

# Enzyme Fundamentals: Introduction, Classification, Substrate Specificity & Regulation

CHEM 420 – Principles of Biochemistry  
Instructor – Anthony S. Serianni

Chapter 13: Voet/Voet, *Biochemistry*, 2011  
Fall 2015

September 30 and October 2

## Enzyme classification according to reaction type

Classification	Type of Reaction Catalyzed
1. Oxidoreductases	Oxidation–reduction reactions
2. Transferases	Transfer of functional groups
3. Hydrolases	Hydrolysis reactions
4. Lyases	Group elimination to form double bonds
5. Isomerases	Isomerization
6. Ligases	Bond formation coupled with ATP hydrolysis

Example of EC Classification: Carboxypeptidase A  
**EC 3.4.17.1**

**3:** enzyme major class = hydrolase

**4:** subclass of hydrolase = peptide hydrolase

**17:** sub-subclass = metallo-carboxypeptidase (carboxypeptidase A has a  $Zn^{2+}$  ion bound in its active site)

**1:** arbitrarily assigned serial number in its sub-subclass

## Some terminology:

**Cofactors:** non-protein components required by an enzyme for activity; can be inorganic (ions) or organic

An organic cofactor = **coenzyme**

Cofactors/coenzymes can be strongly bound by the protein or reversibly associate with the protein.  
Strongly bound cofactor = **prosthetic group**

**holoenzyme** = enzyme + all cofactors required for activity

**apoenzyme** = enzyme (protein) only

## Coenzymes and their vitamin precursors

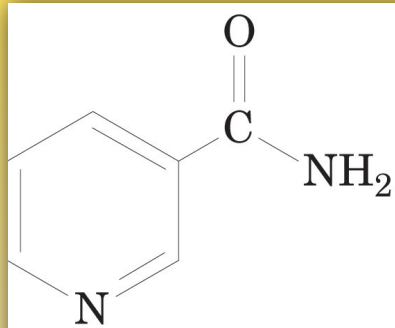
Vitamin	Coenzyme	Human Deficiency Disease
Biotin	Biocytin	<i>a</i>
Cobalamin (B <sub>12</sub> )	Cobalamin (B <sub>12</sub> ) coenzymes	Pernicious anemia
Folic acid	Tetrahydrofolate	Megaloblastic anemia
Nicotinamide	Nicotinamide coenzymes	Pellagra
Pantothenate	Coenzyme A	<i>a</i>
Pyridoxine (B <sub>6</sub> )	Pyridoxal phosphate	<i>a</i>
Riboflavin (B <sub>2</sub> )	Flavin coenzymes	<i>a</i>
Thiamine (B <sub>1</sub> )	Thiamine pyrophosphate	Beriberi

<sup>a</sup>No specific name; deficiency in humans is rare or unobserved.

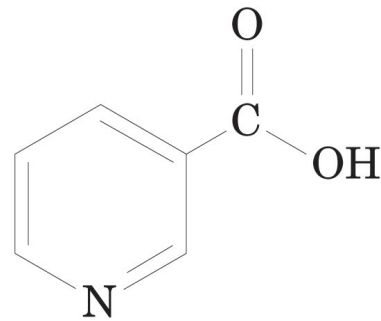
## Common coenzymes and the enzyme reactions they mediate

Coenzyme	Reaction Mediated
Biotin	Carboxylation
Cobalamin (B <sub>12</sub> ) coenzymes	Alkylation
Coenzyme A	Acyl transfer
Flavin coenzymes	Oxidation– reduction
Lipoic acid	Acyl transfer
Nicotinamide coenzymes	Oxidation– reduction
Pyridoxal phosphate	Amino group transfer
Tetrahydrofolate	One-carbon group transfer
Thiamine pyrophosphate	Aldehyde transfer

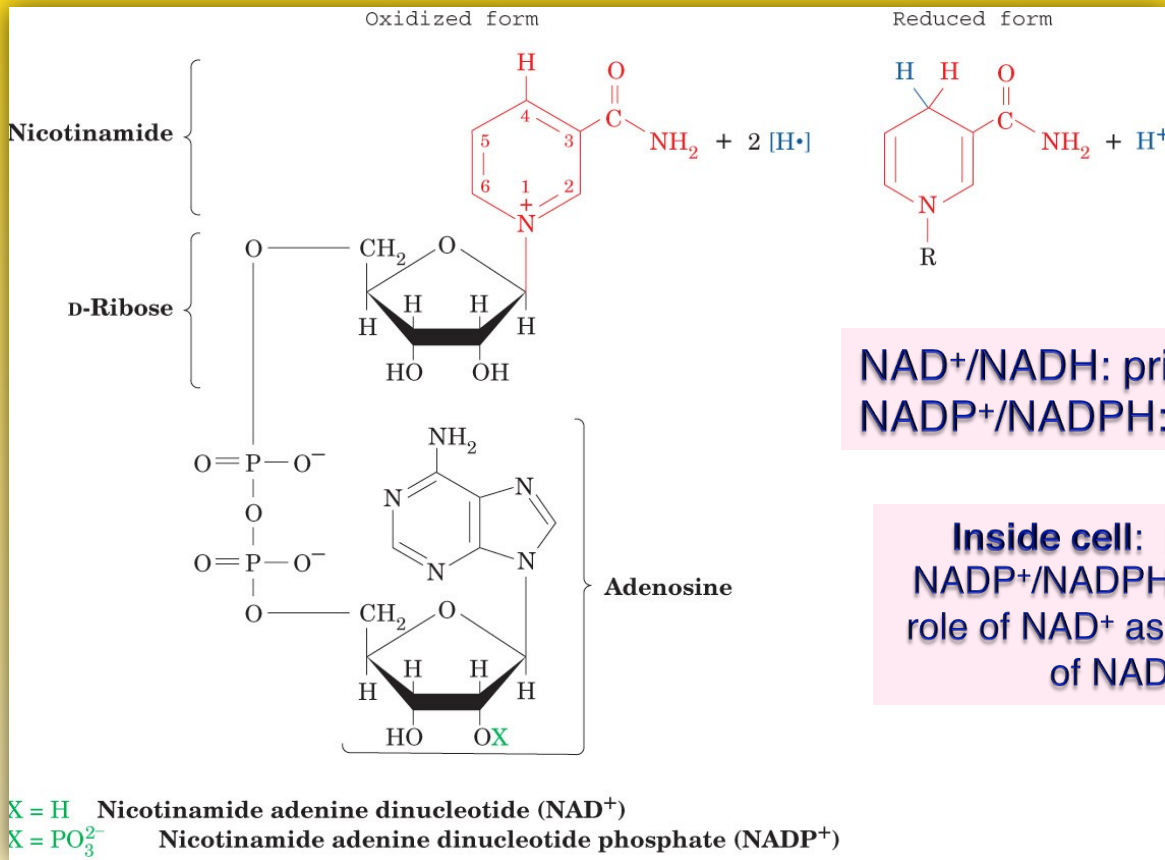
## Structures of vitamins: nicotinamide and nicotinic acid



**Nicotinamide**  
**(niacinamide)**



**Nicotinic acid**  
**(niacin)**



$\text{NAD}^+/\text{NADH}$ : primarily catabolic, mitochondrial  
 $\text{NADP}^+/\text{NADPH}$ : primarily anabolic, cytosolic

**Inside cell:**  $\text{NAD}^+/\text{NADH}$  ratio is high, and  $\text{NADP}^+/\text{NADPH}$  ratio is low; consistent with the role of  $\text{NAD}^+$  as an oxidizing agent, and the role of  $\text{NADPH}$  as a reducing agent

**Structures and reactions of coenzymes: nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide ( $\text{NAD}^+$ ) and nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate ( $\text{NADP}^+$ ): 2-electron redox reactions**

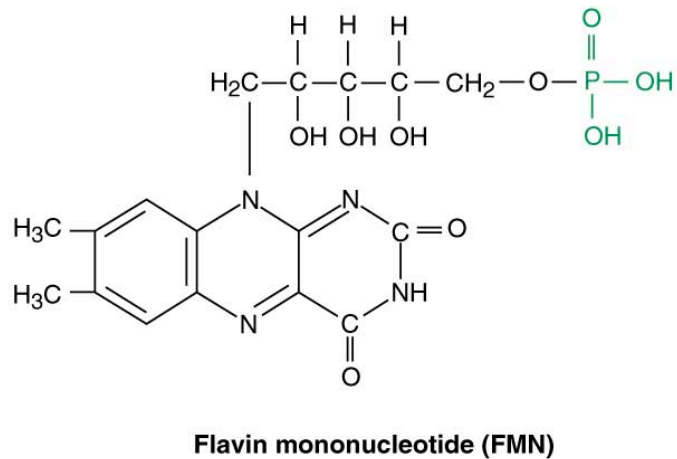
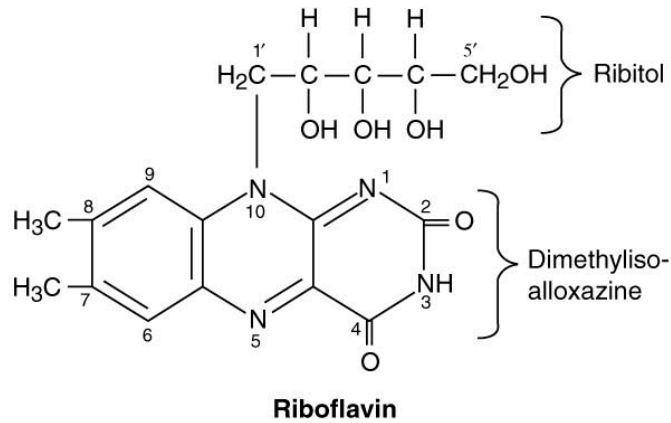


In a 2-electron, 2-proton redox reaction,  $\text{NAD}^+$  ( $\text{NADP}^+$ ) accommodates two electrons and one proton during reduction of the nicotinamide ring; the second proton is released into solution.

In its reduced form, the  $\text{C4}$  carbon of the nicotinamide ring is prochiral. Either the pro- $R$  or pro- $S$  site is involved in the redox reaction, depending on the dehydrogenase. This selectivity can be determined by conducting reactions with deuterated substrates and/or deuterated  $\text{NADH}$ .

## Common coenzymes and the reactions they mediate

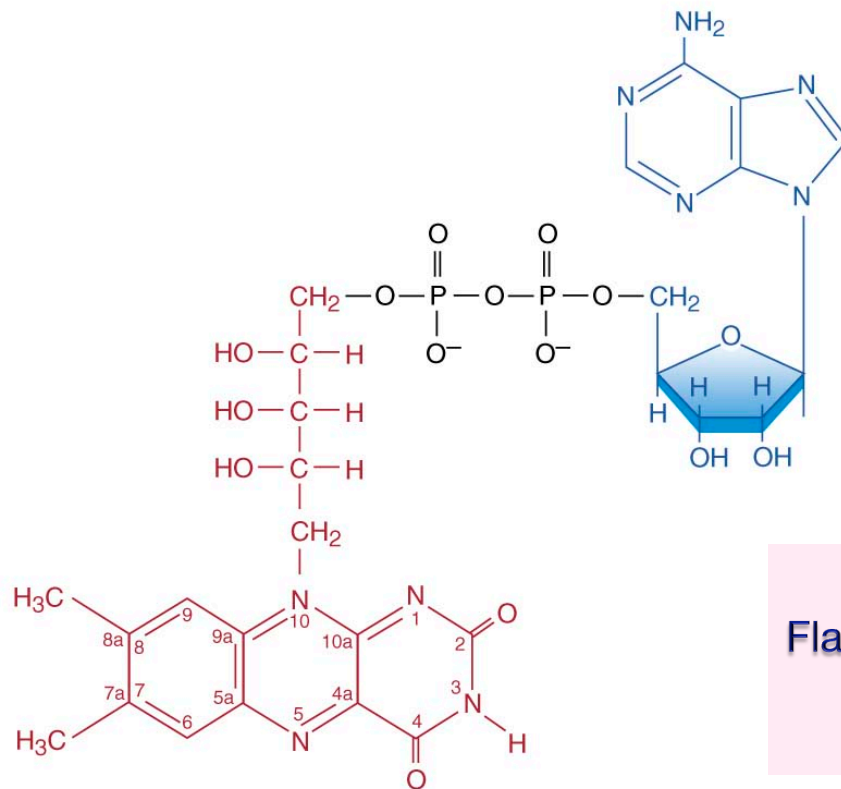
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**Figure 10.32. Riboflavin and flavin mononucleotide.**

**Vitamin B<sub>2</sub>**

**Coenzyme:**  
 Flavin mononucleotide (FMN)  
 (oxidized form); also exists  
 in its reduced form, **FMNH<sub>2</sub>**

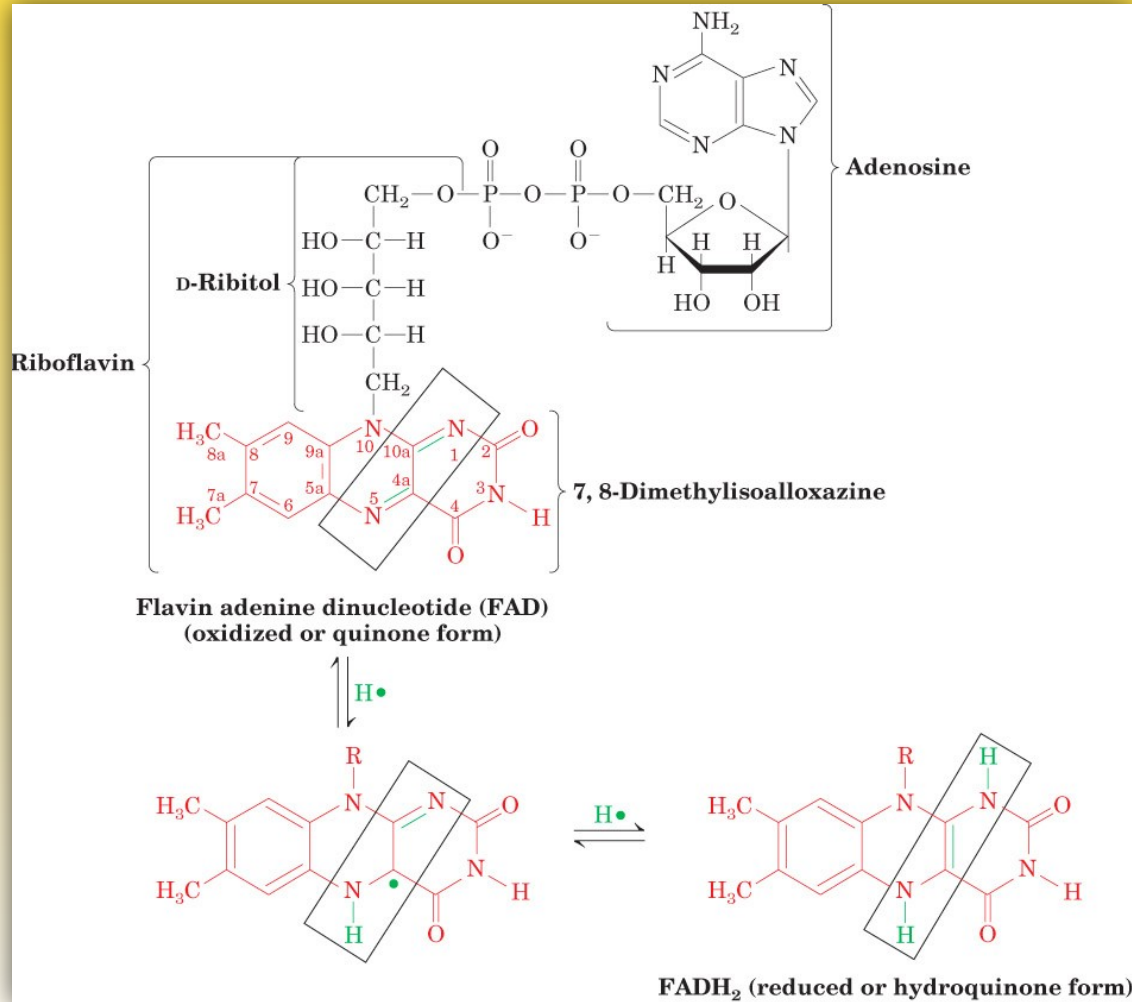


**Flavin adenine dinucleotide (FAD)**

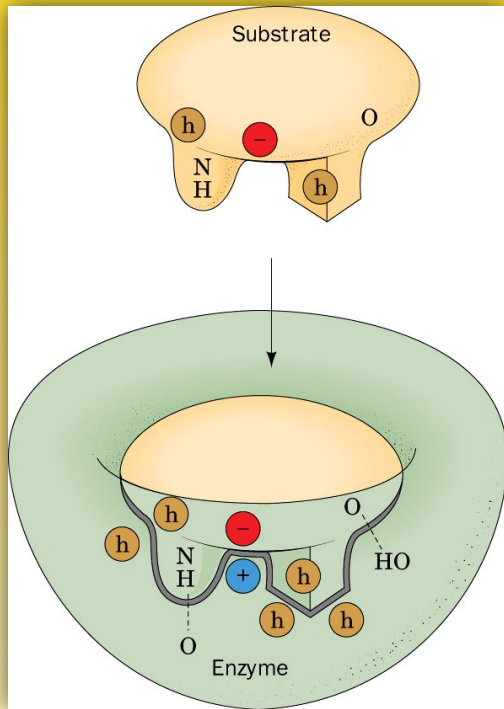
**Figure 10.33. Flavin adenine dinucleotide (FAD).**

**Coenzyme:**  
 Flavin adenine dinucleotide (**FAD**)  
 (oxidized form); also exists  
 in its reduced form, **FADH<sub>2</sub>**

# The molecular formula and reactions of the coenzyme, flavin adenine dinucleotide (FAD), showing both $1e^-$ and $2e^-$ reduction products



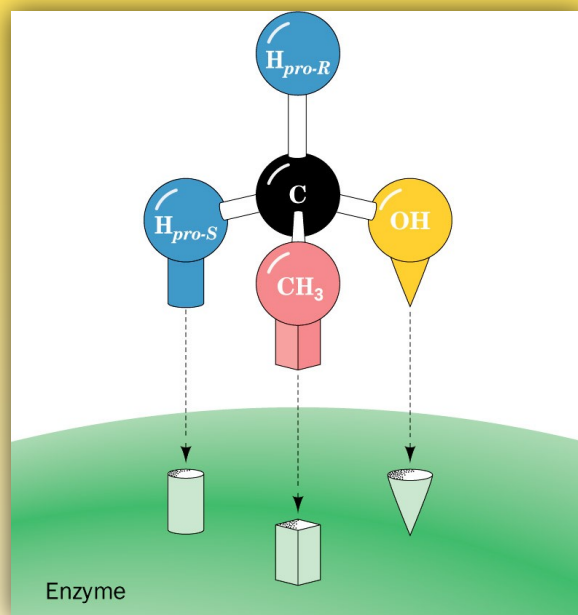
However, unlike the  $NAD^+$  system, the FMN/ FAD coenzymes can undergo one electron-one proton reduction to form a stable species (radical).



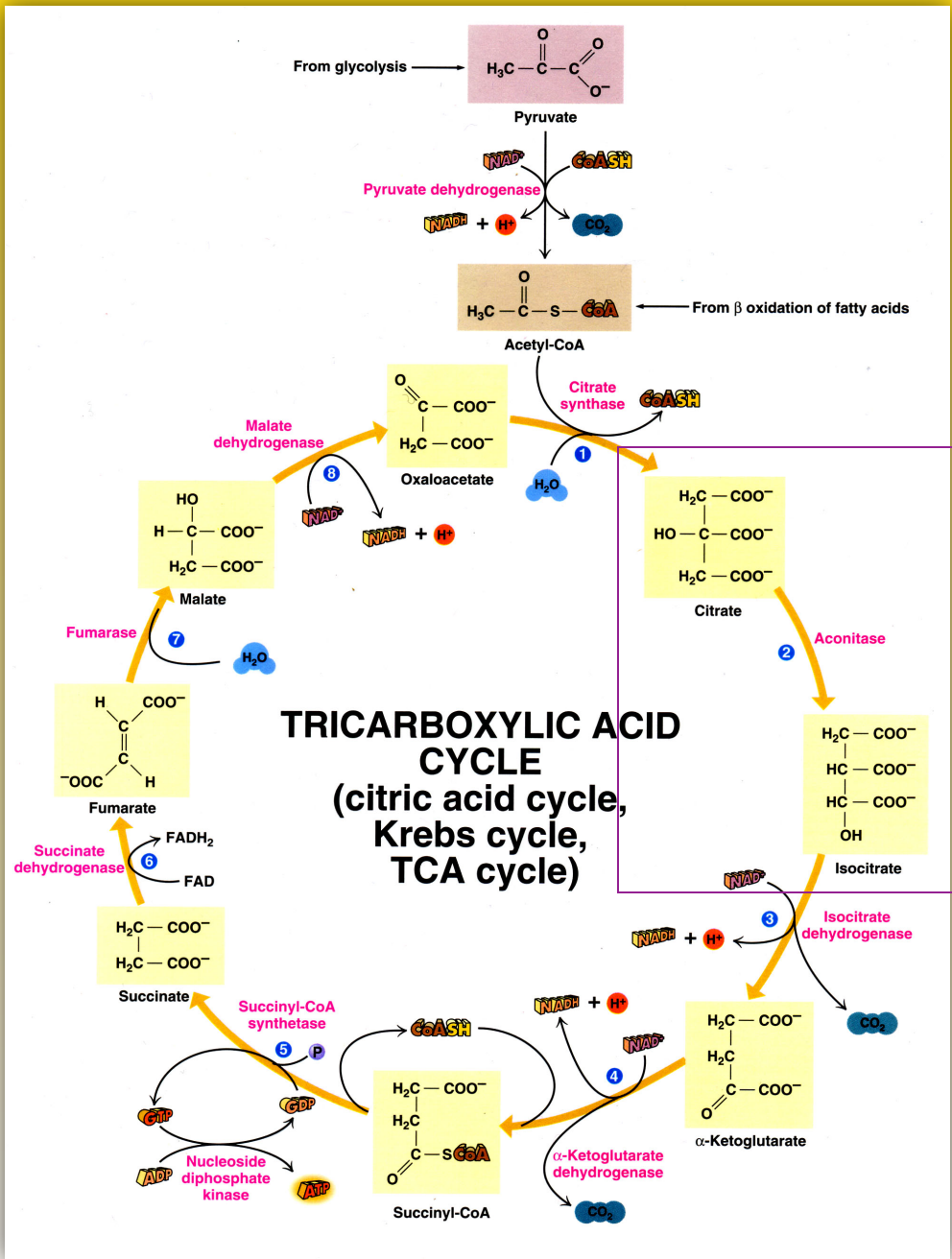
Complementary electrostatic, hydrophobic (h) and H-bonding interactions at the binding interface

An enzyme-substrate complex: geometric and physical complementarity between the enzyme active site and the substrate; also applies to other types of binding, e.g., protein-protein

## Dealing with prochiral centers in substrates: ethanol, citric acid



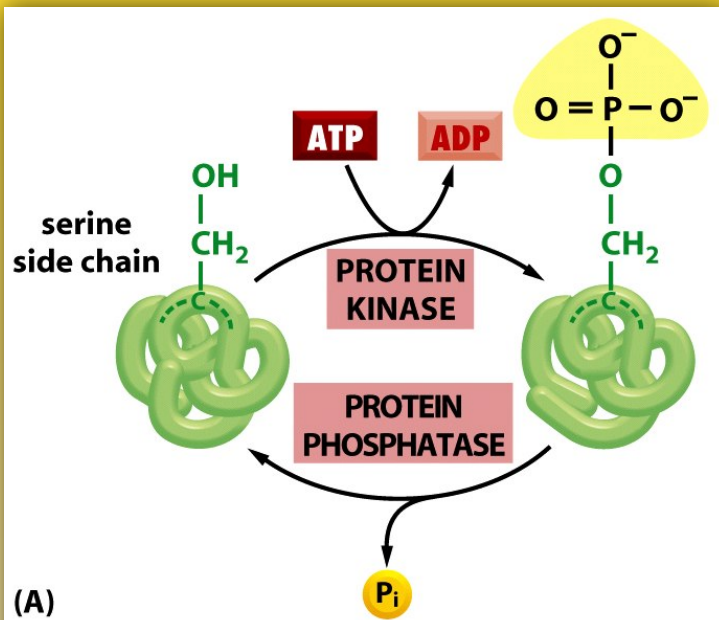
Prochiral differentiation in a chiral protein binding site: distinguishing between the pro-*R* and pro-*S* hydrogens in prochiral ethanol



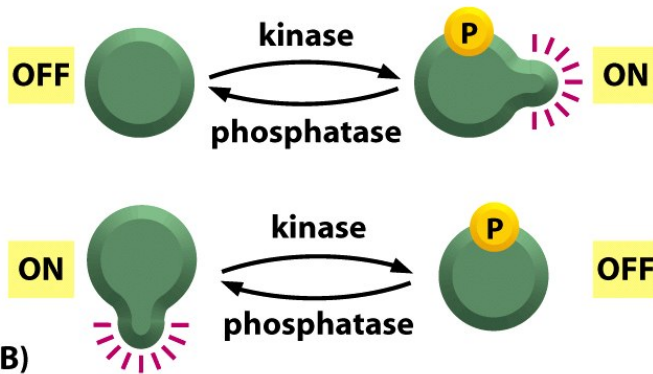


**Protein phosphorylation:** a major form of reversible post-translational covalent modification that affects enzyme structure and activity

- Introduction of negative charge: often results in major conformational change
- Introduction of a new binding site



(A)



(B)

Figure 3-64 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

Enzyme-catalyzed phosphorylation and dephosphorylation of a protein (serine phosphomonoester shown) by protein kinases and phosphatases; other phosphorylation sites on proteins include threonine and tyrosine

Correlating the state of enzyme phosphorylation with enzyme activity

## Other types of covalent modification of proteins/enzymes

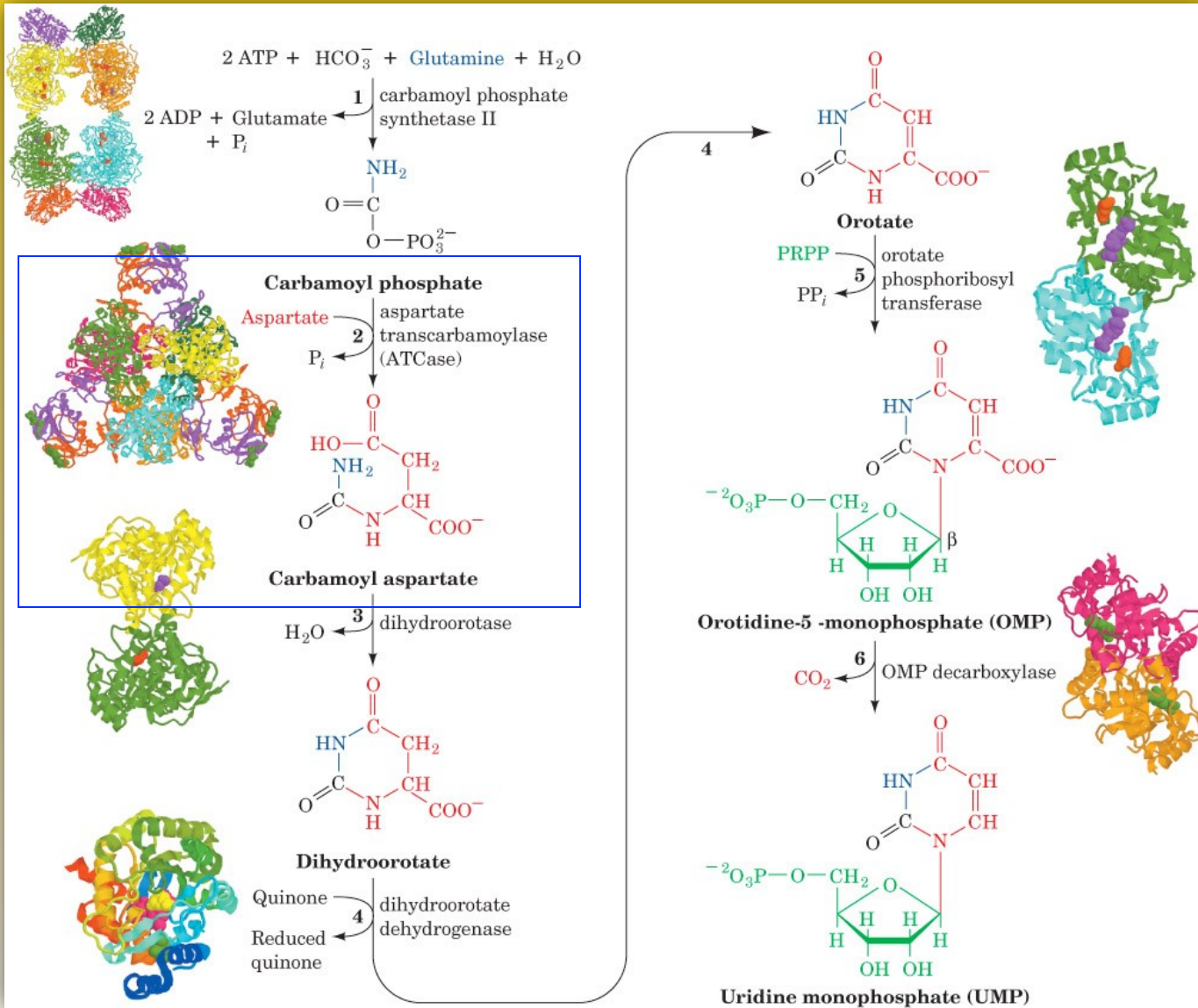
**Table 3–3 Some Molecules Covalently Attached to Proteins Regulate Protein Function**

MODIFYING GROUP	SOME PROMINENT FUNCTIONS
Phosphate on Ser, Thr, or Tyr Methyl on Lys	Drives the assembly of a protein into larger complexes (see Figure 15–19). Helps to create histone code in chromatin through forming either mono-, di-, or tri-methyl lysine (see Figure 4–38).
Acetyl on Lys Palmitoyl group on Cys	Helps to create histone code in chromatin (see Figure 4–38). This fatty acid addition drives protein association with membranes (see Figure 10–20).
N-acetylglucosamine on Ser or Thr Ubiquitin on Lys	Controls enzyme activity and gene expression in glucose homeostasis. Monoubiquitin addition regulates the transport of membrane proteins in vesicles (see Figure 13–58). A polyubiquitin chain targets a protein for degradation (see Figure 3–79).

**Ubiquitin is a 76 amino acid polypeptide; there are at least 10 other ubiquitin-related proteins, such as SUMO, that modify proteins in similar ways.**

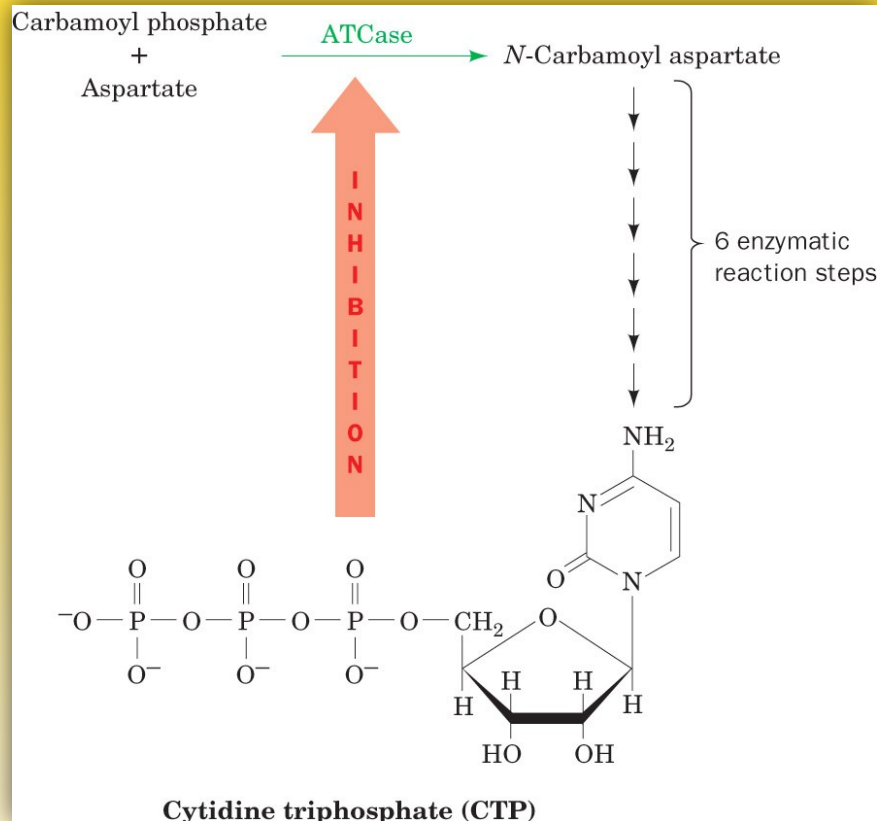
Table 3-3 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

# Enzyme catalysis



Metabolic  
 pathway for  
 the *de novo*  
 synthesis of  
 UMP; role of  
 ATCase

# Allosteric regulation of an enzyme

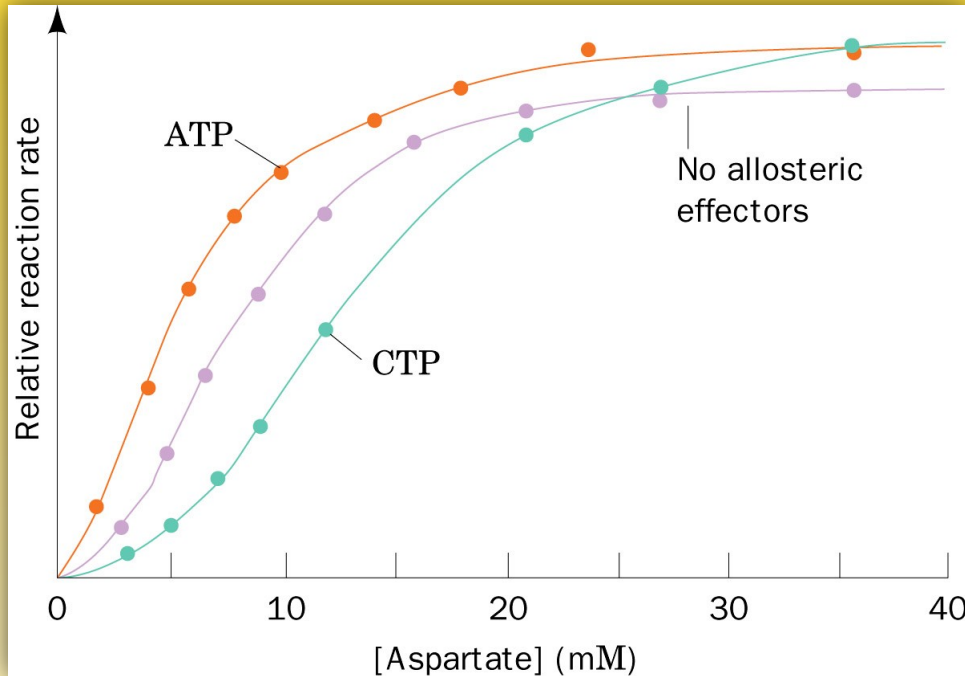


**ATCase = aspartate transcarbamoylase (300 kD): two sets of catalytic trimers and three sets of regulatory dimers (total of 12 subunits)**

Regulatory enzymes often catalyze the initial reaction of a metabolic pathway.

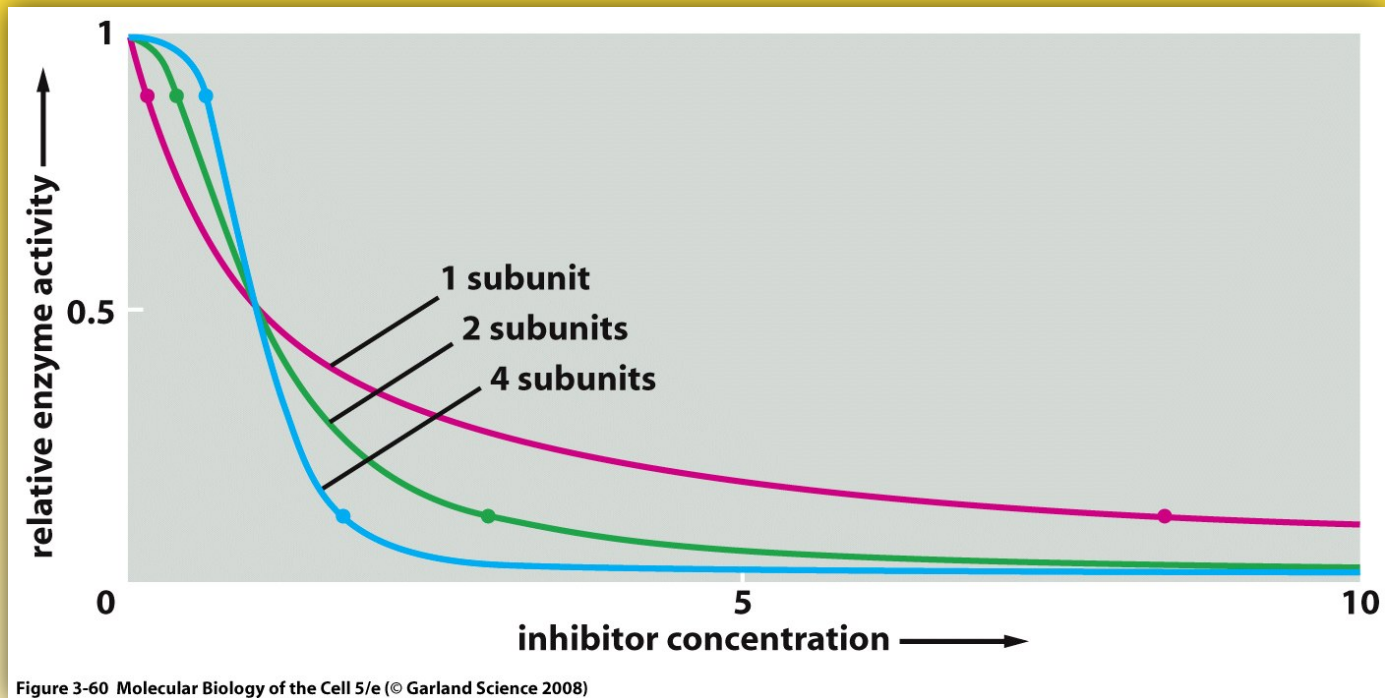
**Schematic representation of the UTP/CTP biosynthesis pathway: end-product inhibition (feedback)**

ATCase catalyzes a **two-substrate** reaction to give a single product.



Rate vs [S]  
curves are sigmoidal:  
**cooperativity**  
**(allosterism)**

The rate of the reaction catalyzed by ATCase as a function of aspartate concentration: allosteric regulation of enzymic activity  
**ATP = positive effector; CTP = negative effector**



**General principle.** Enzyme activity versus the concentration of inhibitory ligand for a single-subunit enzyme and multi-subunit allosteric enzymes. Dots show drop from 90% to 10% activity. Note switch-like behavior of the multi-subunit allosteric enzymes.



Rate accelerations caused by five different enzymes:  
Accelerations range from  $10^9$  to  $10^{23}$

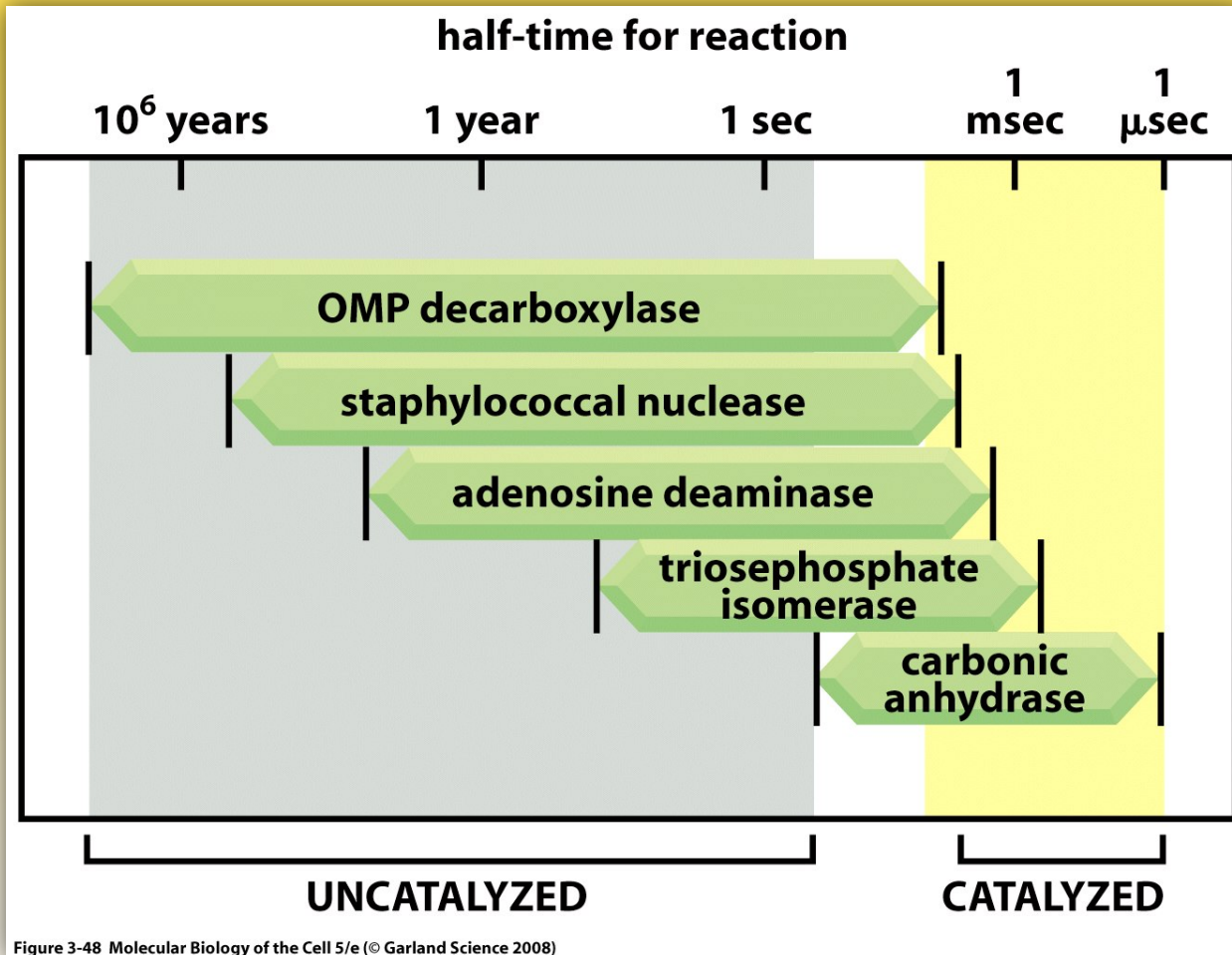


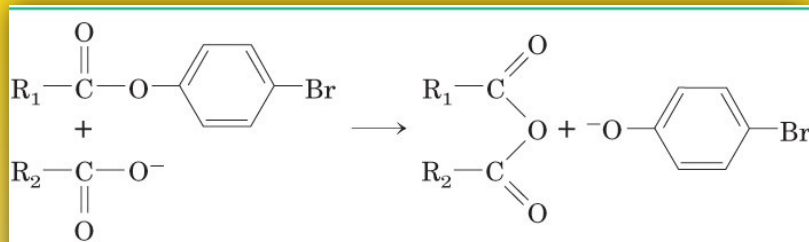
Figure 3-48 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

TABLE 1.2 Examples of Enzymatic Rate Acceleration

Enzyme	Nonenzymatic rate $k_{\text{non}}$ ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ )	Enzymatic rate $k_{\text{cat}}$ ( $\text{s}^{-1}$ )	Rate acceleration $k_{\text{cat}}/k_{\text{non}}$
Cyclophilin <sup>a</sup>	$2.8 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.3 \times 10^4$	$4.6 \times 10^5$
Carbonic anhydrase <sup>a</sup>	$1.3 \times 10^{-1}$	$10^6$	$7.7 \times 10^6$
Chorismate mutase <sup>a</sup>	$2.6 \times 10^{-5}$	50	$1.9 \times 10^6$
Chymotrypsin <sup>b</sup>	$4 \times 10^{-9}$	$4 \times 10^{-2}$	$10^7$
Triosephosphate Isomerase <sup>b</sup>	$6 \times 10^{-7}$	$2 \times 10^3$	$3 \times 10^9$
Fumarase <sup>b</sup>	$2 \times 10^{-8}$	$2 \times 10^3$	$10^{11}$
Ketosteroid Isomerase <sup>a</sup>	$1.7 \times 10^{-7}$	$6.6 \times 10^4$	$3.9 \times 10^{11}$
Carboxypeptidase A <sup>a</sup>	$3 \times 10^{-9}$	578	$1.9 \times 10^{11}$
Adenosine Deaminase <sup>a</sup>	$1.8 \times 10^{-10}$	370	$2.1 \times 10^{12}$
Urease <sup>b</sup>	$3 \times 10^{-10}$	$3 \times 10^4$	$10^{14}$
Alkaline Phosphatase <sup>b</sup>	$10^{-15}$	$10^2$	$10^{17}$
Orotidine 5'-Phosphate Decarboxylase <sup>a</sup>	$2.8 \times 10^{-16}$	39	$1.4 \times 10^{17}$

<sup>a</sup>Taken from Radzicka, A.; Wolfenden, R. *Science* **1995**, 267, 90.

<sup>b</sup>Taken from Horton, H. R.; Moran, L. A.; Ochs, R. S.; Rawn, J. D.; Scrimgeour, K. G. *Principles of Biochemistry*, Neil Patterson: Englewood Cliffs, NJ, 1993.



Reactants <sup>a</sup>	Relative Rate Constant
$\text{CH}_3\text{COO Br}$ + $\text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$	$\phi$ 1.0
	$\sim 1 \times 10^3$
	$\phi$ $\sim 2.3 \times 10^5$
	$\phi$ $\sim 8 \times 10^7$

<sup>a</sup>Curved arrows indicate rotational degrees of freedom.

Source: Bruice, T.C. and Lightstone, F.C., *Acc. Chem. Res.* **32**, 127 (1999).

## Factors responsible for rate enhancements by enzymes

Proximity/orientation effects on non-enzymic reaction rates; model for similar effects in enzyme binding sites

Relative rates of anhydride formation (bimolecular and intramolecular) for esters possessing different degrees of motional freedom

# Factors responsible for rate enhancements by enzymes

## Acid and base catalysis in enzymes: peptide (amide) bond hydrolysis

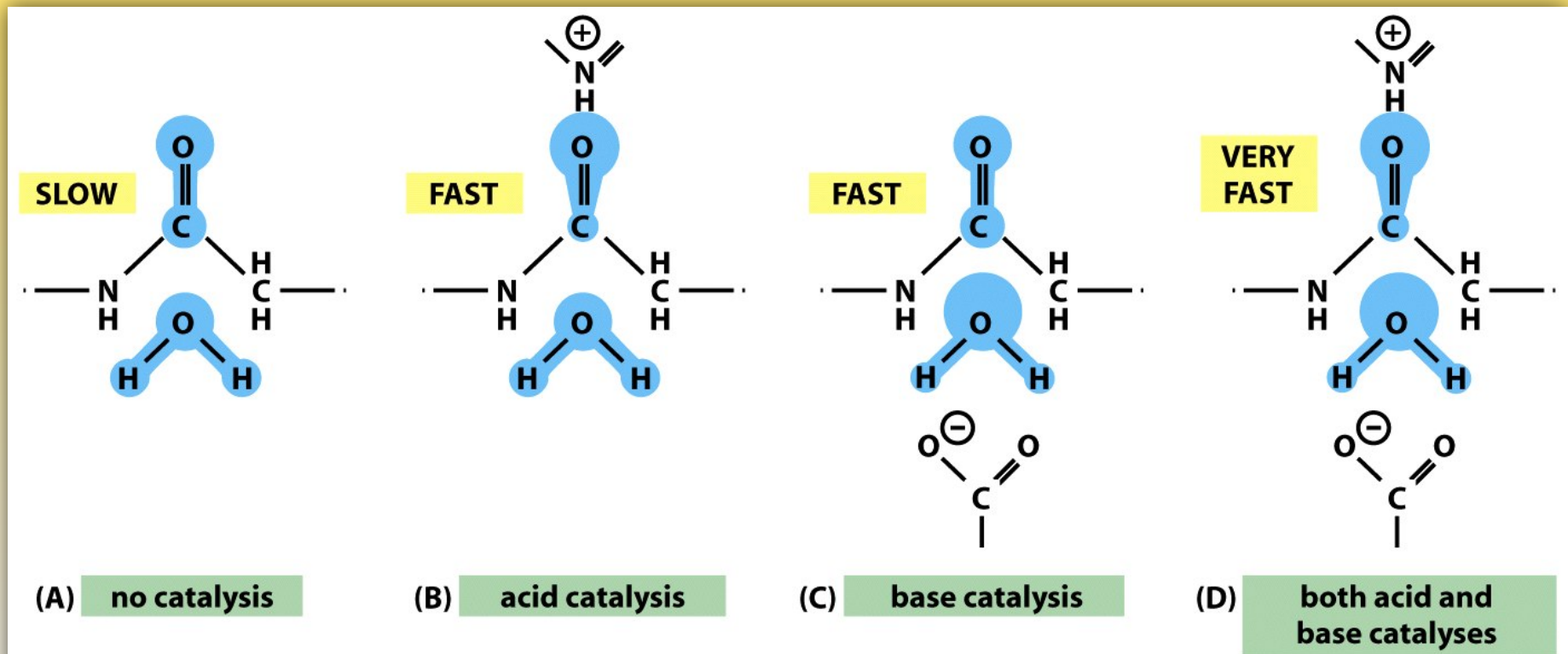
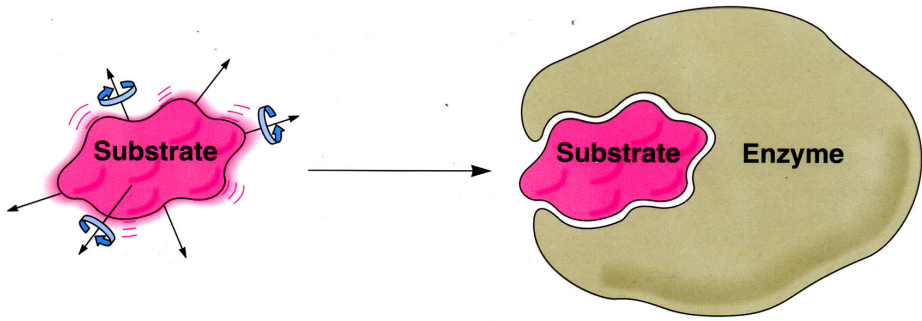
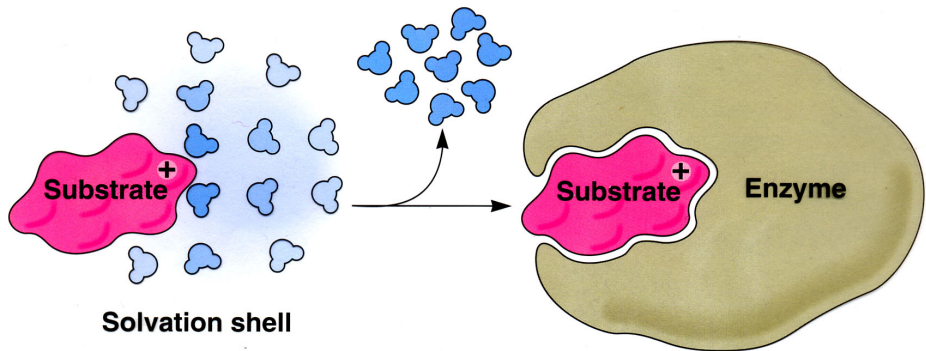


Figure 3-49 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)



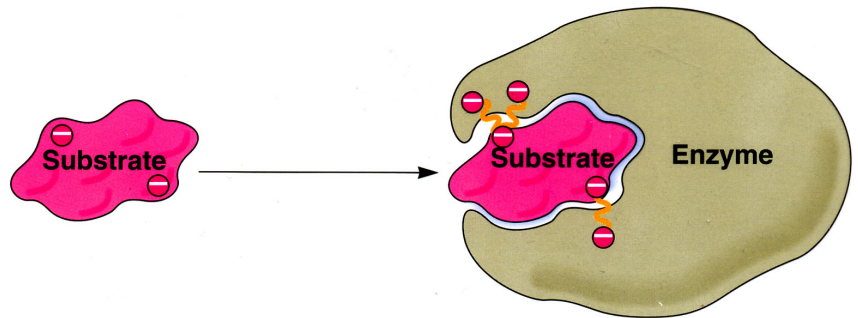
Substrate (and enzyme) are free to undergo translational motion. A disordered, high entropy situation

The highly ordered, low entropy complex



Solvation shell

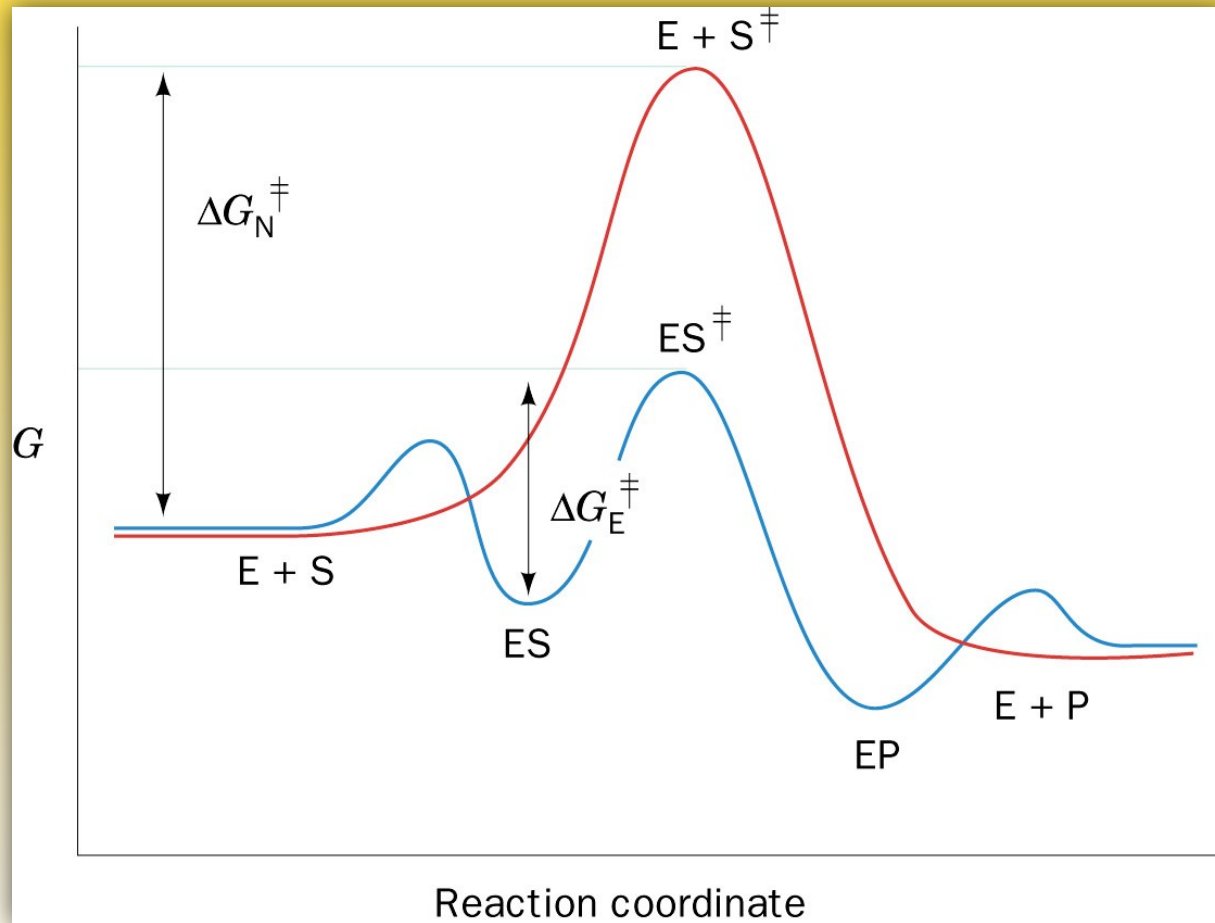
Desolvated ES complex

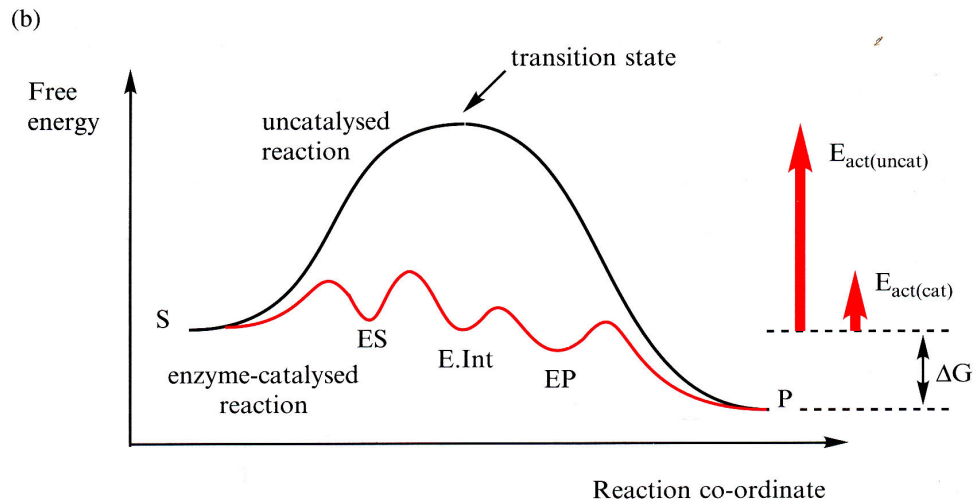
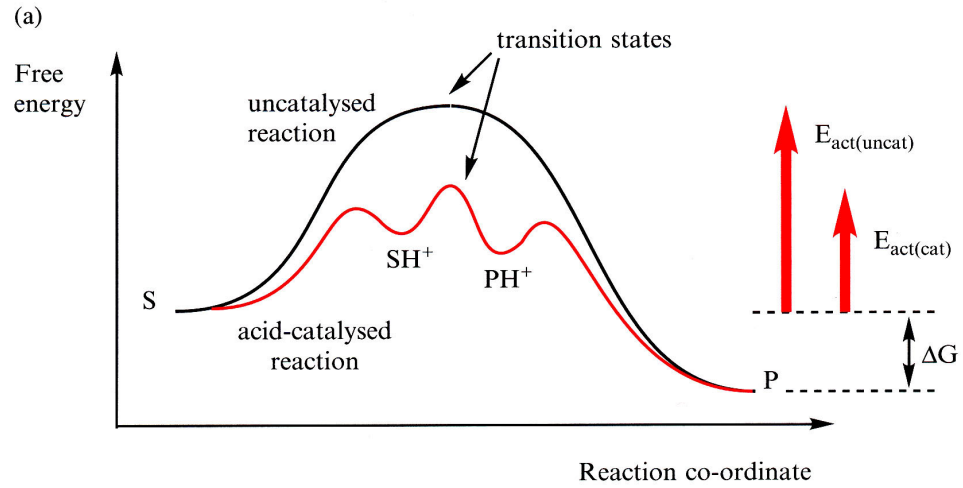


Electrostatic destabilization in ES complex

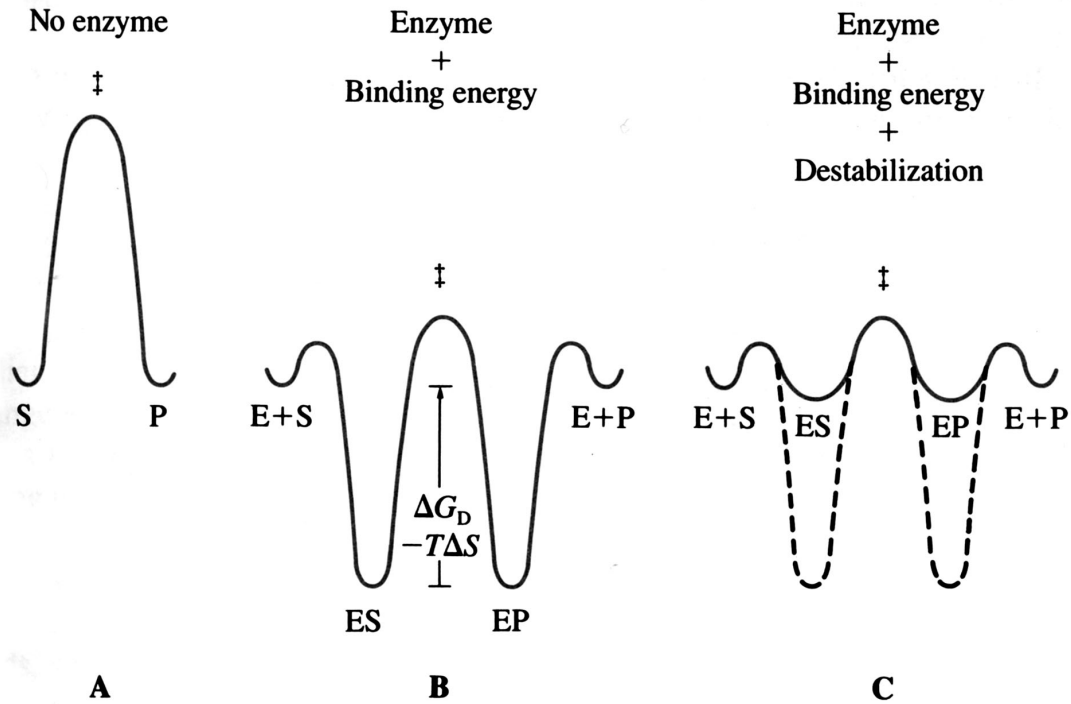
Enthalpic and entropic factors affecting the strength of enzyme-substrate binding

Reaction coordinate diagrams for a hypothetical enzyme-catalyzed reaction (single substrate, *blue*; corresponding uncatalyzed reaction, *red*).





**Figure 3.4** Free energy profiles for (a) an acid-catalysed reaction and (b) an enzyme-catalysed reaction which converts substrate  $S$  to product  $P$ .



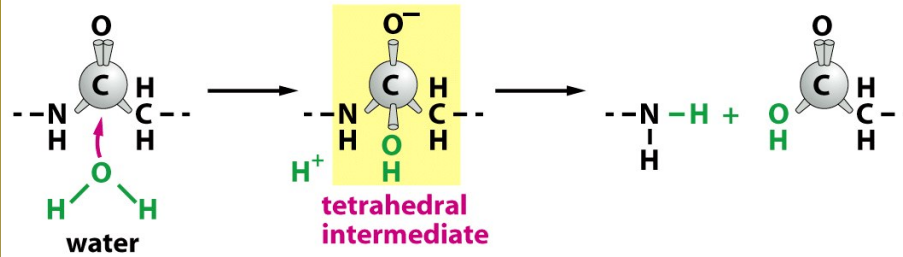
For catalysis to occur, the enzyme must bind the transition state more tightly than the substrate.

**Figure 5-11**

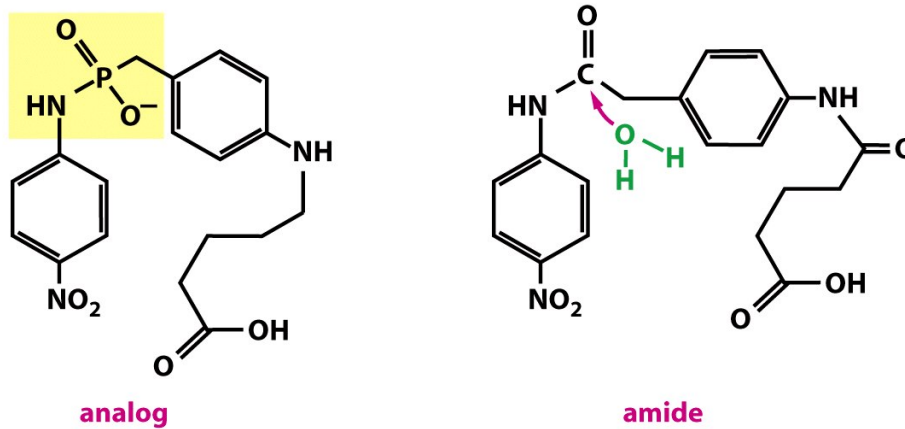
If an enzyme stabilizes the E·S complex and the transition state for the reaction of S by the same amount, there is no catalysis, because the barrier for the reaction of E·S (B) is the same as the barrier for the reaction of S (A). The enzyme becomes an effective catalyst when it stabilizes the transition state much more than the E·S and E·P complexes (C). This is brought about by destabilization mechanisms ( $\Delta G_D$ ) and loss of entropy ( $-T\Delta S$ ) in the E·S and E·P complexes.



(A) HYDROLYSIS OF AN AMIDE BOND



(B) TRANSITION-STATE ANALOG FOR AMIDE HYDROLYSIS



**Generating catalytic antibodies: antibody generation against a molecule that *mimics* the putative transition state of amide hydrolysis.**

Figure 3-47 Molecular Biology of the Cell 5/e (© Garland Science 2008)

## Summary of common mechanisms of enzyme catalysis

- acid-base catalysis
  - covalent catalysis
  - metal ion catalysis
  - electrostatic catalysis
- catalysis via proximity/orientation effects
- catalysis via preferential transition state binding