

## Review

### ATP synthase: from single molecule to human bioenergetics

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**Abstract:** ATP synthase ( $F_0F_1$ ) consists of an ATP-driven motor ( $F_1$ ) and a  $H^+$ -driven motor ( $F_0$ ), which rotate in opposite directions.  $F_0F_1$  reconstituted into a lipid membrane is capable of ATP synthesis driven by  $H^+$  flux. As the basic structures of  $F_1$  ( $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma\delta\varepsilon$ ) and  $F_0$  ( $ab_2c_{10}$ ) are ubiquitous, stable thermophilic  $F_0F_1$  ( $TF_0F_1$ ) has been used to elucidate molecular mechanisms, while human  $F_1F_0$  ( $HF_1F_0$ ) has been used to study biomedical significance. Among  $F_1$ s, only thermophilic  $F_1$  ( $TF_1$ ) can be analyzed simultaneously by reconstitution, crystallography, mutagenesis and nanotechnology for torque-driven ATP synthesis using elastic coupling mechanisms. In contrast to the single operon of  $TF_0F_1$ ,  $HF_0F_1$  is encoded by both nuclear DNA with introns and mitochondrial DNA. The regulatory mechanism, tissue specificity and physiopathology of  $HF_0F_1$  were elucidated by proteomics, RNA interference, cytoplasts and transgenic mice. The ATP synthesized daily by  $HF_0F_1$  is in the order of tens of kilograms, and is primarily controlled by the brain in response to fluctuations in activity.

**Keywords:**  $F_0F_1$ , molecular motor, mitochondria, omics, cytoplasts, bioenergetics

## Introduction

All human activity depends on ATP, which is primarily synthesized *via* mitochondrial oxidative phosphorylation (oxphos). By analogy with glycolytic ATP synthesis, there have been many futile attempts to isolate hypothetical high-energy intermediates, such as phosphoenolpyruvate, that tightly couple respiratory energy to ATP synthesis. In 1961, Mitchell proposed the chemiosmotic hypothesis, which states that in oxphos, the respiratory energy is coupled to an imaginary anisotropic “ATPase system” located in an ion-impermeable membrane (Fig. 1 of Ref. 1) *via*  $H^+$ / $OH^-$  flux driven by the electrochemical activity ( $[H^+]_{\text{Left}}/[H^+]_{\text{Right}} = 10^7 \times [ATP]/[ADP]$ ) across the membrane.<sup>1</sup> At the same time, soluble ATPase, known as coupling factor 1 ( $F_1$ ), was purified from mitochondria in Racker’s laboratory.<sup>2</sup> When  $F_1$  was bound to  $F_1$ -deficient mitochondrial membrane, respiratory energy was coupled to ATP synthesis.<sup>2</sup> The author then isolated the entire ATP synthase, later called  $F_0F_1$  (Fig. 1, right), and reconstituted  $F_0F_1$  into liposomes capable of converting energy from ATP hydrolysis to that for  $H^+$  flux driven by the electrochemical potential of protons across the membrane ( $\Delta\mu H^+$ ), where  $\Delta\mu H^+ = F\Delta\psi - 2.3RT\Delta pH$ .<sup>3</sup> The  $H^+$  flux through

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Abbreviations: AMPPNP, 5'-adenylyl-imido diphosphate; ANC, Adenine nucleotide carrier;  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\delta$  and  $\varepsilon$ , subunits of  $F_1$ ;  $\beta_E$ ,  $\beta_D$ , and  $\beta_T$ ,  $\beta$  subunit of  $F_1$  with an empty catalytic site, with bound ADP or with bound ATP, respectively; a, b, c, d, e, f and g,  $A_6L$ , subunits of  $F_0$ ;  $c_{10}$ , decamer ring of the c subunit of  $F_0$ ;  $F_0F_1$ , ATP synthase;  $F_1$ , ATP-driven motor of  $F_0F_1$ ;  $F_0$ ,  $H^+$ -driven motor of  $F_0F_1$ ;  $BF_1$ ,  $CF_1$ ,  $EF_1$ ,  $HF_1$ ,  $TF_1$  and  $YF_1$ ,  $F_1$  from bovine mitochondria, chloroplasts, *E. coli*, human mitochondria, thermophilic bacillus PS3 and yeast, respectively;  $\Delta\psi$ , membrane potential;  $\Delta\mu H^+$ , electrochemical potential difference of protons across the membrane; F, Faraday constant; FRET, fluorescence resonance energy transfer; IF,  $F_1$  inhibitor; mtDNA, mitochondrial DNA; nDNA, nuclear DNA; OPA-1, optic atrophy 1; Oxphos, oxidative phosphorylation; Pi, inorganic phosphate; PIC, Phosphate carrier; P-loop, -G-X-X-X-G-K-T- sequence of the  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunits of  $F_1$ ; R, gas constant; VDAC, voltage-dependent anion channel. For nomenclature of the amino acid residues in subunits  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ , etc., of  $F_1$ , “ $\beta K35$ ”, for example, refers to a lysine (K) residue located at #35 in the  $\beta$  subunit of  $F_1$ . The equivalent residues in different  $F_1$ s are expressed as thermophilic  $\beta K164$  (=human  $\beta K162$ ). Mutations are abbreviated as “ $\beta K164I$ ”, which means “residue K164 in the  $\beta$  subunit is changed to I164”.

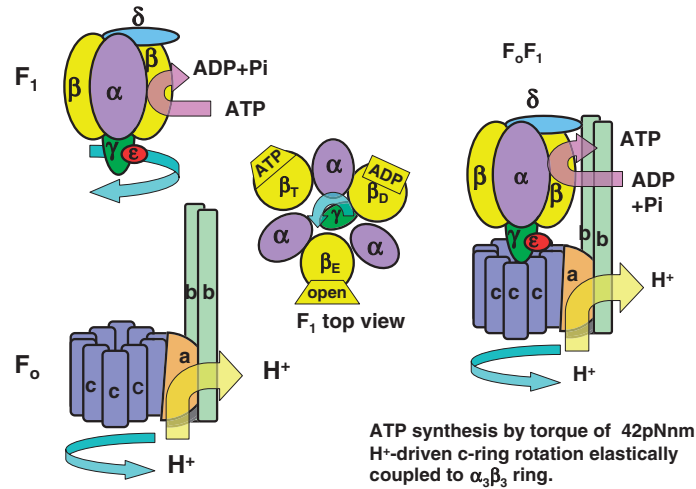


Fig. 1. Basic structure of  $TF_1$  (ATP-driven motor),  $TF_0$  (proton-driven motor) and  $TF_0F_1$  (proton-driven ATP synthase). Upper left: Side view of  $TF_1$  composed of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\delta$ , and  $\epsilon$  subunits. The  $\gamma\epsilon$  turns counterclockwise against the  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer in the ATP hydrolysis direction when viewed from the  $F_0$  side. Middle: Top view of  $TF_1$  with three different conformations of  $\beta$  subunits. Lower left: Side view of  $TF_0$  composed of a, b and c subunits. The  $c_{10}$  ring turns clockwise against  $ab_2$  in the proton-driven direction. Right: Side view of  $TF_0F_1$ . The central stalk ( $\gamma\epsilon$ ) turns with the  $c_{10}$  rotor clockwise in the ATP synthesis direction when viewed from  $TF_0$  side.

$F_0F_1$  liposomes was demonstrated first by a pH meter (Fig. 6 of Ref. 3). After the primary chemiosmotic hypothesis<sup>1)</sup> was thus partially established,<sup>3)</sup> the subunit-subunit interactions in  $F_0F_1$  during ATP synthesis became the next research target. Boyer proposed a hypothetical two-subunit model of conformational energy transfer, and finally proposed the rotational hypothesis in 1981,<sup>4)</sup> based on our report on thermophilic  $F_1$  ( $TF_1$ ) subunits with ubiquitous stoichiometry  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma\delta\epsilon$  (Fig. 1, upper left)<sup>5)</sup> and conformational changes of isolated  $TF_1\beta$  from  $\beta_E$  (with an empty catalytic site) to  $\beta_D$  or  $\beta_T$  by binding ADP or ATP, respectively.<sup>6),7)</sup>

The objectives of this review are to publish how achievements on thermophilic  $F_0F_1$  ( $TF_0F_1$ ) in Japan have advanced the primary chemiosmotic<sup>1)</sup> and rotational<sup>4)</sup> theories, and how our studies on human  $F_0F_1$  ( $HF_0F_1$ ) will contribute to the development of human bioenergetics. To date, ligand-binding  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  subunits have only been isolated and reconstituted into  $\alpha\beta$  subcomplexes from  $TF_1$ .<sup>5)-7)</sup> In contrast to active  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer and  $\alpha_1\beta_1$  dimer of  $TF_1$ ,<sup>7)</sup> attempts to reconstitute  $\alpha\beta$  subcomplexes from *E. coli*  $F_1$  ( $EF_1$ ) and  $HF_1$  *in vitro* has been unsuccessful. However, functional complementation of yeast  $F_1$  ( $YF_1$ ) in a quintuple deletion mutant ( $\Delta\alpha\Delta\beta\Delta\gamma\Delta\delta\Delta\epsilon$ ) with genes encoding  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\epsilon$  of  $BF_1$  strongly suggests the presence of common structure and function of  $HF_1$  subunits.<sup>8)</sup> Thus, the

molecular mechanisms by which rotation and catalysis are coupled were mainly elucidated by crucial experiments using  $TF_1$  and  $TF_0$  ( $ab_2c_{10}$ ) to represent all  $F_0F_1$ s.<sup>7)</sup> The rotational hypothesis<sup>4)</sup> assumes that on ATP synthesis, the eccentric central stalk ( $\gamma\epsilon$ ) connected to the  $c_{10}$  ring is rotated against the  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer in the clockwise direction, as viewed from the  $F_0$  side (Fig. 1, right). This rotation induces cyclic conformational changes of  $\beta$  in the order of  $\beta_E \rightarrow \beta_D \rightarrow \beta_T \rightarrow \beta_E$  so as to change the affinity for nucleotides, and finally release ATP to return to  $\beta_E$  (Fig. 1, middle and upper right).<sup>4),7)</sup> In fact, Walker's X-ray crystallography of most of  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma$  of  $BF_1$  visualized the distinct conformations of  $\beta$  with different nucleotide occupancies ( $\beta_E$ ,  $\beta_D$  and  $\beta_T$ ).<sup>9)</sup>

The concept of  $F_0F_1$  as an  $H^+$ -driven rotor ( $\gamma-c_{10}$ ) and stator ( $\delta-ab_2$ ), rotating with a torque of 42 pNnm, was predicted in 1996 (Fig. 1, right).<sup>10)</sup> The most convincing evidence of the rotational hypothesis was the direct observation of the rotation of an actin filament attached to  $\gamma$  against the fixed  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer by Noji<sup>11)</sup> in 1997, using the  $TF_1$  gene.<sup>12)</sup> Briefly, the ATP-driven  $F_1$  motor rotates clockwise (Fig. 1, upper left) and the  $H^+$ -driven  $F_0$  motor rotates in the anticlockwise direction as viewed from the  $F_1$  side (Fig. 1, lower left).<sup>7),10),11)</sup> Preliminary experiments on "the 120° rotation of the c subunit oligomer" have been reported,<sup>13)</sup> but this was not sensitive to  $F_0$  inhibitor and may represent the  $\gamma$

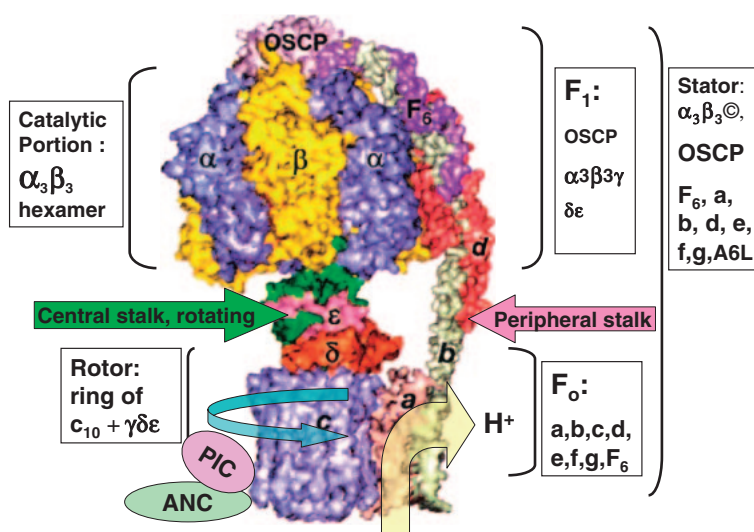


Fig. 2. Side view of space filling model of HF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>. As there is high homology among F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>s from different species,<sup>12),17-21)</sup> and quintuple yeast deletion YF<sub>1</sub> mutant ( $\Delta\alpha\Delta\beta\Delta\gamma\Delta\delta\Delta\epsilon$ ) is complemented by genes encoding BF<sub>1</sub>,<sup>8)</sup> the major structure of eukaryotic F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is apparently universal.<sup>9),14),25),29),73)-76)</sup> Thus, X-ray crystallography data for F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> subunits from different species were taken from RCSB Protein Data Bank (<http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/results/results.do?outformat>) and assembled according to sequence data for HF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>.<sup>21)</sup> No high-resolution structural data are available for subunit a and the hinge region of subunit b. ATP synthasome contains both PIC and ANC.<sup>31)</sup> PIC: Phosphate carrier; ANC: Adenine nucleotide carrier.

rotation in the F<sub>1</sub> portion of F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>. In fact, crystallographic analysis of yeast F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (YF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>) revealed that the ring of c subunits contains 10 protomers, rather than the widely anticipated 12 (4H<sup>+</sup> per 120° rotation), and tightly connected to γδϵ complex.<sup>14)</sup> Although crystal of EF<sub>0</sub> is not available, exact experiments on TF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> confirmed the c<sub>10</sub>-ring structure (Fig. 1, right).<sup>15)</sup> By using single-molecule FRET measuring the change in the distance between the subunits a and c during the rotation (see section 6.1), a 36° sequential stepping mode of the c<sub>10</sub>-ring rotation in F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> was confirmed.<sup>16)</sup> ATP is synthesized at the clefts between α and β by ΔμH<sup>+</sup>-driven H<sup>+</sup> flux when both motors are connected by central (γϵ) and peripheral stalks (ab<sub>2</sub>δ) to the c<sub>10</sub>-ring in TF<sub>1</sub> (Fig. 1).<sup>7),14),17)</sup> Elucidation of primary structures of *E. coli* F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (EF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>)<sup>18)</sup> and TF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>,<sup>12),19)</sup> and site-directed mutagenesis<sup>18),20)</sup> and suppression of the lost functions<sup>18)</sup> led to refinements in the rotational hypothesis including elastic power transmission.<sup>10)</sup>

After the primary rotational hypothesis<sup>4)</sup> was thus partially established,<sup>7),10),11),17)</sup> research on F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> was divided into single molecular elucidation of energy transduction at the atomic level using stable TF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub><sup>12),17),20)</sup> and biomedical elucidation of human F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (HF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>)<sup>21)</sup> at the mitochondrial<sup>22)</sup> and *in vivo* levels.<sup>23)</sup> In contrast to the single operon of bacterial F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>,<sup>12),18),19)</sup> animal F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is encoded by both nuclear

DNA<sup>21),24),25)</sup> and mitochondrial DNA.<sup>22),26)</sup> The primary structures of bovine F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (BF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>)<sup>24),25)</sup> and HF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub><sup>21),27),28)</sup> were sequenced, and cDNAs of the β subunits of BF<sub>1</sub> and HF<sub>1</sub>, for example, were found to share 99% amino acid homology and 94% nucleotide homology (authors report in 1986 quoted in Ref. 21). Although the core structure of TF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>γδϵ + ab<sub>2</sub>c<sub>10</sub>)<sup>7),10),12)</sup> (Fig. 1) was conserved in H(B)F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>, it is more complex due to additional 8 subunits (d, e, f, g, A6L (ATP8), OSCP and F<sub>6</sub>, plus a natural inhibitor called IF<sub>1</sub>) (Fig. 2)<sup>21),24),25)</sup>; subunits δ and ϵ of TF<sub>1</sub> correspond to OSCP (oligomycin sensitivity conferring protein) and the δϵ complex in HF<sub>1</sub>, respectively.<sup>21)</sup> Although mammalian δ subunit is partially homologous to ϵ subunit of TF<sub>1</sub>, X-ray crystallographic data of both BF<sub>1</sub><sup>29)</sup> and YF<sub>1</sub><sup>14)</sup> showed that δϵ complex interacts with a Rossmann fold in the γ subunit, forming a foot and c<sub>10</sub>-γ-δ-ϵ rotates as an ensemble central stalk (Fig. 2),<sup>14),29)</sup> similar to the ϵ subunit at the γ subunit in TF<sub>1</sub> (Fig. 1).<sup>7),17)</sup> In fact, the δϵ complex was dissociated from BF<sub>1</sub> by guanidine treatment as a stable heterodimer (Papageorgiou, S., and Solaini, G., 2004, PubMed abstract). So called minor subunits (e, f, g and A6L) of HF<sub>0</sub> are unlikely to have a role directly in ATP synthesis, but they appear to influence oligomeric state of HF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>.<sup>21),25)</sup> Supramolecular structures of HF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> include HF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> dimer<sup>30)</sup>

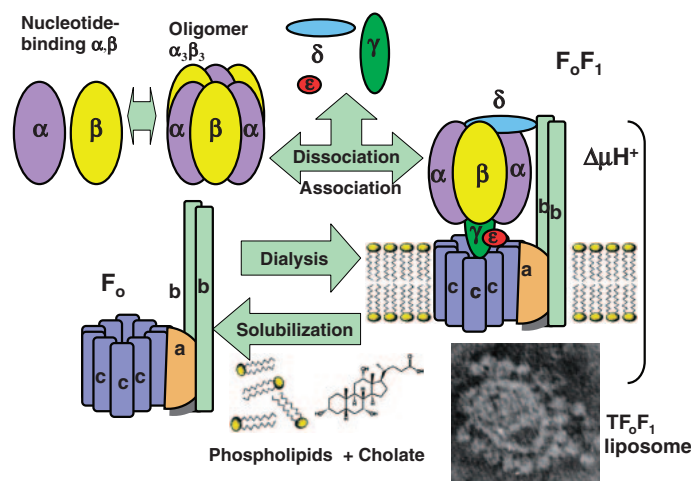


Fig. 3. Reconstitution of  $F_0F_1$  from subunits and  $F_0F_1$  liposomes from phospholipids.<sup>3),39)</sup> Isolated nucleotide-binding  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunits<sup>6),56)</sup> and  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer were obtained by dissociation of  $TF_1$  (upper left). Solubilized  $F_0$  or  $F_0F_1$  was mixed with phospholipids and cholates, and dialyzed to reconstitute  $F_0F_1$  liposomes (bottom right, electron micrograph) capable of proton-driven ATP synthesis.

and ATP synthasome<sup>31)</sup> composed of phosphate carrier (PIC), adenine nucleotide carrier (ANC) and  $HF_0F_1$  (Fig. 2). Moreover, there are tissue differences in  $HF_0F_1$ , with muscle- and liver-type  $\gamma$  subunits in  $HF_1$ .<sup>27)</sup> The complex gene structure,<sup>21),28)</sup> specific regulation systems,<sup>21),28)</sup> expression and alternative splicing<sup>27),32)</sup> of  $HF_0F_1$  and related regulatory genes were elucidated by recent cytoplasm technology,<sup>22),33)</sup> transgenic mice,<sup>32)</sup> transcriptomics<sup>21),32)</sup> and proteomics.<sup>31),32)</sup> Based on the knowledge from these extensive studies,<sup>7),17),21)</sup> human energetics in physiological activities<sup>21)</sup> and diseases<sup>21),23)</sup> have been analyzed.

In this article, mechanistic studies of  $F_0F_1$ , including a reconstitution study and crystallography, will be reviewed, and then, more complex mitochondrial cytobiology and human biomedical studies will be described, because mitochondrial structure, neuro-hormonal control, tissue-specific activity and disease are not found in bacteria. Historical evaluations of contributions made by scientists in mechanistic studies are summarized in excellent reviews (Refs. 4 and 17, and references therein).

### 1. Isolation of ATP synthase ( $F_0F_1$ ) by membrane biology

**$F_0F_1$  is a membrane protein of oxidative phosphorylation.** In the 1960s, membrane biology was in its infancy, and the many attempts to purify ATP-synthesizing membrane proteins from mitochondria had been unsuccessful. Long before

Fleischer's group extracted phospholipids from the mitochondrial membrane with aqueous-acetone (10% water) and restored electron transport activity by adding back phospholipid micelles in 1962,<sup>34)</sup> Kakiuchi succeeded in a similar experiment in 1926.<sup>35)</sup> Okunuki<sup>36)</sup> succeeded in preparing several cytochromes. Green's group prepared electron transport components from mitochondria.<sup>37)</sup> However, even after phospholipids were added back and electron transport activity was restored,<sup>34)-37)</sup> liposomes capable of  $\Delta\mu H^+$ -driven oxphos, as predicted by Mitchell,<sup>1)</sup> were not reconstituted.

Membrane proteins were classified into extrinsic and intrinsic proteins.<sup>3)</sup> Extrinsic proteins, such as cytochrome  $c$ <sup>36)</sup> and  $F_1$ ,<sup>2),5)</sup> or components of  $F_1$ , including OSCP<sup>3),25)</sup> and  $F_6$ ,<sup>3),25)</sup> (Figs. 1 and 2), are easily detached from the biomembrane by treatment with ultrasonic irradiation, chelating agents, and chaotropic anions (KI, KCN),<sup>3)</sup> and can be purified as soluble proteins in the water phase by chromatography and ammonium sulfate fractionation. However, intrinsic proteins including cytochrome oxidase<sup>36),37)</sup> and  $F_0$ <sup>3)</sup> are hydrophobic and embedded in the lipid bilayer, and require proper detergents for solubilization<sup>3)</sup> (Fig. 3, right). In 1966, detailed phase diagrams of phospholipid cholates system were reported,<sup>38)</sup> and these were useful for solubilizing intrinsic proteins and reconstituting functional biomembrane.<sup>3),39),40)</sup> The detergent concentration needed to solubilize  $F_0F_1$  is near its critical micelle concentration.<sup>3)</sup>

The  $F_1$  reported by Racker's laboratory<sup>2)</sup> was not sensitive to an energy transfer inhibitor of oxphos, oligomycin, but became oligomycin sensitive when bound to  $F_1$ -depleted mitochondrial membrane.<sup>41)</sup> The oligomycin sensitivity conferring factor ( $F_o$ ,  $H^+$ -driven motor, Fig. 1) was characterized as an intrinsic membrane protein,<sup>41)</sup> and by using cholate, oligomycin-sensitive ATPase, later designated  $F_oF_1$ , was isolated (Fig. 3).<sup>3),42)</sup>  $F_oF_1$  was reconstituted from  $F_o$  and  $F_1$ .<sup>42)</sup> The electron microscopic images of  $BF_oF_1$  revealed spherical  $^3H$ -acetyl- $BF_1$  attached to membrane-embedded  $BF_o$ .<sup>43)</sup> In combined morphological-biochemical studies to identify the *in situ* structure of  $BF_oF_1$ ,<sup>43)</sup> radiolabeled  $BF_1$  was added to  $BF_o$  membrane, and then the structure, radioactivity and ATPase activity were removed in parallel.<sup>43)</sup> However, mitochondrial  $F_1$ s, including  $BF_1$  and  $HF_1$ , are unstable and reconstitution of  $F_1$  from each isolated subunit was unsuccessful, even with chaperones. Thus,  $TF_1$ <sup>7),44)</sup> and  $TF_oF_1$ <sup>7),45)</sup> were purified from thermophilic bacillus PS3, and stable  $TF_oF_1$  was reconstituted from  $TF_1$  and  $TF_o$  (Fig. 1).<sup>7),44),45)</sup> Recent proteomics using mild detergent extraction of  $HF_oF_1$  from membrane followed by native gel electrophoresis revealed supramolecular structures including dimeric  $HF_oF_1$ <sup>30)</sup> and ATP synthasome (PIC + ANC)<sup>31)</sup> (Fig. 2) (see section 9).

## 2. Reconstitution of $F_oF_1$ membrane capable of ATP synthesis by proton flux

**$F_oF_1$  converts energy of  $\Delta\mu H^+$  driven  $H^+$  flux into ATP synthesis.** Incorporation of membrane proteins into the lipid bilayer is essential in activity studies in membrane biology. The most difficult step was the reconstitution of liposomes containing active membrane proteins capable of producing  $\Delta\mu H^+$ .<sup>3),39),40)</sup> The use of removable detergents, including cholate, was essential in the preparation of  $BF_oF_1$  (Fig. 3).<sup>3),39),40)</sup> and after cholate extraction, Triton-X100 was used in the chromatography to purify  $TF_oF_1$ .<sup>45)</sup> The removal of  $^{14}C$ -cholate during dialysis was estimated by radioactivity,<sup>3),40)</sup> and tight closure of the liposome membrane was estimated by radioactivity of enclosed  $^{14}C$ -inulin and confirmed by electron microscopy of enclosed ferritin.<sup>3),40)</sup> Electron microscopy showed liposomal membranes studded with closely neighboring  $F_1$  (Fig. 3, lower right).<sup>3),43)</sup> As several extrinsic proteins in oxphos, including  $F_1$ , OSCP and  $F_6$  were partially lost during the extraction and dialysis of  $F_oF_1$ , the best activity was attained by adding these after dialysis.<sup>3),39)</sup>

These liposomes showed  $H^+$  translocation on addition of ATP,<sup>3),40),46)</sup> ATP- $^{32}P$ i exchange reactions<sup>3),39),46)</sup> or  $H^+$ -driven ATP synthesis (Fig. 1, right).<sup>46)</sup> Thus,  $F_oF_1$ -liposome was shown to be the anisotropic "ATPase system" imagined by Mitchell.<sup>1)</sup> ATP synthesis was sensitive to the combination of valinomycin ( $K^+$  ionophore) and nigericin ( $H^+$ - $K^+$  exchange ionophore), which collapsed  $\Delta\mu H^+$ .<sup>3),39),46)</sup>

More stable  $TF_oF_1$ -liposomes synthesized ATP from ADP and Pi with energy from proton flux driven by  $\Delta\mu H^+$  formed by  $\Delta pH$  and  $\Delta\psi$  across their membranes.<sup>46)</sup> Using chloroplasts, ATP synthesis from ADP and Pi was demonstrated by applying  $\Delta pH$  using acid-base transition<sup>47)</sup> and by imposing  $\Delta\psi$  using an electric pulse.<sup>48)</sup> However, chloroplasts contain an electron transport system and other components that are energized by either  $\Delta pH$  or  $\Delta\psi$ . Thus, net ATP synthesis by applying  $\Delta pH$  (acid-base transition) or  $\Delta\psi$  (external electric pulse) to purified  $TF_oF_1$  reconstituted in liposome<sup>46)</sup> was the most convincing evidence of chemiosmotic theory.<sup>1)</sup>

The electrical potential between the inside and outside of liposomes formed by  $K^+$  diffusion in the presence of valinomycin was calculated as  $\Delta\psi = RT/F \times \ln([K^+]_{out}/[K^+]_{in})$ . Maximal net ATP synthesis from ADP and Pi was achieved by incubating vesicles in malonate at pH 5.5 with valinomycin, and then rapidly transferring them to a solution of pH 8.4 and 150 mM  $K^+$ .<sup>7),46)</sup> To synthesize ATP, the minimal  $\Delta\mu H^+$  ( $= \Delta\psi - 60\Delta pH$ , at 30°C) of 210 mV and optimal  $\Delta\mu H^+$  of 290 mV was required.<sup>46)</sup> The  $H^+$ -conducting activity of  $TF_o$ -liposome through  $TF_o$  was proportional to the imposed  $\Delta\mu H^+$  ( $6H^+$ /sec/103 mV at pH 8.0).<sup>49)</sup> The pH profile of the rate revealed that a proton, not a hydroxyl ion, was the true substrate.<sup>49)</sup> Because of the kinetic equivalency between  $\Delta\psi$  and  $\Delta pH$  as driving forces of ATP synthesis,<sup>46)</sup>  $\Delta\psi$  is expected to replace  $\Delta\mu H^+$ . In fact,  $TF_oF_1$ -liposomes irradiated with external electric pulses (760 V/cm, 30 ms, rectangular) catalyzed net ATP synthesis.<sup>50)</sup> The amount of ATP synthesized increased with the number, voltage and duration of electric pulses.<sup>50)</sup> The net synthesis of ATP by application of  $\Delta\mu H^+$  across the  $TF_oF_1$ -liposomes<sup>46),50)</sup> firmly established the chemiosmotic hypothesis.<sup>1)</sup> To directly measure  $\Delta\Psi$  with electrodes on both sides of the membrane,  $TF_oF_1$  was reconstituted into planar phospholipid bilayers, and the magnitude of the electric current generated upon addition of ATP was shown to follow simple Michaelis-Menten type kinetics, and the  $K_m$  was found to be 0.14 mM.<sup>51)</sup> There was no apparent

dependence of  $K_m$  on  $\Delta\Psi$ .<sup>51)</sup> This observation indicates that  $\Delta\mu H^+$  does not directly affect  $K_m$  to release the ATP formed on  $TF_0F_1$ ,<sup>7),51)</sup> and opens the way for conformational energy transfer in ATP synthesis.

Since the success of the  $F_0F_1$ -liposome,<sup>3),39),46)</sup> the reconstitution method has been used to analyze the activity of intrinsic proteins including channels, receptors and membrane proteins. Using the liposome method, the important outer membrane diffusion channel known as VDAC, (voltage-dependent anion channel) in mitochondrial transport was isolated in 1980 (see sections 9 and 10).<sup>52)</sup>

### 3. Reconstitution of $F_1$ subunit complexes capable of ATP synthesis by torque

**3.1. Core components of  $F_0$  are a, b, and c subunits and those of  $F_1$  are  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\delta$  and  $\epsilon$ .** The structure of  $F_0F_1$  is shown in Figs. 1 and 2.<sup>7),9),12),18),53),54)</sup> Complete reconstitution of  $F_1$  (370 kDa), after complete denaturation of all subunits into their primary structures with sodium dodecylsulfate and urea and refolding into tertiary structure,<sup>53)</sup> from subunits  $\alpha$  (55 kDa),  $\beta$  (52 kDa),  $\gamma$  (32 kDa),  $\delta$  (20 kDa) and  $\epsilon$  (14 kDa) was possible only in  $TF_1$  (Fig. 3).<sup>53)</sup> The intermediate core subunit complexes,  $\alpha_1\beta_1$  dimer<sup>55)</sup> and  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer,<sup>55)</sup> were also only obtained in  $TF_1$ , although the sequence homologies of core subunits were conserved in  $HF_1$  (371 kDa).<sup>21)</sup> Enzymology revealed that  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer was an oligomer, while  $\alpha_1\beta_1$  dimer was a protomer.<sup>55)</sup> Owing to the stability of  $TF_1$ , the subcomplexes with chemically modified and mutated subunits were useful for nanotechnology.<sup>7),17),54)</sup>

$TF_0$  (148 kDa) is composed of a (30 kDa), b (17 kDa) and c (8 kDa) in a stoichiometric ratio of 1:2:10 (Figs. 1 and 3).<sup>7),12),17)</sup>  $HF_0$  and  $BF_0$  contain, in addition to the common subunits a (also called ATP6; 25 kDa), b (25 kDa), and c (8 kDa), minor subunits d (19 kDa), e (8 kDa), f (10 kDa), g (11 kDa),  $F_6$  (9 kDa) and A6L (also called ATP8; 8 kDa)<sup>18),25),29)</sup> (Fig. 2). The single stalk  $BF_0$  obtained by urea-cholate treatment of  $BF_0F_1$  was reconstituted with externally added  $^3H$ -acetyl- $F_1$  and the additional peripheral stalk components OSCP and  $F_6$  were demonstrated in 1971.<sup>3),39),40)</sup> Isolated  $BF_0$  subunits other than OSCP and  $F_6$  are unstable, and their reconstitution has been unsuccessful without presequence and organizing machinery, even with chaperones.<sup>21)</sup> These  $BF_0$  subunits were only identified on gel electrophoresis and X-ray crystallography.<sup>25),29)</sup>  $F_0F_1$  was seen as a sphere ( $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer

portion, diameter 12 nm  $\times$  height 10 nm)<sup>43)</sup> connected by two stalks (central and peripheral) to a basal piece (subunits a and  $c_{10}$  ring) (Fig. 3, lower right).<sup>3),43)</sup>

**3.2. Protomeric, oligomeric and rotational ATPases:  $\alpha_1\beta_1$  dimer,  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer and  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma$  heptamer.** The isolated  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunits of  $TF_1$  both have AT(D)P-Mg binding activity accompanied by conformational changes<sup>6)</sup> without ATPase activity (Fig. 3, left).<sup>55),56)</sup> The open structure of  $\beta_E$  and closed structures of  $\beta_D$  and  $\beta_T$  in the presence of ligands were confirmed in the isolated thermophilic  $\beta$  using  $^1H$ -NMR.<sup>56)</sup> Both thermophilic  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunits were reconstituted to form an active  $\alpha_1\beta_1$  dimer by forming a catalytic  $\alpha\beta$  interface.<sup>55)</sup> Three  $\alpha_1\beta_1$  dimers were reconstituted to form an allosterically active  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer (Fig. 3, upper middle).<sup>55)</sup> Both the high catalytic activity and formation of  $F_1$ -bound ATP from ADP + Pi depend on the  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma$  structure with rotational ATPase.<sup>7),11),17)</sup> There are six potential nucleotide-binding sites on  $F_1$  and  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma$ : three catalytic sites on  $\beta$  and three noncatalytic sites on  $\alpha$ ,<sup>7),17)</sup> as confirmed by X-ray crystallography.<sup>9)</sup>

Depending on the occupancy of catalytic sites with increasing ATP concentration ( $[ATP]$ ), there are three types of ATPase activities of  $F_1$ : uni-site, bi-site and tri-site.<sup>4),57)</sup> Uni-site catalysis is measured at sub-stoichiometric ATP concentrations ( $[ATP] < [F_1]$ ). Uni-site activity is very low, and the apparent  $K_{mATP}$  is less than 20 nM.<sup>57)</sup> The ATPase activity of the  $\alpha_1\beta_1$  dimer of  $TF_1$ <sup>57)</sup> showed typical Michaelis-Menten kinetics with only one  $K_{mATP}$  value of 70  $\mu M$ , and a  $V_{max}$  value of 0.1 unit/mg, without the cooperative characteristics of a protomer.<sup>57)</sup> In contrast, ATPase activity of the  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer showed the cooperative characteristics of an oligomer.<sup>58)</sup> The apparent  $K_{mATPs}$  of oligomeric ATPase of  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  at 25°C were about 150  $\mu M$  (bi-site) and 490  $\mu M$  (tri-site).<sup>58)</sup>  $K_{mATPs}$  of rotational ATPase of  $TF_1$  (Fig. 3, right) were about 80  $\mu M$  (bi-site) and 490  $\mu M$  (tri-site).<sup>58)</sup> The  $\gamma$ -containing complexes  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma$ ,  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma\delta$  and  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma\epsilon$ , show common kinetic properties.<sup>59)</sup> The  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer was inhibited by only one mole of [ $^3H$ ]-3'-O-(4-benzoyl) benzoyl-ADP per hexamer, similarly to both  $BF_1$  and  $TF_1$ .<sup>60)</sup> Thus, the presence of only one inhibited- $\beta$  in the hexamer blocked multi-site steady-state ATPase activity. This single-hit inactivation and cooperativity is an inherent property of the symmetrical  $\alpha_3\beta_3$ , but is not due to the inhibition of rotation by  $TF_1$  or  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma$ .

**3.3. Rotation of the  $\gamma$  subunit in  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer of  $TF_1$ : One mole ATP hydrolysis at**



**one  $\beta$  subunit drives 120° rotation of  $\gamma$  subunit in a concerted manner.** The rotational hypothesis of  $F_0F_1$ <sup>4)</sup> was also proposed by Oosawa as the “loose coupling mechanism of rotational proton ATPase” based on analogy with the  $H^+$ -driven flagella motor in 1986.<sup>61)</sup> The rotation of the  $\gamma$  subunit axis in the cylinder of the  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer in the  $F_0F_1$  motor with the torque of 42 pN nm was predicted by many lines of evidence.<sup>10)</sup> The rotation of  $\gamma$  was directly demonstrated in single-molecule studies using  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma$  from  $TF_1$ .<sup>11)</sup> Rotational motion was visualized by attaching a fluorescently labeled actin filament (1–4  $\mu\text{m}$ ) to  $\gamma$ S107C of artificially induced mutant  $\gamma$  subunit with the biotin-streptavidine bridge. The  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer was immobilized on a glass surface of Ni-nitrilotriacetate by artificially attaching decapolyhistidine to  $\beta$ ,<sup>11)</sup> and the ATP-driven rotation of the  $\gamma$  subunit was found to be anticlockwise when  $F_1$  was observed from the  $F_o$  side (Fig. 1, upper left).<sup>11),17)</sup>

The work performed by the rotating  $\gamma$  in a fixed  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  is the frictional torque times angle of rotation. The hydrodynamic frictional drag coefficient ( $\xi$ ) of the actin filament for the propeller rotation is given by  $\xi = (\pi/3)\eta L^3 / [\ln(L/2r) - 0.447]$ , where,  $\eta$  ( $10^{-3} \text{ N s m}^{-2}$ ) is the viscosity of the medium,  $L$ , the length of the actin filament (1–4  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and  $r$ , the radius of the filament (5 nm).<sup>11)</sup> The observed rates of filament rotation at 2 mM ATP are 7, 1, and 0.1 revolutions per second, when the lengths of f-actin are 1, 2 and 4  $\mu\text{m}$ , respectively.<sup>11)</sup> The frictional torque  $\xi\omega$  was about 40 pN nm, where  $\omega$  is the angular velocity.<sup>11)</sup> Hydrolysis of one ATP molecule drives a 120° rotation of the  $\gamma$  subunit relative to the cylinder of the  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer, and therefore, hydrolysis of three ATP molecules is required for one complete 360° revolution.<sup>15),62)</sup> In order to analyze rapid rotation by reducing the viscosity resistance of long actin filament, fluorescent gold beads (40 nm) were attached to  $\gamma$ . At nanomolar ATP concentrations,  $\beta_E$  waits until the next ATP molecule is bound, and the duration of the pause depends on the ATP concentration (ATP-waiting dwell time).<sup>62)</sup> ATP binding to  $\beta_E$  is the power step that drives the 80° rotation of  $\gamma$ .<sup>55)</sup> This rotation leads to simultaneous release of ADP from the catalytic site of  $\beta_D$ , and hydrolytic cleavage of ATP into ADP and Pi at  $\beta_T$  after a pause (catalytic dwell time), and a 40° rotation occurs to complete the 120° rotation.<sup>62)</sup>

Using mutant  $\beta$  (E190D) of  $TF_1$ , in the same rotational experiments, the catalytic activity of each  $\beta$  subunit was shown to be coordinated with the

other two  $\beta$  subunits to drive rotation of the  $\beta_E$ ,  $\beta_D$ , and  $\beta_T$  cycle.<sup>63)</sup> Hybrid  $F_1$  containing one or two mutations with altered catalytic kinetics rotates in an asymmetric stepwise fashion with different dwell times. Analysis of the rotation revealed that for any given  $\beta$  subunit, the subunit binds ATP at 0°, cleaves ATP at approximately 200° and carries out a third catalytic event at approximately 320°. This demonstrates the concerted nature of the  $F_1$  complex activity, where all three  $\beta$  subunits participate to drive each 120° rotation of the  $\gamma$  subunit with a 120° phase difference.<sup>63)</sup>

**3.4. Torque-driven ATP synthesis by  $TF_1$ . ATP is synthesized by mechanical energy applied on the  $\gamma$  subunit without proton flux.** ATP synthesis driven by mechanical energy (Fig. 1) was directly shown by attaching a magnetic bead (diameter = 700 nm, biotinylated) to the  $\gamma$  subunit of  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma$  of mutant  $TF_1$  (C193 $\alpha$ , H10- $\beta$ , and S107C $\gamma$ , I210C $\gamma$ ) on a glass surface, and rotating the bead using electrical magnets.<sup>64)</sup> After the ATP-driven rotation of the beads was confirmed, the magnet was turned on and several bursts of hundreds of revolutions at 10 Hz were imposed.<sup>64)</sup> Anticlockwise forced rotation of the  $\gamma$  subunit by the magnetic beads resulted in the appearance of ATP in the medium, as detected by counting the photons emitted from the luciferase–luciferin reaction with a camera (Hamamatsu Photonics).<sup>64)</sup> This shows that torque working at one particular point ( $\gamma$ ) on a protein complex can influence a chemical reaction occurring at physically remote catalytic sites ( $\beta$ ), driving the reaction far from equilibrium.<sup>64)</sup>

#### 4. Genes for $TF_oF_1$ and $HF_oF_1$ : Single operon vs. nuclear and mitochondrial genes

Detailed genetic analysis and site-directed mutagenesis have been reported by Futai using *E. coli*  $F_oF_1$  ( $EF_oF_1$ ), as *E. coli* genetics are well understood.<sup>18),65)</sup> The catalytic, structural and regulatory significance of an amino acid residue in  $EF_1$  was elucidated by site-directed mutagenesis.<sup>65)</sup> However, many crucial experiments, including the planar  $F_oF_1$  bilayer<sup>51)</sup> and torque-driven ATP synthesis,<sup>64)</sup> have not been successful to date with  $EF_oF_1$ , due to its fragility. Thus, a special sequencing method for thermophilic genes was developed.<sup>66)</sup> The structure of the  $TF_oF_1$  operon (number of amino acid residues),<sup>12),19)</sup> I(127)-a(210)-c(72)-b(163)- $\delta$ (163)- $\alpha$ (502)- $\gamma$ (286)- $\beta$ (473)- $\epsilon$ (132), was similar to that of the  $EF_oF_1$  operon.<sup>18),65)</sup>

Amino acid residues in the different  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  subunits from  $TF_1$ ,<sup>12),19)</sup>  $HF_1$ ,<sup>21),27),28)</sup>  $BF_1$ <sup>24)</sup> and

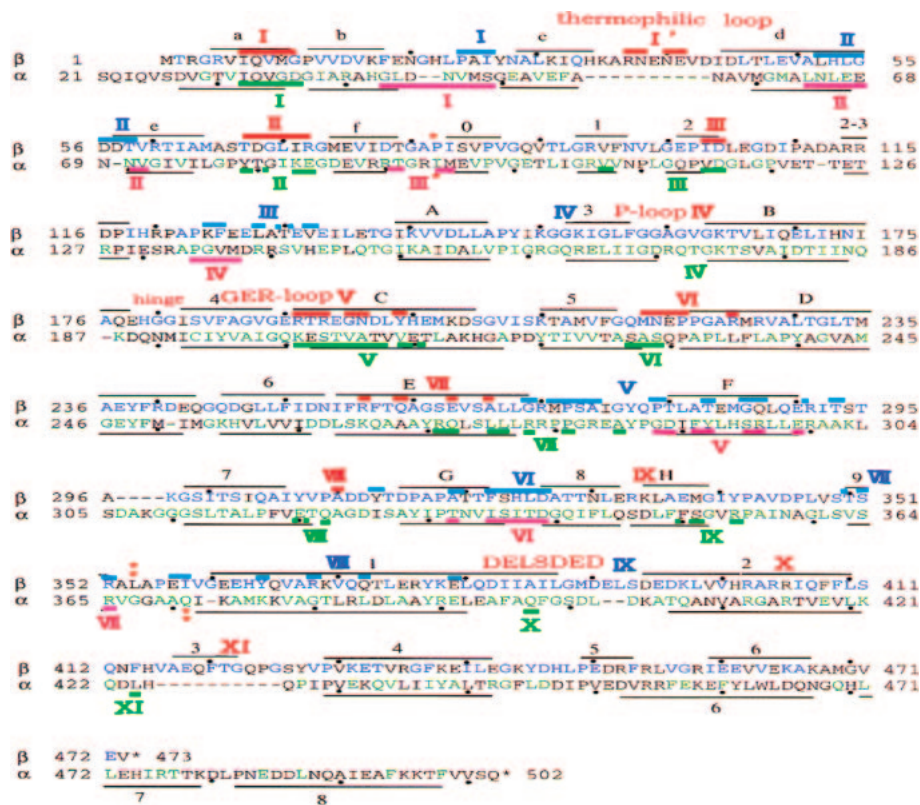


Fig. 4. Aligned amino acid sequences<sup>12),19)</sup> and secondary structure elements<sup>71)</sup> of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunits in TF<sub>1</sub>. Solid black lines indicate folds, and these were classified into  $\alpha$ -helices (A-H, 1-8) and  $\beta$ -sheets (a-f, 0-8). The labels for folds are provided only for the  $\beta$  subunit, except for the three C-terminal  $\alpha$ -helices in the  $\alpha$  subunit. Dots indicate every tenth residue. I-XI: areas of  $\alpha/\beta$  contact. Red: catalytic contact areas of  $\beta$ . Pink: catalytic contact areas of  $\alpha$ . Blue: non-catalytic contact areas of  $\beta$ . Green: non-catalytic contact areas of  $\alpha$ . Colored bars indicate contact residues in T $\beta$ E. Sequences are divided by red asterisks (\*) to indicate the three domains.

EF<sub>1</sub><sup>18),65)</sup> are aligned<sup>19)</sup> and expressed in the format  $\alpha$ 10, which refers to residue #10 in the  $\alpha$  subunit. The residue numbers of amino acid sequences in the  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunits of TF<sub>1</sub> are shown in Fig. 4 (dots indicate every tenth residue).<sup>17),19)</sup> Primary structures are homologous, with 59% sequence identity between thermophilic  $\alpha$ /human  $\alpha$  and 68% between thermophilic  $\beta$ /human  $\beta$ .<sup>19)</sup> The primary structure of the TF<sub>1</sub>  $\beta$  subunit showed homology with 270 residues which are identical in the  $\beta$  subunits from HF<sub>1</sub>, CF<sub>1</sub>, and EF<sub>1</sub>.<sup>19)</sup> The homologies of the amino acid sequence between BF<sub>1</sub> and YF<sub>1</sub> were 73%, 79% and 40%, respectively, for the  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  subunits.<sup>14)</sup> As these YF<sub>1</sub> subunits were functionally complemented with corresponding BF<sub>1</sub> subunits,<sup>8)</sup> the essential structure is conserved among YF<sub>1</sub>, BF<sub>1</sub> and HF<sub>1</sub> (sequence is nearly identical to that of BF<sub>1</sub>, but there were polymorphisms in HF<sub>1</sub>).<sup>8)</sup> Residues forming reverse turns (Gly and Pro) were highly conserved among the  $\beta$  subunits.<sup>19)</sup> Conserved

residues (green and blue letters in Fig. 4) among TF<sub>1</sub>, HF<sub>1</sub> and EF<sub>1</sub> are closely related to catalytic and regulatory functions.<sup>19),21),65)</sup> The observed substitutions in the thermophilic subunit increased its propensities to form secondary structures, and its external polarity to form tertiary structure.<sup>19)</sup>

Chemical and genetic modification of residues in F<sub>1</sub> revealed a nucleotide-binding P-loop (-GGAGVGKT-; thermophilic  $\beta$ 158-165 corresponds to bovine  $\beta$ 156-163) (Figs. 4, 5A).<sup>7),9),12),19),54)</sup> Long before the X-ray crystallographic elucidation of the P-loop,<sup>9)</sup> site-directed mutagenesis of the TF<sub>1</sub> gene<sup>20)</sup> to induce thermophilic  $\beta$ K164I and thermophilic  $\alpha$ K175I, identified an essential role for lysine residues in the catalysis (Fig. 5A, red letters).<sup>20)</sup> The proton abstracting thermophilic  $\beta$ E190 (Fig. 5A) localized in the GER-loop (-VGER-) (Fig. 4)<sup>7),19),54)</sup> was also predicted by TF<sub>1</sub> mutagenesis producing thermophilic  $\beta$ E190Q.<sup>67)</sup> These mutant TF<sub>1</sub> subunits produced an  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma$  complex that was suitable for



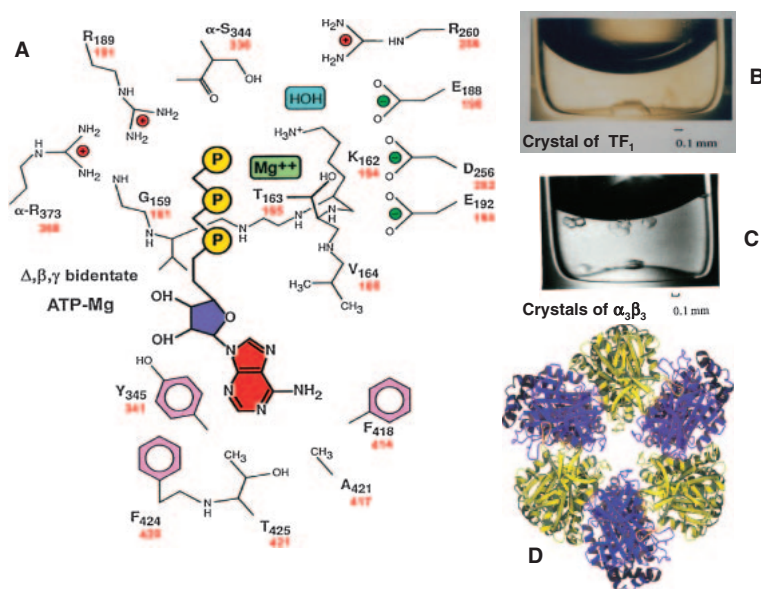


Fig. 5. Crystals of  $TF_1$  and  $\alpha_3\beta_3$ , and X-ray crystallography data for the catalytic center of  $F_1$ . A. Catalytic center of the  $\beta$  subunit of  $BF_1$  (black text indicates residue number)<sup>9)</sup> and  $TF_1$  (red text indicates residue numbers).<sup>12)</sup> Except for  $\alpha R373$  and  $\alpha S344$ , all of the amino acid residues are present in  $\beta$ . Residues 159–164 are part of the P-loop surrounding the triphosphate residue of ATP. B. Crystals of  $TF_1$ .<sup>70)</sup> C. Crystals of  $\alpha_3\beta_3$ .<sup>71)</sup> D. Top view of the crystallographic structure of  $\alpha_3\beta_3$ .<sup>71)</sup>

experiments on torque-driven ATP synthesis.<sup>64)</sup> Species-specific residues (black letters in Fig. 4) may have phylogenetic components, including thermophilic loops (-ARNENEV-) (Fig. 4, first line I') that render  $TF_1$  stable.<sup>19)</sup> Since determining the nucleotide sequence of  $TF_0F_1$ ,<sup>7),12),19)</sup> numerous rotating ATP synthases of thermophilic F-type or V-type (vacuolar ATPase) have been sequenced and characterized.<sup>65),68)</sup>

In contrast to the single operon  $TF_0F_1$ , the gene structure of  $HF_0F_1$  is highly complex<sup>21),26),28)</sup>; most subunits are encoded by nuclear DNA, with signal peptides to target this protein to the mitochondrial inner membrane,<sup>21),27),28)</sup> but subunits a and A6L of  $HF_0$  are encoded by mitochondrial DNA.<sup>21),26)</sup> The complete sequence of the 16,569-base pair human mitochondrial DNA contains genes for 12S and 16S rRNAs, 22 tRNAs, ATPase subunits 6 (corresponding to the a subunit of  $HF_0$ ) and 8 (corresponds to A6L of  $HF_0$ ), and 11 other protein coding genes.<sup>26)</sup>

## 5. Crystallographic analysis of $F_0F_1$ : Detailed structure of $H^+$ -driven and ATP-driven motors

### 5.1. Crystallization and analysis at Photon Factory.

The most detailed structural information for amino acid residues in a protein is obtained by crystallographic analysis. In 1977, a two-dimensional crystal of  $TF_1$  showed the pseudo-hexagonal struc-

ture of  $\alpha_3\beta_3$ .<sup>69)</sup> Three-dimensional crystals of  $TF_1$  (Fig. 5B) and  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer (Fig. 5C) were obtained using dye-ligand chromatography columns.<sup>70),71)</sup> The high resolution power of the Photon Factory synchrotron (for  $TF_1$   $\alpha_3\beta_3$ , 0.32 nm resolution at Tsukuba) revealed the detailed structure of  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma$ ,<sup>9)</sup>  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  (Fig. 5D),<sup>71)</sup> the c-ring,<sup>14),72)</sup> the peripheral stalk,<sup>25)</sup> central stalk<sup>29)</sup> and the stator (Fig. 2).<sup>73)</sup> X-ray crystallography (0.325 nm resolution) of the  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma\epsilon$  complex of  $EF_1$  was also recently reported (Ducan, T.M., personal communication, 2010). The peripheral stalk consists of a continuous curved  $\alpha$ -helix about 16 nm in length in the single b-subunit, augmented by the predominantly  $\alpha$ -helical d and  $F_6$  (Fig. 2, right).<sup>25)</sup>

### 5.2. Crystallography of $F_0$ .

The c subunits form a ring around a central pore.<sup>14),72)</sup> The numbers of the c subunit in the  $F_0$  ring differ depending on the species: in  $CF_0$ , it is 14,<sup>72)</sup> while that for  $YF_0$ <sup>14)</sup> and  $TF_0$  is 10.<sup>15)</sup> The conserved carboxylates E61 of  $CF_0$  (corresponds to E56 of  $TF_0$ ) involved in proton transport, are 1.06–1.08 nm apart in the c-ring rotor, which rotates relative to the membrane anchored a subunit. The torque-generating unit consists of the interface between the rotating c-ring and the flanking stator a subunit.<sup>14),72)</sup> The ring rotor is driven by the sequential protonation and reprotonation of E61. Residues adjacent to the conserved E61 residues

show increased hydrophobicity and reduced hydrogen bonding.<sup>72)</sup> Upon deprotonation, the conformation of E61 is changed to another c subunit and becomes fully exposed to the periphery of the ring.<sup>72)</sup> Reprotonation of E61 by a conserved R in the adjacent a subunit returns the E61 to its initial conformation.<sup>72)</sup> Genetically modified TF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>s, each containing a c subunit dimer (c<sub>2</sub>) to a dodecamer (c<sub>12</sub>), were prepared by genetical cross-linking.<sup>15)</sup> Among these, TF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>s containing c<sub>2</sub>, c<sub>5</sub>, or c<sub>10</sub> showed ATP-synthesis and other activities, but those containing c<sub>9</sub>, c<sub>11</sub> or c<sub>12</sub> did not. Thus, the c-ring of functional TF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is a decamer (c<sub>10</sub>).<sup>15)</sup> When TF<sub>1</sub> was removed from the modified TF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>s, TF<sub>o</sub>s containing only c<sub>2</sub>, c<sub>5</sub> or c<sub>10</sub> worked as proton channels.<sup>15)</sup> In fact, a 36° step size of proton-driven c<sub>10</sub>-ring in F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> was confirmed.<sup>16)</sup> The c<sub>10</sub> ring in YF<sub>o</sub><sup>14)</sup> and functional complementation of the YF<sub>1</sub>-deleted yeast mutant with BF<sub>1</sub> genes strongly suggests the presence of the c<sub>10</sub> ring in HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>.<sup>8)</sup>

### 5.3. Crystallography of catalytic site of F<sub>1</sub>.

The basic ground state of F<sub>1</sub> without nucleotides was shown on crystallography of the thermophilic  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer,<sup>55)</sup> in which three  $\alpha_1\beta_1$  dimers<sup>55)</sup> were arranged in three-fold symmetry, 12 nm across and 10 nm high (Fig. 5D).<sup>71)</sup> The first detailed crystallography of nucleotide-bound  $\alpha_3\beta_3\gamma$  (partial) of BF<sub>1</sub> was determined at 0.28-nm resolution by Walker's group.<sup>9)</sup> In the structure of BF<sub>1</sub> crystallized in the presence of ligand (AMPPNP:ADP:Pi = 50:1:0, and Mg<sup>2+</sup>), the three catalytic  $\beta$  subunits differed in conformation and in bound nucleotide. There were four unhydrolyzable ATP analogue (AMPPNP) molecules, three in equal three  $\alpha$  subunits, one in  $\beta$  ( $\beta_T$ ) and one ADP in  $\beta$  ( $\beta_D$ ); the remaining  $\beta$  was empty ( $\beta_E$ ).<sup>9)</sup>

The ATP-binding site of  $\beta_T$  is surrounded by the residues shown in Fig. 5A (black numbers for BF<sub>1</sub> are identical to those of HF<sub>1</sub>, red numbers for TF<sub>1</sub>).<sup>9),71)</sup> In the P-loop of  $\beta_T$  of TF<sub>1</sub>, the essential K164<sup>20)</sup> forms hydrogen bonds with the phosphate of the nucleotide, and the oxygen of T165 coordinates with Mg<sup>2+</sup>, while in the GER-loop, E190 interacts with water (Fig. 5A).<sup>9),71)</sup> The catalytic activity of  $\beta$  requires  $\alpha$  that supplies thermophilic  $\alpha$ -R365 and thermophilic  $\alpha$ -S336 to the ATP-binding site at the  $\alpha\beta$  interface (Fig. 5A).<sup>9),71),74)</sup> The positive charge of  $\alpha$ -R365 stabilizes the  $\beta$ -phosphate of AT(D)P, and R256, R191 and K164 of thermophilic  $\beta$  interact with the negative charges of the phosphates of AT(D)P (Fig. 5A). The cross-linking of thermophilic  $\beta$ Y341 with azido-ATP<sup>7),54)</sup> predicted a hydrophobic inter-

action between the adenine ring, and Y341, F414 and F420 (Fig. 5A).<sup>9),71)</sup>

### 5.4. Basic structure of $\alpha_3\beta_3$ is rendered asymmetric by addition of $\gamma$ and/or nucleotides.

The basic structure of F<sub>1</sub> is a symmetrical  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer that is composed of three pairs of alternating  $\alpha_E$  and  $\beta_E$  (Fig. 5D).<sup>71)</sup> However, the asymmetry induced by introduction of  $\gamma$  and/or AT(D)P to  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer is critical in the mechanism of ATP synthesis.<sup>9)</sup> The nucleotide-free  $\beta_E$  in both the F<sub>1</sub> crystal<sup>9)</sup> and solution<sup>56)</sup> has an open structure (Fig. 6) that is essentially identical to  $\beta_E$  in the nucleotide-free  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer.<sup>71)</sup> Both  $\beta_T$  and  $\beta_D$ , as well as  $\alpha_T$ , assume closed structures (Fig. 6, direction of the open arrow).<sup>9)</sup> Interconversion of the open-close conformational states of  $\beta$  is achieved by addition of AT(D)P to the isolated  $\beta_E$  of TF<sub>1</sub>.<sup>6),56)</sup> However, nucleotide-free YF<sub>1</sub> contained  $\beta_D$  and  $\beta_T$  structures similar to those of nucleotide-bound BF<sub>1</sub>.<sup>75)</sup> This suggests that  $\beta\gamma$  interactions at the three contact points (Fig. 6, middle,  $\gamma$ 1-3), including interaction of Arg residue at position 75 ( $\gamma$ R75) with  $\beta_D$ E395 in the DELSEED sequence of BF<sub>1</sub> to change the mutual conformation,<sup>10),14)</sup> are as important as nucleotide occupancy in converting open  $\beta_E$  into the closed  $\beta$ .<sup>75)</sup> As genes for  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  of YF<sub>1</sub> in the  $\alpha$ - $\beta$ - $\gamma$  deleted mutant yeast are complemented with those of BF<sub>1</sub>,<sup>8)</sup> the functional residues are essentially equal between YF<sub>1</sub> and B(H)F<sub>1</sub>. Occupancy of the catalytic site by ATP or ADP can be mimicked by convenient BeF<sub>3</sub>-ADP complexes that bind to the catalytic sites of  $\beta_T$  and  $\beta_D$ .<sup>76)</sup> The structure is representative of an intermediate in the reaction pathways.<sup>76)</sup> The conformational change of  $\beta$  induced by  $\gamma$ -rotation is essential for ATP synthesis (ATP release from the catalytic site), while that induced by ATP-binding to  $\beta$  is necessary to elicit torque on  $\gamma$ .<sup>74),75)</sup>

**5.5. Three domains in  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ :  $\beta$  barrel, nucleotide-binding and  $\alpha$ -helical bundle domains.** The overall molecular structure of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  can be divided into three domains<sup>9),71),75)</sup>: an N-terminal  $\beta$  barrel (Fig. 6, top N to \*), a central nucleotide-binding domain (Fig. 6, middle \* to \*\*), and a C-terminal  $\alpha$ -helical bundle (Fig. 6 bottom \*\* to C).<sup>7)</sup> The locations of amino acid residues in the  $\alpha$ -helices (Fig. 4, solid black lines A-H, 1-8) and  $\beta$ -sheets (Fig. 4, solid black lines a-f, 0-8)<sup>71),74)</sup> are compared in the three-dimensional structure of thermophilic  $\beta$  (Fig. 6). As the amino acid sequence of BF<sub>1</sub><sup>24)</sup> is nearly identical to that of HF<sub>1</sub> (99% homology in  $\beta$ ),<sup>19),21)</sup> the following discussion on BF<sub>1</sub>

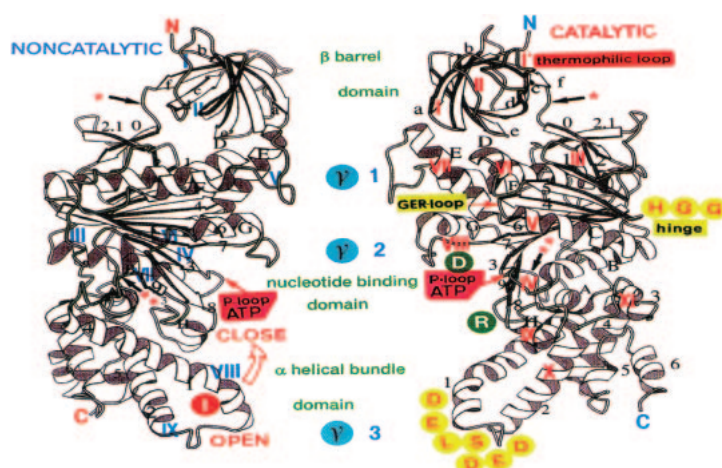


Fig. 6. Three-dimensional structures of  $T\beta_E$ . Three-fold axis is vertical, so that views are towards the  $\alpha\beta$  subunit interfaces. Left: non-catalytic interface (blue I–IX indicates contact areas). Right: catalytic interface (red I–XI indicates contact areas). Green letters: domain names, with domain borders being marked by red asterisks. D and R in green circles are  $T\beta D331$  and  $T\beta R333$ , respectively, at the entrance to the crevice of the P-loop. I in red circle is  $T\beta I386$  of  $\beta\beta$  contact. H and G in yellow circles indicate hinge residues in  $T\beta$  (179–181).<sup>74</sup>

is also applicable to  $HF_1$ . Superposition of the overall crystallographic structures of thermophilic  $\beta_E$  and bovine  $\beta_E$  or bovine  $\alpha$  revealed that the folding of these structures is very similar.<sup>9,71</sup> The  $\beta$  barrel domains (Fig. 4,  $T\alpha$  21–94,  $T\beta$  1–82) contain six  $\beta$  strands (Fig. 6. plate form arrows,  $\beta_a$ – $\beta_f$ ).<sup>74</sup> The nucleotide-binding domains ( $T$   $\alpha$ 95–371,  $T\beta$ 83–354) consist of nine-stranded  $\beta$ -sheets surrounded by eight  $\alpha$ -helices (Fig. 6,  $\alpha A$  to  $\alpha H$ ) and a small antiparallel  $\beta$ -sheet. The C-terminal  $\alpha$ -helical bundle domain of  $\alpha$  (thermophilic  $\alpha$ 375–502) contains six helices (Fig. 4,  $\alpha 1$ , 2, 4, 6–8), while that of  $\beta$  (thermophilic  $\beta$ 355–473) consists of six  $\alpha$ -helices (Fig. 4,  $\alpha 1$ –6). Thus, the largest difference between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  is found in the C-terminal region,<sup>9,74</sup> and the DELSD(E)ED sequence localized in this region was shown to be the most important  $\beta\gamma$  contact area.<sup>10</sup>

**5.6. Catalytic and non-catalytic  $\alpha\beta$  interfaces and conformational change.** The crystal structure of  $BF_1$ <sup>9</sup> and  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  of  $TF_1$ <sup>71</sup> indicates that, in general, the conserved residues lie on the  $\alpha\beta$  interfaces, as shown by detailed homology search among  $TF_1$ ,  $HF_1$ ,  $CF_1$  and  $EF_1$ .<sup>19</sup> There are two types of  $\alpha\beta$  interface that contain either a catalytic site or non-catalytic site.<sup>9,74,75</sup> The area where pairs of residues connecting the  $\alpha\beta$  interface are located is defined as contact area. Contact residue pairs within a limit of 0.40 nm across the  $\alpha\beta$  interfaces in  $BF_1$  and the  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer of  $TF_1$  were analyzed by a computerized atom search using the CCP4 Suite: Program Contact.<sup>74</sup> The contact areas composed of

homologous residue pairs found in both  $TF_1$  and  $BF_1$  were defined as homological contact areas. The contact areas found only in one species, such as the thermophilic loop of  $TF_1$  (I' in Fig. 4) were defined as species specific contact areas. These areas are expressed as primary structure in Fig. 4. The contact areas are located in both  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$  at catalytic (red and pink bars in Fig. 4), and non-catalytic (blue and green bars in Fig. 4) interfaces. There are seven catalytic (red I–III, V–VIII in Figs. 4 and 6) and non-catalytic (blue I–VII in Figs. 4 and 6) contact areas on the open  $\beta$  form ( $\beta_E$ ). The number of contact areas on closed  $\beta$  ( $\beta_D$  and  $\beta_T$ ) increased to 11 (red I–XI in Fig. 6) and 9 (blue I–IX in Fig. 6), respectively, in the catalytic and non-catalytic interfaces. The barrel domain harbors the universal contact areas I and II (Fig. 6, upper), and the common electrostatic bond in II is thermophilic  $\beta R72$ –thermophilic  $\alpha E67$  (=human  $\beta R71$ –human  $\alpha E67$ ).<sup>9,71</sup> At the catalytic nucleotide-binding domain, areas III, V, VI, VII and VIII are universally detected (Fig. 4). However, in  $T\beta_E$ , the P-loop contact area IV is latent, in contrast to that area in thermophilic  $\alpha E$  (Fig. 6). Human  $\alpha R373$  interacts with oxygen in the  $\beta$ - and  $\gamma$ -P of ATP bound at IV.<sup>9</sup> In V, the common electrostatic bonds are thermophilic  $\beta R193$ – $\alpha D339$ . In VI and VII of  $\beta_T$  and  $\beta_D$ , human  $\alpha F299$ – $\beta M222$  and human  $\alpha S344$ – $\beta R260$ , respectively, interact. However, we identified no direct contact in the  $\alpha$ -helical bundle domain in  $\beta_E$  of  $TF_1$ .<sup>74</sup> In the catalytic  $\alpha\beta$  interface of human  $\beta_E$ , the contact areas (17.6 nm<sup>2</sup>) are

homologous to those of thermophilic  $\beta$ , while the areas in human  $\beta_D$  ( $30.3\text{ nm}^2$ ) and human  $\beta_T$  ( $22.0\text{ nm}^2$ ) are increased to 11 and 10, respectively. This is caused by the  $30^\circ$  upward motion of the C-terminal domains.

**5.7. Catalytic sites.** The catalytic  $\alpha\beta$  interface is located on the left side of  $\beta$  in the  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer (Fig. 5D), and the structure of catalytic domain (Fig. 5A) is strictly conserved among species.<sup>7),9),71),74)</sup> The catalytic domain accommodates the P-loop located between sheet 3 and helix B (T $\beta$ 163–178) and the conserved thermophilic  $\beta$ E190 (=human  $\beta$ E188) in the GER loop localized between  $\beta$ -sheet 4 and N-terminal end of  $\alpha$ -helix C<sup>9)</sup> (Fig. 4, GER, and Fig. 6, middle). As predicted by X-ray crystallography of AMPPNP-BF<sub>1</sub>,<sup>9)</sup> NMR analysis revealed that thermophilic  $\beta$ R191 (Fig. 5A, upper left) forms a hydrogen bond with the  $\gamma$ -phosphate of ATP.<sup>56)</sup> Pi is shown to bind the catalytic domain of  $\beta_E$ ,<sup>62),75)</sup> which is identical to the sulfate binding site of  $\beta_E$  in  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  by  $\beta$ K164 and  $\alpha$ R365.<sup>71)</sup> The structure of the active metal-ATP complex in TF<sub>1</sub> at the catalytic domain was shown to be  $\Delta$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ -bidentate Mg-ATP.<sup>77)</sup> (*Rp*)-[ $\beta\gamma$ -<sup>18</sup>O,  $\gamma$ -<sup>18</sup>O]ATP $\gamma$ S was hydrolyzed by TF<sub>1</sub> in H<sub>2</sub><sup>17</sup>O, and the resulting inorganic [<sup>16</sup>O, <sup>17</sup>O, <sup>18</sup>O] thiophosphate was shown to have an *Rp* configuration.<sup>77)</sup> The reaction thus proceeds with inversion of configuration at the phosphorus, and a direct in-line nucleophilic attack of the <sup>17</sup>O in water on the  $\gamma$ -phosphate of ATP *via* the pentavalent intermediate state.<sup>77)</sup> The ordered water molecules that carry out nucleophilic attack on the  $\gamma$ -phosphate of ATP during hydrolysis are 0.26 nm from the nucleotide analogue, beryllium, in the  $\beta_D$  and 0.38 nm away in  $\beta_T$ , strongly indicating that  $\beta_D$  is the catalytically active conformation.<sup>76)</sup>

Adjacent to the P-loop, there is a hinge point, -HGG (179–181), between  $\alpha$ -helix B and  $\beta$ -sheet 4 (Figs. 4, hinge, and Fig. 6, right). The conformational change in the hinge should be transmitted to the DELSDED sequence in  $\alpha$ -helix I. The hinge motion of the C-terminal domain containing the DELSDED sequence in thermophilic  $\beta_E$ , rotated away from the core axis from  $110^\circ$  (close) to  $144^\circ$  (open)<sup>56)</sup> In the reverse reaction, the resulting widening of the P-loop–thermophilic  $\beta$ E190 distance causes the release of Mg-ATP from the catalytic site.

Crystallographic analysis of the F<sub>1</sub>–IF<sub>1</sub> complex (IF<sub>1</sub>: natural inhibitory peptide) at 0.28-nm resolution revealed that IF<sub>1</sub> binds in the  $\alpha_D$ – $\beta_D$  interface and opens the catalytic site.<sup>78)</sup> Inhibitor studies on F<sub>1</sub> are thus important in understanding the formation of

dimeric HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> and prevention of futile ATP loss when  $\Delta\mu\text{H}^+$  is decreased, as described in section 10.

## 6. Nanotechnological analysis of TF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> by single-molecule imaging: Dynamic movement of F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>

X-ray crystallography of F<sub>1</sub> and F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is a static snapshot of inhibited ATPase crystallized in the presence of AMPPNP<sup>9)</sup> or BeF<sub>3</sub>,<sup>76)</sup> or in the absence of nucleotides.<sup>71),75)</sup> These crystals do not represent the transient movement of subunits of TF<sub>1</sub> during  $\gamma$ -rotation, or activity of TF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> in a liposome.<sup>3),39),46)</sup> Thus, the dynamics of rotating TF<sub>1</sub><sup>79)</sup> or ATP synthesis in F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>-liposomes<sup>80)</sup> must be measured by using TF<sub>1</sub> containing mutant  $\beta$  subunits,<sup>63)</sup> and also using modalities such as fluorometry<sup>79),80)</sup> or NMR.<sup>56)</sup>

The efficiency of fluorescence resonance energy transfer (FRET) between a donor and an acceptor fluorophore depends on their distance.<sup>16),79),80)</sup> If two fluorophores are bound to appropriate amino acid residues in rotor and stator subunits, relative subunit movements can be observed in real time by confocal microscopy.<sup>16),79),80)</sup>

**6.1. Nanomotor movement analysis by single-molecule FRET.** In a single TF<sub>1</sub> molecule fixed on a glass surface,<sup>11),63)</sup> a donor fluorophore (Cy3) was bound to one of the three  $\beta$ s and an acceptor fluorophore (Cy5) was bound to the protruding portion of  $\gamma$ , and single pair (Cys3–Cys5) FRET was performed to estimate the waiting conformation during ATP hydrolysis.<sup>79)</sup> As Cy3- and Cy5-maleimide are bound to cysteine residues, site-directed mutagenesis [ $\alpha$ (C193S),  $\beta$ (S205C) and  $\gamma$ (S107C)] was performed to bind Cy5 to  $\beta$ , and to bind Cy3 to  $\gamma$ , and to prevent binding of Cy3 and Cy5 to  $\alpha$  (residue numbers of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are indicated in Fig. 4).<sup>79)</sup> The sole cysteine in a mutant subcomplex of TF<sub>1</sub>,  $\alpha$ (C193S) $\beta$ (His-10 tag at N terminus)  $3\gamma$  (S107C), was labeled with Cy5-maleimide. The (Cy5- $\gamma$ )TF<sub>1</sub> was incubated with Cy3- $\beta$ (S205C) at 1:10 at  $45^\circ\text{C}$  for 2 days, and the free  $\beta$  subunit was removed on a size exclusion column.<sup>79)</sup> The energy of the laser beam (532 nm) on Cy3 was transferred to Cy5 and emitted light (670 nm) when the Cy3–Cy5 distance was small, while only Cy3 light (570 nm) was emitted when the Cy3–Cy5 distance was great. FRET yield changed cyclically as  $\gamma$  rotated and the Cy3–Cy5 distances were estimated during the conformational change.<sup>79)</sup> The distance between the two dyes changed continuously as 5.7, 7.9, and 7.9 nm during rotation at low ATP concentrations, and the conformational change corresponded to the ATP-waiting state of TF<sub>1</sub>.<sup>79)</sup>

The relative subunit movement during ATP synthesis has also been measured by FRET between two fluorophores bound to a stator subunit ( $\beta$ -subunit) and a rotor subunit ( $\gamma$ - or  $\varepsilon$ - or  $c$ -subunit) (Fig. 1).<sup>62,80</sup> The labeled  $F_oF_1$  was reconstituted in the liposome (one  $F_oF_1$  per liposome) and  $\Delta\mu H^+$  was applied, so that  $F_oF_1$  carried out  $H^+$ -driven ATP synthesis.<sup>46</sup> Analysis of the time course of FRET efficiency in the  $F_oF_1$ -liposome showed the rotation of  $\gamma$ - and  $\varepsilon$ -subunit relative to  $\beta$ -subunit in  $120^\circ$  steps,<sup>80</sup> and that of the  $c_{10}$ -ring in  $36^\circ$  steps.<sup>16</sup> The  $\beta$  motions through an attached fluorophore, concomitantly with the  $80^\circ$  and  $40^\circ$  substep rotations of  $\gamma$  in the same single molecules, showed the sequence of conformations that each  $\beta$  undergoes in three-step bending, an approximately  $40^\circ$  counterclockwise turn followed by two approximately  $20^\circ$  clockwise turns, occurring in synchronization with two substep rotations of  $\gamma$ .<sup>80</sup> The results indicate that most previous crystal structures mimic the conformational set of three  $\beta$ s in the catalytic dwells,<sup>80</sup> while the previously described set of  $\beta_E$ ,  $\beta_D$  and  $\beta_T$  was revealed in the ATP-waiting dwells.<sup>80</sup> These fluorescent studies thus bridge the gap between the chemical and mechanical steps in  $F_oF_1$ . Starting from the ATP-waiting dwell ( $0^\circ$ ), the  $80^\circ$  and  $40^\circ$  substeps of  $\gamma$  rotation are induced by ATP binding and ADP release, and ATP hydrolysis and Pi release, respectively.<sup>62,79–81</sup>

**6.2.  $H^+$ /ATP ratio and elastic power transmission in  $F_oF_1$ .** One of the unsolved questions in the mechanistic study is the analog–digital conversion of energy in  $F_oF_1$ . The electrochemical energy of the  $H^+$  current<sup>1</sup> through  $F_oF_1$  in liposomes<sup>3</sup> and planar bilayers,<sup>51</sup> and the electric,<sup>48,50</sup> magnetic<sup>64</sup> and mechanical energy of the rotation<sup>11,62</sup> are all analog quantities. The numbers of ATP molecules synthesized and protons transported are digital quantities. Thus, the elastic power transmission in  $F_oF_1$  analog/digital conversion during the  $\gamma$ -rotation was predicted in 1996.<sup>10</sup> Oosawa also proposed a loose coupling mechanism in which the number of protons necessary for the synthesis of one ATP is not an integer but varies depending on the environmental conditions.<sup>61</sup> As one proton is translocated by one shift of  $c_{10}$  in the  $c$ -ring of  $TF_oF_1$ ,<sup>15,16</sup> and one ATP is synthesized per  $\beta$  subunit of  $TF_1$ , the inevitable consequence is noninteger ratios of rotation step sizes for  $TF_oF_1$  ( $120^\circ/36^\circ$ ) and for  $H^+$ /ATP ( $10:3$ ).<sup>14,15,74</sup> This step-mismatch necessitates elastic twisting of  $TF_oF_1$  during rotation and elementary events in catalysis.<sup>7,74</sup> The  $H^+$ /ATP ratio in  $F_oF_1$  addresses this analog/digital problem.  $F_o$ s with  $c_{14}$  ring are

present in organisms that maintain  $\Delta\mu H^+$  mainly in the form of  $\Delta\psi$ ,<sup>14,15</sup> whereas  $F_o$ s with  $c_{14}$  ring are mostly found in species with  $\Delta\mu H^+$  existing predominantly in the form of  $\Delta pH$  rather than  $\Delta\psi$ .<sup>72</sup>  $H^+$ /ATP ratios of 4.7 and 3.3 are thus expected for  $CF_oF_1$  (with  $14c/3\beta$ )<sup>72</sup> and  $E(T)F_oF_1$  (with  $10c/3\beta$ ),<sup>14–16</sup> respectively. To confirm the effects of  $c/\beta$  subunit ratios on  $H^+$ /ATP ratio, pH of the internal phase of the reconstituted  $F_oF_1$ -liposomes was equilibrated with acidic medium.<sup>46,47</sup> Then, an acid-base transition<sup>46</sup> was induced by adding alkaline medium to the liposomes to produce  $\Delta pH$  across the membrane, and the initial rate of ATP synthesis was measured with luciferase.<sup>82</sup> From the shift in the equilibrium  $\Delta pH$  as a function of  $Q$  ( $= [ATP]/([ADP][P_i])$ ), the standard Gibbs free energy for phosphorylation,  $\Delta G_p^{0'}$ , and the  $H^+$ /ATP ratio were determined.<sup>82</sup> The results were as follows:  $\Delta G_p^{0'} = 38 \pm 3$  kJ/mol and  $H^+$ /ATP =  $4.0 \pm 0.2$  for  $CF_oF_1$ ; and  $H^+$ /ATP =  $4.0 \pm 0.3$  for  $EF_oF_1$ . This indicates that the thermodynamic  $H^+$ /ATP ratio is the same and that it differs from the subunit  $c/\beta$  stoichiometric ratio.<sup>82</sup> However, in order to estimate actual energetics, the very low turnover rates ( $<1$  ATP/s) in this experiment<sup>82</sup> need to be examined under different physiological conditions ( $>100$  ATP/s).

The site of analog–digital conversion by elasticity<sup>7</sup> was estimated by direct measurement of the torsional stiffness.<sup>83</sup> Most parts of  $F_1$ , particularly the central  $\gamma$  shaft in  $F_1$ , and the long eccentric bearing had high stiffness (torsional stiffness  $\kappa > 750$  pN nm).<sup>83</sup> One domain of the rotor, namely, where the globular portions of  $\gamma$  and  $\varepsilon$  contact the  $c$ -ring, was more compliant ( $\kappa$  congruent with 68 pN nm).<sup>83</sup> The  $\gamma$ -induced or nucleotide-dependent open–close conversion of conformation is an inherent property of an isolated  $\beta$ , and energy and signals are transferred through  $\alpha\beta$  interfaces.<sup>7,11,74</sup> Rotation of the central shaft  $\gamma$  in  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  hexamer is assumed to be driven by domain motions of the  $\beta$ s. These  $\beta$  motions were directly observed through an attached fluorophore by FRET<sup>79,80</sup> and NMR.<sup>56</sup>

The mechanisms underlying the open( $\beta_E$ )–close( $\beta_T$ ) motion were investigated for  $\beta$  subunit of  $TF_1$  in solution, using mutagenesis and NMR.<sup>56</sup> The hydrogen bond networks involving side chains of K164 (162 for human  $\beta$  is shown in parentheses), T165(163), R191(189), D252(256), D311(315) and R333(337) in the catalytic region (Fig. 5A, red text for  $TF_1$  and black text for  $HF_1$ )<sup>74</sup> are significantly different for the ligand-bound and free  $\beta$  subunits.<sup>56</sup> The role of each amino acid residue was examined by

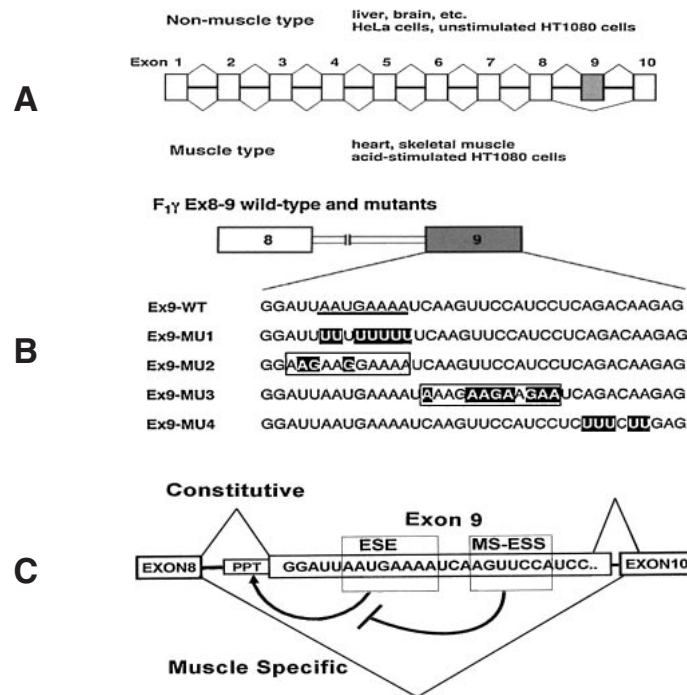


Fig. 7. Alternate splicing of human F<sub>1</sub>γ pre-mRNA. A. Exons in the F<sub>1</sub> γ pre-mRNA are expressed in boxes. Exon number 8 (hatched box) is included in liver and excluded in the muscle. B. Schematic representation of wild-type and mutant F<sub>1</sub>γ exons 8–9 (Ex8–9).<sup>27)</sup> Heavy underline in Ex9-wild-type indicates ESE element. Mutated nucleotides are indicated by outlined letters. In Ex9-MU2 and Ex9-MU, boxed letters indicate that these sequences are predicted to act as ESE elements. C. Selection of F<sub>1</sub>γ exon 9 is regulated by two cis-acting regulatory elements in the same exon.<sup>90)</sup> Purine-rich ESE promotes exon 9 inclusion, which is repressed by MS-ESS under muscle-specific conditions; PPT: Polypyrimidine tract.

A (alanine) substitution.<sup>56)</sup> The chemical shift perturbation of backbone amide signals of the segmentally labeled β(mutant)s indicated stepwise propagation of the open/close conversion on ligand binding.<sup>56)</sup> Upon ATP binding, the open/close conformation change regulated by hydrogen-bond switching from K164/D252 to T165/D252 (Fig. 5A, right upper, red text) would take place in the thermophilic β subunit because ATP-binding is the major driving force for the first 80° rotation.<sup>62)</sup> The resulting closing motion of the hinge (-HGG-) between α-helix B and β-sheet 4 (Fig. 6, right) generates the torque of γ rotation through the DELSD(E)ED contact point (Fig. 6, bottom).<sup>10),56)</sup> Although the time scale of atomic fluctuations is in the order of tens of nanoseconds, molecular simulation will solve the detailed movements of residues in α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub> during the γ rotation (order of milliseconds) in the future.

### 7. Biogenesis of human F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub>: Regulated expression, splicing, import and assembly

The biogenesis of HF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is an intricate proc-

ess,<sup>21)</sup> starting from transcription,<sup>84)–86)</sup> splicing of nuclear encoded subunits (Fig. 7),<sup>27),32)</sup> and translation of mitochondrial DNA-encoded subunits (Fig. 8)<sup>22),26),87)</sup> and nuclear DNA-encoded precursor peptides for all F<sub>1</sub> subunits (α, β, γ, δ and ε)<sup>21),86)</sup> and 7 F<sub>0</sub> subunits (b, c, d, e, f, g and OSCP),<sup>21)</sup> followed by targeting, importing and processing of nuclear DNA-encoded precursor peptides in the mitochondrion (Fig. 9).<sup>21),86)</sup> Precursor importing requires both ΔμH<sup>+</sup> to drive translocation and specific carrier proteins in the outer and inner mitochondrial membrane, as well as general chaperones present in the cytosol and mitochondrial matrix.<sup>86)</sup> Processing of the presequence of precursor requires a specific protease,<sup>86)</sup> and after the removal of the presequence, nuclear-encoded subunits are assembled into HF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> with two mtDNA-encoded F<sub>0</sub> subunits (a and A6L).<sup>87)</sup> Targeting the presequence of three isoforms of subunit c liberated after proteolysis is required for the assembly of cytochrome oxidase.<sup>88)</sup>

As both the amino acid and nucleotide sequences of subunits in HF<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> are available in internet databases, only physiologically important points



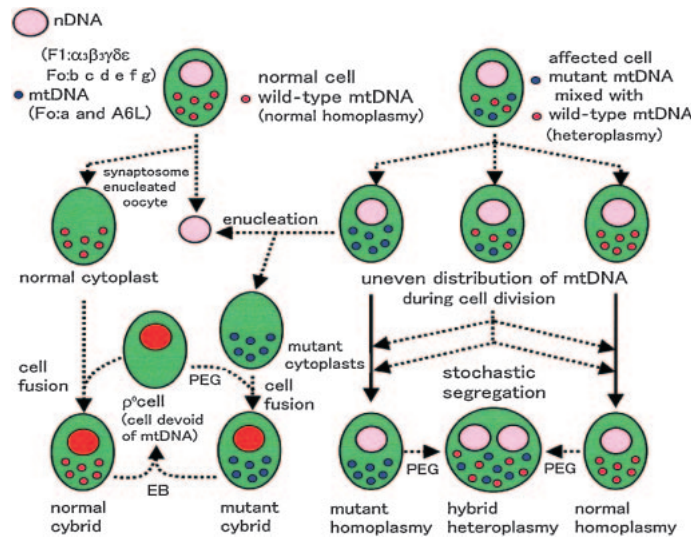


Fig. 8. Homoplasm, heteroplasm, cytoplasts and  $\rho^0$  cells.<sup>87)</sup> Small red circles indicate wild-type mtDNA and small blue circles indicate mutant mtDNA; large red circles indicate nDNA, and green ovals indicate cells. EB: ethidium bromide used to remove mtDNA; PEG: polyethylene glycol used to fuse cells or cytoplasts.

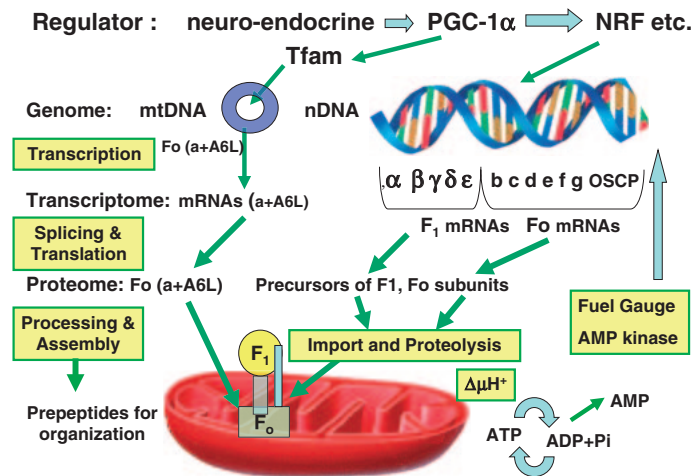


Fig. 9. Regulation of HF<sub>1</sub>F<sub>o</sub> biosynthesis<sup>21),86)</sup>: Transcription, splicing, translation, targeting, import, processing and assembly. PGC-1 $\alpha$ : Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor- $\gamma$  coactivator-1 $\alpha$ ; Tfam: mitochondrial transcription factor A; NRF: nuclear respiratory factor; Circle: mitochondrial DNA.

in the biogenesis of HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> will be reviewed here.<sup>21),28),86),89)</sup> In contrast to prokaryotic F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>, including TF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>,<sup>7)</sup> proteomics have revealed a large universe of pseudogene products,<sup>21),84)</sup> splice variants (muscle-type F<sub>1</sub> $\gamma$ ) (Fig. 7),<sup>27),32),90)</sup> post-translational modifications (phosphorylated HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>, etc.),<sup>91)</sup> dimeric HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>,<sup>30)</sup> a supramolecular complex called ATP synthasome (Fig. 2),<sup>31)</sup> and ectopic HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (Fig. 10, right).<sup>92)</sup>

**7.1. Expression of HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> genes.** The gene structure of the HF<sub>1</sub> $\alpha$  subunit is 14 kbp in length and

contains 12 exons interrupted by 11 introns.<sup>21),84)</sup> Primer extension and S1 mapping analysis showed the presence of multiple transcription initiation sites in the HF<sub>1</sub> $\alpha$  gene.<sup>84)</sup> The 5'-flanking region of the HF<sub>1</sub> $\alpha$  gene has an unconserved GC-rich region, including several binding motifs of transcriptional factors, such as Sp1, AP-2 and GCF. The basal promoter activity was located near the GC-rich region. Comparison of the 5'-upstream region of the HF<sub>1</sub> $\alpha$  gene with those of the genes for BF<sub>1</sub> $\alpha$ , HF<sub>1</sub> $\beta$ <sup>85)</sup> and HF<sub>1</sub> $\gamma$ <sup>27)</sup> indicated three common sequences (CS1,

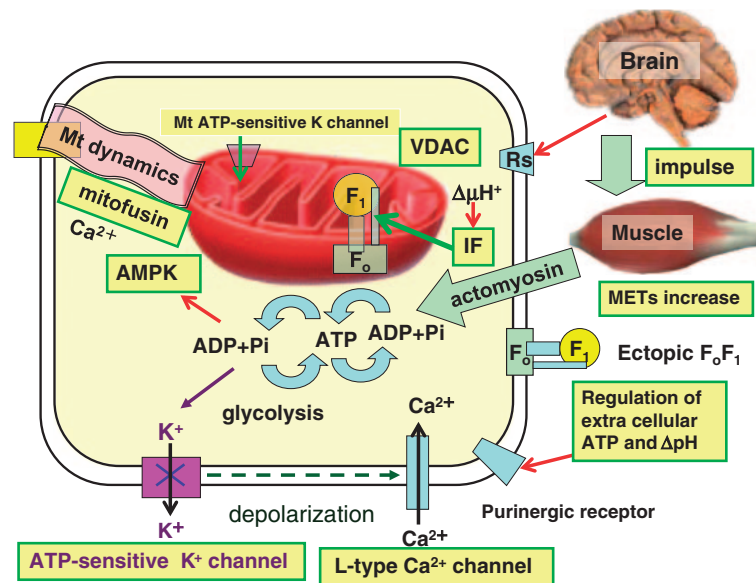


Fig. 10. Regulation of HF<sub>1</sub>F<sub>0</sub> activity: Neuronal impulse from brain to human activity driven by ATP by an intricate regulation system. AMPK, AMP kinase; ecto-F<sub>1</sub>F<sub>0</sub>, ectopic or cell surface F<sub>1</sub>F<sub>0</sub>; IF, ATPase inhibitor; METs, metabolic equivalents of exercise intensity; Rs, receptors for neuro-endocrine transmitters; VDAC, voltage-dependent anion channel.

CS2 and CS3) in the regulatory regions,<sup>21)</sup> suggesting that putative *cis*-elements coordinate the expression of the three subunit genes for HF<sub>1</sub>.<sup>84)–86)</sup> The enhancer activities derived from 5'-deletion mutants of a HF<sub>1</sub>α-CAT (chloramphenicol acetyltransferase) chimeric gene were different in cell lines from four different human tissues, thus suggesting the existence of cell type-specific gene regulation.<sup>21)</sup>

The HF<sub>1</sub>β gene is 14 kbp in length and contains 10 exons, with the first exon corresponding to the non-coding region and most of the presequence, which targets this protein to the mitochondria.<sup>85),86)</sup> Eight Alu repeating sequences including inverted repeats were found in the 5'-upstream region and introns. An S1 nuclease protection experiment revealed two initiation sites for transcription. Three CCAAT boxes were found between the two initiation sites, and two GC boxes were located in the 5'-upstream region. Promoter activity was estimated by the CAT method and an enhancing structure for transcription was detected between nucleotides -400 and -1100 in the upstream region.<sup>86)</sup>

The system coordinating expression of nuclear-coded mitochondrial proteins was investigated by examining the 5'-flanking region of the HF<sub>1</sub>β gene. In one of the enhancing regions, a consensus sequence was found for the genes of other mitochondrial proteins, such as those for cytochrome c<sub>1</sub> and the

pyruvate dehydrogenase α-subunit.<sup>21),86)</sup> The characteristics of this enhancing element were examined by introducing a synthetic oligonucleotide element into the CAT plasmid with a deleted enhancing element. The resulting plasmid showed full recovery of promoter activity, and this activity was independent of the orientation or location of the insert. Therefore, this enhancer may be common to the nuclear genes of some mitochondrial proteins involved in energy transduction.<sup>21)</sup>

The functions of subunits in mitochondrial F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> were confirmed by expression of genes in deletion mutants, and their functional complementation.<sup>8)</sup> The genes encoding BF<sub>1</sub> subunits (except for those of δ) were expressed in a quintuple yeast YF<sub>1</sub> deletion mutant ( $\Delta\alpha\Delta\beta\Delta\gamma\Delta\delta\Delta\varepsilon$ ) after introduction of a chimeric BF<sub>1</sub> subunit gene construct that uses the YF<sub>1</sub> transcriptional promoter and termination sites, as well as the presequence for YF<sub>1</sub>.<sup>8)</sup> Expression of the α-, β-, γ-, or ε-subunit of BF<sub>1</sub> complemented the corresponding individual mutations in YF<sub>1</sub>. All BF<sub>1</sub> subunits (with chimeric δ) expressed in yeast produced an F<sub>1</sub> that was purified to a specific activity of about half of that of original BF<sub>1</sub>.<sup>8)</sup> These results indicate that the molecular machinery required for the targeting, proteolysis and assembly of the mitochondrial F<sub>0</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is conserved from yeast to humans (Fig. 9).<sup>8)</sup> Similarly, bovine OSCP and some

$F_0$  components have been functionally complemented (quoted in Ref. 8). In one functional study, the gene for  $\gamma$  subunit (*atp-3*) was partially blocked by RNA interference (RNAi) in *Caenorhabditis elegans*, and ATP levels decreased from 15 nmol/mg protein (control) down to 4 nmol/mg, and the behavior extended the lifespan.<sup>93)</sup> However, tissue differentiation is absent in yeast, alternate splicing must be studied in human cells.<sup>27),32)</sup>

**7.2. Tissue-specific splicing of  $HF_{1\gamma}$ : Analysis using transgenic mice and minigenes.** Mammalian  $F_0F_1$  is characterized by tissue-specific expression of the  $F_1$  gene, which was analyzed using transgenic mice<sup>32)</sup> and minigenes in cultured human cells.<sup>90)</sup> The muscle-specific isoform of  $HF_{1\gamma}$  was generated by alternative splicing, and exon 9 was found to be lacking in skeletal muscle and heart tissue (Fig. 7, A).<sup>27)</sup> Using transgenic mice,<sup>32),90)</sup> the alternative splicing of exon 9 was shown to require *de novo* protein synthesis of a *cis*-acting element on the spliced exon of  $HF_{1\gamma}$  gene. An  $HF_{1\gamma}$  wild-type minigene, containing the full-length gene from exons 8 to 10, and two mutants were prepared; one mutant involved a pyrimidine-rich substitution on exon 9, whereas the other was a purine-rich substitution (abbreviated as  $HF_{1\gamma}$  Pu-del and  $HF_{1\gamma}$  Pu-rich mutants, respectively).<sup>90)</sup> Pu-del inhibited exon inclusion, indicating that a Pu-del mutation disrupts an exonic splicing enhancer. On the other hand, Pu-rich blocked muscle-specific exon exclusion.<sup>90)</sup>

Transgenic mice bearing both mutant minigenes were then analyzed for their splicing patterns in tissues.<sup>90)</sup> Based on an analysis of  $HF_{1\gamma}$  Pu-del minigene transgenic mice, the purine nucleotide in this element was shown to be necessary for exon inclusion in non-muscle tissue. In contrast, analysis of  $HF_{1\gamma}$  Pu-rich minigene mice revealed that the  $HF_{1\gamma}$  Pu-rich mutant exon had been excluded from heart and skeletal muscles in these transgenic mice, despite the fact that mutation of the exon inhibited muscle-specific exon exclusion in myotubes at early embryonic stages.<sup>32)</sup> These results suggest that the splicing regulatory mechanism underlying  $HF_{1\gamma}$  pre-mRNA differs between myotubes and myofibers during myogenesis and cardiogenesis.<sup>32)</sup>

A detailed mutational analysis of exon 9 (Fig. 7, B) revealed a purine-rich exonic splicing enhancer (ESE) element (5'-AAUGAAA-3') functioning ubiquitously, with the exception of muscle tissue. An exonic negative regulatory element responsible for muscle-specific exclusion of exon 9 was discovered using both *in vitro* and *in vivo* splicing systems.<sup>32),90)</sup>

Mutation analyses on the  $HF_{1\gamma}$  Ex8-9 minigene using a supplementation assay demonstrated that the muscle-specific negative regulatory element is positioned in the middle region of exon 9, immediately downstream from ESE. Detailed mutation analyses identified a muscle-specific exonic splicing silencer (MS-ESS) (5'-AGUCCA-3') responsible for exclusion of exon 9 *in vivo* and *in vitro* (Fig. 7, C).<sup>90)</sup> This element was shown to cause exon 9 skipping of *in vivo* splicing systems.<sup>90)</sup> Although there are three variants of the c subunit<sup>88)</sup> and several alternate splice variants in the human mitochondrial fusogenic proteins (mitofusin 1, 2),<sup>87)</sup> the  $\gamma$  subunit of  $HF_1$  is the only well-characterized variant in  $F_0F_1$ .<sup>86),90)</sup>

## 8. Mitochondrial cytology of $HF_0F_1$ : cytoplasts lack nDNA and $\rho^0$ cells lack mtDNA

$HF_0F_1$  is encoded by both mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)<sup>22),26),33)</sup> and nuclear DNA (nDNA) (Fig. 9).<sup>21),86)</sup> In order to analyze the roles played by mtDNA and nDNA, mtDNA-less cells ( $\rho^0$  cells)<sup>22),33)</sup> and nDNA-less cells (cytoplasts) were developed (Fig. 8).<sup>87),94)</sup> Using ethidium bromide, mtDNA was removed and the resulting  $\rho^0$  cells became strictly dependent on glycolysis to compensate for the oxphos that supplies ATP.<sup>33),87)</sup> Thus, a glucose medium is essential for  $\rho^0$  cells.<sup>22)</sup> Cytoplasts are enucleated cells that contain mitochondria (Fig. 8, upper left), with examples being enucleated oocytes,<sup>87)</sup> synaptosomes<sup>94)</sup> and platelets.<sup>94)</sup> Since DNA sequence of an individual differs from each other owing to the genetic polymorphism of mtDNA,<sup>21)</sup> personal collection of mtDNA is essential to elucidate mitochondrial diseases. Human mitochondria with intact mtDNA have been directly isolated from postmortem platelets.<sup>94)</sup> Expression of nDNA-encoded  $HF_0F_1$  subunits was not affected in  $\rho^0$  cells,<sup>87)</sup> while that of mtDNA-encoded  $HF_0$  subunits ( $F_0a$  and A6L) was lost in cytoplasts, as nDNA-encoded mitochondrial transcription factor A (Tfam)<sup>95)</sup> was lacking (Fig. 9).<sup>87)</sup> The  $\rho^0$  cells have no respiratory chain, because of the loss of mtDNA-encoded subunits of cytochromes and NADH dehydrogenase.<sup>26),87)</sup> Despite the absence of oxphos,  $\rho^0$  cells require mitochondrial compartments with a sufficient  $\Delta\mu H^+$  for energy driven transport of matrix components.<sup>87),96)</sup> The essential  $\Delta\mu H^+$  of  $\rho^0$  cells is maintained by the electrogenic exchange of  $ATP^{4-}$  for  $ADP^{3-}$  by ANC.<sup>96)</sup> To energize the inner membrane,  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  (ATPase active)<sup>55)</sup> in the matrix of  $\rho^0$  cells regenerates ADP from translocated ATP.<sup>96)</sup>

The term heteroplasmy refers to cells that contain a mixture of mtDNAs with different sequences (Fig. 8, upper right), whereas homoplasmy means that 100% of their mtDNA has an identical sequence (Fig. 8, upper left).<sup>22),87)</sup> Cybrids were formed by cytoplasm fusion with  $\rho^0$  cells using polyethylene glycol (PEG) (Fig. 8, bottom).<sup>87),94)</sup> The majority of pathogenic mtDNA mutations are heteroplasmic, with mutated and wild-type mtDNA coexisting in the same cell (Fig. 8, upper right).<sup>86),87)</sup> Owing to the absence of protecting histones, mtDNA is highly susceptible to mutations that result in heteroplasmy. Mutations in the tRNA gene of mtDNA often block translation and cause complete deletion of mtDNA-encoded proteins (*syn*<sup>-</sup> mutation), including HF<sub>o</sub> subunits.<sup>87)</sup>

During development, cell division unevenly distributes heteroplasmic mtDNA into daughter cells and eventually segregates homoplasmic cells with wild-type and *syn*<sup>-</sup> mutant mtDNA (Fig. 8, bottom right). This stochastic segregation of the *syn*<sup>-</sup> mutation results in the *syn*<sup>-</sup> mutant concentrated tissues and causes mitochondrial diseases, including mitochondrial diabetes.<sup>87)</sup> The homoplasmic *syn*<sup>-</sup> cells lack oxphos and depend on glycolysis. Under the influence of polymorphisms in mtDNA and nDNA, a vicious circle of reactive oxygen species will damage cells. However, mitochondrial transfer from wild-type homoplasmic cytoplasts by fusion to form cybrids will normalize the diseased cells<sup>97)</sup> and *syn*<sup>-</sup> mutation will be alleviated by mitochondrial fusion.<sup>87),97)</sup> We analyzed heteroplasmy and polymorphisms related to diabetes and its complementation by mitofusins.<sup>87)</sup> Mitochondria in human cells are visualized as a network or as filaments that undergo continuous changes in shape and in localization within the cells. Mitochondrial fusion proteins including mitofusins<sup>87)</sup> and OPA1<sup>98)</sup> that may work as natural PEG in Fig. 8,<sup>87)</sup> and regulate both mitochondrial fusion and metabolism. We characterized splice variants of human mitofusins (also called hfo 1, 2 and 3)<sup>87)</sup> as well as OPA1s (Fig. 10, upper right).<sup>98)</sup> We analyzed complementation by fusogenic proteins, and the lost tRNA in mitochondria of *syn*<sup>-</sup> mtDNA inside heteroplasmic cells was complemented by wild-type tRNA in normal mitochondria by fusing wild-type and *syn*<sup>-</sup> mitochondria with mitofusins.<sup>87)</sup> The mitofusin genes were expressed mainly in post-mitotic brain and muscle, thus complementing mutated mtDNA that is not removed during cell division.<sup>87)</sup>

In order to analyze a mitochondrial disease, pure nuclear transfer was carried out from  $\rho^0$  HeLa cells to

the fibroblast lines from a patient with cardiomyopathy, and their nuclear hybrid clones were isolated.<sup>22)</sup> A normal fibroblast line from the fetus and a respiration-deficient fibroblast line from the patient were used as positive and negative controls, respectively.<sup>22)</sup> By this method, many mitochondrial diseases devoid of HF<sub>o</sub> have been elucidated<sup>87)</sup> and mitochondrial gene therapy for heteroplasmic patients was developed using cytoplasts from a normal fetal cells and the cybrids (Fig. 8).<sup>97)</sup>

The most frequent mutation in mtDNA-encoded HF<sub>o</sub> gene is NARP (neuropathy, ataxia, and retinitis pigmentosa), caused by a mutation at L156 in the a subunit of HF<sub>o</sub> (Fig. 2).<sup>99)</sup> A mutation conferring a milder phenotype (L156P) leads to a 30% reduction in H<sup>+</sup> flux, and a similar loss in ATP synthesis. The more severe mutation (L156R) also leads to a 30% reduction in H<sup>+</sup> flux, but ATP synthesis is abolished.<sup>99)</sup> With the L156P mutation, rotation of the c-ring may be slowed, but coupling of ATP synthesis to H<sup>+</sup> flux is maintained (Fig. 1, lower left, subunit a), whereas with the L156R mutation, H<sup>+</sup> flux is uncoupled, because the transmembrane helix III of F<sub>o</sub>a is unable to span the membrane. The L156R mutant has ATPase activity,<sup>99)</sup> because the  $\alpha_3\beta_3$  complex portion of F<sub>1</sub> is intact, and increased proton permeability through the defective F<sub>o</sub> cannot maintain  $\Delta\mu\text{H}^+$  to inhibit ATP-driven H<sup>+</sup> translocation (*i.e.*, uncoupling).<sup>3),46)</sup>

**8.1. Coordination of nuclear and mitochondrial DNA.** The tissue activity of F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> mainly relies on mitochondrial biogenesis encoded by both nDNA and mtDNA (Fig. 9). A number of transcriptional modulators have been implicated in the regulation of mitochondrial biogenesis and oxphos activity.<sup>84)–89)</sup> To understand the nDNA–mtDNA interactions in human cells, we identified the nuclear transcription factors that are common to the expression of these gene products. As Tfam encoded by nDNA is essential for both the initiation of transcription and the replication of mtDNA, we cloned and sequenced the human Tfam gene.<sup>95)</sup> There were sequences in the 5'-upstream regulatory region of Tfam common to those in HF<sub>1</sub> $\beta$ .<sup>95)</sup> In the absence of mtDNA-coded F<sub>o</sub> subunits, expression of other F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> subunits was not affected, but most nDNA-coded subunits other than  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> could not be assembled.<sup>87),96)</sup> For *in vivo* analysis of this regulation, transmitochondrial mice carrying various proportions of deletion mutant mtDNA ( $\Delta\text{mtDNA}$ ) were generated by introducing  $\Delta\text{mtDNA}$  from cultured cells into the fertilized eggs of mice.<sup>100)</sup> The great advantage of transmitochon-

drial mice is that they share exactly the same nDNA background and their genetic variations are restricted to the proportions of pathogenic mtDNA.<sup>100)</sup>

Transcription factors in the expression of  $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$  include PPAR $\gamma$  coactivator 1 $\alpha$  (PGC-1 $\alpha$ ), in cooperation with several factors, such as peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor (PPAR), nuclear respiratory factors 1 and 2 (NRF-1 and NRF-2), or the specificity protein 1 (Sp1), a ubiquitous transcription factor known to regulate the constitutive expression of oxphos genes (Fig. 10, upper).<sup>86)</sup> PGC-1 $\alpha$  is a master modulator of gene expression in human tissues and enhances the activity of PPAR $\alpha$  in skeletal muscle.<sup>101)</sup> Mitochondrial transcription is directed by a small number of nucleus-encoded factors, including Tfam.<sup>95)</sup> Expression of these factors is coordinated with that of nuclear respiratory proteins through the action of PGC-1 family coactivators.<sup>101)</sup>

Using these cytological methods (Fig. 8), transcriptomics and proteomics (Fig. 9), human bioenergetics at both cell level (Fig. 10) and *in vivo* levels were elucidated.

### 9. Supramolecular structure of $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$ : Dimeric $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$ , ATP synthasome and ecto- $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$

Mitochondrial  $\text{F}_0\text{F}_1$ , including  $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$ , is typically isolated as a monomeric complex that contains 16 protein subunits<sup>21)</sup> and the natural inhibitor protein (IF<sub>1</sub>) (Fig. 2).<sup>78)</sup> However, mitochondrial  $\text{F}_0\text{F}_1$  was isolated in dimeric and higher oligomeric states using digitonin for one step mild solubilization followed by blue native (BN) or clear native (CN) electrophoresis.<sup>102)</sup> Recent developments in proteomics have revealed  $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$  in its natural supramolecular state.<sup>30),31),102)</sup> Single bands in the gel can be analyzed by proteomics approaches including immunoprecipitation,<sup>103)</sup> and mass spectrometry to identify the amino acid sequence of the components.<sup>103)</sup> Electron microscopy of these oligomeric mitochondrial  $\text{F}_0\text{F}_1$  particles was reported in 1972 (Fig. 2C in Ref. 3). Dimeric and trimeric  $\text{F}_0\text{F}_1$  were purified from mammalian mitochondria in five different tissues by BN electrophoresis and CN electrophoresis,<sup>30),102)</sup> and these were active, thus suggesting that oligomeric  $\text{F}_0\text{F}_1$  is constitutive in mitochondria. Using BN electrophoresis, two membrane proteins (6.8 kDa proteolipid and diabetes-associated protein) that had previously been removed during purification were shown to be stoichiometrically associated with  $\text{F}_0\text{F}_1$ ,<sup>30)</sup> and this may provide insight for further functional investigations.<sup>30)</sup>

*In situ* mitochondrial  $\Delta\mu\text{H}^+$  was directly estimated by rhodamine 123, which is accumulated in mitochondria depending on  $\Delta\mu\text{H}^+$ .<sup>103)</sup> The futile ATP hydrolytic activity of  $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$  during ischemia that lowers  $\Delta\mu\text{H}^+$ , is prevented by IF<sub>1</sub>.<sup>78)</sup> Bovine IF<sub>1</sub> is an  $\alpha$ -helical dimer and residues 1–37 of IF<sub>1</sub> open the catalytic interface between  $\alpha_{\text{D}}-\beta_{\text{D}}$ .<sup>78)</sup> Atomic force microscopy images show how these  $\text{F}_0\text{F}_1$  molecules form dimers with a characteristic 15-nm distance between the axes of their rotors through stereo-specific interactions of the membrane-embedded portions of their stators.<sup>104)</sup> A different interaction surface is responsible for the formation of rows of oligomers, suggesting the role of subunits e and g of  $\text{HF}_0$  in dimerization.<sup>104)</sup> Some dimers have a different morphology, with a 10-nm stalk-to-stalk distance, in line with  $\text{F}_0\text{F}_1$ s, which are thus accessible to IF<sub>1</sub>.<sup>104)</sup> Dimeric or polymeric  $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$  is related to morphology of cristae<sup>104)</sup> under the influence of OPA1.<sup>98)</sup>

A channel protein, porin, is now known as VDAC (voltage-dependent anion channel) and is the most abundant protein in the mitochondrial outer membrane.<sup>52)</sup> VDAC helps ATP/ADP exchange by forming a complex with ANC (ANC–VDAC complex).<sup>103)</sup> Finally, a supramolecular structure called ATP synthasome composed of  $\text{F}_0\text{F}_1$ , ANC, PIC and perhaps VDAC was isolated and characterized (Fig. 2).<sup>31)</sup> Parallel immuno-electron microscopic studies revealed the presence of PIC and ANC located non-centrally in the basepiece, and other studies indicated an ATP synthase/PIC/ANC stoichiometry near 1:1:1 (Fig. 2).<sup>31)</sup> Collectively, these findings support a mechanism in which the entry of the substrates ADP and Pi into mitochondria, the synthesis of ATP on  $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$ , and the release and exit of ATP are localized in a supramolecular structure in a highly coordinated system.

**9.1. Ectopic  $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$ : plasma membrane localization in lipid rafts.**  $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$  is located not only on the mitochondrial inner membrane, but also on the cell surface. Extracellular ATP synthesized by the ectopic  $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$  is not an energy source but a regulator for various cellular responses that are initiated by purinergic receptors (P2X and P2Y) and signaling processes and are terminated by breakdown of ATP by ectonucleotidases (Fig. 10, right). By using <sup>3</sup>H-ADP, net <sup>3</sup>H-ATP synthesis by cell surface  $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$  was confirmed (to rule out ATP + AMP synthesis by adenylate kinase). ATP synthesis was inhibited by membrane-impermeable  $\text{HF}_0\text{F}_1$ -specific inhibitors (angiotensin and piceatannol) and anti- $\text{HF}_1$  anti-

body.<sup>105)</sup> Immunoprecipitation indicated that ectopic HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> and a surface protein of endothelial cells, caveolin-1, are physically associated.<sup>105)</sup> Adipocyte ectopic HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> may contain F<sub>o</sub>, as it is inhibited by oligomycin and influenced by a proton conductor (uncoupler) (quoted in Ref. 92). HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is selectively localized in lipid rafts with other mitochondrial proteins. Lipid rafts are detergent-resistant membrane microdomains enriched in cholesterol and caveolin-1. Intracellular traffic may translocate HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> containing  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ , b, d, F6 and OSCP from mitochondria to lipid rafts.<sup>92)</sup>

The ectopic HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> has been implicated in numerous activities, including the mediation of intracellular pH, cellular response to antiangiogenic agents, and cholesterol homeostasis as a receptor for apolipoprotein A-1.<sup>106)</sup> HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is expressed on the surface of endothelial cells, where it binds angiostatin, regulates surface ATP levels, and modulates endothelial cell proliferation and differentiation *via* purinergic receptor (Fig. 10, right).<sup>106)</sup>

Ectopic HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is closely related to obesity.<sup>107)</sup> Expression of the  $\alpha$  subunit of ectopic HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is markedly increased during adipocyte differentiation. Treatment of differentiated adipocytes with inhibitors of HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> or antibodies against  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  subunits of HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> leads to a decrease in cytosolic lipid accumulation.<sup>107)</sup> Apolipoprotein A-I binds to the  $\beta$  subunit of ectopic HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> and its inhibition decreases the production of lipid droplets.<sup>107)</sup> Depletion of plasma membrane cholesterol with methyl-beta-cyclodextrin disrupts lipid rafts and abolishes colocalization of HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> with caveolin-1, which results in a marked reduction in shear stress-induced ATP release.<sup>105)</sup> Endothelial cells release ATP from ectopic HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> in response to shear stress, a mechanical force generated by blood flow, and the ATP released modulates cell functions through activation of downstream signals to purinergic receptors.<sup>105)</sup> These results suggest that the localization and targeting of HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> to caveolin-1/lipid rafts is critical for shear stress-induced ATP release by endothelial cells.<sup>105)</sup>

It remains uncertain how F<sub>o</sub> components encoded by mtDNA are translocated to rafts as ectopic HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>, particularly in the form of intact HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> (Fig. 10, right). However, inter-organellar traffic of mitochondrial proteins was clearly demonstrated using green fluorescent protein.<sup>103)</sup> These mitochondrial dynamics will be discussed in the final section. The energy source ( $\Delta\mu\text{H}^+$ ) to synthesize ATP by ectopic HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> may not be respiration, but the

K<sup>+</sup> channel dependent resting potential of plasma membrane is inside negative. These ectopic F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> activities have never been reported in prokaryotic F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>, although F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>-like V-type ATPase is widely distributed in prokaryotic and mammalian membrane structures to transport ions.<sup>65),68)</sup> In mammalian tissues, some proteins involved in energy metabolism may exert entirely different functions; cytochrome c, for example, is an electron carrier but also serves as the central signal protein in apoptosis.

#### 10. *In vivo* ATP synthesis: F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> in human bioenergetics and diseases

The function and survival of all organisms is dependent on the dynamic control of energy metabolism. Energy demand is matched to ATP supply by F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> and glycolysis (Fig. 10, bottom).<sup>7),21)</sup> The increase in ADP + Pi produced by ATP consumption results in the instant  $\Delta\mu\text{H}^+$ -driven ATP synthesis by F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> and increases in electron transport activity to compensate  $\Delta\mu\text{H}^+$  (respiratory control). The increase in ADP is amplified as AMP increase by myokinase reaction (2ADP = ATP + AMP). If ATP synthesis by F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is not enough, especially when oxygen supply is limited by high metabolic equivalents (METs >5), increased AMP/ATP ratio activates phosphofructokinase to compensate ATP by glycolysis. Although the regulatory mechanism of TF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is basically ubiquitous,<sup>7),108)</sup> HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> is specialized for human activity. One of the characteristics of HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> among other F<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub>s is genetic polymorphisms during evolution, particularly in mtDNA,<sup>87),109)</sup> that cause ethnic and interindividual differences in physical activity, aging and disease susceptibility.<sup>87),109)</sup> Voluntary will of the brain triggers muscle contraction and other organ specific activities that consume about 50 kg of ATP per day, but METs change from 0.9 to 15 in a normal adult (Fig. 10, right). Direct measurement of *in vivo* HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> activity and AMP/ATP ratio is possible by using <sup>31</sup>P magnetic resonance spectroscopy revealed that ATP synthase flux correlated with O<sub>2</sub> uptake (METs) and insulin sensitivity.<sup>110)</sup> The increase in METs is mainly caused by actomyosin contraction (Fig. 10, right), and muscle-specific  $\gamma$  subunit splice variants of HF<sub>o</sub>F<sub>1</sub> are seen during myogenesis and cardiogenesis (Fig. 7).<sup>32),90)</sup> The resulting change in substrates to increase lactic acid can be assessed by <sup>1</sup>H magnetic resonance spectroscopy.<sup>110)</sup> Lactic acidemia is present not only in individuals undergoing high MET exercise, but also in the majority of patients with



mitochondrial disorders, including impaired  $\text{HF}_o$ , and cells isolated from such patients, similarly to  $\rho^0$  cells, require glucose medium (Fig. 8).<sup>22),87)</sup> Mitochondrial disorders can be due to defects in nDNA directly affecting the assembly or function of  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  and respiratory chain, defects in mtDNA affecting  $\text{HF}_o$  and the respiratory chain or nDNA influencing mtDNA structure and viability.<sup>21),87)</sup>

The regulatory mechanism of  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  including four independent inhibitory sites<sup>111)</sup> are more complex than those of  $\text{TF}_o\text{F}_1$ .<sup>7),108)</sup> AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) activates both oxphos and glycolysis, functioning as a 'fuel gauge' to monitor AMP/ATP ratio (Fig. 10, left).<sup>112)</sup> ATP-sensitive  $\text{K}^+$  channels both in the plasma membrane and in mitochondria also monitors ATP levels to regulate cellular activities.<sup>87),113)</sup> Increases in ATP concentration close the  $\text{K}^+$  channel, and the resulting depolarization opens L-type  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channels (Fig. 10, bottom). Increased intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  activates many metabolic processes and proteins for mitochondrial dynamics and secretion. For example, in the  $\beta$ -cells of mitochondrial myopathy, ATP-sensitive  $\text{K}^+$  channels are not closed and defective  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -dependent insulin secretion results in mitochondrial diabetes.<sup>87)</sup> Mitochondrial ATP-sensitive  $\text{K}^+$  channels regulate energy transfer through their regulation of intermembrane space volume and are accordingly essential for the inotropic response during periods of high METs.<sup>113)</sup> Although the target residues in  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  and their signal routes have not yet been determined, mitochondrial ATP-sensitive  $\text{K}^+$  channels are closely related to kinases including protein kinase  $\text{C}\epsilon$ .<sup>113)</sup> In fact, detailed proteomics have revealed, for example, phosphorylation of  $\alpha\text{S76}$ ,  $\beta\text{T213}$ ,  $\beta\text{S529}$ ,  $\gamma\text{Y44}$  or  $\gamma\text{Y52}$ , and acetylation of  $\alpha\text{K132}$ ,  $\beta\text{K133}$ ,  $\gamma\text{K79}$  in mammalian  $\text{F}_o\text{F}_1$ .<sup>91)</sup> The monomeric form of  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  contains a phosphorylated  $\gamma$  ( $\gamma\text{Y52}$ ) that is not present in the dimeric form.<sup>91)</sup>

In contrast to bacteria, ATP synthesis by  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  requires exchange of  $\text{P}_i + \text{ADP}$  and ATP between cytosol and mitochondria by PIC and ANC, which are organized as the ATP synthasome (Fig. 2).<sup>31)</sup> VDACC<sup>52)</sup> forming a complex with ANC also plays an important role in cytoplasm-mitochondrial communication.<sup>103)</sup> As mammalian cells are about 1000 times as large as bacteria, and a mitochondrion is as large as a bacterium, mitochondrial dynamics are essential to distribute synthesized ATP (Fig. 10, upper left).<sup>114)</sup> The concept of mitochondrial dynamics includes the movement of mitochondria along the cytoskeleton, the regulation

of mitochondrial morphology and distribution, and connectivity mediated by tethering and fusion/fission events.<sup>114)</sup> The relevance of these events in  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  activity has been unraveled after the identification of mitofusin<sup>87)</sup> and OPA1.<sup>98)</sup> Subjects with diabetes showed reduced expression (by 26%) of mitofusin 2 and a 39% reduction in the  $\alpha$ -subunit of  $\text{F}_o\text{F}_1$ .<sup>115)</sup> Chronic exercise led to increases in VDACC, and the  $\alpha$ -subunit of  $\text{F}_o\text{F}_1$  in muscle from control subjects and from those with diabetes.<sup>115)</sup> Acute exercise caused a 4-fold increase in PGC-1 $\alpha$  expression in muscle from control subjects, but not in those with diabetes.<sup>115)</sup>

**10.1. Inhibition of  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  activity and diseases related to bioenergetics.** In the energy metabolism of whole human body,<sup>114),116)</sup> if  $\Delta\mu\text{H}^+$  is too low, ATP production by  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  cannot meet demand (mitochondrial diseases),<sup>22),87)</sup> and if it is too high, reactive oxygen species (ROS) are produced.<sup>23),89),116)</sup> Oxphos is linked to disease through a lack of energy, excess ROS production, or a combination of both,<sup>89),116)</sup> and diseases caused by mitochondrial dysfunction include diabetes, cancer, neurodegenerative disorders and ischemia-reperfusion injury.<sup>23),89),116)</sup>

Because of its complex structure,  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  is inhibited by over 250 natural and synthetic inhibitors.<sup>117)</sup> In the absence of torque-driving energy,  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  switches from an ATP synthase to an ATP hydrolase, and this occurs during myocardial ischemia. The degree of ATP inefficiently hydrolyzed during ischemia may be as high as 50–90%.<sup>118)</sup> At the start of  $\text{F}_o\text{F}_1$  study, oligomycin was shown to inhibit  $\text{F}_o$ .<sup>3),39)–42)</sup> and this portion of  $\text{F}_o\text{F}_1$  was therefore designated "oligomycin sensitivity conferring factor". Oligomycin cannot be used to treat myocardial ischemia, as it would reduce ATP synthesis in normal tissue.<sup>3)</sup> Only when cellular pH is decreased below 6.8 under ischemia,  $\text{IF}_1$ <sup>78)</sup> inhibits ATPase at the  $\alpha\beta$  interface of  $\text{HF}_1$ .<sup>78)</sup> The restoration of  $\Delta\mu\text{H}^+$  favoring ATP synthesis displaces  $\text{IF}_1$  from the  $\alpha\beta$  interface. However,  $\text{IF}_1$  does not completely block hydrolase activity. BMS-199264 selectively inhibits ATPase activity during ischemia while having no effect on ATP synthesis, and enhances the recovery of contractile function following reperfusion.<sup>118)</sup>  $\text{IF}_1$ , ectopic  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  and the opener of mitochondrial ATP-sensitive  $\text{K}^+$  channel<sup>113)</sup> protect cardiomyocytes from ischemic/reperfusion damage.

As  $\text{HF}_o\text{F}_1$  supplies most ATP needed for human activity, further study will provide useful insight for

emergency medicine,<sup>118)</sup> mitochondrial cardiomyopathy<sup>22),87)</sup> and obesity-related chronic diseases.<sup>23),115),116)</sup>

### Conclusions

The excellent work to date on ATP synthases ( $F_0F_1$ ) has been reviewed based on data obtained in studies on  $TF_0F_1$  and  $HF_0F_1$ . The chemiosmotic theory<sup>1)</sup> was firmly established by  $\Delta\mu H^+$ -driven ATP synthesis in  $TF_0F_1$  liposomes (Figs. 1 and 3),<sup>7),46)</sup> and the rotational theory<sup>4)</sup> was established by crucial observations of  $\gamma$ -rotation<sup>10),11),17)</sup> and ATP synthesis on externally added torque to rotate  $\gamma$  in  $TF_1$  (Fig. 1).<sup>64)</sup>  $TF_1$  is the only  $F_1$  sufficiently stable to be consistently analyzed by reconstitution, crystallography, mutagenesis, and nanotechnology for torque-driven ATP synthesis.<sup>7)</sup> Crystallographic analysis using  $BF_1$  (Figs. 2 and 5)<sup>9),25)</sup> and  $TF_1$  (Figs. 4–6),<sup>71),74)</sup> site-directed mutagenesis using  $EF_0F_1$ <sup>18),65)</sup> and  $TF_0F_1$  (Figs. 5 and 6),<sup>12),20),63)</sup> and dynamic nanotechnology<sup>79)</sup> have contributed to elucidating elastic<sup>7),74)</sup> and loose<sup>61)</sup> energy coupling. Based on the fundamental mechanism of ATP synthesis in  $TF_0F_1$ ,<sup>7),108)</sup> and functional complementation of  $YF_1$ -deleted yeast with  $BF_1$  genes,<sup>8)</sup> human bioenergetics was developed by research on  $HF_0F_1$  using plasmids,<sup>21),28),86),97)</sup> transgenic mice (Fig. 7),<sup>23),90),100)</sup> cytoplasts (Fig. 8)<sup>33),87)</sup> and omics (Fig. 9).<sup>21),84),86),87)</sup>  $HF_0F_1$  differed from  $TF_0F_1$  in complex structure (Fig. 2), mitochondrial genetics (Fig. 8),<sup>87)</sup> organ specificity (Fig. 7)<sup>90)</sup> and intricate biogenesis (Fig. 9).<sup>86)</sup> The complex regulation of  $HF_0F_1$  has been shown to be essential for daily human activity that is triggered by the brain (Fig. 10), thus human bioenergetics is also applicable to emergency medicine<sup>113),118)</sup> and obesity/diabetes<sup>23),116)</sup> and mitochondrial diseases.<sup>87),97)</sup>

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## Profile

Yasuo Kagawa was born in 1932. He graduated from the Medical School at the University of Tokyo in 1957, and after completing an internship at St. Luke's Hospital, he received his PhD from the Graduate School of the University of Tokyo in 1962. He continued his bioenergetics research as a Fulbright scholar at the Public Health Research Institute of New York in 1963, as an assistant at the University of Tokyo in 1965, as a professor at Shinshu University in 1968, as a visiting professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Cornell University in 1970, and, since 1972, as a professor at Jichi Medical School (JMS), where his studies on  $F_1F_o$  ATP synthase have garnered international attention. After retiring in 1998, Dr. Kagawa was appointed Professor Emeritus at JMS and joined Kagawa Nutrition University (KNU) as a professor of Medical Chemistry. He became the vice president of KNU in 1999. He has also served as managing editor of several international journals, and was a committee member of the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Dr. Kagawa has received several awards, including the Medical Research Prize from the Japanese Medical Association in 1985, the Medal with Purple Ribbon in 1996, and the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon from the Government of Japan in 2006.

