Supporting Information

Chemical Optimization of Whole-Cell Transfer Hydrogenation Using Carbonic Anhydrase as Host Protein

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1. Supporting Methods

a. General aspects

All commercially available chemicals were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, ABCR, TCI Europe, Acros Organics, Alfa Aesar, Fluka, Fluorochem, Merck or Ukrorgsyntez Ltd. and used without further purification. ¹H and ¹³C spectra were recorded on a Bruker 500 MHz. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm (parts per million). Signals are quoted as s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), bs (broad singlet) and m (multiplet). Electron-Spray Ionization Mass Spectra (ESI-MS) were recorded on a Bruker FTMS 4.7T bioAPEX II. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were measured on a Bruker maXis 4G QTOF ESI mass spectrometer.

b. Cloning of constructs for periplasmic compartmentalization and surface display of CAII.

The CAII gene was amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) from the plasmid "CAII^{cytoplasm}" (Table S1) with the primers Nhel-CAII fwd and SacI-CAII rev (Table S2) to introduce the restrictions sites NheI and SacI. The PCR product and the target vectors pET-30b Sav^{peri1} and $pET-30b$ Lpp-OmpA-Sav_{WT}² (Table S1) were digested with the restriction enzymes NheI and SacI. To digest the streptavidin (Sav) gene, AgeI was added to the vector digest. The vectors were dephosphorylated with antarctic phosphatase and gel-purified. The CAII-insert was ligated with T4 DNA ligase into the cut vectors resulting in the plasmids "CAII^{periplasm}" (DNA sequence collected in Table S3) and "CAIIsurface display" (DNA sequence collected in Table S4). For the enzyme digest, dephosphorylation and ligation NEB protocols were followed.

c. Culture and expression conditions.

For this study, we used the strain *Escherichia coli* TOP10(DE3), previously reported.1 The culture and expression conditions were adapted from previous publications.¹⁻³ In short, TOP10(DE3) *E. coli* cells containing an empty vector or plasmids for the compartmentalization of CAII in the cytoplasm, periplasm or on the cell surface (Table S1) were cultured independently as triplicate. Overnight cultures in Luria–Bertani (LB) medium, supplemented with the appropriate antibiotic,

were used to inoculate the main culture (50 mL modified ZYM-5052 rich medium, see Table S5) in baffled Erlenmeyer flasks (volume: 250 mL) with an $OD_{600} = 0.05$. The flasks were incubated shaking at 220 rpm and 37 $^{\circ}$ C. At an OD₆₀₀ between 0.5 and 1, the cultures were induced with Isopropyl β-D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG, 250 µM final concentration) and kept shaking at 220 rpm and 30 °C for another 4 h.

d. Synthesis

Cofactor 5 was synthesized according to a published procedure.**⁴**

Profluorescent substrate 1 was synthesized according to a published procedure.**³**

Scheme S1: a) DCC, HOBt, EDCI·HCI, DIPEA, DMF, 70 °C, 18 h, 63% b) [IrCp*Cl₂]₂, EtOH, 80 °C, 2 h, 34%.

Ligand 11. 4-hydroxypicolinic acid (50 mg, 0.36 mmol), HOBt (100 mg, 0.65 mmol), EDCI·HCl (140 mg, 0.73 mmol) and DIPEA (0.125 µL, 0.76 mmol) were added to a solution of 4- (aminomethyl)benzenesulfonamide (124 mg, 0.67 mmol) in DMF (3 mL). The solution was heated at 70 °C for 18 h. The solvents were removed *in vacuo*. The crude was purified using silica gel column chromatography (CH2Cl2/MeOH 95/5), followed by trituration in DCM to give ligand **11** (70 mg, 63%) as a white solid. *Rf* (CH2Cl2/MeOH 90/10): 0.24; ¹ H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 11.05 (bs, 1H), 9.37 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 6.5 Hz, NH, 1H), 8.31 (bs, 1H), 7.76 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.47 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.42 (bs, 1H), 7.30 (s, 2H), 6.92 (bs, 1H), 4.52 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 6.5 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 165.2, 164.0, 151.6, 149.6, 143.6, 142.6, 127.6, 125.7, 113.9, 109.7, 42.1; MS

(ESI, +ve): 308 (100, [M+H]⁺); HRMS (ESI, +ve) calcd for C₁₃H₁₄N₃O₄S ([M+H]⁺): 308.0700, found: 308.0695.

Cofactor 6. The $[IICp*Cl_2]$ precursor (20 mg, 0.03 mmol) was added under N₂ to a solution of ligand **11** (20 mg, 0.06 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL). The solution was heated at 80 °C for 2 h. The solvents were removed *in vacuo*. The remaining solid was triturated in DCM (5 mL) three times. Purification of the residue using silica gel column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH 94/6) afforded cofactor 6 (14 mg, 34%) as a yellow solid. Rf (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH 90/10): 0.16; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 11.76 (bs, 1H), 8.39 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.48 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (s, 2H), 7.18 (bs, 1H), 7.00 (bs, 1H), 4.83 (bs, 2H), 1.52 (s, 15 H); 13C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 171.5, 166.6, 155.8, 152.0, 146.0, 142.0, 128.0, 125.3, 115.6, 112.3, 86.2, 55.4, 54.2, 9.1; MS (ESI, +ve): 634 (100, [M-CI]⁺); HRMS (ESI, +ve) calcd for C₂₃H₂₇IrN₃O₄S ([M-CI]⁺): 634.1345, found: 634.1348.

Scheme S2: a) DCC, HOBt, EDCI·HCI, DIPEA, DMF, 70 °C, 18 h, 95% b) [IrCp*Cl2]2, EtOH, 80 °C, 2 h, 39%.

Ligand 12. 4-hydroxypicolinic acid (50 mg, 0.36 mmol), HOBt (100 mg, 0.74 mmol), EDCI·HCl (140 mg, 0.73 mmol) and DIPEA (125 µL, 0.76 mmol) were added to a solution of 4- (aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (140 mg, 0.69 mmol) in DMF (3 mL). The solution was heated at 70 °C for 18 h. The solvents were removed *in vacuo*. The crude was purified using silica gel column chromatography (CH2Cl2/MeOH 92/8), followed by trituration in DCM to give ligand **12** (110 mg, 95%) as a white solid. *R*^f (CH2Cl2/MeOH 90/10): 0.21; 1 H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 10.98 (s, 1H), 8.76 (t, ³ *J*H-H = 6.5 Hz, NH, 1H), 8.30 (d, 3 *J*H-H = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, 3 *J*H-H = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43-7.41

(m, 3H), 7.28 (s, 2H), 6.91 (dd, ⁴J_{H-H} = 2.5 Hz, ³J_{H-H} = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (q, ³J_{H-H} = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.93 (t, ³ *J*H-H = 6.5 Hz, 2H). 13C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 165.6, 164.2, 152.2, 150.2, 144.1, 142.5, 129.5, 126.2, 114.1, 109.9, 40.2, 35.3; MS (ESI, +ve): 322 (100, [M+H]+); HRMS (ESI, +ve) calcd for C14H16N3O4S ([M+H]+): 322.0856, found: 322.0852.

Cofactor 7. The $[I|Cp^*C|_2]_2$ precursor (25 mg, 0.03 mmol) was added under N₂ to a solution of ligand **12** (20 mg, 0.06 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL). The solution was heated at 80 °C for 2 h. The solvents were removed *in vacuo*. The remaining solid was triturated in DCM. Purification of the residue using silica gel column chromatography (CH2Cl2/MeOH 92/8) gave **7** (16 mg, 39%) as a yellow solid. *R*^f (CH2Cl2/MeOH 90/10): 0.11; ¹ H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 11.79 (bs, 1H), 8.36 $(d, {}^{3}J_{H-H} = 5.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.76 $(d, {}^{3}J_{H-H} = 6.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.44 $(d, {}^{3}J_{H-H} = 6.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.30 (s, 2H), 7.19 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (dd, ⁴J_{H-H} = 2.4 Hz, ³J_{H-H} = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (td, ³J_{H-H} = 9.6 Hz, ²J_{H-H} = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (td, 3 *J*H-H = 9.6 Hz, ² *J*H-H = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (td, 3 *J*H-H = 9.6 Hz, ² *J*H-H = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (td, 3 *J*H-H = 9.6 Hz, ² *J*H-H = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.63 (s, 15 H); 13C NMR (151 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 169.8, 166.1, 155.9, 151.2, 145.1, 141.6, 128.9, 125.8, 115.0, 111.8, 94.6, 85.6, 50.5, 35.2, 8.6; MS (ESI, +ve): 648 (100, [M-Cl]+); HRMS (ESI, +ve) calcd for C24H29IrN3O4S ([M-Cl]+): 648.1502, found: 648.1507.

Scheme S3: a) DCC, HOBt, EDCI·HCl, DIPEA, DMF, 70 °C, 18 h, 47% b) [IrCp*Cl₂]₂, DIPEA, EtOH, 80 °C, 2 h, 29%.

Ligand 13. Picolinic acid (44 mg, 0.36 mmol), HOBt (50 mg, 0.37 mmol), EDCI·HCl (70 mg, 0.37 mmol) and DIPEA (125 µL, 0.76 mmol) were added to a solution of 4-(2 aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (70 mg, 0.34 mmol) in DMF (3 mL). The solution was heated at 70 °C for 18 h. The solvents were removed *in vacuo*. Purification of the residue using silica gel column chromatography (CH2Cl2/MeOH 98/2) gave **13** (52 mg, 47%) as a white solid. *R*^f $(CH_2Cl_2/MeOH 90/10)$: 0.69; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- d_6): 8.88 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 8.63-8.62 (m, 1H), 8.03-7.96 (m, 1H), 7.75-7.72 (m, 2H), 7.60-7.57 (m, 1H), 7.44-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.28 (s, 2H), 3,60-3.55 (m, 2H), 2,94 (t, 3 *J*H-H = 7.3 Hz, 2H); 13C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 163.8, 149.9, 148.4, 143.6, 142.0, 137.8, 129.1, 126.5, 125.7, 121.8, 40.4, 34.8; MS (ESI, +ve): 306 (100, [M+H]+); HRMS (ESI, +ve) calcd for C₁₄H₁₆N₃O₃S ([M+H]⁺): 306.0907, found: 306.0910.

Cofactor 8. The [IrCp*Cl₂]₂ precursor (20 mg, 0.025 mmol) was added under N₂ to a solution of ligand **13** (15 mg, 0.05 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL). DIPEA (9 μL) was added and the solution was heated at 80 °C for 2 h. The precipitate was filtered and washed with DCM and MeOH to give **8** (13 mg, 29%) as a yellow solid. *R*^f (CH2Cl2/MeOH 90/10): 0.30; 1 H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 8.70 (d, 3 *J*Hн = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 8.08 (td, ³Jн-н = 1.3 Hz, ³Jн-н = 7.7 Hz 1H), 7.84 (dd, ³Jн-н = 1.3 Hz, ³Jн-н = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d, 3 *J*H-H = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (m, 1H), 7.45 (d, 3 *J*H-H = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (s, 2H), 4.54-4.46 (m, 1H), 3.31-3.23 (m, 1H), 3.04-2.97 (m, 1H), 2.83-2.76 (m, 1H), 1.64 (s, 15 H); ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 169.7, 154.3, 150.4, 145.0, 141.7, 139.0, 128.8, 127.6, 125.8, 124.6, 86.2, 50.3, 35.1, 8.5; MS (ESI, +ve): 632 (100, [M-CI]⁺); HRMS (ESI, +ve) calcd for C₂₄H₂₉IrN₃O₃S ([M-CI]⁺): 632.1553, found: 632.1547.

Scheme S4: a) DCC, HOBt, EDCI·HCI, DIPEA, DMF, 70 °C, 18 h, 29% b) [IrCp*Cl2]₂, EtOH, 80 °C, 2 h, 10%.

Compound 16 was synthesized according to a reported procedure.5

Ligand 15. 4-hydroxypicolinic acid (50 mg, 0.36 mmol), HOBt (100 mg, 0.74 mmol), EDCI·HCl (140 mg, 0.73 mmol) and DIPEA (125 µL, 0.76 mmol) were added to a solution of 4- (aminopropyl)benzenesulfonamide **14** (153 mg, 0.71 mmol) in DMF (3 mL). The solution was heated at 70 °C for 18 h. The solvents were removed *in vacuo*. The crude was purified using silica gel column chromatography (CH2Cl2/MeOH 93/7), then it was dissolved in MeOH and precipitated by addition of Et2O to give ligand **15** (35 mg, 29%) as a white solid. *R*^f (CH2Cl2/MeOH 90/10): 0.22; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d*₆): 11.07 (s, 1H), 8.77 (bs, NH, 1H), 8.31 (bs, 1H), 7.73 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 7.45-7.40 (m, 3H), 7.28 (s, 2H), 6.93 (bs, 1H), 3.31-3.26 (m, 2H), 2.67 (t, ³J_{H-H} = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 1.84 (t, ³ *J*H-H = 6.1 Hz, 2H). 13C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 165.1, 163.9, 151.9, 149.7, 146.0, 141.7, 128.8, 125.7, 113.6, 109.5, 53.31, 32.4, 30.6, 18.0, 16.7.; MS (ESI, +ve): 336 (100, [M+H]+).

Cofactor 9. The [IrCp*Cl₂]₂ precursor (20 mg, 0.03 mmol) was added under N₂ to a solution of ligand **15** (25 mg, 0.06 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL). The solution was heated at 80 °C for 2 h. The solvents were removed *in vacuo*. The remaining solid was triturated in DCM. Purification of the residue using silica gel column chromatography (CH2Cl2/MeOH 94/6) gave **9** (4 mg, 10%) as a yellow solid. R_f (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH 90/10): 0.11; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 11.68 (bs, 1H), 8.32 (d, ³ *J*H-H = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, ³ *J*H-H = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, ³ *J*H-H = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (s, 2H), 7.15 (bs, 1H), 6.97 (bs, 1H), 4.40-4.31 (m, 1H), 3.10-3.01 (m, 1H), 2.75-2.68 (m, 1H), 2.58-2.62 (m, 1H), 1.83-1.76 (m, 2H), 1.56 (s, 15 H); MS (ESI, +ve): 662 (100, [M-Cl]+); HRMS (ESI, +ve) calcd for C25H31IrN3O4S ([M-Cl]+): 662.1658, found: 662.1671.

Scheme S5: a) DCC, HOBt, EDCI·HCI, DIPEA, DMF, 70 °C, 18 h, 83% b) [IrCp*Cl2]2, EtOH, 80 °C, 2 h, 35%.

Compound 16 was synthesized according to a reported procedure.**⁶**

Ligand 17. 4-hydroxypicolinic acid (50 mg, 0.36 mmol), HOBt (100 mg, 0.74 mmol), EDCI·HCl (140 mg, 0.73 mmol) and DIPEA (125 µL, 0.76 mmol) were added to a solution of **16** (123 mg, 0.54 mmol) in DMF (3 mL). The solution was heated at 70 °C for 18 h. The solvents were removed *in* vacuo. Purification of the residue using silica gel column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH 90/10) gave **17** (105 mg, 83%) as a white solid. Rf (CH2Cl2/MeOH 90/10): 0.10; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO*d6*): 11.10 (bs, 1H), 10.43 (s, 1H), 8.93 (bs, 1H), 8.36 (bs, 1H), 7.78-7.73 (m, 4H), 7.44 (bs, 1H), 7.25 (s, 1H), 6.95 (bs, 1H), 4.14 (d, ³ *J*H-H = 5.9 Hz, 2H); 13C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 168.0, 165.2, 164.2, 151.3, 149.9, 141.7, 138.4, 126.8, 118.7, 113.9, 109.5, 43.0 ; MS (ESI, +ve): 351 (100, [M+H]⁺); HRMS (ESI, +ve) calcd for C₁₄H₁₅N₄O₅S ([M+H]⁺): 351.0758, found: 351.0757.

Cofactor 10. The [IrCp*Cl2]2 precursor (25 mg, 0.03 mmol) was added under N2 to a solution of ligand **17** (20 mg, 0.06 mmol) in EtOH (5 mL). The solution was heated at 80 °C for 2 h. The solvents were removed *in vacuo*. The remaining solid was triturated in DCM three times. Purification of the residue using silica gel column chromatography (CH2Cl2/MeOH 97/3) gave cofactor 10 (15 mg, 35%) as a yellow solid. Rf (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH 90/10): 0.13; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 11.94 (bs, 1H), 9.88 (s, 1H), 8.45 (d, ³ *J*H-H = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 7.79 (d, ³ *J*H-H = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, 3 *J*H-H = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (s, 2H), 7.20 (d, ³ *J*H-H = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (dd, ⁴ *J*H-H = 2.8 Hz, 3 *J*H-H

= 6.3 Hz 1H), 4.84 (d, ² *J*H-H = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (d, 2 *J*H-H = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 1.63 (s, 15 H); 13C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-*d6*): 172.1, 170.3, 166.5, 154.1, 151.6, 141.7, 138.3, 126.6, 118.5, 115.7, 112.2, 94.5, 86.2, 54.7, 8.5; MS (ESI, +ve): 677 (100, [M-CI]⁺); HRMS (ESI, +ve) calcd for C₂₄H₂₈IrN₄O₅S ([M-Cl]+): 677.1403, found: 677.1401.

Scheme S6: a) HATU, *N*-Boc-pentanoic acid, Et₃N, DMF, rt, 18 h, b) TFA, DCM, rt, 1 h, 99% over 2 steps, c) HATU, Et3N, DMF, rt, 2 h, 25%.

Compound 18. HATU (200 mg, 0.53 mmol), 4-(2-aminoethyl)benzenesulfonamide (108 mg, 0.49 mmol) and Et3N (70 μL) were added to a solution of 5-[(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)amino]pentanoic acid (100 mg, 0.49 mmol) in DMF (5 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 18 h. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure. The remaining solid was dissolved in a solvent mixture (DCM/MeOH 9/1, 10 ml) and $Et₂O$ (40 ml) was added to precipitate a white solid. The solid was filtered. It was then suspended in DCM (5 mL), to which TFA (1mL) was added. After 1 h, the solvents were removed under reduced pressure to afford the desired compound **18** as a TFA salt (200 mg, 99%). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, MeOD): 7.83 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, ³J_{H-H} = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 3.47 (t, ³ *J*H-H = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.89 (7, ³ *J*H-H = 7.1 Hz, 4H), 2.20 (t, ³ *J*H-H = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.64-1.52 (m, 4H); 13C NMR (126 MHz, MeOD): 175.2, 145.3, 143.1, 130.5, 127.3, 41.2, 40.3, 36.3, 35.9, 28.0, 23.4; MS (ESI, +ve): 300 (100, [M+H]+); HRMS (ESI, +ve) calcd for C13H22IrN3O3S ([M+H]+): 300.1376, found: 300.1376.

Fluorescent probe 4. HATU (50 mg, 0.13 mmol), **18** (50 mg, 0.12 mmol) and Et3N (20 μL) were added to a solution of 5(6)-carboxyfluorescein (45 mg, 0.12 mmol) in DMF (5 mL). The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was filtered using silica gel column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH 90/10). Then a second purification using preparative thin layer chromatography (CH2Cl2/MeOH 85/15) was performed, followed by trituration in water. The resulting solid was dissolved in MeOH, dried over Na₂SO₄, and evaporated under reduced pressure to afford fluorescent probe **4** as an orange solid (20 mg, 25%). *R*^f (CH2Cl2/MeOH 90/10): 0.07; 1 H NMR (500 MHz, MeOD): 8.43 (s, 1H), 8.21-8.07 (m, 1H), 7.83- 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.29 (m, 3H), 6.69 (s, 2H), 6.65-6.58 (m, 2H), 6.57-6.58 (m, 2H), 3.49-3.38 (m, 4H), 2.92-2.82 (m, 2H), 2.23-2.11 (m, 2H), 1.69-1.48 (m, 4H); MS (ESI, +ve): 658 (100, [M+H]+); HRMS (ESI, +ve) calcd for C₃₄H₃₂N₃O₉S ([M+H]⁺): 658.1854, found: 658.1854.

e. **Determination of the cofactor's 6-10 dissociation constant** *Kd.*

K_{d(DNSA)} was determined using the previously described procedure.⁷ In a 96-well plate, CAII-DNSA stock solution (CAII: 0.1 μM, DNSA 10 μM, MOPS buffer pH 7.4, 10% v/v DMSO, 200 µL) were transferred into 17 wells. Aliquots (from 1 μL to 510 μL) of cofactor solutions **6**-**10** (10 μM) prepared with the stock solution of CAII-DNSA were added. The solutions were incubated for 18 h. An aliquot (150 μL) of each solution was transferred in a black flat-bottom 96-well microtiter plate (Nunclon) and mixed for 5 min at 25 °C in an Infinite M1000 Pro plate reader (Tecan). The fluorescence was determined with an excitation at 280 nm and emission at 470 nm. To determine the cofactor *Kd*, relative fluorescence *r* of each sample was determined using equation:

$$
r = \frac{\text{Fobs} - \text{Fmin}}{\text{Fmax} - \text{Fmin}}
$$

The relative fluorescence *r* was plotted against the relative cofactor concentration [cofactor]/[DNSA] and the K_d was obtained through fitting the following equation in the SIGMAPLOT program:

$$
f = \frac{1}{\left(1 + \left(\frac{K_{d(DNSA)}}{\text{[DNSA]}}\right) * 1 + \left(\frac{\text{[cofactor]}}{K_d}\right)\right)}
$$

were $K_{d(DNSA)}$ and [DNSA] are the dissociation constant of DNSA for CAII and the DNSA concentration, respectively.

For cofactor 6, no dissociation curve could be obtained from the data points suggesting that $K_{d(6)}$ is higher than $K_{d(DNSA)}$.

f. Transfer hydrogenation assays and ICP-MS sample preparation

Upon CAII expression (see above), cells were harvested into 96-well plates by transferring a solution of OD₆₀₀ 3/mL cells into separate wells. The plates for the activity assays and ICP-MS analysis were handled in parallel. The activity assays were carried out in triplicate and ICP-MS samples were determined in triplicate. For one ICP-MS sample, 24 wells containing cells with OD₆₀₀ 3/mL were pooled. The plates were centrifuged (3200 g, 4 ˚C, 8 min) and the supernatant was discarded. All cell pellets were resuspended in washing buffer (1 mL, 0.1 M MOPS, 154 mM NaCl, pH 7.4 supplemented with 0.8 mM $\left[\text{Cu(gly)}\right]$, centrifuged and the supernatant was discarded. The cell pellets were resuspended cofactor buffer (0.25 mL, 0.1 M MOPS, 154 mM NaCl, pH 7.4, 2 µM cofactor **5**-**10**) and incubated (1 h at 10 °C, shaking at 280 rpm). After a cofactor titration assay with cofactor **7,** 2 µM cofactor concentration was chosen (Figure S3). For cofactor concentrations higher than 2 µM, the background umbelliferone formation of the cells containing an empty vector increased significantly. The plates were centrifuged and the supernatant was discarded, followed by a second and third wash with washing buffer (1 mL, 0.1 M MOPS, 154 mM NaCl, pH 7.4). For catalysis, the cells were resuspended in catalysis buffer (0.25 mL, 1 M sodium formate. 0.4 M MOPS, 154 mM NaCl and 0.5 mM substrate **1** pH 7.4). The plate was incubated shaking (16 h at

30 °C, 280 rpm). After completion of catalysis, the plate was centrifuged (3200 g, 4 ˚C, 8 min) and the supernatant (5 μ L) was transferred to a black 96-well plate containing ddH₂O (245 μ L) for fluorescence determination. The fluorescence was determined (323 nm excitation and 451 nm emission) using a microtiter plate reader and the conversion was determined using a calibration curve (Figure S2).

For inductively-coupled plasma mass-spectrometry (ICP-MS) analysis, 24 wells were pooled after the third washing step and resuspended in ddH₂O (250 µL). The ICP-MS analysis was performed by Solvias AG, Switzerland using an Agilent ICP-MS 7900#100 instrument.

g. Labelling of CAII expressing cells with fluorescent probe 4

Upon CAII expression (see above), the cell density was normalized to OD600 = 1. The normalized culture samples (0.2 mL) were transferred to reaction tubes (1.5 mL), spun down (14.000 g, 1 min) and the supernatant was discarded. The pellets were resuspended in washing buffer (0.9 mL, 0.1 M MOPS, 154 mM NaCl, pH 7.4 supplemented with $\left[Cu(q|y)_2 \right]$ (0.8 mM), centrifuged (14.000 g, 30 s) and the supernatant was discarded. The pellets were resuspended in probe **4** solution (0.1 mL, 10 µM probe 4, 0.1 M MOPS, 154 mM NaCl, pH 7.4) and incubated (30 min, RT, at 500 rpm). After centrifugation (14.000 g, 30 s) the pellets were resuspended in washing buffer (0.9 mL, 0.1 M MOPS, 154 mM NaCl, pH 7.4), centrifuged (14.000 g, 30 s) and the supernatant was discarded. The pellets were resuspended for analysis in washing buffer (10 µL or 5 mL, 0.1 M MOPS, 154 mM NaCl, pH 7.4 for microscopy or flow cytometry analysis, respectively).

h. Labelling of CAII expressing cells with anti-CAII antibodies

Upon CAII expression (see above), the cell density was normalized to $OD₆₀₀ = 1$. The normalized cultures (0.2 mL) were transferred to a reaction tubes (1.5 mL), spun-down (14.000 g, 1 min) and the supernatant was discarded. The pellets were resuspended in ice-cold TBSF (0.9 mL, 25 mM Tris, 154 mM NaCl, 0.25 % (w/v) bovine serum albumin (BSA), pH 7.5) centrifuged (14.000 g, 30 s) and the supernatant was discarded. The pellets were resuspended in primary rabbit anti-CAII antibody solution (0.2 mL, 1:100 dilution primary antibody [ab191343, abcam, Cambridge, USA] in TBSF) and incubated (30 min at RT, 500 rpm). After centrifugation (14.000 g, 30 s), the pellets were resuspended in ice-cold TBSF (0.9 mL) centrifuged (14.000 g, 30 s) and the supernatant was discarded. The pellets were resuspended in buffer (0.2 mL) containing fluorescent (Alexa Fluor® 488) secondary goat anti-rabbit antibody (1:250 dilution secondary antibody [ab150077, abcam, Cambridge, USA] in TBSF) and incubated on ice (20 min). After centrifugation (14.000 g, 30 s) the pellets were washed with ice-cold TBSF (0.9 mL). The pellets were resuspended in TBSF (10 µL or 5 mL for microscopy or flow cytometry analysis, respectively).

i. Microscopy analysis of probe 4 and antibody-labelled *E. coli* **cells**

To visualize the stained cells confocal laser scanning microscopy (Zeiss LSM 880) was performed using an Argon ($λ = 488$ nm, 2 % laser intensity) laser and an oil immersion objective (Pln-Apochromat 63×/1.4 Oil). The pinhole diameter (51.5 μm), main beam splitter (488) and a bandpass filter (489 – 601 nm) were used throughout all experiments. All images were recorded with a fixed detector gain (900 for fluorescence and 320 for brightfield). The same brightness and contrast were applied to all images using ImageJ.

j. Flow-cytometry analysis of probe 4 and antibody-labelled *E. coli* **cells**

The probe **4** and antibody-labelled cells were analyzed by flow cytometry using an Attune NxT cell analyzer equipped with a blue laser (488 nm) and a filter (530/30 nm). The samples were measured (flow rate of 12.5 µL/min) and histograms are displayed in (Figure 2c, d) and comprise data of 200,000 ungated events.

k. Crystal structure solution and analysis of CAII soaked with cofactor 7-10

CAII crystallization, crystal stabilization and cofactor soaking. CAII was expressed and purified as described previously.^{4, 7-9} Lyophilized wild-type CAII was dissolved in ultrapure water (18.2 MΩ·cm, MilliQ, Millipore Corporation, Burlington, USA). For sitting drop vapor diffusion, CAII $(4.5 \mu L 26 \text{ mg/mL})$ was mixed with precipitation buffer $(0.5 \mu L, 2.6 \text{ M} (\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4, 50 \text{ mM Tris-H}_2\text{SO}_4,$ pH 7.9). The drop was equilibrated against a reservoir of precipitation buffer (100 µL at 20 °C). Crystal plates of apo-CAII crystals (just containing a zinc in the active site) grew within five days. To stabilize the crystals for soaking, a glutaraldehyde crosslinking was performed.⁷ In a 24-well sitting drop crystallization plate with a central column precipitation buffer were pipetted into the reservoir and the sitting-drop depression (500 µL and 5 µL). The crystals were transferred into the sitting-drop depression and the well was sealed with a cover slide having a hanging drop of 25 % glutaraldehyde solution (5 µL) and equilibrated (20 °C, 5 h). For soaking, glutaraldehyde-stabilized crystals were individually transferred into sitting-drop depressions containing precipitation buffer (2.375 µL) and cofactor solution (0.125 µL, 10 mM cofactor **7**-**10** in DMSO). After soaking (2.5 h, 20 °C) the crystals were flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen.

Diffraction data collection and processing. Protein-crystal diffraction data were collected (100 K) at the Swiss Light Source beam line PSI at a wavelength of 1.0 Å. Crystal indexing, integration and scaling^{10, 11} were carried out with the program XDS¹² and Dials¹³ in Xia2^{10, 14} using the graphical interface CCP4i2¹⁵ of the CCP4 suite¹⁶ (see Table S6 for processing statistics).

Structure solution and refinement. The structure was solved by molecular replacement using the program PHASER MR¹⁷ and the wild type CAII structure PDB: 3ZP9, devoid of the Ir-cofactor and water molecules. For structure refinement, REFMAC^{18, 19} of the CCP4 Suite was used. For structure modelling, water picking and electron-density visualization the software COOT²⁰ was used. Figures were prepared with PyMOL (the PyMOL Molecular Graphics System, Version 1.821, Schrödinger, LLC).

A single molecule CAII was obtained per asymmetric unit. Amino acid residues 1-3 and 260 at the beginning and the end of the protein are not resolved in the electron density, presumably due to disorder.

Structure refinement of iridium cofactor 7-10. Residual electron density in the Fo-Fc map was observed in the active site of CAII. Anomalous dispersion density was observed in the CAII vestibule for the Zn-atom coordinated by His94, His96 and His114 and further up in the binding pocket. Modelling of cofactor **7**-**10** into the electron density projected the iridium in the position of the anomalous density peak. Although cofactor **7** and **8** have the same linker and only differ by the alcohol group on the picolinamide *para* to the nitrogen of cofactor **7**, they adopt a slightly different position in the binding pocket of CAII (see Figure S6). Compared to cofactor **7,** cofactor **8** is shifted 2 Å closer to the α -helix of loop 4,5. To accommodate this, F130 moves slightly out of the CAII pocket to allow π -stacking with cofactor 8. Furthermore, E69 of CAII bound to the cofactor **7** moves 1.9 Å closer to the cofactor. We hypothesize that this may contribute to stabilize the bound cofactor

7.

2. Supporting Tables

Table S1: Plasmids used in this study.

Table S2: Primers used for cloning.

Table S3: DNA sequence of the plasmid "periplasmic CAII"

tggcgaatgggacgcgccctgtagcggcgcattaagcgcggcgggtgtggtggttacgcgcagcgtgaccgctacacttgccagcgc cctagcgcccgctcctttcgctttcttcccttcctttctcgccacgttcgccggctttccccgtcaagctctaaatcgggggctccctttagggttc cgatttagtgctttacggcacctcgaccccaaaaaacttgattagggtgatggttcacgtagtgggccatcgccctgatagacggtttttcgc cctttgacgttggagtccacgttctttaatagtggactcttgttccaaactggaacaacactcaaccctatctcggtctattcttttgatttataag ggattttgccgatttcggcctattggttaaaaaatgagctgatttaacaaaaatttaacgcgaattttaacaaaatattaacgtttacaatttca ggtggcacttttcggggaaatgtgcgcggaacccctatttgtttatttttctaaatacattcaaatatgtatccgctcatgaattaattcttagaa aaactcatcgagcatcaaatgaaactgcaatttattcatatcaggattatcaataccatatttttgaaaaagccgtttctgtaatgaaggaga aaactcaccgaggcagttccataggatggcaagatcctggtatcggtctgcgattccgactcgtccaacatcaatacaacctattaatttc

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GTGGCCTCCTTCCTGAATCCCTGGATTACTGGACCTACCCAGGCTCACTGACCACCCCTCCT CTTCTGGAATGTGTGACCTGGATTGTGCTCAAGGAACCCATCAGCGTCAGCAGCGAGCAGG TGTTGAAATTCCGTAAACTTAACTTCAATGGGGAGGGTGAACCCGAAGAACTGATGGTGGAC AACTGGCGCCCAGCTCAGCCACTGAAGAACAGGCAAATCAAAGCTTCCTTCAAATAAGATGG TCCCGAGCTccgtcgacaagcttgcggccgcactcgagcaccaccaccaccaccactgagatccggctgctaacaaagcccg aaaggaagctgagttggctgctgccaccgctgagcaataactagcataaccccttggggcctctaaacgggtcttgaggggttttttgctg aaaggaggaactatatccggat

grey: OmpA signal peptide, blue: CAII, red: restriction site NheI, violet: restriction site SacI

Table S4: DNA sequence of the plasmid "surface CAII"

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Table S5: Modified ZYM-5052 rich medium

^a yeast-tryptone stock: 5 g yeast extract and 10 g tryptone in 1 L H₂O.

 b 20x M-stock: 1 M Na₂HPO₄, 1 M KH₂PO₄, 0.5 M (NH₄)₂SO₄.

 \degree 20 % maltose was used for the periplasmic expression and replaced by 10 % glucose for the other strains.

^d 1000x antibiotic stock: 50 mg/mL kanamycin was used for the empty vector, periplasmic CAII and surface CAII and replaced by 100 mg/mL ampicillin for cytoplasmic CAII.

Table S6. Reflection data processing and crystal structure refinement statistics.

^a Values in parentheses represent for the highest resolution she

3. Supporting Figures

Figure S1. Competition assay of cofactor binding to CAII WT. Data displayed are the means, error bars are standard deviations of nine measurements.

Figure S2. Calibration curve for fluorescence quantification of product **2**. Data displayed is the mean and the standard deviation of nine measurements and the resulting linear regression.

Figure S3. *In vitro* formation of umbelliferone **2** by cofactors **5** - **10** bound to CAII. The conversion of **1** to **2** was determined by fluorescence after 1, 8 and 24 h.

Figure S4. Testing the effect of the cofactor **7** concentration on the formation of umbelliferone. Assays with cells containing an empty vector or CAIIsurface display were incubated with different cofactor concentrations (0.1 – 5 μ M). Data displayed are the means, error bars are standard deviations of experiments performed in duplicate, black dots are the individual data points.

Figure S5. Cellular umbelliferone **2** formation and iridium enrichment. (a) The umbelliferone formation was normalized to the maximum activity for each cofactor. (b) The umbelliferone formation by cofactor **7** is compared to the Ir-amount measured after incubation with cofactor **7** for the different compartmentalization strategies of CAII: empty vector, CAII^{cytoplasm}, CAII^{periplasm}, CAIIsurface display. Data displayed are the means, error bars are standard deviations of experiments performed in triplicate, black dots are the individual data points. There is no background subtracted.

Figure S6. Comparison of the cofactor **7** and **8** binding to CAII. CAII is displayed as cartoon representation, CAII with bound cofactor **7** (in cyan) and with bound cofactor **8** (in lilac). Amino acids in the proximity of the cofactors are displayed as stick and labelled; nitrogen, blue; oxygen, red; sulfur, yellow. The iridium and zinc ions are shown as spheres – orange and pale yellow, respectively.

Figure S7. 2Fo-Fc electron density maps at 1.2 σ for cofactor **7** (a) and **8** (b) bound to CAII. Amino acids in the proximity of the cofactors are displayed as sticks and labelled; chloride, green, nitrogen, blue; oxygen, red; sulfur, yellow. The iridium and zinc ions are shown as spheres in orange and grey, respectively and surrounded by their respective anomalous electron densities (red mesh at 5σ).

Figure S8. ¹ H NMR spectrum of **11** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S9. 13C NMR spectrum of **11** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S10. ¹ H NMR spectrum of cofactor **6** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S11. 13C NMR spectrum of cofactor **6** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S12. 1 H NMR spectrum of **12** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S13. 13C NMR spectrum of **12** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S14. ¹ H NMR spectrum of cofactor **7** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S15. 13C NMR spectrum of cofactor **7** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S16. ¹ H NMR spectrum of **13** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S17. 13C NMR spectrum of **13** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S18. ¹ H NMR spectrum of cofactor **8** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S19. 13C NMR spectrum of cofactor **8** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S21. 13C NMR spectrum of **15** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S22. ¹ H NMR spectrum of cofactor **9** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S23. ¹ H NMR spectrum of **17** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S24. 13C NMR spectrum of **17** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S25. ¹ H NMR spectrum of cofactor **10** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S26. 13C NMR spectrum of cofactor **10** in DMSO-*d6*.

Figure S27. ¹ H NMR spectrum of **18** in MeOD.

Figure S28. 13C NMR spectrum of **18** in MeOD.

Figure S29. ¹ H NMR spectrum of **4** in MeOD.

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