



One more amitochondriate

Trichomonads


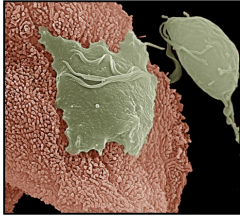
Trichomonads

- Class Trichomonada
 - All parasitic
- Family Trichomonadidae
 - Trichomonas tenax*
Human - mouth
 - Trichomonas vaginalis*
Human - urogenital
 - Tritrichomonas foetus*
Bovine - urogenital

Trichomonas vaginalis

- Worldwide distribution (cosmopolitan)
 - 7.4 million cases/yr in US (2007)
 - 200 million cases/yr worldwide
- Trichomoniasis - vaginitis
- Variable symptoms
 - Females - only ~ 15 are asymptomatic
 - Asymptomatic, to mild or moderate infections, to extreme vaginitis
 - 50-75% abnormal discharge (frothy yellowish or greenish)
 - 50% experience painful intercourse
 - vaginal erythema - (2%)
 - 'strawberry cervix'
 - Males - 50-90% are asymptomatic
 - minor urethral discharge

Galectin-1 binding

Cervical epithelium

T. vaginalis

LPG

Gal-1

- Gal-1 in cervical epithelia is involved in parasite cross-linking
- Gal-1 is the first identified receptor in cervical epithelium that binds *T. vaginalis*
- Monosacharides in LPG interact with gal-1 homodimer

Trichomonad structure

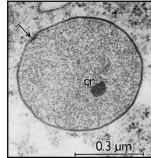
- Anterior nucleus
- Anterior flagella
 - T. vaginalis* - 4
 - Tritrichomonas foetus* - 3
- Recurrent flagellum
- Costa
- Axostyle

Amitochondriate??

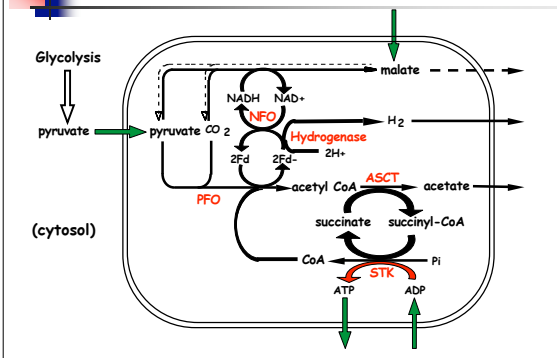
- Contain a typical golgi
- Lack peroxisomes
- Lack mitochondria
- Granules associated with axostyle and costa
- Hydrogenosomes
 - Abundant double membrane organelles
 - Not a microbody!

The Hydrogenosome

- Hydrogenosome
 - Anaerobic equivalent to mito
 - Pyruvate fermentation
 - ATP, CO₂, Acetate, H₂
- Differences with mitochondria
 - Morphology - no cristae
 - No oxidative phosphorylation
 - No DNA
- Evolution of mitochondria
- Drug target!



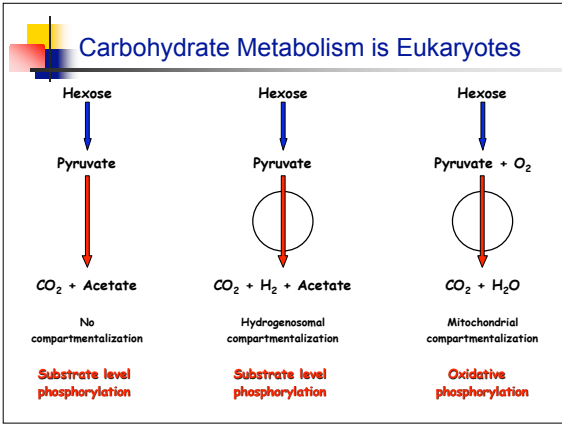
Hydrogenosomal Metabolism



Hydrogenosomal/Mitochondrial Comparison

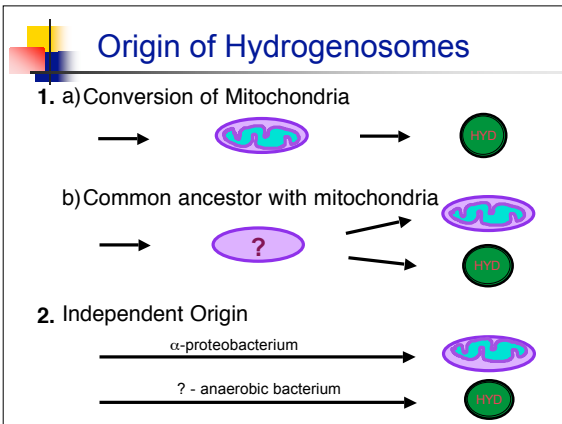
Only Mitochondrial	Shared	Only Hydrogenosomal
PDC complex	Malic enzyme	PFO
TCA cycle	Ferredoxins	Hydrogenase
Cytochromes	Adenylate kinase	
Cytochrome oxidase	ATP/ADP exchanger	
DNA	Superoxide dismutase	
Cardiolipin		
F ₀ F ₁ ATPase		

Oxidative phosphorylation vs. substrate level phosphorylation



Synthesis of ATP

- **Oxidative phosphorylation** - coupling of ATP formation to the respiratory chain (electron transport, membrane associated, O₂ as final e⁻ acceptor). As electrons move through complexes, a proton gradient is generated which drives ATP formation. **Chemiosmotic theory - P. Mitchell, 1978.**
- **Substrate level phosphorylation** - direct phosphorylation of ADP via the transfer from a high-energy intermediate.



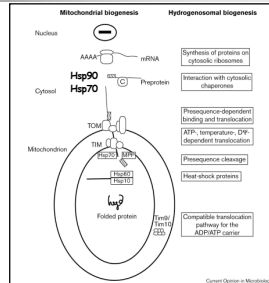
Organelles - origins and biogenesis

Approaches:

- (1) Conduct phylogenetic analyses of similar proteins
Hsp70 Fd
Hsp60 Isc subunits
- (2) Examine protein targeting to the organelle
matrix protein targeting
membrane protein targeting
- (3) Characterize membrane/translocation components
These components could have evolved as the endosymbiont was converted to organelle.
Reveals evolutionary history.

Comparison of Biogenesis

- Nuclear encoded preproteins synthesized on cytosolic ribosomes.
- Kept in a translocation competent form by cytosolic chaperones
- Related TOM and TIM components.
- Similar energetic requirements
- Matrix chaperones and processing protein.
- Similar targeting complex to the inner membrane.



Review mitochondrial targeting if you are unfamiliar.

Translocase of the outer membrane - TOM
Translocase of the inner membrane - TIM
Mitochondrial processing peptidase - MPP

Protein sorting and targeting signals

Co-translational targeting of secretory proteins via the RER

- **ER targeting**
N-terminal cleaved peptide
20-50 amino acids (aa)
Basic & hydrophobic enriched
- **Lysosomal targeting**
Mannose-6-phosphate
(sugar moiety, not removed)

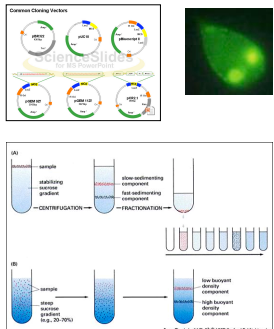
Post-translational targeting of organellar proteins via cytosolic chaperones

- **Nuclear targeting**
Basic, internal sequence (not cleaved)
Often bipartite
- **Peroxisomal targeting**
C-terminal peptide (not cleaved)
3 aa (Ser Lys Leu; SKL)
Other signals used also

- **Mitochondrial Matrix targeting**
N-terminal cleaved peptide
20-80 aa
Rich in Arg, Leu, Ser

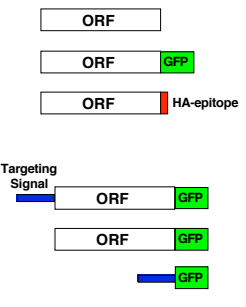
Methodology to study processes

- Molecular Biology Tools**
 - Manipulate organism
 - Cloning methodologies
- Cell Biology Tools**
 - Observe the organism
 - Specific localization via tags, antibodies
- Biochemistry Tools**
 - Cell fractionation
 - Proteomics



Molecular Engineering

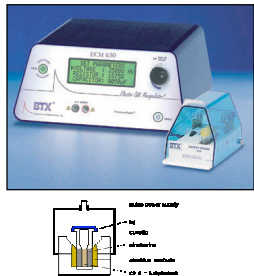
- Can change the properties of any ORF that one wants to study
 - Visualization
 - introduce a tag
 - Mutations
- Overexpression vs. endogenous expression levels



Necessary and Sufficient

Transfection of DNA

- Electroporation of DNA
 - Electrical discharge
 - Can be used for various cell types
 - Empirically determine conditions for each cell type
 - Reversible destabilization of the cell membrane
 - Transient formation of membrane pores
 - Potentiate uptake of DNA



Confocal Microscopy

- Significant advancement
- Single point of light emission that can scan across the specimen
- Spatial filtering techniques to eliminate out-of-focus light
- Digital cameras
- Three-dimensional renderings of images

Comparison of Images

Background fluorescence

WIDE-FIELD

Single section

Sharper fluorescent images

CONFOCAL

Optical sectioning

Co-localization studies

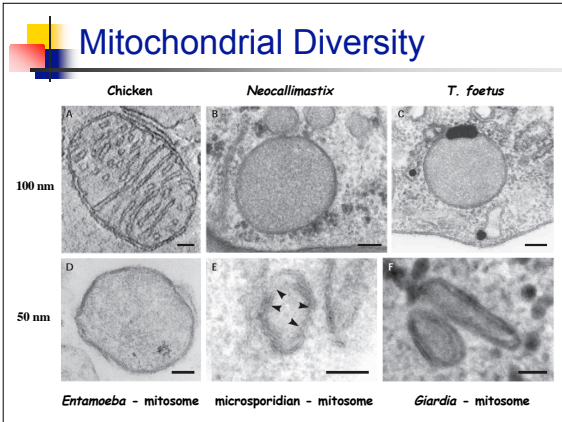
- Importance of appropriate markers
- Different colored fluorophores are used

IscS

Mitotracker

DAPI

Merged Images



Origins via Endosymbiosis

- Aerobic α -proteobacterium prokaryote gave rise to present day mitochondria.
- Are hydrogenosomes and mitosomes of anaerobic protists derived from the same proto-mitochondrion?
- **Evidence for:** accumulating evidence for several proteins that are currently found in mitochondria
Proteins of Fe-S cluster formation.
- **Scenario A**
Common ancestor
- **Scenario B**
degenerate mitochondrion invoke lateral gene transfer from anaerobic prokaryotes

Current dogma - mitochondria and related organelles arose just once in evolution

Reconstructing Evolution

- Mitochondrial evolution
 - well established endosymbiotic theory
 - α -proteobacterium - *Rickettsia prowazekii*
- Hydrogenosomal evolution
 - No DNA (NOW 1 example 2005, *Nyctotherus!*)
 - Several proteins similar to mitochondria
- Mitosome evolution
 - No DNA
 - Few proteins identified similar to mitochondria

