# **Supplementary Information**

# Boosting photobioredox-catalysis by morpholine electron donors under aerobic conditions

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#### **EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS**

#### **General considerations**

All chemicals were obtained from commercial suppliers (highest purity available) and used without further purification unless otherwise stated.

Buffers / electron donor solutions

Photochemical experiments were carried out in one of the following solutions, which were prepared in

 $dH_2O$  and the pH set to 7.5 with 1 M NaOH or 1 M HCl:

- A) 100 mM MOPS buffer (3-(N-Morpholino)propanesulfonic acid, > 99.5%);
- B) 100 mM Tris-HCl buffer (Tris base, > 99.0%);
- C) 100 mM sodium phosphate buffer (Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> / NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, > 99.0%);
- E) 100 mM MES buffer (2-(N-Morpholino)ethanesulfonic acid), > 99.0%);
- F) 100 mM morpholine (tetrahydro-1,4-oxazine, > 99.5%).
- G) 100 mM 4-methylmorpholine (> 99%)
- H) 100 mM 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)morpholine (> 99%)
- I) 100 mM triethanolamine (>99%)

#### Growth of Bacterial Cells for Enzyme Expression and Isolation

XenB (enoate reductase from *Pseudomonas sp.*, GenBank: KF055345) was expressed in *E. coli* strain BL21(DE3) according to previously published procedures.<sup>1, 2</sup> The TsOYE gene from the thermophile *Thermus scotoductus* SA-01 (GenBank: CP001962) was ordered from GenScript and cloned into the pET28a(+) cloning vector utilizing the *Nde*I and *EcoR*I restriction sites<sup>3, 4</sup> and expressed in *E. coli* strain BL21(DE3). Lysogeny broth (LB) medium (6 mL) supplemented with ampicillin (100 µg mL<sup>-1</sup>) was inoculated with pGASTON\_XenB<sup>5</sup>. LB media supplemented with kanamycin (50 µg mL<sup>-1</sup>) was inoculated with *E.coli* BL21(DE3) pET28a(+)\_TsOYE. These were grown over-night at 37 °C in an orbital shaker operated at 200 rpm. The cultures were transferred to 1 L baffled Erlenmeyer flask containing 250 mL LB/ampicillin or LB/kanamycin medium and shaken at 200 rpm and 37 °C for approximately 2.5 h to a final optical density at 590 nm of approx. 0.6. L-rhamnose, 0.2%, was added for the induction of XenB, which was incubated for 18–22 h at 25 °C. Isopropyl β-D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) was added to a final concentration of 100 µM for the induction of TsOYE) and the flasks were incubated for 18–22 h at 30 °C. Cells were harvested by centrifugation (4000 × g, 4 °C, 15 min).

#### **Enzyme Purification**

Cell pellets were re-suspended in 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer, pH 7.5, containing 0.1 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF) and 0.1 mM FMN. Cells were placed on ice and sonicated using a Bandelin KE76 sonotrode connected to a Bandelin Sonoplus HD 3200 in 9 cycles (5 s pulse, 55 s break,

amplitude 50%). Cell debris were removed by centrifugation ( $15000 \times g$ , 4 °C, 45 min) and the clarified supernatants containing the polyhistidine-tagged XenB or TsOYE wild-type enzymes were loaded on a Ni<sup>2+</sup>-Sepharose HP affinity column (5 mL, GE Healthcare bioscience) equilibrated with 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer, pH 7.5, containing 0.5 M NaCl and 0.1 mM FMN. Enzymes were eluted in 4 column volumes within a linear gradient from 25 to 250 mM imidazole in 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer, pH 7.5, containing 0.5 M NaCl and 0.1 mM FMN. Enzymes were identified by SDS-PAGE analysis, pooled, desalted, washed with 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5) containing 0.1 mM FMN and concentrated by ultrafiltration by using ultra centrifugal tubes with a cut-off of 10 kDa. Protein concentrations were determined by the dye-binding method of Bradford using a pre-fabricated assay (Bio-Rad) and bovine serum albumin as the calibration standard. Buffer exchange was done using Amicon Ultra Centrifugal Filters (10 kDa, 0.5 mL, Millipore) for experiments performed in buffers other than 50 mM Tris HCl (pH 7.5). All the solutions used for the TsOYE isolation were supplemented with 10 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>.

#### **Absorption measurements**

Absorption spectra were recorded in a Shimadzu spectrophotometer (UV-1800) featuring a thermocontrolled 6-cell positioner (CPS-240A).

#### **Light Source**

For the daylight lamp experiments, the lamp was placed at 15 cm (XenB experiments) distance from the plate/vial. The light intensity on the plate level was measured with an Ocean Optics Spectrophotometer (USB2000+) at 450 nm for the daylight lamp ( $28 \mu$ W/cm<sup>2</sup>). The region where the light intensity remained the same was determined and the experiments performed in the area where the amount of energy was constant.

#### Gas Chromatography (GC) Analysis

For GC analysis, 50  $\mu$ L of the reaction mixture were added to 1.5 mL Eppendorf tubes containing 150  $\mu$ L ethyl acetate supplemented with 1 mM methyl benzoate as internal standard. Samples were vortexed at maximum speed (IKA Vortex 4 basic) for 30 s and centrifuged for 1 min (VWR Silverstar bench top centrifuge). The organic layer was transferred into a new 1.5 mL Eppendorf tube and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After centrifugation, the supernatant was transferred to a 1.5 mL GC glass vial equipped with a 0.1 mL micro-insert and subjected to GC analysis.

GC achiral analyses were performed with a BGB5 (30 m x 0.25 mm ID, 0.25  $\mu$ m film) on a Thermo Finnigan Focus GC / DSQ II (Thermo Scientific) and GC chiral analysis, with a BGB175 column (30 m x 0.25 mm ID, 0.25  $\mu$ m film) on a ThermoQuest Trace GC 2000 (Thermo Scientific). The amount of product was quantified from the peak areas using an internal standard (1 mM methyl benzoate) and corrected using

the response factor obtained from the linear regression adjust of the calibration curve, unless otherwise stated.

#### **Determination of Hydrogen Peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)**

Hydrogen peroxide ( $H_2O_2$ ) was measured by the ABTS based assay. This assay quantifies the production of  $H_2O_2$  in the presence of horseradish peroxidase (HRP), which uses the  $H_2O_2$  to convert the colorless ABTS reactant to its oxidized turquoise form. The amount of  $H_2O_2$  in the samples irradiated with the daylight lamp (300 W, Osram) containing FMN (100  $\mu$ M) in 100 mM MOPS, in 100 mM Tris-HCl or in water, pH 7.5, as well as control samples without any flavin. For that, 50  $\mu$ L aliquots were taken over time and added to 2 mM ABTS and 5.8 U/mL HRP to a final volume of 500  $\mu$ L. The absorption spectrum was recorded for each sample and the amount of  $H_2O_2$  quantified after calibration curve with commercial  $H_2O_2$ at 734 nm (intercept = 0.067; slope = 0.02702 ± 0.0008, Adj-R<sup>2</sup> > 0.99).

# Synthesis of 2,2,6-trimethyl-1,4-cyclohexanedione (levodione)



Ketoisophorone **(1a)** (500 mg, 3.3 mmol, 1 eq.) was placed in a 3-neck-round bottomed flask and ethyl acetate (5 mL) was added. 75 mg of Palladium on charcoal (75 mg,  $10\%_{w/w}$  were added to the mixture and the mixture was evacuated and purged with argon three times. After the last purging step, the evacuated state was maintained and the Schlenk-line tube was exchanged with a hydrogen balloon. The apparatus was flushed with H<sub>2</sub> and the mixture was stirred overnight. Upon reaction completion (monitored by GC/MS analysis), the reaction mixture was filtered over Celite and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure (428 mg crude yield). The crude product (100 mg) was mixed with Dess-Martin-Periodinane (DMP, 300 mg, 0.7 mmol, 1.06 eq. *vs* **1c**) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and stirred for 15 minutes at room temperature. After completion (monitored by TLC), the reaction was extracted with a  $10\%_{w/v}$  Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> solution followed by extraction with a saturated solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The aqueous layers were re-extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and the resulting organic layer was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and filtered through silica. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure reduced pressure resulting in a beige solid (**1b**, 42 mg).

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ (ppm)= 1.14 (s, 3H), 1.17 (d, 3H,  $J^3$ = 6.5 Hz), 1.21 (s, 3H), 2.30- 2.42 (m, 1H), 2.54 (d, 1H,  $J^2$ = 15.5 Hz), 2.72- 2.83 (m, 1H), 2.96- 3.08 (m, 1H). Spectrum in accordance to the literature.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ(ppm)= 14.6, 25.6, 26.5, 39.8, 44.2, 44.9, 52.8, 208.0, 214.1. Spectrum in accordance to the literature.<sup>7</sup>

# SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES



Stability of TsOYE and XenB in Tris-HCl at 30°C.

**Fig S1**. Stability of XenB ( $\blacksquare$ , 10  $\mu$ M) and TsOYE ( $\bullet$ , 10  $\mu$ M) in the presence of 100  $\mu$ M FMN in 100 mM Tris-HCl buffer, pH 7.5, at 30 °C. Enzyme activity was measured over time by the decrease in the NADPH absorption at 340 nm.

GC analysis of the photoenzymatic reduction of ketoisophorone (1a)



**Fig S2**. (a) GC analysis of the reaction mixture of the photoenzymatic reduction of ketoisophorone (**1a**, 10 mM) in the presence of TsOYE (15  $\mu$ M) and XenB (15  $\mu$ M) and FMN (200  $\mu$ M) in 50 mM MOPS pH 7.5 after 2 h irradiation with the daylight lamp (300 W, Osram). (b) GC analysis of the reference reaction and the control experiment in the dark employing 1 mM ketoisophorone. IS: internal standard (1 mM methyl benzoate).

Effect of the concentration of XenB, FMN and NADP+ on the product GC-yield and ee



**Fig S3.** Photoinduced enzymatic reduction of ketoisophorone (1 mM) in 100 mM MOPS (pH 7.5). (a) Effect of the enzyme concentration, XenB (0 – 60  $\mu$ M) in the presence of 100  $\mu$ M FMN, (b) effect of the concentration of FMN (0<sup>\*</sup> – 500  $\mu$ M) employing 10  $\mu$ M XenB and (c) effect of the concentration of NADP<sup>+</sup> (0 – 250  $\mu$ M) employing 10  $\mu$ M XenB in the presence of 100  $\mu$ M FMN. Irradiation time: 0.5 h with the daylight lamp (300 W, Osram). XenB was supplemented with FMN for storage to improve stability, therefore, it is not possible to determine the yield in FMN free condition and FMN = 0<sup>\*</sup> represents no addition of extra FMN. **Note:** Yield refers to GC-yield and is based on calibrated GC-data.

#### Effect of the concentration of XenB on the reaction performance



Fig S3. Photoinduced enzymatic reduction of ketoisophorone (1a, 1 mM) in 100 mM MOPS pH 7.5. (a) Effect of the enzyme concentration, XenB (0 – 50  $\mu$ M), on the yield over time. (b) effect of the enzyme concentration on the initial velocity (min<sup>-1</sup>). (c) Effect the enzyme concentration, XenB (0 – 50  $\mu$ M), on the enantiomeric excess over time. Reactions in were performed in the presence of 100  $\mu$ M FMN. Irradiation source: daylight lamp (300 W, Osram). Note: Yield refers to GC-yield and is based on calibrated GC-data.

# Rate of the photoinduced enzymatic reduction of ketoisophorone (1a) by XenB



**Fig S5.** Photoinduced enzymatic reduction of ketoisophorone (1 mM) employing XenB (40  $\mu$ M) as biocatalyst and FMN (100  $\mu$ M) as mediator. Product yield and *ee* over time of the reaction mixture irradiated with the daylight lamp (300 W, Osram) in 100 mM MOPS (pH 7.5). Linear regression slope (intercept = 0): 2.33 ± 0.06 (Adj-R<sup>2</sup> = 0.996). Product formation rate: 1.84 ± 0.02 mM h<sup>-1</sup>. Initial turnover frequency (TOF): 157.5 h<sup>-1</sup>. **Note:** Yield refers to GC-yield and is based on calibrated GC-data.



**Fig S6.** Analysis of the hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) concentration in samples containing FMN (100  $\mu$ M) (a) under irradiation or (b) incubated in the dark. Light source: daylight lamp (300 W, Osram). The concentration was determined by the ABTS/HRP system ( $\lambda = 734$  nm) using the calibration curve published in our previous work: slope = 0.02702 ± 0.0008 (intercept = 0.067), Adj-R<sup>2</sup> > 0.99.<sup>8</sup> Note: data between 50 – 100  $\mu$ M show absorbance intensity above the Beer-Lambert law. Samples with larger response than permitted by the calibration curve were diluted for the measurement.



Effect of the electron donor on the absorption spectra of FMN

**Fig. S7.** Effect of the electron donor (ED) on the absorption spectra of 100  $\mu$ M FMN upon light irradiation. The samples were irradiated over time with the Daylight lamp (300 W, Osram) in the following solutions (pH 7.5): (a) 100 mM MOPS buffer, (b) 100 mM Tris-HCl, (c) 100 mM phosphate buffer (NaPi) and (d) 25 mM EDTA in 100 mM Tris-HCl buffer.



Effect of the electron donor on the absorption spectra of FMN under turnover condition

**Fig. S8.** Effect of the electron donor (ED) on the absorption spectra of 100  $\mu$ M FMN during the photoinduced enzymatic reduction of ketoisophorone (**1a**, 1 mM) to levodione (**1b**) with XenB (10  $\mu$ M). Samples were irradiated over time with the Daylight lamp (300 W, Osram) in the following (pH 7.5): (a) 100 mM MOPS buffer, (b) 100 mM Tris-HCl, (c) 100 mM phosphate buffer (NaPi) and (d) 25 mM EDTA in 100 mM Tris-HCl buffer.



# Effect of the MOPS concentration on the absorption spectra of FMN

**Fig. S9.** Effect of the concentration of MOPS  $(0 - 500 \,\mu\text{M}, \text{ pH 7.5})$  on the absorption spectra of FMN (100  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at different irradiation time points (0 h, 0.5 h, and 1 h) with a Daylight Lamp (300 W, Osram).



# Effect of the MOPS concentration on the absorption spectra of FMN under turnover condition

**Fig S10.** Effect of the concentration of MOPS ( $0 - 500 \mu$ M, pH 7.5) on the absorption spectra of FMN ( $100 \mu$ M) in the presence of XenB ( $10 \mu$ M) and ketoisophorone ( $1 \mu$ M) at different irradiation time points (0 h, 0.5 h, and 1 h) with a Daylight Lamp (300 W, Osram).

# SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

Enzyme	Substrate	Activity (U mg <sup>-1</sup> )		<i>k</i> <sub>cat</sub>	<b>(s</b> <sup>-1</sup> <b>)</b>
		MOPS	<b>Tris-HCl</b>	MOPS	Tris-HCl
XenB	Ketoisophorone	$7.9 \pm 2.2$	$8.4 \pm 1.8$	$5.0 \pm 1.4$	$5.3 \pm 1.1$
TsOYE	Ketoisophorone	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$0.5 \pm 0.3$	$0.2 \pm 0.1$	$0.3 \pm 0.2$

Table S1. Enzyme activity (U mg-1) in 100 mM MOPS and 100 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5) at 30 °C.

Data is reported as  $x \pm 1$ SD (n=3).

**Table S2**. Effect of the temperature in the enzyme activity (U mg<sup>-1</sup>) of TsOYE in 100 mM MOPS and 100 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5). Substrate: Ketoisophorone.

Temperature	Activity (U mg <sup>-1</sup> )	
	MOPS	Tris-HCl
30°C	$0.3 \pm 0.1$	$0.5\pm0.3$
50°C	$0.6\pm0.1^{\text{a}}$	$0.7\pm0.1^{a}$
65°C	$2.1\pm0.1^{a}$	$1.1\pm0.3^{\rm a}$

Data is reported as  $x \pm 1$ SD (n=3).

**Table S3.** Rate constant of the substrate consumption and the product formation in the photo-induced enzymatic reduction of ketoisophorone (10 mM) in 50 mM MOPS (pH 7.5) by TsOYE and XenB.

	<i>k</i> (min <sup>-1</sup> )		
Enzyme	Substrate consumption	Product formation	
TsOYE	$1.13\pm0.07$	$1.6\pm0.16$	
XenB	$1.00\pm0.03$	$1.48\pm0.38$	
No-enzyme	$0.45\pm0.20$	$0.45 \pm 0.10$	

Data is reported as  $\overline{x \pm 1}$ SD (n=3), except for the data without enzyme (n = 1, error corresponds to the adjust).

Electron Donor	GC-yield (%)	ee (%)
MOPS	82.3 ± 8.3	$95.3 \pm 0.1$
MES	$86.5 \pm 6.8$	$92.9 \pm 1.4$
HEMO	$91.2 \pm 4.1$	$95.8\pm0.6$
MMO	$96.5 \pm 0.1$	$93.5\pm0.4$
МО	$18.3 \pm 3.5$	$62.7 \pm 6.1$
EDTA-Tris/HCl	$96.4\pm0.6$	$94.1 \pm 1.3$
EDTA-NaPi	$85.1 \pm 2.6$	$71.2 \pm 5.0$
TEOA	$95.1 \pm 1.4$	$92.1\pm2.6$
Tris/HCl	$33.1\pm0.8$	$14.7\pm1.0$
NaPi	$0.11 \pm 0.1$	n.d.

Table S4. The percentage GC-yield and enantiomeric excess (ee) of levodione (1b) formation obtained in the presence of morpholines and controls.

Reaction conditions: 10  $\mu$ M XenB; 100  $\mu$ M FMN and 1 mM **1a**; daylight irradiation for 1 h at pH 7.5. Data is reported as  $\bar{x} \pm 1$ SD (n=3). n.d.: not determined.

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