

# Biophysical Journal

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*Cover picture:* Schematic models for HIV mature and immature states demonstrating the dramatic internal morphological changes associated with maturation. In the immature form, a thick protein shell (~25 nm) composed of Gag is observed beneath the membrane. Viral maturation is induced by the proteolytic processing of Gag into three major structural domains: MA, CA, and NC (colored in *blue*, *red*, and *green*, respectively). The mature HIV particle has a thin protein shell (~5 nm) composed of MA and a conical core. Trimers of the viral envelope protein (colored in *brown*), which mediate binding to target cells and membrane fusion, are localized on the virus surface. See the article by Kol et al. on page 1777.