



PQI 5888

Fisiologia e Biotecnologia de Leveduras

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[Aula 8]

Yeast Nutrition – part 2

(aula síncrona)



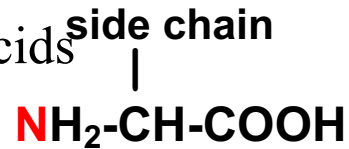
Nitrogen sources for Yeasts

- Proteins - no! (*S.cerevisiae* is non-proteolytic)
- Peptides (small di, or tri-peptides)
- Amino acids (sequential uptake)
- Ammonium salts (NH_4^-)
- Urea ($\text{CH}_4\text{N}_2\text{O}$)
- Nitrate (NO_3^-)

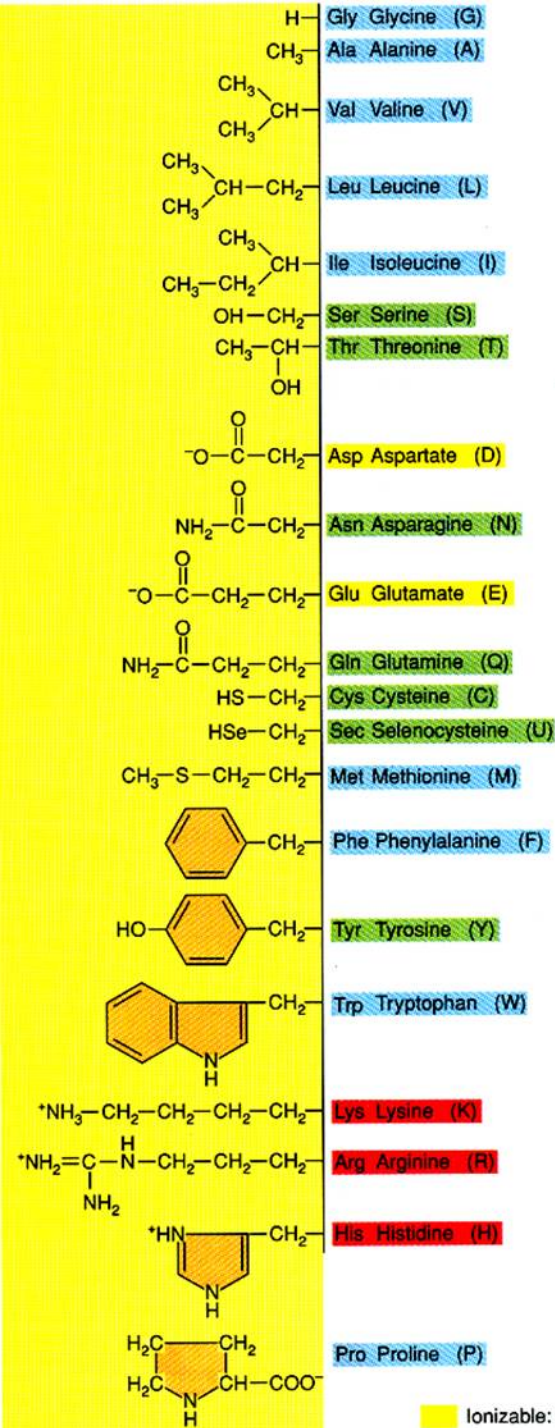
Nitrogen is a basic element used by the cell to make amino acids, enzymes, structural proteins, nucleic acids

Yeast requires small molecular weight nitrogenous compounds:

- FAN = Free Amino Nitrogen
- It is found in dipeptides and amino acids



- YAN = Yeast Assimilable Nitrogen
- Useable forms YAN include urea, ammonia/ammonium ions
- Useable nitrogen is the most critical limiting nutrient in fermentations - below a threshold of ~150mg/L, may lead to “stuck” fermentations
- Nitrogen starvation may also lead to intracellular proteolysis (yeast death/lysis)
- ***Cereal grains & molasses are N-deficient for efficient yeast fermentation!***



Oxygen requirements for *S. cerevisiae*

- Fermenting *S. cerevisiae* cells need O₂ as a growth factor (not for respiratory metabolism)
- Yeast strains have variable requirements for O₂ (eg. brewing wort is aerated to 8-16ppm dissolved O₂)
- O₂ required for sterol and unsaturated fatty acid synthesis (e.g. ergosterol, oleic acid)
- O₂ therefore important for yeast membrane integrity (and ethanol tolerance)
- O₂ needed to mobilise glycogen (during lag-phase)

Diversity of yeast O₂ requirements

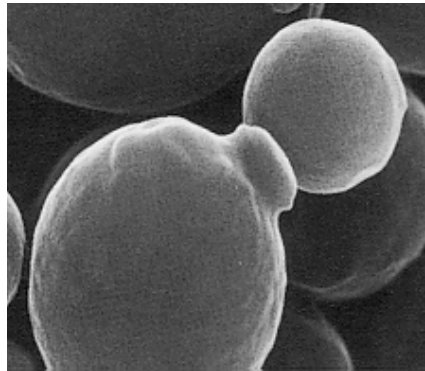
Obligate Aerobic

RESPIRERS

Rhodotorula,
Cryptococcus

Facultative

S. cerevisiae



Obligate Anaerobic

FERMENTERS

Candida pintolopesii

- can grow fermentatively without O₂ or oxidatively with O₂
- for truly respiratory growth, O₂ and low sugar is required (Crabtree effect)
- cannot grow **strictly** anaerobically (O₂ needed for membrane sterols & fatty acids)

The Crabtree effect (absent in some yeasts like *Kluyveromyces marxianus*)

- *S. cerevisiae* metabolizes **fermentatively** even in presence of oxygen - mainly due to the high level of carbohydrates (glucose)
- In the presence of large amounts of oxygen (>1 vvm) yeasts can obtain energy by **respiration**
BUT: sugar must be very low - eg. <0.2% glucose
- Aerobic respiratory growth occurs in a yeast production plant, using fed-batch propagation (not in an ethanol distillery)

Lipid supplements instead of oxygen?

- Lipid-phospholipid complex
- Phosphatidylcholine, palmitic acid and cholesterol
- Phosphatidyl serine
- Ergosterol or campesterol and linoleic acid
- Oleic, linoleic or linolenic acid
- Linseed/cotton seed or soyabean oil
- Yeast foods
- Yeast hulls



Phosphorus & Sulphur

- **P** & **S** are essential for yeast metabolism and growth (molasses is usually deficient)
- **S**: sulphate, sulphite, thiosulphate, methionine and glutathione
- **P**: Orthophosphate (H_2PO_4^-) and condensed inorganic phosphate
- Available phosphorus is required at $\sim 1\text{-}2\%$ of the dry weight of expected yeast mass per unit volume of medium
- Available sulphur is required at $\sim 0.3\text{-}0.5\%$ of the dry weight of expected yeast mass per unit volume of medium

Inorganic nutrients for yeast

- Essential bulk minerals: P, S, K, Mg
- Essential trace ions: Zn, Ca, Fe, Mn, Mo, Ni
- **Toxic** trace ions: Pb, Cd, Cr, Hg, Cu, Al etc.

NOTE

Phosphorus, sulphur and potassium generally in sufficient supply

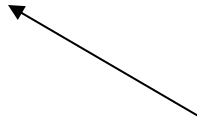
Metal cations may occasionally be deficient (and ratios of metal ions may be sub-optimal)

Mineral nutrition: *Why do yeasts need metals?*

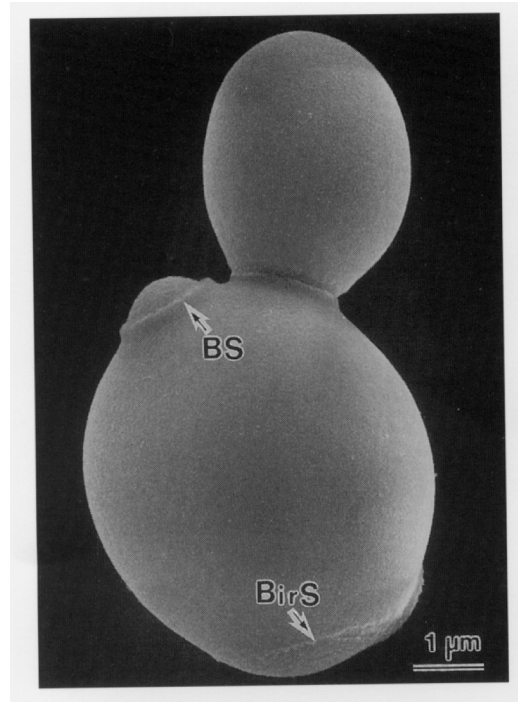
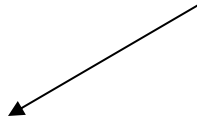
Cell growth



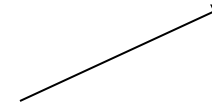
**Enzyme
Activity**
(fermentation)



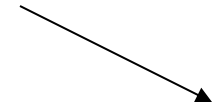
**Stress
tolerance**



Cell structure



**Cell -cell
Interactions**



Cell division



Vitamins for yeasts?

- Biotin, pantothenic acid & inositol are commonly required
(Biotin deficiency in some molasses)
- Also thiamin, nicotinic acid and pyridoxine
- Vitamin deficiencies may be problematic
(can supplement with “yeast foods”)

Vitamin content
of a typical molasses

Biotin	1-3ppm
Inositol	6000ppm
Pantothenic acid	50-60ppm
Thiamin	~2ppm
Nicotinic acid	30-80ppm

Typical Vitamin Levels in Cereal Wort

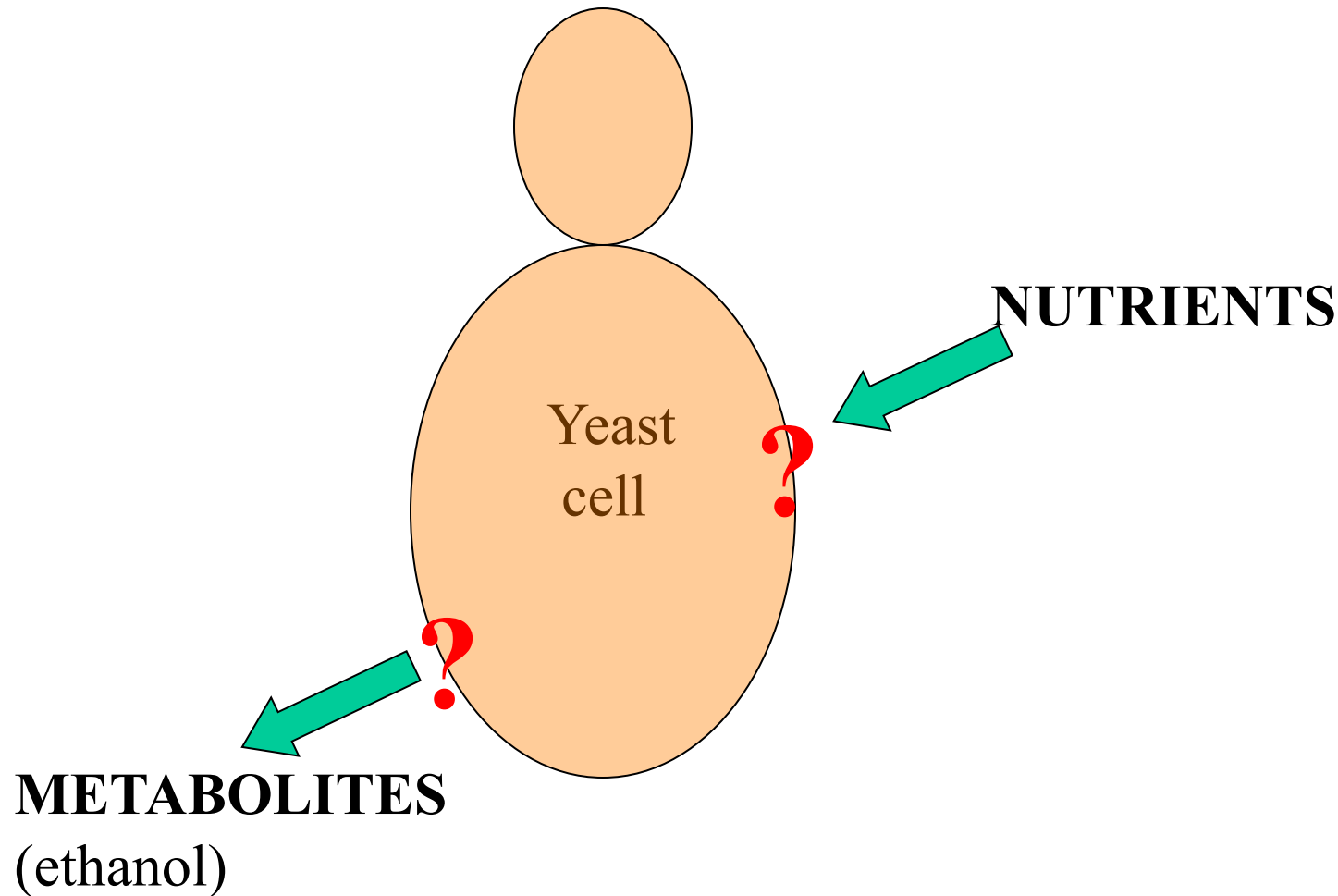
VITAMIN	LEVEL IN WORT /100 ml	METABOLIC ROLES
Biotin	0.5 µg	Carboxylations
Thiamin (B1)	60 µg	Decarboxylations
Pantothenate	~50 µg	Acetylations, CoA
Nicotinic acid	1000 µg	Coenzymes
Riboflavin	50 µg	Coenzymes
Pyridoxine	85 µg	Amino acid metabolism
Inositol	10 mg	Membranes

Table 3.4. Growth factor requirements of some yeasts.

Yeast	Requirements	Comments
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	Biotin, pantothenic acid, Inositol, thiamine	Required by practically all strains Required by some strains
<i>Saccharomyces carlsbergensis</i>	Biotin, pantothenic acid Inositol, uracil, guanine Thiamine, pantothenic acid, nicotinic acid	Required by all strains Required by some strains Stimulatory for growth of some strains
<i>Schizosaccharomyces pombe</i>	Inositol, biotin, pantothenic acid Nicotinic acid Pyridoxine, thiamine	Required by all strains Required by some strains Stimulatory for growth of some strains
<i>Pichia</i> spp.	Variable	Some strains (e.g. <i>P. membranefaciens</i>) have no requirements whereas others require one (e.g. thiamine) or more (e.g. biotin plus pyridoxine)
<i>Hansenula</i> spp.	Variable	Vitamin requirements of this genus have been used in differentiating species. <i>H. anomala</i> has no requirements for pre-formed vitamins
<i>Schwanniomyces</i> spp.	Biotin	Required by <i>S. occidentalis</i>
<i>Candida</i> spp.	Biotin, nicotinic acid Thiamine Cyanocobalamin	Required by most species Required by <i>C. lipolytica</i> and stimulatory to <i>C. albicans</i> Required by <i>C. albicans</i> . <i>C. utilis</i> has no requirements for preformed vitamins
<i>Kluyveromyces</i> spp.	Nicotinic acid	All lactose-fermenting yeasts need this vitamin
<i>Rhodotorula</i> spp.	Thiamine, <i>p</i> -aminobenzoic acid	Generally required by this genus

Summarized from information provided in Koser (1968).

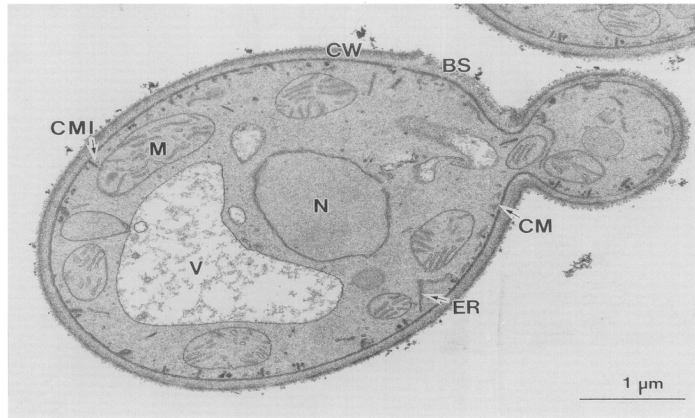
Yeast transport strategies for nutrients



Translocation of nutrients into yeast

CELLULAR BARRIERS

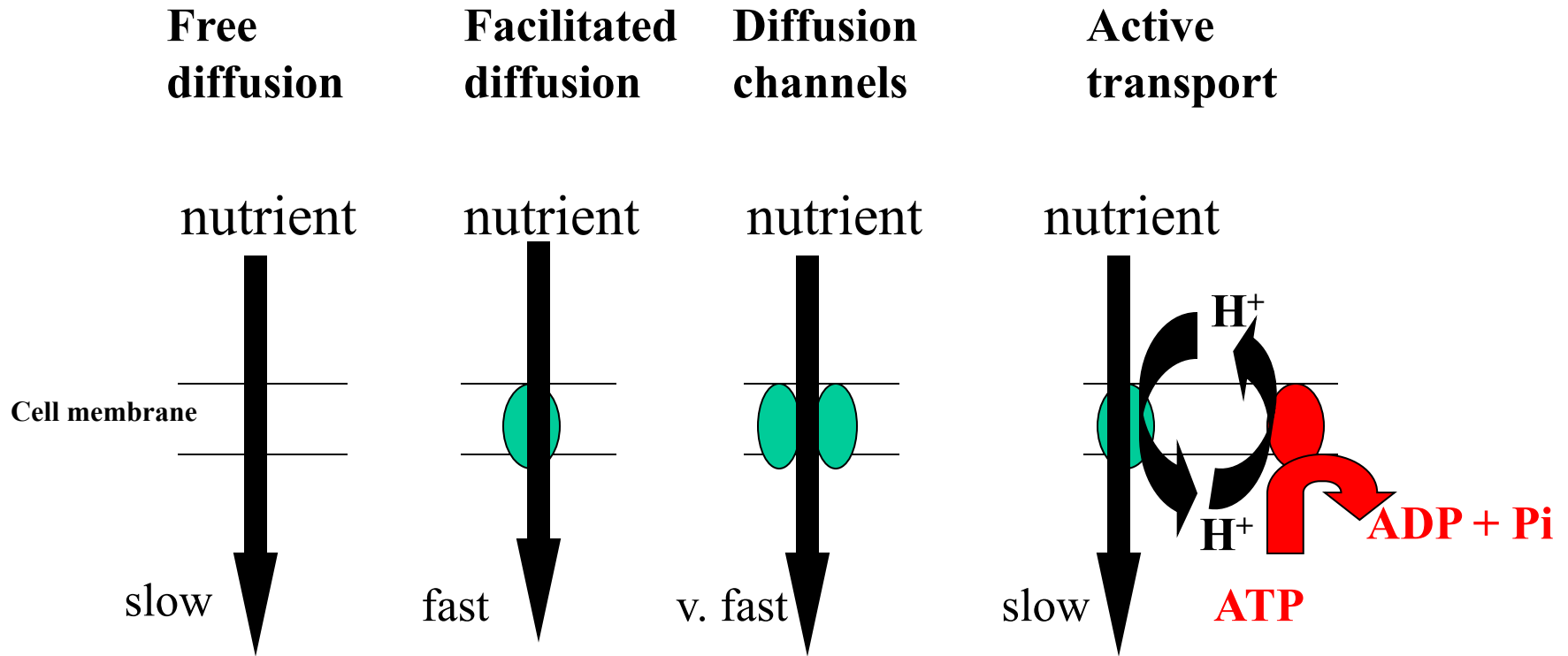
capsule, cell wall, periplasm, **plasma membrane**, organelles



PHYSICO-CHEMICAL BARRIERS (nutrient bioavailability)

chelation, adsorption, molecular size, binding

Yeast cell membrane nutrient transport mechanisms



Inside yeast cell

- undissociated organic acids
- export of ethanol and gaseous compounds

- permease, or carrier, or facilitator

- voltage-dependent 'gates' to move ions (K⁺)

- driving force is the membrane potential and the proton gradient

Proton (H^+) - pumping ATPase

- Very important enzyme for nutrient uptake in brewing yeast (regulates growth and fermentation)
- Enzyme excretes acidity and regulates cell pH
- Yeasts can lower external pH to ~ 1.5
- In fermentation, $\sim 30\%$ of acidity due to ATPase
(Rest is due to organic acids, CO_2 etc.)

ATPase and toxic acids

- Organic acids are more harmful than mineral acids (e.g. 0.8% lactic acid or 0.05% acetic acid are generally toxic to yeast)
- These acids dissociate inside the cell, releasing protons that lower cell pH
- ATPase expels these protons, but energy (ATP) needed for growth is shifted to pump H^+

Yeast transport mechanisms for nutrients

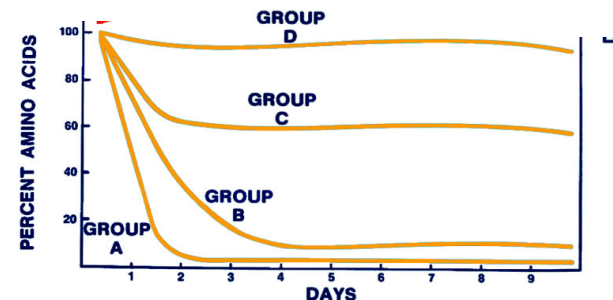
- **Water?** Turgor potential, and maybe water “channels”
- **Sugars?** Various mechanisms
- **Amino acids?** General and specific permeases
- **Ions?** Diffusion channels and specific carriers
- **Ethanol?** Free diffusion
- **Others?** Various active mechanisms for sterols, vitamins, fatty acids etc.

Amino acid uptake by brewing yeast

- **GROUP A (fast)**
Glu, Asp, Asn, Gln,
Ser, Thre, Lys, Arg
- **GROUP B (intermediate)**
Val, Met, Leu, Isoleu, His
- **GROUP C (slow)**
Gly, Phe, Tyr, Try,
Ala, NH₃
- **GROUP D (little or no)**
Pro

NOTE: A general amino acid permease (GAP) plus a variety of specific transport permeases exist for (active) amino acid uptake by brewing yeast

Brewing yeast amino acid uptake



Sugar transport by *S. cerevisiae*

- **Glucose & Fructose** - facilitated diffusion
- **Maltose** (4-O- α -D-glucopyranosyl-D-glucopyranose) - maltase, active transport by H⁺ symport
- **Sucrose** (β -D-fructofuranosyl α -D-glucopyranoside) - invertase (then glucose/fructose by facilitated diffusion) Note that a constitutive proton symporter for sucrose has been identified in some strains of *S. cerevisiae*
- *In Kluyveromyces marxianus, sucrose hydrolysed by extracellular inulinase*
- Maltotriose, etc. - specific permeases

Glucose uptake by yeast?

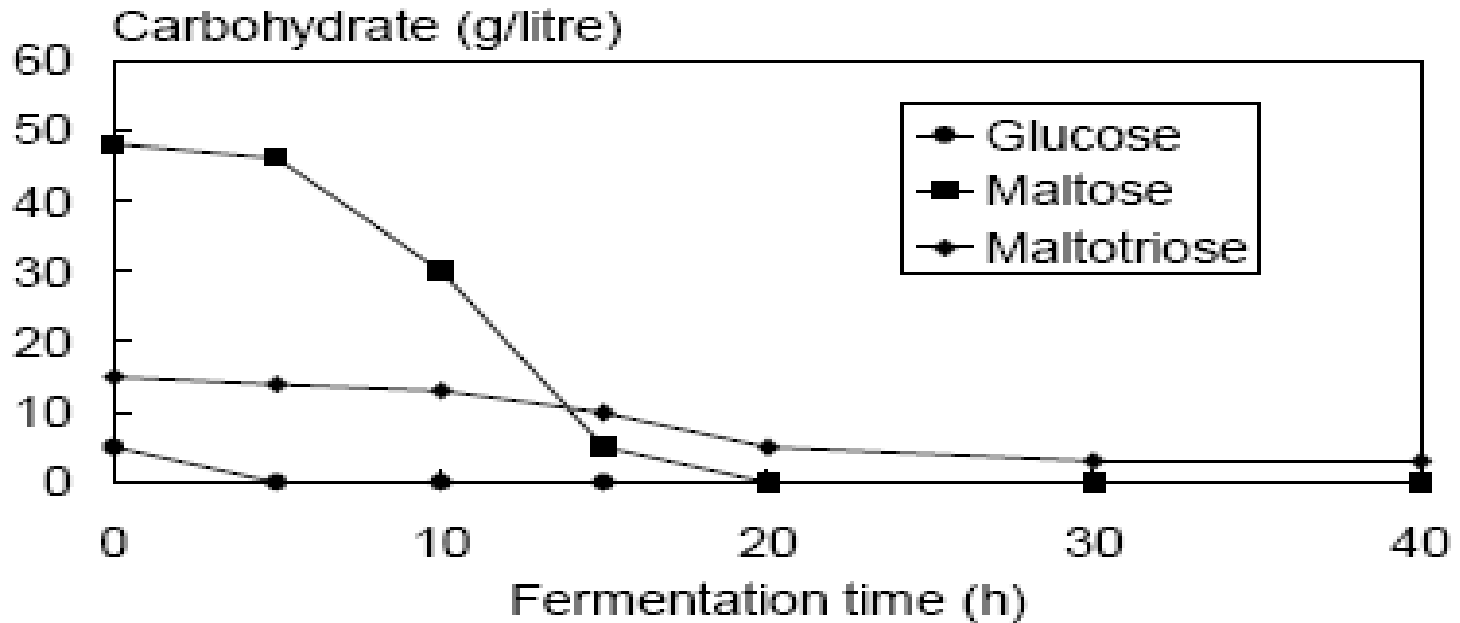
- Facilitated diffusion (energy-independent)
[Some glucose (~1 in a million) may enter by passive diffusion]
- Driving force=glucose concentration gradient across yeast membrane
- Translocation via specific permeases (carrier proteins)
- Transport coupled to glucose phosphorylation
- Glucose uptake is preferential (over other sugars)

Maltose uptake by yeast?

- Active transport (energy-dependent)
- Driven by proton gradient (H^+ symport)
[ATPase expels protons which then re-enter cell with maltose]
- Glucose represses maltose uptake (and its utilisation)

Malt distillery & brewing fermentations

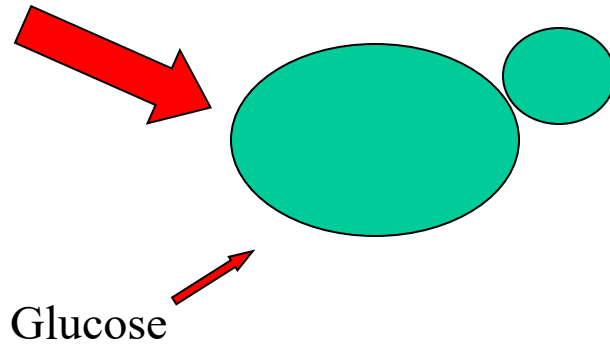
Sugar Utilization during Fermentation



- Maltose (and other sugars) not used until glucose is taken up by yeast
- Sequential sugar uptake can slow fermentation (especially if glucose syrups are used as adjuncts)

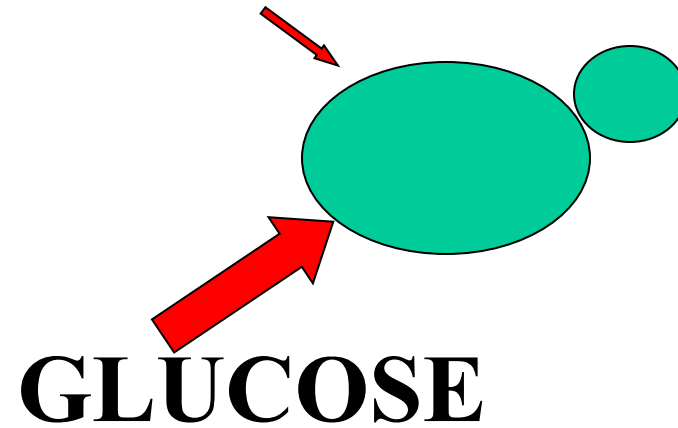
Brewer's view

MALTOSE



Yeast's view

Maltose



Biotechnological significance?

(Of sugar uptake in yeast)

1. Competition for sugars between different yeasts:

Saccharomyces cerevisiae (low affinity glucose transporter)

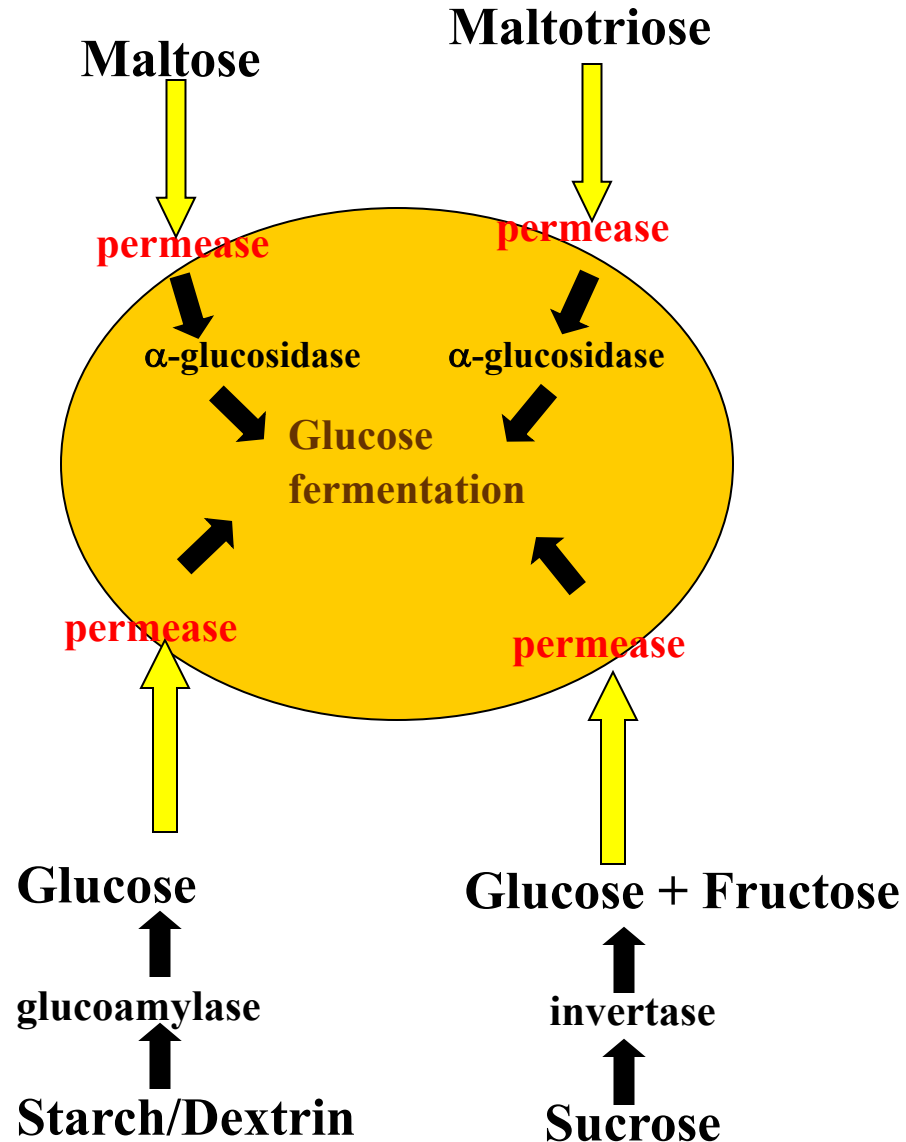
versus.

Candida utilis (high affinity glucose transporter) in molasses fermentations

2. Preferential (sequential) glucose uptake by *S.cerevisiae* can slow fermentations of mixed sugars

3. Glucose-derepressed GM baker's & brewer's yeasts (lead to faster baking & brewing processes)

Sugar uptake by *S. cerevisiae* - summary



Yeast nutrition - potential problems for fermentation

- Spectrum/availability of sugars
- Metal ion bioavailability
- Inhibitory components (e.g. pesticides, cleaning agents)
- Insufficient O₂ (slows growth)
- Vitamin deficiency
- Stressed or starved yeast - impaired nutrient uptake

Yeast nutrition - SUMMARY

- Yeasts have relatively simple nutritional requirements
- Attention to yeast nutrition will prevent slow and premature fermentations
- Different strategies adopted for nutrient uptake
- Control of sugar uptake and metabolism in *S. cerevisiae* is very important for industrial fermentation processes
- Stressed yeast has impaired nutrient uptake and fermentation performance