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

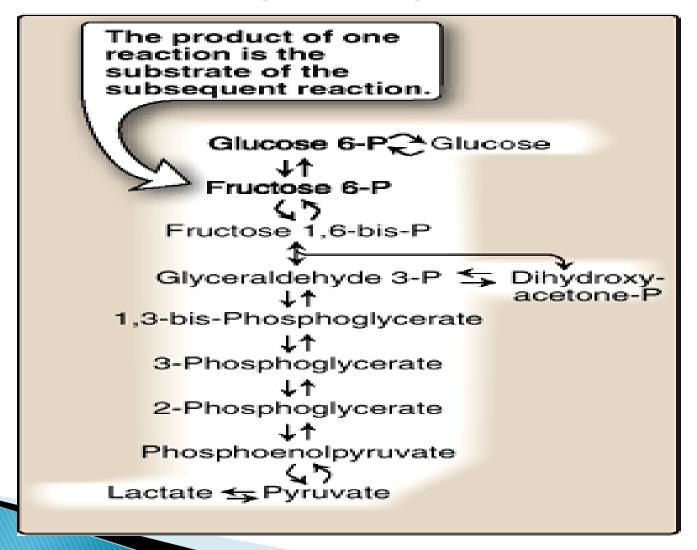
energy producing (catabolic) pathways

Pathway Vs Chemical Reaction

Metabolic Pathway:

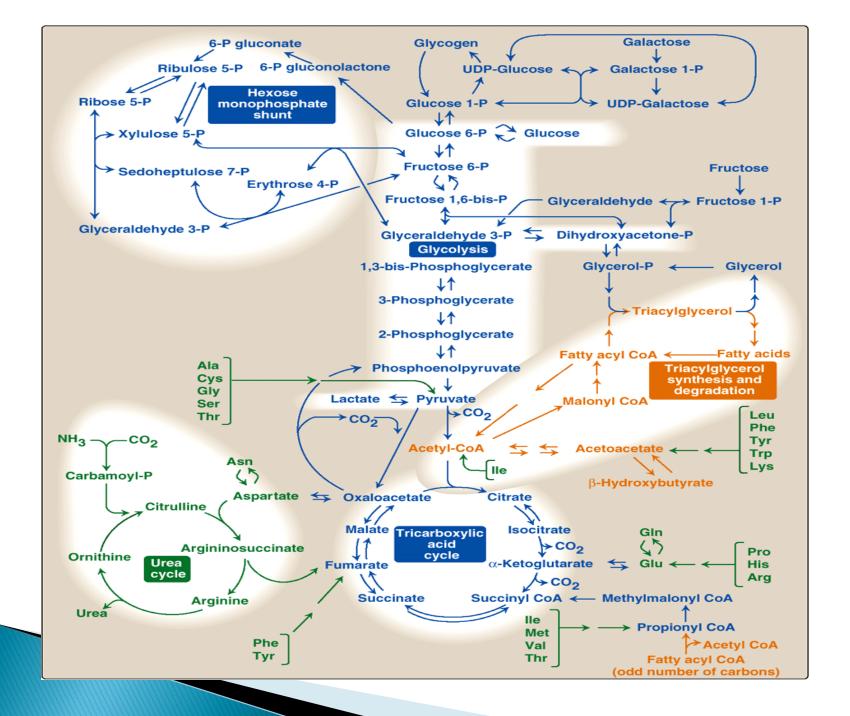
- A multi-step sequence of chemical reactions
- A product of first reaction becomes a substrate for second reaction
- Integrated pathways: Metabolism

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"

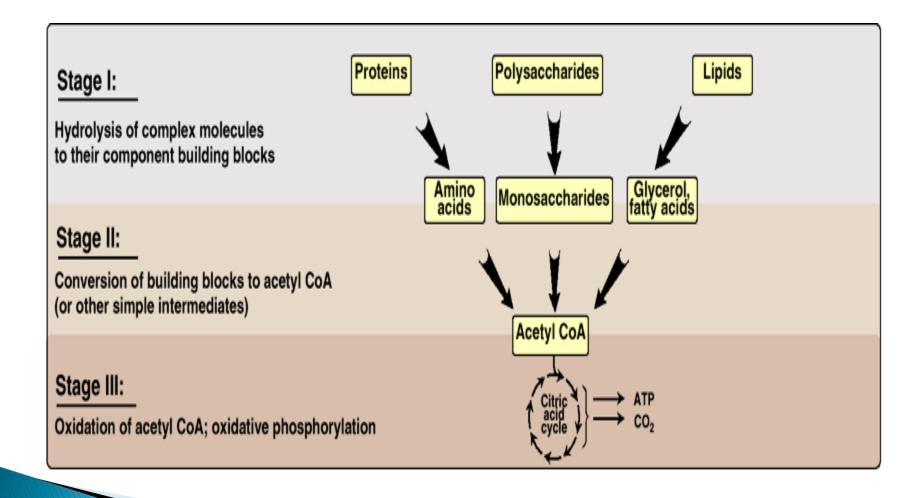


Classification

Most pathways can be classified catabolic anabolic

Note: Pathways that regenerate a component are called cycles

Catabolic Pathways

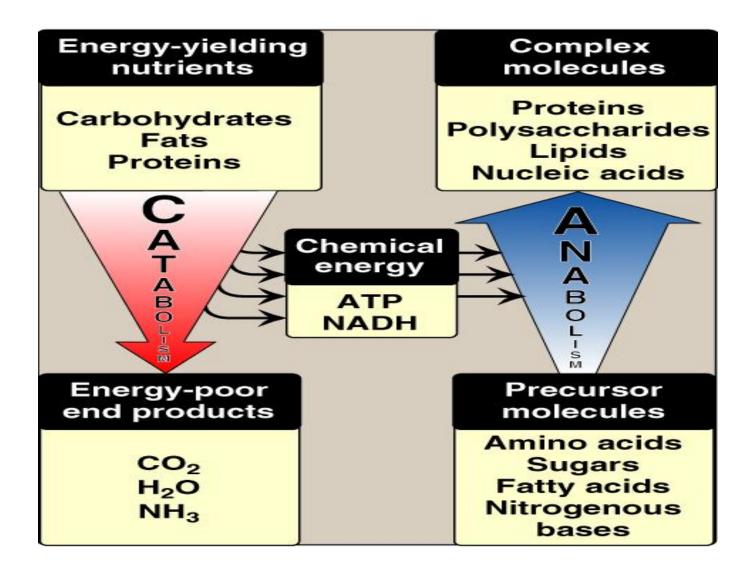


Anabolic Pathways

Precursor molecules into complex molecules

- Endergonic reactions require ATP
- Divergent process

Catabolism Vs Anabolism



Comparison of catabolic and anabolic pathways

Anabolic

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

Catabolic

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

Amphibolic Pathways

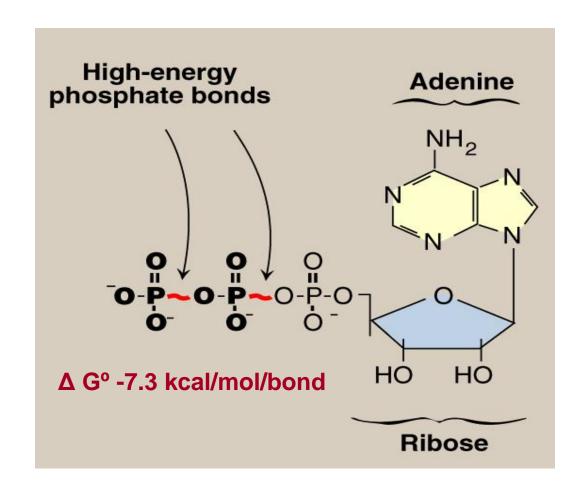
- Amphi = Dual, amphibolic: dual pathway
- For example, Krebs cycle is mainly a catabolic cycle, but with some anabolic features,
 - e.g., part of Krebs cycle is used for the synthesis of glucose from amino acids
 - Therefore, Krebs cycle is amphibolic

Energy Currency: ATP

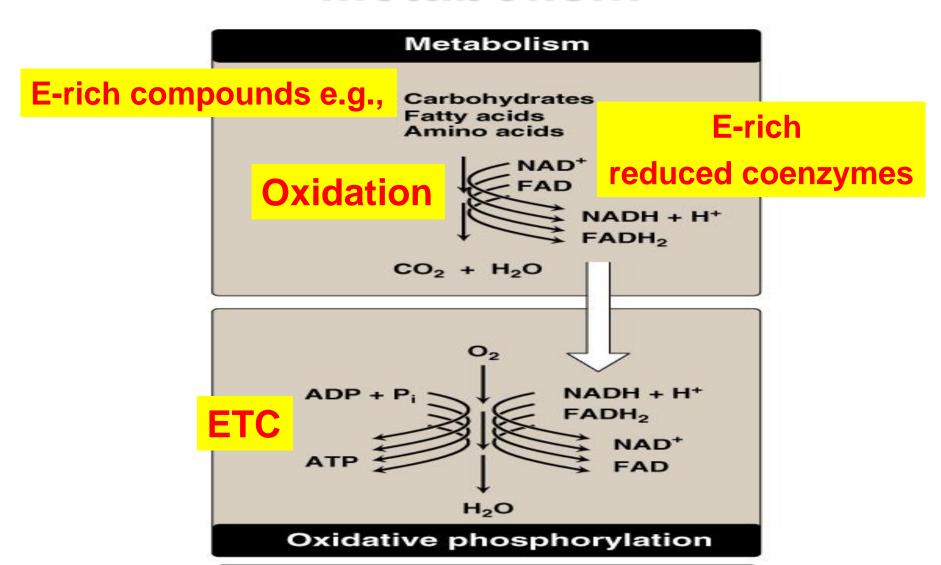
$$ATP + H_2O \longrightarrow ADP + P_i$$

- 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

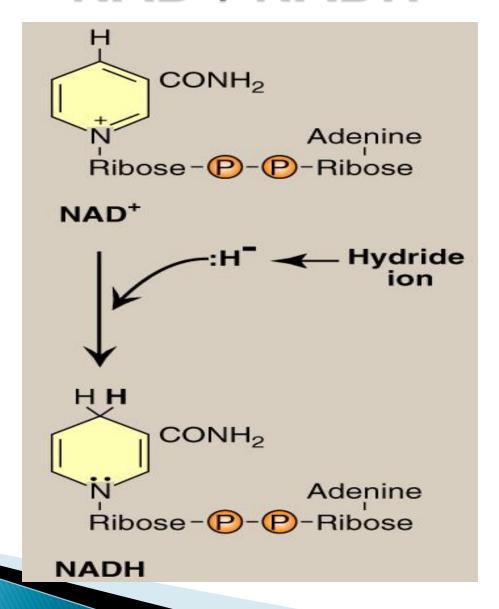
Oxidation:

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 enzyme-catalyzed reactions.

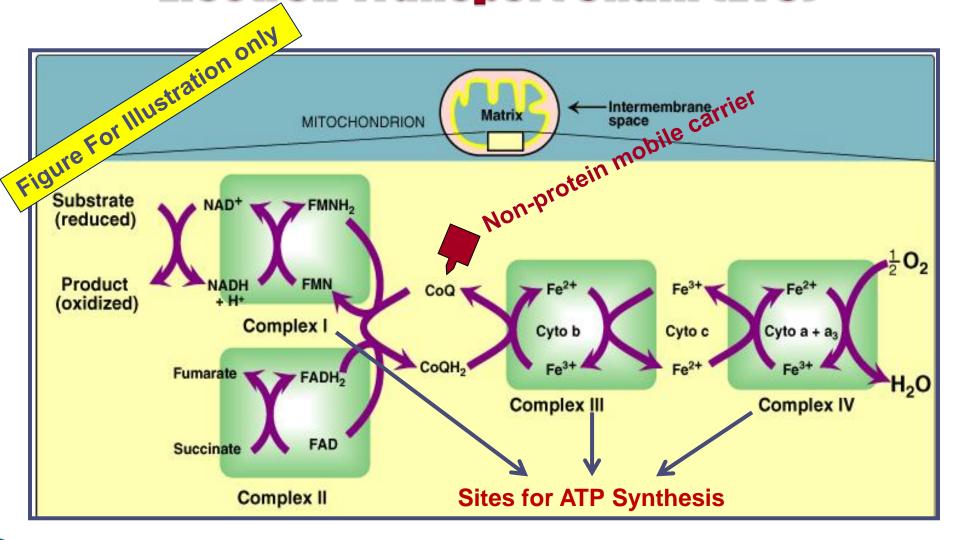
Take Home Message-2

- 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