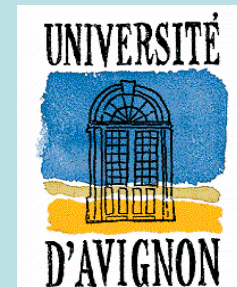


**Mixed Research Unit UMR A408**  
University of Avignon  
National Center for Agronomic Research (INRA)  
*Safety & Quality of Plant Products*



**Olivier DANGLES**  
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**Antioxidant Activity of Dietary Polyphenols**

**The Dangers of Aerobic Life:  
Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) & Oxidative Stress**

Carbohydrates, fatty acids, aminoacids



Pyruvate (NH<sub>3</sub>)  
+  
Acetyl Coenzyme A

*Citric acid  
cycle*

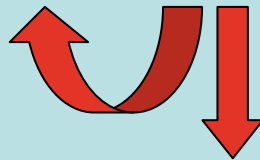


CO<sub>2</sub>

*Energetic  
Metabolism*

FAD, NAD<sup>+</sup>

NADH, FADH<sub>2</sub>

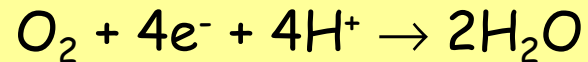


*Respiratory Chain  
(mitochondria)*

Electrons + H<sup>+</sup>

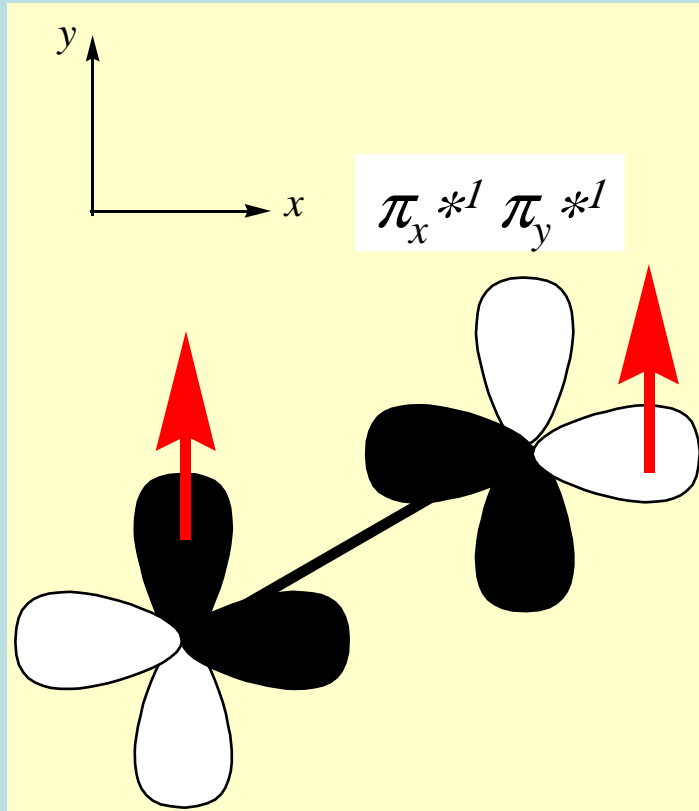


ATP synthesis

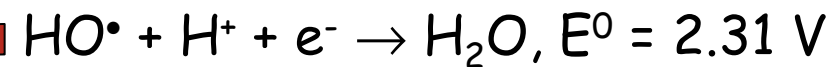
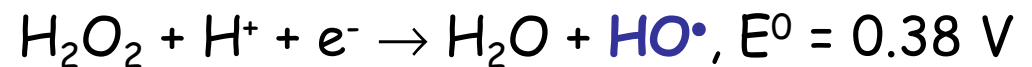
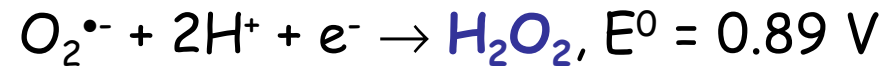
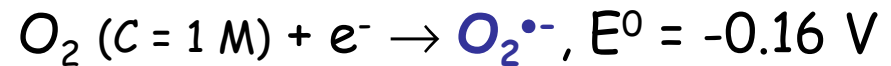


Via potentially toxic intermediates = *Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS)*

## Dioxygen & ROS



Dioxygen is a biradical ( $S = 1$ )

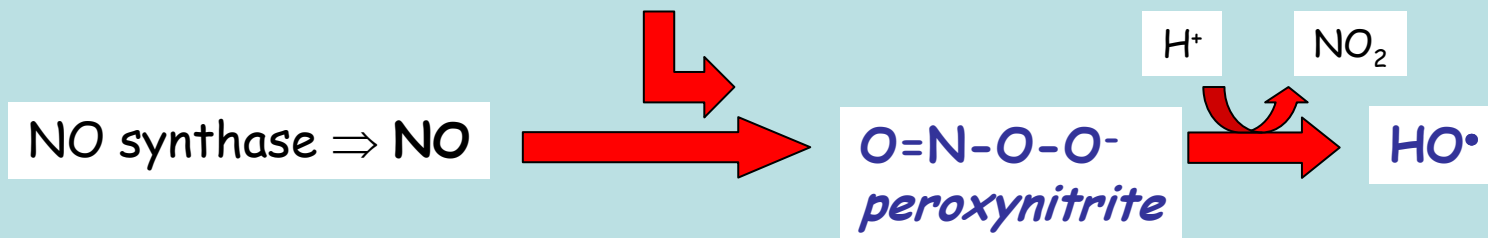


*The most potent chemical oxidant (after  $F^{\bullet}$ )*

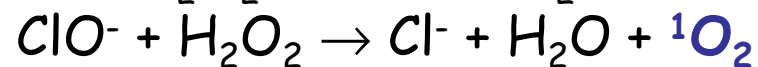
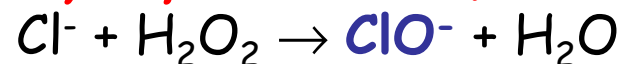
## ROS & antimicrobial defense (*inflammation*)

Enzymes in leucocytes produce ROS  
for oxidative degradation of viruses, bacteria etc...

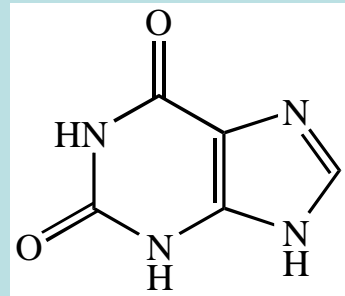
*NADPH oxidase, a sophisticated metalloprotein complex*



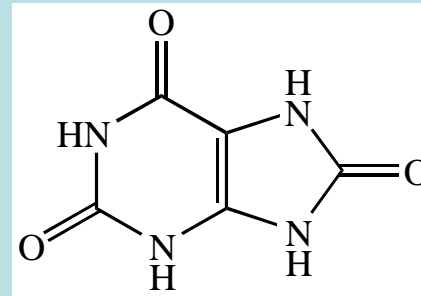
*Myeloperoxidase (heme enzyme)*



## ROS & purine metabolism: xanthine oxidase (liver)



Xanthine



Uric acid

Mo<sup>VI</sup>-Pterin

Mo<sup>IV</sup>-Pterin

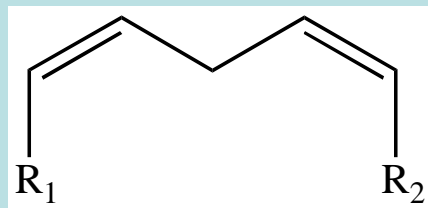
via 2 Fe<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub> proteins and FAD

2O<sub>2</sub><sup>•-</sup>

2O<sub>2</sub>

## ROS & PUFA oxidation

**PUFAs** (free form, in TAG, phospholipids, cholesteryl esters) are among the most dioxygen-sensitive biomolecules

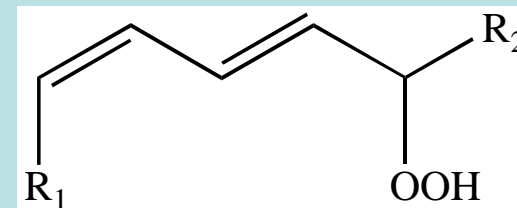


**Polyunsaturated fatty acid (PUFA) = LH**

O<sub>2</sub>, initiator



Via **LOO•**



**PUFA hydroperoxide = LOOH**

Initiator = transition metal ions & metalloenzymes (e.g., lipoxygenases), radiations

**LOOH, LOO•**



**LO•**



Electrophilic aldehydes & epoxides



*Chemical modifications of proteins & DNA*

## PUFA oxidation takes place:

### In plants

In response to various stresses (drought, chill, heat, salts, heavy metal ions), upon aging

### In foods

During industrial treatments (heating, irradiation), storage, cooking

### In humans

In the GI tract: oxidation of dietary lipids initiated by dietary pro-oxidant species such as heme iron

In cell membranes & internalized low-density lipoproteins:

- Following inflammation & cell injury: microbial infection, CVD, Alzheimer
- In various pathological conditions: obesity, hypertension, diabete...
- As a consequence of intoxication, smoking, aging & even physical exercise...

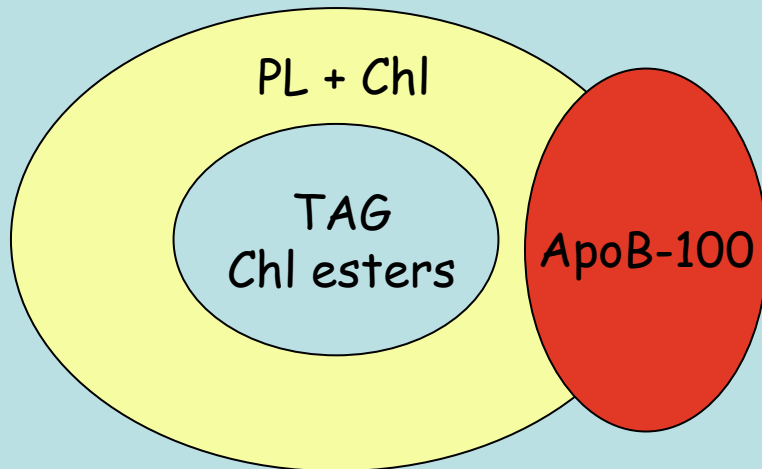
# Low-Density Lipoproteins (LDL)

*Transport of cholesterol in blood from liver to tissues*

Density (vs. water): 1,006 - 1,063

Diameter: 15 - 25 nm

Composition: lipids = 78 %, protein (ApoB-100) = 22 %



TAG: triacylglycerols  
Chl: cholesterol  
PL: phospholipids

**Minimally modified LDL (in artery wall)**  
oxidized lipids (dietary origin?), intact apoB

*ROS-producing enzymes*



**Highly oxidized LDL (ox-LDL)**

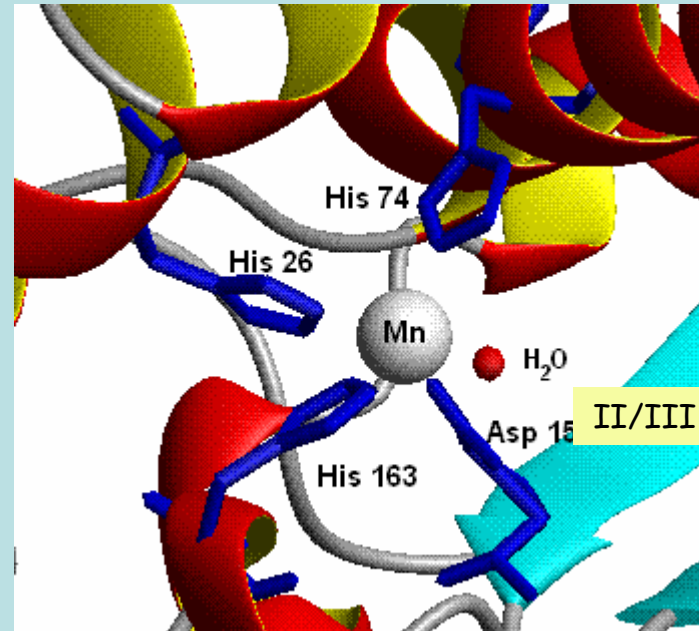
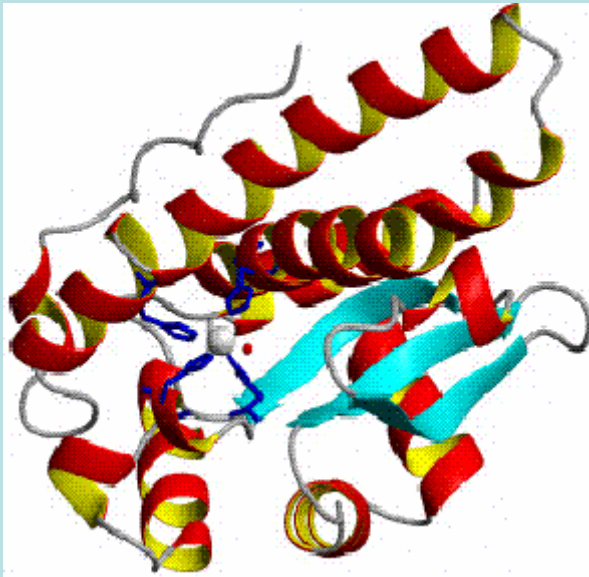
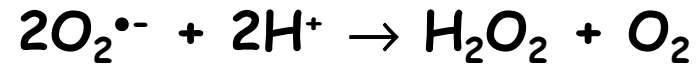
Extensive lipid oxidation

modified apoB (Lys - lipid aldehyde linkages)

Accumulation in leucocytes  
(macrophages)

*Atherosclerotic plaque*  
Cardiovascular diseases

## Fighting ROS in excess: superoxide dismutase (SOD)



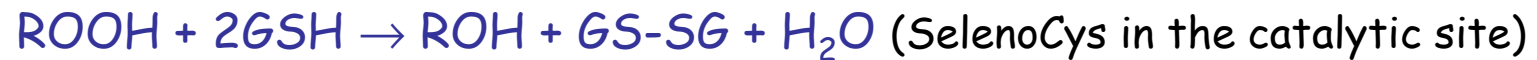
Mn human mitochondrial (Mn-SOD):  $k_{\text{cat}} \approx 10^8 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$

CuZn-SOD (cytosol):  $k_{\text{cat}} \approx 10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  (diffusion-controlled process)

**Catalase (heme enzyme):**  $2\text{H}_2\text{O}_2 \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{O}_2$

## Natural defense against the toxicity of lipid hydroperoxides: the glutathione peroxidases (GPx)

Isoforms GPx 1-4 are highly expressed in the gastro-intestinal mucosa



**GPx1, GPx2:** cytosolic enzymes, GPx1 also found in mitochondria,  
specificity for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and PUFA-OOH

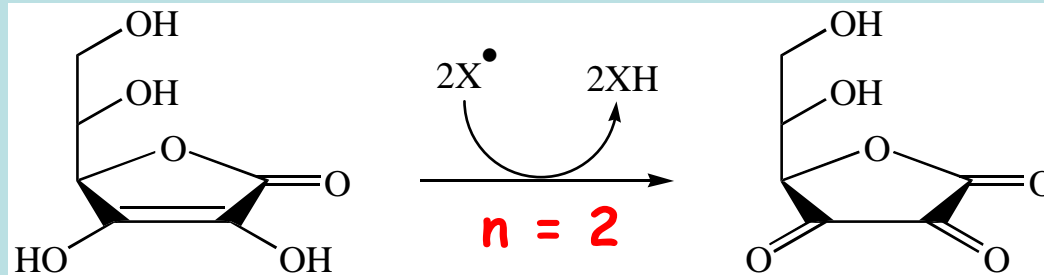
**GPx3:** extracellular enzyme, reduction of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , PUFA-OOH and PL-OOH

**GPx4:** cytosolic, mitochondrial and nuclear forms, reduction of PL-OOH,  
Chl-OOH and Thymine-OOH

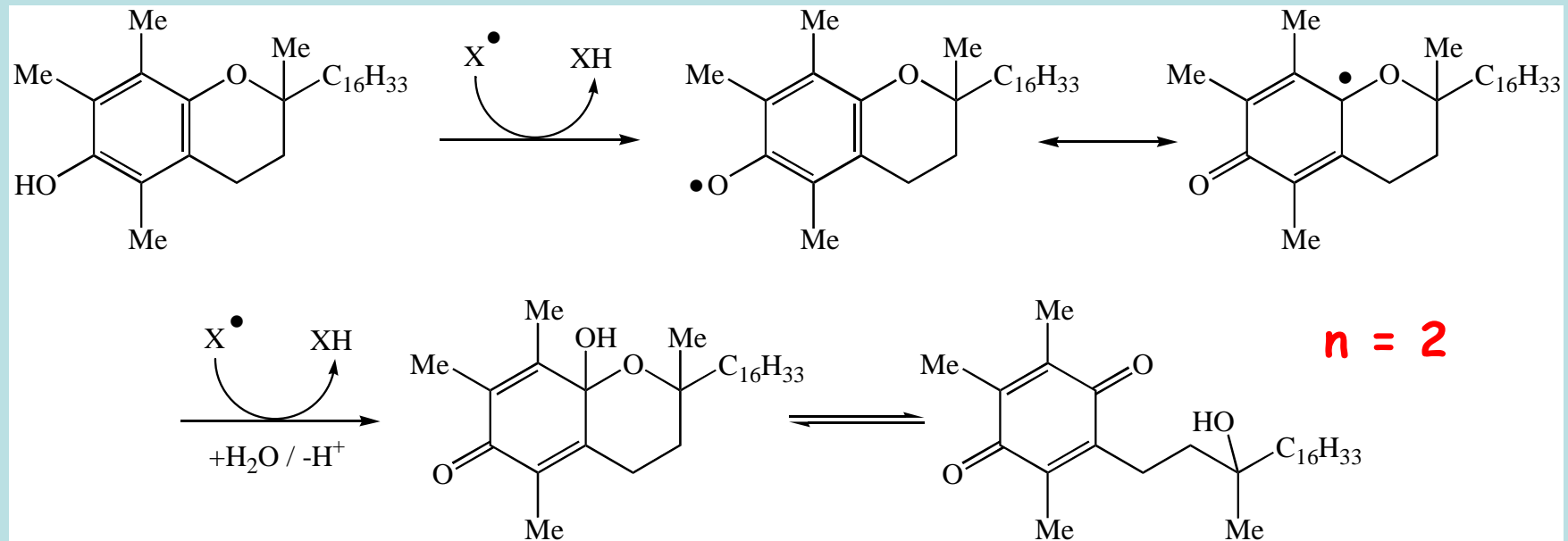
## Important endogenous nonenzymatic antioxidants

*n* = number of one-electron oxidant (ROS) reduced by antioxidant molecule

**L-Ascorbic acid**  
(vitamin C, in blood)



**$\alpha$ -Tocopherol** (vitamin E, in blood lipoproteins, membranes)



**Glutathione** (in blood, cells)



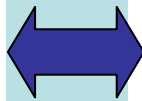


**Oxidative Stress = excessive ROS production  
overwhelming the capacity of antioxidant enzymes**

Oxidative degradation of the host's biomolecules (lipids, proteins, DNA)



**Chronic exposure  
to oxidative stress**



- Genetic deficiency in antioxidant defenses
- Smoking, exposure to radiations and industrial pollutants
- Imbalanced diet (rich in fats and iron?)  
etc...

*Increased risk to develop cardiovascular diseases, cancers,  
neurodegenerative diseases*

*Epidemiological studies suggest that  
diets rich in plant antioxidants could help*

# Dietary Polyphenols as Antioxidants

Most abundant dietary antioxidants = Polyphenols

### UK-focused database

Clifford, M. & Brown, J.E. (2006)  
In *Flavonoids: Chemistry, Biochemistry & Applications* (eds O. Andersen & K. Markham)  
pp. 319-370, CRC Press, Boca Raton.

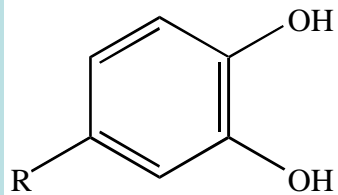


Mean dietary polyphenol intake = 450 - 600 mg / day  
(calculated as aglycones), i.e. millimole range

*Main polyphenol providers = coffee and black tea*

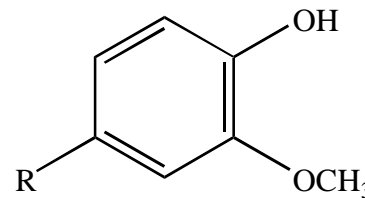
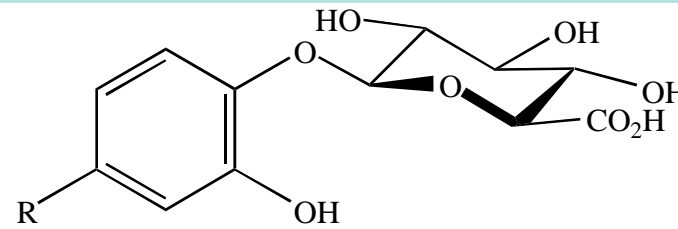
## Bioavailability of Dietary Polyphenols

*Extensive conjugation  
in the intestinal and hepatic cells*

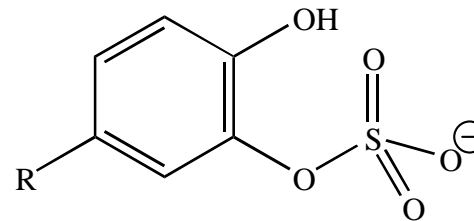


Native form  
(potent antioxidant)

Conjugation  
enzymes



Conjugated form  
(weak antioxidant)



Plasma concentrations  $< 1 \mu\text{M} \ll$  glutathione or ascorbate concentrations

After intestinal absorption, the potential health effects of polyphenols are likely *not* dominated by their antioxidant activity

# Potential Health Value of Polyphenols

(preventive nutrition)

## Mechanisms of Action

### Antioxidant

- ROS scavenging
- Binding of transition metal ions
- Regeneration of endogenous antioxidants



In food & gastric lipid emulsions

### Polyphenol-protein interactions

- Inhibition of kinases
- Regulation of gene expression etc...



Major cell effects  
Relevance in the prevention of degenerative diseases

### Both

- Inhibition of ROS-producing enzymes
- Cell-directed antioxidant activity (after deconjugation)
- Up-regulation of the expression of antioxidant enzymes

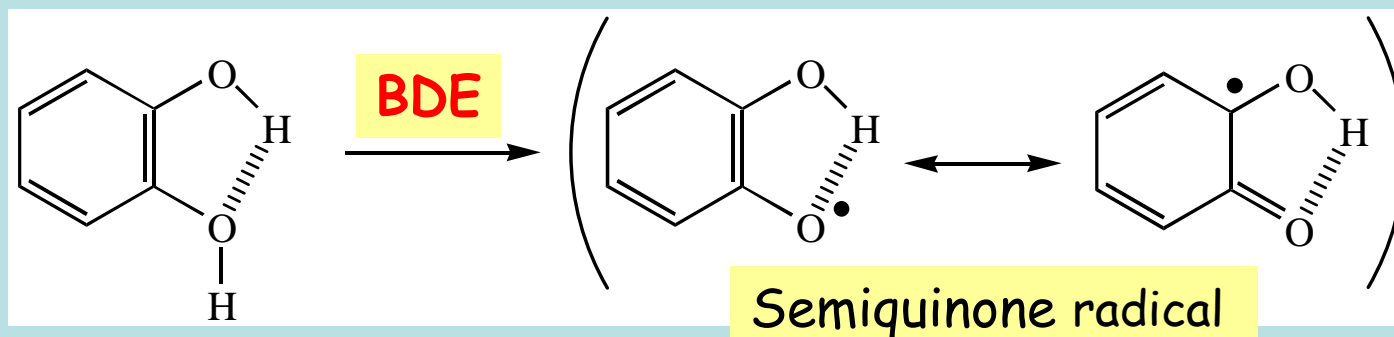


**Polyphenols: chemical basis of their  
antioxidant activity**

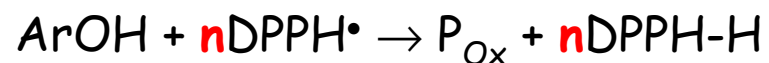
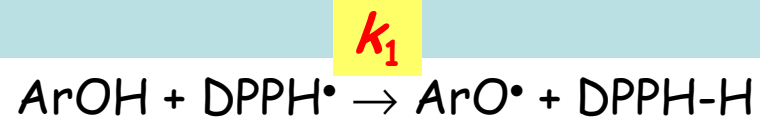
**Structural unit critical to the antioxidant efficiency:  
the catechol (1,2-dihydroxybenzene) nucleus**

<i>compound</i>	<b>BDE(O-H) a)</b> kcal mol <sup>-1</sup>
phenol	88.0
<b>1,2-dihydroxy benzene (catechol)</b>	<b>81.2</b>
1,3-dihydroxy benzene	88 - 91

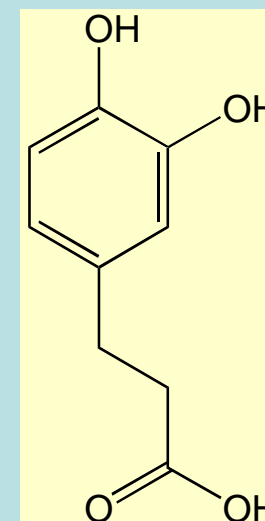
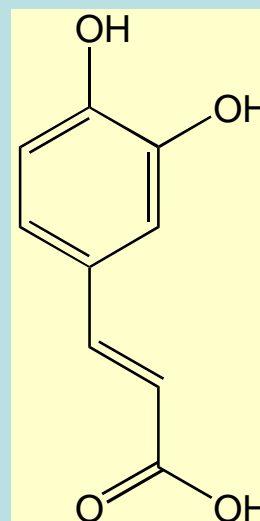
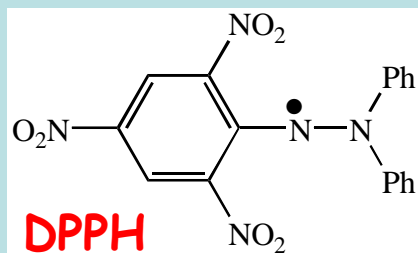
a) Bond Dissociation Energy, Gas phase, standard conditions, 298 K



# A simple assessment of the intrinsic antioxidant efficiency: the reduction of the DPPH radical



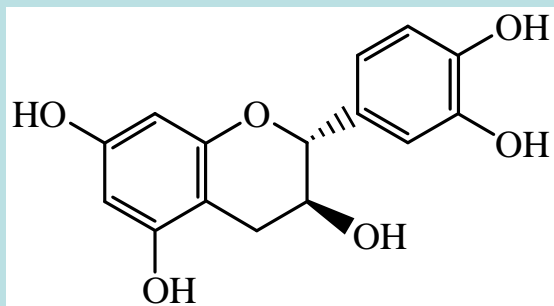
$\text{P}_{\text{Ox}}$  : inert oxidation products



	Caffeic Acid	Dihydrocaffeic Acid
$k_1$ ( $\text{M}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ )	1090	470
$n$	2.47	3.43

M. Roche, C. Dufour, N. Mora, O. Dangles  
*Org. Biomol. Chem.*, 2005, 3, 423.

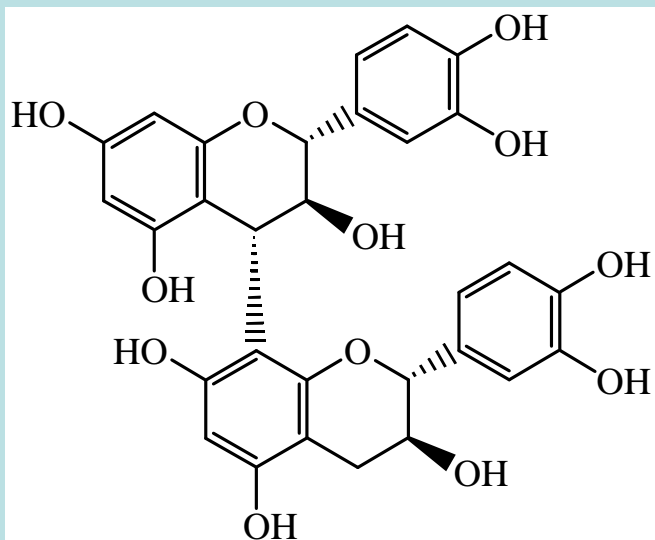
*Which one is the best antioxidant?*



### Catechin

$$k_1 = 1100 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

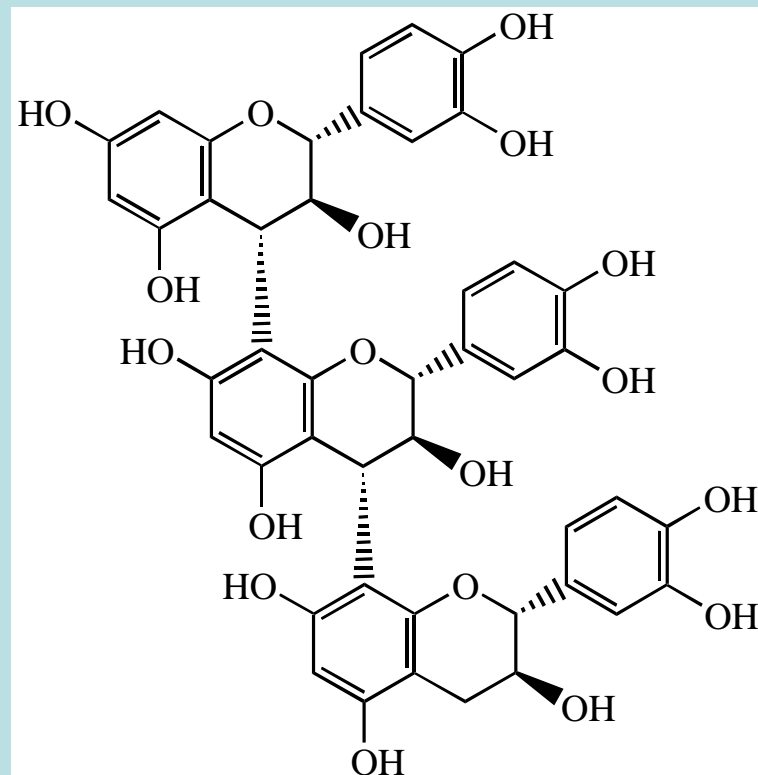
$$n = 3.7$$



### Procyanidin B3

$$k_1 = 1000 \text{ \& } 200 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$n = 6.5 \text{ (vs. } 2 \times 3.7 = 7.4)$$



### Procyanidin C2

(1 external more reactive sub-unit)

$$k_1 = 1400 \text{ \& } 150 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

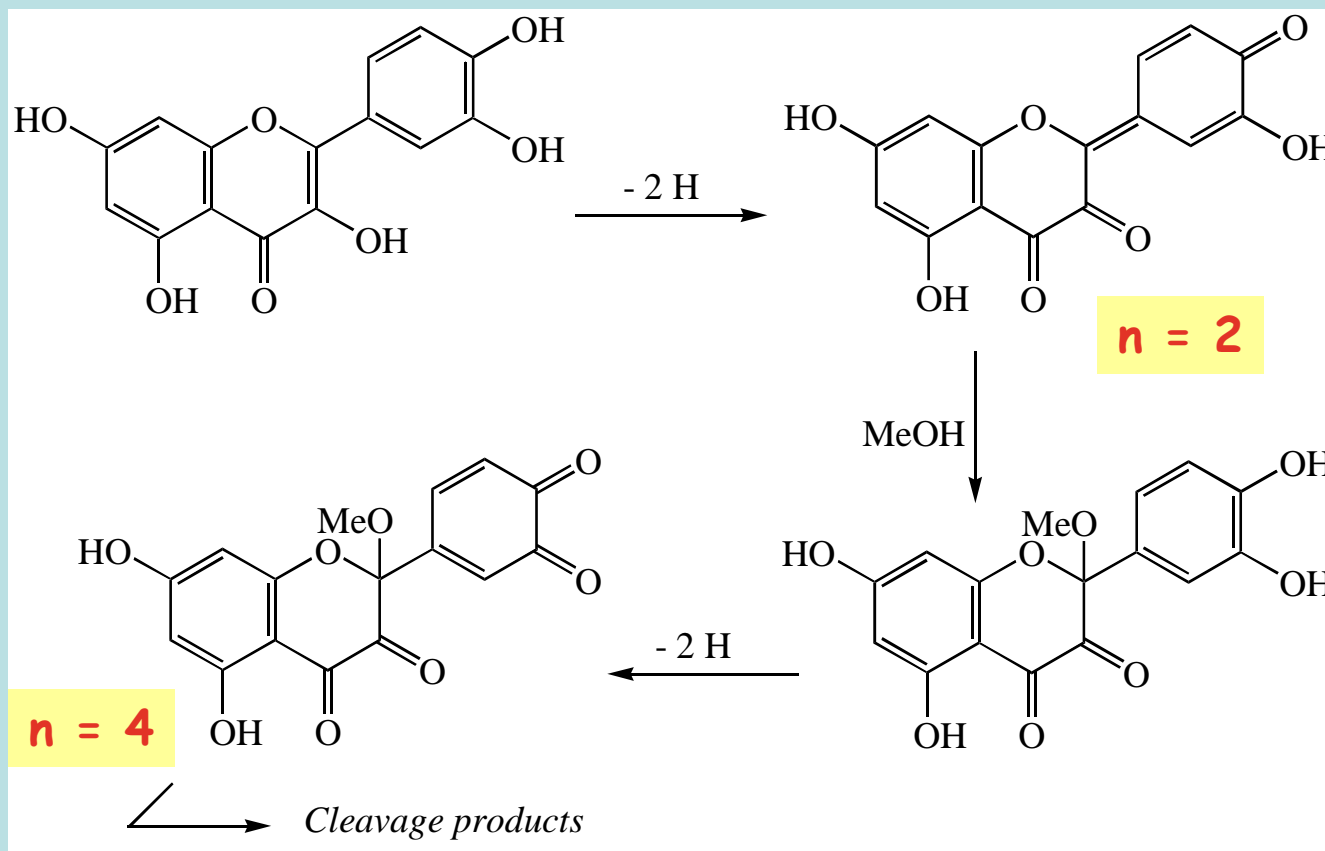
$$n = 9.4 \text{ (vs. } 3 \times 3.7 = 11.1)$$

P. Goupy, C. Dufour, M. Loonis, O. Dangles,  
*J. Agric. Food Chem.*, 2003, 51, 615.

## Quercetin

$$k_1 = 2100 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$n = 4.9$$



## Inhibition of Xanthine Oxidase by Flavonoids



Flavonoid	IC <sub>50</sub> / $\mu\text{M}$ (uric acid formation)	IC <sub>50</sub> / $\mu\text{M}$ (superoxide production)
Quercetin	2.38 ( $\pm$ 0.13)	0.33 ( $\pm$ 0.03)
Catechin	> 100	0.48 ( $\pm$ 0.02)

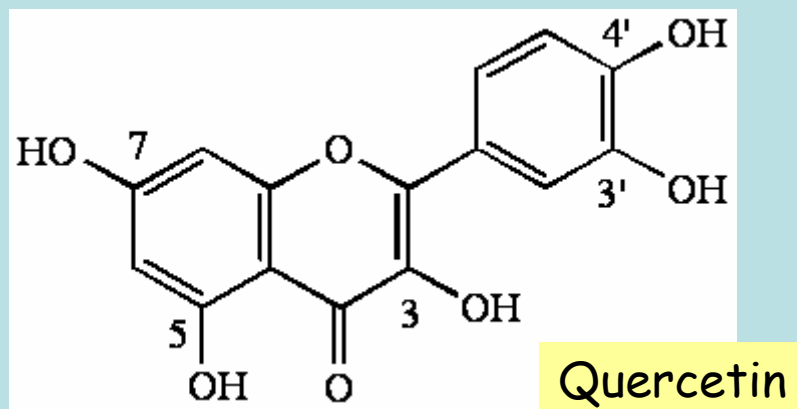
Quercetin (not catechin) binds the enzyme in competition with xanthine, thus quenching the superoxide source

Both are good superoxide scavengers

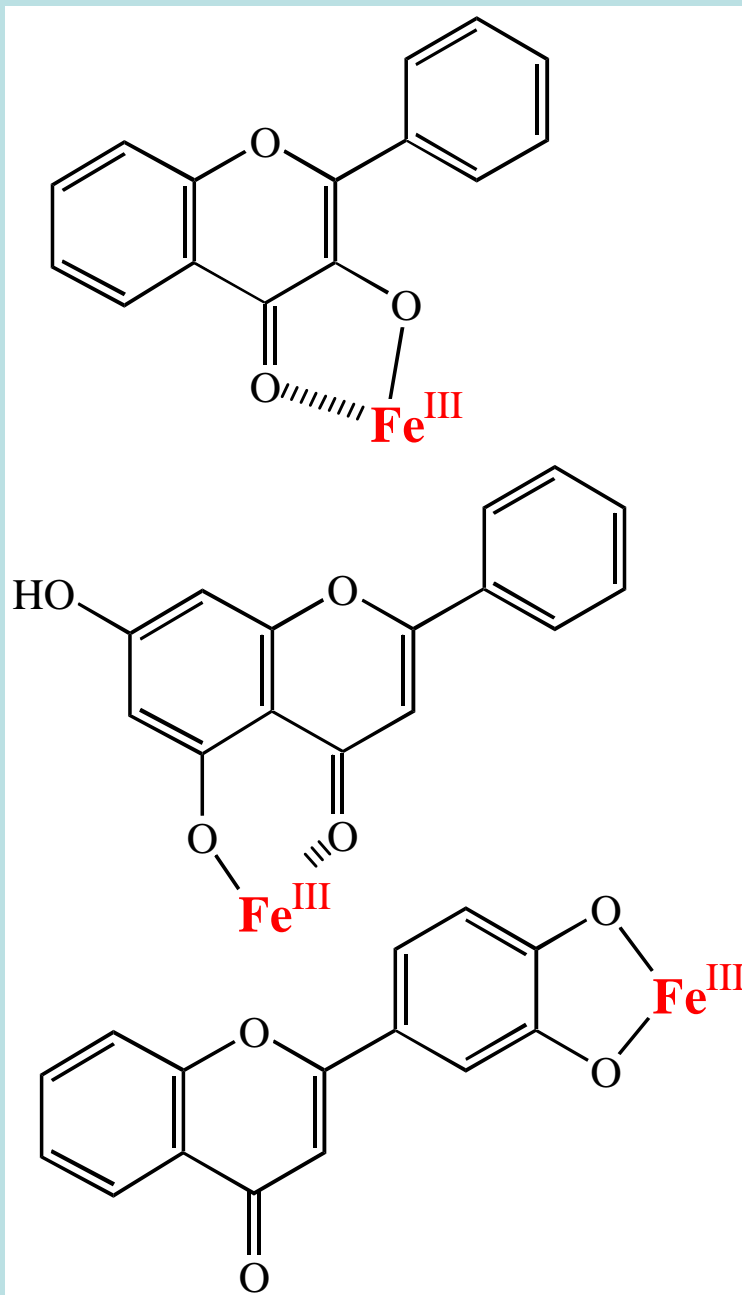
P. Cos *et al.*, *J. Nat. Prod.*, 1998, 61, 71  
C. M. Lin *et al.*, *BBRC*, 2002, 294, 167

## Inhibition of Xanthine Oxidase by Quercetin and its Glucuronides

Flavonol	Quercetin (Q)	Q3'-GlcU	Q4'-GlcU	Q7-GlcU	Q3-GlcU
$K_d / \mu\text{M}$	0.25	1.4	0.25	> 100	> 100



A.J. Day *et al.*, *Free Radic. Biol. Med.*, 2000, 29, 1234.



$pK_a$	10.0
$\log\beta$	13.3

Engelman *et al.*, JAFCh, 2005, 53, 2953

$pK_a$	7.9, 11.4
$\log\beta$	11.4

$pK_a$	8.4, 13.4
$\log\beta$	20.9

$\beta$ : overall stability constant  
of the metal complex

## Anti- vs. pro-oxidant effects

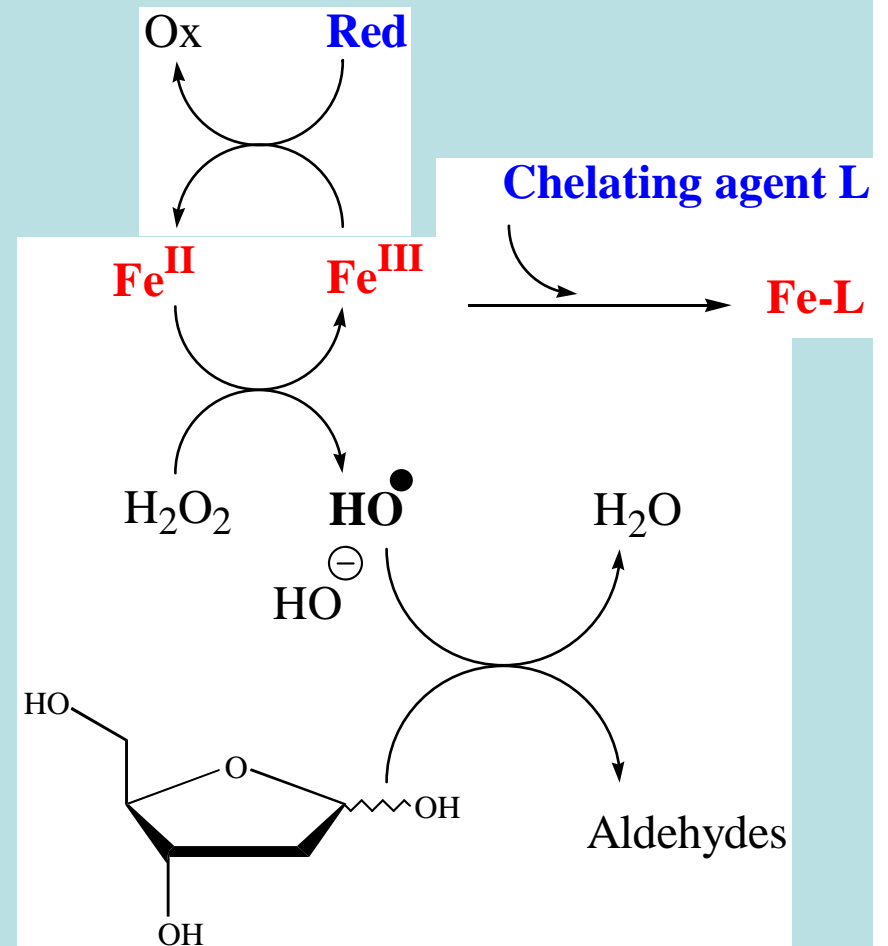
Deoxy-D-Ribose +  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  +  $\text{FeCl}_3$   
in phosphate buffer (pH 5.8 or 7.4),  $37^\circ\text{C}$

I - Ascorbate + quercetin  
Red = ascorbate, L = quercetin

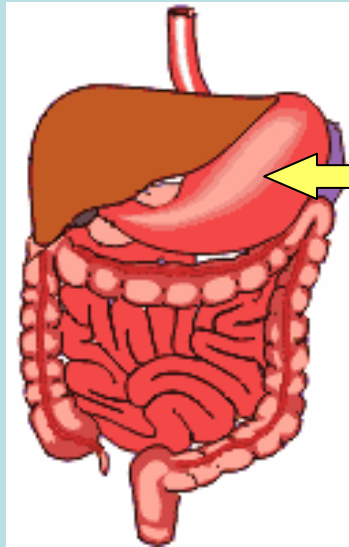
Inert Fe-quercetin complex  
Antioxidant activity

II - EDTA + quercetin  
Red = quercetin, L = EDTA

Redox cycling of redox-active  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}$ -EDTA complex  
Pro-oxidant activity



## *Chemical modelling of the antioxidant activity in the gastric compartment*



**Dietary polyunsaturated lipids (LH)**  
(triacylglycerols, phospholipids etc...)

**Dietary Iron**  
*Ex.: (met)myoglobin*

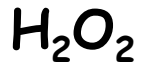
$O_2, H^+$

$LH + O_2 \rightarrow LOOH$  (hydroperoxides)  $\rightarrow L=O$  (carbonyl compounds)  
Via highly reactive lipid radicals  $LOO^\bullet$  &  $LO^\bullet$

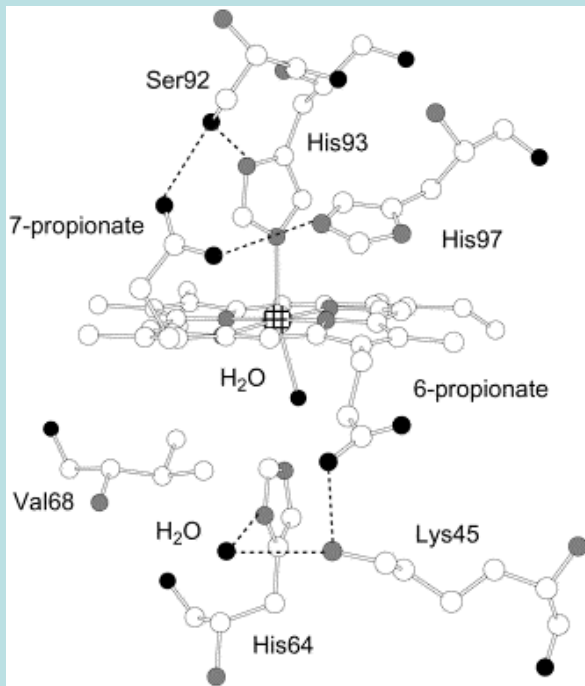
**A possible antioxidant action for polyphenols  
regardless of their bioavailability**

## Activation of metmyoglobin by $H_2O_2$

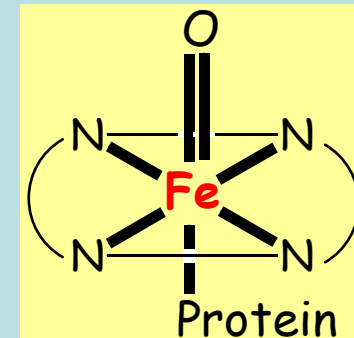
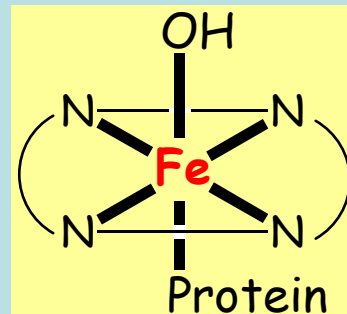
**$MbFe^{III}$**   
Metmyoglobin



**$MbFe^{IV}=O$**   
Ferrylmyoglobin



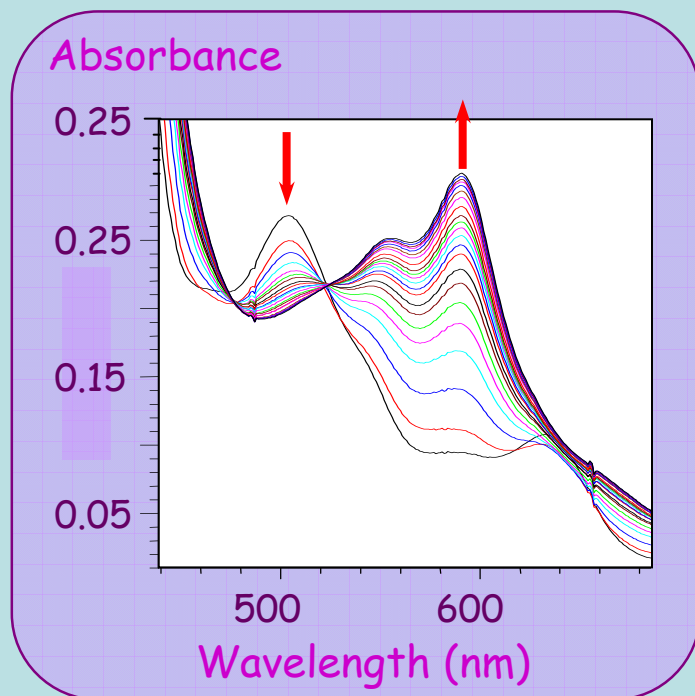
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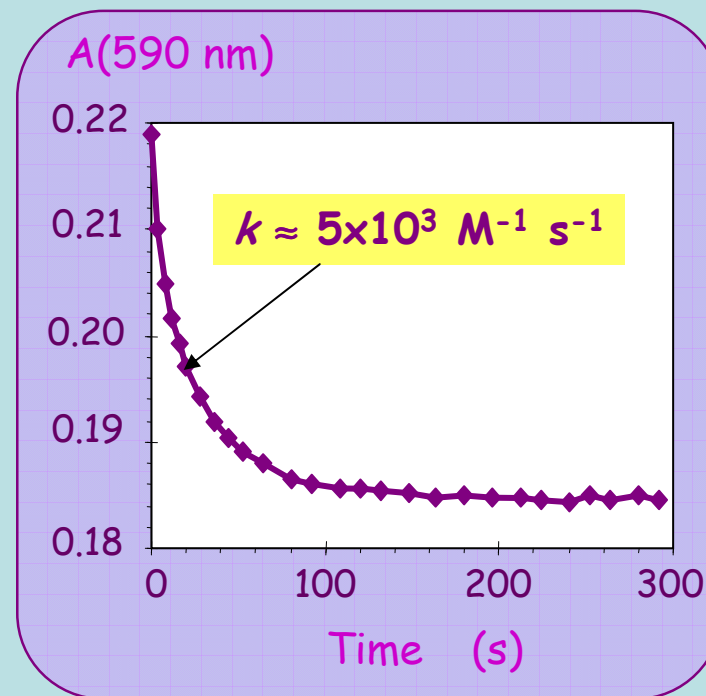
*Hematin (cofactor) + Globin (protein) = Metmyoglobin*



Reduction of  $\text{MbFe}^{\text{IV}=\text{O}}$   
by quercetin (1 equiv.)



pH 5.8  
37°C  
2 mM  
Tween 20

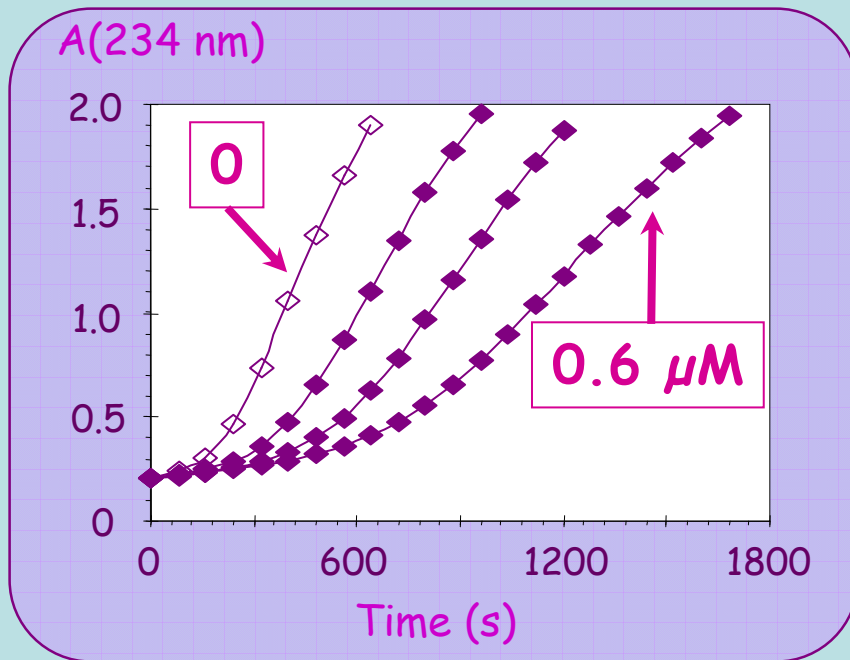


No reaction between  $\text{MbFe}^{\text{IV}=\text{O}}$  and  $\alpha$ -tocopherol

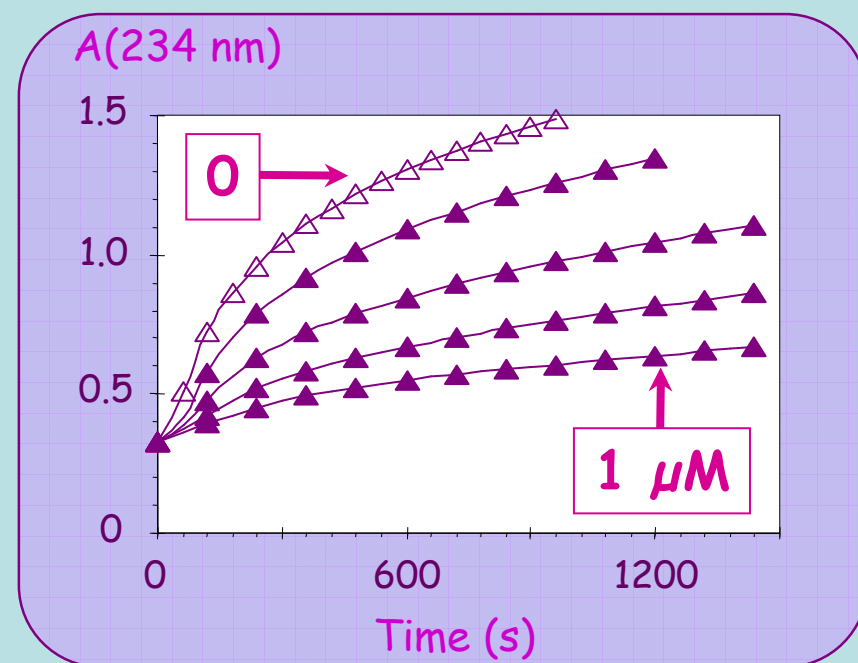
## Inhibition of heme iron-induced lipid peroxidation

Linoleic acid (0.7 mM) + Quercetin (0-1  $\mu\text{M}$ ) + MbFe<sup>III</sup> (100 nM)  
(37°C, pH 5.8, 2 mM Tween 20)

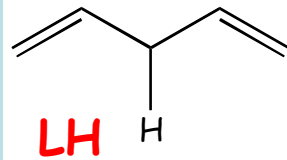
### Metmyoglobin-induced peroxidation



### Hematin-induced peroxidation

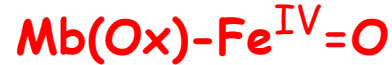
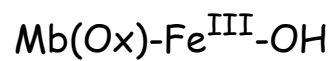


Polyunsaturated lipid



$k_1$

Initiation



$k_{a1}$



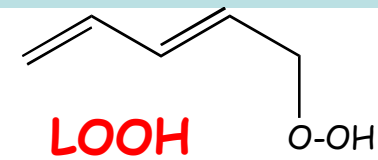
$AE_1 = k_{a1}/k_1$

Quercetin

$AE_1 = 200-400$

$AE_2 = 10-30$

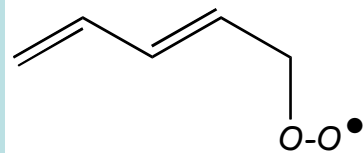
$n = 4-5$



$k_2$

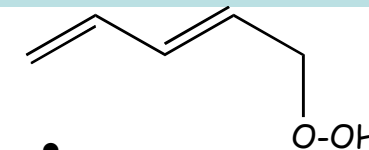
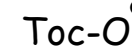


Propagation



$AE_2 = k_{a2}/k_2$

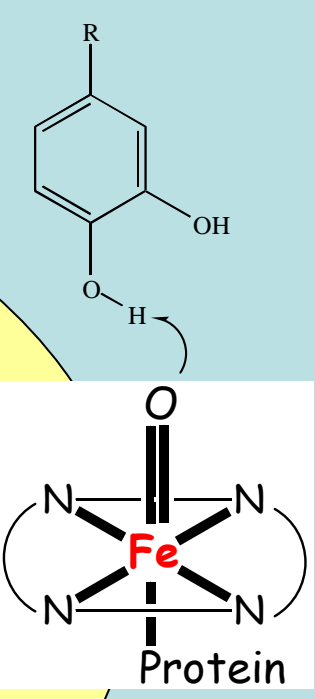
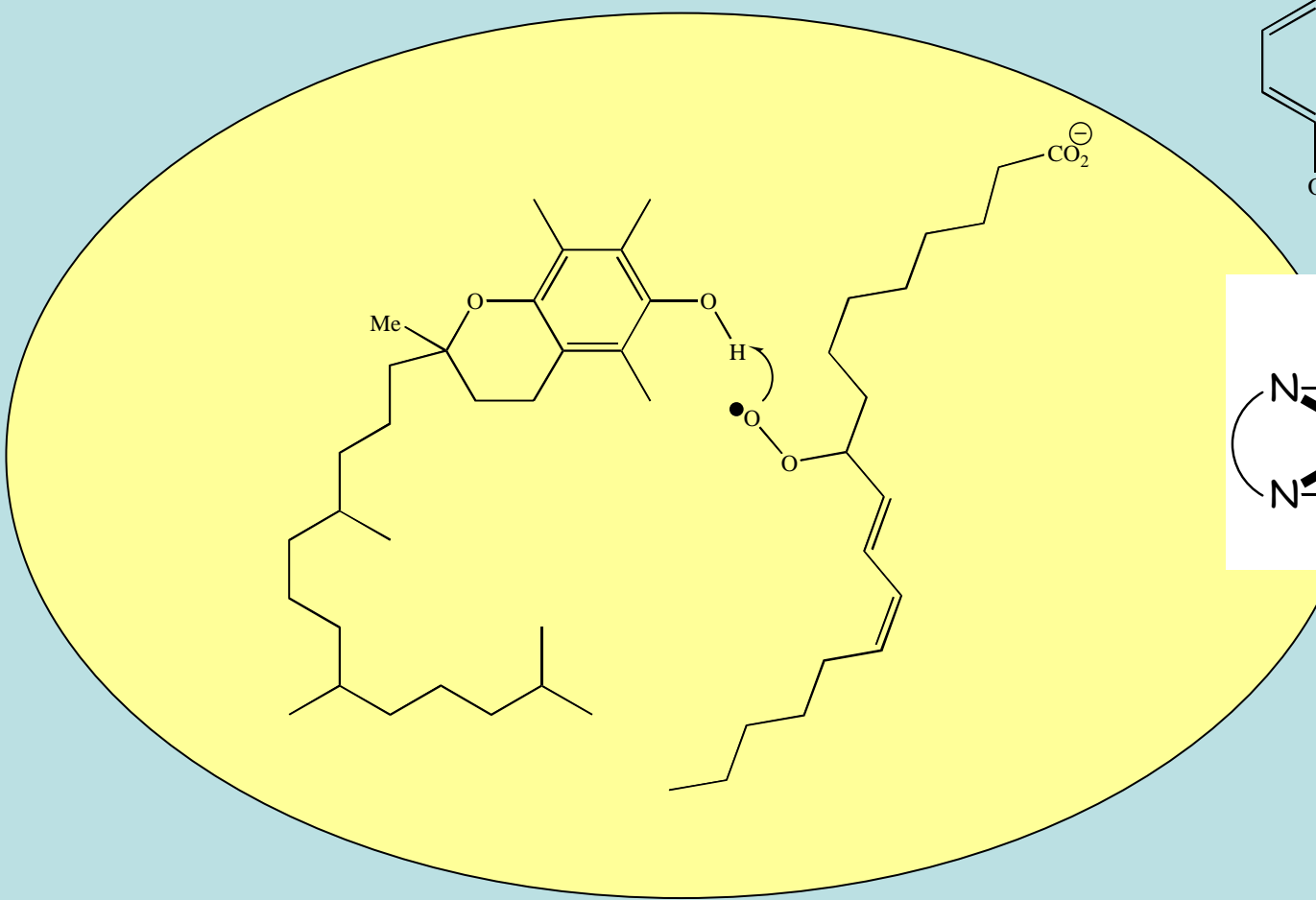
$k_{a2}$



$\alpha$ -Tocopherol

$AE_2 = 500-1000$

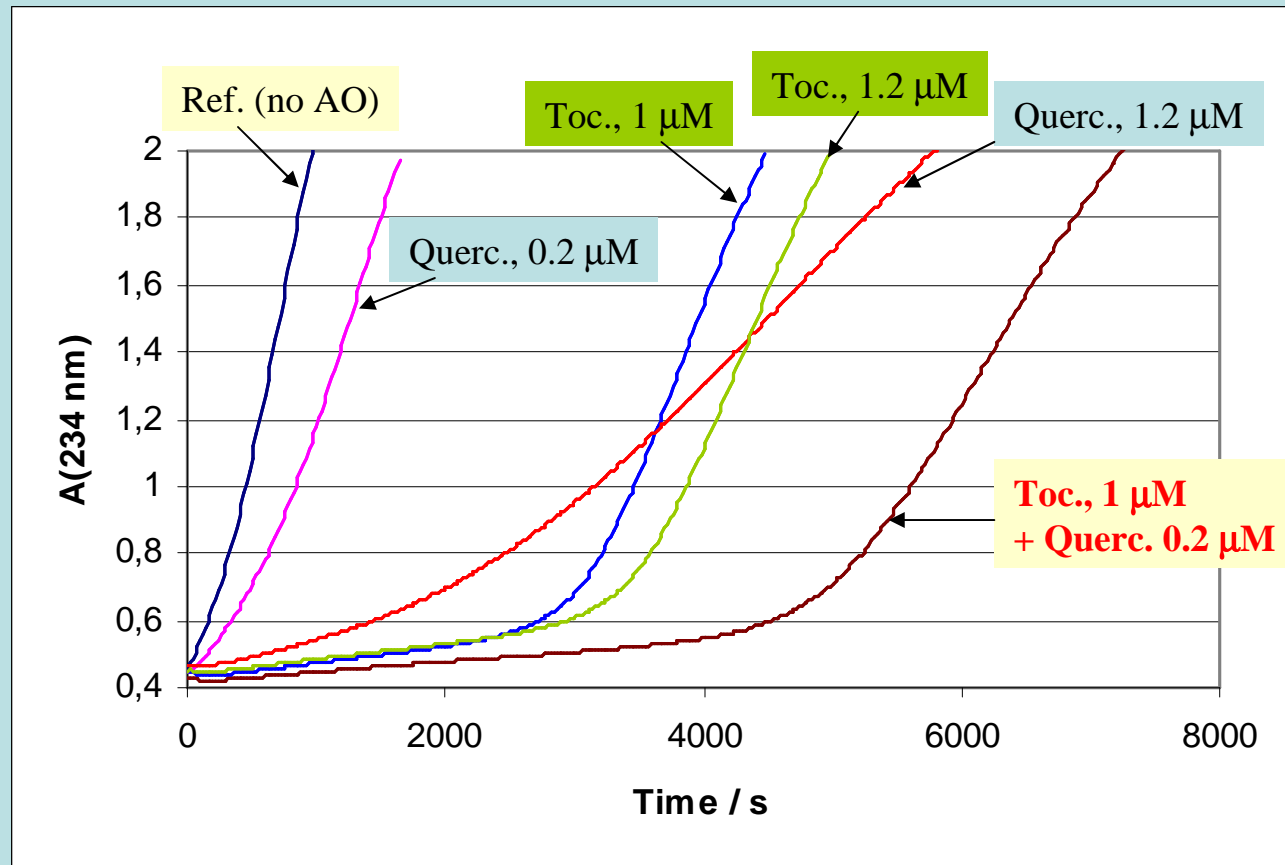
$n = 1-2$



*Polyphenols: inhibition of initiation (aqueous phase)*  
*Lipophilic antioxidants: inhibition of propagation (lipid phase)*

E. Vulcain, P. Goupy, C. Caris-Veyrat, O. Dangles, *Free Rad. Res.*, 2005, 39, 547-563.  
 P. Goupy, E. Vulcain, C. Caris-Veyrat, O. Dangles, *Free Radic. Biol. Med.*, 2007, 43, 933-946.

## Strong antioxidant synergism between quercetin and $\alpha$ -tocopherol



Linoleic acid (0.7 mM) +  $\text{MbFe}^{\text{III}}$  (100 nM)  
+ quercetin and/or  $\alpha$ -tocopherol  
37°C, pH 5.8, 2 mM Tween 20

$IC_{50}$  = antioxidant conc. that doubles the period needed to accumulate a fixed LOOH conc.

Antioxidant	$IC_{50}$ ( $\mu M$ )	Antioxidant	$IC_{50}$ ( $\mu M$ )
<b><math>\alpha</math>-tocopherol</b>	0.28 ( $\pm$ 0.02)	<b>rutin</b>	0.63
<b>quercetin</b>	0.33 ( $\pm$ 0.01)	<b>caffeic acid</b>	0.49
<b><math>\beta</math>-carotene</b>	1.52 ( $\pm$ 0.13)	<b>chlorogenic acid</b>	0.51
<b>apigenin</b>	3.33 ( $\pm$ 0.66)	<b>oenin</b>	0.27

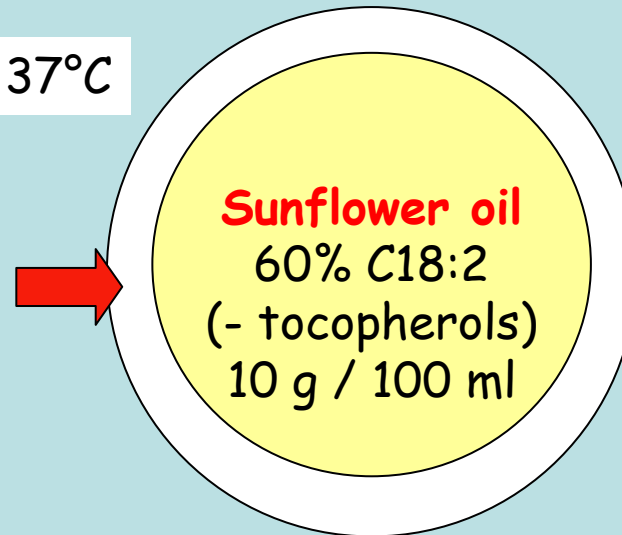
*N.B.:* rutin = quercetin-3- $\beta$ -D-Glc-1,6- $\alpha$ -L-Rha, oenin = malvidin-3- $\beta$ -D-Glc

*Common dietary polyphenols are active in the sub-micromolar range*

## Refining the model by using oil-in-water emulsions

Acetate or phosphate buffer, pH 4-5.8, 37°C

**Interface** = bovin serum albumin (BSA)  
or egg lecithin (phospholipids)

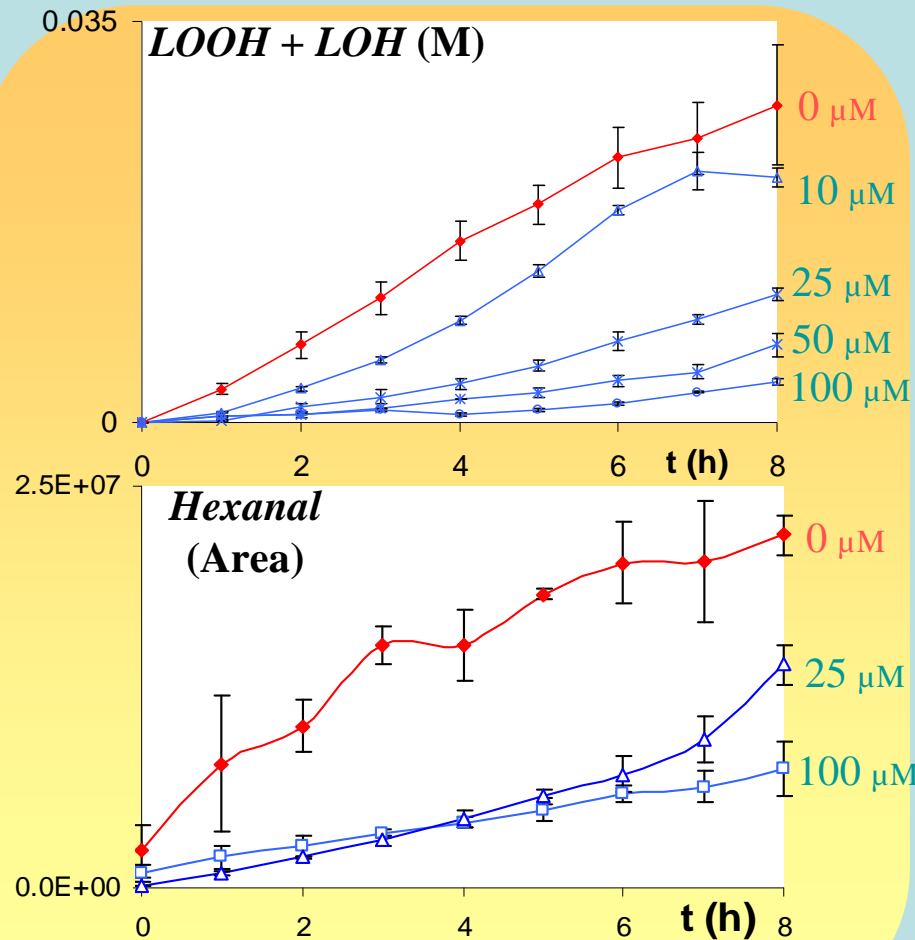


**Metmyoglobin** (20  $\mu\text{M}$ )

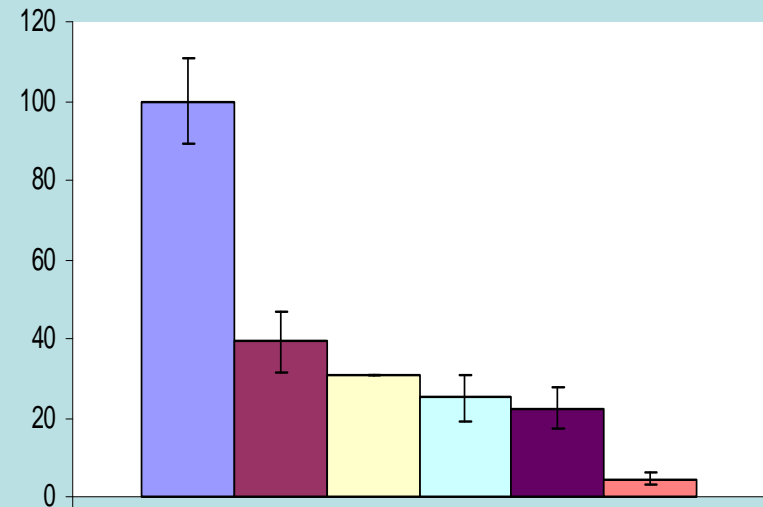
Inhibition of lipid oxidation by dietary antioxidants

Emulsifier = BSA

Antioxidant = quercetin, pH 5.8



$t = 4$  h, antioxidant conc. = 100  $\mu M$



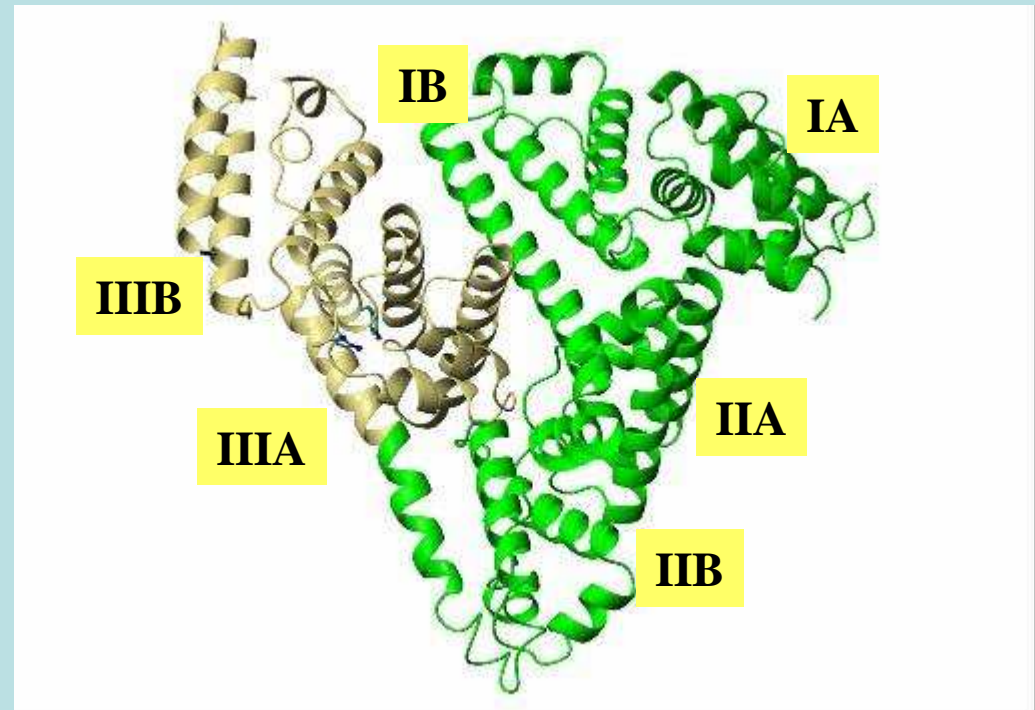
- Control
- Chlorogenic acid
- Caffeic acid
- Catechin
- Rutine
- Quercetin

**Does polyphenol-protein binding  
(another typical property of polyphenols)  
necessarily abolish  
the antioxidant activity?**

## Human Serum Albumin

MM = 66500 g/mol

35-45 g/l of blood, *ca.* 0.6 mM

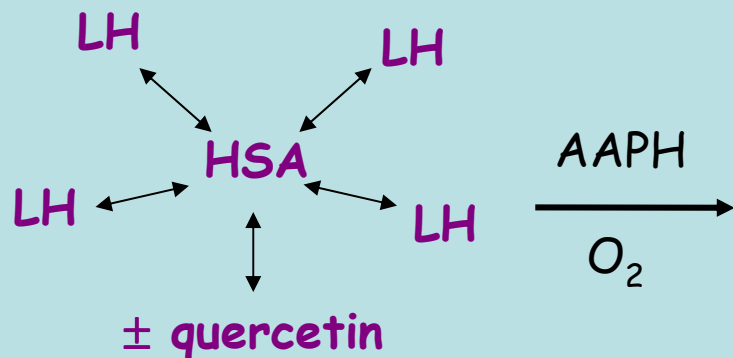
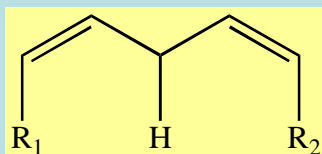


*Key-role in the transport of:*

- Free fatty acids
- A wide range of xenobiotics

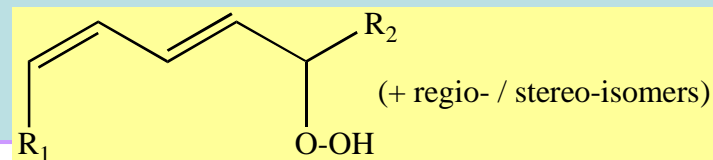
*e.g.*, vitamins, metal ions, drugs, **dietary flavonoids**

# Oxidation of HSA-bound linoleic acid and inhibition by quercetin

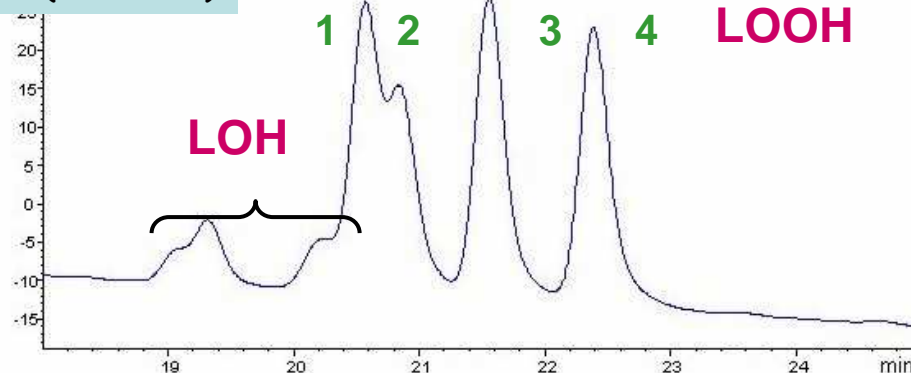


HSA: 0.5 mM  
 Linoleic acid (LH): 2 mM  
 Quercetin: 50  $\mu$ M

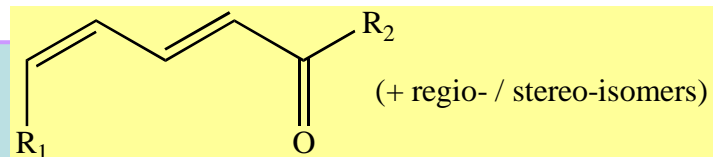
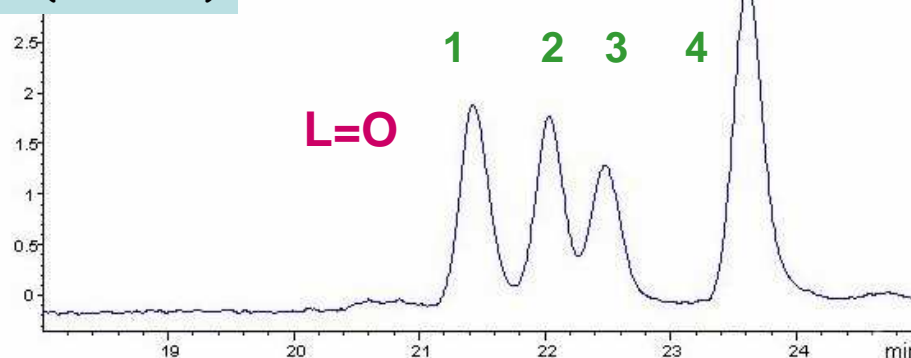
AAPH: hydrophilic diazo initiator



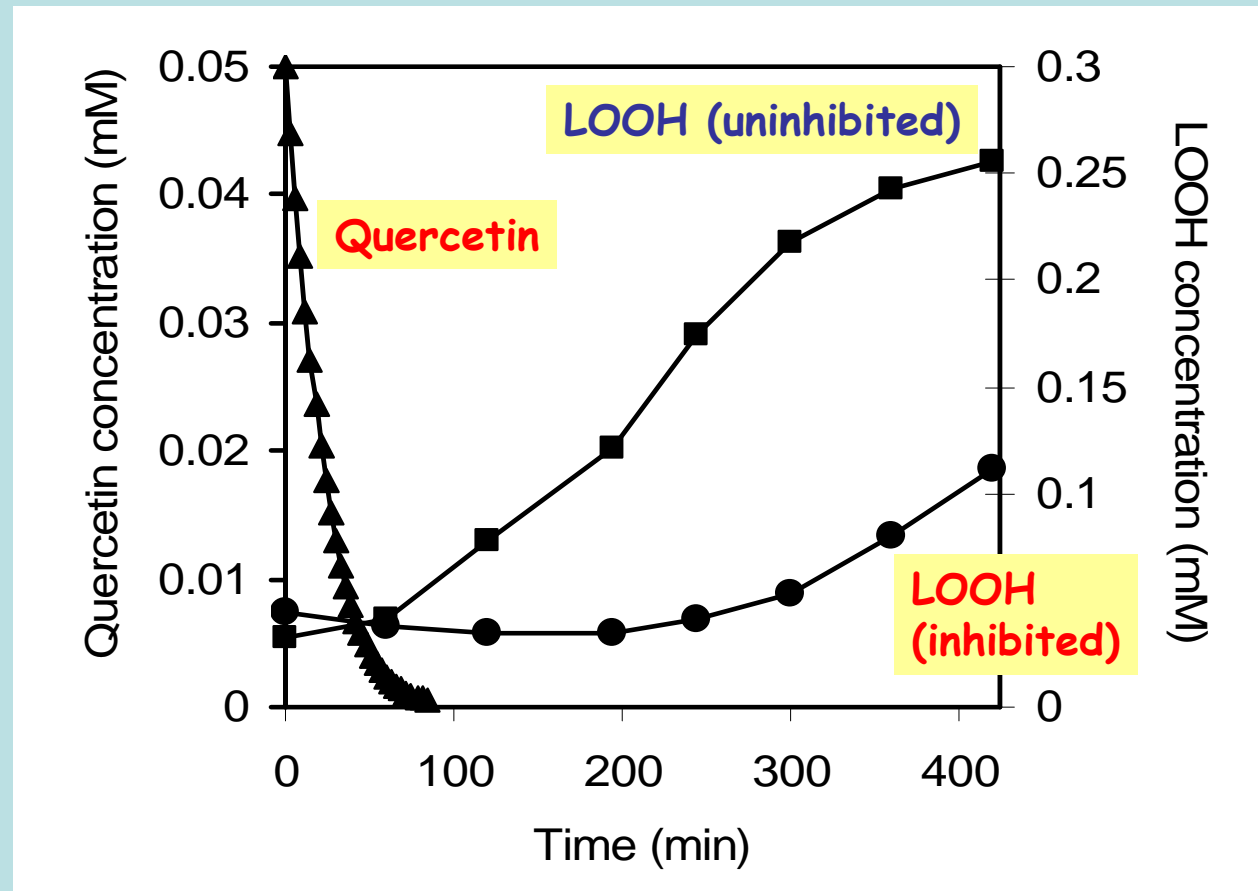
A(234 nm)



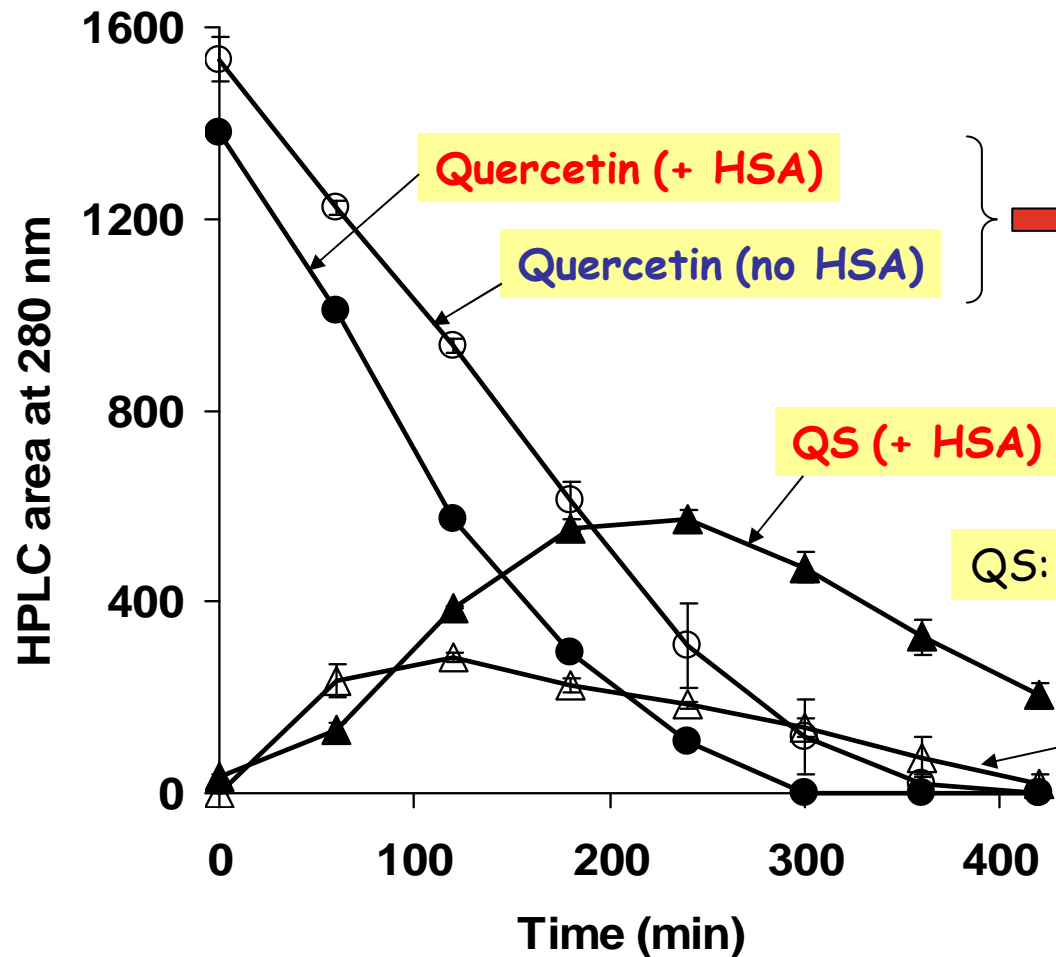
A(280 nm)



## Oxidation of HSA-bound linoleic acid



**Strong residual antioxidant activity of some quercetin oxidation products**



Binding to HSA does not protect quercetin from oxidation!!

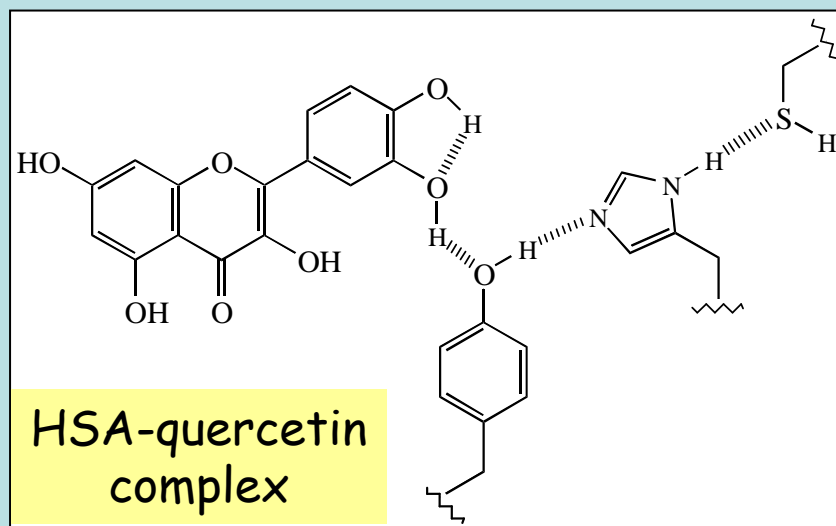
QS: *p*-quinonemethide-water adduct

QS (no HSA)

30 mM AAPH, 500  $\mu$ M HSA, 400  $\mu$ M quercetin

C. Dufour, M. Loonis, O. Dangles  
*Free Radic. Biol. Med.*, 2007, 43, 241-252.

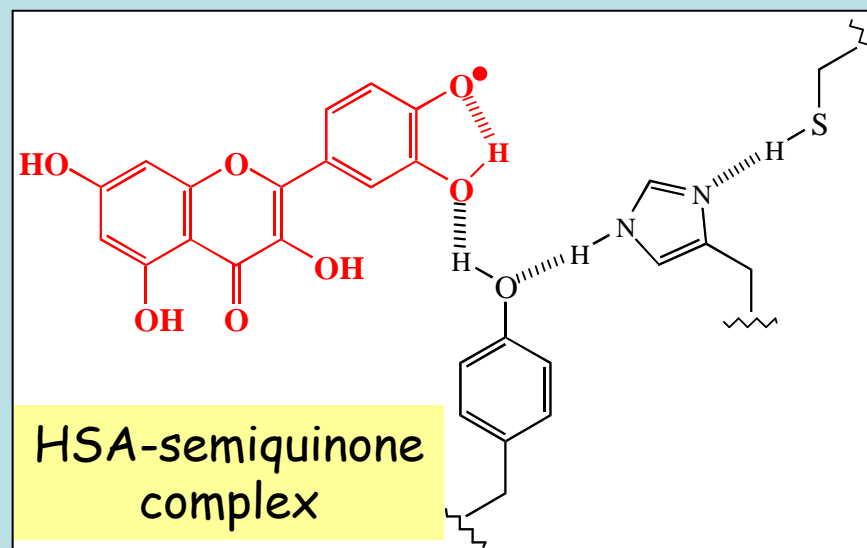
**Binding to HSA maintains the antioxidant activity of quercetin and its susceptibility to oxidation**



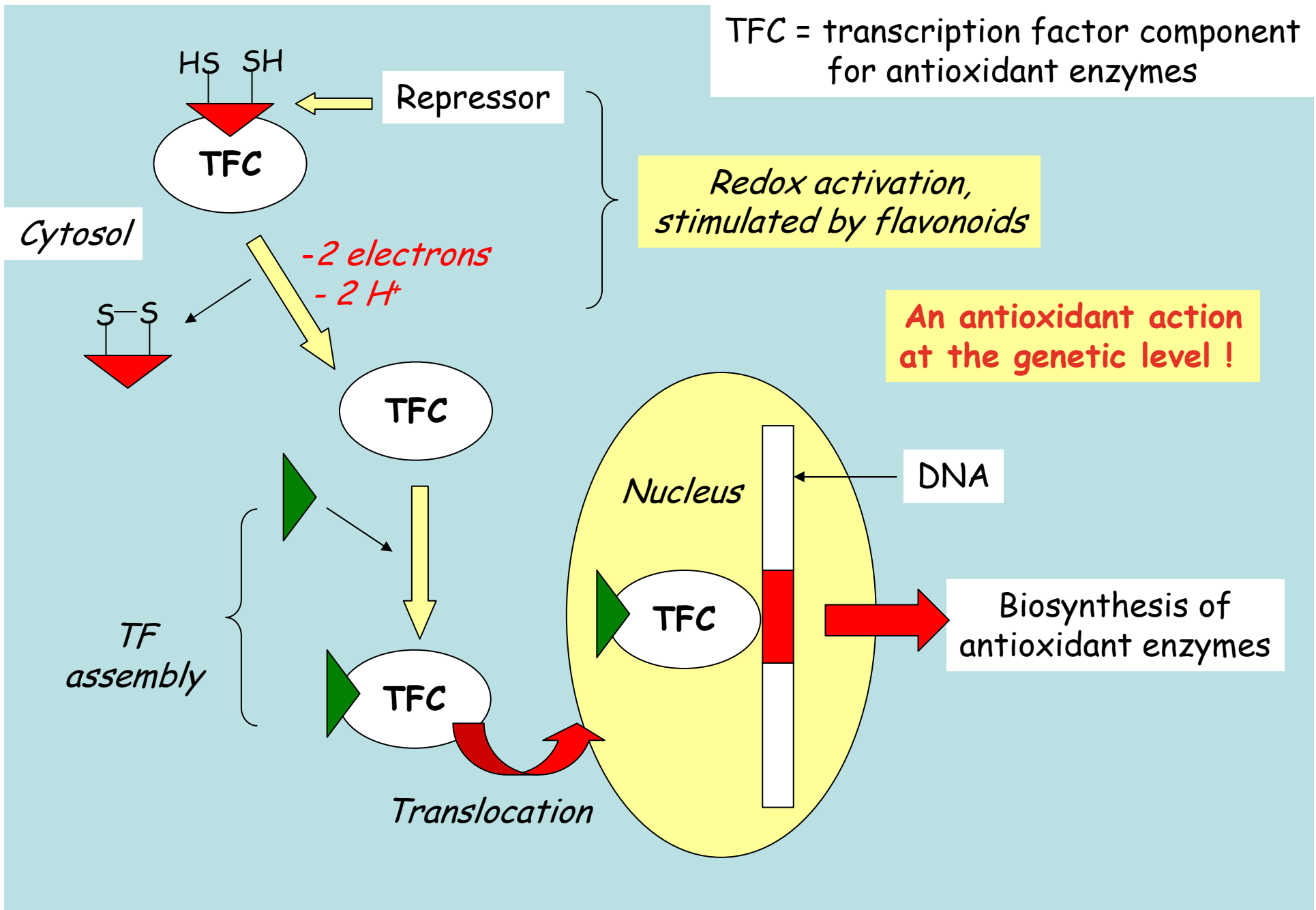
**ROO• (aqueous phase)**

**ROOH**

*Long-range electron transfer (amino acid residues are hypothetical)*



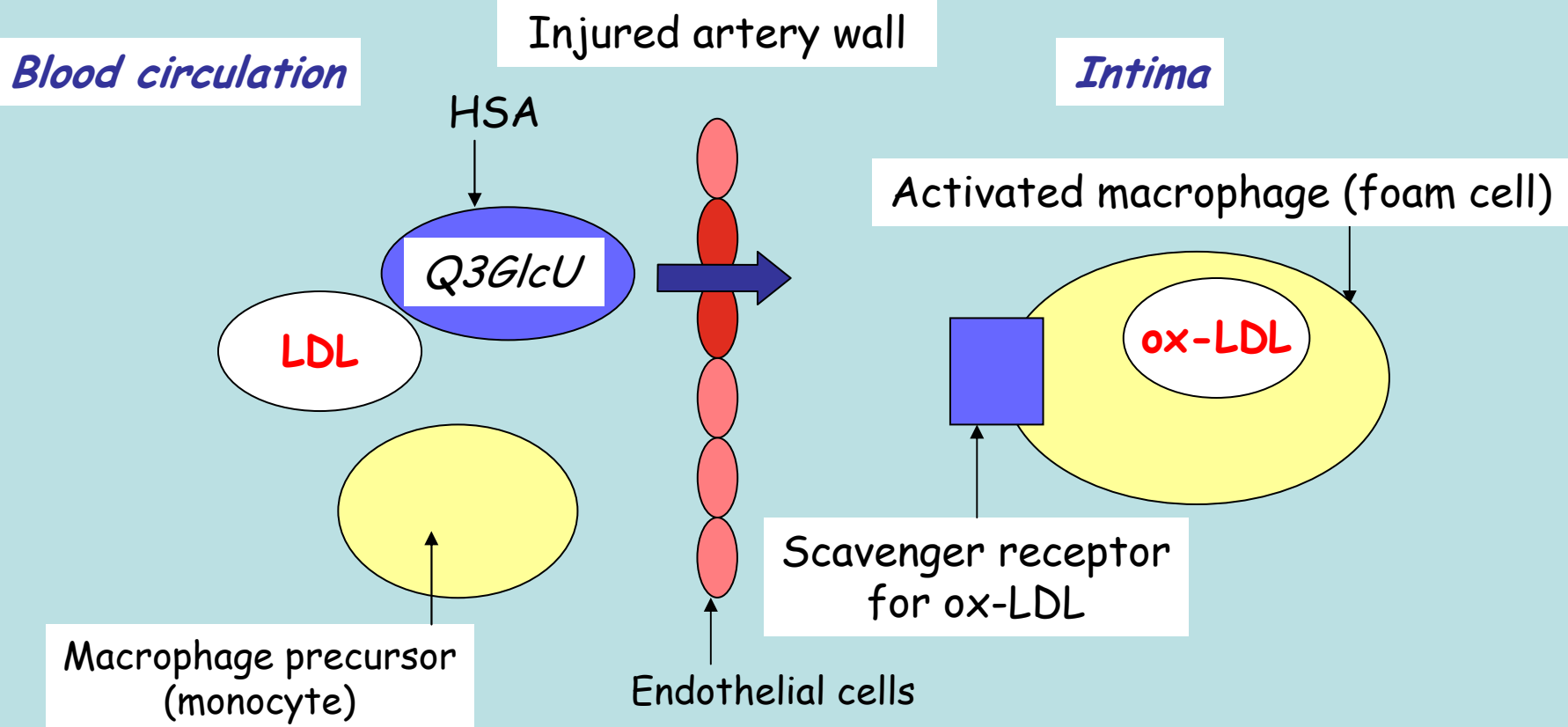
**Final perspectives:  
toward the elucidation of  
specific antioxidant effects in cells**



J. Ø. Moskaug *et al.*, *Mechanisms of Ageing and Development*, 2004, 125, 315-324  
 P. Talalay *et al.*, *Adv. Enzyme Regul.*, 2003, 43, 121-134

# Specific protective effects of quercetin in atherosclerotic arteries

(Y. Kawai et al., *J. Biol. Chem.*, 2008, 283, 9424-9434)



## Foam-cell specific effects of quercetin (Q)

- Selective accumulation of Q3GlcU (main circulating metabolite)
- Partial deglucuronidation & methylation
- Inhibition of the expression of the scavenger receptor by 3'/4'MeQ
- Inhibition of LDL oxidation by Q & Q3GlcU

## Dietary polyphenols as Antioxidants

Intrinsically potent ROS scavengers *if* catechol groups are present, high stoichiometries, antioxidant activity modulated (*not necessarily abolished*) by binding to proteins

Potent inhibitors of lipid peroxidation in food emulsions:  
Antioxidant action of native polyphenols in the gastric compartment?

Specific antioxidant activity in cells:

- Activity of the circulating metabolites
- + specific (more antioxidant) cell metabolites (*e.g.*, aglycones)
- Inhibition of ROS-producing enzymes
- Up-regulation of the expression of antioxidant enzymes
- Antioxidant activity at inflammatory/atherosclerotic sites

## Acknowledgements

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Emmanuelle VULCAIN, Bénédicte LORRAIN (PhD students)  
Claire DUFOUR (INRA Researcher)  
Pascale GOUPY & Michèle LOONIS (Technical staff)

*Thank you for your attention !*