

# “Bioinorganic Catalysis”

Research in our laboratories is concerned with the design of symmetrical and unsymmetrical dinuclear small molecules as structural and functional models for the active-site of metalloenzymes including **hydrolases (PAPs)**, **proteases**, and **catechol oxidases**.



**rkbPAP**

Klabunde et al.  
*J. Mol. Biol.* 259 (1996) 737

Krebs et al. *Nature*,  
5 (1998) 1084

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**Catechol Oxidase**

✓ **Catechol oxidase** - plant enzyme - belongs to the oxidoreductase class.

✓ **Active site** - Dinuclear Copper center .

✓ **Catalyzes oxidation of o-phenolics** (like caffeic acid) to the corresponding o-quinones, with the reduction of molecular oxygen to water.

✓ The highly reactive quinones auto-polymerize to form brown polyphenolic catechol melanins, a process thought to protect the damaged plant from pathogens or insects.

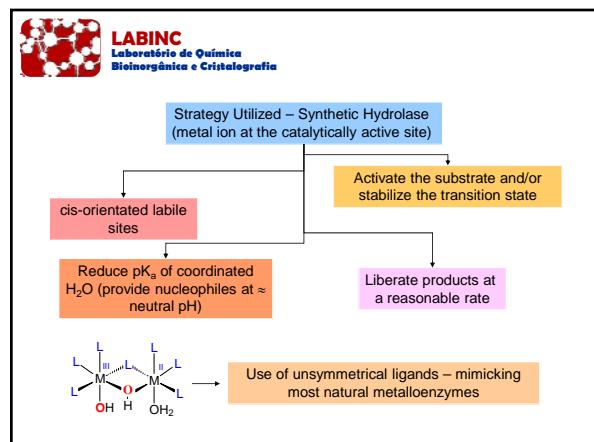
**Reaction of great importance** in the medical diagnosis of hormonal catechol amines (adrenalin, noradrenaline, and dopamine).

$$2 \text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{OH})_2 + \text{O}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{Catechol Oxidase}} 2 \text{C}_6\text{H}_3(\text{O})_2 + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$$

*In spite of extensive studies on the mechanism of CatOx the coordination mode of the substrate remains unknown.*



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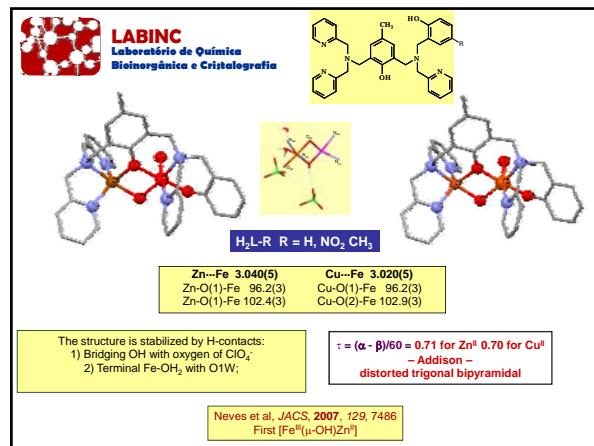


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**Synthesis of the unsymmetrical hetero-dinuclear FeZn and FeCu complexes:**

**H<sub>2</sub>L-R and H<sub>2</sub>py<sub>3</sub>mpf**

**References:**  
 Schenk, Neves et al., Chem. Rev. 2006, 106, 3338-3363  
 Fe<sup>II</sup>(OAc)<sub>2</sub>M<sup>II</sup> (M<sup>II</sup> = Fe, Mn, Zn, Cu, Ni, Co)  
 Inorg. Chem. 2002, 41, 4624;  
 Inorg. Chem. 2002, 41, 5641;  
 Inorg. Chem. Commun. 2002, 5, 434 and 2003, 6, 1161;  
 J. Biol. Inorg. Chem. 2005, 10, 319; J. Biol. Inorg. Chem. 2008, 13, 139; J. Biol. Inorg. Chem. 2007, 12, 1207



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**Comparison of the structures of FeZnL-H and kbPAP**

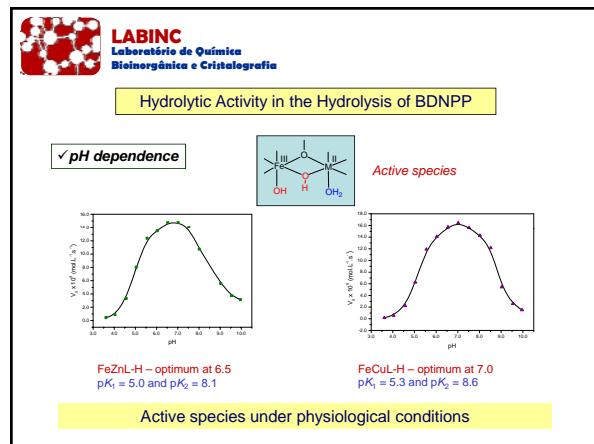
**kbPAP**

**FeZnL-H**

**Important:** Both structures contain an Fe<sup>II</sup>(μ-OH)Zn<sup>II</sup> with Fe...Zn distances of 3.05 Å in the FeZnL-H complex and 3.2 Å in kbPAP – Krebs, Witzel et al., J. Mol. Biol. 1996, 259, 737.

**Both structures also contain terminal Fe<sup>II</sup>-phenolate and Fe<sup>III</sup>-OH bonds**

**Neves et al., JACS, 2007, 129, 7486**



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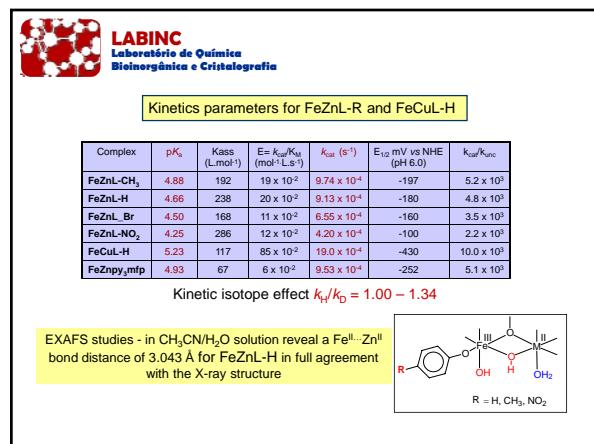
**Dependence of the catalytic activity on [2,4-BDNPP] – pH optimum**

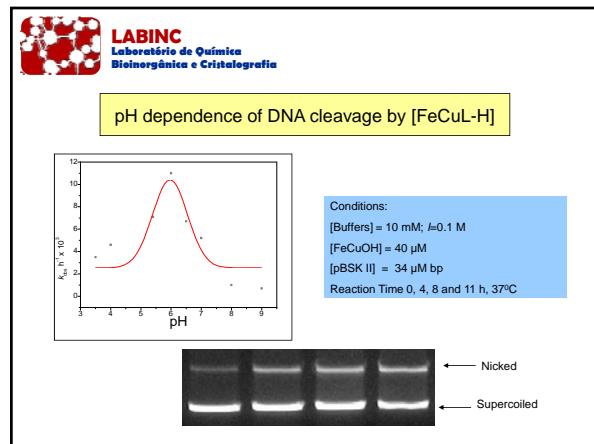
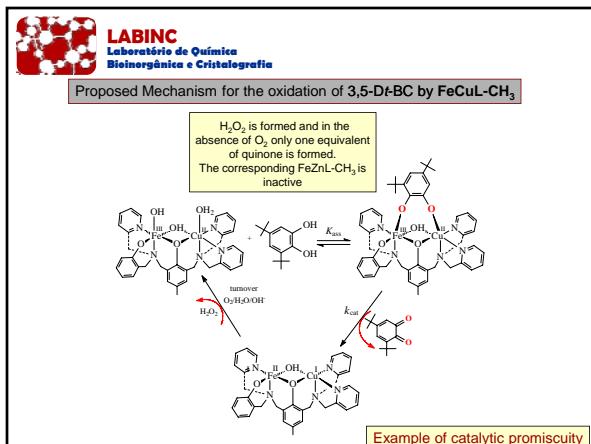
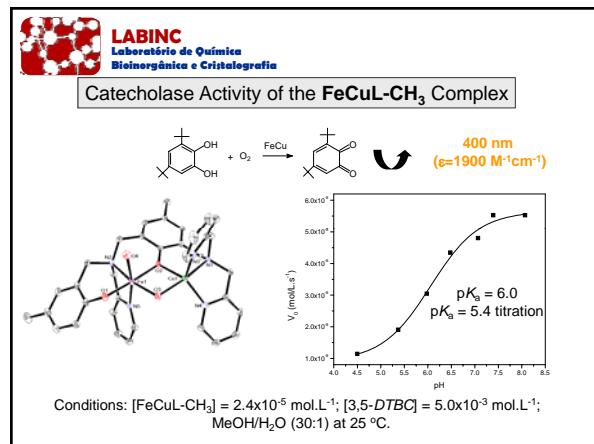
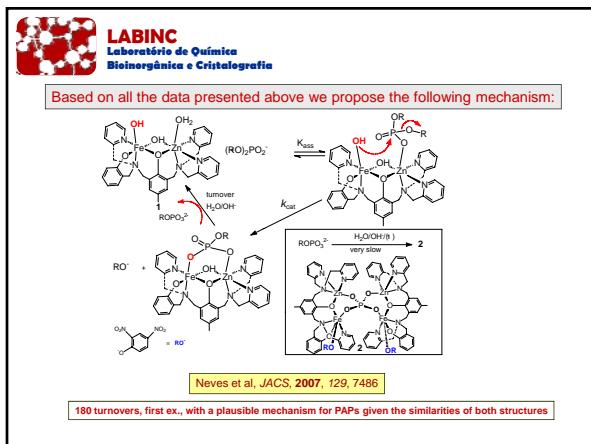
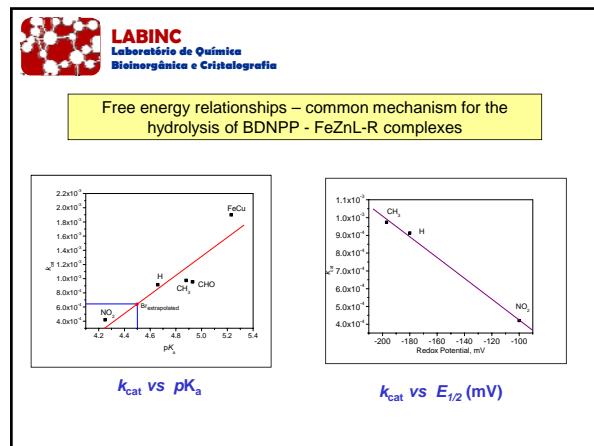
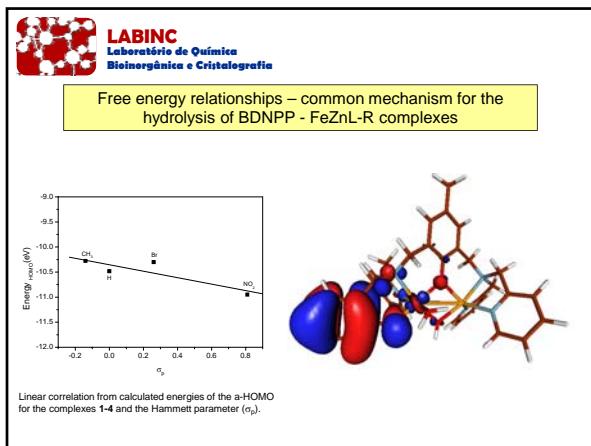
**186 turnovers in 24 h;  
 [FeZnL-H] = 5x10<sup>-4</sup> M**

Complex	K <sub>ass</sub> (L·mol <sup>-1</sup> )	K <sub>cat</sub> (mol·L <sup>-1</sup> )	k <sub>cat</sub> (s <sup>-1</sup> )	k <sub>cat</sub> /K <sub>ass</sub>
FeZnL-H pK = 4.66	238	4.20 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	9.13 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	4830
FeCuL-H pK = 5.23	117	8.52 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	19.0 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	10100

**V<sub>0</sub> = V<sub>max</sub> [S]/(K<sub>m</sub> + [S])**

**1/V<sub>0</sub> = K<sub>m</sub>/V<sub>max</sub>[S] + 1/V<sub>max</sub>**





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Dependence of the DNA Cleavage on [FeCuL-H]

Under pseudo-Michaelis-Menten conditions the following parameters were obtained:  $k_{cat} = 0.98 \text{ h}^{-1}$ ;  $t_{1/2} = 42 \text{ min}$ ;  $K_m = 3.9 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$ , Providing a rate enhancement of  $2.7 \times 10^7$  over the uncatalyzed reaction thus being one of the most active described to date.

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Cytotoxicity Studies on cancer Cells

$\text{Fe}(\mu\text{-OH})\text{Zn}^+$

Complex	$\text{IC}_{50} (\mu\text{M})$ $\text{K562}$
1 - $\text{CH}_3$	$5.73 \pm 0.6$
2 - H	$6.2 \pm 0.5$
3 - Br	$21.9 \pm 2.0$
4 - $\text{NO}_2$	$47.9 \pm 4.0$

It is worth noting that cytotoxic activity increases in the same order as the hydrolysis of 2,4-dnpp and DNA.

A. Neves, et al. *J. Biol. Inorg. Chem.* 2009 submitted.

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Innovation - New Projects Underway in the Group

Development of new bioinorganic-materials with chitosan as drug-delivery systems

Non-toxic natural material

Complex already synthesized and fully characterized

Heterogeneous Catalysis

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Heterogeneous Catalysis

Piovezan and Neves,  
Manuscript in Preparation

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Complex	$V_0$ (mol.L.s <sup>-1</sup> )	$K_M$ (mol/L)	$K_{cat}$ (s <sup>-1</sup> )	$*K_{cat}$ (L/mol)	$\eta E$ (L.s/mol)	F ( $K_{cat}/k_{uncat}$ )	Turn over (1h)
Ni3bpaamf	$5.37 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.57 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.4 \times 10^{-2}$	<b>637</b>	34.2	298.300	<b>33.4</b>
Si3AP-NiNi	$9.20 \times 10^{-7}$	$7.30 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.5 \times 10^{-2}$	<b>1370</b>	48.2	195.500	<b>78.5</b>
Si3APTS-NiNi	$3.40 \times 10^{-7}$	$6.9 \times 10^{-4}$	$4.6 \times 10^{-2}$	<b>1450</b>	66	255.500	<b>32.7</b>
Simag-NiNi	$4.19 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.21 \times 10^{-3}$	$3.5 \times 10^{-2}$	<b>826</b>	29	196.650	<b>23</b>

\*  $K_{cat} = 1/k_{uncat}$ .  $\eta E = K_{cat}/K_M$  (catalytic efficiency).

at pH 9.0  
Si3AP – silica 3-aminopropyl  
Si3APTS – silica 3-aminopropyl triethoxsilane  
Simag – magnetic particule recovered with silica

Piovezan and Neves,  
Manuscript in Preparation

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Suitable for Catalysis as chemical Nuclease or catecholase

The second coordination sphere becomes much more important

Intercalates with DNA and shows Fluorescent properties

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**Very recent results**

Preliminary results reveal that the Cu<sup>II</sup>/Cu<sup>I</sup> complex of Lta catalyses the oxidation of 3,5-di-tert-butylcatechol with high efficiency and formation of H<sub>2</sub>O as observed in the enzyme catechol oxidase. The complex also catalyses the hydrolysis of DNA and proteins (BSA). Catalytic promiscuity and possibility to solve the mechanism of catechol oxidase.

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**Facilities available in our Labs in Collaboration with other Groups**

- 1) **X-ray structure determinations.** (UFSC - Florianópolis/Brazil – Profs. Ademir Neves & Adailton Bortoluzzi - New CCD available up from 2010).
- 2) **EXAFS – structure in solution.** (Australia – Prof. Dr. G. Schenck).
- 3) **Magnetic susceptibility and MCD** in the solid state and in solution between 4.2 e 350 K (Germany– Prof. Dr. W. Haase).
- 4) **HFEPR** measurements. (USA – Prof. Dr. Joshua Telser ).
- 5) **DNA and protein interactions.** ( UFSC - Florianópolis/Brazil – Profs. Hernan Terenzi & Ademir Neves).
- 6) **Cytotoxic Activity.** (UFMG – Prof. Dr. Elene Pereira Maia).

