

**Isobutanol production freed from biological limits using synthetic
biochemistry**

Sherkhanov *et al.*

Supplementary Table 1. Summary of production parameters obtained using cell-based methods.

Organism	Substrate	Titer (g/L)	Yield (%)	Productivity (g/L/h)	Comments	Ref.
<i>Magnusiomyces magnusii</i>	Glucose and 2-oxoisovalerate	0.76	nd	0.01*		1
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	Glucose	0.26	nd	0.003		2
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	Xylose	3.1	9.4	0.04	fed-batch fermentation	3
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	Glucose	8.4	13	0.04*	Fed-batch fermentation	4
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	Glucose	0.15	nd	nd		5
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	Glucose	0.64	1.6*	nd		6
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	Glucose	1.62	3.9*	0.25*		7
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	Glucose	0.68	8.3*	nd		8
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	xylose	0.09	nd	0.002*		9
<i>Clostridium thermocellum</i>	cellulose	5.1	nd	nd		10
<i>Clostridium thermocellum</i>	cellulose	5.4	41	0.07*		11
<i>Clostridium cellulolyticum</i>	cellulose	0.66	nd	nd		12
<i>Geobacillus thermoglucosidasius</i>	cellobiose	0.6	8.3	0.01*		13
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	Glucose	6.1	63	0.17*	fed-batch fermentation	14
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	Aminoacids	0.09	47	nd		15
<i>Bacillus megaterium</i>	2-ketoisovalerate	0.3	80	0.01*	cultures grown and product extracted under supercritical carbon dioxide	16
<i>Synechococcus elongatus</i>	carbon dioxide	0.45	nd	0.003*		17
<i>Ralstonia eutropha</i>	carbon dioxide	0.85	nd	nd	bioreactor	18
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	Glucose	50	68	0.7	bioreactor with <i>in situ</i> product removal (gas stripping)	19
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	Glucose	22	86	0.31*		20
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	Aminoacids	2	56	0.02*		21

nd – not determined

* - the values were not reported but were estimated from graphs in the publication if available.

Supplementary Table 2. Summary of genome mining screen.

	Enzyme	Organism	Accession number	Codon optimized?	Expression level	Activity at 25 °C	Isobutanol stability
Hex	Hexokinase	<i>T. maritima</i>	AAD36537	No	+++	+++	+++
Glk	Glucokinase	<i>G. stearothermophilus</i>	KOR95707	No	+++	++++	
Pgi	Glucose-6-phosphate isomerase	<i>T. maritima</i>	AAD36455	No	+++	+++	+++
	Glucose-6-phosphate isomerase	<i>P. aerophilum</i>	HII46470	No	+	+	
Pfk	Phosphofructokinase B	<i>E. coli</i>	ACT43547	No	+++	++++	++
	Phosphofructokinase A	<i>G. stearothermophilus</i>	KOR92562	No	+++	++++	-
	Phosphofructokinase	<i>P. aerophilum</i>	HII48166	No	+	+	-
	Phosphofructokinase	<i>T. thermophilus</i>	BAD71785	No	++	++	
Fba	Fructose-1,6-bisphosphate aldolase	<i>T. maritima</i>	AAD35362	No	+	+	+++
	Fructose-1,6-bisphosphate aldolase	<i>G. stearothermophilus</i>	KOR93738	No	+++	++	
	Fructose-1,6-bisphosphate aldolase	<i>T. thermophilus</i>	BAD71596	No	++	++	
Tpi-Pgk	Triose Phosphate Isomerase - Phosphoglycerate Kinase Fusion	<i>T. maritima</i>	AAD35771	No	+++	+++	+++
GapN	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate Dehydrogenasnon-phosphorylating)	<i>T. kodakarensis</i>	BAD84894	No	++	++	+++
	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate Dehydrogenasnon-phosphorylating)	<i>T. tenax</i>	CCC81810	No	++	+	
	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate Dehydrogenasnon-phosphorylating)	<i>S. solfataricus</i>	AAK43292	No	++	+	
	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate Dehydrogenasnon-phosphorylating)	<i>A. permix</i>	BAA80789	No	-	-	
	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate Dehydrogenasnon-phosphorylating)	<i>M. jannaschii</i>	AAB99418	No	++	-	
	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate Dehydrogenasnon-phosphorylating)	<i>T. takaii</i>	BAT70977	No	++	-	
	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate Dehydrogenasnon-phosphorylating)	<i>M. sedula</i>	ABP95456	No	++	-	
	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate Dehydrogenasnon-phosphorylating)	<i>P. furiosus</i>	AAL80879	No	-	-	
	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate Dehydrogenasnon-phosphorylating)	<i>T. neapolitana</i>	ACM23724	No	-	-	
GapDH	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate Dehydrogenasphosphorylating)	<i>A. fulgidus</i>	AAB89515	No	++	++	+++
	Glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate Dehydrogenasphosphorylating)	<i>G. stearothermophilus</i>	KOR95271	No	+++	+++	
Pgk	Phosphoglycerate Kinase	<i>T. maritima</i>	AAD35771	No	+++	+++	+++
	Phosphoglycerate Kinase	<i>G. stearothermophilus</i>	KOR95272	No	+++	+++	
GpmA	Phosphoglycerate Mutase (2,3-bisphosphoglycerate dependent)	<i>E. coli</i>	ACT42583	No	+++	+++	-
GpmI	Phosphoglycerate Mutase (2,3-bisphosphoglycerate independent)	<i>G. stearothermophilus</i>	KOR95229	No	+++	+++	+++
Eno	Phosphoenolpyruvate hydratase	<i>A. fulgidus</i>	AIG98006	No	++	++	
	Phosphoenolpyruvate hydratase	<i>T. thermophilus</i>	BAD69825	No	++	++	+++
	Phosphoenolpyruvate hydratase	<i>G. stearothermophilus</i>	KOR95275	No	+++	+++	

Pyk	Pyruvate Kinase	<i>T. maritima</i>	AAD35300	No	++	++	
	Pyruvate Kinase	<i>T. thermophilus</i>	BAD69826	No	++	++	+++
	Pyruvate Kinase A	<i>G. stearothermophilus</i>	KOR92563	No	+++	+++	
IlvC	Ketol-acid Reductoisomerase	<i>T. thermophilus</i>	BAD71034	Yes	++	+	+++
	Ketol-acid Reductoisomerase	<i>G. stearothermophilus</i>	KOR94737	Yes	+++	++	+++
	Ketol-acid Reductoisomerase	<i>Thermococcus chitonophagus</i>	ASJ16613	Yes	+++	++	++
	Ketol-acid Reductoisomerase	<i>Caldicellulosiruptor bescii</i> DSM 6725	ACM59630	Yes	+	+	+++
IlvD	Dihydroxyacid Dehydratase	<i>S. mutans</i>	AJD56310	No	+++	++	++
	Dihydroxyacid Dehydratase	<i>G. stearothermophilus</i>	KOR95295	No	+++	O ₂ sensitive	
	Dihydroxyacid Dehydratase	<i>T. thermophilus</i>	BAD71057	No	++	O ₂ sensitive	

Supplementary Table 3. Data collection and refinement statistics.

PDB identification number	6VGS
Ligand bound	Thiamine pyrophosphate (TTP) with Mg ion
Data collection temperature (K)	100
Data Collection Statistics	
Resolution (Å, high limit)	1.80
Resolution (Å, low limit)	100.00
Space group	P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁
Unit cell parameters	
a (Å)	128.20
b (Å)	128.27
c (Å)	147.74
α, β, γ (°)	90.00, 90.00, 90.00
Radiation source	APS 24-ID-C
Radiation wavelength (Å)	0.97930
Measured reflections	1,972,360
Unique reflections	223,094
Overall completeness (%)	99.40
Last shell completeness (%) (1.80-1.85 Å)	97.20
Overall redundancy	8.8
Last shell redundancy	7.9
Overall R_{merge}^a	0.151
Last shell R_{merge}^a (1.80-1.85 Å)	1.055
Overall I/σ(I)	12.3
Last shell I/σ(I) (1.80-1.85 Å)	2.1
Refinement Statistics	
R_{work}^b	18.3
R_{free}^c	21.0
Number of residues (protein/water)	2164/1181
RMSD bond lengths (Å)	0.008
RMSD bond angles (°)	1.423
^a $R_{merge}(I) = \sum_{hkl} \sum_i I_i(hkl) - \langle I(hkl) \rangle / \sum_{hkl} \sum_i I_i(hkl)$ ^b $R_{work} = \sum_{hkl} F_{obs} - F_{calc} / \sum_{hkl} F_{obs} $ ^c $R_{free} = \sum_{hkl} F_{obs} - F_{calc} / \sum_{hkl} F_{obs} $, where all reflections belong to a test set of 5% randomly selected data	

Supplementary Table 4. Enzyme assay conditions.

	Coupling enzymes*	Cofactors and substrates
TmHex	PK/LDH	1 mM ATP, 2.5 mM PEP, 1 mM NADH, 3 mM Glucose
TmPgi	EcPfkB, PK/LDH	1 mM ATP, 2.5 mM PEP, 1 mM NADH, 3 mM Glucose-6-Phosphate
EcPfkB	PK/LDH	1 mM ATP, 2.5 mM PEP, 1 mM NADH, 3 mM Fructose-6-Phosphate
TtFba	TmTpi, TkGapN	1 mM NADP ⁺ , 0.75 mM Glucose-1-Phosphate, 2.5 mM Fructose 1,6-bis-Phosphate
TmTpi	TkGapN	1 mM NADP ⁺ , 0.75 mM Glucose-1-Phosphate, 2.5 mM Dihydroxyacetone Phosphate
TkGapN	TmTpi	1 mM NADP ⁺ , 0.75 mM Glucose-1-Phosphate, 2.5 mM Dihydroxyacetone Phosphate
AfGapDH	TmTpi, TmPgk	1 mM NADP ⁺ , 2.5 mM ADP, 4 mM PO ₄ , 2.5 mM Dihydroxyacetone Phosphate
TmPgk	PK/LDH	1 mM ATP, 1 mM NADH, 2.5 mM PEP, 2.5 mM Glycerate 3-Phosphate
Gs iPgm	TtEno, PK/LDH	2.5 mM ADP, 2 mM NADH, 4 mM PO ₄ , 0.5 mM MnCl ₂ , 2.5 mM Glycerate 3-Phosphate
TtEno	Gs iPgm, PK/LDH	2.5 mM ADP, 2 mM NADH, 4 mM PO ₄ , 0.5 mM MnCl ₂ , 2.5 mM Glycerate 3-Phosphate
TtPyk	LDH	1.5 mM ADP, 1 mM NADH, 3 mM PO ₄ , 1 mM Fructose 1,6-bis-Phosphate, 3 mM PEP
AlsS	GsIlvC	1 mM NADPH, 1 mM TPP, 5 mM Pyruvate
GsIlvC	AlsS	1 mM NADPH, 1 mM TPP, 5 mM Pyruvate
SmIlvD	KivD, EcYahK	1 mM NADPH, 1 mM TPP, 2.5 mM (R)-2,3-dihydroxy-isovalerate
KivD	EcYahK	1 mM NADPH, 1 mM TPP, 5 mM 2-ketoisovalerate
EcYahK		1 mM NADPH, 5 mM Isobutyraldehyde

*Enzyme concentrations given in Supplementary Table 5.

Supplementary Table 5. Enzyme amounts per assay.

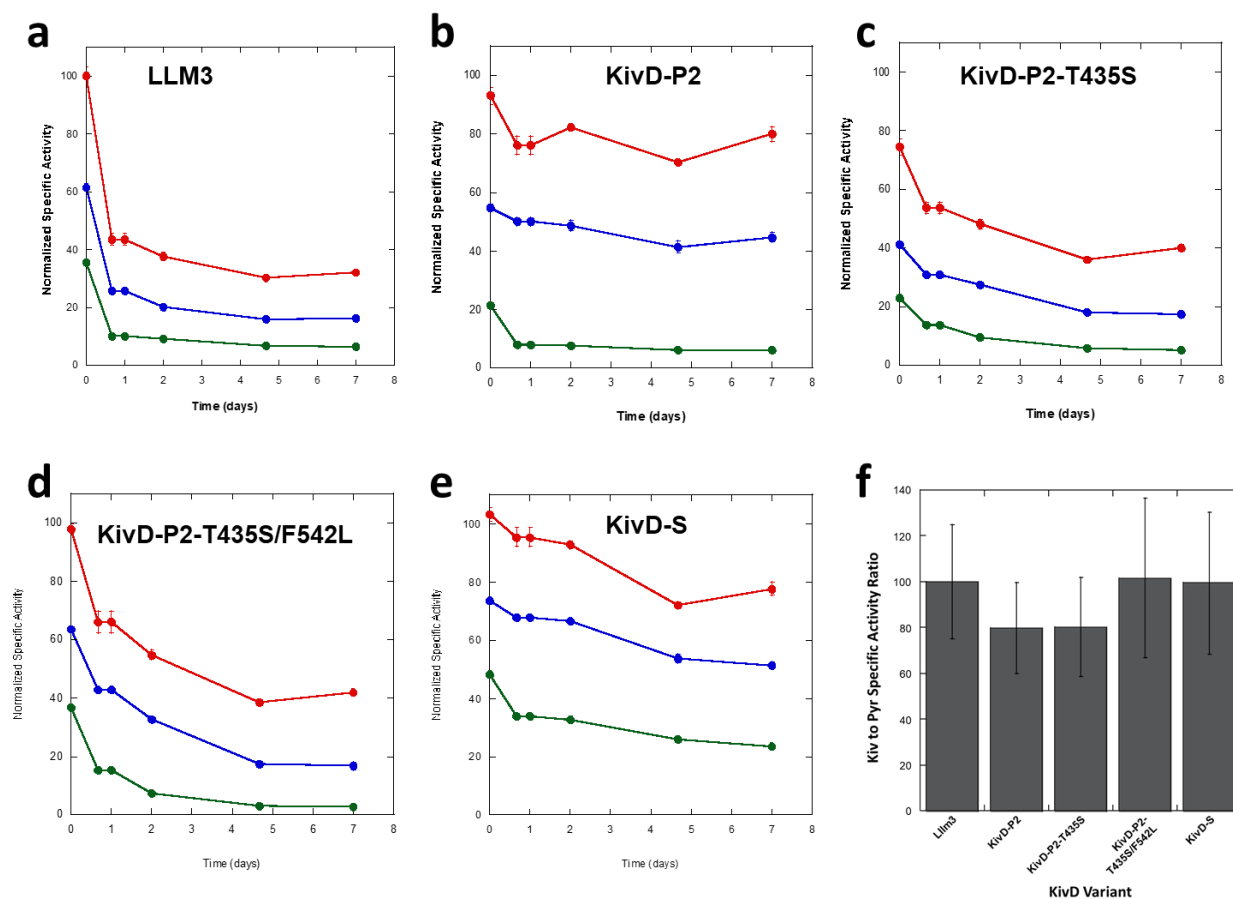
Enzyme assayed	Amount added (μg)	Coupling enzymes amount added
TmHex	0.49	PK/LDH* (2 μL)
TmPgi	0.55	EcPfkB (76 μg)/PK/LDH (2 μL)
EcPfkB	1.52	PK/LDH (2 μL)
TtFba	10.47	TmTpi (43.15 μg)/TkGapN' (330 μg)
TmTpi	0.48	TkGapN' (114 μg)
TkGapN'	1.66	TmTpi (43.15 μg)
AfGapDH	122.2	TmTpi (43.15 μg)/TmPgk (390 μg)
TmPgk	1.56	PK/LDH (30 μL)
Gs iPgm	3.53	TtEno (216 μg)/PK/LDH (10 μL)
TtEno	1.08	Gs iPgm (348.25 μg)/PK/LDH (10 μL)
TtPyk	1.67	LDH** (2 μL)
AlsS-P	1.10	GsIlvC (183 μg)
GsIlvC	12.2	AlsS-P (169 μg)
SmIlvD	42.7	KivD-S (155 μg)/EcYahK (271 μg)
KivD-S	2.64	EcYahK (271 μg)
EcYahK	84	none

* PK/LDH solution was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (catalog number: P0294)

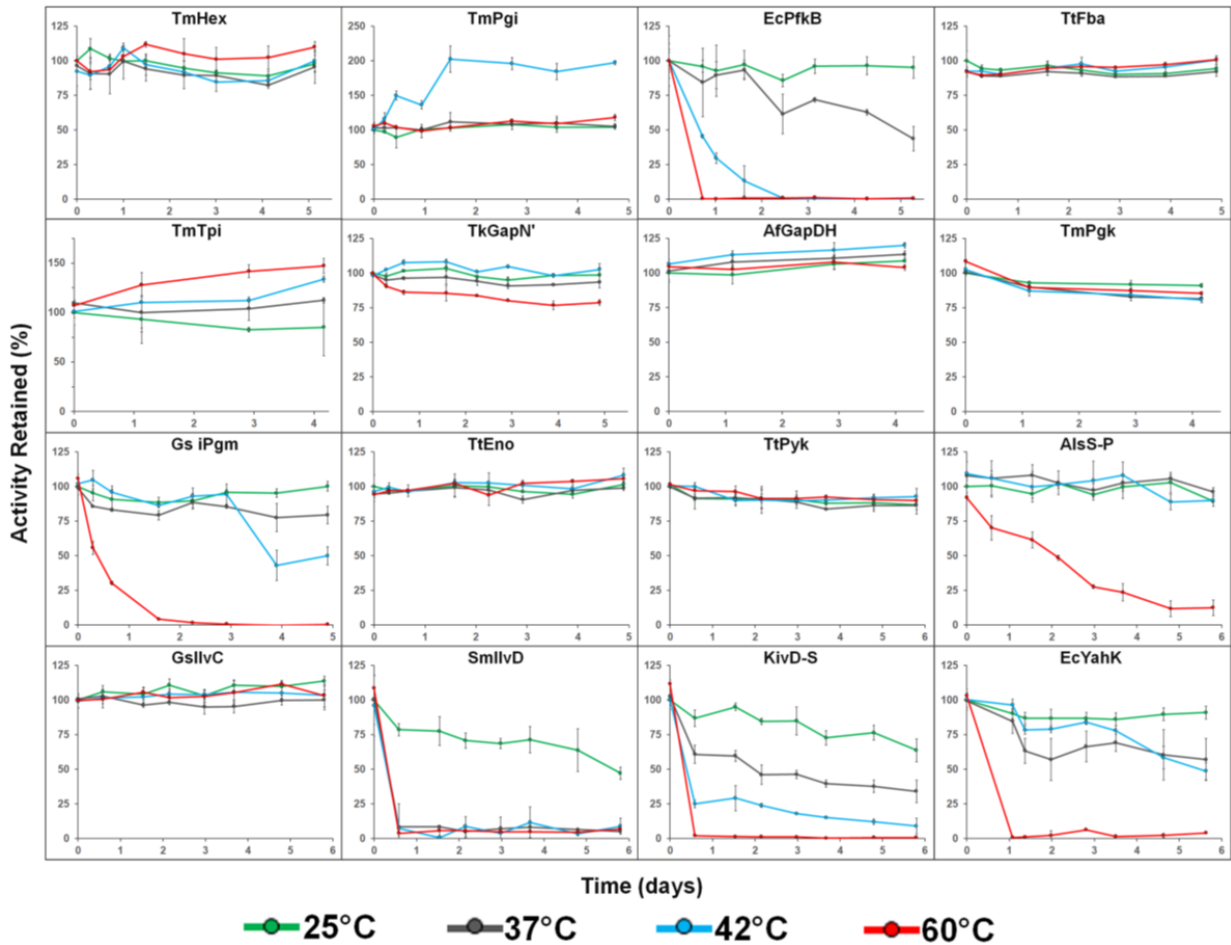
** LDH was purchased from Millipore Sigma and resuspended in 50% glycerol solution containing 10 mM HEPES, pH 7.0, 100 mM KCl and 0.1 mM EDTA at a concentration of 0.2 units/ μL (catalog number: 427217)

Supplementary Table 6. Enzyme specific activities and loadings for isobutanol production system.

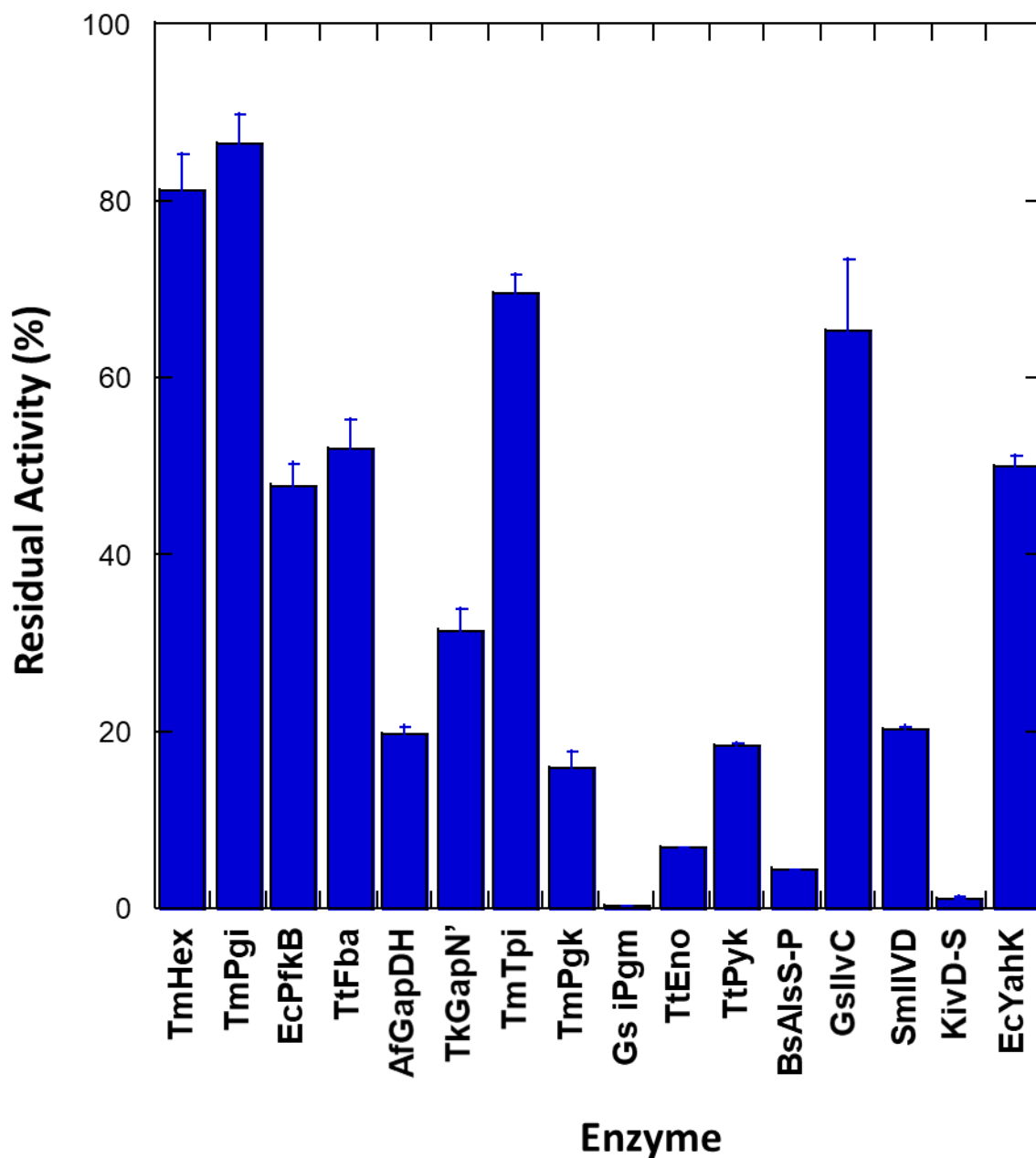
Enzyme	Stock (mg/mL)	Activity (units/mg)	Loading concentration (mg/mL)	Units added (per mL)
TmHex	4.87	14.5±0.3	0.14	2.03
TmPgi	6.08	29.6±1.1	0.30	8.82
EcPfkB	13.47	8.3±0.1	0.22	1.82
TtFba	2.59	4.7±0.1	0.35	1.64
TmTpi	2.85	210±0.7	0.14	30.44
TkGapN'	9.73	7.6±0.8	0.46	3.45
AfGapDH	8.87	10.9±0.6	0.05	0.53
TmPgk	2.23	8.4±0.5	0.20	1.68
Gs iPgm	13.93	49.4±2.2	0.18	8.88
TtEno	6.75	117±5	0.66	77.18
TtPyk	4.82	23.8±0.8	0.20	4.76
BsAlsS-P	7.49	4.9±0.2	0.10	0.50
GsIlvC	9.86	0.9±0.1	1.13	1.01
SmIlvD	4.27	2.7±0.2	0.46	1.27
KivD-S	45.73	18.0±1.6	0.15	2.70
EcYahK	17.29	4.5±0.4	0.27	1.20



Supplementary Fig. 1. Stabilizing KivD. **a-e**, The activity of the indicated enzymes over time during incubation in 0% (red), 4% (blue) or 8% (green) isobutanol. In these screening assays, the enzyme solution was only diluted 2-fold in the final assay mix. Hence, the final assays contained 0%, 2% or 4% isobutanol, which accounts for the different initial activities. **f**, Ratio of specific activity for the substrates α -ketoisovalerate and pyruvate with the indicated enzymes. Error bars represent standard deviations of biological triplicates. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



Supplementary Fig. 2. Thermal tolerance of enzymes used in this work. Enzymes were incubated at the indicated temperatures and aliquots assayed over time. Activity retained is the percentage of activity remaining compared to the activity at time zero and 25°C. Error bars represent the standard deviation of biological triplicates. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



Supplementary Fig. 3. Residual activity of enzymes after 120 hours in bioreactor reaction that included addition of second aliquot of BsAlsS-P and KivD-S. The progress of the reaction is shown in Fig. 5. Error bars represent the mean and standard deviation of triplicates. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary References

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