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Abstracts

Selected abstract from the 10th Japanese Symposium on the Chemistry of Biocatalysis

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Introduction

The 10th Symposium on Biocatalyst Chemistry Japan (BSJ) was held on 14 and 15, December 2006 at Kitakyushu International Conference Center, Kokura, Kitakyushu, Japan. The active attendees to the symposium were about 50 persons from academia, 20 from industries and 30 students, i.e., 100 persons in total. The symposium consisted of 18 contributed oral presentations, and 58 poster presentations. Each poster presenter introduced his or her research by 1-min oral presentation in English before the poster session. Three posters were selected for poster award. The panel discussion was specially programmed, the past and future in the field of biocatalyst chemistry research of Japan were discussed as the chairmen of Prof. Hiromichi Ohta of Keio University and Associate Prof. Kaoru Nakamura of Kyoto University. The next symposium will be organized by Prof. Toshiyuki Itoh of Tottori University and held on 25 and 26, January 2008 at Tottori, Japan.

Oral Presentations

Chemoenzymatic synthesis of naturally occurring β -glycosides by immobilized β -glucosidase from almond

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Naturally occurring β -glycosides such as benzyl glycosides, sacranosides and kenposide were synthesized by chemoenzymatic methods based on combination of enzymatic glucosidation using immobilizing β -glucosidase and chemical glycosidation (Fig. 1).

R = Bn, phenetyl, geranyl, neryl, etc. Sugar = α -L-arabinosyl, β -D-xylosyl, α -L-rhamnosyl

Fig. 1. Chemoenzymatic synthesis of natural occurring glycosides.

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¹ Symposium organizer.

Chemoenzymatic synthesis of γ -alkyl- γ -butenolide

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^dYokohama College of Pharmacy, 601 Matano-cho, Totsuka-ku, Yokohama 245-0066, Japan. E-mail: mfujii@phar.toho-u.ac.jp The *rac*-1-alkylallylalcohols were converted to highly optically active γ-alkyl-γ-butenolides by chemoenzymatic method based on the combination of lipase-catalyzed enantioselective transesterification and ring-closing metathesis (Fig. 2).

Fig. 2. Chemoenzymatic synthesis of chiral γ-alkylbutenolides.

Asymmetric synthesis of curcuphenol using lipase-catalyzed reaction

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The highly enantioselective kinetic resolution of a racemic primary alcohol (\pm)-4 by lipase-catalyzed transesterification with vinyl 3-phenylpropanoate afforded the optically pure primary alcohol (R)-4 which can be intermediate of curcuphenol (Fig. 3).

HO OMe
$$+$$
 O R Lipase PS $+$ O OMe $+$ Compare $+$ Co

Fig. 3. Lipase-catalyzed transesterification of (\pm) -4 with vinyl 3-phenylpropanoate.

Directed evolution for increasing amidase activities of lipase from Pseudomonas aeruginosa

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Lipase from *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* TE3285 was subjected to directed evolution for improved amidase activity. The triple mutant Sat252 (F207S/A213D/L252F) exhibited 13.6-fold higher amidase activity toward amide 1 than that of wild-type lipase mainly by the increase in k_{cat} (Fig. 4).

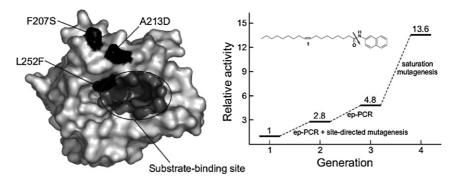


Fig. 4. Tertiary model of the mutant lipase Sat252 and progression of amidase activities.

Stopped-flow study of the conversion of α -hydroxyheme to verdoheme by heme oxygenase-1

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 O_2 -dependent reactions of the ferric and ferrous forms of α -hydroxyheme complexed with a water-soluble form of rat heme oxygenase-1 were examined by rapid-scan stopped-flow measurements under anaerobic conditions (Fig. 5).

Fig. 5. Proposed reaction pathways of conversion of α -hydroxyheme to verdoheme.

Promiscuity of arylmalonate decarboxylase

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It has been revealed that arylmalonate decarboxylase (AMDase) exhibits catalytic promiscuity, i.e., racemase and aldolase-like activity in addition to its original decarboxylase activity (Fig. 6).

Fig. 6. The catalytic activities of AMDase.

Glucosylation of sucrose laurate with cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase

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The present study demonstrated that sucrose monolauroyl esters were found to serve as a substrate for cyclomaltodextrin glucanotransferase (CGTase)-catalyzed transglucosidation reactions affording new sucrose esters that have additional 1–3 glucose residues on the pyranose ring of the sucrose moiety in the ester (Fig. 7).

Fig. 7. Structure of sucrose monolaurates (1)–(3) and reaction products (4–7) by CGTase catalyzed glucanotransfer reactions.

Kinetic analyses of mutagenic hyperthermostable glycogen phosphorylase from *Aquifex aeolicus* on a 27 MHz quartz-crystal microbalance

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We found it was possible to detect directly and quantitatively each step of the amylose synthesis by thermophilic phosphorylase from *Aquifex aeolicus* in the aqueous solution by using the maltodextrin-immobilized 27 MHz quartz-crystal microbalance (QCM) (Fig. 8).

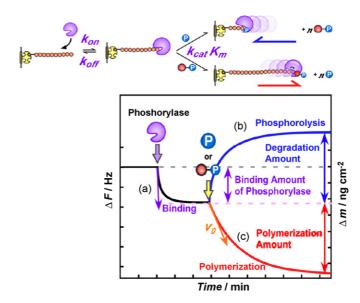


Fig. 8. Typical time courses of frequency changes of the amylopectin-immobilized QCM, responding to additions of (a) phosphorylase, (b) phosphoric acid, and (c) glucose 1-phosphate.

Microwave effect on the rolling circle amplification

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The rolling circle amplification is an effective method of DNA amplification having tandem repeated sequences. In this study, the microwave was irradiated to RCA reaction on controlling the temperature (Fig. 9).

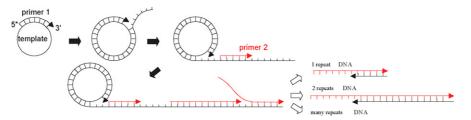


Fig. 9. Procedure of rolling circle amplification.

Microwave assisted enzymatic reaction with Flavobacterium biocatalyst

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We irradiated microwave for the transesterification reaction utilized *Flavobacterium* sp. with phosphotriesterase (Fig. 10).

Fig. 10. Phosphotriesterase-catalyzed transesterification.

Asymmetric hydrogen-transfer bioreduction and evolutionary mechanism of alcohol dehydrogenase to increase the activity in polar organic solvent

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We have developed highly efficient bioreduction process which uses two NAD⁺-dependent alcohol dehydrogenases (ADH): *Leifsonia* ADH (LSADH) and *Rhodococcus* phenylacetaldehyde reductase (PAR), which could efficiently reproduce NADH when concentrated 2-propanol (10 (w/v)% or more) was used as a hydrogen donor (Fig. 11).

Fig. 11. Asymmetric hydrogen-transfer bioreduction.

Production of useful catechin derivatives by enzymatic treatment of green tea extract

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Two compounds produced were identified as epitheaflagallin (1) and epitheaflagallin 3-O-gallate (2), respectively, when we treated green tea extract in the presence of gallic acid with laccase (Amano Enzyme Inc.) (Fig. 12).

Fig. 12. Structure of epitheaflagallins.

Integration of organic synthesis and lipases—Total synthesis of symbioramide and (S)-azetidinecarboxylic acid as the examples

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Integrated use of organic synthesis and lipase-catalyzed reactions is emphasized, in the topics of total synthesis of symbioramide, a marine-origin ceramide (Tetrahedron Lett. 46 (2005) 3291), and the preparation of enantiomerically pure (*S*)-azetidinecarboxylic acid (Biosci. Biotechnol. Biochem. 69 (2005) 1892) (Fig. 13).

$$C_{15}H_{31}$$
 OH $C_{02}H$ $C_{14}H_{29}$ (S)-azetidine carboxylic acid

Fig. 13. Symbioramide and (S)-azetidinecarboxylic acid.

The synthesis of (R)-bicalutamide based on epoxide hydrolase-catalyzed kinetic resolution

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A novel chemo-enzymatic synthesis of (*R*)-bicalutamide, a synthetic antiandrogen, was achieved by an engineered *Bacillus* epoxide hydrolase-catalyzed reaction as the key step (Tetrahedron Lett. 48 (2007) 979) (Fig. 14).

Fig. 14. Synthesis of (R)-bicalutamide.

Poster Presentations

Identification of enzyme catalyzing conversion of N^{α} -Z-L-lysine to N^{α} -Z-L-aminoadipic- δ -semialdehyde in *Rhodococcus* sp. AIU Z-35-1 and its application

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The enzyme catalyzing conversion of N^{α} -Z-L-lysine to N^{α} -Z-L-aminoadipic- δ -semialdehyde was identified as an L-amino acid oxidase with broad substrate specificity that oxidized N^{α} -acyl-L-lysine, N^{ε} -acyl-L-lysine, L-lysine and many other L-amino acids (Fig. 15).

Fig. 15. Conversion of N^{α} -Z-L-lysine into N^{α} -Z-L-aminoadipic- δ -semialdehyde by *Rhodococcus* sp. AIU Z-35-1.

Regioselective hydroxylation of alkanes in a liquid-liquid interface bioreactor

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Novel fungal cultivation (liquid-surface immobilization, LSI) and bioconversion (liquid-liquid interface bioreactor, L-L IBR) systems were developed with a balooned microsphere (MS), and the L-L IBR was applied to the regioselective hydroxylation of *n*-alkanes such as *n*-decane with various fungi (Fig. 16).

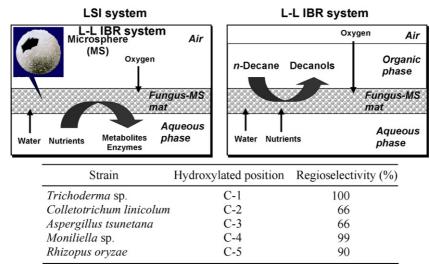


Fig. 16. Regioselective hydroxylation of *n*-decane in liquid–liquid interface bioreactor.

Purification and characterization of carbonyl reductase from actinomycete

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We have purified and characterized of an α -keto ester reductase (SAKER) from *Streptomyces averimitilis* NBRC14893 whole cells. This enzyme was dependent on NADPH as a coenzyme and reduced ethyl pyruvate to the corresponding (*S*)-hydroxy ester with high e.e. (98%) (Fig. 17).

STKER-I	¹ ATHVITGAGS GIGAAVTRRL HARGD ²⁵
ProSc	5::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::29 ATHVITGAGS GIGAAVARRL HERGD
SAKER	⁵ ATHVITGAGS GIGAAVTRRL HARGD ²⁹
ProSc	5:::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::29 ATHVITGAGS GIGAAVARRL HERGD
SCKER	¹ AQMLAARLHV PSRTLRLEEV PRPQPGPGEV LVKVEAAGV ³⁹
Zn-DH	2:::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::

STKER-I: a keto ester reductase from *S. thermocyaneoviolaceus*. SAKER: a keto ester reductase from *S. avermitilis*. SCKER: a keto ester reductase from *S. coelicolor* A3(2). ProSc: a probable oxidoreductase in *S. coelicolor* A3(2). ProBc: a probable oxidoreductase in *S. coelicolor* A3(2). Zn-DH: a possible zinc-containing alcohol dehydrogenase in *S. coelicolor* A3(2). The underlined sequences are putative coenzyme binding site.

Fig. 17. Comparison of N-terminal amino acid sequences.

Reduction of acetophenone derivatives by Nostoc mintum

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The reduction of acetophenone derivatives using photosynthetic microbes (*Nostoc mintum*) was investigated. It was found that reduction of acetophenone derivatives with *Nostoc mintum* gives the corresponding (*S*)-alcohols with excellent enantioselectivity (Table 1).

Table 1 Biotransformation of acetophenone derivatives using *N. Mintum*



X	7 days			9 days		
	Yield (%)	e.e. (%)	Configuration	Yield (%)	e.e. (%)	Configuration
H	4.1	90	S	4.5	88	S
o-Cl	38.0	95	S	35.7	96	S
m-Cl	13.7	87	S	22.2	94	S
p-Cl	29.5	95	S	19.1	91	S
o-Br	12.7	100	S	25.1	100	S
m-Br	13.7	87	S	13.7	80	S
<i>p</i> -Br	40.5	95	S	36.1	94	S

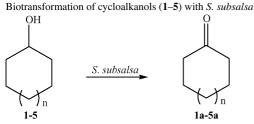
Oxidation of hydroxy derivatives with Spirulina subsalsa

Shinnosuke Okada, Asuka Kiyama, Takamitsu Utsukihara, Nakahide Kato, C. Akira Horiuchi*

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Biotransformation of some alcohols using *Spirulina subsalsa* gave the corresponding ketones and *S. subsalsa* showed high oxidation activity for cyclopentanol and cycloheptanol. It was found that this new synthetic method is convenient and eco-friendly synthetic method (Table 2).

Table 2



1, **1a** : n=0 **2**, **2a** : n=1 **3**, **3a** : n=2 **4**, **4a** : n=3 **5**, **5a** : n=7

Entry	Substrate	Days	Products (%)
1	1	5	1a (100)
2	2	7	2a (81)
3	3	4	3a (100)
4	4	7	4a (100)
5	5	7	5a (12)

Purification and characterization of cyclo (Leu-Phe) oxidase of Streptomyces albulus expressed in Escherichia coli

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Recombinant cyclo (Leu–Phe) oxidase catalyzing the conversion of cyclo (Leu–Phe) to albonoursin was purified and characterized, and its character was compared with that of the native CFL oxidase (Fig. 18).

Fig. 18. Albonoursin biosynthetic pathway by CFL oxidase.

Purification and characterization of NADH oxidase from 2-phenylethanol-assimilating Brevibacterium sp. KU1309

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NADH oxidase was purified from 2-phenylethanol-assimilating *Brevibacterium* sp. KU1309 and characterized. This enzyme had high thermal stability and is active in broad range of pH. Accordingly, it is useful for cofactor regeneration (Fig. 19).

$$R^{1}$$
 R^{2} NAD^{+} dependent enzyme R^{1} R^{2} R^{2} NAD^{+} $NADH$ $NADH$

Fig. 19. NAD+ regenerating system by NADH oxidase.

Kinetic resolution of 2-substituted propanol by 2-phenylethanol-assimilating bacteria

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Microorganisms that degrade 2-phenylethanol were screened and those which enantioselectively oxidized 2-phenylpropanol to 2-phenylpropanoic acid were selected. By optimizing the cultural conditions and reaction conditions, various optically active α -substituted carboxylic acids were obtained (Table 3).

Table 3
Enantioselective oxidation of 2-substituted propanol by microorganisms

Ph
$$CH_3$$
 microorganism CH_3 CH_3 CH_3 CH_2OH CH_2OH CH_2OH CH_2OH CH_2OH CO_2H

Strain	Alcohol	Alcohol		Carboxylic acid	
	Recovery (%) ^a	e.e. (%) ^b	Yield (%) ^a	e.e. (%) ^b	
Brevibacterium sp. KU1320	48	>99	46	91	50
Arthrobacter sp. KU1321	48	87	38	93	49

^a Determined by GC.

Purification and characterization of new arylmalonate decarboxylases

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Arylmalonate decarboxylase (AMDase) producers were screened and isolated from soil samples. Purification and reactivity of the enzymes were compared with that of the original AMDase (Fig. 20).

Fig. 20. Asymmetric decarboxylation of α -arylmalonate derivative.

Mechanism of action of Burkholderia cepacia lipase: Origin of rate enhancement and enantioselectivity

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We have examined kinetics, thermodynamics and solvent isotope effects for *Burkholderia cepacia* lipase-catalyzed hydrolysis reactions of acetic acid esters of achiral or single enantiomer chiral alcohols to elucidate mechanism of action of the enzyme (Fig. 21).

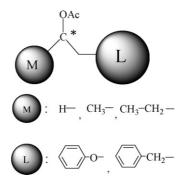


Fig. 21. Achiral or chiral acetic acid esters.

^b Determined by HPLC.

Mechanism of action of Candida antarctica lipase B: Specific rate Enhancement and enantioselectivity in hydrolysis of monochloroacetate

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We have examined kinetics, thermodynamics and solvent isotope effects of *Candida antarctica* lipase B (CALB)-catalyzed hydrolysis of monocholoroacetic acid esters of achiral and single enantiomer chiral secondary alcohols to elucidate mechanism of action of the enzyme (Fig. 22).

$$M: \longrightarrow H, \longrightarrow CH_3, \longrightarrow C_2H_5$$

Fig. 22. Substrates.

On the β-replacement reactions catalyzed by vitamin B6 dependent enzymes

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We have studied two B6-dependent enzymes, human cystathionine β -synthase (CBS) and O-acetylserine sulfhydrylase (OASS), to consider the reason for CBS to have heme as an additional cofactor which is not retained in OASS (Fig. 23).

Fig. 23. The reaction catalyzed by CBS.

Correlation of lyophilized enzyme and bacterium on phosphotriesterase catalytic optical resolution

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We researched to correlation of lyophilized enzyme and bacterium on phosphotriesterase catalytic optical resolution (Fig. 24).

$$\begin{array}{c} \overset{S}{\underset{\text{\tiny NO_2}}{\text{\tiny NO_2}}} \\ + C_2H_5OH \\ & \text{rt} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{\tiny phosphotriesterase} \\ \text{\tiny NO_2} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \overset{S}{\underset{\text{\tiny NO_2}}{\text{\tiny NO_2}}} \\ + HO \\ \text{\tiny NO_2} \end{array}$$

Fig. 24. Phosphotriesterase catalyzed optical resolution.

Enantioselectivity of lipase-catalyzed ring-opening polymerization of substituted lactones

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We studied the reactivity of lipase-catalyzed ring-opening polymerization of substituted lactones and it was found that high reaction temperature decreases the enantioselectivity of the reaction and the addition of alcohol resulted in a slight improvement of enantioselectivity (Fig. 25).

$$(CH_2)_m^R$$
 $(CH_2)_m$ $(CH_2)_m$ $(CH_2)_m$ $(CH_2)_m$

Fig. 25. Lipase catalyzed enantio-selective ring-opening polymerizaton of substituted lactones.

Enhanced enantioselectivity in the esterification catalyzed by lipase lyophilized with various ionic compounds

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Lipase lyophilized with various ionic compounds (ex. SDS, previously used as additives) dramatically enhanced the enantiose-lectivity in the esterification, and the enantioselectivity was found to be controlled by the characteristics of ionic compounds and the reaction temperature (Fig. 26).

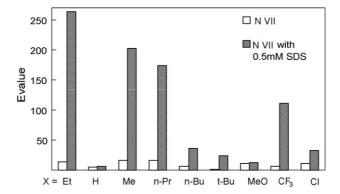


Fig. 26. Enhancement of the enantioselectivity in the esterification of 2-(4-substrated phenoxy) propanoic acid catalyzed by Lipase VII lyophilized with SDS.

Gene cloning and functional analysis of novel short-chain cis-prenyltransferase

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cis-Prenyltransferase (*cis*-PT) catalyze *cis*-condensation of isopentenyl diphosphate (IPP) to allylic diphosphate. We cloned novel short-chain *cis*-PT gene from three kinds of organisms and characterized enzyme activity (Fig. 27).

Fig. 27. Reaction of short-chain cis-PT (cis-farnesyl diphosphate synthase).

Product chain-length determination mechanism of short-chain cis-prenyltransferase from Mycobacterium tuberculosis

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cis-Prenyltransferase catalyze the consecutive condensation of isopentenyl diphosphates with allylic prenyl diphosphates. In this study, we tried to elucidate the product chain-length determination mechanism of cis-farnesyl diphosphate synthase from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (Fig. 28).

Fig. 28. Reaction of cis-farnesyl diphosphate synthase.

Biotransformation (-)-fraxinellone to (-)-fraxinellonone by Aspergillus niger and biological activity of the metabolites

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(-)-Fraxinellone was converted to the two products, (-)-(6S)-6-hydroxyfraxinellone and (-)-fraxinellonone (Fig. 29).

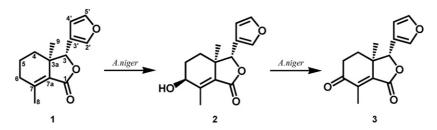


Fig. 29. Possible metabolic pathway of (-)-fraxinellone by A. niger.

Highly enantioselective reduction of ketones with recombinant E. coli cells

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The conditions for the asymmetric reduction of 2,4-octanedione with recombinant *E. coli* over producing a carbonyl reductase (SCR) and a glucose dehydrogenase (GDH) were optimized, and productivity reached 41 g/L (Fig. 30).

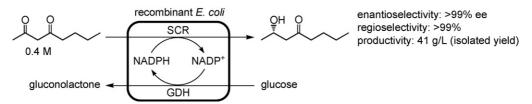


Fig. 30. Enantioselective and regioselective reduction of 2,4-octandione with a recombinant E. coli.

A new synthetic method for chiral 1,2-diamines and its application to the synthesis of bioactive piperidine derivatives

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A practical access to chiral 1,2-diamines and its application to the synthesis of NK-1 antagonists CP-99,994 and L-733,060 have been accomplished starting from enantiomerically pure 4-(*t*-butylcarbamoyl)-1-alken-3-ols which can be obtained through the lipase-catalyzed kinetic resolution (Fig. 31).

Fig. 31. A new synthetic method for chiral 1,2-diamines and its application to the synthesis of bioactive piperidine derivatives.

Production of malic acid by baker's yeast: Fixation of carbon dioxide

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Fixation of carbon dioxide is one of the most important target in research of chemical and biological fields. Here, we would like to report that baker's yeast can immobilize carbon dioxide and produce malic acid. The reaction proceeded under carbon dioxide atmosphere than under air atmosphere. The product, malic acid, was detected by capillary zone electrophoresis and also by the enzymatic method.

Biotransformation of trifluoroacetophenone by lichen mycobionts

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By screening of cultured lichen mycobionts, trifluoroacetophenone was converted to the corresponding (*S*)- and (*R*)-alcohol with highest enantioselectivity in excellent yields by BAM/AB-1 isolated from *Dibaesis absoluta* and PPY/ZA-1 isolated from *Pseudopyrenula* sp., respectively (Table 4).**Regioselectivity in the lipase-catalyzed reactions of dihydric phenols**

Table 4
Asymmetric reduction by lichen mycobionts

Strain	%Yield (%e.e.)	R/S
BAM/AB-1	97.3 (96.3)	S
PPY/ZA-1	97.1 (90.5)	R

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A systematic investigation has been carried out on the regioselectivity during the *Candida antarctica* lipase B-catalyzed acylation or deacylation (Scheme 1) toward the hydroxyls of substituted dihydric phenols, i.e., hydroquinones and resorcinols (Fig. 32).

$$\begin{array}{c|c} OCOC_2H_5 & OH & OCOC_2H_5 & OH \\ \hline \\ OCOC_2H_5 & lipase & P & OCOC_2H_5 & OH \\ \hline \\ R & OCOC_2H_5 & P & OH \\ \hline \end{array}$$

 $R = CH_3$, CH_2CH_3 , $C(CH_3)_3$, $CH_2C_6H_5$, CI, Br, etc.

Fig. 32. Lipase-catalyzed regioselective deacylation of resorcinol derivatives.

Biotransformation of flavonoids

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The biotransformation of polymethoxyflavonoids by microorganism, *Aspergillus niger*, and insect, larvae of *Spodoptera litura*, were investigated and the main reaction was demethylation in *A. niger*, and was glucosylation in larvae of *S. litura* (Fig. 33).

Fig. 33. Biotransformation of polymethoxyflavonoids by A. niger and S. litura.

Gene design for expression of β -structural phosphotriesterase

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Diisopropylfluorophosphatase from Loligo vulgaris was designed on the basis of codon optimized gene strategy (Fig. 34).

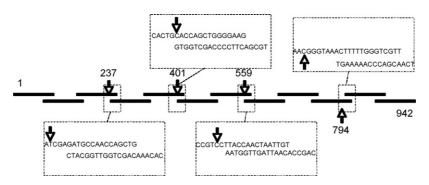


Fig. 34. Gene design of diisopropylfluorophosphatase.

Synthesis of optically active phosphorus compounds using lipase-catalyzed optical resolution

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Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Fukuoka University, Jonan-ku, Fukuoka 814-0180. E-mail: shioji@fukuoka-u.ac.jp The enantioselectivity in the optical resolution of 1-hydroxymethylalkylphenylphosphine oxide (1) and phosphine borane (3) was improved by using co-lyophilized lipases with modified β -cyclodextrins (Fig. 35).

Co-lyophilized lipase with modified β-CD

Ph

Solvent

R = Et,
$$Pr^i$$

R'= CH₃, CH₂CH₃, CH₂CH₂CH₃

R-P

OCOR'

R

Ph

R'= CH₃, CH₂CH₂CH₃

R

Ph

OCOR'

R

R

Ph

OCOR'

R

R

Ph

OCOR'

R

OCOR'

R

OCOR'

R

Ph

OCOR'

R

OCOR'

OCOR'

R

OCOR'

Fig. 35. Co-lyophilized lipase-catalyzed optical resolution of 1-hydroxymethylalkyl-phenylphoshpine oxide and phosphine borane.

Biotransformation of monoterpene alcohols by plant cultured cells

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We investigated the biotransformation of (-)-perillyl alcohol using plant cultured cells. It was found that (-)-perillyl alcohol was converted to 1-perillyl- β -D-glucopyranoside by plant cells of *Eucalyptus perriniana*. Furthermore, 1-perillyl- β -D-glucopyranoside was glycosylated to the corresponding oligosaccharides by a cyclodextringlcanotransferase (Fig. 36).

Fig. 36. Biotransformation of perillyl alcohol.

Biotransformation of taxifolin and quercetin by plant cultured cells of Eucalyptus perriniana

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Plant cultured cells have the ability to glycosylate the hydroxyl group of polyphenols. To analyze the regioselectivity of the glycosylation, we investigate the biotransformation of two flavonoids by plant-cultured cells of *Eucalyptus perriniana* (Fig. 37).

Fig. 37. Biotransformation of taxifolin and quercetin by E. perriniana.

Biotransformation of daidzein by plant cultured cells

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Because daidzein, which is abundant in soybeans, exhibits estrogen-like function, it is expected to alleviate symptoms of osteo-porosis occurring after menopause. To enhance the water-solubility of daidzein, we investigated the glycosylation of daidzein using various kinds of plant-cultured cells (Fig. 38).

Fig. 38. Biotransformation of daidzein by plant cultured cells.