

**Electronic supplementary information (ESI):**

**Reducing sugars facilitated carbonyl condensation in detoxification of carbonyl aldehyde model compounds for bioethanol fermentation**

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**Table S1 Colony Forming Units (CFU) of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* on YDP agar plates (in the presence of 0 mM (M9 control), 0.02 mM, 0.1 mM, 0.5mM and 1.0 mM Ortho-phthalaldehyde at 30°C)**

Incubation time	M9 ( $\times 10^5$ )	0.02mM ( $\times 10^5$ )	0.1mM ( $\times 10^5$ )	0.5mM ( $\times 10^5$ )	1mM ( $\times 10^5$ )
0 h	157	151	19	0	0
12 h	730	510	4.0	0	0
24 h	1070	1470	8.1	0	0
48 h	4000	1400	206	0.2	0

**Table S2 The change of pH during the alkaline treatment of 1.0 mM OPA with different sugars (2h, 60°C)**

Samples	Initial	pH adjusting <sup>a</sup>	30 min	pH adjusting	60 min	pH adjusting	90 min	pH adjusting	120 min
Glu/OPA	6.3	10.0	9.0	10.1	9.5	10.2	9.5	10.2	9.7
Fru/OPA	6.4	9.9	8.2	9.9	8.2	9.9	8.1	10	8.7
Suc/OPA	6.3	10.5	10.4	10.9	10.8	11.1	10.9	11.1	11

a: NaOH was added at the same level in each treatment to avoid the effect of salts on fermentation