Supporting information

Metagenomic ene-reductases for the bioreduction of sterically challenging enones

Dragana Dobrijevic,^a‡ Laure Benhamou,^b‡ Abil E. Aliev,^b Daniel Méndez-Sánchez,^b Natalie Dawson,^c Damien Baud,^b Nadine Tappertzhofen, ^b Thomas S. Moody,^d Christine A. Orengo, ^c Helen C. Hailes^{b*} and John M. Ward^{a*}

^a Department of Biochemical Engineering, University College London, Bernard Katz Building, London WC1H 6BT, UK. E-mail: j.ward@ucl.ac.uk. ^b Department of Chemistry, University College London, 20 Gordon Street, London, WC1H 0AJ, UK. E-mail: h.c.hailes@ucl.ac.uk. ^c Structural and Molecular Biology, University College London, London, WC1E 6BT, UK. ^d Almac, Department of Biocatalysis & Isotope Chemistry, 20 Seagoe Industrial Estate, Craigavon, BT63 5QD, N. Ireland, UK.

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ENZYME DISCOVERY

Metagenome isolation, sequencing and assembly.

Total DNA was isolated from a sample collected from a domestic shower drainpipe. Hair blocking the drain was removed and a surrounding gel-like liquid mass (20 mL) was added to buffer (25 mM Tris-HCl, 150 mM NaCl and 25 mM EDTA) making the total volume of 250 mL. The sample was warmed to 60 °C for few minutes and 80 mL of phenol was added (buffered phenol solution, Sigma). The sample was mixed well and left, with occasional mixing, in a 65 °C water bath for 45 min, then centrifuged for 20 min at 7,000 rpm to separate the phases. The top aqueous phase was removed into two large centrifuge bottles and an equal volume of isopropanol was added to each. Samples were left on ice for 10 min then centrifuged for 10 min at 7,000 rpm. Each pellet was resuspended in 10 mL of TE buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 1 mM Na₂EDTA) and added to 10.7 g of cesium chloride (CsCl). Ethidium bromide (EtBr) was added to a final concentration of 20 µg/mL. The solutions were transferred into Beckman ultracentrifuge tubes and centrifuged at 40,000 rpm for 48 h to form a density gradient; clean gradients were visible. The DNA containing band in the bottom third of the tube was removed under UV illumination and the EtBr extracted with isopropanol saturated with CsCl solution. The DNA solutions (both approximately 2.2 ml) were diluted to 10 mL with TE buffer and 0.1 volumes of 5 M NaCl and 2 volumes of ethanol were added. A large white DNA precipitate formed at the interface after 20 mL of ethanol was layered onto the surface before mixing. The solution was left on ice for approx. 30 min, giving a clot of DNA after mixing. This was centrifuged for 10 min at 15 °C, each pellet was dried and resuspended in 2 ml of TE buffer.

Library preparation and sequencing were performed at UCL Genomics (University College London, UK). One run on Illumina MiSeq sequencer (paired–end 250 bp) generated 13,683,797 paired–end reads totaling 14.2 GB. Raw reads were submitted to the European Nucleotide Archive under sample accession number ERS811192. PERF, PETKit v1.1b (http://microbiology.se/software/petkit) was used for quality filtering. 11,127,204 quality checked reads were assembled by IDBA-UD 1.1.2 ¹ using a kmer size iterated from 80 to 120. On assembled contigs, genes were predicted by Prodigal v2.6.2 by running it in the metagenomic mode.² Corresponding protein sequences were annotated by scanning the sequences against Pfam28.0 libraries of domain families by PfamScan. ³ Overlapping domain assignments were resolved by DomainFinder3 as previously described.⁴ The completeness of the candidate gene and the corresponding protein sequence was assessed by BLASTP searches against the non-redundant GenBank database. Theoretical molecular weights and extinction coefficients were calculated with the ProtParam tool (ExPASy).

Cloning of selected genes.

Metagenomic ERs were PCR amplified directly from the drain metagenomic DNA and cloned into pET29a(+) (Novagen, Merck). Genes were cloned to start with an ATG within the *Ndel* restriction site and in fusion with a C-terminal Hisx6 tag. Resulting expression plasmids were verified by DNA sequencing (Eurofins Genomics). A gene encoding N-terminal Hisx6 - tagged enzyme nicotinamide-dependent cyclohex-2-en-1-one reductase (NCR) from *Zymomonas* mobilis (UniProtKB Accession: Q5NLA1)⁵ was codon optimized for expression in *E.coli*, synthesized and cloned into pJ411 vector by DNA2.0, USA. The gene for the cofactor recycling enzyme glucose-6-phophate dehydrogenase from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* SF838 (UniProtKB Accession: P11412) was amplified from genomic DNA and cloned into pACYCDuet (Novagen, Merck) using *Bam*HI and *Sal*I restriction sites.

Enzyme expression and purification.

All plasmids were transformed into E. coli expression strain BL21 (DE3). Precultures were grown overnight at 37 °C in Terrific broth (TB) containing kanamycin (50 µg/mL) and were used to inoculate fresh TB media (1% v/v). Cells were grown at 37 °C under shaking to an OD₆₀₀ of 0.4 – 0.6. Protein expression was induced by addition of IPTG (final concentration 1 mM). Cells were harvested by centrifugation after 48 h at 16 °C. Pellets were thawed in the binding buffer (20 mM sodium phosphate, 0.5 M NaCl, 5 mM imidazole, pH 7.4) supplemented with an excess amount of flavin mononuceotide (FMN, final concentration 0.1 - 0.2 mg/mL). Cells were disrupted by sonication with cooling on ice, and then incubated on ice for another 30 min, to achieve high flavination. Cell debris was removed by centrifugation (12,000 rpm, 45 min, 4 °C). Supernatant was filtered through a 0.45 mm PES filter and loaded, at room temperature, onto Ni²⁺ Sepharose resin (Sepharose Fast Flow, GE Healthcare) equilibrated with the binding buffer (20 mM sodium phosphate, 0.5 M NaCl, 5 mM imidazole, pH 7.4). Protein was eluted by a step gradient with the following concentration of imidazole: 50, 100 and 500 mM in 20 mM sodium phosphate, 0.5 M NaCl, pH 7.4. Proteins were precipitated directly in the elution buffer with ammonium sulfate (final concentration 3.2 M) and stored at 4 °C. The purity of the recombinant proteins was checked by SDS-PAGE and protein concentration of desalted protein determined by A₂₈₀. Clarified lysates were prepared from BL21 (DE3) E. coli co-expressing the ER and the cofactor recycling enzyme glucose-6-phophate dehydrogenase. Precultures were grown at 37 °C in TB containing kanamycin (50 µg/mL) and chloramphenicol (34 µg/mL). Protein expression and cell harvesting were performed as described earlier. Pellets were resuspended in 50 mM Tris-HCl buffer pH 7.5, the cells disrupted by sonication, cell debris removed by centrifugation and supernatant was filtered through a 0.45 mm PES filter. The protein concentration of the clarified cell lysate was determined by Bradford protein assay with bovine serum albumin as a standard (Bio-Rad). Clarified lysates were stored in small batches at -80 °C.

Most of the enzymes were well expressed and soluble except pQR1439, pQR1440, pQR1442 and pQR1443 that gave lower yields of soluble protein using the standardised conditions used here. All proteins were purified by Ni-NTA chromatography as bright-yellow co-factor-enzyme complexes.

	Length		Closest homologue in GeneBank (BLASTP, October 2019)						
pQR	(amino acids)	MW (kDa)	Putative protein Phylum annotation		Bacteria	% Identity			
1439	426	47.1	NADH:flavin oxidoreductase/NADH oxidase family protein	Proteobacteria	Fluviicoccus keumensis	76			
1440	367	39.3	alkene reductase	Proteobacteria	Sphingopyxis	95			
1442	372	40.5	NADH:flavin oxidoreductase/NADH oxidase	Proteobacteria	Azonexus fungiphilus	99			
1443	387	42.7	12-oxophytodienoate reductase	Proteobacteria	Sphingomonadales bacterium	95			
1445	355	37.9	alkene reductase	Proteobacteria	unclassified Pseudomonas	77			
1446	375	41.3	NADH:flavin oxidoreductase	Proteobacteria	Pseudomonas sequence ID: WP_061903666.1	100			
1907	370	40.5	alkene reductase	Proteobacteria	Moraxellaceae bacterium	85			
1908	362	38.4	alkene reductase	Proteobacteria	Acidovorax sp. 62	93			
1909	374	40.1	oxidoreductase	Proteobacteria	Stenotrophomonas acidaminiphila	98			

 Table S1.
 Metagenomic ERs.

Figure S1. Protein sequence analysis.

Multiple sequence alignments of metagenomic ERs and selected OYE family members showing shared conserved residues (**A**) and phylogenetic classification (**B**).

Α

OYE1 pQR1440 pQR1445	MSFVKDFKPQALGDTNLFKPIKIGN-NELLHRAVIPPLTRMRALHPGNIPNRDWAVEYYT MAVSLFDPIKLGA-IDAPNRIIMAPLTRGRAG-PGFVPTE-LARDYYR MSNLFTPLQVGA-WQLPNRIIMAPLTRCRAS-EGRVPNA-LMAEYYA	59 45 44
pQR1908		45
YaiM	MARKLFTPITIKD-MTLKNRIVMSPMCMYSSHEKDGKLTP-FHMAHYI	46
pQR1442	MSALFSNFKLKD-ITLRNRIAIPPMCQYSAVDGLVND-WHRVHYA	43
pQR1909	GRATD-WHAFHWP	43
Ppo-ER3	MNTELLFKPFKAGN-LSLPNRIVMAPMTRNFSPQGIPGP-EVAAYYR	45
pQR1443	-MTTAPLDDLAALLAPLHAPFTCKS-LKAPNRFCMAPMSRYFAPGGVLSD-EGAEYYR	55
pQR1446	MTAPVQALFAPFRLGN-LELPTRVVMAPMTRSFSPGGVPNA-QVVEYYR	47
1q1G		50
PÕKT422	* : * : * :	52
OYE1	QRAQRPGTMIITEGAFIS-PQAGGYDNAPGVWSEEQMVEWTKIFNAI-HEKKSFVWVQLW	11'
pQR1440	QRASAGLIISEATGIS-QEGLGWPSAPGLWTDAQVEGWKPVTDAV-HAAGGRIVAQLW	103
pQR1445	QRASAGLIISEATSVT-PMGVGYPNTPGIWSDAQVDGWKLITDAV-HQAGGRIVLQLW	100
pQR1908	QRASGGLLITECTMVA-PNTSAFIAEPGIYSPEQVAAWKQVTSAV-HAKGGRIYMQIW	10
pQR1907	QRASAGLIIAEATQIS-PQGKGYMDTPGIYSAEQVQGWRKITQAV-HEAGGHIALQLW	102
YqjM	SRAIGQVGLIIVEASAVN-PQGRITDQDLGIWSDEHIEGFAKLTEQV-KEQGSKIGIQLA	104
pQR1442	ILARGGAGLVIVEAIGVA-PEGRIIPACLGLWNDAQAIELARLAAAI-RAGGAVPGIQIG NLAOSCAALAITEATAVE-PRCRISWADLGLWNDATTEAAFARAI.AAARRYSTMPICVOLA	10
Ppo-ER3	RRAENAVGLIITEGTAINHPAAVEHTSIPNFYGE-GLEGWAKVVEEV-HAVGGKTIPOLW	102
pQR1443	RRAAAGIGTIITEGTGVAIDHTVAADTVPIFAGDTPLAAWKGAVDAV-HAEGGMFVPOLW	114
pQR1446	RRAAAGVGLIVTEGTTVGHKAANGYPHVPRFYGEDALAGWKQVVDAV-HAEGGKIVPQLW	10
YqiG	RSKEMGMVITACANVT-PDGKAFPGQPAIHDDSNIPGLKKLAQAI-QAQGAKAVVQIH	10
pQR1439	RWADGGIGLCITGNVMID-KRALGEPGNVVVEDESDLDMLKAWAEAG-TRNGTQLWMQIN : : : *:	11(
OVE1		1.61
pOR1440	HMGRVVHSVFPVGRLDYEVARP	143
pQR1445	HVGRISDPVYVRPTKAFETPRA	142
pQR1908	HAGRAAHPAIPTGKVPHVPAHV	143
pQR1907	HVGRVSHHSLQPD-QQLPVSASAIPYQNRTTVRGEDGKPTRVDCDTPRA	150
YqjM	HAGRKAELEGDIFAPSAIAFDEQSATPVE	133
pQR1442		14
PDO-ER3	HAGKRASINRPWENNGAQIAPDAPQGWRIVSASSEPIAEGQRPPDS	130
pOR1443	HVGGCIDFNFPDSPHAELVSPSGFAGPDVPGGRA	148
pQR1446	HVGNVRKAGTEPDASVPGYGPSEKVKDGTVVVHG	140
YqiG	HGGIECPSELVPQQDVVGPSDVFDNGKQIARA	138
pQR1439	HPGKQVMRTLVSDPVAPSAIPFGKEMQAFFATPRA * :	145
OYE1	LTKDEIKOYIKEYVOAAKNSIAAGADGVEI N SA NGY LLNOFLDPHSNTRTDEYGGS-IEN	22(
pQR1440	LELGEIPRVIADYAKAAENAKRAGFDGVQLHGANGYLIDQFLRDGSNLRDDDYGGP-IEN	202
pQR1445	LDTAELVDVVAAYRLGAENAKKAGFDGVEI <mark>H</mark> GA <mark>NGY</mark> LLDQFLQSSTNQRTDQYGGS-LEN	203
pQR1908	LTESEIPGIVEAFVQGAKNAIAAGFDGVEV <mark>H</mark> AA <mark>NGY</mark> LIDQFLRDGANDRTDGYGGP-LEN	202
pQR1907	LELSEIPGVIEDYRRATVNSREAGFDMVEV <mark>H</mark> AA <mark>HGY</mark> LLHQFQSAESNKREDAYGGS-LEN	209
YqjM	MSAEKVKETVQEFKQAAARAKEAGFDVIEIHAAHGYLIHEFLSPLSNHRTDEYGGS-PEN	192
pQR1442	LDOAGIDATIAAFADSAHBAVRIGIDIJETHAAHGULAQSFFSVHANQKIDQIGGD-IRG	200
Ppo-ER3	LTEAEIADIISAYAQAAADAQRVGFDGIELHGAHGYLIDOFFWDKTNKRTDOYGGN-LVO	198
pQR1443	MTERDIADTAAAFAESARAAKEIGCDAIEL <mark>H</mark> GA <mark>HGY</mark> IFDQFFWDRTNFRDDRYGGPDIGD	208
pQR1446	MTKDDIQEVIAAFAQAARDAKAIGMDGVEI <mark>H</mark> GA <mark>HGY</mark> LIDQFFWEGSNKRTDEYGGD-LAQ	199
YqiG	LKEEEVENIVKAFGEATRRAIEAGFDGVEI <mark>H</mark> GA <mark>NGY</mark> LIQQFYSPKTNQRTDRWGGS-DEK	197
pQR1439	LTEAEIEDIIQRFGRTAAIAKKAGFSGVQIHGAGGLVSQFLSGHHNQRDDRWGGN-LEN : : : : : * . :::* *:**: .* * * * :**	204
OYE1	RARFTLEVUDALVEATGHEKV-GLRLSDVGVENSMSGGAFTGTVAOVAVVACET	27
pQR1440	RIRLLREVTEALISVWGADRV-GVRLSPNGDTOGVDDSAPEOLFPVAAAAL	252
pQR1445	RARLLLEVVDACIEVWGADRV-GVHLAPRGDAHDMGDANPAETFGYVAEQL	25
pQR1908	RARFLFEVLTAVTAAIGSDRV-GVRLSPLNSFNSMKDSDPIAFIGFLAEKL	252
pQR1907	RARLTLEALDAVIGAWDAKHV-GIRISPLGTFNGLDDKDGLEMALYLTREF	259
YqjM	RYRFLREIIDEVKQVWDGPLFVRVSASDYTDKGLDIADHIGFAK	23
pQR1442	RSRFLLETLAAVREVWPEHLPLTARFGVIEFDGRDEETLAESIDLSV	253
PDO-EB3	RTREAVEVIEACRRAVEASMAVGVKISATDWVDGGWDLAQSIALAK	25.
pOR1443	RATFAAEVVAACREAVGEDFAIIMRVSOWKTYDYDVKLARDPDEMHRWLD	250
pQR1446	RSRFAIELIQAVRAAVGPDFPIIFRFSQWKQQDYTARLVQTPEELGAFLK	249
YqiG	RLAFPLAIVDEVKKAASEHAKGAFLVGYRLSPEEPETPGLTMTETYTLVD	24
pQR1439	RRRFVLEVYREMRARVGKGFPIGIKLNSADFQKGGFTEEESLDVIR	250
	* : :.	

OYE1	EKRAKAGKRLAFVHLVEPRVTNPFLTEGEGEYEGGSNDFVYSIWKGPVI	322
pQR1440	DALGIAFLELREPGPEGTFGRTDVPKQSPAIRAAFKGPLI	292
pOR1445	GAROVAFICTREYLADDSLAGLIKAKFGGVYI	283
pOR1908	NAFKPAYLHVMRADFLOAOHGDVLSVARAKYHGVLV	288
pOR1907	TKRGIAYLHI,SEPDWAGGPAHGDEFROALRDAFPGTII	297
YaiM	-WMKEOGVDIIDCSSGALVH-ADINVEPGYOVSFAEKIREOADMATG	281
nOR1442	-AFRKAGI.DM-I.NUSUGESTI.KANIPWAPAFI.APTAEKURSATGMPUA	201
D0001000		200
DDO-ED3		200
PD0-EK3		2.90
PQR1445		201
PQR1446	-PLSDAGVD-IFHCSIRRFWEPEFEGSDLINLAGWIRQLIGRFII	291
1q1G		293
PQR1439	-ALSDAGIDH-IEVSGGTIEAPVMAGKKNKFVKDSTKKKEAIFLEFAEKAKQAVPEMPLM	308
OVE1		257
UIEI		307
PORI440	LNSDYDVAKAEALADGLADAIAFGRPFIGNPDL	320
PQR1445	ANEKYDQAQADAIASGAADAVAFGVKFIANPDL	317
PQR1908	GNMGYSAEEAEQAIAGGKLDAVAFGTSFLANPDL	322
pQR1907	GAGNYTVEKSEGAGNYTVEKSE	331
YqjM	AVGMITDGSMAEEILQNGRADLIFIGRELLRDPFF	316
pQR1442	SSWGIDMPATAERVVAEHQMDLVMIGRAHLANPHW	334
pQR1909	AVGLITAPQQAEDILLQAQADAIAIARAVLYDPRW	334
Ppo-ER3	TVGSIGLEKAFLSDLEKNNNRQTDQSSSVEARLEQLVGQVEREEADLVAVGRALLVDPAF	350
pQR1443	TVGSIGMDRDLMQDFVEGISSPMLGRLEDLVAMFDRREFDLVALGRVLLADPNW	354
pQR1446	TVGSVGLDGEFLQFMVNTDKVAEPASLENLLERLNKQEFDLVAVGRALLVDPDW	345
YqiG	AVGSIHSADDALAVIENGIPLVAMGREILVDPDW	327
pQR1439	VTGGFRSSAGMAEALTGGAVDFVGVARSLAIEPDL .*	343
OYE1	VDRLEKGLPLNKYDRDTFYQ-MSAHGYIDYPTYE	390
pQR1440	VERIRNGAEWAADNPQTWYS-PGPEGYTDYPALQ	359
pQR1445	PARFAQGAVLNAPDPSTFYG-AGSKGYTDYLTL-	349
pQR1908	PERIQAGAALNAPNPNTFYS-PGPVGYTDYPTMA	355
pQR1907	PVRLQKGAELNNVVAATLYG-GGAEGYTDYPALA	364
YqjM	ARTAAKQLNTEIPAPVQYERGWW	338
pQR1442	AYQAAKVLGVEKPSWVLPAPYA-HWLERYSANV	366
pQR1909	PWHAAASLGETIAIAPQYLRSAPREVAASFVEA	367
Ppo-ER3	AVKLRDQQIEEIIPYSDEVLKT-LNN	374
pQR1443	LEKVEQRRIDELTAYDRATALK-HYEHG	381
pQR1446	AVKVRDGRESDILPFSREALKQ-LVV	369
YqiG	TVKVKEGREKQIETVIKGT-DKEKYHLPEPIWQAI-	361
pQR1439	PNRLLAGKEARHAVKDITTGIPMVDKMAMMEVMWYSRQLHRMGNGRRPRPNESGLWSLLA	403
OYE1	EALKLGWDKK 400	
pQR1440	TA 361	
pQR1445	349	
pQR1908	G 356	
pQR1907	364	
YqjM	338	
pQR1442	366	

368

374

381

369

372 420

Т-----

-VNTPGWVPYKD-----TLAENGWGTLQTRRLRA

pQR1909

Ppo-ER3

pQR1443

pQR1446 YqiG **pQR1439**

Catalytically important active site residues are highlighted in green, dark grey (classical) and light grey (thermophilic-like). The alignments were generated in Clustal Omega with default parameters.⁶ Published sequences used for the analysis: **OYE1**, *Saccharomyces pastorianus*, **Q02899** (UniProt); **YqjM**, *Bacillus subtilis* 168, **BAA12619** (NCBI); **Ppo-ER3**, *Paenibacillus polymyxa*, **MK257767** (NCBI); **YqjG**, *Bacillus subtilis* 168, **BAA12582** (NCBI).





Unrooted phylogenetic tree of OYE family members was computed with MEGA7⁷ (ClustalW was used for multiple sequence alignment with default parameters; maximum likelihood distance tree was run with default parameters and 100 replicates (bootstrap values are shown)); tree was visualized with iTOL.⁸ Protein accessions and name abbreviations of 63 characterized eukaryotic and prokaryotic OYEs were taken from Scholtissek et al.⁹ Protein sequences of PpO-ER3, Rer_ER7, and Lla-ER are from Peters et al.¹⁰

Figure S2. Protein gels.

(A) SDS-PAGE: metagenomic ERs (cell-free lysates). (B) SDS-PAGE: metagenomic ERs (purified). (C) Native-PAGE: purified metagenomic ERs adopt range of oligomeric states. (D) SDS-PAGE: "empty" vector - pET29a(+), glucose-6-phophate dehydrogenase (G6PDH, MW 57.5 kDa), co-expressed pQR1445/G6PDH and pQR1907/G6PDH (cell-free lysates). (E) SDS-PAGE: NCR (cell-free lysate and purified protein, MW 39.5 kDa).

SDS-PAGE was run on 12% Mini-PROTEAN® TGX™ Precast Gels (Bio-Rad). Gels A, D, E: protein MW marker (11–190 kDa, NEB #P7706S); Gel B: protein MW marker (14.4 – 116 kDa, Thermo Scientific #26610). Native-PAGE was run on 7.5 % Mini-PROTEAN® TGX™ Precast Gels in Tris/glycine buffer (all from Bio-Rad), NativeMark™ Unstained Protein Standard (20–1,200 kDa), BSA (bovine serum albumin, monomer MW 66.5 kDa) was run as a control.



Ε



Gene and the corresponding protein sequences.

Nucleotides corresponding to the vector pET29-a (+) are in bold.

>pQR1439

ATGACAAAACAGCTTTCCCCGGCCCAGGTTCTGGCCCAGCCCTTCAGCCTGCCCAACGGCAGCATCATCA AGAACCGCCTGGCCAAATCGGCCATGAGCGAATCCATGGGGACTTACGACAACCGCGTCACGCCCGGCCT GGTGCGTCTTTACGATCGCTGGGCCGATGGCGGCATCGGCCTCTGCATCACTGGCAACGTGATGATAGAC AAGCGCGCTCTGGGCGAGCCCGGCAATGTCGTGGTCGAAGATGAAAGCGATCTGGACATGCTCAAGGCCT GCGCACCCTGGTGTCCGATCCGGTGGCGCCTTCCGCCATTCCTTTCGGCAAGGAAATGCAGGCGTTTTTC GCCACGCCGCGCGCGCCCCGAAGCAGAAATCGAAGACATCATCCAGCGTTTCGGCCGCACCGCCGCA TTGCCAAGAAGGCCGGTTTTTCCGGCGTGCAGATTCATGGCGCCCACGGCTACCTGGTCAGCCAGTTCCT TTCCGGCCACCACAACCAGCGCGATGACCGCTGGGGGCGGCAATCTGGAAAACCGTCGCCGTTTCGTGCTC GAGGTTTACCGCGAAATGCGCGCCCGCGTCGGCAAGGGTTTCCCCATCGGCATCAAGCTGAATTCGGCCG ACTTCCAGAAAGGCGGTTTCACCGAAGAAGAATCGCTGGACGTGATACGCGCCCTCAGCGATGCCGGCAT CGACCATATCGAAGTGTCGGGCGGTACCTATGAAGCCCCGGTCATGGCCGGCAAGAAAAACCGTTTCGTG AAGGATTCCACGCGTCGTCGCGAAGCCTACTTCCTCGAGTTTGCGGAAAAGGCCCGCCAGGCCGTGCCCG AGATGCCGCTGATGGTCACGGGTGGTTTCCGCAGTTCCGCGGGCATGGCGGAAGCCCTGACCGGTGGTGC CGTGGATTTCGTGGGCGTGGCCCGTTCCCTGGCCATTGAGCCCGACCTGCCCAACCGCCTGCTGGCCGGC AAGGAAGCGCGCCATGCCGTGAAGGACATCACCACCGGCATTCCCATGGTGGACAAGATGGCCATGATGG AAGTGATGTGGTACTCGCGCCAGCTGCACCGCATGGGCAATGGCCGCCGTCCGCGTCCCAACGAGTCCGG CCTGTGGTCGCTCTTGGCCACGCTGGCGGAAAACGGCTGGGGCACCCTGCAGACGCGTCGCCTGCGCGCC CACCACCACCACCACTGA

>pQR1439

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>pQR1440

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>pQR1440

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>pQR1442

>pQR1442

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>pQR1443

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>pQR1443

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>pQR1445

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>pQR1445

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>pQR1446

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>pQR1446

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>pQR1907

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>pQR1907

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>pQR1908

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>pQR1908

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>pQR1909

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>pQR1909

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BIOCATALYSIS

General considerations

All chemicals were obtained from commercial suppliers and used as received. Thin layer chromatography was carried out using Merck TLC Silica gel 60 F_{254} plates and products were visualised using combinations of UV light (254 nm) and potassium permanganate staining solution. Filtrations on silica were carried out using silica gel (particle size 40–60 µm). GC analyses were performed using an Agilent 7820A Gas Chromatograph equipped with a FID detector, and a chiral column (Beta DEX 225, fused silica capillary column 30 m x 0.25 mm x 0.25 µm). HPLC analyses of the reactions were performed using an Agilent 1260 Infinity HPLC with an OJ chiralcel column (250 x 4.6 mm) or an OB chiralcel column (250 x 4.6 mm). Spectrophotometric assays were performed using Tecan GENios Microplate Reader.

¹H NMR spectra were recorded at 600 MHz, on a Bruker Avance 600 spectrometer using the residual protic solvent stated as the internal standard. Chemical shifts are quoted in ppm to the nearest 0.01 ppm using the following abbreviations: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), qn (quintet), sext (sextet), dd (doublet of doublets), dt (doublet of triplets), m (multiplet) defined as all multi-peak signals where overlap or complex coupling of signals make definitive descriptions of peaks difficult. ¹³C{¹H} NMR spectra were recorded at 125, 150 or 175 MHz on a Bruker Avance 500, 600 and 700 MHz spectrometers at 25 °C using the stated solvent as standard. Chemical shifts are reported to the nearest 0.1 ppm. The coupling constants are defined as *J* and quoted in Hz. Mass spectra were performed in the Department of Chemistry (University College London). Infrared spectra were obtained as thin film on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum 100 FT-IR Spectrometer operating in ATR mode. Melting points were measured with a Gallenkamp apparatus and were uncorrected. All optical rotations were measured on a Perkin-Elmer 343 polarimeter with a path length of 1 dm.

Spectrophotometric assay



ERs spectrophotometric assays were performed with purified enzyme and in 96-well plates. The assays were initiated by the addition of NADPH (160 μ L, 1.25 mM) dissolved in phosphate buffer (100 mM, pH = 8) to a mixture containing the substrate (10 μ L, 100 mM in DMSO), water (25 μ L) and the purified enzyme (5 μ L in phosphate buffer). Depletion of NADPH was monitored for 1h 30 min using a UV-vis spectrometer at λ = 340 nm. In **Table S2** the qualitative results of these assays are reported.

Table S2. Qualitative results of the spectrophotometric assay.

	o	o
pQR1439	-	-
pQR1440	+	+
pQR1442	+	+
pQR1443	n.t.	n.t.
pQR1445	+	+
pQR1446	+	+
pQR1907	+	+
pQR1908	+	+
pQR1909	+	+

+ = activity; - = no activity; *n.t.* = not tested.

Biotransformations - general protocol with purified ERs

Purified enzymes were prepared from ammonium sulfate suspension by sampling the volume of enzyme needed into an Eppendorf tube. After centrifugation for 20 min at 4 °C at 13 000 rpm, the supernatant was discarded, and the residual pellet was dissolved in the desired volume of Tris buffer (50 mM) to reach a concentration between of 2.0 to 8.0 mg/mL depending on the enzyme. Concentrations were measured using a NanoDrop UV-Vis spectrophotometer.

Reactions using commercial G6PDH (Aldrich, *Leuconostoc mesenteroides* lyophilized powder, 550-1,100 units/mg) were performed as follows. The bioconversion was started by the addition of 25 μ L of purified enzyme (2.0 - 8.0 mg/mL depending the enzyme) dissolved in Tris buffer (50 mM, pH = 7.4) to a mixture of NADP⁺ (140 μ L, 5 mM), glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt (25 μ L, 1 M), G6PDH (35 μ L, 20 U, 1 mg/mL) and the substrate stock solution in DMSO (25 μ L, 100 mM), giving final concentrations between 0.2 - 0.8 mg/mL of enzymes, 10 mM of substrate, 2.8 mM of NADP⁺, 100 mM of glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt and 10% of DMSO. The mixture was shaken at 30 °C and 300 rpm for 20 h or 3 h 30 min depending on the substrate used. The reaction was then quenched by addition of TFA (10% in H₂O, 10 μ L) and centrifuged for 10 minutes at 4 °C at 13 000 rpm. The clear solution was placed in a new Eppendorf tube, EtOAc (250 μ L) was added and the resulting biphasic solution was mixed using a vortex shaker and centrifuged for 20 minutes at 13 000 rpm. The organic layer (125 μ L) was sampled into an Eppendorf tube and dried with Na₂SO₄. If the sample was analysed by GC, the dried organic phase (75 μ L) was placed in a vial containing an insert and injected into the GC. In the case where the sample was analysed by HPLC, the dried organic phase (75 μ L) was poured into an Eppendorf tube and the solvents were let to evaporate overnight before dissolution

in *i*PrOH (75 μL). After mixing, the mixture was transferred in a vial containing an insert and injected into HPLC. Each biotransformation was performed in triplicate.

Figure S3. Bioreduction of carvone 5: 20 h reaction time.

Biotransformations were carried out following the general protocol with purified ERs. Quantification of the product was performed using GC analysis (retention time and calibration curves are reported the Analytical methods section). Without ERs, no background reaction was observed.



Figure S4. Bioreduction of carvone 5: 3.5 h reaction time.

Reaction conditions: Substrate (10 mM), purified ER (0.2-0.9 mg/mL), NADP⁺ (2.8 mM), G6PDH (20 U), G6PNa (100 mM), in Tris-HCI (50 mM) and DMSO (10%) at pH 7.4, 30 °C, 300 rpm, 3.5 hours. Reactions were performed in triplicate. Yields were determined by GC analysis.



Figure S5. Time-course experiment for the bioreduction of S-5.

Reaction conditions: Substrate (10 mM), purified ER (0.2-0.9 mg/mL), NADP⁺ (2.8 mM), G6PDH (20 U), G6PNa (100 mM), in Tris-HCI (50 mM) and DMSO (10%) at pH 7.4, 30 °C, 300 rpm. Reactions were performed in triplicate. Yields were determined by GC analysis.



Figure S6. Conversion profile for bioreduction of *rac*-8 with pQR1907.

Biotransformations were carried out following the procedure described. Conversions were measured using HPLC (retention time and calibration curves are reported in the Analytical methods section).

Substrate (10 mM), purified ER (0.2 - 0.9 mg/mL), NADP⁺ (2.8 mM), G6PDH (20 U), G6PNa (100 mM), in Tris-HCI (50 mM) and DMSO (10%) at pH = 7.4, 30 °C, 20 h, 300 rpm. Reactions were performed in triplicate. Conversions were determined by HPLC based on the depletion of starting material.



Biotransformations with clarified cell lysates

The bioconversion was started with the addition of 60 μ L of co-expressed ene-reductase/G6PDH lysate (2 -4 mg/mL, total cell protein dissolved in Tris buffer (50 mM, pH = 7.4) to a mixture of NADP⁺ (140 μ L, 5 mM), glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt (25 μ L, 1 M), and the substrate stock solution in DMSO (25 μ L, 100 mM) giving final concentrations between 0.5 to 1 mg/mL of enzymes, 10 mM of substrate, 2.8 mM of NADP⁺, 100 mM of glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt and 10% of DMSO. The mixture was shaken at 30 °C and 300 rpm for 20 h. The reaction was then quenched by the addition of TFA (10% in H₂O, 10 μ L) and centrifuged for 10 minutes at 4 °C at 13 000 rpm. The clear solution was placed in a new Eppendorf tube, EtOAc (250 μ L) was added and the resulting biphasic solution was mixed using a vortex shaker and centrifuged for 20 min at 13 000 rpm. The organic layer (125 μ L) was sampled into an Eppendorf tube and dried with Na₂SO₄. If the sample was analysed by GC, the dried organic phase (75 μ L) was placed in a vial containing an insert and injected into the GC. For HPLC analysis, the dried organic phase (75 μ L) was poured into an Eppendorf tube addition in EtOH (75 μ L). After mixing, the mixture was transferred in a vial containing an insert and injected into the PLC. All biotransformations were performed in triplicate.

Figure S7. Bioreduction of S-5.

Quantification of the product was performed using GC analysis (retention time and calibration curves are reported in the Analytical methods section).



	Method	Enzyme [mg/mL]	Substrate [mM]	% Yield	% ee
	A	0,5	10	96	95
1907/G6PDH	В	0,5	20	68	96
	С	1	10	99	93
	D	1	20	65	96
	A	0,5	10	95	97
	В	0,5	20	61	97
1445/667.01	С	1	10	90	96
	D	1	20	59	97



With *S*-**5** the highest yields and stereoselectivities were observed with the ER from pQR1445 (0.5 mg/mL) and 10 mM substrate. These conditions were chosen for the preparative scale.

Figure S8. Bioreduction of S-8.

Conversions were measured using HPLC (retention time and calibration curves are reported in the Analytical methods section).







	Method	Enzyme [mg/mL]	Substrate [mM]	% Conversion
	Α	0,5	10	100
	В	0,5	20	100
1907/GOPDH	С	1	10	100
	D	1	20	100
	Α	0,5	10	95
1445/G6PDH	В	0,5	20	71
	С	1	10	100
	D	1	20	99



In comparison to S-5, S-8 could be used at higher concentrations (20 mM) but the best yields were observed with the ER from pQR1907 (1 mg/mL).

MOLECULAR DOCKING

Homology model of pQR1907 was constructed by the Phyre² webserver.¹¹ The quality of the prediction was additionally checked with Qred parameters.^{12–14} Ligands were MMFF94 energy minimised in Avogadro. Docking was performed with Chimera UCSF using the AutoDock Vina plug-in,¹⁵ (docking box parameters: position (10, 1, 20) and size (50, 50, 50) and settings: energy-range 3, exhaustiveness 8, number of modes 9). Binding modes relevant to the explanation of enzyme reactivity were selected.

Table S3. Computational docking output (Autodock Vina) – pQR1907 model with ligands (FMN and *S*-**8**)

	Binding affinity (kcal/mol)							
Rank	FMN	S-8						
1	-10.7	-6.3						
2	-10.5 best	-6.2						
3	-9.9	-6.1						
4	-9.2	-5.9 best						
5	-9.0	-5.7						
6	-8.8	-5.7						
7	-8.8	-5.7						
8	-8.6	-5.6						
9	-8.6	-5.6						

PREPARATIVE SCALE BIOTRANSFORMATIONS

Reactions on a 25 mL scale

Synthesis of (2*R*,5*S*)-2-methyl-5-(prop-1-en-2-yl)cyclohexan-1-one (6)

In a falcon tube (50 mL), the co-expressed 1445/G6PDH (6 mL, 2.2 mg/mL of total cell protein in Tris.HCl (50 mM, pH = 7.4)) was added to a mixture of NADP⁺ (14 mL, 5 mM), glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt (2.5 mL, 1 M) and substrate (2.5 mL, 100 mM in DMSO) giving final concentrations of 0.5 mg/mL of enzymes, 10 mM of substrate, 2.8 mM of NADP⁺, 100 mM of glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt and 10% of DMSO. The solution was incubated for 1 h at 30 °C and an aliquot was taken to quantify the conversion by GC (see chromatogram below, quantitative, *d.r.* = 96:4). Then an aqueous solution of TFA (5%, 1 mL) was added. The resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water

(1 x 20 mL) and brine (1 x 20 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and evaporation to dryness the colourless oil obtained was dissolved in Et₂O and filtered through a small pad of silica. After evaporation the desired compound was obtained as a colourless oil (27 mg, 95%, *d.r.* 98:2 (NMR)); $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ -12.0 (c 0.7, EtOH), lit $[\alpha]_D^{22}$ -16.9 (c 1.2, CHCl₃),¹⁶ ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 4.84 (br s, 1H, CCH*H*), 4.69 (br s, 1H, CC*H*H), 2.61 (m, 1H, =CC*H*), 2.56 (dd, *J* = 14.2, 6.7, 1H, CH*H*(C=O)), 2.36 - 2.55 (m, 2H, CH*H*(C=O), C*H*(C=O)), 1.80 - 1.92 (m, 3H, (C=O)CHC*H*H, =CCHCH₂), 1.73 (s, 3H, CH₃(C=C)), 1.58 - 1.65 (m, 1H, (C=O)CHC*H*H), 1.09 (d, *J* = 6.9, 3H, CHCH₃) ppm; ¹³C{¹H} NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ =214.0 (*C*=O), 147.1 (=*C*), 111.7 (=*C*H₂), 44.7 (*C*H), 44.2 (*C*H₂), 44.1 (*C*H), 30.7 (*C*H₂), 26.3 (*C*H₂), 21.7 (*C*H₃), 15.7 (*C*H₃) ppm; FT-IR (ATR) u_{max} = 2959, 2924, 2855, 1706, 1642 cm⁻ ¹; HRMS (EI) calcd for C₁₀H₁₆O [M]⁺ 152.1196 found 152.1196.



Synthesis of (4aR,8aS)-8a-methylhexahydronaphthalene-1,6(2H,5H)-dione (9)



In a falcon tube (50 mL), the co-expressed 1907/G6PDH (6 mL, ≈ 4.0 mg/mL of total cell protein in Tris.HCl (50 mM, pH = 7.4) was added to a mixture of NADP⁺ (14 mL, 5 mM), glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt (2.5 mL, 1 M) and substrate (2.5 mL, 200 mM in DMSO) giving final concentrations of 1.0 mg/mL of enzymes, 20 mM of

substrate, 2.8 mM of NADP⁺, 100 mM of glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt and 10% of DMSO. The solution was incubated for 20 h at 30 °C before the addition of an aqueous solution of TFA (5%, 1 mL). The resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (1 x 20 mL) and brine (1 x 20 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and evaporation to dryness the colourless oil obtained was dissolved in Et₂O and filtered through a small pad of silica. After evaporation the colourless oil crystallized to give the product as a white solid (87

mg, 95%, *syn* isomer only); mp = 49 °C (Et₂O); $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ +1 (c 1.0, EtOH), lit $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +9 (c 1.0, C₆H₆, 75% ee)^{17*}; ¹H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 2.57 (ddd, *J* = 15.1, 10.1, 6.6, 1H, *H*_{2-ax}); 2.46 - 2.54 (m, 2H, *H*_{8-ax}, *H*_{7-ax}), 2.41 (ddd, *J* = 15.1, 5.6, 1.2; 1H, *H*_{2-eq}), 2.24 - 2.36 (m, 4H, *H*_{7-eq}, *H*_{5-ax&eq}, *H*₁₀), 2.10 (dddd, *J* = 14.4, 10.3, 4.5, 3.6, 1H, *H*_{4-ax}), 1.88 - 2.02 (m, 2H, *H*_{3-ax&eq}), 1.52 (m, 1H, *H*_{4-eq}), 1.39 - 1.48 (m, 1H, *H*_{8-eq}), 1.35 (s, 3H, *CH*₃) ppm; ¹³C{¹H} NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 214.0 (*C*=O), 211.0 (*C*=O), 48.5 (*C*₉), 46.2 (*C*₁₀), 43.9 (*C*₅), 38.6 (*C*₇), 37.4 (*C*₂), 33.7 (*C*₈), 26.9 (*C*₄), 24.1 (*C*H₃), 23.0 (*C*₃) ppm; FT-IR (ATR) u_{max} = 2971, 2935, 2922, 2870, 2858, 1695, cm⁻¹; HRMS (CI) calcd for [M+NH₄]⁺ 198.1489 found 198.1488.

Synthesis of (4aR,5R,8aS)-5,8a-dimethylhexahydronaphthalene-1,6(2H,5H)-dione (12)



In a falcon tube (50 mL), the co-expressed 1907/G6PDH (6 mL, \approx 8.0 mg/mL of total cell protein in Tris.HCl (50 mM, pH = 7.4) was added to a mixture of NADP⁺ (14 mL, 5 mM), glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt (2.5 mL, 1 M) and substrate (2.5 mL, 200 mM in DMSO, 90 %ee)^{*} giving final concentrations of 2.0 mg/mL of enzymes, 20 mM of substrate, 2.8 mM of NADP⁺, 100 mM of glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt

and 10% of DMSO. The solution was incubated for 20 h at 30 °C before the addition of an aqueous solution of TFA (5%, 1 mL). The resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (1 x 20 mL) and brine (1 x 20 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and evaporation to dryness the colourless oil obtained was dissolved in Et₂O and filtered through a small pad of silica. After evaporation to dryness the crude oil was analysed by NMR and revealed a mixture of diastereomers 95:5 (90% *d.e.*). Purification by column chromatography on silica using petroleum ether (40 – 60 °C)/ether as eluent (100:0 to 60.40) gave the product as a colourless oil (75 mg, 71%, *syn* isomer only); $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ –63 (c 1.0, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 2.67 (ddd, *J* = 15.5, 13.4, 7.6, 1H, *H*_{2-ax}), 2.53 – 2.63 (m, 2H, *H*_{8-ax}, *H*_{7-ax}), 2.35 (ddt, *J* = 15.5, 5.3, 1.8, 1H, *H*_{2-eq}), 2.22 – 2.30 (m, 2H, *H*₅, *H*_{7-eq}), 2.14 (tt, *J* = 14.2, 4.0, 1H, *H*_{4-ax}), 1.94 – 2.01 (m, 1H, *H*_{3-ax}), 1.83 – 1.92 (m, 2H, *H*_{10-ax}, *H*_{3-aq}), 1.77 – 1.83 (m, 1H, *H*_{4-eq}), 1.31 (ddd, *J* = 13.8, 5.0, 1.9, 1H, *H*_{8-eq}), 1.28 (s, 3H, CH₃₋₁₁), 0.98 (d, *J* = 6.5, 3H, CH₃₋₁₂); ¹³C{¹H</sup> NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 214.3 (C=O), 213.4 (C=O), 52.9 (C₁₀), 49.5 (C₉), 44.0 (C₅), 38.9 (C₇), 37.7 (C₂), 35.3 (C₈), 26.7 (C₁₁), 22.8 (C₄), 21.1 (C₃), 11.4 (C₁₂). ppm; FT-IR (ATR) u_{max} = 2953, 2926, 2874, 1700 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for [M+H]⁺ 217.1199 found 217.1202.

^{*} Substrate S-5 was synthesised following the procedure described in Org. Lett. 2017, 19, 1527 and the ee. was determined by HPLC (Chiralcel OB, *i*PrOH:hexane (10:90), $tr_1 = 52.6 \text{ min}$, $tr_2 = 86.0 \text{ min}$)

Synthesis of (3aR,7aS)-7a-methylhexahydro-1H-indene-1,5(4H)-dione (15)



In a falcon tube (50 mL), the co-expressed 1907/G6PDH (6 mL, \approx 8.0 mg/mL of total cell protein in Tris.HCl (50 mM, pH = 7.4) was added to a mixture of NADP⁺ (14 mL, 5 mM), glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt (2.5 mL, 1 M) and substrate (2.5 mL, 200 mM in DMSO) giving final concentrations of 2.0 mg/mL of enzymes, 20 mM of

substrate, 2.8 mM of NADP⁺, 100 mM of glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt and 10% of DMSO. The solution was incubated for 20 h at 30 °C before the addition of an aqueous solution of TFA (5%, 1 mL). The resulting mixture extracted with EtOAc (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water (1 x 20 mL) and brine (1 x 20 mL) and dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and evaporation to dryness the colourless oil obtained was dissolved in Et₂O and filtered through a small pad of silica. After evaporation the colourless oil crystallized to give the product as a white solid (83 mg, 94%, *syn* isomer only); mp = 58 °C (EtOAc); $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ + 105 (c 1.0, CHCl₃), lit $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ + 79 (c 0.28, CHCl₃, 86% ee)¹⁷; ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 2.58 (ddd, *J* = 15.1, 6.4, 1.1, 1H, *H*_{4-ax}), 2.43 (dddd, *J* = 19.3, 8.9, 4.2, 0.7, 1H, *H*_{2-eq}), 2.40 (br m, 1H, *H*_{9-eq}) 2.38 (dddd, *J* = 15.1, 10.6, 5.5, 1.1, 1H, *H*_{6-ax}), 2.32 (ddd, *J* = 19.3, 9.3, 8.4, 1H, *H*_{2-ax}), 2.28 (ddd, *J* = 15.1, 5.2, 1.6, 1H, *H*_{4-eq}), 2.22 (dddd, *J* = 15.1, 6.3, 5.0, 1.6, 1H, *H*_{6-eq}), 2.11 (dddd, *J* = 13.5, 9.3, 6.9, 4.3, 1H, *H*_{3-eq}), 2.01 (ddd, *J* = 14.1, 10.6, 4.9, 1H, H_{7-eq}), 1.64 (dddd, *J* = 14.2, 6.3, 5.5, 1.1, 1H, *H*_{7-eq}), 1.61 (ddt, *J* = 13.3, 8.4, 8.9, 1H, *H*_{3-ax}), 1.24 (s, 3H, CH₃) ppm; ¹³C{¹H} NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 214.0 (C=O), 211.0 (C=O), 48.5 (C_q), 44.7 (C₉), 42.0 (C₄), 37.2 (C₆), 35.5 (C₂), 30.0 (C₇), 25.6 (C₃), 20.5 (CH₃) ppm; FT-IR (ATR) u_{max} = 2969, 2952, 2935;2911, 2875, 1729, 1702 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for [M+H]⁺ 167.1067 found 167.1073.

Procedure for 2.5 mL scale reaction using an internal standard (4aR,5R)-5,8a-dimethylhexahydronaphthalene-1,6(2*H*,5*H*)-dione (12 + 13)



In a falcon tube (15 mL), the co-expressed 1907/G6PDH (0.6 mL, \approx 8.0 mg/mL of total cell protein in Tris.HCI (50 mM, pH = 7.4) was added to a mixture of NADP⁺ (1.4 mL, 5 mM), glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt (250 µL, 1 M) and substrate (250 µL, 200 mM in DMSO) giving final concentrations of 2.0 mg/mL of

enzymes, 20 mM of substrate, 2.8 mM of NADP⁺, 100 mM of glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt and 10% of DMSO. The solution was incubated for 20 h at 30 °C before the addition of an aqueous solution of TFA (5%, 100 μ L). 1,3,5-Trimethoxybenzene (50 μ L, 1 M in EtOAc) was added as internal standard. The resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water, brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and evaporation to dryness the colourless oil obtained was dissolved in CDCl₃ and analysed by NMR showing 90% yield of a mixture of **12**:**13** (58:42).



(4aR,5R,8aR)-5,8a-dimethylhexahydronaphthalene-1,6(2H,5H)-dione (13)



In a falcon tube (15 mL), the co-expressed 1907/G6PDH (0.3 mL, \approx 8.0 mg/mL of total cell protein in Tris.HCI (50 mM, pH = 7.4) was added to a mixture of NADP⁺ (1.4 mL, 5 mM), glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt (250 µL, 1 M) and substrate (250 µL, 100 mM in DMSO) giving final concentrations of 2.0 mg/mL of enzymes, 10 mM of substrate, 2.8 mM of NADP⁺, 100 mM of glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt and

10% of DMSO. The solution was incubated for 5 hours before addition of more enzyme 1907/G6PDH (0.3 mL, ≈ 8.0 mg/mL of total cell protein in Tris.HCl). The mixture was then stirred for 20 h at 30 °C before the addition of an aqueous solution of TFA (5%, 100 µL). 1,3,5-Trimethoxybenzene (84 µL, 100 mM in EtOAc) was added as internal standard. The resulting mixture was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water, brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and evaporation to dryness the colourless oil obtained was dissolved in CDCl₃ and analysed by NMR. Integration revealed complete conversion of the starting material with a quantitative formation of a mixture of hydrogenated product **12:13** in a ration 15:85.

Determination of the conversion by NMR



13 was purified by preparative HPLC using a Discovery® BIO Wide Pore C18 HPLC Column (25 cm x 21.2 mm, 10 µm) using a gradient of H₂O:CH₃CN (50:50 to 5:95) with both solvents supplemented with 0.1 % of TFA with a flow rate of 8 mL/min (tr₁₂ = 11.9 min) ; 1H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 2.72 – 2.64 (m, 1H, *H*_{2-ax}), 2.48 – 2.39 (m, 3H, *H*_{5-ax}, *H*_{7-ax&eq}), 2.30 – 2.26 (m, 1H, *H*_{2-eq}), 2.15 – 2.09 (m, 1H, *H*_{3-eq}), 2.05 (ddd, *J* = 14.2, 5.3, 3.5, 1H, *H*_{8-eq}), 1.92 – 1.87 (m, 1H, *H*_{8-ax}), 1.87 – 1.82 (m, 1H, *H*_{4-eq}), 1.67 – 1.54 (m, 3H, *H*_{3-ax}, *H*_{4-ax}, *H*_{10-ax}), 1.37 (d, *J* = 0.6, 1H, C*H*₃C), 1.05 (d, *J* = 6.6, 1H, C*H*₃CH); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 214.3 (C₁), 211.3 (C₆), 51.8 (C₁₀), 48.2 (C₉), 44.7 (C₁), 37.4 (C₇), 37.2 (C₂), 33.1 (C₈), 25.9 (C₃), 24.9 (C₄), 16.4 (C₉CH₃), 11.9 (CHCH₃) ppm.

4a-methyl-3,4,4a,9,10,10a-hexahydrophenanthren-2(1H)-one (17)



In a falcon tube (15 mL), the co-expressed 1907/G6PDH (480 μ L, \approx 8.0 mg/mL of total cell protein in Tris.HCI (50 mM, pH = 7.4) was added to a mixture of NADP+ (1.10 mL, 6.3 mM), glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt (170 μ L, 1.47 M) and substrate (750 μ L, 17 mM in DMSO) giving final concentrations of 2.0 mg/mL of enzymes, 5 mM of substrate, 2.8 mM of NADP+, 100 mM of glucose-6-phosphate sodium salt and 30% of DMSO. The solution was incubated for 20

h at 30 °C before a second addition of 1907/G6PDH (480 μ L, \approx 8.0 mg/mL of total cell protein in Tris.HCl (50 mM, pH = 7.4). The solution was then incubated for 48 hours before the addition of an aqueous solution of TFA (5%, 100 μ L). 1,3,5-Trimethoxybenzene (250 μ L, 17 mM in EtOAc, 0.33 eq.) was added as internal standard. The resulting mixture was extracted with Et₂O (3 x 5 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with water, brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. After filtration and evaporation to dryness the colourless oil obtained was dissolved in CDCl₃ and analysed by NMR. Integration of the signal corresponding to the starting material and product compared to the standard revealed that the starting material was converted at 60% and 50% of product was formed.



17 was purified by preparative HPLC using a Discovery® BIO Wide Pore C18 HPLC Column (25 cm x 21.2 mm, 10 µm) using a gradient of H₂O:CH₃CN (50:50 to 5:95) with both solvents supplemented with 0.1 % of TFA with a flow rate of 8 mL/min (tr₁₆ = 15.8 min); ¹H NMR (700 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.32 (d, *J* = 7.3, 1H, *H*₁₂), 7.17 (t, *J* = 7.4, 1H, *H*₁₁), 7.13 (td, *J* = 7.3, 1.3, 1H, *H*₁₀), 7.09 (d, *J* = 7.4, 1H, *H*₉), 2.98 – 2.87 (m, 2H, *H*₅), 2.63 – 2.52 (m, 2H, H6, *H*₃), 2.50 (dt, *J* = 5.0, 1.8, 1H, *H*₃), 2.45 – 2.38 (m, 1H, *H*₁₅), 2.32 (ddd, *J* = 15.3, 3.9, 2.2, 1H, *H*₁₅), 2.04 (ddd, *J* = 14.0, 6.7, 3.3, 1H, *H*₂), 1.81 (tdd, *J* = 16.5, 11.6, 5.4, 2H, *H*₁₄, *H*₆), 1.65 – 1.61 (m, 1H, *H*₁₄), 1.31 (s, 3H, C*H*₃₋₇); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (176 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 211.2 (*C*=O), 145.6 (*C*₈), 135.3 (*C*₁₃), 129.6 (*C*₉), 126.2 (*C*₁₀), 126.1 (*C*₁₁), 125.4 (*C*₁₂), 44.8 (*C*₁₅), 42.5 (*C*₂), 38.5 (*C*₃), 37.5 (*C*₆), 36.5 (*C*₉-1), 29.7 (*C*5), 25.8 (*C*₁₄), 21.3 (*C*H₃) ppm; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₉O [M+H]⁺ 215.1436 found 215.1434.

Determination of the configuration of 9, 12 and 15 by NMR

Accurate values of ¹H NMR vicinal *J* couplings for **9**, **12** and **15** were determined using iterative full lineshape analysis (**Figures S9 - S11**).[†],^{18,19}



Once all the *J* couplings were determined (included in **Figures S9 - S11**), we then considered three possible molecular geometries together with the predicted ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ values using Karplus-type equations of Haasnoot *et al.*²⁰

Compound 9

For compound **9**, the values of *trans*- ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ couplings for proton 10 calculated for optimised molecular geometries of conformers using the MMX force field[‡] are shown below (*cis* and *trans* in the configuration labelling below refer to *cis*- and *trans*-fusion of the two cycles, while *cis1* and *cis2* indicate to the two possible conformers for the *cis*-fusion of the two cycles):



The experimental values of *trans*- ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ couplings for proton 10 were 10.56 Hz with proton 5a and 4.75 Hz for proton 4e. These values agree best with those of **9**-*cis1* conformer shown above. Some decrease of the experimental *trans*- ${}^{3}J(5,10)$ coupling and increase of the experimental *trans*- ${}^{3}J(4,10)$ coupling compared to predicted values suggest that there is a conformational equilibrium between **9**-

[†] gNMR, Version 5.0.6; NMR Simulation Program, Budzelaar, P. H. M., **2006**

[‡] (a) M.F. Schlecht, *Molecular Modeling on the PC*, Wiley-VCH, New York, **1998**. (b) Software used: PCMODEL (version 8.5, Serena Software), Bloomington, IN, **2003**.

cis1 and **9**-*cis2* conformers in CDCl₃ solution with the preference of the **9**-*cis1* conformer. Using the predicted boundary values of *trans*- ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ couplings shown above, the populations of **9**-*cis1* and **9**-*cis2* conformers in CDCl₃ solution can be estimated to be 80% and 20%, respectively (83.0% and 17.0% from *trans*- ${}^{3}J(5,10)$ coupling and 77.2% and 22.8% from *trans*- ${}^{3}J(4,10)$ coupling).

Figure S9. The overlaid view of experimental (red) and fitted (black) ¹H NMR lineshapes of **9** (in CDCl₃, 700 MHz, 25 °C). The screenshot of the table of fitting results is also shown (chemical shifts are in ppm; *J* couplings and linewidths are in Hz).



Figure S10. The overlaid view of experimental (red) and fitted (black) ¹H NMR lineshapes of **12** (in CDCl₃, 700 MHz, 25 °C). To simplify the multiplicity of the signal due to the axial proton 5a at 2.25 ppm, the lineshape of the corresponding multiplet from the ¹H NMR spectrum with homonuclear decoupling from 5-Me protons was used in iterative fittings. The screenshot of the table of fitting results is also shown (chemical shifts are in ppm; *J* couplings and linewidths are in Hz).



11 1H

12 1H

1

1 2 s8e

1.315

2.546

1.01

0.88

w8e

		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.16	4.70	
		•	•	•	•	•	•	j7a8a	j7e8a	
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.21	2.74	-13.69
-		•	•	•	•	•	•	j7a8e	j7e8e	j8a8e

Figure S11. The overlaid view of experimental (red) and fitted (black) ¹H NMR lineshapes of **16** (in CDCl₃, 700 MHz, 25 °C). The screenshot of the table of fitting results is also shown (chemical shifts are in ppm; *J* couplings and linewidths are in Hz). Due to the overlap of multiplets of protons 7e (number 11 in in the spin system used) and 3a (number 3) with the peak due to water, the corresponding signal at 1.626 ppm with the linewidth of 3.12 Hz was also included in spectral fittings (denoted as 2-1 in Spectrum 5 below).

				2.400 2.375	2.350 2.325	2.300 2.275	2,250 2,225				: ← → D> I2 € 	E spectrum 3 M () ○ × ← 1-3 1-11 1 650		
#	Nucleus	n	Shift	Width	J[1]	J[2]	J[3]	J[4]	J[5]	J[6]	J[7]	J[8]	J[9]	J[10]
1	1H	1	2.324	0.53										
			s2a	w1										
2	1H	1	2.436	0.52	-19.36									
			s2e	w2	j2a2e									
3	1H	1	1.609	0.60	8.48	8.92								
			s3a	w3	j2a3a	j2e3a								
4	1H	1	2.116	0.59	9.36	4.14	-13.38							
			s3e	w4	j2a3e	j2e3e	јЗаЗе							
5	1H	1	2.407	0.84	0.22	0.60	8.92	6.87						
			s9	w5	j2a9	j2e9	j3a9	j3e9						
6	1H	1	2.587	0.52	0.00	0.20	0.25	0.35	6.46					
			s4a	w6	-	2e4a	3a4a	3e4a	j4a9					
7	1H	1	2.279	0.54	0.00	0.09	0.06	0.27	5.22	-15.11				
_	411	4	s4e	W/	-	12e4e	13a4e	13e4e	14e9	4a4e	0.00			
8	IH	1	2.387	0.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.11	0.00			
9	10	1	soa 2 229	0.66	- 0.00	- 0.00	- 0.00	- 0.00	- 0.00	14aba	1 59	.15.11		
			2.220 s6e	w9		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	i4e6e	i4a4e		
10	1H	1	2 017	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.63	4 94	
			s7a	w10	-	-	-	-	-		-	i6a7a	i6e7a	
11	1H	1	1.642	0.68	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.06	0.00	-0.22	5.48	6.31	-14.15
			s7e	w11	-	-	-	-	j7e9	-	j4e7e	j6a7e	j6e7e	j7a7e

Figure S12. (a) 1D NOESY spectrum of **9** with a selective excitation of the methyl protons at 1.35 ppm (mixing time 300 ms); (b) ¹H NMR spectrum of **9**. Spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ at 25 °C using a 700 MHz spectrometer.



Assuming the predicted boundary values are accurate within ± 0.5 Hz,²¹ the uncertainty in the population determinations of two conformers is estimated to be $\pm 4\%$. The preference of the **9**-*cis1* conformer is also confirmed by a 1D NOESY spectrum (**Figure S12**), which shows NOEs at 2.10 ppm for the proton pair (Me, 4a) and at 2.57 ppm for the proton pair (Me, 2a).

Compound 12

In a similar manner we have also considered predicted values of ³*J* couplings in compound **12** for various plausible configurations and conformations (the first occurrence of *cis* and *trans* in the configuration labelling below refers to *cis*- and *trans*-fusion of the two cycles, while the second occurrence of *cis* and *trans* reflects the configuration of the two methyl groups; *cis1* and *cis2* indicate to the two possible conformers for the *cis*-fusion of the two cycles):



The experimental values of *trans*- ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ couplings for proton 10 were 12.36 Hz with proton 5a and 2.80 Hz for proton 4e. These values agree best with those of **12**-*cis1*-*cis* conformer shown above and, unlike compound **9**, the presence of the second methyl group in position 5 leads to the predominance of the **12**-*cis1*-*cis* conformation with a nearly 100% population, as the second possible conformer **12**-*cis2*-*cis* is destabilised by interactions between two axial methyl groups. The preference of the **12**-*cis1*-*cis* conformer is also confirmed by a 2D NOESY spectrum (**Figure S13**), which shows NOEs at (1.28 ppm, 2.14 ppm) for the proton pair (9-Me, 4a) and at (1.28 ppm, 2.66 ppm) for the proton pair (9-Me, 2a).



Figure S13. 2D NOESY spectrum of 12 in CDCl₃ (mixing time 600 ms, 700 MHz) at 25 °C.

The trans-isomer **13** was also considered, which is expected to be conformationally homogeneous.



From the analysis of the NMR data (**Figure S14**), the experimental values of ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ couplings for proton 10 were 12.34 Hz with proton 4a, 12.21 Hz with proton 5a and 3.41 Hz with proton 4e. A ${}^{4}J$ coupling of 0.73 Hz was observed between protons 9-Me and 8a, which is in favour of the axial orientation of the 9-Me group. A 2D NOESY spectrum of **13** (Figure S15) showed NOEs for proton pairs (9-Me, 2a),

(9-Me, 4a), (9-Me, 5a), (9-Me, 7a) and (9-Me, 8e) at (1.36 ppm, 2.68 ppm), (1.36 ppm, 1.62 ppm), (1.36 ppm, 2.44 ppm), (1.36 ppm, 2.43 ppm) and (1.36 ppm, 2.04 ppm), respectively. These ${}^{3}J_{\rm HH}$ couplings and NOEs are in favour of the *trans*-fusion of the two six-membered rings together with the *trans*-configuration of the two methyl groups, as shown below:



Figure S14. The overlaid view of experimental (red) and fitted (black) ¹H NMR lineshapes of 13 (in CDCl₃, 700 MHz, 25 °C). To simplify the multiplicity of the signal due to the axial proton 5a at 2.25 ppm, the lineshape of the corresponding multiplet from the ¹H spectrum with homonuclear decoupling from 5-Me protons was used in iterative fittings. Similarly, to simplify the multiplicity of the signal due to the axial proton 8a at 1.89 ppm (with ⁴*J*(8a,9-Me)=0.73 Hz), the lineshape of the corresponding multiplet from the 1H spectrum with homonuclear decoupling fittings. The screenshot of the table of fitting results is also shown (chemical shifts are in ppm; *J* couplings and linewidths are in Hz). The singlet at 1.585 ppm due to water in CDCl₃ was included as "molecule 2" in iterative fittings (see 2-1 in Spectrum 7 below).





Figure S15. 2D NOESY spectrum of 13 in CDCl₃ (mixing time 600 ms, 700 MHz) at 25 °C.

Compound 15

For compound **15**, the values of *trans*- ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ couplings for proton 9 calculated for optimised molecular geometries of conformers using MMX force field, § are shown below:



14-*trans* ³J(4a,9)=12.35 Hz ³J(3a,9)=11.96 Hz



14-cis1 ³J(4a,9)=11.43 Hz ³J(3e,9)=1.03 Hz



14-cis2 ³J(4e,9)=1.66 Hz ³J(3a,9)=11.85 Hz The experimental values of *trans*- ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ couplings for the proton pairs (4a,9) was less than 6.5 Hz, hence the *trans*-fusion of the two cycles with the predominance of the conformer shown above as **15**-*trans* can be ruled out. This suggests that the methyl group and proton 9 have a *cis*-configuration.

Figure S16. (a) 1D NOESY spectrum of **15** with selective excitation of the methyl protons at 1.24 ppm (mixing time 300 ms); (b) 1H NMR spectrum of **15**. Spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ at 25 °C using a 700 MHz spectrometer. From these spectra, protons of the 3-CH₂ and 4-CH₂ groups having a cisconfiguration with respect to the methyl group (as well as with proton 9) can be identified as those resonating at 2.12 ppm and 2.59 ppm, respectively.



From the 1D NOESY spectrum (**Figure S16**), protons of the 3-CH₂ and 4-CH₂ groups having a *cis*or *trans*-configuration with respect to the methyl group (hence with proton 9) can be identified, thus allowing to assign *cis*- and *trans*-³*J*_{HH} couplings of proton 9. The experimental values of *trans*-³*J*_{HH} couplings for proton pairs (4,9) and (3,9) were 5.22 Hz and 8.92 Hz, respectively. These values are intermediate between those predicted for **15**-*cis1* and **15**-*cis2* conformers shown above, suggesting a conformational equilibrium between these two conformers. Using the predicted boundary values of *trans*-³*J*_{HH} couplings shown above, the populations of **15**-*cis1* and **15**-*cis2* conformers in CDCl₃ solution can be estimated as $32\pm5\%$ and $68\pm5\%$, respectively (36.4% and 63.6% from the *trans*-³*J*(4,9) coupling and 27.1% and 72.9% from the *trans*-³*J*(3,9) coupling).

ANALYTICAL METHODS

Chiral GC analysis (Cyclohexyl-derivatives)

Analyses were performed using an Agilent 7820A Gas Chromatograph equipped with a chiral column (Beta DEX 225, fused silica capillary column 30 m x 0.25 mm x 0.25 μ m). The samples (5 μ L) were injected with an autosampler tower G4513A and applied by split injection (ratio 20:1) at an injection temperature of 250 °C with a split flow of 36 mL/min and an oven temperature of 80 °C. For every substrate the sequence applied was as followed:



Table S4. Cyclohexyl-derivatives – retention times.

Substrate	Retention time (min)	Product	Retention time (min)
0 	11.81	o	10.26
O V	9.93		Enant. 1 = 6.70 Enant. 2 = 6.88
	12.23		Diast. 1 = 11.78 Diast. 2 = 11.94
	12.20		Diast. 1 = 11.73 Diast. 2 = 11.94

Figure S17. Calibration curve for cyclohexanone (1).



Figure S18. Calibration curve for 2-methyl-cyclohexanone (2).



Figure S19. Calibration curve for dihydrocarvone (9).



Chromatograms

The selectivity of the product was determined using the results from the biotransformation using NCR and by comparing with literature results reported for NCR (R selectivity).^{22–25}









Figure S22. Transformation of 2-methylcyclohex-2-en-1-one (2) with pQR1907.





Figure S23. Transformation of carvone derivative R-5 with NCR.

Figure S24. Transformation of carvone derivative *R*-5 with pQR1445.





Figure S25. Transformation of carvone derivative S-5 with NCR.

Figure S26. Transformation of carvone derivative S-5 with pQR1907.



Peak	RetTime Ty	vpe Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]	[min]	[pA*s]	[pA]	%
1	11.714 MM	0.0230	528.82355	382.68533	1.000e2
Totals :			528.82355	382.68533	

Analytical chiral HPLC (Wieland-Miescher ketone consumption)

Analyses of the reactions were performed using an Agilent 1260 Infinity HPLC with an OJ chiralcel column (250 x 4.6 mm). After injection of the sample (10 μ L), elution was carried out at 0.95 mL/min with an isocratic elution mode using a mixture of hexane: *i*PrOH (90:10). The UV-detection was performed at λ = 230 nm.





Figure S28. HPLC chromatogram - rac-8.



Figure S29. HPLC chromatogram - R-8



Figure S30. HPLC chromatogram - reduction of S-8 with pQR1907 (no starting material remaining).



NMR spectra

Synthesis of (2*R*,5*S*)-2-methyl-5-(prop-1-en-2-yl)cyclohexan-1-one (6)





Synthesis of (8aS)-8a-methylhexahydronaphthalene-1,6(2H,5H)-dione (9)



Synthesis of (4a*R*,5*R*,8a*S*)-5,8a-dimethylhexahydronaphthalene-1,6(2*H*,5*H*)-dione (12)





(4aR,5R,8aR)-5,8a-dimethylhexahydronaphthalene-1,6(2H,5H)-dione (13)

0.0



Synthesis of (3aR,7aS)-7a-methylhexahydro-1H-indene-1,5(4H)-dione (15)



4a-methyl-3,4,4a,9,10,10a-hexahydrophenanthren-2(1H)-one (17)

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