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1 Characterization of the linoleic acid Δ^9 hydratase catalyzing the first step of
2 polyunsaturated fatty acid saturation metabolism in *Lactobacillus plantarum* AKU
3 1009a

4 Running title: Linoleic acid Δ^9 hydratase from *L. plantarum*

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16

17 **Key words:** Lactic acid bacteria; Hydroxy fatty acid; Hydratase; Hydration;
18 Dehydration

19

20 ABSTRACT

21 Linoleic acid Δ^9 hydratase, which is involved in linoleic acid saturation metabolism
22 of *Lactobacillus plantarum* AKU 1009a, was cloned, expressed as a his-tagged
23 recombinant enzyme, purified with an affinity column, and characterized. The enzyme
24 required FAD as a co-factor and its activity was enhanced by NADH. The maximal
25 activities for the hydration of linoleic acid and for the dehydration of
26 10-hydroxy-*cis*-12-octadecenoic acid (HYA) were observed at 37°C in buffer at pH 5.5
27 containing 0.5 M NaCl. Free C16 and C18 fatty acids with *cis*-9 double bonds and
28 10-hydroxy fatty acids served as substrates for the hydration and dehydration reactions,
29 respectively. The apparent K_m value for linoleic acid was estimated to be 92 μM , with a
30 k_{cat} of $2.6 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ and a Hill factor of 3.3. The apparent K_m value for HYA was
31 estimated to be 98 μM , with a k_{cat} of $1.2 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ sec}^{-1}$.

32

33 INTRODUCTION

34 Hydroxy fatty acids are derived from a variety of natural sources, including
35 microorganisms, plants, animals, and insects; they are found in triacylglycerols, waxes,
36 cerebrosides, and other lipids. Hydroxy fatty acids are versatile starting materials that
37 have been utilized to produce resins, waxes, nylons, plastics, lubricants, biopolymers,
38 and biodiesel (1). They also have useful antibiotic, anti-inflammatory, and anticancer
39 activities (2). For example, ricinoleic acid (12-hydroxy-*cis*-9-octadecenoic acid),
40 derived from castor oil, is converted to sebacic acid (decanedioic acid), the monomer
41 for nylon synthesis, and has anti-inflammatory and antinociceptive activity (3).

42 Many microorganisms can convert oleic acid (*cis*-9-octadecenoic acid) into
43 10-hydroxyoctadecanoic acid (1). It has been recently reported that the

44 myosin-crossreactive antigens (MCRAs) from *Elizabethkingia meningoseptica* (4),
45 *Streptococcus pyogenes* (5), and *Bifidobacterium breve* (6) can also convert oleic acid
46 into 10-hydroxyoctadecanoic acid. The hydration of unsaturated fatty acids has been
47 suggested to be a detoxification mechanism in bacteria harboring MCRA proteins and a
48 survival strategy for living in fatty acid-rich environments (5), indicating that MCRA
49 proteins are fatty acid hydratases. A few of the microorganisms having an MCRA
50 protein, including *Lactobacillus plantarum*, *Lactobacillus acidophilus*, *Streptococcus*
51 *bovis*, *Nocradia cholesterolicum*, *Pediococcus pentosaceus*, and *Pediococcus* sp. can
52 convert linoleic acid (LA, *cis*-9,*cis*-12-octadecadienoic acid) to
53 10-hydroxy-*cis*-12-octadecenoic acid (HYA), 13-hydroxy-*cis*-9-octadecenoic acid, or
54 10,13-dihydroxyoctadecanoic acid (7–12).

55 We found that HYA is the initial intermediate in the biosynthesis of conjugated
56 linoleic acid (CLA) from LA in *L. acidophilus* (8). CLAs, which are isomers of LA,
57 have beneficial effects, such as preventing tumorigenesis (13) and arteriosclerosis (14)
58 and decreasing body fat content (15). In our previous study, we screened lactic acid
59 bacteria for the ability to produce CLA from LA, and selected *Lactobacillus plantarum*
60 AKU 1009a as a potential strain (16–18). *L. plantarum* AKU 1009a can transform not
61 only LA but also α -linolenic acid (*cis*-9,*cis*-12,*cis*-15-octadecatrienoic acid) and
62 γ -linolenic acid (*cis*-6,*cis*-9,*cis*-12-octadecatrienoic acid) into the corresponding
63 conjugated fatty acids (19–24). We also showed that CLA is synthesized, in part,
64 through the reactions of a newly discovered polyunsaturated fatty acid saturation
65 metabolism in *L. plantarum* AKU1009a (25, 26). The novel saturation metabolism
66 consisted of four enzymes: CLA-HY (hydratase/dehydratase), CLA-DH
67 (dehydrogenase), CLA-DC (isomerase), and CLA-ER (enonereductase) (25, 26).

68 CLA-HY, CLA-DH, and CLA-DC are responsible for CLA synthesis from LA (25) and
69 CLA-ER is a key enzyme for the saturation metabolism (26).

70 In this study, we describe the enzymatic and physiochemical characteristics of
71 CLA-HY, which catalyzes the initial step of the saturation metabolism: the hydration of
72 LA and the dehydration of HYA. The enzyme was found to be a unique
73 hydratase/dehydratase demonstrating activity in the presence of FAD and NADH.

74

75 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

76

77 **Chemicals**

78 HYA was prepared as previously described (8, 17). LA and fatty acid-free
79 (<0.02%) bovine serum albumin (BSA) were purchased from Sigma (St. Louis, USA).
80 All of the other chemicals were analytical grade and obtained commercially.

81

82 **Cloning and expression of recombinant proteins in *E. coli***

83 Primers were designed to amplify the CLA-HY sequence, without a stop codon,
84 from *L. plantarum* AKU 1009a genomic DNA. The PCR-amplified product was ligated
85 into expression vector pET101/D-TOPO (Invitrogen, CA, USA), according to the
86 manufacturer's instruction. The integrity of the cloned gene was verified by DNA
87 sequencing using a Beckman-Coulter CEQ8000 (Beckman-Coulter, Fullerton, CA,
88 USA). The resulting plasmid was purified, and then used to transform *E. coli*
89 RosettaTM2 (DE3) (Novagen, WI, USA). The transformed cells were cultured in
90 Luria-Bertani (LB) medium at 37°C for 2 h with shaking at 100 rpm, and then
91 isopropyl-β-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) was added to a final concentration of 1.0 mM.

92 After adding IPTG, the transformed cells were cultivated at 20°C for 8 h with shaking at
93 100 rpm.

94

95 **Preparation of CLA-HY**

96 All purification procedures were performed at 4°C. The transformed cells (8 g) from
97 1.5 L of culture broth were harvested, suspended in binding buffer (16 mL), and treated
98 4 times, for 5 min each, with an ultrasonic oscillator (Insinator 201 M; Kubota, Japan).
99 The binding buffer contained 50 mM imidazole in 20 mM potassium phosphate buffer
100 (KPB) (pH 7.4). The cell debris was removed by centrifugation at 1700 ×g for 10 min.
101 The resulting supernatants were used as cell-free extracts. The cell-free extracts were
102 fractioned by ultracentrifugation at 100,000 ×g for 60 min and the supernatant was
103 obtained. The enzyme was purified from the supernatant using a fast protein liquid
104 chromatography (FPLC) system (Amercham Pharmacia Biotech Co., Uppsala, Sweden)
105 equipped with a His Trap HP column (GE Healthcare, Buckinghamshire, England). The
106 column was equilibrated with the binding buffer and the fractions containing CLA-HY
107 were eluted with elution buffer containing 250 mM imidazole in 20 mM KPB (pH 7.4).
108 The fractions containing CLA-HY were collected and dialyzed against 20 mM KPB (pH
109 6.5).

110

111 **Determination of the molecular mass of His-tagged CLA-HY**

112 In order to determine the native molecular mass of His-tagged CLA-HY, the enzyme
113 solution was subjected to high performance gel-permeation chromatography on a
114 G-3000SW column (0.75 × 60 cm, Tosoh, Tokyo, Japan) at room temperature. It was
115 eluted with 100 mM KPB (pH 6.5) containing 100 mM Na₂SO₄ at the flow rate of 0.5

116 mL/min. The absorbance of the effluent was monitored at 280 nm. The molecular mass
117 of the enzymes was determined from its mobility relative to those of standard proteins.

118

119 **Reaction conditions**

120 All operations were performed in an anaerobic chamber. The standard reaction
121 conditions were as follows. The reactions were performed in test tubes (16.5 × 125 mm)
122 that contained 1 mL of reaction mixture (20 mM sodium succinate buffer, pH 5.5) with
123 0.5% (w/v) LA or 0.1% (w/v) HYA complexed with BSA [0.1% (w/v) or 0.02% (w/v),
124 respectively] as the substrate, 5 mM NADH, 0.1 mM FAD, and 40 μg (= 0.04 U)/mL
125 CLA-HY. One unit was defined as the amount of enzyme that catalyzes the conversion
126 of 1 μmol of LA per min. The reactions were performed under anaerobic conditions in a
127 sealed chamber containing an O₂-absorbent (Aneropack “Kenki,” Mitsubishi Gas
128 Chemical Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan). The reaction mixture was gently shaken (120
129 strokes/min) at 37°C for 30 min (for hydration) or 15 min (for dehydration). All
130 experiments were performed in triplicates, and the averages of three separate
131 experiments that were reproducible within ±10% are presented in the figures and tables.

132

133 **Enzyme activity assay**

134 Reactions were performed under the standard reaction conditions with some
135 modifications, as described below. The effects of cofactors were examined using a
136 reaction mixture containing LA or HYA as the substrate and various cofactors, such as
137 0.1 mM FMN, 0.1 mM FAD, 5 mM NADH, 5 mM NADPH, 5 mM NAD⁺, and 5 mM
138 NADP⁺, in various combinations. The effect of oxygen was examined by comparing the
139 reactions under anaerobic condition and aerobic condition. The optimal reaction

140 temperature was examined by incubating the reaction mixture (20 mM sodium succinate
141 buffer, pH 5.5) at various temperatures for 30 min (for hydration) or 15 min (for
142 dehydration) under anaerobic conditions. The optimal reaction pH was determined at
143 37°C using 20 mM sodium succinate buffer (pH 4.5–6.0) and 20 mM KPB (pH 5.5–7.0).
144 The effect of NaCl concentration was examined by measuring the enzyme activity of
145 reaction mixtures containing NaCl (0–1 M). Thermal stability was determined by
146 measuring the enzyme activity after incubating reaction mixtures containing 20 mM
147 sodium succinate buffer (pH 5.5) and 0.1 mM FAD at various temperatures for 30 min
148 under anaerobic condition. The pH stability was determined by measuring the enzyme
149 activity after incubating at 37°C for 10 min in the following buffers under anaerobic
150 conditions: sodium citrate buffer (50 mM; pH 3.0–4.0), sodium succinate buffer (50
151 mM; pH 4.0–6.0), KPB (50 mM; pH 5.0–8.0), and Tris-HCl buffer (50 mM; pH
152 7.0–9.0).

153

154 **Kinetic analysis**

155 All operations were performed in an anaerobic chamber. Reactions were
156 performed under standard reaction conditions with modified substrate concentrations.
157 The kinetics of LA hydration were studied using 50–400 μ M LA complexed with 0.1%
158 (w/v) BSA as the substrate and reaction times of 15 min. The kinetics of HYA
159 dehydration were studied using 50–400 μ M HYA complexed with or 0.02% (w/v) BSA
160 as the substrate and reaction times of 30 min. The kinetic parameters were calculated by
161 fitting the experimental data to the Hill equation or the Michaelis-Menten equation
162 using KaleidaGraph 4.0 (Synergy Software Inc., PA, USA).

163

164 **Lipid analysis**

165 Before lipid extraction, *n*-heptadecanoic acid was added to the reaction mixture as
166 an internal standard. Lipids were extracted from 1 mL of the reaction mixture with 5 mL
167 of chloroform/methanol/1.5% (w/v) KCl in H₂O (2:2:1, by volume) according to the
168 procedure of Bligh-Dyer, and then concentrated by evaporation under reduced pressure
169 (27). The resulting lipids were dissolved in 1 mL of dichloromethane and methylated
170 with 2 mL of 4% methanolic HCl at 50°C for 20 min. After adding 1 mL of water, the
171 resulting fatty acid methyl esters were extracted with 5 mL of *n*-hexane and
172 concentrated by evaporation under reduced pressure. The resulting fatty acid methyl
173 esters were analyzed by gas-liquid chromatography (GC) using a Shimadzu (Kyoto,
174 Japan) GC-1700 gas chromatograph equipped with a flame ionization detector, a split
175 injection system, and a capillary column (SPB-1, 30 m × 0.25 mm I.D., SUPELCO, PA,
176 USA). The initial column temperature, 180°C for 30 min, was subsequently increased to
177 210°C at a rate of 60°C/min, and then maintained at 210°C for 29.5 min. The injector
178 and detector were operated at 250°C. Helium was used as a carrier gas at a flow rate of
179 1.4 mL/min. The fatty acid peaks were identified by comparing the retention times to
180 those of known standards.

181

182 **Enantiomeric purity analysis of hydroxy fatty acids**

183 The enantiomeric purities of HYA, 10-hydroxy-*cis*-12,*cis*-15-octadecadienoic acid,
184 and 10-hydroxy-*cis*-6,*cis*-12-octadecadienoic acid were analyzed by Mosher's method
185 (28) using a Bruker Avance III 500 (500MHz) NMR.

186

187 **RESULTS**

188 **Purification of CLA-HY**

189 The relative molecular mass was calculated to be 52 kDa by high performance
190 gel-permeation chromatography on a G-3000SW column. Purified CLA-HY displayed a
191 single band on an SDS-PAGE gel (Fig. 1). Observed molecular weight of purified
192 CLA-HY was 66 kDa, which was corresponding to calculated mass of 68 kDa deduced
193 from the amino acid sequence of its gene. The purified CLA-HY was used for
194 enzymatic characterization.

195

196 **Effects of cofactors and oxygen**

197 The effects of potential cofactors FMN, FAD, NADH, NADPH, NAD⁺, and NADP⁺
198 were examined (Fig. 2). Hydration and dehydration activity were observed only in the
199 reaction mixtures containing FAD. The addition of NADH or NADPH with FAD
200 increased these activities by a factor of approximately thirty. The effect of oxygen was
201 examined using reaction mixtures containing FAD and NADH under aerobic conditions.
202 The activity under aerobic conditions was 40–50% of that under anaerobic conditions,
203 which were maintained in a sealed chamber with an O₂ absorbent (Fig. 3).

204

205 **Effects of reaction conditions**

206 The effects of pH on the activity of CLA-HY were examined over the pH range
207 from 4.5 to 7.0 (Fig. 4a). The enzyme showed maximal activity at pH 5.5. The effects of
208 reaction temperature on the activity of CLA-HY were also examined. The optimal
209 temperature was found to be 37–42°C (Fig. 4b). The effects of FAD concentration were
210 examined from 0 to 100 μM FAD, with or without NADH (Fig. 4c). The hydration and
211 dehydration activities were 10 times greater with NADH than that without NADH. The

212 enzyme activity increased with increasing FAD concentration up to 20 μ M with NADH
213 and up to 1 μ M without NADH. The activities remained the same at higher
214 concentrations of FAD, except in the case of hydration without NADH, which showed
215 decreasing activity with concentrations of FAD above 1 μ M. The effect of NADH
216 concentration was examined from 0 to 5 mM (Fig. 4d). The hydration and dehydration
217 activities increased with increasing NADH concentration. The effects of NaCl
218 concentration was examined from 0 to 1M (Fig. 4e). The enzyme showed its highest
219 activity with 0.5 M NaCl, which was three times higher than that without NaCl.

220

221 **Enzyme stability**

222 The thermal stability of the purified enzyme was investigated from 4°C to 42°C. The
223 enzyme was incubated at each temperature with or without FAD (Fig. 5a). The enzyme
224 was more stable with FAD than that without FAD. More than 80% of the initial activity
225 remained at temperatures up to 32°C in the presence of FAD, and at temperatures up to
226 28°C in the absence of FAD. The pH stability of the purified enzyme was investigated
227 by incubating the enzyme in different buffers within the pH range 3.0 to 9.0. More than
228 80% of the initial activity remained in the pH range 4.5 to 6.5 (Fig. 5b).

229

230 **Substrate specificity**

231 In the hydration reaction, free C16 and C18 fatty acids with a *cis* carbon–carbon
232 double bond at the Δ 9 position, such as LA, palmitoleic acid (*cis*-9-hexadecenoic acid),
233 oleic acid, α -linolenic acid, γ -linolenic acid, stearidonic acid, and ricinoleic acid, served
234 as substrates and were transformed into the corresponding 10-hydroxy fatty acids. In
235 contrast, fatty acids with a *trans* carbon–carbon double bond at Δ 9 position (elaidic acid,

236 *trans*-9-octadecenoic acid), fatty acid esters (methyl linoleate, monolinolein, dilinolein,
237 and trilinolein), and conjugated fatty acids (conjugated linoleic acids) were not hydrated.
238 Fatty acids with other chain lengths, such as myristoleic acid (*cis*-9-tetradecenoic acid),
239 arachidonic acid (*cis*-5,*cis*-8,*cis*-11,*cis*-14-eicosatetraenoic acid), EPA
240 (*cis*-5,*cis*-8,*cis*-11,*cis*-14,*cis*-17-eicosapentaenoic acid), and DHA
241 (*cis*-4,*cis*-7,*cis*-10,*cis*-13,*cis*-16,*cis*-19-docosahexaenoic acid) were not hydrated; nor
242 were fatty acids with a *cis* carbon-carbon double bond at Δ 11 position, such as
243 *cis*-vaccenic acid and *cis*-11-octadecenoic acid, or fatty alcohols, such as linoleyl
244 alcohol (Table 1).

245 In the dehydration reaction, 10-hydroxy C18 fatty acids, such as HYA,
246 10-hydroxy-*cis*-12,*cis*-15-octadecadienoic acid,
247 10-hydroxy-*cis*-6,*cis*-12-octadecadienoic acid, and 10-hydroxyoctadecanoic acid served
248 as substrates and were transformed into the corresponding fatty acids with *cis* double
249 bonds at the Δ 9 position. However, 12-hydroxy, 3-hydroxy, and 9-hydroxy fatty acids
250 were not dehydrated (Table 2).

251

252 **Kinetic analysis of the CLA-HY catalyzing reactions**

253 The substrate–velocity curve for LA hydration had a sigmoid shape. When fitted
254 with the Hill equation, the apparent K_m value for LA was estimated to be 92 μ M with a
255 k_{cat} value of $2.6 \cdot 10^{-2} \text{ sec}^{-1}$ and a Hill factor of 3.3. The apparent K_m value for HYA in the
256 dehydration reaction was estimated to be 98 μ M with a k_{cat} of $1.2 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ sec}^{-1}$.

257

258 **Enantiomeric purities of the produced hydroxy fatty acids**

259 The carbons bearing hydroxy functional groups in the hydroxy fatty acids

260 produced during the hydration reaction are asymmetric. The enantiomeric purities of the
261 HYA, 10-hydroxy-*cis*-12,*cis*-15-octadecadienoic acid, and
262 10-hydroxy-*cis*-6,*cis*-12-octadecadienoic acid produced by CLA-HY were analyzed
263 using Mosher's method. They were found to be of the (*S*)-configuration with more than
264 99.9% enantiomeric excess (*e.e.*).

265

266 **Effects of chemicals on the enzyme activity**

267 The effects of monovalent and divalent metal ions (1 mM) were investigated in both
268 the hydration and dehydration reactions. The reactions were strongly inhibited by Ag⁺,
269 Fe²⁺, Cu²⁺, Zn²⁺, Hg²⁺, and Fe³⁺ (data not shown). Dodecanoic acid was reported to
270 form an insoluble complex with metal ions (Cu²⁺, Zn²⁺, Fe³⁺, Co²⁺, and Ni²⁺) (29). One
271 of the reasons these metal ions inhibited the reaction may have been the formation of
272 substrate complexes like those observed with dodecanoic acid. In contrast, a slight
273 increase in the hydration activity was observed with MnCl₂ (1 mM).

274 The effects of various enzyme inhibitors (1 mM), such as SH-reagents, carbonyl
275 reagents, serine protease inhibitors, and redox indicators, were investigated. Significant
276 inhibition was found only with triphenyl tetrazolium chloride, a redox indicator that can
277 serve as a strong electron acceptor.

278

279 **DISCUSSION**

280 Many bacteria have an MCRA protein to detoxify unsaturated fatty acids by
281 transforming them into hydroxy fatty acids. CLA-HY, which belongs to the MCRA
282 family, should also detoxify unsaturated fatty acids in *L. plantarum*, because the growth
283 of *L. plantarum* is inhibited by LA (16).

284 CLA-HY required FAD for activity; its activity was further increased by the
285 addition of NADH (Fig. 2 and Fig. 4c). These results indicate that CLA-HY is an
286 FAD-dependent enzyme, and NADH is an activator of CLA-HY. Almost all MCRA
287 proteins have an FAD-binding motif, such as a GXGXXS(A/G) (30), but the
288 corresponding sequence in CLA-HY is GAGLSN. FAD might bind loosely to CLA-HY,
289 because the purified CLA-HY, after dialysis, showed no absorbance at 450 nm (data not
290 shown).

291 The absorbance of FAD at 450 nm was decreased by the addition of NADH,
292 indicating that FADH₂ is the active cofactor and is produced through the reduction of
293 FAD by NADH. Oxygen inactivated the enzyme because FADH₂ is easily oxidized by
294 oxygen (Fig. 3). The mechanism of NADH activation was similar to that described for
295 2-haloacrylate hydration by 2-haloacrylate hydratase (31). FADH₂ may be involved in
296 the activation of a water molecule that attacks the Δ^9 double bond of LA, or in the
297 protonation of the C10 carbon of LA. As for dehydration, the hydroxy group of the
298 hydroxy fatty acid may be activated by FADH₂. In addition to this activation, FADH₂
299 may also have a role in stabilizing the enzyme through its reducibility.

300 There are few reports concerning the dehydration of hydroxy fatty acids. In many
301 cases, the substrates are 2-hydroxy or 3-hydroxy fatty acyl-CoAs, which are
302 intermediates in the elongation of fatty acids and are dehydrated by enoyl-CoA
303 dehydratase (32). In this paper, we described the enzymatic dehydration of 10-hydroxy
304 fatty acids for the first time. A detailed analysis of the CLA-HY-catalyzed reaction
305 provided novel information about enzymatic dehydration: the requirement for FAD and
306 activation by NADH. Such information may be useful for creating industrially
307 important dehydration catalysts for the synthesis of monomers for radical

308 polymerization. The possibilities include the synthesis of acrylamide, propylene, and
309 styrene from alcohols 3-hydroxypropionate/lactate, propanol, and ethanol, respectively.

310 The newly generated double bonds in the products of CLA-HY-catalyzed
311 dehydration were in the *cis*-configuration in this study, whereas the generation of double
312 bonds in the *trans*-configuration was observed in our previous study (26). These results
313 indicate the possibility that some reaction conditions or additional factors affect the
314 geometric selectivity of the dehydration reaction. Because *trans* fatty acids are reported
315 to be harmful for health, the geometric selectivity of the hydration reaction must be
316 controlled to reduce *trans* fatty acids in dietary foods. We are investigating the factors
317 that control geometric selectivity in CLA-HY-catalyzed hydration. The results of the
318 detailed analysis will be presented in future reports.

319 Hydroxy fatty acids are important materials for the chemical, food, cosmetic,
320 and pharmaceutical industries; they have also attracted recent interest from a variety of
321 research fields. For example, hydroxy fatty acids can be applied to the production of
322 biopolymers, the improvement of health, and the production of pharmaceuticals with
323 anti-inflammatory and antinociceptive effects. Not only HYA and
324 10-hydroxyoctadecanoic acid but also 10-hydroxy-*cis*-12,*cis*-15-octadecadienoic acid,
325 10-hydroxy-*cis*-6,*cis*-12-octadecadienoic acid,
326 10-hydroxy-*cis*-6,*cis*-12,*cis*-15-octadecatrienoic acid, and 10,12-dihydroxyoctadecanoic
327 acid can be produced by CLA-HY-catalyzed reactions. CLA-HY showed
328 regioselectivity for Δ^9 double bond hydration, generating C10 hydroxy groups in the
329 (*S*)-configuration with high enantioselectivity, while chemical hydration has some
330 difficulties with regio- and stereo-selectivities. These characteristics of CLA-HY enable
331 the fine synthesis of hydroxy fatty acids. These products with fine structures could be

332 useful for their precise functional evaluation for application purposes.

333

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434

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448

449 **Figure legends**

450 Fig. 1 **SDS-PAGE analysis of purified CLA-HY**. Molecular mass standards: from the
451 top, phosphorylase b (97,200), bovine serum albumin (66,400), ovalbumin (45,000),

452 carbonic anhydrase (29,000), and trypsin inhibitor (20,100). Observed molecular weight
453 of purified CLA-HY was 66 kDa.

454 **Fig. 2 Effects of cofactors on the activity of CLA-HY.** Hydration activity (black bars)
455 and dehydration activity (white bars) were assayed under standard reaction conditions
456 except for the addition of cofactors FMN, FAD, NADH, NADPH, NAD⁺, NADP⁺ in
457 various combinations.

458 **Fig. 3 Effect of oxygen on the activity of CLA-HY.** Hydration activity (black bars)
459 and dehydration activity (white bars) were assayed under standard reaction conditions.
460 Aerobic reactions were conducted in an open chamber. Anaerobic reactions were
461 performed in a sealed chamber with O₂-absorbent.

462 **Fig. 4 Effects of pH, temperature, and the concentration of FAD, NADH, and NaCl**
463 **on the activity of CLA-HY.** a, Effects of pH. Activity was assayed under standard
464 reaction conditions, except for the buffers used. Sodium succinate buffer (closed and
465 open circles for hydration and dehydration, respectively), pH 4.5–6.0, and potassium
466 phosphate buffer (closed and open triangles for hydration and dehydration, respectively),
467 pH 5.5–7.0, were used. b, Effects of temperature. Hydration activity (closed circles) and
468 dehydration activity (open circles) were assayed under standard reaction conditions,
469 except for the temperature. c, Effects of FAD concentration. Enzyme activity was
470 assayed under standard reaction conditions, except for the FAD concentration with
471 (closed and open circles for hydration and dehydration, respectively) or without (closed
472 and open triangles for hydration and dehydration, respectively) the addition of NADH.
473 d, Effects of NADH concentration. Hydration activity (closed circles) and dehydration
474 activity (open circles) were assayed under standard reaction conditions, except for the
475 NADH concentration. e, Effects of NaCl concentration. Hydration activity (closed

476 circles) and dehydration activity (open circles) were assayed under standard reaction
477 conditions, except for the addition of NaCl (0–1.0 M).

478 **Fig. 5 Effects of temperature and pH on stability of CLA-HY.** a, Effects of
479 temperature. The thermal stability of the hydration activity was assessed under standard
480 reaction conditions after incubation at each temperature (4–42°C) for 30 min with
481 (closed circles) or without (closed triangles) FAD. The thermal stability of the
482 dehydration activity was assessed under standard condition after incubation at each
483 temperature (4–42°C) for 30 min with (open circles) or without (open triangles) FAD.
484 The activities after incubation with FAD at 4°C or at 18°C were defined as 100% for
485 hydration (1.1 U/mg) and dehydration (0.020 U/mg), respectively. b, Effect of pH. The
486 pH stabilities of the hydration (closed) and dehydration (open) reactions were evaluated
487 under standard reaction conditions after incubation at 37°C for 10 min at each pH.
488 Sodium citrate buffer, pH 3.0–4.0 (circles), sodium succinate buffer, pH 4.0–6.0
489 (triangles), potassium phosphate buffer, pH 5.0–8.0 (diamonds), and Tris-HCl buffer,
490 7.0–9.0 (squares) were used. The activities after incubation in sodium succinate buffer
491 (pH5.5) and in sodium succinate buffer (pH 6.0) were defined as 100% for the hydration
492 (1.2 U/mg) and dehydration (0.13 U/mg), respectively.

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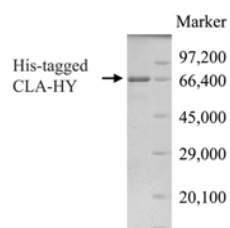


Fig. 1 SDS-PAGE analysis of purified CLA-HY.

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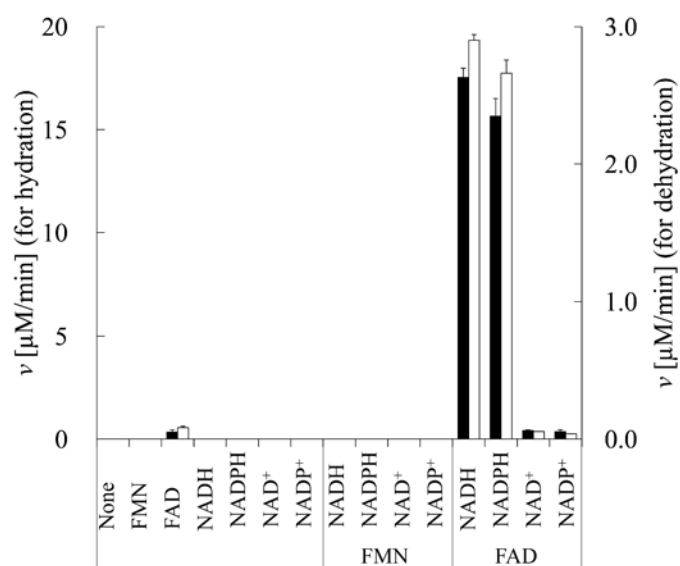
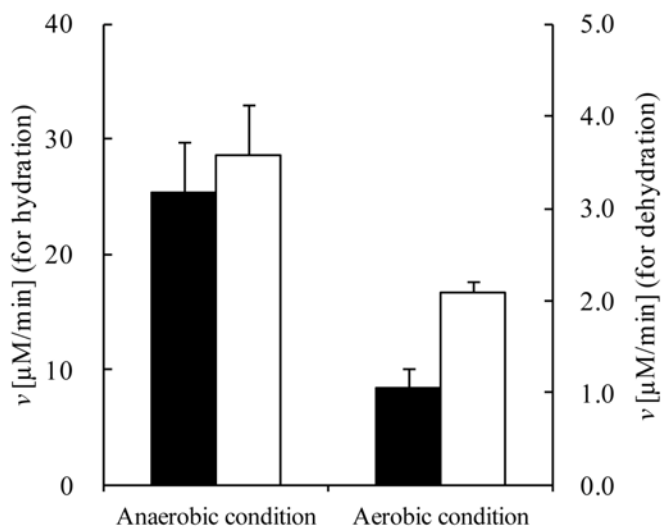


Fig. 2 Effects of cofactors on the activity of CLA-HY.

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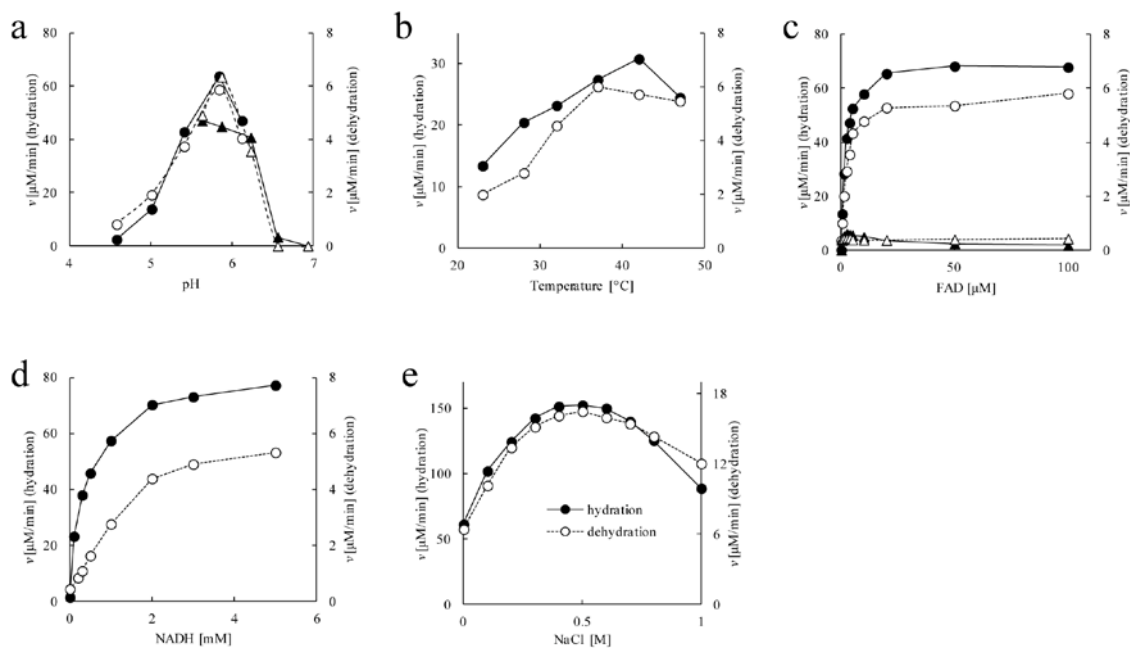


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Fig. 3 Effect of oxygen on the activity of CLA-HY.

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Fig. 4 Effects of pH, temperature, and the concentration of FAD, NADH, and NaCl

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on the activity of CLA-HY.

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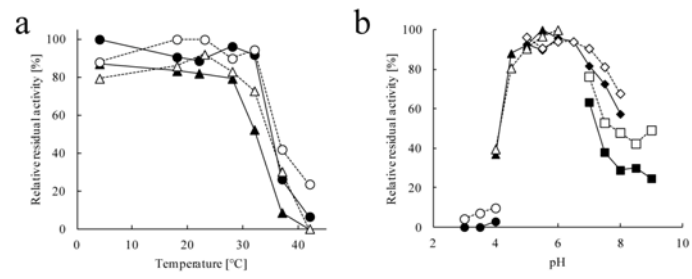


Fig. 5 Effects of temperature and pH on stability of CLA-HY.

515 **Table 1 Substrate specificity of CLA-HY-catalyzed hydration**

516	Substrate		Product	Relative activity [%]
517	<i>cis</i> -9, <i>cis</i> -12-Octadecadienoic acid	(Linoleic acid)	10-Hydroxy- <i>cis</i> -12-octadecenoic acid	100 ^a
518	<i>cis</i> -9-Tetradecenoic acid (C14)	(Myristoleic acid)		- ^b
519	<i>cis</i> -9-Hexadecenoic acid (C16)	(Palmitoleic acid)	10-Hydroxyhexadecanoic acid	44
520	<i>cis</i> -9-Octadecenoic acid (C18)	(Oleic acid)	10-Hydroxyoctadecanoic acid	335
521	<i>trans</i> -9-Octadecenoic acid	(Elaidic acid)		-
522	<i>cis</i> -9, <i>cis</i> -12, <i>cis</i> -15-Octadecatrienoic acid	(α -Linolenic acid)	10-Hydroxy- <i>cis</i> -12, <i>cis</i> -15-octadecadienoic acid	29
523	<i>cis</i> -6, <i>cis</i> -9, <i>cis</i> -12-Octadecatrienoic acid	(γ -Linolenic acid)	10-Hydroxy- <i>cis</i> -6, <i>cis</i> -12-octadecadienoic acid	43
524	<i>cis</i> -6, <i>cis</i> -9, <i>cis</i> -12, <i>cis</i> -15-Octadecatetraenoic acid	(Stearidonic acid)	10-Hydroxy- <i>cis</i> -6, <i>cis</i> -12, <i>cis</i> -15-octadecatrienoic acid	43
525	<i>cis</i> -5, <i>cis</i> -8, <i>cis</i> -11, <i>cis</i> -14-Eicosatetraenoic acid	(Arachidonic acid)		-
526	<i>cis</i> -5, <i>cis</i> -8, <i>cis</i> -11, <i>cis</i> -14, <i>cis</i> -17-Eicosapentaenoic acid	(EPA)		-
527	<i>cis</i> -4, <i>cis</i> -7, <i>cis</i> -10, <i>cis</i> -13, <i>cis</i> -16, <i>cis</i> -19-Docosahexaenoic acid	(DHA)		-
528	<i>cis</i> -9, <i>cis</i> -12-Octadecadienol	(Linoleyl alcohol)		-
529	12-Hydroxy- <i>cis</i> -9-octadecenoic acid	(Ricinoleic acid)	10,12-Dihydroxyoctadecanoic acid	0.5
530	<i>cis</i> -11-Octadecenoic acid	(<i>cis</i> -Vaccenic acid)		-
531	<i>cis</i> -9, <i>trans</i> -11-Octadecadienoic acid	(<i>cis</i> -9, <i>trans</i> -11-Conjugated linoleic acid)		-
532	<i>trans</i> -10, <i>cis</i> -12-Octadecadienoic acid	(<i>trans</i> -10, <i>cis</i> -12-Conjugated linoleic acid)		-
533	Methyl <i>cis</i> -9, <i>cis</i> -12-octadecadienoate	(Methyl linoleate)		-
534	Monolinolein			-
535	Dilinolein			-
536	Trilinolein			-

537 ^a, The activity of linoleic acid hydration (= 1.2 U/mg) under the condition (0.1 mM FAD,
 538 5 mM NADH; 37°C, pH 5.5, 30 min) was defined as 100%. ^b, not detected.

539

540 **Table 2 Substrate specificity of CLA-HY-catalyzed dehydration**

541	Substrate	Product	Relative activity [%]
542	10-Hydroxy- <i>cis</i> -12-octadecenoic acid	<i>cis</i> -9, <i>cis</i> -12-Octadecadienoic acid (Linoleic acid)	100 ^a
543	10-Hydroxy- <i>cis</i> -12, <i>cis</i> -16-octadecadienoic acid	<i>cis</i> -9, <i>cis</i> -12, <i>cis</i> -15-Octadecatrienoic acid (α -Linolenic acid)	127
544	10-Hydroxy- <i>cis</i> -6, <i>cis</i> -12-octadecadienoic acid	<i>cis</i> -6, <i>cis</i> -9, <i>cis</i> -12-Octadecatrienoic acid (γ -Linolenic acid)	61
545	10-Hydroxyoctadecanoic acid	<i>cis</i> -9-Octadecenoic acid (Oleic acid)	<i>tr.</i> ^b
546	12-Hydroxy- <i>cis</i> -9-octadecenoic acid		- ^c
547	12-Hydroxyoctadecanoic acid		-
548	3-Hydroxyhexadecanoic acid (C16)		-
549	9-Hydroxynonanoic acid (C9)		-

550 ^a, The activity of 10-hydroxy-*cis*-12-octadecenoic acid dehydration (= 0.040 U/mg)
 551 under the condition (0.1 mM FAD, 5 mM NADH; 37°C, pH 5.5, 15 min) was defined as
 552 100%. ^b*tr.*, trace, <0.001%. ^c, not detected.

553