

Heterogeneous systems biocatalysis: a valuable tool to optimize multi-enzyme cascades

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In the last decade, the chemists have been delighted by the catalytic orchestration found *in vivo*, and have isolated multi-enzyme system to work *ex-vivo* in both natural and non-natural tandem reactions creating a new concept: systems biocatalysis.^[1,2] These systems are the pioneers of the cell-free synthetic biology; an emerging discipline that seeks the simplest biology to make the most complex chemistry. We have paid our attention to the heterogenization of multi-enzyme system to catalyze tandem reactions. Co-immobilization of multi-enzyme systems improve: 1) the kinetics of the chemical cascades due to the spatial localization of the different biocatalytic modules that avoids intermediate accumulation and increases cofactor recycling efficiency, 2) the stability of the biocatalysts due to both structural rigidification and *in situ* elimination of toxic by-products, 3) the biocatalyst recycle and 4) the biocatalyst adaptation to continuous processes. Nevertheless, the co-immobilization of several enzymes to carry out synthetic cascades is challenging because there is no a universal immobilization chemistry that optimally attaches all the enzymes to the same surface. We have recently developed four immobilized multi-enzyme systems:^[3,4,5] 2-enzyme cascade for synthesizing optically pure secondary alcohols with *in situ* cofactor recycling, 3-enzyme cascade for oxidizing phenol derivatives with *in situ* H₂O₂ supply, 3-enzyme cascade for synthesizing 1,3-dihydroxyacetone with both *in situ* cofactor recycling and H₂O₂ elimination and 4-enzyme cascade for quantitatively synthesizing pro-chiral ketones starting from racemic esters. The optimal design of the immobilization protocols enables co-immobilizing several enzymes on the porous carrier to optimize their spatial localization across the carrier microstructure and preserve both global activity and stability of the multi-enzyme systems.

[1] C. Schmidt-Dannert and F. Lopez-Gallego. *Microb. Biotechnol.* **2016**, *9*, 601-609

[2] W.-D. Fessner, *New Biotechnol.* **2014**, *00*, 1–7.

[3] J. Rocha-Martín et al. *Chemcatchem.* **2012**, 1–11.

[4] J. Rocha-Martín et al. *Green Chem.* **2014**, *16*, 303–311.

[5] J. Rocha-Martín et al. *Chemcatchem.* **2015**, *7*, 1939-1947.



Fernando **LÓPEZ GALLEGO** es Doctor en Biología Molecular por la Universidad Autónoma de Madrid. Durante su tesis doctoral en el Instituto de Catálisis y Petroleoquímica del CSIC (ICP-CSIC) trabajó en la preparación de biocatalizadores inmovilizados para la síntesis de antibióticos β -lactámicos bajo la supervisión del Prof. Guisán. Posteriormente, se marchó a la Universidad de Minnesota (Minneapolis-St Paul, EEUU) para trabajar como postdoctoral en un proyecto de ingeniería metabólica de las rutas de biosíntesis de sesquiterpenos microbianas en el laboratorio de la Prof. Schmidt-Dannert. Después de una primera estancia postdoctoral de 3 años, en el año 2010 se reincorporó al ICP-CSIC con un contrato Juan de la Cierva hasta el año 2013, año en el cuál se incorporó como investigador al centro de tecnología de REPSOL. Tras un año de experiencia en la industria, obtuvo un posición Ikerbasque para incorporarse al centro CIC biomaGUNE (San Sebastian-Donostia) donde es investigador principal del grupo del biocatálisis heterogénea desde el año 2014. Su grupo de investigación

trabaja principalmente en el desarrollo de sistemas multi-enzimáticos complejos asociados a materiales avanzadas para su aplicación a procesos químicos en flujo.