

*Copper enzymes*

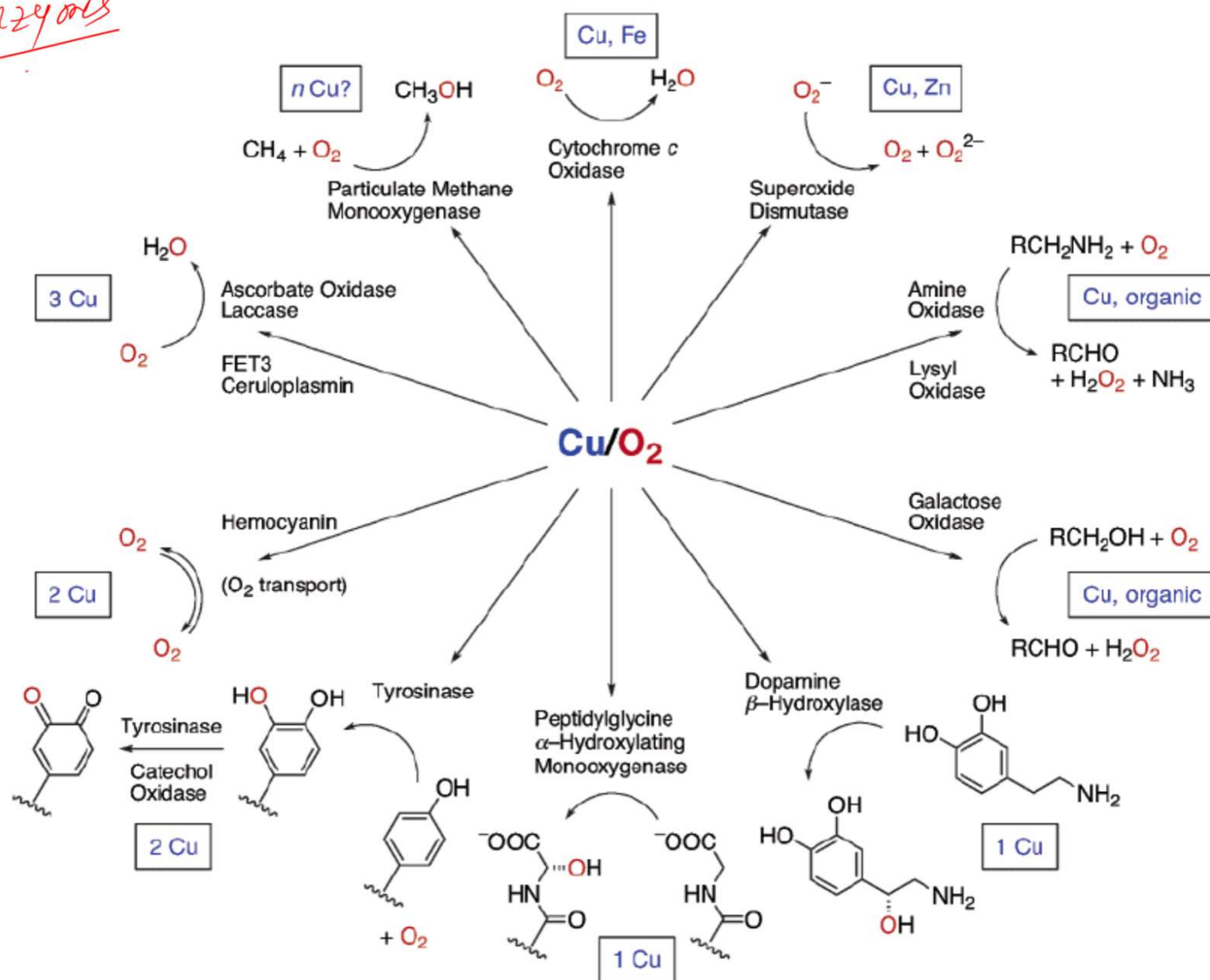
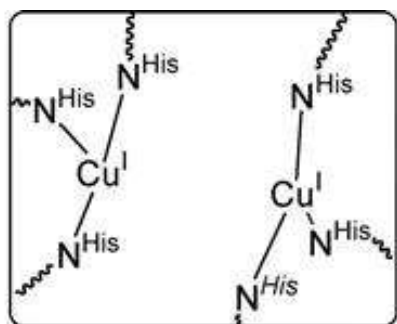
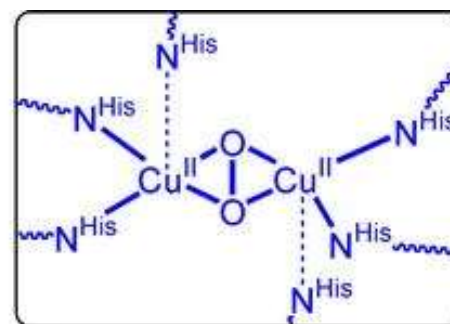
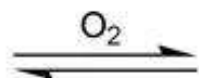


Figure 1. Selected Cu enzymes and proteins that activate  $\text{O}_2$ .<sup>18</sup>

## Active site structures and reactions of hemocyanin, tyrosinase, and catechol oxidase

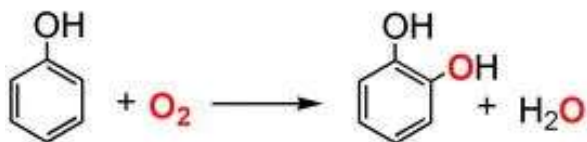


**deoxy-Hemocyanin**  
 Limulus II (horseshoe crab)  
 Cu...Cu = 4.6 Å  
 Trigonal-planar copper(I)

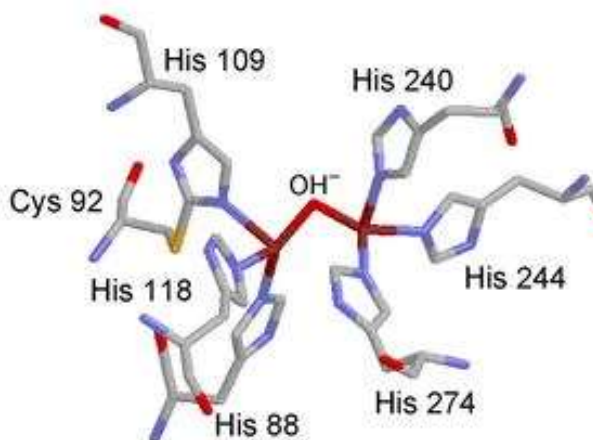
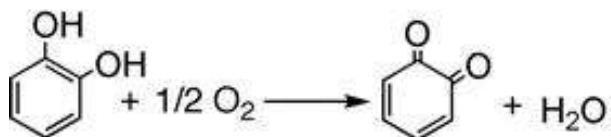


**oxy-Hemocyanin**  
 Limulus II (horseshoe crab)  
 Cu...Cu = 3.6 Å; pyramidal Cu(II)  
 $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 350 \text{ nm}$  ( $\epsilon \sim 20,000$ )  
 $\nu_{\text{(O-O)}} \sim 750 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

**Cresolase (Tyr) reaction:**

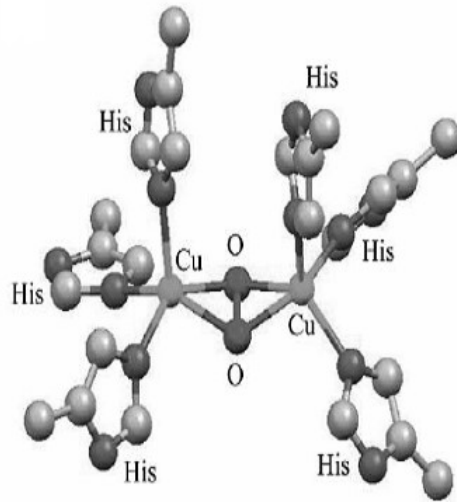


**Catechol Oxidase (Tyr & CO) reaction:**

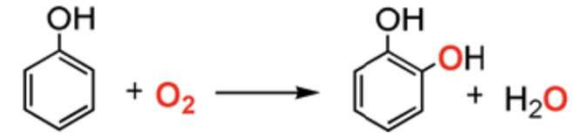


**met Catechol Oxidase (CO)**  
 Cu...Cu = 2.9 Å

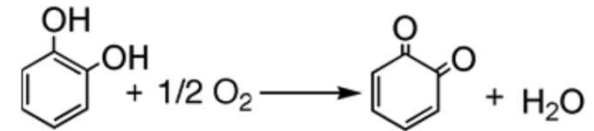
# Tyrosinase



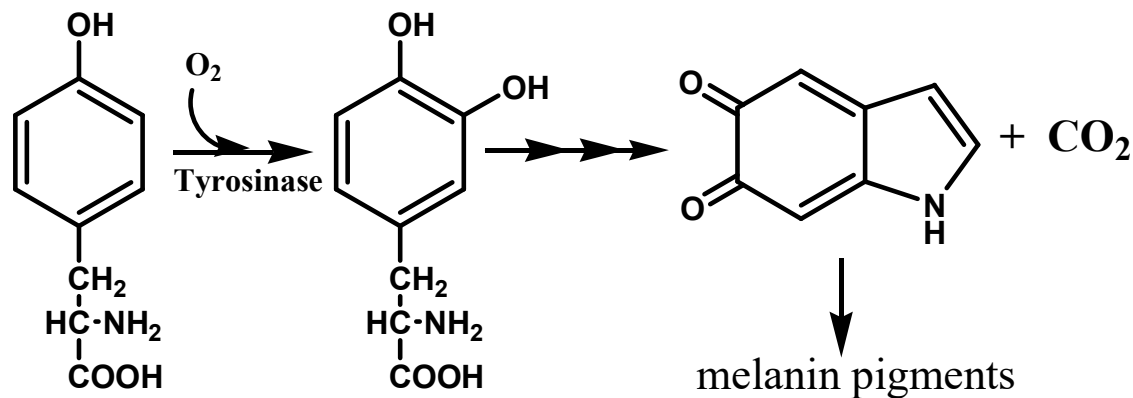
**Cresolase (Tyr) reaction:**



**Catechol Oxidase (Tyr & CO) reaction:**



❖ **Tyrosinase (Tyr)**, a **monooxygenase** which hydroxylates monophenols (tyrosine) – o-hydroxylation of phenols: **monophenolase activity** - and further oxidizes the o-diphenols (catechols – like DOPA) to an o-quinone – **catecholsae activity**. The enzymes **Tyr** and **Catechol Oxidase** are responsible for melanin formation and browning of fruits:



## Catechol Oxidase

❖ It catalyzes exclusively the oxidation of catechols to the corresponding o-quinone, without acting on monophenols. The resulting highly reactive quinones auto-polymerize to form brown polyphenolic catechol melanins, a process thought to protect the damaged plant from pathogens or insects

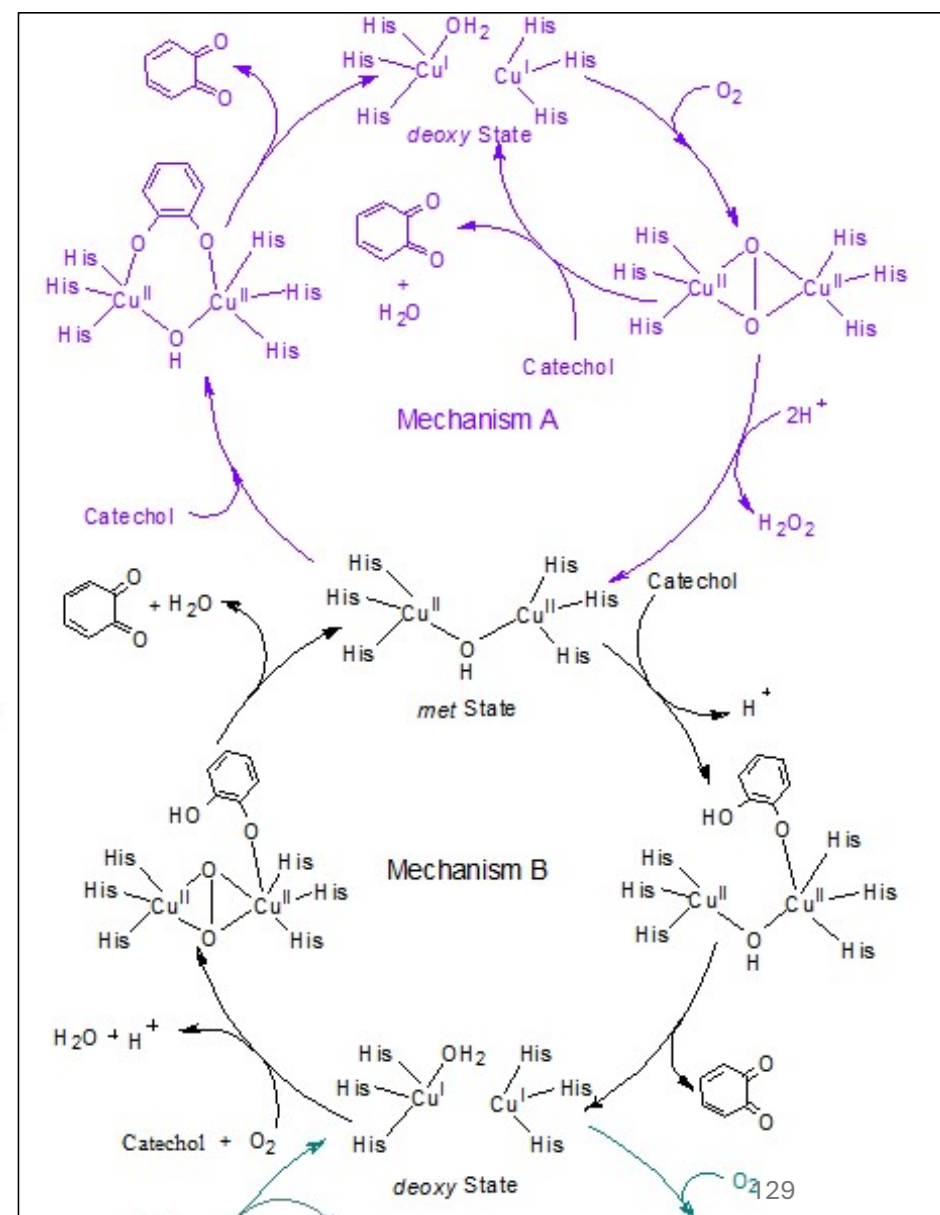
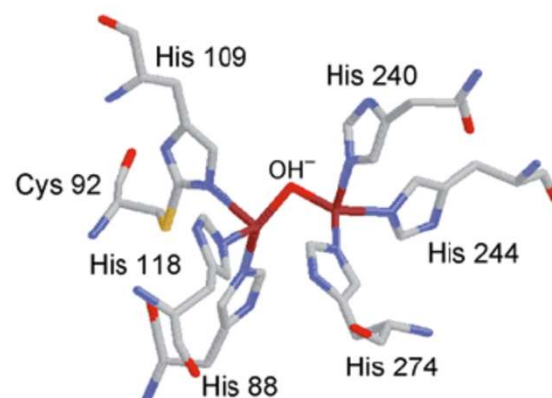
❖ Both copper centers have three histidine ligands

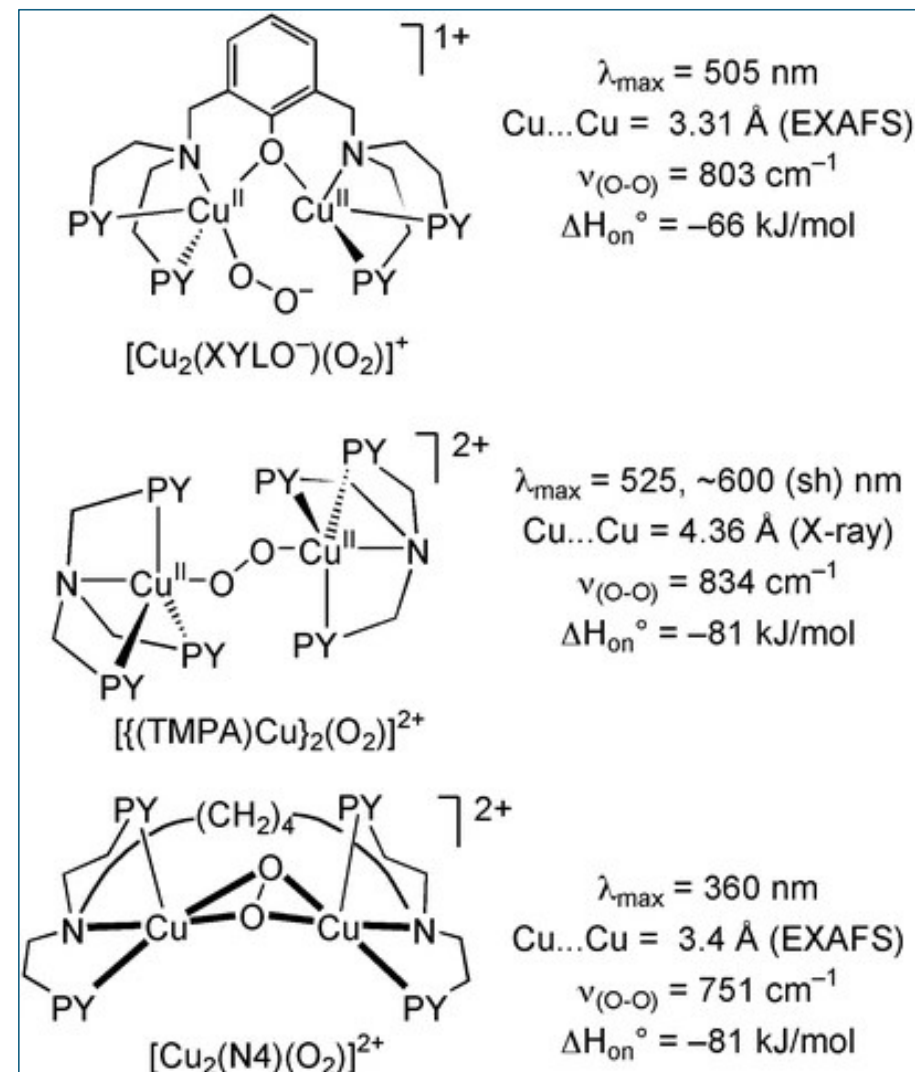
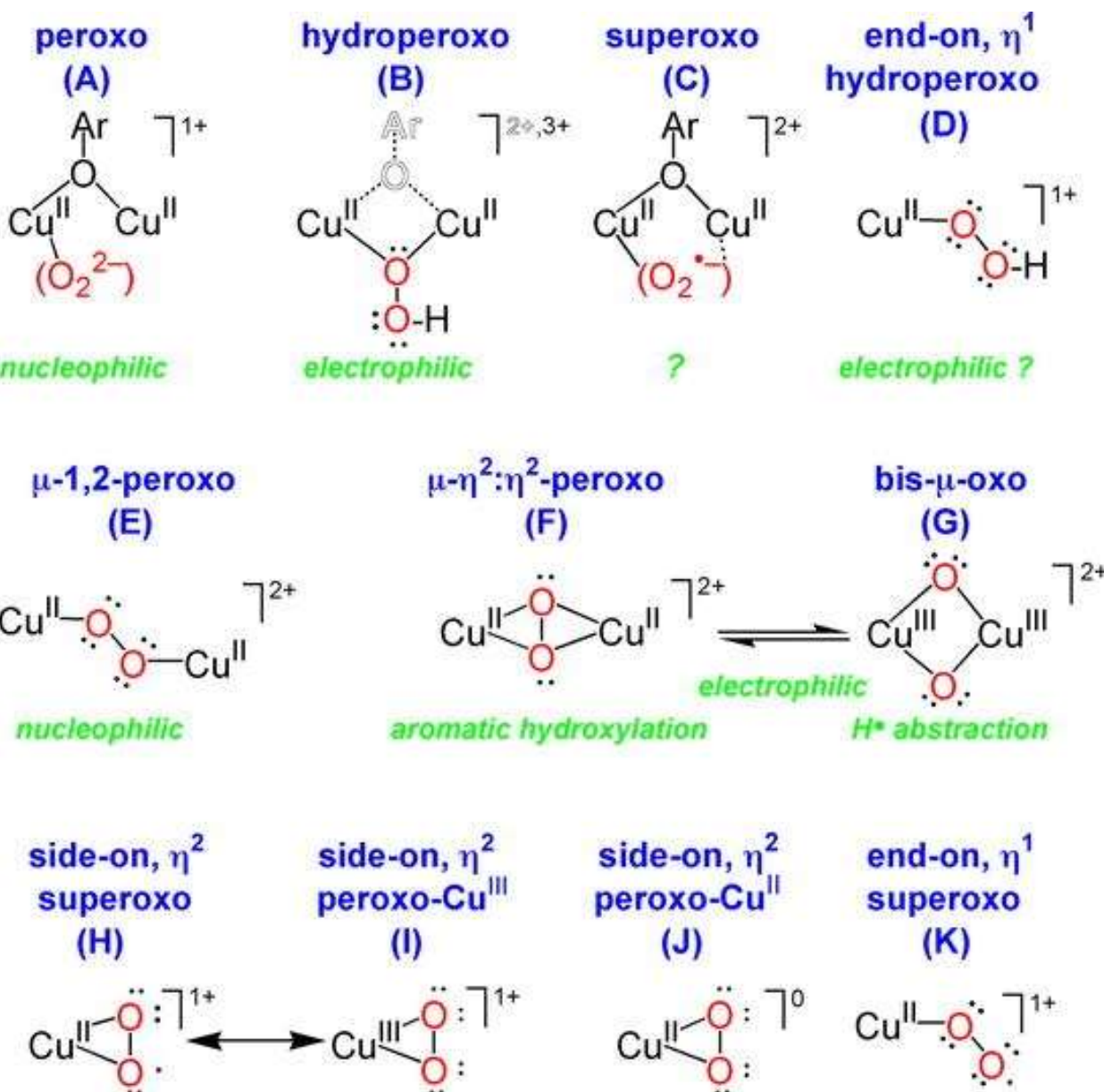
❖ Cu-Cu: 2.89 Å

❖ Antiferromagnetic coupling

❖ A  $\mu$ -hydroxo bridge between the two Cu(II) ions --- **met form**

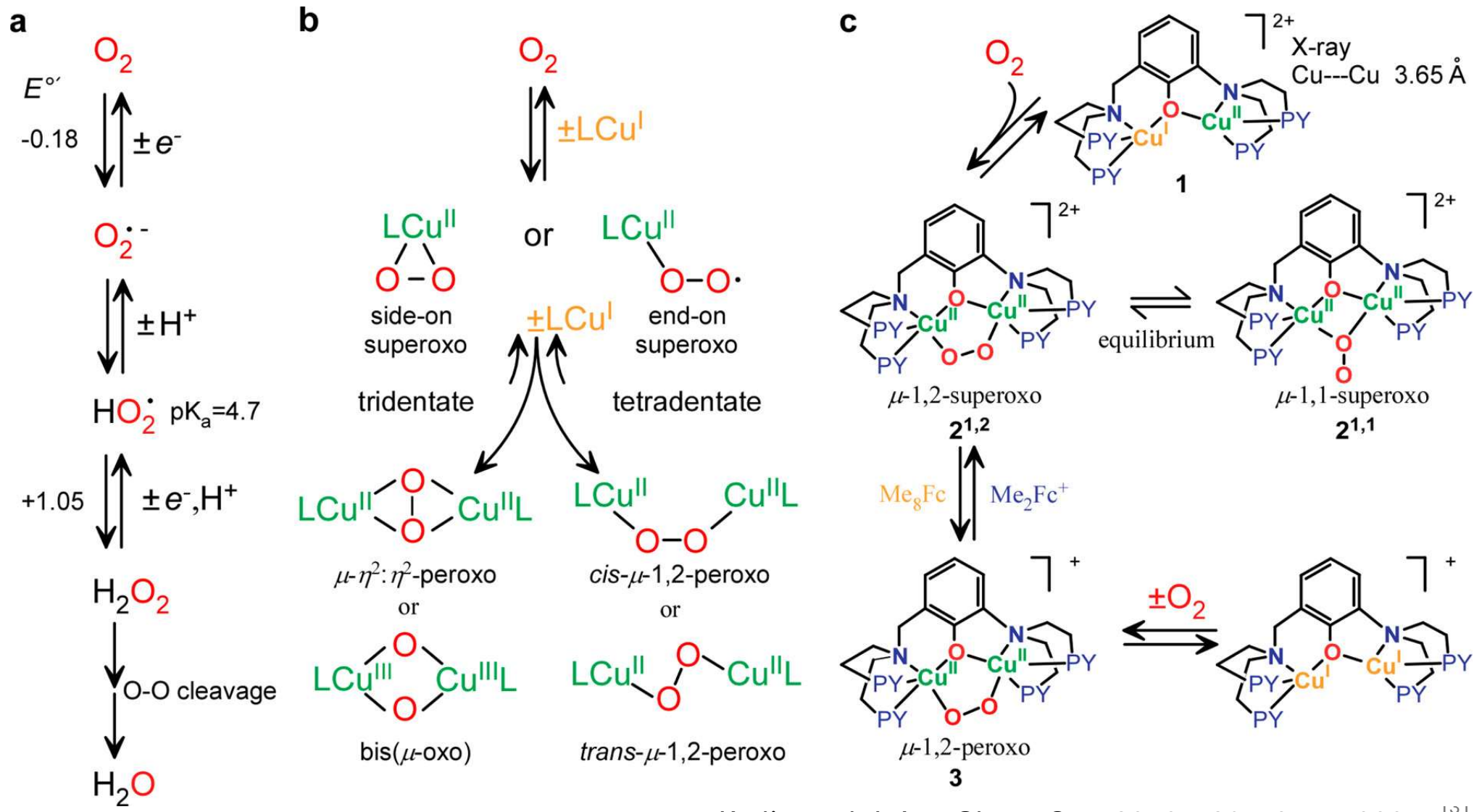
❖  $\mu$ - $\eta^2:\eta^2$  binding mode for the peroxide --- **active form**







# Copper-Dioxygen Chemistry



Karlin et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2016, 138, 7055–7066

Resonance Raman spectra of **2** with 407 nm excitation;  $^{16}\text{O}_2$  (blue),  $^{18}\text{O}_2$  (red), mixed isotope (a 1:2:1 mixture of  $^{16}\text{O}_2$ : $^{16,18}\text{O}_2$ : $^{18}\text{O}_2$  green),  $1/4(^{16}\text{O}_2 + ^{18}\text{O}_2)$  (purple), and  $1/2(^{16}\text{O}_2 + ^{18}\text{O}_2)$  (orange)

Additionally, two oxygen isotope sensitive Cu–O stretches are observed at lower energy (478  $\text{cm}^{-1}$   $\Delta^{18}\text{O}_2$  and 383  $\text{cm}^{-1}$   $\Delta^{18}\text{O}_2$ )

presence of two oxygen isotope sensitive features (1144  $\text{cm}^{-1}$   $\Delta^{18}\text{O}_2$  and 1120  $\text{cm}^{-1}$   $\Delta^{18}\text{O}_2$ ) corresponds to two superoxide O–O stretches indicating the presence of two, distinct superoxide isomers. **The 1144  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  feature corresponds to the O–O stretch of the  $\mu$ -1,2-isomer while the 1120  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  stretch results from the  $\mu$ -1,1-isomer.**

