Supplementary Information

Supplementary Fig. 1. Mass spectra of silylated standards (black) and CYP716 triterpenoid products produced in yeast strains (red). (**a**) With GgBAS and *C. asiatica* CYP716s. (**b**) With CaDDS and *C. asiatica* CYP716s. (**c**) With GgBAS and *P. grandiflorus* CYP716s. (**d**) With GgBAS and *A. coerulea* CYP716s*.* (**e**) With SlCAS and *A. coerulea* CYP716s*.*

Supplementary Fig. 2. Overlay of GC-MS total ion current chromatograms showing accumulation of standard compounds and triterpenoids produced in yeast strains expressing other *C. asiatica CYP716*s in combination with *CYP716A83* and *CaDDS*. Annotated triterpenoid peaks are indicated with numbers: (1) β -amyrin, (2) α -amyrin, (3) erythrodiol, (4) putative uvaol, (5) oleanolic acid, (6) ursolic acid, (7) putative 6β -hydroxy oleanolic acid, (8) putative 6β -hydroxy ursolic acid, (9) maslinic acid, and (10) corosolic acid.

Supplementary Fig. 3. Overlay of GC-MS total ion current chromatograms showing accumulation of standard compounds and triterpenoids produced in yeast strains expressing *A. coerulea CYP716*s. (**a**) In combination with SlCAS. Annotated triterpenoid peaks are indicated with numbers: (1) and (4) non-specific CYP716A113v1 products with yeast sterol precursors, (2) product of cycloartenol metabolized by yeast enzymes, (3) putative hydroxycycloartenol. (**b**) In a control yeast expressing no plant *OSC*. Annotated triterpenoid peaks are indicated with numbers: (1), (2) and (3) non-specific CYP716A113v1 products with yeast sterol precursors.

Supplementary Fig. 4. Maximum likelihood phylogenetic tree of *CYP716* sequences from plant species spanning the plant kingdom. CYP716s that were characterized previously and in this study are marked with empty and filled dots, respectively. The yellow stars mark the points of divergence for the three classes of CYP716s: 'Dicot', 'Angiosperm', and 'Ancient' CYP716s.

Supplementary Table 1. Previously characterized triterpenoid-metabolizing P450s with references.

Supplementary Table 2. CYP716s from *C. asiatica* (**a**), *P. grandiflorus* (**b**) and *A. coerulea* (**c**) with

the corresponding source dataset and identifier.

(**a**) *C. asiatica*

(**b**) *P. grandiflorus*

(**c**) *A. coerulea*

Supplementary Table 3. Semi-quantitative analysis of CYP716 substrates and products in transformed yeasts. Shown are the relative amounts of the known triterpenoids in the producing yeast strains. Triterpenoids were analyzed and quantified from spent medium of MβCD-treated yeast cultures. The values correspond to means of peak areas of extracted ion intensities of representative ions ± standard error (n=4).

Supplementary Table 4. List of primers used in this study.

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Supplementary Table 5. Cloning scheme for *A. coerulea* CYP716s from genomic DNA.

Supplementary Methods NMR analysis

For 6β-hydroxy maslinic acid

First, when comparing the $1D⁻¹H$ spectra of the plant metabolite and the maslinic acid standard (Supplementary Methods Fig. 1a, b) it is clear that both spectra are highly similar. This is the case for both the protons at high chemical shifts $(H_{12}, H_2, H_3$ and H_{18}), as well as the collection of signals in the aliphatic region, despite signal overlap. Furthermore, comparison of the seven methyl signals shows that for the metabolite only two methyl signals remain at identical chemical shift values as the corresponding methyl (CH3) groups in the standard. Subsequent analysis shows that the assignment of these two signals correspond to CH_3 groups 29 and 30. (Supplementary Methods Fig. 1c). This similarity makes it likely that the additional functionality will be residing in the A, B or C ring and not in D or E. Lastly, in the $1D¹H$ spectrum of the metabolite a single additional signal can be observed at 4.47 ppm that integrates for a single proton (Supplementary Methods Fig. 1b). The corresponding CH-type carbon can be identified at 68.6 ppm from the HSQC spectrum. The presence of this signal with a characteristic chemical shift indicates the additional functionality because the oxidation most likely corresponds with a hydroxyl (OH) group and not an epoxide. In the case of the latter, an additional ¹H signal should be present as well, showing similar ¹H and ¹³C chemical shift values. This preliminary hypothesis is subsequently supported by further analysis using the 2D spectra.

In the following, focus is placed on the identification of the modification at position 6, given both the standard and metabolite are otherwise very similar in terms of structure and assignment.

First, the CH₃ groups 23 and 24 can be identified via their highly similar coupling pattern in the HMBC spectrum (Supplementary Methods Fig. 2a). Here, they both show couplings to each other's carbon atoms, as well as to carbon atoms C4 (41.1 ppm), C5 (57.0 ppm) and C3 (84.6 ppm). Here, the 3 J_{CH}-coupling to C3 is the unique identifier for methyls 23 and 24, because these are the only ones close enough to carbon C3. In addition, C3 and C2 and their corresponding protons (2.84 and 3.67 ppm, respectively, in the ${}^{1}H$ dimension) are the only two OH-containing locations in both molecules that also show a mutual coupling in the COSY experiment, hereby further establishing their assignment (Supplementary Methods Fig. 2b). A further distinction between C4 and C5 can be made with the help of methyl 25, because C5 is the only carbon in this section of the molecules that shows a clear set of through-bond couplings to the three CH₃ groups Me23, Me24 and Me25. The corresponding H5 proton can be identified at 0.82 ppm using the HSQC spectrum.

Once H5 has been identified in the maslinic acid standard, the COSY spectrum shows a clear cross peak to the protons at positions 6, which in turn couple to the protons at position 7. In the HSQC spectrum, both sets of protons indeed correspond to methylene (CH₂) groups at 19.4 ppm (C6) and 33.72 ppm (C7) in the ¹³C dimension. However, in the plant metabolite, the CH₂ signal corresponding to $C6$ has disappeared and the $CH₂$ signal of $C7$ also appears to be absent from its original position (Supplementary Methods Fig. 2C). Starting from H5 in the COSY spectrum, the H6 signal turns out to correspond to the new ^{1}H signal at 4.47 ppm. In turn, the HSQC spectrum shows that this signal corresponds to the new CH-type of carbon (68.6 ppm) previously observed (Supplementary Methods Fig. 2d).

This H6 proton signal further shows cross peaks in the COSY spectrum to the protons of the H7 CH₂ group now residing at 41.6 ppm in the ¹³C dimension (Supplementary Methods Fig. 2b,c). The identity of C7 can be further confirmed by a 3 JCH coupling in the HMBC spectrum to CH₃ group 26, which in turn and together with methyl 27, also shows through-bond couplings in the HMBC spectrum to C8 (39.93 ppm) and C14 (43.43 ppm). In summary, from the analysis of the different spectra, it appears that the original CH₂ group at position 6 has now become a CH-group at significant higher chemical shift (19.4 to 68.6 ppm). Here, the latter value is characteristic for the presence of a hydroxyl functionality. In addition, the $CH₂$ group at position 7 is also shifted to a higher chemical shift value (33.72 to 41.6 ppm), again characteristic for a strong electronegative element in the vicinity. Other carbon and proton chemical shifts in the immediate vicinity only show minimal differences with the maslinic acid standard, confirming that position 6 is indeed the only modification site. Furthermore since only position 6 can be identified as a CH-type carbon, the presence of an epoxide functionality can be excluded, because this would require at least two CH-type carbons both at position 6 and 7.

Concerning the stereochemistry of the new OH group, the ROESY spectrum shows a clear throughspace contact between the H5 and H6 proton (Supplementary Methods Fig. 2e). Given the fact that the H5 stereochemistry is known, the H6 proton is expected to also reside on the same side of its A-B ring system. Other through-space contacts that can be observed starting from H6 involve CH³ groups $23/24$, and the protons of position 7. One of the CH₃ groups resides on the same side of the ring system and will be closer to H6. The other CH₃ group is situated above the ring plane, hence further away, and hereby explaining the difference in relative through-space contact intensity between the two CH³ groups and H6. A completely similar observation can be made for the rOe contacts between H6 and the two protons of position 7.

The remainder of the assignment is completely similar to that of the maslinic acid standard, thereby also excluding the possibility of other additional modification sites. Finally, the structure of the plant metabolite thus appears to correspond to the known 6β -hydroxy maslinic acid compound²⁷. Comparison of the reported chemical shifts with the ones obtained in this analysis provided final proof of the similarity between the two molecules (Supplementary Methods Table 1). Given C5H5N-d5 was used as solvent in the literature and the aromatic nature of this solvent may induce significant changes in the ${}^{1}H$ chemical shifts, only the ${}^{13}C$ shifts are compared. This effect however is less pronounced for 13 C. It is clear that despite a constant offset of about 0.58 ppm (Supplementary Methods Fig. 3), the ${}^{13}C$ chemical shift values of the plant metabolite are in good

agreement with the reported chemical shifts of 6β-hydroxy maslinic acid (Supplementary Methods Table 1), especially surrounding the modification area (positions 5, 6 and 7).

For 16β-hydroxy β-amyrin

Similar to the 6β-hydroxy maslinic acid metabolite, a complete assignment of the 16β-hydroxy βamyrin (Supplementary Methods Fig. 4a) was possible. While the assignment indeed showed the molecule in question to correspond to a beta-amyrin, in the following description only the identification strategy of the hydroxylation position will be discussed.

From the 1D $\rm{^1H}$ spectrum (Supplementary Methods Fig. 4b,c), the protons corresponding to H3, H12 and the modification location (H16 or H21) are expected to correspond to the three signals showing a higher chemical shift. In addition, the seven methyl signals, with the exception of two, can be separately observed as singlets integrating for three protons each. In the structure of 16βhydroxy β-amyrin, these CH₃ groups are well distributed throughout the molecule and identification of each allows an unambiguous assignment of the local chemical environment, mainly using the HMBC spectra. This assignment strategy is similar to the one used in a previous study on 3-O-Glc-echinocystic acid¹⁵. Once the different carbon/proton signals are identified, the corresponding proton/carbon signal can be assigned using the HSQC spectrum (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5). This assignment strategy allows for a fast check of positions 16 and 21, most expected to be hydroxylated.

In this respect, the first CH_3 group readily identified is methyl 27. This is the only CH_3 group to show a 3 J_{CH} correlation with the quaternary alkene-type carbon 13 at 145.3 ppm in the HMBC spectrum (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5a). The other characteristic alkene CH unit (H12) can be identified at 5.25 and 123.36 ppm in the ${}^{1}H$ and ${}^{13}C$ dimension, respectively.

All other CH₃ groups are structurally sufficiently well removed from methyl 27 (1.24 and 27.53 ppm in the ¹H and ¹³C dimension, respectively) for it to be used as an unambiguous starting point for the assignment (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5a). Methyl 27 shares two correlations with carbons 8 and 14 with methyl 26, which allows a subsequent identification of the latter at 1.03 and 17.46 ppm in the ¹H and ¹³C dimension, respectively. A distinction between C8 and C14 is readily available due to a 3 J_{CH} correlation from H12 with C14 (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5b), with C8 being too far removed to show any correlation with the former. Next, a shared 3 J_{CH} correlation with methyl 26 to carbon 9 at 48.3 ppm identifies CH₃ group 25 (0.98 and 15.93 ppm in the ¹H and ¹³C dimension, respectively). The identity of C9 can be further confirmed by means of a 3 JCH correlation again with H12 (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5b).

The last CH₃ groups in this series, 23 and 24, can be assigned using a 3 J_{CH} correlation with C5 (56.78 ppm), which they share with methyl 25 (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5a). The two corresponding signals can be identified at 0.99;0.79 ppm in the ¹H and 28.66;16.16 ppm the ¹³C dimension. Nevertheless, a distinction between the two methyls is not possible due to an almost

identical chemical environment. Further confirmation is possible by a mutual 3 J_{CH} correlation with the characteristic carbon signal of C3 at 79.76 ppm (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5a). The corresponding proton of C3 can be identified at 3.15 ppm using the HSQC spectrum. With this assignment, two of the three protons with a significant higher chemical shift are assigned.

For the remaining CH³ groups, 28, 29 and 30, a clear distinction is more difficult because they do not share any correlations with mutual proton or carbon signals in contrast to all previous CH³ groups. Nevertheless, CH18 allows here an identification of CH³ group 28: starting from H12 in the HMBC spectrum, C18 can be identified via a 3 J_{CH} correlation at 50.75 ppm (2.15 ppm for ¹H; Supplementary Methods Fig. 5b). Similarly, C18 shows a 3 J_{CH} correlation with CH₃ 28 at 0.79 ppm in the ¹H dimension where it overlaps with CH₃ groups 23 or 24 (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5d). Using the HSQC spectrum, the corresponding ${}^{13}C$ signal can be identified at 22.23 ppm.

With all other CH_3 groups assigned, the methyl signals can be assigned to CH_3 groups 29 and 30 $(0.92 \text{ and } 0.89 \text{ for } ^{1}H \text{ and } 24.32 \text{ and } 33.68 \text{ for } ^{13}C \text{, respectively). As is the case with 23 and 24, no$ distinction between the two is possible.

In the next step, the local chemical environment can be elucidated using the HMBC spectra. Here, special attention is given to the environment in the vicinity of CH₃ groups 27, 28 and 29/30, because these are located close to the possible hydroxylation sites. First, starting from CH₃ group 29/30, a number of correlations can be assigned. For instance, both ${}^{1}H$ signals show a correlation with each other's ¹³C signal (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5c). The three remaining mutual correlations can all be assigned to C20, C21 and C19. Here, C20 can be correlated with the 13 C signal at 31.58 ppm, because this does not correspond to any ¹H signal in the HSQC spectrum and, hence, is a quaternary carbon atom. A distinction between the two remaining $CH₂$ groups 19 and 21 can be accomplished by a correlation in the COSY spectrum that shows a connection between the two nearest neighbors 19 and the previously assigned CH18. Using the HSQC spectrum, C19 can be assigned at 47.85 ppm in the ¹³C dimension, while C20 then corresponds to the last remaining 3 J_{CH} correlation with CH3groups 29 and 30 at 31.58 ppm (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5d). From this chemical shift data, it can be concluded that the hydroxylation has not occurred at position 21, because the corresponding ¹³C chemical shift is too low (35.30 ppm experimental vs \pm 70 to 90 ppm expected for a hydroxylated carbon atom), while the HSQC spectrum shows position 21 clearly to be a CH² unit and not CH, as would be in the case of hydroxylation (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5c).

Position 16 can be checked starting from CH_3 group 28. This CH_3 unit is expected to show correlations with CH² groups 22 and 16, CH18 and quaternary carbon atom 17 (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5d). From these coupling partners, CH18 has already been assigned at 50.65 ppm. From these three carbons, C17 can be identified at 38.54 ppm being a quaternary carbon atom with no correlations in the HSQC spectrum. A distinction between 22 and 16, both showing a 3 J_{CH} coupling to CH³ 28, has to be made based on local connectivity, because both correspond to a CH² type of carbon (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5c,d). This is for instance possible by starting from

position 21 previously assigned. Both protons of CH₂ 21 will show a ²J_{CH} coupling in the HMBC spectrum to the carbon of C22, while in addition, the same protons will also show a nearest neighbor correlation in the COSY spectrum (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5e). This allows position 22 to be assigned at 31.68 pm and 1.90;1.15 ppm in the ¹³C and ¹H dimension, respectively. With all other correlations assigned, the remaining 3 J_{CH} correlation has to correspond to position 16. This carbon resides at 66.25 ppm and in the HSQC spectrum indeed corresponds to a CH-type of carbon, with the corresponding proton residing at 4.16 ppm. This last signal is indeed the last proton resonance showing a significant higher chemical shift than the majority residing in the aliphatic region between 2.2 and 0.5 ppm.

As a final confirmation for position 16 as the site of the new hydroxylation in the structure, all the correlations in the HMBC spectrum starting from the C16 signal are assigned and found to fit the expected local structure (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5b). In this respect, a ${}^{3}J_{CH}$ correlation can be identified with CH18, CH_2 22 and CH₂ 15, which in turn can be confirmed, because this latter CH₂ group also shows a clear 3 J_{CH} correlation with CH₃ group 27. The fact that C15 can be identified at 36.32 ppm also confirms its hydroxylation at position 16 because, in a situation where this position does not carry an OH functionality, C15 is predicted to reside at a significantly lower chemical shift of 26.3 ppm as predicted by ChemDraw Professional 15.0.

In terms of stereochemistry, a relative positioning of the OH group can be deduced by means of through-space contacts in the ROESY spectrum (Supplementary Methods Fig. 5f). Starting from H16, three through-space contacts can be observed. These can be assigned to H21, H15 and CH³ group 27. Given that CH₃ group 27 is oriented below the plane of the β -amyrin backbone, it is likely that this is also the case for H16, given the clear roe-cross peak. This means that in terms of stereochemistry, the OH group is sitting above the plane of the backbone and hence is in beta orientation. The other two through-space contacts, however, do not reveal significant information concerning the local stereochemistry of H16. To conclude, the assignment has been summarized in Supplementary Methods Table 2.

Supplementary Methods Figure 1. ¹H NMR analysis of 6β-hydroxy maslinic acid purified from yeast (**a**) Structure 6**β**-hydroxy maslinic acid (left) and the commercial maslinic acid standard (right). (**b**) General overview of the two 1D 1H spectra of both 6**β**-hydroxy maslinic (top) and the maslinic acid standard (bottom) where useful assignments have been indicated. (**c**) Zoom of the 1D 1H spectra in the aliphatic regions. The assignment of the different CH³ groups in the maslinic acid standard and plant metabolite has been indicated where necessary.

Supplementary Methods Figure 2. 2D NMR analysis of 6β-hydroxy maslinic acid purified from yeast. (**a**) Zoom of the 1H-¹³C HMBC spectrum (8Hz long-range coupling constant). Here, only the couplings involving the methyl protons are shown. Where necessary, the assignments of the different peaks have been added or listed in chronological order (low to high chemical shift). (**b**) Zoom of the 1H-¹H COSY spectrum. This spectrum allows the identification of the H2 and H3 protons, as well as of the nearest neighboring protons of H5 and H6. (**c**) Zoom of the 1H-¹³C HSQC spectrum. The HSQC spectrum of the metabolite corresponds to black (CH, CH3) and red (CH2); the blue (CH2) and green (CH, CH3) to the maslinic acid standard. (**d**) Overview of the 1H-¹³C HSQC spectrum. The HSQC spectrum of the metabolite corresponds to black (CH, CH3) and red (CH2); the blue (CH2) and green (CH, CH3) to the maslinic acid standard. (**e**) Zoom of the ROESY spectrum (300 ms mixing time). The analysis of the through-space contacts involving H6 can be used to derive the relative stereochemistry of the H6 proton and its hydroxyl functionality.

Supplementary Methods Figure 3. Regression of the two chemical shift values in C5H5N-d5 and MeOH-d4.

Supplementary Methods Figure 4. (**a**) Overview of the β-amyrin structure. The positions suspected of being hydroxylated are indicated by arrows. The numbering used in the assignment is indicated in blue. (**b**) General overview of the 1D 1H spectrum of 16β-hydroxy β-amyrin. Where necessary the assignments have been indicated. (**c**) Zoom of the 1D ¹H aliphatic region of 16β-hydroxy β-amyrin. Where necessary the corresponding number of protons is indicated by the integral values and the different methyl signals are assigned as well. Some of the integrals correspond to more protons than expected; this is due to overlap with several minor impurities still present in the sample.

10 of the corresponding carbons has been indicated in blue. (**e**) 2D COSY spectrum showing the nearest neighbor correlation between H22a **Supplementary Methods Figure 5. (a)** Zoom on the 2 _{CH} and 3 _{CH} correlations involving the methyl resonances in the $1H-13C$ HMBC spectrum (8Hz). The correlations relevant for the sequential identification of the corresponding methyl signals have been indicated in blue with the corresponding chemical shift. (**b**) Zoom on the ²J_{CH} and ³J_{CH} correlations involving the alkene and CH-OH type protons in the 1H-¹³C HMBC spectrum (8Hz). The correlations relevant for the sequential identification of the corresponding methyl signals have been indicated in blue with the corresponding chemical shift. (**c**) Zoom on the ²J_{CH} and ³J_{CH} correlations involving the methyl resonances in the ¹H-¹³C HMBC spectrum (8Hz). The correlations relevant for the sequential identification of the corresponding methyl signals have been indicated in blue with the corresponding chemical shift. (**d**) Zoom of the aliphatic region in the 1H 13C HSQC spectra. The assignment and H21a/b. The correlation with H22b is not shown here, because it is almost in complete overlap with H21b. (**f**) 2D Off-resonance ROESY showing the through space correlations observed starting from H16. These contacts allow determining the relative stereochemistry of the CH unit in question (300 ms spinlock time).

Supplementary Methods Table 1. Overview of the 1H and 13C chemical shifts of the plant metabolite and maslinic acid in MeOH-d4 (298K, 700MHz) and the ¹³C literature chemical shift values of 6β-hydroxy maslinic acid in C₅H₅N-d5 (300MHz). The chemical shift values of the methyl groups 23/24 and 29/30 pairs are interchangeable, because there is no distinction possible between these positions.

Supplementary Methods Table 2. Overview of the 13C signals and their corresponding assignment, in correspondence with the numbering used in Fig. 1A.

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