Bovine lens aldehyde dehydrogenase

Kinetics and mechanism

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Bovine lens cytoplasmic aldehyde dehydrogenase exhibits Michaelis-Menten kinetics with acetaldehyde, glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate, p-nitrobenzaldehyde, propionaldehyde, glycolaldehyde, glyceraldehyde, phenylacetylaldehyde and succinic semialdehyde as substrates. The enzyme was also active with malondialdehyde, and exhibited an esterase activity. Steady-state kinetic analyses show that the enzyme exhibits a compulsory-ordered ternary-complex mechanism with NAD+ binding before acetaldehyde. The enzyme was inhibited by disulfiram and by p-chloromercuribenzoate, and studies with mercaptans indicated the involvement of thiol groups in catalysis.

Bovine lens aldehyde dehydrogenase catalyses the irreversible oxidation of a variety of aldehydes to their corresponding acids, with NAD⁺ as the specific cofactor. The purification of the enzyme and the characterization of some of its physical properties have been described in the preceding paper (Ting & Crabbe, 1983).

Detailed initial-steady-state-velocity studies as a function of acetaldehyde and NAD+ concentrations have been carried out on cytoplasmic aldehyde dehydrogenase from human liver (Vallari & Pietruszko, 1981), horse liver (Eckfeldt & Yonetani, 1976) and yeast (Clark & Jakoby, 1970). Similar studies with glyceraldehyde as substrate were also carried out on the enzyme from human liver (Sidhu & Blair, 1975). All these results showed intersection patterns of straight lines in double-reciprocal space, indicative of a sequential mechanism with the formation of a ternary complex.

The study of the steady-state kinetics of both human and horse liver cytoplasmic enzymes in the presence of dead-end inhibitors (substrate analogues) and by product inhibition indicated that they essentially follow an ordered pathway with the initial formation of an E·NAD+ binary complex (Eckfeldt & Yonetani, 1976; Vallari & Pietruszko, 1981), but the human enzyme also shows a minor degree of 'randomness', i.e. both E · NAD+ and E · aldehyde binary complexes were formed before the ternary complex, at higher acetaldehyde concentrations (Vallari & Pietruszko, 1981). However, in similar studies of the human liver enzyme with

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glyceraldehyde as substrate the mechanism has been shown to be essentially following a randomequilibrium pathway (Sidhu & Blair, 1975).

Using competitive substrates, Bradbury & Jakoby (1971) showed that the yeast enzyme's reaction mechanism was ordered, but aldehyde, rather than nucleotide, was the first substrate to bind.

Weiner (1979) has proposed that the carbonyl carbon atom of the aldehyde is attacked by the enzyme nucleophile, which is believed to be an active thiol group, to form a thiohemiacetal. On removal of the hydride to NAD⁺, a thioester results, which then undergoes hydrolysis to form the acid product.

NADH release from the enzyme was found to be the rate-limiting step in human, horse and sheep liver cytoplasmic enzymes (Vallari & Pietruszko, 1981; Eckfeldt & Yonetani, 1976; MacGibbon et al., 1977) by transient kinetic analysis with stopped-flow apparatus.

In the present paper we report the results of steady-state kinetic studies on the bovine lens aldehyde dehydrogenase, which, although a dimer, shows many kinetic similarities to other, tetrameric, aldehyde dehydrogenases.

Materials and methods

Materials

Nucleotides and aldehyde substrates were prepared as described in the preceding paper (Ting & Crabbe, 1983). Chloral hydrate was obtained from BDH Chemicals (Poole, Dorset, U.K.) and recrystallized from chloroform at below 0°C. The uncorrected melting point was 59–60°C, and the i.r. spectrum was identical with that of pure chloral hydrate (Pouchert, 1975). Disulfiram (tetraethyl-

thiuram disulphide) was purchased from Sigma Chemical Co. (Poole, Dorset, U.K.) and recrystallized from ethanol/water before use. Chlorpropamide [1-(p-chlorobenzenesulphonyl)-3-propylurea] (Pfizer, Sandwich, Kent, U.K.) was obtained from the Pharmacy of the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, in tablet form. Ophthalmic acid was kindly given by Dr. Stephen Waley, William Dunn School of Pathology, University of Oxford.

All other substrates and inhibitors were the highest grade obtained from Sigma Chemical Co. and used without further purification.

Enzyme assay

Aldehyde dehydrogenase activity was determined spectrophotometrically by monitoring NADH production at 340 nm in 0.05 m-sodium pyrophosphate buffer, pH 8.4, at 37°C with a Perkin-Elmer 555 double-beam spectrophotometer. A molar absorption coefficient of $6.22 \times 10^3 \,\mathrm{m}^{-1} \cdot \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ was used for NADH. Each assay was run against a blank containing all constituents except substrate. All assays contributing data to one experimental set were performed on the same day. Reaction progress curves were linear for at least 5 min.

Esterase activity was determined by monitoring the conversion of p-nitrophenyl acetate into p-nitrophenol spectrophotometrically at 400 nm in 0.05 M-sodium pyrophosphate buffer, pH 8.4, or 0.05 M-sodium phosphate buffer, pH 7.4; 5% (v/v) acetone was present in all assays. A molar absorption coefficient of $9.8 \times 10^3 \,\mathrm{M}^{-1} \cdot \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ was used for p-nitrophenol at pH 7.4 (Vallari & Pietruszko, 1981) and $18.3 \times 10^3 \,\mathrm{M}^{-1} \cdot \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ for the p-nitrophenolate anion at pH 8.4. Each assay was run against a blank containing the same constituents as the test but without enzyme.

Stock solutions of pure NAD⁺ (100%; Boehringer, Lewes, East Sussex, U.K.) were assayed chemically by the KCN method (Pinder et al., 1971). The concentration of NADH (100%; Boehringer) was calculated from its absorbance at 340 nm. The acetaldehyde concentration in stock solution was calculated by measuring the enzymic production of NAD⁺ with yeast alcohol dehydrogenase in the presence of excess NADH at pH 7.0. Stock solution concentrations of p-nitrophenyl acetate were determined by measuring the increase in absorbance at 400 nm after hydrolysis in 0.1 m-NaOH by using a molar absorption coefficient of 18.3 × 10³ m⁻¹·cm⁻¹ for the p-nitrophenolate anion (Kezdy & Bender, 1962).

One unit of enzyme activity is defined as that amount of enzyme catalysing the formation of 1μ mol of product measured/min.

Time-dependent inhibition was analysed by the procedure described by Crabbe et al. (1975). Enzyme was incubated with inhibitor in a final

volume of 0.2 ml in the cuvette. At appropriate time intervals, substrate and nucleotide were added to give a final volume of 1 ml. The final concentrations of all constituents, except inhibitor, were the same for each experiment. Substrate or nucleotide protection effects were studied by pre-mixing the enzyme with substrate or nucleotide for 30s before incubation with inhibitor, and the rest of the constituents for the assay were added after appropriate time intervals.

Enzyme purification

This was as described in the preceding paper (Ting & Crabbe, 1983).

Data analysis

Data points were fitted to the best line in Eadie-Hofstee or Lineweaver-Burk space by utilizing a least-squares linear-regression computer program. Data were also analysed by using the methods of Crabbe (1982) and Eisenthal & Cornish-Bowden (1974). Statistical analyses were as described previously (Crabbe et al., 1980).

When error bars do not appear on Figures, the standard deviations were within the region described by the plotted points.

Equilibrium constant

The equilibrium constant of the reaction was calculated from the reduction potentials of the half-equations:

NAD⁺ + 2H⁺ + 2e⁻
$$\rightarrow$$
 NADH + H⁺ $(E_0' = -0.32 \text{ V})$
Acetate + 2H⁺ + 2e⁻ \rightarrow acetaldehyde $(E_0' = -0.6 \text{ V})$

under standard conditions (1atm, 25°C and with 1 mol of reactants) at pH 7.0.

Results and discussion

Effects of mercaptans and thiol-blocking reagents

In all these experiments, 2-mercaptoethanol was removed from enzyme solutions by dialysis. Enzyme activity increased in the presence of exogenous mercaptans. Glutathione exhibited a maximum effect at 5 mm, whereas 2-mercaptoethanol exhibited further activation as its concentration was increased from 5 mm to 20 mm. Ophthalmic acid (glutamylbutyrylglycine), a naturally occurring analogue of glutathione (Waley, 1956), did not inhibit the enzyme activity at concentrations up to 2.5 mm with or without the presence of mercaptans, assayed at both pH 8.4 and pH 7.4.

Iodoacetate was ineffective at 0.25 mm, but iodoacetamide inhibited 59% of the enzyme activity at 0.15 mm. Arsenate did not inhibit at 0.25 mm with or without the presence of external mercaptans.

Arsenite, however, inhibited the enzyme by 8% at 0.2 mm, and the inhibition was increased to 50% in the presence of 7.1 mm-2-mercaptoethanol.

Both p-chloromercuribenzoate and disulfiram were strong inhibitors of purified bovine lens aldehyde dehydrogenase. However, 17% of the enzyme activity still remained even when a large excess of disulfiram was added to the assay (enzyme concentration in the assay medium 0.0037 µM, assuming M_r 114000). Fig. 1 shows p-chloromercuribenzoate acting as a time-dependent inhibitor of the enzyme. The mixing of a saturating concentration of substrate with the enzyme before incubation had a protective effect, whereas premixing with the co-substrate, NAD+, only decreased the apparent pseudo-first-order deactivation constant, and the semi-logarithmic plot still reached the same asymptote as that when NAD+ was absent from the incubation mixture.

The data were also plotted in accordance with the procedure described by Crabbe *et al.* (1975). An arbitrary line was extended to the *y*-axis when $V_0/(V_0-V_t)=1$, since, when $[I]\to\infty$, $V_t\to0$ and $V_0/(V_0-V_t)=1$. This secondary plot obtained was also non-linear.

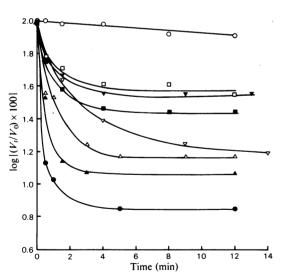


Fig. 1. Time-dependent inhibition of bovine lens aldehyde dehydrogenase by p-chloromercuribenzoate

Semi-logarithmic plots of log (V₁/V₀) against time:

O, 0μM-p-chloromercuribenzoate; □, 2.77μM-p-chloromercuribenzoate; □, 3.46μM-p-chloromercuribenzoate; △, 4.16μM-p-chloromercuribenzoate; △, 4.85μM-p-chloromercuribenzoate; ●, 5.54μM-p-chloromercuribenzoate; ▼, premixed with 44 mM-propionaldehyde, 4.16μM-p-chloromercuribenzoate; ∇, premixed with 0.67 mM-NAD+, 4.16μM-p-chloromercuribenzoate.

Complete inhibition with p-chloromercuribenzoate and disulfiram could not be found even when the inhibitor concentration was much higher than that of the enzyme (400-fold). This suggests that the disulfiram-reactive thiol groups might not be essential for covalent interaction with the aldehyde substrate during catalysis. This phenomenon has also been reported by Kitson (1978) and Dickinson et al. (1981) in studies of inhibition of sheep liver cytoplasmic aldehyde dehydrogenase by disulfiram.

The lack of inhibition with iodoacetate is consistent with our observation that sodium acetate did not inhibit the reaction.

Steady-state kinetics

Substrate specificity. The purified lens enzyme, like purified aldehyde dehydrogenase from other sources, was non-specific towards its aldehyde substrates. $K_{\rm m}$ and $V_{\rm max.}$ values for these aldehydes were obtained with the same batch of purified enzyme preparation, under saturating concentration of the nucleotide. The substrate concentration ranges were at least 250-fold, with 10 mm as the highest substrate concentration for acetaldehyde, propionaldehyde, glycolaldehyde, glyceraldehyde and succinic semialdehyde, 2.5 mm for malondialdehyde and p-nitrobenzaldehyde (owing to the high intrinsic absorbance of these two substrates), 1.8 mm for glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate, and 0.563 mm for phenylacetaldehyde, owing to its solubility.

Substrate inhibition occurred with malondial-dehyde when its concentration exceeded 1 mM in the assay mixture, and deviation from Michaelis—Menten-type kinetics was observed when the results were plotted in Eadie—Hofstee space. Kinetic constants for this substrate were only estimated from the results obtained below 1 mM substrate concentration. The other substrates studied showed no significant deviation from Michaelis—Menten behaviour. $K_{\rm m}$ and $V_{\rm max.}$ values obtained from non-linear-regression analysis for the substrates are shown in Table 1. The enzyme was inactive when NADP+ was substituted for NAD+.

The purified lens aldehyde dehydrogenase also showed esterase activity with p-nitrophenyl acetate. The results obtained at pH 8.4 showed non-linearity when plotted in Eadie–Hofstee space, and substrate inhibition was observed at concentrations above $100\,\mu\mathrm{m}$. Both substrate inhibition and non-linearity disappeared at pH 7.4, when $K_{\mathrm{m}}=4.3\,\mu\mathrm{m}$ and $k_{\mathrm{cat.}}=0.26\,\mathrm{s}^{-1}$.

Preincubation of the enzyme with NAD⁺, acetaldehyde or propionaldehyde inhibited the hydrolysis of *p*-nitrophenyl acetate, as has been found for the purified rabbit liver enzyme (Duncan, 1977).

Initial-velocity studies. Initial-steady-state-velocity studies were performed as a function of acetaldehyde and NAD+ concentrations. Double-

Table 1. Kinetic constants obtained for	various substrates of b	bovine lens aldehvde de	hvdrogenase
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	K _m (mм)	$V_{ m max.}$ (unit/mg of enzyme)	$k_{\rm cat.} ({ m s}^{-1})$ (assuming $M_{\rm r} 114000$)	$10^{-3} \times k_{\text{cat.}} / K_{\text{m}} $ $(M^{-1} \cdot S^{-1})$
Glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate	0.372	0.147	0.28	0.751
<i>p</i> -Nitrobenzaldehyde	0.0034	0.120	0.23	67.65
Propionaldehyde	0.0218	0.974	1.85	84.86
Glycolaldehyde	0.69	0.63	1.20	1.74
Glyceraldehyde	0.39	0.68	1.29	3.31
Acetaldehyde	0.4	0.977	1.86	4.65
Malondialdehyde	0.13	0.628	1.19	9.15
Phenylacetaldehyde	0.00352	0.730	1.39	394.89
Succinic semialdehyde	3.54	0.400	0.76	0.215

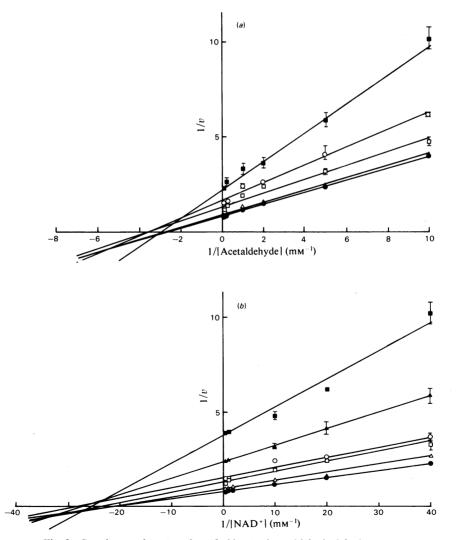


Fig. 2. Steady-state kinetics of purified bovine lens aldehyde dehydrogenase

For details see the text. (a) Plot of 1/v versus 1/[acetaldehyde] for aldehyde dehydrogenase at different [NAD+] values: ●, 2mm; △, 1mm; □, 0.1mm; □, 0.05mm; ■, 0mm. (b) Plot of 1/v versus 1/[NAD+] for aldehyde dehydrogenase at different [acetaldehyde] values: ●, 10mm; △, 5mm; □, 1mm; ○, 0.5mm; ▲, 0.2mm; ■, 0.1mm.

reciprocal plots of 1/v against 1/[acetaldehyde] at a series of concentrations of NAD⁺ gave a series of straight lines intersecting near the -1/[acetaldehyde] axis (Fig. 2a). When the observed experimental data were analysed by a non-linear-regression kinetics program (Crabbe, 1982), all series of data fitted well with the Michaelis-Menten equation.

Similar results were obtained when a double-reciprocal plot of 1/v against $1/[NAD^+]$ at a series of concentrations of acetaldehyde was analysed (Fig. 2b). These observations can be described by the following equation (Cleland, 1963):

$$v = V_{\text{max.}}[A][B]/K_{\text{ia}}K_{\text{b}} + K_{\text{b}}[A] + K_{\text{a}}[B] + [A][B]$$

The values of the constants in the equation were calculated from slope and intercept replots as $V_{\rm max.}=1.206\pm0.006$ unit/mg, $K_{\rm a}=0.053\pm0.006\,{\rm mm}$, $K_{\rm b}=0.365\pm0.025\,{\rm mm}$ and $K_{\rm ia}=0.028\pm0.003\,{\rm mm}$.

Product-inhibition studies. The equilibrium constant for the reaction was calculated as 3×10^9 . Sodium acetate did not inhibit the reaction up to a concentration of 250 mm. NADH was a competitive inhibitor with respect to NAD+ when the fixed [acetaldehyde] was either saturating or non-saturating. The $K_{\text{I(slope)}}$ values obtained in all cases were similar, with a value of 0.083 mm.

No significant inhibition by NADH was observed (up to 0.25 mm) when its inhibition with respect to acetaldehyde was tested at a fixed concentration of NAD+ at 0.2 mm. At 0.05 mm-NAD+ the inhibition pattern was essentially non-competitive (Fig. 3): $K_{\text{l(slope)}} = 0.23 \pm 0.05 \, \text{mm}$ and $K_{\text{l(intercept)}} = 0.26 \pm 0.12 \, \text{mm}$. The constant $K_{\text{l(slope)}}$ for NADH inhibition with respect to NAD+ indicates that the lens enzyme follows an ordered mechanism.

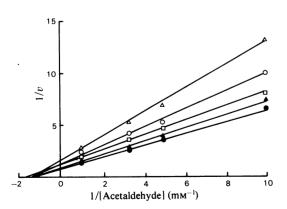


Fig. 3. NADH product inhibition of bovine lens aldehyde dehydrogenase with respect to acetaldehyde $([NAD^+] = 0.05 \text{ mm})$

For details see the text. [NADH] values: \bullet , $0 \mu \text{m}$; \blacktriangle , $51 \mu \text{m}$; \Box , $101 \mu \text{m}$; \bigcirc , $152 \mu \text{m}$; \triangle , $253 \mu \text{m}$.

Substrate analogues

ADP-ribose. The inhibition of the enzyme by ADP-ribose, with respect to NAD+, at fixed acetaldehyde concentration was competitive (Fig. 4a) ($K_{\rm II}=\infty$). The $K_{\rm I(slope)}$ obtained from the secondary plot of slope versus inhibitor concentration was $0.484\pm0.065\,{\rm mm}$, which is also the dissociation constant of ADP-ribose from the E+ADP-ribose complex.

ADP-ribose was essentially non-competitive with respect to acetaldehyde at fixed NAD+ concentration (0.2 mm) (Fig. 4b). In this case the values obtained were $K_{\rm ls}=1.313\pm0.542\,{\rm mm}$ and $K_{\rm ll}=1.911\pm0.951\,{\rm mm}$.

The dissociation constant of ADP-ribose from the $E \cdot ADP$ -ribose complex $(K_1^{ADP-Rlb})$ was calculated from the equations:

$$K_{\rm is} = K_{\rm I}^{\rm ADP-Rib} \left(1 + \frac{[\rm A]}{K_{\rm in}} \right) \tag{1}$$

$$K_{\rm ii} = K_{\rm I}^{\rm ADP-Rib} \left(1 + \frac{[\rm A]}{K_{\rm m}^{\rm A}} \right) \tag{2}$$

in which [A] = 0.2 mm, $K_{\rm ia}$ and $K_{\rm m}^{\rm A}$ were substituted by the values found before. $K_{\rm I}$ values found from $K_{\rm is}$ and $K_{\rm ii}$ are 0.23 ± 0.1 mm (s.D) and 0.34 ± 0.17 mm respectively.

ADP (1mm) was not inhibitory under the same conditions.

Chloral hydrate. The enzyme could not use chloral hydrate as a substrate. However, when it was used as substrate analogue for acetaldehyde, the inhibition patterns were different from those reported by Eckfeldt & Yonetani (1976) on horse liver aldehyde dehydrogenase F_1 and by Vallari & Pietruszko (1981) on human liver aldehyde dehydrogenase E_1 .

A primary reciprocal plot of 1/v against 1/v against 1/v acceptable at fixed NAD+ concentration showed a competitive pattern at low concentrations of chloral hydrate (i.e. only $K_{\rm is}$ effect), but an intercept effect appeared at higher inhibitor concentrations (0.5 mm and 1.0 mm) (Fig. 5). The replots showed that there was a hyperbolic slope effect and a parabolic intercept effect.

The primary plots of 1/v versus $1/[NAD^+]$ at a fixed concentration of acetaldehyde ($10\,\text{mM}$) were non-linear. This non-linearity increased with higher concentrations of chloral hydrate and became more significant at the region of lower NAD⁺ concentrations.

Thio-NAD⁺. Thio-NAD⁺ was found to be an extremely poor alternative substrate to NAD⁺ for this enzyme. The rate of increase of absorbance at 400 nm, due to the enzymic formation of thio-

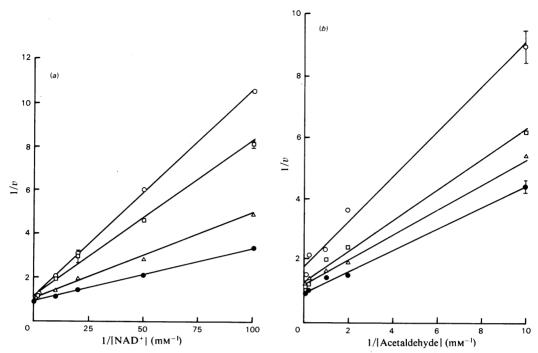


Fig. 4. ADP-ribose as a substrate analogue of purified bovine lens aldehyde dehydrogenase

For details see the text. (a) ADP-ribose inhibition of aldehyde dehydrogenase with respect to [NAD+]: •, 0 mm; △, 0.4 mm; □, 1 mm; ⊙, 1.5 mm. (b) ADP-ribose Inhibition of aldehyde dehydrogenase with respect to [acetaldehyde]:
•, 0 mm; △, 0.4 mm; □, 1 mm; ⊙, 1.5 mm.

NADH, was only 1/265 times that of the formation of NADH, when both were measured under the same assay conditions at pH 8.4.

Since the velocity of the aldehyde dehydrogenase reaction with thio-NAD⁺ is not a significant contribution in the presence of NAD⁺, thio-NAD⁺ was used as a dead-end inhibitor. The results showed that thio-NAD⁺ was competitive with respect to NAD⁺ and non-competitive with respect to acetaldehyde. All the inhibition constants obtained were of lower magnitude than the $K_{\rm la}$ or $K_{\rm a}$ obtained for NAD⁺, indicating a relatively tighter binding between the thio-nucleotide and the enzyme. The inhibition constants obtained from replots were as follows: with respect to NAD⁺, $K_{\rm ll} = \infty$, $K_{\rm ls} = 0.75\,\mu\rm M$; with respect to aldehyde, $K_{\rm ll} = 14.5\,\mu\rm M$, $K_{\rm ls} = 13.5\,\mu\rm M$. The true inhibition constant $K_{\rm l}$ and $K_{\rm ll}^{\prime\prime}$ can be

The true inhibition constant K_1 and K_1'' can be obtained by substituting in eqns. (1) and (2) shown above: $K_1 = 0.60 \mu \text{M}$; $K_1'' = 0.56 \mu \text{M}$.

These constants are similar to that obtained from the K_{1s} (with respect to NAD⁺), 0.75 μ M.

Dead-end inhibitors ADP-ribose and chloral hydrate were used as substrate analogues in order to confirm the ordered mechanism. ADP-ribose was only competitive with respect to NAD+ and non-competitive with respect to acetaldehyde. The $K_{\rm I(slope)}$ and $K_{\rm I(intercept)}$ obtained when acetaldehyde

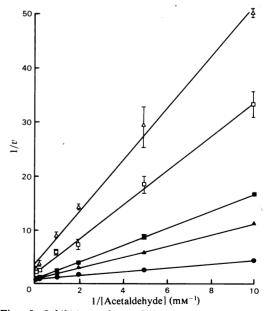


Fig. 5. Inhibition of purified bovine lens aldehyde dehydrogenase by chloral hydrate

For details see the text. Chloral hydrate inhibition of aldehyde dehydrogenase with respect to [acetaldehyde]: ●, 0 mm; ▲, 0.05 mm; ■, 0.1 mm; □, 0.5 mm; △, 1 mm.

Table 2. Summary of inhibition constants for bovine lens aldehyde dehydrogenase

	Calculated	I	l	I	0.18	I	2.74	0.127		ļ	0.01810
$K_{i(intercept)}$ (mM)	Predicted	1	I	ſ	$K_1\left(1+\frac{[A]}{K}\right)$	But	$K_1^{ADP-Rib}\left(1+\frac{[A]}{V}\right)$	$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{\mathbf{a}} \end{pmatrix}$ $K_{\mathrm{Chloral}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 + [\mathbf{B}] \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} \cdot & K_b \end{pmatrix}$	1	$K_1^{\text{Thio-NAD}^+} \left(1 + \frac{[A]}{V} \right)$
	Measured [‡]	1		1	0.26		1.911	0.044	I	1	0.0145
	Calculated§ Measured+			0.083	0.18	0.484	2.74	I	0.03	0.00075	0.01819
$K_{i(slope)}$ (mM)	Predicted#		1	K_{1}	$K_1\left(1+\frac{[A]}{K_1}\right)$	$K_{\rm i}$	$K_i^{ADP-Rib} \left(1 + \frac{[A]}{V} \right)$	/ Wia /	$K_{\dot{ ext{i}}}^{ ext{Choral}}$	KThlo-NAD ⁺	$K_1^{\text{Thio-NAD}} \left(1 + \frac{[A]}{K} \right)$
	Measuredt	1	1	0.083	0.23	0.484	1.313	1	0.03	0.00075	0.0135
Form of	inhibition*	Z	Z	Ö	NC	Ö	NC	nc	ပ	D	O Z
Fixed substrate	(mm)	Acetaldehyde (1, 10)	NAD+ (0.2)	Acetaldehyde (0.5, 5, 10)	NAD+ (0.05)	Acetaldehyde (10)	NAD+ (0.2)	Acetaldehyde (1)	NAD+ (1)	Acetaldehyde (10)	NAD+ (1)
Varied substrate	(mm)	NAD+ (0.2)	Acetaldehyde (0.05–10)	NAD+ (0.025–0.5)	Acetaldehyde (0.1–1)	NAD+ (0.01-1)				NAD+ (0.05-2)	Acetaldehyde (0.1–10)
Inhibitor	(mm)	Acetate (250)	Acetate (250)	NADH (0-0.184)	NADH (0-0.235)	ADP-ribose (0-1.5)	ADP-ribose (0–1.5)	Chloral hydrate (0-0.1)	Chloral hydrate (0-1)	Thio-NAD+ (0-0.0147)	Thio-NAD+ (0-0.0294)

* NI, no inhibition; C, competitive inhibition; NC, non-competitive inhibition; UC, uncompetitive inhibition.

† K_(klope) and K_(intercept) were obtained from replots and linear-regression analysis.

Predicted for compulsory-ordered mechanism.

§ Calculated from predicted; agreement between measured and calculated values support the mechanism.

was the varied substrate were similar to those predicted from an 'Ordered' mechanism. The measured and predicted results for an 'Ordered' mechanism is shown in Table 2. The close resemblance of the calculated and predicted results suggests not only that the mechanism is 'Ordered Sequential' but also that NAD+ is the substrate that binds first.

The non-parallel and intersecting pattern of inhibition by ADP-ribose versus acetaldehyde in this study strongly favours NAD+ to be the first binding substrate. However, when chloral hydrate was used as substrate analogue (with respect to the aldehyde) the expected uncompetitive inhibition by chloral hydrate versus NAD+ was not apparent. The pattern seemed to be masked by a non-specific chloral hydrate effect on the enzyme protein, as was found for the human liver aldehyde dehydrogenase E_1 (Vallari & Pietrusko, 1981).

We therefore suggest that the dimeric bovine lens aldehyde dehydrogenase follows an ordered ternary-complex mechanism, as detailed in Scheme 1. The assignment of NADH as the final product is in accord with other dehydrogenases with ternary complexes.

$$\begin{tabular}{c|cccc} NAD^+ & Aldehyde & Acid & NADH \\ \hline \downarrow & \downarrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \hline E & E \cdot NAD^+ & E \cdot Aldehyde & E \cdot NADH & E \\ \hline & & Scheme 1. \\ \hline \end{tabular}$$

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