



A scheme showing copper binding by the *Bacillus subtilis* Sco1 protein (BsSCO) and the proposed mechanism by which this copper chaperone transfers copper into the apo-Cu<sub>A</sub> center of subunit II of cytochrome c oxidase. BsSCO is depicted as a blue oval with its three conserved copper ligands (two cysteine sulfurs and one imidazole nitrogen) indicated. Apo-Cu<sub>A</sub> is shown as a dark green oval with four out of the six copper ligands indicated, two imidazole nitrogens and two cysteine sulfurs. The two cysteines are shown as a disulfide in apo-Cu<sub>A</sub>. The interaction with subunit II of reduced BsSCO, containing one Cu(I) and one Cu(II), leads to copper transfer and disulfide exchange to form the di-copper Cu<sub>A</sub> center and oxidized, apo-BsSCO. For further details, see the article by Hill and Andrews on pages 948–954 of the issue.

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