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A rational approach for ω -transaminase-catalyzed process design: synthesis of p-Br-1-phenylethylamine

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INTRODUCTION

Herein we describe a novel rational approach to the design of a ω transaminase process such that it will fulfill criteria necessary for industrial use. By first determining the fundamental properties of the reaction system, it is possible to suggest appropriate process strategies that may be used to overcome any unfavorable parameters. The ω transaminase is used as a model system because it is an important enzyme class and developing a systematic methodology would have significant value.





It is clear that the reaction studied exhibits many of the challenges often found with the use of transaminases for the synthesis of pharmaceutical intermediates such as product inhibition, unfavorable thermodynamics and poor solubility. We here propose a number of process strategies which, if adopted additively, may make the process economically viable.

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