Supporting Information

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Fig. S1. Crystalline PDE9 was unable to completely hydrolyze cGMP in the absence of divalent cations in 2 days (1mM cGMP). The strong positive $F_{o, original} - F_{o, cGMP+no}$ ion electron density (blue, 10 σ) indicates significant exchange of the original divalent cations (green) by Na⁺ (blue purple). The final refined $E_{Na,NaS}$ complex model (yellow carbons) are embedded in the initial 2Fo-Fc maps calculated before ligands and water molecules were built (pink, 1.2 σ), and was superimposed with the *ES* complex model discussed in Fig. 1C (green carbons).



Fig. S2. Crystalline PDE9 was unable to completely hydrolyze cGMP in the presence of Zn^{2+} in 2 days (1mM cGMP + 2mM ZnCl₂). The strong positive $F_o - F_{orcGMP+no ion}$ electron density (blue, 10 σ) indicates the full occupancies of Zn^{2+} , as well as the precise location of the phosphorus. The final refined $E_{Zn,Zn}S$ complex model (yellow carbons) are embedded in the initial 2Fo-Fc map calculated before ligands and water molecules were built (pink, 1.2 σ), and was superimposed with the *ES* complex model discussed in Fig. 1C (green carbons).



Fig. S3. The final refined model of E+P complex (sticks model, yellow carbon) embedded in the initial Fo-Fc electron density (2σ) before ligand and waters were included. The ribose and phosphates in the E+P complexes, if kept full occupancies during refinements, would have average B factors 40% higher than those of the bases, and would result in strong negative Fo-Fc electron densities around the phosphate (-4σ , black). In the final E+P model, the hydrolysis center in the E+P complex was modeled 50% occupied by the partially ordered ribose and phosphate and 50% unliganded. With this model, no strong difference electron densities were observed.

Table S1. Ligands used in soaking, X-ray data collection, and refinement statistics

| | Complex | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | ES | EP | E _{Na,Na} S | E _{Zn,Zn} S | E+P | E+P | E+P |
| Ligand | 20 mM | 20 mM | 1 mM | 1 mM cGMP | 1 mM | 1 mM | 20 mM |
| | cGMP | cGMP | cGMP | | cGMP | cGMP | GMP |
| Divalent metal ion | 2 mM | $MnCl_2+$ | None | 0.2–2 mM ZnCl ₂ | 200 μM | 500 μ M | 20 mM |
| | MnCl ₂ | MgCl ₂ | | | MgCl ₂ | MnCl ₂ | MgCl ₂ |
| Soaking time | 1 min | Brief (2 | 2 days | 2 days | 2 days | 2 days | 2 days |
| | | h) | | | | | |
| Resolution (Å) | 2.7 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.15 | 2.4 |
| R merge (%) | 9.6 (59) | 7.7 (43) | 8.5 (68) | 9.0 (54) | 10.4 (59) | 5.8 (46) | 10.4 (36) |
| Ι/σ | 15 (2.0) | 18.9 (3.7) | 23 (2.5) | 19 (2.7) | 28 (3.0) | 29 (3.3) | 19 (2.2) |
| Completeness (%) | 99.9(100) | 99.4(100) | 98.7(94.7) | 99.8(100) | 99.8(100) | 96.8(97.2) | 91(55) |
| Redundancy | 6.2 (6.3) | 4.0 (4.0) | 7.0 (6.5) | 6.1 (6.1) | 6.9 (5.5) | 4.6 (4.6) | 7.9 (5.1) |
| R factor (%) | 19.1 (32) | 18.8 (23) | 18.5 (28) | 18.1 (28) | 18.4 (30) | 17.5 (23) | 17.3 (28) |
| R free (%) | 22.0 (33) | 21.2 (28) | 20.5 (34) | 20.5 (30) | 21.1 (30) | 19.8 (25) | 22 (35) |
| Bond length deviation (Å) | 0.023 | 0.012 | 0.013 | 0.013 | 0.017 | 0.016 | 0.022 |
| Bond angle deviation (°) | 1.9 | 1.2 | 1.3 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 2.0 |
| Ligand in monomer A | cGMP | GMP | cGMP | cGMP | GMP | GMP | GMP |
| Ligand in monomer B | IBMX | IBMX | IBMX | IBMX/ nucleotides | IBMX | IBMX | IBMX/GMP |

The *EP* complex experiments were repeated with 20 mM cGMP + 20 mM MnCl₂ + 20 mM MgCl₂ for a few seconds, 1 min, 1 h, or 2 h or with 2 mM cGMP + 2 mM MnCl₂ for 2 min. The $E_{Zn,Zn}$ S complex experiment was done with 0.2 or 2 mM ZnCl₂. The *E*+*P* complex experiments with MgCl₂ or MnCl₂ were repeated twice. Only the highest resolution statistics of the same experiments are included in the table.

Other Supporting Information Files SI Appendix

SI Appendix

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