

Cancer and Aging: Two Faces of the Same Coin

(1) Theories, Mechanisms and Models of Aging

*Centre Bloomfield de
recherche sur le vieillissement*



*The Bloomfield Centre
for Research in Aging*



Cancer and Aging: Two Faces of the Same Coin

- (1) Theories, Mechanisms and Models of Aging
- (2) Telomere Biology and Aging
- (3) Telomere Biology and Cancer-Part 1 and Part 2
- (4) Telomerase and Telomere Regulation
- (5) Telomeres, Telomerase and The Premature Aging Syndrome Dyskeratosis congenita
- (6) Telomeres in Premature Aging and Degenerative Diseases

References:

Background reading and reference material of interest

Ljubuncic, P. and Reznick, A.Z. 2009. The evolutionary theories of aging revisited-A mini-review. *Gerontology* 55, 205-216.

Smith, D.L. et al. 2010. Calorie restriction: what recent results suggest for the future of ageing research. *European Journal of Clinical Investigation* 40, 440-450.

Lapointe, J. and Hekimi, S. 2010. When a theory of aging ages badly. *Cellular and Molecular Life Science* 67, 1-8.

Hekimi, S., Lapointe, J. and Wen, Y. 2011. Taking a “good” look at free radicals in the aging process. *Cell* 145, 569-576

Imai, S. and Guarente, L. 2010. Ten years of NAD-dependent SIR2 family deacetylases: implications for metabolic diseases. *Trends in Pharmacological Sciences* 31, 212-220.

Sahin, E. and DePinho, R.A. 2010. Linking functional decline of telomeres, mitochondria and stem cells during ageing. *Nature* 464 520-528.

Rando, T.A. and Chang, H.Y. 2012. Aging, rejuvenation, and epigenetic reprogramming: resetting the aging clock. *Cell* 148, 46-57.

Lecture outline:

A. Introduction

- Lifespan and life expectancy
- Characteristics of aging
- Approaches to studying aging, use of model organisms
- Caloric restriction

B. Mechanisms/Causes of Aging

Evolutionary theory of aging

Free Radical (Oxidative Stress)/ Mitochondrial DNA theory of aging

Gene regulation theory of aging (Sir proteins)

Telomere theory of aging

- Replicative senescence and the Hayflick limit
- Characteristics of senescent cells
- Cellular senescence versus aging
- What are telomeres?
- Telomeres and aging
- End replication problem and telomere shortening

A. INTRODUCTION

What comes to mind when I say aging?

A. INTRODUCTION

What comes to mind when I say aging?

hair graying

wrinkled skin

wisdom

knowledge

natural process

death

Loss of function:

hearing loss

decreased reproduction

cataracts

fragility

muscle atrophy

anemia

feeble immune response

impaired wound healing

cell death

osteoporosis

Alzheimer's

cancer

Why do we study aging?

How do we study aging?

Why do we study aging?

- gain understanding of diseases of aging
- prevent/cure diseases of aging
- prolong life span
- stay young
- gain understanding of mechanisms of normal and abnormal aging
- improve quality of life in aging

How do we study aging?

Premature aging syndromes?

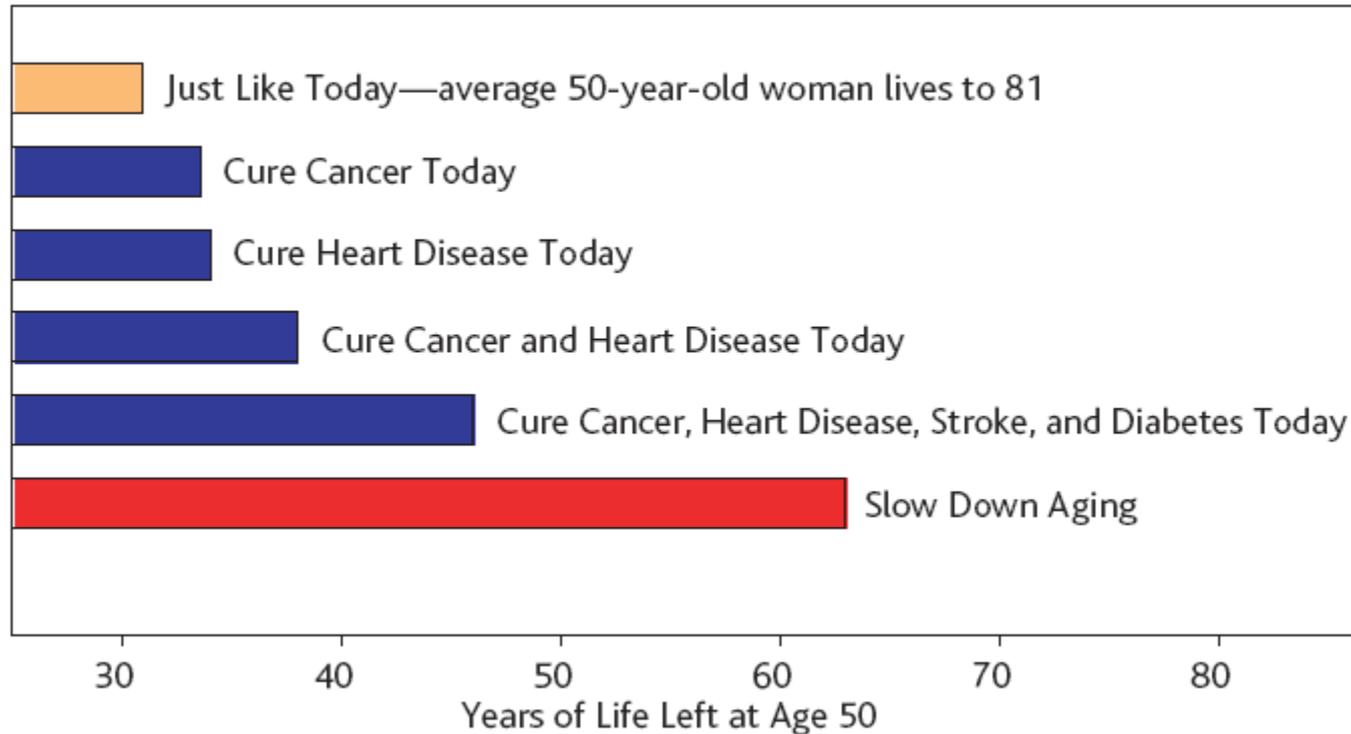
Age-related diseases-cancer, Alzheimer's

Model systems -mouse models (transgenic, knockout)
 -C.elegans/cell culture (human/mouse)

Human population studies

Resolution of cardiovascular disease, diabetes and cancer would increase human life expectancy by 15 years

Research on Aging: Biggest Bang for the Buck?



Martin, G.M. et al. 2003. Research on aging: the end of the beginning. *Science* 299: 1339-1341.

Hayflick, L. 2000. The future of ageing. *Nature* 408, 267-269.

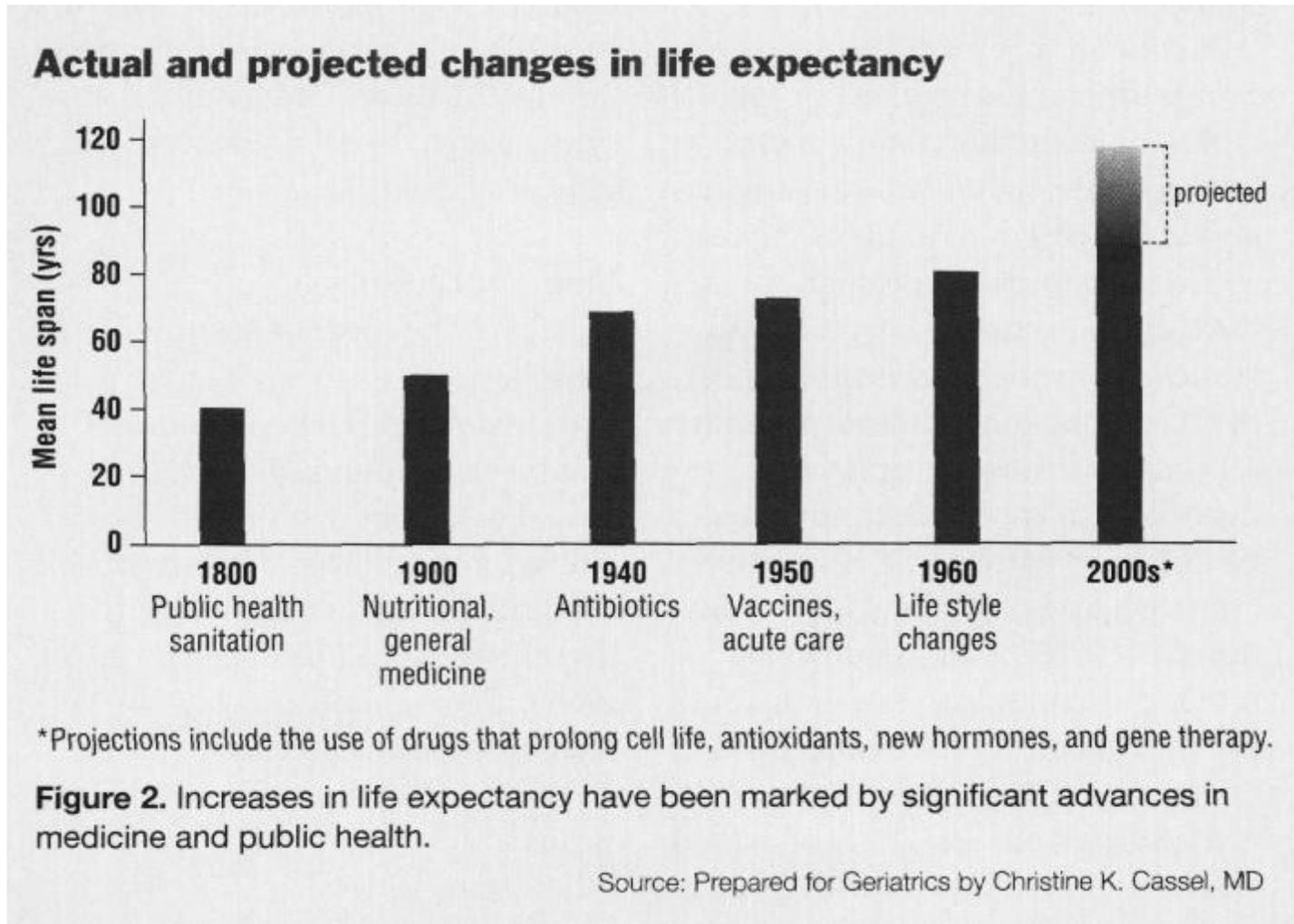
Lifespan and Life Expectancy

- **Lifespan is the maximum number of years that a human can live (~125 years-unchanged)**
- **Life expectancy is defined as the average total number of years that a human expects to live**

In the last century there has been a significant gain in human longevity with the life expectancy increasing by 27 years, to approximately 80 years, in Western Countries (The life expectancy continues to rise, and based on 2008 statistics has now reached 76.4 years for men, and 82.4 years for women in the European Union)

Why?

Ageing as an artefact of civilization



Cassel, C.K. 2001. Successful aging. Geriatrics. Vol. 56 35-39.

Hayflick, L. 2000. The future of ageing. Nature 408, 267-269.

Characteristics of Aging

TABLE 1
Characteristics of Aging

-
1. Increased mortality with age after maturation.
 2. Changes in biochemical composition in tissues with age.
 3. Progressive decrease in physiological capacity with age.
 4. Reduced ability to respond adaptively to environmental stimuli with age.
 5. Increased susceptibility and vulnerability to disease.
-

1900: 4% >65 years of age

1992: 12%

2030: 22%

Some North American statistics

Individuals over the age of 65

50% develop cardiovascular disease

35% develop arthropathies

15% develop type 2 diabetes

10% develop pulmonary disease

Stroke and dementia, the most common cause of institutionalization cost 21 billion dollars per year.

Between the ages of 40 and 80, increased cancer incidence producing a lifetime cancer risk of nearly 1 in 2 in industrialized nations.

Model organisms

Table 1 | Conserved ageing phenotypes

Phenotype	<i>H. sapiens</i>	<i>M. musculus</i>	<i>D. melanogaster</i>	<i>C. elegans</i>
Decreased cardiac function	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
Apoptosis, senescence (somatic cells)	Yes	Yes	Yes	?
Cancer, hyperplasia	Yes	Yes	No	No
Genome instability	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Macromolecular aggregates	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Reduced memory and learning	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA
Decline in GH, DHEA, testosterone, IGF	Yes	Yes	?	?
Increase in gonadotropins, insulin	Yes	Yes	?	?
Decreased thyroid function	Yes	Yes	NA	NA
Decrease in innate immunity	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Increase in inflammation	Yes	Yes	No	No
Skin/cuticle morphology changes	Yes	Yes	?	Yes
Decreased mitochondrial function	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sarcopenia	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Osteoporosis	Yes	Yes	NA	NA
Abnormal sleep/rest patterns	Yes	Yes	Yes	?
Decrease in vision	Yes	Yes	?	NA
Demyelination	Yes	Yes	?	No
Decreased fitness	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Arteriosclerosis	Yes	No	NA	NA
Changes in fat*	Yes	Yes	?	?

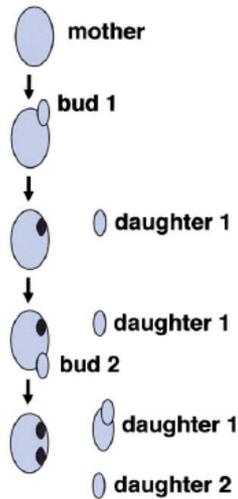
* Although changes in fat content and distribution have been reported for long-lived invertebrate mutants, at present there are no data on fat-related changes during normal ageing in these organisms. GH, growth hormone; DHEA, dehydroandrosterone; NA, not applicable.

Vijg, J. and Campisi, J. 2008. Puzzles, promises and a cure for ageing. *Nature* 454, 1065-1071.

Model organisms

Replicative lifespan:

Age in **yeast** is defined by the number of buds a mother cell produces



Age in **worms** is defined by the number of days the worm lives



Chronological lifespan

Tissenbaum, H.A. and Guarante, L. 2003. Model Organisms as a Guide to Mammalian Aging. *Dev. Cell* 1, 9-19

Sch9 (a serine threonine kinase)



chico



GHR/BP (growth hormone receptor/binding protein)



Mutations that decrease glucose or insulin/IGF-1-like signaling/long-lived/smaller

Longo, V.D. and Finch, C.E. 2003. Evolutionary Medicine: From Dwarf Model Systems to Healthy Centenarians? *Science* 299, 1342-1345. Liang et al. 2003. Genetic mouse models of extended lifespan. *Experimental Gerontology* 38, 1353-1364.

Caloric restriction

- oTypically refers to a diet in which calories are limited by 30-40% compared with animals fed *ad libitum*
- oCaloric restriction extends life span in rodents, worms, yeast (and nonhuman primates), and postpones or prevents a number of diseases (diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer) and age-dependent deterioration
- oSelective value since reproduction can be postponed until food is available; when food is restored progeny are produced. Well fed controls become post-reproductive and die in the interim

Longo, VD and Finch, CE. 2003. Evolutionary Medicine: From Dwarf Model Systems to Healthy Centenarians? *Science* 299, 1342-1345.

Piper, MDW and Bartke, A. 2008. Diet and aging. *Cell Metabolism* 8, 99-104.

Shanley DP and Kirkwood TBL. Caloric restriction does not enhance longevity in all species and is unlikely to do so in humans. *Biogerontology* (2006) 7, 165-168.

Smith, D.L., Nagy, T.R., Allison, D.B. 2010. Calorie restriction: what recent results suggest for the future of ageing research. *Eur. J. Clin. Invest.* 40, 440-450.

B. MECHANISMS/CAUSES OF AGING

***Evolutionary theory of aging**

***Mitochondrial free radical theory of aging (MFRTA)**

***Gene regulation theory of aging (Sir proteins)**

***Telomere theory of aging**

***Epigenetics and aging**

Tosato, M. et al. 2007. The aging process and potential interventions to extend life expectancy. Clin. Inter. in Aging. 2, 401-412.

Kirkwood, T.B.L. 2005. Understanding the odd science of aging. Cell 120, 437-447.

Blagonsklonny, M.V. et al. Impact papers on aging in 2009. Aging 2, 11-121.

Evolutionary Basis of Aging

Proposes two models for how aging can evolve:

- 1. The theory of mutation accumulation**
- 2. The antagonistic pleiotropy hypothesis**

Diminishing selection leads to the accumulation of late-acting harmful genes; old age is not under selective pressure per se, and there is no evolutionary mechanism to rid a population of mutations that cause detrimental effects only in old animals

A harmful late-acting gene remains in a population if it has a beneficial effect early in life (high testosterone in gorilla leads to arteriosclerosis; large attractive feathers of male peacocks limits their ability to escape predators)

Mitochondrial free radical theory of aging (MFRTA)

Initially proposed by Hartman in 1956 and refined in 1972

Damage to vital molecules, proteins, lipids and nucleic acids, can be caused by free radicals, byproducts of oxidative phosphorylation that occurs during aerobic metabolism.

Oxygen is reduced by the addition of electrons and converted into reactive oxygen species (ROS), including superoxide anions, hydrogen peroxide, hydroxyl radicals

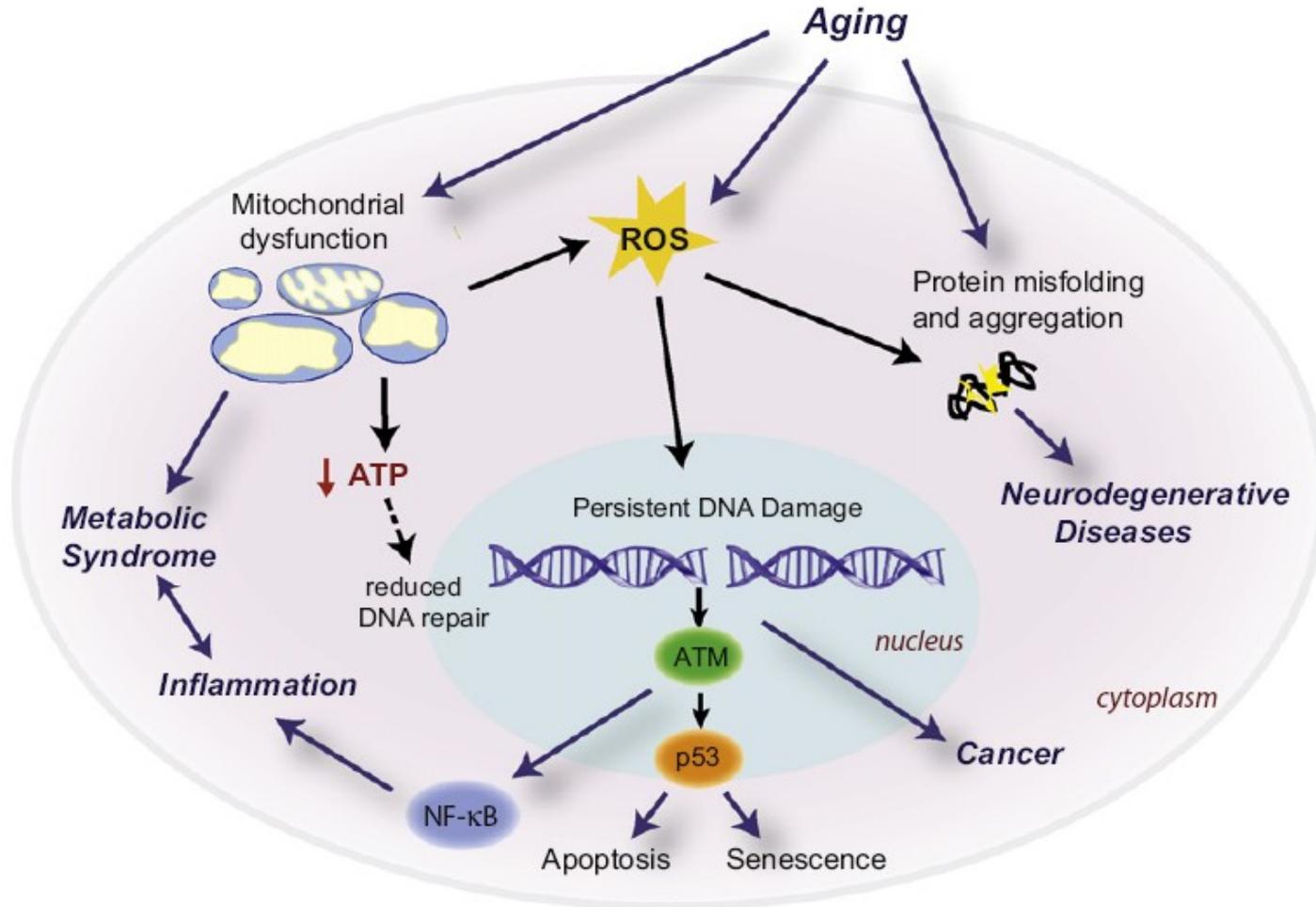
Basis for theory:

- (i) Strong correlation between chronological age and the level of ROS generation and oxidative damage**
- (ii) Mitochondrial function is gradually lost during aging**
- (iii) Inhibition of mitochondrial function can enhance ROS production**
- (iv) Several age-dependent diseases are associated with severe increase in oxidative stress**

But what if increased ROS generation is a consequence rather than a cause of aging?

Hekimi, S. et al. 2011. Taking a 'good' look at free radicals in the aging process. Trends in Cell Biology. 21, 569-576.

Age-related stress and disease



But what if increased ROS generation is a consequence rather than a cause of aging?

Haigis, M.C. and Yankner, B.A. 2010. The aging stress response. *Mol. Cell* 40, 333-344; Hekimi, S. et al. 2011. Taking a 'good' look at free radicals in the aging process. *Trends in Cell Biology*. 21, 569-576.

Data in support of the MFRTA

Orr, W.C., and Sohal, R.S. (1994). Extension of life-span by overexpression of superoxide dismutase and catalase in *Drosophila melanogaster*. *Science* 263, 1128–1130.

Sod-1^{-/-} mice have shortened lifespan and have high levels of oxidative damage (but they die from hepatocellular carcinoma)
(Elchuri et al., 2005 *Oncogene* 24, 367-380)

Age-1 mutant of *C. elegans* has increased lifespan, increased SOD and catalase, and increased resistance to oxidative stress, heat shock and UV radiation (reviewed In Johnson, F.B. et al. 1999. *Cell* 96, 291-302)

Extension of Murine Life Span by Overexpression of Catalase Targeted to Mitochondria

Samuel E. Schriener,^{1,5} Nancy J. Linford,² George M. Martin,^{1,2} Piper Treuting,³ Charles E. Ogburn,² Mary Emond,⁴ Pinar E. Coskun,⁵ Warren Ladiges,³ Norman Wolf,² Holly Van Remmen,⁶ Douglas C. Wallace,⁵ Peter S. Rabinovitch^{2*}

The lifespan extension becomes less evident after backcrossing. Thus effect is likely the result of interaction with specific alleles at other loci

Extension of *Drosophila* lifespan by overexpression of human *SOD1* in motorneurons

Tony L. Parkes¹, Andrew J. Elia², Dale Dickinson¹, Arthur J. Hilliker¹, John P. Phillips¹ & Gabrielle L. Boulianne²

Extension of Life-Span with Superoxide Dismutase/Catalase Mimetics

Simon Melov,¹ Joanne Ravenscroft,^{2*} Sarwatt Malik,² Matt S. Gill,² David W. Walker,^{2†} Peter E. Clayton,² Douglas C. Wallace,³ Bernard Malfroy,⁴ Susan R. Doctrow,⁴ Gordon J. Lithgow^{2†}

Lifespan Extension and Rescue of Spongiform Encephalopathy in Superoxide Dismutase 2 Nullizygous Mice Treated with Superoxide Dismutase–Catalase Mimetics

Simon Melov,¹ Susan R. Doctrow,² Julie A. Schneider,³ Joanna Haberson,¹ Manisha Patel,⁴ Pinar E. Coskun,⁵ Karl Huffman,² Douglas C. Wallace,⁵ and Bernard Malfroy²

A *Sod2* Null Mutation Confers Severely Reduced Adult Life Span in *Drosophila*

Atanu Duttaroy,¹ Anirban Paul, Mukta Kundu and Amy Belton

Biology Department, Howard University, Washington, DC 20059

Manuscript received April 14, 2003

Accepted for publication August 26, 2003

FLP Recombinase-Mediated Induction of Cu/Zn-Superoxide Dismutase Transgene Expression Can Extend the Life Span of Adult *Drosophila melanogaster* Flies

Sun et al 1999 *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 19, 216-218

Evidence incompatible with the MFRTA

- (i) A lack of correlation between the level of ROS production and longevity in various species**
- (ii) Deleterious rather than beneficial effects on lifespan from the administration of antioxidants in various species from invertebrates to humans**
- (iii) The inactivation or over-expression of antioxidants fails to produce outcomes that support the MFRTA**
- (iv) The existence of long-lived mutants and species with high ROS production and high levels of oxidative damage**

Hekimi, S. et al. 2011. Taking a 'good' look at free radicals in the aging process. Trends in Cell Biology. 21, 569-576.

Data which do not support the MFRTA and which may contradict it

Increasing levels of a mitochondrial antioxidant, Coenzyme Q10, in mice, has no effects on lifespan (Sohal et al. 2006 Free Radic Biol Med 40, 480-487)

The overexpression of major antioxidant enzymes does not extend the lifespan of mice

(Perez et al. 2009 Aging Cell 8, 73-75)

Expression of multiple copies of mitochondrially targeted catalase or genomic Mn superoxide dismutase transgenes does not extend the life span of *Drosophila melanogaster*

Robin J. Mockett^a, Barbara H. Sohal^b, Rajindar S. Sohal^{b,*}

Mice knockouts of GPX1 (glutathione peroxidase, SOD1, 2 or 3 do not have decreased lifespan, despite increased oxidative stress (Van Remmen et al. 2003 Physiol Genomics 16, 29-37; Williams et al. 1998 JBC 273, 28510-28515)

Recent studies have also linked high oxidative stress to extended lifespan (Andziak et al 2006 Aging Cell 5, 463-471; Andziak et al. 2006 Aging Cell 5, 525-532; Csiszar et al. 2008 Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 295, H1882-H1894; Ran et al 2007 J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci 62, 932-942)

Partial inactivation of Mcl1, a mitochondrial enzyme necessary for coenzyme Q biosynthesis, prolong average and maximum mouse lifespan despite high oxidative stress (Lapointe et al. 2009 JBC 284, 20364-20374)

** Deletion of Sod-2 in *C. elegans* fails to shorten lifespan and actually prolongs it, despite increased oxidative stress (Van Raamsdonk and Hekimi 2009 PLoS Genet. 5, e1000361).

Overexpression of antioxidant enzymes such as SOD1, SOD2 and catalase does not increase the lifespan of mice (Muller et al. 2007 Free Radic Biol Med 43, 477-503; Huang et al. 2000 J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci 55, B5-B9).

Mice which overexpress a proofreading-deficient version of the mitochondrial DNA polymerase γ accumulate mtDNA mutations and display features of accelerated aging, which correlated with the induction of apoptotic markers, but not with increased markers of oxidative stress (Kujoth et al. 2005 Science 309, 481-484).

**Mitochondrial
Free
Radical
Theory of
Aging**

Core Statement

Production of mitochondrial ROS is **THE** cause of aging.

Associated Hypotheses

- Mitochondrial oxidative damage accumulates with chronological age.
- Mitochondrial function declines with chronological age.
- Mitochondrial ROS production increases with chronological age.
- Global oxidative damage to proteins, DNA and lipids increases with chronological age.
- Oxidative damage participates in the functional deterioration of aging.

TEST

TEST

Decreasing ROS levels with dietary antioxidants or by genetic over-expression of antioxidant activities

Increasing ROS levels by genetic inactivation of antioxidant activities

Determining oxidative status in long-lived species and mutants.

Analyzing mitochondrial function and oxidative biomarkers throughout life and their link to disease, including in long-lived mutants

Expected

Long lifespan

Short lifespan

Decreased ROS production.
Less oxidative damage.

Decreased mitochondrial function and increased oxidative damage is linked to aging pathology. Reduced oxidative damage with age in long-lived mutants.

Observed

Normal lifespan
Detrimental effects

Normal or long lifespan
Detrimental effects

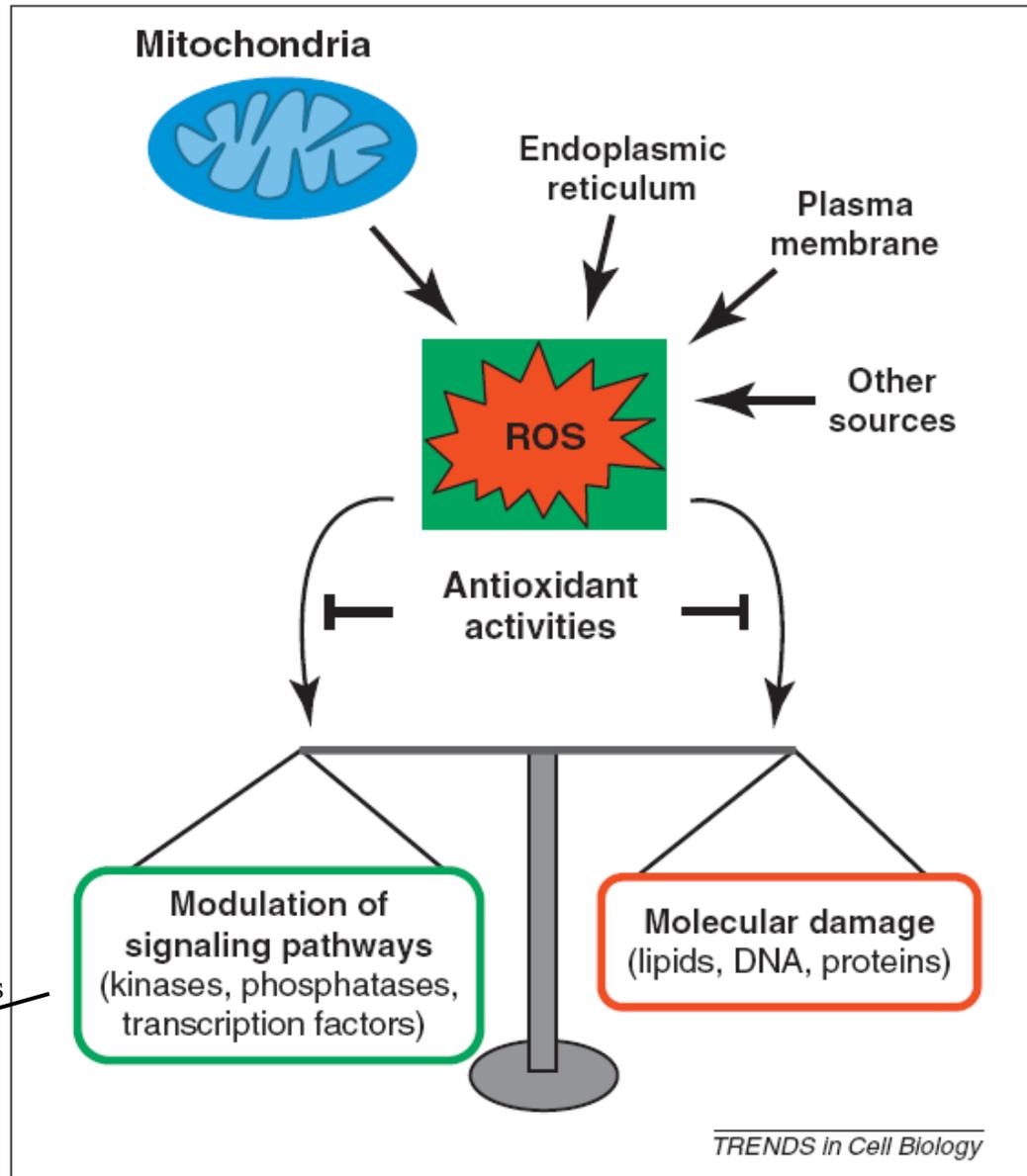
Normal or increase ROS production
Normal or more oxidative damage

As expected.

Falsified

Verified

Sources and targets of ROS



Enzymes modulating the oxidative status and stress response are regulated by kinases and phosphatases

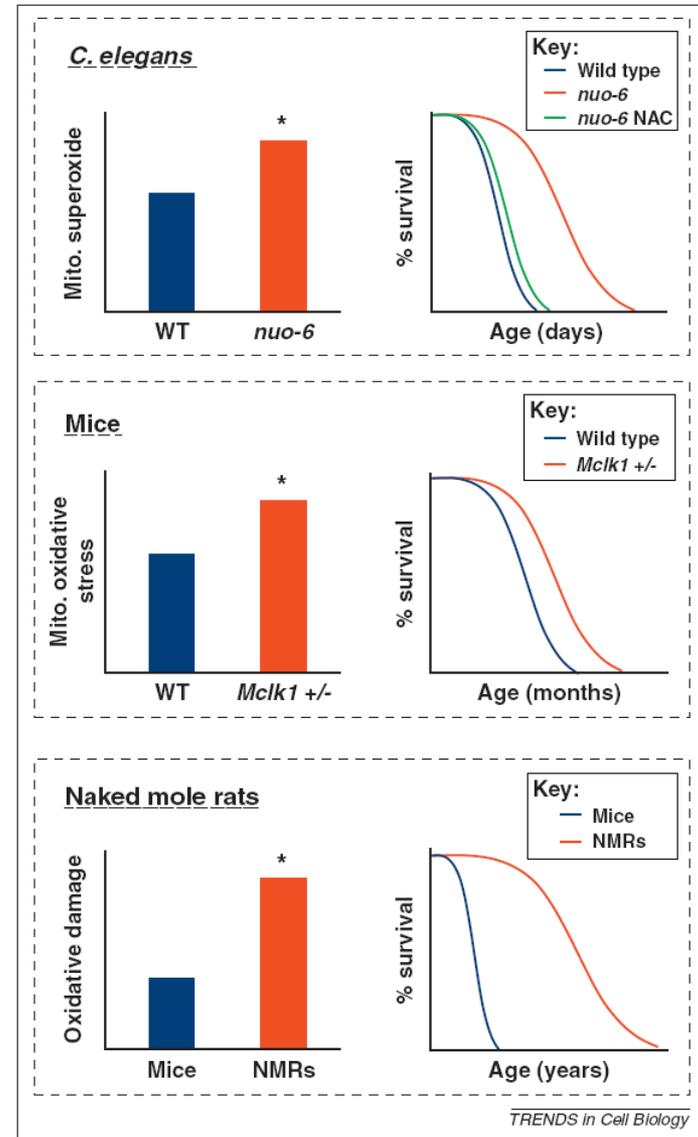
ROS as signaling molecules functioning as stress signals in response to age-dependent damage

ROS can stimulate beneficial responses to cellular stresses produced by aging:

- autophagy
- DNA base excision repair
- protective transcription factor HIF-1a
- changes in gene expression?

Nuo-6 is a subunit of complex I of mitochondrial respiratory chain;
Mclk1^{+/-} mice lack one copy of an enzyme that is necessary for the synthesis of the antioxidant and redox co-factor ubiquinone

Hekimi, S. et al. 2011. Taking a 'good' look at free radicals in the aging process. Trends in Cell Biology. 21, 569-576.

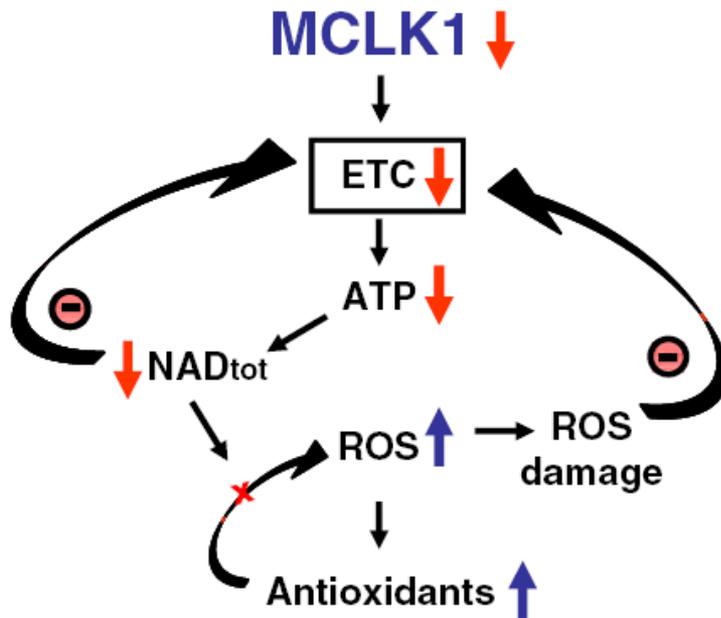


Stress-response hormesis and aging?

Hormesis: a set of phenomena in which exposure to transient and/or repeated doses of a potentially harmful factor induces an adaptive beneficial effect on the cell or organism

MITOCHONDRIAL phenotype
of young *Mclk1*^{+/-} mutants

Changes resulting
from the *Mclk1*^{+/-} phenotype
during chronological aging



Stabilization and improvement of
mitochondrial function.

Gradual reduction of mitochondrial
oxidative stress.

Slower accumulation of global
oxidative damage to:

- DNA (8-OHdG)
- Membrane lipids (isoprostanes)

Observations with *Mclk1*^{+/-} mutants that are irreconcilable with the MFRTA

Gradual ROS response hypothesis

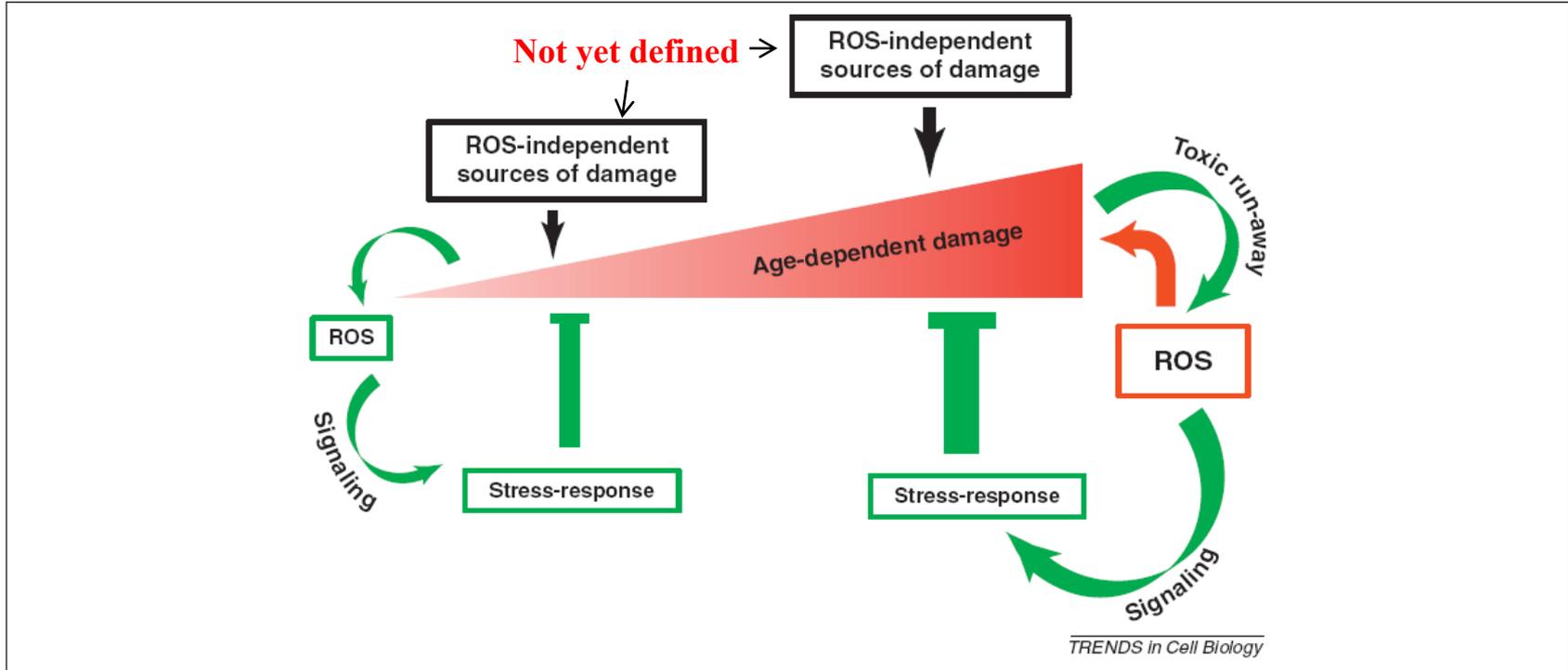
Unlike hormesis, the gradual ROS response hypothesis proposes a process that is gradual, endogenous and occurs continuously as part of normal aging in wild type animals

- (i) As ROS are not the initial cause of aging in at least some species they cannot be a universal cause of aging, although high levels of ROS damage can contribute to the aged phenotype, in particular in disease states that develop later in life**

- (ii) ROS are signaling molecules that can modulate stress response pathways**

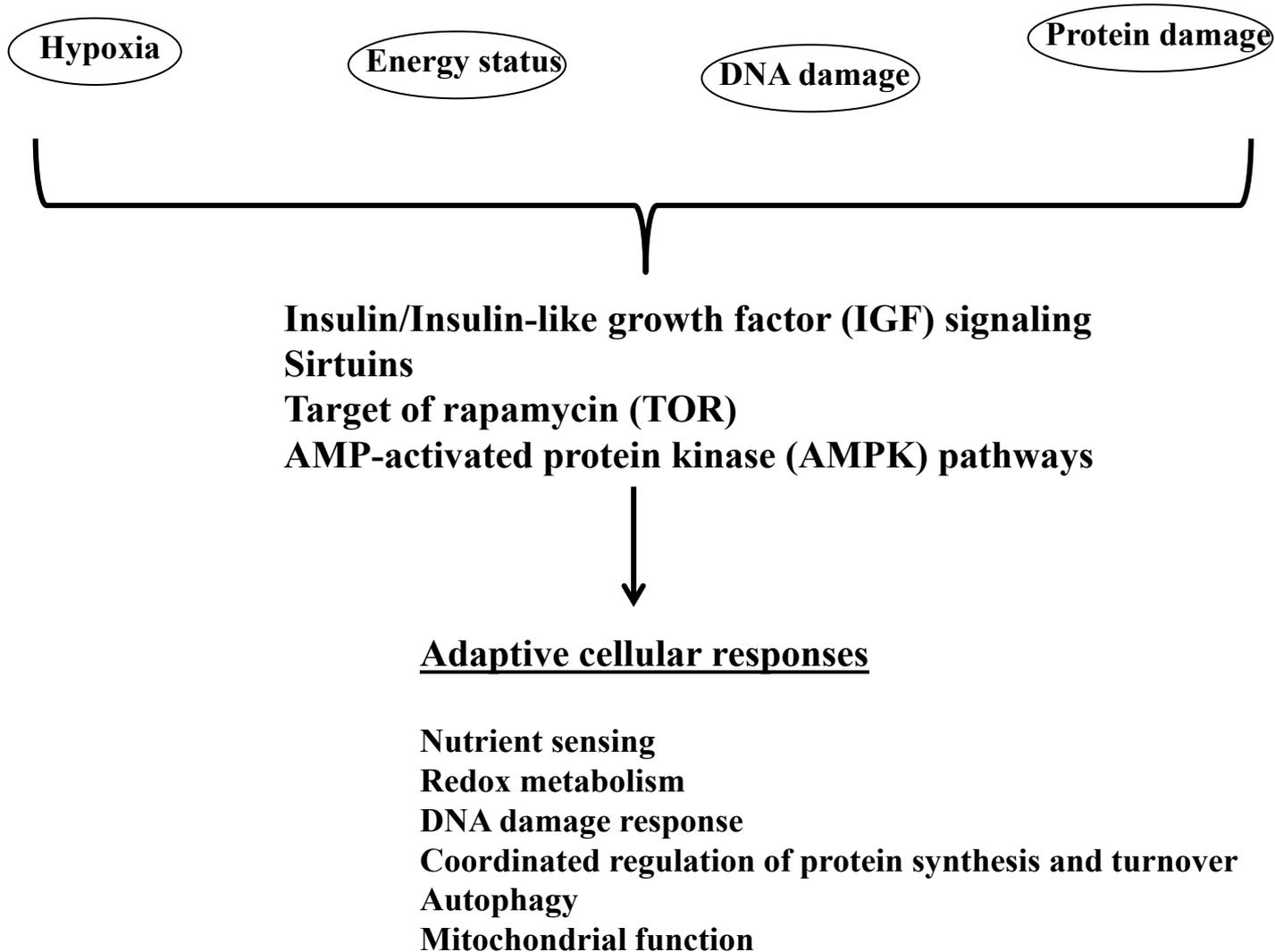
- (iii) Increased ROS levels can result in positive effects, including on cellular processes that limit lifespan**

Gradual ROS response hypothesis



- (i) Proposes that cellular constituents sustain age-dependent damages that trigger protective stress responses that use ROS as second messengers
- (ii) Protective mechanisms are not completely effective leading to a gradual increase in age-related damage
- (iii) The gradual increase in damage leads to a gradually intensifying stimulation of stress responses, and thus, a gradual and sustained generation of ROS
- (iv) With aging, a threshold is reached where levels of ROS become maladaptive and ROS toxicity starts to contribute to the damage production which ROS dependent stress pathways were meant to combat
- (v) The induced ROS-dependent damage could explain the involvement of ROS in age-dependent disease

Cellular stress response pathways



Gene regulation theory of aging

↳ Genes in yeast, worms, flies, and mice have been identified that affect lifespan

↳ Many of these genes regulate/promote growth (glucose or Insulin-like growth factor (IGF-1-like) signaling) and/or resistance against oxidative damage and other forms of stress

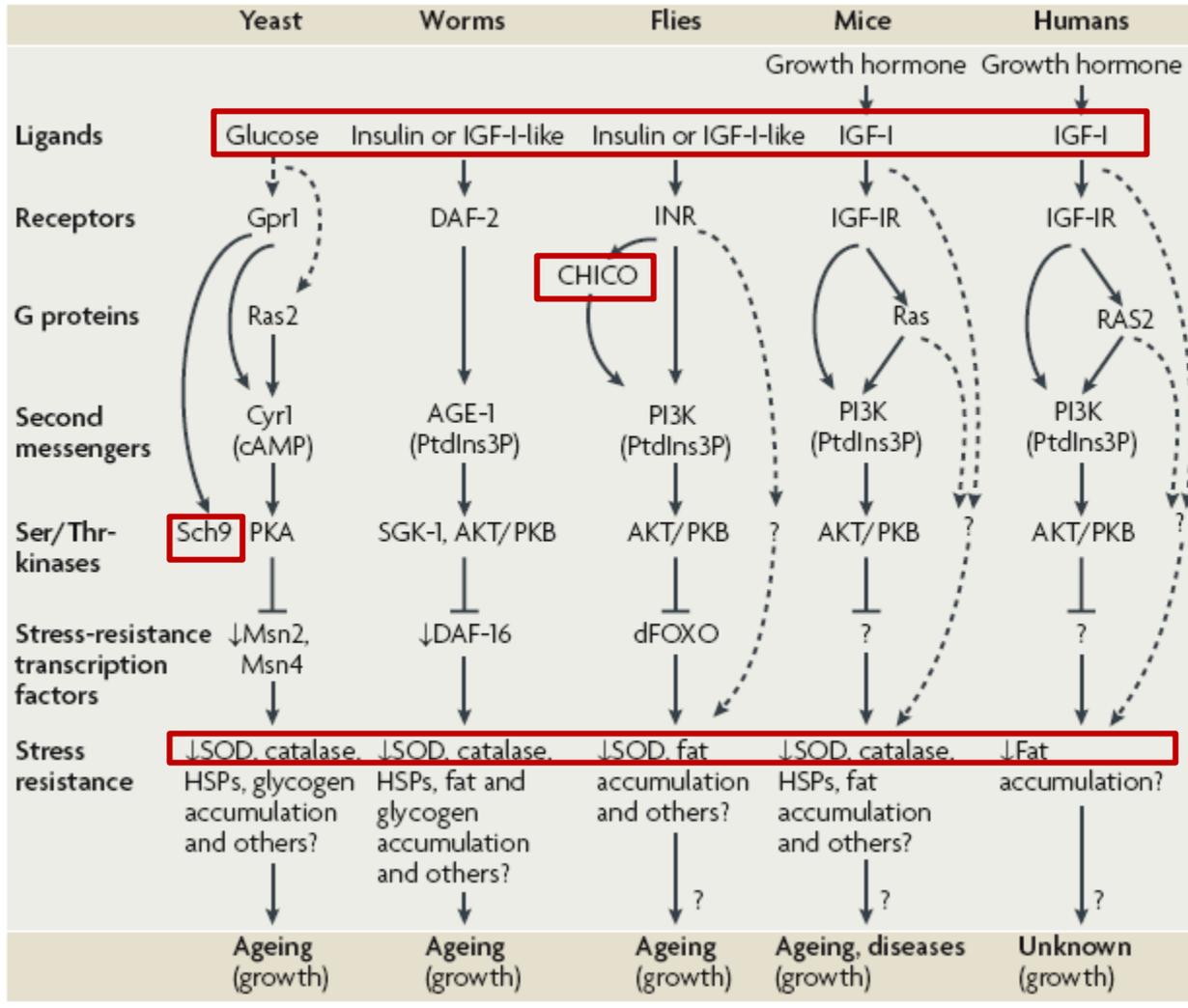
Table 1 Selected examples of genes identified to influence lifespan in model organisms

Organism*	Gene name/description	Function	Reference
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>			
<i>Sir2</i>	NAD(+)-dependent deacetylase	Regulation of metabolism, stress resistance	Kaeberlein <i>et al.</i> , 1999
<i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i>			
<i>age-1</i>	Phosphatidylinositol kinase	Insulin signalling	Morris <i>et al.</i> , 1996
<i>daf-2</i>	Insulin receptor-like gene	Insulin signalling	Kimura <i>et al.</i> , 1997
<i>daf-12</i>	Nuclear hormone receptor	Regulation of metabolic and developmental pathways	Larsen <i>et al.</i> , 1995
<i>daf-16</i>	Forkhead transcription factor	Regulation of metabolic and developmental pathways	Ogg <i>et al.</i> , 1997
<i>Drosophila melanogaster</i>			
<i>Cat</i>	Catalase	Antioxidant activity	Orr & Sohal, 1994
<i>Chico</i>	Insulin receptor substrate	Insulin signalling	Clancy <i>et al.</i> , 2001
<i>Sod1</i>	Superoxide dismutase	Antioxidant activity	Parkes <i>et al.</i> , 1998
<i>Sod2</i>	Superoxide dismutase	Antioxidant activity	Sohal <i>et al.</i> , 1995
<i>Mei-41</i>	Phosphatidylinositol kinase, ATR kinase orthologue	DNA repair	Symphorien & Woodruff, 2003
<i>Pcmt</i>	Protein carboxyl methyltransferase	Protein repair	Chavous <i>et al.</i> , 2001
<i>Mus musculus</i>			
<i>Gh</i>	Growth hormone	Insulin signalling, tissue proliferation	Bartke, 2005
<i>Klotho</i>	Beta-glucuronidase	Inhibits IIS signalling	Kuro-o <i>et al.</i> , 1997
<i>p53</i>	Tumour protein p53	Tumour suppression	Tyner <i>et al.</i> , 2002

*Organism in which the gene was first shown to influence lifespan.

Kuningas, M. et al. 2008. Genes encoding longevity: from model organisms to humans.

Conserved regulation of longevity



***Inherited SNPs in genes of insulin signaling pathway correlate with longevity**

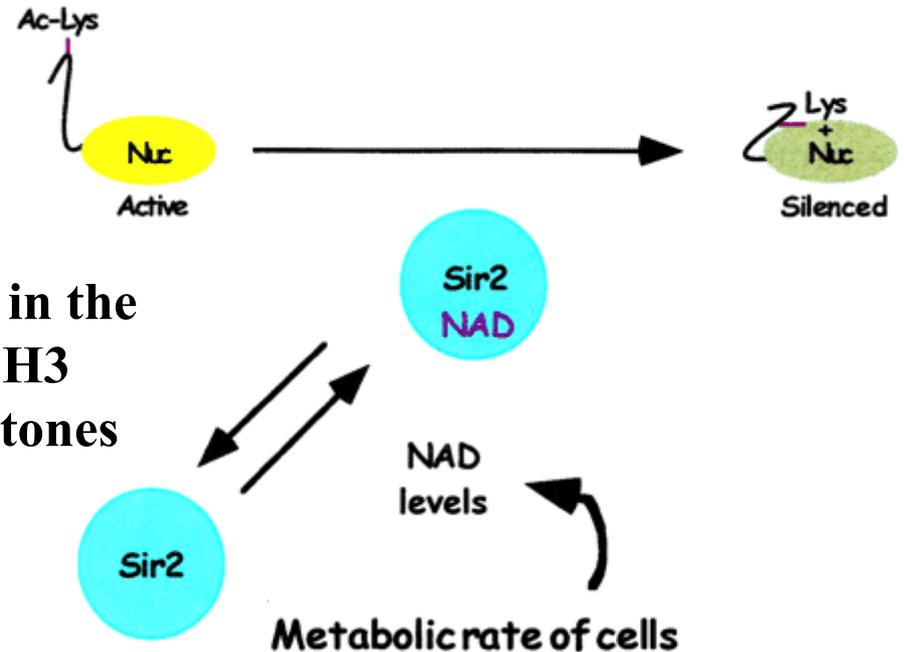
***SNPs in AKT1, FOXO1, FOXO3a found in multiple centenarian cohorts**

Longo, VD, Lieber, MR, Vijg, J. 2008 Turning anti-ageing genes against cancer. Nature Reviews Molecular Cell Biology, 9, 903-910; Haigis, M.C. and Yankner, B.A. 2010. The aging stress response. Mol. Cell 40, 333-344

SIR proteins

The yeast sirtuin 2 (Sir2-silent information regulator 2) is a nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD) histone deacetylase that modulates yeast replicative life span by suppressing genome instability through chromatin modification.

SIR2 is important for chromatin structure: it functions to silence several loci in yeast, including telomeres, ribosomal DNA (rDNA) and the mating loci.



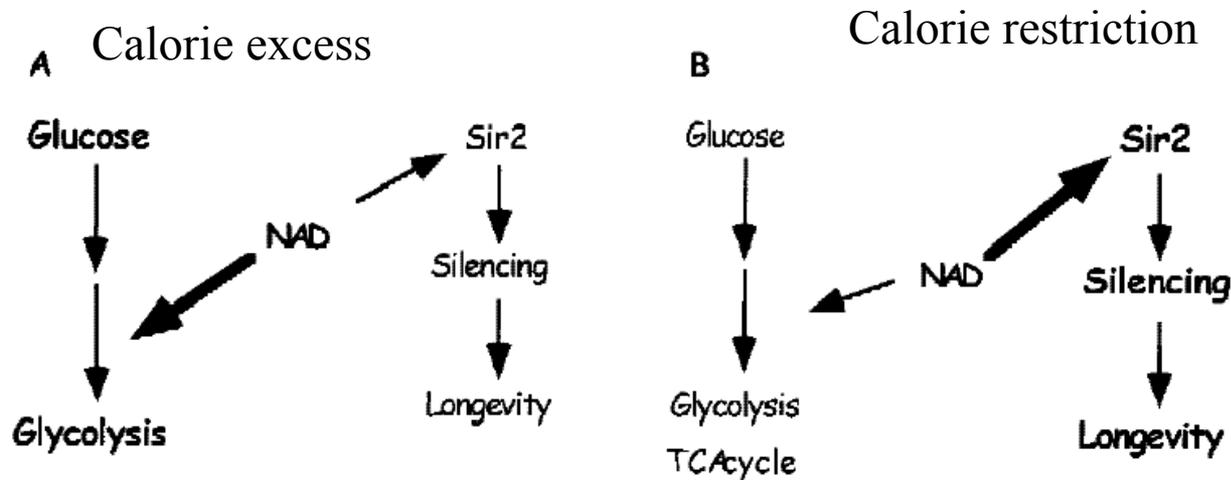
Silencing requires that particular lysines in the extended amino-terminal tail of histones H3 and H4 be deacetylated (deacetylated histones can fold into a more compact, closed nucleosomal structure)

Is SIR2 the link between caloric restriction and longevity?

Lifespan is not extended by caloric restriction of a yeast strain that lacks SIR2

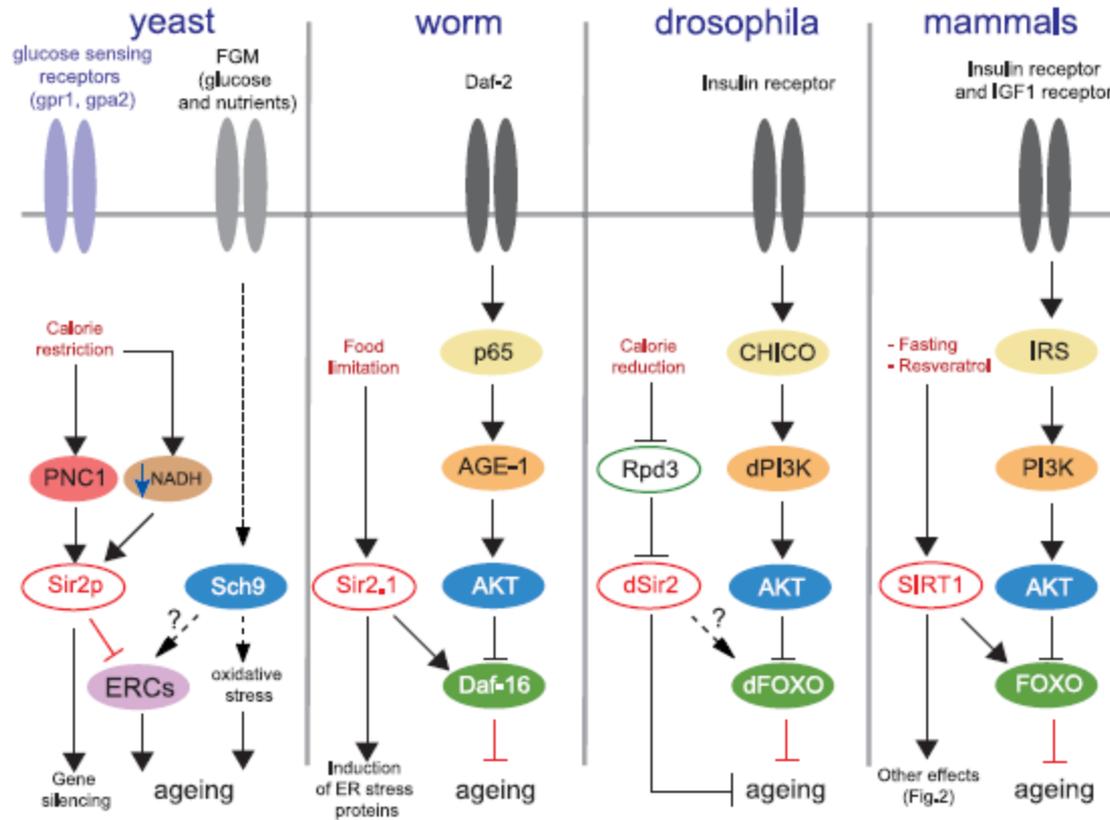
Sirtuin activating compounds (STACs, e.g. resveratrol) can promote the survival of human cells, extend the replicative lifespan of yeast and delay aging in *C.elegans* and *D. melanogaster* likely by mimicing caloric restriction

Model: More NAD becomes available when the physiological rate is slowed (caloric restriction), increasing SIR2 activity followed by increased silencing and lifespan



SIR2 and signaling pathways in different species

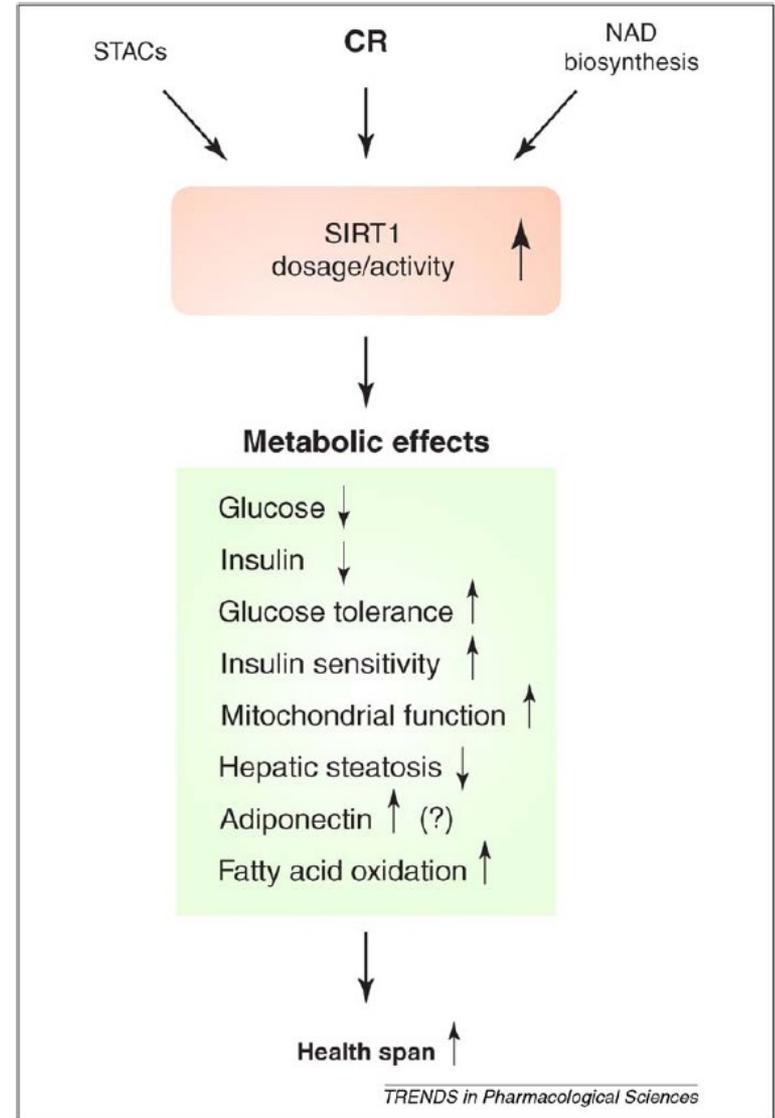
Intersects the insulin/IGF-signaling pathway



Dali-Youcef, N. et al. 2007. Sirtuins: The ‘magnificent seven’, function, metabolism and longevity. *Annals of Medicine* 39, 335-345.

SIRT1 and CR

- Unlike wild-type mice, SIRT1-deficient mice do not exhibit increased physical activity upon CR
- SIRT1 transgenic mice display phenotypes that mimic some of the physiological changes in response to CR
 - Decreased insulin and glucose levels in blood
 - Improved glucose tolerance
 - Reduced fat mass and circulating levels of free fatty acid
 - Reduced level of total cholesterol in blood
 - Enhanced oxygen consumption
 - Improved activity in rotarod tests
 - Delayed reproductive timing



Imai, S. and Guarente, L. 2010. Ten years of NAD-dependent SIR2 family deacetylases: implications For metabolic diseases. Trends in Pharmacological Sciences. 31, 212-220.

SIRT targets in mammals

Table 1. Mammalian sirtuins

	Enzymatic activity	Homologs	Subcellular localization	Function
SIRT1	Deacetylase	Sir2p (<i>S. cerevisiae</i>) Hst1p (<i>S. cerevisiae</i>) SIR-2.1 (<i>C. elegans</i>) dSIR2 (<i>D. melanogaster</i>)	Nuclear, cytoplasmic	Glucose production (liver) Fatty-acid oxidation (liver) Cholesterol regulation (liver) Fatty-acid mobilization (WAT) Adipokine regulation (WAT) Fatty-acid oxidation (skeletal muscle) Insulin secretion (pancreatic β -cells) Neuroprotection (brain) Regulation of cellular differentiation Stress resistance and apoptosis control Mediator for caloric restriction
SIRT2	Deacetylase	Hst2p (<i>S. cerevisiae</i>) SIRT2 (<i>D. melanogaster</i>)	Cytoplasmic, nuclear	Tubulin deacetylation Cell cycle control
SIRT3	Deacetylase		Mitochondrial	Mitochondrial protein deacetylation Acetate metabolism regulation ATP production Regulation of mitochondrial fatty-acid oxidation
SIRT4	ADP- ribosyltransferase	SIR-2.2 (<i>C. elegans</i>) SIR-2.3 (<i>C. elegans</i>) SIRT4 (<i>D. melanogaster</i>)	Mitochondrial	Amino acid-stimulated insulin secretion (pancreatic β -cells)
SIRT5	Deacetylase		Mitochondrial	Urea cycle regulation (liver)
SIRT6	ADP-ribosyltransferase Deacetylase	SIR-2.4 (<i>C. elegans</i>) SIRT6 (<i>D. melanogaster</i>)	Nuclear	Base excision repair Telomeric chromatin structure NF- β B regulation
SIRT7	Deacetylase	SIRT7 (<i>D. melanogaster</i>)	Nucleolar	Pol I transcription

WAT, white adipose tissue; BAT, brown adipose tissue.

References [22–26,121].

Imai, S. and Guarente, L. 2010. Ten years of NAD-dependent SIR2 family deacetylases: implications For metabolic diseases. Trends in Pharmacological Sciences. 31, 212-220.

SIRT targets in mammals

Table 1 | Protein substrates and interactors of mammalian sirtuins*

Sirtuin	Disease area	Therapeutic strategy	Substrates/interactors	Overexpression/knockout model summary
SIRT1	Metabolic, neurological, cardiovascular, renal, cancer, mitochondrial	Activation	p53, FOXO1, FOXO4, COUP-TF, CTIP2, NF-κB-p65, NCOR, histone H1, histone H4, KU70, p300, BCL11A, Tat, PGC1α, MEF2, eNOS, ACS1, E2F1, AR, p73, SMAD7, NBS1, RB, TLE1, IRS2, LXR, AROS, SUV39H1, WRN, DBC1, TORC2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficacy observed in preclinical models of diabetes with small-molecule SIRT1 activators²⁴ • Transgenic overexpression of SIRT1 is cardioprotective against oxidative stress and heart ageing⁵⁷ • <i>Sirt1</i>-overexpressing mice show some phenotypes of calorie-restricted mice⁷ • <i>SIRT1</i> overexpression shows beneficial effects in Alzheimer's disease and Huntington's disease models^{59,63} • Knockout mice have genomic instability and developmental defects^{58,61} • SIRT1 activates PGC1α by deacetylation and is involved in mitochondrial biogenesis¹⁰
SIRT2	Neurological, metabolic, cancer	Inhibition/activation?	Tubulin, HOXA10, FOXO, histone H4, 14-3-3 protein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efficacy observed in a cellular and <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> model of Parkinson's disease with small-molecule SIRT2 inhibitors⁶²
SIRT3	Metabolic, mitochondrial	Activation	ACS2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sirt3</i>-knockout mice have hyperacetylated proteins in mitochondria⁶⁰
SIRT4	Metabolic, mitochondrial	Inhibition?	GDH, IDE, ANT2, ANT3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sirt4</i>-knockout mice are viable and fertile; pancreatic mitochondrial lysates from knockout animals show higher GDH activity³¹
SIRT5	Neurological	Unknown	Unknown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased expression of <i>Sirt5</i> observed in frontal cortex of brains from serotonin receptor knockout mice⁶⁴
SIRT6	Cancer	Activation	Histone H3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knockout mice have genomic instability, premature ageing phenotype and predisposition to developing cancer⁵²
SIRT7	Cardiovascular	Activation	RNA polymerase I, p53	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knockout mice have decreased lifespan with inflammatory cardiac hypertrophy⁵⁶

SIRT6 depletion leads to telomere dysfunction with end-to-end chromosomal fusions and premature cellular senescence

Lavu, S. et al. 2008. Sirtuins—novel therapeutic targets to treat age-associated diseases. *Nature Reviews Drug Discovery* 7, 841-853.

SIRT1 as a potent protector from age-associated pathologies, such as diabetes, liver steatosis, cardiovascular disease, neurodegeneration, and cancer

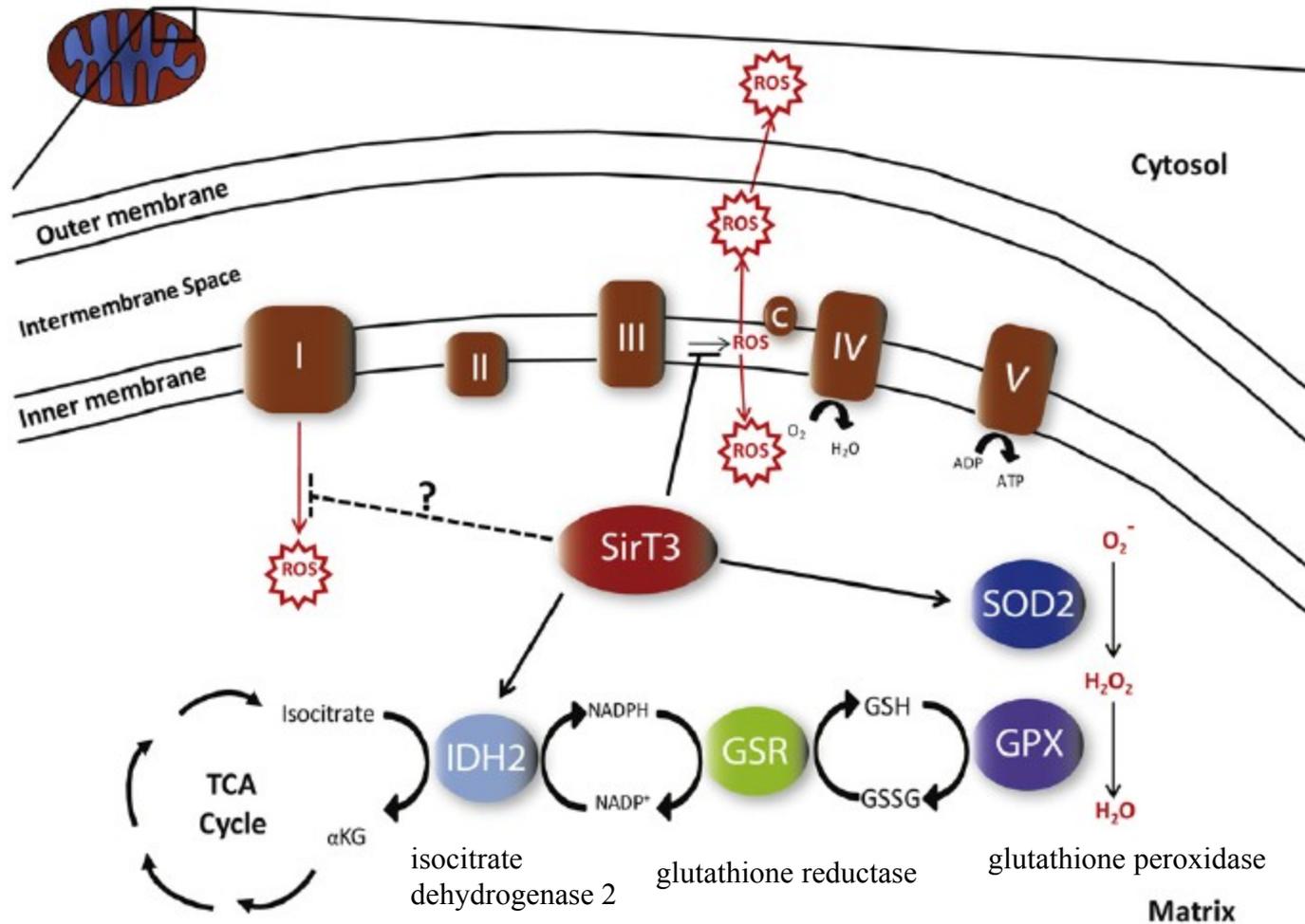
Table 1 | SIRT1 mouse models and their effects on cancer and metabolism

Mouse model	Cancer phenotypes	Metabolic phenotypes	Refs
<i>Whole-body overexpression</i>			
<i>Sirt1</i> -transgenic	Incidence of carcinomas and sarcomas reduced in ageing mice, as were metabolic syndrome-associated cancers. No effect seen on chemically induced fibrosarcomas or ageing-associated lymphomas	Mice were protected against developing glucose intolerance induced by ageing, diet-induced obesity and genetically induced obesity. They were also protected from fatty liver disease and inflammation in WAT and liver that is induced by a HFD	26,33, 34
<i>Tissue-specific overexpression</i>			
<i>Sirt1</i> expressed in pancreatic β -cells	Not explored	Increased insulin secretion	31
Brain- and adipose tissue-specific expression of <i>Sirt1</i>	Not explored	Increased glucose tolerance and decreased body weight	32
<i>Sirt1</i> expressed in the intestine of <i>Apc^{+/min}</i> mice	Decreased intestinal polyp formation	Not explored	25
<i>Whole-body deficiency</i>			
<i>Sirt1</i> -null	No effect on <i>Apc^{+/min}</i> -induced intestinal polyps and no effect on chemically induced papillomas	Decreased insulin production, improved glucose tolerance and protection from fatty liver induced by LXR agonists	42,43, 62
<i>Sirt1</i> ^{-/-}	Not explored	Increased fatty liver disease, body weight and liver inflammation induced by HFD	36
<i>Sirt1</i> ^{-/-} ; <i>Trp53</i> ^{-/-}	Increased incidence of sarcomas and lymphomas associated with <i>Trp53</i> deficiency	Not explored	28
<i>Tissue-specific deficiency</i>			
<i>Sirt1</i> liver-specific knockout	Not explored	Mice fed a HFD had increased fatty liver disease, inflammation and ER stress in liver, and increased body weight	40
<i>Sirt1</i> liver-specific knockout	Not explored	Mice fed a HFD were protected from glucose intolerance and showed decreased liver and body weight	41
<i>Sirt1</i> myeloid-specific knockout	Not explored	HFD induced increased glucose intolerance and inflammation in WAT and the liver	37
<i>Sirt1</i> brain-specific knockout	Not explored	Increased glucose intolerance associated with ageing	38
<i>Sirt1</i> POMC neuron-specific knockout	Not explored	Protection from HFD-induced obesity	39

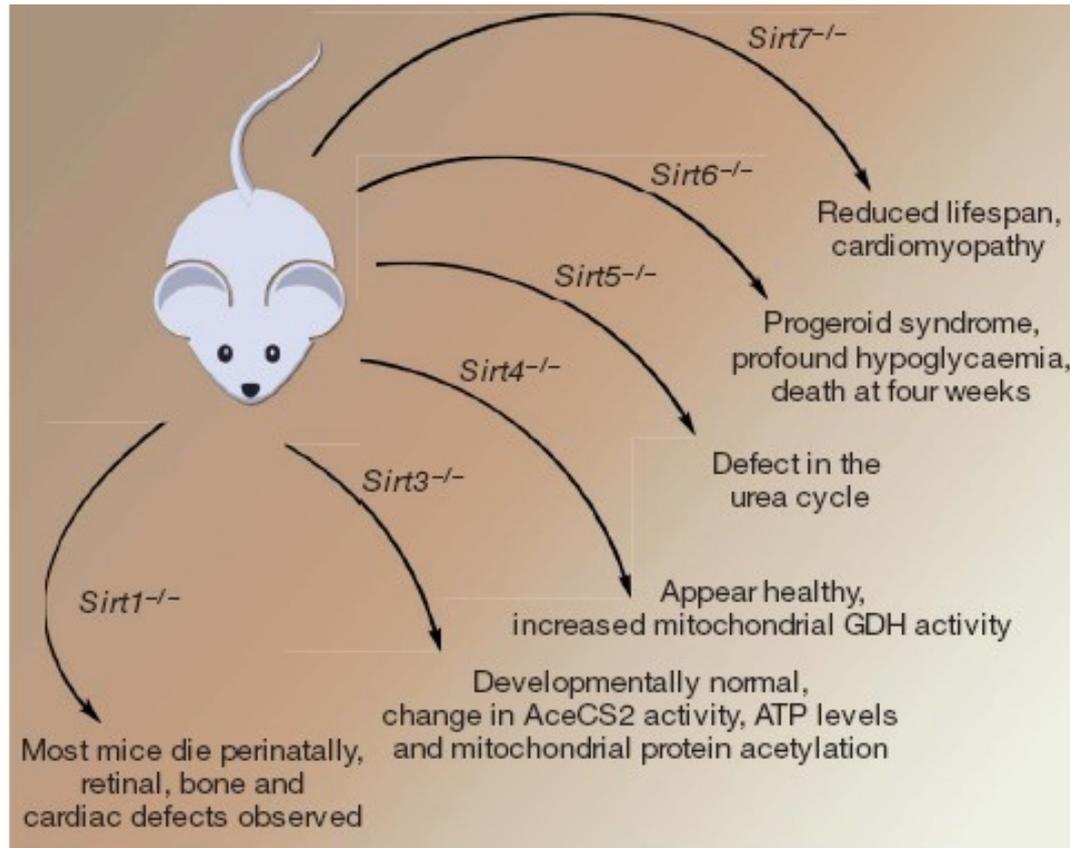
ER, endoplasmic reticulum; HFD, high-fat diet; LXR, liver X receptor (also known as NR1H3); POMC, pro-opiomelanocortin; WAT, white adipose tissue.

Herranz, D. and Serrano, M. 2010. SIRT1: recent lessons from mouse models. *Nature Reviews* 10, 819-823.

SirT3 protects against damage from mitochondrially derived ROS



SIRT targets in mammals



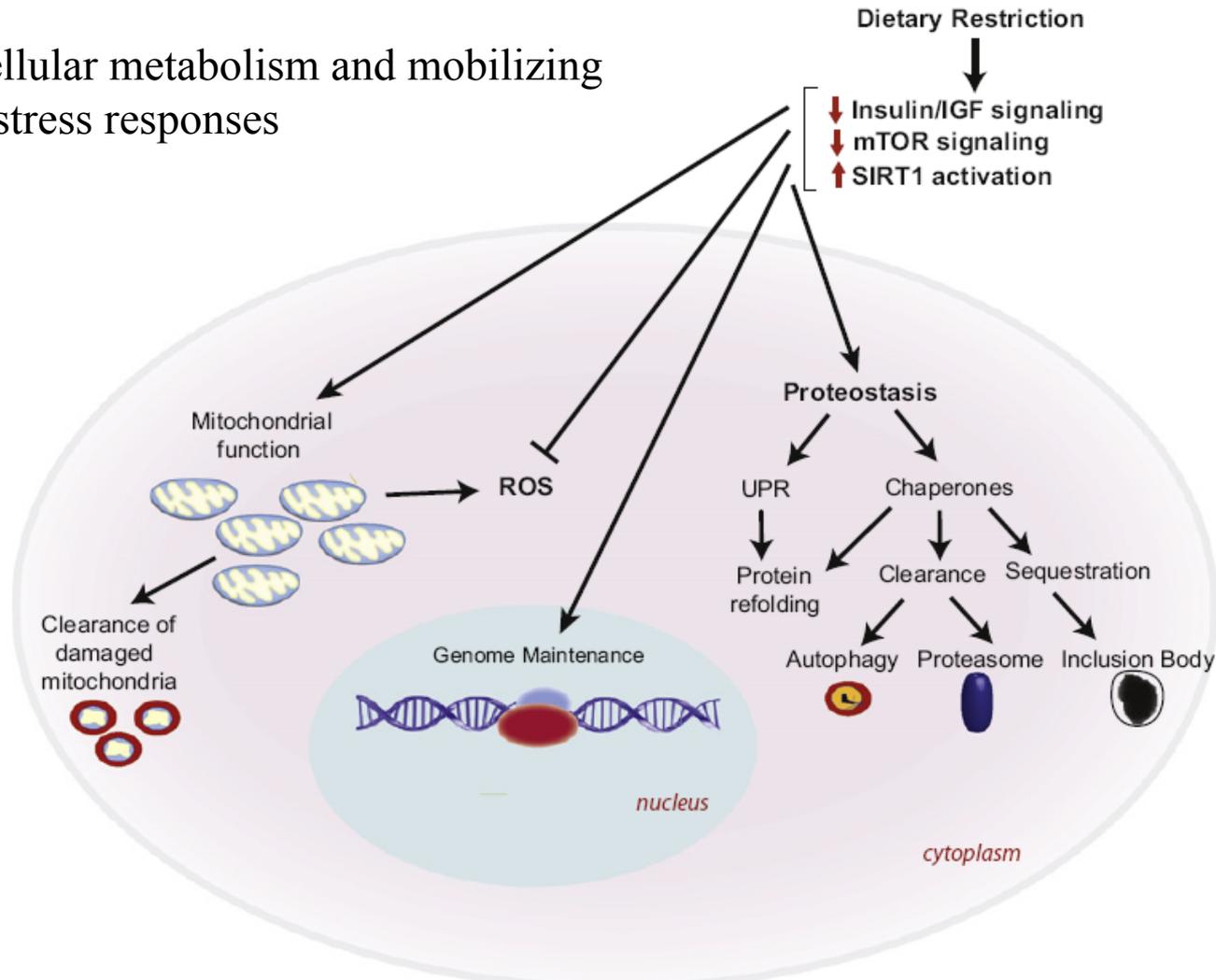
However, no definitive evidence that the SIR proteins play any direct role in mammalian lifespan regulation since neither pharmacological sirtuin activators nor overexpression of SIRT1 has been demonstrated to extend lifespan in mice; higher levels of overexpression or overexpression of several sirtuins?

Finkel, T. et al. 2009. Recent progress in the biology and physiology of sirtuins. *Nature* 460, 587-591.

Herranz, D. and Serrano, M. 2010. SIRT1: recent lessons from mouse models. *Nature Reviews* 10, 819-823.

Nutritional Regulation of Conserved Signaling and Stress Response Pathways

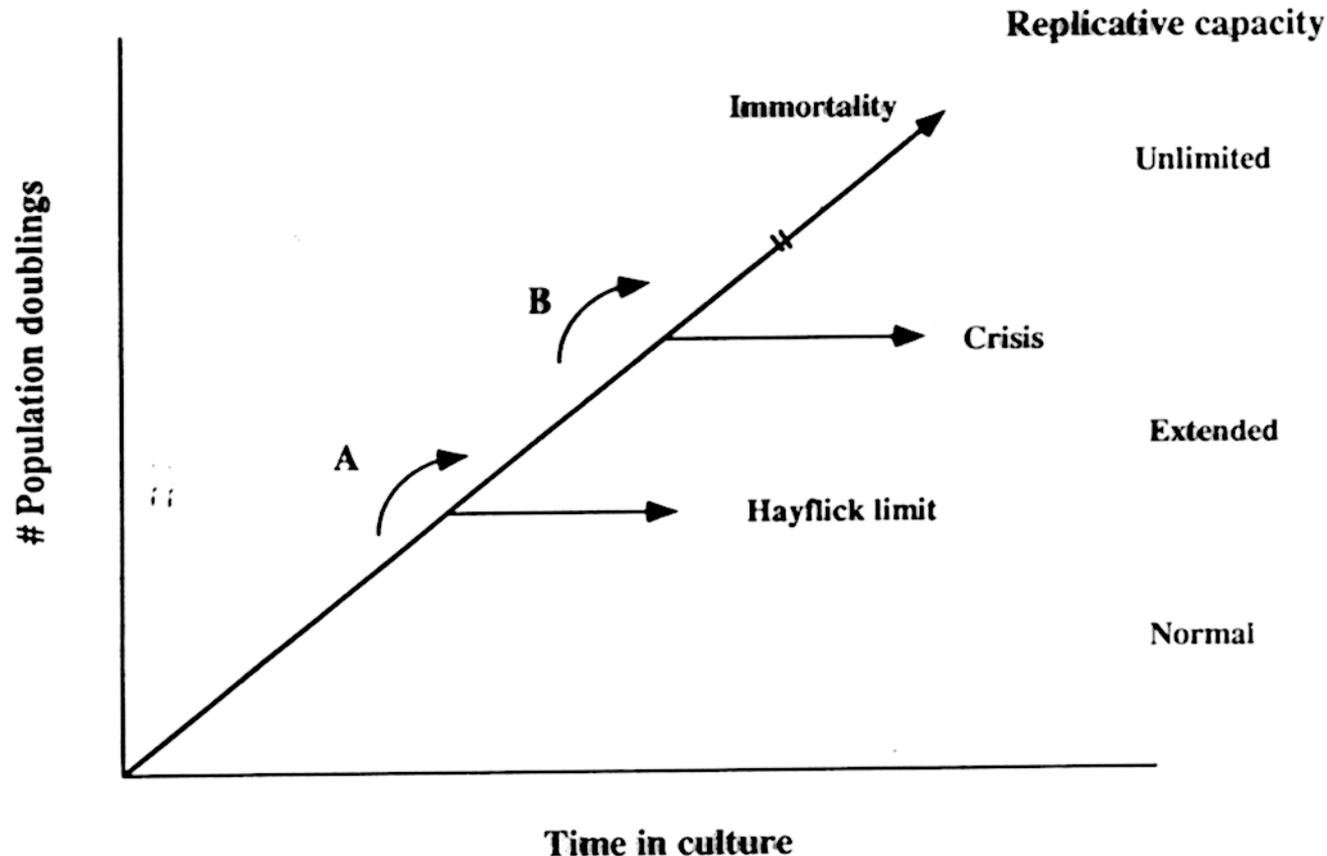
Altering cellular metabolism and mobilizing protective stress responses



Haigis, M.C. and Yankner, B.A. 2010. The aging stress response. Mol. Cell 40, 333-344

Replicative senescence and telomere theory of aging

Human primary cells such as fibroblasts divide a ‘programmed’ number of times before undergoing replicative senescence in culture. This limit on cell division is called the Hayflick limit.



Characteristics of senescent cells

Withdrawal from cell cycle, but not quiescent or terminally differentiated

Chromosomal instability

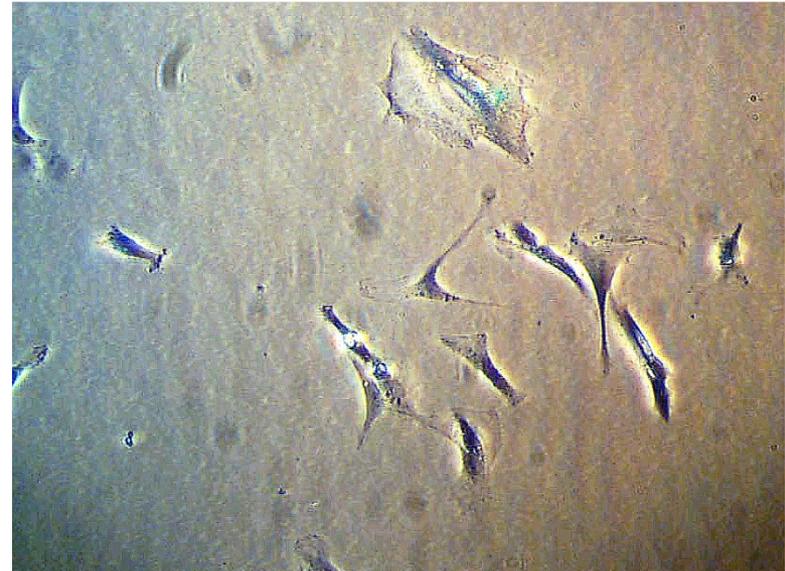
Morphological and biochemical changes (enlargement up to twofold relative to size of nonsenescent counterparts)

Altered gene expression, increased p16INK4a

Metabolically viable

Senescence-associated β -galactosidase (some lysosome activities are elevated in senescent cells; lysosomal β -Gal may increase such that its activity is detectable at pH 6)

Senescence-associated heterochromatin (SAHF) which silence critical pro-proliferative genes



Human cell senescence *in vitro* and lifelong replication *in vivo*?

⌚ Cell from old donors divide fewer times in culture than cells from young donors

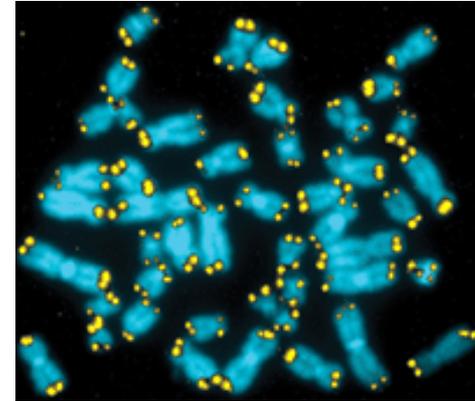
⌚ Cells from different species have a Hayflick limit that correlates with species longevity

⌚ Cell from patients with accelerated aging syndromes divide fewer times in culture than cells from age-matched controls

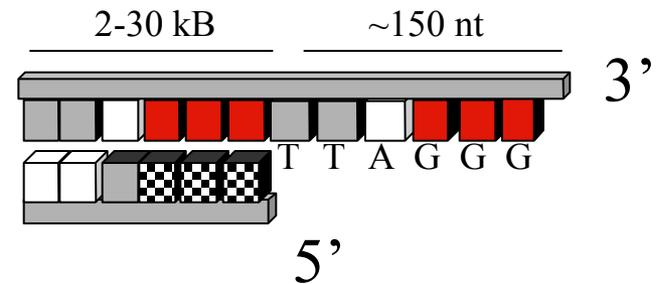
⌚ Accumulation of senescent cells in older individuals

Is there a genetic mitotic clock that counts the number of cell divisions and signals to exit the cell cycle?

- **Telomeres are ends of linear eukaryotic chromosomes**
- **Composed of many tandemly arranged copies of a short, G-rich DNA sequence (TTAGGG in humans)**
- **Contain a short ss G-rich 3' overhang that is important for telomere function**



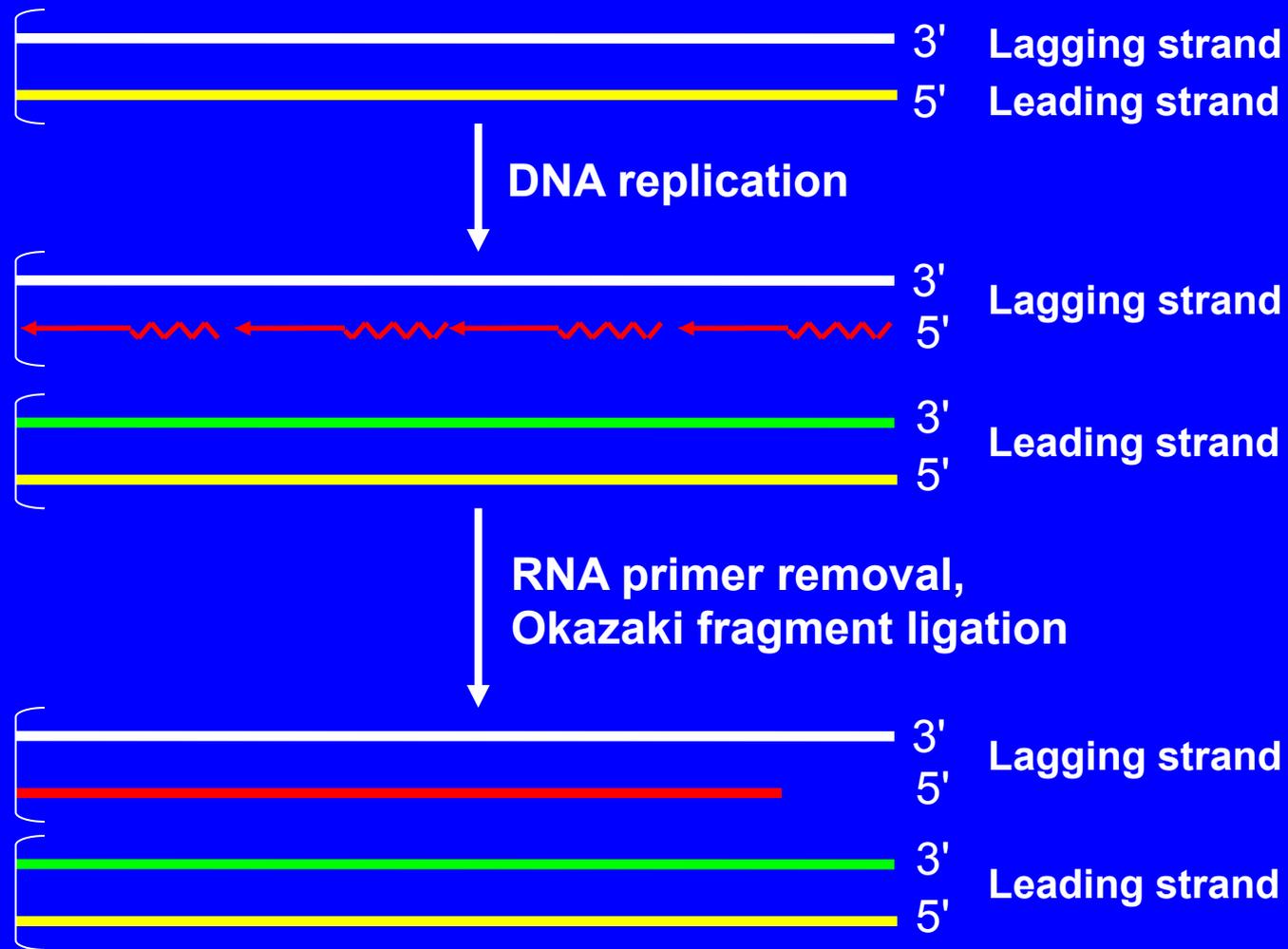
Ning et al., 2003



TELOMERIC SIMPLE SEQUENCE REPEATS

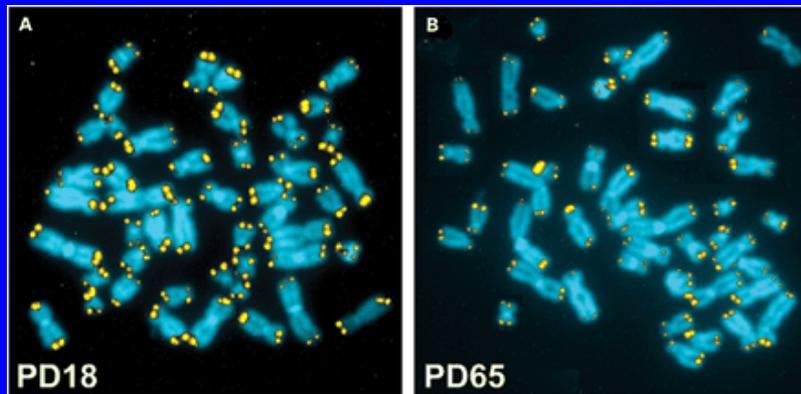
Organism	Repeat sequence
Tetrahymena	T_2G_4
Oxytricha	T_4G_4
Saccharomyces	$(TG)_{1-6}TG_{2-3}$
Kluyvermyces	$ACG_2AT_3GAT_2AG_2TATGTG_2TGT$
Arabidopsis	T_3AG_3
Homo sapiens	T_2AG_3

End-replication problem



The end replication problem causes telomere shortening

In the absence of a mechanism to counteract the end replication problem, telomeres shorten with each successive round of DNA replication.



Fluorescence in situ hybridization (FISH)
with telomeric probe

Ning et al., 2003



Terminal restriction fragment (TRF) blot

Correlation between donor age and telomere length in human fibroblasts

TABLE 1 Effect of donor age on telomere length in human fibroblasts

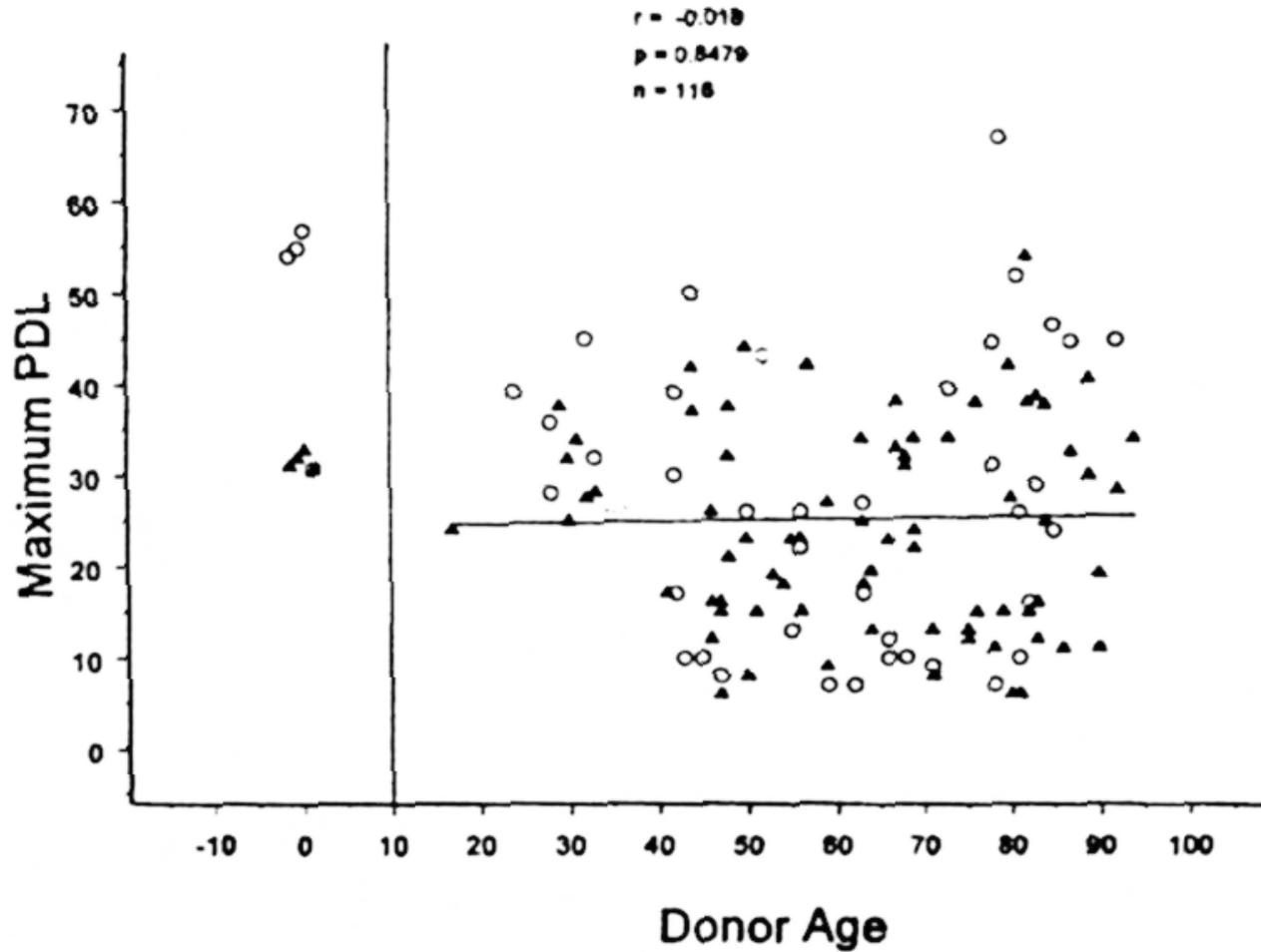
Cell strain	Age		Mean telomere length kb \pm s.d. (n)
	<i>in vivo</i> years	<i>in vitro</i> MPD (MPD max)	
HSC172	Fetal	18-28 (88)	8.6 \pm 0.5 (3)
A30S	0	33 (58)	7.3 (1)
A38	24	31-33 (68)	6.9 \pm 0.3 (2)
A35	70	19 (41)	6.7 (1)
F001	71	21-29 (40)	6.5 \pm 0.4 (5)
F002	91	18-20 (45)	6.2 \pm 0.1 (3)

Mean telomere length (the length of the terminal restriction fragment) was determined as described in Fig. 2a for fibroblast cell strains at the earliest available mean population doubling (MPD) in separate experiments. Strains were derived from female fetal lung (HSC172), female newborn skin (A30S), male forearm skin (A38, A35) or female abdominal skin (F001, F002). MPD at time of assay and senescence (MPD max) are indicated. The correlation between increasing donor age and decreasing telomere length is statistically significant ($P < 0.05$).

Relation between replicative senescence of cells in culture and organismal lifespan?

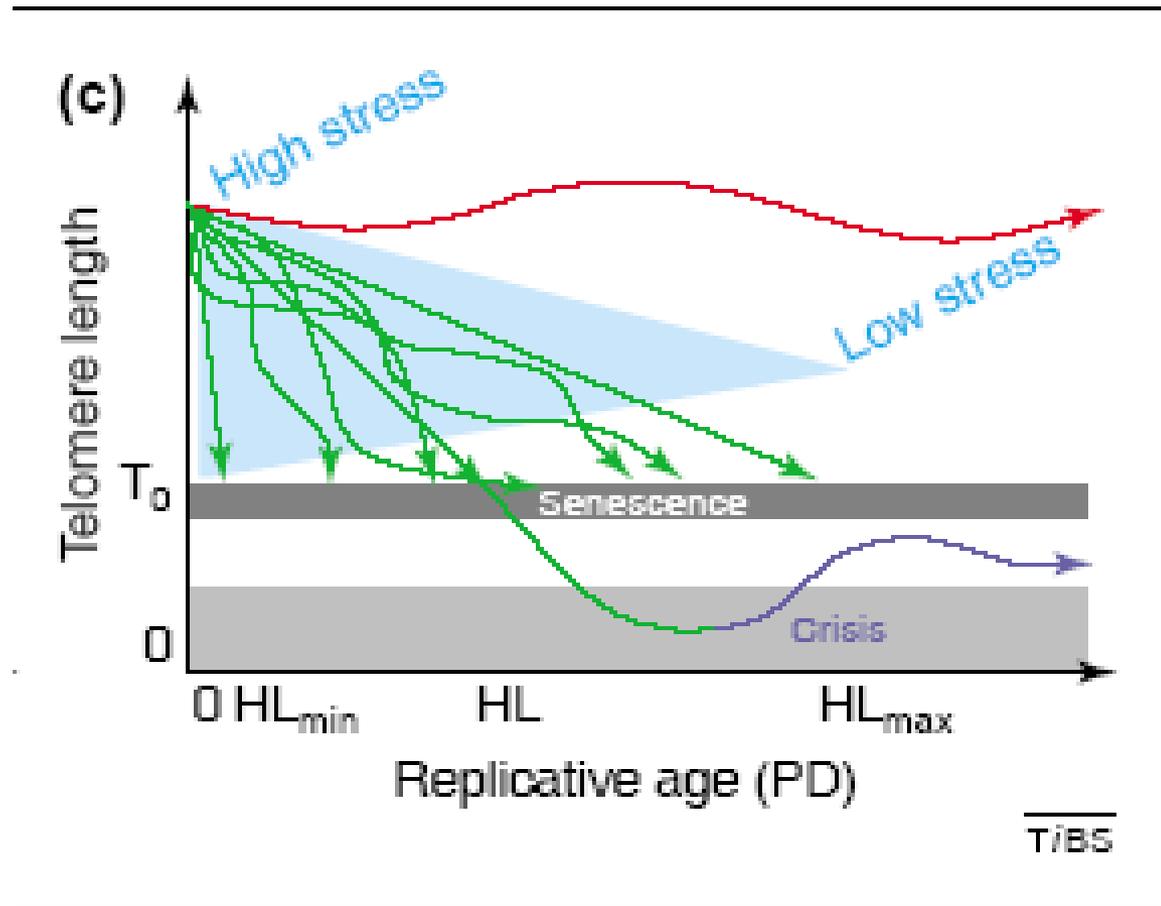
- ∞ There is a wide distribution of replicative potential of cells cultured from humans and animals**
- ∞ The Hayflick limit applies only to the longest surviving clone**
- ∞ Stem cells of intact renewing tissues undergo more divisions in a lifetime than the Hayflick limit in culture**
- ∞ Morphological changes in vitro are not comparable to those in vivo**
- ∞ Two clonal populations derived from a single mitosis may have different replicative potentials**
- ∞ Correlation between donor age and replicative potential is difficult to reproduce**
- ∞ Correlation between lifespan and Hayflick limit has several exceptions**

Relationship between in vitro proliferative capacity of postnatal skin fibroblast cell lines and donor age



Health status and biopsy conditions need to be considered

Balance between oxidative stress and antioxidant defence modulates telomere length and replicative senescence



Aging, Rejuvenation, and Epigenetic Reprogramming: Resetting the Aging Clock

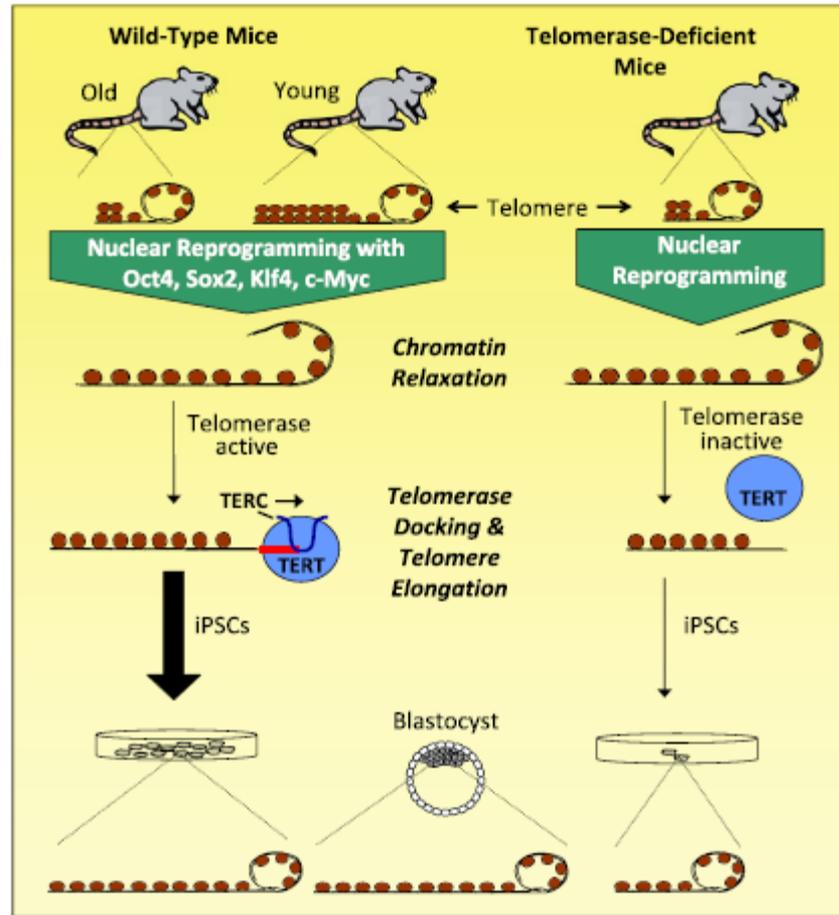
Reprogramming during fertilization

Somatic cell nuclear transfer exploits the reprogramming process during fertilization. Are there any age-related alterations of the transplanted nucleus?

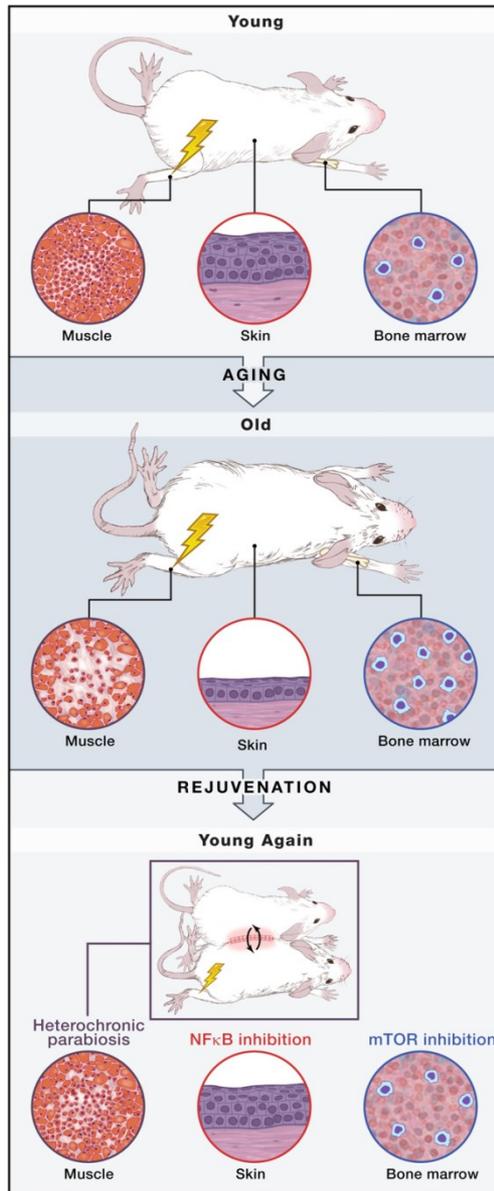
Creation of induced pluripotent stem cells by the transcription factors Oct4, Sox2 and Klf4

Reprogramming is characterized by a reversal of the differentiation program and attainment of pluripotency, but not reversal of aging

Induced pluripotent stem cells, epigenetic reprogramming and the role of telomeres



Is it possible to reset the aging clock without affecting the differentiation program?



- impaired regenerative responses in skeletal muscle
- thinning of the skin epithelium
- hypercellularity of the bone marrow.

Yes, environmentally, by heterochronic parabiosis (systemic circulations of two animals are joined together)

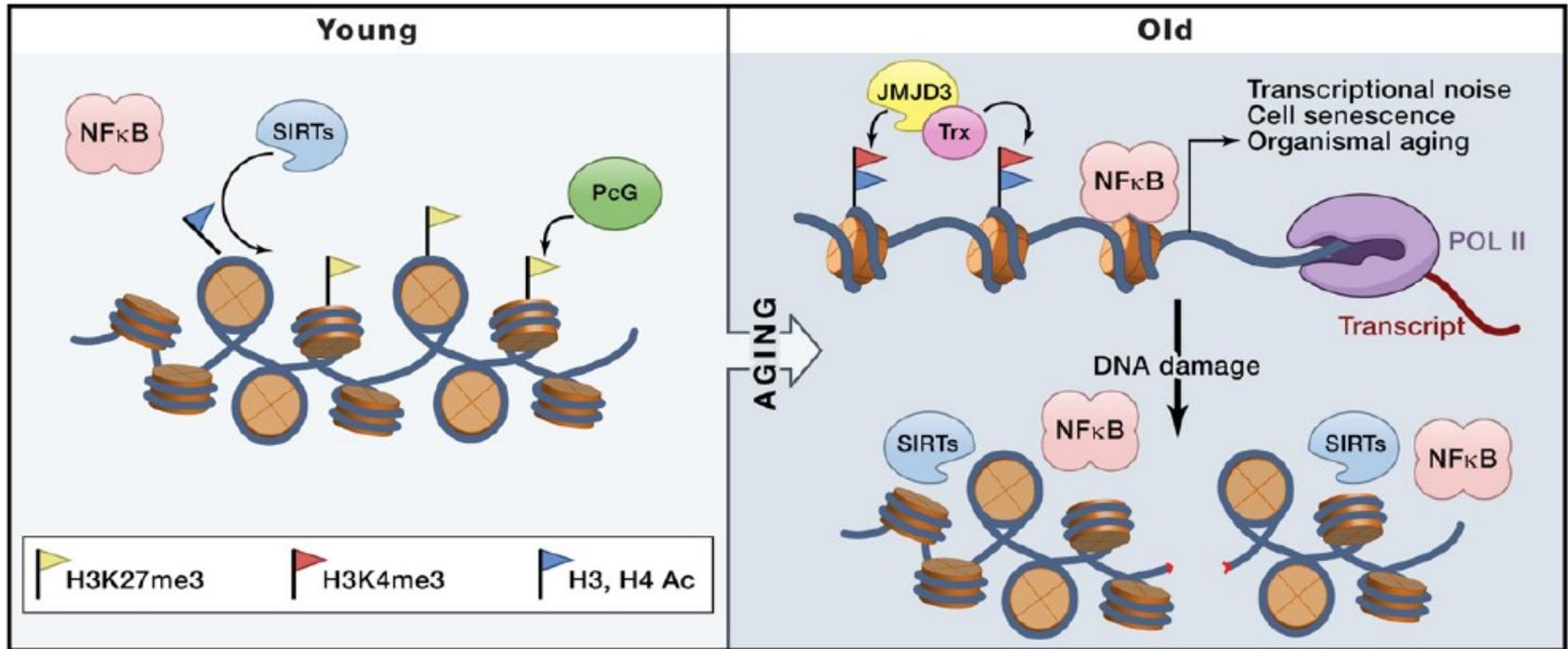
Genetically, by a conditional inhibition of NF- κ B in the skin

Pharmacologically by administration of rapamycin, a mTOR inhibitor

Aging and Epigenetics

Is aging comparable to differentiation?

If aging is in part a manifestation of epigenetic changes, can young and old cells be characterized by specific epigenetic profiles?



PcG: Polycomb group proteins

Trithorax group proteins (Trx) and H3K27 demethylase JMJD3