

Supporting Information

CRISPR/Cas-directed programmable assembly of multi-enzyme complexes

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Experimental section

Protein expression and purification

The genes encoding dCas9-SpyCatcher, mCerulean3-SpyTag, mVenus-SpyTag, and VioA-E enzymes with SpyTag were synthesized as gBlocks gene fragments (Integrated DNA Technologies) and were inserted into the multiple cloning site of the pET-19b plasmid (Novagen) using the Gibson Assembly (New England Biolabs). The assembled plasmids were transformed into T7 Express competent cells (New England Biolabs), which were grown in 37°C in Terrific Broth (IBI Scientific) containing 100 $\mu\text{g mL}^{-1}$ ampicillin until OD 600 reached 0.6. Protein expression was subsequently induced at 25°C for an additional 15 h by adding 100 μM IPTG; 1 mM δ -aminolevulinic acid and 40 μM ammonium iron-(II)-sulfate were additionally added when expressing the heme-containing VioB-SpyTag. The cells were harvested by centrifugation at 6000 \times g for 10 min, suspended in phosphate buffer with 20 mM Tris-HCl, 1 M NaCl, pH 8.0, lysed by French press, and additionally centrifuged at 22 000 \times g for 50 min to collect the soluble lysate.

dCas9-SpyCatcher was first purified by binding to Ni-NTA resin (Life Technologies) via gentle inversion for 3 h at 4°C, washing five times with 20 mM Tris-HCl, 20 mM imidazole, 1 M NaCl, pH 8.0, and eluting with 250 mM imidazole. Subsequently, dCas9-SpyCatcher was further purified by first exchanging the buffer with 20 mM Tris-HCl, 125 mM KCl, 5% glycerol, 1 mM TCEP, pH 7.5, binding to a HiTrap SP cation exchange column (GE Healthcare) and eluting in a gradient from 125 mM to 1 M KCl. Eluted dCas9-SpyCatcher was buffer exchanged with 20 mM Tris-HCl, 200mM KCl, 5% glycerol, 1 mM TCEP, pH 7.5, concentrated using Amicon Ultra 15 mL centrifugal columns (50 kDa MWCO, Milipore), and stored at -80°C.

All other proteins were purified in a single step by binding to Ni-NTA resin via gentle inversion for 3 h at 4°C, washing five times with 20 mM Tris-HCl, 20 mM imidazole, 1 M NaCl, pH 8.0, and eluting with 250 mM imidazole; after the washing step, enzymes VioA-SpyTag, VioC-SpyTag and VioD-SpyTag were further incubated with 4 mM FAD for 1 h at 4°C, washed five times again and eluted in the same way. The eluted proteins were buffer exchanged with 20 mM Tris-HCl, 50 mM NaCl, pH 8, concentrated using Amicon Ultra 15 mL centrifugal columns (10 kDa MWCO, Milipore), and stored at -80°C. All purified protein fractions were inspected using SDS-PAGE and SimplyBlue staining (Invitrogen) before storage. For VioC-SpyTag, all buffers were supplemented with 10% glycerol.

sgRNA and DNA template synthesis

To synthesize sgRNA, the dsDNA template was first PCR amplified from a DNA plasmid (pET-19b) containing the target sequence using a forward primer containing a T7 promoter. Primer sequences for each target site are shown below; note that the same reverse primer was used for synthesizing dsDNA templates for all five types of target sites. Subsequently the products were purified using a PCR cleanup kit (Qiagen).

Forward primers (5' -> 3')	Reverse primer (5' -> 3')
T1: TAATACGACTCACTATAGCTACC	(Common for all target sites) AAAAGCACCGACTCGGTG
T2: TAATACGACTCACTATAGGGCACCA	
T3: TAATACGACTCACTATAGATATCGT	
T4: TAATACGACTCACTATAGATTGGA	
T5: TAATACGACTCACTATAGATCCAC	

sgRNA for each binding site was then transcribed from a corresponding dsDNA template using a T7 Ribomax Express Large Scale RNA Production System (Promega), and purified using a Monarch RNA cleanup kit (New England Biolabs). The DNA scaffold was similarly PCR amplified from a DNA plasmid (pET-19b) containing the target sequence using a forward primer, 5'-TTCCACTCGGTTGAGCCGGCTAGGC-3', and a reverse primer 5'-CTACTAGGATGGGCACAGCGGAGA-3'. For the production of fluorescently labeled scaffold, a forward primer with Alexa fluor 488 conjugated to the 5' end was used. The products were subsequently purified by ethanol precipitation. First, the reaction solution was mixed with 10% volume of 3M sodium acetate and 100% volume of isopropanol and centrifuged at 17,000 x g for 15 min. After decanting the supernatant, the pellet was washed with 70% ethanol and centrifuged again to decant the supernatant. The remaining pellet was dried and resuspended in nuclease-free water.

Assembly of protein/enzyme-dCas9-DNA complex

For binding dCas9-SpyCatcher to the DNA template, first 10 μ M dCas9-SpyCatcher was mixed with 10 μ M corresponding sgRNA in a buffer containing 20 mM Tris-HCl, 100 mM KCl, 2mM MgCl₂, pH 8 and incubated for 10 min. Subsequently, each type of dCas9-SpyCatcher:sgRNA complex was mixed with the DNA template under the same buffer conditions for 1 h at room temperature; the reaction mixture contained 0.5 μ M DNA template and 2 μ M of each (dCas9:sgRNA) complex loaded with different sgRNA. For the electrophoretic mobility shift assay (EMSA) experiment to verify binding, a fluorescently labeled DNA template as described above was used; assembled

complexes were allowed to migrate for 2 h at 100 V in 0.7% agarose gel, and visualized under blue light.

For assembling the protein/enzyme-dCas9-DNA complex, 20 μM SpyTag-containing proteins/enzymes were mixed with 10 μM dCas9-SpyCatcher and allowed to conjugate for 1 h. Then, sgRNA was added to the reaction mixture at 10 μM and incubated for 10 min. Subsequently, each type of (protein/enzyme-SpyTag):(dCas9-SpyCatcher):sgRNA complex was mixed with the DNA template for 1 h at room temperature; the reaction mixture contained 0.5 μM DNA template and 2 μM of each complex loaded with different combinations of protein/enzyme and sgRNA. For downstream application, the complex was then purified by applying it to a Capto Core 700 size exclusion column (GE Healthcare), during which unbound excess proteins/enzymes below the MWCO of 700 kDa cutoff are trapped in the bead and removed, while the larger assembled complexes of interest are eluted. The concentration was determined from the absorbance of the final mixture at 260 nm, using the extinction coefficient calculated by summing those of all individual components assembled in the complex.

Fluorescence measurement

The assembled complexes containing 0.5 μM of each fluorescent proteins were transferred to a black 96-well plate to measure the fluorescence using a Spectramax M2 plate reader (Molecular Devices). The fluorescence was measured using a 412 nm excitation, 430 nm cutoff filter, and emission scan of 450–600 nm. Subsequently, ratiometric FRET was calculated by dividing the 475 nm mCerulean3 emission peak intensity by the 528 nm mVenus emission peak intensity.

Fluorescent spectra were integrated using a |e Spectral Software 1.2 (FluorTools), and the FRET efficiency was calculated using the equation:

$$E = \frac{I_{AD}\varepsilon_A - I_A\varepsilon_A}{I_A\varepsilon_D}$$

where I_{AD} and I_A are the intensities of the mVenus acceptor with and without the mCerulean3 donor, respectively, and ε_A and ε_D are the extinction coefficients of mCerulean3 and mVenus at the excitation wavelength. Subsequently, the average distance between the two fluorescent proteins undergoing FRET response was calculated using the equation:

$$R = R_0 \sqrt[6]{\frac{1 - E}{E}}$$

where E is the calculated FRET efficiency and R_0 is the Forster distance of the mCerulean3 and mVenus pair, which was reported as 5.71 nm.¹

Violacein enzyme assay

Violacein assay was carried out in a reaction mixture containing 0.5 μ M of each enzyme in either free or scaffolded form, 500 μ M L-tryptophan, 1 μ M FAD, 2 mM NADPH and 5 units of catalase. The buffer solution was the same as for the assembly process described above (20 mM Tris-HCl, 100 mM KCl, 2mM MgCl₂, pH 8) in order to avoid the need for buffer exchange. The reaction mixture was incubated at room temperature for 2 h; at each time point, a 20- μ L sample was taken and quenched with 4 μ L DMSO and 40 μ L methanol. Quenched samples were then centrifuged at 17,000 x g for 10 min to pellet down the aggregated enzymes, passed through a 0.45 μ m filter, and 6 μ L was injected into the HPLC column. For the analysis of the reaction product, an analytical 1100 Agilent HPLC with a diode array detector (DAD) and an autosampler

was used, with a Poroshell 120 column (SB-C18, 3.0 x 100 mm, 2.7 μ m). Water and acetonitrile were both supplemented with 0.1% formic acid and used as the solvents. A gradient of 20-59% acetonitrile over 25 min was used for the analysis, and product detected at 590 nm. The concentration was calculated using commercially purchased violacein standard (Sigma-Aldrich).

References

1. D. J. Glover, S. Lim, D. Xu, N. B. Sloan, Y. Zhang and D. S. Clark, *ACS Synth. Biol.*, 2018, **7**, 2447.

Supporting tables and figures

Title	Sequence (5' -> 3')
Scaffold (30bp spacing)	TTCCACTCGGTTGAGCCGGCTAGGCCTCTC <u>GCTACCATAGGCACCACGAGCGG</u> CCTA TAACCCTTCTGAGAGTCCGGAGGCGG <u>GGGCACCATACCGAGTGATG</u> GGGTCATTAT TCCTATCACGCTTTCGAGTGTCTGATATCGTTTACCAAACGG <u>GGG</u> TACATTACCCTC TCATAGGGGGCGTTCTAG <u>GATTGGAGAGTTAGACCACG</u> TGGATCACGTTACCACCAT ATCATTGAGCATCGATCCACAAGTTACAATTGG <u>TGG</u> ACACCATCTCCGCTGTGCCCA TCCTAGTAG
sgRNA for T1 site	<u>GCUACCAUAGGCACCACGAG</u> GUUUUAGAGCUAGAAAUAGCAAGUUAAAAUAAG GCUAGUCCGUUAUCAACUUGAAAAAGUGGCACCGAGUCGGUGCUUUU
sgRNA for T2 site	<u>GGGCACCAUACCGAGUGAUG</u> GUUUUAGAGCUAGAAAUAGCAAGUUAAAAUAAG GCUAGUCCGUUAUCAACUUGAAAAAGUGGCACCGAGUCGGUGCUUUU
sgRNA for T3 site	<u>GAUAUCGUUUACCAAACGG</u> GUUUUAGAGCUAGAAAUAGCAAGUUAAAAUAAG GCUAGUCCGUUAUCAACUUGAAAAAGUGGCACCGAGUCGGUGCUUUU
sgRNA for T4 site	<u>GAUUGGAGAGUUAGACCACG</u> GUUUUAGAGCUAGAAAUAGCAAGUUAAAAUAAG GCUAGUCCGUUAUCAACUUGAAAAAGUGGCACCGAGUCGGUGCUUUU
sgRNA for T5 site	<u>GAUCCACAAGUUACAAUUGG</u> GUUUUAGAGCUAGAAAUAGCAAGUUAAAAUAAG GCUAGUCCGUUAUCAACUUGAAAAAGUGGCACCGAGUCGGUGCUUUU

Table S1. Nucleic acid sequences used in this study.

The sequences corresponding to each binding site is labeled in colors (Red, orange, green, blue and purple for T1-5, respectively), and the corresponding PAM sequences are underlined.

dCas9-SpyCatcher (173.9 kDa)

MDKKYSIGLA IGTNSVGWAV ITDEYKVPSK KFKVLGNTDR HSIKKNLIGA LLFDSGETAE
ATRLKRTARR RYTRRKNRIC YLQEIFSNEM AKVDDSFHHR LEESFLVEED KKHERHPIFG
NIVDEVAYHE KYPTIYHLRK KLVDSTDKAD LRLIYLALAH MIKFRGHFLI EGDLPDNDSD
VDKLFIQLVQ TYNQLFEENP INASGVDAKA ILSARLSKSR RLENLIAQLP GEKKNGLFGN
LIALSLGLTP NFKSNFDLAE DAKLQLSKDT YDDDLNLLA QIGDQYADLF LAAKNLSDAI
LLSDILRVNT EITKAPLSAS MIKRYDEHHQ DLTLKALVR QQLPEKYKEI FFDQSKNGYA
GYIDGGASQE EFYKFIKPIL EKMDGTEELL VKLNREDLLR KQRTFDNGSI PHQIHLGELH
AILRRQEDFY PFLKDNREKI EKILTFRIPY YVGPLARGNS RFAWMTRKSE ETITPWNFEE
VVDKGASAQS FIERMTNFDK NLPNEKVLPK HSLLYEYFTV YNELTKVKYV TEGMRKPAFL
SGEQKKAIVD LLFKTNRKVT VKQLKEDYFK KIECFDSVEI SGVEDRFNAS LGTYHDLLKI
IKDKDFLDNE ENEDILEDIV LTLTLFEDRE MIEERLKYA HLFDDKVMKQ LKRRRYTGWG
RLSRKLINGI RDKQSGKTI DFLKSDGFAN RNFMQLIHDD SLTFKEDIQK AQVSGQGDLS
HEHIANLAGS PAIKKGILQT VKVDELVKV MGRHKPENIV IEMARENQTT QKGQKNSRER
MKRIEEGIKE LGSQILKEHP VENTQLQNEK LYLYYLQNGR DMYVDQELDI NRLSDYDVDA
IVPQSFLKDD SIDNKVLTRS DKNRGKSDNV PSEEVVKKMK NYWRQLLNAK LITQRKFDNL
TKAERGGGLSE LDKAGFIKRQ LVETRQITKH VAQILDSRMN TKYDENDKLI REVKVITLKS
KLVSDFRKDF QFYKvreinn YHHAHDAYLN AVVGtalikk YPKLESEFVY GDYKVYDVRK
MIAKSEQEIG KATAKYFFYS NIMNFFKTEI TLANGEIRKR PLIETNGETG EIVWDKGRDF
ATVRKVL SMP QVNIVKKTEV QTGGFSKESI LPKRNSDKLI ARKKDWDPPK YGGFDSPTVA
YSVLVAKVE KGKSKKLKSV KELLGITIME RSSFEKNPID FLEAKGYKEV KKDIIKLPK
YSLFELENGR KRMLASAGEL QKGNELALPS KYVNFYLYLAS HYEKLKGSPE DNEQKQLFVE
QHKHYLDEII EQISEFSKRV ILADANLDKV LSAYNKHRDK PIREQAENII HFLTLTNLGA
PAAFKYFDTT IDRKRYTSTK EVLDATLIHQ SITGLYETRI DLSQLGGDGG GSGGSDYDI
PTTENLYFQG AMVDTLSGLS SEQQSGDMT IEEDSATHIK FSKRDEDGKE LAGATMELRD
SSGKTISTWI SDGQVKDFYL YPGKYTFVET AAPDGYEVAT AITFTVNEQG QVTVNGKATK
GDAHIGSGHH HHHH

mCerulean3-SpyTag (29.8 kDa)

MGHMHHHHHH GGVSKGEELF TGVVPILVEL DGDVNGHKFS VSGEGEGDAT YGKLTCLKFIC
TTGKLPVWP TLVTTLSWG V QCFARYPDHM KQHDFFKSAM PEGYVQERTI FFKDDGNYKT
RAEVKFEGDT LVNRIELKGI DFKEDGNILG HKLEYNAIHG NVYITADKQK NGIKANFGLN
CNIEDGVSQ LADHYQQNTPI GDGPVLLPDN HYLSTQSKLS KDPNEKRDHM VLLEFVTAAG
ITLGMDELYK GSGGSAHIV MVDAYKPTK

mVenus-SpyTag (30.0 kDa)

MGHMHHHHHH GGVSKGEELF TGVVPILVEL DGDVNGHKFS VSGEGEGDAT YGKLTCLKLIC
TTGKLPVWP TLVTTLGYGL QCFARYPDHM KQHDFFKSAM PEGYVQERTI FFKDDGNYKT
RAEVKFEGDT LVNRIELKGI DFKEDGNILG HKLEYNNSH NVYITADKQK NGIKANFKIR
HNIEDGGVQL ADHYQQNTPI GDGPVLLPDN HYLSTQSKLS KDPNEKRDHM VLLEFVTAAG
ITLGMDELYK GSGGSAHIV MVDAYKPTK

VioA-SpyTag (49.7kDa)

MHHHHHHGSG KHSSDICIVG AGISGLTCAS HLLDSPACRG LSLRIFDMQQ EAGGRIRSKM
LDGKASIELG AGRYSPQLHP HFQSAMQHYS QKSEVYPFTQ LKFKSHVQQK LKRAMNELSP
RLKEHGKESF LQFVSRYQGH DSAVGMIRSM GYDALFLPDI SAEMAYDIVG KHPEIQSVTD
NDANQWFAAE TGFAGLIQGI KAKVKAAGAR FSLGYRLLSV RTDGDGYLLQ LAGDDGWKLE
HRTRHLILAI PPSAMAGLNV DFPEAWSGAR YGSLPLFKGF LTYGEPWWLD YKLDDQVLIV
DNPLRKIYFK GDKYLFFYTD SEMANYWRGC VAEGEDGYLE QIRTHLASAL GIVRERIPQP
LAHVHKYWAH GVEFCRSDI DHPSALSHRD SGIIACSDAY TEHCGWMEGG LLSAREASRL
LLQRIAAGGG SGGGSAHIVM VDAYKPTK

VioB-SpyTag (114.2kDa)

MSILDFPRIH FRGWARVNAP TANRDPHGI DMASNTVAMA GEPFDLARHP TEFHRHLRSL
GPRFGLDGRA DPEGPFSLAE GYNAAGNNHF SWESATVSHV QWDGGEADRG DGLVGARLAL
WGHYNDYLRT TFNRARWVDS DPTRRDAAQI YAGQFTISPA GAGPGTPWLF TADIDDSHGA
RWTRGGHIAE RGGHFLDEEF GLARLFQFSV PKDHPHFLFH PGPFSEAWR RLQLALEDDD
VLGLTVQYAL FNMSTPPQPN SPVFHDMGV VGLWRRGELA SYPAGRLLRP RQPGLGDLTL
RVNGGRVALN LACAIPFSTR AAQPSAPDRL TPDLGAKLPL GDLLLRDEDG ALLARVPQAL
YQDYWTNHGI VDLPLLREPR GSLLSSELA EWREQDWVTQ SDASNLYLEA PDRRHGRFFP
ESIALRSYFR GEARARPDIP HRIEGMGLVG VESRQGDAA EWRLTGLRPG PARIVLDDGA
EAIPLRVLPD DWALDDATVE EVDYAFLYRH VMAYYELVYP FMSDKVFSLA DRCKCETYAR
LMWQMCDPQN RNKSYYPST RELSAPKARL FLKYLAHVEG QARLQAPPPA GPARIESKAQ
LAAELRKAVD LELSVMLQYL YAAYSIPNYA QGQQRVRDGA WTAEQLQLAC GSGDRRRDGG
IRAALLEIAH EEMIHLYLVN NLLMALGEPF YAGVPLMGEA ARQAFGLDTE FALEPFSEST
LARFVRLEWP HFIPAPGKSI ADCYAAIRQA FLDLPDLFGG EAGKRGGEHH LFLNELTNRA
HPGYQLEVFD RDSALFGIAF VTDQEGGAL DSPHYEHSHF QRLREMSARI MAQSAPFEPA
LPALRNPVLD ESPGCQRVAD GRARALMALY QGVYELMFAM MAQHFAVKPL GSLRRSRLMN
AAIDLMTGLL RPLSCALMNL PSGIAGRTAG PPLPGVDTR SYDDYALGCR MLARRCERLL
EQASMLEPGW LPDAQMELLD FYRRQMLDLA CGKLSREAGS GHHHHHHGGG SGGGSAHIVM
VDAYKPTK

VioC-SpyTag (51.0kDa)

MHHHHHHGSG KRAIIVGGGL AGGLTAIYLA KRGYEVHVVE KRGDPLRDLS SYVDVSSRA
IGVSMTVRGI KSVLAAGIPR AELDACGEPI VAMAFSVGGQ YRMRELKPLE DFRPLSLNRA
AFQKLLNKYA NLAGVRYIFE HKCLDVDLDG KSVLIQKDG QPQRLQGDMI IGADGAHSAV
RQAMQSGLR RFEFQQTFRRH GYKTLVLPDA QALGYRKDTL YFFGMDSGGL FAGRAATIPD

GSVSI	AVCLP	YSGSP	SLTTT	DEPTM	RAFFD	RYFGG	LPRDA	RDEML	RQFLA	KPSND	LINVR
SSTFH	YKGNV	LLLGDA	AHAT	APFLG	QGMNM	ALEDAR	TVE	LLDRH	QGDQD	KAFPE	FTELR
KVQAD	AMQDM	ARANYD	VLSC	SNPIFF	MRAR	YTRYM	HSKFP	GLYPP	DMAEK	LYFTS	EPYDR
LQQIQ	RKQNV	WYKIG	RVNGG	GSGGG	SAHIV	MVDAY	KPTK				
VioD-SpyTag (44.6kDa)											
MHHHH	HHHGS	KILVI	GAGPA	GLVFA	SQKQ	ARPLW	AIDIV	EKNDE	QEVLG	WGVVL	PGRPG
QHPAN	PLSYL	DAPER	LNPF	LEDFK	LVHHN	EPSLM	STGVL	LCGV	VERRGLV	HALRD	KCRSQ
GIAIR	FESPL	LEHGEL	PLAD	YDLVV	LANGV	NHKTA	HFTEA	LVPQ	VQDYGRN	KYIWY	GTSQL
FDQM	NLVFRT	HGKDIF	IAHA	YKYS	DTMSTF	IVEC	SEETYA	RARLG	GEMSEE	ASAEY	VAKVF
QAE	LGGHGLV	SQPGL	GWRNF	MTLSH	DRCHD	GKLV	LLGDAL	QSGH	FSIGHG	TTMAV	VVAQL
LVKAL	CTEDG	VPAAL	KRFEE	RALPL	VQLFR	GHADN	SRVWF	ETVE	EERMHLS	SAEFV	QSFDA
RRKSL	PPMPE	ALAQN	LRYAL	QRGGG	SGGGS	AHIVM	VDAYK	PTK			
VioE-SpyTag (24.8kDa)											
MHHHH	HHHGS	ENREP	LLPA	RWSSA	YVSYW	SPMLP	DDQLT	SGYC	WFDYER	DICRI	DGLFN
PWSE	RDTGYR	LWMSE	VGNAA	SGRTW	KQKVA	YGRER	TALGE	QLCER	PLDDE	TGPFA	EFLP
RDVL	RRLGAR	HIGRR	VVLGR	EADGW	RYQRP	GKGP	STLYLD	AASGT	PLRMV	TGDEA	SRASL
RDFP	NVSEAE	IPDAV	FAAKR	GGSGG	GSAAH	IVMVD	DAYKPT	K			

Table S2. Amino acid sequences of the proteins used in this study.

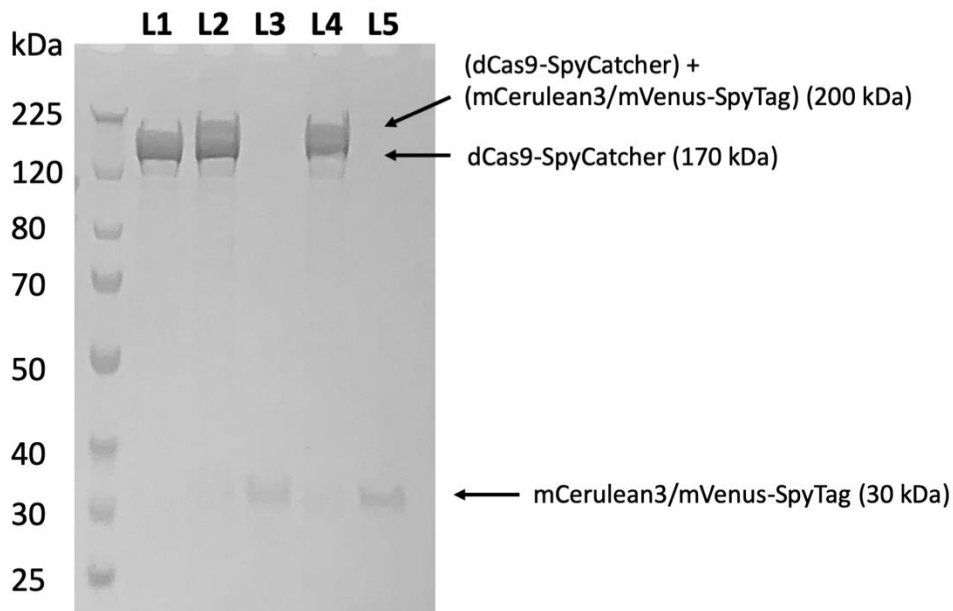


Figure S1. SDS-PAGE showing the conjugation of fluorescent proteins to dCas9-SpyCatcher. L1: dCas9-SpyCatcher ($1\mu\text{M}$); L2: dCas9-SpyCatcher ($1\mu\text{M}$) mixed with mCerulean3-SpyTag ($0.5\mu\text{M}$); L3: mCerulean3-SpyTag ($0.5\mu\text{M}$); L4: dCas9-SpyCatcher ($1\mu\text{M}$) mixed with mVenus-SpyTag ($0.5\mu\text{M}$); L5: mVenus-SpyTag ($0.5\mu\text{M}$). Upon mixing the two components, the upward shift in the band corresponding to dCas9-SpyCatcher as well as the disappearance of the band corresponding to mCerulean3/mVenus-SpyTag were observed, indicating successful conjugation. Note that the conjugation is unaffected by the SDS-PAGE conditions due to covalent isopeptide bond formation.

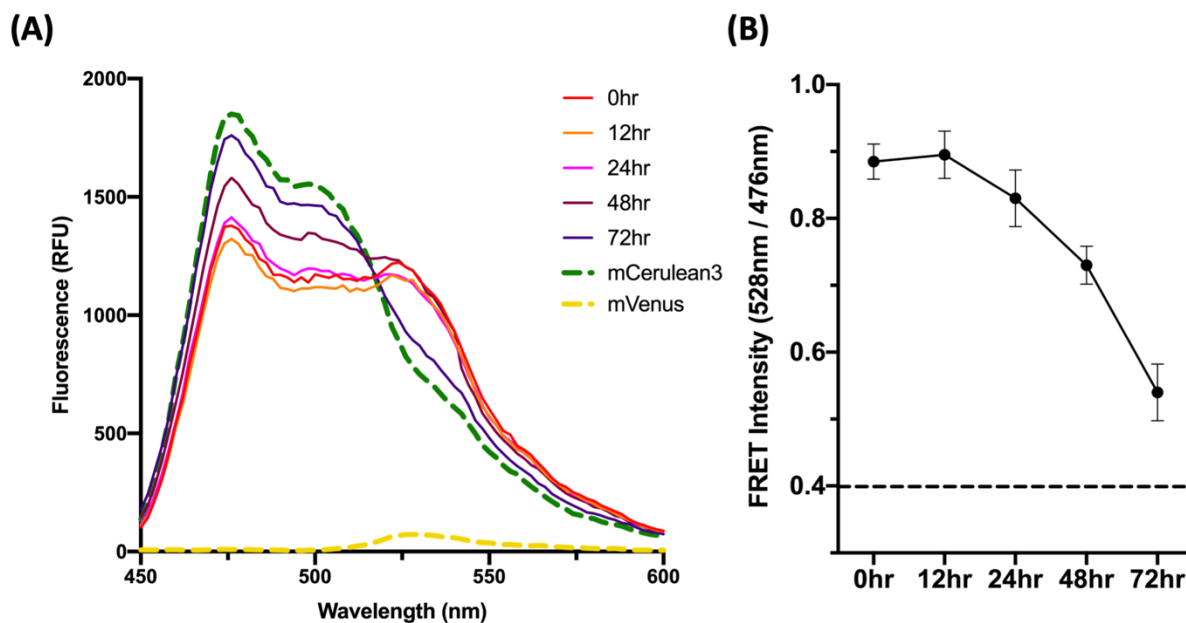


Figure S2. Stability of the assembled protein-dCas9-DNA complex assessed by monitoring the FRET response over time.

mCerulean3 and mVenus was placed at T1 and T2, respectively, and their (A) fluorescence emission spectra upon excitation at 412 nm and (B) ratiometric FRET intensity were monitored for 72 hours. Total concentration of the protein-dCas9-DNA complex was 0.5 μ M for each measurement. Strong FRET was maintained until 24 hours after dCas9 binding to the template, whereas the weakening of FRET was observed at 48 hours; 72 hours later the emission spectrum and the (A_{528nm}/A_{476nm}) ratio were largely indistinguishable from that of mCerulean3 alone, indicating possible dissociation of the DNA-dCas9 complex. In (B), the dashed line at 0.4 represents the value measured from mCerulean3 alone, and the error bars represent the standard deviation (SD) from at least two independent experiments.

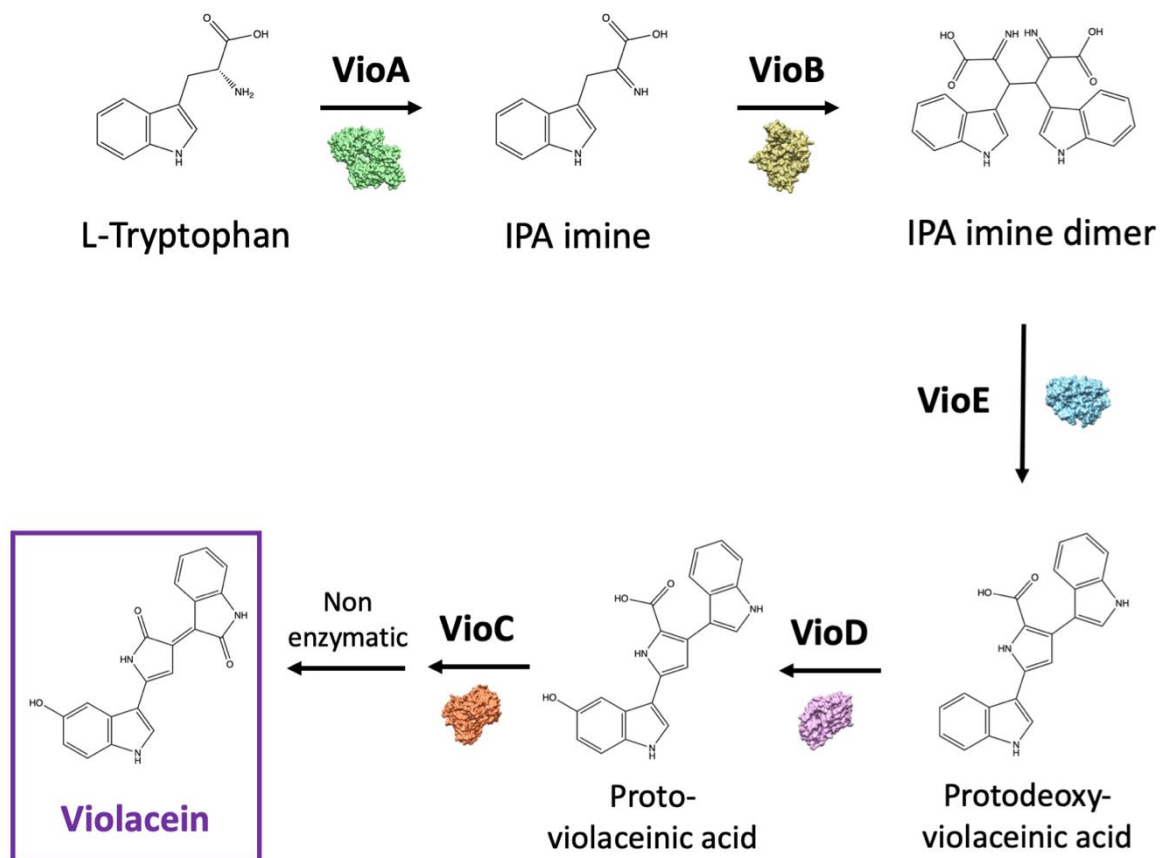


Figure S3. Scheme of the violacein biosynthesis pathway.

L-tryptophan is converted to the purple pigment violacein in a series of reactions involving the five enzymes VioA-E. Note that the last step that yields the final product proceeds spontaneously.

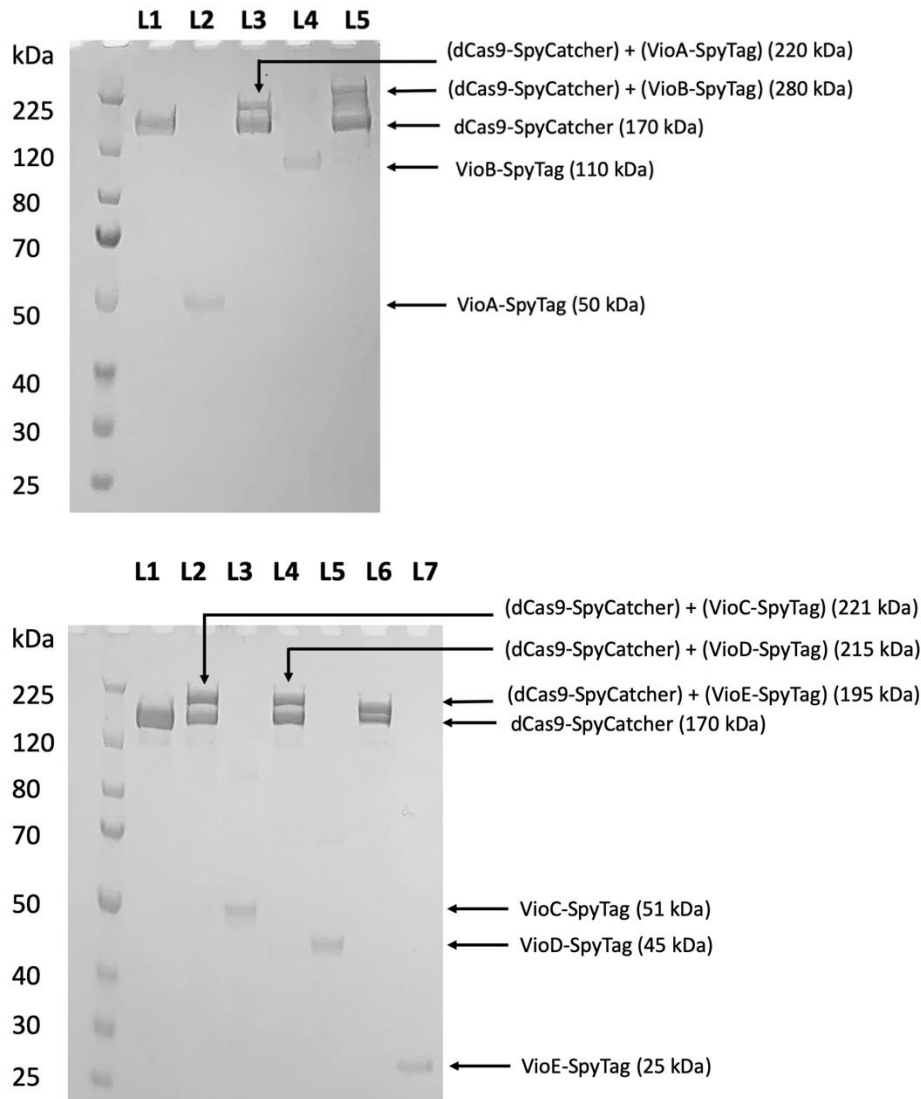


Figure S4. SDS-PAGE showing the conjugation of the Vio enzymes to dCas9-SpyCatcher.

(Up) L1: dCas9-SpyCatcher (1 μ M); L2: VioA-SpyTag (0.5 μ M); L3: dCas9-SpyCatcher (1 μ M) mixed with VioA-SpyTag (0.5 μ M); L4: VioB-SpyTag (0.5 μ M); L5: dCas9-SpyCatcher (1 μ M) mixed with VioB-SpyTag (0.5 μ M); (Down) L1: dCas9-SpyCatcher (1 μ M); L2: dCas9-SpyCatcher (1 μ M) mixed with VioC-SpyTag (0.5 μ M); L3: VioC-SpyTag (0.5 μ M); L4: dCas9-SpyCatcher (1 μ M) mixed with VioD-SpyTag (0.5 μ M); L5: VioD-SpyTag (0.5 μ M); L6: dCas9-SpyCatcher (1 μ M) mixed with VioE-SpyTag (0.5 μ M); L7: VioE-SpyTag (0.5 μ M). Upon mixing the two components, the upward shift in the band corresponding to dCas9-SpyCatcher as well as the disappearance of the band corresponding to the Vio enzymes were observed, indicating successful conjugation.

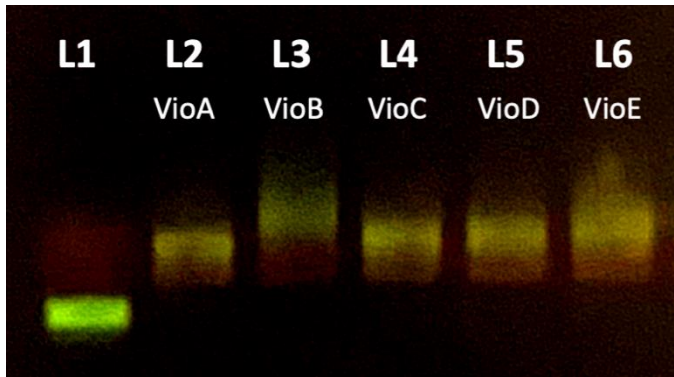


Figure S5. Effect of enzyme type on binding of enzyme:dCas9 complex to DNA scaffold.

We examined whether the binding of the enzyme:dCas9 complex to DNA is affected by the type and size of the enzyme used. dCas9-SpyCatcher bound to each Vio enzyme (VioA-E) was assembled on the T1 site of the fluorescently labeled DNA scaffold, and the migration was monitored using EMSA. L1: DNA scaffold control; L2: DNA bound to (VioA-SpyTag):(dCas9-SpyCatcher); L3: DNA bound to (VioB-SpyTag):(dCas9-SpyCatcher); L4: DNA bound to (VioC-SpyTag):(dCas9-SpyCatcher); L5: DNA bound to (VioD-SpyTag):(dCas9-SpyCatcher); L6: DNA bound to (VioE-SpyTag):(dCas9-SpyCatcher); total concentration of the DNA-bound complex was 0.5 μ M in all lanes. Complete binding was observed for all Vio enzymes in L2-L6, indicating that the assembly efficiency is not affected by the type and size of the enzyme employed.

L1: DNA scaffold control; L2: DNA bound to (VioA-SpyTag):(dCas9-SpyCatcher); L3: DNA bound to (VioB-SpyTag):(dCas9-SpyCatcher); L4: DNA bound to (VioC-SpyTag):(dCas9-SpyCatcher); L5: DNA bound to (VioD-SpyTag):(dCas9-SpyCatcher); L6: DNA bound to (VioE-SpyTag):(dCas9-SpyCatcher); total concentration of the DNA-bound complex was 0.5 μ M in all lanes. Complete binding was observed for all Vio enzymes in L2-L6, indicating that the assembly efficiency is not affected by the type and size of the enzyme employed.

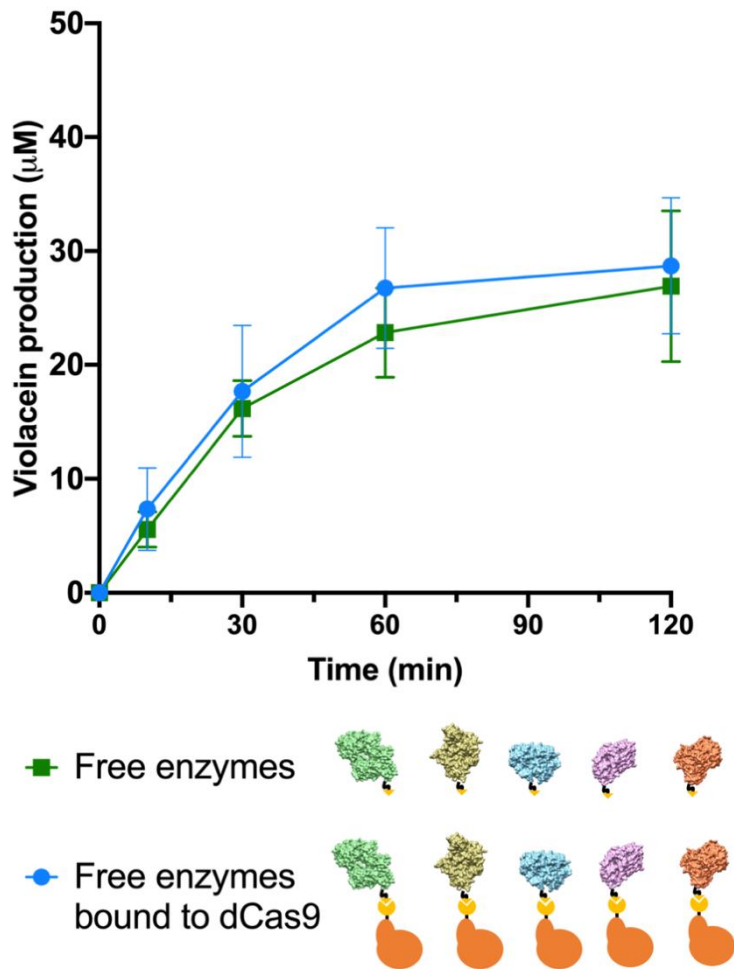


Figure S6. Effect of dCas9-SpyCatcher conjugation on violacein production.

Violacein production was monitored for 120 min for the free Vio enzymes in solution, with and without conjugation to dCas9-SpyCatcher. The reaction mixture contained 0.5 μM of each enzyme, and the experiment was performed as described in the Methods section. The difference in violacein production was insignificant for the two conditions, verifying the minimal effect of dCas9-SpyCatcher conjugation on overall productivity.