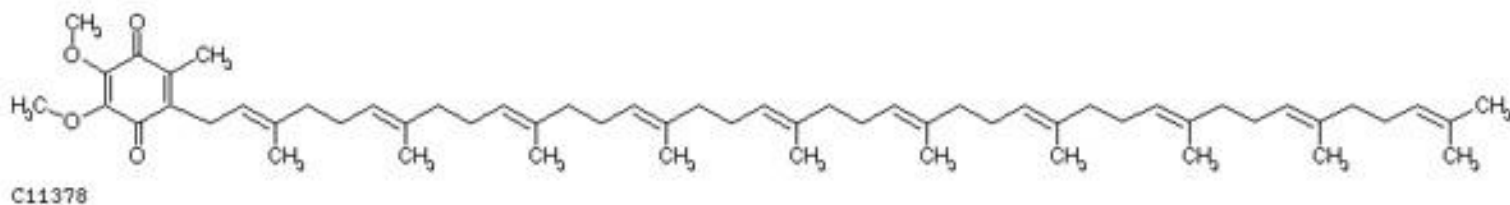
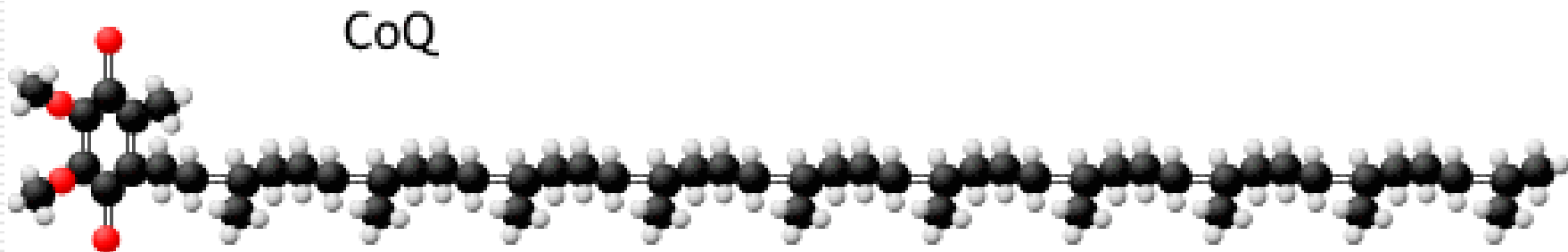


NEW ASPECTS INTO THE CHEMISTRY OF COENZYME Q10 FAMILY MEMBERS (calcium binding and transporting)



Rubin Gulaboski, Ivan Bogeski,
Valentin Mirceski, Reinhard Kappl,
Markus Hoth



Rubin Gulaboski, Ivan Bogeski, Reinhard Kappl, Markus Hoth, „*Benzoquinones based Antioxidants*“, European Patent Office, Munich 2010, **PATENT No. 09178735.8.**

STATE OF THE ART

Most quinones, with coenzyme Q10 as their best known representative, are seen as very efficient radical scavengers and antioxidants, commonly acting in a way to protect the living cells from oxidative damage. Due to their anti-oxidizing activity many quinones are used as therapeutic agents e. g. in oncology.

Coenzyme Q10 is widely used as a dietary supplement and in a number of cosmetics. Although its anti-oxidative effect is undisputable, Q10 has one big disadvantage: due to the long, hydrophobic side-chain it is only slightly water-soluble. The intestinal absorption is assumed to be less than 10%. So improvement of the aqueous solubility is a major concern. Besides the reduction of particle size another way to improve the solubility is the complexation in water with cyclodextrins. But also here the water-solubility is limited.

THE IDEA

The idea was to develop antioxidants based on the commonly known ubiquinones but with an improved water-solubility.

This was achieved by an easy reaction out of the natural substances coenzyme Q0 to Q10. The ubiquinones are transformed in polar molecules. The new substances show high solubility.

The aqueous solutions of the new compounds are also long-time stable, considerably more than less concentrated natural coenzyme Q-solutions.

Initial tests showed the high potential of the new compounds as antioxidants:

- Compared to the natural compounds the new ones show a higher negative redox-potential
- Analyzing of reactions with oxygen showed that the new substances reacted much faster than the natural ones
- The new compounds are way more insensitive to changes in pH. The redox-potential is not influenced in a range from pH 4 to 13.

APPLICATION AND BENEFITS

The use of the new synthesized coenzymes Q0-10 is possible same areas as the natural substances are used:

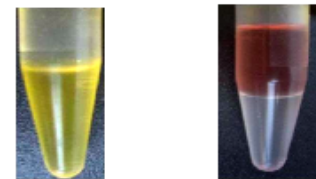
Cosmetics (skin care products, etc.),

dietary supplements (e.g. against hypertension, migraine headaches, etc.), therapeutic agents

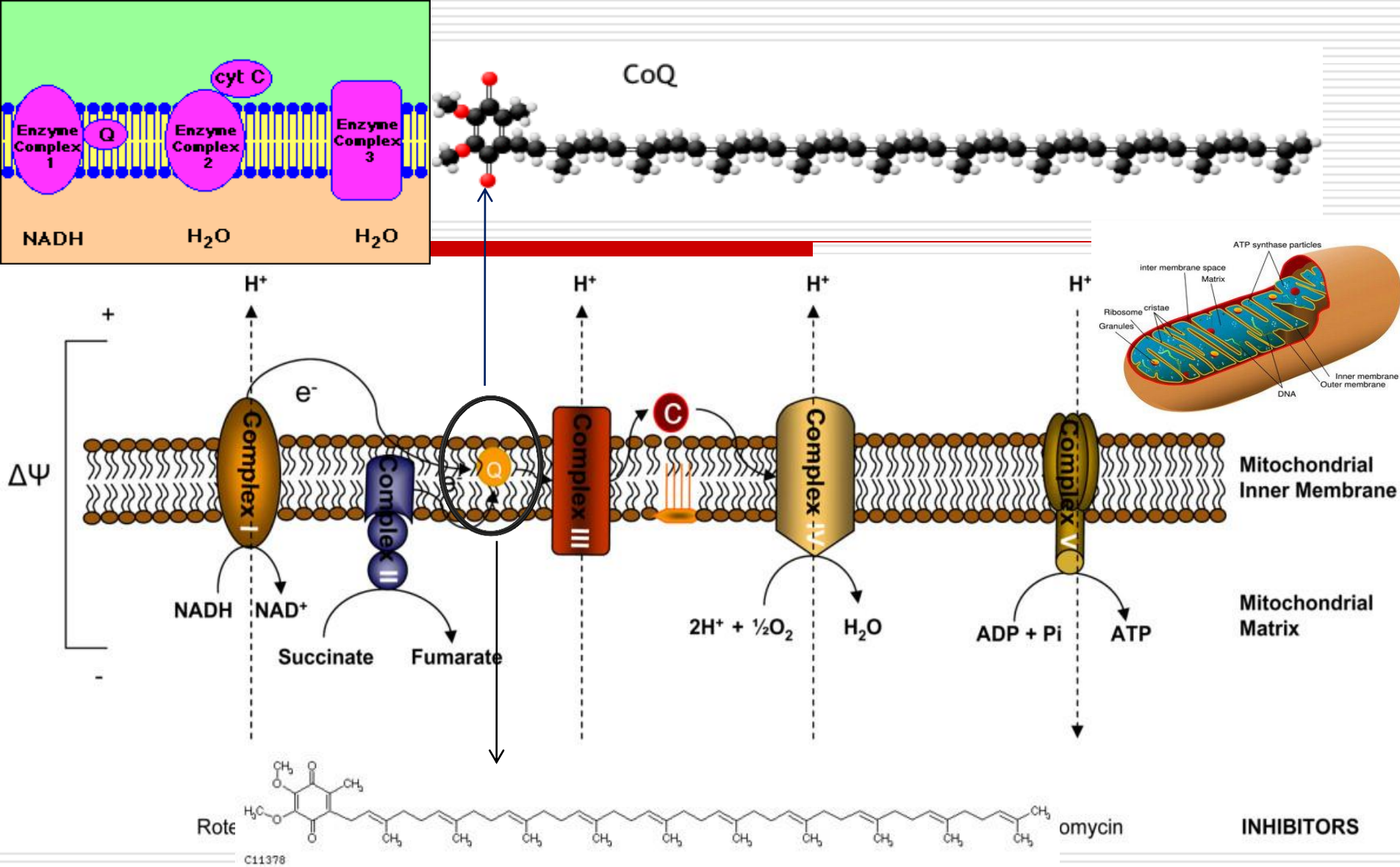
The new advantages of

- better solubility
- higher stability
- stronger redox-potential and
- less sensitive to changes in pH,

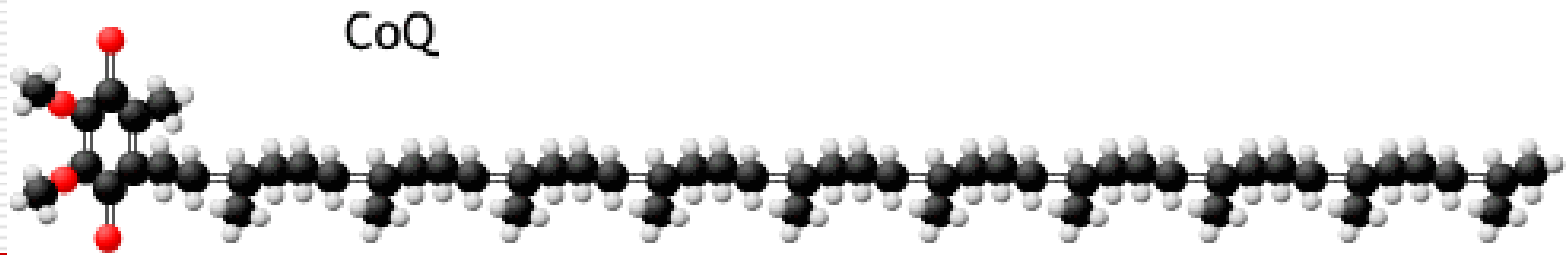
also new application areas which so far were not possible come into reach, since the so far low intestinal absorption of about 10% in humans would no longer be a hindrance. The new substances might even prove to be candidates for so far unknown application areas.



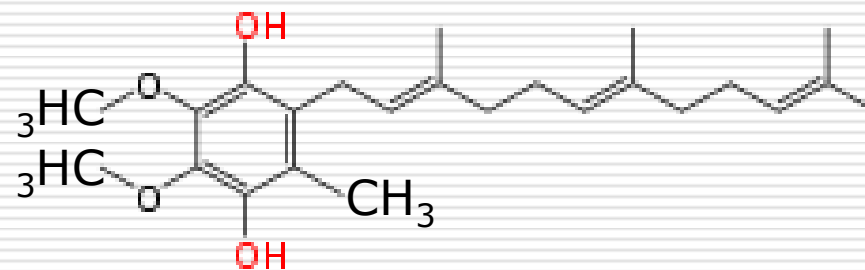
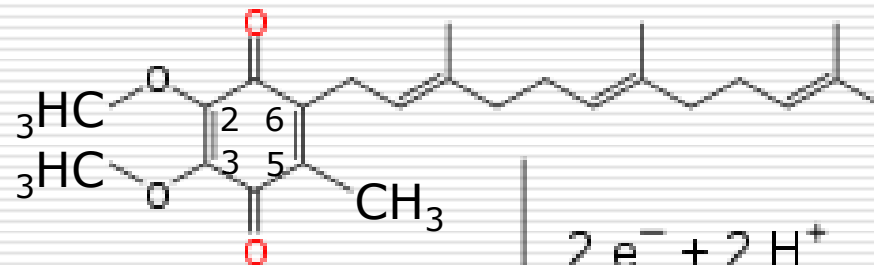
The lipophilic native form of Coenzyme Q0 (left) easily goes to the organic solvent (here dichloroethane DCE, lower phase) when an aqueous solution of Coenzyme Q0 is mixed with DCE, the new synthesized form (right) on the contrary stays in the aqueous phase.



Coenzyme Q10 is a redox mediator in the mitochondrial electron transfer chain (METC) contributing to the mitochondrial ATP production

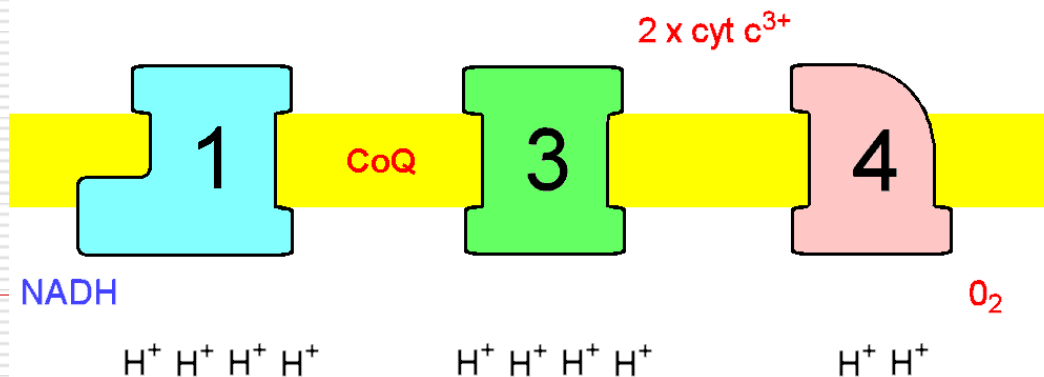
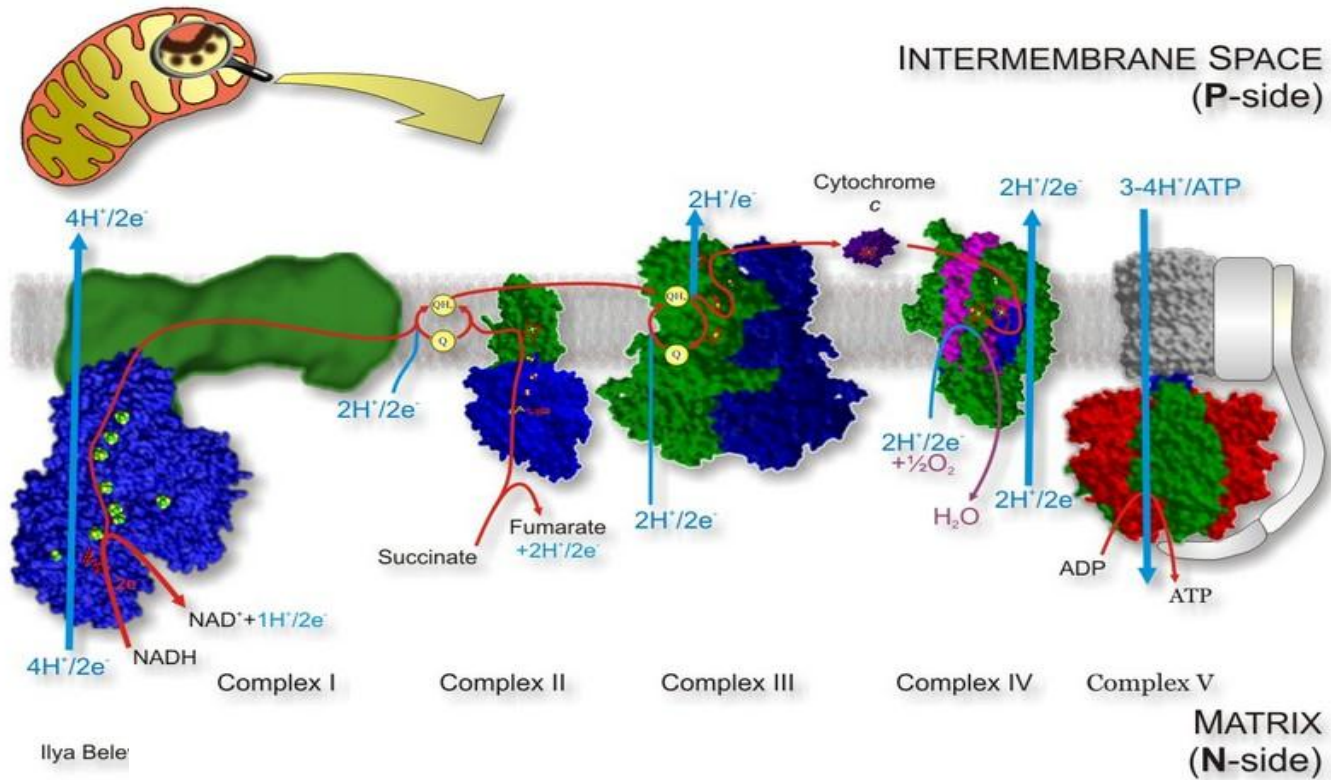


QUINONE (oxidized form)

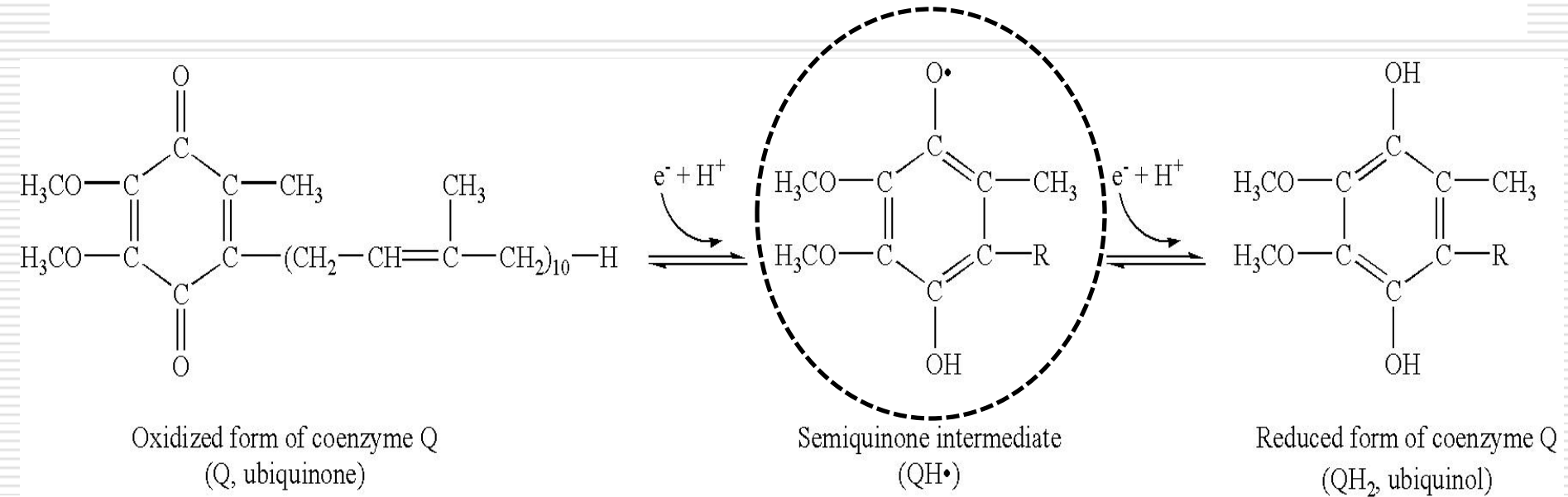
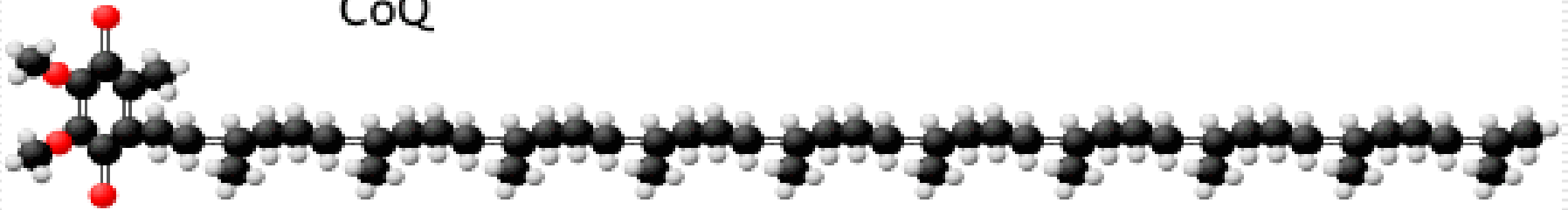


QUINOL (reduced form)

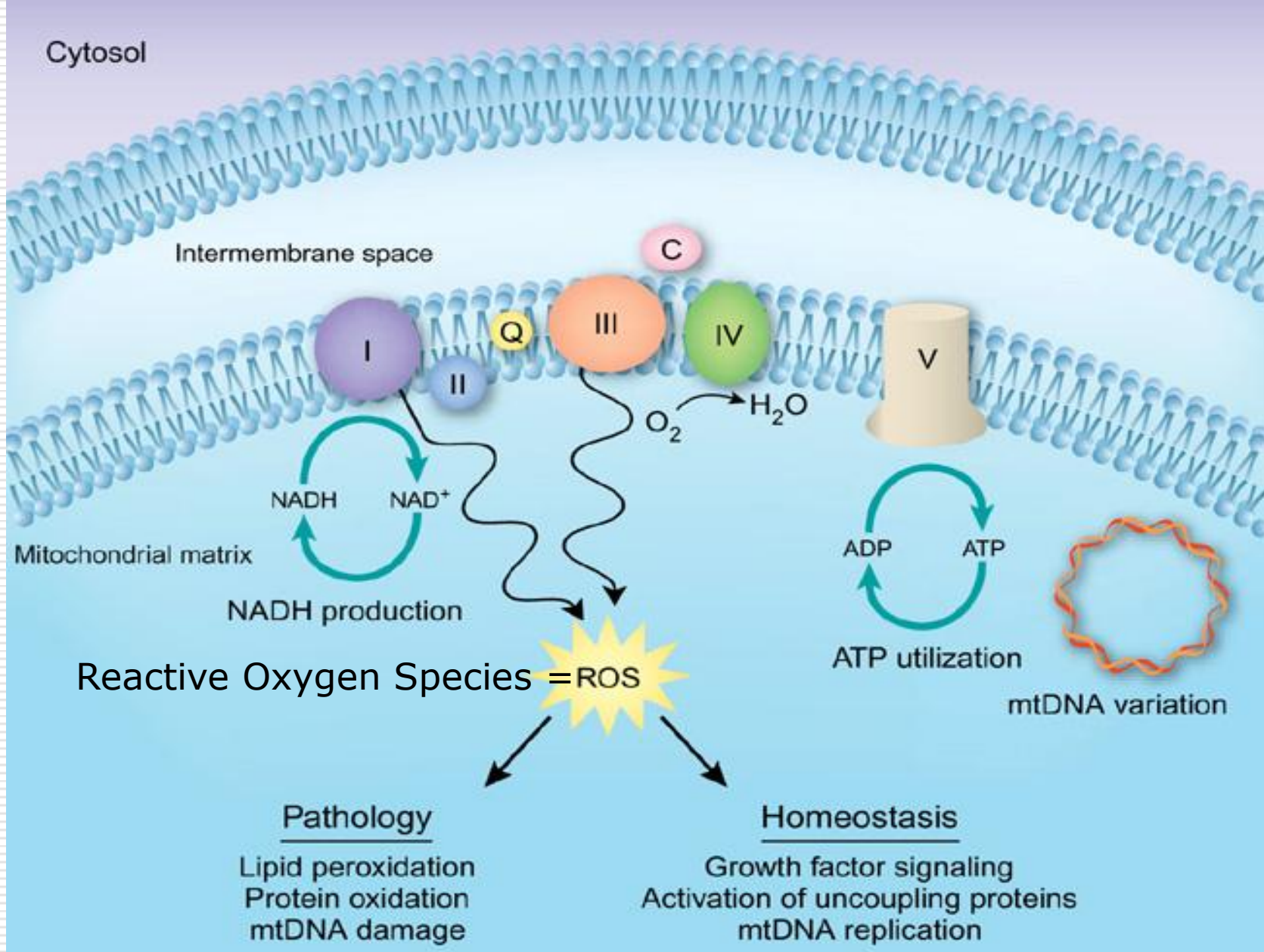
Most of the members of METC are „**one-electron**” mediators



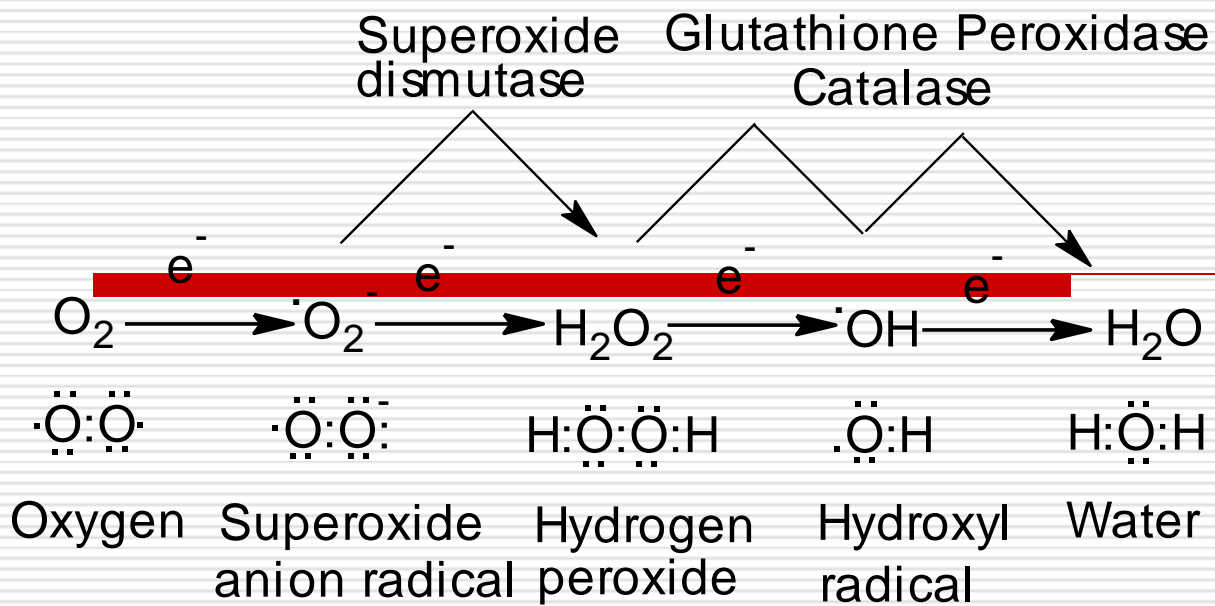
CoQ



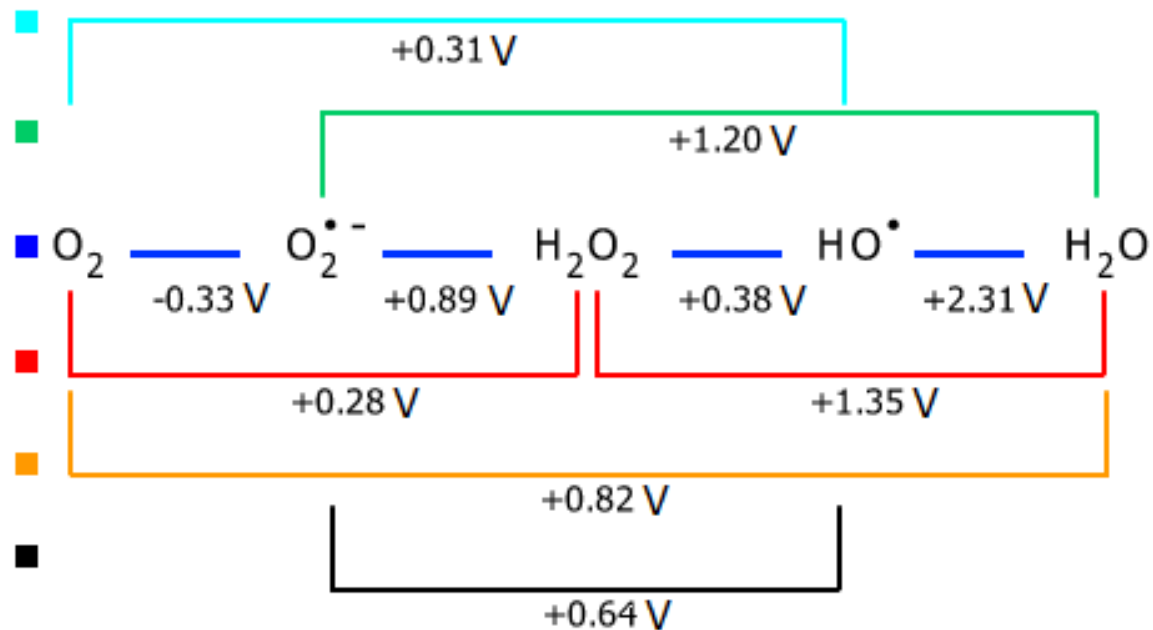
Ubiquinone (Q) is reduced to ubiquinol (QH₂) through a semiquinone intermediate (QH•).



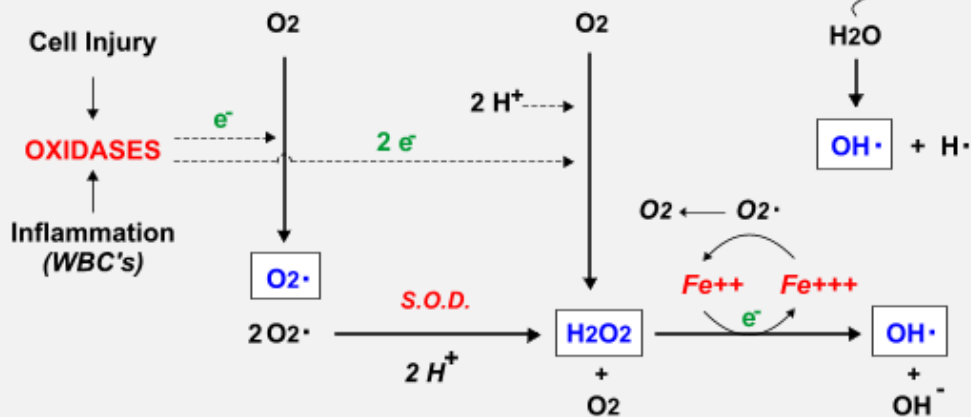
Mitochondrial **electron transport chain** is a major **source** of **highly dangerous ROS!!!**



Structures of the most common Reactive Oxygen Species evaluated from O_2

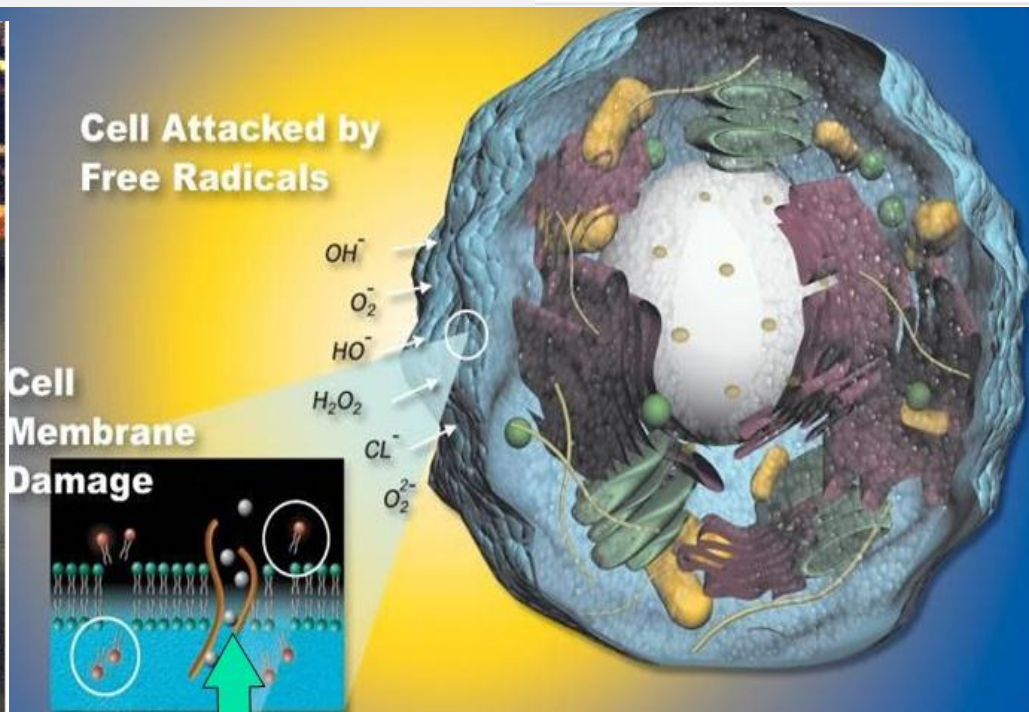
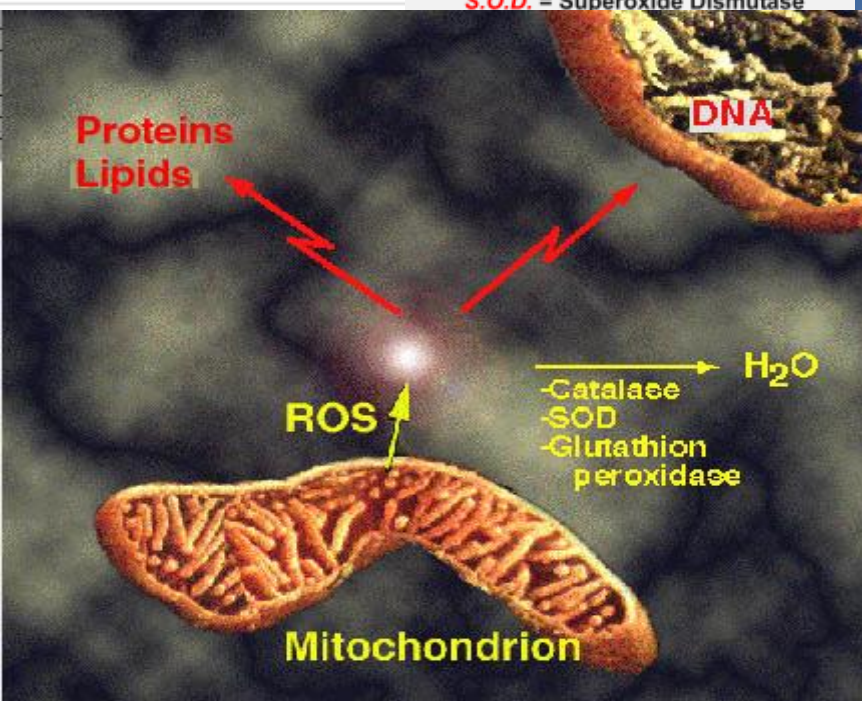


Oxygen-derived Free Radicals

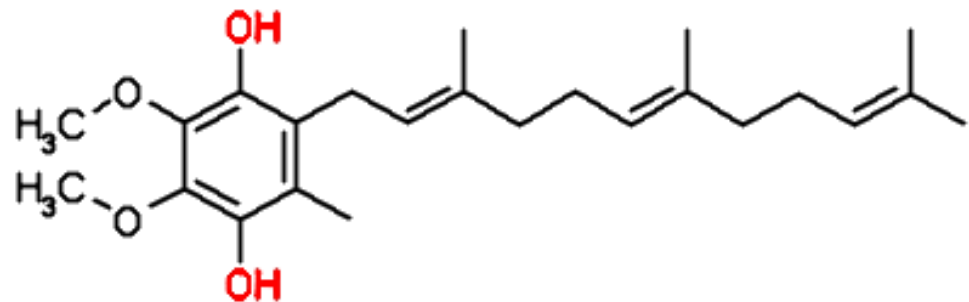
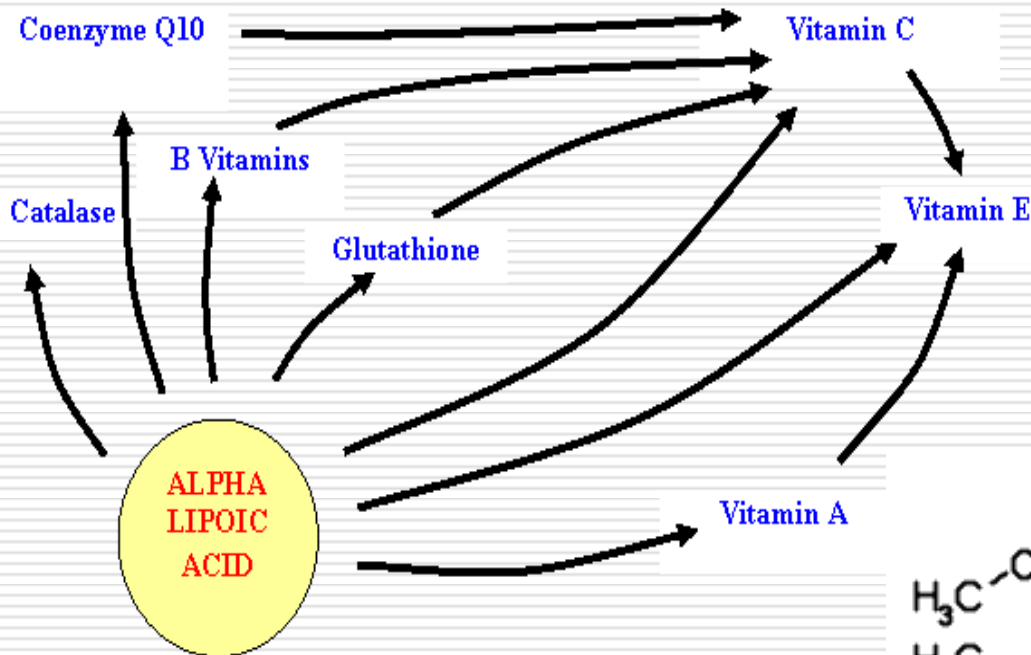


Oxygen-derived Free Radicals	$O_2^{\cdot -}$	Superoxide	Lipid Peroxidation Peptide Fragmentation DNA Strand Breaks
	H_2O_2	Hydrogen Peroxide	
	OH^{\cdot}	Hydroxyl Free Radical	

S.O.D. = Superoxide Dismutase



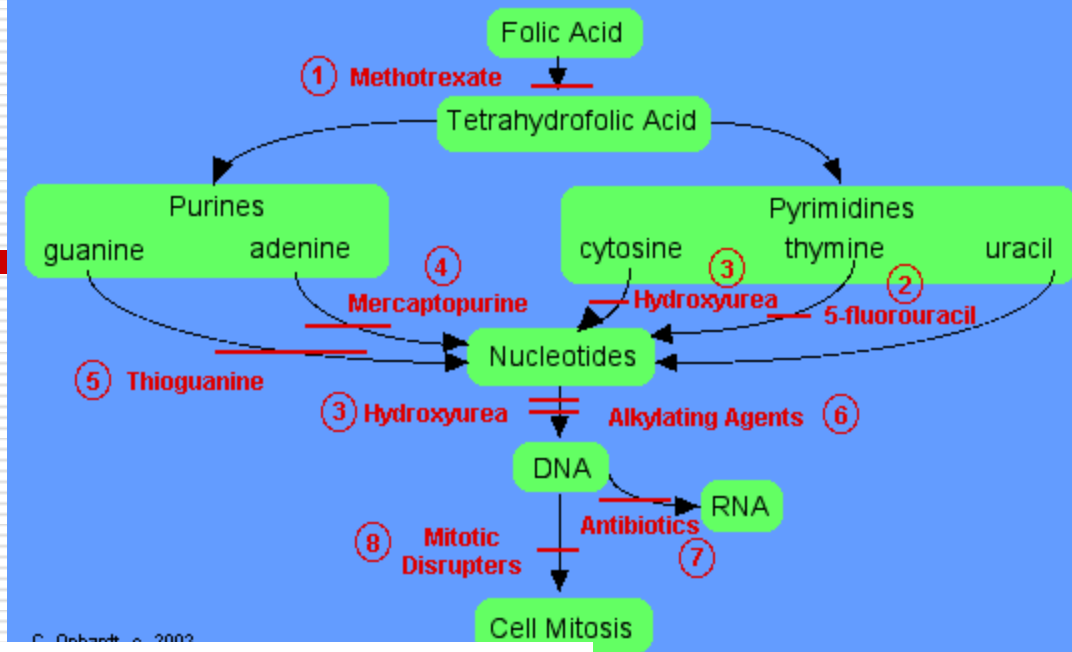
Effective „cure“ against ROS are the **Antioxidants**



Ubiquinol-moderate antioxidant



Mechanisms of Action for Anticancer Drugs



<http://www.tumorx.com/peer-reviewed-Q10-protocol.html>

ANTICANCER RESEARCH 29: 33-40 (2009)

Antioxidant Effects of Quercetin and Coenzyme Q10 in Mini Organ Cultures of Human Nasal Mucosa Cells

MAXIMILIAN REITER, KRISTINA RUPP, PHILIPP BAUMEISTER, SABINA ZIEGER and ULRICH HARRÉUS

Department of Otorhinolaryngology / Head and Neck Surgery, Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich, Germany

Abstract. Background: Oxidative DNA damage is a known risk factor of head and neck cancer. Antioxidants, such as coenzyme Q10 (CoQ₁₀) and quercetin, a member of flavonoids present in red wine and tea, are thought to play a significant role in protecting cells from oxidative stress induced by reactive oxygen species (ROS). The aim of this study was to investigate antioxidant effects of quercetin and CoQ₁₀ on mini organ cultures (MOCs) of human nasal mucosa. Materials

prevention plays an important role in this subject. In this context, antioxidants and may help to prevent DNA damage caused by reactive oxygen species (ROS) (2) and flavonoids represent one of the most important group of substances. These low molecular weight compounds are found in seeds, citrus fruits, olive oil, tea and red wine, and to have possible antioxidant activities *in vivo* (3, 4). Antiproliferative effects on human cancer cell lines have been shown in various

CoQ10 and Cancer

(NCI Report)

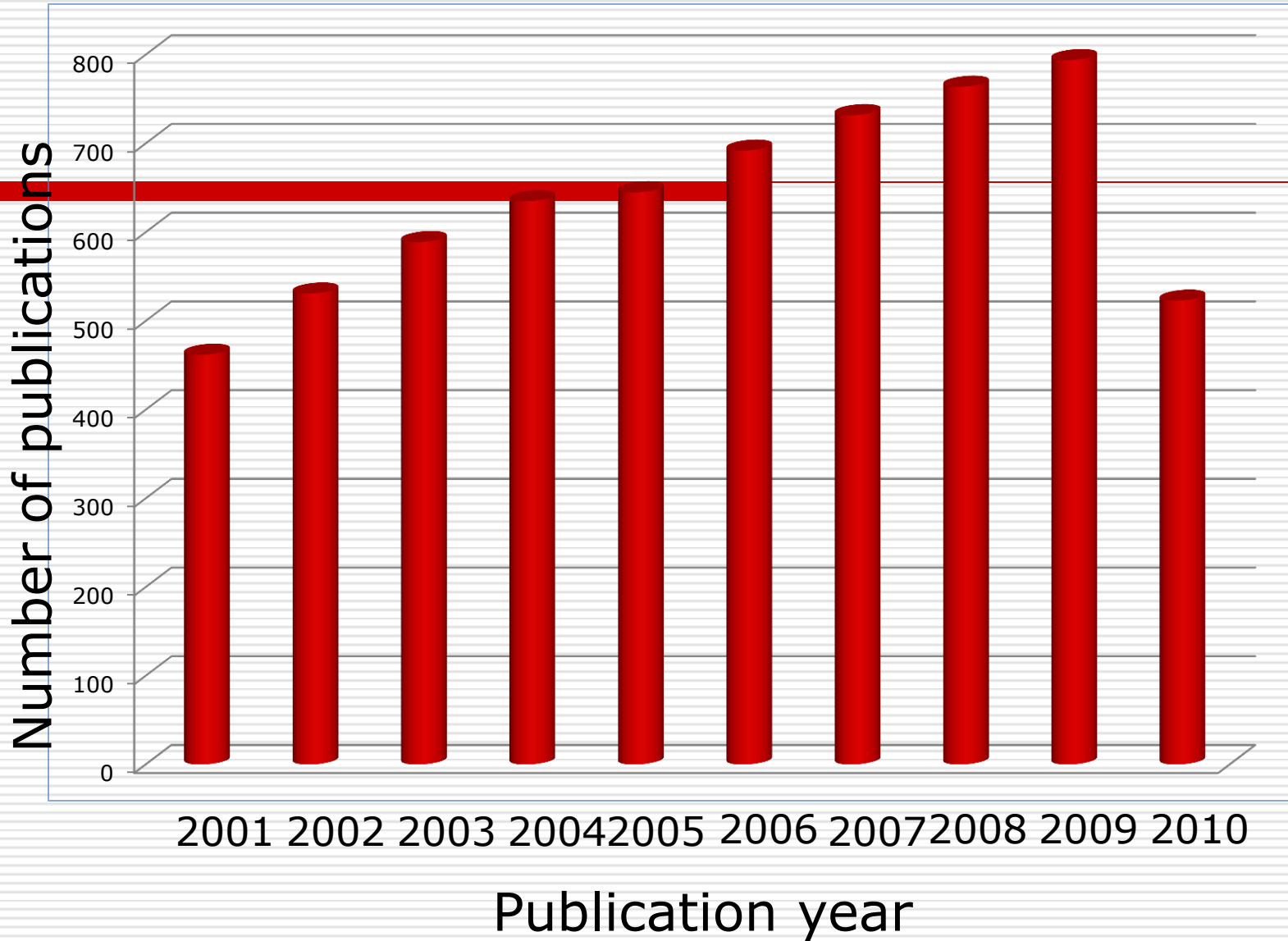
The following information is from a U.S. Government web site (the National Cancer Institute at the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine).

What is the history of the discovery and use of coenzyme Q10 as a complementary or alternative treatment for cancer?

Coenzyme Q10 was first identified in 1957. Its chemical structure was determined in 1958. Interest in coenzyme Q10 as a potential treatment for cancer began in 1961, when a deficiency of the enzyme was noted in the blood of cancer patients. Low blood levels of coenzyme Q10 have been found in patients with myeloma, lymphoma, and cancers of the breast, lung, prostate, pancreas, colon, kidney, and head and neck.

Studies have yielded information about how coenzyme Q10 works in the body to produce energy and act as an antioxidant. Some studies have suggested that coenzyme Q10 stimulates the immune system and increases resistance to disease. In part because of this, researchers have theorized that coenzyme Q10 may be useful as an adjuvant therapy for cancer. (Adjuvant therapy is treatment given following the primary treatment to enhance the effectiveness of the primary treatment.)

The number of papers on CoQ10 increases permanently



Redox Chemistry of Ca-Transporter 2-Palmitoylhydroquinone in an Artificial Thin Organic Film Membrane

Valentin Mirčeski,^{*,†} Rubin Gulaboski,[‡] Ivan Bogeski,[§] and Markus Hoth[§]

Institute of Chemistry Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Ss Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, Republic of Macedonia, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade do Porto, Rua do Campo Alegre, 687, 4169-007 Porto, Portugal, and Department of Physiology, Saarland University, 66421 Homburg, Germany

Received: December 14, 2006; In Final Form: January 26, 2007

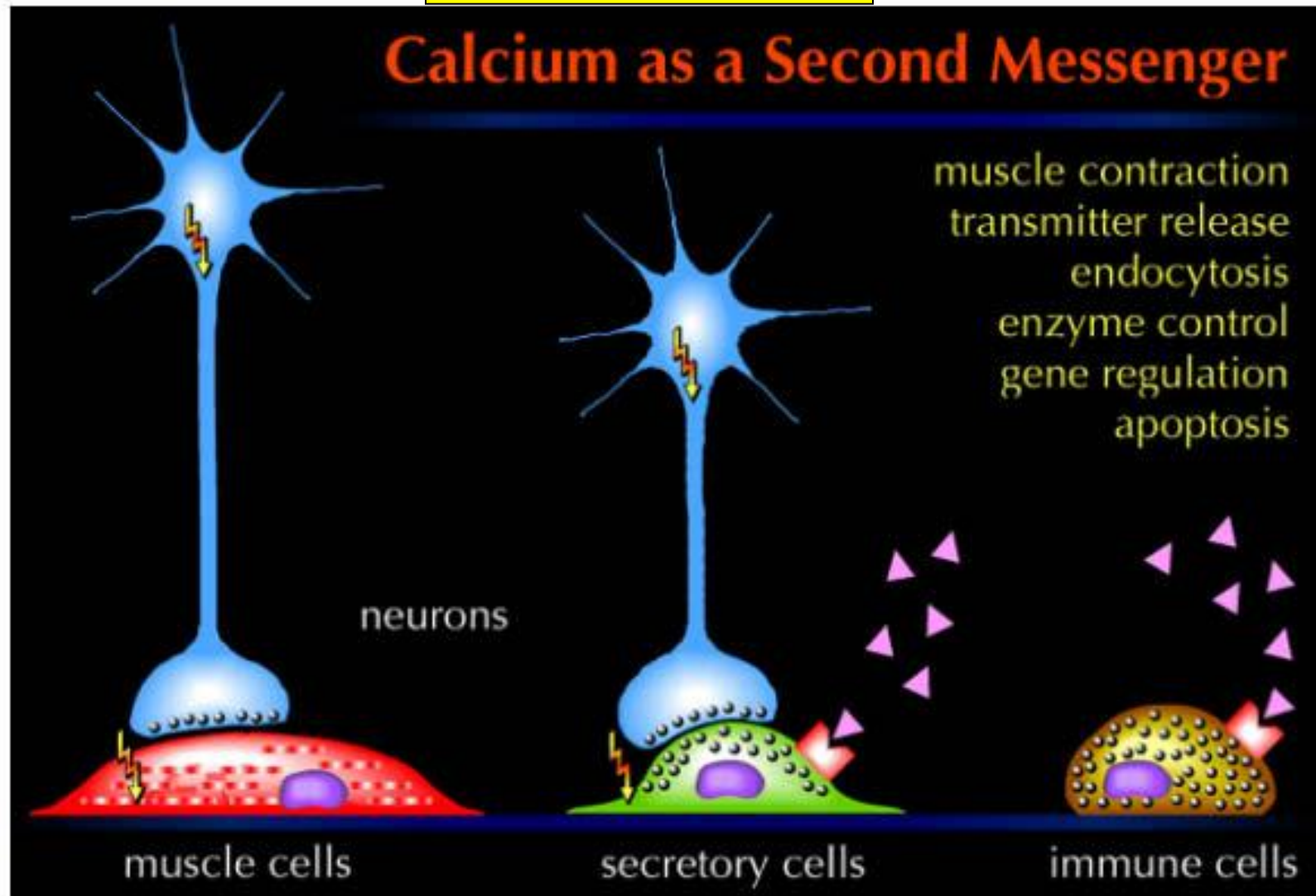
The redox chemistry of 2-palmitoylhydroquinone (H_2Q), a recently introduced synthetic transmembrane Ca^{2+} transporter, was studied with cyclic and square-wave voltammetry in an artificial thin organic-film membrane sandwiched between a pyrolytic graphite electrode and an aqueous solution. The membrane has a micrometer dimension and consists of the water immiscible organic solvent nitrobenzene, which contains suitable electrolyte and H_2Q as a redox active compound. The potential drop at the electrode/membrane interface is controlled by the potentiostat, whereas the potential drop at the membrane/water interface is dependent on the ClO_4^- concentration, which is present in a large excess in both liquid phases. The redox transformation of H_2Q at the electrode/membrane interface is accompanied by a corresponding ion-transfer reaction at the other side of the membrane. Proton transfer at the membrane/water interface is critical for the redox transformation of H_2Q in the interior of the membrane, as a strong dependence of the voltammetric response on the pH of the aqueous medium was observed. H_2Q undergoes two oxidation processes due to existence of two distinctive redox forms of H_2Q . The electrochemical mechanism can be explained with two tautomer forms of H_2Q formed by migration of a proton between the 1-hydroxyl group and the adjacent carbonyl group of the palmitoyl residue. Both tautomers undergo $2e/2H^+$ distinctive redox transformations to form the quinone form of the studied compound. In the presence of Ca^{2+} in the aqueous phase, voltammetric experiments confirmed the capability of both tautomers to form 1:1 complexes with Ca^{2+} and to extract it into the organic membrane. Upon the oxidation of the complexes, Ca^{2+} is expelled back to the aqueous phase. The studied compound exhibits very similar complexing affinity toward Mg^{2+} , implying that it is not highly selective for transmembrane Ca^{2+} transport.

1. Introduction

Organic compounds containing a benzoquinone/hydroquinone moiety are subjects of longstanding research efforts in various scientific areas due to their high relevance to biochemical systems. The most important example is ubiquinone-10 (also called coenzyme Q), which plays a critical role in the respiratory chain of mitochondria.¹ Embedded in the inner mitochondria membrane, ubiquinone-10 serves as an electron shuttle and a proton pump, generating a proton and potential gradient at the inner mitochondrion membrane. The energy conserved in a form of a potential gradient is further used for synthesis of adenosine-triphosphate. The redox chemistry of the quinone/hydroquinone

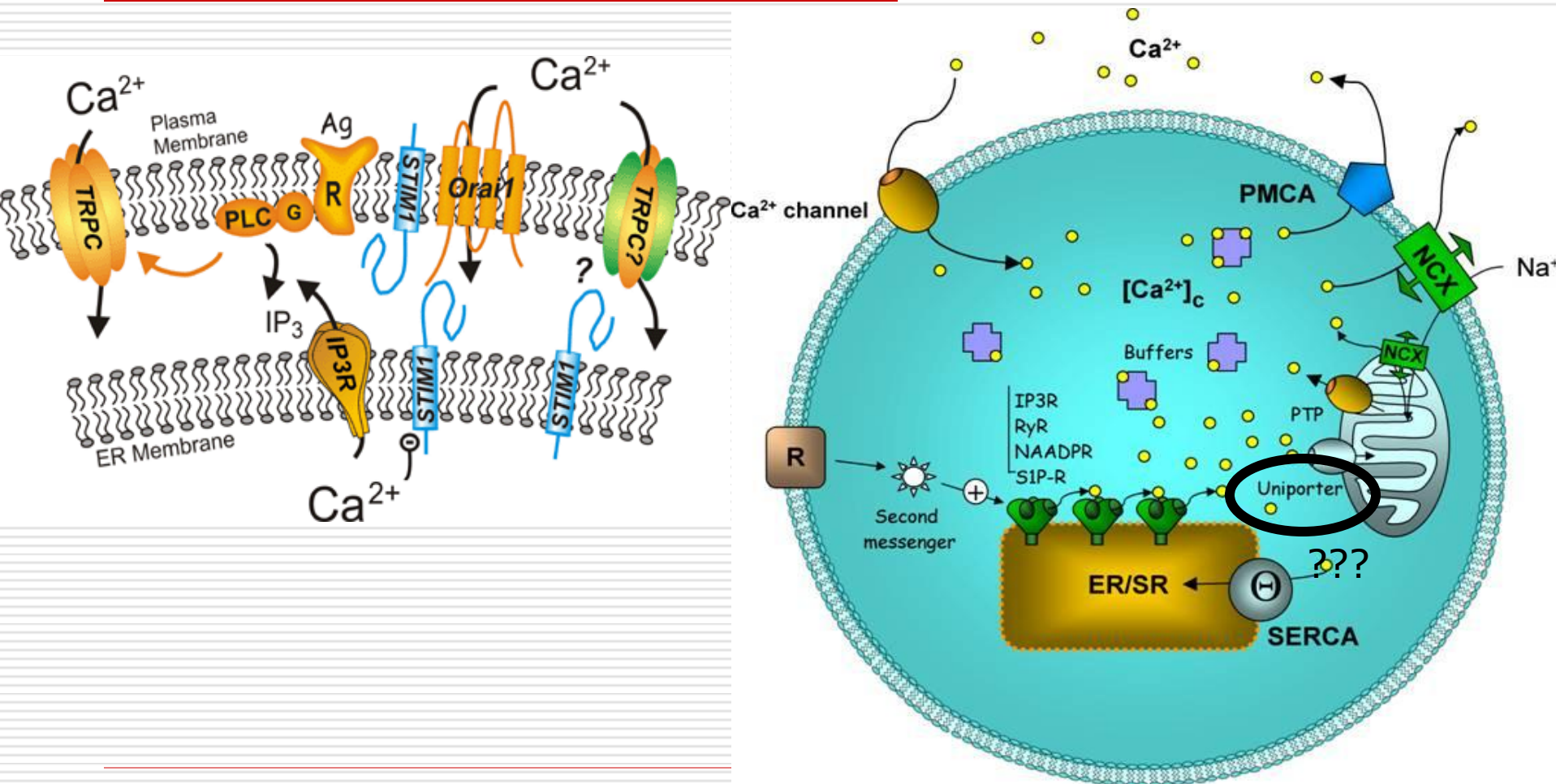
Electrochemical techniques are very well suited for characterizing quinone-like compounds.^{2–9} As most of the physiologically active quinones are lipophilic, electrochemical methods in nonaqueous medium have been developed.^{4,6,8} Particularly important are biomimetic studies in which lipophilic quinone is embedded in a lipid membrane supported on the electrode surface.³ Liposomes are also suitable for membrane immobilization of lipophilic quinones. In this context, Bennett et al.¹⁰ have recently incorporated the synthetic 2-palmitoylhydroquinone (H_2Q) in a liposome membrane to build an artificial light-driven transmembrane calcium pump. Although the redox chemistry of H_2Q is hardly known, these authors have utilized its redox

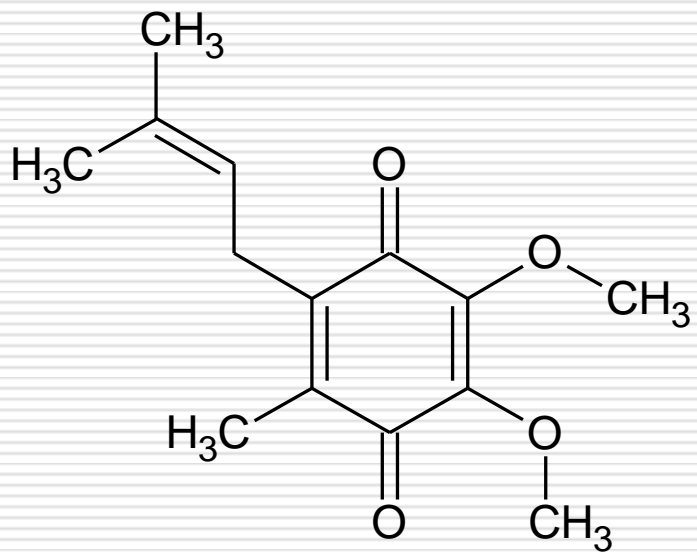
Why Ca^{2+} ?



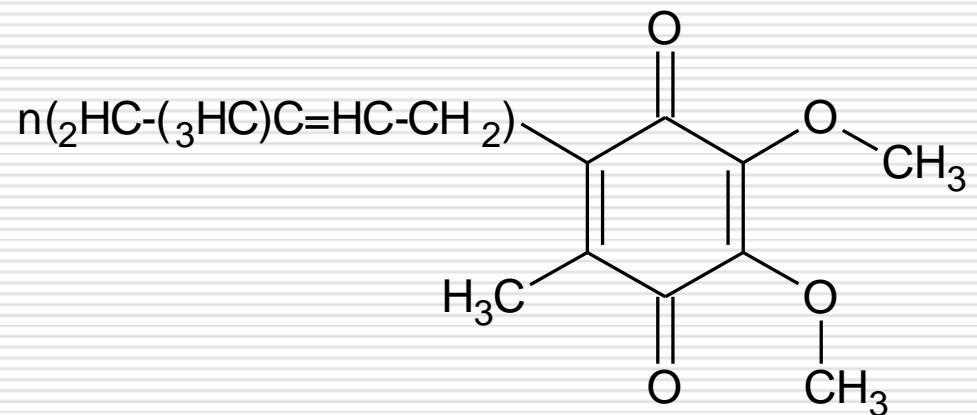
Ca^{2+} -is one of the most important second messengers

Mechanisms of Ca^{2+} transfer in mitochondria





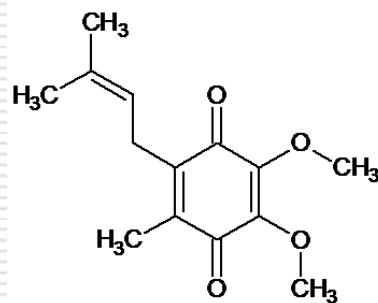
Coenzyme Q₁



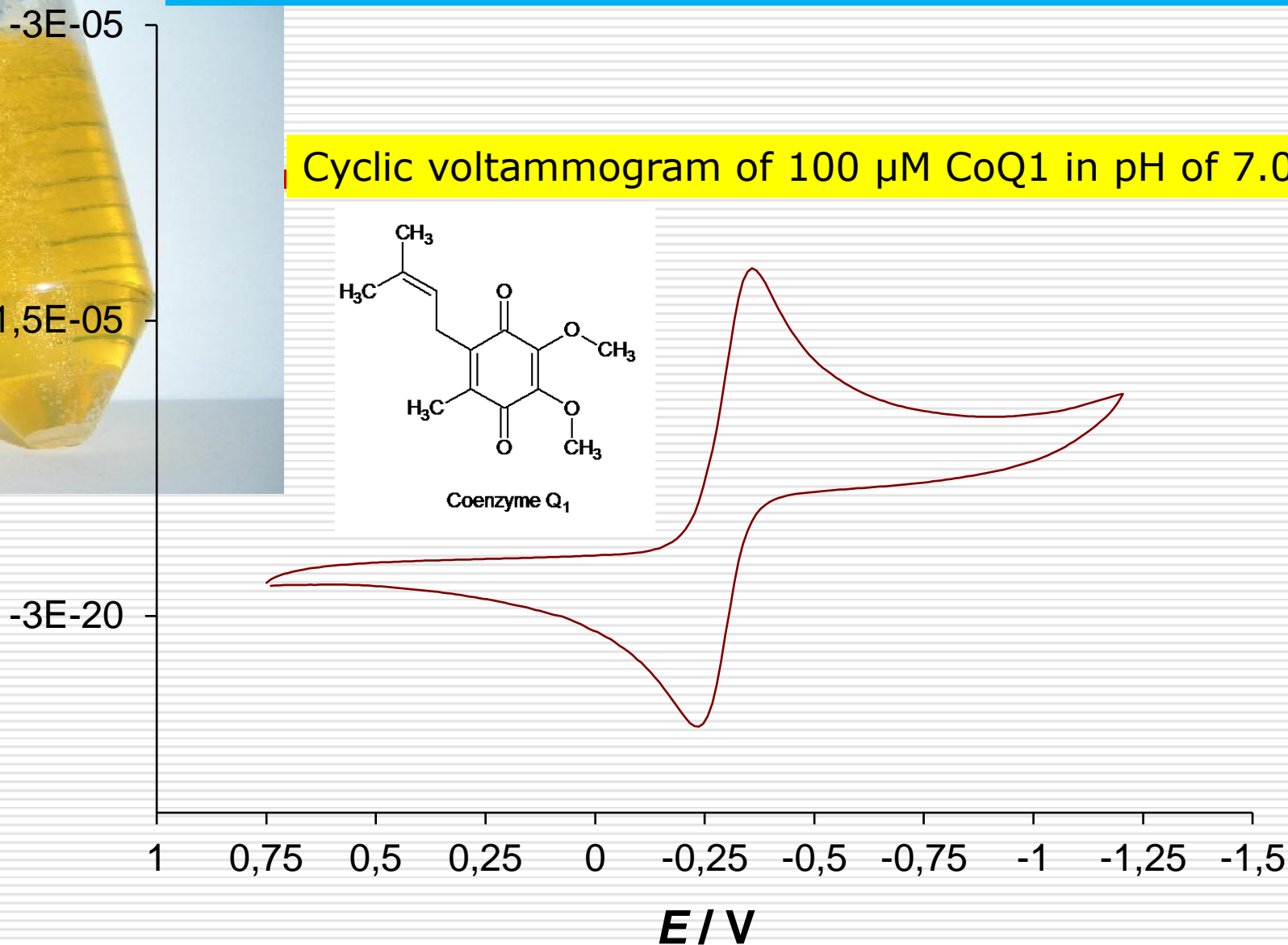
Coenzyme Q₁₀

Experiments with Coenzyme Q1-CoQ1

Cyclic voltammogram of 100 μM CoQ1 in pH of 7.00

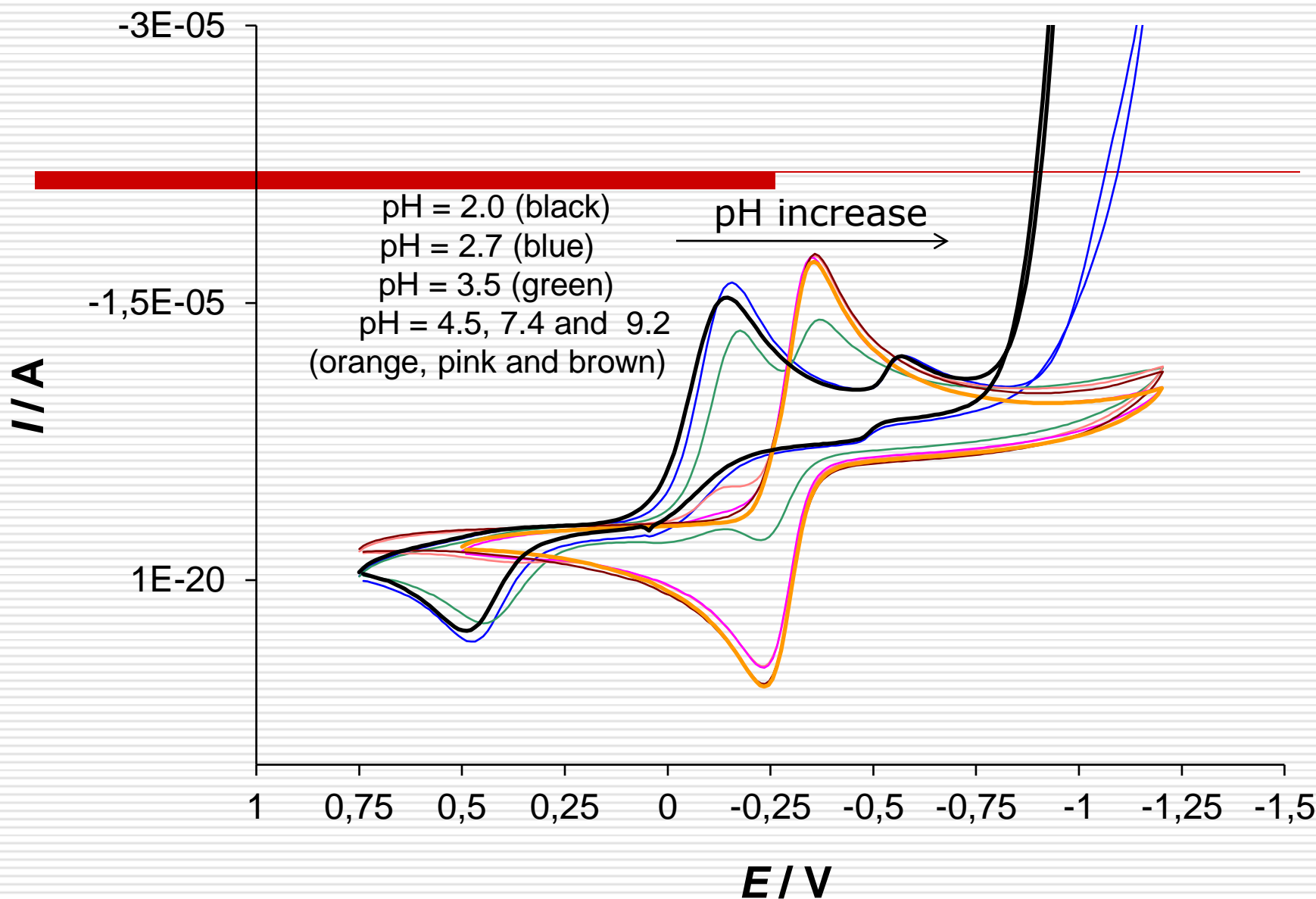


Coenzyme Q₁

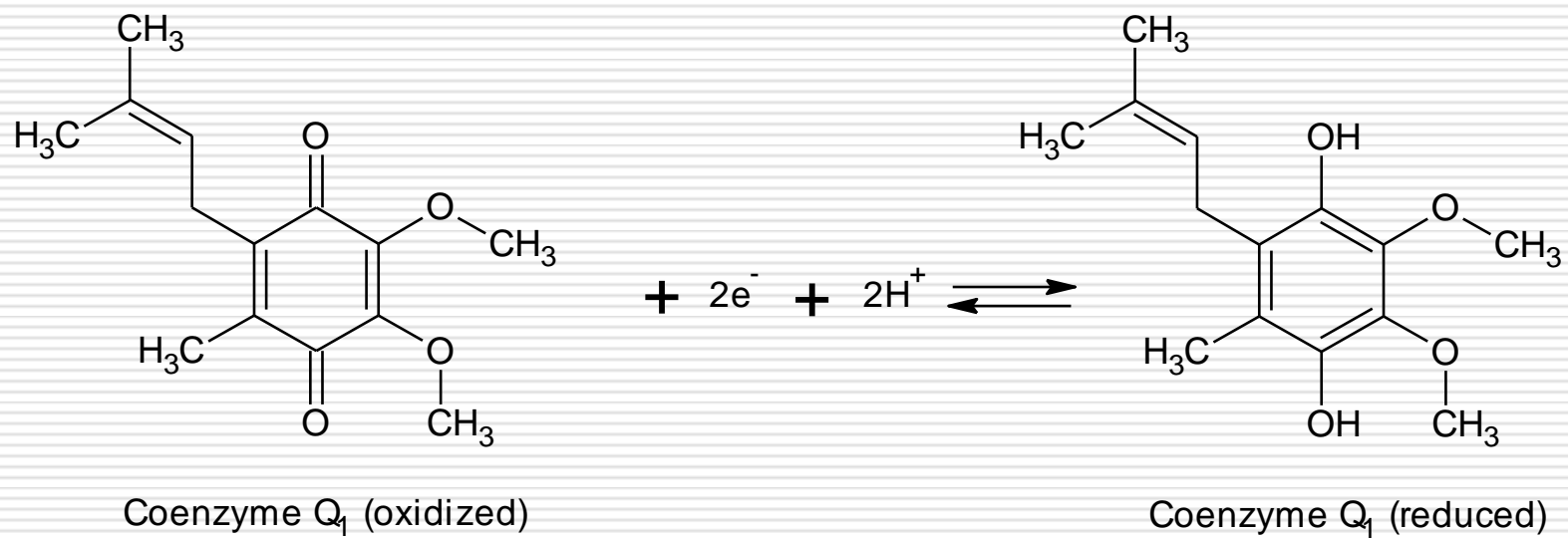
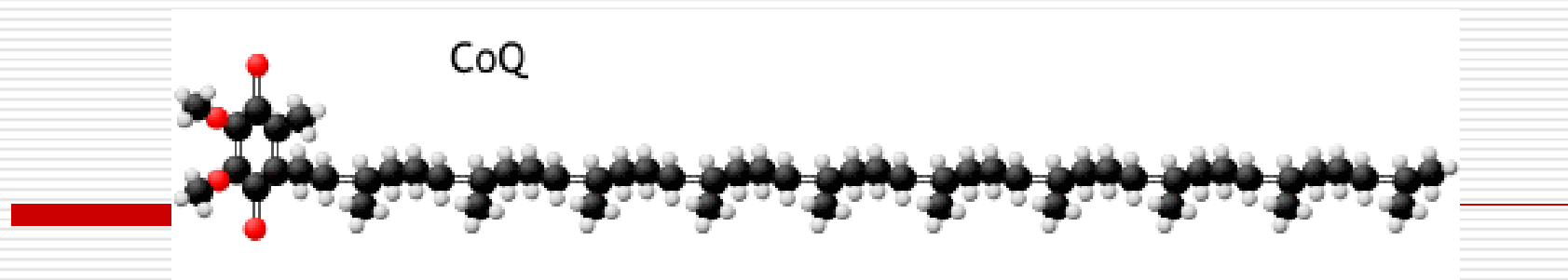


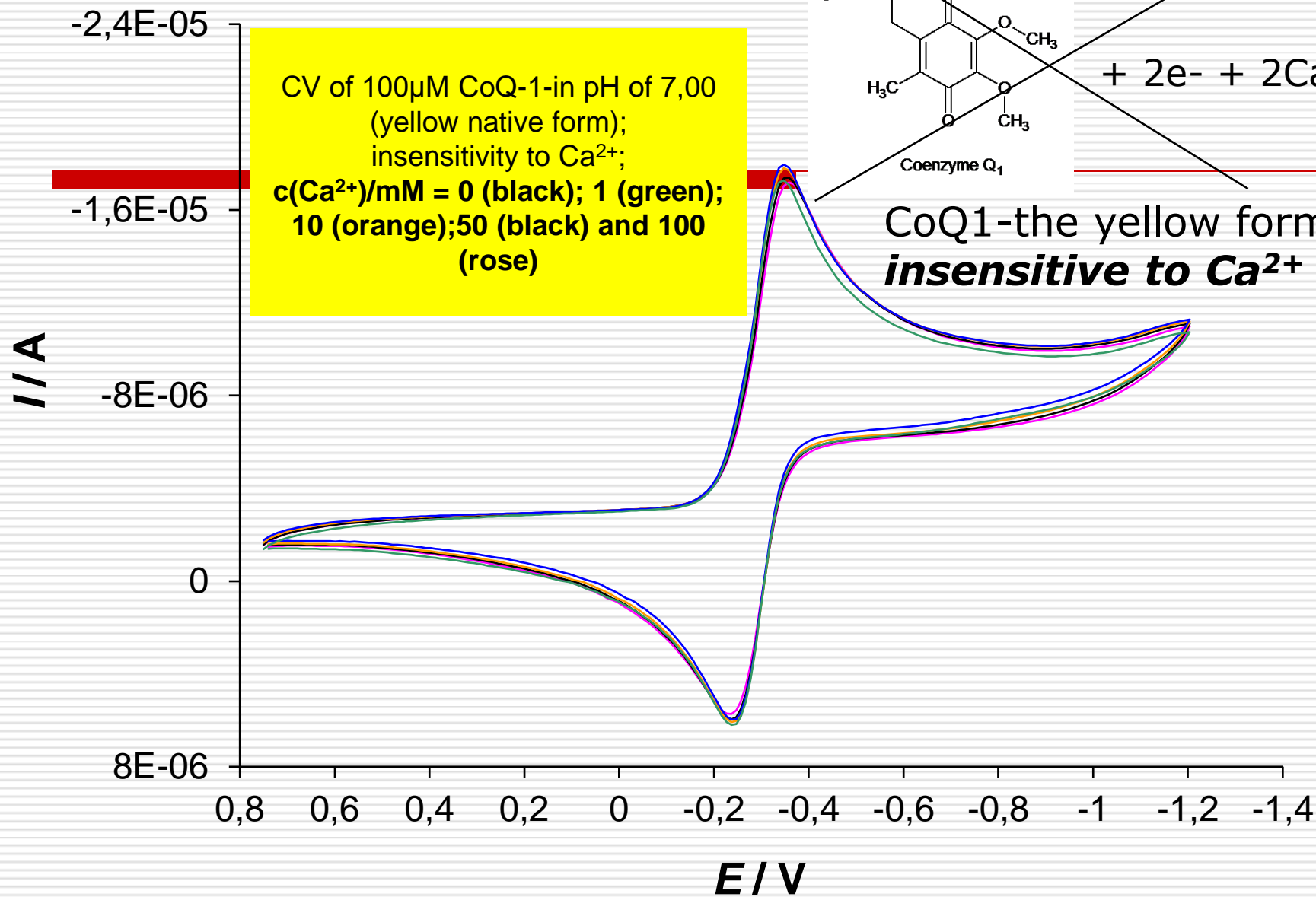
I/A

E/V

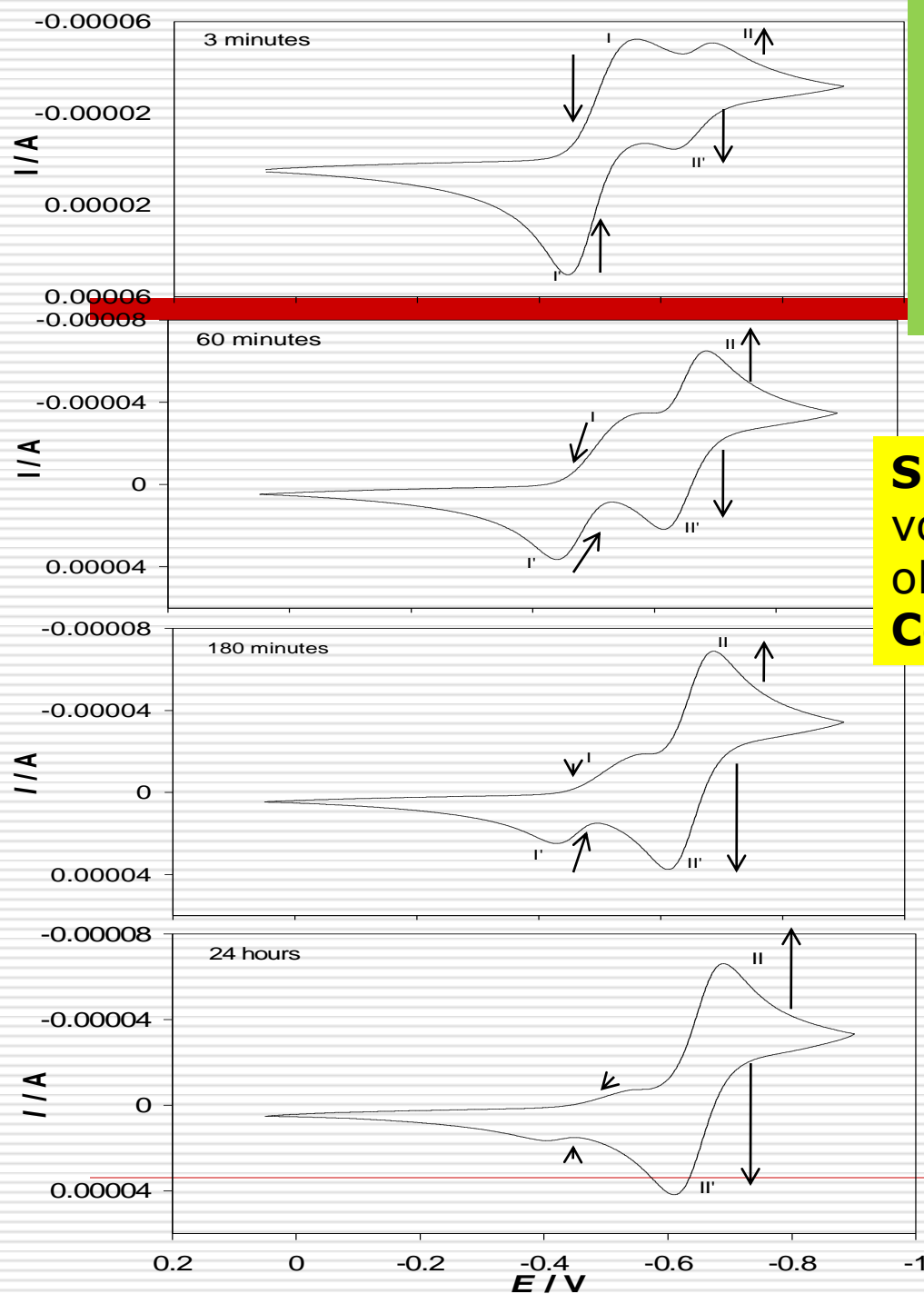


pH dependence of the redox process of CoQ1-the "yellow form"
in the pH range from 1 to 9





That is, ...END OF THE STORY, or MAY BE NOT?



Cyclic voltammograms of CoQ1 recorded in 1 mol/L NaOH.

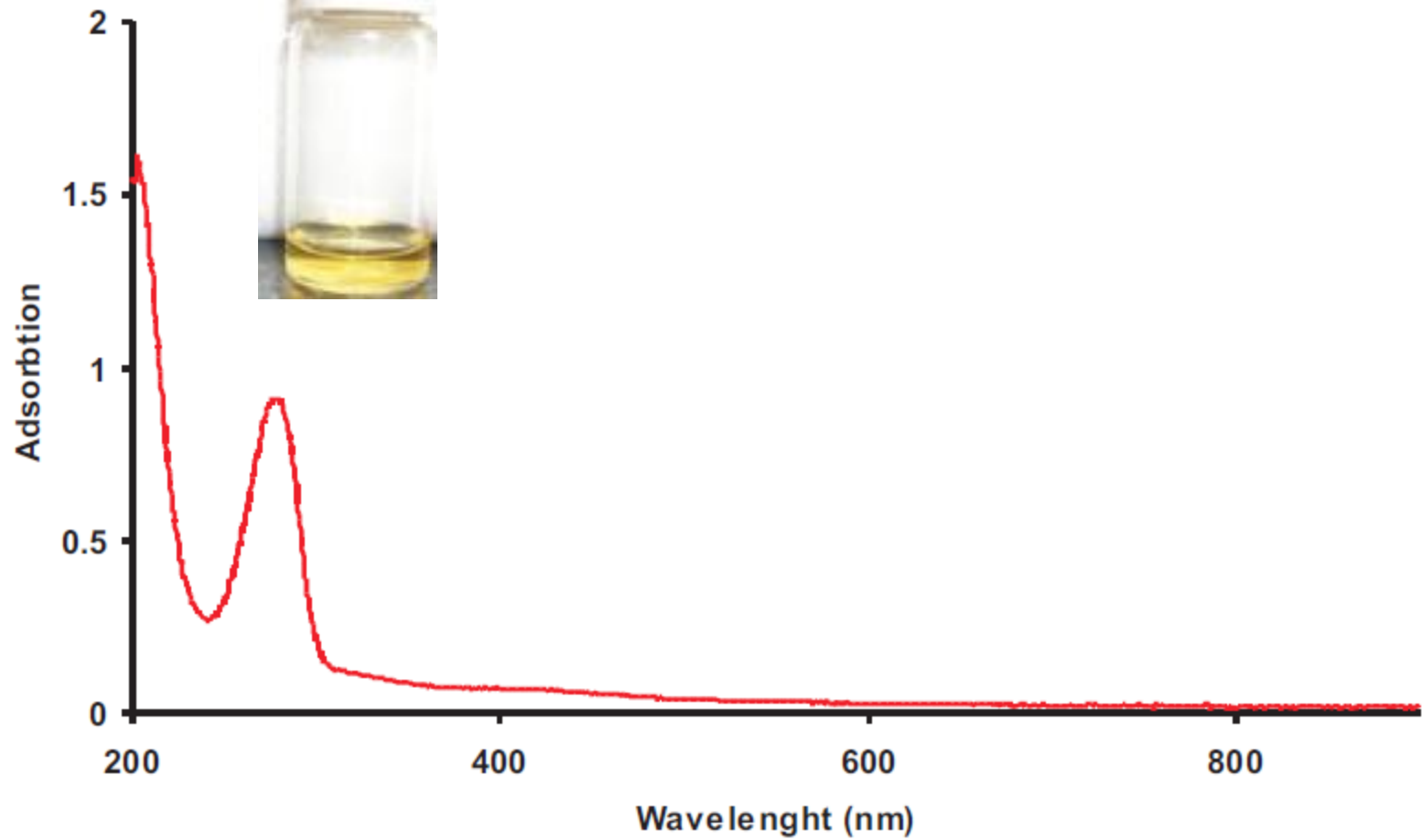
Scans recorded after 3 min (1) 1 h (2) 3 h (3) and 24 h (4).

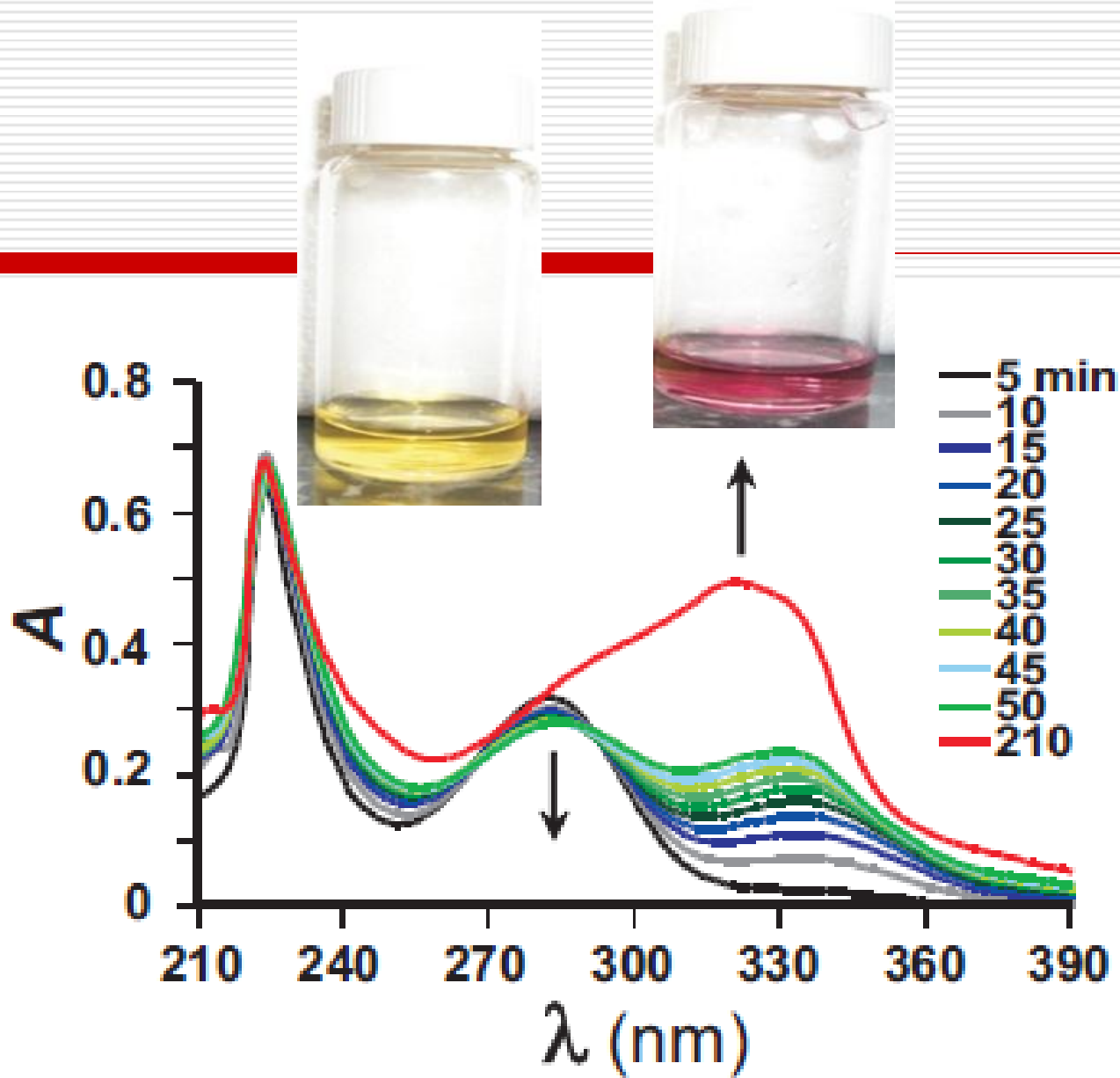
Scan rate of 30 mV/s,
 $c(\text{CoQ1}) = 0.075 \text{ mmol/L}$.

Significant changes in the voltammetric responses have been observed **when CoQ1 was dissolved in 1M NaOH!**

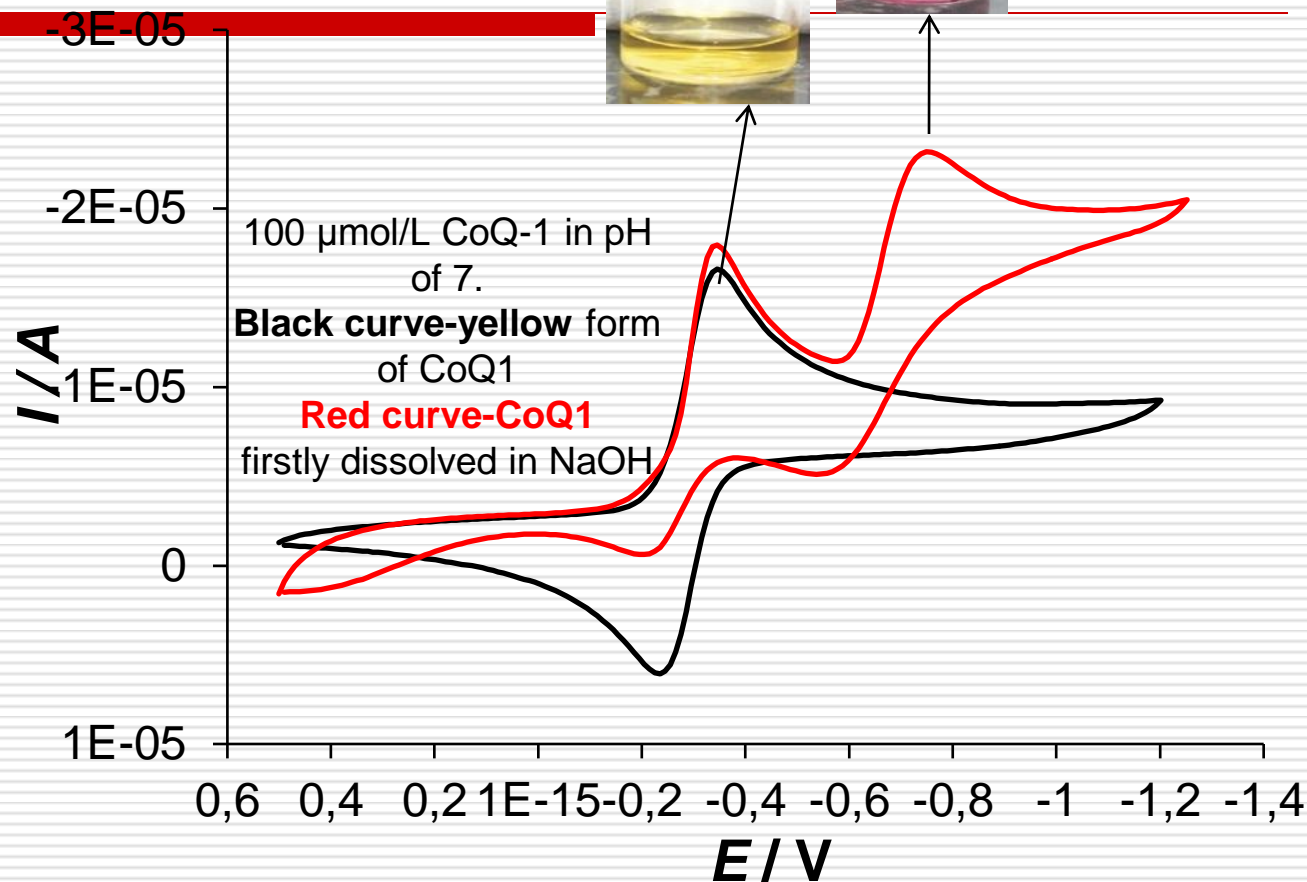
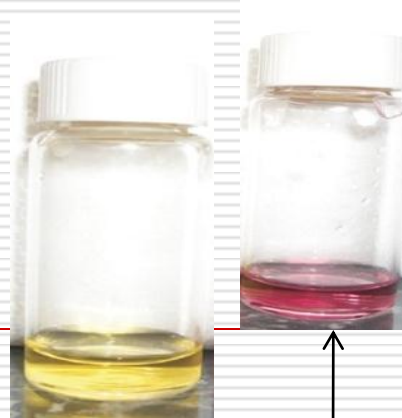


CoQ1 in water

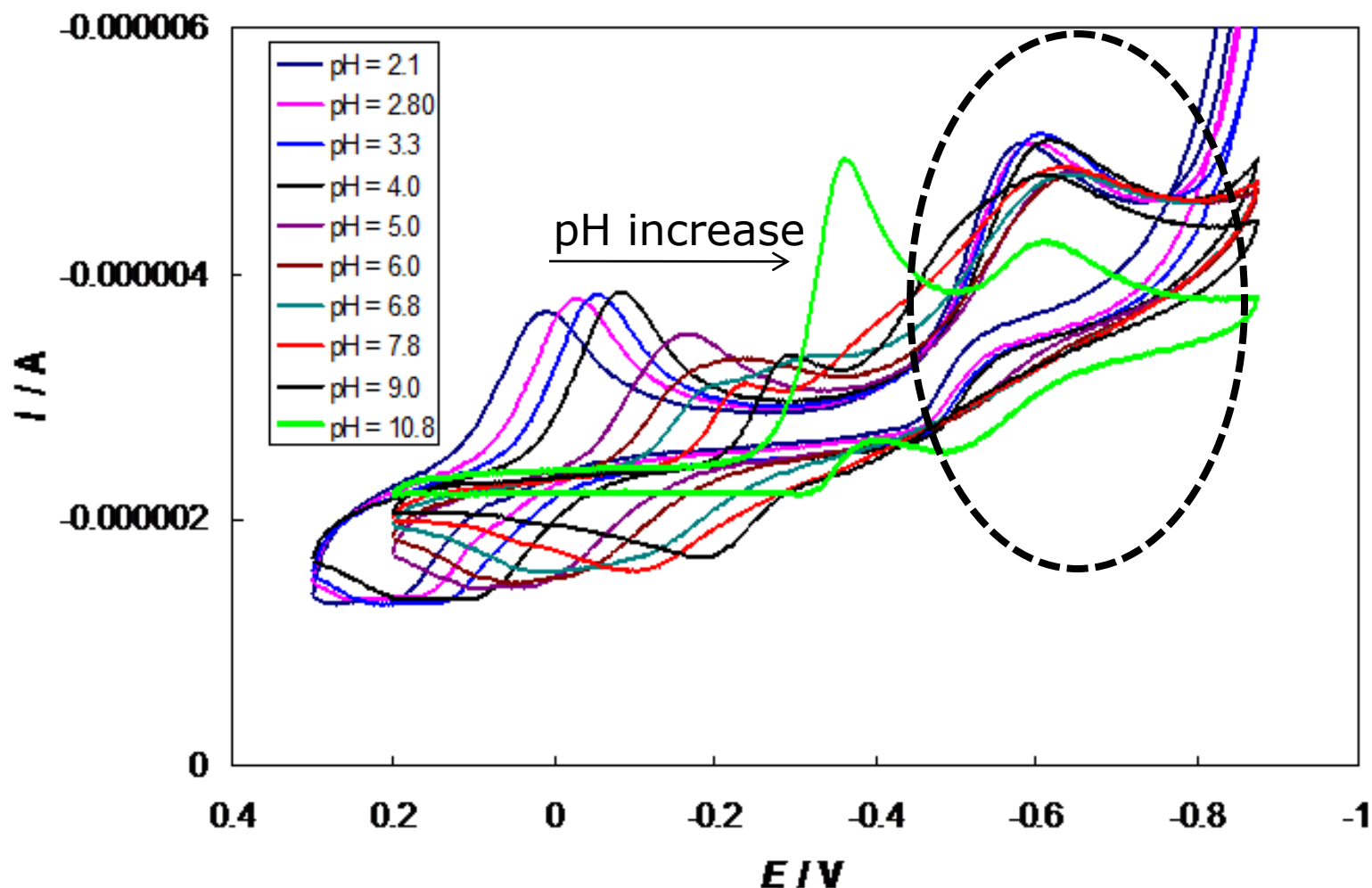




UV-Vis spectrum of 10 μM CoQ1 recorded in kinetic mode in 1 M NaOH



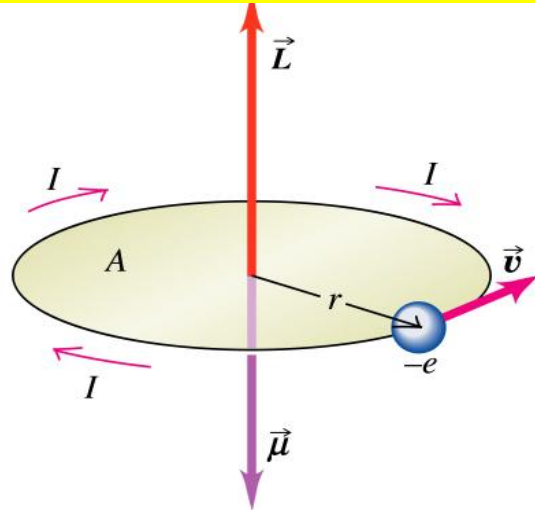
Comparison of the cyclic voltammograms of CoQ1 directly dissolved in pH of 7.00, and of CoQ1 initially dissolved in 1 M NaOH for 45 min and retitrated afterwards to pH of 7.00



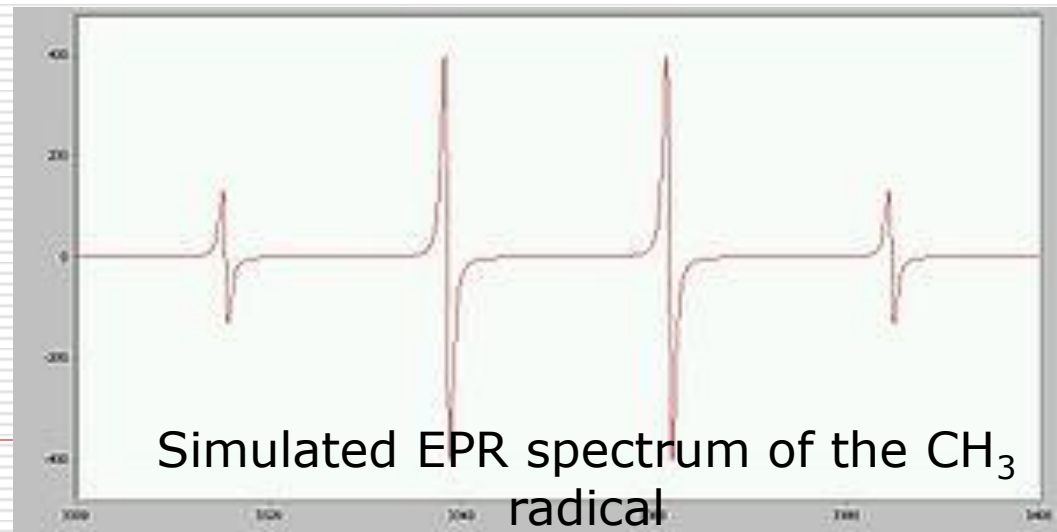
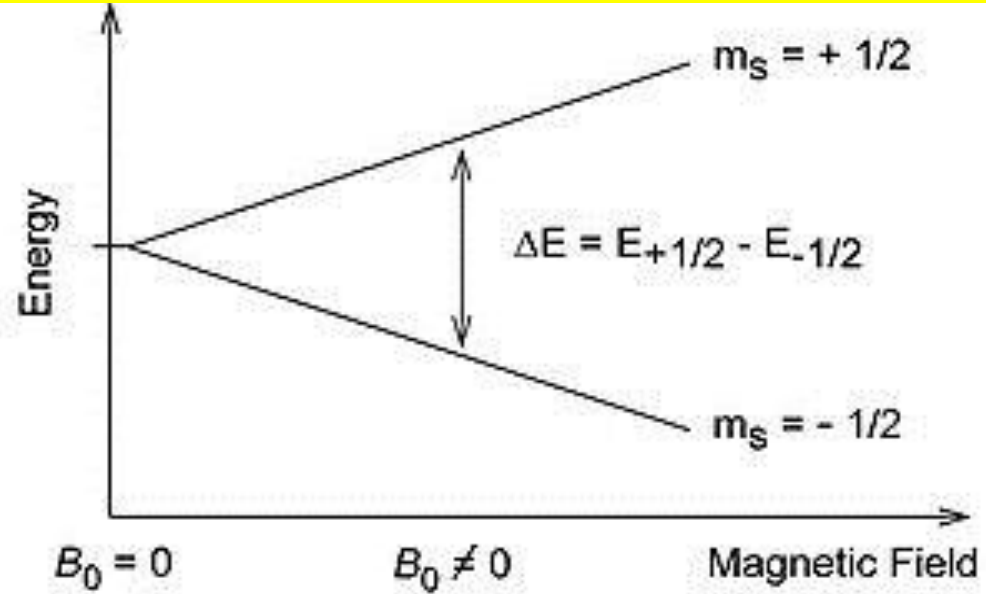
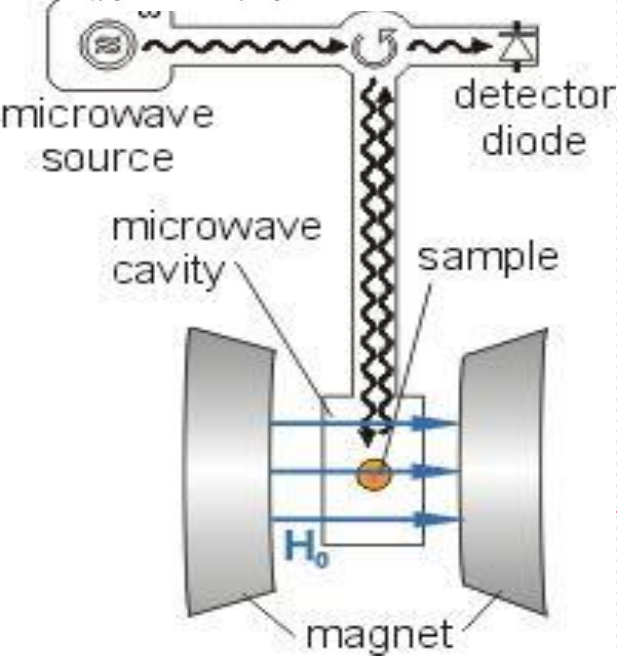
Effect of pH to the redox processes of CoQ1. In this situation CoQ1 was in contact with 0.1 M NaOH for 60 minutes

Next logical task: DETERMINE the MECHANISM and the STRUCTURE of the New Benzoquinone Product

Electron Paramagnetic resonance-EPR-suitable technique for structure evaluation by the radical species
(many quinones form radicals when dissolved in alkaline media)



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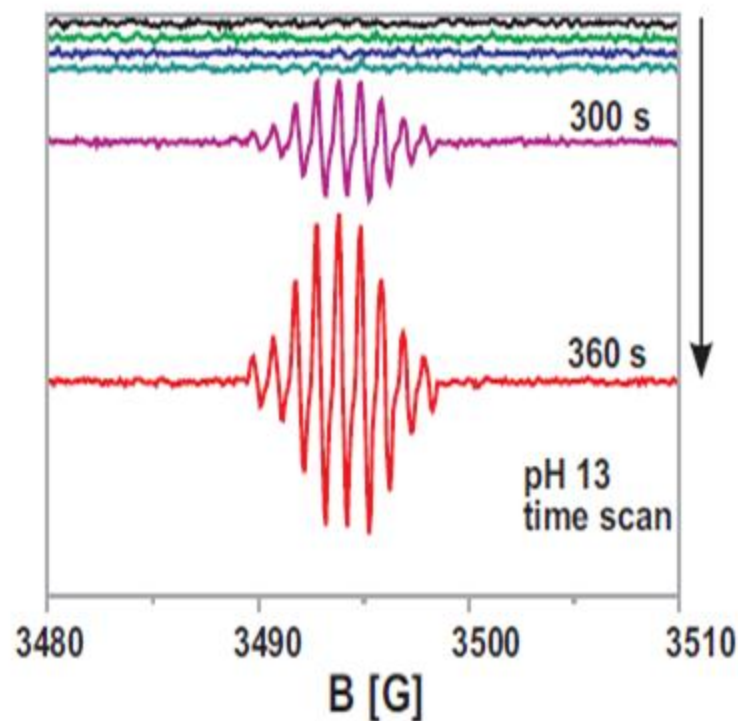
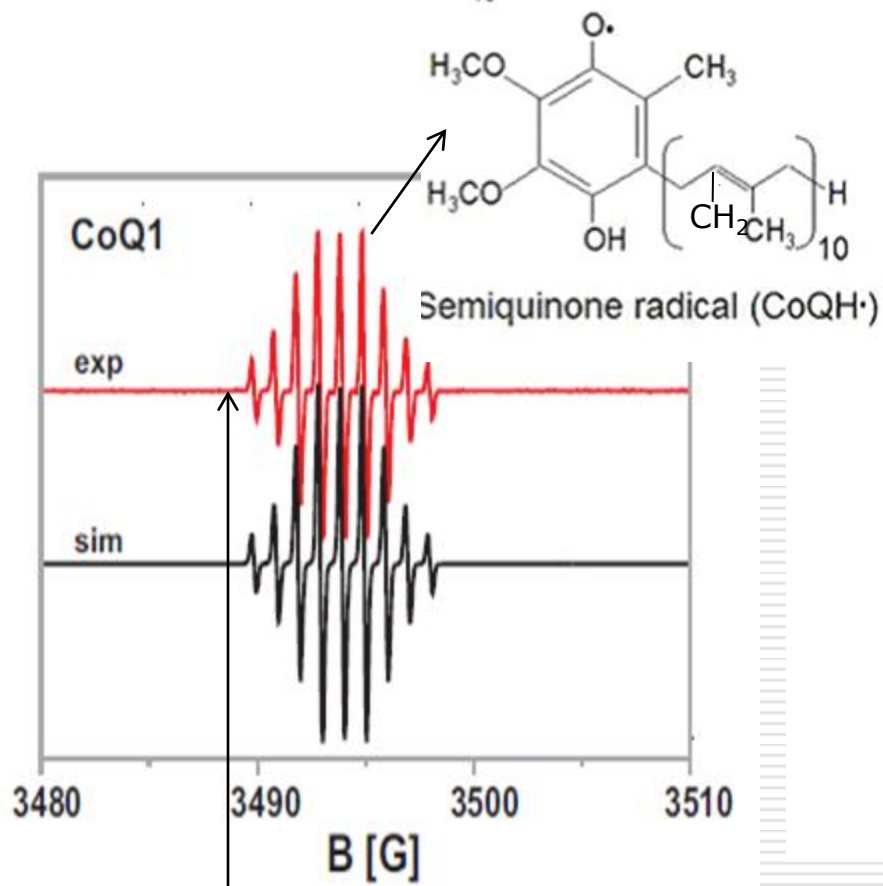


Simulated EPR spectrum of the CH_3 radical

EPR spectrum of CoQ1
after reduction with
half-equimolar amount
of NaBH_4 in pH of 7.00

EPR spectrum of CoQ1
obtained in **0.1 M NaOH** but
without using any reductant!!

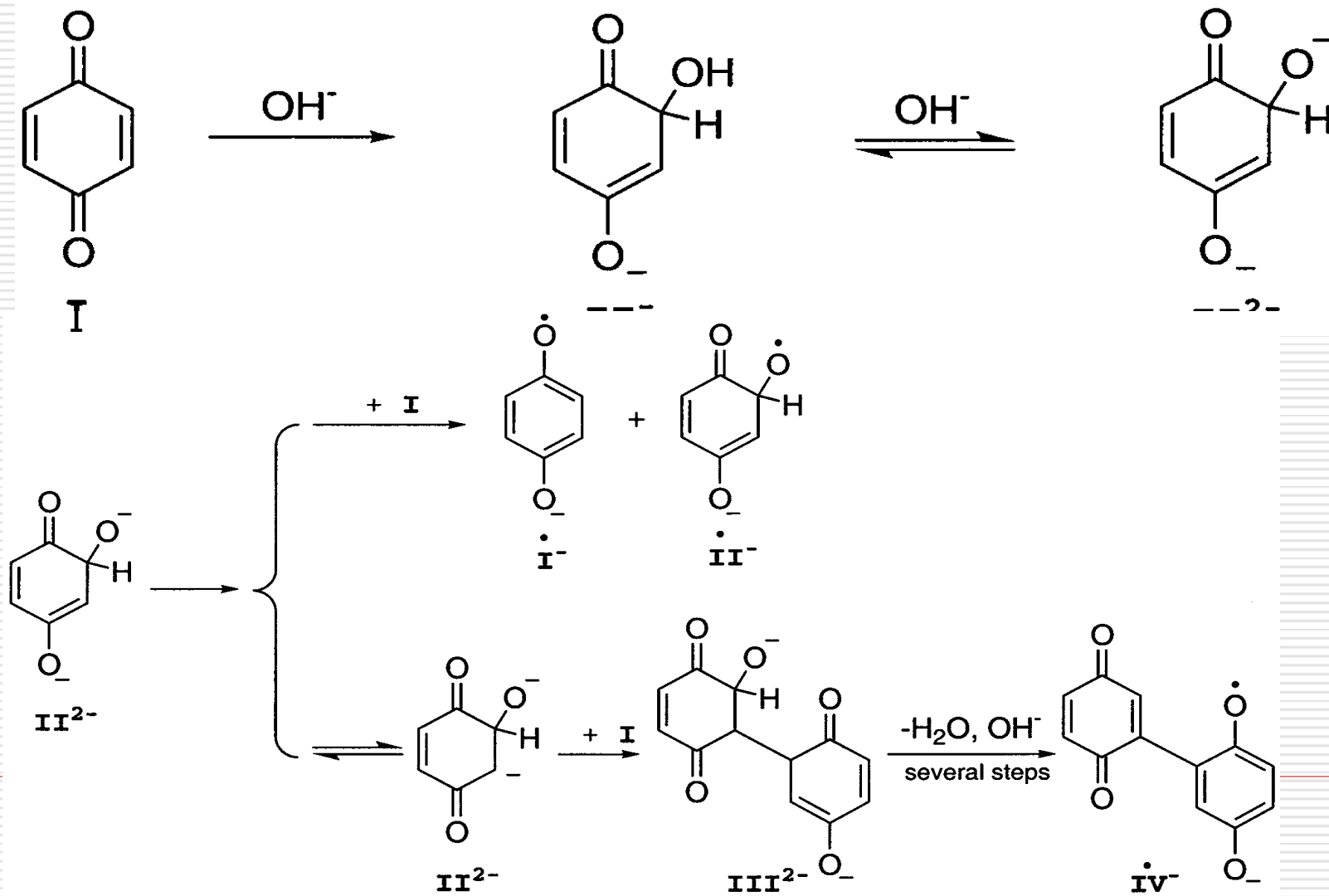
A



Nine-line EPR spectrum of parent CoQ1
corresponds to **presence of one CH_3 and one CH_2 group** in the structure

On the application of electron paramagnetic resonance in the study of naturally occurring quinones and quinols

Jens A. Pedersen



On the application of electron paramagnetic resonance in the study of naturally occurring quinones and quinols

Jens A. Pedersen

1. All anthraquinones and all 2,3-disubstituted naphthoquinones and tetrasubstituted benzoquinones [11] require a reducing agent, say, sodium dithionite in order to be reduced [12].

2. Benzo- and naphthoquinones with at least one unsubstituted ring undergo

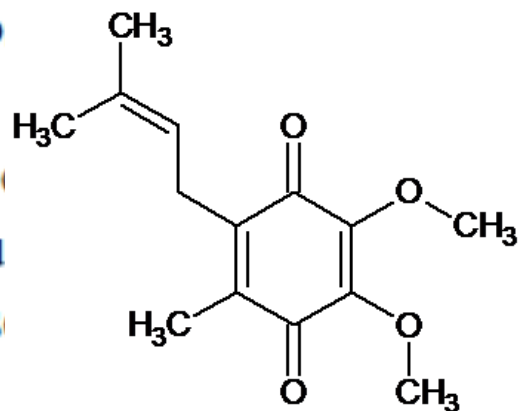
(see below)

3. Mixtures of quinones and quinols in cases where the quinone is reduced to the quinol

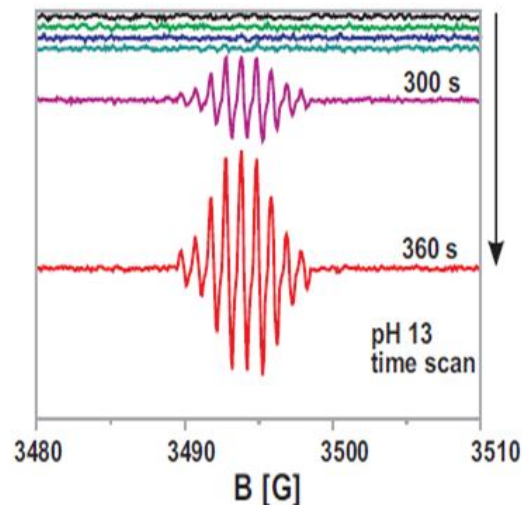
(see below)

4. Mixtures of quinones and quinols in cases where the quinone is reduced to the quinol

(see below)

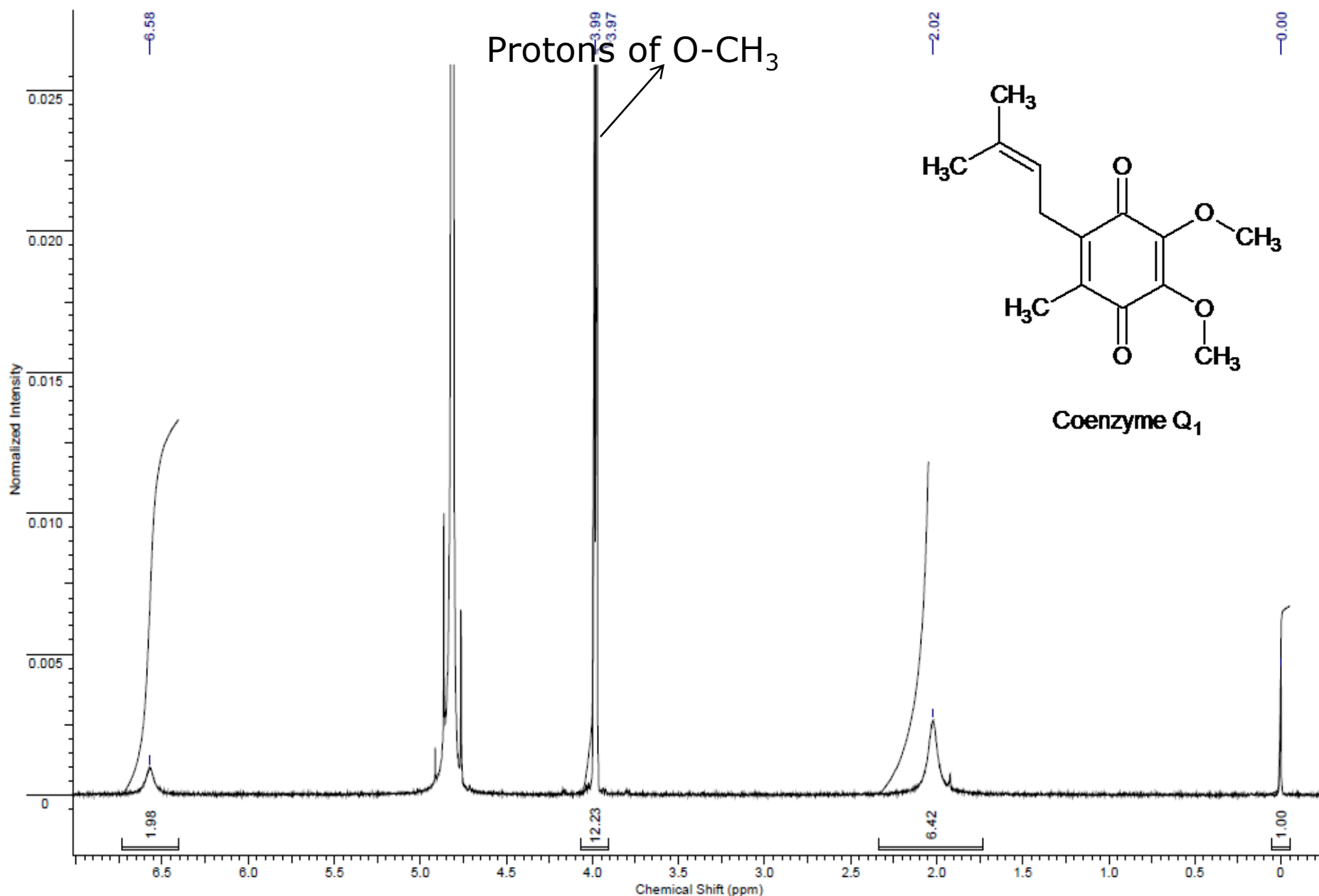


Coenzyme Q₁



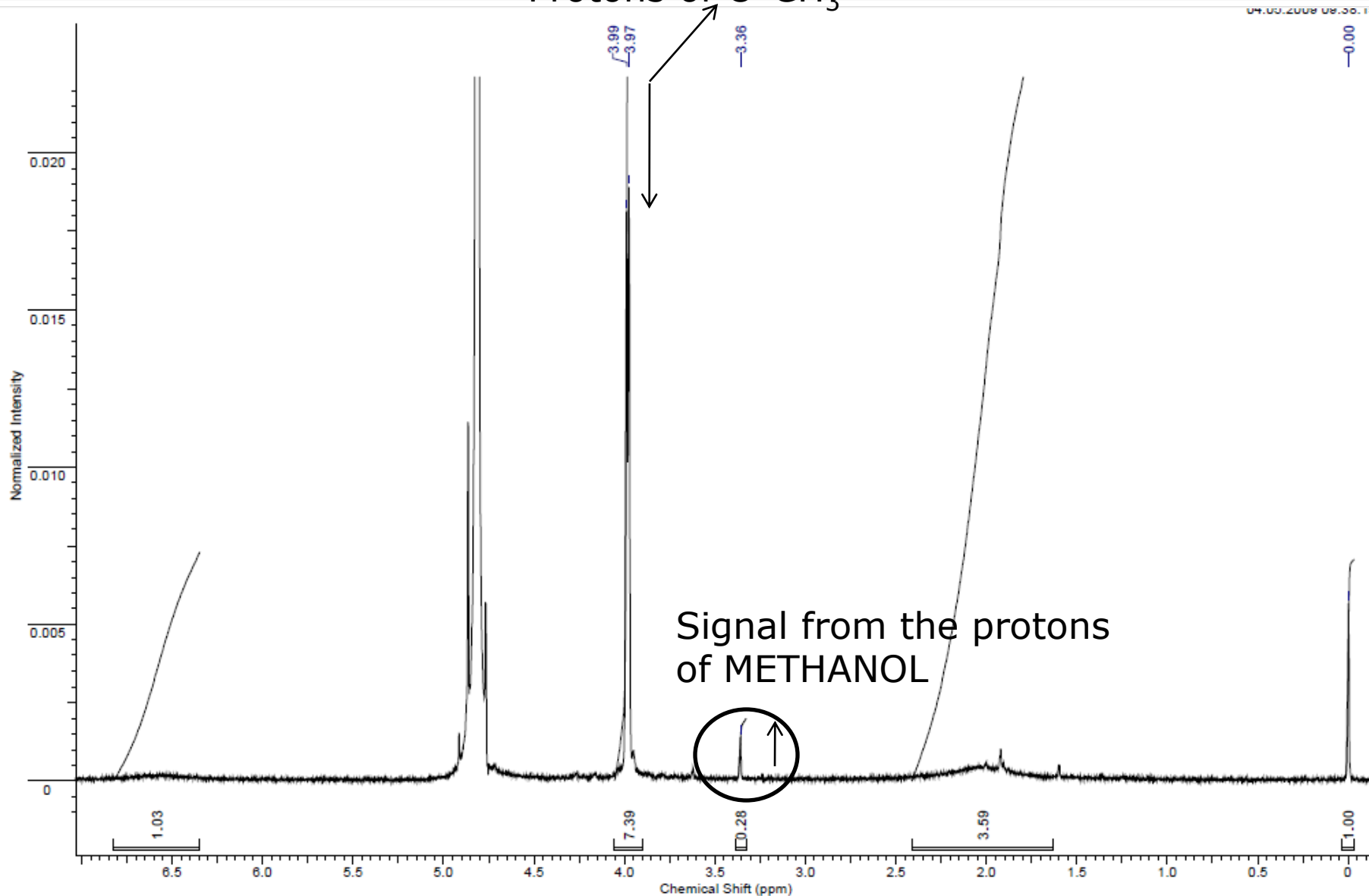
NEXT STEP to determine the structure-**NMR EXPERIMENTS**

NMR spectrum of CoQ1 in D₂O

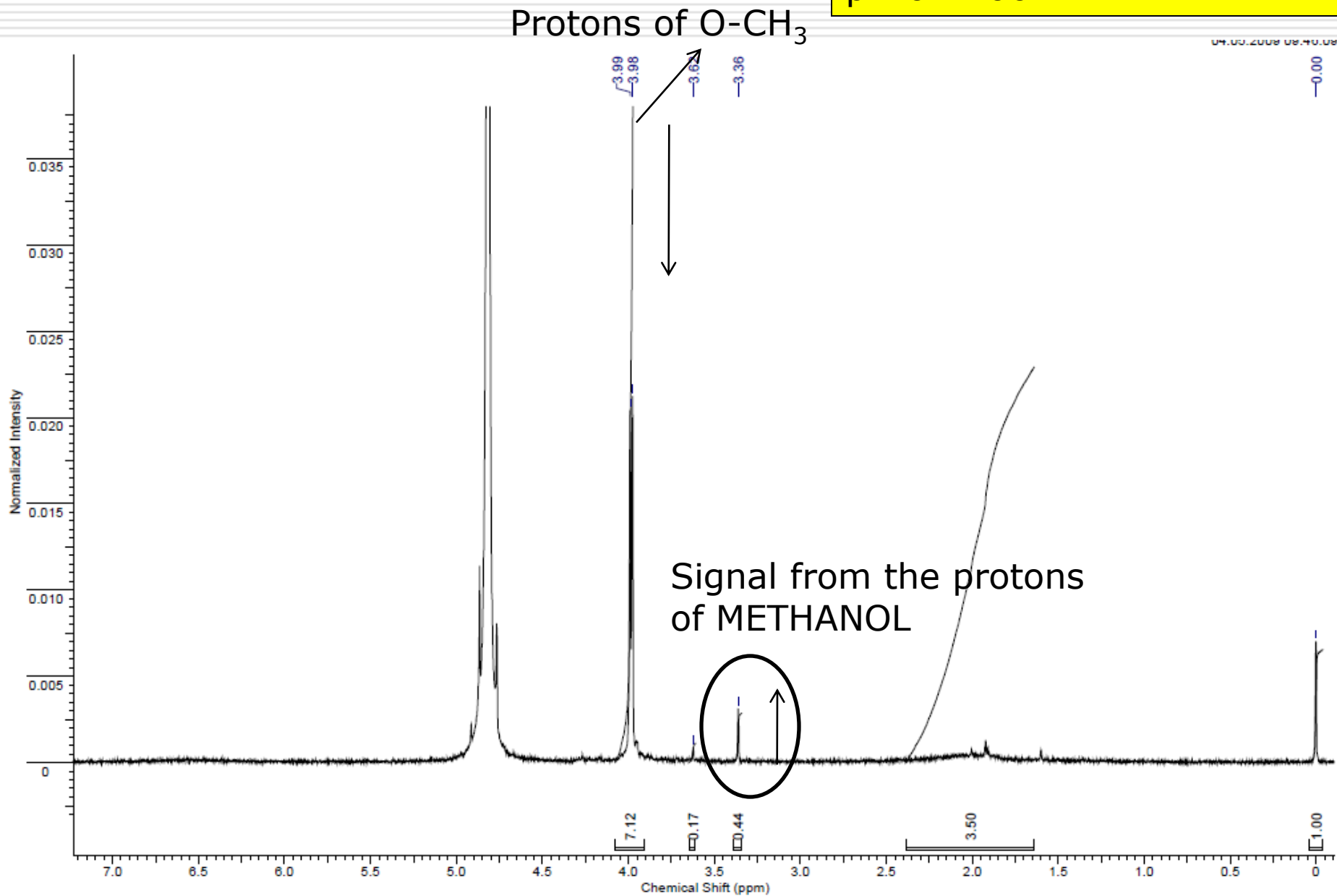


CoQ1-5 minutes in NaOD
retitrated afterwards to
pD of 7.00

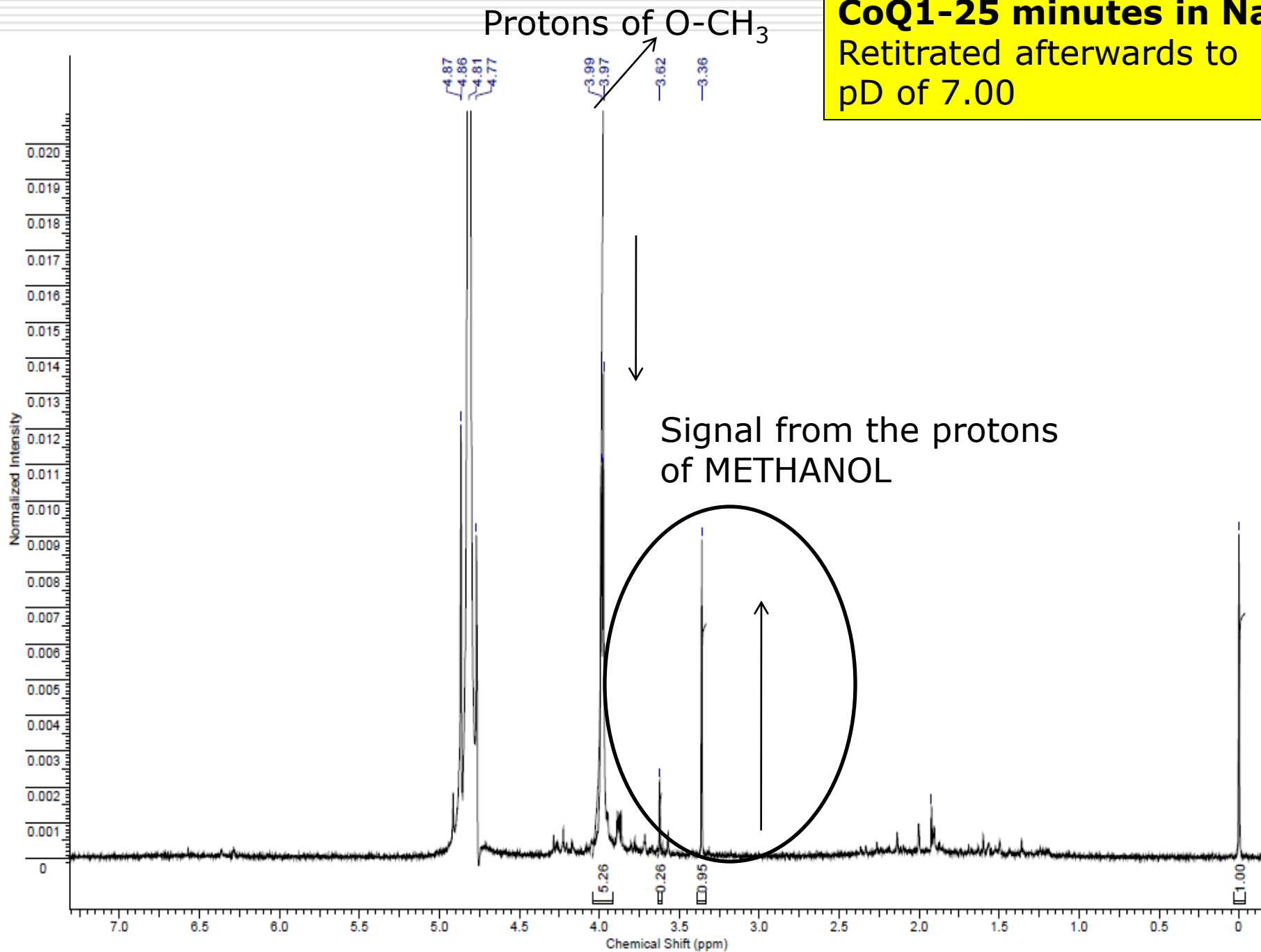
Protons of O-CH₃



CoQ1-10 minutes in NaOD
Retitrated afterwards to
pD of 7.00



CoQ1-25 minutes in NaOD
Retitrated afterwards to
pD of 7.00

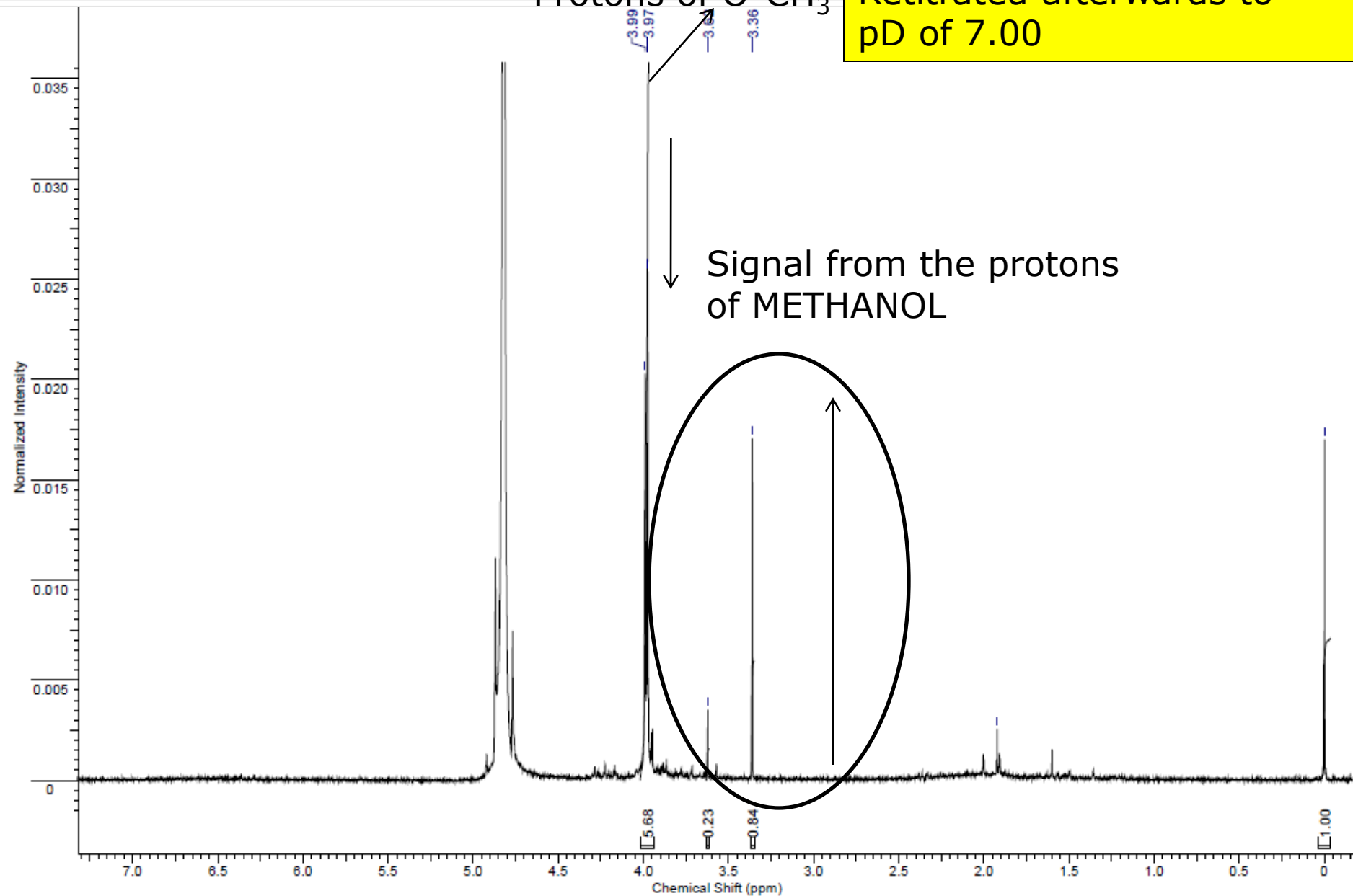


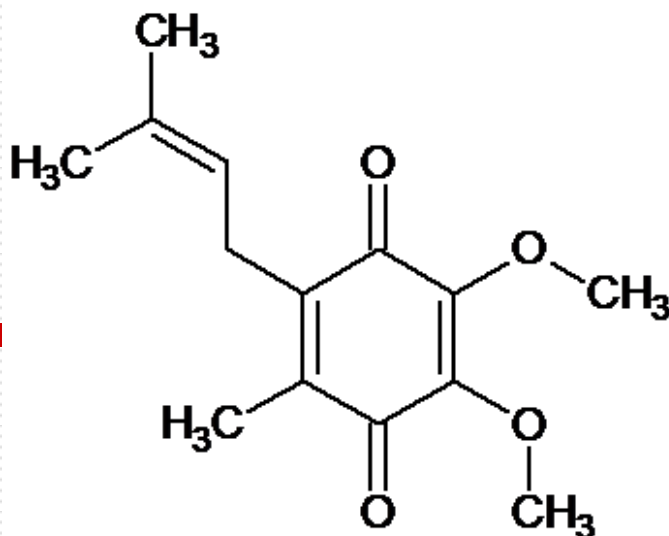
CoQ1-60 minutes in NaOD
Retitrated afterwards to
pD of 7.00

Protons of O-CH₃

3.99
3.97
3.94
3.36

Signal from the protons
of METHANOL

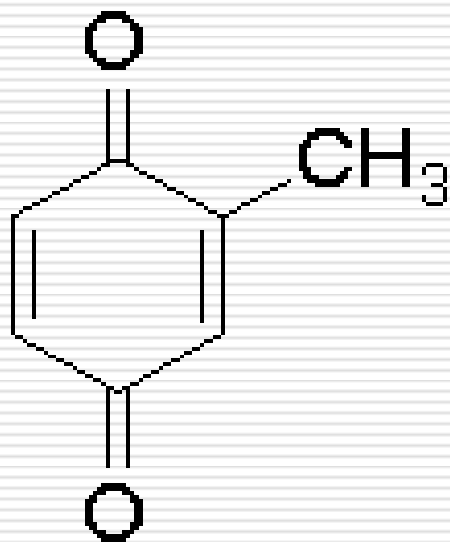




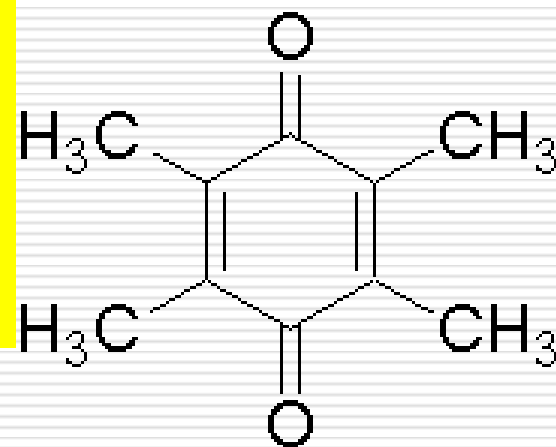
Coenzyme Q₁

Where **METHANOL** does come from, when CoQ is dissolved in alkaline media?
-from the methyl group?
 or
-from the METHOXY O-CH₃ group?

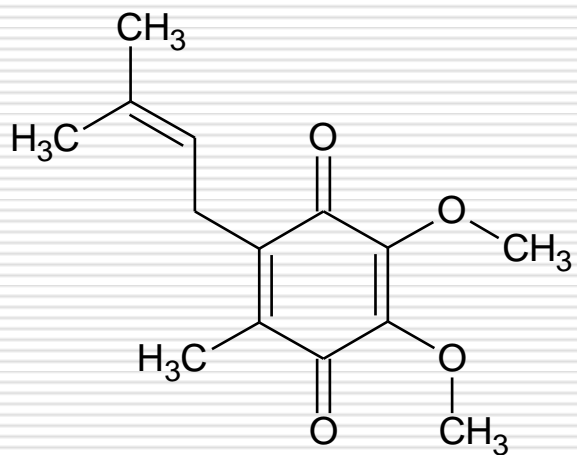
By using methyl benzoquinone derivatives we found that the **methyl group CAN NOT BE CLEAVED from the aromatic ring!!!**



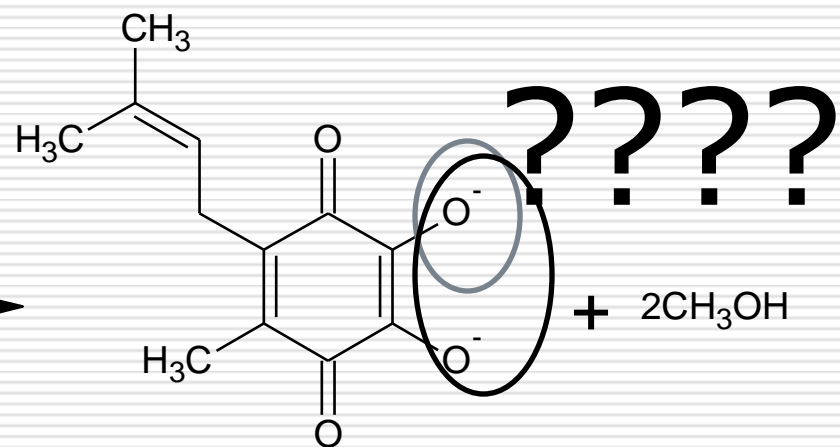
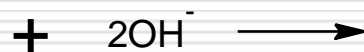
2-methyl-benzoquinone



Tetramethyl benzoquinone
(duroquinone)

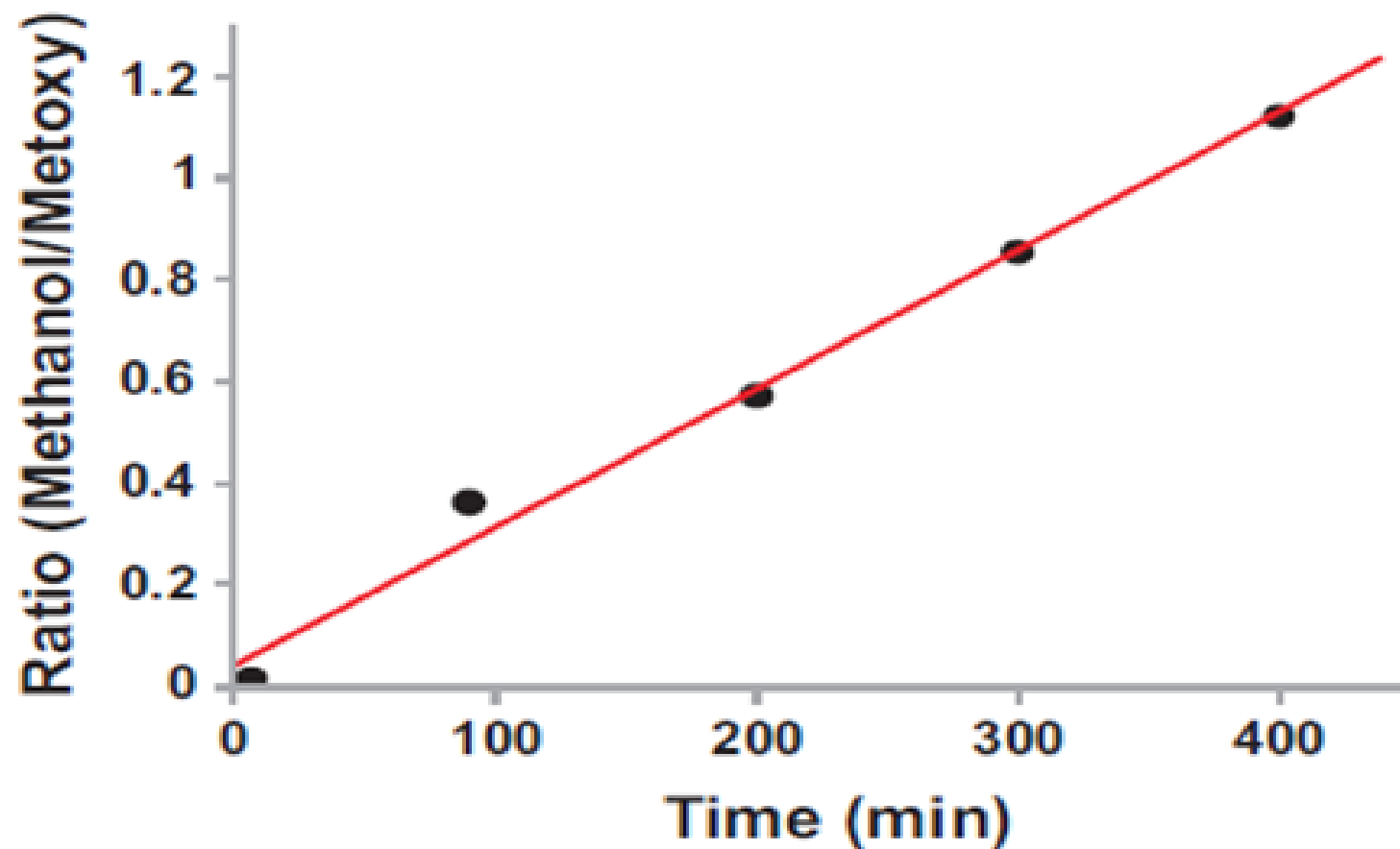


Coenzyme Q₁



O-demethylated Coenzyme Q₁

(2,3-**dihydroxo**-5-methyl-6-isoprenyl-benzoquinone)



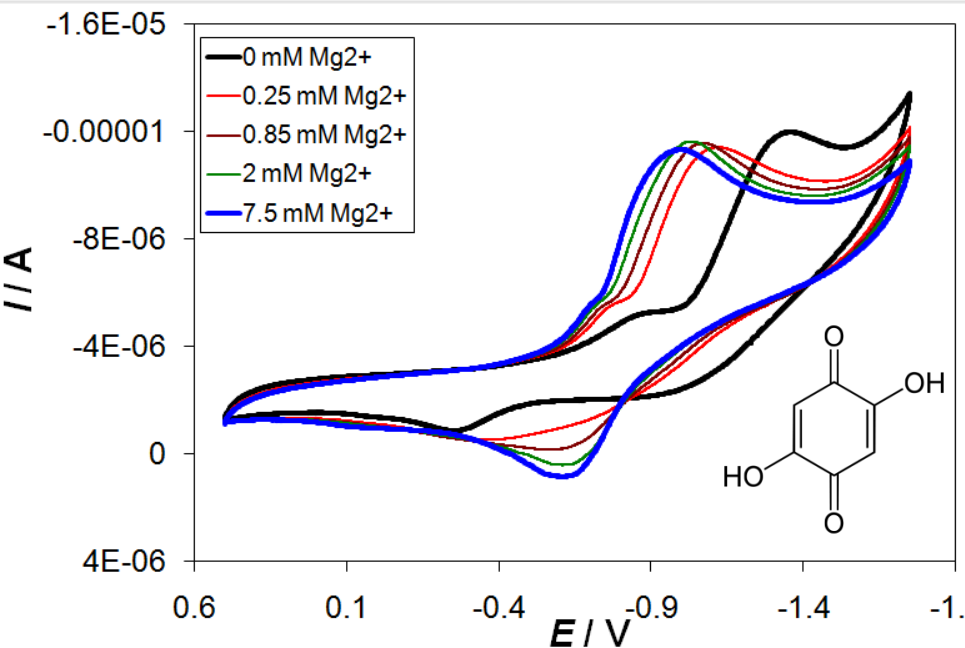
Ratio of the signal of Methanol vs Methoxy groups from NMR experiments of CoQ1 in NaOD



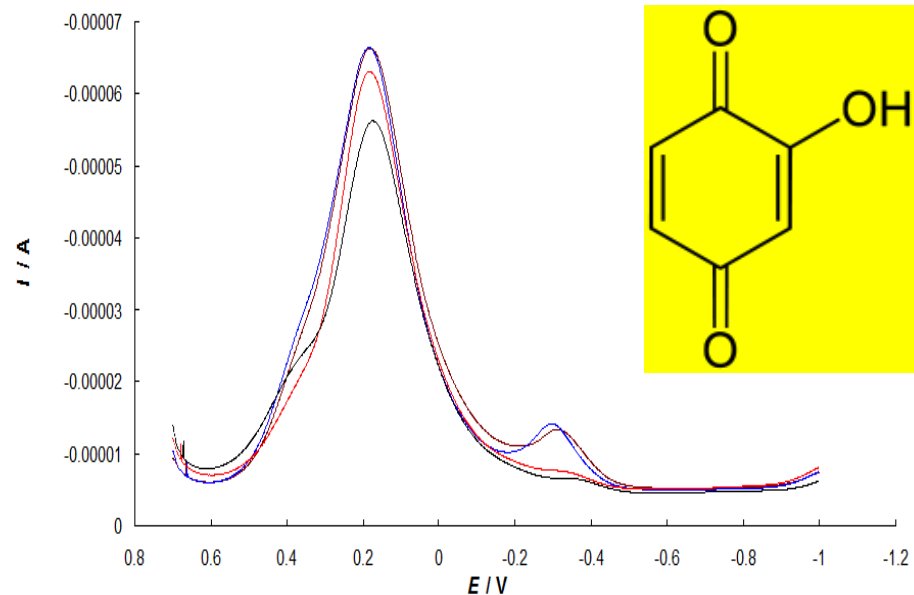
Color of solutions of
Benzoquinones with
2 OH groups in its structure



Color of solutions of
Benzoquinones with
1 OH group in its structure

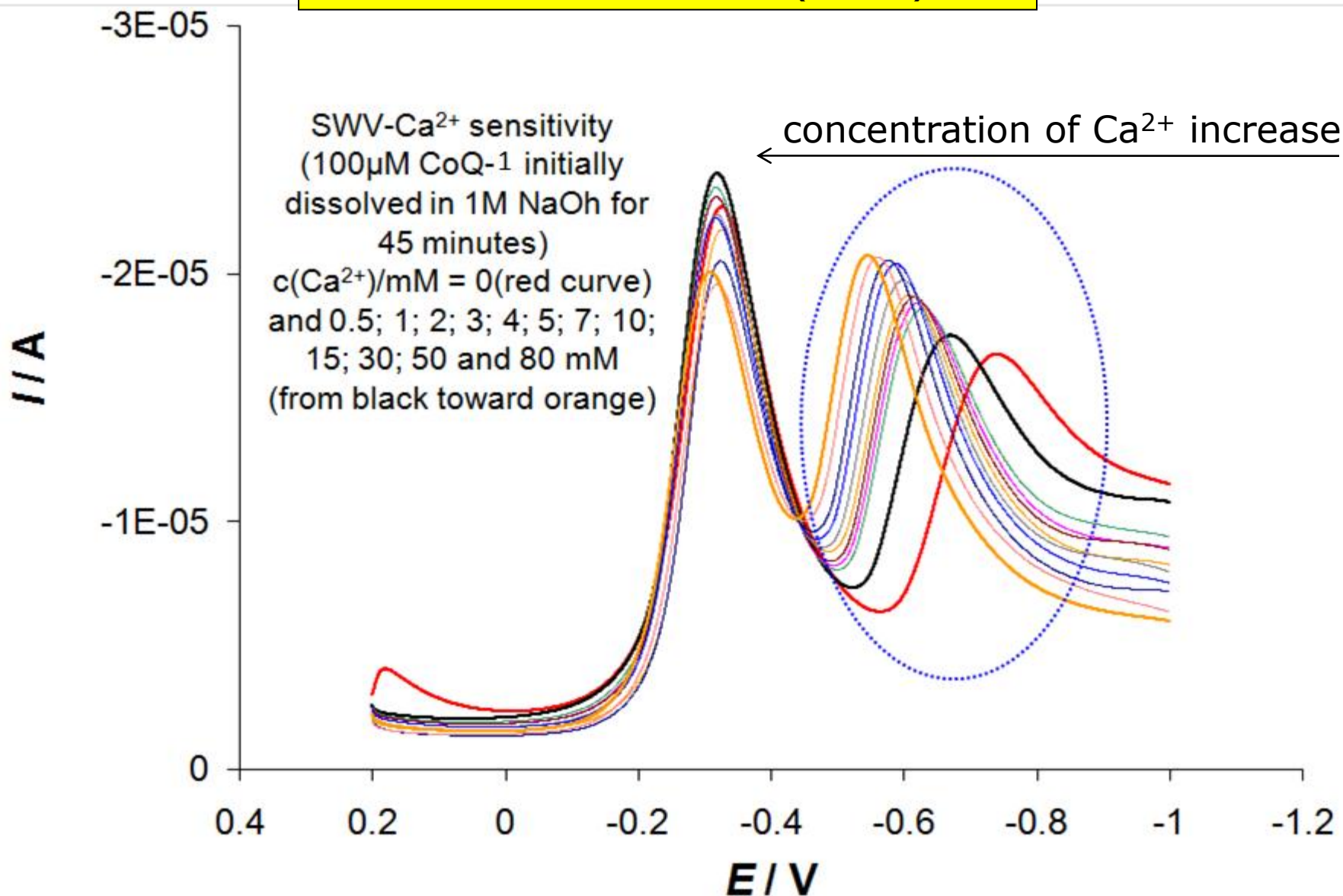


Benzoquinones with 2-OH groups
are able to bind earth-alkaline cations
in ratio 1:2

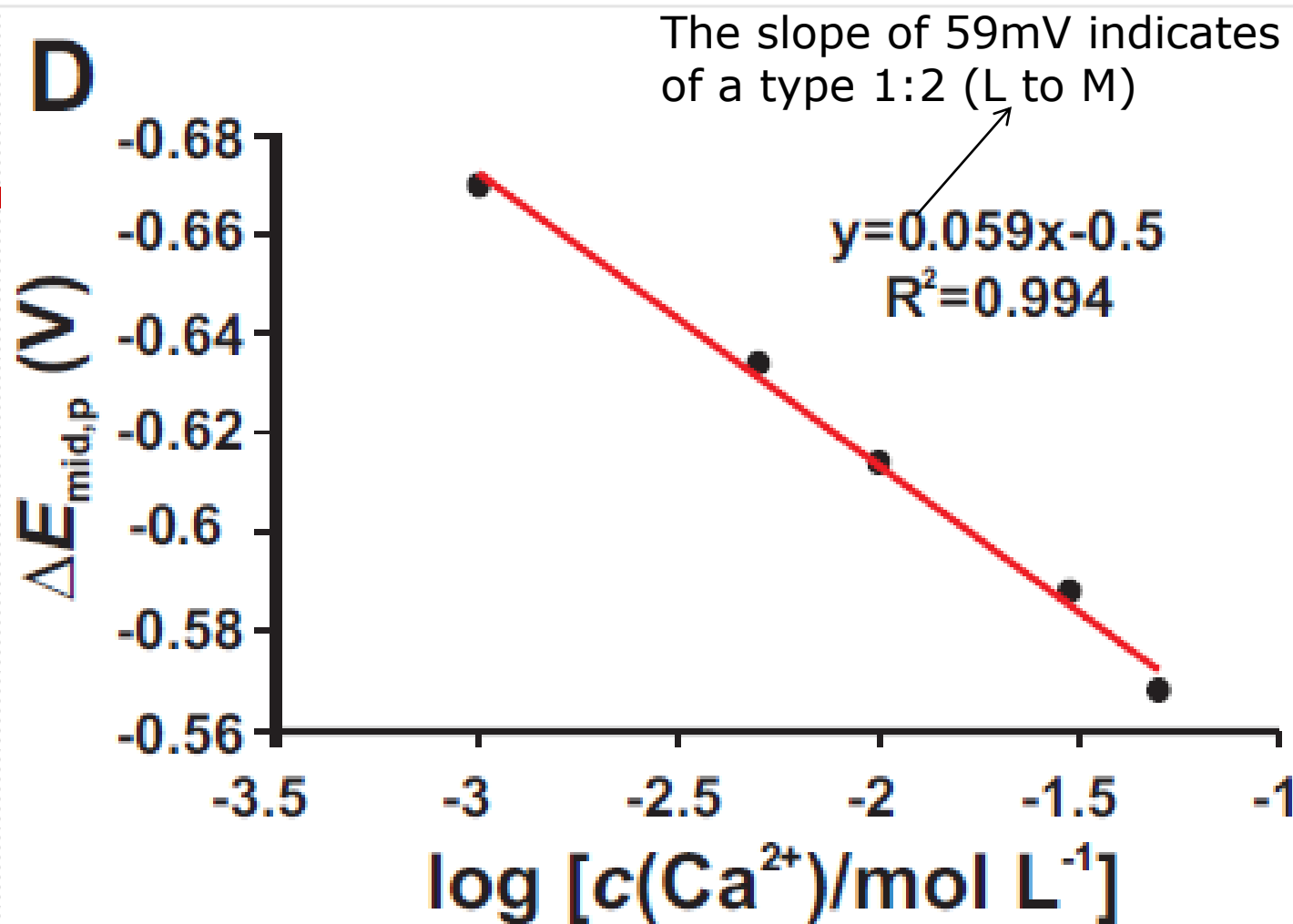


Benzoquinones with 1-OH group
are NOT able to bind (at least not strongly)
earth-alkaline cations

New product is able to bind Ca^{2+} ions
in stoichiometric ratio 1:2 ($\text{L}:\text{M}^{2+}$)

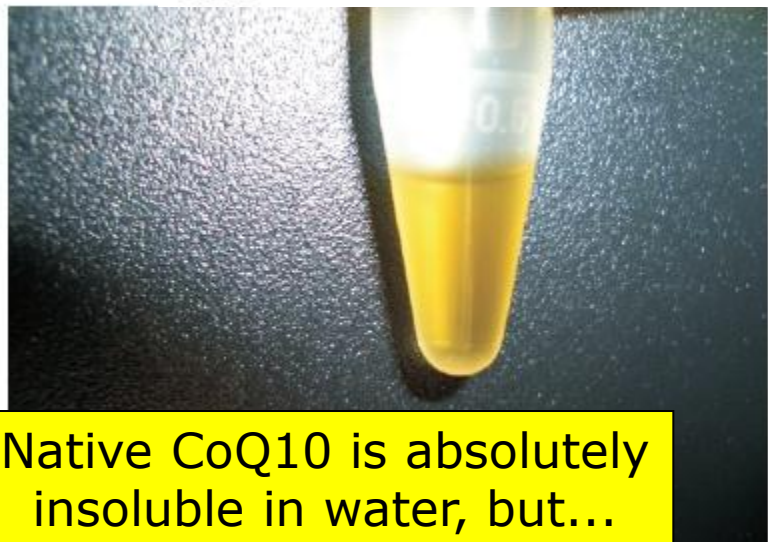


New form of CoQ-1, sensitivity to Ca^{2+} ions

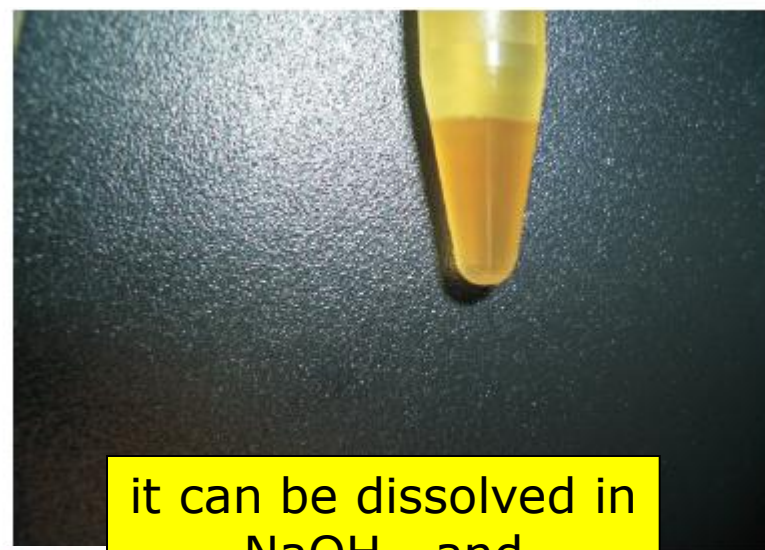


Dependence of the mid-peak potential of the cyclic voltammograms of new form of CoQ1 on the logarithm of Ca^{2+} concentration

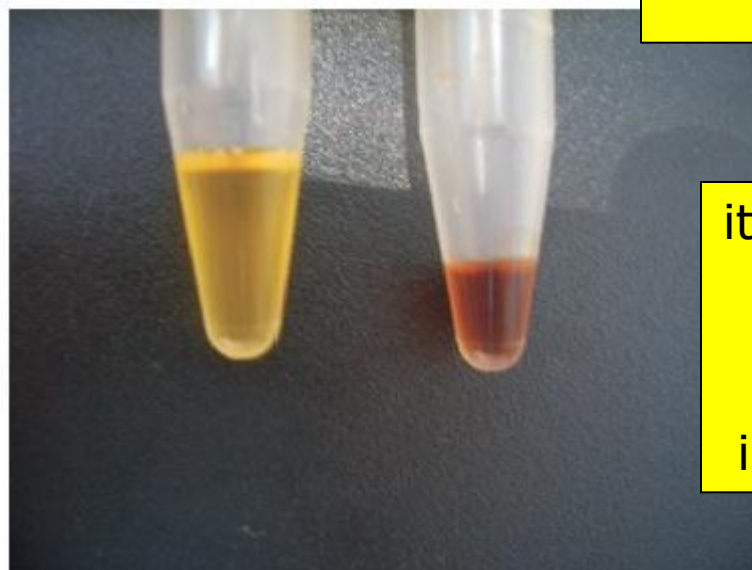
EXPERIMENTS with Coenzyme Q10-CoQ10



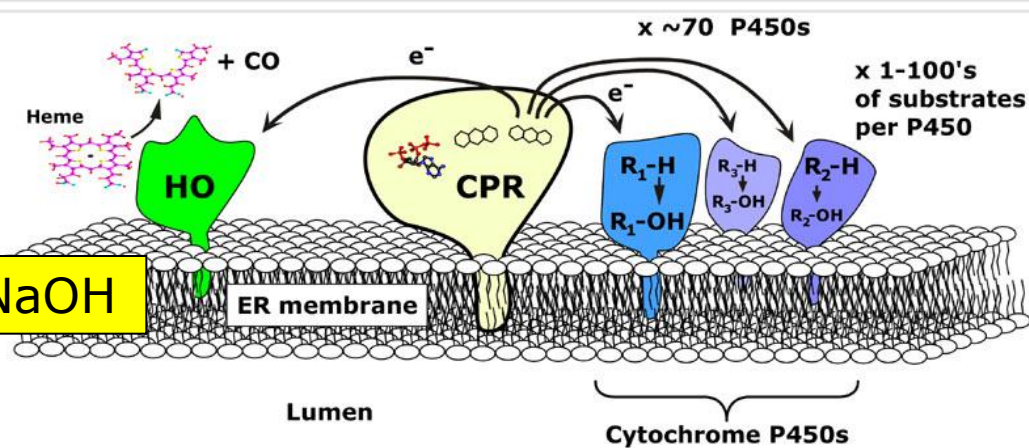
Native CoQ10 is absolutely insoluble in water, but...



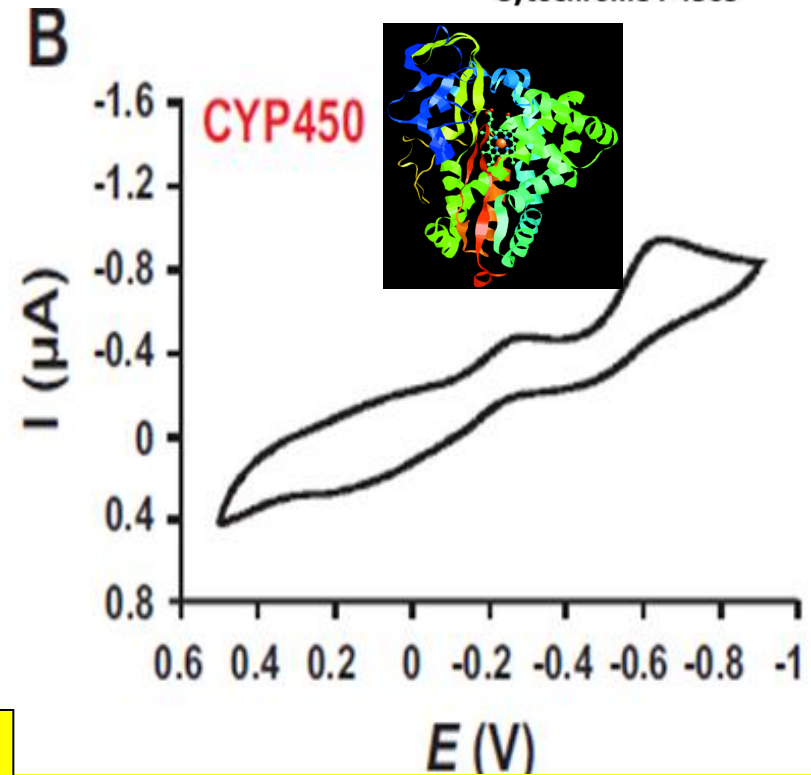
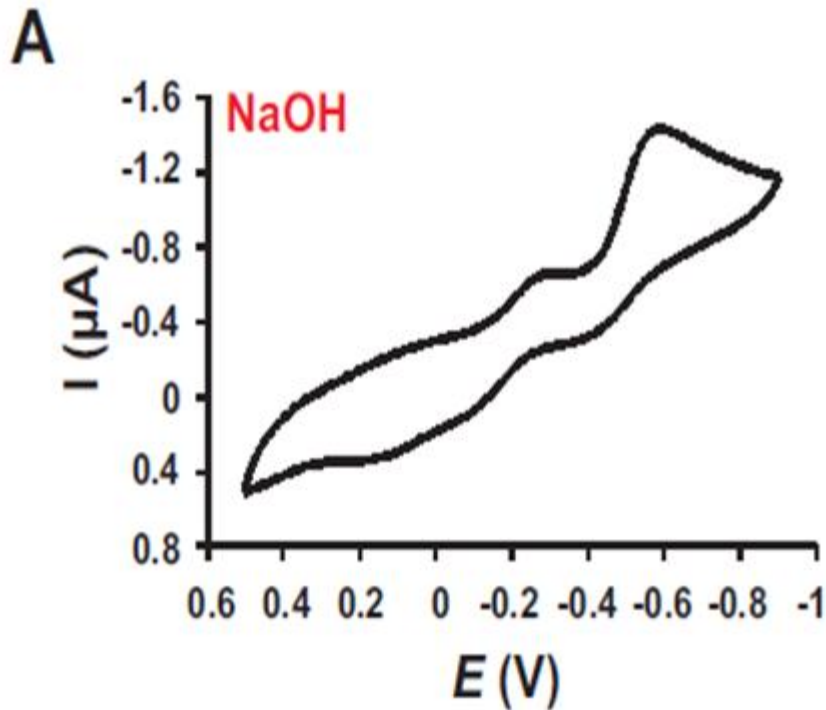
it can be dissolved in
NaOH...and



it can be transformed
into a new form in
presence of
 OH^- anions present
in the organic phase

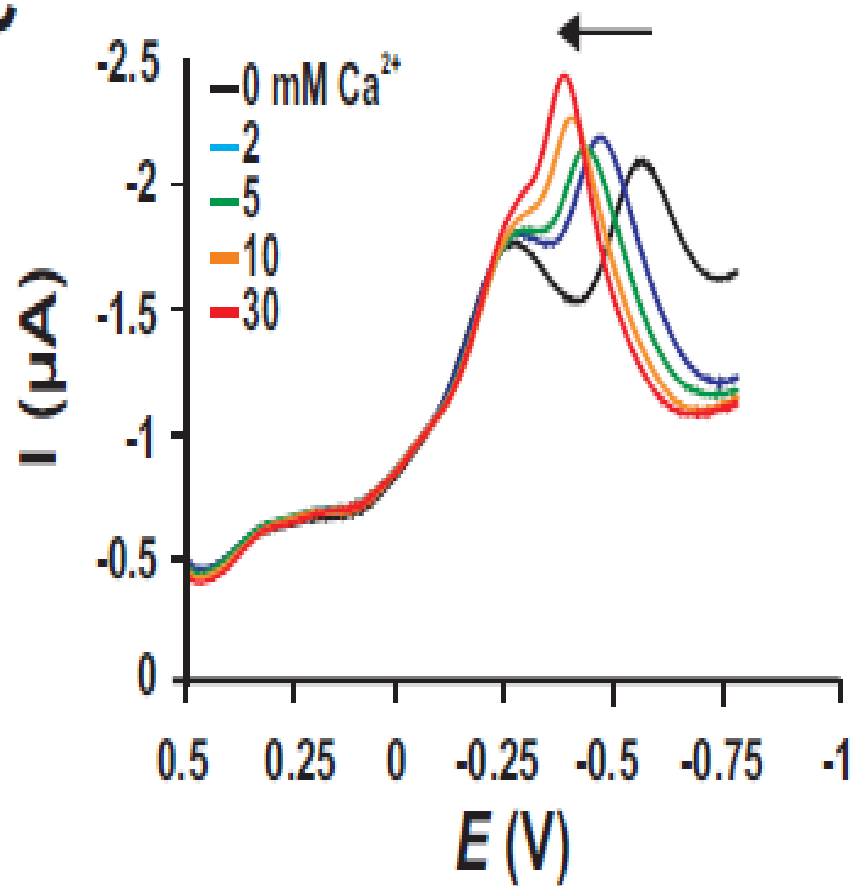
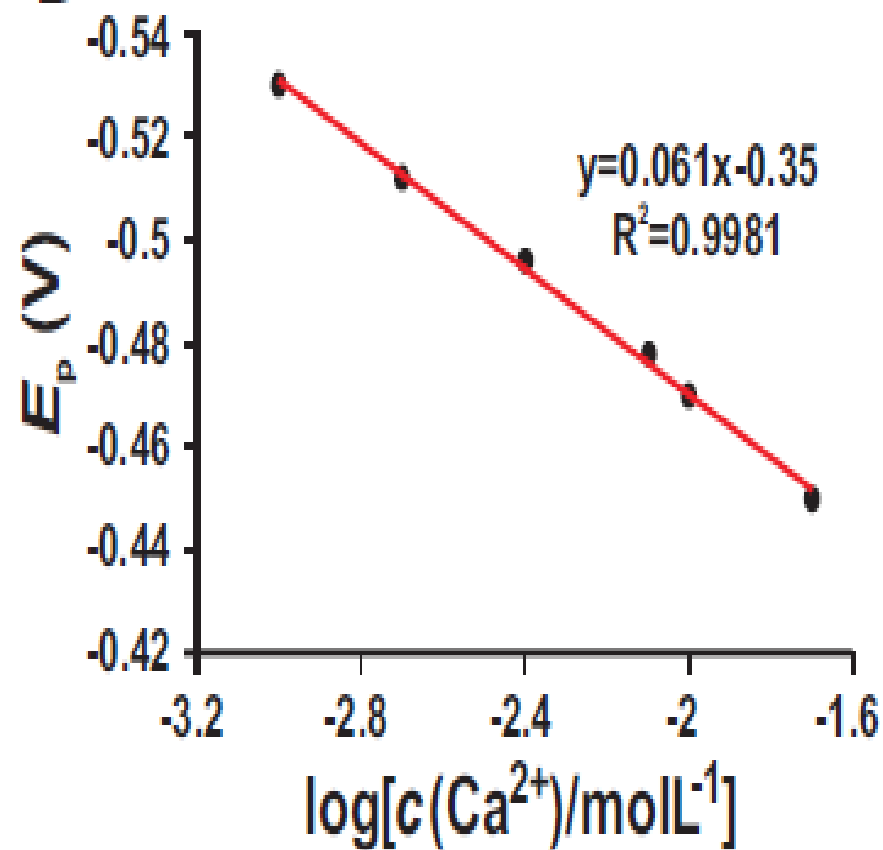


Coenzyme Q10 in presence of 1 M NaOH

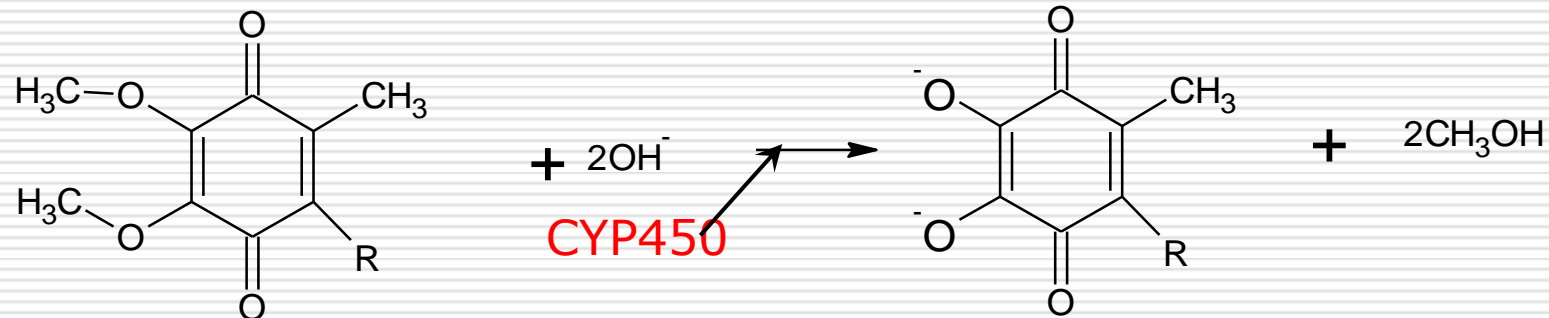


5 μM Coenzyme Q10 in presence of 1 M NaOH and retitrated to pH of 7.0 after 3 weeks

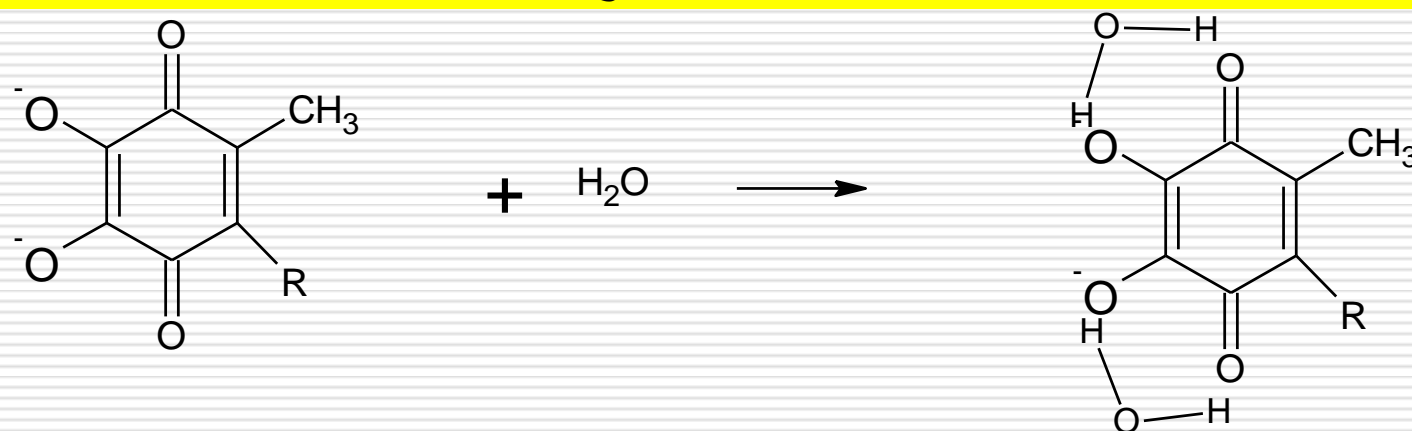
The membrane-bound enzyme Cytochrome P450 does the same task as NaOH to CoQ10!!!

C**D**

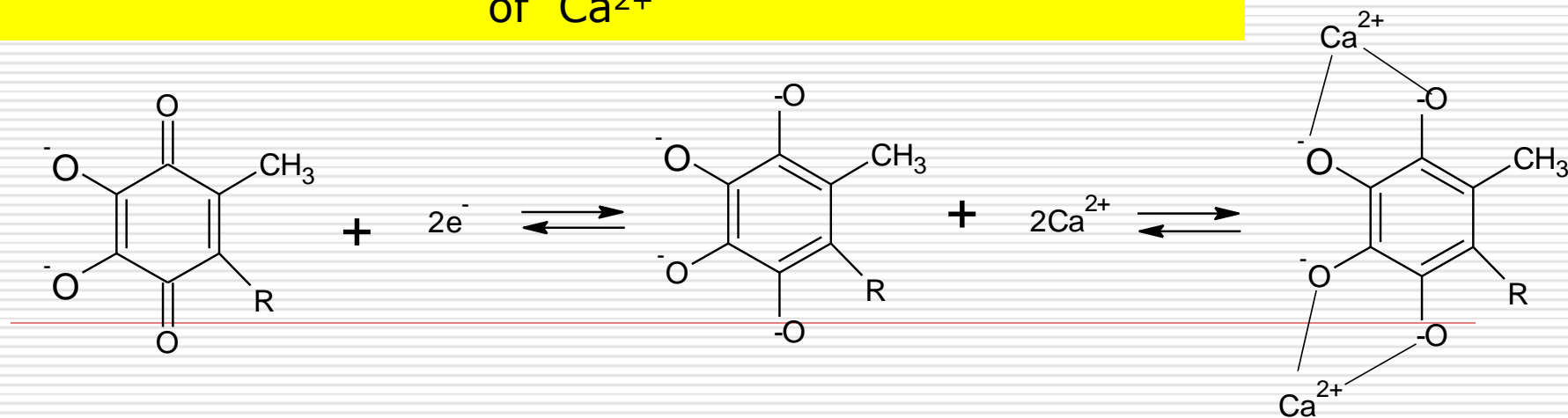
Effect of Ca^{2+} to the voltammetric response of CoQ10 in presence of CYP450 in pH of 7.40



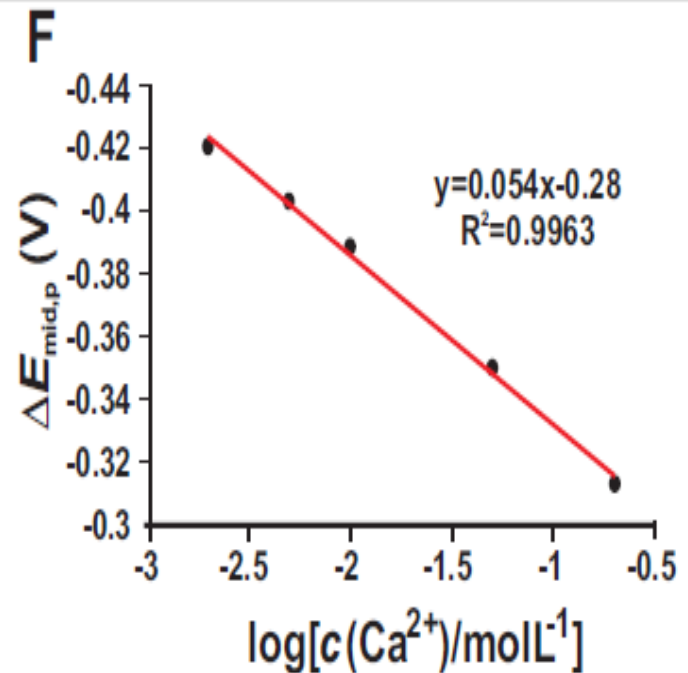
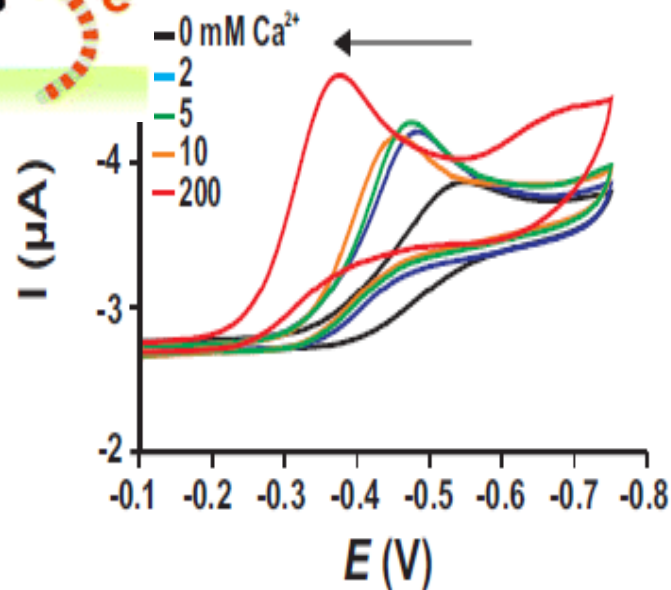
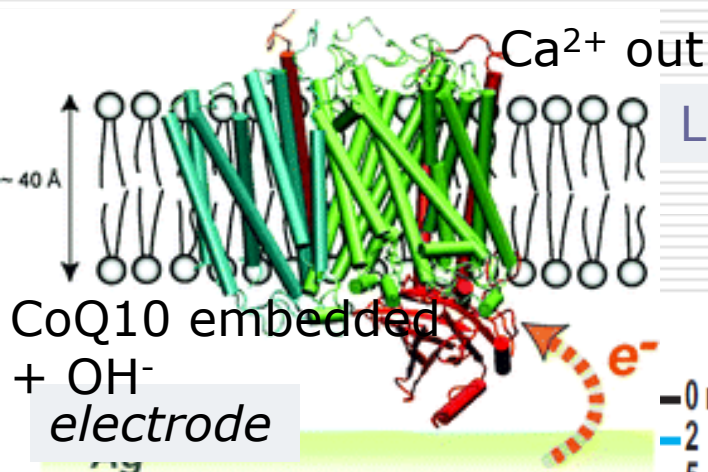
2. Stabilization of the CH₃-cleaved CoQ10 products in water



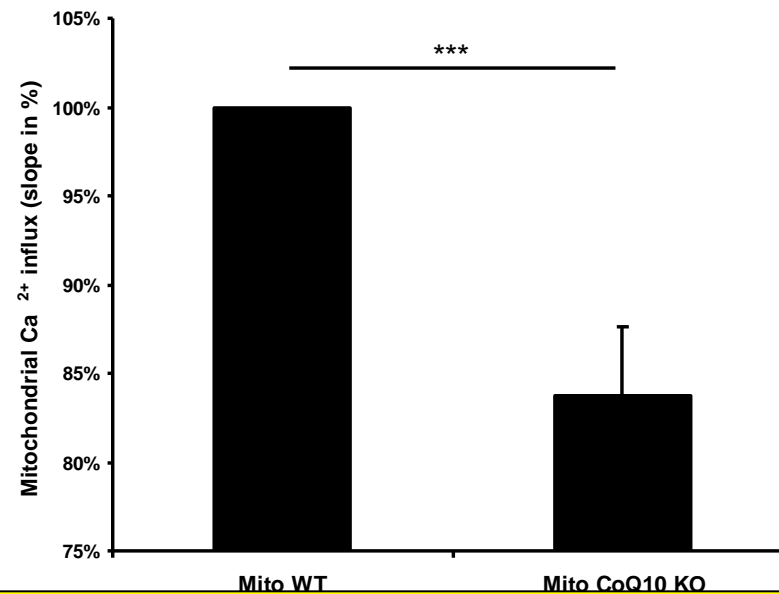
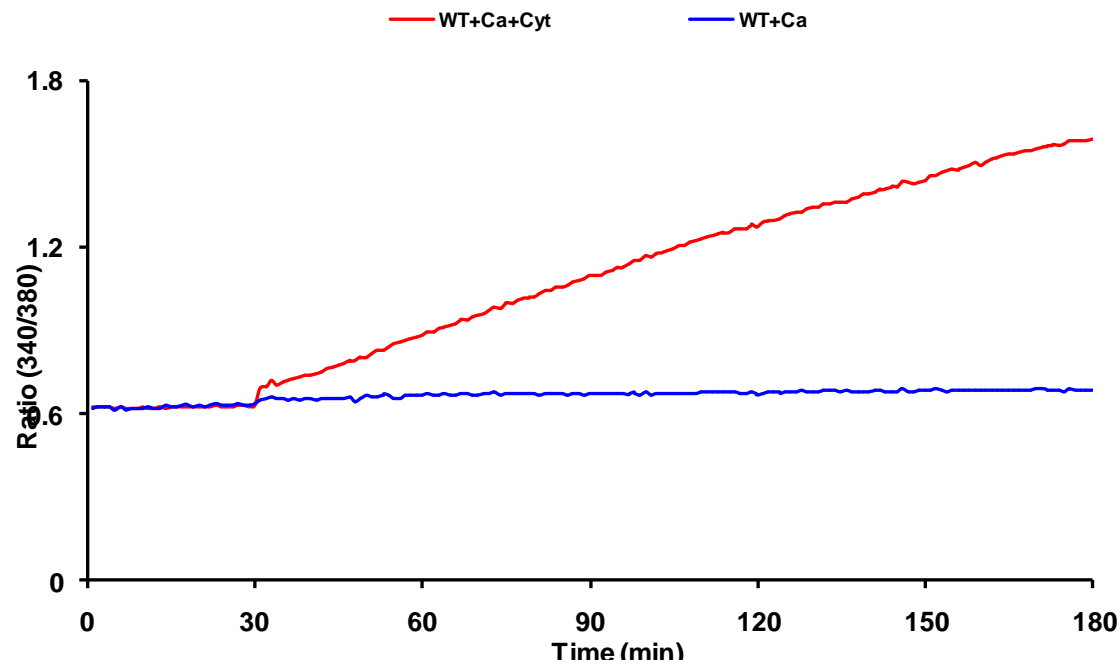
3. Reduction of the CH₃-cleaved CoQ10 product and binding of Ca²⁺



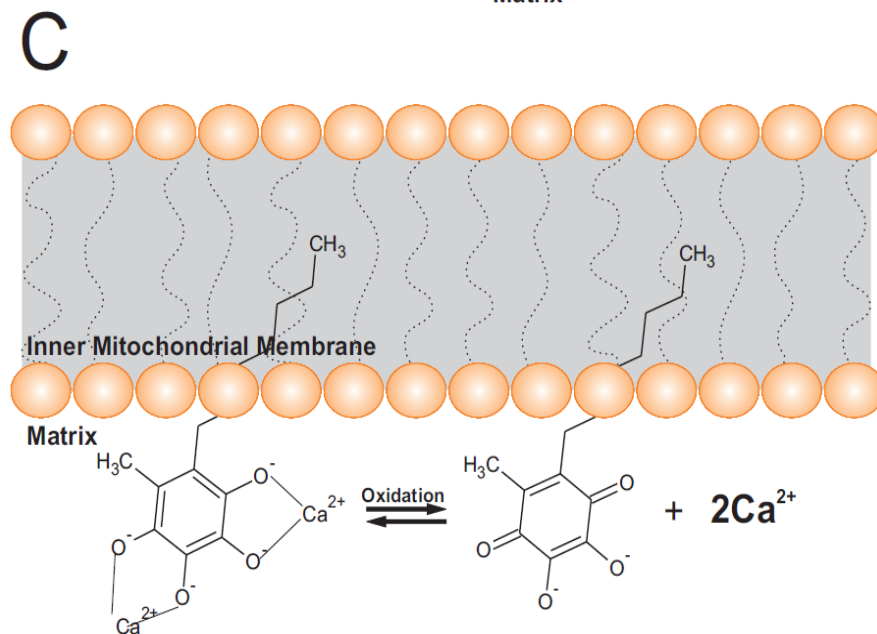
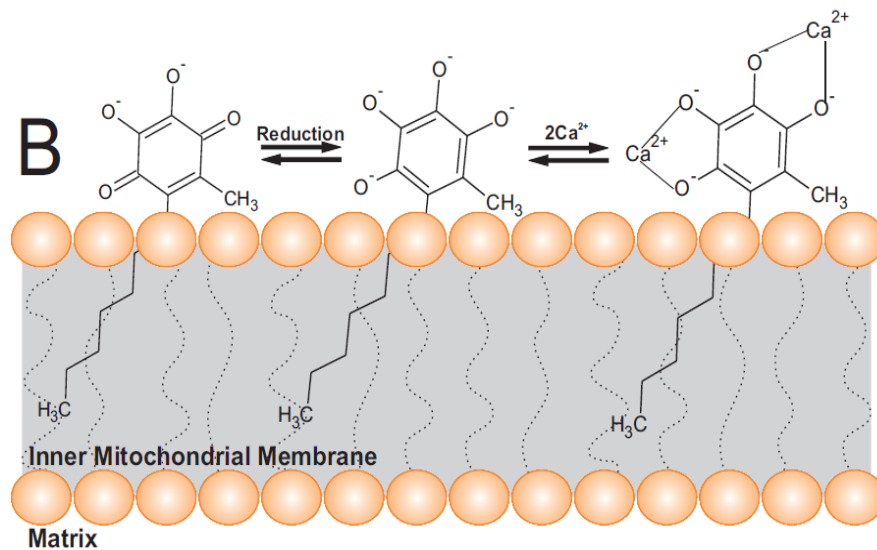
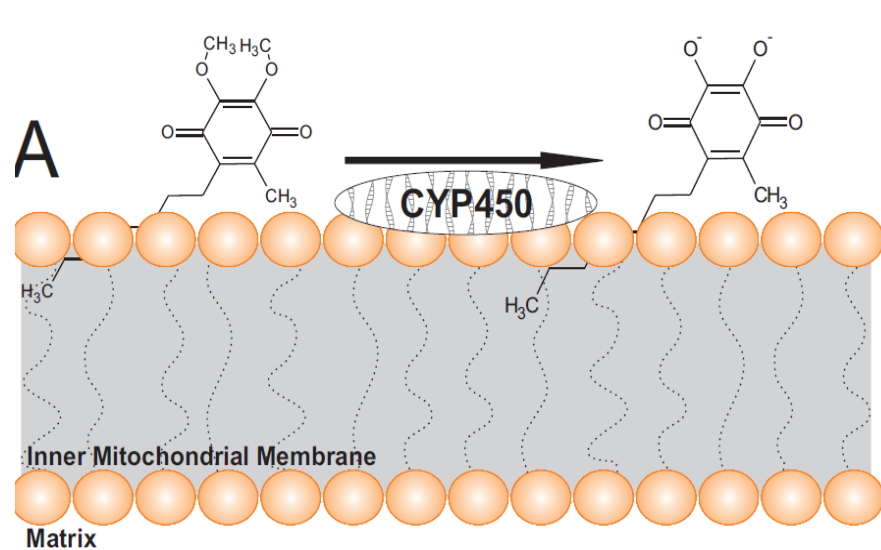
Experiments with CoQ10 embedded in organic membrane in presence of Organic Hydroxide to show whether the new form of CoQ10 can transfer Ca^{2+} ions across biological membranes



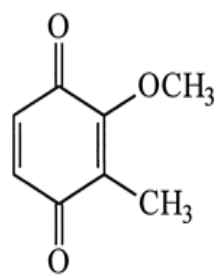
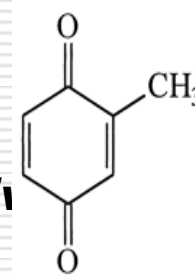
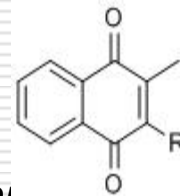
Cyclic voltammograms of CoQ10 showing transfer of Ca^{2+} ions across biomimetic membranes



Experiments with wild types of mitochondria and knockout mitochondria depleted of CoQ10 in absence and in presence of CYTP450. Effect of Ca^{2+} ions

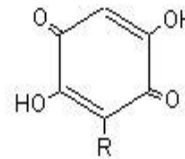


SUMMARY



□ **Plenty of CoQ family members are present in the lin**

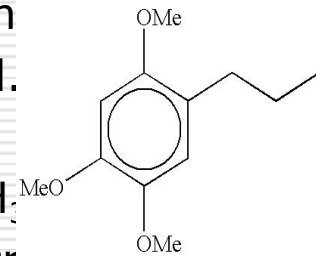
□ **The chemistry and most of the functions of the native f**
members are mainly portrayed in the features of the 2e-/
(and proton transfer) that leads to reversible 1
forms.



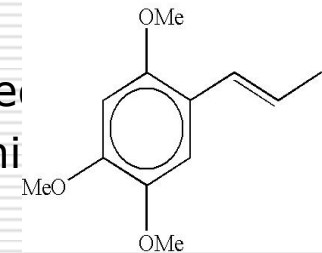
tion or the quinone to quinol
2

□ If the Coenzyme Q structures are in contact with high concen
CYP450 enzymes, quite different quinonic forms can be obtained.

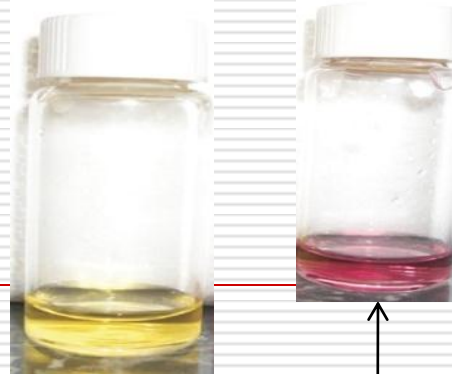
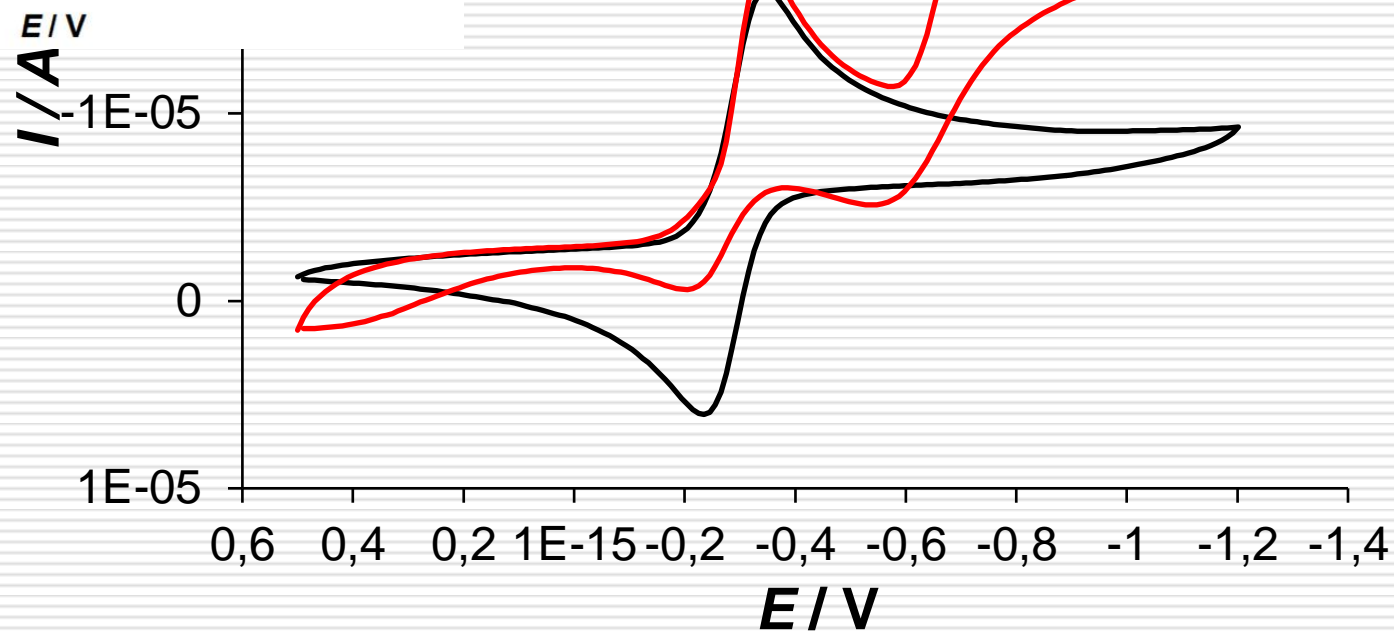
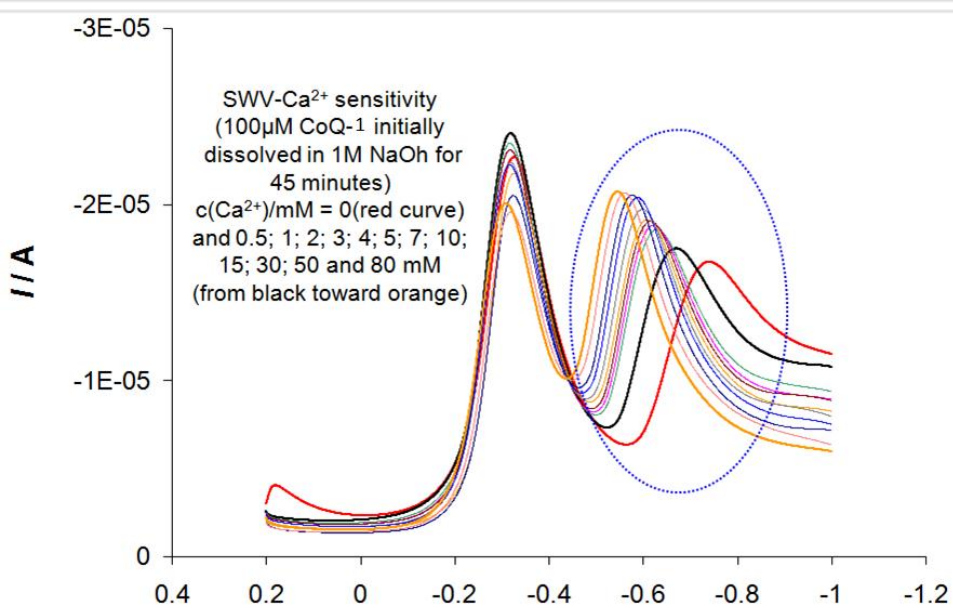
□ CYP450 and NaOH can both induce scission of the both O-CH₃
the structure of the Coenzyme Q family members, thus cr
demethylated" quinones that bear charge of „2-“.



□ **These new Coenzyme Q structures** formed in alkaline me
CYP450) are more polar than their parent compounds, whi
stronger antioxidative features.



□ **The inherent properties of the new Coenzyme Q structures to bind the earth-alkaline**
cations upon their reduction classify these compounds as potential facilitators for
transferring of metal ions across biological membranes.



Main people involved in this project

A. in Homburg



I. Bogeski

M. Hoth



R. Kappl

Richi Kohler



D: MKD

Prof. Mirceski

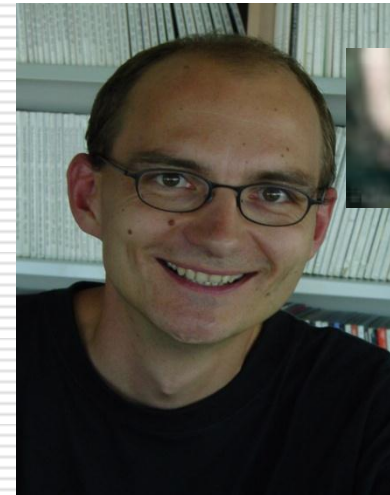
B. Saarbrücken



Bernd Morgenstern



Barbara Kutzky

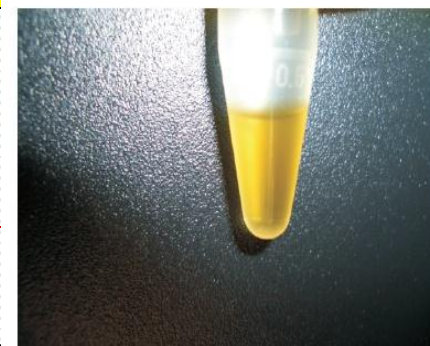
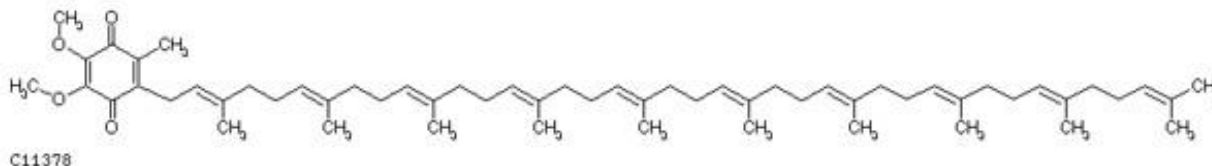


C. UNi K'Lautern
Prof. Hermann

ACKNOWLEDGMENT also to
**Alexander von Humboldt
Foundation**

Experiments with Coenzyme Q10-CoQ10

Solubility of CoQ10 in water is below 10 pM!!!
Impossible to perform experiments in water media!



CoQ10 studied voltammetrically in **Thin-film voltammetry set-up**

Electron conductor, graphite electrode

Organic
water
immiscible
solvent



CoQ₁₀

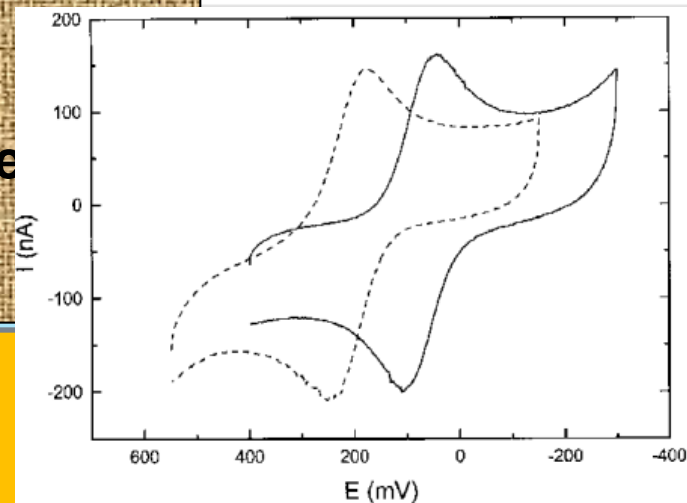
H⁺ H⁺

Cat²⁺

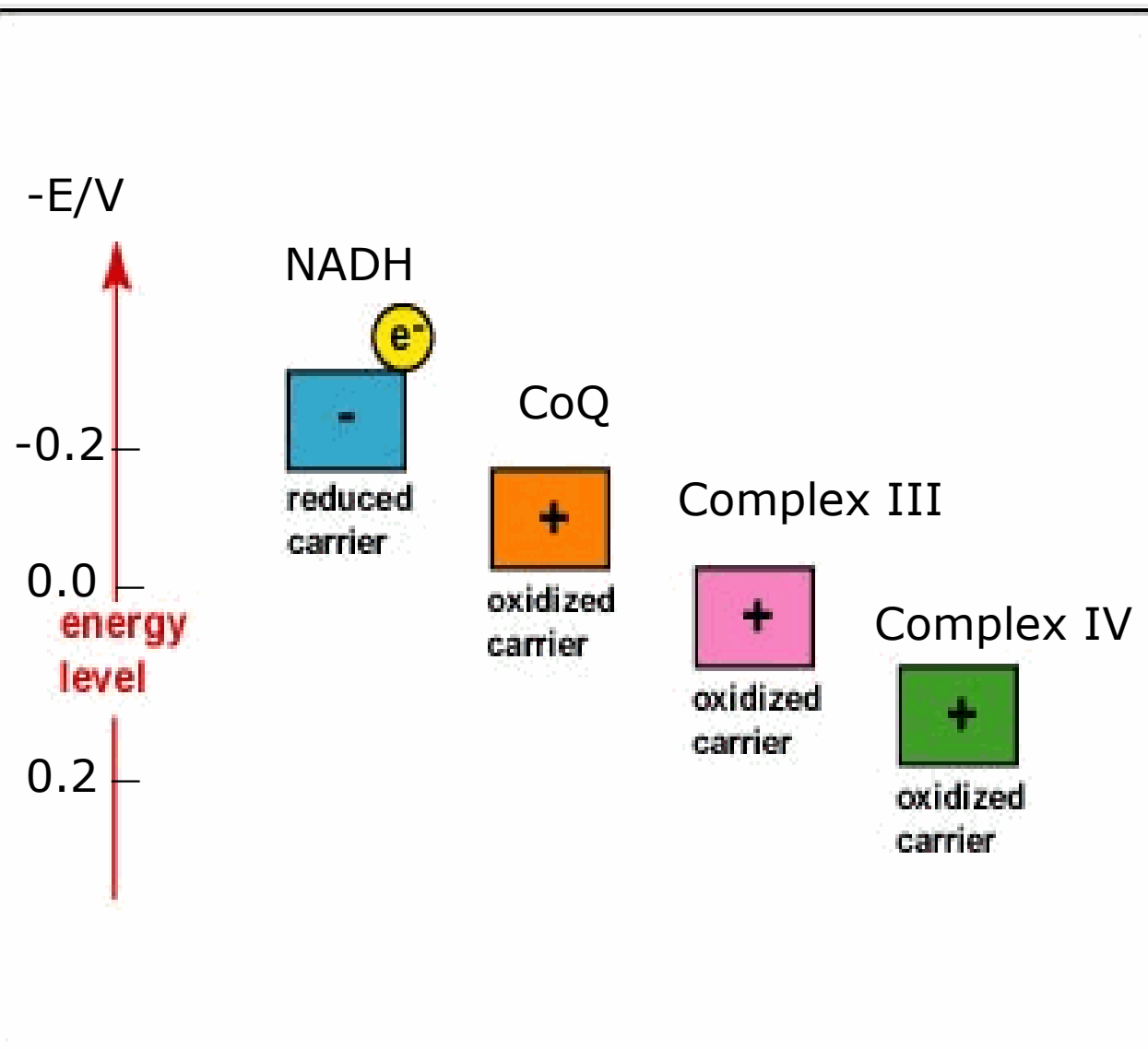
aqueous electrolyte
solution

OH⁻ H⁺
OH⁻ H⁺

Cat²⁺ 2An⁻



Liquid-Liquid interface



The processes in the mitochondrial electron transfer chain are driven by the differences in the standard redox potentials of the contributors