

Table 1. Enzymes listed in order of decreasing catalytic proficiency.*

Enzyme	Nonenzymatic $t_{1/2}$ *	k_{non} (s ⁻¹)	k_{cat}^\dagger (s ⁻¹)	$k_{\text{cat}}/K_m^\dagger$ (s ⁻¹ M ⁻¹)	Rate enhancement ($k_{\text{cat}}/k_{\text{non}}$)	Catalytic proficiency [$(k_{\text{cat}}/K_m)/k_{\text{non}}$] (M ⁻¹)
OMP decarboxylase	78,000,000 years	2.8×10^{-16}	39	5.6×10^7	1.4×10^{17}	2.0×10^{23}
Staphylococcal nuclease	130,000 years	1.7×10^{-13}	95	1.0×10^7	5.6×10^{14}	5.9×10^{19}
Adenosine deaminase	120 years	1.8×10^{-10}	370	1.4×10^7	2.1×10^{12}	7.8×10^{16}
AMP nucleosidase	69,000 years	1.0×10^{-11}	60	5.0×10^5	6.0×10^{12}	5.0×10^{16}
Cytidine deaminase	69 years	3.2×10^{-10}	299	2.9×10^6	1.2×10^{12}	9.1×10^{15}
Phosphotriesterase	2.9 years	7.5×10^{-9}	2100	4.0×10^7	2.8×10^{11}	5.3×10^{15}
Carboxypeptidase A	7.3 years	3.0×10^{-9}	578	6.6×10^6	1.9×10^{11}	2.2×10^{15}
Ketosteroid isomerase	7 weeks	1.7×10^{-7}	66000	3.0×10^8	3.9×10^{11}	1.8×10^{15}
Triosephosphate isomerase	1.9 days	4.3×10^{-6}	4300	2.4×10^8	1.0×10^9	5.6×10^{13}
Chorismate mutase	7.4 hours	2.6×10^{-5}	50	1.1×10^6	1.9×10^6	4.2×10^{10}
Carbonic anhydrase	5 s	1.3×10^{-1}	1×10^6	1.2×10^8	7.7×10^6	9.2×10^8
Cyclophilin, human	23 s	2.8×10^{-2}	13000	1.5×10^7	4.6×10^5	5.3×10^8

*Nonenzymatic reaction rate constants were obtained for OMP decarboxylase and staphylococcal nuclease from the present work, for adenosine and cytidine deaminases from (5), for AMP nucleosidase from (25), for phosphotriesterase from (26), for carboxypeptidase A from (3), for ketosteroid isomerase from (27), for triosephosphate isomerase from (28), for chorismate mutase from (4), for carbonic anhydrase from (2), and for cyclophilin from (3). †Enzyme reaction rate constants were obtained for OMP decarboxylase from (7), for staphylococcal nuclease from (29), for adenosine deaminase from (30), for AMP nucleosidase from (31), for phosphotriesterase from (26), for carboxypeptidase A from (32), for ketosteroid isomerase from (33), for triosephosphate isomerase from (34), for chorismate mutase from (4), for carbonic anhydrase from (35), and for cyclophilin from (36).