

2015

Laboratory of Applied Stress Microbiology

Professor Hiroshi Takagi, Ph.D.



The 8th ANNIVERSARY

Manhattan from Empire State Building

Manhattan from Hoboken

Originality !!



Serendipity !!

The Takagi Laboratory

Professor: Hiroshi Takagi
(Ajinomoto Co., Inc. → Fukui Pref. Univ.)

Assistant Professors: I. Ohtsu, D. Watanabe

Lab Assistant: H. Yamada

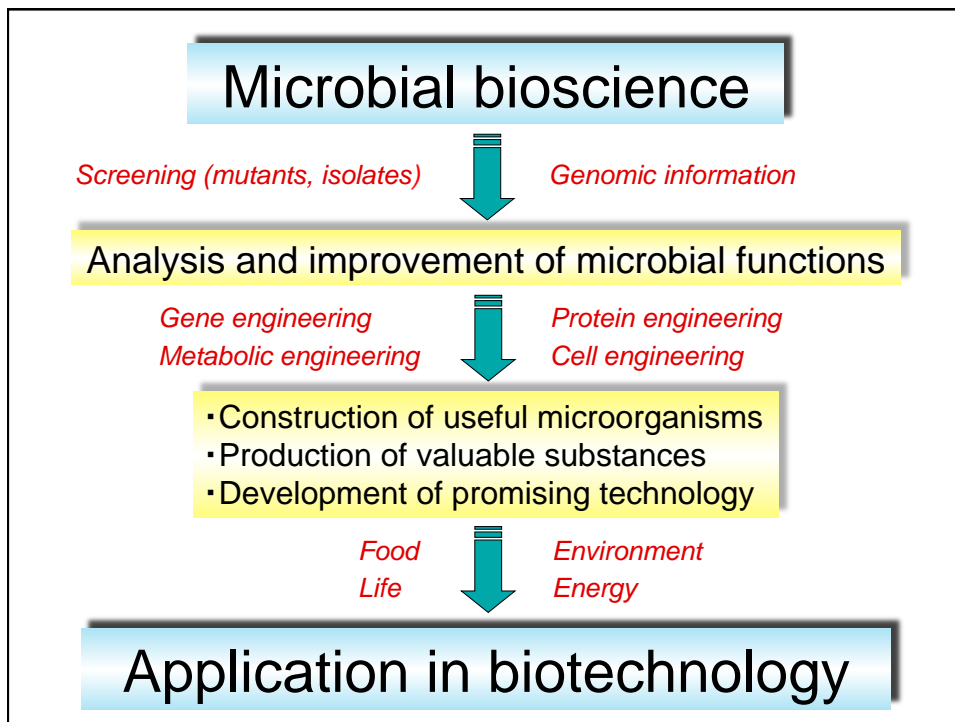
Postdoc: 3, Lab Tech: 2
Students: DC 11 + MC 13

6 Overseas students !!

Microbial Cells

Applied Stress Microbiology

Citi Field, New York



Applied Stress Microbiology



Stress response and adaptation mechanisms in yeast

①Proline ②N-Acetyltransferase Mpr1 ③Arginine/NO ④Ubiquitin system

<Keywords> oxidative stress, ROS, proline, transporter, mitochondria, arginine, NO, NO synthase, S-nitrosylation, redox regulation, ubiquitination, permease, phosphorylation, transcription factor (Msn2, Pog1) ion stress, signal transduction etc.

L-cysteine metabolism and its role in Escherichia coli

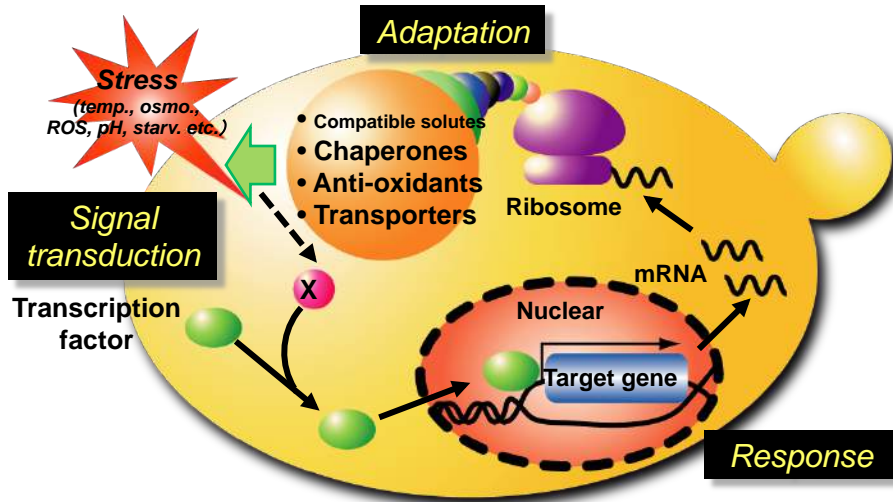
<Keywords> cysteine, transporter, redox regulation, thiosulfate pathway etc.

CO₂ fixation system in super oligotroph Rhodococcus

<Keywords> super oligotroph, CO₂ fixation, methanol metabolism, HCHO etc.

The budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

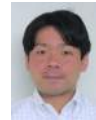
Cellular response and adaptation to environmental stresses



H. Takagi

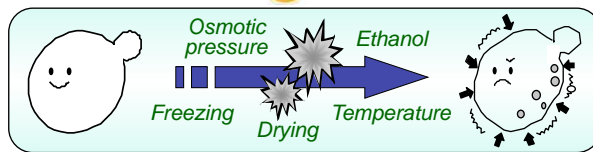
Industrial yeast strains

Breads Alcoholic beverages Bioethanol

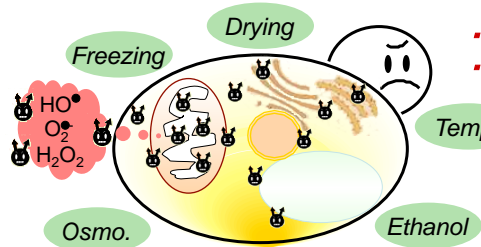


D. Watanabe

Multiple severe stresses



ROS generation



Growth inhibition
Cell death

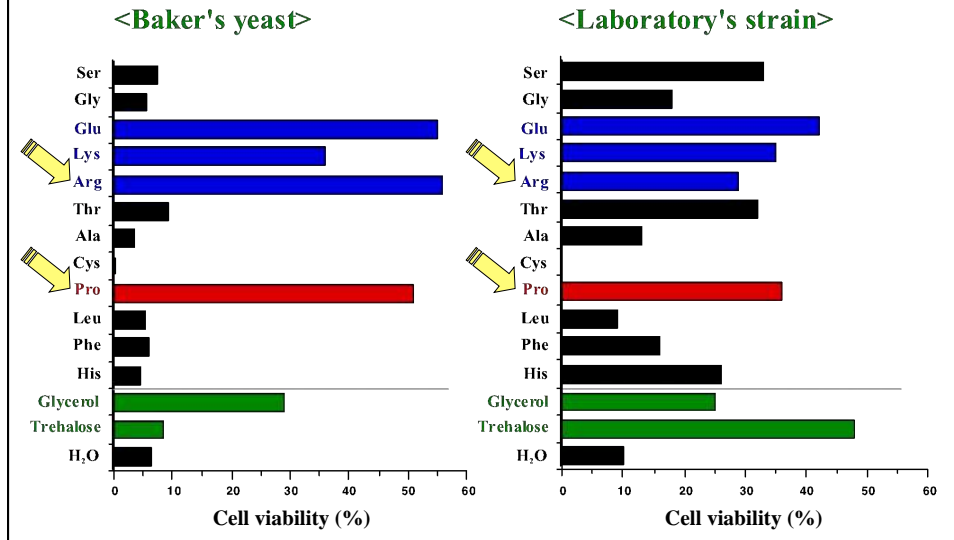
Fermentation ability is limited.

Stress tolerance is the key for yeast cells.

Proline has a cryoprotective activity.

(Takagi *et al.*, *Appl. Microbiol. Biotechnol.*, **47**, 405, 1997)

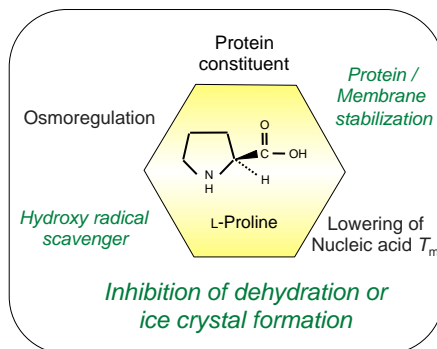
Effect of amino acids on yeast cells exposed to freezing



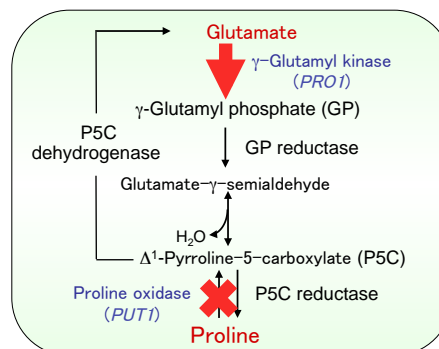
What is proline ?

In response to osmotic stresses, many bacterial and plant cells accumulate proline. Yeast cells induce **glycerol** or **trehalose** synthesis, but do **NOT** increase the **proline** level.

Physiological functions



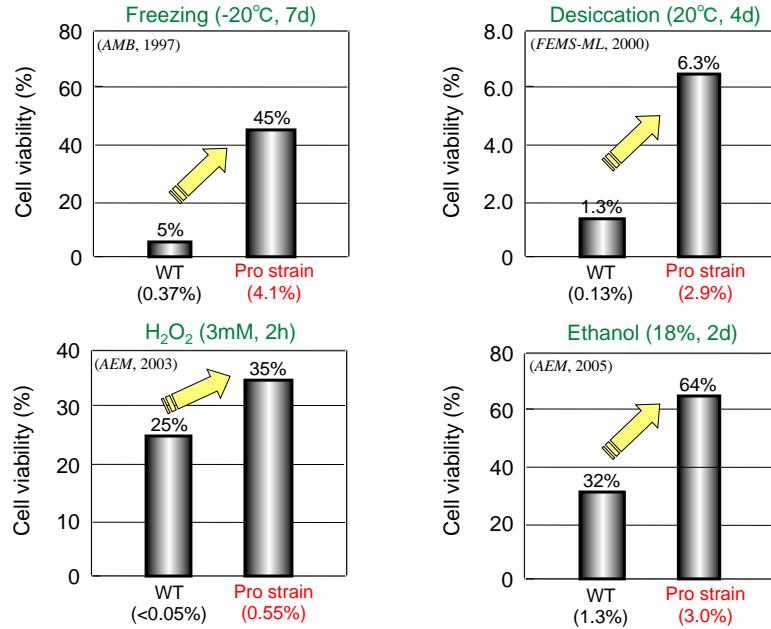
Metabolism in *S. cerevisiae*



Yeast cells that accumulate proline

- Weakened degradation \rightarrow *PUT1* disruption
- Enhanced synthesis \rightarrow proline analogue (AZC)-resistant mutant (*PRO1* mutation)

Pro-accumulating yeast cells are tolerant to various stresses.

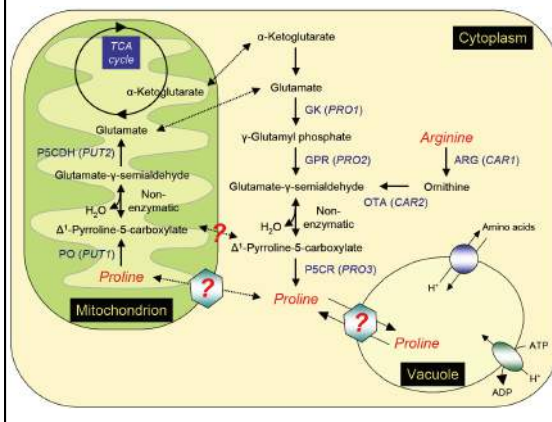


① Proline

Appl. Microbiol. Biotechnol., **47**, 405, 1997; **79**, 273, 2008; **81**, 211, 2008; *FEMS Microbiol. Lett.*, **184**, 103, 2000; *Appl. Environ. Microbiol.*, **69**, 212, 2003; **69**, 6527, 2003; **71**, 8656, 2005; **73**, 4011, 2007; **74**, 5845, 2008; *J. Biosci. Bioeng.*, **94**, 2002; **100**, 538, 2005; **103**, 277, 2007; **116**, 576, 2013; *Biosci. Biotech. Biochem.*, **73**, 2131, 2009; **76**, 454, 2012; *Int. J. Food Microbiol.*, **152**, 40, 2012.

< So far >

- ★ Proline protects yeast cells from various stresses as a ROS scavenger !!
- ★ The appropriate cellular level and localization of proline are important for the stress-protective effect !!



< Current projects >

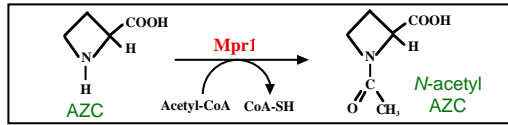
- Physiological functions (ROS)
- Transport to mitochondria/vacuole
- Functional analysis of GK and PO

↓
Breeding of novel stress-tolerant yeast strains with Pro accumulation

What is Mpr1 ?

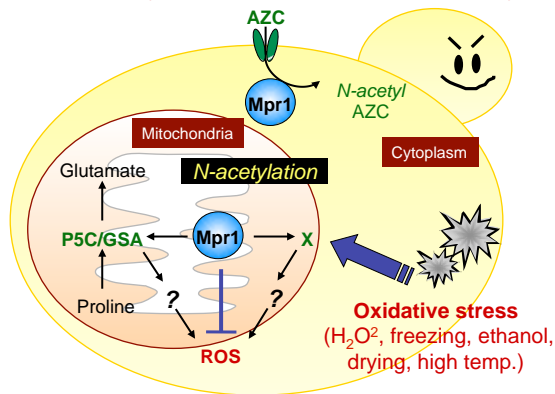
The yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Σ1278b
(sigMa 1278b genes for Proline-analogue Resistance)

- ★ *MPR1* encodes a novel *N*-acetyltransferase that detoxifies azetidine-2-carboxylate.



J. Bacteriol., 2000
J. Biol. Chem., 2001
Yeast, 2002
J. Biochem., 2003
Biosci. Biotech. Biochem., 2008
FEMS Yeast Res., 2008 etc.

- ★ Mpr1 protects yeast cells from oxidative stress by controlling ROS levels.



Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 2004
J. Biochem., 2005
Appl. Microbiol. Biotechnol., 2007
Biotechnol. Bioeng., 2009
Int. J. Food Microbiol., 2010 etc.

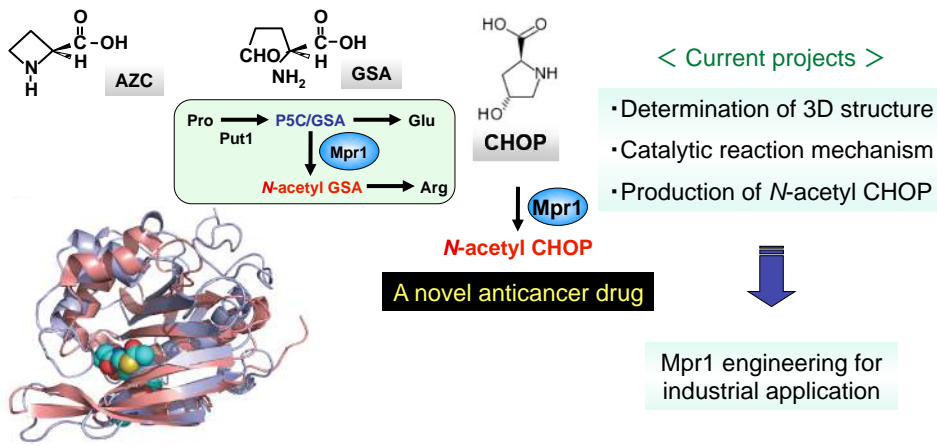
Mpr1 is a novel antioxidant enzyme.

② Mpr1

J. Bacteriol., **182**, 4249, 2000; *J. Biol. Chem.*, **276**, 41998, 2001; *Yeast*, **19**, 1437, 2002; **26**, 587, 2009; *J. Biochem.*, **133**, 67, 2003; **138**, 391, 2005; *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, **101**, 12616, 2004; **110**, 11821, 2013; *Appl. Microbiol. Biotechnol.*, **75**, 1343, 2007; **97**, 247, 2013; *FEMS Yeast Res.*, **8**, 607, 2008; *Biotechnol. Bioeng.*, **103**, 341, 2009; *Int. J. Food Microbiol.*, **138**, 181, 2010; *J. Biosci. Bioeng.*, **114**, 160, 2012.

< So far >

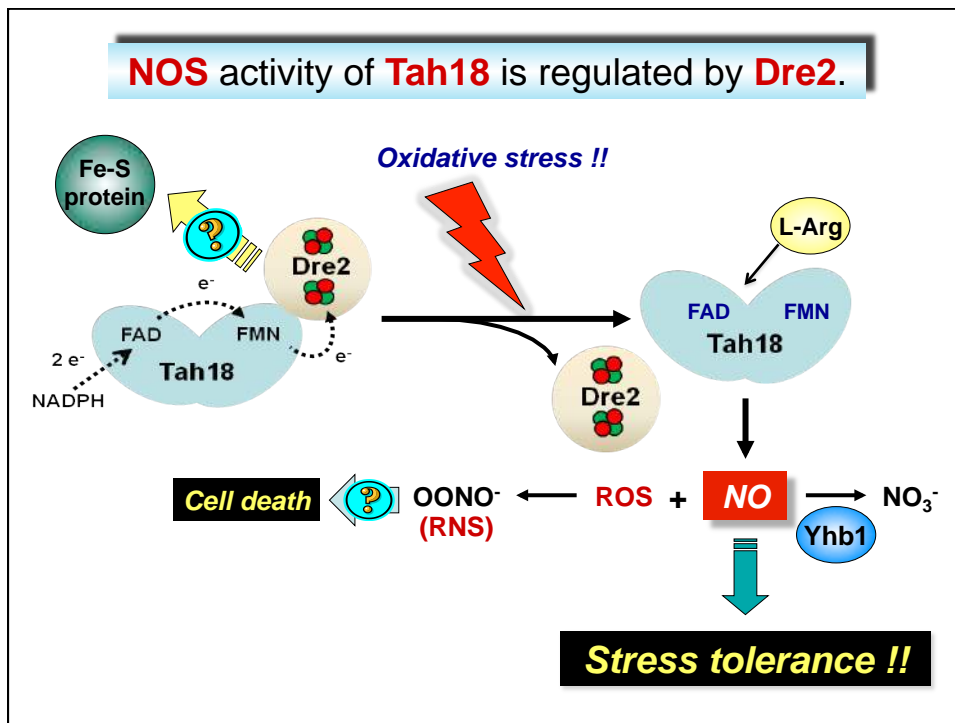
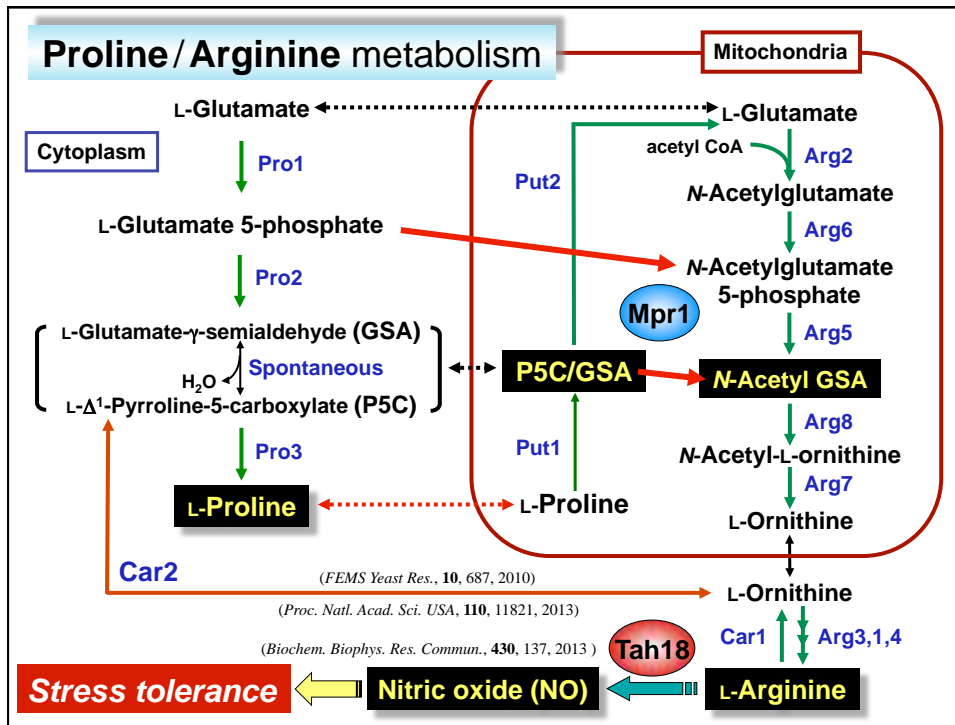
- ★ Mpr1 catalyzes *N*-acetylation of AZC, GSA and *cis*-4-hydroxy-L-proline !!
- ★ Mpr1 is involved in antioxidation by GSA *N*-acetylation and stress-induced arginine synthesis !!



< Current projects >

- Determination of 3D structure
- Catalytic reaction mechanism
- Production of *N*-acetyl CHOP

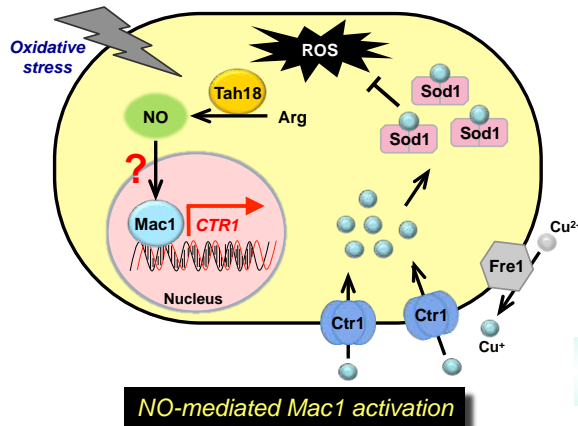
Mpr1 engineering for industrial application



③ Nitric oxide A novel antioxidative mechanism in yeast

FEMS Yeast Res., **10**, 687, 2010; *Microb. Cell Fact.*, **11**:40 doi: 10.1186/1475-2859-11-40, 2012; *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA*, **110**, 11821, 2013; *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.*, **430**, 137, 2013; *PLoS One*, **9**, e113788, 2014.

- ★ Put1 and Mpr1 are required for stress-induced Arg synthesis !!
- ★ Arg-dependent NO synthesis confers stress tolerance on yeast cells !!
- ★ The Tah18 protein is first identified as the yeast NO synthase !!



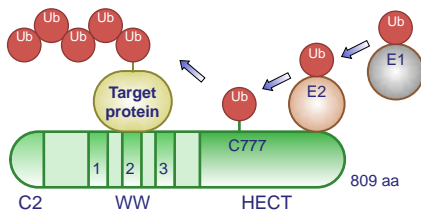
< Current projects >

- Characterization of Tah18
- Downstream pathway of NO
- Physiological role of NO



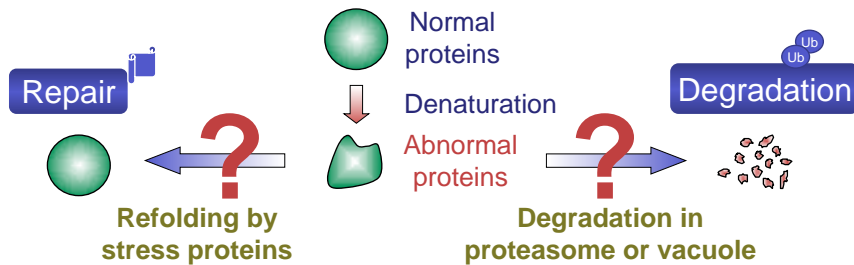
Breeding of novel stress-tolerant yeast strains with NO production

Rsp5 is an essential E3 ubiquitin ligase.



Rsp5 participates in many events through ubiquitination of target proteins;

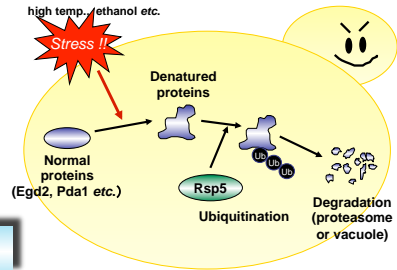
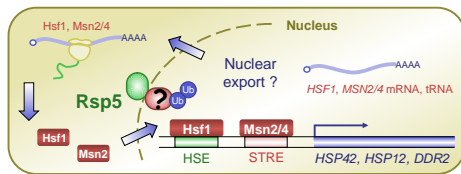
endocytosis of plasma membrane permeases, mitochondrial inheritance, degradation of the large subunit of RNA pol. II, biosynthesis of unsaturated fatty acids, actin cytoskeleton organization, sporulation, ER-associated degradation etc.



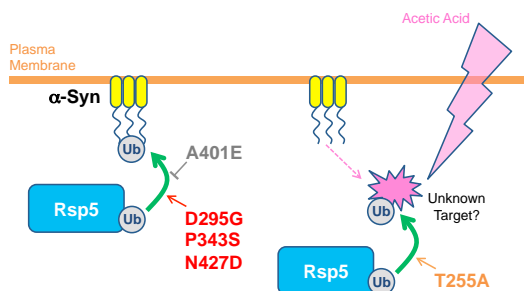
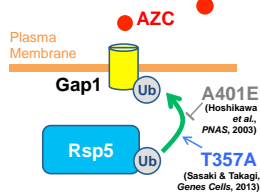
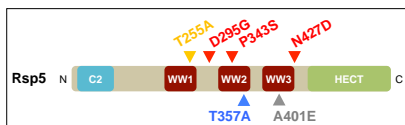
Rsp5 may be involved in repair / degradation of abnormal proteins.

Rsp5

Involved in repair / degradation of abnormal proteins



Required for degradation of Gap1



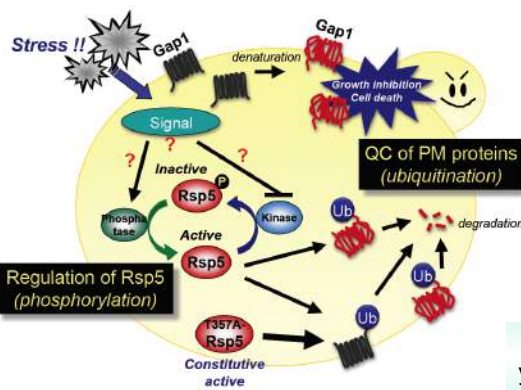
④ Ubiquitin system

Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, **100**, 11505, 2003; *FEBS Lett.*, **580**, 3433, 2006; *Biosci. Biotech. Biochem.*, **70**, 2762, 2006; **73**, 2268, 2009; *FEMS Microbiol. Lett.*, **277**, 70, 2007; *Genes Cells*, **13**, 105, 2008; *FEMS Yeast Res.*, **9**, 73, 2009; **14**, 567, 2014; *FEBS J.*, **276**, 5287, 2009; *J. Brew. Distill.*, **3**, 1, 2012; *Genes Cells*, **18**, 459, 2013; *Eukaryot. Cell*, **13**, 1191, 2014; *J. Biochem.*, **157**, 251, 2015; *Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.*, in press, etc.

< So far >

- ★ Rsp5 is involved in quality control of plasma membrane proteins !!
- ★ Rsp5 activity is regulated by phosphorylation of a conserved Thr357 !!

< Current projects >

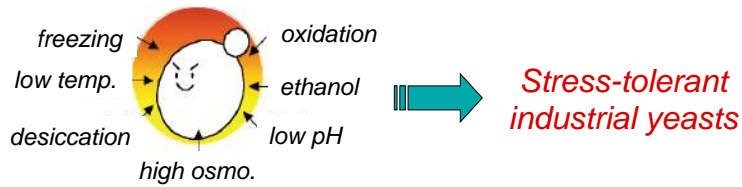


- Recognition and degradation of abnormal proteins by Rsp5
- Functional improvement of Ub-system (Rsp5)
- Regulation of the Rsp5 activity via phosphorylation



Breeding of novel stress-tolerant yeast strains with improved Ub-system

Contribution to biotechnology



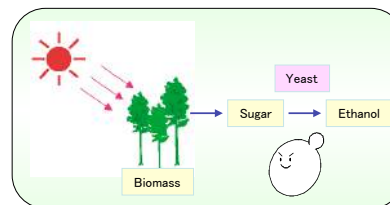
<Expansion of yeast-related industry>

- Improvement of fermentation ability
Efficient production of alcoholic beverages and breads

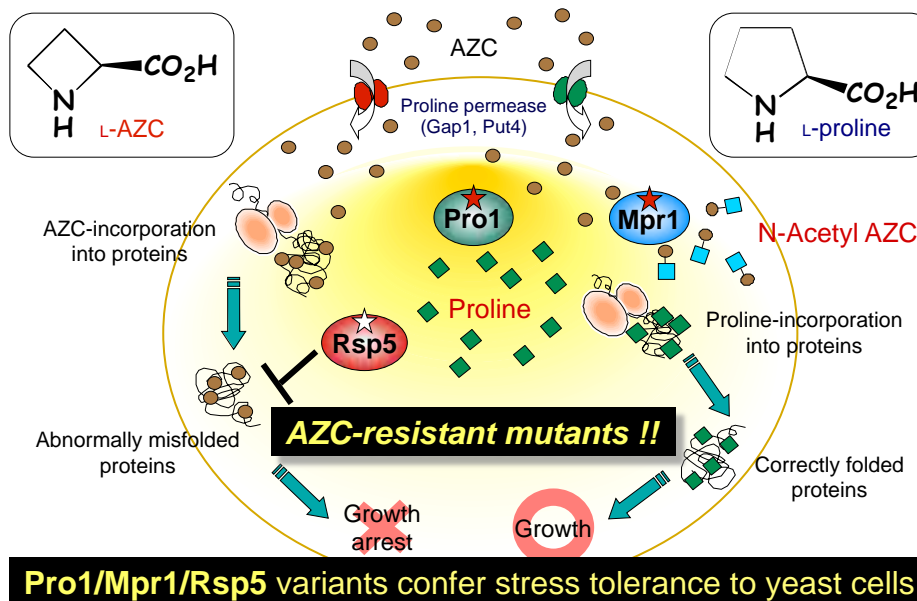


<Creation of yeast-based new industry>

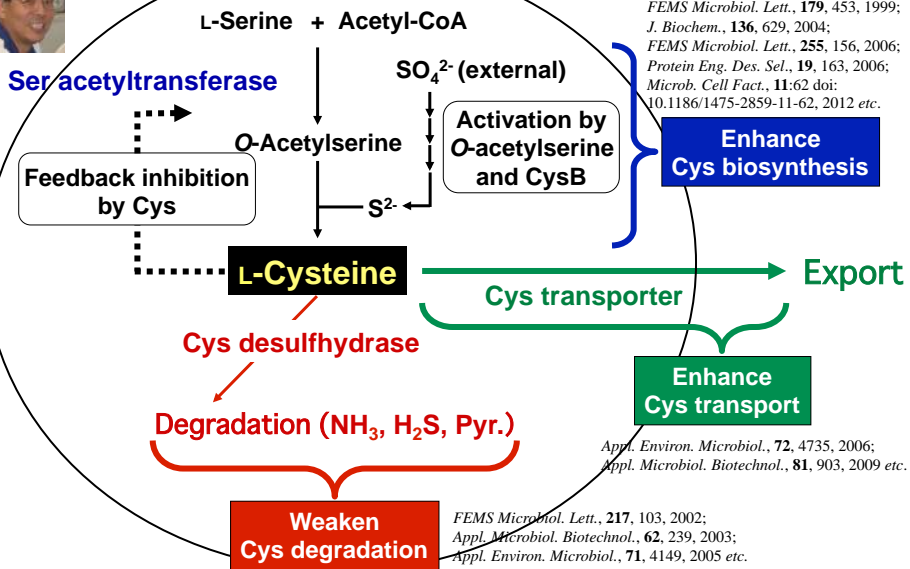
- Production of bioethanol
High ethanol productivity and tolerance



Construction of commercial industrial yeasts

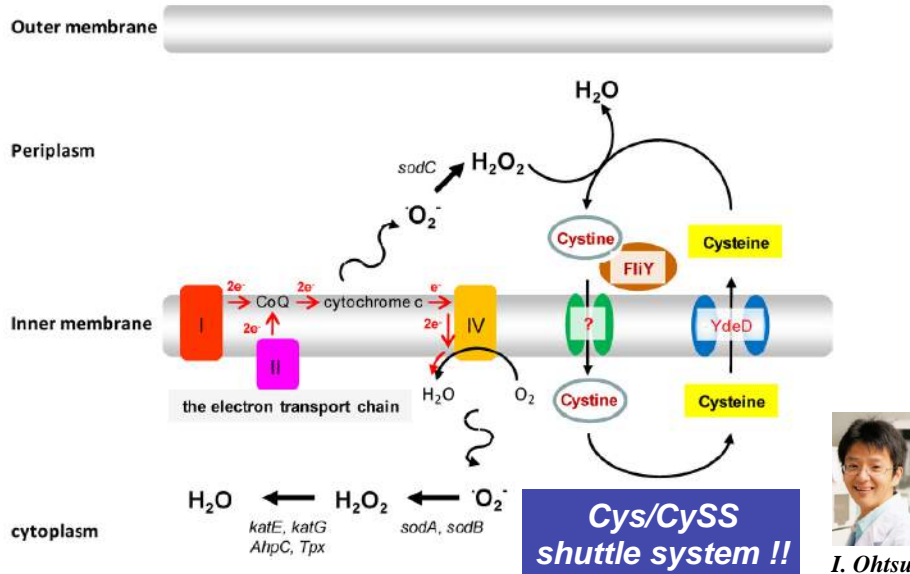


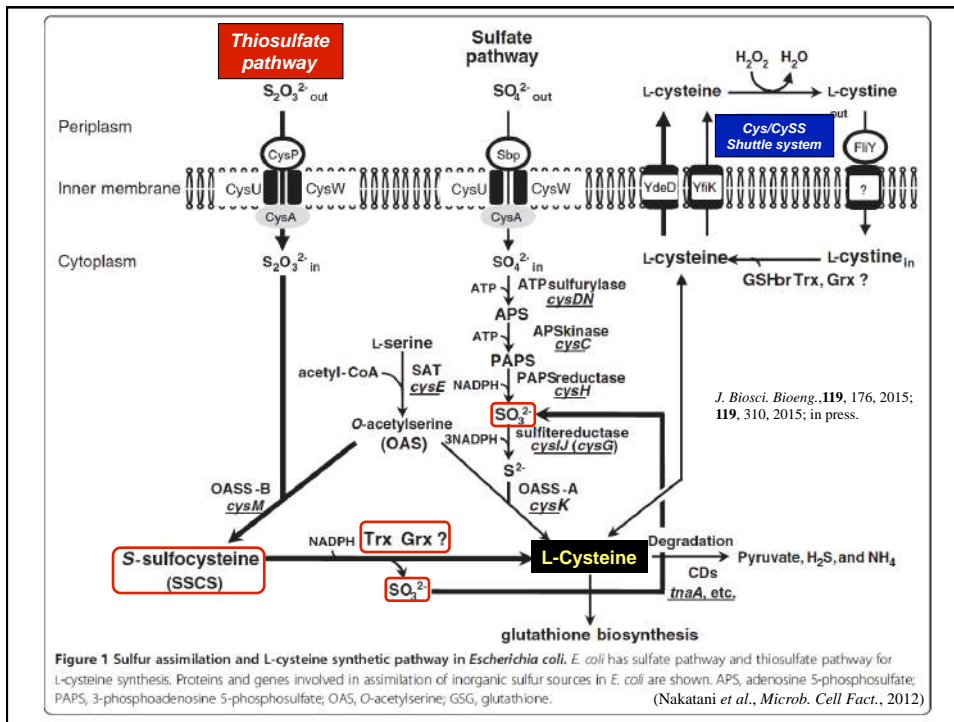
Cysteine: metabolic regulation and overproduction



Cysteine is important for the H₂O₂ resistance in *E. coli*.


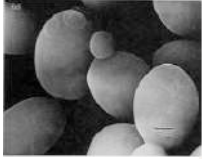

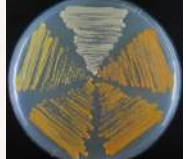

(*J. Biol. Chem.*, **285**, 17479, 2010; *PLoS One*, **10**, e0120619, 2015)





Applied Molecular Microbiology

Yeasts and Bacteria

Microorganisms never betray us !!

