

Supporting Information

Anaerobic demethylation of guaiacyl-derived monolignols enabled by a designed artificial cobalamin methyltransferase fusion enzyme

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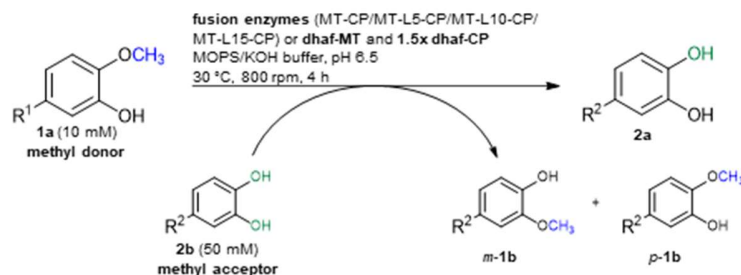
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1. Additional data

1.1 Initial experiments with preloaded methylcobalamin

Table S1: Evaluation of the fusion enzymes.



Entry	Enzyme	time [h]	2a [mM] ^[a]	1b [mM] ^[a]	Regioselectivity of methylation [%]
1	MT-CP	4	n.d.	n.d.	n.a.
		24	n.d.	n.d.	n.a.
2	MT-L5-CP	4	8.2	9.9	75/25 (<i>m-1b/p-1b</i>)
		24	8.0	9.5	72/28 (<i>m-1b/p-1b</i>)
3	MT-L10-CP	4	7.8	9.4	79/21 (<i>m-1b/p-1b</i>)
		24	7.9	9.6	54/46 (<i>m-1b/p-1b</i>)
4	MT-L15-CP	4	4.7	5.7	88/12 (<i>m-1b/p-1b</i>)
		24	7.1	8.7	82/18 (<i>m-1b/p-1b</i>)
5	MT plus 1.5xCP	4	8.5	9.9	61/39 (<i>m-1b/p-1b</i>)
		24	8.0	9.5	49/51 (<i>m-1b/p-1b</i>)

^[a]The discrepancy between methylation and demethylation can be explained by the prior methylcobalamin loading step, which enables the initial methylation of the methyl acceptor. Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1a** (10 mM, 1.2 mg/mL), methyl acceptor **2b** (50 mM, 9 mg/mL), MT-X-CP (Entries 1-4, 208 mg/mL CFE, \equiv 37 mg/mL, 0.6 mM pure MT-L5-CP) or MT+1.5xCP (Entry 5, each 104 mg/mL CFE for dhaf-MT, \equiv 34 mg/mL, 0.9 mM pure dhaf-MT¹ and dhaf-CP, \equiv 22 mg/mL, 1 mM pure dhaf-CP²) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer® (1.5 mL), in a glovebox (N₂) for 4 h and 24 h. total volume: 120 μ L. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) after 4 h and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV. n.d. not detected. n.a. not applicable.

1.2 Operational window of reaction parameters for the fusion enzyme MT-L5-CP

Varied methylcobalamin concentrations avoiding an extra loading step

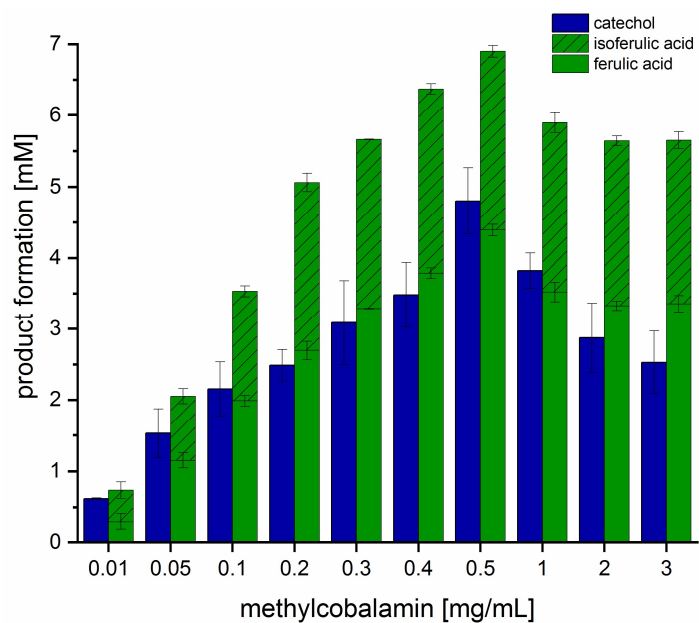


Figure S1. Varied methylcobalamin concentrations (0.01-3 mg/mL, 7.4 μ M-2.2 mM). Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1a** (10 mM, 1.2 mg/mL), methyl acceptor **2b** (50 mM, 9 mg/mL), MT-L5-CP (208 mg/mL CFE, \equiv 37 mg/mL, 0.6 mM pure MT-L5-CP) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) with different MeCob concentrations (0.01-3 mg/mL, 7.4 μ M-2.2 mM) at 30 $^{\circ}$ C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer[®] (1.5 mL) for 4 h. total volume: 120 μ L. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) after 4 h and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV.

Ratio methyl donor and acceptor

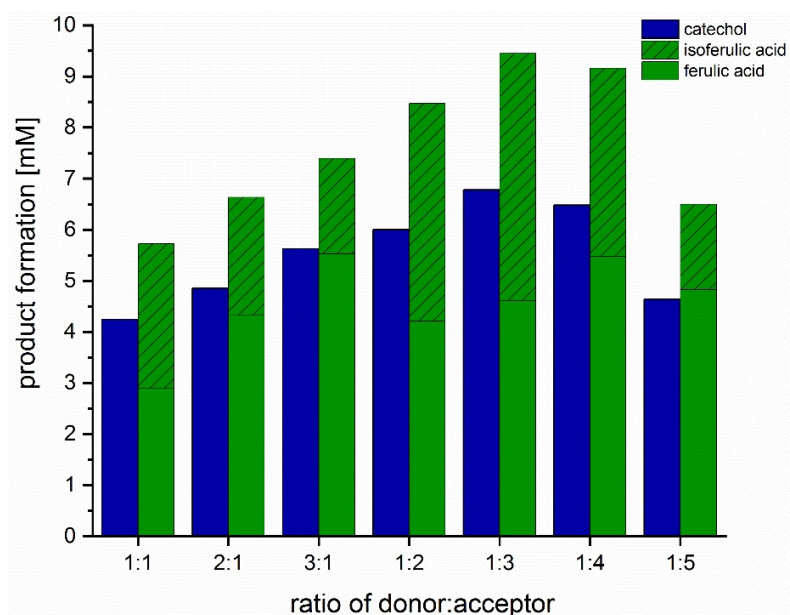


Figure S2. Study on varied ratios between methyl donor and acceptor. Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1a** (10-30 mM, 1.2-3.6 mg/mL), methyl acceptor **2b** (10-50 mM, 1.8-9 mg/mL), MT-L5-CP (208 mg/mL CFE, \equiv 0.6 mM pure MT-L5-CP) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) with MeCob (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer® (1.5 mL) for 4 h. total volume: 120 μ L. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) after 4 h and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV.

Variation of amount of CFE employed

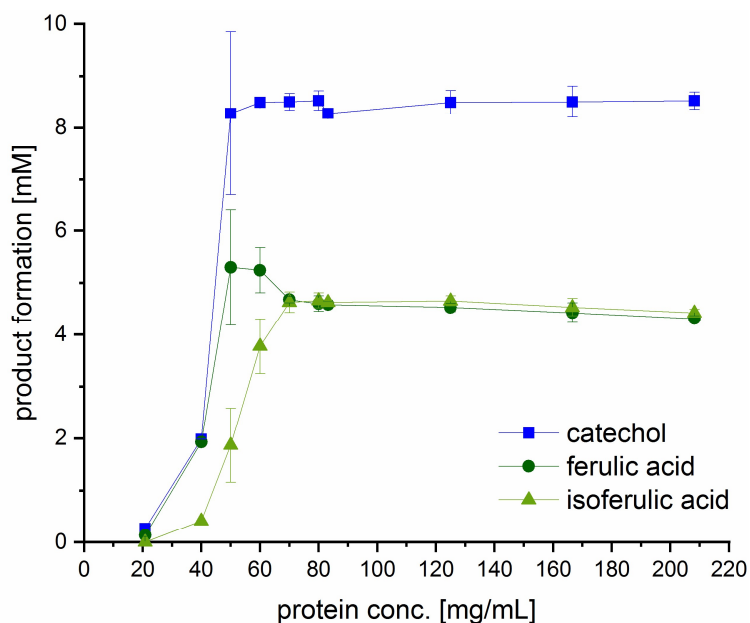


Figure S3. Varied concentration of total protein of CFE containing MT-L5-CP (20.8 mg/mL -208 mg/mL). Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1a** (10 mM, 1.2 mg/mL), methyl acceptor **2b** (30 mM, 5.4 mg/mL), MT-L5-CP (20.8- 208 mg/mL CFE, \equiv 0.06- 0.6 mM pure MT-L5-CP) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) with MeCob (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer® (1.5 mL) for 4 h. total volume: 120 μ L. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) after 4 h and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV.

Table S2. Varied concentration of CFE containing MT-L5-CP (20.8 mg/mL -208 mg/mL). Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1a** (10 mM, 1.2 mg/mL), methyl acceptor **2b** (30 mM, 5.4 mg/mL), MT-L5-CP (20.8- 208 mg/mL CFE, \equiv 3.7- 37 mg/mL, 0.06- 0.6 mM pure MT-L5-CP) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) with MeCob (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer® (1.5 mL) for 4 h. total volume: 120 μ L. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) after 4 h and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV. Data corresponds to Figure S3.

Equivalent of pure MT-L5-CP [mM]	Demethylation		Methylation	
	MT-L5-CP [mg/mL] _{CFE}	2a [mM]	<i>m-1b</i> [mM]	<i>p-1b</i> [mM]
0.06	21	0.3	0.1	0
0.12	40	2.0	1.9	0.4
0.14	50	8.3	5.3	1.9
0.17	60	8.5	5.2	3.8
0.20	70	8.5	4.7	4.6
0.23	80	8.3	4.6	4.6
0.24	83	8.5	4.6	4.6
0.36	125	8.5	4.5	4.6
0.48	167	8.5	4.4	4.5
0.6	208	8.5	4.3	4.4

Methyl transfer at varied amount of purified MT-L5-CP

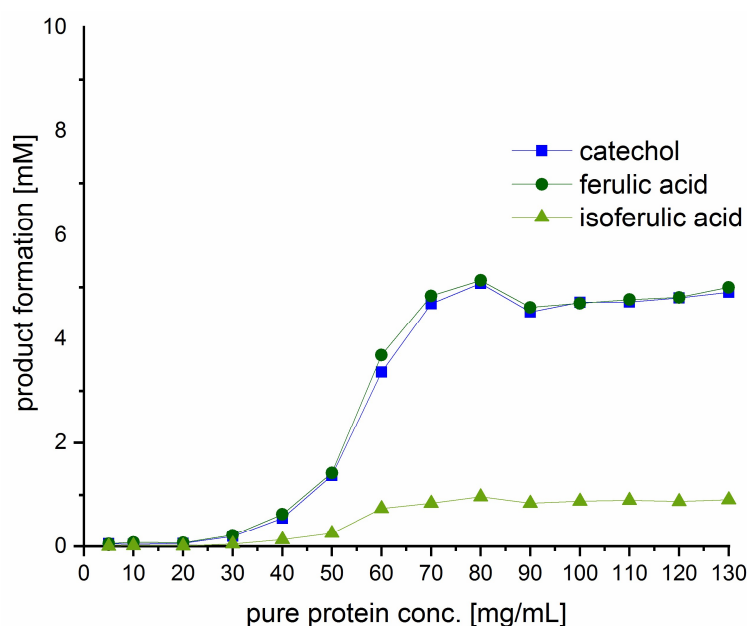


Figure S4. Product formation at varied protein concentrations of His-tag purified MT-L5-CP (5 mg/mL -130 mg/mL). Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1a** (10 mM, 1.2 mg/mL), methyl acceptor **2b** (30 mM, 5.4 mg/mL), pure MT-L5-CP (5 mg/mL -130 mg/mL, 0.08 mM – 2.2 mM) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) with MeCob (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer® (1.5 mL) for 4 h. total volume: 120 μ L. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) after 4 h and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV.

Table S3. Product formation at varied protein concentrations of His-tag purified MT-L5-CP (5 mg/mL -130 mg/mL). Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1a** (10 mM, 1.2 mg/mL), methyl acceptor **2b** (30 mM, 5.4 mg/mL), pure MT-L5-CP (5 mg/mL -130 mg/mL, 0.08 mM – 2.2 mM) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) with MeCob (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer® (1.5 mL) for 4 h. total volume: 120 µL. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) after 4 h and the conversions were analysed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV. Data corresponds to Figure S4.

		Demethylation		Methylation	
MT-L5-CP [mM]	MT-L5-CP [mg/mL] _{pure}	2a [mM]	<i>m</i> - 1b [mM]	<i>p</i> - 1b [mM]	
0.085	5	0.05	0.05	0	
0.17	10	0.04	0.08	0.01	
0.33	20	0.06	0.07	0.01	
0.51	30	0.2	0.2	0.1	
0.68	40	0.5	0.6	0.3	
0.85	50	1.4	1.4	0.7	
1.02	60	3.4	3.7	0.8	
1.18	70	4.7	4.8	1.0	
1.35	80	5.1	5.1	0.8	
1.52	90	4.5	4.6	0.8	
1.69	100	4.7	4.7	0.9	
1.86	110	4.7	4.8	0.9	
2.03	120	4.8	4.8	0.9	
2.2	130	4.9	5.0	0.9	

Time course of methyl transfer

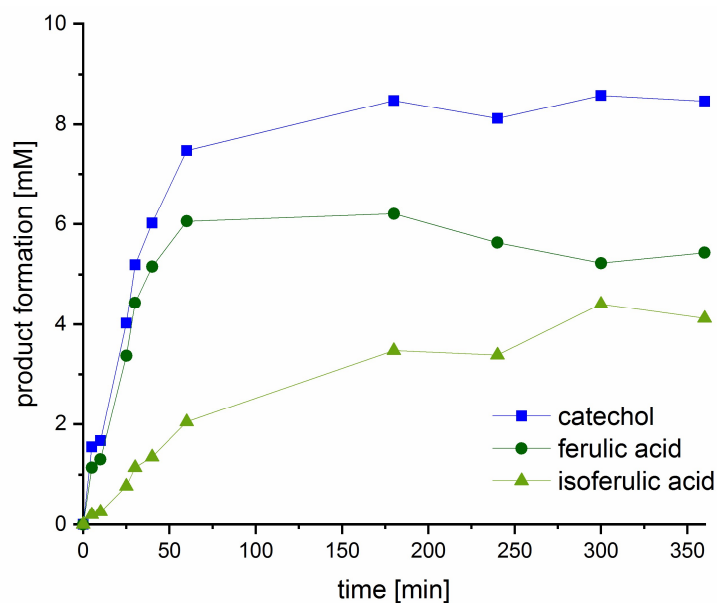


Figure S5. Time study of the biotransformation of the fusion enzyme MT-L5-CP. Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1a** (10 mM, 1.2 mg/mL), methyl acceptor **2b** (30 mM, 5.4 mg/mL), MT-L5-CP (60 mg/mL CFE, ≙ 11 mg/mL, 0.18 mM pure MT-L5-CP) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) with MeCob (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer® (1.5 mL) for 5 min to 360 min. total volume: 120 µL. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV.

1.3 Substrate scope for *O*-demethylation and *O*-methylation (detailed)

Table S4. Substrate scope of MT-L5-CP for the *O*-demethylation of guaiacol derivatives and the *O*-methylation of catechol derivatives.

Entry	Substrate	Co-substrate	Demethylated product 2 [%]	TON 2	Methylated products 1 [%]	Regioselectivity [%]
1	1a	2b	86± 6	48	82± 5	65/35 (<i>m</i> -1b/ <i>p</i> -1b)
2	1a	2e	77± 2	43	73± 1	68/32 (<i>m</i> -1e/ <i>p</i> -1e)
3	1a	2f	85± 1	47	82± 1	46/54 (<i>m</i> -1f/ <i>p</i> -1f)
4	<i>m</i> -1b	2f	67± 3	37	60± 1	48/52 (<i>m</i> -1f/ <i>p</i> -1f)
5	<i>m</i> -1b	2a	68± 1	38	57± 3	100 1a
6	1c	2e	86± 5	48	76± 1	70/30 (<i>m</i> -1e/ <i>p</i> -1e)
7	1c	2f	96± 2	53	85± 2	47/53 (<i>m</i> -1f/ <i>p</i> -1f)
8	1c	2a	94± 3	52	81± 3	100 1a
9	1d	2b	68± 1	38	56± 1	84/26 (<i>m</i> -1b/ <i>p</i> -1b)
10	1d	2a	83± 2	46	70± 4	100 1a

Reaction conditions: substrate **1a**, *m*-1b, 1c-d (10 mM), co-substrate **2a-b**, **2e-f** (30 mM), methyl donors **1a-e** (10 mM), MT-L5-CP (60 mg/mL CFE corresponds to 11 mg/mL, 0.18 mM pure MT-L5-CP) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) with MeCob (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer (1.5 mL) for 3 h under inert atmosphere (glovebox). total volume: 120 μL. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV.

The turnover number (TON) for all demethylated products was calculated using the following equation:

$$TON = \frac{\text{total product formation (mM)}}{\text{amount of catalyst (mM)}} \quad (1)$$

1.4 Activity of MT-L5-CP compared with the separate *dhaf* system

To determine the activity of the MT-L5-CP and compare this with the separate *dhaf* system, all CFE samples were analyzed by SDS-PAGE (Figure S6) and adjusted on an equal protein content. Therefore, MT-L5-CP was taken as template (lane 1, 9.2 pmol) and the amount of *dhaf*-MT (lane 2, 12.6 pmol) as well as *dhaf*-CP (lane 3, 19.3 pmol) were normalized.

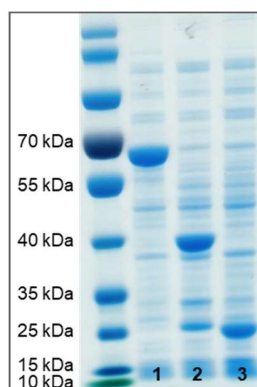


Figure S6. SDS-PAGE of protein preparations of MT-L5-CP (lane 1), *dhaf*-MT (lane 2) and *dhaf*-CP (lane 3). All proteins were applied with 10 μg protein per lane.

Regarding the biocatalytic reaction, best substrates 2-methoxy-5-methylphenol **1c** (10 mM donor) and 3,4-dihydroxybenzyl alcohol **2f** (30 mM acceptor) and optimized conditions were used. The protein concentration of MT-L5-CP was lowered (from 60 mg/mL to 10 mg/mL) due to high product formation for both methylation (85% *m*-**1f** and *p*-**1f**) and demethylation (96% **2c**). The initial rate of the methylated products vanillyl alcohol *m*-**1f** and isovanillyl alcohol *p*-**1f** as well as the demethylated product 4-methylcatechol **2c** were analyzed within 20 min on HPLC-UV for both MT-L5-CP (Figure S7) and the *dhaf* system (Figure S8).

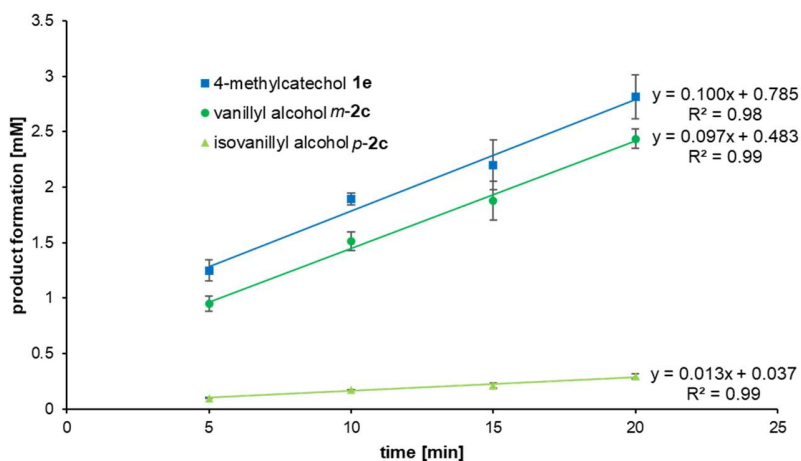


Figure S7. Initial rates of the methylation and demethylation with MT-L5-CP. The demethylated product 4-methylcatechol **2c** (square) and methylated products vanillyl alcohol *m*-**1f** (dots) and isovanillyl alcohol *p*-**1f** (triangles) were analyzed within 20 min and detected on HPLC-UV. Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1c** (10 mM), methyl acceptor **2f** (30 mM), MT-L5-CP (10 mg/mL CFE corresponds to 1.8 mg/mL, 0.03 mM pure MT-L5-CP) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) with MeCob (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer (1.5 mL) for 3 h. total volume: 120 μ L. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV.

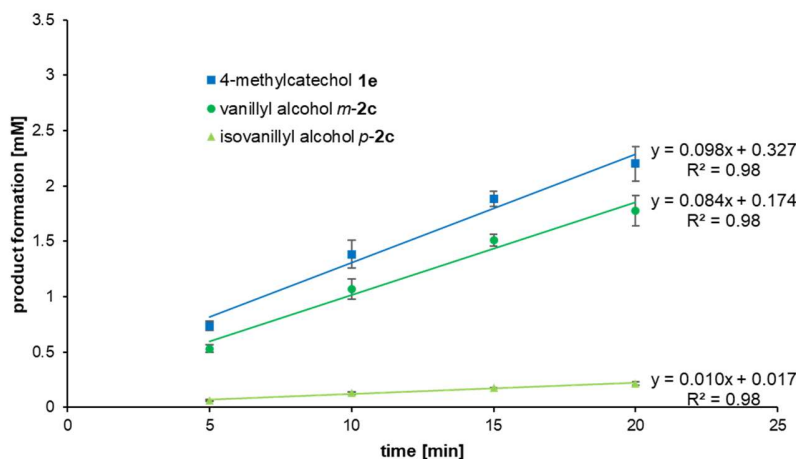


Figure S8. Initial rates of the methylation and demethylation with the separate *dhaf* system. The demethylated product 4-methylcatechol **2c** (square) and methylated products vanillyl alcohol *m*-**1f** (dots) and isovanillyl alcohol *p*-**1f** (triangles) were analyzed within 20 min and detected on HPLC-UV. Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1c** (10 mM), methyl acceptor **2f** (30 mM), MT-L5-CP (10 mg/mL CFE corresponds to 1.8 mg/mL, 0.03 mM pure MT-L5-CP) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) with MeCob (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer (1.5 mL) for 3 h. total volume: 120 μ L. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV.

1.5 One-pot reaction using Schlenk technique (25 mL scale)

The fusion enzyme MT-L5-CP was applied on a semi-preparative scale using Schlenk technique to catalyze the *O*-demethylation of 2-methoxy-5-methylphenol **1c** or coniferyl alcohol **1d** with the concomitant *O*-methylation of the co-substrates 3,4-dihydroxybenzyl alcohol **2f** or catechol **2a**. Here, detailed information for both methyl transfer reactions are depicted in Figure S9:

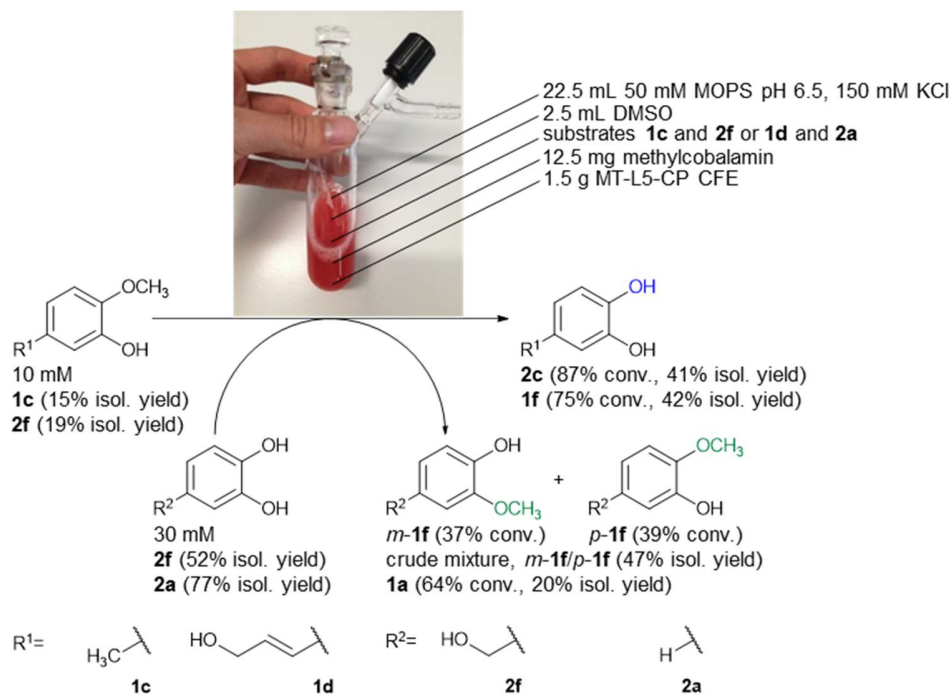


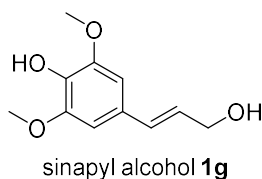
Figure S9. Semi-preparative methyl transfer of **1c** or **1d** with **2f** or **2a** catalyzed by MT-L5-CP. Reaction conditions: substrate **1c** or **1d** (10 mM), co-substrate **2f** or **2a** (30 mM), MT-L5-CP (60 mg/mL CFE corresponds to 11 mg/mL, 0.18 mM pure MT-L5-CP) in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) with MeCob (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) at 30 °C and 160 rpm BioInfor shaker for 3 h under inert atmosphere (Ar, Schlenk line). total volume: 25 mL. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. % final conc.) and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV.

2. Materials

All substrates, solvents, antibiotics and supplementary materials (e.g. LB-media) available in the laboratory were obtained from various suppliers (Acros Organics, Alfa Aesar, Sigma-Aldrich, TCI-Chemicals or VWR International/Merck and Roth) in highest available purities and used as received unless stated otherwise.

The following compounds were obtained by the mentioned suppliers and used as corresponding references for HPLC-UV qualification: caffeic acid **2b**, ferulic acid *m*-**1b**, isoferulic acid *m*-**1b**, 3,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde **2e**, vanillin *m*-**1e**, isovanillin *p*-**1e**, 3,4-dihydroxybenzyl alcohol **2f**, vanillyl alcohol *m*-**1f**, isovanillyl alcohol *p*-**1f**, catechol **2a**, guaiacol **1a**, 2-methoxy-5-methylphenol **1c**, 4-methylcatechol **2c**, coniferyl alcohol **1d** and caffeoyl alcohol **2d** as well as sinapyl alcohol **1g** and *p*-coumaryl alcohol **1h**.

Structure of sinapyl alcohol (**1g**)



All synthetic genes, encoding for the fusion enzymes, were ordered already cloned in pET28a(+) from the supplier (General Biosystems). Regarding protein production, cell cultures were shaken in a HT Infors Unitron AJ260 incubator and harvested at 4 °C by centrifugation using either a Hitachi Centrifuge CR22N (4,000-14,000 rpm, 7,520-33,600 rcf) or Hettich Centrifuge Rotina 420R (4,000 rpm, 4,000 rcf). To disrupt the cells the ultrasonication with a Branson Digital Sonifier was used. The optical cell density OD600 ($\lambda = 600$ nm) and the protein concentration was measured at an Eppendorf Bio Photometer Plus. All biocatalytic reaction samples (120 or 500 μ L) were shaken in a 1.5 mL Eppendorf Thermomixer performed under oxygen-free atmosphere using a MBraun LABstar glovebox (99.8% N₂, 5 bar) equipped with O₂-sensor (MB-OX-EC) for aqueous solutions. Work-up of biotransformation samples were performed under aerobic atmosphere using an Eppendorf Microcentrifuge (rt, 14,000 rpm, 15,800 rcf).

2.1 Plasmids used in this study

Table S5. Empty plasmids and plasmids with genes encoding for enzymes from *Desulfitobacterium hafniense*

Plasmids ^a	Origin (GeneBank ID)	Description/Comments
pASK-IBA3plus	IBA-Lifescience	P_{Tet} , Amp^r , $ColE1_{ori}$, C-terminal StrepTag
pEG457	literature ^{1,3-5}	<i>dhaf</i> -MT, methyltransferase from <i>Desulfitobacterium hafniense</i> , codon optimised gene cloned into pASK-IBA3plus, <i>EcoRI</i> & <i>HindIII</i>
pEG459	literature ^{1,3-5}	<i>dhaf</i> -CP, corrinoid-binding protein from <i>Desulfitobacterium hafniense</i> , codon optimised gene cloned into pASK-IBA3plus, <i>EcoRI</i> & <i>HindIII</i>
pET21a(+)	Novagen	P_{T7lac} , Amp^r , $pBR322_{ori}$, N- and/or C-terminal HisTag
pEG465	this study	<i>cmuA</i> , natural fusion enzyme (MT and CP) from <i>Hyphomicrobium chloromethanicum</i> , codon-optimised gene cloned into pET21a(+), <i>NdeI</i> & <i>HindIII</i>
pET28a(+)	Novagen	P_{T7lac} , Kan^r , $pBR322_{ori}$, thrombin-cleavage site, N-terminal HisTag and/or C-terminal HisTag
pEG599	this study	MT-CP, fusion enzyme of <i>dhaf</i> -MT and <i>dhaf</i> -CP from <i>D. hafniense</i> , wild-type gene was ordered from General Biosystems cloned in pET28a(+), <i>NdeI</i> & <i>XhoI</i>
pEG600	this study	MT-L5-CP, fusion enzyme with GGGGS linker (<i>EcoRI</i> , <i>HindIII</i>) between <i>dhaf</i> -MT and <i>dhaf</i> -CP from <i>D. hafniense</i> , gene was ordered from General Biosystems cloned in pET28a(+), <i>NdeI</i> & <i>XhoI</i>
pEG601	this study	MT-L10-CP, fusion enzyme with GGGSGGGGS linker (<i>EcoRI</i> , <i>HindIII</i>) between <i>dhaf</i> -MT and <i>dhaf</i> -CP from <i>D. hafniense</i> , gene was ordered from General Biosystems cloned in pET28a(+), <i>NdeI</i> & <i>XhoI</i>
pEG602	this study	MT-L15-CP, fusion enzyme with GGGSGGGSGGGGS linker (<i>EcoRI</i> , <i>HindIII</i>) between <i>dhaf</i> -MT and <i>dhaf</i> -CP from <i>D. hafniense</i> , gene was ordered from General Biosystems cloned in pET28a(+), <i>NdeI</i> & <i>XhoI</i>

^a pEG number is an internal numbering of plasmids (stands for plasmid of the Elk Group)

2.2 DNA and amino acid sequences of used genes

Dhaf4610 (dhaf-MT) in pASK-IBA3plus:

DNA sequence

gaattcATGCTGACCATTAAACAGAATCTGCTGGAAACCATTTCGTGGTGGTAATCCG-
GATCGTTTTGTTAATCAGTATGAGTTCATGGATATCATCCTGGAAAATCCGGTTGATTTTATGGCACCGCCTGG
TGGTAGCATTAAAACCGGTTGGGGTATTACCTTTCGTTGGCCTGAAGGTCAGATTGGTCAGTTTCCGGTTCATG
ATGAAGAACACAAAGTGCTGAAAGACATTACCAAATGGCGTGAACAGGTTAAAGCACCGGAAATTCCGGATA
CCGATGAAGCATGGGCAGCAGCAGTTGAACATGCAAATAGCATTGATCGCAACGAGAAATATGTTACCGCATT
TGTTGCACCGGGTGTTTTTGAAATGTGTCATCATCTGATGAGCATGGAAGATGCACTGATGGCACTGTATGAA
GAACCTGAACGATGCATGAACTGATCGATTATCTGACCGAATATGAACTGAACTGGCCGAAATTATCTGTC
GTCGTCTGAAACCGGATGCACTGTTTCATCACGATGATTGGGGTAGCCAGAAAAGCAGCTTTATTAGTCCGGC
AATGTTTCGAAGAATTTTATCTGCCTGCCTACAAAAAATCTATAGCTTCTATAAACAGAACGGCGTTGAACTG
ATTGTGCATCATAGCGATTGTTATGCAGCAAATCTGGTGCCGTTTATGATTGAAATGGGCATTGATATTTGGCA
GGGTGTTATGACCACCAATAATACACCGGAACTGATTAAACAGTACGGTGGCAAATTAGCTTTATGGGGCAT
ATTGATAGCGGTGTTGTTGATTTTCCGACCTGGACCGGTGAAATTGCAGCACGTGAAGCAGAACGTGCATGTA
CCAATTGTGGTAAACATTATTTTATTCCGTGTCTGACCCAGGGTCTGGGTTTTAGCAGCTTTCCGGGTGTGTAT
GATTGTGTTAGCGAAGAAATTGATAAACTGAGCAAAAAAATGTTTCGTCGACTAActcgag

gaattc= *EcoRI*, ctcgag= *XhoI*

Amino acid sequence

MLTIKQNLLETIRGGNPDRFVNQYEFMDIILENPVDFMAPPGSGIKTGWGITFRWPEGQIGQFPVHDEEHKVLKDITK
WREQVKAPEIPDTDEAWAAVEHANSIDRNEKYVTAFAVAPGVFEMCHHLSMEDALMALYEEPELMHELIDYLT
EYELKLAIEICRRLKPDALFHDDWGSQKSSFISPAMFEEFYLPAYKKIYSFYKQNGVELIVHSDCYAANLVPFMIE
MGIDIWQGVMTTNTPELIKQYGGKISFMGDIDSGVDFPTWTREIAAREAERACTNCGKHYPCLTQGLGFSSFP
GVYDCVSEEIDKLSKMFVD*

Dhaf4611 (dhaf-CP) in pASK-IBA3plus:

DNA sequence

gaattcATGAGCAAAAATCGCCGAAGTTAAAGCAATGGTTGAAGCAGGTA-
GCAAAACTGGTTCGGGTCTGGTTCAAGAGGCACTGGATGCAGGTAATGCAGCCGGTGATATTCTGGCAGGTA
TGATTGATAGCATGGGTGTTGTTGGTGATAAATTCAGTGCCGGTGAAGTGTGTTTCCGGAAATGCTGATGGCA
GCAAAAGCAATGAGCAAAGGTGTTGATGTTCTGAAACCGCATCTGACCGGTGAAAGCGCAACCAGCCTGGGC
ACCTGTGTTATTGGCACCGTTGCCGGTGATCTGCATGATATTGGTAAAAATCTGGTTGCCATGATGCTGGAAAG
CGTTGGTTTTAATGTTGTTGATCTGGGTGTGGATGTTAGCGCAGAAAAATTTGTTGATGCCGTGCGCGAAAAATG
ACAACGTTAAAAATTGTTGCATGTAGCGGTCTGCTGACCACCACCATGCCTGCAATGAAAGAAACCGTTCAGAG
CCTGAAAAATTCAGGTCTGACCGGCTTTAAAGTTATTGTTGGTGGTGCACCGGTTAGCCAGGCAATGGCAGAT
GAAATTGGTGCAGATGGTTTTGCACCGGATGCCGGTGGTGCAGCAGTTAAAGCCAAAGAACTGGCACATGCA
GTCGACTAActcgag

gaattc= *EcoRI*, ctcgag= *XhoI*

Amino acid sequence

MSKIAEVKAMVEAGKAKLVPGLVQEALDAGNAAGDILAGMIDSMGVVGDKFSAGELFVPEMLMAAKAMSKGVD
VLKPHLTGESATSLGTCVIGTVAGDLHDIGKNLVAMMLESVGFNVVDLGVDSAEKFDVAVRENDNVKIVACSGL
LTTMPAMKETVQSLKNSGLTGFKVIVGGAPVVSQAMADEIGADGFAPDAGGAAVKAKELAHAVD*

cmuA (MT and CP from *Hyphomicrobium chloromethanicum*) in pET21a(+):

DNA sequence

catATGACCCAGGTTCCGAAAATGACCAGCCGTGAACGTCTGTTTGCAGCAGTTAC-
CATGCAGACCCTGCCGATCAGGTTCCGTGTGTTCCGCTGCTGATGACCCGTGGTATTTCGTGAAGGTGGTATTA
CCGTTGATCAGGCACTGCGTGATGGTGAAGCAAGCGCACATGCAAAAATCAAAGCACTGAAAAAATTCGGTG
GCGACGTTATTATTCCGGGTACAGACCTGTTTACACCGGTTGAATGTGTTGAAGGTTGTGAACTGGATTATCTG
CCGTATGCACAGCCGAGCCTGGTTAAACATCCGACCCGACCAAAGAAGCATTTTATCGCTATAAAGAGAAAT
ATCTGCGCAAGGTTTTAAACCGAGCGAACGTGTTCTGCAGATTTCAGCGTGCACGTACCATGATTGCACGTCG
TAAAGATACCCATGCAATGCCGACACCGGTGGGTGGTCCGATTACCCGTGCACAGCTGATGACAGGTAGCAGC
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TAACTTCAACGGCGATATGTATCCTGGTATGGATCATGAAAACGTGCCATTGGTGGTCAGATTAGCCTGATG
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CAGCCGAAGTTGGTTATAATGGTGGTCTGATTGTTATGCCTGGTTGCGATATTGATTGGACCATCCGGATGAA
AATCTGAAAAGCAATGATTGAAACCTGCGCCAGCATCAAATATCCGATGGATGTTGCAGCACTGGGTGATCTGA
GCAATGTTTATCTGGCAGGTCATCCGAAACATCCGGGTAAACGTGCACCCGAGCAGCCGAGGCGATACCGATGT
GGCAGAAGCAAAAACCCATCATAAAGAAGTACACCCGAGCAAGAAGTGAACGAAAAAACTGGTTGAAGCCAT
CATGGAATATGATGGCGATAAAGCAATTGAATGGGTGAAAAAAGGTCTGGAACGTGGTATGACCGCACAGGA
TATCGTTTTTATGATGGTCTGAGCCTGGGTATGAAAAGTTGTTGGTATGATGATGAACGCAACGAACGTTTTGTTA
CCGATATGCTGAAAAGCAGCCAAAACAATGGATAAAGCCATGCCGATTCTGACCCCTCTGCTGGAACAGGCAG
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TCTGGTTTGCCTGATGCTGAAAGCGAATGGCTTTAAAGTTATTGACCTGGGCAAAAACGTTAAACCGGAACAG
TTTATTGAAAGCGCAGAAAAAGAAAATGCCGTGGCAATTGGTATGAGCGTTATGACCAATAGCAGCACCGTTT
ATGTGAAAAAAGTGAAGAAGTCTGCTGGACAAAGCAGGTAAAGGTGATAAATACCTGCTGATGTGTGGTGGTG
CAGCAGCAATAAAGGTGTTGCAGATAAATGGGTGTGAAATATGGTCTGGATGCAATGCAGCCGTTAGCCT
GGTGAAGATCATCTGCAGGCAGCAGCACTCGAGTAAgctt

catATG= *NdeI*, AAgctt= *HindIII*

Amino acid sequence

MTQVPKMTSRERLFAAVTMQTLQVPCVPLLMTRGIREGGITVDQALRDGEASAHAKIKALKKFGGDVPIPGTDL
FTPVECEVEGCELDYLPYAQPSLVKHPTPTKEAFYRYKEKYLREGFKPSERVLQIQRARTMIARRKDTHAMPTVGG
PITRAQLMTGSSEFLSYISDDPDYAKEVTEALDIVKNVCRMMFEAGIDVCNILDPFNSSDILPPDITYREFGLPYQKR
LFAYIKEIGGIGFTHTCTFTQPIWRDIANNCGFNFGNDMPYGMMDHAKRAIGGQISLMGTLSPFSTFMHGWTTDVAN
KVKKLAAEVGYNGGLIVMPGCDIDWTIPDENLKAMIETCASIKYPMDVAALGDLNSVYLAGHPKHPGKRAPSTAG
DTDVAEAKTHHKELTPQVEVNEKLV EAIM EYDGDKAIEWVKKGLERGMTAQDIVFDGLSLGMKVVGDMYERNE
RFVTDMLKAAKTMDKAMPILTPLEQAGGDGGPTGTVVVGLVVRGNTQDIGKNLVCLMLKANGFKVIDLGNVVP
EQFIESAEKENAVAIGMSVMTNSSTVYVEKVKELLDKAGKGDKYLLMCGGAAANKGVADKMGV KYGLDANAA
VSLVKDHLQAAALE*

MT-CP (*dhaf-MT-dhaf-CP*)

DNA sequence

catatgATGCTGACCATTAAACAGAATCTGCTGGAAACCATTTCGTGGTGGTAATCCG-
GATCGTTTTGTTAATCAGTATGAGTTCATGGATATCATCCTGGAAAATCCGGTTGATTTTATGGCACC GCCTGG
TGGTAGCATTAAAACCGGTTGGGGTATTACCTTTCGTTGGCCTGAAGGTCAGATTGGTCAGTTTCCGGTTCATG
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CCGATGAAGCATGGGCAGCAGCAGTTGAACATGCAAATAGCATTGATCGCAACGAGAAATATGTTACCGCATT
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GAACCTGAACTGATGCATGAACTGATCGATTATCTGACCGAATATGAACTGAAACTGGCCGAAATTATCTGTC
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AATGTTTCGAAGAATTTTATCTGCCTGCCTACAAAAAATCTATAGCTTCTATAAACAGAACGGCGTTGAACTG
ATTGTGCATCATAGCGATTGTTATGCAGCAAATCTGGTGCCGTTTATGATTGAAATGGGCATTGATATTTGGCA
GGGTGTTATGACCACCAATAATACACCGGAACTGATTAACAGTACGGTGGCAAATTAGCTTTATGGGCGAT
ATTGATAGCGGTGTTGTTGATTTTCCGACCTGGACCCGTGAAATTGCAGCACGTGAAGCAGAACGTGCATGTA
CCAATTGTGGTAAACATTATTTTCATTCCGTGTCTGACCCAGGGTCTGGGTTTTAGCAGCTTTCCGGGTGTGTAT
GATTGTGTTAGCGAAGAAATTGATAAACTGAGCAAAAAAATGTTTCGTCGACATGAGCAAAAATCGCCGAAGTT
AAAGCAATGGTTGAAGCAGGTAAGCAAAAATGTTCCGGGTCTGGTTCAAGAGGCACTGGATGCAGGTAAT
GCAGCCGGTGATATTCTGGCAGGTATGATTGATAGCATGGGTGTTGTTGGTGATAAATTCAGTGCCGGTGAAC
TGTTTTGTTCCGGAAATGCTGATGGCAGCAAAAAGCAATGAGCAAAGGTGTTGATGTTCTGAAACCGCATCTGAC
CGGTGAAAGCGCAACCAGCCTGGGCACCTGTGTTATTGGCACC GTTCCGGTGATCTGCATGATATTGGTAAA
AATCTGGTTGCCATGATGCTGGAAAGCGTTGGTTTTAATGTTGTTGATCTGGGTGTGGATGTTAGCGCAGAAAA
ATTTGTTGATGCCGTGCGCGAAAATGACAACGTTAAAATTGTTGCATGTAGCGGTCTGCTGACCACCACCATG
CCTGCAATGAAAGAAACCGTTCAGAGCCTGAAAAATTCAGGTCTGACCGGCTTTAAAGTTATTGTTGGTGGTG
CACCGGTTAGCCAGGCAATGGCAGATGAAATTGGTGCAGATGTTTTGCACCGGATGCCGGTGGTGCAGCAGT
TAAAGCCAAAGA ACTGGCACATGCAGTCGACTAActcgag

catatg= *NdeI*, ctcgag= *XhoI*

Amino acid sequence

MLTIKQNLLETIRGGNPDRFVNQYEFMDIILENPVDFMAPPGGSIKTGWGITFRWPEGQIQFPVHDEEHKVLKDITK
WREQVKAPEIPDTDEAWAAVEHANSIDRNEKYVTAFAVAPGVFEMCHHLMSMEDALMALYEEPELMHELIDYLT
EYELKLAEIICRRLKPDALFHDDWGSQKSSFISPAMFEFFYLPAYKKIYSFYKQNGVELIVHSDCYAANLVPFMIE
MGIDIWQGVMTTNNTPELIKQYGGKISFMGDIIDSGVVDFTWTREIAAREAERACTNCGKHIFIPCLTQGLGFSSFP
GVYDCVSEEIDKLSKMFVDMSKIAEVKAMVEAGKAKLVPLVQEALDAGNAAGDILAGMIDSMGVVGDKFSAG
ELFVPEMLMAAKMSKGVLDLPHLTGESATSLGTCVIGTVAGDLHDIGKNLVAMMLESVGFNVVDLGVVDVSAE
KFVDAVRENDNVKIVACSGLLTTTAMPAMKETVQSLKNSGLTGFKVIVGGAPVVSQAMADEIGADGFAPDAGGA AV
KAKELAHAVD*

MT-L5-CP (dhaf-MT-L5-dhaf-CP):

DNA sequence

catatgATGCTGACCATTAAACAGAATCTGCTGGAAACCATTTCGTGGTGGTAATCCG-
GATCGTTTTGTTAATCAGTATGAGTTCATGGATATCATCCTGGAAAATCCGGTTGATTTTATGGCACCGCCTGG
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TGTTCACCGGGTGTTTTTGAAATGTGCATCATCTGATGAGCATGGAAGATGCACTGATGGCACTGTATGAA
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GGGTGTTATGACCACCAATAATACACCGGAACTGATTAACAGTACGGTGGCAAATTAGCTTTATGGGCGAT
ATTGATAGCGGTGTTGTTGATTTTCCGACCTGGACCCGTGAAATTGCAGCACGTGAAGCAGAACGTGCATGTA
CCAATTGTGGTAAACATTATTTTCATTCCGTGTCTGACCCAGGGTCTGGGTTTTAGCAGCTTTCCGGGTGTGTAT
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AGCTTATGAGCAAAATCGCCGAAGTTAAAGCAATGGTTGAAGCAGGTAAGCAAAAATGTTCCGGGTCTGG
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TGGTGATAAATTCAGTGCCGGTGAACCTGTTTGGTTCCGGAAATGCTGATGGCAGCAAAAAGCAATGAGCAAAGGT
GTTGATGTTCTGAAACCGCATCTGACCGGTGAAAGCGCAACCAGCCTGGGCACCTGTGTTATTGGCACCGTTG
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CTGGGTGTGGATGTTAGCGCAGAAAAATTTGTTGATGCCGTGCGCGAAAATGACAACGTTAAAATTTGTTGCAT

GTAGCGGTCTGCTGACCACCACCATGCCTGCAATGAAAGAAACCGTTCAGAGCCTGAAAAATTCAGGTCTGAC
CGGCTTTAAAGTTATTGTTGGTGGTGCACCGGTTAGCCAGGCAATGGCAGATGAAATGGTGCAGATGGTTTT
GCACCGGATGCCGGTGGTGCAGCAGTTAAAGCCAAAGAAGTGGCACATGCAGTGCAGTAAActcgag

catatg= *NdeI*, ctcgag= *XhoI*, GAATTC= *EcoRI*, AAGCTT= *HindIII*

Amino acid sequence

MLTIKQNLEITIRGGNPDRFVNQYEFMDIILENPVDFMAPPGGSIKTGWGITFRWPEGQIGQFPVHDEEHKVLKDITK
WREQVKAPEIPDTDEAWAAAVEHANSIDRNEKYVTAFAVAPGVFEMCHHLMSMEDALMALYEEPELMHELIDYLT
EYELKLAIEICRRLKPDALFHDDWGSQKSSFISPAMFEEFYLPAYKKIYSFYKQNGVELIVHSDCYAANLVPFMI
MGIDIWQGVMTTNNTPELIKQYGGKISFMGDIIDSGVVDFTWTREIAAREAERACTNCGKHYPCLTQGLGFSSFP
GVYDCVSEEIDKLSKMFVDEFGGGGSKLMSKIAEVKAMVEAGKAKLPGLVQEALDAGNAAGDILAGMIDSMG
VVGDKFSAGELFVPEMLMAAKAMSKGVVDLKLPHLTGESATSLGTCVIGTVAGDLHDIGKNLVAMMLESVGFNVV
DLGVDVSAEKFVDAVRENDNVKIVACSGLLTTTTPAMKETVQSLKNSGLTGFKVIVGGAPVVSQAMADEIGADGFA
PDAGGAAVKAKELAHAVD*

MT-L10-CP (dhaf-MT-L5-dhaf-CP):

DNA sequence

catatgATGCTGACCATTAAACAGAATCTGCTGGAAACCATTTCGTGGTGGTAATCCG-
GATCGTTTTGTTAATCAGTATGAGTTCATGGATATCATCCTGGAAAATCCGGTTGATTTTTATGGCACCGCCTGG
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ATGAAGAACAACAAAGTCTGAAAGACATTACCAAATGGCGTGAACAGGTTAAAGCACCGGAAATCCGGATA
CCGATGAAGCATGGGCAGCAGCAGTTGAACATGCAAAATAGCATTGATCGCAACGAGAAATATGTTACCGCATT
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GAACCTGAACTGATGCATGAACTGATCGATTATCTGACCGAATATGAACTGAACTGGCCGAAATTATCTGTC
GTCGTCTGAAACCGGATGCACTGTTTCATCACGATGATTGGGGTAGCCAGAAAAGCAGCTTTATTAGTCCGGC
AATGTTTCGAAGAATTTTTATCTGCCTGCCTACAAAAAATCTATAGCTTCTATAAACAGAACGGCGTTGAACTG
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GGGTGTTATGACCACCAATAATACACCGGAACTGATTAAACAGTACGGTGGCAAATTAGCTTTATGGGCGAT
ATTGATAGCGGTGTTGTTGATTTTTCCGACCTGGACCCGTGAAATTCAGCACGTGAAGCAGAACGTGCATGTA
CCAATTGTGGTAAACATTATTTTCATTCCGTGTCTGACCCAGGGTCTGGGTTTTAGCAGCTTTCCGGGTGTGTAT
GATTGTGTTAGCGAAGAAATTGATAAACTGAGCAAAAAAATGTTTCGTCGACGAATTCGGTGGCGGTGGCTCGG
GCGGTGGTGGGTCGAAGCTTATGAGCAAAATCGCCGAAGTTAAAGCAATGGTTGAAGCAGGTAAAGCAAAAC
TGGTTCGGGTCTGTTCAAGAGGCACTGGATGCAGGTAATGCAGCCGGTGAATTTCTGGCAGGTATGATTGA
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GCAATGAGCAAAGGTGTTGATGTTCTGAAACCGCATCTGACCGGTGAAAGCGCAACCAGCCTGGGCACCTGTG
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TAAAATTGTTGCATGTAGCGGTCTGCTGACCACCACCATGCCTGCAATGAAAGAAACCGTTCAGAGCCTGAA
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GGTGCAGATGGTTTTGCACCGGATGCCGGTGGTGCAGCAGTTAAAGCCAAAGAAGTGGCACATGCAGTGCAGT
AAActcgag

catatg= *NdeI*, ctcgag= *XhoI*, GAATTC= *EcoRI*, AAGCTT= *HindIII*

Amino acid sequence

MLTIKQNLEITIRGGNPDRFVNQYEFMDIILENPVDFMAPPGGSIKTGWGITFRWPEGQIGQFPVHDEEHKVLKDITK
WREQVKAPEIPDTDEAWAAAVEHANSIDRNEKYVTAFAVAPGVFEMCHHLMSMEDALMALYEEPELMHELIDYLT
EYELKLAIEICRRLKPDALFHDDWGSQKSSFISPAMFEEFYLPAYKKIYSFYKQNGVELIVHSDCYAANLVPFMI
MGIDIWQGVMTTNNTPELIKQYGGKISFMGDIIDSGVVDFTWTREIAAREAERACTNCGKHYPCLTQGLGFSSFP

GVYDCVSEEIDKLSKMFVDEFGGGGSGGGGSKLMSKIAEVKAMVEAGKAKLVPGLVQEALDAGNAAGDILAGM
IDSMGVVGDKFSAGELFVPEMLMAAKAMSKGVVDLKPPLTGESATSLGTCVIGTVAGDLHDIGKNLVAMMLESV
GFNVVDLGVVDVSAEFVDAVRENDNVKIVACSGLLTTMPAMKETVQSLKNSGLTGFKVIVGGAPVVSQAMADEIG
ADGFAPDAGGAAVKAKELAHAVD*

MT-L15-CP (dhaf-MT-L5-dhaf-CP):

DNA sequence

catatgATGCTGACCATTAAACAGAATCTGCTGGAAACCATTTCGTGGTGGTAATCCG-
GATCGTTTTGTTAATCAGTATGAGTTCATGGATATCATCCTGGAAAATCCGGTTGATTTTATGGCACCGCCTGG
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TGTTGCACCGGGTGTTTTTGAAATGTGTCATCATCTGATGAGCATGGAAGATGCACTGATGGCACTGTATGAA
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GGGTGTTATGACCACCAATAATACACCGGAACTGATTAACAGTACGGTGGCAAAATTAGCTTTATGGGCGAT
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CCAATTGTGGTAAACATTATTTTCATTCCGTGTCTGACCCAGGGTCTGGGTTTTAGCAGCTTTCCGGGTGTGTAT
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CAGGTAAAGCAAACCTGGTTCGGGTCTGGTTCAAGAGGCACTGGATGCAGGTAATGCAGCCGGTGTATTTCT
GGCAGGTATGATTGATAGCATGGGTGTTGTTGGTGATAAATTCAGTGCCGGTGAACCTGTTTGTCCGGAAATG
CTGATGGCAGCAAAAGCAATGAGCAAAGGTGTTGATGTTCTGAAACCGCATCTGACCGGTGAAAGCGCAACC
AGCCTGGGCACCTGTGTTATTGGCACCGTTGCCGGTGTCTGCATGATATTGGTAAAAATCTGGTTGCCATGAT
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GCGAAAATGACAACGTTAAAATTGTTGCATGTAGCGGTCTGCTGACCACCACCATGCCTGCAATGAAAGAAAC
CGTTCAGAGCCTGAAAAATTCAGGTCTGACCGGCTTTAAAGTTATTGTTGGTGGTGCACCGGTTAGCCAGGCA
ATGGCAGATGAAATTGGTGCAGATGGTTTTGCACCGGATGCCGGTGGTGCAGCAGTTAAAGCCAAAGAAGCTG
GCACATGCAGTCGACTAActcgag

catatg= *NdeI*, ctcgag= *XhoI*, GAATTC= *EcoRI*, AAGCTT= *HindIII*

Amino acid sequence

MLTIKQNLLETIRGGNPDRFVNQYEFMDIILENPVDFMAPPGGSIKTGWGITFRWPEGQIQFPVHDEEHKVLKDITK
WREQVKAPEIPDTDEAWAAAVEHANSIDRNEKYVTAFAVAPGVFEMCHHLMSMEDALMALYEEPMLHELIDYLT
EYELKLAIEICRRLKPDALFHHDDWGSQKSSFIPAMFEEFYLPAYKKIYSFYKQNGVELIVHSDCYAANLVPFMIE
MGIDIWQGVMTTNNTPELIKQYGGKISFMGDIDSGVDFPTWTREIAAREAERACTNCGKHYPCLTQQLGFSSFP
GVYDCVSEEIDKLSKMFVDEFGGGGSGGGGSGGGGSKLMSKIAEVKAMVEAGKAKLVPGLVQEALDAGNAAG
DILAGMIDSMGVVGDKFSAGELFVPEMLMAAKAMSKGVVDLKPPLTGESATSLGTCVIGTVAGDLHDIGKNLVA
MMLESVGFNVVDLGVVDVSAEFVDAVRENDNVKIVACSGLLTTMPAMKETVQSLKNSGLTGFKVIVGGAPVVSQ
AMADEIGADGFAPDAGGAAVKAKELAHAVD*

3. Methods

3.1 DNA sequence alignment of *cmuA* with *dhaf*-MT and *dhaf*-CP

The pairwise sequence alignment of the natural fusion enzyme *cmuA* (*Hyphomicrobium chloromethanicum*) was used to determine the orientation (*N*-terminal or *C*-terminal) in which the *dhaf*-MT and *dhaf*-CP should be placed to each other for the cloning of the new recombinant fusion enzymes. For the two sequence alignments the amino sequence of *cmuA* was aligned against the sequences of *dhaf*-MT and *dhaf*-CP with the online-available software EMBOSS Needle (https://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/psa/emboss_needle/). Regarding the alignment, *cmuA* had the highest score with *N*-terminal *dhaf*-MT and *C*-terminal *dhaf*-CP (22% sequence identity) compared to the other orientation (8% sequence identity).

Alignment of *cmuA* (template) with *N*-terminal *dhaf*-MT and *C*-terminal *dhaf*-CP

```
#####
# Aligned_sequences: 2
# 1: cmuA (EMBOSS_001)
# 2: dhaf4610-dhaf4611
# Matrix: EBLOSUM62
# Gap_penalty: 10.0
# Extend_penalty: 0.5
#
# Length: 675
# Identity: 147/675 (21.8%)
# Similarity: 250/675 (37.0%)
# Gaps: 197/675 (29.2%)
# Score: 316.0
#####

EMBOSS_001      1 MTQVPKMTSRERLFAAVTMQTLPDQVPCVPLLMTRGIREGGITVDQALRD      50
                                     .:|:.|.
EMBOSS_001      1 -----MLTIKQNL--      8

EMBOSS_001     51 GEASAHAKIKALKKFGG-----DVII-----PGTDLFTP      79
                                     :::: || |:: | |:::|
EMBOSS_001      9 -----LETIR--GGNPDFRVNQYEFMDIILENPVDFMAPPGGSIKT-      47

EMBOSS_001     80 VECVEGCELDYLPYAQPSLVKHPPTTKEAFYRYKEKYLREGFKPSERV--      127
                                     |...: .:.....:|...: |...:|...:|
EMBOSS_001     48 -----GWGITF-RWPEGQIGQFPVHDEE-----HKVLKDITKWREQVKA      85

EMBOSS_001    128 -----LQIQRARTMIARRKTDHAMPPTVGGPITRAQLMTGSSEF      166
                                     .:..|:|:.....|...| |.....:.....
EMBOSS_001     86 PEIPDTDEAWAAAVEHANSIDRNEKYVTAFAVAP--GVFEMCHHLSMEDA      133

EMBOSS_001    167 LSYISDDPDYAKE----VTELALDIVKNVCRMMFEAGIDVCNILDPFNS-      211
                                     |...:|:|...: |...:|...:|...: |...:|...:|
EMBOSS_001    134 LMALYEEPELMHELIDYLT EYELKLAELICRRLKP---DALFHDDWGSQ      180

EMBOSS_001    212 -SDILPPD TYREFGLPYQKRLFAYIKEIGGIGFTHCTFTQPIWRDIANN      260
                                     |...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|
EMBOSS_001    181 KSSFISPAMFEFYLPA YKKIYSFYKQNGVELIVH-----HS      217

EMBOSS_001    261 GCFNFN-----G-DMYPGM-----DHAKRAIGGQISLMTLSPFST      295
                                     .|...| |...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|
EMBOSS_001    218 DCYAANLVPFMIEMGDIWQGVMTNNTPELIKQYGGKISFMGDIDSGVV      267

EMBOSS_001    296 FMHGWT TDVANKVKLAEEVGYNGGLIVMPGCDIDWTIPDENLKAMIETC      345
                                     ...|...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|
EMBOSS_001    268 DFPTWTREIAAREAEERAC-----TNCCKHYFIP-----C      296

EMBOSS_001    346 ASIKYPMDVAALGDLSNVYLAGHPKHPGKRAPSTAGDTD-VAEA--KTHH      392
                                     .: |...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|
EMBOSS_001    297 LT-----QGLGFSSFPGVYDCVSEEIDKLSK      322

EMBOSS_001    393 KELTPQQEVNEKLV EAIM EYDGDKAIE-WVKKGLERGMTAQDIVFDGLSL      441
                                     |...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|...:|
EMBOSS_001    323 KMFVDMSKIAE--VKAMVEAGKAKLVPLVQEQALDAGNAAGDIL-AGMID      369
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EMBOSS_001	442	GMKVVGDYERNERFVTDMLKAAKTMDKAMPILTPLLEQAGGDGGPTGTV	491
		. : . . .:.. . .: . . .: . .: . . .: . . .: . .: .	
EMBOSS_001	370	SMGVVDGDKFSAGELFVPEMLMAAKAMSKGVVLDLKPHL--TGESATSLGTC	417
EMBOSS_001	492	VVGLVRGNTQDIGKNLVCLMLKANGFKVIDLGKKNVKEQFIESA-EKENA	540
		: . : . : . : . : . : . : . : . : . : . : . : . : .	
EMBOSS_001	418	VIGTVAGDLHDIGKNLVAMMLESVGFVNDLVGVDVSAEKFDVAVRENDNV	467
EMBOSS_001	541	VAIGMS-VMTNSSTVYVEKVKELLDKAGKGDYLLMCGGAAANKGVADKM	589
		..:.. : : ..:.. .: .: ..:.. .: .: ..:.. .: .: ..:.. .: :	
EMBOSS_001	468	KIVACSGLLTTTMPAMKETVQSLKNSGLTGFKVIV--GGAPVSQAMADEI	515
EMBOSS_001	590	GVKYGLDANAASVSLVKDHLQAAALE	614
		.. : . : . : . : . : . : :	
EMBOSS_001	516	GAD-GFAPDAGGAAVKAKELAHAVD	539

Alignment of *cmuA* (template) with N-terminal *dhaf*-CP and C-terminal *dhaf*-MT

```

=====
# Aligned_sequences: 2
# 1: cmuA (EMBOSS_001)
# 2: dhaf4611-dhaf4610
# Matrix: EBLOSUM62
# Gap_penalty: 10.0
# Extend_penalty: 0.5
#
# Length: 944
# Identity:      76/944 (8.1%)
# Similarity:   120/944 (12.7%)
# Gaps:         735/944 (77.9%)
# Score: 267.5
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EMBOSS_001	101	HPTPTKEAFYRYKEKYLRGFKPSERVLQIQARARTMIARRKDTHAMPTPV	150
EMBOSS_001	1	-----	0
EMBOSS_001	151	GGPITRAQLMTGSSEFLSYISDDPDYAKEVTEALALDIVKNVCRMFEAGI	200
EMBOSS_001	1	-----	0
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EMBOSS_001	1	-----	0
EMBOSS_001	251	QPIWRDIANNGCNFNFGDMYPGMDHAKRAIGGQISLMGTLSPFSTFMHGW	300
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EMBOSS_001	1	-----MSK	3
EMBOSS_001	401	VNEKLVEAIMEYDGDKAIE-WVKKGLERGMTAQDIVFDGLSLGMKVVGDM	449
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EMBOSS_001	51	FSAGELFVPEMLMAAKAMSKGVVLDLKPHL--TGESATSLGTCVIGTVAGD	98
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		. : . . .: : : . .: : : . .: : : . .: : : . .: : : . .: :	
EMBOSS_001	99	LHDIGKNLVAMMLESVGFVNDLVGVDVSAEKFDVAVRENDNVKIVACSGL	148
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EMBOSS_001      598 NAAVSLVKDHLQAAALE----- 614
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EMBOSS_001      615 ----- 614
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EMBOSS_001      615 ----- 614
EMBOSS_001      496 ACTNCGKHYFIPCLTQGLGFSSFPGVYDCVSEEIDKLSKMFVD 539

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3.2 Protein expression of fusion enzymes and *dhaf*-MT and *dhaf*-CP

All recombinant fusion proteins as well as the separate proteins *dhaf*-MT and *dhaf*-CP were expressed in soluble form (**lanes 1-6**, Figure S10). The protein content for MT-CP (1.0 μ g, 17.3 pmol, **lane 1**, Figure S10), MT-L5-CP (0.73 μ g, 12.3 pmol, **lane 2**, Figure S10), MT-L10-CP (0.7 μ g, 11.7 pmol, **lane 3**, Figure S10), MT-L15-CP (0.59 μ g, 9.8 pmol, Figure S10), *dhaf*-MT (0.53 μ g, 14.3 pmol, **lane 5**, Figure S10) and *dhaf*-CP (0.45 μ g, 21 pmol, **lane 6**, Figure S10) were calculated by densitometry (ImageJ). With this, the stoichiometric ratio of 1:1.5 (*dhaf*-MT/*dhaf*-CP) was determined as a positive control to compare the reactivity of the fusion proteins.

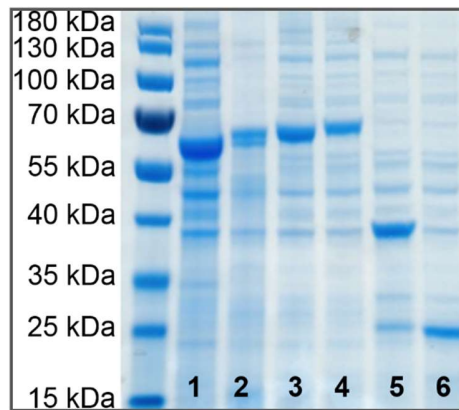


Figure S10. SDS-PAGE of fusion enzymes as well as *dhaf*-MT and *dhaf*-CP. Recombinant fusion enzymes: MT-CP (**lane 1**, 58.9 kDa), MT-L5-CP (**lane 2**, 59.8 kDa), MT-L10-CP (**lane 3**, 60.1 kDa) and MT-L15-CP (**lane 4**, 60.4 kDa). Proteins from *Desulfitobacterium dehafniense*: *dhaf*-MT (**lane 5**, 37.5 kDa) and *dhaf*-CP (**lane 6**, 21.4 kDa). All proteins were applied with 15 μ g protein per lane.

3.3 Protein purification of MT-L5-CP

The fusion protein MT-L5-CP containing a *N*-terminal His-tag was successfully purified with IMAC (5 mL nickel column, Figure S11, left) and size exclusion chromatography (Superdex S75 column, Figure S11, right) yielding in high purity with the assigned protein band at 60 kDa.

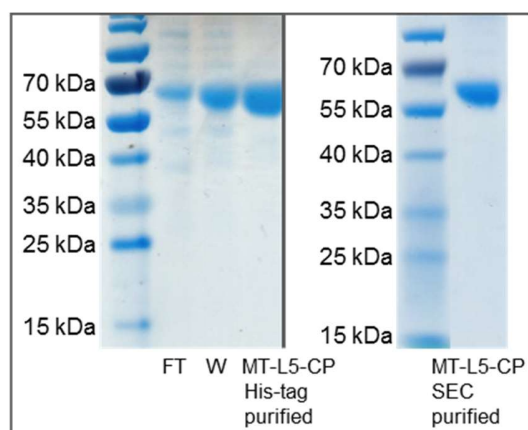


Figure S11. SDS-PAGE of the protein purification of the recombinant fusion protein MT-L5-CP. The carrier protein was successfully purified by ion-metal affinity chromatography (IMAC) and size-exclusion chromatography (SEC) according to Cytiva purification protocols leading to a pure protein band at 60 kDa. All SDS samples were applied with 10 μ g protein.

3.4 Determination of the pure MT-L5-CP content in the CFE

First, the fusion protein MT-L5-CP was expressed in *E. coli* BL21(DE3) (0.5 mM IPTG at 25 °C for 24 h). Then, the protein concentration of the lyophilized cell-free extract (CFE) was measured by Bradford (68 mg/mL). After the purification, the concentration was measured again by Bradford and gave 12 mg/mL for pure MT-L5-CP. Thus, 68 mg/mL lyophilized cell-free extract contained 12 mg/mL pure MT-L5-CP. Therefore, 17.6% of the total CFE consisted out of the fusion enzyme MT-L5-CP.

3.5 Preparations of biocatalysts

3.5.1 *Holo*-CP and *holo*-fusion enzyme loading

The loading of the *dhaf*-CP or the fusion enzyme with its cofactor methylcobalamin hydrate was performed under inert atmosphere according to the optimised protocol in literature.¹ First the reconstitution buffer was prepared consisting of methylcobalamin (6 mM) and betaine (3 M) dissolved in Tris/HCl buffer (50 mM, pH 7, 2.5 mM DTT, 0.1 mM PMSF). The lyophilized *dhaf*-CP or fusion enzyme (*dhaf*-CP: 104 mg/mL CFE \equiv 22 mg/mL pure protein;² fusion enzymes: 208 mg/mL CFE \equiv 37 mg/mL) was mixed with the reconstitution buffer (1 mL) and incubated for at least 2 h at 4°C. This incubation step was crucial for complete loading of the methylcobalamin onto the CP. The removal of salts and unbound cofactor was performed via a desalting step using a PD MidiTrapTM G-25 column (GE Healthcare) or PD 10TM G-25 column (GE Healthcare) according to the manufacturer's manual. During this step, the buffer was exchanged to MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl). During this process, a red colored protein solution was obtained (*dhaf*-CP: 69.3 mg/mL CFE; fusion enzymes: 138.7 mg/mL CFE).

4. Analytics

4.1 TLC and Flash Column Chromatography

For the thin layer chromatography (TLC) Merck TLC silica gel 60 F254 plates were used. Each analyte had to be separated with the appropriate polar and nonpolar solvents (e.g. EtOAc/cyclohexane, 1/1) on TLC before the flash column chromatography was considered to isolate the substrates from their products. The purification was performed using silica gel 60 M (particle size 40-63 μ m/230-400 mesh) from Macherey-Nagel as stationary phase.

4.2 HPLC-UV, HPLC-MS and preparative HPLC-UV

4.2.1 Method for HPLC-UV and HPLC-MS

The product formation and the conversion from biotransformations were analyzed by HPLC-UV (Agilent 1260 Infinity system equipped with a SPD-M20A diode array detector) on a reversed-phase achiral C18 column (Phenomenex Luna® C18, 100c, 250 x 4.6 mm, 5 mm). Injection volume was 10 µL each sample, and elution was done with a H₂O/MeCN (+0.1% TFA) gradient at 1 mL/min. *Method A*: 100% H₂O (2 min), 0-40% MeCN (13 min), 40-100% MeCN (5 min), 100% MeCN (2 min). *Method B*: 100% H₂O (2 min), 0-30% MeCN (13 min), 30-100% MeCN (5 min), 100% MeCN (2 min) The compounds were detected by UV-absorption at 280 nm (254 nm for **2e**) and the peaks were compared with commercially bought reference material for identification of the compounds and quantification of the conversion or product formation. All references were dissolved in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl, addition of 20 or 50% DMSO if necessary) and calibrations curves with concentrations from 1 to 50 mM were prepared (Table S6). The obtained slope of the linear correlation (k-value) was used for quantification of the appropriate analyte based on following equation:

$$C_{analyte} = \frac{\text{integral [mAU]}}{k \text{ [mAU]}} [\text{mM}] \quad (2)$$

The molecular mass of each analyte was verified by HPLC-MS analysis, which was performed on an Agilent 6120 Quadrupole LC/MS system. Acetonitrile/water as eluent on a Kinetex column as stationary phase (2.6 µm C18 100 Å, LC column 50 x 4.6 mm).

Table S6. Retention time and k-value of each compound analysed by HPLC-UV.

Compound	t _R [min]	k-value [mAU/mM]
caffeic acid 2b	13	157.2
ferulic acid <i>m</i> - 1b	15.6	140.9
isoferulic acid <i>p</i> - 1b	15.9	201.8
3,4-dihydroxybenzaldehyde 2e	13.2 ^a	159.6 ^a
vanillin <i>m</i> - 1e	15.9	479.2
isovanillin <i>p</i> - 1e	15.7	449.5
3,4-dihydroxybenzyl alcohol 2f	9.6	133.7
vanillyl alcohol <i>m</i> - 1f	11.8	152.3
isovanillyl alcohol <i>p</i> - 1f	12.4	138.4
catechol 2a	13.3	118.3
guaiacol 1a	17.7	119.8
4-methylcatechol 2c	15.3	116.8
2-methoxy-5-methylphenol 1c	19.8	120.9
caffeoyl alcohol 2f	11.8 ^b	245.6 ^b

all standards were measured with HPLC Method A, λ= 280 nm

^a standards were measured with HPLC Method A, λ= 262 nm

^b standards were measured with HPLC Method B, λ= 280 nm

4.2.2 HPLC chromatograms

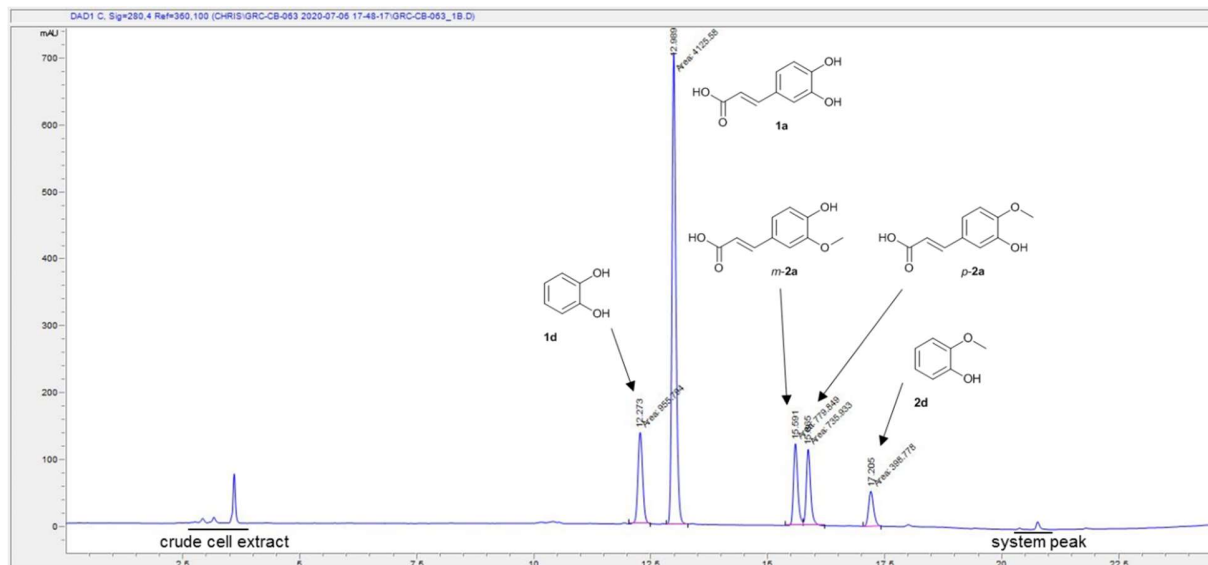


Figure S12. HPLC chromatogram of the demethylation of guaiacol **1a coupled to concomitant methylation of caffeic acid **2b**.** Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1a** (10 mM, 1.2 mg/mL), methyl acceptor **2b** (30 mM, 5.4 mg/mL), MT-L5-CP (60 mg/mL cell-free extract, \equiv 0.18 mM pure enzyme) with methylcobalamin (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) directly added to the reaction in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer® (1.5 mL) for 3 h. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. %) after 3 h and the conversions were analyzed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV (*Method A*, 280 nm). The peak at 20.5 min appears independently and is assigned as system peak.

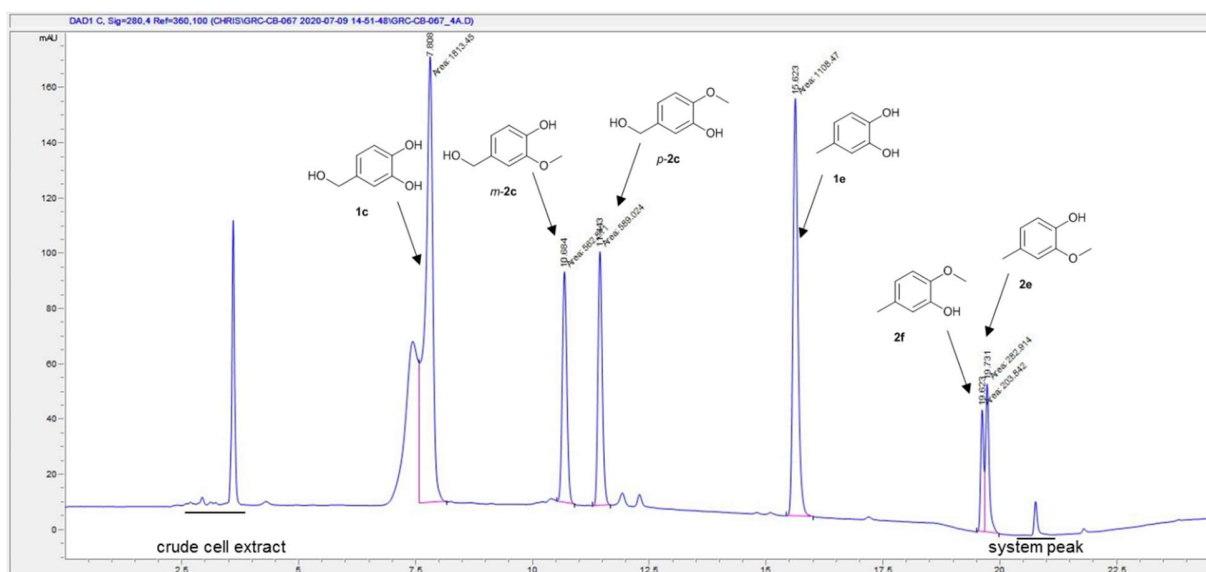


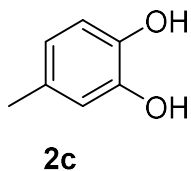
Figure S13. HPLC chromatogram of the demethylation of 2-methoxy-5-methylphenol **1c coupled to concomitant methylation of 3,4-dihydroxybenzyl alcohol **2f**.** Reaction conditions: methyl donor **1c** (10 mM, 1.4 mg/mL), methyl acceptor **2f** (30 mM, 4.2 mg/mL), MT-L5-CP (60 mg/mL cell-free extract, \equiv 0.18 mM pure enzyme) with methylcobalamin (0.5 mg/mL, 0.37 mM) directly added to the reaction in MOPS buffer (50 mM, pH 6.5, 150 mM KCl) at 30 °C, 800 rpm in Eppendorf Thermomixer® (1.5 mL) for 3 h. All reactions were quenched by the addition of MeCN (60 vol. %) after 3 h and the conversions were analysed via calibration curves of the corresponding reference compounds on HPLC-UV (*Method A*, 280 nm). The peak at 20.5 min appears independently and is assigned as system peak.

4.3 NMR spectroscopy

^1H -NMR spectra were recorded of unknown isolated products on AV II 300 MHz and AV III HD 300 MHz spectrometers from BRUKER PHYSICS in different deuterated co-solvents (e.g. CDCl_3). Furthermore, ^{13}C -NMR spectra were recorded on an AV-300 (75.5 MHz) spectrometer from Bruker Physics. All shifts are given in ppm and coupling constants (J) are given in Hz.

4.3.1 NMR – biotransformation of 2f and 1c (25 mL)

4-methylcatechol (**2c**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2).



^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.80 – 6.66 (m, 2H), 6.61 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.23 (s, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 143.84, 141.57, 131.57, 121.96, 116.75, 115.81, 21.27.

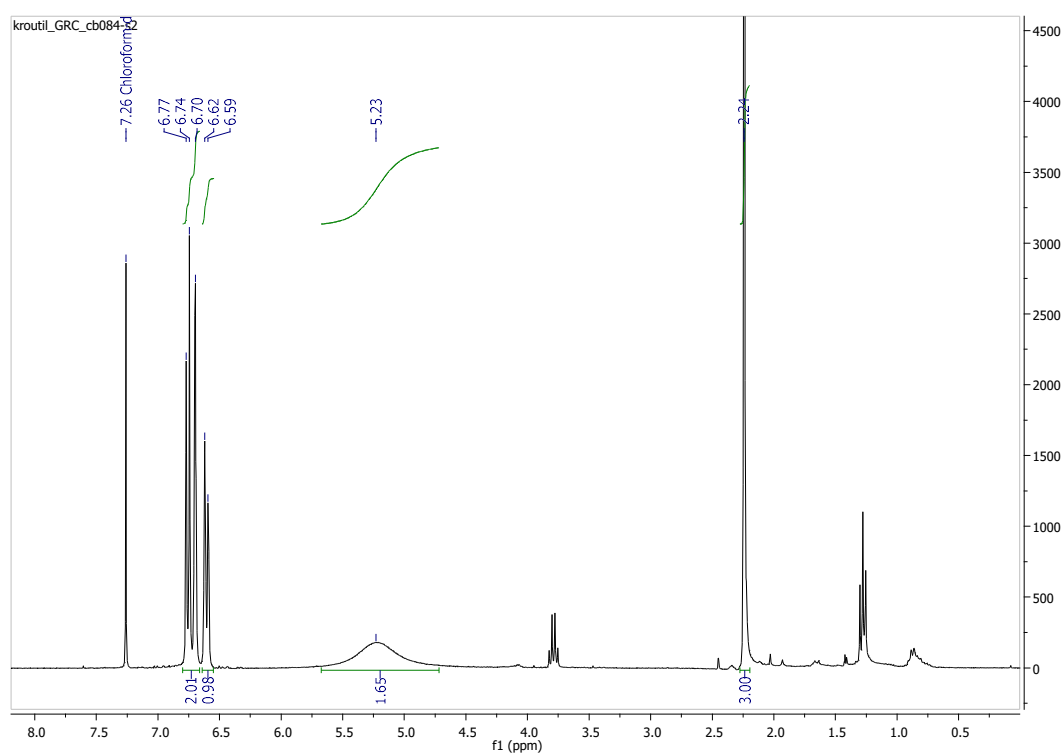


Figure S14. ^1H NMR spectra of 4-methylcatechol (**2c**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2). Additional signals refer to the cosolvents ethyl acetate (δ 2.05) and cyclohexane (δ 1.43).

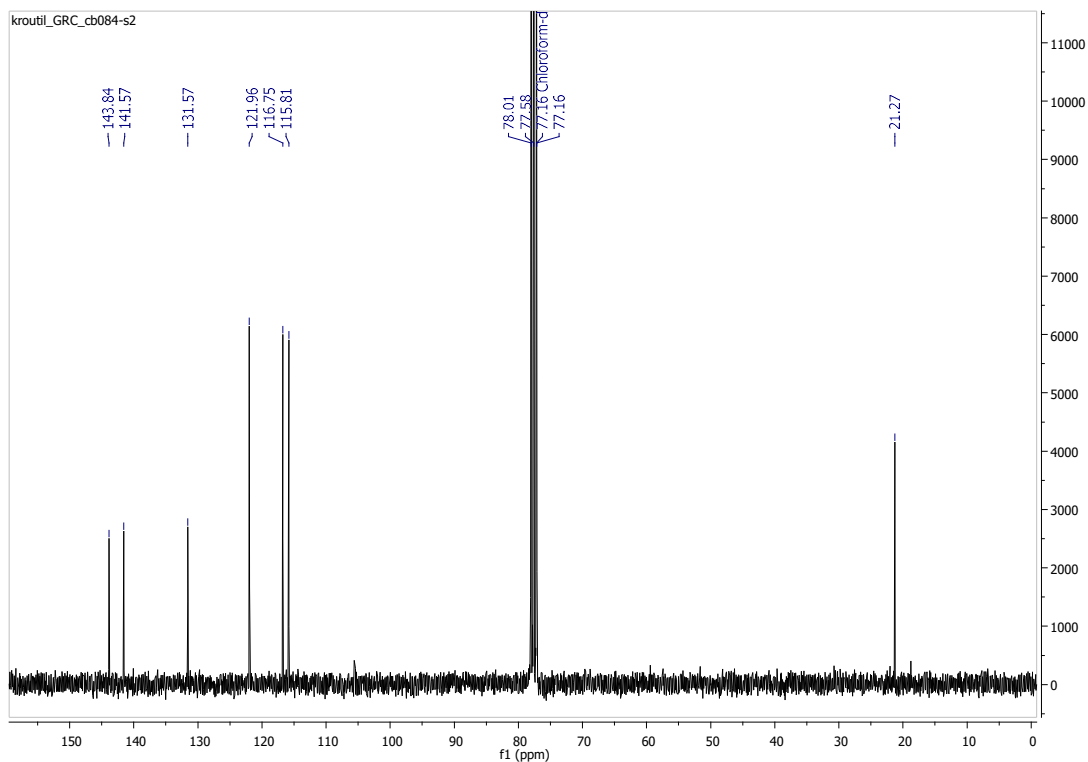
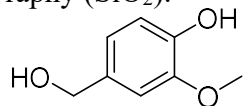


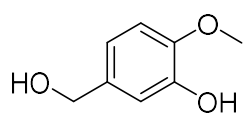
Figure S15. ^{13}C NMR spectra of 4-methylcatechol (**2c**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2).

Reaction mixture of vanillyl alcohol (*m*-**1f**) and isovanillyl alcohol (*p*-**1f**) isolated column chromatography (SiO_2):



m-**1f**

^1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 8.85 (s, 1H), 8.77 (s, 1H), 6.89 – 6.79 (m, 1H), 6.77 – 6.63 (m, 3H), 4.98 (s, 1H), 4.36 (s, 1H), 4.33 (s, 2H), 3.75 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H).



p-**1f**

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d_6) δ 147.3, 146.5, 146.3, 145.3, 135.3, 133.5, 119.1, 117.2, 115.0, 114.2, 111.9, 111.0, 63.0, 62.7, 55.7, 55.5.

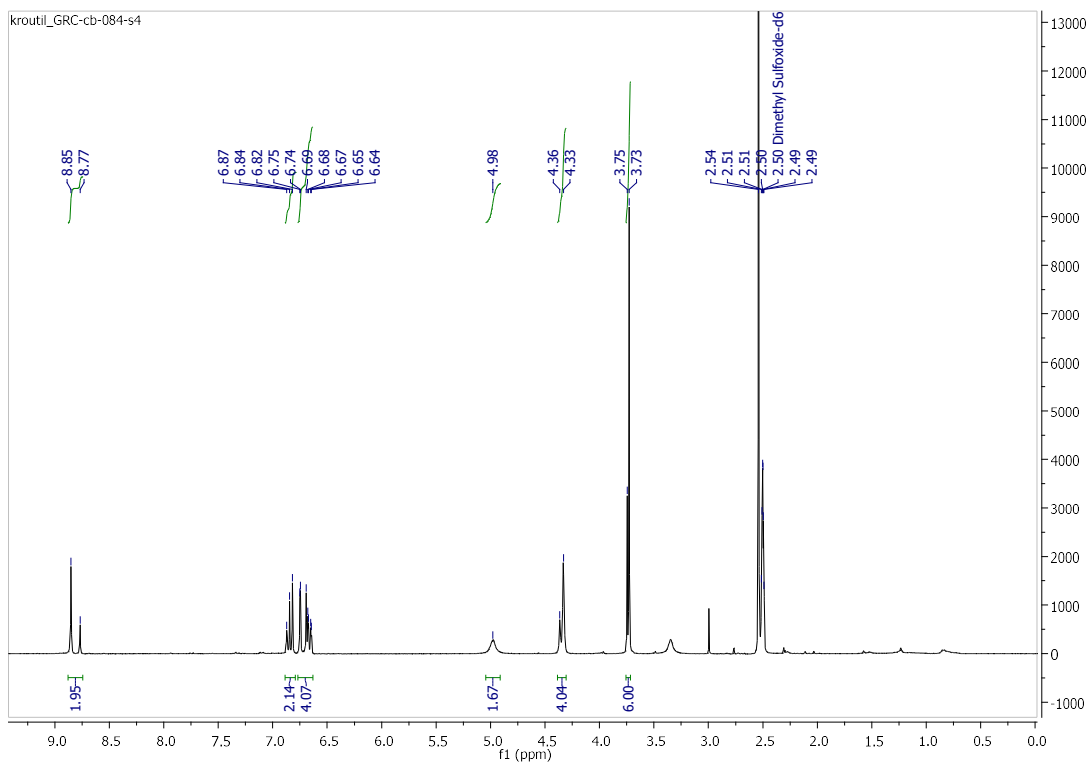


Figure S16. ^1H NMR spectra of vanillyl alcohol (*m*-**1f**) and isovanillyl alcohol (*p*-**1f**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2).

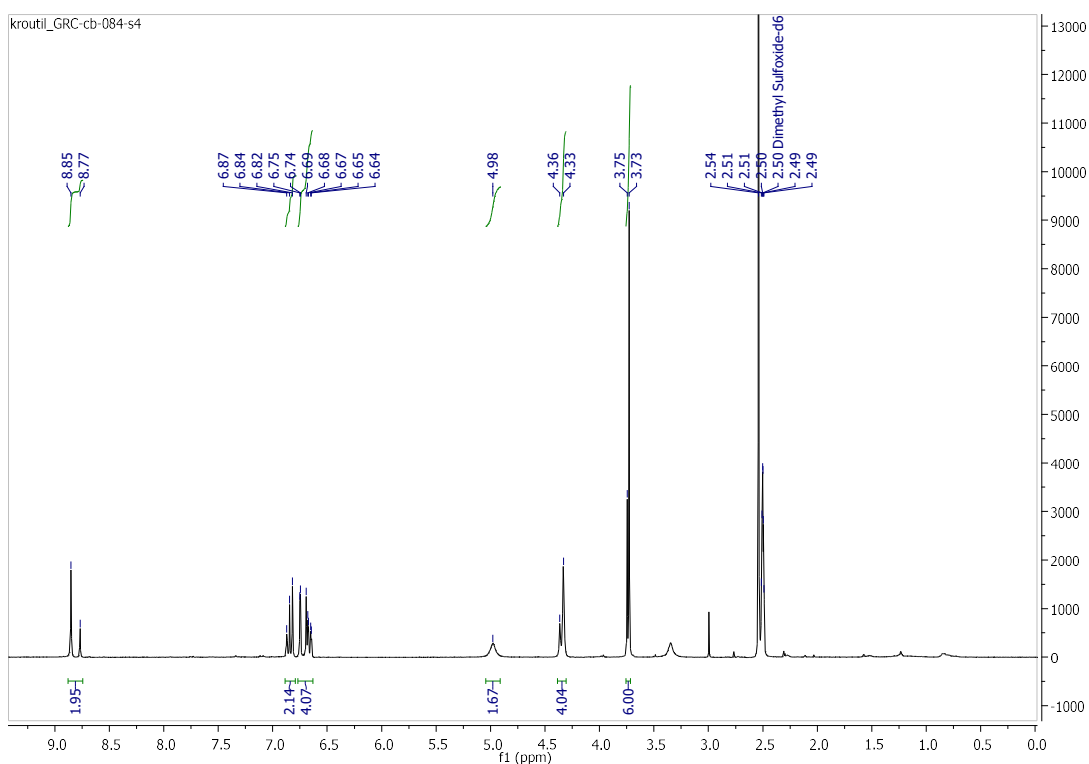
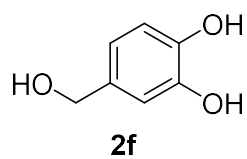


Figure S17. ^1H NMR spectra of vanillyl alcohol (*m*-**1f**) and isovanillyl alcohol (*p*-**1f**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2).

3,4-dihydroxybenzyl alcohol (**2f**) isolated column chromatography (SiO₂):



¹H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 8.79 (s, 1H), 8.68 (s, 1H), 6.68 (dd, *J* = 17.9, 4.9 Hz, 2H), 6.54 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.91 (t, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 2H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 144.97, 144.04, 133.56, 117.62, 115.16, 114.47, 62.95.

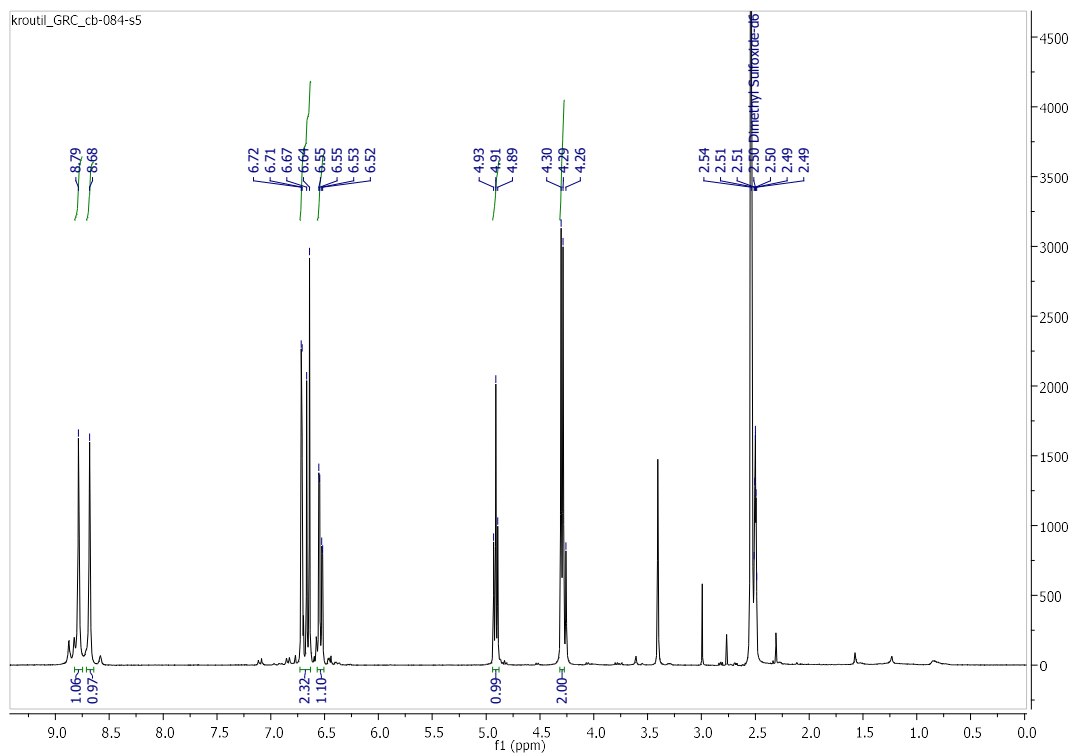


Figure S18. ^1H NMR spectra of 3,4-dihydroxybenzyl alcohol (**2f**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2).

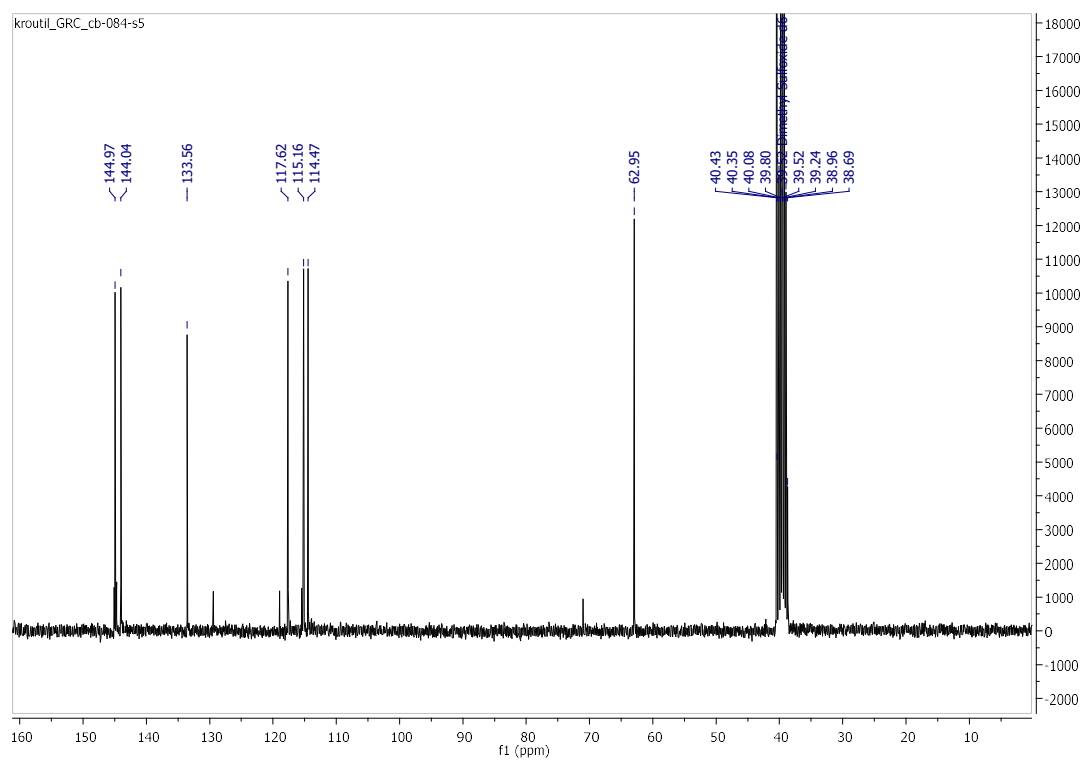
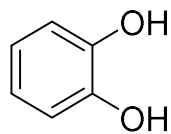


Figure S19. ^{13}C NMR spectra of 3,4-dihydroxybenzyl alcohol (**2f**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2).

4.3.2 NMRs – biotransformation of 1d and 2a (25 mL)

Catechol (**2a**) isolated column chromatography (SiO₂):



¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.92 – 6.77 (m, 4H), 5.20 (s, 2H).

¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.6, 121.4, 115.7.

2a

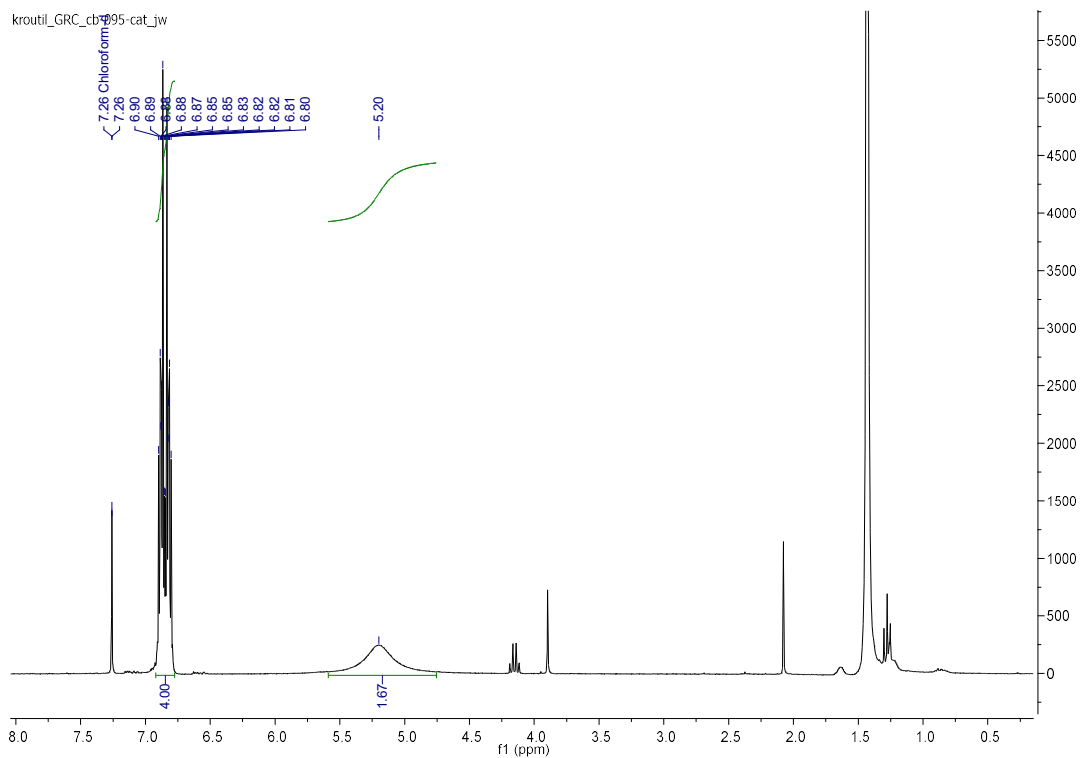


Figure S20. ¹H NMR spectra of catechol (**2a**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO₂). Additional signals refer to the cosolvents ethyl acetate (δ 1.26, δ 2.05, δ 4.12) and cyclohexane (δ 1.43).

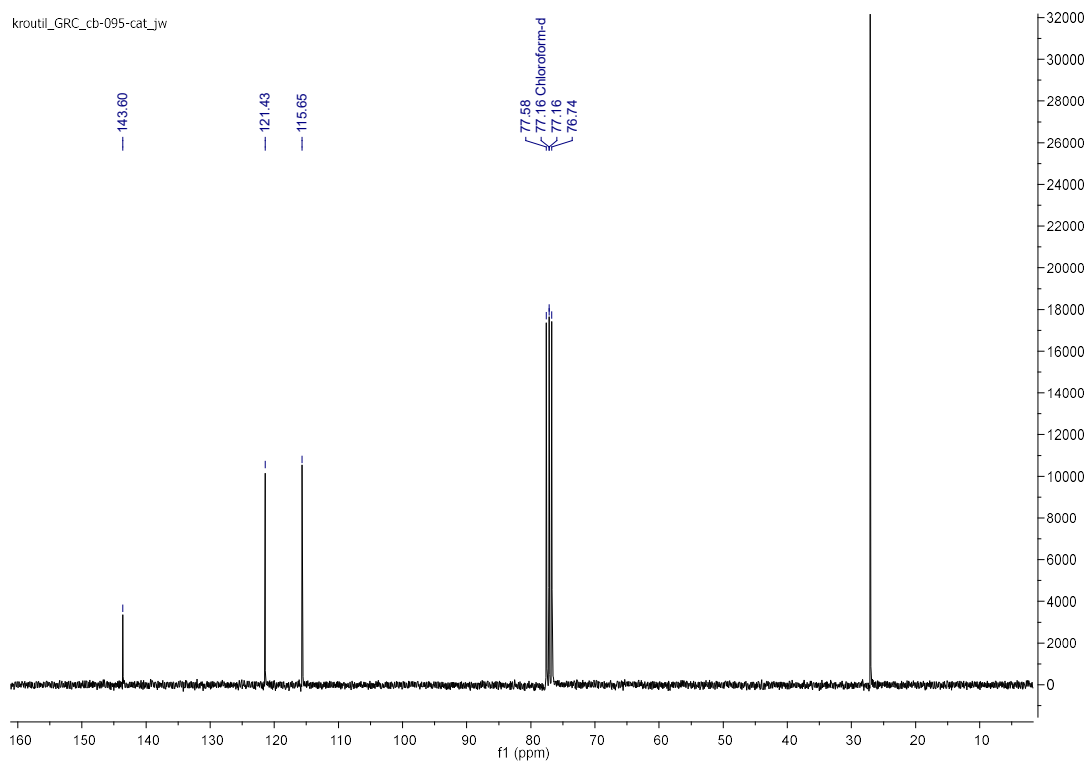
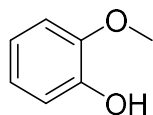


Figure S21. ^{13}C NMR spectra of catechol (**2a**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2). One additional signal refers to the cosolvent cyclohexane (δ 26.94).

Guaiacol (**1a**) isolated column chromatography (SiO_2):



1a

^1H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.97 – 6.83 (m, 4H), 5.63 (s, 1H), 3.89 (s, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 146.7, 145.8, 121.6, 120.3, 114.6, 110.8, 56.0.

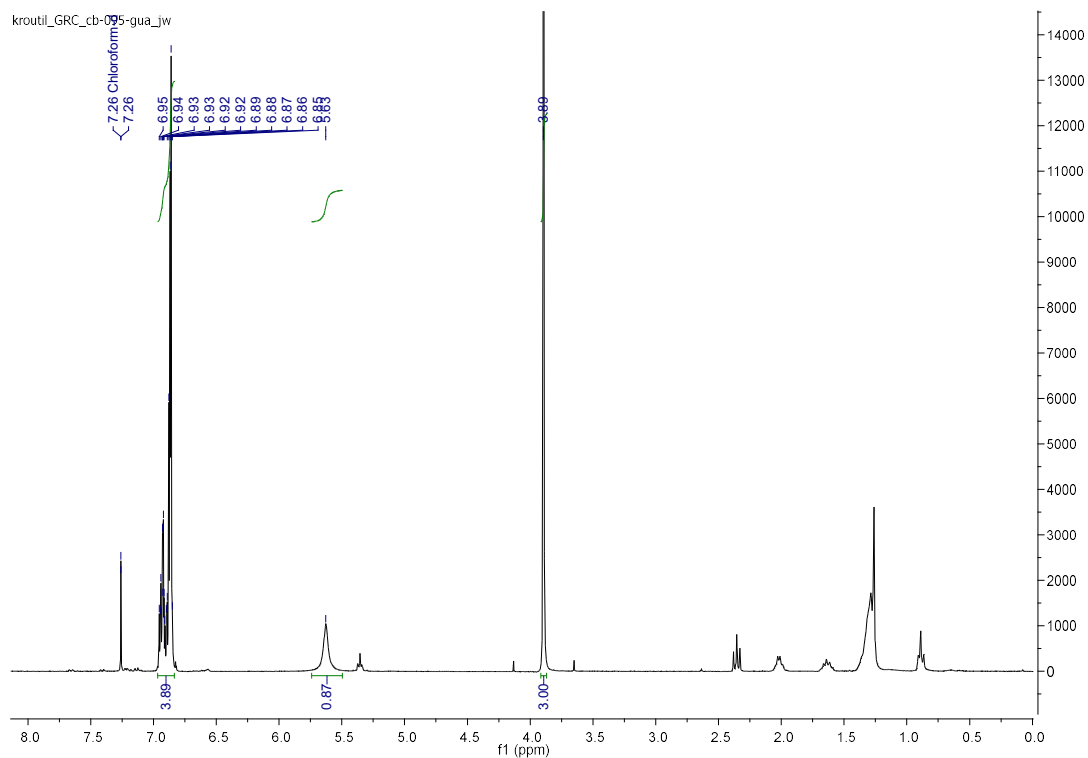


Figure S22. ^1H NMR spectra of guaiacol (**1a**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2). Additional signals refer to the cosolvents ethyl acetate (δ 2.05, δ 4.12) and cyclohexane (δ 1.43).

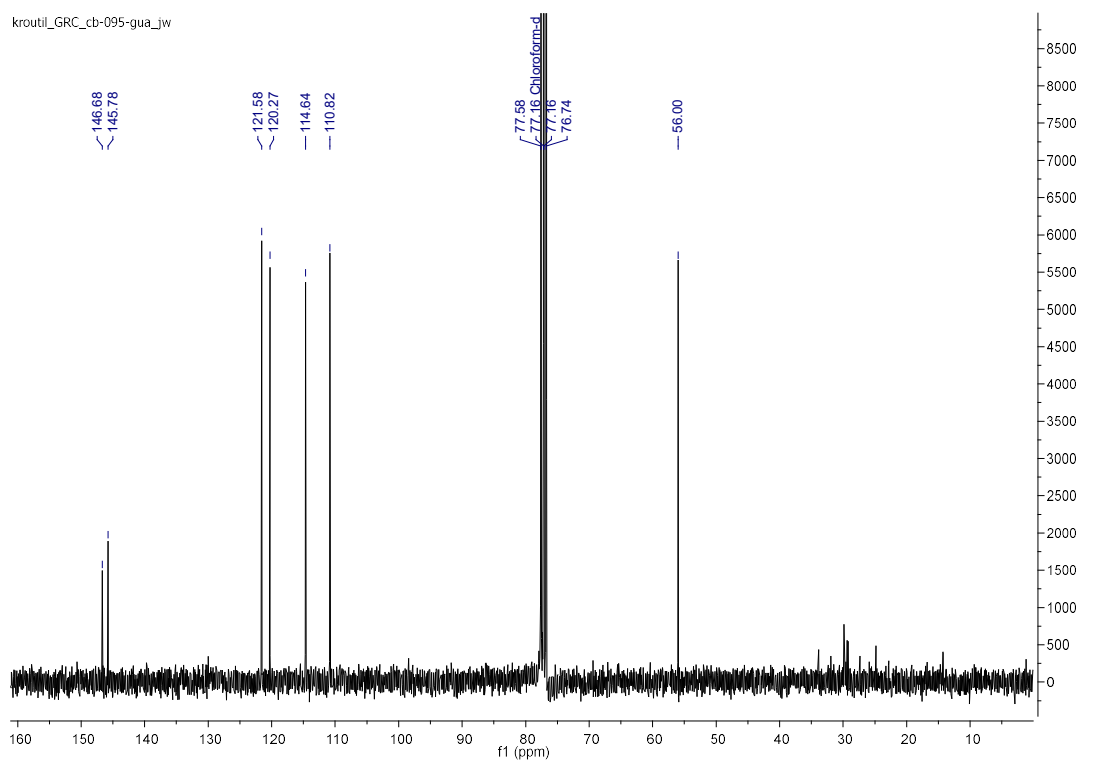
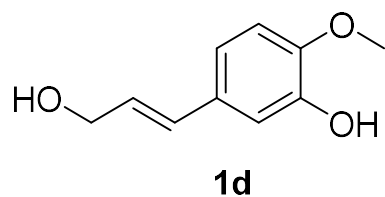


Figure S23. ^{13}C NMR spectra of guaiacol (**1a**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2).

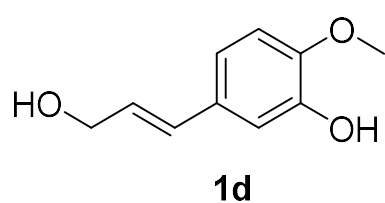
Cis and *trans*-isomers of coniferyl alcohol (**1d**):



$^1\text{H NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.85 (m, 6H), 6.52 (m, 2H), 6.28 – 6.16 (m, 2H), 4.33 – 4.27 (m, 4H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 146.7, 146.5, 145.8, 145.7, 131.5, 131.1, 130.5, 129.4, 126.9, 126.3, 120.5, 119.2, 114.6, 112.1, 110.7, 108.4, 64.0, 64.0, 56.1, 56.0.

Reference NMR of *trans*-coniferyl alcohol (**1d**):



$^1\text{H NMR}$ (300 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 6.89 (m, 3H), 6.53 (d, $J = 15.8$ Hz, 1H), 6.22 (td, $J = 15.8$ Hz, 1H), 4.30 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 146.7, 145.7, 131.5, 129.4, 126.3, 120.4, 114.6, 108.4, 64.0, 56.0.

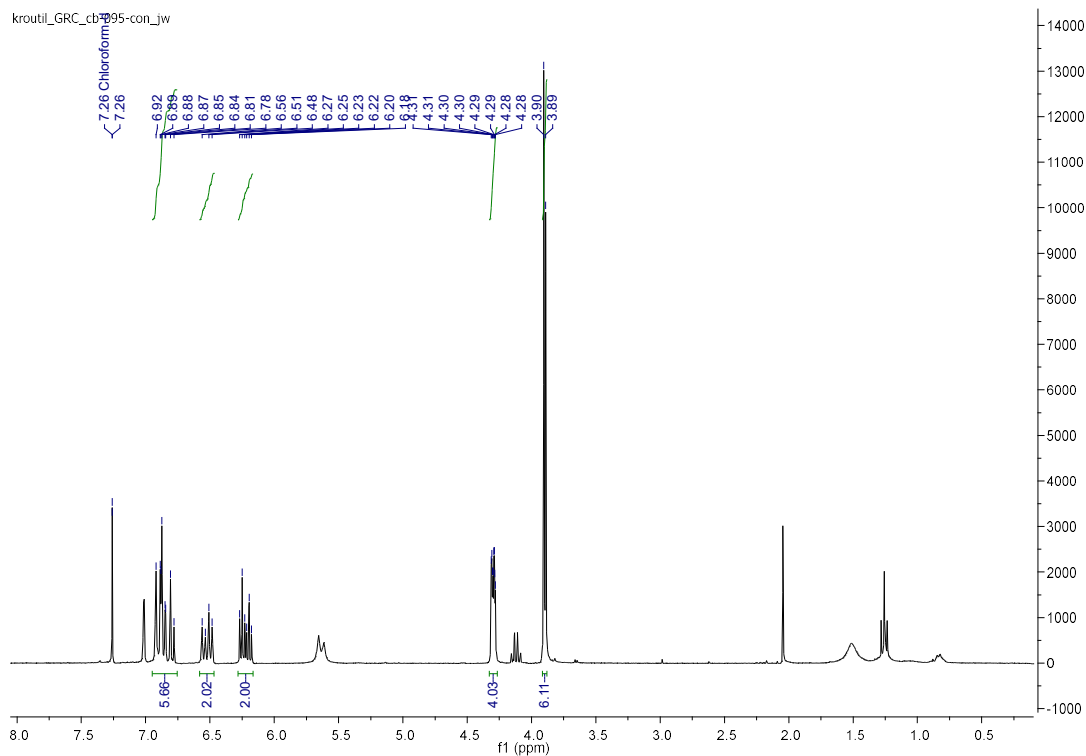


Figure S24. ^1H NMR spectra of *cis*- and *trans*-isomers of coniferyl alcohol (**1d**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2). Additional signals refer to the cosolvents ethyl acetate (δ 1.26, δ 2.05, δ 4.12) and cyclohexane (δ 1.43).

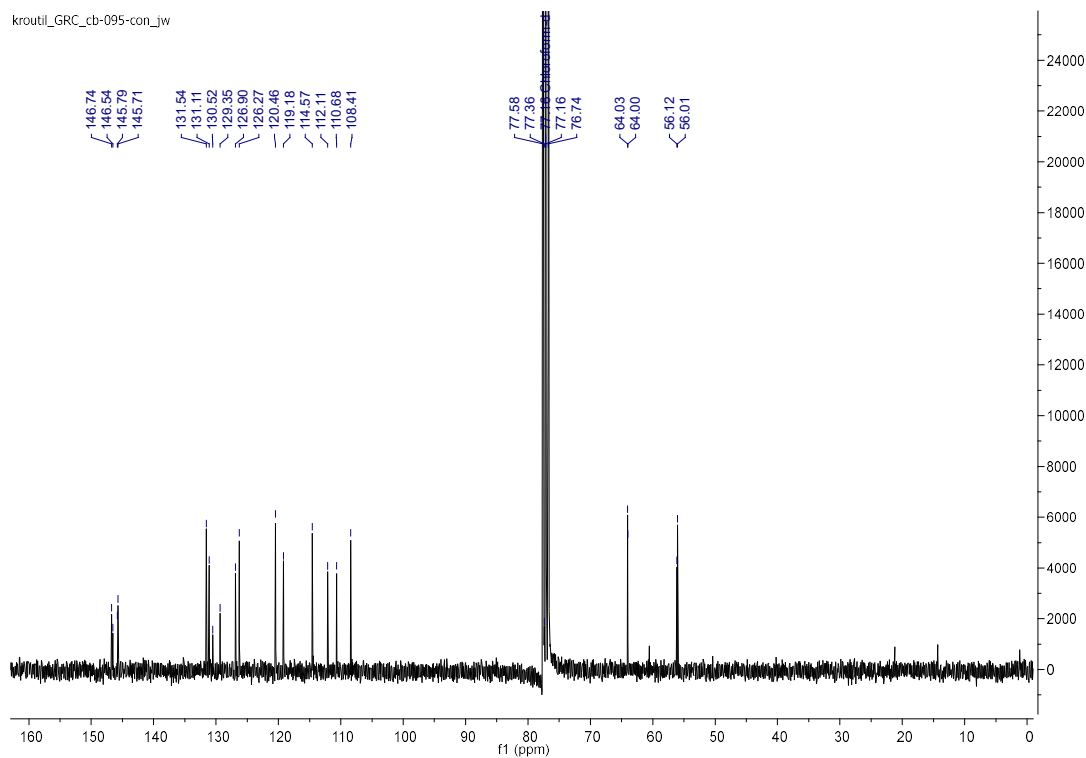


Figure S25. ^{13}C NMR spectra of *cis*- and *trans*-isomers of coniferyl alcohol (**1d**) obtained from biocatalytic reaction after column chromatography (SiO_2). Additional signals refer to the cosolvent ethyl acetate (δ 14.19, δ 21.04, δ 60.49).

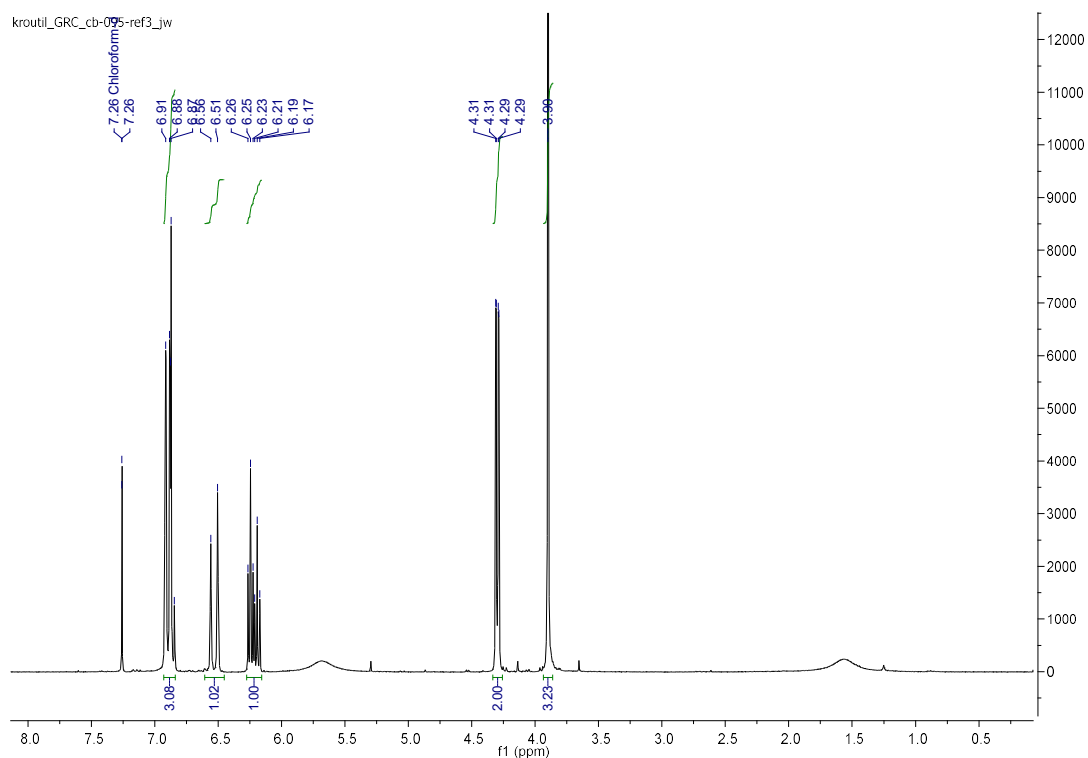


Figure S26. ¹H NMR spectra of reference *trans*-coniferyl alcohol (**1d**).

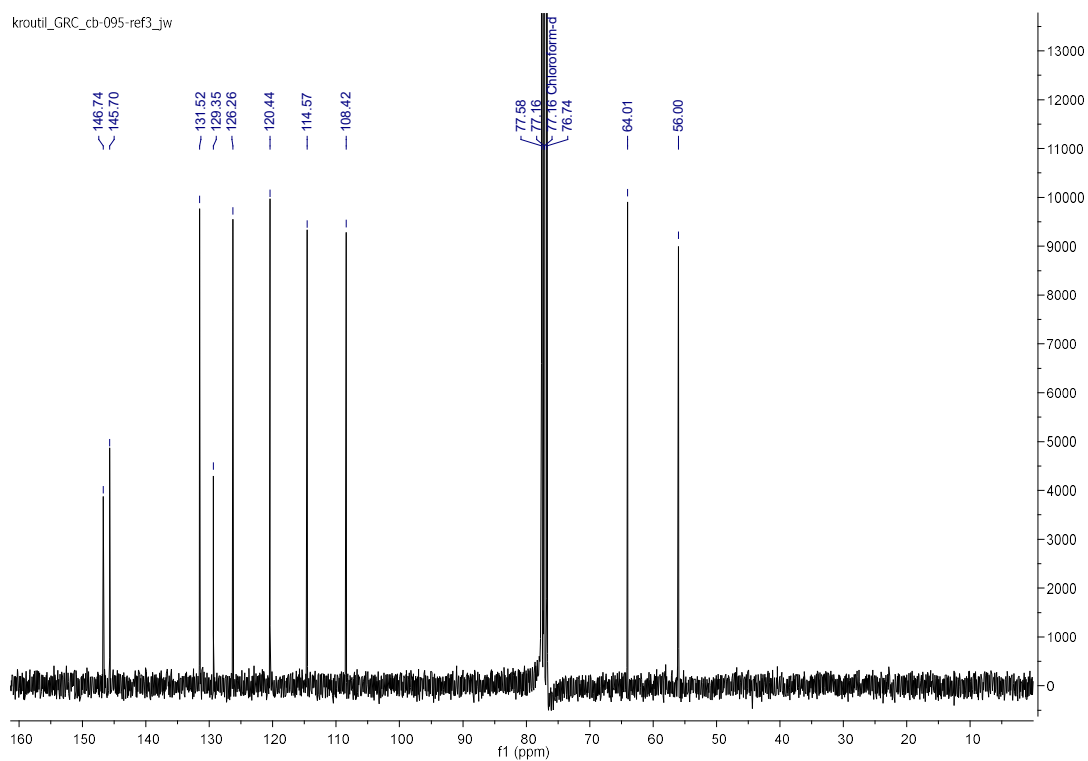


Figure S27. ¹³C NMR spectra of reference *trans*-coniferyl alcohol (**1d**).

Caffeoyl alcohol (**2d**), NMR data is in accordance with the literature:⁶

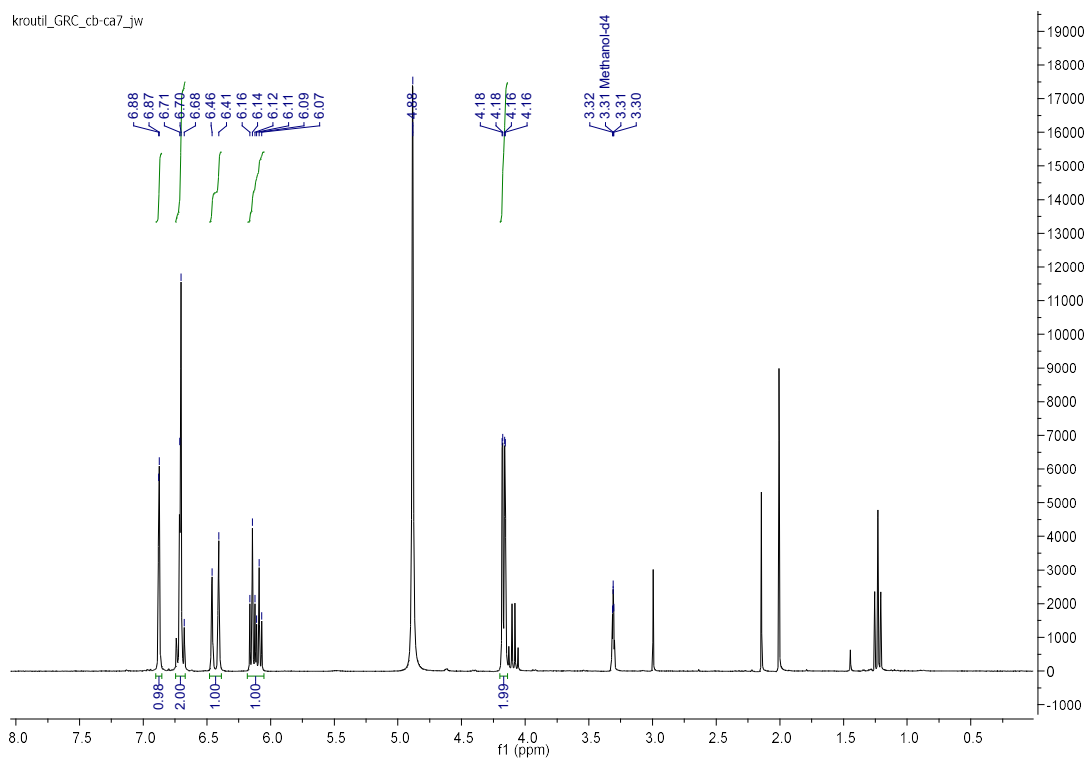
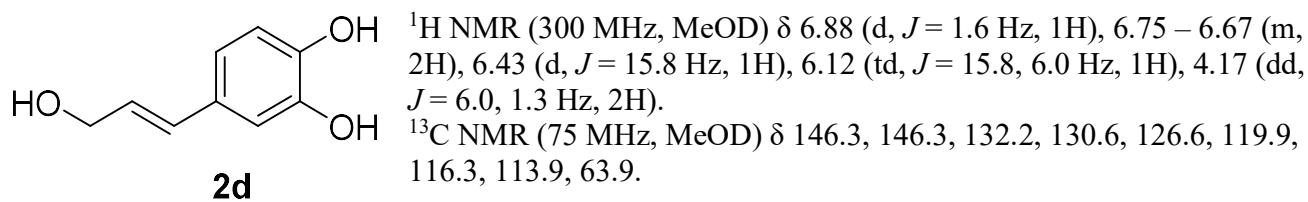


Figure S28. ¹H NMR spectra of reaction sample with caffeoyl alcohol (**2d**) isolated column chromatography (SiO₂). Additional signals refer to the cosolvents ethyl acetate (δ 1.24, δ 2.01, δ 4.09) and cyclohexane (δ 1.45).

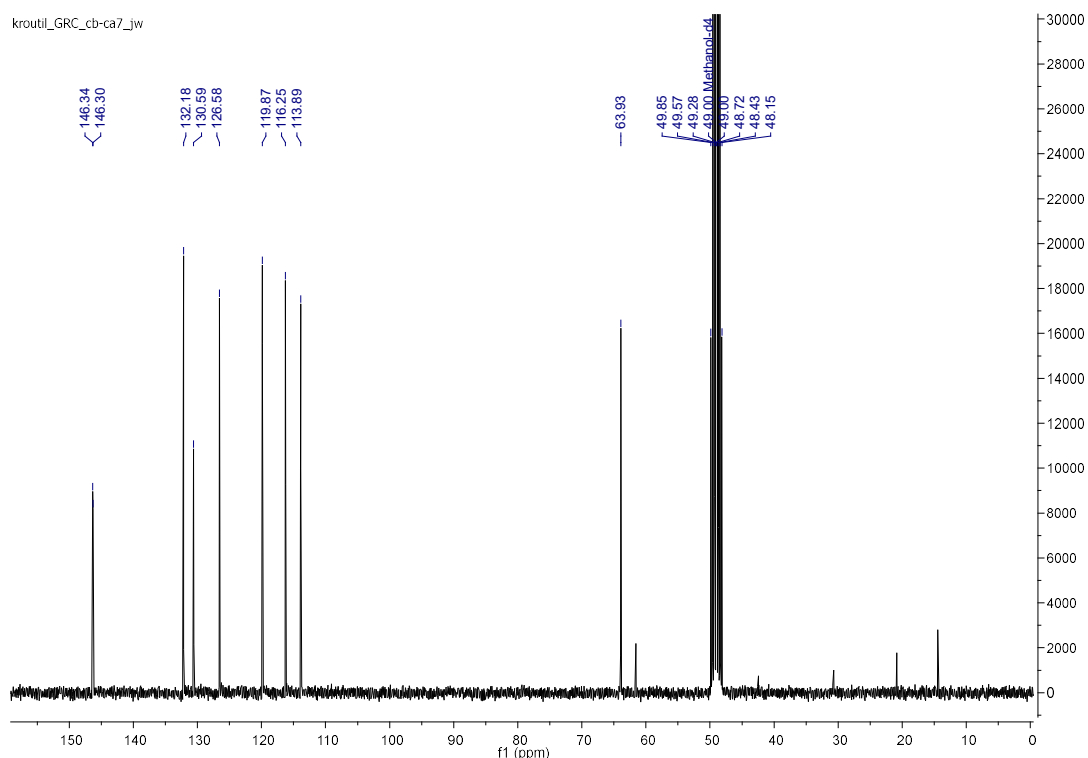


Figure S29. ^{13}C NMR spectra of reaction sample with caffeoyl alcohol (**2d**) isolated column chromatography (SiO_2). Additional signal refers to the cosolvent ethyl acetate (δ 14.49, δ 20.88, δ 61.50).

5. References

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