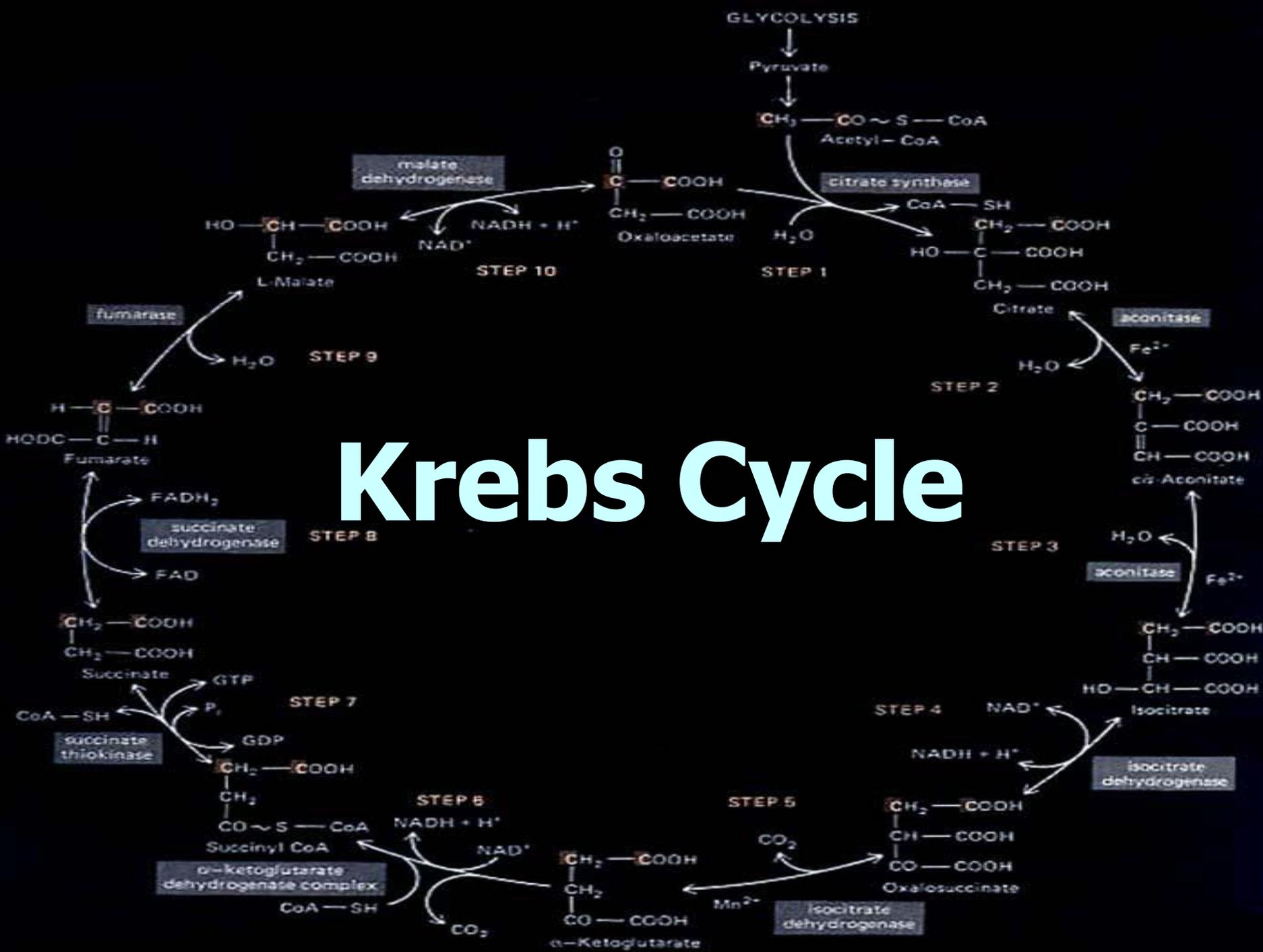


# Krebs Cycle

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# Krebs Cycle



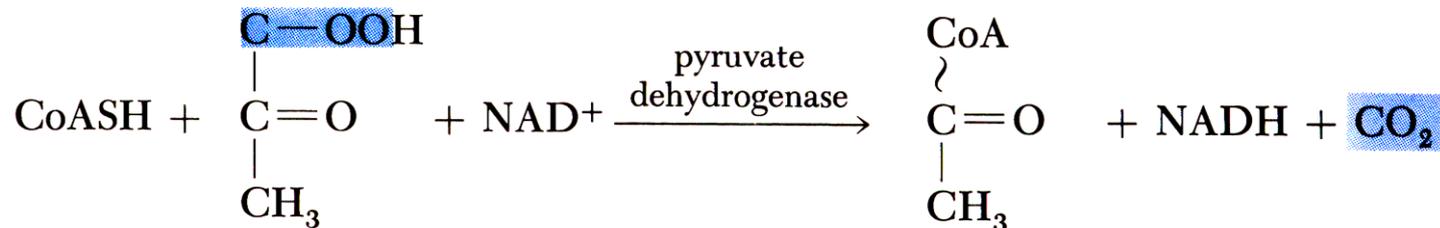
# Krebs Cycle (KC)

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- Also known as TCA cycle, or citric acid cycle
- Reactions of KC occur in mitochondrial matrix
- Common final degradative pathway for breakdown of monomers of CHO, fat and protein to  $\text{CO}_2$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ 
  - Electrons removed from acetyl groups and attached to  $\text{NAD}^+$  and FAD
  - Small amount of ATP produced from substrate level phosphorylation
- KC also provides intermediates for anabolic functions (eg gluconeogenesis)

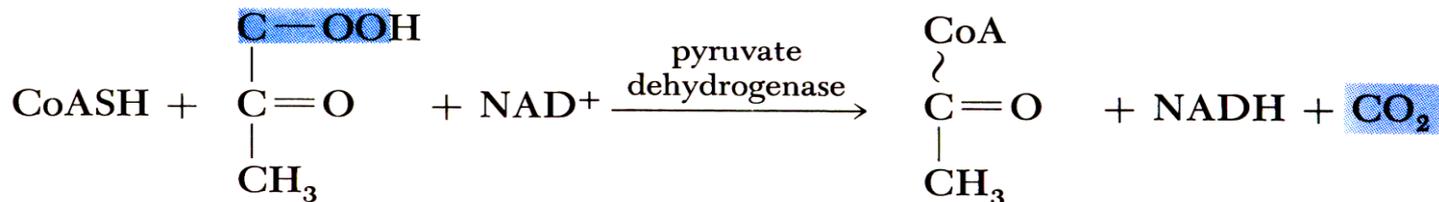
# Pyruvate → Acetyl CoA

- Pyruvate produced in cytosol and transported into mitochondria
- Cannot directly enter KC
  - First converted to acetyl CoA by pyruvate dehydrogenase complex



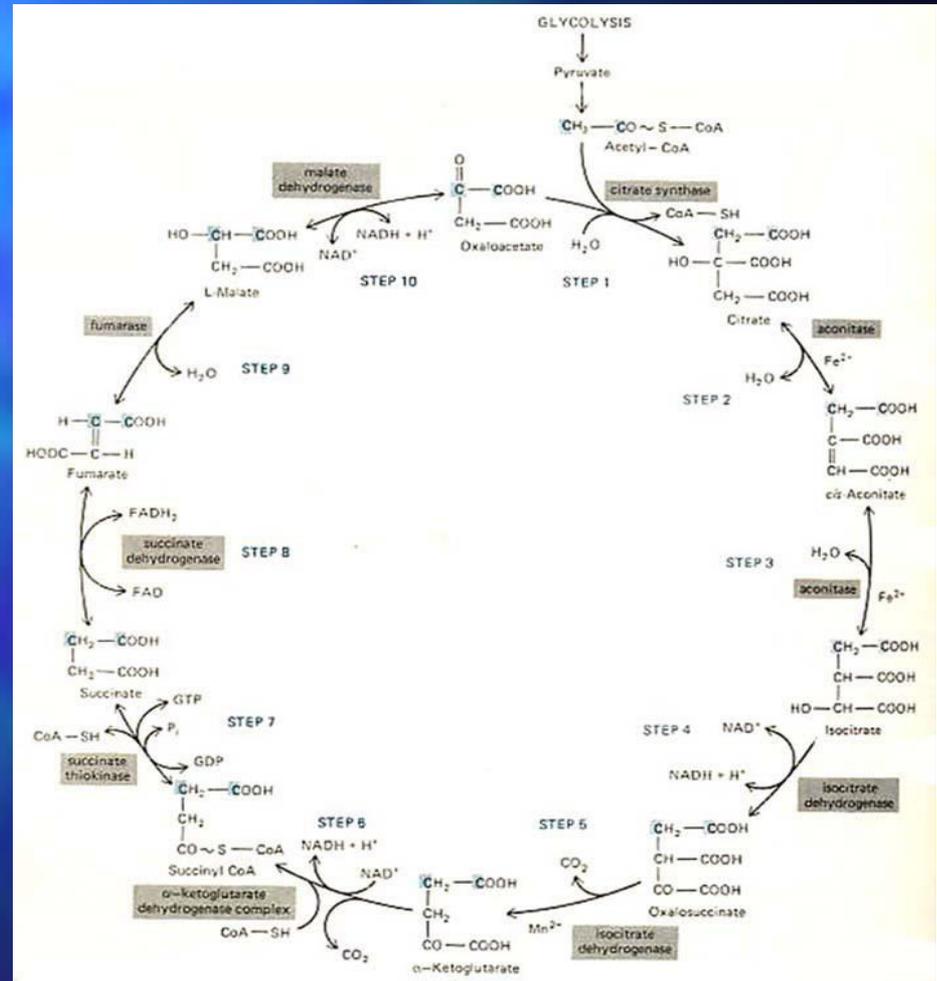
# Regulation of Pyruvate → Acetyl CoA

- PDH reaction regulated to spare pyruvate from being irreversibly lost
  - Glucose important for brain and once converted to Acetyl CoA cannot be used for glucose synthesis
- PDH regulated by phosphorylation and allosteric control
  - Dephosphorylation activates PDH
    - Phosphatase enzyme activated by high  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$
  - Phosphorylation inactivates PDH
    - Kinase activated by acetyl CoA and NADH
  - PDH allosterically inhibited by:
    - ATP
    - Acetyl CoA
    - NADH



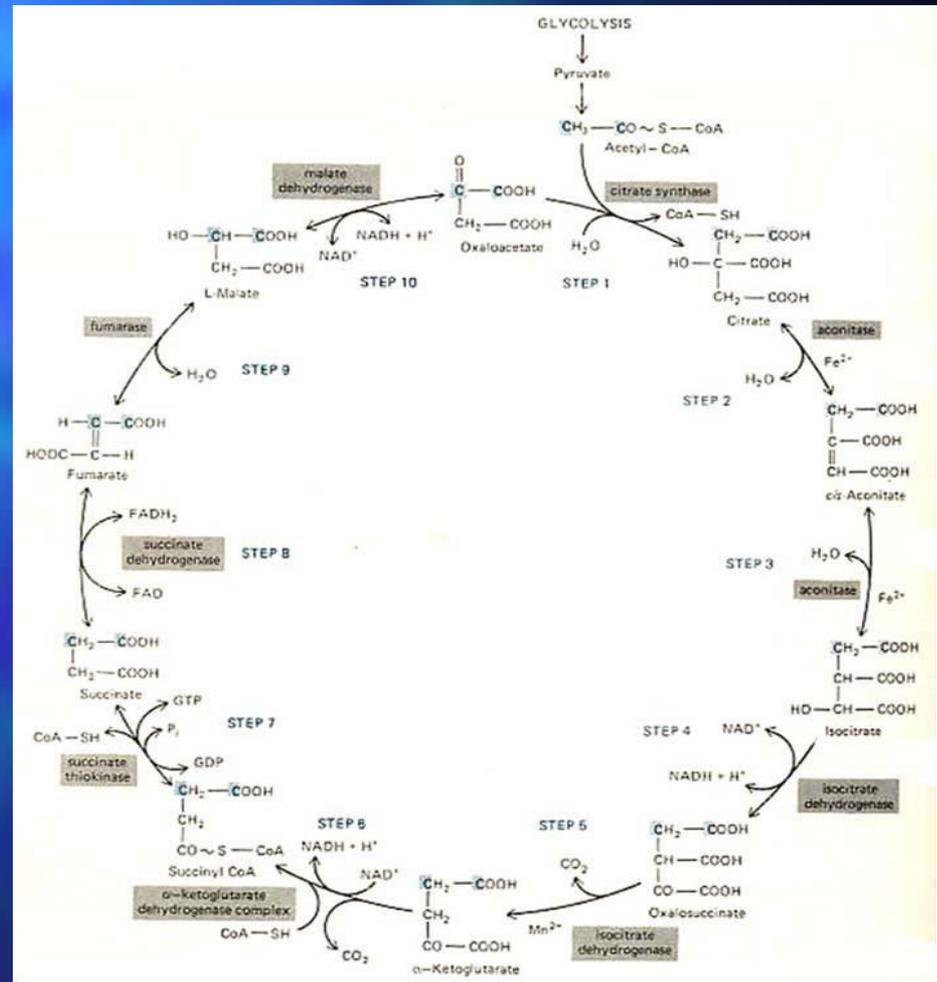
# Formation of citrate

- Oxaloacetate condenses with acetyl CoA to form Citrate
- **Non-equilibrium reaction** catalysed by citrate synthase
  - Inhibited by:
    - ATP
    - NADH
    - Citrate - competitive inhibitor of oxaloacetate



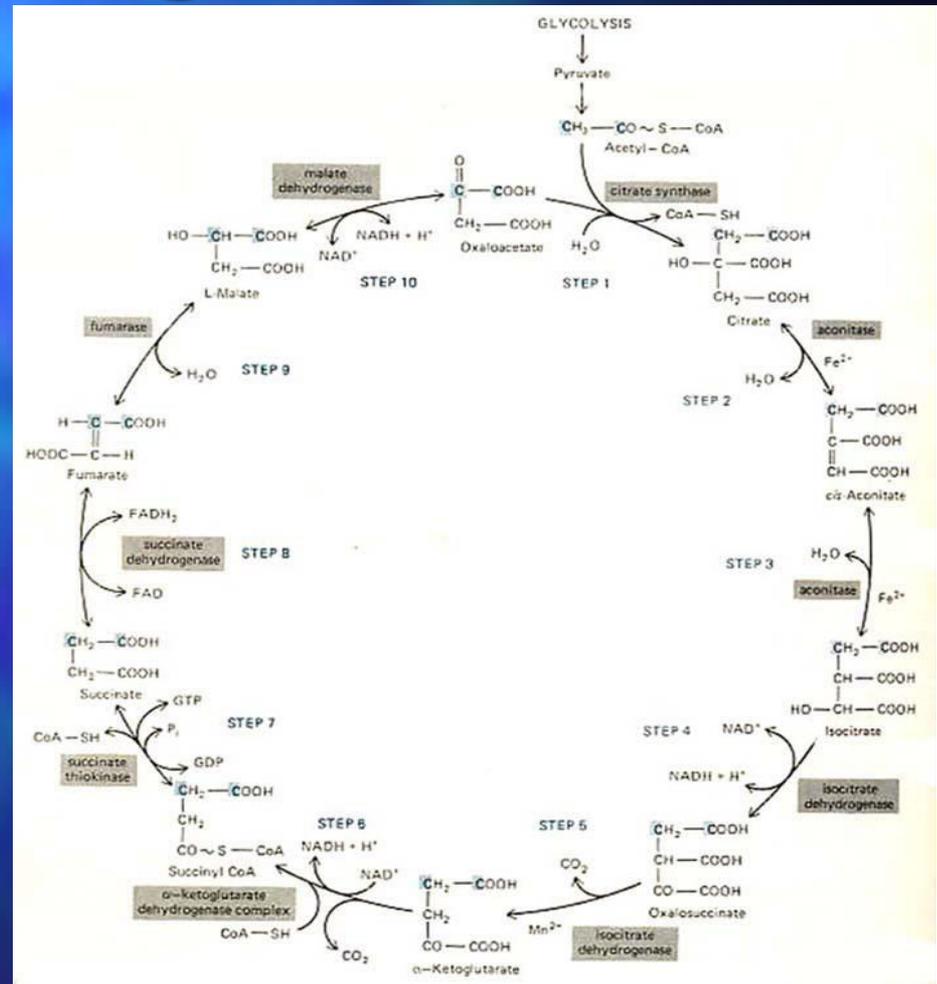
# Citrate ↔ isocitrate

- Citrate isomerised to isocitrate in two reactions (dehydration and hydration)
- Equilibrium reactions catalysed by aconitase
- Results in interchange of H and OH
  - Changes structure and energy distribution within molecule
  - Makes easier for next enzyme to remove hydrogen



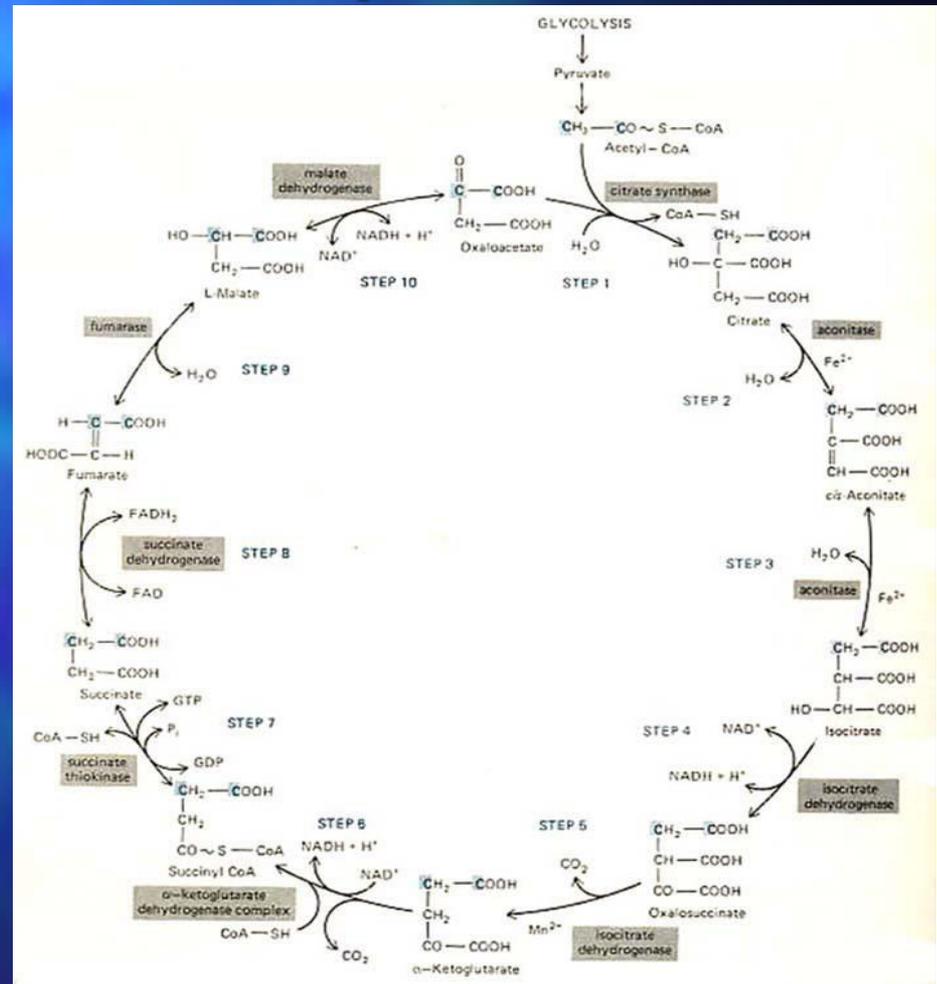
# isocitrate $\rightarrow$ $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate

- Isocitrate dehydrogenated and decarboxylated to give  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate
- **Non-equilibrium** reactions catalysed by isocitrate dehydrogenase
- Results in formation of:
  - $\text{NADH} + \text{H}^+$
  - $\text{CO}_2$
- Stimulated (cooperative) by isocitrate,  $\text{NAD}^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{ADP}$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (links with contraction)
- Inhibited by  $\text{NADH}$  and  $\text{ATP}$



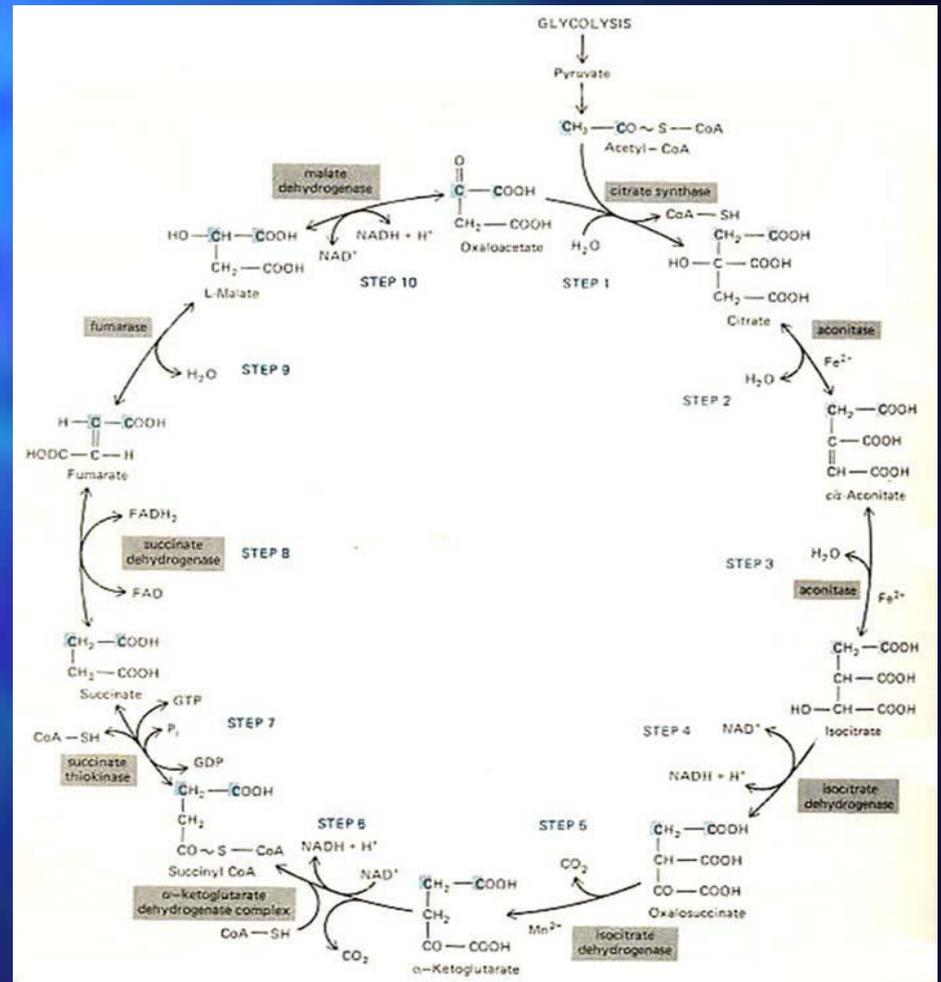
# $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate $\rightarrow$ succinyl CoA

- Series of reactions result in decarboxylation, dehydrogenation and incorporation of CoASH
- Non-equilibrium** reactions catalysed by  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate dehydrogenase complex
- Results in formation of:
  - $\text{CO}_2$
  - $\text{NADH} + \text{H}^+$
  - High energy bond
- Stimulated by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$
- Inhibited by  $\text{NADH}$ ,  $\text{ATP}$ , Succinyl CoA (prevents CoA being tied up in matrix)



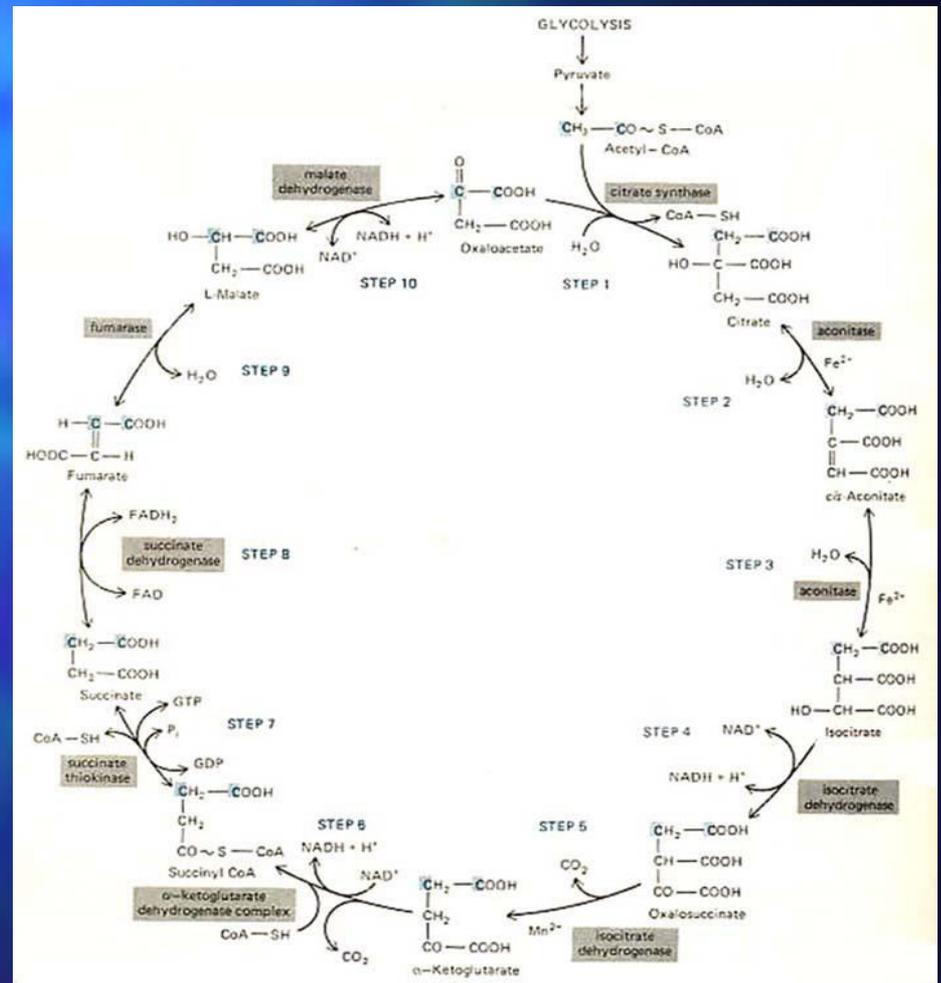
# Succinyl CoA $\leftrightarrow$ succinate

- Equilibrium reaction catalysed by succinate thiokinase
- Results in formation of:
  - GTP
  - CoA-SH



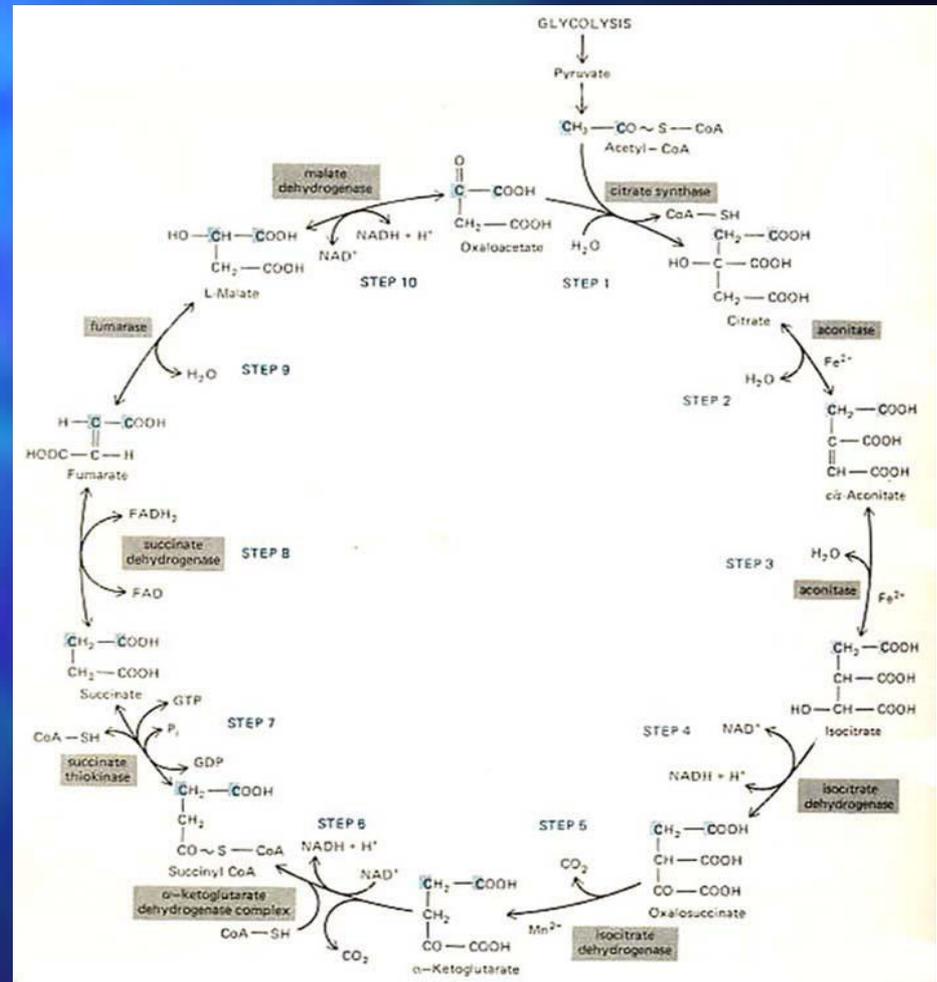
# Succinate ↔ fumarate

- Succinate dehydrogenated to form fumarate
- Equilibrium reaction catalysed by succinate dehydrogenase
  - Only Krebs enzyme contained within inner mitochondrial membrane
- Results in formation of  $FADH_2$



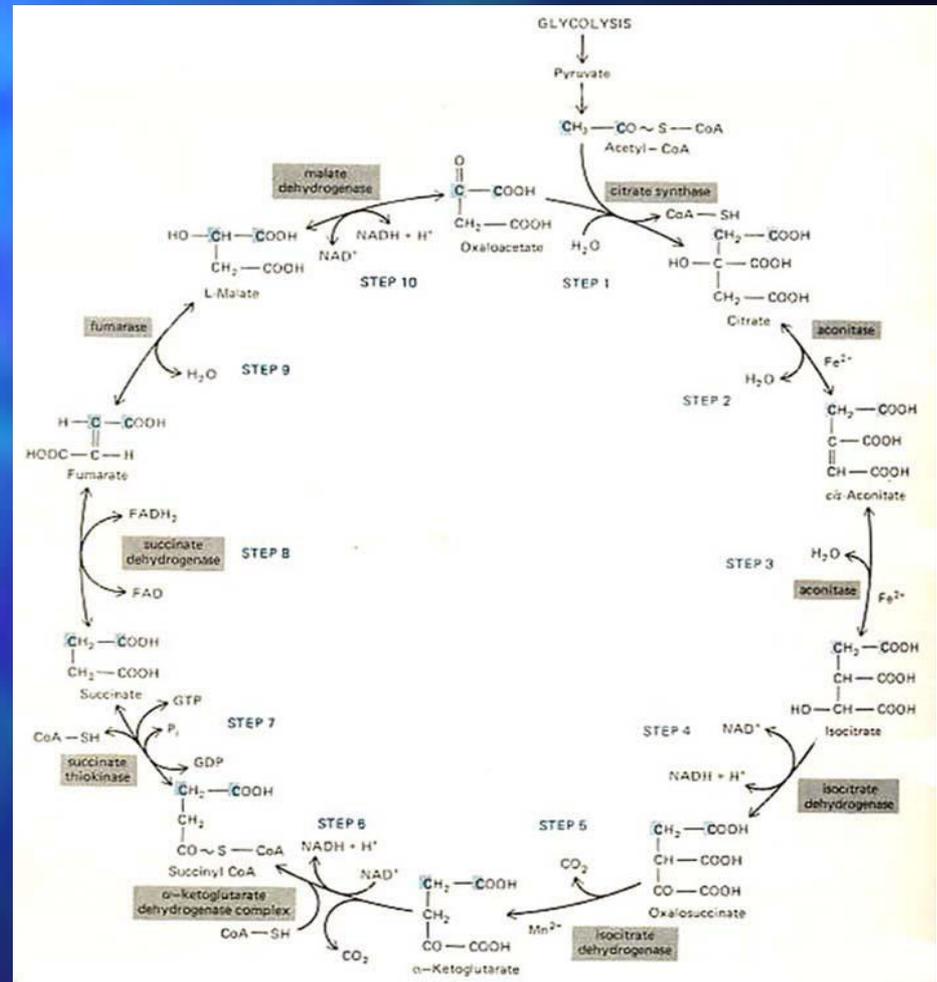
# Fumarate ↔ malate

- Fumarate hydrated to form malate
- Equilibrium reaction catalysed by fumarase
- Results in redistribution of energy within molecule so next step can remove hydrogen



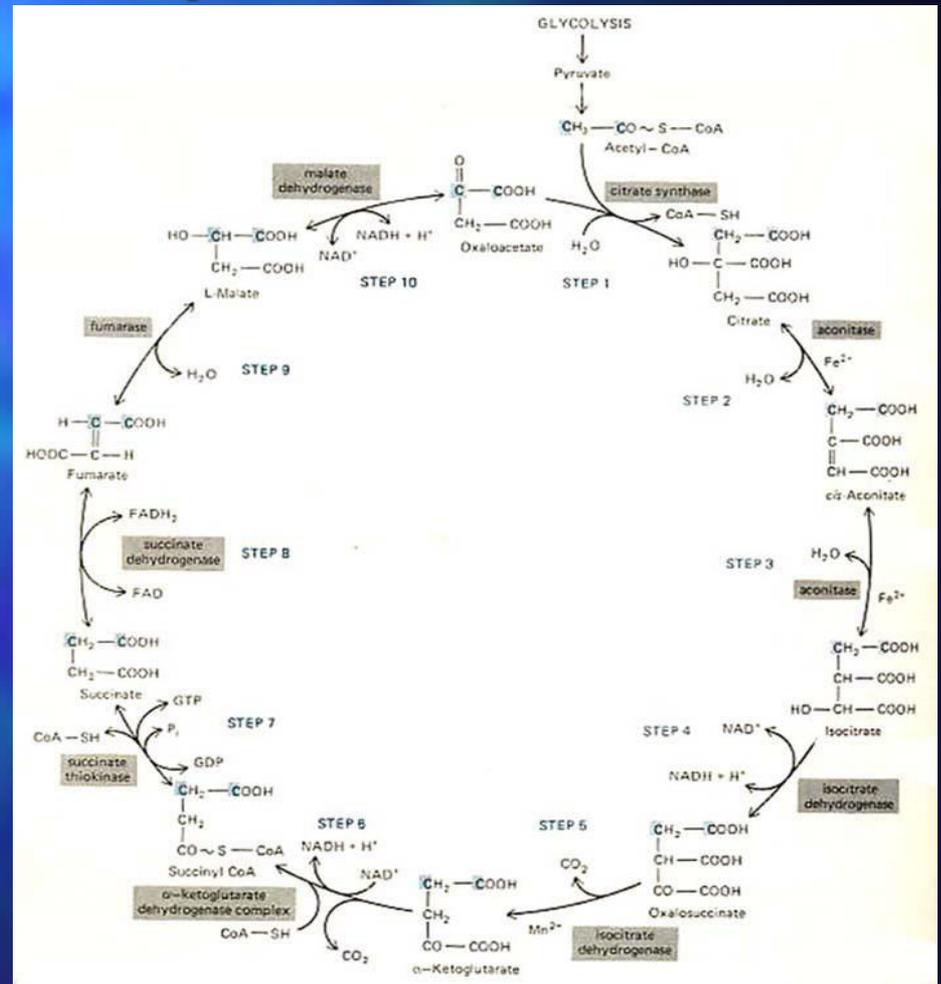
# Malate $\leftrightarrow$ oxaloacetate

- Malate dehydrogenated to form oxaloacetate
- Equilibrium reaction catalysed by malate dehydrogenase
- Results in formation of  $\text{NADH} + \text{H}^+$



# Regulation of Krebs Cycle

- Cycle always proceeds in same direction due to presence of 3 non-equilibrium reactions catalysed by
  - Citrate synthase
  - Isocitrate dehydrogenase
  - $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate dehydrogenase



# Regulation of Krebs Cycle

- Flux through KC increases during exercise
- 3 non-equilibrium enzymes inhibited by NADH
  - KC tightly coupled to ETC
    - If NADH decreases due to increased oxidation in ETC flux through KC increases
- Isocitrate dehydrogenase and  $\alpha$ -ketoglutarate dehydrogenase also stimulated by  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ 
  - Flux increases as contractile activity increases

