

Enzyme mechanism and binding energy

Chymotrypsin Mechanism

The "catalytic triad"

Asp102 - His57 - Ser195

The catalytic triad is found in all Serine Protease and Serine

Esterases (e.g., acetylcholinesterase)

How does this work?

For this to work, all pK_a values should be similar. In other words, pK_a value of Asp slightly higher than that of Ser

CH₂ Ser 1985

N H CH₂

CH₂ Ser 1985

H CH₂

CH₂

Ser 1985

H CH₂

CH₂

CH₂

CH₂

CH₂

CH₂

Ser 1985

CH₂

CH₂

"Charge relay system"

Asp102 - His57 - Ser195

 pK_a values as amino acids are: 3.5 6.0 15.0

The measured p K_a values are: 7.0 7.0(12.0)* 15.0

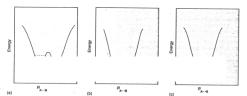
*only transiently

Enzyme mechanism and binding energy

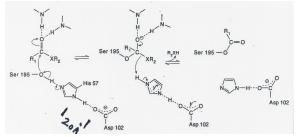
Chymotrypsin Mechanism

Low-barrier H-bond in the Transition State?

What is a Low-Barrier H-bond?

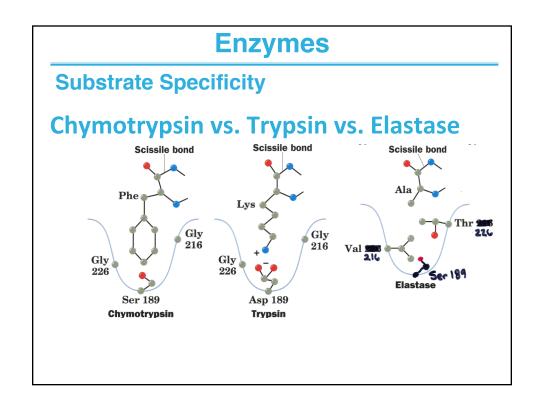


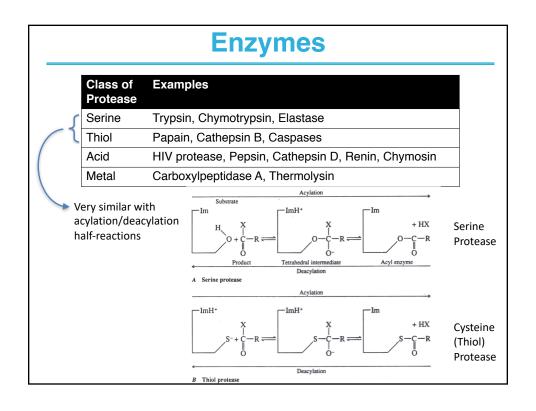
Where is the LBHB in the triad?

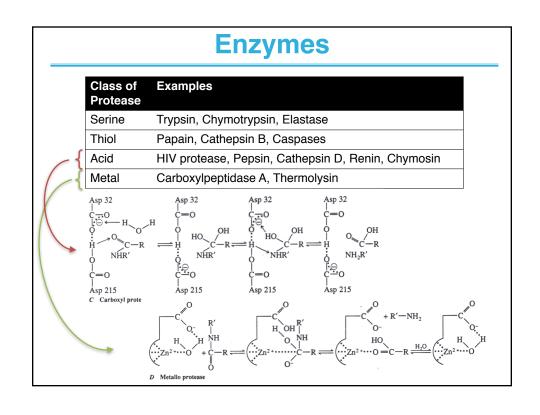


What is significant about LBHBs is that they are 4-5x stronger than normal 2.8 Å H-bonds (~20 kcal/mole)

Substrate Specificity Chymotrypsin vs. Elastase Ser-195 His-57 Fig. 214 Fig. 217 Fig. 217







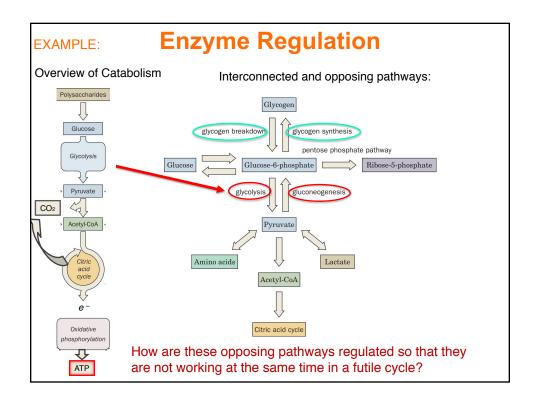
Enzyme Regulation

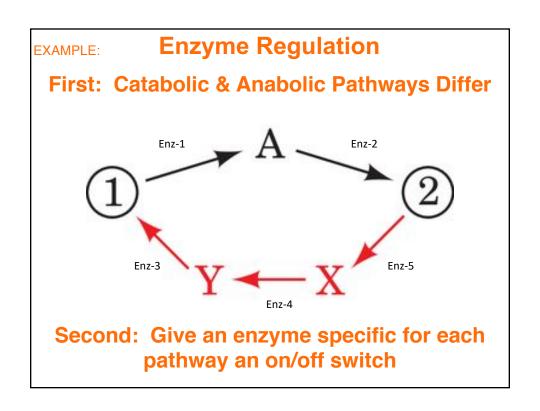
Enzyme Regulation

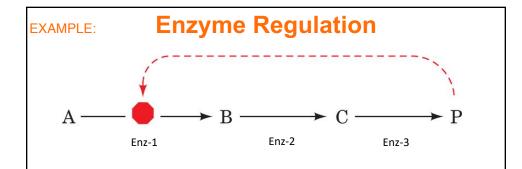
Recall that enzymes have 4 major attributes:

- 1. Increase rates of chemical reactions
- 2. Catalysis under mild conditions of temperature and pH
- 3. Very specific binding to substrates
- 4. Can regulate their activity

Control of Enzyme Activity





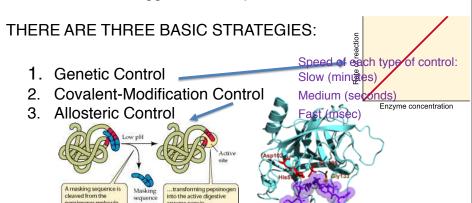


- This on/off switch is normally at the start of a pathway so all the intermediates need not be made; i.e., at the committal step.
- This on/off switch is often controlled by a small molecule, often the product of the pathway; i.e., Negative Feedback Regulation

Enzyme Regulation

So, how are cellular processes controlled?

These controls are everywhere, from simple binding/release to embryological problems that set into motion all the processes to take a fertilized egg to an embryo.



Enzyme Regulation

Control by Covalent Modification:

Proteolytic activity
Phosphorylation
Adenylylation
etc.
Methylation

