

Oxygen Control of Cyclic di-GMP Homeostasis

Marie-Alda Gilles-Gonzalez*

The relatively recently discovered dinucleotide cyclic bis(3' → 5')diguanylic acid (also cdiGMP, c-di-GMP, or cyclic di-GMP) is an important and ubiquitous second messenger in bacteria. For the GGDEF-class diguanylate cyclases that synthesize this nucleotide and EAL-class phosphodiesterases that degrade it, a commonly observed coupling of their enzymatic domains to well-known sensory domains has long suggested that they sense environmental signals. Nevertheless, relatively few signal ligands have been identified for these sensors, and even fewer instances of *in-vitro* switching by ligand have been demonstrated. I will give an overview of the current knowledge about signal regulation of GGDEF/EAL enzymes. After this, I will present recent findings by our laboratory about an *Escherichia coli* operon for control of cdiGMP level by O₂.

References

V. M. Delgado-Nixon, G. Gonzalez, and M. A. Gilles-Gonzalez (2000). Dos, a heme-binding PAS protein from *Escherichia coli* is a direct oxygen sensor. *Biochemistry* 39, 2685-2691.

A. L. Chang, J. R. Tuckerman, G. Gonzalez, R. Mayer, H. Weinhouse, G. Volman, D. Amikam, M. Benziman, and M. A. Gilles-Gonzalez (2001). Phosphodiesterase A1, a regulator of cellulose synthesis in *Acetobacter xylinum*, is a heme-based sensor. *Biochemistry* 40, 3420-3426.

G. Gonzalez, E. M. Dioum, C. M. Bertolucci, T. Tomita, M. Ikeda-Saito, M. R. Cheesman, N. J. Watmough, and M. A. Gilles-Gonzalez (2002) Nature of the displaceable heme-axial residue in the EcDos protein, a heme-based sensor from *Escherichia coli*. *Biochemistry* 41, 8414-8421.

M. A. Gilles-Gonzalez and G. Gonzalez (2005) Heme-based sensors: defining characteristics, recent developments, and regulatory hypotheses. *J. Inorg. Biochem.* 99, 1-22.

X. Wan, J. R. Tuckerman, J. A. Saito, T. A. K. Freitas, J. S. Newhouse, J. R. Denery, M. Y. Galperin, G. Gonzalez, M. A. Gilles-Gonzalez, and M. Alam (2009) Globins synthesize the second messenger c-di-GMP in bacteria. *J. Mol. Biol.* 388, 262-270.