

Kelby Peterson

Mentors: Joseph Robertson & John Suehle

Society of Physics Students Summer Internship

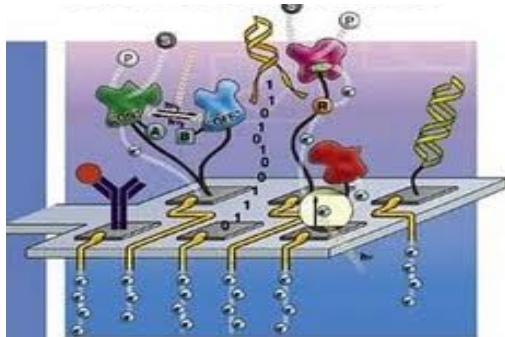
NIST Gaithersburg, MA

# NANOPORE SENSING OF AN ANTHRAX PROTEIN

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# Nanopore Sensing



Wilner & Katz eds.



AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS



F. Patolsky, C.M.  
Lieber et al.

Techniques



QTL Biosensor

Biodefense



<http://www.biomedicalblog.com/a-blood-test-for-lung-cancer/31800/>

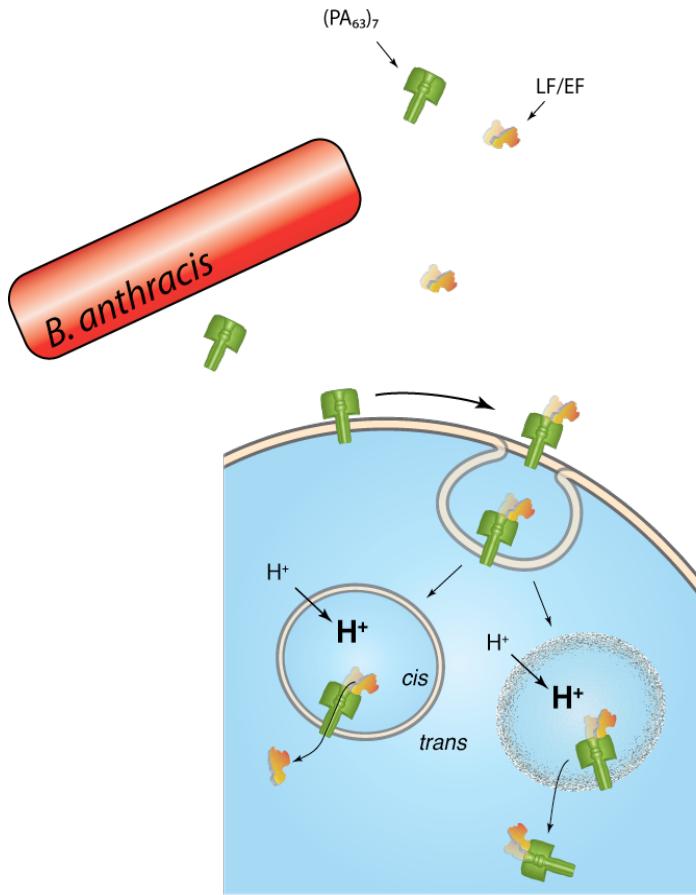


NIST conceived device: future development

Clinical Diagnostics

# Understanding Anthrax

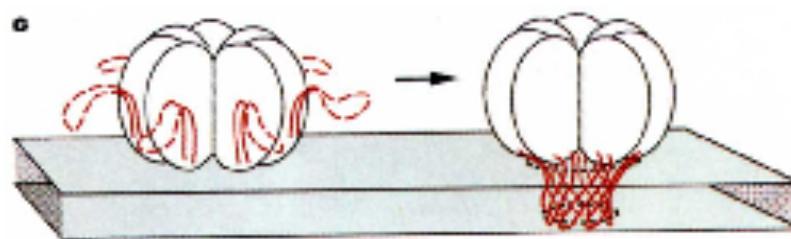
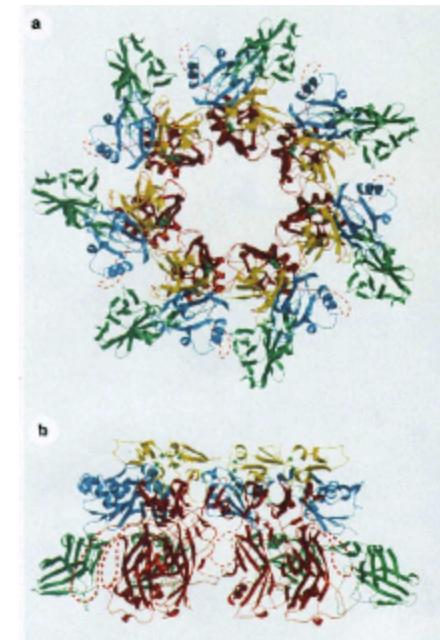
## Anthrax toxin



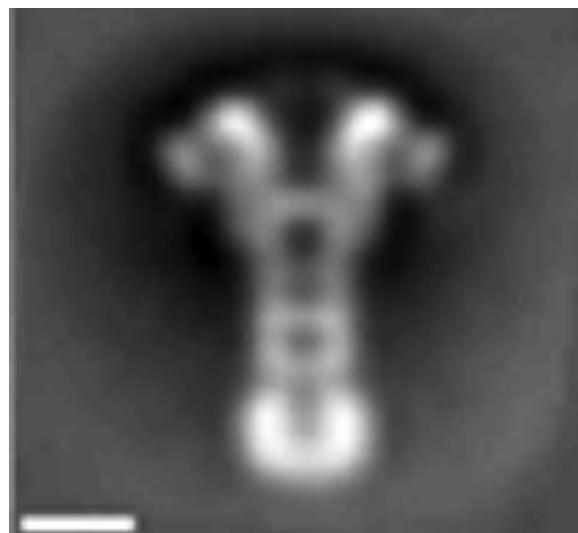
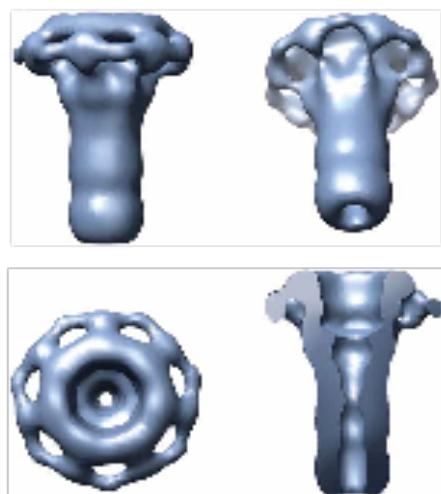
### 3 Proteins

- Protective Antigen
- Edema Factor (EF)
- Lethal Factor (LF)

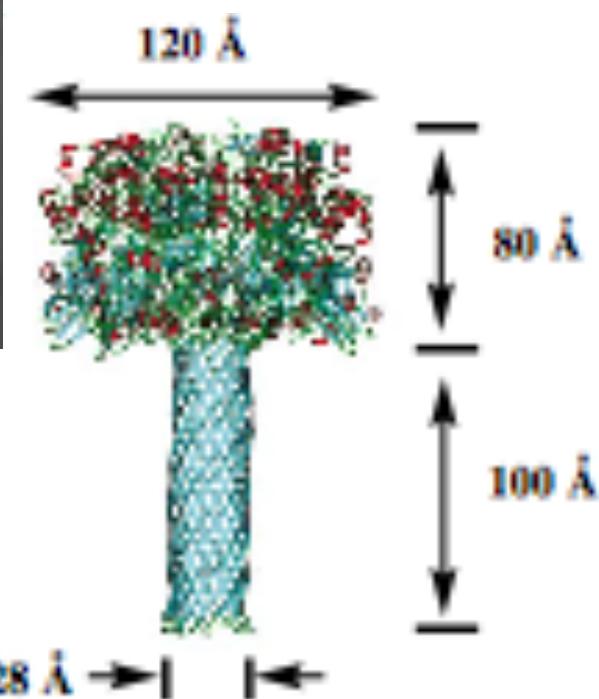
Petosa, C., et al. Crystal structure of the anthrax toxin protective antigen.  
Nature 385, 833-838 (1997).



# Protective Antigen- Anthrax Protein

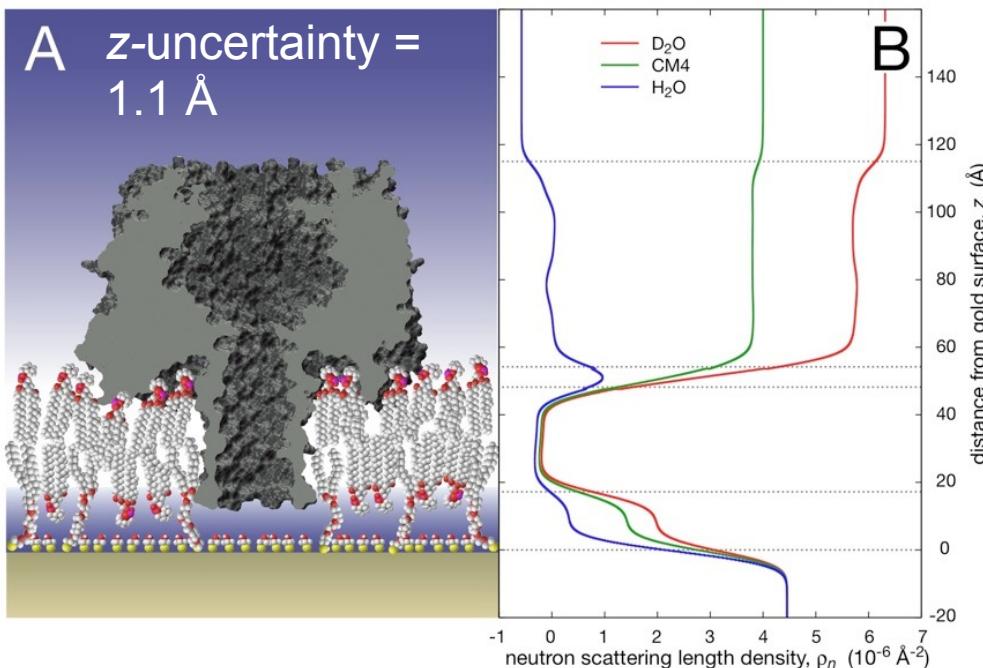


Nguyen, T.L. Three-dimensional model of the pore form of anthrax protective antigen. Structure and biological implications. *J Biomol Struct Dyn* 22, 253–265 (2004).



Katayama, h. et al. GroEL as a molecular scaffold for structural analysis of the anthrax toxin pore. *Nat Struct. Mol. Biol.* 15, 754-760 (2008).

# Neutron Reflectometry

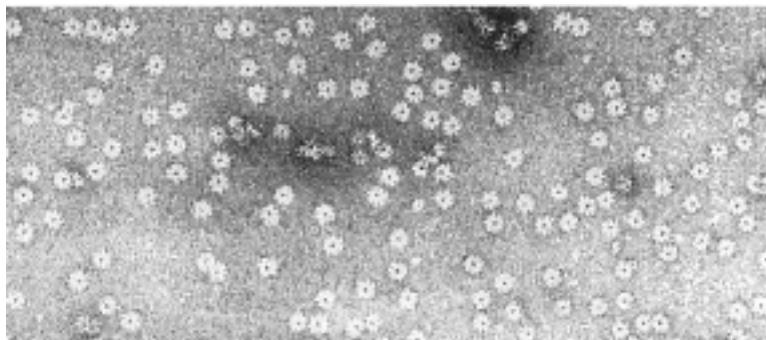


McGillivray, Valincius, Heinrich, Robertson,  
Vanderah, Febo-Ayala, Ignatjev, Lösche, and  
Kasianowicz, 2009. Biophys. J. 96, 1547.

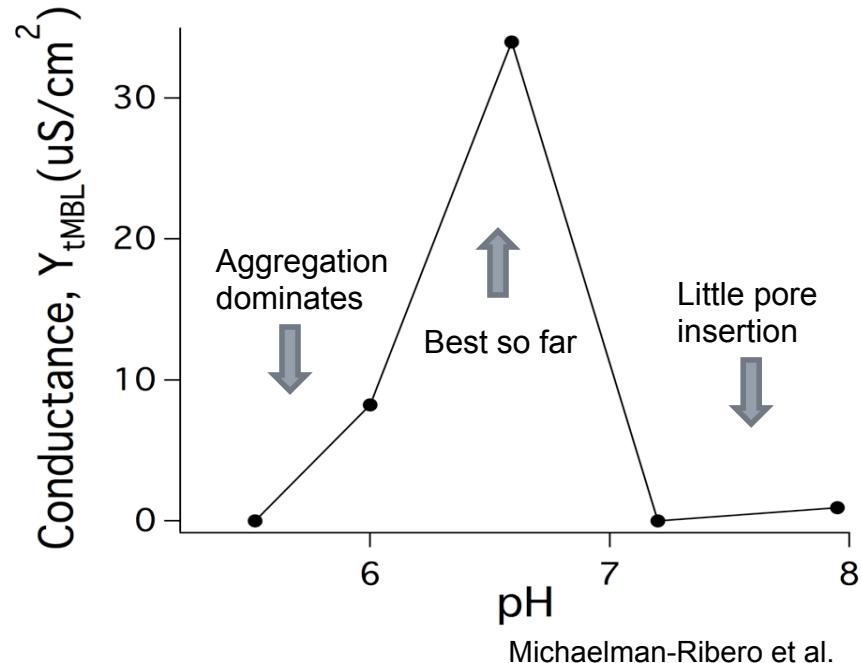
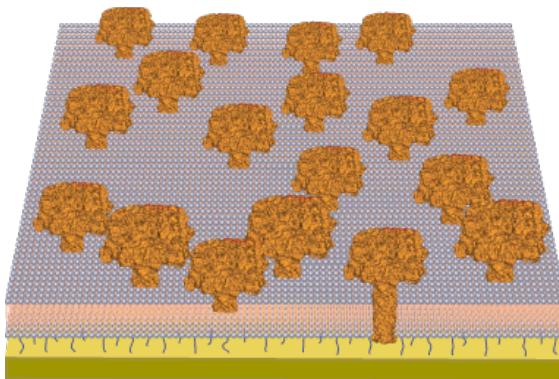


McGillivray, Valincius, Heinrich, Robertson,  
Vanderah, Febo-Ayala, Ignatjev, Lösche, and  
Kasianowicz, 2009. Biophys. J. 96, 1547.

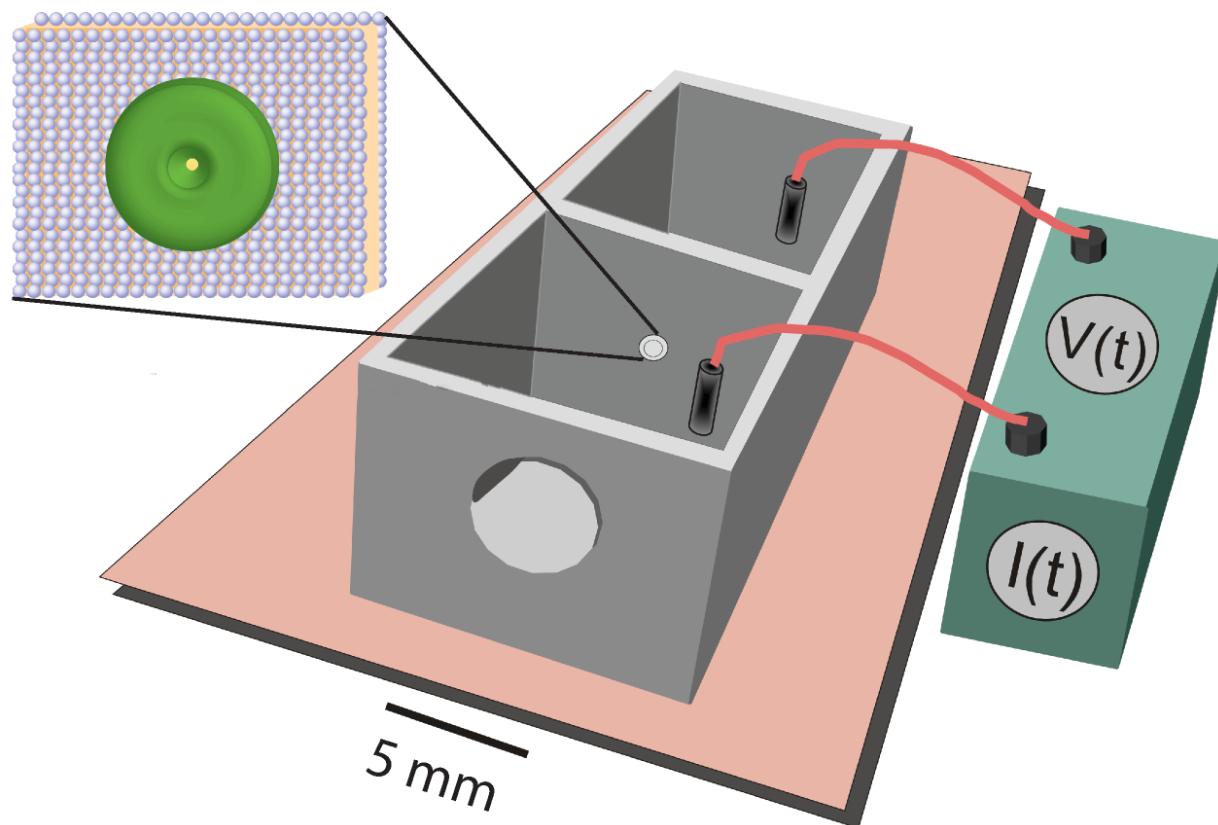
# Optimizing Pore Formation



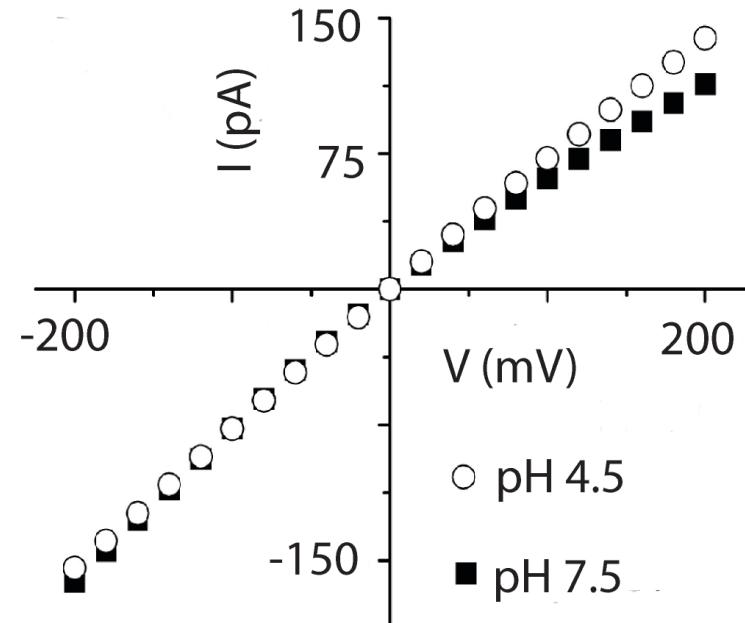
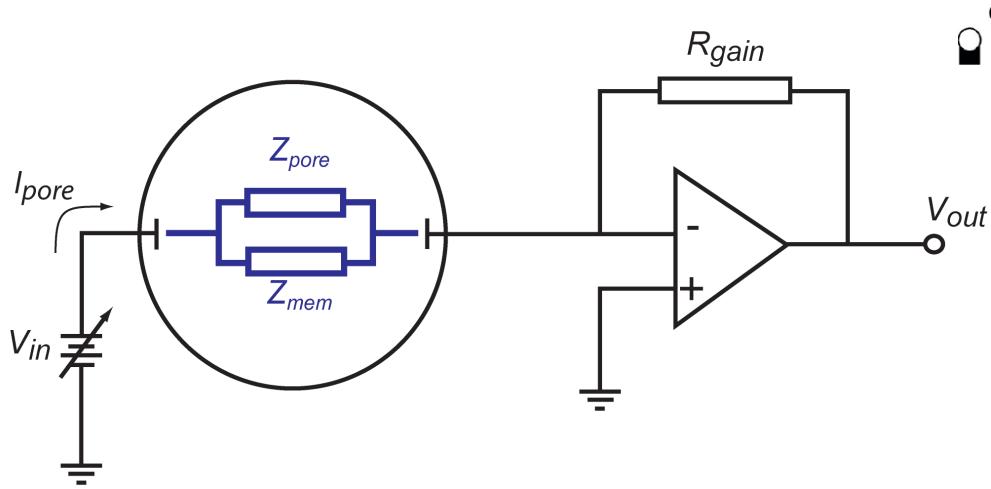
Milne, J.C., et al. Anthrax protective antigen forms oligomers during intoxication of mammalian cells. *J Biol Chem* 269, 20607–20612 (1994).



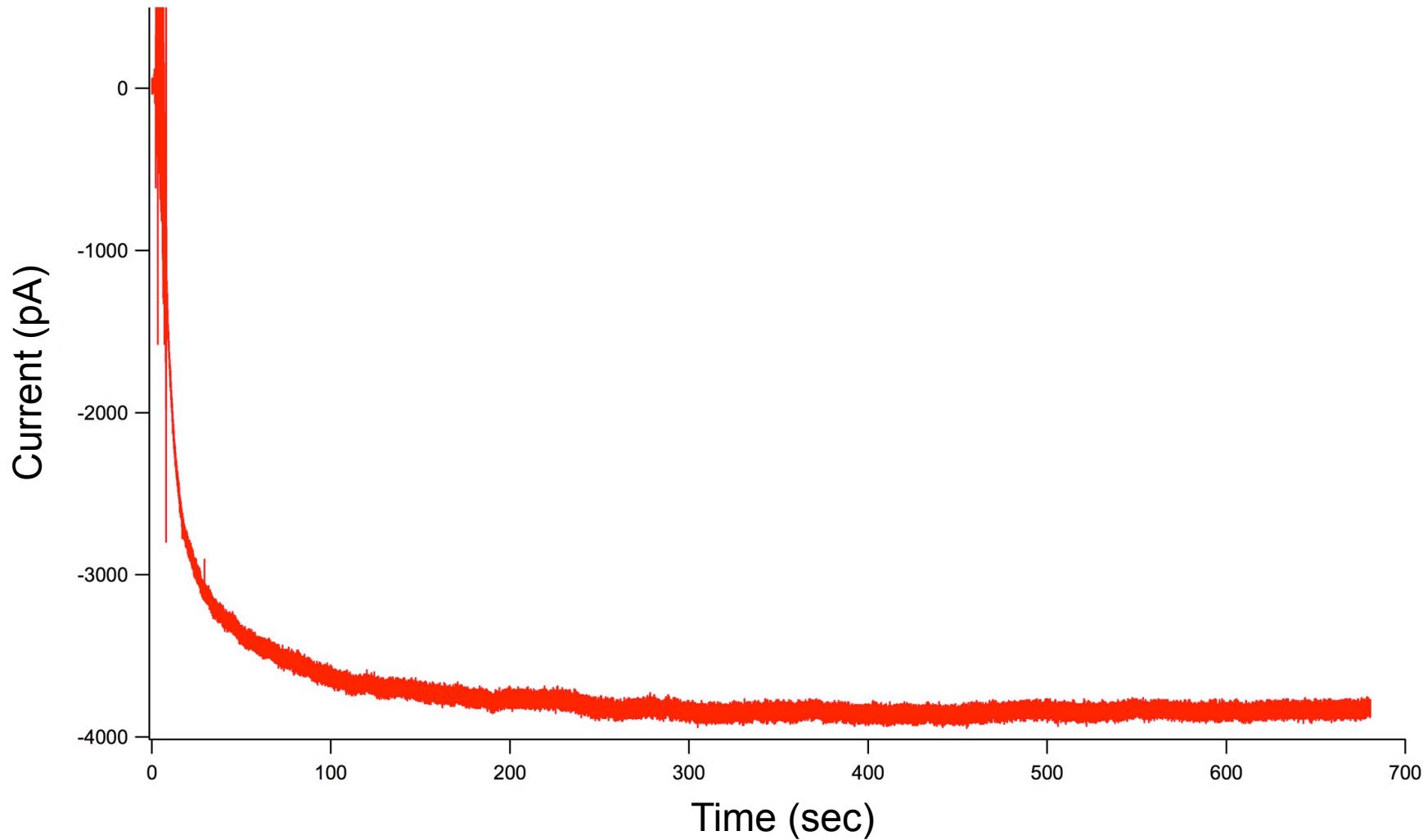
# Experimental Setup



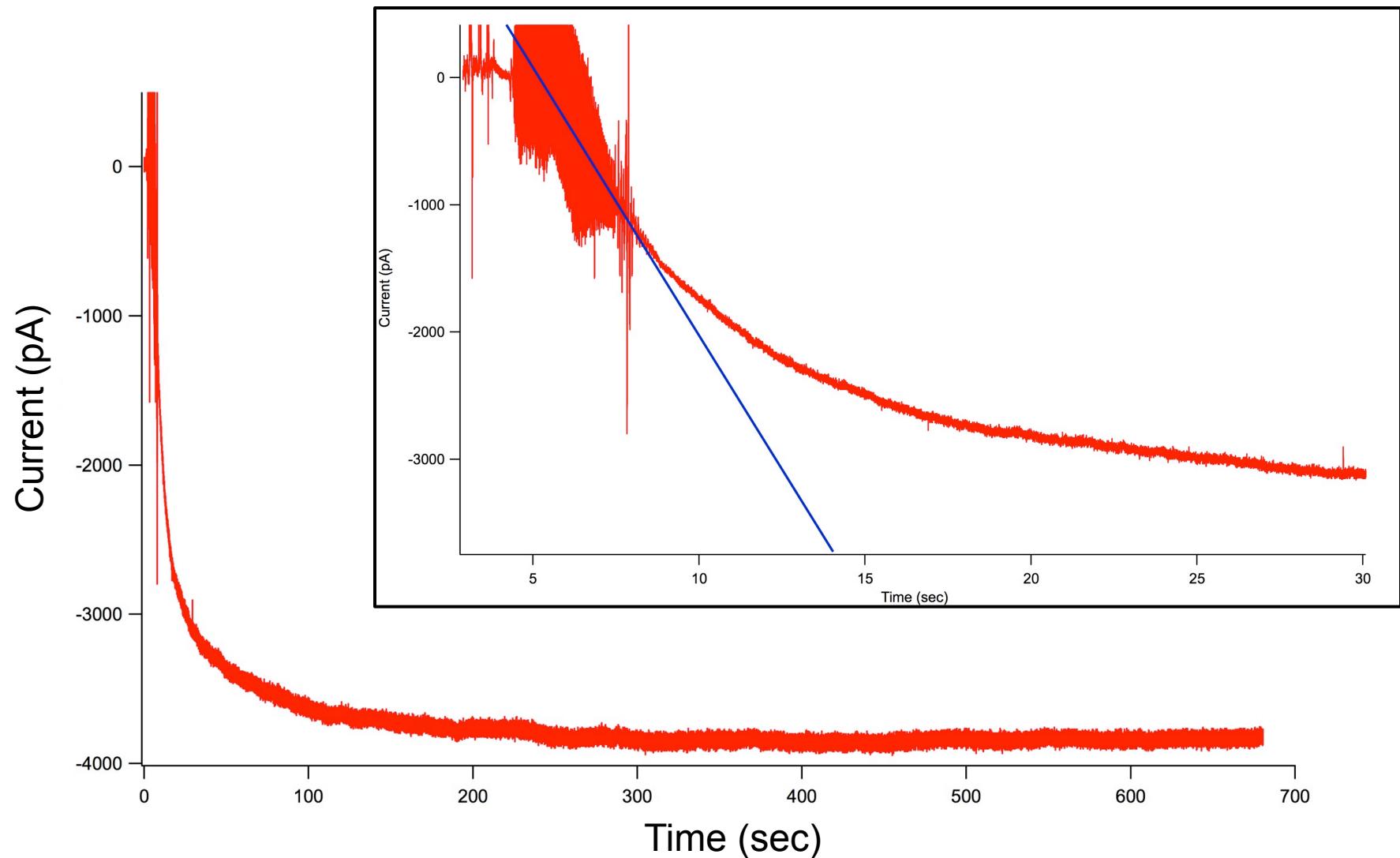
# Experimental System



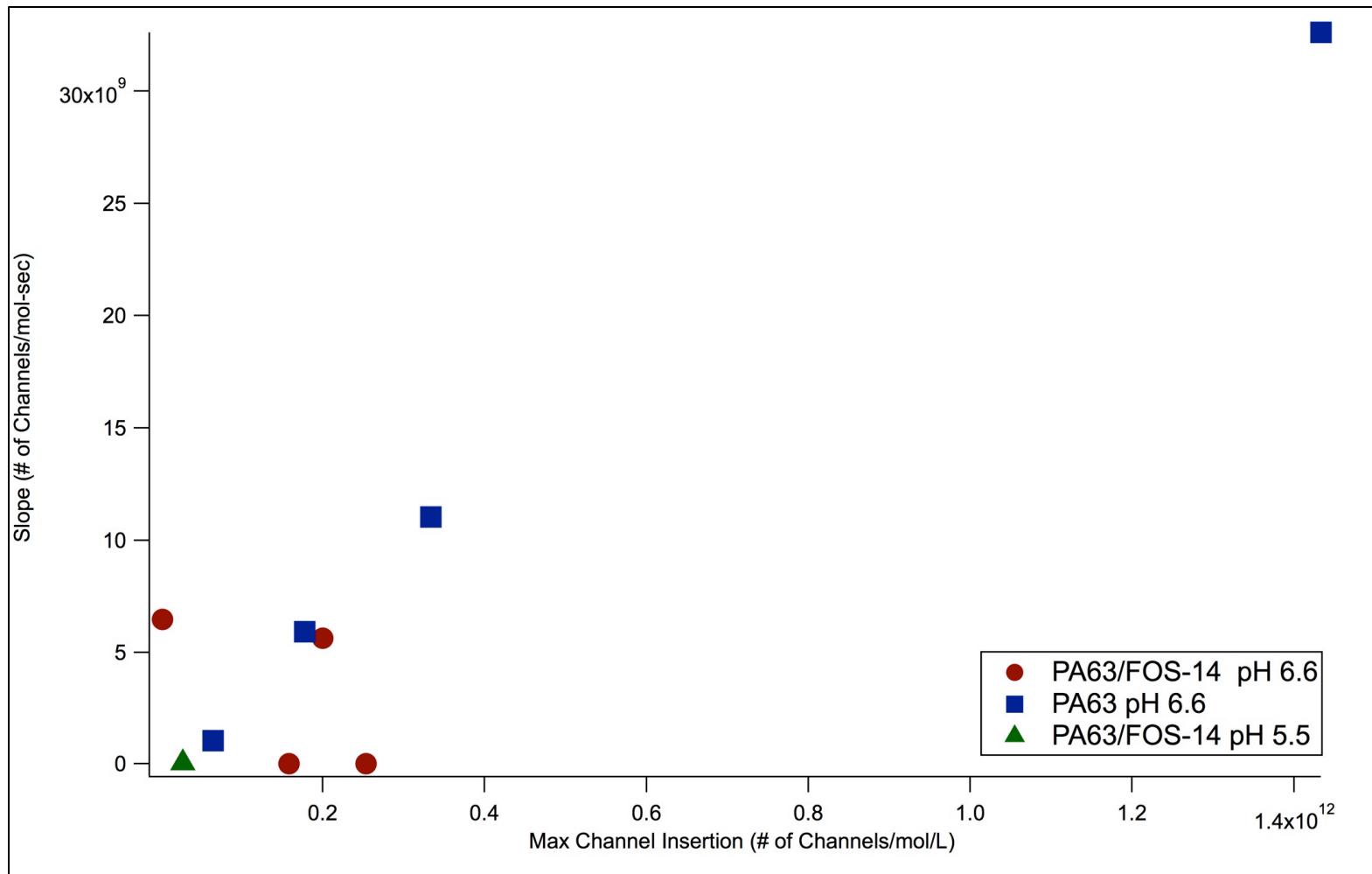
# Rate of Insertion



# Rate of Insertion



# Understanding Channel Insertion



# Special Thanks

Joseph Robertson, NIST

John Suehle, NIST

Toni Sauncy, SPS

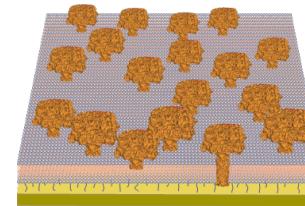
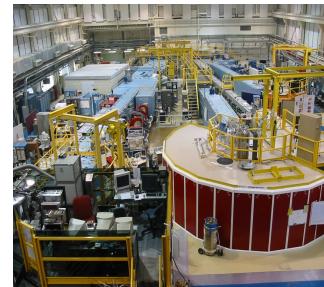
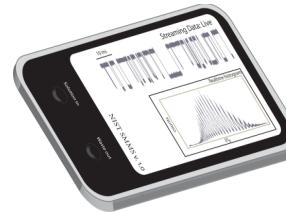
Kendra Redmond, AIP

David Peak, USU



# Summary

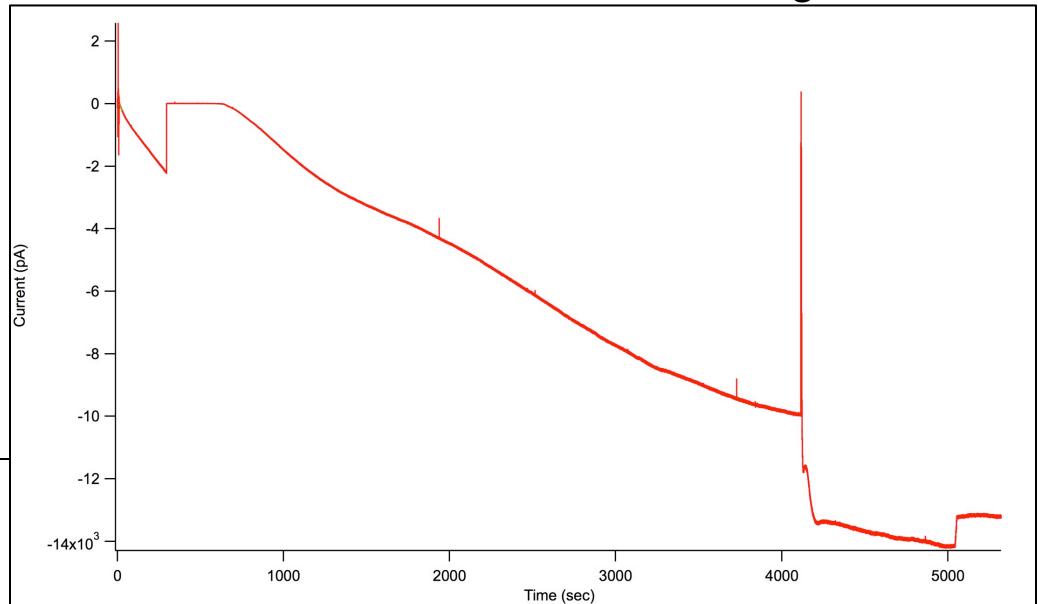
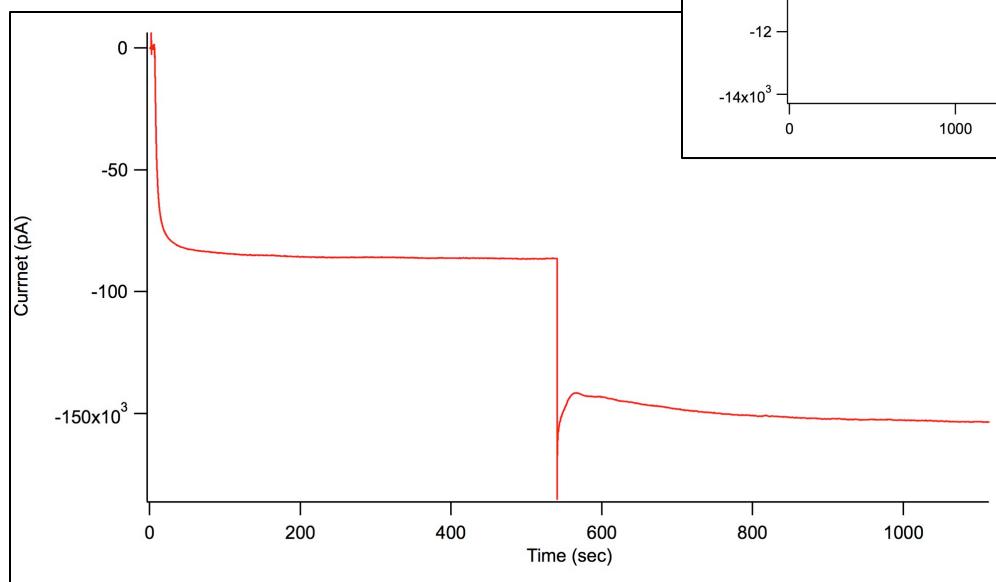
- Understanding Nanopores is useful
- Goal: Neutron Reflectometry
- Optimize Channel Insertion
- FOS-14 Detergent
  - Repeatability
  - No increased nanopore insertion



# Difficulties with the System

With FOS-14 Detergent

Without FOS-14 Detergent



# Conclusions

- Detergent does not inhibit nanopore formation
  - Detergent decreases variability in measurements
  - Detergent does not increase max channel formation
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- Although detergent does not increase the total channel formation it may be useful for increasing repeatability of measurements