# Recent advances in reactive oxygen species detection methods

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Journal Club, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014

# Outline

- Introduction to ROS biology
- How to detect ROS
- The Neurinox consortium

# Definitions (I)

### **Free Radicals:**

 Any species that contains one or more unpaired electrons

# **Non-Radicals:**

 Species that have strong oxidizing potential

- **R<sub>3</sub>C** Carbon-centered
- **R**<sub>3</sub>**N** ∙ Nitrogen-centered
- **R-O** Oxygen-centered
- **R-S**· Sulfur-centered
- $H_2O_2$ Hydrogen peroxide $HOCl^-$ Hypochlorous acid $O_3$ Ozone $1O_2$ Singlet oxygen $ONOO^-$ Peroxynitrite

Term	Definition
Oxidation	Gain in oxygen Loss of hydrogen Loss of electrons
Reduction	Loss of oxygen Gain of hydrogen Gain of electrons
Oxidant	Oxidizes another chemical <u>by taking</u> electrons, hydrogen, or by adding oxygen
Reductant	Reduces another chemical <u>by supplying</u> electrons, hydrogen, or by removing oxygen

ROI: 1 electron reduction products of O<sub>2</sub> en route to the production of water



952 Cell 140, March 19, 2010 ©2010 Elsevier Inc. DOI 10.1016/j.cell.2010.03.008

# Historical milestones in ROS biology (I)



Nathan and Cunningham-Bussel, NATURE REVIEWS IMMUNOLOGY, 2013

# Historical milestones in ROS biology (II)





de novo

generation

ROS



#### **Exogenous sources of ROS**

- Smoke
- Air pollutants
- Ultraviolet radiation
- γ-irradiation
- Several drugs

#### Endogenous sources of ROS

- NADPH oxidases
- Mitochondria
- ER flavoenzyme ERO1
- Xanthine oxidase
- Lipoxygenases
- Cyclooxygenases
- Cytochrome P450 enzymes
- Flavin-dependent demethylase
- Polyamine and amino acid oxidases
- Nitric oxide synthases
- Free iron or copper ions
- Haem groups
- Metal storage proteins

ER, endoplasmic reticulum; ROS, reactive oxygen species. Sources reviewed in REFS 10–12.

# NOX2: the prototype isoform



- $\rightarrow$  NOX2 works like an electron transport chain
- $\rightarrow$  Product of the enzymatic reaction: superoxide  $\rightarrow$  dismutated to H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

# NOX family



# NOX expression and physiological functions



### **Oxidative stress**

### **Definition**:

#### old : excessive production of ROS

### emerging concept: aberration in redox signaling and control



### Direct measurements:

- Electron spin resonance (ESR) spectroscopy

### Indirect measurements:

- Using probes which react with oxidants
- Analysing oxidation products e.g. proteins, DNA...

# Probes for indirect detection methods

### in vitro-ex vivo assays:

### <u>absorbance</u>

- Cytochrome C reduction
- NBT

### luminescence

- Lucigenin
- Luminol
- L-012
- MCLA

mostly performed using a plate reader:

### <u>fluorescence</u>

- DHE
- DCFH-DA
- Amplex red
- DHR123
- "masked" probes







### in vivo live imaging:

- Peroxy Caged luciferin (luminescence)
- Lucigenin/luminol (luminescence)
- Qcy-7 (fluorescence)



### Absorbance 1: Cytochrome c reduction



SAMPLES: phagocytes > cell lysates/membranes > tissue segments

REAGENTS: buffer composed of (mmol/L): NaCl, 145; KCl, 4.86; NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, 5.7; CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.54; MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 1.22; glucose, 5.5; deferoxamine mesylate, 0.1; 50 μmol/L of <u>acetylated</u> ferricytochrome c; manganese superoxide dismutase (100 U/mL); catalase (125 U/mL)

#### Strenghts:

- Easy
- Quite accurate estimates of O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> in picomolar range

- Not very sensitive  $\rightarrow$  good detection only for large amounts *e.g.* phagocytes
- Specificity  $\rightarrow$  can be directly reduced by enzymes and other molecules/can be re-oxidized  $\rightarrow$  + SOD and catalase
- Only detects extracellular O<sub>2</sub>-

### Absorbance 2: Nitroblue tetrazolium (NBT)



#### SAMPLES: intact cells

METHOD: Monoformazan can be detected spectrophotometrically at 550nm.

However, the monoformazan usually precipitates and most methods dissolve the crystals in cells by addition of a solvent such as dimethylsulfoxide and then measure the blue color at 630nm.

#### Strenghts:

- Very simple  $\rightarrow$  diagnosis for CGD
- Intracellular O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> production

#### **Caveats:**

- Specificity  $\rightarrow$  can be directly reduced by cellular enzymes, cross-reactivity with NOS
- Not very sensitive  $\rightarrow$  good detection only for large amounts *e.g.* phagocytes

Alternative: WST-1 (sulfonated tetrazolium salt)  $\rightarrow$  can be reduced by O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> to a water soluble formazan with low background, moderate sensitivity

# Absorbance 2: Nitroblue tetrazolium (NBT) $\rightarrow$ example





- •0.1 uM PMA final
- •1 mg/mL NBT
- •In HBSS, 200 uL volume
- Incubation for 1h
- Centrifuged
- •removed NBT solution

•Suspended pellet in 20 uL isopropanol and 20 uL DMSO

•Read absorbance at 570 nm

- •Only about 2X difference between no cells and 50 000
- •No further reaction after 1 hour?

# Chemiluminescence 1: lucigenin



SAMPLES: intact cells > tissue segments > homogenates, purified membrane

REAGENTS: Krebs/HEPES buffer; 5 µm lucigenin

#### Strenghts:

- Simple, not expensive
- Very sensitive, minimal toxicity
- Selective for O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup> production

- Redox cycling: possible artifact, even when low lucigenin concentration are used
- Extracellular production only

# Chemiluminescence 2: luminol



SAMPLES: intact cells > tissue segments

REAGENTS: Krebs/HEPES buffer; 5  $\mu$ m lucigenin

#### Strenghts:

- Simple, not expensive
- Sensitive, minimal toxicity, cell permeable
- Extracellular + Intracellular ROS production

- Needs peroxidase for the reaction to occur
- Not specific: can react with different ROS
- pH-dependent

### Chemiluminescence 3: L-012 and MCLA



SAMPLES: in vivo, purified membrane cells

#### Strenghts:

- Improved version of luminol/lucigenin
- 100 times more sensitive than luminol

#### Caveats:

- Not specific: can react with different ROS
- Peroxidase-dependent
- Redox cycling



SAMPLES: purified membranes, cells

#### Strenghts:

- Selective for  $O_2^-$  production
- more sensitive than most detection systems

- Extracellular production only
- Subject to autooxidation  $\rightarrow$  high background

# Fluorescence 1: Hydroethidine/Dihydroethidium (HE/DHE)



SAMPLES: intact cells, tissues in situ and ex vivo, in vivo

#### Strenghts:

- Cell permeable  $\rightarrow$  Intracellular ROS production
- Specific product (2-hydroxyethidium) generated on reation with O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>

- Sensitive to light and oxygen  $\rightarrow$  dim light/argon-purged buffers/dark tubes
- Reacts with many ROS
- Oxidized to Ethidium→intercalates with DNA → red fluorescence, similar excitation/emission spectra as 2hydroxyethidium
- Specific products can be detected only by HPLC-based methods

# Fluorescence 1: Hydroethidine/Dihydroethidium (HE/DHE) $\rightarrow$ example

#### ROS levels in SOD1(G93A) spinal cord



Increased levels of  $O_2^{--}$  and  $H_2O_2$  are observed

in the spinal cord of SOD1G93A mice

# Fluorescence 2: Dichlorofluorescein diacetate (DCFH-DA)



SAMPLES: intact cells, frozen tissue sections

#### Strenghts:

- Cell permeable  $\rightarrow$  Intracellular ROS production
- Highly fluorescent

- Autooxidation, Redox cycling and production of O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>
- Not selective for H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, Reacts with many ROS
- Reaction with peroxidases

### Fluorescence 3: Amplex red



Fluorescent at 587nm

SAMPLES: intact cells

#### Strenghts:

- Highly fluorescent, low background
- High sensitivity
- Specific for H2O2

- Extracellular H2O2 only, HRP does not penetrate cells
- Reaction with endogenous peroxidases



PLB-985: human myeloid cell line, differentiated in granulocytes Trex-NOX4: HEK cells overexpressing NOX4 only upon tetracycline (TC) exposure

Courtesy of V. Jaquet, University of Geneva

# Fluorescence 4: Dihydrorhodamine (DHR) 123



SAMPLES: intact cells

#### Strenghts:

- Highly fluorescent, intracellular
- Can be used for flow cytometry on whole blood  $\rightarrow$  diagnosis of CGD
- Blood specimens as small as 0.1 ml can be used  $\rightarrow$  ideal for use in neonates and young children

- Specificity
- Sensitivity

# Fluorescence 4: Dihydrorhodamine (DHR) 123 $\rightarrow$ human whole blood assay



# Fluorescence 5: probes unmasked by $H_2O_2$



#### Benzene-sulfonyl derivatives

- 1. pentafluorobenzenesulfonyl-fluorescein
- 2. Bis(2,4-dinitrobenzenesulfonyl) fluorescein

#### Strenghts:

- 1. Not dependent on peroxidase
- 2. Selective for  $O_2^-$

#### **Caveats:**

- 1. Not specific
- 2. can react with GSH



Aryl boronates derivatives (Chang's group, University of California, Berkeley)

#### Strenghts:

- Can be trapped inside cells  $\rightarrow$  live imaging
- Not dependent on peroxidase

#### **Caveats:**

- Reaction is accelerated at higher pH
- Selectivity for H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> has been questioned
- High background fluorescence

Lippert et al., Acc Chem Res. 2011 Maghzal et al., Free Radic Biol Med. 2012 c

# Fluorescence 5: probes unmasked by $H_2O_2 \rightarrow PET$ and FRET approaches

photo-induced electron transfer (PET)-based probe





Albers et al., , J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2006; Abo et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2011; Maghzal et al., Free Radic Biol Med. 2012

# Probes for indirect detection methods

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### <u>absorbance</u>

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### luminescence

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### <u>fluorescence</u>

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### in vivo live imaging:

- Peroxy Caged luciferin (luminescence)
- Lucigenin/luminol (luminescence)
- Qcy-7 (fluorescence)



# In vivo imaging of hydrogen peroxide production in a murine tumor model with a chemoselective bioluminescent reporter

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### In vivo live luminescence 1: Peroxy Caged luciferin 1 (I)



Van de Bittner et al., PNAS, 2011

### *In vivo* live luminescence 1: Peroxy Caged luciferin 1 (II)

Unshaven FVB-luc+ mice that ubiquitously express firefly luciferase (CAG promoter)

- Available from Jackson Lab
- Bioluminesence is detected in heart, spleen, muscle, pancreas, skin, thymus and bone marrow
- luciferase expression is generally greater in males than females



Van de Bittner et al., PNAS, 2011

- androgen-sensitive prostate cancer cells (LNCaP)

- In dissociated cell culture, LNCaPs respond to testosterone by increasing their proliferation rate and elevating their ROS production

- ...and In vivo ? → LNCaP-luc+ tumor xenograft in immunodeficient SCID hairless outbred mice (SHO), i.p. injection of 3 × 10<sup>6</sup> LNCaP-luc cells (100 µL of 1:1 PBS:Matrigel) in adult SHO mice Incubation: 4 weeks



Fig. 5. Bioluminescent signal from SHO mice with LNCaP-luc tumors. (A) Ratios of total photon fluxes for mice injected with PCL-1 (i.p., 0.5  $\mu$ mol in 50  $\mu$ L of 1:1 DMSO:PBS) on day 1 and PCL-1 (i.p., 0.5  $\mu$ mol in 50  $\mu$ L of 1:1 DMSO:PBS) plus the vehicle (i.p., 50  $\mu$ L of sesame oil), testosterone propionate (i.p., 3 mg in 50  $\mu$ L of sesame oil) and NAC (i.p., 0.2 mg in 100  $\mu$ L of PBS) on day 2. Sesame oil and testosterone were injected 1.5 h prior to PCL-1 on day 2, and NAC was injected immediately prior to PCL-1 on day 2. Statistical analyses were performed with a two-tailed Student's t test. \*\* *P* < 0.005 (*n* = 5), and error bars are ±SD. Representative images from one mouse in each experiment are shown (*B*-*D*).





# In Vivo Imaging of Inflammatory Phagocytes

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### In vivo live luminescence 2: lucigenin and luminol (I)

Long-term inflammation model: s.c. implant of estrogen-releasing pellets onto NCr nude mice → Imaging <u>4 months after pellet</u> implant with lucigenin (25 mg/kg i.p.) or luminol (100 mg/kg i.p.)



<u>Short-term inflammation model</u>: surgical lacerations to the skin

→ Imaging <u>4 days after</u> surgery during healing phase with lucigenin (25 mg/kg i.p.) or luminol (100 mg/kg i.p.)



n = 5P < 0.0001Lucigenin Luminol

Luminol bioluminescence  $\rightarrow$  acute phase of inflammation Lucigenin bioluminescence  $\rightarrow$  late phases of inflammation

luminescence from these different substrates are mediated through distinct cell types and mechanisms <u>Short-term inflammation model</u>: s.c. injection of 50 µg PMA

→ Longitudinal imaging starting <u>3 hours</u> <u>after</u> surgery for 4 days with lucigenin (25 mg/kg i.p.) or luminol (100 mg/kg i.p.)



### *In vivo* live luminescence 2: lucigenin and luminol (II)

Short-term inflammation model: surgical lacerations to the skin

→ Imaging  $\frac{4 \text{ days after surgery during healing phase with lucigenin}}{(25 mg/kg i.p.) or luminol (100 mg/kg i.p.)}$ 



### In vivo live luminescence 2: lucigenin and luminol (III)

Long-term inflammation model: s.c. implant of estrogen-releasing pellets onto NCr nude mice

#### lucigenin > luminol



H&E staining revealed massive tissue-infiltrating macrophages and granuloma formation (arrows), with very few neutrophils.

<u>Short-term inflammation model</u>: s.c. injection of 50 μg PMA

Luminol > lucigenin (acute phase) Lucigenin> luminol (late phase)



Twelve hours after injection  $\rightarrow$  massive neutrophil infiltration (arrowheads) Four days after injection  $\rightarrow$  infiltration of macrophages (arrows)

#### luminol bioluminescence $\rightarrow$ neutrophils in the acute phase lucigenin bioluminescence $\rightarrow$ macrophages in the chronic phase of inflammation

**!!!!! redox-cycling issue**: <u>lower oxygen pressure in tissue (10 mm Hg, compared with 150 mm Hg in the atmosphere)</u> and higher affinity to endogenous superoxide anion (O2-, with a negative charge opposite to LC+), <u>make it unlikely to occur in phagocytes during in vivo imaging</u>

Tseng and Kung, Chemistry and Biology, 2012



ARTICLE

pubs.acs.org/JACS

# A Unique Paradigm for a Turn-ON Near-Infrared Cyanine-Based Probe: Noninvasive Intravital Optical Imaging of Hydrogen Peroxide

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Supporting Information

### In vivo live fluorescence: QCy7



Water-soluble QCy7: Cy-7 + phenyl boronic acid→ near infrared fluorescence upon reaction with H2O2



the intensity of fluorescence depends on H2O2 concentration



Control

(Vehicle)





Probe 4 (1 mM)

Probe 4 (1 mM)+ H<sub>2</sub>0<sub>2</sub> (1 μM)

In vivo imaging of <u>exogenous</u> hydrogen peroxide. Shaved Balb/c mice. CRI Maestro image. Excitation at 595 nm, emission cutoff filter of 635 nm.



In vivo imaging of <u>endogenous</u> hydrogen peroxide 6h post-i.p. LPS-induced inflammatory response.

Karton-Lifshin et al., J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2011

## Genetically encoded biosensors

- roGFPs: surface-exposed residues on the Aequorea victoria green fluorescent protein (GFP) were substituted with cysteines in appropriate positions to form disulfide bonds → ratiomeric H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> determinationn
   Can be induced by other oxidants, slow reaction Improved by coupling with glutaredoxins (Grx1roGFP) or peroxidases (e.g. Orp1-roGFP)
  - 2. Hyper: insertion of circularly permuted yellow fluorescent protein (cpYFP) into OxyR,a bacterial A sensor of H2O2: disulfide bond formation upon oxidation and conformational change → fluorescence
  - → ratiometric, highly selective for H2O2
     ! Reversible reaction, depends on glutathione system, pH-sensitive
  - **3.** cpYFP: discovered by serendipity as selective sensor for  $O_2^- \rightarrow$  mechanism not understood
    - $\rightarrow$  can be targeted to cellular compartments
    - $\rightarrow$  Need transfection



Bhaskar et al., PLoS Pathog 10(1): e1003902.



### Table 1. The ideal fluorescent ROS detecting probe ....does not exist!

Characteristic	Rationale
Chemoselectivity	ROS-type chemoselectivity and no cross-reactivity with other ROS to avoid disambiguity of the type of ROS involved in the reaction; Based on the innate chemical nature of the ROS type
Membrane pearmibility	Good membrane permeability but little diffusion of the product to allow for localization of the reaction
Sensitivity	Good sensitivity (nano-micro range of ROS concentration) to detect signaling concentration of the ROS
Defined spectral peaks	Narrow peaks of excitation and emission spectra to allow simultaneous detection of more than one probe
Photostability	Little photooxidation and photobleaching to facilitate imaging on the microscope
Post-fixation retention	Retention after fixation to allow for simultaneous detection of the dye and the antibody for colocalization studies
Linear response	Linear relationship between the fluorescent signal to the ROS concentration to allow for quantitative studies of the ROS generation
Signal-to-noise ratio	Low fluorescence of the ROS-unbound form to avoid false signal from the accumulation of the probe in the cell
Bioorthogonality	Bioorthogonality and nontoxicity of the probe not to interfere with other biological processes
In vivo capability	Possibility of the probe usage in the <i>in vivo</i> studies to permit of the redox reaction studies in the animal models
Two-photon microscopy	Compatibility with two-photon microscopy to allow for deep tissue penetration imaging and prolonged observation without specimen damage

- Understand underlying principles involved and how these may be affected by potential biological changes
- Use a combination of approaches
- Use appropriate controls and Interpret data with care, recognizing the limitations of the assay

Biomarkers of Oxidative Stress Study (http://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/resources/databases/bosstudy/index.cfm)

Assays that measure oxidation of lipids, proteins, DNA and a group of antioxidants.

**Lipid peroxidation assays:** lipid hydroperoxides, TBARS, MDA, isoprostanes, various HETEs.

**Protein oxidation assays:** protein carbonyls, various tyrosine products, methionine sulfoxidation.

**DNA oxidation assays:** 8-OH-dG, oxidation changes by the Comet assay, M<sub>1</sub>G.

**Antioxidants:** Ascorbic acid, tocopherols, GSH, GSSG, uric acid, TAC (total antioxidant capacity)

# http://www.neurinox.eu/



Veuring	x	EUROPEAN COMMISSION			
Latest Public	ations	Neurinox Approach News and events			
Home		Welcome to the official website of the NEURINOX			
About NEURINOX	+	project! NEURINOX aims at identifying novel therapeutic targets for neuroinflammatory diseases, by focusing on NADPH oxidases (NOX). NOX enzymes catalyse the formation of reactive oxygen species (ROS) and are key regulators of neuroinflammation. Establishment of chronic neuroinflammation is characterised by either increased or decreased			
Patient information	+				
Educational material	+				
Opportunities for Industry partnerships		NOX activity. The NEURINOX project aims at elucidating the links between neuroinflammation, NOX enzyme activity and neurodegenerative diseases (ND). It aims at validating NOX as therapeutic targets using animal models of			
Publications	+	neuroinflammation, human samples, prospective clinical studies and, in case of success of preclinical evaluation of NOX inhibitors in			
Project documentation		models of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), an early clinical trial with ALS patients. With a total budget of 15.4 M€ and a funding support of 11.4 M€ for			
News and events					
Contact		5 years from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) for Research and Technology Development, NEURINOX is coordinated by University of Geneva and includes several SMEs, internationally renowned research groups and clinical institutions with extensive experience in NOX research an neurodegenerative diseases.			

### to develop novel therapeutic approaches for the treatment of inflammatory neurodegenerative diseases focusing on NOX enzymes

NEURINOX research activities include:

- studies of NOX activity in <u>animal models</u> and in human <u>patient samples</u>
- development and validation of the effect of <u>NOX regulating drugs</u> (small molecules) in animal models
- a <u>phase I-II clinical trial</u> with a NOX regulating drug to determine safety and efficacy on a small population of ALS patients.

### NeuriNOX consortium: 13 members







# Acknowledgements





Ghassan Maghzal Magda Lam

Thank you for your attention!

Questions/comments?