

Supporting Information

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SI Text

Chemical Synthesis of the Alpha-Peptide. The synthesis of the 23mer alpha-peptide (*Ec*POX₅₅₀₋₅₇₂, H-Met-Leu-Arg-Ala-Ile-Ile-Ser-Gly-Arg-Gly-Asp-Glu-Val-Ile-Glu-Leu-Ala-Lys-Thr-Asn-Trp-Leu-Arg-OH) was carried out using an ABI 443A peptide synthesizer running standard Fmoc-chemistry in a 0.125-mmol scale. The attachment of the first amino acid to 2-chlorotritylchlorid resin was carried out using an established protocol [Barlos K, *et al.* (1989) Synthesis of Protected Peptide-Fragments Using Substituted Triphenylmethyl Resins. *Tetrahed Lett* 30:3943-3946]. For the following double coupling steps 4 eq amino acid, 4 eq HCTU (2-(6-Chloro-1H-benzotriazole-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethylammonium hexafluoro-phosphate), 4 eq HOBt

(4-hydroxybenzotriazole) and 8 eq DIPEA (*N,N*-diisopropylethylamine) in DMF (*N,N*-dimethylformamide) were used. The *N*-terminal Fmoc-protection group was cleaved with a solution of 2% piperidine/2% DBU (1,8-Diaza-bicyclo[5.4.0]-7-undecene) in DMF. After complete synthesis the simultaneous cleavage of the peptide from the resin and side chain deprotection were done by a mixture of 5% TIS (triisopropylsilane), 5% water and 90% TFA (trifluoroacetic acid) for 3 h at room temperature. After evaporation of the solvent the peptide was precipitated by ice-cold diethylether. The crude product was washed with diethylether, filtered and purified via preparative HPLC using a C18 column employing a water/acetonitrile gradient (with 0.1% TFA) from 5-35% over 80 min. Correct synthesis was confirmed by mass spectrometry. The total yield of the pure product was 16 mg.

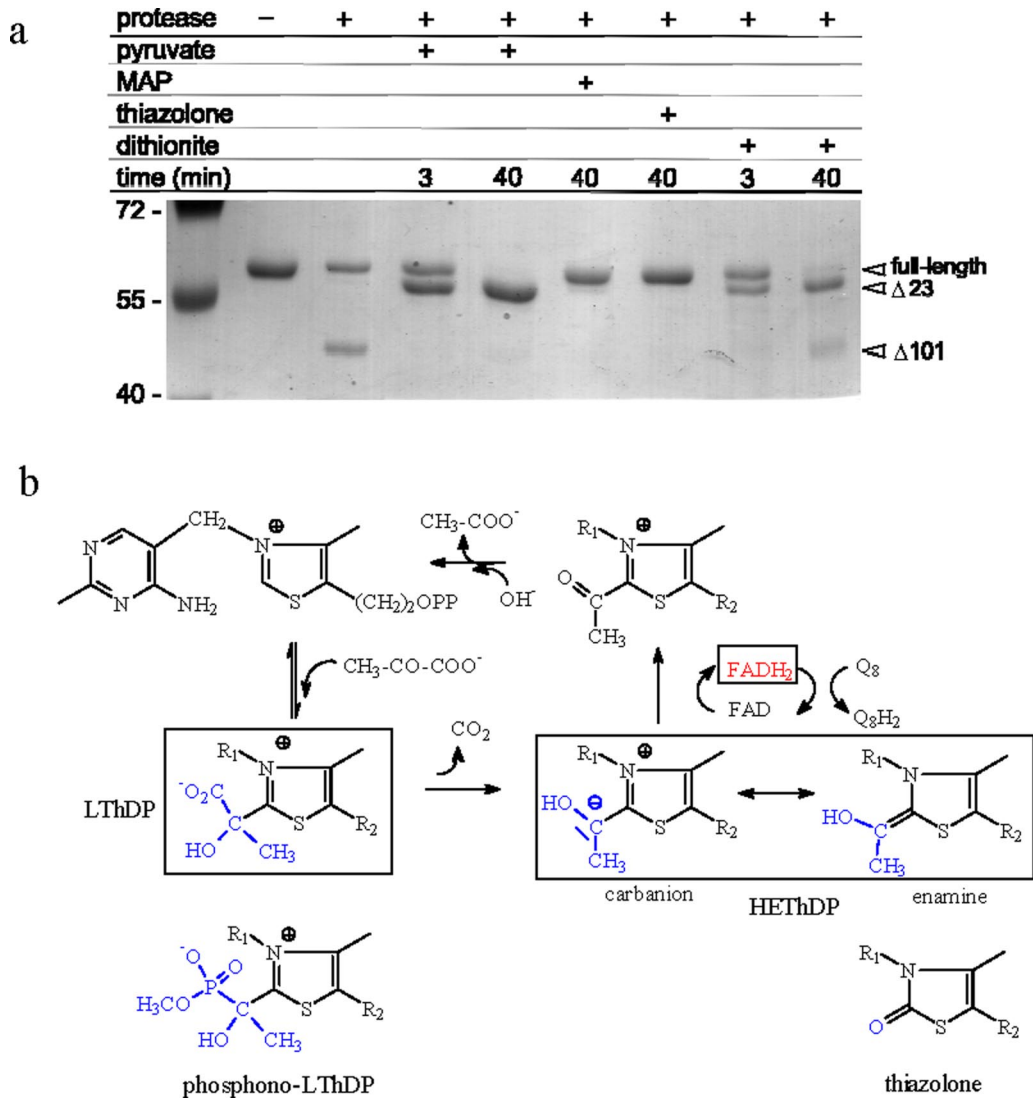


Fig. S1. (a) SDS-page analysis of EcPOX after treatment with alpha-chymotrypsin at different catalytic stages. Conditions for limited proteolysis were as detailed by Hager and coworkers [Recny MA, Hager LP (1983) Isolation and characterization of the protease-activated form of pyruvate oxidase. *J Biol Chem* 258: 5189–5195]. EcPOX was subjected to proteolytic digestion (i) in the resting state, (ii) after reaction with 200 mM pyruvate, (iii) after reaction with 20 mM methylacetyl-phosphonate (MAP, a substrate analog) resulting in the formation of the stable predecarboxylation intermediate analog phosphono-LThDP, (iv) after reconstitution with 100 μM thiamin thiazolone diphosphate (an analog of the HETHDP enamine), and (v) after complete reduction with sodium dithionite under strict anaerobic conditions. (b) Catalytic cycle of EcPOX with native intermediates and corresponding intermediate analogs indicated.

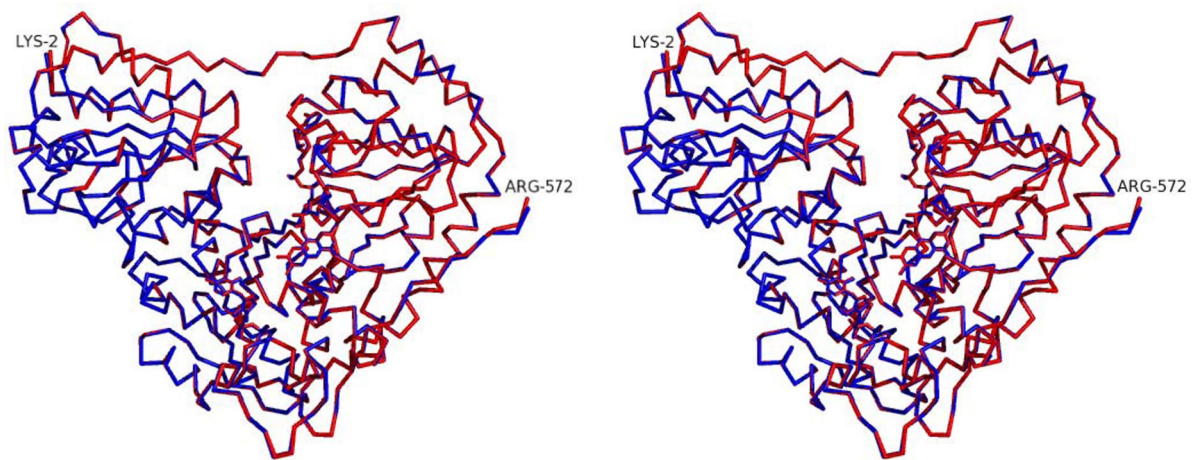


Fig. S2. Superposition of both subunits in the asymmetric unit of full-length *EcPOX* in stereoview and ribbon representation. Chains A and B are shown in blue and red, respectively. The cofactors ThDP and FAD are depicted in stick representation.

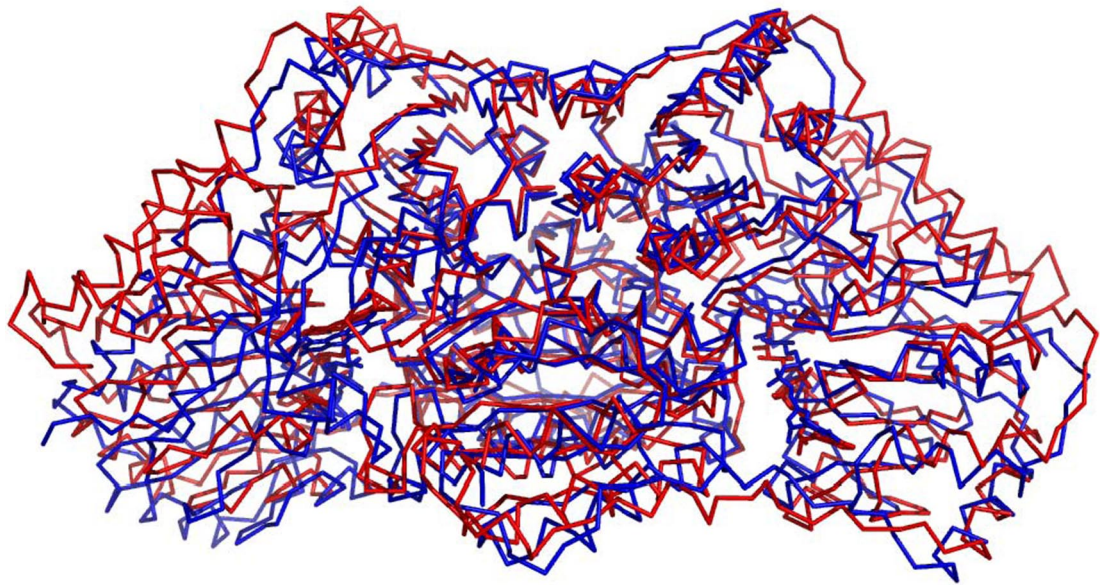


Fig. S3. Superposition of the catalytic dimers of *LpPOX* (red) and *EcPOX* (blue) reveals a similar overall fold of both proteins.

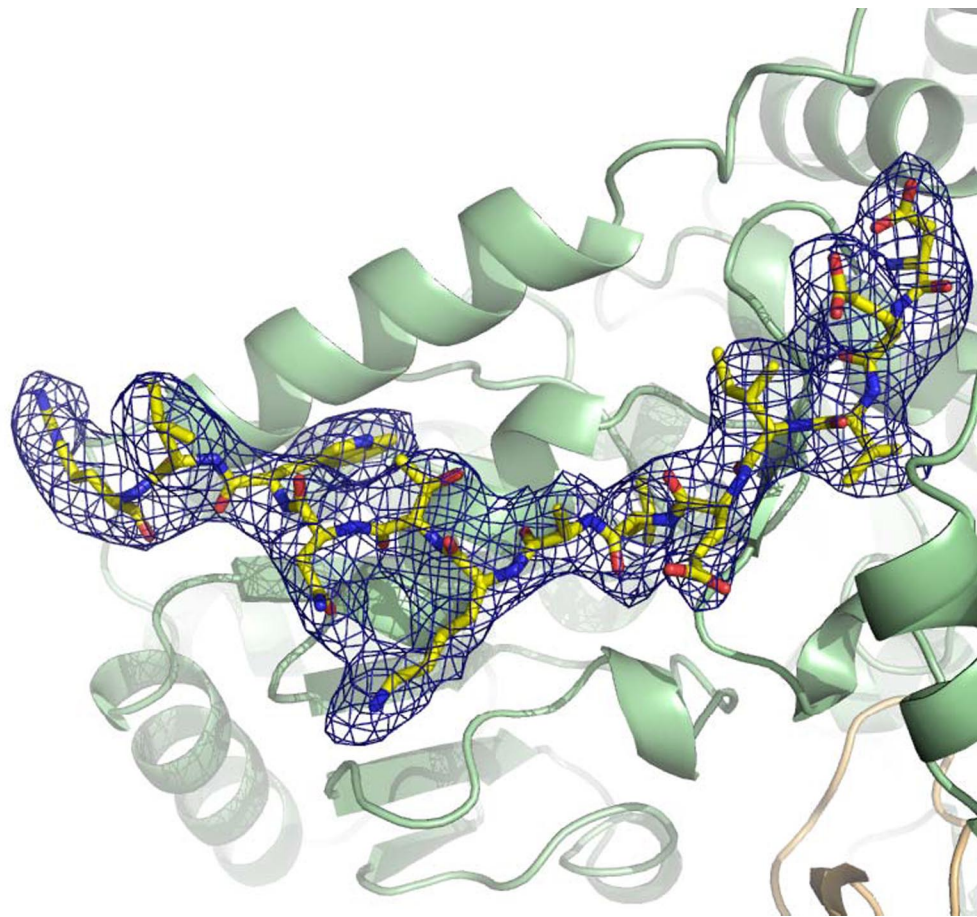


Fig. S4. Structure of the C terminus of full-length *EcPOX* in diagram representation displaying electron density for the last C-terminal 13 residues (shown as sticks) at a contour level of 3σ in a F_o-F_c omit map.

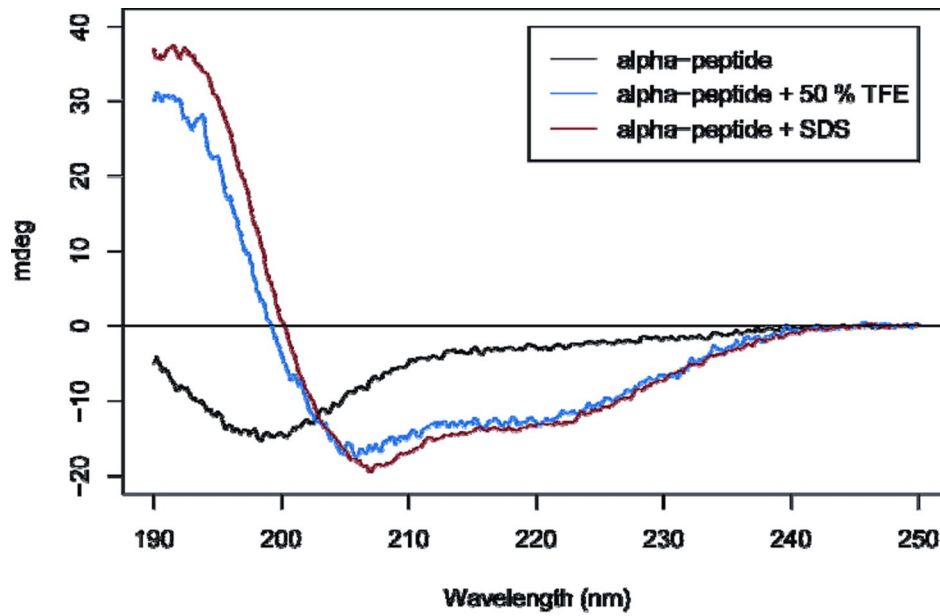


Fig. S5. Far-UV CD spectra of 50 μ M alpha-peptide (*Ec*POX₅₅₀₋₅₇₂) in 20 mM potassium phosphate buffer pH 6.0 without further additives (black line), and in presence of either 100 mM SDS (brown line) or 50% trifluoroethanol (blue line). The spectra shown were recorded at 20°C and an optical path length of 10 mm at a Jasco J-810 CD spectrometer.

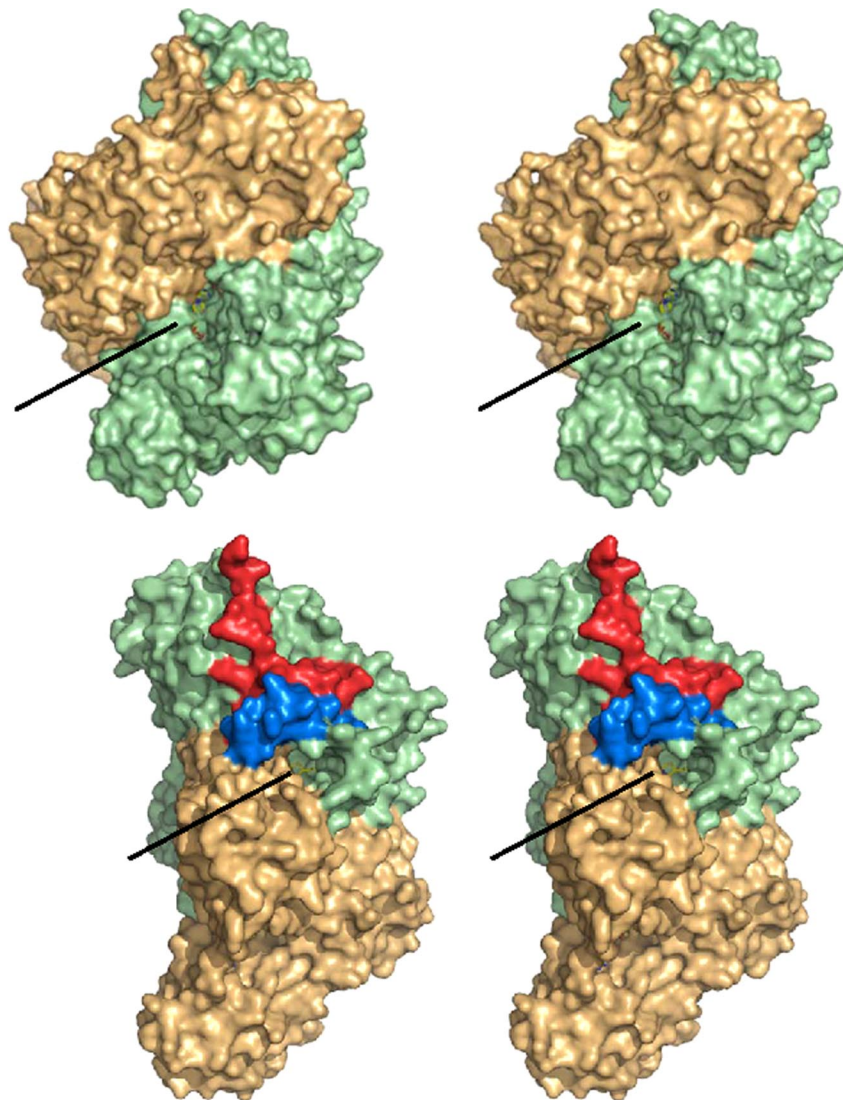
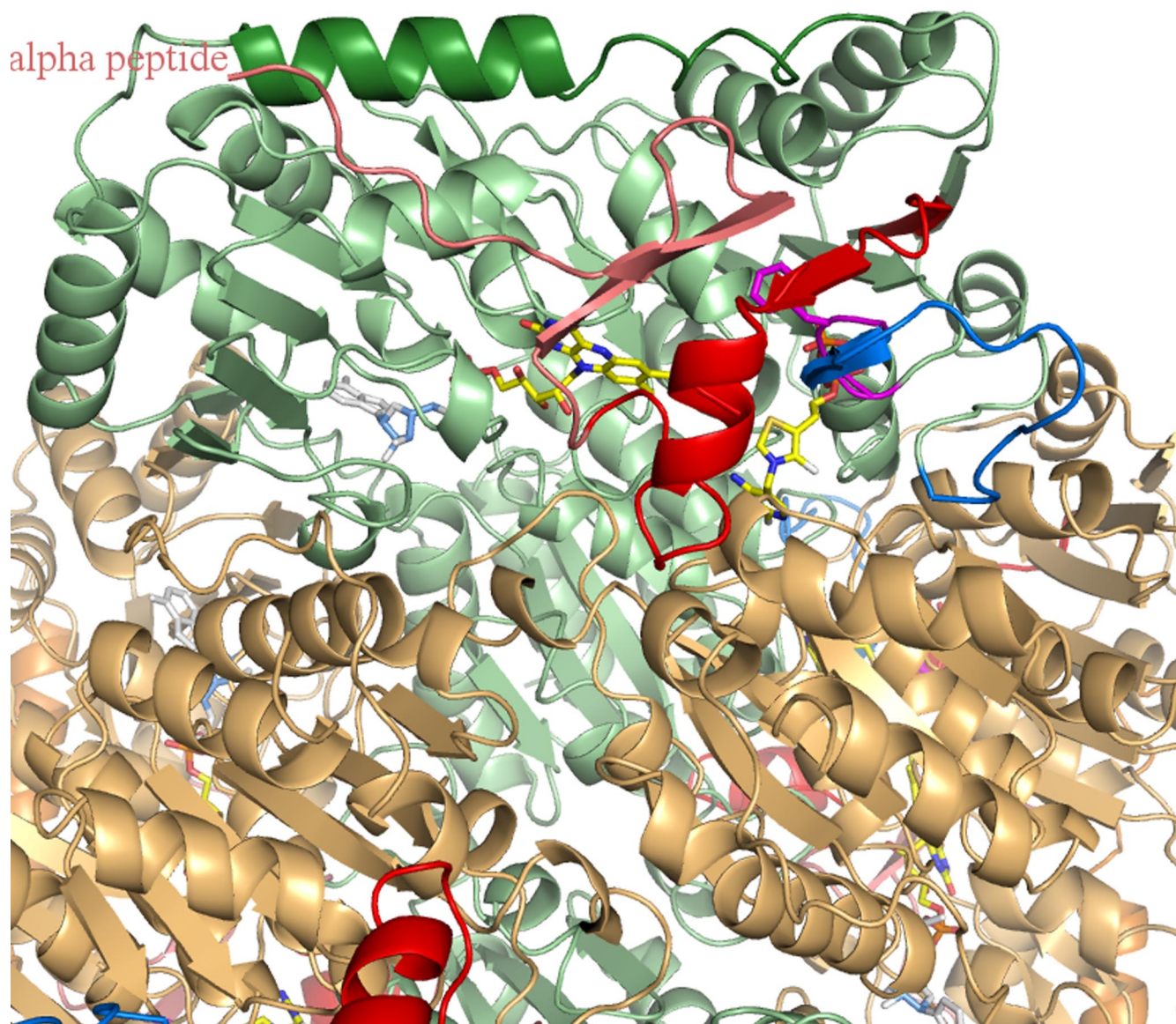


Fig. S6. Surface representation of pyruvate dehydrogenase E1 component from *E. coli* (Top) [Arjunan P, *et al.* (2002) Structure of the pyruvate dehydrogenase multienzyme complex E1 component from *Escherichia coli* at 1.85 Å resolution. *Biochemistry* 41: 5213–5221] and EcPOX (Bottom) viewed down the substrate channel. The corresponding subunits of the dimers are coloured individually and the entrance to the active site at the dimer interface is indicated. For EcPOX, the linker region (blue) and the AP (red) of the C terminus are highlighted. In both enzymes, the active sites are located at the bottom of a long funnel-shaped substrate channel.

FULL-LENGTH EcPOX



Movie S1. Structural transition of EcPOX in the course of activation.

[Movie S1 \(MOV\)](#)

Table S1. Crystallographic statistics

	Full-length EcPOX (1–572)	EcPOX _{Δ23} (1–549)
Data collection		
Wavelength, Å	1.54180	0.91840
Space group, Å	P4(3)2(1)2	P2(1)2(1)2(1)
<i>a</i>	151.36	203.24
<i>b</i>	151.36	207.05
<i>c</i>	153.74	214.54
Monomers in asymmetric unit	2	12
Max. resolution, Å	2.9	2.5
<i>R</i> _{merge} , %	7.3 (74.4)	13.1 (70.8)
Completeness, %	98.6 (99.6)	99.7 (98.5)
No. of reflections	417728	1610583
No. of unique reflections	39657	309571
$\langle I/\sigma(I) \rangle$	25.07 (2.54)	20.75 (1.95)
Refinement		
Resolution range, Å	30.0–2.9	30.0–2.5
Completeness (working + test), %	98.79 (99.6)	99.62 (98.21)
No. of reflections (<i>F</i> > 0)	39635	294151
Wilson B, Å ²	72.85	60.20
<i>R</i> _{cryst} , %	18.32 (32.53)	18.34 (27.50)
<i>R</i> _{free} , %	21.60 (37.90)	19.77 (29.20)
No. of nonhydrogen atoms		
Protein	8,684	47,891
Water	0	1329
Sulfate/Phosphate	10	180
FAD, ThDP, Mg ²⁺	160	960
R.m.SD from ideality		
Bond lengths, Å	0.007	0.013
Bond angles, °	1.129	1.467
Dihedrals, °	19.350	22.895
Improper, °	0.073	0.095
Average B-factor, Å ²		
Protein atoms	81.00	60.23
Water		55.34
Sulfate/Phosphate	84.21	73.96
FAD, ThDP, Mg ²⁺	65.11	51.00

$R_{\text{merge}} = \sum |I - \langle I \rangle| / \sum \langle I \rangle$. Values in parentheses correspond to the highest resolution shell. $R_{\text{cryst}} = \sum ||F_{\text{obs}}| - |F_{\text{calc}}|| / \sum |F_{\text{obs}}|$. R_{free} is calculated as for R_{cryst} but for a test set comprising reflections not used in the refinement (5.0%).