

Week 5 Lecture 0

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1 Administrative drivel

- Exams are in: $\mu = 51.6\%$
- the curve is 23.4%, so add that percent to your score to get your actual score
- no clicker qs today

2 More on Cells

- Passive diffusion
 - molecules in high concentration move accross the membrane to low concentration
 - only happens for molecules that can pass through the membrane
 - * Non-polar lipids
 - * hydrophobic molecules
 - * e.g. fat soluble vitamins – vitamin A, K, E
 - * Gasses: O₂, CO₂
 - this is nice, since O₂ is an input of metabolic activity, and CO₂ is an output of metabolic activity
 - * Plus H₂O (to some extent)
 - not as smoothly as oxygen and CO₂
 - the polarity of water makes it move through slowly
 - cells have ways of accelerating this
 - this is called osmoses
 - most molecules are regulated accross the membrane
- What doesn't cross by passive diffusion?
 - Most biological molecules –
 - * anything large or polar (e.g. glucose, proteins

- Ions – anything with a charge (e.g. Na^+)
- **Osmosis:** movement of water across a membrane
 - It gets its own name since it's the solvent in which biochemistry happens
 - Movement of water through biological membrane if one side has more solutes (salt, sugar) than the other
 - this is a slow-ish process, since H_2O is polar
 - if you increase the concentration something that cannot pass through the membrane on one side of the membrane, the water will move across the membrane to achieve equilibrium.
 - other forces may prevent equilibrium from occurring (e.g. gravity)
 - gravity prevents all of the water ending up on one side of the membrane
 - there is also reverse osmosis
- clicker q: Why are biological membranes so important?
 - Provide structural organization
 - allow the cell to regulate what goes in and out
 - they separate the inside and outside of the cell
 - * Metabolic processes produce toxins, and it's good to get them out
 - e.g. ammonia
- proteins in the membrane
 - Because the membrane is a barrier to most things that need to get into the cell (e.g. glucose) or out of the cell (e.g. waste molecules) there are proteins in the membrane that assist with such movements
 - a protein is placed in the membrane that creates a channel for the specific molecule the cell “wants” to allow through the membrane
 - charge points allow the proteins to prevent certain molecules from getting through.
 - two kinds:
 - * Facilitated diffusion (AKA passive transport thru channel) – movement *down* the gradient from areas of high to low concentration
 - * Active transport – movement is *against* the gradient from areas of low to high concentration (requires expenditure of energy/ATP)
- Facilitated diffusion – 2 kinds

- A channel protein: opens a tube to allow 1 kind of molecule through
 - * bi-directional, kind of indiscriminate
 - * useful for ions and polar molecules
 - all have their own channel (cute)
 - * no energy required
- A carrier protein: pacman like mechanism allows specific molecule through 1 at a time
 - * opening changes its shape to move a molecule from one side to the other
 - * allows rate to be regulated
 - * typically bidirectional
 - * still passive (high to low concentration)
 - * no energy required
 - * there are unidirectional proteins, but they're beyond this course
 - * there are hundreds of these
- Active transport – requires energy
 - * Expend ATP
 - * still has a pathway to move molecules, but you need energy to move it
 - * very few kinds of these molecular "pumps" (12 ish)
 - * most common is the sodium-potassium pump
 - used in muscle contraction, movement of info
 - takes in 2 potassiums or 3 sodiums, and moves the potassium from the outside of the cell to the inside, and sodium moves from the inside to the outside
 - phosphate breaking off ATP changes the shape
 - each cycle takes 1 ATP: phosphate broken off to expend sodium, then the phosphate is broken off of the protein to pull the phosphates in
 - allowing these imbalances of gradients make potential energy for later use in work
 - * moves molecules against the concentration gradient
- **Endocytosis and Exocytosis**
 - * What is used when things are too **big** for carrier proteins
 - * Envelopes the object in a piece of the cell membrane
 - * this makes a vesicle
 - * exo – gets things out
 - membrane around the object fuses with the cell membrane on exit
 - * endo – gets things in

- folds the cell membrane to make a pocket that breaks away from the cell membrane
 - * throughout this process there is **NEVER** a hole in the cell membrane
 - * if a hole were made, the cell would die
- parts of the cell:
 - * Membrane – separates in from out
 - * cytoplasm – liquid inside the cell
 - mostly water
 - * Organells – structures inside the cell
 - separated by membranes, so the same principals of transport apply to organelle membranes