

Title	Investigation on single-gene Knockout Escherichia coli mutants which could enhance the activity of cytochrome P450
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[15] Ying Zhou 氏 博士の専攻分野の名称 博 士 (T. 学) 学 位 記 番 号 第 24185 号 学位授与年月日 平成22年9月22日 学位授与の要件 学位規則第4条第1項該当 工学研究科生命先端工学専攻 学 位 論 文 名 Investigation on single-gene knockout Escherichia coli mutants which could enhance the activity of cytochrome P450 (シトクロムP450の活性向上に効果的な大腸菌1遺伝子破壊株に関する研 論 文 審 査 委 員 (主査) 教 授 大竹 久夫 (副査) 教 授 原島 教 授 仁平 卓也 准教授 本田 孝祐

論文内容の要旨

Cytochrome P450 monooxygenases (P450s) are ubiquitously distributed enzymes, which display a broad range of bioconversion activity. They form a diverse group of hemoproteins acting on a broad range of substrates and catalyzing a variety of oxygenation reactions. However, their catalytic power has so far hardly been used in bioprocesses, since they are not intrinsically very active and exhibit poor stability. Most prokaryotic P450s require specific redox partners, ferredoxin and ferredoxin reductase, for electron transfer, and NAD(P)H as a cofactor. This indicates that whole cells are favored in the use of P450s, because P450s and their redox partners can be capsulated in the cells and efficient interaction can be achieved. Moreover, NAD(P)H regeneration is generally easier and less expensive in metabolically active cells. The aim of this study is to enhance the activity of P450s which are used in a whole cell. Instead of a conventional approach to the improvement of the specific activity of P450 itself, optimization of the host cell was employed as a strategy to enhance the activity of the whole cell catalysts. By a systematic screening of Escherichia coli single gene knockout (SGK) mutants, we successfully improved the activity of several P450s by 1.8·7.9 times compared to that of the control. The results described in each chapter can be summarized as follows:

The chapter 2 describes a systematic screening of SGK mutants that can enhance the activity of CYP154A1, a P450 derived from $Streptomyces\ coelicolor\ A3(2)$, using the library of SGK mutants (Keio collection). After the 96-well plate high-throughput screening followed by test tube assays, three mutants ($\Delta cpxA$, $\Delta gcvR$, and $\Delta glnL$) and an unknown gene-deleted one (Δuk) were able to increase the CYP154A1 activity by approximately 1.4·1.7 times compared with that of the control strain. For the $\Delta cpxA$, $\Delta gcvR$, and $\Delta glnL$ mutants, the polar effect of the introduced kanamycin gene cassette on the expression of downstream genes was excluded by construction of their respective in frame deletion mutants. In the meantime, by constructing new deletion mutations as well as observing complementation by wild type genes on a low copy vector, the observed enhanced activities were confirmed to be truly dependent on the respective deleted genes. As to the Δuk mutant, the newly constructed mutant obtained by disrupting the unknown gene in E. coli BW25113, failed to enhance the CYP154A1 activity. This suggested that the high CYP154A1 activity of the Δuk mutant in the Keio collection was due to a

spontaneous mutation in the chromosome. To pursue synergistic effects of disrupting two genes, double gene-knockout mutants were constructed. The double cpxA and gcvR gene knockout mutant could not be generated by the method used in this study. This double mutation might have a lethal effect on E. $coli\,BW25113$. Although the specific activities of $\Delta cpxA/\Delta glnL$ and $\Delta gcvR/\Delta glnL$ could be significantly enhanced compared with those of the corresponding SGK mutants, the total activities of both double knockout mutants were modest due to their poor growth.

The chapter 3 deals with the enhancement of P450 activity in the cpx4-deficient mutant of Escherichia coli. The cpxA-deficient mutant of E. coli BW25113 was found to be able to enhance the activity of cytochrome P450s, including CYP154A1 of S. coelicolor, compactin 6β-hydroxylase (BoxA) of Streptomyces flavus A·177, vitamin D₃ hydroxylase (VDH) of Pseudonocardia autotrophica, and a mutant enzyme (BM3 F87V) derived from P450 BM3 of Bacillus megaterium, by 1.8-7.9 times compared with those detected with the parental strain E. coli BW25113 (DE3). Different combinations of redox proteins were employed as electron mediators for BoxA and VDH, namely, CamA and CamB for BoxA, and AciB and AciC for VDH, respectively. BM3 F87V is a self-sufficient P450 equipped with a NADPH-P450 reductase domain in a single polypeptide. This indicated that the ability of the cpxA deficient mutant to enhance the activity of P450s was not dependent on their redox systems. Promoter dependency analysis revealed that the enhanced activity of the enzymes was detectable only when the genes encoding the enzymes were expressed under the control of lactose-inducible promoters. The cpxA-deficient mutant also exhibited β-galactosidase activity approximately 1.5-fold greater than did the parental strain, showing that the enhancing effect was not unique to the activity of cytochrome P450s and that the mutant would be a versatile host strain for recombinant gene expression. The result of real time PCR showed that the enhancement of the enzyme activities was attributed to increased transcriptional levels of the genes coding for the enzymes.

論文審査の結果の要旨

生体触媒を利用した化学品生産は、バイオテクノロジーの主要な産業応用例のひとつである。環境問題への関心の高まりから、化学品生産の場においても化石資源に依存した産業構造からの脱却が求められており、再生可能資源を出発物質とした生産プロセス開発などに力が注がれている。生体触媒反応の利用はこの目的に強く合致したものであるが、化学触媒と比較した生体触媒の反応効率は概して低いため、現時点での応用例は業界全体から見ればごく一握りにすぎず、今後の技術開発に寄せられる期待は大きい。本論文の第1章では生体触媒利用技術におけるこれらの背景が取りまとめられている。

化学品生産のための生体触媒としては、生物学的多様性およびハンドリングの容易さから微生物細胞あるいは微生物由来酵素が用いられるケースがほとんどである。単離酵素に比べ、細胞そのものを触媒とする場合は、複数のコンボーネントからなる酵素反応や複数の酵素による多段階反応の実施が可能といった長所が挙げられる。しかしその一方で、共存酵素による副反応や目的酵素の分解、あるいは基質・生成物の細胞膜(壁)透過性といった宿主由来のファクターが効率的な反応を妨げることも稀ではない。タンパク質工学、進化工学と呼ばれる手法により目的酵素そのものの機能を高める研究報告は数多くみられるが、同様の考えに基づき宿主由来のファクターを改変することにより、触媒微生物の力価を高めることができないか?できるとすれば、それはいかなるメカニズムに基づくものであるか?を探究したのが本論文の要点であるといえる。

第2章では、約4,000個の大腸菌遺伝子のそれぞれを個別に破壊した1遺伝子欠損株ライブラリーを宿主にマルチコンポーネント酵素の一つであるシトクロム P450 モノオキシゲナーゼ (P450) を過剰発現させ、細胞そのものを触媒とした場合の酵素反応効率を向上させる変異株を探索している。Streptomyces coelicolor 由来の P450 (CYP154A1)をレポーター遺伝子としたスクリーニングの結果、4 株の1遺伝子欠損株において野生株を宿主とした場合に比べ、CYP154A1活性が1.5倍程度向上することを見出している。破壊株の再構築、In-frame deletion 株の構築と相補実験により、4 株のうち cpx4、gcvR、glnL 破壊株の3 株について、当該遺伝子の欠損が CYP154A1活性の向上に直接寄与することを確認している。

第3章では、得られた高活性変異株のうち、cpx4 破壊株に焦点を絞り、CYP154A1 以外のP450 に対する影響を調査するとともに、その活性向上メカニズム解明を試みている。産業応用が期待される3種のP450 について発現株の構築と活性測定を実施した結果、目的酵素遺伝子の発現にIPTG 誘導型プロモーターを用いた場合、試験した全てのP450 について4~8倍

