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(54) PRODUCTION OF FATTY ACIDS & DERIVATIVES THEREOF

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(22) Filed: Nov. 22, 2011

Related U.S. Application Data

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- (60) Provisional application No. 60/801,995, filed on May 19, 2006, provisional application No. 60/908,547, filed on Mar. 28, 2007, provisional application No. 60/802,016, filed on May 19, 2006.

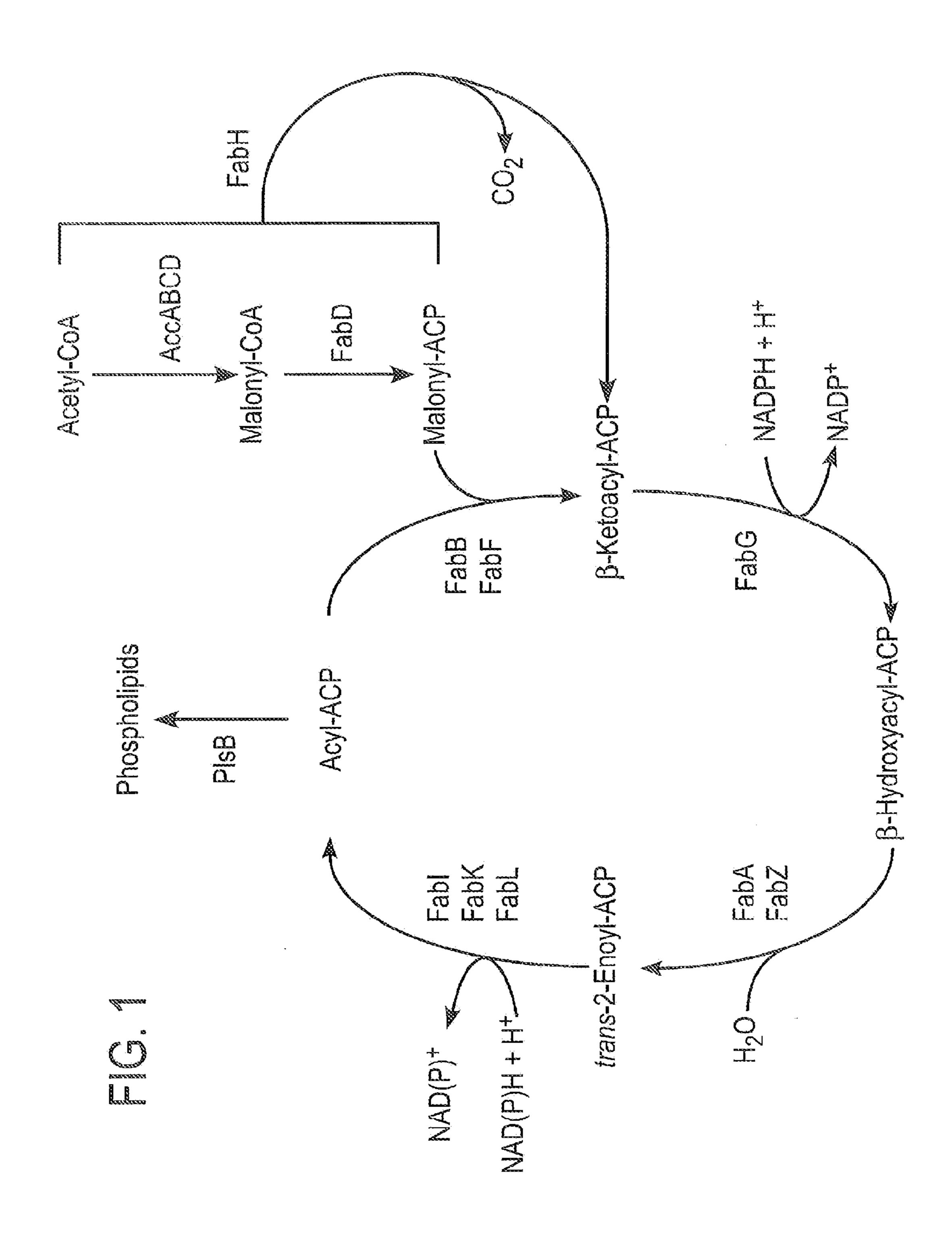
Publication Classification

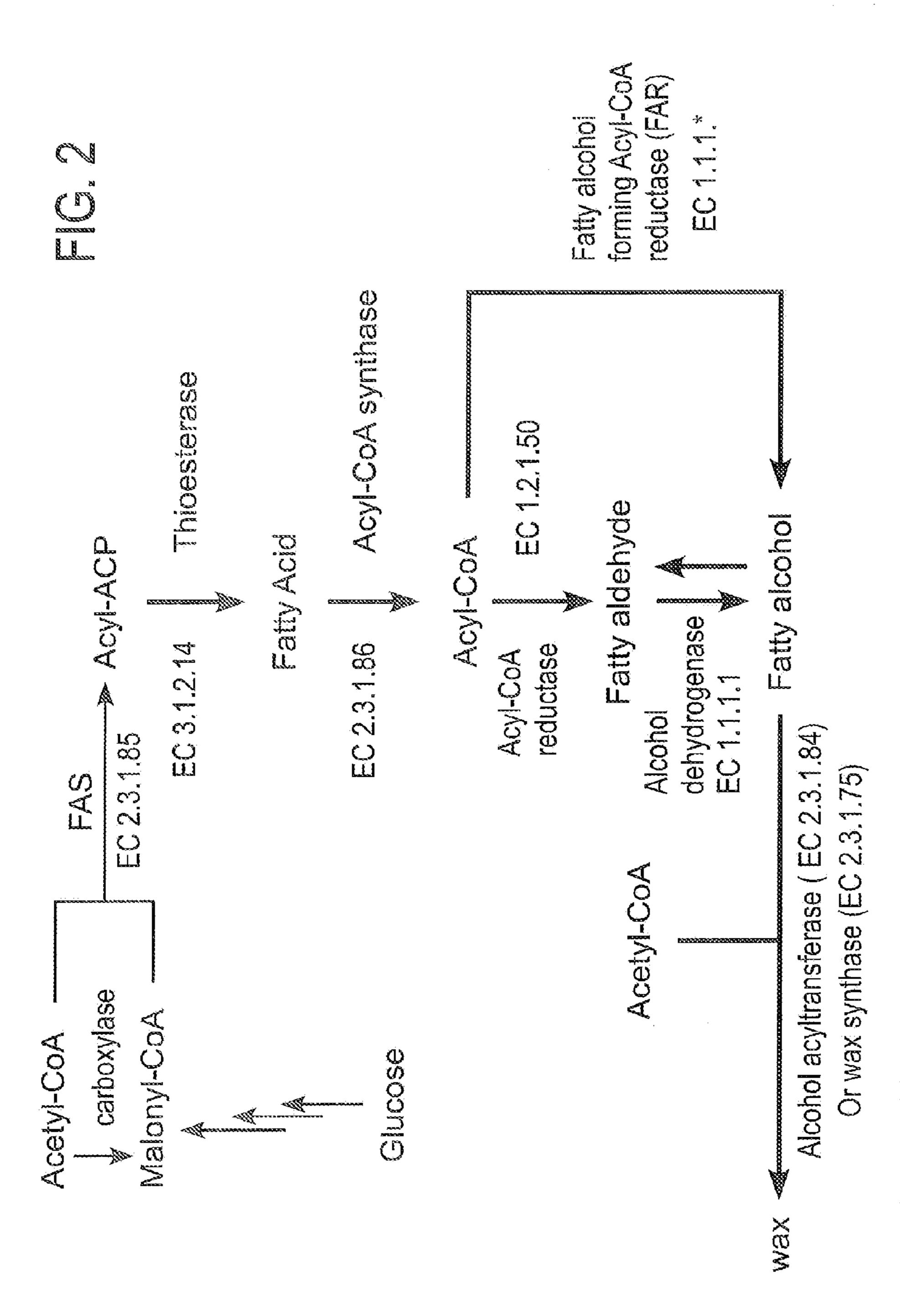
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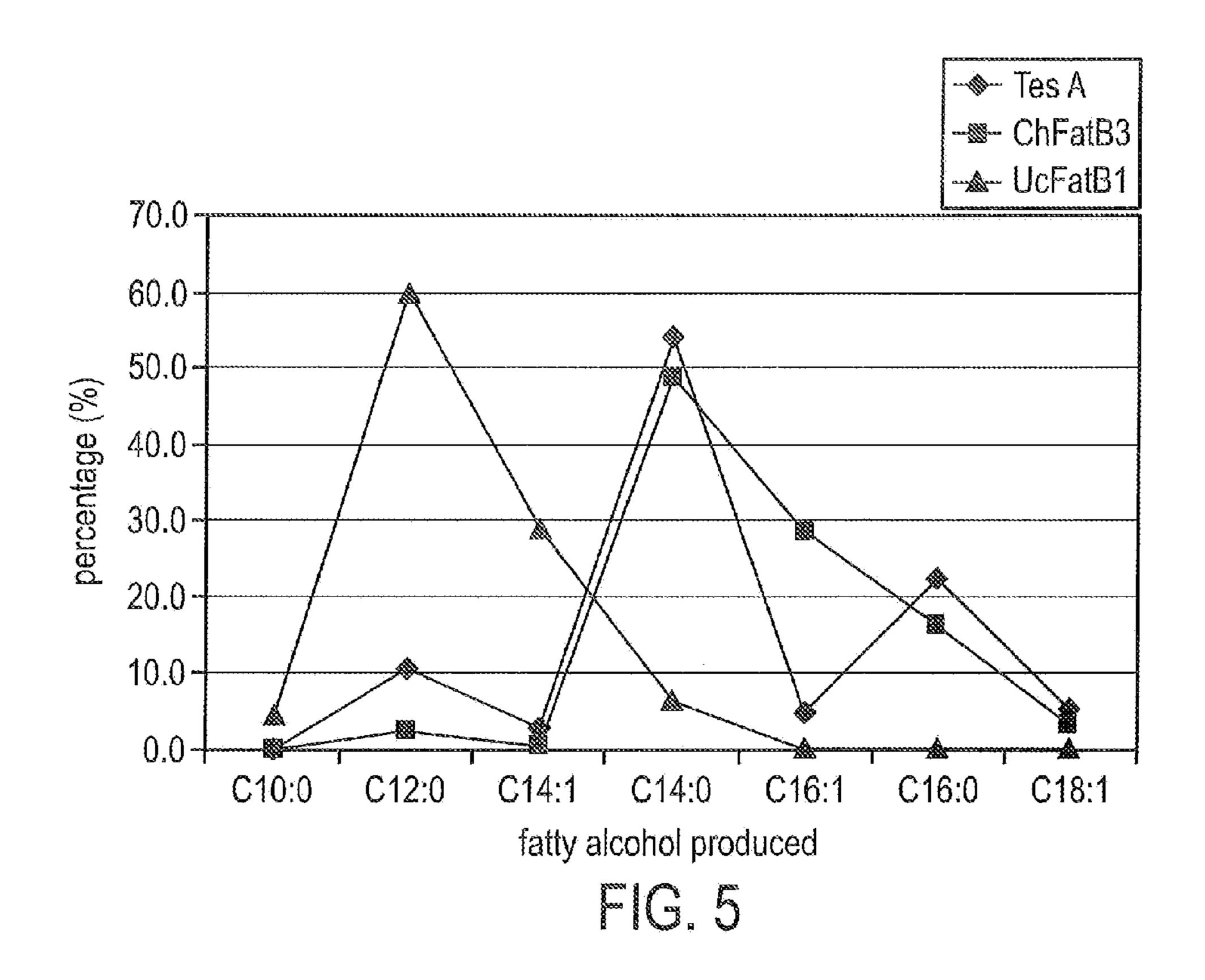
(57) ABSTRACT

Compositions and methods for production of fatty alcohols using recombinant microorganisms are provided as well as fatty alcohol compositions produced by such methods.

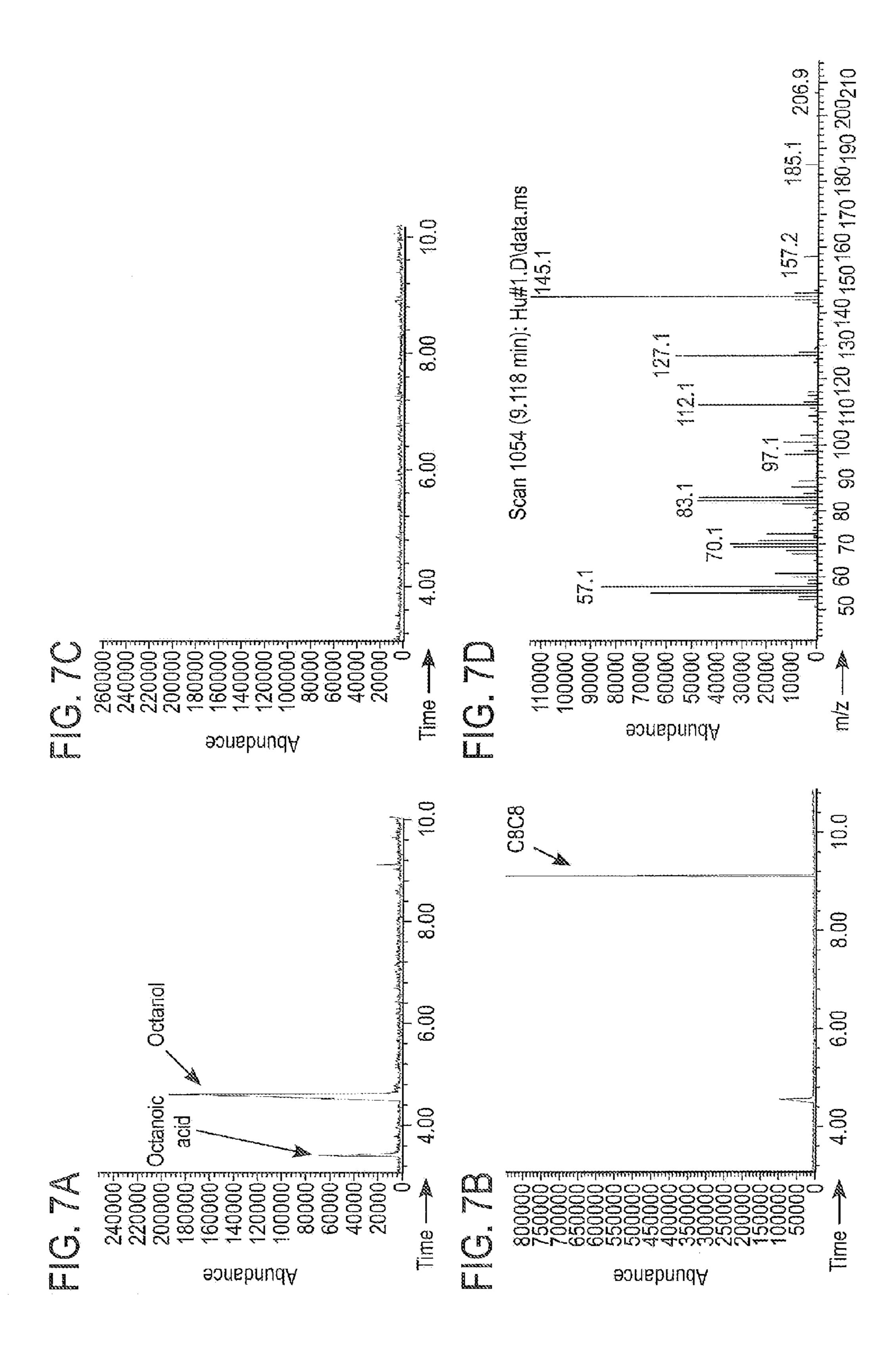




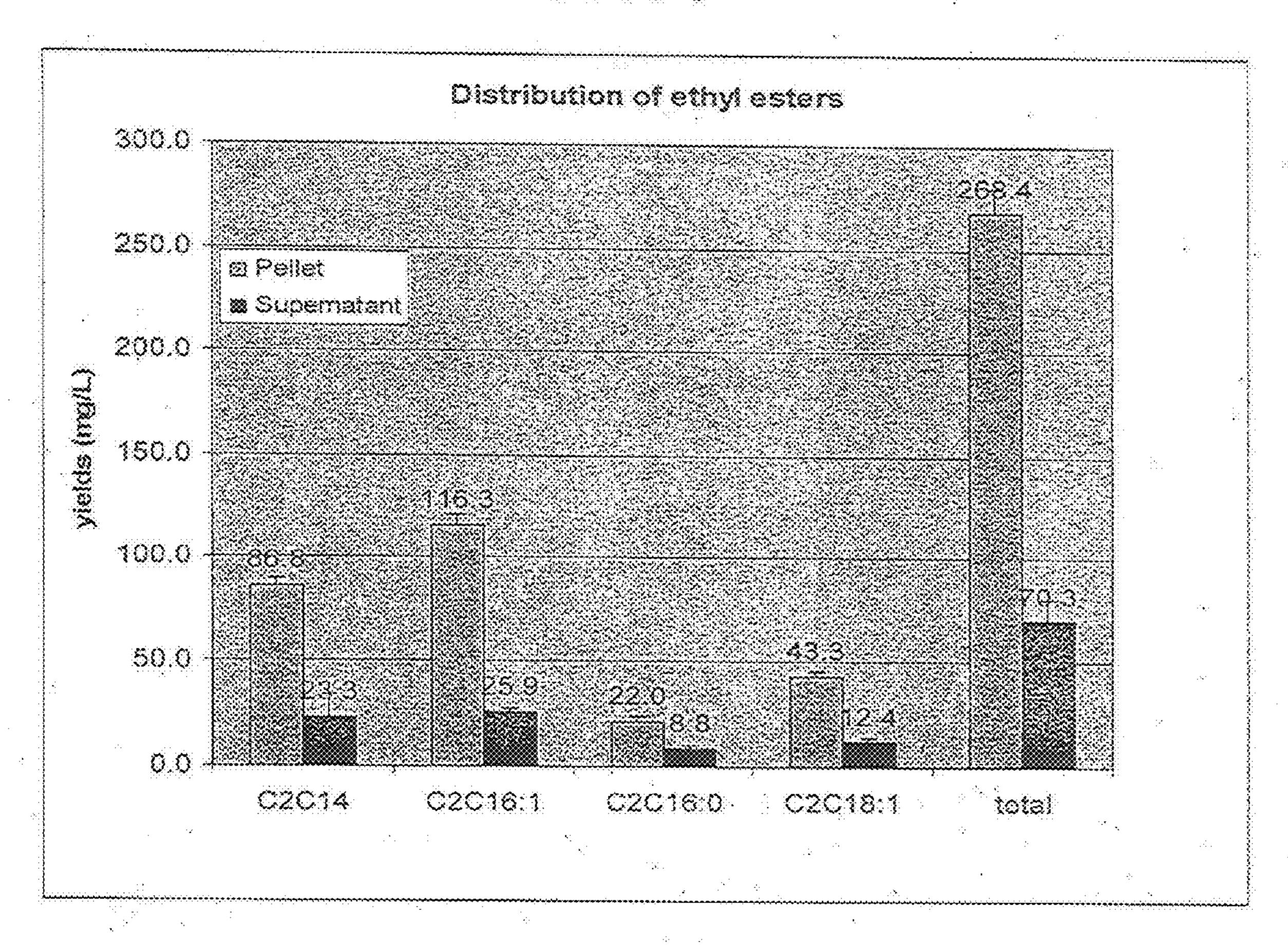
Fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase references: Kalscheurer 2006; Metz 2000;

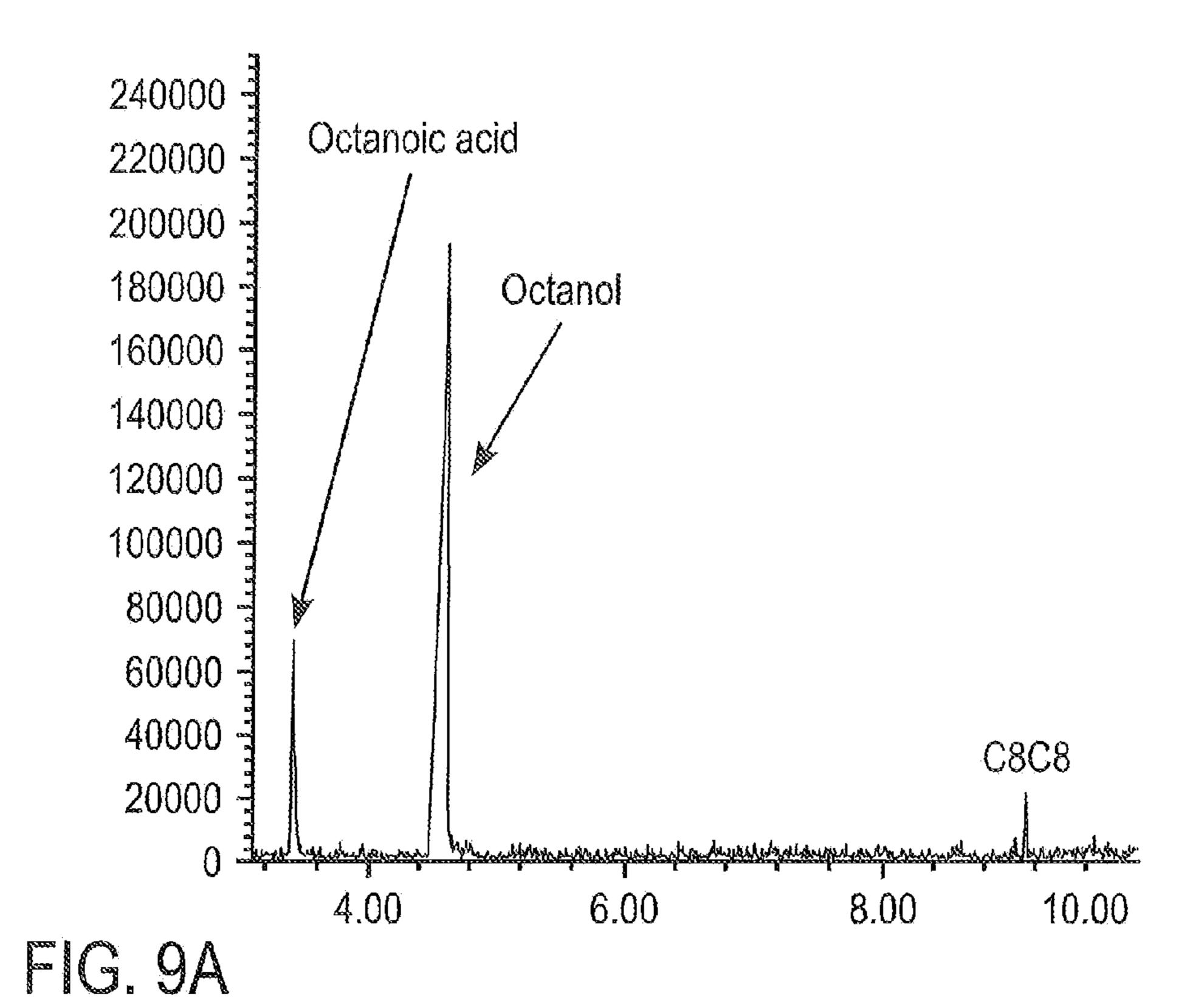


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833110

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FIG. 10

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acyl carrier protein

acyi-CoA synthase

Accession Numbers are from NCBL GenBank, Release 159.0 as of April 15 3007 EC Numbers are from KEGG, Release 42.0 as of April 2007 iplus daily updates up to and including the date for this potent)

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PRODUCTION OF FATTY ACIDS & DERIVATIVES THEREOF

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application is a continuation of copending U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/278,957, filed Apr. 20, 2010, as the U.S. national phase of Patent Cooperation Treaty Application No. PCT/US2007/11923, filed May 18, 2007, which claims benefit to U.S. Provisional Application Nos. 60/908, 547 filed Mar. 28, 2007; U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/801,995 filed May 19, 2006, and U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/802,016 filed May 19, 2006, and, all of which are herein incorporated by reference.

INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY

[0002] Incorporated by reference in its entirety herein is a computer-readable nucleotide/amino acid sequence listing submitted concurrently herewith and identified as follows: One 80,354 Byte ASCII (Text) file named "PCT_SeqLstgAs-Filed_05.18.07" created on May 18, 2007. It is understood that the Patent and Trademark Office will make the necessary changes in application number and filing date for the instant application.

FIELD

[0003] Compositions and methods for production of fatty alcohols using recombinant microorganisms e are provided as well as fatty alcohol compositions produced by such methods.

BACKGROUND

[0004] Developments in technology have been accompanied by an increased reliance on fuel sources and such fuel sources are becoming increasingly limited and difficult to acquire. With the burning of fossil fuels taking place at an unprecedented rate, it has likely that the world's fuel demand will soon outweigh the current fuel supplies.

[0005] As a result, efforts have been directed toward harnessing sources of renewable energy, such as sunlight, water, wind, and biomass. The use of biomasses to produce new sources of fuel which are not derived from petroleum sources, (i.e. biofuel) has emerged as one alternative option. Biofuel (biodiesel) is a biodegradable, clean-burning combustible fuel made of long chain alkanes and esters. Biodiesel can be used in most internal combustion diesel engines in either a pure form, which is referred to as "neat" biodiesel, or as a mix in any concentration with regular petroleum diesel. Current methods of making biodiesel involve transesterification of triacylglycerides (mainly vegetable oil) which leads to a mixture of fatty acid esters and the unwanted side product glycerin, thus, providing a product that is heterogeneous and a waste product that causes economic inefficiencies.

SUMMARY

[0006] Disclosed herein are recombinant microorganisms that are capable of synthesizing products derived from the fatty acid biosynthetic pathway (fatty alcohols), and optionally releasing such products into the fermentation broth. Such fatty alcohols are useful, inter alia, specialty chemicals. These specialty chemicals can be used to make additional products,

such as nutritional supplements, polymers, paraffin replacements, and personal care products.

[0007] The recombinant microorganisms disclosed herein can be engineered to yield various fatty alcohol compositions.

[0008] In one example, the disclosure provides a method for modifying a microorganism so that it produces, and optionally releases, fatty alcohols generated from a renewable carbon source. Such microorganisms are genetically engineered, for example, by introducing an exogenous DNA sequence encoding one or more proteins capable of metabolizing a renewable carbon source to produce, and in some examples secrete, a fatty alcohol composition. The modified microorganisms can then be used in a fermentation process to produce useful fatty alcohols using the renewable carbon source (biomass) as a starting material. In some examples, an existing genetically tractable microorganism is used because of the ease of engineering its pathways for controlling growth, production and reducing or eliminating side reactions that reduce biosynthetic pathway efficiencies.

[0009] Provided herein are microorganisms that produce fatty alcohols having defined carbon chain length, branching, and saturation levels. In particular examples, the production of homogeneous products decreases the overall cost associated with fermentation and separation Microorganisms expressing one or more exogenous nucleic acid sequences encoding at least one thioesterase (EC 3.1.2.14) and at least one fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase (1.1.1.*) are provided. The thioesterase peptides encoded by the exogenous nucleic acid sequences can be chosen to provide homogeneous products.

[0010] In some examples the microorganism that is engineered to produce the fatty acid derivative is *E. coli*, *Z. mobilis*, *Rhodococcus opacus*, *Ralstonia eutropha*, *Vibrio furnissii*, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, *Lactococcus lactis*, *Streptomycetes*, *Stenotrophomonas maltophila*, *Pseudomonas* or *Micrococus leuteus* and their relatives.

[0011] In addition to being engineered to express exogenous nucleic acid sequences that allow for the production of fatty alcohols, the microorganism can additionally have one or more endogenous genes functionally deleted or attenuated.

[0012] In addition to being engineered to express exogenous nucleic acid sequences that allow for the production of fatty alcohols, the microorganism can additionally have one or more additional genes over-expressed.

[0013] In some examples, the microorganisms described herein produce at least 1 mg of fatty alcohol per liter fermentation broth. In other examples the microorganisms produce at least 100 mg/L, 500 mg/L, 1 g/L, 5 g/L, 10 g/L, 20 g/L, 25 g/L, 30 g/L, 35 g/L, 40 g/L, 50 g/L, 100 g/L, or 120 g/L of fatty alcohol per liter fermentation broth. In some examples, the fatty alcohol is produced and released from the microorganism and in yet other examples the microorganism is lysed prior to separation of the product.

[0014] In some examples, the fatty alcohol includes a carbon chain that is at least 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, or 34 carbons long. In some examples at least 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 85%, 90%, or 95% of the fatty alcohol product made contains a carbon chain that is 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, or 34 carbons long. In yet other examples, at least 60%, 70%, 80%, 85%, 90%, or 95% of the fatty alcohol product contain 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5, points of unsaturation

[0015] Also provided are methods of producing alcohol. These methods include culturing the microorganisms described herein and separating the product from the fermentation broth.

[0016] These and other examples are described further in the following detailed description.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

[0017] FIG. 1 shows the FAS biosynthetic pathway.

[0018] FIG. 2 shows biosynthetic pathways that produce waxes. Waxes can be produced in a host cell using alcohols produced within the host cell or they can be produced by adding exogenous alcohols in the medium. A microorganism designed to produce waxes will produce wax synthase enzymes (EC 2.3.1.75) using exogenous nucleic acid sequences as well as thioesterase (EC 3.1.2.14) sequences. Other enzymes that can be also modulated to increase the production of waxes include enzymes involved in fatty acid synthesis (FAS enzymes EC 2.3.1.85), acyl-CoA synthase (EC 2.3.1.86), fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase (EC 1.1.1.*), acyl-CoA reductase (1.2.1.50) and alcohol dehydrogenase (EC 1.1.1.1).

[0019] FIG. 3 shows biosynthetic pathways that produce fatty alcohols. Fatty alcohols having defined carbon chain lengths can be produced by expressing exogenous nucleic acid sequences encoding thioesterases (EC 3.1.2.14), and combinations of acyl-CoA reductases (EC 1.2.1.50), alcohol dehydrogenases (EC 1.1.1.1) and fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductases (FAR, EC 1.1.1*). Other enzymes that can be also modulated to increase the production of fatty alcohols include enzymes involved in fatty acid synthesis (FAS enzymes EC 2.3.1.85), and acyl-CoA synthase (EC 2.3.1.86). [0020] FIG. 4 shows biosynthetic pathways that produce fatty acids esters. Fatty acids esters having defined carbon chain lengths can be produced by exogenously expressing various thioesterases (EC 3.1.2.14), combinations of acyl-CoA reductase (1.2.1.50), alcohol dehydrogenases (EC 1.1. 1.1), and fatty alcohol forming Acyl-CoA reductase (FAR, EC 1.1.1*), as well as, acetyl transferase (EC 2.3.1.84). Other enzymes that can be modulated to increase the production of fatty acid esters include enzymes involved in fatty acid synthesis (FAS enzymes EC 2.3.1.85), and acyl-CoA synthase (EC 2.3.1.86).

[0021] FIG. 5 shows fatty alcohol production by the strain described in Example 4, co-transformed with pCDFDuet-1-fadD-acrl and plasmids containing various thioesterase genes. The strains were grown aerobically at 25° C. in M9 mineral medium with 0.4% glucose in shake flasks. Saturated C10, C12, C14, C16 and C18 fatty alcohol were identified. Small amounts of C16:1 and C18:1 fatty alcohols were also detected in some samples. Fatty alcohols were extracted from cell pellets using ethyl acetate and derivatized with N-trimethylsilyl (TMS) imidazole to increase detection.

[0022] FIG. 6 shows the release of fatty alcohols from the production strain. Approximately 50% of the fatty alcohol produced was released from the cells when they were grown at 37° C.

[0023] FIGS. 7A-7D show GS-MS spectrum of octyl octanoate (C8C8) produced by a production hosts expressing alcohol acetyl transferase (AATs, EC 2.3.1.84) and production hosts expressing wax synthase (EC 2.3.1.75). FIG. 7A shows acetyl acetate extract of strain C41(DE3, ΔfadE/pHZ1. 43)/pRSET B+pAS004.114B) wherein the pHZ1.43 plasmid expressed ADP1 (wax synthase). FIG. 7B shows acetyl

acetate extract of strain C41(DE3, ΔfadE/pHZ1.43)/pRSET B+pAS004.114B) wherein the pHZ1.43 plasmid expressed SAAT. FIG. 7C shows acetyl acetate extract of strain C41 (DE3, ΔfadE/pHZ1.43)/pRSET B+pAS004.114B) wherein the pHZ1.43 plasmid did not contain ADP1 (wax synthase) or SAAT. FIG. 7D shows the mass spectrum and fragmentation pattern of C8C8 produced by C41(DE3, ΔfadE/pHZ1.43)/pRSET B+pAS004.114B) wherein the pHZ1.43 plasmid expressed SAAT).

[0024] FIG. 8 shows the distribution of ethyl esters made when the wax synthase from *A. baylyi* ADP1 (WSadp1) was co-expressed with thioesterase gene from *Cuphea hookeriana* in a production host.

[0025] FIGS. 9A and 9B show chromatograms of GC/MS analysis. FIG. 9A shows a chromatogram of the ethyl extract of the culture of *E. coli* LS9001 strain transformed with plasmids pCDFDuet-1-fadD-WSadp1, pETDuet-1-'tesA. Ethanol was fed to fermentations. FIG. 9B shows a chromatogram of ethyl hexadecanoate and ethyl oleate used as reference.

[0026] FIG. 10 shows a table that identifies various genes that can be over-expressed or attenuated to increase fatty acid derivative production. The table also identifies various genes that can be modulated to alter the structure of the fatty acid derivative product. One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that some of the genes that are used to alter the structure of the fatty acid derivative will also increase the production of fatty acid derivatives.

ABBREVIATIONS AND TERMS

[0027] The following explanations of terms and methods are provided to better describe the present disclosure and to guide those of ordinary skill in the art in the practice of the present disclosure. As used herein, "comprising" means "including" and the singular forms "a" or "an" or "the" include plural references unless the context clearly dictates otherwise. For example, reference to "comprising a cell" includes one or a plurality of such cells, and reference to "comprising the thioesterase" includes reference to one or more thioesterase peptides and equivalents thereof known to those of ordinary skill in the art, and so forth. The term "or" refers to a single element of stated alternative elements or a combination of two or more elements, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. For example, the phrase "thioesterase activity or fatty alcohol-forming acyl-CoA reductase activity" refers to thioesterase activity, fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase activity, or a combination of both fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase activity, and thioesterase activity.

[0028] Unless explained otherwise, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood to one of ordinary skill in the art to which this disclosure belongs. Although methods and materials similar or equivalent to those described herein can be used in the practice or testing of the present disclosure, suitable methods and materials are described below. The materials, methods, and examples are illustrative only and not intended to be limiting. Other features of the disclosure are apparent from the following detailed description and the claims.

[0029] Accession Numbers: The accession numbers throughout this description are derived from the NCBI database (National Center for Biotechnology Information) main-

tained by the National Institute of Health, U.S.A. The accession numbers are as provided in the database on Mar. 27, 2007.

[0030] Enzyme Classification Numbers (EC): The EC numbers provided throughout this description are derived from the KEGG Ligand database, maintained by the Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomics, sponsored in part by the University of Tokyo. The EC numbers are as provided in the database on Mar. 27, 2007.

[0031] Attenuate: To lessen the impact, activity or strength of something. In one example, the sensitivity of a particular enzyme to feedback inhibition or inhibition caused by a composition that is not a product or a reactant (non-pathway specific feedback) is lessened such that the enzyme activity is not impacted by the presence of a compound. For example, the fabH gene and its corresponding amino acid sequence are temperature sensitive and can be altered to decrease the sensitivity to temperature fluctuations. The attenuation of the fabH gene can be used when branched amino acids are desired. In another example, an enzyme that has been altered to be less active can be referred to as attenuated.

[0032] A functional deletion of an enzyme can be used to attenuate an enzyme. A functional deletion is a mutation, partial or complete deletion, insertion, or other variation made to a gene sequence or a sequence controlling the transcription of a gene sequence, which reduces or inhibits production of the gene product, or renders the gene product non-functional (i.e. the mutation described herein for the plsB gene). For example, functional deletion of fabR in *E. coli* reduces the repression of the fatty acid biosynthetic pathway and allows *E. coli* to produce more unsaturated fatty acids (UFAs). In some instances a functional deletion is described as a knock-out mutation.

[0033] One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that there are many methods of attenuating enzyme activity. For example, attenuation can be accomplished by introducing amino acid sequence changes via altering the nucleic acid sequence, placing the gene under the control of a less active promoter, expressing interfering RNA, ribozymes or antisense sequences that targeting the gene of interest, or through any other technique known in the art.

[0034] Carbon source: Generally refers to a substrate or compound suitable to be used as a source of carbon for prokaryotic or simple eukaryotic cell growth. Carbon sources can be in various forms, including, but not limited to polymers, carbohydrates, acids, alcohols, aldehydes, ketones, amino acids, peptides, etc. These include, for example, various monosaccharides such as glucose, oligosaccharides, polysaccharides, cellulosic material, xylose, and arabinose, disaccharides, such sucrose, saturated or unsaturated fatty acids, succinate, lactate, acetate, ethanol, etc., or mixtures thereof. The carbon source can additionally be a product of photosynthesis, including, but not limited to glucose.

[0035] cDNA (complementary DNA): A piece of DNA lacking internal, non-coding segments (introns) and regulatory sequences which determine transcription. cDNA can be synthesized by reverse transcription from messenger RNA extracted from cells.

[0036] Deletion: The removal of one or more nucleotides from a nucleic acid molecule or one or more amino acids from a protein, the regions on either side being joined together.

[0037] Detectable: Capable of having an existence or presence ascertained. For example, production of a product from

a reactant, for example, the production of C18 fatty acids, is detectable using the method provided in Example 11 below.

[0038] DNA: Deoxyribonucleic acid. DNA is a long chain polymer which includes the genetic material of most living organisms (some viruses have genes including ribonucleic acid, RNA). The repeating units in DNA polymers are four different nucleotides, each of which includes one of the four bases, adenine, guanine, cytosine and thymine bound to a deoxyribose sugar to which a phosphate group is attached. Triplets of nucleotides, referred to as codons, in DNA molecules code for amino acid in a peptide. The term codon is also used for the corresponding (and complementary) sequences of three nucleotides in the mRNA into which the DNA sequence is transcribed.

[0039] Endogenous: As used herein with reference to a nucleic acid molecule and a particular cell or microorganism refers to a nucleic acid sequence or peptide that is in the cell and was not introduced into the cell using recombinant engineering techniques. For example, a gene that was present in the cell when the cell was originally isolated from nature. A gene is still considered endogenous if the control sequences, such as a promoter or enhancer sequences that activate transcription or translation have been altered through recombinant techniques.

[0040] Exogenous: As used herein with reference to a nucleic acid molecule and a particular cell refers to any nucleic acid molecule that does not originate from that particular cell as found in nature. Thus, a non-naturally-occurring nucleic acid molecule is considered to be exogenous to a cell once introduced into the cell. A nucleic acid molecule that is naturally-occurring also can be exogenous to a particular cell. For example, an entire coding sequence isolated from cell X is an exogenous nucleic acid with respect to cell Y once that coding sequence is introduced into cell Y, even if X and Y are the same cell type.

[0041] Expression: The process by which a gene's coded information is converted into the structures and functions of a cell, such as a protein, transfer RNA, or ribosomal RNA. Expressed genes include those that are transcribed into mRNA and then translated into protein and those that are transcribed into RNA but not translated into protein (for example, transfer and ribosomal RNAs).

[0042] Fatty ester: Includes any ester made from a fatty acid. The carbon chains in fatty acids can contain any combination of the modifications described herein. For example, the carbon chain can contain one or more points of unsaturation, one or more points of branching, including cyclic branching, and can be engineered to be short or long. Any alcohol can be used to form fatty acid esters, for example alcohols derived from the fatty acid biosynthetic pathway, alcohols produced by the production host through non-fatty acid biosynthetic pathways, and alcohols that are supplied in the fermentation broth.

[0043] Fatty acid derivative: Includes products made in part from the fatty acid biosynthetic pathway of the host organism. The fatty acid biosynthetic pathway includes fatty acid synthase enzymes which can be engineered as described herein to produce fatty acid derivatives, and in some examples can be expressed with additional enzymes to produce fatty acid derivatives having desired carbon chain characteristics. Exemplary fatty acid derivatives include for example, short and long chain alcohols, hydrocarbons, and fatty acid esters including waxes.

[0044] Fermentation Broth: Includes any medium which supports microorganism life (i.e. a microorganism that is actively metabolizing carbon). A fermentation medium usually contains a carbon source. The carbon source can be anything that can be utilized, with or without additional enzymes, by the microorganism for energy.

[0045] Hydrocarbon: includes chemical compounds that containing the elements carbon (C) and hydrogen (H). All hydrocarbons consist of a carbon backbone and atoms of hydrogen attached to that backbone. Sometimes, the term is used as a shortened form of the term "aliphatic hydrocarbon." There are essentially three types of hydrocarbons: (1) aromatic hydrocarbons, which have at least one aromatic ring; (2) saturated hydrocarbons, also known as alkanes, which lack double, triple or aromatic bonds; and (3) unsaturated hydrocarbons, which have one or more double or triple bonds between carbon atoms, are divided into: alkenes, alkynes, and dienes. Liquid geologically-extracted hydrocarbons are referred to as petroleum (literally "rock oil") or mineral oil, while gaseous geologic hydrocarbons are referred to as natural gas. All are significant sources of fuel and raw materials as a feedstock for the production of organic chemicals and are commonly found in the Earth's subsurface using the tools of petroleum geology. Oil reserves in sedimentary rocks are the principal source of hydrocarbons for the energy and chemicals industries. Hydrocarbons are of prime economic importance because they encompass the constituents of the major fossil fuels (coal, petroleum, natural gas, etc.) and biofuels, as well as plastics, waxes, solvents and oils.

[0046] Isolated: An "isolated" biological component (such as a nucleic acid molecule, protein, or cell) has been substantially separated or purified away from other biological components in which the component naturally occurs, such as other chromosomal and extrachromosomal DNA and RNA, and proteins. Nucleic acid molecules and proteins that have been "isolated" include nucleic acid molecules and proteins purified by standard purification methods. The term also embraces nucleic acid molecules and proteins prepared by recombinant expression in a host cell as well as chemically synthesized nucleic acid molecules and proteins.

[0047] In one example, isolated refers to a naturally-occurring nucleic acid molecule that is not immediately contiguous with both of the sequences with which it is immediately contiguous (one on the 5' end and one on the 3' end) in the naturally-occurring genome of the organism from which it is derived.

[0048] Microorganism: Includes prokaryotic and eukaryotic microbial species from the Domains Archaea, Bacteria and Eucarya, the latter including yeast and filamentous fungi, protozoa, algae, or higher Protista. The terms "microbial cells" and "microbes" are used interchangeably with the term microorganism.

[0049] Nucleic Acid Molecule: Encompasses both RNA and DNA molecules including, without limitation, cDNA, genomic DNA, and mRNA. Includes synthetic nucleic acid molecules, such as those that are chemically synthesized or recombinantly produced. The nucleic acid molecule can be double-stranded or single-stranded. Where single-stranded, the nucleic acid molecule can be the sense strand or the antisense strand. In addition, nucleic acid molecule can be circular or linear.

[0050] Operably linked: A first nucleic acid sequence is operably linked with a second nucleic acid sequence when the first nucleic acid sequence is placed in a functional relation-

ship with the second nucleic acid sequence. For instance, a promoter is operably linked to a coding sequence if the promoter affects the transcription or expression of the coding sequence. Generally, operably linked DNA sequences are contiguous and, where necessary to join two protein coding regions, in the same reading frame. Configurations of separate genes that are transcribed in tandem as a single messenger RNA are denoted as operons. Thus placing genes in close proximity, for example in a plasmid vector, under the transcriptional regulation of a single promoter, constitutes a synthetic operon.

[0051] ORF (open reading frame): A series of nucleotide triplets (codons) coding for amino acids without any termination codons. These sequences are usually translatable into a peptide.

[0052] Over-expressed: When a gene is caused to be transcribed at an elevated rate compared to the endogenous transcription rate for that gene. In some examples, over-expression additionally includes an elevated rate of translation of the gene compared to the endogenous translation rate for that gene. Methods of testing for over-expression are well known in the art, for example transcribed RNA levels can be assessed using rtPCR and protein levels can be assessed using SDS page gel analysis.

[0053] Purified: The term purified does not require absolute purity; rather, it is intended as a relative term. Thus, for example, a purified fatty acid derivative preparation, such as a wax, or a fatty acid ester preparation, is one in which the product is more concentrated than the product is in its environment within a cell. For example, a purified wax is one that is substantially separated from cellular components (nucleic acids, lipids, carbohydrates, and other peptides) that can accompany it. In another example, a purified wax preparation is one in which the wax is substantially-free from contaminants, such as those that might be present following fermentation.

In one example, a fatty acid ester is purified when at least about 50% by weight of a sample is composed of the fatty acid ester, for example when at least about 60%, 70%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 92%, 95%, 98%, or 99% or more of a sample is composed of the fatty acid ester. Examples of methods that can be used to purify a waxes, fatty alcohols, and fatty acid esters, include the methods described in Example 11 below. [0055] Recombinant: A recombinant nucleic acid molecule or protein is one that has a sequence that is not naturally occurring, has a sequence that is made by an artificial combination of two otherwise separated segments of sequence, or both. This artificial combination can be achieved, for example, by chemical synthesis or by the artificial manipulation of isolated segments of nucleic acid molecules or proteins, such as genetic engineering techniques. Recombinant is also used to describe nucleic acid molecules that have been artificially manipulated, but contain the same regulatory sequences and coding regions that are found in the organism from which the nucleic acid was isolated. A recombinant cell or microorganism is one that contains an exogenous nucleic acid molecule, such as a recombinant nucleic acid molecule. [0056] Release: The movement of a compound from inside a cell (intracellular) to outside a cell (extracellular). The movement can be active or passive. When release is active it can be facilitated by one or more transporter peptides and in some examples it can consume energy. When release is passive, it can be through diffusion through the membrane and can be facilitated by continually collecting the desired compound from the extracellular environment, thus promoting further diffusion. Release of a compound can also be accomplished by lysing a cell.

[0057] Surfactants: Substances capable of reducing the surface tension of a liquid in which they are dissolved. They are typically composed of a water-soluble head and a hydrocarbon chain or tail. The water soluble group is hydrophilic and can be either ionic or nonionic, and the hydrocarbon chain is hydrophobic. Surfactants are used in a variety of products, including detergents and cleaners, and are also used as auxiliaries for textiles, leather and paper, in chemical processes, in cosmetics and pharmaceuticals, in the food industry and in agriculture. In addition, they can be used to aid in the extraction and isolation of crude oils which are found hard to access environments or as water emulsions.

[0058] There are four types of surfactants characterized by varying uses. Anionic surfactants have detergent-like activity and are generally used for cleaning applications. Cationic surfactants contain long chain hydrocarbons and are often used to treat proteins and synthetic polymers or are components of fabric softeners and hair conditioners. Amphoteric surfactants also contain long chain hydrocarbons and are typically used in shampoos. Non-ionic surfactants are generally used in cleaning products.

[0059] Transformed or recombinant cell: A cell into which a nucleic acid molecule has been introduced, such as an acyl-CoA synthase encoding nucleic acid molecule, for example by molecular biology techniques. Transformation encompasses all techniques by which a nucleic acid molecule can be introduced into such a cell, including, but not limited to, transfection with viral vectors, conjugation, transformation with plasmid vectors, and introduction of naked DNA by electroporation, lipofection, and particle gun acceleration.

[0060] Under conditions that permit product production: Any fermentation conditions that allow a microorganism to produce a desired product, such as fatty acids, hydrocarbons, fatty alcohols, waxes, or fatty acid esters. Fermentation conditions usually include temperature ranges, levels of aeration, and media selection, which when combined allow the microorganism to grow. Exemplary mediums include broths or gels. Generally, the medium includes a carbon source such as glucose, fructose, cellulose, or the like that can be metabolized by the microorganism directly, or enzymes can be used in the medium to facilitate metabolizing the carbon source. To determine if culture conditions permit product production, the microorganism can be cultured for 24, 36, or 48 hours and a sample can be obtained and analyzed. For example, the cells in the sample or the medium in which the cells were grown can be tested for the presence of the desired product. When testing for the presence of a product assays, such as those provided in the Examples below, can be used.

[0061] Vector: A nucleic acid molecule as introduced into a cell, thereby producing a transformed cell. A vector can include nucleic acid sequences that permit it to replicate in the cell, such as an origin of replication. A vector can also include one or more selectable marker genes and other genetic elements known in the art.

[0062] Wax: A variety of fatty acid esters which form solids or pliable substances under an identified set of physical conditions. Fatty acid esters that are termed waxes generally have longer carbon chains than fatty acid esters that are not waxes. For example, a wax generally forms a pliable substance at room temperature.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

I. Production of Fatty Acid Derivatives

[0063] The host organism that exogenous DNA sequences are transformed into can be a modified host organism, such as

an organism that has been modified to increase the production of acyl-ACP or acyl-CoA, reduce the catabolism of fatty acid derivatives and intermediates, or to reduce feedback inhibition at specific points in the biosynthetic pathway. In addition to modifying the genes described herein additional cellular resources can be diverted to over produce fatty acids, for example the lactate, succinate and/or acetate pathways can be attenuated, and acetyl-CoA carboxylase (ACC) can be over expressed. The modifications to the production host described herein can be through genomic alterations, extrachromosomal expression systems, or combinations thereof. An overview of the pathway is provided in FIGS. 1 and 2.

[0064] A. Acetyl-CoA--Malonyl-CoA to Acyl-ACP

[0065] Fatty acid synthase (FAS) is a group of peptides that catalyze the initiation and elongation of acyl chains (Marrakchi et al., *Biochemical Society*, 30:1050-1055, 2002). The acyl carrier protein (ACP) along with the enzymes in the FAS pathway control the length, degree of saturation and branching of the fatty acids produced. Enzymes that can be included in FAS include AccABCD, FabD, FabH, FabG, FabA, FabZ, FabI, FabK, FabL, FabM, FabB, and FabF. Depending upon the desired product one or more of these genes can be attenuated or over-expressed.

[0066] For example, the fatty acid biosynthetic pathway in the production host uses the precursors acetyl-CoA and malonyl-CoA (FIG. 2). E. coli or other host organisms engineered to overproduce these components can serve as the starting point for subsequent genetic engineering steps to provide the specific output product (such as, fatty acid esters, hydrocarbons, fatty alcohols). Several different modifications can be made, either in combination or individually, to the host strain to obtain increased acetyl CoA/malonyl CoA/fatty acid and fatty acid derivative production. For example, to increase acetyl CoA production, a plasmid with pdh, panK, aceEF, (encoding the E1p dehydrogenase component and the E2p dihydrolipoamide acyltransferase component of the pyruvate and 2-oxoglutarate dehydrogenase complexes), fabH/fabD/ fabG/acpP/fabF, and in some examples additional DNA encoding fatty-acyl-CoA reductases and aldehyde decarbonylases, all under the control of a constitutive, or otherwise controllable promoter, can be constructed. Exemplary Genbank accession numbers for these genes are: pdh (BAB34380, AAC73227, AAC73226), panK (also known as coaA, AAC76952), aceEF (AAC73227, AAC73226), fabH (AAC74175), fabD (AAC74176), fabG (AAC74177), acpP (AAC74178), fabF (AAC74179).

[0067] Additionally, fadE, gpsA, ldhA, pflb, adhE, pta, poxB, ackA, and/or ackB can be knocked-out, or their expression levels can be reduced, in the engineered microorganism by transformation with conditionally replicative or non-replicative plasmids containing null or deletion mutations of the corresponding genes, or by substituting promoter or enhancer sequences. Exemplary Genbank accession numbers for these genes are; fadE (AAC73325), gspA (AAC76632), ldhA (AAC74462), pflb (AAC73989), adhE (AAC74323), pta (AAC75357), poxB (AAC73958), ackA (AAC75356), and ackB (BAB81430).

[0068] The resulting engineered microorganisms can be grown in a desired environment, for example one with limited glycerol (less than 1% w/v in the culture medium). As such, these microorganisms will have increased acetyl-CoA production levels. Malonyl-CoA overproduction can be effected by engineering the microorganism as described above, with DNA encoding accABCD (acetyl CoA carboxylase, for

example accession number AAC73296, EC 6.4.1.2) included in the plasmid synthesized de novo. Fatty acid overproduction can be achieved by further including DNA encoding lipase (for example Accessions numbers CAA89087, CAA98876) in the plasmid synthesized de novo.

[0069] In some examples, acetyl-CoA carboxylase (ACC) is over-expressed to increase the intracellular concentration thereof by at least 2-fold, such as at least 5-fold, or at least 10-fold, for example relative to native expression levels.

[0070] In addition, the plsB (for example Accession number AAC7701 1) D311E mutation can be used to remove limitations on the pool of acyl-CoA.

[0071] In addition, over-expression of an sfa gene (suppressor of FabA, for example Accession number AAN79592) can be included in the production host to increase production of monounsaturated fatty acids (Rock et al., *J. Bacteriology* 178:5382-5387, 1996).

[0072] B. Acyl-ACP to Fatty Acid

[0073] To engineer a production host for the production of a homogeneous population of fatty acid derivatives, one or more endogenous genes can be attenuated or functionally deleted and one or more thioesterases can be expressed. For example, C10 fatty acid derivatives can be produced by attenuating thioesterase C18 (for example accession numbers AAC73596 and POADAI), which uses C18:1-ACP and expressing thioesterase C10 (for example accession number Q39513), which uses C10-ACP. Thus, resulting in a relatively homogeneous population of fatty acid derivatives that have a carbon chain length of 10. In another example, C14 fatty acid derivatives can be produced by attenuating endogenous thioesterases that produce non-C14 fatty acids and expressing the thioesterase accession number Q39473 (which uses C14-ACP). In yet another example, C12 fatty acid derivatives can be produced by expressing thioesterases that use C12-ACP (for example accession number Q41635) and attenuating thioesterases that produce non-C12 fatty acids. Acetyl CoA, malonyl CoA, and fatty acid overproduction can be verified using methods known in the art, for example by using radioactive precursors, HPLC, and GC-MS subsequent to cell lysis.

TABLE 1

	Thioe	esterases	
Accession Number	Source Organism	Gene	Preferential product produced
AAC73596	E. coli	tesA without leader sequence	C18:1
Q41635	Umbellularia california	fatB	C12:0
Q39513;	Cuphea hookeriana	fatB2	C8:0-C10:0
AAC49269	Cuphea hookeriana	fatB3	C14:0-C16:0
Q39473	Cinnamonum camphorum	fatB	C14:0
CAA85388	Arabidopsis thaliana	fatB[M141T]*	C16:1
NP 189147; NP 193041	Arabidopsis thaliana	fatA	C18:1
CAC39106	Bradyrhiizobium japonicum	fatA	C18:1
AAC72883	Cuphea hookeriana	fatA	C18:1

^{*}Mayer et al., BMC Plant Biology 7:1-11, 2007.

[0074] C. Fatty Acid to Acyl-CoA

[0075] Production hosts can be engineered using known peptides to produce fatty acids of various lengths. One method of making fatty acids involves increasing the expression of, or expressing more active forms of, one or more acyl-CoA synthase peptides (EC 2.3.1.86).

[0076] As used herein, acyl-CoA synthase includes peptides in enzyme classification number EC 2.3.1.86, as well as any other peptide capable of catalyzing the conversion of a fatty acid to acyl-CoA. Additionally, one of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that some acyl-CoA synthase peptides will catalyze other reactions as well, for example some acyl-CoA synthase peptides will accept other substrates in addition to fatty acids. Such non-specific acyl-CoA synthase peptides are, therefore, also included. Acyl-CoA synthase peptide sequences are publicly available. Exemplary Gen-Bank Accession Numbers are provided in FIG. 10.

[0077] D. Acyl-CoA to Fatty Alcohol

[0078] Production hosts can be engineered using known polypeptides to produce fatty alcohols from acyl-CoA. One method of making fatty alcohols involves increasing the expression of or expressing more active forms of fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase (FAR, EC 1.1.1.*), or acyl-CoA reductases (EC 1.2.1.50) and alcohol dehydrogenase (EC 1.1.1.1). Hereinafter fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase (FAR, EC 1.1.1.*), acyl-CoA reductases (EC 1.2.1.50) and alcohol dehydrogenase (EC 1.1.1.1) are collectively referred to as fatty alcohol forming peptides. In some examples all three of the fatty alcohol forming genes can be over expressed in a production host, and in yet other examples one or more of the fatty alcohol forming genes can be over-expressed.

[0079] As used herein, fatty alcohol forming peptides include peptides in enzyme classification numbers EC 1.1.1. *, 1.2.1.50, and 1.1.1.1, as well as any other peptide capable of catalyzing the conversion of acyl-CoA to fatty alcohol. Additionally, one of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that some fatty alcohol forming peptides will catalyze other reactions as well, for example some acyl-CoA reductase peptides will accept other substrates in addition to fatty acids. Such non-specific peptides are, therefore, also included. Fatty alcohol forming peptides sequences are publicly available. Exemplary GenBank Accession Numbers are provided in FIG. 10.

[0080] Fatty alcohols can also be described as hydrocarbon-based surfactants. For surfactant production the microorganism is modified so that it produces a surfactant from a renewable carbon source. Such a microorganism includes a first exogenous DNA sequence encoding a protein capable of converting a fatty acid to a fatty aldehyde and a second exogenous DNA sequence encoding a protein capable of converting a fatty aldehyde to an alcohol. In some examples, the first exogenous DNA sequence encodes a fatty acid reductase. In one embodiment, the second exogenous DNA sequence encodes mammalian microsomal aldehyde reductase or longchain aldehyde dehydrogenase. In a further example, the first and second exogenous DNA sequences are from a multienzyme complex from Arthrobacter AK 19, Rhodotorula glutinins, Acinobacter sp strain. M-1, or Candida lipolytica. In one embodiment, the first and second heterologous DNA sequences are from a multienzyme complex from Acinobacter sp strain M-1 or Candida lipolytica.

[0081] Additional sources of heterologous DNA sequences encoding fatty acid to long chain alcohol converting proteins

that can be used in surfactant production include, but are not limited to, *Mortierella alpina* (ATCC 32222), *Crytococcus curvatus*, (also referred to as *Apiotricum curvatum*), *Alcanivorax jadensis* (T9T=DSM 12718=ATCC 700854), *Acinetobacter* sp. HO1-N, (ATCC 14987) and *Rhodococcus opacus* (PD630 DSMZ 44193).

[0082] In one example, the fatty acid derivative is a saturated or unsaturated surfactant product having a carbon atom content limited to between 6 and 36 carbon atoms. In another example, the surfactant product has a carbon atom content limited to between 24 and 32 carbon atoms.

[0083] Appropriate hosts for producing surfactants can be either eukaryotic or prokaryotic microorganisms. Exemplary hosts include *Arthrobacter AK* 19, *Rhodotorula glutinins*, *Acinobacter* sp strain M-1, *Arabidopsis thalania*, or *Candida lipolytica*, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, and *E. coli* engineered to express acetyl CoA carboxylase. Hosts which demonstrate an innate ability to synthesize high levels of surfactant precursors in the form of lipids and oils, such as *Rhodococcus opacus*, *Arthrobacter AK* 19, *Rhodotorula glutinins E. coli* engineered to express acetyl CoA carboxylase, and other oleaginous bacteria, yeast, and fungi can also be used.

[0084] E. Fatty Alcohols to Fatty Esters

[0085] Production hosts can be engineered using known polypeptides to produce fatty esters of various lengths. One method of making fatty esters includes increasing the expression of, or expressing more active forms of, one or more alcohol O-acetyltransferase peptides (EC 2.3.1.84). These peptides catalyze the reaction of acetyl-CoA and an alcohol to form CoA and an acetic ester. In some examples the alcohol O-acetyltransferase peptides can be expressed in conjunction with selected thioesterase peptides, FAS peptides and fatty alcohol forming peptides, thus, allowing the carbon chain length, saturation and degree of branching to be controlled. In some cases the bkd operon can be coexpressed to enable branched fatty acid precursors to be produced.

[0086] As used herein, alcohol O-acetyltransferase peptides include peptides in enzyme classification number EC 2.3.1.84, as well as any other peptide capable of catalyzing the conversion of acetyl-CoA and an alcohol to form CoA and an acetic ester. Additionally, one of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that alcohol O-acetyltransferase peptides will catalyze other reactions as well, for example some alcohol O-acetyltransferase peptides will accept other substrates in addition to fatty alcohols or acetyl-CoA thiosester i.e., such as other alcohols and other acyl-CoA thioesters. Such non-specific or divergent specificity alcohol O-acetyltransferase peptides are, therefore, also included. Alcohol O-acetyltransferase peptide sequences are publicly available. Exemplary GenBank Accession Numbers are provided in FIG. 10. Assays for characterizing the activity of a particular alcohol O-acetyltransferase peptides are well known in the art. Engineered O-acetyltransferases and O-acyltransferases can be also created that have new activities and specificities for the donor acyl group or acceptor alcohol moiety. Engineered enzymes could be generated through rational and evolutionary approaches well documented in the art.

[0088] F. Acyl-CoA to Fatty Esters (Biodiesels and Waxes) [0088] Production hosts can be engineered using known peptides to produce fatty acid esters from acyl-CoA and alcohols. In some examples the alcohols are provided in the fermentation media and in other examples the production host can provide the alcohol as described herein. One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that structurally, fatty acid esters

have an A and a B side. As described herein, the A side of the ester is used to describe the carbon chain contributed by the alcohol, and the B side of the ester is used to describe the carbon chain contributed by the acyl-CoA. Either chain can be saturated or unsaturated, branched or unbranched. The production host can be engineered to produce fatty alcohols or short chain alcohols. The production host can also be engineered to produce specific acyl-CoA molecules. As used herein fatty acid esters are esters derived from a fatty acyl-thioester and an alcohol, wherein the A side and the B side of the ester can vary in length independently. Generally, the A side of the ester is at least 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 carbons in length, while the B side of the ester is 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, or 26 carbons in length. The A side and the B side can be straight chain or branched, saturated or unsaturated.

[0089] The production of fatty esters, including waxes from acyl-CoA and alcohols can be engineered using known polypeptides. As used herein waxes are long chain fatty acid esters, wherein the A side and the B side of the ester can vary in length independently. Generally, the A side of the ester is at least 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, or 26 carbons in length. Similarly the B side of the ester is at least 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, or 26 carbons in length. The A side and the B side can be mono-, di-, tri- unsaturated. The production of fatty esters, including waxes from acyl-CoA and alcohols can be engineered using known polypeptides. One method of making fatty esters includes increasing the expression of or expressing more active forms of one or more wax synthases (EC 2.3.1.75).

[0090] As used herein, wax synthases includes peptides in enzyme classification number EC 2.3.1.75, as well as any other peptide capable of catalyzing the conversion of an acylthioester to fatty esters. Additionally, one of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that some wax synthase peptides will catalyze other reactions as well, for example some wax synthase peptides will accept short chain acyl-CoAs and short chain alcohols to produce fatty esters. Such non-specific wax synthases are, therefore, also included. Wax synthase peptide sequences are publicly available. Exemplary GenBank Accession Numbers are provided in FIG. 10. Methods to identify wax synthase activity are provided in U.S. Pat. No. 7,118,896, which is herein incorporated by reference.

[0091] In particular examples, if the desired product is a fatty ester based biofuel, the microorganism is modified so that it produces a fatty ester generated from a renewable energy source. Such a microorganism includes an exongenous DNA sequence encoding a wax ester synthase that is expressed so as to confer upon said microorganism the ability to synthesize a saturated, unsaturated, or branched fatty ester from a renewable energy source. In some embodiments, the wax ester synthesis proteins include, but are not limited to,: fatty acid elongases, acyl-CoA reductases, acyltransferases or wax synthases, fatty acyl transferases, diacylglycerol acyltransferases, acyl-coA wax alcohol acyltransferases, bifunctional wax ester synthase/acyl-CoA:diacylglycerol acyltransferase selected from a multienzyme complex from Simmondsia chinensis, Acinetobacter sp. strain ADP1 (formerly Acinetobacter calcoaceticus ADP1), Pseudomonas aeruginosa, Fundibacter jadensis, Arabidopsis thaliana, or Alkaligenes eutrophus. In one embodiment, the fatty acid elongases, acyl-CoA reductases or wax synthases are from a multienzyme complex from Alkaligenes eutrophus and other organisms known in the literature to produce wax and fatty acid esters.

[0092] Additional sources of heterologous DNA encoding wax synthesis proteins useful in fatty ester production include, but are not limited to, *Mortierella alpina* (for example ATCC 32222), *Crytococcus curvatus*, (also referred to as *Apiotricwn curvatum*), *Alcanivorax jadensis* (for example T9T=DSM 12718=ATCC 700854), *Acinetobacter* sp. HO1-N, (for example ATCC 14987) and *Rhodococcus opacus* (for example PD630, DSMZ 44193).

[0093] The methods of described herein permit production of fatty esters of varied length. In one example, the fatty ester product is a saturated or unsaturated fatty ester product having a carbon atom content between 24 and 46 carbon atoms. In one embodiment, the fatty ester product has a carbon atom content between 24 and 32 carbon atoms. In another embodiment the fatty ester product has a carbon content of 14 and 20 carbons. In another embodiment the fatty ester is the methyl ester of C18:1. In another embodiment the fatty acid ester is the methyl ester of C16:1. In another embodiment the fatty ester is the methyl ester of C16:1. In another embodiment the fatty acid ester is octadecyl ester of octanol.

[0094] Useful hosts for producing fatty esters can be either eukaryotic or prokaryotic microorganisms. In some embodiments such hosts include, but are not limited to, Saccharomyces cerevisiae, Candida lipolytica, E. coli, Arthrobacter AK 19, Rhodotorula glutinins, Acinobacter sp strain M-1, Candida lipolytica and other oleaginous microorganisms.

[0095] In one example the wax ester synthase from *Acinetobacter* sp. ADP1 at locus AAO17391 (described in Kalscheuer and Steinbuchel, *J. Biol. Chem.* 278:8075-8082, 2003, herein incorporated by reference) is used. In another example the wax ester synthase from *Simmondsia chinensis*, at locus AAD38041 is used.

[0096] Optionally a wax ester exporter such as a member of the FATP family can be used to facilitate the release of waxes or esters into the extracellular environment. One example of a wax ester exporter that can be used is fatty acid (long chain) transport protein CG7400-PA, isoform A from *Drosophila melanogaster*, at locus NP_524723.

[0097] G. Acyl-ACP, Acyl-CoA to Hydrocarbon

[0098] A diversity of microorganisms are known to produce hydrocarbons, such as alkanes, olefins, and isoprenoids. Many of these hydrocarbons are derived from fatty acid biosynthesis. The production of these hydrocarbons can be controlled by controlling the genes associated with fatty acid biosynthesis in the native hosts. For example, hydrocarbon biosynthesis in the algae *Botryococcus braunii* occurs through the decarbonylation of fatty aldehydes. The fatty aldehydes are produced by the reduction of fatty acylthioesters by fatty acyl-CoA reductase. Thus, the structure of the final alkanes can be controlled by engineering B. braunii to express specific genes, such as thioesterases, which control the chain length of the fatty acids being channeled into alkane biosynthesis. Expressing the enzymes that result in branched chain fatty acid biosynthesis in B. braunii will result in the production of branched chain alkanes. Introduction of genes effecting the production of desaturation of fatty acids will result in the production of olefins. Further combinations of these genes can provide further control over the final structure of the hydrocarbons produced. To produce higher levels of the native or engineered hydrocarbons, the genes involved in the biosynthesis of fatty acids and their precursors or the degradation to other products can be expressed, overexpressed, or attenuated. Each of these approaches can be applied to the production of alkanes in Vibrio furnissi M1 and its functional

homologues, which produces alkanes through the reduction of fatty alcohols (see above for the biosynthesis and engineering of fatty alcohol production). Each of these approaches can also be applied to the production of the olefins produced by many strains of *Micrococcus leuteus*, *Stenotrophomonas maltophilia*, *Jeogalicoccus* sp. (ATCC8456), and related microorganisms. These microorganisms produce long chain internal olefins that are derived from the head to head condensation of fatty acid precursors. Controlling the structure and level of the fatty acid precursors using the methods described herein will result in formation of olefins of different chain length, branching, and level of saturation.

[0099] Hydrocarbons can also be produced using evolved oxido/reductases for the reduction of primary alcohols. Primary fatty alcohols are known to be used to produce alkanes in microorganisms such as Vibrio furnissii M1 (Myong-Ok, J. Bacteriol., 187:1426-1429, 2005). An NAD(P)H dependent oxido/reductase is the responsible catalyst. Synthetic NAD (P)H dependent oxidoreductases can be produced through the use of evolutionary engineering and be expressed in production hosts to produce fatty acid derivatives. One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the process of "evolving" a fatty alcohol reductase to have the desired activity is well known (Kolkman and Stemmer Nat Biotechnol. 19:423-8, 2001, Ness et al., Adv Protein Chem. 55:261-92, 2000, Minshull and Stemmer Curr Opin Chem Biol. 3:284-90, 1999, Huisman and Gray Curr Opin Biotechnol. August; 13:352-8, 2002, and see U.S. patent application 2006/0195947). A library of NAD(P)H dependent oxidoreductases is generated by standard methods, such as error prone PCR, site-specific random mutagenesis, site specific saturation mutagenesis, or site directed specific mutagenesis. Additionally, a library can be created through the "shuffling" of naturally occurring NAD(P)H dependent oxidoreductase encoding sequences. The library is expressed in a suitable host, such as $E.\ coli.$ Individual colonies expressing a different member of the oxido/reductase library is then analyzed for its expression of an oxido/reductase that can catalyze the reduction of a fatty alcohol. For example, each cell can be assayed as a whole cell bioconversion, a cell extract, a permeabilized cell, or a purified enzyme. Fatty alcohol reductases are identified by the monitoring the fatty alcohol dependent oxidation of NAD (P)H spectrophotometrically or fluorometrically. Production of alkanes is monitored by GC/MS, TLC, or other methods. An oxido/reductase identified in this manner is used to produce alkanes, alkenes, and related branched hydrocarbons. This is achieved either in vitro or in vivo. The latter is achieved by expressing the evolved fatty alcohol reductase gene in an organism that produces fatty alcohols, such as those described herein. The fatty alcohols act as substrates for the alcohol reductase which would produce alkanes. Other oxidoreductases can be also engineered to catalyze this reaction, such as those that use molecular hydrogen, glutathione, FADH, or other reductive coenzymes.

II. Genetic Engineering of Production Strain to increase Fatty Acid Derivative Production

[0100] Heterologous DNA sequences involved in a biosynthetic pathway for the production of fatty acid derivatives can be introduced stably or transiently into a host cell using techniques well known in the art for example electroporation, calcium phosphate precipitation, DEAE-dextran mediated transfection, liposome-mediated transfection, conjugation, transduction, and the like. For stable transformation, a DNA sequence can further include a selectable marker, such as,

antibiotic resistance, for example resistance to neomycin, tetracycline, chloramphenicol, kanamycin, genes that complement auxotrophic deficiencies, and the like.

[0101] Various embodiments of this disclosure utilize an expression vector that includes a heterologous DNA sequence encoding a protein involved in a metabolic or biosynthetic pathway. Suitable expression vectors include, but are not limited to, viral vectors, such as baculovirus vectors, phage vectors, such as bacteriophage vectors, plasmids, phagemids, cosmids, fosmids, bacterial artificial chromosomes, viral vectors (e.g. viral vectors based on vaccinia virus, poliovirus, adenovirus, adeno-associated virus, SV40, herpes simplex virus, and the like), P1-based artificial chromosomes, yeast plasmids, yeast artificial chromosomes, and any other vectors specific for specific hosts of interest (such as E. coli, Pseudomonas pisum and Saccharomyces cerevisiae). [0102] Useful expression vectors can include one or more selectable marker genes to provide a phenotypic trait for selection of transformed host cells. The selectable marker gene encodes a protein necessary for the survival or growth of transformed host cells grown in a selective culture medium. Host cells not transformed with the vector containing the selectable marker gene will not survive in the culture medium. Typical selection genes encode proteins that (a) confer resistance to antibiotics or other toxins, e.g., ampicillin, neomycin, methotrexate, or tetracycline, (b) complement auxotrophic deficiencies, or (c) supply critical nutrients not available from complex media, e.g., the gene encoding D-alanine racemase for *Bacilli*. In alternative embodiments, the selectable marker gene is one that encodes dihydrofolate reductase or confers neomycin resistance (for use in eukaryotic cell culture), or one that confers tetracycline or ampicillin resistance (for use in a prokaryotic host cell, such as *E. coli*). [0103] The biosynthetic pathway gene product-encoding DNA sequence in the expression vector is operably linked to an appropriate expression control sequence, (promoters, enhancers, and the like) to direct synthesis of the encoded gene product. Such promoters can be derived from microbial or viral sources, including CMV and SV40. Depending on the host/vector system utilized, any of a number of suitable transcription and translation control elements, including constitutive and inducible promoters, transcription enhancer elements, transcription terminators, etc. can be used in the expression vector (see e.g., Bitter et al., Methods in Enzymology, 153:516-544, 1987).

[0104] Suitable promoters for use in prokaryotic host cells include, but are not limited to, promoters capable of recognizing the T4, T3, Sp6 and T7 polymerases, the P_R and P_L promoters of bacteriophage lambda, the trp, recA, heat shock, and lacZ promoters of $E.\ coli$, the alpha-amylase and the sigma-specific promoters of $B.\ subtilis$, the promoters of the bacteriophages of Bacillus, Streptomyces promoters, the int promoter of bacteriophage lambda, the bla promoter of the beta-lactamase gene of pBR322, and the CAT promoter of the chloramphenicol acetyl transferase gene. Prokaryotic promoters are reviewed by Glick, $J.\ Ind.\ Microbiol.\ 1:277, 1987;$ Watson et al., MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF THE GENE, 4th Ed., Benjamin Cummins (1987); and Sambrook et al., supra.

[0105] Non-limiting examples of suitable eukaryotic promoters for use within a eukaryotic host are viral in origin and include the promoter of the mouse metallothionein I gene (Hamer et al., *J. Mol. Appl. Gen.* 1:273, 1982); the TK promoter of Herpes virus (McKnight, *Cell* 31:355, 1982); the

SV40 early promoter (Benoist et al., *Nature* (London) 290: 304, 1981); the Rous sarcoma virus promoter; the cytomegalovirus promoter (Foecking et al., *Gene* 45:101, 1980); the yeast gal4 gene promoter (Johnston, et al., *PNAS* (USA) 79:6971, 1982; Silver, et al., *PNAS* (USA) 81:5951, 1984); and the IgG promoter (Orlandi et al., *PNAS* (USA) 86:3833, 1989).

[0106] The microbial host cell can be genetically modified with a heterologous DNA sequence encoding a biosynthetic pathway gene product that is operably linked to an inducible promoter. Inducible promoters are well known in the art. Suitable inducible promoters include, but are not limited to promoters that are affected by proteins, metabolites, or chemicals. These include: a bovine leukemia virus promoter, a metallothionein promoter, a dexamethasone-inducible MMTV promoter, a SV40 promoter, a MRP polIII promoter, a tetracycline-inducible CMV promoter (such as the human immediate-early CMV promoter) as well as those from the trp and lac operons.

[0107] In some examples a genetically modified host cell is genetically modified with a heterologous DNA sequence encoding a biosynthetic pathway gene product that is operably linked to a constitutive promoter. Suitable constitutive promoters are known in the art and include, constitutive adenovirus major late promoter, a constitutive MPSV promoter, and a constitutive CMV promoter.

[0108] In some examples a modified host cell is one that is genetically modified with an exongenous DNA sequence encoding a single protein involved in a biosynthesis pathway. [0109] In other embodiments, a modified host cell is one that is genetically modified with exongenous DNA sequences encoding two or more proteins involved in a biosynthesis pathway--for example, the first and second enzymes in a biosynthetic pathway.

[0110] Where the host cell is genetically modified to express two or more proteins involved in a biosynthetic pathway, those DNA sequences can each be contained in a single or in separate expression vectors. When those DNA sequences are contained in a single expression vector, in some embodiments, the nucleotide sequences will be operably linked to a common control element (e.g., a promoter), e.g., the common control element controls expression of all of the biosynthetic pathway protein-encoding DNA sequences in the single expression vector.

[0111] When a modified host cell is genetically modified with heterologous DNA sequences encoding two or more proteins involved in a biosynthesis pathway, one of the DNA sequences can be operably linked to an inducible promoter, and one or more of the DNA sequences can be operably linked to a constitutive promoter.

[0112] In some embodiments, the intracellular concentration (e.g., the concentration of the intermediate in the genetically modified host cell) of the biosynthetic pathway intermediate can be increased to further boost the yield of the final product. The intracellular concentration of the intermediate can be increased in a number of ways, including, but not limited to, increasing the concentration in the culture medium of a substrate for a biosynthetic pathway; increasing the catalytic activity of an enzyme that is active in the biosynthetic pathway; increasing the intracellular amount of a substrate (e.g., a primary substrate) for an enzyme that is active in the biosynthetic pathway; and the like.

[0113] In some examples the fatty acid derivative or intermediate is produced in the cytoplasm of the cell. The cyto-

plasmic concentration can be increased in a number of ways, including, but not limited to, binding of the fatty acid to coenzyme A to form an acyl-CoA thioester. Additionally, the concentration of acyl-CoAs can be increased by increasing the biosynthesis of CoA in the cell, such as by over-expressing genes associated with pantothenate biosynthesis (panD) or knocking out the genes associated with glutathione biosynthesis (glutathione synthase).

III. Carbon Chain Characteristics

[0114] Using the teachings provided herein a range of products can be produced. These products include hydrocarbons, fatty alcohols, fatty acid esters, and waxes. Some of these products are useful as biofuels and specialty chemicals. These products can be designed and produced in microorganisms. The products can be produced such that they contain branch points, levels of saturation, and carbon chain length, thus, making these products desirable starting materials for use in many applications (FIG. 10 provides a description of the various enzymes that can be used alone or in combination to make various fatty acid derivatives).

[0115] In other examples, the expression of exongenous FAS genes originating from different species or engineered variants can be introduced into the host cell to result in the biosynthesis of fatty acid metabolites structurally different (in length, branching, degree of unsaturation, etc.) as that of the native host. These heterologous gene products can be also chosen or engineered so that they are unaffected by the natural complex regulatory mechanisms in the host cell and, therefore, function in a manner that is more controllable for the production of the desired commercial product. For example the FAS enzymes from *Bacillus subtilis, Saccharomyces cerevisiae, Streptomyces* spp, *Ralstonia, Rhodococcus, Corynebacteria, Brevibacteria, Mycobacteria*, oleaginous yeast, and the like can be expressed in the production host.

[0116] One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that when a production host is engineered to produce a fatty acid from the fatty acid biosynthetic pathway that contains a specific level of unsaturation, branching, or carbon chain length the resulting engineered fatty acid can be used in the production of the fatty acid derivatives. Hence, fatty acid derivatives generated from the production host can display the characteristics of the engineered fatty acid. For example, a production host can be engineered to make branched, short chain fatty acids, and then using the teachings provided herein relating to fatty alcohol production (i.e. including alcohol forming enzymes such as FAR) the production host produce branched, short chain fatty alcohols. Similarly, a hydrocarbon can be produced by engineering a production host to produce a fatty acid having a defined level of branching, unsaturation, and/or carbon chain length, thus, producing a homogenous hydrocarbon population. Moreover, when an unsaturated alcohol, fatty acid ester, or hydrocarbon is desired the fatty acid biosynthetic pathway can be engineered to produce low levels of saturated fatty acids and an additional desaturase can be expressed to lessen the saturated product production.

[0117] A. Saturation

[0118] Production hosts can be engineered to produce unsaturated fatty acids by engineering the production host to over-express fabB, or by growing the production host at low temperatures (for example less than 37° C.). FabB has preference to cis- δ^3 decenoyl-ACP and results in unsaturated fatty acid production in *E. coli*. Over-expression of FabB resulted

in the production of a significant percentage of unsaturated fatty acids (de Mendoza et al., J. Biol. Chem., 258:2098-101, 1983). These unsaturated fatty acids can then be used as intermediates in production hosts that are engineered to produce fatty acid derivatives, such as fatty alcohols, esters, waxes, olefins, alkanes, and the like. One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that by attenuating fabA, or overexpressing FabB and expressing specific thioesterases (described below), unsaturated fatty acid derivatives having a desired carbon chain length can be produced. Alternatively, the repressor of fatty acid biosynthesis, FabR (Genbank accession NP_418398), can be deleted, which will also result in increased unsaturated fatty acid production in $E.\ coli$ (Zhang et al., J. Biol. Chem. 277:pp. 15558, 2002.). Further increase in unsaturated fatty acids may be achieved by overexpression of FabM (trans-2, cis-3-decenoyl-ACP isomerase, Genbank accession DAA05501) and controlled expression of FabK (trans-2-enoyl-ACP reductase II, Genbank accession NP_357969) from Streptococcus pneumoniae (Marrakchi et al., J. Biol. Chem. 277: 44809, 2002), while deleting E. coli Fab I ((trans-2-enoyl-ACP reductase, Genbank accession NP_415804). Additionally, to increase the percentage of unsaturated fatty acid esters, the microorganism can also have fabB (encoding β-ketoacyl-ACP synthase I, Accessions: BAA16180, EC:2.3.1.41), Sfa (encoding a suppressor of fabA, Accession: AAC44390) and gnsA and gnsB (both encoding secG null mutant suppressors, a.k.a. cold shock proteins, Accession: ABD18647.1, AAC74076.1) over-expressed.

[0119] In some examples, the endogenous fabF gene can be attenuated, thus, increasing the percentage of palmitoleate (C16:1) produced.

[0120] B. Branching Including Cyclic Moieties

[0121] Fatty acid derivatives can be produced that contain branch points, cyclic moieties, and combinations thereof, using the teachings provided herein.

[0122] Microorganisms that naturally produce straight fatty acids (sFAs) can be engineered to produce branched chain fatty acids (brFAs) by expressing one or more exogenous nucleic acid sequences. For example, *E. coli* naturally produces straight fatty acids (sFAs). To engineer *E. coli* to produce brFAs, several genes can be introduced and expressed that provide branched precursors (bkd operon) and allow initiation of fatty acid biosynthesis from branched precursors (fabH). Additionally, the organism can express genes for the elongation of brFAs (e.g. ACP, FabF) and/or deleting the corresponding *E. coli* genes that normally lead to sFAs and would compete with the introduced genes (e.g. FabH, FabF).

[0123] The branched acyl-CoAs 2-methyl-buturyl-CoA, isovaleryl-CoA and isobuturyl-CoA are the precursors of brFA. In most brFA-containing microorganisms they are synthesized in two steps (described in detail below) from branched amino acids (isoleucine, leucine and valine) (Kadena, *Microbiol. Rev.* 55: pp. 288, 1991). To engineer a microorganism to produce brFAs, or to overproduce brFAs, expression or over-expression of one or more of the enzymes in these two steps can be engineered. For example, in some instances the production host may have an endogenous enzyme that can accomplish one step and therefore, only enzymes involved in the second step need to be expressed recombinantly.

[0124] The first step in forming branched fatty acids is the production of the corresponding α -keto acids by a branched-

chain amino acid aminotransferase. *E. coli* has such an enzyme, IlvE (EC 2.6.1.42; Genbank accession YP_026247). In some examples, a heterologous branched-chain amino acid aminotransferase may not be expressed. However, *E. coli* IlvE or any other branched-chain amino acid aminotransferase, e.g. ilvE from *Lactococcus lactis* (Genbank accession AAF34406), ilvE from *Pseudomonas putida* (Genbank accession NP_745648) or ilvE from *Streptomyces coelicolor* (Genbank accession NP_629657) can be overexpressed in a host microorganism, should the aminotransferase reaction turn out to be rate limiting in brFA biosynthesis in the host organism chosen for fatty acid derivative production.

[0125] The second step, the oxidative decarboxylation of the α -ketoacids to the corresponding branched-chain acyl-CoA, is catalyzed by a branched-chain α-keto acid dehydrogenase complexes (bkd; EC 1.2.4.4.) (Denoya et al. J. Bacteriol. 177:pp. 3504, 1995), which consist of $E1\alpha/\beta$ (decarboxylase), E2 (dihydrolipoyl transacylase) and E3 (dihydrolipoyl dehydrogenase) subunits and are similar to pyruvate and α-ketoglutarate dehydrogenase complexes. Table 2 shows potential bkd genes from several microorganisms, that can be expressed in a production host to provide branchedchain acyl-CoA precursors. Basically, every microorganism that possesses brFAs and/or grows on branched-chain amino acids can be used as a source to isolate bkd genes for expression in production hosts such as, for example, E. coli. Furthermore, E. coli has the E3 component (as part of its pyruvate dehydrogenase complex; 1pd, EC 1.8.1.4, Genbank accession NP_414658), it can therefore, be sufficient to only express the $E1\alpha/\beta$ and E2 bkd genes.

TABLE 2

Bkd genes from selected microorganisms		
Organism	Gene	Genbank Accession#
Streptomyces coelicolor	bkdA1 (E1α)	NP_628006
	bkdB1 (E1α)	NP_628005
Strantomyaga apalicalar	bkdC1 (E2) bkdA2 (E1α)	NP_638004 NP_733618
Streptomyces coelicolor	$bkdB2 (E1\alpha)$	NP 628019
	bkdC2 (E2)	NP_628018
Streptomyces avermitilis	bkdA (E1a)	BAC72074
1 2	bkdB (E1b)	BAC72075
	bkdC (E2)	BAC72076
Streptomyces avermitilis	bkdF (E1α)	BAC72088
	bkdG (E1 α)	BAC72089
	bkdH (E2)	BAC72090
Bacillus subtilis	$bkdAA (E1\alpha)$	NP_390288
	$bkdAB (E1\alpha)$	NP_390288
	bkdB (E2)	NP_390288
Pseudomonas putida	bkdA1 (E1α)	AAA65614
	bkdA2 (E1 α)	AAA65615
	bkdC (E2)	AAA65617

[0126] In another example, isobuturyl-CoA can be made in a production host, for example in *E. coli* through the coexpression of a crotonyl-CoA reductase (Ccr, EC 1.1.1.9) and isobuturyl-CoA mutase (large subunit IcmA, EC 5.4.99.2; small subunit IcmB, EC 5.4.99.13) (Han and Reynolds *J. Bacteriol.* 179:pp. 5157, 1997). Crotonyl-CoA is an intermediate in fatty acid biosynthesis in *E. coli* and other microorganisms. Examples for ccr and icm genes from selected microorganisms are given in Table 3.

TABLE 3

Organism	Gene	Genbank Accession #
Streptomyces coelicolor	ccr icmA icmB	NP_630556 NP_629554 NP_630904
Streptomyces cinnamonensis	ccr icmA icmB	AAD53915 AAC08713 AJ246005

[0127] In addition to expression of the bkd genes (see above), the initiation of brFA biosynthesis utilizes β -ketoacyl-acyl-carrier-protein synthase III (FabH, EC 2.3.1.41) with specificity for branched chain acyl CoAs (Li et al. J. Bacteriol. 187:pp. 3795, 2005). Examples of such FabHs are listed in Table 4. FabH genes that are involved in fatty acid biosynthesis of any brFA-containing microorganism can be expressed in a production host. The Bkd and FabH enzymes from production hosts that do not naturally make brFA may not support brFA production and therefore, Bkd and FabH can be expressed recombinantly. Similarly, the endogenous level of Bkd and FabH production may not be sufficient to produce brFA, therefore, they can be over-expressed. Additionally, other components of fatty acid biosynthesis machinery can be expressed such as acyl carrier proteins (ACPs) and β-ketoacyl-acyl-carrier-protein synthase II candidates are acyl carrier proteins (ACPs) and β-ketoacyl-acyl-carrier-protein synthase II (fabF, EC 2.3.1.41) (candidates are listed in Table 4). In addition to expressing these genes, some genes in the endogenous fatty acid biosynthesis pathway may be attenuated in the production host. For example, in E. coli the most likely candidates to interfere with brFA biosynthesis are fabH (Genbank accession # NP_415609) and/or fabF genes (Genbank accession #NP_415613).

[0128] As mentioned above, through the combination of expressing genes that support brFA synthesis and alcohol synthesis branched chain alcohols can be produced. For example, when an alcohol reductase such as Acrl from *Acinetobacter baylyi* ADP1 is coexpressed with a bkd operon, *E. coli* can synthesize isopentanol, isobutanol or 2-methyl butanol. Similarly, when Acrl is coexpressed with ccr/icm genes, *E. coli* can synthesize isobutanol.

[0129] In order to convert a production host such as $E.\ coli$ into an organism capable of synthesizing co-cyclic fatty acids (cyFAs), several genes need to be introduced and expressed that provide the cyclic precursor cyclohexylcarbonyl-CoA (Cropp et al. *Nature Biotech.* 18:pp. 980, 2000). The genes listed in Table 4 (fabH, ACP and fabF) can then be expressed to allow initiation and elongation of ω -cyclic fatty acids. Alternatively, the homologous genes can be isolated from microorganisms that make cyFAs and expressed in $E.\ coli$.

TABLE 4

FabH, ACP and fabF genes from selected microorganisms with brFAs		
Organism	Gene	Genbank Accession #
Streptomyces coelicolor Streptomyces avermitilis	fabH1 ACP fabF fabH3 fabC3 (ACP) fabF	NP_626634 NP_626635 NP_626636 NP_823466 NP_823467 NP_823468

TABLE 4-continued

FabH, ACP and fabF	genes from selected microorganisms with brFAs	
Organism	Gene	Genbank Accession#
Bacillus subtilis	fabH_A fabH_B ACP fabF	NP_389015 NP_388898 NP_389474 NP_389016
Stenotrophomonas maltophilia	SmalDRAFT_0818 (FabH) SmalDRAFT_0821 (ACP) SmalDRAFT_0822 (FabF)	ZP_01643059 ZP_01643063 ZP_01643064
Legionella pneumophila	FabH ACP fabF	YP_123672 YP_123675 YP_123676

[0130] Expression of the following genes are sufficient to provide cyclohexylcarbonyl-CoA in *E. coli*: ansJ, ansK, ansL, chcA and ansM from the ansatrienin gene cluster of *Streptomyces collinus* (Chen et al., *Eur. J. Biochem.* 261:pp. 1999, 1999) or plmJ, plmL, chcA and plmM from the phoslactomycin B gene cluster of *Streptomyces* sp. HK803 (Palaniappan et al., *J. Biol. Chem.* 278:pp. 35552, 2003) together with the chcB gene (Patton et al. *Biochem.*, 39:pp. 7595, 2000) from *S. collinus*, *S. avermitilis* or *S. coelicolor* (see Table 5 for Genbank accession numbers).

TABLE 5

Genes for the synthesis of cyclohexylcarbonyl-CoA		
Organism	Gene	Genbank Accession #
Streptomyces collinus	ansJK ansL chcA ansL	U72144*
Streptomyces sp. HK803	chcB pmlJK pmlL chcA pmlM	AF268489 AAQ84158 AAQ84159 AAQ84160 AAQ84161
Streptomyces coelicolor Streptomyces avermitilis	chcB/caiD chcB/caiD	NP_629292 NP_629292

Only chcA is annotated in Genbank entry U72144, ansJKLM are according to Chen et al. (Eur. J. Biochem. 261: pp. 1999, 1999)

[0131] The genes listed in Table 4 (fabH, ACP and fabF) are sufficient to allow initiation and elongation of co-cyclic fatty acids, because they can have broad substrate specificity. In the event that coexpression of any of these genes with the ansJKLM/chcAB or pm1JKLM/chcAB genes from Table 5 does not yield cyFAs, fabH, ACP and/or fabF homologs from microorganisms that make cyFAs can be isolated (e.g. by using degenerate PCR primers or heterologous DNA probes) and coexpressed. Table 6 lists selected microorganisms that contain co-cyclic fatty acids.

TABLE 6

Examples of microorganisms that contain ω-cyclic fatty acids		
Organism	Reference	
Curtobacterium pusillum	ATCC19096	
Alicyclobacillus acidoterrestris	ATCC49025	
Alicyclobacillus acidocaldarius	ATCC27009	
Alicyclobacillus cycloheptanicum*	Moore, J. Org. Chem.	
	62: pp. 2173, 1997.	

*uses cycloheptylcarbonyl-CoA and not cyclohexylcarbonyl-CoA as precursor for cyFA biosynthesis

[0132] C. Ester characteristics

[0133] One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that an ester includes an A side and a B side. As described herein, the B side is contributed by a fatty acid produced from de novo synthesis in the host organism. In some instances where the host is additionally engineered to make alcohols, including fatty alcohols, the A side is also produced by the host organism. In yet other examples the A side can be provided in the medium. As described herein, by selecting the desired thioesterase genes the B side, and when fatty alcohols are being made the A side, can be designed to be have certain carbon chain characteristics. These characteristics include points of unsaturation, branching, and desired carbon chain lengths. Exemplary methods of making long chain fatty acid esters, wherein the A and B side are produced by the production host are provided in Example 6, below. Similarly, Example 5 provides methods of making medium chain fatty acid esters. When both the A and B side are contributed by the production host and they are produced using fatty acid biosynthetic pathway intermediates they will have similar carbon chain characteristics. For example, at least 50%, 60%, 70%, or 80% of the fatty acid esters produced will have A sides and B sides that vary by 6, 4, or 2 carbons in length. The A side and the B side will also display similar branching and saturation levels.

[0134] In addition to producing fatty alcohols for contribution to the A side, the host can produce other short chain alcohols such as ethanol, propanol, isopropanol, isobutanol, and butanol for incorporation on the A side using techniques well known in the art. For example, butanol can be made by the host organism. To create butanol producing cells, the LS9001 strain (described in Example 1, below) can be further engineered to express atoB (acetyl-CoA acetyltransferase) from Escherichia coli K12, β-hydroxybutyryl-CoA dehydrogenase from *Butyrivibrio fibrisolvens*, crotonase from Clostridium beijerinckii, butyryl CoA dehydrogense from Clostridium beijerinckii, CoA-acylating aldehyde dehydrogenase (ALDH) from *Cladosporium fulvum*, and adhE encoding an aldehyde-alchol dehydrogenase of Clostridium acetobutylicum in the pBAD24 expression vector under the prpBCDE promoter system. Similarly, ethanol can be produced in a production host using the methods taught by Kalscheuer et al., Microbiology 152:2529-2536, 2006, which is herein incorporated by reference.

IV. Fermentation

[0135] The production and isolation of fatty acid derivatives can be enhanced by employing specific fermentation techniques. One method for maximizing production while reducing costs is increasing the percentage of the carbon source that is converted to hydrocarbon products. During normal cellular lifecycles carbon is used in cellular functions including producing lipids, saccharides, proteins, organic acids, and nucleic acids. Reducing the amount of carbon necessary for growth-related activities can increase the efficiency of carbon source conversion to output. This can be achieved by first growing microorganisms to a desired density, such as a density achieved at the peak of the log phase of growth. At such a point, replication checkpoint genes can be harnessed to stop the growth of cells. Specifically, quorum sensing mechanisms (reviewed in Camilli and Bassler Science 311:1113, 2006; Venturi FEMS Microbio Rev 30:274-291, 2006; and Reading and Sperandio FEMS Microbiol Lett 254:1-11, 2006) can be used to activate genes such as p53,

p21, or other checkpoint genes. Genes that can be activated to stop cell replication and growth in *E. coli* include umuDC genes, the over-expression of which stops the progression from stationary phase to exponential growth (Murli et al., *J. of Bact.* 182:1127, 2000). UmuC is a DNA polymerase that can carry out translesion synthesis over non-coding lesions--the mechanistic basis of most UV and chemical mutagenesis. The umuDC gene products are used for the process of translesion synthesis and also serve as a DNA damage checkpoint. UmuDC gene products include UmuC, UmuD, umuD', UmuD', UmuD'₂C, UmuD'₂ and UmuD₂. Simultaneously, the product producing genes would be activated, thus minimizing the need for replication and maintenance pathways to be used while the fatty acid derivative is being made.

[0136] The percentage of input carbons converted to hydrocarbon products is a cost driver. The more efficient (i.e. the higher the percentage), the less expensive the process. For oxygen-containing carbon sources (i.e. glucose and other carbohydrate based sources), the oxygen must be released in the form of carbon dioxide. For every 2 oxygen atoms released, a carbon atom is also released leading to a maximal theoretical metabolic efficiency of about 34% (w/w) (for fatty acid derived products). This figure, however, changes for other hydrocarbon products and carbon sources. Typical efficiencies in the literature are about <5%. Engineered microorganisms which produce hydrocarbon products can have greater than 1, 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30% efficiency. In one example microorganisms will exhibit an efficiency of about 10% to about 25%. In other examples, such microorganisms will exhibit an efficiency of about 25% to about 30%, and in other examples such microorganisms will exhibit >30% efficiency.

[0137] In some examples where the final product is released from the cell, a continuous process can be employed. In this approach, a reactor with organisms producing fatty acid derivatives can be assembled in multiple ways. In one example, a portion of the media is removed and let to sit. Fatty acid derivatives are separated from the aqueous layer, which will in turn, be returned to the fermentation chamber.

[0138] In one example, the fermentation chamber will enclose a fermentation that is undergoing a continuous reduction. In this instance, a stable reductive environment would be created. The electron balance would be maintained by the release of carbon dioxide (in gaseous form). Efforts to augment the NAD/H and NADP/H balance can also facilitate in stabilizing the electron balance.

[0139] The availability of intracellular NADPH can be also enhanced by engineering the production host to express an NADH:NADPH transhydrogenase. The expression of one or more NADH:NADPH transhydrogenase converts the NADH produced in glycolysis to NADPH which enhances the production of fatty acid derivatives.

[0140] Disclosed herein is a system for continuously producing and exporting fatty acid derivatives out of recombinant host microorganisms via a transport protein. Many transport and efflux proteins serve to excrete a large variety of compounds and can be evolved to be selective for a particular type of fatty acid derivatives. Thus, in some embodiments an exogenous DNA sequence encoding an ABC transporter will be functionally expressed by the recombinant host microorganism, so that the microorganism exports the fatty acid derivative into the culture medium. In one example, the ABC transporter is an ABC transporter from *Caenorhabditis elegans, Arabidopsis thalania, Alkaligenes eutrophus* or

Rhodococcus erythropolis (locus AAN73268). In another example, the ABC transporter is an ABC transporter chosen from CER5 (locuses At1g51500 or AY734542), AtMRP5, AmiS2 and AtPGPI. In some examples, the ABC transporter is CER5. In yet another example, the CER5 gene is from Arabidopsis (locuses At1g51500, AY734542, At3g21090 and At1g51460).

[0141] The transport protein, for example, can also be an efflux protein selected from: AcrAB, TolC and AcrEF from *E. coli*, or tll1618, tll1619 and tll0139 from *Thermosynechococcus elongatus* BP-1.

[0142] In addition, the transport protein can be, for example, a fatty acid transport protein (FATP) selected from *Drosophila melanogaster, Caenorhabditis elegans, Mycobacterium tuberculosis* or *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* or any one of the mammalian FATP's. The FATPs can additionally be resynthesized with the membranous regions reversed in order to invert the direction of substrate flow. Specifically, the sequences of amino acids composing the hydrophilic domains (or membrane domains) of the protein, could be inverted while maintaining the same codons for each particular amino acid. The identification of these regions is well known in the art.

[0143] Production hosts can also be chosen for their endogenous ability to release fatty acid derivatives. The efficiency of product production and release into the fermentation broth can be expressed as a ratio intracellular product to extracellular product. In some examples the ratio can be 5:1, 4:1, 3:1, 2:1, 1:1, 1:2, 1:3, 1:4, or 1:5.

[0144] The production host can be additionally engineered to express recombinant cellulosomes, such as those described in PCT application number PCT/US2007/003736, which will allow the production host to use cellulosic material as a carbon source. For example, the production host can be additionally engineered to express invertases (EC 3.2.1.26) so that sucrose can be used as a carbon source.

[0145] Similarly, the production host can be engineered using the teachings described in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,000,000, 5,028,539, 5,424,202, 5,482,846, and 5,602,030 to Ingram et al. so that the production host can assimilate carbon efficiently and use cellulosic materials as carbons sources.

IV. Post Production Processing

[0146] The fatty acid derivatives produced during fermentation can be separated from the fermentation media. Any technique known for separating fatty acid derivatives from aqueous media can be used. One exemplary separation process provided herein is a two phase (bi-phasic) separation process. This process involves fermenting the genetically engineered production hosts under conditions sufficient to produce a fatty acid derivative, allowing the derivative to collect in an organic phase and separating the organic phase from the aqueous fermentation broth. This method can be practiced in both a batch and continuous fermentation setting. [0147] Bi-phasic separation uses the relative immisiciblity of fatty acid derivatives to facilitate separation. Immiscible refers to the relative inability of a compound to dissolve in water and is defined by the compounds partition coefficient. The partition coefficient, P, is defined as the equilibrium concentration of compound in an organic phase (in a biphasic system the organic phase is usually the phase formed by the fatty acid derivative during the production process, however, in some examples an organic phase can be provided (such as a layer of octane to facilitate product separation)

divided by the concentration at equilibrium in an aqueous phase (i.e. fermentation broth). When describing a two phase system the P is usually discussed in terms of logP. A compound with a logP of 10 would partition 10:1 to the organic phase, while a compound of logP of 0.1 would partition 10:1 to the aqueous phase. One or ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that by choosing a fermentation broth and the organic phase such that the fatty acid derivative being produced has a high logP value, the fatty acid derivative will separate into the organic phase, even at very low concentrations in the fermentation vessel.

[0148] The fatty acid derivatives produced by the methods described herein will be relatively immiscible in the fermentation broth, as well as in the cytoplasm. Therefore, the fatty acid derivative will collect in an organic phase either intracellularly or extracellularly. The collection of the products in an organic phase will lessen the impact of the fatty acid derivative on cellular function and will allow the production host to produce more product. Stated another way, the concentration of the fatty acid derivative will not have as significant of an impact on the host cell.

[0149] The fatty alcohols, fatty acid esters, waxes, and hydrocarbons produced as described herein allow for the production of Komogeneous compounds wherein at least 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, or 95% of the fatty alcohols, fatty acid esters, and waxes produced will have carbon chain lengths that vary by less than 4 carbons, or less than 2 carbons. These compounds can also be produced so that they have a relatively uniform degree of saturation, for example at least 60%, 70%, 80%, 90%, or 95% of the fatty alcohols, fatty acid esters, hydrocarbons and waxes will be mono-, di-, or tri-unsaturated. These compounds can be used directly as fuels, personal care additives, nutritional supplements. These compounds can also be used as feedstock for subsequent reactions for example transesterification, hydrogenation, catalytic cracking via either hydrogenation, pyrolisis, or both or epoxidations reactions to make other products.

V. Fuel Compositions

[0150] The fatty acid derivatives described herein can be used as fuel. One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that depending upon the intended purpose of the fuel different fatty acid derivatives can be produced and used. For example, for automobile fuel that is intended to be used in cold climates a branched fatty acid derivative may be desirable and using the teachings provided herein, branched hydrocarbons, fatty acid esters, and alcohols can be made. Using the methods described herein fuels comprising relatively homogeneous fatty acid derivatives that have desired fuel qualities can be produced. Such fuels can be characterized by carbon fingerprinting, their lack of impurities when compared to petroleum derived fuels or bio-diesel derived from triglycerides and, moreover, the fatty acid derivative based fuels can be combined with other fuels or fuel additives to produce fuels having desired properties.

[0151] A. Carbon Fingerprinting

[0152] Biologically produced fatty acid derivatives represent a new feedstock for fuels, such as alcohols, diesel and gasoline. Some biofuels made using fatty acid derivatives have not been produced from renewable sources and as such, are new compositions of matter. These new fuels can be distinguished from fuels derived form petrochemical carbon on the basis of dual carbon-isotopic fingerprinting. Additionally, the specific source of biosourced carbon (e.g. glucose vs.

glycerol) can be determined by dual carbon-isotopic fingerprinting (see, U.S. Pat. No. 7,169,588, which is herein incorporated by reference).

[0153] This method usefully distinguishes chemicallyidentical materials, and apportions carbon in products by source (and possibly year) of growth of the biospheric (plant) component. The isotopes, ¹⁴C and ¹³C, bring complementary information to this problem. The radiocarbon dating isotope (¹⁴C), with its nuclear half life of 5730 years, clearly allows one to apportion specimen carbon between fossil ("dead") and biospheric ("alive") feedstocks [Currie, L. A. "Source Apportionment of Atmospheric Particles," Characterization of Environmental Particles, J. Buffle and H. P. van Leeuwen, Eds., 1 of Vol. I of the IUPAC Environmental Analytical Chemistry Series (Lewis Publishers, Inc) (1992) 3 74]. The basic assumption in radiocarbon dating is that the constancy of ¹⁴C concentration in the atmosphere leads to the constancy of ¹⁴C in living organisms. When dealing with an isolated sample, the age of a sample can be deduced approximately by the relationship $t=(-5730/0.693)\ln(A/A.sub.O)$ (Equation 5) where t=age, 5730 years is the half-life of radiocarbon, and A and A.sub.O are the specific ¹⁴C activity of the sample and of the modern standard, respectively [Hsieh, Y., Soil Sci. Soc. Am J., 56, 460, (1992)]. However, because of atmospheric nuclear testing since 1950 and the burning of fossil fuel since 1850, ¹⁴C has acquired a second, geochemical time characteristic. Its concentration in atmospheric CO2--and hence in the living biosphere--approximately doubled at the peak of nuclear testing, in the mid-1960s. It has since been gradually returning to the steady-state cosmogenic (atmospheric) baseline isotope rate ($^{14}C/^{12}C$) of ca. 1.2×10 12 , with an approximate relaxation "half-life" of 7-10 years. (This latter half-life must not be taken literally; rather, one must use the detailed atmospheric nuclear input/decay function to trace the variation of atmospheric and biospheric ¹⁴C since the onset of the nuclear age.) It is this latter biospheric ¹⁴C time characteristic that holds out the promise of annual dating of recent biospheric carbon. ¹⁴C can be measured by accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS), with results given in units of "fraction of modern carbon" $(f_{\mathcal{M}})$. $f_{\mathcal{M}}$ is defined by National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Standard Reference Materials (SRMs) 4990B and 4990C, known as oxalic acids standards HOxI and HOxII, respectively. The fundamental definition relates to 0.95 times the ¹⁴C/¹²C isotope ratio HOxI (referenced to AD 1950). This is roughly equivalent to decaycorrected pre-Industrial Revolution wood. For the current living biosphere (plant material), $f_{\mathcal{M}}$ approx 1.1.

[0154] The stable carbon isotope ratio $(^{13}C)^{12}C$) provides a complementary route to source discrimination and apportionment. The ¹³C / ¹²C ratio in a given biosourced material is a consequence of the ¹³C / ¹²C ratio in atmospheric carbon dioxide at the time the carbon dioxide is fixed and also reflects the precise metabolic pathway. Regional variations also occur. Petroleum, C3 plants (the broadleaf), C.sub.4 plants (the grasses), and marine carbonates all show significant differences in ¹³C / ¹²C and the corresponding delta ¹³C values. Furthermore, lipid matter of C3 and C4 plants analyze differently than materials derived from the carbohydrate components of the same plants as a consequence of the metabolic pathway. Within the precision of measurement, ¹³C shows large variations due to isotopic fractionation effects, the most significant of which for the instant invention is the photosynthetic mechanism. The major cause of differences in the carbon isotope ratio in plants is closely associated with differ-

ences in the pathway of photosynthetic carbon metabolism in the plants, particularly the reaction occurring during the primary carboxylation, i.e., the initial fixation of atmospheric CO₂. Two large classes of vegetation are those that incorporate the "C3" (or Calvin-Benson) photosynthetic cycle and those that incorporate the "C4" (or Hatch-Slack) photosynthetic cycle. C3 plants, such as hardwoods and conifers, are dominant in the temperate climate zones. In C3 plants, the primary CO₂ fixation or carboxylation reaction involves the enzyme ribulose-1,5-diphosphate carboxylase and the first stable product is a 3-carbon compound. C4 plants, on the other hand, include such plants as tropical grasses, corn and sugar cane. In C4 plants, an additional carboxylation reaction involving another enzyme, phosphoenol-pyruvate carboxylase, is the primary carboxylation reaction. The first stable carbon compound is a 4-carbon acid which is subsequently decarboxylated. The CO₂ thus released is refixed by the C3 cycle.

[0155] Both C4 and C3 plants exhibit a range of 13 C / 12 C isotopic ratios, but typical values are ca. -10 to -14 per mil (C4) and -21 to -26 per mil (C3) [Weber et al., J. Agric. Food Chem., 45, 2942 (1997)]. Coal and petroleum fall generally in this latter range. The 13 C measurement scale was originally defined by a zero set by pee dee belemnite (PDB) limestone, where values are given in parts per thousand deviations from this material. The " Δ^{13} C", values are in parts per thousand (per mil), abbreviated %, and are calculated as follows:

$$\delta^{13} C = \frac{(^{13}C/^{12}C)_{sample} - (^{13}C/^{12}C)_{standard}}{(^{13}C/^{12}C)_{standard}} \times 100\%$$
 (Equation 6)

Since the PDB reference material (RM) has been exhausted, a series of alternative RMs have been developed in cooperation with the IAEA, USGS, NIST, and other selected international isotope laboratories. Notations for the per mil deviations from PDB is Δ^{13} C. Measurements are made on CO₂ by high precision stable ratio mass spectrometry (IRMS) on molecular ions of masses 44, 45 and 46.

[0156] The fatty acid derivatives and the associated biofuels, chemicals, and mixtures may be completely distinguished from their petrochemical derived counterparts on the basis of ¹⁴C (fM) and dual carbon-isotopic fingerprinting, indicating new compositions of matter.

[0157] The fatty acid derivatives described herein have utility in the production of biofuels and chemicals. The new fatty acid derivative based product compositions provided by the instant invention additionally may be distinguished on the basis of dual carbon-isotopic fingerprinting from those materials derived solely from petrochemical sources. The ability to distinguish these products is beneficial in tracking these materials in commerce. For example, fuels or chemicals comprising both "new" and "old" carbon isotope profiles may be distinguished from fuels and chemicals made only of "old" materials. Hence, the instant materials may be followed in commerce on the basis of their unique profile and for the purposes of defining competition, and for determining shelf life.

[0158] In some examples a biofuel composition is made that includes a fatty acid derivative having δ^{13} C of from about -10.9 to about -15.4, wherein the fatty acid derivative accounts for at least about 85% of biosourced material (derived from a renewable resource such as cellulosic materials

and sugars) in the composition. In other examples, the biofuel composition includes a fatty acid derivative having the formula

 $X-(CH(R))_nCH_3$

[0159] wherein X represents CH_3 , — CH_2OR^1 ; —C(O) OR^2 ; or — $C(O)NR^3R^4$;

[0160] R is, for each n, independently absent, H or lower aliphatic;

[0161] n is an integer from 8 to 34, such as from 10 to 24; and

[0162] R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 independently are selected from H and lower alkyl. Typically, when R is lower aliphatic, R represents a branched, unbranched or cyclic lower alkyl or lower alkenyl moiety. Exemplary R groups include, without limitation, methyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, cyclopentenyl and the like. The fatty acid derivative is additionally characterized as having a δ^{13} C of from about –10.9 to about –15.4; and the fatty acid derivative accounts for at least about 85% of biosourced material in the composition. In some examples the fatty acid derivative in the biofuel composition is characterized by having a fraction of modern carbon (f_M of at least about 1.003, 1.010, or 1.5.

[0163] B. Fatty Acid Derivatives

[0164] The centane number (CN), viscosity, melting point, and heat of combustion for various fatty acid esters have been characterized in for example, Knothe, *Fuel Processing Technology* 86:1059-1070, 2005, which is herein incorporated by reference. Using the teachings provided herein a production host can be engineered to produce anyone of the fatty acid esters described in the Knothe, *Fuel Processing Technology* 86:1059-1070, 2005.

[0165] Alcohols (short chain, long chain, branched or unsaturated) can be produced by the production hosts described herein. Such alcohols can be used as fuels directly or they can be used to create an ester, i.e. the A side of an ester as described above. Such ester alone or in combination with the other fatty acid derivatives described herein are useful a fuels.

[0166] Similarly, hydrocarbons produced from the microorganisms described herein can be used as biofuels. Such hydrocarbon based fuels can be designed to contain branch points, defined degrees of saturation, and specific carbon lengths. When used as biofuels alone or in combination with other fatty acid derivatives the hydrocarbons can be additionally combined with additives or other traditional fuels (alcohols, diesel derived from triglycerides, and petroleum based fuels).

[0167] C. Impurities

[0168] The fatty acid derivatives described herein are useful for making bio-fuels. These fatty acid derivatives are made directly from fatty acids and not from the chemical processing of triglycerides. Accordingly, fuels comprising the disclosed fatty acid derivatives will contain less of the impurities than are normally associated with bio-fuels derived from triglycerides, such as fuels derived from vegetable oils and fats.

[0169] The crude fatty acid derivative bio-fuels described herein (prior to mixing the fatty acid derivative with other fuels such as traditional fuels) will contain less transesterification catalyst than petrochemical diesel or bio-diesel. For example, the fatty acid derivative can contain less than about 2%, 1.5%, 1.0%, 0.5%, 0.3%, 0.1%, 0.05%, or 0% of a transesterification catalyst or an impurity resulting from a transesterification catalyst. Transesterification catalysts

include for example, hydroxide catalysts such as NaOH, KOH, LiOH, and acidic catalysts, such as mineral acid catalysts and Lewis acid catalysts. Catalysts and impurities resulting from transesterification catalysts include, without limitation, tin, lead, mercury, cadmium, zinc, titanium, zirconium, hafnium, boron, aluminum, phosphorus, arsenic, antimony, bismuth, calcium, magnesium, strontium, uranium, potassium, sodium, lithium, and combinations thereof.

[0170] Similarly, the crude fatty acid derivative bio-fuels described herein (prior to mixing the fatty acid derivative with other fuels such as petrochemical diesel or bio-diesel) will contain less glycerol (or glycerin) than bio-fuels made from triglycerides. For example, the fatty acid derivative can containless than about 2%, 1.5%, 1.0%, 0.5%, 0.3%, 0.1%, 0.05%, or 0% glycerol.

[0171] The crude biofuel derived from fatty acid derivatives will also contain less free alcohol (i.e. alcohol that is used to create the ester) than bio-diesel made from triglycerides. This is in-part due to the efficiency of utilization of the alcohol by the production host. For example, the fatty acid derivative will contain less than about 2%, 1.5%, 1.0%, 0.5%, 0.3%, 0.1%, 0.05%, or 0% free alcohol.

[0172] Biofuel derived from the disclosed fatty acid derivatives can be additionally characterized by its low concentration of sulfur compared to petroleum derived diesel. For example, biofuel derived from fatty acid derivatives can have less than about 2%, 1.5%, 1.0%, 0.5%, 0.3%, 0.1%, 0.05%, or 0% sulfur.

[0173] D. Additives

[0174] Fuel additives are used to enhance the performance of a fuel or engine. For example, fuel additives can be used to alter the freezing/gelling point, cloud point, lubricity, viscosity, oxidative stability, ignition quality, octane level, and flash point. In the United States, all fuel additives must be registered with Environmental Protection Agency and companies that sell the fuel additive and the name of the fuel additive are publicly available on the agency website and also by contacting the agency. One of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the fatty acid derivatives described herein can be mixed with one or more such additives to impart a desired quality.

[0175] One of ordinary skill in the art will also appreciate that the fatty acid derivatives described herein are can be mixed with other fuels such as bio-diesel derived from triglycerides, various alcohols such as ethanol and butanol, and petroleum derived products such as gasoline. In some examples, a fatty acid derivative, such as C16:1 ethyl ester or C18:1 ethyl ester, is produced which has a low gel point. This low gel point fatty acid derivative is mixed with bio-diesel made from triglycerides to lessen the overall gelling point of the fuel. Similarly, a fatty acid derivative such as C16:1 ethyl ester or C18:1 ethyl ester can be mixed with petroleum derived diesel to provide a mixture that is at least and often greater than 5% biodiesel. In some examples, the mixture includes at least 20% or greater of the fatty acid derivative.

[0176] For example, a biofuel composition can be made that includes at least about 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70%, 80%, 85%, 90% or 95% of a fatty acid derivative that includes a carbon chain that is 8:0, 10:0, 12:0, 14:0, 14:1, 16:0, 16:1, 18:0, 18:1, 18:2, 18:3, 20:0, 20:1, 20:2, 20:3, 22:0, 22:1 or 22:3. Such biofuel compositions can additionally include at least one additive selected from a cloud point lowering additive that can lower the cloud point to less than about 5° C., or 0° C., a surfactant, or a microemulsion, at least about 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50%, 60%, 70% or 80%, 85%,

90%, or 95% diesel fuel from triglycerides, petroleum derived gasoline or diesel fuel from petroleum.

EXAMPLES

[0177] FIG. 1 is a diagram of the FAS pathway showing the enzymes directly involved in the synthesis of acyl-ACP. To increase the production of waxes/fatty acid esters, and fatty alcohols one or more of the enzymes can be over expressed or mutated to reduce feedback inhibition. Additionally, enzymes that metabolize the intermediates to make non-fatty acid based products (side reactions) can be functionally deleted or attenuated to increase the flux of carbon through the fatty acid biosynthetic pathway. Examples 1, 2, and 8 below provide exemplary production hosts that have been modified to increase fatty acid production.

[0178] FIGS. 2, 3 and 4 show biosynthetic pathways that can be engineered to make fatty alcohols and wax/fatty acid esters, respectively. As illustrated in FIG. 2 the conversion of each substrate (acetyl-CoA, malonyl-CoA, acyl-ACP, fatty acid, and acyl-CoA) to each product (acetyl-CoA, malonyl-CoA, acyl-ACP, fatty acid, and acyl-CoA) can be accomplished using several different polypeptides that are members of the enzyme classes indicated. The Examples below describe microorganisms that have been engineered or can be engineered to produce specific fatty alcohols and waxes/fatty acid esters and hydrocarbons.

Example 1

Production Host Construction

[0179] An exemplary production host is LS9001. LS9001 was produced by modifying C41(DE3) from Overexpress. com (Saint Beausine, France) to functionally deleting the fadE gene (acyl-CoA dehydrogenase).

[0180] Briefly, the fadE knock-out strain of *E. coli* was made using primers YafV_NotI and Ivry_Ol to amplify about 830 by upstream of fadE and primers Lpcaf_ol and LpcaR_Bam to amplify about 960 by downstream of fadE. Overlap PCR was used to create a construct for in frame deletion of the complete fadE gene. The fadE deletion construct was cloned into the temperature sensitive plasmid pKOV3, which contained a SacB gene for counterselection, and a chromosomal deletion of fadE was made according to the method of Link et al., *J. Bact.* 179:6228-6237, 1997. The resulting strain was not capable of degrading fatty acids and fatty acyl-CoAs (this functional deletion is herein designated as ΔfadE).

[0181] Additional modifications that can be included in a production host include introducing a plasmid carrying the four genes which are responsible for acetyl-CoA carboxylase activity in *E. coli* (accA, B, C, and D, Accessions: NP_414727, NP_417721, NP_417722, NP_416819, EC 6.4.1.2). The accABCD genes were cloned in two steps as bicistronic operons into the NcoI/HindIII and NdeI/AvrII sites of pACYCDuct-1 (Novagen, Madison, Wis.) the resulting plasmid was termed pAS004.126.

[0182] Additional modifications that can be included in a production host include the following: over-expression of aceEF (encoding the E1p dehydrogase component and the E2p dihydrolipoamide acyltransferase component of the pyruvate and 2-oxoglutarate dehydrogenase complexes); and fabH/fabD/fabG/acpP/fabF (encoding FAS) from any organism known in the art to encode such proteins, including for example *E. coli, Nitrosomonas europaea* (ATCC 19718), *Bacillus subtilis, Saccharomyces cerevisiae, Streptomyces*

spp, *Ralstonia*, *Rhodococcus*, *Corynebacteria*, *Brevibacteria*, *Mycobacteria*, oleaginous yeast, and the like can be expressed in the production host. Similarly, production hosts can be engineered to express accABCD (encoding acetyl co-A carboxylase) from *Pisum savitum* instead of, or in addition to, the *E. coli* homologues. However, when the production host is also producing butanol it is less desirable to express the *Pisum savitum* homologue.

[0183] In some exemplary production hosts, genes can be knocked out or attenuated using the method of Link, et al., *J. Bacteriol.* 179:6228-6237, 1997. For example, genes that can be knocked out or attenuated include gpsA (encoding biosynthetic sn-glycerol 3-phosphate dehydrogenase, accession NP_418065, EC: 1.1.1.94); IdhA (encoding lactate dehydrogenase, accession NP_415898, EC: 1.1.1.28); pflb (encoding formate acetyltransferase 1, accessions: P09373, EC: 2.3.1. 54); adhE (encoding alcohol dehydrogenase, accessions: CAA47743, EC: 1.1.1.1, 1.2.1.10); pta (encoding phosphotransacetylase, accessions: NP_416800, EC: 2.3.1.8); poxB (encoding pyruvate oxidase, accessions: NP_415392, EC: 1.2.2.2); ackA (encoding acetate kinase, accessions: NP_416799, EC: 2:7.2.1) and combinations thereof.

[0184] Similarly, the PlsB[D311E] mutation can be introduced into LS9001 to attenuate PlsB using the method described above for the fadE deletion. Once introduced, this mutation will decrease the amount of carbon being diverted to phospholipid production (see, FIG. 1). Briefly, an allele encoding PlsB[D311E] is made by replacing the GAC codon for aspartate 311 with a GAA codon for glutamate. The altered allele is made by gene synthesis and the chromosomal plsB wildtype allele is exchanged for the mutant plsB [D311E] allele using the method of Link et al. (see above).

Example 2

Production Host Modifications

[0185] The following plasmids were constructed for the expression of various proteins that are used in the synthesis of fatty acid derivatives. The constructs were made using standard molecular biology methods and all the cloned genes were put under the control of IPTG-inducible promoters (T7, tac or lac promoters).

[0186] The 'tesA gene (thioesterase A gene accession NP_415027 without leader sequence (Cho and Cronan, J. Biol. Chem., 270:4216-9, 1995, EC: 3.1.1.5, 3.1.2.-) of E. coli was cloned into NdeI/AvrII digested pETDuct-1 (pETDuct-1 described herein is available from Novagen, Madison, Wis.). Genes encoding for FatB-type plant thioesterases (TEs) from Umbellularia California, Cuphea hookeriana and Cinnamonum camphorum (accessions: UcFatB1=AAA34215, ChFatB3=AAC72881, ChFatB2=AAC49269, CcFatB=AAC49151 were individually cloned into three different vectors: (i) NdeI/AvrII digested pETDuet-1, (ii) XhoI/ HindIII digested pBluescript KS+ (Stratagene, La Jolla, Calif.)(used to create N-terminal lacZ::TE fusion proteins) and (iii) XbaI/HindIII digested pMAL-c2X (New England Lab, Ipswich, Mass.) (used to create n-terminal MalE::TE fusions). The fadD gene (encoding acyl-CoA synthetase) from E. coli was cloned into a NcoI/HindIII digested pCDF-Duet-1 derivative, which contained the acrl gene (acyl-CoA reductase) from Acinetobacter baylyi ADP1 within its NdeI/ AvrII sites. Table 7 provides a summary of the plasmids generated to make several exemplary production strains, one of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that different plasmids and genomic modifications can be used to achieve similar strains

TABLE 7

Summary of Plasmids used in Production hosts						
D1 ! -1	Source Organism	A NI - DOl				
Plasmid	Gene Product	Accession No., EC number				
pETDuet-1-tesA	E. coli	Accessions: NP_415027,				
	TesA	EC: 3.1.1.5, 3.1.2.—				
ETDuet-1-TEuc	Umbellularia	Q41635				
Bluescript-TEuc	California	AAA34215				
MAL-c2X-TEuc	UcFatB1					
ETDuet-1-TEch	Cuphea hookeriana	ABB71581				
Bluescript-TEch	ChFatB2	AAC49269				
MAL-c2X-TEch	ChFatB3	AAC72881				
ETDuet-1-TEcc	Cinnamonum	AAC49151				
Bluescript-TEcc	camphorum					
ГЕсі	CcFatB					
CDFDuet-1-	E. coli	fadD: Accessions NP_416319,				
adD-acr1		EC 6.2.1.3				
		acr1: Accessions YP_047869				

[0187] The chosen expression plasmids contain compatible replicons and antibiotic resistance markers, so that a four-plasmid expression system can be established. Therefore, LS9001 can be co-transformed with (i) any of the TE-expressing plasmids, (ii) the FadD-expressing plasmid, which also expresses acrl and (iii) wax synthase expression plasmid. When induced with IPTG, the resulting strain will produce increased concentrations of fatty-alcohols from carbon sources such as glucose. The carbon chain length and degree of saturation of the fatty alcohol produced is dependent on the thioesterase gene that is expressed.

Example 3

Production of Fatty Alcohol in the Recombinant E. coli Strain

[0188] Fatty alcohols were produced by expressing a thioesterase gene and an acyl-CoA reductase gene (FAR) exogenously in a production host. More specifically, plasmids pCDFDuet-1-fadD-acrl (acyl-CoA reductase) and pET-Duet-1-'tesA (thioesterase) were transformed into $E.\ coli$ strain LS9001 (described in Example 1) and corresponding transformants were selected in LB plate supplemented with 100 mg/L of spectinomycin and 50 mg/L of carbenicillin. Four transformants of LS9001/pCDFDuet-1-fadD-acrl were independently inoculated into 3 mL of M9 medium supplemented with 50 mg/L of carbenicillin and 100 mg/L of spectinomycin). The samples containing the transformants were grown in at 25° C. in a shaker (250 rpm) until they reached 0.5 OD_{600} . 1.5 mL of each sample was transferred into a 250 mL flask containing 30 mL of the medium described above. The resulting culture was grown at 25° C. in a shaker until the culture reached between $0.5-1.0\,\mathrm{OD}_{600}$. IPTG was then added to a final concentration of 1 mM, and growth continued for 40 hours.

[0189] The cells were then spun down at 4000 rpm and the cell pellets were suspended in 1.0 mL of methanol. 3 mL of ethyl acetate was then mixed with the suspended cells. 3 mL of H₂O were then added to the mixture and the mixture was sonicated for 20 minutes. The resulting sample was centrifuged at 4000 rpm for 5 minutes and the organic phase (the upper phase) which contained fatty alcohol and was subjected

to GC/MS analysis. Total alcohol (including tetradecanol, hexadecanol, hexadecenol and octadecenol) yield was about 1-10 mg/L. When an *E. coli* strain carrying only empty vectors was cultured in the same way, only 0.2-0.5 mg/L of fatty alcohols were found in the ethyl acetate extract.

Example 4

Production and Release of Fatty Alcohol from Production Host

[0190] Acrl (acyl-CoA reductase) was expressed in E. coli grown on glucose as the sole carbon and energy source. The E. coli produced small amounts of fatty alcohols such as dodecanol (C12:0-OH), tetradecanol (C14:0-OH) and hexadecanol (C16:0-OH). In other samples, FadD (acyl-CoA synthetase) was expressed together with acrl in $E.\ coli$ and a five-fold increase in fatty alcohol production was observed. [0191] In other samples, acrl, fadD, accABCD (acetyl-CoA Carboxylase) (plasmid carrying accABCD constructed as described in Example 1) were expressed along with various individual thioesterases (TEs) in wildtype E. coli C41(DE3) and an E. coli C41(DE3 Δ fadE, a strain lacking acyl-CoA dehydrogenase. This resulted in additional increases in fatty alcohol production and modulating the profiles of fatty alcohols (see FIG. 5). For example, over-expression of E. coli 'tesA (pETDuet-1-'tesA) in this system achieved approximately a 60-fold increase in C12:0-OH, C14:0-OH and C16: 0-OH with C14:0-OH being the major fatty alcohol. A very similar result was obtained when the ChFatB3 enzyme (FatB3 from Cuphea hookeriana in pMAL-c2X-TEcu) was expressed. When the UcFatB1 enzyme (FatB1 from Umbellularia californicain in pMAL-c2X-TEuc) was expressed, fatty alcohol production increased approximately 20-fold and C12:0-OH was the predominant fatty alcohol.

[0192] Expression of ChFatB3 and UcFatB 1 also led to the production of significant amounts of the unsaturated fatty alcohols C16:1-OH and C14:1-OH, respectively. The presence of fatty alcohols was also found in the supernatant of samples generated from the expression of tesA (FIG. 6). At 37° C. approximately equal amounts of fatty alcohols were found in the supernatant and in the cell pellet, whereas at 25° C. approximately 25% of the fatty alcohols were found in the supernatant.

Example 5

Medium Chain Fatty Acid Esters

[0193] Alcohol acetyl transferases (AATs, EC 2.3.1.84), which is responsible for acyl acetate production in various plants, can be used to produce medium chain length waxes, such as octyl octanoate, decyl octanoate, decyl decanoate, and the like. Fatty esters, synthesized from medium chain alcohol (such as C6, C8) and medium chain acyl-CoA (or fatty acids, such as C6 or C8) have a relative low melting point. For example, hexyl hexanoate has a melting point of -55° C. and octyl octanoate has a melting point of -18 to -17° C. The low melting points of these compounds makes them good candidates for use as biofuels.

[0194] In this example, a SAAT gene was co-expressed in a production host C41(DE3, Δ fadE) with fadD from E. coli and acrl (alcohol reductase from A. baylyi ADP1) and octanoic acid was provided in the fermentation broth. This resulted in the production of octyl octanoate. Similarly, when the wax

synthase gene from *A. baylyi* ADP1 was expressed in the production host instead of the SAAT gene octyl octanoate was produced.

[0195] A recombinant SAAT gene was synthesized using DNA 2.0 (Menlo Park, Calif. 94025). The synthesized DNA was based on the published gene sequence (accession number AF193789) and modified to eliminate the NcoI site. The synthesized SAAT gene (as a BamHI-HindIII fragment) was cloned in pRSET B (Invitrogen, Calsbad, Calif.), linearized with BamHI and HindIII. The resulted plasmid, pHZ1.63A was cotransformed into an E. coli production host with pAS004.114B, which carries a fadD gene from E. coli and acrl gene from A. baylyi ADP1. The transformants were grown in 3 mL of M9 medium with 2% of glucose. After IPTG induction and the addition of 0.02% of octanoic acid, the culture was continued at 25° C. from 40 hours. After that, 3 mL of acetyl acetate was added to the whole culture and mixed several times with mixer. The acetyl acetate phase was analyzed by GC/MS.

[0196] Surprising, in the acetyl acetate extract, there is no acyl acetate found. However, a new compound was found and the compound was octyl octanoate. Whereas the control strain without the SAAT gene [C41(DE3, ΔfadE)/pRSET B₊pAS004.114B] did not produce octyl octanoate. Also the strain [C41(DE3, ΔfadE)/pHZ1.43 B₊pAS004.114B], in which the wax synthase gene from *A. baylyi* ADP1 was carried by pHZ1.43 produced octyl octanoate (see FIGS. 7B). [0197] The finding that SAAT activity produces octyl octanoate has not reported before and makes it possible to produce medium chain waxes such as octyl octanoate, octyl decanoate, which have low melting point and are good candidates to be use for biofuel to replace triglyceride based biodiesel.

Example 6

Production of Wax Ester in E. coli Strain LS9001

[0198] Wax esters were produced by engineering an *E. coli* production host to express a fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase, thioesterase, and a wax synthase. Thus, the production host produced both the A and the B side of the ester and the structure of both sides was influenced by the expression of the thioesterase gene.

[0199] More specifically, wax synthase from A. baylyi ADP1 (termed WSadp1, accessions AA017391, EC: 2.3.175) was amplified with the following primers using genomic DNA from A. baylyi ADP1 as the template. The primers were (1) WSadp1_NdeI, 5'- TCATATGCGCCCATTACATCCG -3' and (2) WSadp1_Avr, 5'- TCCTAGGAGGGCTAATT-TAGCCCTTTAGTT-3'. The PCR product was digested with NdeI and AvrII and cloned into pCOALDeut-1 to give pHZ 1.43. The plasmid carrying WSadp1 was then co-transformed into E. coli strain LS9001 with both pETDuet-1'tesA and pCDFDuet-1-fadD-acrl and transformants were selected in LB plates supplemented with 50 mg/L of kanamycin, 50 mg/L of carbenicillin and 100 mg/L of spectinomycin. Three transformants were inoculated in 3 mL of LBKCS (LB broth supplement with 50 mg/L of kanamycin, 50 mg/L of carbenicillin, 100 mg/L of spectinomycin and 10 g/L of glucose) and cultured at 37° C. shaker (250 rpm). When the cultures reached 0.5 OD_{600} , 1.5 mL of each culture was transferred into 250 mL flasks containing 50 mL of LBKCS and the flasks were grown in a shaker (250 rpm) at 37° C. until the culture reached 0.5-1.0 OD_{600} . IPTG was then added to a final concentration of 1 mM. The induced cultures were grown at 37° C. shaker for another 40-48 hours.

[0200] The culture was then placed into 50 mL conical tubes and the cells were spun down at $3500 \times g$ for 10 minutes. The cell pellet was then mixed with 5 mL of ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate extract was analyzed with GC/MS. The intracellular yield of waxes (including C16C16, C14:1C16, C18: 1C18:1, C2C14, C2C16, C2C16:1, C16C16:1 and C2C18:1) was about 10 mg/L. When an E. coli strain only carrying empty vectors was cultured in the same way, only 0.2 mg/L of wax was found in the ethyl acetate extract.

Example 7

Production and Release of Fatty-Ethyl Ester from Production Host

[0201] The LS9001 strain was modified by transforming it with the plasmids carrying a wax synthase gene from *A. baylyi* (plasmid pHZ1.43), a thioesterase gene from Cuphea hookeriana (plasmid pMAL-c2X-TEcu) and a fadD gene from *E. coli* (plasmid pCDFDuet-1-fadD). This recombinant strain was grown at 25° C. in 3 mL of M9 medium with 50 mg/L of kanamycin, 100 mg/L of carbenicillin and 100 mg/L of spectinomycin. After IPTG induction, the media was adjusted to a final concentration of 1% ethanol and 2% glucose. The culture was allowed to grow for 40 hours after IPTG

Example 8

The Influence of Various Thioesterases on the Composition of Fatty-Ethyl Esters Produced in Recombinant *E. coli* Strains

[0202] The thioesterases FatB3 ($C.\ hookeriana$), TesA ($E.\ coli$), and FatB ($U.\ california$) were expressed simultaneously with wax synthase ($A.\ baylyi$). A plasmid termed pHZ1.61 was constructed by replacing the NotI/AvrII fragment (carrying the acrl gene) with the NotI-AvrII fragment from pHZ1. 43 so that fadD and the ADP1 wax synthase were in one plasmid and both coding sequences were under the control of separate T7 promoter. The construction of pHZ1.61 made it possible to use a two plasmid system instead of the three plasmid system as described in Example 6. pHZ1.61 was then co-transformed into $E.\ coli\ C41(DE3, \Delta fadE)$ with one of the various plasmids carrying the different thioesterase genes stated above.

[0203] The total fatty acid ethyl esters (supernatant and intracellular fatty acid ethyl esters) produced by these transformants were evaluated using the technique described herein. The yields and the composition of fatty acid ethyl esters are summarized in Table 8.

TABLE 8

The yields (mg/L) and the composition of fatty acid ethyl esters by recombinant $E.\ coli\ C41(DE3, \Delta fadE)/pHZ1.61$ and plasmids carrying various thioesterase genes.							S.	
Thioesterases	C2C10	C2C12:1	C2C12	C2C14:1	C2C14	C2C16:1	C2C16	C2C18:1
'TesA	0.0	0.0	6.5	0.0	17.5	6.9	21.6	18.1
ChFatB3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.8	12.5	11.7	13.8
ucFatB	6.4	8.5	25.3	14.7	0.0	4.5	3.7	6.7
pMAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	0.0	12.8	7.6

Note:

'TesA, pETDuet-1-'tesA; chFatB3, pMAL-c2X-TEcu; ucFatB, pMAL-c2X-TEuc; pMAL, pMAL-c2X, the empty vector for thioesterase genes used in the study.

induction. The cells were separated from the spent medium by centrifugation at $3500 \times g$ for 10 minutes). The cell pellet was re-suspended with 3 mL of M9 medium. The cell suspension and the spent medium were then extracted with 1 volume of ethyl acetate. The resulting ethyl acetate phases from the cells suspension and the supernatant were subjected to GC-MS analysis. The results showed that the C16 ethyl ester was the most prominent ester species (as expected for this thioesterase, see Table 1), and that 20% of the fatty acid ester produced was released from the cell (see FIG. 8). A control E. coli strain C41(DE3, Δ fadE) containing pCOLA-Duet-1 (empty vector for the wax synthase gene), pMALc2X-TEuc (containing fatB from *U. california*) and pCDF-Duet-1-fadD (fadD gene from E. coli) failed to produce detectable amounts of fatty ethyl esters. The fatty acid esters were quantified using commercial palmitic acid ethyl ester as the reference. Fatty acid esters were also made using the methods described herein except that methanol, or isopropanol was added to the fermentation broth and the expected fatty acid esters were produced.

Example 9

Production Host Construction

[0204] The genes that control fatty acid production are conserved between microorganisms. For example, Table 9 identifies the homologues of many of the genes described herein which are known to be expressed in microorganisms that produce hydrocarbons. To increase fatty acid production and, therefore, hydrocarbon production in microorganisms such as those identified in Table 9, heterologous genes, such as those from E. coli can be expressed. One of ordinary skill in the art will also appreciate that genes that are endogenous to the micoorganisms provided in Table 9 can also be overexpressed, or attenuated using the methods described herein. Moreover, genes that are described in FIG. 10 can be expressed or attenuated in microorganisms that endogenously produce hydrocarbons to allow for the production of specific hydrocarbons with defined carbon chain length, saturation points, and branch points.

[0205] For example, exogenous nucleic acid sequences encoding acetyl-CoA carboxylase are introduced into K. radiotolerans. The following genes comprise the acetyl-CoA

carboxylase protein product in *K. radiotolerans*; acetyl CoA carboxylase, alpha subunit (accA/ZP_00618306), acetyl-CoA carboxylase, biotin carboxyl carrier protein (accB/ZP_00618387), acetyl-CoA carboxylase, biotin carboxylase subunit (accC/ZP_00618040), and acetyl-CoA carboxylase, beta (carboxyltranferase) subunit (accD/ZP_00618306). These genes are cloned into a plasmid such that they make a synthetic acetyl-CoA carboxylase operon (accABCD) under

the control of a *K. radiotolerans* expression system such as the expression system disclosed in Ruyter et al., *Appl Environ Microbiol.* 62:3662-3667, 1996. Transformation of the plasmid into *K. radiotolerans* will enhance fatty acid production. The hydrocarbon producing strain of *K. radiotolerans* can also be engineered to make branched, unsaturated hydrocarbons having specific carbon chain lengths using the methods disclosed herein.

TABLE 9

	Hydrocarbon Prod	iuonon mosts	
Organism	Gene Name	Accession No./Seq ID/Loci	EC No.
Desulfovibrio desulfuricans G20	accA	YP_388034	6.4.1.2
Desulfovibrio desulfuricans G22	accC	YP_388573/YP_388033	6.3.4.14, 6.4.1.2
Desulfovibrio desulfuricans G23	accD	YP_388034	6.4.1.2
Desulfovibrio desulfuricans G28	fabH	YP_388920	2.3.1.180
Desulfovibrio desulfuricans G29	fabD	YP_388786	2.3.1.39
Desulfovibrio desulfuricans G30	fabG	YP_388921	1.1.1.100
<i>Desulfovibrio desulfuricans</i> G31	acpP	YP_388922/YP_389150	3.1.26.3, 1.6.5.3, 1.6.99.3
Desulfovibrio desulfuricans G32	fabF	YP_388923	2.3.1.179
Desulfovibrio desulfuricans G33	gpsA	YP_389667	1.1.1.94
Desulfovibrio desulfuricans G34	ldhA	YP_388173/YP_390177	1.1.1.27, 1.1.1.28
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	accA	942060-943016	6.4.1.2
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	accB	3440869-3441336	6.4.1.2
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	accC	3441351-3442697	6.3.4.14, 6.4.1.2
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	accD	2517571-2516696	6.4.1.2
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	fadE	1003232-1000791	1.3.99.—
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	plsB(D311E)	333843-331423	2.3.1.15
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	aceE	840558-843218	1.2.4.1
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	aceF	843248-844828	2.3.1.12
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	fabH	1579839-1580789	2.3.1.180
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	fabD	1580826-1581749	2.3.1.39
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	fabG	CAA74944	1.1.1.100
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	acpP	1582658-1582891	3.1.26.3, 1.6.5.3, 1.6.99.3
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	fabF	1582983-1584221	2.3.1.179
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	gpsA	124800-125810	1.1.1.94
Erwinia (micrococcus) amylovora	ldhA	1956806-1957789	1.1.1.27, 1.1.1.28
Kineococcus radiotolerans SRS30216	accA	ZP_00618306	6.4.1.2
Kineococcus radiotolerans SRS30216	accB	ZP_00618387	6.4.1.2
Kineococcus radiotolerans SRS30216	accC	ZP_00618040/ ZP_00618387	6.3.4.14, 6.4.1.2
3N33UZIU		ZIUUU1030/	0.4.1.2

TABLE 9-continued

Organism	Gene Name	Accession No./Seq ID/Loci	EC No.
Kineococcus radiotolerans	fadE	ZP_00617773	1.3.99.—
SRS30216	Taul	Z1_00017773	1.3.33.—
Kineococcus radiotolerans SRS30216	plsB(D311E)	ZP_00617279	2.3.1.15
Kineococcus radiotolerans SRS30216	aceE	ZP_00617600	1.2.4.1
Kineococcus radiotolerans SRS30216	aceF	ZP_00619307	2.3.1.12
Kineococcus radiotolerans SRS30216	fabH	ZP_00618003	2.3.1.180
Kineococcus radiotolerans SRS30216	fabD	ZP_00617602	2.3.1.39
Kineococcus radiotolerans SRS30216	fabG	ZP_00615651	1.1.1.100
Kineococcus radiotolerans SRS30216	acpP	ZP_00617604	3.1.26.3, 1.6.5.3,
Kineococcus radiotolerans	fabF	ZP_00617605	1.6.99.3 2.3.1.179
SRS30216 Kineococcus radiotolerans	gpsA	ZP_00618825	1.1.1.94
SRS30216 Kineococcus radiotolerans	ldhA	ZP_00618879	1.1.1.27,
SRS30216 Rhodospirillum rubrum	accA	YP_425310	1.1.1.28 6.4.1.2
Rhodospiritium ruorum Rhodospirillum rubrum	accA accB	YP_423310 YP_427521	6.4.1.2
Rhodospirillum rubrum	accC	YP_427522/YP_425144/	6.3.4.14,
1		YP_427028/	6.4.1.2
		YP_426209/YP_427404	
Rhodospirillum rubrum	accD	YP_428511	6.4.1.2
Rhodospirillum rubrum	fadE	YP_427035	1.3.99.—
Rhodospirillum rubrum	aceE	YP_427492	1.2.4.1
Rhodospirillum rubrum	aceF	YP_426966 VP_426754	2.3.1.12
Rhodospirillum rubrum Rhodospirillum rubrum	fabH fabD	YP_426754 YP_425507	2.3.1.180 2.3.1.39
Rhodospiritum rubrum Rhodospirillum rubrum	fabG	YP_425508/YP_425365	1.1.1.100
Rhodospirillum rubrum	acpP	YP_425509	3.1.26.3,
aro crosp ir recent recent recent	arp r	11	1.6.5.3,
			1.6.99.3
Rhodospirillum rubrum	fabF	YP_425510/YP_425510/ YP_425285	2.3.1.179
Rhodospirillum rubrum	$gps\mathbf{A}$	YP_428652	1.1.1.94
Rhodospirillum rubrum	ldhA	YP_426902/YP_428871	1.1.1.27, 1.1.1.28
Vibrio furnissii	accA	1, 16	6.4.1.2
Vibrio furnissii	accB	2, 17	6.4.1.2
Vibrio furnissii	accC	3, 18	6.3.4.14,
	D	4 10	6.4.1.2
Vibrio furnissii	accD	4, 19 5, 20	6.4.1.2
Vibrio furnissii Vibrio furnissii	fadE plsB(D311E)	5, 20 6, 21	1.3.99.— 2.3.1.15
Vibrio furnissii	aceE	7, 22	1.2.4.1
Vibrio furnissii	aceF	8, 23	2.3.1.12
Vibrio furnissii	fabH	9, 24	2.3.1.180
Vibrio furnissii	fabD	10, 25	2.3.1.39
Vibrio furnissii	fabG	11, 26	1.1.1.100
Vibrio furnissii	acpP	12, 27	3.1.26.3, 1.6.5.3,
			1.6.99.3
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Vibrio furnissii	gpsA	14, 29	1.1.1.94
Vibrio furnissii	ldhA	15, 30	1.1.1.27, 1.1.1.28
Stenotrophomonas maltophilia R551-3	accA	ZP_01643799	6.4.1.2
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TABLE 9-continued

Hydrocarbon Production Hosts					
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Stenotrophomonas maltophilia R551-3	aceE	ZP_01644724	1.2.4.1		
Stenotrophomonas maltophilia R551-3	aceF	ZP_01645795	2.3.1.12		
Stenotrophomonas maltophilia R551-3	fabH	ZP_01643247	2.3.1.180		
Stenotrophomonas maltophilia R551-3	fabD	ZP_01643535	2.3.1.39		
Stenotrophomonas maltophilia R551-3	fabG	ZP_01643062	1.1.1.100		
Stenotrophomonas maltophilia R551-3	acpP	ZP_01643063	3.1.26.3, 1.6.5.3, 1.6.99.3		
Stenotrophomonas maltophilia R551-3	fabF	ZP_01643064	2.3.1.179		
Stenotrophomonas maltophilia R551-3	gpsA	ZP_01643216	1.1.1.94		
Stenotrophomonas maltophilia R551-3	ldhA	ZP_01645395	1.1.1.27, 1.1.1.28		

For Table 9, Accession Numbers are from GenBank, Release 159.0 as of Apr. 15, 2007, EC Numbers are from KEGG, Release 42.0 as of April 2007 (plus daily updates up to and including May 09, 2007), results for *Erwinia amylovora* strain Ea273 are taken from the Sanger sequencing center, completed shotgun sequence as of May 9, 2007, positions for *Erwinia* represent locations on the Sanger psuedo-chromosome, sequences from *Vibrio furnisii* M1 are from the LS9 VFM1 pseudochromosome, v2 build, as of Sep. 28, 2006, and include the entire gene, and may also include flanking sequence.

Example 10

Additional Exemplary Production strains

[0206] Table 10, below provides additional exemplary production strains. Two example biosynthetic pathways are described for producing fatty acids, fatty alcohols, and wax esters. A genetically engineered host can be produced by cloning the expression of the accABCD genes from *E. coli*, the 'tesA gene from *E. coli*, and fadD gene from *E. coli* into a host cell. Host cells can be selected from *E. coli*, yeast, add to the list. These genes can also be transformed into a host cell that is modified to contain one or more of the genetic manipulations described in Examples 1 and 2, above.

Example 11

Fermentation

[0207] Host microorganisms can be also engineered to express umuC and umuD from E. coli in pBAD24 under the prpBCDE promoter system through de novo synthesis of this gene with the appropriate end-product production genes. For small scale hydrocarbon product production, E. coli BL21 (DE3) cells harbouring pBAD24 (with ampicillin resistance and the end-product synthesis pathway) as well as pUMVC1 (with kanamycin resistance and the acetyl CoA/malonyl CoA over-expression system) are incubated overnight at at 37° C. shaken at >200 rpm 2 L flasks in 500 ml LB medium supplemented with 75 μg/mL ampicillin and 50 μg/ml kanamycin until cultures reached an OD_{600} of >0.8. Upon achieving an OD_{600} of >0.8, cells are supplemented with 25 mM sodium proprionate (pH 8.0) to activate the engineered gene systems for production as well as to stop cellular proliferation (through activation of umuC and umuD proteins). Induction is performed for 6 hours at 30° C. After incubation, media is examined for product using GC- MS (as described below).

[0208] For large scale product production, the engineered microorganisms are grown in 10 L, 100 L or larger batches, fermented and induced to express desired products based on the specific genes encoded in plasmids as appropriate. E. coli BL21(DE3) cells harbouring pBAD24 (with ampicillin resistance and the end-product synthesis pathway) as well as pUMVC1 (with kanamycin resistance and the acetyl-CoA/ malonyl-CoA over-expression system) are incubated from a 500 mL seed culture for 10 L fermentations (5 L for 100 L fermentations) in LB media (glycerol free) at 37° C. shaken at >200 rpm until cultures reached an OD_{600} of >0.8 (typically 16 hours) incubated with 50 □g/mL kanamycin and 75 μg/mL ampicillin. Media is treated with continuously supplemented to maintain a 25 mM sodium proprionate (pH 8.0) to activate the engineered in gene systems for production as well as to stop cellular proliferation (through activation of umuC and umuD proteins). Media is continuously supplemented with glucose to maintain a concentration 90 g/100 mL. After the first hour of induction, aliquots of no more than 10% of the total cell volume are removed each hour and allowed to sit unaggitated so as to allow the hydrocarbon product to rise to the surface and undergo a spontaneous phase separation. The hydrocarbon component is then collected and the aqueous phase returned to the reaction chamber. The reaction chamber is operated continuously. When the OD.sub.600 drops below 0.6, the cells are replaced with a new batch grown from a seed culture.

[0209] For wax ester production, subsequent to isolation, the wax esters are washed briefly in 1 M HCl to split the ester bond, and returned to pH 7 with extensive washing with distilled water.

Example 12

Product Characterization

[0210] To characterize and quantify the fatty alcohols and fatty acid esters, gas chromatography (GC) coupled with electron impact mass spectra (MS) detection was used. Fatty alcohol samples were first derivatized with an excess of N-trimethylsilyl (TMS) imidazole to increase detection sensitivity. Fatty acid esters did not required derivatization. Both fatty alcohol-TMS derivatives and fatty acid esters were dissolved in an appropriate volatile solvent, like ethyl acetate. The samples were analyzed on a 30 m DP-5 capillary column using the following method. After a 14 splitless injection onto the GC/MS column, the oven is held at 100° C. for 3 minutes. The temperature was ramped up to 320° C. at a rate of 20° C./minute. The oven was held at 320° C. for an additional 5 minutes. The flow rate of the carrier gas helium was 1.3 mL/minute. The MS quadrapole scans from 50 to 550 m/z. Retention times and fragmentation patterns of product peaks were compared with authentic references to confirm peak identity.

[0211] For example, hexadeconic acid ethyl ester eluted at 10.18 minutes (FIGS. 9A and 9B). The parent ion of 284 mass units was readily observed. More abundent were the daughter

ions produced during mass fragmentation. This included the most prevalent daughter ion of 80 mass units. The derivatized fatty alcohol hexadecanol-TMS eluted at 10.29 minutes and the parent ion of 313 could be observed. The most prevalent ion was the M-14 ion of 299 mass units.

[0212] Quantification was carried out by injecting various concentrations of the appropriate authentic references using the GC/MS method described above. This information was used to generate a standard curve with response (total integrated ion count) versus concentration.

Equivalents

[0213] While specific examples of the subject inventions are explicitly disclosed herein, the above specification and examples herein are illustrative and not restrictive. Many variations of the inventions will become apparent to those skilled in the art upon review of this specification including the examples. The full scope of the inventions should be determined by reference to the examples, along with their full scope of equivalents, and the specification, along with such variations.

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35

Val	Cys 50	Ile	Gly	Pro	Ala	Lуs 55	Gly	Ile	Asp	Ser	Tyr 60	Leu	Asn	Ile	Pro
Arg 65	Ile	Ile	Ser	Ala	Ala 70	Glu	Val	Thr	Gly	Ala 75	Val	Ala	Ile	His	Pro 80
Gly	Tyr	Gly	Phe	Leu 85	Ser	Glu	Asn	Ala	Asp 90	Phe	Ala	Glu	Gln	Val 95	Glu
Arg	Ser	Gly	Phe 100	Ile	Phe	Val	Gly	Pro 105	Lys	Ala	Asp	Thr	Ile 110	Arg	Leu
Met	Gly	_	Lys		Ser	Ala	Ile 120		Ala	Met	Lys	Lys 125	Ala	Gly	Val
Pro	Cys 130	Val	Pro	Gly	Ser	_	Gly		Leu	Asp	Asn 140	Asp	Glu	Val	Lys
Asn 145	Arg	Ala	His	Ala	_	Arg		_	Tyr	Pro 155		Ile	Ile	Lys	Ala 160
Ser	Gly	Gly	Gly	_	_	Arg	_		Arg 170	Val	Val	Arg	Ser	Glu 175	Ala
Glu	Leu	Val				Ser			_				-		Ala
Phe	Asn	Asn 195	Asp	Met	Val	Tyr	Met 200	Glu	Lys	Tyr	Leu	Glu 205	Asn	Pro	Arg
His	Val 210	Glu	Val	Gln	Val	Leu 215	Ala	Asp	Gly	Gln	Gly 220	Ser	Ala	Ile	His
Leu 225	Gly	Glu	Arg	Asp	Суs 230	Ser	Met	Gln	Arg	Arg 235	His	Gln	Lys	Val	Val 240
Glu	Glu	Ala	Pro	Ala 245	Pro	Gly	Ile	Thr	Glu 250	Glu	Met	Arg	Lys	Tyr 255	Ile
Gly	Glu	Arg	Cys 260	Thr	Arg	Ala	Cys	Ile 265		Ile	Gly	Tyr	Arg 270	Gly	Ala
Gly	Thr	Phe 275	Glu	Phe	Leu	Tyr	Glu 280	Asn	Gly	Glu	Phe	Tyr 285	Phe	Ile	Glu
Met	Asn 290	Thr	Arg	Ile	Gln	Val 295	Glu	His	Pro	Val	Thr 300	Glu	Met	Val	Thr
Gly 305	Val	Asp	Leu	Ile	Lys 310	Glu	Gln	Leu	_	Ile 315	Ala	Ala	Gly	Gln	Pro 320
Leu	Ser	Phe	Thr		_	Asp		_		_	_			Met 335	
Cys	Arg	Ile	Asn 340	Ala	Glu	Asp	Pro	Glu 345	Arg	Phe	Leu	Pro	Сув 350	Pro	Gly
Lys	Ile	Thr 355	Arg	Phe	His	Ser	Pro 360	Gly	Gly	Met	Gly	Val 365	Arg	Trp	Glu
Ser	His 370	Ile	Tyr	Ser	Gly	Tyr 375	Thr	Val	Pro	Ala	Tyr 380	Tyr	Asp	Ser	Met
Ile 385	Gly	Lys	Leu	Ile	Thr 390	Phe	Gly	Glu	Asn	Arg 395	Asp	Val	Ala	Ile	Ala 400
Arg	Met	Arg	Asn	Ala 405	Leu	Asp	Glu	Met	Ile 410	Val	Glu	Gly	Ile	Lys 415	Thr
Asn	Ile	Pro	Leu 420	Gln	Gln	Val	Ile	Met 425	Lys	Asp	Glu	Asn	Phe 430	Gln	His
Gly	Gly	Thr 435	Asn	Ile	His	Tyr	Leu 440	Glu	Lys	Lys	Leu	Gly 445	Leu	Gln	

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<210> SEQ ID NO 19
<211> LENGTH: 308
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213 > ORGANISM: Vibrio furnisii
<400> SEQUENCE: 19
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Arg Lys Ala Ser Ile Pro Glu Gly Val Trp Thr Lys Cys Thr Ser Cys
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Glu Gln Val Leu Tyr Tyr Ala Glu Leu Glu Arg Asn Leu Glu Val Cys
        35
                            40
                                                45
Pro Lys Cys Asn His His Met Arg Met Lys Ala Arg Arg Arg Leu Glu
                        55
Thr Phe Leu Asp Glu Ala Asn Arg Tyr Glu Ile Ala Asp Glu Leu Glu
65
                                        75
Pro Gln Asp Lys Leu Lys Phe Lys Asp Ser Lys Arg Tyr Lys Glu Arg
                85
                                    90
                                                        95
Leu Ala Thr Ala Gln Lys Ser Ser Gly Glu Lys Asp Ala Leu Ile Val
            100
                                                    110
                                105
Met Lys Gly Glu Leu Met Thr Ile Pro Val Val Ala Cys Ala Phe Glu
        115
                            120
                                                125
Phe Ser Phe Met Gly Gly Ser Met Gly Ser Val Val Gly Ala Arg Phe
    130
                        135
                                            140
Val Arg Ala Val Glu Ala Ala Ile Glu Ala Asn Cys Gly Leu Val Cys
145
                    150
                                        155
                                                            160
Phe Ser Ala Ser Gly Gly Ala Arg Met Gln Glu Ala Leu Met Ser Leu
                165
                                    170
                                                        175
Met Gln Met Ala Lys Thr Ser Ala Ala Leu Glu Arg Leu Thr Ala Lys
                                                    190
            180
                                185
Gly Leu Pro Phe Ile Ser Val Met Thr Asp Pro Thr Met Gly Gly Val
        195
                            200
                                                205
Ser Ala Ser Leu Ala Met Leu Gly Asp Ile Asn Ile Gly Glu Pro Lys
    210
                        215
Ala Leu Ile Gly Phe Ala Gly Arg Arg Val Ile Glu Gln Thr Val Arg
225
                    230
                                                            240
                                        235
Glu Glu Leu Pro Glu Gly Phe Gln Arg Ser Glu Phe Leu Leu Glu His
                245
                                    250
                                                        255
Gly Ala Ile Asp Met Ile Val Asp Arg Arg Glu Met Arg Gln Arg Val
            260
                                265
                                                    270
Ala Gly Leu Leu Ala Lys Met Thr Arg Gln Glu Ser Pro Leu Val Val
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                            280
                                                285
Ser Val Asn Asp Ala Pro Asn Glu Ala Ala Tyr Ser Val Pro Glu Ala
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    290
                                            300
Asn Lys Lys Gly
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<210> SEQ ID NO 20
<211> LENGTH: 814
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213 > ORGANISM: Vibrio furnisii
<400> SEQUENCE: 20
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Сув	Leu	Tyr	His 20	Arg	Thr	Ser	Leu	Met 25	Thr	Ala	Leu	Ala	Ala 30	Leu	Thr
Val	Thr	Met 35	Leu	Val	Leu	Ser	Leu 40	Phe	Gly	Pro	Val	Gly 45	Ile	Ile	Ser
Trp	Ala 50	Leu	Tyr	Leu	Ala	Ala 55	Ile	Ala	Val	Leu	Ala 60	Val	Pro	Ser	Ile
Arg 65	Gln	Ser	Leu	Ile	Ser 70	Gly	Lys	Thr	Leu	Lys 75	Val	Phe	Lys	Lys	Val 80
Leu	Pro	Ala	Met	Ser 85	Gln	Thr	Glu	Lys	Glu 90	Ala	Leu	Asp	Ala	Gly 95	Thr
Val	Trp	Trp	Glu 100	Ala	Glu	Leu	Phe	Lys 105	Gly	Lys	Pro	Asp	Trp 110	Gln	Gln
Leu	Ser	His 115	Ile	Lys	Ala	Pro	Thr 120	Leu	Ser	Ala	Glu	Glu 125	Gln	Ala	Phe
Leu	Asp 130	Gly	Pro	Val	Asn	Glu 135	Val	Сув	Ala	Met	Val 140	Asn	Asp	Tyr	Gln
Val 145	Thr	His	Glu	Leu	Ala 150	Asp	Leu	Pro	Pro	Glu 155	Val	Trp	Gln	Tyr	Leu 160
Lys	Asp	His	Lys	Phe 165	Phe	Ala	Met	Ile	Ile 170	Lys	Lys	Gln	Tyr	Gly 175	Gly
Leu	Glu	Phe	Ser 180	Ala	Tyr	Ala	Gln	Ser 185	Leu	Val	Leu	Gln	Lys 190	Leu	Thr
Gly	Val	Ser 195	Gly	Val	Leu	Ser	Ser 200	Thr	Val	Gly	Val	Pro 205	Asn	Ser	Leu
Gly	Pro 210	Gly	Glu	Leu	Leu	Gln 215	His	Tyr	Gly	Thr	Asp 220	Asp	Gln	Lys	Asp
Tyr 225	Tyr	Leu	Pro	Arg	Leu 230	Ala	Glu	Gly	Lys	Glu 235	Ile	Pro	Cys	Phe	Ala 240
Leu	Thr	Ser	Pro	Glu 245	Ala	Gly	Ser	Asp	Ala 250	Gly	Ser	Ile	Pro	Asp 255	Tyr
Gly	Ile	Val	Сув 260	Lys	Asp	Glu	Trp	Glu 265	Gly	Lys	Glu	Val	Leu 270	Gly	Met
Arg	Leu	Thr 275	Trp	Asn	Lys	Arg	Tyr 280	Ile	Thr	Leu	Ala	Pro 285	Val	Ala	Thr
Val	Leu 290	Gly	Leu	Ala	Phe	Lys 295	Leu	Arg	Asp	Pro	Asp 300	Gly	Leu	Leu	Gly
Asp 305	Gln	Lys	Glu	Ile	Gly 310	Ile	Thr	Cys	Ala	Leu 315	Ile	Pro	Thr	His	Leu 320
Lys	Gly	Val	Glu	Ile 325	Gly	Asn	Arg	His	Phe 330	Pro	Leu	Asn	Val	Pro 335	Phe
Gln	Asn	Gly	Pro 340	Thr	Arg	Ala	Asn	Asp 345	Leu	Phe	Val	Pro	Leu 350	Asp	Phe
Ile	Ile	Gly 355	Gly	Pro	Ser	Met	Ala 360	Gly	Gln	Gly	Trp	Arg 365	Met	Leu	Val
Glu	Сув 370	Leu	Ser	Val	Gly	Arg 375	Gly	Ile	Thr	Leu	Pro 380	Ser	Asn	Ser	Thr
Gly 385	Gly	Ile	Lys	Ala	Ala 390	Ala	Met	Ala	Thr	Gly 395	Ala	Tyr	Ala	Arg	Ile 400
Arg	Arg	Gln	Phe	Lys	Gln	Pro	Ile	Gly	His	Met	Glu	Gly	Ile	Glu	Glu

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Pro	Leu	Ala	Arg 420	Leu	Ala	Gly	Asn	Ala 425	Tyr	Val	Met	Asp	Ala 430	Ala	Ser
Asn	Leu	Thr 435	Val	Ala	Gly	Ile	Asp 440	Ala	Gly	Glu	Lys	Pro 445	Ser	Val	Ile
Ser	Ala 450	Ile	Val	Lys	Tyr	His 455	Cys	Thr	His	Arg	Gly 460	Gln	Arg	Ser	Ile
Ile 465	Asp	Ala	Met	Asp	Ile 470	Val	Gly	Gly	Lys	Gly 475	Ile	Сув	Leu	Gly	Pro 480
Ser	Asn	Phe	Leu	Ala 485	Arg	Gly	Tyr	Gln	Gly 490	Ser	Pro	Ile	Ala	Ile 495	Thr
Val	Glu	Gly	Ala 500	Asn	Ile	Leu	Thr	Arg 505	Ser	Met	Ile	Ile	Phe 510	Gly	Gln
Gly	Ala	Ile 515	Arg	Cys	His	Pro	Tyr 520	Val	Leu	Lys	Glu	Met 525	Glu	Ala	Ala
Tyr	Ser 530	Asp	Ser	Ala	Asn	Ala 535	Val	Glu	Gln	Phe	Asp 540	Ala	Ala	Leu	Ala
Gly 545	His	Val	Ser	Phe	Thr 550	Met	Ser	Asn	Leu	Val 555	Arg	Cys	Ile	Trp	Phe 560
Gly	Leu	Thr	Asp	Gly 565	Leu	Gly	Ser	Ala	Ala 570	Pro	Thr	Lys	Asp	Ala 575	Thr
Lys	Arg	Tyr	Tyr 580	Gln	Gln	Leu	Asn	Arg 585	Tyr	Ser	Ala	Asn	Leu 590	Ala	Leu
Leu	Ala	Asp 595	Ile	Ser	Met	Ala	Val 600	Leu	Gly	Gly	Ser	Leu 605	Lys	Arg	Lys
Glu	Arg 610	Leu	Ser	Ala	Arg	Leu 615	Gly	Asp	Ile	Leu	Ser 620	Gln	Leu	Tyr	Leu
Ser 625	Ser	Ala	Thr	Leu	Lys 630	Arg	Phe	Glu	Asn	Asp 635	Gly	Arg	Pro	Ala	Glu 640
Asp	Leu	Ala	Leu	Val 645	His	Trp	Gly	Leu	Gln 650	Asp	Ser	Leu	Lys	Gln 655	Thr
Glu	Val	Ala	Ile 660	Asp	Glu	Phe	Leu	Ala 665	Asn	Phe	Pro	Asn	Lys 670	Val	Ile
Gly	Lys	Ala 675	Leu	Arg	Val	Leu	Ile 680	Met	Pro	Phe	Gly	Arg 685	Val	Arg	Lys
Ala	Pro 690	Asn	Asp	Lys	Leu	Asp 695	Ser	Lys	Val	Ala	Gln 700	Ile	Ile	Gln	Thr
Pro 705	Ser	Ala	Thr	Arg	Ser 710	Arg	Ile	Gly	Arg	His 715	Gln	Tyr	Leu	Glu	Pro 720
Thr	Ala	His	Asn	Ala 725	Val	Gly	Lys	Ile	Glu 730	Leu	Ala	Leu	Asn	Val 735	Ile
Leu	Gln	Ala	Glu 740	Pro	Val	Phe	Asp	Lys 745	Val	Cys	Lys	Ala	Leu 750	Asn	Glu
Arg	Arg	Pro 755	Phe	Thr	Gln	Leu	Asp 760	Gln	Val	Ala	Gln	Сув 765	Gly	Leu	Glu
Gln	Lys 770	Leu	Ile	Thr	Glu	Gln 775	Glu	Ala	Glu	Leu	Leu 780	Ile	Glu	Ala	Glu
Gln 785	His	Arg	Leu	Tyr	Thr 790	Ile	Asn	Val	Asp	Asp 795	Phe	Ala	Pro	Gln	Glu 800
Leu	Ala	Ala	Lys	Lys 805	Ser	Gln	Pro	Lys	Leu 810	Val	Glu	Val	Ala		

<210> SEQ ID NO 21 <211> LENGTH: 807 <212> TYPE: PRT <213> ORGANISM: Vibrio furnisii	
<213 > ORGANISM: VIDITO TUTHISTI <400 > SEQUENCE: 21	
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Ser Val Leu Val Lys Gly Thr Val Ile Pro Ser Asn Pro Ile Asp Asp 20 25 30	
Leu Glu Ile Asp Ile Asn Lys Pro Ile Val Tyr Ala Leu Pro Phe Arg 35 40 45	
Ser Asn Val Asp Leu Leu Thr Leu Gln Thr His Ala Leu Gln Ala Gly 50 55	
Leu Pro Asp Pro Leu Glu Pro Leu Thr Ile His Ser His Thr Leu Lys 65 70 75 80	
Arg Tyr Val Phe Ile Ser Ser Arg Pro Thr Leu Leu Gln Asp Asp Asn 85 90 95	
Gln Val Pro Thr Asp Ser Ile Ala Thr Phe Ser Glu Met Leu Ser Leu 100 105 110	
His Gln Glu Asp Ser Glu Leu Asp Val Gln Val Ile Pro Ala Thr Val 115 120 125	
Leu Trp Gly Arg Lys Pro Gly Lys Glu Gly Arg Glu Arg Pro Tyr Leu 130 135 140	
Gln Ala Leu Asn Gly Pro Gln Lys Ala Lys Ala Val Phe Ala Ala Gly 145 150 155 160	
Arg Asp Cys Leu Val Arg Phe Ser Pro Val Val Ser Leu Arg Tyr Met 165 170 175	
Ala Asp Ser His Gly Thr Asp Ala Ser Ile Ala His Lys Leu Ala Arg 180 185 190	
Val Ala Arg Ile His Phe Ser Arg Gln Lys Leu Ala Ala Ser Gly Pro 195 200 205	
Asn Leu Pro Gln Arg His Gln Leu Phe Gln Arg Leu Met Asn Ser Pro 210 215 220	
Ala Ile Glu Lys Ala Ile Ala Asp Glu Ala Ala Lys Asn Ile Ser 225 230 235 240	
Leu Glu Lys Ala Arg Lys Glu Ala His Asp Met Leu Asp Glu Ile Ala 245 250 255	
Ala Asp Phe Ser Tyr Ser Leu Val Arg Lys Gly Asp Arg Ile Leu Gly 260 265 270	
Trp Leu Trp Asn Arg Ile Tyr Gln Gly Leu Asn Ile Asn Asn Ala Ala 275 280 285	
Thr Val Arg Arg Leu Ala Gln Asp Gly His Glu Ile Val Tyr Val Pro 290 295 300	
Cys His Arg Ser His Met Asp Tyr Leu Leu Leu Ser Tyr Val Leu Tyr 305 310 320	
His Glu Gly Met Val Pro Pro His Ile Ala Ala Gly Ile Asn Leu Asn 325 330 335	
Phe Phe Pro Ala Gly Pro Ile Phe Arg Arg Gly Gly Ala Phe Phe Ile 340 345 350	
Arg Arg Ser Phe Lys Gly Asn Lys Leu Tyr Ser Thr Ile Phe Arg Glu	

		355					360					365			
Tyr	Leu 370	Ala	Glu	Leu	Phe		-	Gly	-	Ser	Val 380	Glu	Tyr	Phe	Ser
Glu 385	Gly	Gly	Arg	Ser	Arg 390	Thr	Gly	Arg	Leu	Leu 395	Gln	Ala	Lys	Thr	Gly 400
Met	Leu	Ala	Met	Thr 405	Ile	Gln	Ala	Met	Leu 410	Arg	Gly	Leu	Asn	Arg 415	Pro
Val	Thr	Leu				Tyr		_	_				Met 430	Glu	Val
Gly	Thr	Tyr 435	Ala	Lys	Glu	Leu	Arg 440	Gly	Lys	Arg	ГÀЗ	Glu 445	Lys	Glu	Asn
Ala	Ser 450	Leu	Val	Leu	Arg	Thr 455	Ile	Arg	Lys	Leu	Arg 460	Asn	Phe	Gly	Gln
Gly 465	Tyr	Val	Asn	Phe	Gly 470	Glu	Pro	Ile	Pro	Leu 475	Asn	Gln	Phe	Leu	Asn 480
Glu	Gln	Val	Pro	Glu 485	Trp	Thr	Gln	Asp	Ile 490	Asp	Ala	Met	Gly	Ala 495	Ser
Lys	Pro	Gln	Trp 500	Met	Thr	Pro	Val	Val 505	Asn	Lys	Leu	Ala	Thr 510	Lys	Met
Met	Thr	His 515	Ile	Asn	Asp	Ala	Ala 520	Ala	Ala	Asn	Ala	Met 525	Thr	Leu	Cys
Ala	Thr 530	Ala	Leu	Leu	Ala	Ser 535	Arg	Gln	Arg	Ala	Leu 540	Ala	Arg	Asp	Asn
Leu 545	Val	Lys	Gln	Ile	Asp 550	Сув	Tyr	Leu	Gln	Leu 555	Leu	Arg	Asn	Val	Pro 560
Tyr	Ser	Asn	Thr	Tyr 565		Val				Ser	Ala	Glu	Ser	Leu 575	Val
			580					585					590	Thr	
		595					600					605		Thr	
	610					615					620			Ile	
625				-	630					635				Gln	640
_			_	645	_				650					Leu 655	
	_		660			_		665				_	670	Ala	
		675					680			_	_	685		Thr	
	690					695					700	_		Ile	
Glu 705					710					715					720
			_	725					730	_				Ile 735	
	_		740	_			_	745					750	Phe	_
Lys	Gly	Val 755	Phe	Ser	Ser	Met	Phe 760	Val	Thr	Leu	ГÀа	Gln 765	Gln	Gly	Tyr

Leu Asp Ser Asp Gly Asn Cys His Leu Asp Gln Thr Lys His Phe Ser Arg Met Leu Tyr Thr Met Leu Tyr Pro Glu Val Arg Leu Thr Ile Gln Glu Ser Ile Cys Gln Val Glu <210> SEQ ID NO 22 <211> LENGTH: 886 <212> TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: Vibrio furnisii <400> SEQUENCE: 22 Met Ser Asp Met Lys His Asp Val Asp Ala Leu Glu Thr Gln Glu Trp Leu Ala Ala Leu Glu Ser Val Val Arg Glu Glu Gly Val Glu Arg Ala Gln Tyr Leu Leu Glu Glu Val Leu Glu Lys Ala Arg Leu Asp Gly Val Asp Met Pro Thr Gly Ile Thr Thr Asn Tyr Ile Asn Thr Ile Pro Ala Ala Gln Glu Pro Ala Tyr Pro Gly Asp Thr Thr Ile Glu Arg Arg Ile Arg Ser Ile Ile Arg Trp Asn Ala Ile Met Ile Val Leu Arg Ala Ser Lys Lys Asp Leu Asp Leu Gly Gly His Met Ala Ser Phe Gln Ser Ser Ala Ala Phe Tyr Glu Thr Cys Phe Asn His Phe Phe Arg Ala Pro Asn Glu Lys Asp Gly Gly Asp Leu Val Tyr Tyr Gln Gly His Ile Ser Pro Gly Ile Tyr Ala Arg Ala Phe Val Glu Gly Arg Leu Thr Glu Glu Gln Leu Asp Asn Phe Arg Gln Glu Val Asp Gly Lys Gly Ile Pro Ser Tyr Pro His Pro Lys Leu Met Pro Glu Phe Trp Gln Phe Pro Thr Val Ser Met Gly Leu Gly Pro Ile Ala Ser Ile Tyr Gln Ala Arg Phe Leu Lys Tyr Leu Glu Gly Arg Gly Met Lys Asp Thr Ala Glu Gln Arg Val Tyr Ala Phe Leu Gly Asp Gly Glu Met Asp Glu Pro Glu Ser Arg Gly Ala Ile Ser Phe Ala Ala Arg Glu Lys Leu Asp Asn Leu Cys Phe Leu Ile Asn Cys Asn Leu Gln Arg Leu Asp Gly Pro Val Met Gly Asn Gly Lys Ile Ile Gln Glu Leu Glu Gly Leu Phe Lys Gly Ala Gly Trp Asn Val Val Lys Val Ile Trp Gly Asn Asn Trp Asp Ser Leu Leu Ala Lys Asp

Thr Ser Gly Lys Leu Leu Gln Leu Met Asn Glu Thr Ile Asp Gly Asp

305					310					315					320
Tyr	Gln	Thr	Phe	Lys 325	Ala	Lys	Asp	Gly	Ala 330	Tyr	Val	Arg	Glu	His 335	Phe
Phe	Gly	Lys	Tyr 340	Pro	Glu	Thr	Ala	Ala 345	Leu	Val	Ala	Asp	Met 350	Thr	Asp
Asp	Glu	Val 355	Phe	Ala	Leu	Lys	Arg 360	Gly	Gly	His	Glu	Ser 365	Ser	Lys	Leu
Tyr	Ala 370			_	Asn			_		_	_	Arg	Pro	Thr	Val
Ile 385	Leu	Ala	Lys	Thr	Val 390	Lys	Gly	Tyr	Gly	Met 395	Gly	Asp	Ala	Ala	Gln 400
Gly	Lys	Asn	Ile	Ala 405	His	Gln	Val	Lys	Lys 410	Met	Asp	Met	Thr	His 415	Val
Ile	Ala	Met	Arg 420	Asn	Arg	Leu	Gly	Leu 425	Gln	Asp	Ile	Ile	Ser 430	Asp	Glu
Glu	Val	Asn 435	Asn	Leu	Pro	Tyr	Leu 440	Lys	Leu	Glu	Glu	Gly 445	Ser	Lys	Glu
Phe	Glu 450	Tyr	Leu	His	Ala	Arg 455	_	Lys	Ala	Leu	His 460	Gly	Tyr	Thr	Pro
Gln 465	Arg	Leu	Pro	Lys	Phe 470	Thr	Gln	Glu	Leu	Val 475	Ile	Pro	Glu	Leu	Glu 480
Glu	Phe	Lys	Pro	Leu 485	Leu	Glu	Glu	Gln	Lys 490	Arg	Glu	Ile	Ser	Ser 495	Thr
Met	Ala	Tyr	Val 500	Arg	Ala	Leu	Asn	Ile 505	Leu	Leu	Lys	Asp	Lys 510	Asn	Ile
Gly	Lys				Pro			Ala	_				Thr	Phe	Gly
Met	Glu 530	Gly	Leu	Phe	Arg	Gln 535	Ile	Gly	Ile	Tyr	Asn 540	Pro	His	Gly	Gln
Thr 545	Tyr	Thr	Pro	Glu	Asp 550	Arg	Gly	Val	Val	Ser 555	Tyr	Tyr	Lys	Glu	Asp 560
Thr	Ala	Gly	Gln	Val 565	Leu	Gln	Glu	Gly	Ile 570	Asn	Glu	Leu	Gly	Ala 575	Met
Ser	Ser	Trp	Val 580	Ala	Ala	Ala	Thr	Ser 585	Tyr	Ser	Thr	Asn	Asn 590	Leu	Pro
Met	Ile	Pro 595	Phe	Tyr	Ile	Tyr	Tyr 600	Ser	Met	Phe	Gly	Phe 605	Gln	Arg	Val
Gly	Asp 610	Met	Ala	Trp	Met	Ala 615	Gly	Asp	Gln	Gln	Ala 620	Arg	Gly	Phe	Leu
Leu 625	Gly	Ala	Thr	Ala	Gly 630	Arg	Thr	Thr	Leu	Asn 635	Gly	Glu	Gly	Leu	Gln 640
His	Glu	Asp	Gly	His 645	Ser	His	Ile	Gln	Ala 650	Ala	Thr	Ile	Pro	Asn 655	Cys
Ile	Ser	Tyr	Asp 660		Thr					Val	Ala	Val	Ile 670	Met	Gln
Asp	Gly	Ile 675	Arg	Arg	Met	Tyr	Gly 680	Asp	Gln	Glu	Asn	Val 685	Phe	Tyr	Tyr
Met	Thr 690	Leu	Met	Asn	Glu	Asn 695	Tyr	Ala	His	Pro	Ala 700	Met	Pro	Glu	Gly
Ala 705	Glu	Glu	Gly	Ile	Arg 710	Lys	Gly	Ile	Tyr	Lys 715	Leu	Glu	Thr	Leu	Ser 720

Gly Ser Lys Gly Lys Val Gln Leu Met Ser Ser Gly Thr Ile Met Asn Glu Val Arg Lys Ala Ala Val Ile Leu Ser Glu Glu Tyr Gly Ile Ala Ser Asp Val Tyr Ser Val Thr Ser Phe Asn Glu Leu Ala Arg Asp Gly Gln Asn Val Glu Arg Tyr Asn Met Leu His Pro Glu Ala Glu Ala Gln Val Pro Tyr Ile Ala Ser Val Met Gly Thr Glu Pro Ala Ile Ala Ala Thr Asp Tyr Met Lys Asn Tyr Ala Asp Gln Val Arg Ala Phe Ile Pro Ala Glu Ser Tyr Lys Val Leu Gly Thr Asp Gly Phe Gly Arg Ser Asp Ser Arg Glu Asn Leu Arg Arg His Phe Glu Val Asn Ala Gly Tyr Val Val Val Ala Ala Leu Asn Glu Leu Ala Lys Arg Gly Glu Val Glu Lys Ser Val Val Ala Glu Ala Ile Lys Lys Phe Asp Ile Asp Thr Glu Lys Thr Asn Pro Leu Tyr Ala <210> SEQ ID NO 23 <211> LENGTH: 630 <212> TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: Vibrio furnisii <400> SEQUENCE: 23 Met Ala Ile Glu Ile Tyr Val Pro Asp Ile Gly Ala Asp Glu Val Glu Val Thr Glu Ile Leu Val Ser Val Gly Asp Lys Val Glu Glu Gln Ser Leu Ile Thr Val Glu Gly Asp Lys Ala Ser Met Glu Val Pro Ala Ser Gln Ala Gly Ile Val Lys Glu Ile Lys Val Val Thr Gly Asp Lys Val Thr Thr Gly Ser Leu Ile Met Val Phe Glu Ala Glu Gly Ala Ala Ala Ala Pro Ala Pro Ala Ala Glu Ala Ala Pro Val Ala Ala Ala Pro Ala Ala Val Glu Leu Lys Glu Val Asn Val Pro Asp Ile Gly Gly Asp Glu Val Glu Val Thr Glu Ile Met Val Ala Val Gly Asp Thr Val Ser Glu Glu Gln Ser Leu Ile Thr Val Glu Gly Asp Lys Ala Ser Met Glu Val Pro Ala Pro Phe Ala Gly Thr Val Lys Glu Ile Lys Ile Ala Ser Gly Asp Lys Val Thr Thr Gly Ser Leu Ile Met Val Phe Glu Val Ala Gly Ser Gly Ala Pro Ala Ala Ala Ala Pro Ala Gln Ala Ala Ala

												<u> </u>	CIII	aca	
			180					185					190		
Pro	Ala	Ala 195	Ala	Pro	Ala	Val	Ala 200	Ala	Asp	Lys	Glu	Val 205	Asn	Val	Pro
Asp	Ile 210	Gly	Gly	Asp	Glu	Val 215	Glu	Val	Thr	Glu	Ile 220	Met	Val	Ala	Val
Gly 225	Asp	Met	Val	Ser	Glu 230	Glu	Gln	Ser	Leu	Ile 235	Thr	Val	Glu	Gly	Asp 240
Lys	Ala	Ser	Met	Glu 245	Val	Pro	Ala	Pro	Phe 250	Ala	Gly	Lys	Val	Lув 255	Ala
Ile	Lys	Val	Ala 260	Ala	Gly	Asp	Lys	Val 265	Ser	Thr	Gly	Ser	Leu 270	Ile	Met
Val	Phe	Glu 275	Val	Ala	Gly	Ala	Ala 280	Pro	Ala	Ala	Val	Ser 285	Ala	Pro	Ala
Gln	Ala 290	Ala	Ala	Pro	Ala	Ala 295	Ala	Ala	Pro	Lys	Ala 300	Glu	Ala	Pro	Ala
Ala 305	Ala	Ala	Pro	Ala	Ala 310	Ala	Thr	Gly	Asp	Phe 315	Gln	Glu	Asn	Asn	Glu 320
Tyr	Ala	His	Ala	Ser 325	Pro	Val	Val	Arg	Arg 330	Leu	Ala	Arg	Glu	Phe 335	Gly
Val	Asn	Leu	Ser 340	Lys	Val	Lys	Gly	Ser 345	Gly	Arg	Lys	Ser	Arg 350	Ile	Leu
Lys	Glu	Asp 355	Val	Gln	Asn	Tyr	Val 360	Lys	Glu	Ala	Leu	Lув 365	Arg	Leu	Glu
Ser	Gly 370	Ala	Ala	Ser	Ala	Ala 375	Ser	Gly	Lys	Gly	Asp 380	Gly	Ala	Ala	Leu
Gly 385	Leu	Leu	Pro	Trp	Pro 390	Lys	Val	Asp	Phe	Ser 395	Lys	Phe	Gly	Asp	Thr 400
Glu	Ile	Gln	Pro	Leu 405	Ser	Arg	Ile	Lys	Lys 410	Ile	Ser	Gly	Ala	Asn 415	Leu
His	Arg	Asn	Trp 420	Val	Met	Ile	Pro	His 425	Val	Thr	Gln	Trp	Asp 430	Asn	Ala
Asp	Ile	Thr 435	Glu	Leu	Glu	Ala	Phe 440	Arg	Lys	Glu	Gln	Asn 445	Ala	Ile	Glu
Ala	Lys 450	Lys	Asp	Thr	Gly	Met 455	Lys	Ile	Thr	Pro	Leu 460	Val	Phe	Ile	Met
Lys 465	Ala	Ala	Ala	ГÀа	Ala 470	Leu	Glu	Ala	Phe	Pro 475	Ala	Phe	Asn	Ser	Ser 480
Leu	Ser	Glu	Asp	Gly 485	Glu	Ser	Leu	Ile	Leu 490	Lys	Lys	Tyr	Val	Asn 495	Ile
Gly	Ile	Ala	Val 500	Asp	Thr	Pro	Asn	Gly 505	Leu	Val	Val	Pro	Val 510	Phe	Lys
Asp	Val	Asn 515	ГЛЗ	ГÀЗ	Gly	Ile	Tyr 520	Glu	Leu	Ser	Glu	Glu 525	Leu	Ala	Val
Val	Ser 530	Lys	Lys	Ala	Arg	Ala 535	Gly	Lys	Leu	Thr	Ala 540	Ser	Asp	Met	Gln
Gly 545	Gly	Cys	Phe	Thr	Ile 550	Ser	Ser	Leu	Gly	Gly 555	Ile	Gly	Gly	Thr	Ala 560
Phe	Thr	Pro	Ile	Val 565	Asn	Ala	Pro	Glu	Val 570	Gly	Ile	Leu	Gly	Val 575	Ser
Lys	Ser	Glu	Met 580	ГÀЗ	Pro	Val	Trp	Asn 585	Gly	Lys	Glu	Phe	Ala 590	Pro	Arg

Leu Gln Leu Pro Leu Ser Leu Ser Tyr Asp His Arg Val Ile Asp Gly Ala Glu Gly Ala Arg Phe Ile Thr Tyr Leu Asn Gly Cys Leu Ser Asp Ile Arg Arg Leu Val Leu <210> SEQ ID NO 24 <211> LENGTH: 316 <212> TYPE: PRT <213 > ORGANISM: Vibrio furnisii <400> SEQUENCE: 24 Met Tyr Ser Lys Ile Leu Gly Thr Gly Ser Tyr Leu Pro Ser Gln Val Arg Thr Asn Ala Asp Leu Glu Lys Met Val Asp Thr Ser Asp Glu Trp Ile Val Thr Arg Thr Gly Ile Arg Glu Arg Arg Ile Ala Ala Asp Asn Glu Thr Val Ala Asp Met Gly Phe Tyr Ala Ala Gln Asn Ala Ile Glu Met Ala Gly Ile Asp Lys Asn Asp Ile Asp Leu Ile Ile Leu Ala Thr Thr Ser Ser Ser His Thr Phe Pro Ser Ser Ala Cys Gln Val Gln Ala Lys Leu Gly Ile Lys Gly Cys Pro Ala Phe Asp Leu Ala Ala Cys Ser Gly Phe Ile Tyr Gly Leu Ser Val Ala Asp Gln His Ile Lys Ser Gly Met Cys Lys Asn Val Leu Val Ile Gly Ala Asp Ala Leu Ser Lys Thr Cys Asp Pro Thr Asp Arg Ser Thr Ile Ile Leu Phe Gly Asp Gly Ala Gly Ala Val Val Gly Ala Ser Glu Glu Pro Gly Ile Leu Ser Thr His Val Tyr Ala Asp Gly Gln Phe Gly Asp Leu Leu Ser Leu Glu Val Pro Glu Arg Gly Gly Asp Val Asp Lys Trp Leu Tyr Met Ala Gly Asn Glu Val Phe Lys Val Ala Val Thr Gln Leu Ser Lys Leu Val Lys Asp Thr Leu Ala Ala Asn Asn Met His Lys Ser Glu Leu Asp Trp Leu Val Pro His Gln Ala Asn Tyr Arg Ile Ile Ser Ala Thr Ala Lys Lys Leu Ser Met Ser Leu Asp Gln Val Val Ile Thr Leu Asp Arg His Gly Asn Thr Ser Ala Ala Thr Val Pro Thr Ala Leu Asp Glu Ala Val Arg

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15

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10

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Gly	Gln	Ser 35	Gly	Ile	Val	Asn	Ile 40	Glu	His	Phe	Asp	Thr 45	Thr	Asn	Phe
Ser	Thr 50	Arg	Phe	Ala	Gly	Leu 55	Val	Lys	Asp	Phe	Asn 60	Сув	Glu	Glu	Tyr
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Glu	Glu	Asn	Ala 100	Pro	Arg	Val	Gly	Val 105	Ala	Ile	Gly	Ser	Gly 110	Ile	Gly
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Ala	Ile	Ser	Thr	Ala 165	Сув	Thr	Thr	Gly	Leu 170	His	Asn	Ile	Gly	His 175	Ala
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Tyr	Ala	Glu	Ile 260	Val	Gly	Phe	Gly	Met 265	Ser	Gly	Asp	Ala	Tyr 270	His	Met
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Ile	Lys	Arg	Ala	Leu 325	Gly	Glu	Asp	Gly	Ala 330	Lys	Gln	Val	Leu	Ile 335	Ser
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Glu	Ala	Ile 355	Ile	Thr	Val	Met	Ser 360	Leu	Val	Asp	Gln	Ile 365	Val	Pro	Pro
Thr	Ile 370	Asn	Leu	Asp	Asn	Pro 375	Glu	Glu	Gly	Leu	Gly 380	Val	Asp	Leu	Val

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<212> TYPE: PRT

<213 > ORGANISM: Vibrio furnisii

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Met Ala Arg Leu Glu Ala Glu Arg Ala Asn His Glu Phe Leu Pro Asp 50 55

Ile Asp Phe Pro Pro Ser Leu Ile Ile Glu Ser Asp Leu Gln Lys Ala 65 70 75 80

Val Gln Ala Ser Arg Asp Leu Leu Val Val Val Pro Ser His Val Phe 85 90

Ala Ile Val Leu Asn Ser Leu Gln Pro Tyr Leu Arg Glu Asp Thr Arg 100 105

Ile Cys Trp Ala Thr Lys Gly Leu Glu Pro Asp Thr Gly Arg Leu Leu 115 120

Gln Asp Val Ala His Asp Val Leu Gly Glu Ser His Pro Leu Ala Val 130 140

Leu Ser Gly Pro Thr Phe Ala Lys Glu Leu Ala Met Gly Met Pro Thr 145 150 150

Ala Ile Ser Val Ala Ser Pro Asp Ala Gln Phe Val Ala Asp Leu Gln 165 170

Glu Lys Ile His Cys Ser Lys Thr Phe Arg Val Tyr Ala Asn Ser Asp 180 185

Phe Ile Gly Met Gln Leu Gly Gly Ala Val Lys Asn Val Ile Ala Ile 195 200 205

Gly Ala Gly Met Ser Asp Gly Ile Gly Phe Gly Ala Asn Ala Arg Thr 210 220

Ala Leu Ile Thr Arg Gly Leu Ala Glu Met Thr Arg Leu Gly Ala Ala 225 230 230

Leu Gly Ala Gln Pro Glu Thr Phe Met Gly Met Ala Gly Leu Gly Asp 245 250 255

Leu Val Leu Thr Cys Thr Asp Asn Gln Ser Arg Asn Arg Arg Phe Gly 260 270

Leu Ala Leu Gly Gln Gly Lys Asp Val Asp Thr Ala Gln Gln Asp Ile 275 280 285

Gly Gln Val Val Glu Gly Tyr Arg Asn Thr Lys Glu Val Trp Leu Leu 290 295 300

Ala Gln Arg Met Gly Val Glu Met Pro Ile Val Glu Gln Ile Tyr Gln 305 310 315

Val Leu Tyr Gln Gly Lys Asp Ala Arg Met Ala Ala Gln Asp Leu Leu

												404			
				325					330					335	
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Glu	Leu	Tyr	Gln 20	Gly	Gly	Thr		Leu 25		Ala	Met	Arg	Cys	Ala	Gly
Phe	Asp	Lys 35	Val	Asp	Leu	Asp	Ala 40	Ala	Lys	Arg		Gly 45	Met	Gln	Val
Val	Arg 50	Val	Pro	Ala	Tyr	Ser 55	Pro	Glu	Ala	Val	Ala 60	Glu	His	Ala	Val
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Thr	Arg	Glu	Ala	Asn 85	Phe	Ser	Leu	Glu	Gly 90	Leu	Val	Gly	Phe	Asn 95	Phe
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Ala	Met	Arg 115	Ile	Leu	Lys	Gly	Leu 120	Gly	Met	Asn	Ile	Leu 125	Cys	Phe	Asp
Pro	Tyr 130	Glu	Asn	Pro	Leu	Ala 135	Ile	Glu	Ile	Gly	Ala 140	Lys	Tyr	Val	Gln
Leu 145	Pro	Glu	Leu	Tyr	Ala 150		Ser	Asp	Ile	Ile 155		Leu	His	Cys	Pro 160
Met	Thr	Lys	Glu	Asn 165	_	His	Leu	Leu	Asp 170	Glu	Gln	Ala	Phe	Ala 175	Gln
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Leu	Gly 210		Asp	Val	Tyr	Asp 215		Glu	Lys	Asp	Leu 220	Phe	Phe	Gln	Asp
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Ala	Leu	His	Asn 260		Ala	Gln	Thr	Thr 265	Leu	Asn	Asn	Val	Leu 270	Ala	Phe
Glu	Gln	Gly 275	Thr	Lys	Ser	Gly	Asn 280		Leu	Val	Asn				

What is claimed is:

- 1. A method of producing a fatty alcohol composition in a recombinant microorganism, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) genetically engineering a microorganism to comprise a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide having acetyl-CoA carboxylase activity (EC 6.4.1.2), and a
- nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide having fatty alcohol forming activity, resulting in a recombinant microorganism;
- (b) culturing the recombinant microorganism in a culture medium containing a carbon source under conditions effective to overexpress the acetyl-CoA carboxylase polypeptide and the polypeptide having fatty alcohol

- forming activity, wherein a fatty alcohol composition is produced by said cultured recombinant microorganism; and
- (c) optionally recovering the fatty alcohol composition from the cell culture.
- 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising genetically engineering said microorganism to comprise at least one nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide having thioesterase activity, wherein said thioesterase polypeptide is expressed.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide having fatty alcohol forming activity is (i) a fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase (FAR, EC 1.1.1.*), or (ii) an acyl-CoA reductase (EC 1.2.1.50) and an alcohol dehydrogenase (EC 1.1.1.1).
- 4. The method of claim 2, wherein said polypeptide having fatty alcohol forming activity is (i) a fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase (FAR, EC 1.1.1.*), or (ii) an acyl-CoA reductase (EC 1.2.1.50) and an alcohol dehydrogenase (EC 1.1.1.1).
- 5. The method of claim 4, wherein said polypeptide having fatty alcohol forming activity is a fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase.
- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein said the fatty alcohol composition comprises one or more of saturated or unsaturated C12, C14 or C16 fatty alcohols.
 - 7. A recombinant microorganism comprising:
 - (a) a nucleic acid sequence encoding a branched chain alpha-keto acid dehydrogenase 60 (Bkd) operon including branched-chain α -keto acid decarboxylase α and β subunits (E1 α/β), a dihydrolipoyl transacylase component (E2), and a dihydrolipoyl dehydrogenase component (E3); and
 - (b) a nucleic acid sequence encoding a β-ketoacyl-ACP synthase III protein
 - (FabH, EC 2.3.1.41) with specificity for a branched chain acyl CoA molecule, wherein at least one nucleic acid sequence according to (a) or (b) is exogenous to the recombinant microorganism and wherein the recombinant microorganism produces a branched fatty acid derivative when cultured in the presence of a carbon source under conditions effective to express the nucleic acid sequences according to (a) and (b).
- 8. The recombinant microorganism according to claim 7, wherein the nucleic acid sequence encoding the FabH protein with specificity for a branched chain acyl CoA molecule is exogenous to the recombinant microorganism and the expression of a FabH endogenous to the recombinant microorganism and lacking specificity for a branched chain acyl CoA molecule is attenuated.
- 9. The recombinant microorganism according to claim 7, further comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding at least one polypeptide having thioesterase activity.

- 10. The recombinant microorganism according to claim 9, further comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide having fatty alcohol forming activity.
- 11. The recombinant microorganism according to claim 10, wherein said polypeptide having fatty alcohol forming activity is (i) a fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase (FAR, EC 1.1.1.*), or (II) acyl-CoA reductases (EC 1.2.1.50) and alcohol dehydrogenase (EC 1.1.1.1).
- 12. The recombinant microorganism according to claim 11, wherein said polypeptide having fatty alcohol forming activity is a fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase.
 - 13. A recombinant microorganism culture, comprising: the recombinant microorganism according to claim 11 and a fermentation medium comprising a carbon source.
- 14. A branched fatty alcohol composition produced by the recombinant microorganism culture according to claim 13, wherein said fatty alcohol composition comprises one or more of saturated or unsaturated C12, C14 and C16 fatty alcohols.
- 15. A branched fatty alcohol composition obtained from the supernatant of the recombinant microorganism culture of claim 13 wherein the fatty alcohol composition comprises C_{12} and C_{14} fatty alcohols.
- 16. A branched fatty alcohol composition obtained from the supernatant of the recombinant microorganism culture of claim 13, wherein the fatty alcohol composition comprises unsaturated fatty alcohols.
- 17. A branched fatty alcohol composition obtained from the supernatant of the recombinant microorganism culture of claim 13, wherein the fatty alcohol composition comprises saturated fatty alcohols.
- 18. A method of producing a branched fatty alcohol composition in a recombinant microorganism, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) obtaining a genetically engineered recombinant microorganism according to claim 11;
 - (b) culturing the recombinant microorganism in a culture medium containing a carbon source under conditions effective to express said: (i) Bkd operon; (ii) FabH;
 - (iii) a nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide having fatty alcohol forming activity; and (iv) nucleic acid sequence encoding a polypeptide having thioesterase activity; and
 - (c) optionally recovering the branched fatty alcohol composition from the cell culture.
- 19. The method of claim 18, wherein said polypeptide having fatty alcohol forming activity is (i) a fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase (FAR, EC 1.1.1.*), or (II) an acyl-CoA reductase (EC 1.2.1.50) and an alcohol dehydrogenase (EC 1.1.1.1).
- 20. The recombinant microorganism according to claim 19, wherein said polypeptide having fatty alcohol forming activity is a fatty alcohol forming acyl-CoA reductase.

* * * * *