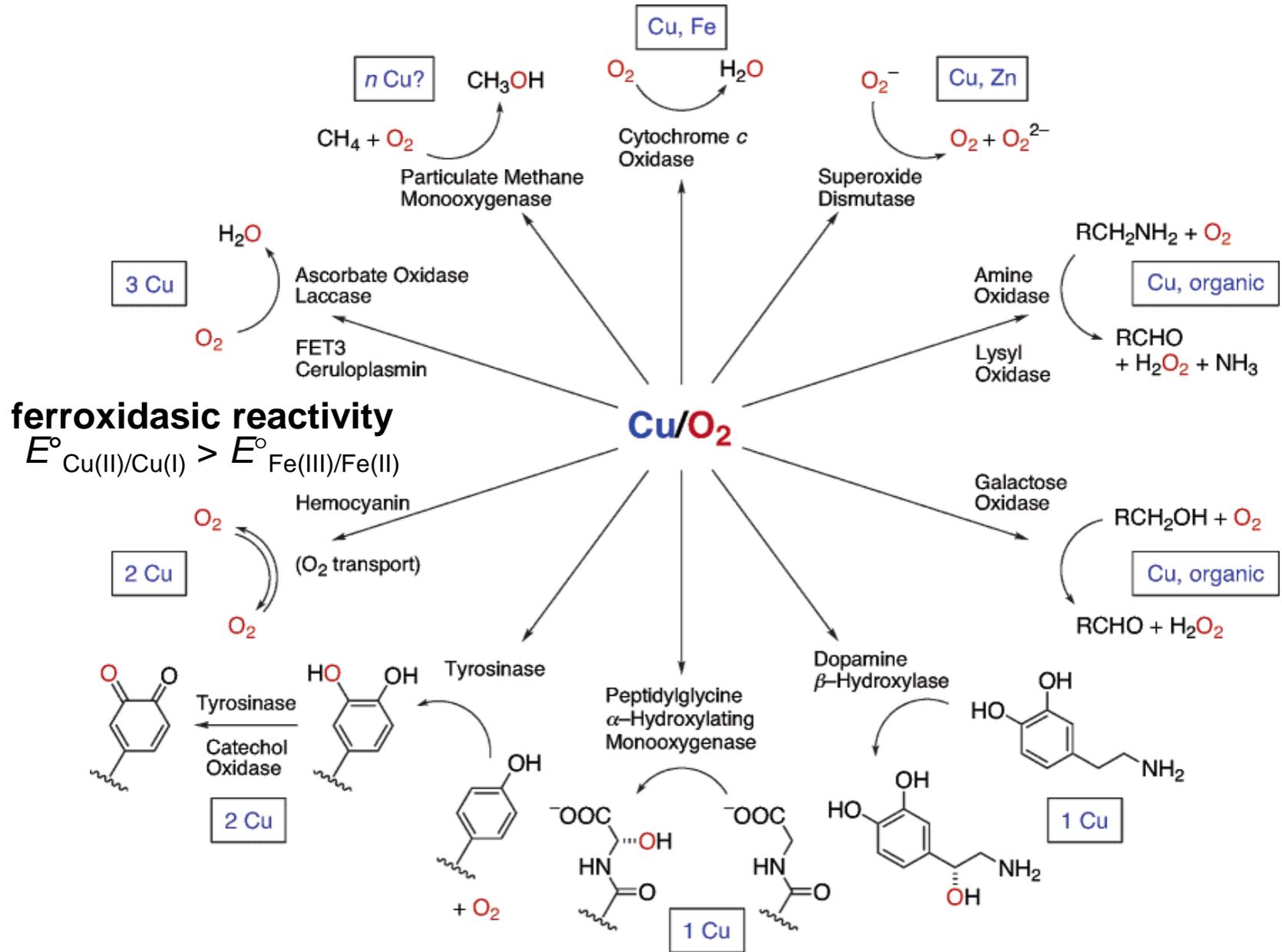
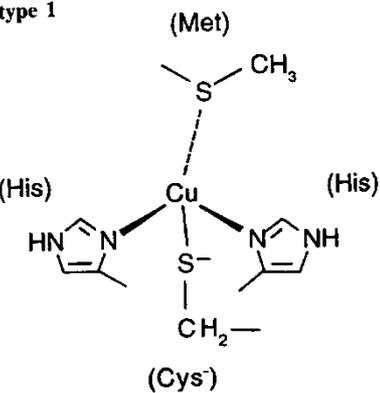
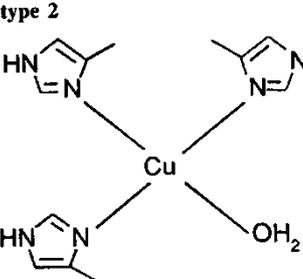
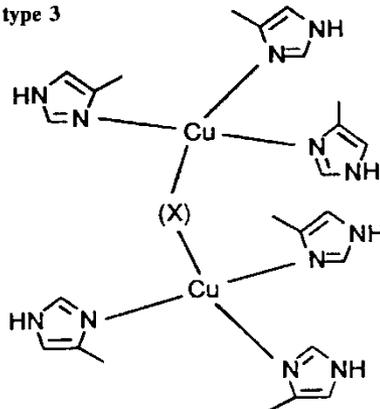


# Copper proteins

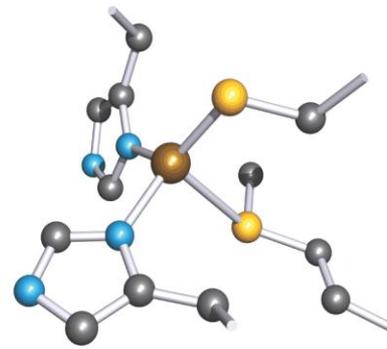
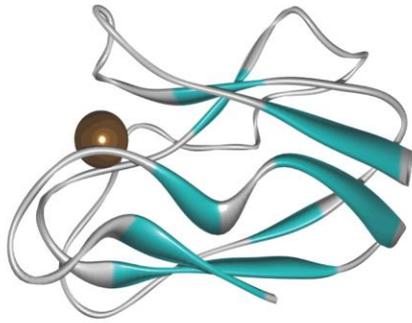


**Table 10.2** Characteristics of 'classical' copper centers in protein

generalized coordination geometry	function, structure, characteristics
<p><b>type 1</b></p> 	<p><b>type 1:</b> 'blue' copper centers  function: reversible electron transfer  <math>\text{Cu}^{\text{II}} + e^- \rightleftharpoons \text{Cu}^{\text{I}}</math>  structure: strongly distorted, (3+1) coordination  absorption of the copper(II) form at about 600 nm, molar extinction coefficient <math>\epsilon &gt; 2000 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}</math>; LMCT transition <math>\text{S}(\text{Cys}^-) \rightarrow \text{Cu}^{\text{II}}</math>  EPR/ENDOR of the oxidized form: small <math>^{63,65}\text{Cu}</math> hyperfine coupling and g anisotropy, interaction of the electron spin with <math>-\text{S}-\text{CH}_2^-</math>; <math>\text{Cu}^{\text{II}} \rightarrow \text{S}(\text{Cys})</math> spin delocalization</p>
<p><b>type 2</b></p> 	<p><b>type 2:</b> normal, 'non-blue' copper  function: <math>\text{O}_2</math> activation from the <math>\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}</math> state in cooperation with organic coenzymes  structure: essentially planar with weak additional coordination (Jahn-Teller effect for <math>\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}</math>)  typically weak absorptions of <math>\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}</math>, <math>\epsilon &lt; 1000 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}</math>; ligand-field transitions (<math>d \rightarrow d</math>)  normal <math>\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}</math> EPR</p>
<p><b>type 3</b></p> 	<p><b>type 3:</b> copper dimers  function: <math>\text{O}_2</math> uptake from the <math>\text{Cu}^{\text{I}}\text{-Cu}^{\text{I}}</math> state  structure: (bridged) dimer, Cu-Cu distance about 360 pm after <math>\text{O}_2</math> uptake intense absorptions around 350 and 600 nm, <math>\epsilon \approx 20000</math> and <math>1000 \text{ M}^{-1}\text{cm}^{-1}</math>; LMCT transitions <math>\text{O}_2^{2-} \rightarrow \text{Cu}^{\text{II}}</math>  EPR-inactive <math>\text{Cu}^{\text{II}}</math> form (antiferromagnetically coupled <math>d^9</math> centers)</p>

**Plastocyanin**  
(from spinach)

10.5 kDa,  
ca. 100 a.a.

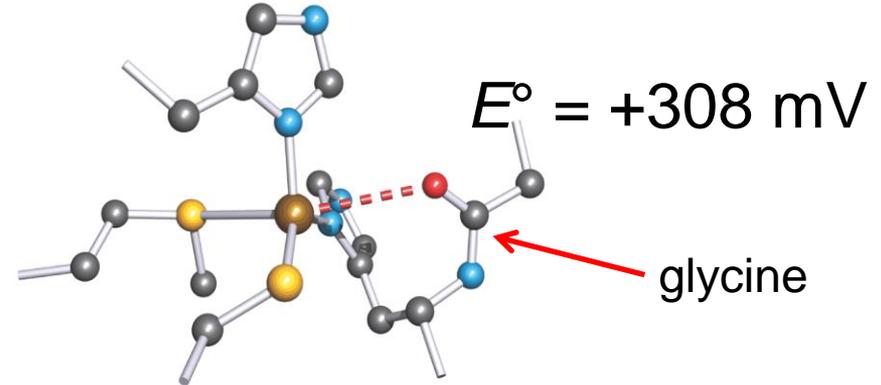
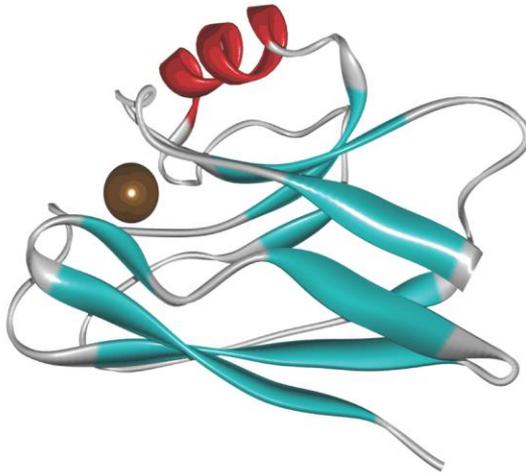


$$E^{\circ} = +370 \text{ mV}$$

3 + 1 coordination

**Azurin**  
(from bacteria)

14.5 kDa,  
ca. 130 a.a.



$$E^{\circ} = +308 \text{ mV}$$

glycine

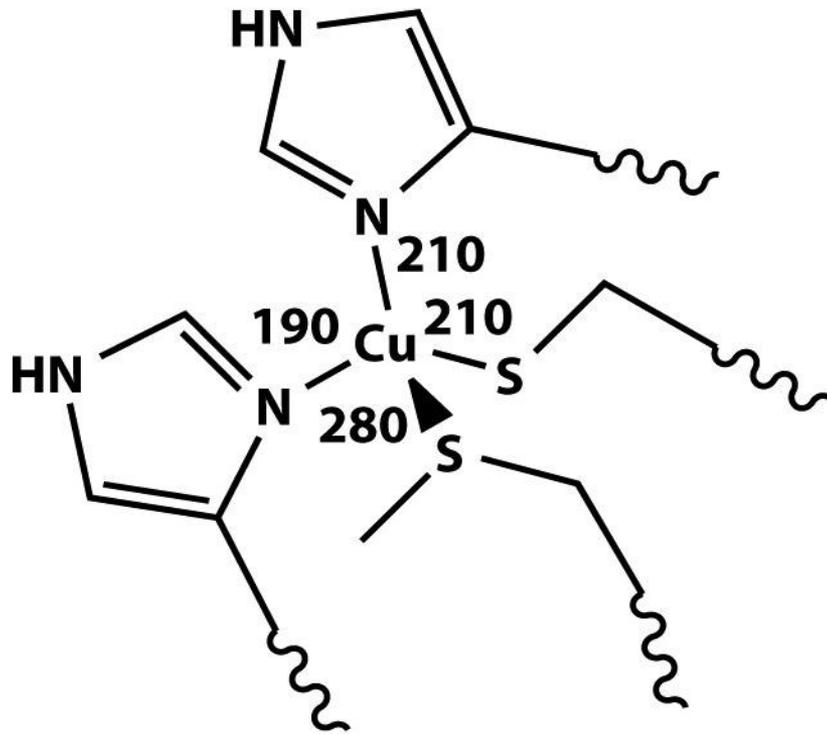
$$E^{\circ}_{\text{Cu(II)/Cu(I)}} \text{ (aquaion)} = +153 \text{ mV}$$

3 + 1 + 1 coordination

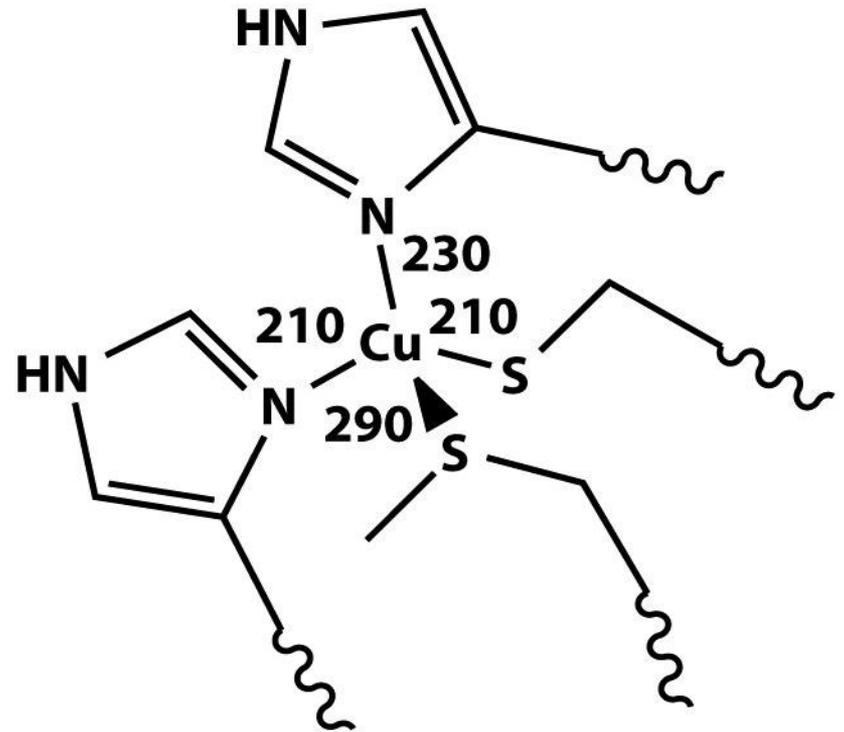
## *Blue copper proteins*

Strong absorption at ca. 600 nm, LMCT from Cys<sup>-</sup> to Cu(II)

# Example of entatic state



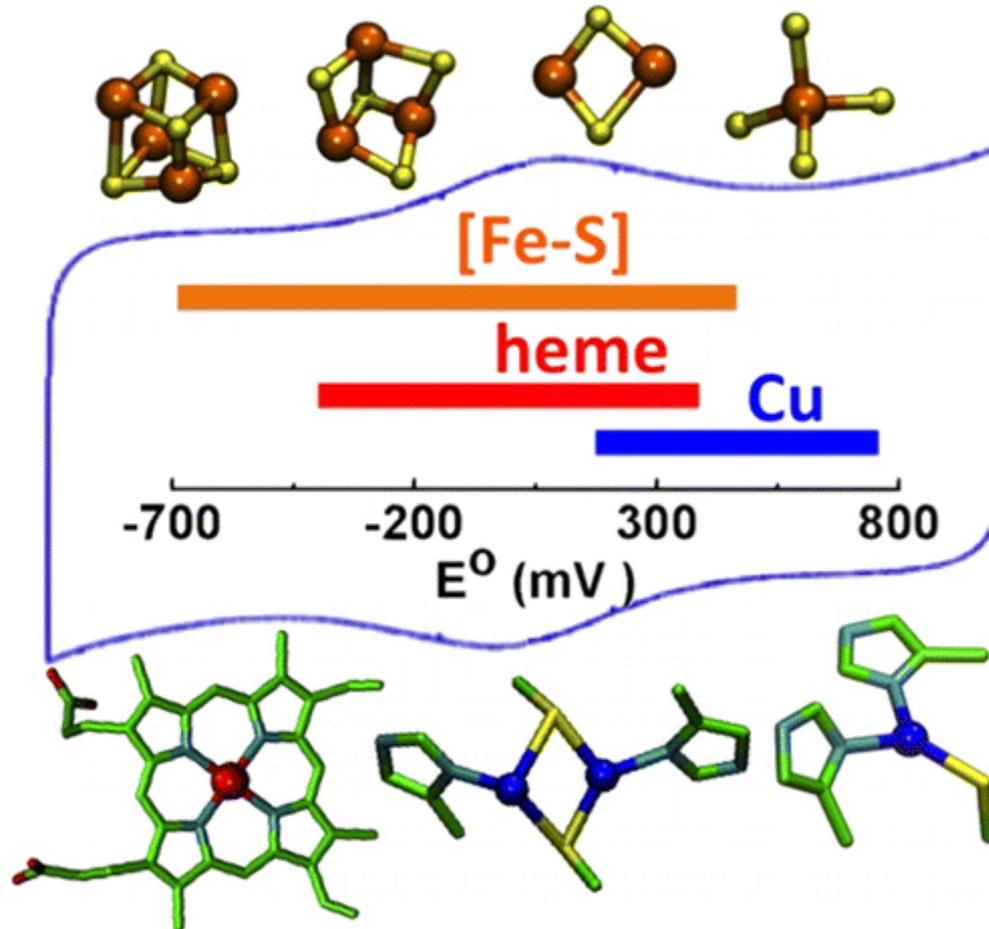
**Oxidized plastocyanin**



**Reduced plastocyanin**

*Blue-copper proteins are **very efficient electron transfer enzymes**. The rate for electron transfer is in the range  $10^3$ – $10^7$   $M^{-1} s^{-1}$  (compared to  $5 \times 10^{-7}$   $M^{-1} s^{-1}$  for the aquo redox couple  $Cu(II)/Cu(I)$ )*

# Metallo-proteins for electron transfer

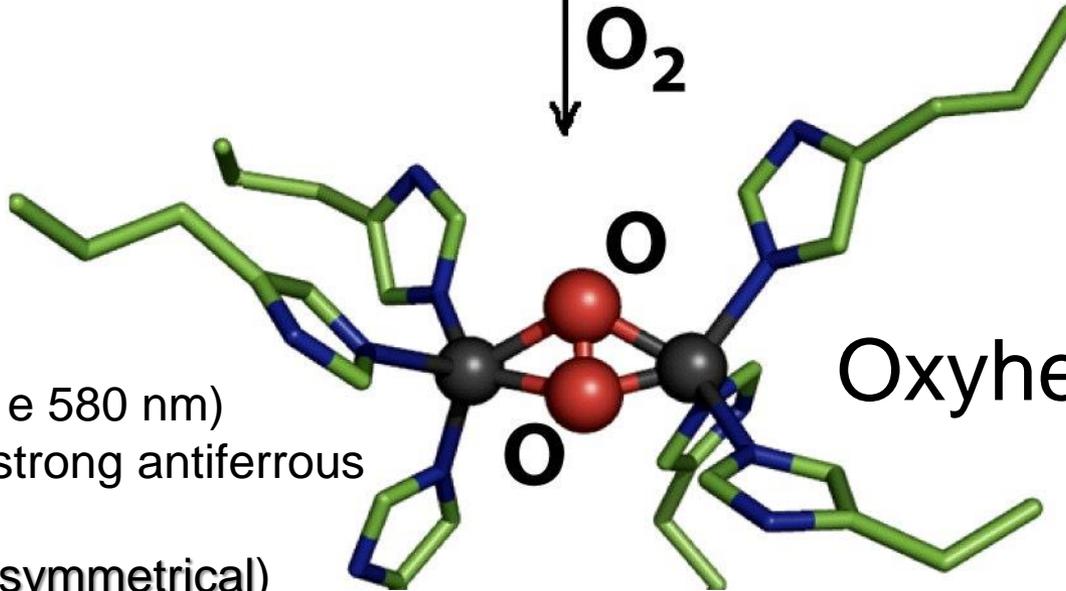
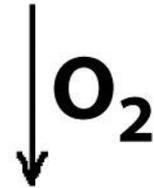
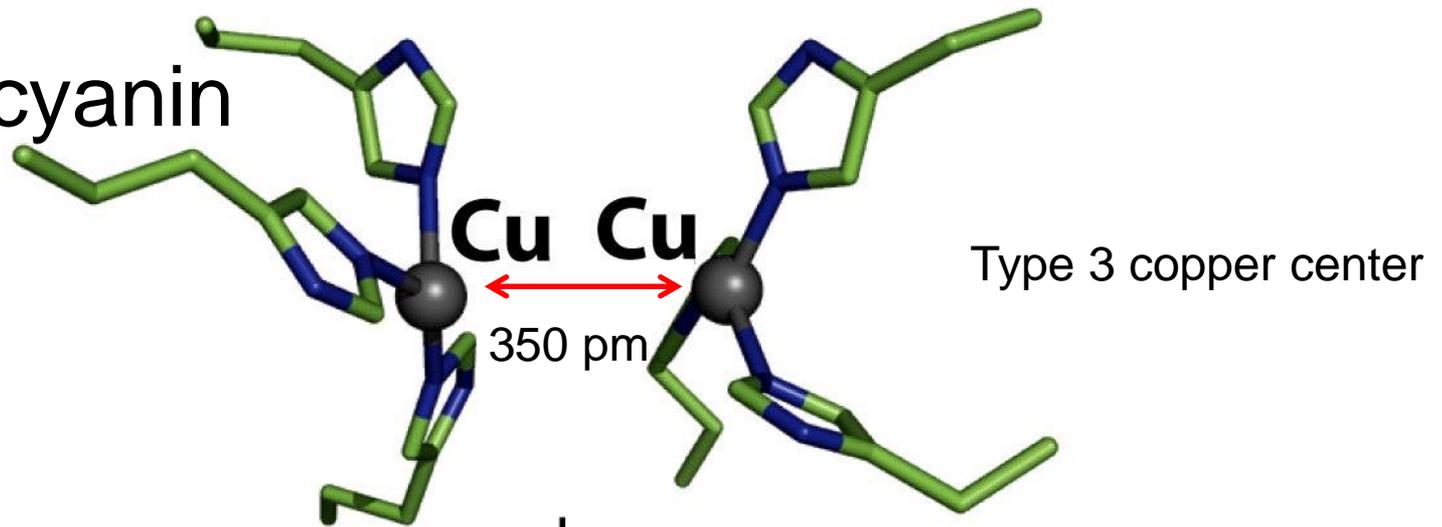


O<sub>2</sub> transport mediated by Cu-proteins:  
Hemocyanin

# Hemocyanin

Up to 1500 kDa,  
Each unit 75 kDa

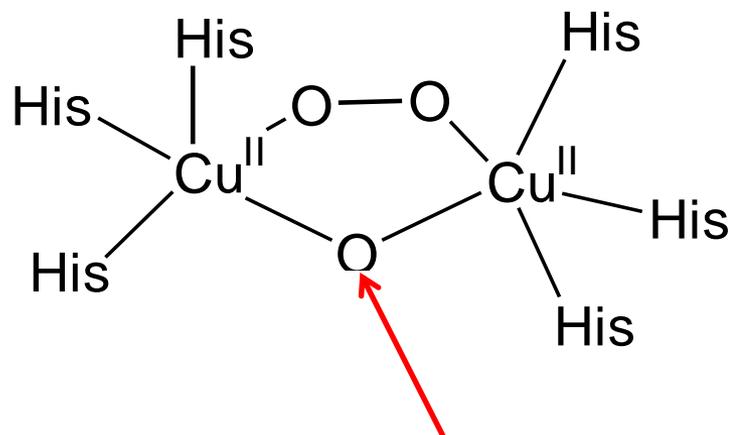
Colorless  
2 Cu(I) ( $S = 0$ )



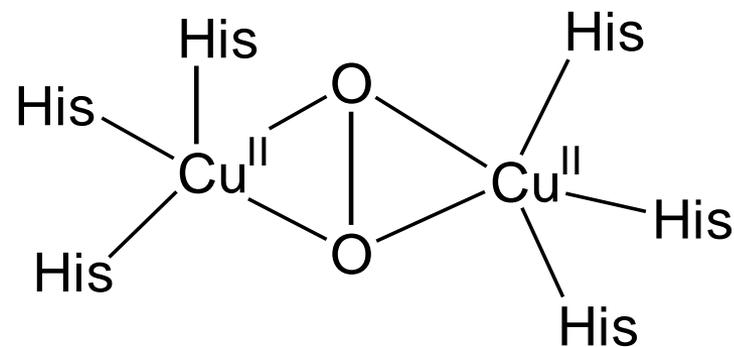
Purple (LMCT 350 e 580 nm)  
2 Cu(II) (diamag., strong antiferrous  
coupling)  
IR:  $755\text{ cm}^{-1}$  ( $O_2^{2-}$ , symmetrical)

$O_2$  transport in molluscs (snails, squids) e arthropods  
(crabs, lobsters, shrimps, scorpions)

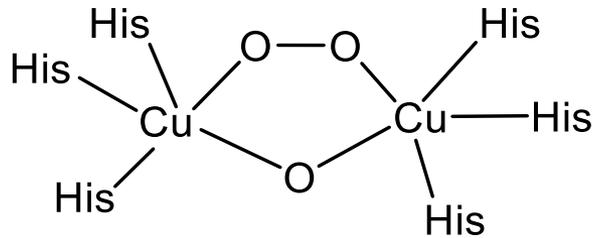
# Possible symmetrical coordination modes of peroxide ion



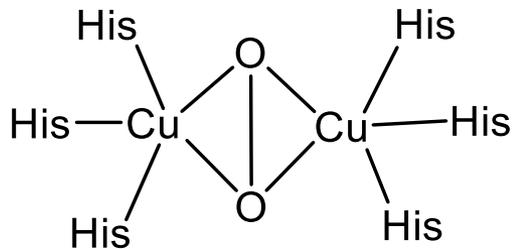
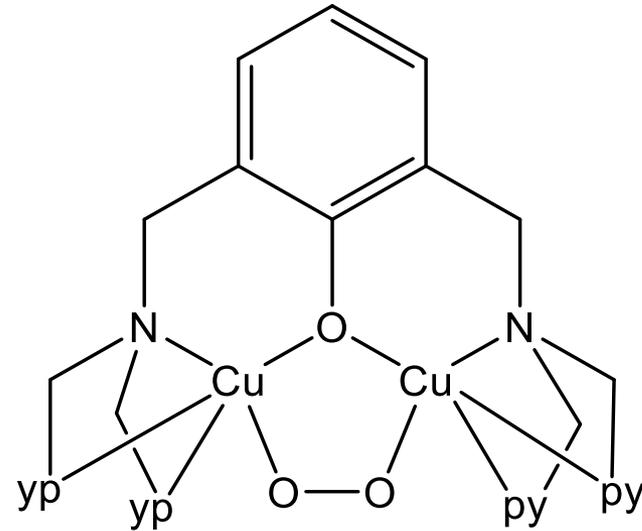
tyrosinate?



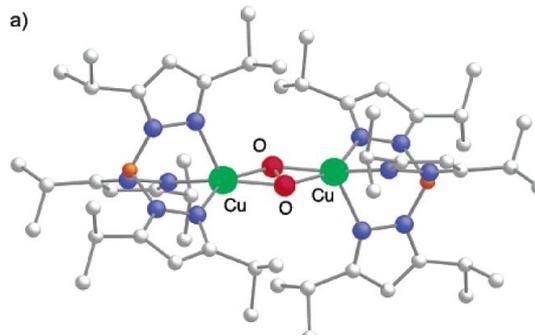
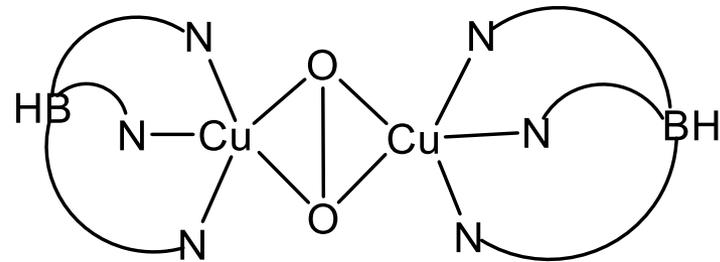
# Models for O<sub>2</sub> binding to hemocyanin



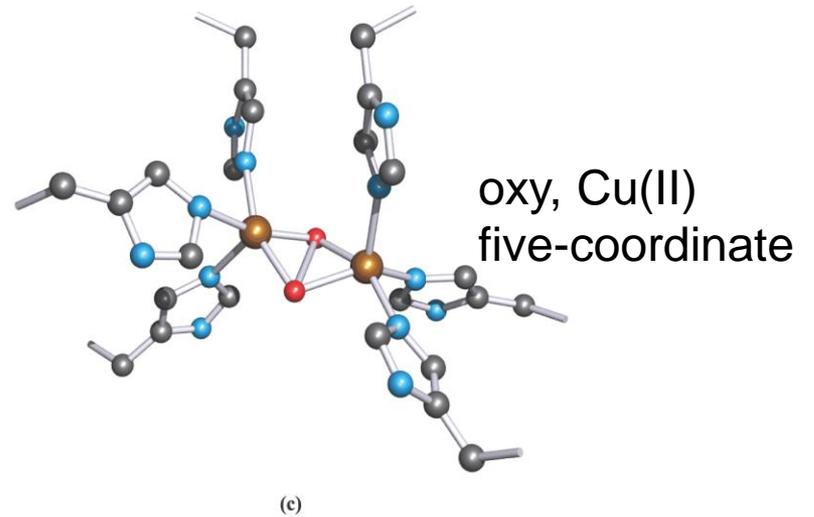
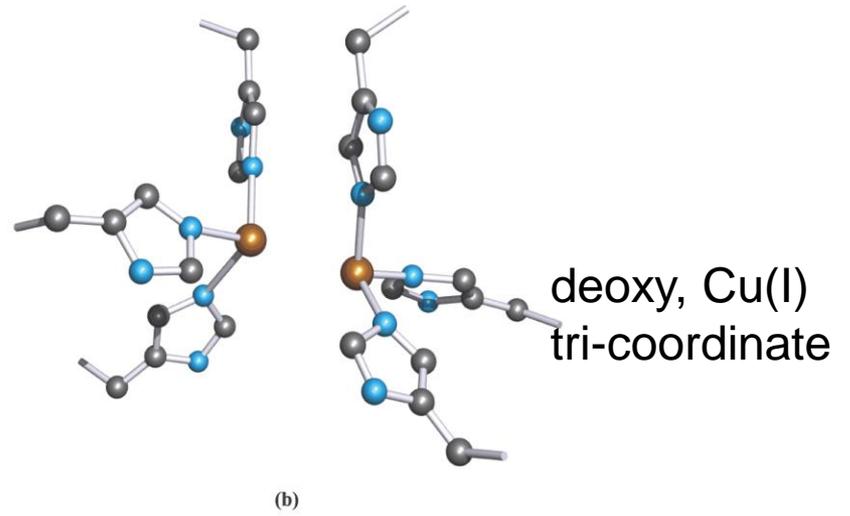
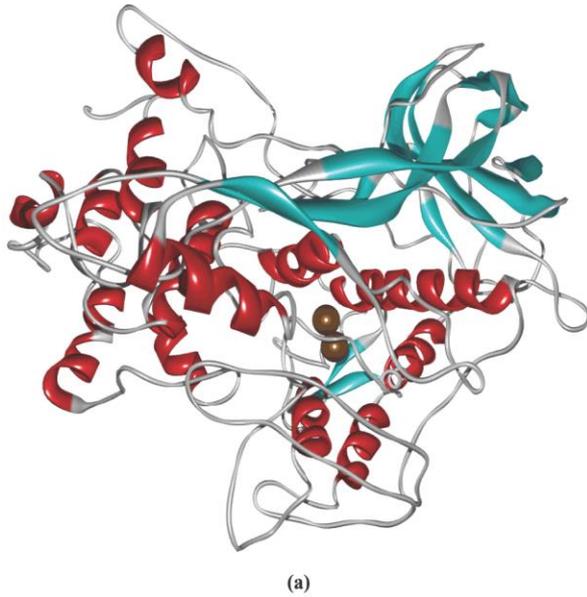
Wrong hypothesis

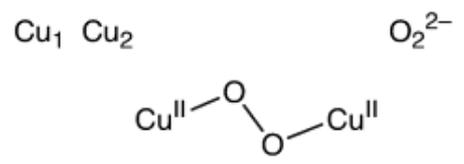
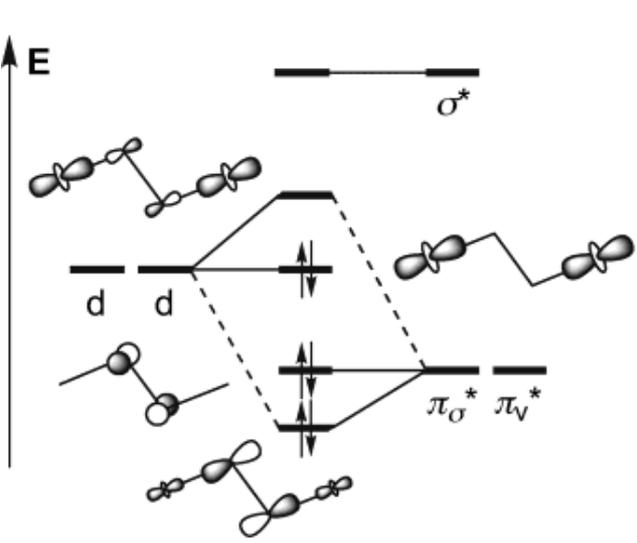


Correct hypothesis <sup>a)</sup>

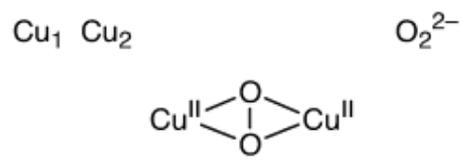
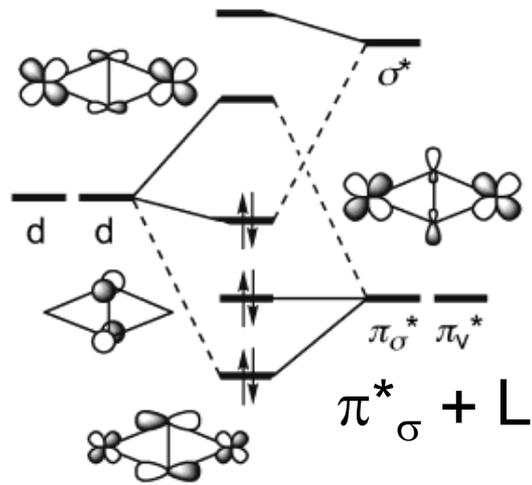
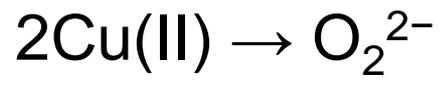


# Hemocyanin

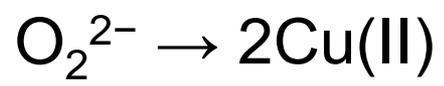




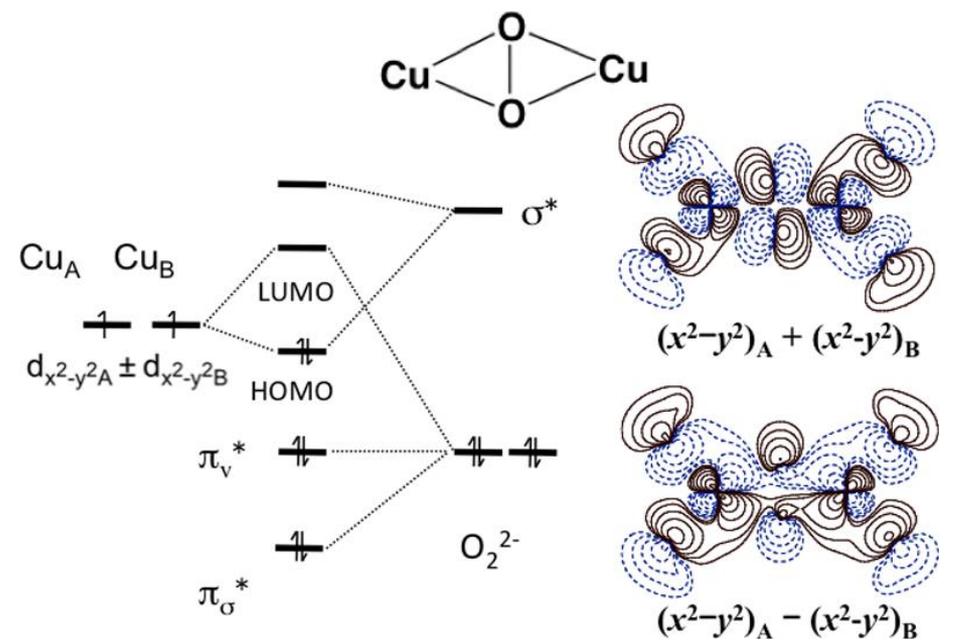
$\sigma^* + \text{HOMO Cu } (d_{x^2-y^2} - d_{x^2-y^2})$



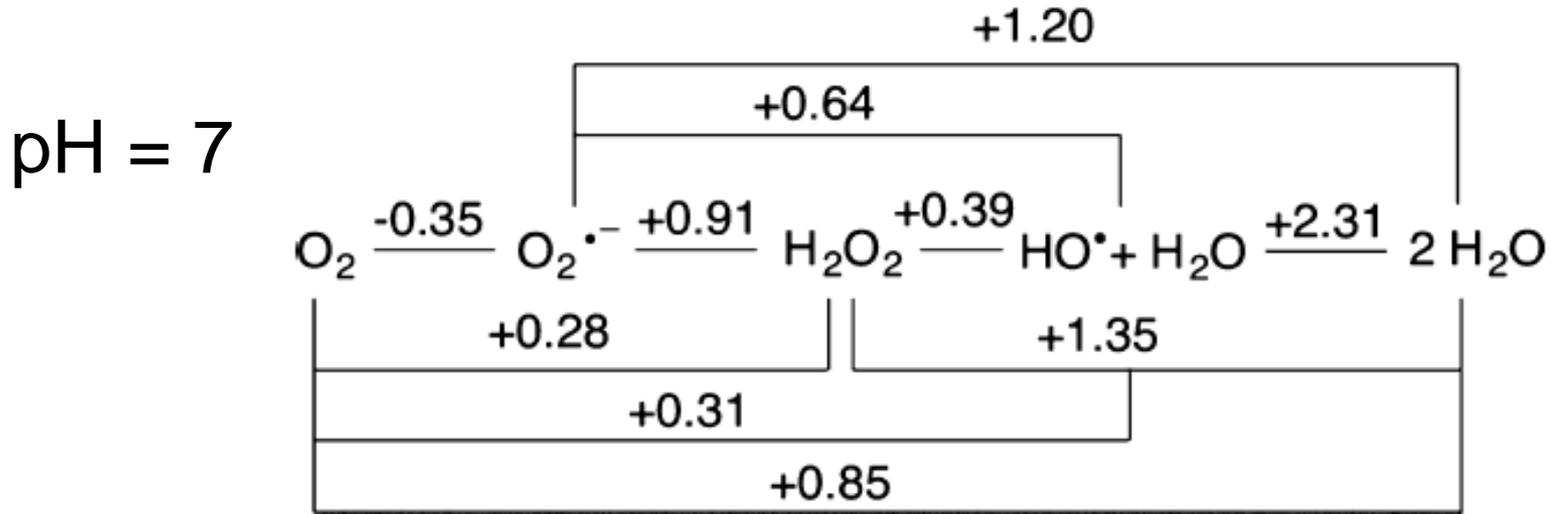
$\pi^*_{\sigma} + \text{LUMO Cu } (d_{x^2-y^2} + d_{x^2-y^2})$



IR: 755 cm<sup>-1</sup> (O<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup>, symmetrical)



# Cu enzymes that activate or reduce O<sub>2</sub>

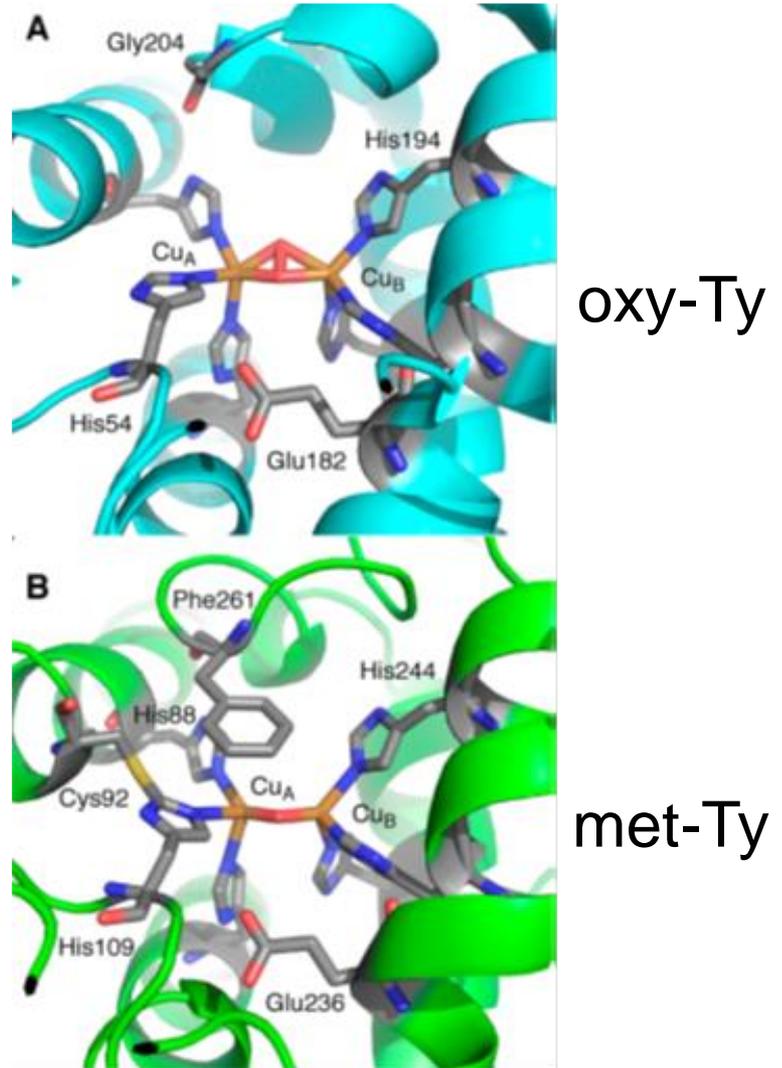
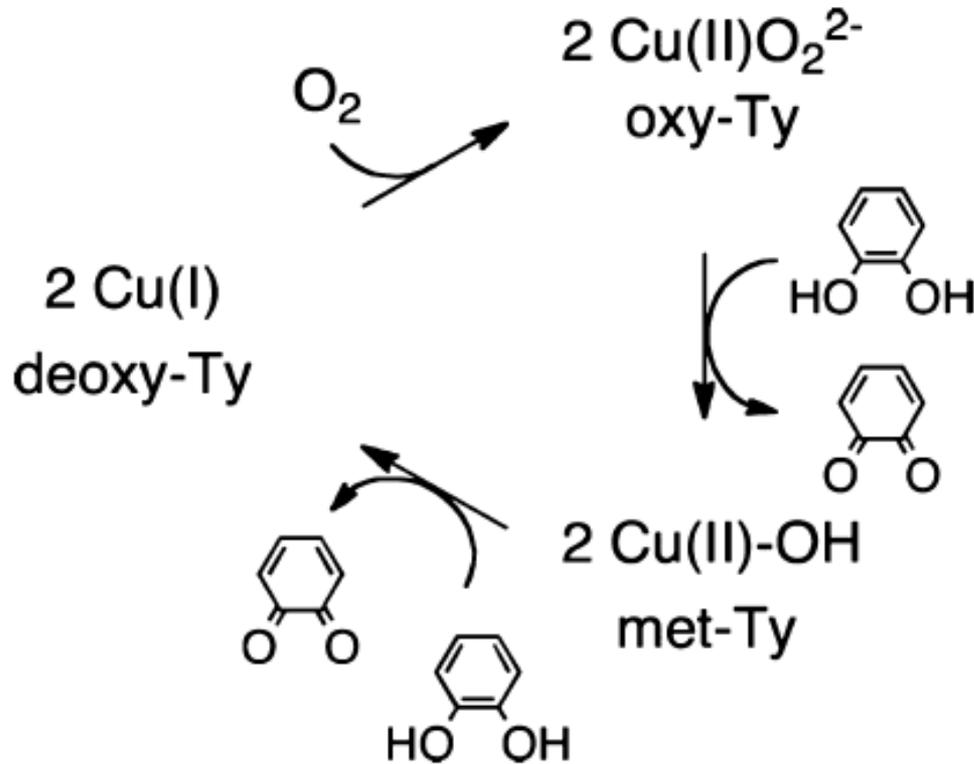
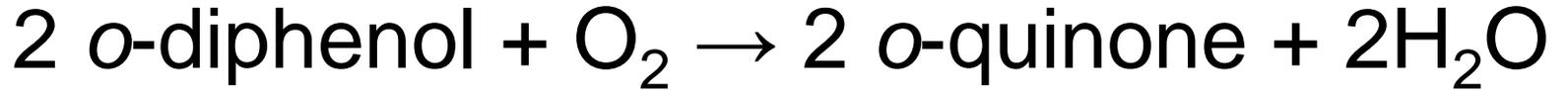


*...the mono-electron reduction of O<sub>2</sub> to superoxide is thermodynamically disfavored ( $E^{\circ} = -0.35$  V)*

*providing two electrons requires either the presence of at least two Cu ions or a Cu ion and a redox-active organic cofactor*

# Polyphenol oxidases

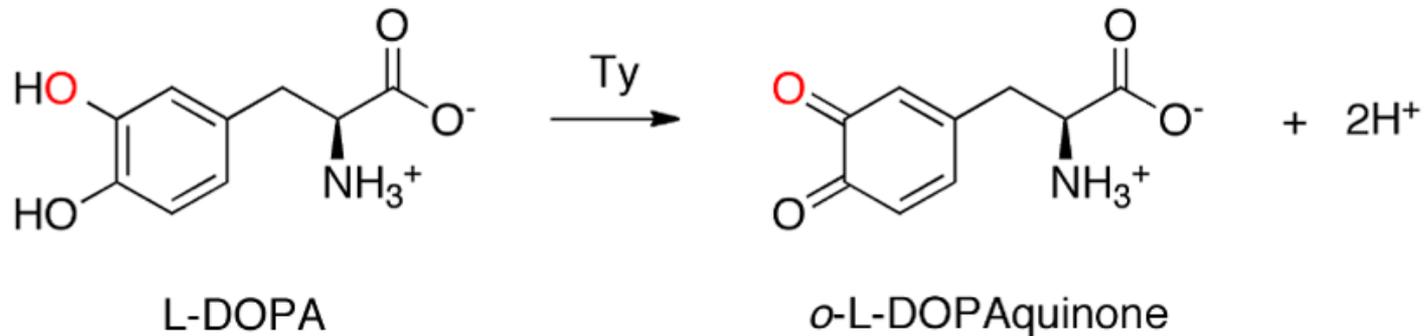
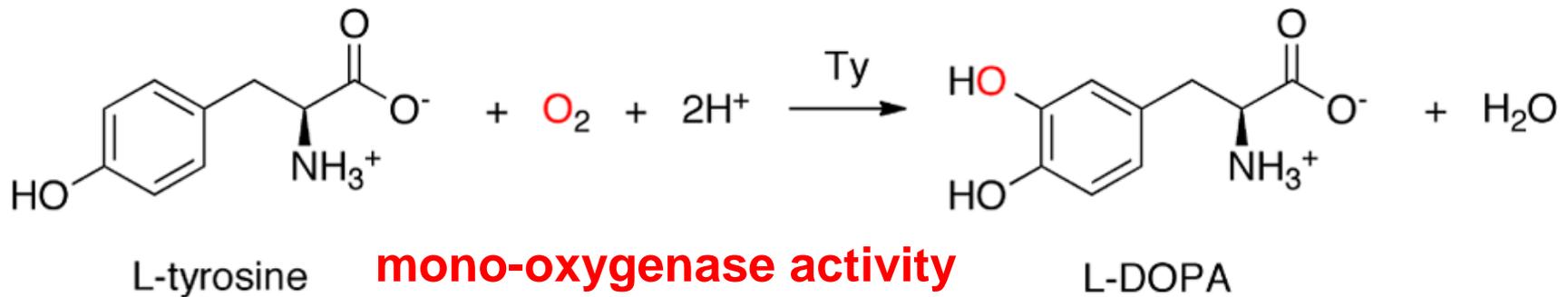
*Tyrosinase, Catechol-oxidase*



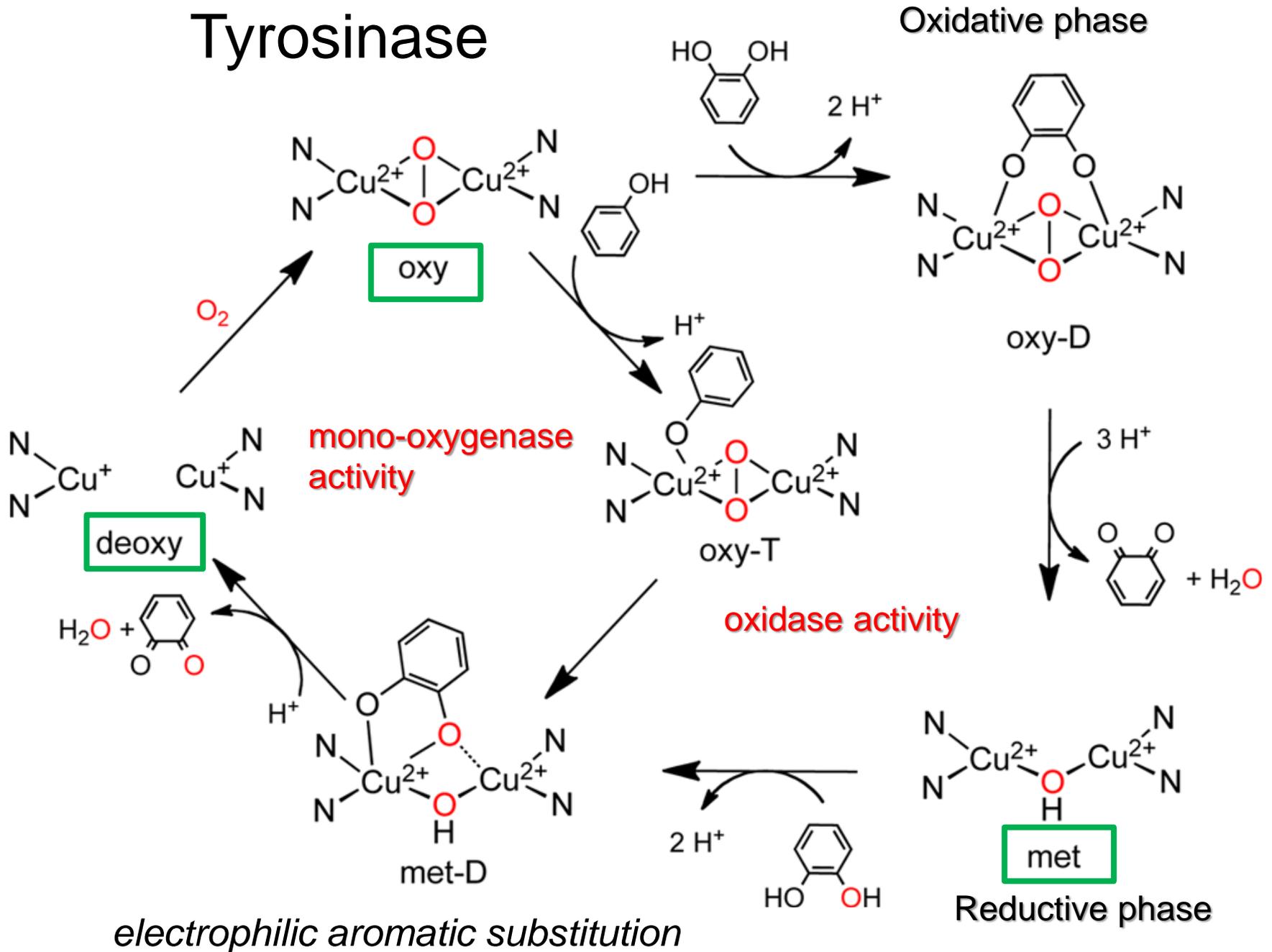
In the cycle 4 electrons get transferred to the two O atoms of  $\text{O}_2$  from two diphenol molecules

# Tyrosinase as a mono-oxygenase

*oxy-Ty is capable to convert both phenols to o-diphenols (oxygenase activity) and o-diphenols to o-quinones, met-T is capable to oxidize only o-diphenols to o-quinones*



# Tyrosinase



# Multicopper oxidases, MCOs (blue oxidases)

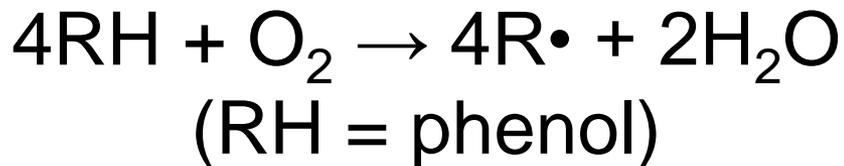
At least 4 Cu

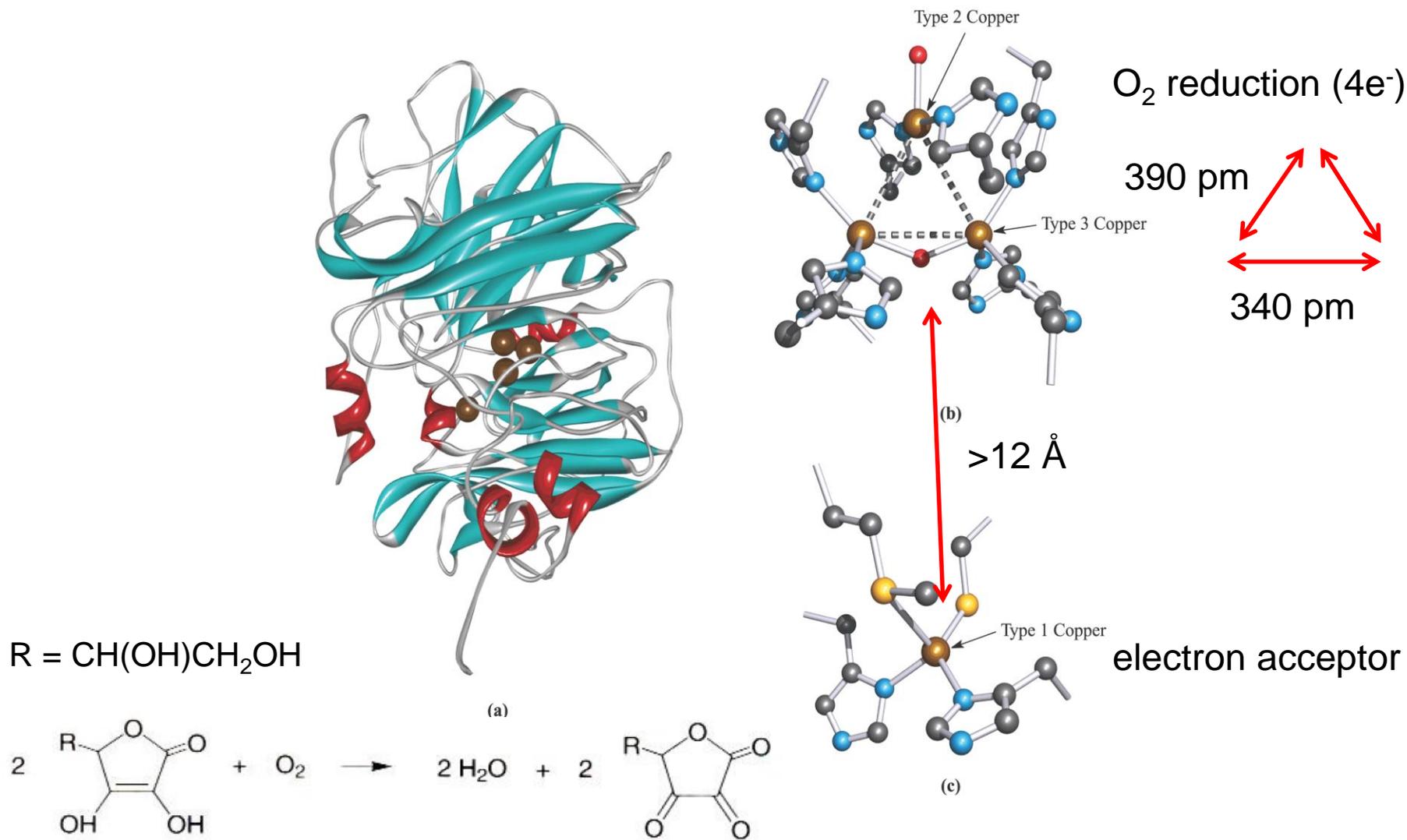
Organic substrates

Ascorbate oxidase  
Laccase  
+500 – +800 mV

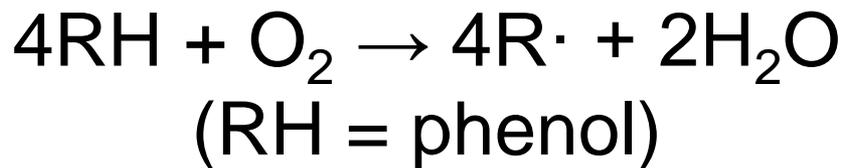
«Metallic» substrates

Ceruloplasmin  
Epestin  
Fet3p  
Copper-oxidase (CueO)

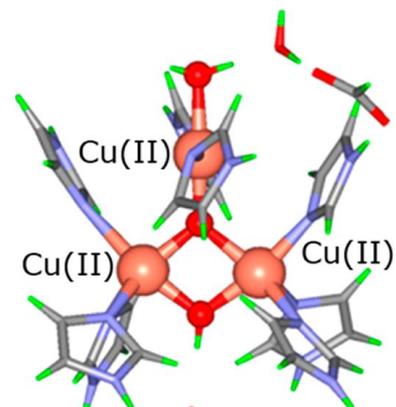
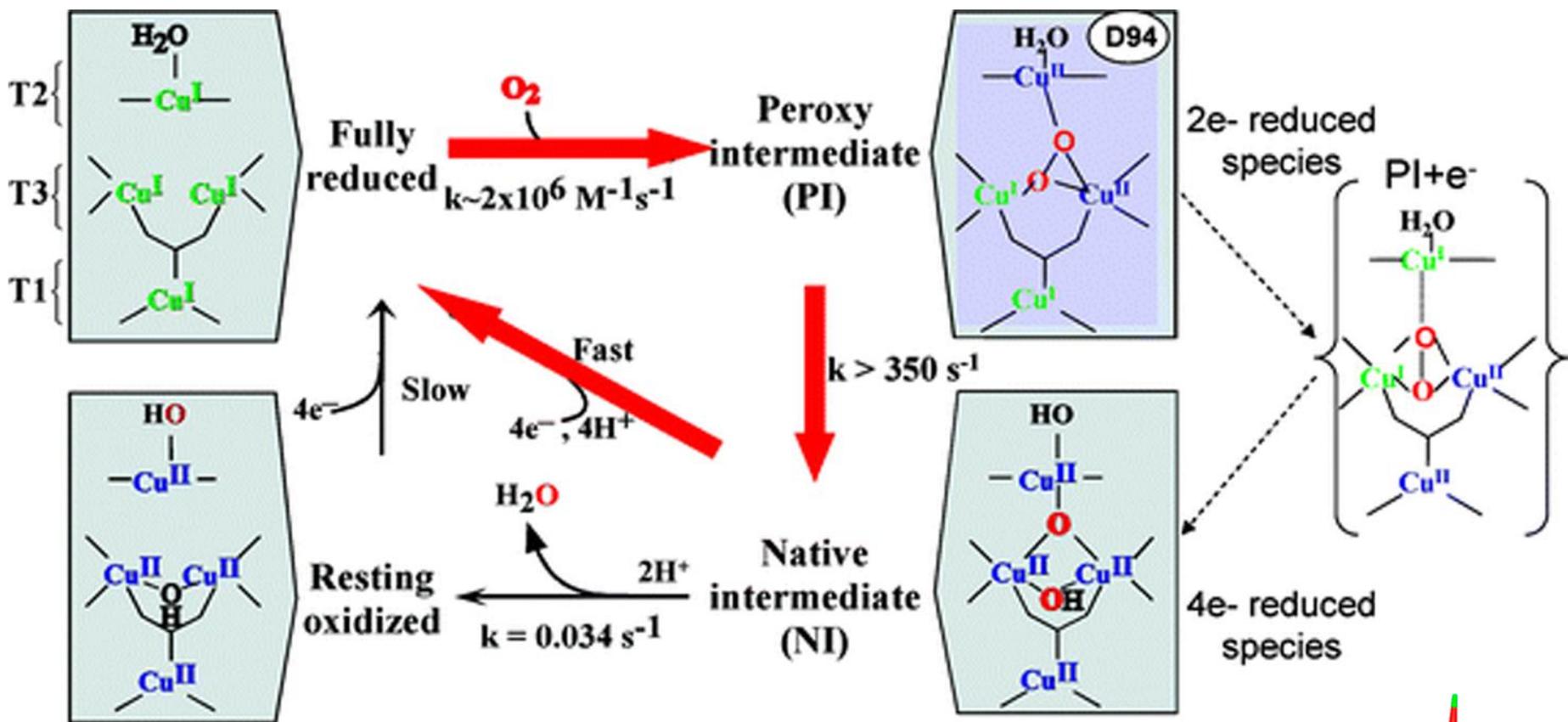




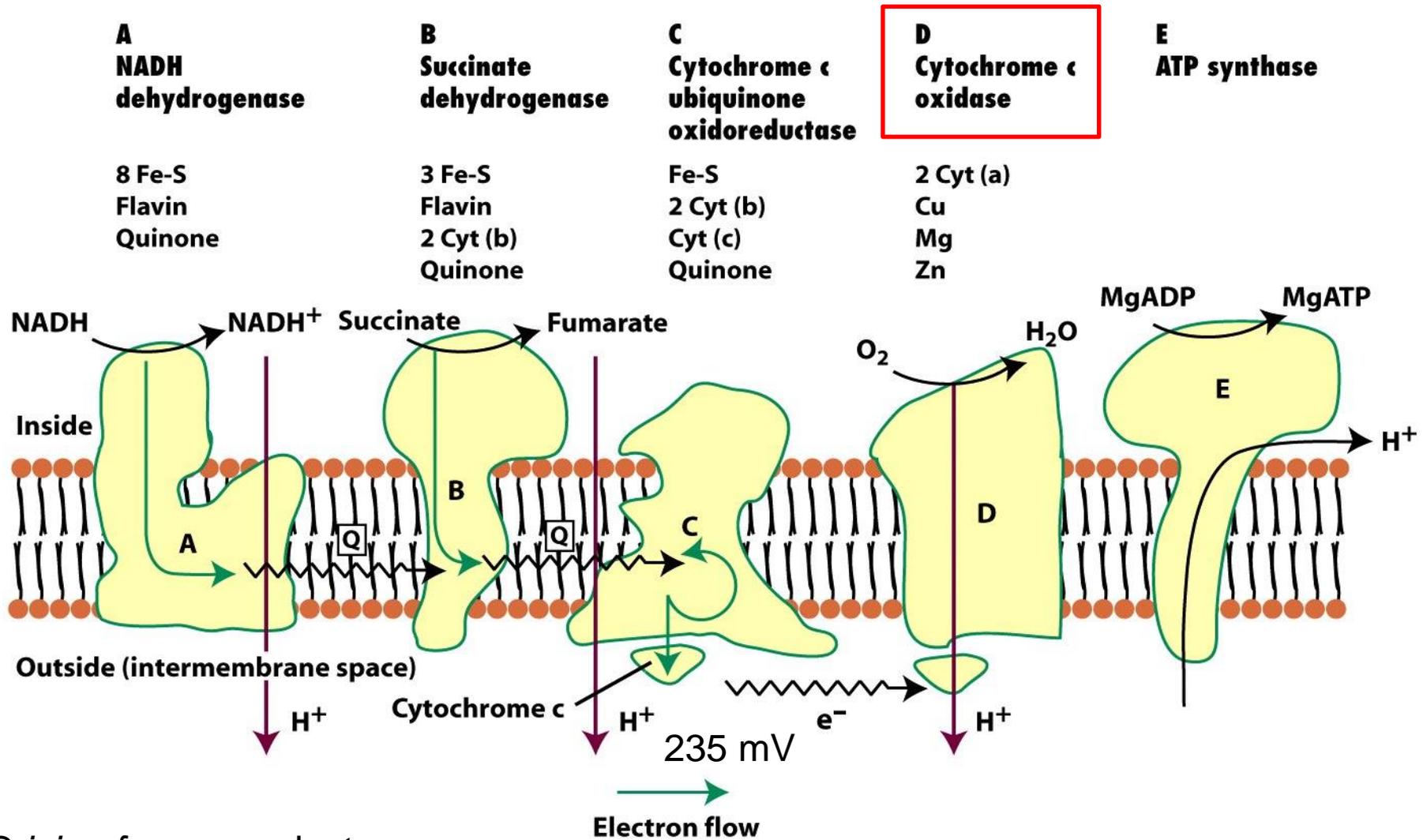
## Ascorbate oxidase (from squash)



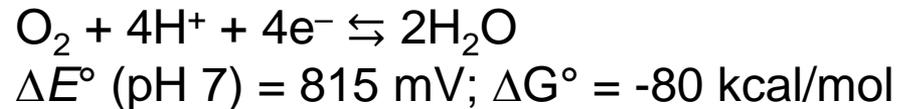
# Mechanism of action for multicopper oxidases



# Respiratory chain (oxidative phosphorylation)

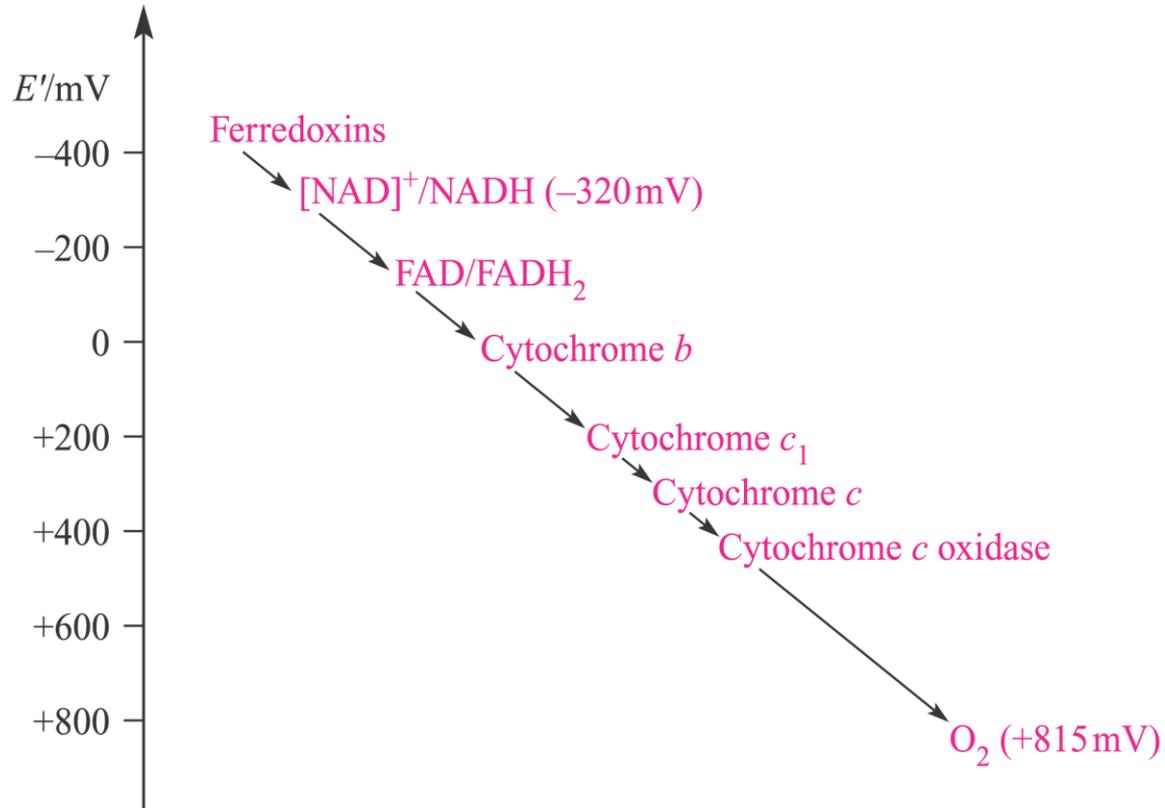


Driving force per electron:  
815 – 235 = 580 mV (ca. 13 kcal/mol)

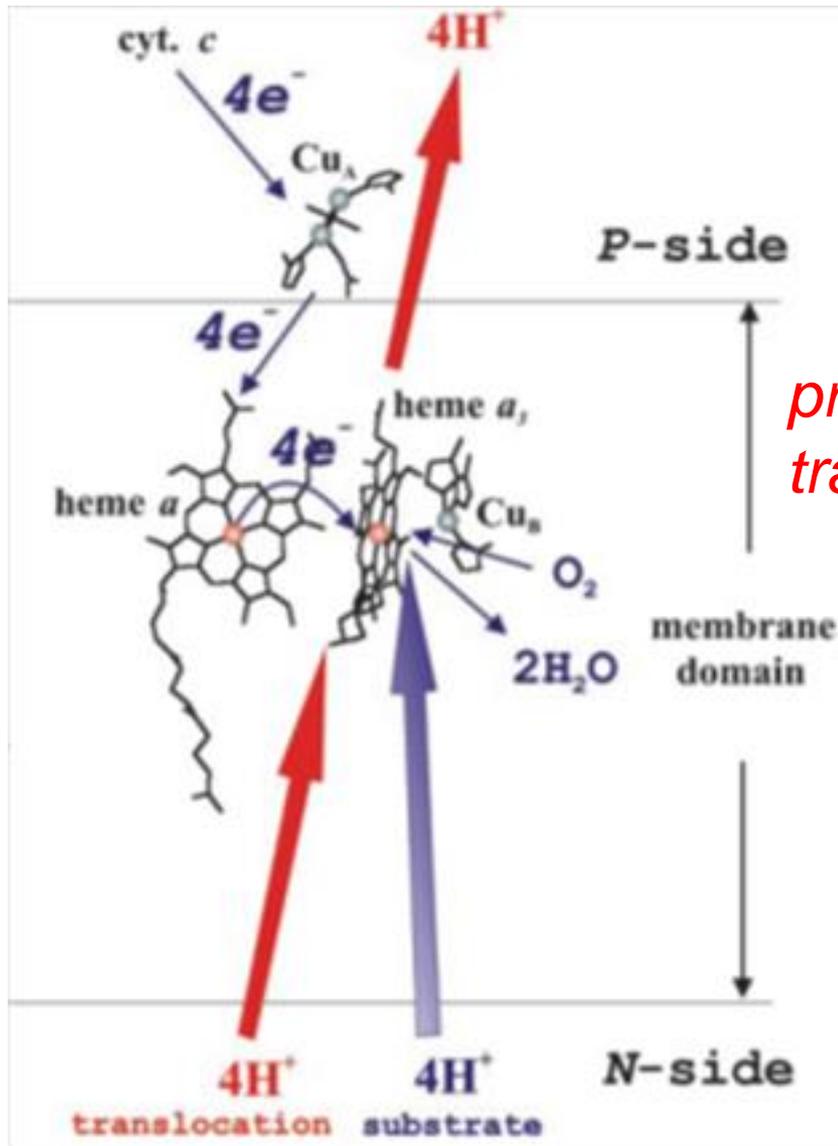


Oxidation of Fe<sup>2+</sup> in Cyt c

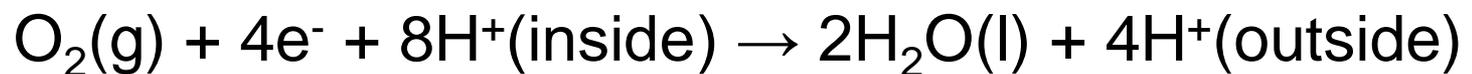
# The sequence of electron transfers in mitochondria



# Cytochrome c oxidase is also a proton pump

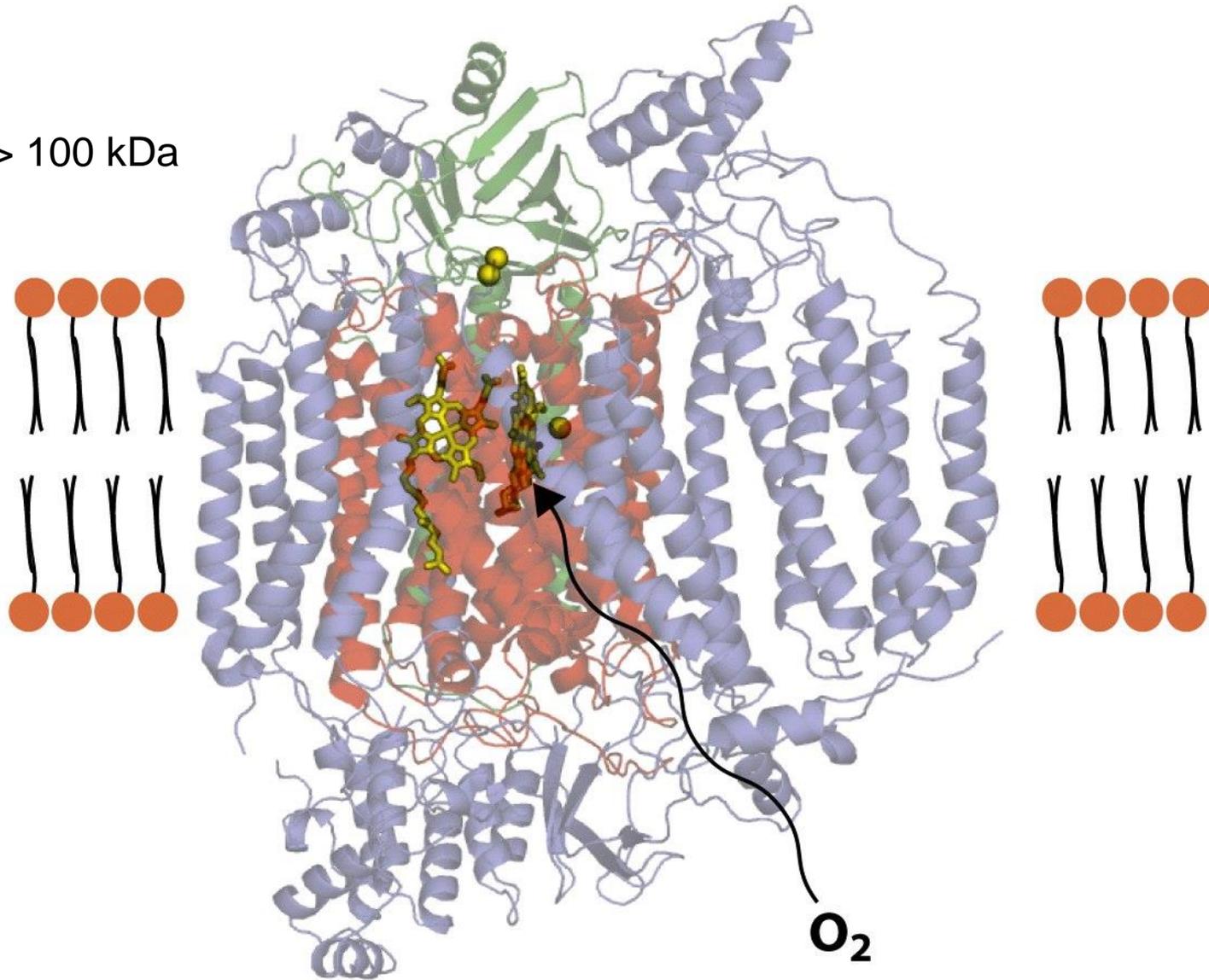


*proton coupled electron transfer, PCET*

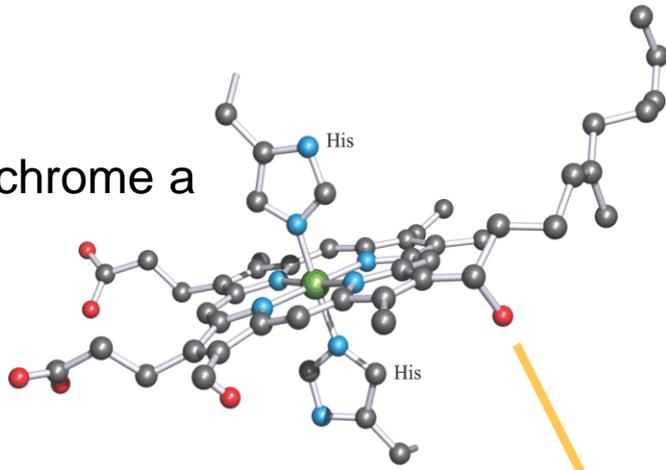


# Reacts with cytochrome C

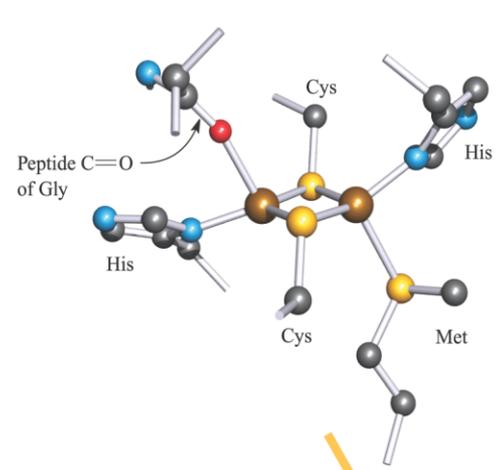
> 100 kDa



cytochrome a

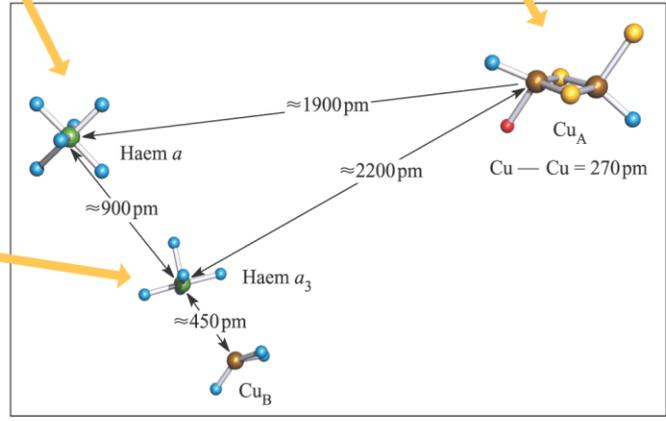
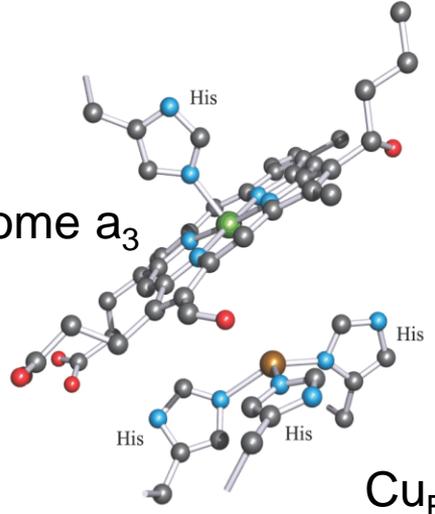


Peptide C=O  
of Gly

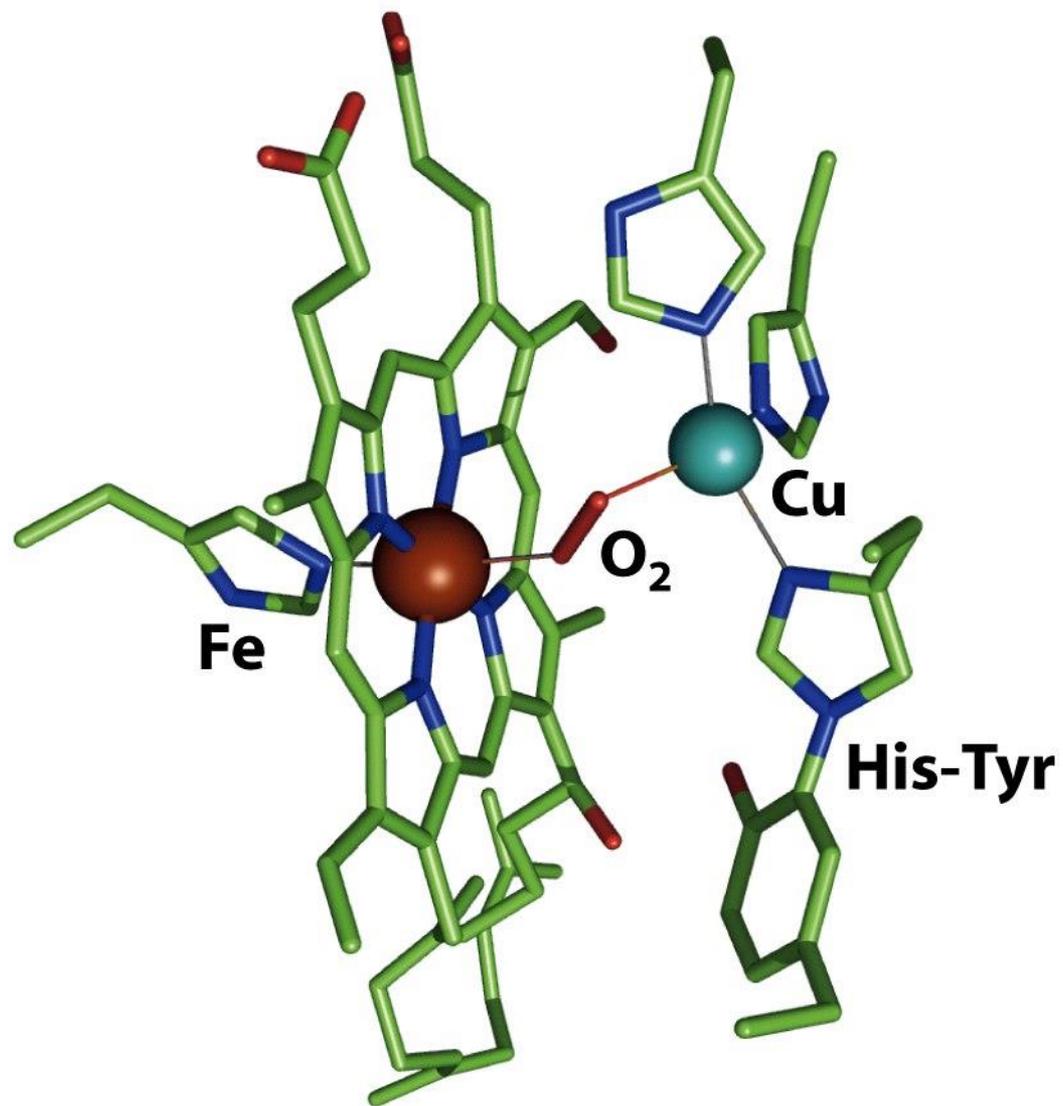


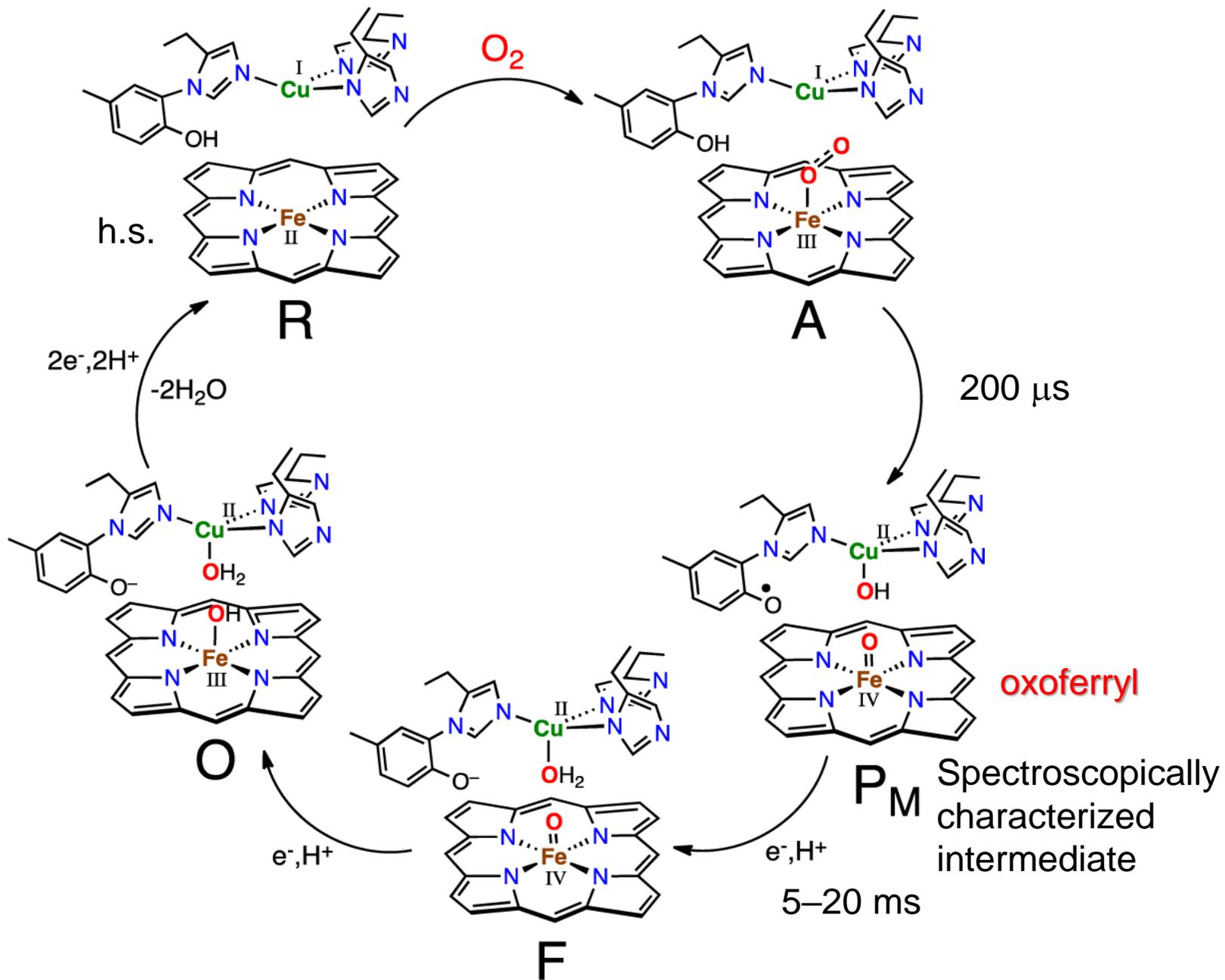
Cu<sub>A</sub>

cytochrome a<sub>3</sub>

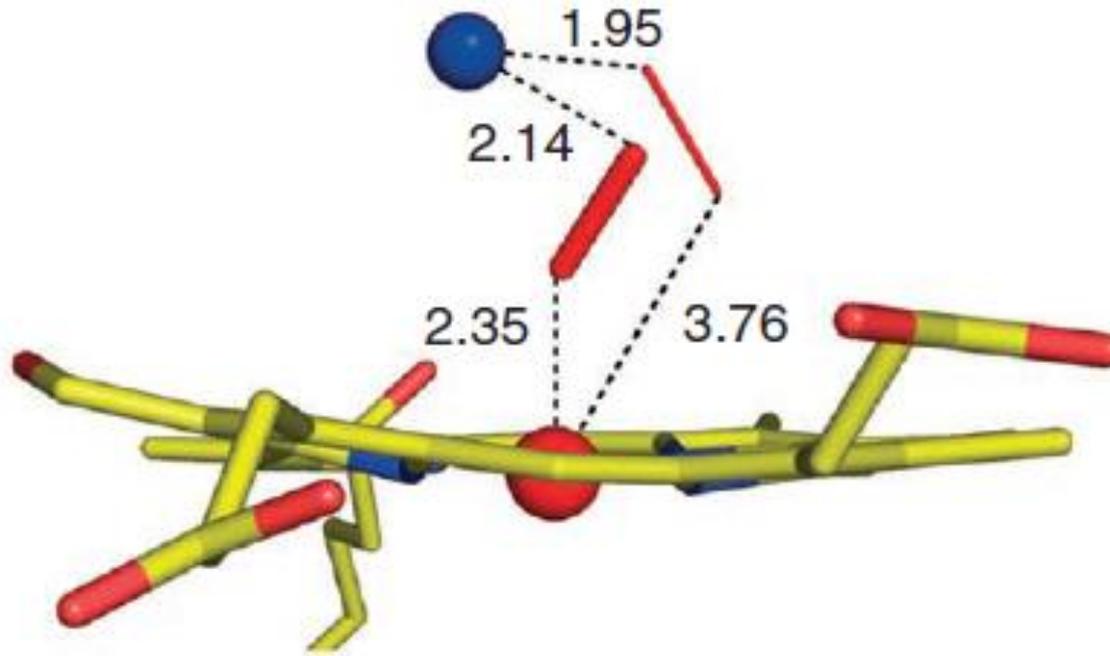


Cu<sub>B</sub> (type 2 copper)

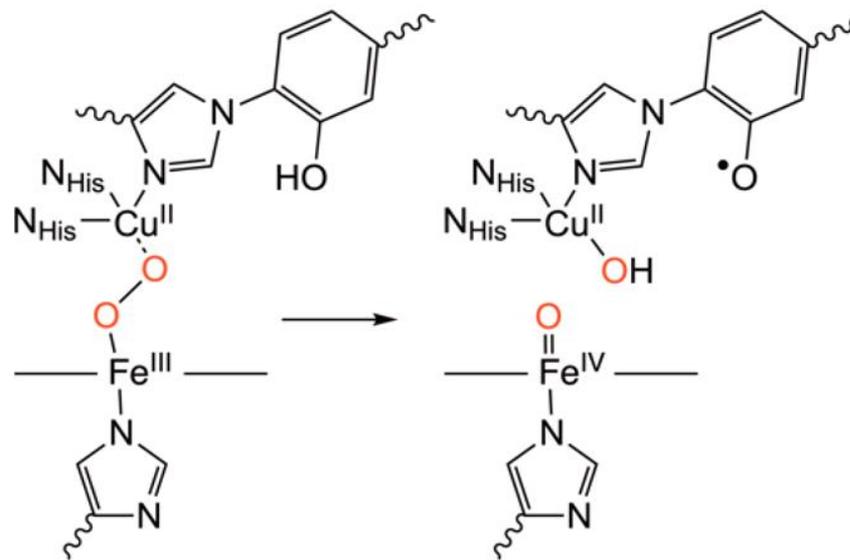




# Peroxide intermediate *X-ray free-electron laser (XFEL)*

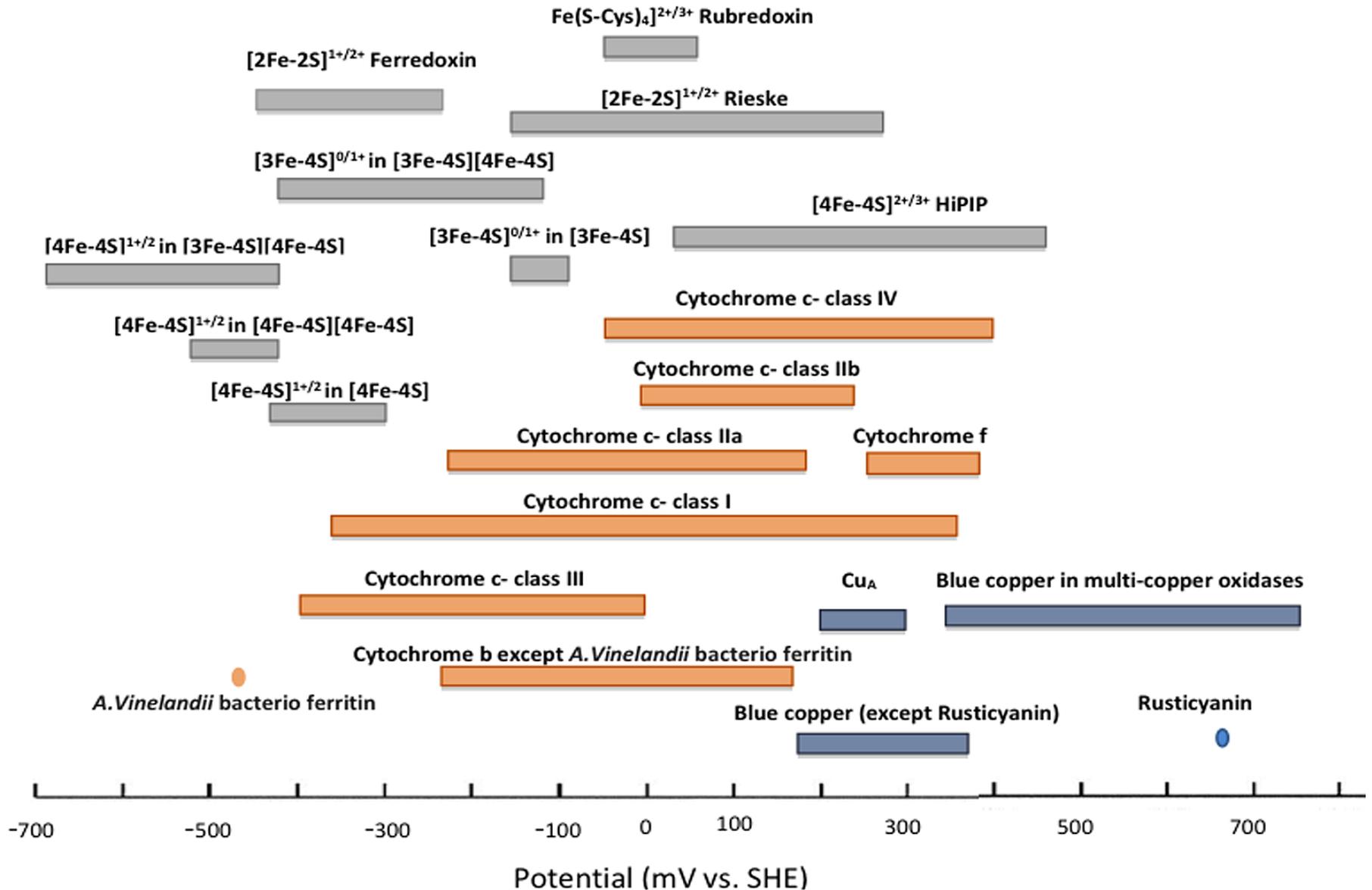


*Nature*, 2014



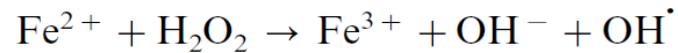
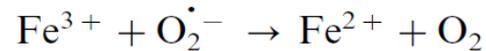
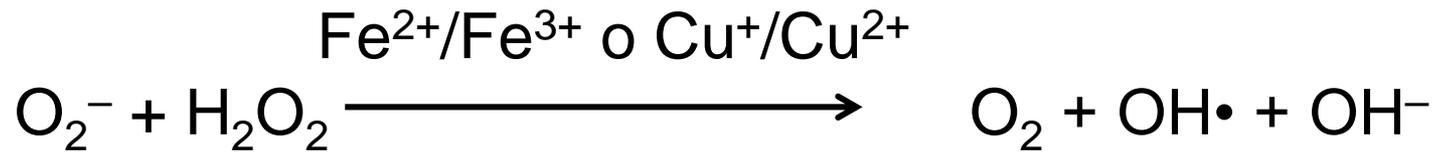
**(a) Proposed O-O cleavage mechanism in CcO**

# Metallo-proteins for electron transfer



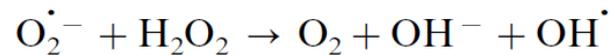
# Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS)

## Haber-Weiss reaction



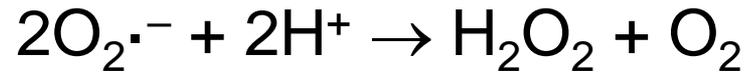
## Fenton reaction

The net reaction:



# Superoxide dismutases

Superoxide dismutases are the major ROS detoxifying enzymes of the cell, and catalyze the dismutation of superoxide radicals to hydrogen peroxide and molecular oxygen.



Glutathione peroxidase, peroxiredoxins, and catalase decompose hydrogen peroxide generated by SODs to water.

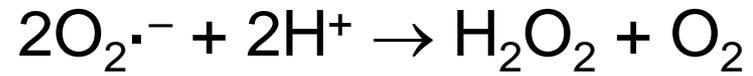
Three types of SOD are expressed by cells in eukariotes, encoded by separate genes.

Copper- and zinc-containing SOD (CuZnSOD, SOD1) is a homodimer primarily localized to the cytoplasm.

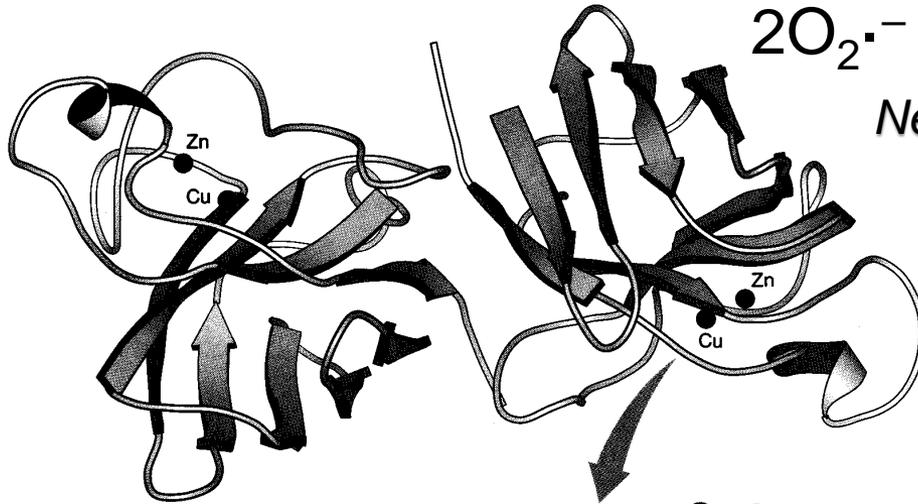
Extracellular SOD (ECSOD) shares significant amino acid homology with CuZnSOD (40–60%), contains both copper and zinc in its active site, but is localized to the extracellular region of the cell.

**MnSOD** is a homotetramer localized exclusively in the mitochondrial matrix (*see later section on Mn*).

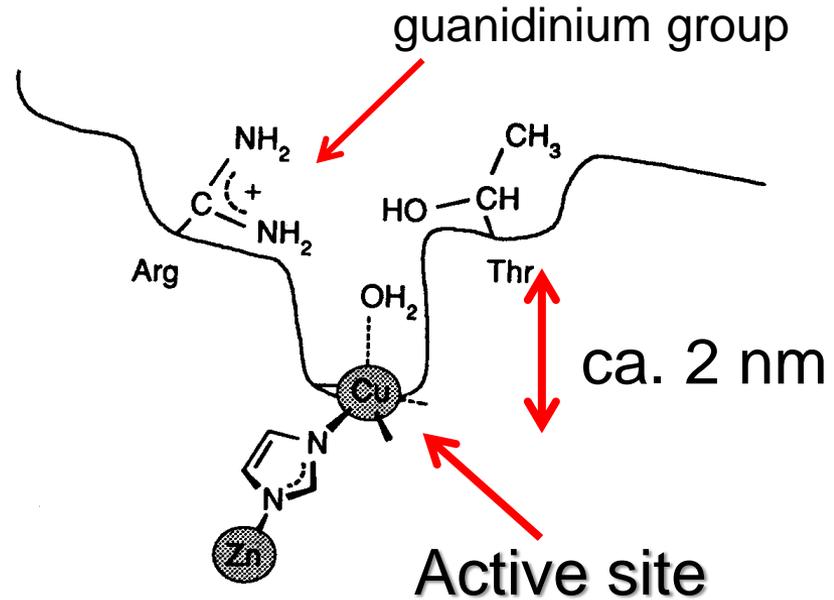
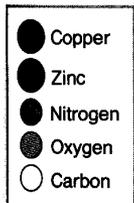
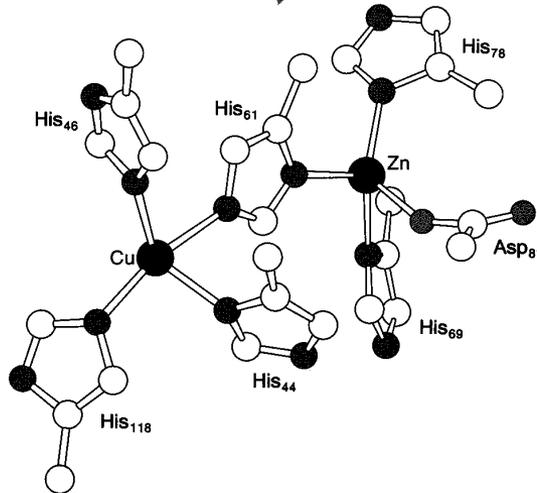
# Cu-Zn superoxide dismutase



*Nearly-diffusive speed*



16 kDa



# Catalytic cycle of Cu-Zn SOD

