Nitric Oxide Dioxygenase (NOD): A $^{\bullet}$NO Detoxification Enzyme

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•NO is ubiquitous.
It can be a lethal poison.

Various life forms have evolved strategies for •NO detoxification

•NO is ubiquitous

Common Biological Sources:

1. Oxidation-oxygenation of amines
   - •NO synthases (L-arginine)
     / immune defense (animals + plants)
   - organic combustions/ cigarette smoke (lung)

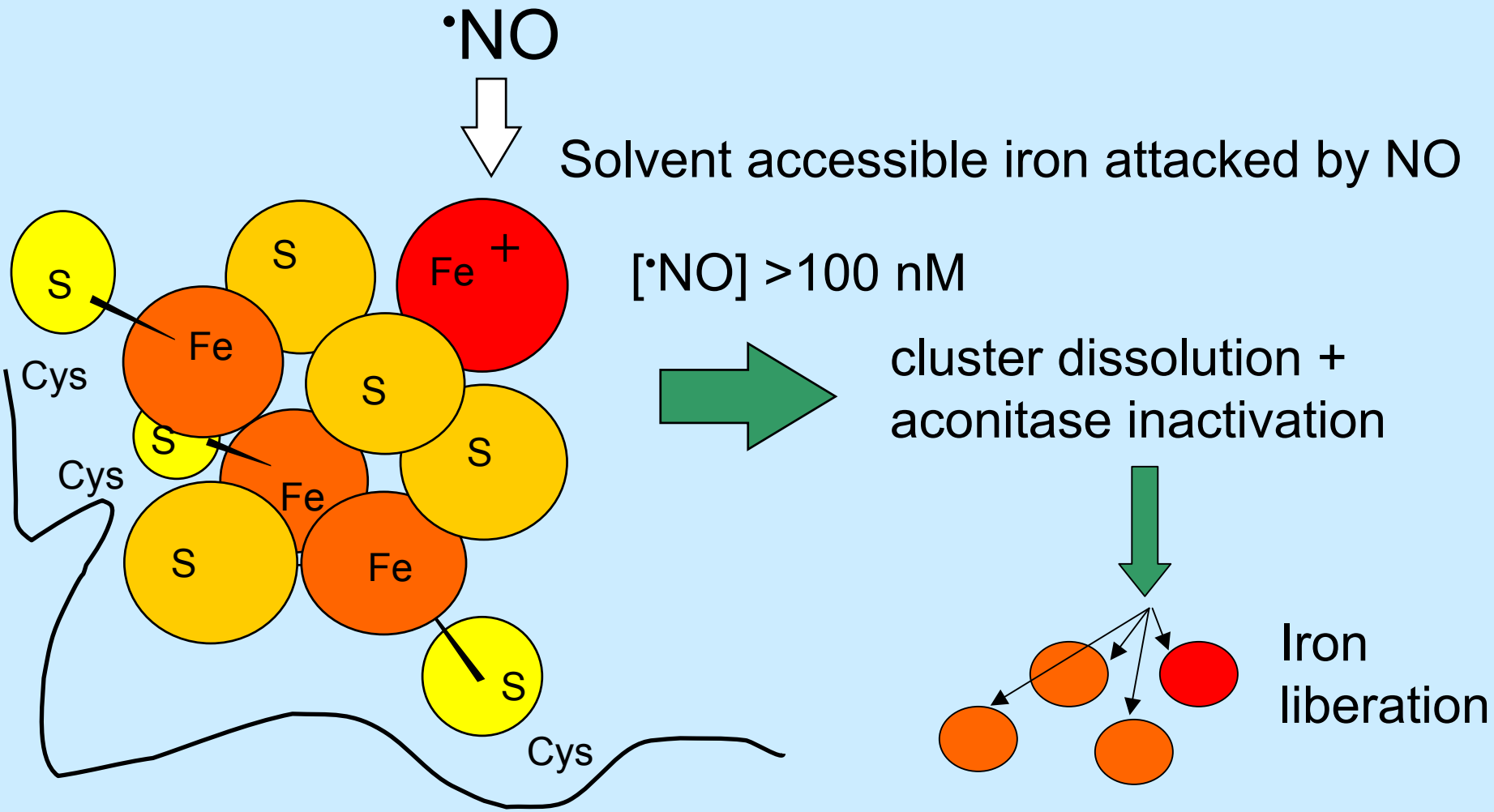
2. Reduction of nitrogen oxides (nitrate and nitrite)
   - microbial denitrification pathways (soil)
   - nitrite reduction by oxidoreductases (gut)

•NO Can Be a Lethal Poison

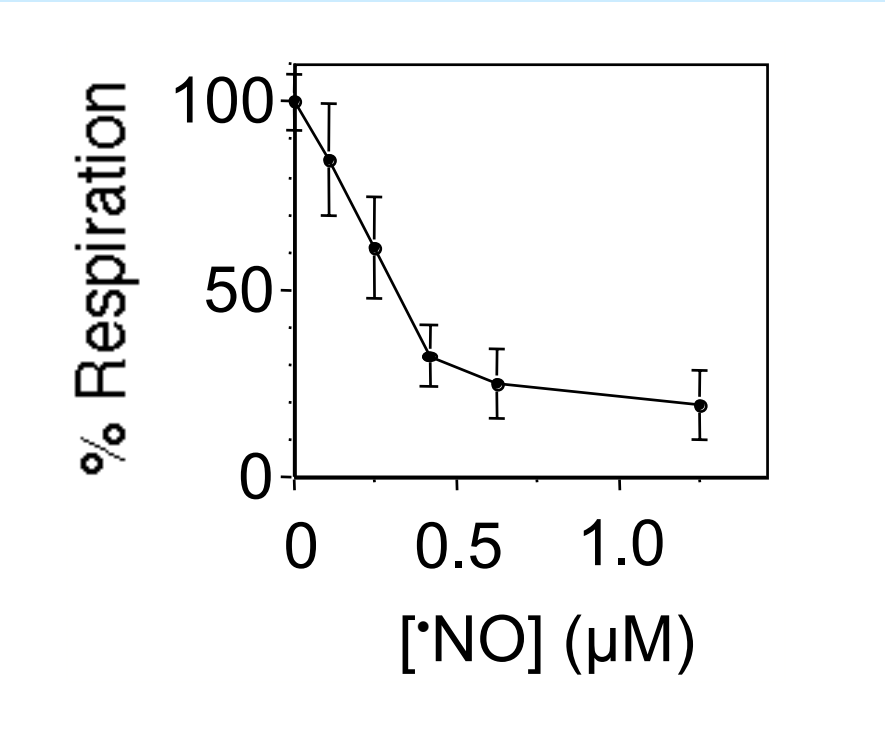
- NO Can Poison Cell Energy Production

Sensitive Targets are:
Aconitase and
Cytochrome Oxidase that affect Respiration.

Aconitase, a citric acid cycle enzyme, is a sensitive and critical target of •NO

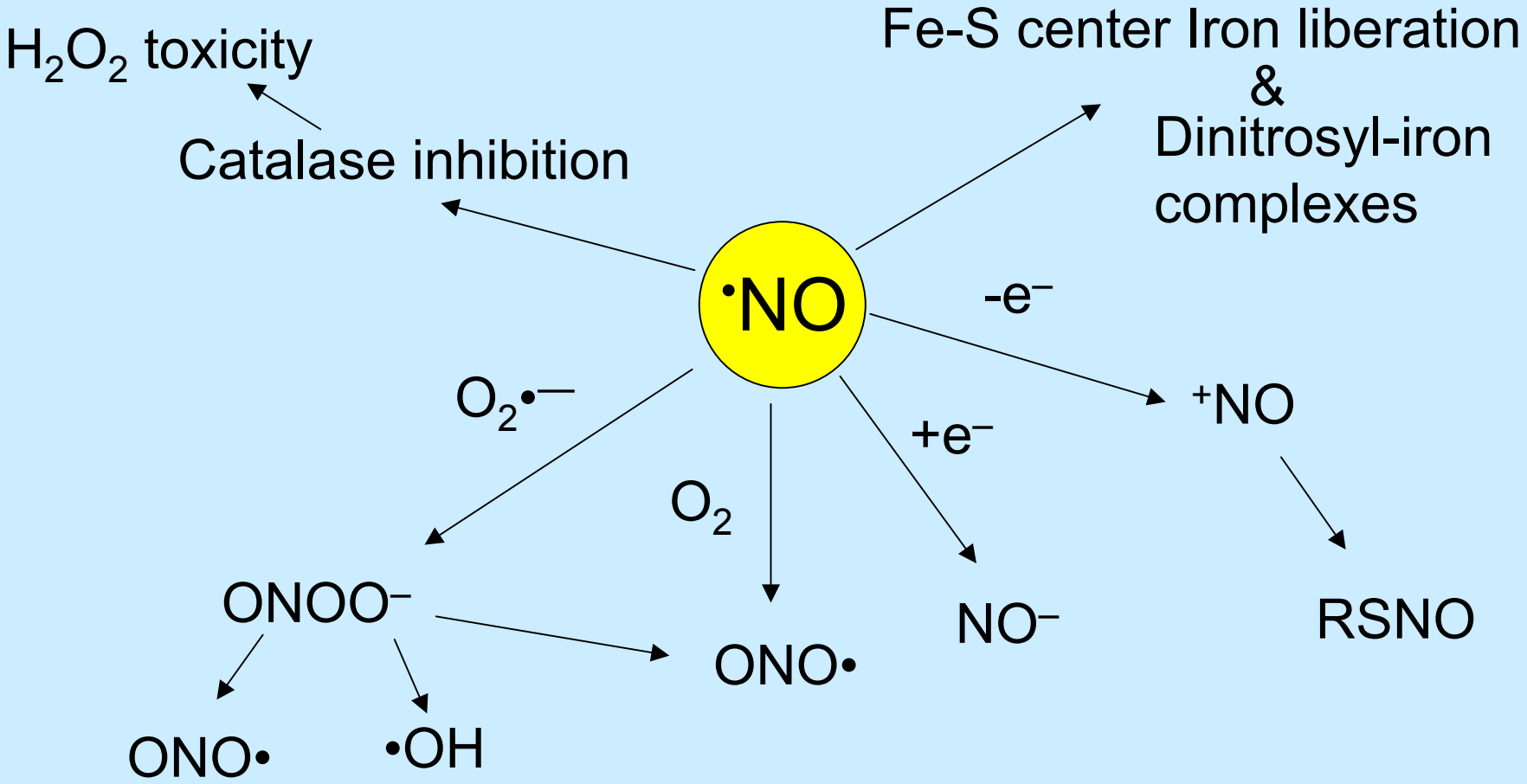


•NO rapidly inhibits cytochrome oxidase and thereby inhibits mitochondrial respiration



Human A549 lung cells respiring with a physiological level of O_2 (5 μM) are poisoned by submicromolar •NO levels. Gardner *et al.* 2001 FRBM 31, 191.

Multiple Secondary Mechanisms for •NO Toxicity



Cellular Strategies for •NO Detoxification-Metabolism

1. Non-enzymatic and enzymatic 'Oxidations' (•NO oxidases)

$$^{\bullet}NO + O_2^{\bullet-}/O_2/H_2O_2 \longrightarrow \{ONOO^-, ONO^{\bullet}, \text{or } ONO^-\}$$

Toxic products?

2. Reduction (•NO reductases)

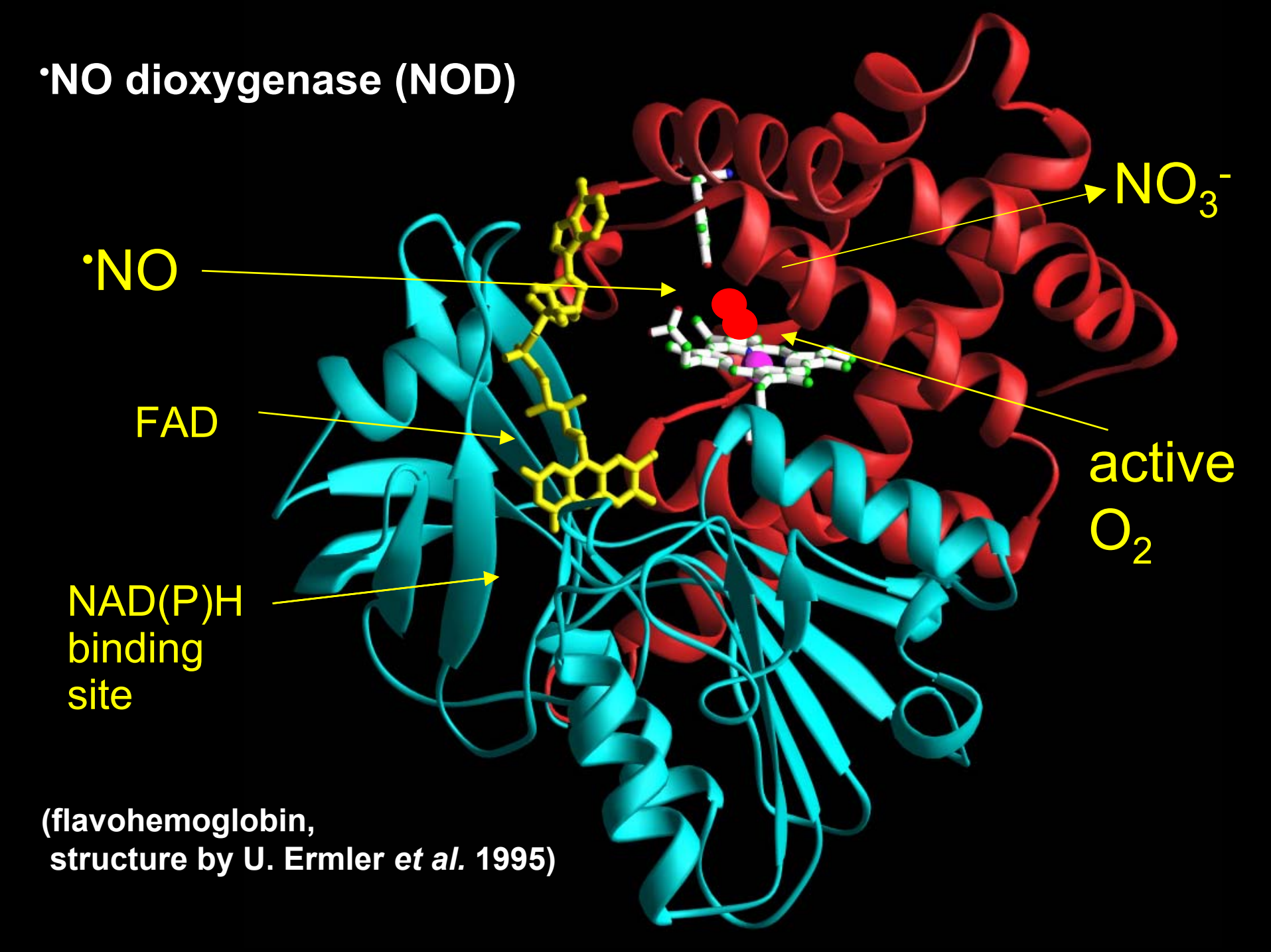
$$2\ ^{\bullet}NO + 2\ e^- \xrightarrow{NOR} N_2O \text{ (nitrous oxide)}$$

3. Dioxygenation (•NO dioxygenases)

$$^{\bullet}NO + O_2 + e^- \xrightarrow{NOD} ONO^- \text{ (nitrate)}$$

O

•NO dioxygenase (NOD)



(flavohemoglobin, structure by U. Ermler *et al.* 1995)

Proposed •NO Dioxygenase Rxn Mechanism

$$2\ {}^{\bullet}NO + 2\ O_2 + NAD(P)H \longrightarrow 2\ NO_3^- + NAD(P)^+ + H^+$$

FAD reduction $NAD(P)H + FAD + H^+ \longrightarrow NAD(P)^+ + FADH_2$

iron reduction $FADH_2 + Fe^{3+} \xrightarrow{(-)\ CN^-} Fe^{2+} + FADH^{\bullet} + H^+$

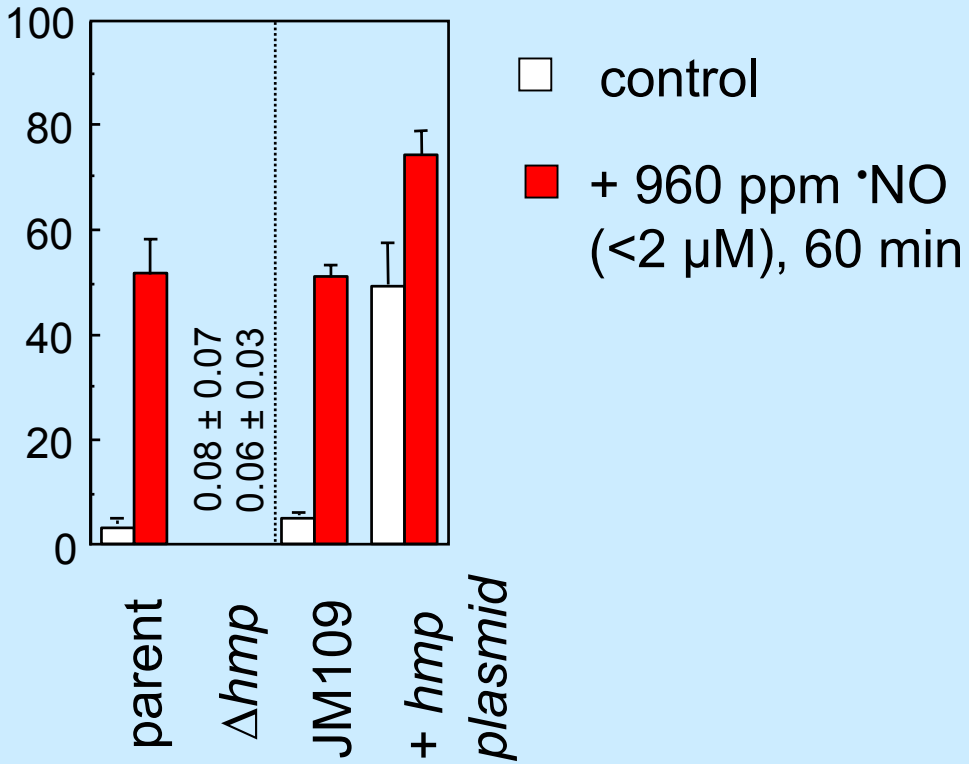
O_2 binding $Fe^{2+} + O_2 \xrightarrow{(-)\ {}^{\bullet}NO,\ CO} Fe^{3+}(O_2^{\bullet -})$

•NO dioxygenation $Fe^{3+}(O_2^{\bullet -}) + {}^{\bullet}NO \longrightarrow Fe^{3+} + NO_3^-$

iron reduction $FADH^{\bullet} + Fe^{3+} \xrightarrow{(-)\ CN^-} FAD + Fe^{2+} + H^+$

Flavohemoglobin (*hmp*) catalyzes constitutive and <u>inducible</u> aerobic •NO consumption in *Escherichia coli*

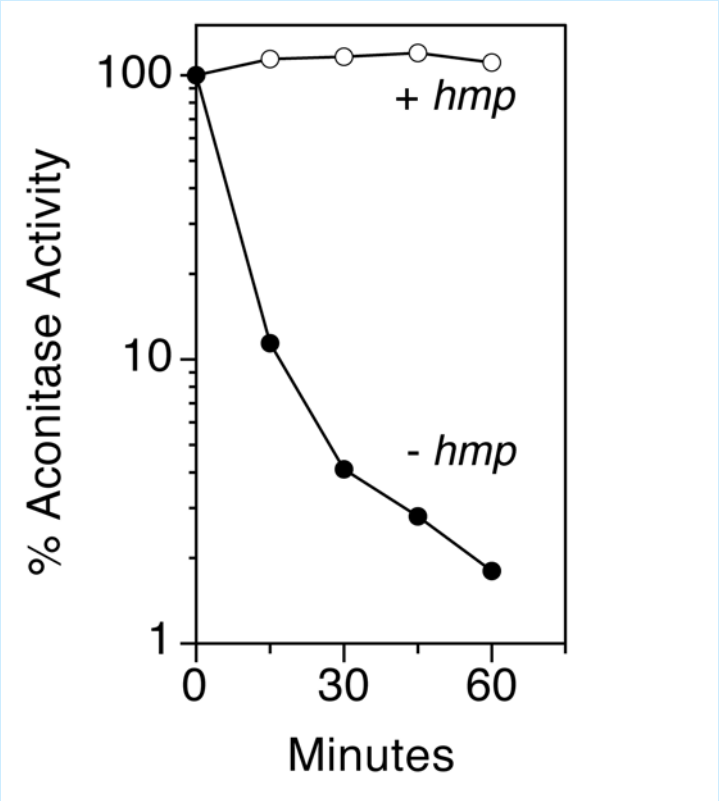
Rate of •NO Consumption (nanomol/ min/ 10^8 cells)



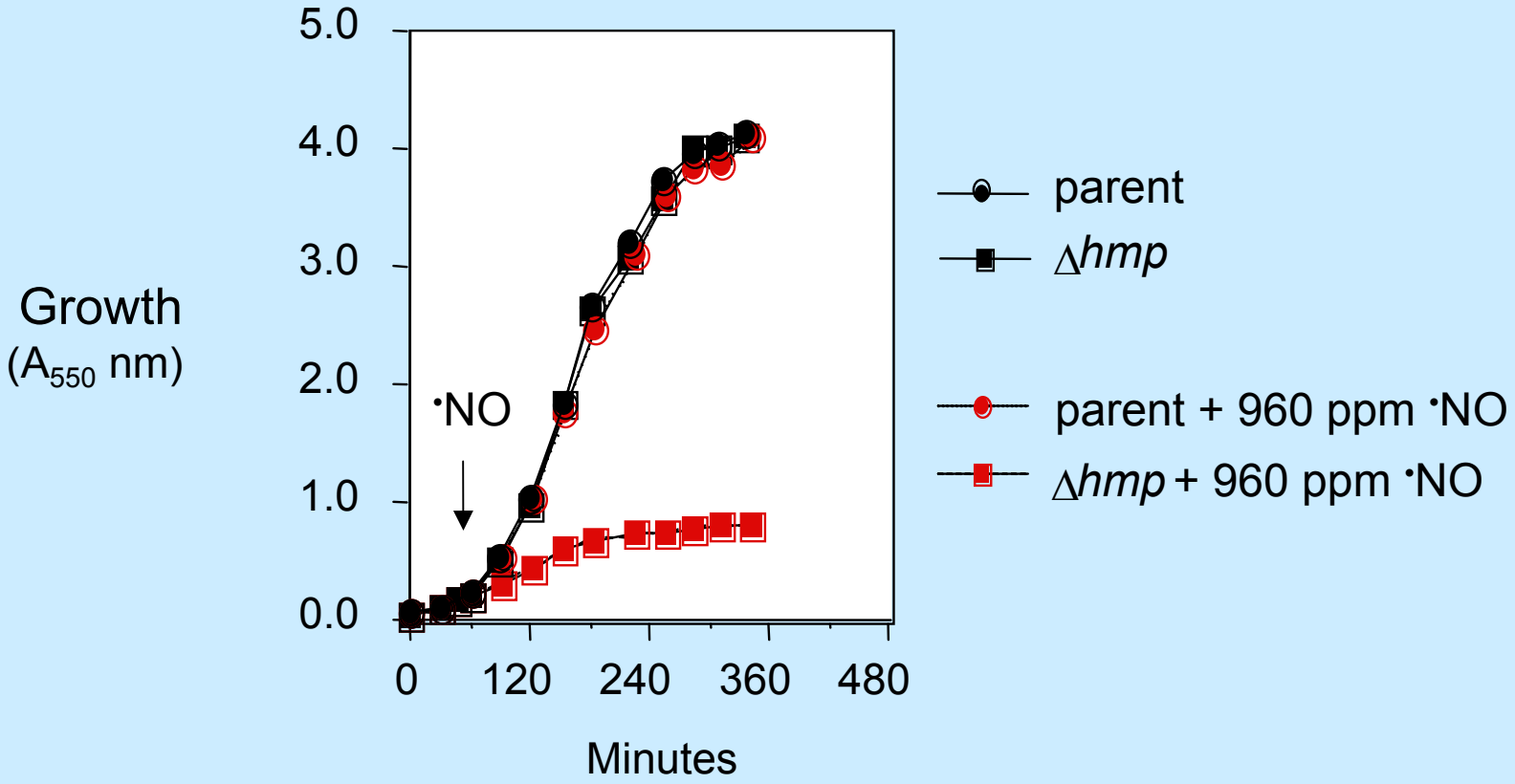
E. coli lacking flavohemoglobin (*Δhmp*) lack constitutive and inducible aerobic •NO consumption activity. A multi-copy plasmid bearing *hmp* increases the •NO consumption activity in host JM109. Gardner *et al.* 1998 PNAS <u>95</u>, 10378.

FlavoHb (*hmp*) protects aconitase in aerobic *Escherichia coli*

Aconitase is rapidly inactivated in *E. coli* lacking NOD (*hmp*) when exposed to an aerobic atmosphere containing 960 ppm •NO (≤ 2 μM in solution). NOD (*hmp*) protects aconitase. Gardner *et al.* 2002 JBC 277, 8166.

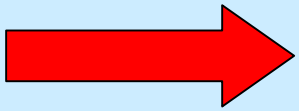


FlavoHb protects aerobic *E. coli* against •NO-mediated growth inhibition



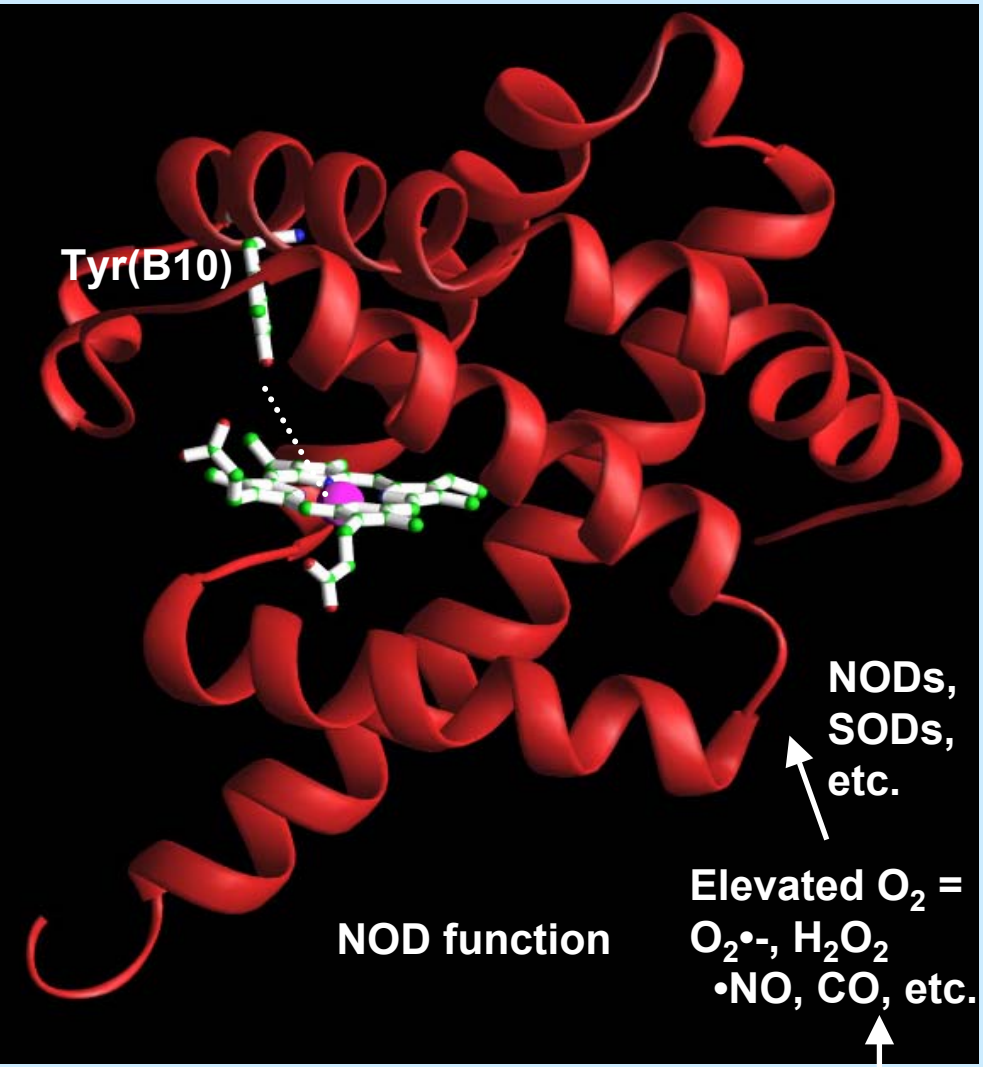
E. coli lacking NOD (Δ*hmp*) that are exposed to an aerobic atmosphere containing •NO do not grow well. Gardner *et al.* 1998 PNAS 95, 10378; 2002 JBC 277, 8166, 8172.

•NO dioxygenation is a primal (1.8 billion year old) function of hemoglobin/myoglobin

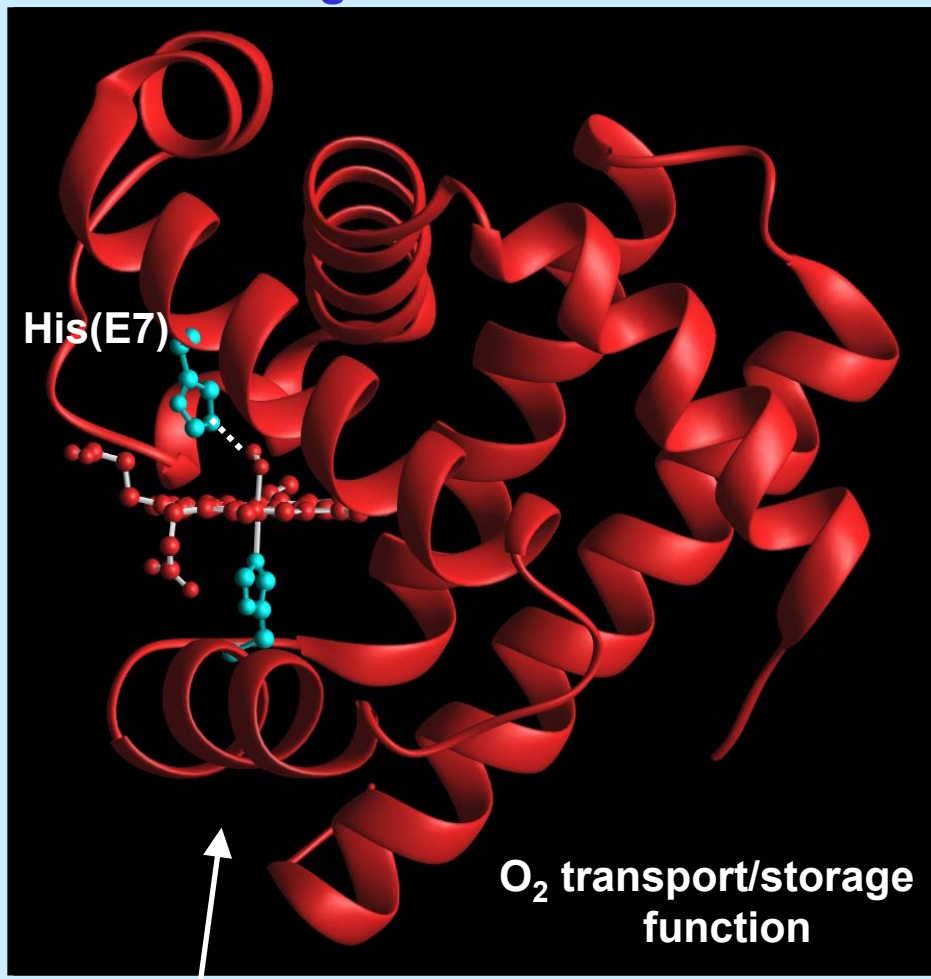
NOD  O_2 storage/transport

The first hemoglobin/myoglobin most likely functioned as an enzyme utilizing bound 'activated' O_2 to dioxygenate NO, or other substrates in microbes. Multicellular organisms that benefit from the O_2 storage-transport functions of hemoglobin/myoglobin appeared much later. Gardner *et al.* 1998 PNAS 95, 10378.

Microbial flavohemoglobin (Hb domain)



Muscle Myoglobins & RBC Hemoglobins



~ 3.6 Billion years of life on earth

beginning 1.8 By 3.0 By today

Structure and Kinetics Control Diverse Hemoglobin and Myoglobin Functions

	flavoHbs*	Sperm Whale Mb
V_{max} NOD	112-670 s^{-1}	--
k_{on} O_2	1.7-5.0 x 10^7 M^{-1} s^{-1}	1.7 x 10^7 M^{-1} s^{-1}
k_{off} O_2	0.2-0.6 s^{-1}	15 s^{-1}
K_d O_2	4-36 nM	800 nM
k_{ox} •NO	0.9-2.9 x 10^9 M^{-1} s^{-1}	3. 4 x 10^7 M^{-1} s^{-1}
k_{on} •NO	1.0-2.6 x 10^7 M^{-1} s^{-1}	2.2 x 10^7 M^{-1} s^{-1}
k_{off} •NO	0.0002 s^{-1}	0.0001 s^{-1}
K_M (O_2)	60-90 µM	--
K_M (•NO)	100-250 nM	--

**E. coli*, *S.cerevisiae* and *A. eutrophus;*
Gardner *et al.* 2000 JBC 275, 12581, 31581

Mammalian Cells Produce a flavoHb-like NOD Activity for •NO Metabolism-Detoxification

$$2\ {}^{\bullet}NO + 2\ O_2 + NADPH \longrightarrow 2\ NO_3^- + NADP^+ + H^+$$

Human Intestinal Epithelial Cells (CaCo-2)

20-30 nmol •NO/min/10^7 cells

Apparent K_m (O_2) = 17 μM

Apparent K_m (•NO) = 0.2 μM

CO sensitive K_i (CO) = 3 μM (heme-dependent)

Cyanide sensitive K_i (CN^-) ≈ 20 μM (heme-dependent)

Diphenylene iodonium sensitive (flavin-dependent)

Gardner *et al.* 2001 FRBM 31, 191

Key Points:

1) •NO can be a potent toxin;

2) •NO dioxygenase (NOD) is one enzyme that efficiently detoxifies •NO in bacteria, fungi, and mammals; and

3) •NO dioxygenation is an ancient function for the hemoglobin/myoglobin family.

References

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Acknowledgements

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