# Statistical models for observed shapes of the mitochondrial crista membrane

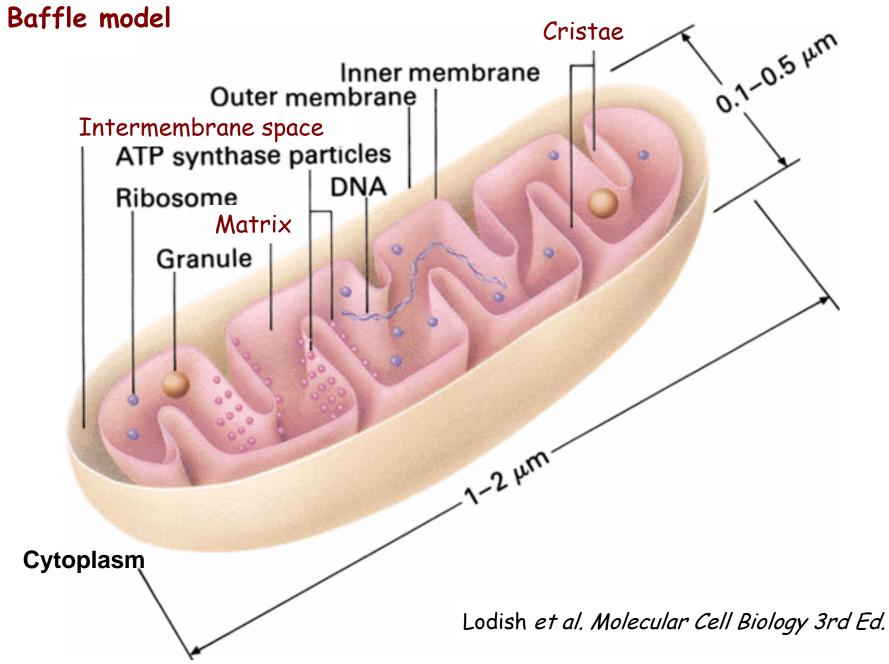
Biology Terry Frey Christian Renken Maria Sun James Williams Math Peter Salamon Jim Nulton Joe Mahaffy

#### Physics Arlette Ba

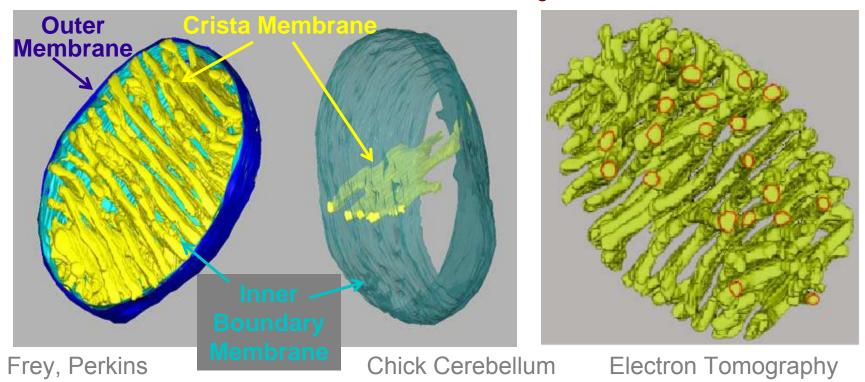
Arun Ponnuswamy Danny Flynn



# Traditional model of mitochondrial structure



# Corrected model-Crista junction model



#### Complex topology

- Matrix (connected)
- Intermembrane space
- Cristae

#### Crista membrane:

- Flat Regions
- Tubular Regions
- Crista Junctions

Junctions are uniform in size: Radius ≈ 10 nm

Alberts et al. Molecular Biology of the Cell 4th Ed.

# Function

- ATP synthesis
- Regulate cell death

Development of:

- Central Nervous System
- Immune System

Mitochondrial diseases: Altzheimer, Parkisons, Cancer, Heart attacks, Neurodegeneration, Muscle degeneration

# Free energy for uniform membrane

$$F = \frac{\kappa}{2} \oint \left(\frac{1}{R^2}\right) dA + \frac{k^m}{4A} \left(\Delta A - \Delta A_0\right)^2$$

Helfrich

Area Difference

 $+k^{m}A[(N^{+}+N^{-})/(2\phi_{0}A)]$ 

Stretching or Compressing

Bending

 $+F_{v}$  Osmotic Pressure Difference

Review: Seifert, Advances in Physics, 1997

K -bending modulus k<sup>m</sup>-compression modulus

\$\overline{\phi}\$ is the number density of lipid head groups
+,- are actual values in outer, inner leaflet;
0 is the preferred value

Topview tubular membrane

# Nanoscience

# Giant Vesicles (cell membranes) $A=1000\mu m^2$ .

- "A simplification arises from the fact that there are two well separated energy scales."
- "Area of membrane is constant because stretching or compressing the membrane involves much larger energies than the cost of bending deformations."
- "Any net transfer of water would generate an osmotic pressure that can not be counterbalanced by the relative weak forces arising from bending the membrane."

Seifert, Advances in Physics, 1997

# Crista Structures A=1000nm<sup>2</sup>

• All terms result in roughly equal contributions

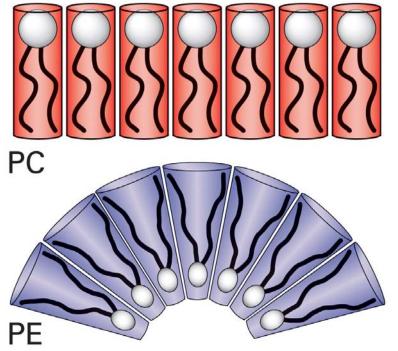
# First model Physical Biology 2, 73 (2005)

Explain the uniformity in the radius of the tubular portions

- Osmotic pressure difference
- Non-uniform lipid distribution (C<sub>0</sub>)
- No stretching or compressing forces

# Two-lipid Model

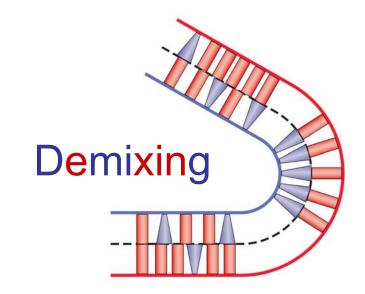
 Lipids Phosphatidyl Choline (PC) – 44.5% Phosphatidyl Ethanolamine (PE) - 27.7% Cardiolipin – 17.4% Others – 10.4%
 Proteins



a<sub>0</sub> preferred area per headgroup a actual area per headgroup Free energy of bending

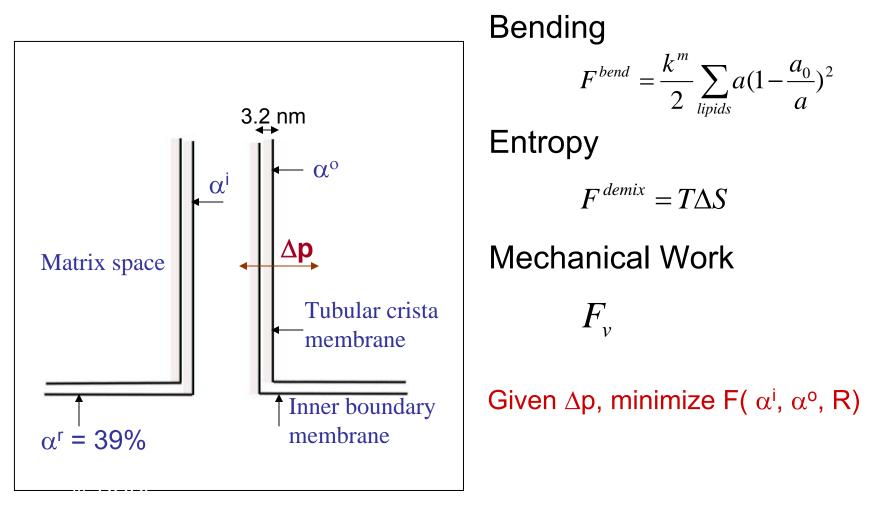
$$F^{bend} = \frac{k^m}{2} \sum_{lipids} a(1 - \frac{a_0}{a})^2$$

Israelachvilli Miao et al.



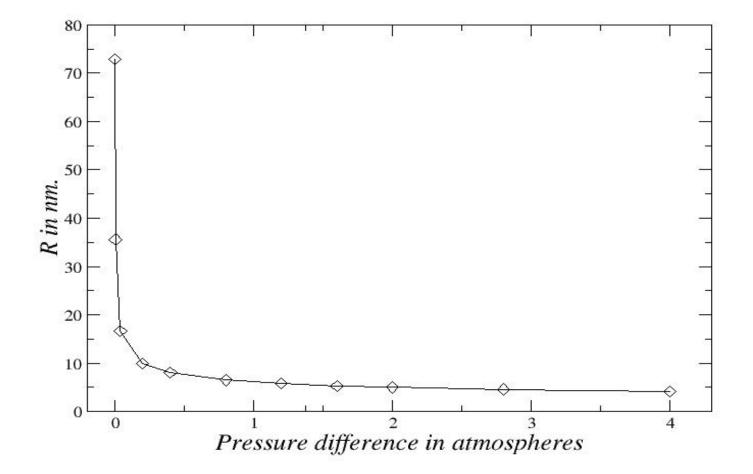
Lodish *et al. Molecular Cell Biology 5th Ed.*, Freeman, 2003 Ding *et al. Langmuir* 21, 203, 2005

# Definitions



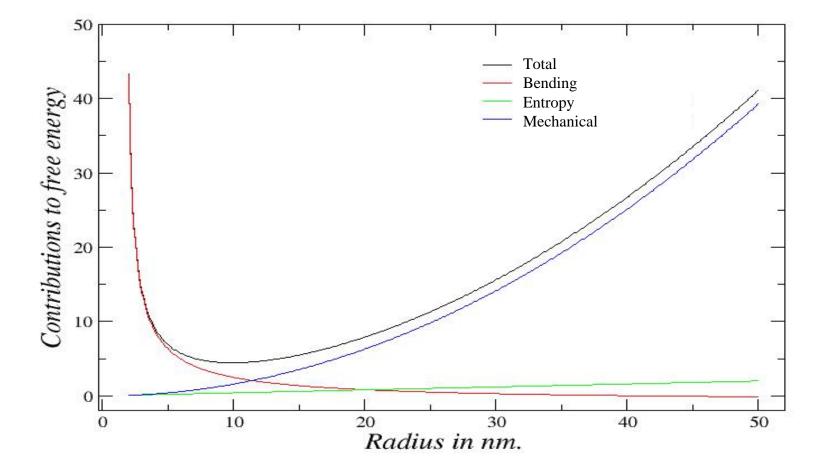
 $\alpha^{i}$  = %DOPE (inner layer)  $\alpha^{o}$  = %DOPE (outer layer) R = Radius tube

#### Pressure Dependence



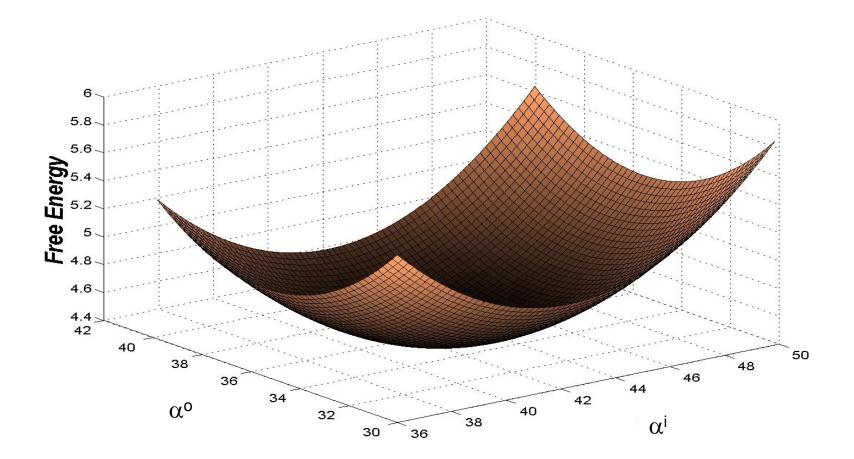
At Pressure difference  $\Delta p = 0.2$  atm., R = 10nm

# Free energy of tubular membrane (compared to that of flat membrane)



At  $\Delta p = 0.2$  atm,  $\alpha^{i} = 42\%$ ,  $\alpha^{o} = 35\%$ 

# Relevance of lipid composition



 $\Delta p = 0.2 \text{ atm}, R = 10 \text{ nm}$ 

# First Model

Given the observed raduis of tubes R=10 nm

Predicted pressure difference:

 $\Delta p = 0.2 \text{ atm}$ 

Predicted lipid redistribution:

 $\alpha^{i} = \%$  DOPE (inner layer tube) = 42%

 $\alpha^{o} = \%$  DOPE (outer layer tube) = 35%

### Issues

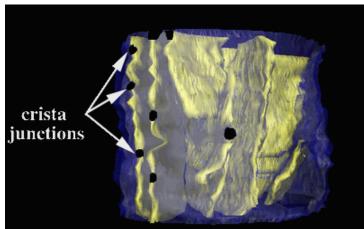
Why do tubular regions and flat regions coexist in mitochondrial crista membrane? Why do tubes vary in length? Is there indeed an osmotic pressure difference? What is role of OPA1?

# OPA1

Dynamin-like GTPase Mechano-enzyme Intermembrane protein

"Loss of OPA1 Perturbates the Mitochondrial Inner Membrane Structure" Olichon et all, *JBC* (2002).

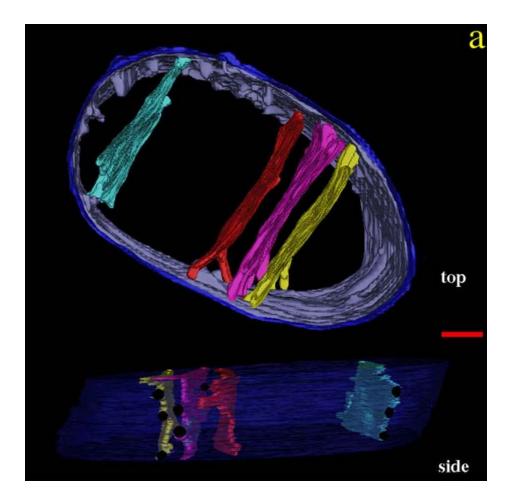
#### Vestigal crista junctions



Neurospora mitochondrion, Perkins Brown Adipose Tissue

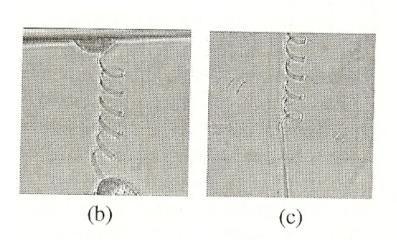
# Second Model

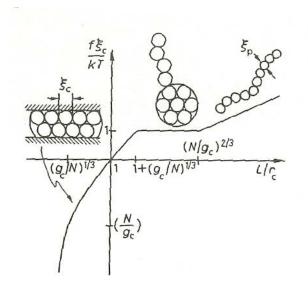
- Membrane under compression
- Radii of tubes (R=10 nm) dictated by other mechanism (OPA1)
- No osmotic pressure difference



Spacing (D) of tubules is less than  $\pi R$ 

#### Tension induced shape transitions

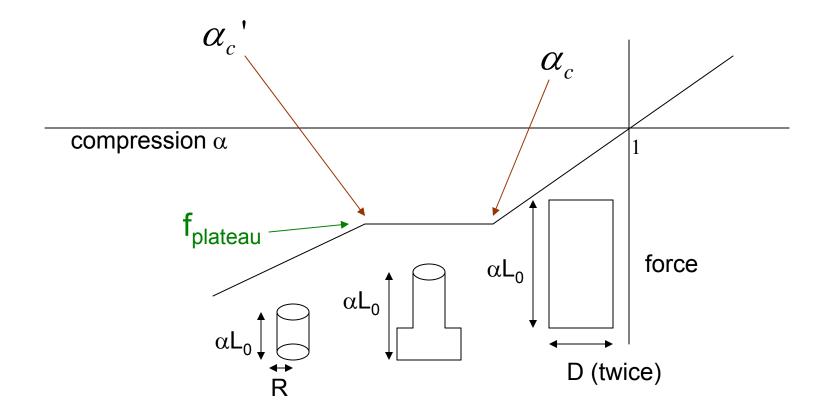




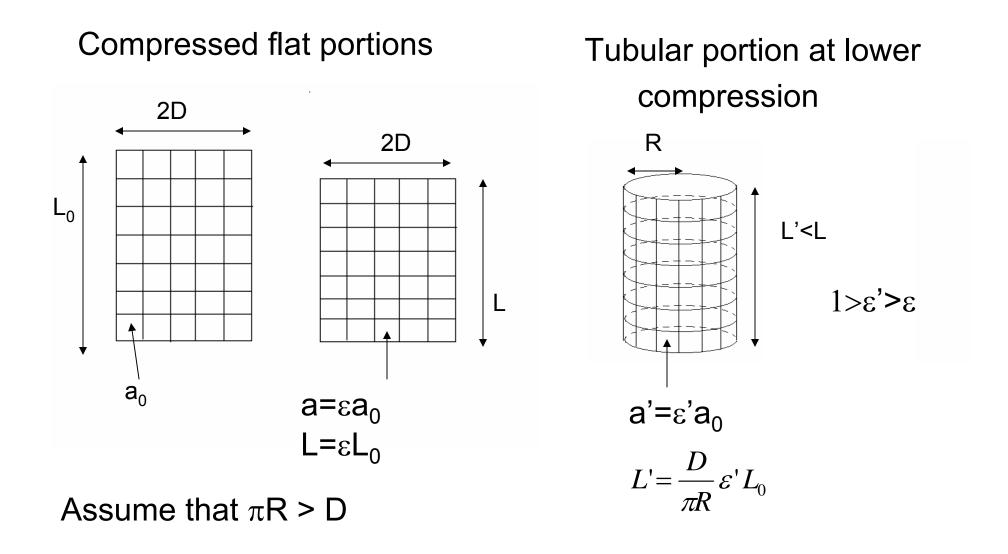
Helical Ribbon: Smith at all *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 87, 278101, 2001

Polymer: Halperin, Zhulina *Eur. Phys. Lett.* 15, 417, 1991

### **Compression induced shape transition**



# Coexistence of two "phases"



# Conditions

F<sup>flat</sup> = free energy of plat portionF<sup>tube</sup> = free energy of tubular portion

Coexistence implies:

$$\frac{\partial F^{flat}}{\partial N^{flat}} = \frac{\partial F^{tube}}{\partial N^{tube}} = \text{ Free energy per molecule}$$
$$\frac{\partial F^{flat}}{\partial L^{flat}} = \frac{\partial F^{tube}}{\partial L^{tube}} = \text{ Plateau force}$$

# Free Energies

Free energies for flat and tubular parts

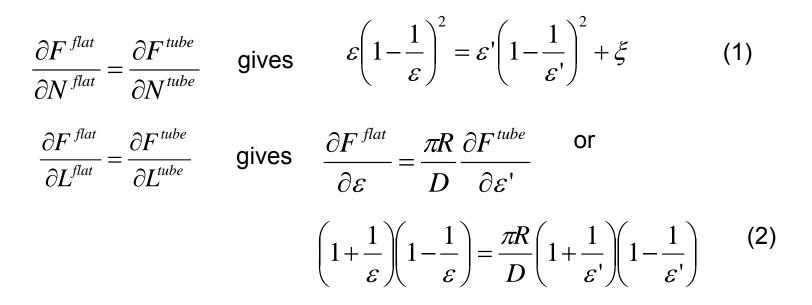
$$F^{flat} = k^m A (1 - \frac{A_0}{A})^2 = k^m \varepsilon A_0 (1 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon})^2$$

$$F^{tube} \approx k^{m} \varepsilon' A_{0} (1 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon'})^{2} + \xi k^{m} A_{0}$$

where 
$$F^{bend} = \frac{k^m}{2} \sum_{lipids} a(1 - \frac{a_0}{a})^2 = \xi(R)k^m A_0$$

for a uniform membrane, R=10 nm,  $\xi$ =0.0056

#### Coexistence



Using Taylor expansions in  $(1-\varepsilon)$  and  $(1-\varepsilon')$  I obtain as solution for (1) and (2)

$$\alpha_{c} = \varepsilon = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{\xi}{\left(\frac{\pi R}{D}\right)^{2} - 1}} \qquad \qquad \alpha_{c}' = \frac{D}{\pi R} \varepsilon' = \frac{D}{\pi R} - \sqrt{\xi} \left(\frac{2\left(\frac{D}{\pi R}\right)^{2} - 1}{\left(\frac{\pi R}{D}\right)^{2} - 1}\right)$$

#### Plateau Force Regime

 $\alpha_c' < \alpha < \alpha_c$ 

From equations:

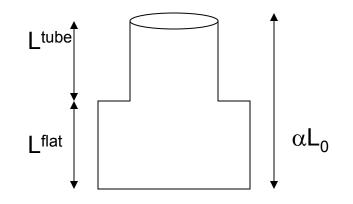
$$L^{flat} + L^{tube} = \alpha L_0$$

$$N = N^{flat} + N^{tube}$$

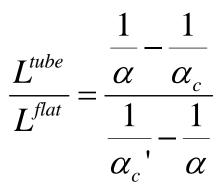
$$N = L_0 D / a_0$$

$$N^{flat} = D L^{flat} / \varepsilon a_0$$

$$N^{tube} = \pi R L^{tube} / \varepsilon' a_0$$



it follows that:

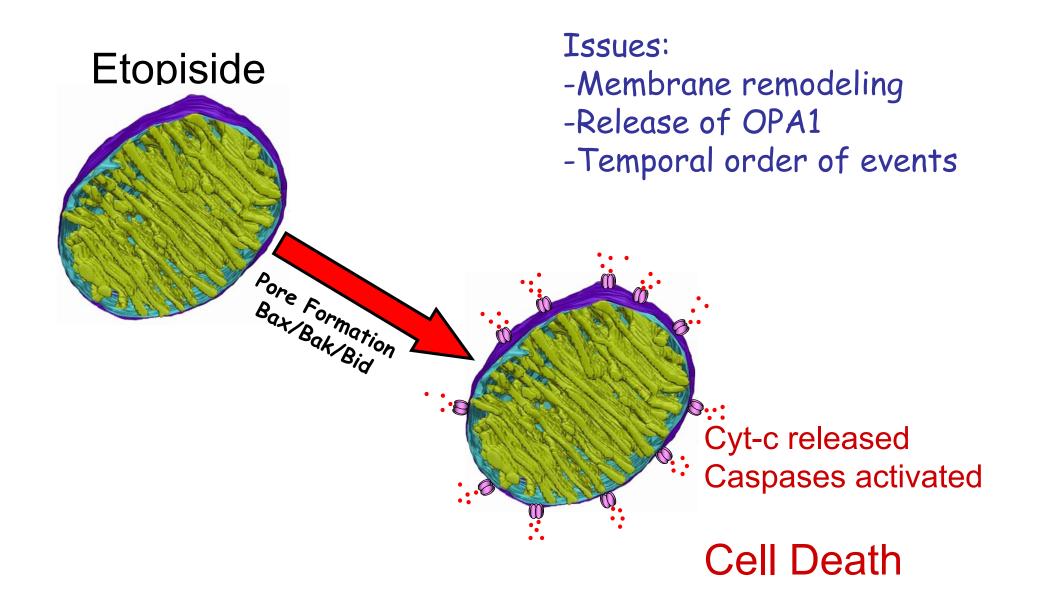


#### Second Model

- How does OPA1 control the radius?
- Hypothesize: OPA1 controls Plateau force Radius

$$f_{plateau} = 2Dk^{m} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right) \left(1 - \frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right) \qquad \varepsilon = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{\xi(R)}{\left(\frac{\pi R}{D}\right)^{2} - 1}}$$

# **Apoptosis**



#### The Progression of Structural Changes in Mitochondria During Apoptosis Initiated by Etoposide

