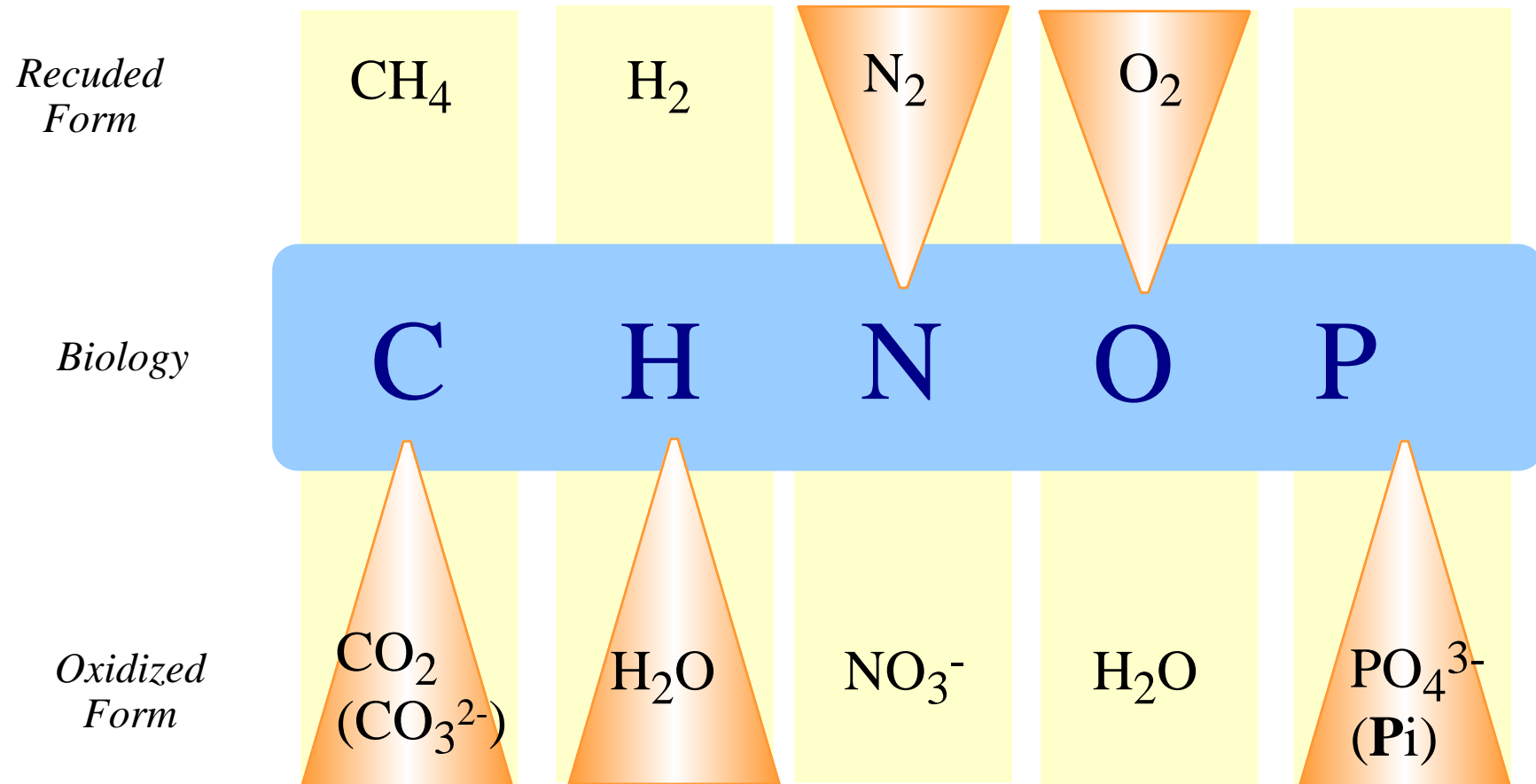


Nitrogenase Fixing Dinitrogen

- *Metal Clusters in Biology* -

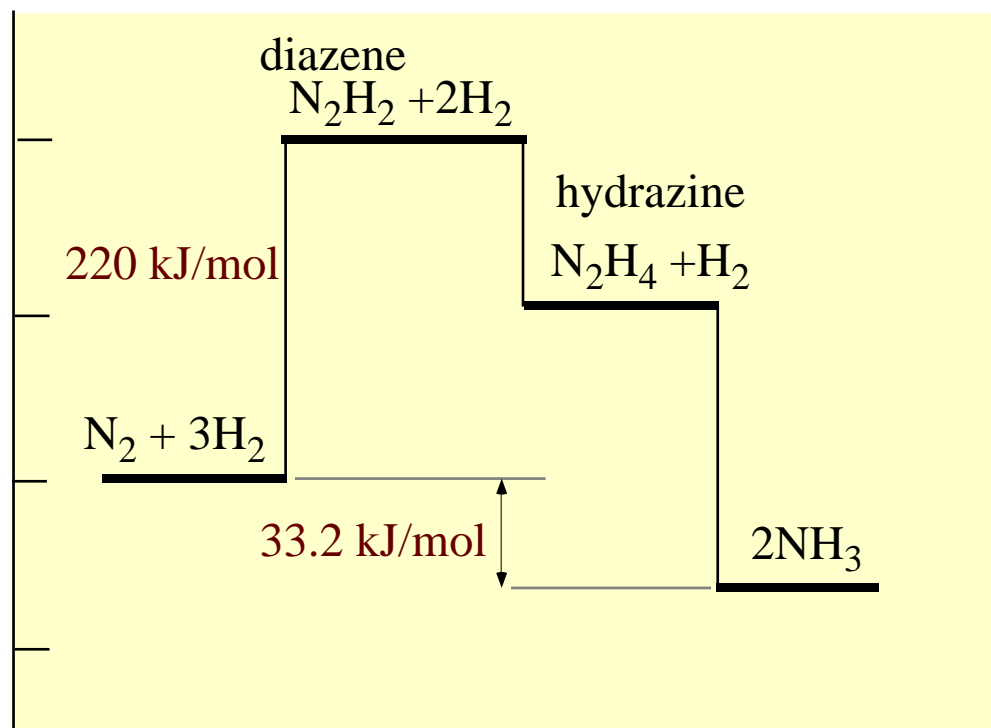
Main Elements in Biology



Reduction of Dinitrogen into Ammonia

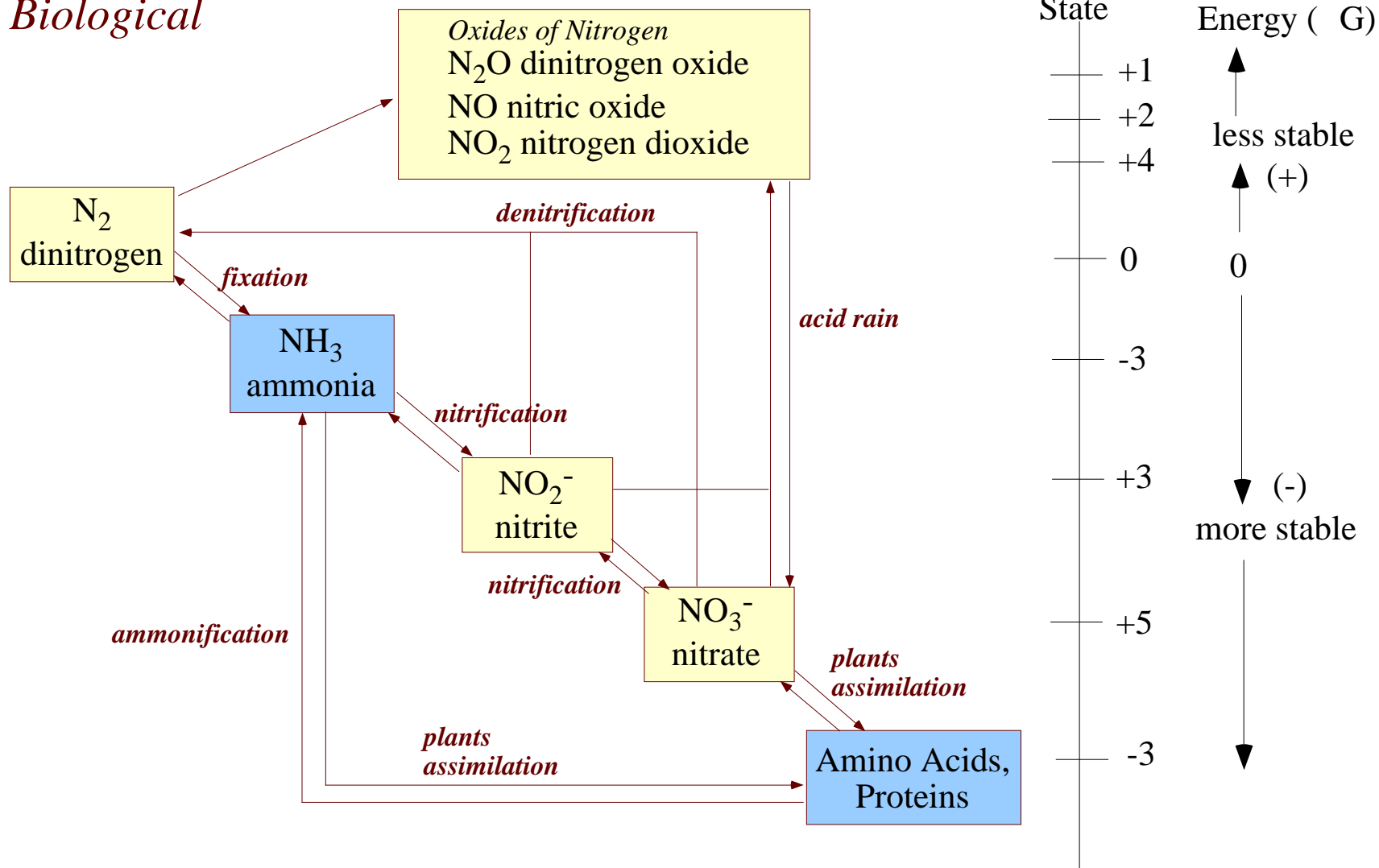


Haber-Bosch process: cat. Fe_3O_4 /sa Al_2O_3 , 200-1000 atm, 200-500 °C

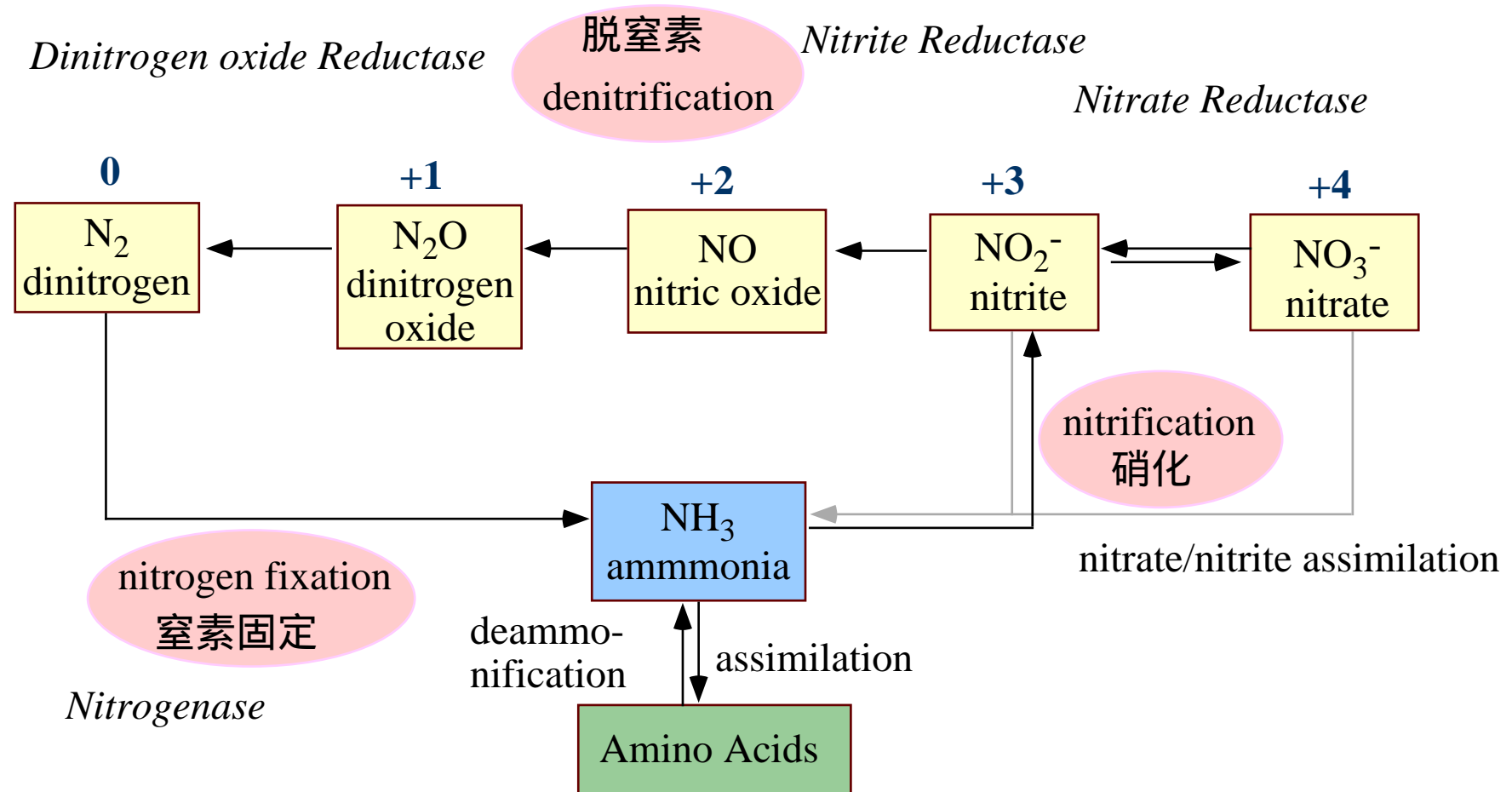


Chemical Forms and Cycle of Nitrogen

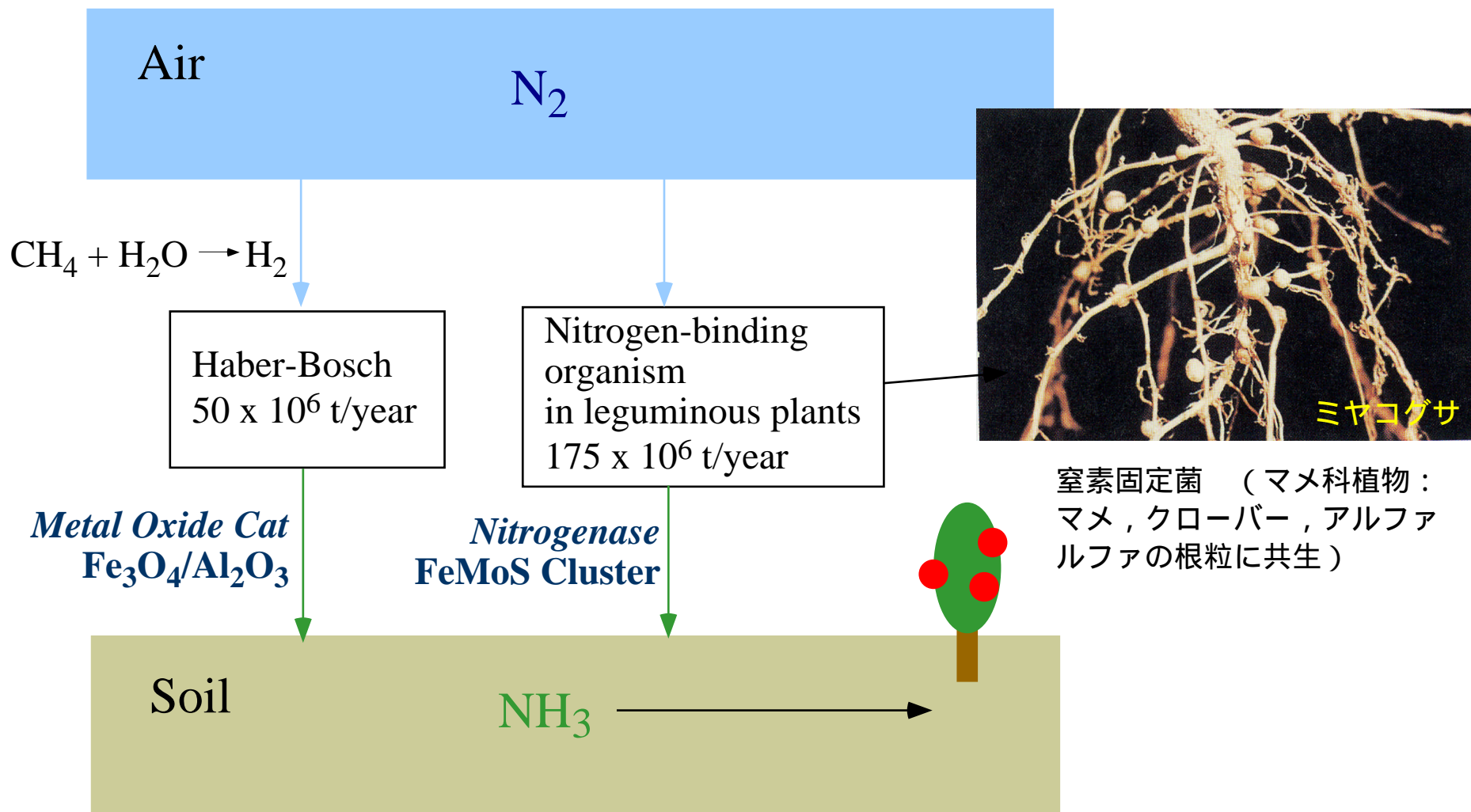
Biological



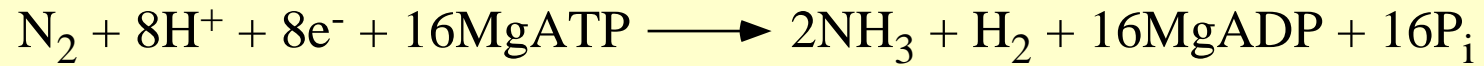
Biological Nitrogen Cycle



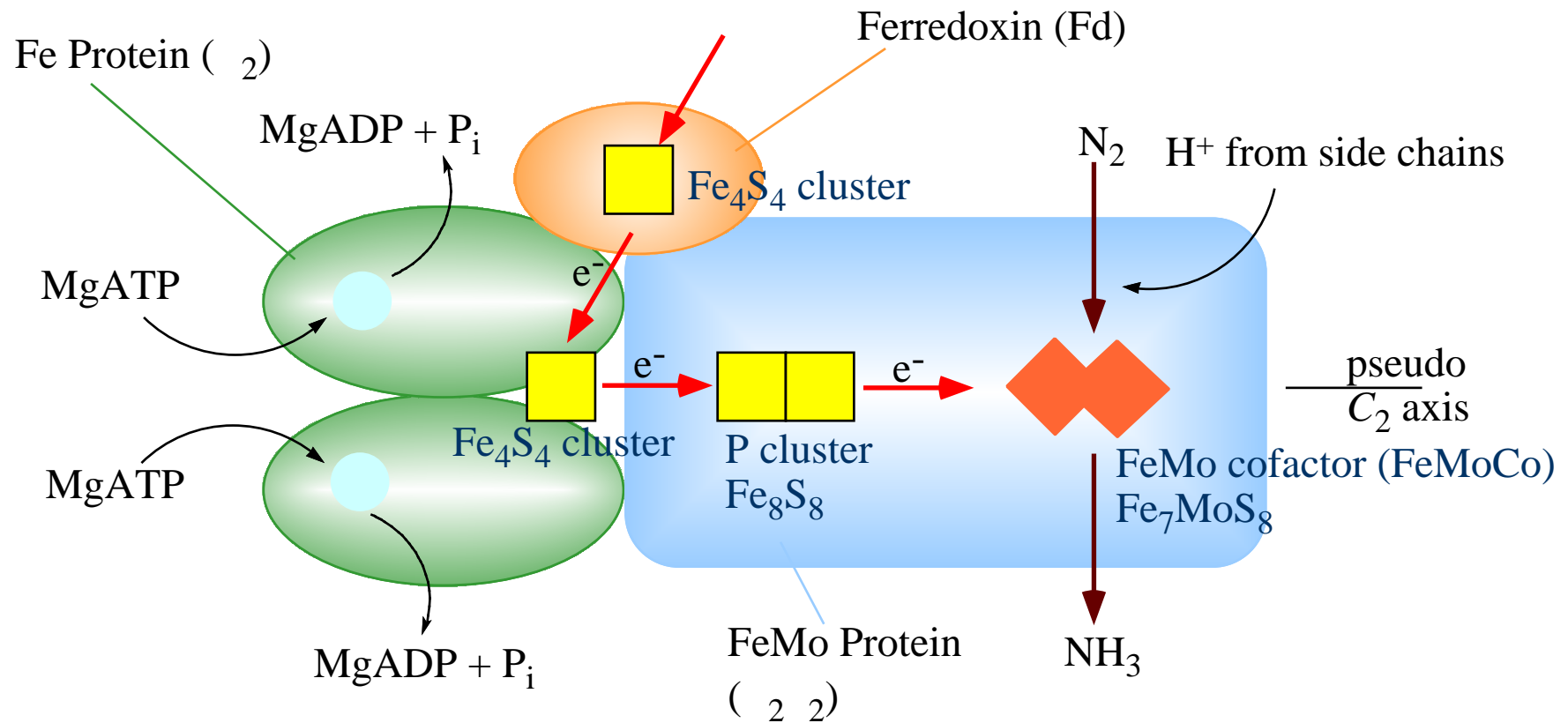
Nitrogen Fixation from Air



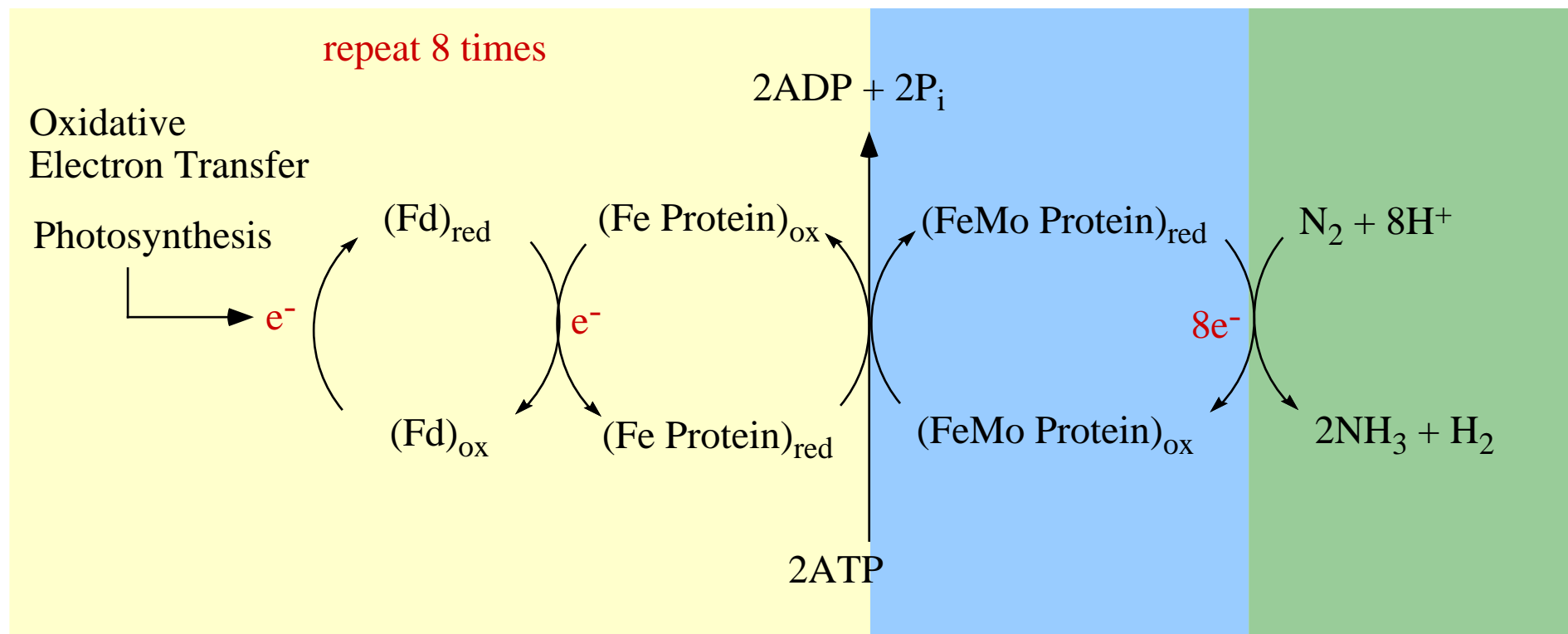
Nitrogenase Complex



$$G^0 = -65.6 \text{ kJ/mol}$$



Electron Shuttles in Nitrogenase



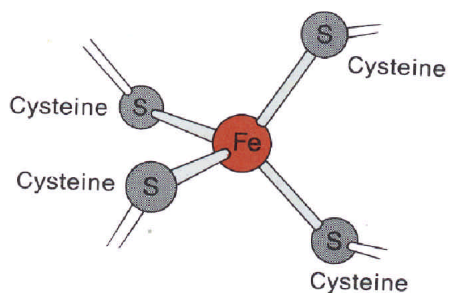
Ferredoxin (Fd)
 Fe_4S_4 cluster

Fe Protein
 Fe_4S_4 cluster

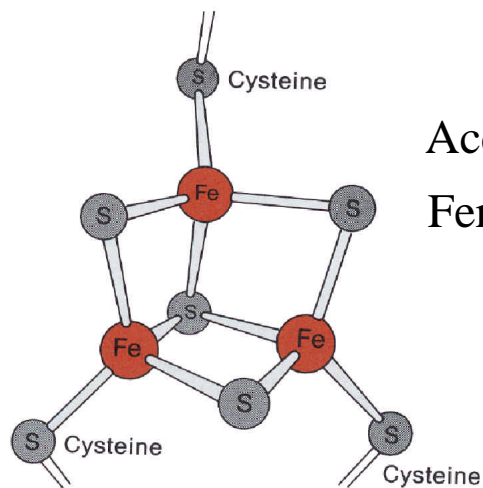
FeMo Protein
 P cluster, Fe_8S_8
 FeMo cofactor (FeMoCo), Fe_7MoS_8

Iron-Sulfur Clusters

Fe_nS_n : One Electron Transfer Proteins

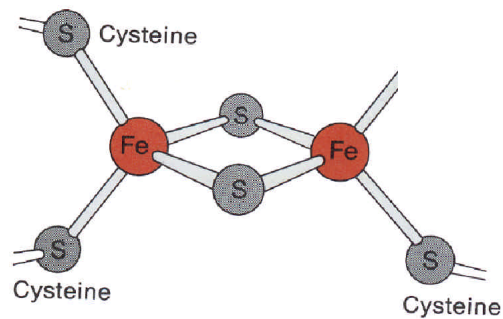


Rubredoxin [1Fe-0S]

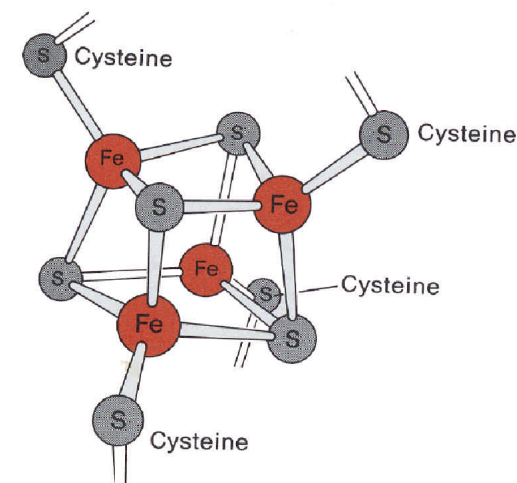


Acconitase [3Fe-3S]

Ferredoxin [3Fe-4S]



Ferredoxin [2Fe-2S]

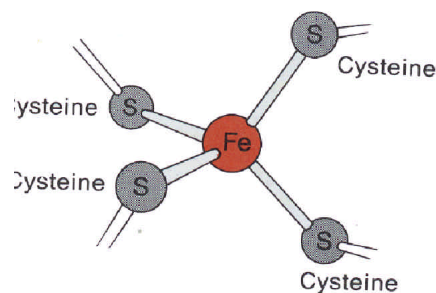
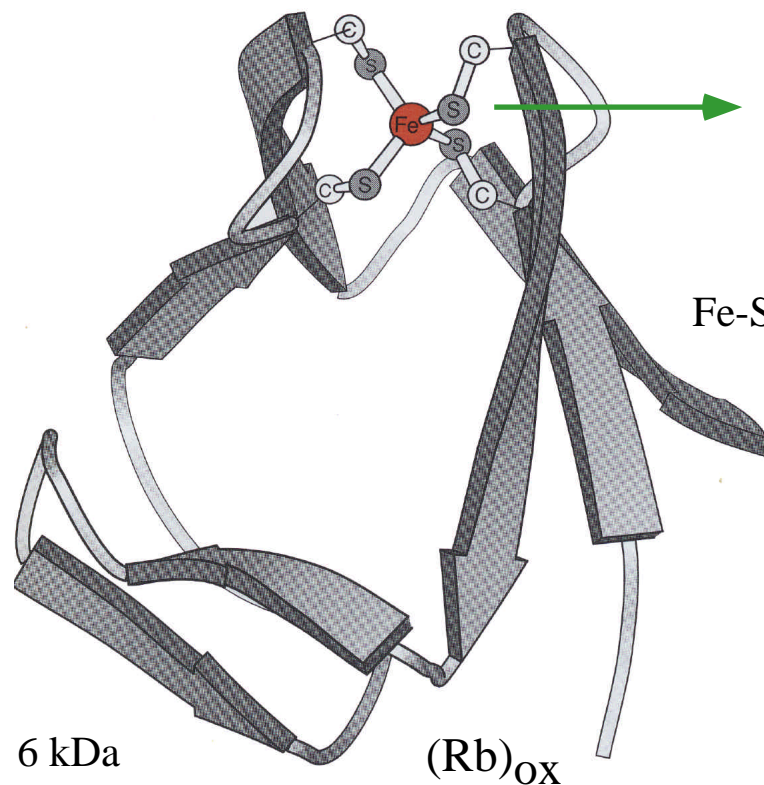


Ferredoxin [4Fe-4S]

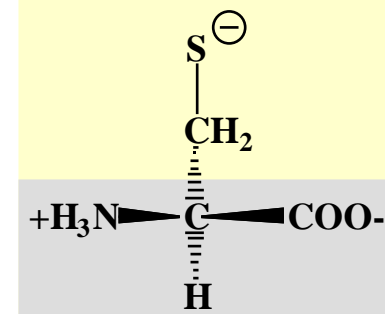
Rubredoxin (Rb)

Cys₃₉-X-X-Cys₄₂-Gly

Cys₆-X-X-Cys₉-Gly

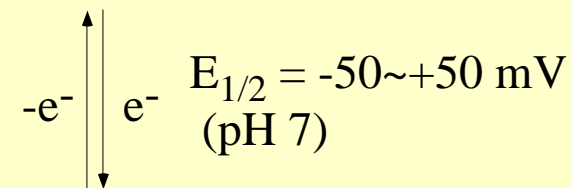


Fe-S = av. 2.29(2) Å Td



Cys (C) pKa 8.35

(Rb)_{ox} Fe(III) d⁵ high spin

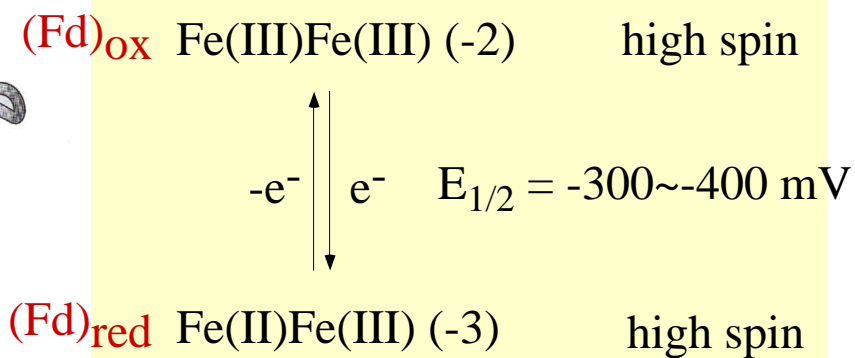
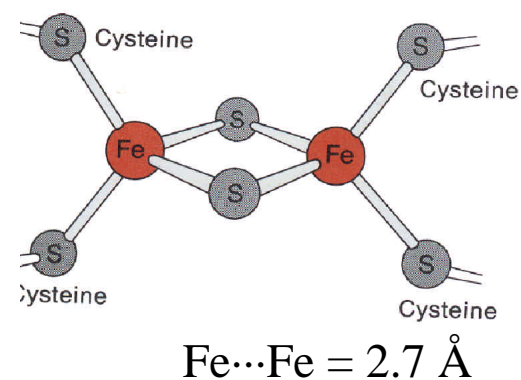
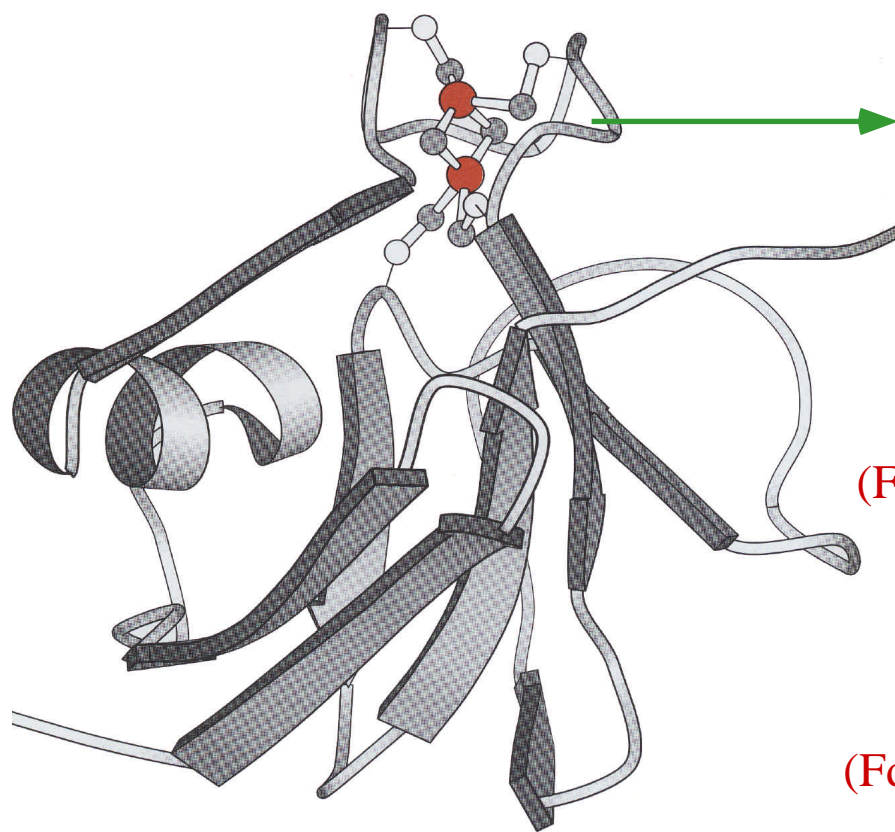


(Rb)_{red} Fe(II) d⁶ low spin

C. pasteurianus Rubredoxin
bacteria

Ferredoxin [2Fe-2S]

-CXXXXCXXC-X₂₉-C-

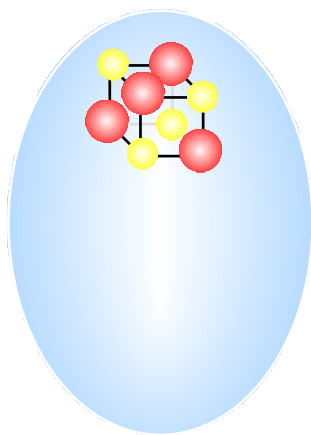


S. platenis Ferredoxin (Fd)

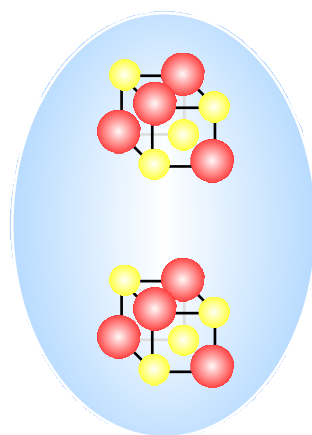
11 kDa

Classification of Ferredoxins [4Fe-4S], [3Fe-4S]

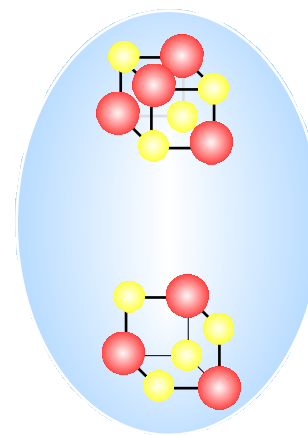
[4Fe-4S]



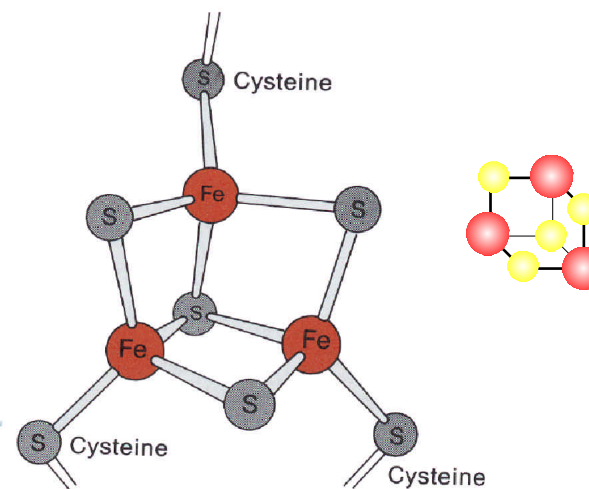
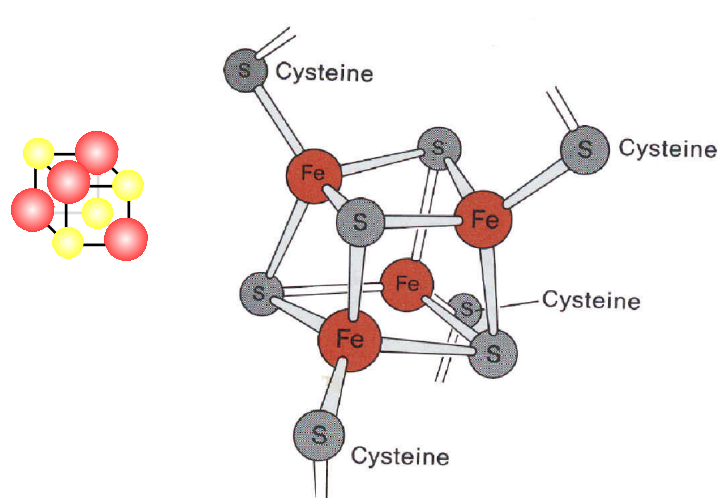
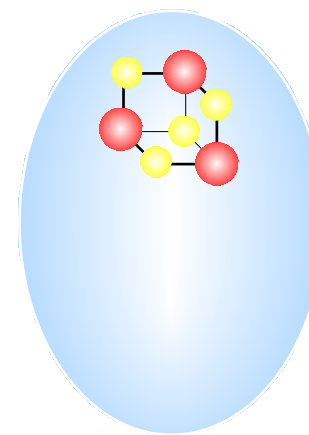
2[4Fe-4S]



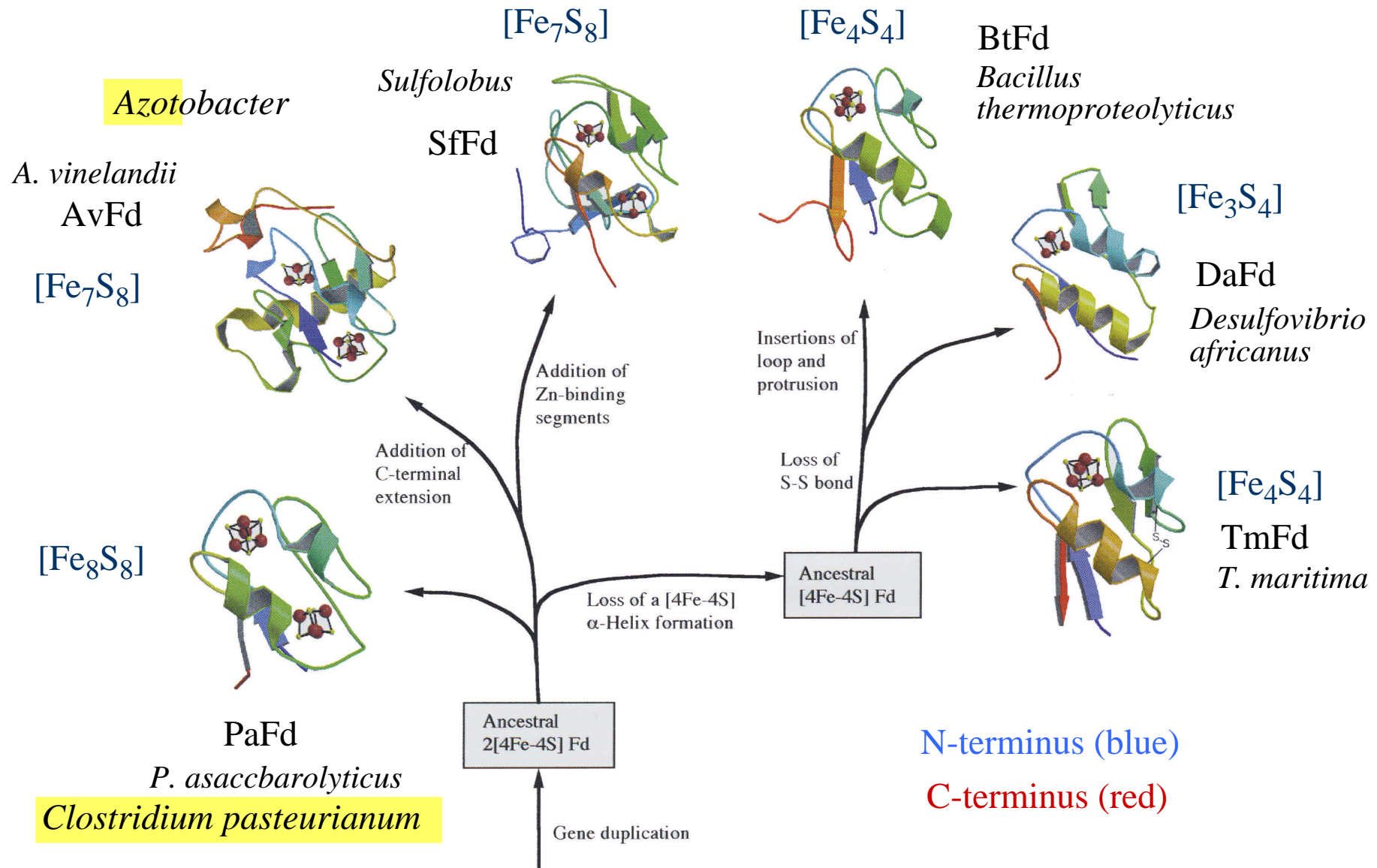
[4Fe-4S][3Fe-4S]



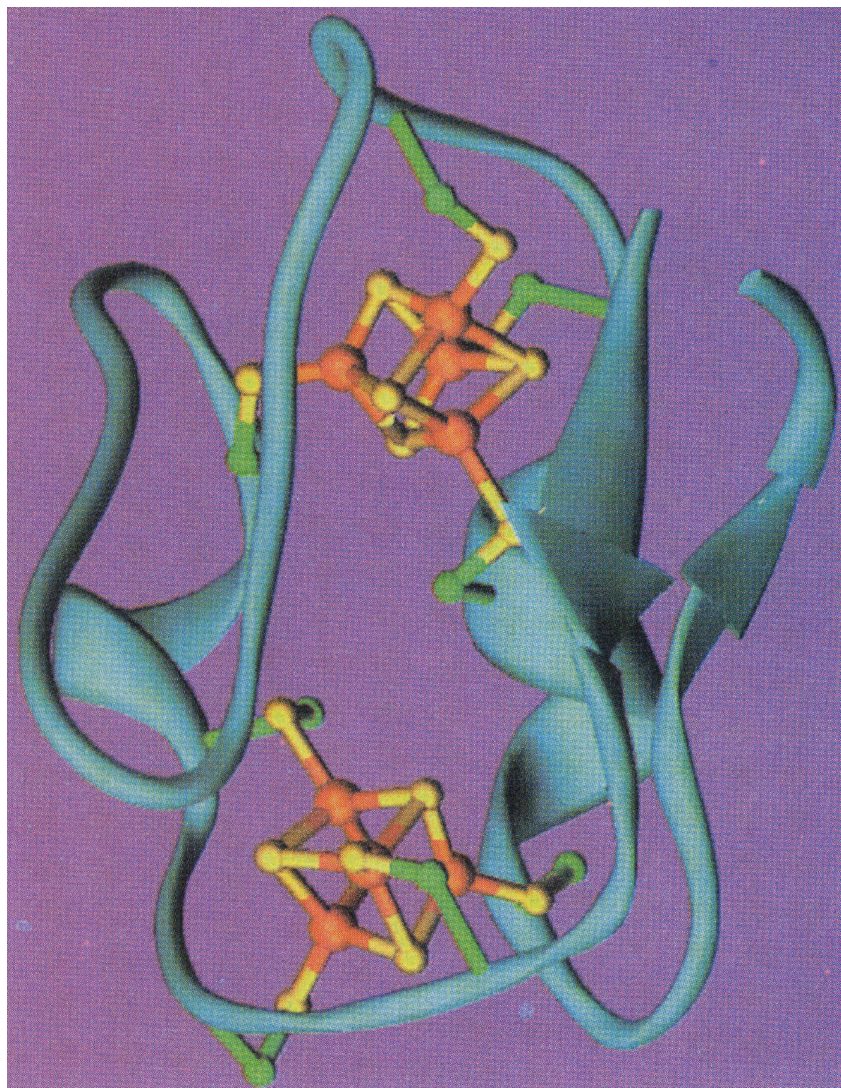
[3Fe-4S]



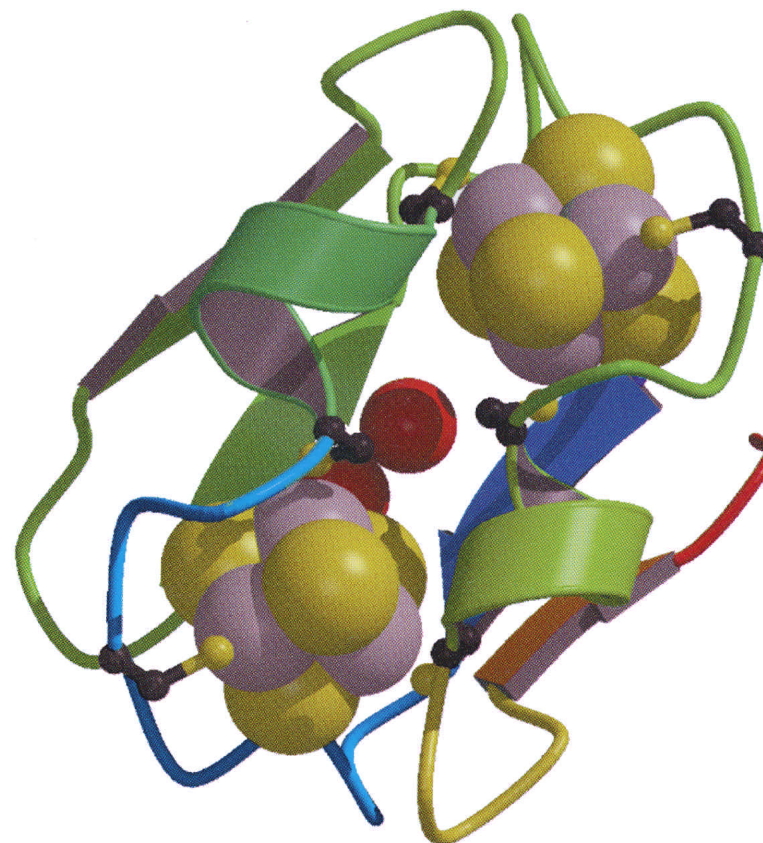
Probable Evolutionary Process of Bacterial Ferredoxins



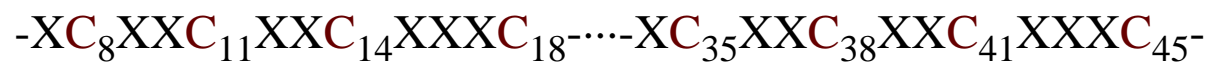
X-ray Crystal Structures of Ferredoxin from *P. asaccharolyticus* (PaFd)



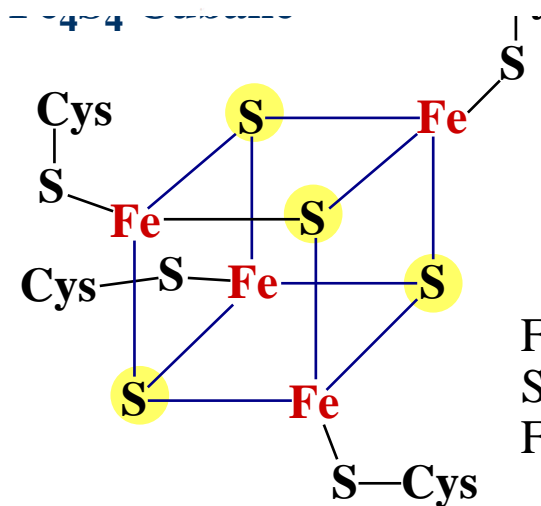
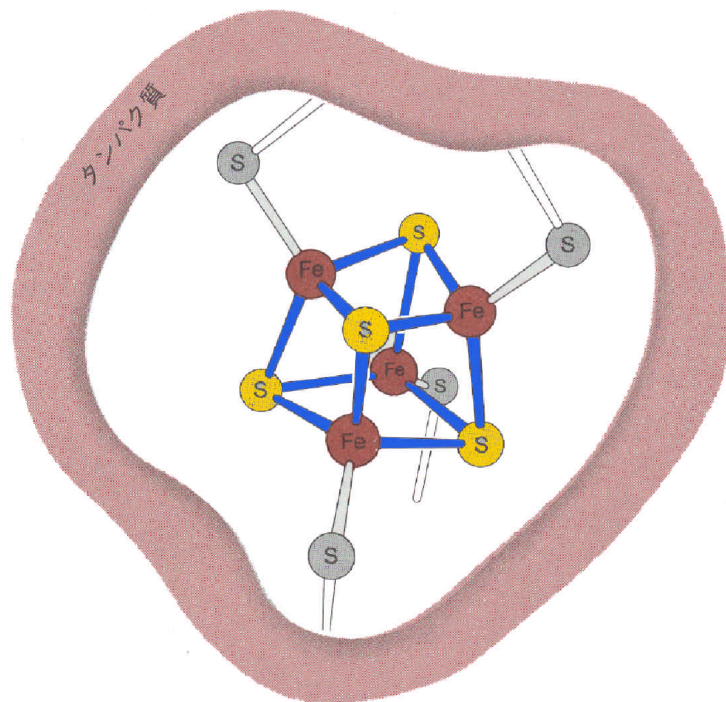
The most ancestral and popular type of Fds with 2 x [4Fe-4S] clusters.



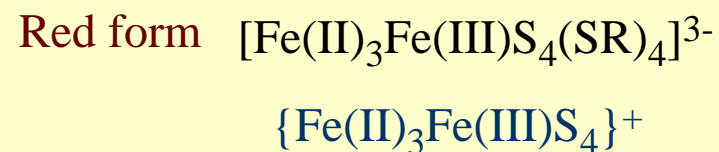
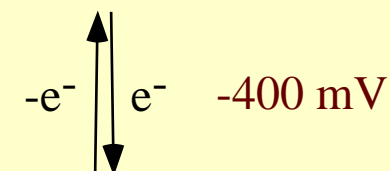
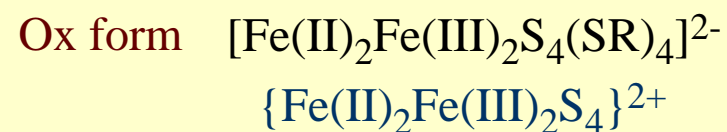
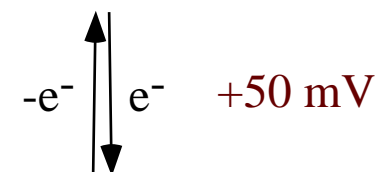
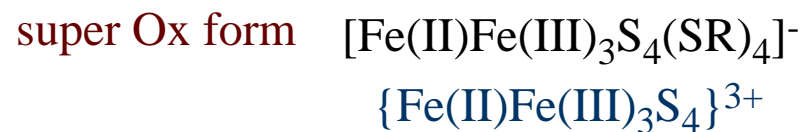
CaFd
Clostridium pasteurianum
室素固定菌 (嫌気性細菌)



Structure and Property of [4Fe-4S] Core



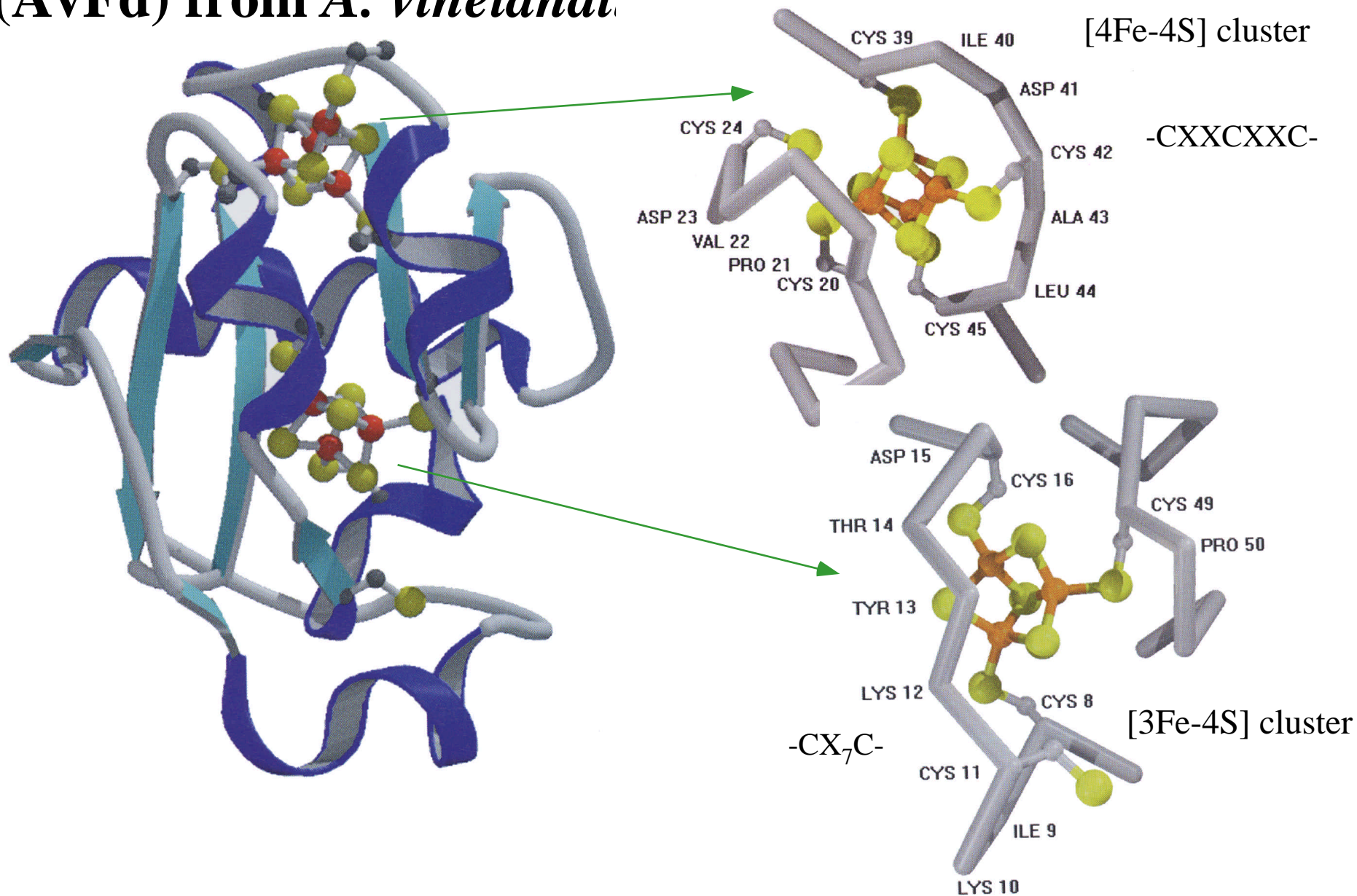
$\text{Fe}\cdots\text{Fe} = 2.75 \text{ \AA}$
 $\text{S}\cdots\text{S} = 3.55 \text{ \AA}$
 $\text{Fe-S} = 2.30 \text{ \AA}$



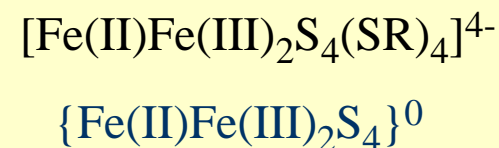
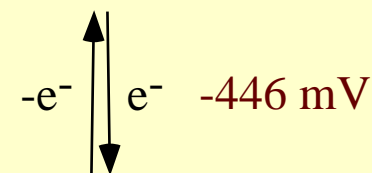
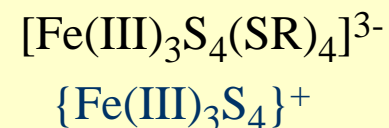
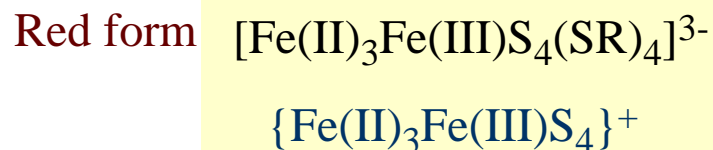
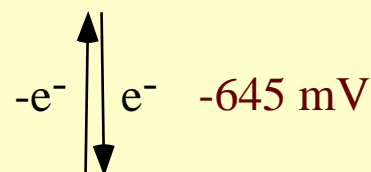
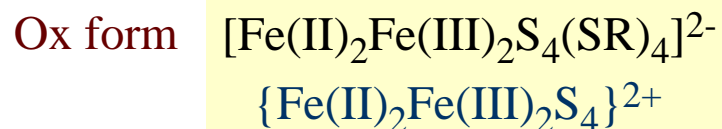
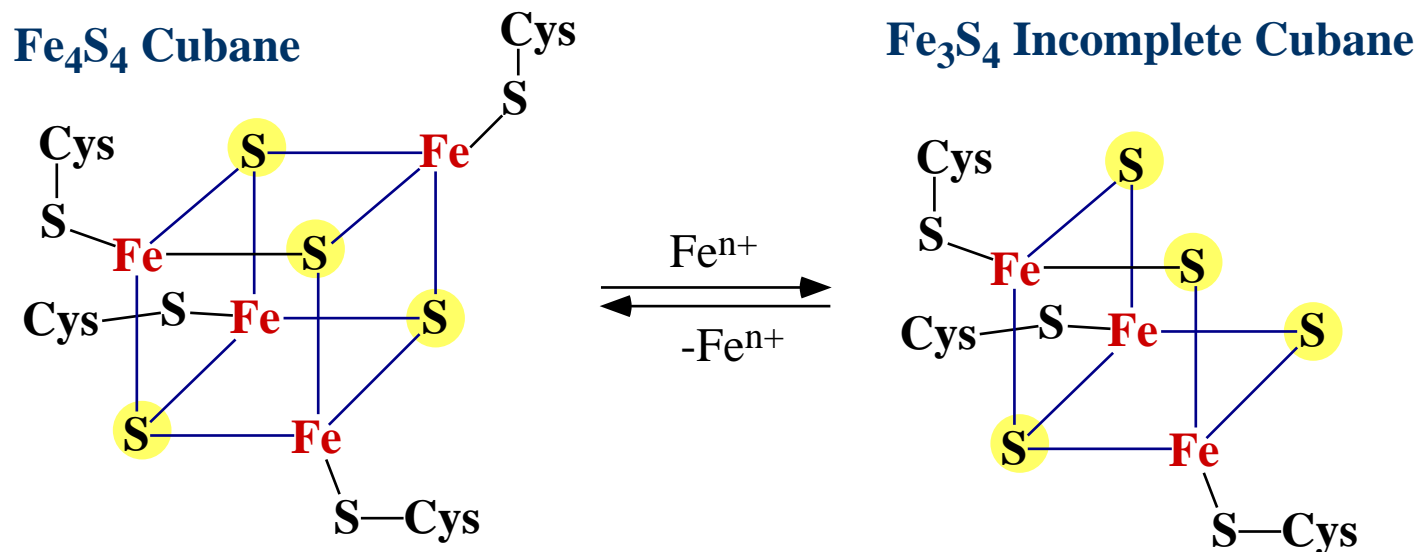
(CaFd)


 One Electron Transfer

X-ray Crystal Structures of Azotobacter Ferredoxin (AvFd) from *A. vinelandii*



Structures and Properties of [4Fe-4S] and [3Fe-4S] Cores of AvFd



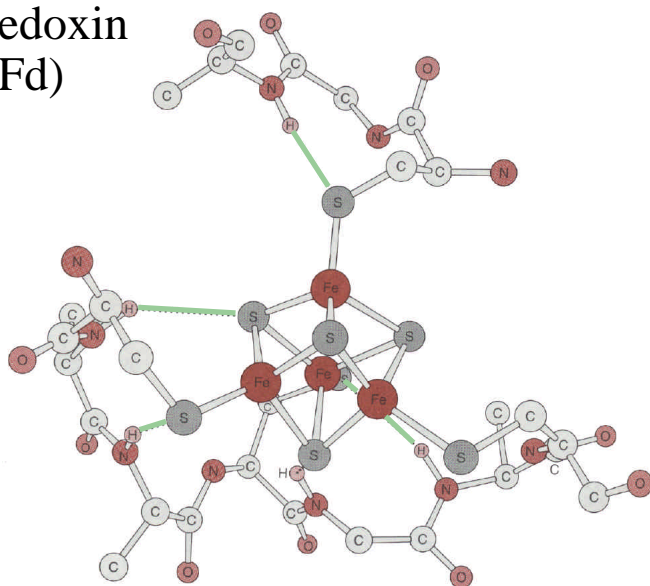
Redox Potentials of Iron-Sulfur Proteins

protein	typical origin	type of Fe/S center	E (mV)
Rd	<i>Clostridium pasteurianum</i>	$[\text{Fe}]^{3+/2+}$	-60
2Fe Fd	<i>spinach</i>	$[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2]^{2+/1+}$	-420
Rieske center	<i>adrenal mitochondria</i>	$[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2]^{2+/1+}$	+280
4Fe Fd	<i>Bacillus stearothermophilus</i>	$[\text{Fe}_4\text{S}_4]^{2+/1+}$	-280
8Fe Fd	<i>Clostridium pasteurianum</i>	$[\text{Fe}_4\text{S}_4]^{2+/1+}$	-400
Fd II	<i>D. gigas</i>	$[\text{Fe}_3\text{S}_4]^{1+/0}$	-130
Fd I	<i>Azotovacter vinelandii</i>	$[\text{Fe}_3\text{S}_4]^{1+/0}$	-450
		$[\text{Fe}_4\text{S}_4]^{2+/1+}$	-650
HiPIP	<i>Chromatium vinosum</i>	$[\text{Fe}_4\text{S}_4]^{2+/3+}$	+350

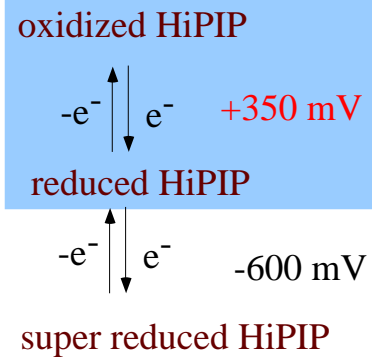
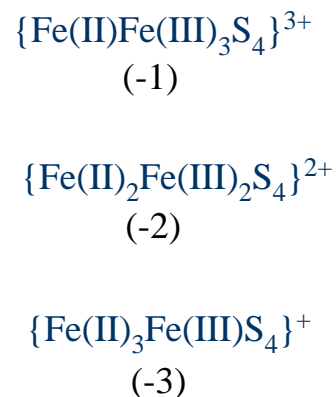
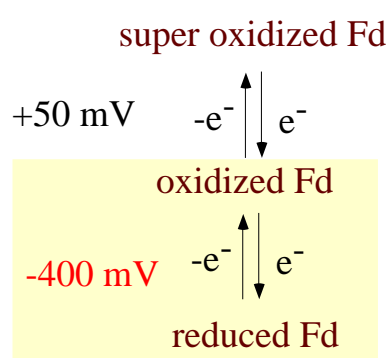
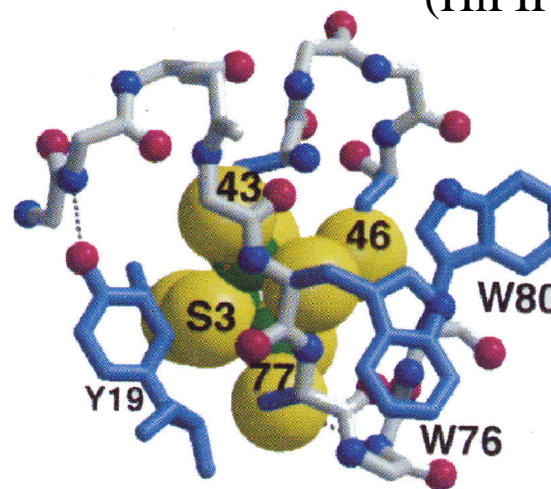
Rd = rubredoxin, Fd = ferredoxin, HiPIP = high potential iron-sulfur protein

Hydrophobicity and Hydrogen Bonding Effects on [4Fe-4S] Centers

Ferredoxin (Fd)



High Potential Iron Protein (HiPIP)

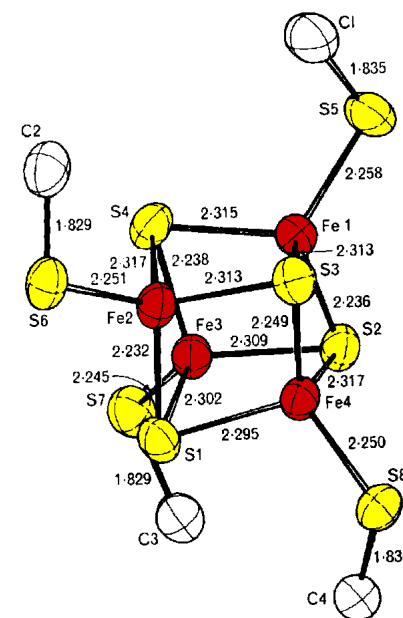
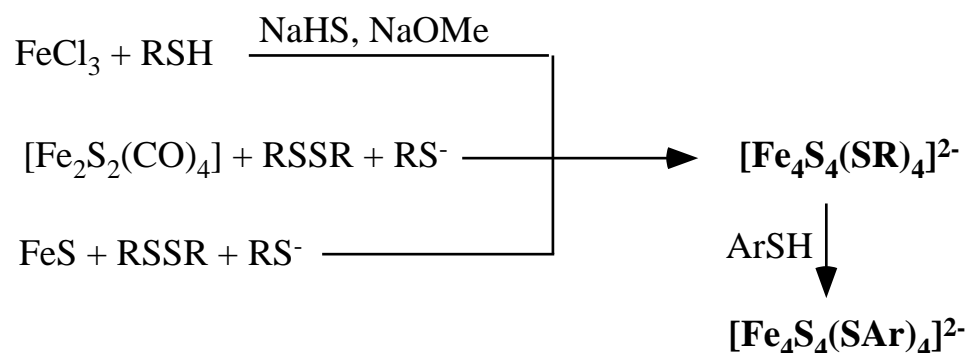


Clostridium pasteurianum

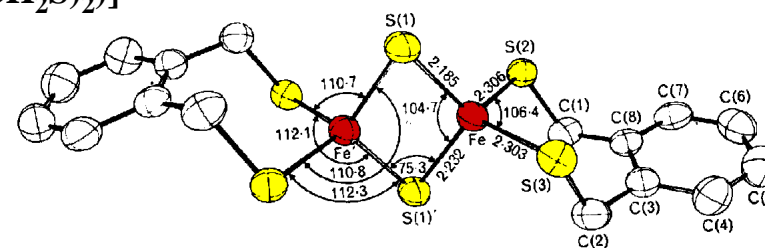
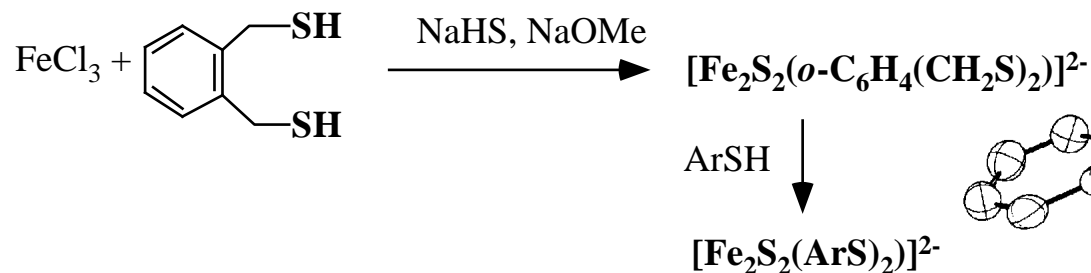
Chromatium vinosum

Synthetic Model Compounds

Spontaneous Self-Assembly ~1980 R. H. Holm (USA)



X-ray Structure of $(\text{Et}_4\text{N})_2[\text{Fe}_4\text{S}_4(\text{SCH}_2\text{Ph})_4]$



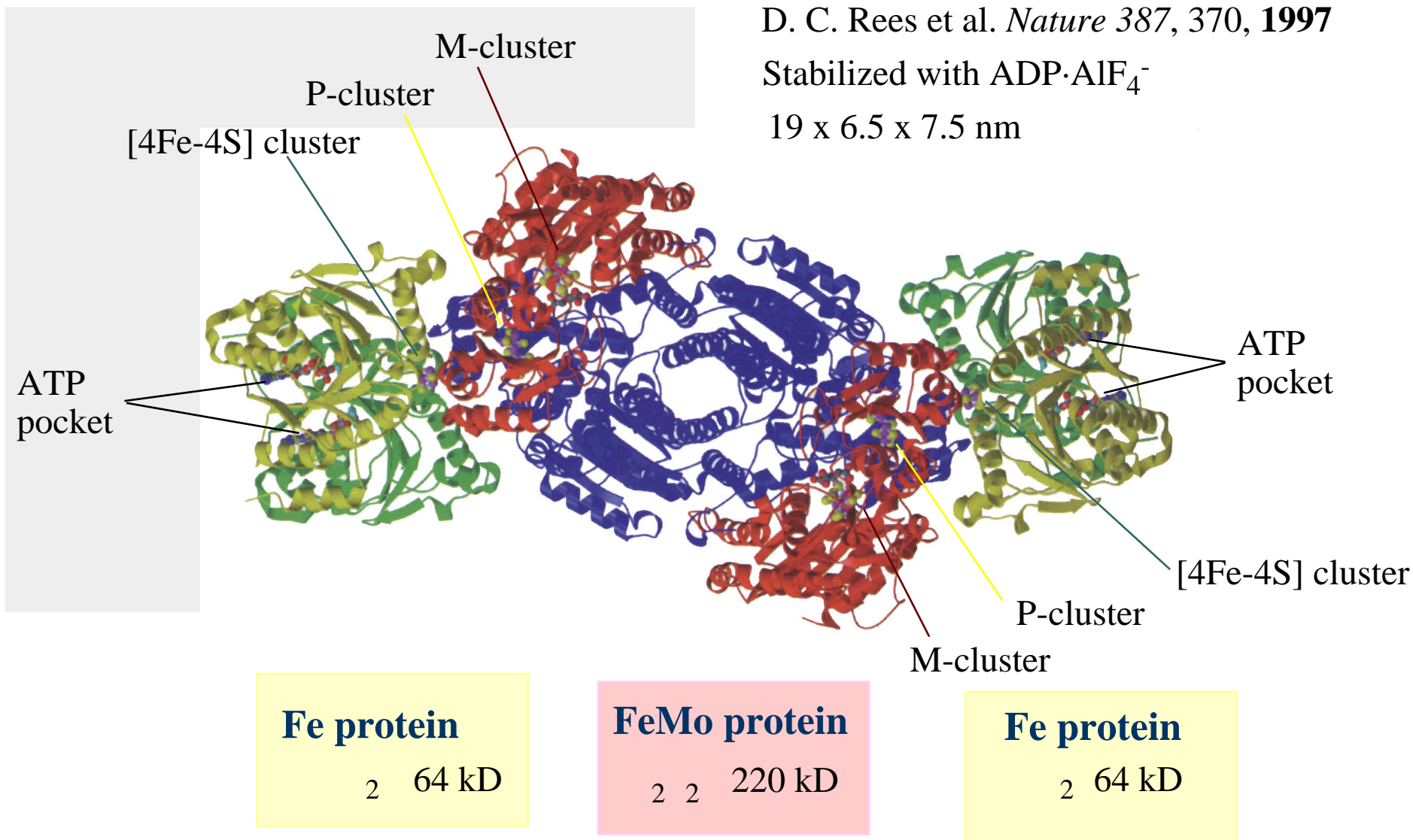
X-ray Structure of $(\text{Et}_4\text{N})_2[\text{Fe}_2\text{S}_2(o\text{-(SCH}_2)_2\text{Ph)}_2]$

Azotobacter vinelandii Nitrogenase Complex

D. C. Rees et al. *Nature* 387, 370, 1997

Stabilized with $\text{ADP} \cdot \text{AlF}_4^-$

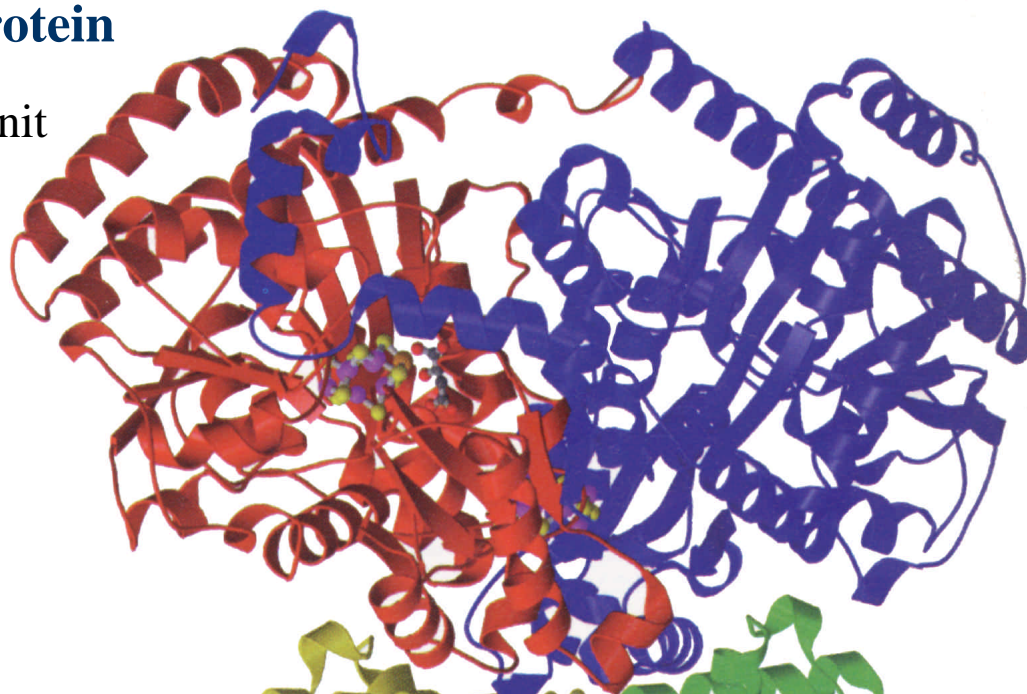
19 x 6.5 x 7.5 nm



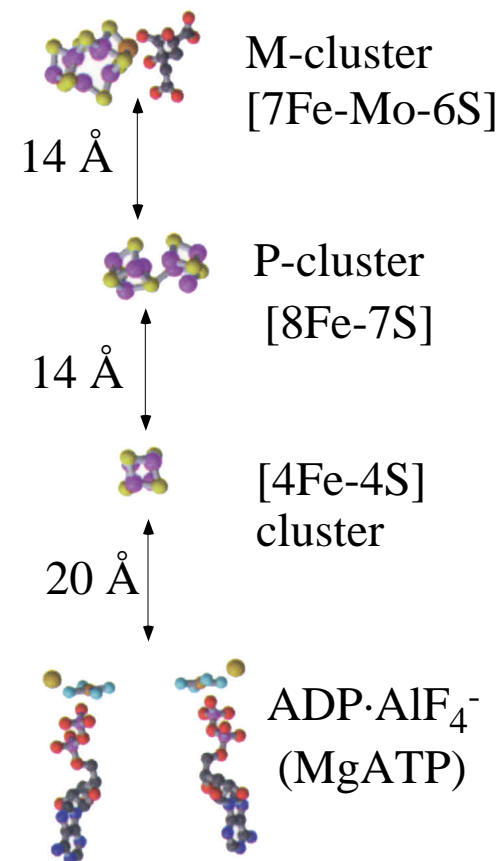
A Half Unit of *A_v* Nitrogenase Complex

FeMo protein

subunit

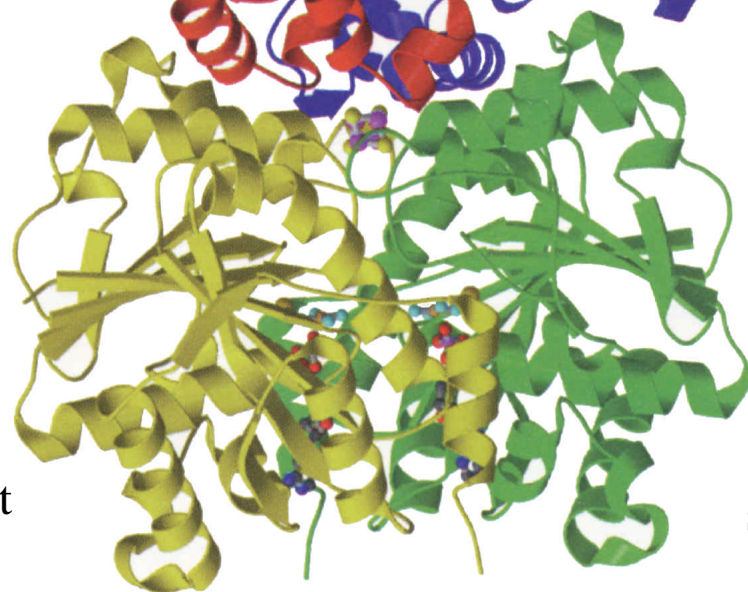


subunit



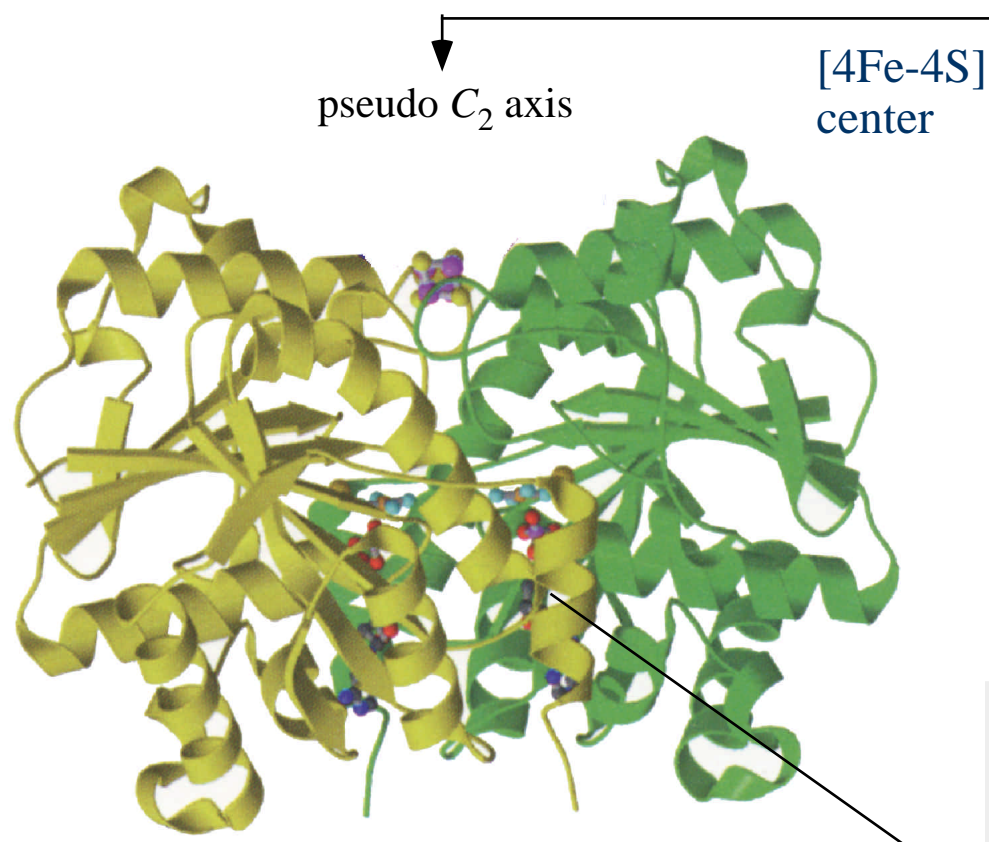
subunit

Fe protein



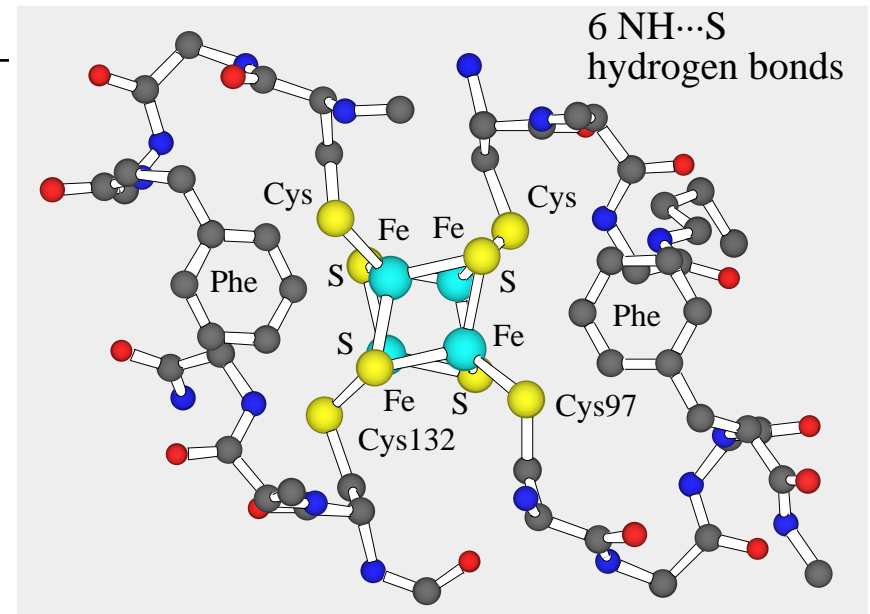
subunit

Structure of Av Fe protein

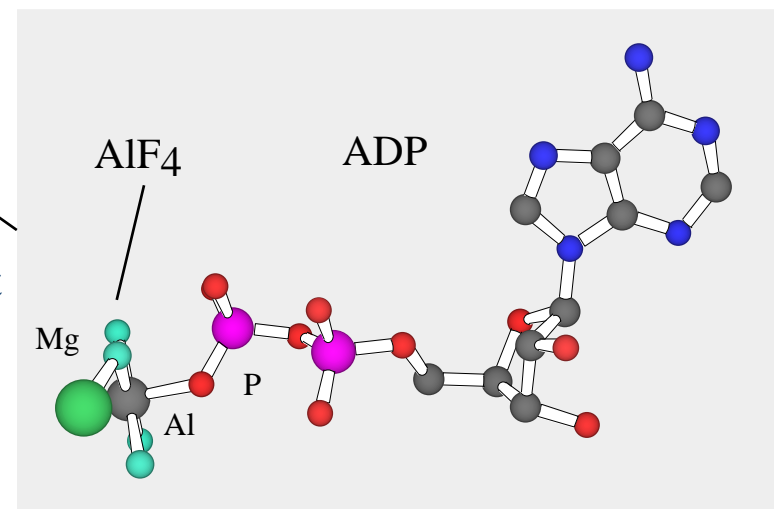


$(289\text{aa})_2$
PDB code 1N2C
Iron butterfly

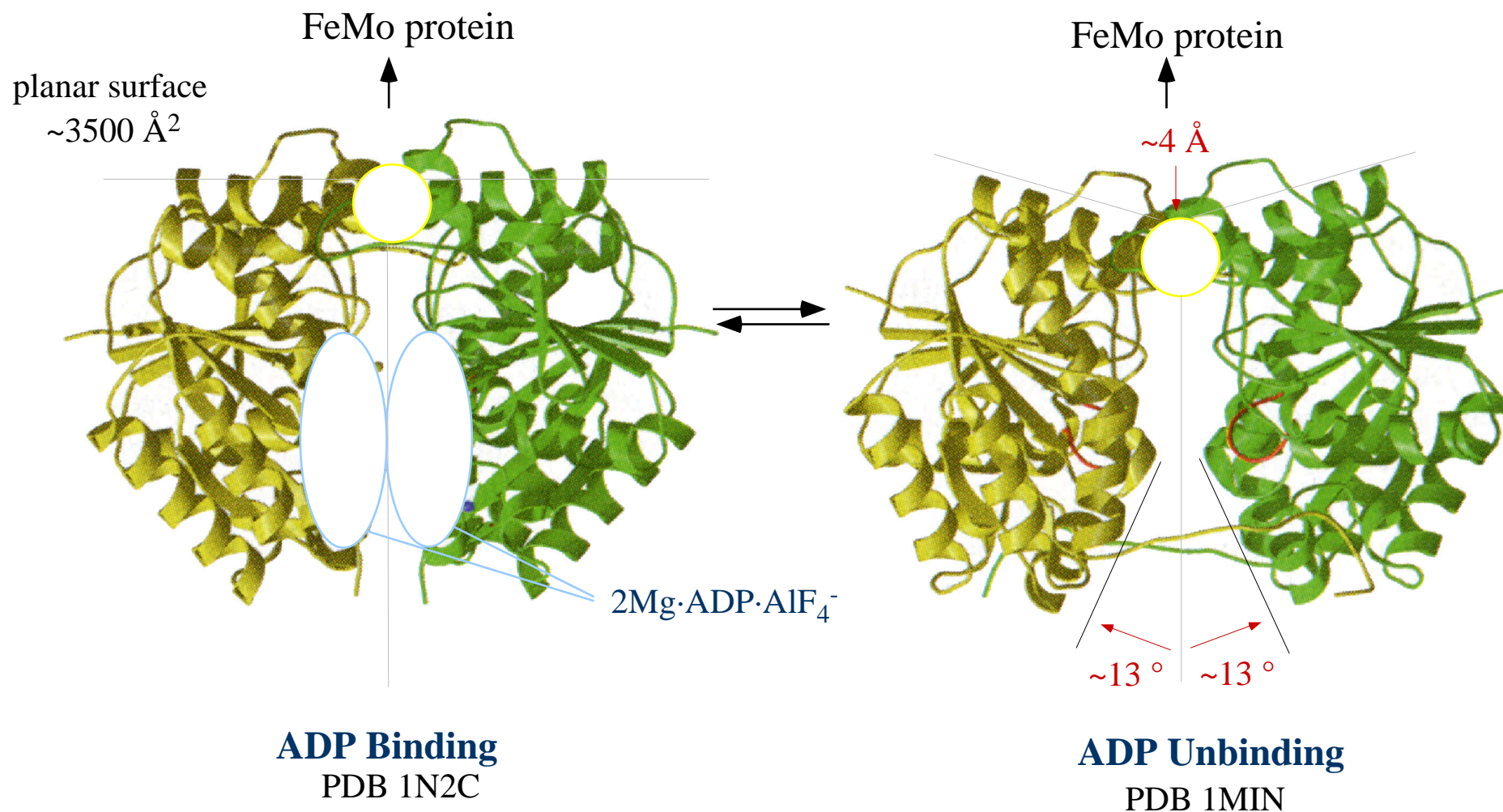
ATP pocket
between
-helix of
and '



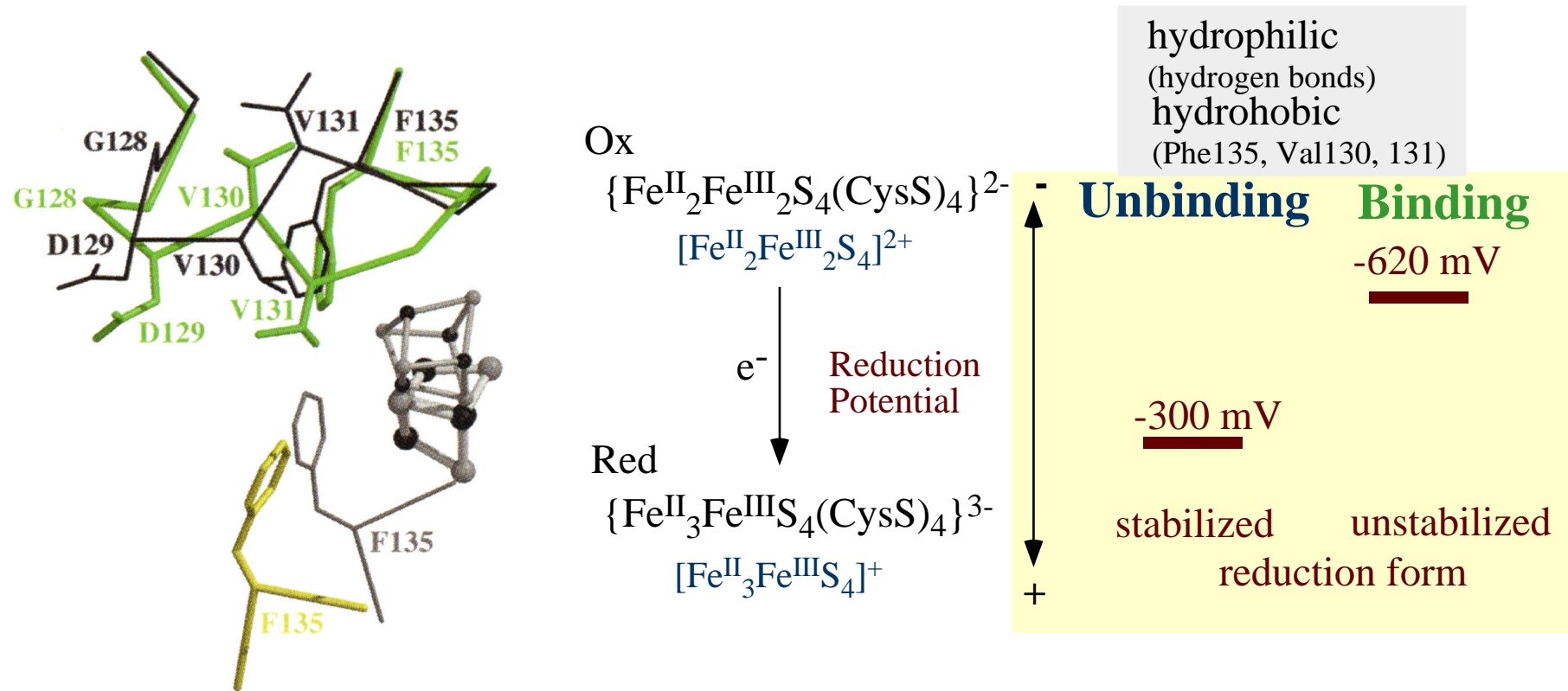
20 Å



Structural Change of Av Fe Protein with Binding of Mg·ADP·AlF₄⁻

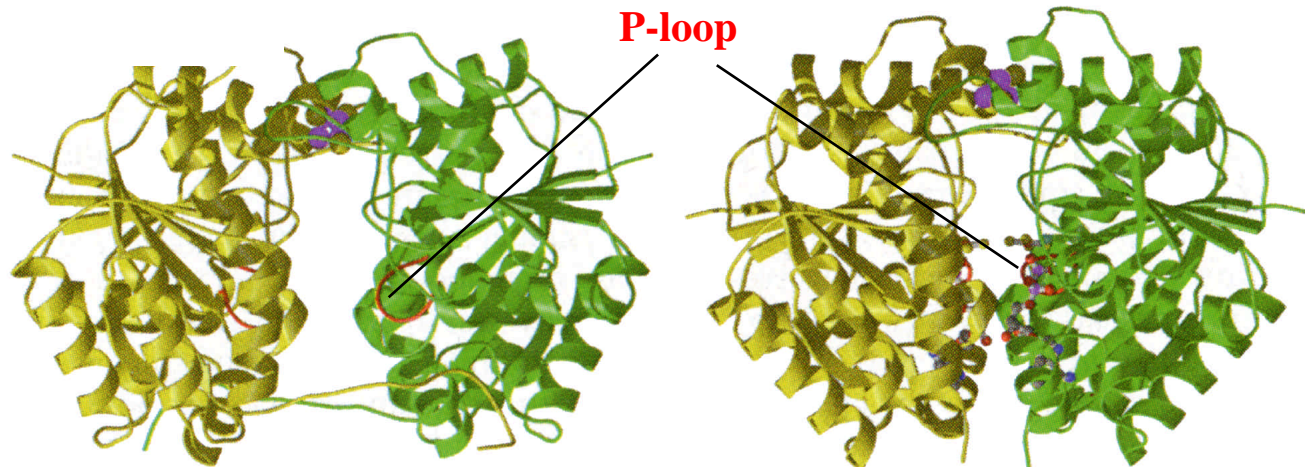
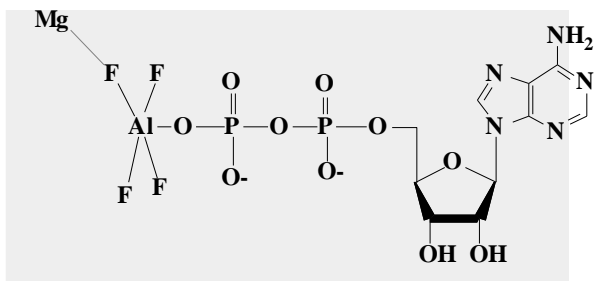
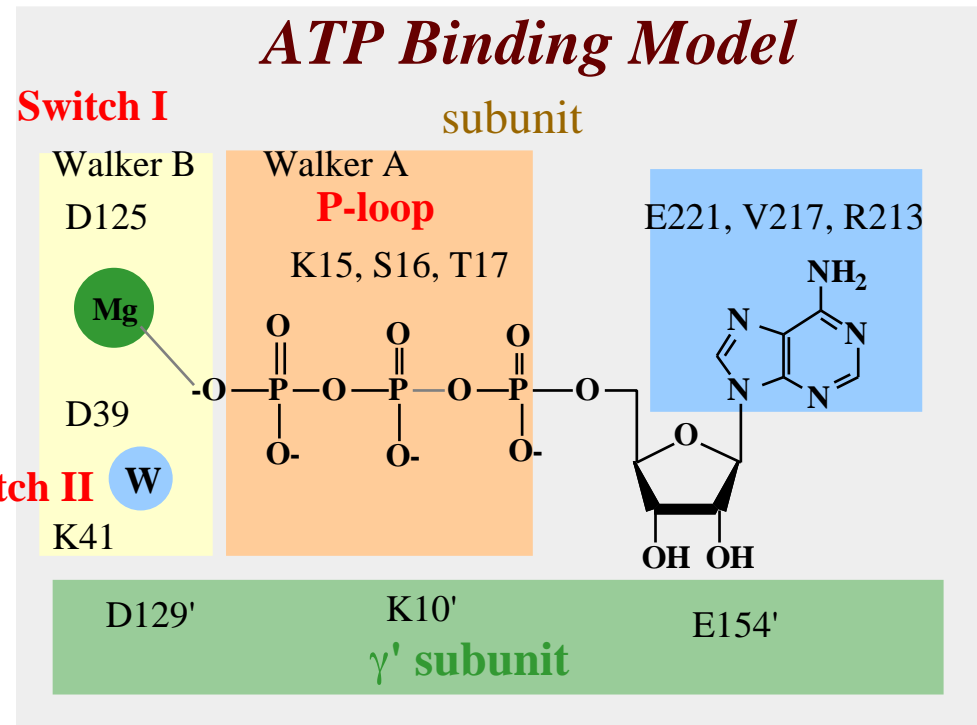
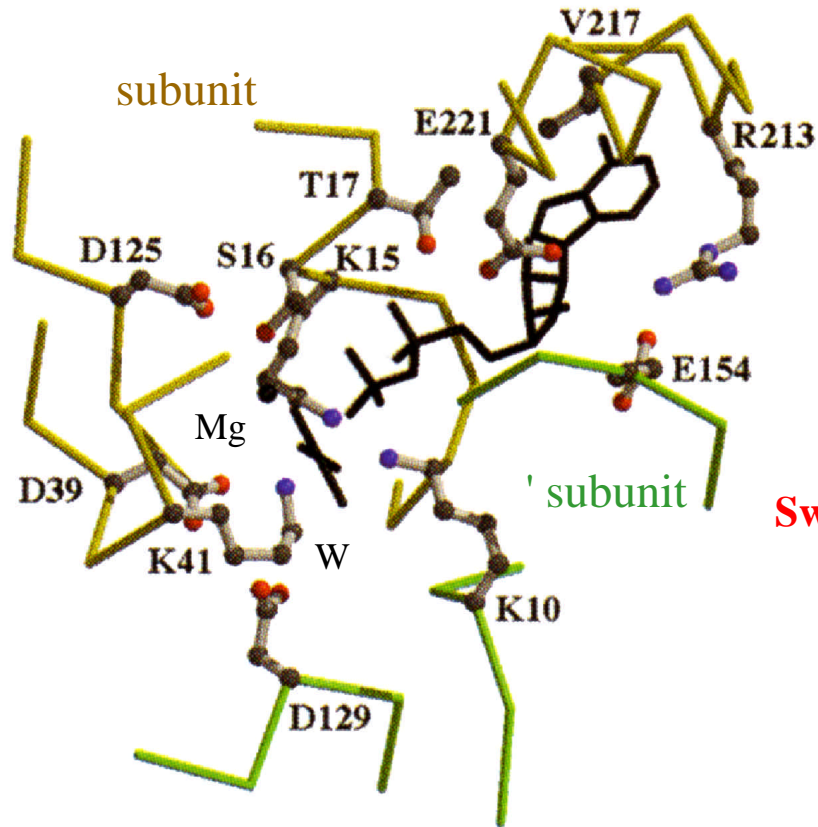


Structural Change around the [4Fe-4S] Center of Av Fe Protein with Binding of Mg·ADP·AlF₄⁻

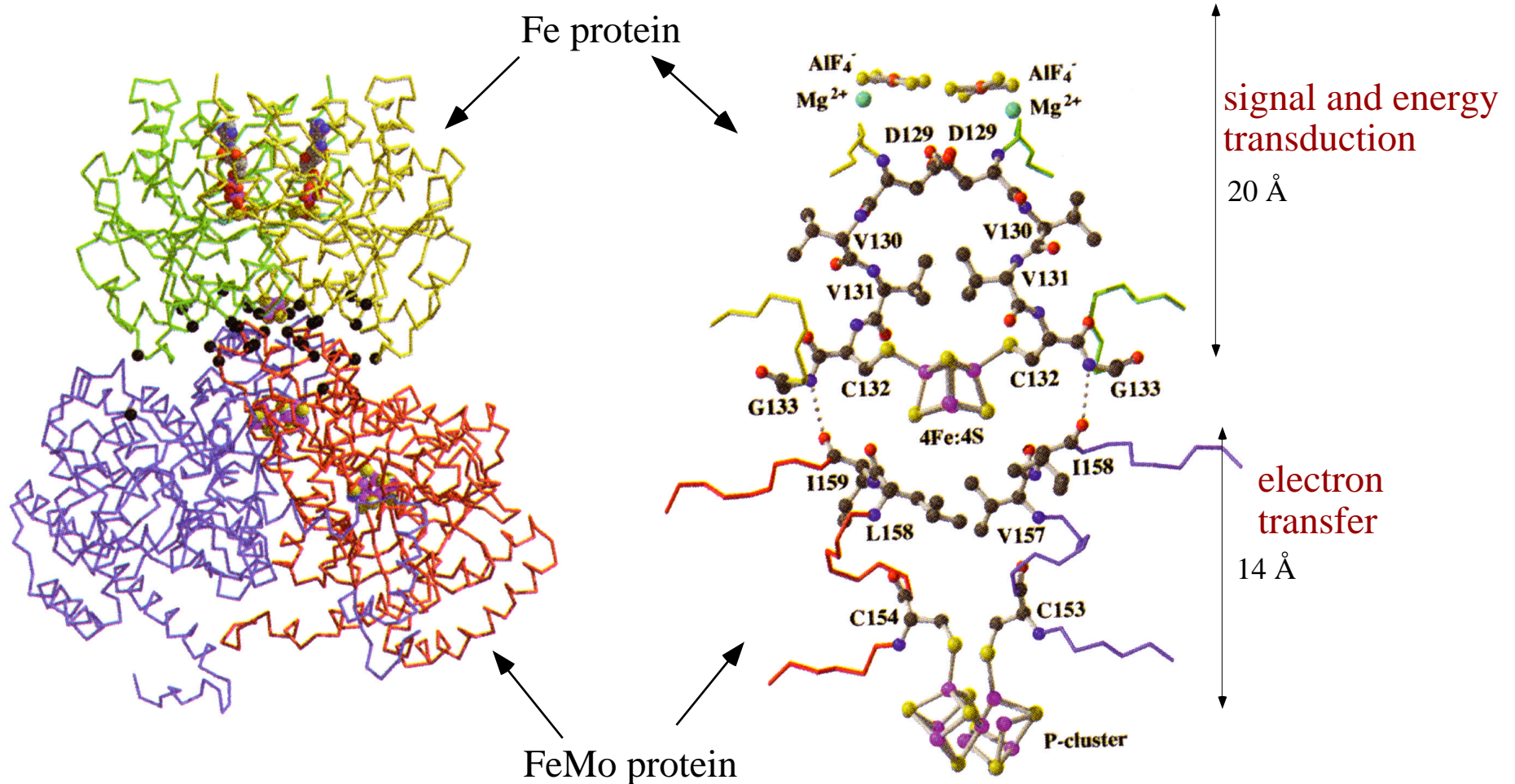


Thick green (' subunit) and yellow (' subunit) lines are for the complexed structure and thin black (' subunit) and gray (' subunit) lines for the uncomplexed structure.

Mg•ADP•AlF₃ - (ΔTP) Binding Site



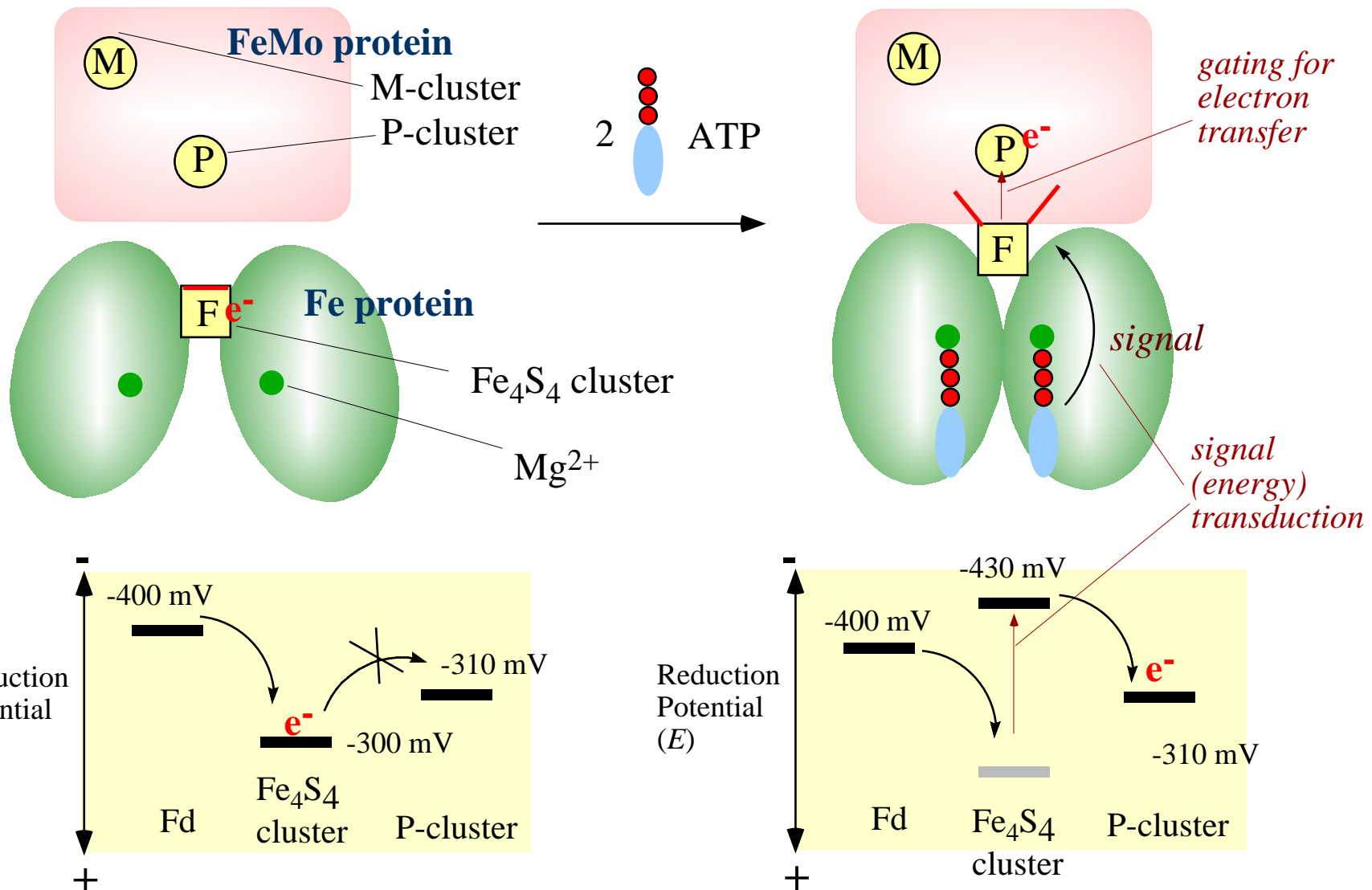
Interaction between Fe protein and FeMo protein



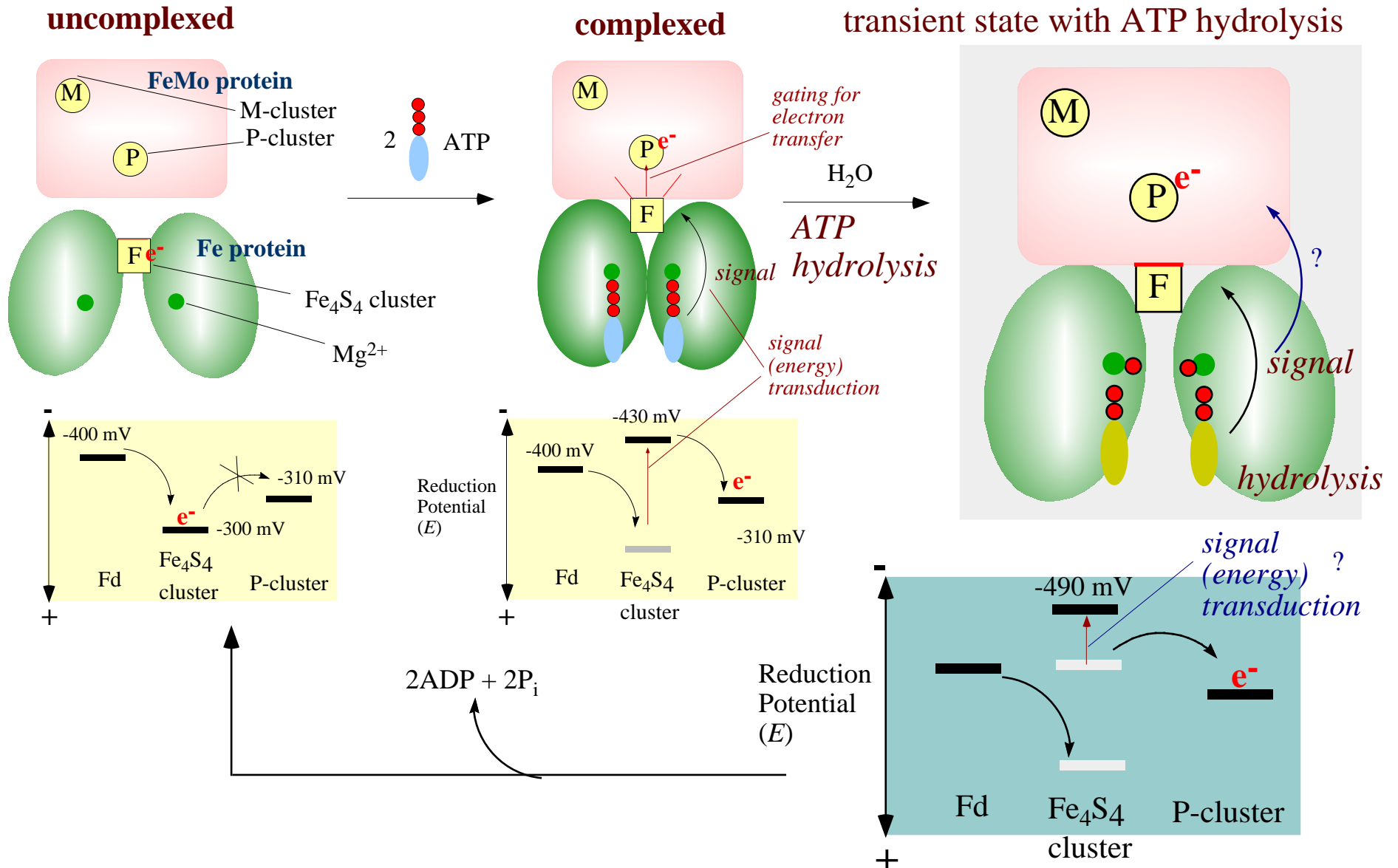
Residues participating in Fe protein/FeMo protein interactions have their Ca atoms highlighted as black spheres.

Signal transduction and electron transfer pathway in the nitrogenase complex.

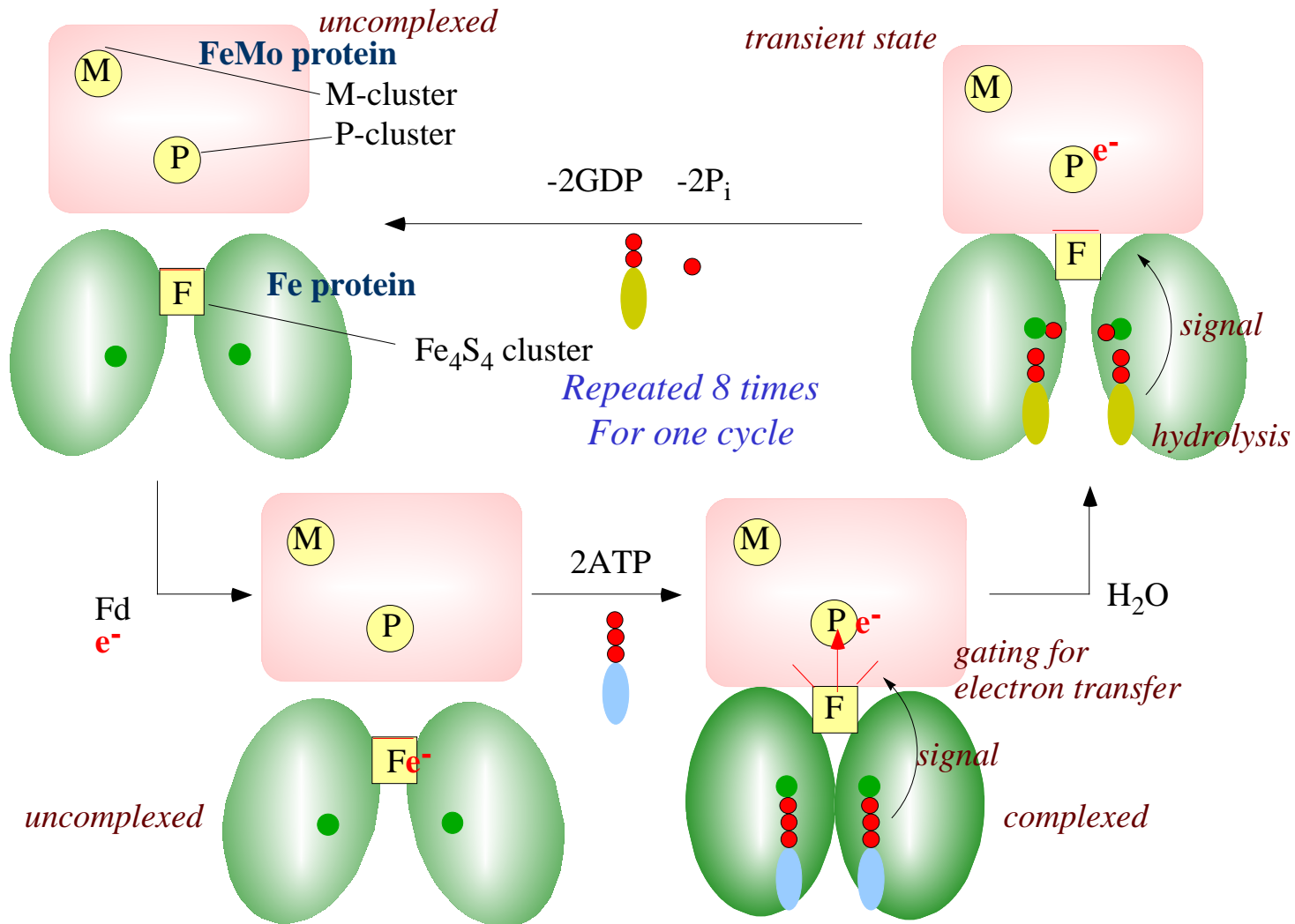
A Model for Complexation between Fe Protein and FeMo Protein with Mg·ATP Binding



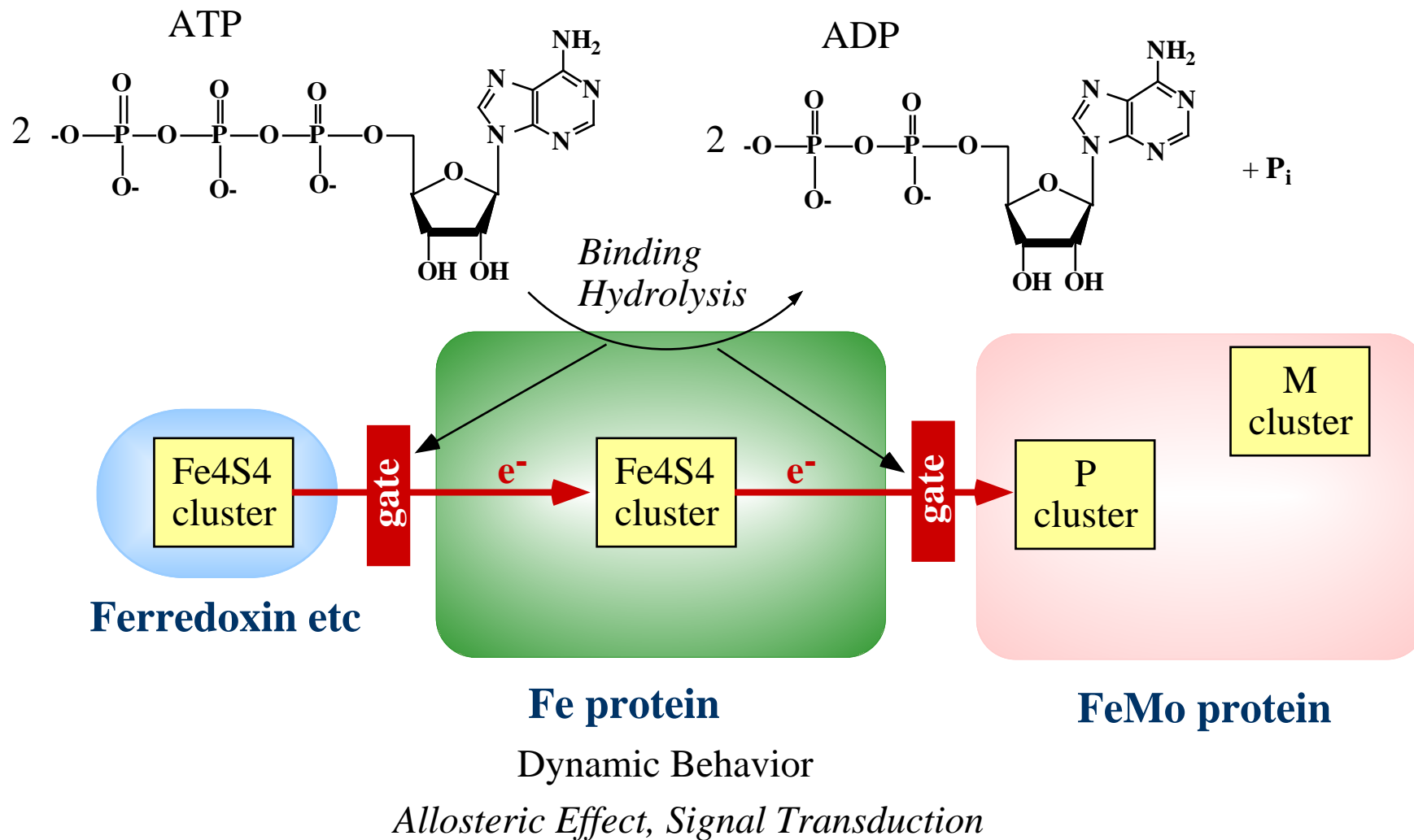
A Model for Electron Transfer from Fe Protein to FeMo Protein with ATP Hydrolysis



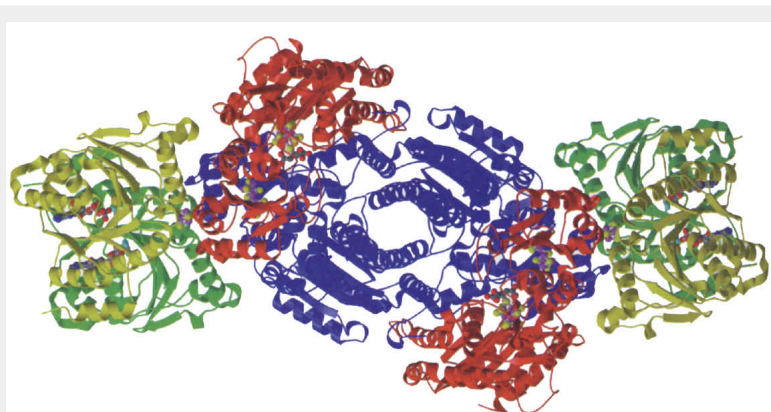
Plausible Mechanism for Signal Transduction and Electron Transfer between Fe Protein and FeMo Protein



Electron Shuttle Gated by Dynamic Behavior of Fe Protein



FeMo Protein of Nitrogenase Complex



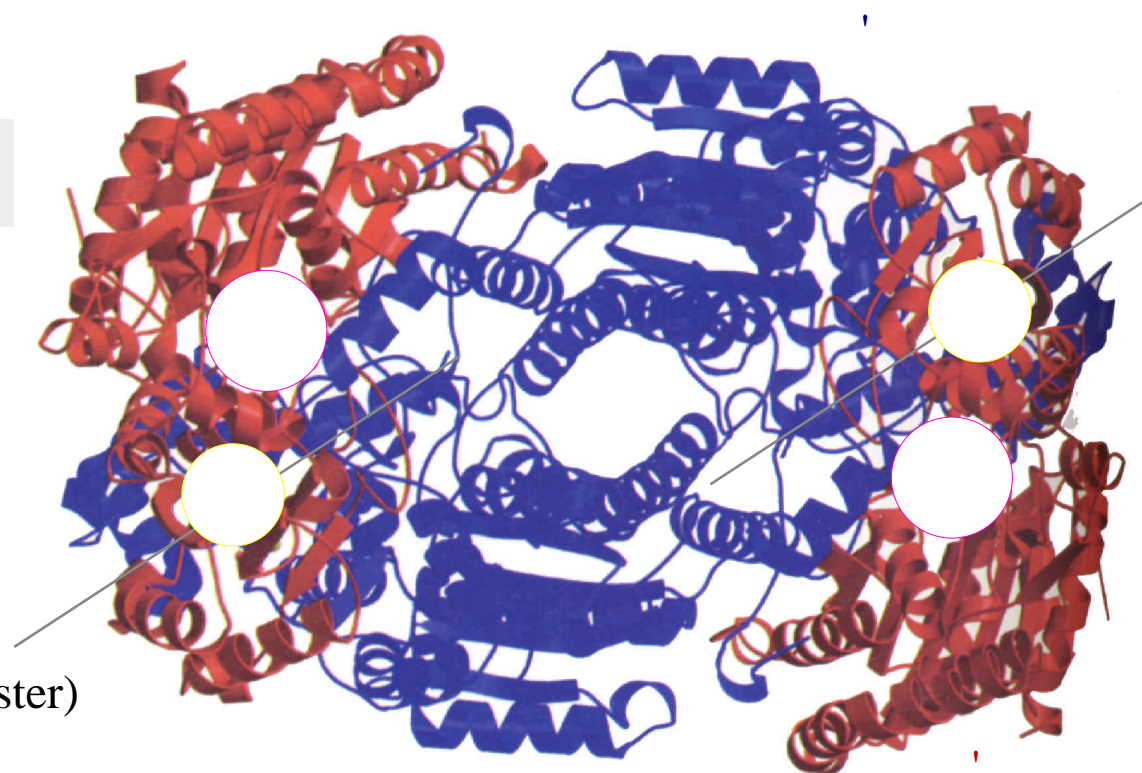
Nitrogenase Complex
from *Azotobacter vinelandii*

2₂ subunits (~240 kD)
subunit: 491 aa
subunit: 522 aa

Containing 30Fe and 2Mo
(two P-cluster and two M-cluster)

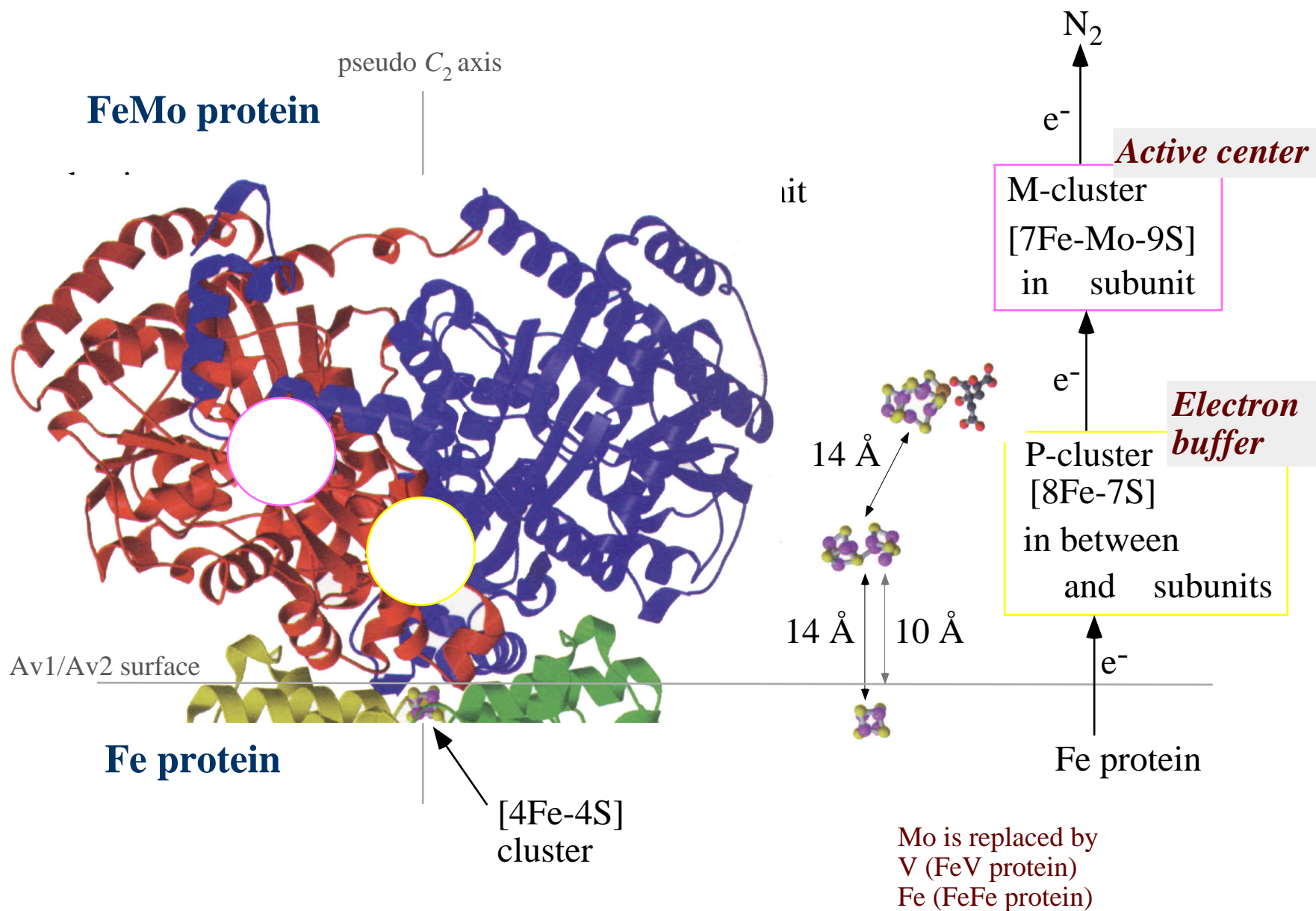
FeMo Protein

Nature 1997
PDB 2MIN

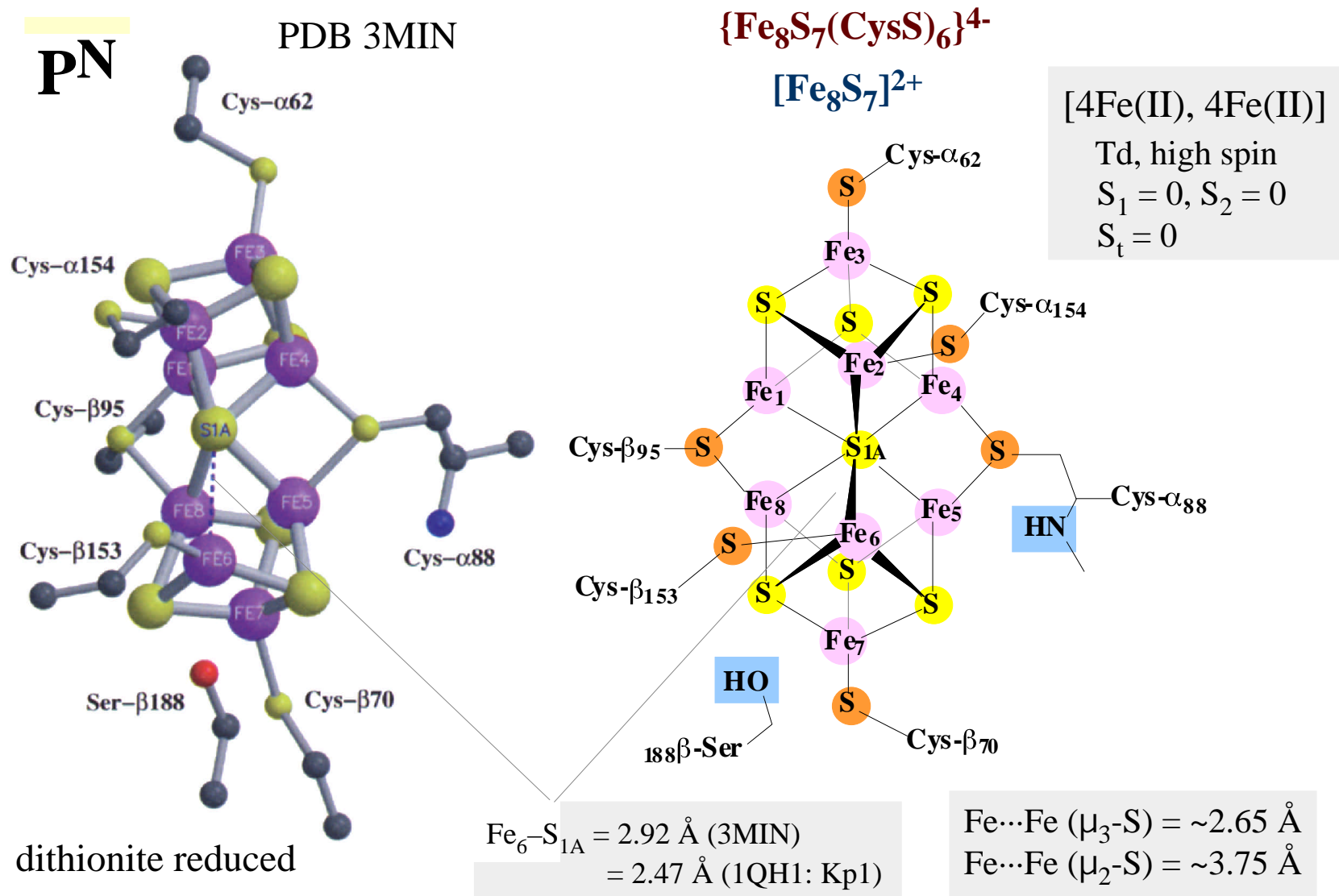


○ P-cluster ○ M-cluster

A Half of FeMo Protein from *Av* Nitrogenase Complex

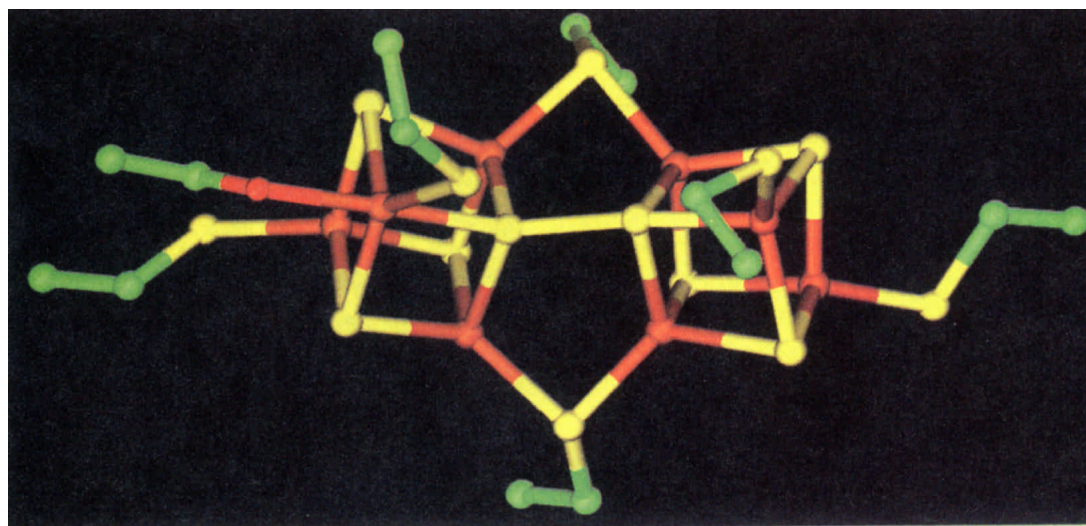


Structure of P-Cluster (Reduced Form: P^N) in *A. vinelandii* MoFe Protein

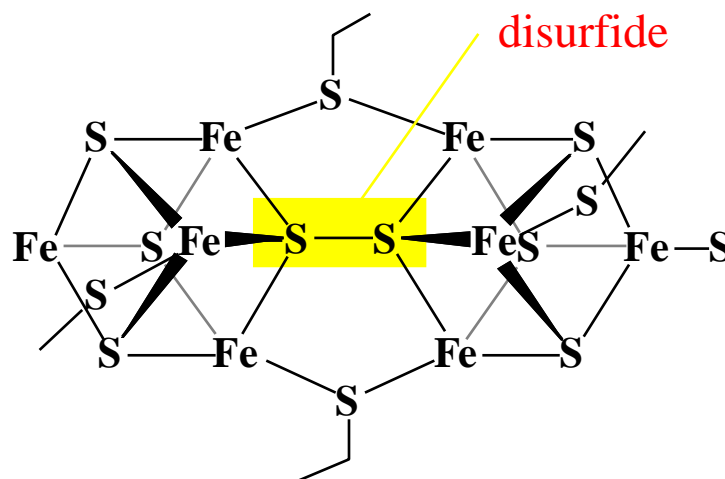


Wrongly Proposed Structure for Reduced P-Cluster

This is NOT correct !!



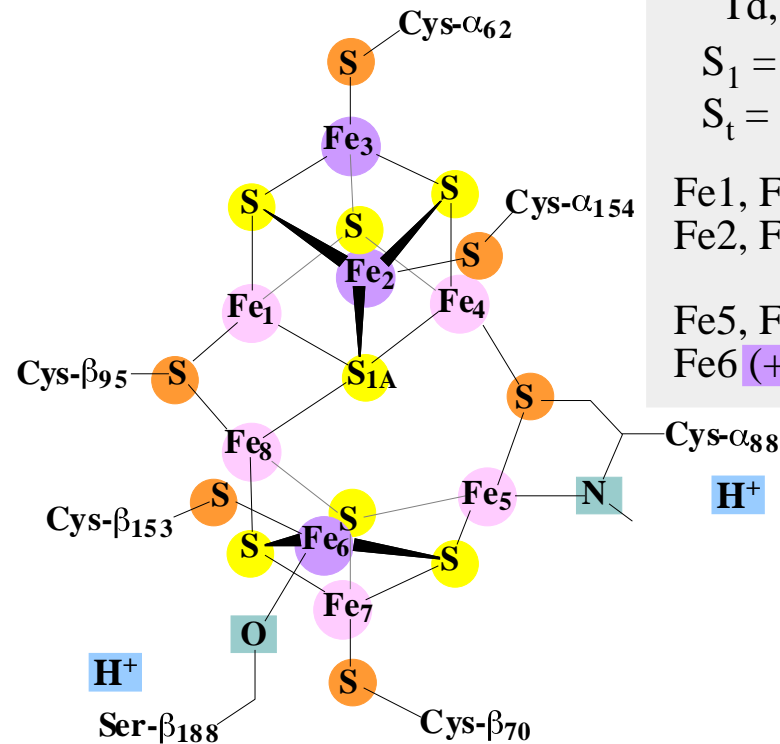
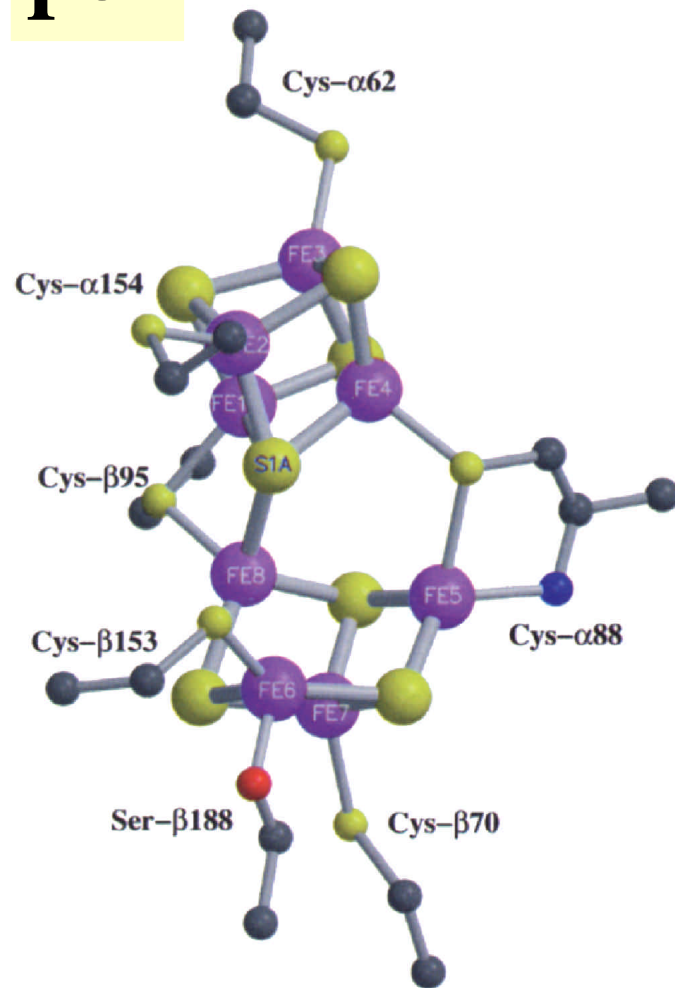
from D. Voet "Biochemistry"



Structure of P-Cluster (Oxidized Form: P^{OX}) in *A. vinelandii* MoFe Protein

P^{OX}

PDB 2MIN



$[2\text{Fe(II)}2\text{Fe(2.5)}, 3\text{Fe(II)}\text{Fe(III)}]$

Td, high spin

$S_1 = 1/2, S_2 = 7/2$

$S_t = 3 \text{ or } 4$

Fe1, Fe4 (+2.0)

Fe2, Fe3 (+2.5)

Fe5, Fe7, Fe8 (+2.0)

Fe6 (+3)

slightly longer than P^N.

$\text{Fe}\cdots\text{Fe} (\mu_3\text{-S}) = \sim 2.65 \text{ \AA}$

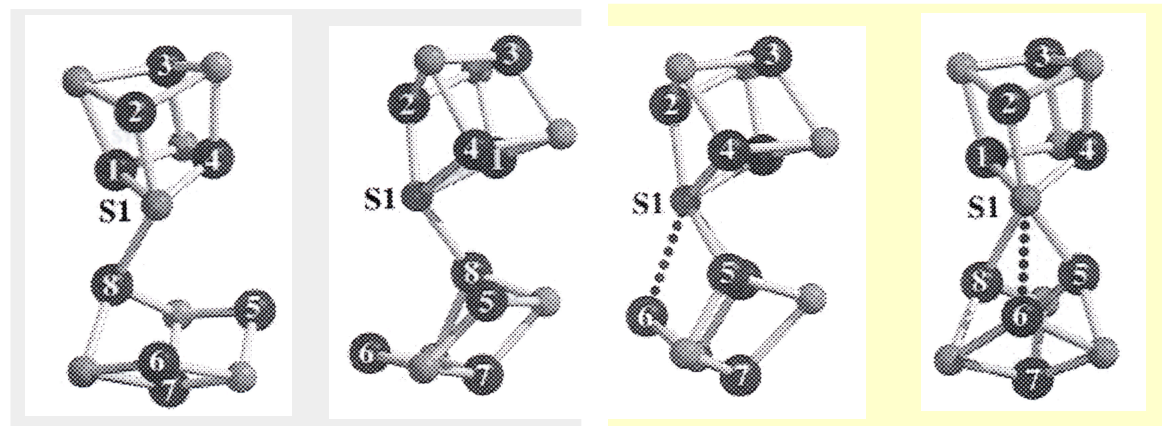
$\text{Fe}\cdots\text{Fe} (\mu_2\text{-S}) = \sim 3.75 \text{ \AA}$

Fe₅ and Fe₆ moved by
 $\sim 1.4 \text{ \AA}$ away from S_{1A}

Structural Parameters for P^{OX} and P^N

C. Rees et al. *Biochemistry* 1997, 36, 1181

P^{OX}



P^N

Table 3: Metal–Metal and Metal–Sulfur S1 Distances in the P^{OX} and P^N States of the P-Cluster (in Angstroms)^a

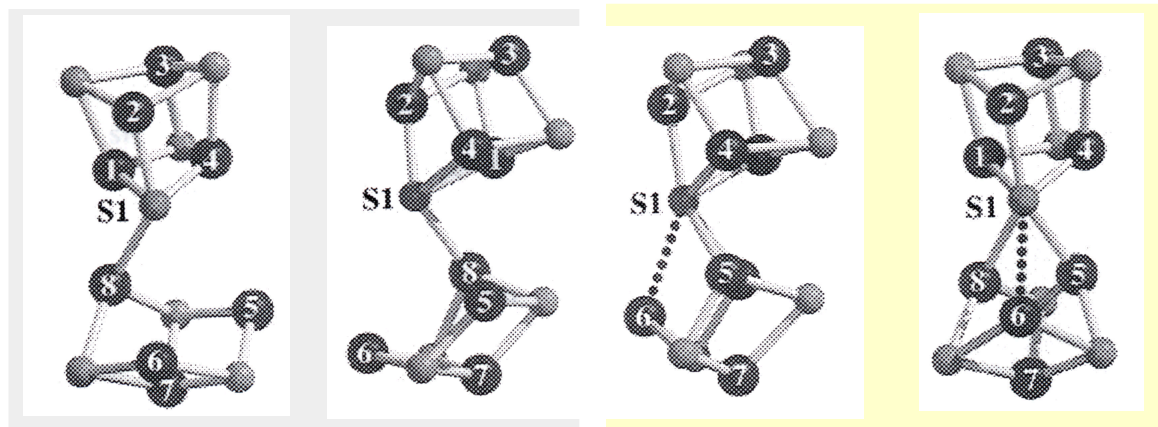
	Fe1	Fe2	Fe3	Fe4	Fe5	Fe6	Fe7	Fe8	S1
Fe1		2.42	2.70	2.53	3.77	4.76	5.42	3.05	2.26
Fe2	2.43 (+0.01)		2.76	2.54	4.59	5.02	6.64	4.46	2.34
Fe3	2.71 (+0.01)	2.78 (+0.02)		2.59	5.37	6.83	7.61	5.57	3.97
Fe4	2.48 (-0.05)	2.61 (+0.07)	2.69 (+0.10)		3.03	4.70	5.57	4.06	2.23
Fe5	4.80 (+1.03)	5.78 (+1.19)	6.23 (+0.86)	3.77 (+0.74)		2.56	2.66	2.46	2.43
Fe6	5.72 (+0.94)	6.07 (+1.05)	7.90 (+1.07)	5.64 (+0.94)	3.88 (+1.32)		2.65	2.52	2.92
Fe7	5.43 (+0.01)	6.76 (+0.12)	7.69 (+0.08)	5.57 (0.0)	2.76 (+0.10)	2.77 (+0.12)		2.62	4.31
Fe8	2.96 (+0.09)	4.37 (+0.11)	5.51 (-0.06)	3.89 (+0.17)	3.41 (+0.95)	3.22 (+0.70)	2.72 (+0.10)		2.45
S1	2.27 (+0.01)	2.30 (-0.04)	4.06 (+0.09)	2.26 (+0.03)	3.81 (+1.38)	3.86 (+0.94)	4.42 (+0.11)	2.32 (-0.13)	

^a Distances between pairs of metal atoms are indicated for the P^N state (upper right) and P^{OX} state (lower left). The distances are the average of the two P-clusters in the crystallographic asymmetric unit of the *A. vinelandii* MoFe-protein. The average deviation between crystallographically independent metal–metal distances is 0.05 Å, with a maximum of 0.11 Å for the Fe1–Fe6 pair in P^N. The numbers in parantheses in the lower left indicate the change in average distance upon oxidation of P^N to P^{OX}.

Structural Parameters for P^{OX} and P^N

C. Rees et al. *Biochemistry* 1997, 36, 1181

P^{OX}

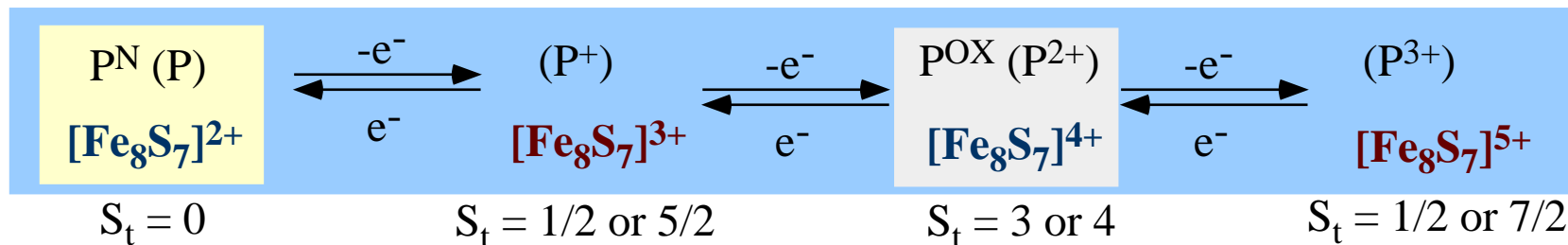


P^N

Bond Lengths for P^N and P^{OX} in Å

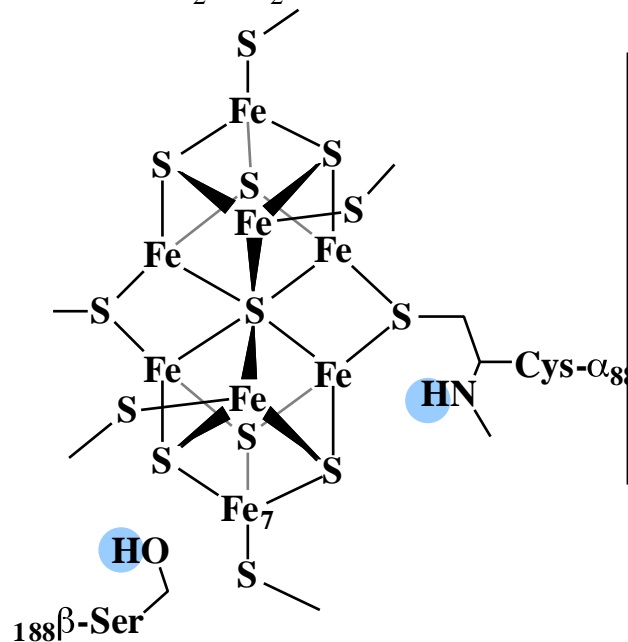
Bond	P ^{OX}	P ^N	(P ^{OX} - P ^N)
Fe1–Fe2	2.43	2.42	+0.01
Fe2–Fe3	2.78	2.76	+0.02
Fe3–Fe4	2.69	2.59	+0.10
Fe4–Fe5	<u>3.77</u>	3.03	+0.74
Fe5–Fe6	<u>3.88</u>	2.56	+1.32
Fe6–Fe7	2.77	2.65	+0.12
Fe7–Fe8	2.72	2.62	+0.10
Fe5–S1	<u>3.81</u>	2.43	+1.38
Fe6–S1	<u>3.86</u>	2.92(2.47)	+0.94

Redox Behavior of P-Cluster in *A_v* MoFe Protein

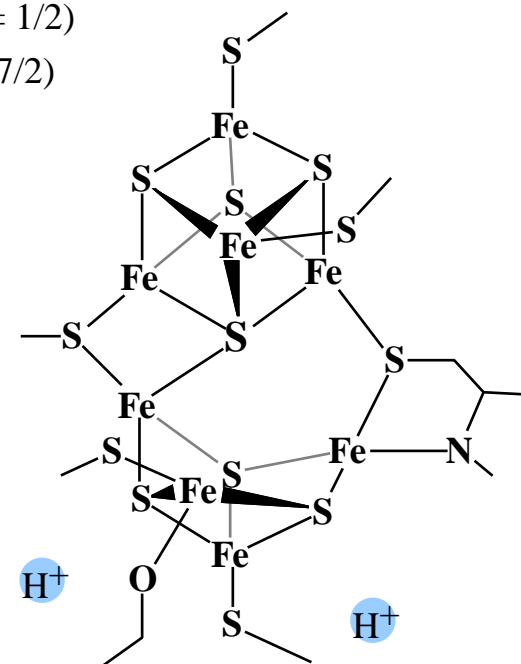


$[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}_2\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_2] (S = 0)$
 $[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}_2\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_2] (S = 0)$

$[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}_2\text{Fe}^{2.5}_2] (S = 1/2)$
 $[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}_3\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}] (S = 7/2)$



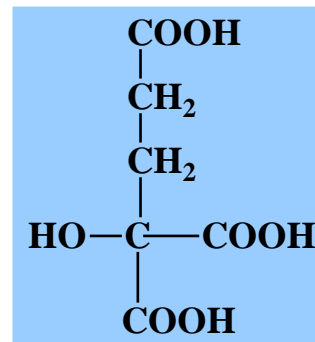
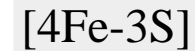
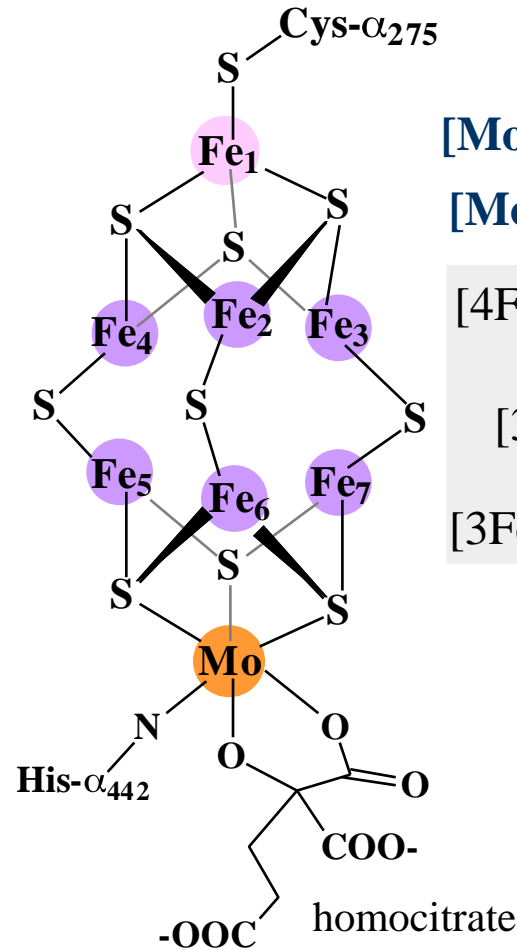
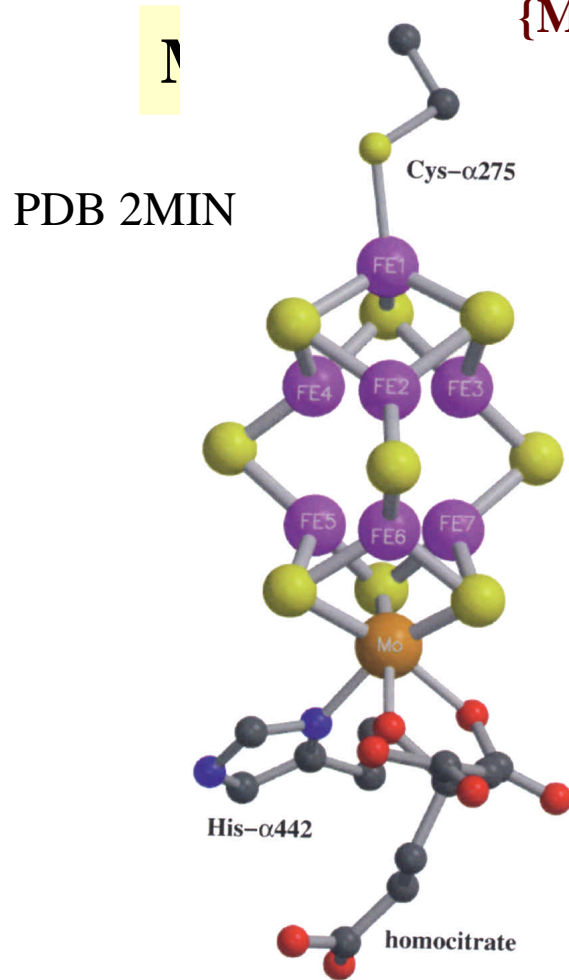
- Electron Buffer
- Electron transfer coupled with Proton transfer
- Signal transduction from Fe-protein



Structure of M-Cluster (FeMo Cofactor) in *A. vinelandii* MoFe Protein



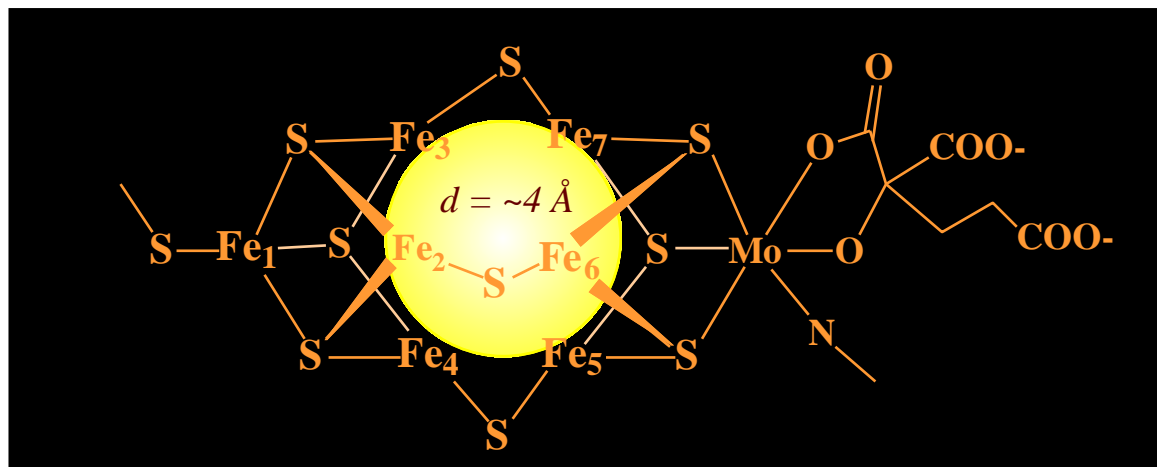
Nature 1997
Biochemistry 1997



buried ~10 Å from the protein surface
~14 Å away from P-cluster edge

Fe...Fe(bridge) = 2.7-2.8 Å
Fe...Fe(nonbridged) = ~3.8 Å

Structural Parameters for M^{OX} and M^N

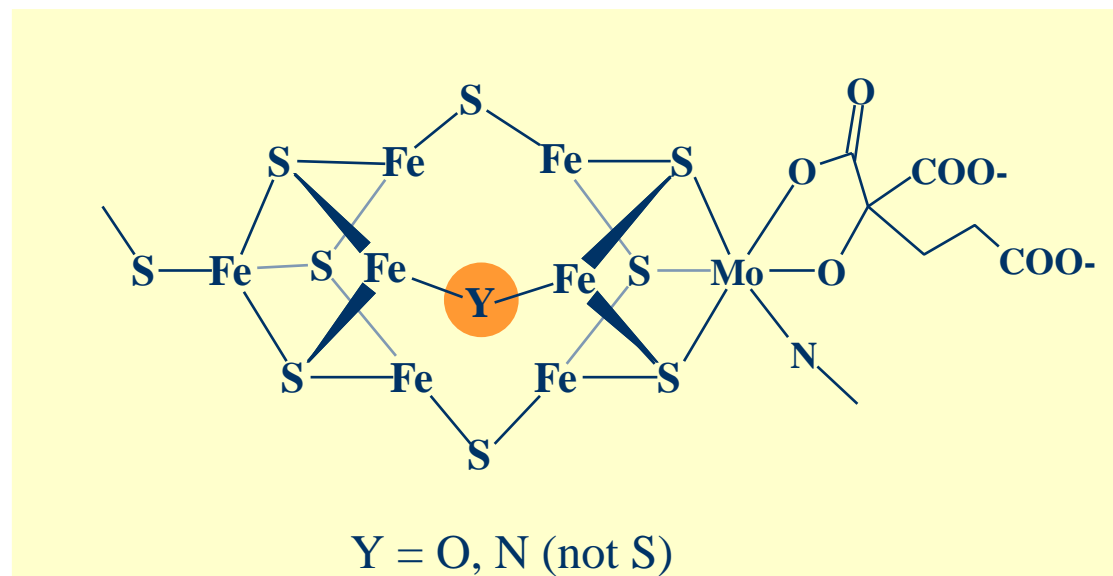


Bond Lengths for M^N and M^{OX} in Å

Bond	M^{OX}	M^N	$(M^{OX} - M^N)$
Fe1–Fe2	2.69	2.62	+0.07
Fe2–Fe3	2.68	2.58	+0.10
Fe3–Fe4	2.65	2.56	+0.09
Fe4–Fe5	2.55	2.55	+0.00
Fe5–Fe6	2.60	2.57	+0.03
Fe6–Fe7	2.47	2.46	+0.01
Fe7–Mo	2.54	2.63	-0.09

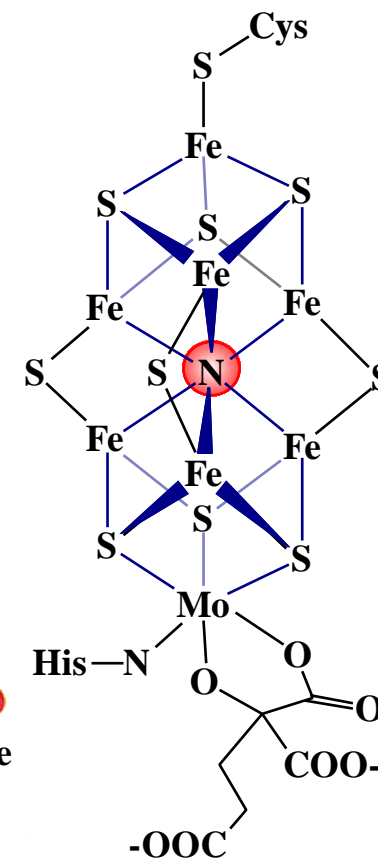
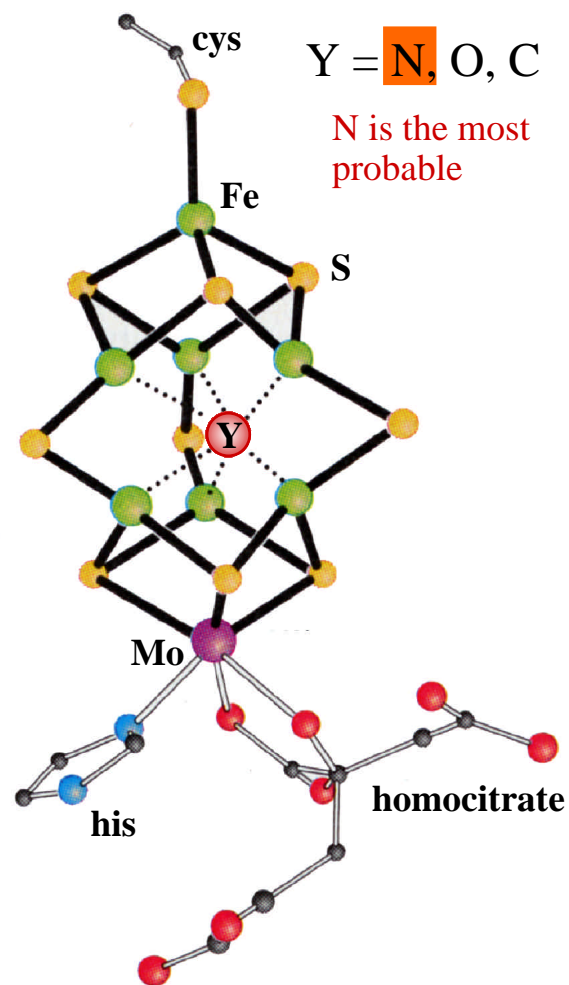
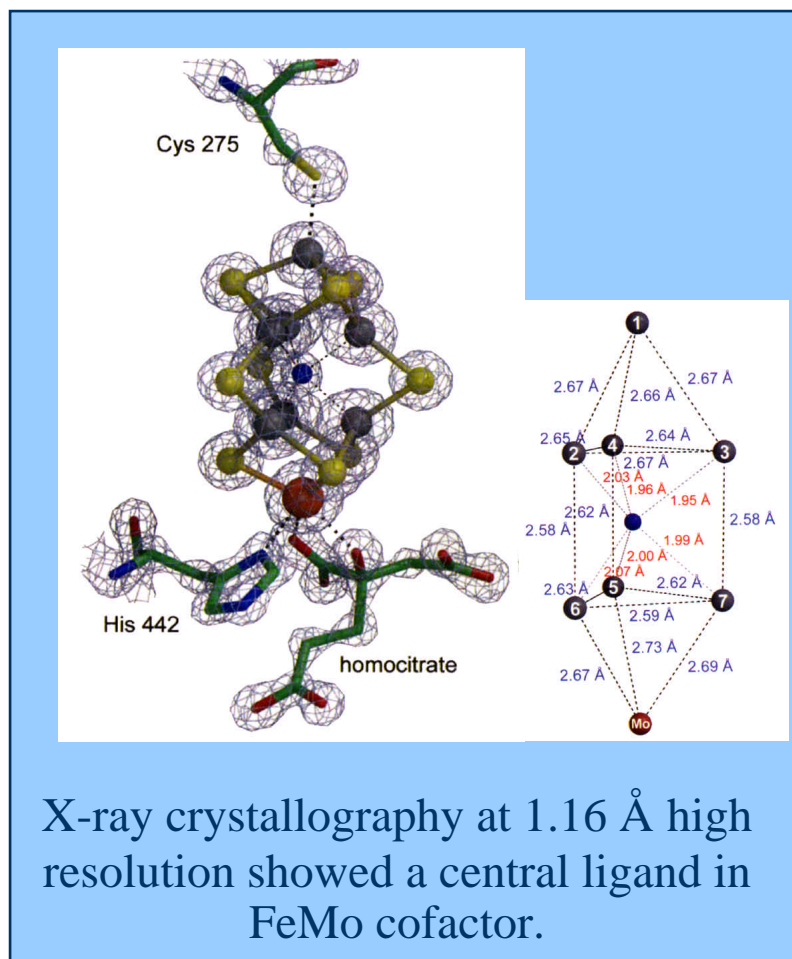
$POX \doteq PN$

This is NOT Correct and Revised as $Y = S$



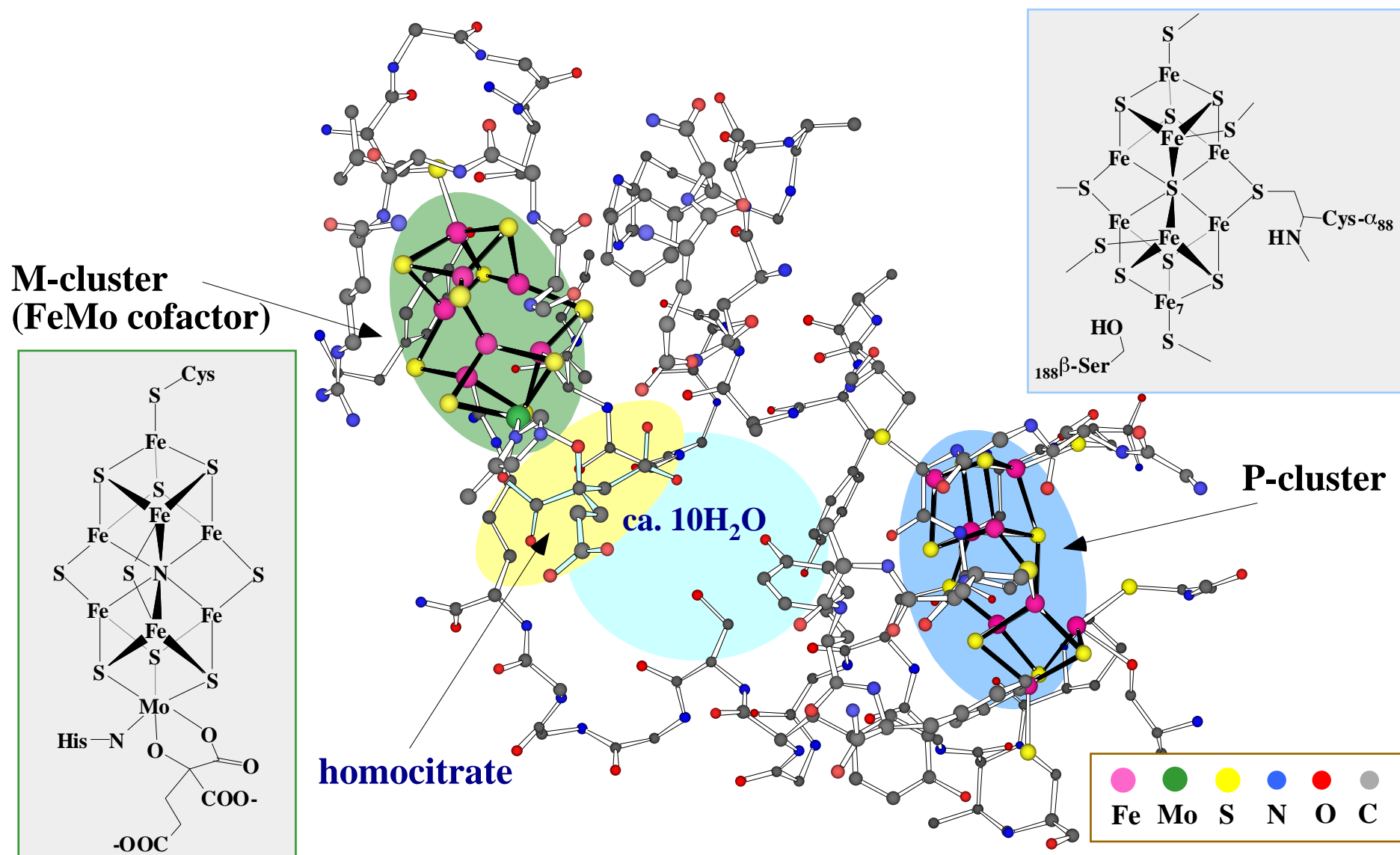
Reported in *Science* 1992, 1993 (1MIN)

And Now the Structure has been Revised as In 2002



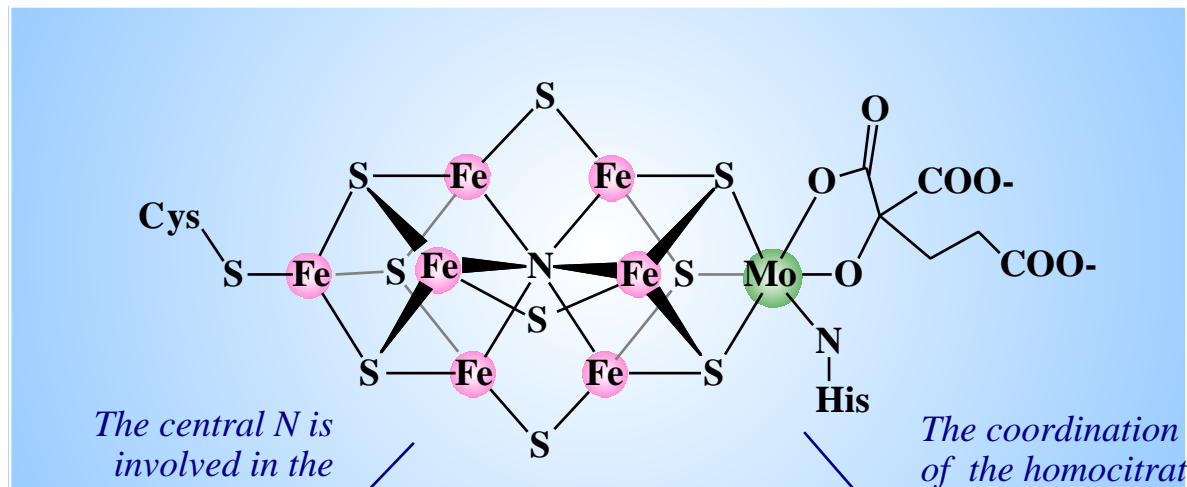
Reported by D. C. Rees et al in *Science* 2002, 297, 1696

Arrangement of P- and M-Clusters in A_v FeMo Protein



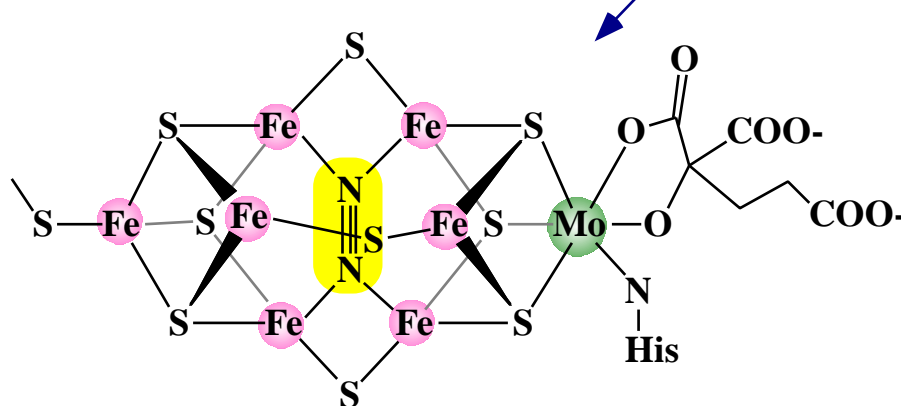
Where is the Nitrogenase Active Site ?

(Dinitrogen Binding Site)

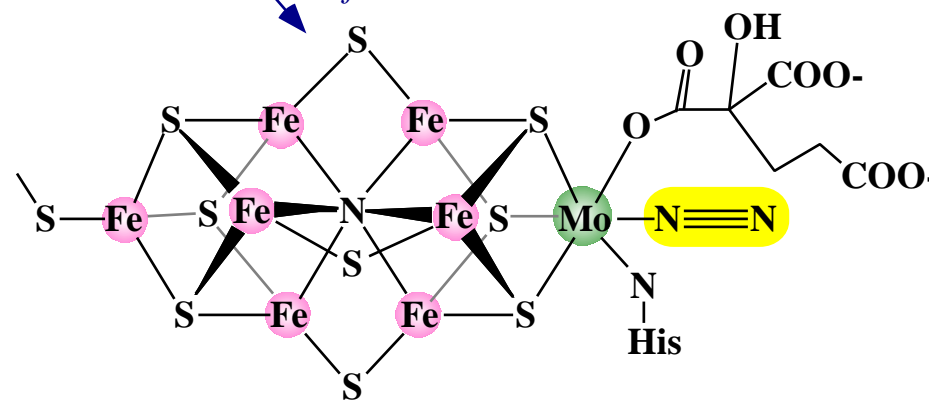


The central N is involved in the catalytic process.

The coordination of the homocitrate is flexible.



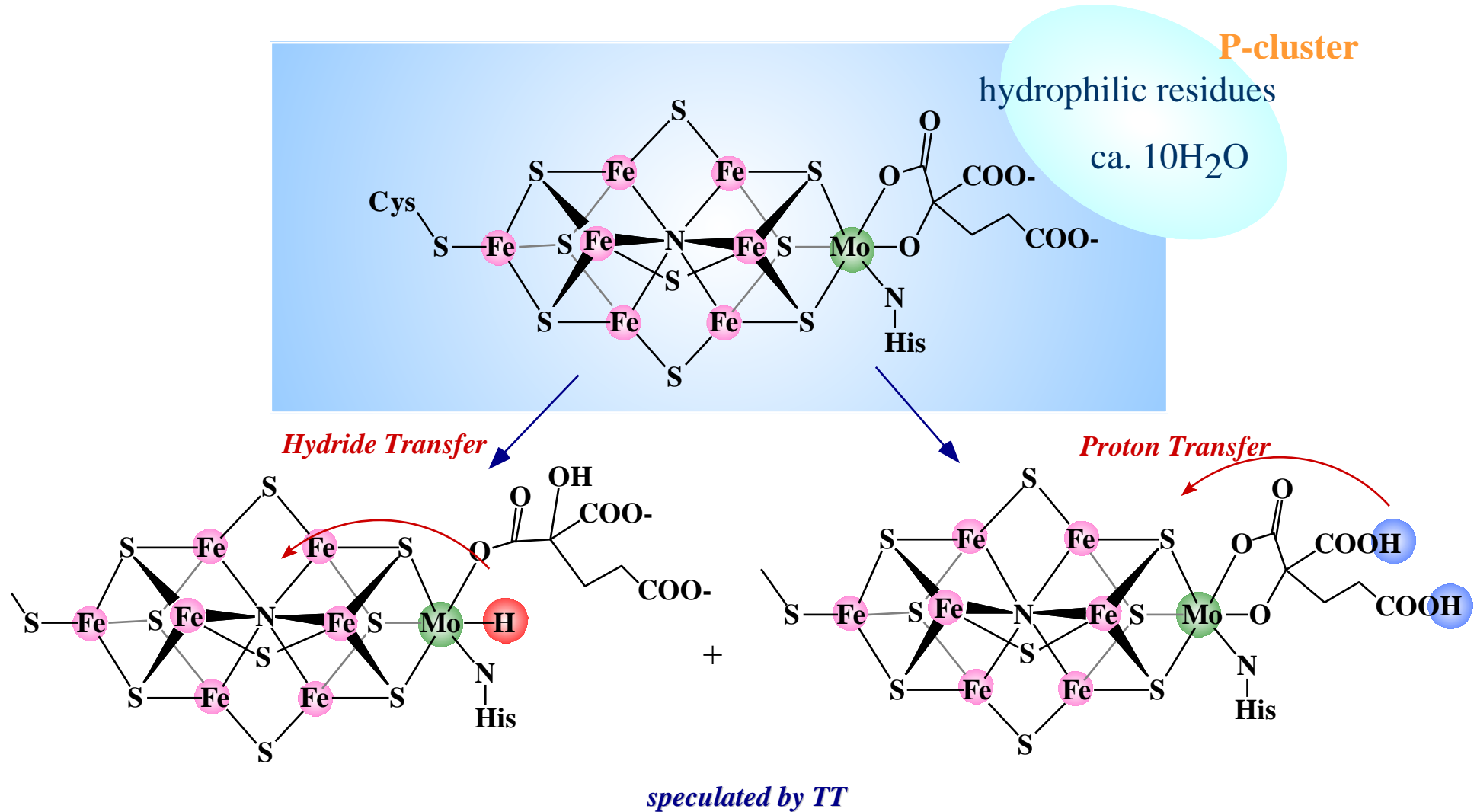
The size of the central hole is rather small for N_2 , C_2H_2 , N_2O , and HCN reductions.



The Mo is coordinatively saturated. The Mo can be replaced by V and Fe.

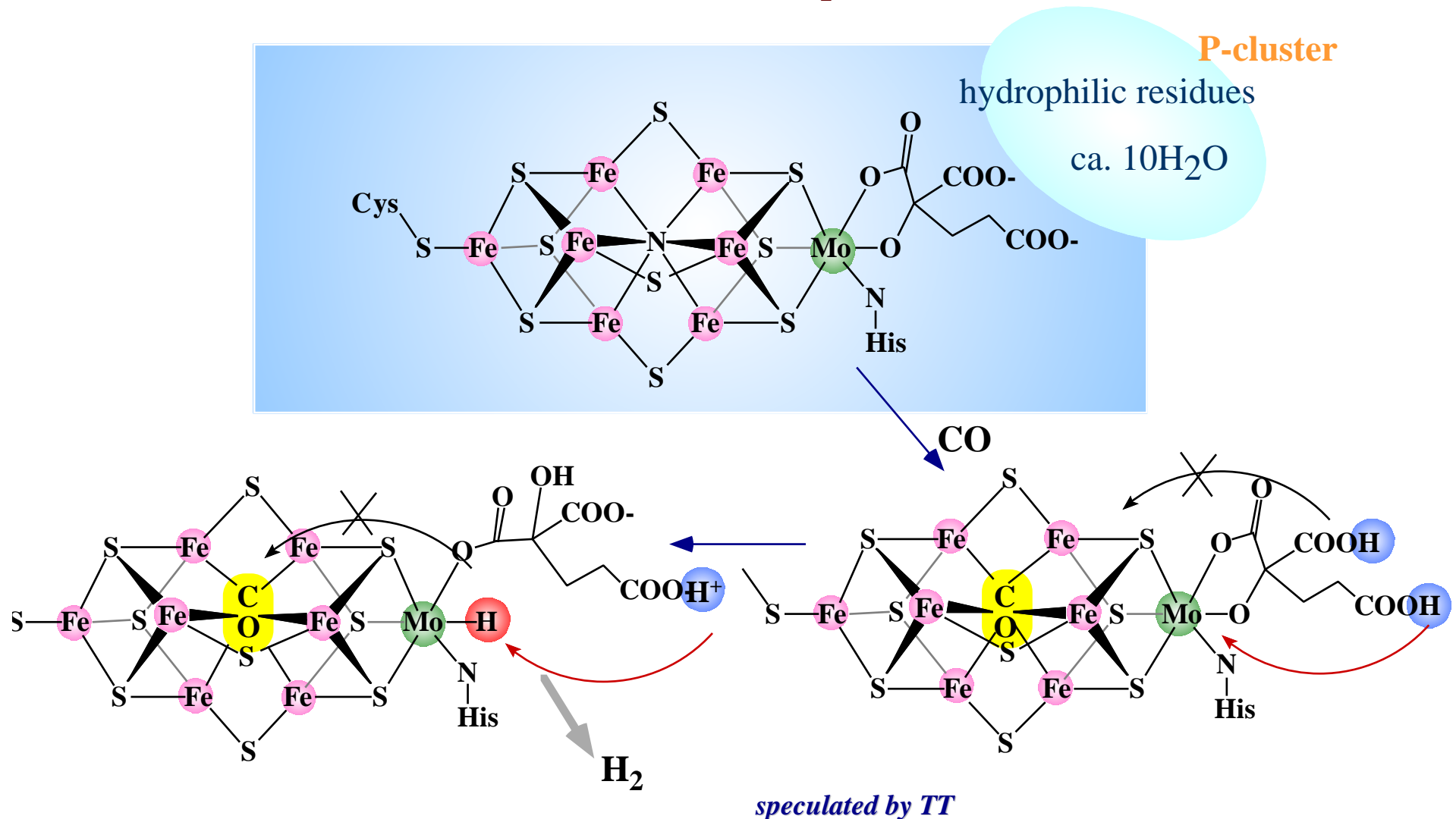
The active site surrounded by six Fe atoms is fascinating and reasonable for multiple electron transfer and for substrate binding (TT).

What is the Role of Homocitrate in FeMo Cofactor Site ?

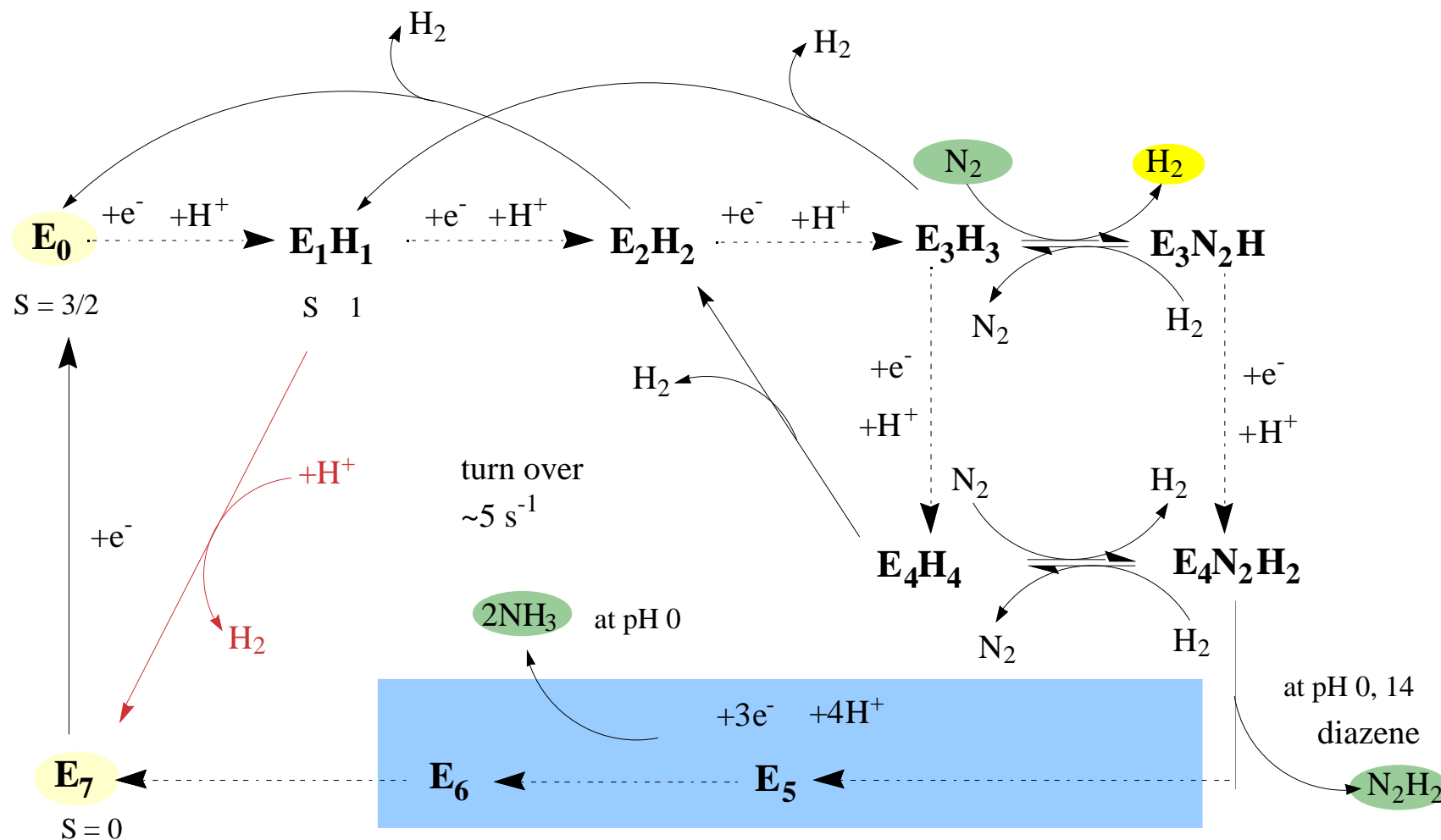


Where is the Hydrogenase Active Site ?

CO inhibited the nitrogenase activity (NH_3 generation) but allowed the hydrogenase activity (H_2 generation).



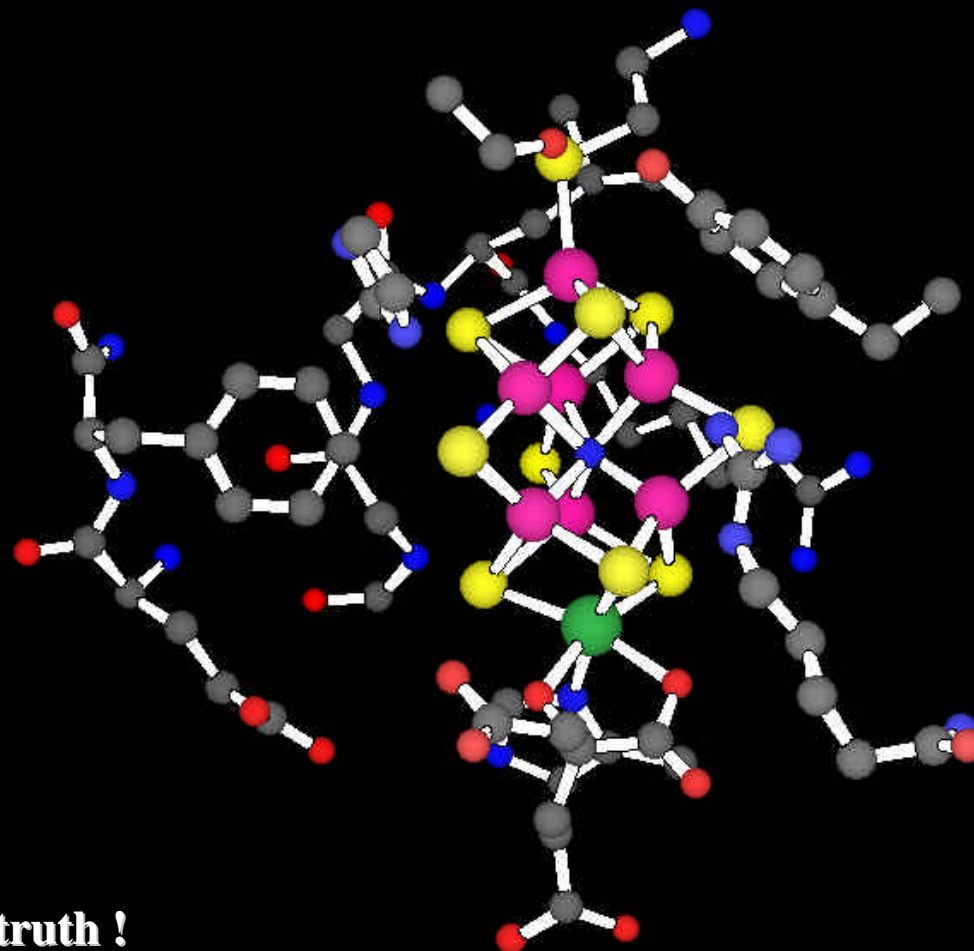
Proposed Catalytic Cycle of Nitrogenase



Proposed by kinetic studies for *Klebsiella pneumoniae* nitrogenase.

Thorneley and Lowe, *J. Biol. Inorg. Chem.*, 1996, 1, 576.

FeMoCofactor of Av Nitrogenase



Tell me the truth !

Synthetic Model Compounds for Nitrogenase

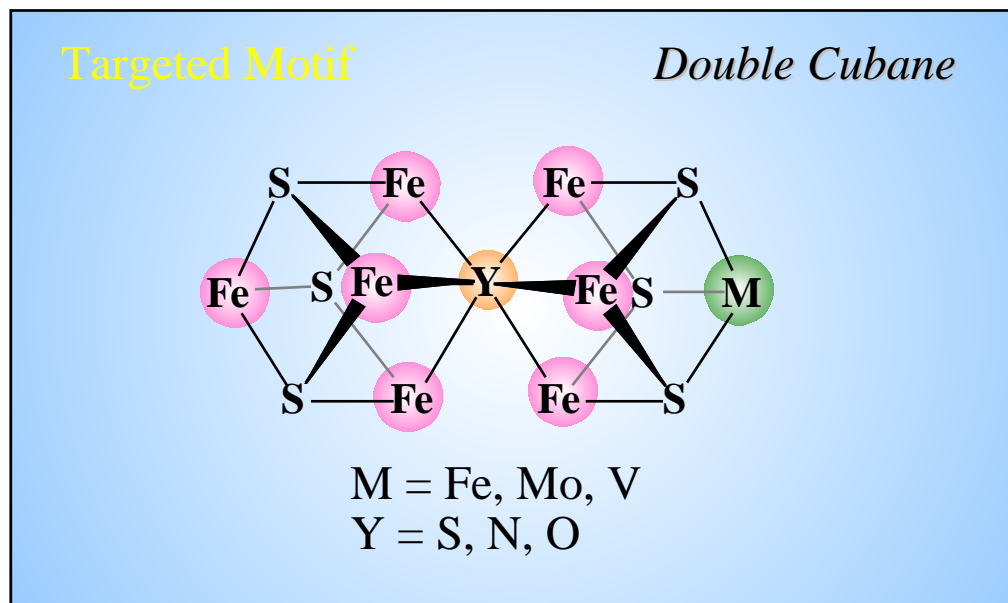
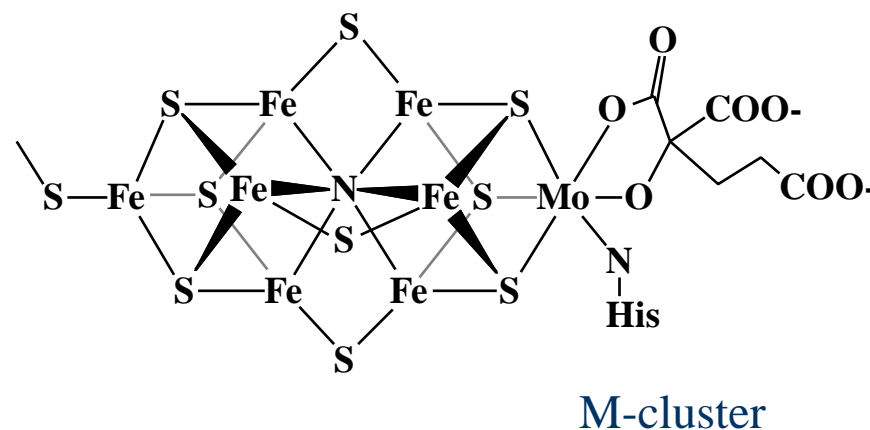
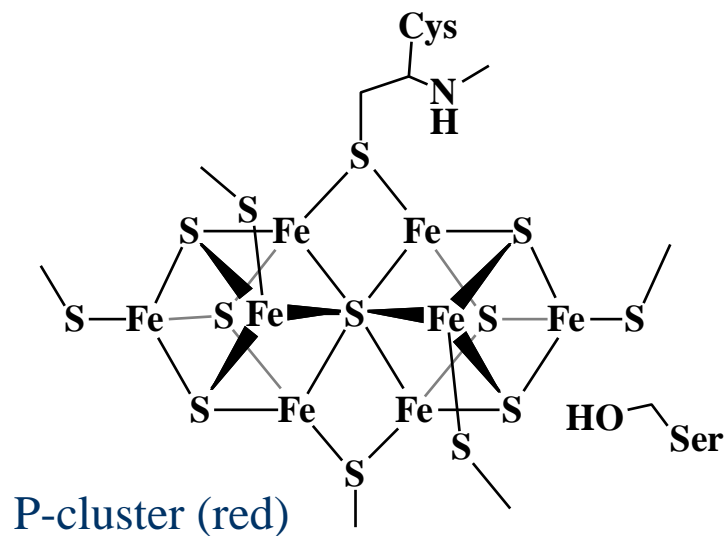
Structural Model

Design of a molecule that **mimics** the assumed **structure** of the enzyme active site. Such a model is considered totally successful if it carries out the desired function.

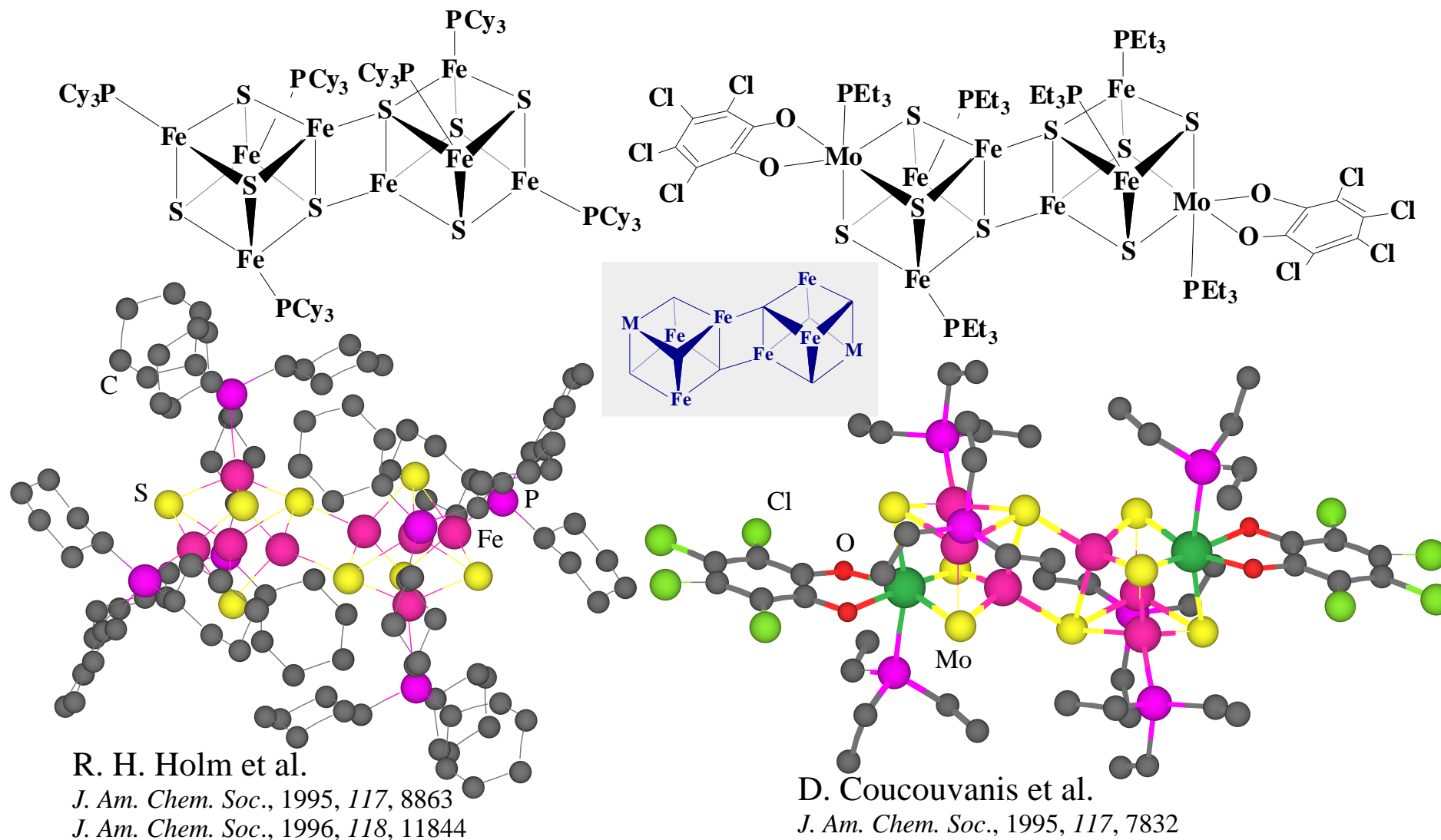
Functional Model

Synthesis of a chemically similar or dissimilar molecule that will **mimic** the desired **function** of the enzyme.

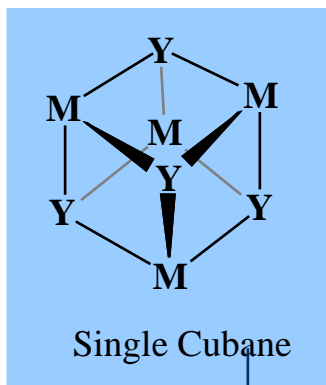
Structural Models for P-Cluster and FeMo Cofactor of Nitrogenase



Double Cuboidal Iron-Sulfur Clusters

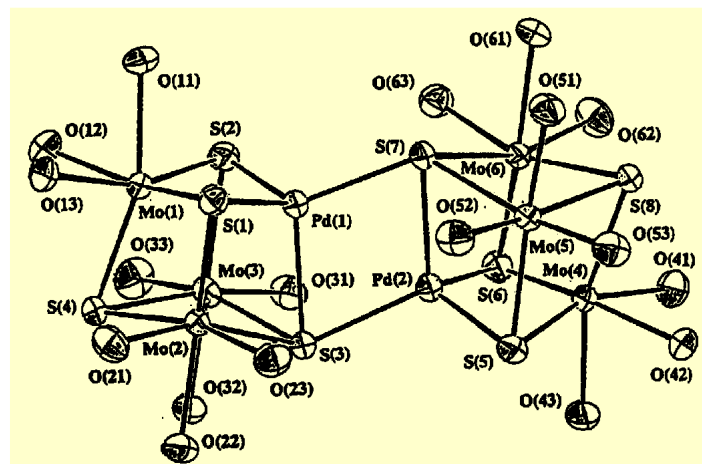


Construction of Double Cubanes from Single Cuboidal Compounds



M = Fe, Mo, W
Y = S, O
ex $[\text{Fe}_4\text{S}_4\text{Cl}_4]^{2-}$

Single Cubane



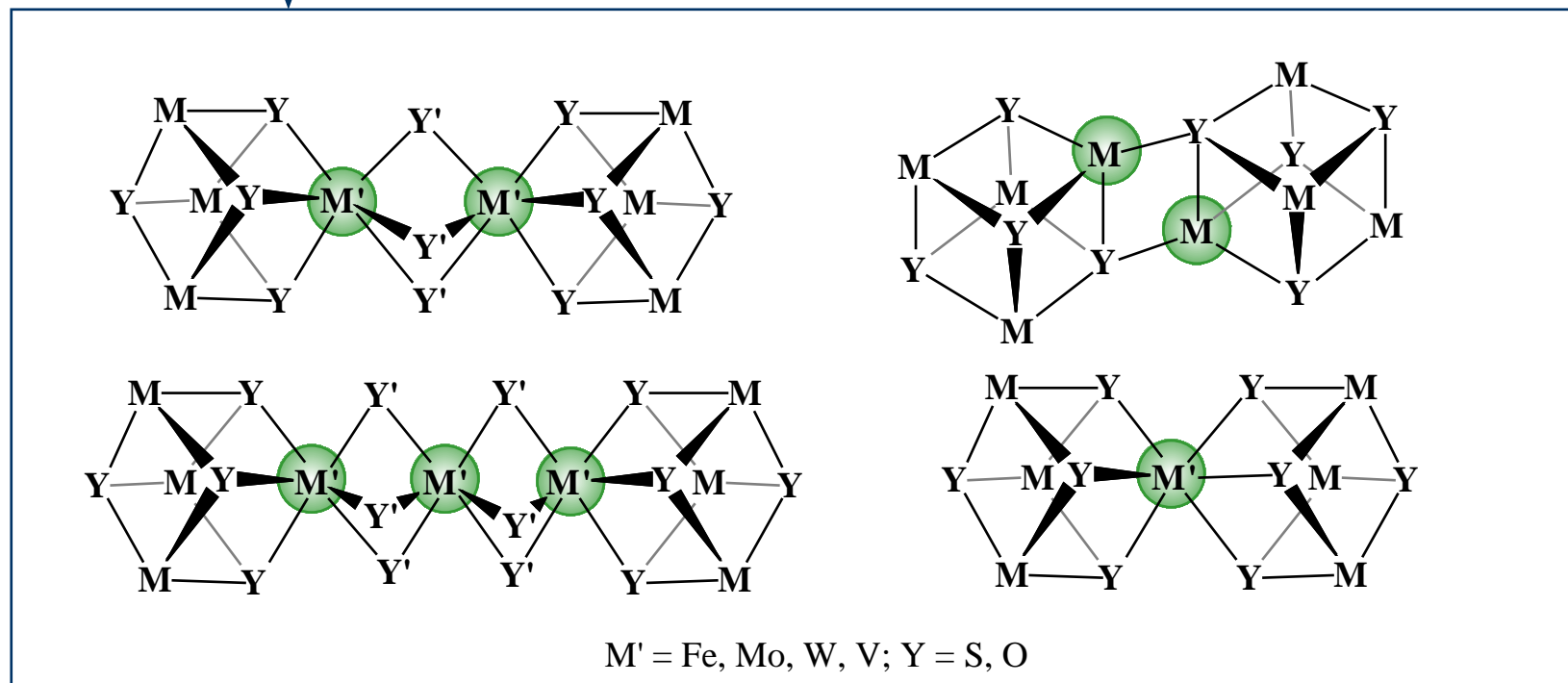
TT contributed

$[\text{Pd}_2\text{Mo}_6\text{S}_8]$

M. Hidai et al.

J. Am. Chem. Soc.

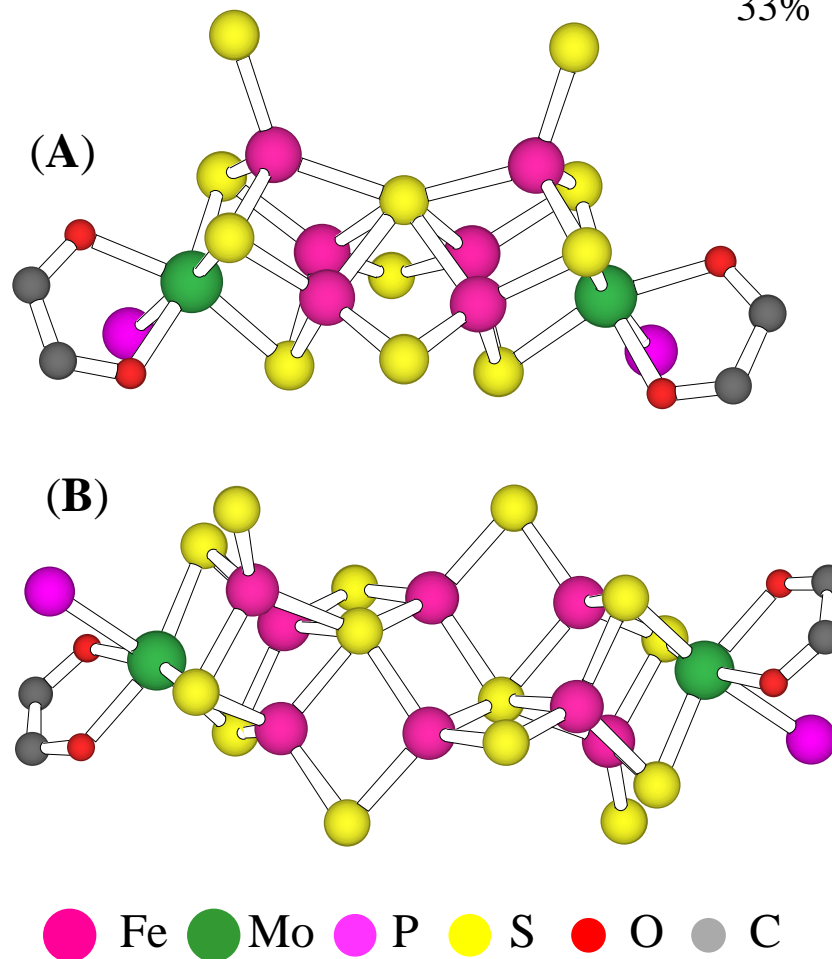
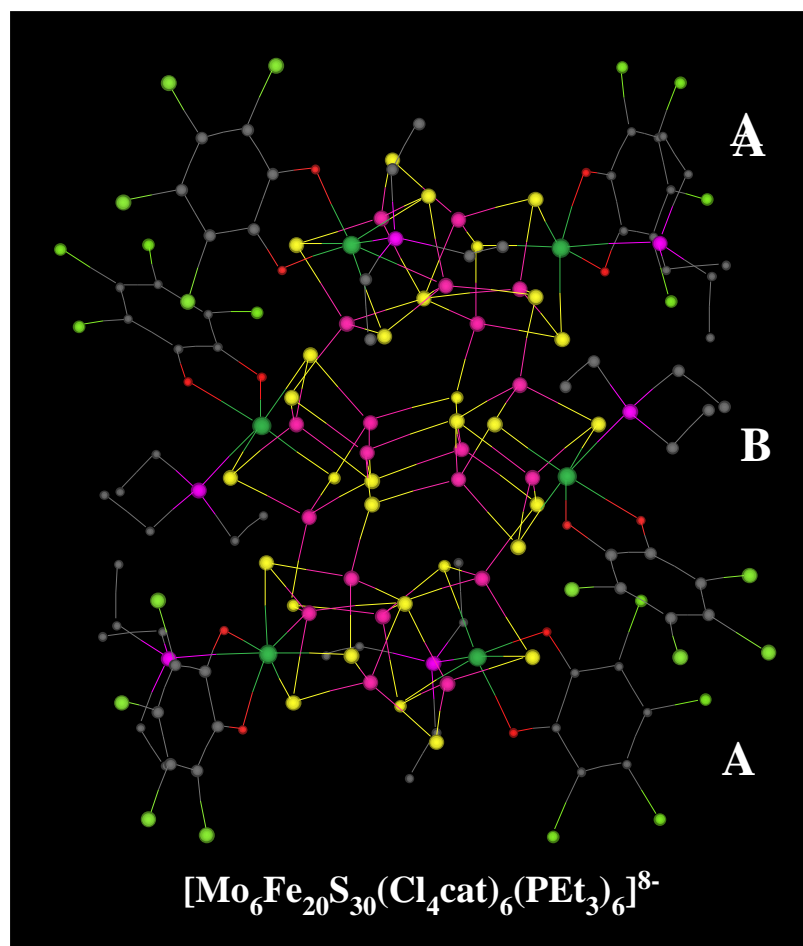
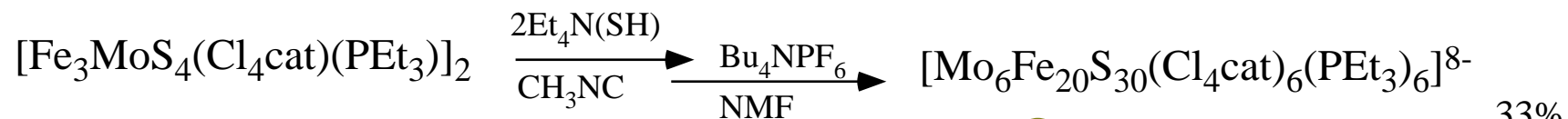
1992



A Structural Model for P-Cluster of Nitrogenase

By R. H. Holm

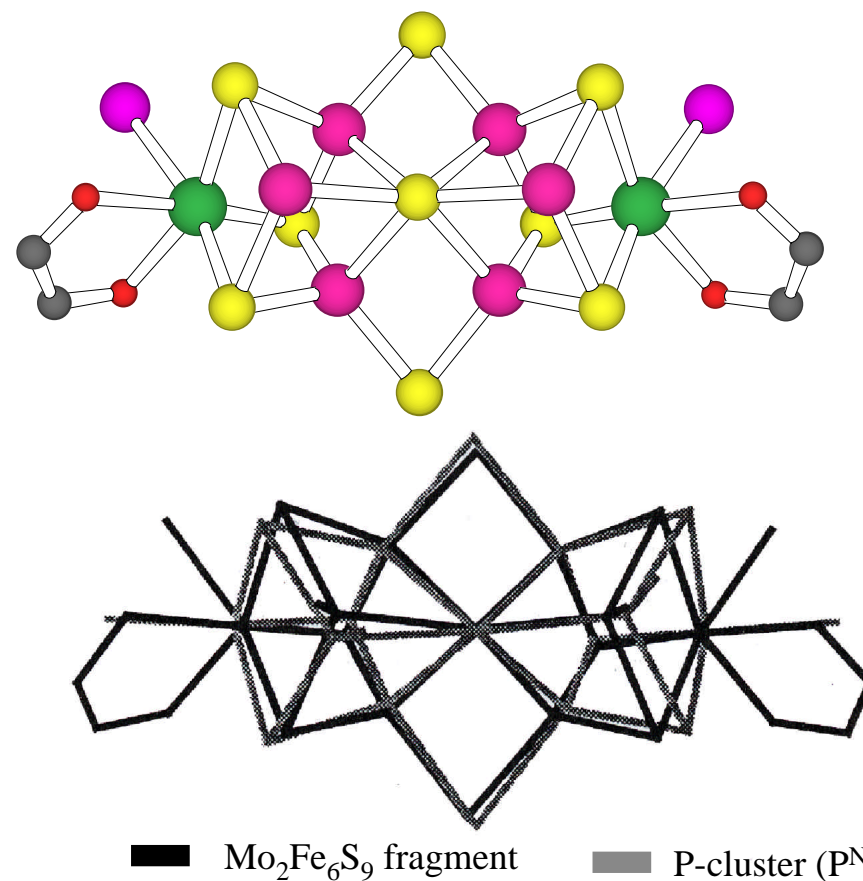
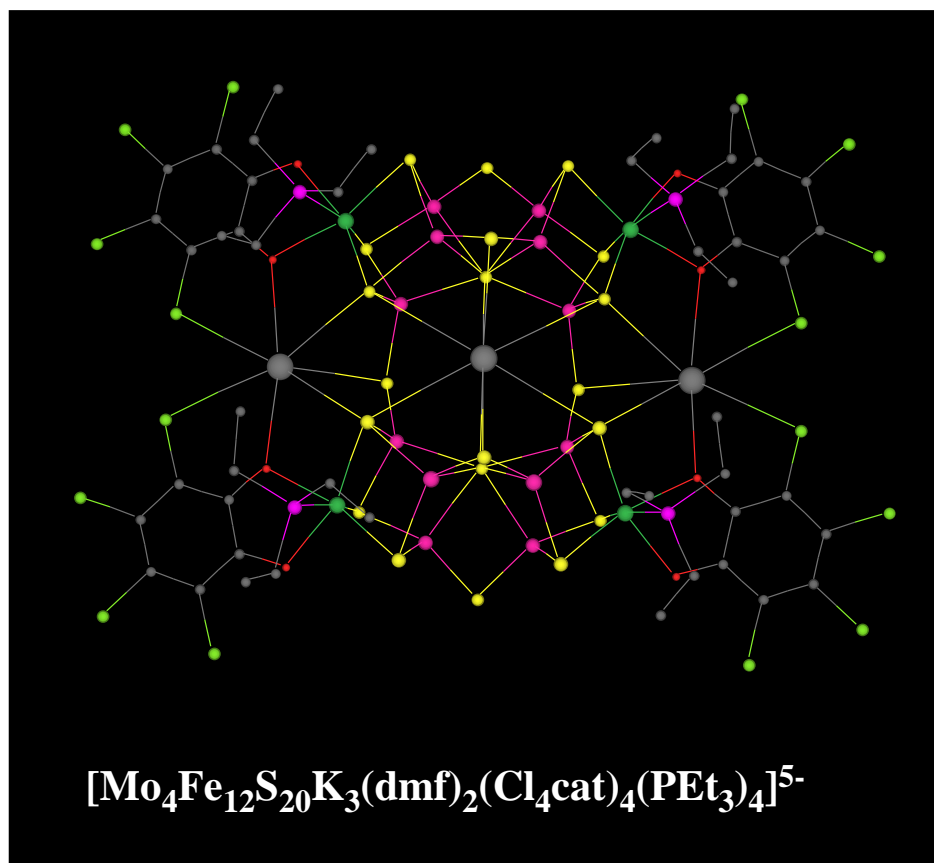
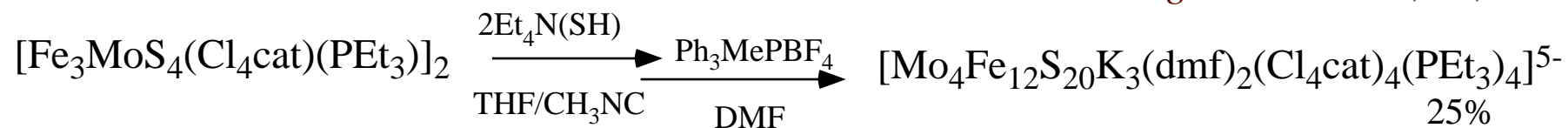
F. Osterloh et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* 1999, 38, 2066



A Structural Model for P-Cluster of Nitrogenase

By *R. H. Holm*

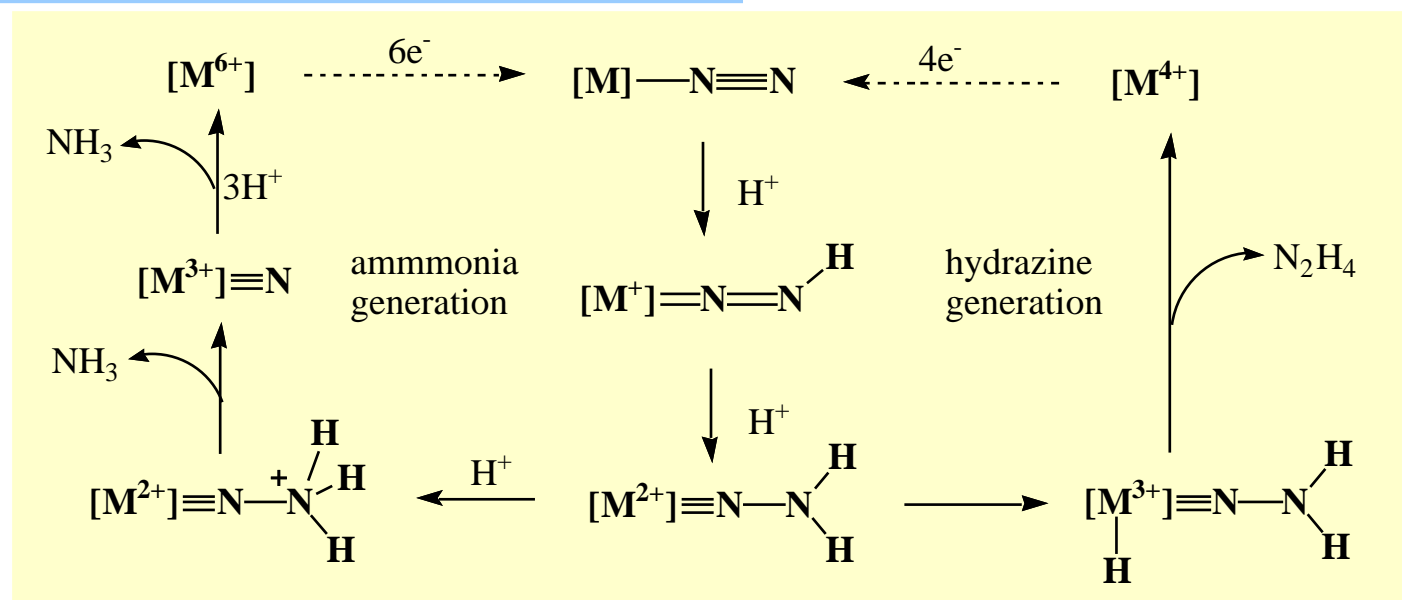
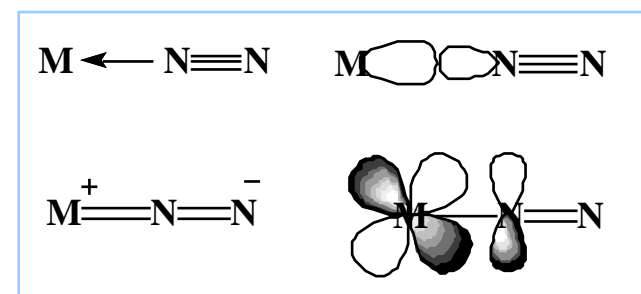
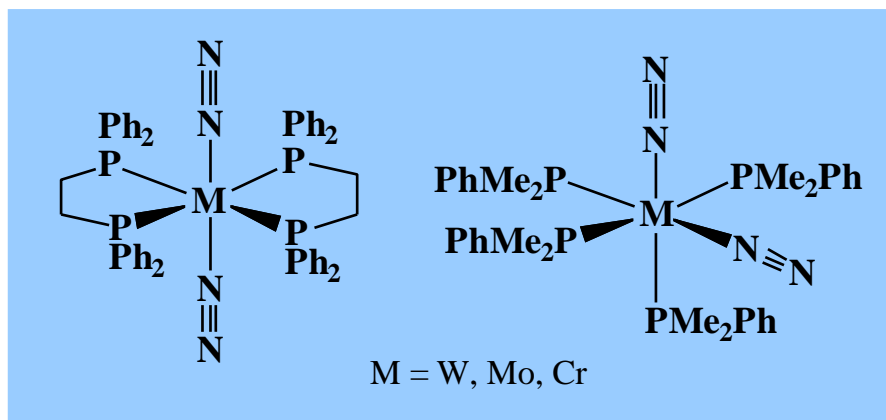
F. Osterloh et al. *Inorg. Chem.* 2001, 40, 224



Functional Models for Nitrogenase

Dinitrogen Binding and Reduction Developed by Chatt and Hidai

*Nature 1975
Chem. Rev. 1995*



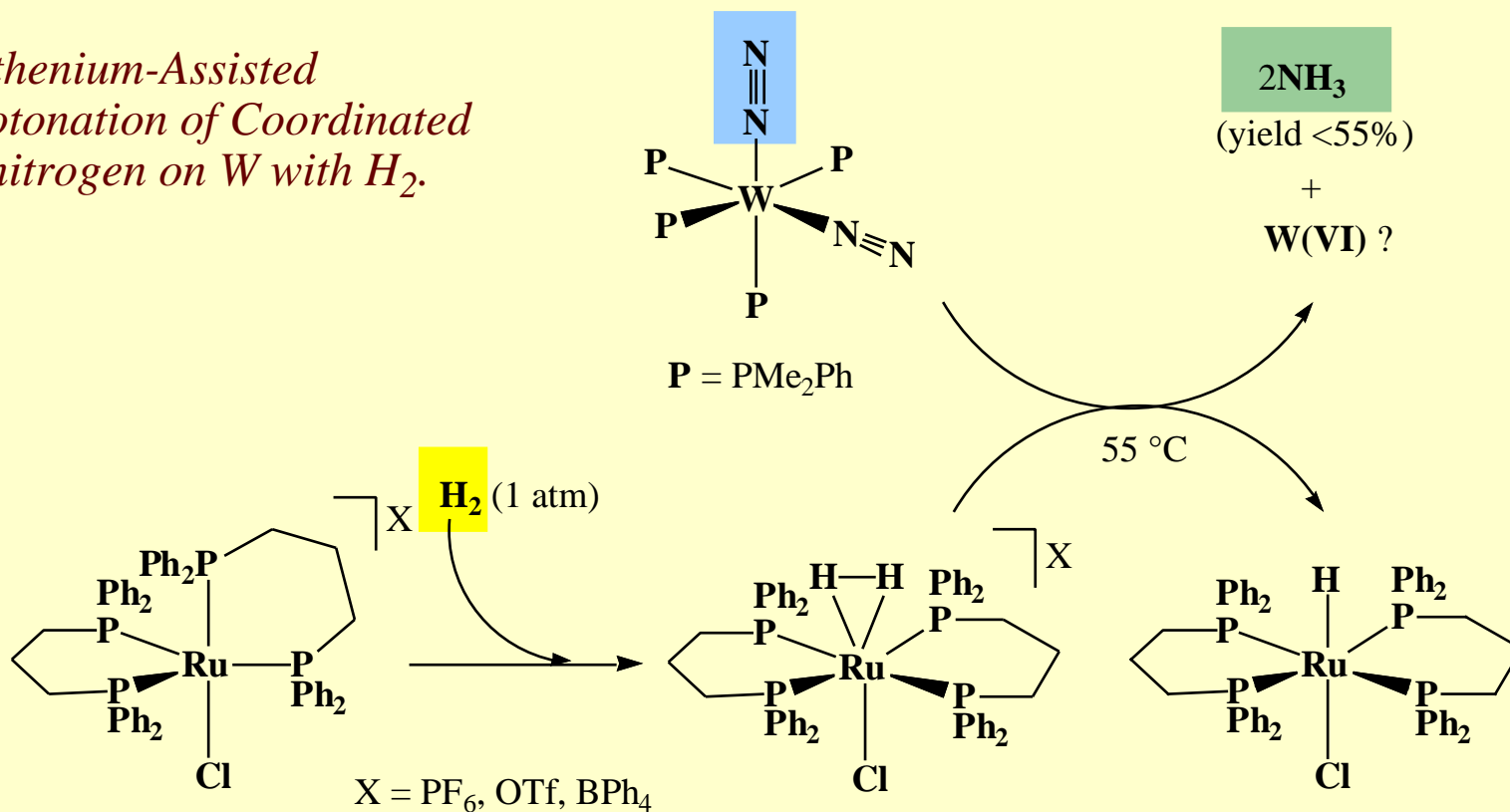
Chatt Cycle: Protonation of the coordinated dinitrogen

Not catalytic

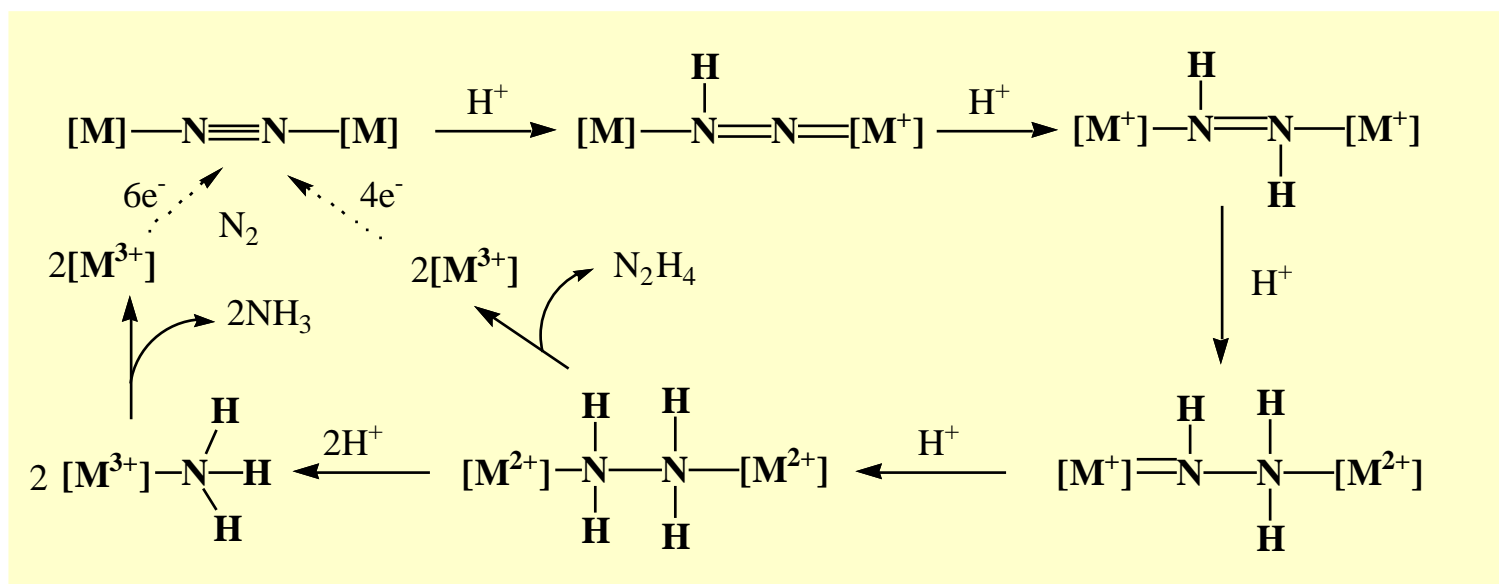
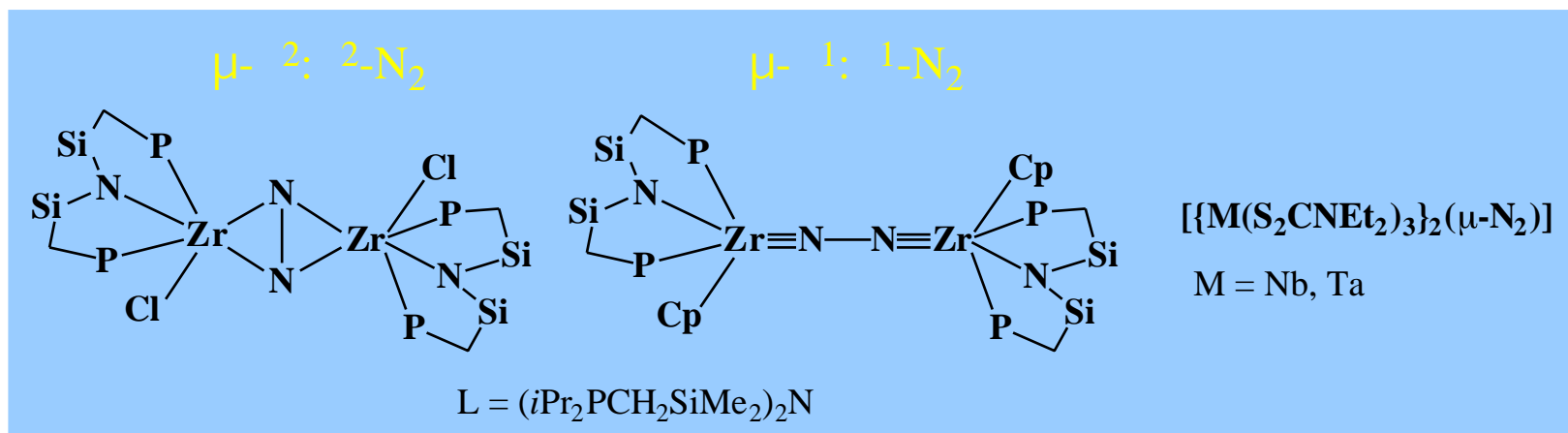
Bimetallic Functional Models for Nitrogenase

Y. Nishibayashi, S. Iwai, M. Hidai, *Science*, 1998, 279, 540

*Ruthenium-Assisted
Protonation of Coordinated
Dinitrogen on W with H₂.*

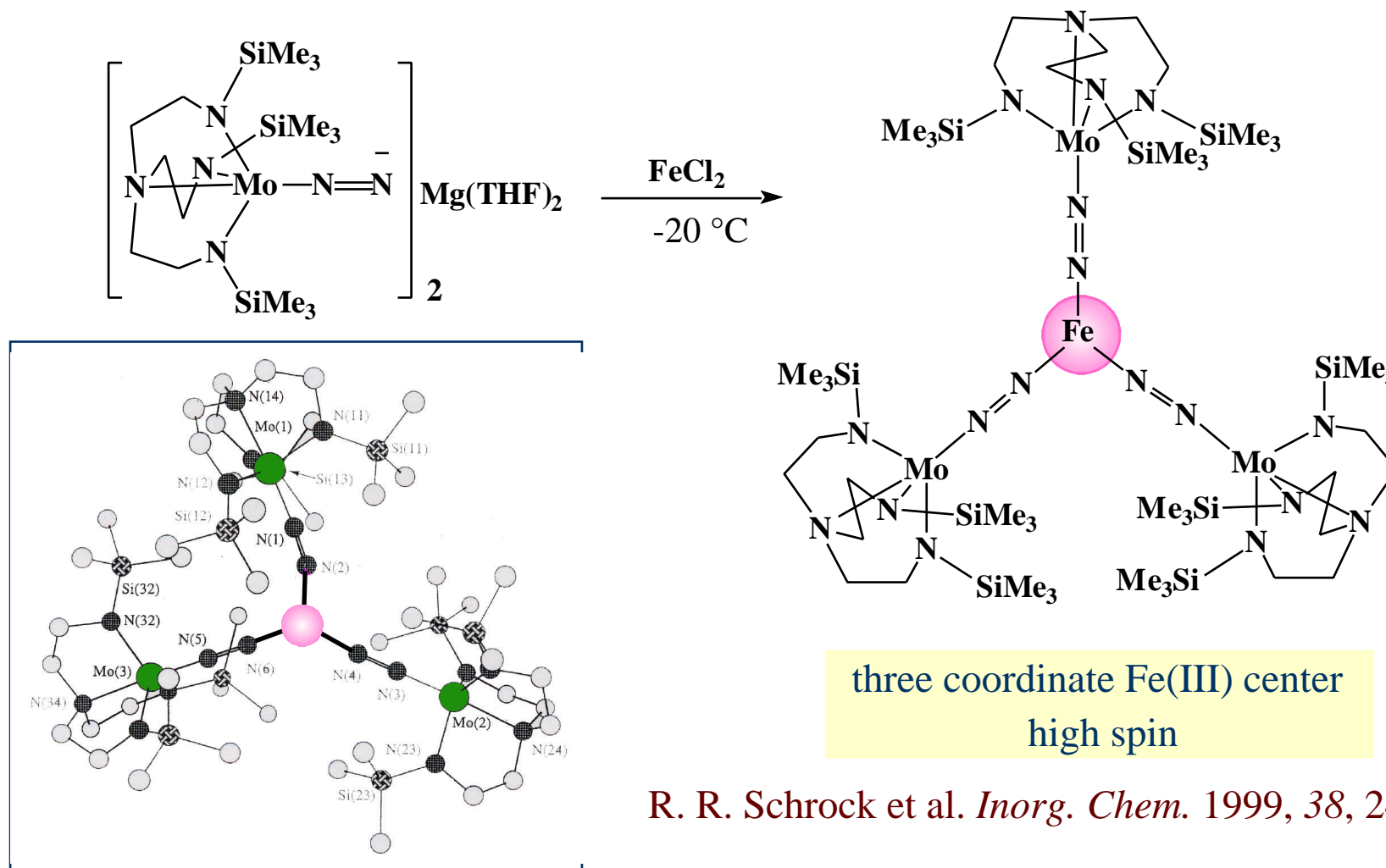


Protonolysis of Bridging Dinitrogen Ligands

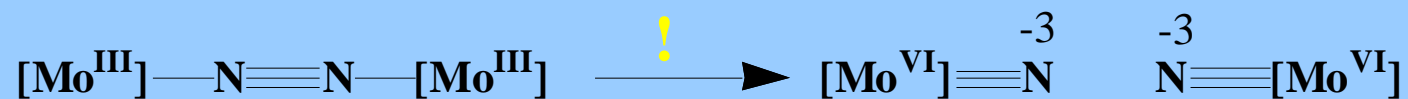


Not catalytic

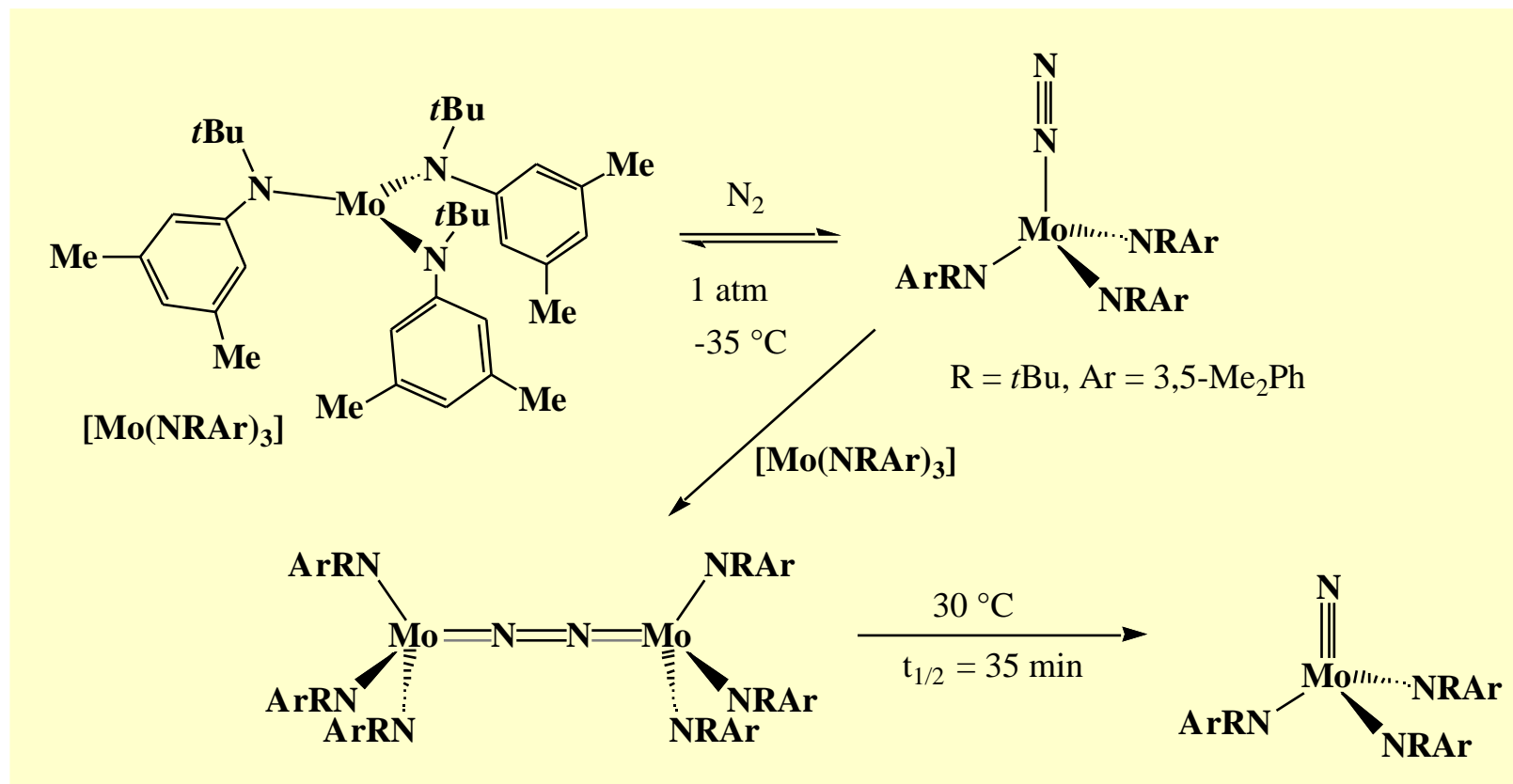
Bimetallic Dinitrogen Complex Containing Three Coordinate Iron Center



Dinitrogen Cleavage by a Three-Coordinate Molybdenum(III) Complex

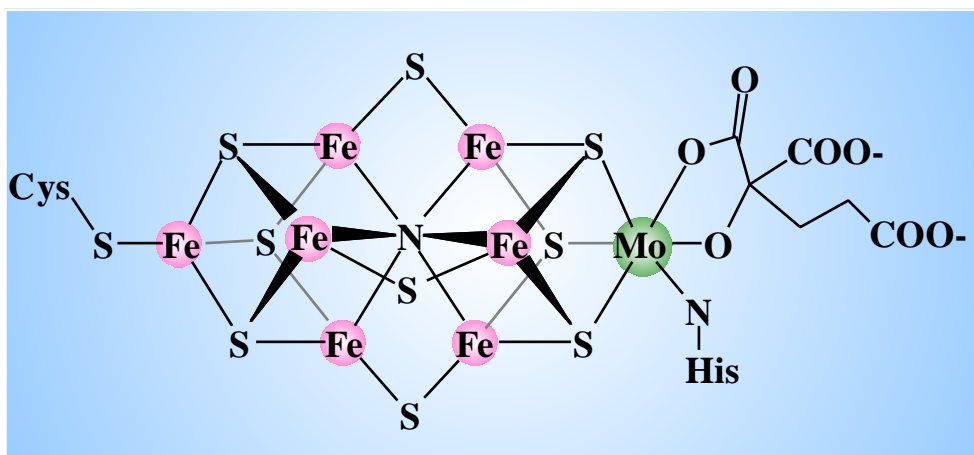


C. E. Laplaza, C. C. Cummins, *Science* 1995, 268, 861



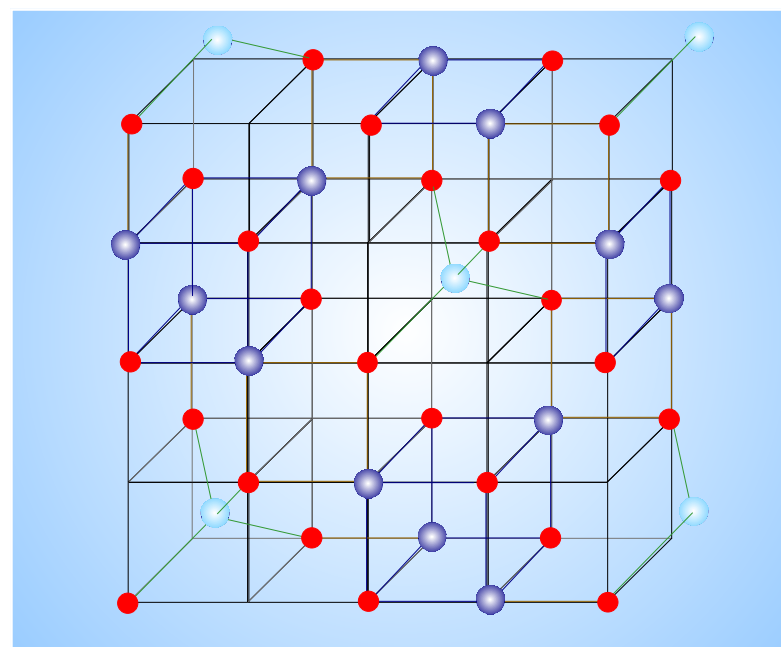
Think Again Haber-Bosch Reaction in Relation to Nitrogenase

Nitrogenase



FeMo cofactor (Active Site)

Haber-Bosch



Magnetite Fe_3O_4 (Catalyst)

AB_2O_4 Spinel Structure

● A ● B ● O

A = Fe(III), B = Fe(II)Fe(III)

Structural + Functional
Model?

Thanks for Your Attention!!

- 1) **2002** *Nara Women's University*
- 2)
- 3)

