C-C Bond Forming Lyases in Organic Synthesis

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Brovetto, M.; Gamenara, D.; Mendez, P. S.; Seoane, G. A. *Chem. Rev.* **2011**, *111*, 4346-4403.

Overview

- Brief Refresher on Enzymes
- Enzymatic Aldol Reactions
- Acyloin Condensation
- Cyanohydrin Formation
- Enzymatic Friedel-Crafts
- "Diels-Alderases"
- Future Directions



Enzymes 101:

- Enzymes are proteins (usually) that catalyze chemical reactions
- Cells need enzymes in order to perform necessary metabolic reactions at rates fast enough for life to be maintained
- Reactions occur at the active site, where amino acid residues can bind the substrate and catalysis can occur
 - In some cases, the enzyme instead will bind a cofactor that serves as the actual catalyst
- Reactions and substrates are generally very specific
 - Due to steric and electronic factors in the active site



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Enzyme

Lock and Key Model

Most basic model of specificity posited by Emil Fisher in 1894



Induced Fit Model

Enzyme is flexible and substrate helps determine the actual shape



What Can Enzymes Do For Us?

Do the work for us!

•Get highly chemo-, regio-, diastereo-, and enantioselective reactions

•Very mild conditions (neutral, aqueous) and protecting group, chiral auxillary, etc free!

Non-enzymatic methods can be costly, tedious, or may still be underdeveloped



Wu, Y. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. ASAP.

How To Control Enzymes?

Enzymes in nature generally have one set of substrates and one set of product(s)

•How can we harness them for general reactivity for synthetic purposes?

- Screen substrates for promiscuous activity in the enzyme (Maybe unnatural ones can fit)
 - Donor specific
 - Acceptor specific
- Mutate enzyme (Change amino acids to allow for your substrate)
 - Directed evolution

Lyases

A subclass of enzyme that catalyze bond construction or cleavage through mechanisms other than hydrolysis or redox reactions

C-C, C-N, C-O or C-S bonds may be cleaved, but we will focus on C-C bonds

 Unique from other enzymes in that they require one substrate for the reaction in the forward direction, but two for the reverse reaction



Enzymatic Aldol Reactions

Critical reaction not just for organic synthesis, but from a metabolic standpoint

- The most important biochemical process for the production of naturally occurring carbohydrates
- Also found naturally in the biosynthetic pathways of keto acids and amino acids

Over 40 naturally occurring aldolases known

Most catalyze the stereoselective aldol addition of a ketone to an aldehyde



Type I Aldolase Mechanism

Key Feature: Schiff-base Intermediate



Type II Aldolase Mechanism

•Key Feature: Has a Zn²⁺ cofactor in the active site



4 Functional Main Groups of Aldolases

Based on donor (Acceptor is generic aldehyde)



DHAP Dependent Aldolases



DHAP-Dependent Aldolase Stereochemical Complementarity







DHAP is the Worst



DHAP is the Worst



Specificity of Donor

Only a few analogs of DHAP are substrates and activity drops to ~10% of DHAP



Changing the counterion can be tolerated in some cases, however



Fructose 6-Phosphate Aldolase (FSA)

• New aldolase isolated from *E. coli* that directly uses DHA as the donor substrate



Can also use monohydroxy acetone and 1-hydroxyl-2-butanone as donors with no loss in activity



1-hydroxy-2-butanone

4 Functional Main Groups of Aldolases

Based on donor (Acceptor is generic aldehyde)



R₁:PO₃⁼ or H *: new chiral carbon atom

Pyruvate-Dependent Aldolases



Acetaldehyde-Dependent Aldolases

2-deoxyribose-5-phosphate aldolase (DERA) is the only one that is known

Rare, because both donor and acceptor are aldehydes- can thus do sequential aldols



Glycine-Dependent Aldolases

Natural acceptor	Enzyme	Product	
H H formaldehyde	Serine hydroxymethyltransferase (SHMT) (EC 2.1.2.1)	HO HO NH ₂ L-Serine	
O H acetaldehyde	L-Threonine (Thr) aldolase (ThrA, EC 4.1.2.5)	HO NH ₂ L-Threonine	
O H acetaldehyde	D-Threonine (Thr) aldolase (ThrA, EC 4.1.2.42)	HO NH ₂ D-Threonine	
O H acetaldehyde	L- <i>allo</i> -Threonine (Thr) aldolase (ThrA, EC 4.1.2.6)	HO L-allo-Threonine	
O H acetaldehyde	D- <i>allo</i> -Threonine (Thr) aldolase (ThrA)	HO HO NH ₂ D-allo-Threonine	Seoane, G. A. <i>Chem. Rev.</i> 2011 , <i>111</i> , 4346-4403.

Monosaccharide Synthesis



Deoxysugar Synthesis





Deoxysugar Synthesis











Higher Carbon Sugars and Analogs





Higher Carbon Sugars and Analogs

Prepared using DHAP aldolases



Carbocycle Synthesis





DHAP-Dependent Aldolases in Natural Product Synthesis



DHAP-Dependent Aldolases in Natural Product Synthesis



Pyruvate-Dependent Aldolases in Natural Product Synthesis



DERA Catalysis in Natural Product Synthesis



DERA Catalysis in the Pharmaceutical Industry



Acyloin Condensation

Traditional acyloin condensation



Enzymatically controlled formation



ThDP-Dependent Lyase Mechanism



PDC Catalysis Mechanism



Chiral Acyloin Applications





Kinetic Resolution with Benzaldehyde Lyase



Cyanohydrin Formation

Hydroxynitrile lyases (HNLs) cleave cyanohydrins in vivo but can be used in synthesis due to their reversible nature



•Reversibility allows for enantioselective condensation of HCN with aldehydes or ketones to give (R) or (S)- α -hydroxyl nitriles

Uses of Cyanohydrins in Nature



Hb-HNL Catalysis Directed for Cyanohydrin Cleavage



Seoane, G. A. Chem. Rev. 2011, 111, 4346-4403.

Do We Need to Use HCN?

Reaction parameters must be considered



Transhydrocyanation is possible



Synthetic Applications

First activity detected in almonds by Friedrich Wohler in 1837



Synthetic Applications



Synthetic Applications



What About Other Nucleophiles?

Purkarthofer and coworkers discovered HNL's can also catalyze the Henry reaction



Natural Product Synthesis

Thiamphenicol synthesized with enantioselective hydrocyanation reaction catalyzed by (R)-HNL from Badamu



Various tetronic acids synthesized enantioselectively through hydrocyanation via MeHNL



One Last Example

Interestingly, HbHNL was found to catalyze hydrocyanation of ferrocenes



Resulting ferrocenyl-oxazolidinones used chiral auxiliaries for asymmetric alkylations and aldol reactions

Biocatalytic Friedel-Craft's

Methylation of aromatic rings in nature can be performed by methyltransferases (Mtases), with the help of the cofactor S-adenosyl-L-methionine (SAM)



Gruber-Khadjawi, M. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 9456.



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Unnatural Cofactors

Switching from SAM to SAR's can allow for alkylation with other R groups



Alkyl halide	R'	Product
1a	CH3	2 a
1b	CH ₂ =CHCH ₂	2 b
1c	CH ₃ CH=CHCH ₂	2c
1 d	CH≡CCH₂	2 d
1e	CH ₃ C=CCH ₂	2 e
1 f	$C_6H_5CH_2$	2 f

Gruber-Khadjawi, M. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. **2009**, 48, 9456.

Unnatural Cofactors

Switching from SAM to SAR's can allow for alkylation with other R groups





Other napthyl substrates could also be tolerated by Mtase and SAM

Gruber-Khadjawi, M. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2009, 48, 9456.

 Scientists have investigated whether an enzyme could catalyze a [4+2] cycloaddition for many years, due to cyclohexene ring existence in natural products

- How might this work?
 - 1) Not involved in actual catalysis-just a chiral template
 - 2) Enzyme lowers ΔG
 - Entropy
 - Enthalpy
 - Both



Though much research has been done, no natural examples have been proven yet



Liu, H-W. Curr. Opinion Chem. Bio. 2012, 16, 124.

A non-natural example, through computational analysis, has been created



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Stoddard, B.L., Houk, K.N., Michael, F.E., Baker, D. *Science* **2010**, *329*, 309.

Conclusions and Future Directions

- Enzymes are slowly growing in popularity as more is known about their mechanisms
- They are attractive to use due to 'greenness' of conditions, PG-free, and high degrees of stereoselectivity.
- In the future, if limitations can be overcome, enzymes will most likely be used more and more in organic synthesis and industry







Thanks! Questions/Comments?



Question 1:

Predict the products:



Question 1:



Question 2:

Propose a mechanism for carboligation reaction



Question 3:

Show non-Diels-Alder mechanism for formation of macrophomic acid from oxaloacetate and 2pyrone



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