

# Problem Set I

- 1) The electrochemical potential  $\mu$  of an ion of charge  $z$  in an electrostatic field  $\psi$  is defined by the equation

$$\mu = zF\psi + \mu^{\circ} + RT \ln X$$

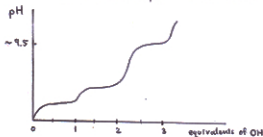
where  $\mu^{\circ}$  is the chemical potential of the ion in standard state

and  $X$  is mole-fraction of the ion in the solution  $X = \frac{\text{mol of ion}}{\text{mol of ion} + \text{mol solvent}} \rightarrow \frac{(\text{mol-sol})}{\text{mol of ion} + \text{mol of solvent}} \gg \frac{(\text{mol-ion})}{\text{mol of solvent}}$

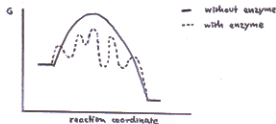
Derive an expression for the difference in electrochemical potential for protons across the membrane.

- 2) The formation of glucose-6-phosphate from glucose and ATP is catalyzed by hexokinase. Given  $\Delta S^{\circ}$  (glucose-6-phosphate) =  $-13.9$  kJ/mol and  $\Delta G^{\circ}$  (ATP) =  $-30.5$  kJ/mol, calculate values for the standard state free energy change and the equilibrium constant of the reaction at 298 K.

- 3) Which amino acid does this pH-titration curve belong to



- 4) According to the given energy diagram, indicate the limiting step for each reaction.



- 5) Provide explanations why proline is a "helix-breaker" as it is rarely found within  $\alpha$ -helical segments.



Given that in  $\alpha$ -helix, polypeptide backbone is folded such that  $-C=O$  group of each residue is H-bonded to  $-N-H$  group of the 4<sup>th</sup> residue of the chain (i.e. 1<sup>st</sup>  $-C=O$  binds to 4<sup>th</sup>  $-N-H$ ) and so on)