ASSUMPTIONS OF MICHAELIS-MENTEN EQUATION

If we analyze a reaction at its very beginning (or its initial rate) prior to the formation of a significant amount of product, we can assume that the conversion of ES to EP is the rate limiting step.

$$E+S \stackrel{\mathrm{k}_1}{ \rightleftharpoons} ES \stackrel{\mathrm{k}_2}{ \rightleftharpoons} EP \stackrel{\mathrm{k}_3}{ \rightleftharpoons} E+P$$

Assuming ES to EP is rate-limiting, aka $k_1, k_{-1}, \ and \ k_3 >> k_2$, We can convert the above reaction to:

$$E+S \stackrel{\mathrm{k_1}}{\Longrightarrow} ES \stackrel{\mathrm{k_{\mathrm{cat}}}}{\longrightarrow} E+P$$

- \blacktriangleright Substituting the rate constants into one constant called k_{cat} or the rate of enzyme catalysis
- At this point there is little to no product, so the reverse reactions k_{-3} and k_{-2} are negligible

MICHAELIS-MENTEN EQUATION - THE STEADY STATE ASSUMPTION

- 1. Enzyme binds with the substrate
- 2. ES Concentration Increases
- 3. ES concentration will reach stable point and remain there until the reaction is nearly complete
- The "pre" steady state only lasts tenths to hundredths of seconds
 - We assume the entire reaction takes place under this steady state condition
- Because ES is a constant we can assume that the rate of formation of ES equals the rate of ES dissociation plus the rate of conversion of S to P

