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Heat of Fusion in the Hydrophobic Effect

In a technical comment (5 July, p. 88) on the hydrophobic effect, Judith Herzfeld suggests that, when one calculates the hydrophobic effect in protein denaturation, the enthalpy of fusion of the hydrophobic groups should be considered a factor distinct from the hydrophobic effect, per se, which is obtained from experiments in which a hydrophobe is transferred from liquid organic phase to water. This idea is correct, but had been proposed somewhat earlier (1) and had also been applied to the stabilization of protein-protein interfaces (2) and to the calculation of heat capacity at constant pressure of denaturation (3).

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Erratum: In the article "Subterranean waterworks of biblical Jerusalem: Adaptation of a karst system" by D. Gill (6 Dec., p. 1467), the scale bar in figure 1B represents meters and should have read 10 m.

Erratum: Joyce Higgins should have been named as the source of the illustration on page 651 accompanying the Research News article "Playing tag with membrane proteins" by Michelle Hoffman (1 Nov., p. 650).

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