# **Supplementary Information**

# A xylenol orange-based screening assay for the substrate specificity of flavin-dependent *para*-phenol oxidases

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**Figure S1:** Absorption spectra of His-VAO variants recorded in 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, at 25 °C.



**Figure S2:** Absorption spectra of EUGO-His variants recorded in 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, at 25 °C.

## 4-cyclopentylphenol







**Figure S3:** GC chromatograms of the reaction products of the conversion of 4-cyclopentylphenol by His-VAO or EUGO-His. 2 mM 4-cyclopentylphenol and 1  $\mu$ M enzyme were incubated for 2 h at 25 °C in 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, (EUGO-His) or 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, containing 30 mM NaCl and 2% (w/v) glycerol (His-VAO). Subsequently, the reaction products were extracted and analysed by GC. For both reactions, a single product, 4-(1-cyclopenten-1-yl)phenol, was formed at >99% conversion. Retention times: 4-cyclopentylphenol, 15.6 min; 4-(1-cyclopenten-1-yl)phenol, 16.7 min.

# 4-cyclopentylphenol



# His-VAO reaction



## **EUGO-His reaction**



**Figure S4:** GC/MS analysis of the reaction products of the conversion of 4-cyclopentylphenol by His-VAO or EUGO-His. 2 mM 4-cyclopentylphenol and 1  $\mu$ M enzyme were incubated for 2 h at 25 °C in 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, (EUGO-His) or 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, containing 30 mM NaCl and 2% (w/v) glycerol (His-VAO). Subsequently, the reaction products were extracted and analysed by GC/MS. For both reactions, a single product, 4-(1-cyclopenten-1yl)phenol, was formed. Top panels show GC chromatograms with retention times: 4cyclopentylphenol, 21.0 min; 4-(1-cyclopenten-1-yl)phenol, 21.8 min. Bottom panels show mass spectra recorded of the eluting compounds.

#### 4-cyclopentylphenol



#### **EUGO-His reaction**



**Figure S5:** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of 4-cyclopentylphenol and the products of the conversion of 4cyclopentylphenol by EUGO-His. 2.5 mM 4-cyclopentylphenol and 0.5  $\mu$ M EUGO-His were incubated in 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, at 25 °C for 16 h. Subsequently, reaction products were extracted and analysed by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR. This revealed that the product is a mixture of 4cyclopentylphenol (40%) and 4-(1-cyclopenten-1-yl)phenol (60%). Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) relative to CDCl<sub>3</sub>. Data is reported as follows: br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, m = multiplet, ap = apparent; coupling constant(s) (J) in Hz and integration. Peaks below 1.5 ppm are due to impurities in the CDCl<sub>3</sub>. **4-cyclopentylphenol**: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.12 (ap d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.77 (ap d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.66 (s, 1H), 2.93 (m, 1H), 2.14 – 1.96 (m, 2H), 1.87 – 1.72 (m, 2H), 1.75 – 1.59 (m, 2H), 1.61 – 1.46 (m, 2H). **4-(1-cyclopenten-1-yl)phenol**: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.33 (ap d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (ap d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.04 (m, 1H), 4.80 (br s, 1H), 2.73 – 2.56 (m, 2H), 2.56 – 2.45 (m, 2H), 2.09 – 1.96 (m, 2H).

## 4-cyclohexylphenol







**Figure S6:** GC chromatograms of the reaction products of the conversion of 4-cyclohexylphenol by His-VAO, EUGO-His or W413L His-VAO. 2 mM 4-cyclohexylphenol and 1  $\mu$ M enzyme were incubated for 4 h at 25 °C in 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, (EUGO-His) or 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, containing 30 mM NaCl and 2% (w/v) glycerol (His-VAO and W413L His-VAO). Subsequently, the reaction products were extracted and analysed by GC. With His-VAO and W413L His-VAO, a single product, 4-(1-cyclohexen-1-yl)phenol, was formed at 51% and 27% conversion respectively (average of two reactions). With EUGO-His, no conversion of the substrate was observed. Retention times: 4-cyclohexylphenol, 20.9 min; 4-(1-cyclohexen-1-yl)phenol, 23.5 min.

# 4-cyclohexylphenol



## **His-VAO** reaction



## W413L His-VAO reaction



**Figure S7:** GC/MS analysis of the reaction products of the conversion of 4-cyclohexylphenol by His-VAO or W413L His-VAO. 2 mM 4-cyclohexylphenol and 1  $\mu$ M enzyme were incubated for 4 h at 25 °C in 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer, pH 7.5, containing 30 mM NaCl and 2% (w/v) glycerol. Subsequently, the reaction products were extracted and analysed by GC/MS. For both reactions, a single product, 4-(1-cyclohexen-1-yl)phenol, was formed. Top panels show GC chromatograms with retention times: 4-cyclohexylphenol, 22.0 min; 4-(1-cyclohexen-1-yl)phenol, 23.0 min. Bottom panels show mass spectra recorded of the eluting compounds.