MECHANISM OF ENZYME ACTION

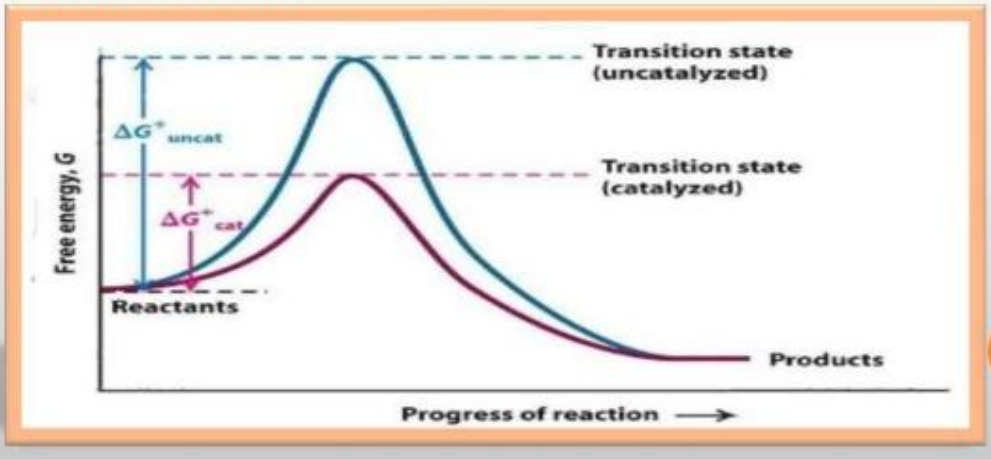
- The catalytic efficiency of enzymes is explained by two perspectives:

Thermodynamic changes

Processes at the active site

THERMODYNAMIC CHANGES

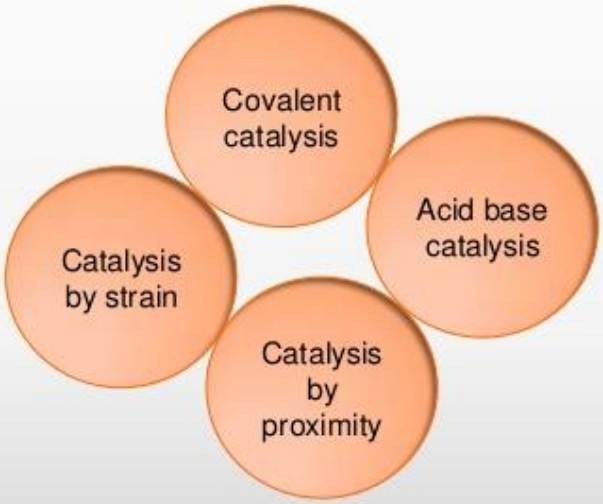
- All chemical reactions have energy barriers between reactants and products.
- The difference in transitional state and substrate is called *activational barrier*.



THERMODYNAMIC CHANGES

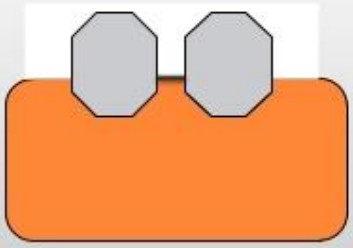
- Only a few substances cross the activation barrier and change into products.
- That is why rate of uncatalyzed reactions is much slow.
- Enzymes provide an alternate pathway for conversion of substrate into products.
- Enzymes accelerate reaction rates by forming transitional state having low activational energy.
- Hence, the reaction rate is increased many folds in the presence of enzymes.
- The total energy of the system remains the same and equilibrium state is not disturbed.

PROCESSES AT THE ACTIVE SITE



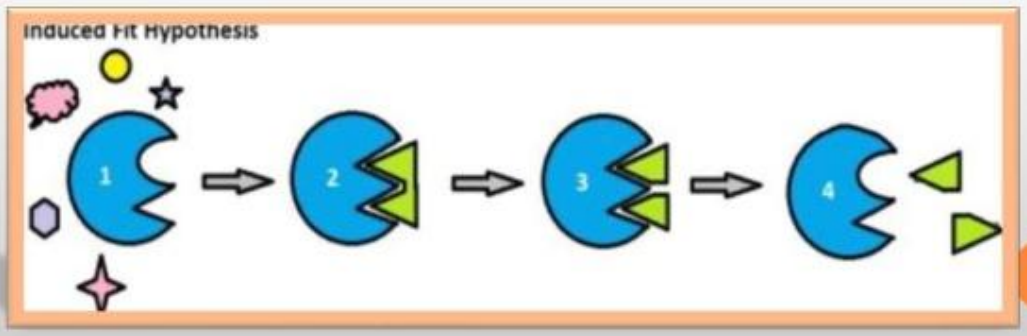
LOCK AND KEY MODEL

- Proposed by EMIL FISCHER in 1894.
- Lock and key hypothesis assumes the active site of an enzymes are rigid in its shape.
- There is no change in the active site before and after a chemical reaction.



INDUCED FIT MODEL

- More recent studies have revealed that the process is much more likely to involve an induced fit model(proposed by DANIAL KOSH LAND in 1958).
- According to this exposure of an enzyme to substrate cause a change in enzyme, which causes the active site to change it's shape to allow enzyme and substrate to bind.



INDUCED FIT MODEL