

## Supplementary information

Figure 7 data:

Enzyme origin	Enzyme	Substrate	Type of catalysis	$k_{cat}/K_m$ ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )
Natural	Superoxide dismutase	Superoxide	Oxidoreductase	$7.0 \times 10^9$ <sup>1</sup>
Natural	Crotonase	2-trans-enoyl-CoA	Hydratase	$2.8 \times 10^8$ <sup>2</sup>
Natural	Triose phosphate isomerase	Dihydroxyacetone phosphate and D-glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate	Isomerase	$2.4 \times 10^8$ <sup>3</sup>
Natural	Fumarase	Fumarate	Hydratase	$1.6 \times 10^8$ <sup>4</sup>
Natural	Ach esterase	Acetylcholine	Hydrolase	$1.6 \times 10^8$ <sup>5</sup>
Natural	Human carbonic anhydrase	$CO_2$	Hydratase	$1.5 \times 10^8$ <sup>6</sup>
Natural	$\beta$ lactamase	Cefoxitin	Hydrolase	$1.0 \times 10^8$ <sup>7</sup>
Natural	P450 BM3	Palmitate	Oxidoreductase	$6.0 \times 10^7$ <sup>8</sup>
Natural	Catalase	$H_2O_2$	Oxidoreductase	$4.0 \times 10^7$ <sup>9</sup>
Natural	Fumarate reductase	Fumarate	Oxidoreductase	$2.1 \times 10^7$ <sup>10</sup>
Natural	P450 BM3	Myristate	Oxidoreductase	$8.2 \times 10^6$ <sup>8</sup>
Natural	Horseradish peroxidase	$H_2O_2$	Oxidoreductase	$5.1 \times 10^6$ <sup>11</sup>
Natural	Manganese peroxidase	$H_2O_2$	Oxidoreductase	$4.3 \times 10^6$ <sup>12</sup>
Natural	Xanthine oxidase	Xanthine	Oxidoreductase	$1.9 \times 10^6$ <sup>13</sup>
Natural	Urease	Urea	Hydrolase	$4.8 \times 10^5$ <sup>14</sup>
Natural	Indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase	L-tryptophan	Oxidoreductase	$2.0 \times 10^5$ <sup>15</sup>
Natural	Nitric oxide synthase	L-arginine	Oxidoreductase	$1.8 \times 10^5$ <sup>16</sup>
Natural	Tryptophan 2,3 dioxygenase	L-tryptophan	Oxidoreductase	$1.7 \times 10^5$ <sup>17</sup>
Natural	Nitrogenase	Acetylene	Oxidoreductase	$3.0 \times 10^4$ <sup>18</sup>
De novo scaffold/activity	di-Fe(III)-DF3 (phenol oxidase)	3,5-ditert-butyl-catechol	Oxidoreductase	$100$ <sup>19</sup>
De novo scaffold/activity	MID1-zinc (carboxyesterase and phosphoesterase)	4-nitrophenyl acetate	Oxidoreductase	$630$ <sup>20</sup>
De novo scaffold/activity	S-836 (peroxidase)	$H_2O_2$	Oxidoreductase	$39$ <sup>21</sup>
De novo scaffold/activity	TRIL9CL23H	PNP acetate	Hydrolase	$23$ <sup>22</sup>
Natural scaffold/de novo activity	Diels alderase (DA2010)	4-carboxybenzyl trans-1,3-butadiene-1-carbamate and N,N-dimethylacrylamide	Diels alderase	* $4.7$ <sup>23</sup>
Natural scaffold/de novo activity	Diels alderase (CE6)	4-carboxybenzyl trans-1,3-butadiene-1-carbamate and N,N-dimethylacrylamide	Diels alderase	* $87$ <sup>23</sup>
Natural scaffold/de novo activity	Organophosphate (PT3)	Diethyl 7-hydroxycoumarinyl phosphate	Hydrolase	$4.0$ <sup>24</sup>
Natural scaffold/de novo activity	Organophosphate (PT3.3)	Diethyl 7-hydroxycoumarinyl phosphate	Hydrolase	$9.8 \times 10^3$ <sup>24</sup>
Natural scaffold/de novo activity	Kemp eliminase (KE70)	5-nitrobenzisoxazole	Kemp elimination	$130$ <sup>25</sup>
Natural scaffold/de novo activity	Kemp eliminase (R6 4/8B)	5-nitrobenzisoxazole	Kemp elimination	$5.7 \times 10^4$ <sup>25</sup>
Natural scaffold/de novo activity	AlleyCat	Benzisoxazole	Kemp elimination	$5.8$ <sup>26</sup>

\*units are  $M^{-1}M^{-1}s^{-1}$

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