

## Lipid Biosynthesis/ UG Sem3 #HONS/SDG

Lipids play a variety of cellular roles, some only recently recognized.

They are the principal form of stored energy in most organisms and major constituents of cellular membranes.

Specialized lipids serve as pigments (retinal, carotene), cofactors (vitamin K), detergents (bile salts), transporters (dolichols), hormones

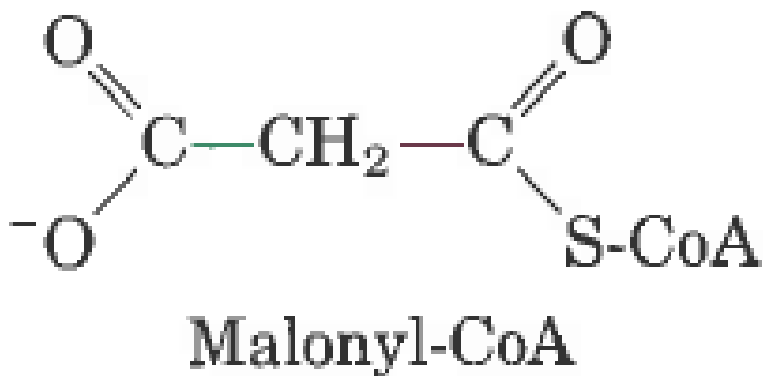
(vitamin D derivatives, sex hormones), extracellular and intracellular messengers (eicosanoids, phosphatidylinositol

derivatives), and anchors for membrane proteins (covalently attached fatty acids, prenyl groups, and phosphatidylinositol).

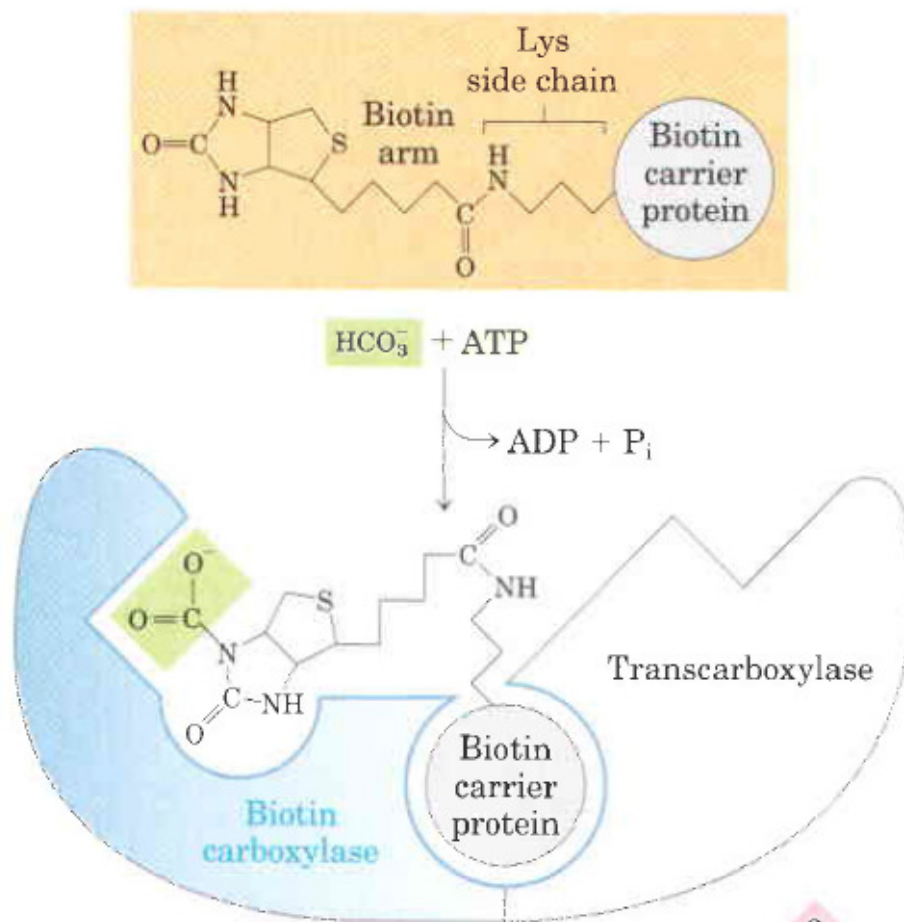
The ability to synthesize a variety of lipids is essential to all organisms.

Lipid biosynthesis requires the participation of a three carbon

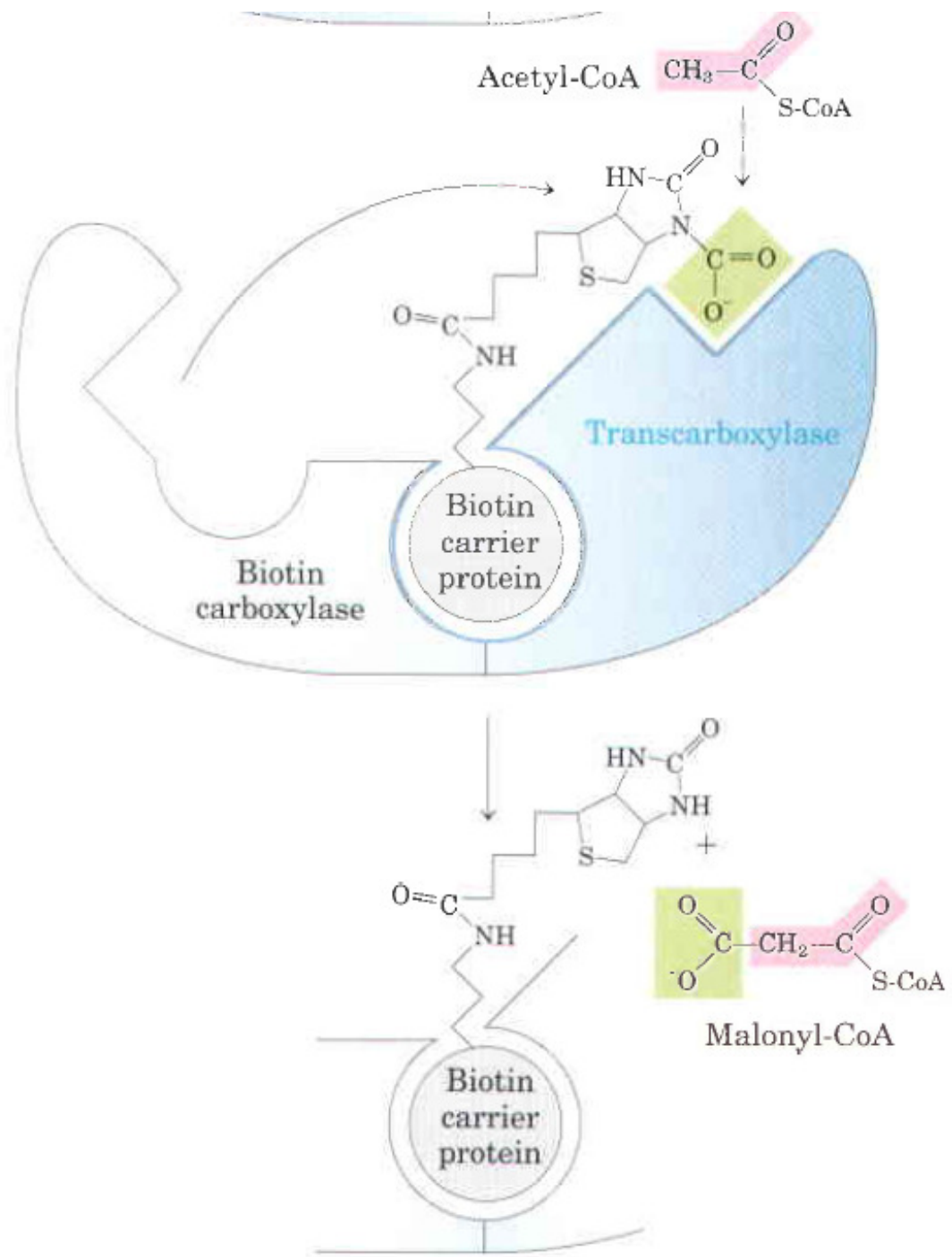
intermediate, **Malonyl-CoA**



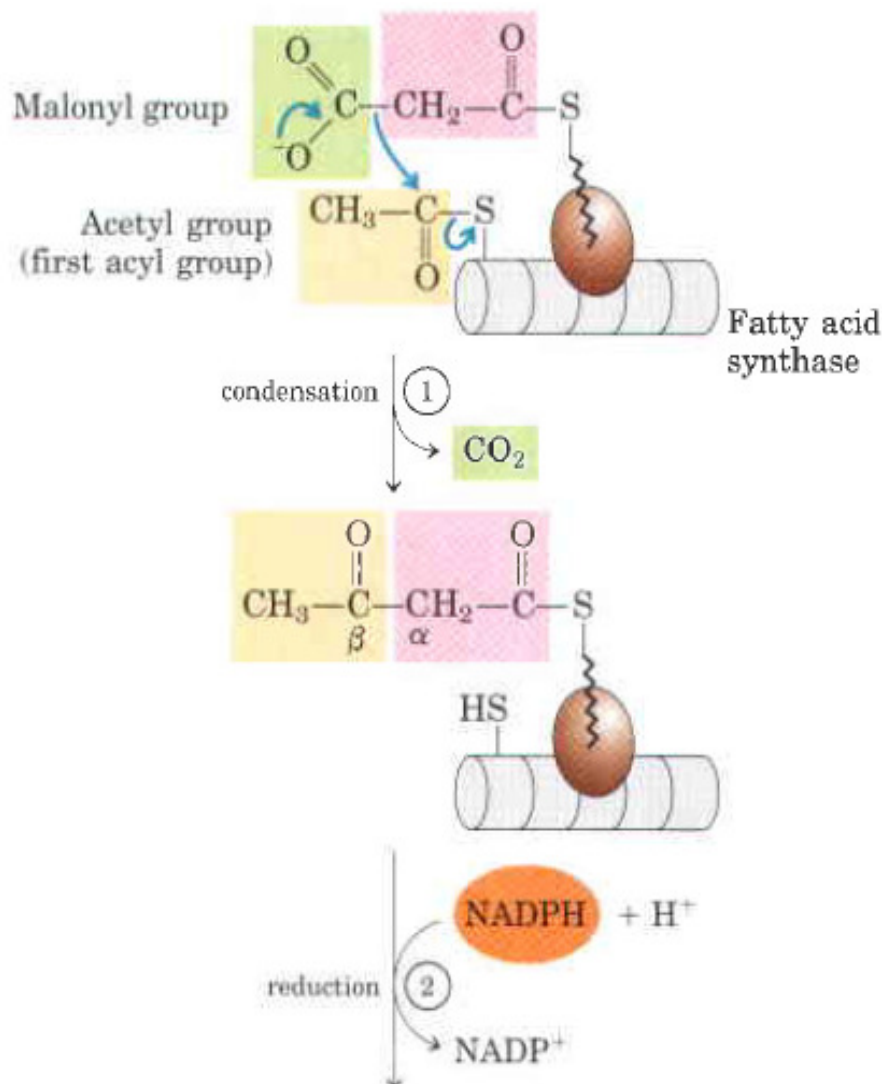
## Malonyl-CoA Is Formed from Acetyl-CoA and Bicarbonate

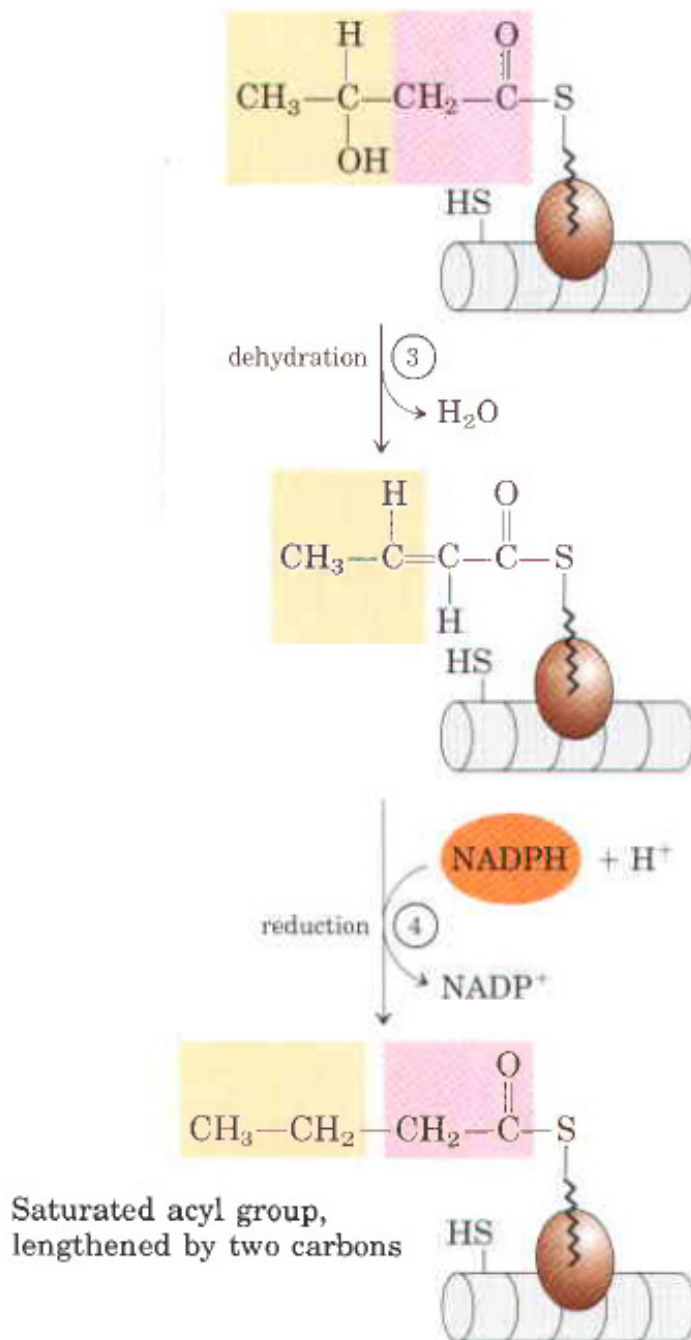


**FIGURE 21-1** The acetyl-CoA carboxylase reaction. Acetyl-CoA carboxylase has three functional regions: biotin carrier protein (gray); biotin carboxylase, which activates CO<sub>2</sub> by attaching it to a nitrogen in the biotin ring in an ATP-dependent reaction (see Fig. 16-16); and transcarboxylase, which transfers activated CO<sub>2</sub> (shaded green) from biotin to acetyl-CoA, producing malonyl-CoA. The long, flexible biotin arm carries the activated CO<sub>2</sub> from the biotin carboxylase region to the transcarboxylase active site. The active enzyme in each step is shaded blue.

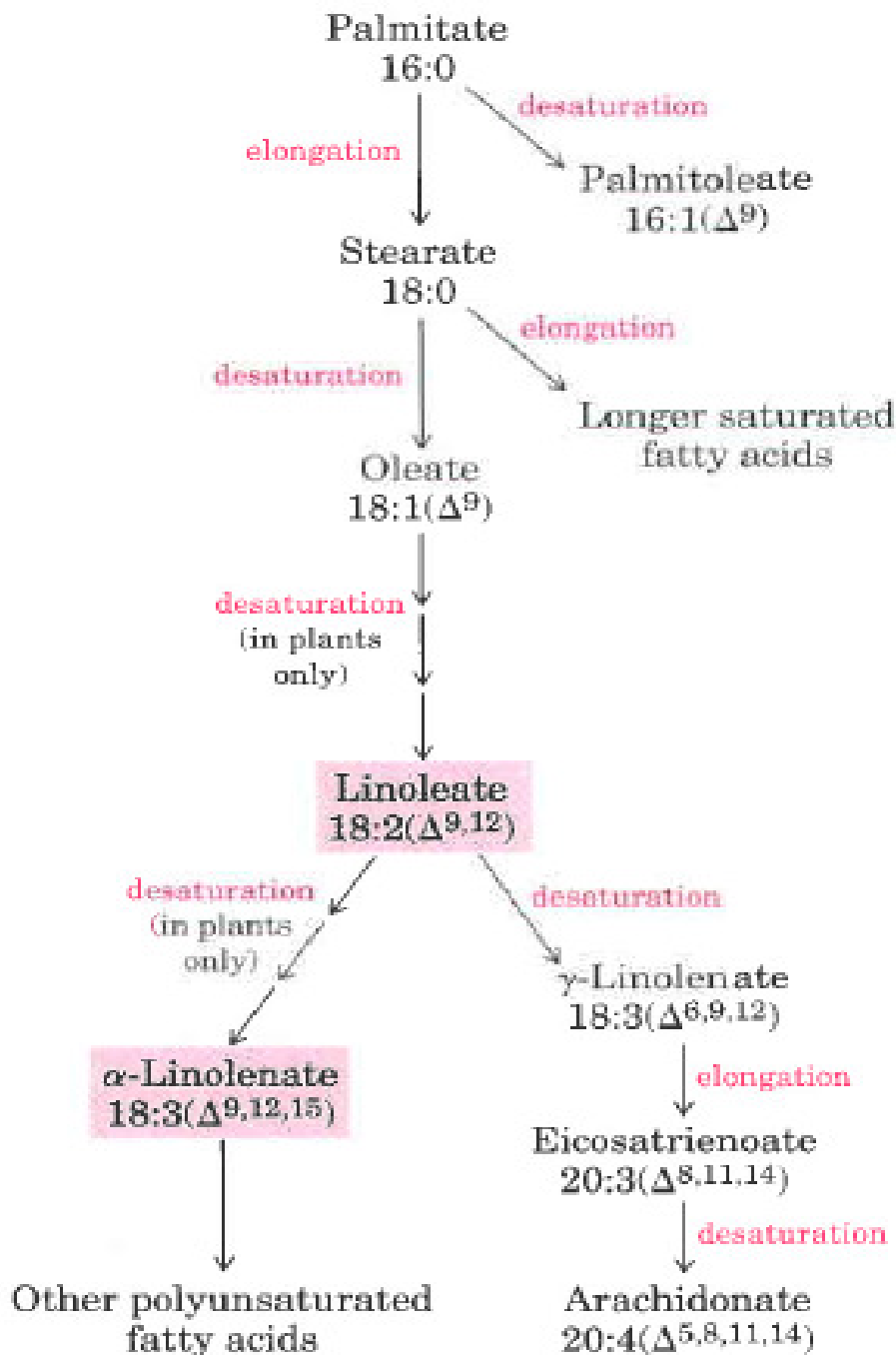


**FIGURE 21–2 Addition of two carbons to a growing fatty acyl chain: a four-step sequence.** Each malonyl group and acetyl (or longer acyl) group is activated by a thioester that links it to fatty acid synthase, a multienzyme system described later in the text. ① Condensation of an activated acyl group (an acetyl group from acetyl-CoA is the first acyl group) and two carbons derived from malonyl-CoA, with elimination of  $\text{CO}_2$  from the malonyl group, extends the acyl chain by two carbons. The mechanism of the first step of this reaction is given to illustrate the role of decarboxylation in facilitating condensation. The  $\beta$ -keto product of this condensation is then reduced in three more steps nearly identical to the reactions of  $\beta$  oxidation, but in the reverse sequence: ② the  $\beta$ -keto group is reduced to an alcohol, ③ elimination of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  creates a double bond, and ④ the double bond is reduced to form the corresponding saturated fatty acyl group.





**FIGURE 21-12** Routes of synthesis of other fatty acids. Palmitate is the precursor of stearate and longer-chain saturated fatty acids, as well as the monounsaturated acids palmitoleate and oleate. Mammals cannot convert oleate to linoleate or  $\alpha$ -linolenate (shaded pink), which are therefore required in the diet as essential fatty acids. Conversion of linoleate to other polyunsaturated fatty acids and eicosanoids is outlined. Unsaturated fatty acids are symbolized by indicating the number of carbons and the number and position of the double bonds, as in Table 10-1.

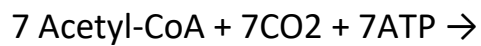


Seven cycles of condensation and reduction produce the 16-carbon saturated palmitoyl group, still bound to ACP.

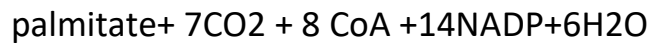
For reasons not well understood, chain elongation by the synthase complex generally stops at this point and free palmitate is released from the ACP by a hydrolytic activity in the complex. Small amounts of longer fatty acids such as stearate (18:0) are also formed. In certain plants (coconut and palm, for example) chain termination occurs earlier; up to 90% of the fatty acids in the oils of these plants are between 8 and 14 carbons long.

We can consider the overall reaction for the synthesis of palmitate from acetyl-CoA. First,

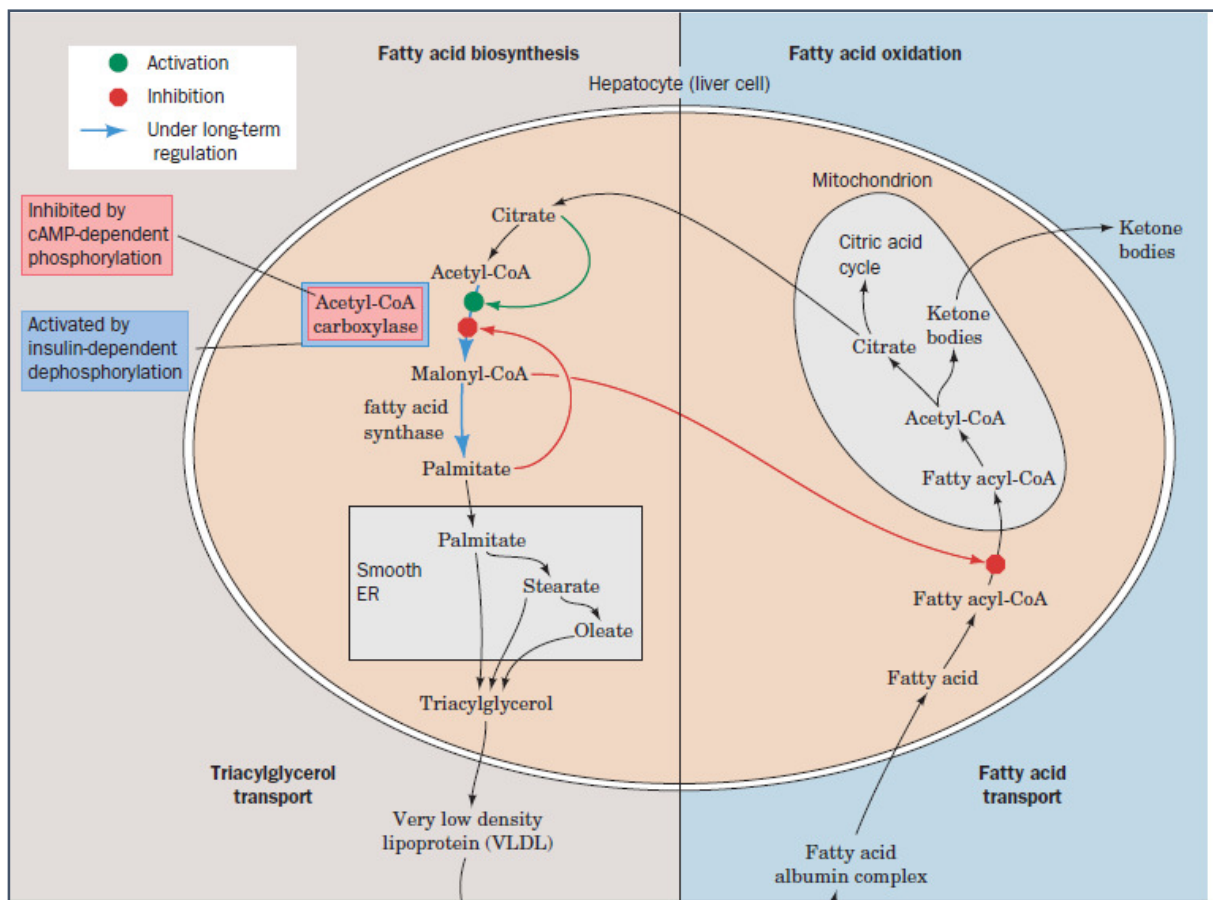
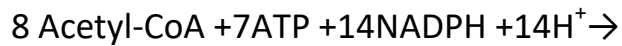
the formation of seven malonyl-CoA molecules:



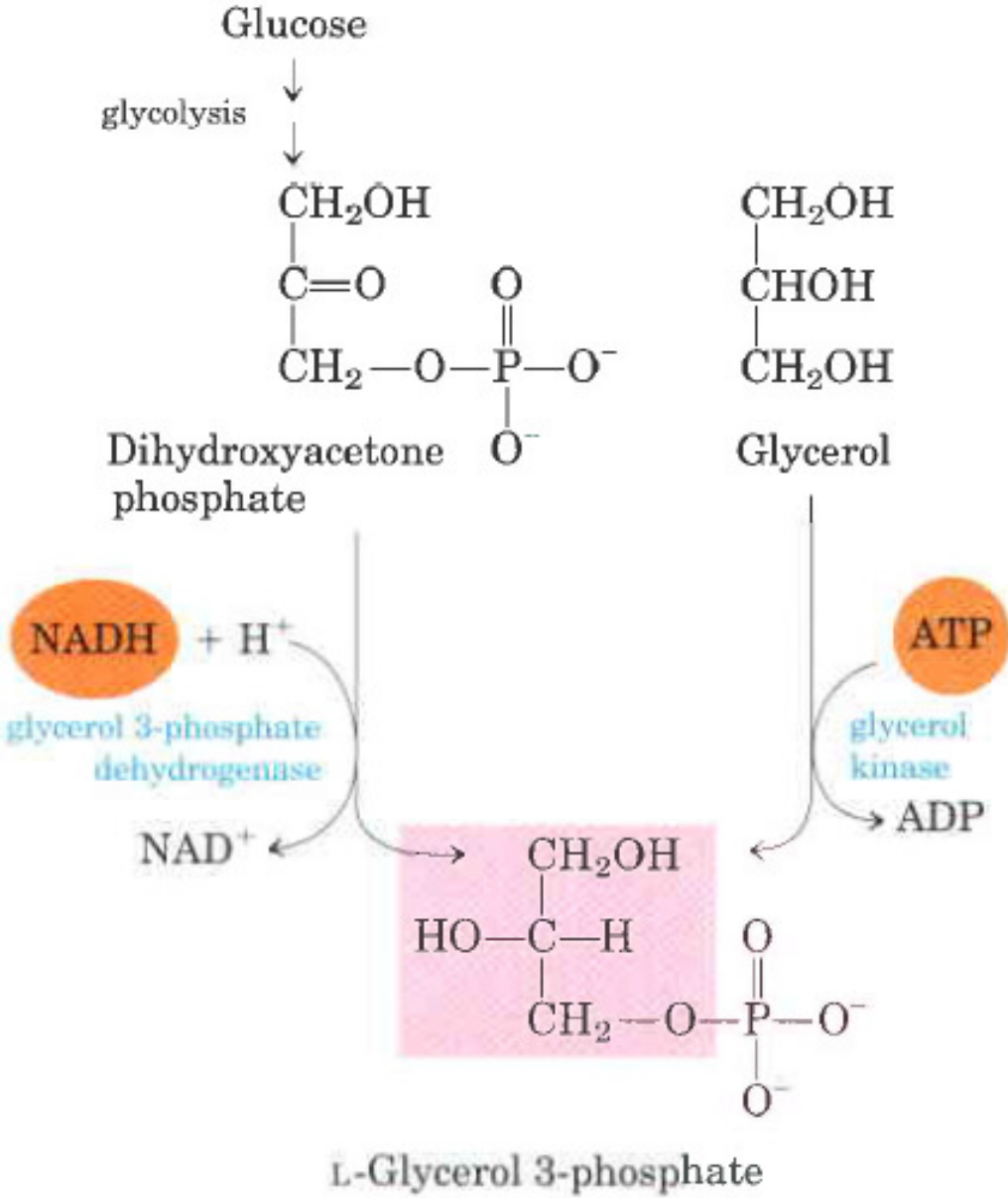
Then seven cycles of condensation and reduction:



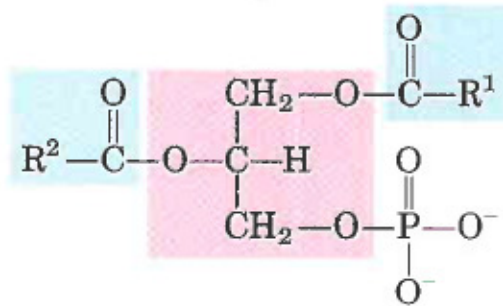
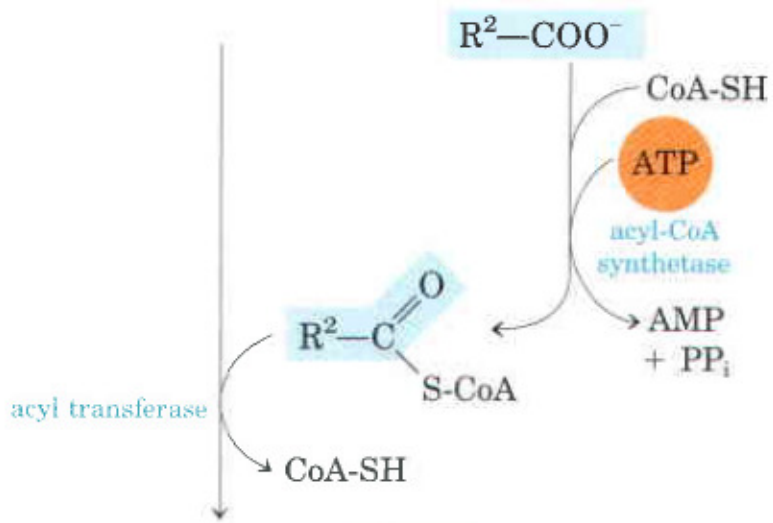
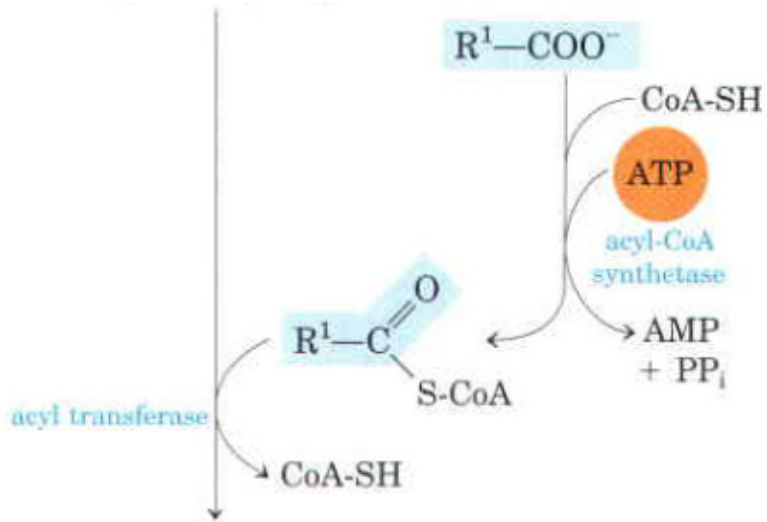
The overall process is



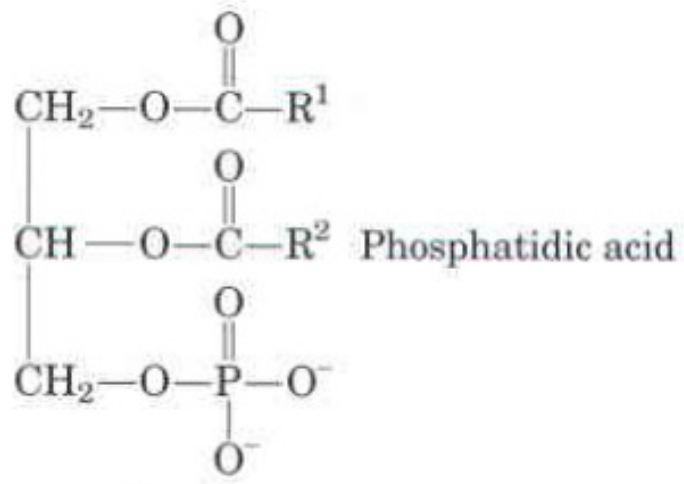
# Biosynthesis of Triacylglycerols







Phosphatidic acid



phosphatidic acid phosphatase

attachment of head group  
(serine, choline, ethanolamine, etc.)

