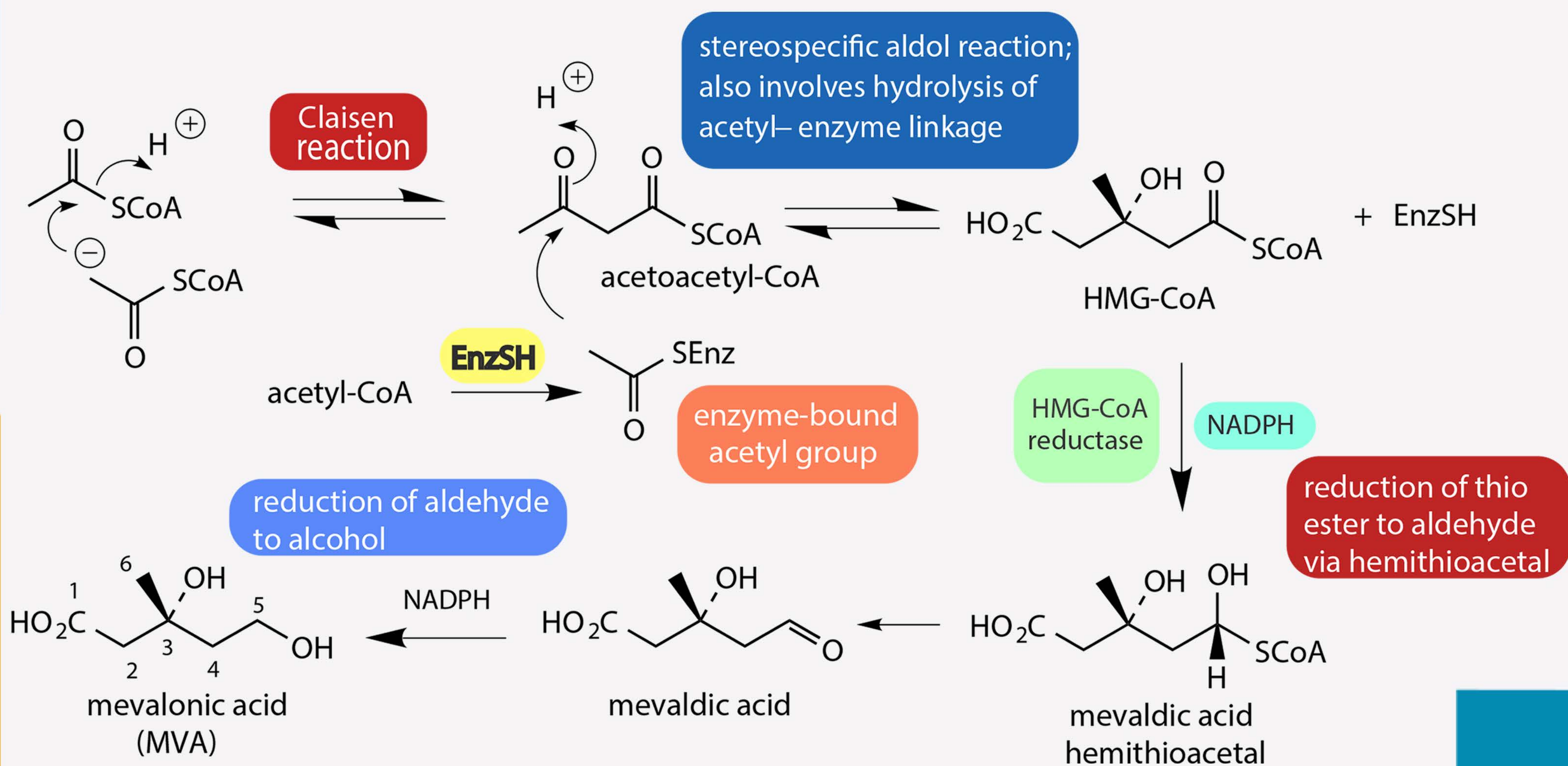


THE MEVALONATE PATHWAYS

" Mevalonic acid formation "

The mevalonate pathway was discovered in the 1950's,
The mevalonate pathway was long believed to be the only mechanism to prepare isoprene.

Mevalonic acid, itself - a product of acetate metabolism- , had been established as a precursor of the animal sterol cholesterol



- Two molecules of acetyl-coenzyme A combine initially in a Claisen condensation to give acetoacetyl-CoA then a third molecule is incorporated via a stereospecific aldol addition giving branched-chain ester (HMG-CoA).
- Acetoacetyl-CoA is the more acidic substrate, and might be expected to act as the nucleophile rather than the third acetyl-CoA molecule. The enzyme thus achieves what is a less favourable reaction. The conversion of HMGCoA into (3R)-MVA involves a two-step reduction of the thioester group to a primary alcohol, and provides an essentially irreversible and rate-limiting transformation.

Reference: Dewick, P. M. (2002). Medicinal natural products: a biosynthetic approach. John Wiley & Sons.

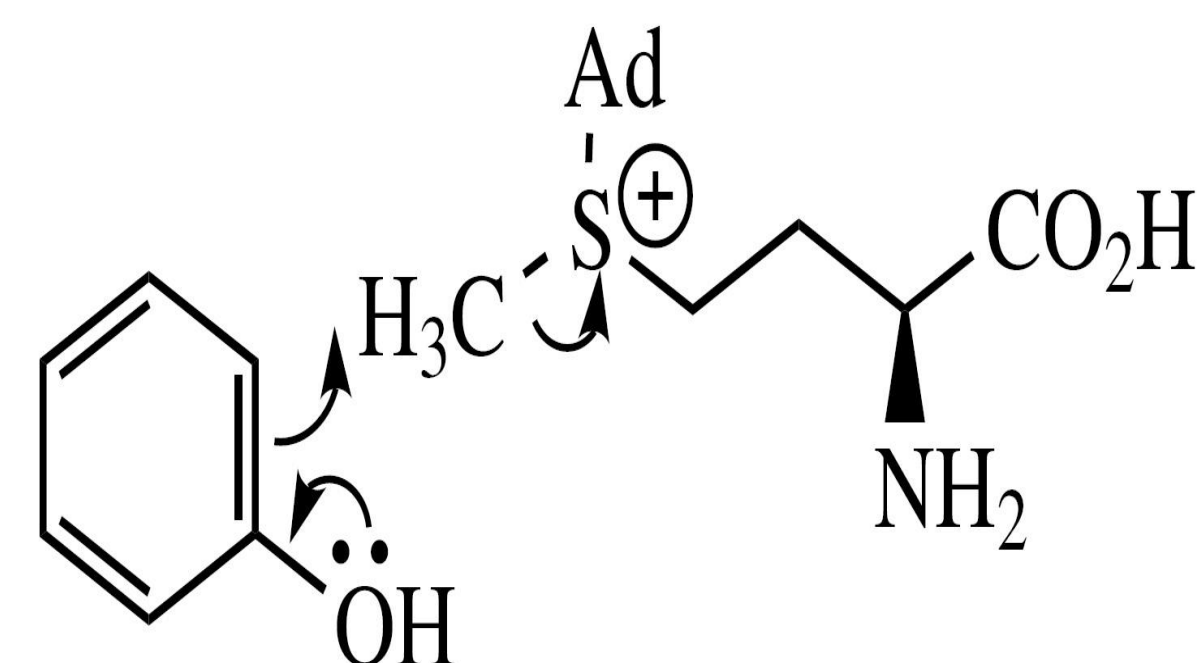
Reference: Dewick, P. M. (2002). Medicinal natural products: a biosynthetic approach. John Wiley & Sons.

Alkylation reactions

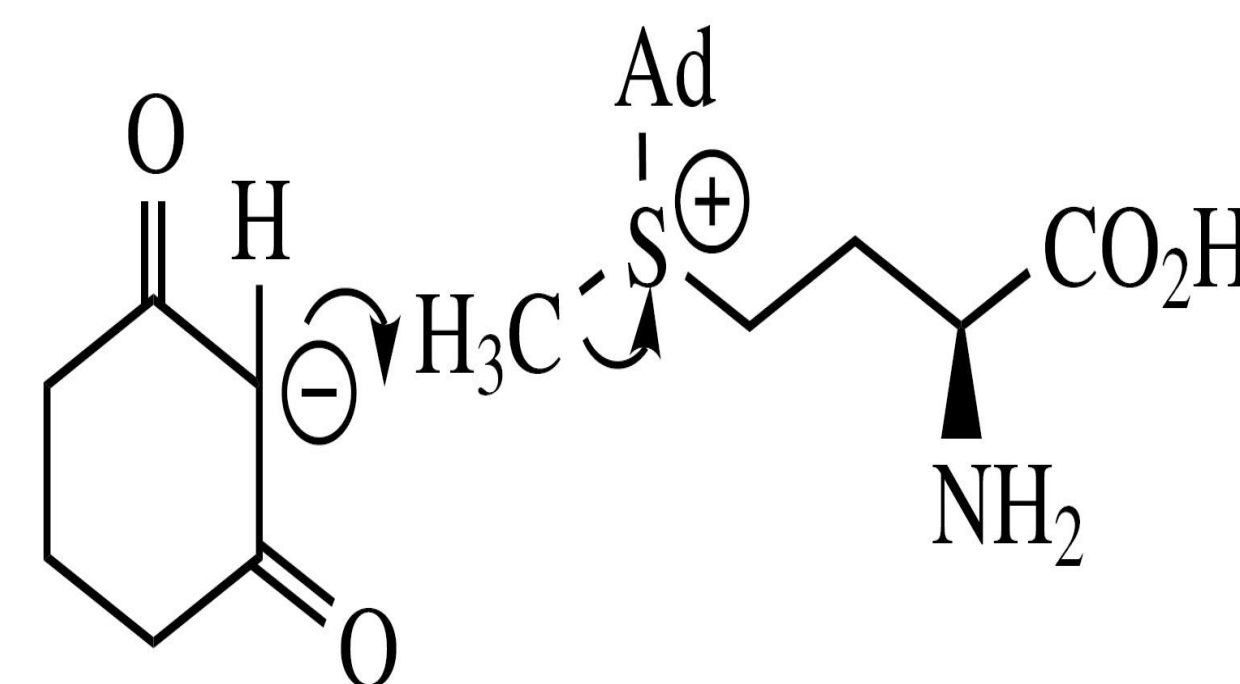
Nucleophilic Substitution

(A) C-alkylation using SAM:

ortho (and para) positions are activated by OH

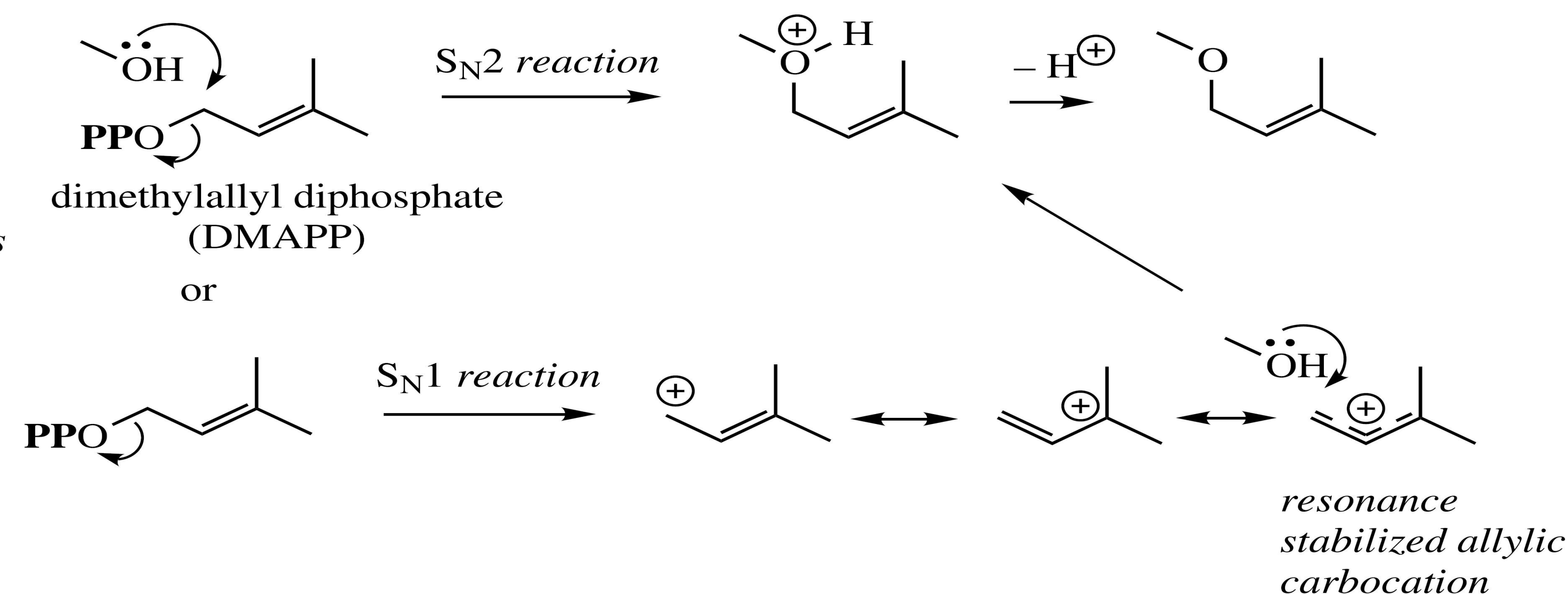


carbonyl groups increase acidity and allow formation of enolate anion



(B) O-alkylation using DMAPP:

diphosphate is good leaving group



1. O-methyl and N-methyl linkages may be obtained using hydroxyl and amino functions as nucleophiles
2. The generation of **C-methyl linkages** requires participation of nucleophilic carbon.
3. positions **ortho** or **para** to a phenol group, or positions adjacent to one or more carbonyl group, are thus candidates for **C-methylation**
4. **C5 isoprene unit** in the form of dimethylallyl diphosphate (**DMAPP**) may also act as an alkylating agent, and a similar **SN2** nucleophilic displacement can be proposed, the diphosphate making a good leaving group

Reference: Dewick, P. M. (2002). *Medicinal natural products: a biosynthetic approach*. John Wiley & Sons.

Prepared by: Mirna Shahier Shawky .

Under supervision of: Staff members of 4th Year, Pharmacognosy department.

Hybridization as a factor for drug activity variation

Introduction:

In plant breeding hybridization forms a possible means of combining in a single variety the desirable characters of two or more lines, varieties or species, and occasionally of producing new and desirable characters not found in either parent.

Several methods of breeding crops **by the use of sexual hybridization** are available in addition to intervarietal hybridization, interspecific hybridization in which hybrid vigour is also apparent.

Hybridization of Opium:

The inheritance of the opium alkaloids (morphine, codeine, thebaine, narcotine and papaverine) has been studied in the cross *Papaver somniferum* × *P. setigerum*.

A **heterotic increase** in codeine and thebaine was found in different **F1 plants**, and in the **F2 plants**, with the exception of codeine, some increase in alkaloid content was noted.

An absence of narcotine was generally dominant over its presence. A continuation of this work to the F8 generation resulted in a population that was completely diploid but which showed considerable diversity with regard to the opium contents of morphine, narcotine and papaverine. **The pattern of alkaloids was closer to that of *P. somniferum* than to that of *P. Setigerum* with morphine contents ranging from 8.0 to 30.0%.**

The authors envisaged That a suitable Breeding programme could result in opium with a higher level of morphine than that normally encountered.



References:

- Evans, William Charles. Trease and evans' pharmacognosy E-book. Elsevier Health Sciences, 2009.
- Khanna et al., Planta Med., 1986, p. 157.
- Shukla et al., Int. J. Pharmacognosy, 1995, 33, 228.

Prepared by: Kareem Rashad Adly

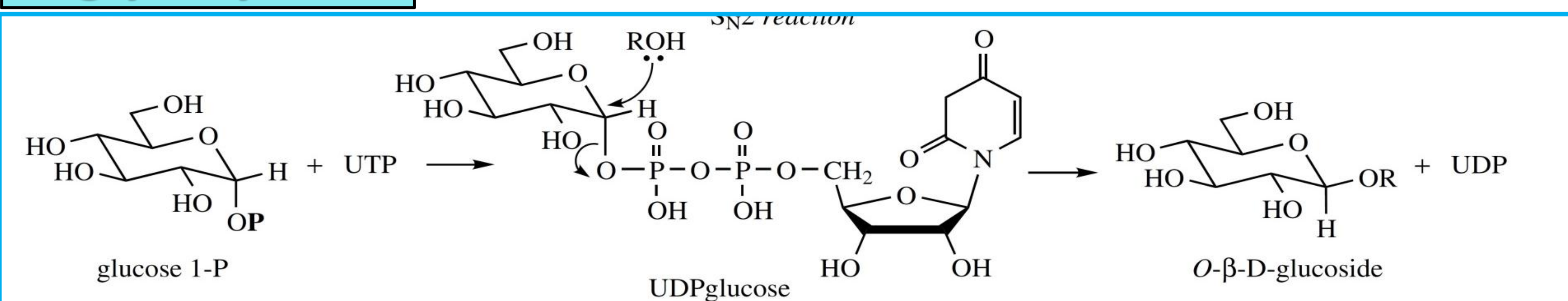
Under supervision of: Staff members of 4th Year, Pharmacognosy department.



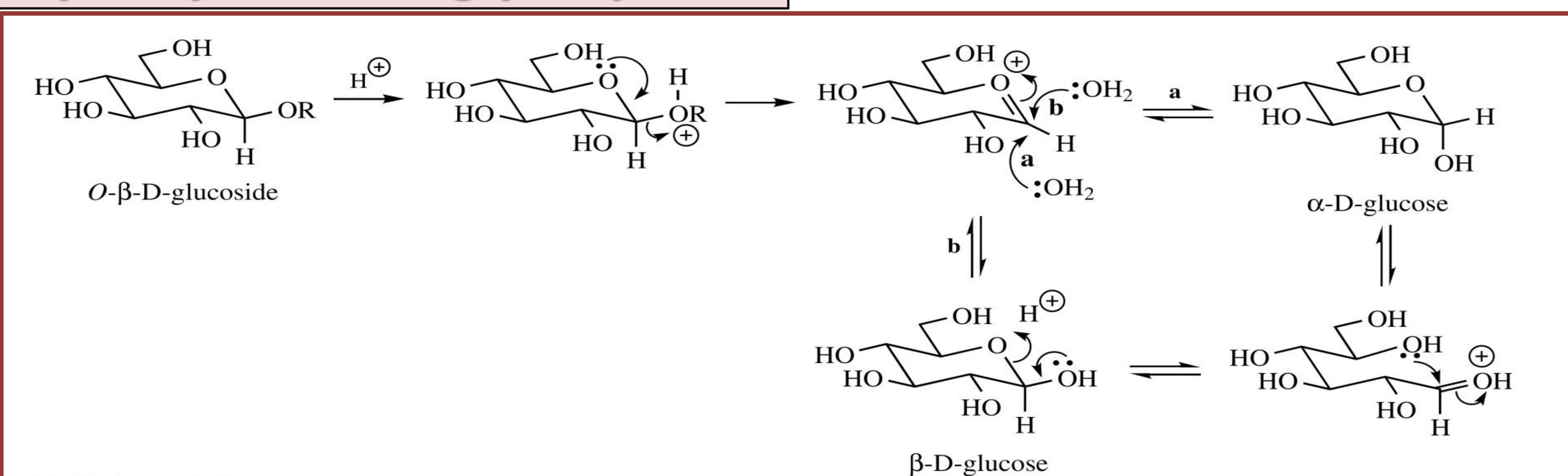
Glycosylation reactions

- ❑ Sugar + aglycone = glycoside
- ❑ Sugar + Sugar = polysaccharide.
- ❑ Linkage may be (O, N, C)
- ❑ The agent for glycosylation is a **uridine diphosphosugar, e.g. UDPglucose.**
- ❑ The hydrolysis of glycosides is achieved by specific hydrolytic enzymes, e.g. β -glucosidase for β -glucosides and β -galactosidase for β -galactosides.

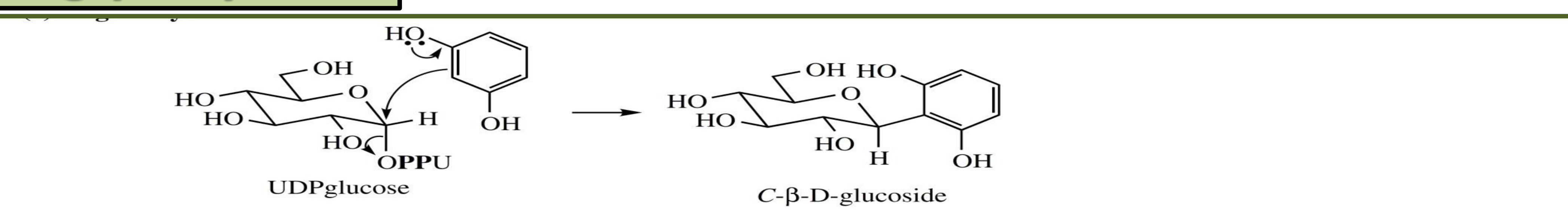
O-glycosylation



Hydrolysis of β -O-glycosylation



C-glycosylation



Reference: Dewick, P. M. (2002). *Medicinal natural products: a biosynthetic approach*. John Wiley & Sons.

Prepared by: Noha Gamal abdel-hafez

Under supervision of: Staff members of 4th Year, Pharmacognosy department.

Purine Alkaloids Biosynthesis

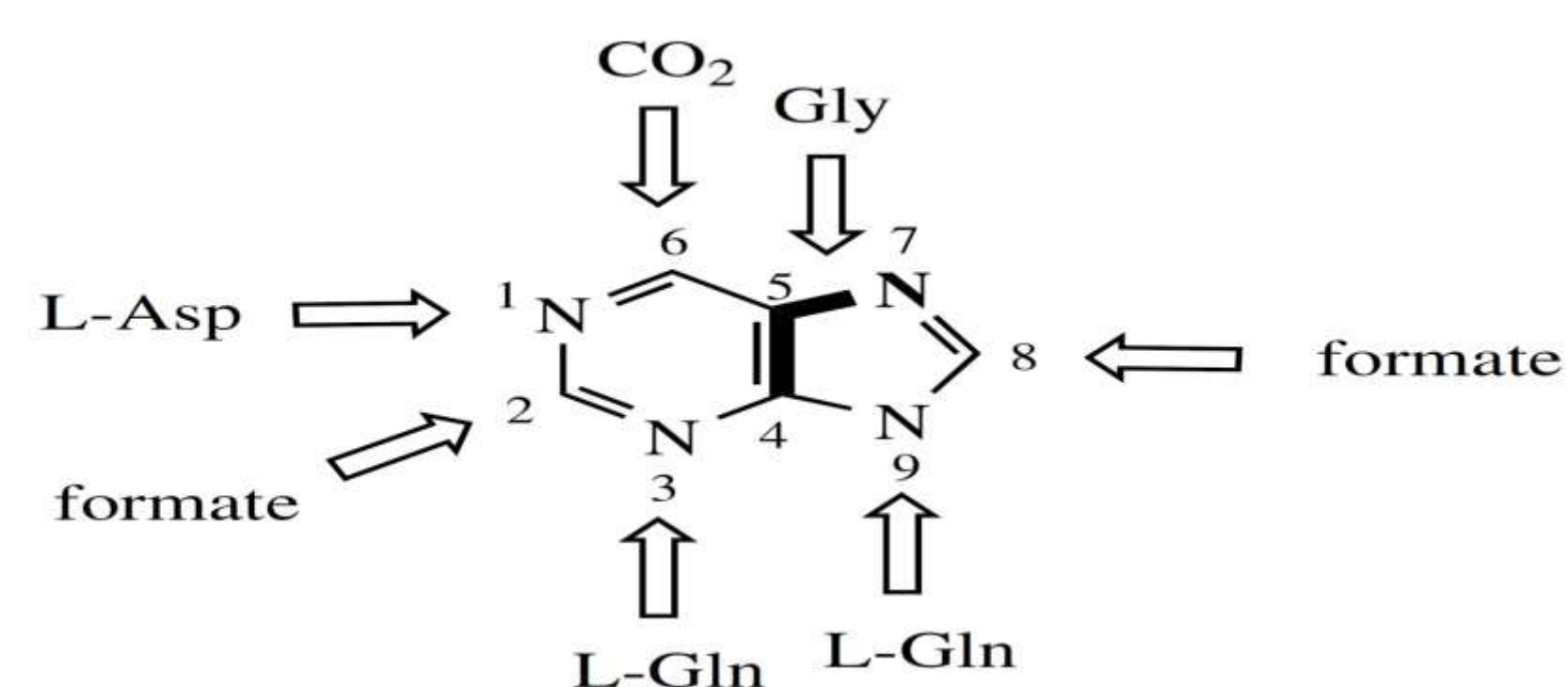
Introduction

The purine derivatives caffeine, theobromine and theophylline are usually referred to as purine alkaloids.

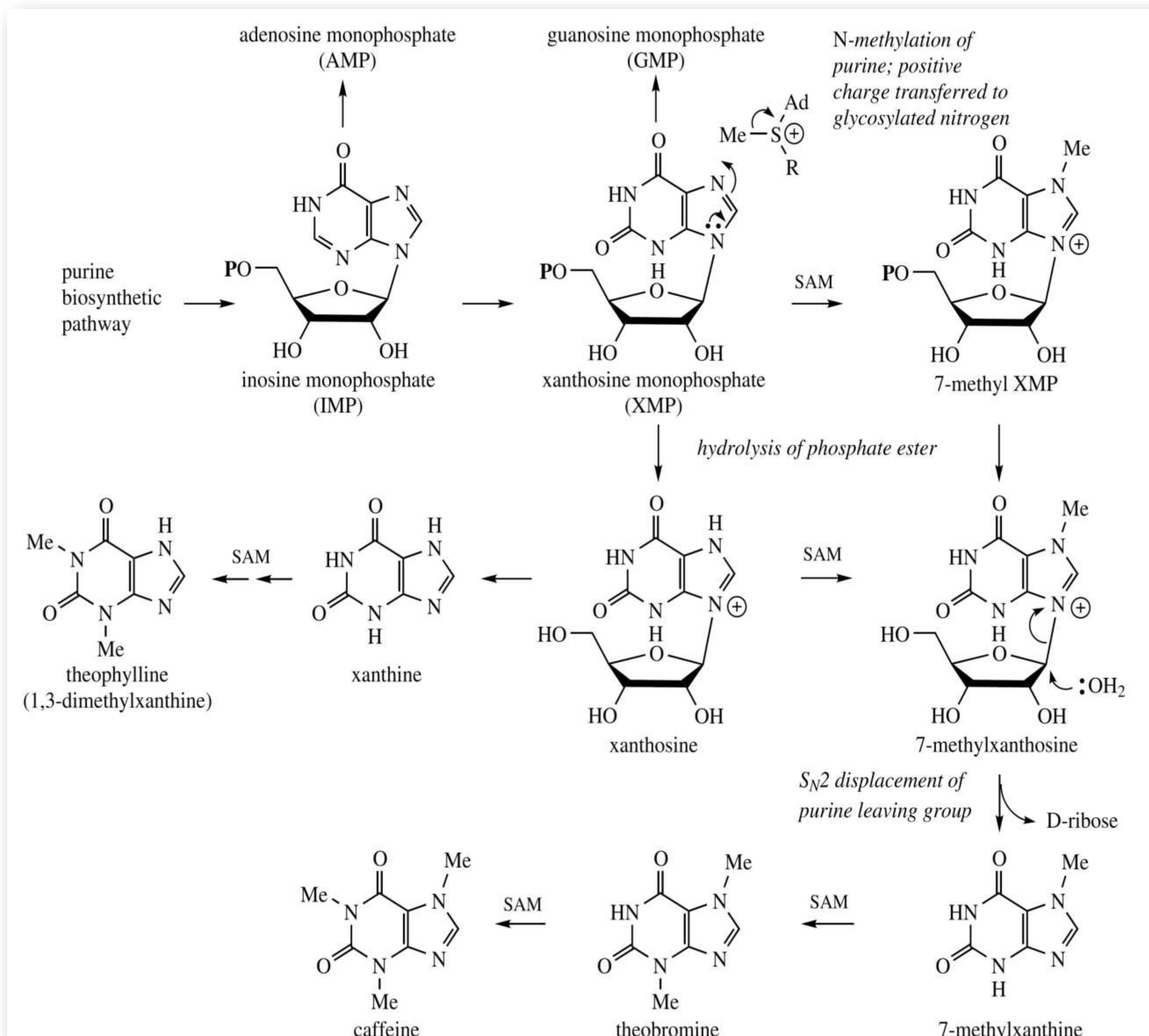
Their origins are closely linked with those of the purine bases adenine and guanine.

Basic Structure

The purine ring is gradually elaborated by piecing together small components as glycine, glutamine and aspartic acid.



Biosynthetic Pathway



Reaction Steps

❑ Synthesis of Inosine 5 -monophosphate (IMP) and Xanthosine 5 -monophosphate (XMP).

❑ N-Methylation of Xanthosine 5 -monophosphate by S-adenosyl-methionine.

❑ Hydrolysis of phosphate ester generates the nucleoside 7-methylxanthosine.

❑ S_N2 displacement of D-ribose to give 7-methylxanthine.

❑ Methylations on the nitrogens give caffeine by way of theobromine, whilst a different methylation sequence can account for the formation of theophylline.

Reference : Dewick, P. M. (2002). *Medicinal natural products: a biosynthetic approach*. John Wiley & Sons.

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