Metabolism: Anabolism and Catabolism

By Dr. Sumbul Fatma

Objectives

- Understand the concept of metabolic pathway
- Identify types & characters of metabolic pathways – anabolic and catabolic
- Identify ATP as the energy currency of cells

Metabolism

All the chemical reactions taking place inside a cell are collectively known as METABOLISM

Metabolism consists of: energy consuming (anabolic) pathways

energy producing (catabolic) pathways

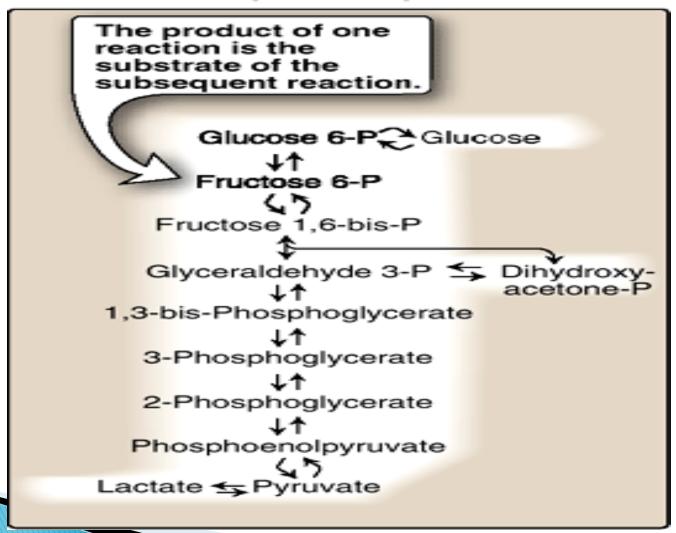
Pathway Vs Chemical Reaction

Metabolic Pathway:

- A multi-step sequence of chemical reactions
- A product of first reaction becomes a substrate for second reaction

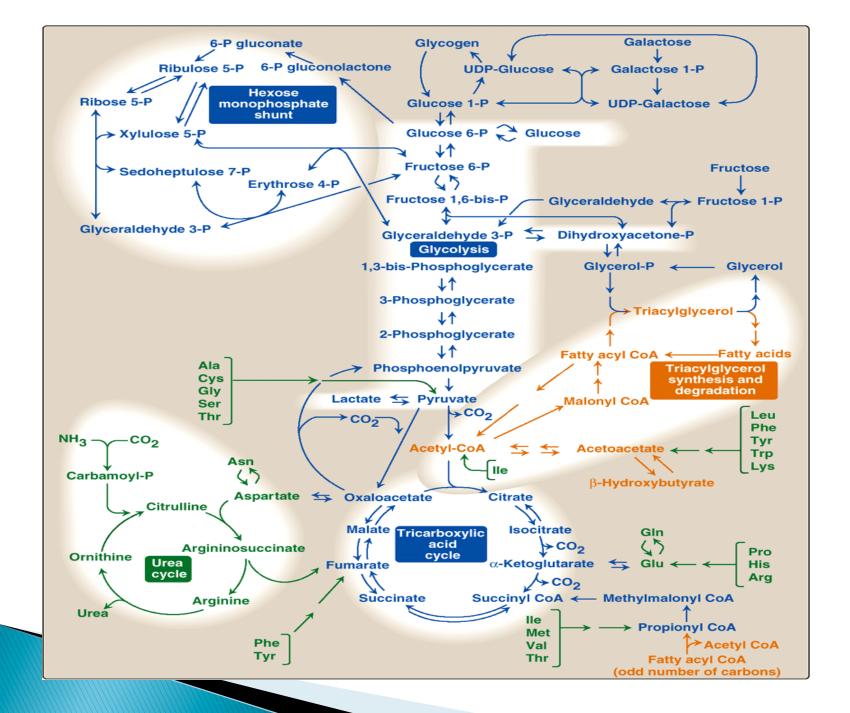
Integrated pathways: Metabolism

Glycolysis, an example of a metabolic pathway



Metabolic Map

Different pathways can intersect, forming an integrated and purposeful network of chemical reactions "The Metabolic Map"

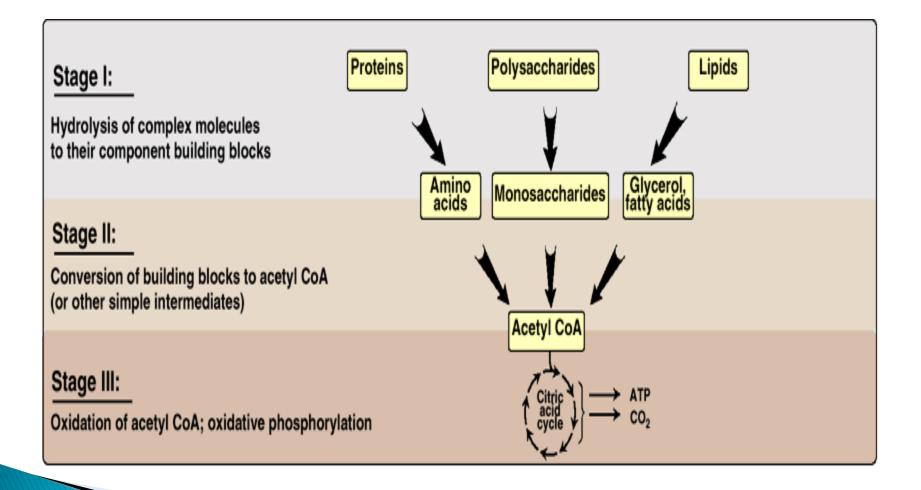


Classification

Most pathways can be classified catabolic anabolic

Note: Pathways that regenerate a component are called cycles

Catabolic Pathways



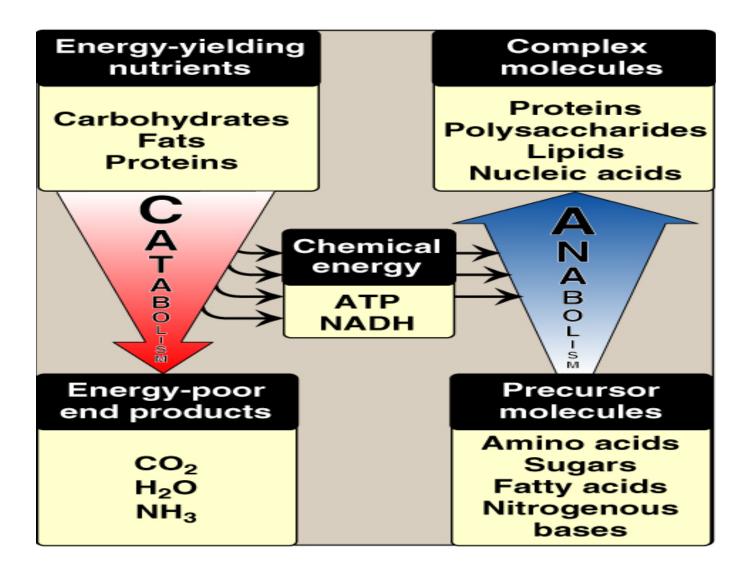
Anabolic Pathways

Precursor molecules into complex molecules

Endergonic reactions require ATP

Divergent process

Catabolism Vs Anabolism



Comparison of catabolic and anabolic pathways

Anabolic

Catabolic

- Simple to complex molecules
- Endergonic
- Involves reductions
- Requires NADPH
- Divergent process

- Complex to simple molecules
- Exergonic
- Involves oxidations
- Requires NAD+
- Convergent process

Amphibolic Pathways

Amphi = Dual, amphibolic: dual pathway

For example,

Krebs cycle is mainly a catabolic cycle, but with some anabolic features,

e.g., part of Krebs cycle is used for the synthesis of glucose from amino acids

Therefore, Krebs cycle is amphibolic

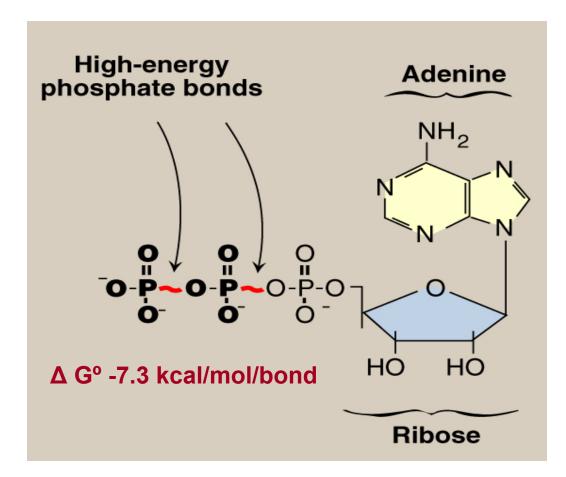
Energy Currency: ATP

$ATP + H_2O \longrightarrow ADP + P_i$

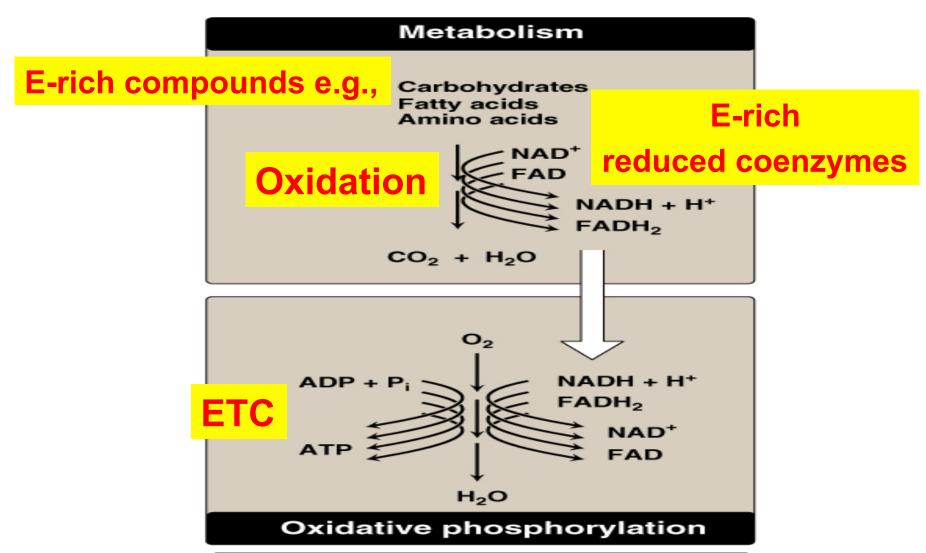
- The free energy liberated in the hydrolysis of ATP is used to drive the endergonic reactions
- ATP is formed from ADP and P_i when fuel molecules are oxidized
- This ATP-ADP cycle is the fundamental mode of energy exchange in biological

systems

Adenosine Triphosphate (ATP)



Oxidation-Reduction in Metabolism

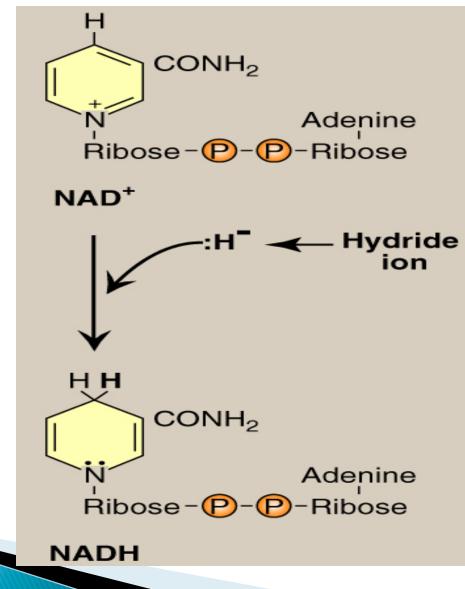


Oxidation/Reduction

Oxidation: Loss of hydrogen Loss of electrons

Reduction: Gain of hydrogen Gain of electrons

NAD⁺/ NADH



Regulation of Metabolism

Intracellular signals: Substrate availability Product inhibition Allosteric activators Intercellular communications: **Chemical signaling (hormones):** Second messenger cAMP, cGMP **Ca/phosphatidylinositol**

Metabolic Fuel

- Carbohydrates & lipids (mainly) and proteins (little extent) are used for energy production
- These are- glucose, fatty acids and amino acids
- Glucose is the major metabolic fuel of most tissues

Take Home Message-1

- Metabolism is the sum of all biochemical pathways that occur inside the cells.
- A metabolic pathway is a multistep sequences of enzymecatalyzed reactions.

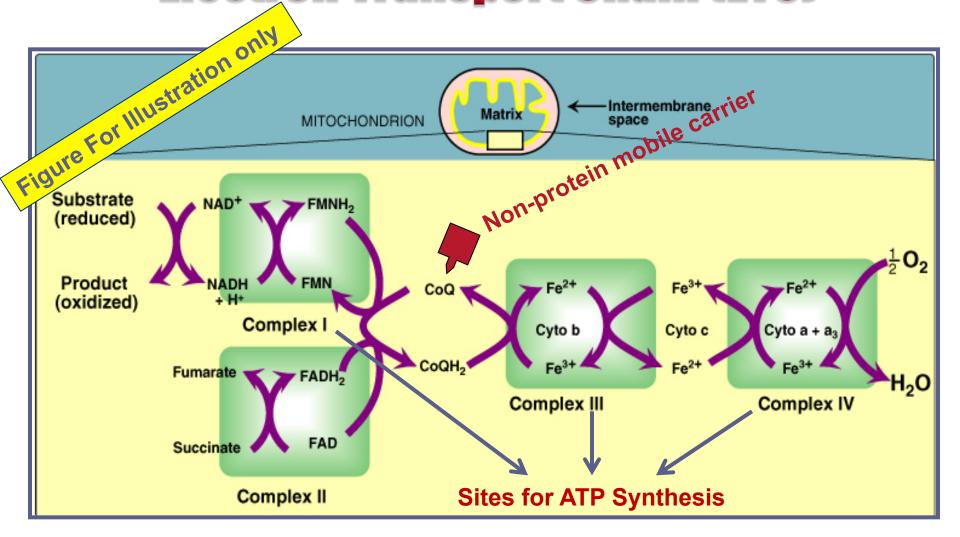
Take Home Message-2

- Catabolism is a convergent process that provides energy to cells in the form of ATP.
- Anabolism is a divergent process that consumes energy for the synthesis of complex molecules.
- Metabolic pathways are tightly regulated and highly integrated.

Take Home Message-3

ATP is the energy currency of the cells

Electron Transport Chain (ETC)



Electron transport and ATP synthesis are tightly coupled processes