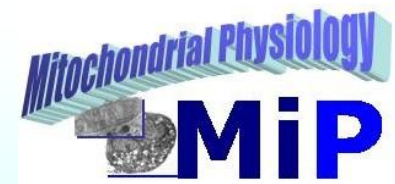


MiPschool 2008

Schröcken, July 2008



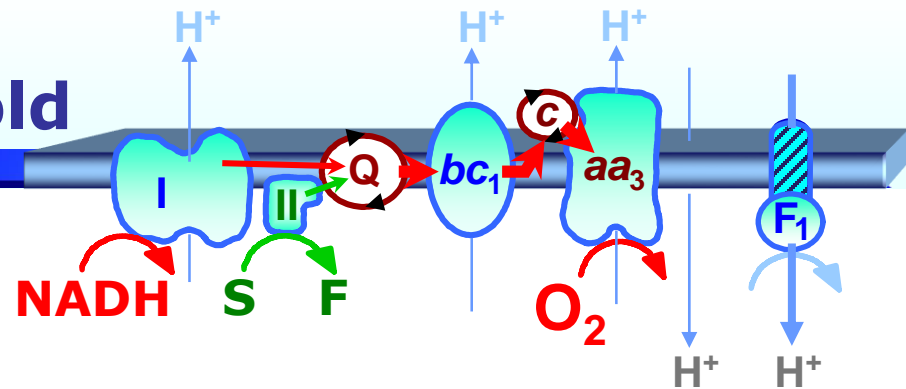
<http://www.mitophysiology.org/index.php?id=mip-textbook>

Mitochondrial Respiratory Physiology.

**Mitochondrial respiratory control:
Electron transport system, oxidative
phosphorylation and leak –
ETS, OXPHOS and *LEAK*.**

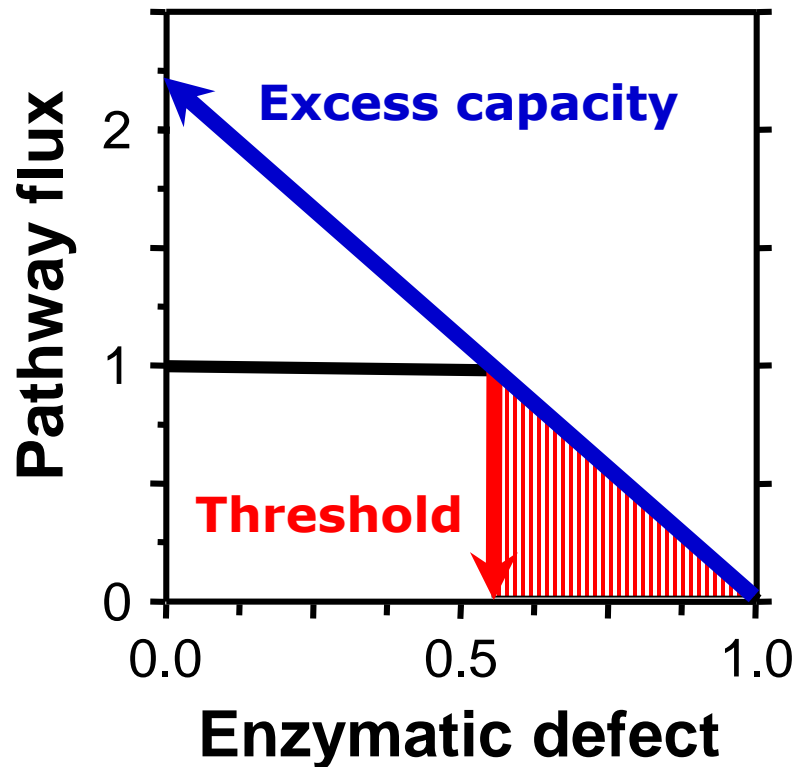
**Erich Gnaiger
Medical University
erich.gnaiger@i-med.ac.at Innsbruck, Austria**

Excess Capacity and Biochemical Threshold

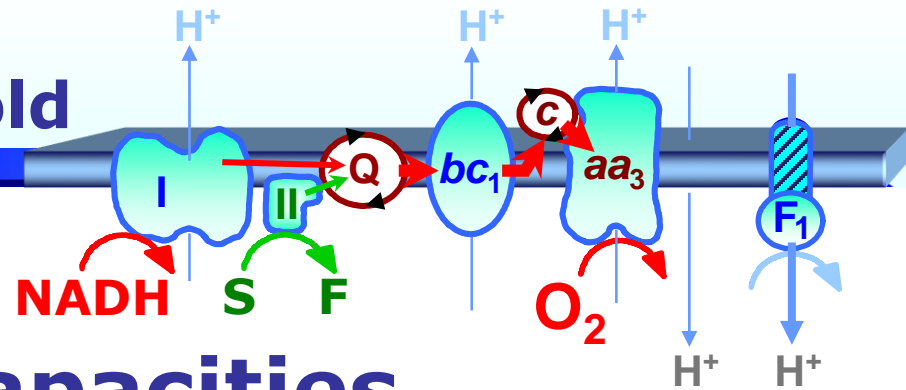


Excess capacity:
Insurance against a specific enzymatic injury.

Biochemical threshold:
Cellular function is buffered against a specific enzymatic defect.



Excess Capacity and Biochemical Threshold

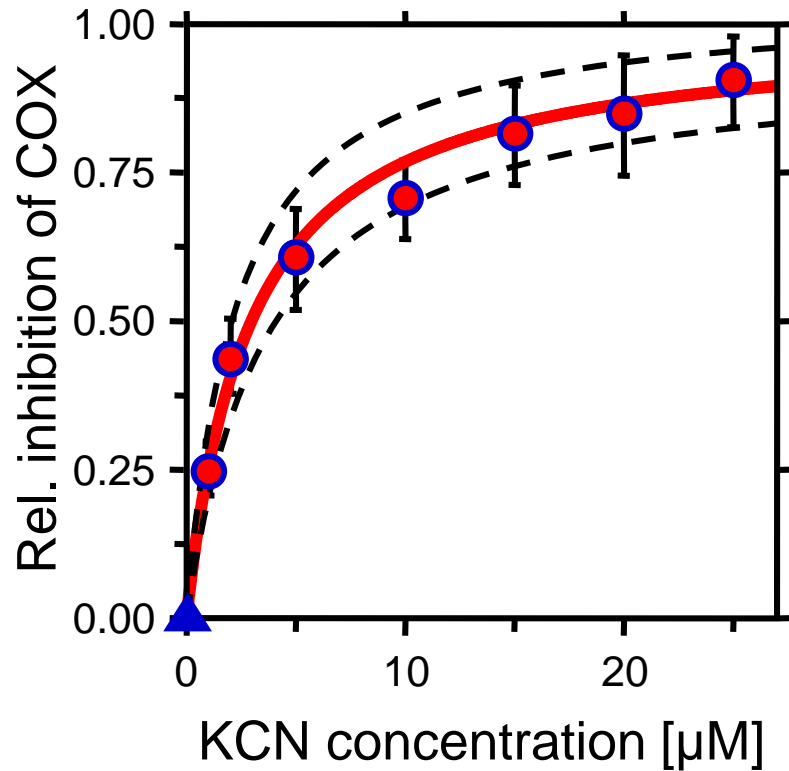
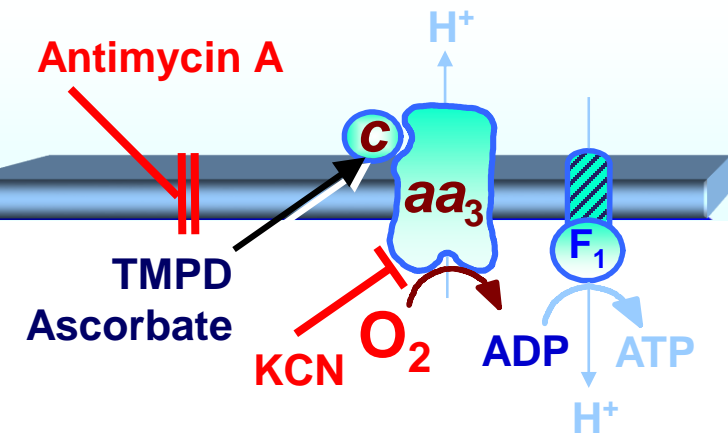


**Different excess capacities
imply tissue-specific
(in)sensitivity to enzymatic
defects in:**

- **genetic mitochondrial disorders**
- **aging**
- **ischemia-reperfusion injury**
- **degenerative diseases**

Cytochrome c Oxidase

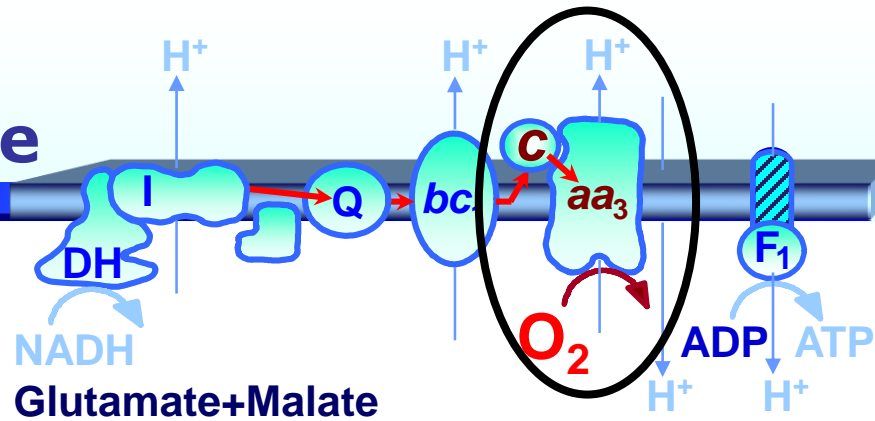
KCN Titration



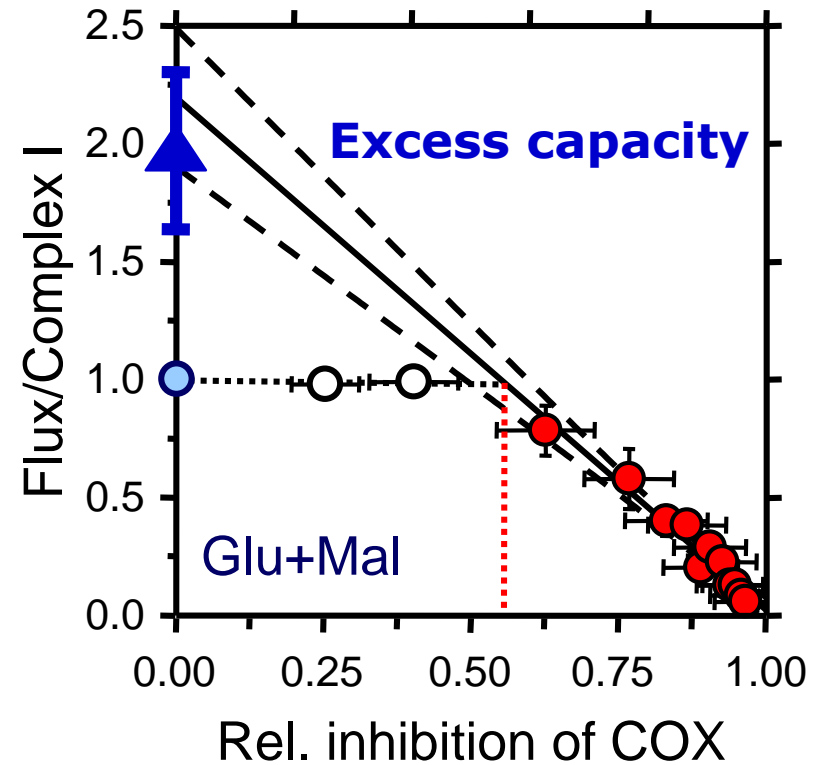
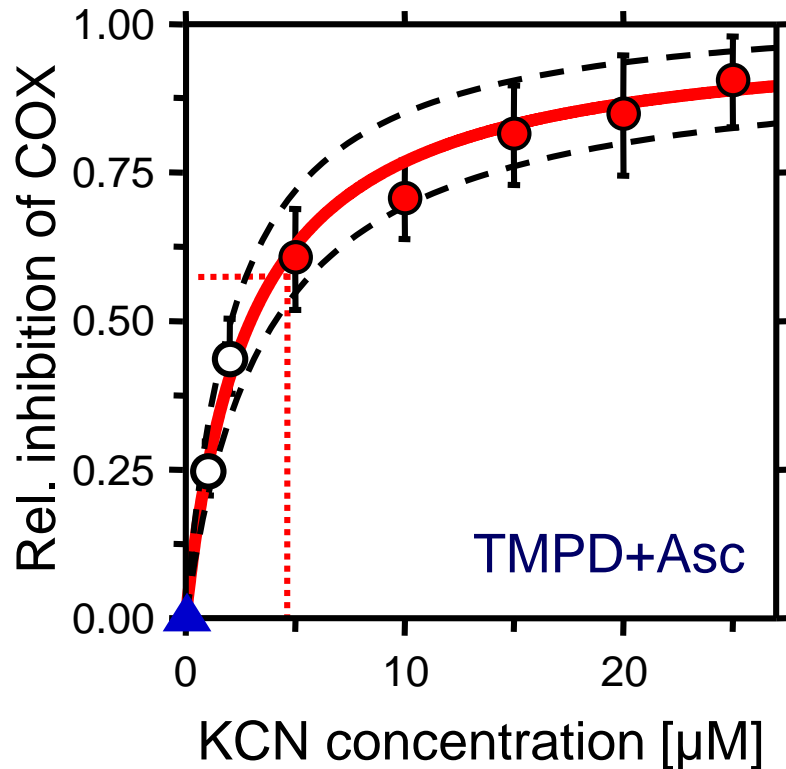
Isolated step in intact
isolated mitochondria:

- ▲ TMPD+Ascorbate
- Cyanide titration

Electron Transport Chain and Cytochrome c Oxidase

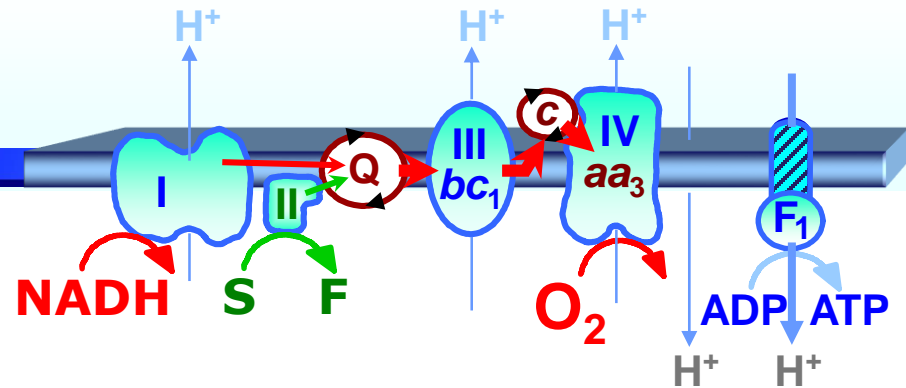


Excess capacity



0.5 mM TMPD + 2 mM ascorbate: 2-fold relative COX capacity

Electron Transport System

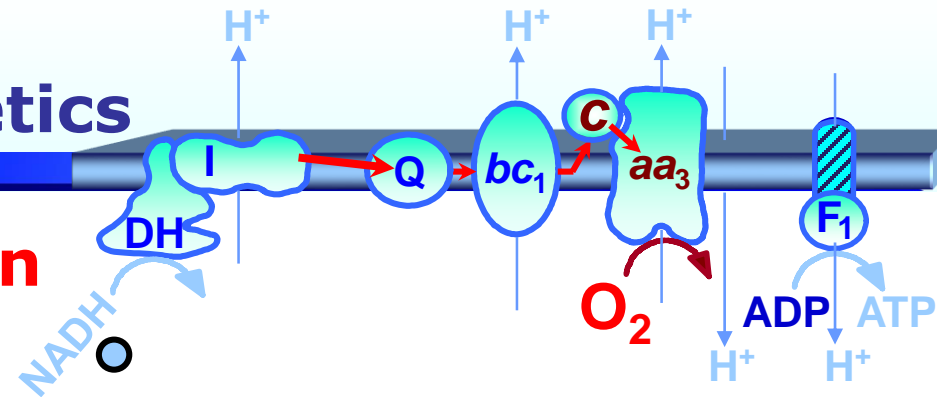


Which metabolic state represents electron transport capacity?

- A. Definition of *ETS* capacity.**
- B. Measurement in mitochondria and permeabilized cells.**
- C. Measurement in intact cells.**

Conventional Protocol Derived from Bioenergetics

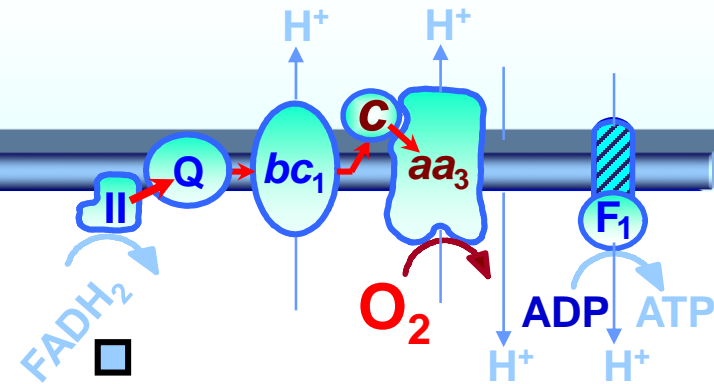
Electron Transport Chain



Bioenergetic paradigm (1):
Respiratory capacity in State 3,
feeding electrons specifically into
○ complex I

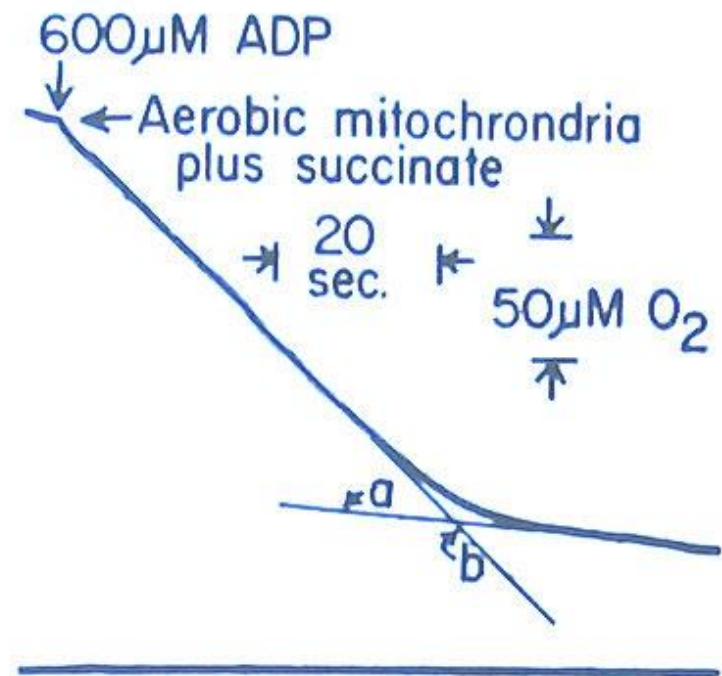
Conventional Protocol Derived from Bioenergetics

Electron Transport Chain



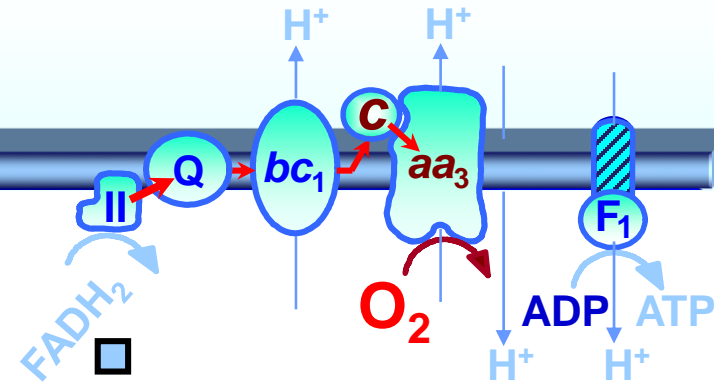
**Bioenergetic paradigm (1):
Respiratory capacity in State 3,
feeding electrons
specifically into**

- **complex I, or
complex II**



Conventional Protocol Derived from Bioenergetics

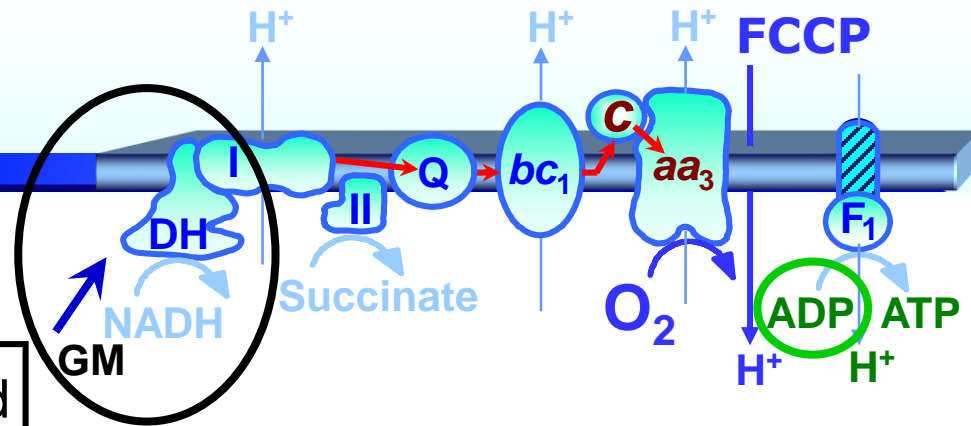
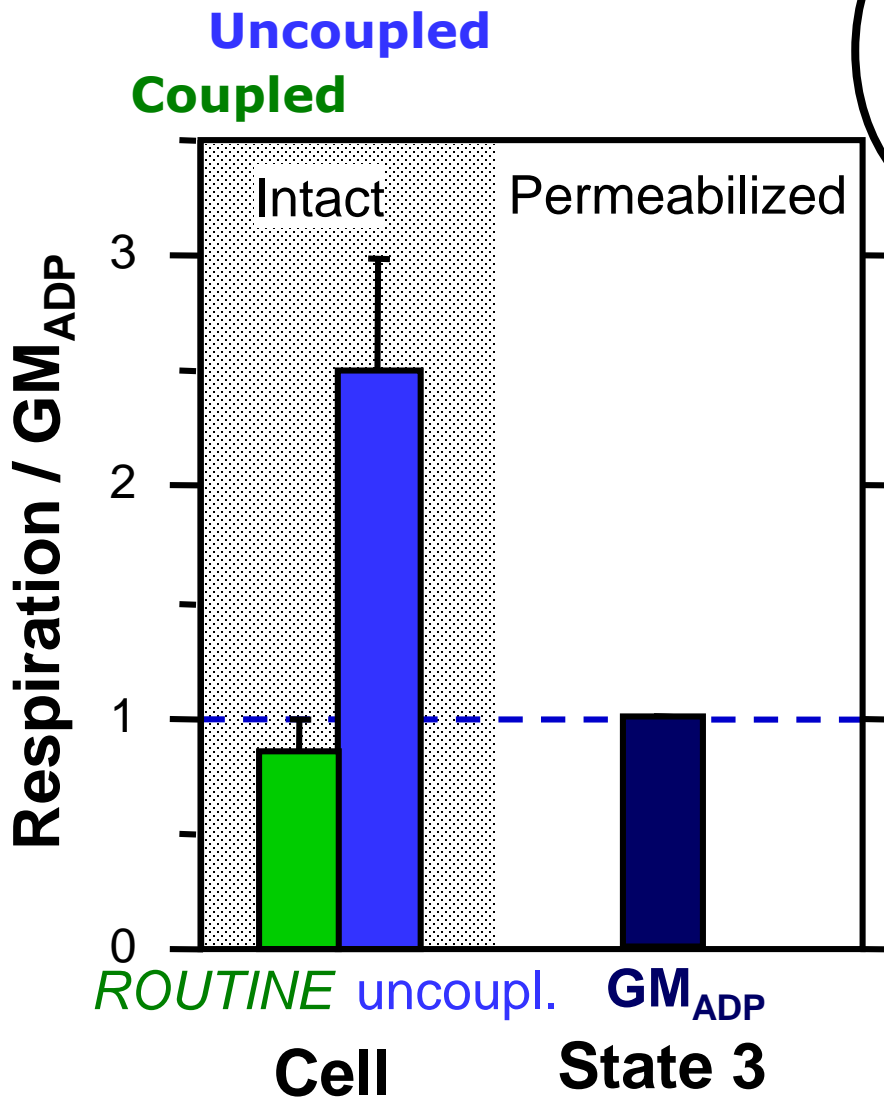
Electron Transport Chain



Bioenergetic paradigm (1):
Respiratory capacity in State 3,
feeding electrons specifically into
complex I, *or*
■ complex II (rotenone+succinate)

Then we are surprised to find ...

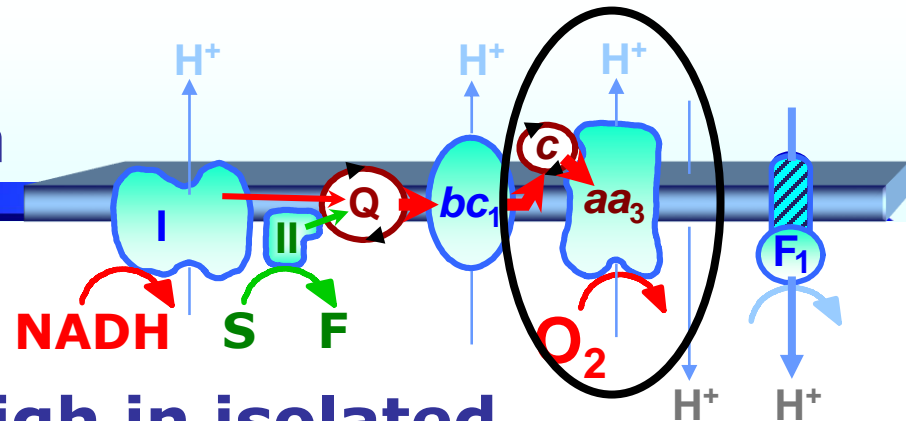
Intact versus Permeabilized Cells



In permeabilized cells, State 3 respiration (Glutamate+Malate) is short of representing respiratory capacity of intact uncoupled cells.

Fibroblasts NIH3T3

Controversy on Isolated Mitochondria



COX excess capacity is high in isolated mitochondria, with corresponding phenotypic threshold.

- Letellier et al (1994) *Biochem. J.* 302: 171.
- Gnaiger et al (1998) *BBA* 1365: 249
- Rossignol et al (2003) *Biochem. J.* 370: 751.
- Antunes et al (2004) *PNAS* 101: 16774.

But **low COX excess in intact cells** „**raises the critical issue of how accurately the data obtained with isolated mitochondria reflect the *in vivo* situation**“.

- Villani, Attardi (1997) *PNAS* 94: 1166.

Bioenergetic paradigm (2) of substrate/uncoupler** combinations which yield **maximum flux** in:**

- **Intact cells:**

Villani and Attardi (1997) *PNAS*

- **Permeabilized muscle fibers:**

Kunz et al (2000) *JBC*

- **Isolated mitochondria:**

Rasmussen et al (2001) *AJP*

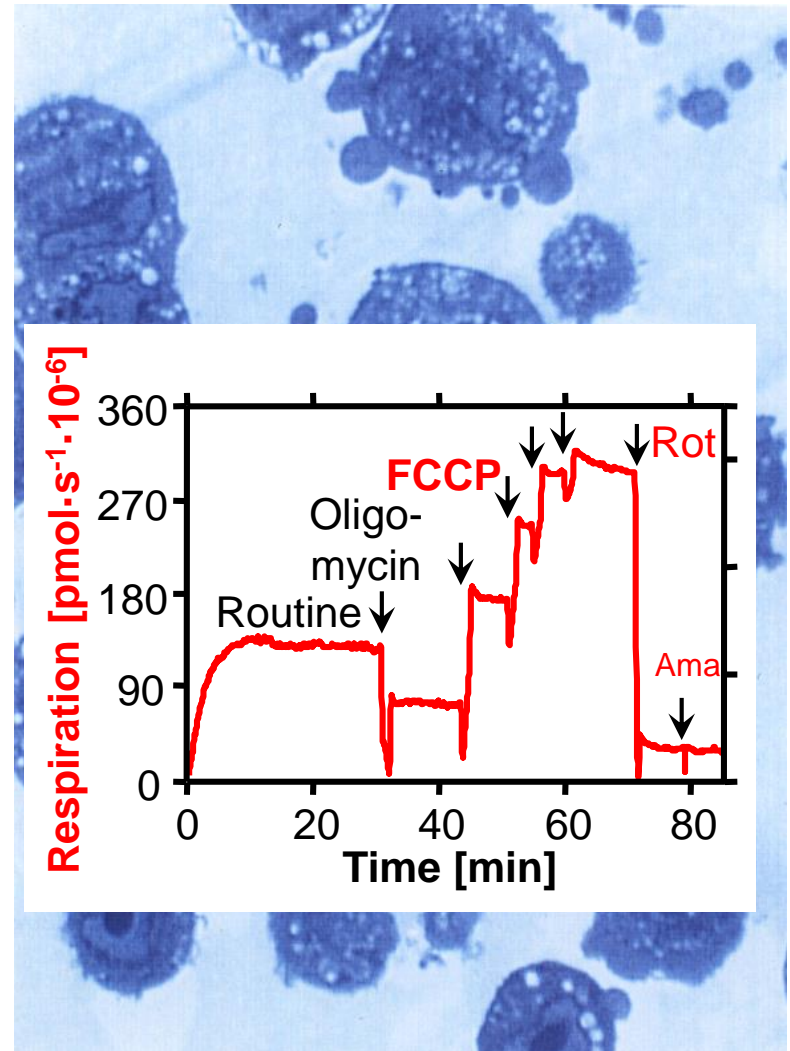
Oxidative Phosphorylation in Top Gear

**Gold standard to
assess maximum
aerobic capacity in
cultured cells:**

→ Uncoupled flux

- Villani, Attardi (1997) *PNAS* 94: 1166

**But intact cells do not
have uncoupled
mitochondria !**



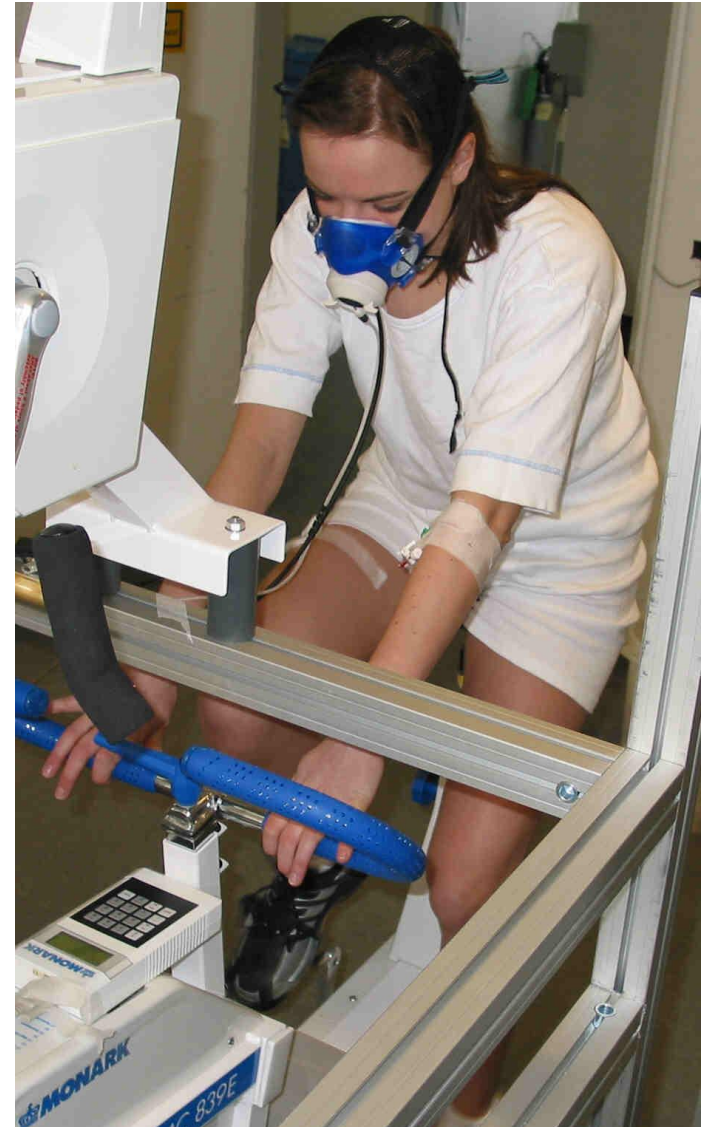
Oxidative Phosphorylation in Top Gear – Mitochondrial Physiology



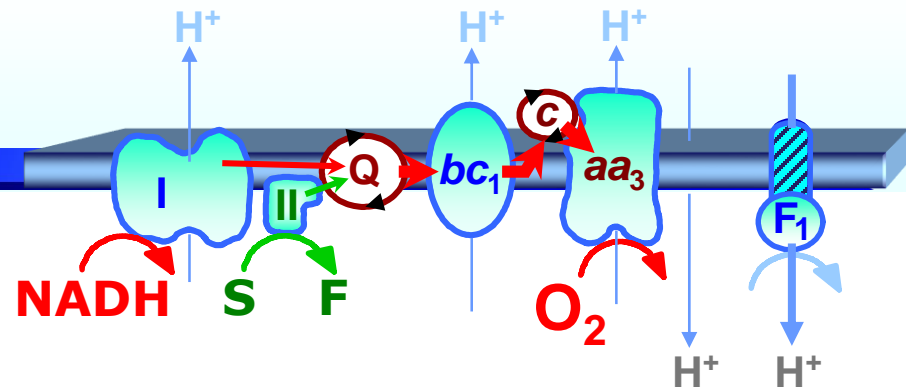
**Gold standard to
assess maximum
aerobic capacity in
humans:**

→ $\dot{V}O_{2 \max}$

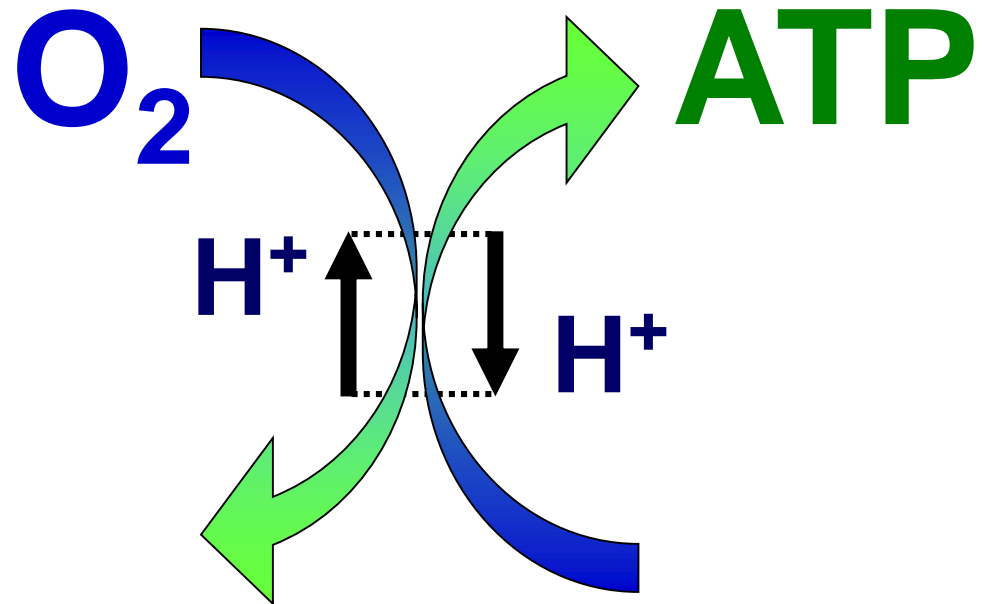
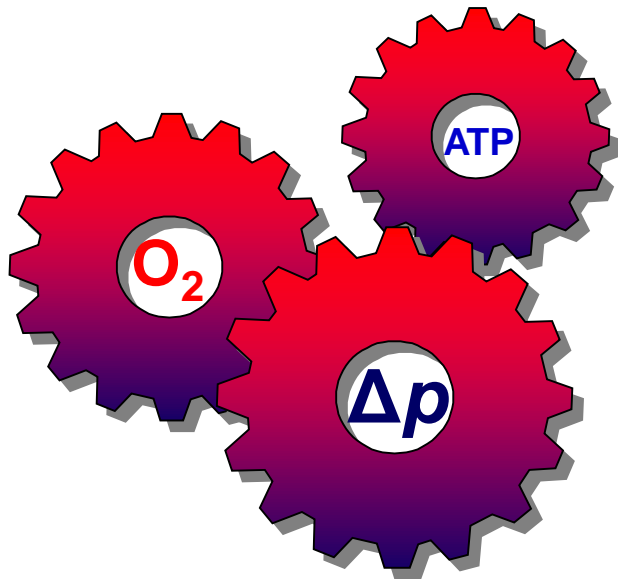
**Electron Transport
Coupled to ATP
Synthesis**



OXPPOS and Respiratory Capacity

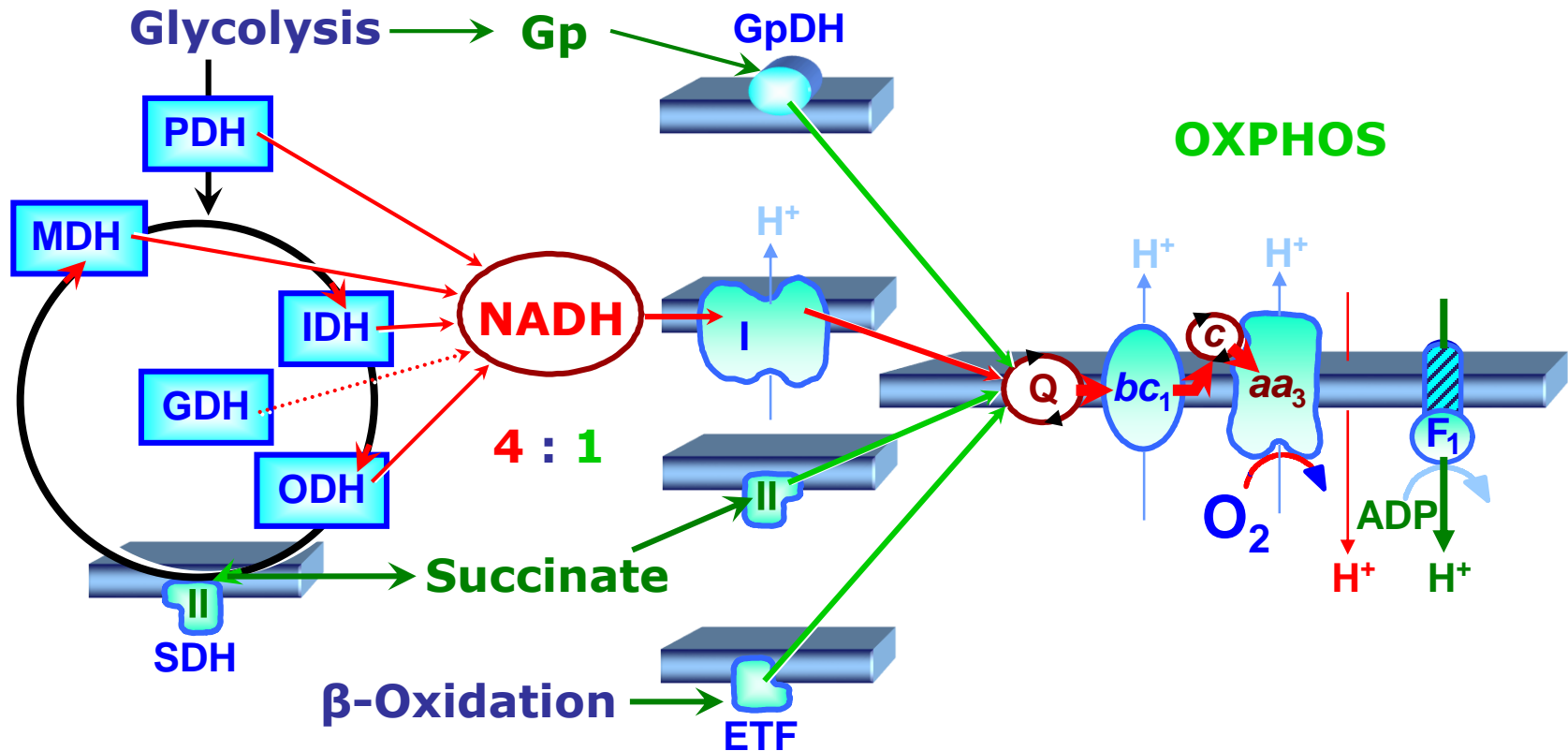


Oxidative Phosphorylation: Coupling



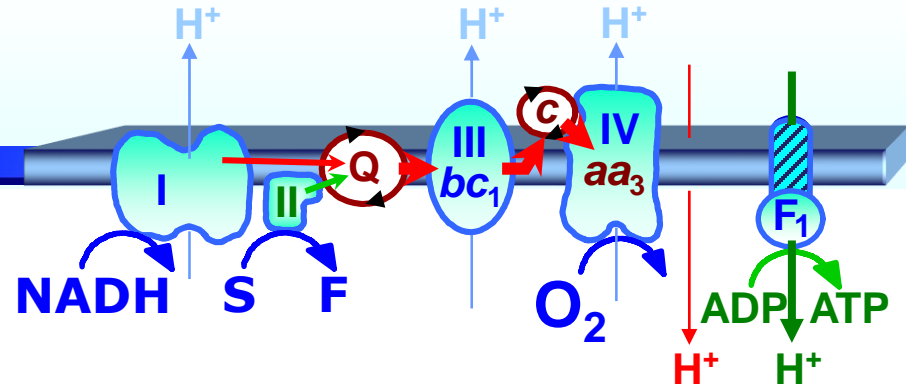
Mitochondrial Pathways

Convergent Redox and ET System



Question 1

ETS

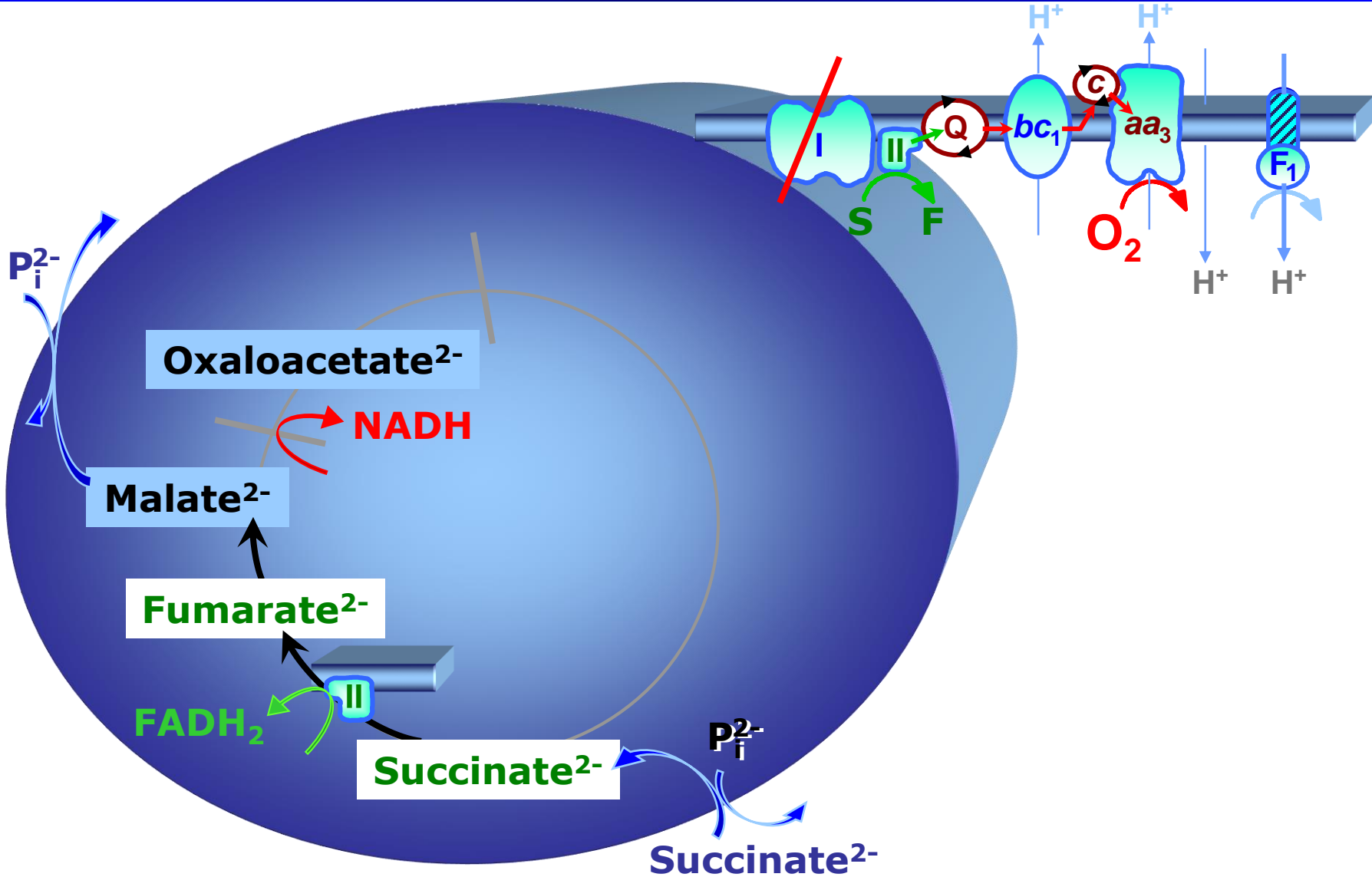


How do we measure mitochondrial electron transport capacity?

- A. Mitochondria
- B. Intact cells

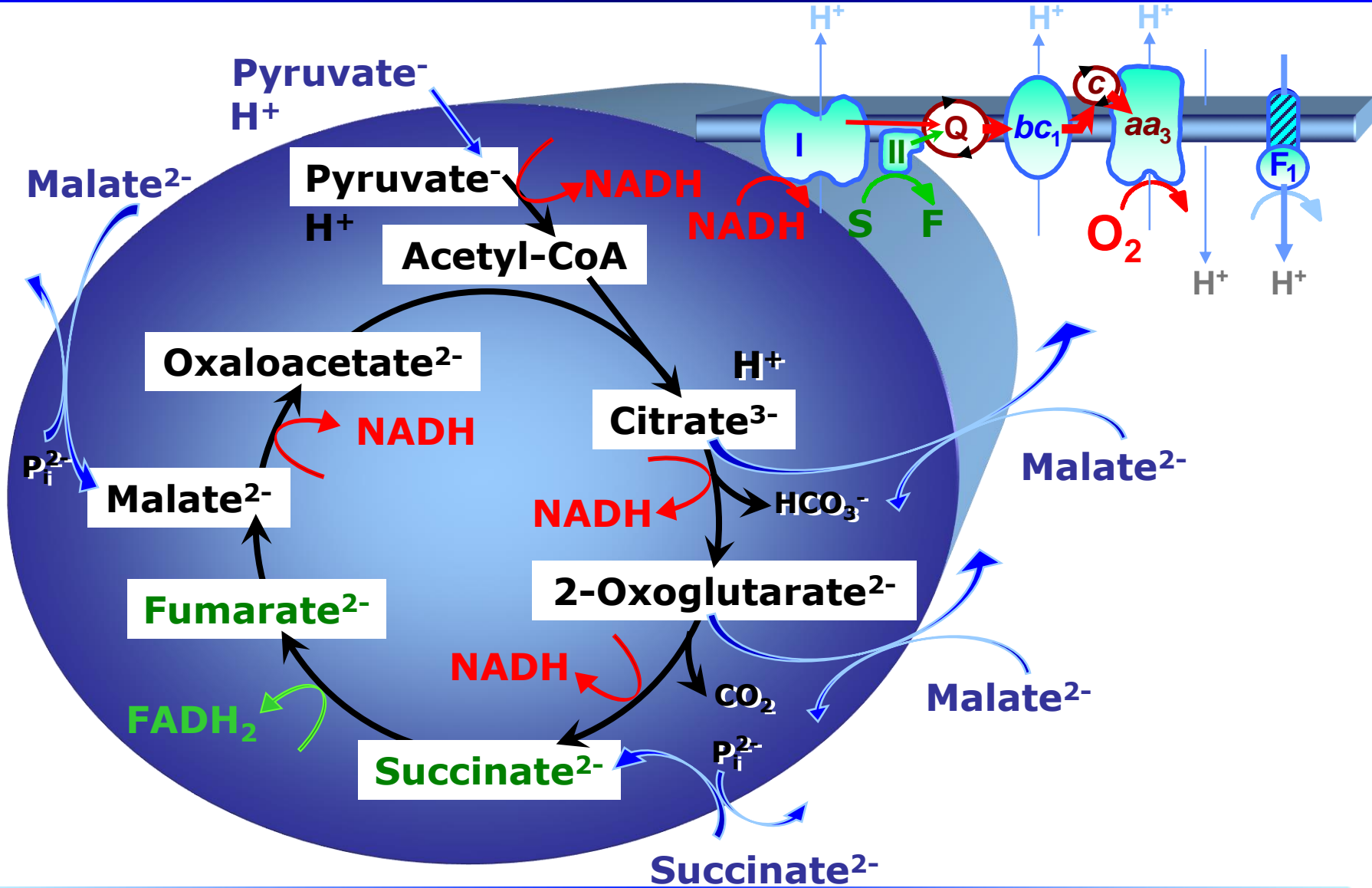
MitoPathways

Succinate + Rotenone



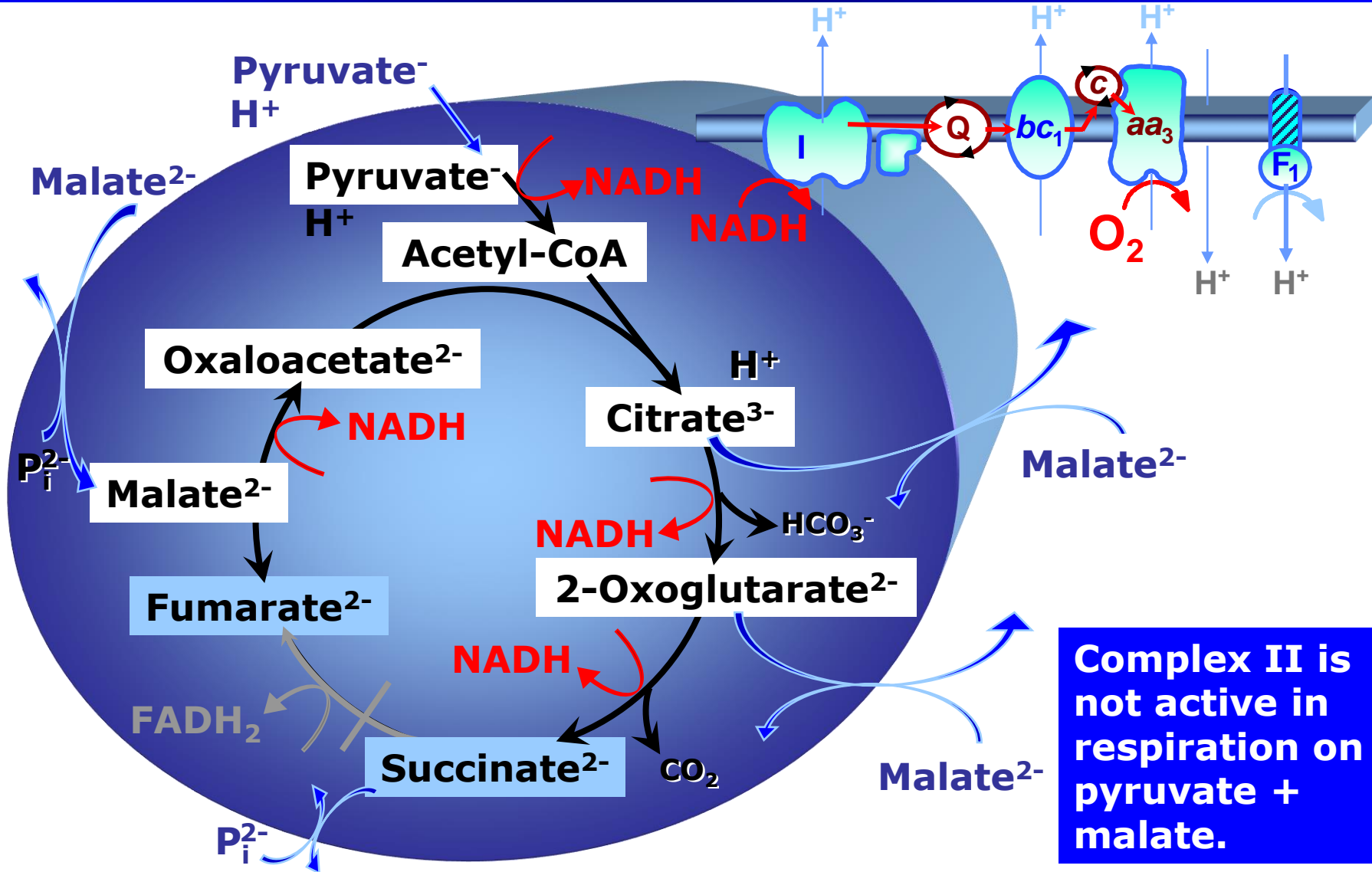
MitoPathways

Pyruvate+Malate+Succinate, PMS



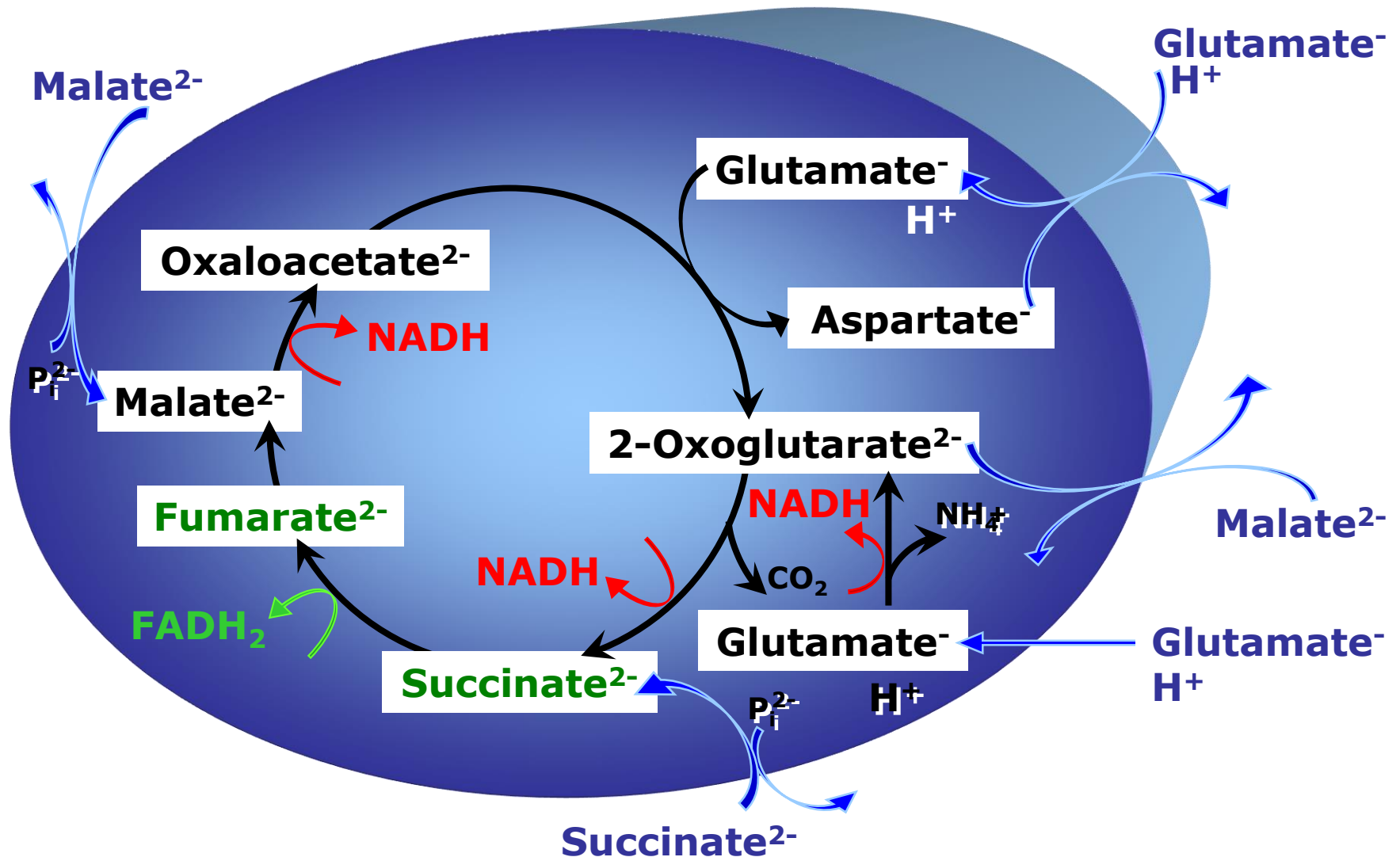
MitoPathways

Pyruvate+Malate, PM

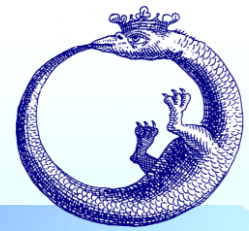


MitoPathways

Glutamate+Malate+Succinate, GMS

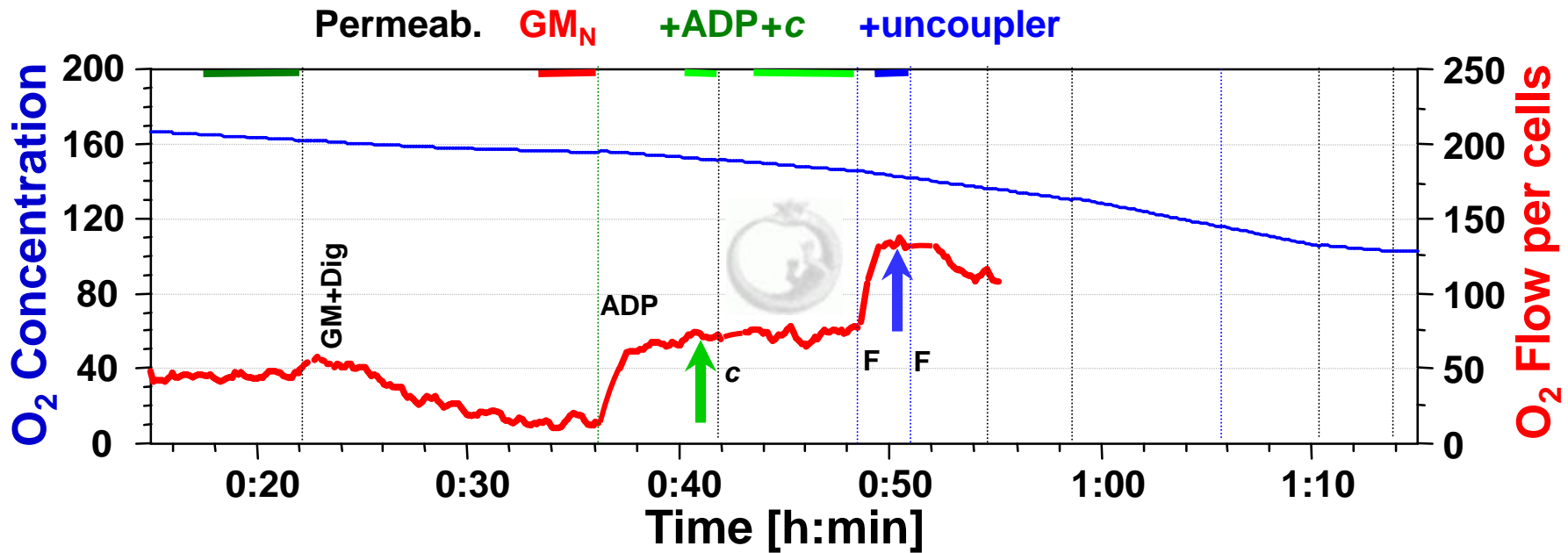


High-Resolution Respirometry in Permeabilized Cells



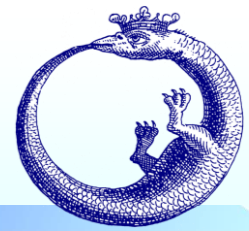
Cytochrome c test: Intact mitochondrial outer membrane

CI Substrates

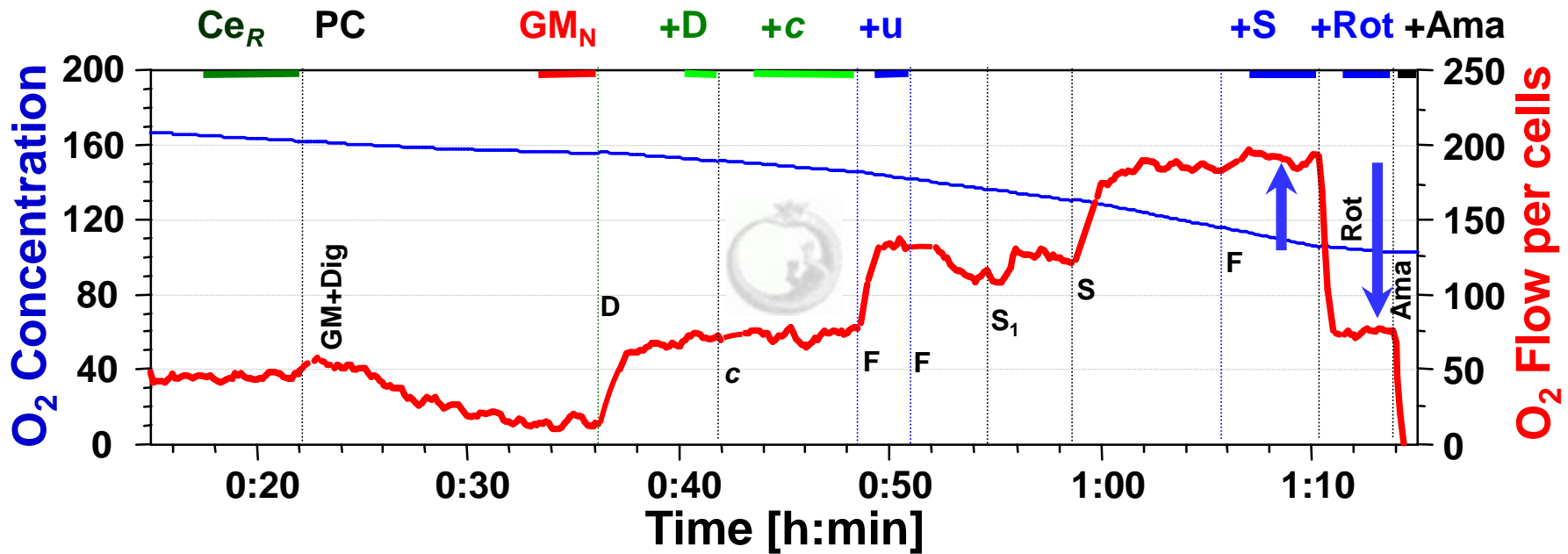


endogen.	CI	CI	CI
ROUTINE	LEAK	OXPHOS	ETS

High-Resolution Respirometry in Permeabilized Cells



ETS capacity with CI+II substrates



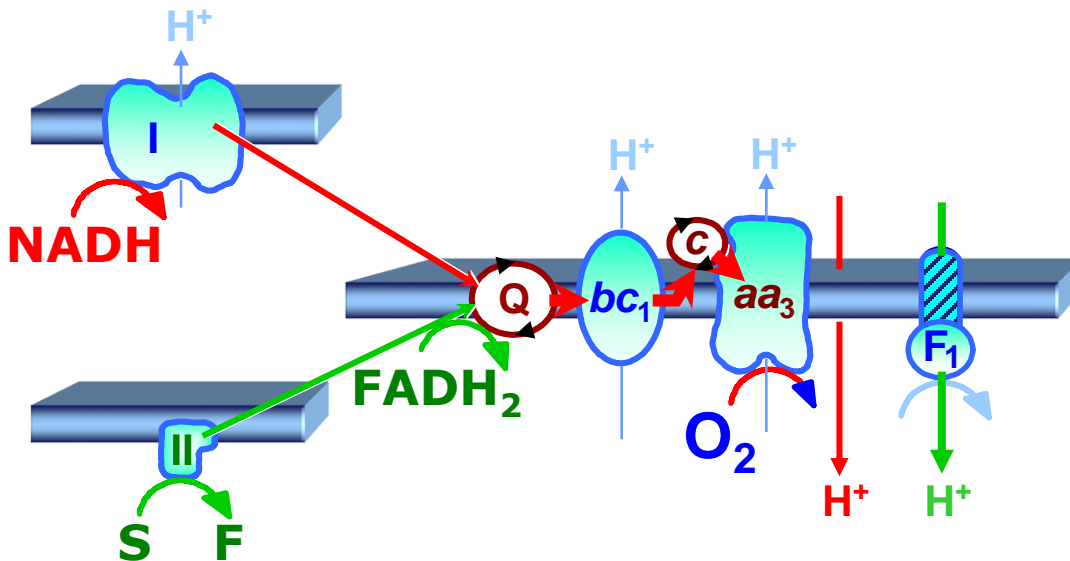
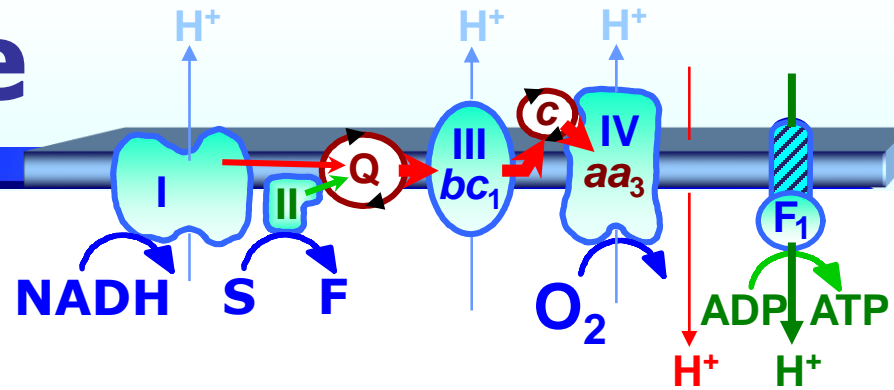
endogen.	CI	CI	CI	CI+II	CII
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ROUTINE	LEAK	OXPHOS	ETS
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Reference State

ETS

Maximum electron transport capacity is obtained with convergent CI+II electron input.

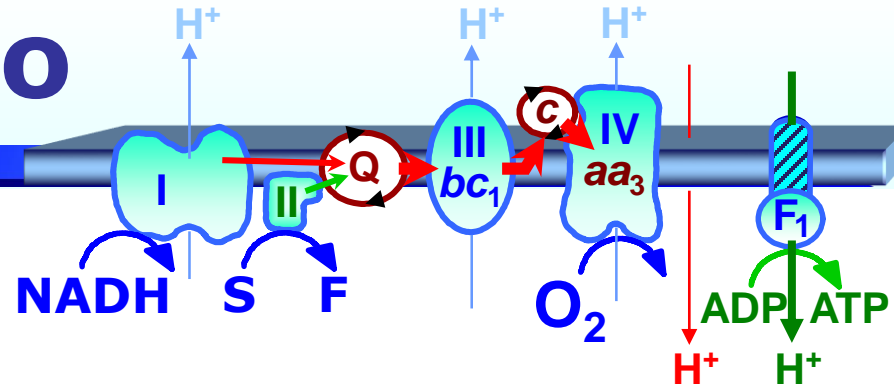


CI+II:

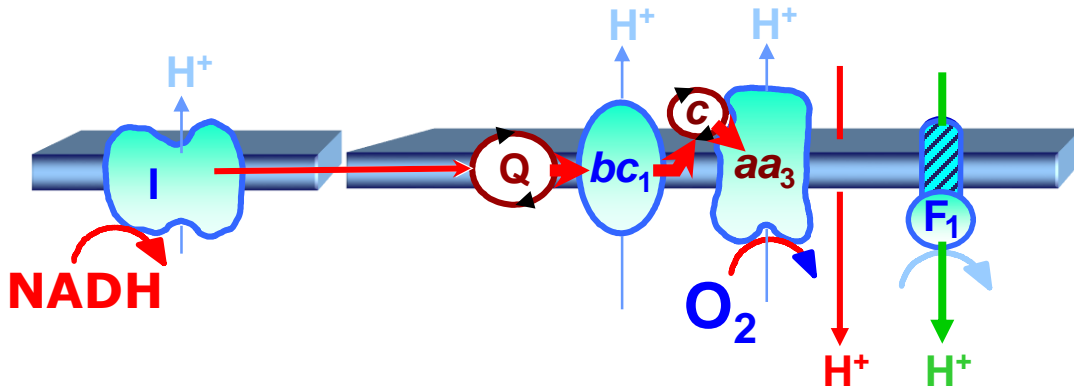
1

Q-Junction Ratio

ETS



With CI substrates, respiration is limited to 0.70 of *ETS* capacity.



CI:

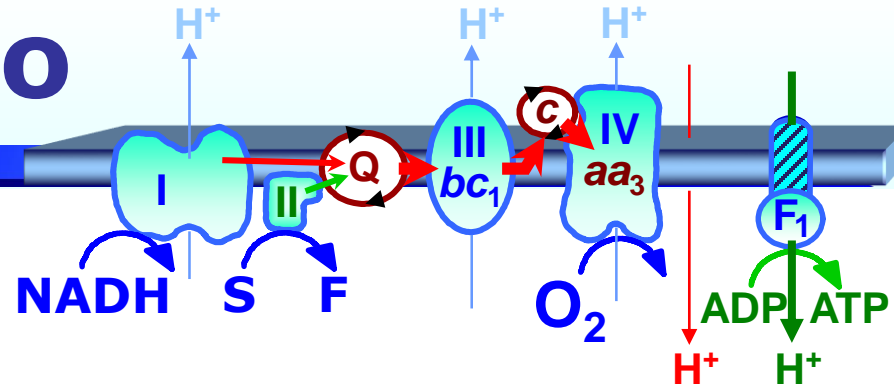
0.70

CI+II:

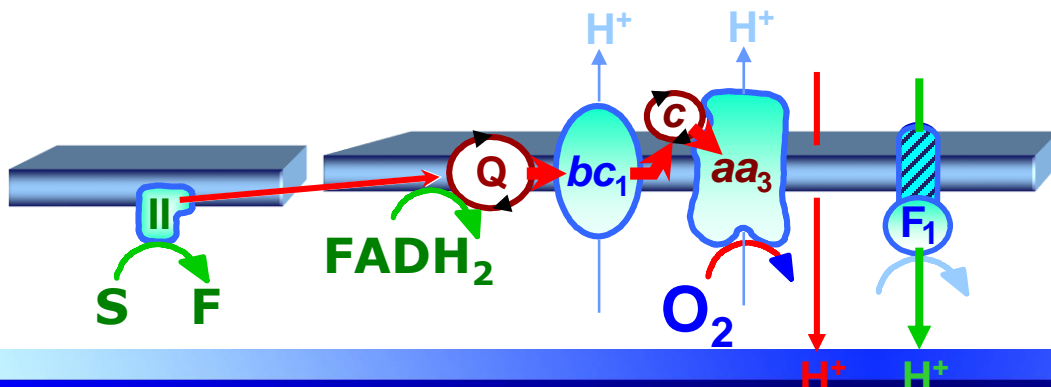
1

Q-Junction Ratio

ETS



With CII substrates, respiration is limited to 0.36 of *ETS* capacity.



CI+II:

1

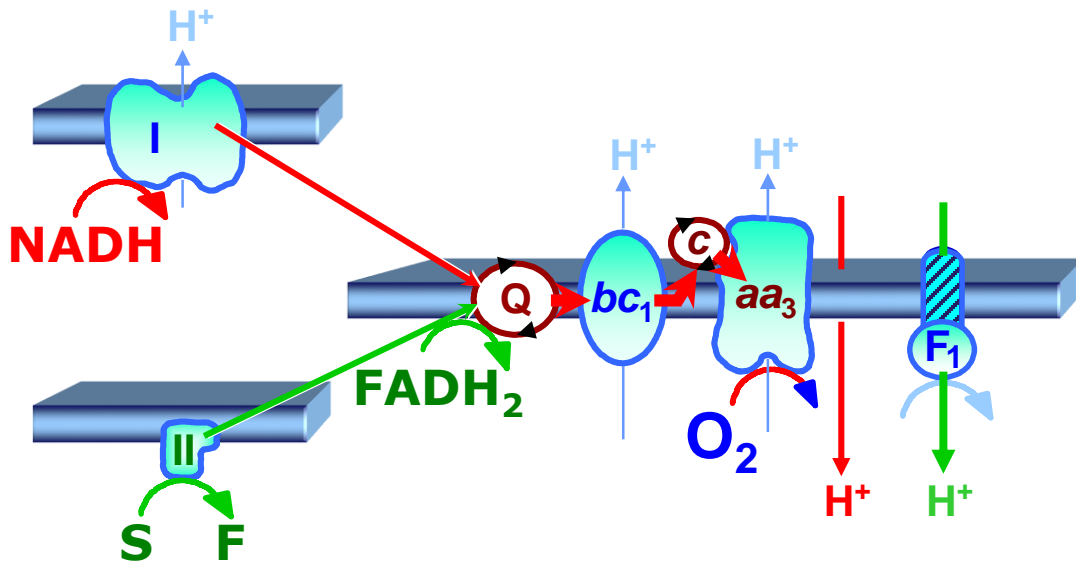
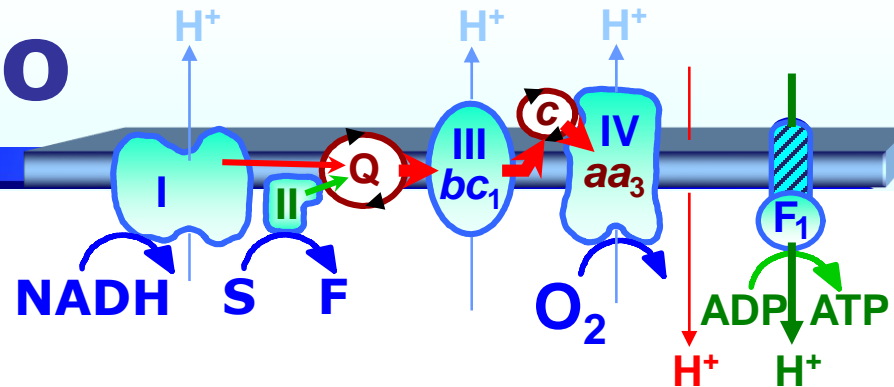
CII:

0.36

Q-Junction Ratio

ETS

Convergent CI+II electron input exerts an **additive effect** in human fibroblasts.



CI:

0.70

CI+II:

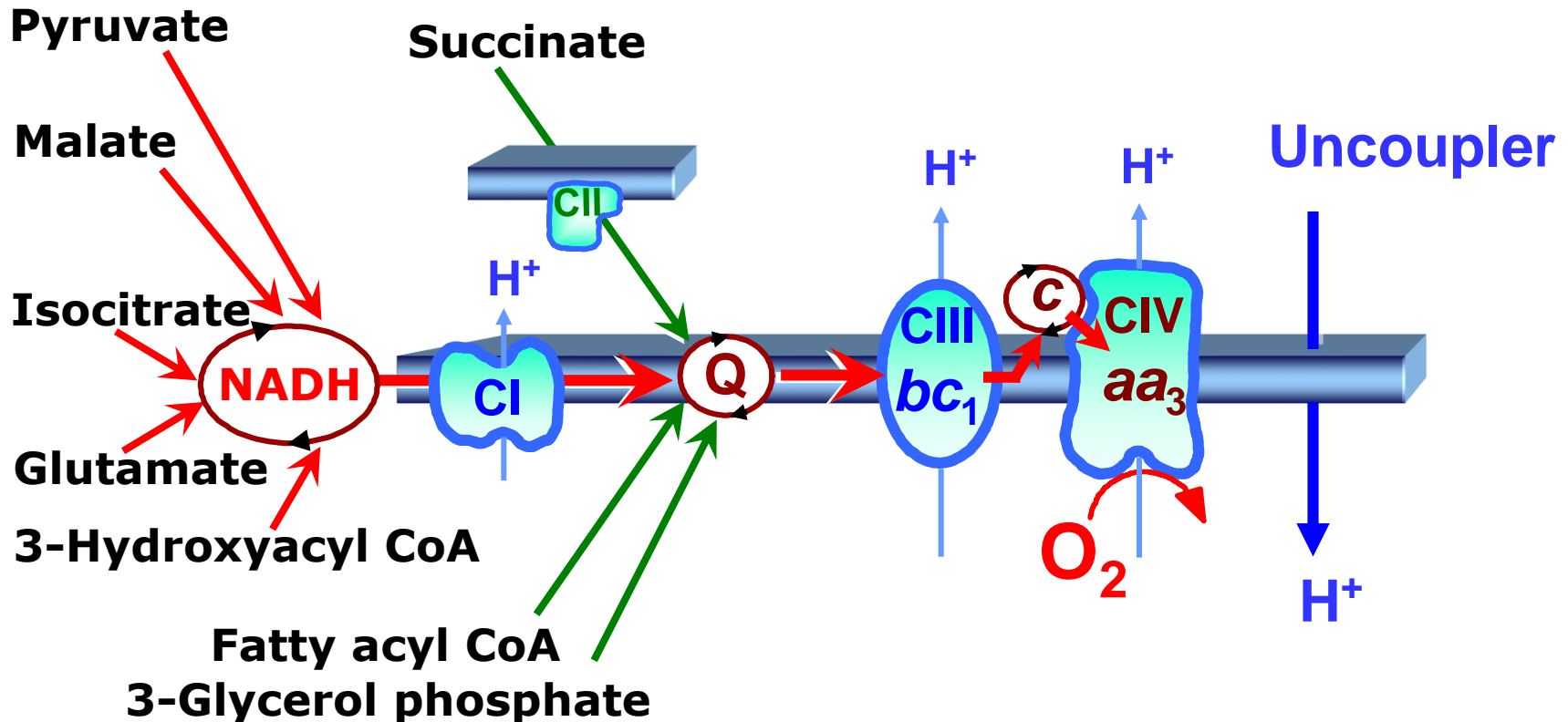
1

CII:

0.36

Electron Transport: from Chain to System

- **Electron Transport System, *ETS***



Convergent Electron Flux and the Q-junction

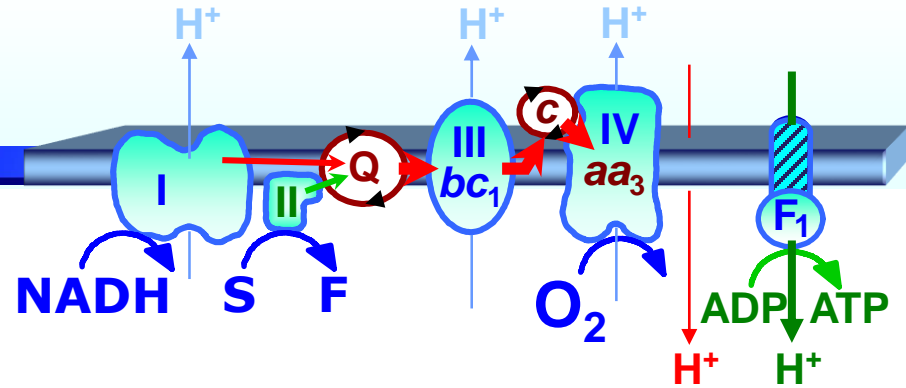
**The most frequent
misnomer in
bioenergetics:**

Electron Transport Chain



Question 1

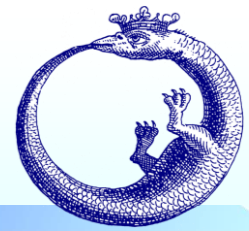
ETS



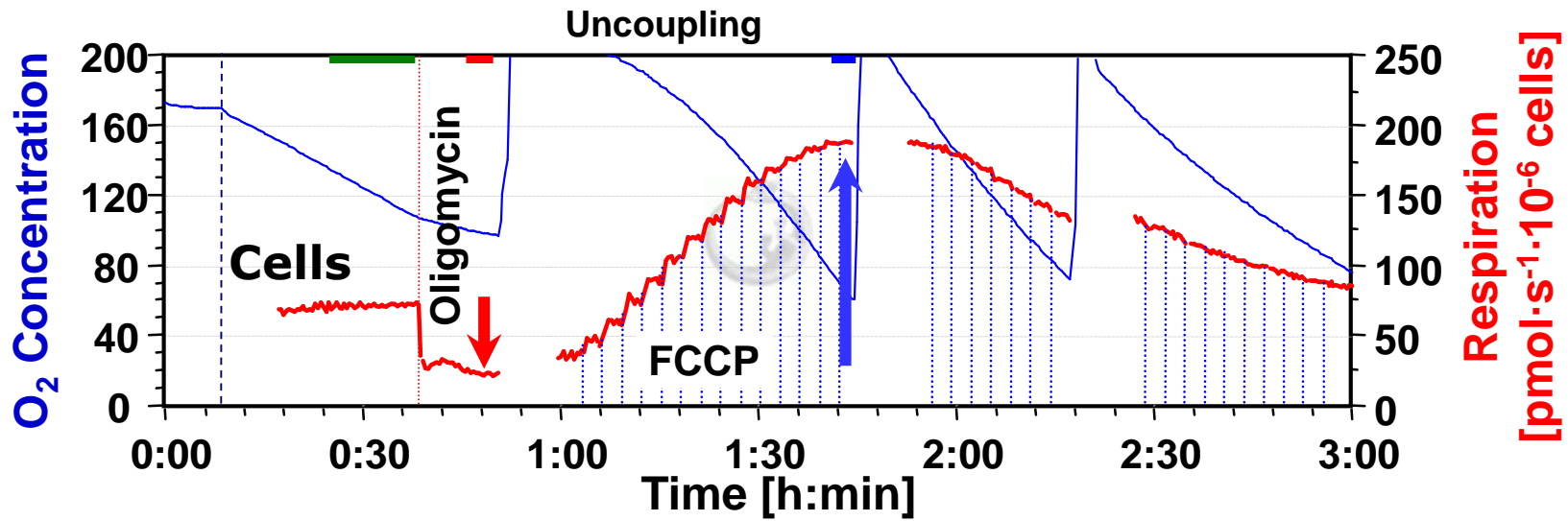
How do we measure mitochondrial electron transport capacity?

- A. Mitochondria
- B. Intact cells**

High-Resolution Respirometry in Intact Cells



Fibroblasts NIH3T3



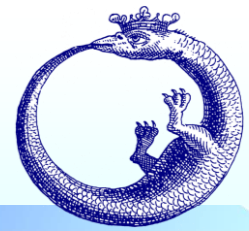
ROUTINE

LEAK

ETS

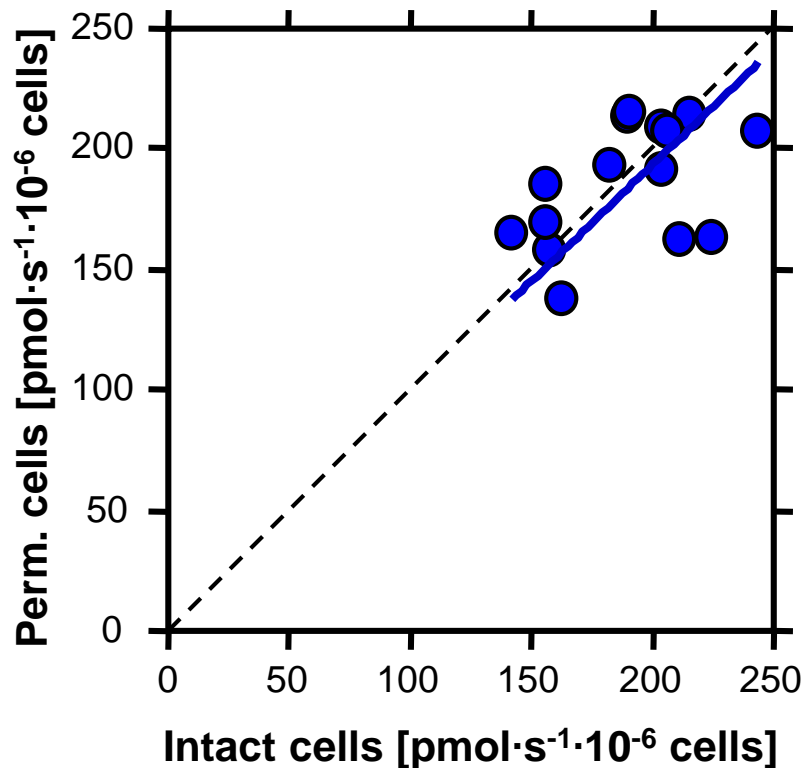
Gnaiger E (2008) In: *Mitochondrial Dysfunction in Drug-Induced Toxicity*. (Dykens JA, Will Y, eds) John Wiley.

Mitochondrial Pathways and Q-Junction



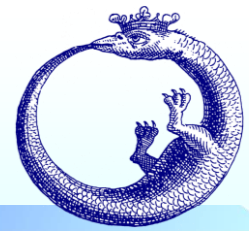
ETS

- **CI+II:
Glutamate+Malate+Succinate
uncoupled**



***ETS* capacities were identical in intact and permeabilized cells, with convergent electron flow through Complexes I and II (CI+II e-input).**

Identical *ETS* Capacity in Permeabilized and Intact Cells

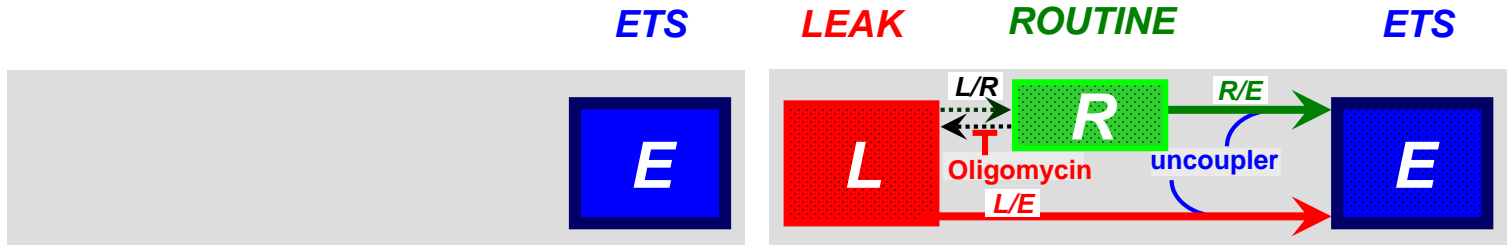


A: Permeabilized Cells

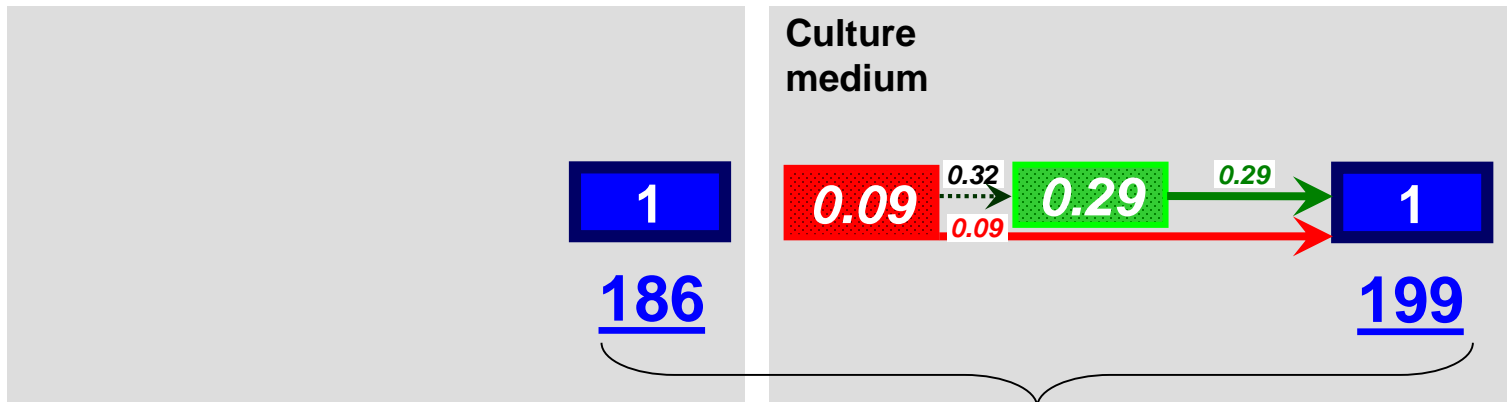
B: Intact Cells

Control

Coupling

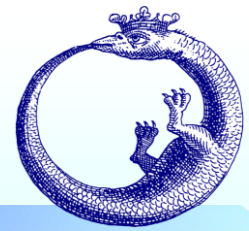


CI+II combined

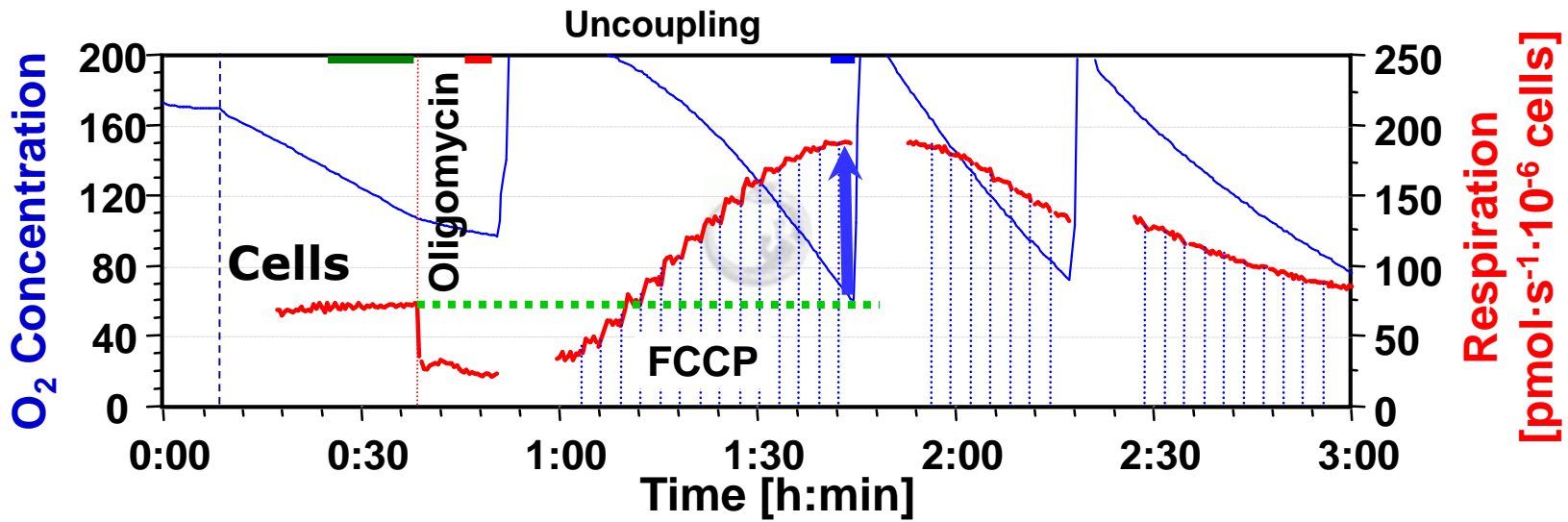


$\text{pmol}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}\cdot 10^{-6} \text{ cells}$

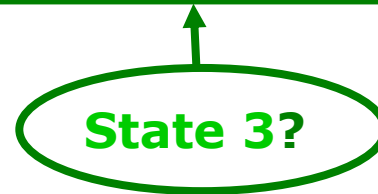
High-Resolution Respirometry in Intact Cells



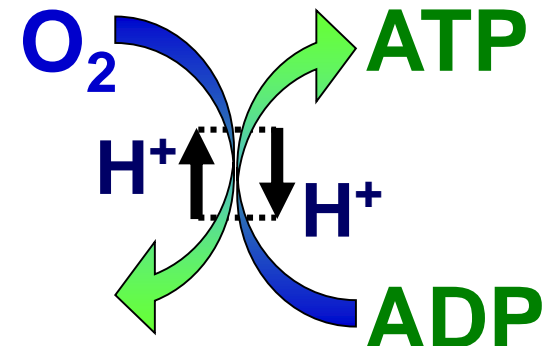
Fibroblasts NIH3T3



ROUTINE **LEAK** **ETS**

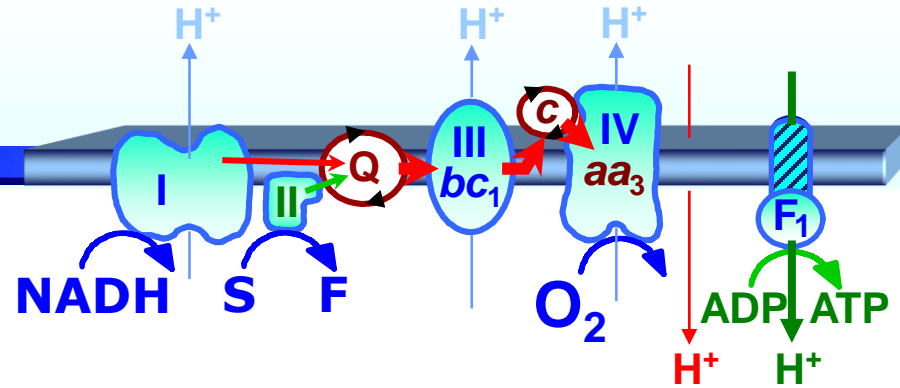


OXPHOS Capacity ?



Question 2

OXPHOS

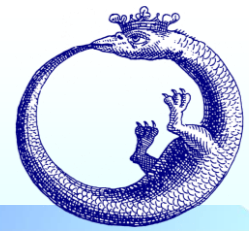


How do we measure
OXPHOS capacity?

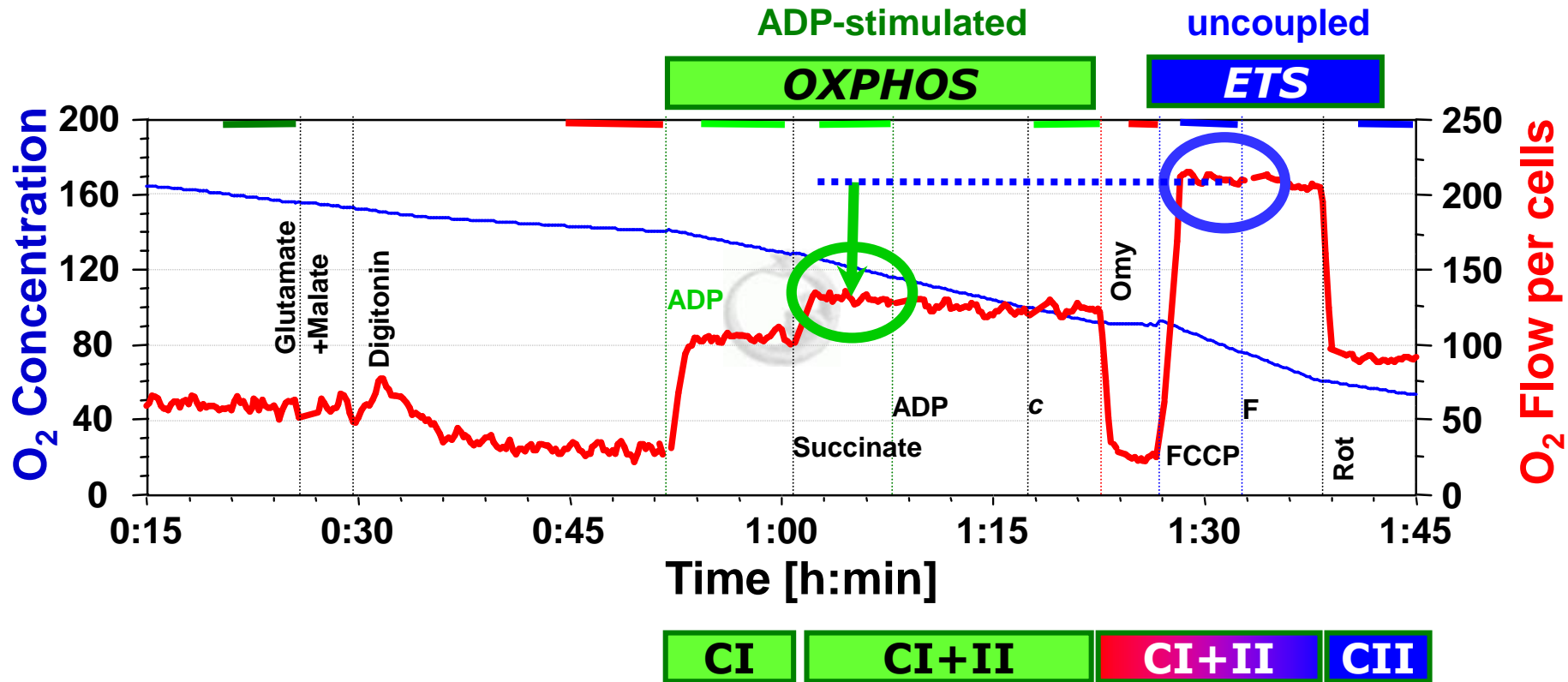
A. Mitochondria

B. In intact cells ?

High-Resolution Respirometry in Permeabilized Cells



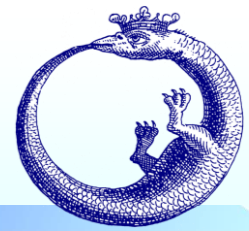
OXPHOS capacity is less than *ETS*



P

OXPHOS

Flux Control Diagrams for Permeabilized and Intact Cells

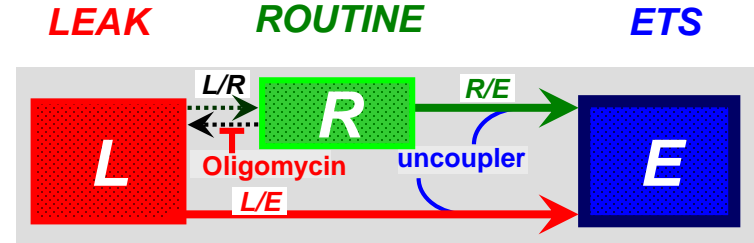
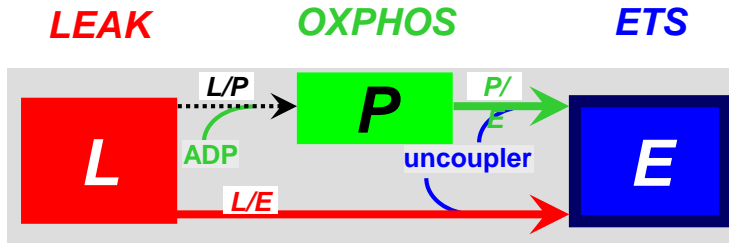


A: Permeabilized Cells

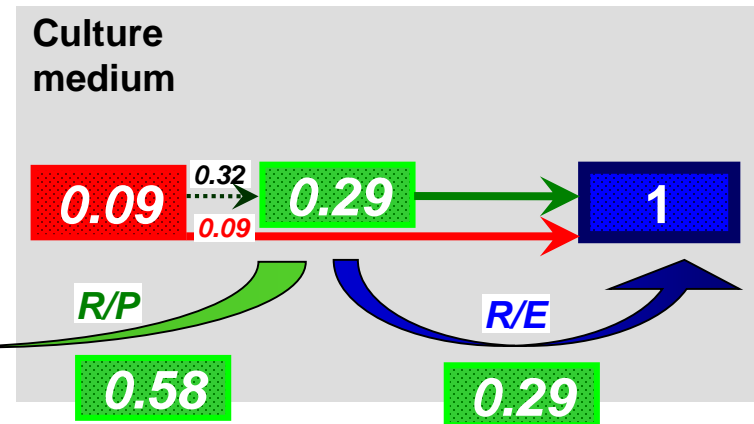
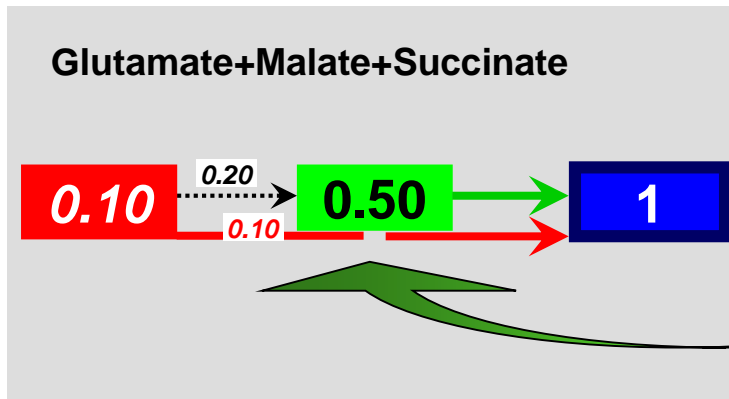
B: Intact Cells

Control

Coupling

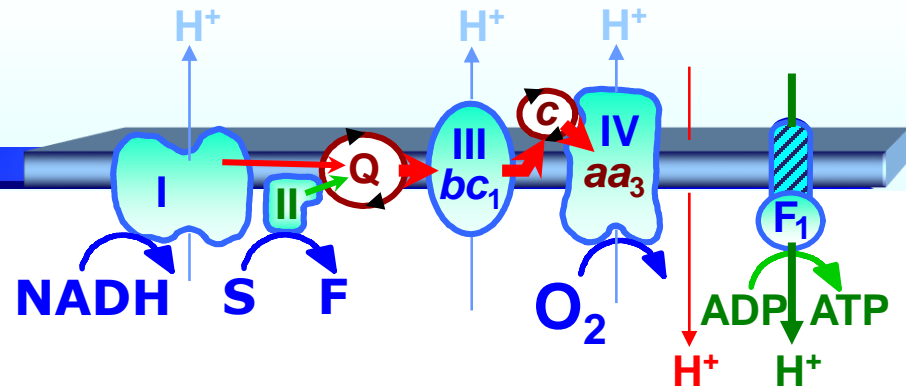


CI+II combined

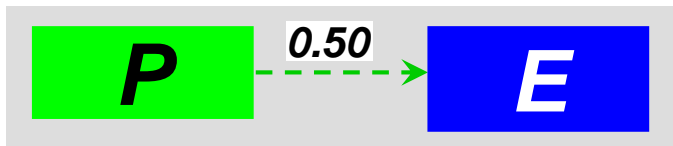
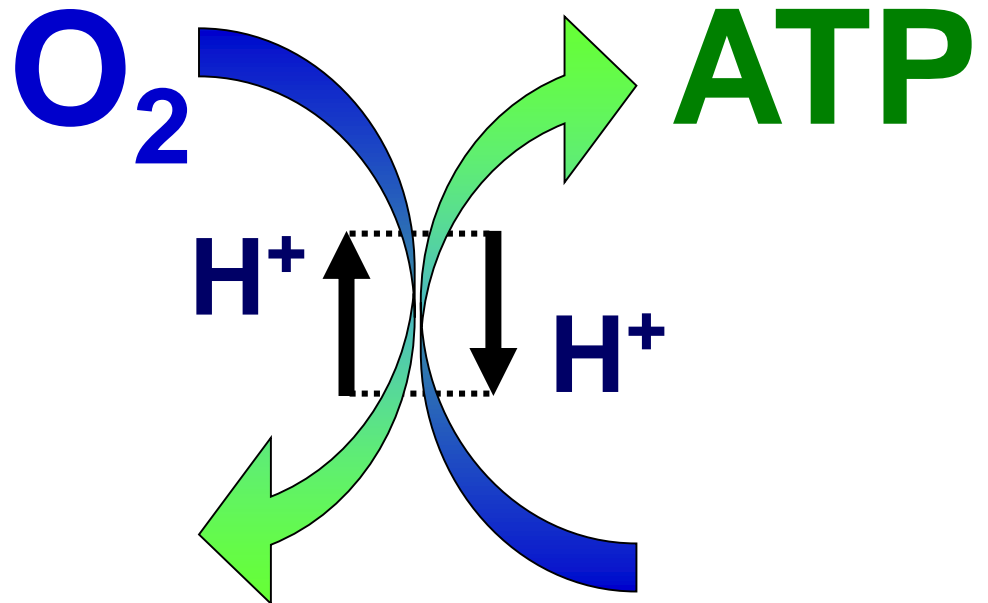


Reserve capacity is overestimated 2-fold

OXPHOS

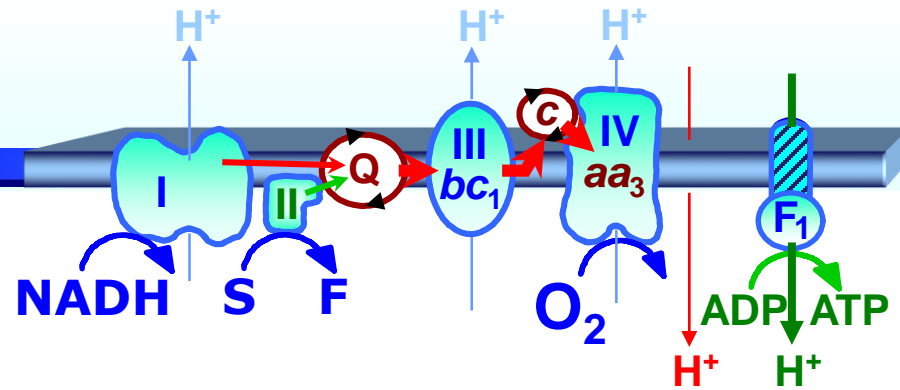


The phosphorylation system exerts strong control over *OXPHOS* in human fibroblasts.



Question 3

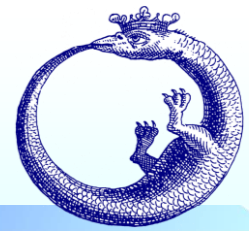
LEAK



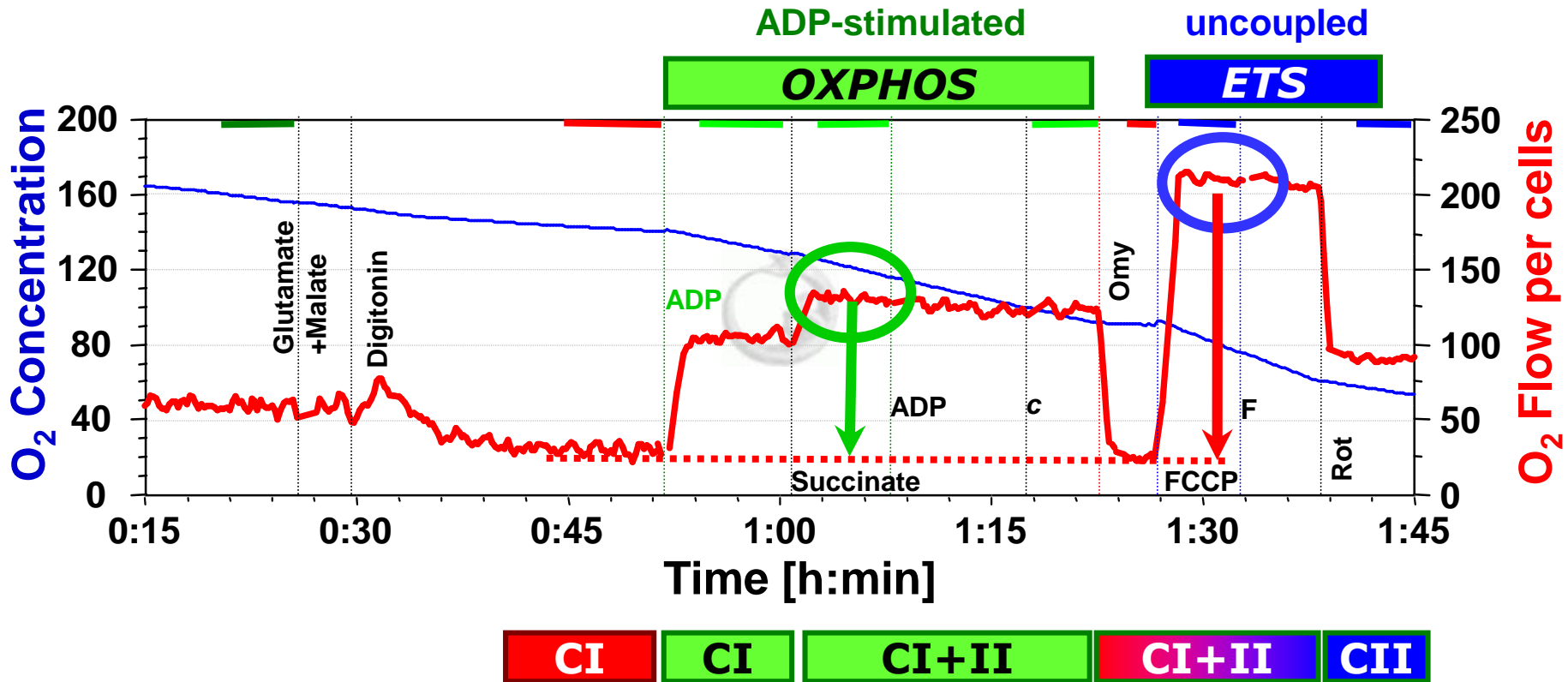
How do we express respiratory coupling ratios?

- A. Mitochondria
- B. Intact cells

High-Resolution Respirometry in Permeabilized Cells



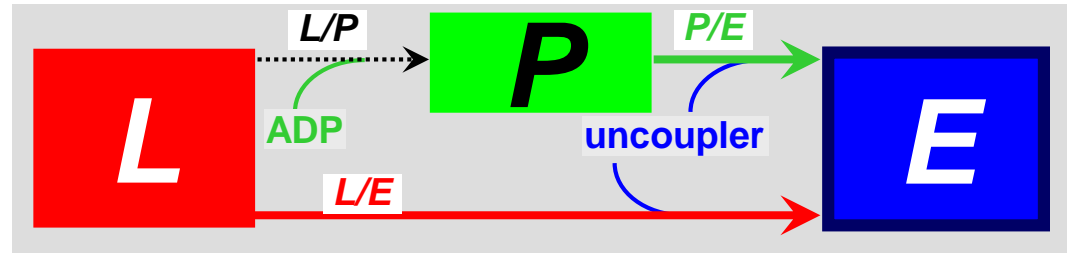
L/E ratio but not L/P ratio reflects the relative LEAK.



ETS Capacity versus OXPHOS Capacity

Coupling $\xleftrightarrow{\text{ADP}}$ **LEAK** **OXPHOS** **ETS**

Control



Substrate

Glutamate
+Malate



Limitation by the phosphorylation system

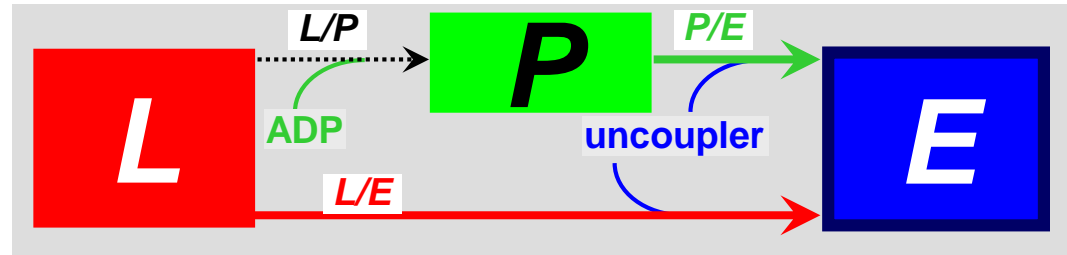
$\xleftarrow{4.0}$

Respiratory Control Ratio (State 3/State 4) is the inverse *L/P* ratio

ETS Capacity versus OXPHOS Capacity

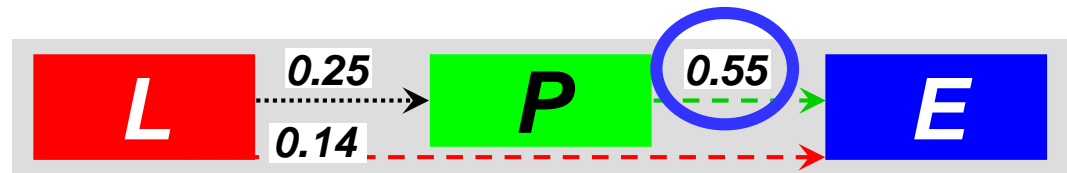
Coupling \longleftrightarrow **ADP** **LEAK** **OXPHOS** **ETS**

Control



Substrate

Glutamate
+Malate

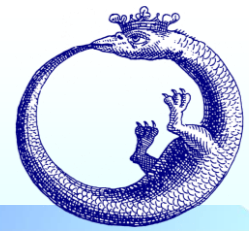


**L/E ratio
expresses uncoupling**

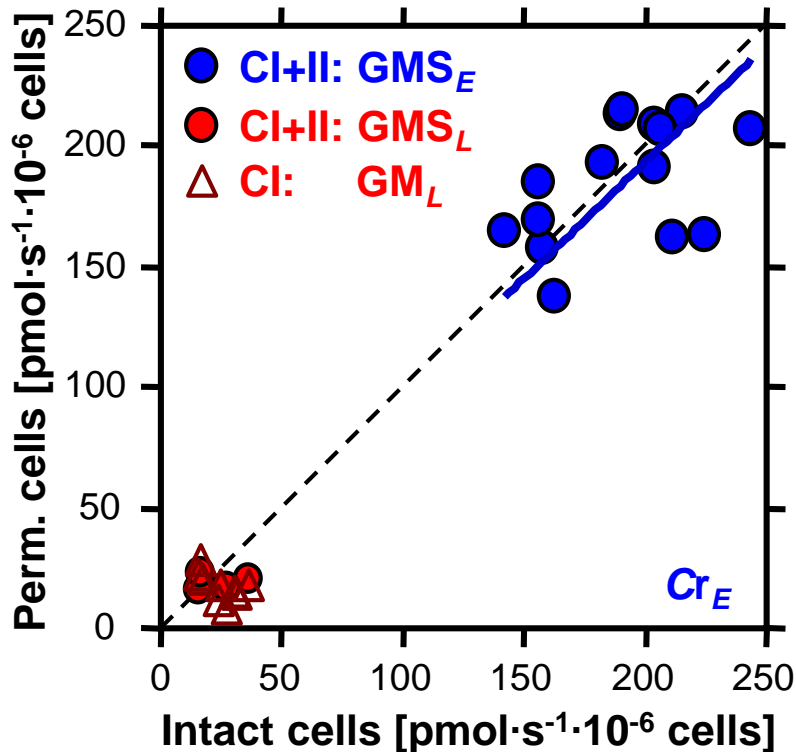
7.1

Respiratory Control Ratio
should be the inverse L/E ratio

Mitochondrial Pathways and Q-Junction



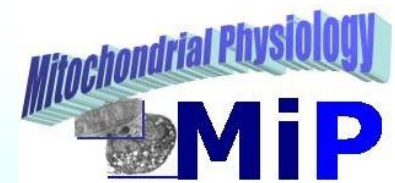
LEAK



***ETS* capacities and *LEAK* respiration were identical in intact and permeabilized cells, with convergent electron flow through Complexes I and II (CI+II e-input)**



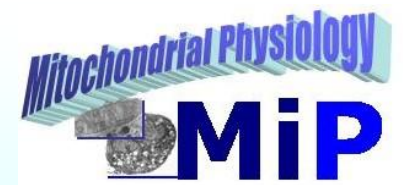
Mitochondrial Respiratory Control: **The Q-Junction**



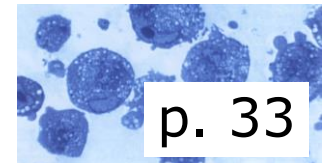
- 1. Convergent e-input at the Q-junction corresponds to the operation of the citric acid cycle.**
- 2. The additive Q-junction effect and phosphorylation limitation of *OXPPOS* reveal an unexpected diversity of mitochondrial function.**

Q-junction ratios: 0.97 to 0.5

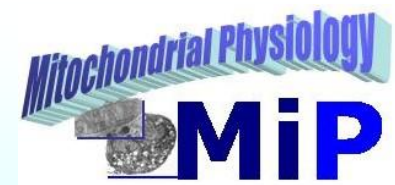
Mitochondrial Respiratory Control: **The Q-Junction**



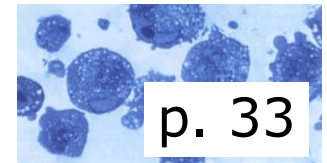
3. Interpretation of apparent excess capacities of ET complexes and of flux control coefficients is largely dependent on the metabolic reference state. Higher capacities with CI+II substrates explain apparent discrepancies between mitochondria and intact cells.



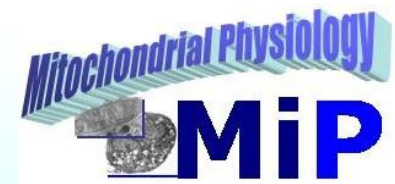
Mitochondrial Respiratory Control: **The Q-Junction**



4. Interpretation of excess capacities of various components of the respiratory chain and of flux control coefficients is largely dependent on the metabolic reference state. Appreciation of the concept of the Q-junction will provide new insights into the functional design of the respiratory chain.



Mitochondrial Respiratory Control: **The Q-Junction**



5. The relation between membrane potential and flux is reversed when an increase in flux is effected by a change in substrate supply.

→ MultiSensor O2k: TPMP⁺

OROBOROS INSTRUMENTS

high-resolution respirometry

Oxygraph-2k

www.oroboros.at



Faculty Disclosure Statement

O₂

H⁺

Ca²⁺

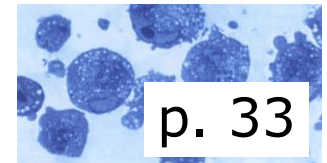
TPP⁺

NO



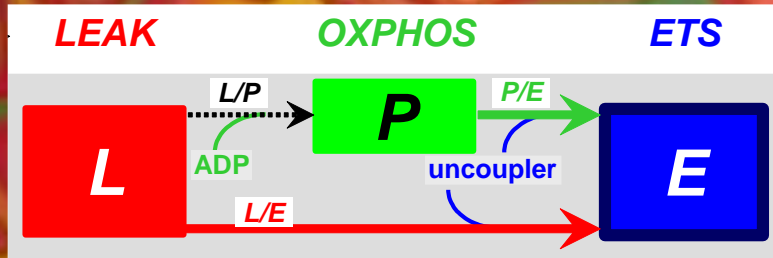
Mitochondrial Respiratory Control: **The Q-Junction**

6. ROS production and reversed electron flow from Complex II to Complex I: Multiple substrate supply plays a key role (Capel et al 2005; Garait et al 2005). The dependence of ROS production on membrane potential and metabolic state will have to be investigated further based on the concept of the Q-junction.



Coupling Control

LEAK, **OXPHOS**, **ETS**



P: Oxidative Phosphorylation

L: LEAK

E: Electron Transport System