

## Oxygen 2002

### *Sunrise Free Radical School*

**November 21-24, 2002  
San Antonio, TX**

**What do  $\cdot\text{NO}$ ,  $\text{O}=\text{NOO}^\cdot$ ,  $\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ , etc. do,  
and how do they do it: Basics**

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## Lecture Notes--

# Biologically Relevant Chemistry of ONOOH and Its Reaction Products

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- **Goal:** To provide the chemical background required to productively contemplate origins and consequences of peroxynitrite formation in biological environments
- **Challenges:** Critical errors exist in the chemical literature on reactive nitrogen species (RNS) and these have been inadvertently incorporated into discussions of biological reaction mechanisms.

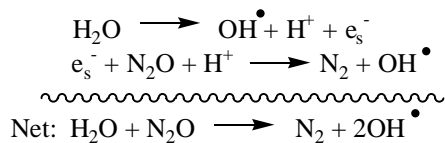
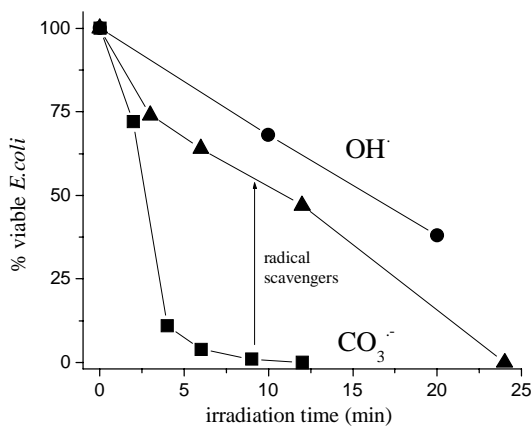
“An expert seldom gives an objective view; he gives his own view”--

Morarji Desai

- **Caveats:** The pathophysiology of oxidative stress may bear no simple relationship to the major reaction pathways of RNS and reactive oxygen species (ROS).\* This seems particularly likely for chronic diseases whose progression involves long periods of insult, but could also be an issue under conditions of acute exposure to oxidants.

\*e.g., toxicity of OH<sup>•</sup> toward bacteria:

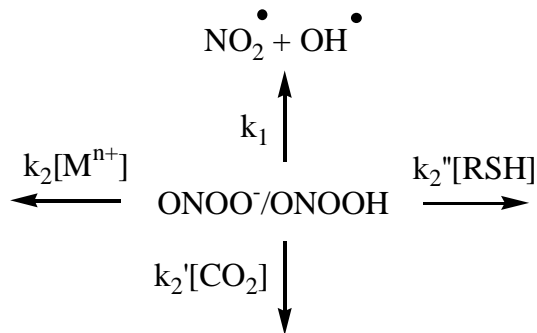
*Premise 1:* OH<sup>•</sup> is not very toxic in biological environments because it is too reactive to reach vulnerable targets.



<u>Toxin</u> ( <i>E. coli</i> )	<u>LD<sub>90</sub></u> (molecules/bacterium)	<u>rel. toxicity</u>
HOCl	~ 10 <sup>8</sup>	1.0
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	≈ 3×10 <sup>11</sup>	~ 0.003
CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>•-</sup>	~ 10 <sup>10</sup>	~ 0.01
OH <sup>•</sup>	~ 2×10 <sup>11</sup>	~ 0.005
(however, killing by OH <sup>•</sup> is intracellular!)		
OH <sup>•</sup> (internal)*	~ 10 <sup>5</sup>	~ 1000
*internal volume of 10 <sup>6</sup> cells/mL ≈ 5×10 <sup>-7</sup> cm <sup>3</sup>		

*Conclusion:* intracellularly generated OH<sup>•</sup> is highly toxic!

*Premise 2:* OH<sup>•</sup> formed by ONOOH bond homolysis cannot be a significant component of the oxidative load because bimolecular reactions of ONOO<sup>-</sup>/ONOOH (e.g., with CO<sub>2</sub>, thiols (RSH), metalloproteins) will predominate in biological environments.



At pH 7.4,

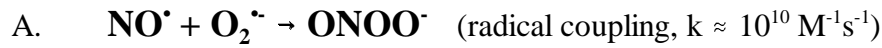
$$\begin{aligned}
 k_1 &\approx 0.34 \text{ s}^{-1} \\
 k_2[\text{M}^{n+}] &\lesssim 300 \text{ s}^{-1} \\
 k_2'[\text{CO}_2] &\approx 20 \text{ s}^{-1} \\
 k_2''[\text{RSH}] &\lesssim 3 \text{ s}^{-1}
 \end{aligned}$$

Simple competition kinetics predicts:

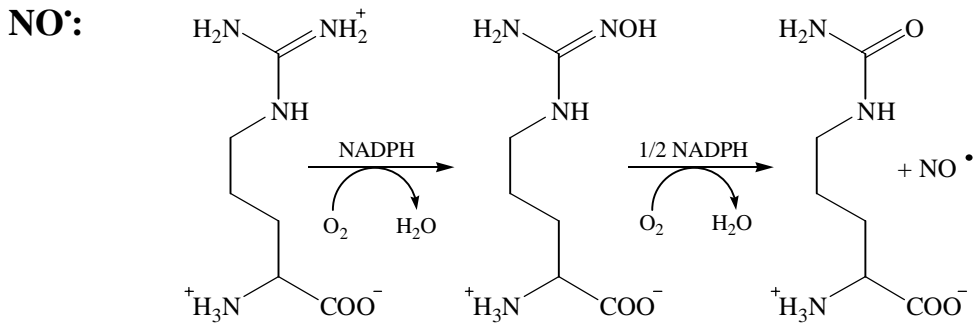
$$[\text{OH}^\bullet]/[\text{ONOO}^-/\text{ONOOH}] = k_1/\Sigma(k_i[\text{X}_i]) \approx 0.015$$

i.e., less than 2% of the peroxynitrite formed will generate OH<sup>•</sup>. Nonetheless, if intracellular OH<sup>•</sup> is 10<sup>3</sup> times more toxic than other oxidants, it could still be a significant component of oxidative stress.

# Possible Biological Origins of ONOO<sup>-</sup>/ONOOH



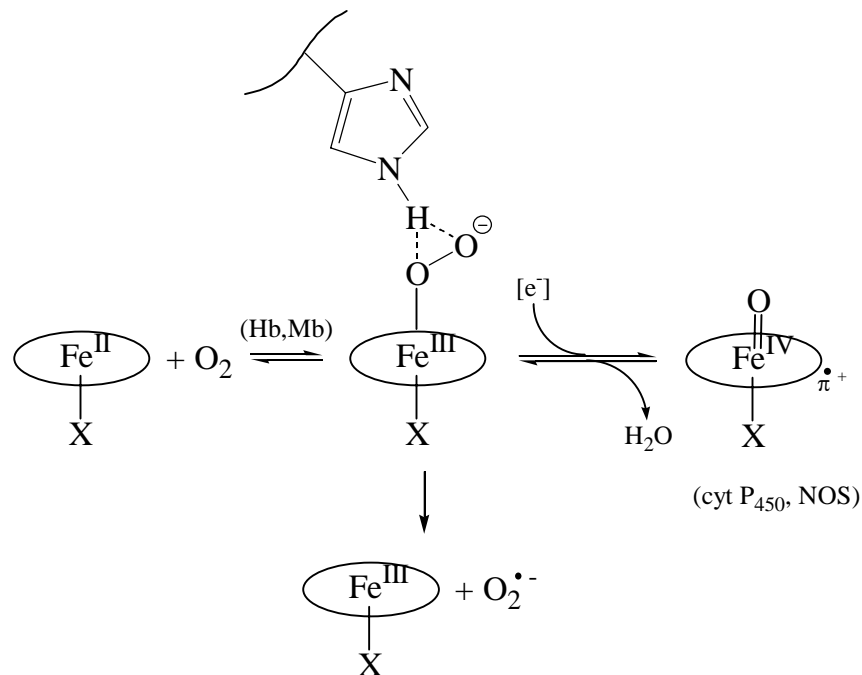
Primary sources of NO<sup>•</sup> and O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup> in respiring tissues:



catalyzed by NOS isozymes (nNOS(I), iNOS(II), eNOS(III))

**O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup>:**

i) O<sub>2</sub>-binding heme proteins--

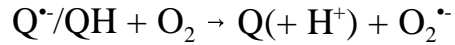


e.g., hemoglobin (Hb); myoglobin (Mb);  
cytochrome P<sub>450</sub>; L-arg or tetrahydrobiopterin (H<sub>4</sub>B)-depleted NOS.

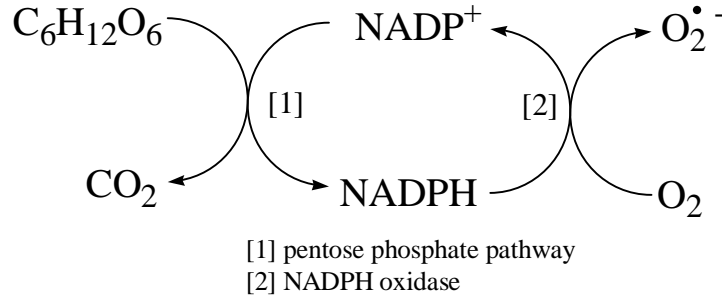
$\nu(\text{O-O}) = 1105 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (Hb-O<sub>2</sub>, Mb-O<sub>2</sub>)  
 $1140 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (P<sub>450</sub>-O<sub>2</sub>)

cf.  $1556 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (O=O)  
 $1145 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (KO<sub>2</sub>)  
 $836 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (NH<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>H)

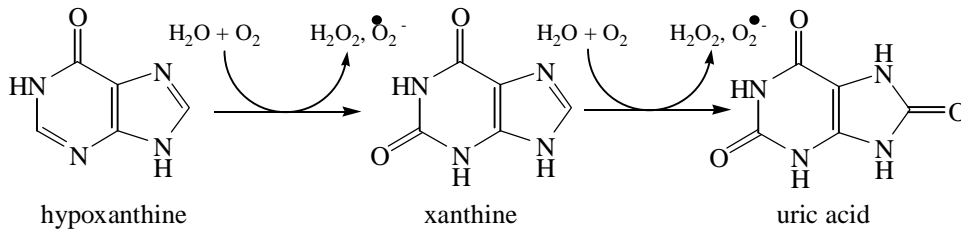
ii) endogenous semiquinones (e.g., mitochondrial bc complex (III))--



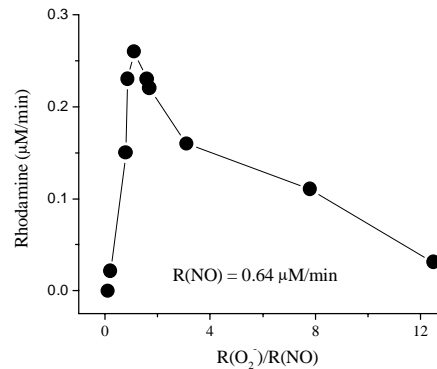
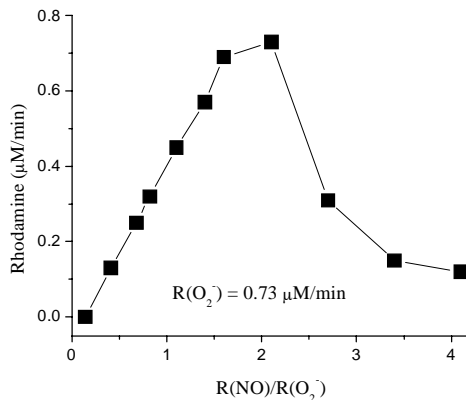
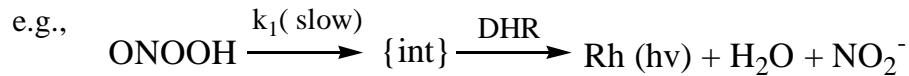
iii) stimulated phagocytes (e.g., neutrophil)--



iv) molybdoflavoenzymes (e.g., xanthine oxidase)

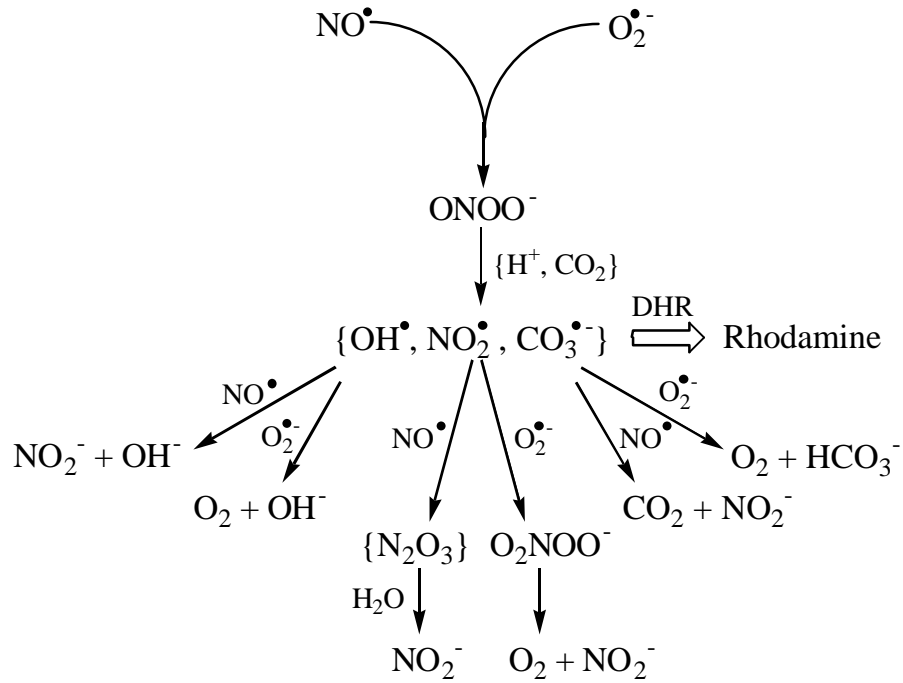


- A conceptual problem (?)--  
optimal formation of ONOO<sup>-</sup>/ONOOH requires approximately equal fluxes of NO<sup>•</sup> and O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup>

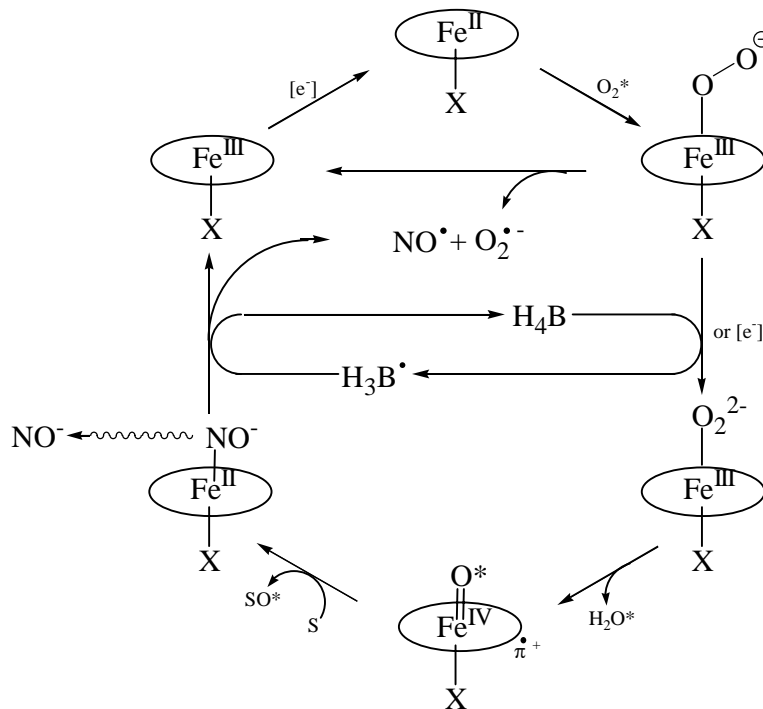


data from: [Jourdeuil, et al. *J.Biol Chem.* **2001**, 276, 28799-28805]

Interpretation:

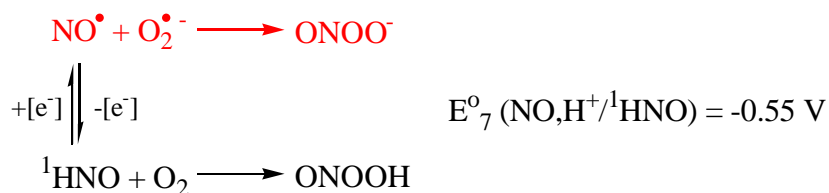


- Is NOS capable of simultaneous generation of  $\text{NO}^\bullet$  and  $\text{O}_2^{\bullet-}$ ?



[Stuehr et al. *J. Biol. Chem.* **2001**, 276, 14533-14536]

## B. “Nitroxyl” reactions--



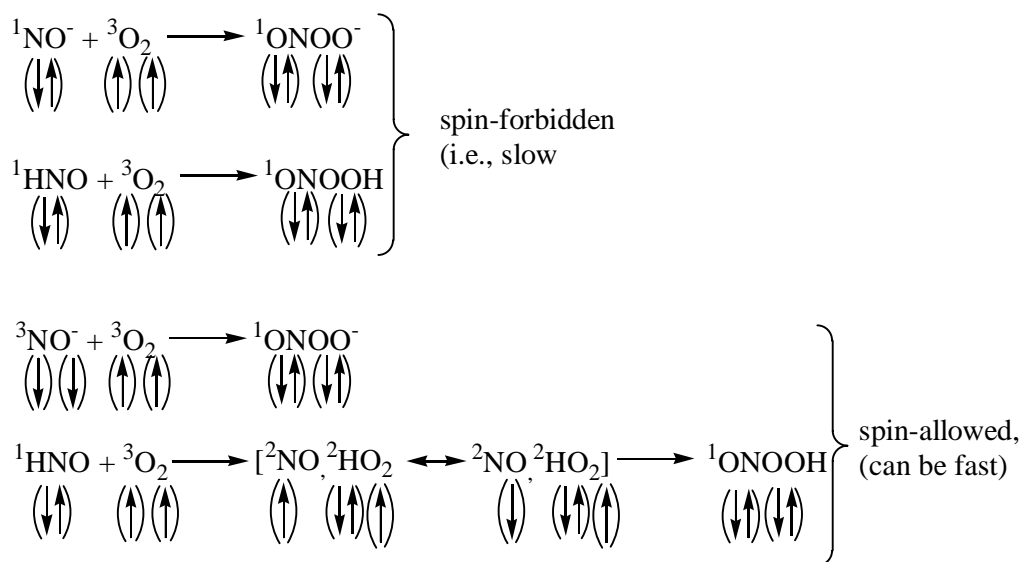
Potential biological sources of HNO--

- NOS ( $\text{H}_4\text{B}$ -depleted environments)
- RS-NO, e.g.:
 
$$\text{RSH} + \text{N}_2\text{O}_3 \longrightarrow \text{RS-NO} + \text{NO}_2^- + \text{H}^+$$

{NO<sup>+</sup>-NO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>}

$$\text{RSH} + \text{RS-NO} \longrightarrow \text{RSSR} + \text{HNO}$$

- Spin restrictions and kinetics—



ONOO<sup>-</sup>/ONOOH formation from “nitroxyl” depends upon its physical properties (e.g., spin state, acidity, redox potential).

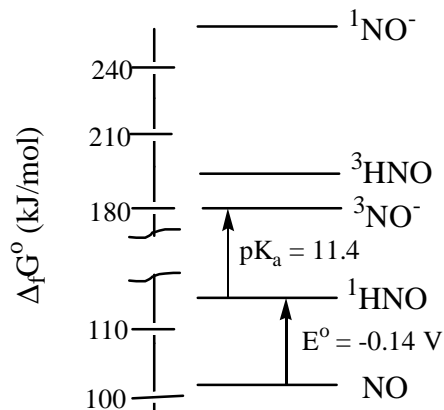
Previous description--

- $\text{HNO} \rightleftharpoons \text{H}^+ + {}^1\text{NO}^-$ ,  $\text{pK}_a \approx 4.7$   
(weak acid, present as singlet anion in physiological milieu)
- reaction with  $\text{O}_2$  is spin-forbidden

Reassessment--

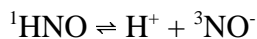
“There is only as much truth in any natural science as there is mathematics in it”--  
*as translated by Sergei Lymar from obscure Russian origins*

[Shafirovich & Lymar, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci, USA* **2002**, 99, 7340-7345]



$$\Delta G^\circ = \sum \Delta_f G^\circ_{\text{products}} - \sum \Delta_f G^\circ_{\text{reactants}}$$

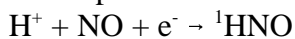
acidity of HNO--



$$\Delta_f G^\circ: \quad 115 \quad 0 \quad 180$$

$$\Delta G^\circ = -RT \ln K_a = 65 \text{ kJ/mol}; \text{pK}_a = 11.4$$

NO reduction potential--

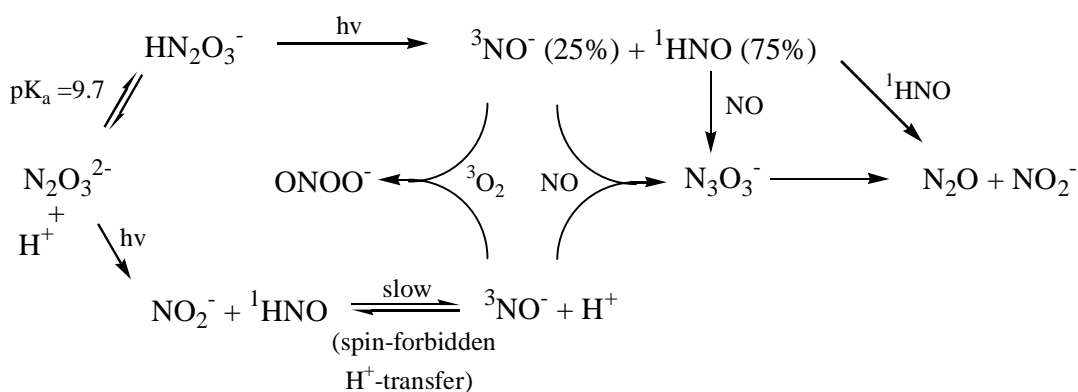


$$\Delta_f G^\circ: \quad 0 \quad 102 \quad 0 \quad 115$$

$$\Delta G^\circ = -nFE^\circ = 13 \text{ kJ/mol}; E^\circ = -0.14\text{V (pH 0)}$$

$$-0.55\text{V (pH 7)}$$

Photoreaction Dynamics (reactions with  $\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{NO}^\bullet$ ):





Biological implications--

- “nitroxyl” in physiological environments is  ${}^1\text{HNO}$  (the acid) and is **strongly reducing** ( $E_7^\circ \approx -0.55\text{V}$ )
- ${}^1\text{HNO}$  and  $\text{NO}^\bullet$  are nitroxyl “sinks”--  
can  $\text{ONOO}^-/\text{ONOOH}$  be formed from  ${}^1\text{HNO}$  in physiological environments?

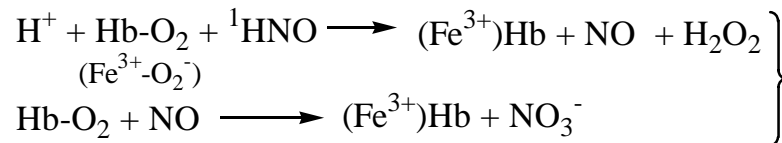
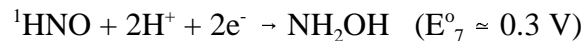
$$\text{PN}/[{}^1\text{HNO}] \approx (10^3 \times [\text{O}_2] + 10^7 \times [\text{OH}^-]) / \{10^7 \times ([\text{NO}^\bullet] + [{}^1\text{HNO}])\}$$

where  $\text{PN} = [\text{ONOO}^-] + [\text{ONOOH}]$

If  $[\text{O}_2] > [\text{NO}^\bullet]$ ,  $[\text{O}_2] = 10 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $[\text{NO}^\bullet] + [{}^1\text{HNO}] = 10 \text{ nM}$ , then at pH 7.4,  
 $\text{PN}/[{}^1\text{HNO}] \approx 0.3$  (or 30% of the  ${}^1\text{HNO}$  decays to PN)  
 However, if either  $[\text{NO}^\bullet]$  or  $[{}^1\text{HNO}] \gg 10 \text{ nM}$ , the PN yield is negligible.

(Experimentally-- $\text{HN}_2\text{O}_3^-$  decomposition causes  $\text{O}_2$  to decrease, implying reaction with  ${}^1\text{HNO}$ )

- Low reduction potential of  $\text{NO}^\bullet$  accounts for ability of “nitroxyl” to reduce redox-active metalloproteins (e.g., (Cu-Zn)SOD,  $(\text{Fe}^{3+})\text{cyt c}$ ,  $(\text{Fe}^{3+})\text{Hb}$ ). What accounts for its ability to oxidize RSH and  $\text{Hb-O}_2$ ?  ${}^1\text{HNO}$  is also a **moderately strong oxidant**, i.e.,

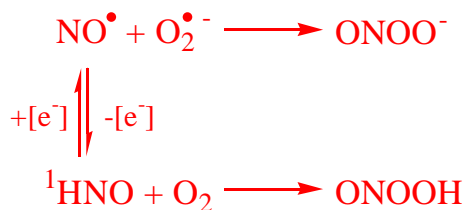
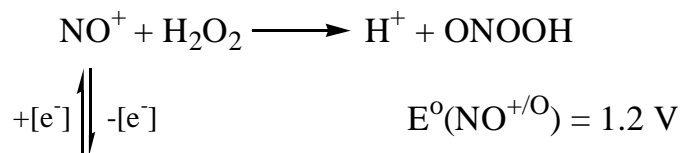


- Since  ${}^1\text{HNO}$  is both strongly oxidizing and reducing, it is unstable to disproportionation:



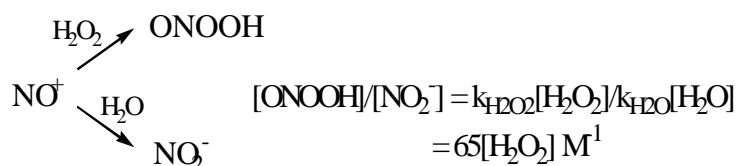
Thus, many redox-active metalloproteins are potentially capable of catalyzing  ${}^1\text{HNO}$  decay.

### C. “Nitrosyl” reactions--



- $\text{NO}^+ + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightleftharpoons \text{NO}_2^- + 2\text{H}^+$ ;  $K = [\text{NO}_2^-][\text{H}^+]^2 / [\text{NO}^+] = 10^3 \text{ M}^2$   
at pH 7.4,  $[\text{NO}^+]/[\text{NO}_2^-] \approx 10^{-18}$ !

- 

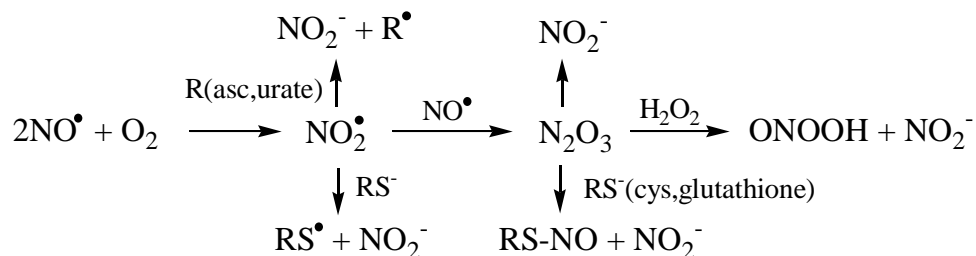


at  $[\text{H}_2\text{O}_2] \leq 100 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $[\text{ONOOH}]/[\text{NO}_2^-] \leq 0.007$ , i.e.,  
less than 1% of the generated  $\text{NO}^+$  will form  $\text{ONOOH}$ .

### Conclusion--

- free  $\text{NO}^+$  is not involved in biological  $\text{ONOO}^-/\text{ONOOH}$  formation
  - too difficult to oxidize  $\text{NO}^\bullet$
  - at physiological  $[\text{ONOOH}]$ , reaction cannot compete with hydration by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

### “Stabilized” $\text{NO}^+$ --i.e., $\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ (or $\text{NO}^+-\text{NO}_2^-$ )--as a nitrosating agent?



$N_2O_3$  reactions--

at pH 7.4:  $k_{RSH} \approx 10^6 M^{-1}s^{-1}$ ;  $k_{H_2O_2} \leq 10^5 M^{-1}s^{-1}$ ;  $k_{H_2O}[H_2O] \approx 10^3 s^{-1}$

if  $[H_2O_2] = 0.1 mM$ ;  $[RSH] = 5 mM$ ,

$$[ONOOH]/[N_2O_3] \leq k_{H_2O_2}[H_2O_2]/\Sigma(k_i[X_i]) = 0.007 (0.7\%)$$

$NO_2$  reactions--

at pH 7.4:  $k_R \approx k_{RSH} \approx 3 \times 10^7 M^{-1}s^{-1}$ ;  $k_{NO} = 10^9 M^{-1}s^{-1}$

if  $[NO^*] \approx 1 \mu M$ ;  $[urate] \approx 0.3 mM$  (plasma);  $[asc] \approx 0.5 mM$  (cytosol);

$[RSH] \approx 5 mM$  (cytosol) or  $0.1 mM$  (plasma),

$$[N_2O_3]/[NO_2^*] = k_{N_2O_3}[N_2O_3]/\Sigma(k_i[X_i]) \approx 0.006 \text{ (cytosol)} \\ 0.08 \text{ (plasma)}$$

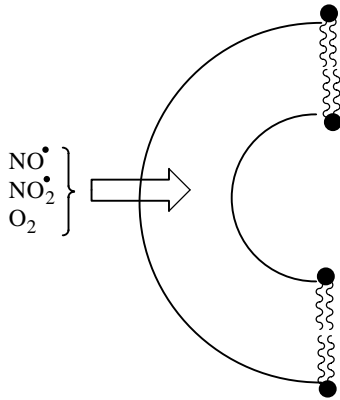
Overall--

$$[ONOO]/[NO_2^*] = [N_2O_3]/[NO_2^*] \times [ONOOH]/[N_2O_3] \leq 0.08 \times 0.007 = 6 \times 10^{-4} \\ (< \mathbf{0.1\%})$$

***Primary pathway for ONOO/ONOOH formation under physiological conditions is yet to be identified!***

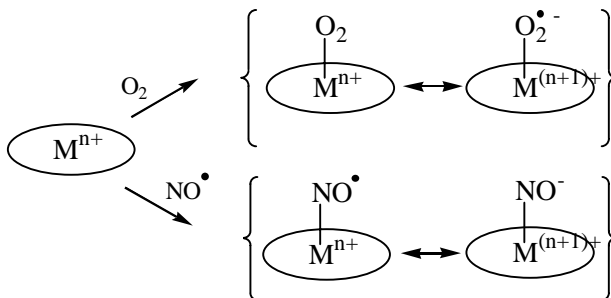
What might change this viewpoint?

- Predictions are based upon rate ratios measured for aqueous solution. However,



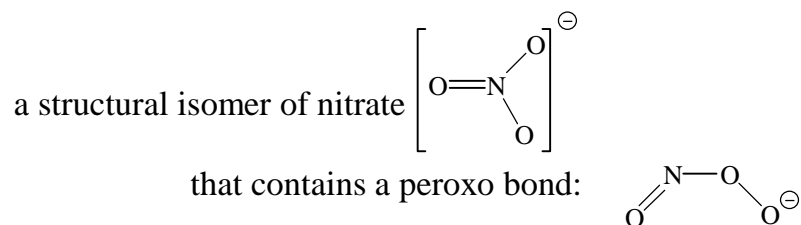
- Gases are more soluble in hydrocarbons than  $H_2O$ ;
- In lipidic regions of tissues, reaction dynamics will be very different--s.p.,
  - reactions forming neutral products will be favored;
  - intermediates susceptible to hydrolytic disproportionation by  $H_2O$  will be protected ( $t_{1/2}$  will increase).

- Binding to metalloproteins can activate and stabilize ONOOH precursors:



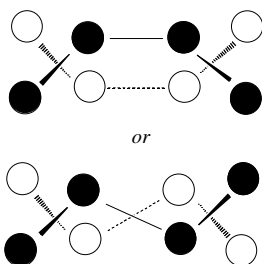
- $E^o$  of bound  $O_2$ ,  $NO^*$  increased
- $t_{1/2}$  of reactive intermediates increased
- spin restrictions removed

## What is peroxyxynitrite? (Biologically relevant chemical properties)



X-ray structure  $\{(\text{CH}_3)_4\text{N}^+/\text{OONO}^-\}$ :

[Worle et al., *Chem. Res. Toxicol.* **1999**, *12*, 305-307]



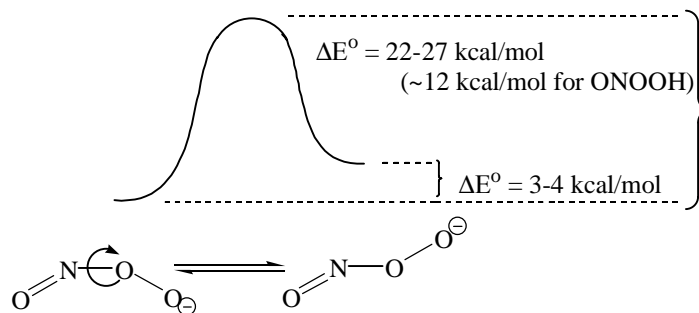
N-O(peroxy) bond length = 1.35 Å

N-O single bond length = 1.41 Å

N=O double bond length = 1.20 Å

significant multiple bond character in the N-O peroxy bond indicated by bond length; delocalization of N lone pair electrons over nuclear framework stabilizes *cis* and *trans* planar geometries.

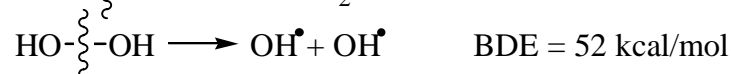
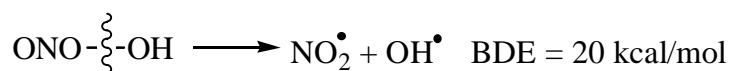
from *ab initio* calculations:



a weak acid:

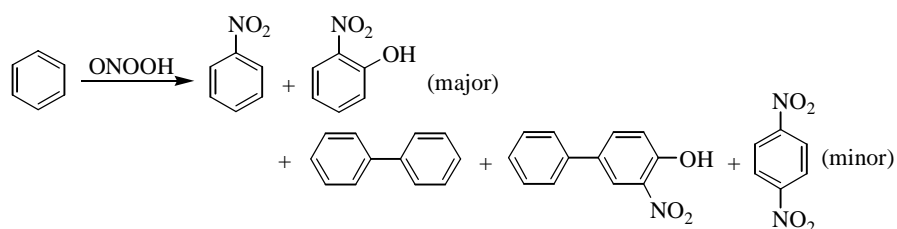


O-O bond  
dissociation energies:



## A little peroxynitrite history:

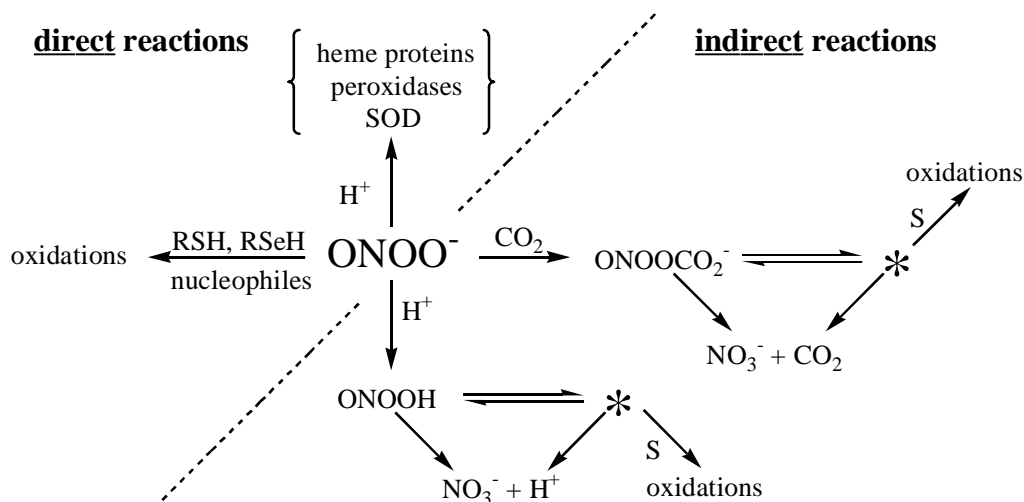
- First prepared at the turn of the century [Baeyer & Villiger, *Berichte* **1901**, 34, 755], but not characterized until much later (1930's).
- Regarded as little more than a laboratory curiosity--e.g., the classic 1<sup>st</sup> text on mechanistic inorganic chemistry by Yost & Russell ("Systematic Inorganic Chemistry", 1946) gives it just one line.
- Some interesting research on aromatic hydroxylations and nitrations appeared in the 1950's [e.g., Halfpenny, E., Robinson, P. L. *J. Chem. Soc.* **1952**, 928-936, *ibid.* 939-946.]:



but was subsequently largely forgotten. Reactivity was attributed to formation of radical intermediates because diaryl coupling was observed among the minor products.

- An early mechanistic study providing evidence for formation of  $\text{OH}^\bullet$  and  $\text{NO}_2^\bullet$  during  $\text{ONOOH}$  decomposition was published [Mahoney, L. R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1970**, 92,1562-1563], but also apparently overlooked by later researchers.

## Chemical reactivity:

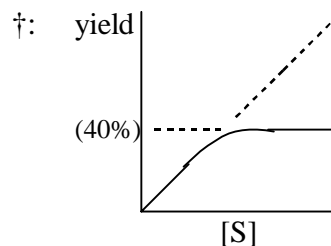


direct reactions:

- 1e<sup>-</sup> and 2e<sup>-</sup> oxidations
- stoichiometric (% 100%) yields
- R = k[ONOOH][S];  
(i.e., bimolecular)

indirect reactions:

- 1e<sup>-</sup> oxidations
- substoichiometric (≤ 40%) yields<sup>†</sup>
- R = k(ONOOH) or k[ONOO<sup>-</sup>][CO<sub>2</sub>]  
(i.e., independent of S!)

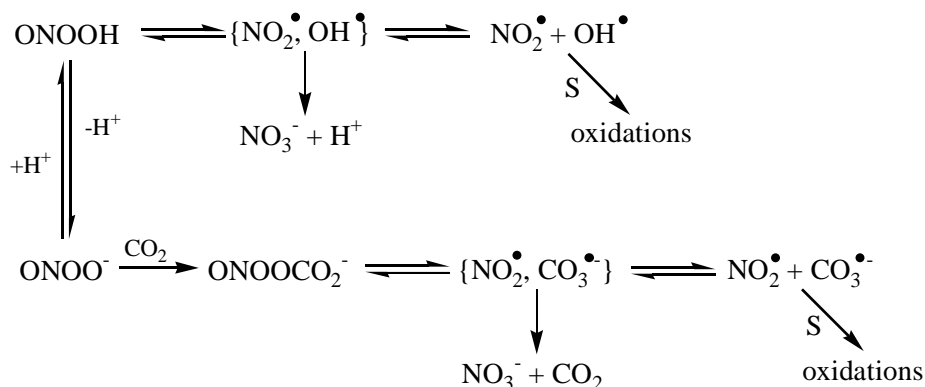


**What is “\*”?** ( i.e., the reactive intermediate):

“One of the symptoms of an approaching nervous breakdown is the belief that one’s work is terribly important.”--Bertrand Russell

*Two alternative viewpoints:*

- (1) Unreactive forms are geminate radical pairs; “\*” represents radicals that escape the cage:

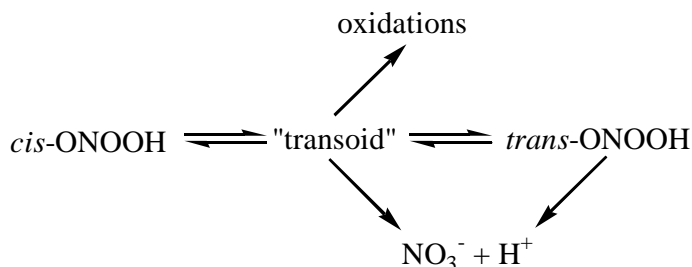


support:

ONO-OH	BDE(calc.)	~20 kcal/mol
ONO-OCO <sub>2</sub> <sup>-</sup>	BDE(calc.)	~9 kcal/mol
cf. HO-OH	BDE (exptl.)	~52 kcal/mol
H <sub>3</sub> C-CH <sub>3</sub>	BDE (exptl.)	88 kcal/mol

peroxo O-O bonds are very weak!

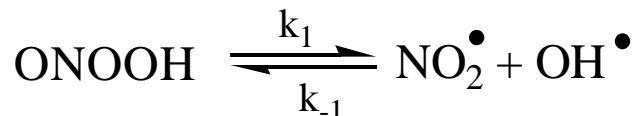
(2) Unreactive and reactive forms are geometrical isomers:



support:

thermodynamic calculations show rate of O-O bond homolysis in ONOOH is too slow to account for observed reaction rates (?)

### Thermodynamic estimates of ONOOH homolysis rates:



[Koppenol et al., *Chem. Res. Toxicol.* **1992**, 5, 834-842]:  $k_1(\text{calc.}) = 10^{-4}\text{-}10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$

*conclusion:* since the experimentally determined 1<sup>st</sup> order rate constant for ONOOH decay is  $k_{\text{decay}} = 0.8 \text{ s}^{-1}$  (4-6 orders of magnitude larger than the estimated  $k_1$ , for bond homolysis), the reaction cannot occur by this pathway!

[Mereyni & Lind, *Chem. Res. Toxicol.* **1997**, 10, 1216-1220]:  $k_1(\text{calc.}) = 2.5 \text{ s}^{-1}$

*conclusion:* the estimated O-O homolysis rate constant ( $k_1$ ) is totally consistent with the measured  $k_{\text{decay}}$ .

[Koppenol & Kissner, *Chem. Res. Toxicol.* **1998**, 11, 1216-1220]:  $k_1(\text{calc.}) = 0.01 \text{ s}^{-1}$

*conclusion:* perhaps a few % decay by this pathway, but not much.

### What's the problem? Why can't our experts agree?

(1)  $K = [\text{NO}_2^\bullet][\text{OH}^\bullet]/[\text{ONOOH}] = k_1/k_{-1}$  ( $k_{-1} \approx 5 \times 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$ )

(2)  $-RT \ln K = \Delta G^\circ = \Delta_f G^\circ(\text{NO}_2^\bullet)_{\text{aq}} + \Delta_f G^\circ(\text{OH}^\bullet)_{\text{aq}} - \Delta_f G^\circ(\text{ONOOH})_{\text{aq}}$

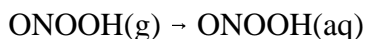
(3)  $\Delta_f G^\circ = \Delta_f H^\circ - T \Delta_f S^\circ$

Enthalpies:

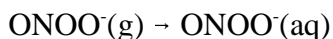
$$\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{ONOO}^-)_{\text{aq}} = \Delta_f H^\circ(\text{NO}_3^-)_{\text{aq}} - \Delta H_1 \quad (\Delta H_1 = \text{measured heat of isomerization, i.e., ONOO}^- \rightarrow \text{NO}_3^-)$$

$$\Delta_f H^\circ(\text{ONOOH})_{\text{aq}} = \Delta_f H^\circ(\text{ONOO}^-)_{\text{aq}} - \Delta H_2 \quad (\Delta H_2 = \text{measured heat of ionization, i.e., ONOOH} \rightleftharpoons \text{ONOO}^- + \text{H}^+)$$

Entropies:

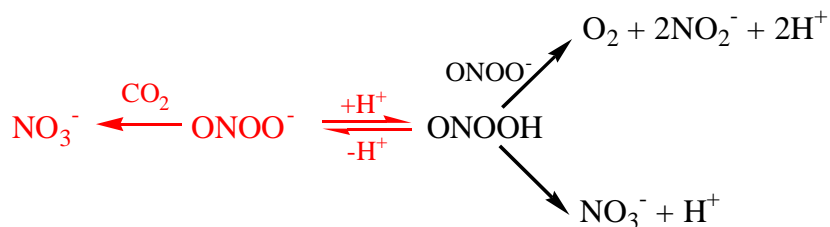


or for which  $S^\circ(\text{aq}) = S^\circ(\text{g}) + \Delta S^\circ$ , where  $\Delta S^\circ = \text{solvation entropy}$



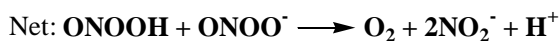
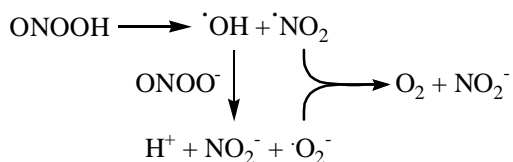
**$\Delta S^\circ$  is very difficult to estimate!**

**A kinetic approach:**

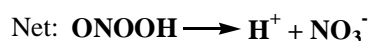
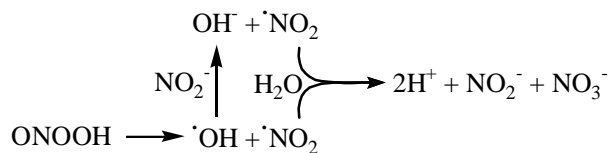


**radical pathways for ONOOH decay (note: these exist!--the issue is whether or not they can account for the observed product yields):**

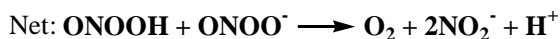
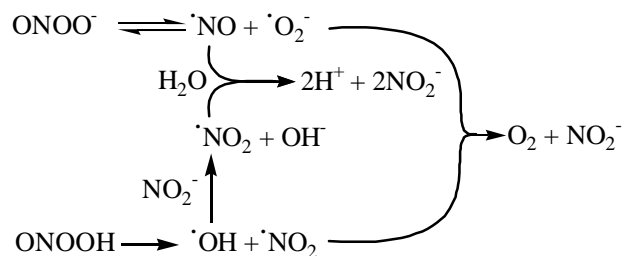
i) direct decomposition:



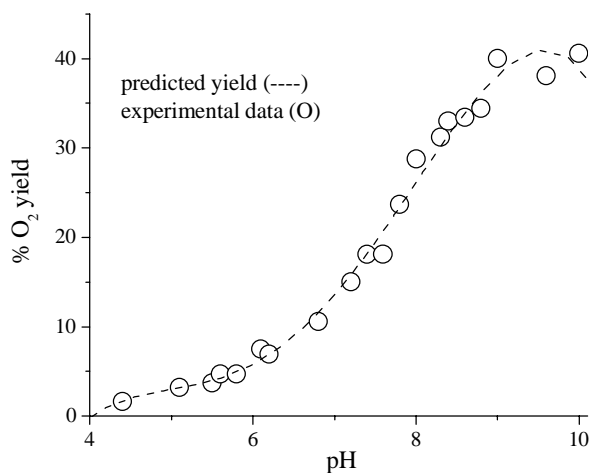
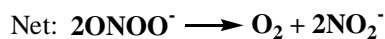
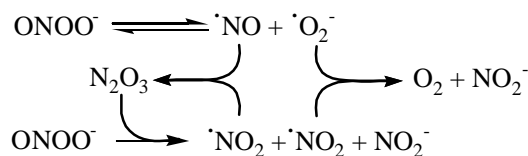
ii)  $\text{NO}_2^-$ -mediated isomerization:



iii)  $\text{NO}_2^-$ -mediated decomposition:



iv)  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$ -catalyzed decomposition:



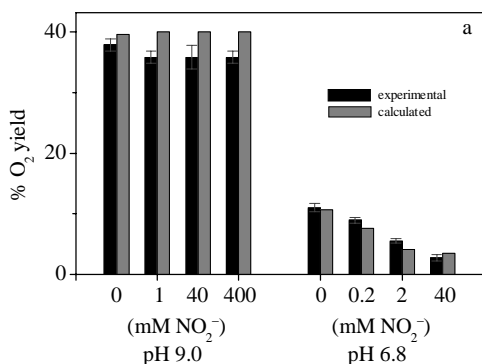
**Conclusion:** the radical pathway accurately predicts decomposition yields



## More predictions of the radical model:

- (i)  $\text{NO}_2^-$  inhibits  $\text{O}_2$  formation in acidic media; not in alkaline;
- (ii) inhibition by organic radical scavengers will be reversed by  $\text{NO}_2^-$  in alkaline media;
- (iii) inhibition by  $\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6^{4-}$  will not be reversed by  $\text{NO}_2^-$ .

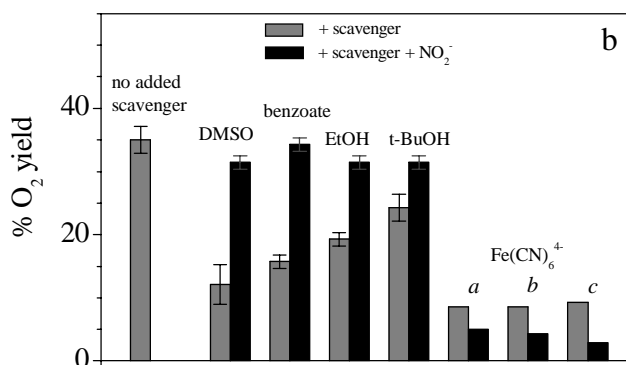
Prediction (i):



In alkaline media,  $\text{NO}_2^{\cdot}$  formed from reaction of  $\text{NO}_2^-$  with  $\text{OH}^{\cdot}$  with  $\text{NO}^{\cdot}$  formed by  $\text{ONOO}^-$  dissociation to give same products as direct decomposition; in acid  $\text{NO}_2^{\cdot}$  reacts with another  $\text{NO}_2^{\cdot}$  to give net isomerization.

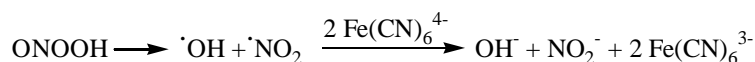
Predictions (ii) and (iii):

Organic radicals formed in reactions with  $\text{OH}^{\cdot}$  decay by pathways that do not form  $\text{O}_2$ ; the more reactive  $\text{NO}_2^-$  effectively scavenges  $\text{OH}^{\cdot}$  in the presence of these compounds, generating  $\text{O}_2$  by pathway iii.  $\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6^{4-}$  reacts rapidly with both  $\text{NO}_2^{\cdot}$  and  $\text{OH}^{\cdot}$ , effectively quenching any further reaction, e.g.,

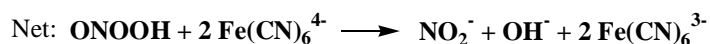
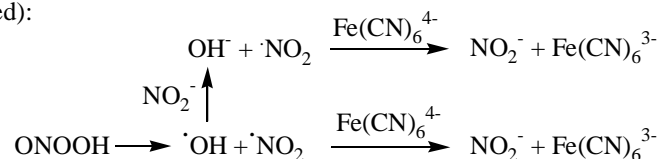


v)  $\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6^{4-}$  inhibition of  $\text{O}_2$  formation:

( $\text{NO}_2^-$  absent):



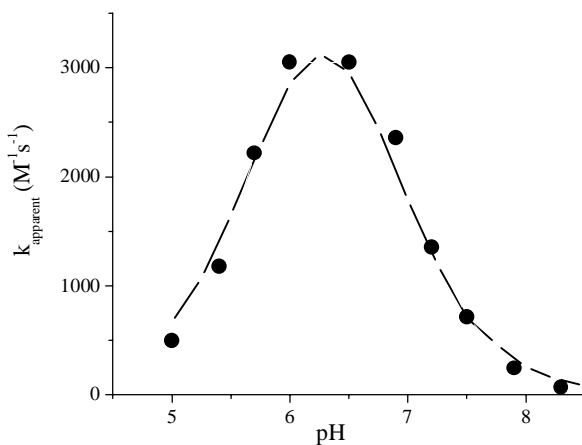
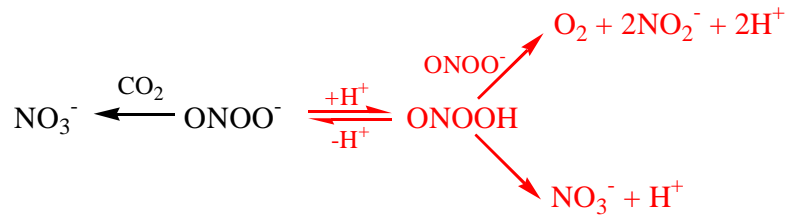
( $\text{NO}_2^-$ -mediated):



**Conclusion:**  $\text{OH}^{\cdot}$  and  $\text{NO}_2^{\cdot}$  radical formation during  $\text{ONOOH}$  decay is extensive. At present no undisputed evidence exists that is inconsistent with this reaction model--[Coddington, J.W. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1999**, *121*, 2438-2443].

## Reactive intermediates in bicarbonate media:

How do we know that  $\text{ONOO}^-$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  are the reactants?



$$-\frac{d[\text{PN}]}{dt} = k_{\text{apparent}}[\text{PN}][\text{HCO}_3]_{\text{T}}$$

$$[\text{PN}] = [\text{ONOO}^-] + [\text{ONOOH}]$$

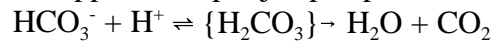
$$[\text{HCO}_3]_{\text{T}} = [\text{CO}_2] + [\text{HCO}_3^-]$$

$$k_{\text{apparent}} = \frac{k_2}{(1 + [\text{H}^+]/K_a)(1 + K_a'/[\text{H}^+])}$$

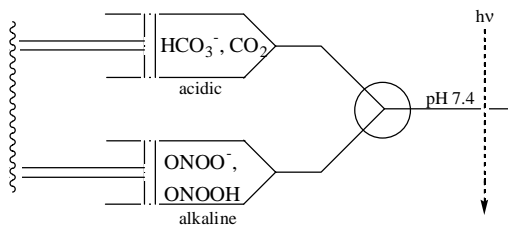
or

$$k_2'/(1 + K_a'/[\text{H}^+])(1 + [\text{H}^+]/K_a')$$

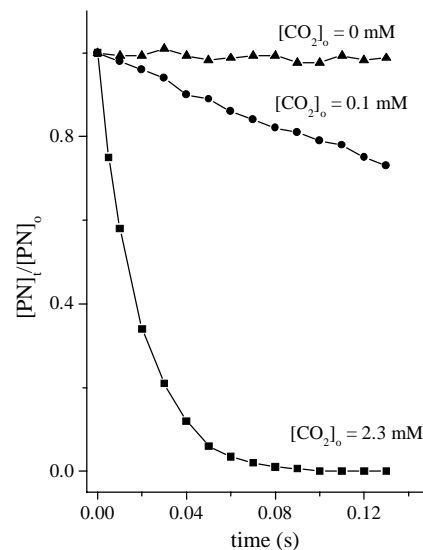
pH-rate profile indicates that reactant pairs are *either* ( $\text{ONOOH}, \text{HCO}_3^-$ ) or ( $\text{ONOO}^-, \text{CO}_2$ ). These can be distinguished by a stopped-flow pH-jump experiment because the equilibrium:



is slow in neutral solutions:

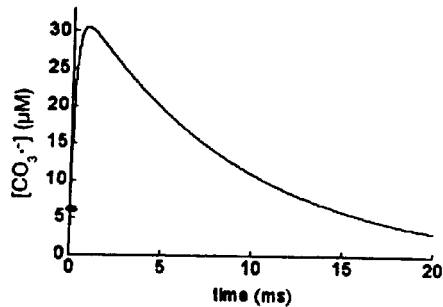
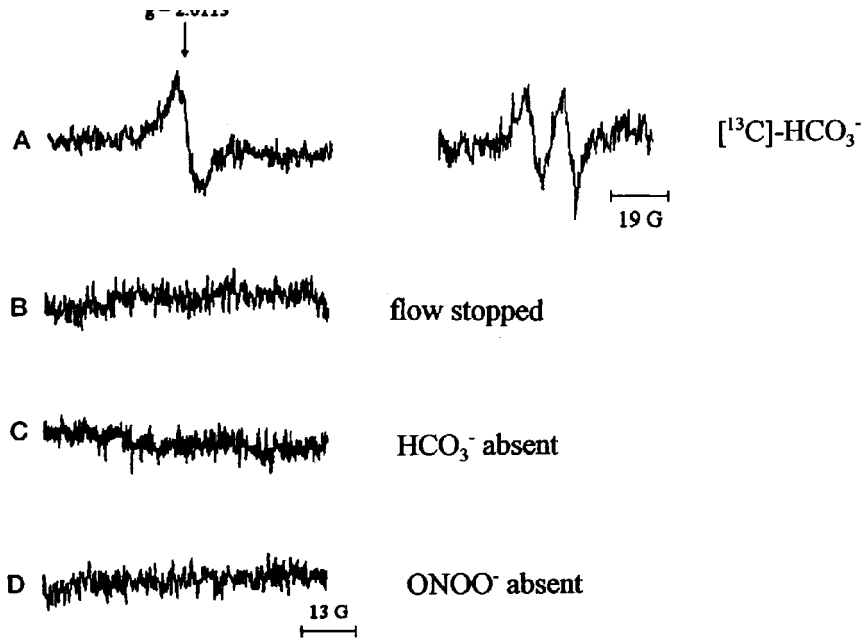


Since the reaction rate depends upon  $[\text{CO}_2]$ , the isomerization reaction involves  $\text{ONOO}^-$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  ( $k_2 = 3 \times 10^4 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$  @  $23^\circ\text{C}$ )



## What is “\*” (the reactive intermediate) formed in the indirect reactions of ONOOCO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>?

direct flow-EPR detection of CO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> from reaction of ONOO<sup>-</sup> with CO<sub>2</sub>:  
[Bonini et al. *J. Biol. Chem.* **1999**, 274, 10802-10806]



**Conclusion:** “Indirect” reactions occur by O-O bond homolysis in peroxynitrite adducts (ONOOH, ONOOCO<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>) to generate reactive radicals (OH<sup>•</sup>, CO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>2</sub><sup>•</sup>) as secondary oxidants