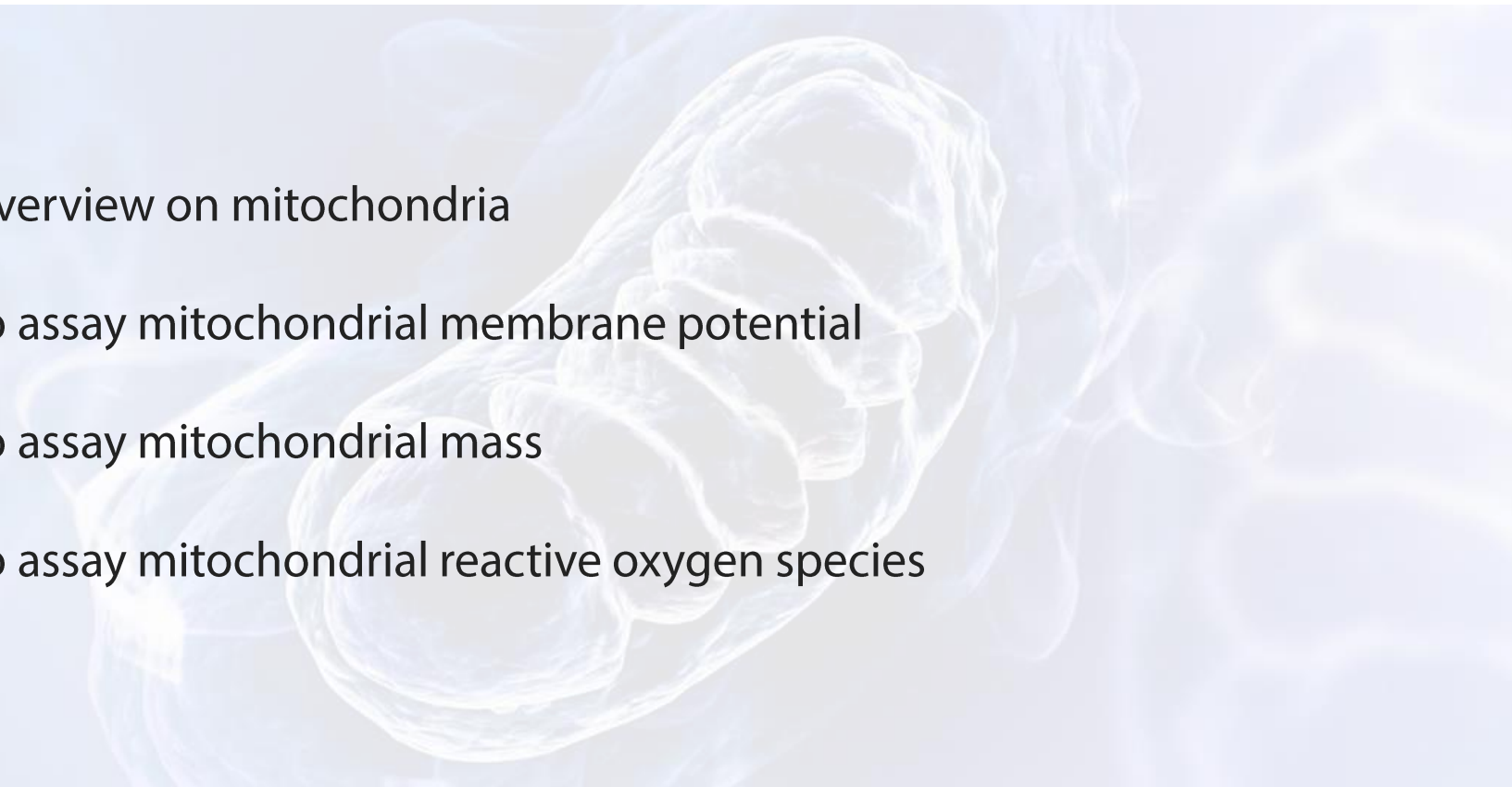


Mitochondria by flow cytometry



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Outline

- Overview on mitochondria
 - To assay mitochondrial membrane potential
 - To assay mitochondrial mass
 - To assay mitochondrial reactive oxygen species
- 
- A microscopic image of mitochondria, showing their characteristic folded membrane structure (cristae) in a light blue and white color scheme. The image is positioned in the background of the slide, behind the list of topics.

Outline

- Overview on mitochondria
 - To assay mitochondrial membrane potential
 - To assay mitochondrial mass
 - To assay mitochondrial reactive oxygen species
- 

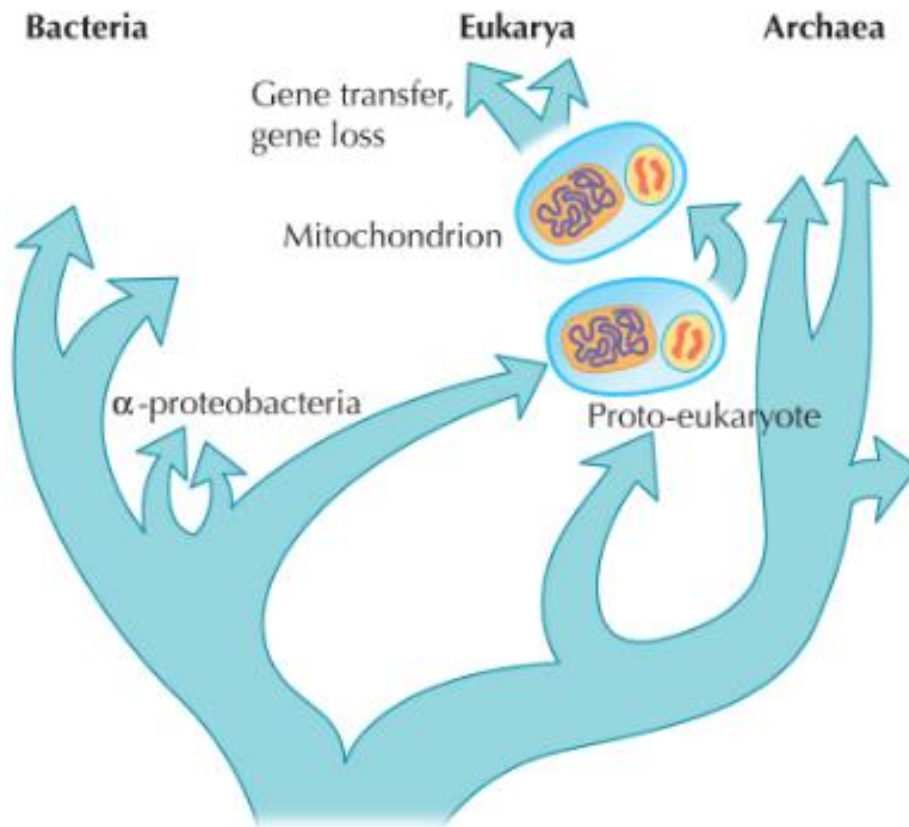
Mitochondria

- The word mitochondrion comes from the Greek *μίτος*, *mitos*, "thread", and *χονδρίον*, *chondrion*, "granule" or "grain-like"
- Powerhouse of the cell
- First identified in animals in 1840, then in plants in 1900
- Bean-shaped cytoplasmic organelle
- The number of mitochondria in a cell can vary widely by organism, tissue, and cell type. Red blood cells have no mitochondria; liver cells can have more than 2000
- Mitochondria are commonly between 0.75 and 3 μm in diameter but vary considerably in size and structure. Unless specifically stained, they are not visible.

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The evolution of mitochondria

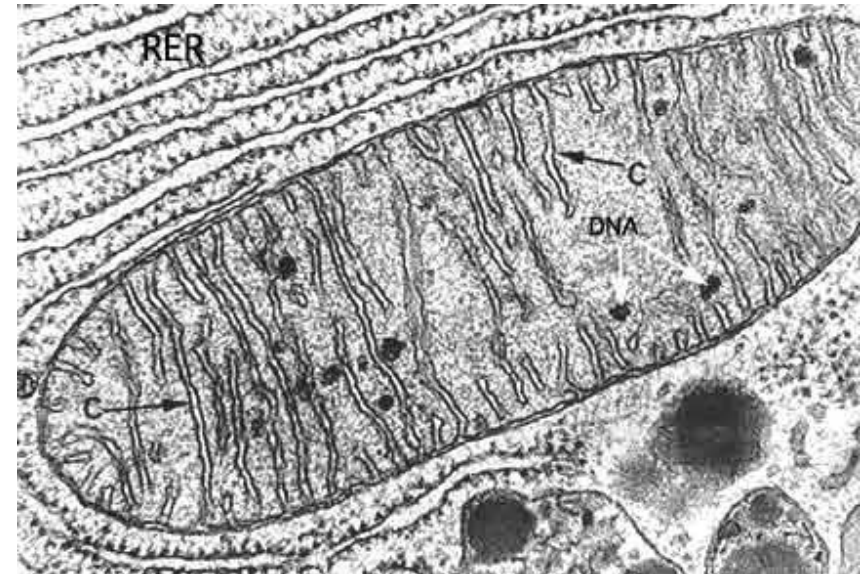
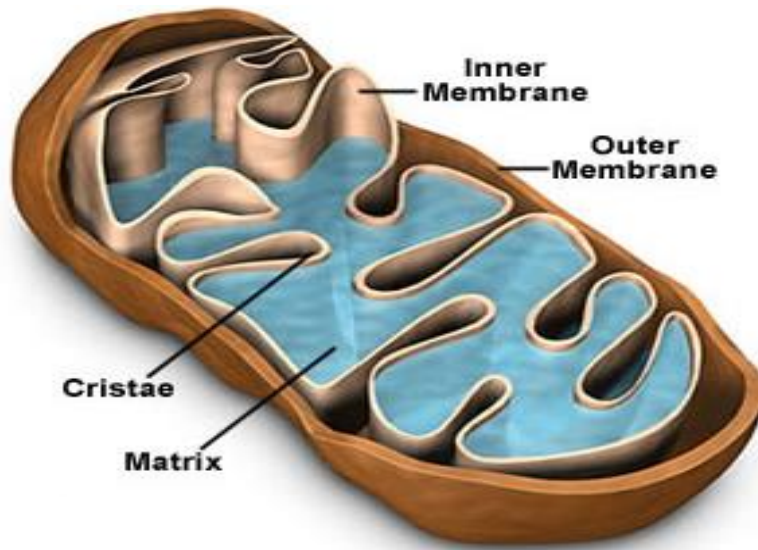


Mitochondria are the result of an endosymbiotic event occurring about 2 billion years ago.

Ancient symbiosis that resulted when a nucleated cell **engulfed** an aerobic prokaryote.

- Similarity of bacterial and mt respiratory chain complexes
- mtDNA

Mitochondrial ultrastructure

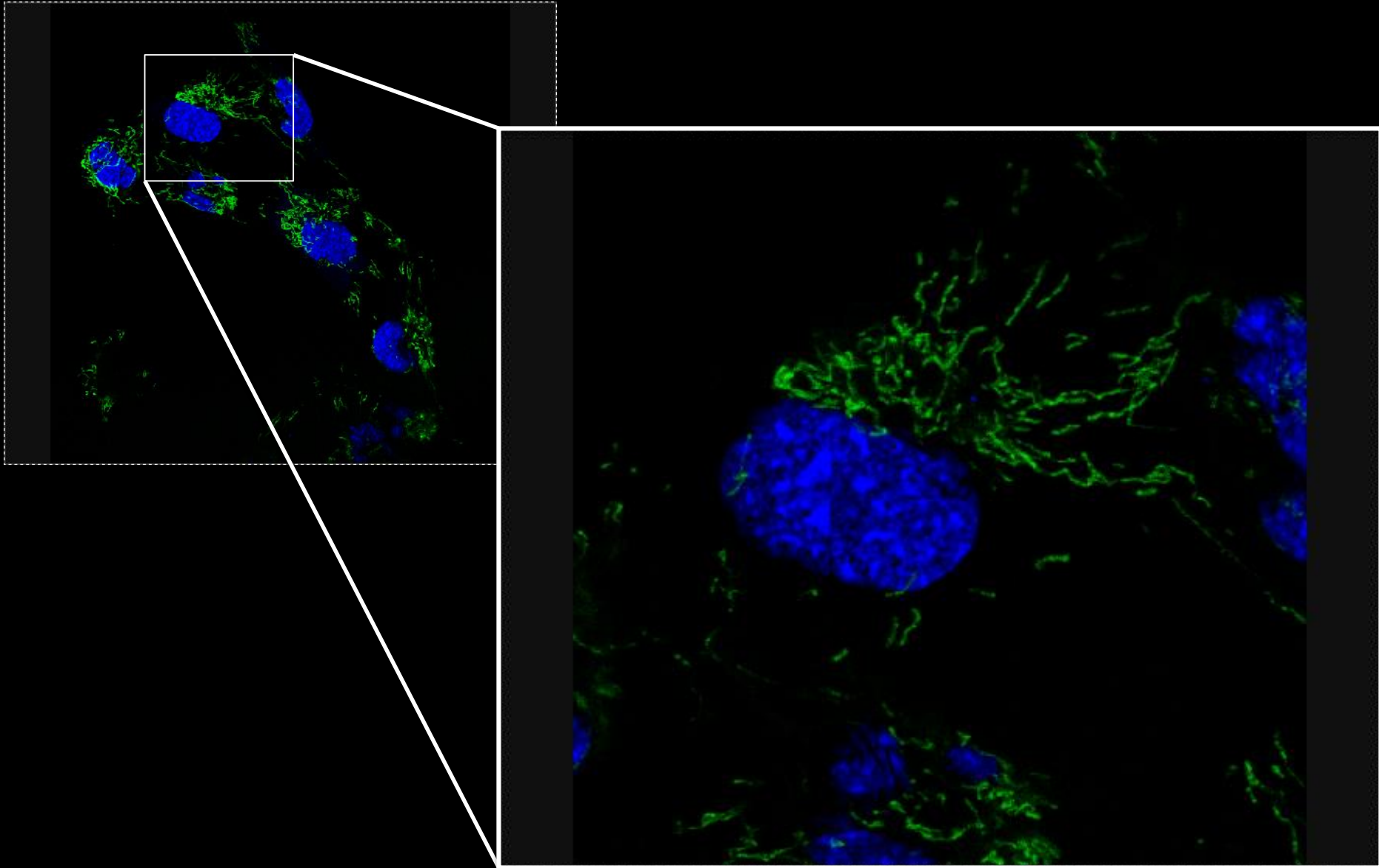


A mitochondrion contains outer and inner membranes composed of phospholipid bilayers and proteins.

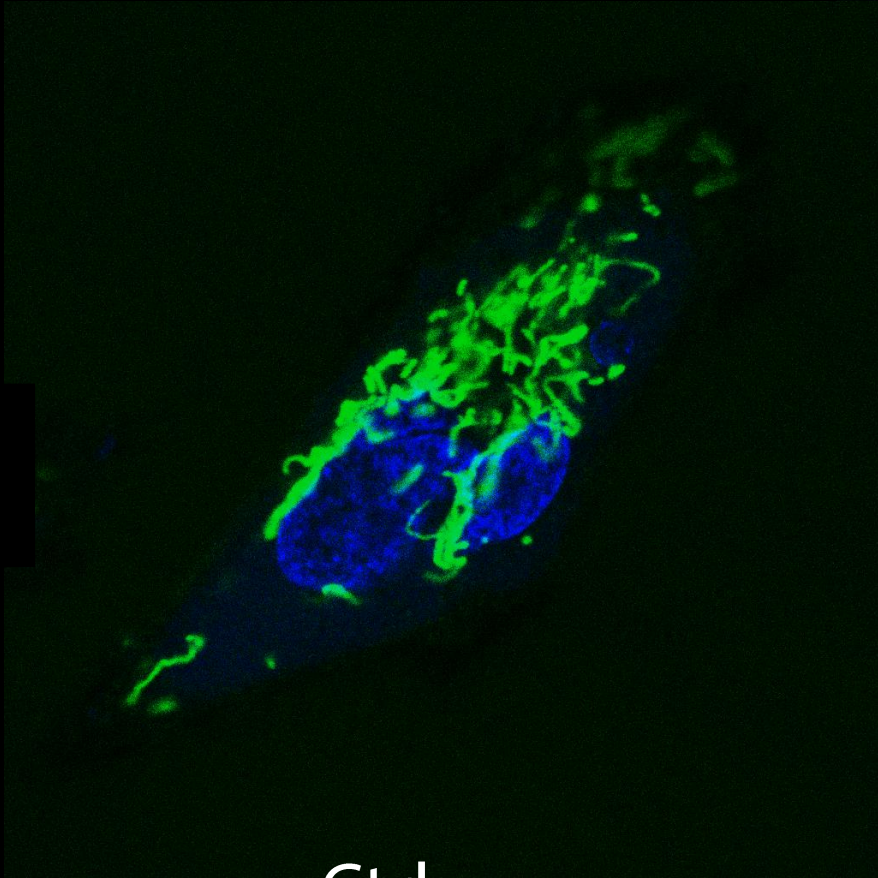
Four distinct parts :

1. **Outer mitochondrial membrane** (fatty acid elongation, desaturation)
2. **Intermembrane space**
3. **Inner mitochondrial membrane** (*cristae*, oxidative phosphorylation, ATP synthesis)
4. **Matrix** (space within the inner membrane)

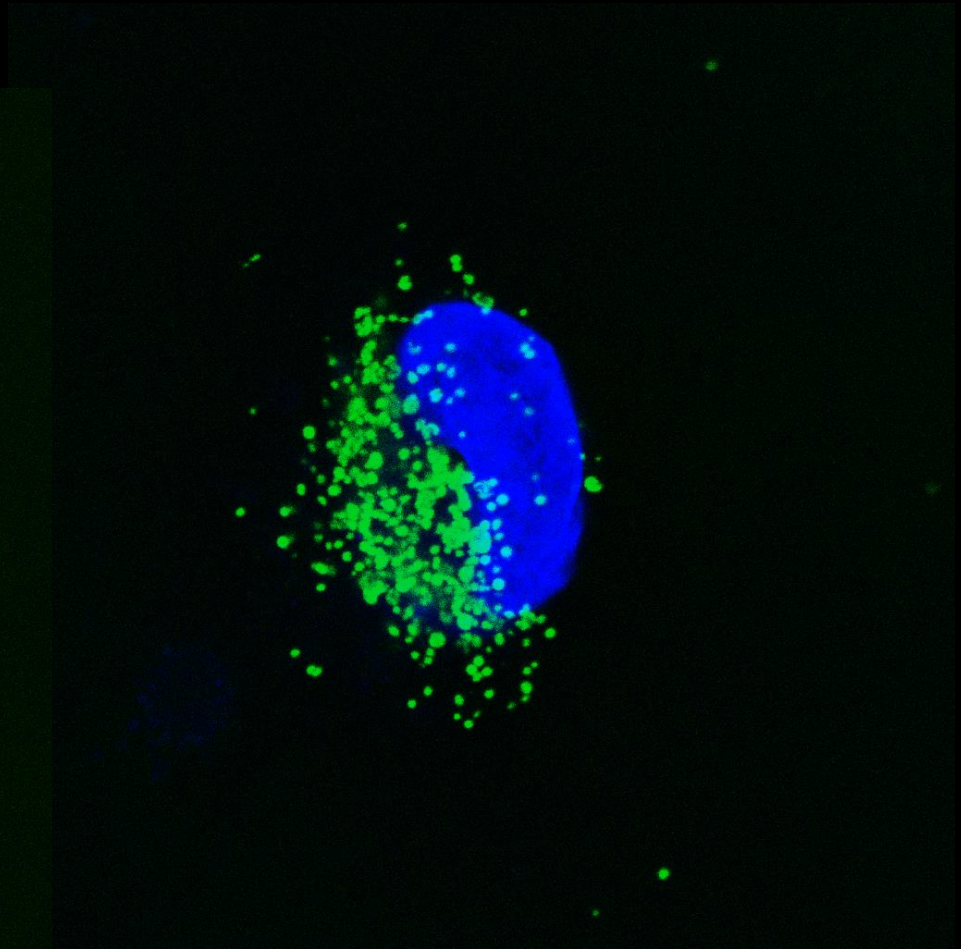
Mitochondrial morphology



Mitochondrial morphology



Ctrl



d4T

Mitochondrial morphology



Ctrl



shLonP1



Cellular life

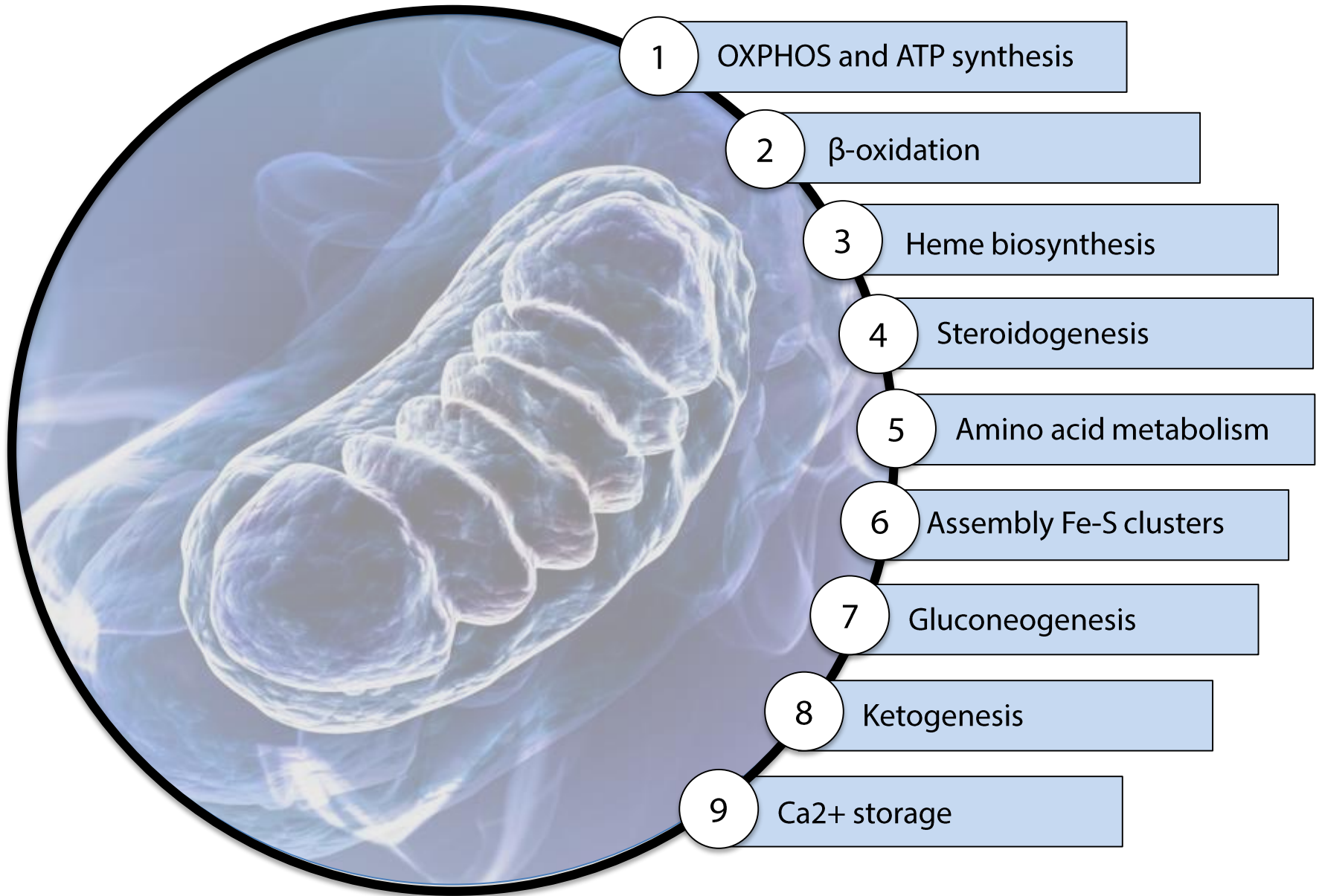
Stress

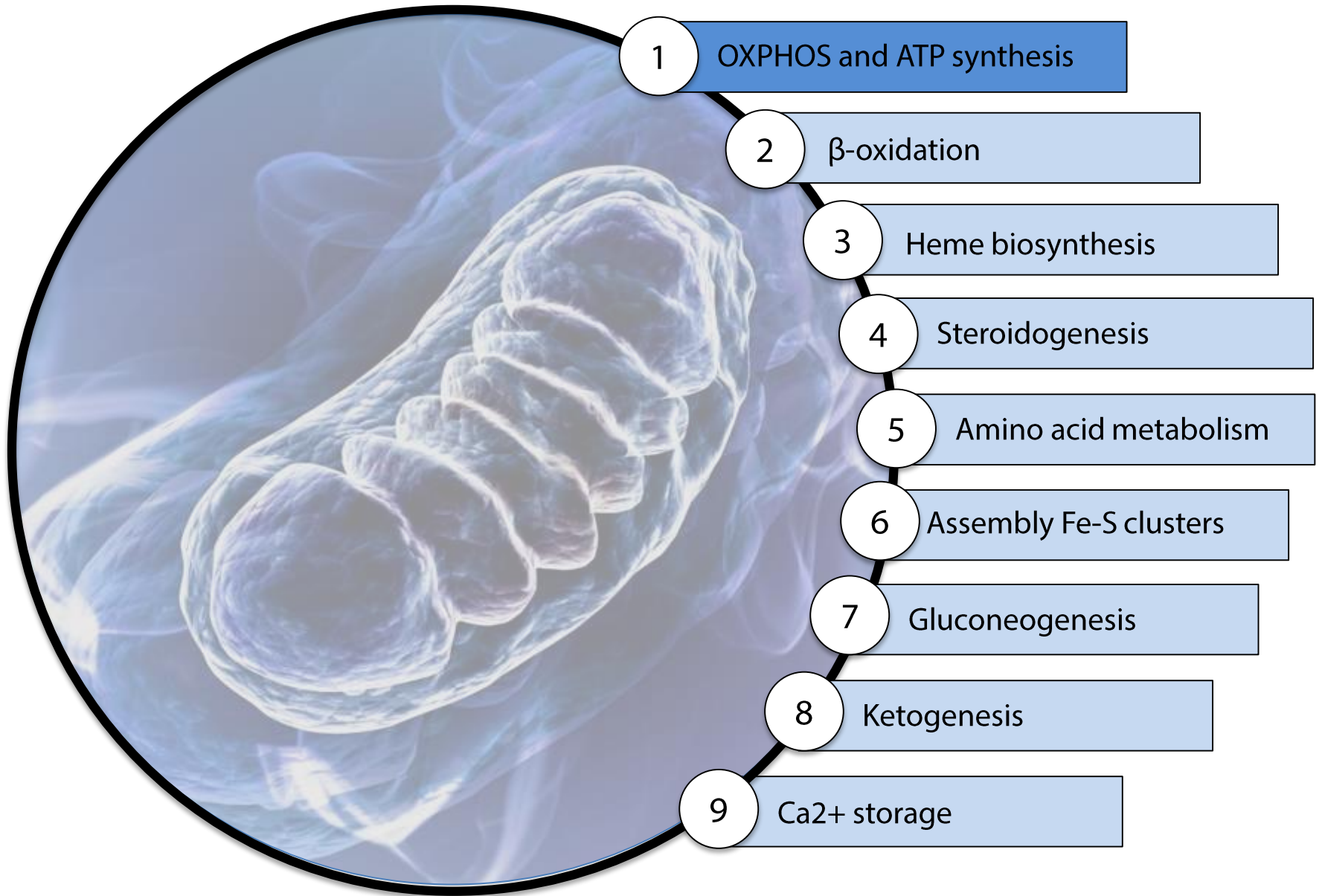
Cell death

Cellular life

Stress

Cell death





OXPHOS and ATP synthesis

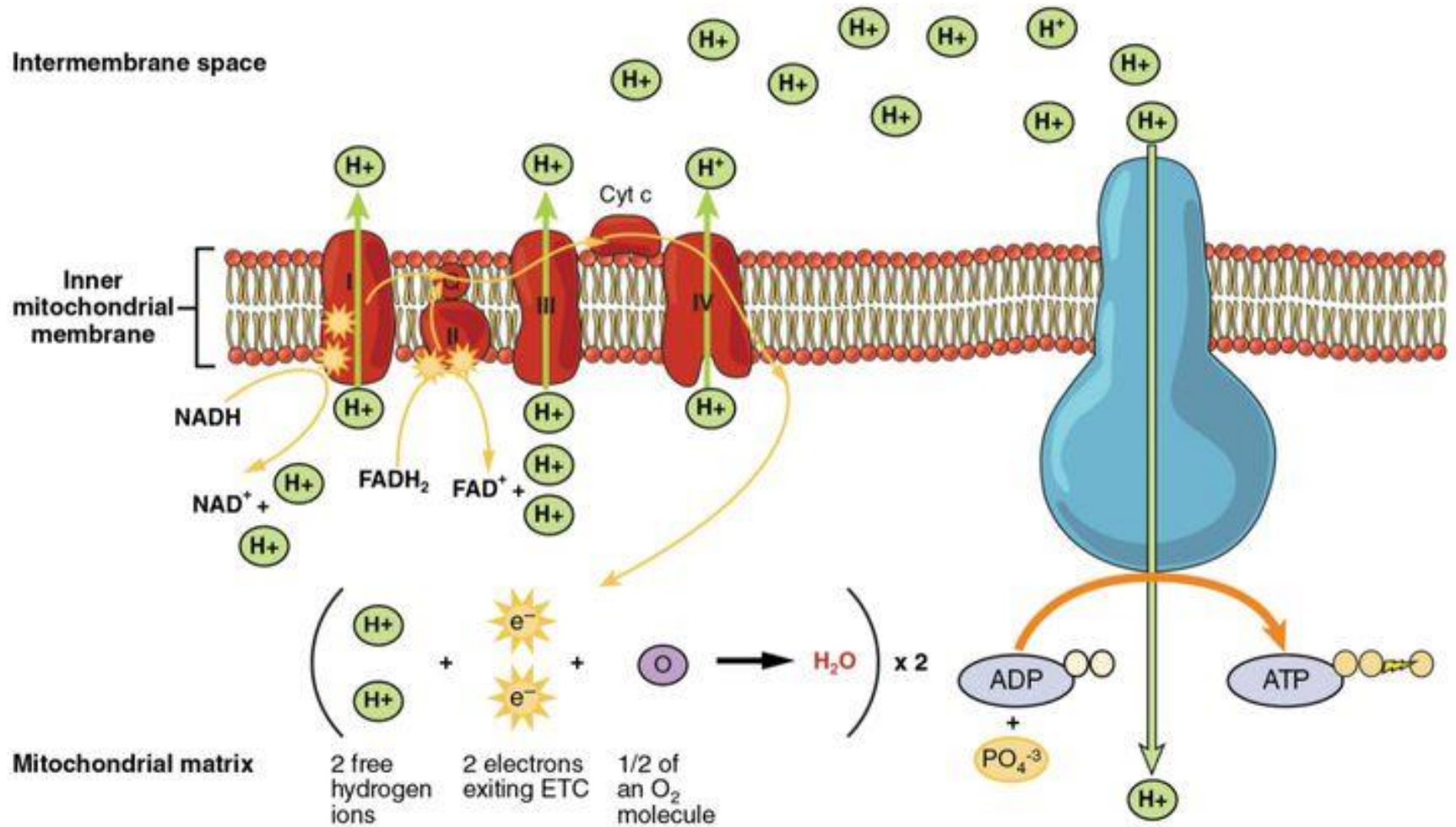
Mitchell's theory

The energy required for mt synthesis of ATP is stored in the form of a proton electrochemical gradient across the inner mt membrane

Nobel Prize in Chemistry, 1978



OXPHOS and ATP synthesis



$\Delta\Psi$ and ΔpH

The PMF is an electrochemical gradient of membrane potential ($\Delta\Psi$) and pH (ΔpH)

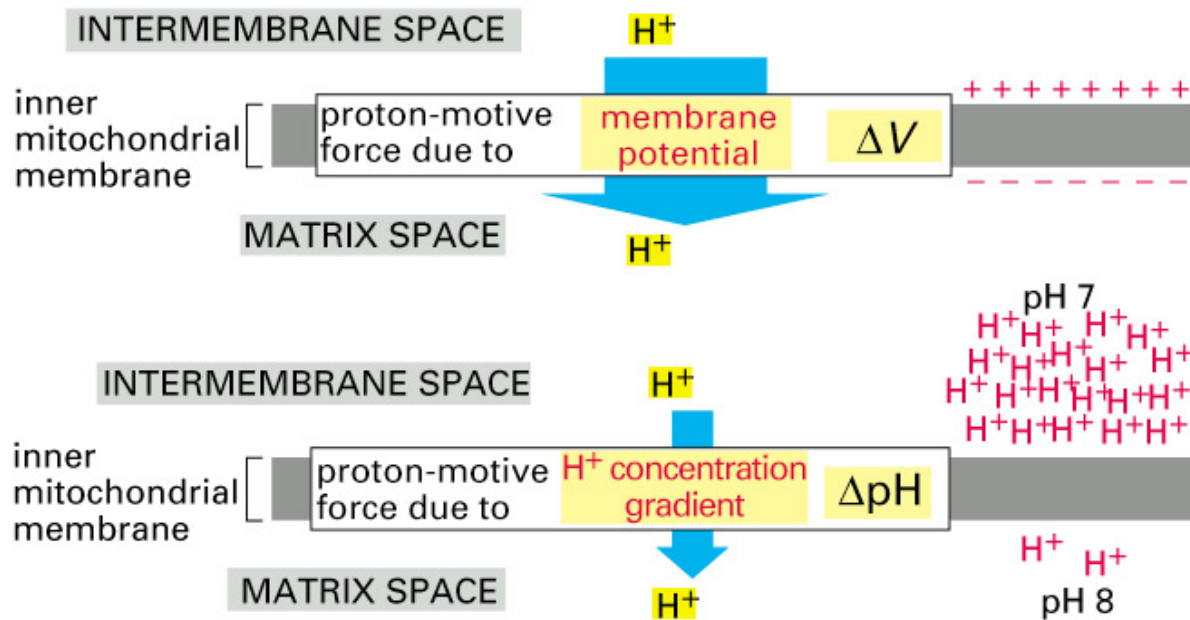


Figure 14–13. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

Mitochondrial membrane potential ($\Delta\Psi$)

Commonly considered as a semi-quantitative read-out of the full proton-motive force ($\Delta\Psi$ and ΔpH)

$\Delta\Psi$ is not necessarily a good indicator of mitochondrial health

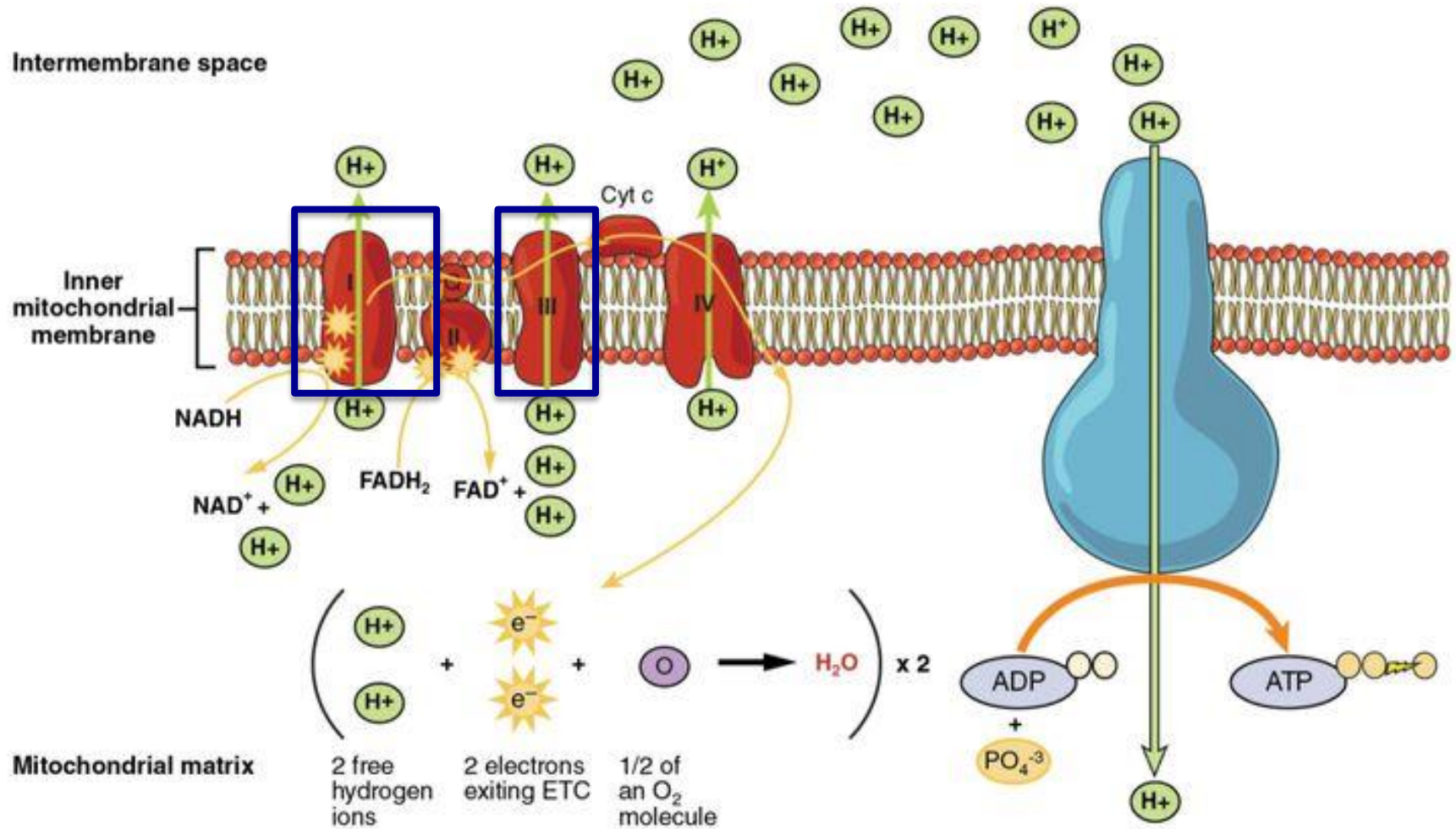
Marked $\Delta\Psi$ depolarization is generally correlated with severe mitochondrial dysfunction and eventually cell death

Cellular life

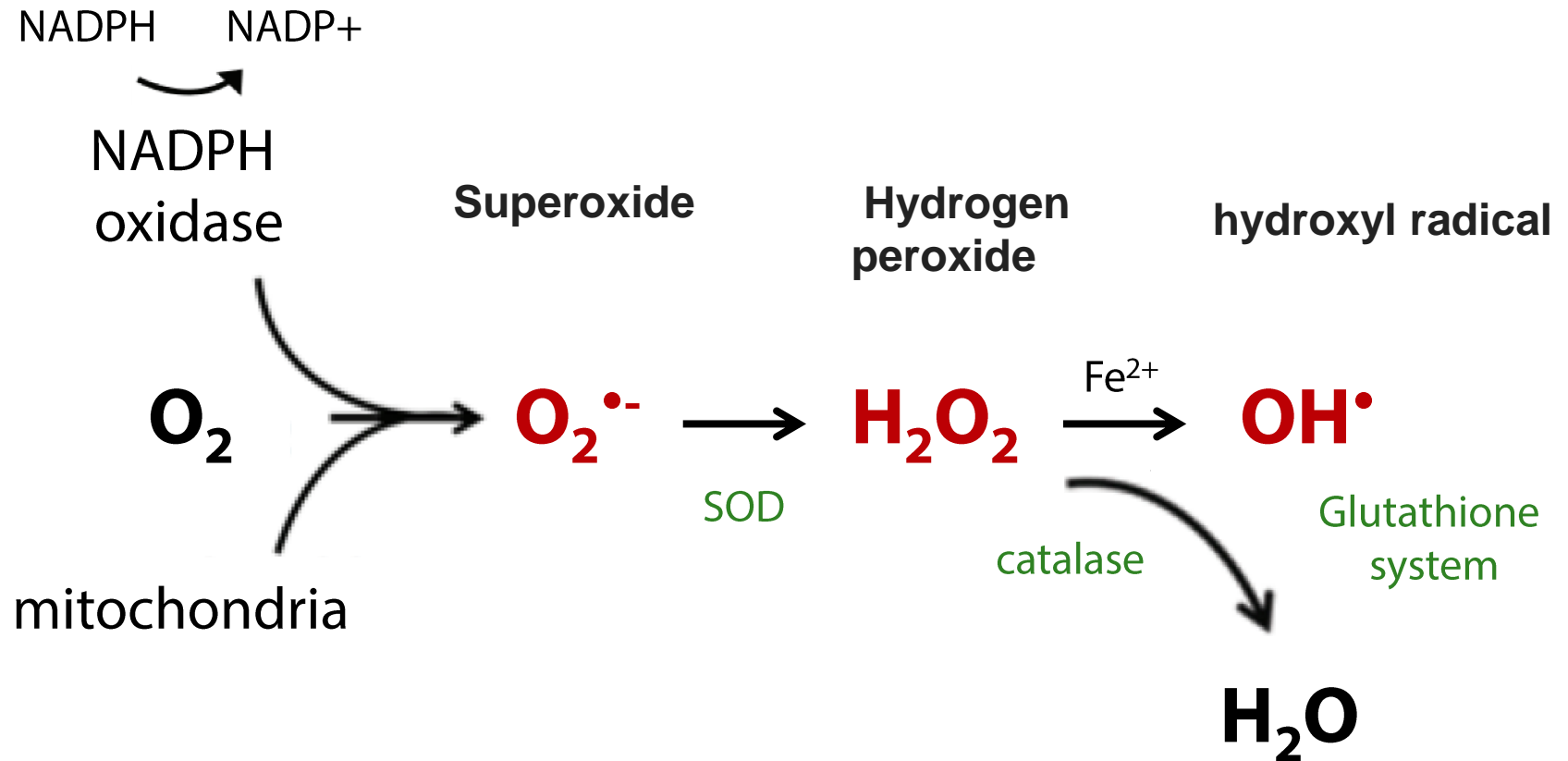
Stress

Cell death

Production of ROS



Production of ROS



Oxidative stress

Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS)

Most common form, present in physiological condition in cells
Effectively eliminated by scavenging mechanisms



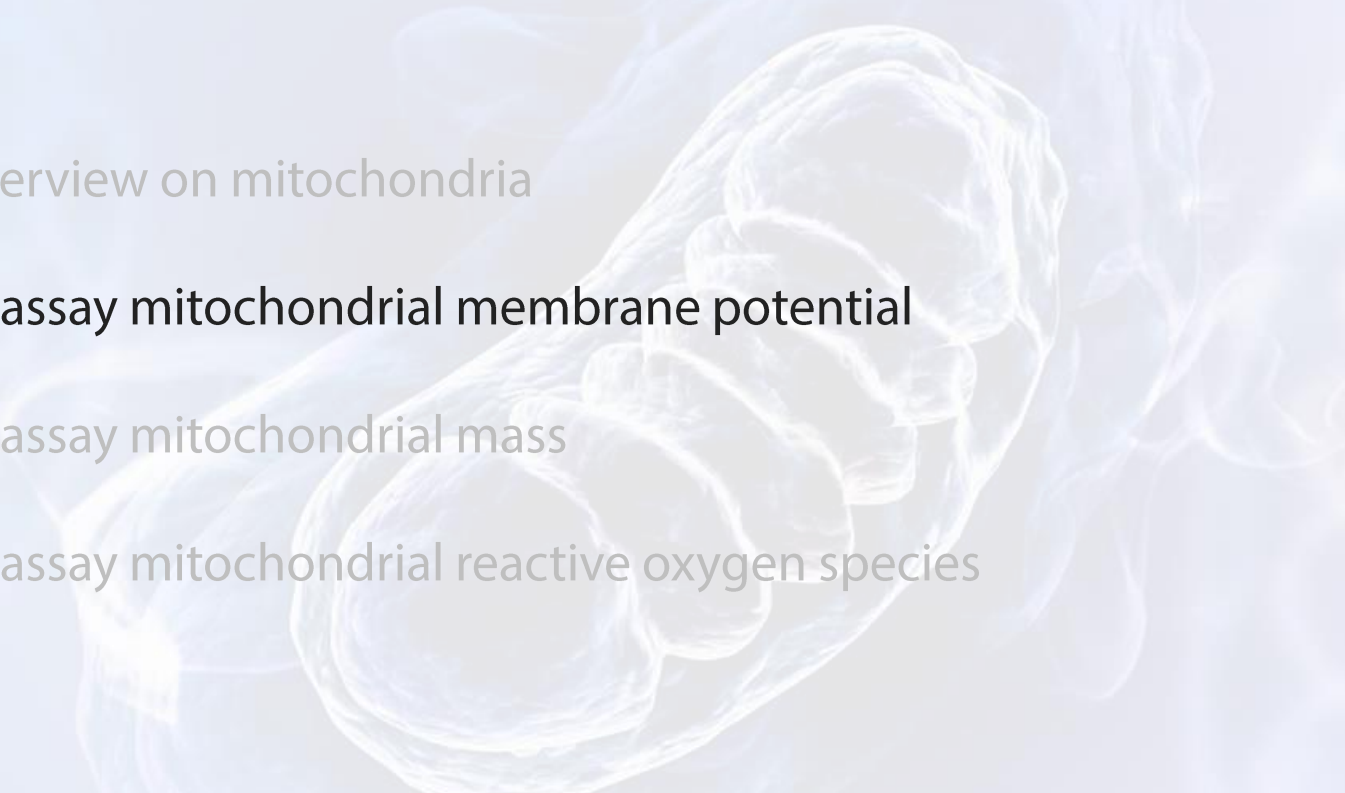
Excess of ROS: **oxidative stress**

Increased production of ROS

Scavenging mechanism Ineffectiveness

**Lipid peroxidation, protein oxidation and misfolding,
mtDNA mutations**

Outline

- Overview on mitochondria
 - To assay mitochondrial membrane potential
 - To assay mitochondrial mass
 - To assay mitochondrial reactive oxygen species
- 

Probes to analyse MMP

- # Membrane permeant, lipophylic, cationic fluorescent probes
- # Accumulation described by Nernst Equation
- # Flow cytometry for fixed end-point analyses

Full name	Short name	Abs (nm)	Em (nm)	Fixable
Mitochondrial membrane potential				
3,3'-dihexyloxacarbocyanine iodide	DiOC ₆	484	501	No
Rhodamine 123	Rh123	507	529	No
Tetramethylrhodamine ethyl ester	TMRE	549	574	No
Tetramethylrhodamine methyl ester	TMRM	548	573	No
Mitotracker Red CMXRos		578	599	Yes
5,5',6,6'-tetrachloro-1,1',3,3'-tetraethyl-benzimidazolcarbocyanine	JC-1	514	529/590	No
3,3'-dimethyl- α -naphthox-acarbocyanine iodide	JC-9	522	535/635	No

Single color-emitting dyes

Toxicity: TMRM < TMRE < Rh123 < DiOC₆

Inhibition of ETC

Binding of mt

Quenching vs non-quenching mode

Easily multiplexable with other probes

Single color-emitting dyes

QUENCHING MODE

- High dye concentrations (100-200 nM to several μ M, to be determined)
- The dye accumulates in mt in sufficient concentration to form aggregates, thus quenching some of the fluorescent signal of the aggregated dye
- Once dye has been loaded into mt, depolarization will result in release of the dye, thus unquenching the probe and transiently increasing the fluorescent signal
- Once all probe in mt is unquenched, fluorescent signal will decline as dyes continues to leave the mt under depolarization

MONITORING OF DYNAMIC EFFECTS OF EXP TREATMENTS ON MMP AFTER DYE
HAS BEEN LOADED

Single color-emitting dyes

NON-QUENCHING MODE (Flow cytometry)

- Low dye concentrations (0.5-30 nM, to be determined)
- Depolarized mt will have lower dye concentration and lower fluorescence
- Hyperpolarized mt will have higher dye concentration and fluorescence

ACUTE EXPERIMENTAL MANIPULATIONS CAN BE PERFORMED AFTER PROBE
LOADING

CHRONIC TREATMENTS BEFORE DYE LOADING

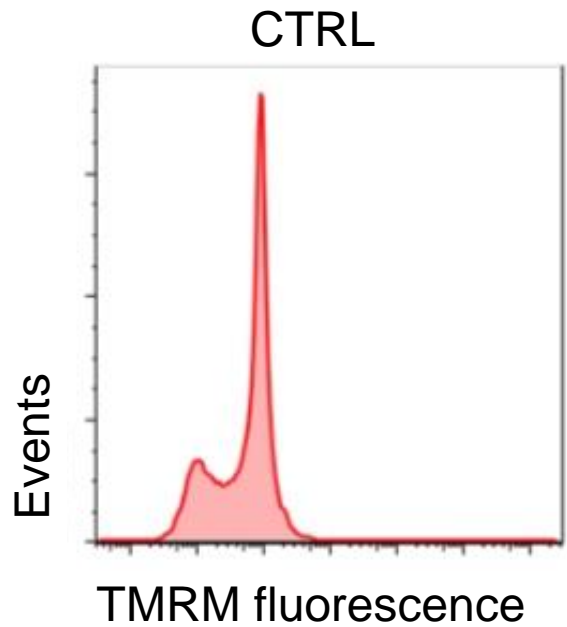
Experimental protocol

Analyse MMP of CD4+ T cells after treatment with valinomycin

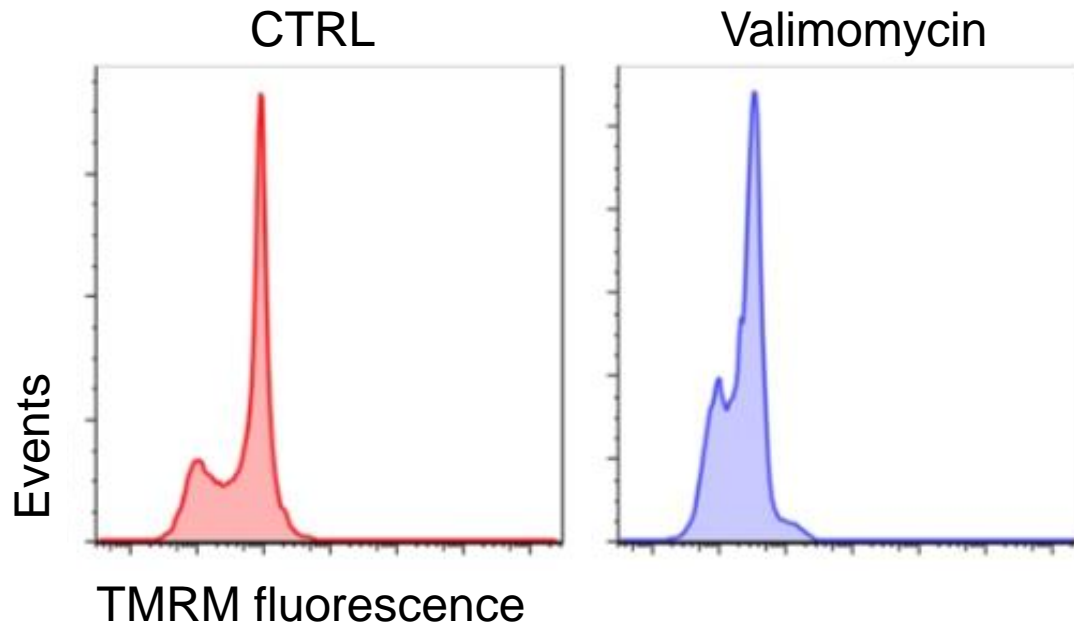
1. Isolate peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC) from blood
2. Stain cells with anti-CD4 (or with antibodies to relevant surface markers)
3. Incubate 20-min RT
4. Wash with PBS
5. Treat cells with valinomycin
6. Stain cells with TMRM
7. Incubate 30-min at 37°C
8. Wash with PBS
9. Analyse cells

Unstained tube for every sample

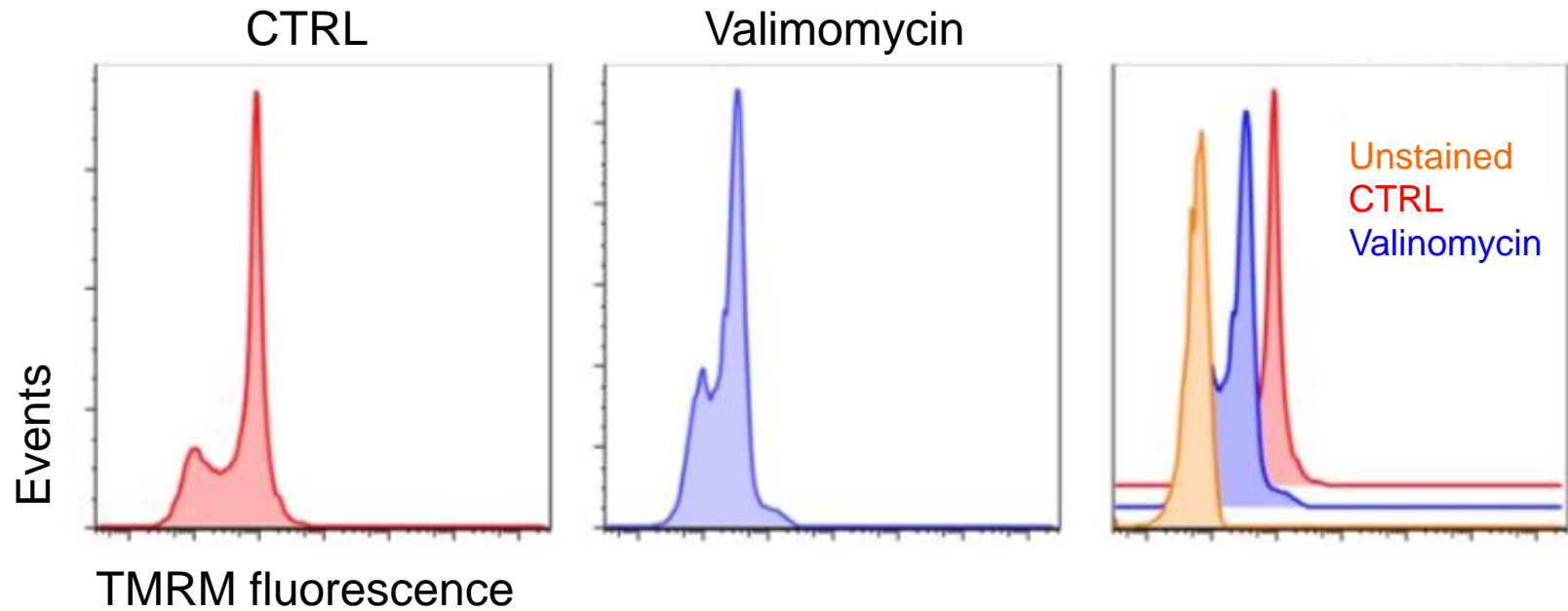
MMP in CD4+ T cells by TMRM



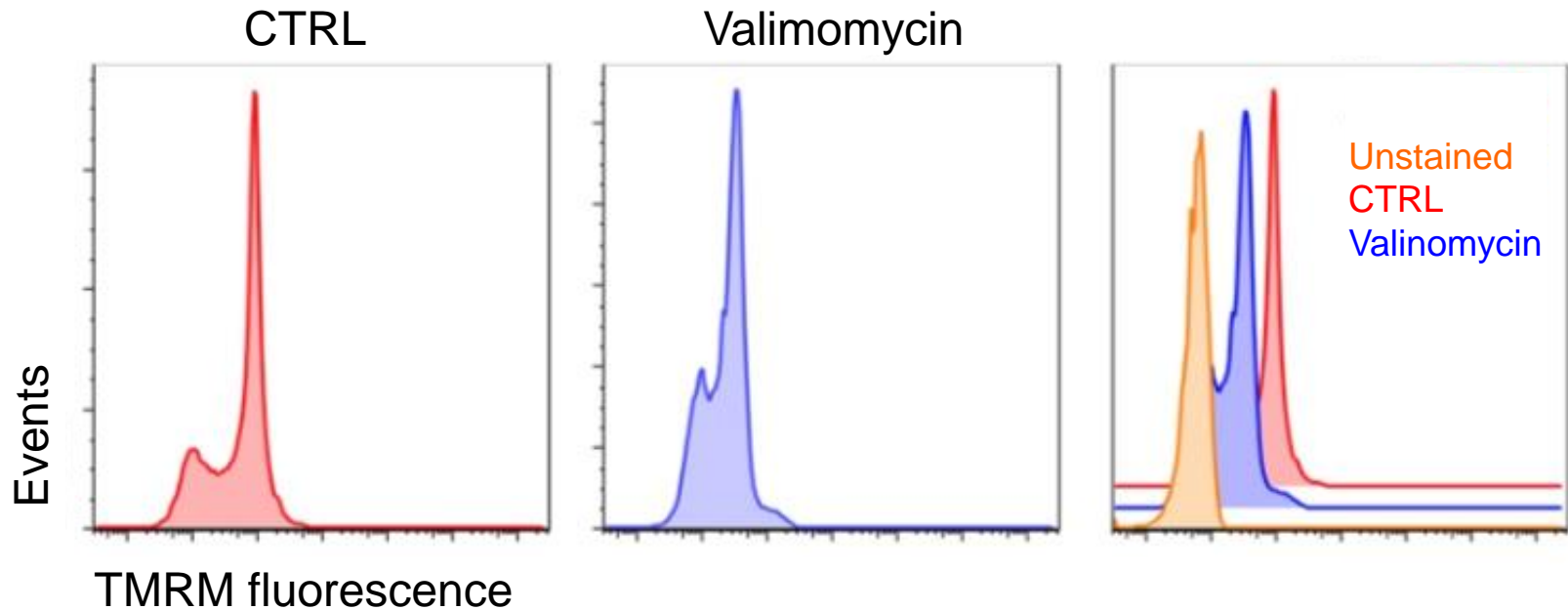
MMP in CD4+ T cells by TMRM



MMP in CD4+ T cells by TMRM



MMP in CD4+ T cells by TMRM

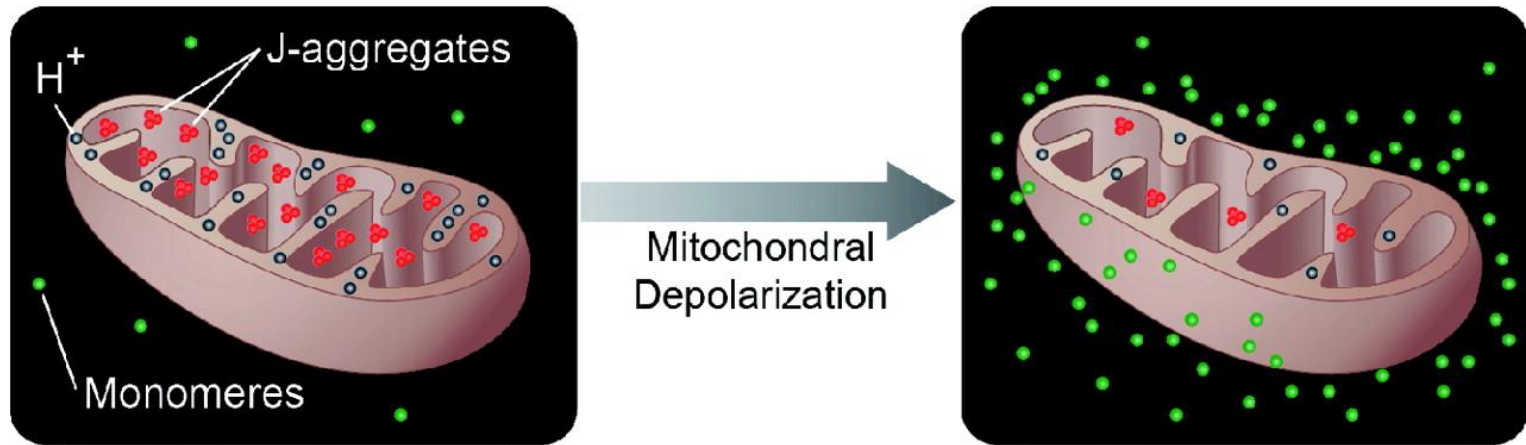


Net Median Fluorescence intensity (MFI) = MFI stained – MFI blank

TMRM/TMRE: technical info

- Concentration: 0.5 nM – several μ M (to be determined empirically)
- Incubation: complete culture medium, at 37°C
- Incubation time: 30 min (after/before exp treatment)
- Excitation: 488 nm laser
- Emission filter: 585/42
- Number of events: at least 30,000 events
- First acquire blank samples and cells without probe to set the level of background fluorescence
- Data analysis: Median Fluorescence Intensity (MFI)
- Data plotting: histogram

Dual color-emitting dyes



Toxicity: JC-1 < JC-9

Dual colour (green/red) assessment of mt polarization states

Dual color-emitting dyes

Vol. 197, No. 1, 1993

BIOCHEMICAL AND BIOPHYSICAL RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS

November 30, 1993

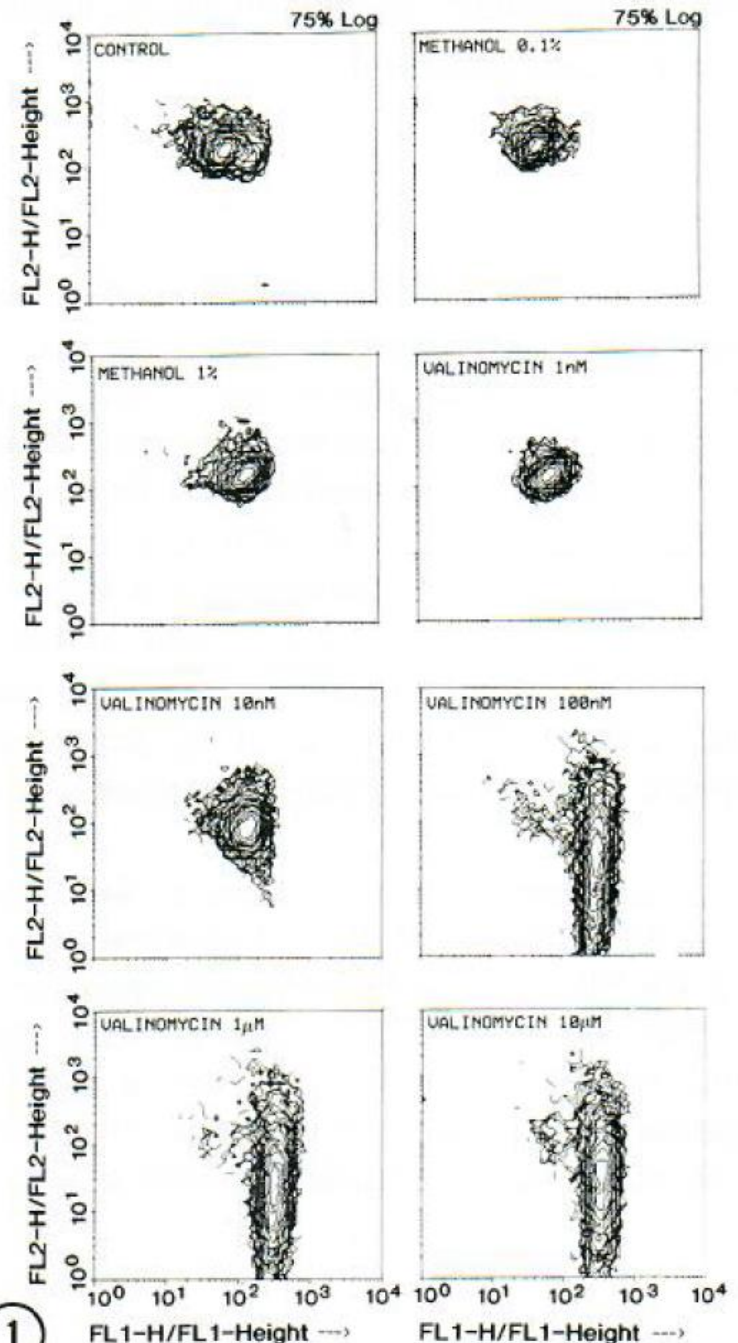
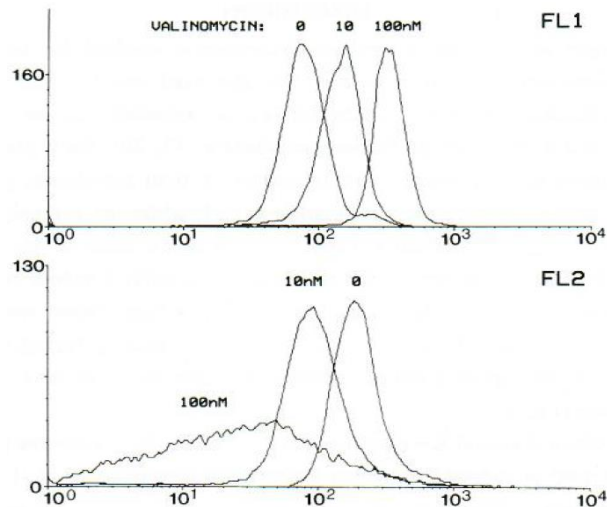
Pages 40-45

A NEW METHOD FOR THE CYTOFLUORIMETRIC ANALYSIS OF MITOCHONDRIAL MEMBRANE POTENTIAL USING THE J-AGGREGATE FORMING LIPOPHILIC CATION 5,5',6,6'-TETRACHLORO-1,1',3,3'-TETRAETHYLBENZIMIDAZOLCARBOCYANINE IODIDE (JC-1)

Andrea Cossarizza, Miranda Baccarani-Contri,
Galina Kalashnikova * and Claudio Franceschi

Institute of General Pathology, Via Campi 287, 41100 Modena - Italy

* Cancer Research Center, Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, Moscow -Russia

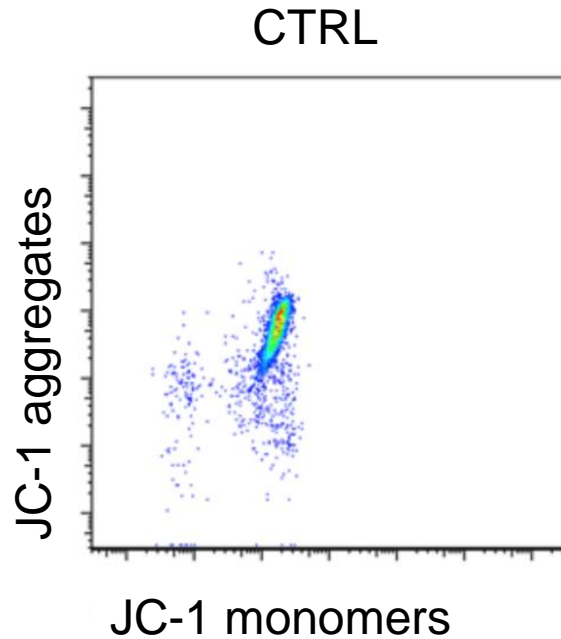


Experimental protocol

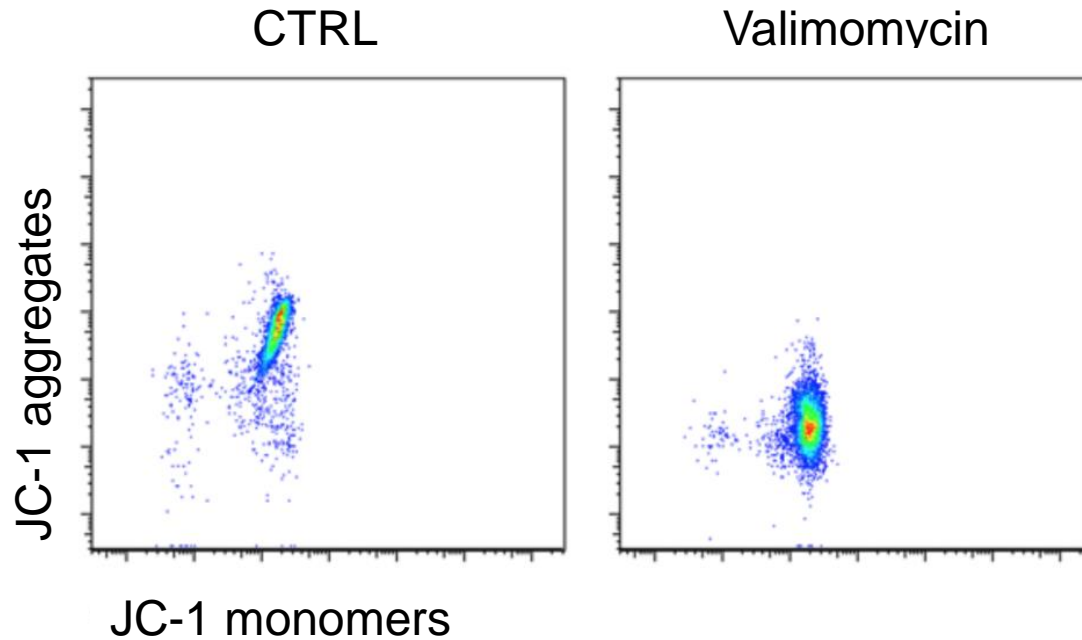
Analyse MMP of CD4+ T cells after treatment with valinomycin

1. Isolate peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC) from blood
2. Stain cells with anti-CD4 (or with antibodies to relevant surface markers)
3. Incubate 20-min RT
4. Wash with PBS
5. Treat cells with valinomycin
6. Wash
7. Stain cells with JC-1
8. Incubate 10-min at 37°C
9. Analyse cells

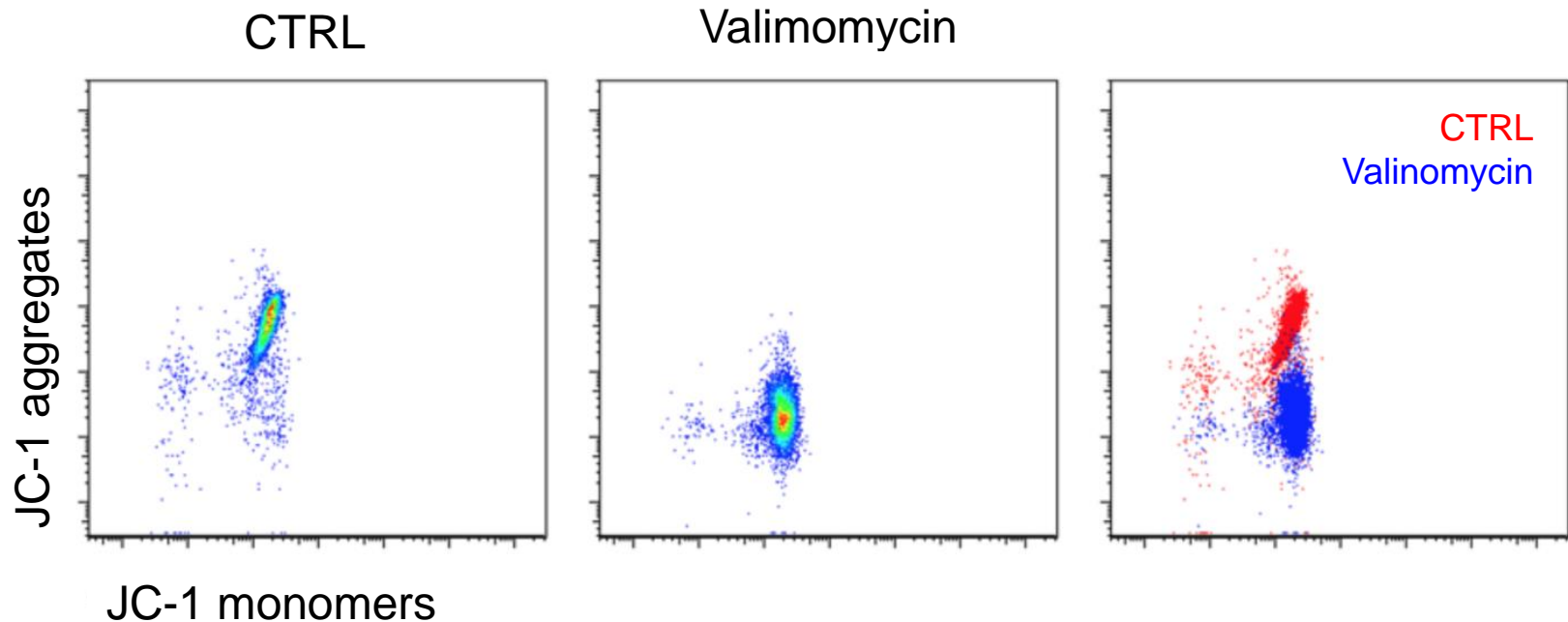
MMP in CD4+ T cells by JC-1



MMP in CD4+ T cells by JC-1

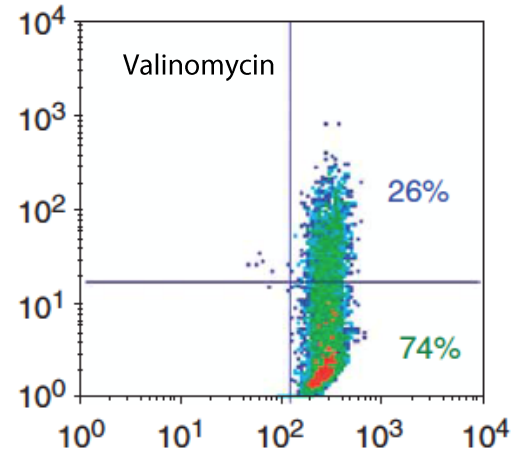
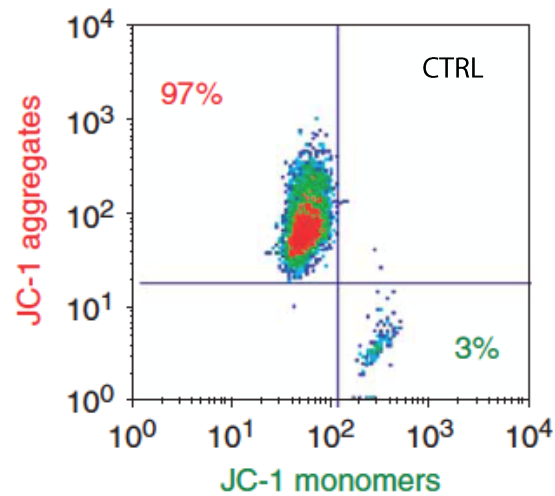


MMP in CD4+ T cells by JC-1



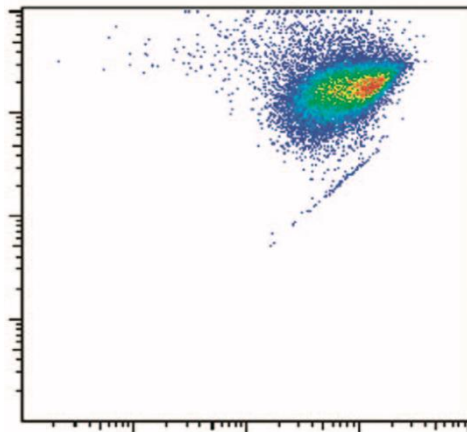
% of cells with depolarized mitochondria

Dual-emitting dyes

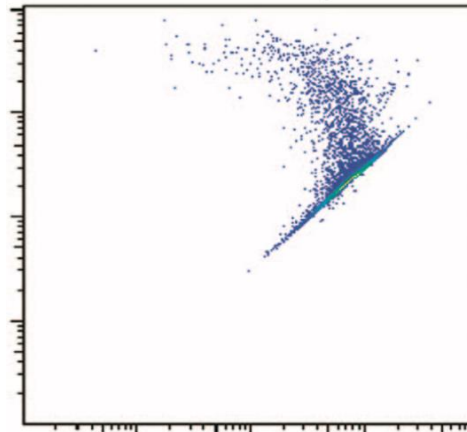


Troiano et al,
Nature Prot., 2007

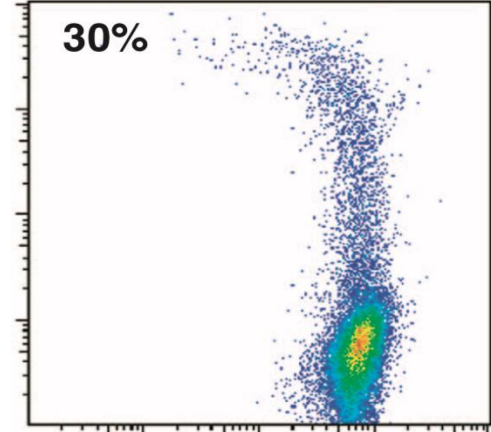
JC-1 aggregates



Valinomycin uncompensated



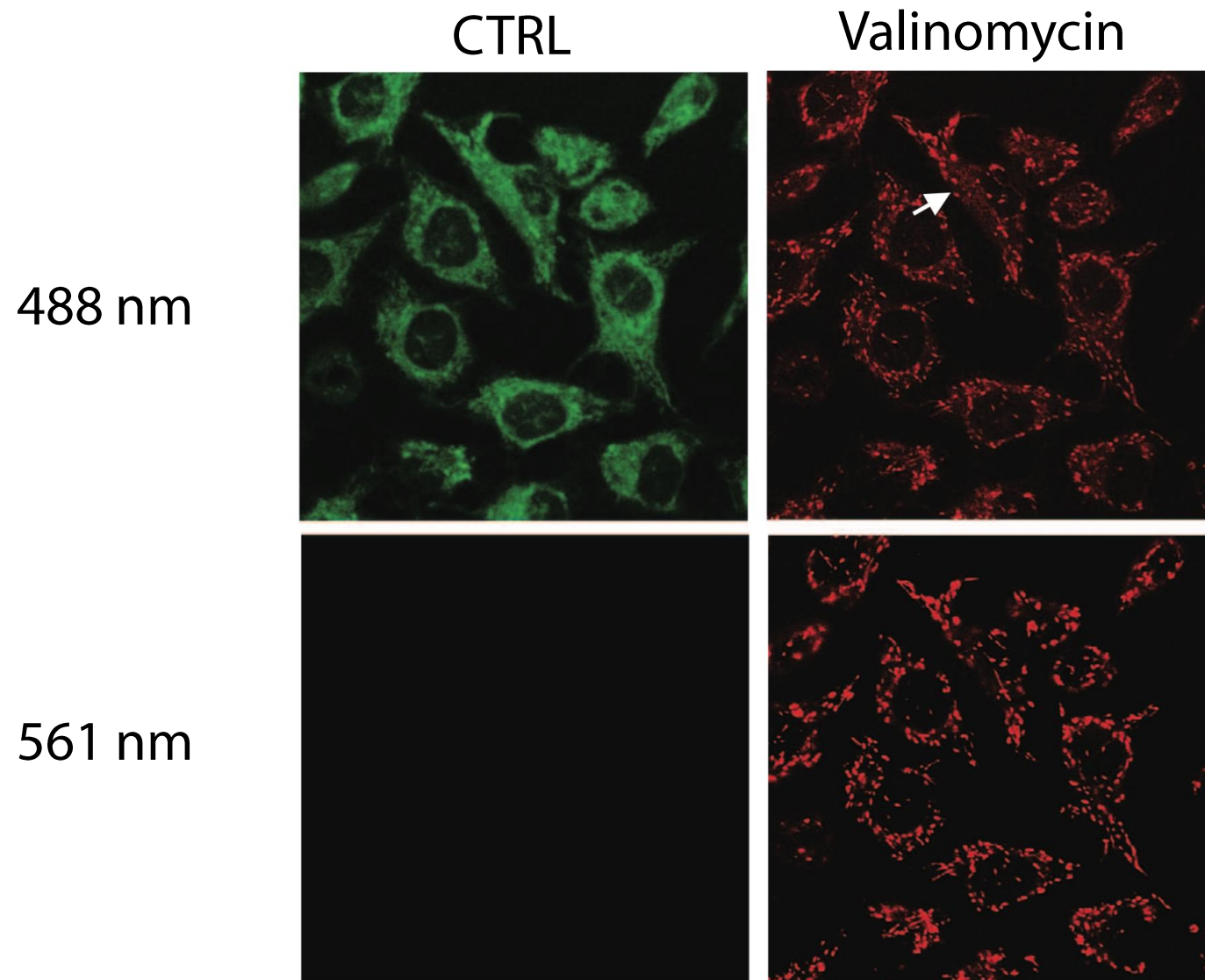
Valinomycin compensated



JC-1 monomers

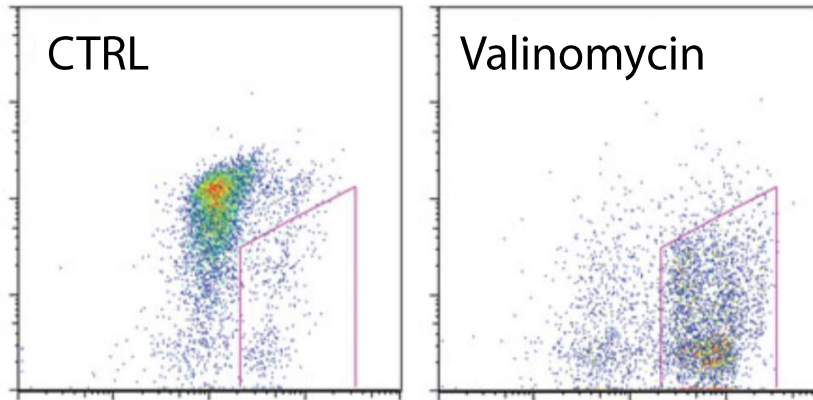
Perelman et al, Cell Death Dis, 2012

488 and 561 nm excitation

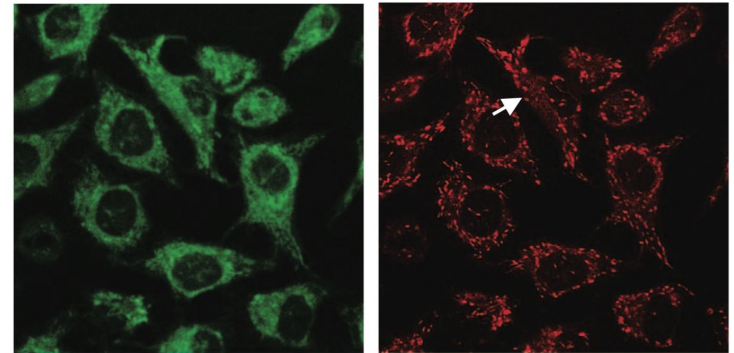


Dual laser excitation

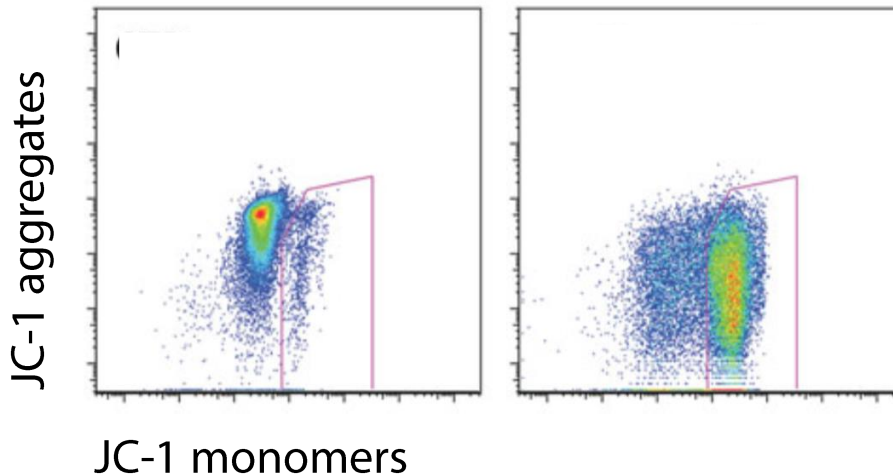
488 nm only



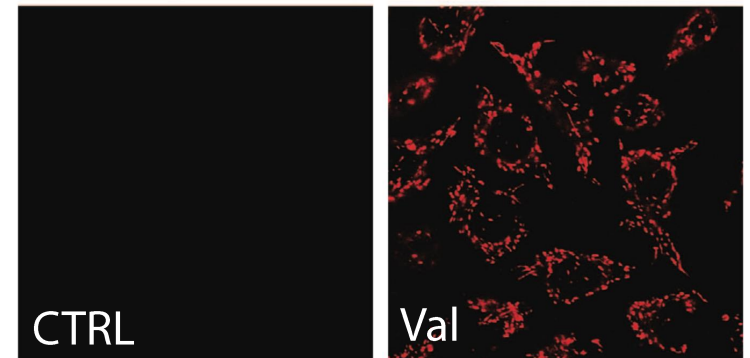
488 nm



488 and 561 nm



561 nm



JC-1: technical info

- Concentration: (to be determined empirically)
- Incubation time: 10 min (after exp manipulations), in complete culture medium, at 37°C – then: VORTEX!
- Excitation: 488 nm laser or 488 and 561 nm lasers
- Emission filter: 585/42 (aggregates) and 520/20 (monomers)
- Number of events: at least 30,000 events
- Data analysis: % of cells with polarized/depolarized mt
- Data plotting: dot plot

Pharmacological controls

1. **Valinomycin** is a natural neutral ionophores. Valinomycin is highly selective for **potassium ions over sodium ions** within the cell membrane. It functions as a potassium-specific transporter and facilitates the movement of potassium ions through lipid membranes "down" the electrochemical potential gradient. **It destroys the electrochemical gradient. Concentration usually 0.25-10 μM .**
2. Carbonyl cyanide m-chlorophenyl hydrazone (**CCCP**) or carbonyl cyanide-4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenylhydrazone (**FCCP**) are protonophores, which depolarize mitochondria by increasing their permeability to PROTONS. **Concentration usually 0.25-5 μM .**

MMP– a practical guide

1. Determine the approach, then the best probe for the methods and experimental questions
2. Find the optimal dye concentration (quenching vs non-quenching; lowest possible dye concentration to avoid toxicity)
3. Use pharmacological controls (positive controls – valinomycin, CCCP, FCCP, or other) to confirm that directional changes in the dye signal are interpreted appropriately
4. Use controls to ensure that changes in plasma membrane potential are not responsible for differences in mitochondrial dye loading in response to your treatments (plasma membrane potential can be monitored with DiBAC₄ or PMPI)

MMP– a practical guide

5. Verify results with a complementary dye and/or approach
6. Validate your findings by using different probes and ensure that your observations are not due to changes in mitochondrial morphology or mitochondrial mass. Mitotracker dyes may be employed for this purpose (with some caveats). Alternatively, use mtGFP, mtDNA/nDNA, protein levels of ETC complexes or citrate synthase assay
7. Measure additional informative parameters related to mitochondrial functions and metabolism (cellular ADP/ATP levels, ETC complex activities, OCR, etc)

Outline

- Overview on mitochondria
 - To assay mitochondrial membrane potential
 - **To assay mitochondrial mass**
 - To assay mitochondrial reactive oxygen species
- 

Probes to analyse mitochondrial mass

Bind mitochondria regardless MMP

Full name	Short name	Abs (nm)	Em (nm)	Fixable
Mitochondrial mass				
Nonyl Acridine Orange	NAO	495	519	No
Mito ID Red		558	690	Yes
Mitotraker Green FM		489	517	No
Mitotraker Deep Red 633		644	665	Yes
Mitotracker Red 580		581	644	No

Probes for mitochondrial mass

MitoTracker Green FM is green-fluorescent mitochondrial stain. The dye will stain live cells but is not well-retained after aldehyde fixation.

MitoTracker Deep Red FM is a far red-fluorescent dye (abs/em ~644/665 nm). The dye is well-retained after aldehyde fixation and even subsequent permeabilization with detergents.

Nonyl acridine orange is well retained in the mitochondria making it a useful probe for following mitochondria during isolation and after cell fusion. **It is toxic at high concentrations and apparently binds to cardiolipin in all mitochondria, regardless of their energetic state.** Contrasting data about dependence on mt potential.

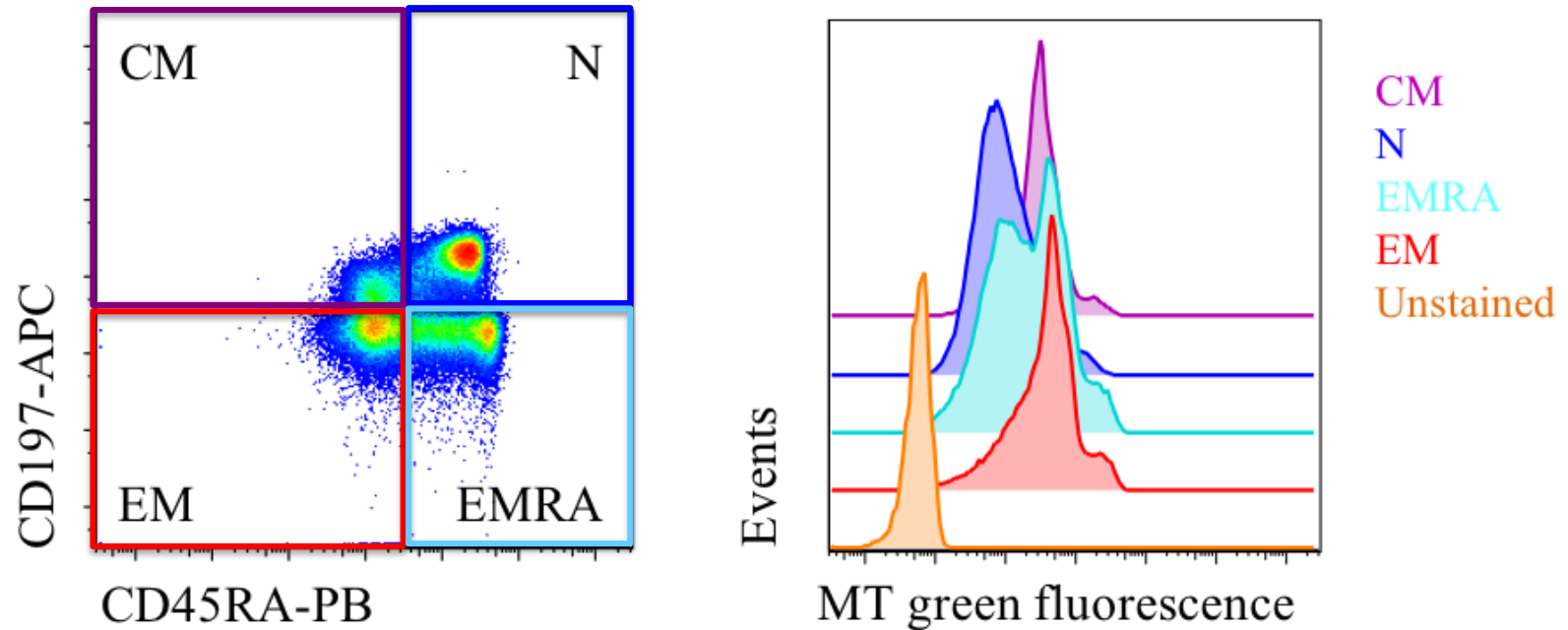
Experimental protocol

Analyse mitochondrial mass
in naïve, CM, EM, EMRA CD4+ T cells

1. Isolate peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMC) from blood
2. Stain cells with anti-CD4, anti-CD45RA, anti-CD197 (or with antibodies to relevant surface markers)
3. Incubate 20-min RT
4. Wash with PBS
5. Stain cells with Mitotracker Green
6. Incubate 30-min at 37°C
7. Wash with PBS
8. Analyse cells

Unstained tube for every sample

Mitochondrial mass in CD4+ T cell subpopulations



Net Median Fluorescence intensity (MFI) = MFI stained – MFI blank

Mitochondrial mass: technical info

- Concentration: (to be determined empirically)
- Incubation time: 30 min (after exp manipulations), in complete culture medium, at 37°C
- Excitation: 488 nm laser (Mitotracker Green or NAO) – 638 nm laser (Mitotracker Deep Red)
- Emission filter: 585/42 (Mitotracker Green or NAO) and 660/40 (Mitotracker Deep Red)
- Number of events: at least 30,000 events
- Data analysis: MFI with blank subtraction
- Data plotting: histogram

Outline

- Overview on mitochondria
- To assay mitochondrial membrane potential
- To assay mitochondrial mass
- To assay mitochondrial reactive oxygen species

Probes to analyse mitochondrial ROS

Full name	Short name	Abs (nm)	Em (nm)	Fixable
-----------	------------	----------	---------	---------

Mitochondrial reactive oxygen species

MitoSOX Red mitochondrial superoxide indicator	MitoSOX	510	580	
Mitochondria Peroxy Yellow-1	MitoPY-1	510	528/540	

Mitochondrial antioxidants

Monobromobimane	MBB			
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Probes to analyse mitochondrial ROS

MitoSOX™ Red reagent is a novel fluorogenic dye specifically targeted to mitochondria in live cells. Oxidation of MitoSOX™ Red reagent by superoxide produces red fluorescence. **Readily oxidized by superoxide but not by other ROS- or RNS-generating systems.** The oxidized product is highly fluorescent upon binding to nucleic acid.

Mitochondria peroxy yellow 1 (MitoPY1) is a small-molecule fluorescent probe that selectively tracks to the mitochondria of live biological specimens and responds to **local fluxes of hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2)** by a turn-on fluorescence enhancement. This bifunctional dye uses a triphenylphosphonium targeting group and a boronate-based molecular switch to selectively respond to H_2O_2 over competing reactive oxygen species (ROS) **within the mitochondria.**

Positive controls

H₂O₂ It is well known that addition of H₂O₂ can cause oxidative stress and cell death since it easily permeates through the membranes.

Low concentration and time of H₂O₂ added to a cell culture is quickly decomposed due to activity of catalase and other cellular H₂O₂-consuming systems. **High doses and time treatments of H₂O₂ results in accumulation of ROS.**

Antimycin A inhibits complex III. Concentration: 50-200 uM.

Doxorubicin hydrochloride. Concentration: 10-40 uM.

Menadione is an intermediate in the chemical synthesis of vitamin K. Menadione triggers cell death through ROS-dependent mechanisms involving PARP activation without requiring apoptosis. **Warning: It is bright yellow.**

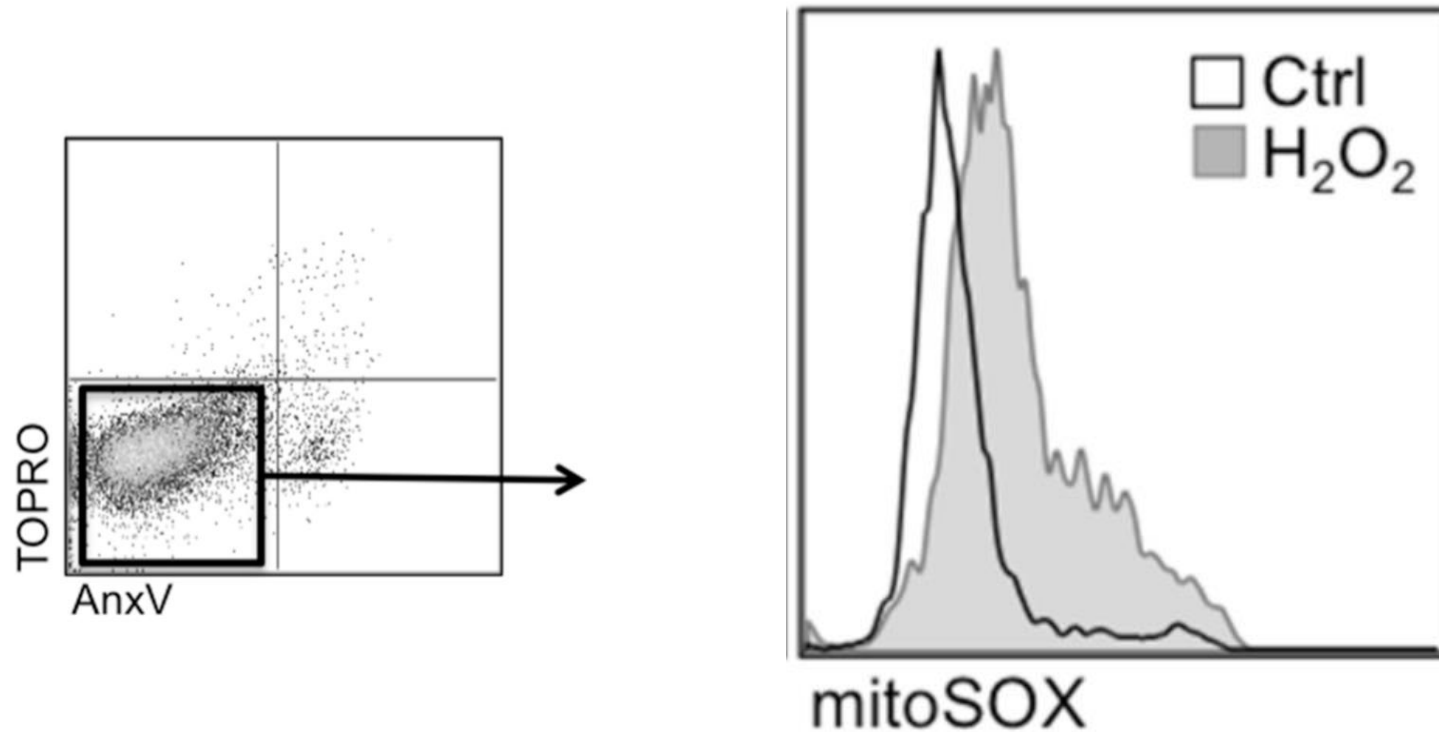
Experimental protocol

Analyse mitochondrial O_2^-
in HepG2 cells treated with H_2O_2

1. Culture cells
2. Treat cells with H_2O_2
3. Incubate
4. Trypsinize cells
5. Stain cells with MitoSOX
6. Incubate 30-min at $37^\circ C$
7. Wash with PBS
8. Stain cells with Annexin-V conjugate and TO-PRO-3 iodide (to exclude apoptotic cells)
9. Analyse cells

Unstained tube for every sample

Experimental protocol



mitoSOX: technical info

- Concentration: 5 μ M (to be determined empirically)
- Incubation time: 30 min (before/after for acute/ chronic treatments), in complete culture medium, at 37°C
- Excitation: 488 nm laser
- Emission filter: 520/20
- Number of events: at least 30,000 events
- Data analysis: MFI with blank subtraction
- Data plotting: histogram

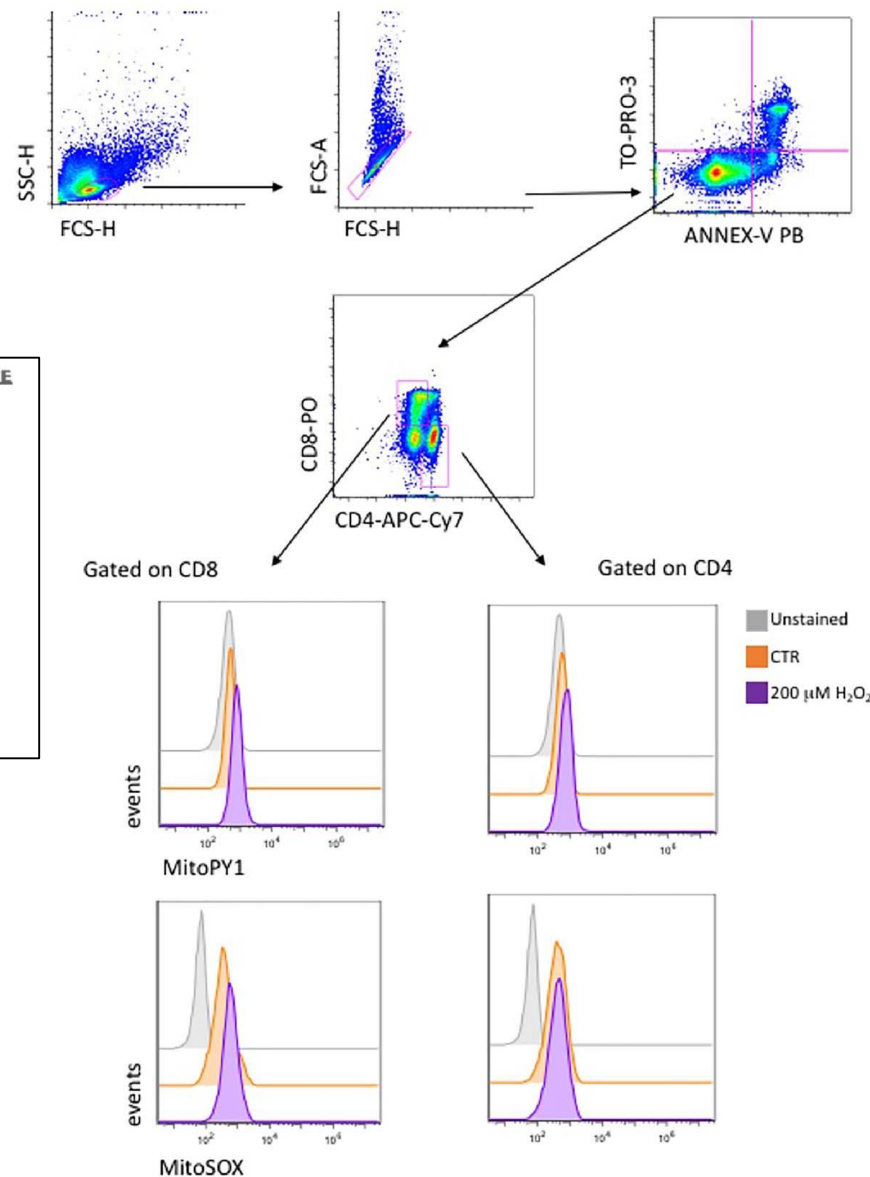
mitoPY1: technical info

- Concentration: 10 μ M (to be determined empirically)
- Incubation time: 15-90 min to be determined empirically (before exp manipulation), in complete culture medium, at 37°C
- Excitation: 488 nm laser
- Emission filter: 520/20
- Number of events: at least 30,000 events
- Data analysis: MFI with blank subtraction
- Data plotting: histogram

Quantification of Mitochondrial Reactive Oxygen Species in Living Cells by Using Multi-Laser Polychromatic Flow Cytometry

Sara De Biasi,^{1†} Lara Gibellini,^{1†} Elena Bianchini,² Milena Nasi,¹ Marcello Pinti,² Stefano Salvioli,³ Andrea Cossarizza^{4*}

TECHNICAL NOTE



Multiparametric analysis of cells with different mitochondrial membrane potential during apoptosis by polychromatic flow cytometry

Leonarda Troiano^{1,2}, Roberta Ferraresi^{1,2}, Enrico Lugli^{1,2}, Elisa Nemes¹, Erika Roat¹, Milena Nasi¹, Marcello Pinti¹ & Andrea Cossarizza¹

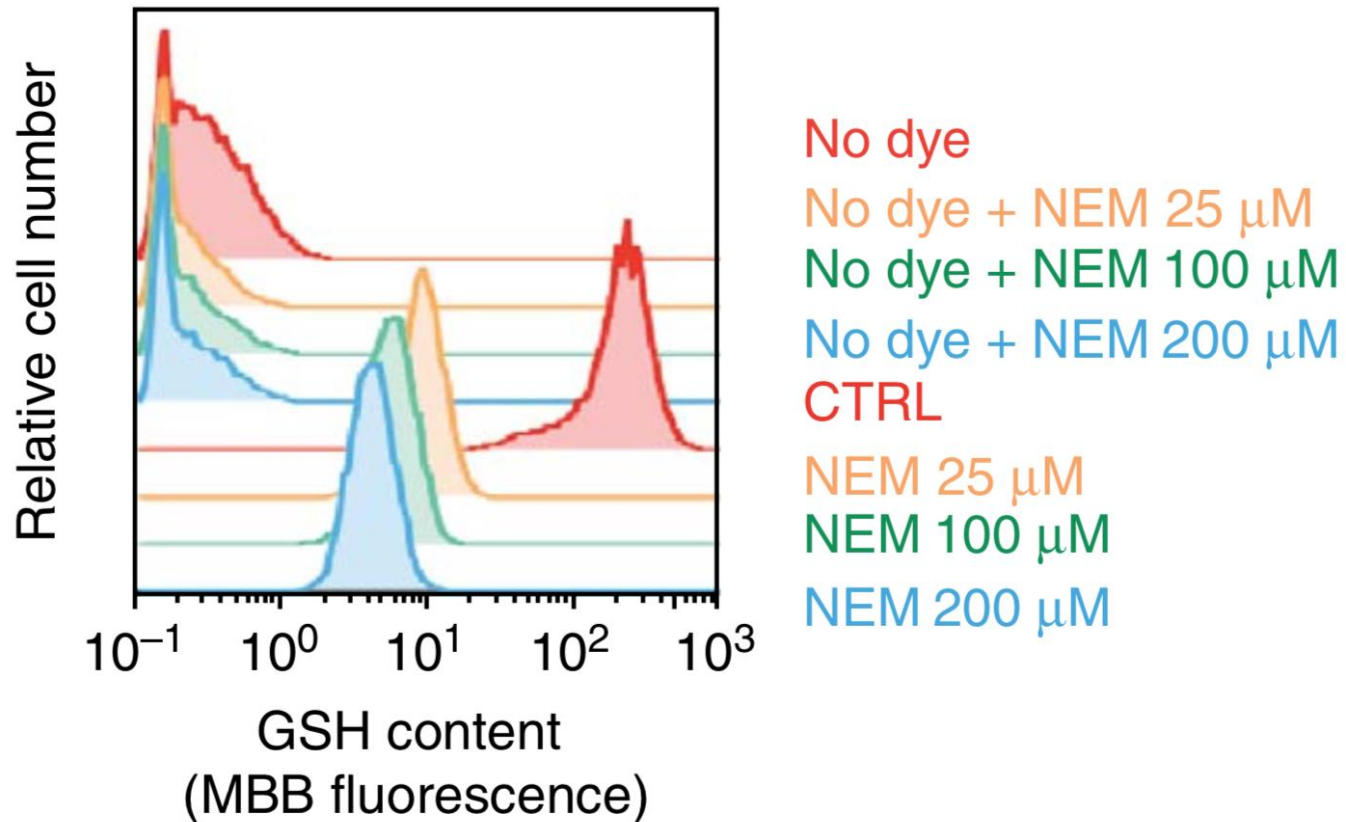
¹Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, via Campi 287, 41100 Modena, Italy. ²These authors have contributed equally to this work. Correspondence should be addressed to A.C. (andrea.cossarizza@unimore.it).

Simultaneous analysis of reactive oxygen species and reduced glutathione content in living cells by polychromatic flow cytometry

Andrea Cossarizza, Roberta Ferraresi, Leonarda Troiano, Erika Roat, Lara Gibellini, Linda Bertoncelli, Milena Nasi & Marcello Pinti

Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Modena, Italy. Correspondence should be addressed to A.C. (andrea.cossarizza@unimore.it).

Monobromobimane



MBB: technical info

- Concentration: 50 μ M (to be determined empirically)
- Incubation time: 10 min at 37°C
- Excitation: 405 nm laser
- Emission filter: 455/40
- Number of events: at least 30,000 events
- Data analysis: MFI with blank subtraction
- Data plotting: histogram

Main references

Cossarizza A et al, Guidelines for the use of flow cytometry and cell sorting in immunological studies, Eur J Immunol, 2017

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Guidelines for the use of flow cytometry and cell sorting in immunological studies

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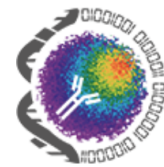
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