

Amphiphilic aminoglycoside antibiotics ...

... kill bacteria by disruption of their highly negatively charged membrane. In their Communication on page 5652 ff., M. Fridman, S. Garneau-Tsodikova, and co-workers report the synthesis of 6"-thioether tobramycin derivatives and show that their aliphatic chain acts as a drill bit that can rupture bacterial cells. These potent compounds evade many of the common bacterial resistance mechanisms, thereby opening a new avenue for the discovery of membrane-targeting antibiotics.

