MS5-P33 Structure-functional relationships of a novel haloalkane dehalogenase with two halide-binding sites

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Haloalkane dehalogenases (EC 3.8.1.5) are bacterial enzymes cleaving a carbon-halogen bond by a hydrolytic mechanism in a broad range of halogenated aliphatic compounds [1]. Novel haloalkane dehalogenase DbeA from Bradyrhizobium elkanii USDA94 was structurally and biochemically characterized in this study. The crystal structure of DbeA was solved to 2.2 Å resolution and revealed the presence of two halide-binding sites. The first chloride-binding site was located in the active site in between two halide-stabilizing residues. The second chloride-binding site was buried deeply in the protein core and was approximately 10 Å from the first binding site. This second halide-binding site is unique to DbeA and has not been previously reported in any other crystal structure of this enzyme family. To elucidate the role of the second halide-binding site in enzyme functionality, a two-point mutant (I44L+Q102H) lacking this site was constructed, purified and biochemically characterized. Its comparison with the wild type enzyme revealed that elimination of the second halide-binding site decreased stability of the enzyme in the presence of chloride salt and decreased its catalytic activity by an order of magnitude. Moreover, the two-point substitution resulted in a shift of the substrate-specificity class, which is the first time this has been demonstrated for the haloalkane dehalogenase enzyme family. Changes in the catalytic activity of the variant were attributed to deceleration of the rate-limiting hydrolytic step, mediated by lower basicity of the catalytic histidine [2].

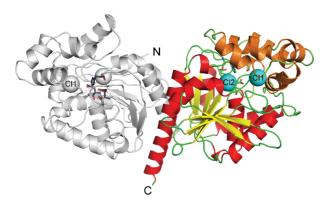


Figure 1. Overall structure of the haloalkane dehalogenase DbeA.

Keywords: Haloalkane dehalogenase, halide-binding site,

MS5-P34 Structure-functional studies of selected haloalkane dehalogenases

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X-ray crystallography is the major technique to get the structure of biological macromolecules at atomic resolution. Protein structures are central to understand the detailed mechanisms of biological processes and to discover novel therapeutics, biosensors, etc. using a structure-based approach. Several non-membrane and membrane protein complexes, which are important for living on the earth, have been crystallized using different crystallization techniques such as standard, advanced and alternative methods.

At this time several haloalkane dehalogenases, their mutant variants and complexes with substrates are systematically studied in our laboratory. Developed methods, obtained crystallization and crystallographic data were compiled and results were published in scientific journals [1]. This presentation will be focused on description and comparison of crystallization conditions and crystallographic results of selected proteins such as DhaA from *Rhodococcus rhodochrous* NCIMB 13064, DbeA of *Bradyrhizobium elkani* USDA94, LinB of *Sphingobium japonicum* UT26, DpcA from *Psychrobacter cryohalolentis* K5, and DmxA from *Marynobacter sp* ELB 17.

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1. Chaloupkova R, et al., *Acta Crystallogr. D Biol. Crystallogr.* **70**, 1884-1897 (2014)

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