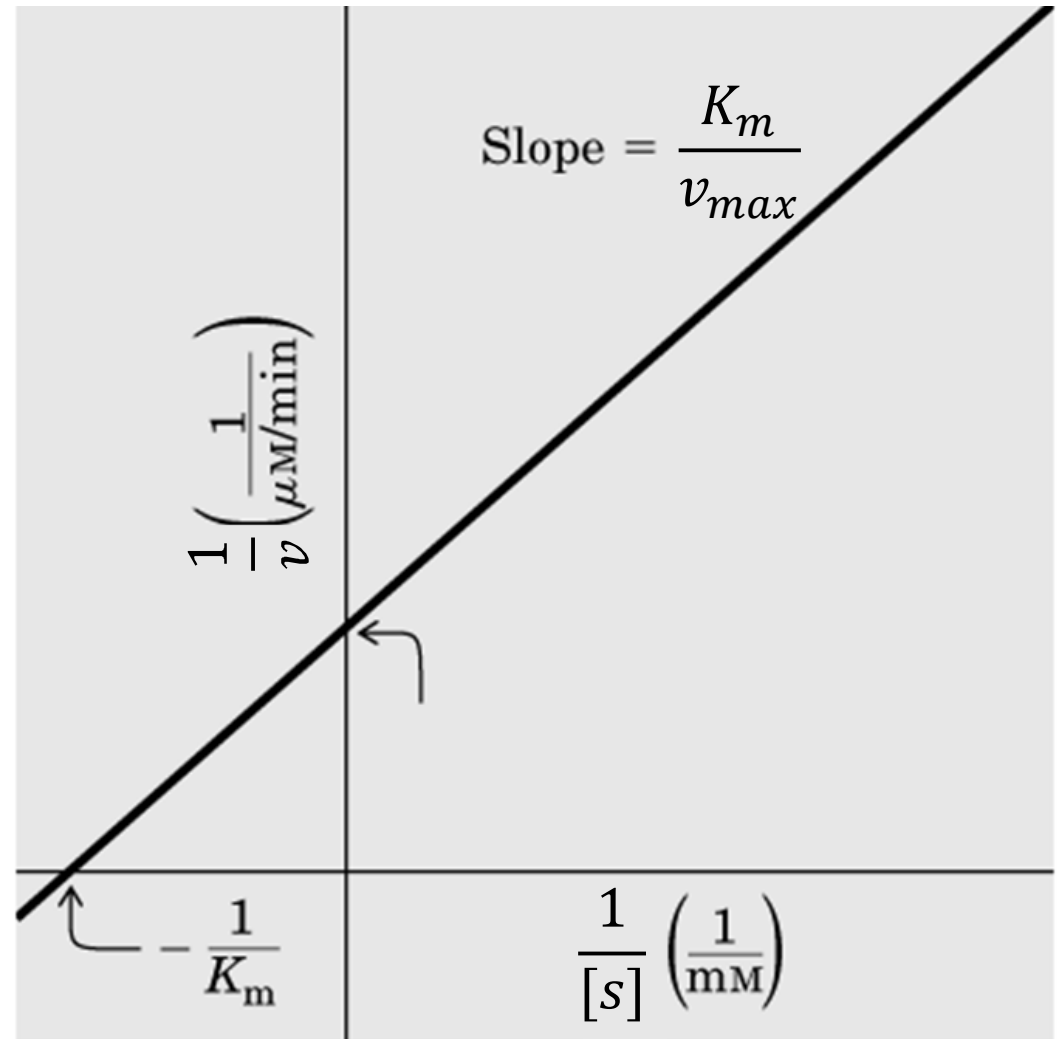




# A simple model of Enzyme Kinetics

## Lineweaver-Burk Plot

$$\frac{1}{v} = \frac{K_m}{v_{max}} \frac{1}{[S]} + \frac{1}{v_{max}}$$



## **End of Module II**

**Physical biology or Biophysics exciting  
you realized that we can use the  
physics and mathematics you  
learned, to think about  
biological problems!**

## End of Module II

**Every time you see a biological phenomenon,  
think how to use your science/engineering  
knowledge to understand it**

**We know very little about what is going on in  
many biological processes**

***So, there is a great opportunity for you to  
go make important discoveries!!!***

**Enjoy Next Module**

# Summary

- Proteins that bind on to the DNA control the “gene” expression in each cell
- Protein-DNA system minimizes its free energy
- Number of proteins bound to DNA will depend on the free energy of the protein-DNA system
- Enzymes and their mechanism of action
- A simple model for enzyme kinetics: Michaelis-Menten Kinetics