

# Enzyme inhibition

A carboxypeptidase was found to have a Michaelis constant,  $K_M$ , of  $2.00 \mu\text{M}$  and  $k_{\text{cat}}$  of  $150 \text{ s}^{-1}$  for its substrate, A.

- a) what is the initial rate of reaction for a substrate concentration of  $5.00 \mu\text{M}$  and an enzyme concentration of  $0.01 \mu\text{M}$ ? Give units.
- b) The presence of  $5.00 \text{ mM}$  of a competitive inhibitor decreased the initial rate law above by a factor of 2. What is the dissociation constant for the enzyme-inhibitor complex,  $K_I$ , where  $K_I = [E][I]/[EI]$ ?

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Solution: For the given data the initial rate is

$$V_0 = \frac{k_{\text{cat}}[E]_0[S]}{K_m + [S]} = \frac{(150)[0.01][5]}{2 + [5]} = 1.07 \mu\text{M s}^{-1}$$

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Solution: The initial rate is decreased by a factor of 2. Therefore,  $V_0 = 0.535 \text{ mM s}^{-1}$ . To find the  $K_i$  we need to solve for  $\alpha$ .

$$V_0 = \frac{k_{cat}[E]_0[S]}{\alpha K_m + [S]}$$

Algebra to solve for  $\alpha$ :

$$\alpha K_m V_0 + [S]V_0 = k_{cat}[E]_0[S]$$

$$\alpha = \frac{(k_{cat}[E]_0 - V_0)[S]}{K_m V_0}$$

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Now insert the values from the data and calculate  $\alpha$ .

$$\alpha = \frac{(k_{cat}[E]_0 - V_0)[S]}{K_m V_0}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{(150(0.01) - 0.535)[5]}{(2)(0.535)} = 4.5$$

Use the definition of  $\alpha$  to solve for  $K_i$ .

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The definition is:

$$\alpha = 1 + \frac{[I]}{K_I}$$

Finally,  $K_I$  is given by:

$$K_I = \frac{[I]}{\alpha - 1} = \frac{[5]}{4.5 - 1} = 1.42 \text{ mM}$$