# Radical Rebound: Nature's Functionalization Toolbox



March 21, 2025



Johannes Grosskopf

Literature Talk





# Pacific yew







Prevalence of highly oxygenated natural products



Prevalence of highly oxygenated natural products





Enterocin

Prevalence of highly oxygenated natural products







### enterococcus





0 Н ŌΗ

Enterocin

Prevalence of highly oxygenated natural products



pacific yew







puffer fish





**Tetrodotoxin** 



mitochondria





Enterocin



Prevalence of highly oxygenated natural products



microtubules





ion channels





**Tetrodotoxin** 

### Taxol

Prevalence of highly oxygenated natural products



### increased bioavailability

possibility for multitude of (non-)covalent interaction

activity in electron transport

prevents self-toxicity by regulating bioactivity

Dibrell, S. E.; Tao, Y.; Reisman, S. E. Acc. Chem. Res. 2021, 54, 1360.

Prevalence of highly oxygenated natural products



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Dibrell, S. E.; Tao, Y.; Reisman, S. E. Acc. Chem. Res. 2021, 54, 1360.

possibility for multitude of (non-)covalent interaction Radical Rebound





driving force for biological oxygenations

Molecular oxygen as an oxidant



Molecular oxygen as an oxidant

driving force for biological oxygenations

2 H<sub>2</sub>O

 $\Delta H = -80 \text{ kcal/mol}$ 

 $E_{1/2}^{\circ} = +1.229 V vs. SHE$ 

Huang, X.; Groves, J. T. J. Biol. Inorg. Chem. 2017, 22, 185.



triplet ground state kinetically slow oxidant

reduction of  ${}^{3}O_{2}$  to  $O_{2}^{-1}$  is endergonic ( $\Delta H = +7.8$  kcal/mol)

BDE of H–OO• only 47 kcal/mol

spin-flip barrier involving closed shell reaction partners

### BUT:

Huang, X.; Groves, J. T. J. Biol. Inorg. Chem. 2017, 22, 185.

Molecular oxygen as an oxidant

driving force for biological oxygenations

2 H<sub>2</sub>O

 $\Delta H = -80 \text{ kcal/mol}$  $E_{1/2}^{\circ} = +1.229 V vs. SHE$ 



in multiple spin states and oxidation states

Huang, X.; Groves, J. T. J. Biol. Inorg. Chem. 2017, 22, 185.

Molecular oxygen as an oxidant

driving force for biological oxygenations

2 H<sub>2</sub>O

 $\Delta H = -80 \text{ kcal/mol}$ 

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metal cofactor

in multiple spin states and oxidation states

Huang, X.; Groves, J. T. J. Biol. Inorg. Chem. 2017, 22, 185.

### Radical rebound

Activation of O<sub>2</sub> by d-block metal cofactors



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Activation of O<sub>2</sub> by d-block metal cofactors

in multiple spin states and oxidation states

Huang, X.; Groves, J. T. J. Biol. Inorg. Chem. 2017, 22, 185.















Cytochrome **P450** 

**α-ketoglutarate-dependent** hydroxylase

Radical rebound catalyzed by metallic cofactors





nonheme-diiron hydroxylase













Radical rebound catalyzed by metallic cofactors



**α-ketoglutarate-dependent** hydroxylase



nonheme-diiron hydroxylase



## Cytochrome P450 Catalyzed Oxidations

**Biosynthesis of Taxol** 



### Cytochrome P450 Catalyzed Oxidations

**Biosynthesis of Taxol** 







## Cytochrome P450 Catalyzed Oxidations

**Biosynthesis of Taxol** 







# Cytochrome P450 catalyzed oxidations



# Cytochrome P450 catalyzed oxidations





# Cytochrome P450 catalyzed oxidations








Williams J. Org. Chem 2000, 65, 7865, Sligar Science 2000, 287, 1615.



HO<sub>2</sub>C









Williams J. Org. Chem 2000, 65, 7865, Sligar Science 2000, 287, 1615.









HO<sub>2</sub>Ċ

Williams J. Org. Chem 2000, 65, 7865, Sligar Science 2000, 287, 1615.



Williams J. Org. Chem 2000, 65, 7865, Sligar Science 2000, 287, 1615.

HAT selectivity similar to metal-oxo photocatalysts



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Williams J. Org. Chem 2000, 65, 7865, Sligar Science 2000, 287, 1615.



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Williams J. Org. Chem 2000, 65, 7865, Sligar Science 2000, 287, 1615.



#### Substrate class of cytochrome P450 catalyzed oxidations





Williams J. Org. Chem 2000, 65, 7865, Sligar Science 2000, 287, 1615.

#### Substrate class of cytochrome P450 catalyzed oxidations

α-ketoglutarate-dependent hydroxylases



largest subfamily of non-heme iron enzymes

most diverse set of oxidative transformations (hydroxylations, desaturation, ring closure/expansion)

Hegg, E. L.; Que, L. *Eur. J. Biochem.* **2004,** 250, 625.





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**α-ketoglutarate-dependent** hydroxylases



taurine dioxygenase







taurine

Hegg, E. L.; Que, L. *Eur. J. Biochem.* **2004,** 250, 625.



taurine dioxygenase



catalytic facial triad (His-His-Asp) crucial for activity

SO3

Hegg, E. L.; Que, L. *Eur. J. Biochem.* **2004,** 250, 625.





























































Vaillancourt, F. H.; Yin, J.; Walsh, C. T. PNAS 2005, 102, 10111; Borowski, T.; Noack, H.; Radoń, M.; Zych, K.; Siegbahn, P. E. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2010, 132, 12887.

"chloride rebound" kinetically favored due to BDE (Fe-Cl) < BDE (Fe-OH)





in combination with carrier protein









Boal et. al. Nat. Chem. Bio. 2016, 12, 636.

Enzymatic engineering for unlocking new reactivities

SyrB2 (wild type)

Bollinger et. al. Nat. Chem. Bio. 2014, 10, 209.



#### SyrB2 (wild type)



L-threonine in combination with carrier protein

Bollinger et. al. Nat. Chem. Bio. 2014, 10, 209.

# Enzymatic engineering for unlocking new reactivities



#### SyrB2 (wild type)

Me

preferential binding of spherical chloride anion over linear azide

Bollinger et. al. Nat. Chem. Bio. 2014, 10, 209.

# Enzymatic engineering for unlocking new reactivities



# Enzymatic engineering for unlocking new reactivities



increased space in binding pocket

triggering efficacies for O<sub>2</sub> binding



Suppression of chloride binding (1000-fold decrease) / azide binding unaffected

Bollinger et. al. Nat. Chem. Bio. 2014, 10, 209.
## Enzymatic engineering for unlocking new reactivities



triggering efficacies for O<sub>2</sub> binding



Bollinger et. al. Nat. Chem. Bio. 2014, 10, 209.

## Allows for effective nitration under native conditions





Banerjee, R.; Proshlyakov, Y.; Lipscomb, J. D.; Proschlyakov, D. A. Nature 2015, 518, 431.



Banerjee, R.; Proshlyakov, Y.; Lipscomb, J. D.; Proschlyakov, D. A. Nature 2015, 518, 431.

## Nonheme-diiron hydroxylases



### soluble methane monooxygenase (sMMO)



Banerjee, R.; Proshlyakov, Y.; Lipscomb, J. D.; Proschlyakov, D. A. Nature 2015, 518, 431.

## Nonheme-diiron hydroxylases





### dinuclear Fe-Fe complex

#### soluble methane monooxygenase (sMMO)



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Banerjee, R.; Proshlyakov, Y.; Lipscomb, J. D.; Proschlyakov, D. A. Nature 2015, 518, 431.



Radical rebound



First steps in mimicking enzymatic rebound

Groves (1976)



#### modification of Fenton's reaction

Groves J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1976, 98, 5290–5297; Groves J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1983, 105, 6243–6248; Mansuy J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. 1986, 341.

d.r. = 24:1

Groves (1976)



#### modification of Fenton's reaction

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## First steps in mimicking enzymatic rebound



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Groves (1983)



Fe(TTP)CI (Ar = p-ToI)

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## First steps in mimicking enzymatic rebound

Metalloporphyrins for synthetic rebound













rigid coordination environment

stabilizing high-valent metal-oxo species

balance between strong metal-oxo bonds to generate radicals and tunable M-OH BDE

## Metalloporphyrins for synthetic rebound





## flexible redox system











axial ligand crucial for rebound

Kang, Y.; Chen H.; Jeong, Y. J.; Lai, W.; Bae, E. H.; Shaik, S.; Nam, W. Chem. Eur. J. 2009, 15, 10039.











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## axial ligand X







Kang, Y.; Chen H.; Jeong, Y. J.; Lai, W.; Bae, E. H.; Shaik, S.; Nam, W. Chem. Eur. J. 2009, 15, 10039.

Bach (2014)





Frost, J. R.; Huber, S.; Breitenlechner, S.; Bannwarth, C.; Bach, T. ACIE 2015, 54, 691.



Bach (2014)



## Use of chiral porphyrins for C–H oxidation

lactam binding unit





Bach (2014)



## Use of chiral porphyrins for C–H oxidation

lactam binding unit



increased electrophilicity at Ru

Frost, J. R.; Huber, S.; Breitenlechner, S.; Bannwarth, C.; Bach, T. ACIE 2015, 54, 691.



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Bach (2014)





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lactam binding unit



increased electrophilicity at Ru

proposed intermediates



Bach (2014)





lactam binding unit



increased electrophilicity at Ru

Frost, J. R.; Huber, S.; Breitenlechner, S.; Bannwarth, C.; Bach, T. ACIE 2015, 54, 691.



### Bach (2018)



*lower reactivity of Mn prevents over-oxidation + improves selectivity* 

### Bach (2018)





*lower reactivity of Mn prevents over-oxidation + improves selectivity* 

Burg, F.; Gicquel, M.; Breitenlechner, S.; Pöthig, A.; Bach, T. ACIE 2018, 57, 2953.



Lyaskovskyy, V.; Suarez, A. I. O.; Lu, H.; Jiang, H.; Zhang, X. P.; de Bruin, B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2011, 133, 12264.

C–H aminations by radical rebound with cobalt porphyrins



Lyaskovskyy, V.; Suarez, A. I. O.; Lu, H.; Jiang, H.; Zhang, X. P.; de Bruin, B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2011, 133, 12264.

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### 16 e<sup>-</sup> d<sub>6</sub>-complex with nitrene radical ligand (non-redox innocent)

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highly reactive nitrene intermediates involved



requires fast C–H abstraction

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highly reactive nitrene intermediates involved



requires fast C–H abstraction

intramolecular C–H amination preferred / intermolecular challenging



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Zhang (2009)



**85% yield** 





Co(TPP)

C–H aminations by radical rebound with cobalt porphyrins

Zhang Organometallics 2010, 29, 389; de Bruin Chem. J. Eur. 2017, 23, 7945.

# C–H aminations by radical rebound with cobalt porphyrins

Zhang (2009)



**85% yield** 





Co(TPP)

de Bruin (2017)



Zhang Organometallics 2010, 29, 389; de Bruin Chem. J. Eur. 2017, 23, 7945.

# C–H aminations by radical rebound with cobalt porphyrins

Zhang (2009)



**85% yield** 





Co(TPP)

other metals: rebound vs. C-H insertion

Zhang Organometallics 2010, 29, 389; de Bruin Chem. J. Eur. 2017, 23, 7945.

*de Bruin (2017)* 



### cobalt: C–H amination occurs via rebound

## Allylic C–H aminations by radical rebound

### White (2018/2021)



allylic C–H bonds



White Nat. Chem. 2018, 10, 583; White J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2021, 143, 14969.

### Allylic C–H aminations by radical rebound

### White (2018/2021)





53% yield

**Exceptional selectivity for benzylic position** over tertiary amination

White Nat. Chem. 2018, 10, 583; White J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2021, 143, 14969.

## Allylic C–H aminations by radical rebound

### White (2018/2021)









fluorination by radical rebound mimics unnatural halogenase activity

### Groves (2012)



AgF (3 equ.),TBAF (0.3 equ.) PhIO (3–6 equ.)

> Mn(TMP)CI MeCN/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 50 °C



42% yield



```
Mn(TMP)CI
```

Liu, W.; Huang, X.; Cheng, M.-J.; Nielsen, R. J.; Goddard, W. A.; Groves, J. T. Science 2012, 337, 1322.

Groves (2012)



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proposed mechanism:





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proposed mechanism:





### hydroxy/fluoride exchange allows for selective fluorine-atom transfer

Liu, W.; Huang, X.; Cheng, M.-J.; Nielsen, R. J.; Goddard, W. A.; Groves, J. T. Science 2012, 337, 1322.



NaN<sub>3</sub> (aq.,4 equ.), PhIO (3–6 equ.) Mn(TMP)CI or Mn(salen)Cl

EtOAc, r.t.







NaN<sub>3</sub> (aq.,4 equ.), PhIO (3–6 equ.) Mn(TMP)CI or Mn(salen)Cl EtOAc, r.t.

proposed mechanism:





Huang, X.; Bergsten, T. M.; Groves, J. T. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 5300.





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proposed mechanism:





Huang, X.; Bergsten, T. M.; Groves, J. T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2015, 137, 5300; Goldberg 2023, 62, 17830.





NaN<sub>3</sub> (aq.,4 equ.), PhIO (3–6 equ.) Mn(TMP)CI or Mn(salen)Cl EtOAc, r.t.

proposed mechanism:



## Aziridination using manganese catalysts



Huang, X.; Bergsten, T. M.; Groves, J. T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2015, *137*, 5300; Goldberg 2023, *62*, 17830.





NaN<sub>3</sub> (aq.,4 equ.), PhIO (3–6 equ.) Mn(TMP)CI or Mn(salen)Cl EtOAc, r.t.

late-stage aziridination







45% yield from rasagiline

How can we mimic non-heme hydroxylases?



Development of non-heme catalytic systems





How can we mimic non-heme hydroxylases?



Development of non-heme catalytic systems



White (2007)



White (2007)



White (2007)







Mechanistically similar to metalloporphyrin oxidation

White (2007)





**1** equiv. of C–H substrate *lower oxidant loading improved TON* higher site selectivities



Howell, J.; Feng, K.; Clark, J.; Trzepkowski, L.; White, M. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 14590.

Catalyst Design for Selective C–H Oxidation







Howell, J.; Feng, K.; Clark, J.; Trzepkowski, L.; White, M. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 14590.



Main factor for selectivity:







Howell, J.; Feng, K.; Clark, J.; Trzepkowski, L.; White, M. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 14590.



Site-selectivity for Fe(PDP) vs. Fe(CF<sub>3</sub>-PDP)

AcC





Gormisky, P.; White, M. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2013, 135, 14052.



Site-selectivity for Fe(PDP) vs. Fe(CF<sub>3</sub>-PDP)



Fe(PDP)

AcO

66% yield alcohol 19% yield ketone





Gormisky, P.; White, M. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2013, 135, 14052.



Site-selectivity for Fe(PDP) vs. Fe(CF<sub>3</sub>-PDP)



Fe(PDP)

AcO

66% yield alcohol 19% yield ketone





51% yield ketone 28% yield alcohol

Gormisky, P.; White, M. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2013, 135, 14052.



### **Challenges of N-Heterocycle Remote Oxidation**

N-heterocycles prone to catalyst complexation and/or oxidation to N-oxide

C–H bonds adjacent to nitrogen are activated toward functionalization



### Lewis acid complexation renders basic nitrogen strongly withdrawing

White (2015)





White (2015)











Howell, J.; Feng, K.; Clark, J.; Trzepkowski, L.; White, M. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2015, 137, 14590.
How can a selective, late-stage C–H methylation be achieved via an Fe-oxidation?



# Late-stage C–H methylation via radical rebound

White (2020)







C–H substrate

Mn(CF<sub>3</sub>-PDP)

Late-stage C–H methylation via radical rebound



C–H oxidation

Feng, K.; Quevedo, R.; White, M. C. Nature **2020**, 580, 621.

White (2020)







C–H substrate

Mn(CF<sub>3</sub>-PDP)

Late-stage C–H methylation via radical rebound



C–H oxidation

methylated product

Feng, K.; Quevedo, R.; White, M. C. Nature **2020**, 580, 621.

# Late-stage C–H methylation via radical rebound

White (2020)



Feng, K.; Quevedo, R.; White, M. C. Nature **2020**, 580, 621.

# Late-stage C–H methylation via radical rebound



Catalyst control over rebound pathways





72% yield 73:27 cyclopropane:cyclobutane



Catalyst control over rebound pathways





72% yield 73:27 cyclopropane:cyclobutane



# Catalyst control over rebound pathways



40% yield 20:80 cyclopropane:cyclobutane





72% yield 73:27 cyclopropane:cyclobutane



# Catalyst control over rebound pathways



40% yield 20:80 cyclopropane:cyclobutane





72% yield 73:27 cyclopropane:cyclobutane



# Catalyst control over rebound pathways





more electrophilic

stronger oxidizing



72% yield 73:27 cyclopropane:cyclobutane



## Catalyst control over rebound pathways





72% yield 73:27 cyclopropane:cyclobutane Catalyst and medium control over rebound pathways





Galeotti, M.; Bietti, M; Costas, M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2024, 146, 8904.

## Catalyst and medium control over rebound pathways

Costas (2024)



72% yield 73:27 cyclopropane:cyclobutane

rare use of alcohols in radical rebound







Galeotti, M.; Bietti, M; Costas, M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2024, 146, 8904.

Radio fluorination of C–H bonds

Can we mimic halogenase activity?



SyrB2





synthetic catalyst

Radio fluorination of C–H bonds

Can we mimic halogenase activity?



SyrB2

hydroxylation often preferred over halogenation in catalytic non-heme systems



synthetic catalyst

### Groves (2024)



## Radio fluorination of C–H bonds

Huang, X.; Liu, W.; Ren, H.; Neelamegam, R.; Hooker, J. M.; Groves, J. T. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2014, 136, 6842.

## Radio fluorination of C–H bonds

### Groves (2024)





lower TS for fluorine vs. oxygen rebound

Huang, X.; Liu, W.; Ren, H.; Neelamegam, R.; Hooker, J. M.; Groves, J. T. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2014, 136, 6842.

# Radio fluorination of C–H bonds

### Groves (2014)





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Electrochemically induced radical rebound





Meyer, T. H.; Samanta, R. C.; del Vecchio, A.; Ackermann, L. Chem. Sci. 2021, 12, 2890.



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Electrochemically induced radical rebound







Electrochemically induced radical rebound





Meyer, T. H.; Samanta, R. C.; del Vecchio, A.; Ackermann, L. Chem. Sci. 2021, 12, 2890.



Electrochemically induced radical rebound







75% yield from estrone



48% yield (r.r. = 3:1) from (–)-menthol

Meyer, T. H.; Samanta, R. C.; del Vecchio, A.; Ackermann, L. Chem. Sci. 2021, 12, 2890.

### Katayev (2023)



# Radical ligand transfer by photoredox



Katayev (2023)



proposed mechanism





Katayev (2023)



proposed mechanism







Katayev (2023)



proposed mechanism



Katayev (2023)



proposed mechanism



### not radical rebound, but radical ligand transfer operative



### 1 mechanism, multiple application

Radical rebound: bio-inspiredversatility and precision

# Radical rebound: bio-inspiredversatility and precision



1 mechanism, multiple application





Thank you!

Any Questions?

