

# Basic Immunology

*Lecture 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>*

## Introduction

Requirements of the Department.

Historical overview. Composition of the immune system.

## Molecular components of the immune systems

Immunological recognition in innate, adaptive, and natural immunity. Definition of the antigen. Molecular structures of immunoglobulins, T-cell and B-cell receptors.

# Requirements and information

- **Lectures:** 14 hours (participation is obligatory, importance of the preparation of own lecture notes), no more absences as 3!
- **Practices:** 14 hours laboratory practices & seminars.  
No more absences as 3!
- **Bonus points:** Minimum requirement is 10 points for acceptance of semester. All points are plus 1 to the exam scores after the 10 basic points.
- Collection of extra points is available during seminars and lectures.
- **Examination:** written from the lectures and laboratory practices/seminars
- **Exam scores:** (minimum level: 66%) satisfactory 66-71%, average 72- 77%, good 78-83%, excellent 84%

[www.immbio.hu](http://www.immbio.hu)

# What is the *immunity*?



# What is the immune system?

- The immune system is a complex **NETWORK** composed by molecular and cellular elements.
- The main function of the immune system is **managing of the individual integrity** with defence against outside parasites and against modifications of self structures (by viral infections, tumorous transformations or other mutations).
- The immune network is formed by **balance of attacking and tolerating type immune responses.**
- The immune system links to the other (endocrine, neural, metabolic) regulatory systems of the body in multiple levels influencing each other.

# Basic terms

- **Immunis,- e** (*Julius Caesar*) = exempt, free of burden (E.g. tax, law, or diseases)
- **IMMUNE**: individuals who do not capitulate to a disease when infected;
- **IMMUNITY**: status of **specific** resistance to a disease;
- **IMMUNOLOGY**: branch of theoretical biology focuses on mechanisms responsible for **both self and non-self recognition, elimination of the invaders and protection of the basic structural elements.**

# History

- Athen (B.C. 5th century Thukidites - plaque survivors), ancient Chinese papers about the pox immunity
- Infections, epidemics, vaccination



Edward Jenner  
(1749 - 1823)



Louis Pasteur  
(1822 - 1895)

# Edward Jenner (1749 - 1823)

- He was a doctor in Berkeley, Gloucestershire. In 1796 he carried out his now famous experiment on eight-year-old orphan boy James Phipps. Jenner inserted pus taken from a cowpox pustule on the hand of milkmaid Sarah Nelmes and inserted it into an incision on the boy's arm. He was testing his theory, drawn from the folklore of the countryside, that milkmaids who suffered the mild disease of cowpox never contracted smallpox.
- Jenner subsequently proved that having been inoculated with cowpox Phipps was now immune to smallpox. He submitted a paper to the Royal Society in 1797 describing his experiment but was told that his ideas were too revolutionary and that he needed more proof. Undaunted, Jenner experimented on several other children, including his own 11-month-old son. In 1798 the results were finally published and Jenner coined the word vaccine from the Latin *vacca* for cow, and called the process *vaccination*.

# Smallpox vaccination (1796 – 1979)



VACCINATION  
BY JAMES WATSON  
1796



# THE NOBEL PRIZE LAUREATES IN IMMUNOLOGY

- 1901 **E.A. Von Behring** (*Germany*) for the work on serum therapy especially its application against diphtheria.
- 1905 **R. Koch** (*Germany*) for the investigations concerning tuberculosis.
- 1908 **E. Metchnikoff** (*Russia*) and **P. Ehrlich** (*Germany*) for their work on immunity (respectively, phagocytosis/cellular theory and humoral theory).
- 1913 **C.R. Richet** (*France*) for the work on anaphylaxis.
- 1919 **J. Bordet** (*Belgium*) for the discoveries relating to immunity (complement).
- 1930 **K. Landsteiner** (*Austria/USA*) for the discovery of human blood groups.
- 1951 **M. Theiler** (*South Africa*) for the discoveries and developments concerning yellow fever.
- 1957 **D. Bovet** (*Italy/Switzerland*) for the discoveries related to histamine and compounds, which inhibit action of histamine and other substances on the vascular system and the skeletal muscles.
- 1960 **Sir F. McFarlane Burnet** (*Australia*) and **Sir P.B. Medawar** (*Great Britain*) for the discovery of acquired immunological tolerance.
- 1972 **G.M. Edelman** (*USA*) and **R.R. Porter** (*Great Britain*) for their discovery concerning the chemical structure of antibodies.
- 1977 **R. Yalow** (*USA*) for the development of radioimmunoassays of peptide hormones.
- 1980 **B. Benacerraf** (*USA*), **J. Dausset** (*France*) and **G.D. Snell** (*USA*) for their discoveries concerning genetically determined structures on the cell surface (major histocompatibility complex) that regulate immunological reactions.
- 1982 **S. K. Bergstrom** (*Sweden*), **B. I. Samuelsson** (*Sweden*) and **J. R. Vane** (*UK*) for their discoveries concerning prostaglandins and related biologically active substances.
- 1984 **N.K. Jerne** (*Denmark/Switzerland*) for theories concerning the specificity in development (lymphocyte clonality) and control of the immune system; **G.J.F. Köhler** (*Germany/Switzerland*) and **C. Milstein** (*Argentina/Great Britain*) for the discovery of the principle for production of monoclonal antibodies.
- 1987 **S. Tonegawa** (*Japan/USA*) for the discovery of the genetic principle for generation of antibody diversity.
- 1990 **J.E. Murray** and **E.D. Thomas** (*USA*) for their discovery concerning organ and cell transplantation in the treatment of human diseases.
- 1996 **P.C. Doherty** (*Australia/USA*) and **R.M. Zinkernagel** (*Switzerland*) for their discoveries concerning the specificity of the cell mediated immune defense ("dual recognition").
- 1997 **S.B. Prusiner** (*USA*) for the discovery of prions as a new biological principle of infection.
- 1999 **G. Blobel** (*USA*) for discoveries concerning signal transduction.

# Immune system

- Individuals and species
- Organs
- Cells
- Molecules
- Functions

**Structural and functional network**

# Composition of the immune system



## Innate

- None antigen specific
- No immunological memory
- Rapid reactivity
- Linear amplification of the reaction

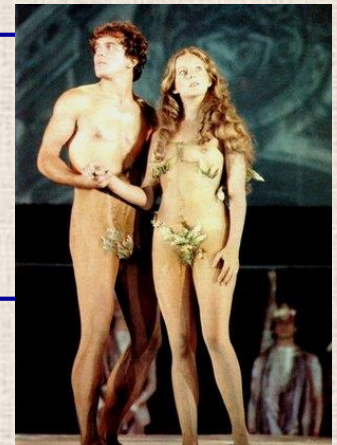


## Adaptive

- Antigen specific
- Immunological memory
- Activated after a latency
- Exponential amplification of the reaction

## Natural

Innate-like immunity with adaptive features



# Innate immune system

- ◆ **Pattern recognition receptors (PRR)**
- ◆ **Pathogen associated molecular patterns (PAMP)**
- ◆ **First line of defence**
- ◆ **Low number of molecularly distinct receptors and high number of recognized patterns**
- ◆ **Main molecular components:** Antibacterial peptides, Complement factors and their receptors, Heat shock proteins, Fc receptors, Inflammatory cytokines, Growth factors, Histamine
- ◆ **Main cellular components:** Macrophages, Monocytes, NK cells, Granulocytes, Mast cells



# Adaptive immune system

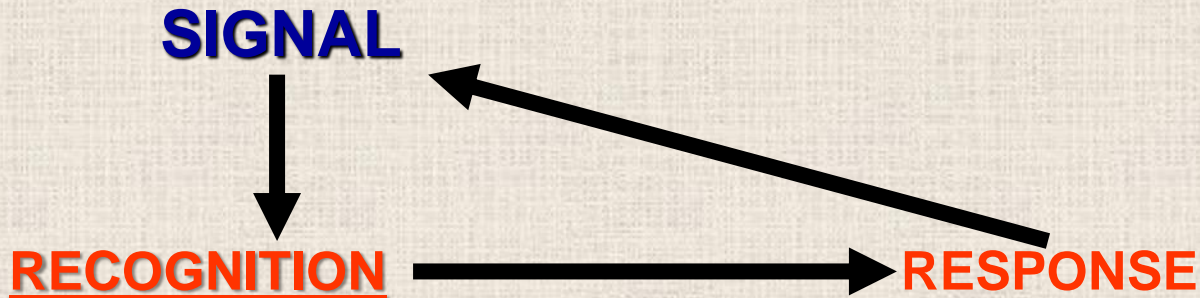
- ◆ **Antigen receptor (BCR,TCR)**
- ◆ **Epitope specific in a given antigen**
- ◆ **Adaptive immune response**
- ◆ **High number of distinct antigen receptors and high number of recognized antigens**
- ◆ **Main molecular components:** Antibodies, MHC, T and B cell receptors, Lymphatic cytokines
- ◆ **Main cellular components:** T cells (both  $\alpha\beta$  and  $\gamma\delta$ ), B cells, Antigen presenting cells



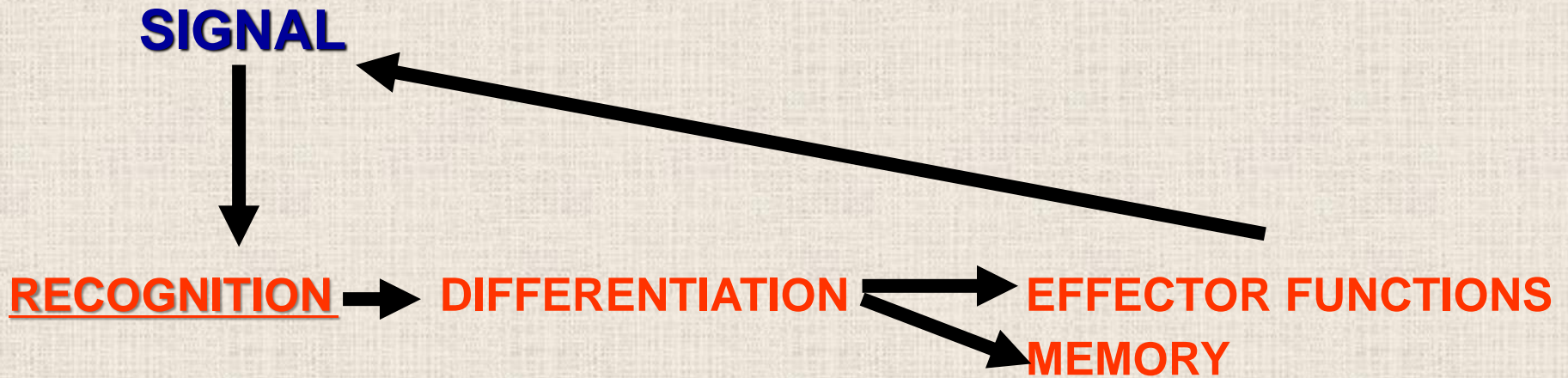
# Natural immune system

- ◆ Antigen recognition receptors (BCR,TCR) with limited specificity
- ◆ Pattern recognition profile
- ◆ Innate-like immune response
- ◆ Limited number of distinct antigen receptors and high number of recognized antigens
- ◆ Main cellular components: iNKT cells,  $i\gamma\delta$ T cells, MAIT cells, IEL cells, CD5+ B cells
- ◆ Main molecular components: natural (auto)antibodies

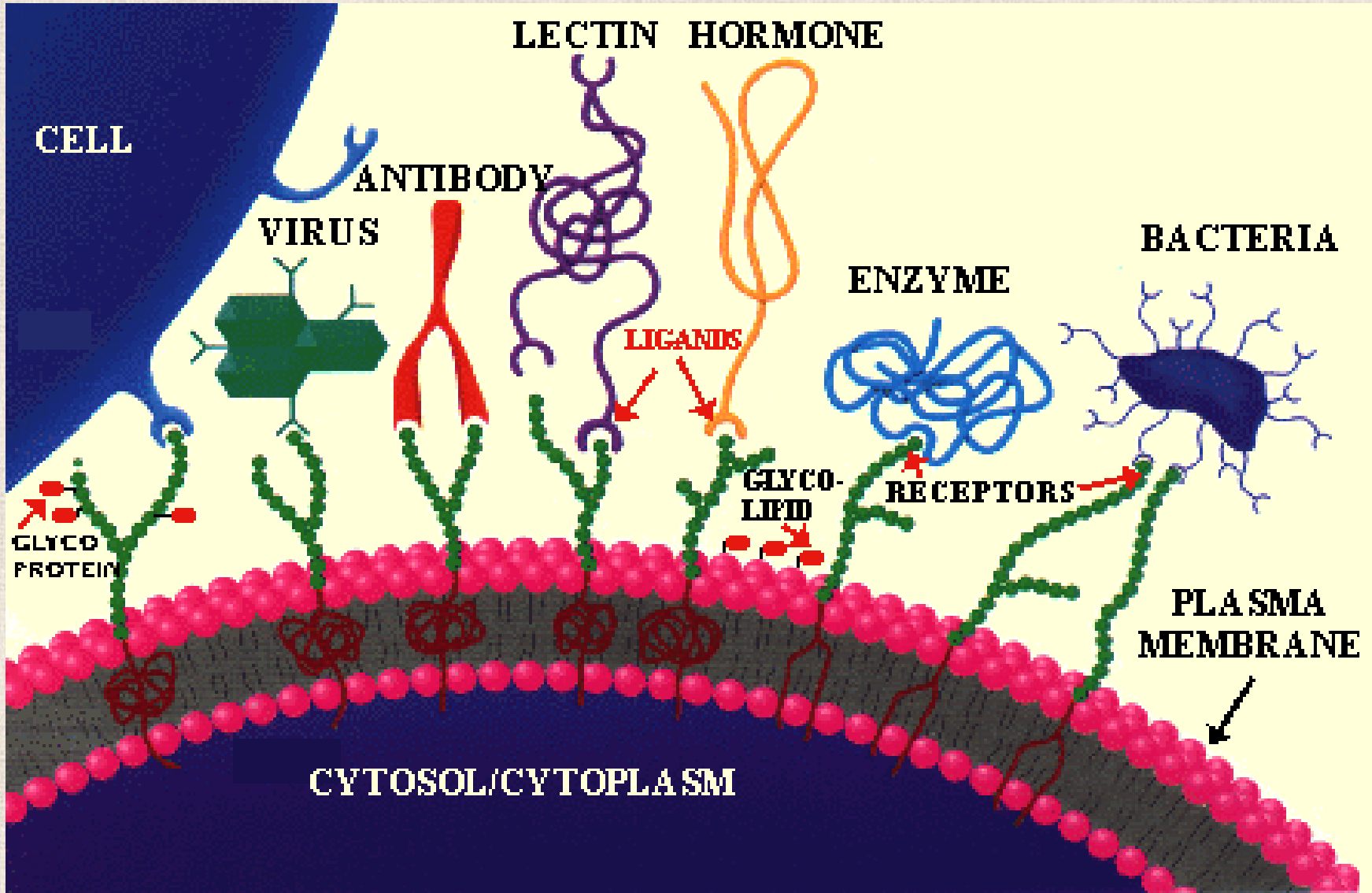
# Theoretical scheme of the innate and natural immunity



# Theoretical scheme of the adaptive immunity



# Molecular recognition

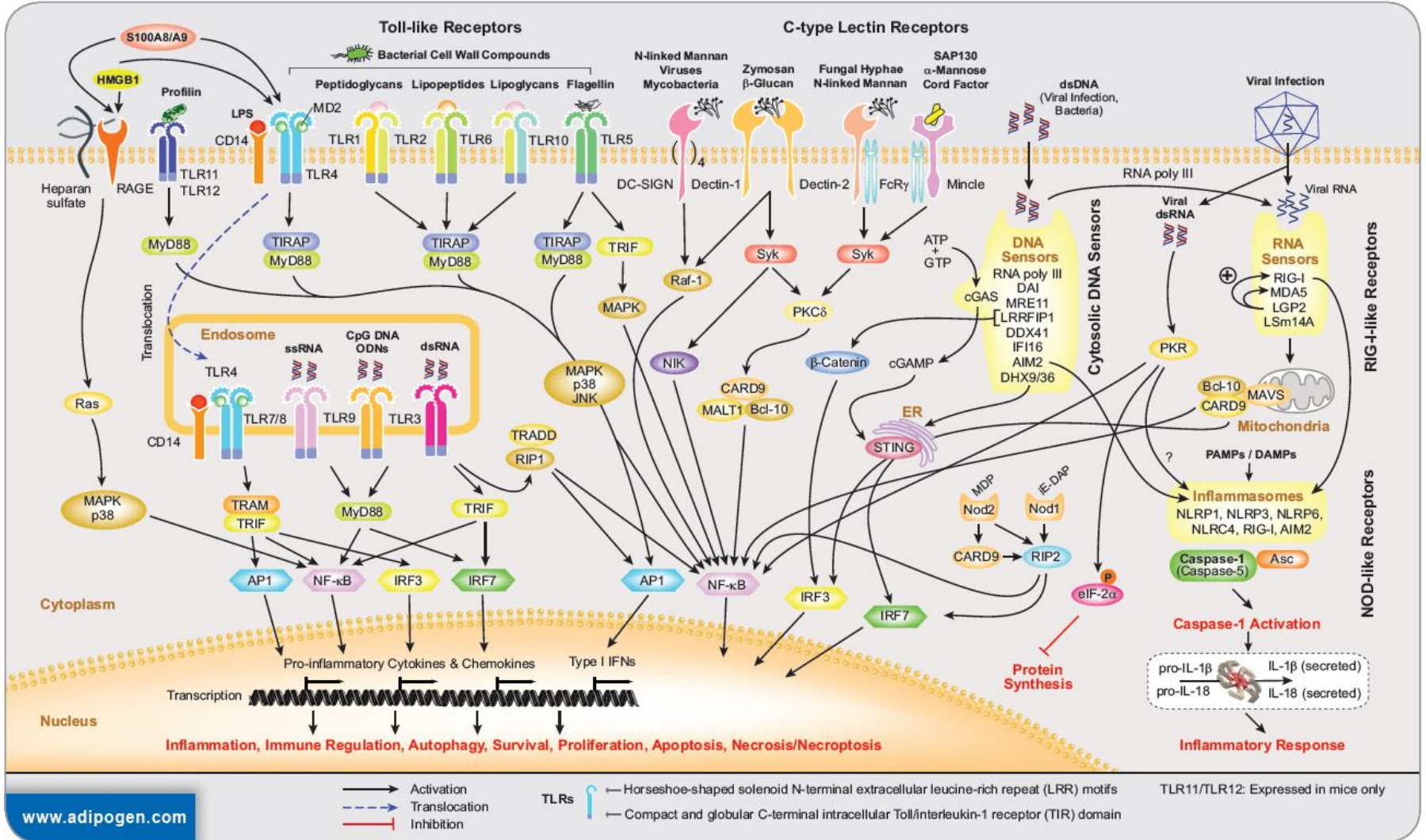




# Pattern Recognition Receptors (PRRs) Signaling Pathways

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# Macrophages express receptors for many microbial constituents

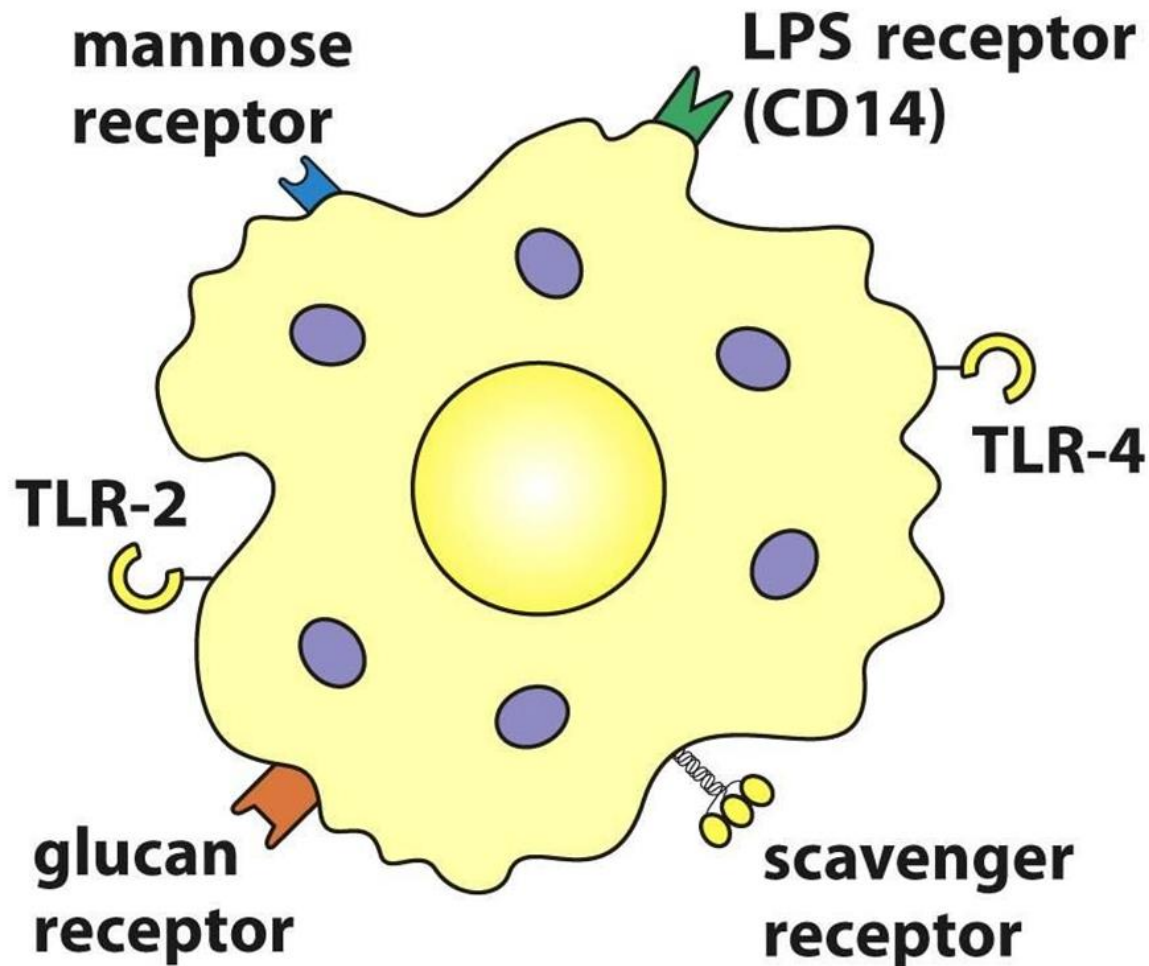
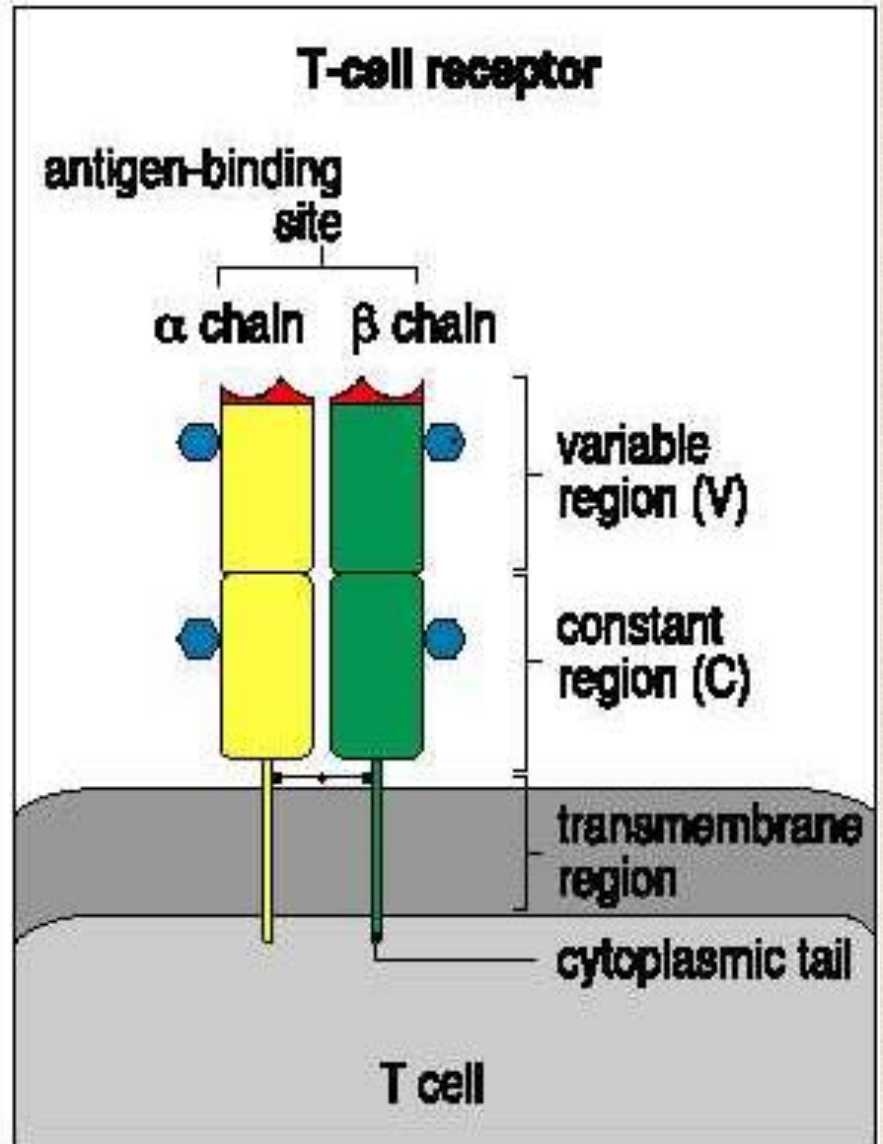
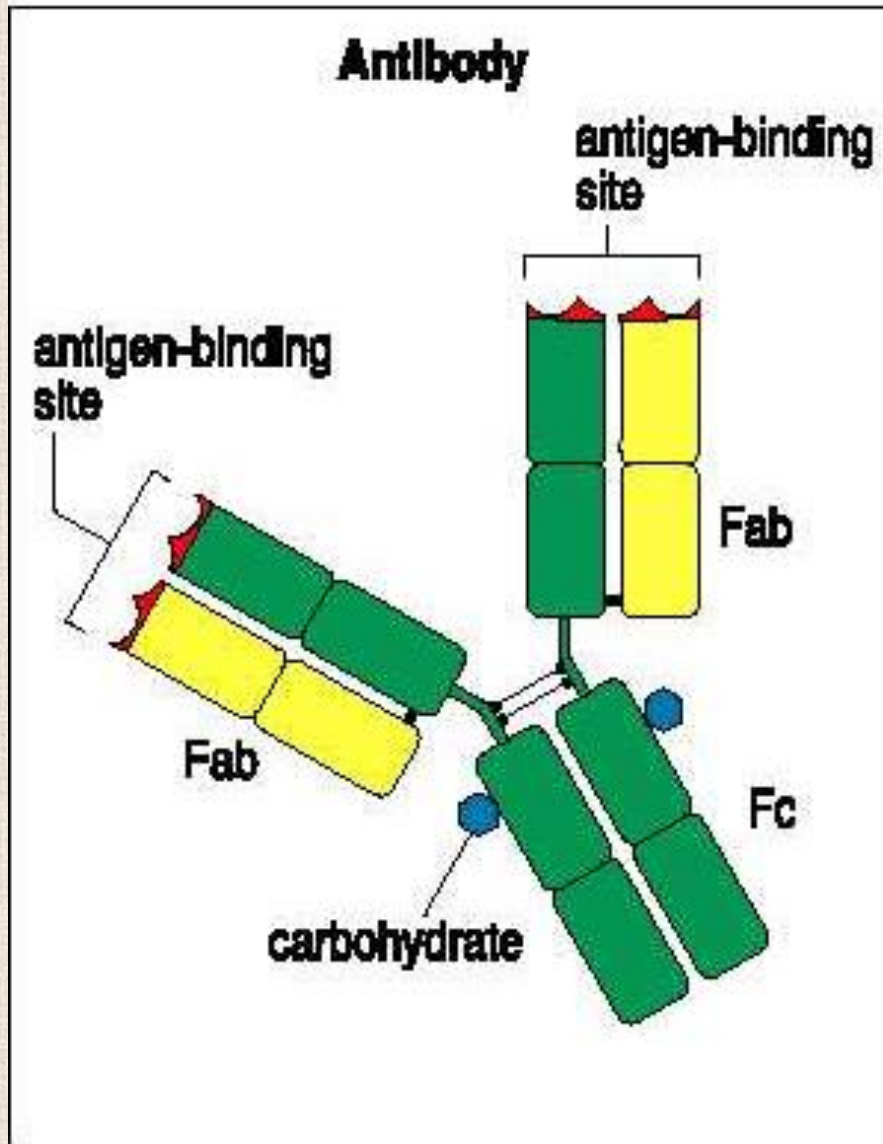


Figure 1.10 Janeway's Immunobiology, 8ed. (© Garland Science 2012)

# Antigen specific recognition molecules



# Definition of the antigen

Detre (Deutsch) László (1874-1939):

**ANTIBODY GENERATOR:** foreign substance induces antibody production (1899)

**Modern definition:** substance, which is recognized by T cell and/or B cell receptors, and it is able to induce ***active immune response or tolerance*** according to the host immunogenetic background (MHC haplotype).

# Factors determining the immunogenicity

- immunodominant regions
- chemical structure (inorganic molecules are not antigens at general, but e.g. heavy metals in protein complex are able to induce specific metal allergies). The best antigens are proteins>polypeptides>polysaccharides>lipides>nucleic acids
- physico-chemical nature (D and L configuration; ortho-, para,- meta position; hydrophilic and hydrophobic amino acid sequence)
- molecular weight (not an absolute category)
- conformation sensitivity (folding and refolding)
- Origin auto-, allo-, xenoantigen
- mode and anatomic region of the administration (e.g. peripheral immune reaction and oral tolerance for the same antigen depending from the place of the antigen presentation)
- dose dependence (large and low dose)
- Valency: monovalent, bivalent, and multivalent antigens

# Recognition molecules in the adaptive immune system

Immunoglobulins

B cell receptors (BcR)

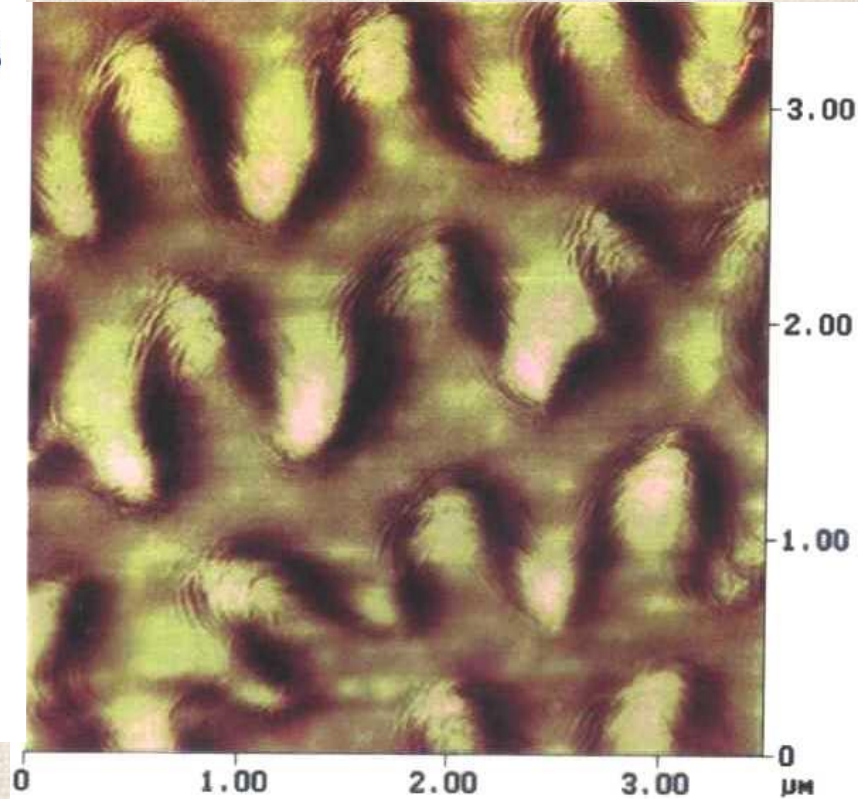
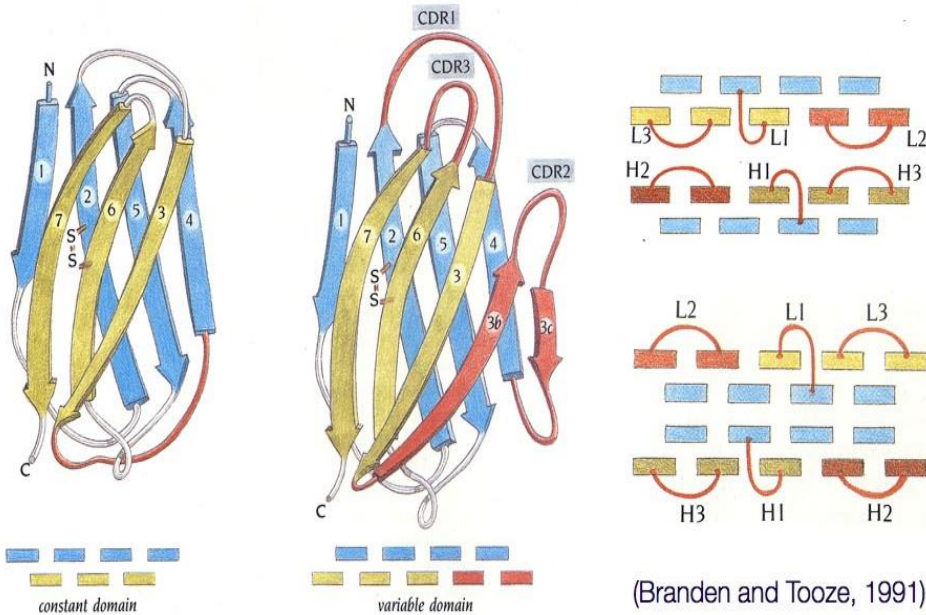
T cell receptors (TcR)

MHC class I and class II

Specialized molecules manage antigen recognition. The common structural features of these molecules are the well-conserved (constant) basic elements (designed by 110 amino acids domain units) containing variable, antigen specific parts (binding sites) for the recognition and ligand formation.

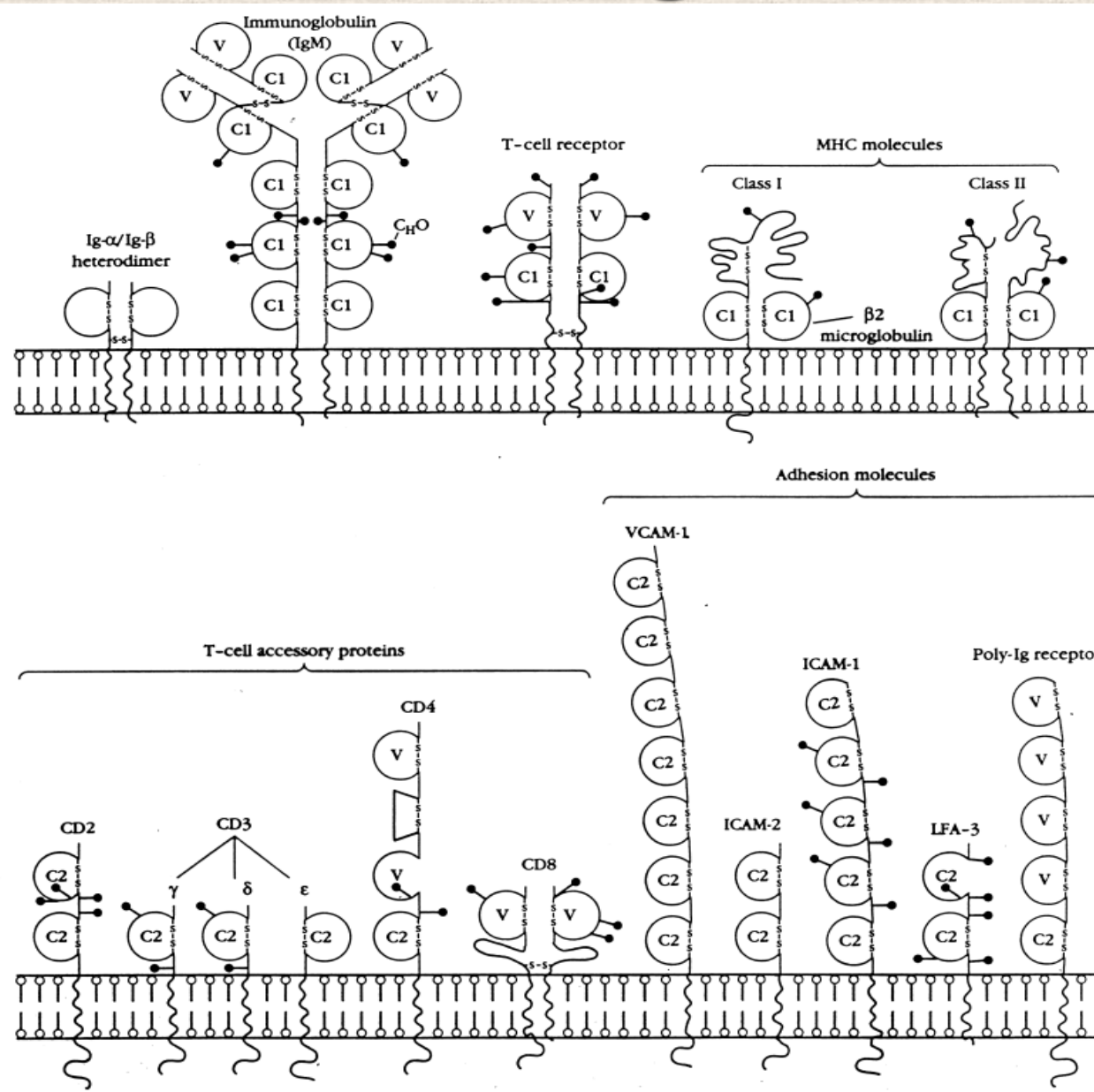
# Domain structure

Structure and packing of antibody C/V domains



Well conserved amino acid sequence designed by 110 amino acids closed to a “ring shape” with disulphide bound.

# Immune recognition molecules

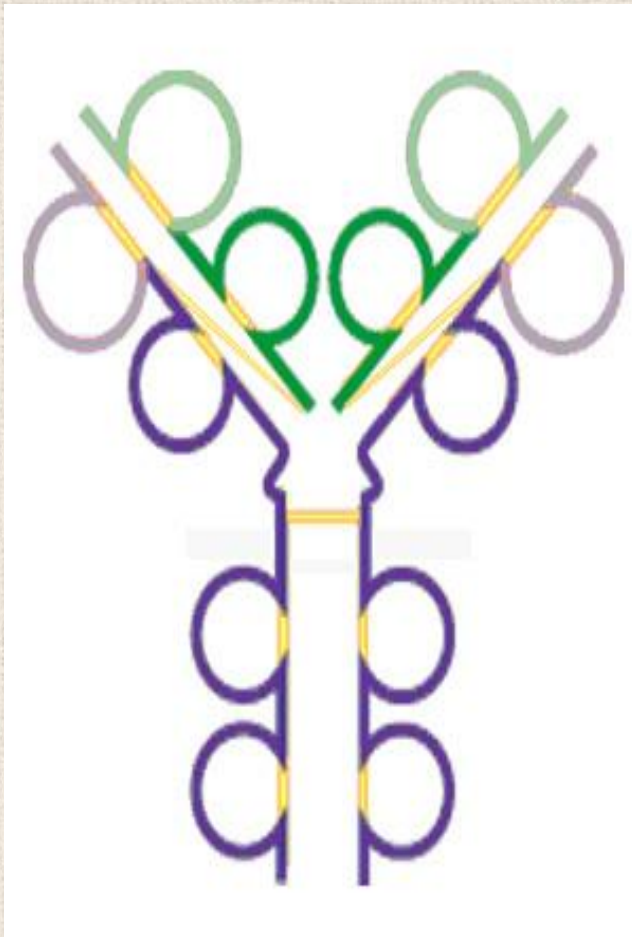


**Antigen  
specific  
recognition  
molecules**

**Accessory  
molecules of  
cell-cell  
communication**

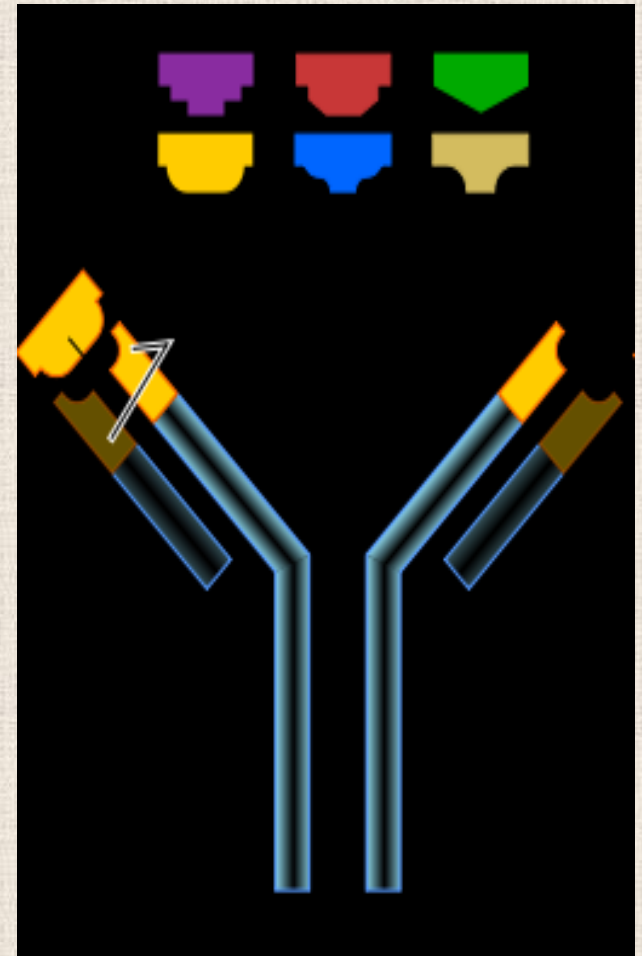


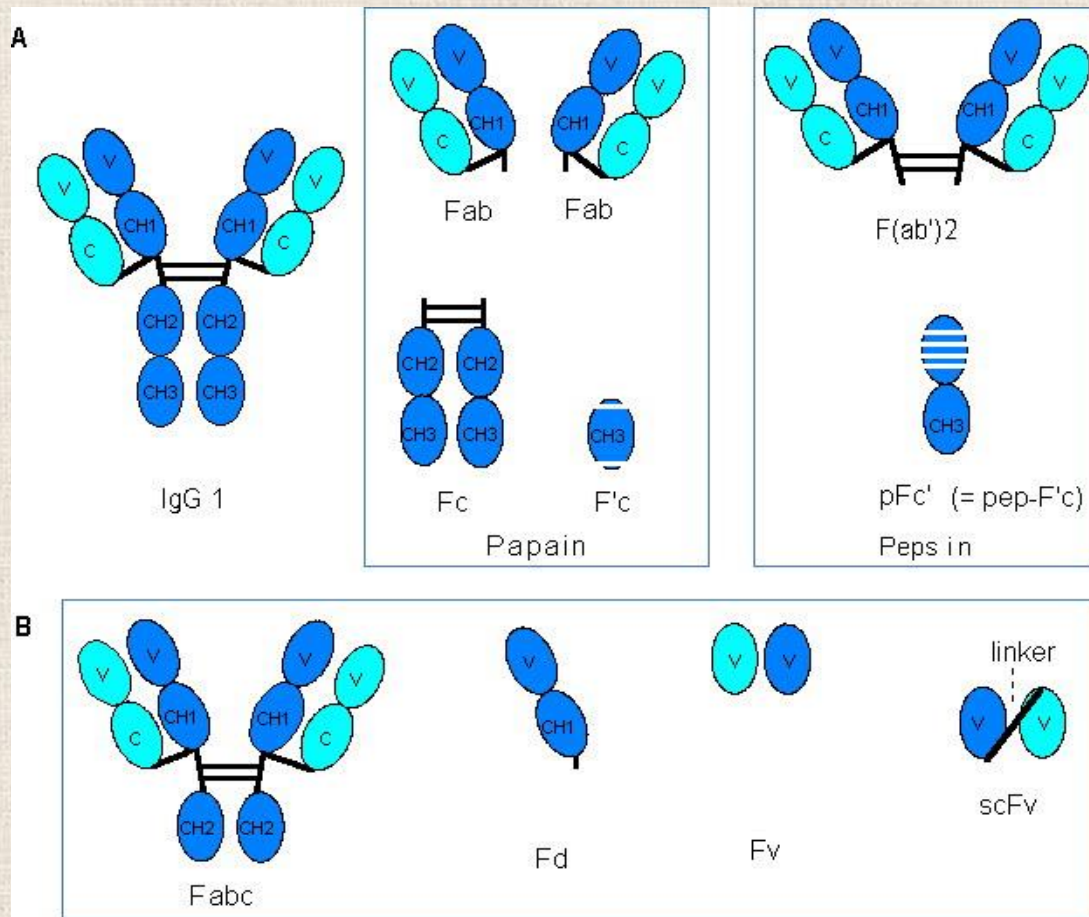
# Immunoglobulin molecule



**CDR**  
**Variable region**  
**Idiotyp**  
**Fab fragment**

**Constant region**  
**Isotype**  
**Fc fragment**





**Ig domains: intra-chain disulphide bonds form loops in the peptide chain, the loops are globular, constructed from beta-plated sheets and beta-turn loops.**

# Immunoglobulins

***Monofunctional*** character (specific antigen recognition and binding) ***before*** the antigen administration. **Fab** dependent function.

***Polyfunctional*** character ***after*** the antigen administration (signal transduction, complement fixation, opsonization, immunocomplex formation, FcR binding, etc). **Fc** dependent functions.

# Immunoglobulin isotypes

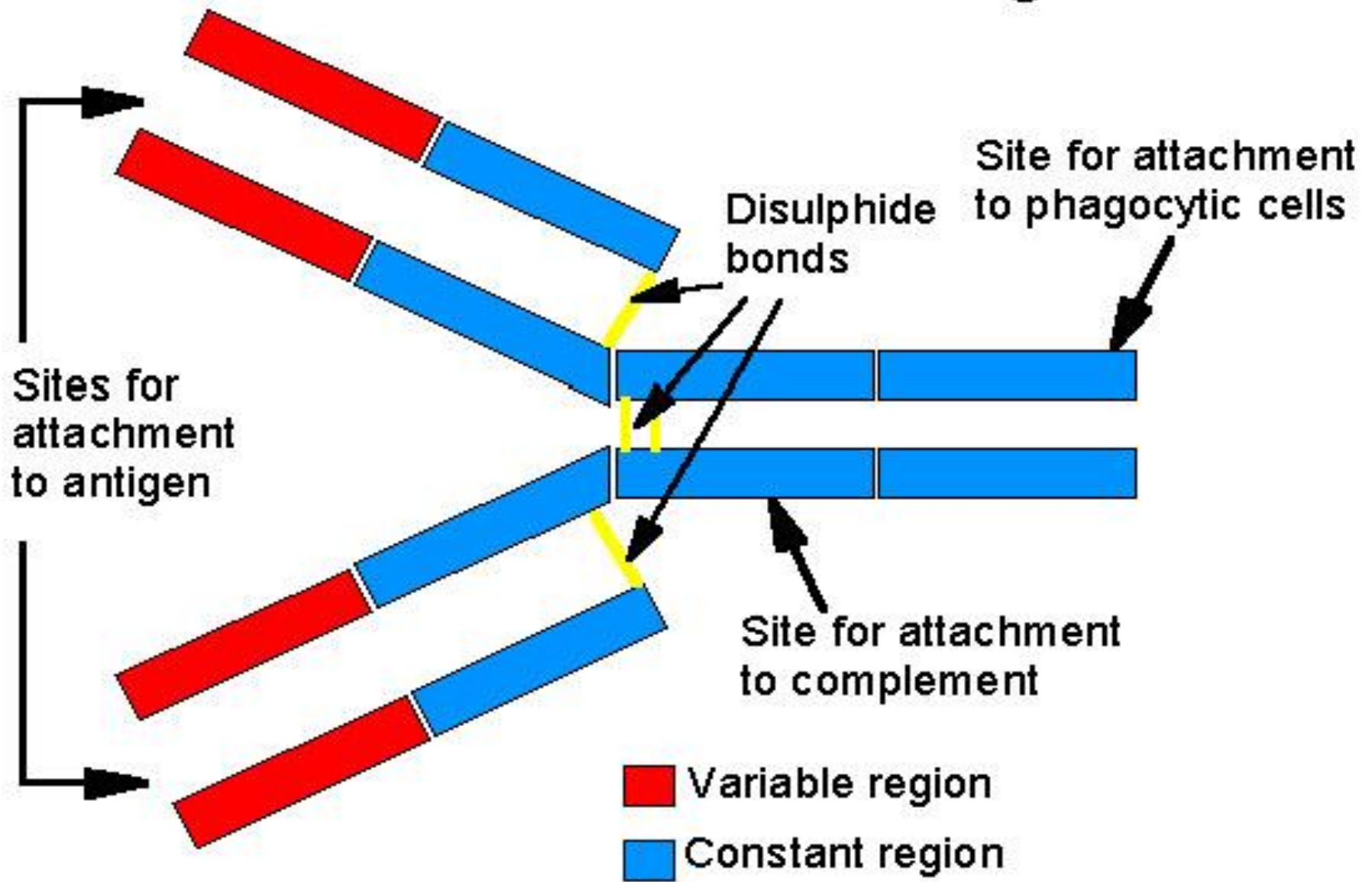
- Based upon the constant structures of heavy (H) and light (L) chains
- **CH isotypes:** called Ig classes and subclasses as **IgG, IgM, IgA, IgD** and **IgE**. All classes are represented in a normal serum (except the membrane bound IgD) as isotype variants.
- **CL** chain exists in two **isotypic forms:** kappa ( $\kappa$ ) and lambda ( $\lambda$ ), which can associate with all heavy chain isotypes.

<b>Heavy chain</b>	<b>Light chain</b>	<b>Immuno-globulin Class</b>	<b>Immuno-globulin Subclass</b>
$\gamma 1$	$\kappa$ or $\lambda$	IgG	IgG1
$\gamma 2$	$\kappa$ or $\lambda$		IgG2
$\gamma 3$	$\kappa$ or $\lambda$		IgG3
$\gamma 4$	$\kappa$ or $\lambda$		IgG4
$\alpha 1$	$\kappa$ or $\lambda$	IgA	IgA1
$\alpha 2$	$\kappa$ or $\lambda$		IgA2
$\mu$	$\kappa$ or $\lambda$	IgM	
$\delta$	$\kappa$ or $\lambda$	IgD	
$\epsilon$	$\kappa$ or $\lambda$	IgE	

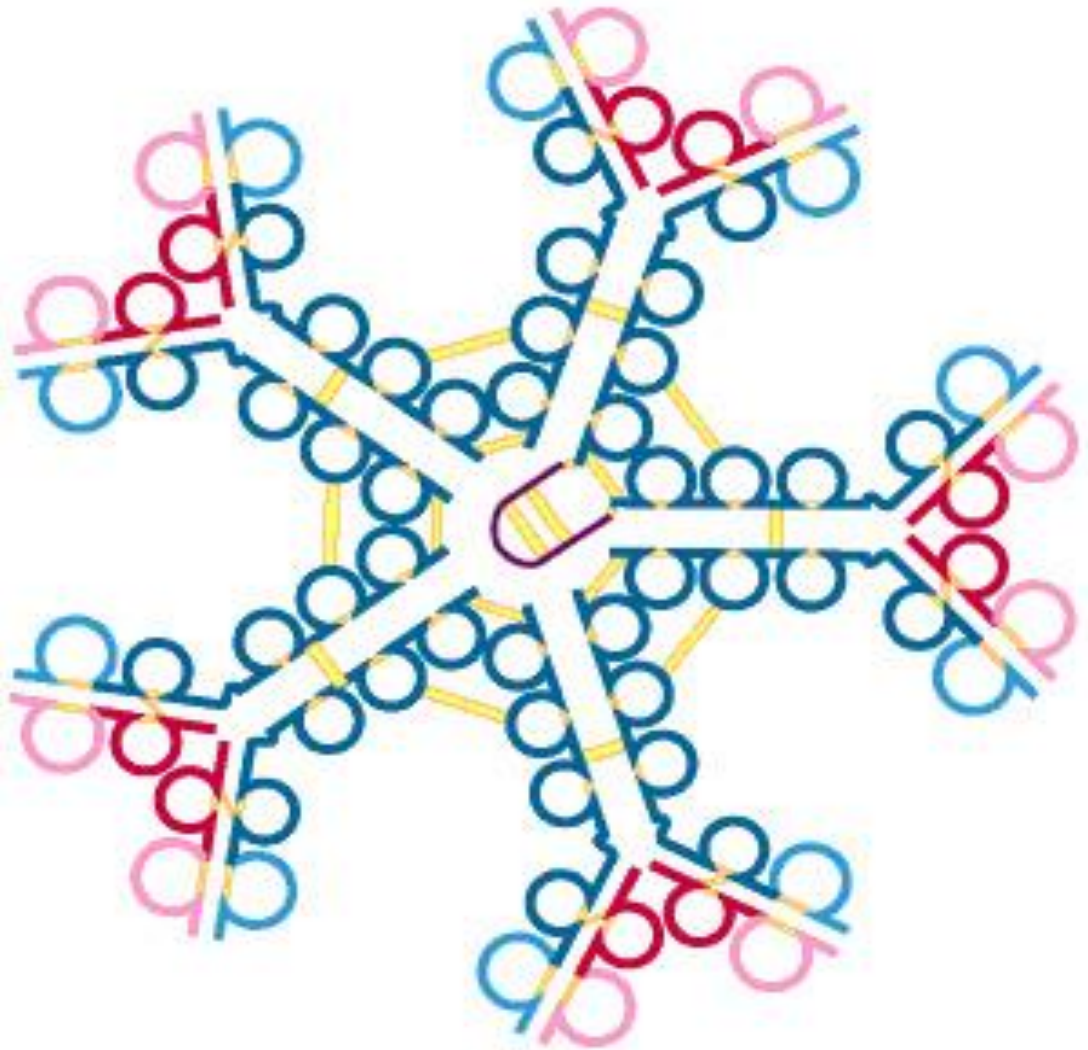
Pronunciation of Greek letters:

$\gamma$  gamma     $\alpha$  alpha     $\mu$  mu     $\delta$  delta  
 $\epsilon$  epsilon     $\kappa$  kappa     $\lambda$  lambda

# Structure of Immunoglobulin G1



# IgA and IgM




# Immunoglobulin E with name of each domain

Sites for attachment to antigen

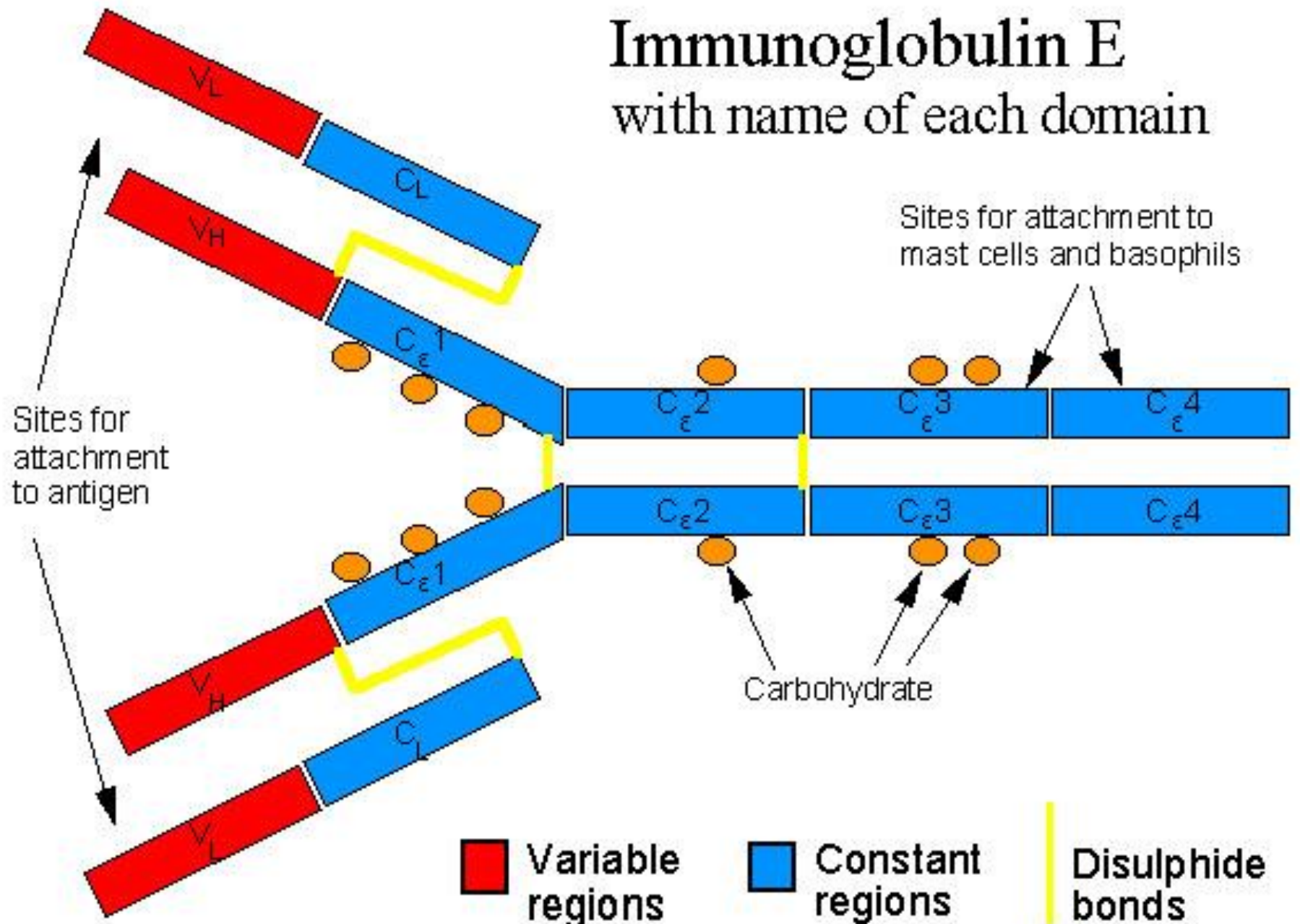
Sites for attachment to mast cells and basophils

Carbohydrate

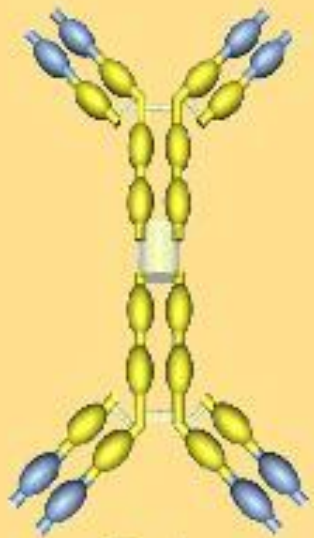
 Variable regions

 Constant regions

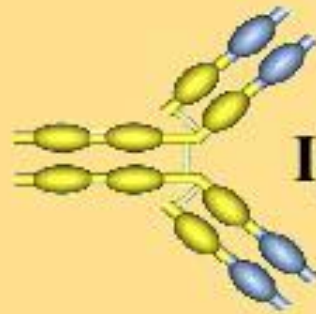
 Disulphide bonds



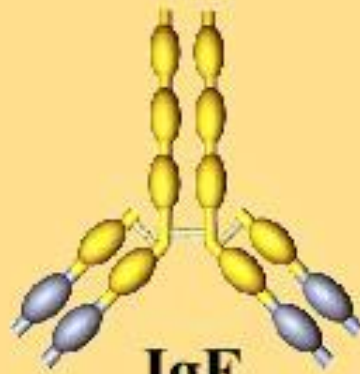




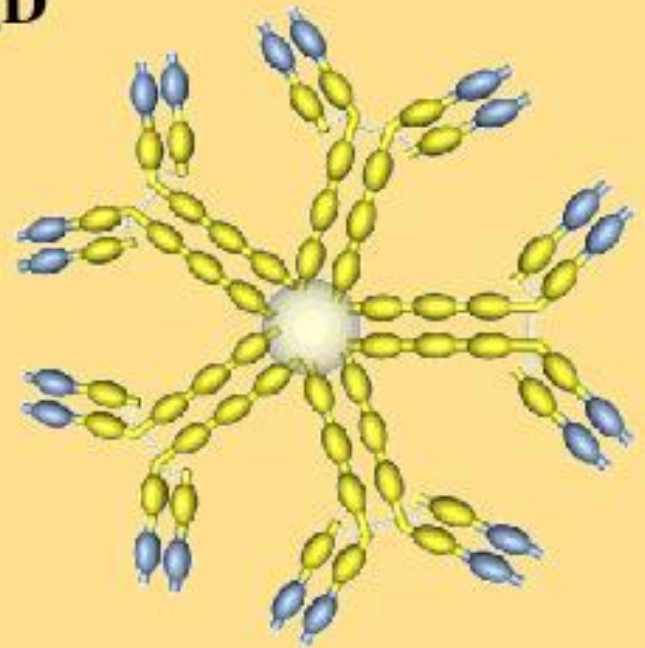
**IgA**



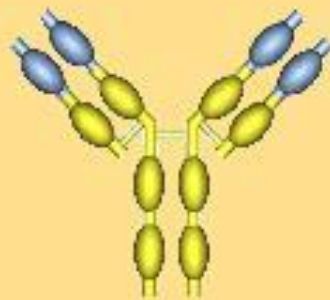
**IgD**



**IgE**



**IgM**

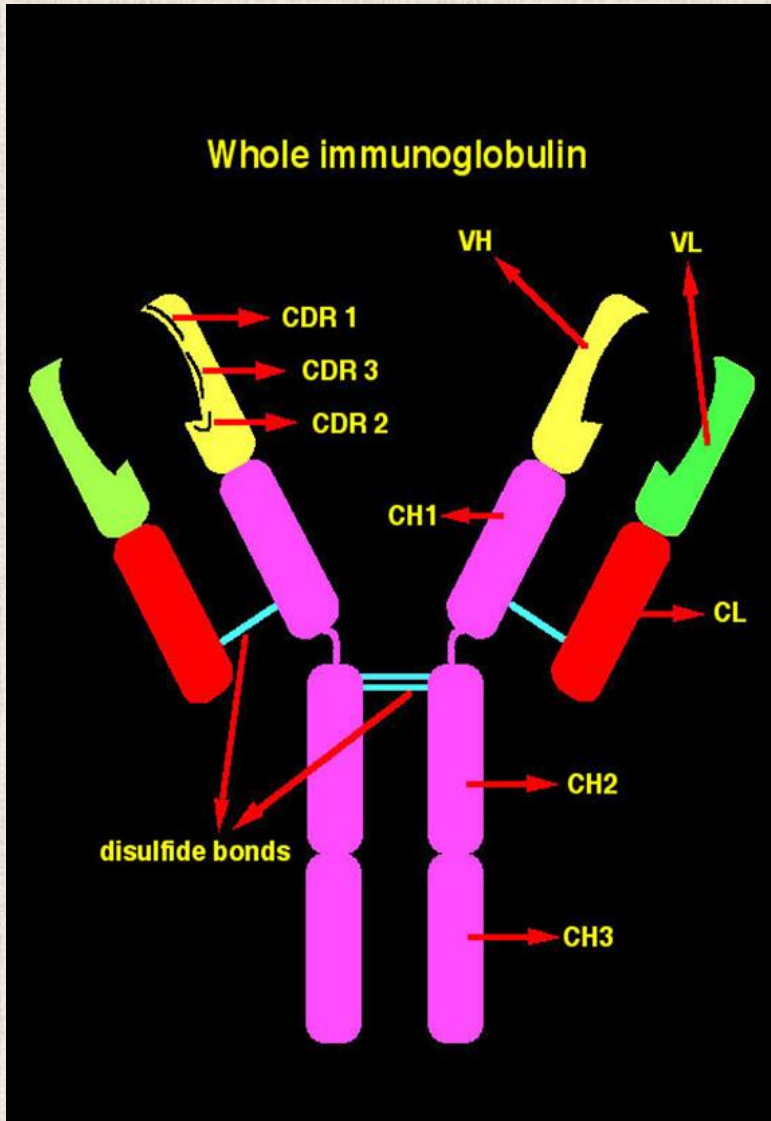


**IgG**

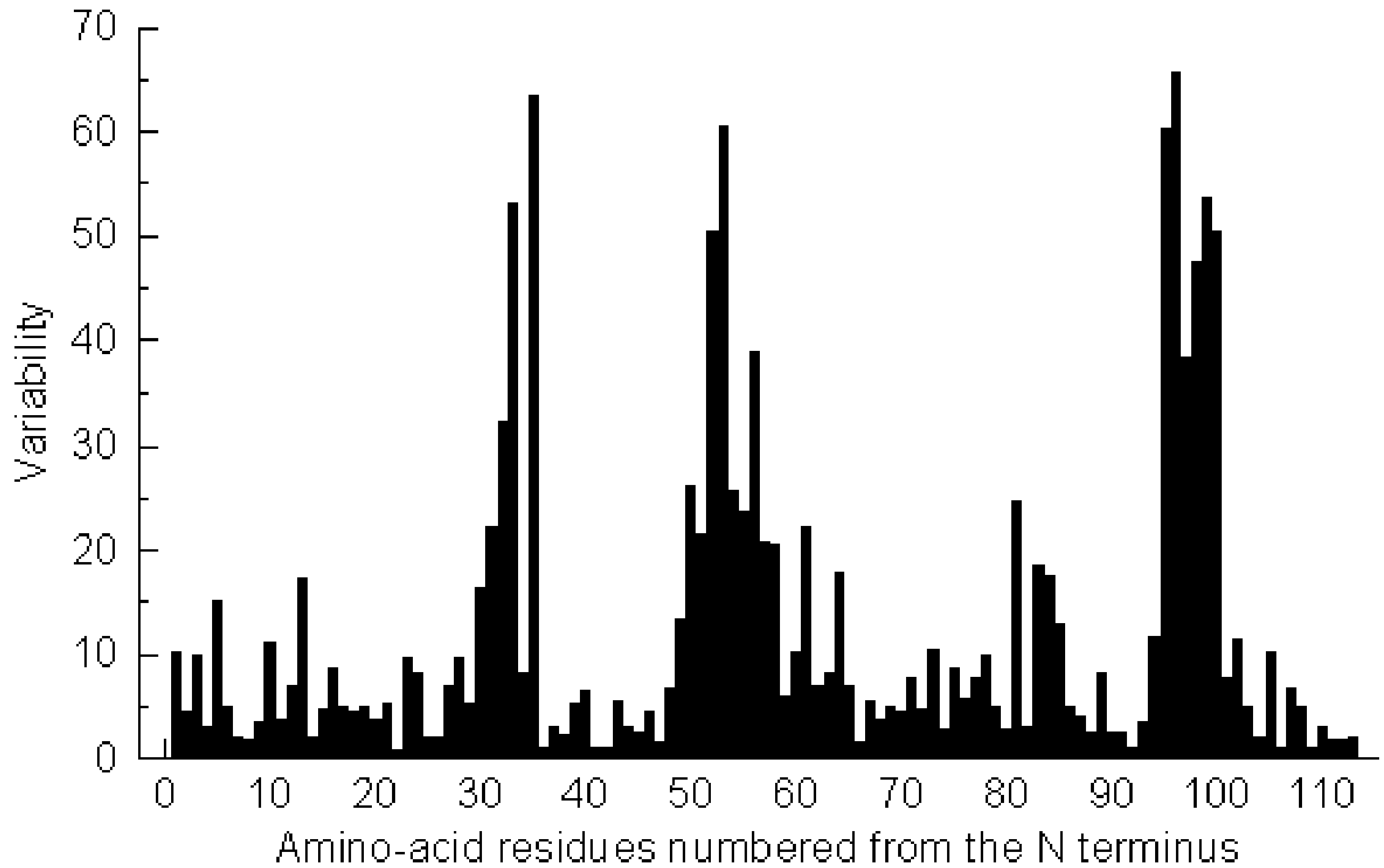
# Immunoglobulin idiotypic

Individual determinants in **V regions**, specific for each antibody.

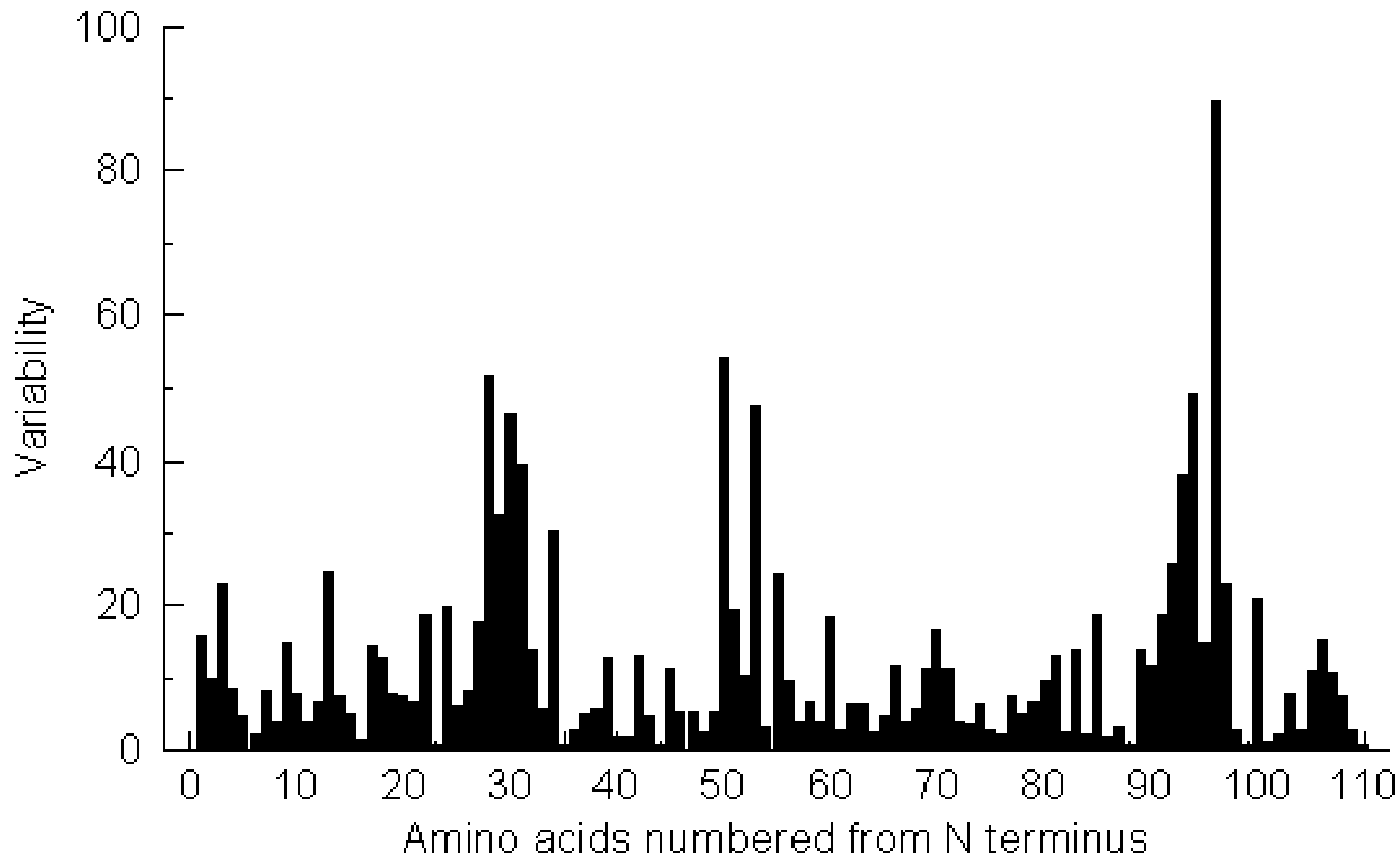
The N terminal Ig domain contains V region forming the antigen binding site: clustering the 3 hyper variable sequences close to each other on both chains - the variation of 3 x 3 results tremendous diversity.



## Variability of amino-acid residues in the variable region of immunoglobulin H chains

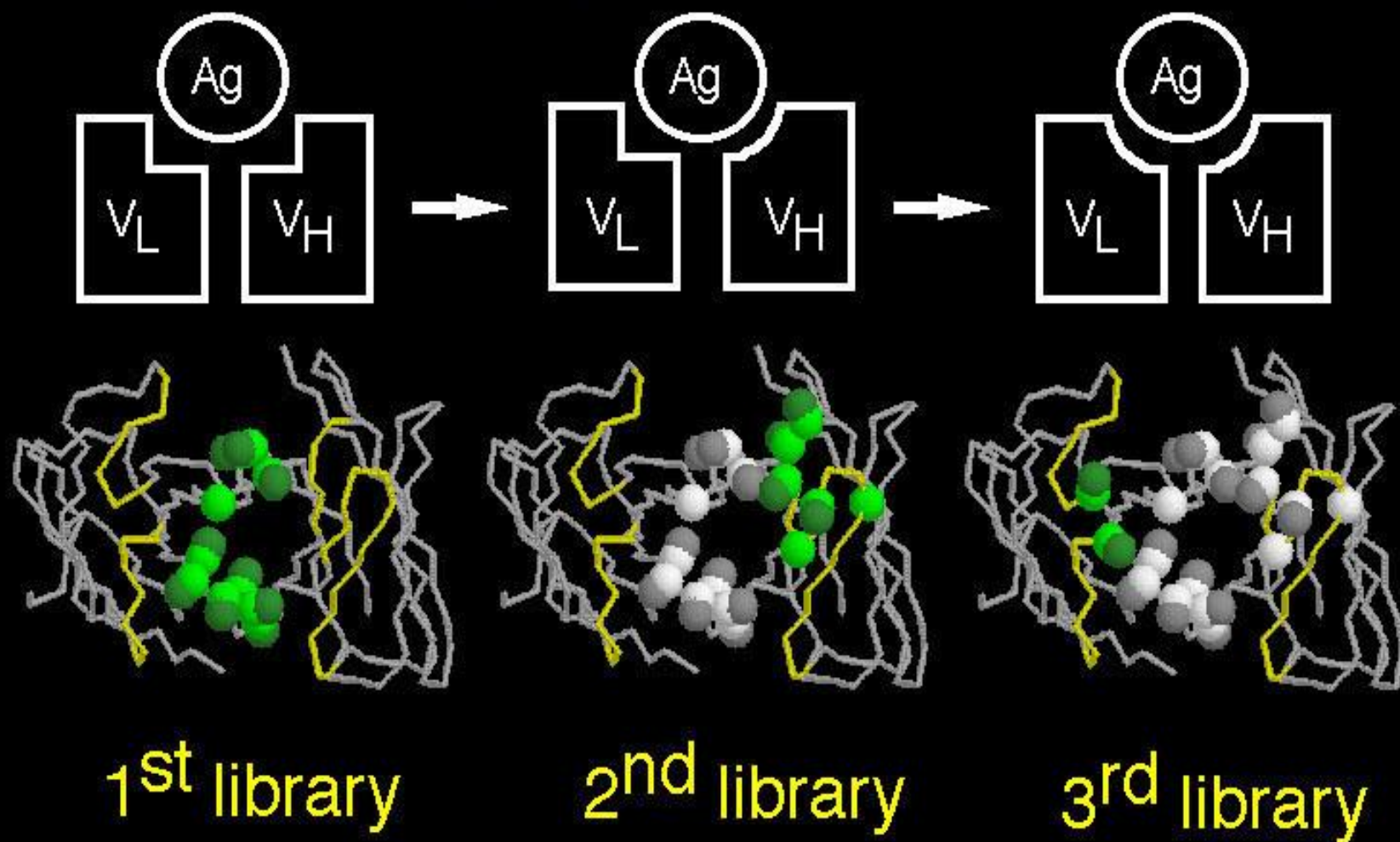


## Variability of amino-acid residues in the variable region of Immunoglobulin L chains

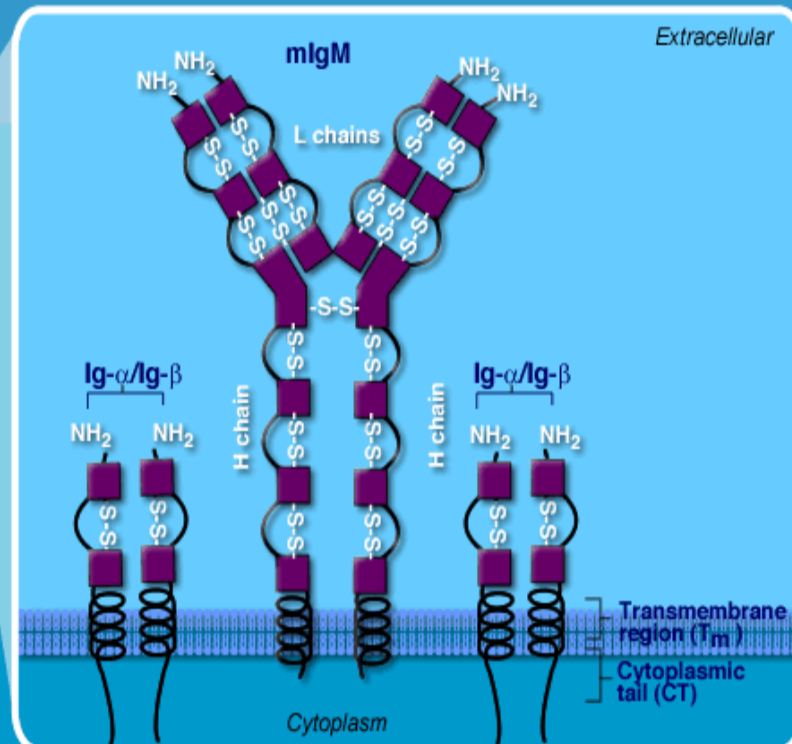
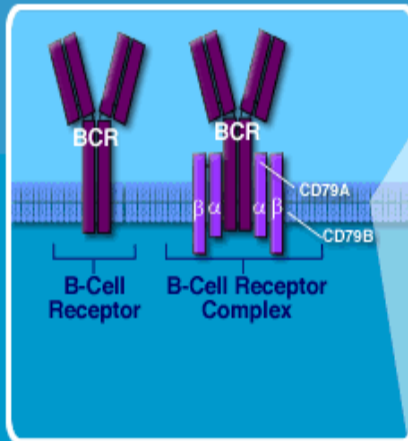
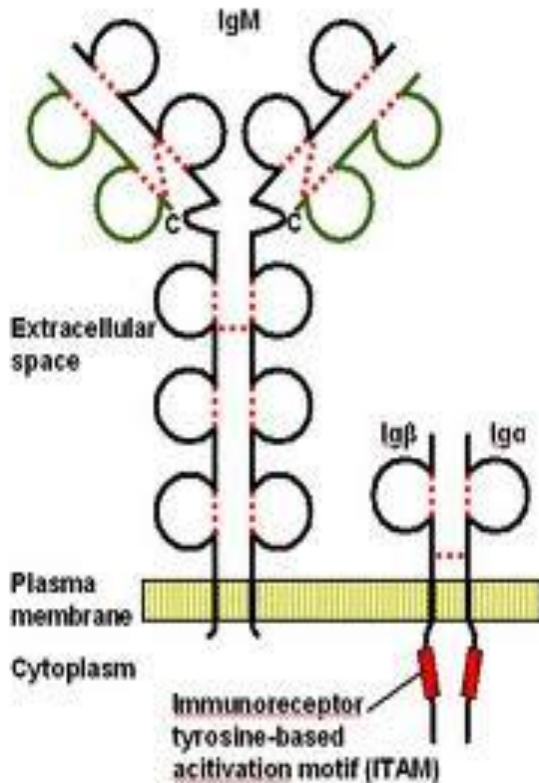


# Antibody affinity maturation

Pini et al. (1998) *J. Biol. Chem.* *273*, 21769-21776



# B cell Receptor (BcR) Complex



# T Cell receptor

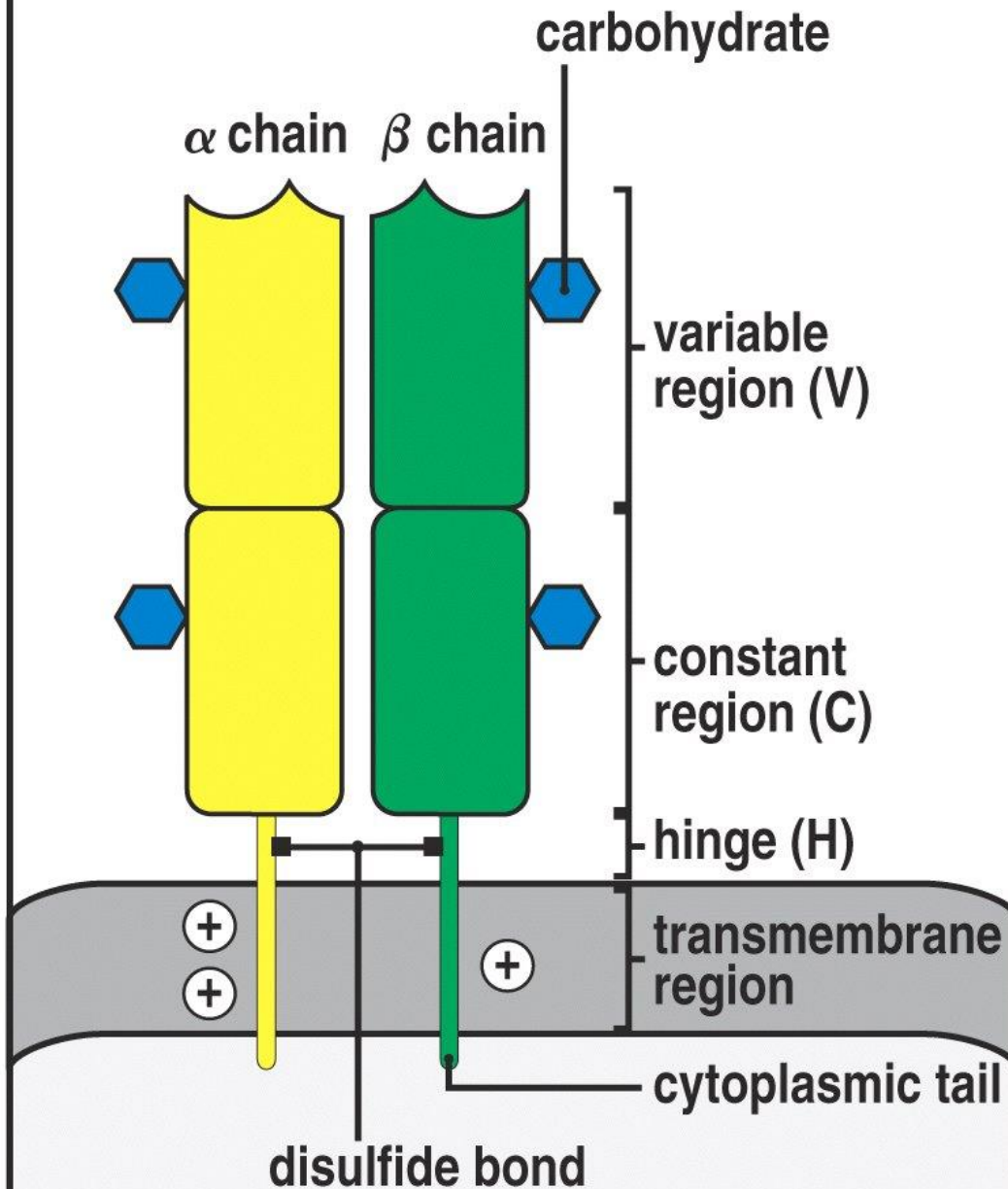
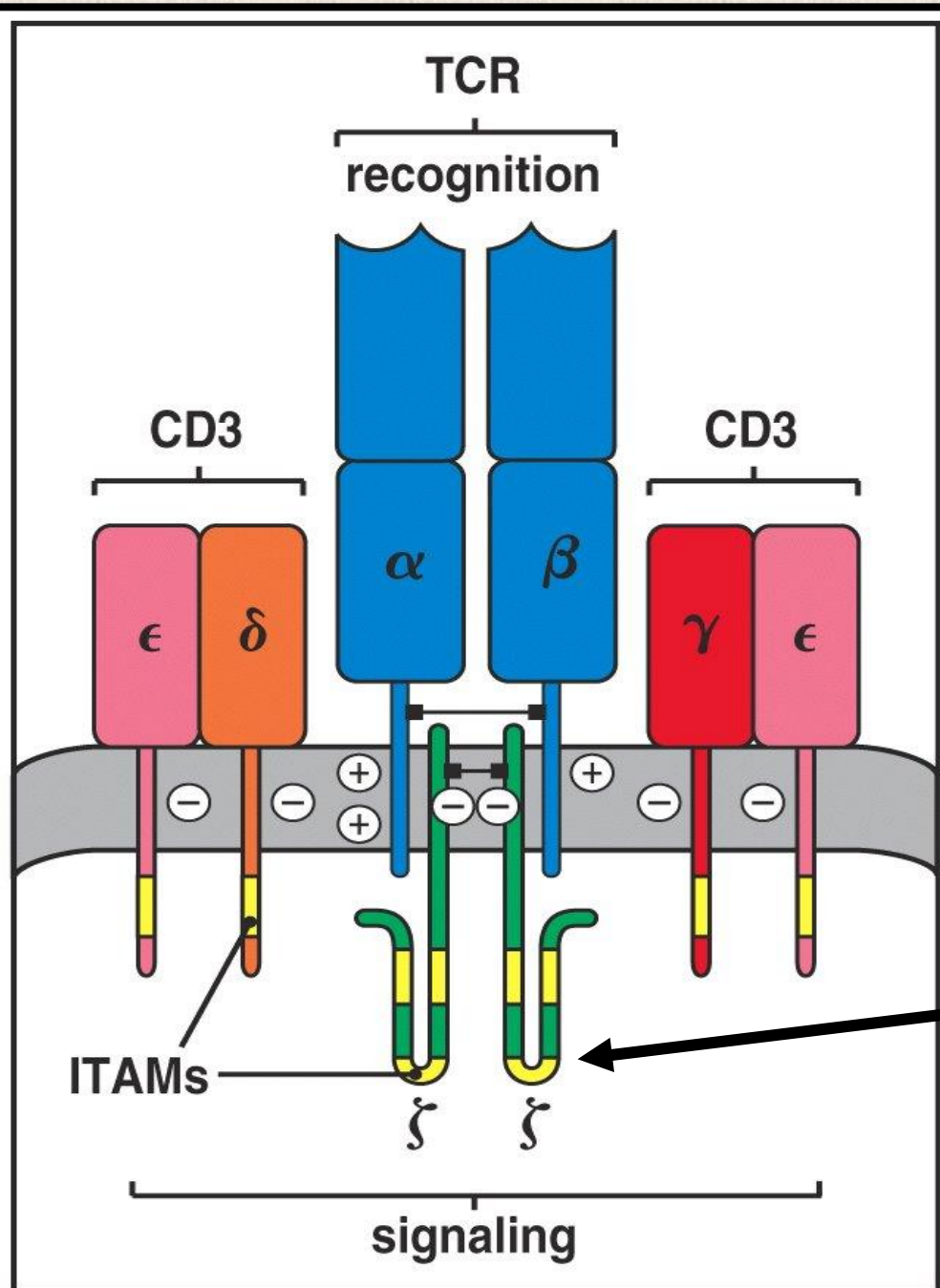


Figure 3-12 Immunobiology, 6/e. (© Garland Science 2005)

# T Cell Receptor complex



ITAMs  
Immunoreceptor  
Tyrosine-based  
Activation  
Motifs