

# **Chapter 4-I:**

## Citric Acid Cycle



Citric acid cycle: metabolic water wheel

# Overview of metabolic fuel metabolism

## Citric acid cycle (CAC)

Not merely an oxidation of pyruvate to  $\text{CO}_2$

A central pathway for recovering energy from several metabolic fuels

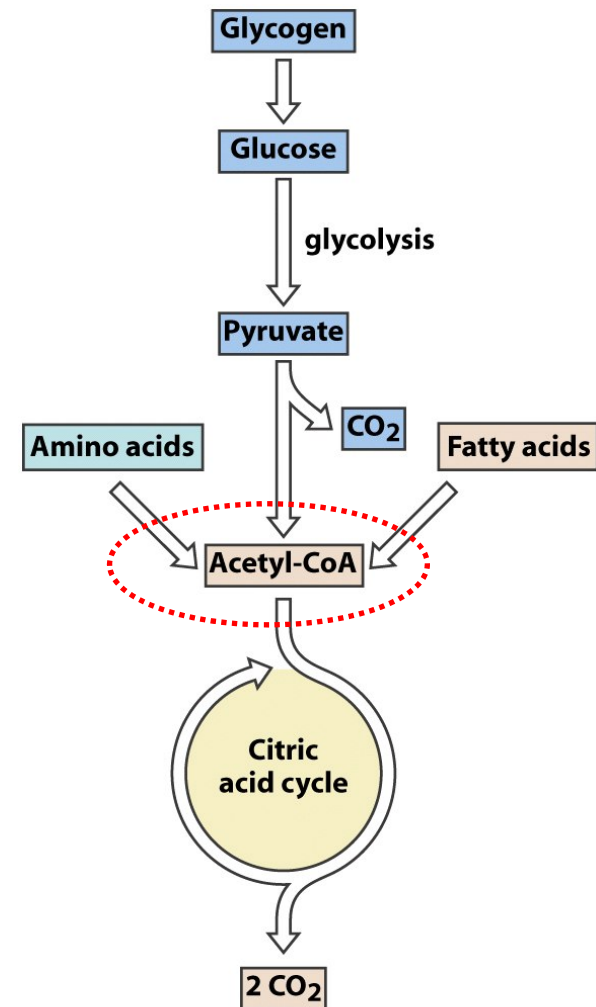


Figure 16-1 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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# Overview of CAC

8 reactions oxidizing acetyl-CoA to 2 CO<sub>2</sub>

Generation of 3 NADH, 1 FADH<sub>2</sub>, 1 ATP(GTP)

1930s Hans Krebs linked the already known compounds

## Plant products

Citric acid: citrus fruit

Aconitate: monkshood

Succinate: amber

Fumarate: Fumaria

Malate: apple

## General features

Circular pathway: TCA cycle

Net reaction

Mitochondrial location

Amphibolic pathway: provides biosynthetic intermediates

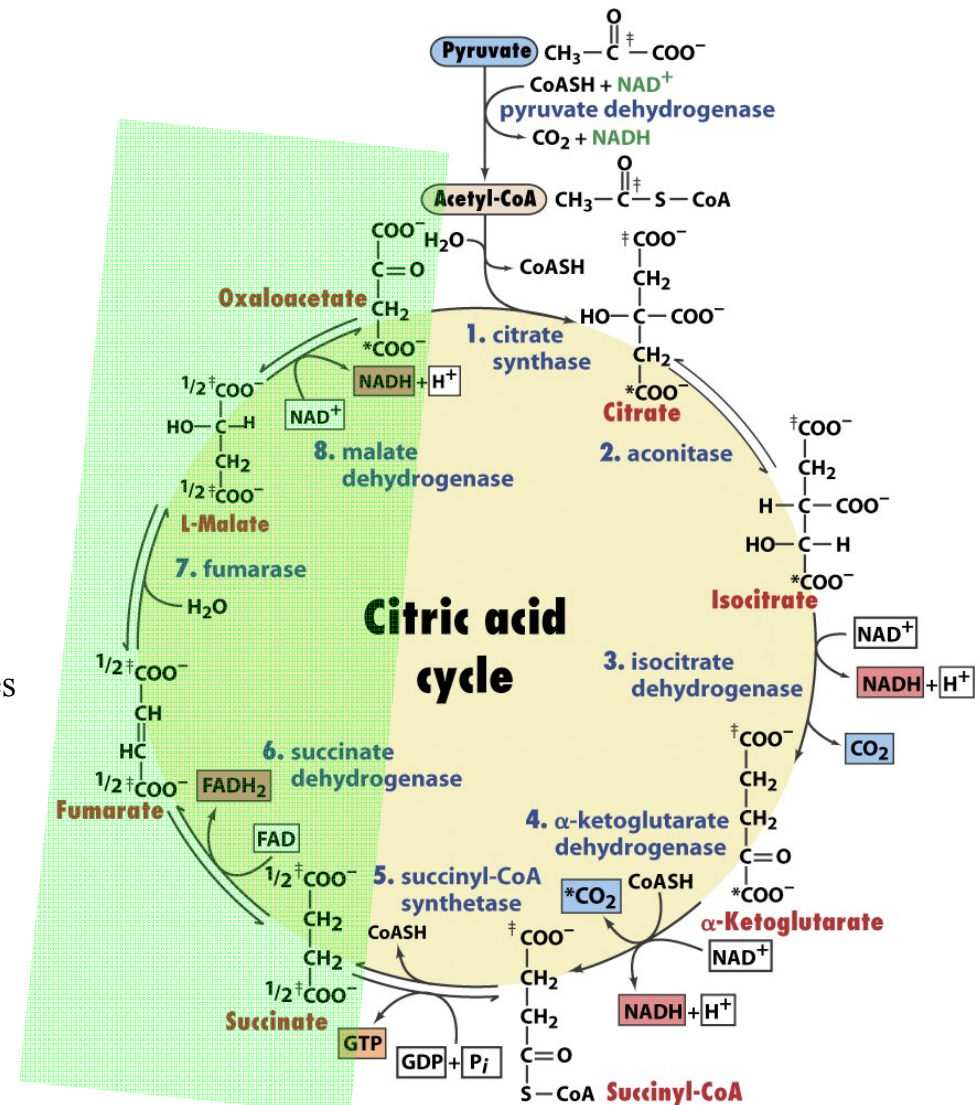


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# Synthesis of Acetyl-CoA

Pyruvate to acetyl-CoA (high-E compound)

Transport to mitochondria via pyruvate-H<sup>+</sup> symport

Pyruvate dehydrogenase multienzyme complex (PDH)

Noncovalently associated enzymes

*E. coli* enzyme

Pyruvate dehydrogenase (E1): 24 subunits

Dihydrolipoyl transacetylase (E2): 24 subunits

Dihydrolipoyl dehydrogenase (E3): 12 subunits

Multienzyme complex: evolution of catalytic efficiency

1. Overcome diffusion
2. Minimize side reactions
3. Coordinate control

EM of *E. coli* pyruvate dehydrogenase complex

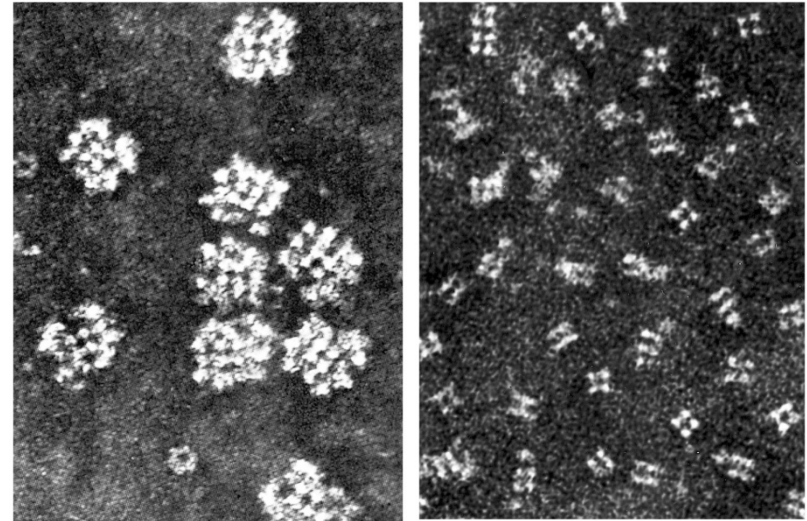


Figure 16-3a Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e

Figure 16-3b Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e

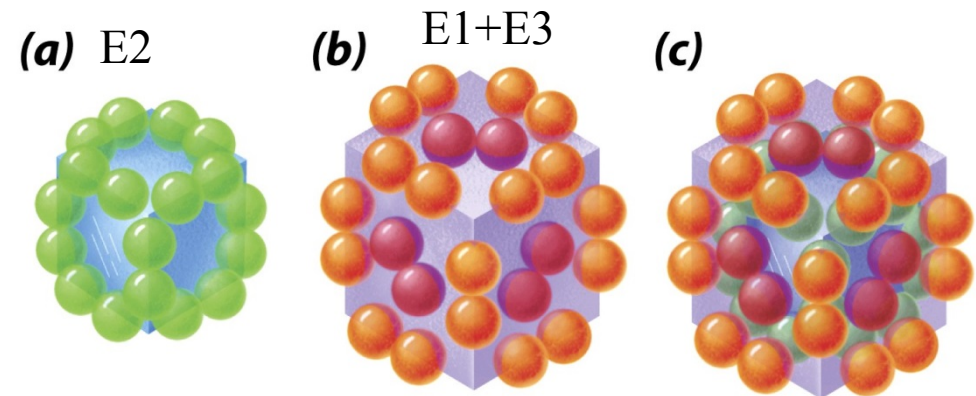


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## Different complexity of PDH in different species

E2 core: 24 subunits (8 trimers)

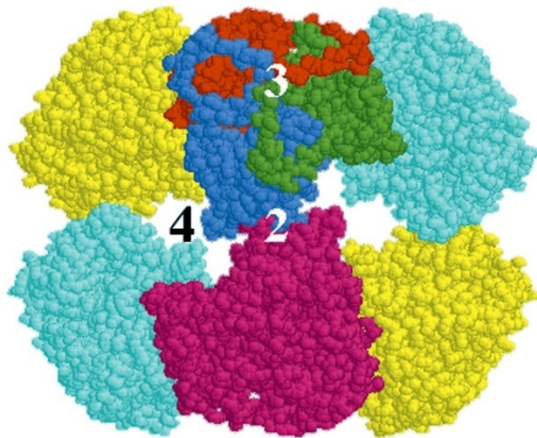


Figure 16-5a Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e

E2 core: 60 subunits (20 trimers)

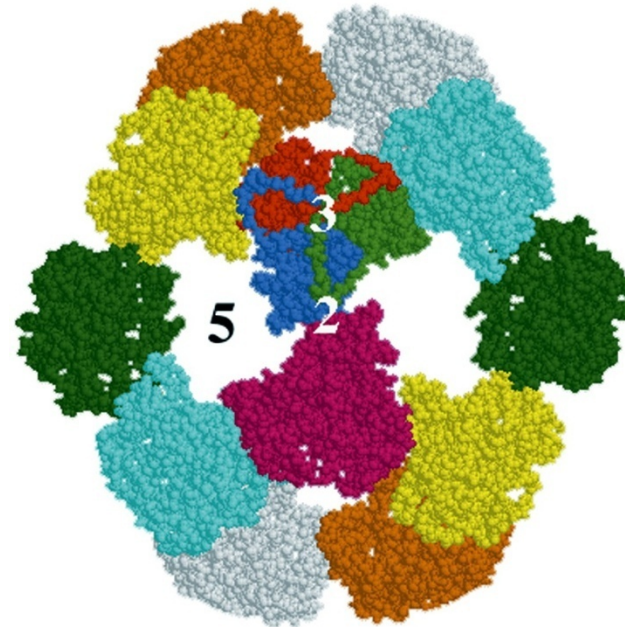


Figure 16-5b Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e



## The reactions of PDH



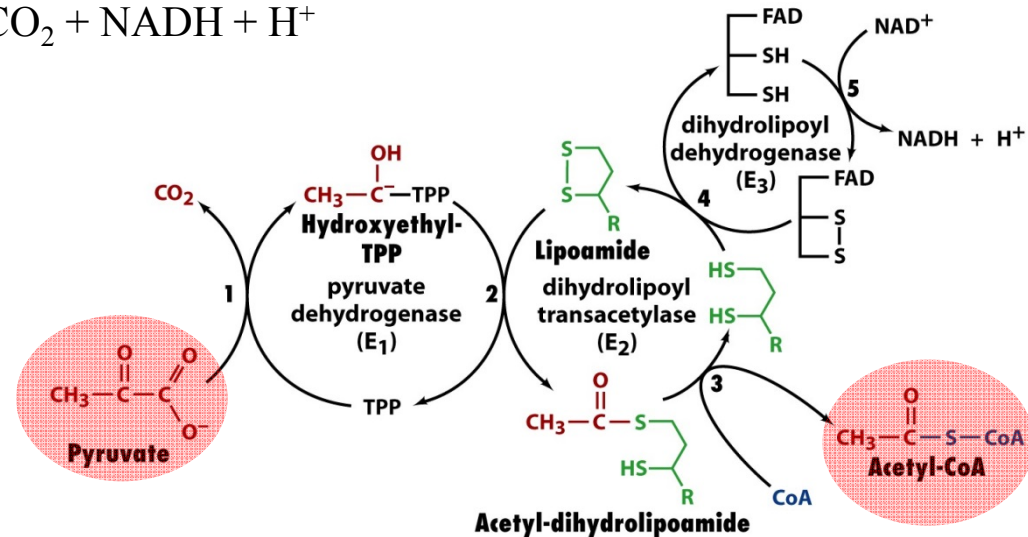
## 5 different coenzymes

TPP

Lipoic acid

CoA

FAD

 $\text{NAD}^+$ 

**Figure 16-6 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e**  
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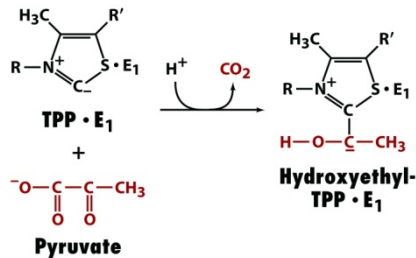
**Table 16-1** The Coenzymes and Prosthetic Groups of Pyruvate Dehydrogenase

Cofactor	Location	Function
Thiamine pyrophosphate (TPP)	Bound to E <sub>1</sub>	Decarboxylates pyruvate yielding a hydroxyethyl-TPP carbanion
Lipoic acid	Covalently linked to a Lys on E <sub>2</sub> (lipoamide)	Accepts the hydroxyethyl carbanion from TPP as an acetyl group
Coenzyme A (CoA)	Substrate for E <sub>2</sub>	Accepts the acetyl group from lipoamide
Flavin adenine dinucleotide (FAD)	Bound to E <sub>3</sub>	Reduced by lipoamide
Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD <sup>+</sup> )	Substrate for E <sub>3</sub>	Reduced by FADH <sub>2</sub>

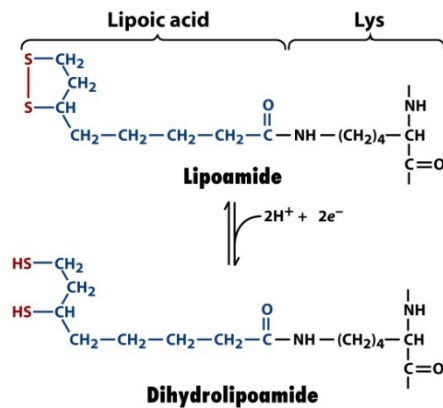
Table 16-1 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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# The sequence of reactions

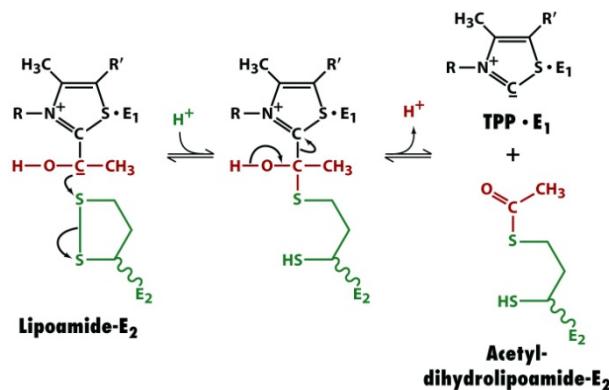
1



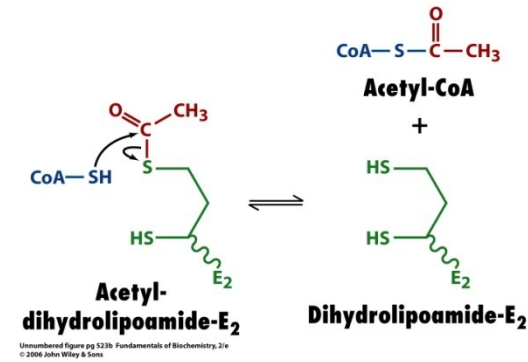
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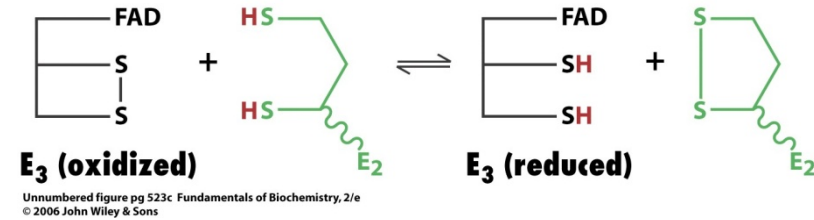
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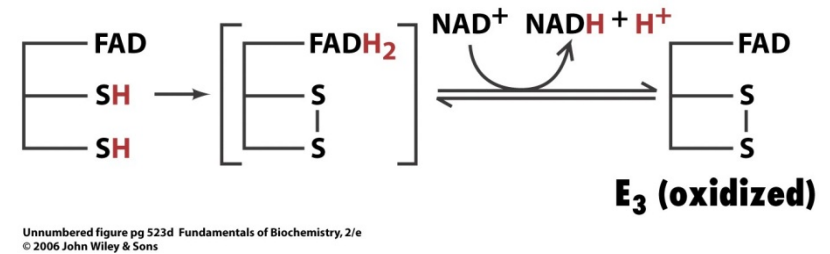
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5



6

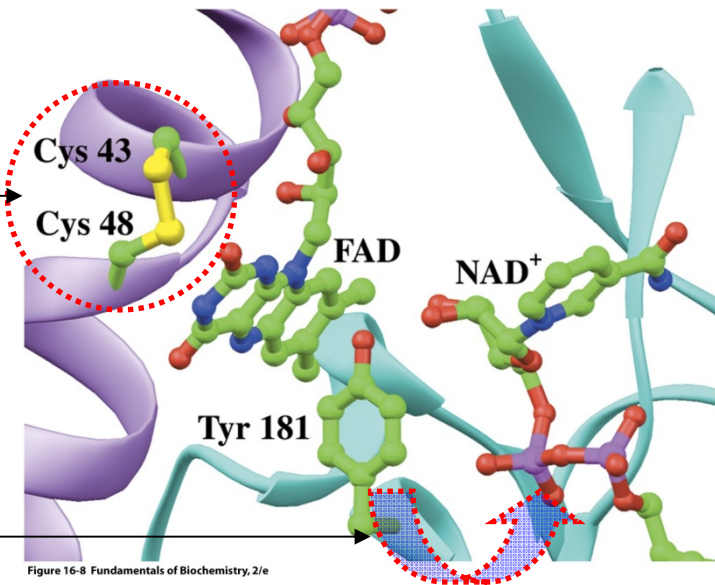




The active site of dihydrolipoamide dehydrogenase

Redox-active disulfide bond

Blocking  $\text{NAD}^+$  binding site to shield flavin from solution



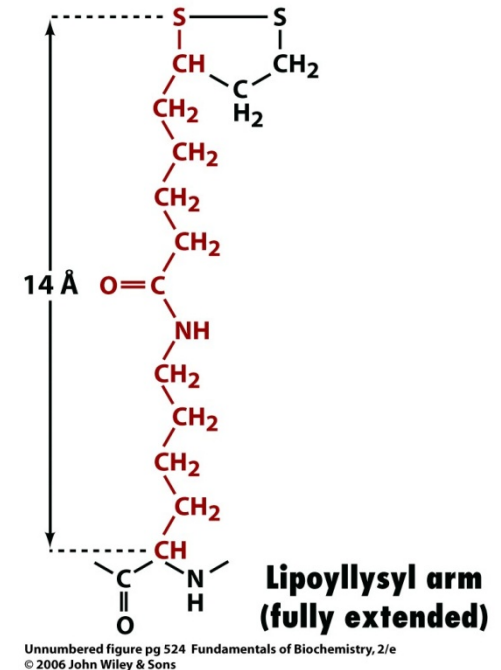
Check reduction potential of FAD &  $\text{NAD}^+$

### The lipoamide group of E2

Channeling of reaction intermediates between E2 (inside) and E1+E3 (outside)

Swing action from E1 to the E2 active site, and then to E3

Flexibility of the bound domain



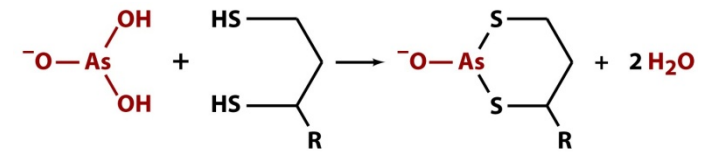
# Arsenic poisoning

Arsenite

Organic arsenicals

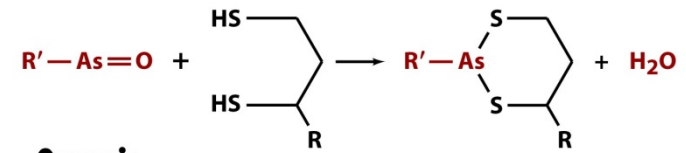
Binding to -SH of lipoamide

Inactivation of PDH &  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate dehydrogenase



**Arsenite**

**Dihydro-  
lipoamide**

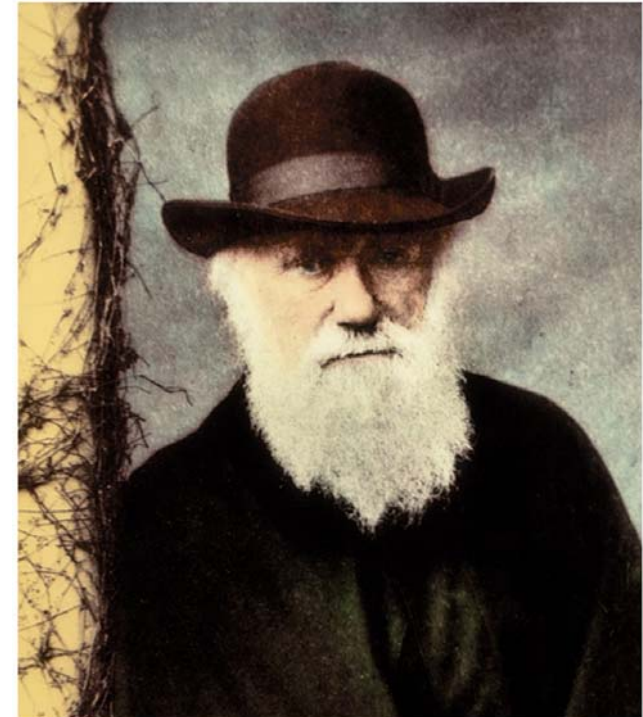


**Organic  
arsenical**

Box 16-2 figure 1 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e  
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Box 16-2 figure 2 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e



Box 16-2 figure 3 Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e

# Enzymes of the citric acid cycle

## 8 enzymes

Citrate synthase

Aconitase

NAD<sup>+</sup>-dependent isocitrate dehydrogenase: CO<sub>2</sub> release

α-ketoglutarate dehydrogenase: CO<sub>2</sub> release

Succinyl-CoA synthetase: GTP generation

complete oxidation of acetyl-CoA

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Succinate dehydrogenase

Fumarase

Malate dehydrogenase

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Regeneration of oxaloacetate

# Citrate synthase

Condensation of acetyl-CoA and oxaloacetate  
Ordered sequential reaction  
oxaloacetate followed by acetyl-CoA

Large conformational changes  
sealing the oxaloacetate binding site  
generating acetyl-CoA binding site

open

C-terminal smaller domain  
18Å movement

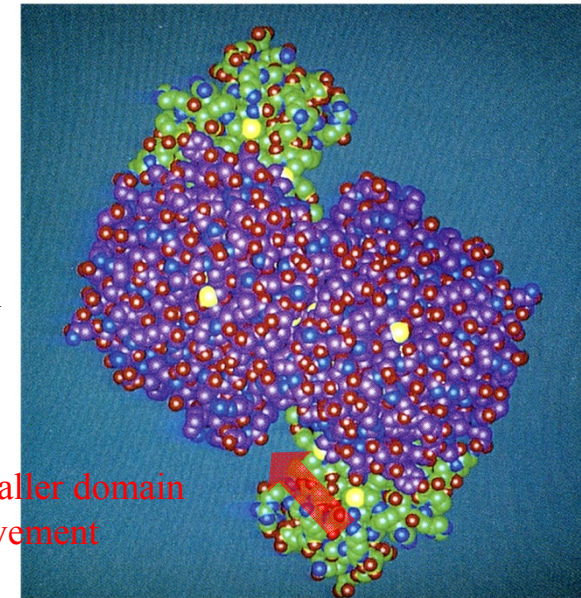


Figure 16-9a Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e

## Reaction mechanism

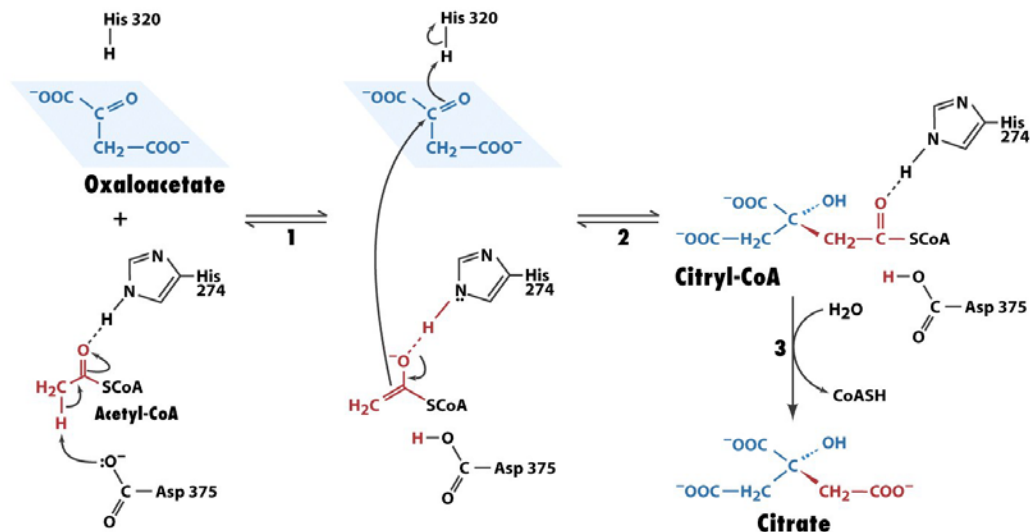


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closed

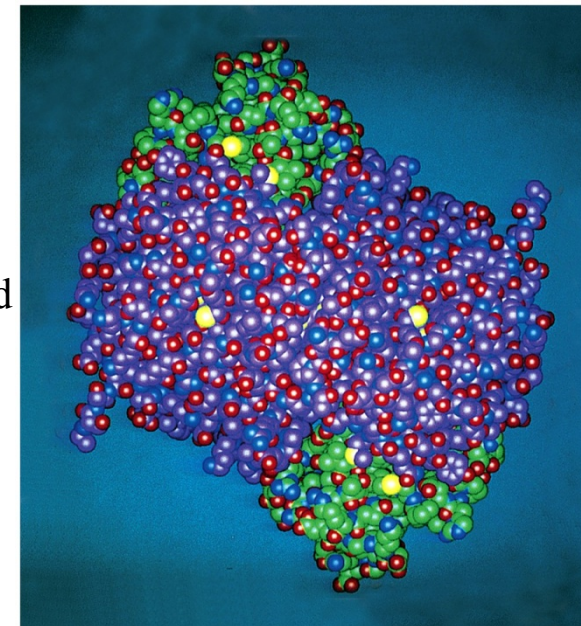


Figure 16-9b Fundamentals of Biochemistry, 2/e



# Aconitase

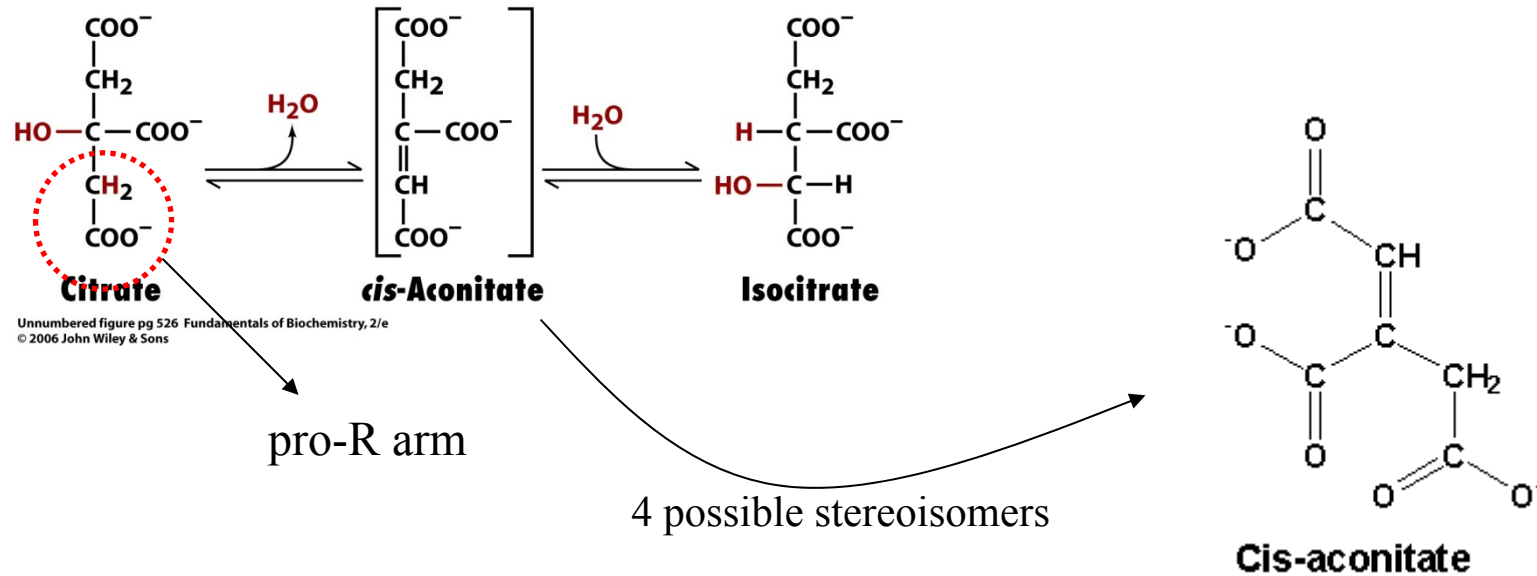
Reversible isomerization of citrate and isocitrate with cis-aconitate as an intermediate

Dehydration and rehydration

Citrate: pro-chiral compound

Isocitrate: chiral compound

[4Fe-4S] iron-sulfur cluster: (normally involve in redox reactions)



# NAD<sup>+</sup>-dependent isocitrate dehydrogenase

There is a mammalian isozyme that depends on NADP<sup>+</sup> (cytosolic and unrelated to citric acid cycle)

Oxidative decarboxylation (similar to phosphogluconate dehydrogenase in PPP)

oxidation of secondary alcohol to ketone

decarboxylation of  $\beta$ -carboxyl group

polarization of carbonyl group by Mn<sup>2+</sup> (or Mg<sup>2+</sup>)

first CO<sub>2</sub> generation

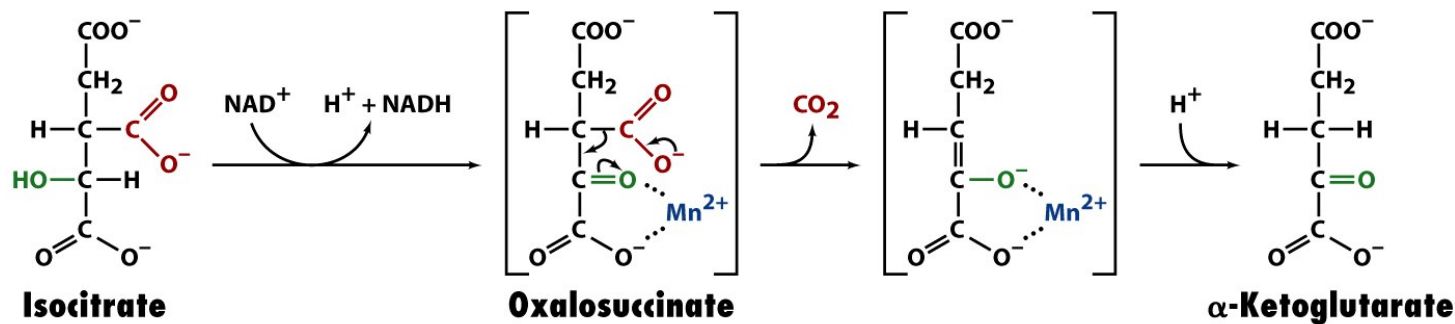


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Transient ( $\beta$ -keto acid is unstable)

# $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate dehydrogenase

Oxidative decarboxylation of  $\alpha$ -keto acid

Second  $\text{CO}_2$  generation

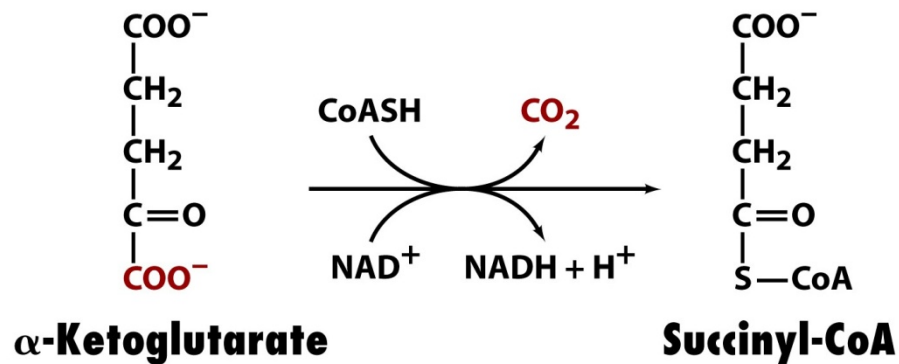
Chemically resemble the reaction by PDH

Multienzyme complex

$\alpha$ -ketoglutarate dehydrogenase (E1)

Dihydrolipoyl transsuccinylase (E2)

Dihydrolipoyl dehydrogenase (E3): identical to the E3 of PDH



# Succinyl-CoA synthetase

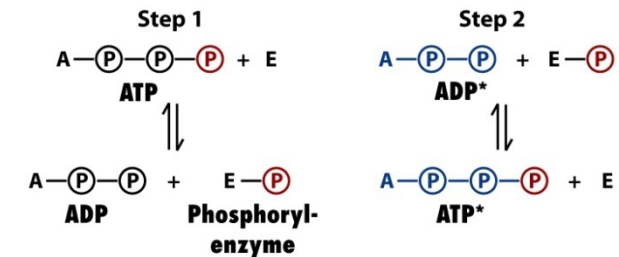
Succinate thiokinase

Generation of GTP (high-E succinyl-CoA):  
substrate level phosphorylation

How?

Phosphoryl enzyme intermediate: passing of a hot potato

One acetyl equivalent is completely oxidized to two CO<sub>2</sub>  
Generation of two NADH + one GTP



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Isotope exchange reaction

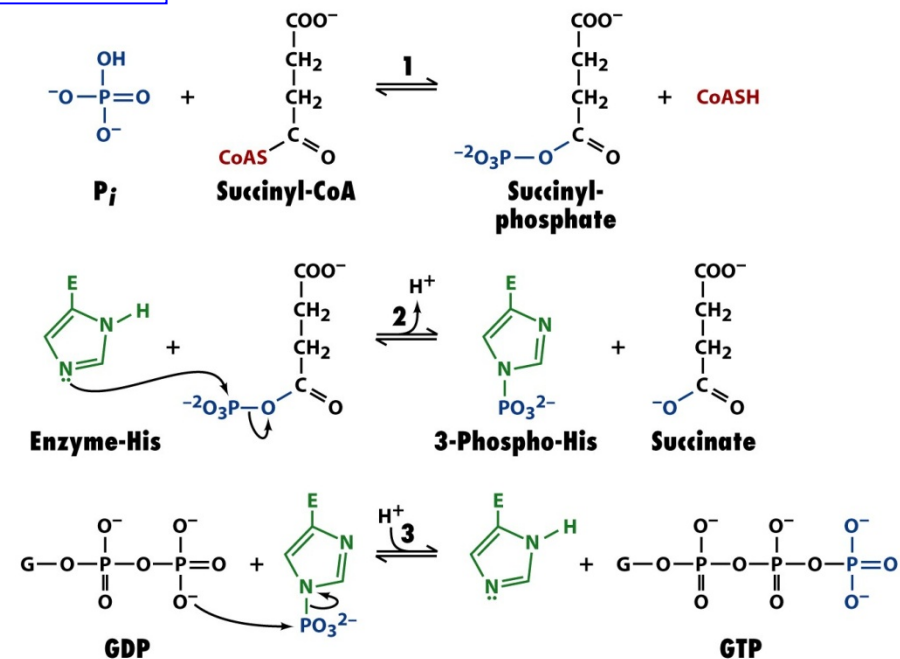


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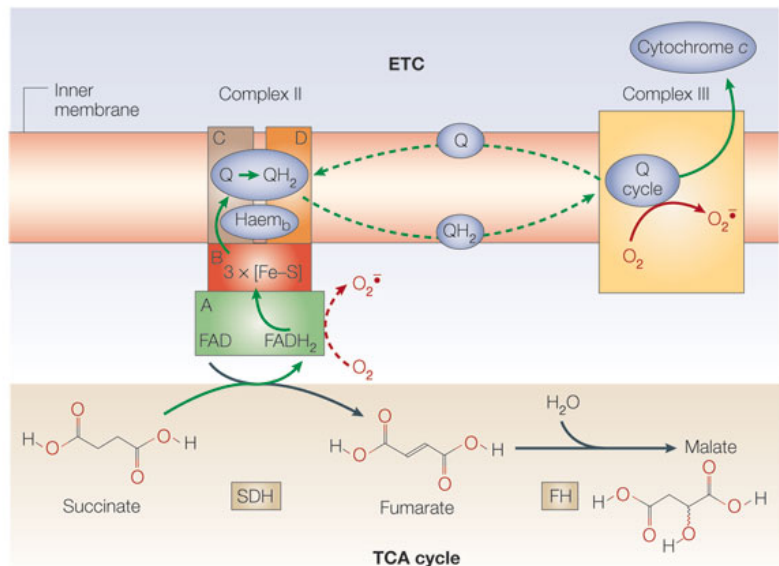
# Succinate dehydrogenase

Stereospecific dehydrogenation of succinate (alkane) to fumarate (alkene)

Inhibited by malonate

FAD prosthetic group

Only membrane bound enzyme  
to funnel electrons to ETS



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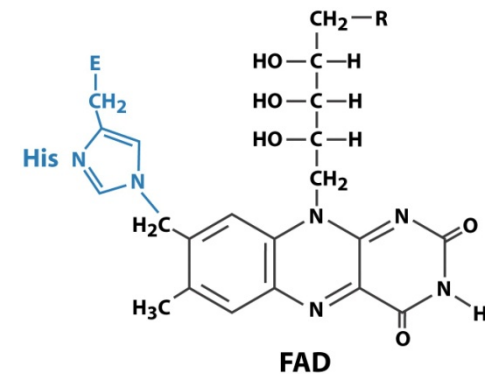
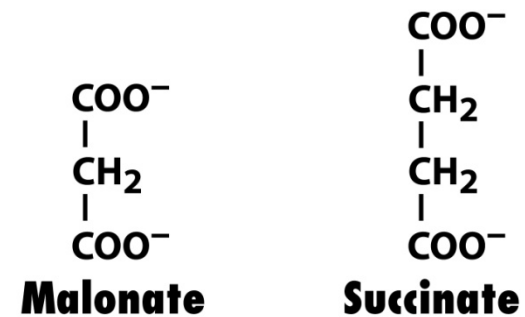


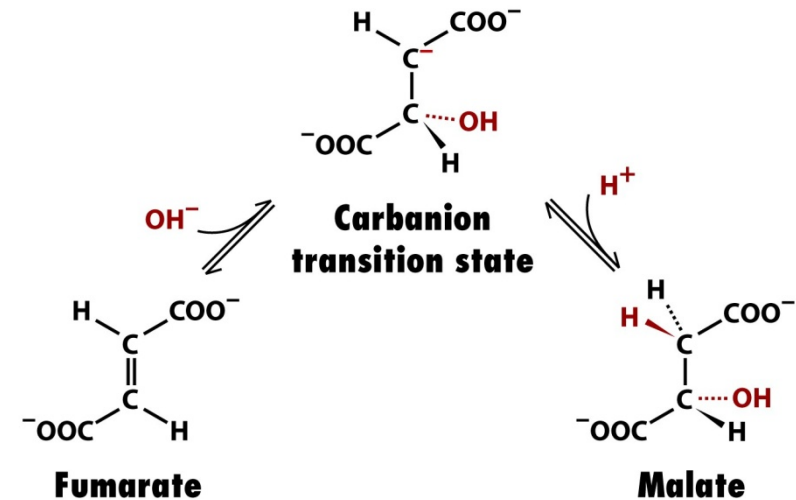
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## Fumarase (fumarate hydratase)

Hydration of the double bond to form malate via carbanion transition state

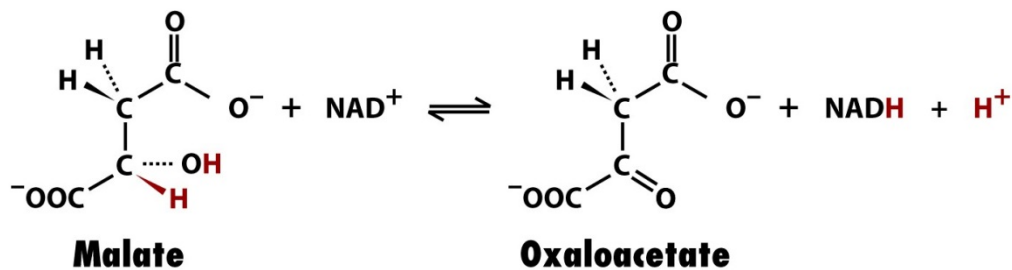


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## Malate dehydrogenase

Regeneration of oxaloacetate

The same catalytic reaction with ADH & LDH



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