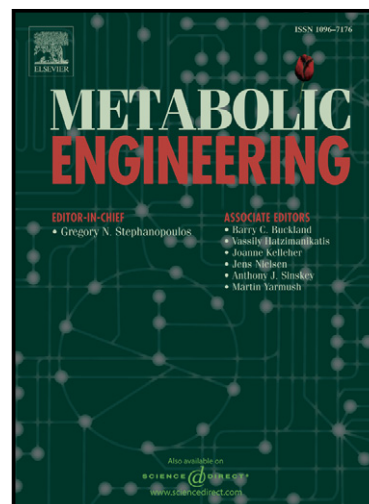


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S. Brinkmann-Chen, J.K.B. Cahn, F.H. Arnold



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## Uncovering rare NADH-preferring ketol-acid reductoisomerases

Brinkmann-Chen, S.\*; Cahn, J.K.B\*.; Arnold, F.H.†

\*These authors contributed equally

California Institute of Technology, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering

†Corresponding author: F. H. Arnold, California Institute of Technology, 1200 E California Blvd, MC 210-41, Pasadena, CA 91125, USA

Phone: +1 626 395 4162

Email: frances@cheme.caltech.edu

sabine@cheme.caltech.edu

jcahn@caltech.edu

### Abstract

All members of the ketol-acid reductoisomerase (KARI) enzyme family characterized to date have been shown to prefer the nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate hydride (NADPH) cofactor to nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide hydride (NADH). However, KARIs with the reversed cofactor preference are desirable for industrial applications, including anaerobic fermentation to produce branched-chain amino acids. By applying insights gained from structural and engineering studies of this enzyme family to a comprehensive multiple sequence alignment of KARIs, we identified putative NADH-utilizing KARIs and characterized eight whose catalytic efficiencies using NADH were equal to or greater than NADPH. These are the first naturally NADH-preferring KARIs reported and demonstrate that this property has evolved independently multiple times, using strategies unlike those used previously in the laboratory to engineer a KARI cofactor switch.

Keywords: Ketol acid reductoisomerase; cofactor specificity; NADH; NADPH

## 1 Introduction

With burgeoning genomic databases and increasing ease of gene synthesis, metabolic engineers can now readily mine nature's rich collection of enzymes. However, finding a sequence with specific desired properties can be difficult, particularly when only a few members of a protein family have been characterized and a detailed understanding of the structure-function relationship is lacking. The ketol-acid reductoisomerase (KARI, EC 1.1.1.86, also known as acetohydroxyacid isomeroreductase (AHAIR)) enzymes have attracted much interest for production of amino acids and biofuels (Atsumi et al., 2008a; Bastian et al., 2011; Brinkmann-Chen et al., 2013; Hasegawa et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2010). These oxidoreductases catalyze the second step in the branched chain amino-acid (BCAA) biosynthesis pathway (Chunduru et al., 1989), conversion of (*S*)-2-acetolactate (*S*2AL) to (*R*)-2,3-dihydroxyisovalerate (*RDHIV*) via a methyl shift coupled to a reduction with concomitant oxidation of a nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide cofactor. The BCAA pathway is present in many organisms but not in mammals. Because of this, microbial production of branched-chain amino acids for animal feed or human supplements is a multimillion-dollar business (Becker and Wittmann, 2012; Vogt et al., 2014). The BCAA pathway has also been engineered to produce isobutanol, a potential source of renewable chemicals and fuels (Atsumi et al., 2008b).

All wild-type KARIs characterized and described in the literature have displayed a strong preference for nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADPH) over nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NADH) (Bastian et al., 2011). Because intracellular levels of NAD(H) are much higher than NADP(H), particularly under fermentative conditions,

NADH-dependent oxidoreductases are strongly preferred in pathways for large-scale biocatalytic processes (Bastian et al., 2011). In the engineered isobutanol production pathway, replacement of the natural *E. coli* KARI (Ec\_IlvC) and the alcohol dehydrogenase (ADH) with NADH-preferring engineered proteins increased the yield to nearly 100% of theoretical and improved titer and specific productivity (Bastian et al., 2011).

In a previous study that aimed to develop a general recipe for engineering KARIs with reversed cofactor specificity, we used available KARI structure data to identify the amino acid residues in the  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop of the Rossmann fold that distinguish between the two cofactors (Brinkmann-Chen et al., 2013). A sequence alignment of Swiss-Prot-annotated KARI sequences allowed us to divide this diverse enzyme family into three groups based on  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop length (6-, 7-, and 12-residue loops) and to develop a simple recipe for switching the cofactor specificity of each major KARI enzyme subfamily from NADPH to NADH. This engineering work provided valuable information on the determinants of cofactor binding and also led us to question whether nature might have already undertaken a similar engineering task to create an NADH-preferring KARI. Despite recent advances in bioinformatic cofactor specificity prediction (Geertz-Hansen et al., 2014), few attempts have been made to find alternate cofactor utilization profiles within large enzyme families (Di Luccio et al., 2006). Because no method existed to predict the cofactor specificity of uncharacterized KARIs based on their primary sequences, we used knowledge gained from our previous work to exhaustively search known KARI sequences for KARIs with  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loops predicted to improve utilization of NADH. Here,

we report the discovery of the first bi-specific and the first naturally NADH-preferring KARIs. The catalytic efficiencies of two of the naturally NADH-preferring KARIs reported here exceed those of any previously engineered variants. We suggest that rare proteins such as these, with properties desirable for metabolic engineering, are available in nature and may be uncovered using knowledge gleaned from structural and mutational studies.

## 2 Materials and Methods

### 2.1 General

Biological media were purchased from Research Products International (Mt. Prospect, IL, USA), NAD(P)H from Codexis, Inc. (Redwood City, CA, USA), oligonucleotides and gBlocks from Integrated DNA Technologies (San Diego, CA, USA), DNA polymerases, restriction enzymes, and T4 ligase from New England Biolabs (Ipswich, MA, USA). (*S*)-2-acetolactate (*S*2AL) was provided by Gevo, Inc. (Denver, CO, USA). DNA sequencing was performed by Laragen (Los Angeles, CA, USA). Standard molecular biology methods were taken from Maniatis *et al.* (Sambrook, 1989).

### 2.2 Cloning, variant construction, expression, and kinetic assays

The genes encoding KARIs were obtained as gBlocks, codon-optimized for *E. coli*. For each gene, the gBlocks were assembled either via PCR using T7 promoter and terminator primers and Phusion polymerase following the manufacturer's instructions or via Gibson cloning (Gibson, 2011). All KARIs were cloned into pET22(b)+ between restriction sites *Nde*I and *Xho*I in frame with the C-terminal his-tag for expression in *E. coli* BL21 E. cloni Express cells from Lucigen (Middleton, WI, USA). Heterologous protein

expression and purification were conducted as described (Bastian et al., 2011). Protein concentration was determined via the Bradford assay (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA, USA). KARI activities were assayed by monitoring NAD(P)H consumption in the presence of (*S*)-2-acetolactate (*S*2AL) at 340 nm in a plate reader (Tecan Infinite M200, San Jose, CA, USA). The assay buffer contained 100 mM potassium phosphate pH 7, 1 mM DTT, 200  $\mu$ M NAD(P)H, 2.5 mM *S*2AL, and 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>. For kinetic assays, we monitored the consumption of the cofactors via their fluorescence emission at 440 nm with excitation at 340 nm.

### 2.3 Sequence Alignment

All sequences annotated as EC 1.1.1.86 and non-fragmentary were downloaded from UniProtKB (Apweiler et al., 2013) on 11/1/2013, a total of 8,043 sequences. The sequences were aligned using MAFFT version 7 (Katoh and Standley, 2013). Duplicate sequences were removed, as were those with less than 20% identity to the *Slackia exigua* KARI. This left 3,383 unique KARI sequences, with an alignment length of 933 positions. The  $\beta$ 2 $\alpha$ B-loop was identified based on the sequences with solved structures deposited in the RCSB PDB (Bairoch and Apweiler, 1999) (*E. coli*, *S. exigua*, *S. oleracea*, *O. sativa*, *P. aeruginosa*, and *A. acidocaldarius* (Brinkmann-Chen et al., 2013; Ahn et al., 2003; Biou et al., 1997; Leung and Guddat, 2009; Thomazeau et al., 2000; Tyagi et al., 2005; Wong et al., 2012; Cahn et al., 2014)). Further analysis was completed using a custom-written Python script (supplemental information).

### 3 Results and Discussion

To develop a recipe for changing the cofactor specificity of any KARI from NADPH to NADH we previously used an alignment of 643 Swiss-Prot-annotated KARI sequences (Brinkmann-Chen et al., 2013). Here, we expanded this alignment to include un-reviewed UniProt Knowledgebase (UniprotKB) (Apweiler et al., 2013) sequences and searched this expanded sequence space for  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loops deviating from the classic NADPH-preferring KARI motifs. To do so, all 8,043 sequences annotated as EC 1.1.1.86 from UniProtKB were aligned using MAFFT; duplicate and low-identity sequences were removed as described in the Methods section. The  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop and its context were then identified based on KARI crystal structures (Brinkmann-Chen et al., 2013; Ahn et al., 2003; Biou et al., 1997; Leung and Guddat, 2009; Thomazeau et al., 2000; Tyagi et al., 2005; Wong et al., 2012; Cahn et al., 2014). The distribution of amino acids at each position, including positions present in only a very small number of sequences, is shown in Figure 1. The four phosphate-binding residues are highly conserved, but there is considerable variation at most of the other positions of the loop as well as in the length of the loop. Figure 2 shows these positions in the NADPH co-crystal structure of *Slackia exigua* KARI, a 7-residue loop KARI whose sequence is near the consensus sequence.

As previously reported (Brinkmann-Chen et al., 2013), KARIs can be divided into three sub-families based on the length of the  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop. Of the 3,383 unique KARIs in our expanded alignment, 2,262 (66.8%) had 7-residue loops, 593 (17.5%) had 6-residue loops, and 512 (15.1%) had 12-residue loops, which is in good agreement with previous

alignment results. Eleven sequences were missing the  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loops (these were unlabeled fragmentary sequences), leaving just six KARIs with other loop lengths.

Based on previous structural studies and mutational analysis (Brinkmann-Chen et al., 2013; Hasegawa et al., 2012; Rane and Calvo, 1997), we have proposed that cofactor specificity is controlled by up to four amino acid residues in the loop: the first two positions, the antepenultimate position, and the ultimate position, as indicated by red arrows in Figure 1 and labeled for the *S. exigua* KARI in Figure 2. We searched the expanded sequence alignment for proteins having an acidic residue at any of these four positions. In our previous work, introduction of acidic residues into the  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop was crucial for switching the cofactor specificity (Bastian et al., 2011; Brinkmann-Chen et al., 2013); this has also been shown to be a major determinant of cofactor specificity in nature (Baker et al., 1992; Carugo and Argos, 1997; Pletnev et al., 2004; Van Petegem et al., 2007) and in engineered proteins (Khoury et al., 2009). For the six KARI sequences with non-standard  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop length we could not predict which residues would interact directly with the cofactor. We therefore visually inspected those loops for the presence of multiple acidic residues in their N-terminal or C-terminal ends. Ultimately, from the alignment of 3,383 KARI sequences, 58 were identified by this method as being possibly NADH-preferring, including four of the six KARIs with nonstandard  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop lengths. To avoid over-representing KARIs from closely related hosts, the full sequences of these KARIs were clustered using the UniProt alignment tool, and for each of the 26 clusters one representative sequence was selected to create the list of putative NADH-dependent KARIs shown in Figure 3. Most of the clusters were singletons or contained only a



handful of sequences; the two largest clusters are represented by *Metallosphaera sedula* and *Sulfolobus islandicus*.

From this list, we successfully expressed, purified, and assayed the activity toward both cofactors of eight of the putative NADH-utilizing KARIs, highlighted in Figure 3. The kinetic values in Table 1 show that none of these KARIs has the typical preference for NADPH. Four of the eight – *Hydrogenobaculum* sp. KARI (Hs\_KARI), *Ignisphaera aggregans* KARI (Ia\_KARI), *Metallosphaera sedula* KARI (Ms\_KARI), and *Syntrophomonas wolfei* KARI (Sw\_KARI) – showed roughly equal catalytic efficiency using NADPH and NADH (catalytic efficiency ratio of NADH/NADPH  $\sim$  1), while four – *Archaeoglobus fulgidus* KARI (Af\_KARI), *Desulfococcus oleovorans* KARI (Do\_KARI), *Thermacetogenium phaeum* KARI (Tp\_KARI), and an uncultured archaeon KARI (Ua\_KARI) – were NADH-preferring, with catalytic efficiency ratios (NADH/NADPH) ranging from 13 to 152 (Table 1). The NADH  $K_M$  or  $K_H$  values of these KARIs were equal to or lower than the NADPH values of the NADPH-preferring KARI from *E. coli*, Ec\_IlvC. Ia\_KARI in particular stood out, with very low  $K_M$  values for both cofactors. Two of the naturally NADH-preferring KARIs, Tp\_KARI and Ua\_KARI, have catalytic efficiencies on NADH that exceeded the best engineered NADH-preferring KARI, Ec\_IlvC<sup>P2D1-A1</sup>, by 2.8-fold and 1.2-fold, respectively. Both Tp\_KARI and Ua\_KARI have very low ( $\sim$ 1  $\mu$ M)  $K_H$  for NADH (Table 1). These features render these two excellent candidates for anaerobic BCAA or isobutanol fermentations. Ia\_KARI may also be of value due to its ability to utilize both cofactors and its good activity at low cofactor concentrations.

In our previously engineered NADH-preferring KARIs (Bastian et al., 2011; Brinkmann-Chen et al., 2013), most, if not all, NADPH-dependent activity was abolished by the mutations. In contrast, nature achieved NADH cofactor utilization with NADPH  $K_M$  or  $K_H$  values equivalent to NADPH-preferring KARIs, leading to lower specificities than many of our engineered KARIs (Brinkmann-Chen et al., 2013). We previously demonstrated that NADPH-preferring KARIs can have their specificity reversed by mutation of the ultimate and antepenultimate residues of the  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop to aspartate in the case of the 7- or 12-residue loops, or, in the case of the 6-residue loop, mutation of the ultimate position to aspartate and of the second to proline. Interestingly, none of the naturally NADH-utilizing KARIs we found follow this recipe. Aspartate is present in only four out of 26 ultimate positions and one out of 21 antepenultimate positions, although Sw\_KARI has a glutamate at both positions. Of all 26 sequences, only Sw\_KARI has acidic residues at more than one of the four key positions. Only two of the sequences have proline at the second position, and neither KARI has a 6-residue  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop or an aspartate at the ultimate position. These differences may reflect different selective pressures (e.g. specificity reversal in the engineered enzymes versus utilization of NADH in the natural enzymes). They could also arise from the very different evolutionary paths taken.

Eight of the 26 putative NADH-utilizing KARIs possess acidic residues at the first position of the loop, six at the second, three at the antepenultimate position, and five at the ultimate position. It is interesting that the plurality of these putative NADH-utilizing

KARIs have acidic residues the first position of the  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop. Although none of our previous cofactor-specificity reversals required an acidic residue at this position, Hasegawa *et al.* introduced a mutation to glutamate at this position, suggested by comparison with the NADH-dependent dihydrolipoamide dehydrogenases, in an attempt to reverse the cofactor specificity of the *C. glutamicum* KARI (Hasegawa et al., 2012). The resulting mutant enzyme was specific for NADH, but had less activity with NADH than the wild-type enzyme. It is also worth noting that all five KARIs with 6-membered  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loops have an aspartate at the antepenultimate position, but that the structure of the KARI from *Alicyclobacillus acidocaldarius* (Cahn et al., 2014), an NADPH-preferring enzyme with a 6-membered  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop, shows this position to be structurally homologous with the non-interacting pre-antepenultimate position of the 7-membered loop KARIs. Thus it is unclear whether and how this aspartate would interact with the cofactor. Outside the  $\beta 2\alpha B$ -loop, the 58 putative NADH-utilizing KARIs have no unique conserved residues.

All of the KARIs described here are members of the Class I (short chain) KARI subfamily, which is believed to be evolutionarily older than the Class II (long chain) KARIs such as *E. coli* KARI (Ahn, et al., 2003), and all originate from microbial hosts adapted to extreme conditions (thermophiles, acidophiles, and halophiles) (Auernik et al., 2008; Beeder et al., 1994; Hattori et al., 2000; McInerney et al., 1981; Niederberger et al., 2006; Romano et al., 2013). Additionally, with the exception of the archaeote *M. sedula*, all hosts are anaerobes. However, adaptation to anoxic environments does not automatically imply the presence of an NADH-preferring KARI, as among the thousands of sequences there are many NADPH-preferring KARIs from anaerobe hosts. For each of

the eight characterized KARIs, we examined the three KARIs with the highest overall sequence identity and predicted their cofactor specificity using the sequence of their cofactor binding loops (Table 2).

For six of the eight newly characterized KARIs, the majority of these nearest neighbors, which generally came from closely related organisms, have loops sequences that suggest a conventional NADPH binding mode. For the remaining two KARIs, Ia\_KARI and Ms\_KARI, which are 64% identical to each other, the nearest neighbors have very similar sequences and were filtered out during the clustering step. That these enzymes have used differing sets of substitutions for cofactor utilization and that each is phylogenetically isolated from the others but close to non-reversed sequences suggests that NADH-utilization has arisen independently in KARIs of several different organisms.

In many protein families, the few characterized representatives have come from commonly studied mesophilic organisms. The properties of these enzymes are often assumed to be representative of the enzyme family as a whole. However, a rational, knowledge-guided search of all available sequences can uncover novel properties in more distantly related organisms, many of which can be valuable tools for metabolic engineers. In this study, we have shown that the presence of acidic residues at conserved phosphate-binding positions can be used to identify candidate genes encoding NADH-preferring proteins in the industrially important KARI enzyme family. With minor modifications, we expect this approach to be useful in finding enzymes with differing cofactor requirements in other oxidoreductase families.

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## Author contributions

SBC, JKBC, and FHA designed research. SBC and JKBC performed research and analyzed data. SBC, JKBC, and FHA wrote the paper.

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**Table 1.** Biochemical characterization of bi-specific and naturally NADH-specific KARIs and comparison to wild-type *E. coli* KARI (Ec\_Ilvc) and engineered Ec\_Ilvc<sup>6E6</sup> and Ec\_Ilvc<sup>P2D1-A1</sup> (Bastian et al., 2011).

Enzyme	$K_M$ or $K_H$ [ $\mu$ M]		$k_{cat}$ [ $s^{-1}$ ]		$k_{cat}/K_M$ or $H$ [ $mM^{-1}s^{-1}$ ]		NADH/NADPH ratio of $k_{cat}/K_M$ or $H$
	NADH	NADPH	NADH	NADPH	NADH	NADPH	
Ec_Ilvc	1,075	41	0.3	3.6	0.3	88	0.003
Ec_Ilvc <sup>6E6</sup>	30	650	2.3	0.20	74	0.40	185
Ec_Ilvc <sup>P2D1-A1</sup>	26	> 1,400	4.3	0.54	165	< 0.4	> 412
Hs_KARI	39	46	0.12	0.12	3.2	2.7	1.2
Ia_KARI	< 1	< 1	0.02	0.03	> 20	> 25	~ 0.8
Ms_KARI	24	31	0.06	0.07	2.5	2.1	1.2
Sw_KARI	57	44	0.28	0.22	5.0	5.0	1.0
Af_KARI	5.0	26	0.1	0.04	20	1.5	13
Do_KARI	32	n. a.	0.25	n. a.	8.0	n. a.	-
Tp_KARI	< 1	40	0.46	0.25	460	6.0	74
Ua_KARI	1.1	38	0.22	0.05	200	1.3	152

All enzymes were his<sub>6</sub>-tagged and purified prior to characterization. Enzyme activities were determined in 100 mM potassium phosphate pH 7 with 1 mM DTT, 200  $\mu$ M NADPH or NADH, 2.5 mM S2AL, and 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>. Concentrations of the purified enzymes were determined using the Bradford assay. The  $K_M$  or  $K_H$  values for the cofactors, corresponding to the concentration of the half-maximum activity, were measured with appropriate dilutions of NADPH and NADH in the presence of saturating concentrations of substrate S2AL. Mutations located within the cofactor-binding pocket of Ec\_Ilvc<sup>6E6</sup>: A71S, R76D, S78D, and Q110V. Additional mutations in Ec\_Ilvc<sup>P2D1-A1</sup>: D146G, G185R, and K433E. For standard errors and Hill coefficients, please refer to Table S1 of the SI.

n.a. = not active

**Table 2.** Nearest neighbors of the eight KARIs characterized in this work. Results are limited to the top three hits, and the cofactor binding loop and predicted cofactor specificity are shown.

KARI ( $\beta$ 2 $\alpha$ b-loop sequence)	% ID	Organism	Oxygen requirements*	$\beta$ 2 $\alpha$ b-loop sequence	Predicted cofactor specificity
<b>Do_KARI</b> (QLEGDAY)	86	Uncultured <i>Desulfobacterium</i>	Anaerobic	QMEGDAY	NADH
	80	<i>Desulfococcus multivorans</i>	Anaerobic	QREGGAS	NADPH
	78	<i>Desulfatibacillum alkenivorans</i>	Anaerobic	QRDGGKS	NADPH
<b>Sw_KARI</b> (LRKPFDEASEKE)	73	<i>Syntrophothermus lipocalidus</i>	Anaerobic	LRKPEDDFTTAE	Bi-specific
	72	<i>Desulfitobacterium dehalogenans</i>	Anaerobic	LRADSRR	NADPH
	71	<i>Syntrophobotulus glycolicus</i>	Anaerobic	LRKDSSR	NADPH
<b>Af_KARI</b> (LPEWDKAT)	77	<i>Archaeoglobus veneficus</i>	Anaerobic	LYKGSRS	NADPH
	77	<i>Archaeoglobus profundus</i>	Anaerobic	LYKGSKS	NADPH
	76	<i>Archaeoglobus sulfaticallidus</i>	Anaerobic	DKKGTRN	unclear
<b>Tp_KARI</b> (DIPSEN)	72	<i>Caldicellulosiruptor saccharolyticus</i>	Anaerobic	LYHGSKS	NADPH
	72	<i>Caldicellulosiruptor hydrothermalis</i>	Anaerobic	LYHGSKS	NADPH
	71	<i>Caldicellulosiruptor obsidiansis</i>	Anaerobic	LYQGSKS	NADPH
<b>Ua_KARI</b> (ETEILGGKNPS)	98	Uncultured archaeon	Anaerobic	ETEILGGKNPS	NADH
	64	<i>Akkermansia muciniphila</i>	Anaerobic	VRPGKS	NADPH
	52	<i>Paenibacillus lactis</i>	Facul. anaerobic	LREGKS	NADPH
<b>Ia_KARI</b> (LERQDS)	73	<i>Sulfolobus solfataricus</i>	Facul. anaerobic	LREGKS	Bi-specific
	73	<i>Sulfolobus islandicus</i>	Facul. anaerobic	LREGKS	Bi-specific
	69	<i>Acidianus hospitalis</i>	Aerobic	LREGNS	Bi-specific
<b>Ms_KARI</b> (LEREGKS)	90	<i>Metallosphaera cuprina</i>	Aerobic	LEREGKS	Bi-specific
	88	<i>Metallosphaera yellowstonensis</i>	Aerobic	LEREGKS	Bi-specific
	80	<i>Acidianus hospitalis</i>	Aerobic	LEREGNS	Bi-specific
<b>Hs_KARI</b> (LDDKSPH)	79	<i>Thermocrinis albus</i>	Microaerophilic	LPAGSKS	NADPH
	77	<i>Hydrogenobacter thermophilus</i>	Aerobic	LPEGSKS	NADPH
	77	<i>Hydrogenivirga</i> sp.	Microaerophilic	LHEKSRS	NADPH

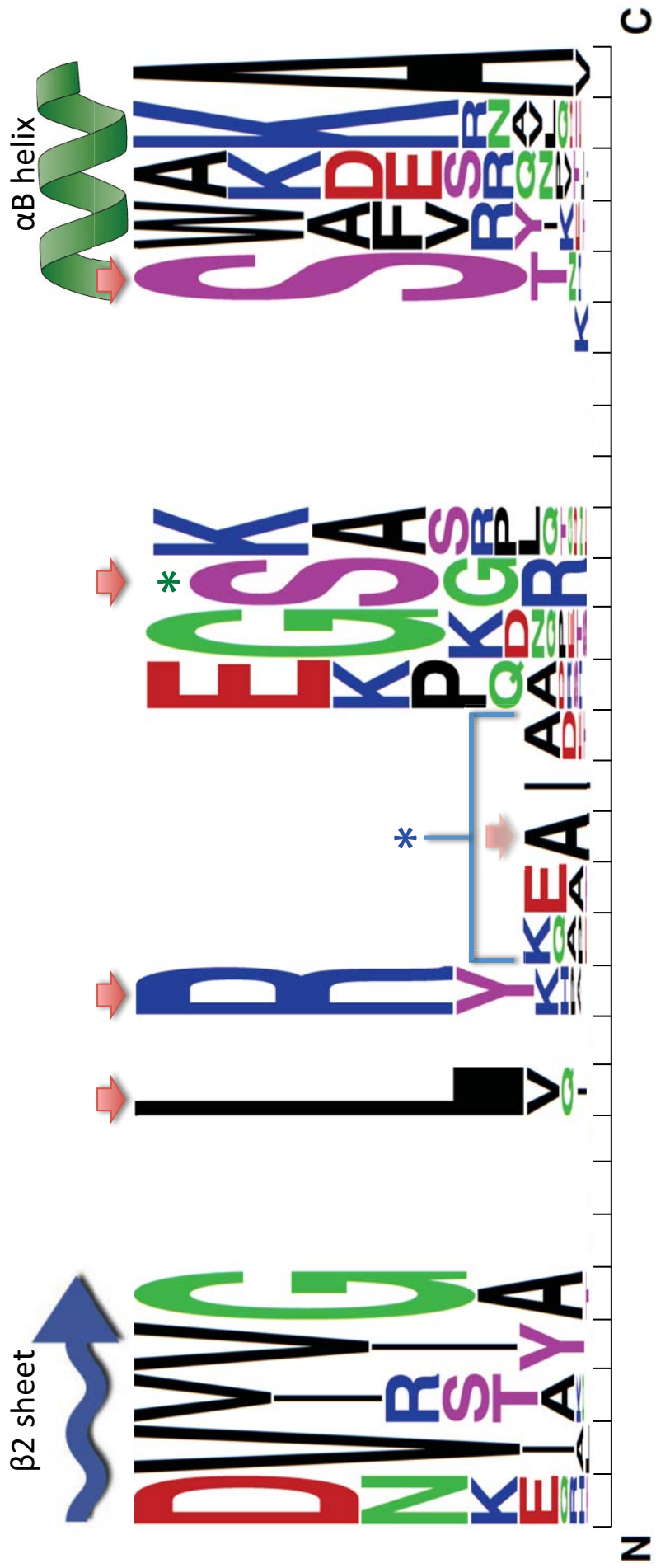
% ID: percent identity of the nearest neighbor to its respective KARI

\*) The oxygen requirements of the host organisms were obtained from various microbiological databases.

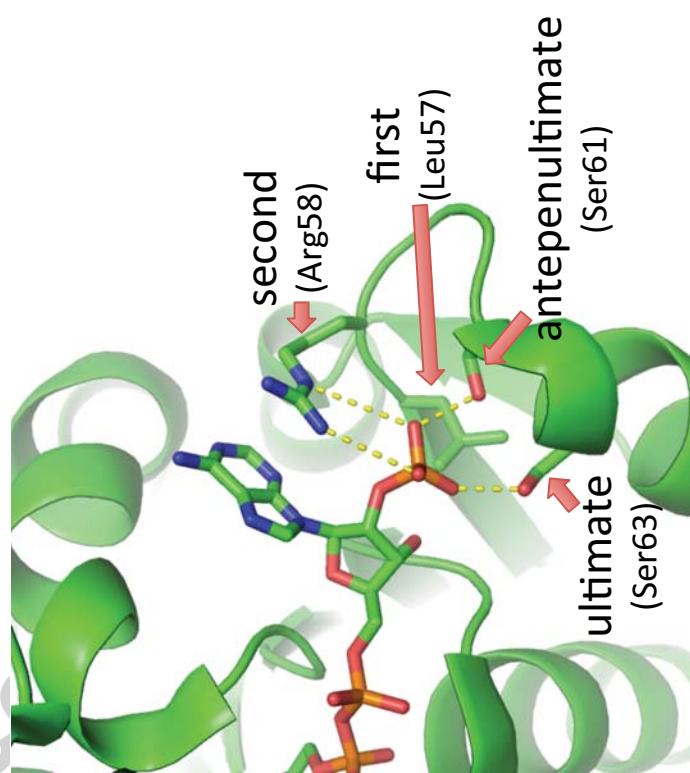
**Highlights**

- Available KARI sequences searched for those predicted to effectively utilize NADH
- Eight novel KARIs characterized; four are bi-specific (use NADH and NADPH) and four prefer NADH
- These are the first natural NADH-utilizing KARIs reported
- Nature found different cofactor re-engineering solutions

Accepted manuscript



C



β2 sheet



αB helix

Consensus of KARIS

PVRVG---N-I-----DD-A---YRQRA  
 AVRVG---N-I-----DD-R---YFELA  
 NVVVG---D-L-----LGNE---YSKRA  
 NVIIG---N-I-----ED-E---YANRA  
 EVIVG---N-V-----ND-E---YRRRA  
 NVIIG---N-V-----KD-R---YHDLA  
 NVIVG---QSK-----QFQR---DWDRA  
 \*EVIIG---Q-L-----EGDA---YWEKA  
 NVIIG-AGN-K-----DRYP---DWENA  
 NVTVG---L-E-----RQK---SWEKA  
 NVKLG---L-E-----REGN---SWKKA  
 \*NVVVG---L-E-----RQGD---SWRRA  
 NVIVG---L-E-----RKN---SWILA  
 \*QVTVG---L-E-----REGK---SWEQA  
 \*NVVIG---E-TEILGGKNP---SWEKA  
 DVVVG---L-P-----EGNE---DRPVA  
 NVIIS---E-K-----EGTA---NYKLA  
 DVIAA---D-L-----KDSP---AWKRA  
 DVIVS---E-L-----EGTE---NYELA  
 \*NVVVG---L-P-----EWDKA---TWERA  
 \*RVIVA---L-D-----DKSP---HRKTA  
 NVIIG---L-R-----RDLP---DWDKA  
 \*KVVVA---D-I-----PSSE---NWKKA  
 \*NVIVG---L-RKPFDEASEK---EWNVA  
 DVLVS---E-I-----PNTP---NYELA  
 EVVVS---D-R-----AGSE---NFEKA

H6RL58\_BLASD *Blastococcus saxosidens*  
 A3NGR4\_BURP6 *Burkholderia pseudomallei*  
 G4RLE5\_THETK *Thermoproteus tenax*  
 E1QUK3\_VULDI *Vulcanisaeta distributa*  
 D9PYY3\_ACIS3 *Acidilobus saccharovorans*  
 C4KG48\_SULIK *Sulfolobus islandicus*  
 B1ZV88\_OPITP *Opitutus terrae*  
**A8ZTRO\_DESOH** *Desulfococcus oleovorans*  
 D8GTE6\_CLOLD *Clostridium ljungdahlii*  
 Q6L044\_PICTO *Picrophilus torridus*  
 S0AM07\_FERAC *Ferroplasma acidarmanu*  
**E0SRA9\_IGNAA** *Ignisphaera aggregans*  
 L0A7Y1\_CALLD *Caldisphaera lagunensis*  
**ILVC\_METS5** *Metallosphaera sedula*  
**D1JA89\_9ARCH** *uncultured archaeon*  
 C7NTA6\_HALUD *Halorhabdus utahensis*  
 K1X9E2\_9BACT *uncultured bacterium*  
 ILVC\_METTP *Methanoseta thermophila*  
 D9QTJ4\_ACEAZ *Acetohalobium arabaticum*  
**ILVC\_ARCFU** *Archaeoglobus fulgidus*  
**ILVC\_HYDSO** *Hydrogenobaculum sp.*  
 D5XAE9\_THEPJ *Thermincola potens*  
**K4LVZ1\_THEPS** *Thermacetogenium phaeum*  
**ILVC\_SYNWW** *Syntrophomonas wolfei subsp. wolfei*  
 F2NIE5\_DESAR *Desulfobacca acetoxidans*  
 A0LMK6\_SYNFM *Syntrophobacter fumaroxidans*