Generalized Haldane equation and fluctuation theorem in the steady-state cycle kinetics of single enzymes

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Enyzme kinetics are cyclic. We study a Markov renewal process model of single-enzyme turnover in nonequilibrium steady state (NESS) with sustained concentrations for substrates and products. We show that the forward and backward cycle times have identical nonexponential distributions: $\Theta_+(t) = \Theta_-(t)$. This equation generalizes the Haldane relation in reversible enzyme kinetics. In terms of the probabilities for the forward (p_+) and backward (p_-) cycles, $k_BT \ln(p_+/p_-)$ is shown to be the chemical driving force of the NESS, $\Delta\mu$. More interestingly, the moment generating function of the stochastic number of substrate cycle $\nu(t)$, $\langle e^{-\lambda\nu(t)}\rangle$, follows the fluctuation theorem in the form of Kurchan-Lebowitz-Spohn-type symmetry. When $\lambda = \Delta\mu/k_BT$, we obtain the Jarzynski-Hatano-Sasa-type equality $\langle e^{-\nu(t)\Delta\mu/k_BT}\rangle \equiv 1$ for all t, where $\nu\Delta\mu$ is the fluctuating chemical work done for sustaining the NESS. This theory suggests possible methods to experimentally determine the non-equilibrium driving force in situ from turnover data via single-molecule enzymology.

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Most biochemical reactions in a living cell have nonzero flux J and nonzero chemical driving force $\Delta \mu$. The nonequilibrium state of such a reaction is sustained by continuous material and energy exchange with and heat dissipation into its environment [1]. Hence, to understand the state of a biochemical network in an open environment, it is necessary to be able to experimentally measure both J and $\Delta \mu$ in situ. A large literature exists on measuring J, but none exists on directly measuring $\Delta \mu$. One could in principle compute $\Delta \mu$ from in situ measurements of the concentrations of the substrate and product of a reaction if its equilibrium constant is known [2]. Alternatively, one should be able to obtain $\Delta \mu$ from fluctuating cycle kinetics of a single enzyme directly. This possibility has been recently investigated in term of stochastic simulations [3]. Here we exam this idea through an analytical model.

Enzyme kinetics are complex mainly due to the many possible intermediates in the form of enzyme-substrate complexes. Recent laboratory measurements with high resolution at the single-molecule level give the waiting time distributions for enzyme cycles [4]. This motived the present Markov renewal process (MRP) model, also known as the extended kinetics model in the theory of motor proteins [5]. In terms of the MRP, the kinetics of a single enzyme becomes a stochastic sequence of forward and backward cycles as a function of time. We shall denote the number of forward and backward cycles by $\nu_+(t)$ and $\nu_-(t)$, as shown in Fig. 1.

It is obvious that the cycle time distributions give information on the kinetics. In this Rapid Communication we show that the key nonequilibrium thermodynamic quantity, $\Delta\mu$, can be obtained from stochastic data on single-enzyme cycle $\nu(t) \equiv \nu_+(t) - \nu_-(t)$ via two equalities

$$\Delta \mu = k_B T \ln[\langle \nu_+(t) \rangle / \langle \nu_-(t) \rangle], \tag{1}$$

$$\langle e^{-\nu(t)\Delta\mu/k_BT}\rangle = 1 \quad \forall t,$$
 (2)

where $\langle \cdots \rangle$ is the ensemble average for repeated measurements of $\nu(t)$ in a steady state. Equation (1) generalizes a result well known for one-step chemical reactions [1,6]. Equation (2) is a version of the fluctuation theorem (FT) in nonequilibrium statistical mechanics. The FT for the probability distribution of entropy production of a nonequilibrium steady-state (NESS) was first discovered in deterministic dynamical systems [7]. Kurchan, Lebowitz, and Spohn (KLS) introduced a parallel theory in terms of stochastic dynamics [8] which is more appropriate for single-enzyme experiments [4,9,10]. It was shown that the generating function, i.e., an exponential average, of a work functional W(t) possesses a certain symmetry in the limit of $t \rightarrow \infty$. Crooks introduced a heat functional Q(t) and showed that similar symmetry is valid for all finite t [11]: $c_{\lambda}(t) = c_{1-\lambda}(t)$ where $c_{\lambda}(t) = \langle e^{-\lambda Q(t)/k_BT} \rangle$. Since Q(t) and W(t) differ by a stationary term while both increase without boundy, Crooks' result im-

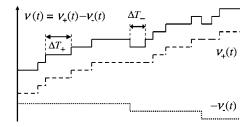


FIG. 1. The solid line illustrates ideal data on single-enzyme cycling as a function of time, $\nu(t)$, which can be decomposed into $\nu_+(t)$ and $\nu_-(t)$, shown as dashed and dotted lines. The starting positions are arbitrary. ΔT_+ and ΔT_- are forward and backward cycle times.

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mediately yields that of KLS. The symmetry in the generating function implies the FT for Q [12].

The symmetry implies that $\ln(e^{-Q(t)/k_BT})=0$. This is analogous to the Jarzynski equality [13], which is surprising since $\langle Q(t)\rangle = -k_BT \ln e^{-\langle Q(t)\rangle/k_BT}$ is the mean heat dissipated from the NESS, which certainly is not equal to 0; it should always be greater than 0. The Jarzynski equality provides the possibility obtaining a function of state such as the free energy from a nonstationary heat functional Q(t) with finite t. This was proposed and experimentally tested for the mechanical work functional on single biological macromolecules such as RNA [14,10].

The difference between the FTs for W(t) in the limit of infinite t and for Q(t) with any finite t is crucial to real experiments. In heuristic thermodynamic terms, the work functional W(t) [8] is related to the $\Delta \mu^0$ of a reaction and the heat functional Q(t) [11] to $\Delta \mu$. While the former is determined by the transition rate constants, and hence is experimentally accessible in short time, the latter depends on the stationary probability. For cyclic enzymatic turnovers, however, W=Q. Hence, the FT associated with enzyme cycle kinetics is particularly simple, and experimentally accessible [3]. Generalizing the Jarzynski equality to open systems, Hatano and Sasa's equality for the NESS [13] also suggested the possibility of the computing chemical driving force for single-molecule chemical reactions in NESS (see [3,15]).

To show Eqs. (1) and (2), there are two strategies. One is based on traditional Markov models, i.e., master equations, for single-enzyme kinetics. Then both equations can be show as consequences of the existing FTs [8,11]. An alternative, the more insightful approach is to model the kinetics in terms of a MRP with cycle kinetics. In our model, we shall show a surprising equality between the forward and backward cycle time distributions: $\Theta_{+}(\tau) = \Theta_{-}(\tau)$. With this equality, Eq. (1) becomes obvious, and Eq. (2) can be shown in elementary terms, in Eqs. (7)–(11) below.

The equality $\Theta_+(\tau) = \Theta_-(\tau)$ turns out to be a very important relation in enzyme kinetics. This is a key result of this work. It has to do with microscopic reversibility. There is experimental evidence for it, as well as theoretical models proving equal mean time $\langle \Delta T_+ \rangle = \langle \Delta T_- \rangle$ [16,17]. We shall give a proof for the equal distribution with sequential enzyme kinetics. The proof for more general systems will be published elsewhere [18].

The detailed kinetic scheme of an enzyme-catalyzed biochemical reaction $A \rightleftharpoons B$ is usually very complex [19]. But if one considers only the net number of steady-state turnovers from A to B, v(t), it can be represented by a continuous-time, discrete-state one-dimensional random walk with cumulative cycle time distribution functions $\Theta_{\pm}(t)$ for the forward and the backward stochastic transition times ΔT_{+} and ΔT_{-} : $\Theta_{\pm}(0) = 0$, $\Theta_{\pm}(\infty) = 1$, and $\Theta_{\pm}(t)$ are nondecreasing. This is a class of stochastic models known as MRPs [20] which has wide applications in single-enzyme kinetics and motor protein stepping [21,5]. See Fig. 2 in which $w_{\pm}(t) = p_{\pm}\Theta_{\pm}(t)$ and $p_{+} + p_{-} = 1$. p_{+} (p_{-}) is the eventual probability of the enzyme binding A (B) and converting it to B (A). We shall also denote $w(t) = w_{+}(t) + w_{-}(t)$.

We discover that a necessary condition for Eqs. (1) and

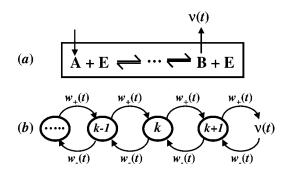


FIG. 2. (a) Schematics for an enzyme reaction converting substrate A to product B. In a NESS, the concentrations for A and B, c_A and c_B , are controlled through feedback by an experimenter. The cumulative number of B taken out by the time t is denoted by $\nu(t)$, $-\infty < \nu(t) < \infty$. (b) The integer-valued $\nu(t)$ is most naturally modeled by a random walk with forward and backward time distributions $w_+(t)$ and $w_-(t)$ [5].

(2) is that the cycle time distributions for the forward and backward steps are equal: $\Theta_{+}(t) = \Theta_{-}(t)$. We call this the equality generalized Haldane equation [22].

The position of the random walker in Fig. 2(b), $\nu(t)$, models the net number of enzyme turnovers. Let ν_0 =0, $\Delta\nu_1$, $\Delta\nu_2,\ldots,\Delta\nu_\ell,\ldots$ ($\Delta\nu$ =±1) be successive increments of the turnover number, and T_0 =0, $\Delta T_1,\Delta T_2,\ldots,\Delta T_\ell,\ldots$ (ΔT \geq 0) be the corresponding increments in time. Then the probabilistic meaning of $w_\pm(t)$ is the joint probability for continuous ΔT and binary $\Delta\nu$:

$$w_{+}(t) = \Pr\{\Delta \nu_{\ell} = \pm 1, \Delta T_{\ell} \le t\} \quad (\ell \ge 1).$$
 (3)

The equation $\Theta_+(t) = \Theta_-(t)$ leads to $w_\pm(t) = p_\pm w(t)$. That is, the random variables $\Delta \nu_\ell$ and ΔT_ℓ are statistically independent.

To show the equality $\Theta_+(t) = \Theta_-(t)$ for forward and backward cycles, we consider a sequential enzyme reaction as shown in Fig. 3(a) and a corresponding exit problem [23] shown in Fig. 3(b). Starting at the central position E, $w_+(t)$ and $w_-(t)$ are the cumulative probabilities of reaching B+E and A+E. Since only the first and last steps are irreversible,

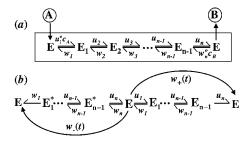


FIG. 3. (a) A schematic for an enzyme reaction converting A to B. The transition time distribution of a single enzyme converting A to B, $w_+(t)$, and converting B to A, $w_-(t)$, is intimately related to the exit problem shown in (b) in which u_1 and w_n are pseudo-first-order rate constants that depend on the concentrations of A and B, respectively: $u_1 = u_1^o c_A$, $w_n = w_n^o c_B$. The scheme in (b) has been used to compute steady-state one-way flux in Hill's theory on biochemical cycle kinetics [25,6].

 $w_+(t)$ and $w_-(t)$ both have 2n+1 exponential terms with the same eigenvalues, one of which is 0. Thus both can be written as $a_0 + a_1 e^{-\lambda_1 t} + a_2 e^{-\lambda_2 t} + \dots + a_{2n} e^{-\lambda_2 n t}$. With some straightforward algebra, it can be shown that for all $0 \le m \le 2n$ [24]

$$\frac{1}{w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n} \frac{d^m w_-(0)}{dt^m} = \frac{1}{u_1 u_2 \cdots u_n} \frac{d^m w_+(0)}{dt^m}.$$
 (4)

Since the functions $w_+(t)$ and $w_-(t)$ are completely determined by these initial conditions, which satisfy the linear algebraic system, we have

$$\frac{w_{+}(t)}{w_{-}(t)} \equiv \prod_{\ell=1}^{n} \left(\frac{w_{\ell}}{u_{\ell}}\right) = e^{-\Delta \mu / k_{B}T},\tag{5}$$

independent of t. That is, $\Theta_{-}(t) = \Theta_{+}(t)$.

The meaning of the equality now becomes clear: We recall that u_1 and w_n are pseudo-first-order rate constants: $u_1=u_1^o c_A$ and $w_n=w_n^o c_B$. In a chemical equilibrium,

$$\frac{c_B}{c_A} = \frac{u_1^o u_2 \cdots u_{n-1} u_n}{w_1 w_2 \cdots w_{n-1} w_n^o},\tag{6}$$

that is, $w_+(t) = w_-(t)$. Therefore, in a chemical equilibrium not only does the average $w_+(\infty) = w_-(\infty)$, i.e., the forward flux equals the backward flux, but the detailed kinetics for the transition time distributions has to be equivalent: There is absolutely no statistical difference between the forward and backward reactions. In a NESS when Eq. (6) does not hold true, $w_+(t) \neq w_-(t)$. But the difference is only in the total probability $p_+ = w_+(\infty)$ and $p_- = w_-(\infty)$, the distribution functions $\Theta_+(t) = \Theta_-(t)$ still hold true. This equality is essential to the KLS symmetry below. It is known that microscopic reversibility has to be satisfied even when a mesoscopic system is in a nonequilibrium steady state [8].

For the number k of successive renewal events (forward plus backward turnovers) within time [0,t], let us denote $(\nu_k,T_k)=\sum_{\ell=1}^k(\Delta\nu_\ell,\Delta T_\ell)$. The moment-generating function for $\nu(t)$ is

$$g_{\lambda}(t) \equiv \langle e^{-\lambda \nu(t)} \rangle = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda n} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \Pr\{\nu_k = n, T_k \le t, T_{k+1} > t\}$$
(7)

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{n=-k}^{k} e^{-\lambda n} \Pr\{\nu_k = n\} \right)$$

$$\times \Pr\{T_k \le t, T_{k+1} > t\}$$
(8)

$$= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (p_{+}e^{-\lambda} + p_{-}e^{\lambda})^{k} \Pr\{T_{k} \le t, T_{k+1} > t\}.$$
(9)

Equation (8) is obtained because of the independence between ν_k and T_k . Then from Eq. (9) we have the KLS symmetry

$$g_{\lambda}(t) = g_{\lambda^* - \lambda}(t) \quad \forall \quad t,$$
 (10)

where $\lambda^* = \ln(p_+/p_-)$. Furthermore,

$$g_{\lambda^*}(t) \equiv \langle e^{-\nu(t)\Delta\mu/k_B T} \rangle = g_0(t) = 1, \tag{11}$$

if $\ln(p_+/p_-) = \Delta \mu/k_B T$ holds true. We recognize that $\nu(t)\Delta \mu$ is the external chemical work done to the system in a NESS. Hence Eq. (11) is analogous to the Jarzynski equality for a cycle.

If we let $t \to \infty$ in Eq. (5), we have $\ln(p_+/p_-) \equiv \lambda^* = \Delta \mu/k_B T$, which is needed in deriving Eq. (11). This generalizes the well-known result for single-step chemical reactions [25,6] to any complex enzyme reaction cycle.

We are now also in a position to show Eq. (1). The mean number of net turnovers can be computed from the $g_{\lambda}(t)$ given in Eq. (9):

$$\langle \nu(t) \rangle = \langle \nu_{+}(t) \rangle - \langle \nu_{-}(t) \rangle = -\left[\frac{dg_{\lambda}(t)}{d\lambda}\right]_{\lambda=0}$$
 (12)

$$= (p_{+} - p_{-}) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k \Pr\{T_{k} \le t, T_{k+1} > t\}$$
 (13)

$$=(p_{+} - p_{-})$$
× (mean no. of cycles in time t). (14)

Therefore, $\frac{\langle \nu_+ \rangle}{\langle \nu_- \rangle} = \frac{p_+}{p_-}$. Furthermore, in the limit of large t [23], $\langle \nu(t) \rangle \approx (p_+ - p_-) t / \langle T_1 \rangle$, where $\langle T_1 \rangle = \int_0^\infty t \, dw(t)$ is the mean time for one cycle, forward or backward. When $p_+ = p_-$, the steady-state flux $J = \lim_{t \to \infty} \langle \nu(t) \rangle / t = 0$ as expected. When $p_+ > p_-$, J > 0.

Studying enzyme-catalyzed biochemical reactions in situ requires methods for measuring $\Delta \mu$, the NESS chemical driving force. Currently none exists. We propose obtaining $\Delta \mu$ from stochastic cycle data of a single-enzyme molecule, $\nu(t)$, via (i) an equality similar to that of Jarzynski and Hatano-Sasa, $\langle e^{-\nu(t)\Delta\mu lk_BT}\rangle=1$; or simply (ii) $k_B T \ln[\langle \nu_+(t) \rangle / \langle \nu_-(t) \rangle]$. We developed a MRP model for enzyme cycles with arbitrary complex mechanism, and found an equality between the forward and backward cycle time distributions based on microscopic reversibility. This equality is a generalization of what is known as the Haldane relation for reversible enzyme kinetics and recent results in [17]. The model enables us to establish a FT and above equalities (i) and (ii) for any t. Noting that $(1/t)\langle \nu(t)\rangle = J$, one thus obtains both the flux J and the driving force $\Delta \mu$ for a reaction in a NESS from the fluctuating v(t). The statistical accuracies associated with these measurements were discussed in [3].

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