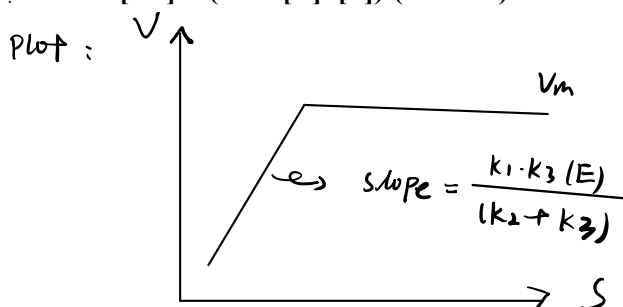


The velocity of the enzymatic reaction,  $V$ , can be expressed as the rate of formation of the product  $P$ , which is equal to the rate of breakdown of the intermediate species  $ES$ . The rate of breakdown of  $ES$  is equal to  $k_3[ES]$ , where  $[ES]$  is the concentration of the intermediate species. The concentration of the intermediate species can be expressed in terms of the concentration of the substrate,  $[S]$ , using the steady state approximation, which assumes that the rate of formation of  $ES$  is equal to the rate of breakdown of  $ES$ . This gives us:

$$[ES] = (k_1[E][S]) / (k_2 + k_3)$$

Substituting this expression for  $[ES]$  into the expression for the rate of breakdown of  $ES$ , we get:

$$V = k_3[ES] = (k_1k_3[E][S]) / (k_2 + k_3)$$



When the concentration of the substrate,  $[S]$ , is small, the term  $(k_2 + k_3)$  in the denominator is much larger than  $k_1[E][S]$ , so the velocity  $V$  is approximately equal to  $(k_1k_3[E][S]) / (k_2 + k_3) = k_1[E][S] / k_2$ . In this case, the velocity  $V$  increases approximately linearly with  $[S]$ , as the concentration of  $S$  increases.

At large concentrations of  $S$ , the term  $k_1[E][S]$  in the numerator becomes much larger than  $(k_2 + k_3)$  in the denominator, so the velocity  $V$  saturates to a maximum value,  $V_m$ . This maximum value,  $V_m$ , is given by:

$$V_m = (k_1k_3[E]) / k_2$$

We can also find it on the plot, which is the maximum velocity of the enzymatic reaction.