

# APPENDIX 3: Reactions Catalyzed by RNA and DNA Enzymes

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Table 1 Reactions catalyzed by RNA and DNA enzymes

| Reaction <sup>a</sup>          | Enzyme <sup>b</sup> | Catalytic activity <sup>c</sup>       |                                  |                                   | Reference                      |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                                |                     | $k_{\text{cat}}$ (min <sup>-1</sup> ) | $K_{\text{m}}$ ( $\mu\text{M}$ ) | $k_{\text{cat}}/k_{\text{uncat}}$ |                                |
| Phosphoester transfer          | R-nat               | 0.1                                   | $1 \times 10^{-3}$               | $10^{11}$                         | Herschlag and Cech (1990)      |
|                                | R-lab               | 0.3                                   | 0.02                             | $10^{13}$                         | Tsang and Joyce (1996)         |
| Phosphoester cleavage          | R-nat               | 1                                     | 0.05                             | $10^6$                            | Fedor and Uhlenbeck (1992)     |
|                                | R-lab               | 0.1                                   | 0.03                             | $10^5$                            | Vaish et al. (1998)            |
| Polynucleotide ligation        | D-lab               | 3                                     | $8 \times 10^{-4}$               | $10^6$                            | Santoro and Joyce (1997)       |
|                                | R-nat               | 4                                     | 3                                | $10^6$                            | Hegg and Fedor (1995)          |
|                                | R-lab               | 100                                   | 9                                | $10^9$                            | Ekland et al. (1995)           |
|                                | D-lab               | 0.04                                  | 100                              | $10^4$                            | Cuenoud and Szostak (1995)     |
| Polynucleotide phosphorylation | R-lab               | 0.3                                   | 40                               | $>10^5$                           | Lorsch and Szostak (1994)      |
| Mononucleotide polymerization  | R-lab               | 0.3                                   | $5 \times 10^3$                  | $>10^7$                           | Ekland and Bartel (1996)       |
| Polynucleotide aminoacylation  | R-lab               | 1                                     | $9 \times 10^3$                  | $10^6$                            | Illangasekare and Yarus (1997) |
| Aminoacyl ester hydrolysis     | R-nat               | 0.02                                  | 0.5                              | 10                                | Piccirilli et al. (1992)       |
| Aminoacyl transfer             | R-lab               | 0.2                                   | 0.05                             | $10^3$                            | Lohse and Szostak (1996)       |

|                           |                    |                      |                     |  |                  |                           |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--|------------------|---------------------------|
| Amide bond cleavage       | R-lab              |                      |                     |  | 10 <sup>2</sup>  | Dai et al. (1995)         |
| Amide bond formation      | R-lab <sup>d</sup> | 0.04                 | 2                   |  | 10 <sup>5</sup>  | Wiegand et al. (1997)     |
| Peptide bond formation    | R-lab              | 0.05                 | 200                 |  | 10 <sup>6</sup>  | Zhang and Cech (1997)     |
| <i>N</i> -alkylation      | R-lab              | 0.6                  | 1 × 10 <sup>3</sup> |  | 10 <sup>7</sup>  | Wilson and Szostak (1995) |
| <i>S</i> -alkylation      | R-lab              |                      |                     |  | 10 <sup>3</sup>  | Wecker et al. (1996)      |
| Oxidative DNA cleavage    | D-lab              |                      |                     |  | >10 <sup>6</sup> | Carmi et al. (1996)       |
| Biphenyl rotation         | R-lab              | 3 × 10 <sup>-5</sup> | 500                 |  | 10 <sup>2</sup>  | Prudent et al. (1994)     |
| Porphyrin metallation     | R-lab              | 0.9                  | 10                  |  | 10 <sup>3</sup>  | Conn et al. (1996)        |
|                           | D-lab              | 0.2                  | 3 × 10 <sup>3</sup> |  | 10 <sup>3</sup>  | Li and Sen (1996)         |
| Diels-Alder cycloaddition | R-lab <sup>d</sup> | >0.1                 | >500                |  | 10 <sup>3</sup>  | Tarasow et al. (1997)     |

<sup>a</sup>One example is listed for each class of reaction and each type of enzyme. In some cases additional examples have been reported.

<sup>b</sup>(R-nat) RNA enzyme derived from a naturally occurring catalytic RNA; (R-lab) RNA enzyme obtained by in vitro evolution; (D-lab) DNA enzyme obtained by in vitro evolution.

<sup>c</sup>Values for  $k_{\text{cat}}$  and  $K_m$  are listed to one significant digit even if more precise data were reported. Not all  $k_{\text{cat}}$  values reflect the chemical step of the reaction.

<sup>d</sup>Contains 5-substituted uridine analogs that are essential for catalysis.

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