



NANOSCALE OPTIMIZATION OF THE DET PROCESS IN BIOCATHODES LOADED WITH MULTICOPPER OXIDASES

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INSTITUTO DE CATÁLISIS:

Ingeniería
de procesos

Estructura y
Reactividad

Catálisis
Aplicada

Biocatálisis

☼ Biocatalysis Department

- ☼ Study biocatalytic processes
- ☼ Inspiration source for new non-biological catalysts
- ☼ Integration with heterogeneous catalysis yielding hybrid processes
- ☼ Soft chemistry: enantioselective synthesis
- ☼ Green chemistry: biological catalysts
- ☼ Bioremediation
- ☼ Bioelectrocatalysis: biofuel cells and bio production of fuels
- ☼ Electrochemical biosensors



Outline

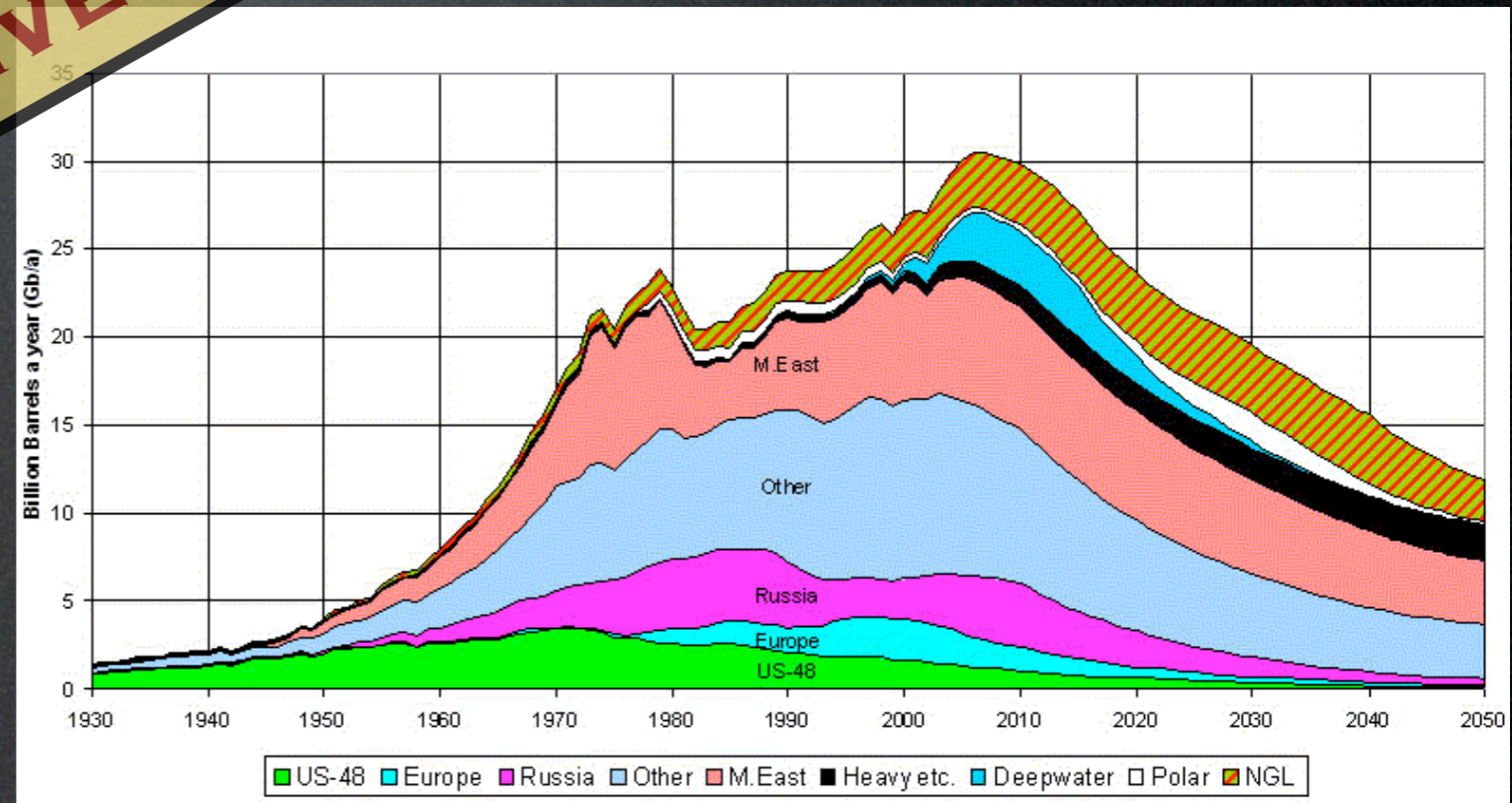
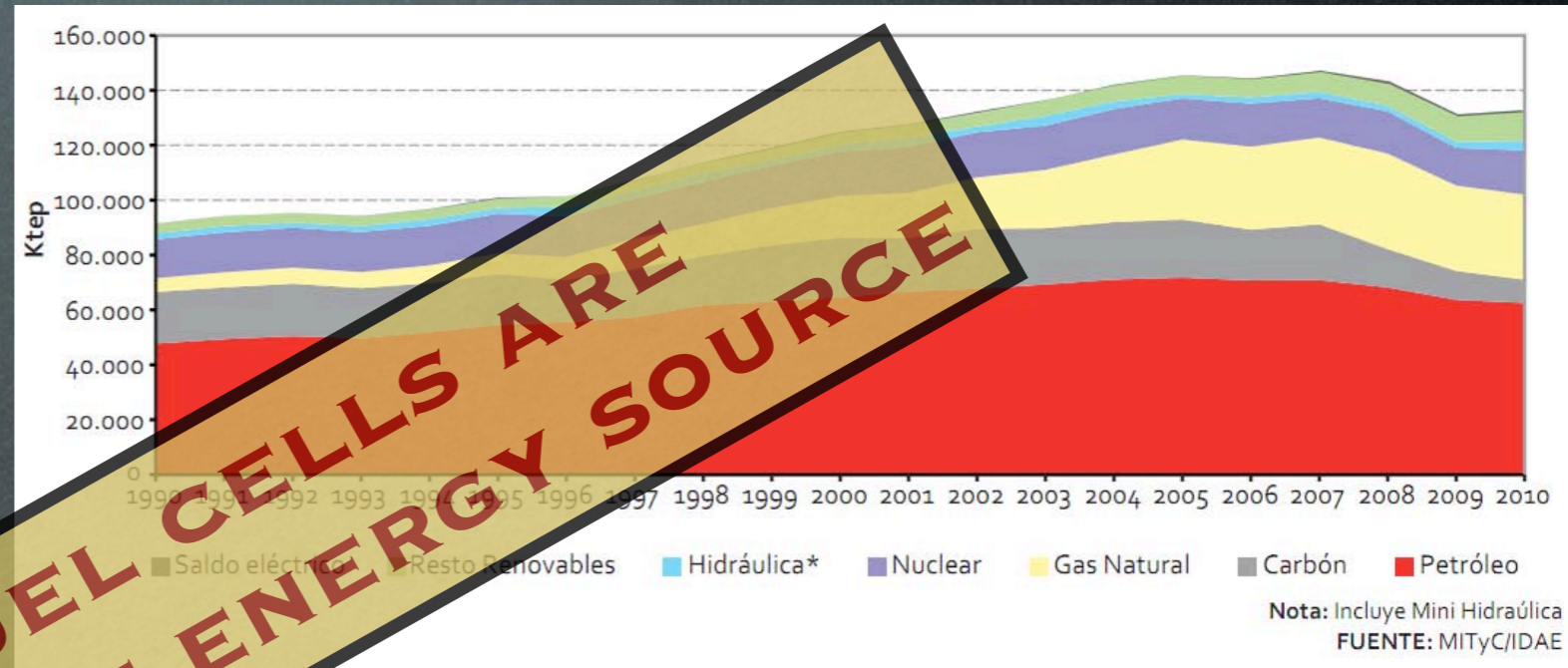
- Motivation
- Laccase and its interaction with surfaces
- Improvement of bioelectrodes based on C
- Overcoming the Laccase-gold problem
- Approaching physiological conditions: pH and Chloride resistance, alternative biocatalysts
- Directed evolution

Energy based on fossil fuels: non sustainable

- ✱ National consume of Energy > 90% fossil and nuclear fuels.
- ✱ Non renewable energy, imported, pollution.
- ✱ Prediction of Hubbert: fossil fuel shortage.
- ✱ Increase of the price and derivatives
- ✱ High environmental impact.
- ✱ Oil is far away: expensive transport, possible ecological

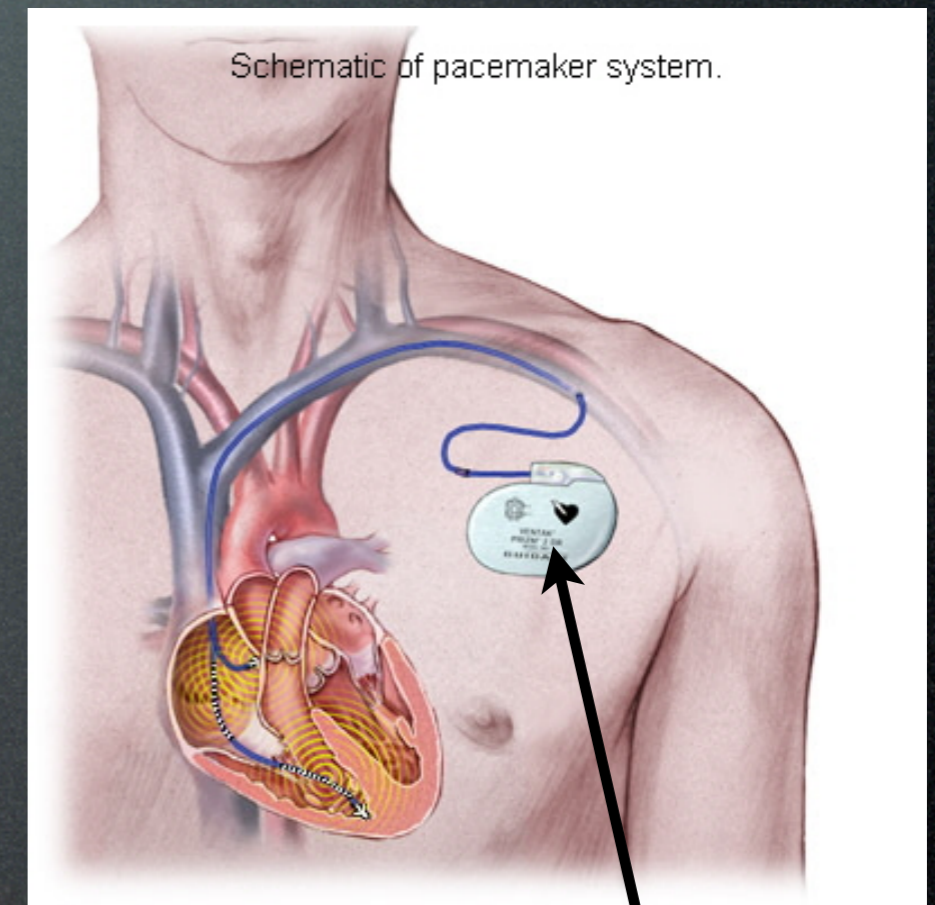
AN ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCE

ENZYMES ARE FUEL CELLS



Nowadays possibilities for enzyme biofuel cells

- ✿ Currently biofuel cells do not produce high amounts of energy.
- ✿ Applications:
 - ✿ Micro implantable devices for biological tissues or blood
 - ✿ Fuels or oxidants from environment (juices, waste water)
 - ✿ Portable Source of energy for MEMS or self standing microchips.



pacemaker powered by biofuel cell

3D-Nanobiodevice (7th FP-NMP)

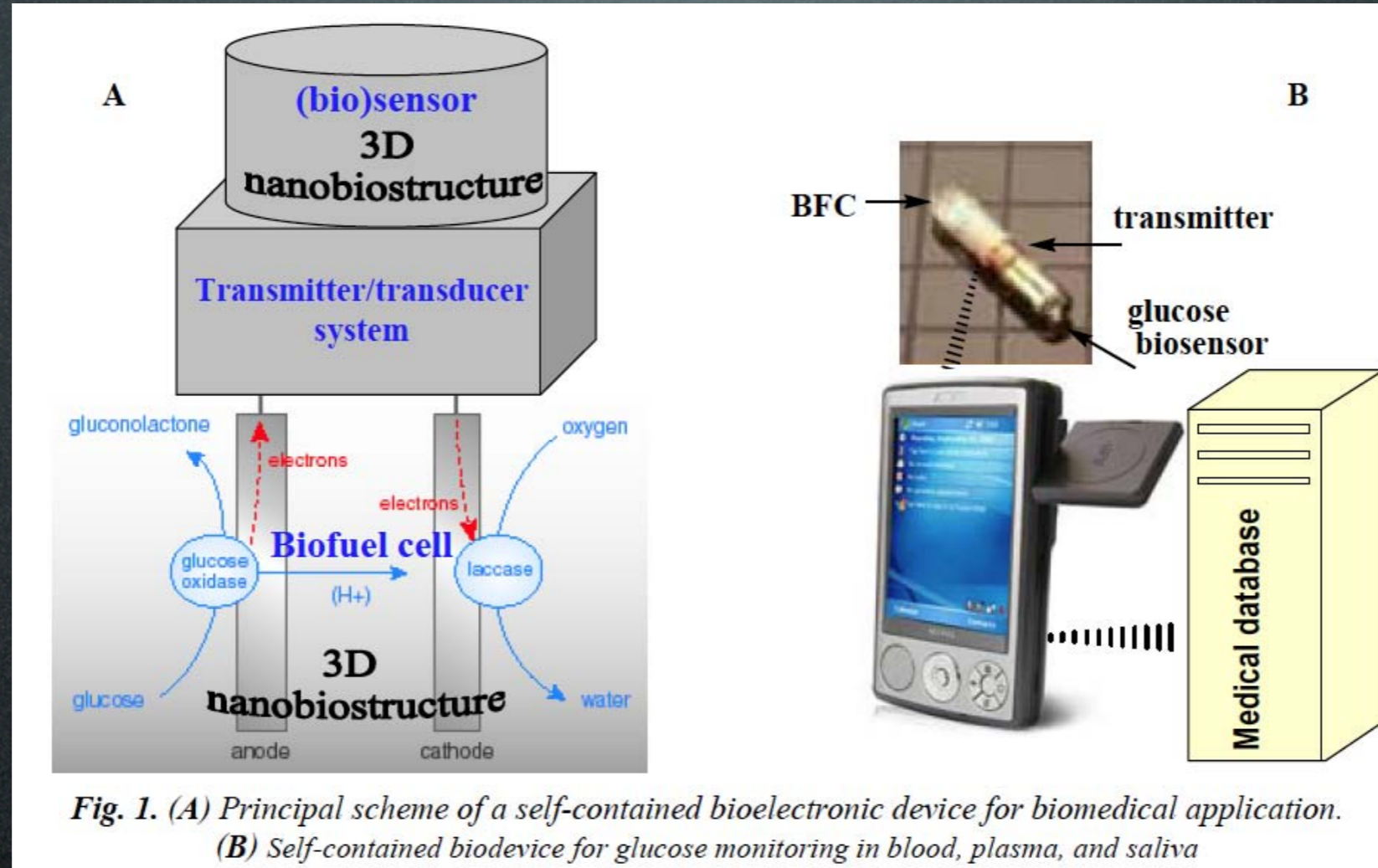
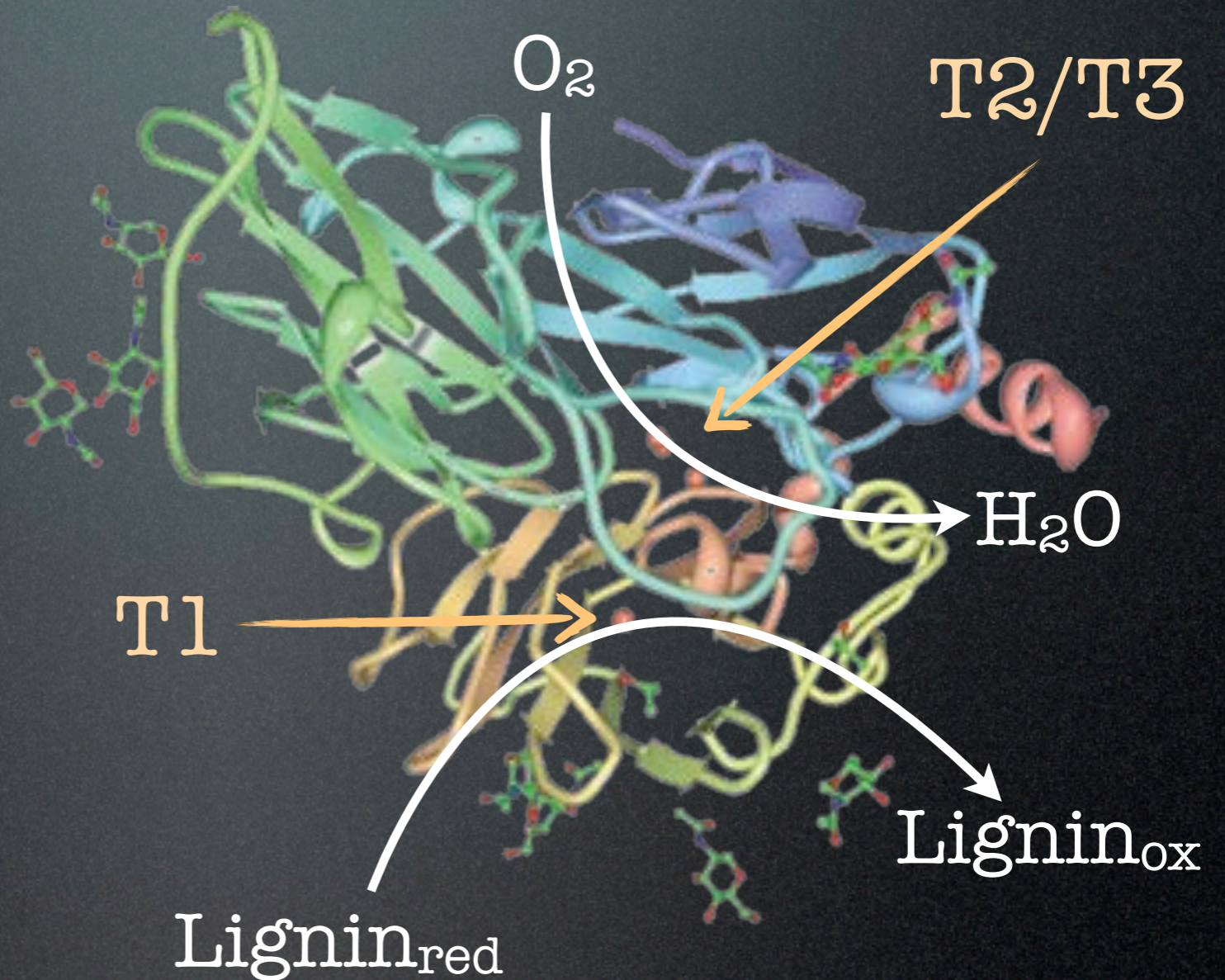


Fig. 1. (A) Principal scheme of a self-contained bioelectronic device for biomedical application. (B) Self-contained biodevice for glucose monitoring in blood, plasma, and saliva

- Build a bioimplantable device that can work in different physiological environments.
- Develop conductive nanoarchitectures to assemble 3D bioelectrocatalytic structures with high efficiency towards biofuel cells and biosensors.
- Wire redox enzymes (glucose, O_2) to the 3D structures to generate energy inside physiological environments.
- **Work area for ICP bioelectrocatalysis group: Strategies for the immobilization of Laccases and Bilirubin Oxidases to obtain high DET.**

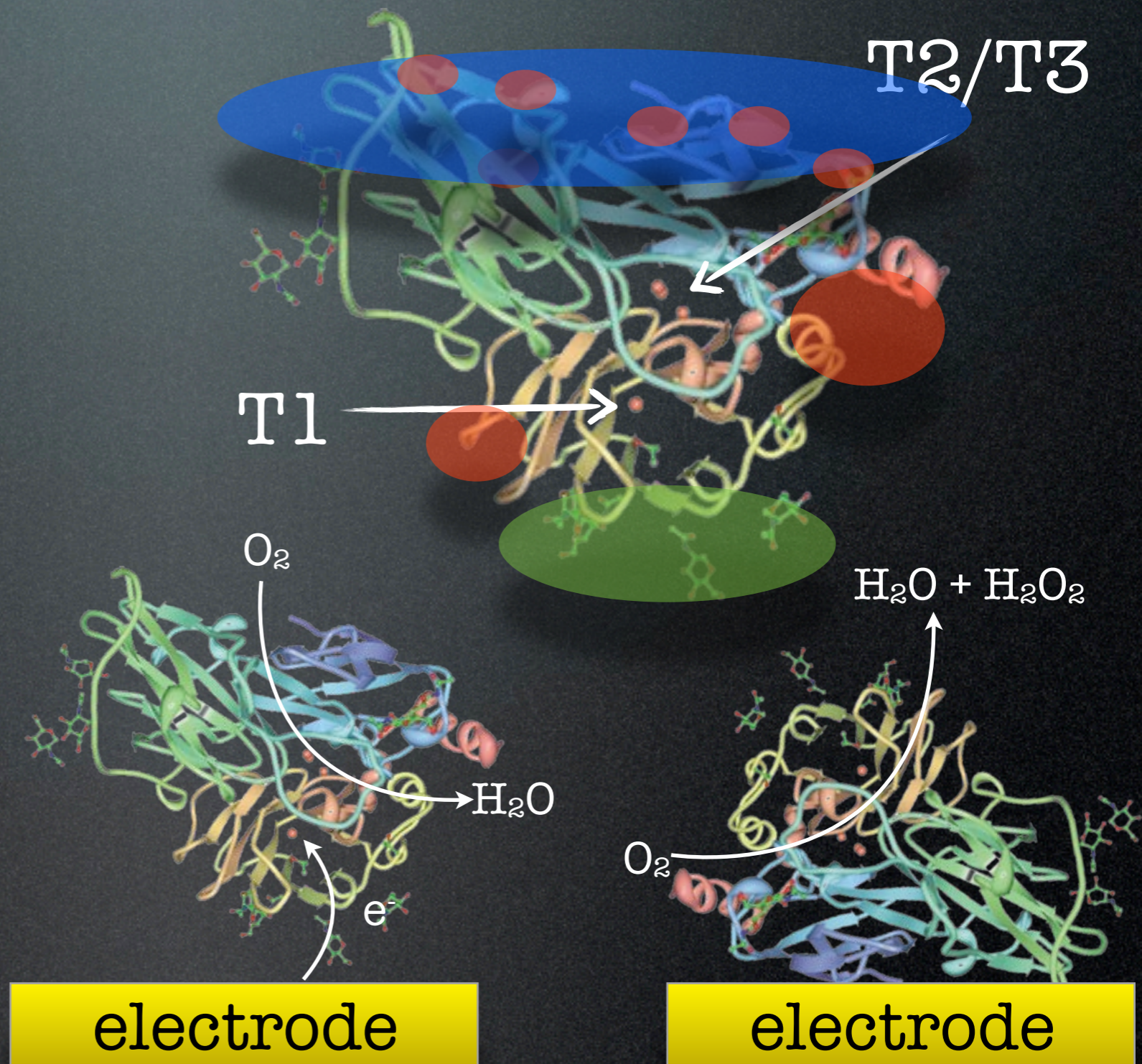
Trametes Hirsuta laccase: Structure

- Enzyme sources: Fungal (high potential) or Tree (low potential)
- Redox enzyme. Function:
 - Oxidizes polyphenols, lignin, and other substrates.
 - Reduces O_2 to H_2O .
- Active site: 4 Cu cations distributed as:
 - 1 Cu, T1 site, substrate oxidation,
 - 3 · Cu cluster, T2/T3 site, O_2 reduction.
 - Intramol. bridge, histidine-cysteine.
- Applications:
 - Direct reduction of O_2 to H_2O , O_2 detection and quantification.
 - Waste treatment, water cleaning, oxidation of phenol-derived hazards.



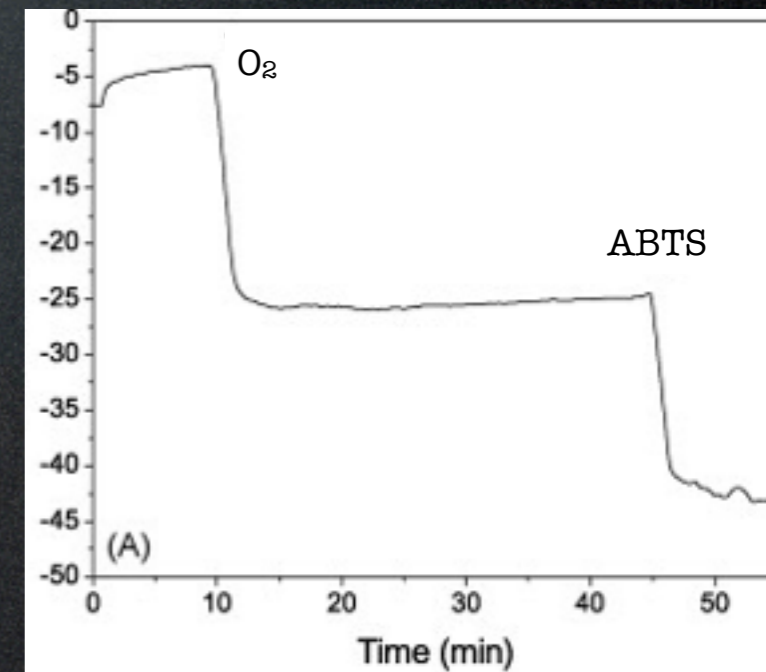
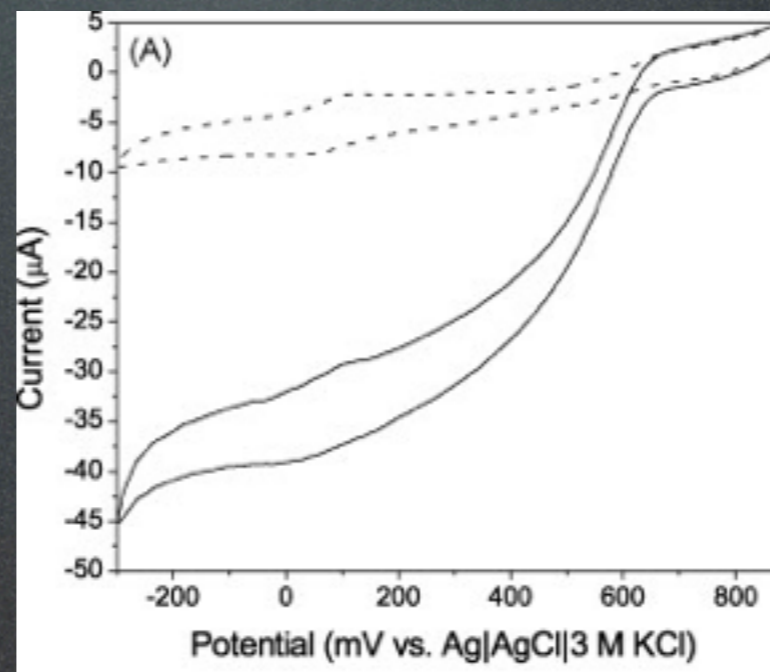
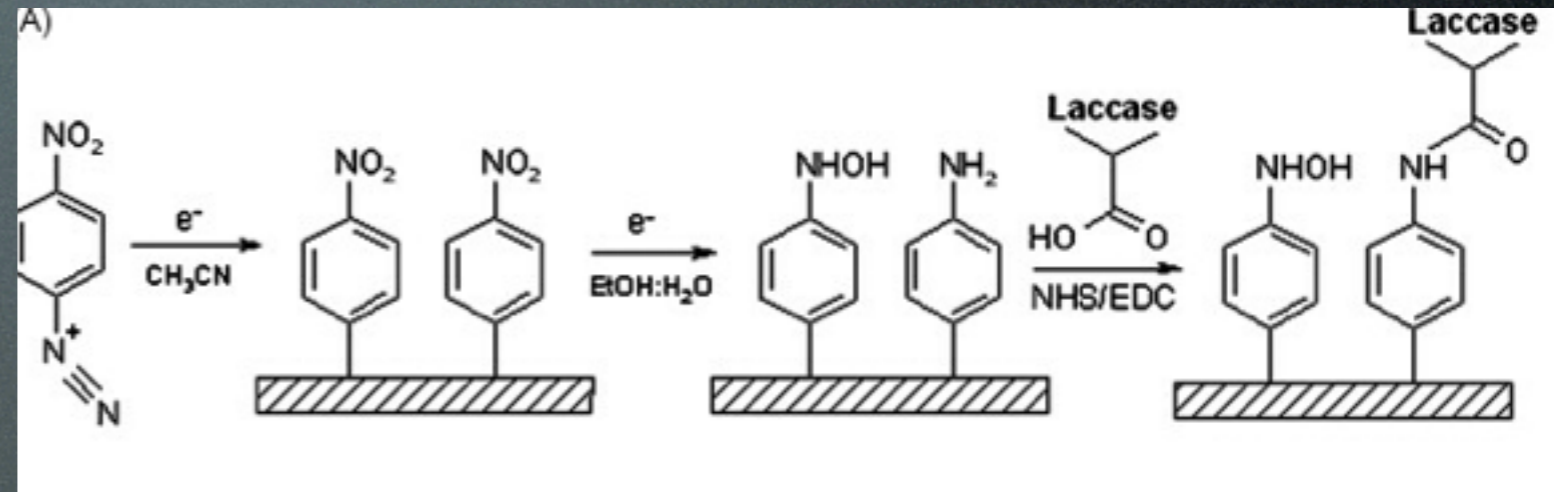
Trametes Hirsuta laccase: oriented immobilization

- Goal: DET via Cu T1 site.
- Challenge: avoid O_2 shortcut
- Enzyme's appropriate residues: Carboxylic groups (carbodiimide coupling), sugar residues (Schiff's base bond).
- Enzyme's orientation hindering groups: Amino region, carboxylic groups.
- Goal 1: Achieve Oriented immobilization of laccase on electrodes.
- Goal 2: Improve performance under physiological-like conditions.



Prime Approach: Graphite Electrodes

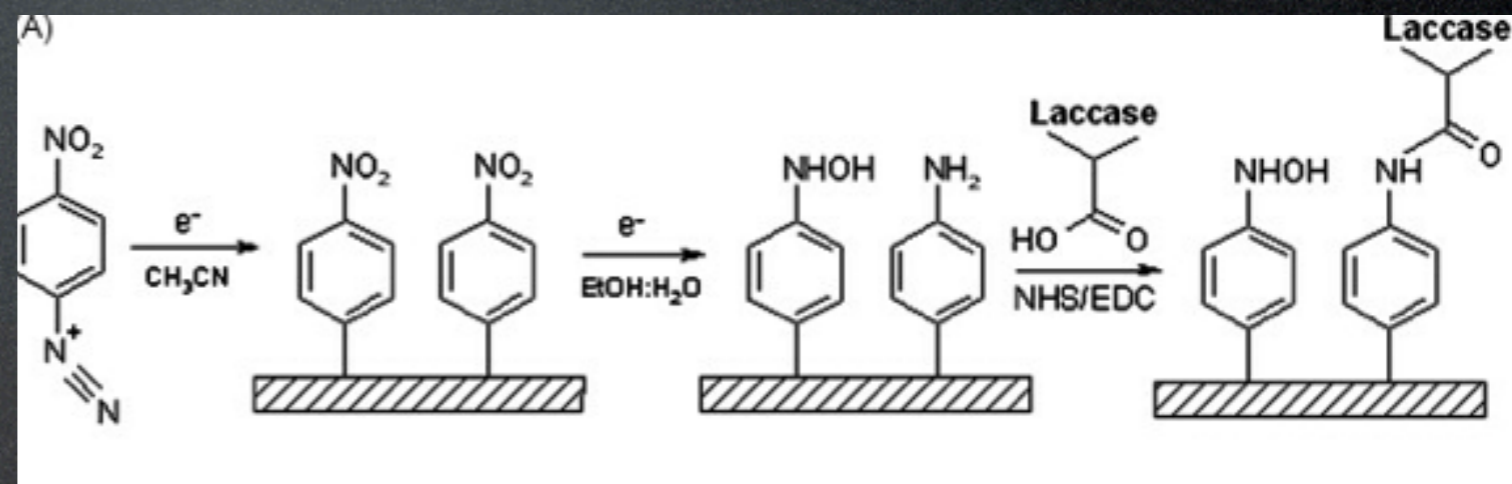
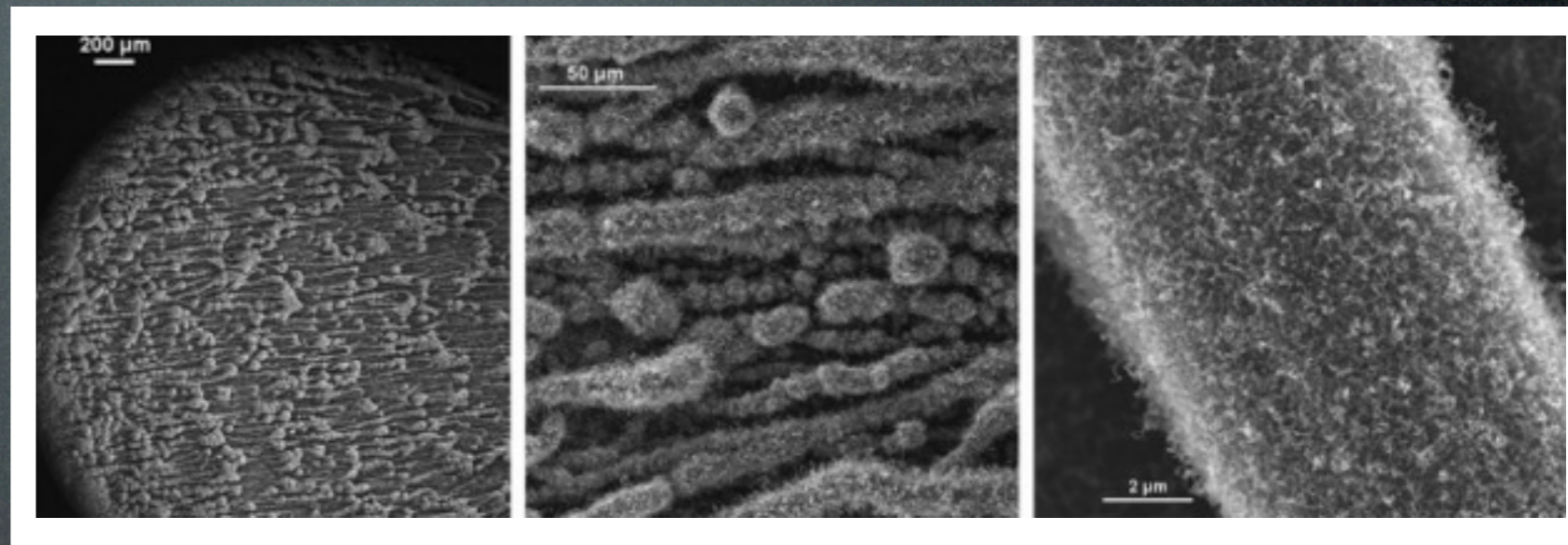
- Graphite surface resembles laccase natural substrate, lignin.
- Functionalization of graphite yields modified electrodes suitable for covalent attachment of Laccase.
- High O_2 electroreduction current ($\sim 200 \mu A/cm^2$), biofuel cells need higher current density.
- MET pretty high: needs for better laccase orienting.
- Possible improvement routes:
 - Nanostructured electrodes
 - 2-step laccase immobilization to orient it on the electrode



Vaz-Dominguez, C.; Campuzano, S.; Rüdiger, O.; Pita, M.; Gorbacheva, M.; Shleev, S.; Fernandez, V.M.; De Lacey, A.L. *Biosensors and Bioelectronics* 24 (2008) 531-537

CNT-CMF Graphite electrodes for laccase immobilization

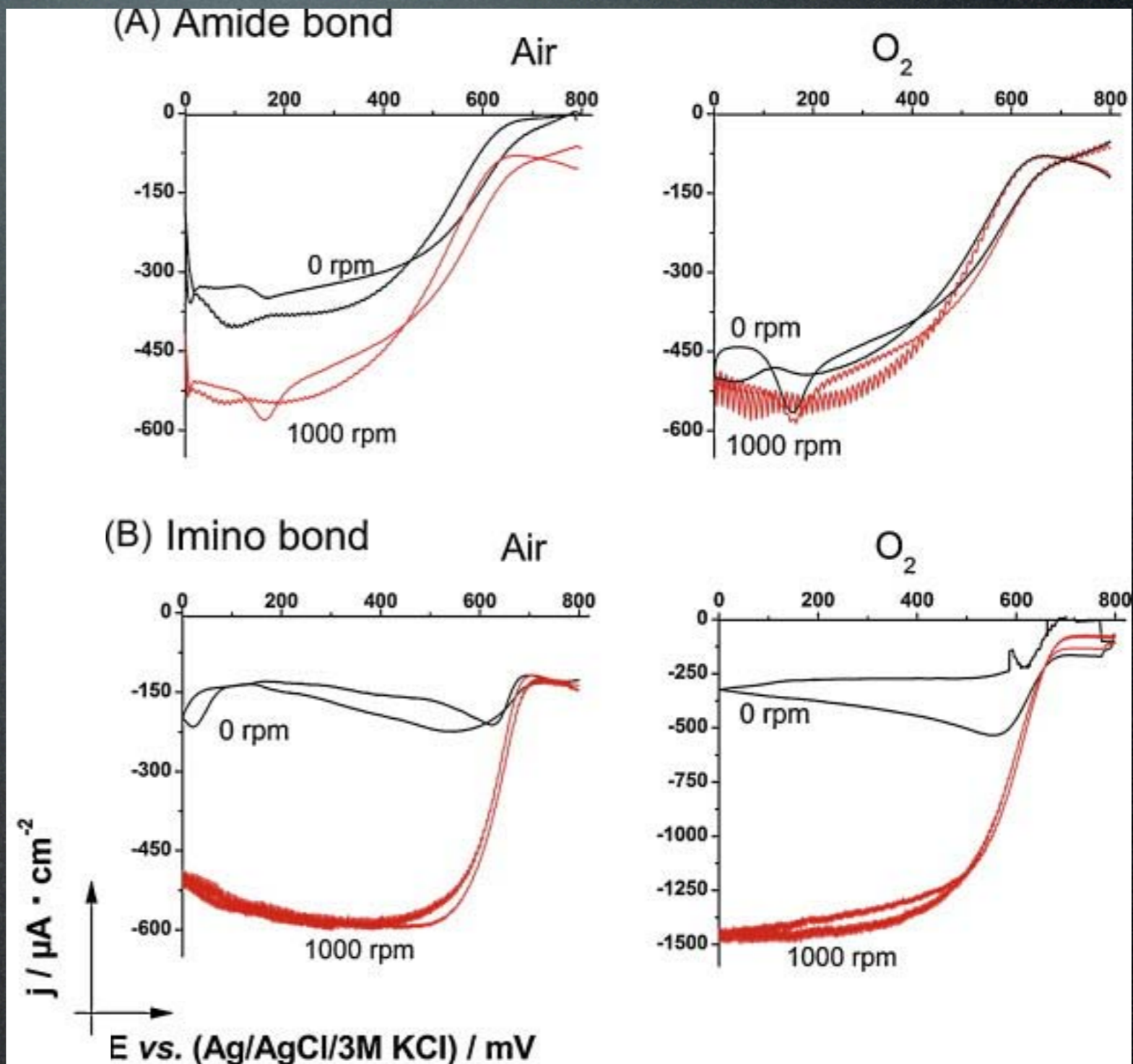
- CNT-CMF hierarchically nanostructured electrodes.
- 4-nitrophenyldiazonium salt was used for electrode modification.



Gutierrez-Sanchez, C.; Jia, W.; Beyl, Y.; Pita, M.; Schuhmann, W.; De Lacey, A.L.; Stoica, L. *Electrochimica Acta*, 2012, 82, 218-223

CNT-CMF Graphite electrodes for laccase immobilization

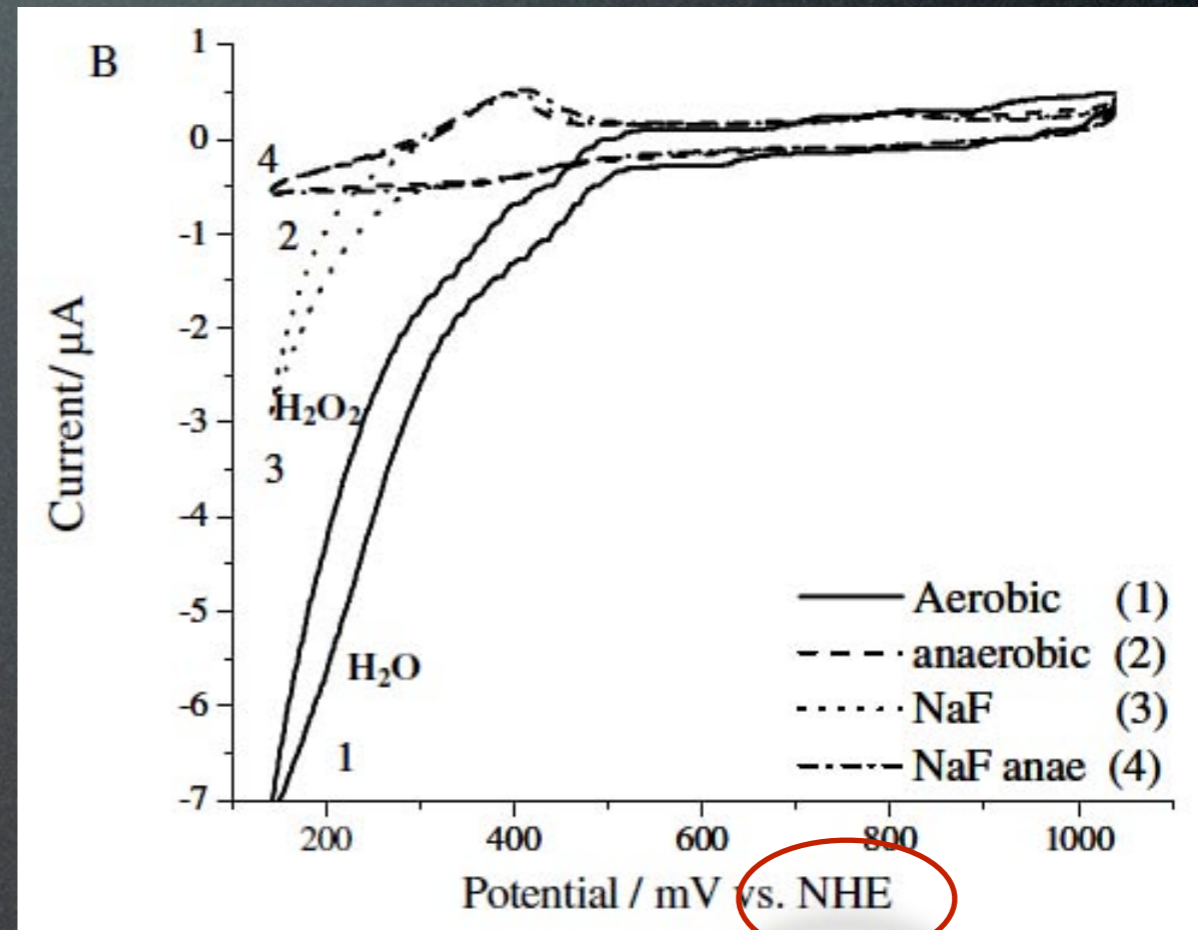
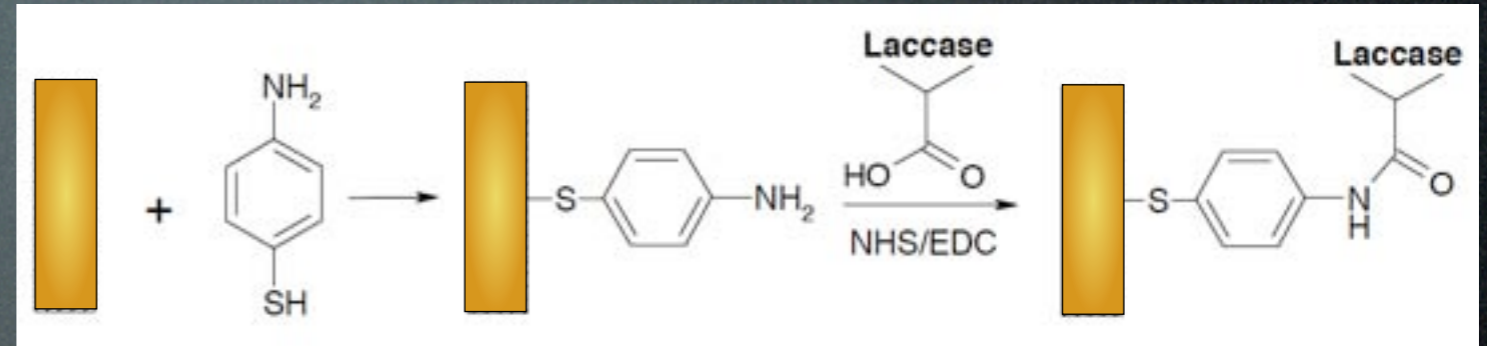
- CNT-CMF hierarchically nanostructured electrodes.
- 4-nitrophenyldiazonium salt was used for electrode modification.
- Laccase immobilized via **(A) Amide bond** formation or via **(B) imino bond** by sugar oxidation to aldehyde and Schiff base reaction.
- High current density values:
 - Effect of O₂ saturation
 - Effect of electrode rotation



Gutierrez-Sanchez, C.; Jia, W.; Beyl, Y.; Pita, M.; Schuhmann, W.; De Lacey, A.L.; Stoica, L. *Electrochimica Acta*, 2012, 82, 218-223

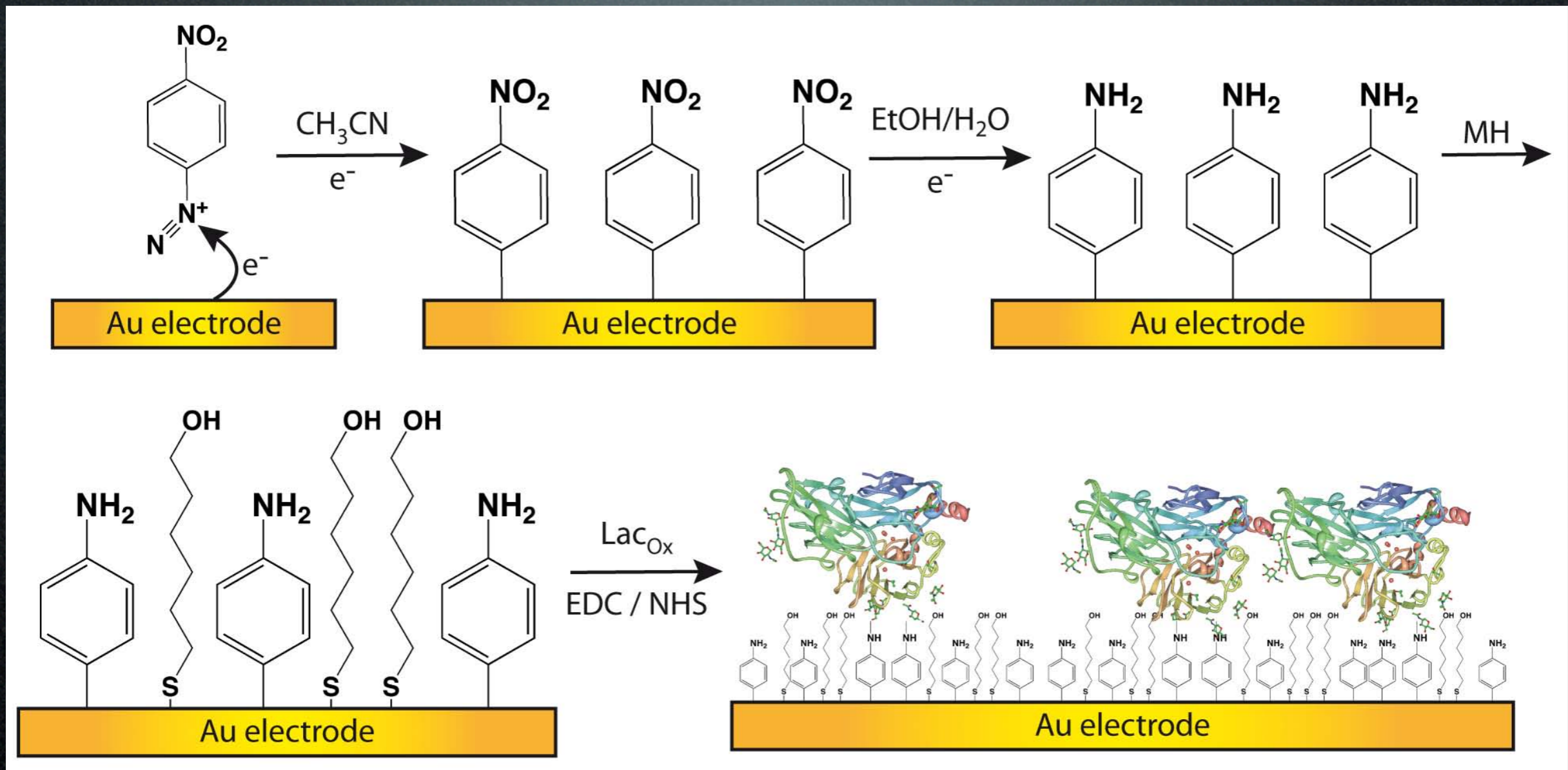
Prime approach: SAM modified gold electrodes

- SAMs of thiols for modifying gold to attach laccase.
- **4-aminothiophenol** yields a SAM like LDG modification.
- Laccase show scarce 4 e⁻ DET and higher proportion of 2 e⁻ process.
- Production of H₂O₂.
- Laccase is not oriented.
Possible reasons:
 - Excess of amino groups
 - Mobility of thiols on Au surface



Pita, M.; Shleev, S.; Ruzgas, T.; Fernandez V.M.; Yaropolov, A.I.; Gorton, L. *Electrochem. Commun.*, 2006, 747-753

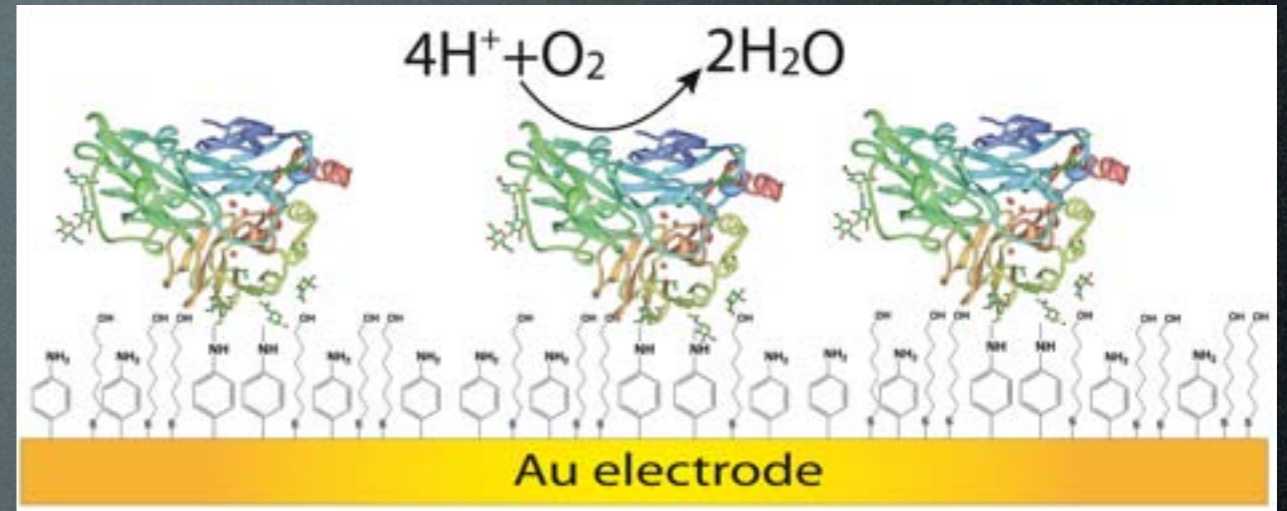
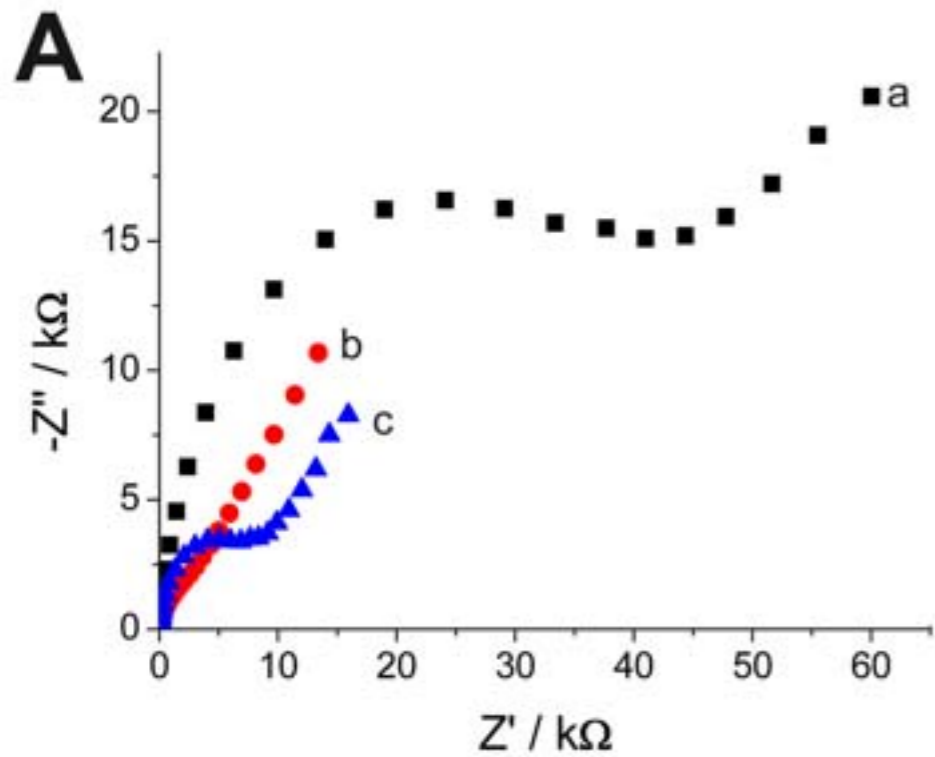
High DET on laccase-gold electrodes



- Strategy: 1. Diazonium salt reduction on gold electrodes, 2. reduction nitro-to-amino
- Surface blotting with thiols. Molecules used: **6-mercapto-1-hexanol**, 3-mercaptopropionic acid, cystamine, 2-mercapto-1-ethanol, thiocetic acid.
- Laccase orientation: 2-step strategy. (a) Laccase sugars' oxidation to aldehyde and further amine Schiff's base formation. (b) Amide bonding catalyzed by EDC-NHS.

Pita, M.; Gutierrez-Sanchez, C.; Olea, D.; Velez, M.; Garcia-Diego, C.; Shleev, S.; Fernandez, V.M.; De Lacey, A.L. *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 2011, 115, 13420-13428

Mixed monolayer characterization



Impedance Spectroscopy

Electrochemical Probe: $[Fe(CN)_6]^{3-/4-}$

(A) Frequency responses:

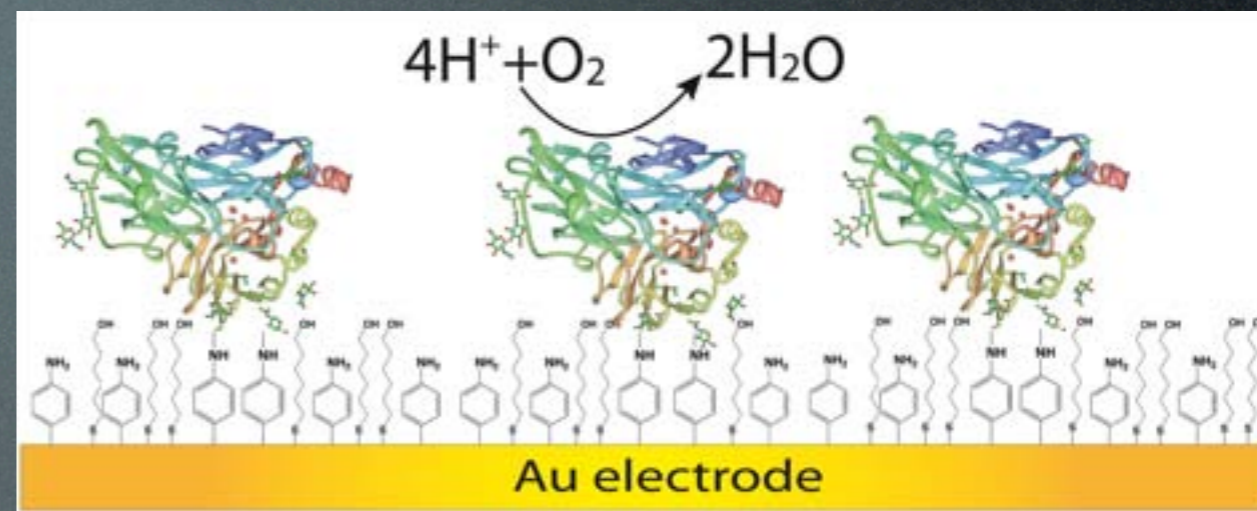
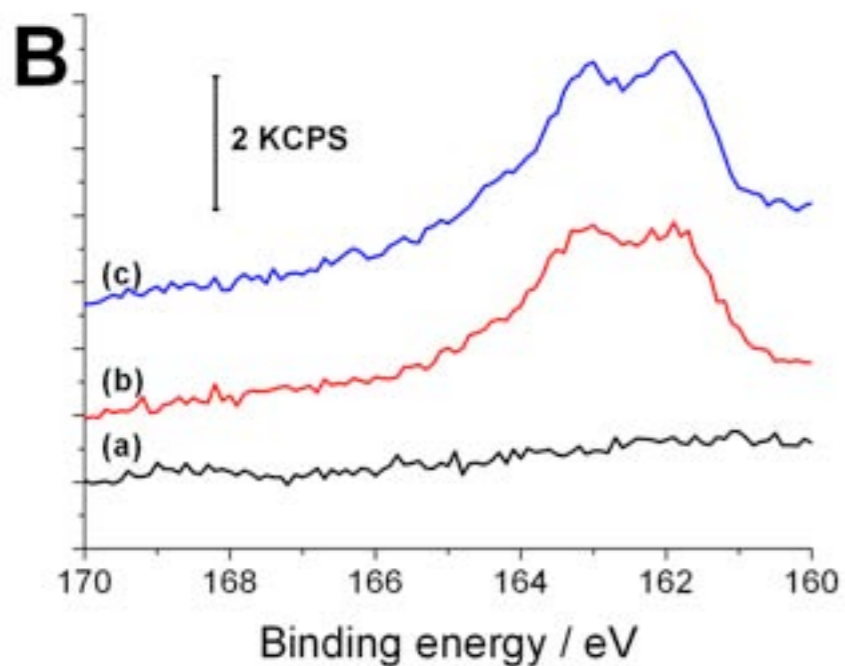
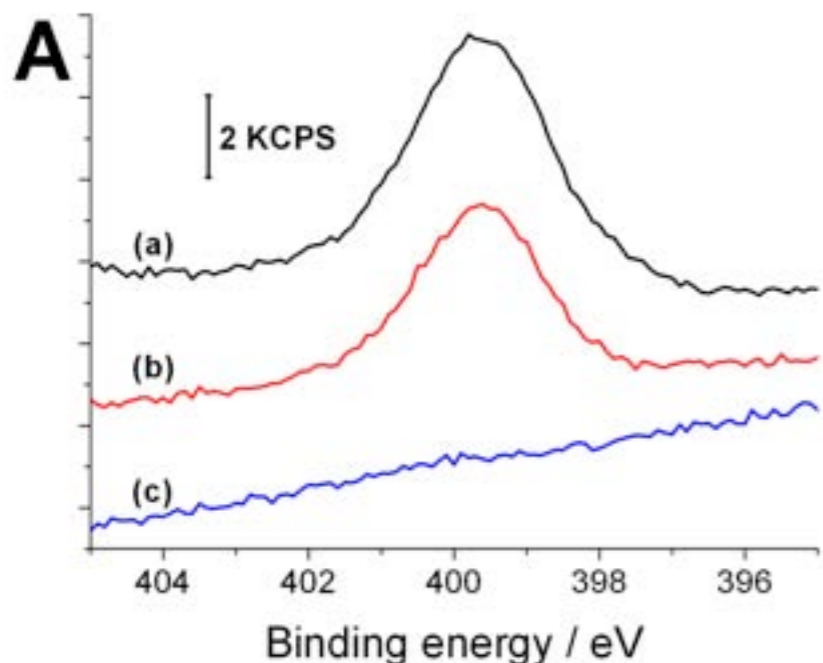
- a) Nitroaryl layer
- b) aminoaryl layer
- c) aminoaryl + MH SAM layers

(B) Frequency responses:

- a) Bare gold
- b) MH SAM

Pita, M.; Gutierrez-Sanchez, C.; Olea, D.; Velez, M.; Garcia-Diego, C.; Shleev, S.;
Fernandez, V.M.; De Lacey, A.L. *J. Phys. Chem. C*, 2011, 115, 13420-13428

Mixed monolayer characterization



X-ray Photoemission Spectroscopy

Search for signals that determine presence of -NH₂ and S-

(A) Amine core:

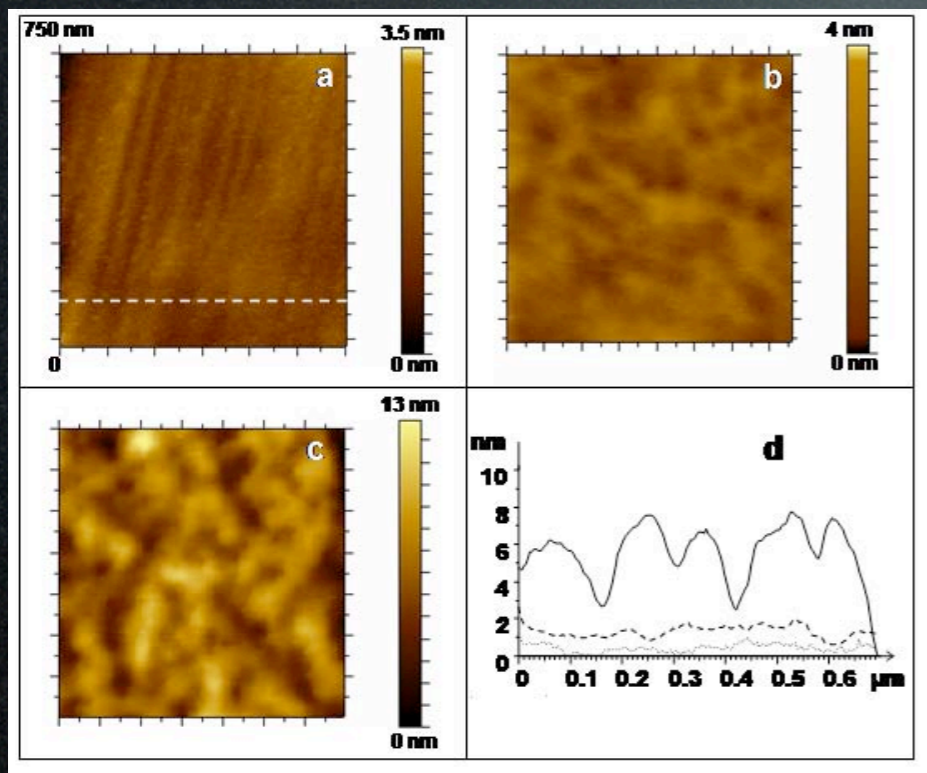
- a) aminoaryl layer
- b) aminoaryl + MH SAM layers
- c) MH SAM

(B) Thiol core:

- a) aminoaryl layer
- b) aminoaryl + MH SAM layers
- c) MH SAM

Pita, M.; Gutierrez-Sanchez, C.; Olea, D.; Velez, M.; Garcia-Diego, C.; Shleev, S.; Fernandez, V.M.; De Lacey, A.L. J. Phys. Chem. C, 2011, 115, 13420-13428

Results on Gold-Dz Laccase electrodes

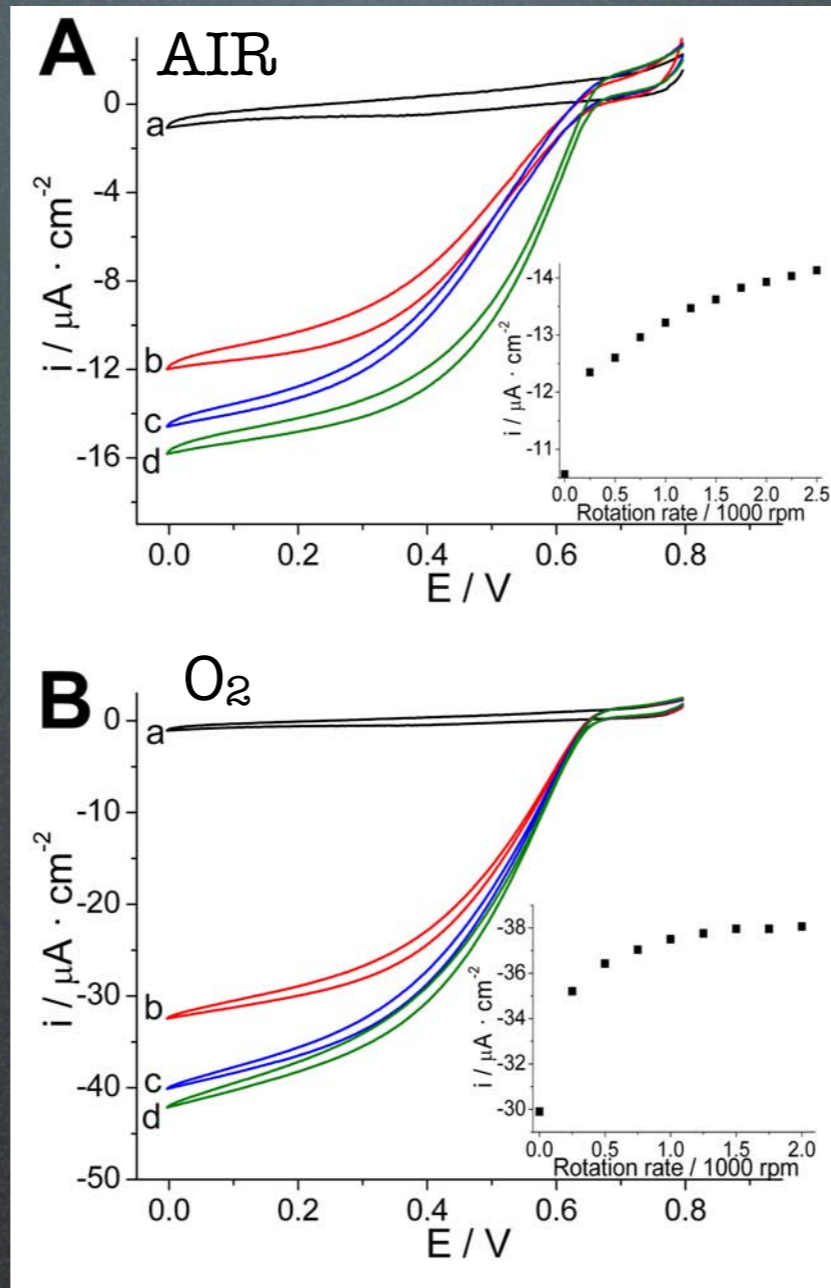


AFM: (a) bare gold (b) aminophenyl-MH gold (c) Laccase gold

Laccase electrode

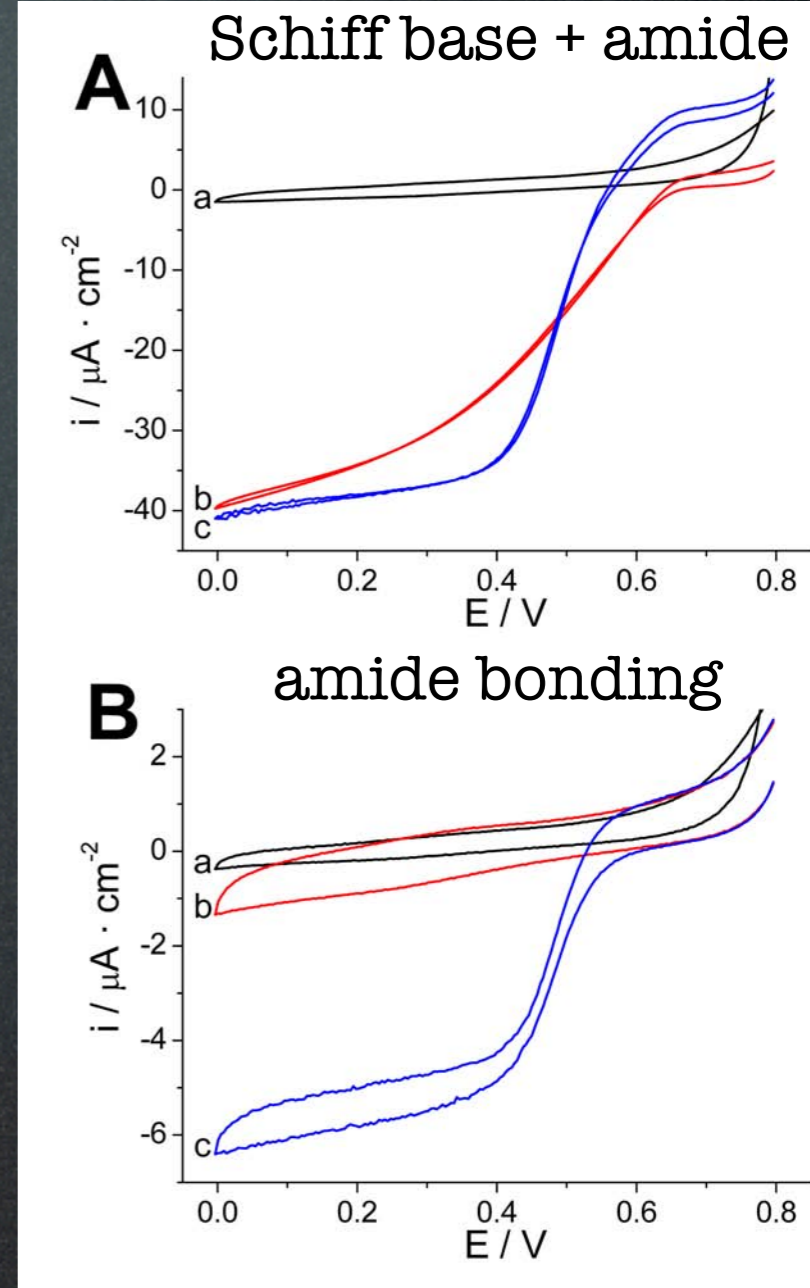
response vs. Ag/AgCl

(A) air, (B) Oxygen sat.
Increased rotation rates
are shown.

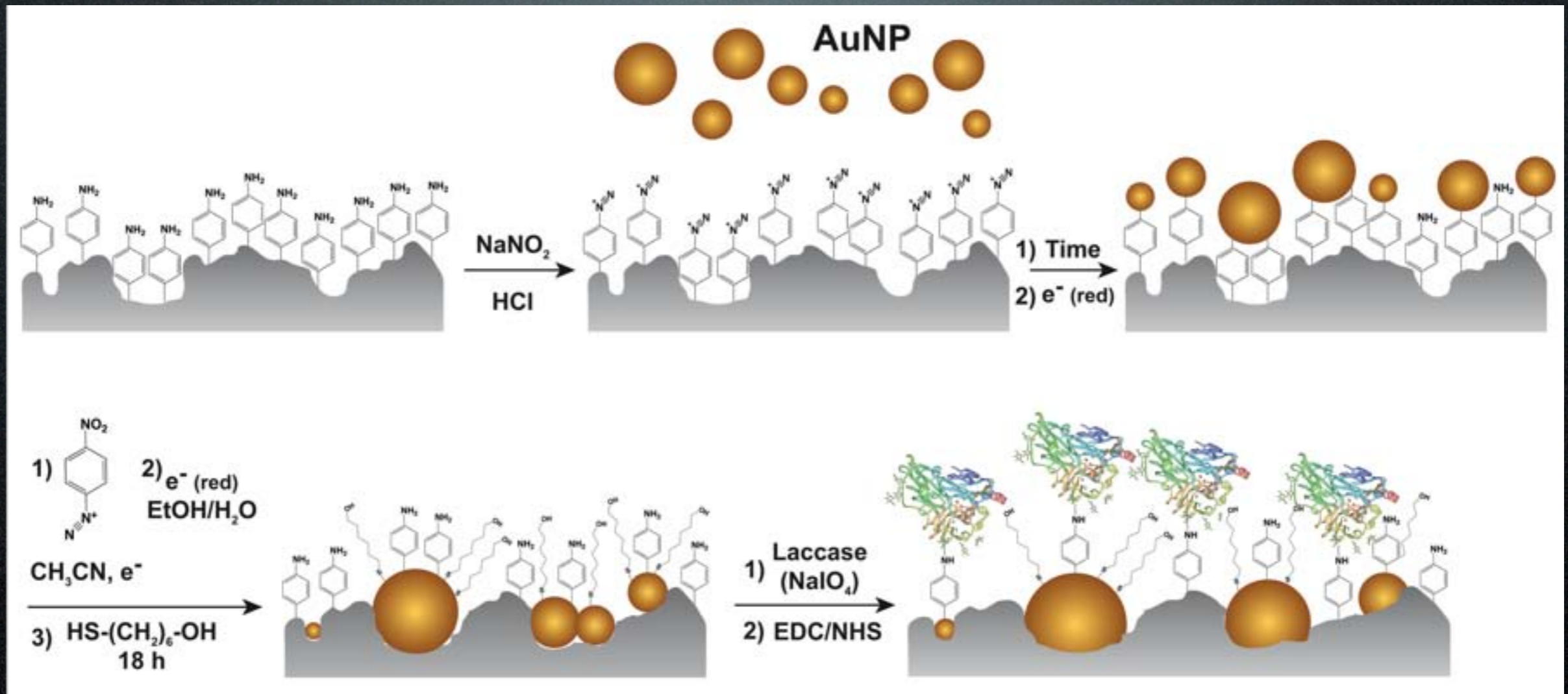


Laccase electrode **response vs.**

Ag/AgCl (A) MET (blue) vs DET (red) for 2-step laccase immobilization (B) MET and DET amide immobilization



AuNP-Graphite



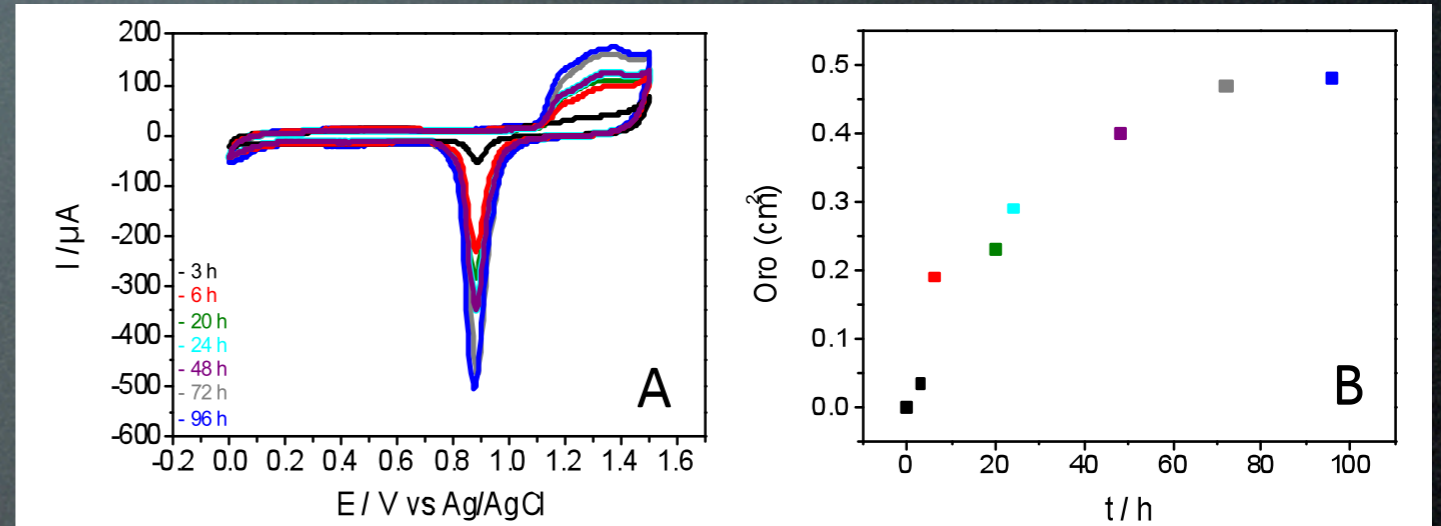
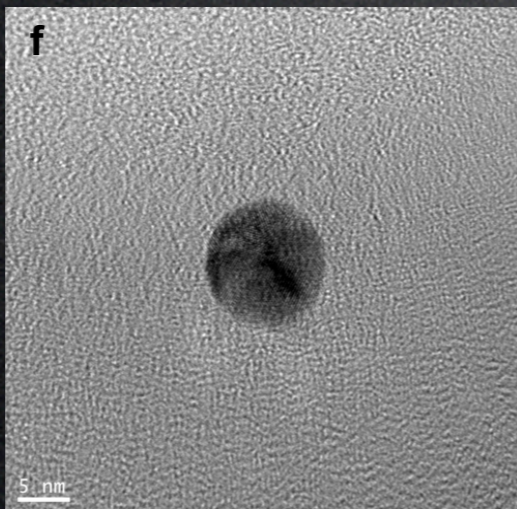
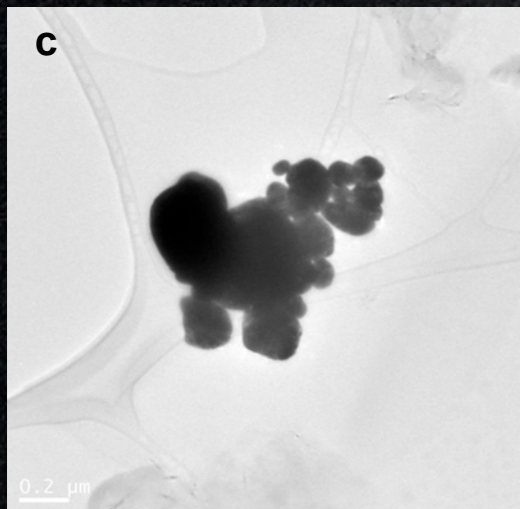
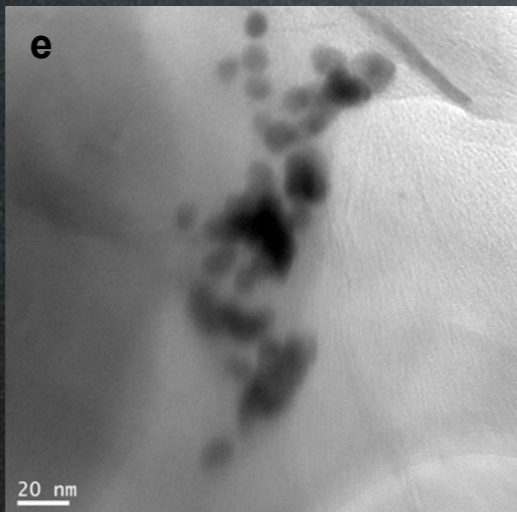
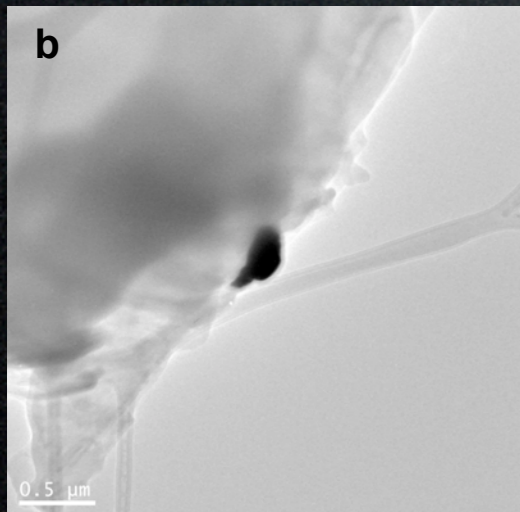
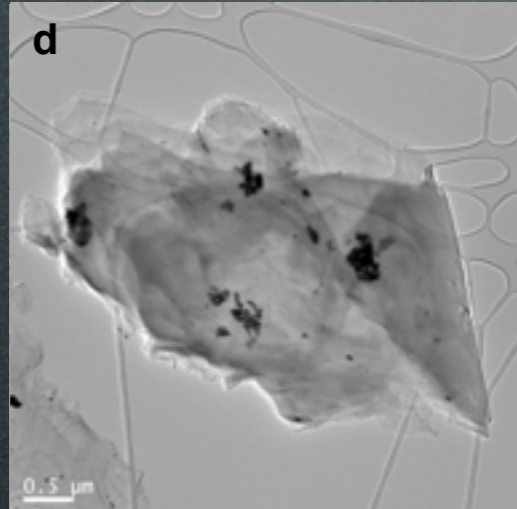
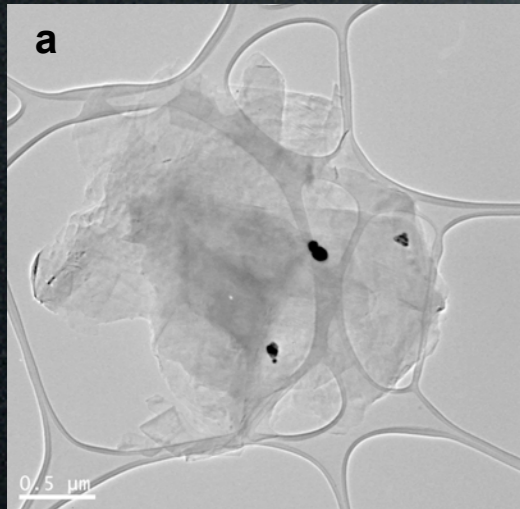
- Covalent attachment of AuNP to functionalized LDG electrodes.
- AuNP size, time of contact electrode-particle, further modification
- Enhance of electron transfer electrode-laccase

Gutierrez-Sanchez, C.; Pita, M.; Shleev, S.; De Lacey, A.L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2012, 134, 017212-17220.

Characterization of hybrid electrodes

Adsorbed
AuNP

Covalent
AuNP

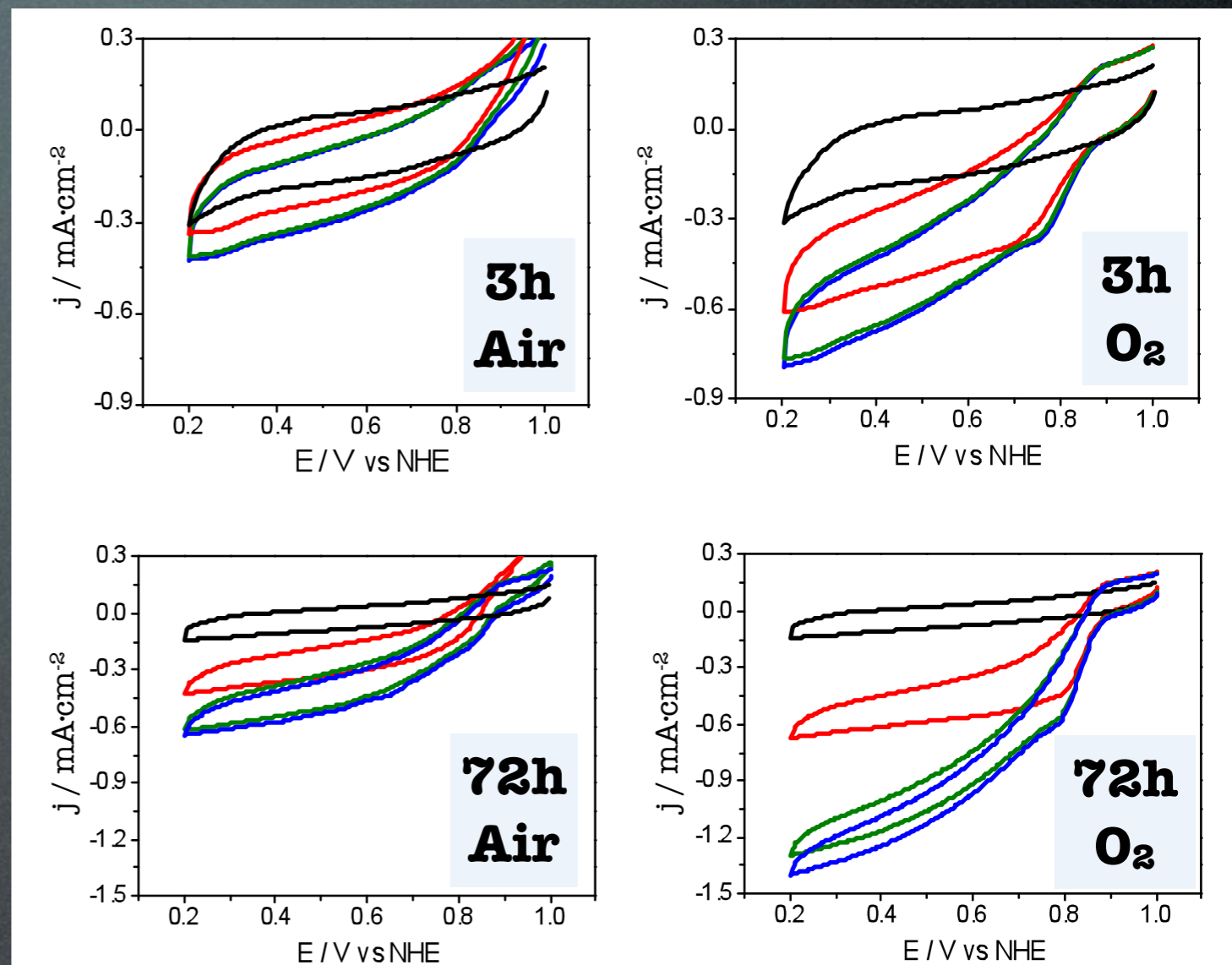


- CV of LDG-AuNP in H_2SO_4 gives Au electroreduction signal.
- Incubation time (3h - 3d) yields an increase of the amount of AuNP.
- Chips of LDG modified with AuNP were observed by TEM
 - More AuNP when covalently bonded
 - Lesser electro-alloy Au growth

Gutierrez-Sanchez, C.; Pita, M.; Shleev, S.; De Lacey, A.L. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 017212-17220.

Laccase-Au-LDG: AuNP deposition Time

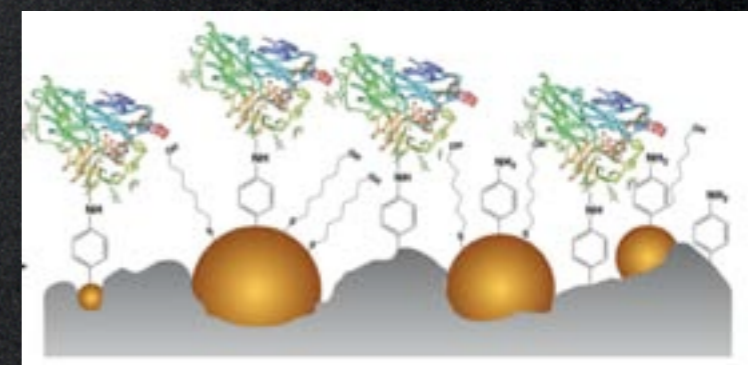
- Higher presence of AuNP yields higher current densities
- Optimal conditions: Two electrocatalytic processes are observed!!
- Sharp initial electroreduction which **does not appear in experiments without AuNP**
- second mass-transfer dependent process, mainly observed when rotating



Black: F⁻ (blank). **Red:** 0 rpm.
Green: 500 rpm. **Blue:** 1000 rpm

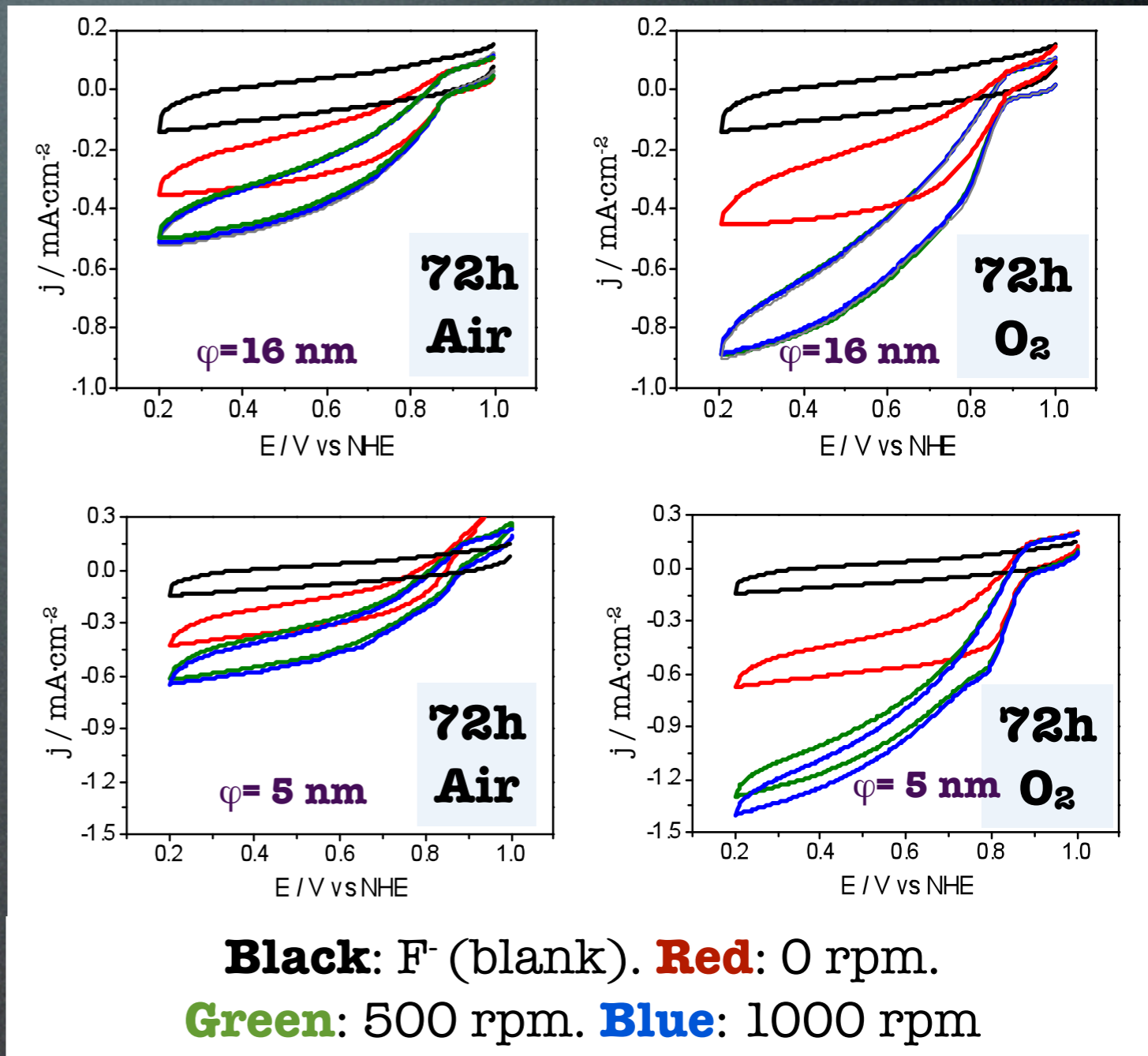
	3 hours	72 hours
0,8 V vs NHE	-(265±3) μA/cm ²	-(580±10) μA/cm ²
0,4 V vs NHE	-(500±10) μA/cm ²	-(1070±20) μA/cm ²

Gutierrez-Sanchez, C.; Pita, M.; Shleev, S.; De Lacey, A.L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2012, 134, 017212-17220.



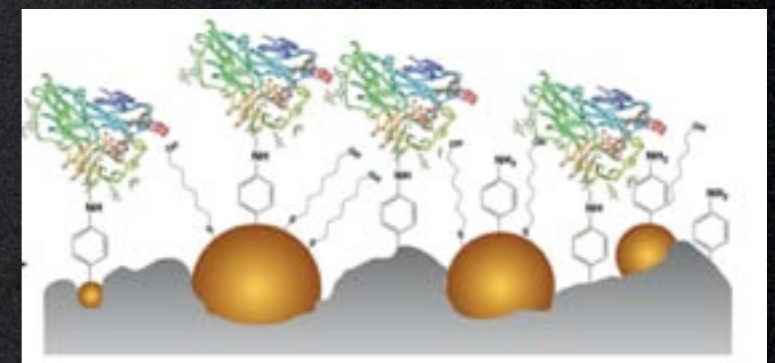
Laccase-Au-LDG: Size of nanoparticles

- Use of $\varphi=16$ nm AuNP does not enhance the electrode performance
- Match size with laccase (~ 5 nm³) gives slightly better connection: higher curvature.
- Smaller particles bring higher current at lower potential

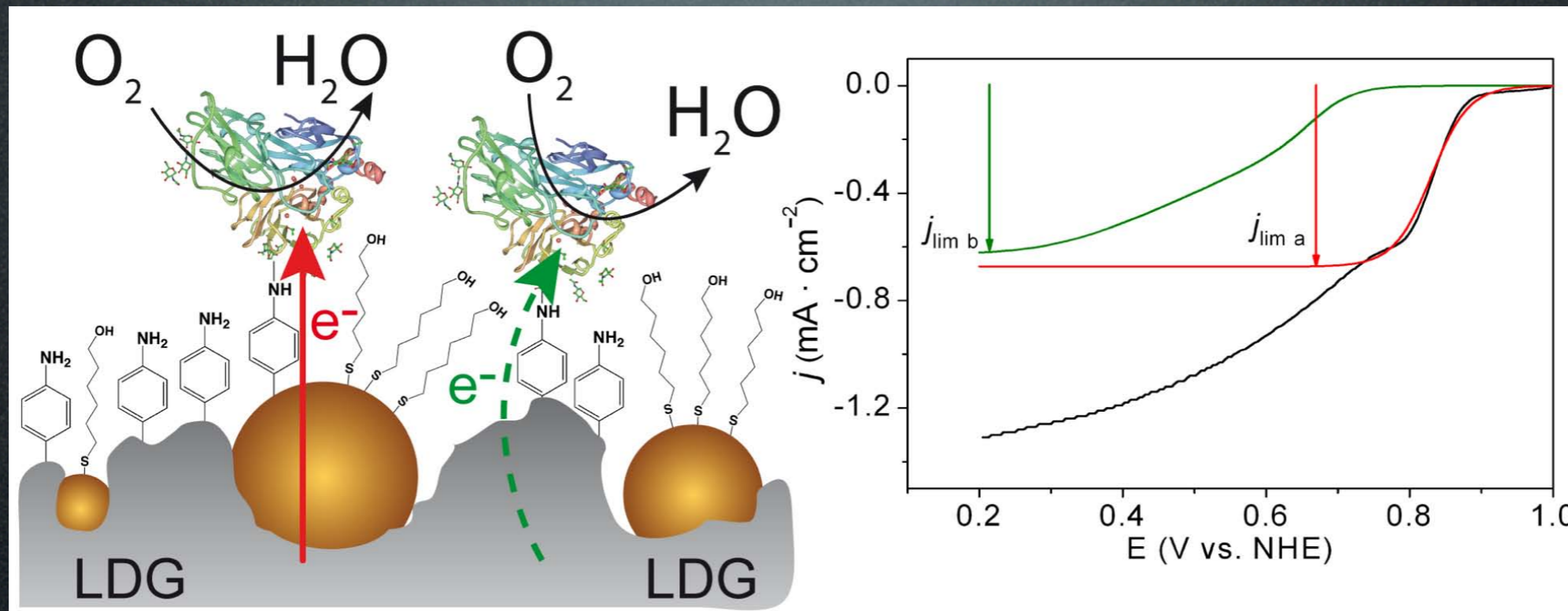


	72 h $\varphi=16$ nm	72 h $\varphi=5$ nm
0,8 V vs NHE	$-(360 \pm 10) \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$	$-(580 \pm 10) \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$
0,4 V vs NHE	$-(820 \pm 30) \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$	$-(1070 \pm 20) \mu\text{A}/\text{cm}^2$

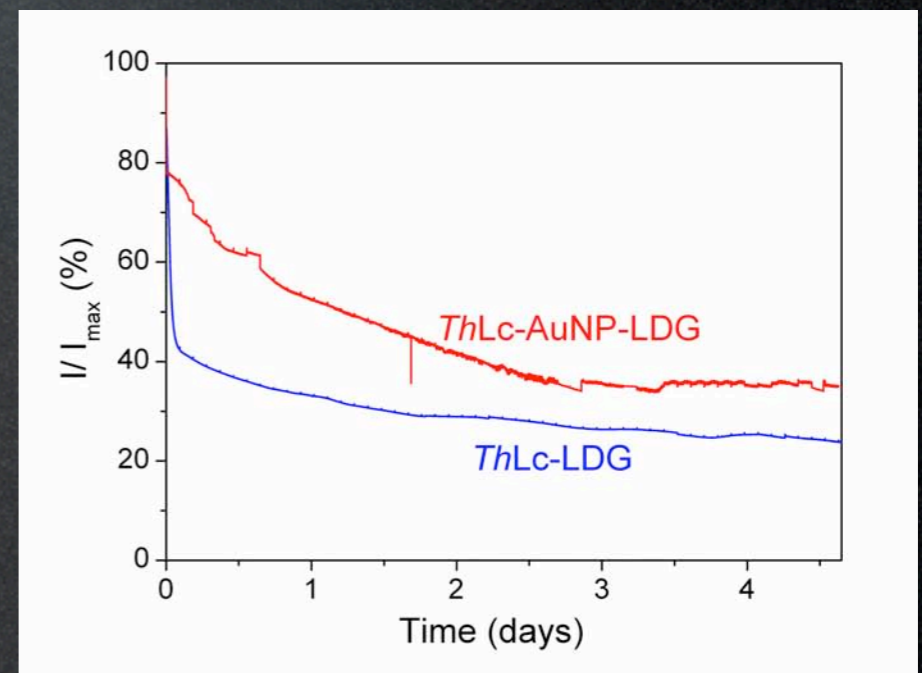
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Laccase-Au-LDG: Electronic bridges



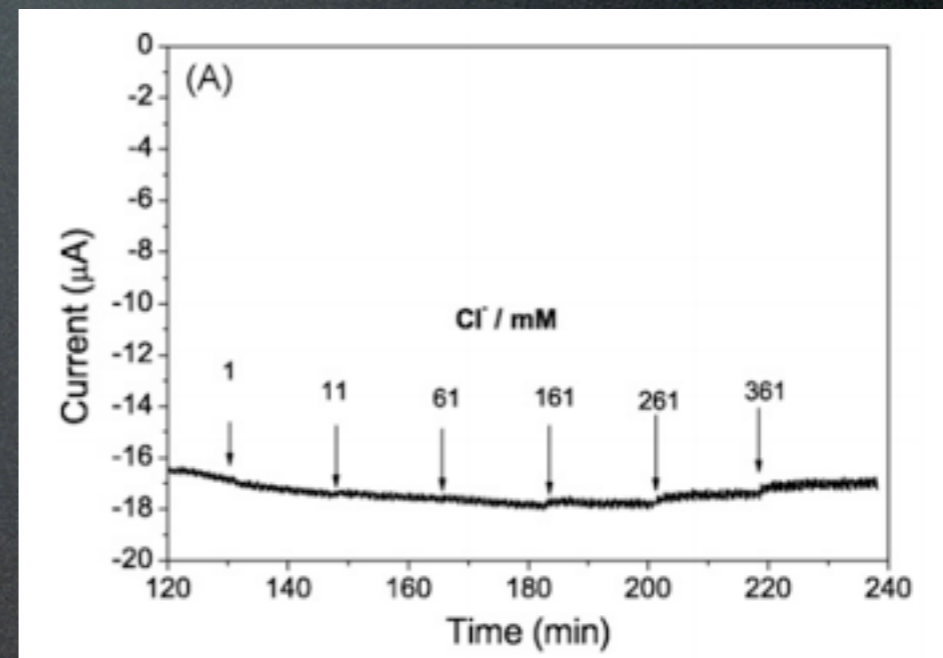
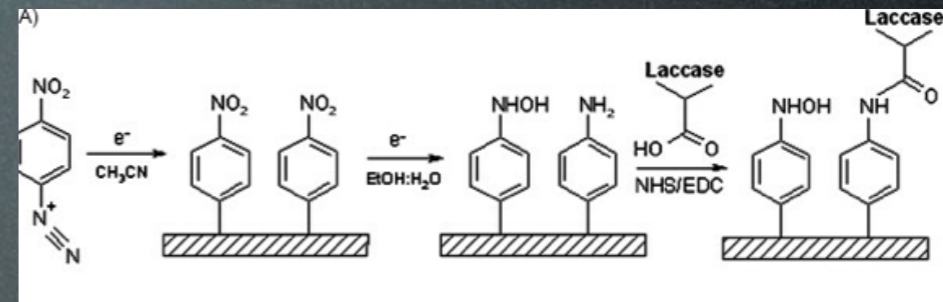
- Two electrochemical processes:
 - AuNP (5nm)-wired laccase: Nernstian process
 $E_a = 0.83V$ vs. NHE and $j_{lim a} = -0.697 \text{ mA} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$.
 - LDG-wired laccase: Leger-distribution process
 $E_b = -0.67V$ and $j_{lim b} = -0.628 \text{ mA} \cdot \text{cm}^{-2}$.
- Higher Operational stability than LDG-laccase



Gutierrez-Sanchez, C.; Pita, M.; Shleev, S.; De Lacey, A.L. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2012, 134, 017212-17220.

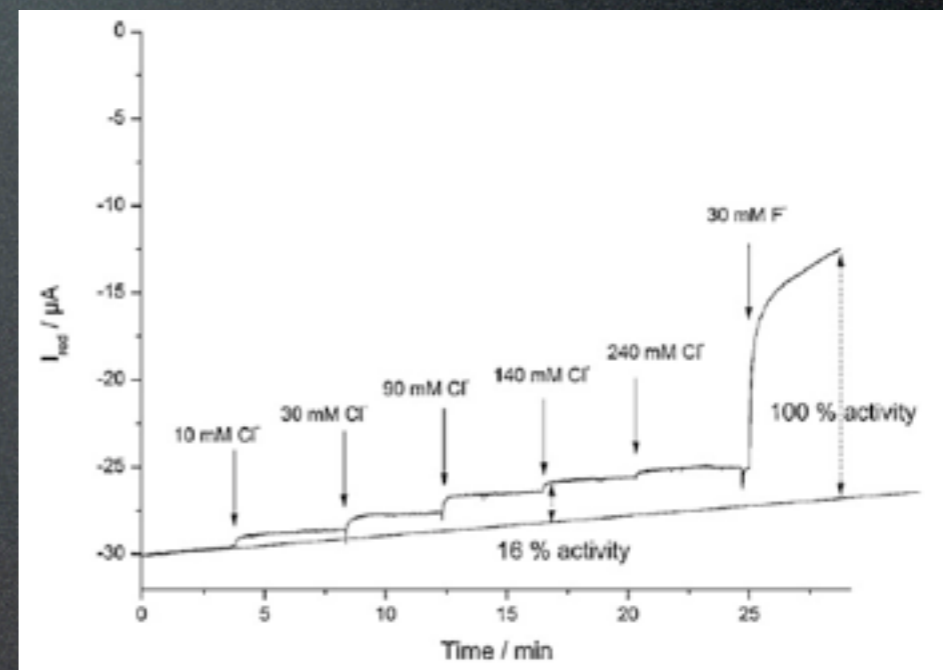
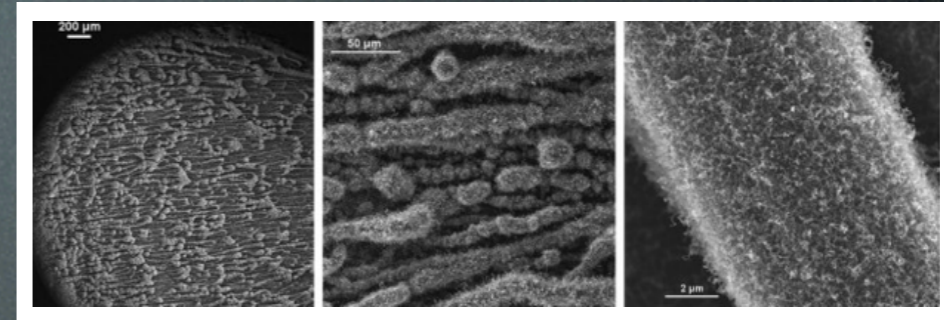
Chloride inhibition

- Chloride is a laccase inhibitor present in most biofluids, binding T1 site. Immobilization seeks to minimize this drawback.
- Chloride effect:
- **LDG amide**: negligible $[Cl^-] = 150 \text{ mM}$



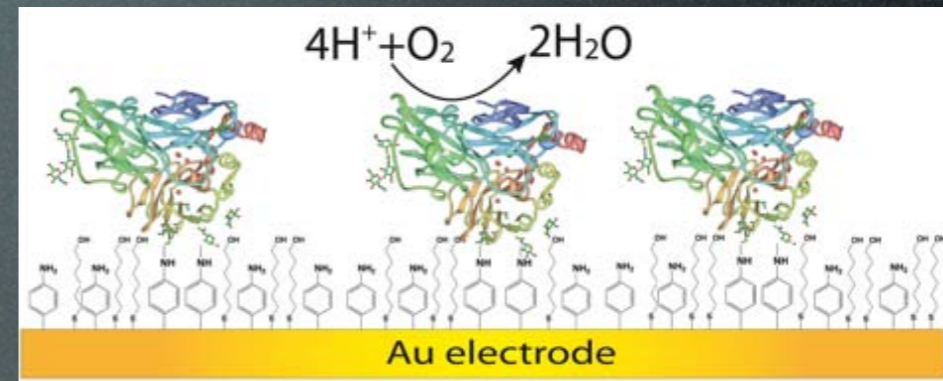
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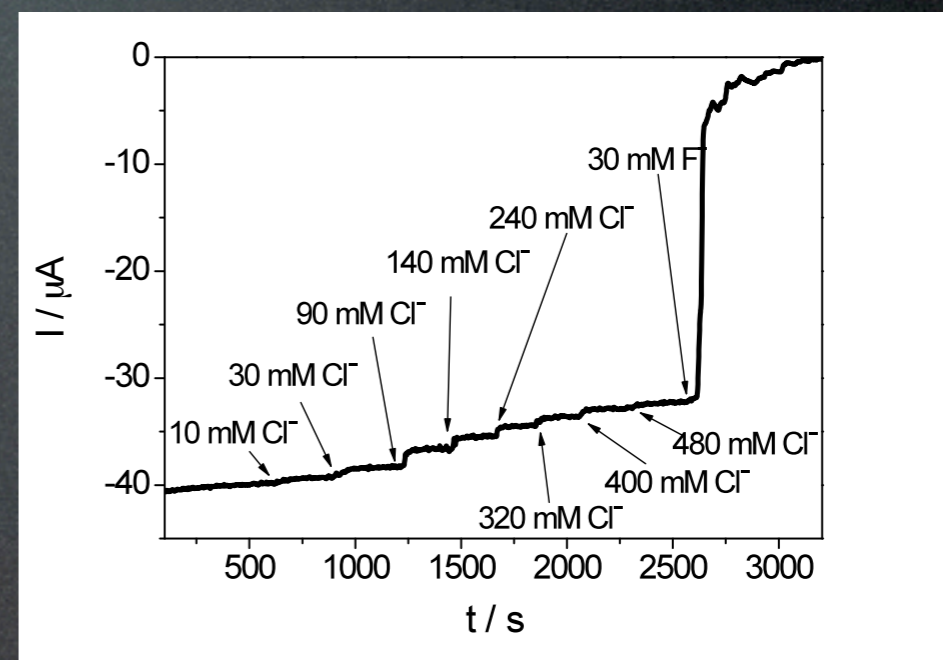
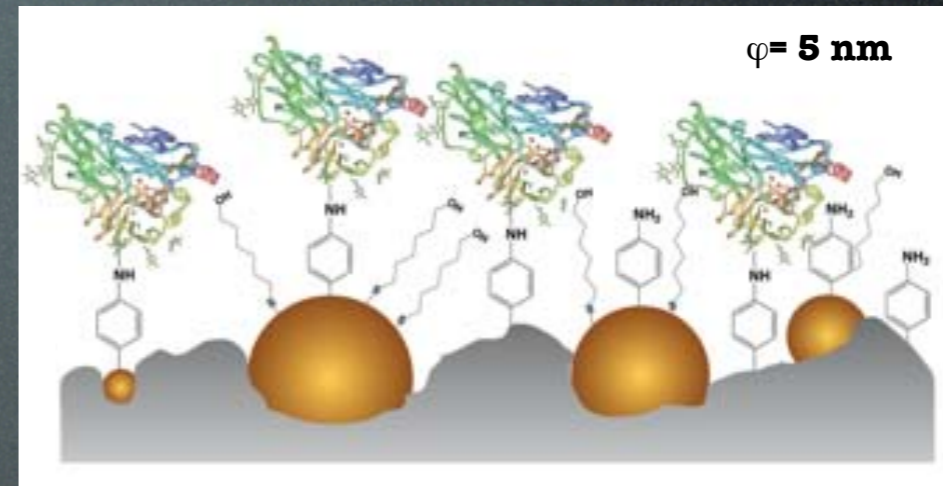
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- **Gold**: -58% $[Cl^-] = 28 \text{ mM}$



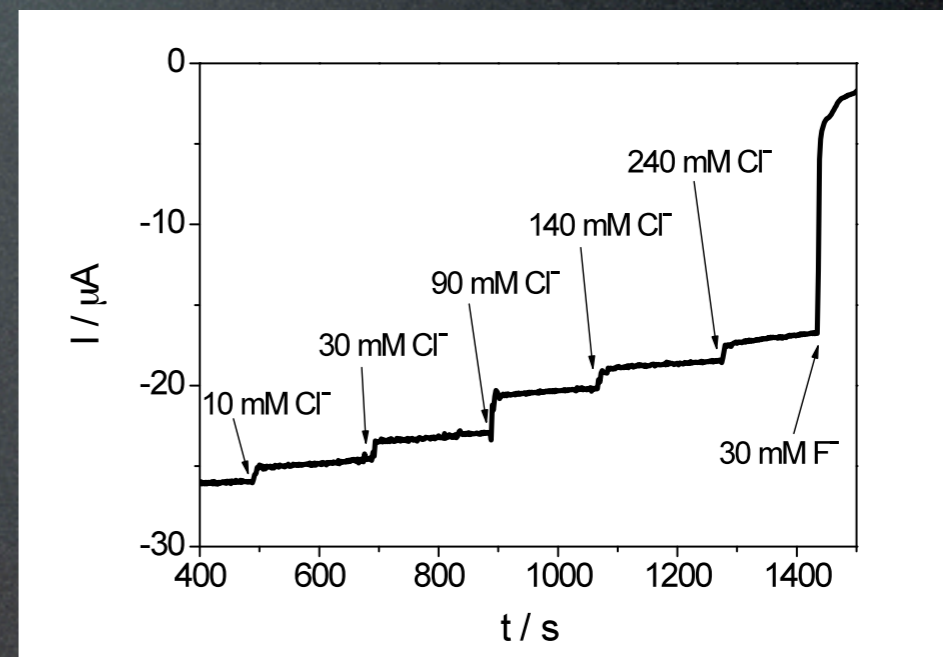
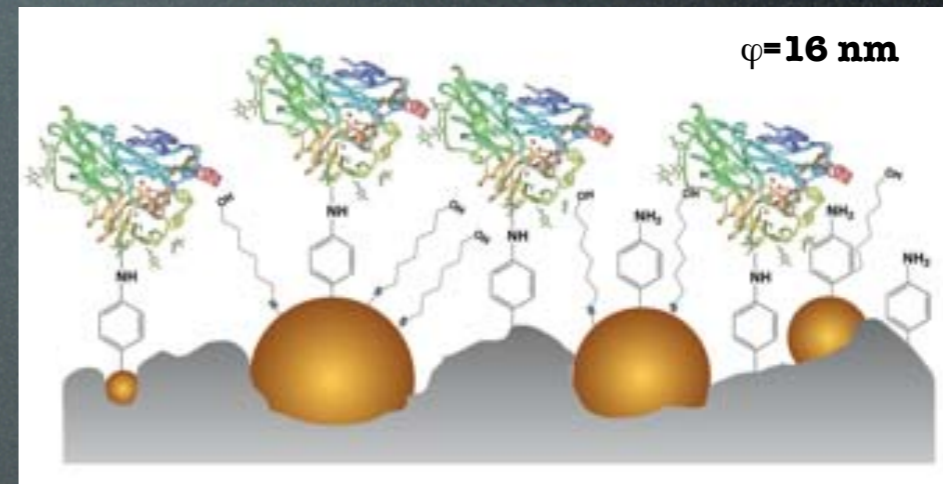
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- **LDG-AuNP 5 nm**: -16% $[Cl^-] = 140 \text{ mM}$
mM



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- **Gold**: -58% $[Cl^-] = 28 \text{ mM}$
- **LDG-AuNP 5 nm**: -16% $[Cl^-] = 140 \text{ mM}$
- **LDG-AuNP 16 nm**: -25% $[Cl^-] = 140 \text{ mM}$



Approach to physiological pH conditions

Single compartment biofuel cell with cellobiose dehydrogenase and laccase

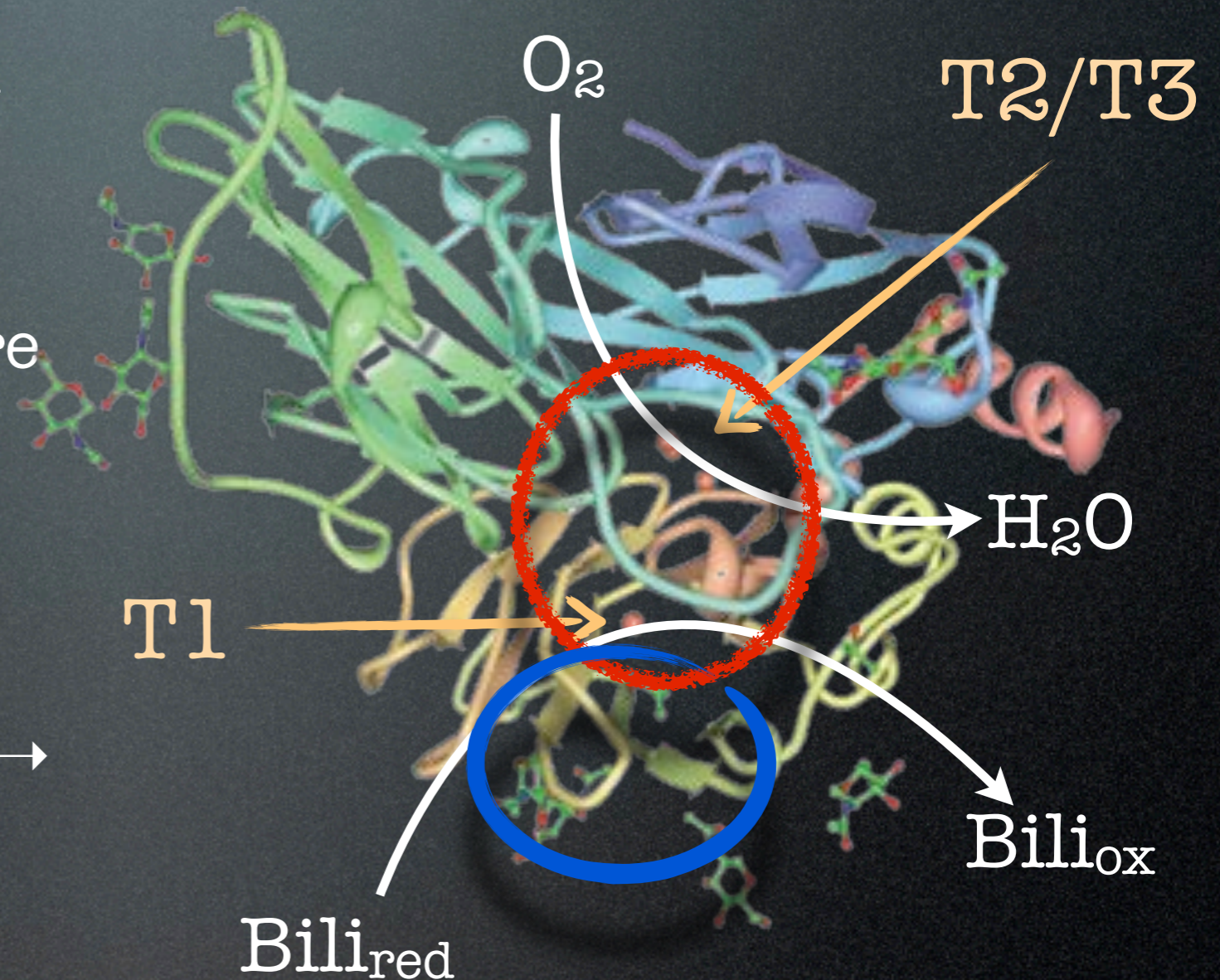
- Laccase optimal working pH is acidic: activity at neutral pH is negligible.
- Implantable biofuel cell would need for activity at neutral pH, may be possible to increase the laccase activity?



1. Evolution of Laccase toward better performance (biologic approach)
2. Transform Local Environment
3. Different catalyst (BOx)

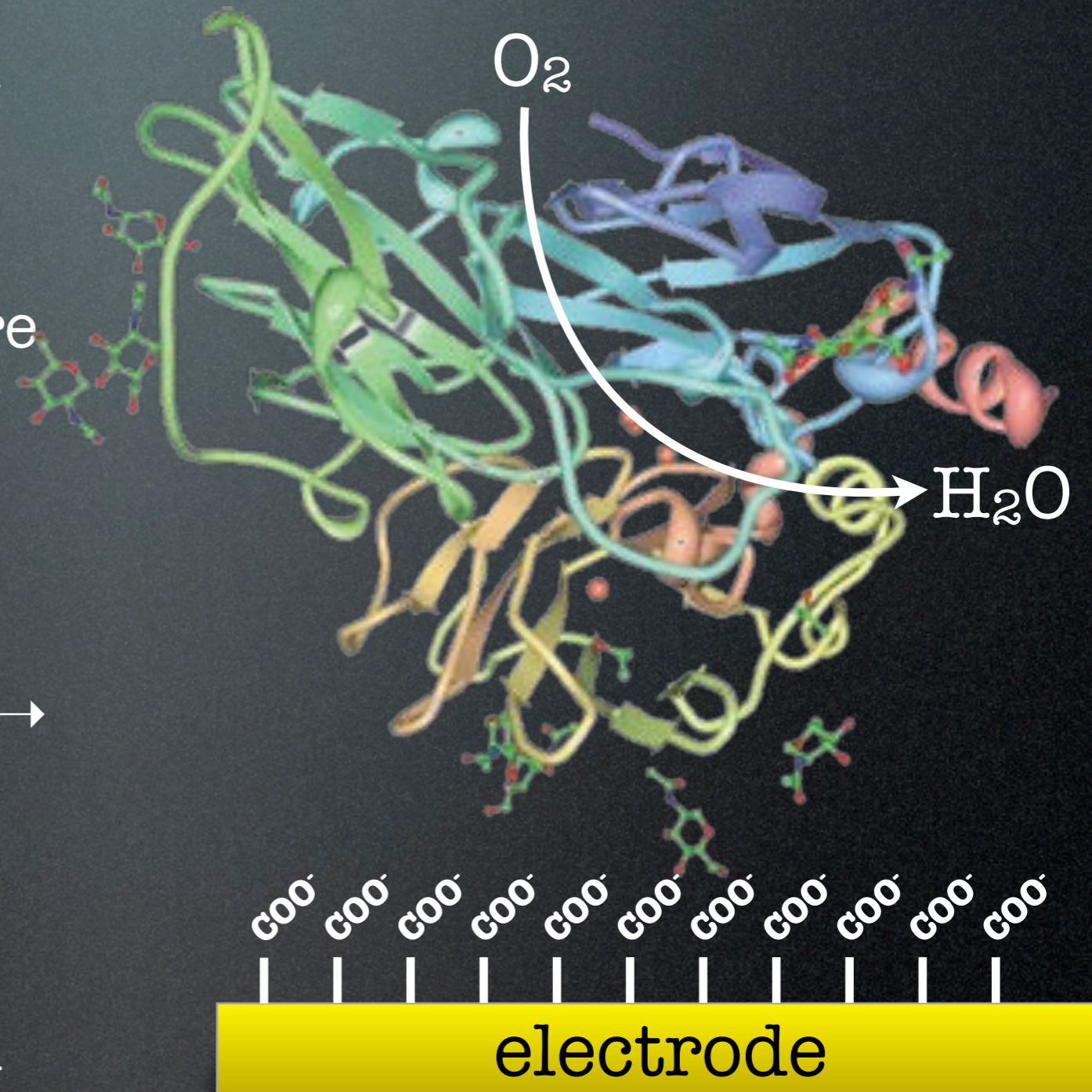
Bilirubin Oxidase (BOx)

- Multicopper oxidase with T1 and T2/T3 active site (\approx Laccase).
- Different coordination sphere for the Cu sites:
 - Enhance Cl⁻ resistance
 - Lowers T1 redox potential
- Natural substrate: bilirubin \rightarrow Changes in T1 access channel.

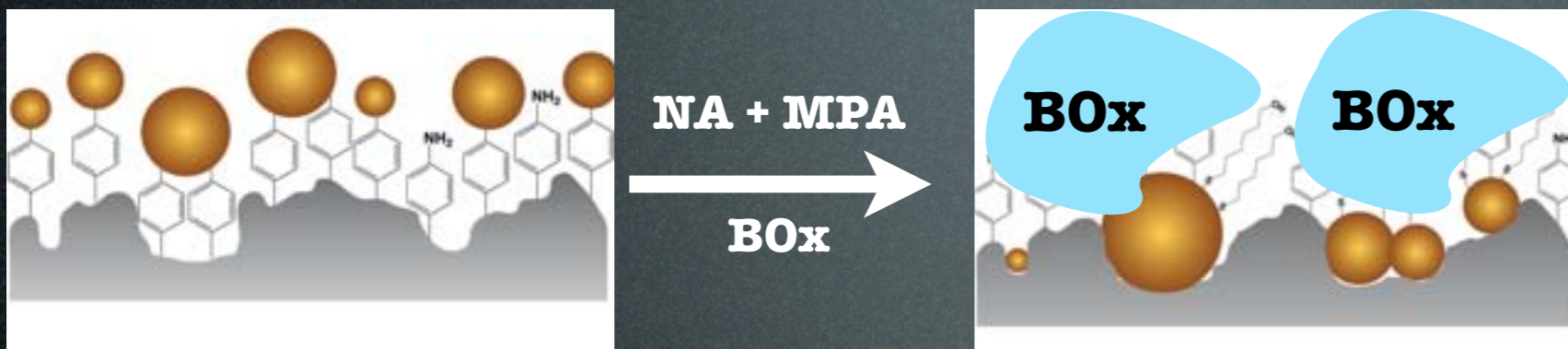


Bilirubin Oxidase (BOx)

- Multicopper oxidase with T1 and T2/T3 active site (\approx Laccase).
- Different coordination sphere for the Cu sites:
 - Enhance Cl⁻ resistance
 - Lowers T1 redox potential
- Natural substrate: bilirubin \rightarrow Changes in T1 access channel.
- Different immobilization strategy: negatively charged electroactive surface.



BOx biocathode



- LDG electrode loaded with AuNP.
- Mixed monolayer: (1) diazotation of 6-amino-2-naphthoic acid (2) mercaptopropionic acid.
- Oriented BOx performs in phosphate and serum-mimic buffer.
- Potential given: 200 mV lower than laccase.

Gutierrez-Sanchez, C.; Pita, M.; Toscano, M.D.; De Lacey, A.L. *Electroanalysis* 2013, 25 (6), 1359-1362.

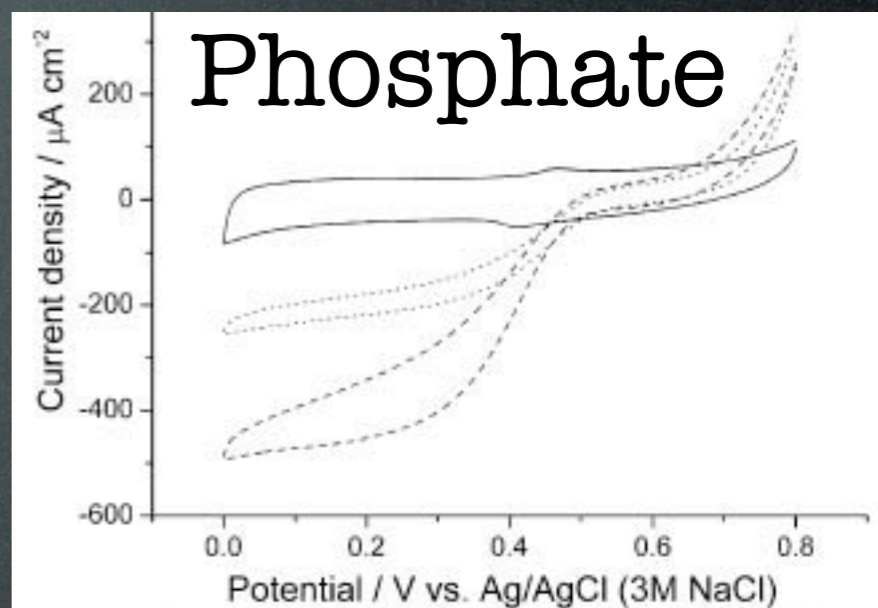


Fig. 2. Cyclic voltammograms of a BOx-AuNP-LDG electrode in phosphate buffer 100 mM, pH 7.4 at 10 mV s^{-1} scan rate and 500 rpm: under air (dotted line); 1 atm of O_2 (dashed line); background signal after inhibition with 30 mM NaF (solid line).

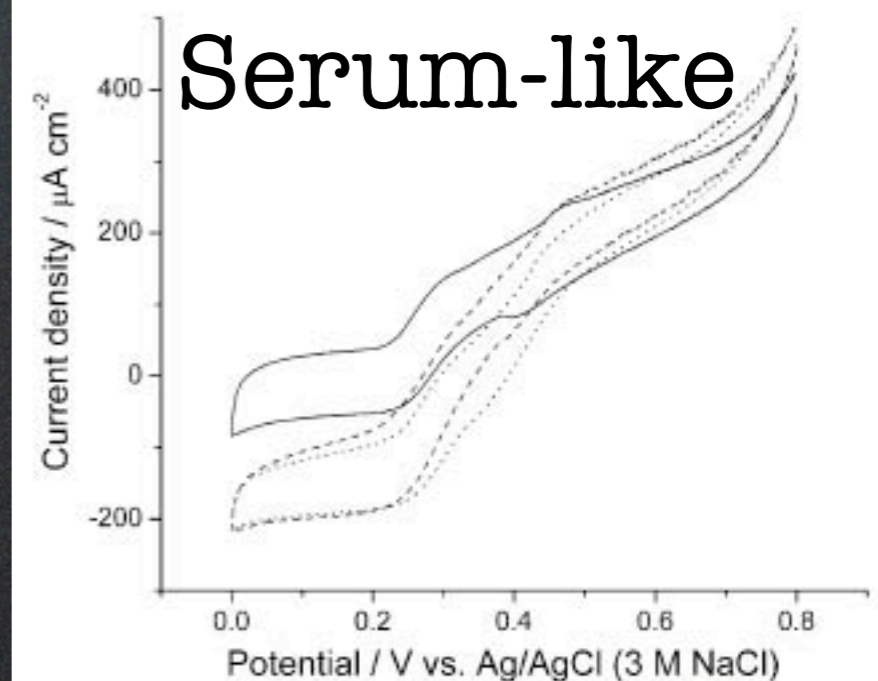
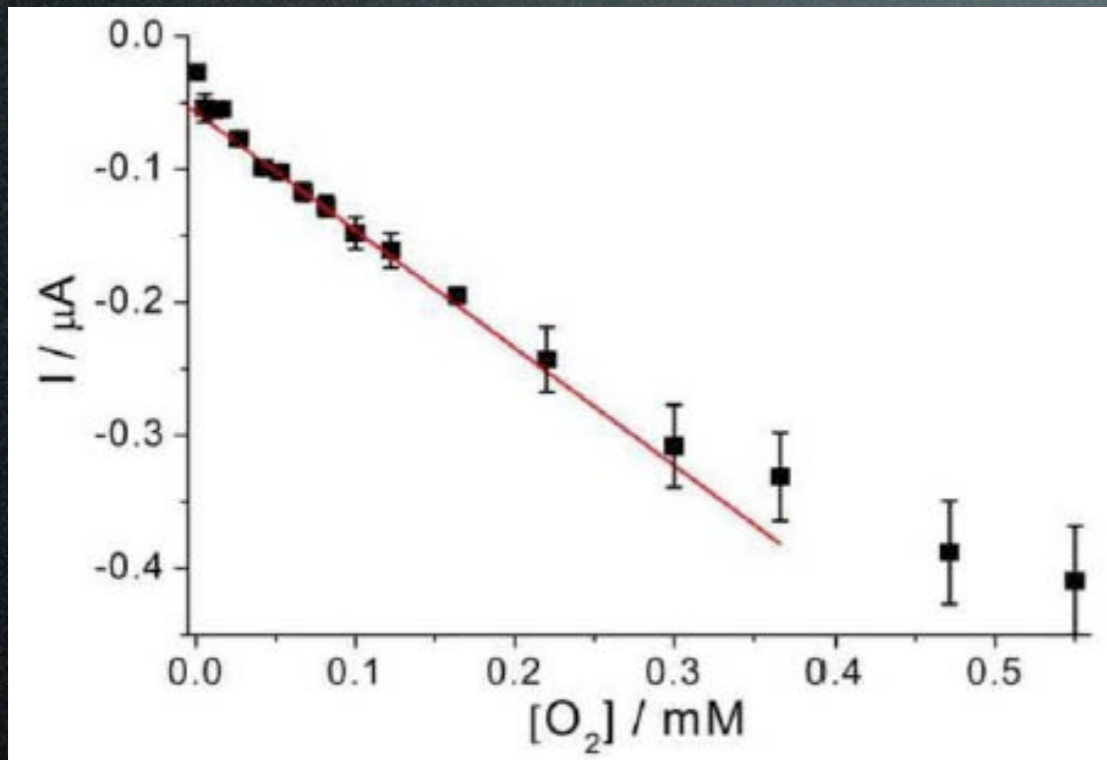


Fig. 3. Cyclic voltammograms of a BOx-AuNP-LDG electrode in serum mimic buffer at 10 mV s^{-1} scan rate and 500 rpm electrode rotation: under air (dotted line); 1 atm of O_2 (dashed line); background signal after inhibition with 30 mM NaF (solid line).

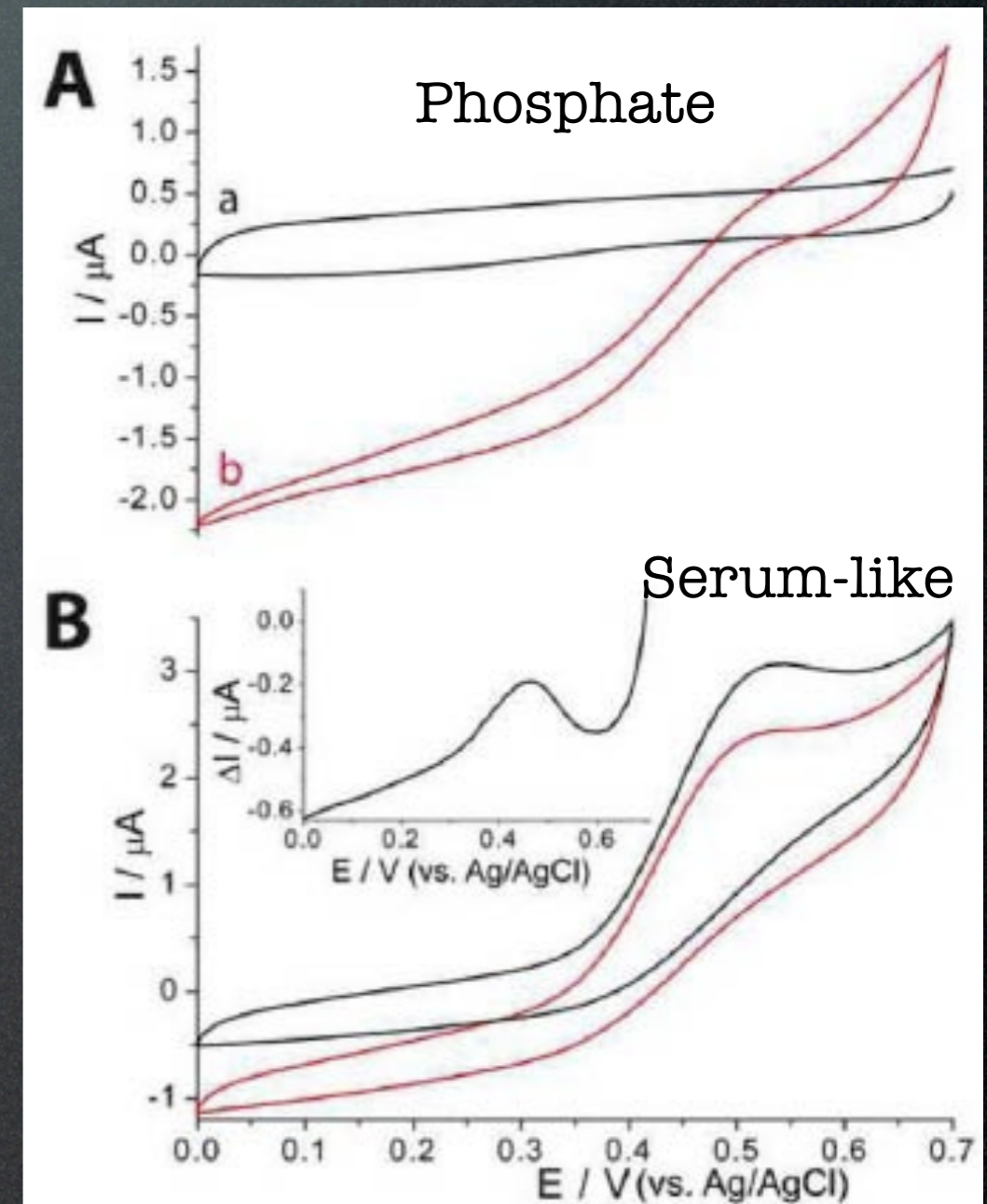
BOx biosensor



$$I \text{ (mA)} = -0.054 - (0.9 \pm 0.1) [\text{O}_2] \text{ (mM)}$$

- Au electrode enhanced with AuNP.
- Mixed monolayer: (1) diazotation of 6-amino-2-naphthoic acid (2) mercaptopropionic acid.
- Oriented BOx performs in phosphate and serum-mimic buffer.
- Measure O₂ at +100 mV vs. Ag/AgCl from 6 to 300 μM

Pita, M; Gutierrez-Sanchez, C.; Toscano, M.D.; Shleev, S.; De Lacey, A.L. Bioelectrochemistry 2013, in press.



Approach to physiological pH conditions

Single compartment biofuel cell with cellobiose dehydrogenase and laccase

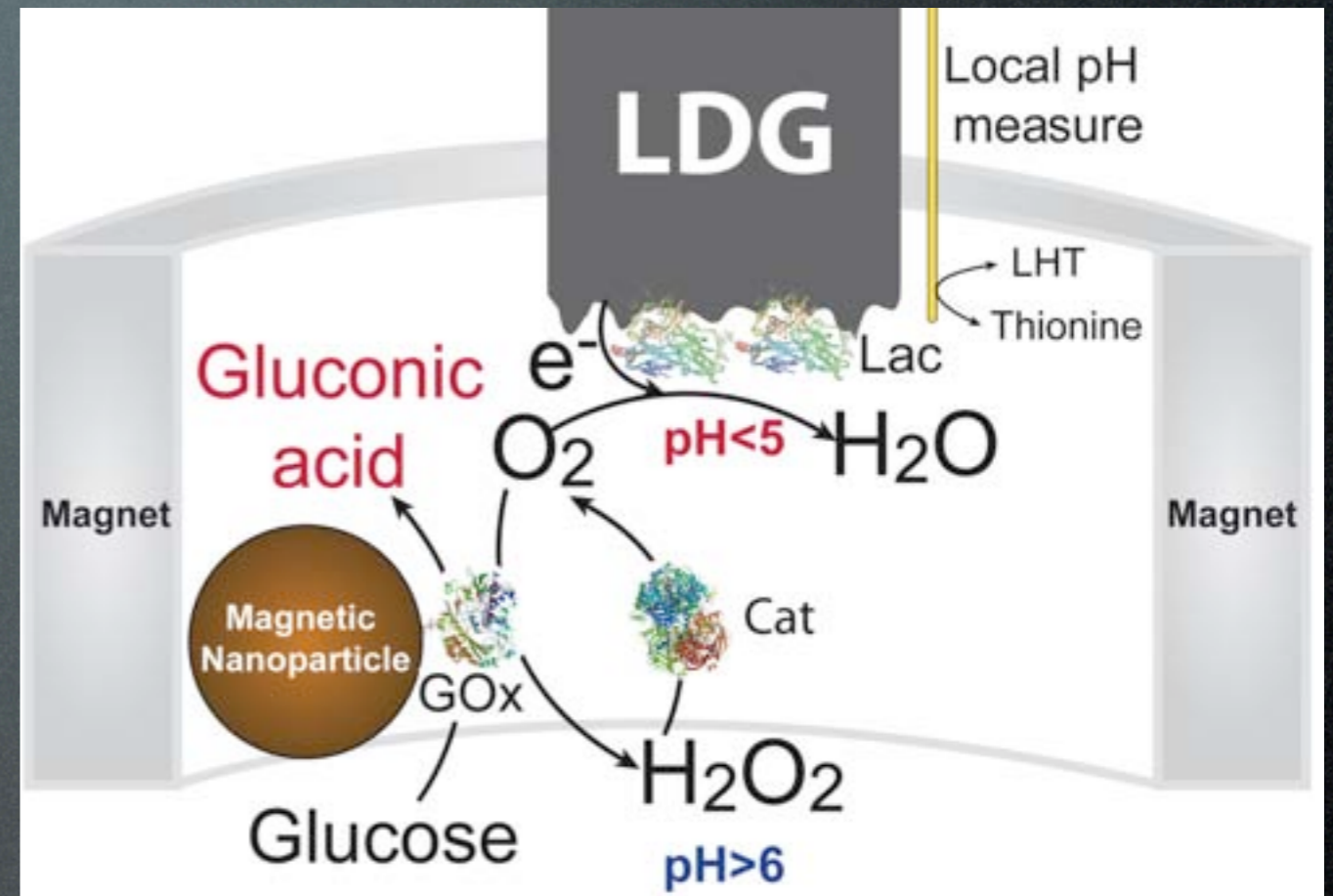
- Laccase optimal working pH is acidic: activity at neutral pH is negligible.
- Implantable biofuel cell would need for activity at neutral pH, may be possible to increase the laccase activity?



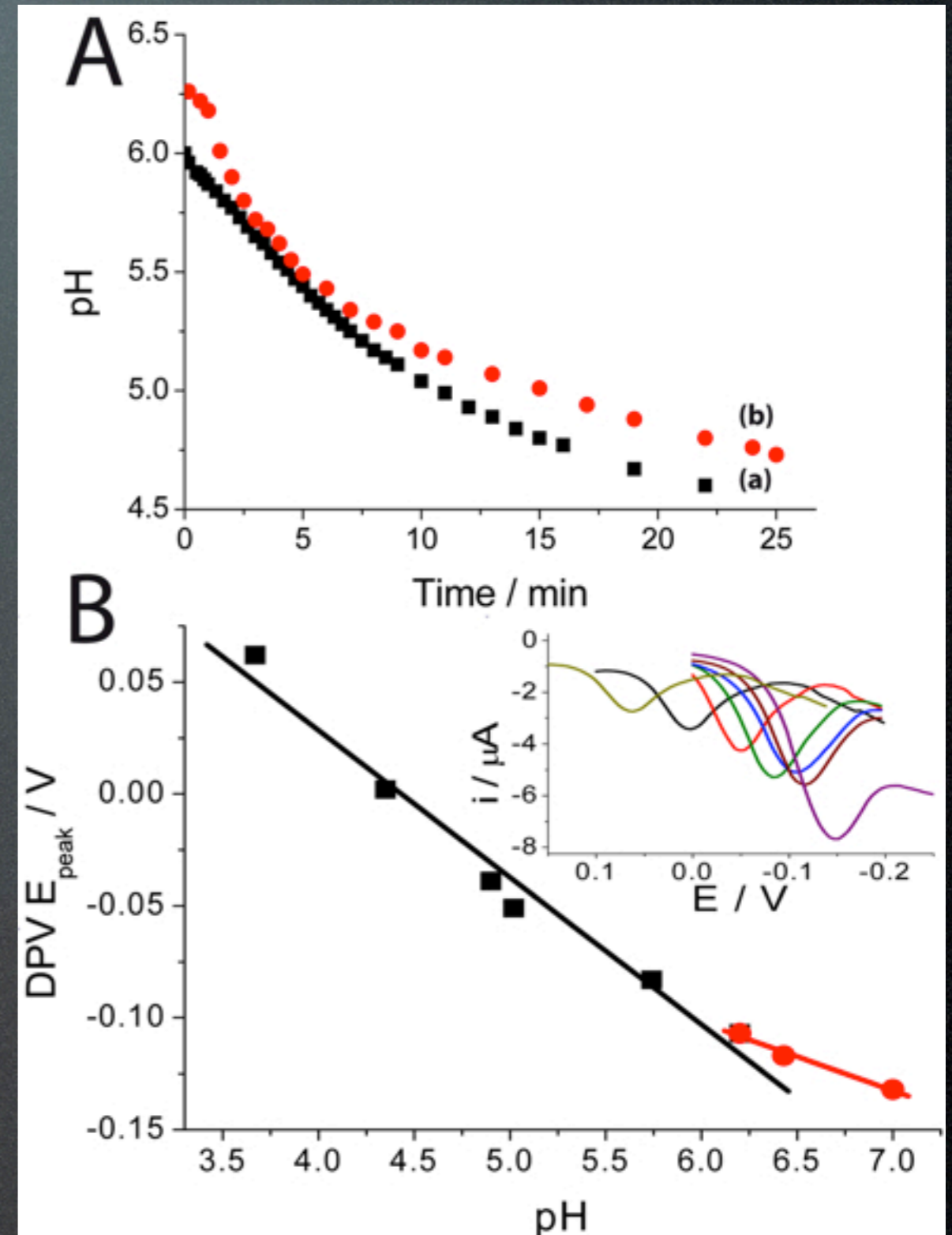
1. Evolution of Laccase toward better performance (biologic approach)
2. Transform Local Environment
3. Different catalyst (BOx)

Local pH acidification

- Generate in the electrode surround a local pH more acid than bulk pH
- Collect magnetic nanoparticles loaded with GOx in the electrode with a magnet: produce gluconic acid only close to the electrode.
- Competition for O_2 : add catalase
- Local pH measured with thionin (pH-sensitive probe) and a separated gold electrode



System characterization and results



(A) Δ pH vs. t. (a) G0x in solution. (b) attached to magnetic nanoparticles.

(B) Titration of thionin vs. pH. Thionin starts to deprotonate at pH > 6, thus responding to two different straight lines. Inset: DPV measures for the titration.