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Citation for Chemical Breakthroughs



Demonstration of asymmetric induction in an enzymatically-catalyzed reaction.

J. Biol. Chem. 1953, 202, 687-697.

THE ENZYMATIC TRANSFER OF HYDROGEN*

I. THE REACTION CATALYZED BY ALCOHOL DEHYDROGENASE

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In preliminary communications (1, 2) the authors have reported that the reaction catalyzed by yeast alcohol dehydrogenase involves a direct transfer of hydrogen from ethanol to diphosphopyridine nucleotide (DPN). The essential experiments were performed with 1,1-dideuteroethanol, with which it was shown that the reaction proceeds according to Equation 1.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_{i}\text{CD}_{i}\text{OH} + \\ \hline \\ \text{R} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{Alcohol} \\ \text{dehydrogenase} \end{array}$$

$$\text{CH}_{i}\text{CDO} + \text{H}^{2} + \\ \hline \\ \text{H} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{CONH}_{i} \\ \text{R} \end{array} \tag{1}$$

The present paper discusses the details of the tracer experiments, and the stereochemistry of the monodeutero reduced DPN.

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