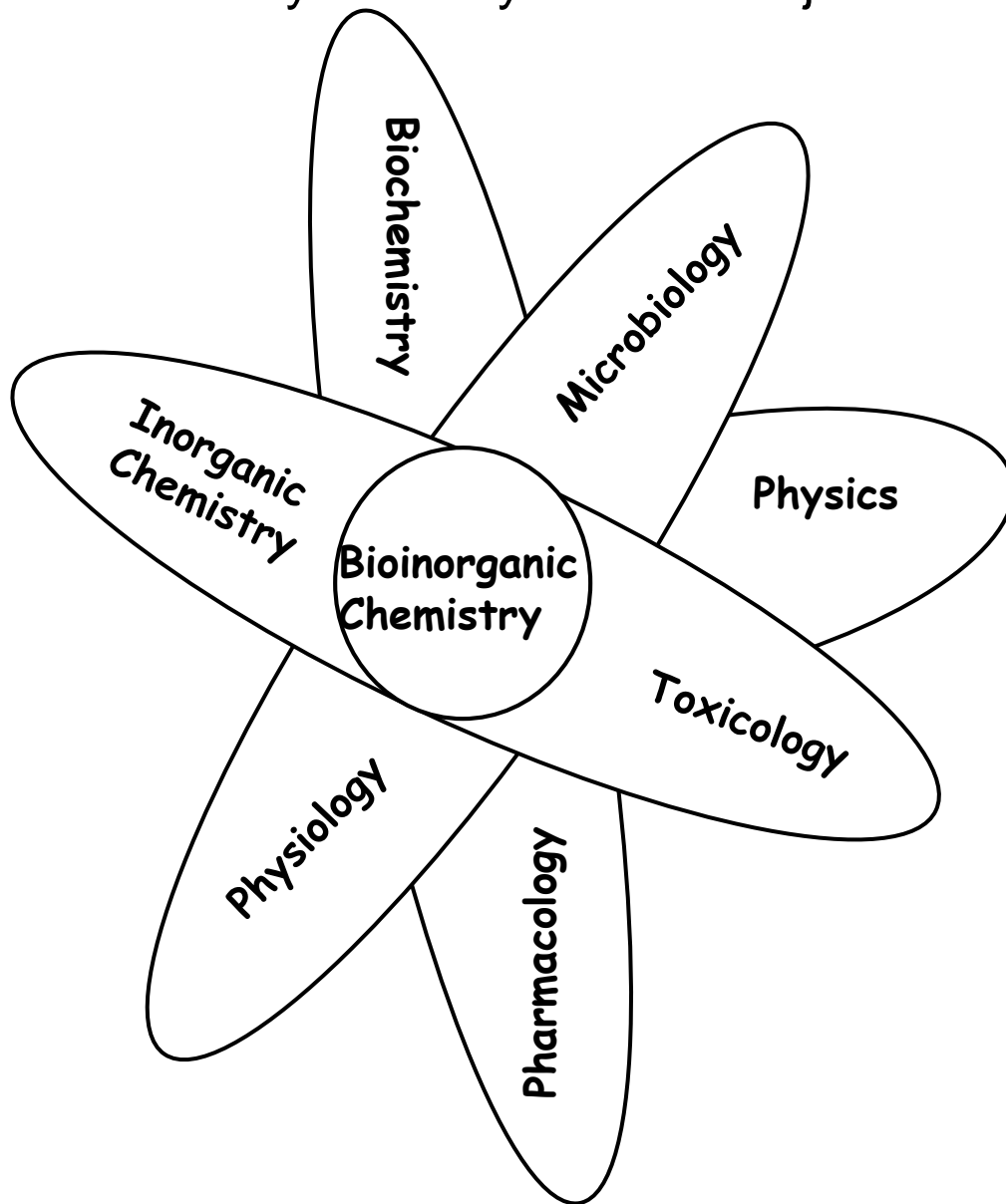


# Metal ions in biological system and Potential Medicine

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Bioinorganic Chemistry is a very difficult subject



Bioinorganic Chemistry is a highly interdisciplinary research field

# What is Bioinorganic Chemistry?

It's a study of the role of naturally occurring metal ions in biological systems as well as the role of externally introduced metal ions.

To search the answers for the following questions-

- Which metal ions are used in biological systems?
- How nature chose these elements?
- How do these elements get into the cells?
- How the concentration of these elements are regulated?
- How these metals bind to biopolymers?
- How these metals help in folding the biopolymers?

- How these metals help in folding the biopolymers?
- How are these metals inserted into the active site?
- What are the major roles of metal ions in biological systems?
- Which metal ions play a role in medicinal chemistry?
- Which metal ions are toxic to biological systems?

The study of metal ions with the aim of understanding the life processes.

# The Bioorganic/Bioinorganic Periodic Table

<b>H</b>																	<b>He</b>
<b>Li</b>	<b>Be</b>											<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>O</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Ne</b>
<b>Na</b>	<b>Mg</b>											<b>Al</b>	<b>Si</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>Cl</b>	<b>Ar</b>
<b>K</b>	<b>Ca</b>	<b>Sc</b>	<b>Ti</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>Cr</b>	<b>Mn</b>	<b>Fe</b>	<b>Co</b>	<b>Ni</b>	<b>Cu</b>	<b>Zn</b>	<b>Ga</b>	<b>Ge</b>	<b>As</b>	<b>Se</b>	<b>Br</b>	<b>Kr</b>
<b>Rb</b>	<b>Sr</b>	<b>Y</b>	<b>Zr</b>	<b>Nb</b>	<b>Mo</b>	<b>Tc</b>	<b>Ru</b>	<b>Rh</b>	<b>Pd</b>	<b>Ag</b>	<b>Cd</b>	<b>In</b>	<b>Sn</b>	<b>Sb</b>	<b>Te</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>Xe</b>
<b>Cs</b>	<b>Ba</b>	<b>La</b>	<b>Hf</b>	<b>Ta</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>Re</b>	<b>Os</b>	<b>Ir</b>	<b>Pt</b>	<b>Au</b>	<b>Hg</b>	<b>Tl</b>	<b>Pb</b>	<b>Bi</b>	<b>Po</b>	<b>At</b>	<b>Rn</b>
<b>Fr</b>	<b>Ra</b>	<b>Ac</b>															

<b>Ce</b>	<b>Pr</b>	<b>Nd</b>	<b>Pm</b>	<b>Sm</b>	<b>Eu</b>	<b>Gd</b>	<b>Tb</b>	<b>Dy</b>	<b>Ho</b>	<b>Er</b>	<b>Tm</b>	<b>Yb</b>	<b>Lu</b>
<b>Th</b>	<b>Pa</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>Np</b>	<b>Pu</b>	<b>Am</b>	<b>Cm</b>	<b>Bk</b>	<b>Cf</b>	<b>Es</b>	<b>Fm</b>	<b>Md</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Lr</b>

**Metals**                      **Essential elements for humans (daily requirement: 25 mg)**

**Non metals**              **Presumably essential elements**

**Conclusions derived from the above periodic table:**

1. “Chemistry of life “ is the chemistry of lighter elements”
2. Biological elements have been selected from practically all groups and sub groups except IIIA and IVA and inert gases.

Chemical elements essential to life forms can be divided into the following

(i) Bulk elements: C, H, N, O, P, S

(ii) Macro minerals and ions: Na, K, Mg, Ca, Cl,  $\text{PO}_4^{3-}$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$

(iii) Trace elements: Fe, Zn, Cu

(iv) Ultratrace elements comprises of

(a) non-metals: F, I, Se, Si, As, B

(b) metals: Mn, Mo, Co, Cr, V, Ni, Cd, Sn, Pb, Li

Essentiality of elements is defined by,

- (1) A physiological deficiency appears when the element is removed from the diet
- (2) The deficiency is relieved by the addition of that element to the diet
- (3) A specific biological function is associated with the element

# Why are metal ions important in biology ?

## **Catalysing reactions via:**

- Hydrolytic e.g. carbonic anhydrase, carboxypeptidase
- Substrate transfer e.g. haemoglobin, myoglobin
- Electron transfer e.g. cytochrome C oxidase
- Thermodynamic and kinetic considerations

## **Stabilising structure:**

- Protein
- DNA
- Skeletal

## **Charge balancing**

- Osmotic balance
- Nerve function

## **Replication and information encoding**



## 2.1 OCCURRENCE AND AVAILABILITY OF INORGANIC ELEMENTS IN ORGANISMS

Table 2.1 Average elemental composition of a human body (adult, 70 kg [1])

element and symbol		mass (g)	year of discovery of an essential element
oxygen	O	45500	
carbon	C	12600	
hydrogen	H	7000	
nitrogen	N	2100	
calcium	Ca	1050	
phosphorus	P	700	
sulfur	S	175	
potassium	K	140	
chlorine	Cl	105	
sodium	Na	105	
magnesium	Mg	35	
iron	Fe	4.2	17th century
zinc	Zn	2.3	1896
silicon	Si	1.4	1972
rubidium <sup>a</sup>	Rb	1.1	
fluorine	F	0.8	1931
zirconium <sup>a</sup>	Zr	0.3	
bromine <sup>a</sup>	Br	0.2	
strontium <sup>a</sup>	Sr	0.14	
copper	Cu	0.11	1925
aluminum <sup>a</sup>	Al	0.10	
lead <sup>a</sup>	Pb	0.08	
antimony <sup>a</sup>	Sb	0.07	
cadmium <sup>a</sup>	Cd	0.03	(1977)
tin <sup>a</sup>	Sn	0.03	(1970)
iodine	I	0.03	1820
manganese	Mn	0.02	1931
vanadium <sup>a</sup>	V	0.02	(1971)
selenium	Se	0.02	1957
barium <sup>a</sup>	Ba	0.02	
arsenic <sup>a</sup>	As	0.01	1975
boron <sup>a</sup>	B	0.01	
nickel <sup>a</sup>	Ni	0.01	(1971)
chromium	Cr	0.005	1959
cobalt	Co	0.003	1935
molybdenum	Mo	< 0.005	1953
lithium <sup>a</sup>	Li	0.002	

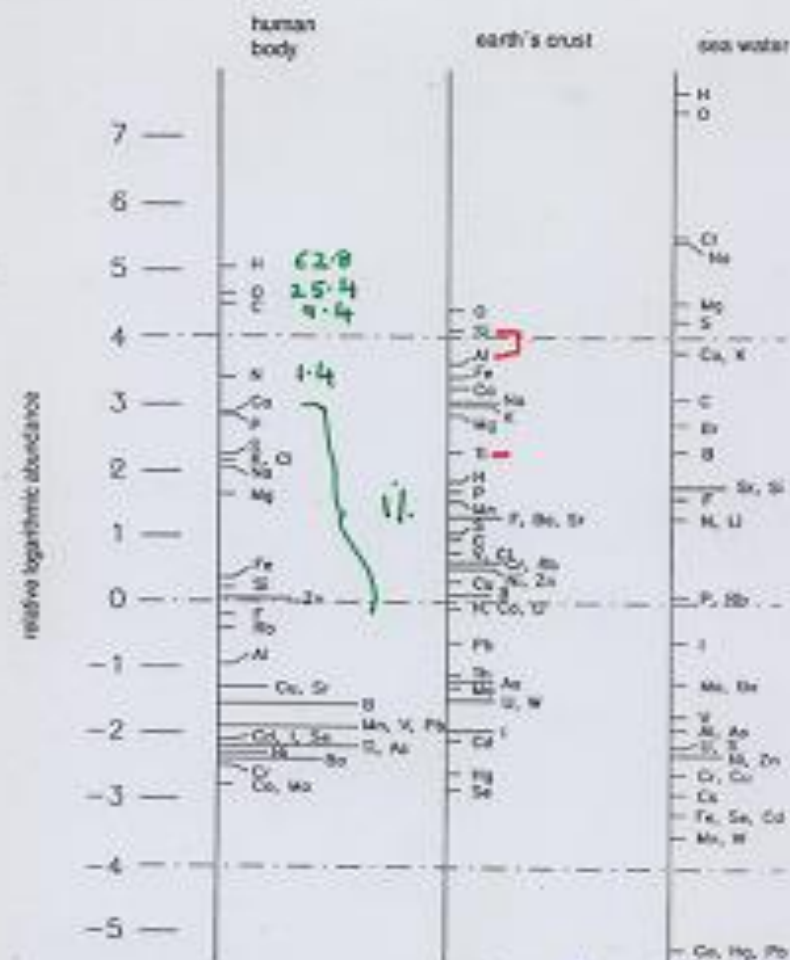
<sup>a</sup> Not essential. <sup>b</sup> Essentiality uncertain.

Pt  
Tc  
Au  
B  
Se

Ba  
Ru

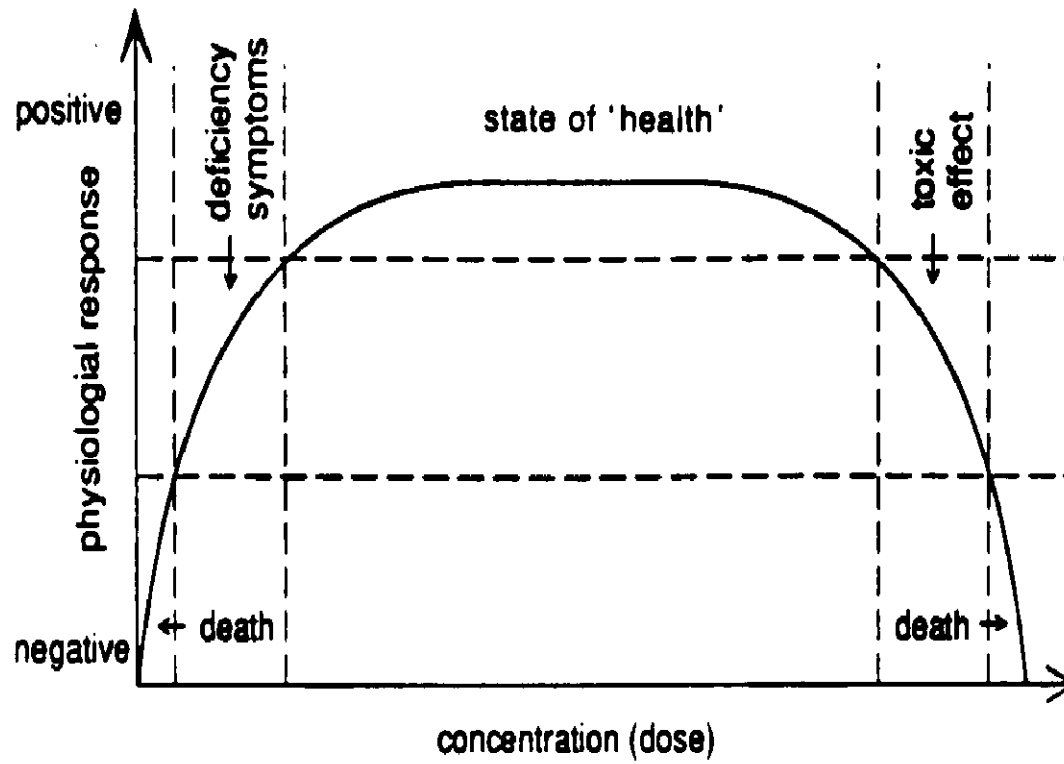
} therapeutics  
} diagnostics

# Relative abundance of elements



why Si, Ti, Al though abundant have no fn. in biology.

Ans: May be related to the difficulty in solubilizing and mobilizing the common ions  $\text{Si}^{4+}$ ,  $\text{Al}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Ti}^{4+}$  in biological fluids at pH 6-8.



## **The economical use of resources- abundance and availability**

- ❖ The element to be used in the biological systems must be abundant and must be available in a extractable form in water
- ❖ Nature responded to abundance and availability following a principle of 'the economical utilization of resources' i.e. choosing those elements less costly in terms of energy required for uptake, given the function for which they are required

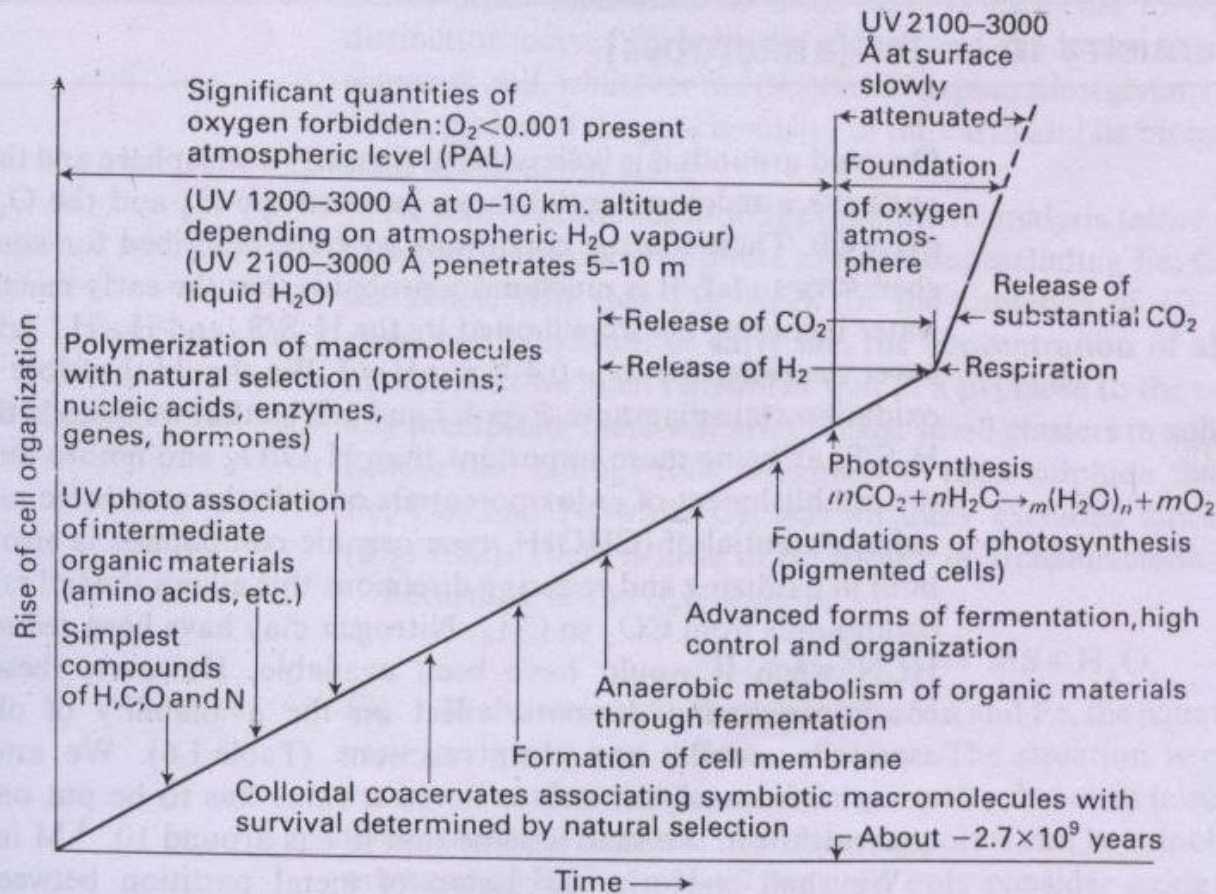


Fig. 1.11 The involvement of the elements in life has to be seen against the progression of the development of organization over historical time. We suppose earth has existed for over  $4 \times 10^9$  years. We guess that organic molecules were formed haphazardly for a long period both through the action of light and on catalytic surfaces. Organization of chemistry in space and time evolved and is called living once it could reproduce. For a long period only simple cells, prokaryotes, developed. They had no internal boundaries. At some stage from about  $2.7 \times 10^9$  years an evolution of dioxygen in the atmosphere developed due to prokaryote metabolism. A vast change took place by some  $570 \times 10^6$  years ago bringing internal cellular structures of great diversity and multi-cellular organisms. (This figure is after Bernal (1967) and will be used in a somewhat different form in Chapter 21.)



# What is special in Metals?

1. Geometry preferences  
(Oxidation-state dependent; size dependent)
2. Binding strengths (weak, strong)
3. Binding kinetics (fast, slow)
4. Binding preferences for ligands (HSAB)
5. Reactivity patterns
  - a) Redox properties
  - b) Photoreactivity and charge transfer
  - c) Coordination changes (catalysis)
  - d) Powerful template possibilities
6. Cluster formation possibilities

# BIOLOGICAL FUNCTIONS OF INORGANIC ELEMENTS

## 1) STRUCTURAL FUNCTION -

endo and exo-skeletons—membrane “ filling material” DNA helical structure maintained in presence of cations.

Solid-state/structural functions are represented mainly by elements Ca, Mg ( as cations) and P, O, C, S, Si, F ( as anions).

*Zn (Zinc Fingers)*

## 2) CHARGE CARRIERS/ INFORMATION TRANSFER-

Transmembrane concentration gradient, ion pumps, electrical impulses in nerves, trigger mechanisms: muscle contraction.

Represented by  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ .

## 3) FORMATION, METABOLISM AND DEGRADATION OF ORGANIC COMPOUNDS-

Acid-base catalysis, hydrolysis  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$

## 4) ENERGY CONVERSION -

Transfer of electrons , redox-active metal centers

$\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}/\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}/\text{Fe}^{\text{IV}}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}/\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{\text{II}}/\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}/\text{Mn}^{\text{IV}}$ ,  $\text{Mo}^{\text{IV}}/\text{Mo}^{\text{V}}/\text{Mo}^{\text{VI}}$ ,  $\text{Co}^{\text{I}}/\text{Co}^{\text{II}}/\text{Co}^{\text{III}}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{\text{I}}/\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}/\text{Ni}^{\text{III}}$ .

## 5) ACTIVATION OF SMALL SYMMETRICAL MOLECULES-

(a) Reversible uptake, transport, storage and conversion of oxygen ( Fe, Cu)

(b) Generation of oxygen ( Mn)

(c) Fixation of nitrogen and its conversion to ammonia ( Fe, Mo, V)

(d) Reduction of carbon dioxide to methane ( Ni, Fe)

## 6) FACILE GENERATION OF RADICALS -

Typical organometallic like reactivity ( Co-alkyl )

*This diversity is shrouded in evolutionary history*  
*# bioavailability of a given element at the biosphere/geosp. interface*  
*# pressure to evolve multiple pathways for survival.*

# Functions of Metal ions in Biology

Metal	Function	Typical Deficiency Symptoms
Na, K	charge carrier, osmotic balance	death
Mg	Structure, hydrolase, isomerase	Muscle cramps
Ca	Structure, trigger, charge carrier	Retarded skeletal growth
V	Nitrogen fixation, oxidase	N/A
Cr	Glucose intolerance	Diabetes symptoms
Mo	N <sub>2</sub> fixation, oxidase, oxo transfer	Retardation of cell growth
Mn	Photosynthesis, oxidase, structure	Infertility, impaired growth
Co	Oxidase, carbon group transfer	Pernicious anemia
Fe	O <sub>2</sub> transport and storage, oxidase, electron transfer, N <sub>2</sub> fixation	Anemia, disorders of the immune system
Ni	Hydrogenase, hydrolase	Growth depression dermatitis
Cu	E-transfer, O <sub>2</sub> Transport, oxidase	Artery weakness, liver disorders
Zn	Structure, hydrolase, male fertility	Skin damage, stunted growth, retarded sexual maturation, impaired development
Se, As	Puberty (?) and growth	Impaired development



# Subdivisions of Bioinorganic Chemistry

## **Natural selection of elements-related to evolution**

Economical use of resources.

Biological environment and elemental ability.

Homeostasis.

## **Biomimetic Chemistry**

Structural and functional modeling of enzymes and proteins.

## **Medicinal Inorganic Chemistry**

Synthesis and application of inorganic compounds as drugs and diagnostic agents.

Toxicology of metals and metalloids.

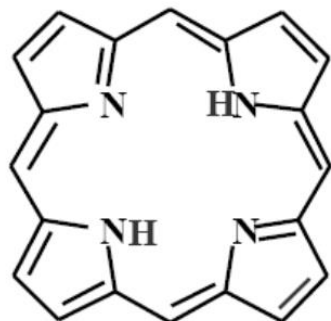
Chemical Nucleases

## **Biom mineralization**

Controlled assembly of advanced materials in biology

# Macrocyclic ligands in Bioinorganic Chemistry

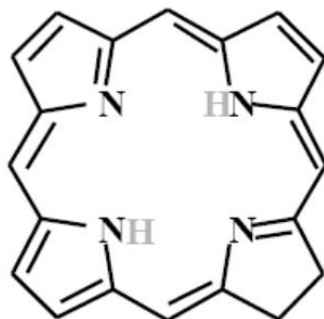
*Porphyrin*



**Fe**  
**Heme**

Oxygen transport  
&  
Oxygen activation

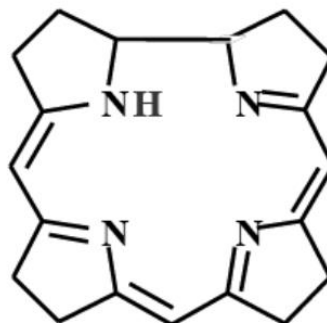
*Chlorin*



**Mg**  
**Chlorophyll**

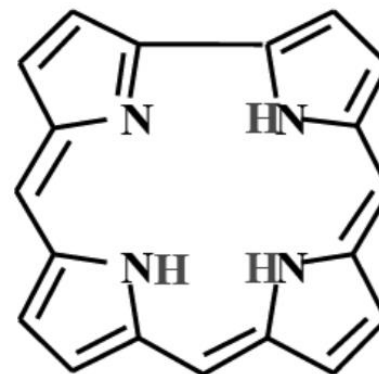
Photosynthesis

*Corrin*



**Co**  
**Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>**

*Corrole*



## **Nobel prizes related to tetrapyrroles**

1. R.Wilstatter (1915) –constitution of chlorophyll
2. H.Fischer (1930) – constitution of the heme system
3. J.C.Kendrew and M.F.Perutz (1962)- X-ray structure of myoglobin and hemoglobin
4. D.Crawfoot-Hodgkin (1964)-X-ray structure of vitamin B12
5. R.B.Woodward (1965)-natural product synthesis of chlorophyll and vitamin B12
6. J.Disenhofer,H.Michel,R.Huber (1988)-X-ray structure of heme and chlorophyll containing photosynthetic reaction centre in bacteria.

## Characteristic features of tetrapyrrole bioligands

- a) Planar or nearly planar ring system are very stable ( no geometric stress ) . All bond lengths ( 134-145pm) and angles ( 107-126° ) as well as torsional angles ( < 10° ) are normal for the neighboring  $sp^2$ -hybridized carbon and nitrogen centers.
- b) Tetradentate chelate ligands after deprotonation carry single or double negative charge can bind coordinatively labile metal ions. Kinetic stability ( dissociation only if all metal-to-ligand bonds are broken simultaneously ( which is unlikely )
- c) Macrocyclic ligands are selective with regard to the size of the coordinated ion as they are rigid because of conjugated double bonds. Spherical ions with radii 60-70pm are suited to fit the cavity ( in-plane coordination ).

- d) Extensively conjugated  $\pi$  systems. The Huckel rule for aromatic cyclic systems (  $4n + 2$  )  $\pi=18$   $\pi$ electrons.
  - (i) Thermally stable.
  - (ii) Ligands and metal complexes show intense absorption bands in the visible region “ pigments of life”
  - (iii) One electron reduction and oxidation is facilitated because of the narrowing of the  $\pi$  frontier orbital gap and the resulting anion and cation radicals are stable.

These are useful in electron buffering and storage in biological energy transformations – photosynthesis and respiration.

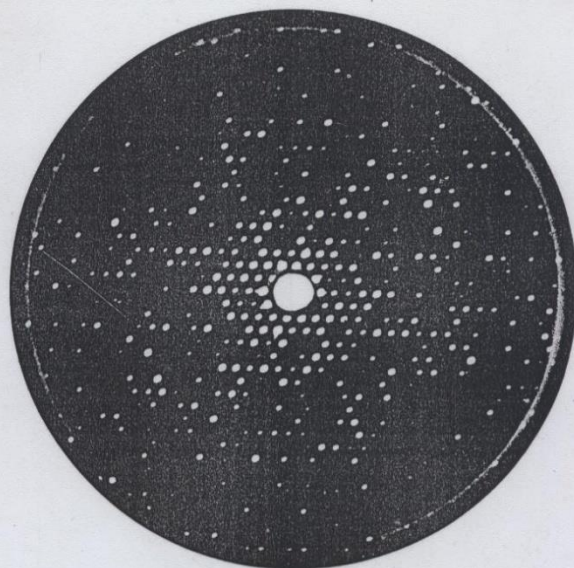
- e) Coordinatively unsaturated. Two axial sites vacant ( X and Y ) for controlled stoichiometric or catalytic activation of substrates using trans-effect (i) hemoglobin -  $X = O_2$  and Y = proximal histidine (ii) cobalamin -  $X = CH_2R$  and Y = benzimidazole
- f) Tetragonal distortion of the octahedral symmetry causes characteristic splitting of the d orbitals affecting chemical reactivity. Deoxy-hemoglobin and deoxy-myoglobin and coenzyme F430 ( Ni) feature a very critical high spin metal (II) center with out-of-plane complexation.

Table 2.7 Ionic radii and (biological) complexation of metal ions by tetrapyrrole ligands

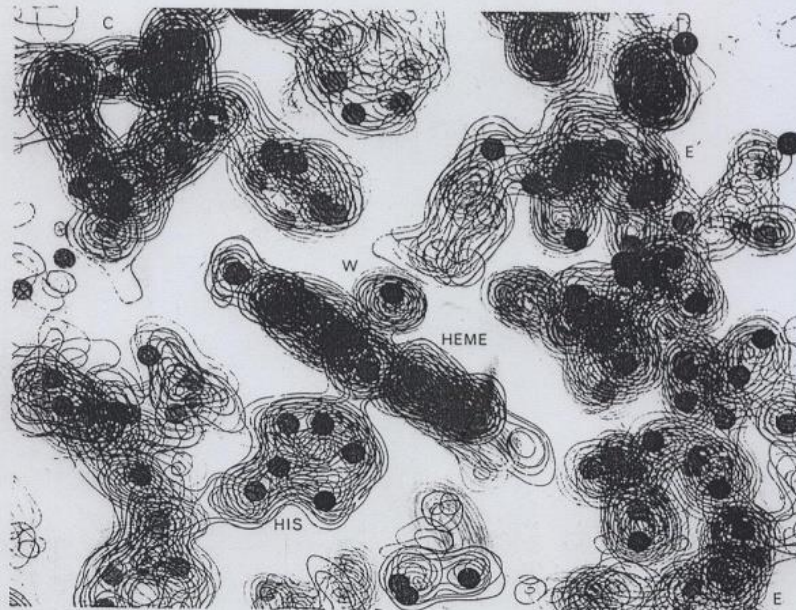
metal ion	ionic radius <sup>a</sup> (pm)	suitability as metal center in complexes with tetrapyrrole macrocycles
Be <sup>2+</sup>	45	too small
→ Mg <sup>2+</sup>	72	proper size, → chlorophyll (Chap. 4.2)
Cu <sup>2+</sup>	100	too big
Al <sup>3+</sup>	53	rather small
Ga <sup>3+</sup>	62	gallium(III) porphyrin complexes have been found in crude mineral oil but not in living organisms (very rare element)
In <sup>3+</sup>	80	rather large, rare element
O=V <sup>2+</sup> (not spherical)	ca. 60	vanadyl porphyrins are relatively abundant in certain crude oil fractions where they interfere with the catalytic removal of N and S in refineries; they have not been observed in living organisms
Mn <sup>2+</sup> (h.s.) <sup>b</sup>	83	too large (?)
→ Mn <sup>3+</sup>	ca. 60	proper size, use in synthetic oxidation catalysts
Fe <sup>2+</sup> (h.s.)	78	too large ( <i>out-of-plane</i> structure, compare Fig. 5.4)
→ Fe <sup>2+</sup> (l.s.) <sup>c</sup>	61	proper size
→ Fe <sup>3+</sup> (h.s.)	65	proper size
Fe <sup>3+</sup> (l.s.)	55	rather small
average value for Fe <sup>2+/3+</sup>	65	→ heme system with Fe <sup>n+</sup> in various oxidation and spin states (Chapters 5 and 6)
→ Co <sup>2+</sup> (l.s.)	65	proper size, → cobalamins (Chap. 3)
→ Ni <sup>2+</sup>	69	proper size, → F430 (Chap. 9.5), tunichlorin
Cu <sup>2+</sup>	73	relatively large; Cu porphyrins have not been found in organisms, strong bonds are formed mainly with histidine in proteins
Zn <sup>2+</sup>	74	relatively large; Zn porphyrins have not been found in organisms, strong bonds are formed e.g. with histidine or cysteinate in proteins

<sup>a</sup> For coordination number 6, from [43] <sup>b</sup> h.s.: high-spin, <sup>c</sup> l.s.: low-spin.





X-RAY DIFFRACTION PATTERN was made from a single crystal of hemoglobin that was rotated during the photographic exposure. Electrons grouped around the centers of the atoms in the crystal scatter the incident X rays, producing a symmetrical array of spots. Spots that are equidistant from the center and opposite each other have the same density.



CONTOUR MAPS, drawn on stacked sheets of clear plastic, show a portion of the myoglobin molecule as revealed by superposition of three-dimensional fringe patterns. The maps were made by John C. Kendrew and his associates at the University of Cambridge. Myoglobin is very similar to the beta chain of hemoglobin. The

heme group is seen edge on. *His* is an amino acid subunit of histidine that is attached to the iron atom of the heme group. *W* is a water molecule linked to the iron atom. The region between *E* and *E'* represents amino acid subunits arranged in an alpha helix. *C* is an alpha helix seen end on. The black dots mark atomic positions.

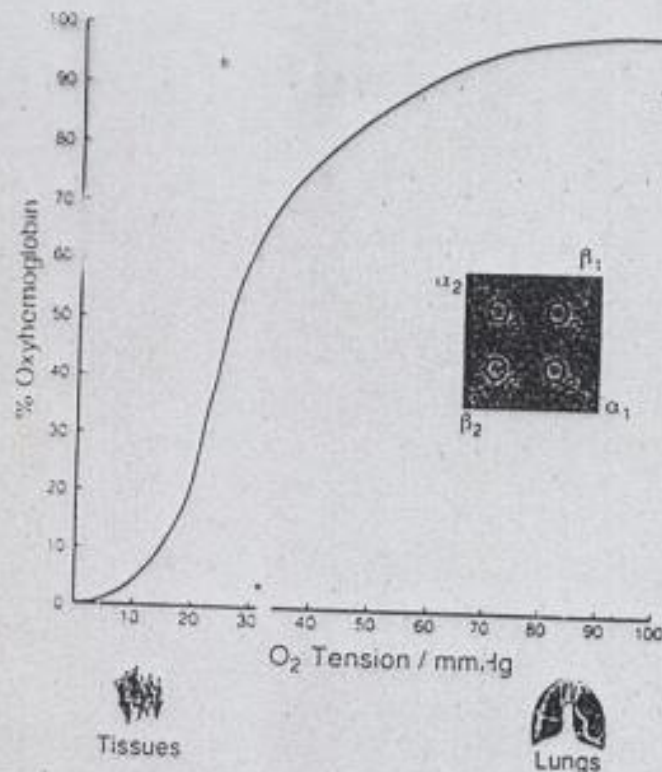


Figure 1. The classical oxygen dissociation curve of Hb. Hemoglobin's oxygen dissociation curve is sigmoidal, whereas other oxygen-carrying molecules (such as myoglobin) have hyperbolic dissociation curves. Only the sigmoidal curve is characteristic of the cooperative process by which the release of one oxygen molecule alters the affinity for the remaining oxygens bound to the other protein subunits. The 4-subunit arrangement in Hb ( $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \beta_1, \beta_2$ ) accomplishes a specific function in the vertebrates as Hb moves from an extreme gradient of oxygen partial pressure (or oxygen tension) from lungs to hypoxic tissues. The dashed diagonal lines in the inset indicate that oxygen molecules are bound to  $\alpha/\beta$  subunits (to the 6th coordination positions of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  ions on the heme planes).

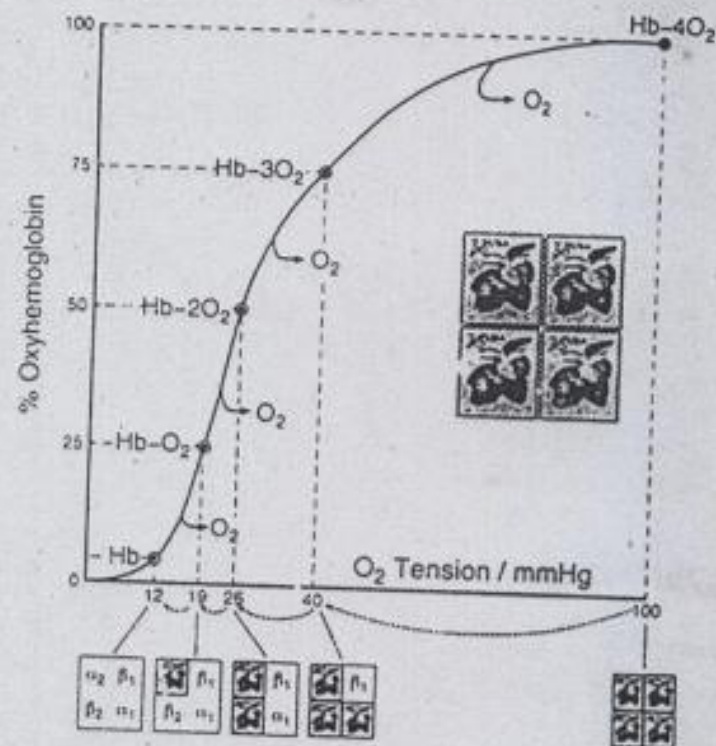
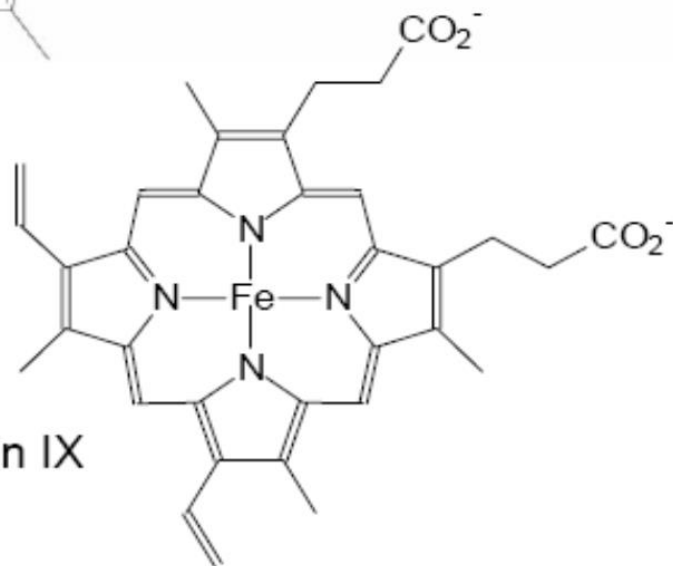
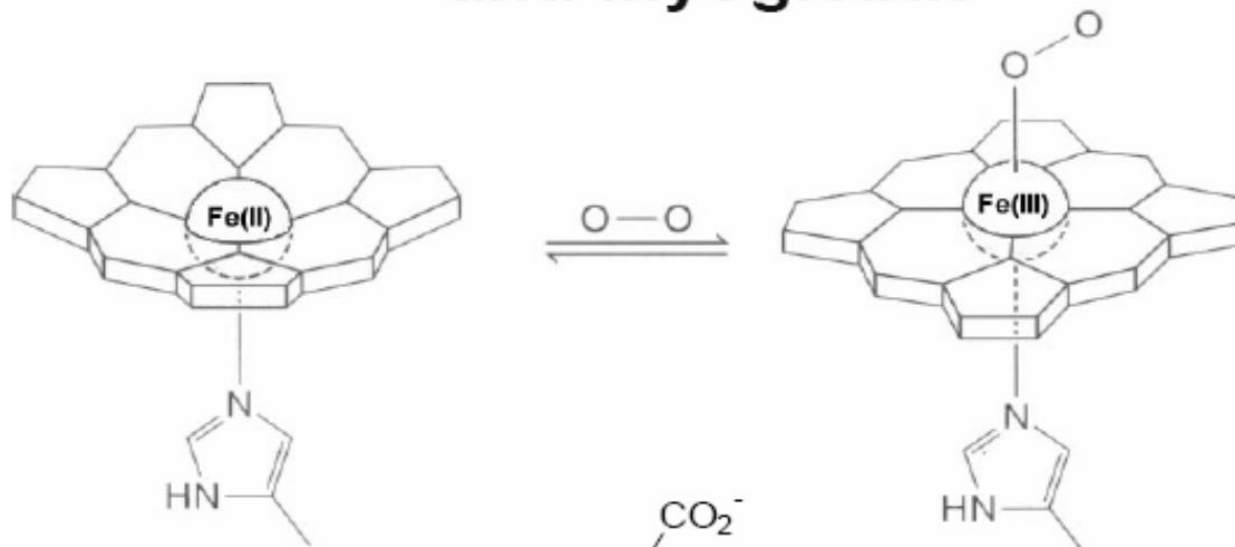
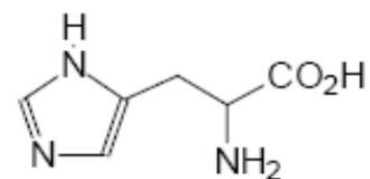


Figure 2. The postage-stamp analogy. To release single stamps from a block of four, we have to make two cuts to release the first stamp and only one cut to release the second; with a final cut we release the last two stamps, thus each time needing less "energy" to do the job. Similarly, oxygen remains tightly bound to Hb in the lungs but will be progressively released as partial oxygen pressure drops in the tissues of the body. The release of the second, and even more so the third, oxygen molecule requires a smaller drop in pressure as the Hb-carrying erythrocyte moves farther from the lungs. In the analogy,  $\text{Hb-4O}_2$  exists as "four stamps bound to the 4 Hb subunits";  $\text{Hb-3O}_2$  exists as "three stamps bound + 1 Hb subunit free"; and so on.

# Heme-based oxygen carriers: hemoglobin and myoglobin



iron protoporphyrin IX

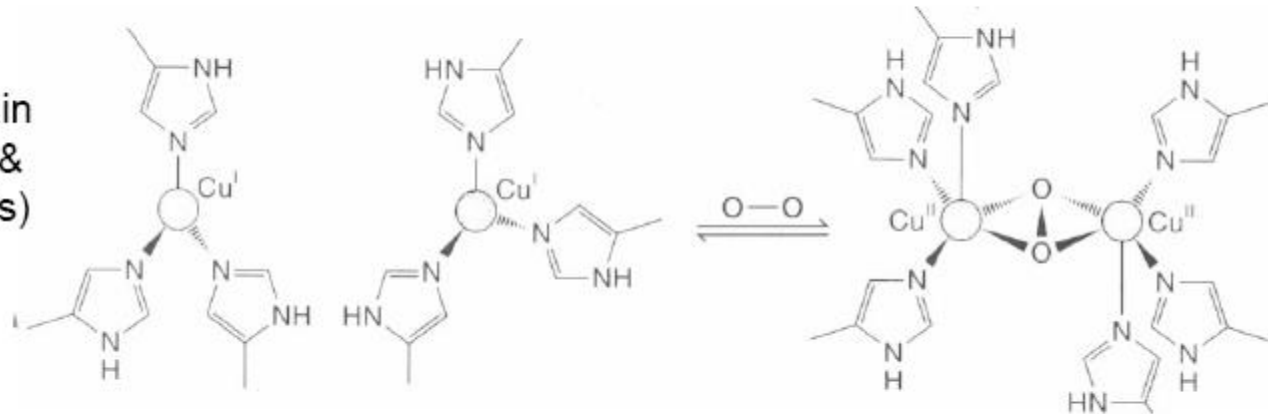


histidine

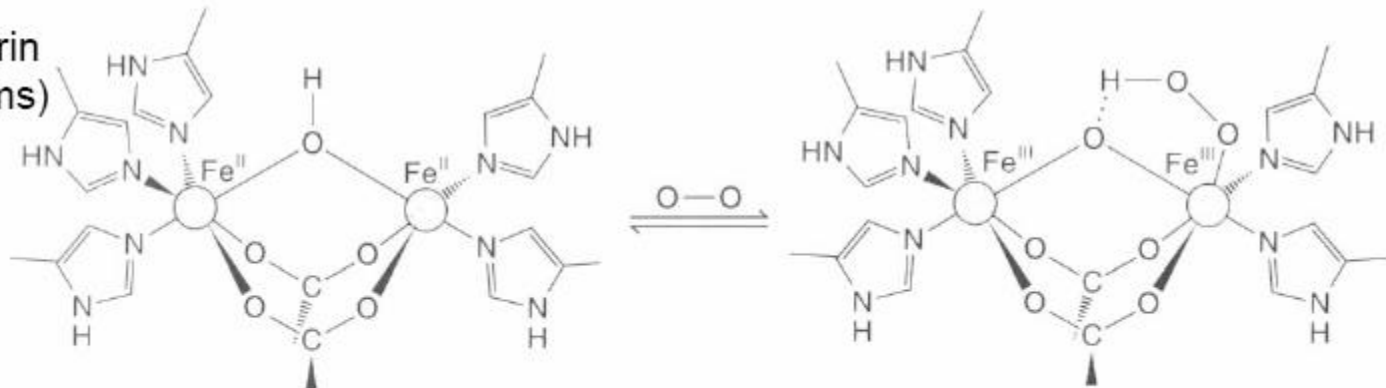


## Non-heme oxygen carriers

hemocyanin  
(mollusks &  
arthropods)



hemerythrin  
(sea worms)



# pK<sub>a</sub> values for selected ligands with and without metal ions

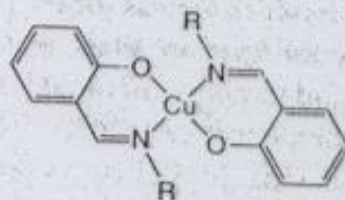
Ligand and reaction	Metal ion	Log K (25°C, 0.1 M)
$\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{M}^{2+} \xrightleftharpoons[+\text{H}^+]{-\text{H}^+} \text{M}-\text{OH}^+$	None	14.0
	Ca <sup>2+</sup>	13.4
	Mn <sup>2+</sup>	11.1
	Cu <sup>2+</sup>	10.7
	Zn <sup>2+</sup>	10.0
$\text{NH}_3 + \text{M}^{2+} \xrightleftharpoons[+\text{H}^+]{-\text{H}^+} \text{M}-\text{NH}_2^+$	None	35.0
	Co <sup>2+</sup>	32.9
	Cu <sup>2+</sup>	30.7
	Ni <sup>2+</sup>	32.2
$\text{HO}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{CH}_3 + \text{M}^{2+} \xrightleftharpoons[+\text{H}^+]{-\text{H}^+} \text{M}-\text{O}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{CH}_3$	None	4.7
	Mg <sup>2+</sup>	4.2
	Ca <sup>2+</sup>	4.2
	Ni <sup>2+</sup>	4.0
	Cu <sup>2+</sup>	3.0
$\text{HN} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \text{NH} + \text{M}^{2+} \xrightleftharpoons[+\text{H}^+]{-\text{H}^+} \text{M}-\text{N} \begin{array}{c} \diagup \diagdown \\ \diagdown \diagup \end{array} \text{NH}$	None	7.0
	Co <sup>2+</sup>	4.6
	Ni <sup>2+</sup>	4.0
	Cu <sup>2+</sup>	3.8

Alterations in the ligand donor atom and stereochemistry at metal center produces differences in the potential at which  $e^-$  transfer reactions will occur:

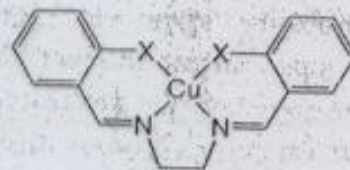
Effect of ligands on Cu(I)/Cu(II) reduction potential in DMF solution

Compound name	$E_{1/2}, V^a$
$Cu(O\text{-sal})_2en$	-1.21
$Cu(Me\text{-sal})_2$	-0.90
$Cu(Et\text{-sal})_2$	-0.86
$Cu(S\text{-sal})_2en$	-0.83
$Cu(i\text{-Pr}\text{-sal})_2$	-0.74
$Cu(t\text{-Bu}\text{-sal})_2$	-0.66

$Cu(I)$   
 $d^{10}$   
 Prefers Tet



$Cu(R\text{-sal})_2$

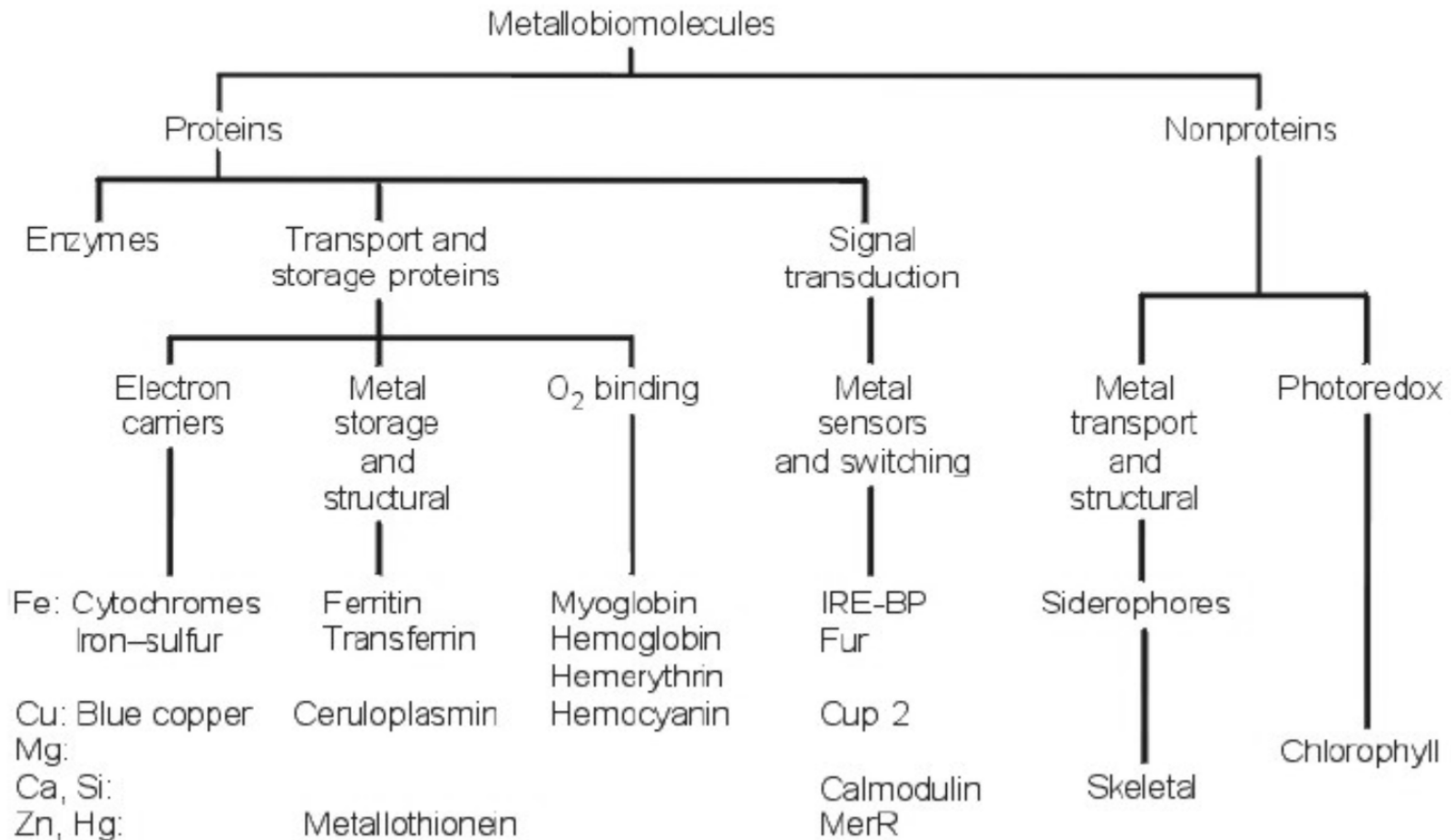


$Cu(X\text{-sal})_2en$   
 $X = O \text{ or } S$

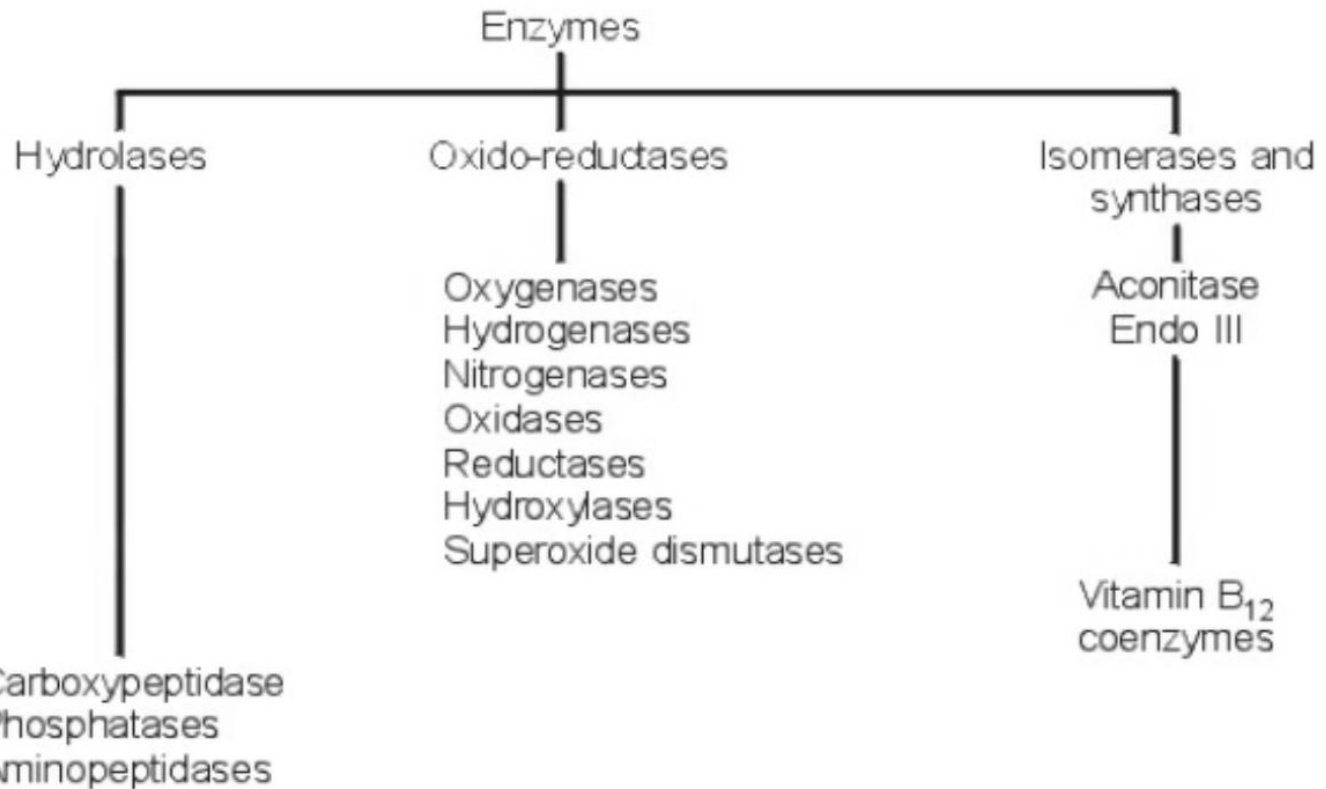
$Cu(II)$   
 $d^9$   
 Prefers Square

<sup>a</sup>Potential at which the complex is half-oxidized and half-reduced.

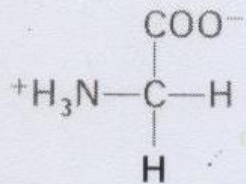
# Categories of metallobiomolecules



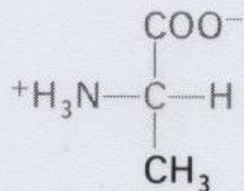
# Metalloenzymes



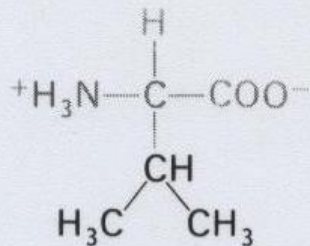




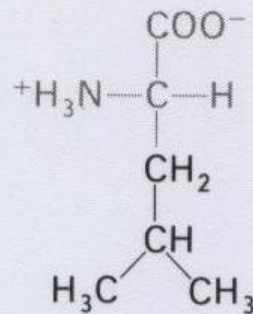
**Glycine**  
(Gly, G)



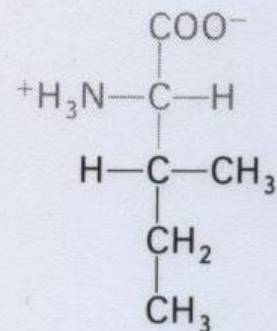
**Alanine**  
(Ala, A)



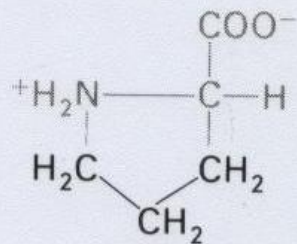
**Valine**  
(Val, V)



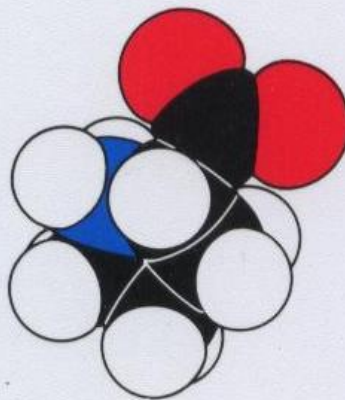
**Leucine**  
(Leu, L)

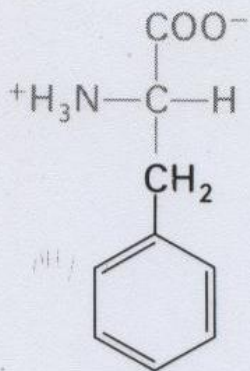


**Isoleucine**  
(Ile, I)

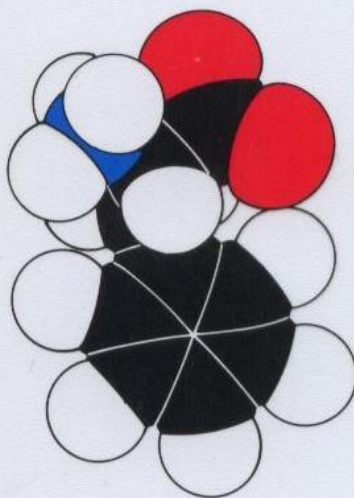


**Proline**  
(Pro, P)

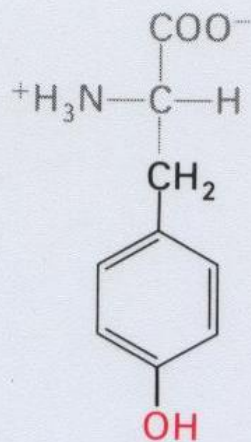




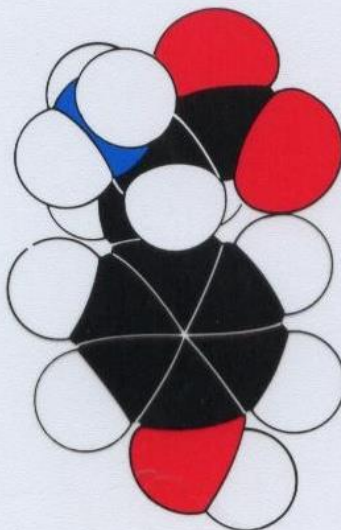
**Phenylalanine**  
(Phe, F)



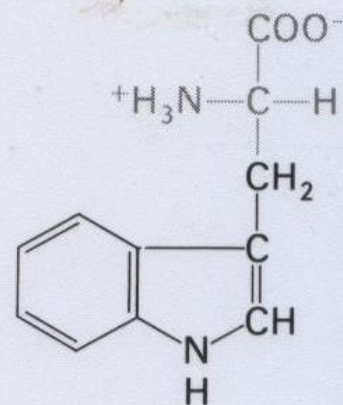
**Phe**



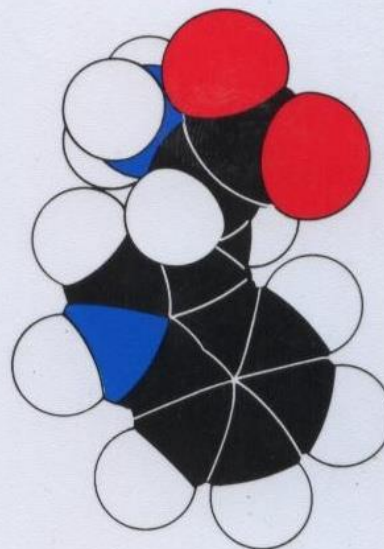
**Tyrosine**  
(Tyr, Y)



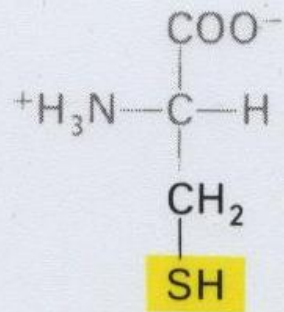
**Tyr**



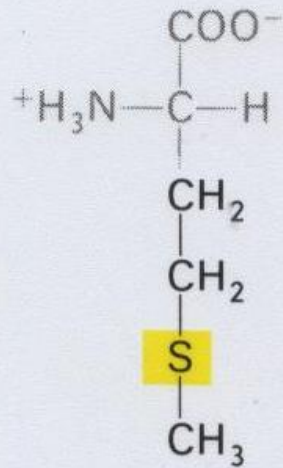
**Tryptophan**  
(Trp, W)



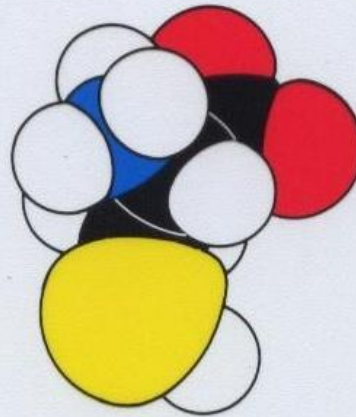
**Trp**



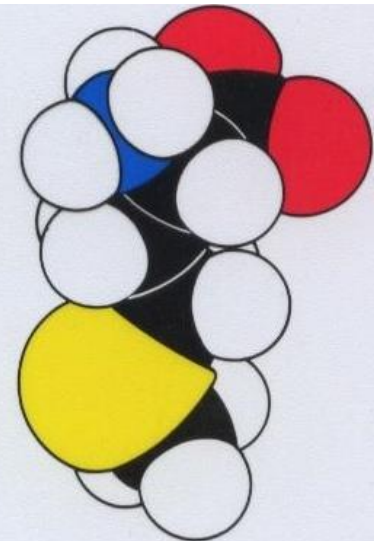
**Cysteine**  
(Cys, C)



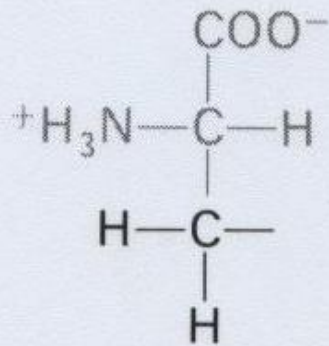
**Methionine**  
(Met, M)



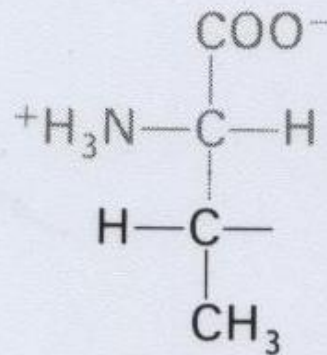
**Cys**



**Met**

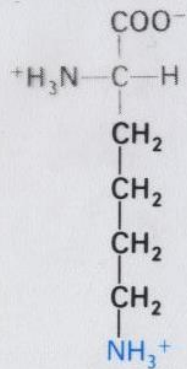


**Serine**  
(Ser, S)

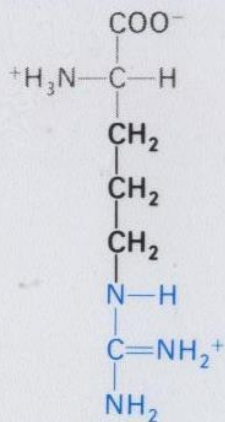


**Threonine**  
(Thr, T)

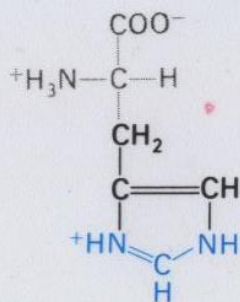




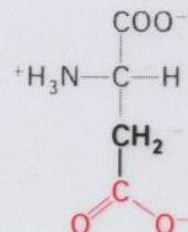
**Lysine**  
(Lys, K)



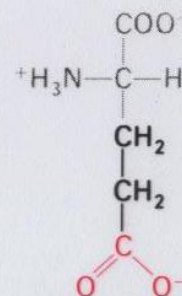
**Arginine**  
(Arg, R)



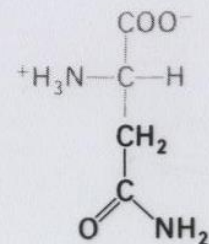
**Histidine**  
(His, H)



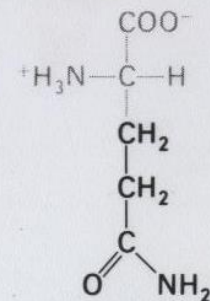
**Aspartate**  
(Asp, D)



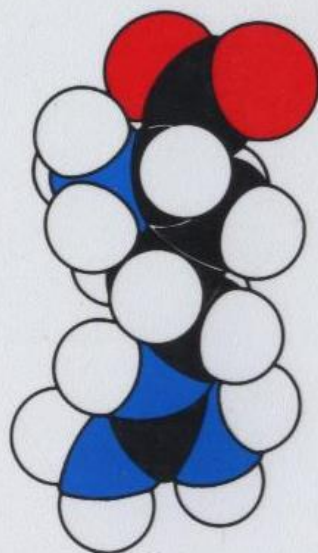
**Glutamate**  
(Glu, E)



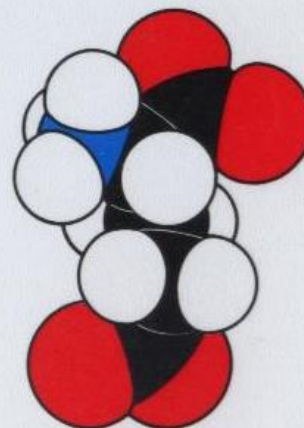
**Asparagine**  
(Asn, N)



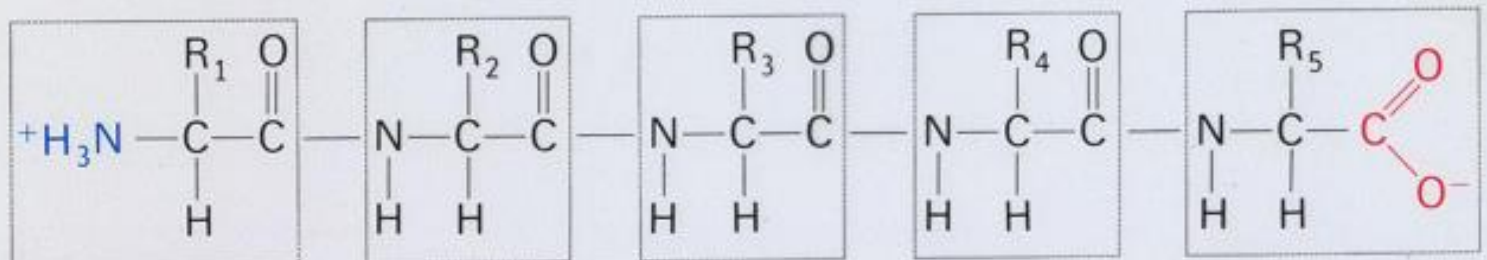
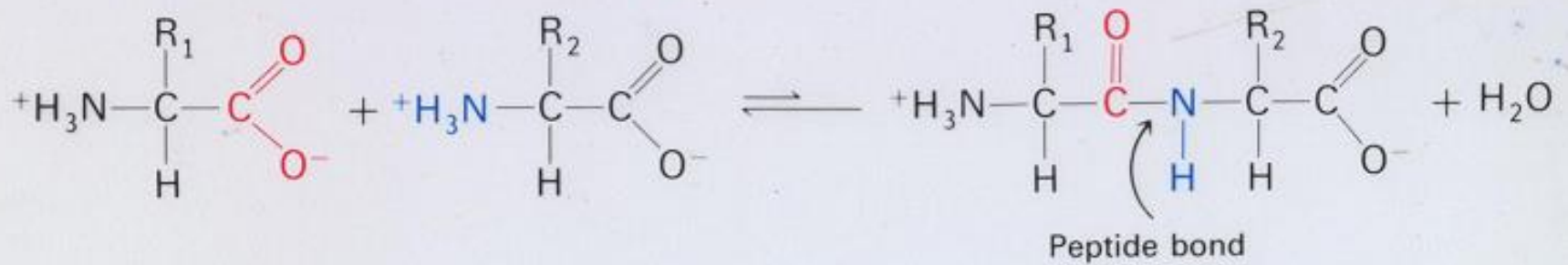
**Glutamine**  
(Gln, Q)



**Arg**



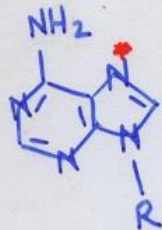
**Glu**



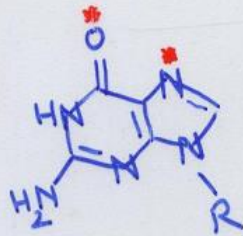
Amino-terminal  
residue

Carboxyl-terminal  
residue

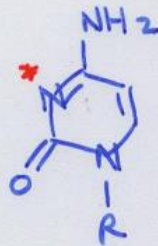
# Nucleobases, Nucleotides and Nucleic acids



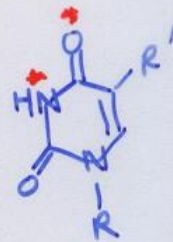
adenine



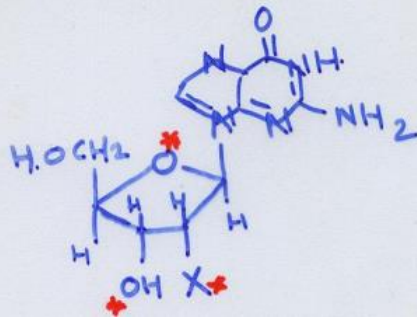
guanine



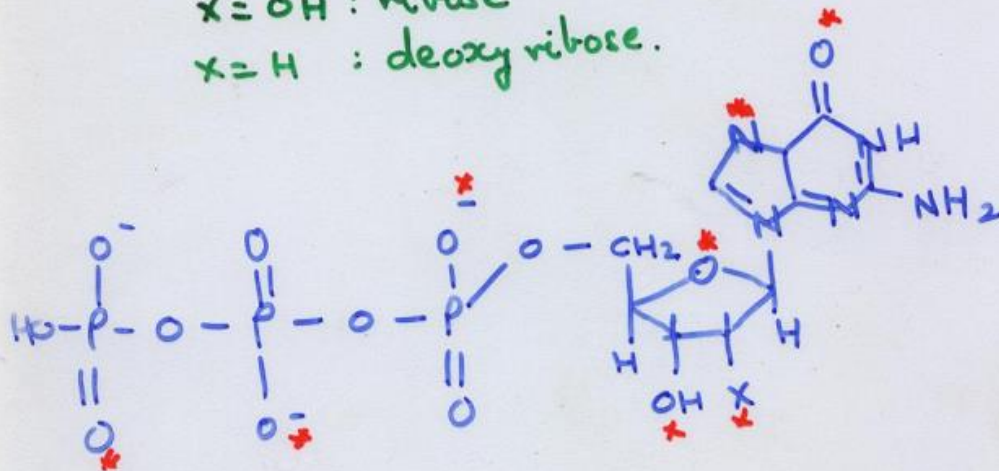
cytosine



$R' = \text{H}$  uracil  
 $R' = \text{CH}_3$  thymine

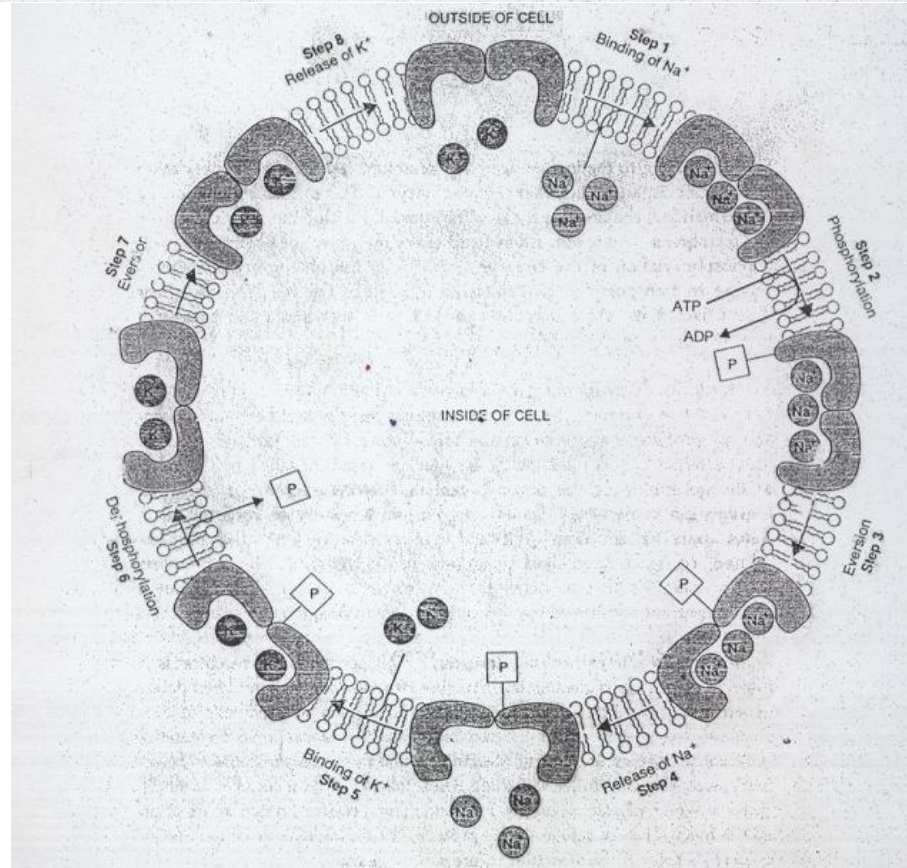


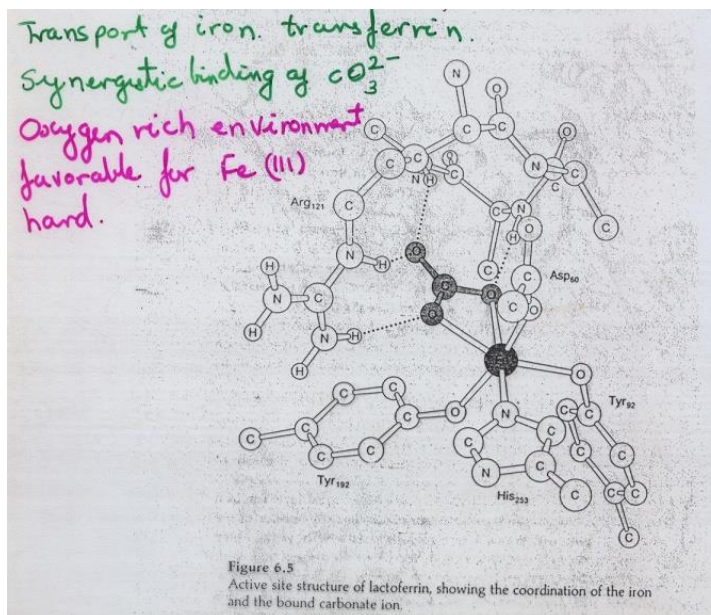
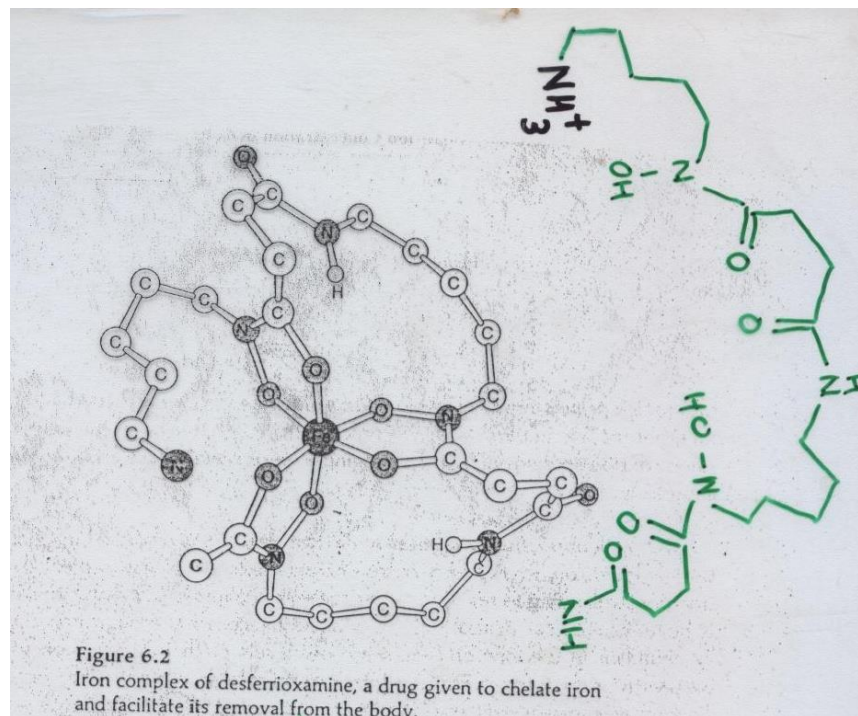
$X = \text{OH}$  : ribose  
 $X = \text{H}$  : deoxyribose.





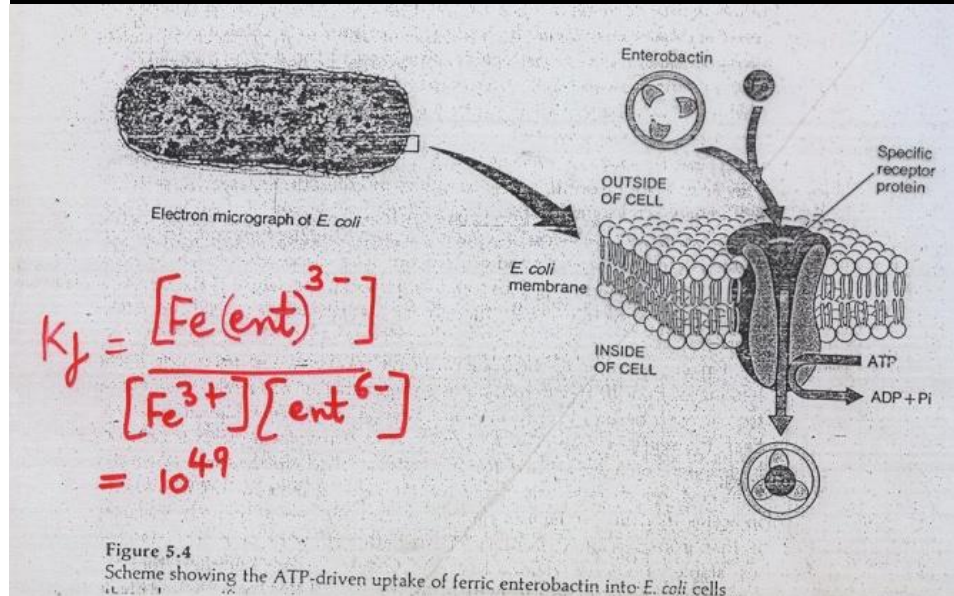
Ion	Extracellular Conc.	Intracellular Conc.	Ratio $[ion]_o/[ion]_i$	$E$ (mV)
$Na^+$	145	12	12	+68
$K^+$	4	155	0.026	-99
$Ca^{2+}$	1.5	$<10^{-7} M$	715,000	+128
$Cl^-$	123	4.2	30	-90







# Bioavailability of Metal Ions



## Model Compounds- Biomimetic Chemistry

- Large size of metallobiomolecules and high resolution structure of metal coordination difficult
- ❖ If X-ray crystal structure is known it is possible to design a replica of the coordination environment.-----replicative models
- ❖ If X-ray crystal structure is not known we test postulated structure by spectroscopy by synthesizing models----- speculative models
- ✓ If models are only structurally similar----- structural models
- ✓ If models are functionally similar -----functional models

- **Biomimetic approach has helped in the study of**
  1. Assignment or verification of the metal oxidation states
  2. effects of distance and medium on electron transfer rates
  3. role of steric and electronic factors
  4. Identity of likely intermediates of enzyme catalyzed reactions
- ❑ **Strategy for models complexes- spontaneous self assembly**
- ❑ **Nature adopted the a similar strategy based on available chemistry in the geosphere during evolution .**



# Biomimetic chemistry

## Copper proteins by function

### [1] Catalysis

Oxidoreductases  
Amine oxidase  
Ammonia monooxygenase  
Ascorbate oxidase  
Ceruloplasmin  
Cu,Znsuperoxide dismutase  
Cytochrome c oxidase  
Diamine oxidase  
Dopamine  $\beta$ hydroxylase  
Galactose oxidase  
Laccase  
Lysyl oxidase  
Methane monooxygenase  
N<sub>2</sub>O reductase  
Nitrite reductase  
Peptidylglycinehydroxylating monooxygenase  
Phenylalanine hydroxylase  
Tyrosinase  
Ubiquinone oxidase

### [2] Electron transfer

Auracyanin  
Azurin  
Phytocyanin family  
Plastocyanin family  
Rusticyanin

# Copper –An alternative to biological iron

Function	Fe protein	Cu protein
O <sub>2</sub> transport	Hemoglobin (h) Hemerythrin (nh)	Hemocyanin
oxygenation	Cytochrome P-450(h) Methane monooxygenase(nh) Catechol dioxygenase nh)	tyrosinase
oxidase	Peroxidases(h)	Amine oxidases laccase

Electron transfer	Cytochromes (h)	Blue copper proteins
Antioxidative	Peroxidases (h) Bacterial SOD (nh)	SOD
NO <sub>2</sub> - reduction	Nitrite reductase(h)	Nitrite reductase

# Importance of Copper in Biological Systems

## Copper in life systems

- ✦ Third most abundant trace metal in Human
- ✦ 80-120 mg in Normal Human Body

## Copper deficiency

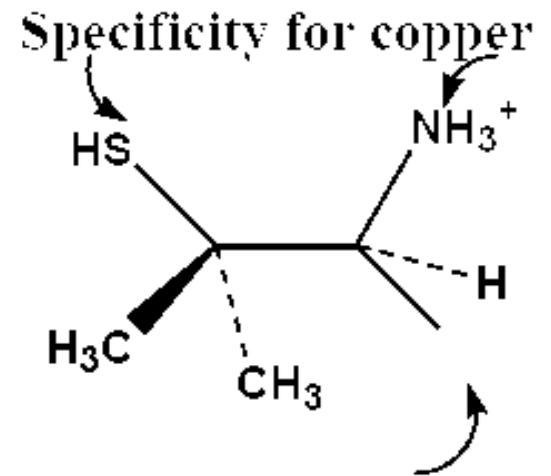
- Menkes Disease (Brain), kinky hair, connective tissue formation
- Life expectancy less than 3 years, new borns, insufficient oxygen utilization in brain
- Low activity of Cu enzymes
- Dysfunction of intracellular Cu-transport/storage ceruloplasmin and metallothionein

## Copper Excess

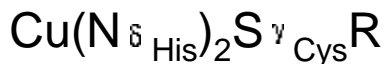
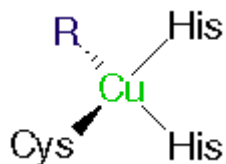
Wilson's disease (Brain, Liver, Eyes)

- ❖ Hereditary dysfunction of ceruloplasmin
- ❖ D-penicillamine  
Cu-specific chelating ligand

## Superfluous copper



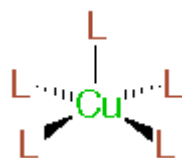
## Copper Proteins/Enzymes



R = S Met (azurin, plastocyanin, accase)

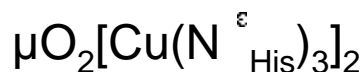
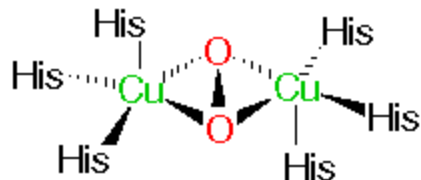
R = O Glu (phytoeyanins)

R = H<sub>2</sub>O (ceruloplasmin)



L = N, O or S ligands; R = O or S ligands

m = 1 to 4; n = 0 to 3; m+n = 4 or 5



## Type I (blue copper proteins)

### ➤ Small blue proteins

Auracynin

Azurin

Phytoeyanin family

Plastocyanin family

Rusticyanin

### ➤ Blue oxidases

Ascorbate oxidase

Ceruloplasmin

Laccase

### ➤ Nitrite reductase

## Type II

### ➤ Cu,Znsuperoxide dismutase

### ➤ Dioxygenases

### ➤ Monooxygenases

Dopamine βhydroxylase

Methane monooxygenase

Peptidylglycine hydroxylating monooxygenase

Phenylalanine hydroxylase

### ➤ Nitrite reductase

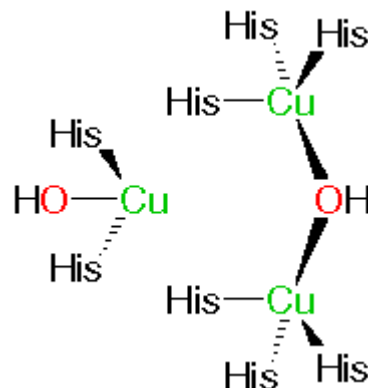
### ➤ Nonblue oxidases

Amine oxidase

Diamine oxidase

Galactose oxidase

Lysyl oxidase



# Copper Proteins: Important Functions

- ✱ Electron transfer
- ✱ Dioxygen binding and transport
- ✱ Metal ion storage and transport

## Electron Transfer Proteins





## Blue Copper Proteins

- Function: Electron-Transfer in Photosynthesis
- Novel Coordination Geometry
- $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}$ -SR Bond Stable

- Abnormal Spectral Properties:

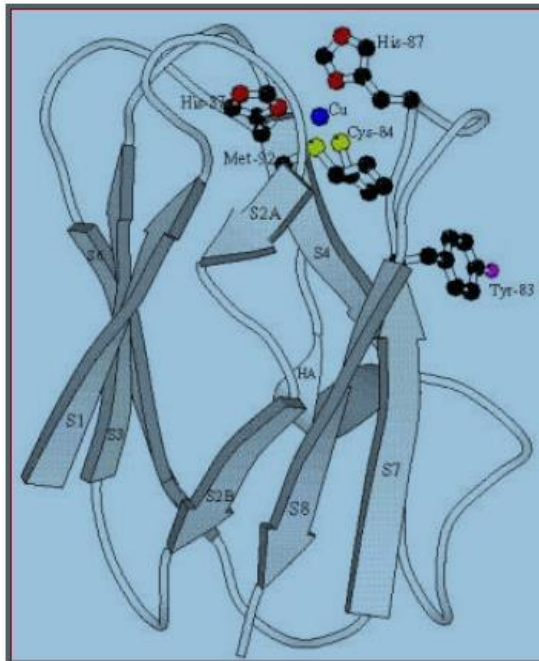
Intense Visible Absorption 600 nm ( $\epsilon$ , 3000  $\text{M}^{-1}$ )

$A_{||}$  (30 - 70 G)

- Rather high  $\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}/\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}$  Redox Potential

$$\Delta G = -nFE = -ve$$

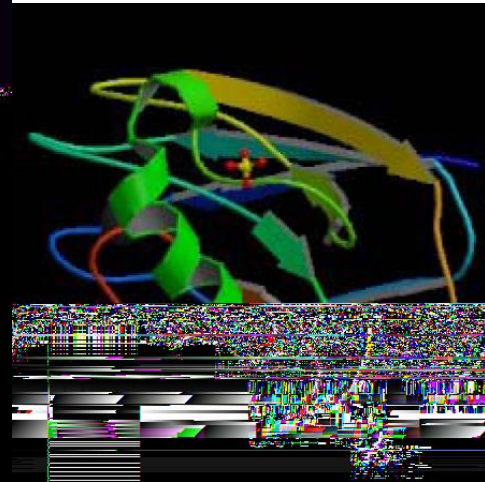
## Plastocyanin



## Azurin



## Auracyanin



## Hemocyanins

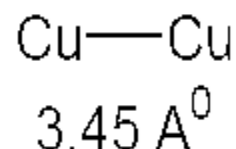
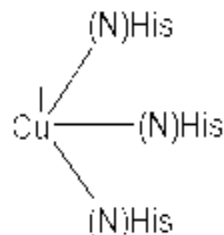
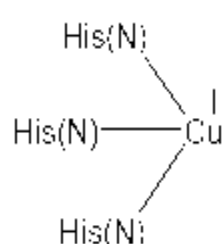
- Oxygen carriers in the hemolymph of molluscs and arthropods, **snails, quids, cuttle fish, octopus**

- - 2 Cu(I) ions
  - Each Cu(I) bound to 2/3 Imidazoles (histidine)

- - 345 nm (20,000)
  - 570 nm (1000)       $O_2^{2-} \longrightarrow Cu(II)$

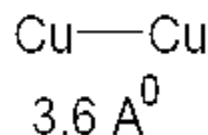
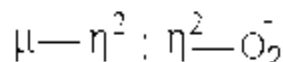
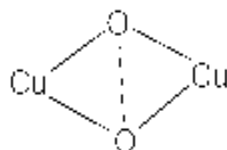
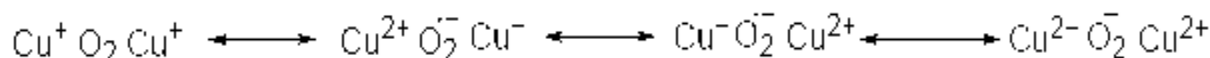
- - Peroxide  $\longrightarrow$  750  $cm^{-1}$  band

**Deoxy-Hemocyanin**      diamagnetic/colourless



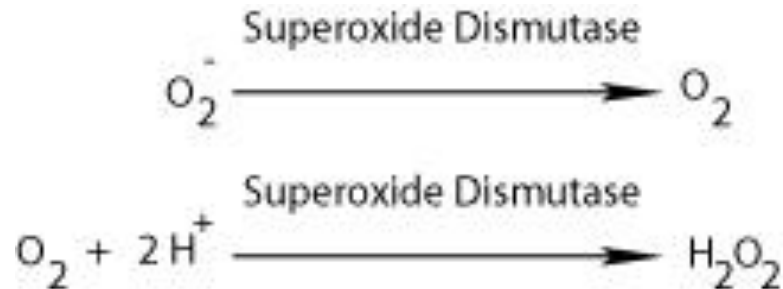
Most stable in trigonal geometry;  
Enormous strain at O<sub>2</sub> binding site

**Oxy-Hemocyanin : Cu(II) 4-coordinated (normal)**  
transformation is facile



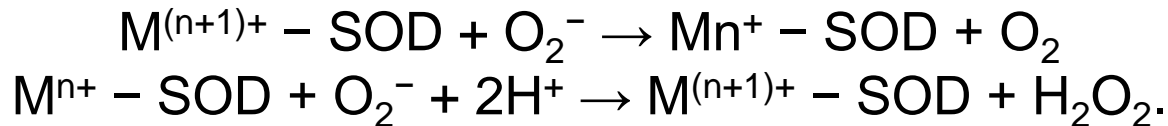
Antiferromagnetic interaction

The enzyme **superoxide dismutase (SOD, EC 1.15.1.1)**, catalyzes the dismutation of superoxide into oxygen and hydrogen peroxide. As such, it is an important antioxidant defense in nearly all cells exposed to oxygen. One of the exceedingly rare exceptions is *Lactobacillus plantarum* and related lactobacilli, which use a different mechanism.



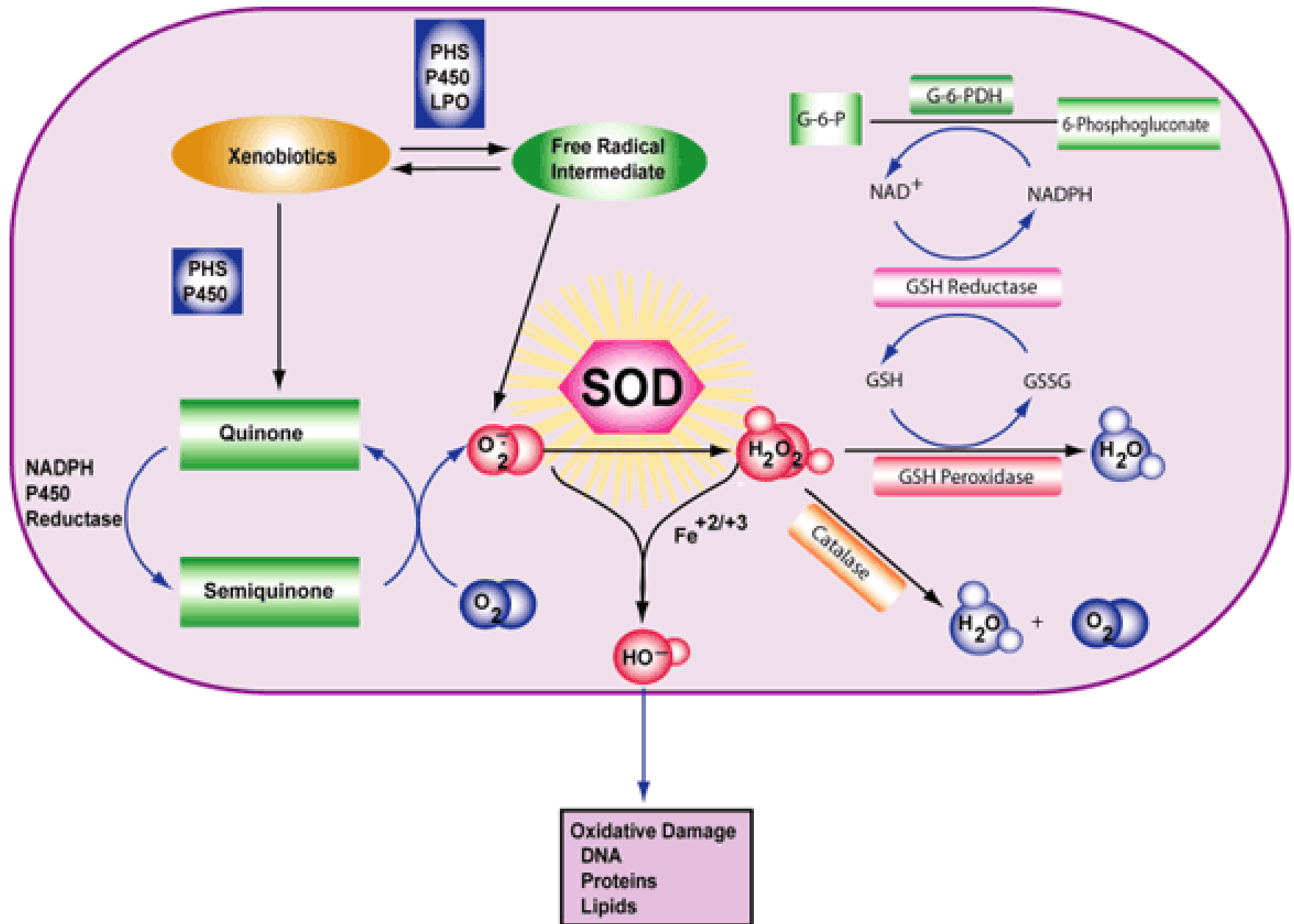
## Reaction

The SOD-catalysed dismutation of superoxide may be written with the following half-reactions :

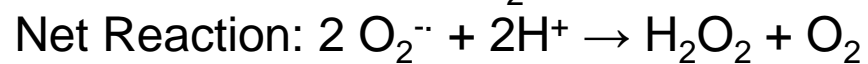
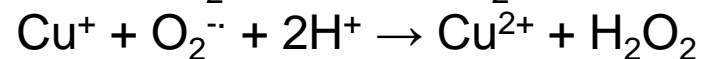
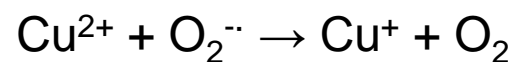
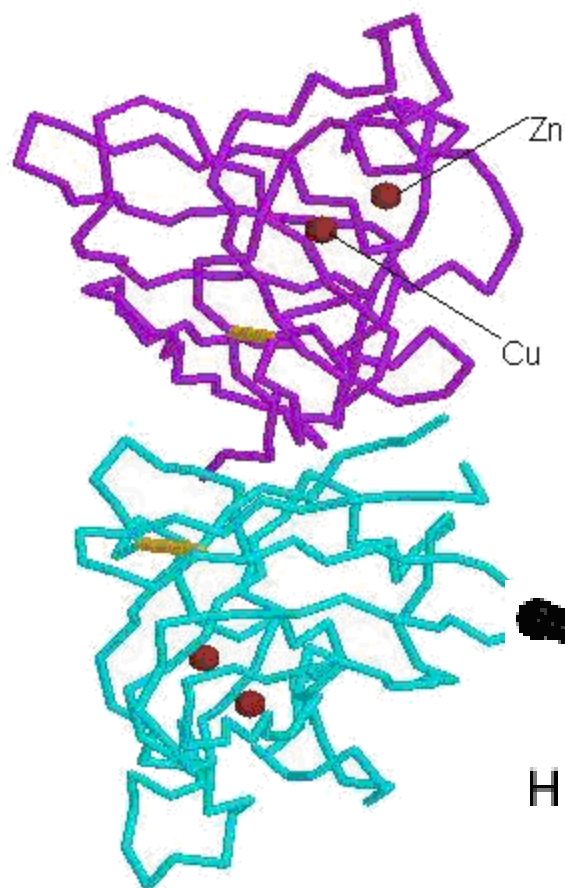


where M = Cu (n=1) ; Mn (n=2) ; Fe (n=2) ; Ni (n=2).

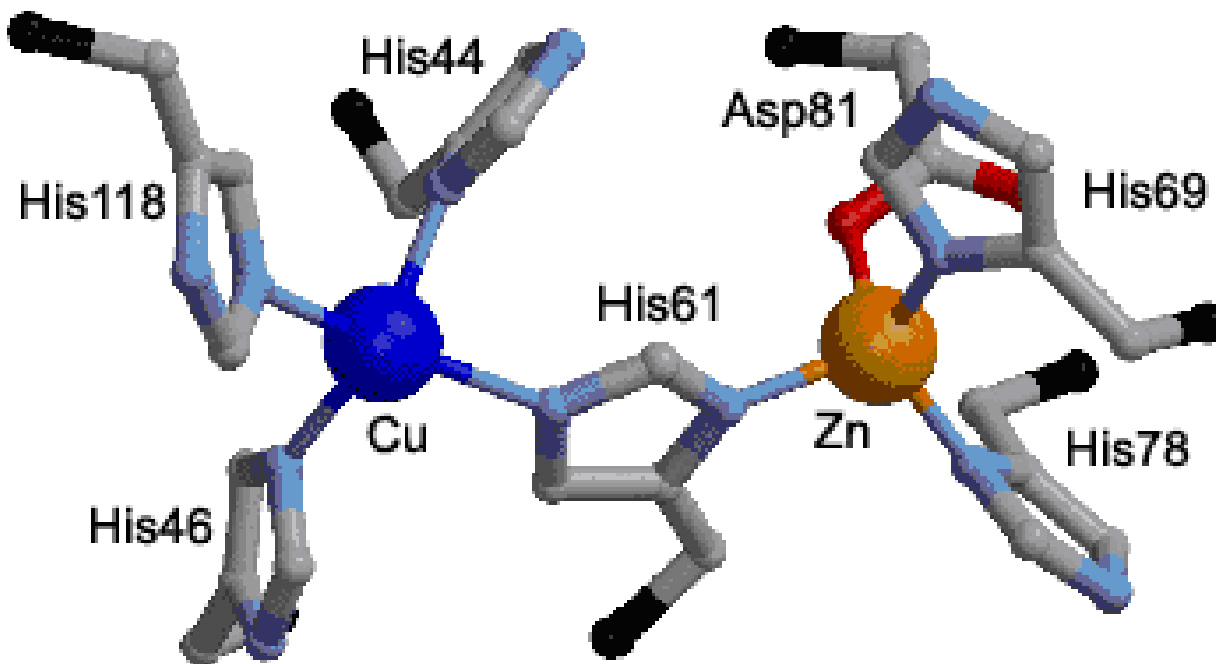
In this reaction the oxidation state of the metal cation oscillates between n and n+1.







$$K = (\sim 10^5 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ at pH 7})$$



# Manganese in Biology

Manganese(II) ions function as cofactors for a number of enzymes and the element is thus a required trace mineral for all known living organisms.

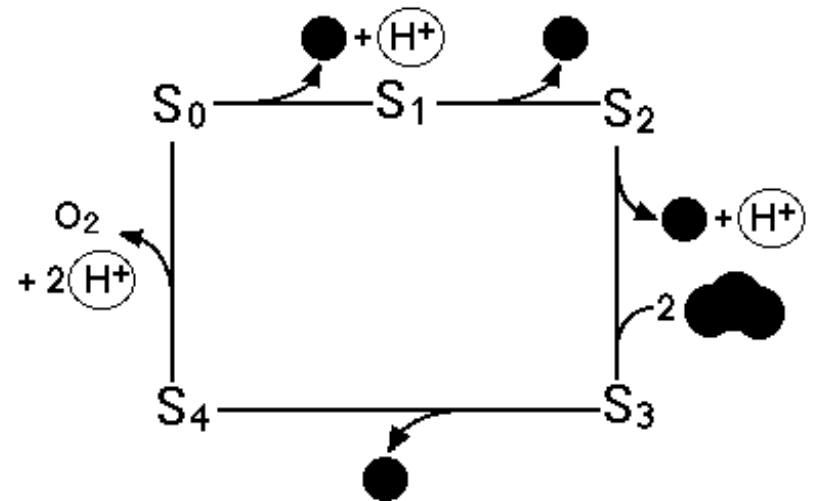
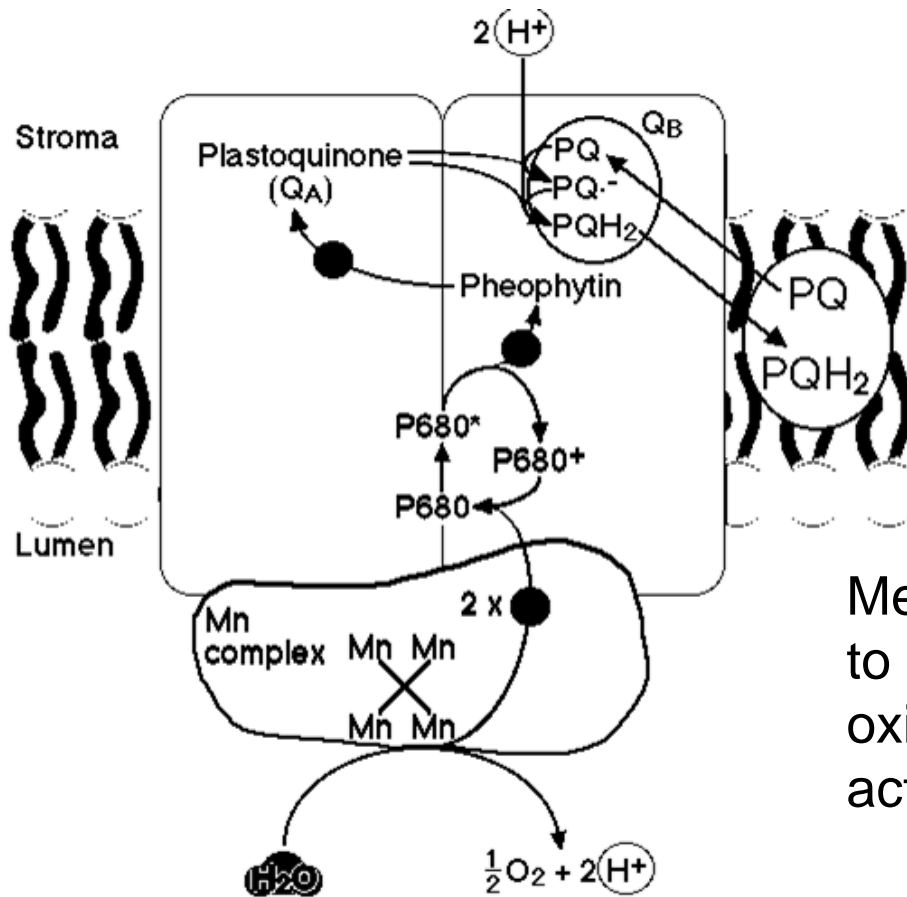
## Biological role:

✚ The classes of enzymes that have manganese cofactors are very broad and include such classes as oxidoreductases, transferase, hydrolases, lyases, isomerases, ligases, lectins and integrins.

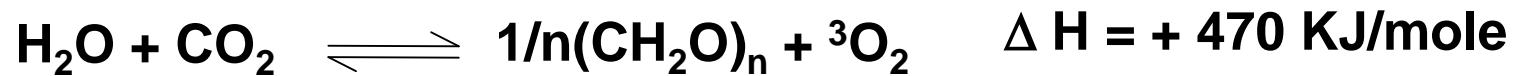
✚ Mn-SOD is the type of SOD present in eukaryotic mitochondria, and also in most bacteria. The Mn-SOD enzyme is probably one of the most ancient, for nearly all organisms living in the presence of oxygen use it to deal with the toxic effects of superoxide, formed from the 1-electron reduction of dioxygen.

- ✚ Manganese is also important in photosynthetic oxygen evolution in Chloroplasts in plants, which are also evolutionarily of bacterial origin.
- ✚ The Oxygen evolving complex (OEC), a water-oxidizing enzyme contained in chloroplast membrane, and which is involved in the terminal photo oxidation of water during the light reactions of photosynthesis, has a metalloenzyme core containing four atoms of manganese.

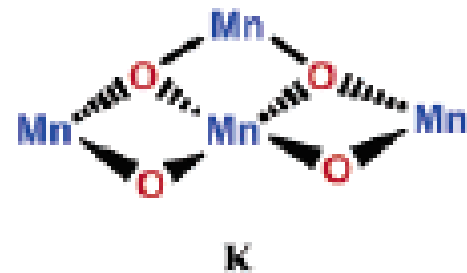
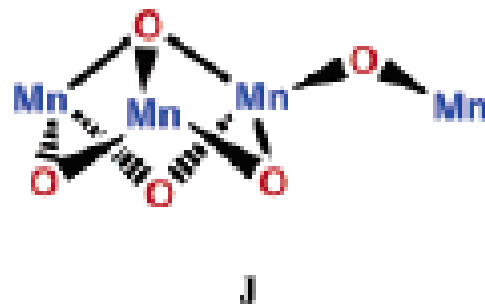
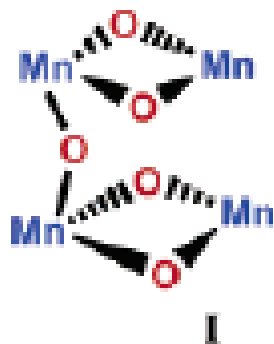
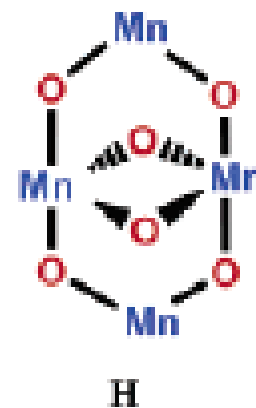
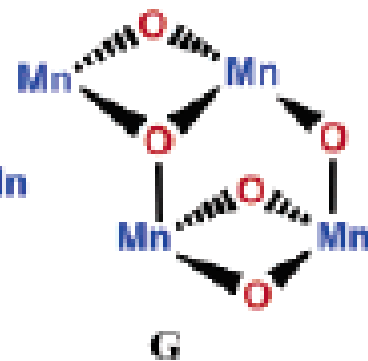
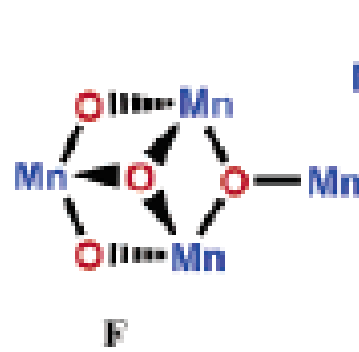
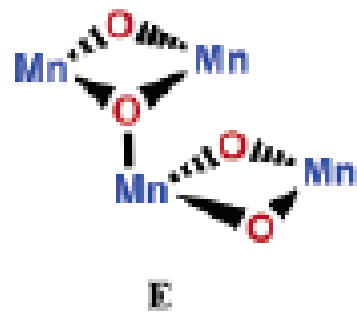
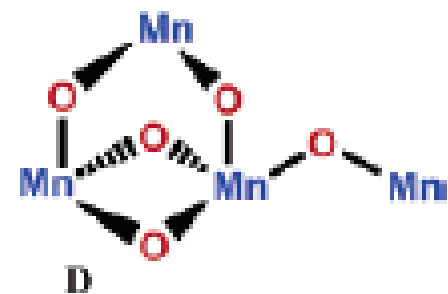
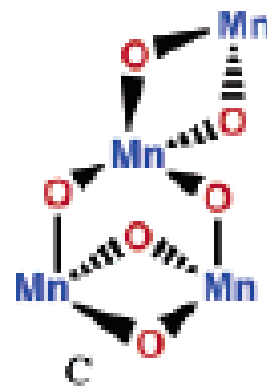
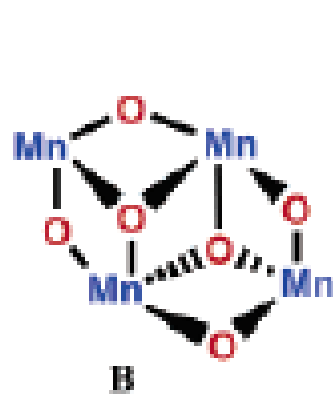
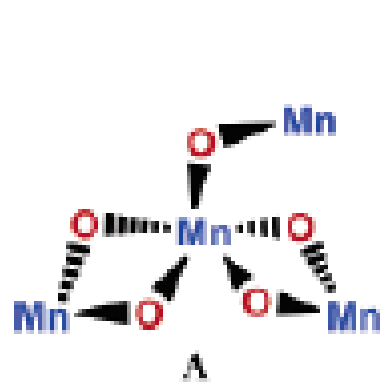
# Photosystem II



Mechanistic cycle (commonly referred to as the Kok catalytic cycle) for water oxidation in the photosystem II (PSII) active site.



## Proposed PSII Mn<sub>4</sub> Structures





## Zinc in Biology

Hydrogen 1 H 1.00794																		Helium 2 He 4.002602					
Lithium 3 Li 6.941	Beryllium 4 Be 9.012182																	Boron 5 B 10.811	Carbon 6 C 12.011	Nitrogen 7 N 14.007	Oxygen 8 O 15.999	Fluorine 9 F 18.998	Neon 10 Ne 20.180
Sodium 11 Na 22.990	Magnesium 12 Mg 24.305																	Aluminum 13 Al 26.982	Silicon 14 Si 28.086	Phosphorus 15 P 30.974	Sulfur 16 S 32.06	Chlorine 17 Cl 35.45	Argon 18 Ar 39.948
Potassium 19 K 39.098	Calcium 20 Ca 40.078	Scandium 21 Sc 44.956	Titanium 22 Ti 47.88	Vanadium 23 V 50.942	Chromium 24 Cr 51.996	Manganese 25 Mn 54.938	Iron 26 Fe 55.845	Cobalt 27 Co 58.933	Nickel 28 Ni 58.69	Copper 29 Cu 63.546	<b>Zinc</b> 30 Zn 65.38	Gallium 31 Ga 69.723	Germanium 32 Ge 72.63	Arsenic 33 As 74.922	Selenium 34 Se 78.96	Bromine 35 Br 79.904	Krypton 36 Kr 83.80						
Rubidium 37 Rb 85.468	Sr 87.62	Yttrium 39 Y 88.906	Zirconium 40 Zr 91.224	Niobium 41 Nb 92.906	Molybdenum 42 Mo 95.94	Technetium 43 Tc 98	Ruthenium 44 Ru 101.07	Rhodium 45 Rh 102.91	Palladium 46 Pd 106.42	Silver 47 Ag 107.87	Cadmium 48 Cd 112.41	Indium 49 In 114.82	Sn 118.71	Sb 121.76	Te 127.6	Iodine 53 I 126.905	Xenon 54 Xe 131.29						
Cesium 55 Cs 132.91	Barium 56 Ba 137.33	57-70 *	Lanthanum 57 La 138.905	Hafnium 72 Hf 178.49	Tantalum 73 Ta 180.948	Tungsten 74 W 183.84	Rhenium 75 Re 186.21	Osmium 76 Os 190.23	Iridium 77 Ir 192.22	Pt 195.08	Au 196.967	Hg 200.59	Tl 204.38	Pb 207.2	Bi 208.98	Po [209]	At [210]	Rn [222]					
Francium 87 Fr [223]	Radium 88 Ra [226]	89-102 * *	Lanthanum 57 La 138.905	Hafnium 72 Hf 178.49	Tantalum 73 Ta 180.948	Tungsten 74 W 183.84	Rhenium 75 Re 186.21	Osmium 76 Os 190.23	Iridium 77 Ir 192.22	Pt 195.08	Au 196.967	Hg 200.59	Tl 204.38	Pb 207.2	Bi 208.98	Po [209]	At [210]	Rn [222]					
																			Ununquadium 114 Uuq [271]				



**Human body: 2-3 g zinc**

- ❖ **Zinc** - essential trace element; the 2nd most abundant transition metal in biology.
- ❖ Zinc exists always in its +2 oxidation state, and colorless
- ❖ More than 300 enzymes with diverse biological roles
- ❖ Cd(II) and Hg(II) can replace Zn(II) → toxic
- ❖ **Zinc enzymes** are redox inactive and the zinc ion in enzymes has several accessible geometries
- ❖ The oxygen and sulfur ligands are labile, which allows substrate binding.
- ❖ Zinc in enzymes is a good Lewis acid – **Zinc Hydrolases**

# Zinc Enzymes

Zinc is the only metal to be found in all six classes of enzymes.

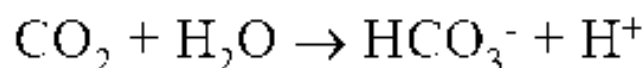
Main Class	Type of Reaction Catalyzed
Oxidoreductases	Oxidation-reduction reactions Alcohol Dehydrogenase
Transferases	Transfer of an amino group between substrates Aspartate carbamoyltransferase
Hydrolases	Hydrolysis of ester, amide, phosphate groups Carboxypeptidase, ACE, $\beta$ -Lactamases

## CLASSES OF ENZYMES

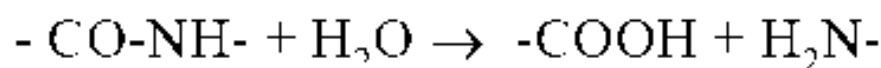
### Hydrolytic enzymes

- Addition or removal of elements of water in a substrate molecule.

- ◆ Carbonic Anhydrase



- ◆ Carboxypeptidases



- ◆ Esterases

- ◆ Alkaline Phosphatases

- Metal ions:  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$

Avoid undesired electron transfer

## Zinc and filamentous structures

- |                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Collagens           | Zinc collagenase |
| 2. Proteoglycans       | Zinc stromelysin |
| 3. Denatured collagens | Zinc gelatinase  |
| 4. Keratins            | Zinc cross links |

## Zinc enzymes in synthesis

- |                          |                            |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. RNA                   | RNA polymerase             |
| 2. DNA synthesis         | Reverse transcriptase      |
| 3. Viral synthesis       | terminal dNT transferase   |
| 4. Transfer RNA          | tRNA synthetase            |
| 5. Essential amino acids | dehydroquinase synthase    |
| 6. Essential amino acids | aspartate transcarbamylase |

## Zinc proteins related to peptide hormonal action

- |                |                                       |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Insulin     | Zinc associated with hormone storage  |
| 2. Angiotensin | Zinc in angiotensin conversion enzyme |
| 3. Enkephalin  | Zinc in enzyme enkephalinase          |
| 4. Neurotensin | degradation by zinc enzyme            |

## Zinc in Degradation

1. Pancreatic juice
2. extracellular digestion
3. Breakdown of DNA

Carboxypeptidase

Thermolysin

Nucleotidase and RNA



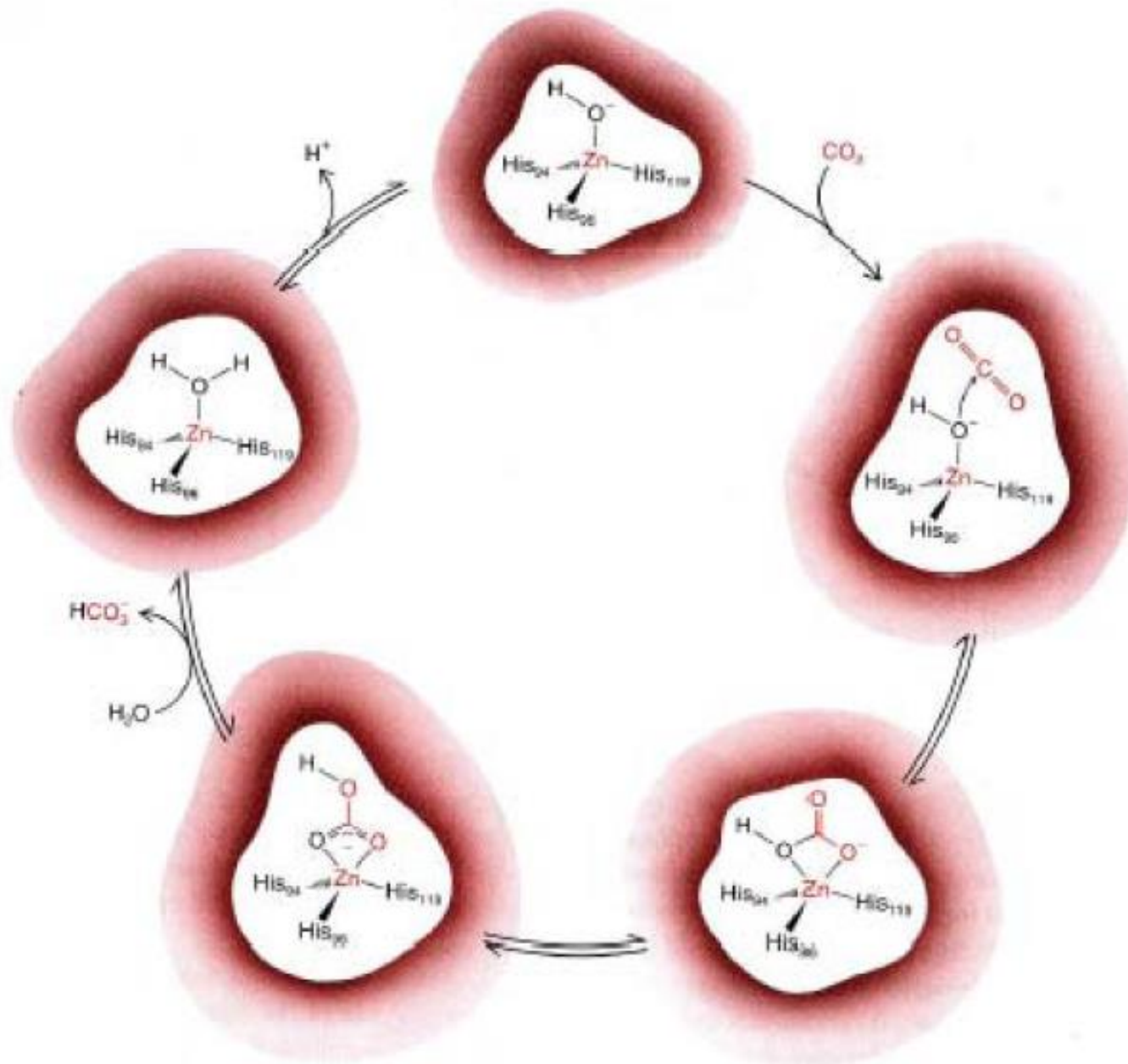
# Carbonic Anhydrase



- TOF =  $10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .  $10^8$  times faster than without enzyme!
- For humans, 7 different CAs have been identified. A high concentration is found in the

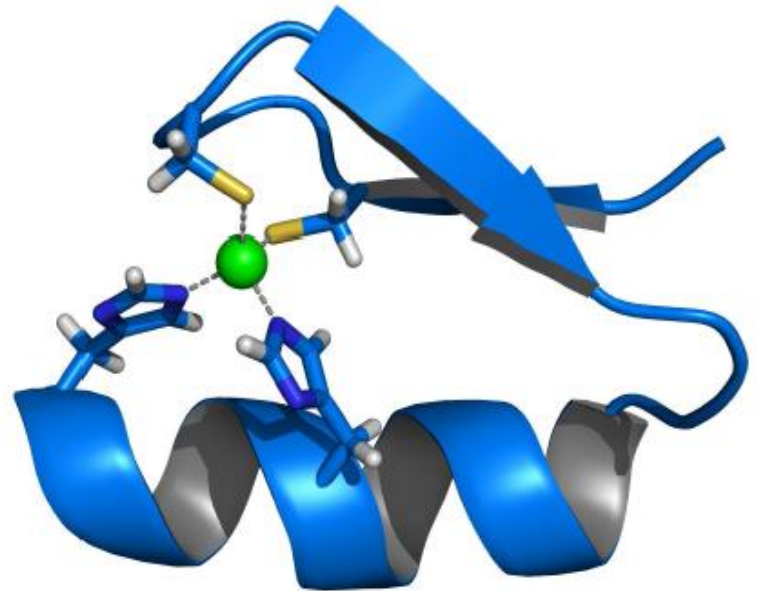
- The  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  is coordinated to three His residues in a 15 Å deep cavity. The water molecule is acidic with a pK of ca. 7.

# Carbonic Anhydrase – The Reaction Mechanism

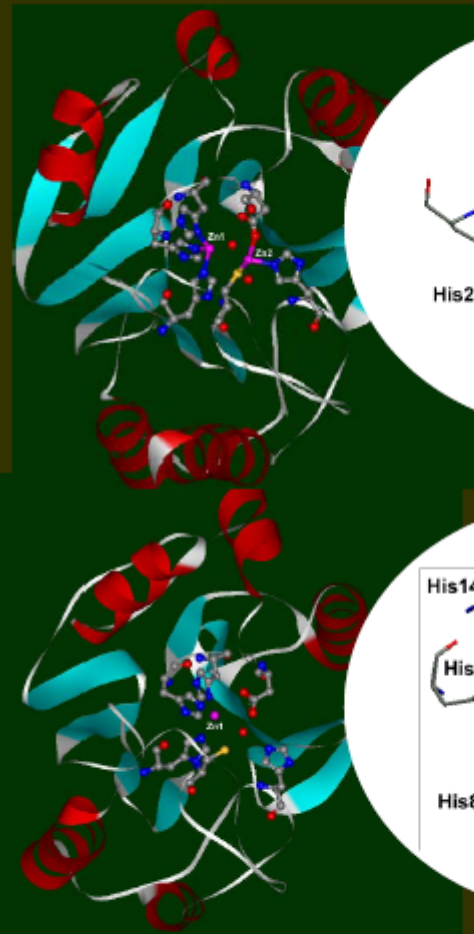


# Zinc fingers

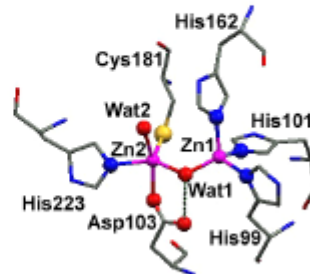
- Typical feature of transcription factor proteins
  - Ligand environment: tetrahedral, 2 His and 2 Cys
  - Bind to specific regions of DNA
  - Binding specificity determined by geometry: large scale interaction
- “Zincless” finger can be made
- Target of molecular genetic engineering



## Metallo- $\beta$ -Lactamases – Zinc Hydrolases

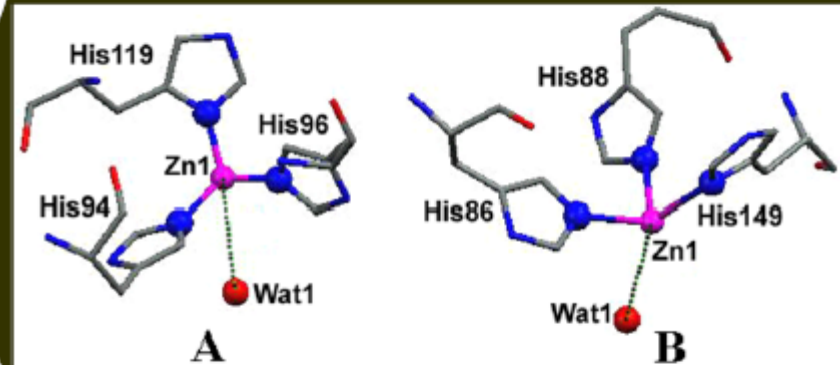
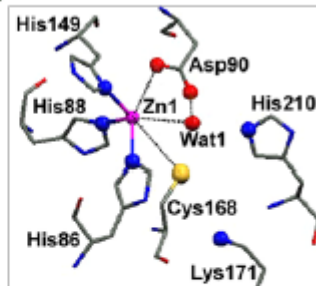


1ZNB



Hydrolyze a wide range of  $\beta$ -lactams including cephamycins and imipenem – resistant to the serine lactamases.

1BMC



The active site of (A) carbonic anhydrase (1G3Z); (B) metallo- $\beta$ -lactamase (1BMC).

The active site of (a) binuclear zinc enzyme from *B. fragilis* (PDB code: 1ZNB) and (b) mononuclear zinc enzyme from *B. cereus* (PDB code: 1BMC).

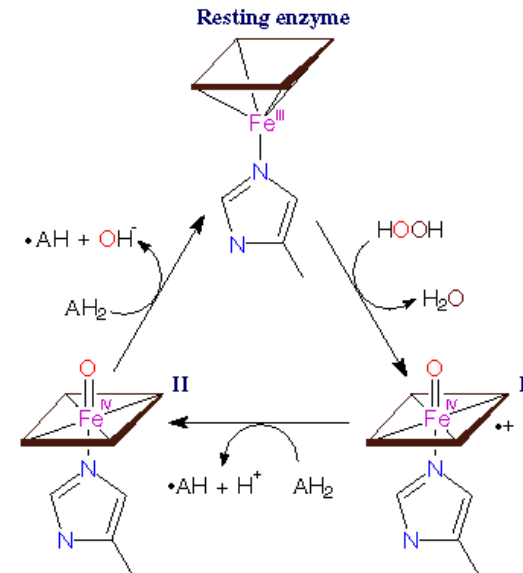
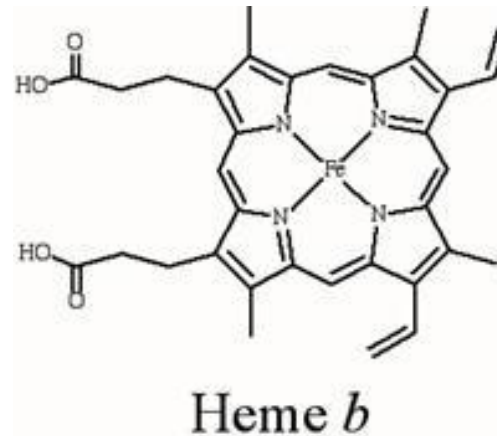
# Iron in Biology

Peroxidases are haemcontaining enzymes that use hydrogen peroxide ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ ) as the electron acceptor to catalyse a number of oxidative reactions.

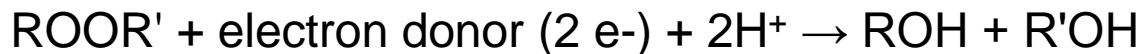
Most haem peroxidases follow the reaction scheme-

## Haem proteins by function

- Catalysis
- Electron transfer
- Oxygen transport and storage
- Nitric oxide transport

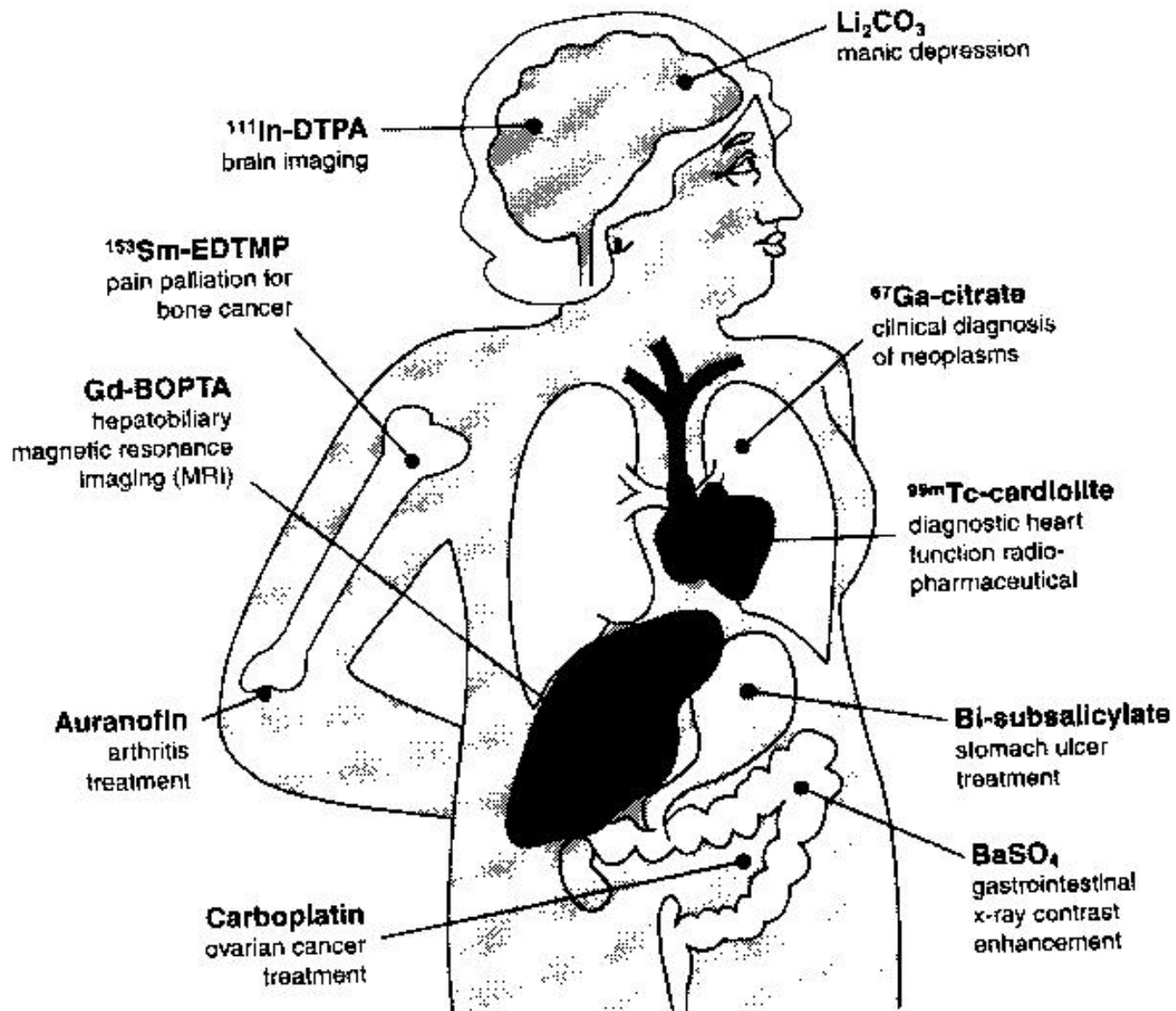


□ Peroxidases typically catalyze a reaction of the form:





# Medicinal Inorganic Chemistry



# Application of Metals in Medicine

+ Li<sup>+</sup>: Treatment of depression (Li<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, low doses)

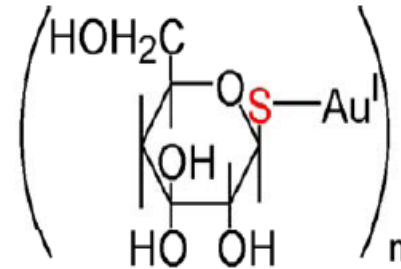
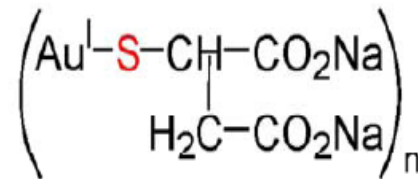
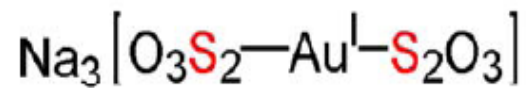
+ Gd<sup>3+</sup>: Contrast agent (NMR)

+ BaSO<sub>4</sub>: Contrast agent (radiography)

+ <sup>99m</sup>Tc: radio diagnostics (thyroid)

+ Au(I): Rheumatism





✚ Sb(III): Eczema

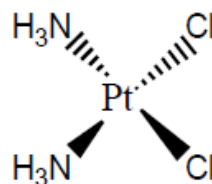
✚ Bi(III): Gastric ulcer

✚ Cd: Carboanhydrase(Thalassiosira weissflogii)

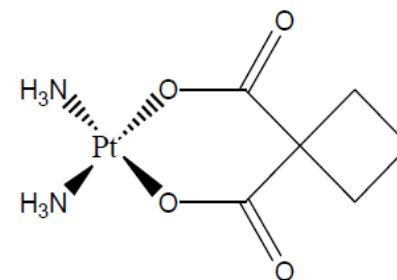
## Metal based Anti-Cancer Drugs

- ✚ In 1965 Rosenberg discovered antiproliferative effect of a cisplatin whilst conducting studies on bacteria under in an electric field produced by platinum complexes
- ✚ He was able to show that the compound cisplatin was responsible for the effect and this was found to be effective against treating some cancers.
- ✚ Cisplatin is now THE MOST used anti-cancer drug  
\*\*BUT CONTAINS NO CARBON ATOMS\*\* !!
- ✚ HOW DOES *CIS-PLATIN* TARGET CANCER ?

- ✚ By reaction with DNA?

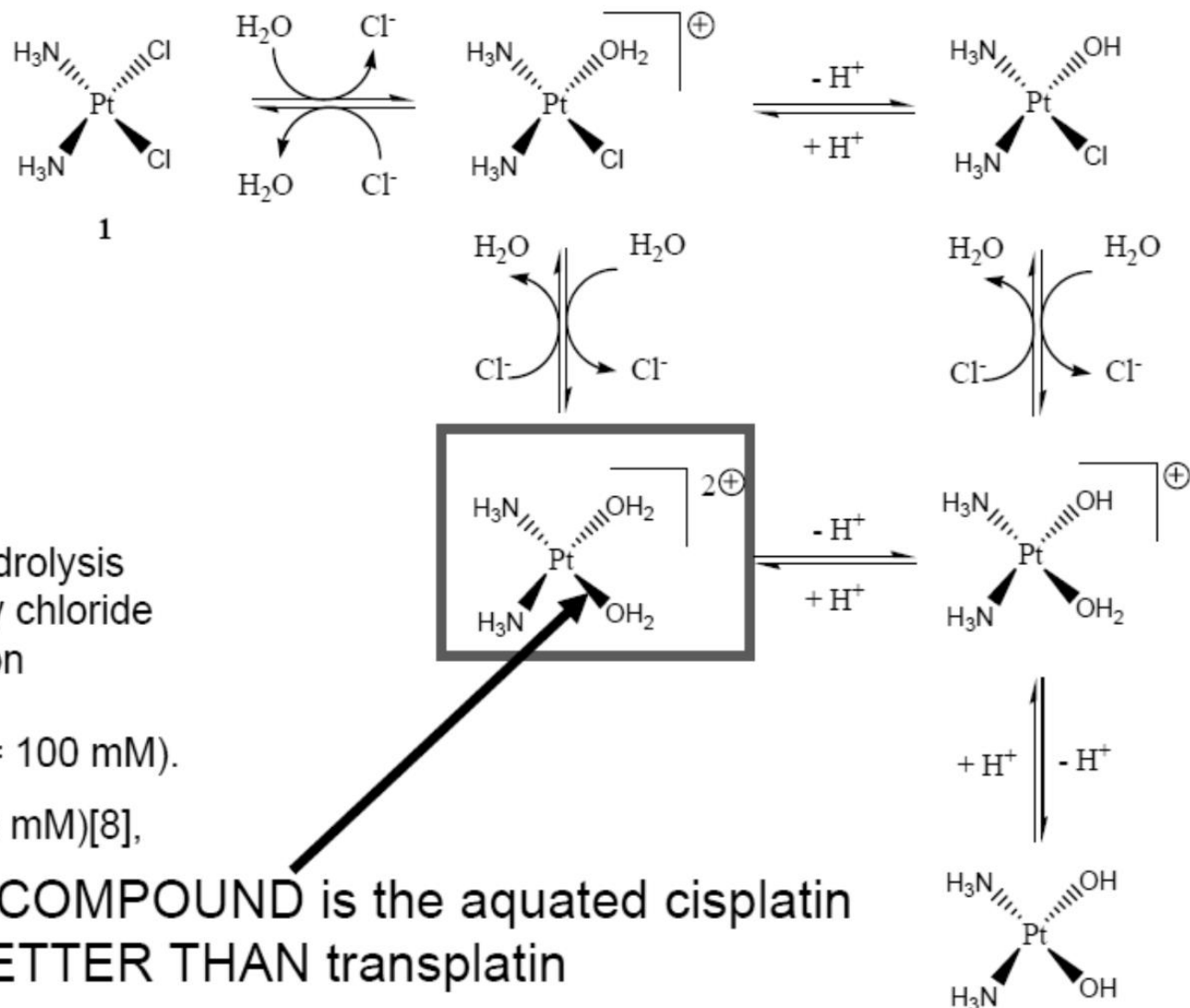


Cisplatin  
(1)



Carboplatin  
(2)

# Reactions of *cis-platin* under physiological conditions

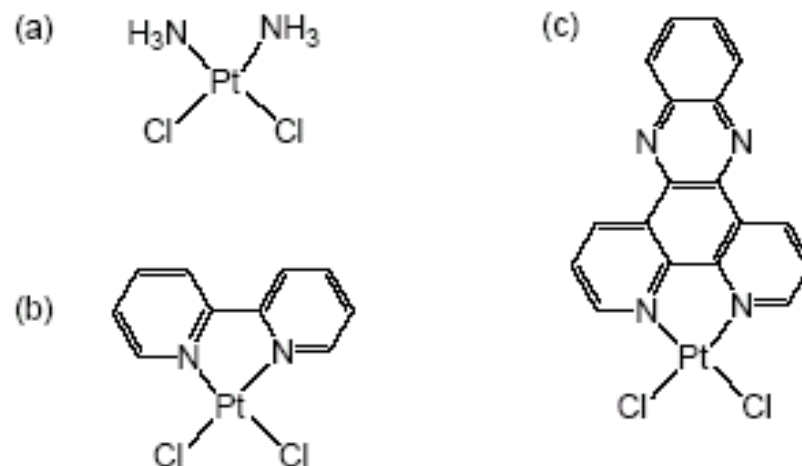


Cisplatin hydrolysis regulated by chloride concentration

([Cl-blood] = 100 mM).

([Cl-cell] = 3 mM)[8],

Reactive COMPOUND is the aquated cisplatin  
MUCH BETTER THAN transplatin



. Molecular structures of (a) cisplatin, (b) Pt(bpy)Cl<sub>2</sub>, and (c) Pt(dppz)Cl<sub>2</sub>.

## Disadvantages of *cis*-platin

- + Applicable in relatively narrow range of tumors.
- + Limited solubility in Aqueous solution.
- + Intravenous administration, inconvenience to outpatient treatment.
- + Nephrotoxicity, neurotoxicity and nausea.
- + Higher toxicity leading to lower doses of 100 mg/day.

## ***cis-platin* and new drugs**



From a clinical point-of-view the current challenges in drug development include:

(i) addressing the poor solubility of cisplatin and analogues in water

(ii) cellular resistance of cancer cells to cisplatin

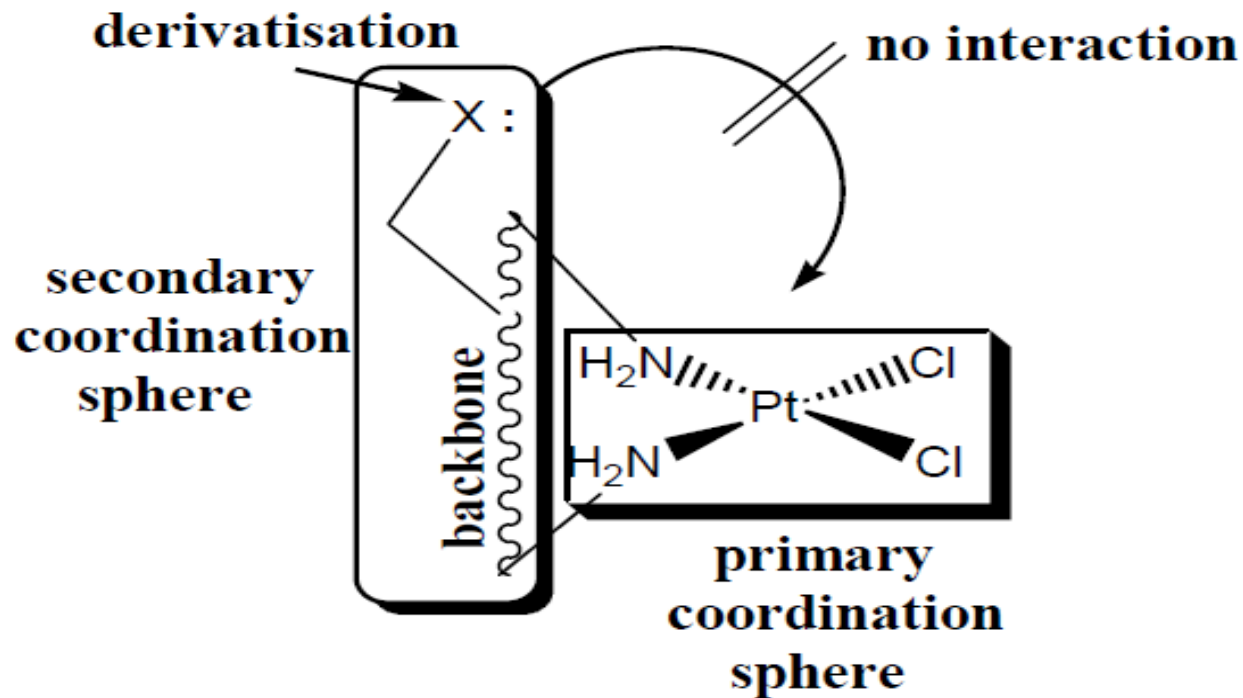
(iii) toxic side effects of cisplatin

(e.g. nausea, neurotoxicity, kidney damage)

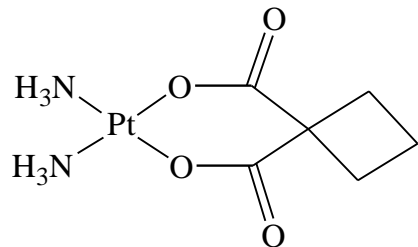
(iv) use of platinum-based therapeutics to treat cisplatin resistant cell lines

# The need for new *cis-platin* drugs

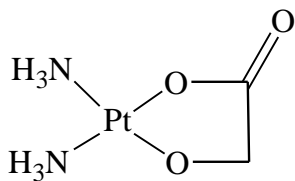
- ✚ For understanding
- ✚ To address toxicity and cellular resistance



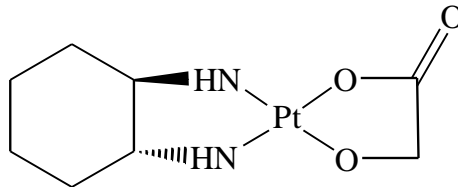
## Second line Anticancer Drugs



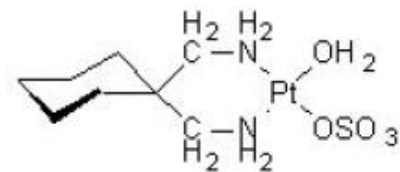
Carboplatin



Nedaplatin



Oxaliplatin



**spiroplatin**  
aqua-1,1-bis(aminomethyl)-  
cyclohexanesulfatoplatinum(II)

Carboplatin is less toxic than cisplatin and can be given in higher doses (2000 mg/dose). Routinely used in clinics.

Oxaplatin is approved for secondary treatment of metastatic colorectal cancer in France and other European countries and

Nedaplatin has received approval for use in Japan.

The search continues for an improved Pt-anticancer agents which are less toxic, orally active and non-cross-resistant with *cis*-platin and *trans*-platin.



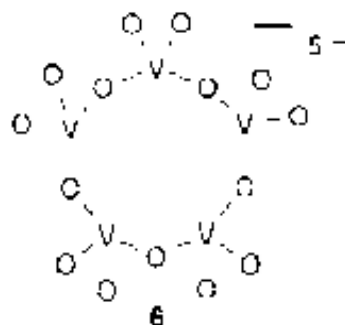
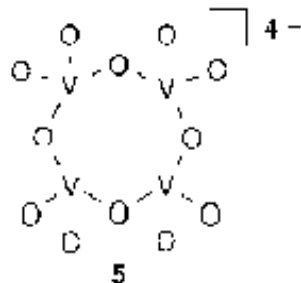
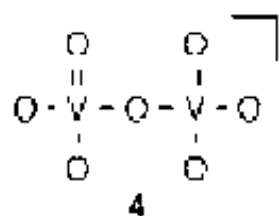
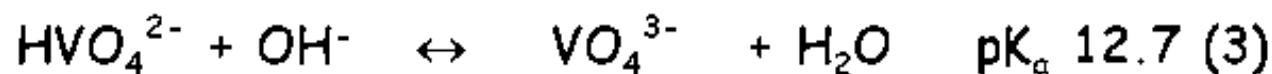
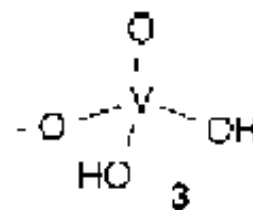
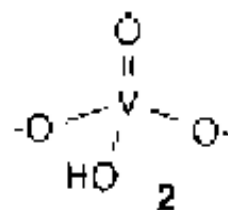
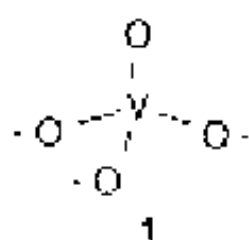
## Vanadium-based drugs for diabetes

- ❖ Insulin is the mainstay of treatment of Type-I (insulin dependent-10%) and Type-II (insulin-independent –90%) diabetic patients.
- ❖ Daily subcutaneous injections of insulin to insulin-deficient patients lowered the blood glucose to normal values and interrupts a fatal metabolic disorder.
- ❖ Oral administration is ineffective in mammals.
- ❖ Insulin stimulates the uptake of glucose (glycogen in liver and muscle) fatty acids (triglycerides in adipose tissue) and amino acids (proteins in muscle) from blood circulation for further storage and utilization.
- ❖ Insulin also inhibits the action of other hormones that trigger the breakdown of glycogen, fatty acids and proteins.

## Need and search for insulin substitutes

- ❖ Development of Insulin resistance.
- ❖ Development of methods for preparation on insulin responsive cells in 1970 facilitated investigation of mechanism of insulin action as well as identification of several agents that mimic the insulin action.
- ❖ Proteins (trypsin, lectins, and antibodies)  $H_2O_2$ , Zn, Mn ions effective in rat adipocytes but FAIL in animal model.

## Vanadate : a structural and electronic analogue of phosphate



Analogues of pyrophosphate,  
oligomeric and polymeric  
phosphate  
Contain anhydride bonds

# Schematic representation of the activation of glucose intake by insulin

(a & b) activation of glucose intake by insulin

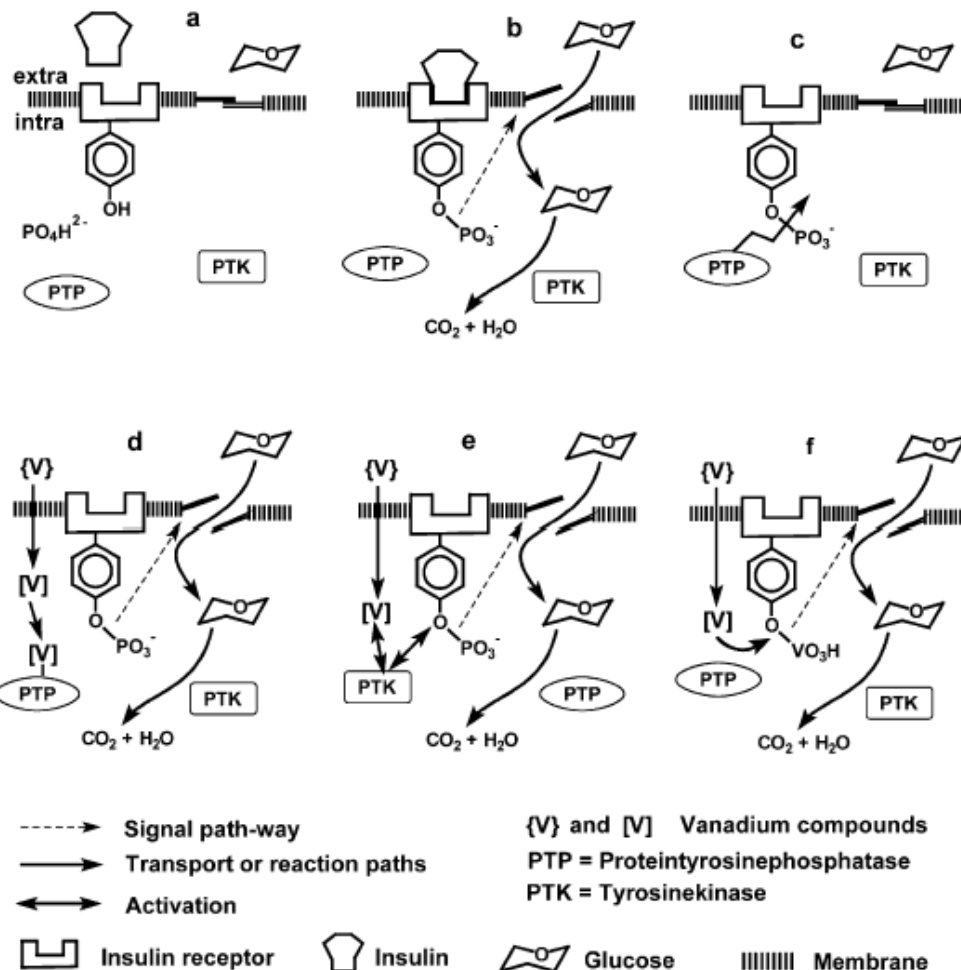
(c) Blockage of glucose intake in absence of insulin

Counteractions by vanadium compounds

(d) Activation of a phosphatase

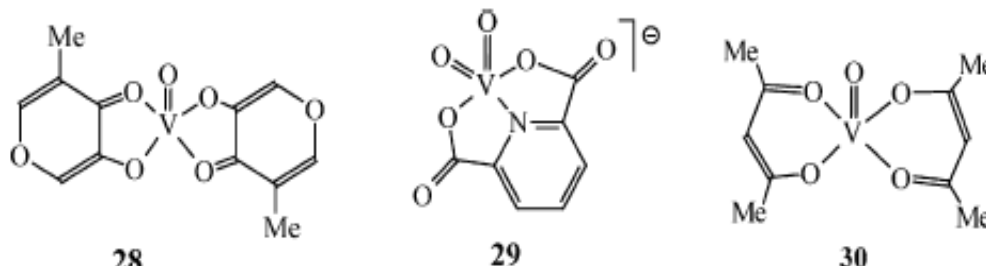
(e) Activation of a non-membrane kinase

(f) Vanadylation of the insulin receptor tyrosine

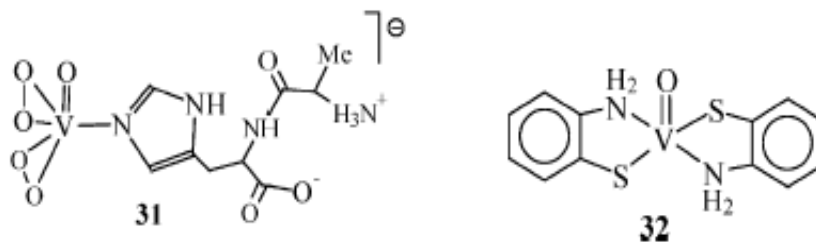


# Insulin-mimetic Vanadium compounds in various stages of clinical tests

- ❖ Vanadium(IV) maltolato complex (28) has been introduced in clinical tests in humans.



- ❖ V(V)-bispicolinato complex (29) has been successful in curing diabetic cats

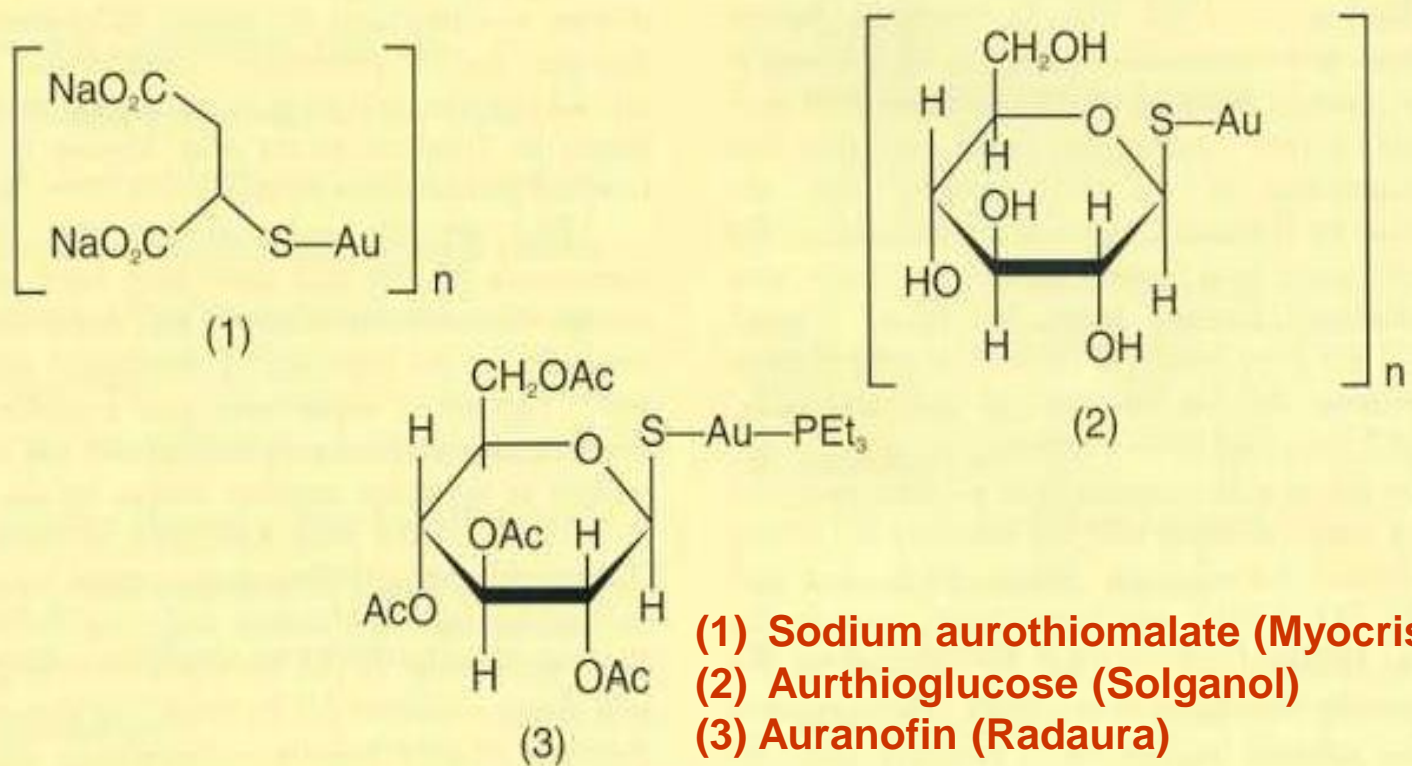


## Slow development of Vanadium compounds in pharmaceutical industry

1. Toxicity of vanadate
2. Heavy metals not accepted by the market
3. Vanadium is retained in the bone, Half-life of  $\text{VO}^{2+}$  is one month
4. Market logistics and competing interference

# Gold in treatment of rheumatoid arthritis

Structures of Gold Drugs



- (1) Sodium aurothiomalate (Myocrisin)
- (2) Aurthioglucose (Solganol)
- (3) Auranofin (Radaura)

## Nucleases (Restriction Enzymes)

Enzymes which carry out hydrolysis of internucleotide linkages in nucleic acids at relatively specific points.

**A] Endonucleases:-**Hydrolysis at internal position in DNA at nucleotide or RNA strand.

**B] Exonucleases:-**Hydrolysis only at terminal linkage, some at 5' and others at 3' end.

Required for controlled fragmentation of DNA and RNA into smaller pieces at specific points. This property has opened a new area in the Biochemistry of genes systematic dissection and mapping of chromosomes. Therefore possible to splice or recombine genes from one organism into the genome of another.

Werner Arber (Switzerland), Daniel Nathans (USA) and Hamilton Smith (USA) – Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1978 for discovery of Restriction Endonucleases.



# Transition metal complexes as chemical Nucleases

## Basics of Nucleic acid interactions:-

A] Nucleic acid structures

B] Nucleases

C] Fundamental interactions of metal complexes with  
nucleic acids

i] Coordination

ii] Intercalation

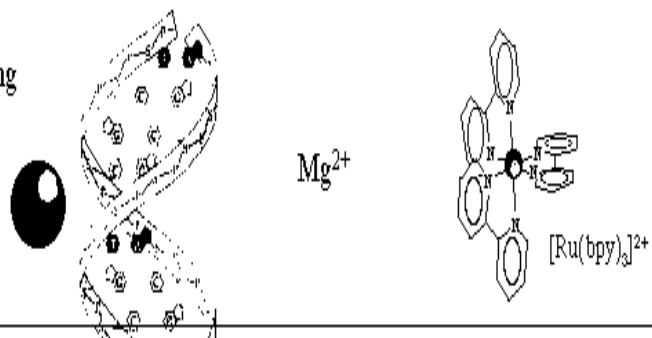
D] Fundamental reactions of metal complexes with  
nucleic acids

i] Redox

ii] Hydrolysis

# Metal DNA interactions

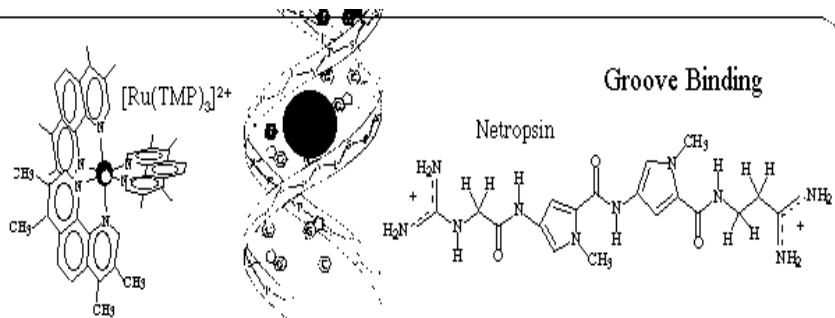
External Binding



+ Ionic or electrostatic interaction  
eg.- $[Ru(bpy)_3]Cl_2$

+ Hydrogen bonding  
eg.- $[Co(NH_3)_6]^{3+}$

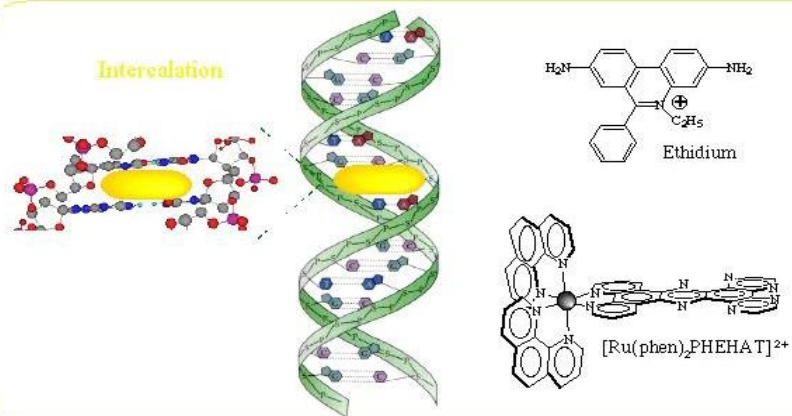
Groove Binding



+ Groove binding  
eg.- $[Cu(phen)_2]^+$

+ Covalent binding

Intercalation



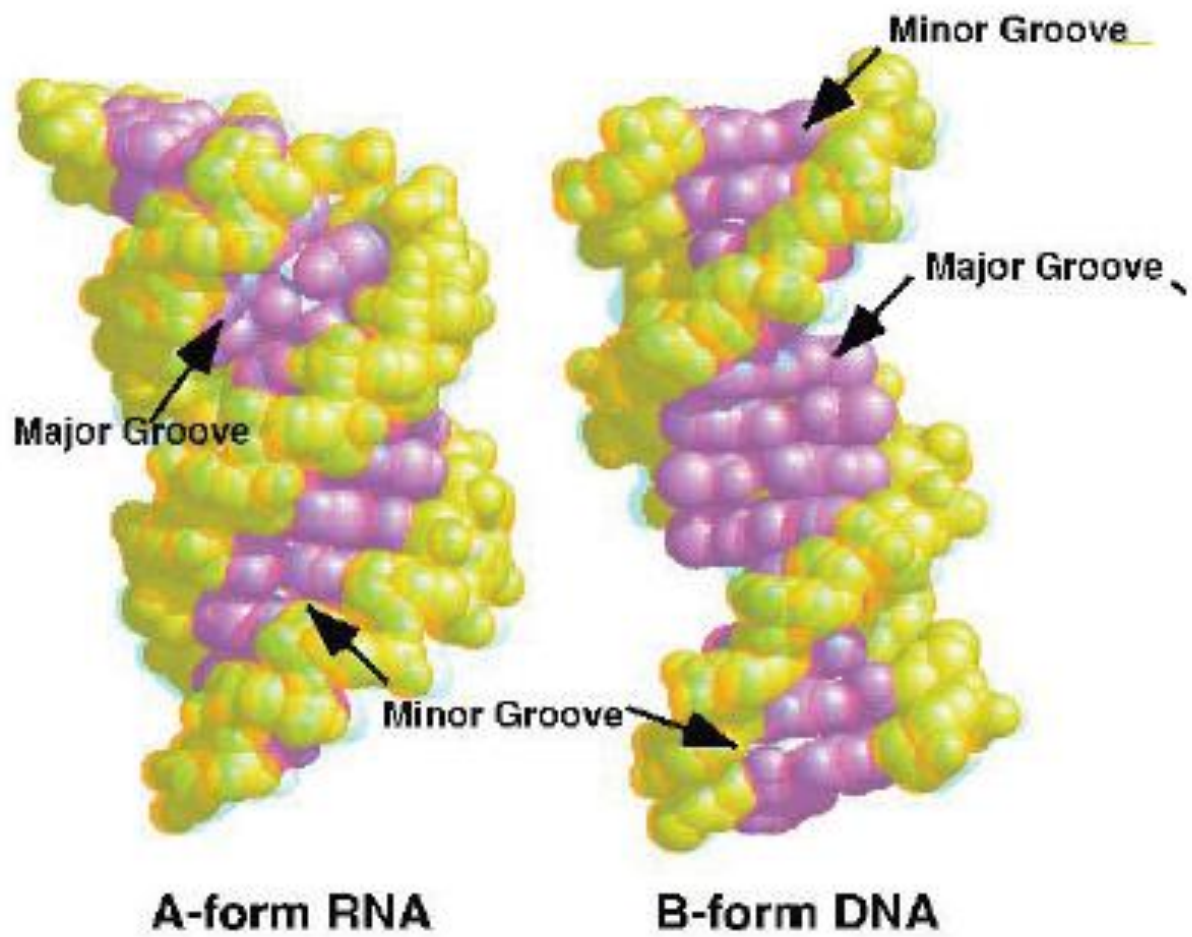
a) heterocyclic bases (Pt;N<sub>7</sub>guanine)

b) phosphate oxygens ( $Mg^{2+}$ )

c) sugar oxygens ( $Cu^{2+}$ ,  $Os^{3+}$ )

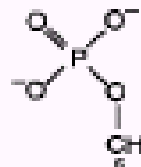
+ Intercalation

Noncovalent stacking interaction between planar aromatic moiety of metal complex and the DNA base pairs

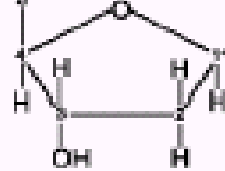


	A-DNA	B-DNA	Z-DNA
Screw sense	Right handed	Right handed	Left handed
Shape	Broadest	Intermediate	Most elongated
Rise per base pair	2.3 Å	3.4 Å	3.8 Å
Glycosidic bond	Anti	Anti	Anti for C,T and Syn for G
Base pair per turn of helix	11	10.4	12
Pitch per turn of helix	25.3 Å	35.4 Å	45.6 Å
Major groove	Narrow and very deep	Wide and quite deep	Flat
Minor groove	Broad and shallow	Narrow and quite deep	Narrow and deep

Phosphate group



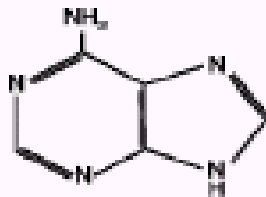
Nitrogenous base  
(purine or pyrimidine)



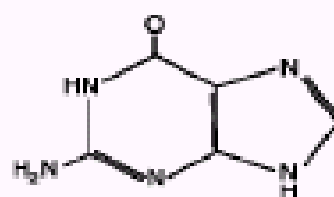
Deoxyribose

Figure 2. Structure of a nucleotide.

Purines

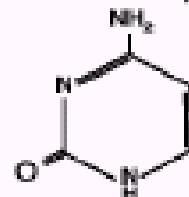


Adenine

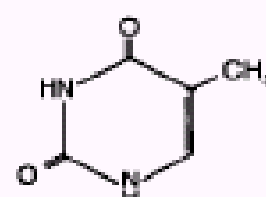


Guanine

Pyrimidines

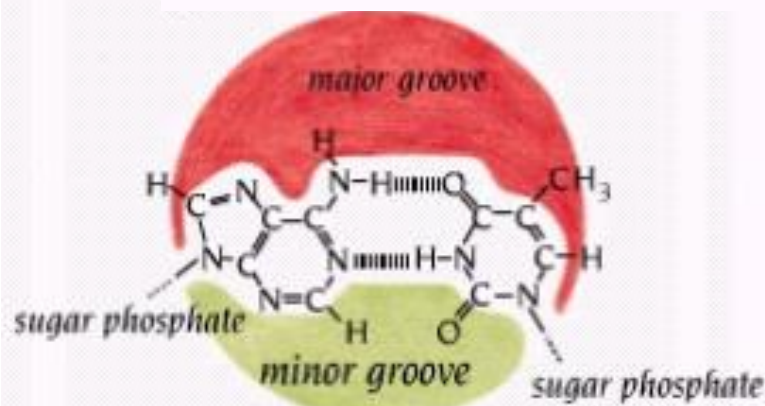


Cytosine

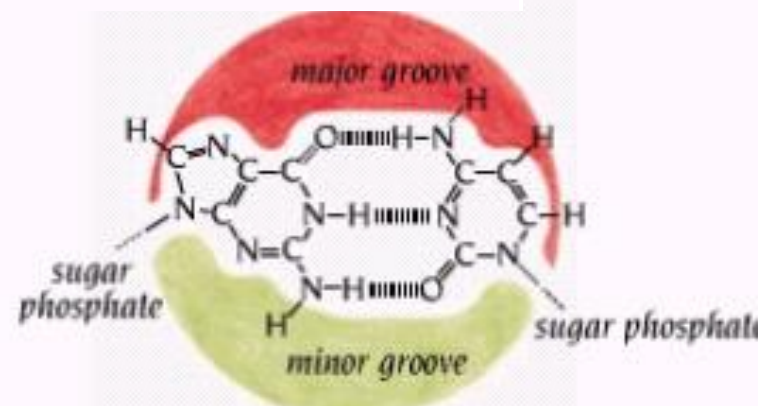


Thymine

Figure 3. The nitrogenous bases of DNA



ADENINE : THYMINE



GUANINE : CYTOSINE

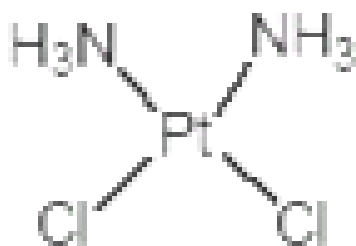
## Families of well studied Coordination complexes

A] Cis-platin as anticancer agent

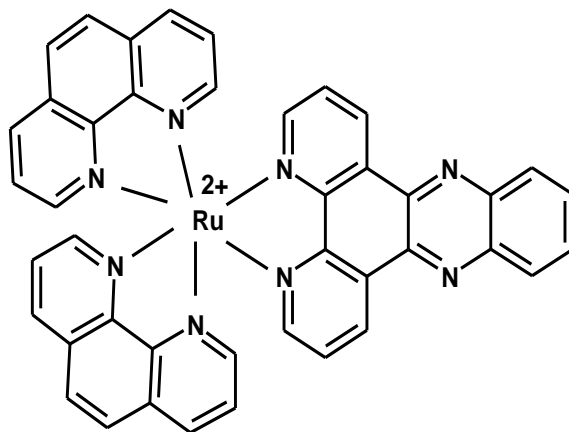
B]  $\text{Cu}(\text{Phen})_2^+$  as chemical nuclease

C]  $\text{Fe}(\text{EDTA})^{2-}$  as footprinting agent

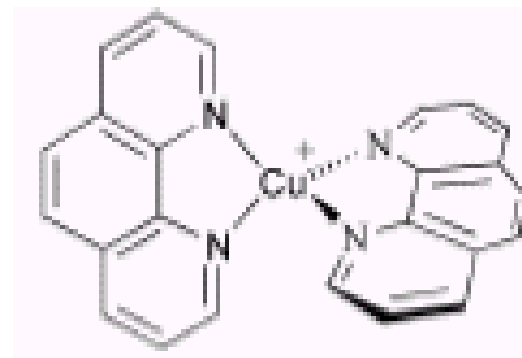
D]  $\text{M}(\text{phen})_3$  ( $\text{M}=\text{Ru}, \text{Rh}, \text{Os}$ ) as spectroscopic probes



*cis-platin*



$[\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_2\text{dppz}]^{2+}$



$[\text{Cu}(\text{phen})_2]^+$

# Why study Metal-DNA interactions?

- ✚ For evolving molecular biological tools (Synthetic restriction enzymes)
- ✚ The genetic basis of several major diseases has been recognized and therefore necessary to target aberrant DNA by direct binding or chemical excision
- ✚ To develop novel DNA-sequence reading and cleavage systems that are amenable to synthetic manipulation and have suitable biocompatibility (stability, cellular penetration and recycling)
- ✚ To understand DNA reactivity and detect DNA structures



## **Techniques used to study metal nucleic acid interactions**

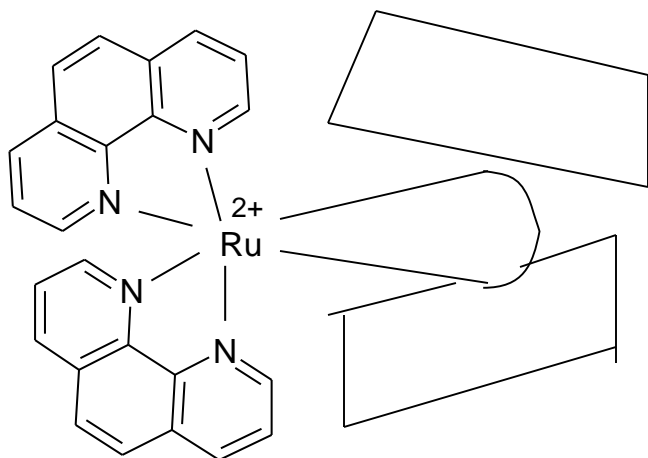
- A] Viscosity measurements
- B]  $^1H$  NMR Studies
- C] UV-Visible studies
- D] Emission spectroscopy
- E] Cyclic voltammetric studies
- F] Circular Dichroism
- G] Gel electrophoresis
- H] Resonance Raman studies
- I] Equilibrium dialysis
- J] Covalent Binding assay

# Possible Metal-DNA interactions

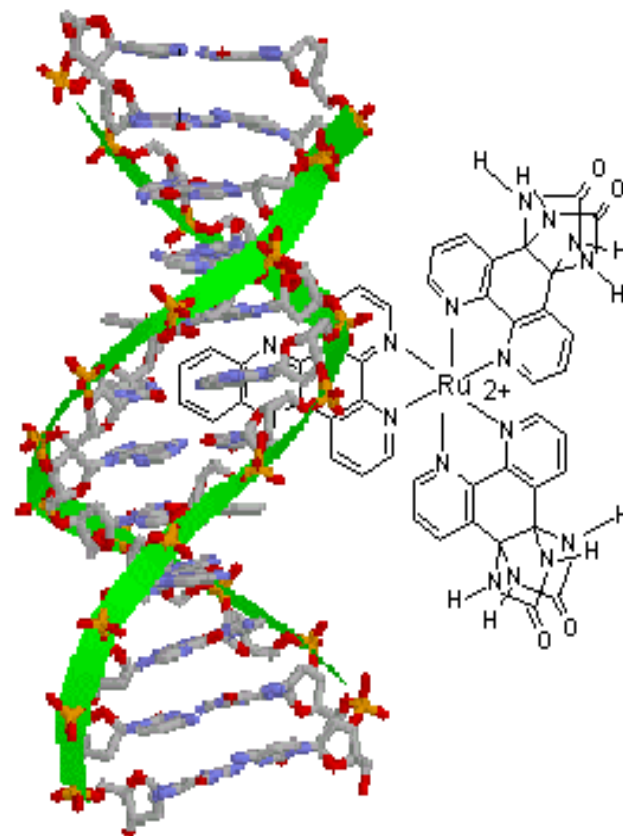
- ✚ Ionic or electrostatic interaction  
eg.-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]Cl<sub>2</sub>
- ✚ Hydrogen bonding  
eg.-[Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>3+</sup>
- ✚ Groove binding (major and minor)  
eg.-[Cu(phen)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup>
- ✚ Covalent binding
  - a) heterocyclic bases ( Pt ; N<sub>7</sub> guanine)
  - b) phosphate oxygens ( Mg<sup>2+</sup>)
  - c) sugar oxygens ( Cu<sup>2+</sup>, Os<sup>3+</sup>)
- ✚ Oxidation  
eg.-[Ru(bpy)<sub>3</sub>]<sup>2+</sup>

# Intercalation

Non covalent stacking interaction between planar aromatic moiety of metal complex and the DNA base pairs



Modification of the ancillary ligand influences the optical and DNA binding properties of the complexes.



## **Following changes occur upon intercalation**

- A] Unwinding and lengthening of the DNA helix
- B] Electronic interaction of the intercalator within the helix
- C] DNA Rigidity and orientation of the intercalator within the helix

Experimental criteria that establish intercalation can be classified as follows:

- A] Experiments that evaluate structural changes in the DNA helix
  - 1.Changes in solution viscosity of bulk DNA.
  - 2.Changes in sedimentation coefficient.
  - 3.Downfield shifts in the  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR spectrum

B] Experiments that indicate an electronic interaction between the intercalator and DNA bases.

1. Hypochromism

2. Bathochromic shift

3. Emission enhancement

4.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR up field shifts in the aromatic protons of the intercalated molecule

C] Experiments that demonstrate molecular orientation or rigidity

1. Dichroic technique

2. Changes in luminescence polarization

## [A] Viscosity Measurements

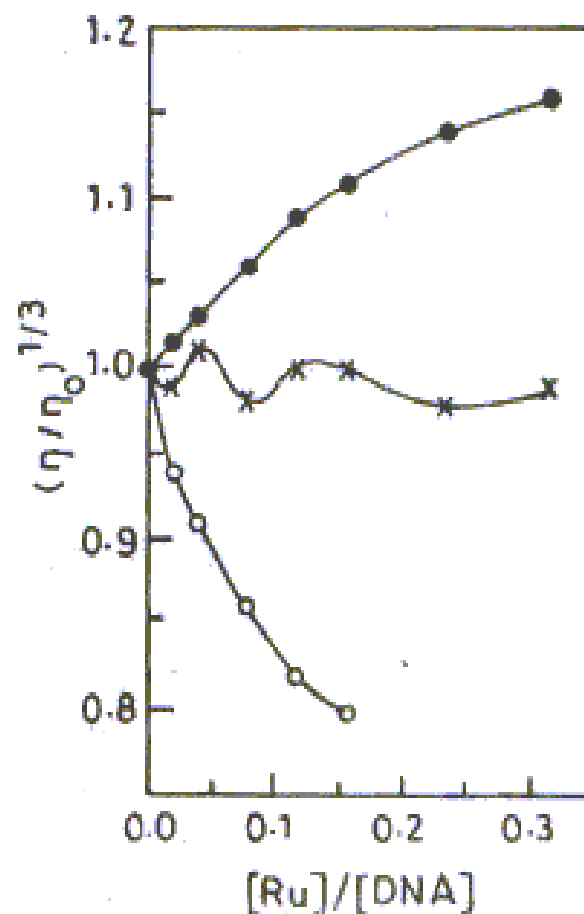


Fig. —Effect of increasing amounts of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3]^{2+}$  (x),  $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_2(\text{pztp})]^{2+}$  (•) and  $[(\text{bpy})_2\text{Ru}(\text{pztp})\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_2]^{4+}$  (o) on the relative viscosities of calf-thymus DNA (ref. 32).

## [B] $^1\text{H}$ NMR Studies

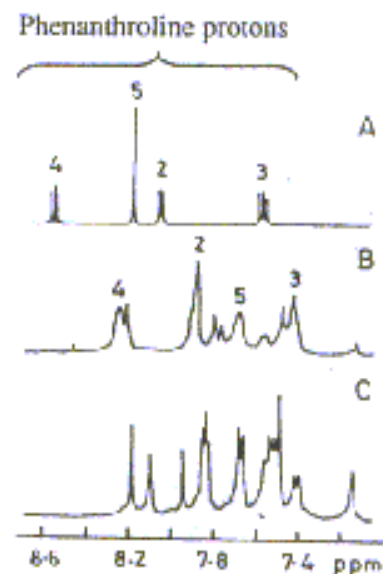


Fig. — $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of (A)  $\Delta\text{-}[\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_3]^{2+}$ , (B) the dodecanucleotide with  $\Delta\text{-}[\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_3]^{2+}$  in the aromatic proton region at a metal complex to dodecanucleotide ratio of 1, in 10 mM phosphate buffer (pH 7) and (C) the free dodecanucleotide d(TCGGGATCCCGA)<sub>2</sub> (ref. 19).

✚ Shifts in  $^1\text{H}$  NMR resonance's of both DNA binding complex and the oligonucleotide are evidence of increased association

✚ These shifts can be used empirically to gain structural insights into binding modes of complexes such as  $\text{M}(\text{phen})_3^{2+}$  where (M=Ru,Rh)

## [C] UV-Visible Studies

- ✚ Hypochromism and red shift are observed on binding with DNA
- ✚ These spectroscopic perturbations can be used to define equilibrium binding affinities and chiral preferences as well as extent of intercalation

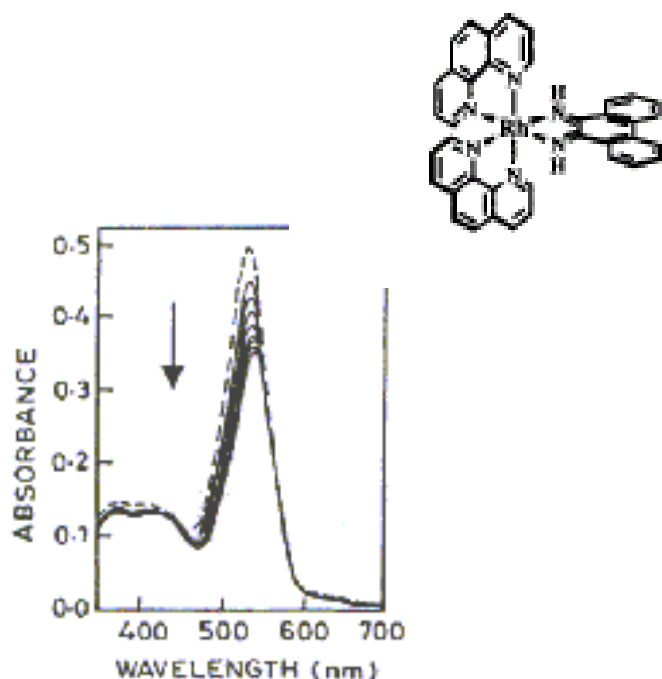


Fig. 2. Visible absorption spectrum of  $[\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_2(\text{phi})]^{2+}$  ( $10 \mu\text{M}$ ) in the absence (—) and presence (---) of increasing amounts of DNA (ref. 27).

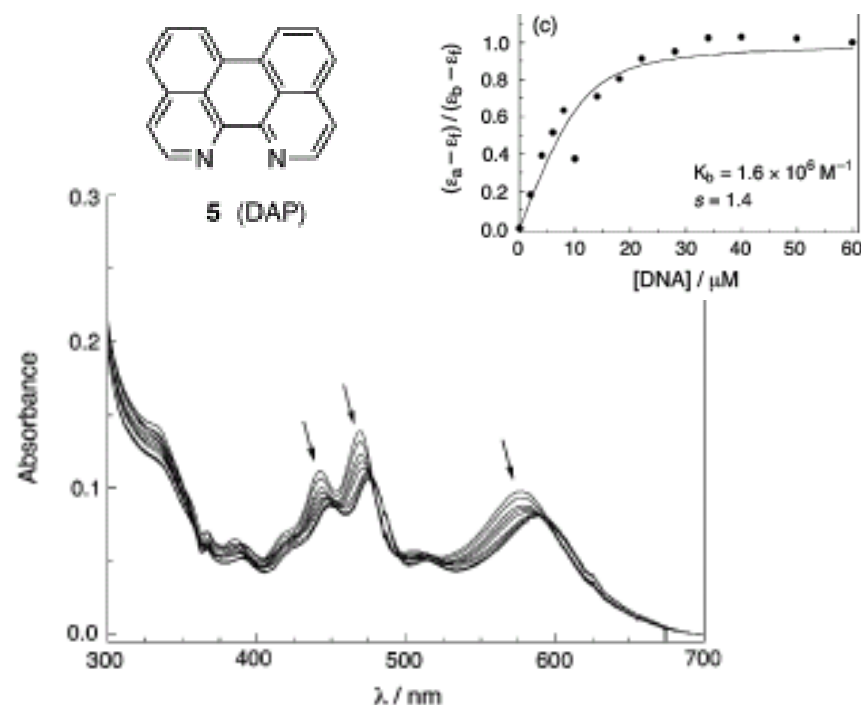
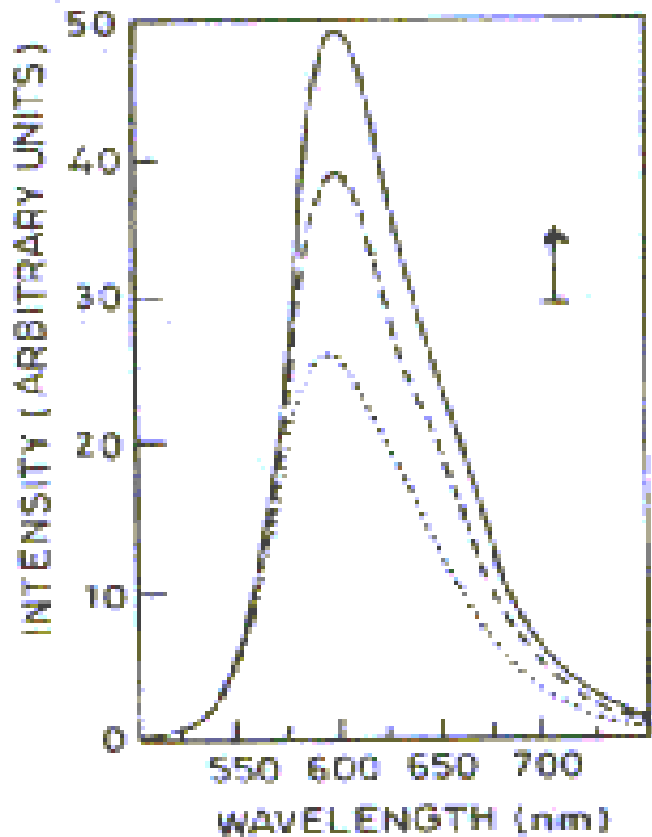


Figure 3. Changes in the electronic absorption spectrum of  $4.0 \mu\text{M}$   $[\text{Ru}-(\mathbf{5})_2(\text{bpy})]^{2+}$  in  $5 \text{ mM}$  Tris buffer,  $\text{pH} = 7.5$ ,  $50 \text{ mM}$  NaCl upon addition of  $0, 2, 4, 6, 8, 14, 18, 22, 28, 34, 40, 50$ , and  $60 \mu\text{M}$  calf-thymus DNA.

$$\text{DNA} / \epsilon_a - \epsilon_f = \text{DNA} / \epsilon_b - \epsilon_f + 1 / K_b (\epsilon_a - \epsilon_f)$$



## [D] Emission spectroscopy



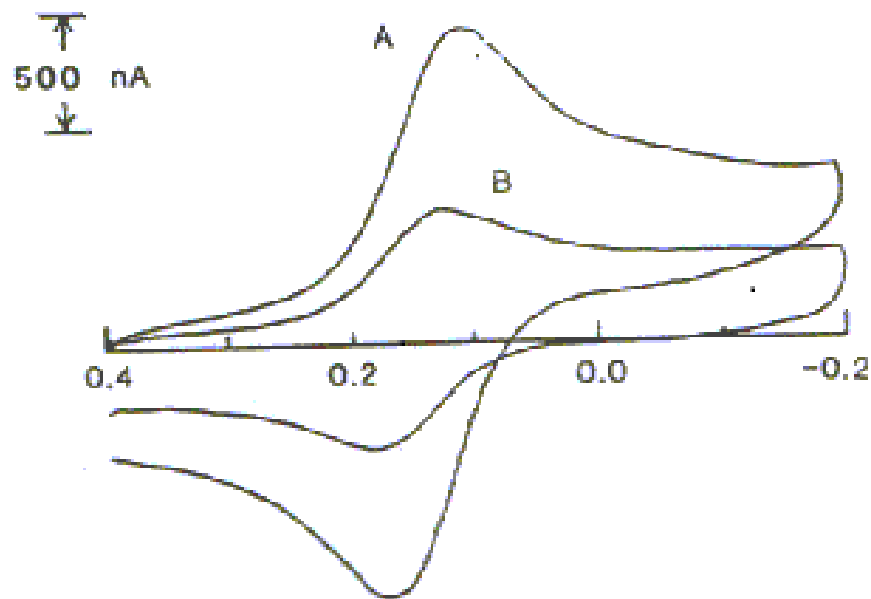
Increase in Fluorescence  
intensity and lifetime of excited  
state due to intercalation

Figure-Emission spectrum of free  $[\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_3]^{2+}$  (.....)  $[\Lambda\text{-Ru}(\text{phen})_3]^{2+}$  in the presence of DNA (-----), and  $\Delta\text{-}[\text{Ru}(\text{phen})_3]^{2+}$  ( - ) in the presence of DNA showing the enantioselective binding of the complexes to the helix.

## [E] Voltammetric studies of the interaction of tris(phen) complexes with DNA

- + Coordination complexes of 1,10-phenanthroline and bipyridine with  $\text{Co}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Ru}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  are known to intercalate between base pairs of DNA
- + Interaction of M-DNA interaction with reduced and oxidised metal
- + Differentiates between intercalation and electrostatic binding
- + Estimates binding parameters (binding site sizes and binding constant)

- Figure- Cyclic voltammograms of  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  M  $[\text{Co}(\text{phen})_3]^{3+}$  In the (A) absence and (B) presence of 5mM nucleotide phosphate (NP). Sweep rate, 100mV/s.



## [F] Circular dichroism

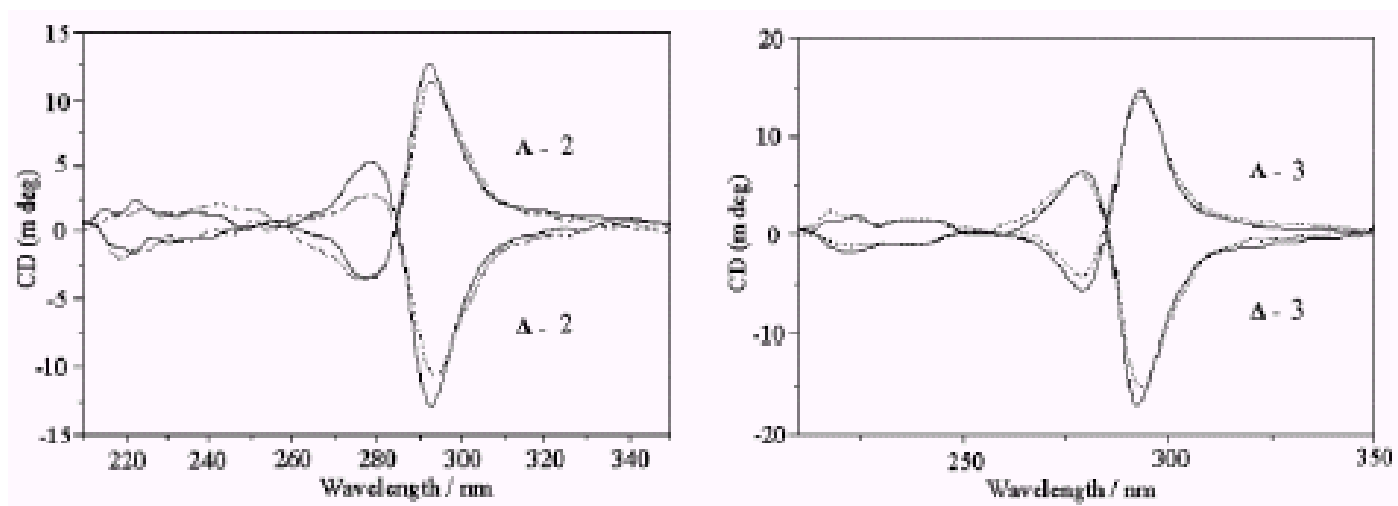
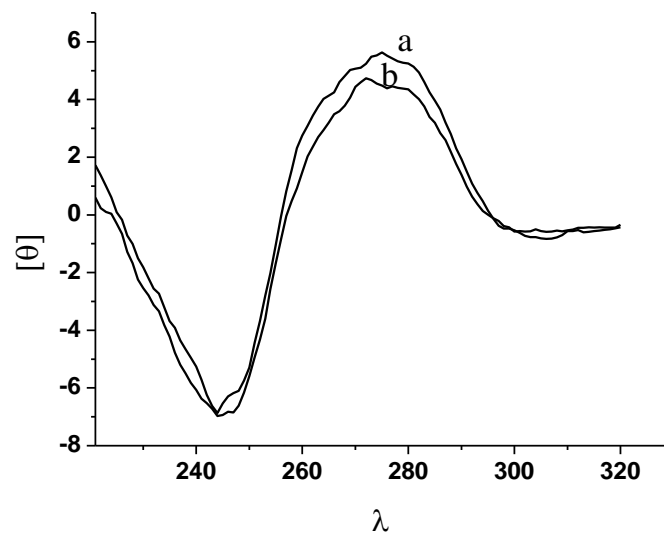
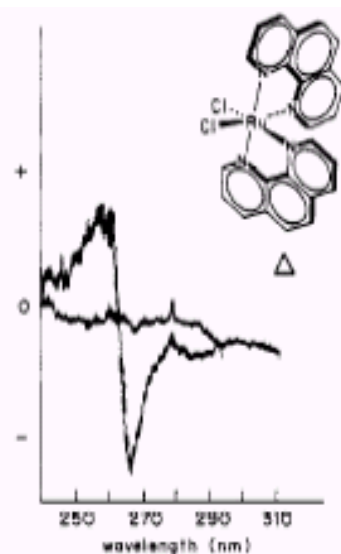


Fig. 3 CD spectra of  $\Delta$ -2,  $\Delta$ -2,  $\Delta$ -3 and  $\Delta$ -3 in 5 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.2), 50 mM NaCl in the absence (—) and in the presence (---) of CT-DNA.  $[\text{Ru}] = 1.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$ ;  $[\text{DNA}] = 1.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$ ; path length 1.0 cm. The CD spectrum of CT-DNA was subtracted from those of the mixtures.

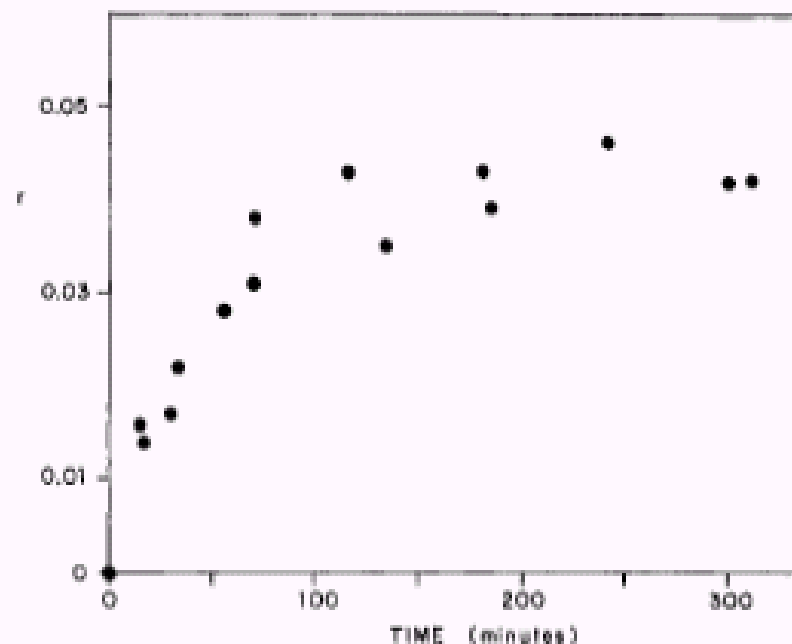
Figure - Circular Dichroism spectra of calf thymus DNA ( $20 \mu\text{M}$ ) in the absence (a) and presence (b) of  $[\text{Co}(\text{dppz})_2\text{Cl}_2]\text{Cl}$  ( $10 \mu\text{M}$ ) complex.



## G] Covalent binding assay for bis-phenanthroline dichloro Ruthenium (II) complexes to B-DNA



**Figure 2.** Circular dichromism of the supernatant after ethanol precipitation of the ruthenium complex bound to B-DNA. Binding to B-DNA is stereoselective and leads to enrichment of the supernatant in the unbound  $\Delta$  isomer (inset).



**Figure 1.** Plot of  $(\text{phen})_2\text{RuCl}_2$  binding to calf thymus DNA as a function of time;  $r$  is the ratio of bound ruthenium to nucleotide concentrations.

# Applications of different metal complexes that bind nucleic acids are

## [A] *Spectroscopic probes*

✚ Tris (phenanthroline) Ru (II) complexes offer a novel spectroscopic probe of nucleic acids

✚ Derivatives of the tris(phenanthroline) metal complexes that may become exceedingly useful as spectroscopic probes

e.g.-[Ru(bpy)<sub>2</sub>dppz]<sup>2+</sup> and [Ru(phen)<sub>2</sub>dppz]<sup>2+</sup> (dppz=dipyridophenazine).

✚ Quite novel luminescent phenanthroline and diphenylphenanthroline complexes of copper (I) are extremely valuable as cleavage *probes*.

## [B] Metallofootprinting agents

✚ Derivative of a tris (phenanthroline) metal complexes e.g.  $[\text{Rh}(\text{phen})_3]^{3+}$  currently being applied in footprinting experiments

✚  $[\text{Cu}(\text{phen})_2]^+$  and manganese porphyrins have been used to footprint DNA-binding proteins

## [C] Conformational probes

✚ Wide application in probing the local variations in conformation that arise along nucleic acid polymers

✚ Used in probing the structural variations in nucleic acids

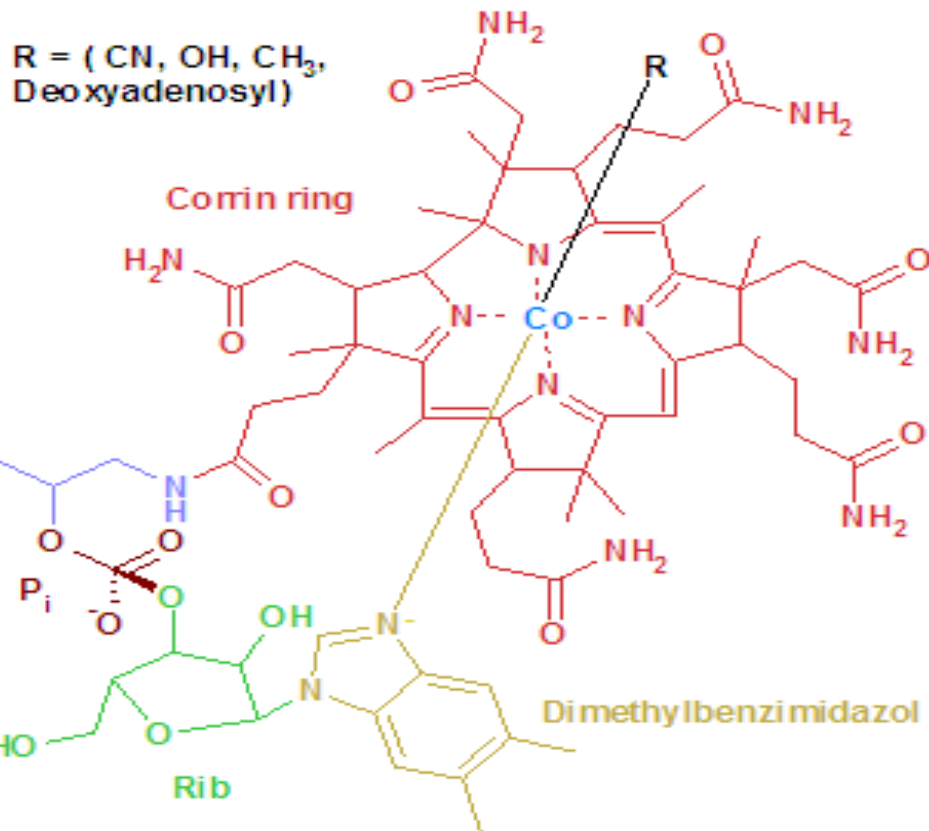
## Conclusion

🌱 Study, understand and teach Bioinorganic Chemistry –  
it is closest to life



# Cobalt in Biology

## Vitamin B12

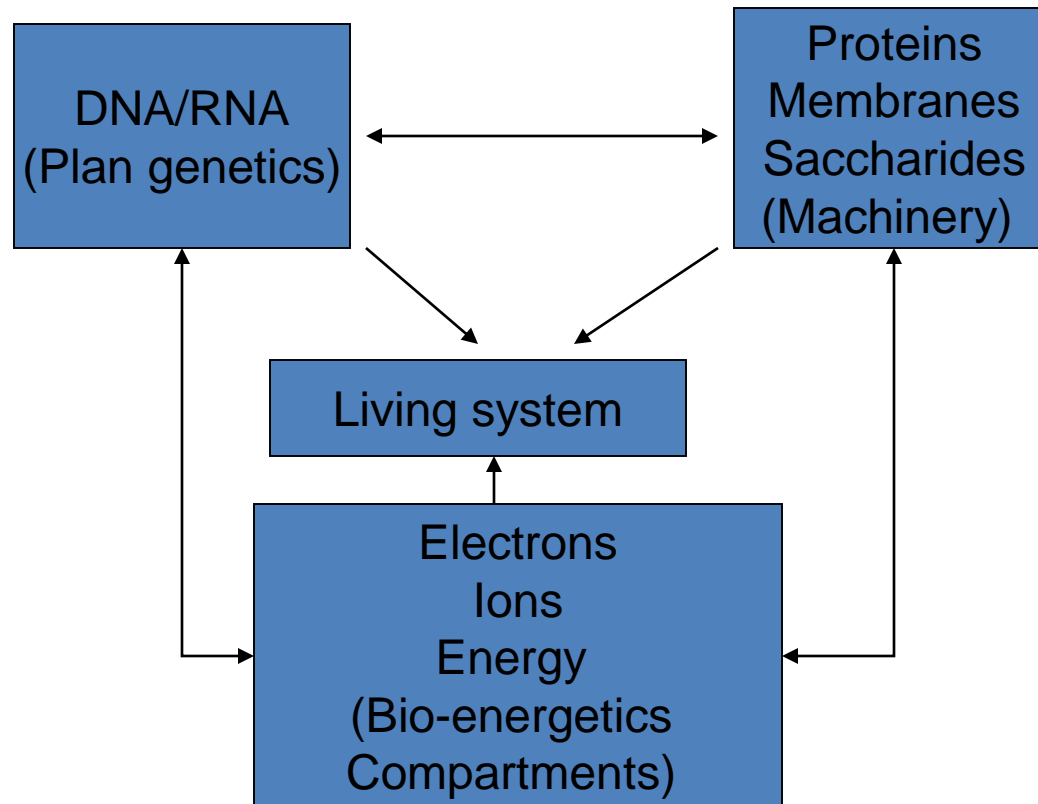


Vitamin B12 is the only known essential biomolecule with a stable metal-carbon bond, that is, it is an organometallic compound.

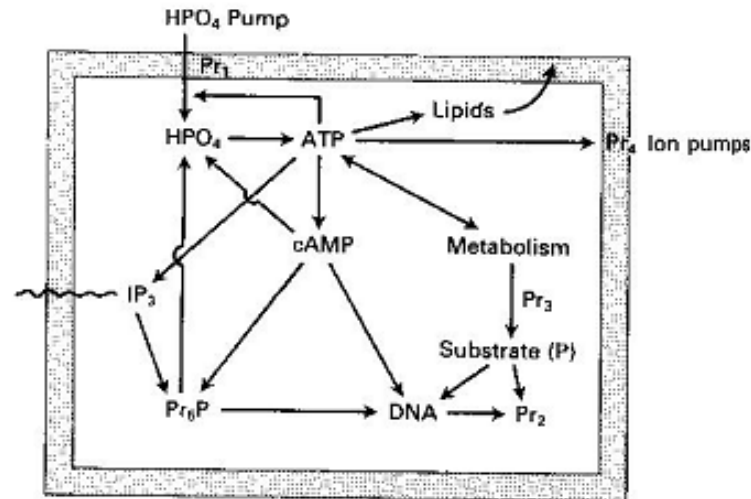
- ✓ a methyl group - as in methylcobalamin
- ✓ a 5'-deoxyadenosine at the the 5' positon - as in adenosylcobalamin (coenzyme B12)
- ✓ a cyanide group - as in Vitamin B12 - as supplied from drug companies

# Homeostasis

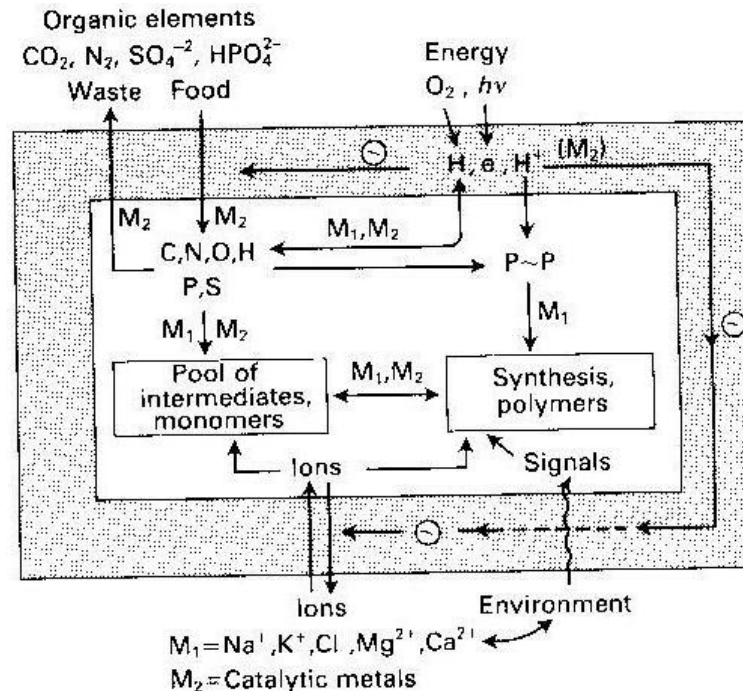
- All living species have two different 'environments' – one the external surroundings the 'habitat' and the other 'milieu' made up of the biological fluids e.g. the blood plasma.
- This conservation of conditions in a living system, homeostasis, does not correspond to a state of equilibrium in thermodynamic terms ( which would be equivalent to death) but to a series of related and controlled states in a dynamic process of continuous material, charge, and energy flows through the cells, with forced and fixed directions.



## Scheme showing involvement of phosphorus



## Scheme showing the close connections in a prokaryote cell between a variety of elements



## DNA binding

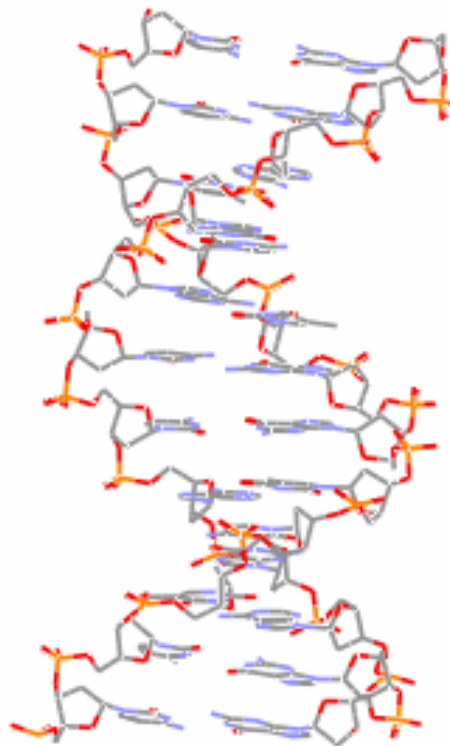
- ✚ Major adducts of platinum drugs with DNA are the 1,2-GpG and 1,2-ApG intrastrand crosslinks – 90%
- ✚ Structural studies show that the Pt cross links induce bending and unwinding of DNA and cause destacking of the purine bases.
- ✚ *cis*-{Pt(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>}<sup>2+</sup>- d(CCTG\*G\*TCC)·d(GGACCAGG) indicates that the B DNA backbone conformation is significantly altered to accommodate the platinated lesion
- ✚ Spectroscopic and calorimetric studies on the major adduct of the *cis-platin* with a 20-mer DNA duplex containing a GG intrastrand-crosslink have suggested that platination induces a conformational shift from an B-like to an A-like form – may be important in HMG recognition.

- ✚ Spectroscopic and calorimetric studies on the major adduct of the *cis-platin* with a 20-mer DNA duplex containing a GG intrastrand-crosslink have suggested that platination induces a conformational shift from an B-like to an A-like form – may be important in HMG recognition.
- ✚ It is known that platinum forms bifunctional DNA adducts with the following order of sequence preference: -GG- > -AG- >> -GA and platination is kinetically controlled.
- ✚ Inter strand cross links can also be generated between DNA and *cis-platin* between to G's on opposite sides of the duplex
- ✚ Monofunctional adducts can also form and can be long lived ( $t(1/2) = 80\text{hrs}$ )

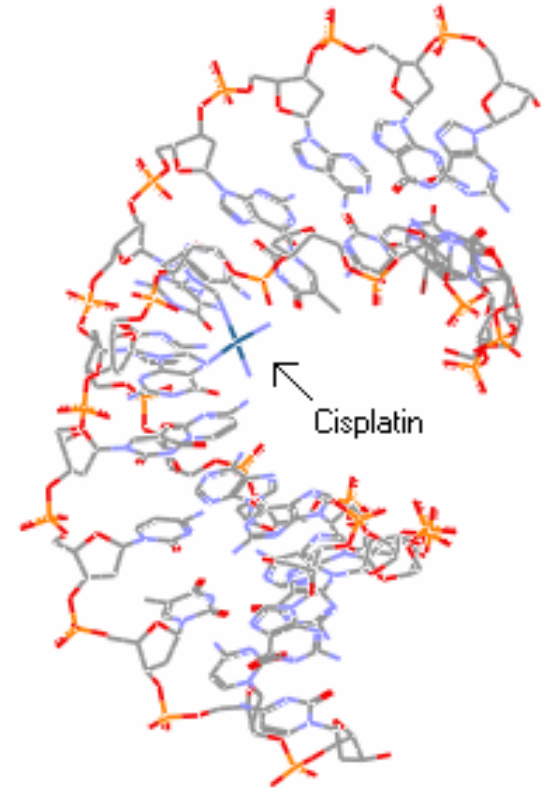
# DNA binding – GpG INTRA STRAND

✚ *cis-platin* binds to DNA and causes a critical structural change in the DNA – a bend of 45 degrees

*cis-platin* binds to two Adjacent G's at N7 on the DNA in an INTRA strand cross-link

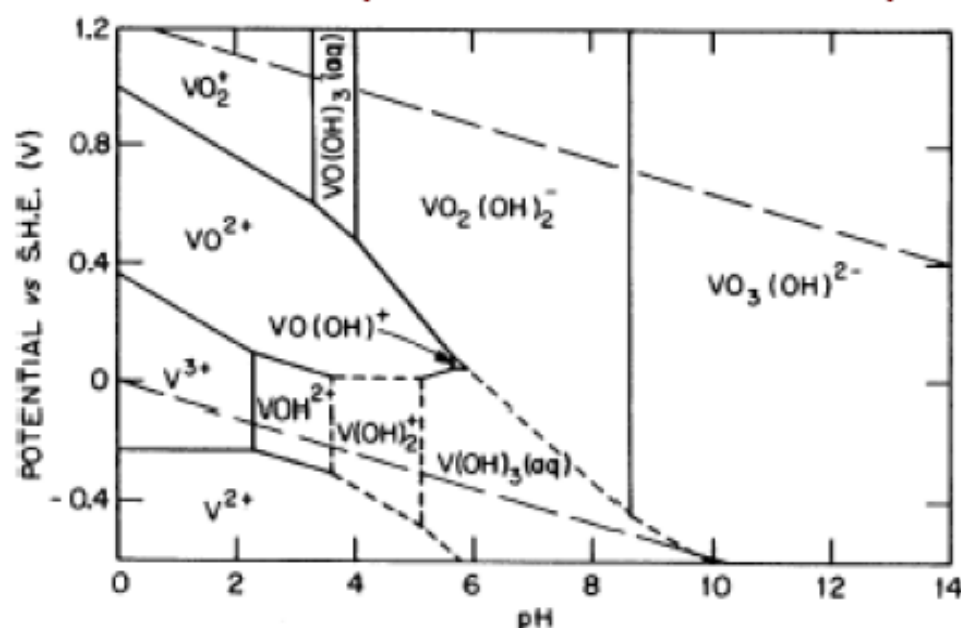


DNA



DNA with Cisplatin

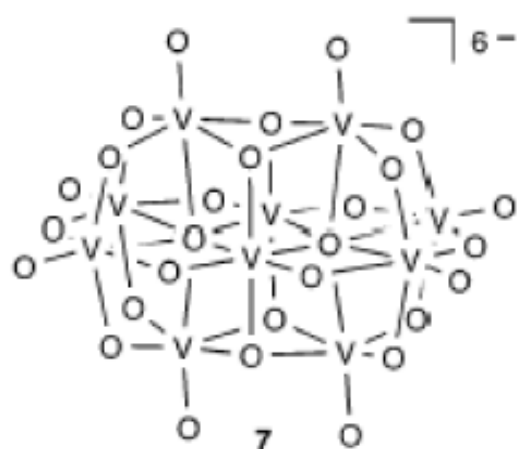
## Oxidation state of vanadium species as a function of pH and reduction potential



High pH V(V) is the most stable form of vanadium

Low pH V(IV) is most favoured

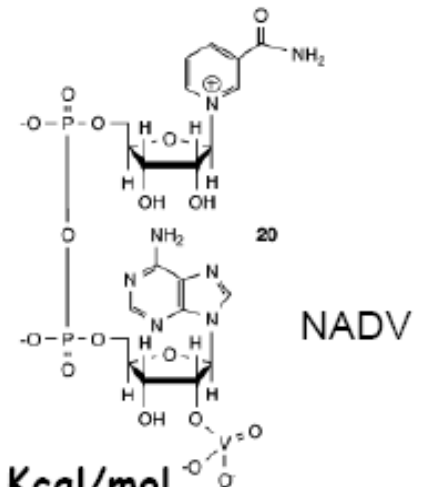
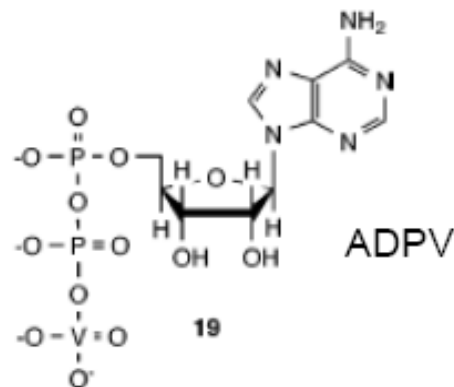
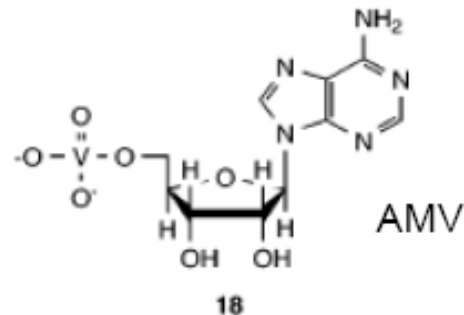
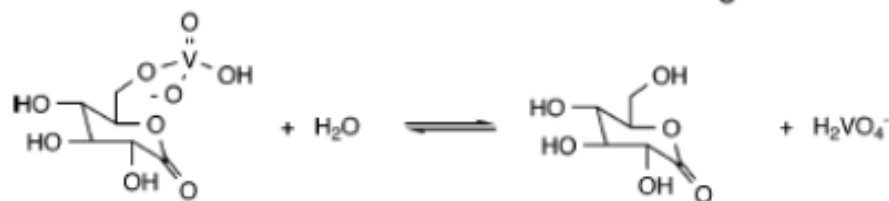
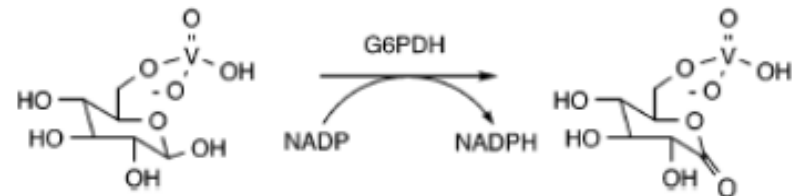
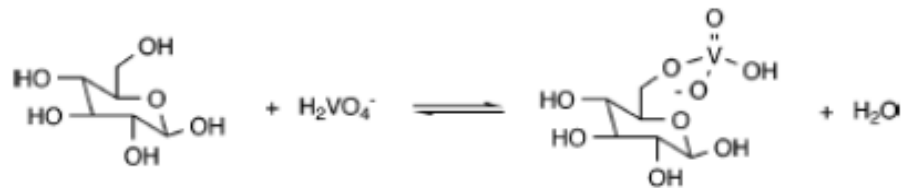
pH 2 to 6 the major V(V) species is the decamer



$[V_{10}O_{28}]^{6-}$  oxoanion contains 3 different vanadium atoms, the most unusual being the non-oxo  $VO_6$  type at the centre

## Vanadate esters : functional analogues of phosphate esters

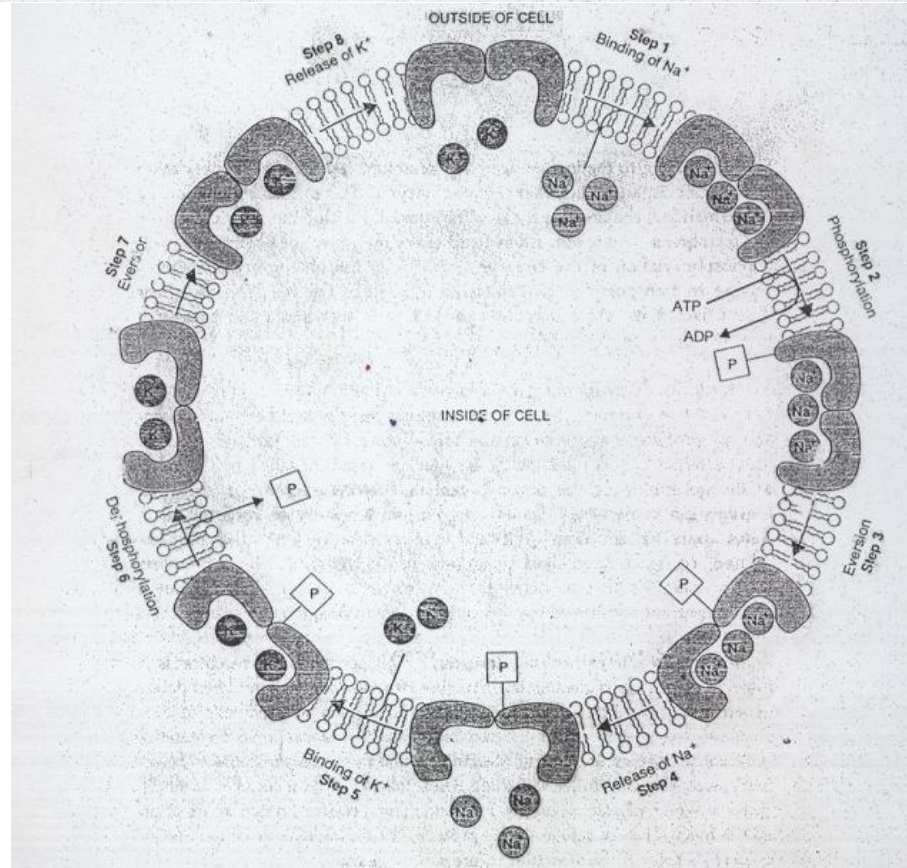
### Reaction of D-glucose with vanadate to form D-glucose-6-vanadate



Pyrophosphate bond 7 Kcal/mol while hetero-vanadate bond 2-3 Kcal/mol



Ion	Extracellular Conc.	Intracellular Conc.	Ratio $[ion]_o/[ion]_i$	$E$ (mV)
$Na^+$	145	12	12	+68
$K^+$	4	155	0.026	-99
$Ca^{2+}$	1.5	$<10^{-7} M$	715,000	+128
$Cl^-$	123	4.2	30	-90



# Model Compounds- Biomimetic Chemistry

- ✓ Large size of metallobiomolecules and high resolution structure of metal coordination difficult
- ✓ If X-ray crystal structure is known it is possible to design a replica of the coordination environment.-----replicative models
- ✓ If X-ray crystal structure is not known we test postulated structure by spectroscopy by synthesizing models-----speculative models
- ✓ If models are only structurally similar----- structural models
- ✓ If models are functionally similar -----functional models

## **Biomimetic approach has helped in the study of**

1. Assignment or verification of the metal oxidation states
2. effects of distance and medium on electron transfer rates
3. role of steric and electronic factors
4. Identity of likely intermediates of enzyme catalyzed reactions

☐ Strategy for models complexes- spontaneous self assembly

☐ Nature adopted the a similar strategy based on available chemistry in the geosphere during evolution .

# Manganese in Biology

Manganese(II) ions function as cofactors for a number of enzymes and the element is thus a required trace mineral for all known living organisms.

## Biological role

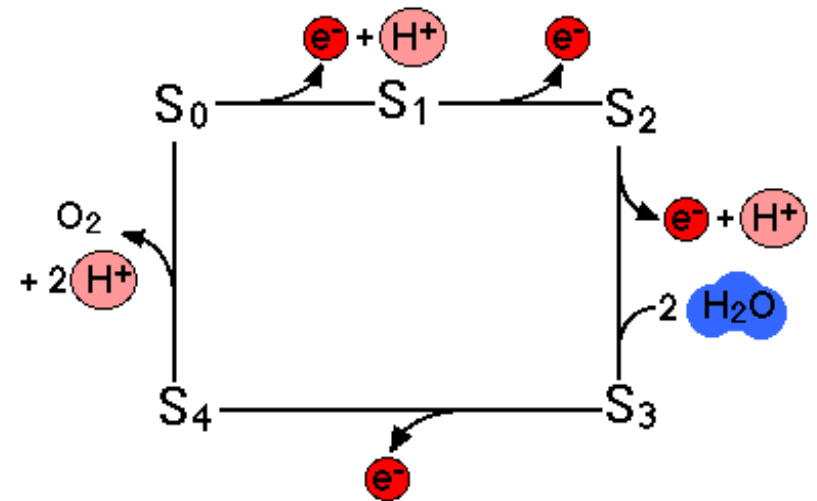
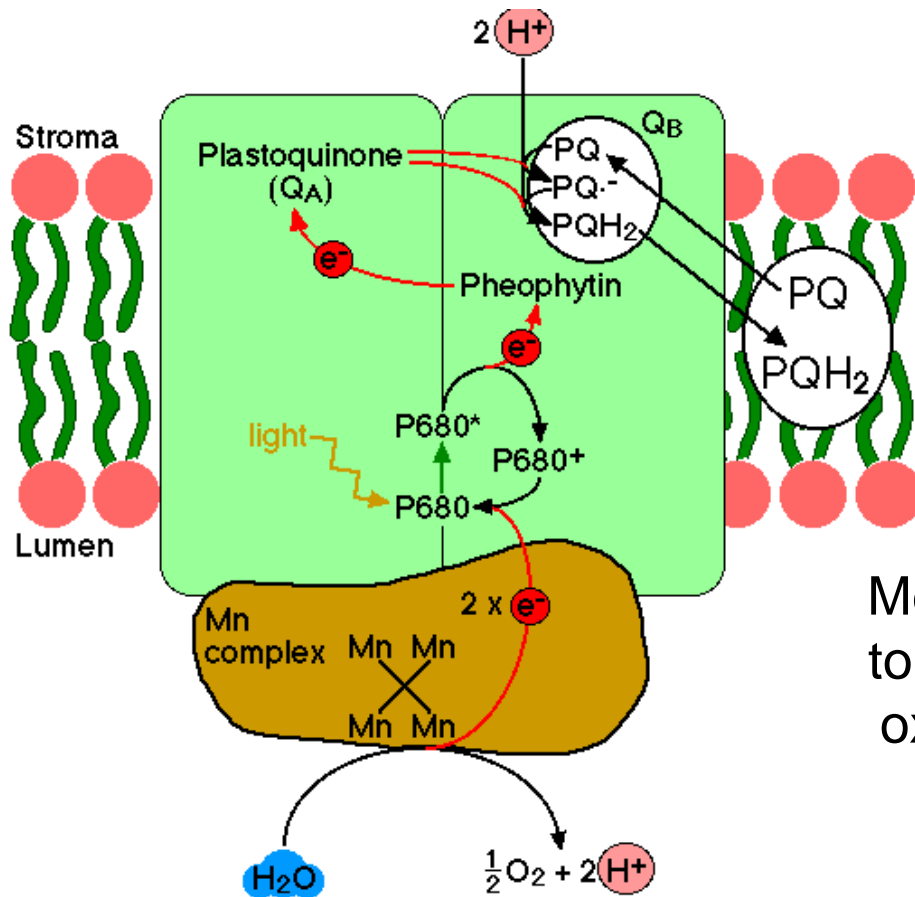
✚ The classes of enzymes that have manganese [cofactors](#) are very broad and include such classes as [oxidoreductases](#), [transferases](#), [hydrolases](#), [lyases](#), [isomerases](#), [ligases](#), [lectins](#), and [integrins](#).

✚ Mn-SOD is the type of SOD present in eukaryotic mitochondria, and also in most bacteria. The Mn-SOD enzyme is probably one of the most ancient, for nearly all organisms living in the presence of oxygen use it to deal with the toxic effects of superoxide, formed from the 1-electron reduction of dioxygen.

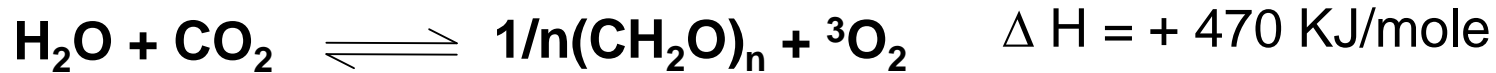
✚ Manganese is also important in photosynthetic [oxygen evolution](#) in [chloroplasts](#) in plants, which are also evolutionarily of bacterial origin.

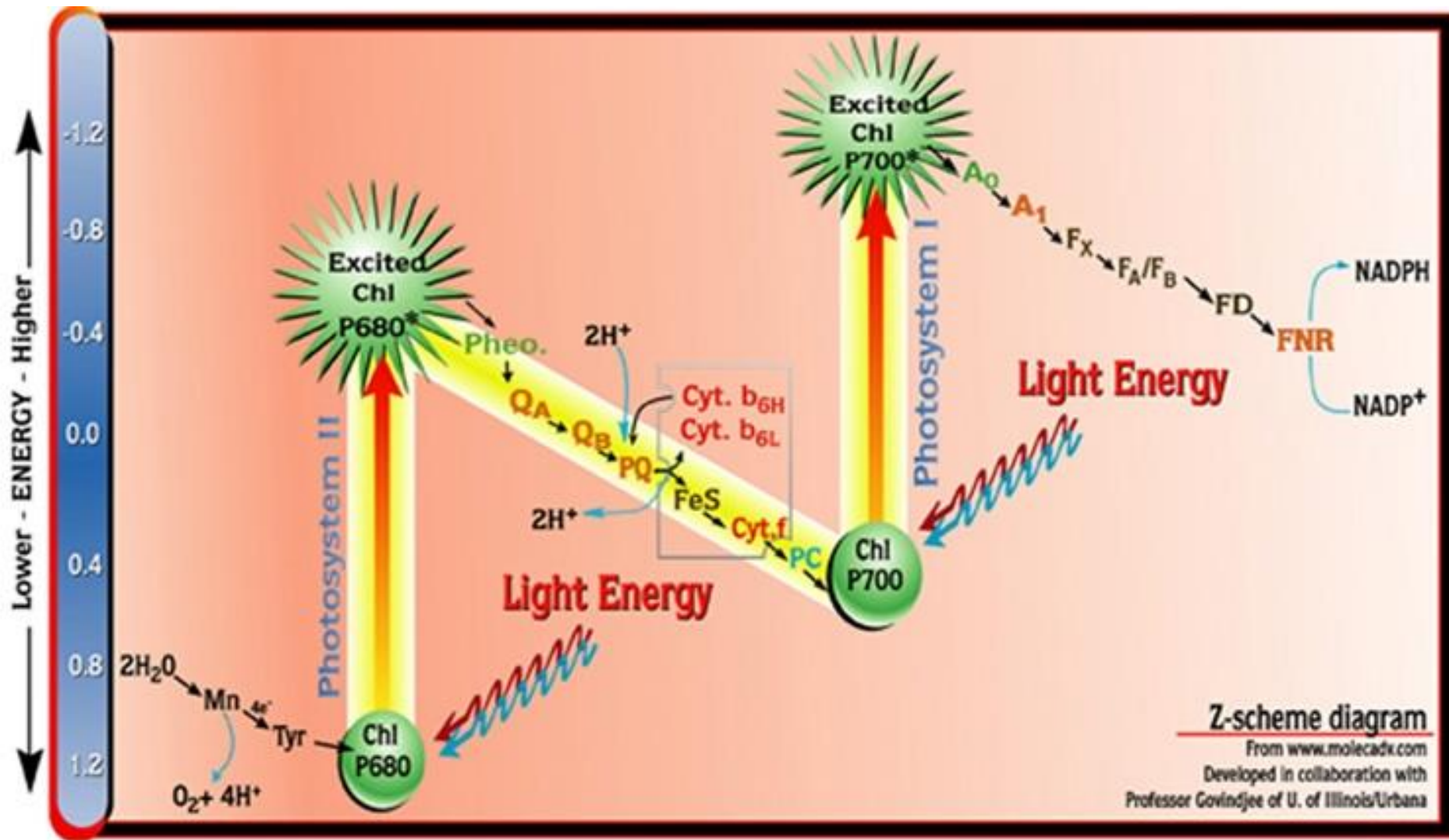
✚ The [oxygen evolving complex](#) (OEC), a water-oxidizing enzyme contained in chloroplast membrane, and which is involved in the terminal [photooxidation of water](#) during the [light reactions](#) of [photosynthesis](#), has a metalloenzyme core containing four atoms of manganese.

# Photosystem II



Mechanistic cycle (commonly referred to as the Kok catalytic cycle) for water oxidation in the photosystem II (PSII) active site.





# Proposed PSII Mn<sub>4</sub> Structures

