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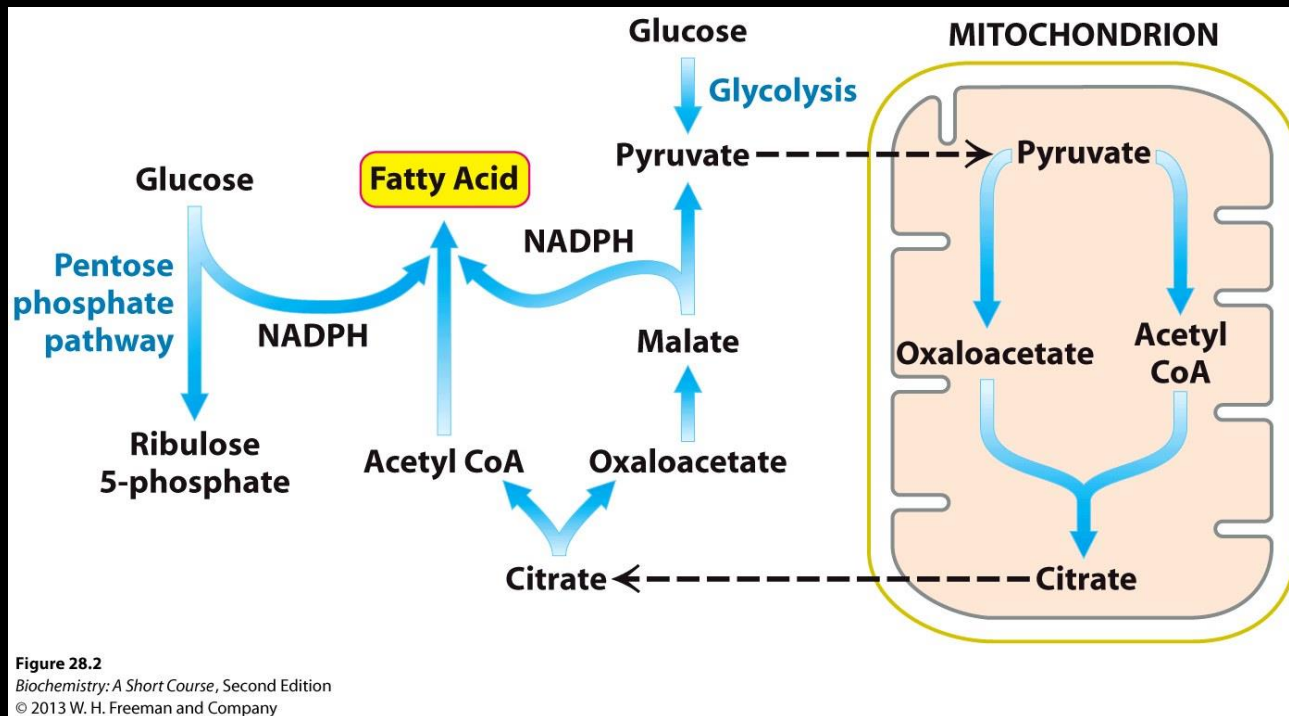
Fatty Acid Synthesis

## Overview of fatty acid biosynthesis

- ✦ Occurs in the cytosol of certain animal tissues; e.g., liver and mammary gland
- ✦ (Also occurs in plants and bacteria)
- ✦ Uses acetyl-CoA, NADPH as starting materials
- ✦ Produces a pool of palmitic acid (16:0) that can be further modified

# Pathway Integration

✦ Fatty acid synthesis requires the cooperation of several metabolic pathways.



## Overlap with carbohydrate metabolism

- ✦ Excess carbs are transported to cytosol as citrate
- ✦ OA ends up back in the matrix
- ✦ Net result is acetyl-CoA in cytosol

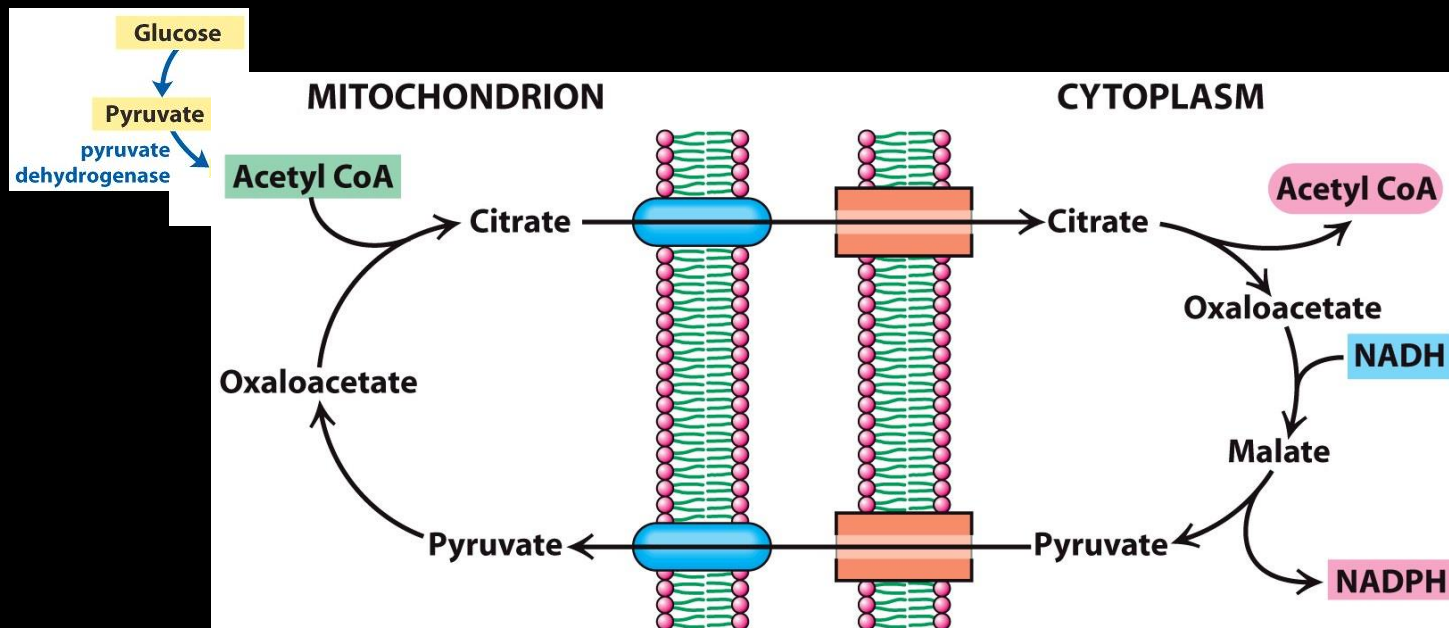


Figure 28.1  
Biochemistry: A Short Course, Second Edition  
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# Overlap with protein metabolism

- ★ Amino acid degradation leads to acetyl-CoA or citrate
- ★ Citrate is transported to cytosol
- ★ Net result is acetyl-CoA in cytosol

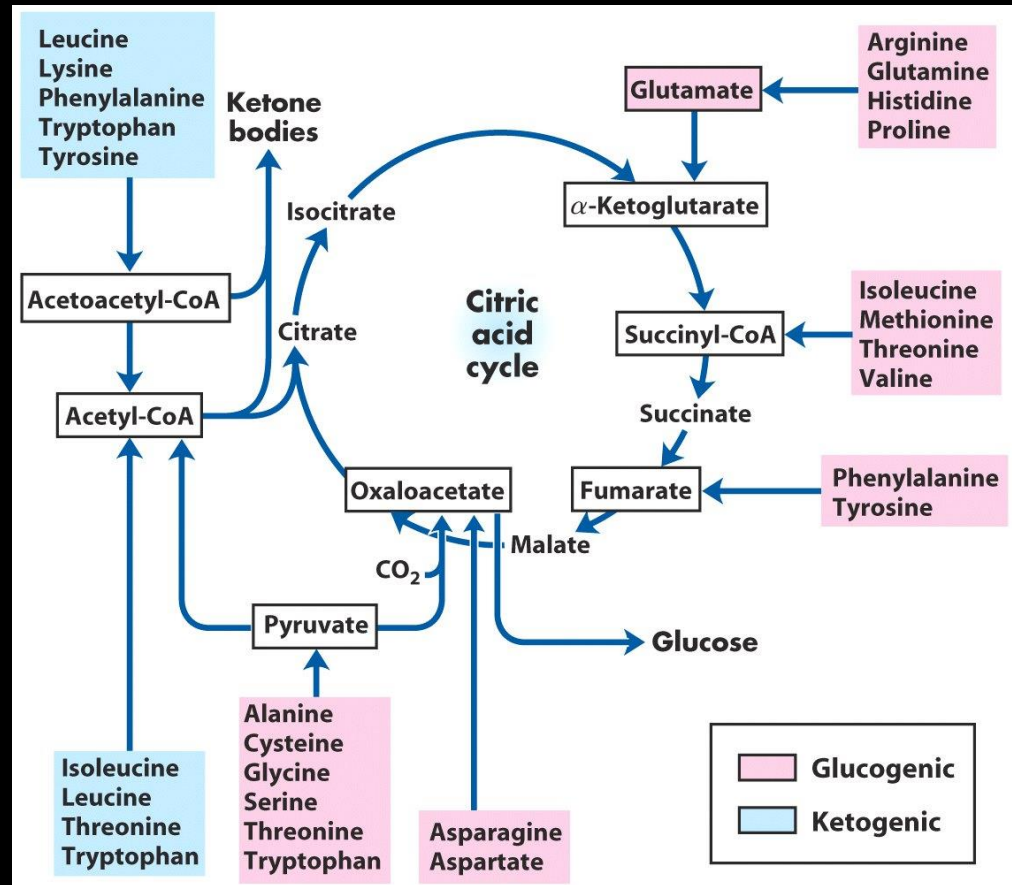
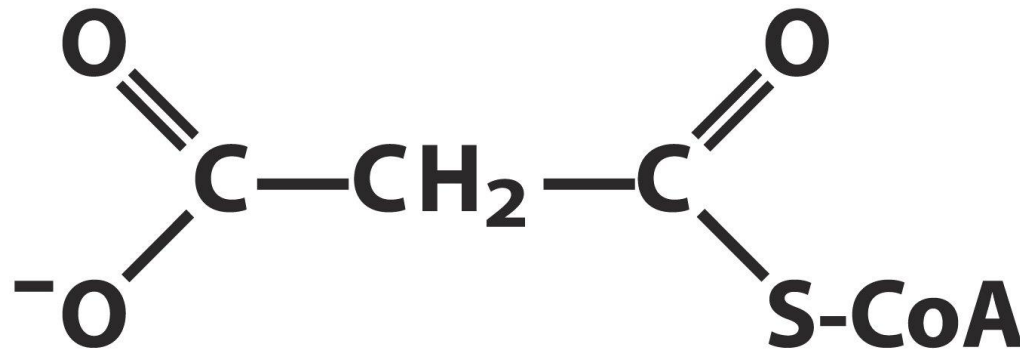


Fig 18-15

The intermediate: malonyl-CoA



**Malonyl-CoA**

✦ Malonyl-CoA is an “activated” form of acetyl-CoA used for fatty acid biosynthesis.

## Formation of malonyl-CoA

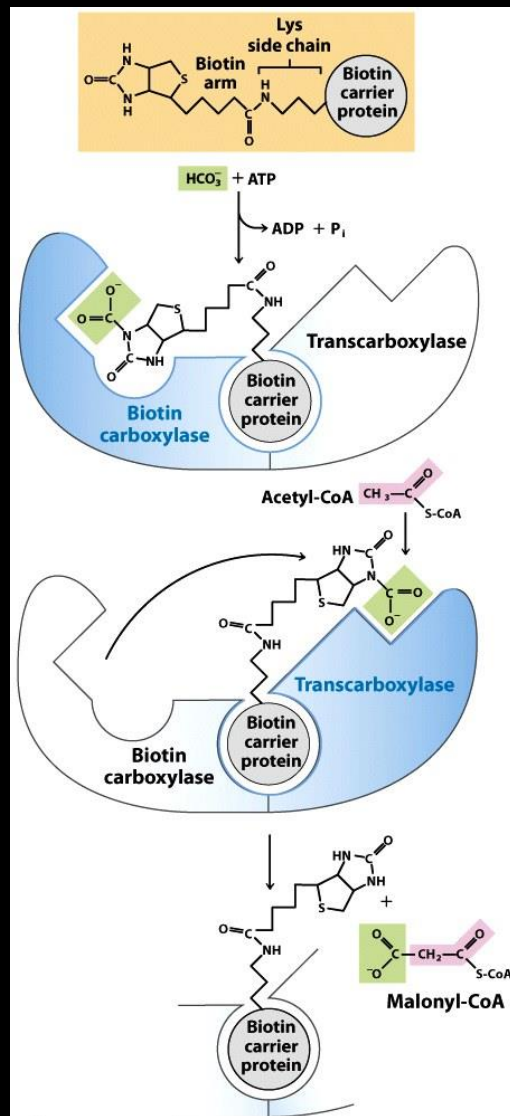


Figure 21-1

Lehninger Principles of Biochemistry, Fifth Edition

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✦ Acetyl-CoA carboxylase has three activities:

- ✓ biotin carrier protein
- ✓ biotin carboxylase
- ✓ transcarboxylase

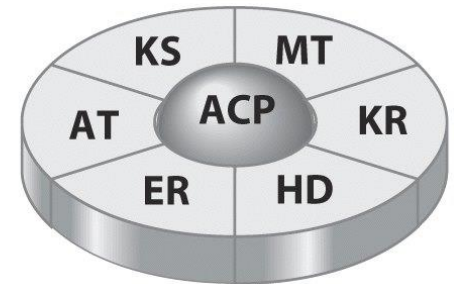
✦ Bicarb is phosphorylated, then picked up by biotin

✦ Biotin swinging arm transfers  $\text{CO}_2$  to acetyl-CoA

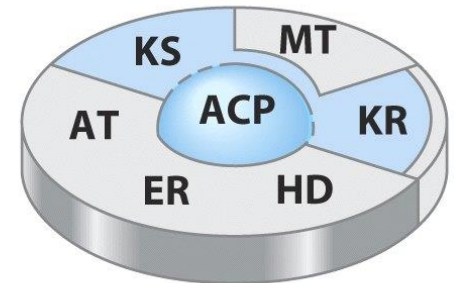
# Fatty acid synthase

★ Fatty acid synthase has seven different enzyme activities

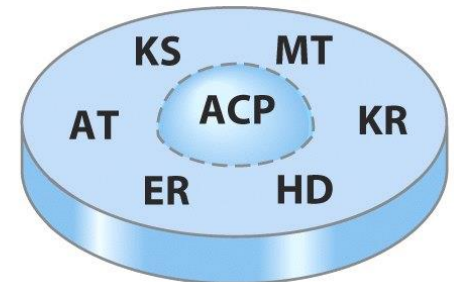
**Bacteria, Plants**  
Seven activities  
in seven separate  
polypeptides



**Yeast**  
Seven activities  
in two separate  
polypeptides



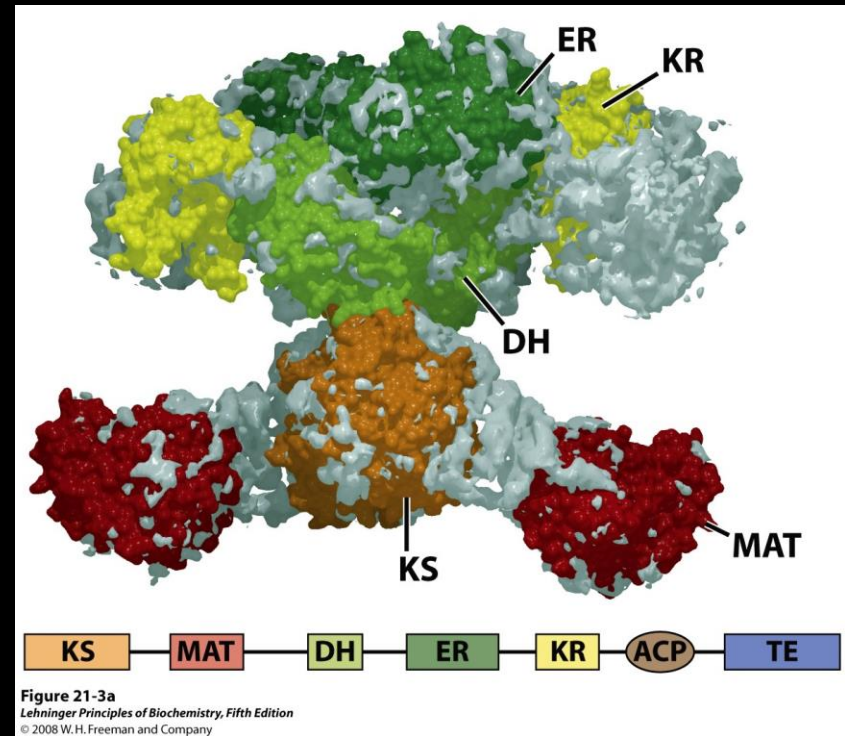
**Vertebrates**  
Seven activities  
in one large  
polypeptide



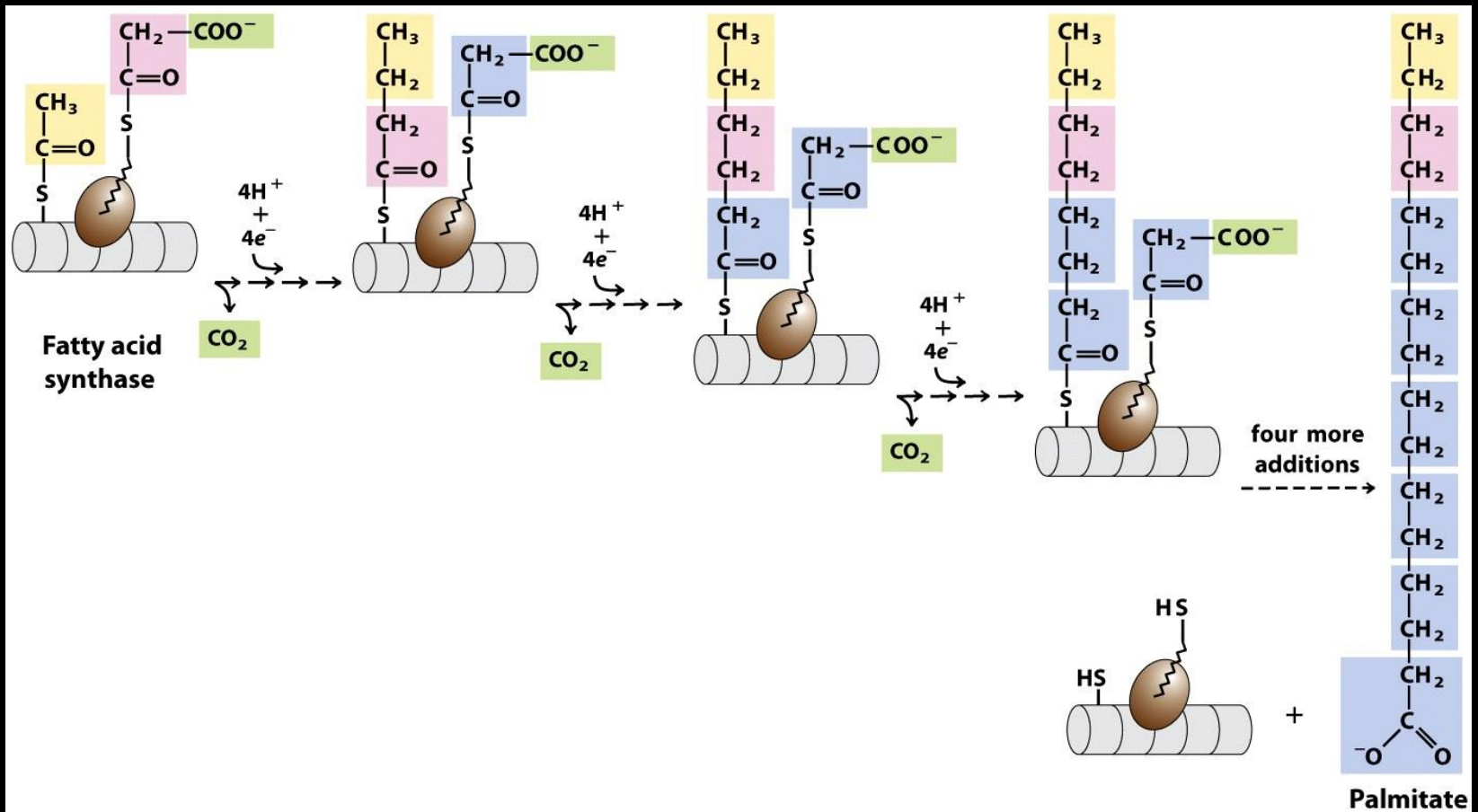


# Fatty acid synthase

- ✦ Fatty acid synthase has seven different enzyme activities
- ✦ Adds two carbons every cycle through addition of malonyl-CoA and loss of  $\text{CO}_2$



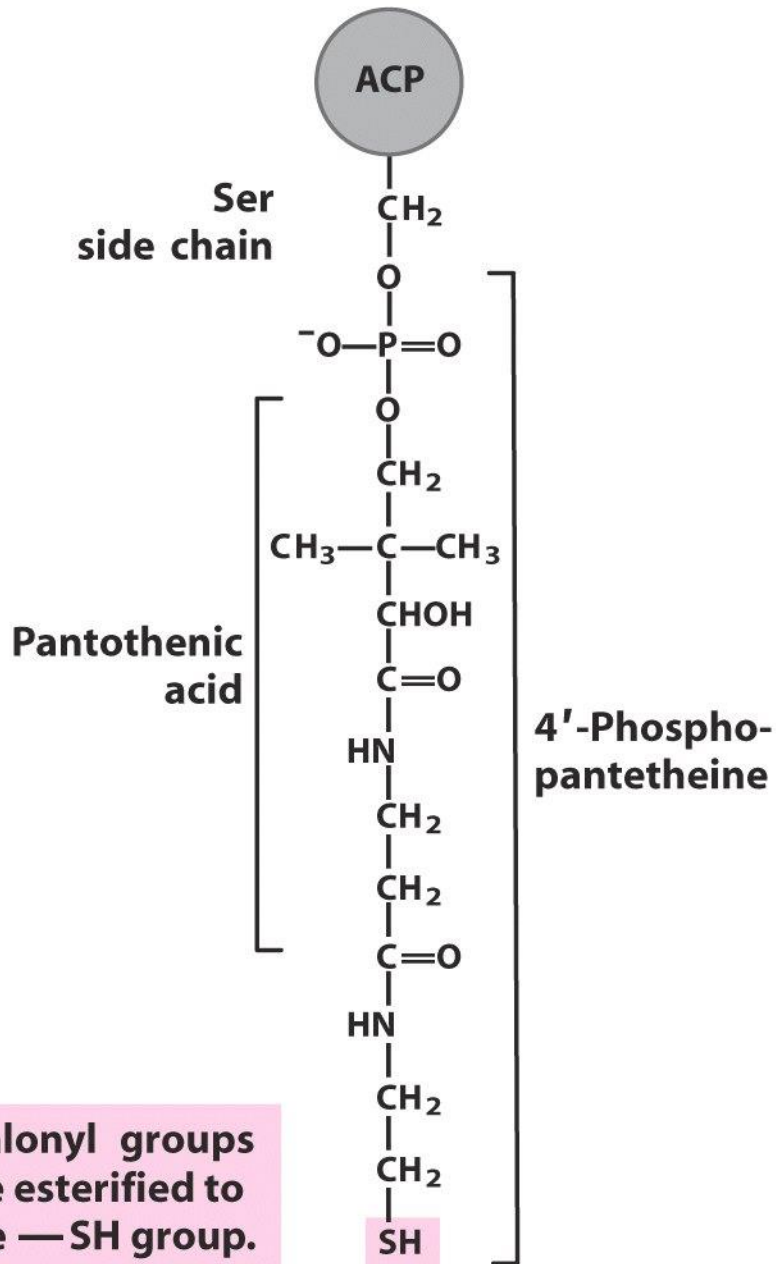
# Fatty acyl synthase



**Figure 21-4**

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Malonyl groups are esterified to the  $\text{—SH}$  group.

Key Player:  
acyl carrier  
protein

★ “Macro” CoA,  
carries growing fatty  
acid chain via  
thioester

## Initiation Stage

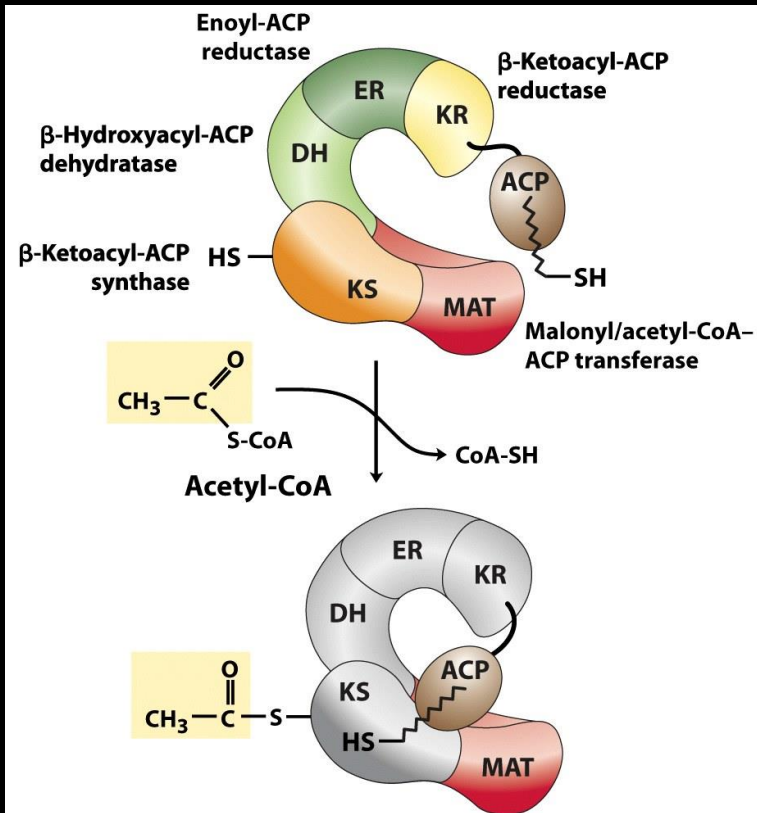


Figure 21-6 part 1  
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Step 1: loading  
of acetyl-CoA  
onto fatty acid  
synthase

## Initiation Stage

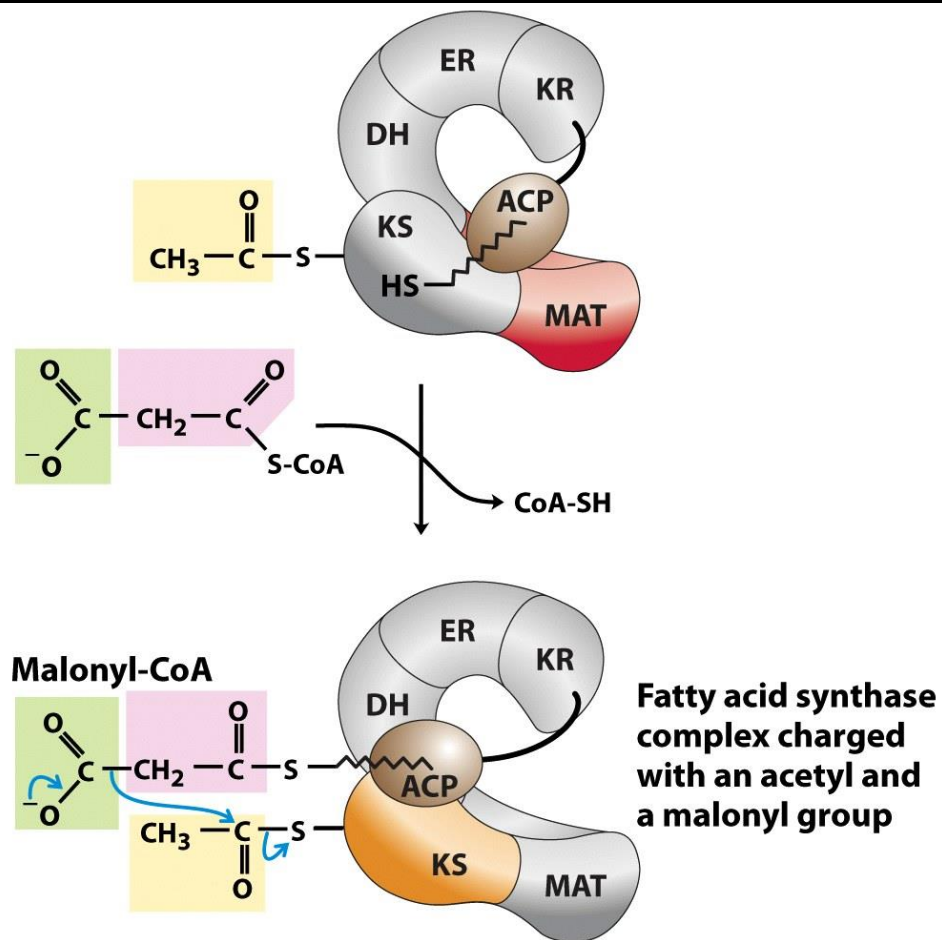
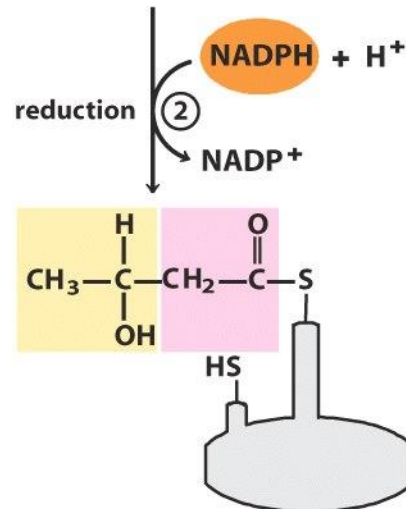
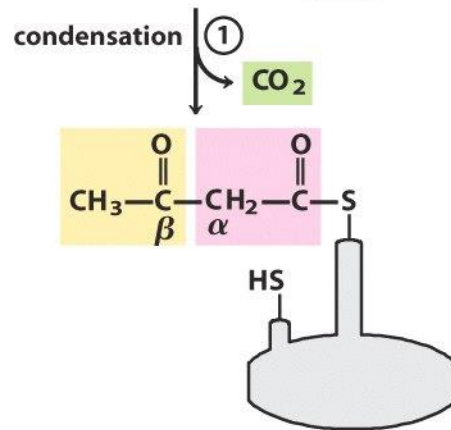
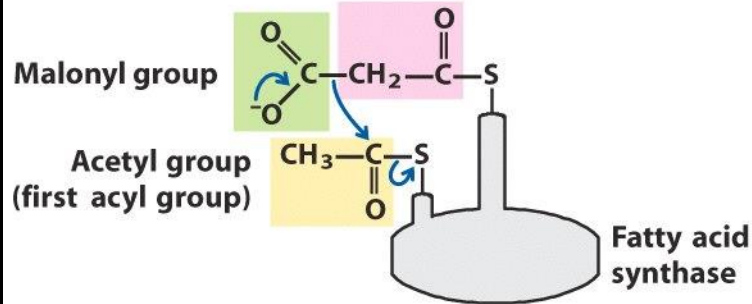


Figure 21-6 part 2  
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Step 2:  
loading of  
malonyl-  
CoA onto  
fatty acid  
synthase



## Overview of Assembly Stage

4 steps:

- ★ Condensation
- ★ Reduction
- ★ Dehydration
- ★ Reduction

Fig 21-2

## Overview of Assembly Stage

4 steps:

- ★ Condensation
- ★ Reduction
- ★ Dehydration
- ★ Reduction

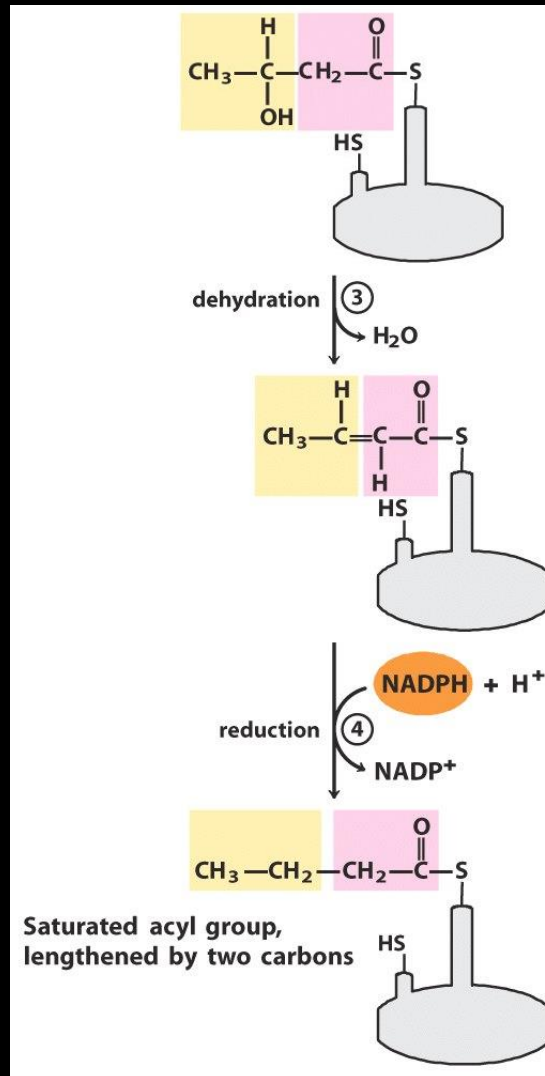
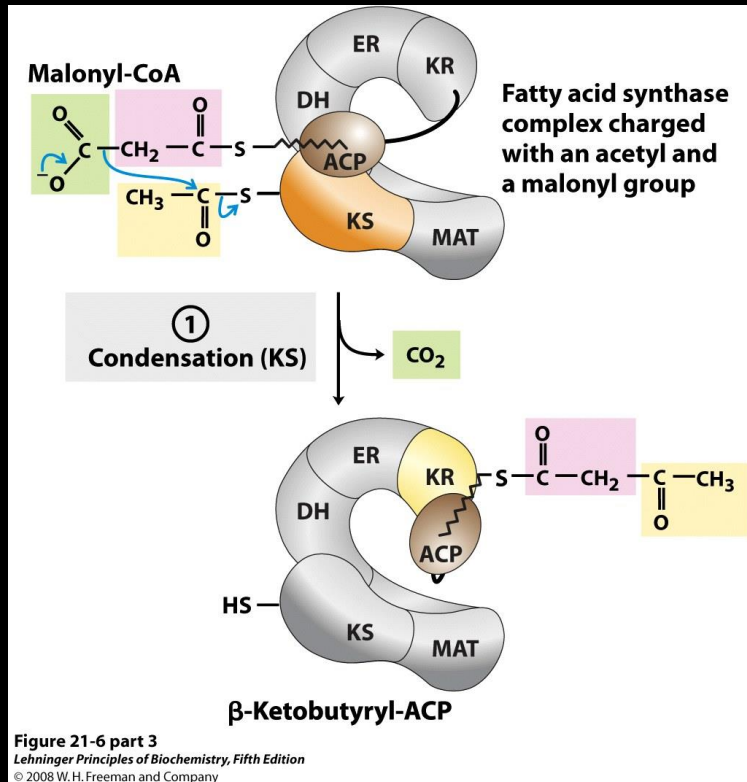


Fig 21-2

## Step 1: Condensation

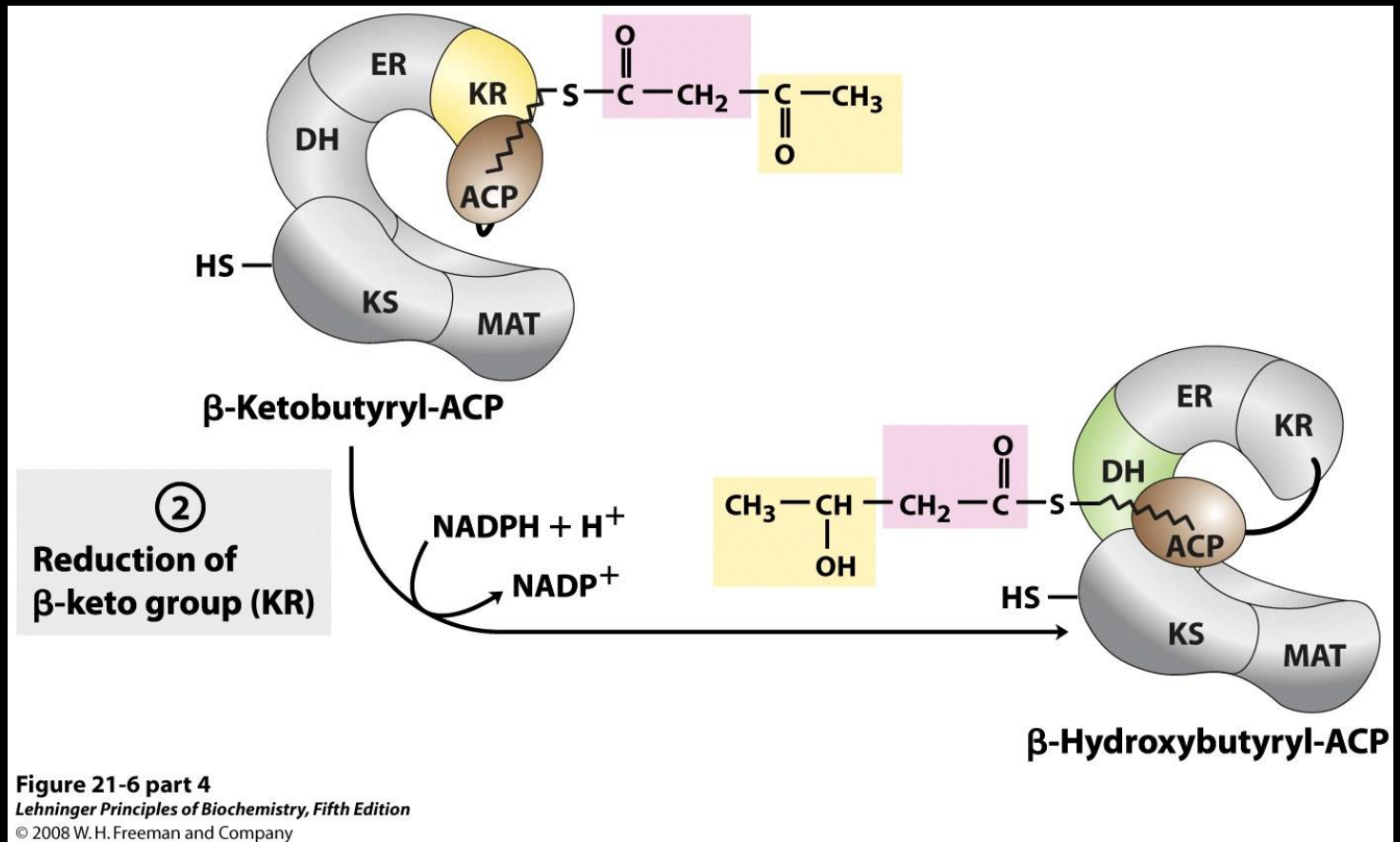


✓ Reaction of malonyl group with acetyl group to form acetoacetyl-ACP

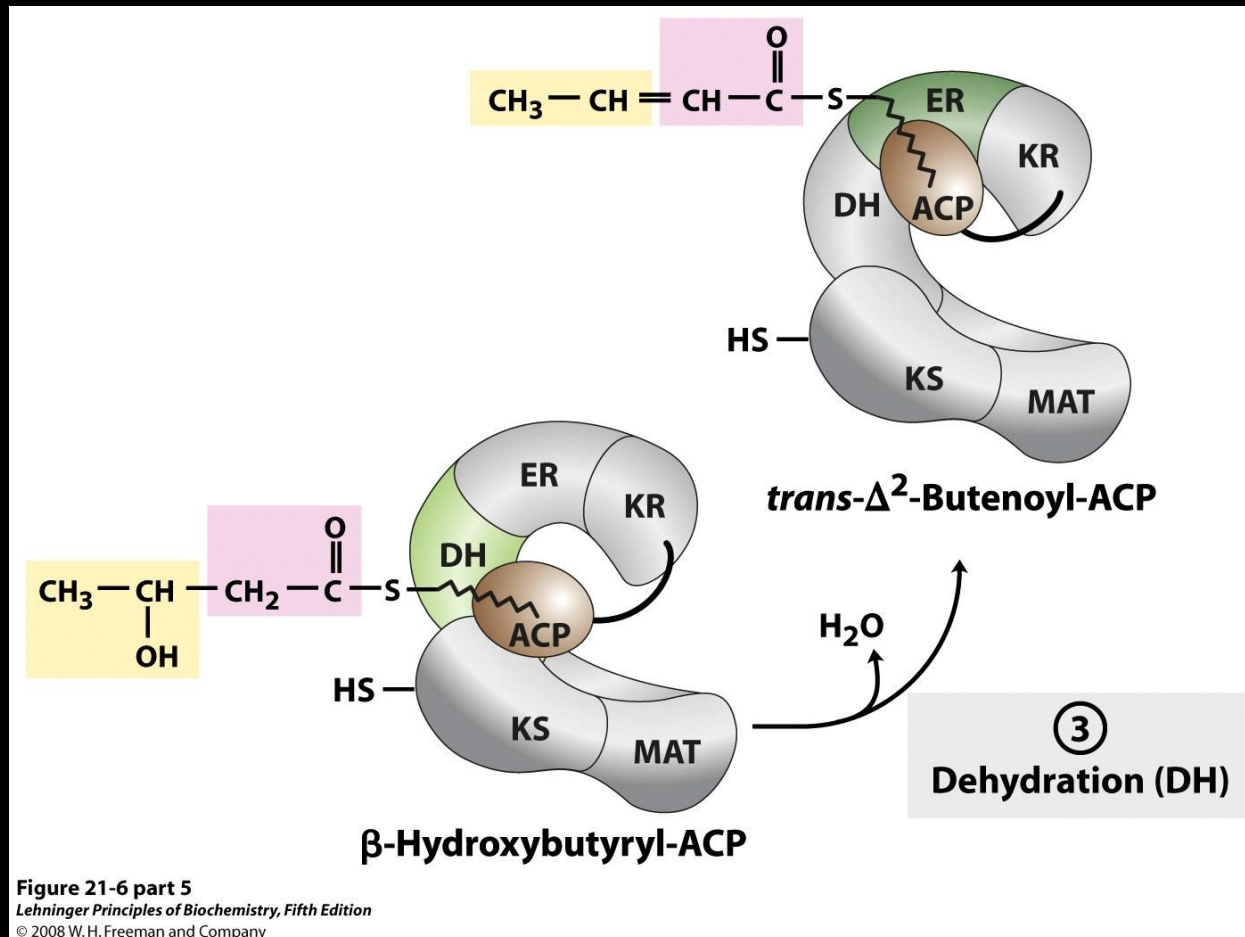
✓ Loss of  $\text{CO}_2$



## Step 2: Reduction to alcohol



## Step 3: Dehydration



## Step 4: Reduction of double bond

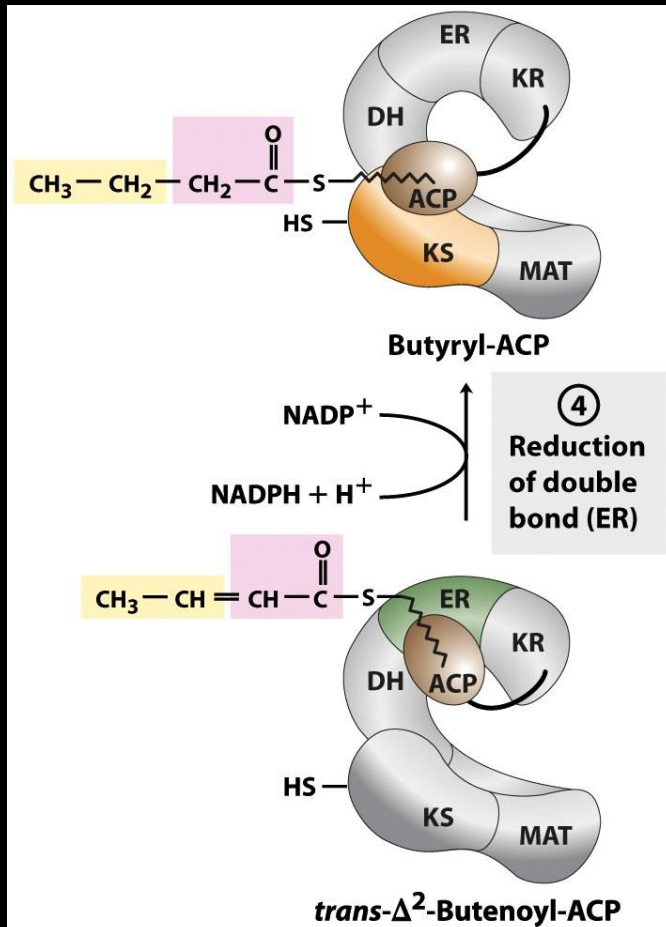


Figure 21-6 part 6  
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## Transfer to KS

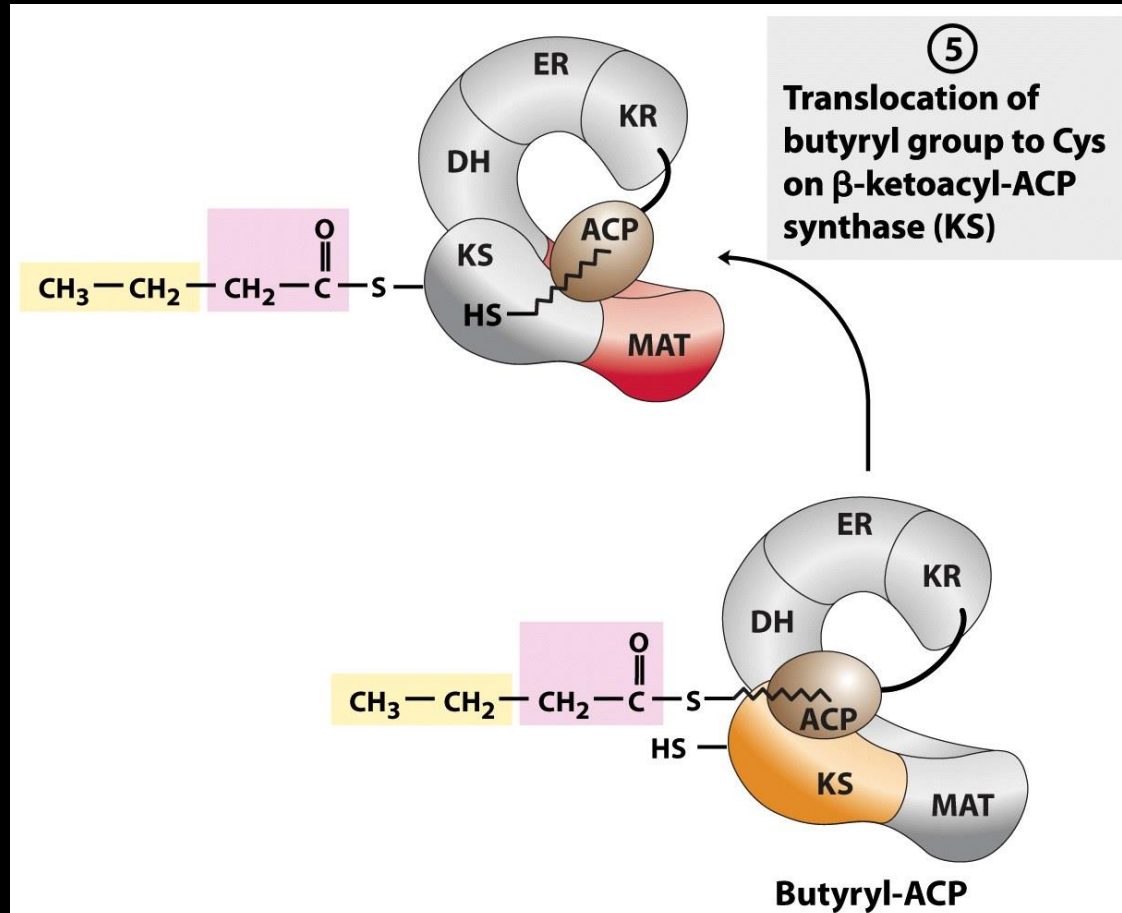
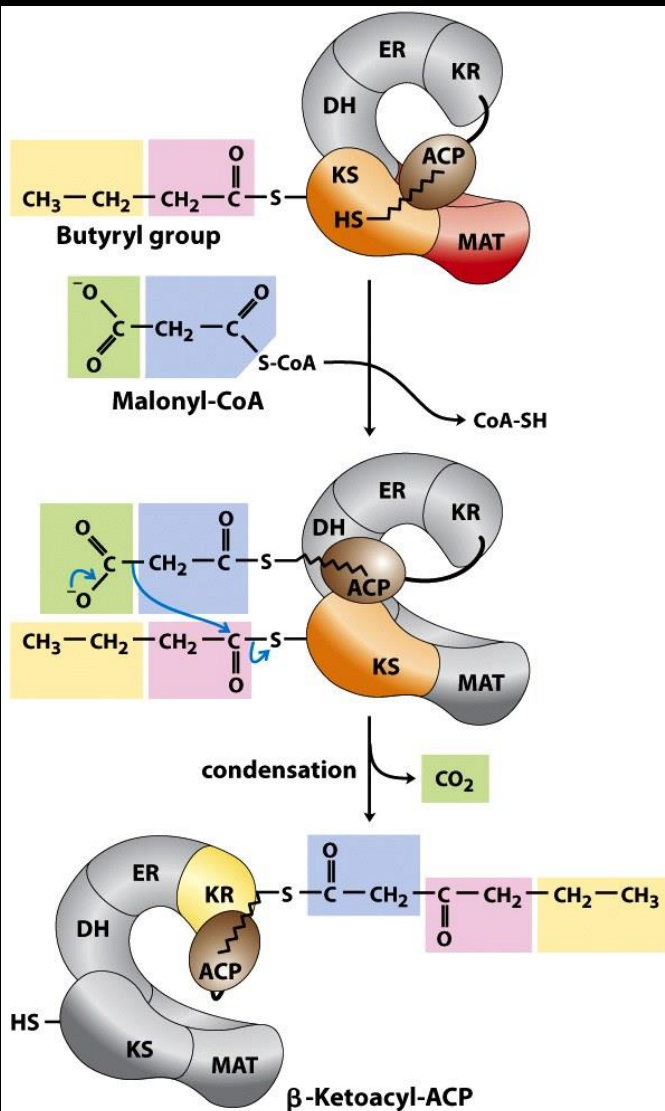


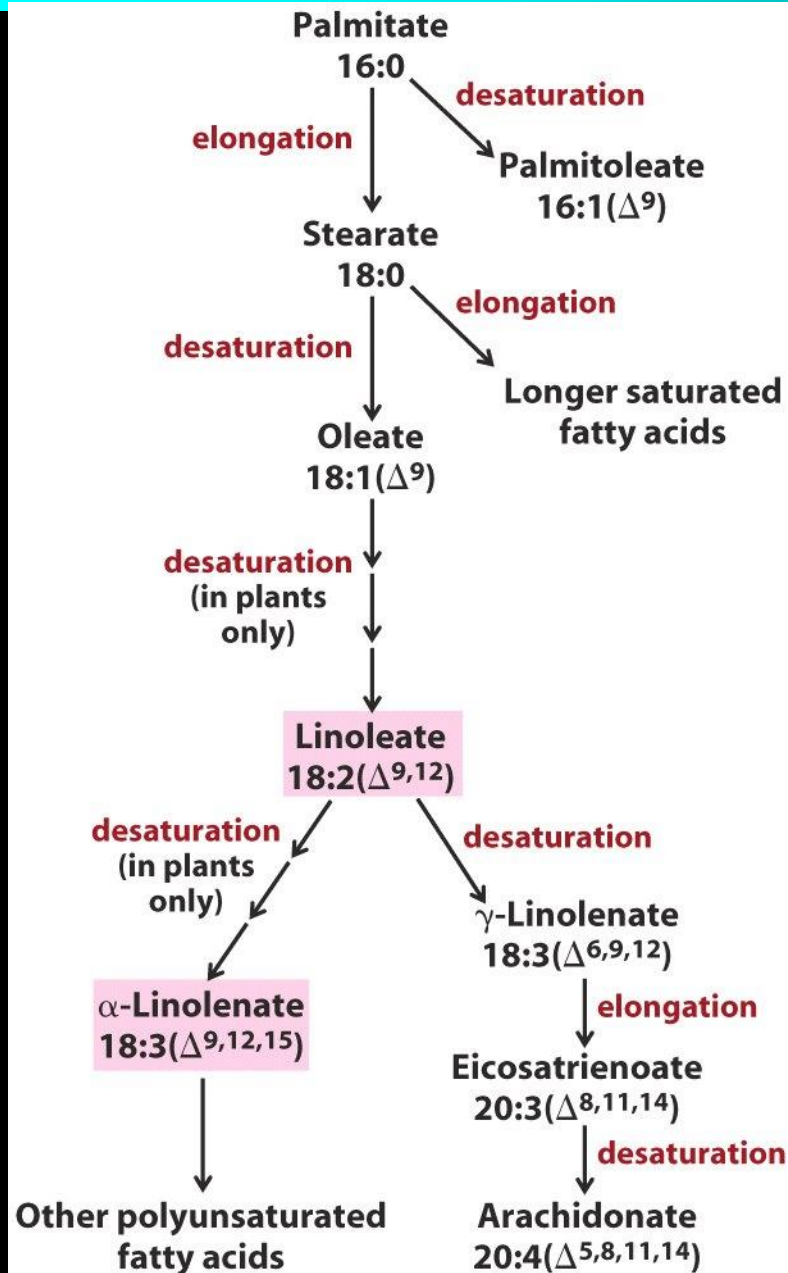
Figure 21-6 part 7  
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Next cycle begins



**Figure 21-7**  
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✓ Another malonyl group is linked to ACP

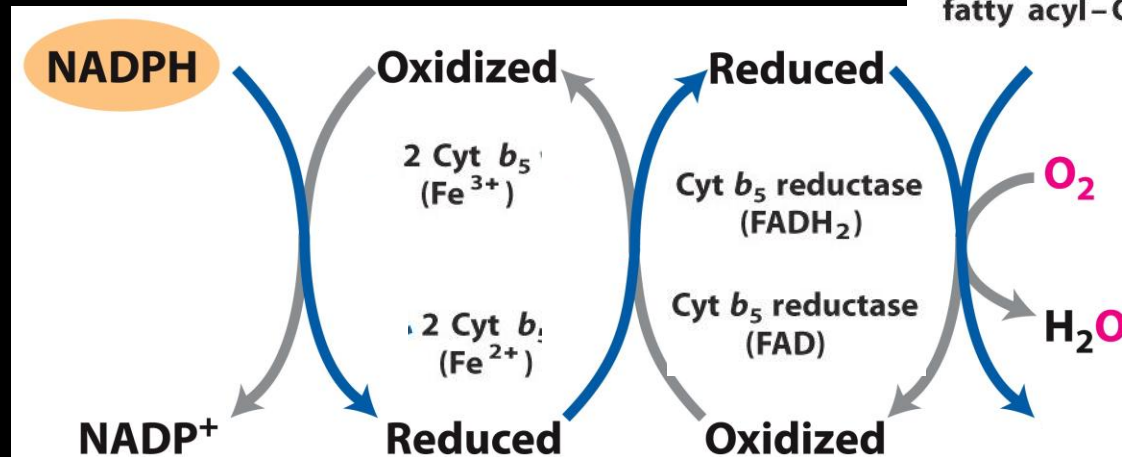
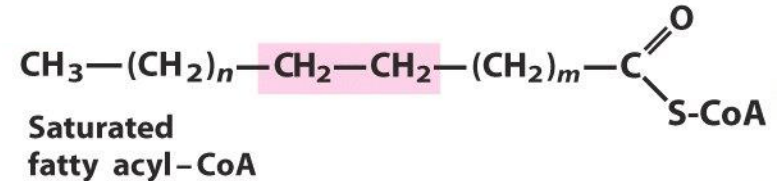


## *Palmitic acid modifications*

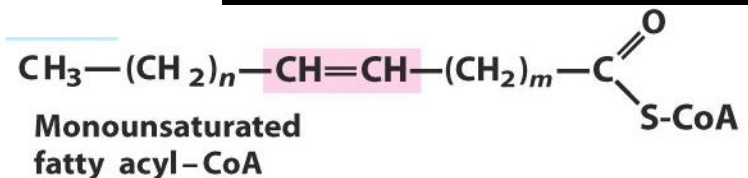
- ★ Cell makes a pool of palmitic acid that it can elongate and/or desaturate in the ER.
- ★ Elongation system is very similar to synthesis: 2C units added from malonyl-CoA.

## Desaturase reaction

★ Desaturation results in oxidation of NADPH.



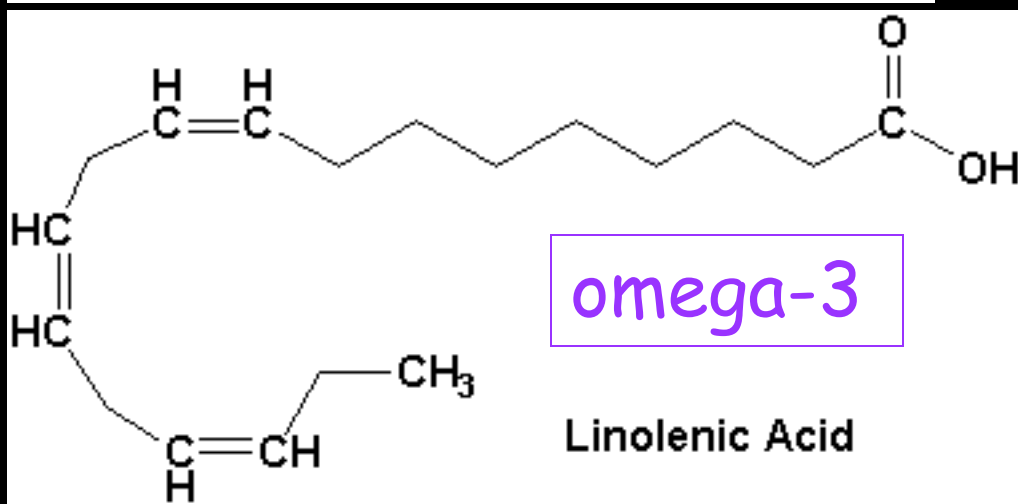
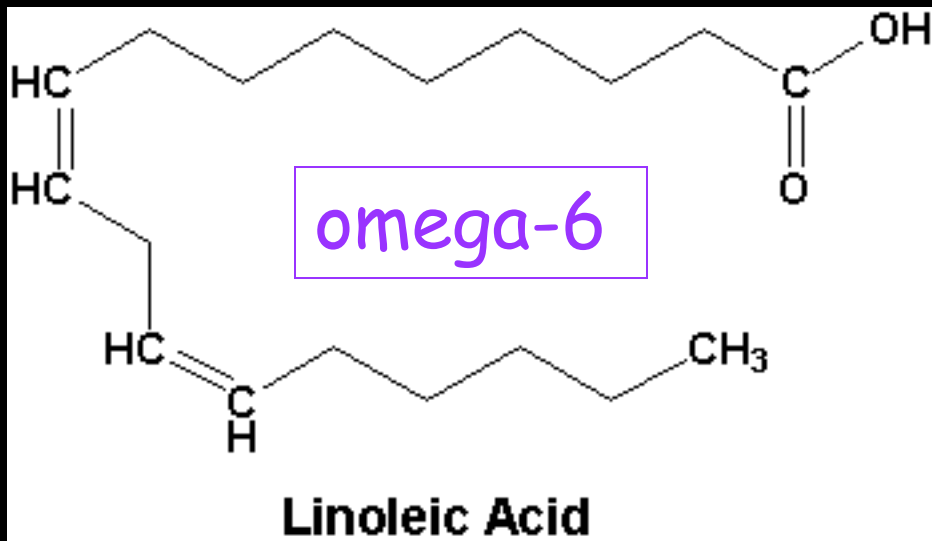
Box 21-1 figure 1  
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★ O<sub>2</sub> is reduced.



## Essential fatty acids





## Linoleic acid modifications

★ Linoleic acid can be modified to form essential precursors such as arachidonic acid.

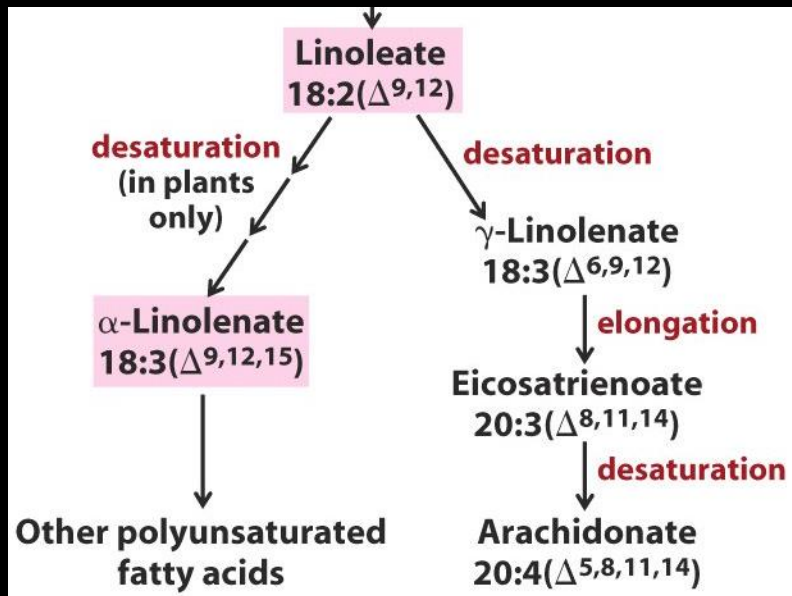
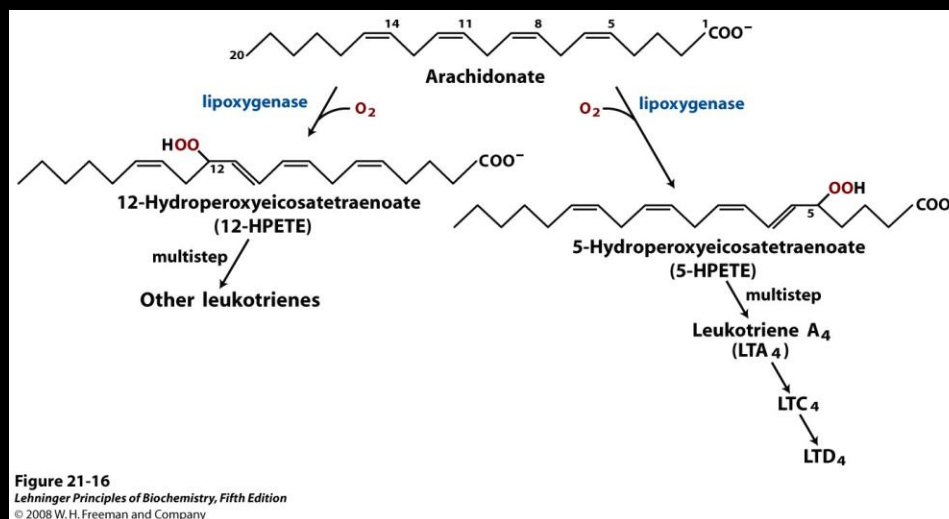
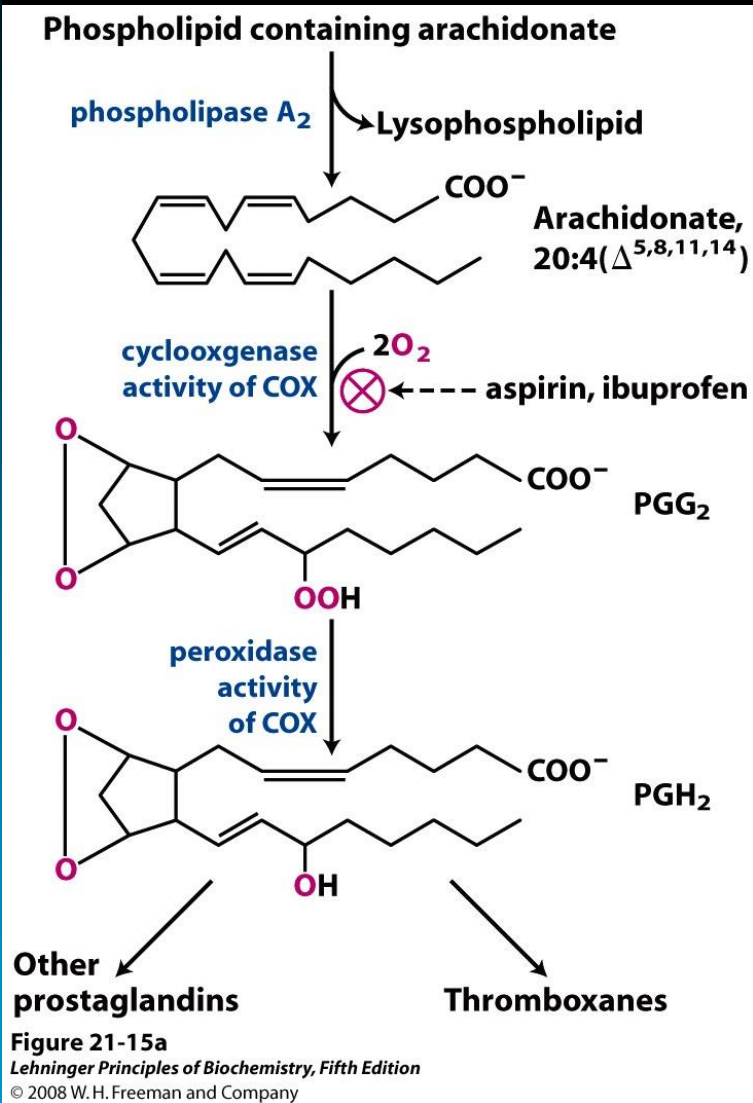


Fig 21-12

## Arachidonic acid as a precursor

✦ Arachidonic acid is used to make prostaglandins, thromboxanes, and leukotrienes.

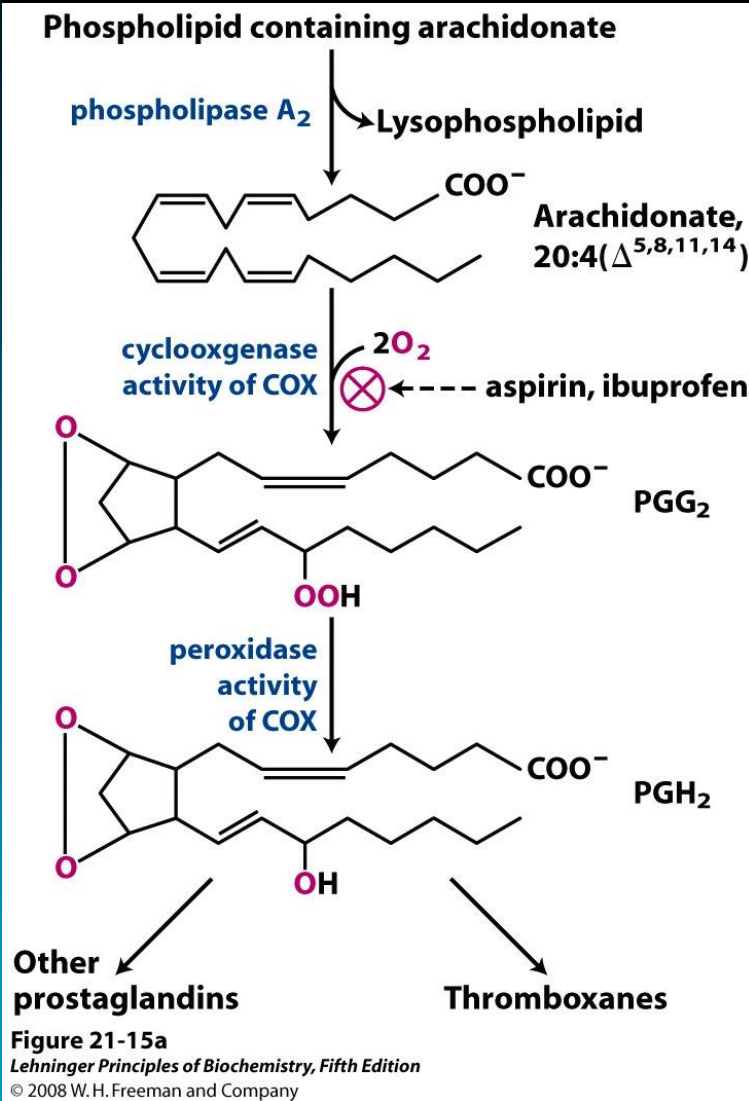


## Arachidonic acid as a precursor

★ Two isozymes of COX:

✓ COX-1 makes “good” prostaglandins that maintain the GI tract.

✓ COX-2 makes “bad” prostaglandins that cause pain and inflammation.



## Arachidonic acid as a precursor

✦ Many analgesics are inhibitors of prostaglandin synthesis (via COX).

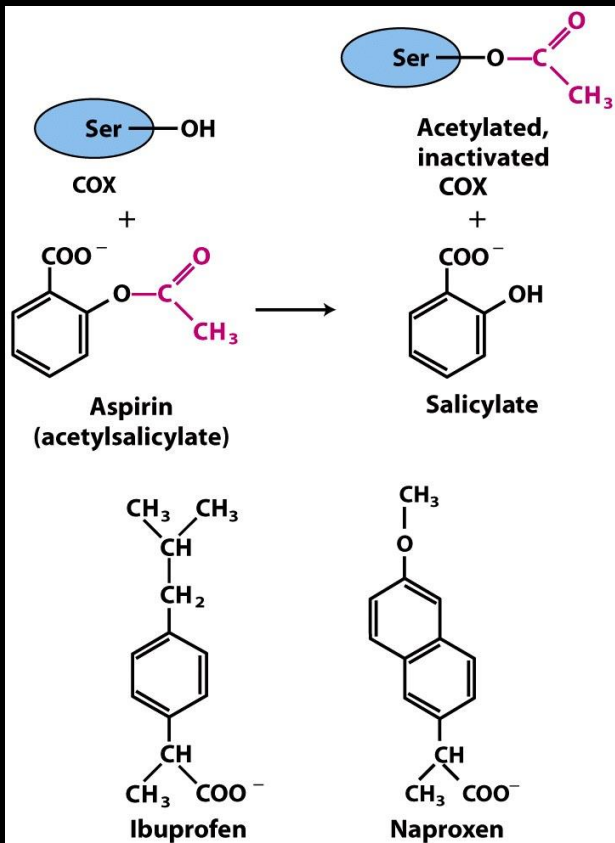


Figure 21-15b  
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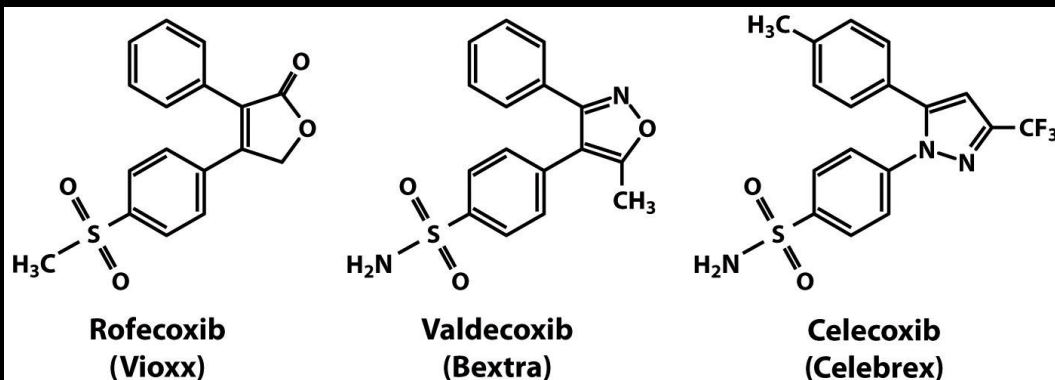


Figure 21-15c  
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*Arachidonic acid  
as a precursor*

Increased specificity for COX-2

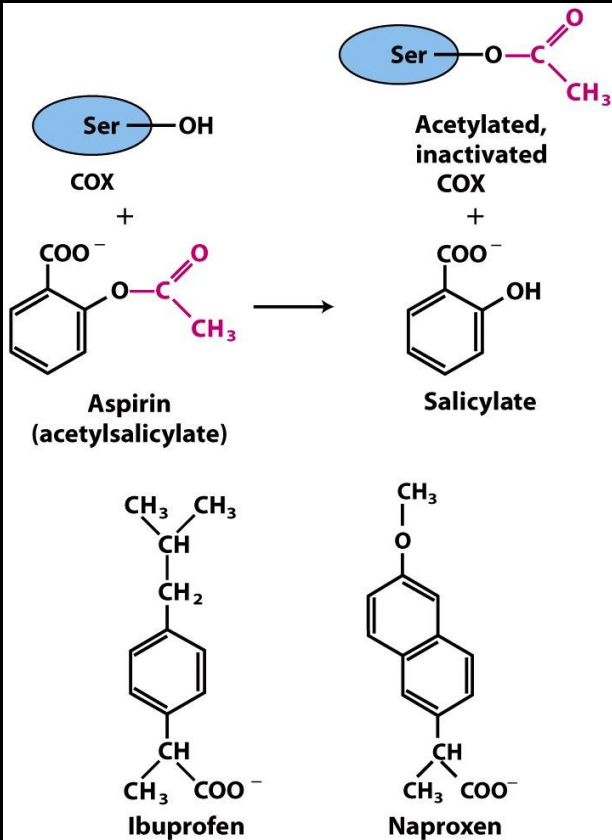
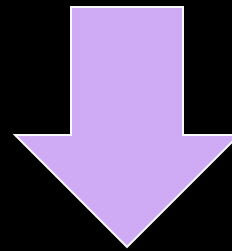


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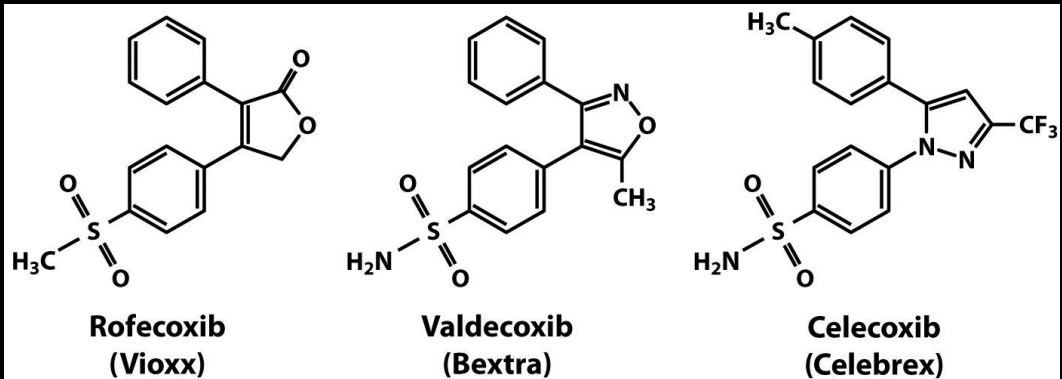


Figure 21-15c  
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## *Control of fatty acid synthesis*

- ★ When an organism has more than enough metabolic fuel to meet its energy needs, the excess is converted to fatty acids and stored as triglycerides.



Insulin and citrate  
stimulate FA synthesis

## Control of fatty acid synthesis

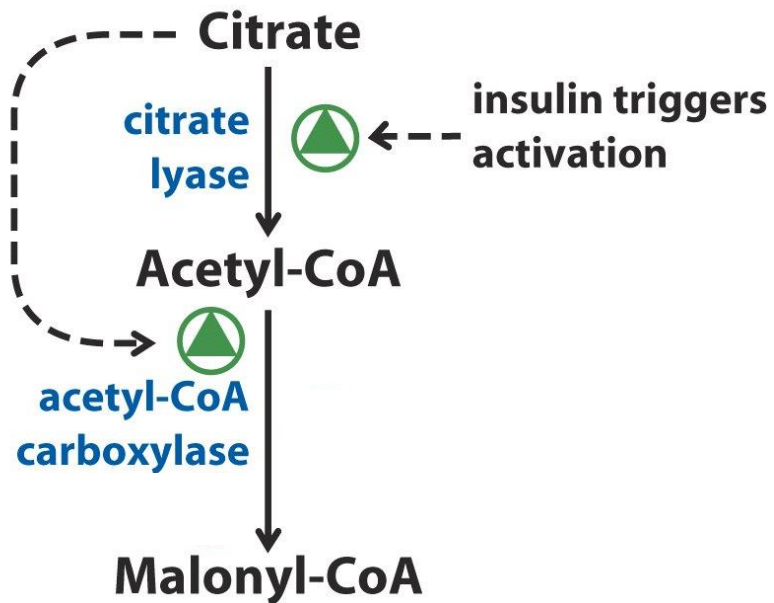
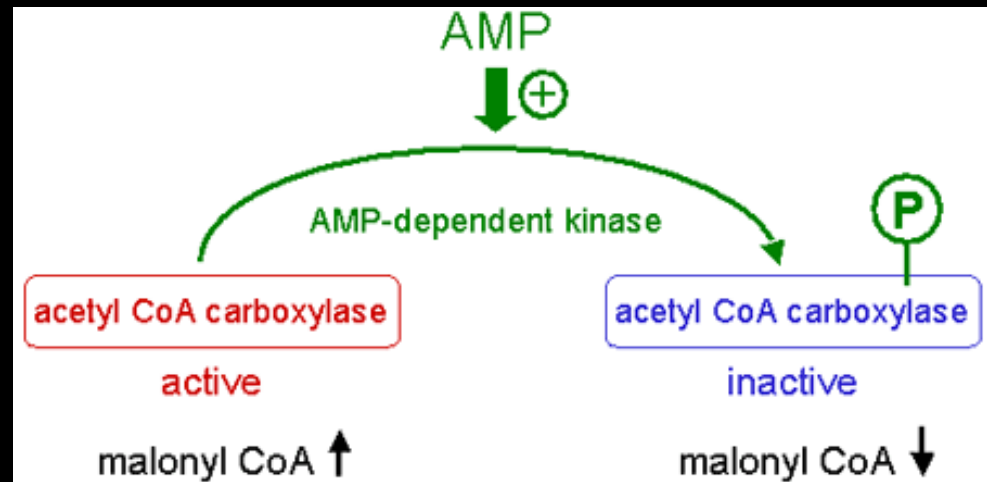
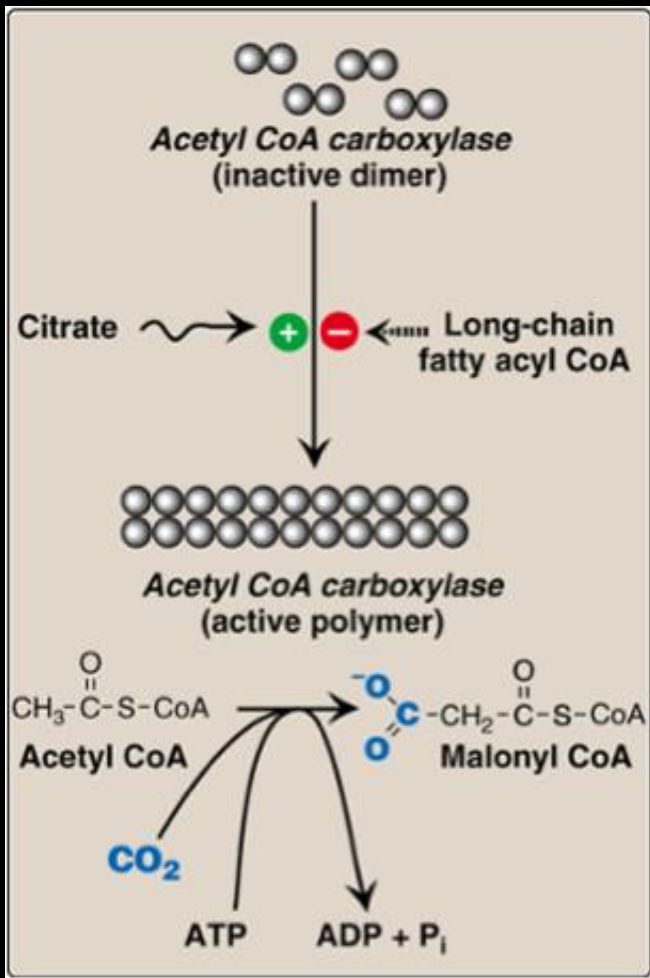


Fig 21-11



# Acetyl-CoA Carboxylase



glucagon,  
epinephrine  
trigger phosphorylation/  
inactivation



# Reciprocal control

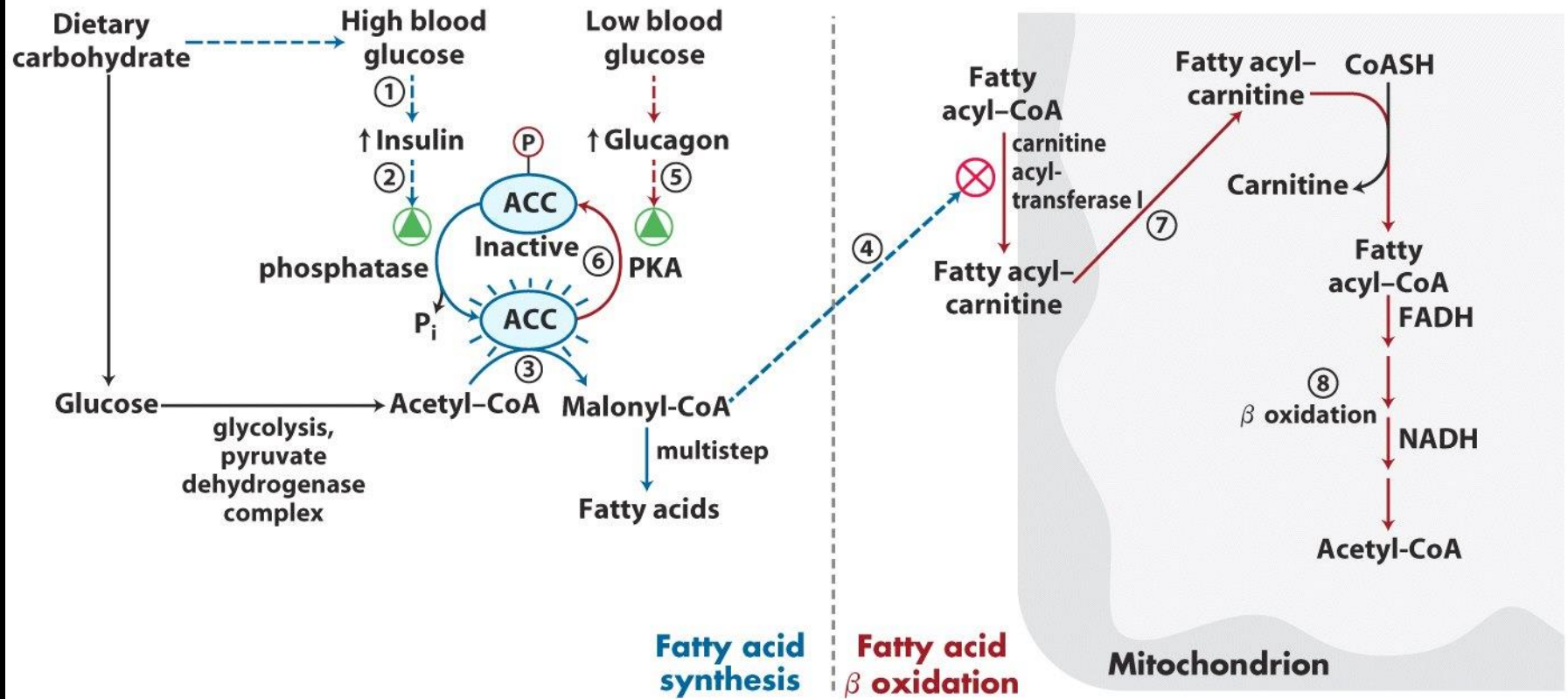


Fig 17-13