

# Molecular Literacy for All

## $\text{CO}_2$ to $\text{C}_6\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_6$ : Photosynthesis

Boiling water, which tops out at 212°F (100°C) at sea level, isn't hot enough. That's why a boiled steak turns gray instead of dark brown, exciting the palate of exactly no one.

# Session 7

## Today's Outline

### Making Sugar

- RuBisCO
- Calvin Cycle
- Photorespiration

### Making Bread

- Composition of a Wheat Berry
- Gluten Formation
- Maillard Reaction

### Taste & Smell

- Taste receptors
- Signal Transduction
- Three Theories of Smell

# Jose Intro – Loves Chemistry & Loves Language

English

glucose



Spanish

glucosa



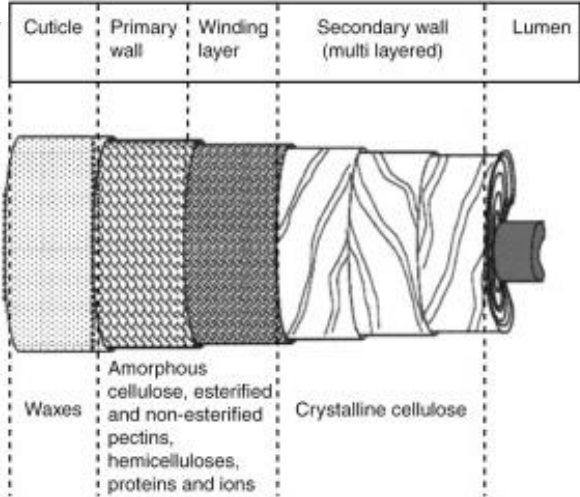
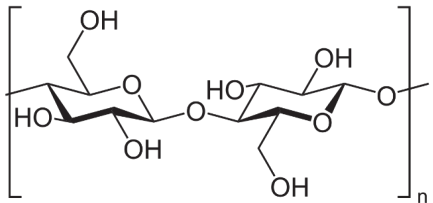
Greek



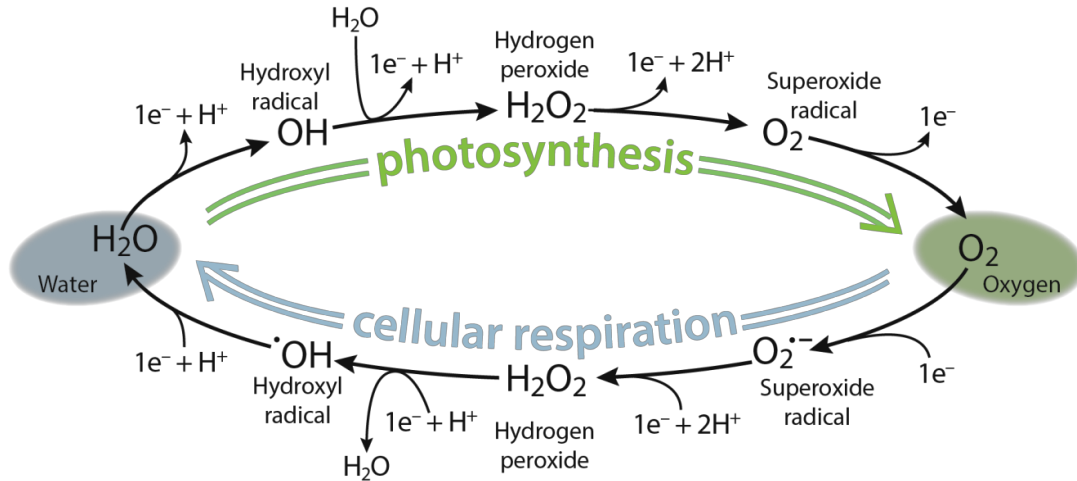
Arabic

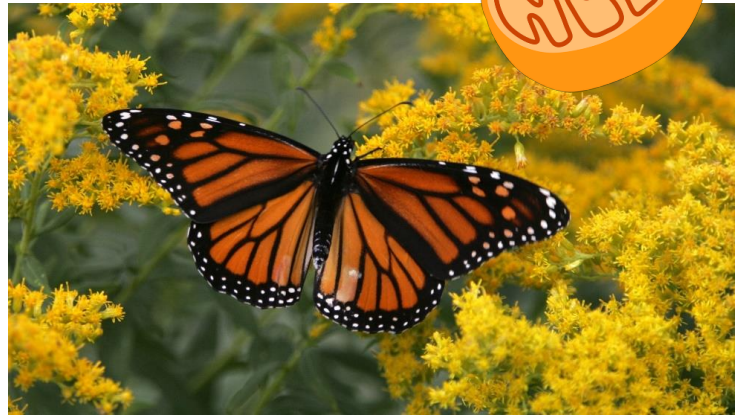
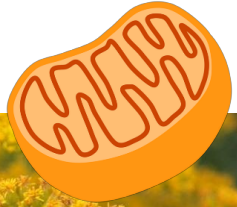
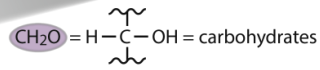
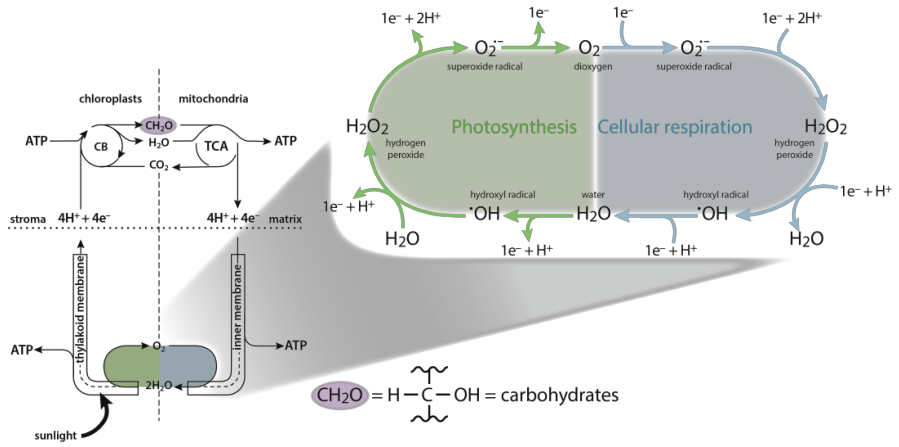


# Cotton Composition

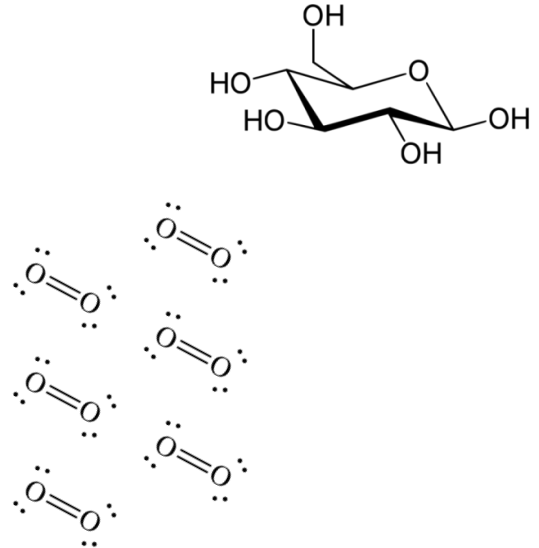
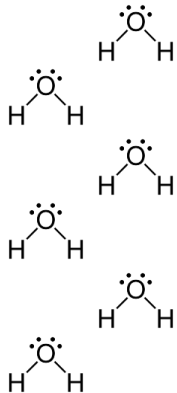
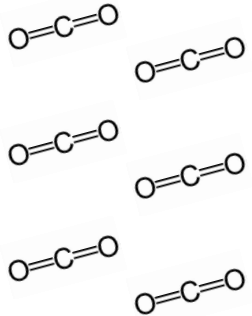


# The Jekyll and Hyde of dioxygen





# Carbon fixation



when you are far more vital to life on earth but  
the mitochondria gets all the glory



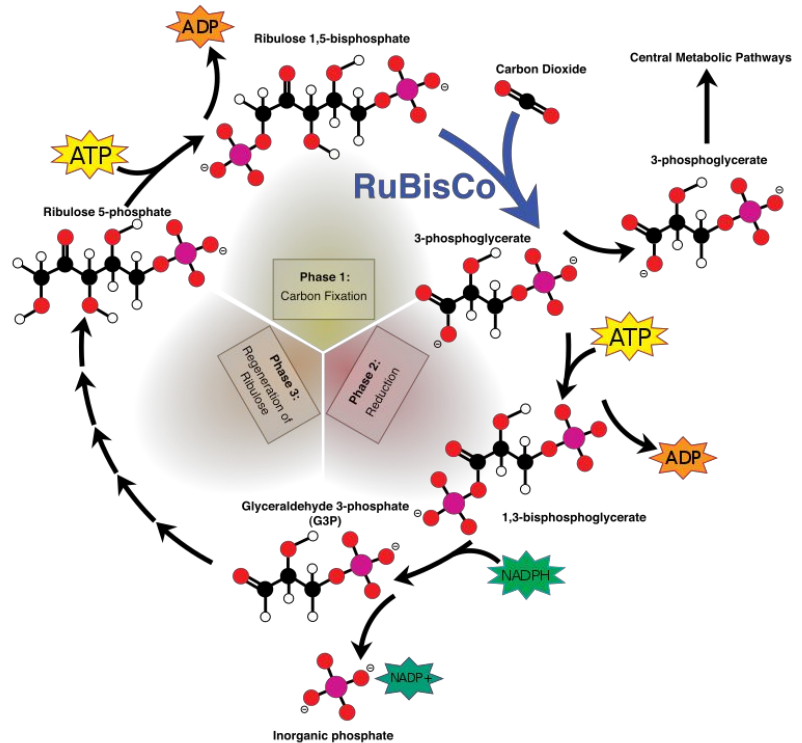


# Calvin Cycle

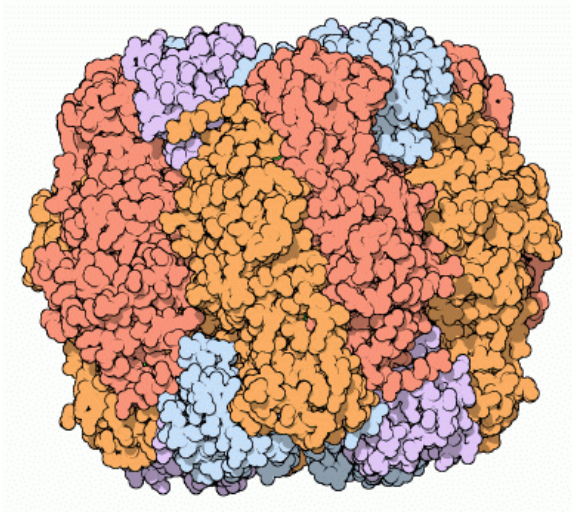
To create 1 surplus G3P requires 3 carbons, and therefore 3 turns of the Calvin cycle. To make one glucose molecule (which can be created from 2 G3P molecules) would require 6 turns of the Calvin cycle.

There are 11 reactions involved in this cycle, several of which models have identified as limiting steps that are negatively impacted by the changing climate.

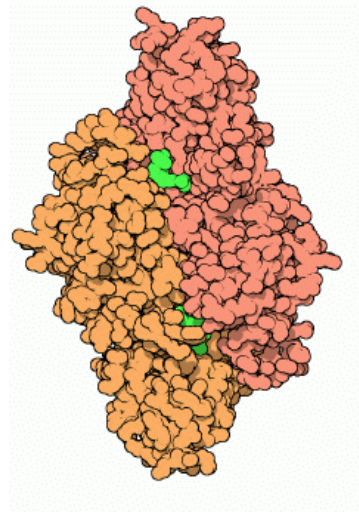
RIPE is working on increasing the efficiency of plants to regenerate sugars.



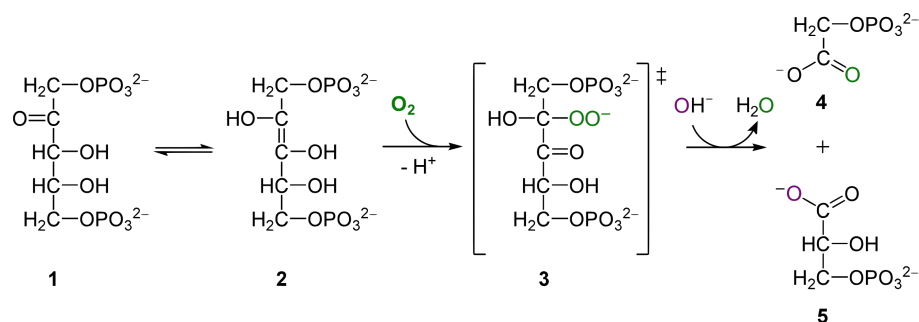
# RuBisCO



16mer RuBisCO from spinach.



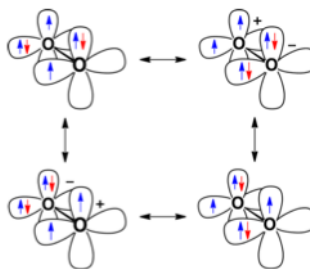
Dimer RuBisCO from photosynthetic bacteria.



## Why did nature choose oxygen?

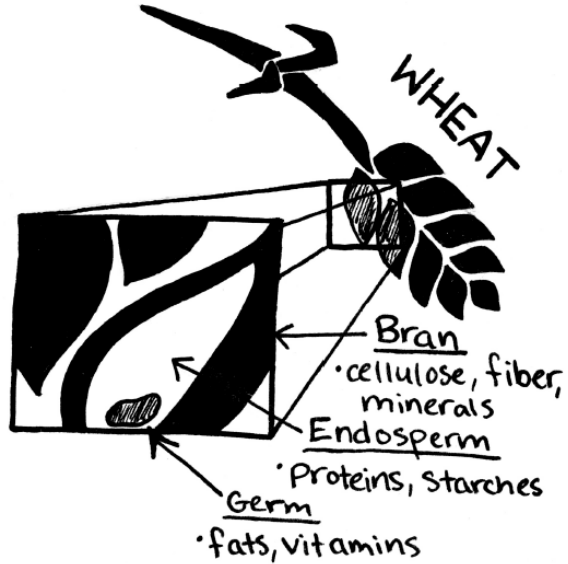
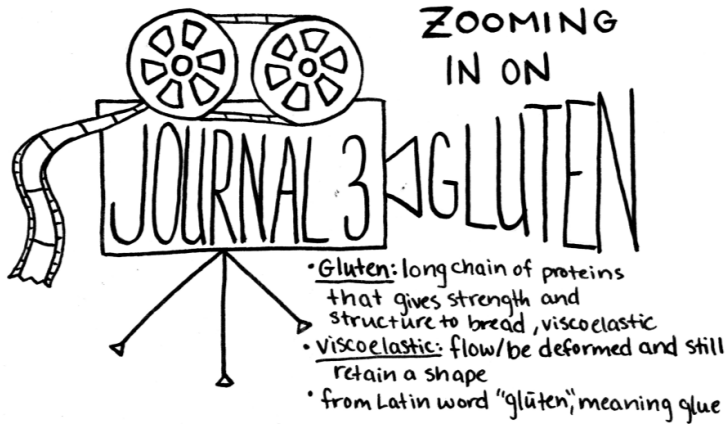
Table 1. Enthalpies of Reaction,  $\Delta H(298.15\text{ K})$  in kcal/mol, Obtained from Experimental Heats of Formation,  $\Delta_f H^\circ(298.15\text{ K})$ , and from G4 Calculations

reaction label	reaction	$\Delta H(298.15\text{ K})$	
		G4 value	ATcT value
A	$^*OH + H_2O_2 \rightarrow H_2O + ^*OOH$	-31.6	-31.0
B	$^*OH + ^*OOH \rightarrow H_2O + ^*OO^*$	-69.0	-69.2
C	$2 ^*OOH \rightarrow HOOH + ^*OO^*$	-37.4	-38.2
D	$2 ^*OH + HOOH \rightarrow 2H_2O + ^*OO^*$	-100.6	-100.2
E	$3 ^*OO^* \rightarrow O_6$ (cyclic)	+79.4	
F	$4 ^*OO^* \rightarrow O_8$ (cyclic)	+94.6	
G	$2 ^*OOH \rightarrow HOOOOH$	-15.4	
H	$^*SH + H_2S_2 \rightarrow H_2S + ^*SSH$	-17.5	
I	$^*SH + ^*SSH \rightarrow H_2S + ^*SS^*$	-33.4	
J	$2 ^*SSH \rightarrow HSSH + ^*SS^*$	-15.9	
K	$2 ^*SH + HSSH \rightarrow 2H_2S + ^*SS^*$	-50.9	
L	$3 ^*SS^* \rightarrow S_6$ (cyclic)	-70.8	
M	$4 ^*SS^* \rightarrow S_8$ (cyclic)	-103.0	
N	$2 ^*SSH \rightarrow HSSSSH$	-41.2	



reaction label	reaction	$\Delta H(298.15\text{ K})$	
		G4 value	ATcT value
O	$H_2 + ^*OO^* \rightarrow HOOH$	-31.6	-32.4
P	$H_2 + HOOH \rightarrow 2H_2O$	-83.3	-83.2
Q	$2H_2 + ^*OO^* \rightarrow 2H_2O$	-114.9	-115.6
R	$H_2O_2 \rightarrow 2 ^*OH$	48.9	49.4

# What is in the wheat berry?



Nerija Cuplinskas

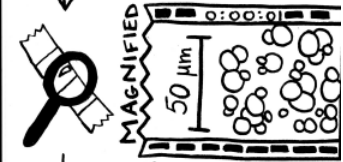


Prof. Gabe Rudebusch



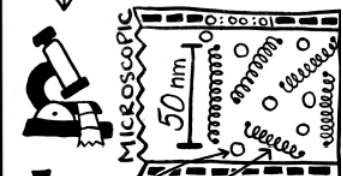
- dry, free flowing flour
- water added to form sticky dough

ZOOM



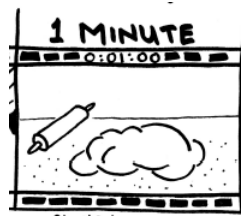
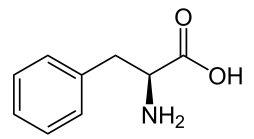
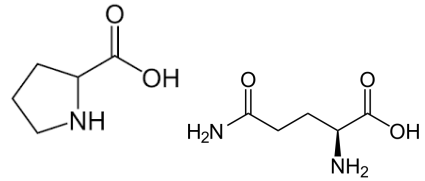
- flour granules contain starches and protein building blocks for gluten formation

ZOOM



- glutenins: long, coil-like proteins with cysteine rich termini responsible for the structural properties of gluten
- gliadins: monomeric, help dough act like fluid

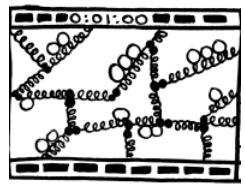
!!!  
The trigger for those with Celiac disease



- soft sticky, elastic dough



- gluten begins to form with wetting and oxygenation

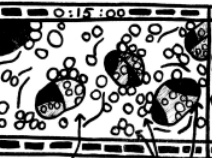


- glutenin links up with disulfide and dityrosine bonds to make long strands into a weblike network

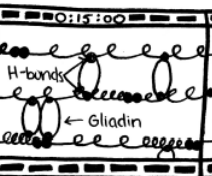
15 MINUTES



- Shapes dough into a shiny, smooth ball by kneading

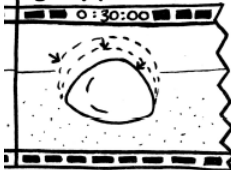


- gluten and starch divided by CO<sub>2</sub> gas bubbles during fermentation



- Kneading orientates the chains
- coils straighten out
- encourages side-by-side bonding through H-bonds

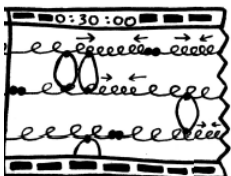
30 MINUTES



- dough ball retains shape
- shrinks back a bit
- begins to rise



- starch grains swell while absorbing water
- gas bubbles expand



- final dough has viscoelastic properties



2018

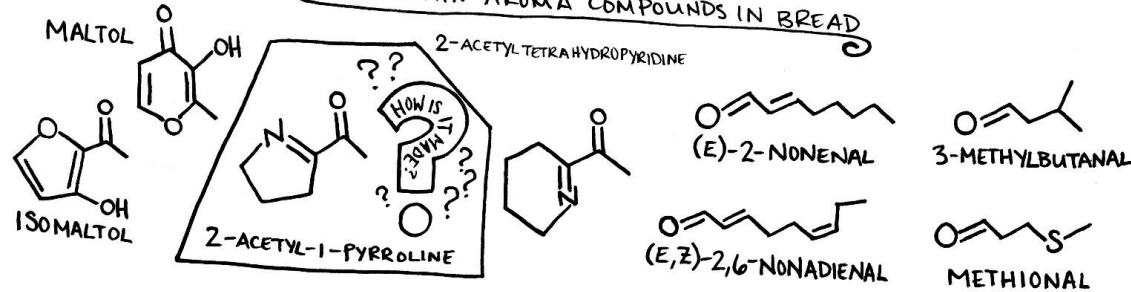
## MAILLARD REACTION:

- chemical reaction between proteins and sugars that gives food color, aroma, and flavor
- need high heat



# FINDING THAT FLAVOR

## THE MAIN AROMA COMPOUNDS IN BREAD

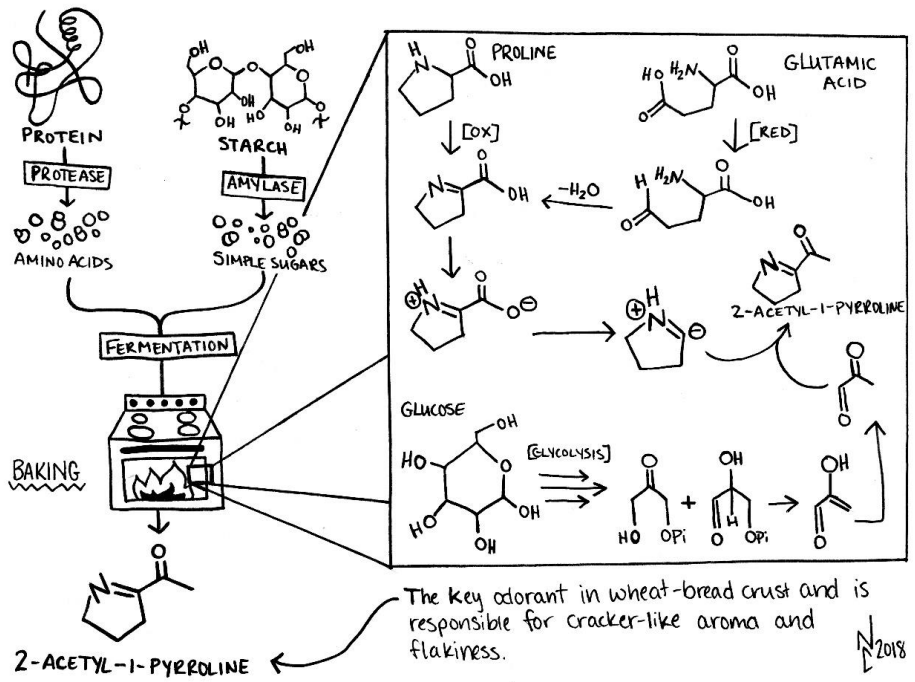


"[...] we have evolved to respond to two important signals when encountering food. The first is a "nutrition" signal that tells us the food will deliver a hefty dose of easily digestible calories, vitamins, and minerals. The second is a "general harmlessness" signal that tells us the food won't kill us. The Maillard reaction is evolution's way of combining these two signals into one super-signal, specific to the roasty or browned flavors of cooked food."



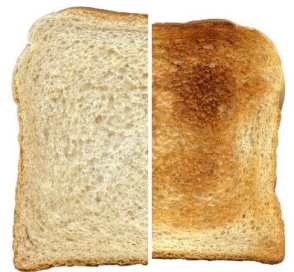
<https://www.serious-eats.com/2017/04/what-is-maillard-reaction-cooking-science.html>

# Maillard Reaction



The key odorant in wheat-bread crust and is responsible for cracker-like aroma and flakiness.

2018





# Taste



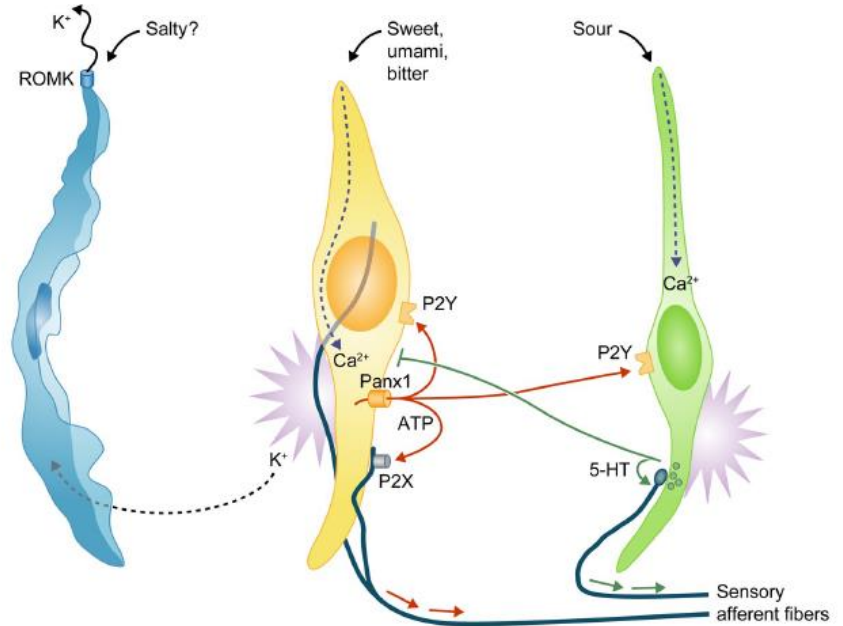
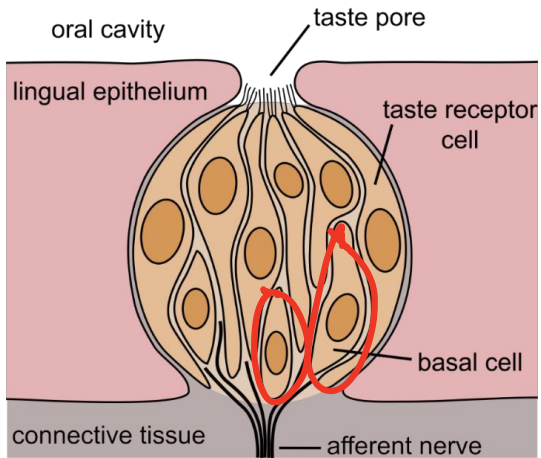
~5000 taste buds  
in oral cavity  
50-100 taste cells  
in a taste bud

## The cell biology of **taste**

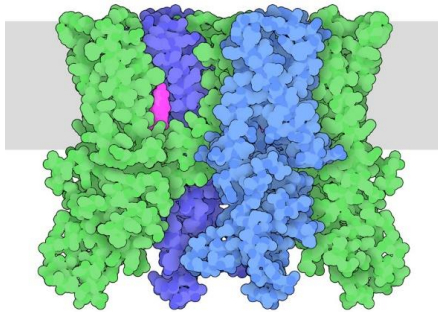
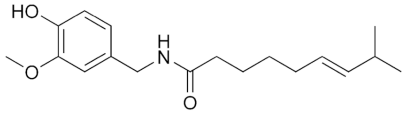
Nirupa Chaudhari and Stephen D. Roper

Department of Physiology and Biophysics, and Program in Neurosciences, University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Miami, FL 33136

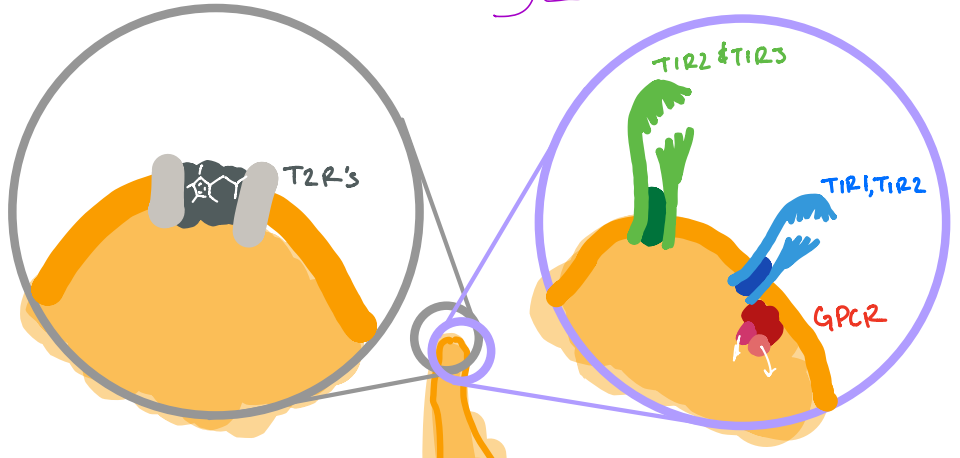
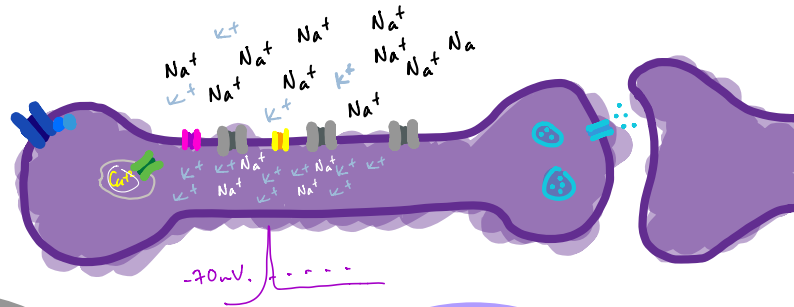
# Taste bud



# Taste receptors

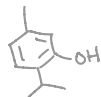
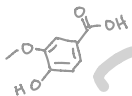
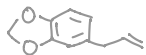
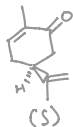
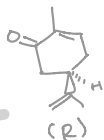
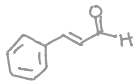


<https://pdb101.rcsb.org/motm/250>

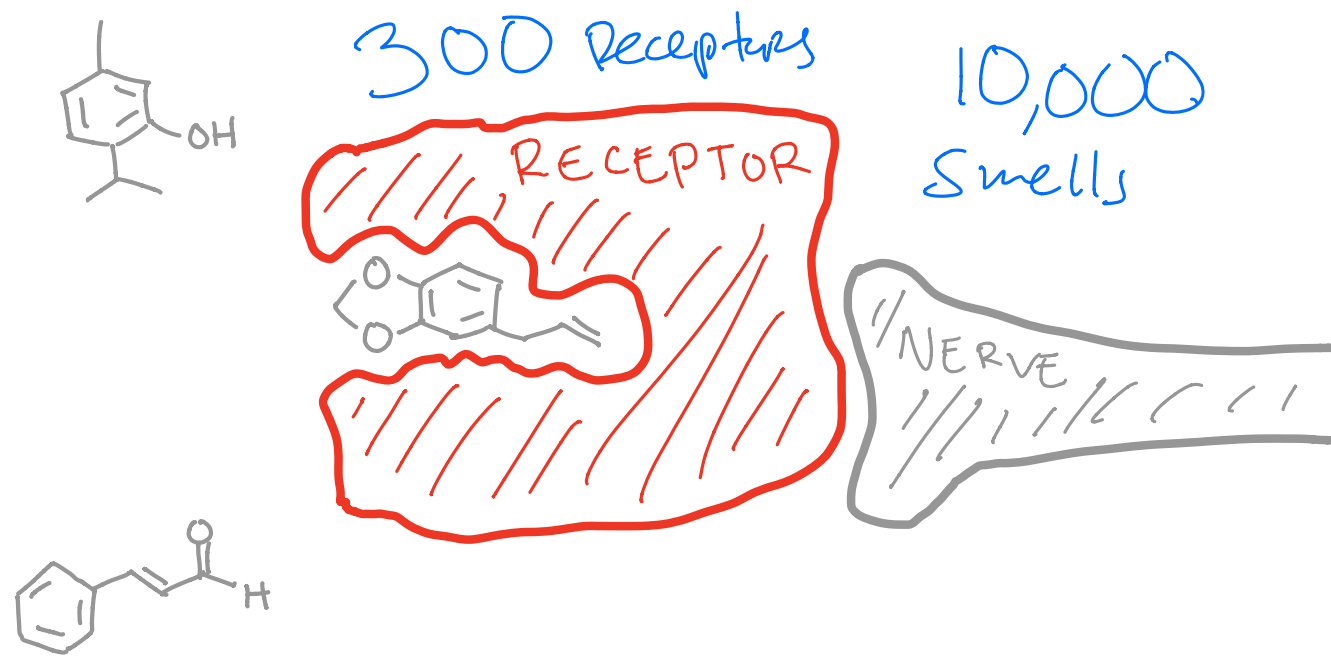


# SMELL

## ODORANTS



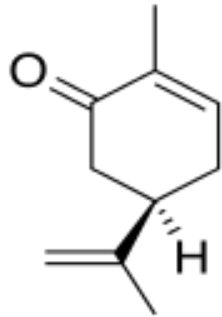
# Tight-binding receptors



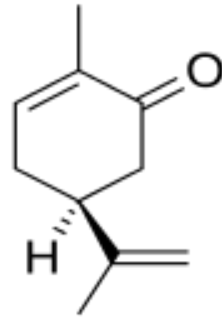
# Loose-binding receptors



# Carvone



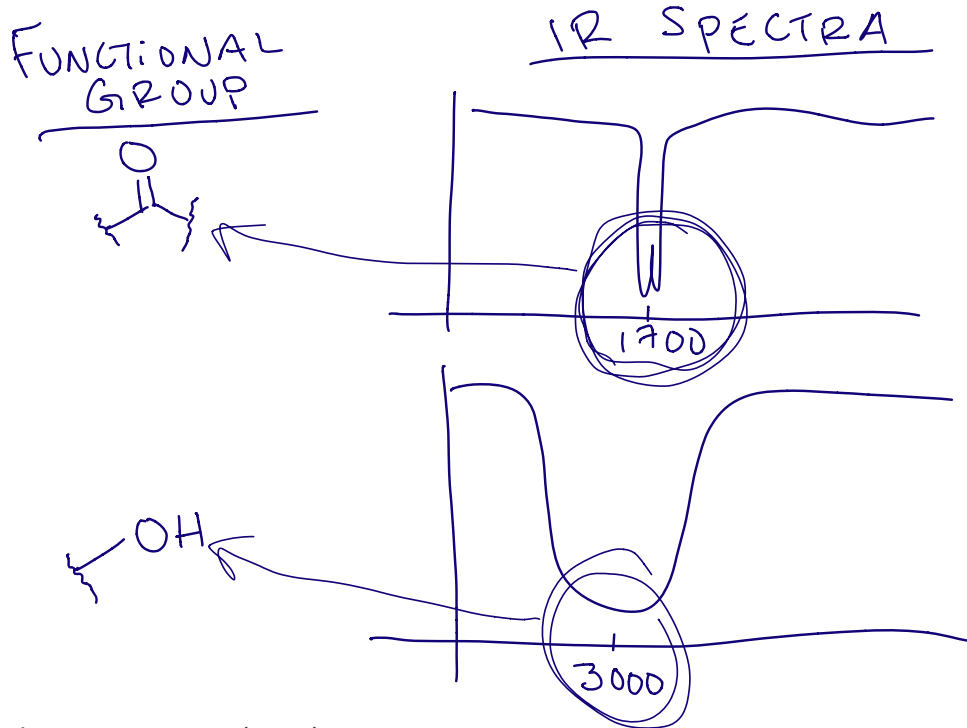
(R)



(S)

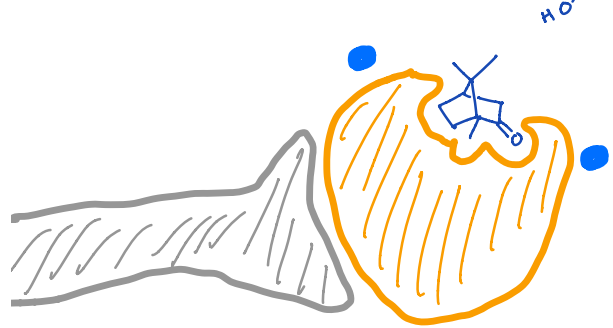
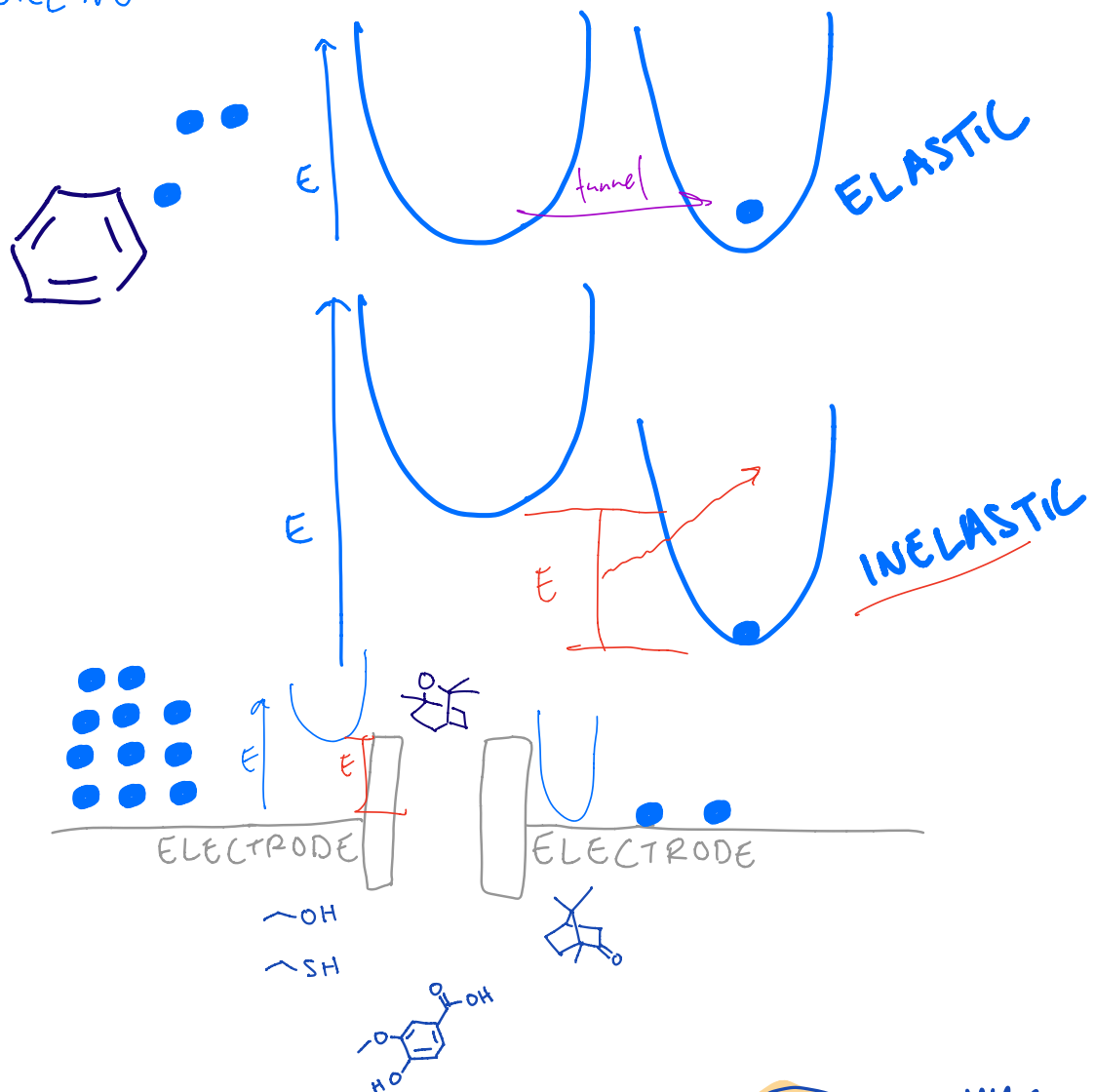


# Quantum receptors





● = electron



FOR FURTHER DETAILS:  
LIFE ON THE EDGE  
LUCA TURIN TED TALK