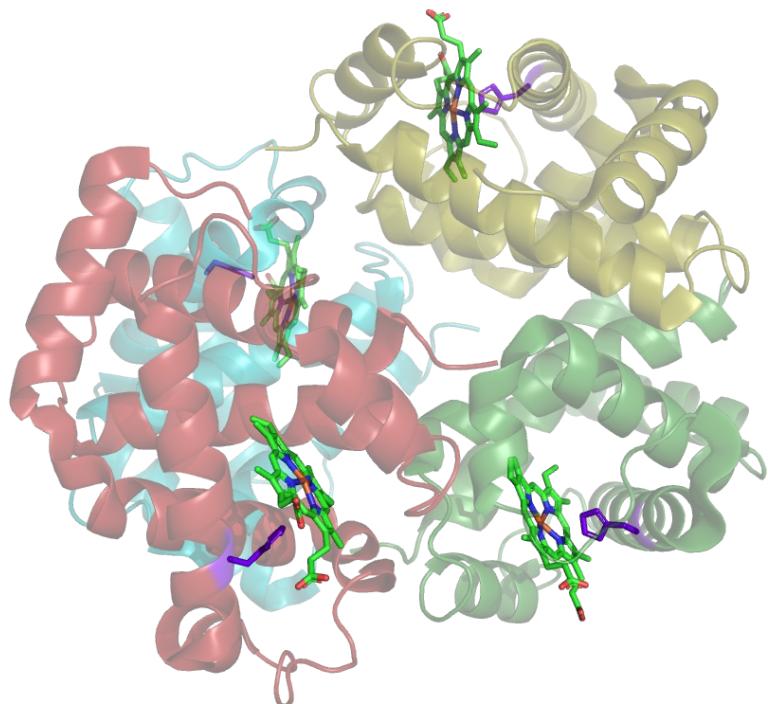
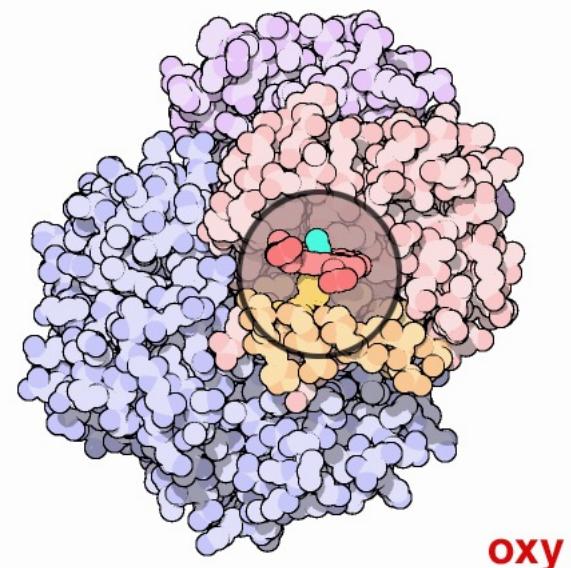


**CH 105**

*Inorganic & Organic Chemistry*  
*Module IV: Bioinorganic Chemistry*



*Chemistry Department*  
*IIT Bombay*





## Outline

*Relevance of  
Bioinorganic Chemistry*

*O<sub>2</sub> a key player in  
Bioinorganic Chemistry*

*Hemoglobin &  
reversible O<sub>2</sub> binding*

*Trivia*

## Outline

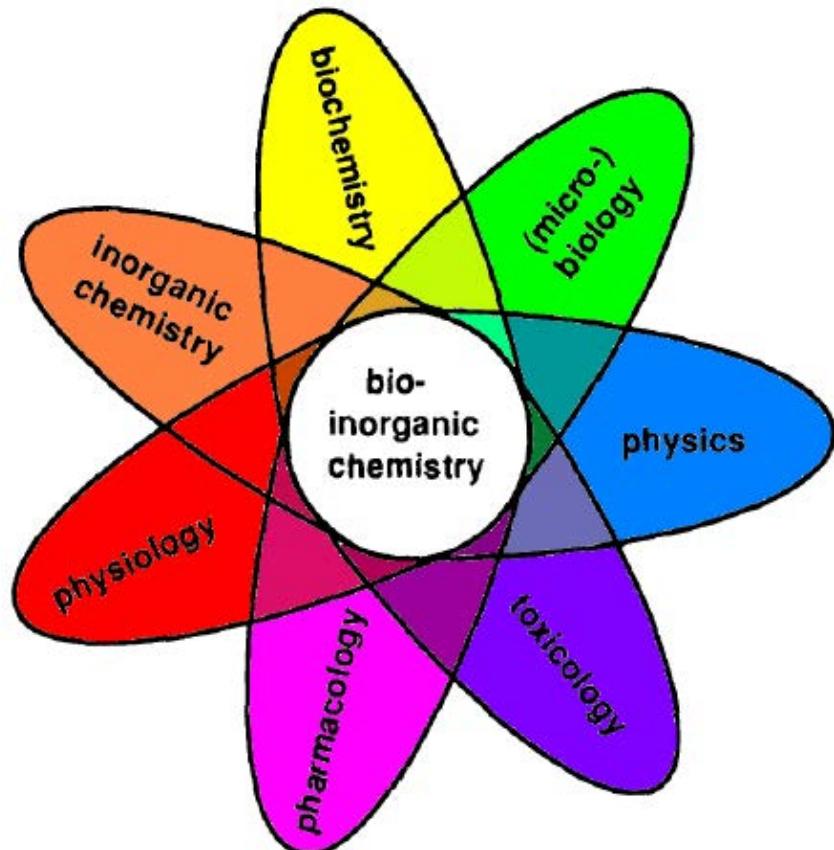
*Relevance of  
Bioinorganic Chemistry*

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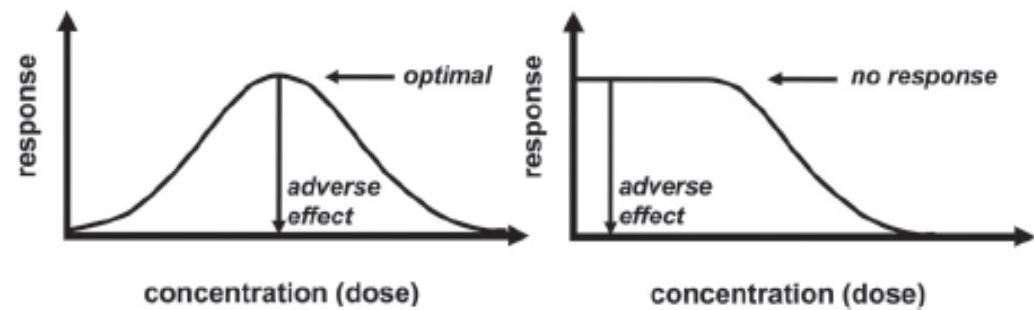
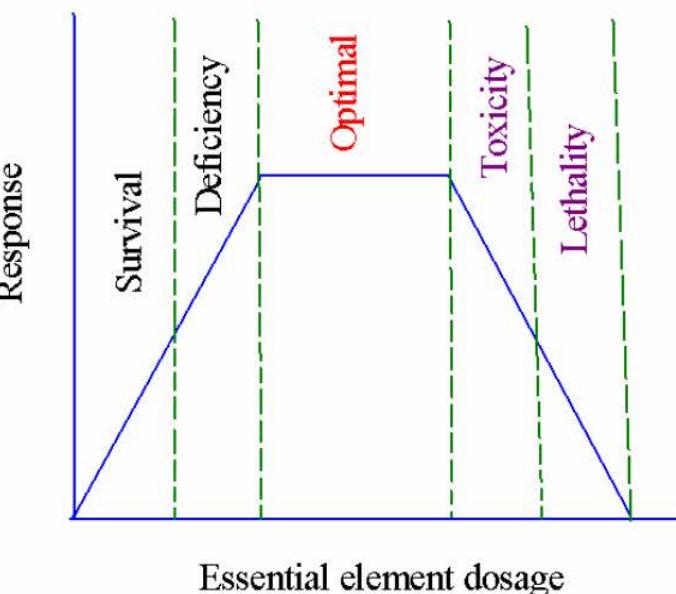
*Trivia*

- *A close relation between biology & chemistry*
- *Various elements affects the biochemistry, physiology, micro-biology, toxicology, pharmacology*



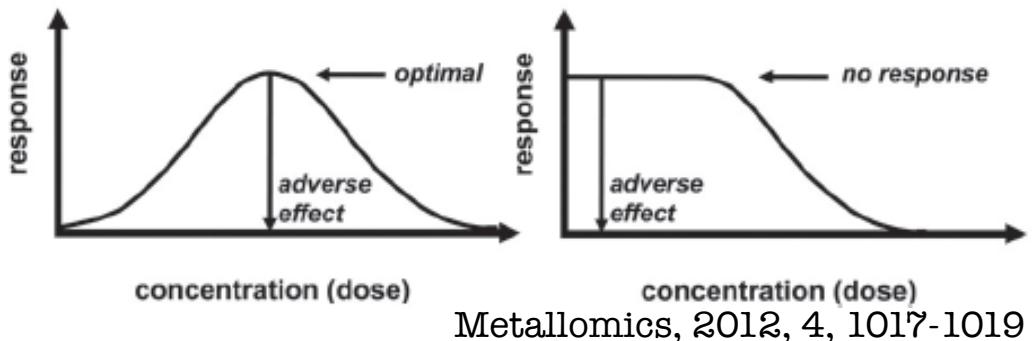
W. Kaim, B. Schwederski, Bioinorganic Chemistry:  
Inorganic Elements in Chemistry of Life, Wiley, 2013

- A close relation between biology & chemistry
- Various elements affects the biochemistry, physiology, micro-biology, toxicology, pharmacology
- Essential & non-essential elements



Metallomics, 2012, 4, 1017-1019

- A close relation between biology & chemistry
- Various elements affects the biochemistry, physiology, micro-biology, toxicology, pharmacology
- Essential & non-essential elements



1 H Hydrogen	2 He Helium
3 Li Lithium	4 Be Beryllium
11 Na Sodium	12 Mg Magnesium
19 K Potassium	20 Ca Calcium
37 Rb Rubidium	38 Sr Strontium
55 Cs Cesium	56 Ba Barium
87 Fr Francium	88 Ra Radium
31 Sc Scandium	32 Ti Titanium
39 Y Lanthanum	40 Zr Zirconium
57 La-Lu Lanthanides	72 Hf Hafnium
73 Ta Tantalum	74 W Tungsten
89 Ac Actinide	90 Th Thorium
91 Pa Protactinium	92 U Uranium
5 B Boron	6 C Carbon
7 N Nitrogen	8 O Oxygen
13 Al Aluminum	14 Si Silicon
15 P Phosphorus	16 S Sulfur
17 Cl Chlorine	18 Ar Argon
32 Ge Germanium	33 As Arsenic
34 Se Selenium	35 Br Bromine
36 Te Tellurium	37 I Iodine
51 Sn Tin	52 Pb Lead
53 Bi Bismuth	85 Po Polonium
81 Tl Thallium	82 At Astatine
83 Pb Lead	84 Po Polonium
85 Bi Bismuth	86 At Astatine
89 Rn Radon	

- Bulk & trace elements



Bulk biological elements



Trace elements believed to be essential for bacteria, plants or animals



Possibly essential trace elements for some species

*Comparing planetary environments*

doi:10.1126/science.aad1784

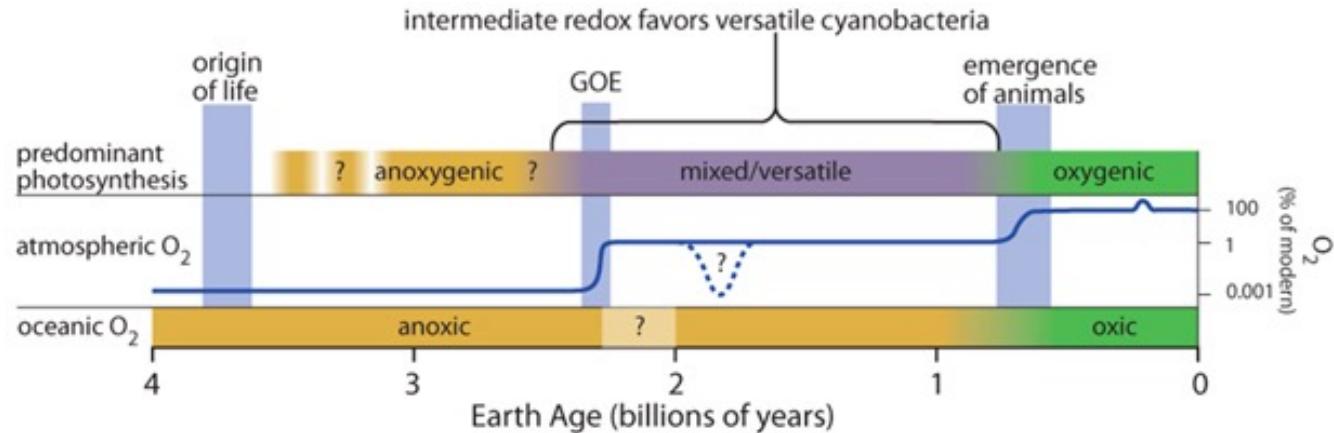
$CO_2$	96%	0.04%	95%
$N_2$	3%	78%	3%
$O_2$	0%	21%	0.2%

*In the beginning earth atmosphere was similar to Venus or Mars*

*Emergence of  $O_2$  occurred at a later stage*

*Significant contribution from bioinorganic chemistry*

# Bioinorganic Chemistry influenced evolution?

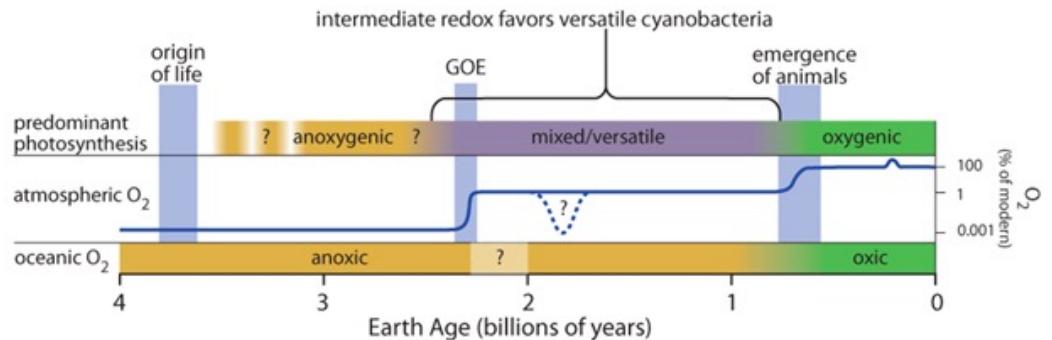


B. Biddanda *et al.*, Nature Education Knowledge, 2012, 3(10):13

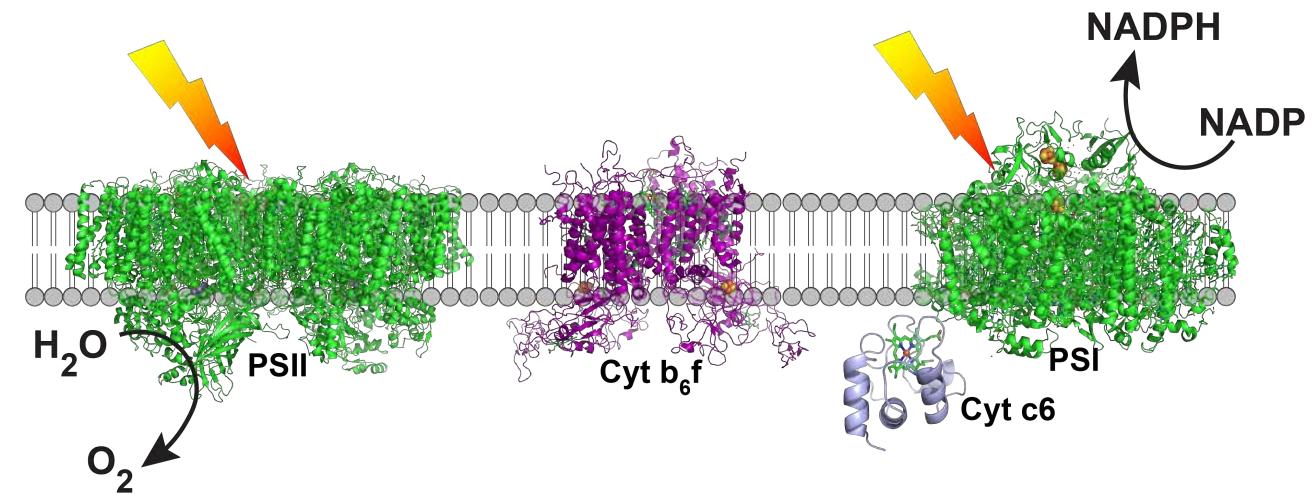
*In the beginning earth atmosphere was anoxygenic (no O<sub>2</sub>)*

*Emergence of O<sub>2</sub> during the great oxygenation event (GOE)*

# Bioinorganic Chemistry influenced evolution?



B. Biddanda *et al.*, Nature Education Knowledge, 2012, 3(10):13



*In the beginning earth atmosphere was anoxic (no O<sub>2</sub>)*

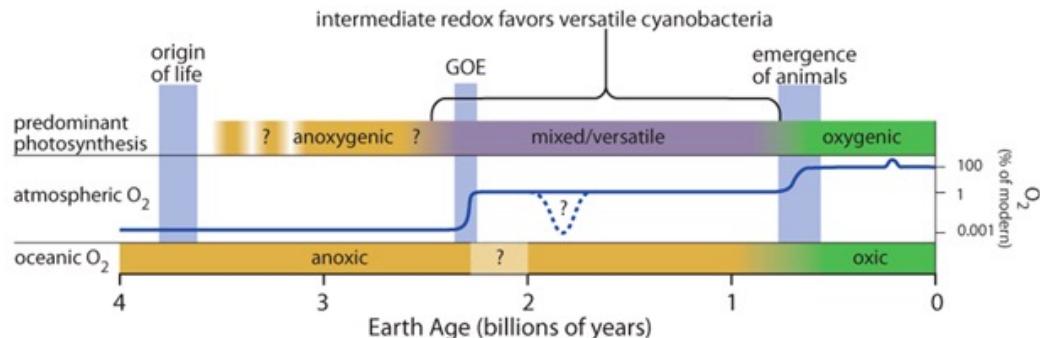
*Emergence of O<sub>2</sub> during the great oxygenation event (GOE)*

*Triggered by photosynthesis*

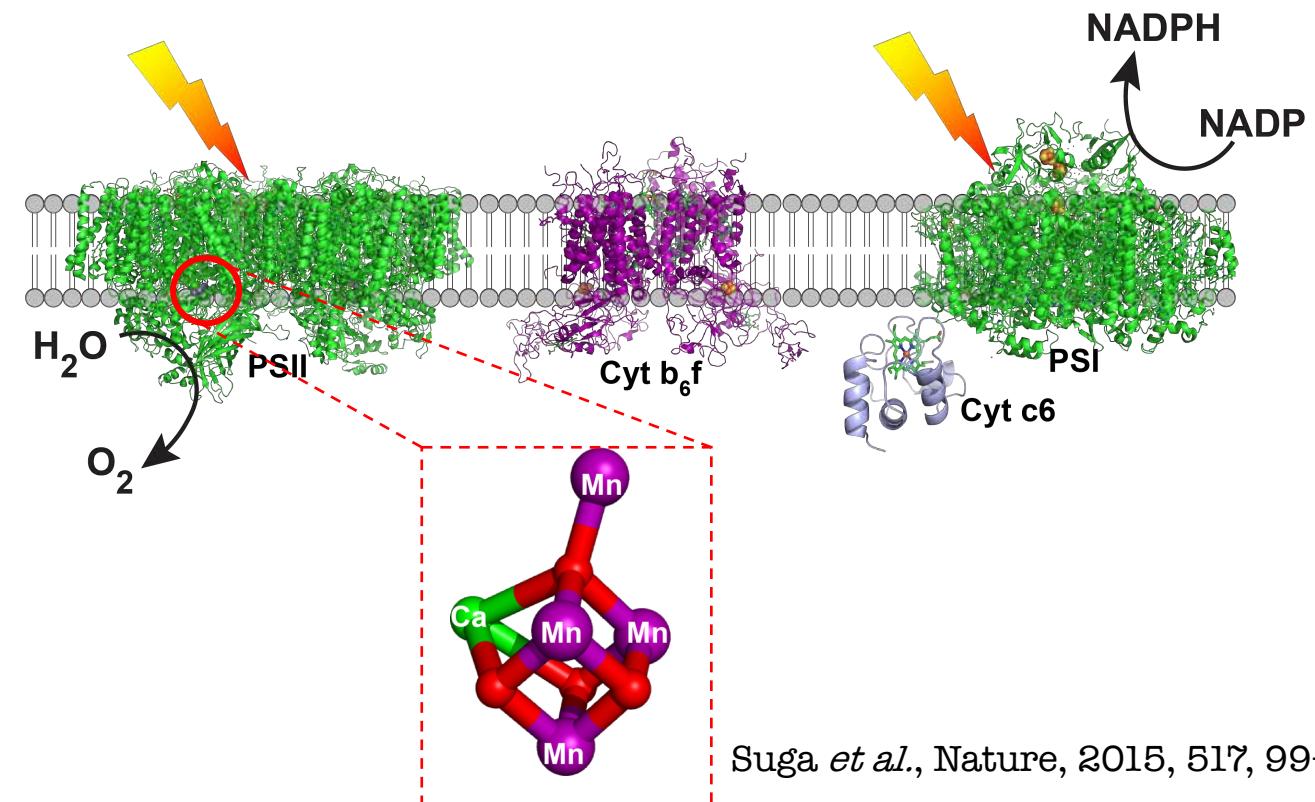


*H<sub>2</sub>O is the source of electron and O<sub>2</sub> is by-product*

# Bioinorganic Chemistry influenced evolution?



B. Biddanda *et al.*, Nature Education Knowledge, 2012, 3(10):13



*In the beginning earth atmosphere was anoxic (no O<sub>2</sub>)*

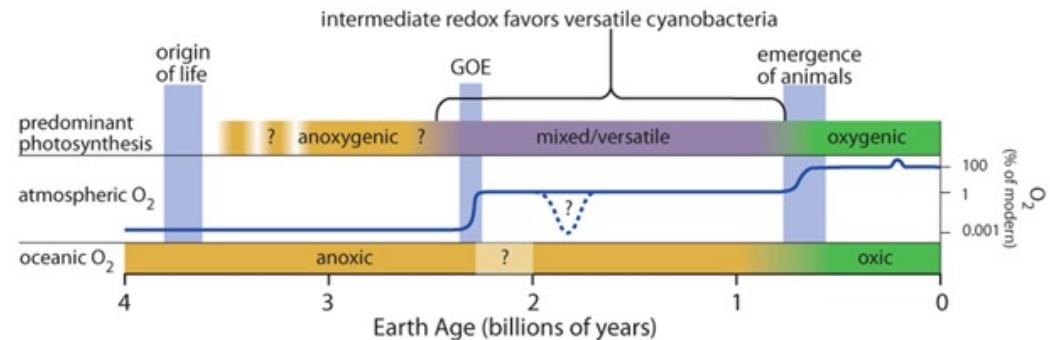
*Emergence of O<sub>2</sub> during the great oxygenation event (GOE)*

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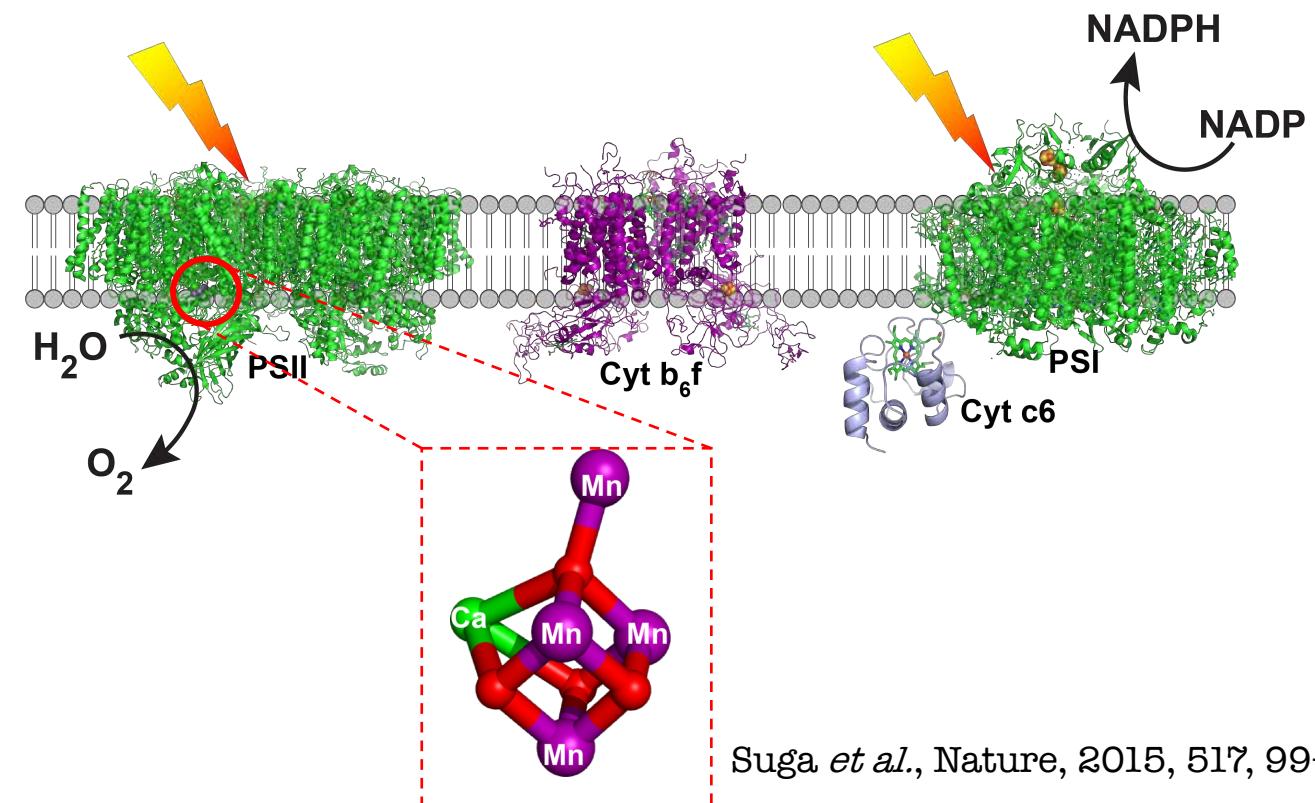


*H<sub>2</sub>O is the source of electron and O<sub>2</sub> is by-product*

*H<sub>2</sub>O oxidation is catalyzed by Mn<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Ca Oxygen Evolving Cluster (OEC)*



B. Biddanda *et al.*, Nature Education Knowledge, 2012, 3(10):13



*Photosynthetic O<sub>2</sub> evolution altered the scenario*

*O<sub>2</sub> is a strong oxidizing agent*

*Change in the course of evolution*

*1. Extinction*

*2. Exiled to anoxic niches*

*3. Adapt to oxygenic environment*

## Take Home Messages

$O_2$  binding  
to Hemoglobin

- *Inorganic elements are crucial for Biology*
- *Essential/non-essential & bulk/trace elements*
- *Bioinorganic chemistry of photosynthesis*
- *Photosynthetic  $O_2$  production is a game-changer*

## Outline

*Relevance of  
Bioinorganic Chemistry*

*O<sub>2</sub> a key player in  
Bioinorganic Chemistry*

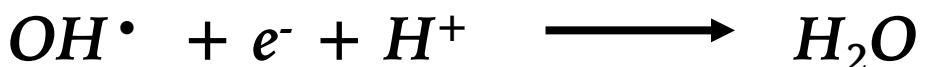
*Hemoglobin &  
reversible O<sub>2</sub> binding*

*Trivia*

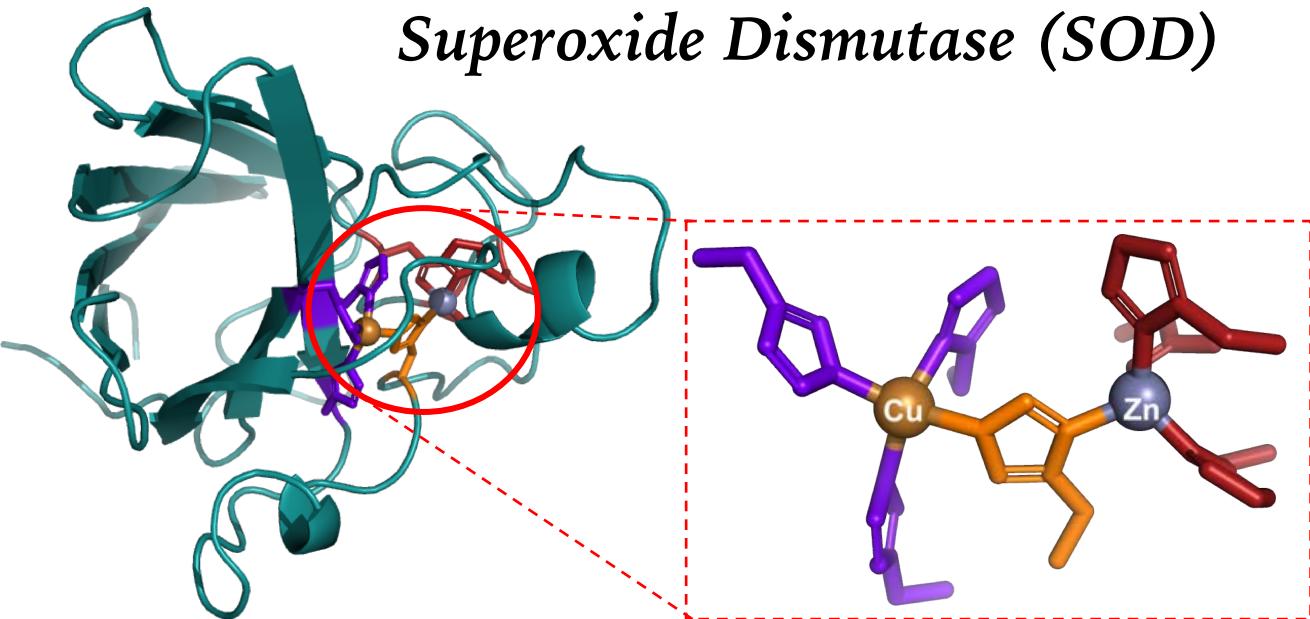
# Handling $O_2$ in cellular environments



*Generation of ROS in cells can cause oxidative damage (DNA, protein, lipid)*



*ROS: Reactive Oxygen Species  
 $O_2^{\cdot-}, H_2O_2, OH^{\cdot}$*



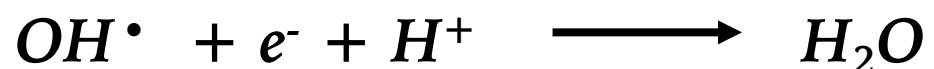
PDB 1SXZ



*Mn-, Fe-, and Ni-SOD also exist*

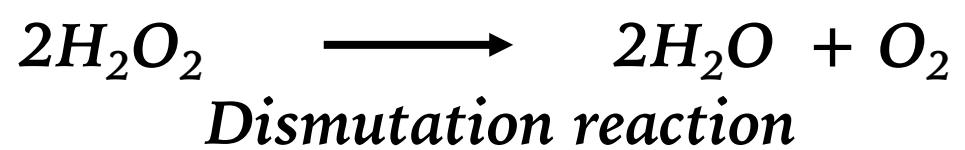
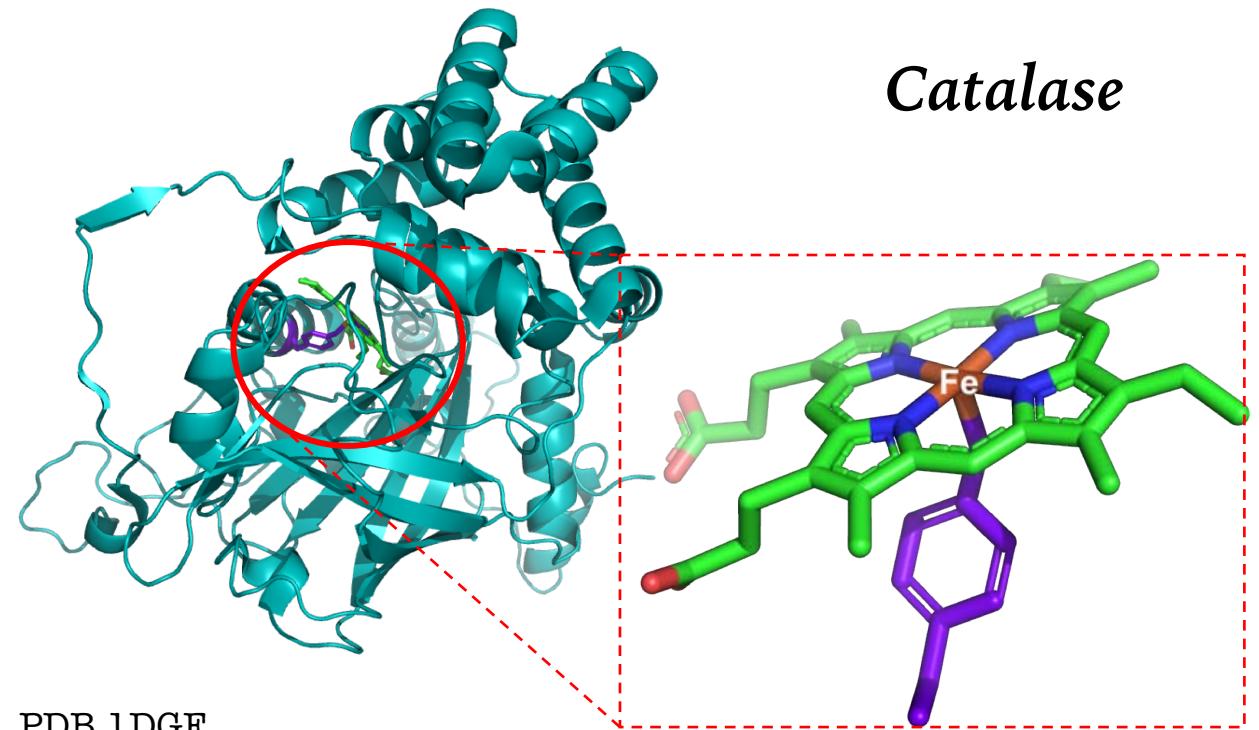
*H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> still an issue*

*Generation of ROS in cells can cause oxidative damage (DNA, protein, lipid)*



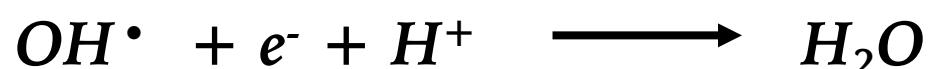
*Anti-oxidants: Defense system of biology*

➤ *Superoxide Dismutase (SOD)*



*Removal of toxic H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>*

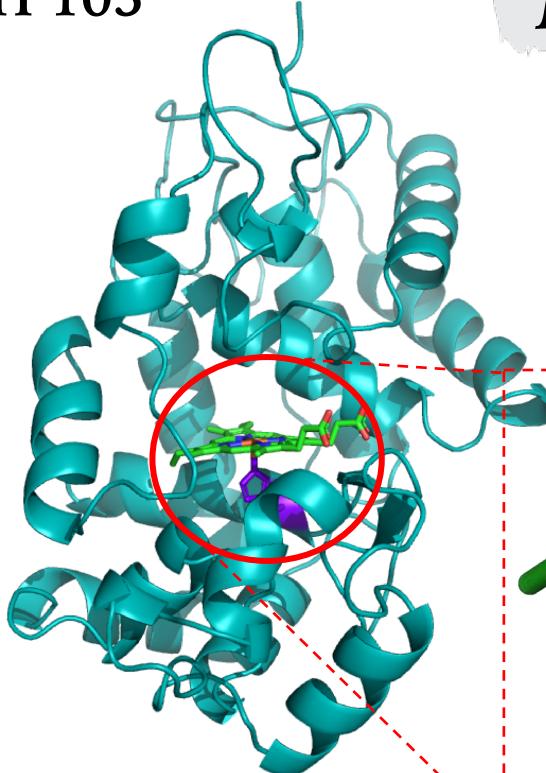
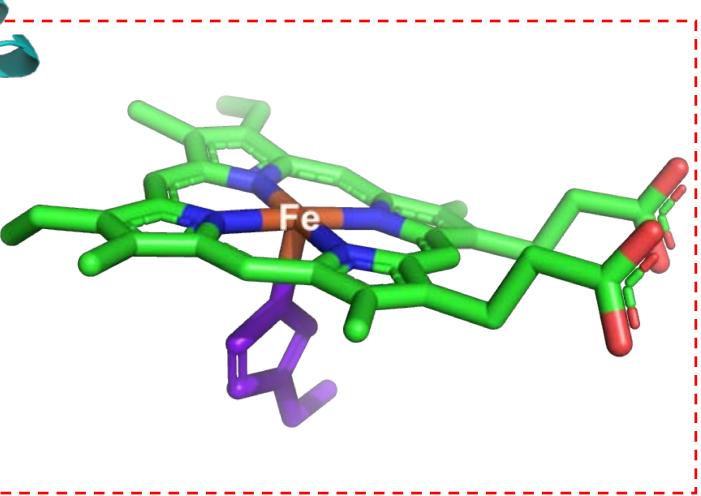
*Generation of ROS in cells can cause oxidative damage (DNA, protein, lipid)*



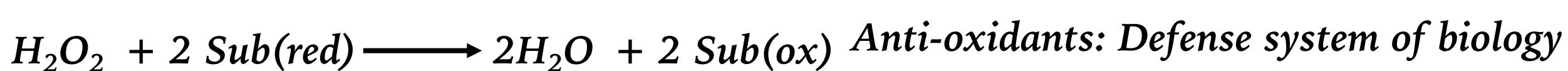
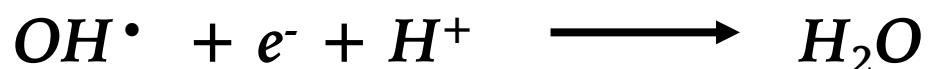
*Anti-oxidants: Defense system of biology*

➤ *Superoxide Dismutase (SOD)*

➤ *Catalase*

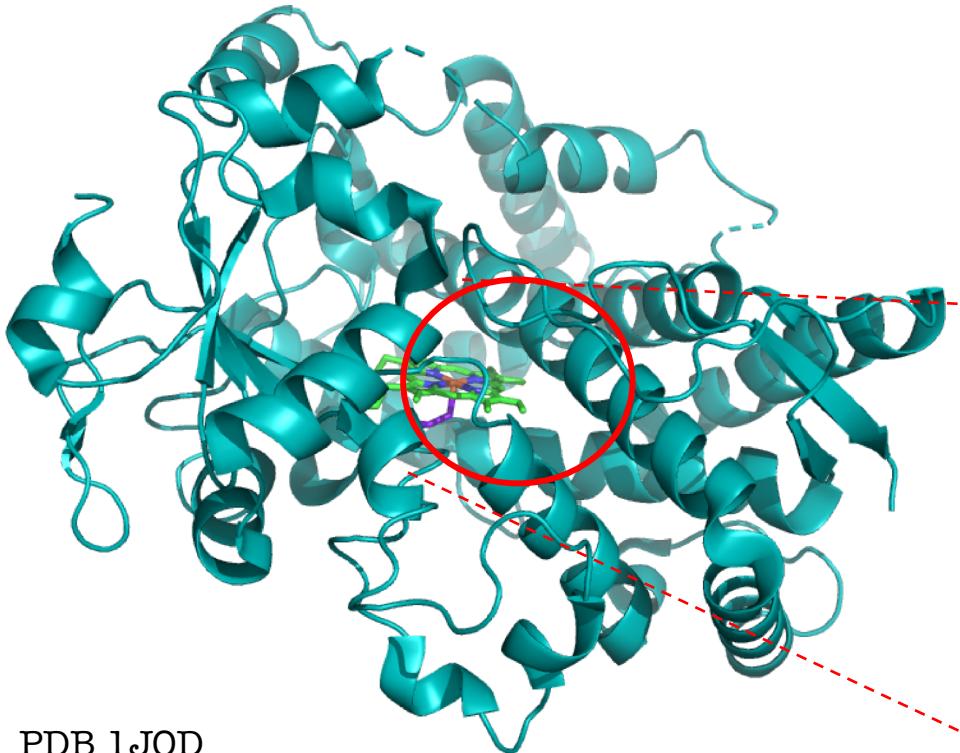
*Peroxidase*

*Generation of ROS in cells can cause oxidative damage (DNA, protein, lipid)*

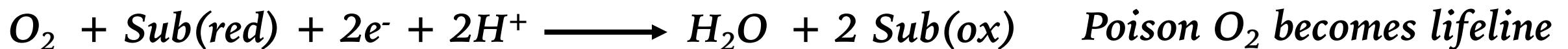
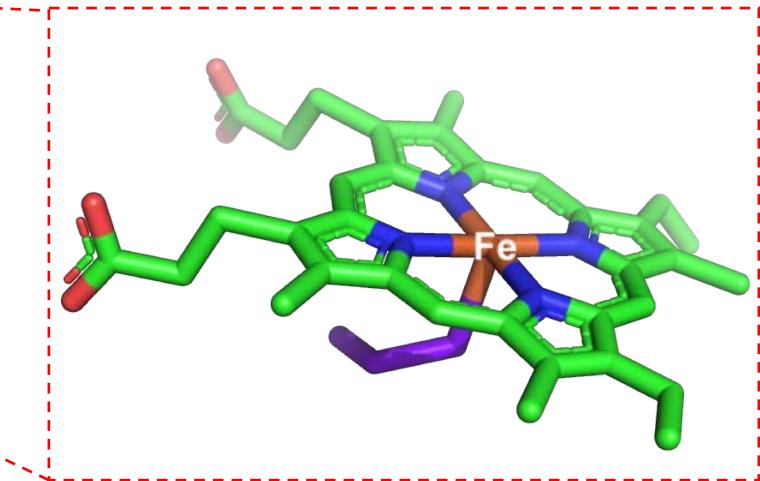


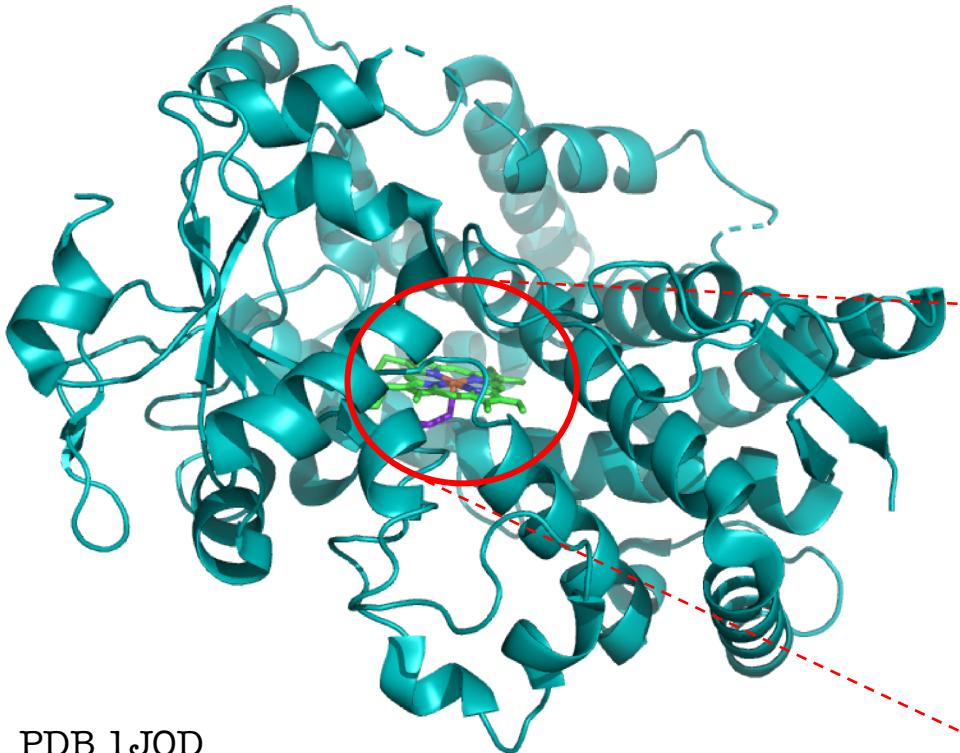
*Controlled utilization of the oxidizing power of H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>*

- Superoxide Dismutase (SOD)
- Catalase & Peroxidase

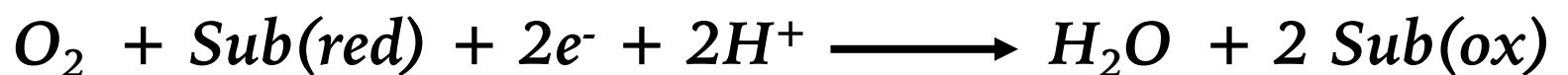
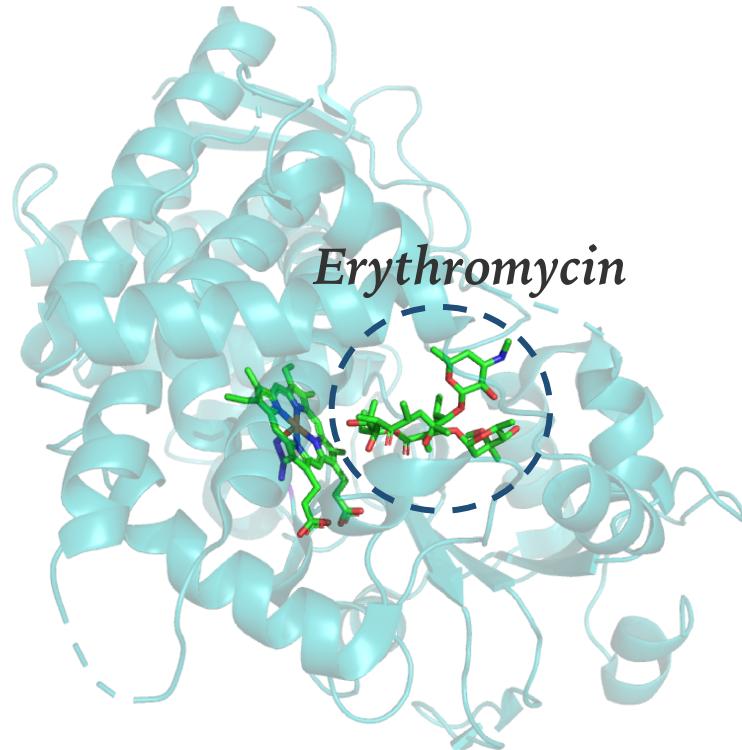
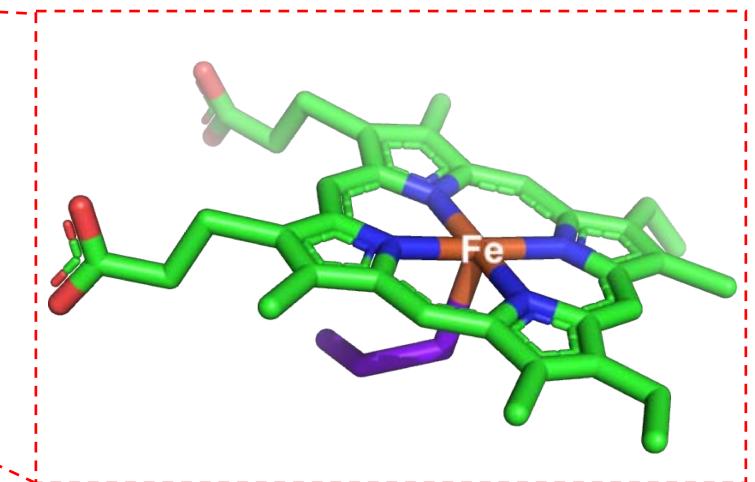
*Cytochrome P450*

PDB 1JOD

*Harnessing the oxidizing power of O<sub>2</sub>*



Cytochrome P450



*Poison O<sub>2</sub> becomes lifeline*

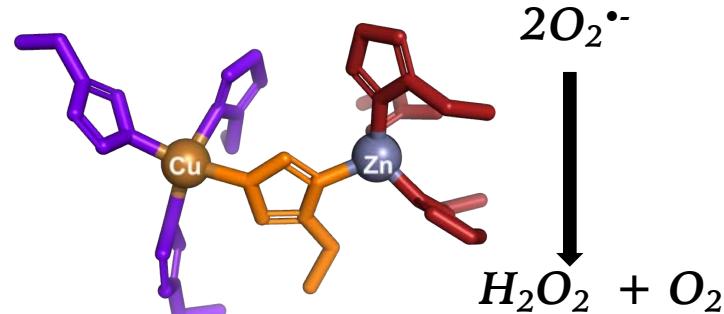
*Harnessing the oxidizing power of O<sub>2</sub>  
Critical for pharmaceutical metabolism*

*Requires controlled O<sub>2</sub>  
transport in biology*

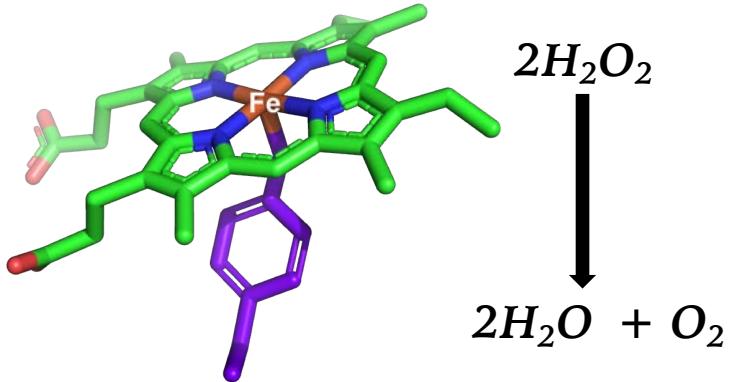
## Take Home Messages

$O_2$  a key player in  
Bioinorganic Chemistry

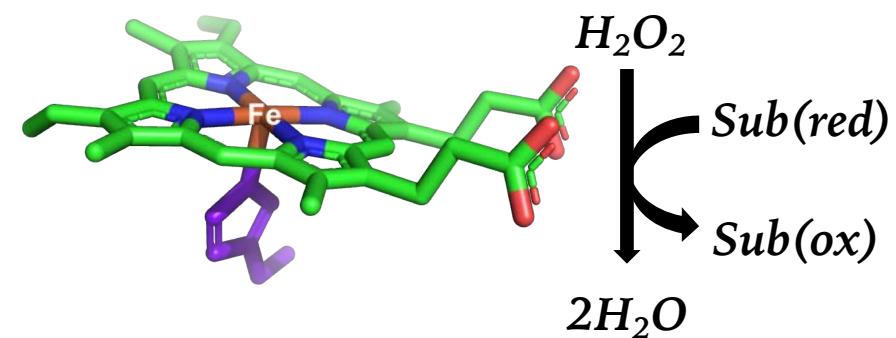
- Oxidizing agent  $O_2$  can produce ROS [ $O_2^\cdot$ ,  $H_2O_2$ ,  $OH^\cdot$ ]
- Transition metal containing enzymes as defense system



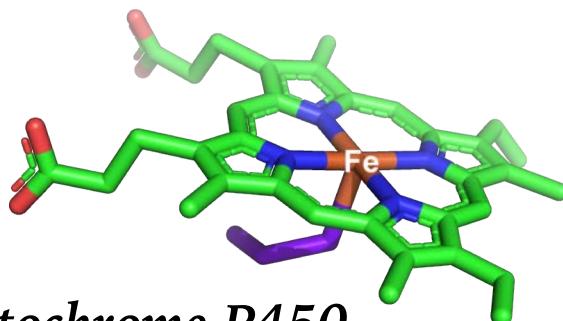
Superoxide Dismutase



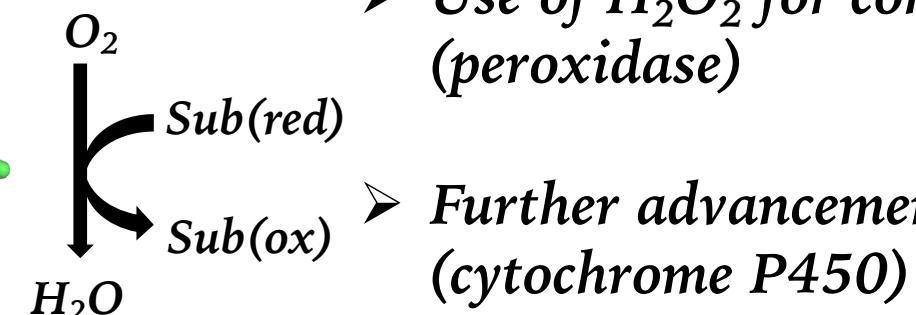
Catalase



Peroxidase



Cytochrome P450



- Use of  $H_2O_2$  for controlled oxidation (peroxidase)
- Further advancement: Use of  $O_2$  as an oxidant (cytochrome P450)

## Outline

*Relevance of  
Bioinorganic Chemistry*

*O<sub>2</sub> a key player in  
Bioinorganic Chemistry*

***Hemoglobin &  
reversible O<sub>2</sub> binding***

*Trivia*

# Hemoglobin & reversible O<sub>2</sub> binding

B██████████ E██████ C██████████ S██████  
S████ 1.

C██████████

H<sub>2</sub>O + CO<sub>2</sub>

E██████ S██████:  
P████████████████

Carbohydrate + O<sub>2</sub>

S████ 2.

E██████ U████████████████:  
R████████████████

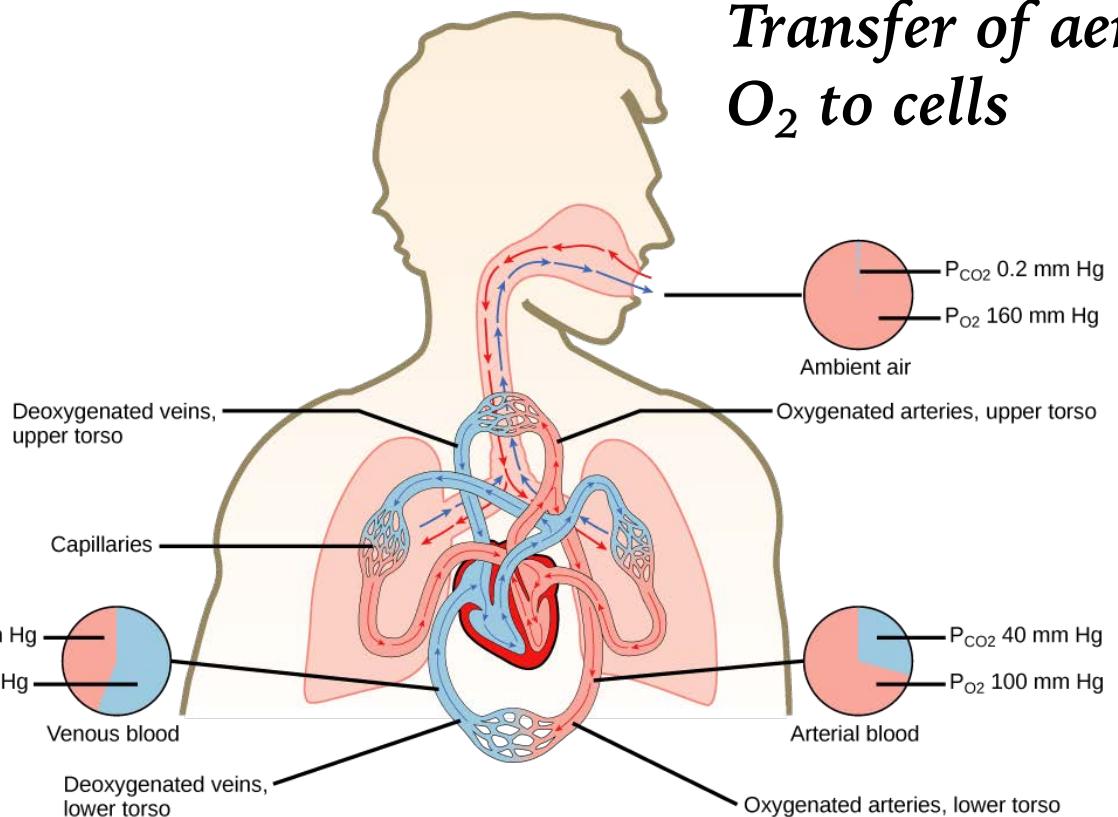
M████████████████

O<sub>2</sub> a key player in the energy transduction process

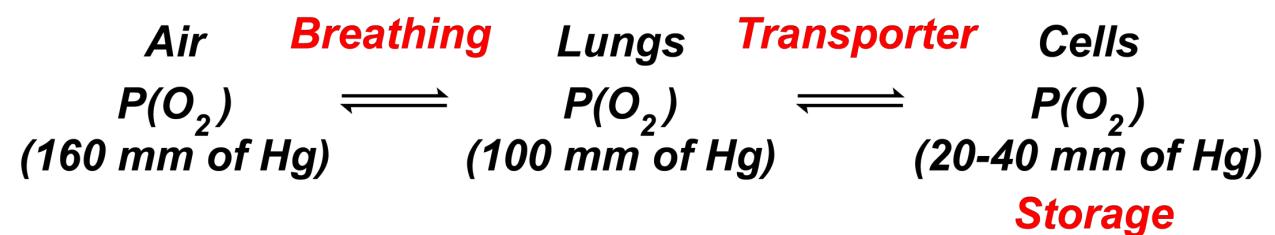
Respiration liberates stored chemical energy

Regulated O<sub>2</sub> supply in the cells is vital

*Transfer of aerial  
O<sub>2</sub> to cells*

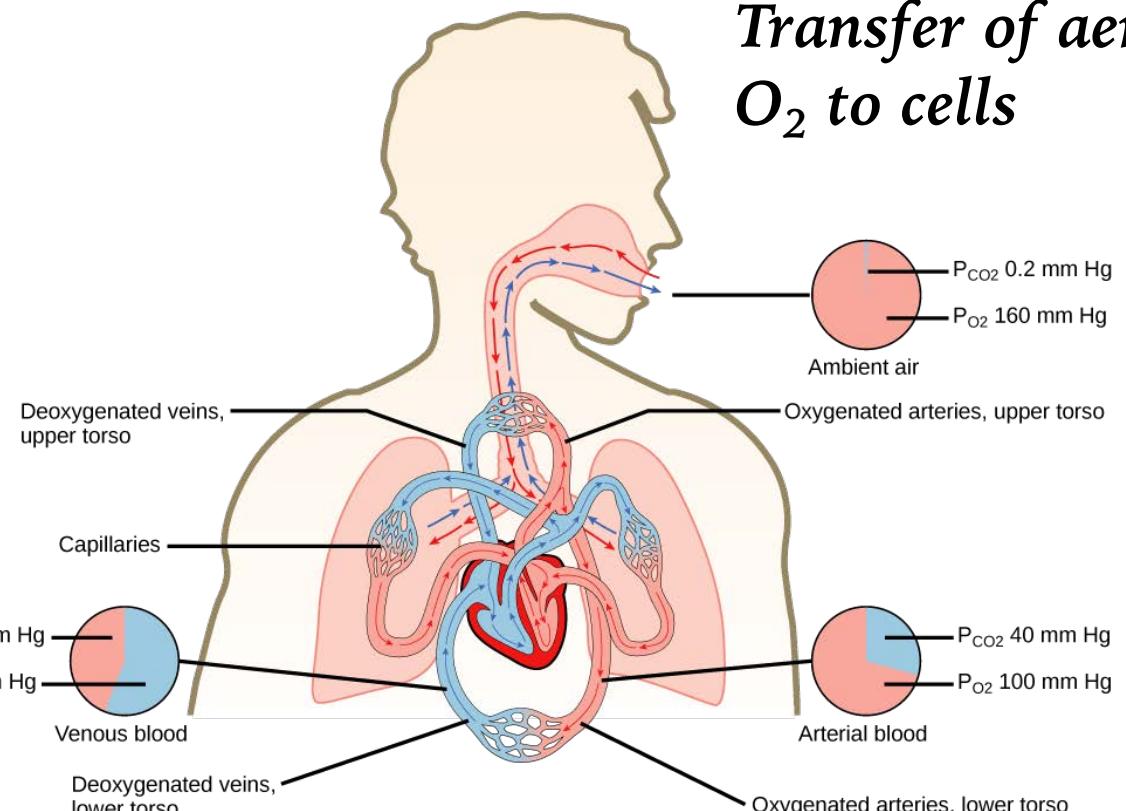


<http://organismalbio.biosci.gatech.edu/>

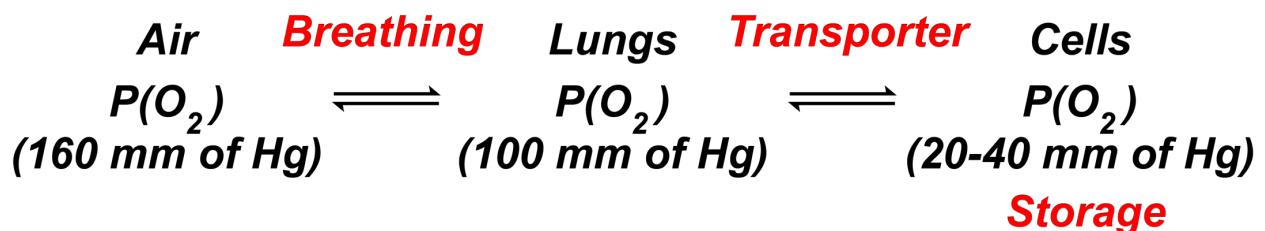


# Hemoglobin & reversible O<sub>2</sub> binding

*Transfer of aerial O<sub>2</sub> to cells*

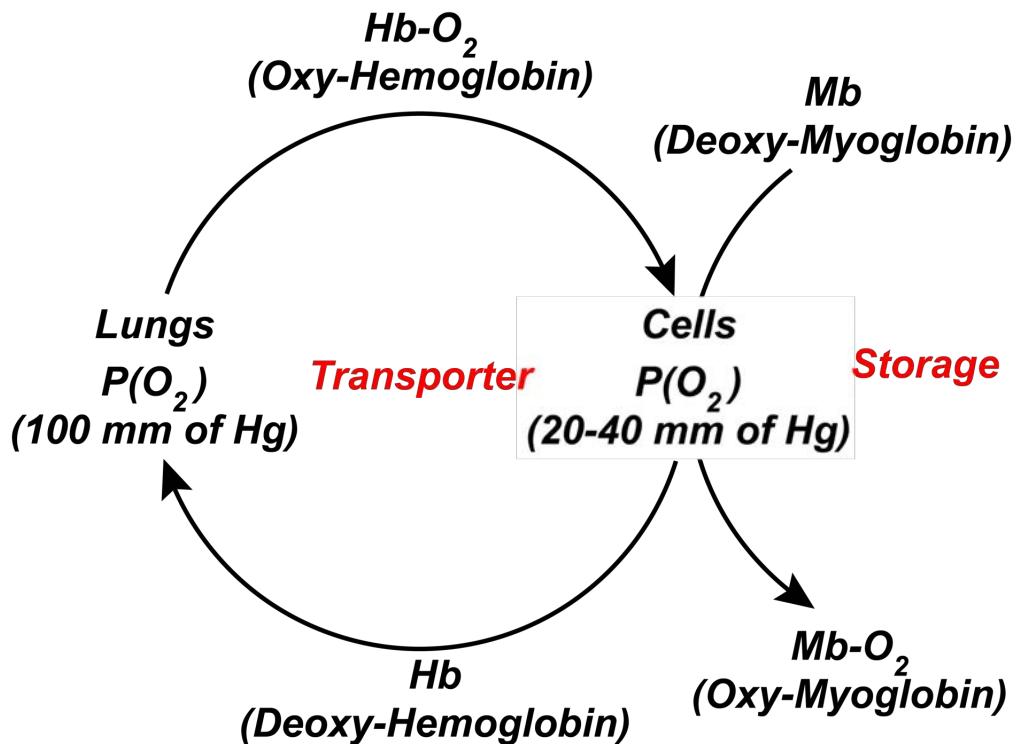


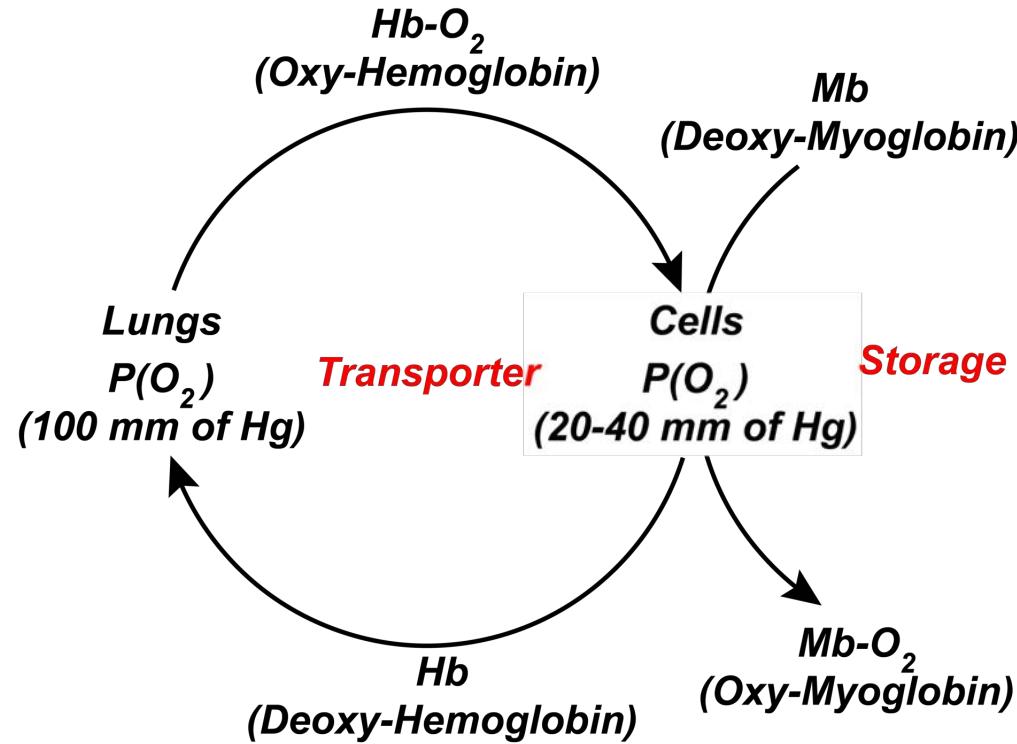
<http://organismalbio.biosci.gatech.edu/>



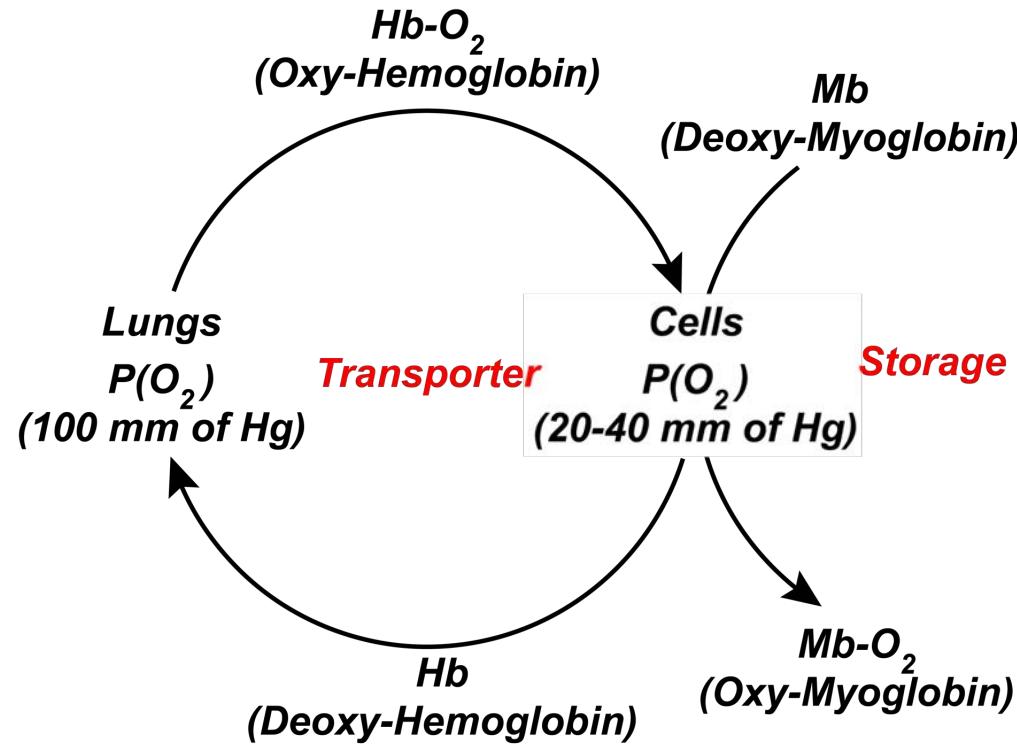
*Need an O<sub>2</sub> transporter  
Hemoglobin (Hb)*

*and an O<sub>2</sub>-storage system  
Myoglobin (Mb)*

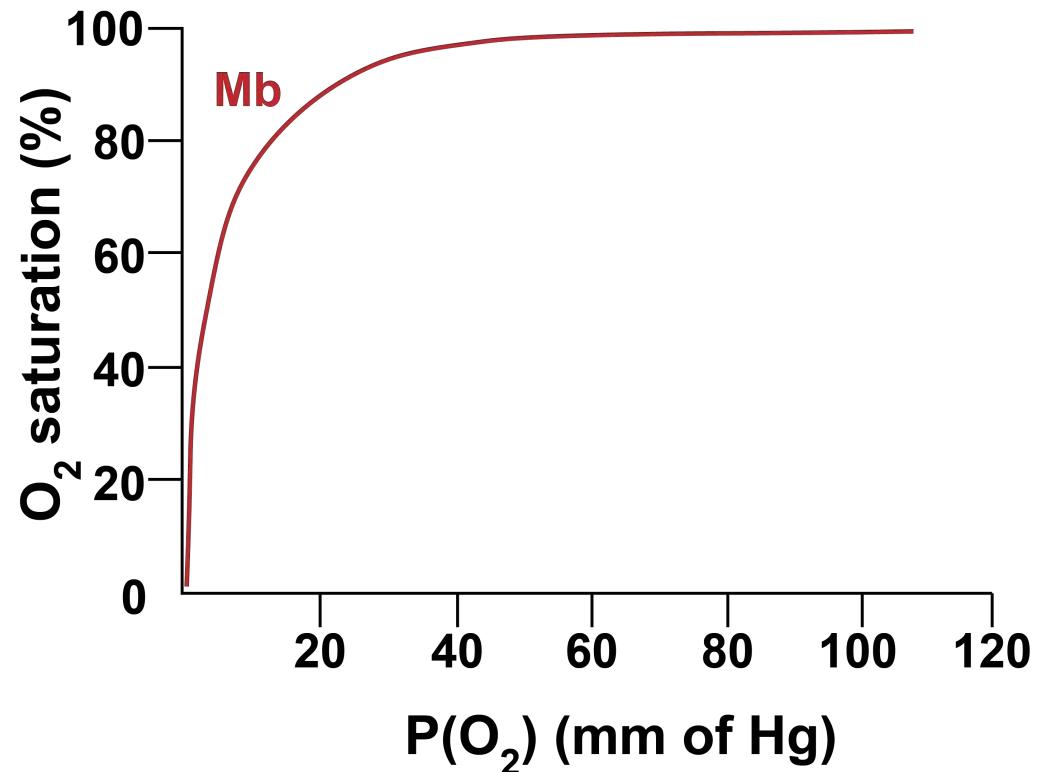




*Differential O<sub>2</sub> binding ability  
of Hb & Mb is crucial*



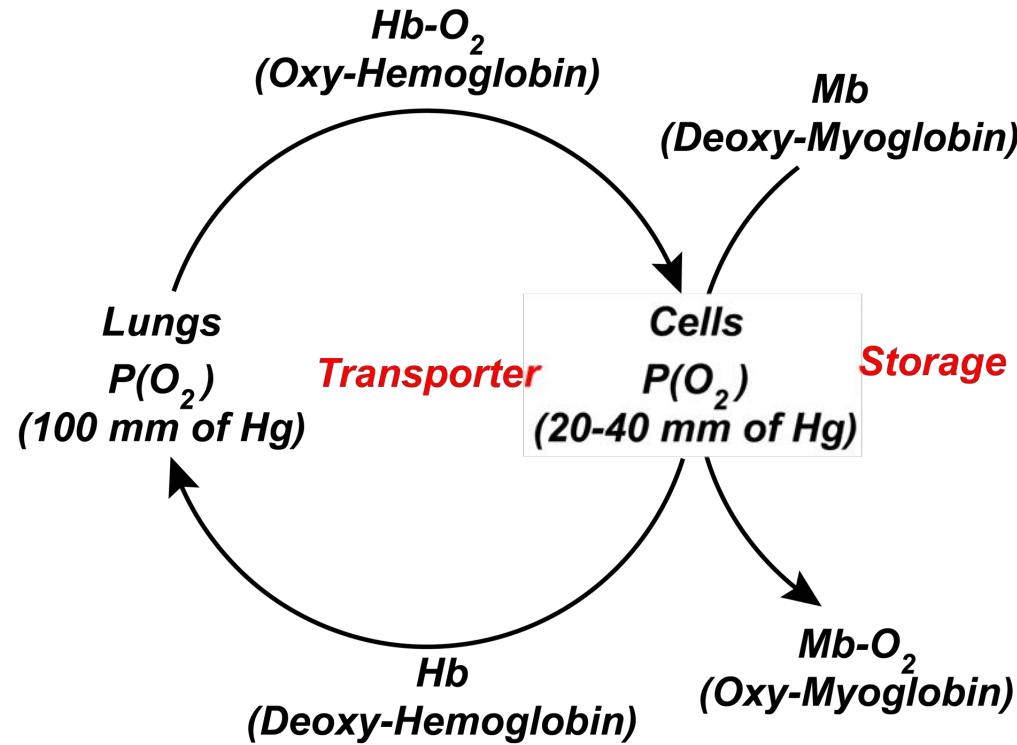
*Differential O<sub>2</sub> binding ability of Hb & Mb is crucial*



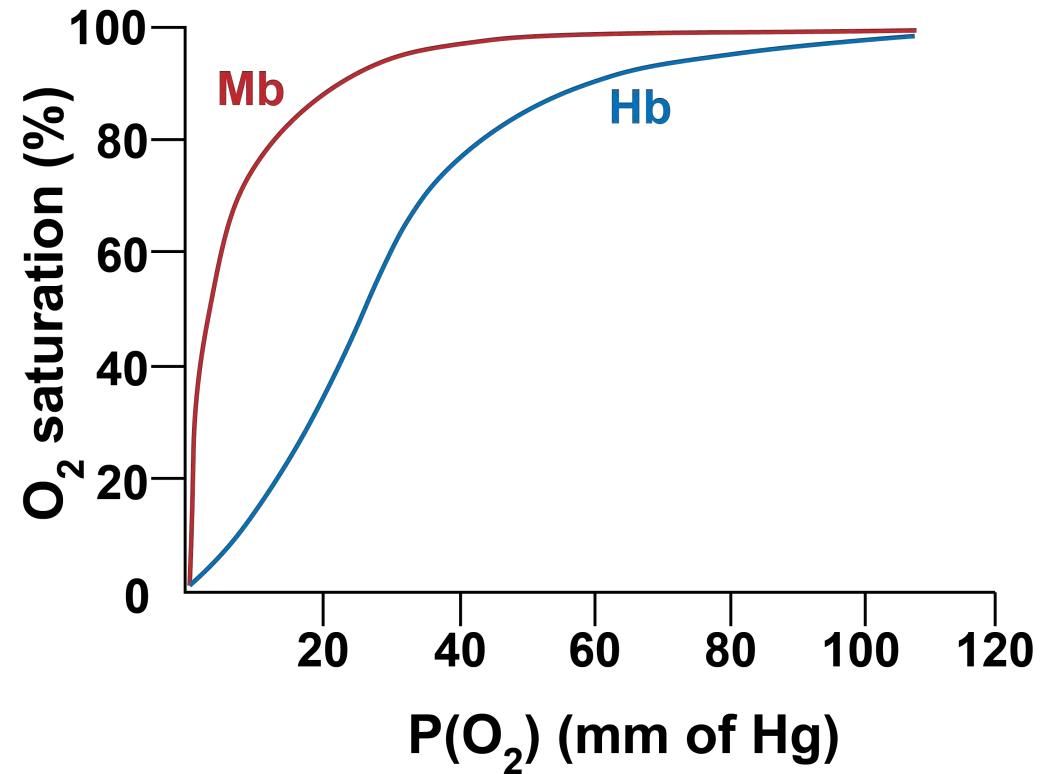
*O<sub>2</sub> binding curve: Notice x- and y-axes*

*Mb follows a hyperbolic O<sub>2</sub> binding*

*Binds O<sub>2</sub> strongly even at low O<sub>2</sub> conc.*



*Differential O<sub>2</sub> binding ability  
of Hb & Mb is crucial*

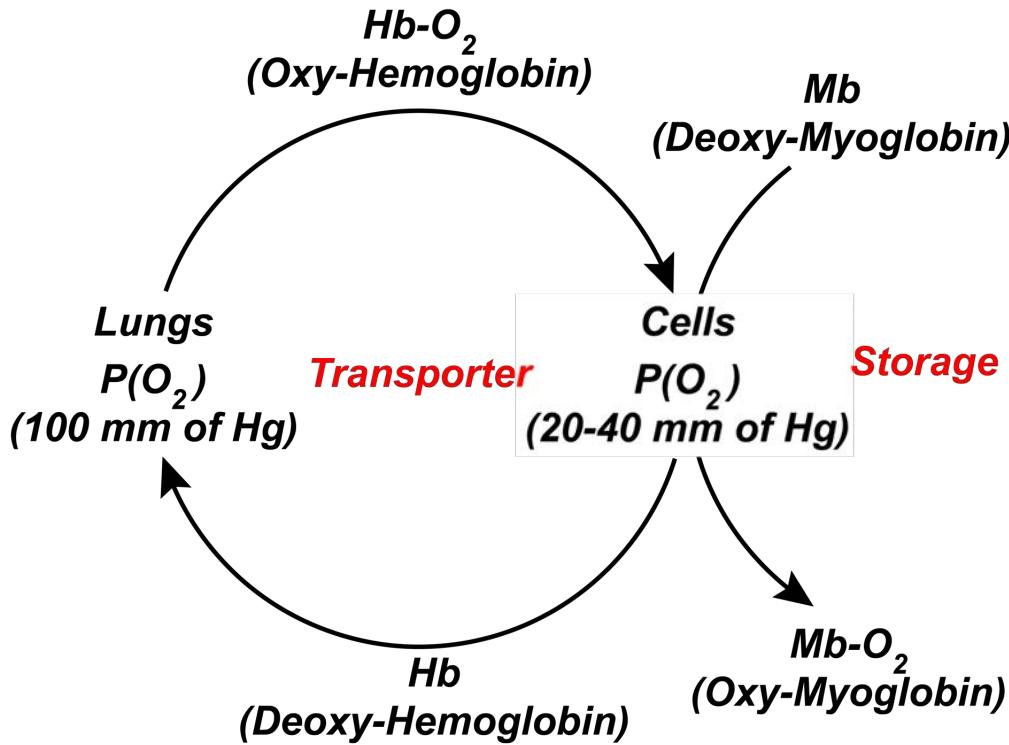


*Mb follows a hyperbolic O<sub>2</sub> binding*

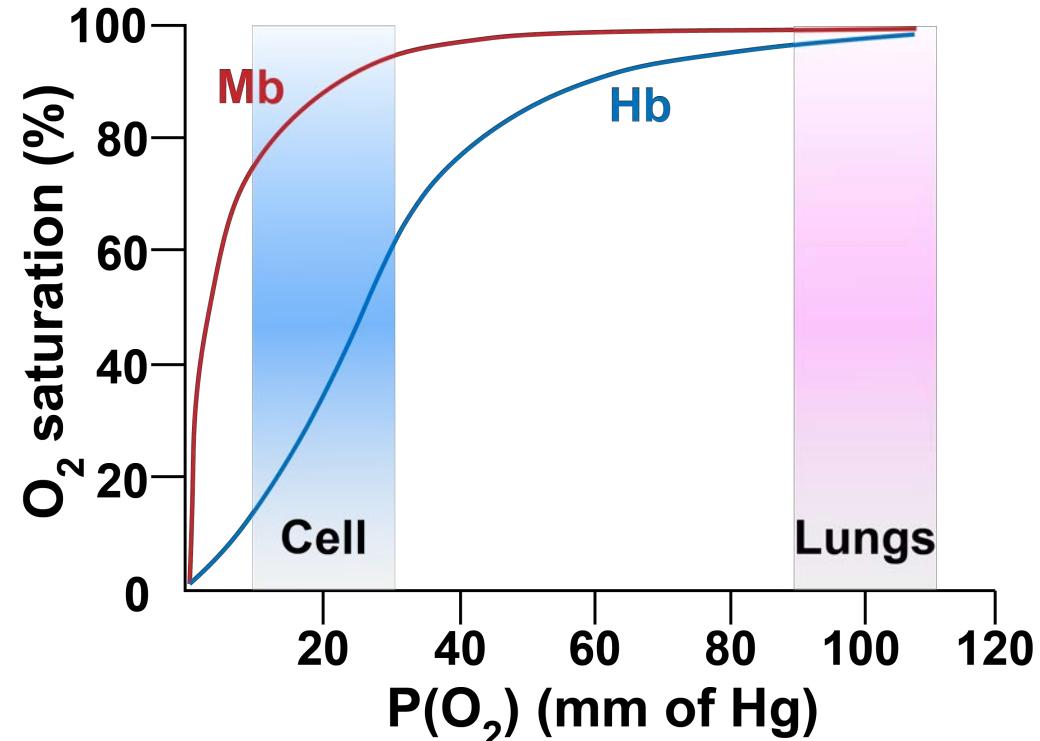
*Hb follows a sigmoidal trend*

*Binds O<sub>2</sub> strongly only at higher O<sub>2</sub> conc.*

# Hemoglobin & reversible O<sub>2</sub> binding



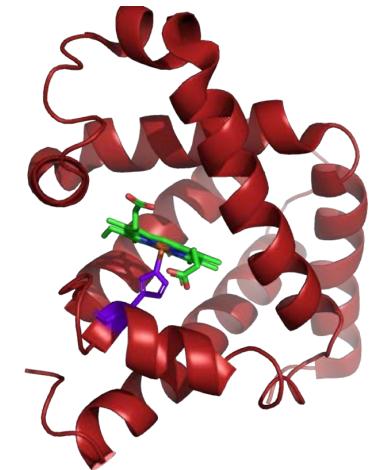
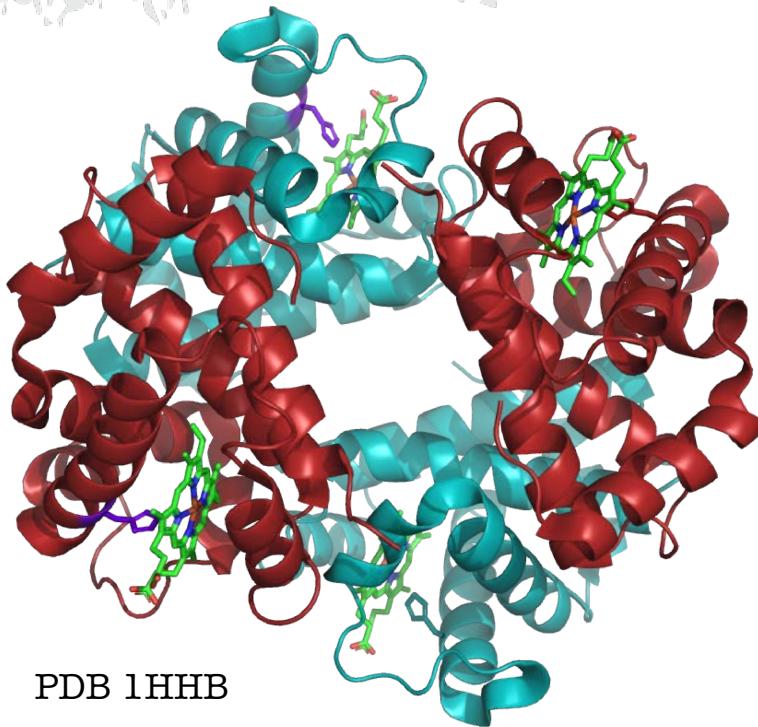
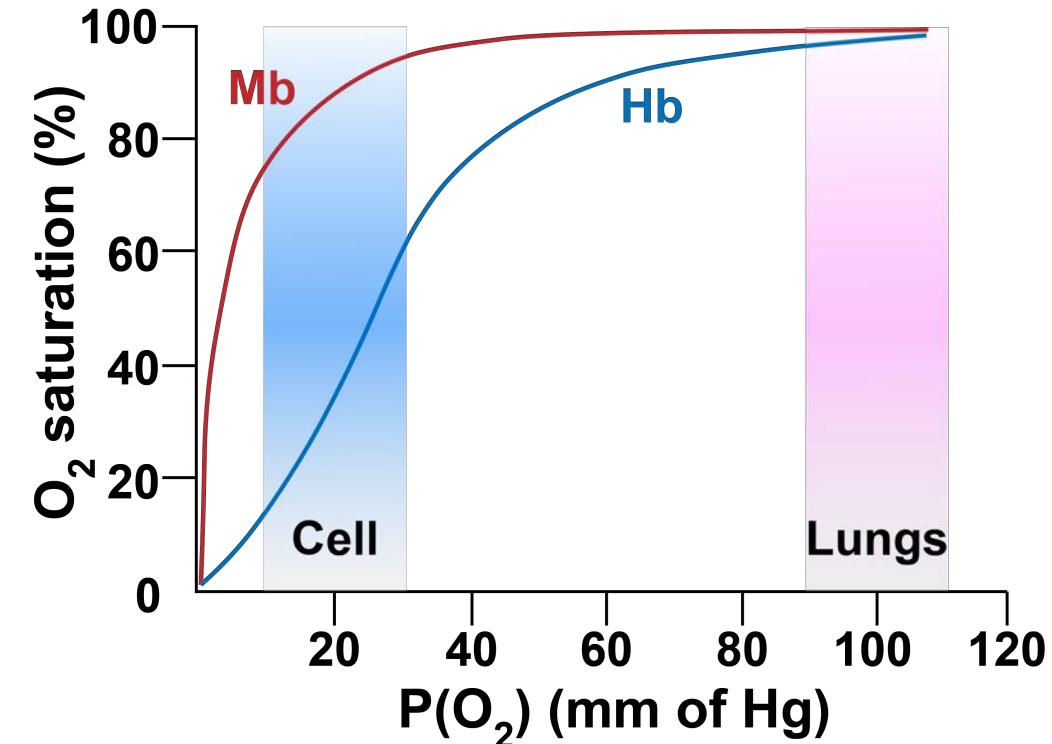
Differential O<sub>2</sub> binding ability of Hb & Mb is crucial



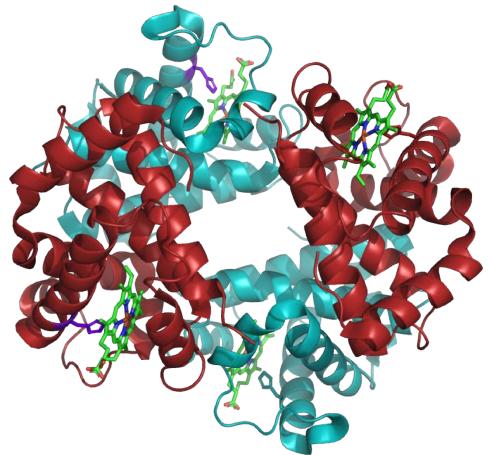
In cells/tissues Mb binds O<sub>2</sub> better than Hb

Hb binds O<sub>2</sub> better in lungs

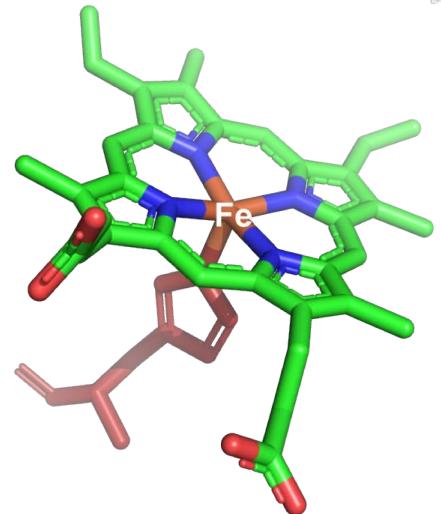
Reasons behind such differential O<sub>2</sub> binding?



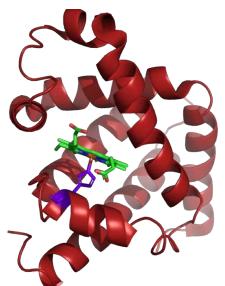
*Deciphering the relationship between differential O<sub>2</sub> binding & structure for Mb/Hb*



*Hemoglobin (Hb)*  
 $\alpha_2\beta_2$  hetero-tetrameric  
structure

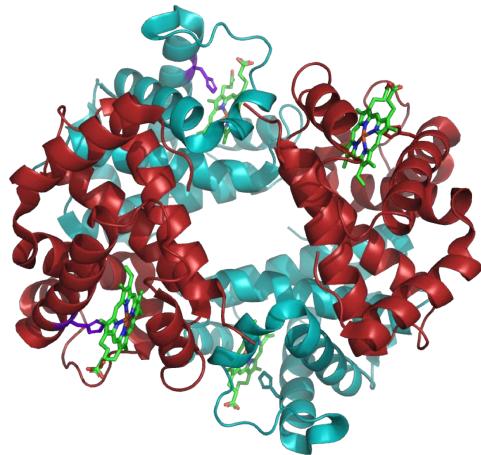


*Fe-containing  
heme core*

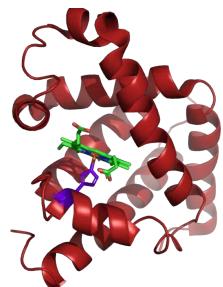


*Myoglobin (Mb)*  
Monomeric structure

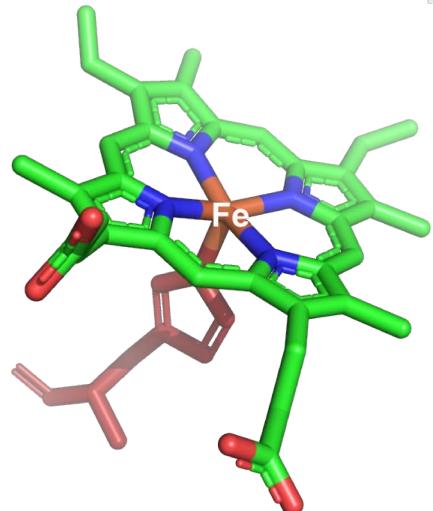
# Hemoglobin: structure-function relationship



*Hemoglobin (Hb)*  
 $\alpha_2\beta_2$  hetero-tetrameric  
structure

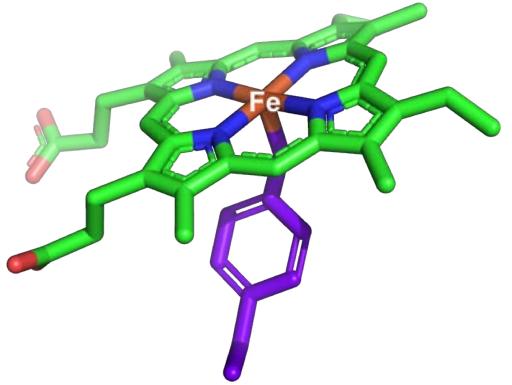


*Myoglobin (Mb)*  
Monomeric structure

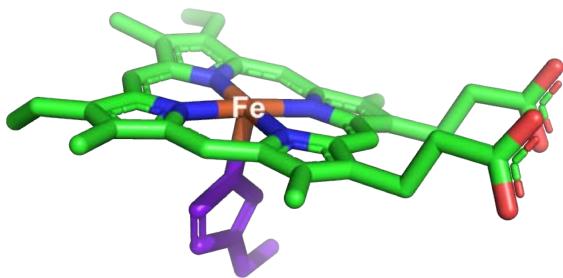


*Fe-containing  
heme core*

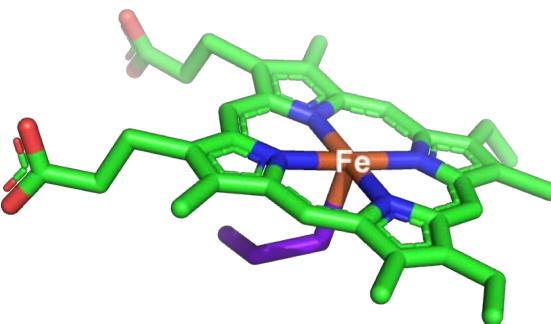
*Analogous to  
catalase,  
peroxidase,  
cyt-P450*



*Catalase*

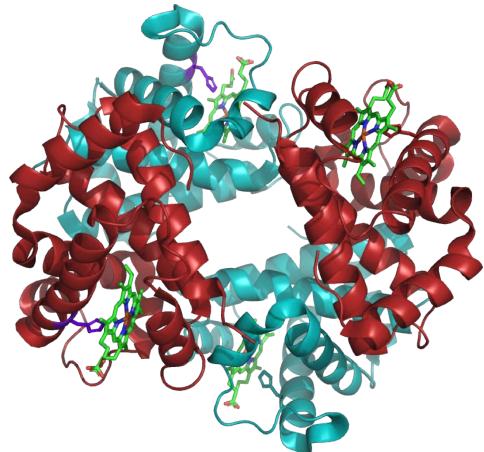


*Peroxidase*

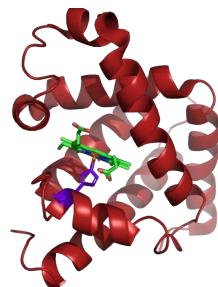


*Cytochrome P450*

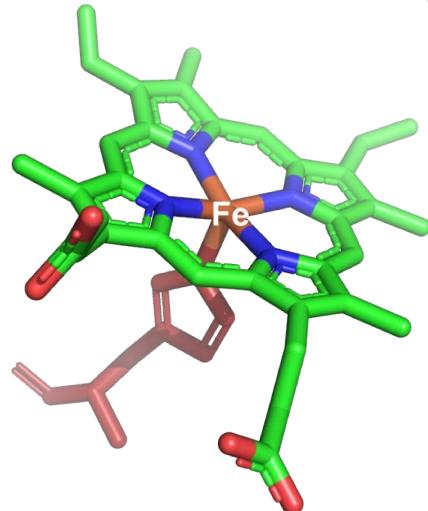
# Hemoglobin: structure-function relationship



**Hemoglobin (Hb)**  
 $\alpha_2\beta_2$  hetero-tetrameric  
structure

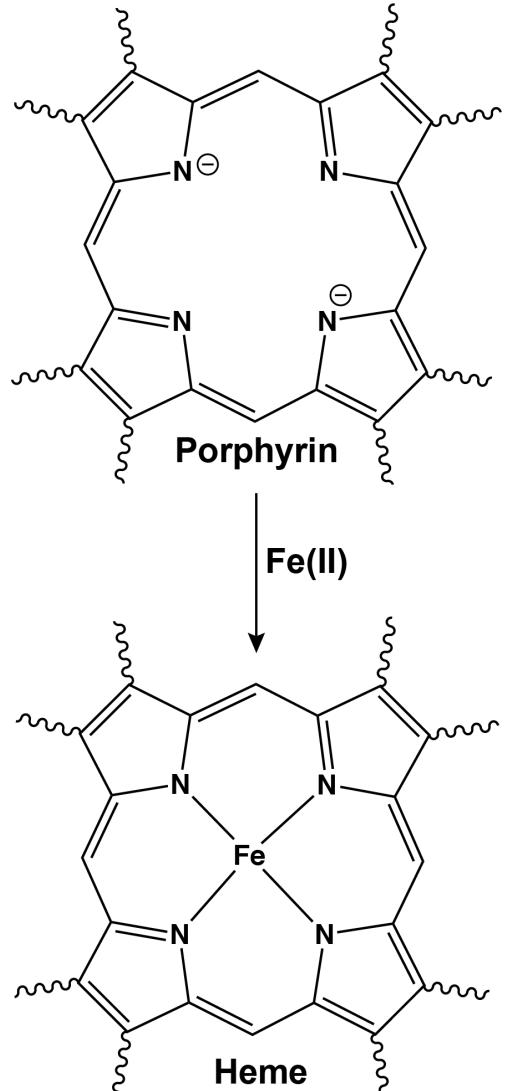


**Myoglobin (Mb)**  
Monomeric structure



**Fe-containing  
heme core**

*Analogous to  
catalase,  
peroxidase,  
cyt-P450*



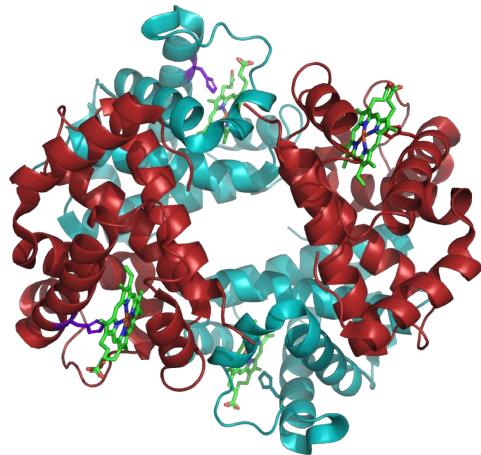
*Porphyrins are  
macrocyclic tetrapyrrole  
ligands*

*Variation in the  
substituents on  
porphyrin tunes its  
electronic properties*

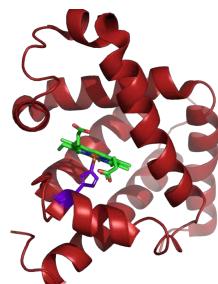
*Creates a planar  $\text{N}_4$ -  
coordination for metal  
binding*

*Anchored to protein via  
axial ligation*

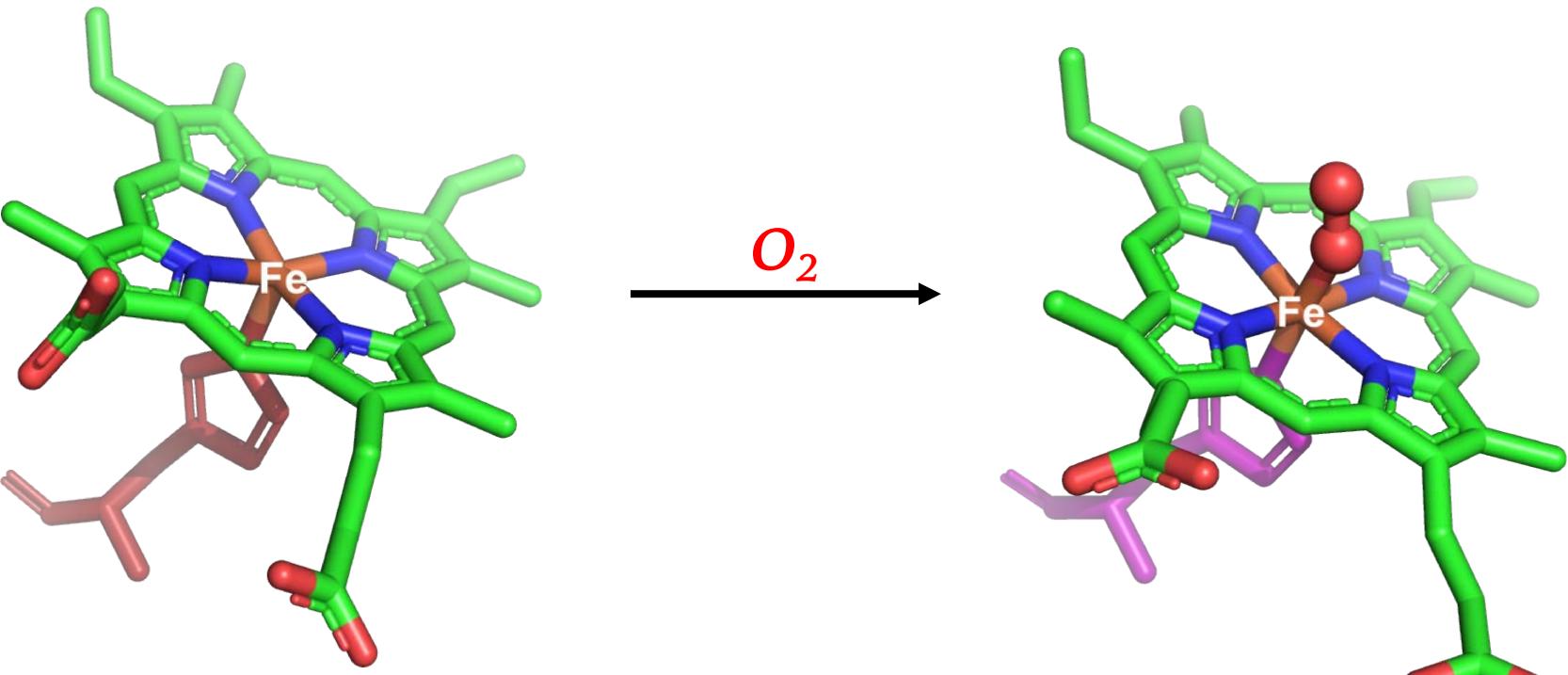
# Hemoglobin: structure-function relationship



*Hemoglobin (Hb)  
α<sub>2</sub>β<sub>2</sub> hetero-tetrameric  
structure*



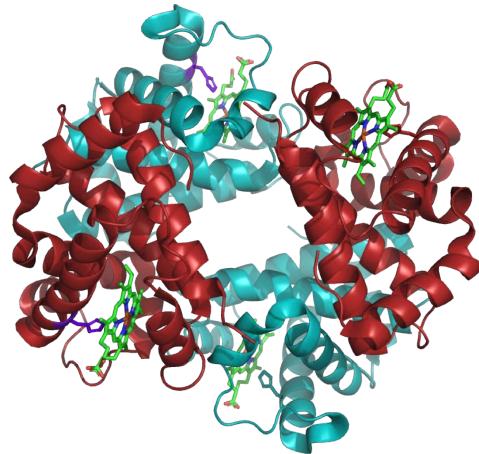
*Myoglobin (Mb)  
Monomeric structure*



*Heme core-originated O<sub>2</sub>-binding reactivity*

*Each heme core binds to one molecule of O<sub>2</sub>*

# Hemoglobin: structure-function relationship

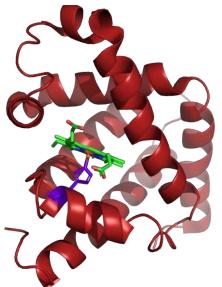


**Hemoglobin (Hb)**  
 $\alpha_2\beta_2$  hetero-tetrameric  
 structure

*Hb can bind 4 O<sub>2</sub>*

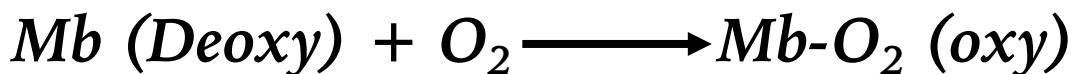
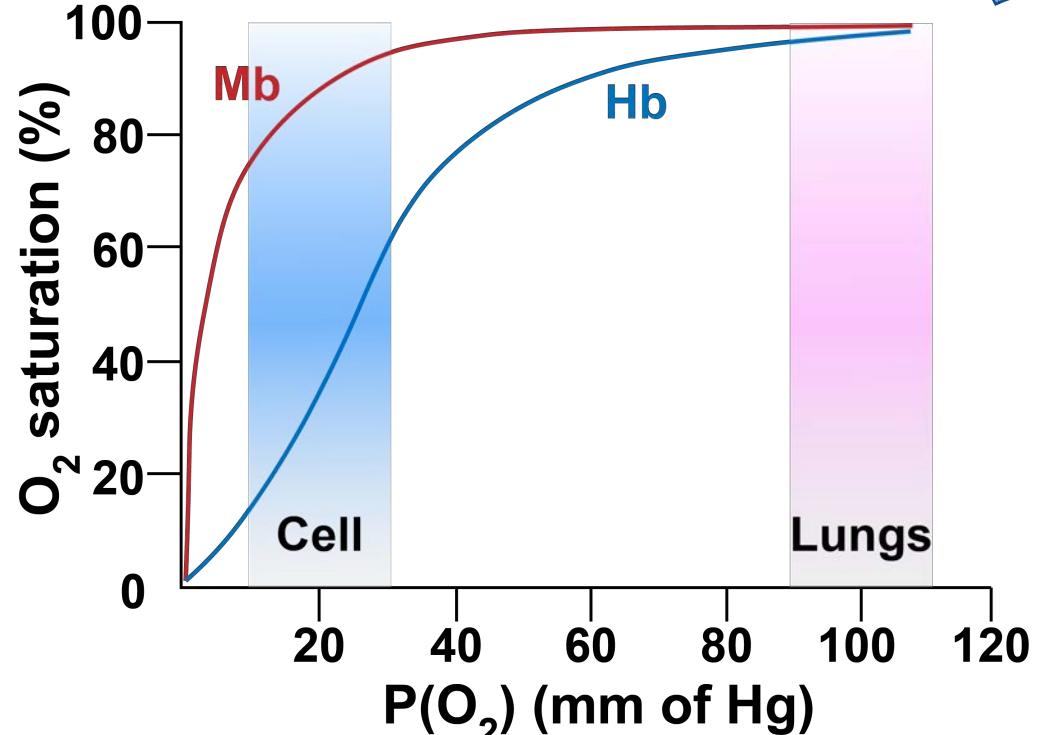
*Not all the O<sub>2</sub> binds at the same time to  
 four hemes at Hb*

*Binding of O<sub>2</sub> in one subunit of Hb affect  
 others: Cooperativity effect*



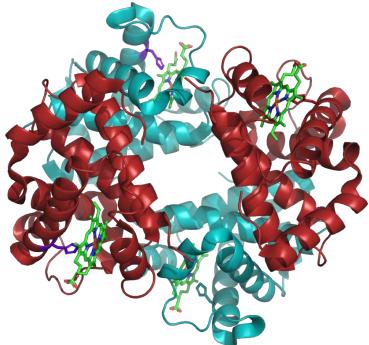
**Myoglobin (Mb)**  
 Monomeric structure

*Mb binds only one O<sub>2</sub>*



$$x = 1-4$$

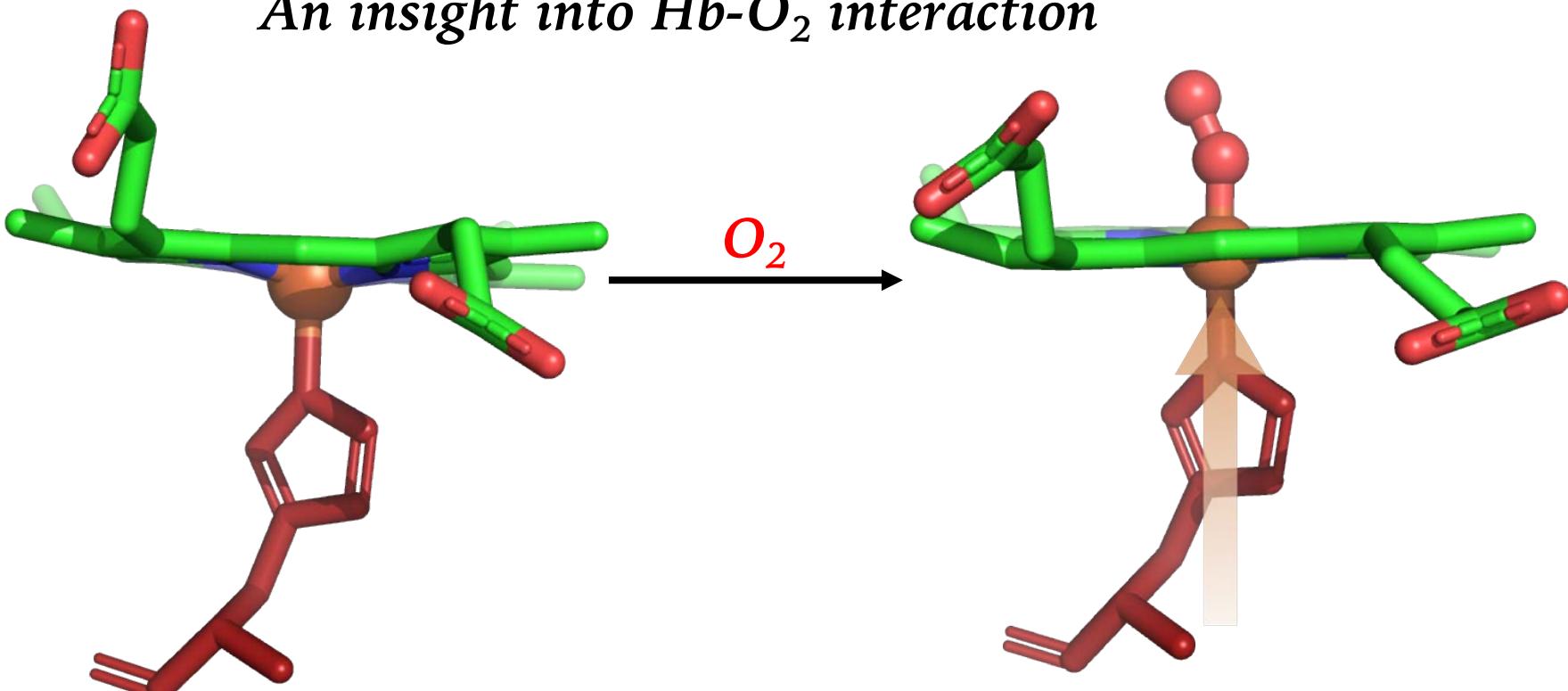
# Hemoglobin: Cooperativity Effect



**Hemoglobin (Hb)**  
 $\alpha_2\beta_2$  hetero-tetrameric  
structure

$O_2$  binding pulls the Fe center & proximal histidine towards the porphyrin plane

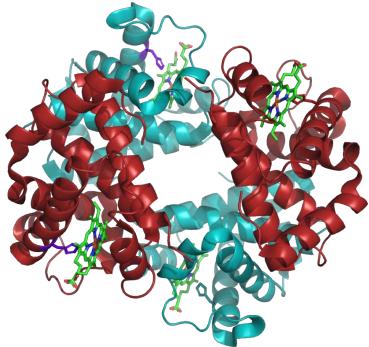
*An insight into Hb- $O_2$  interaction*



*Deoxy-Hb*  
Fe(II) high-spin system  
Too big to fit in the porphyrin cavity  
(78 pm)

*Oxy-Hb*  
Fe(III) low-spin system  
Smaller size fits better  
(55 pm)

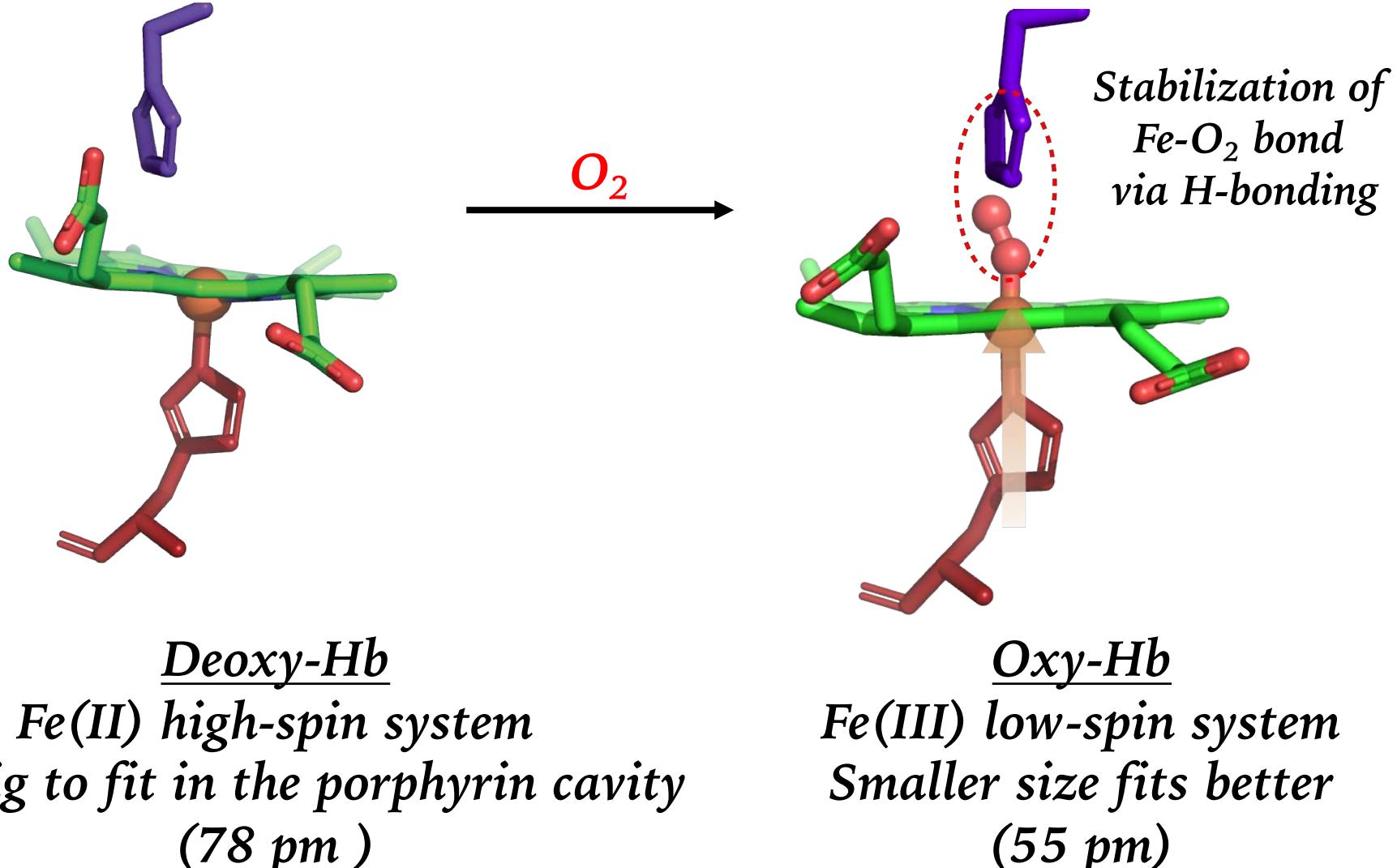
# Hemoglobin: Cooperativity Effect



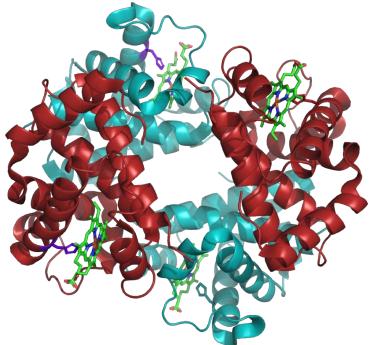
**Hemoglobin (Hb)**  
 $\alpha_2\beta_2$  hetero-tetrameric  
structure

$O_2$  binding pulls the Fe center & proximal histidine towards the porphyrin plane

*An insight into Hb- $O_2$  interaction*

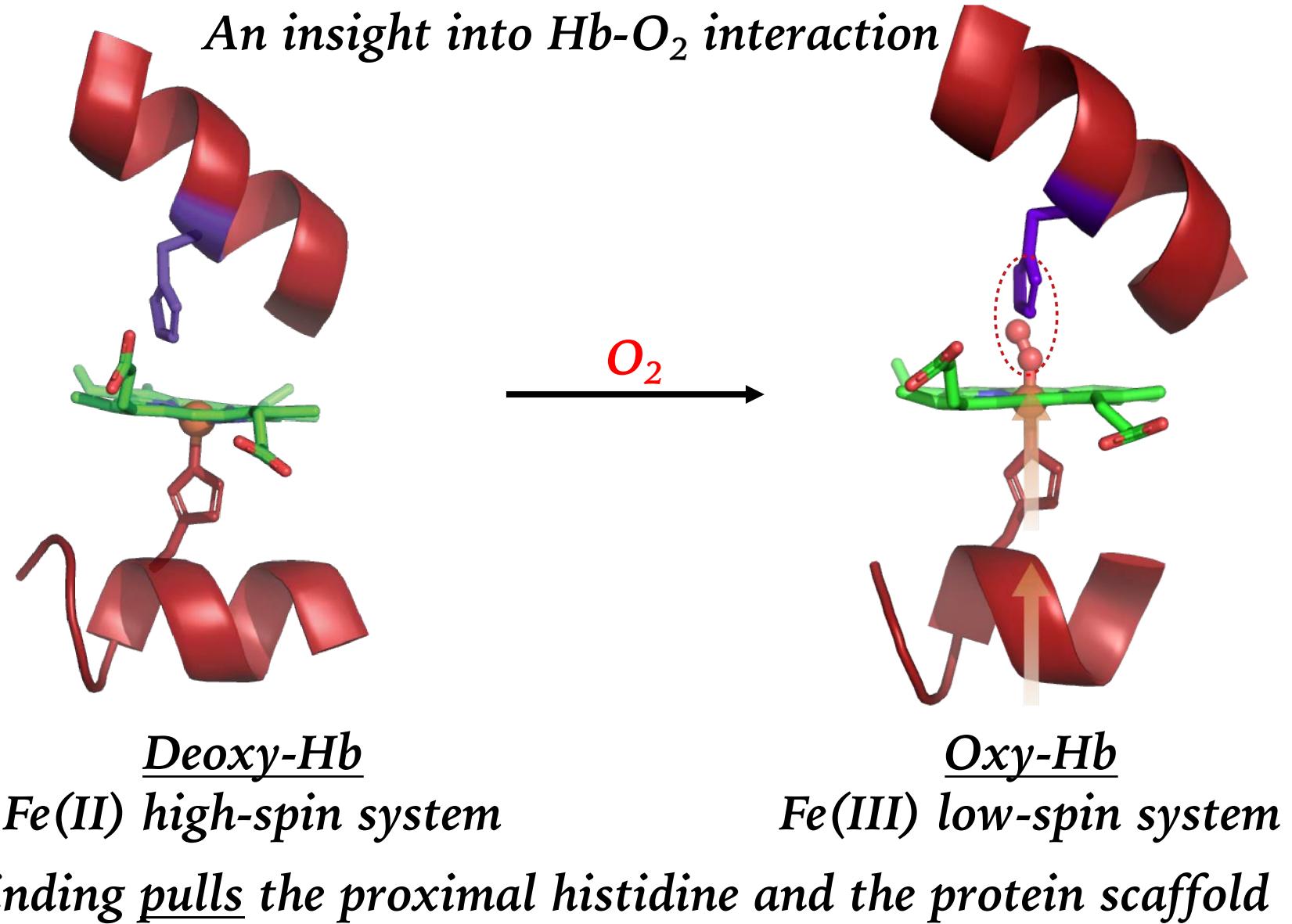


# Hemoglobin: Cooperativity Effect

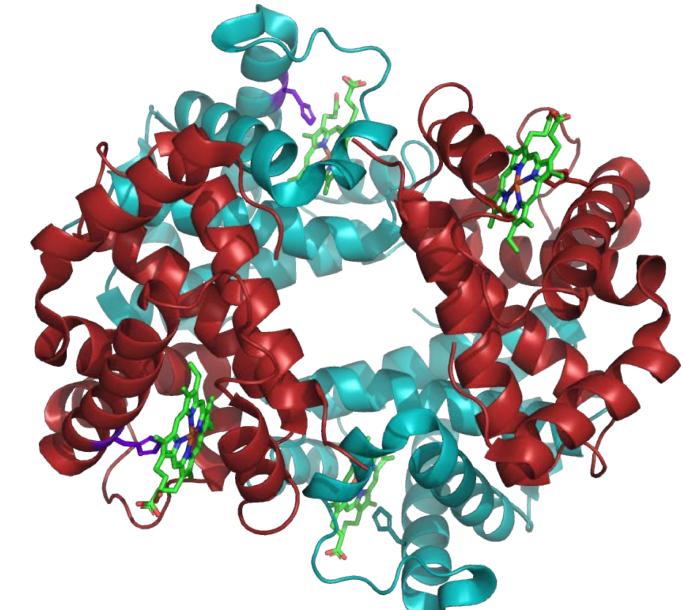


*Hemoglobin (Hb)  
 $\alpha_2\beta_2$  hetero-tetrameric  
 structure*

$O_2$  binding pulls the Fe center & proximal histidine towards the porphyrin plane

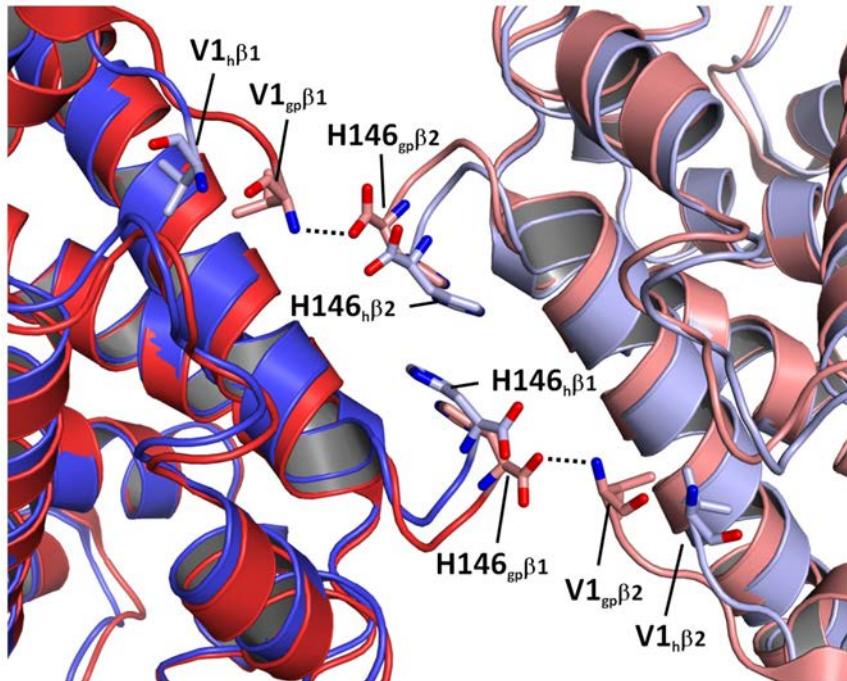


# Hemoglobin: Cooperativity Effect



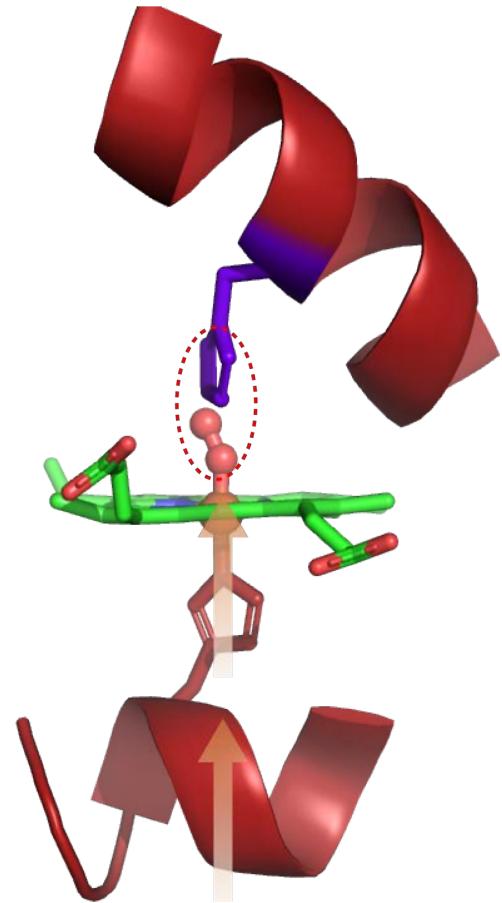
**Hemoglobin (Hb)  
 $\alpha_2\beta_2$  hetero-tetrameric  
Structure**

*Hb-O<sub>2</sub> interaction & structural dynamics*



[doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0012389](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0012389)

*H-bonding & salt-bridge  
interaction between residues  
on the subunit borders*

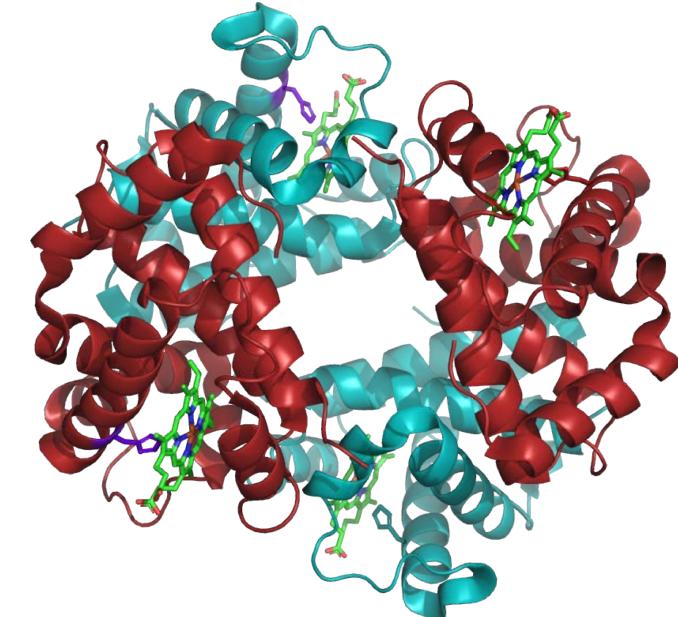


Oxy-Hb

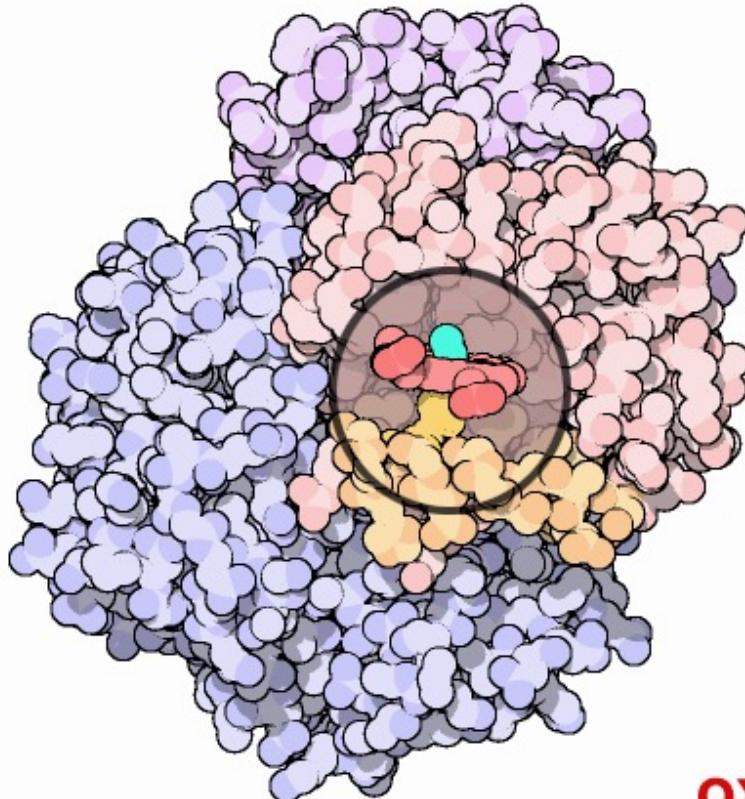
*The Hb-O<sub>2</sub> binding pulls off the protein chain and strains the sub-unit interactions*

# Hemoglobin: Cooperativity Effect

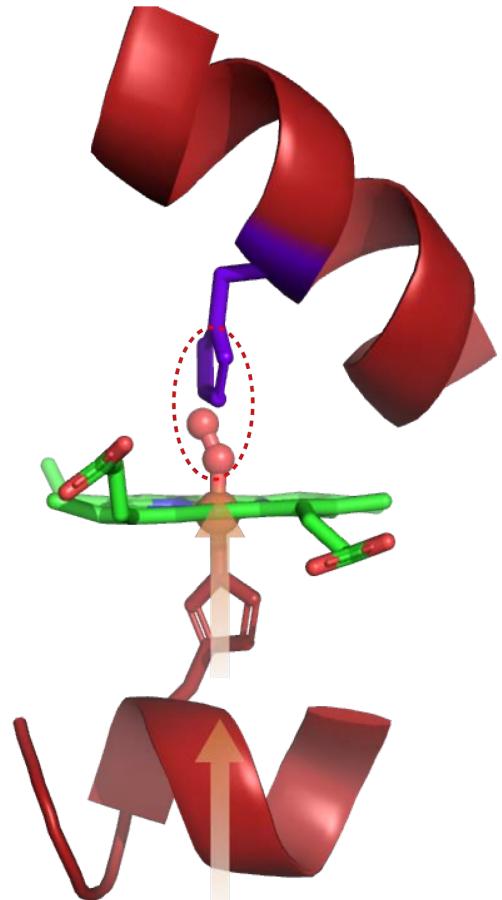
*Hb-O<sub>2</sub> interaction & structural dynamics*



*Hemoglobin (Hb)*  
 $\alpha_2\beta_2$  hetero-tetrameric  
Structure

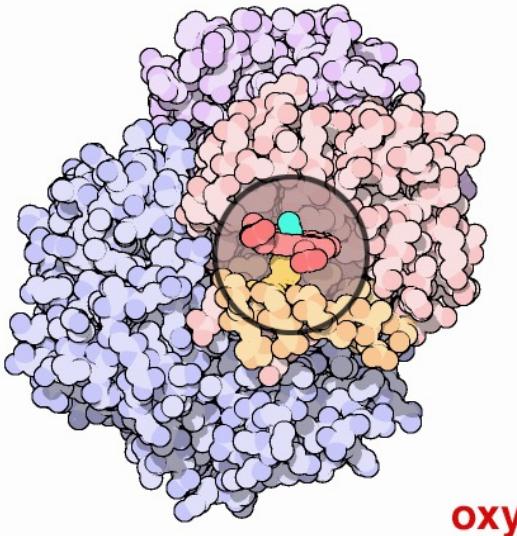


<https://pdb101.rcsb.org/motm/41>



Oxy-Hb

*The Hb-O<sub>2</sub> binding induces fluxionality in Hb structure*



<https://pdb101.rcsb.org/motm/41>

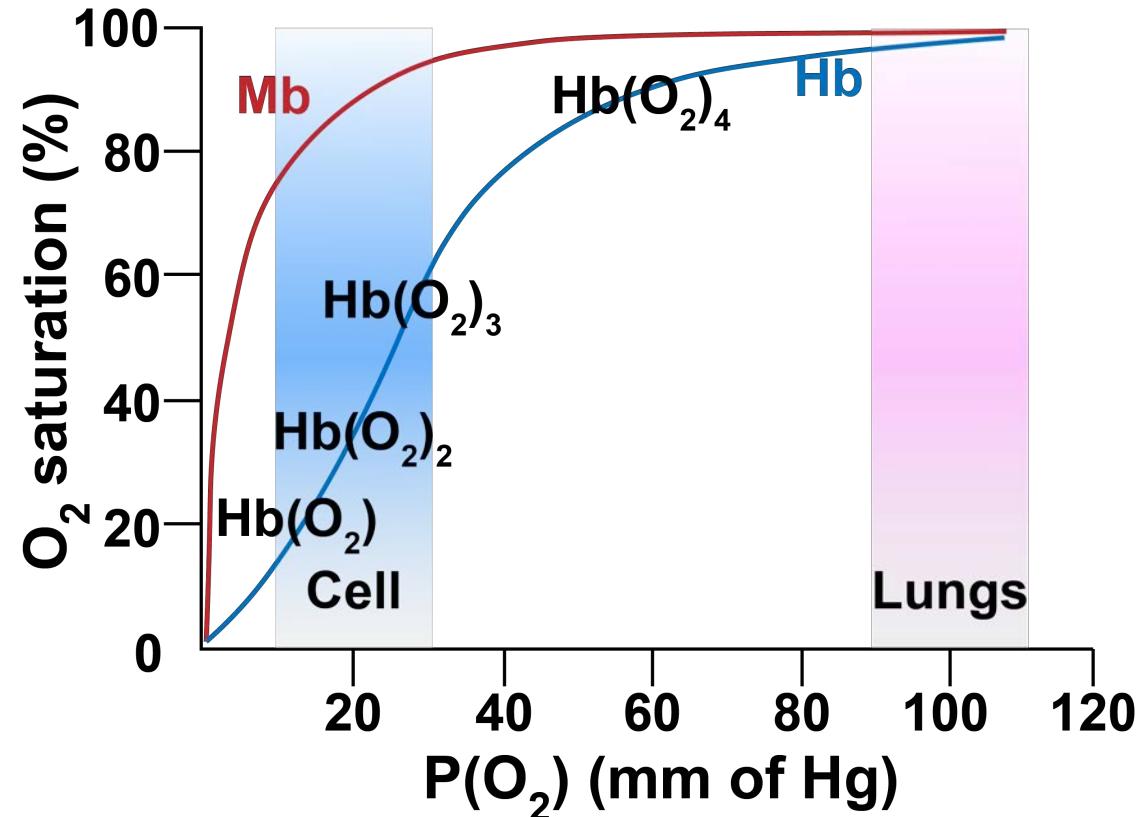
Hemoglobin (Hb)  
 $\alpha_2\beta_2$  hetero-tetrameric  
 Structure

# Hemoglobin: Cooperativity Effect



*Competition between Hb-O<sub>2</sub> binding & breaking of bonding interactions between sub-units*

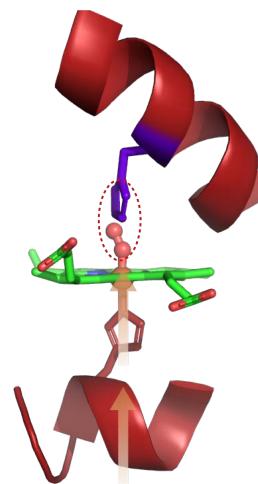
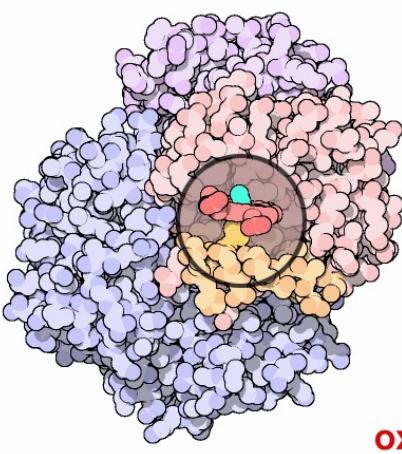
1. First O<sub>2</sub>: Unfavorable (Tensed)
2. Second O<sub>2</sub>: Unfavorable (Tensed)
3. Third O<sub>2</sub>: Tilts the bar (Relaxed)
4. Fourth O<sub>2</sub>: Favorable (Relaxed)



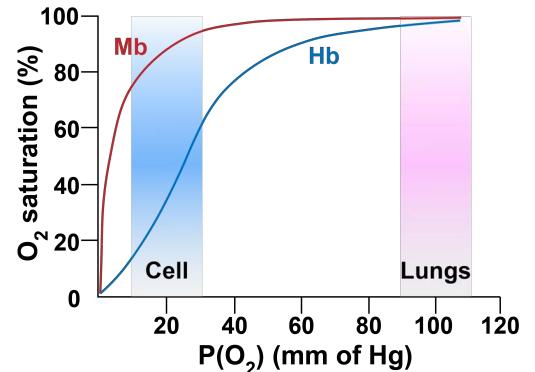
*Binding of O<sub>2</sub> to one-subunit effect others: Cooperativity or Allosteric Effect  
 Only in Hb not in Mb*

## Take Home Messages

$O_2$  a key player in Bioinorganic Chemistry



- Differential  $O_2$  binding for Hb & Mb
- $O_2$ -binding to heme pulls Fe-center and proximal histidine towards porphyrin plane
- This movement affects the H-bonding and salt-bridge interactions between subunits in Hb (not in monomeric Mb)
- Cooperativity effect observed in Hb





## Outline

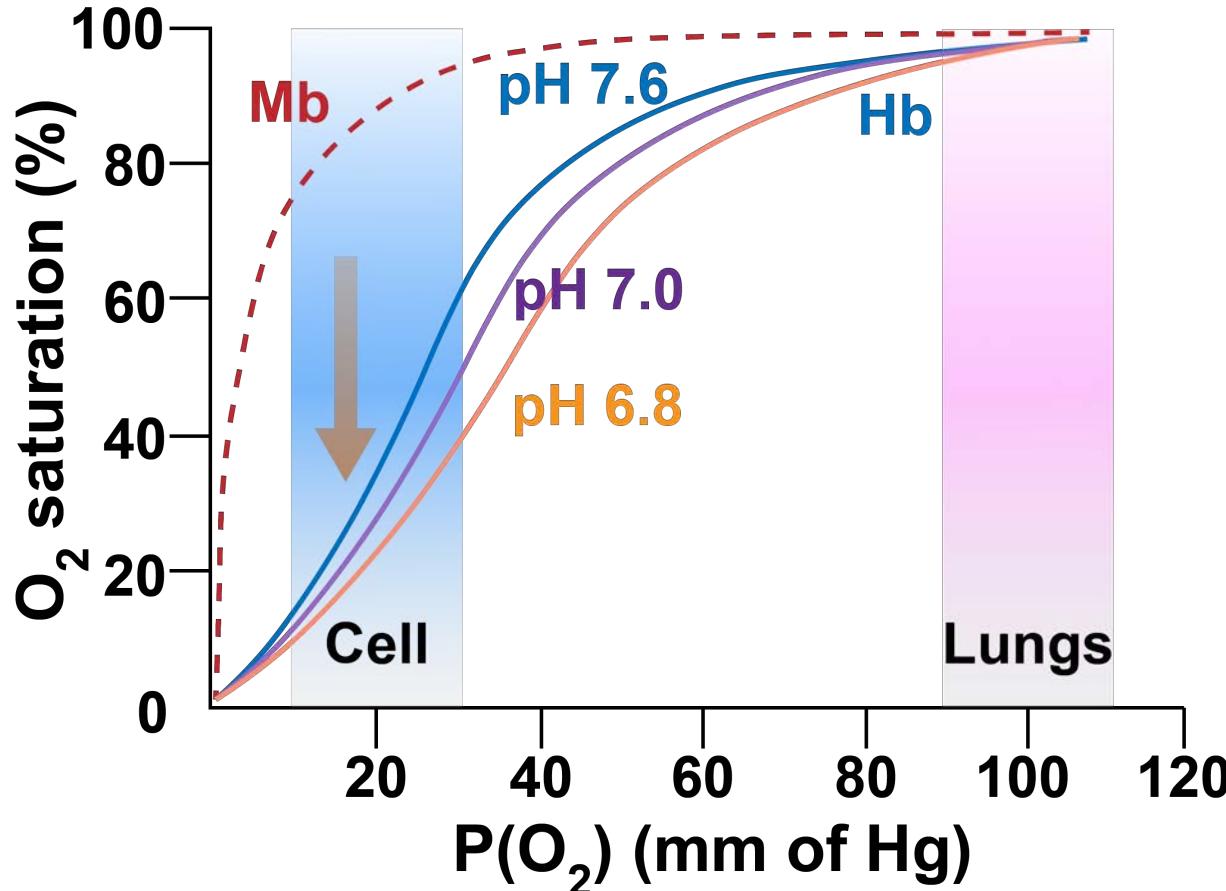
*Relevance of  
Bioinorganic Chemistry*

*O<sub>2</sub> a key player in  
Bioinorganic Chemistry*

*Hemoglobin &  
reversible O<sub>2</sub> binding*

*Trivia*

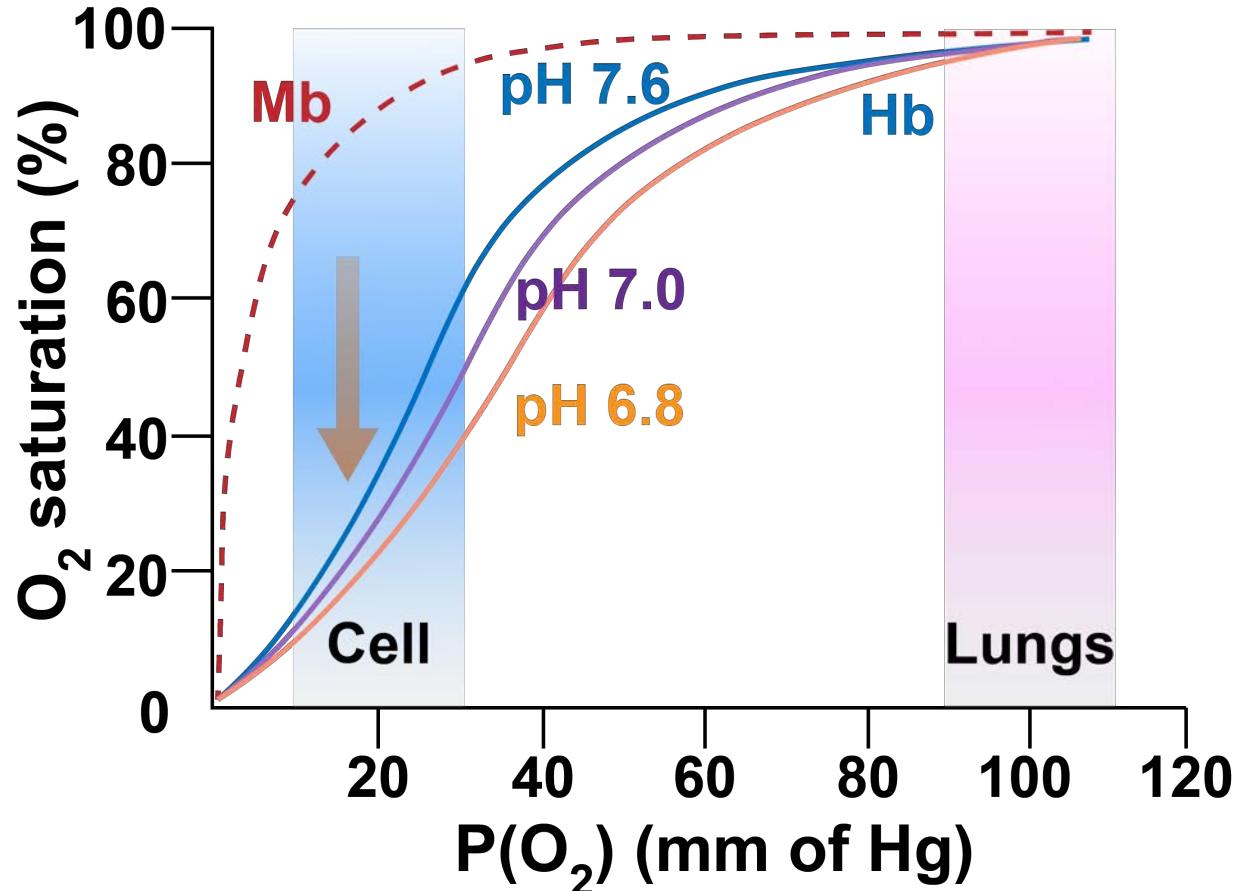
## Effect of pH on $Hb-O_2$ binding



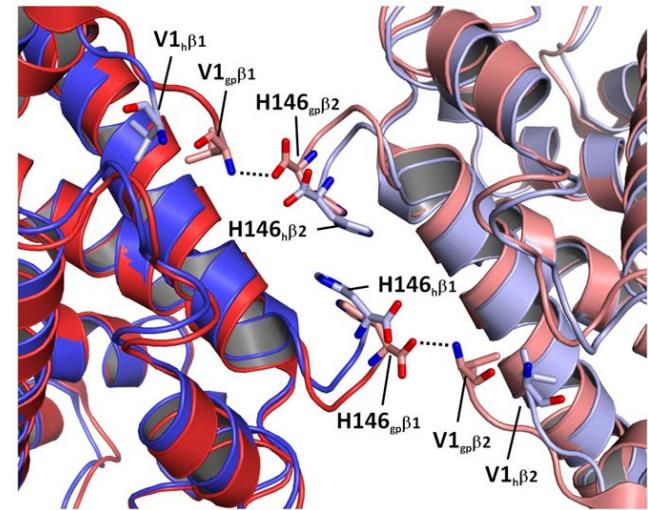
*Why such effect?*

*The O<sub>2</sub>-binding ability for Hb decreases at lower conc. of O<sub>2</sub> with increasing acidity*

## Effect of pH on Hb-O<sub>2</sub> binding



*Bohr effect*



[doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0012389](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0012389)

*H-bonding & salt-bridge interaction between subunits improves in acidic conditions*

*Protonation of histidine ( $pK_a \sim 7.5$ )*

*The O<sub>2</sub>-binding ability for Hb decreases at lower conc. of O<sub>2</sub> with increasing acidity*

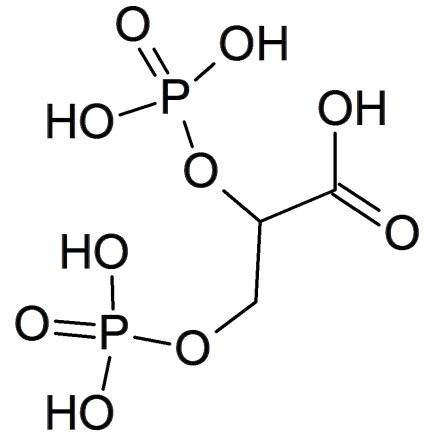
*Needs more energy to break them  
CO<sub>2</sub> rich condition*

## Better $O_2$ delivery in fatigued cells

*Hb delivers higher amount of  $O_2$  than normal to the cells/tissues after exercise or at higher altitude*

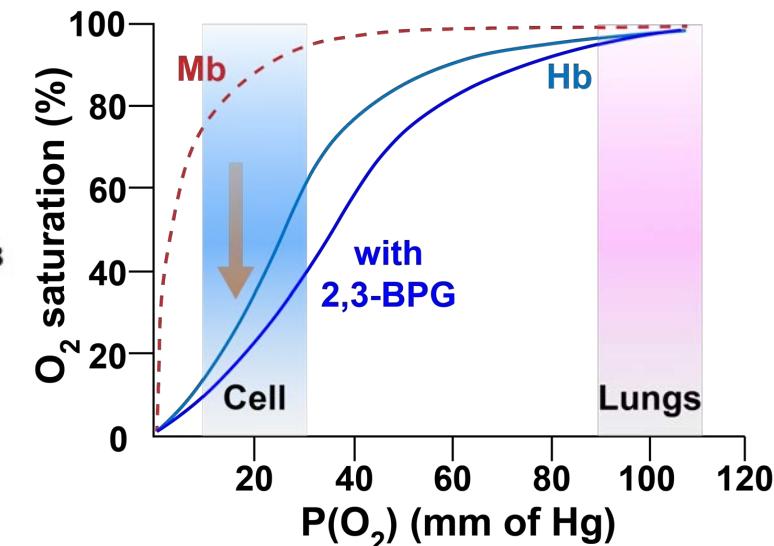
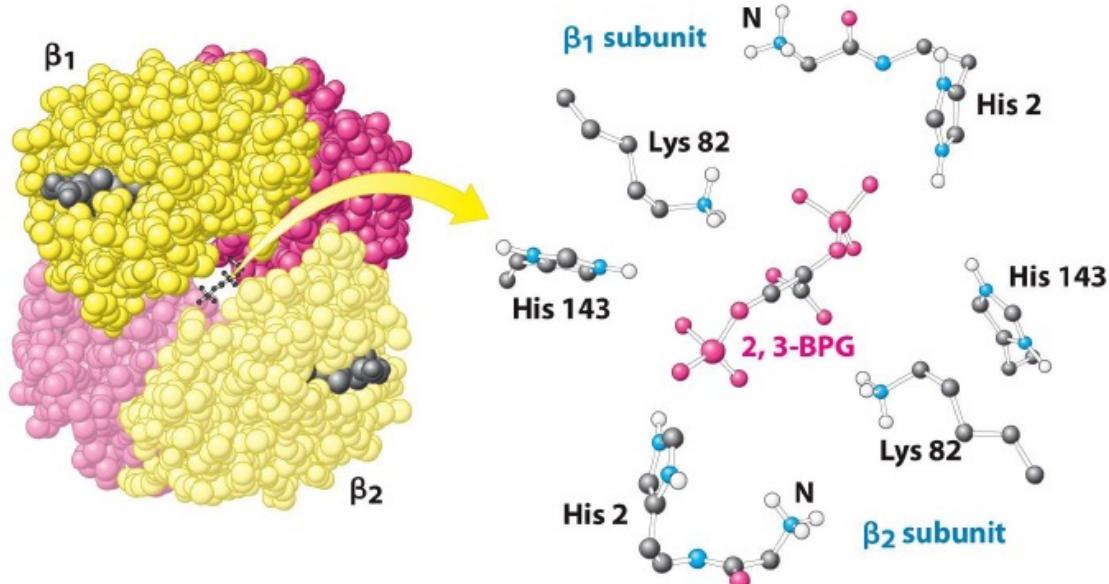
*Why?*

## Better $O_2$ delivery in fatigued cells



Cells release 2,3-BPG under stress

2,3-BPG facilitate strong interaction between subunits



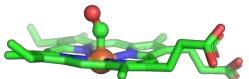
2,3-BPG is known as an allosteric effector

## Hb structure saves us from CO poisoning?

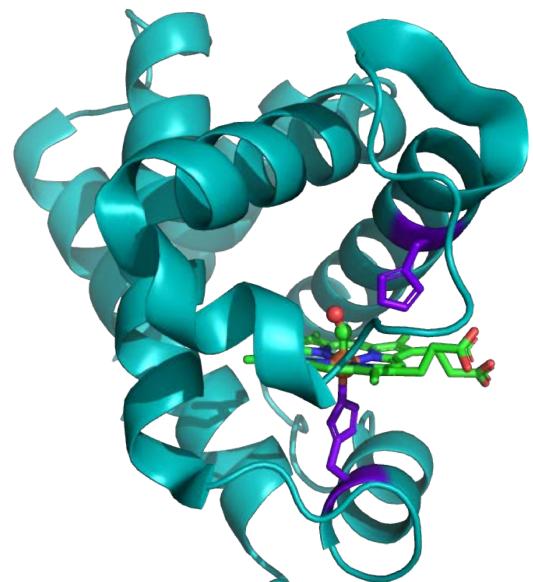
*In free heme CO binds Fe-center 25000 times strongly compared to O<sub>2</sub>*

*But in Hb, CO binds only 200 times strongly than O<sub>2</sub>*

*Why?*



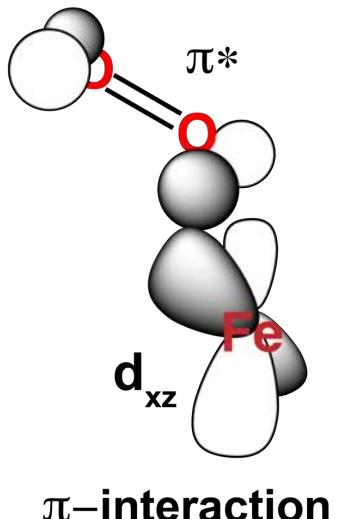
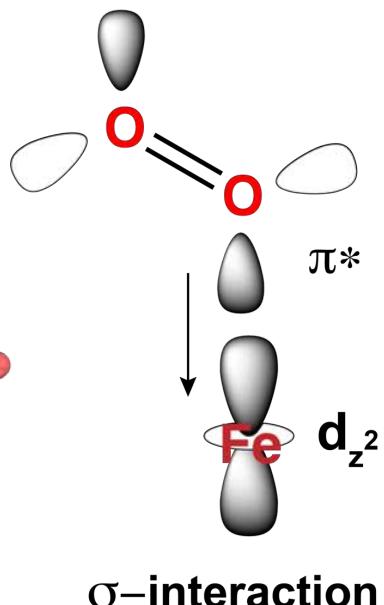
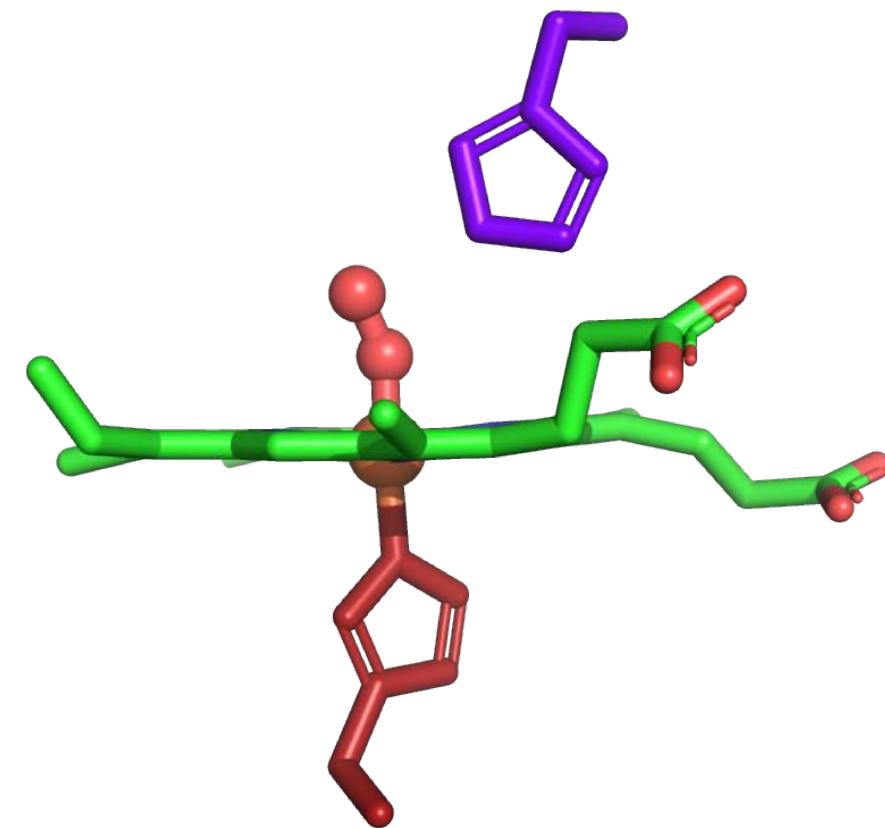
$$\frac{K_{CO}}{K_{O_2}} = 25000$$



$$\frac{K_{CO}}{K_{O_2}} = 200$$

# Hb structure saves us from CO poisoning?

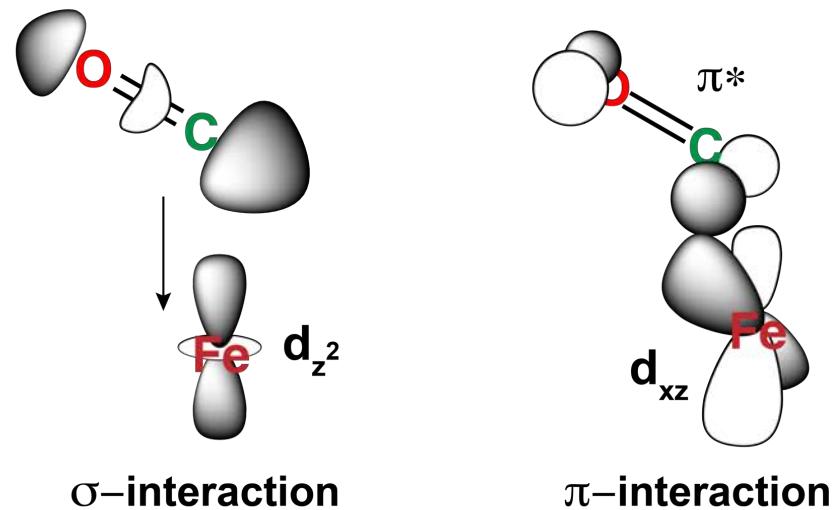
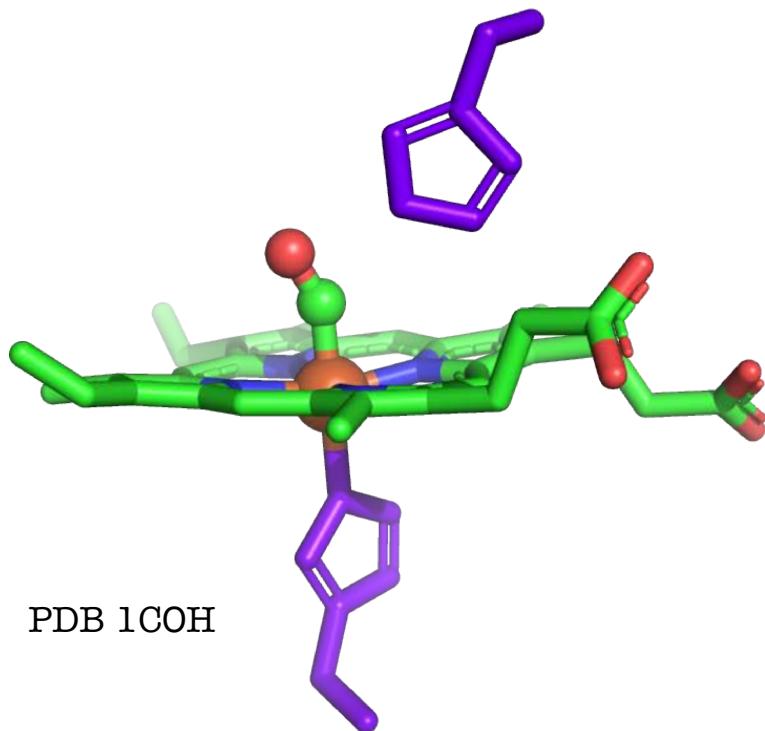
*Hb binds O<sub>2</sub> in bent mode*



1. *Interaction with distal histidine*
2. *Favored  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -bonding interactions between  $O_2 \pi^*$  and Fe d-orbitals*

# Hb structure saves us from CO poisoning?

*Hb binds CO in bent mode*



*Toxic dose of CO 20-30%*  
*Lethal dose > 60%*

1. *Steric interaction with distal histidine*
2. *Disfavored  $\sigma$ -bonding interactions between  $\text{CO}_2 \sigma$  and Fe  $d_{z^2}$ -orbital*