

# **Enzyme Technology**

P. Gacesa and J. Hubble





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To Karen, Tom, Luke and Sue

## Preface

Biotechnology has undoubtedly been one of the major growth areas in science and engineering over the last ten to fifteen years. The promise of new techniques with consequent development of novel processes has been publicized both in the scientific literature and in information that has been disseminated to a wider audience. Unfortunately, not all the claims for the potential of biotechnology have been based on sound analysis and the resultant over-selling of the topic has been a serious problem. However, the area of enzyme technology was not only well established before the current fervour for biotechnology but has grown successfully within it, providing a sound basis for a promising future.

In compiling this book we have aimed at producing a text that will be suitable for final year undergraduates, postgraduates, research workers and the technically-informed manager. The objective of the book is two-fold. We hope to give readers with an engineering background an appreciation of the subtleties of enzymes and the potential of the new techniques in molecular genetics for the tailoring of these catalysts to specific needs. For those with a biochemical/biological background who are more familiar with enzyme properties, we aim to provide an appreciation of biochemical engineering considerations. We do not claim to provide a comprehensive analysis of all the biochemical and engineering problems (there are several excellent texts already on the market) but rather to enable the interested reader to see an approach to a particular problem. Our philosophy has been to explain general principles, as far as this is possible, by using specific examples of enzyme applications. What we have tried to avoid is producing merely a catalogue of enzyme-catalysed processes.

It should be emphasized that from an engineering point of view enzymes are simply a special category of catalysts. They have several advantages in terms of specificity and mild reaction conditions but also disadvantages such as problems of

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instability. In some circumstances enzymes have replaced traditional catalysts or opened up new applications where, for example, specificity is a major criterion. However, our understanding of certain enzyme mechanisms has done much to further the development of conventional catalysis and chemists are now able to synthesize novel, low molecular weight, non-enzymic catalysts. Clearly, enzymes will not replace the majority of chemical catalysts and it may be argued that this application of enzymology is only a transient phase in the evolution of applied catalysis. However, what is clear is that the case for enzymes is well established and that the number of products of enzyme technology continues to increase. Also, the recent advances centred on the use of enzymes in non-aqueous media has the potential of opening up large new markets. It is likely that the application of enzymes to the production of new products will be the area of greatest growth potential rather than trying to cost-cut existing processes.

We hope that the book will widen the general awareness of the next generation of scientists and engineers to the commercial potential of enzymes, and will in some small part contribute to the development of this challenging field of enzyme technology.

### Acknowledgements

We would like to express our thanks and appreciation for the invaluable advice received from a number of our colleagues including Dr R.A. John, Dr A.J. Knights, Professor J.A. Howell, and in particular to Dr Robert Eisenthal who was responsible for fostering our interest in enzymes during our period of study at Bath University.

We would also like to record our gratitude to Professor J.F. Richardson and the late Professor K.S. Dodgson who encouraged this venture and who supported us through the critical initial stages.

- Fig. 1.1 Lilly, M.D. (1977) Biotechnological Applications of Proteins and Enzymes (Bohak, Z. and Sharon, N. eds.) New York, Academic Press. (Original figure number 3, p. 135.)
- Fig. 1.2 Solomons, G. (1977) Biotechnological Applications of Proteins and Enzymes (Bohak, Z. and Sharon, N. eds.) New York, Academic Press. (Original figure number 1, p. 52.)
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Fig. 2.2 de Duve, C. (1985) A Guided Tour of the Living Cell, New York, Scientific American Books. (Diagram on page 93.)

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Fig. 3.1 Amicon Corporation, Lexington, MA. Copyright 1980.

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- Fig. 6.3 Goldstein, L. (1976) Methods in Enzymology 44 (Mosbach, K. ed.) New York, Academic Press. (Original figure number 1, p. 403.)
- Fig. 6.4 Horvath, C. and Engasser, J-M. (1974) Biotechnology and Bioengineering 16, New York, John Wiley. (Original figure number 7, p. 919.)
- Fig. 6.5 Engasser, J-M. and Horvath, C. (1976) Applied Biochemistry and Bioengineering 1, New York, Academic Press. (Original figure number 6, p. 140.)

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- Table 7.2 Godfrey, A. (1983) *Industrial Enzymology* (Godfrey, A. and Reichelt, J. eds.) Byfleet, The Nature Press. (Original table number 4.8.1, p. 295.)

- Fig. 8.5b Mosbach, K. and Danielsson, B. (1981) Analytical Chemistry 53, 83A-94A. (Original figure number 2.)
- Fig. 8.7 Moss, S.D., Johnson, C.C. and Janata, J. (1978) *IEE Transactions in Biomedical Engineering* **25**, pp 49–54. (Original figure number 1.)

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- Table 8.3 Lowe, C.R., Goldfinch, M.J. and Lias, R.J. (1984) Biotech 83, Northwood, Online Publications Ltd. (Original table number 1.)

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- Fig. 9.2 Kaiser, E.T. and Lawrence, D.S. (1984) Science 226, 505-511, Copyright 1984 by the AAAS. (Original figure 1.)
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- Fig. 10.4 Zaks, A. and Klibanov, A.M. (1984) Science 224, 1249–1251, Copyright 1984 by the AAAS. (Original figure 2A.)
- Fig. 10.6 Bender, M.L., D'Souza, V.T. and Lu, X. (1986) *Trends in Biotechnology* **4,** 132–135, Copyright 1986 Elsevier Science Publishers. (Original figure 1.)

## Symbols and units

A problem encountered in texts covering material which spans two or more traditional subject areas is that of constancy in the use of symbols and units.

Enzyme technology as presented in this text draws upon fundamental science arising from the study of enzymology, fluid dynamics and electronics. Each of these disciplines has its own well-established convention for use of symbols, making some overlap unavoidable. Rather than attempt to redefine all symbols to a common basis (and risk offending purists), we have defined them on the basis of the chapter in which they appear. For example, the symbol V denotes reactor volume in Chapter 4 whereas in Chapter 8 it denotes voltage.

In some disciplines it has been common practice to use various symbols to denote the same variable, e.g. the maximum rate for an enzyme reaction may be seen as V or  $V_{\rm m}$  or  $V_{\rm max}$ . While this diversity is usually frowned upon, it does allow us some scope to minimize conflict and to maintain the use of familiar symbols; to this end we must apologize for occasionally departing from use of the officially approved symbol.

In order to maintain consistency all dimensions are given in SI units or derived SI units of common usage. For a complete breakdown of derived SI units, the reader is referred to a specialist data book (Perry, 1984).

Although a rigid adherence to the SI nomenclature leads to problems with the magnitude of some terms (e.g. rate, kg mol m<sup>-3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, may lead to very small numbers in certain contexts), we feel that dimensional consistency must be stressed, especially for those readers from a biological background.

1		
Symbol	Interpretation	Units
A	Arrhenius constant	depends on reaction order
D	Dilution rate	s <sup>-1</sup>
ε	Packed bed voidage	-
E	Activation energy	kJ kg mol-1
[E]	Active enzyme concentration	kg mol m <sup>-3</sup>
[ER]	Concentration of enzyme-reactant complex	kg mol m <sup>-3</sup>
$[E_0]$	Total active enzyme concentration	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
$[E^t]$	Active enzyme concentration after time t	kg mol m <sup>-3</sup>
[ERR]	Concentration of inactive enzyme-reactant complex	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
[EP]	Concentration of inactive enzyme-product complex	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
$k_1$	Second-order rate constant	$kg  mol  m^{-3}  s^{-1}$
$k_{-1}$	First-order rate constant	$s^{-1}$
$k_{-2}$	Second-order rate constant	$kg  mol  m^{-3}  s^{-1}$
$k_2$	First-order rate constant	$s^{-1}$
$k_{ m d}$	First-order decay constant	$s^{-1}$
$K_{m}$	Michaelis constant	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
$K_{ m m}$	Apparent Michaelis constant	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
$K_{\mathrm{i}}$	Inhibition constant	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
$K_{ m eq}$	Equilibrium constant	_
[P]	Product concentration	kg mol m <sup>-3</sup>
Q	Volumetric flow rate	$m^3 s^{-1}$
R	Gas constant	$kJ K^{-1} kg mol^{-1}$
[R]	Reactant (i.e. substrate) concentration	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
T	Temperature	K
v	Observed rate of reaction	$kg \mod m^{-3} s^{-1}$
-V	Reactor volume	$m^3$
$V_1$	Liquid volume	m <sup>3</sup>
$V_{ m tot}$	Total volume	$m^3$
$V_{max}$	Maximum theoretical rate of reaction	$kg  mol  m^{-3}  s^{-1}$
$V_{max}$	Apparent $V_{\max}$	$kg  mol  m^{-3}  s^{-1}$
X	Fractional conversion	_
Chapter 6		
Symbol	Interpretation	Units

Symbol	Interpretation	Units
a,b,c,	Constants	
$C_{\mathbf{b}}$	Bulk concentration	kg mol m <sup>-3</sup>
$C_{s}$	Surface concentration	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
$d_{ m i}$	Diameter of impeller	m

xvi		Symbols and units
$d_{ m p}$	Diameter of particle	m
$D_{\rm c}$	Diffusivity of solute through the	$m^2 s^{-1}$
· ·	immobilization matrix	
$D_{s}$	Diffusivity of solute in solution	$m^2 s^{-1}$
e	Electronic charge	
E	Active enzyme concentration	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
$E_{ m o}$	Active enzyme concentration at	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
	time zero	
$E^{\iota}$	Active enzyme concentration after	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
	time t	G
$H_b^+$	Hydrogen ion concentration in bulk	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
	solution	, and the second
$H_s$ <sup>+</sup>	Hydrogen ion concentration at the	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
	surface	
$\boldsymbol{k}$	Boltzmann constant	$J K^{-1}$
$k_{ m d}$	Enzyme decay rate	s <sup>-1</sup>
$K_{ m m}$	Apparent Michaelis constant	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
$K_{\rm s}$	Mass transfer coefficient	m s <sup>-1</sup>
L	Thickness of particle	m
n	Stirrer speed	revolutions s-1
P	Partition coefficient	
[R]	Reactant concentration	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
Re	Reynolds number	
$Re_{i}$	Reynolds number for stirred system	
Sh	Sherwood number	· —
Sc	Schmidt number	-
t	Time	S
$\mathcal{T}$	Absolute temperature	K
$V_{ m max}$	Maximum theoretical rate of enzyme-	$kg  mol  m^{-3}  s^{-1}$
	catalysed reaction	
$V_{ m max}$	Apparent $V_{\rm max}$	$kg  mol  m^{-3}  s^{-1}$
δ	Boundary layer thickness	m
$\psi$	Electrical potential	volts
$\rho$	Density	$kg m^{-3}$
ν	Dynamic viscosity	$m^2 s^{-1}$
$\phi$	Thiele modulus	_
χ	Porosity	_
τ	Tortuosity	m
μ	Liquid velocity	$m s^{-1}$
Chapter 8		
Symbol	Interpretation	Units

Temperature constant for thermistor

K

 $\boldsymbol{B}$ 

$E_{ m G}$	Standard probe potential	volts
$E_{ m G} \ E_{ m G}^{'}$	Observed probe potential	volts
$E_{ m ref}$	Internal reference probe potential	volts
$E_{ m asym}$	Asymetric potential	volts
F	Faraday constant	$C \text{ mol}^{-1}$
[R]	Reactant concentration	$kg  mol  m^{-3}$
$R_1$	Resistance of thermistor 1	ohms
$R_2$	Resistance of thermistor 2	ohms
$\delta R$	Change in resistance of thermistor	ohms
$\mathcal{T}$	Absolute temperature	K
V	Bridge excitation voltage	volts
v	Bridge output voltage	volts

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