

# HepatoNet

Stoichiometric model of the human hepatocyte

Curation and applications

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Computational systems biochemistry group

# Contents

- Introduction
- HepatoNet curation
- HepatoNet applications
  - O<sub>2</sub> demand of NH<sub>3</sub> detoxification
  - Zonation
  - Regulation of blood glucose

# Contents

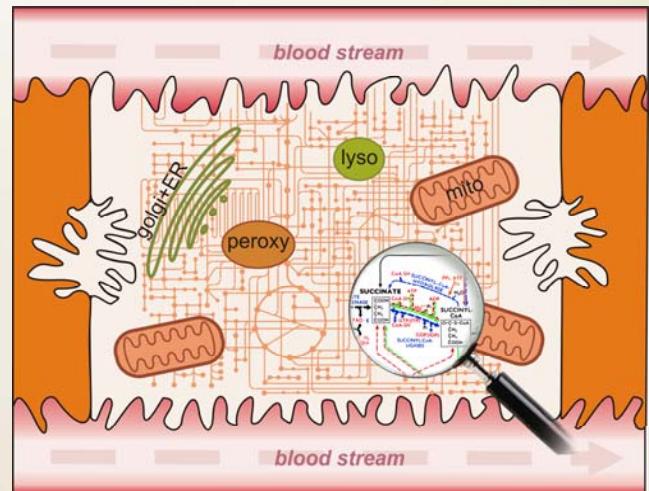
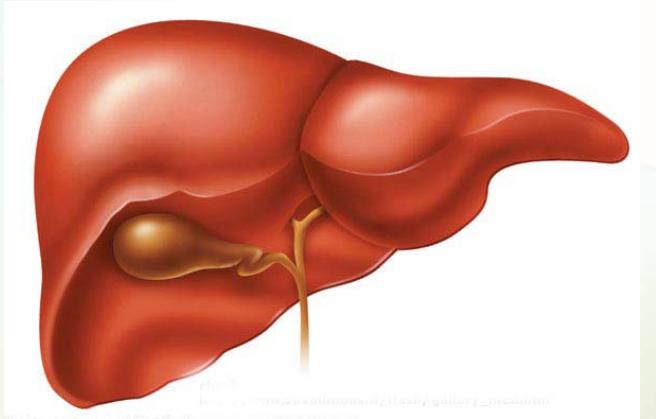
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# Systems Biology

- Critical voices have been raised
- Admitted: yield by systems biology is low  
(marketed drugs, crops etc.)
- But: contribution to better  
understanding hard to measure
- Investment in the future

# Aims

- Biomedical modeling of liver-related diseases
- Metabolic network of the human hepatocyte as a important resource
- Part of HepatoSys
- Applications projected in VirtualLiver



Intro — Curation — NH<sub>3</sub> detoxification — Zonation — Glucose regulation

# Genomic approach

- High throughput (HT)
  - genetics & transcriptomics
- Reconstruction of human metabolism
  - Genome-based
  - 2,766 metabolites
  - 3,311 reactions
  - “Omnipotent” cell

Duarte et. al. Global reconstruction of the human metabolic network based on genomic and bibliomic data PNAS 2007; 104(6): 1777ff.

# Transcription-based network

- Expression data
  - Primary hepatocytes
- Prediction
  - Flux-balance condition
  - Maximal match
- Tissue specific network

Shlomi et al. Network-based prediction of human tissue-specific metabolism. Nat Biotechnol. 2008; 26(9):1003ff.

**Intro** — Curation — NH<sub>3</sub> detoxification — Zonation — Glucose regulation

# Metabolic functions (123)

## Purines and pyrimidines

- rephosphorylation
- de-novo synthesis
- salvage
- regeneration of NAD(P)H redox potential

## Sugar metabolism

- gluconeogenesis
- glycogenesis
- glycogenolysis
- sugar degradation
- formation of nucleotide-activated sugars
- formation of aminosugars
- formation of other sugars

## Amino acids - proteins - nitrogen

- formation of non-essential amino acids
- complete degradation of amino acids
- plasmaprotein biosynthesis
- ureogenesis
- creatine biosynthesis

## Lipids - Sterol

- phospholipid biosynthesis
- sphingolipid biosynthesis
- fatty acid biosynthesis
- triglyceride biosynthesis
- cholesterol biosynthesis
- farnesylpyrophosphate biosynthesis
- ketogenesis
- VLDL formation
- LDL catabolism
- Bile formation

## Miscellaneous

- heme biosynthesis
- biosynthesis of other cofactors

## Detoxification

- formation of glutathione
- detoxification of reactive oxygen species
- bilirubin catabolism
- detoxification of xenobiotics

# Metabolic functions (examples)

- Aerobic phosphorylation of ATP
  - Objective: cytosolic ATP
  - Input:  $O_2$ , Glucose, cytosolic ADP and  $P_i$
  - Output:  $CO_2$
- VLDL lipoprotein
  - Objective: VLDL formation
  - Input: essential substrates
  - Output: typical excretion products

# Surprise: not a single function is satisfied by the genomic approach!

- Why?
  - Unsufficient transcriptomics data
  - Incomplete assignments of gene-reaction
  - Threshold issue
  - Ambiguity
    - Paralogous genes (isoenzymes)
    - Multispecific proteins
- Manual curation necessary!

# Contents

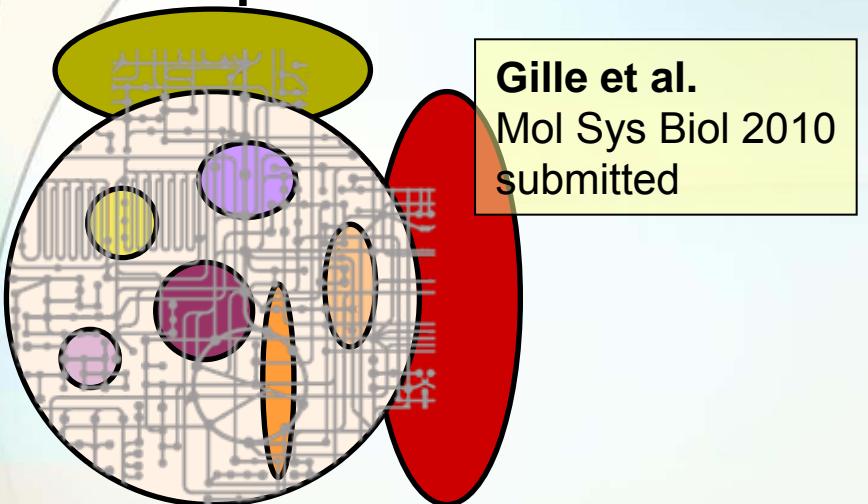
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# Evidence hierarchy

- Highest evidence:
  - Purification/characterization of enzymes
  - Marked substrates flow
  - Phenotypes by genetic variance
- Other sources of evidence:
  - Human genome
  - Transcriptomics data
  - Metabolomics, proteomics
  - In vitro cell studies

# Parallel development

## Data: HepatoNet

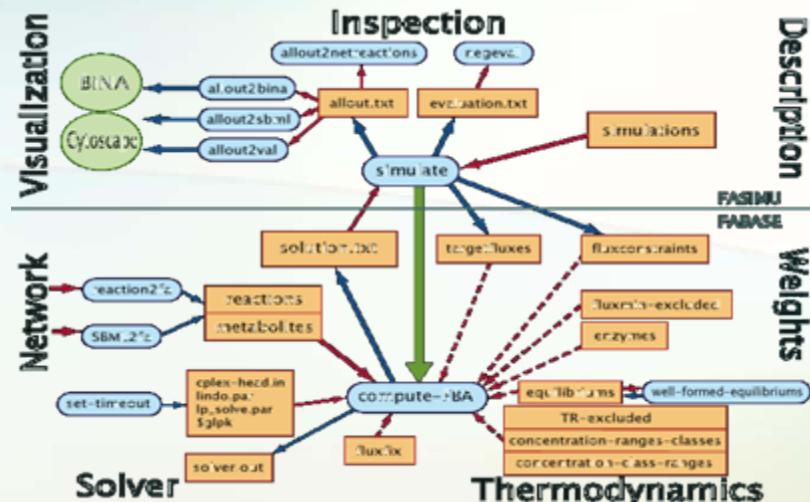


## Annotation software: METANNOGEN

Annotations from the screenshot:

- Top window: C00049 + C00026 <=> C00036 + C00025  
L-Aspartate + 2-Oxoglutarate <=> Oralacetate + L-Glutamate  
L-Aspartate + 2-Oxoglutarate <=>  
Oralacetate + L-Glutamate  
C 9 H13 N1 O9 ==> C 9 H13 N1 O9  
PMID:7715646 Partial purification and kinetic properties of human placental cytosolic aspartate transaminase.
- Bottom window: C00049 + C00026 <=> C00036 + C00025  
L-Aspartate + 2-Oxoglutarate <=> Oralacetate + L-Glutamate  
L-Aspartate + 2-Oxoglutarate <=>  
Oralacetate + L-Glutamate  
C 9 H13 N1 O9 ==> C 9 H13 N1 O9  
PMID:1027490 Aspartate transaminase from cytosol its purification and various properties

## Computation framework: FASIMU



Hoppe et al. Bioinformatics 2010,  
submitted  
[www.bioinformatics.org/fasimu](http://www.bioinformatics.org/fasimu)

Gille et al. BMC Syst Biol 2007  
PMID 17408512

[www.bioinformatics.org/strap/metannogen](http://www.bioinformatics.org/strap/metannogen)

# HepatoNet as a group's effort



Holzhütter: head,  
biophysics



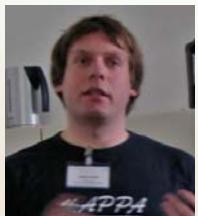
Gille: medical  
biochemistry



Bölling: ontology



Hoppe: modelling



Bulik



Hoffmann



Hübner



Karlstädt



Ganeshan



König



Rother



Weidlich



Behre



Gebhardt

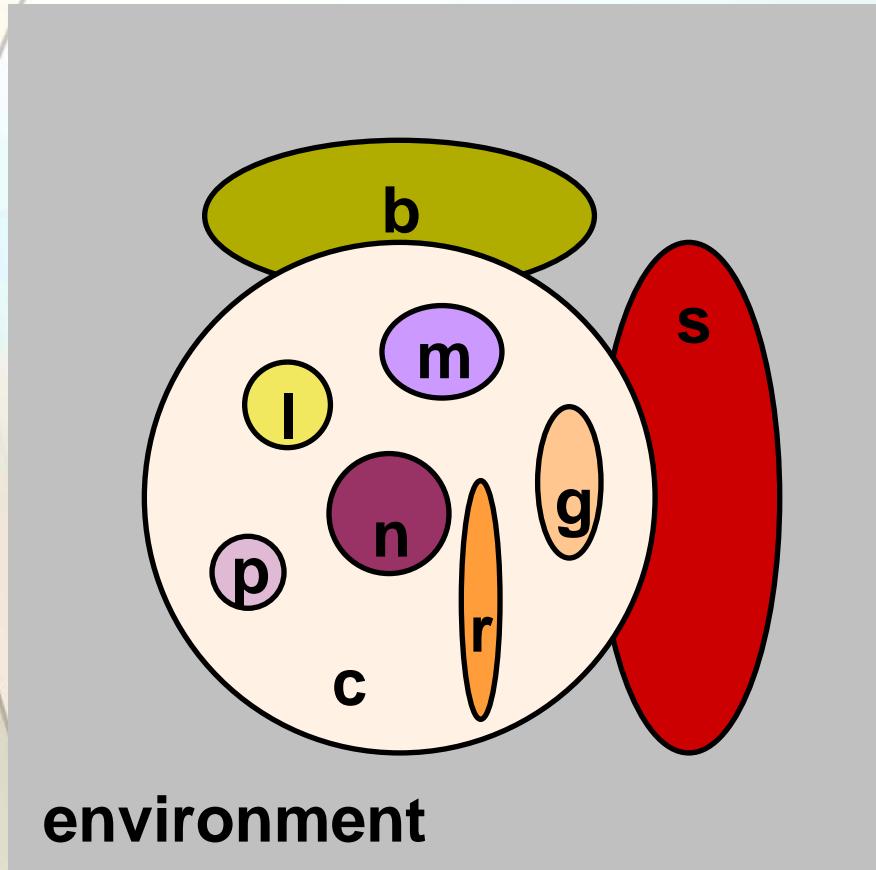


Handorf



Gevorgyan

# HepatoNet reconstruction



## 2468 Reactions

Metabolic  
Transport

1027  
1441

## 1369 Compartment-specific metabolites

Cytosol [c]	600
Mitochondrion [m]	232
ER [r] & Golgi [g]	115
Peroxisome [p]	72
Lysosome [l]	65
Nucleus [n]	7
Plasma [s]	255
Bile [b]	23

## Network before pruning

Reactions	3300
Metabolites	2412

## Network reconstruction

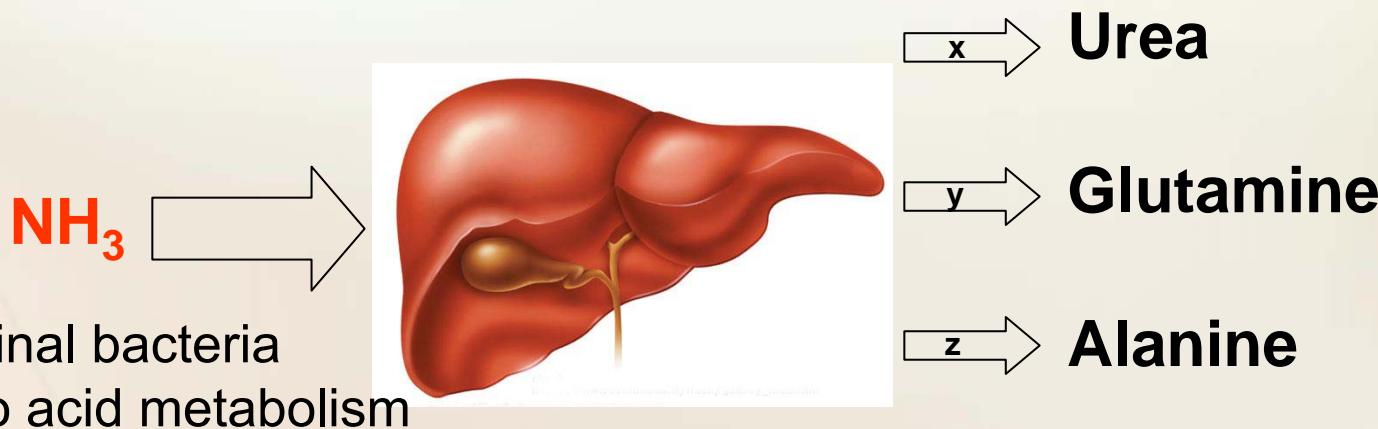
Datasets evaluated	3342
Original references	2065

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# $O_2$ demand of $NH_3$ detoxification

- Important liver function
- Calculate flux distribution for conversion of  $NH_3$  into specified fractions of urea ( $x$ ), glutamine ( $y$ ) and alanine ( $z$ )

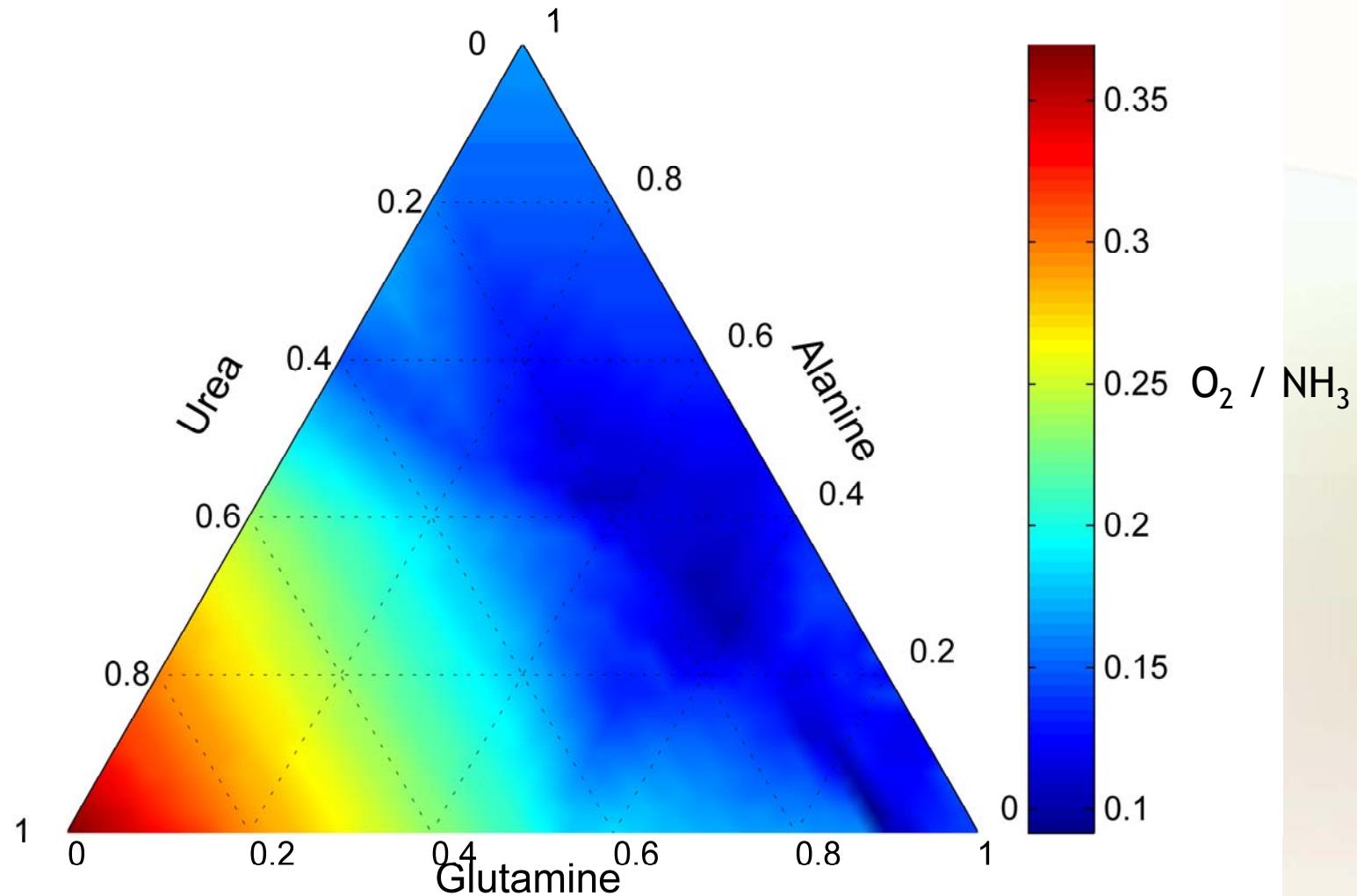


# Flux-balance optimization

- Steady state condition
- Flux minimization
- Thermodynamics constraint based on metabolite concentration ranges
  - Hoppe et al. BMC Syst Biol 2007, PMID 17543097

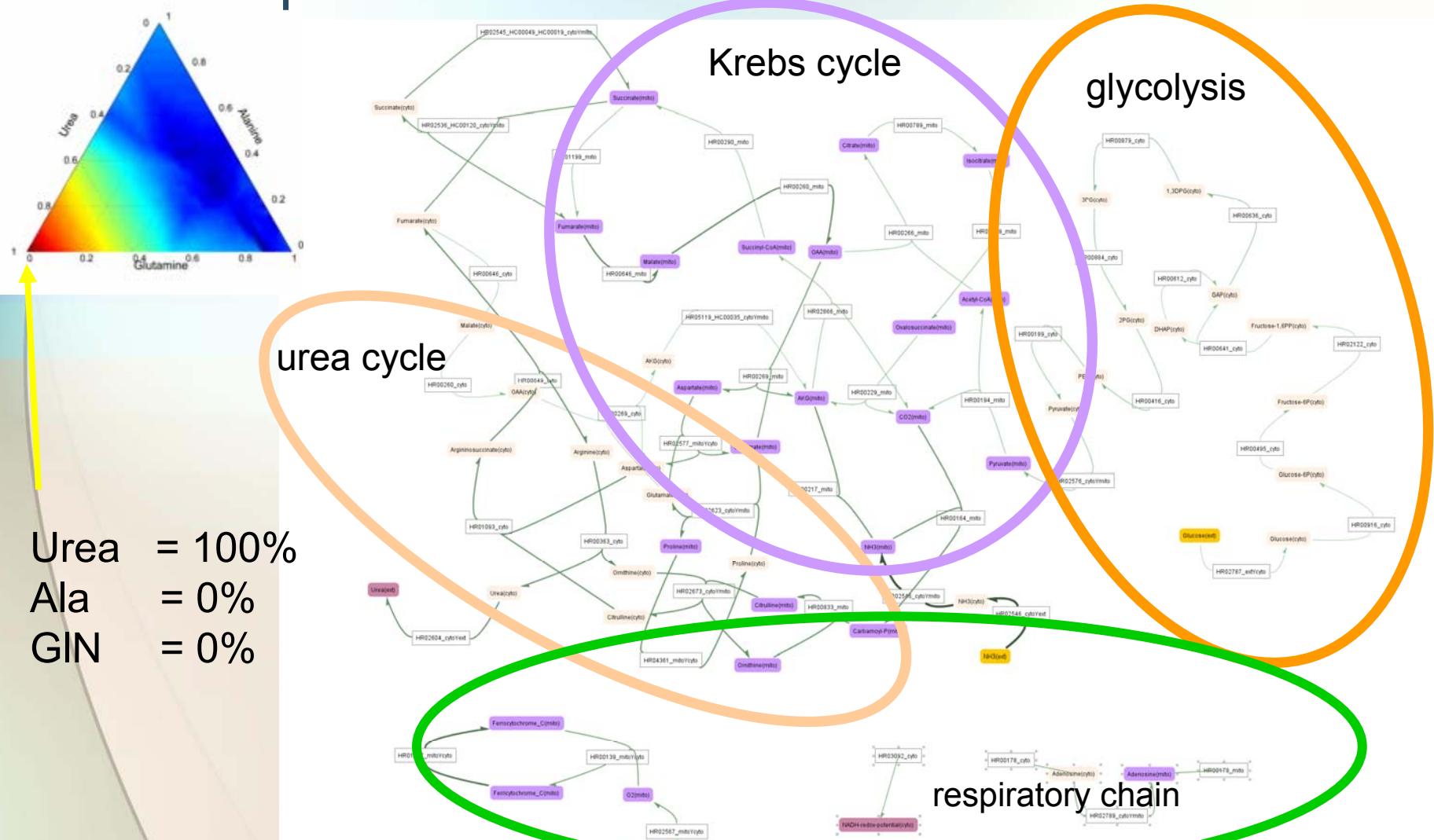
# $O_2$ demand of $NH_3$ detoxification

- Predicted oxygen demand for NH<sub>3</sub>-detoxification



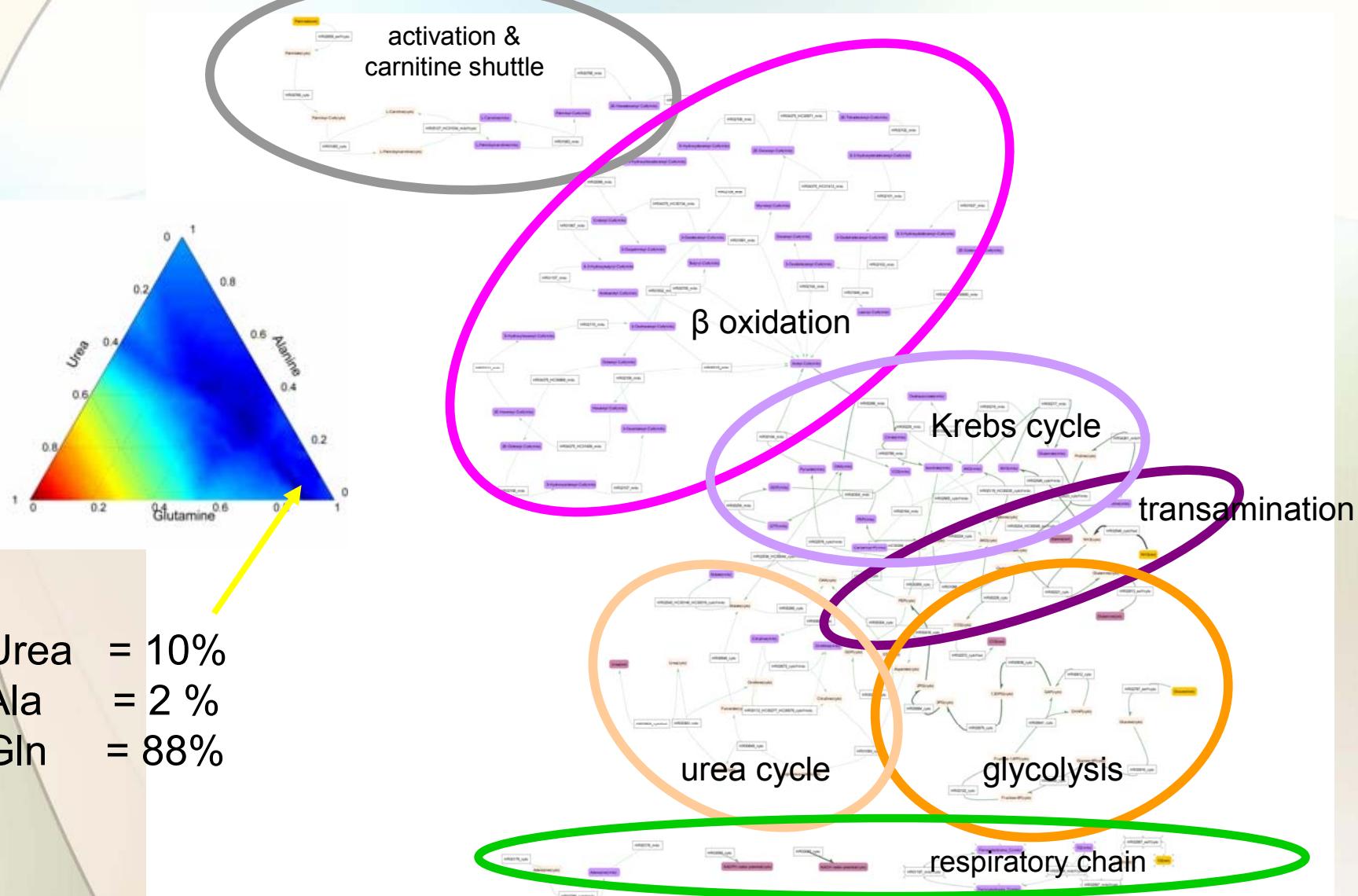
# $O_2$ demand of $NH_3$ detoxification

- complete conversion into urea



# $O_2$ demand of $NH_3$ detoxification

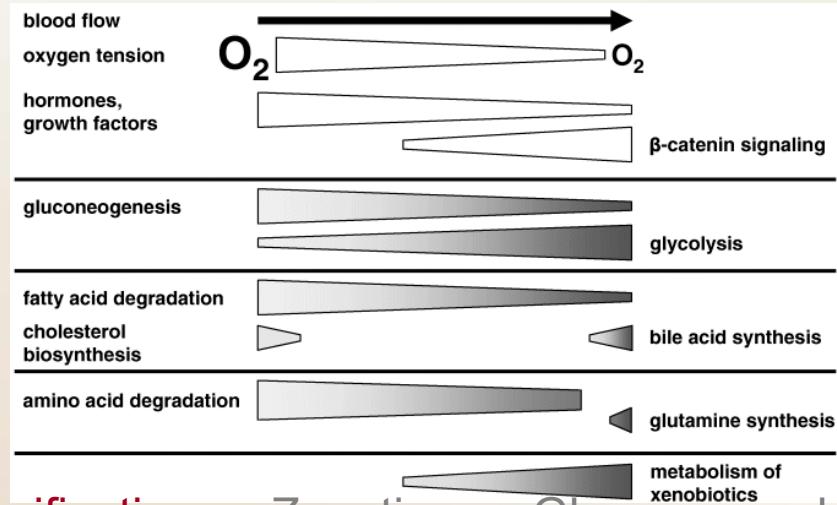
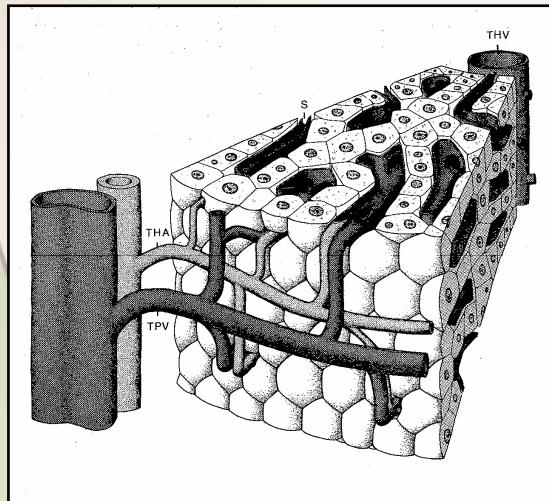
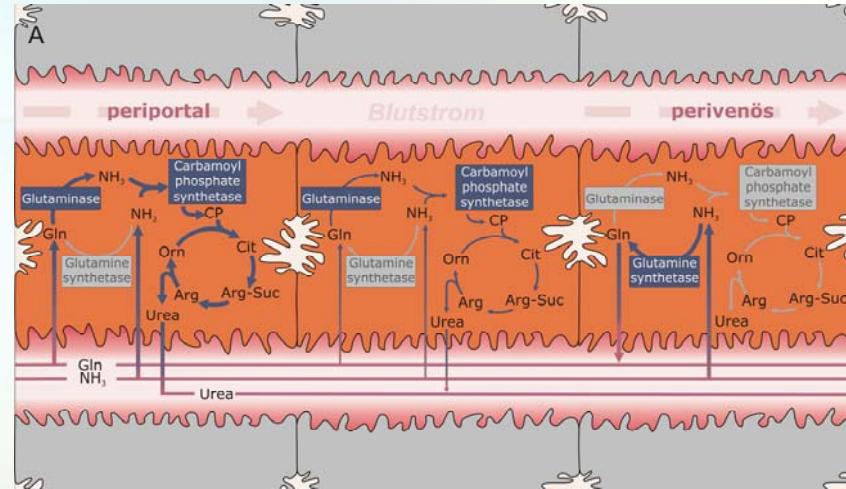
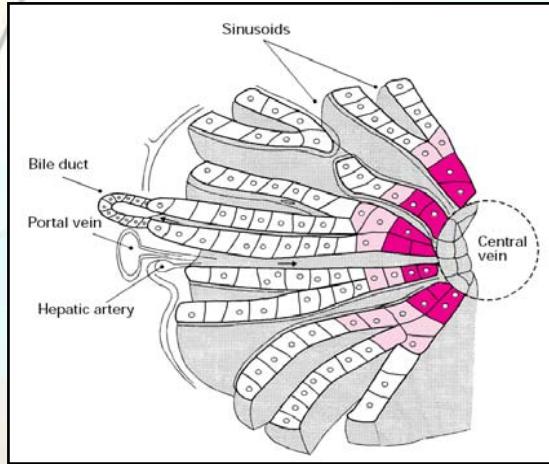
- preferential conversion into glutamine



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# Functional heterogeneity along sinusoids

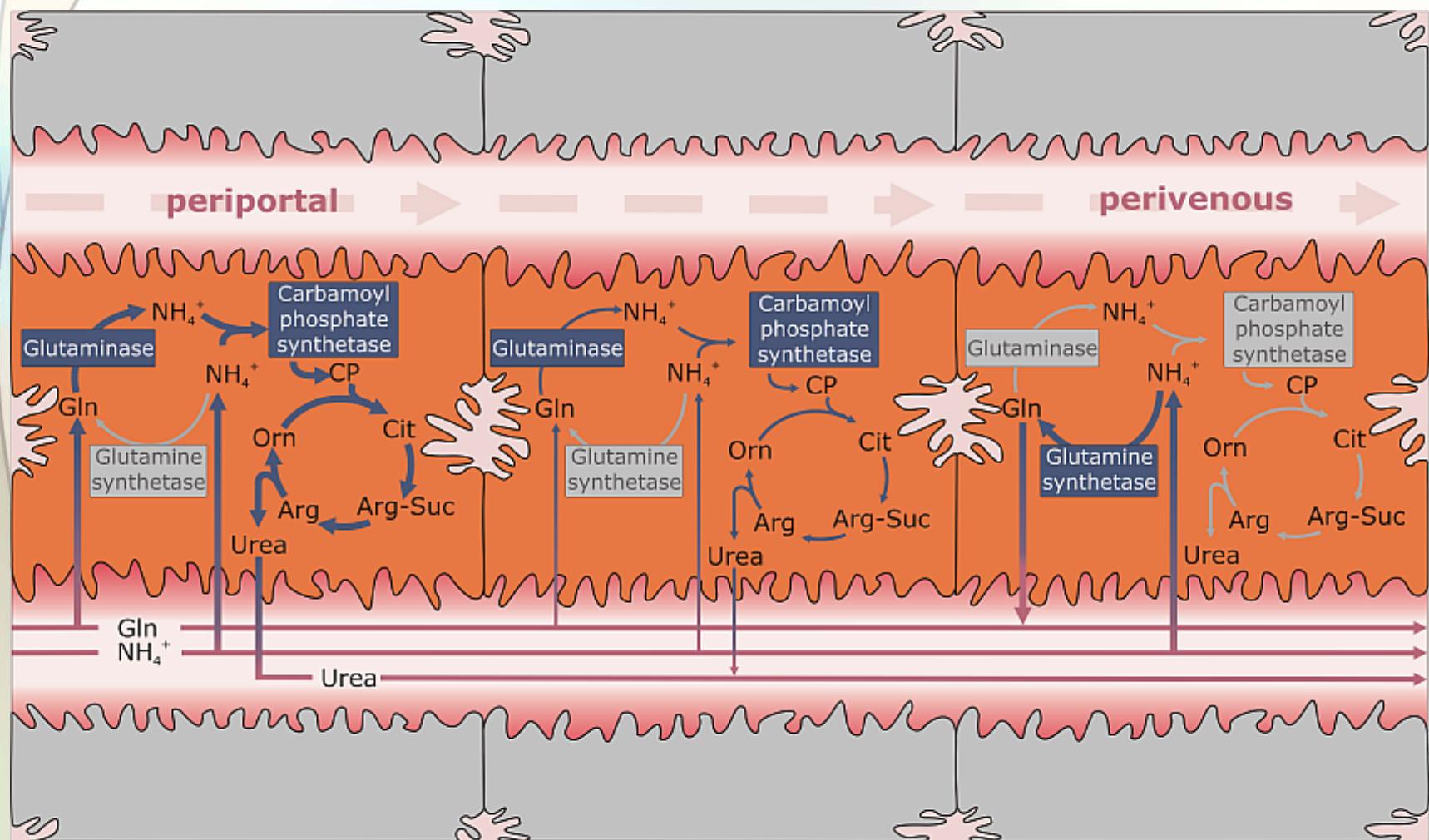


Intro — Curation — NH<sub>3</sub> detoxification — Zonation — Glucose regulation

# Modeling zonation

- Control parameters
  - O<sub>2</sub> gradient
  - Expression of amino acid transporters
- FBA correctly predicts
  - Periportal urea formation
  - Glutamine
    - imported by periportal hepatocytes
    - exported by perivenous hepatocytes

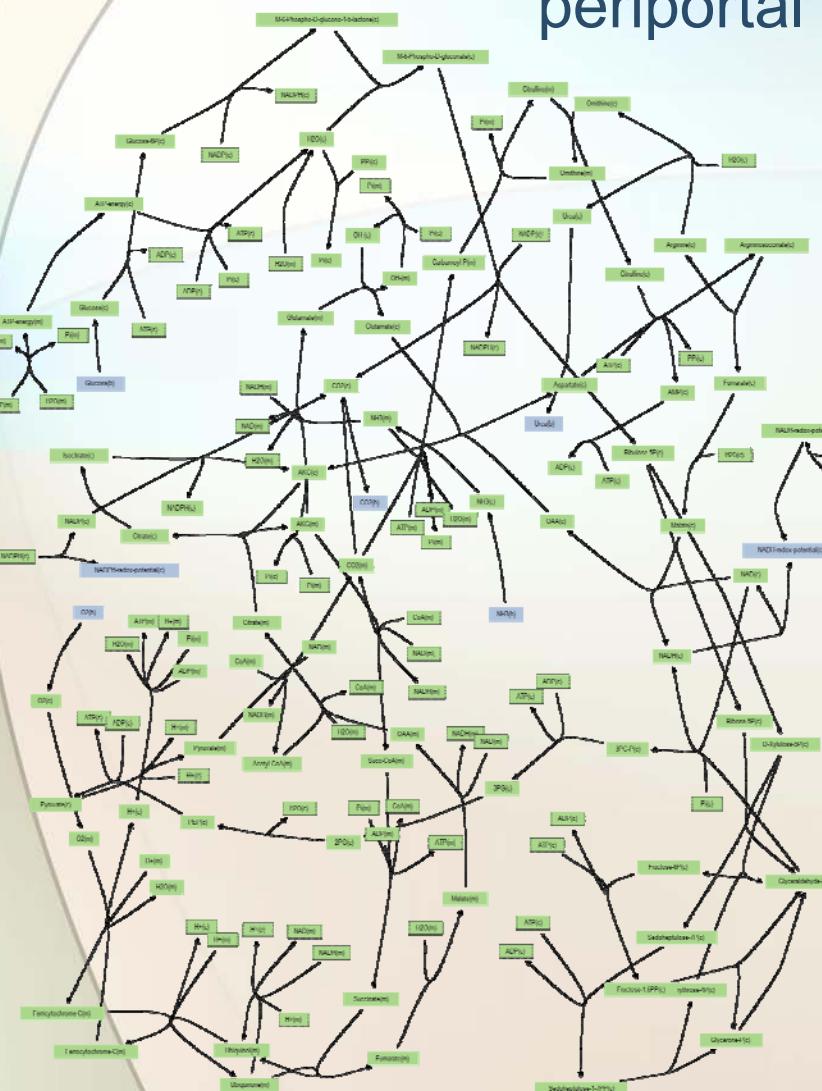
# Modeling zonation



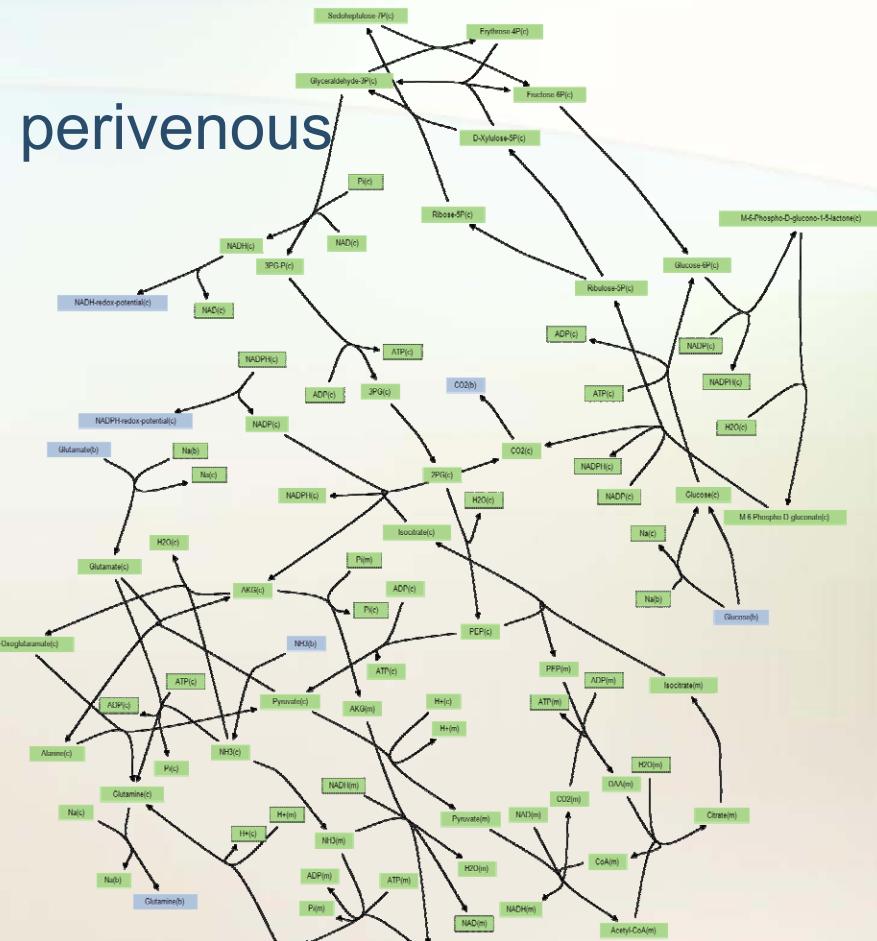
Intro — Curation — NH<sub>3</sub> detoxification — Zonation — Glucose regulation

# Modeling zonation - fluxes

periportal



perivenous



Intro — Curation — NH3 detoxification — Zonation — Glucose regulation

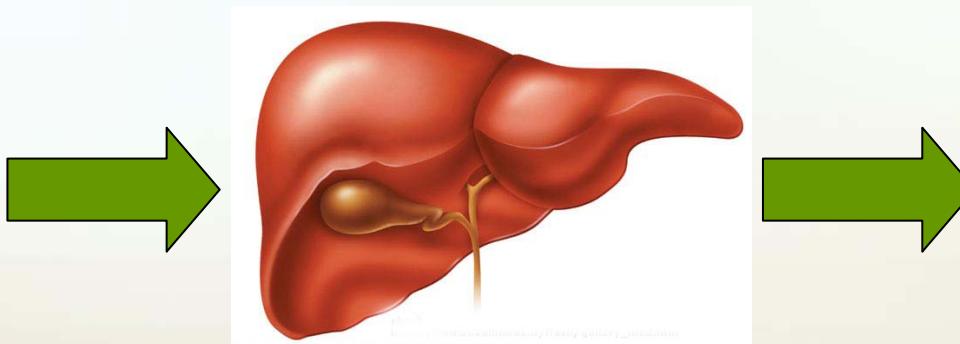
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# Hepatic regulation of blood glucose level



- crucial liver function



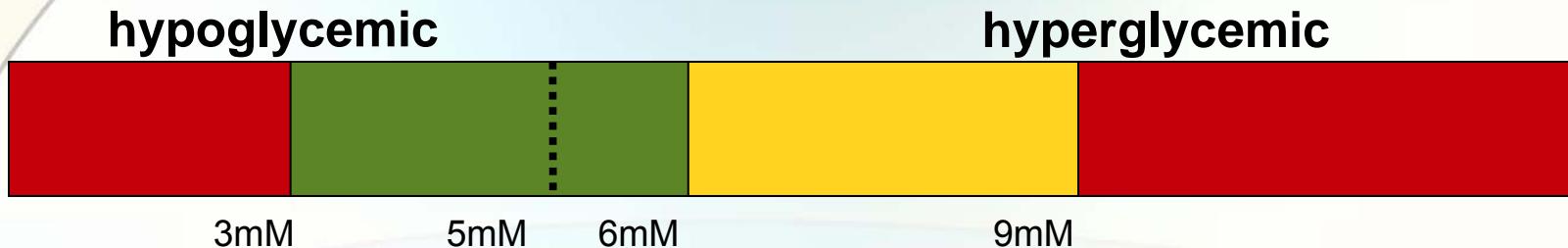
**hepatic glucose utilization  
(HGU)**

- Glycogen storage
- Glycolysis

**hepatic glucose production  
(HGP)**

- Glycogenolysis
- Gluconeogenesis

# Blood glucose level is tightly controlled



# Glucose shortage

most critical: brain

# **Glucose toxicity**

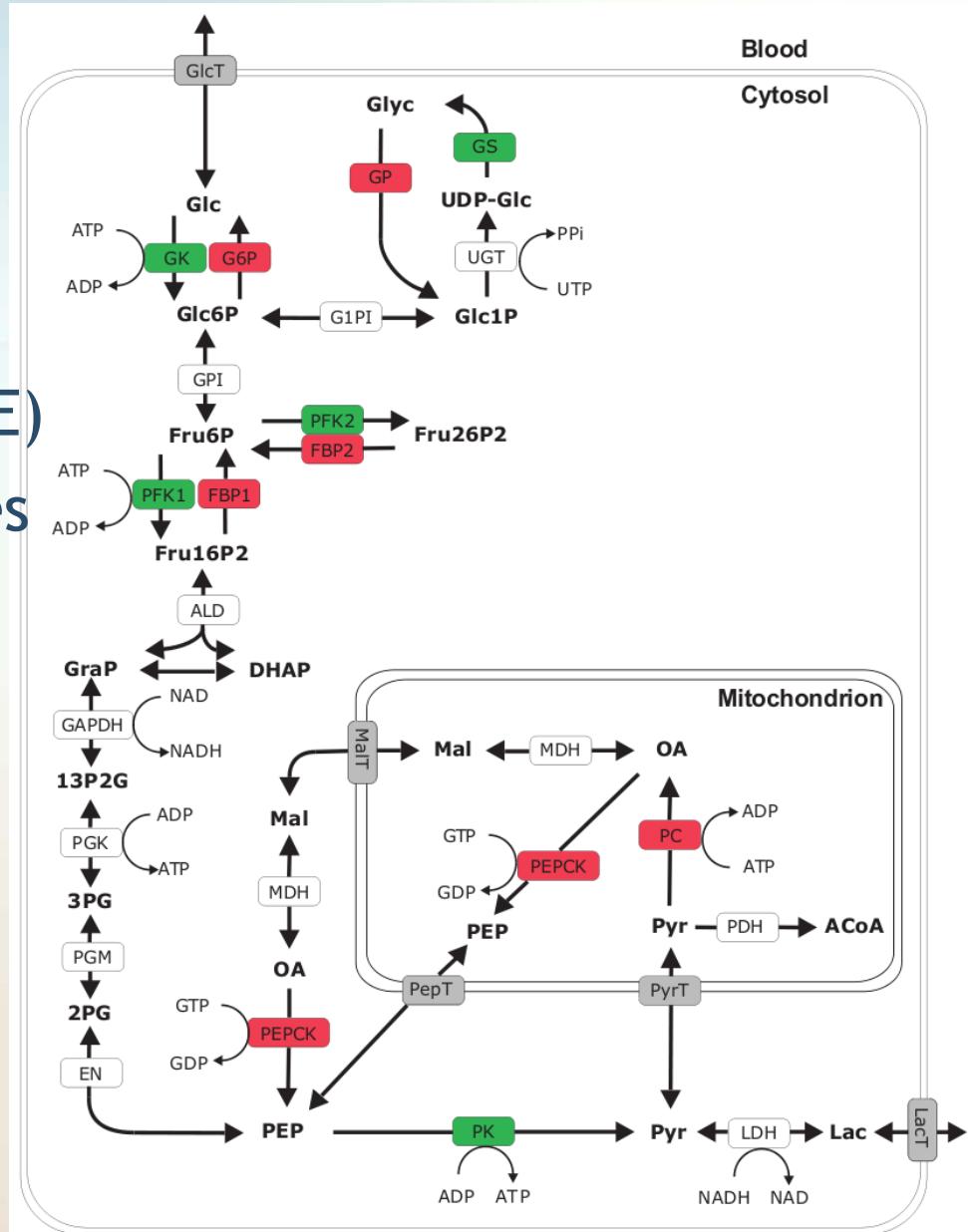
## protein modifications

	Overnight fast (12–16 h)	Moderate fast (30–60 h)	Prolonged fast (> 1 week)
<i>Overall glucose production*</i>	10(100)	7.5(100)	5.0(100)
Hepatic output	10(100)	7.1(95)	4.5(90)
Glycogenolysis	5.0(50)	0.4(15)	0(0)
Gluconeogenesis	5.0(50)	6.7(90)	4.5(90)
Renal gluconeogenesis	0(0)	0.3(5)	0.5(10)
<i>Overall glucose utilization*</i>	10(100)	7.5(100)	5.0(100)
Brain	5.0(50)	4.4(60)	3.5(70)
Splanchnic tissues	1.5(15)	0.9(12)	0.3(6)
Muscle	1.5(15)	0.8(10)	0.3(6)
Blood cells, skin	1.0(10)	0.8(10)	0.6(12)
Renal medulla	0.5(5)	0.4(5)	0.2(4)
Adipose tissue	0.5(5)	0.2(3)	0.1(2)

\*  $\mu\text{mol/kg}$  per min (percent of total).

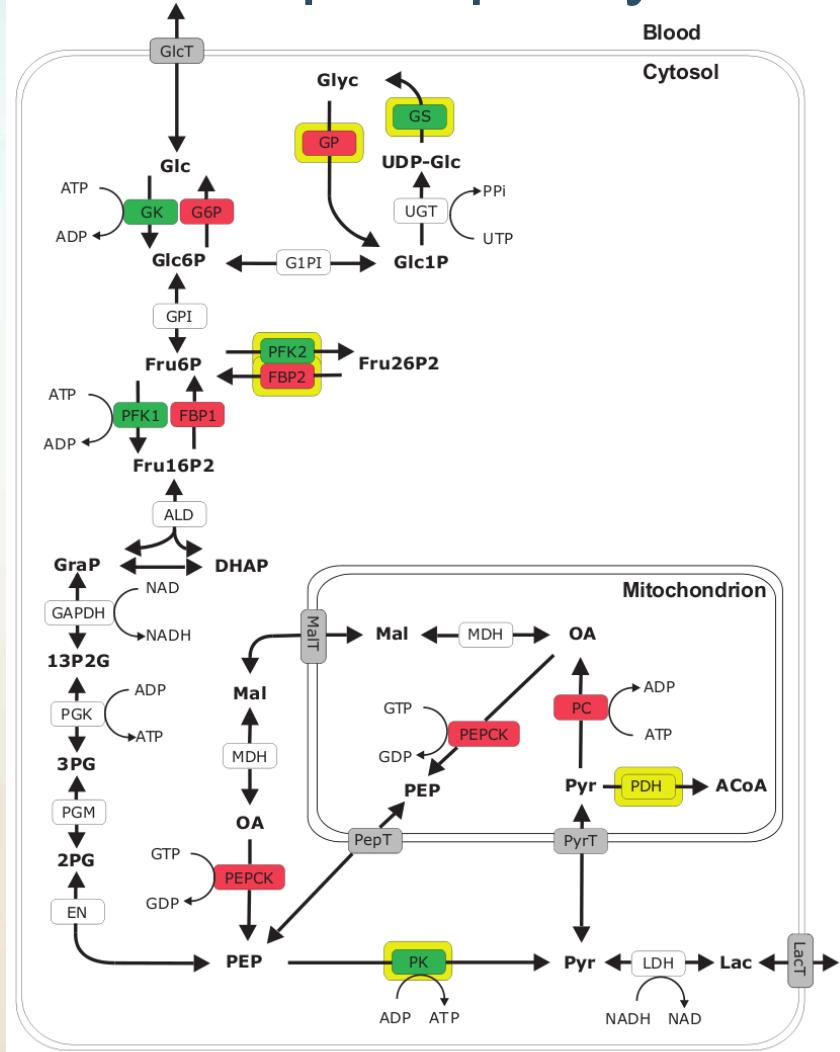
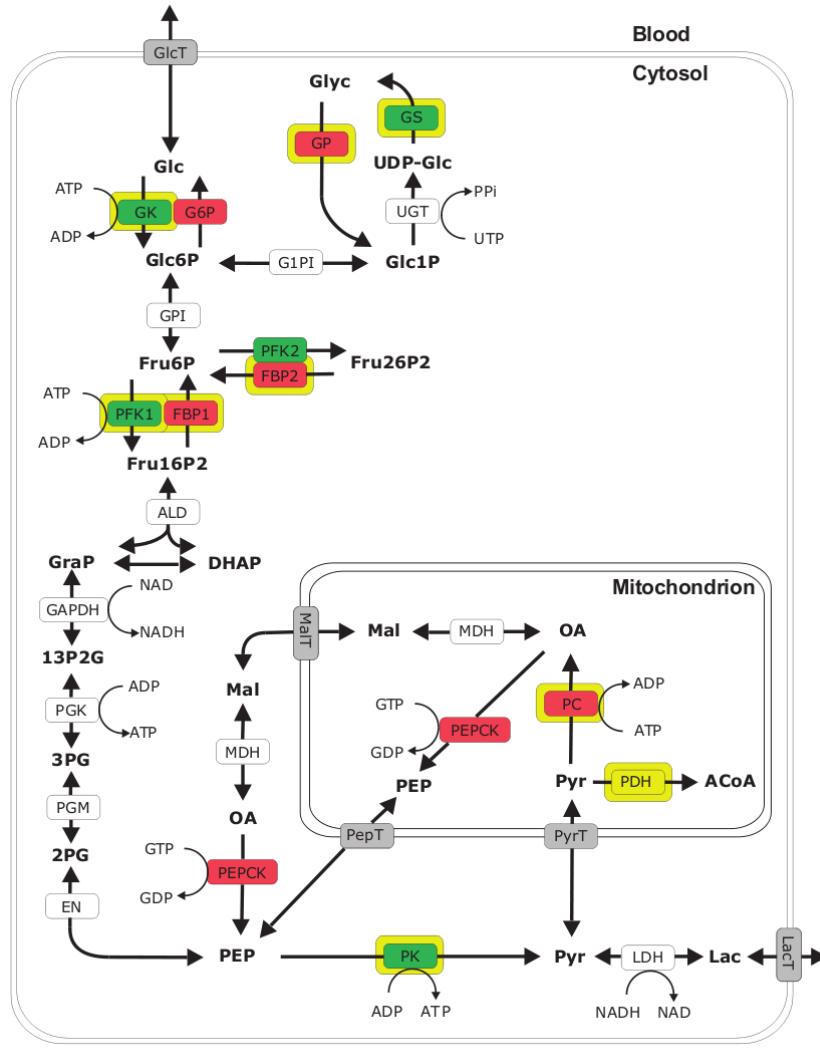
# Kinetic model

- Glycolysis, gluconeogenesis and glycogen metabolism
- Detailed kinetic model (ODE)
- 36 reactions, 49 metabolites
- 3 compartments
- Kinetics specific for human hepatocyte
- Switch between **HGP** and **HGU** regulated by different mechanisms on different time scales



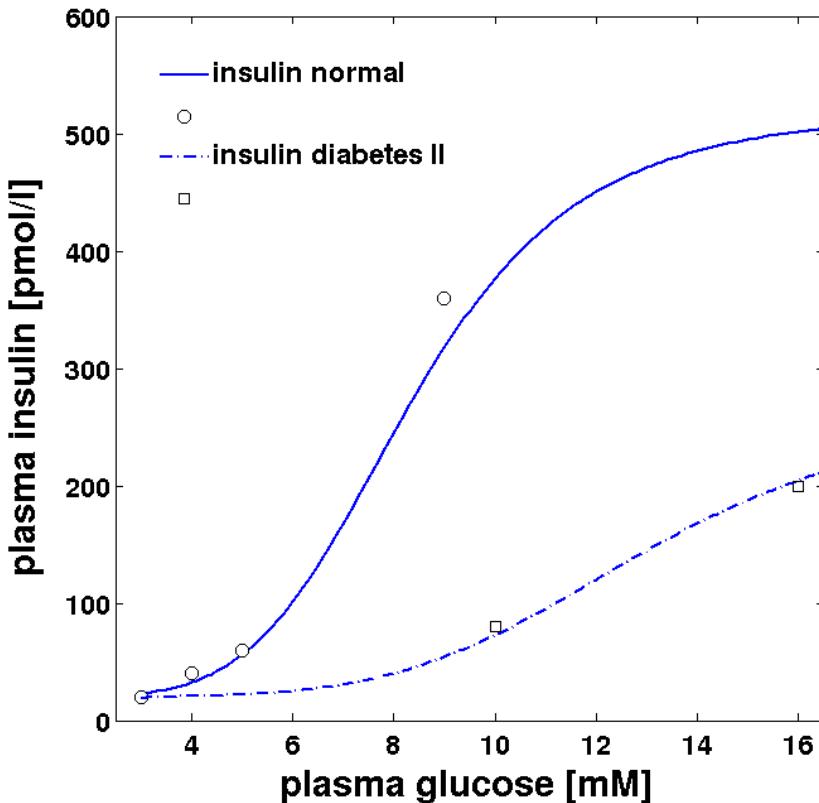
# Fast regulation allosteric

reversible phosphorylation

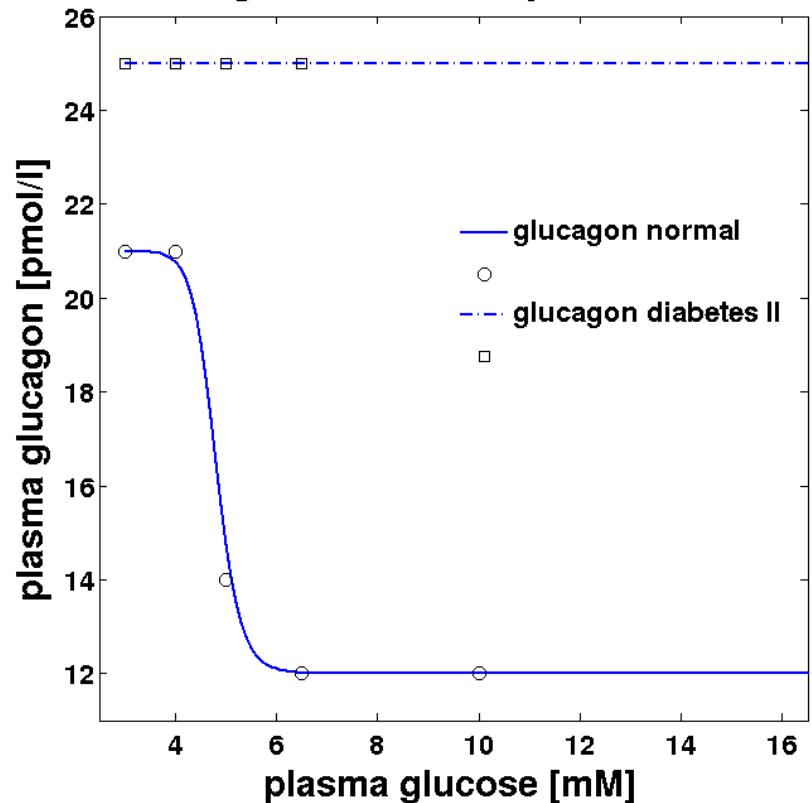


# Regulation by insulin & glucagon

Insulin dose-response curve

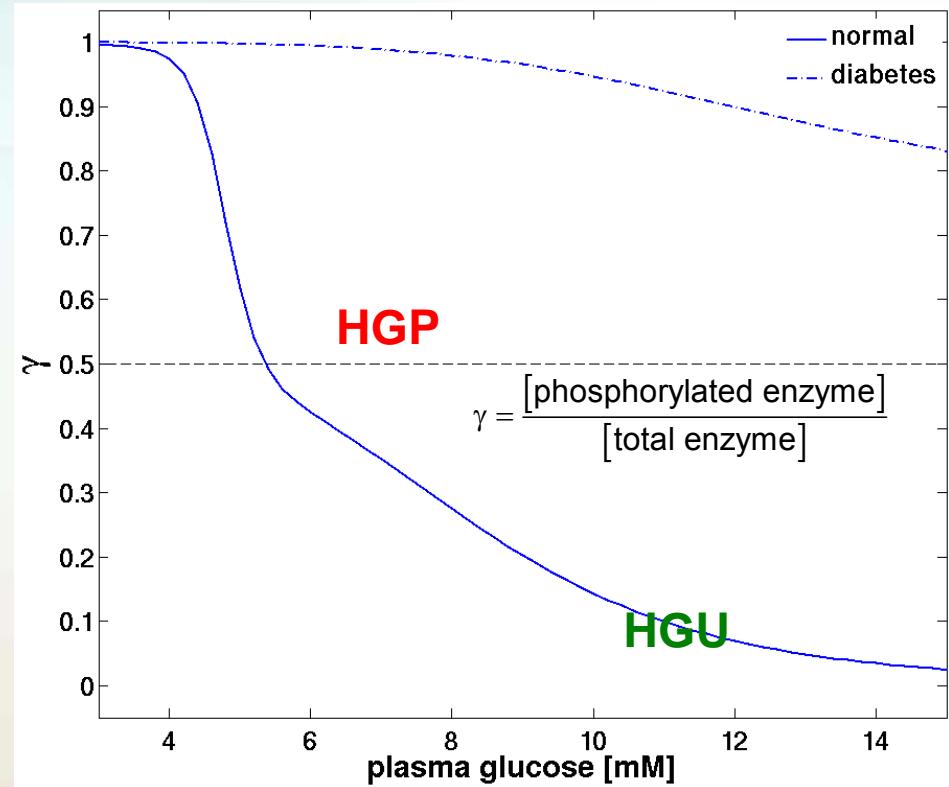
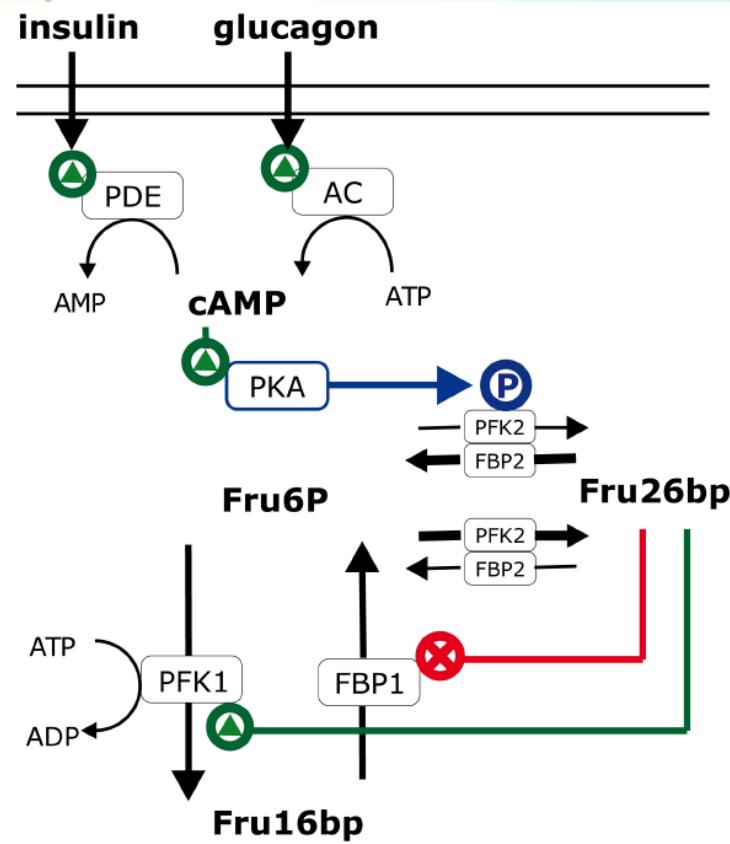


Glucagon dose-response curve



Counterregulatory hormones changing with plasma glucose

# Regulation by insulin & glucagon

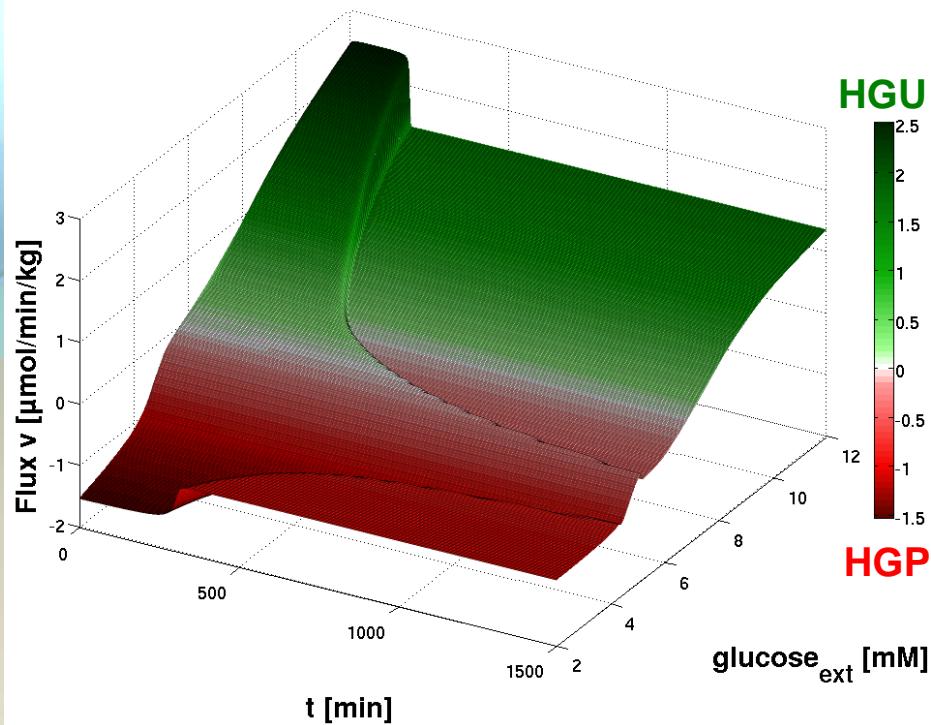


Insulin and glucagon determine the phosphorylation state of interconvertible enzymes

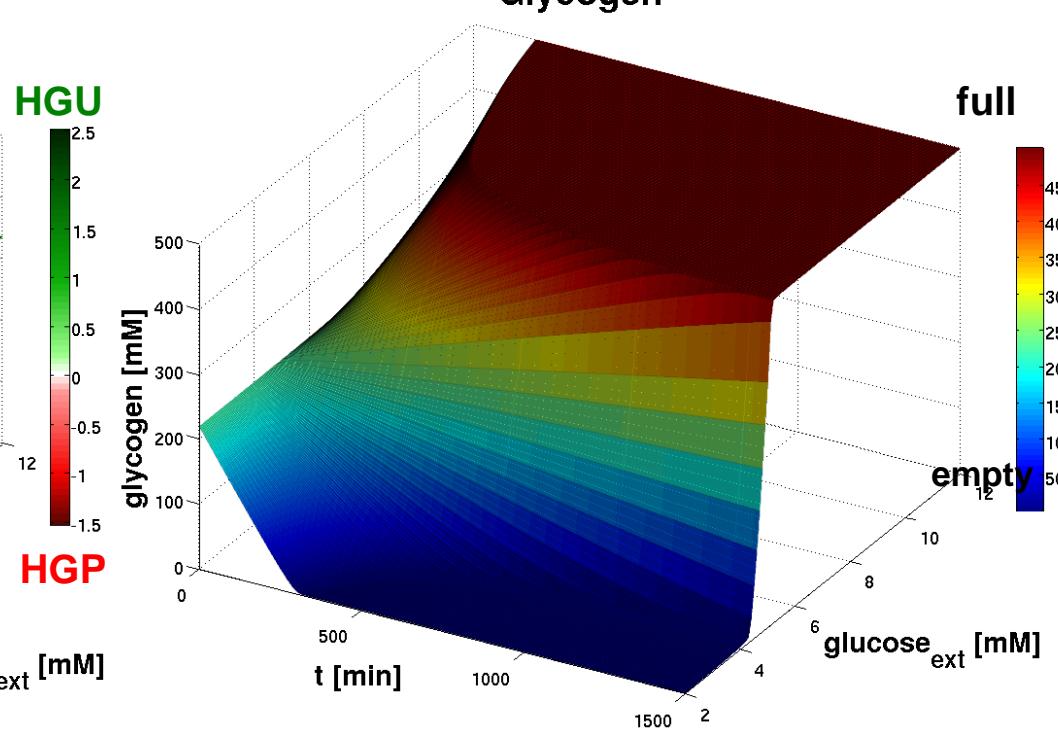
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# Simulation of temporal HPG/HPU switch

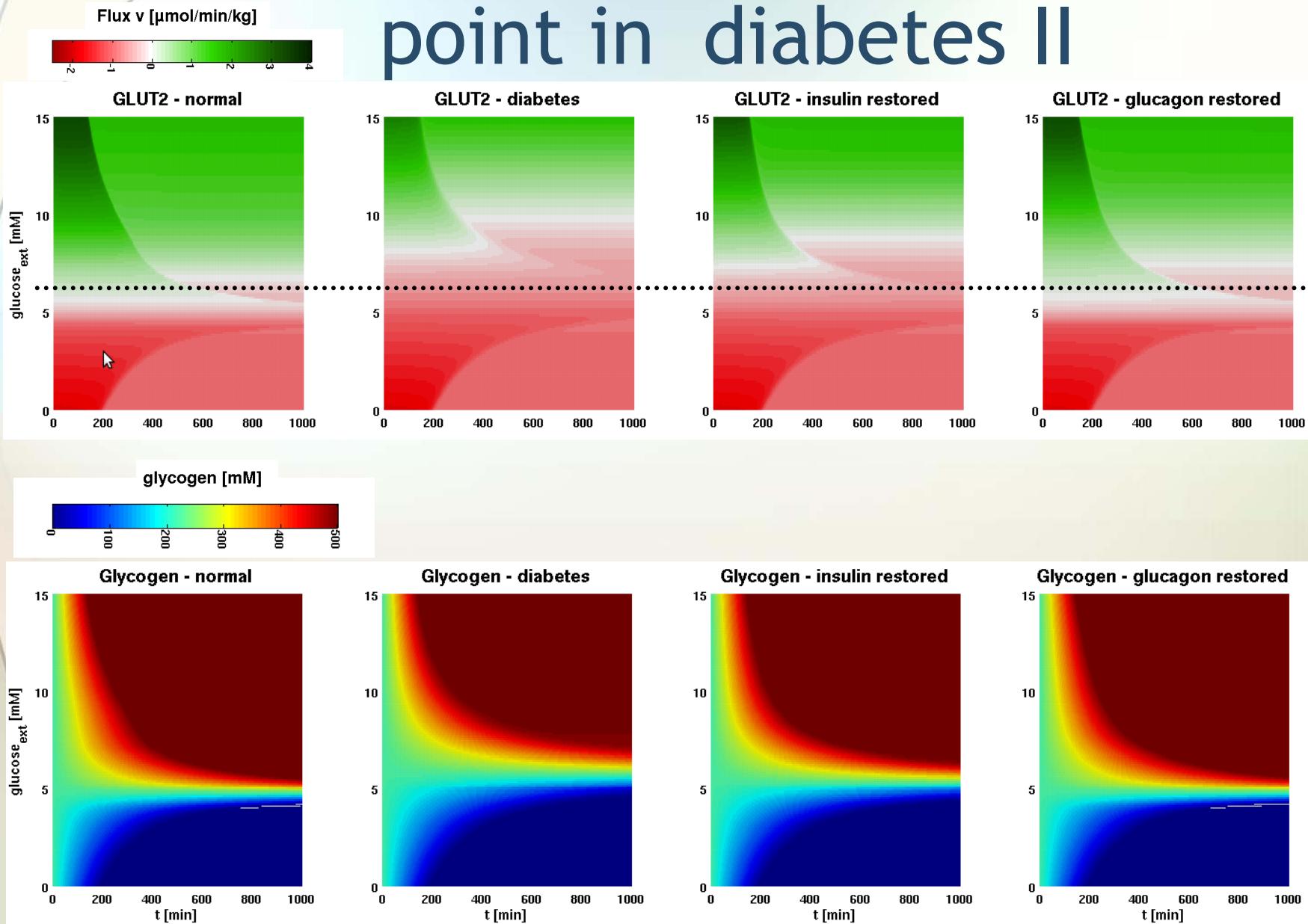
Glucose Import [GLUT2]



Glycogen



# Shift of HPG-HPU switch point in diabetes II



# Take-home message

- Metabolic networks require manual curation
- HepatoNet ready for flux-balance calculations
  - O<sub>2</sub> demand of NH<sub>3</sub> detoxification
  - Zonation
- HepatoNet resource for kinetic models
  - Regulation of blood glucose

# The end

- Thanks for the attention!



Groups website:  
[www.charite.de/sysbio](http://www.charite.de/sysbio)