



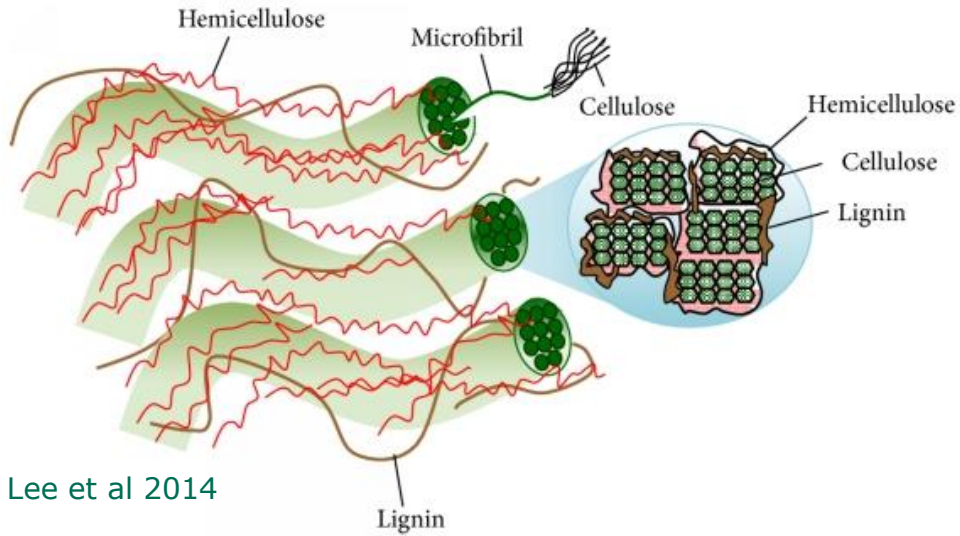
Biocatalysis



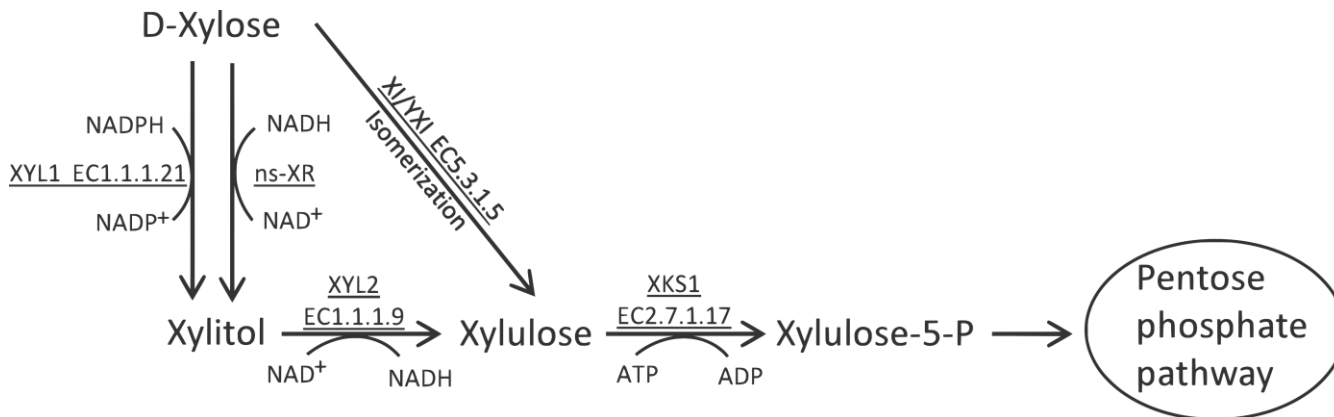
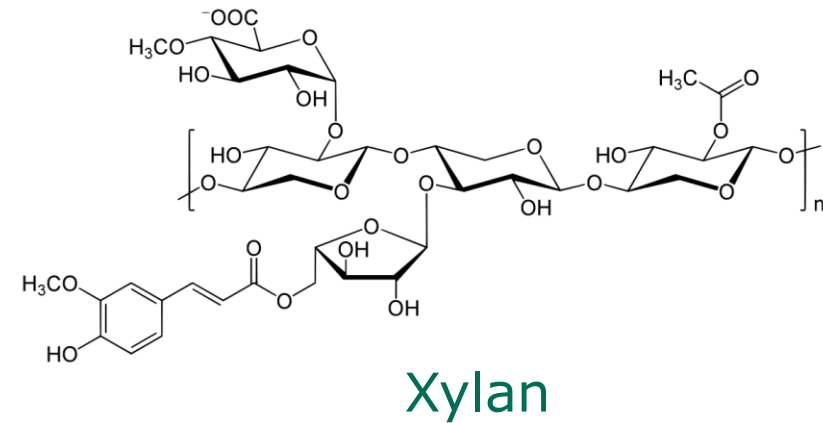
# A novel D-xylose isomerase: from the gut of a wood feeding beetle for improved conversion in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

Paulo César Silva, Javier A. Ceja-Navarro, Flávio Azevedo, Ulas Karaoz, Eoin L. Brodie and Björn Johansson

# Lignocellulose – a valuable renewable raw material



Lee et al 2014

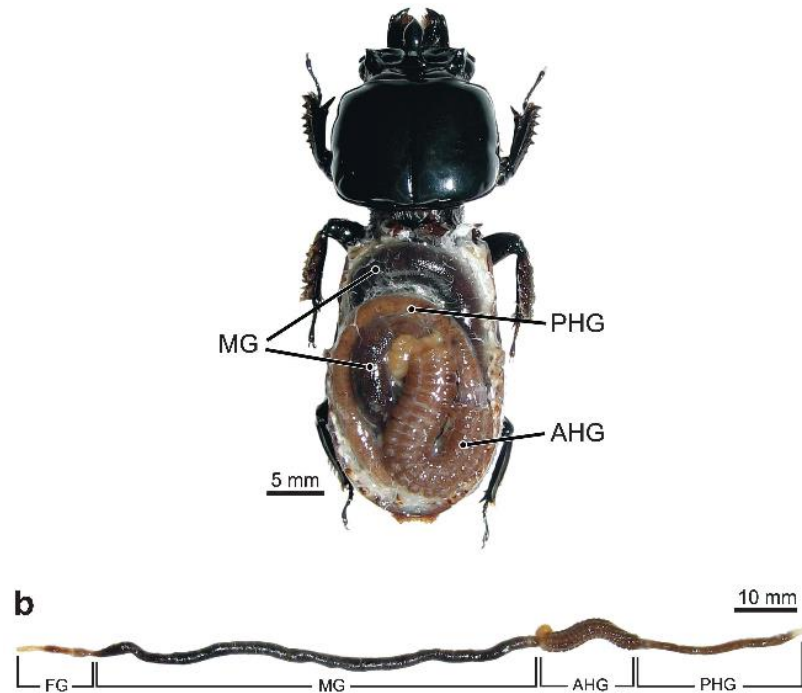


Feng et al 2018

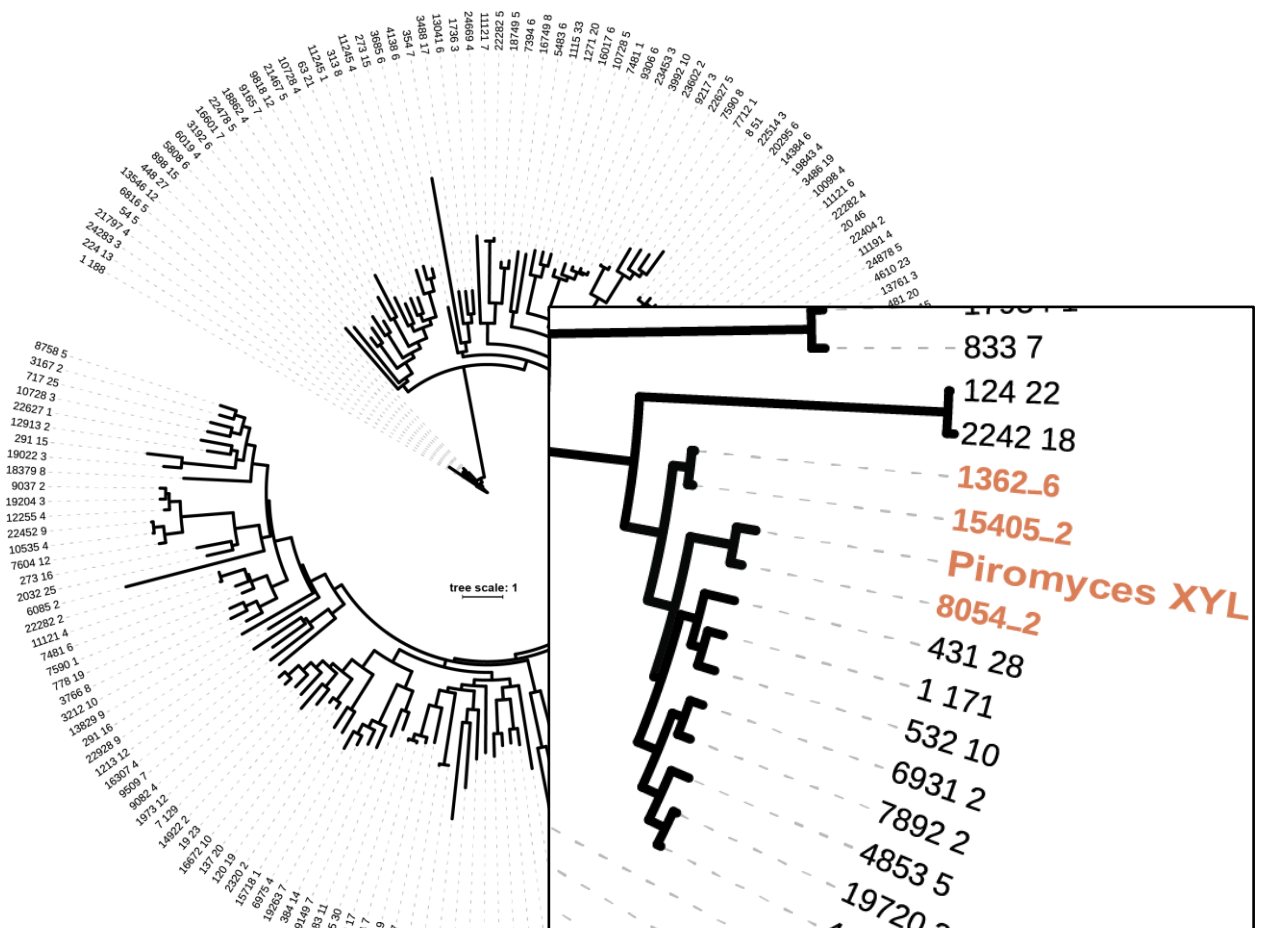
**XR/XDH** (D-xylose reductase/xylitol dehydrogenase) pathway suffers from NAD(P)H cofactor imbalance

**XI** (D-xylose isomerase) pathway suffers from low capacity and inhibition by xylitol

# A source of D-xylose isomerases

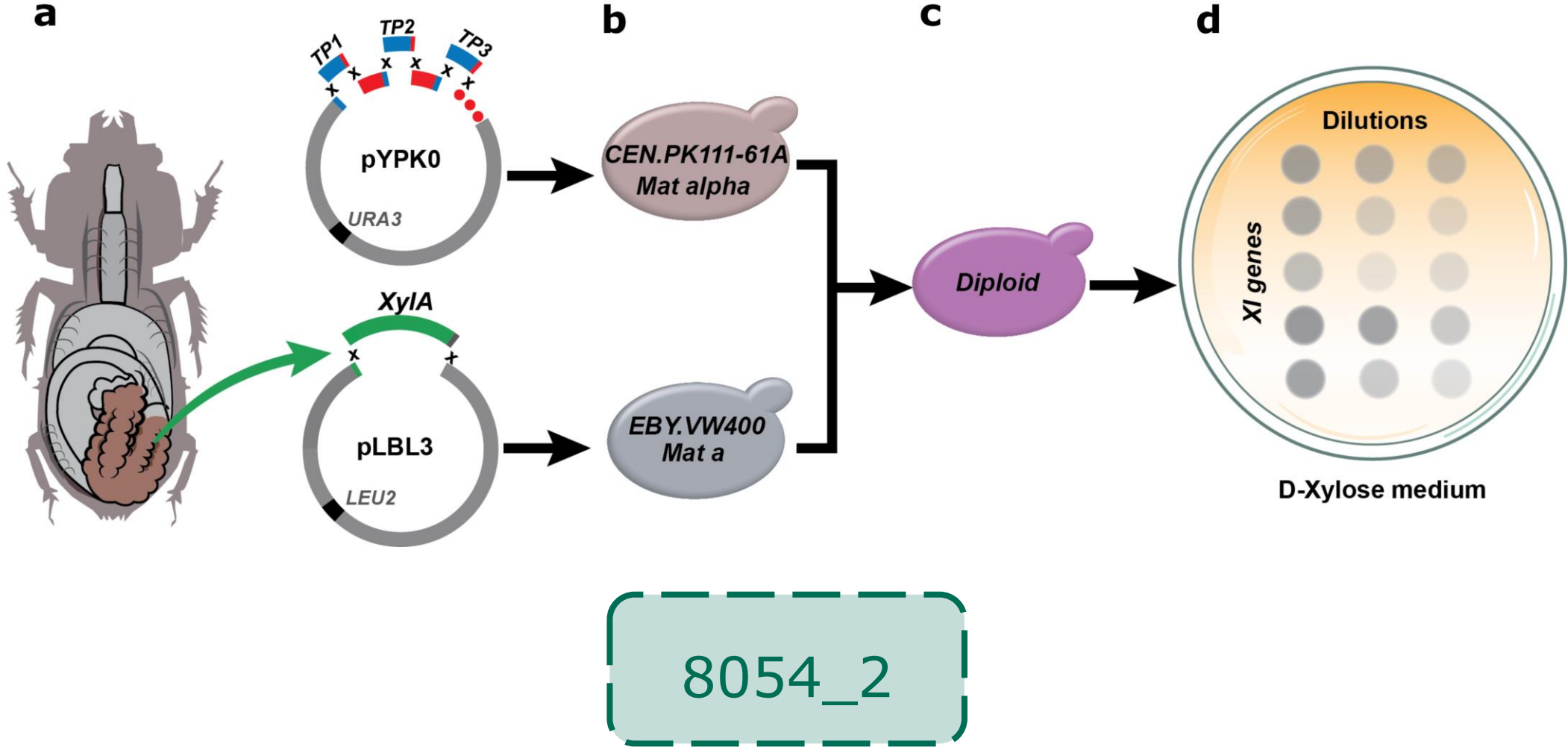


*Odontotaenius disjunctus*

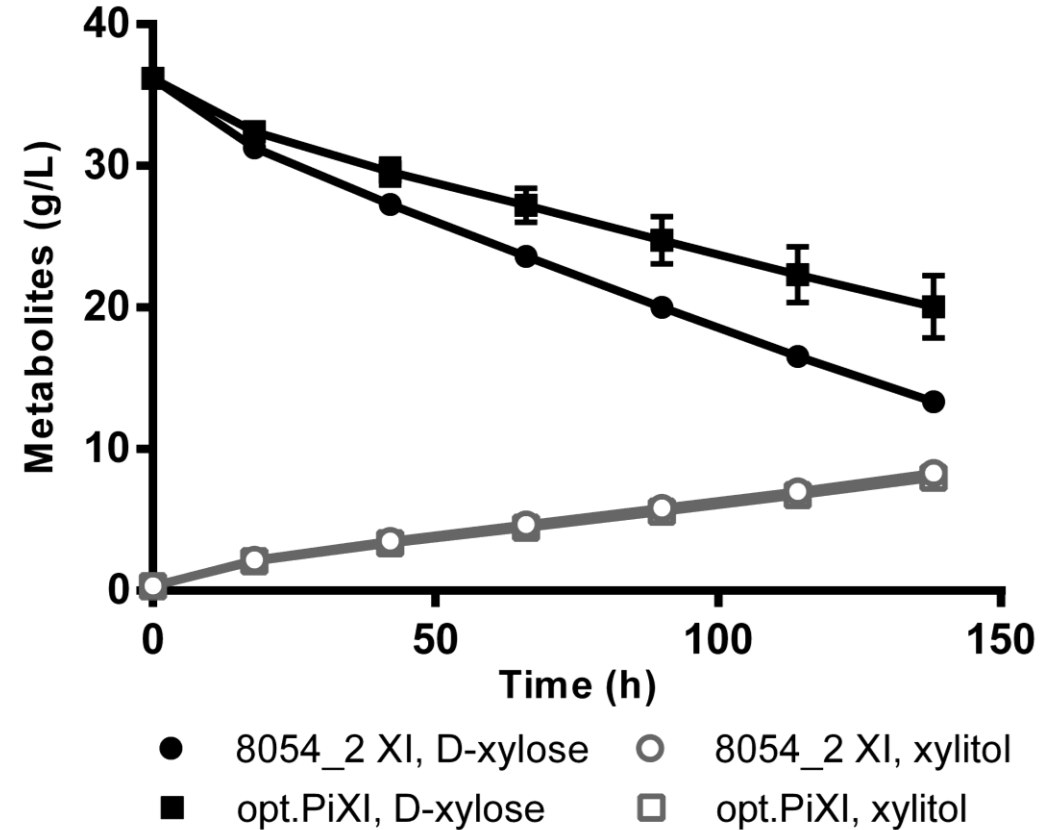
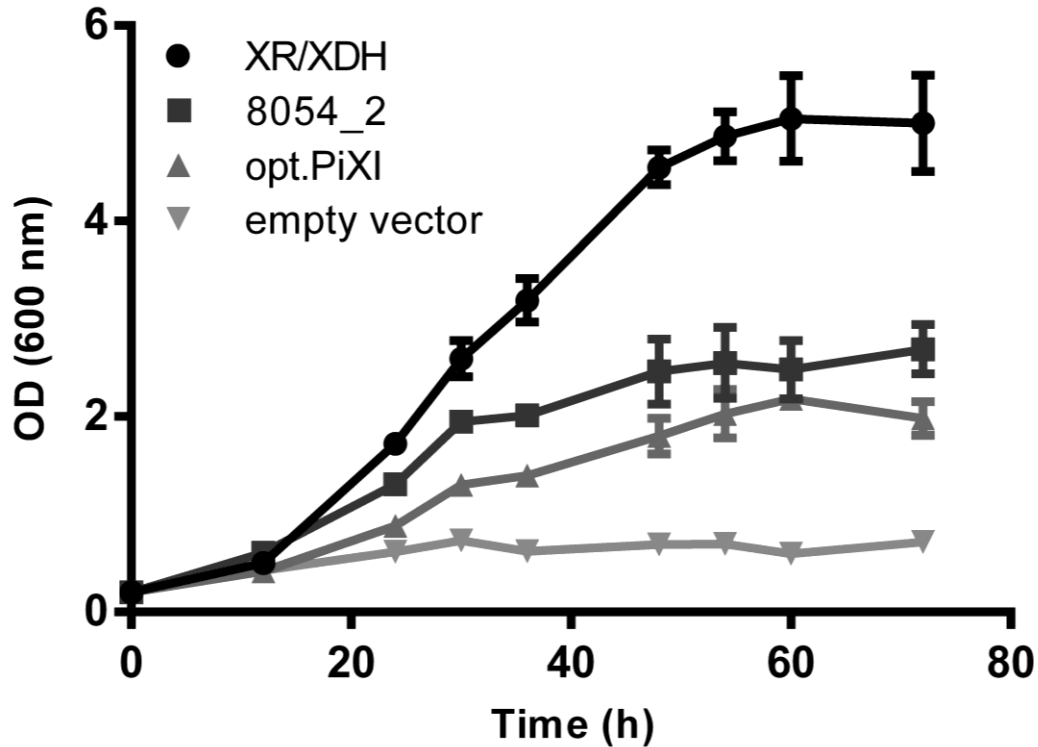


182 putative XIs

# Functional screening



# Growth on and consumption of D-xylose

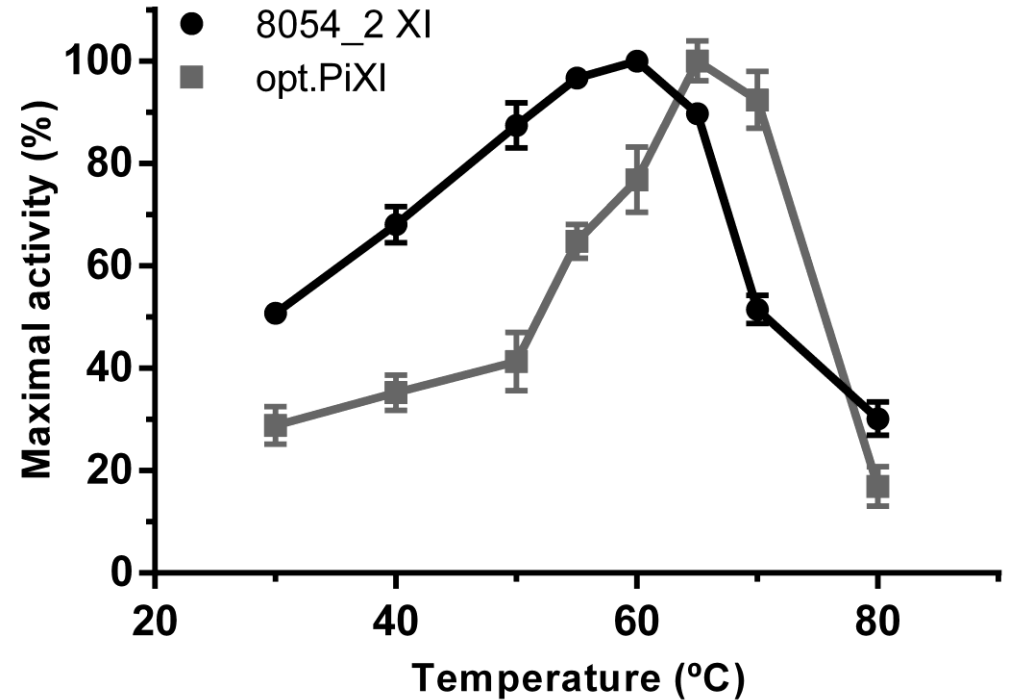
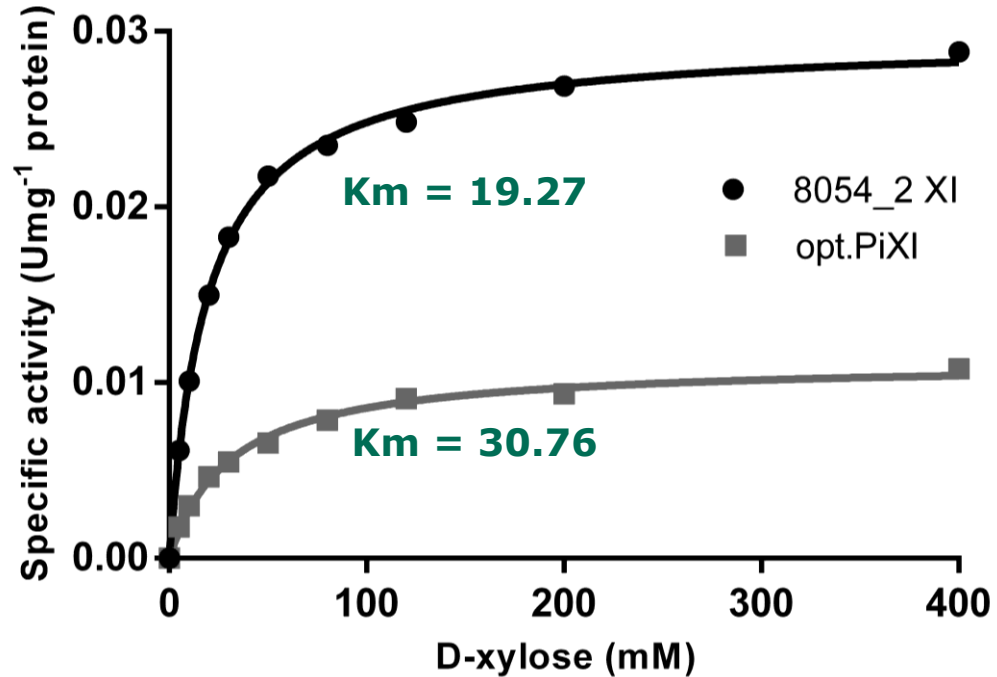


XR/XDH: 0.10 h<sup>-1</sup> 8054\_2: 0.06 h<sup>-1</sup> opt.PiXI: 0.04 h<sup>-1</sup>

⇒ **50% faster** aerobic growth

⇒ **72% higher** D-xylose isomerization rate

# Kinetic parameters and optimal temperature



⇒ **2.6 times higher V<sub>max</sub>**

⇒ **37% higher affinity**

⇒ 8054\_2 retains **51% of maximal activity at 30 °C** compared with only 29% activity for the *Piromyces* XI (opt.PiXI).

# Highlights

⇒ The new enzyme, **8054\_2**, showed higher specific activity and affinity for D-xylose than the current gold-standard from *Piromyces* sp., as well as substantially higher relative activity at 30 °C.

⇒ The novel XI represents a highly valuable addition to the *S. cerevisiae* molecular toolbox and shows promise for improved industrial conversion of carbohydrate substrates.

# Acknowledgements



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