Supplementary data for article:

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Supporting Information

Highly efficient Michael-type addition of acetaldehyde to β -nitrostyrenes by whole resting cells of *Escherichia coli* expressing 4-oxalocrotonate tautomerase

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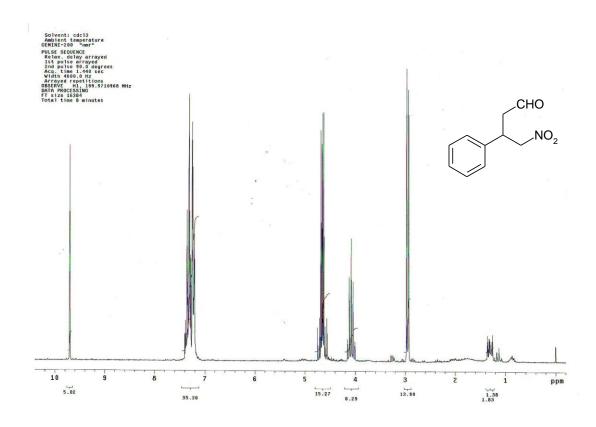
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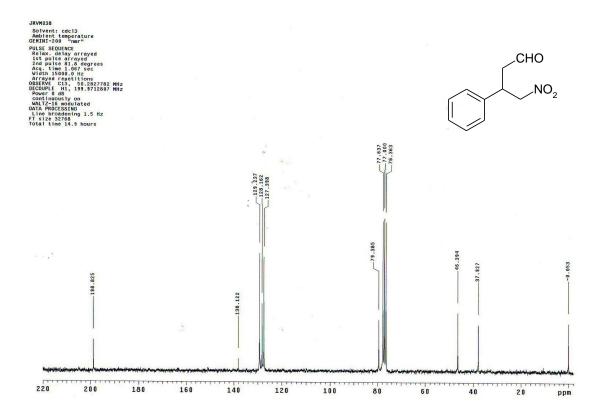
S1(A-D) Characterization data and NMR spectra of addition products obtained by biotransformation using E.coli BL21(4-OT)

 1 H and 13 C NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian Gemini 200 at 200/50 MHz in deuterated chloroform (CDCl₃). The chemical shifts were expressed as δ values in ppm using tetramethylsilane as internal standard and the coupling constants (J) are in Hertz (Hz). The following abbreviations were used for signal multiplicities: s, singlet; d, doublet; qu, quintet; and m, multiplet. NMR data of known compounds are in agreement with literature values.

A) 4-nitro-3-phenylbutanal $(3)^1$

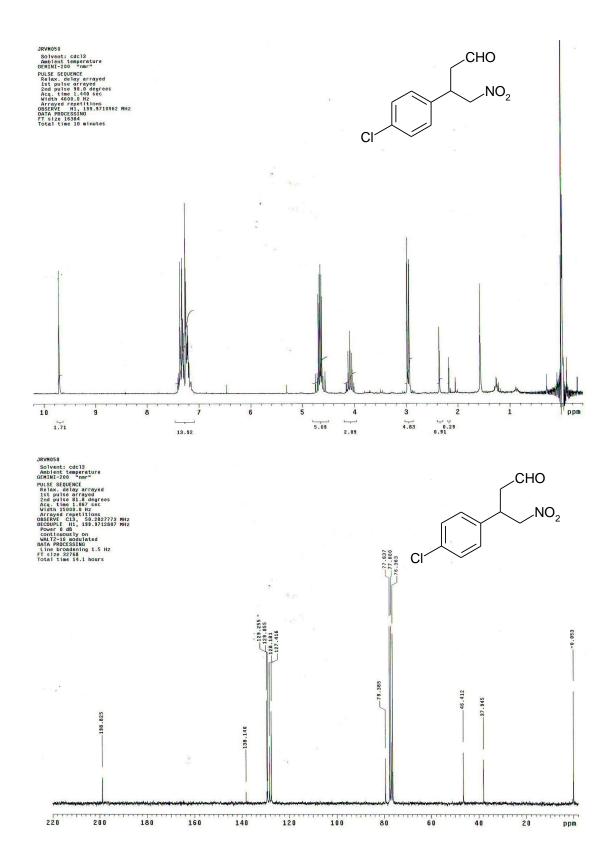
¹H NMR (200 MHz): 9.71 (s, 1H); 7.40-7.20 (m, 5H); 4.74-4.56 (m, 2H); 4.08 (qu, 1H, J_1 =7.3 Hz, J_2 =7.3 Hz); 2.94 (d, 2H, J=6.8Hz). ¹³C NMR (50 MHz): 198.8; 138.1; 129.2; 128.2; 127.4; 79.4; 46.4; 37.9.





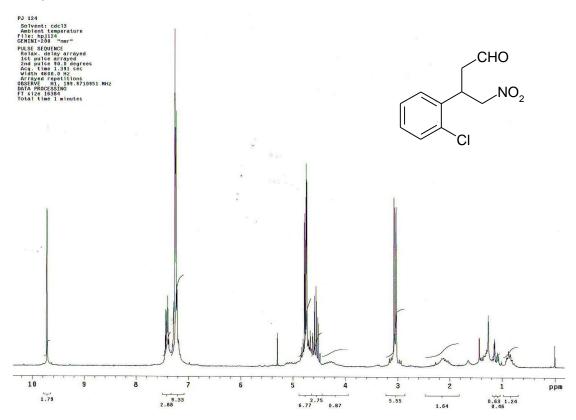
B) 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-nitrobutanal (5)

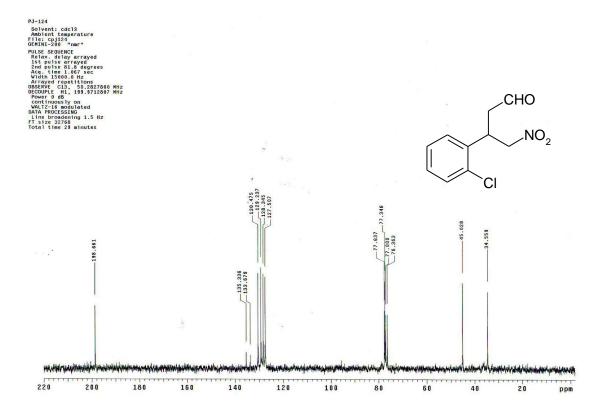
¹H NMR (200 MHz): 9.71 (s, 1H); 7.40-7.15 (m, 4H); 4.74-4.56 (m, 2H); 4.08(qu, 1H, J_1 =7.3 Hz, J_2 =7.3 Hz); 2.95 (d, 2H, J=6.6 Hz). ¹³C NMR (50 MHz): 198.8; 138.1; 129.3; 128.2; 127.4; 79.4; 46.4; 37.9.



C) 3-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-nitrobutanal $(7)^1$

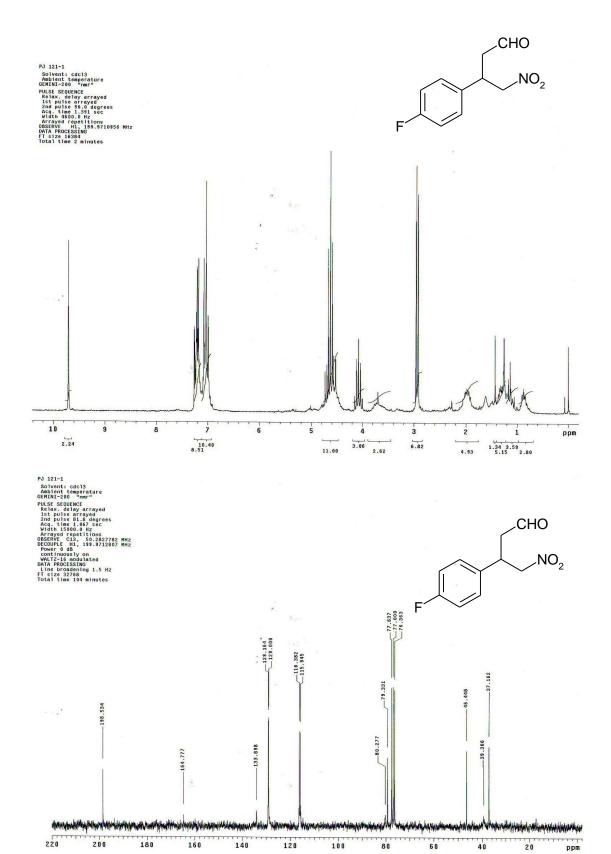
 1 H NMR (200 MHz): 9.72 (s, 1H); 7.45-7.18 (m, 4H); 4.83-4.48 (m, 3H); 3.05 (d, 2H, J=7.4Hz). 13 C NMR (50MHz): 198.7; 135.3; 133.7; 130.5; 129.2; 128.4; 127.5; 77.3; 45.0; 34.5.





D) 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-nitrobutanal $(9)^1$

¹H NMR (200 MHz): 9.71(s, 1H); 7.26-6.95 (m, 4H); 4.72-4.45 (m, 2H); 4.00 (qu, 1H, J_I =7.3 Hz, J_2 =7.3 Hz); 2.94 (d, 2H, J=7.2Hz). ¹³C NMR (50 MHz): 198.5; 133.9; 129.2; 129.0; 115.9; 79.3; 46.4; 37.2.



S2 (A-B) Synthesis of 4-amino-3-phenylbutanol (10) from biotransformation product 3

A) 4-nitro-3-phenylbutanol²

To a stirred solution of 4-nitro-3-phenylbutanal (3) (0.1 mmol) in anhydrous methanol (2.0 ml) NaBH₄ (0.15 mmol) was added at 0°C. The reaction was stirred for 30 min and quenched with H_2O and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 times 10 ml). Combined organic layers were washed with brine and dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The obtained crude product was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (ethyl acetate/hexanes 1:1).

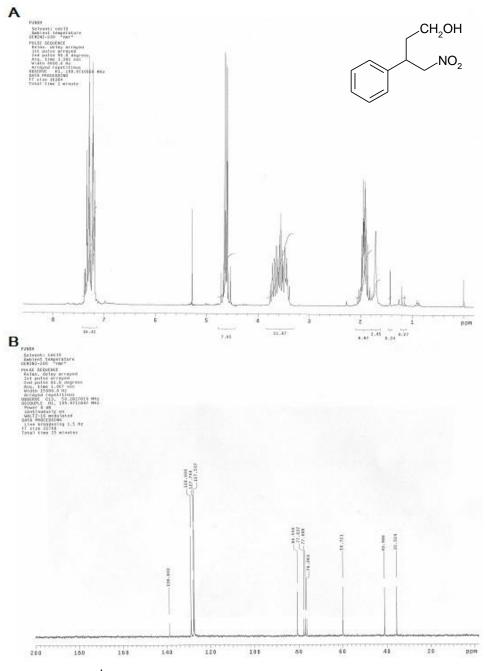


Fig. S2-A. A)¹H NMR spectrum of prepared 4-nitro-3-phenylbutanol (200 MHz): 7.38-7.18 (m, 5H); 4.71-4.53 (m, 2H); 3.76-3.40 (m, 3H); 2.05-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.71 (s, 1H). B)¹³C NMR (50 MHz): 138.8; 129.0; 127.7; 127.5; 80.5; 59.7; 41.0; 35.5.

B) 4-amino-3-phenylbutanol (10) ³

A mixture of 4-nitro-3-phenylbutanol (20 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 10% Pd(OH)₂ on carbon (10 mg) in anhydrous methanol (20 ml) was hydrogenated at 60 psi for 4 h using Parr apparatus. The solution was filtered and concentrated to give 4-amino-3-phenylbtanol as viscous oil (17 mg, 99%).

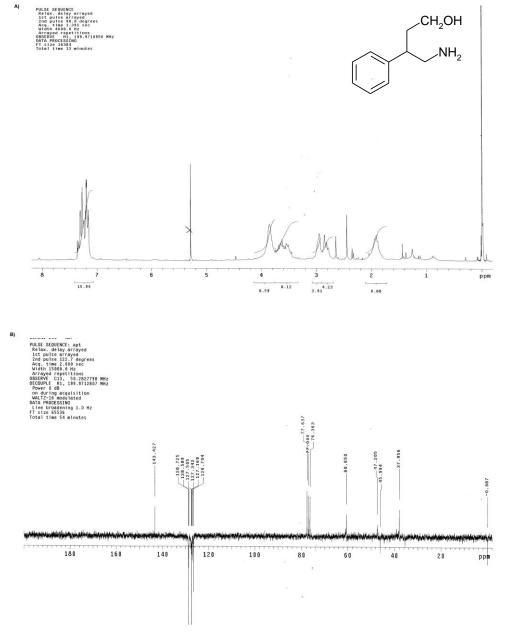


Fig. S2-B. A)¹H NMR spectrum of prepared 4-amino-3-phenylbutanol (**10**). B) ¹³C NMR (50 MHz): 143.4; 128.7; 127.5; 126.7 60.7; 47.2; 46.0; 38.0.

S3(A-D) Chiral analysis of biotransformation products

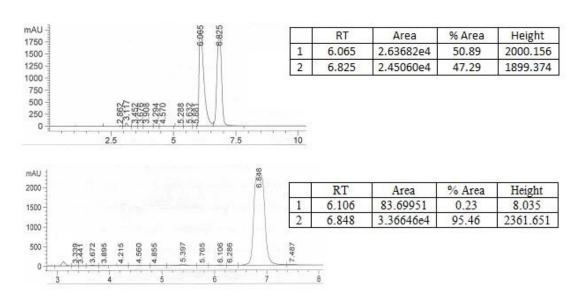
All biotransformation products (3, 5, 7 and 9) were firstly reduced to alcohols by the procedure described under S2-A due to the instability upon storage at -20°C.

Racemic mixture of the samples was prepared chemically from the corresponding aldehydes using the same procedure. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC (Agilent Technologies, HP110) with CHIRALPAK IA column (Chiral Technologies Europe, Cedex, France) at 210 nm for all samples.

A) 4-nitro-3-phenylbutan-1-ol (obtained from biotransformation product 3)

 $[\alpha]D^{25} = -22.0$ (c 1.0, CH₂Cl₂, >99% ee).

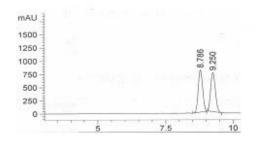
HPLC conditions:heptane/iPrOH in the ratio of 80/20, flow rate =1.0 ml/min (tr=6.06 min, tr=6.83 major), ee >99%.



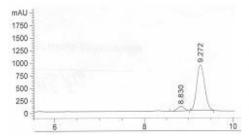
B) 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-nitrobutan-1-ol (obtained from biotransformation product 5) 4

 $[\alpha]_{D^{25}}$ = -11.5 (c 2.0, CH₂Cl₂, 84% ee). ¹H NMR (200 MHz): 7.35-7.27 (m, 2H); 7.19-7.14 (m, 2H); 4.71-4.52 (m, 2H); 3.77-3.56 (m, 2H); 3.51-3.39 (m, 1H);

2.06-1.79 (m, 2H); 1.68 (s, 1H). 13 C NMR (50 MHz): 137.4; 133.5; 129.2; 128.9; 80.3; 59.5; 40.4; 35.4. HPLC conditions: heptane/ethanol in the ratio of 80/20, flow rate =1.0 ml/min (tr=8.83 min, tr=9.27 major), ee 84%.



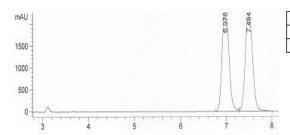
| | RT | Area | % Area | Height |
|---|-------|-----------|--------|---------|
| 1 | 8.786 | 9066.4082 | 50.25 | 799.410 |
| 2 | 9.250 | 8975.3701 | 49.74 | 739.918 |



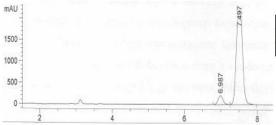
| | RT | Area | % Area | Height |
|---|-------|-----------|--------|---------|
| 1 | 8.830 | 948.6715 | 7.761 | 89.732 |
| 2 | 9.272 | 1.12738e4 | 92.238 | 905.526 |

C) 3-(2-chlorophenyl)-4-nitrobutan-1-ol (obtained from biotransformation product 7) $^{-1}$

 $[\alpha]_{D^{25}}$ = +4 (c 1.0, CH₂Cl₂, 88% ee). ¹H NMR (200 MHz): 7.44-7.39 (m, 1H); 7.28-7.18 (m, 3H); 4.81-4.64 (m, 2H); 4.36-4.21 (m, 1H); 3.69-3.49 (m, 2H); 2.08-1.98 (m, 2H); 1.60 (s, 1H). ¹³C NMR (50 MHz): 136.3; 134.2; 130.4; 128.9; 128.2; 127.5; 78.9; 59.9; 37.3; 34.7. HPLC conditions: heptane/iPrOH in the ratio of 80/20, flow rate =1.0 ml/min (tr=6.98 min, tr=7.50 major), ee 88%.



| | RT | Area | % Area | Height |
|---|-------|-----------|--------|----------|
| 1 | 6.978 | 2.38763e4 | 49.237 | 2168.684 |
| 2 | 7.494 | 2.46157e4 | 50.762 | 2130.952 |



| | RT | Area | % Area | Height |
|---|-------|-----------|--------|----------|
| 1 | 6.987 | 1989.6008 | 6.964 | 213.228 |
| 2 | 7.497 | 2.65793e4 | 93.036 | 2205,303 |

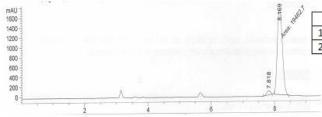
D) 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-nitrobutan-1-ol (obtained from biotransformation product 9)

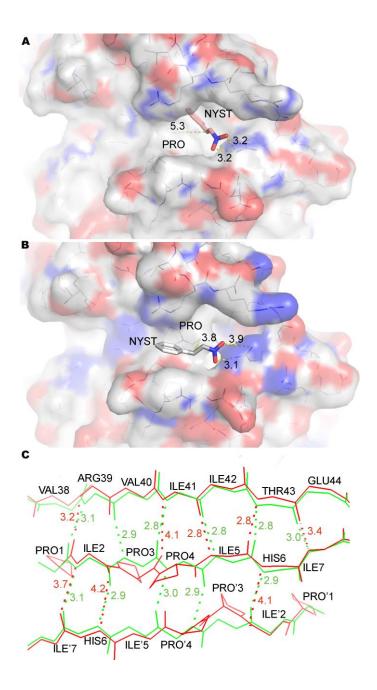
[α]D 25 = -10 (c 1.0, CH₂Cl₂, 94% ee). 1 H NMR (200 MHz): 7.27-7.16 (m, 2H); 7.09-6.98 (m, 2H); 4.72-4.52 (m, 2H); 3.80-3.59 (m, 2H); 3.54-3.42 (m, 1H); 2.07-1.78 (m, 2H); 1.58 (s, 1H). 13 C NMR (50 MHz): 137.9; 134.5; 129.2; 129.1; 80.6; 59.7; 40.3; 35.6.

HPLC conditions: heptane/ethanol in the ratio of 80/20, flow rate =1.0 ml/min (tr=7.81 min, tr=8.17 major), ee 94%.



| | RT | Area | % Area | Height |
|---|-------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| 1 | 7.806 | 1048.9473 | 49.557 | 110.99449 |
| 2 | 8.170 | 1067.6752 | 50.442 | 106.31933 |





S4. A) Nitrostyrene (NYST) in stick representation positioned in the reactive center of wild type tautomerase (line and surface representation). B) Nitrostyrene (NYST) positioned in the reactive center of 4-OT_P mutant (line and surface representation). Distances to ARG'11 residue and acetaldehyde bonded to the terminal PRO are given. C) Backbone representation of the wild type (green) and 4-OT_2P variant (red) tautomerase with the first β -plate in the center. Only Proline residues are shown with the side chains and only the variant residues are labelled. Distances between hydrogen bond forming peptide bond oxygen and nitrogen atoms together with their distances are provided.

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