

# Lecture 28 – Introduction to Metabolism

## Goals

- Understand differences between anabolic and catabolic pathways.
- Identify common themes in pathways
- Describe the cellular location and inter-pathway connections.
- Explain why ATP is an energy source for the cell.
- Identify kinases, phosphatases based on reaction they catalyze.
- Identify oxidation/reduction reactions.

## Metabolic pathways are:

1. Consist of a number of steps, each catalyzed by an enzyme causing a small change to the chemical structure, i.e.  $A \rightarrow B \rightarrow C \rightarrow D \rightarrow E$
2. Many are conserved in different organisms.
3. Overall irreversible (but most of the individual steps are not)
4. Usually committed after the initial steps
5. Regulated.
6. Compartmentalized in eukaryotes

**Catabolism [degradative]** – conversion of a diverse set of compounds to a small number of simple compounds, usually for energy production.

**Complex** → **simple + energy** *glycolysis*

**Anabolism [synthetic]** – conversion of a small number of simple compounds to complex organic molecules, usually requiring energy.

**Simple + energy** → **complex**. *gluconeogenesis Pyr → glucose*

## Expectations:

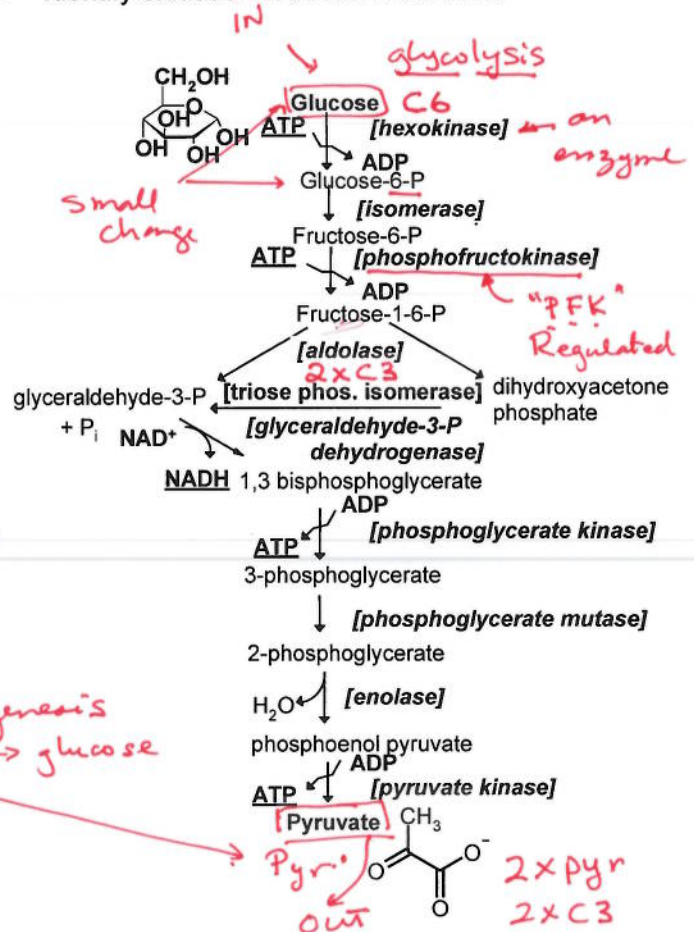
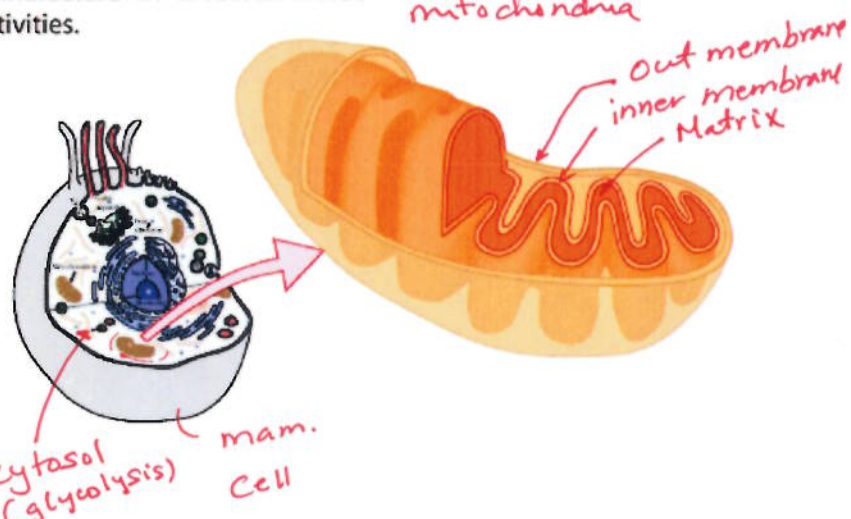
- Input and output of each pathway
- Overall energy and carbon flow
- Regulation.

## Central Pathways of Energy Production:

### Intracellular locations:

- **Glycolysis** - cytosol
- **Citric Acid Cycle**: Inner matrix of mitochondria (also called the Krebs cycle or the TCA cycle).
- **Electron transport**: Inner membrane of mitochondria.
- **ATP synthesis**: Inner membrane of mitochondria

The cell's energy factories, the mitochondria manufacture ATP to fuel all of life's activities.



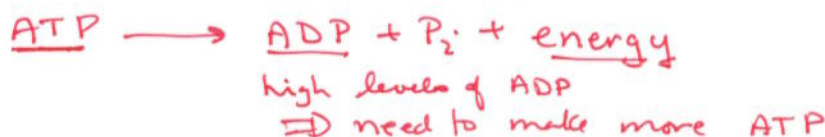
## Energy Currency:

Stored in the following ways:

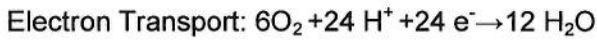
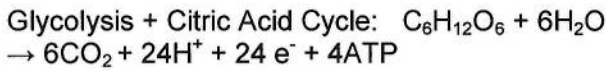
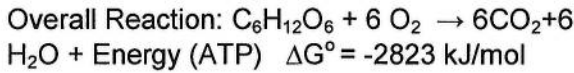
- Redox compounds (NADH, FADH<sub>2</sub>)
- Membrane potentials (concentration gradient and voltage difference across a membrane)
- "High energy" chemical species (ATP, and sometimes GTP):

## Energy Utilization:

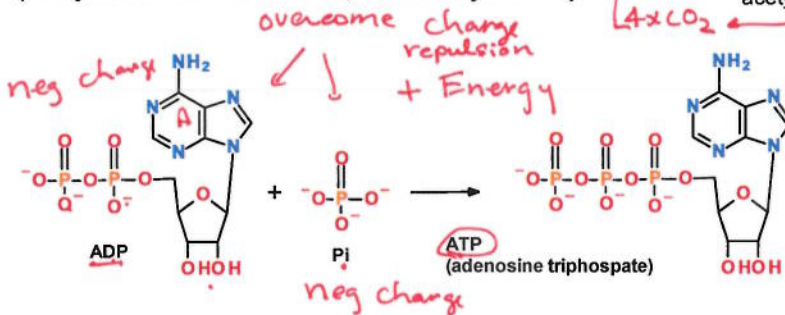
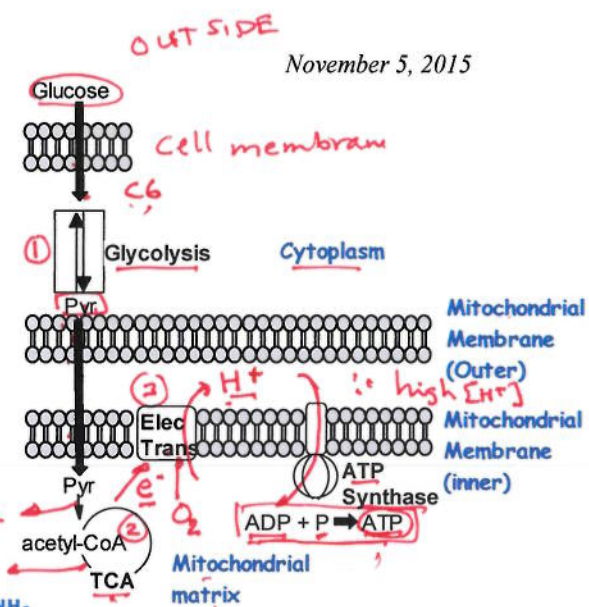
- Chemical synthesis reactions (e.g. protein synthesis, DNA synthesis)
- Mechanical work (e.g. transport, muscle function, kinesins in mitosis)
- Electrical work (e.g. nerve conduction)



**Overall Carbon & Energy Interconversion during metabolism of glucose:**



ATP synthesis (oxidative phosphorylation):  
 Proton gradient + ADP &  $P_i \rightarrow ATP$   
 (Enzyme is called ATPase, or ATP synthase)

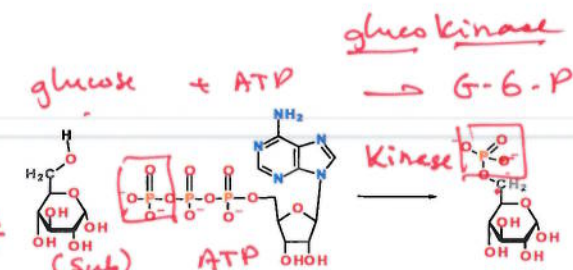


**General Enzyme Nomenclature:**

Name - usually consists of three parts:

- i) the substrate is usually used to name the enzyme. e.g. glucose kinase
- ii) the nature of the chemical reaction.
- iii) most names end in "-ase"

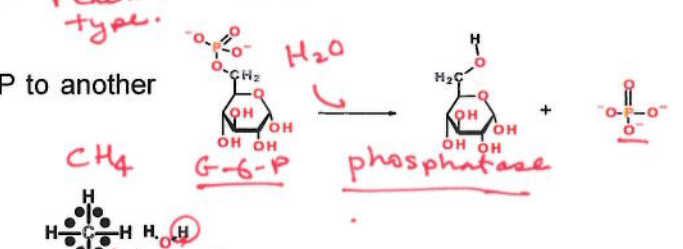
Handwritten notes: "Substrate", "P", "ase", "reaction type".



**Common Enzymes Involved in Metabolism:**

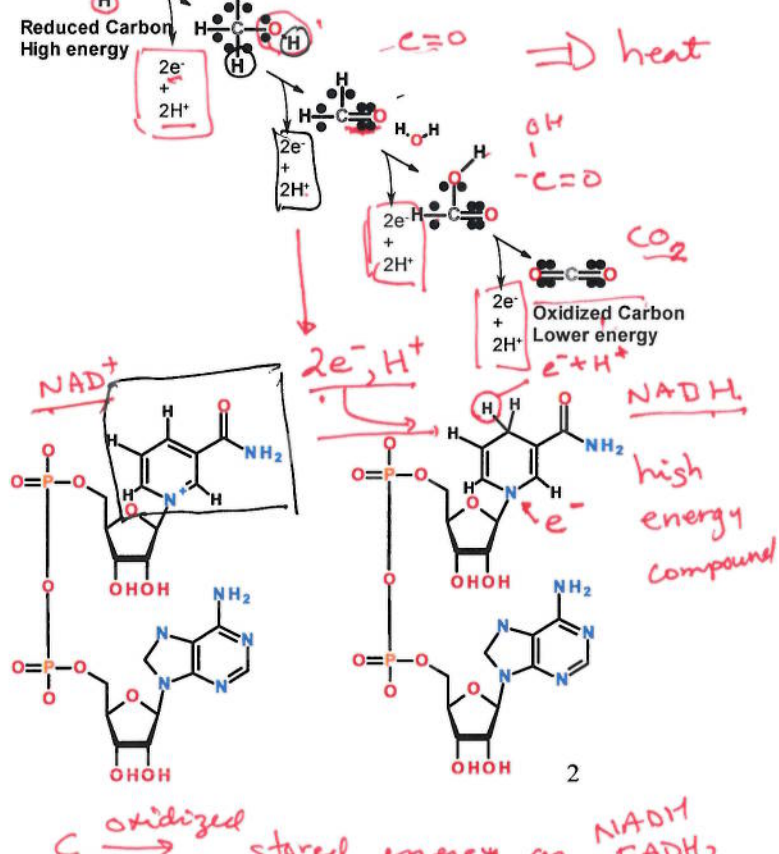
**Kinase:** transfers a phosphate group from ATP to another compound (e.g. glucose kinase).

**Phosphatase:** Removes a phosphate group from a substrate, no ATP/ADP required (e.g. phosphoglucose phosphatase).



**Dehydrogenase (redox reactions):**

- Oxidizes or reduces compounds by removal or addition of electrons.
- Usually two electrons are removed/add at a time, often transferred with a proton (e.g.  $H^+ + e^-$ )
- Oxidation is usually accompanied by the addition of oxygen to the compound (but there are exceptions)
- **Oxidation generally releases energy as electrons are pulled towards the more electronegative oxygen.**



**OILRIG:**

- oxidation involves loss
- reduction involves gain.
- Electrons (and energy) are captured by organic electron carriers:

- o  $NAD^+$  converted to  $NADH$
- o  $FAD$  converted to  $FADH_2$

Handwritten notes: "electron acceptors", "high energy".