

# Topic 3 Proteins as Drug Targets

Enzymes-Chapter 3, 4 Patrick and  
Part I Corey

## Enzymes as Targets

Structure and function of enzymes

- The active site

- Substrate binding

  - Induced fit

  - Bonding forces

Catalysis mechanisms

- Acid/base catalysis

- Nucleophilic residues

Overall process of enzyme catalysis

Competitive (reversible) inhibitors

Non competitive (irreversible) inhibitors

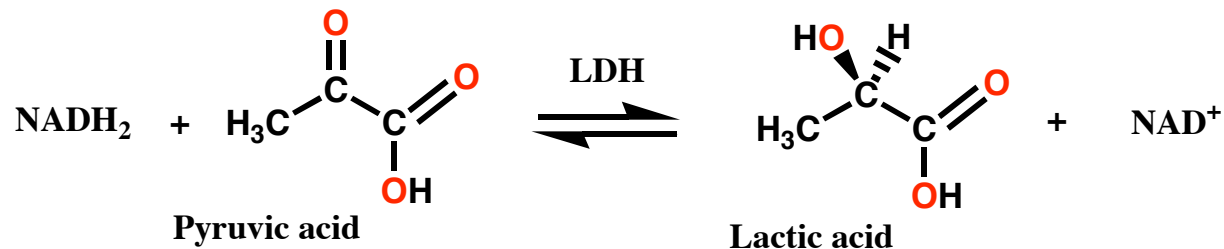
Non competitive (reversible) allosteric inhibitors

Example: NSAIDs for inflammation

# Structure and function of enzymes

- **Globular proteins acting as the body's catalysts**
- **Speed up time for reaction to reach equilibrium**
- **Lower the activation energy of a reaction**

## Example:



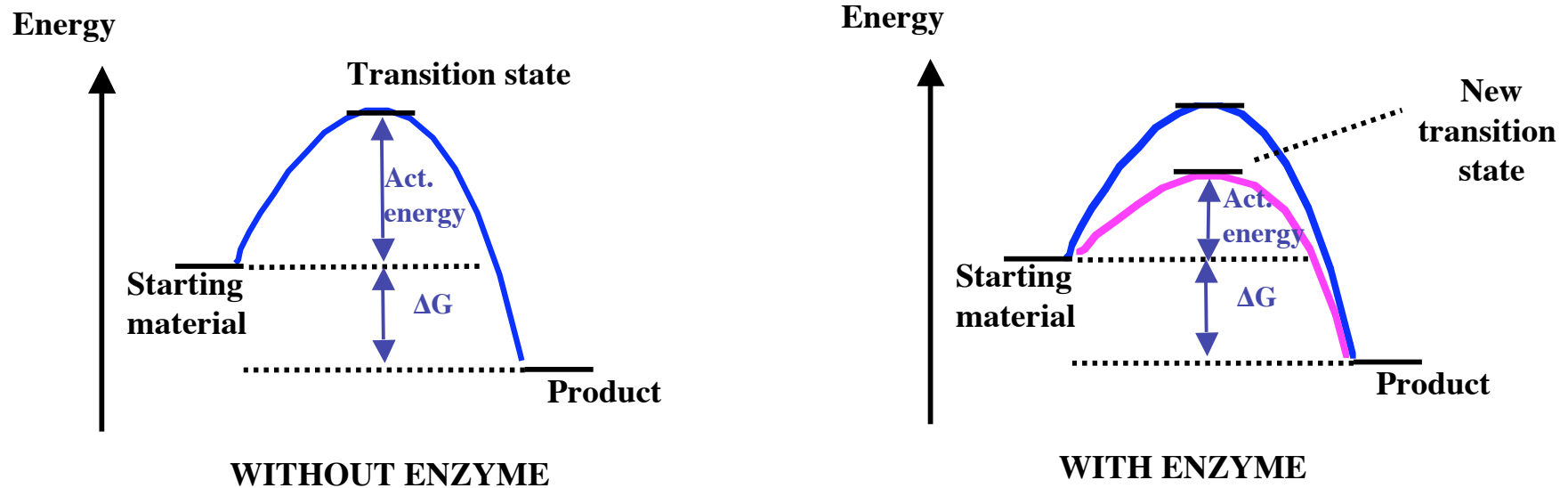
**LDH = Lactate dehydrogenase (enzyme)**

**NADH<sub>2</sub> = Nicotinamide adenosine dinucleotide (reducing agent & cofactor)**

**Pyruvic acid = Substrate**

# 1. Structure and function of enzymes

## Lowering the activation energy of reaction



- Enzymes lower the activation energy of a reaction but  $\Delta G$  remains the same

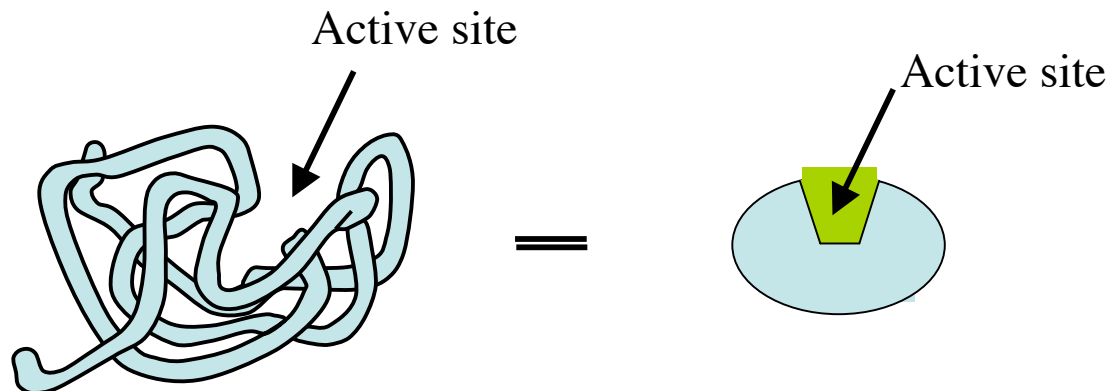
# 1 Structure and function of enzymes

## Methods of enzyme catalysis

- **Provide a reaction surface (the active site)**
- **Provide a suitable environment (hydrophobic)**
- **Bring reactants together**
- **Position reactants correctly for reaction**
- **Weaken bonds in the reactants (transition state)**
- **Provide acid / base catalysis**
- **Provide nucleophiles**

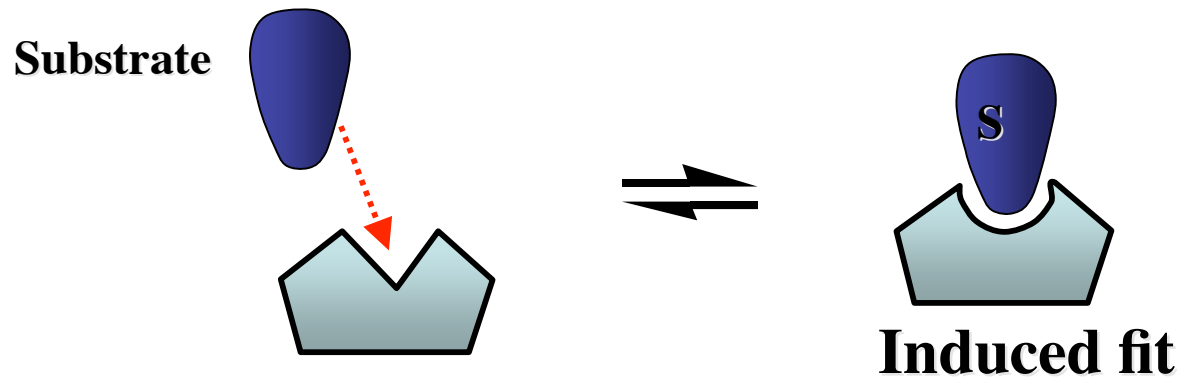
# The active site

- **Hydrophobic hollow or cleft on the enzyme surface**
- **Accepts reactants (substrates and cofactors)**
- **Contains amino acids which**
  - **bind reactants (substrates and cofactors)**
  - **catalyse the reaction**



# Substrate binding

## Induced fit



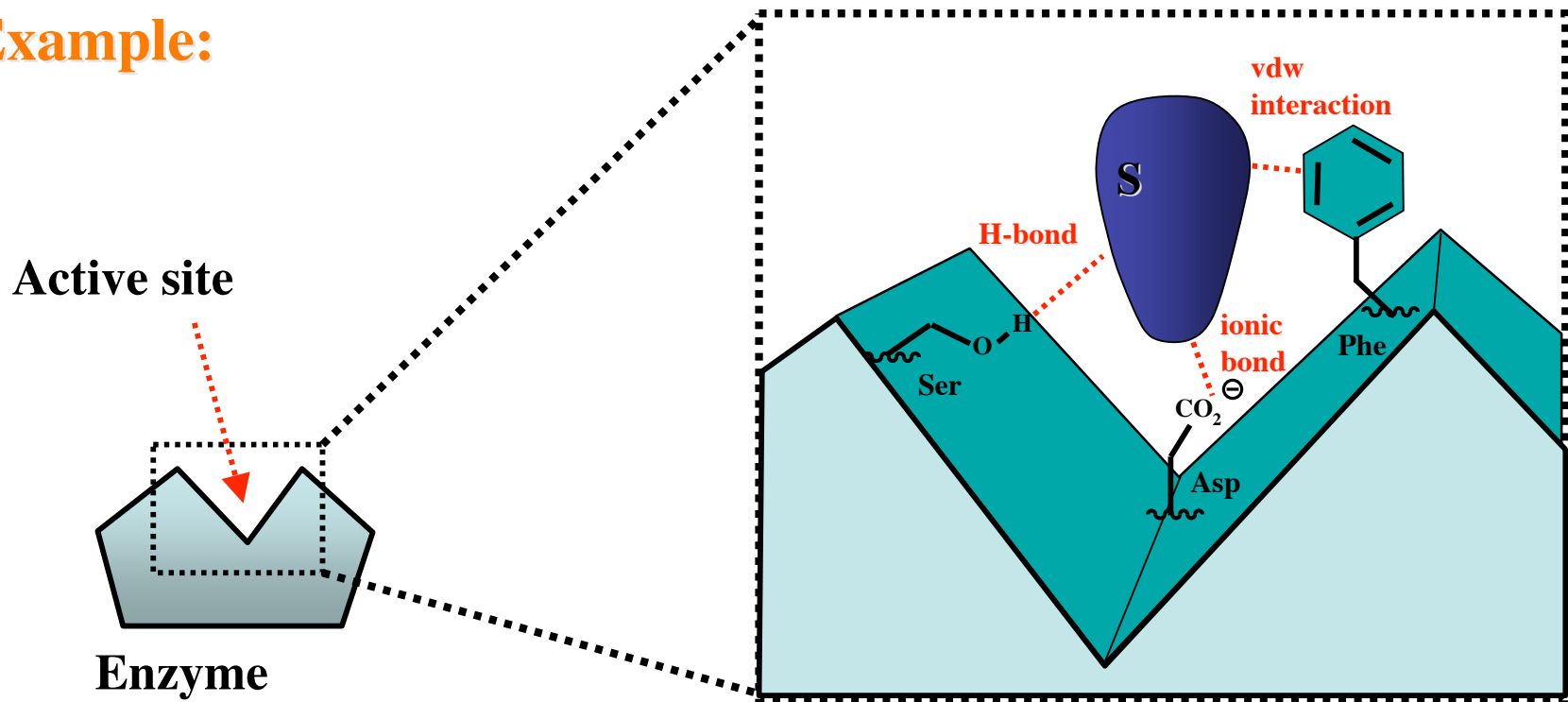
- **Active site is nearly the correct shape for the substrate**
- **Binding alters the shape of the enzyme (induced fit)**
- **Binding will strain bonds in the substrate**
- **Binding involves intermolecular bonds between functional groups in the substrate and functional groups in the active site**

# Substrate binding

## Bonding forces

- Ionic
- H-bonding
- van der Waals

## Example:



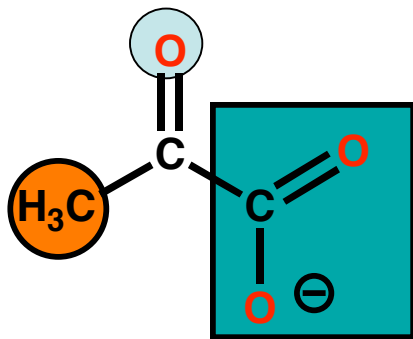


# Substrate binding

## Bonding forces

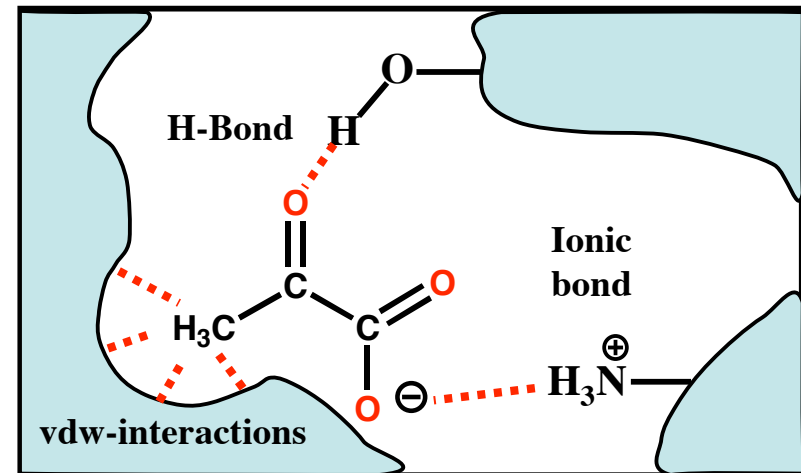
- Ionic
- H-bonding
- van der Waals

## Example: Binding of pyruvic acid in LDH



Possible interactions

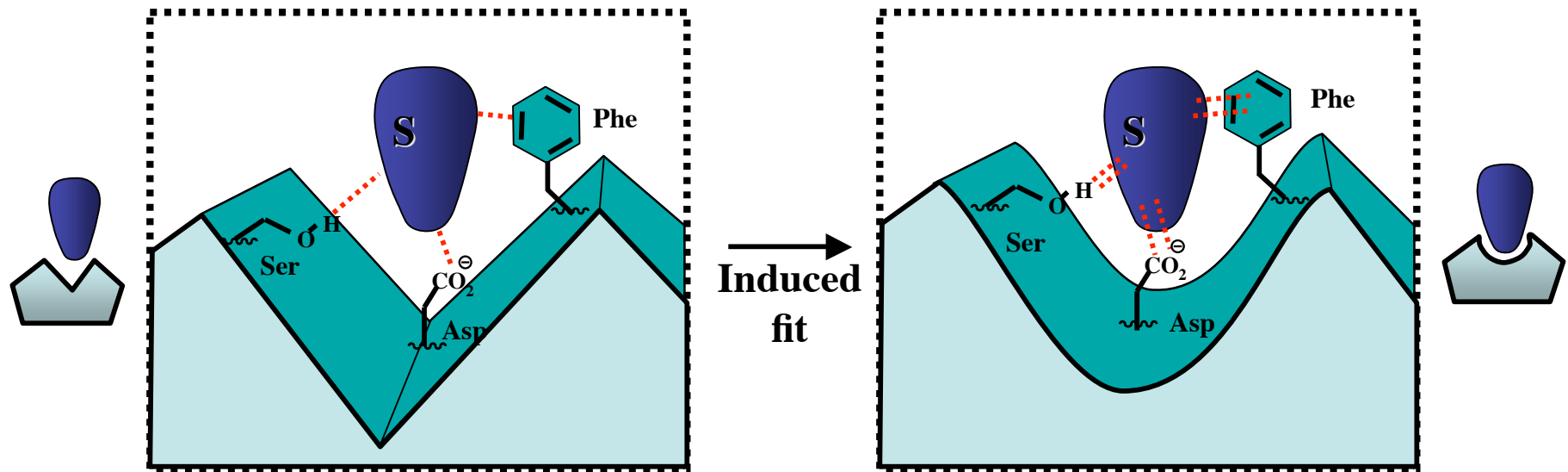
	H-Bond
	van der Waals
	Ionic



# Substrate binding

## Bonding forces

- Induced fit - Active site alters shape to maximise intermolecular bonding

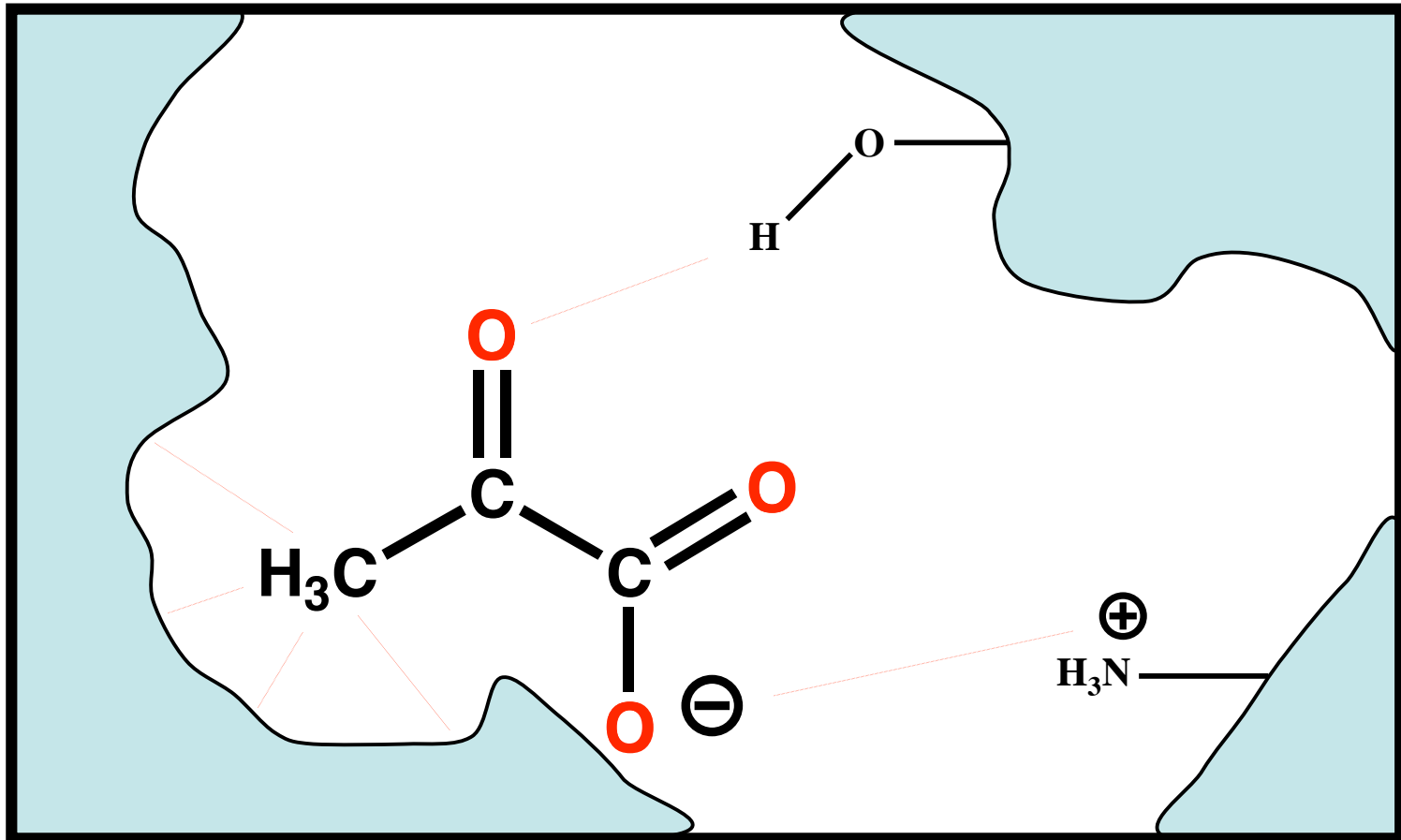


Intermolecular bonds not optimum length for maximum bonding

Intermolecular bond lengths optimised  
Susceptible bonds in substrate strained  
Susceptible bonds in substrate more easily broken

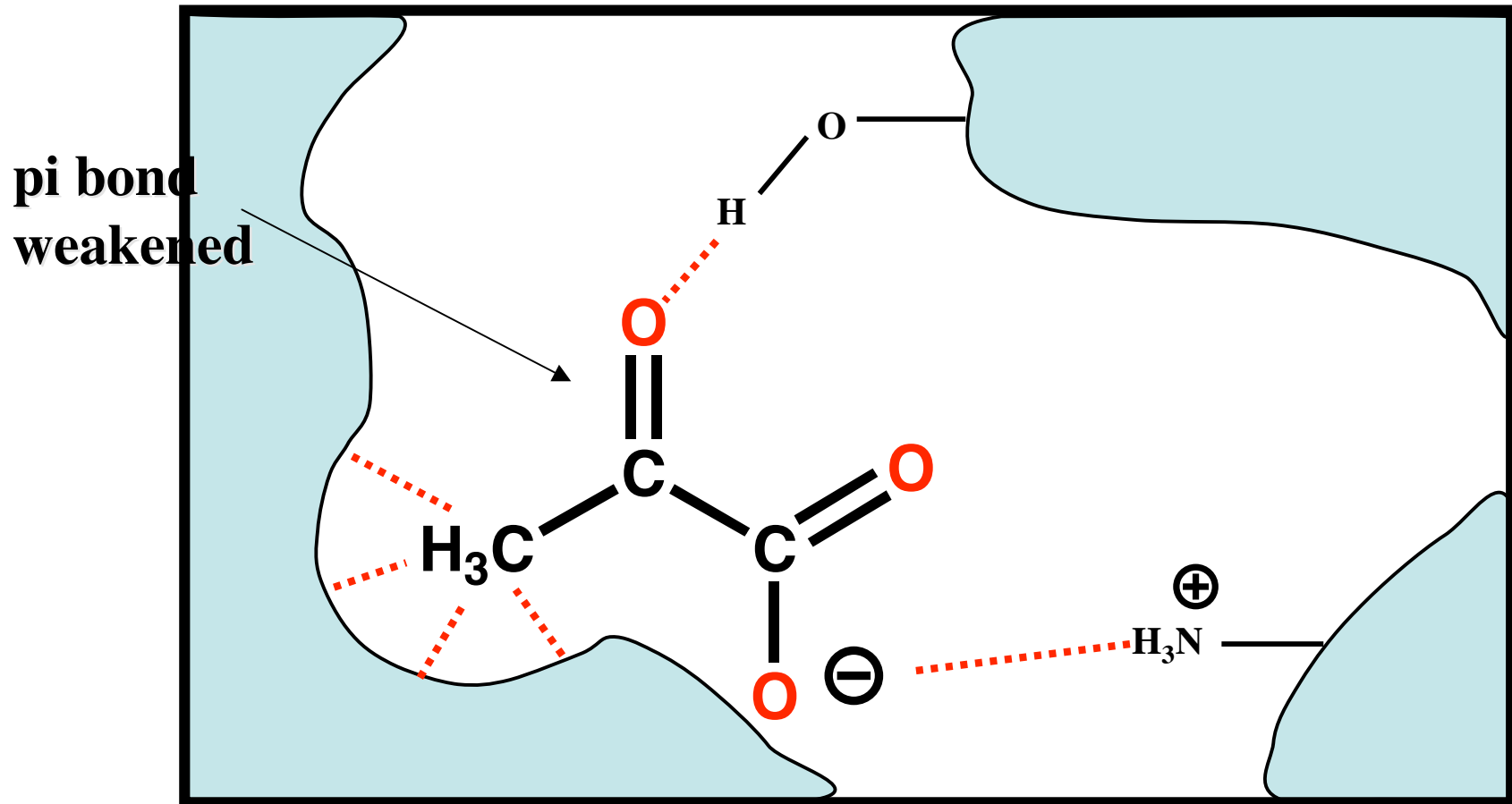
# Substrate binding

**Example:** Binding of pyruvic acid in LDH



# Substrate binding

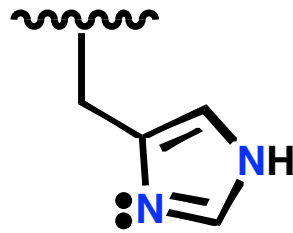
**Example:** Binding of pyruvic acid in LDH



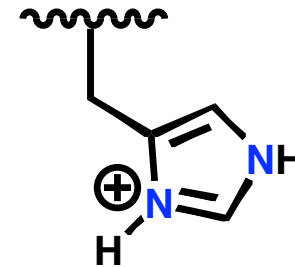
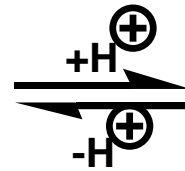
# Catalysis mechanisms

## 4.1 Acid/base catalysis

- Histidine**

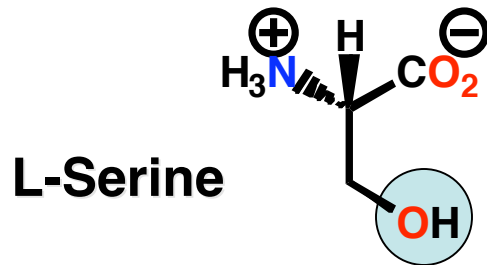


Non-ionised  
Acts as a basic catalyst  
(proton 'sink')

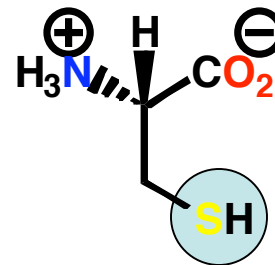


Ionised  
Acts as an acid catalyst  
(proton source)

## 4.2 Nucleophilic residues



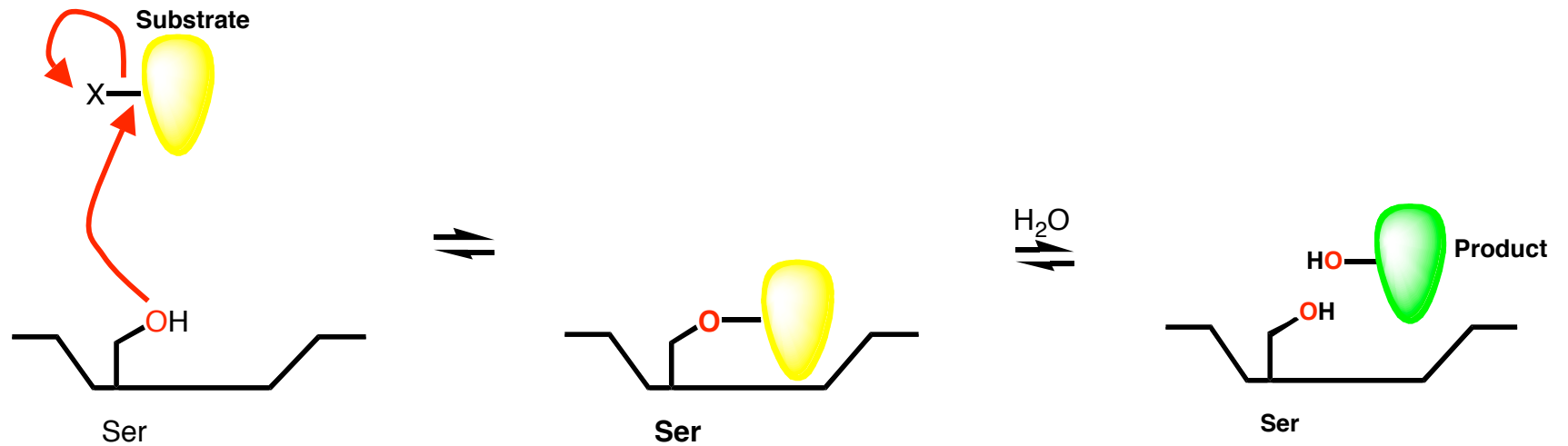
L-Serine



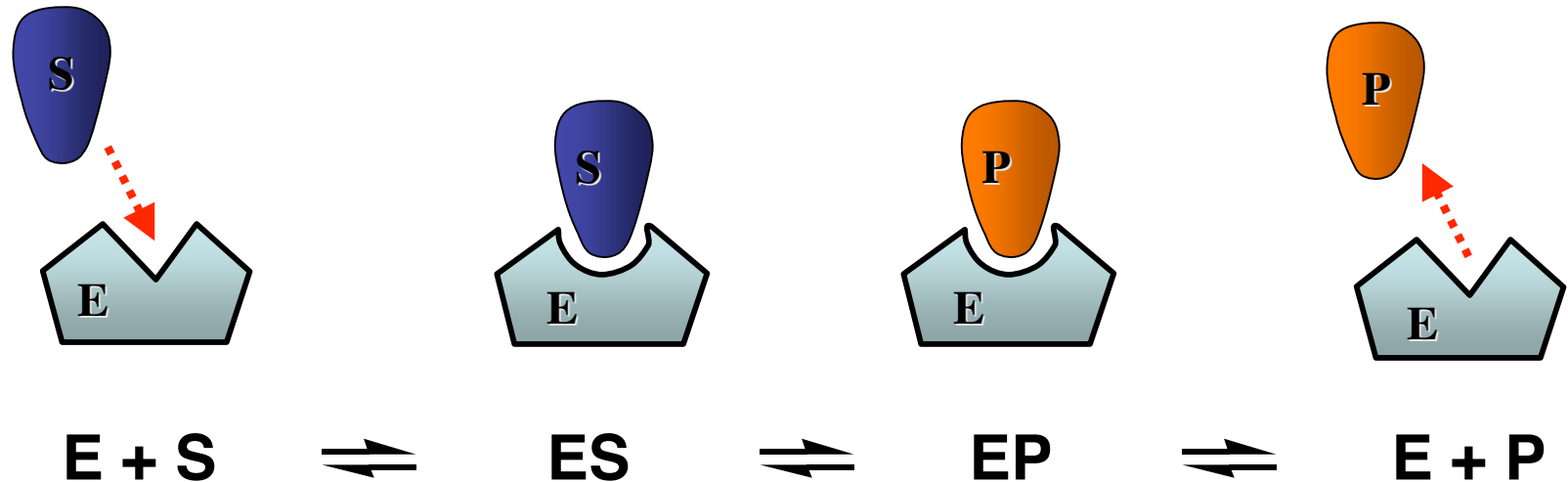
L-Cysteine

# Catalysis mechanisms

## Serine acting as a nucleophile

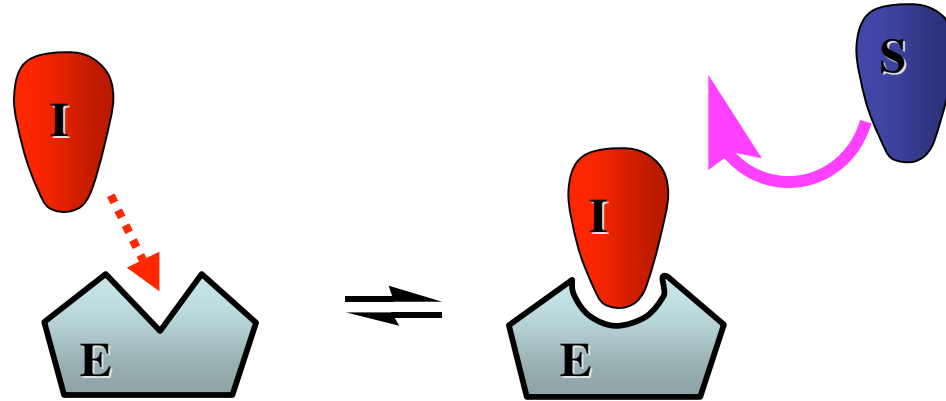


# Overall process of enzyme catalysis



- **Binding interactions must be;**
  - strong enough to hold the substrate sufficiently long for the reaction to occur
  - weak enough to allow the product to depart
- **Implies a fine balance**
- **Drug design - designing molecules with stronger binding interactions results in enzyme inhibitors which block the active site**

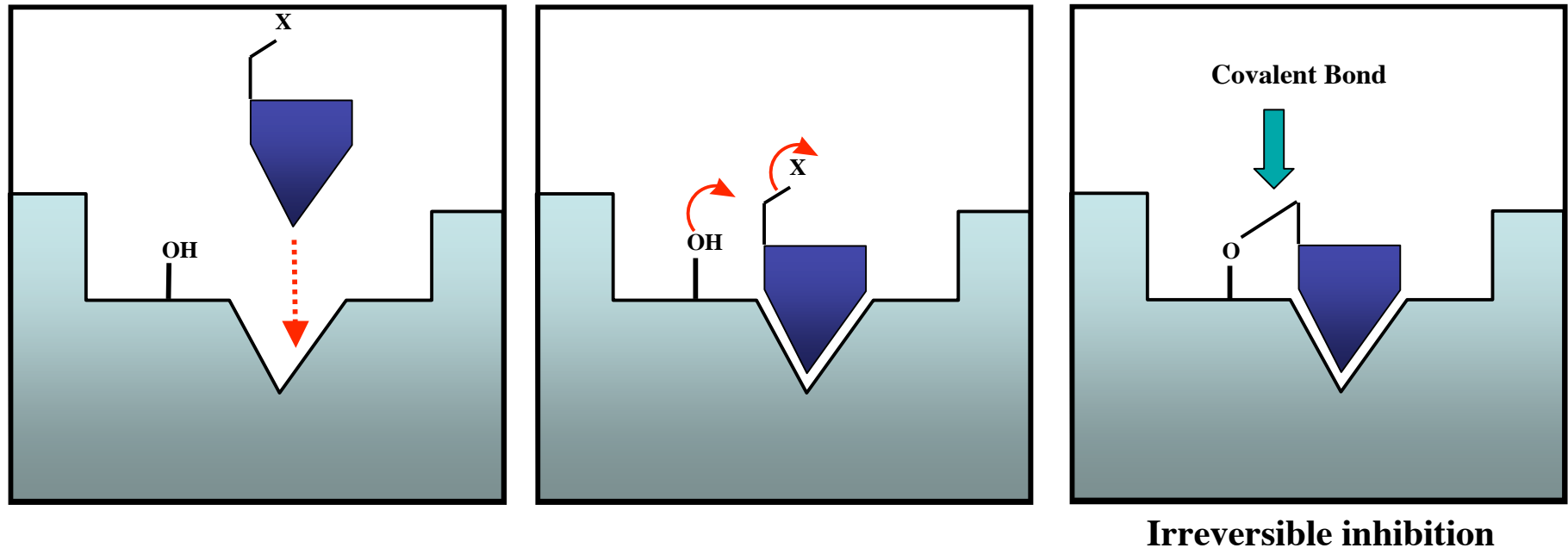
## Competitive (reversible) inhibitors



- Inhibitor binds reversibly to the active site
- Intermolecular bonds are involved in binding
- No reaction takes place on the inhibitor
- Inhibition depends on the strength of inhibitor binding and inhibitor concentration
- Substrate is blocked from the active site
- Increasing substrate concentration reverses inhibition
- Inhibitor likely to be similar in structure to the substrate

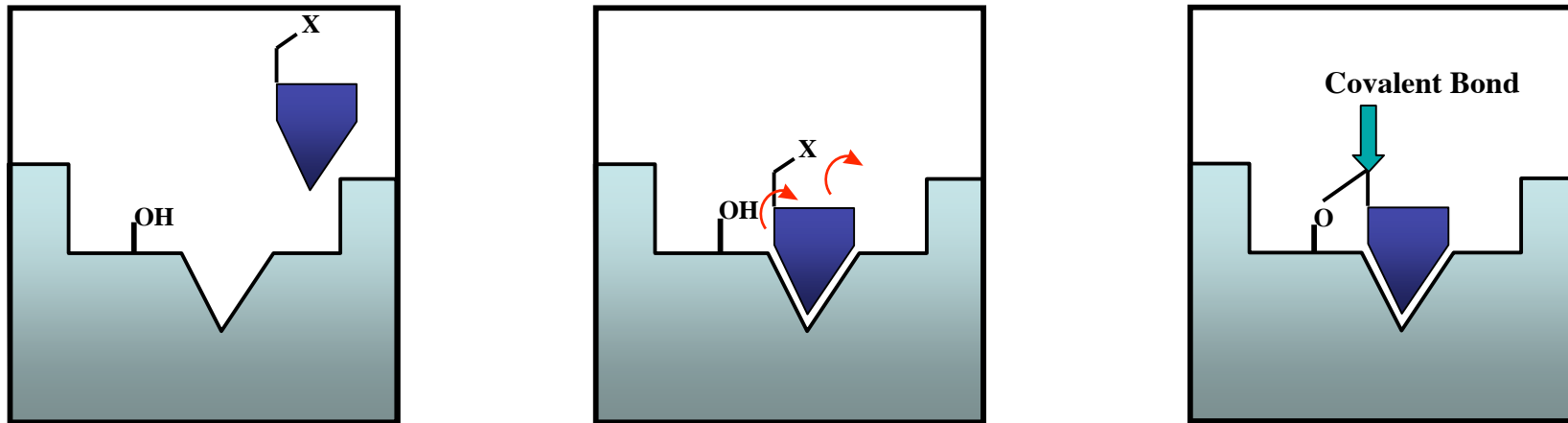


## Non competitive (irreversible) inhibitors



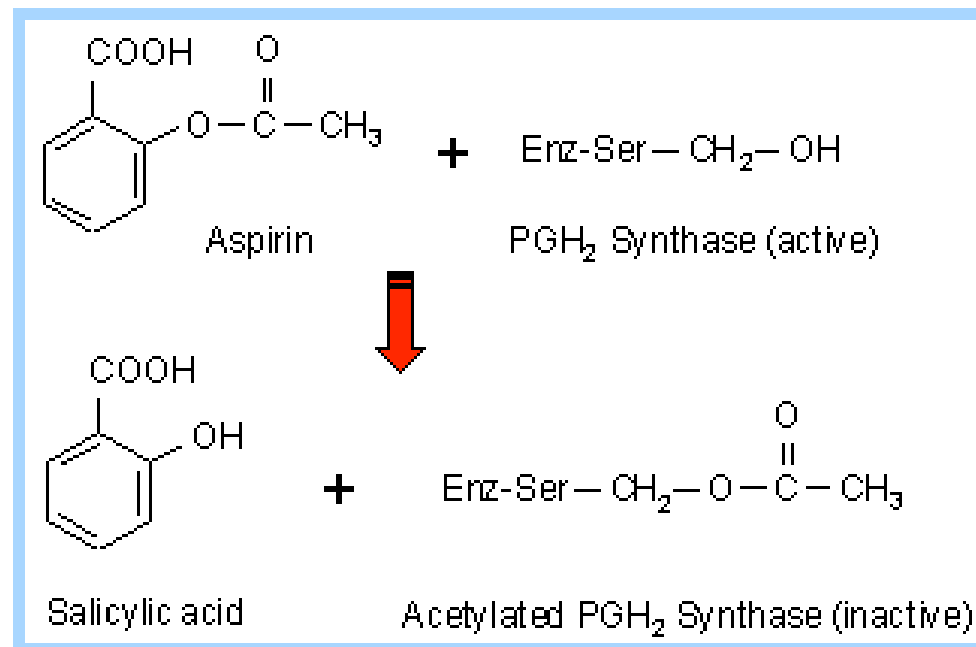
- **Inhibitor binds irreversibly to the active site**
- **Covalent bond formed between the drug and the enzyme**
- **Substrate is blocked from the active site**
- **Increasing substrate concentration does not reverse inhibition**
- **Inhibitor likely to be similar in structure to the substrate**

# Non competitive (irreversible) inhibitors

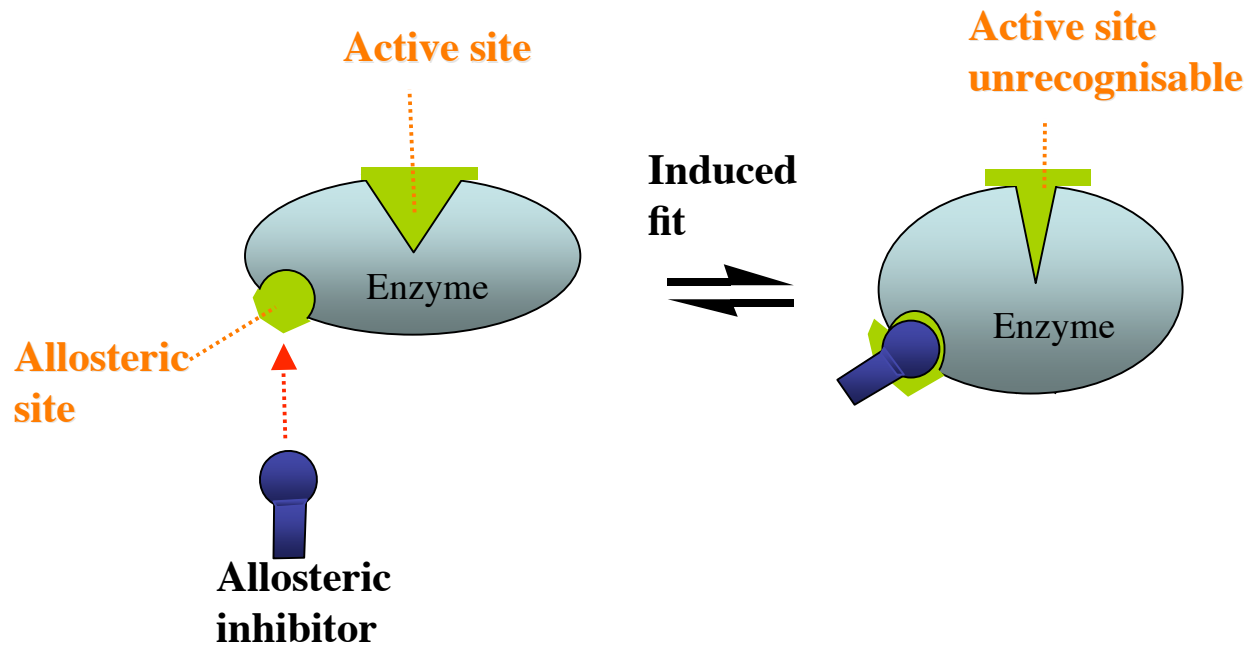


**Irreversible inhibition**

Example: aspirin for COX (PGH<sub>2</sub> synthase)

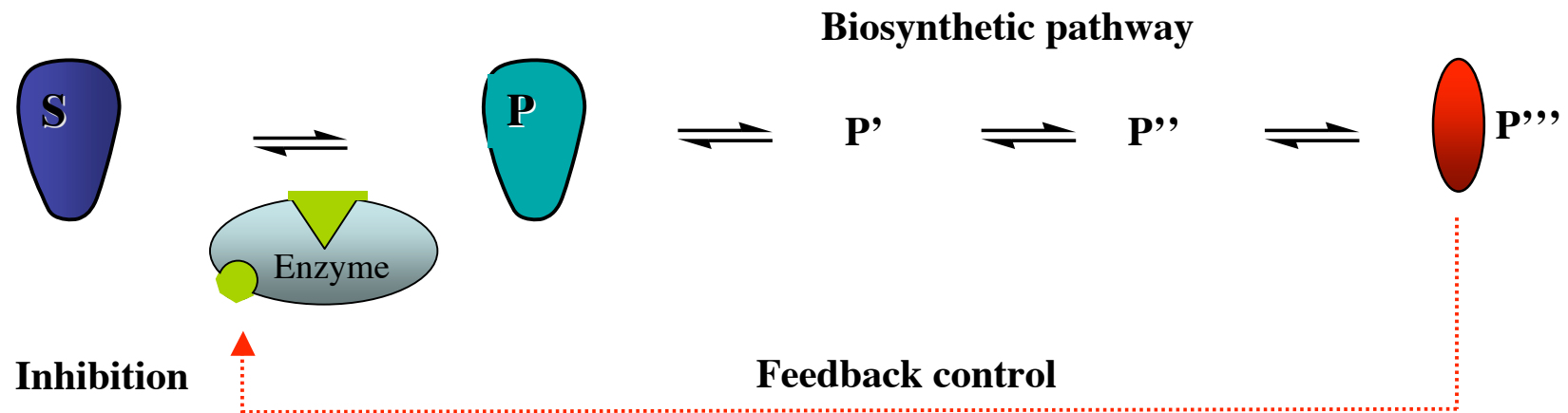


# Non competitive (reversible) allosteric inhibitors



- Inhibitor binds reversibly to the allosteric site
- Intermolecular bonds are formed
- Induced fit alters the shape of the enzyme
- Active site is distorted and is not recognised by the substrate
- Increasing substrate concentration does not reverse inhibition
- Inhibitor is not similar in structure to the substrate

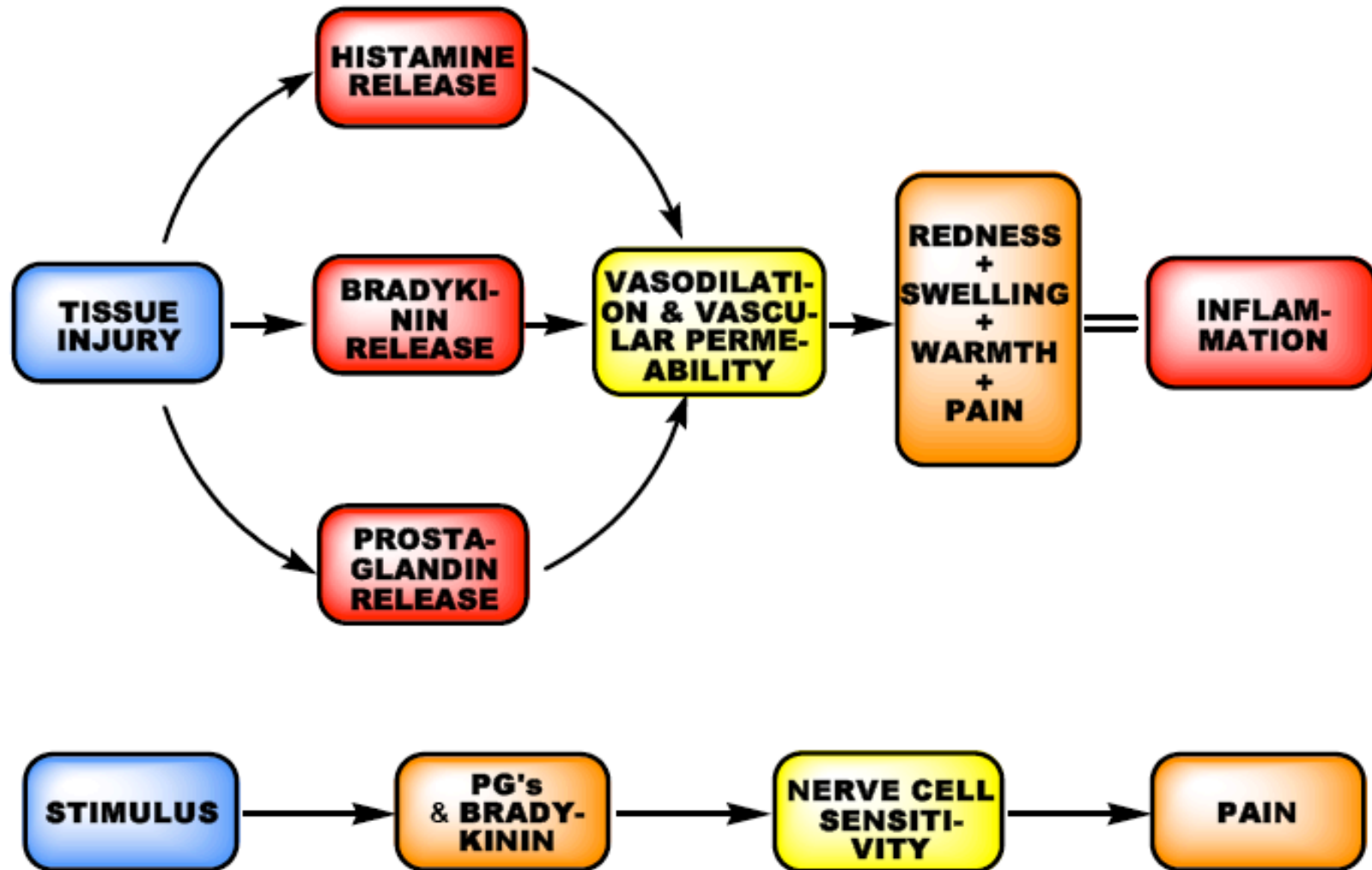
# Non competitive (reversible) allosteric inhibitors



- **Enzymes with allosteric sites often at start of biosynthetic pathways**
- **Enzyme is controlled by the final product of the pathway**
- **Final product binds to the allosteric site and switches off enzyme**
- **Inhibitor may have a similar structure to the final product**

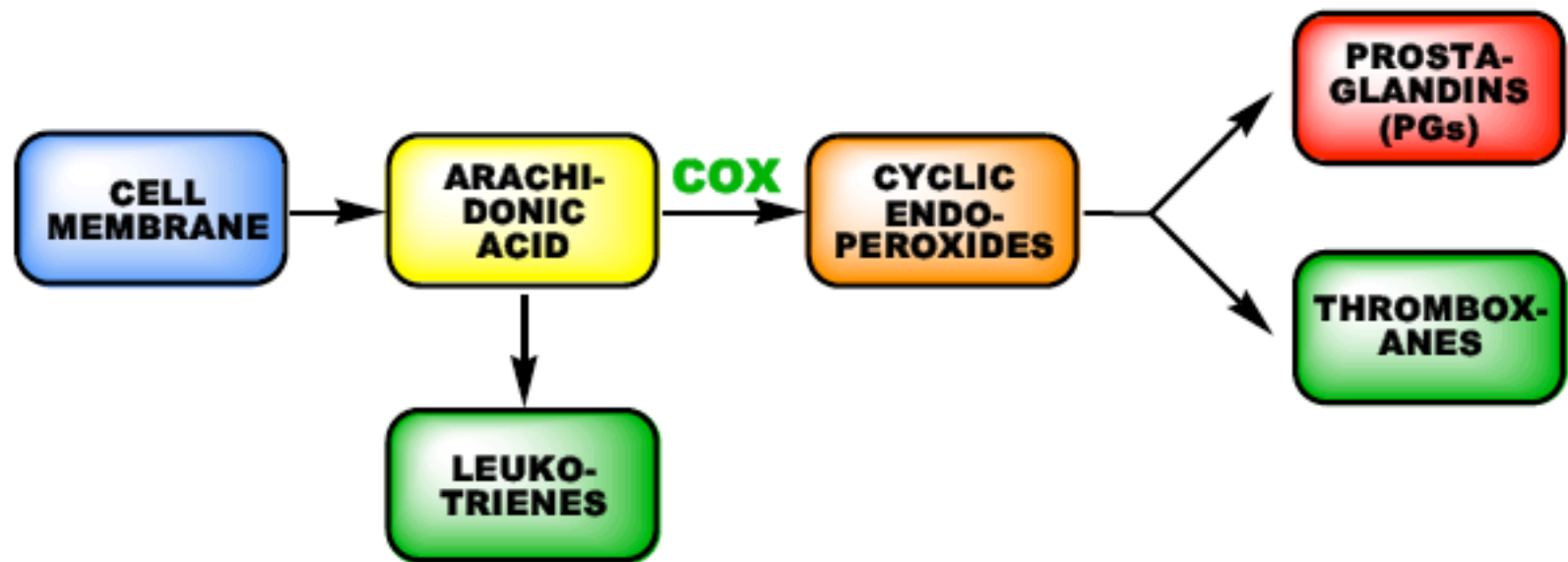
# EXAMPLE: NSAIDS for inflammation

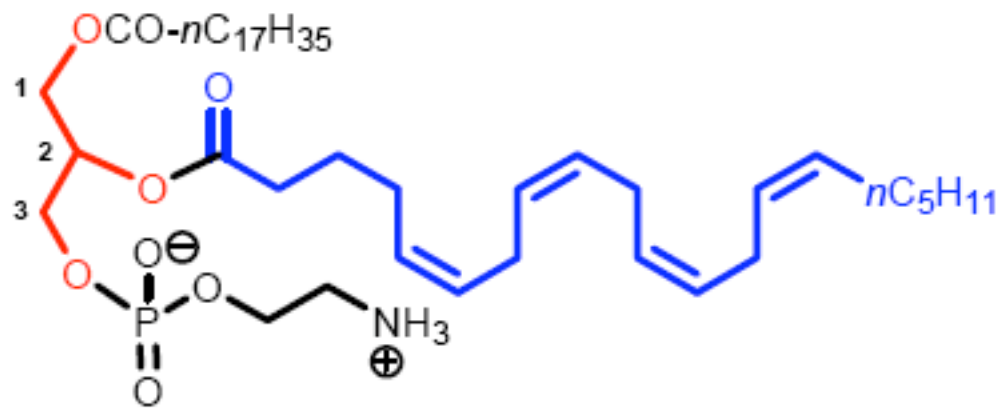
Inflammatory, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases  
An Overview of Inflammation II.



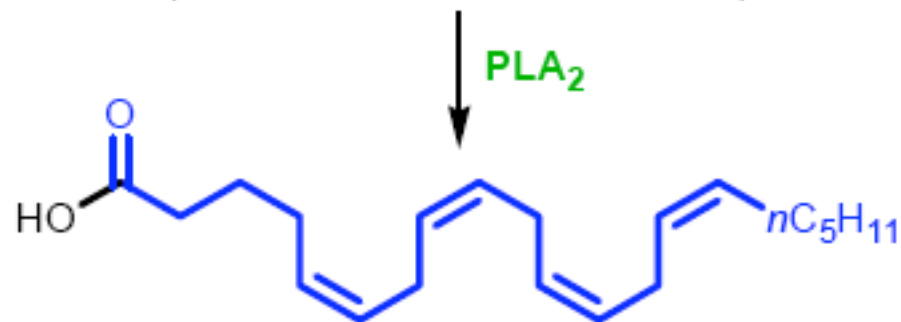
# Inflammatory, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases

## An Overview of Inflammation I.





**Phospholipid**  
(Arachidonic Acid bound at C-2)



**Arachidonic Acid**

**5-Lipoxyge-  
nase (LOX)**

**Cyclooxyge-  
nase (COX)**

**Leukotrienes**

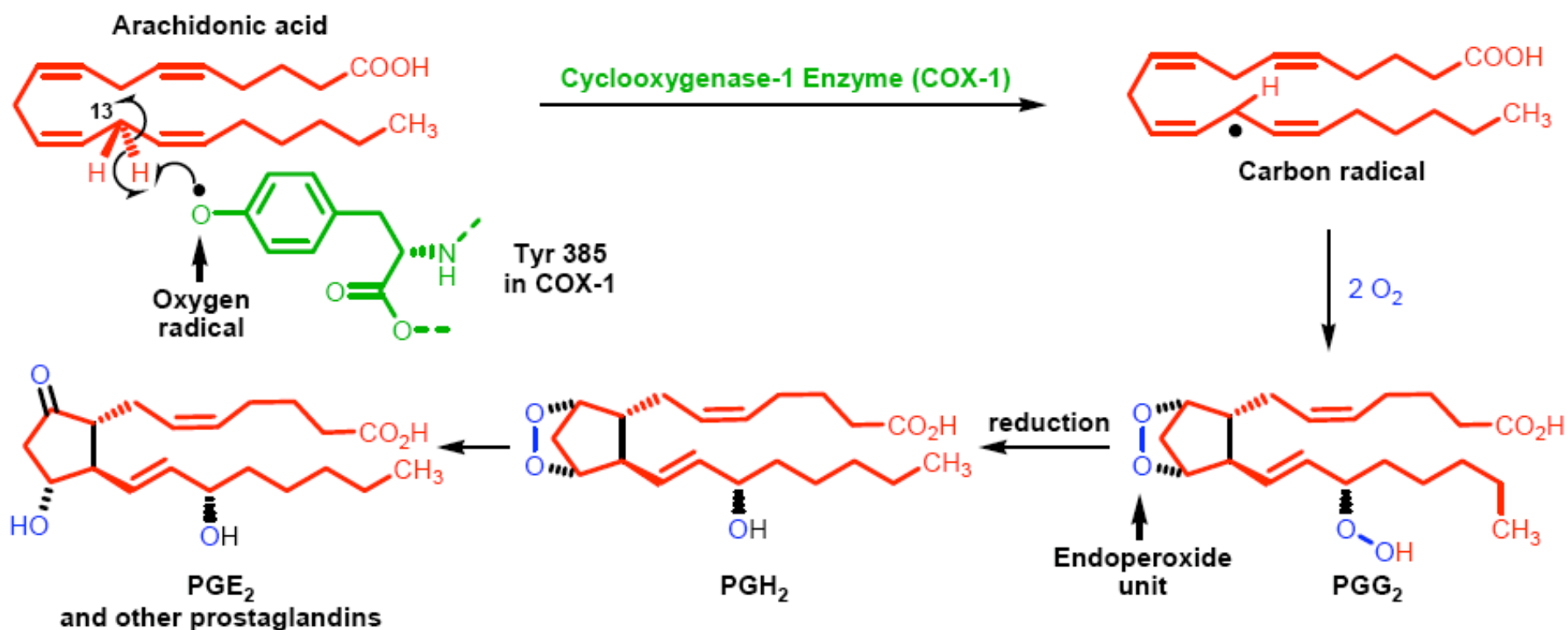
**Prostaglandins**

**(Proinflammatory agents)**



# Inflammatory, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases

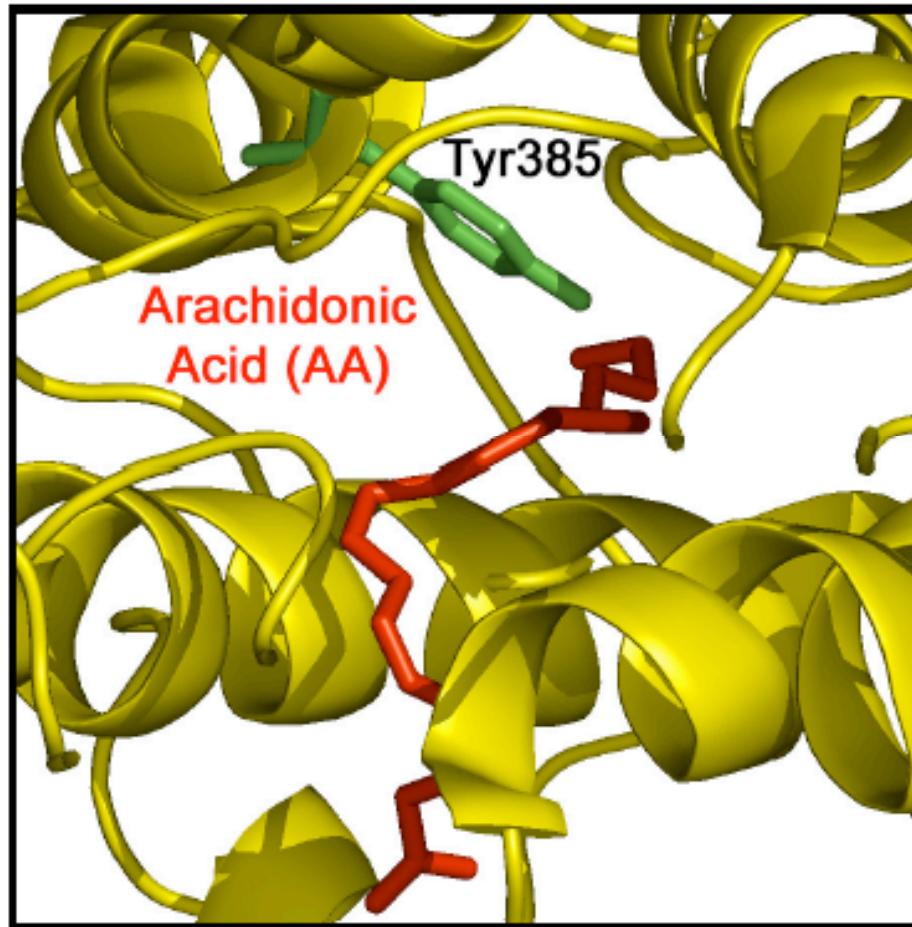
## How Do Anti-Inflammatory Drugs Work? I.



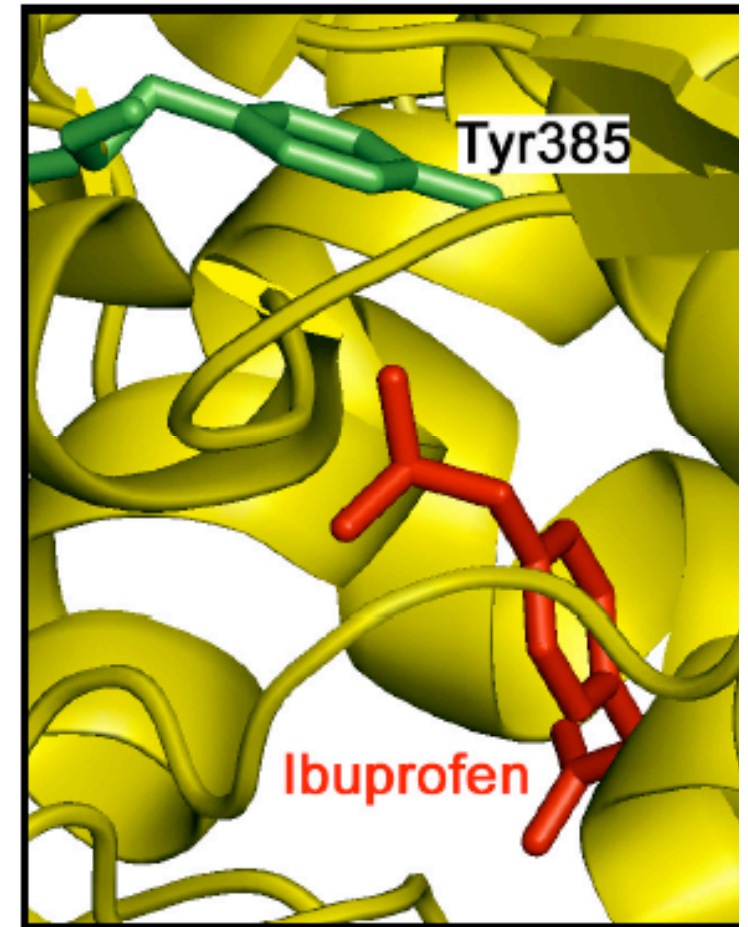


# Inflammatory, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases

## How Do Anti-Inflammatory Drugs Work? II.

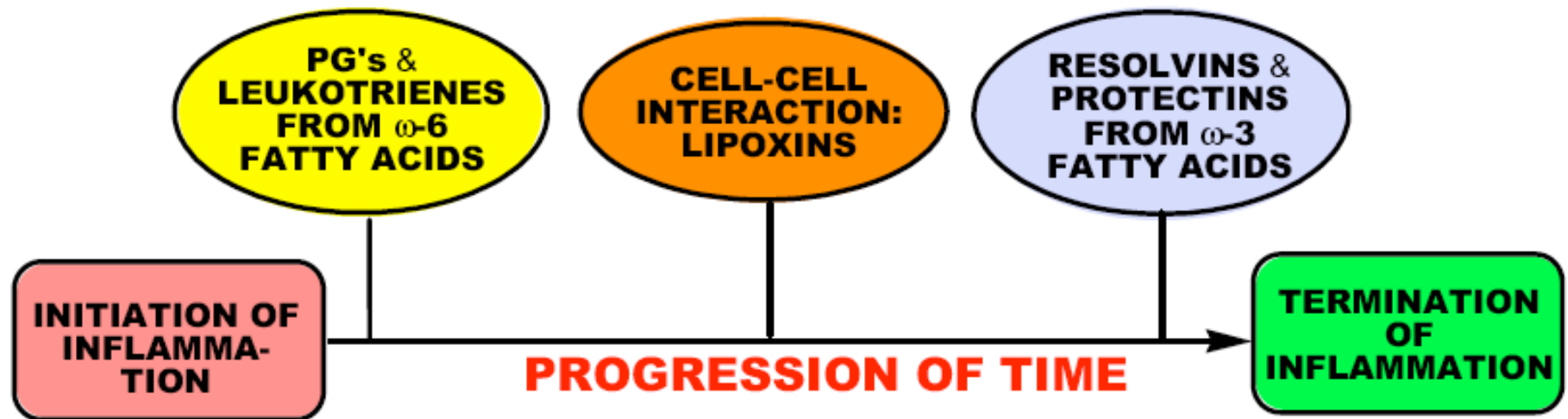


**A.** Arachidonic Acid in the Active



**B.** Ibuprofen in the Active

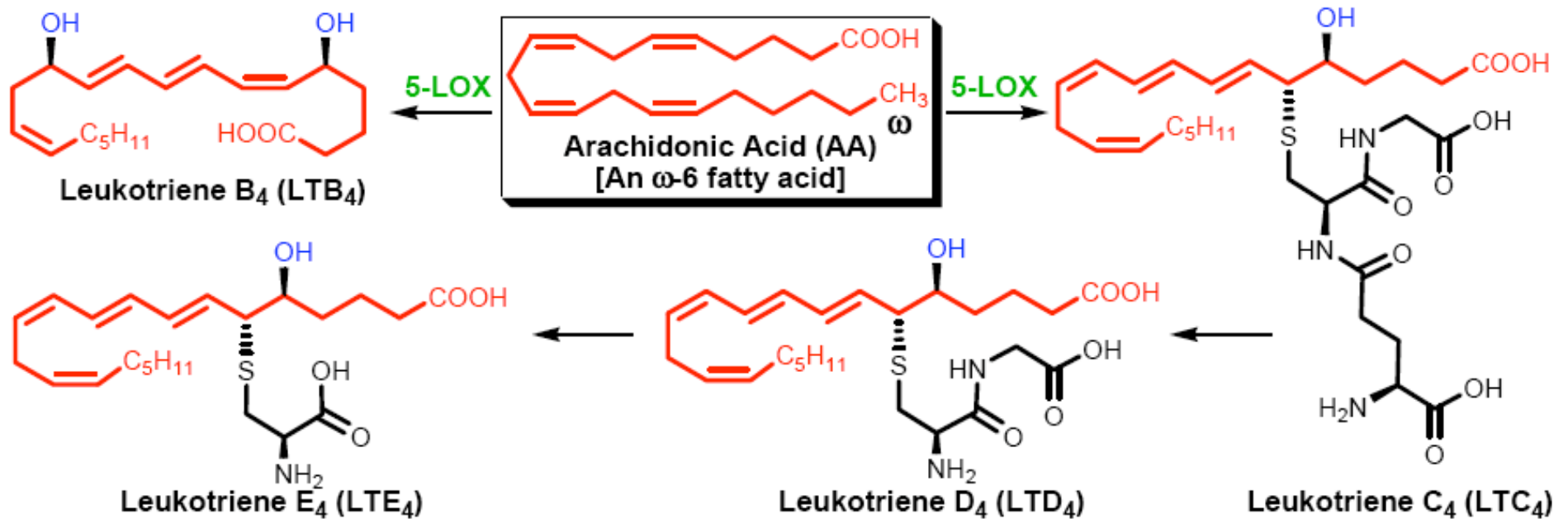
Inflammatory, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases  
Other Eicosanoids in Inflammation I.



Mediators of Inflammation

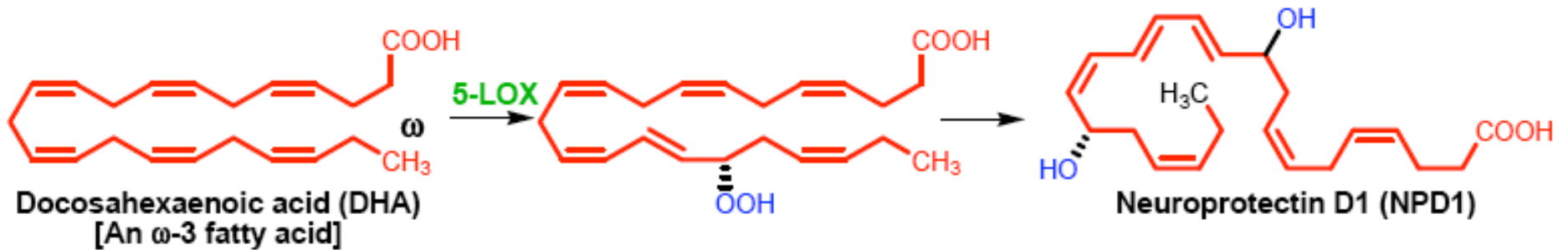
# Inflammatory, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases

## Other Eicosanoids in Inflammation II.



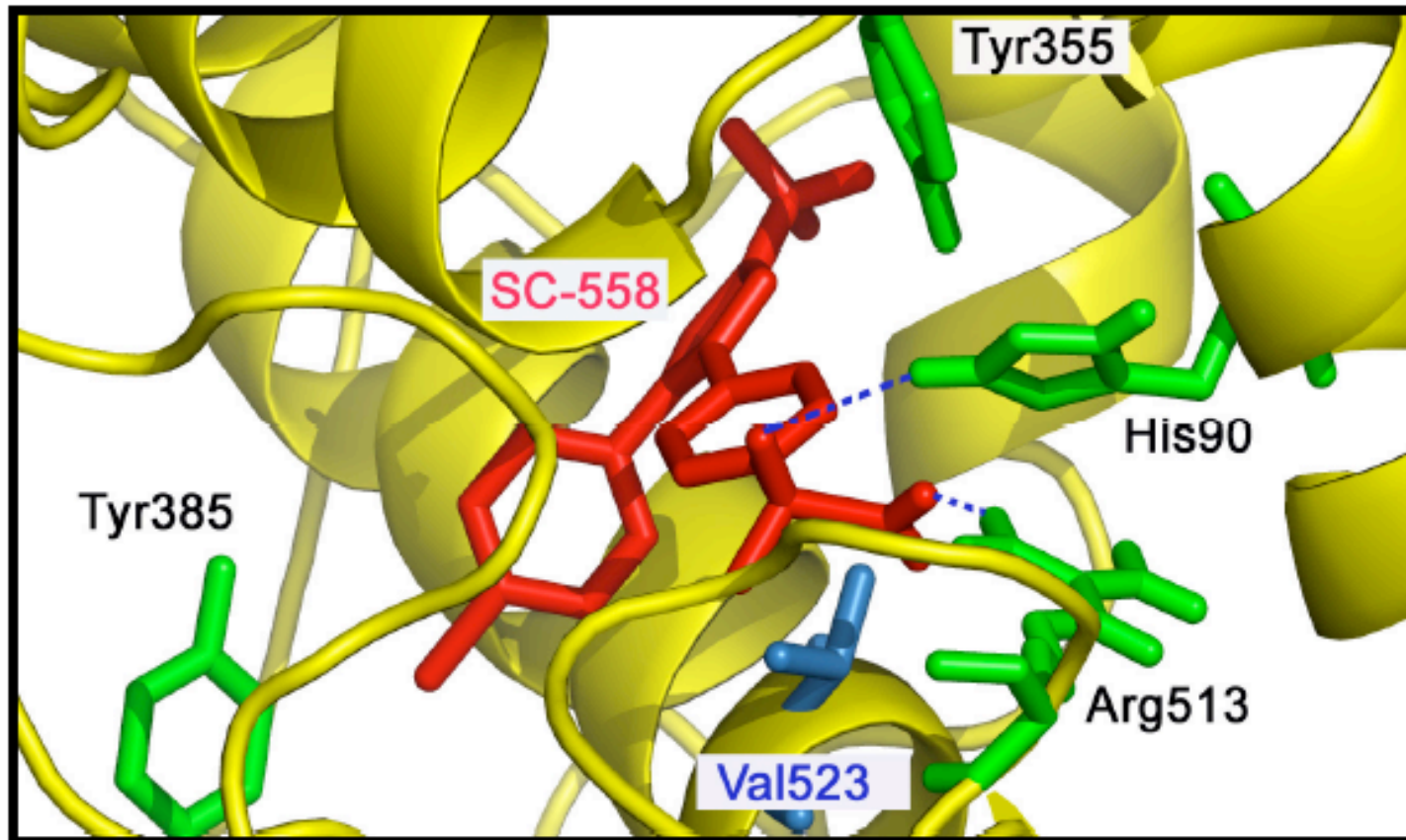
**Formation of Various Leukotrienes from Arachidonic Acid via 5-Lipoxygenase**

Inflammatory, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases  
Other Eicosanoids in Inflammation III.



**Formation of Neuroprotectin D1 from  
Docosahexaenoic Acid via 5-Lipoxygenase**

## Inflammatory, Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases Anti-Inflammatory Agents – Celecoxib (Celebrex™) III.



The picture above shows a close structural relative of celecoxib, SC-558, bound in the active site of COX-2. The selectivity results because the phenylsulfonyl group binds in a pocket (formed from His90, Arg513 and Val523) that is not available in COX-1 since it is occupied by a bulky isoleucine side chain rather than the smaller isopropyl group of valine (Val523). The carboxyl group of rofecoxib interacts not with Arg513 but with a different residue, Arg120.