SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Evidence for Radical-Mediated Catalysis by HppE – A Study Using Cyclopropyl and Methylenecyclopropyl Substrate Analogues

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1. General information

Apo-HppE was expressed and purified as previously described.¹ The enzyme was reconstituted with one equivalent of $Fe(II)(NH_4)_2(SO_4)_2 \cdot 6H_2O$ before use in assays.

Compounds 8² and 17³ were prepared as previously described. Tetrahydrofuran (THF) and dichloromethane (CH₂Cl₂) were distilled under a N₂ atmosphere from Na/benzophenone and CaH₂, respectively, prior to use. Other dry solvents were purchased from commercial suppliers without further purification. All reagents were used directly as obtained commercially unless otherwise noted. NMR spectra of the synthetic samples were recorded on Varian NMR spectrometers operating at 300, 400, 500, or 600 MHz in the NMR facility of the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry of the University of Texas at Austin. Chemical shifts (δ in ppm) are reported relative to that of the solvent peak (CDCl₃ or D₂O), with coupling constants given in Hertz (Hz). High-resolution mass spectral (HRMS) analyses of all synthesized compounds were carried out at the Mass Spectrometry Facility (MSF) of the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry of the University of Texas at Austin. High-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS) analyses of all enzyme reaction products were carried out using a Fourier Transform Ion Cyclotron Resonance Mass Spectrometer (FTICR-MS) at the Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M University.

2. Chemical syntheses of compounds 7, 15, 16, and 24.

2.1. Chemical synthesis of compounds (S)- and (R)-7.

Scheme S1. Synthetic scheme for the preparation of (S)- and (R)-7.

Diethyl (2-cyclopropyl-2-hydroxyethyl)phosphonate (10). A mixture of **8** (728 mg, 4.5 mmol) and P(OEt)₃ (830 mg, 5.0 mmol) was stirred under argon at 65 °C for 12 h. The mixture was subjected to high vaccum evaporation using an oil pump to remove the unreacted P(OEt)₃. The resulting colorless oil containing mostly compound **9** was used directly for the next reaction without further purification.

To a stirred solution of **9** (850 mg, 3.86 mmol) in MeOH (20 mL) was added NaBH₄ (160 mg, 4.2 mmol) at room temperature, and the resulting mixture was stirred for 1 h. After drop-wise addition of acetone (2 mL) to quench the reaction, water (10 mL) and ethyl acetate (40 mL) were added. The organic layer was separated, washed with brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated to dryness. The crude residue was re-dissolved in ethyl acetate and purified using flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate) to afford **10** as a colorless oil (600 mg, 60% from **8**). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.10-4.15 (m, 4H), 3.27-3.35 (m, 1H), 2.10-2.16 (m, 2H), 1.33 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 0.97-1.01 (m, 1H), 0.40-0.57 (m, 3H), 0.23 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 70.5, 61.5 (d, J = 6.5 Hz), 61.4 (d, J = 6.5 Hz), 33.3 (d, J = 137.0 Hz), 18.1 (d, J = 18.8 Hz), 16.0 (d, J = 5.6 Hz), 3.0, 1.9; ³¹P NMR (161.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 30.1.

1-Cyclopropyl-2-(diethoxyphosphoryl)ethyl acetate (11). To a stirred solution of **10** (4.4 g, 20.0 mmol) in pyridine (10 mL) was added acetic anhydride (10 mL) at room temperature. Stirring was continued for 14 h, then ice-water (100 mL) was added in one portion to quench the reaction. After stirring for another 30 min, the reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (30 mL \times 5). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated to dryness. The crude residue was redissolved in ethyl acetate and purified using flash column chromatography (hexanes: ethyl acetate: Et₃N = 1:1:0.05) to afford **11** as a colorless liquid (4.75 g, 90%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.50-4.59 (m, 1H), 4.05-4.14 (m, 4H), 2.15-2.30 (m, 2H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 1.32 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H), 1.12-1.18 (m, 1H), 0.45-0.61 (m, 3H), 0.31-0.36 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz,

CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 73.0, 61.7 (d, J = 6.5 Hz), 61.6 (d, J = 6.5 Hz), 31.5 (d, J = 140.5 Hz), 16.4 (d, J = 5.9 Hz), 16.2 (d, J = 12.5 Hz), 3.8, 3.4; ³¹P NMR (161.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 27.8; HRMS-CI calc. for C₁₁H₂₂O₅P (M+H)⁺ 265.1205, found 265.1208.

- (*R*)-1-Cyclopropyl-2-(diethoxyphosphoryl)ethyl acetate ((*R*)-11) and (*S*)-diethyl (2-cyclopropyl-2-hydroxyethyl)phosphonate ((*S*)-10). To a solution of 10 (1.0 g, 3.85 mmol) in potassium phosphate buffer (100 mL, 20 mM, pH 7.0) was added pig liver esterase (PLE, E.C. 3.1.1.1, Sigma-Aldrich, 200 mg). The mixture was stirred at room temperature. The progress of the reaction was followed using ¹H NMR and TLC until ~50% 10 was converted (~ 18 h). NaCl was then added to the reaction solution to saturation, and the resulting mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (30 mL × 8). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated to dryness. The crude residue was redissolved in ethyl acetate and purified using flash column chromatography (hexanes: ethyl acetate: Et₃N = 1: 1: 0.05) to afford pure 10 and 11. The above procedure was repeated three times to give (*S*)-10 (0.30 g, 84% *ee*) in 35% yield, and (*R*)-11 (0.40 g) in 40% yield. The ¹H and ³¹P-NMR spectra of (*S*)-10 and (*R*)-11 are identical to those of (*rac*)-10 and (*rac*)-11, respectively^{4, 5}.
- (*R*)-Diethyl (2-cyclopropyl-2-hydroxyethyl)phosphonate ((*R*)-10). To a stirring solution of (*R*)-11 (530 mg, 2.0 mmol) in water (10 mL) was added NaOH (3.0 mL, 1.0 M) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature slowly and stirred for 24 h. NaCl was added to the reaction solution until saturation and the mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (10 mL × 5). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification using flash column chromatography (hexanes: ethyl acetate: Et₃N = 1:1:0.05) afforded (*R*)-10 as a colorless oil (377 mg, 85%, >90% ee). The 1 H and 31 P NMR spectra of (*R*)-10 are identical to those of (*rac*)-10.
- (*S*)-(2-Cyclopropyl-2-hydroxyethyl)phosphonic acid ((*S*)-7). To a stirred solution of (*S*)-10 (444 mg, 2.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added allyITMS (2.5 mL, 16.0 mmol) and TMSBr (1.3 mL, 10.0 mmol). The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 12 h. The reaction mixture was then concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was redissolved in CHCl₃ (6 mL) and extracted with 0.5 M NH₄HCO₃ (8 mL × 2). The aqueous extracts were pooled and lyophilized to afford (*S*)-7 as a white solid (225 mg, 85%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, D₂O) δ 2.92-2.98 (m, 1H); 1.60-1.80 (m, 2H), 0.70-0.76 (m, 1H), 0.25-0.32 (m, 2H), 0.02-0.08 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, D₂O) δ 70.9, 33.3 (d, *J* = 129.5 Hz), 15.6 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz), 0.8, 0.0; ³¹P NMR (161.8 MHz, D₂O) δ 22.5; HRMS-CI calc. for C₅H₁₂O₄P (M+H)⁺ 167.0474, found 167.0473.
- (R)-(2-Cyclopropyl-2-hydroxyethyl)phosphonic acid ((R)-7). Using the same procedure for the synthesis of (S)-7, compound (R)-7 was obtained from (R)-10 in 85% yield. The spectral data of (R)-7 are identical to those of (S)-7.

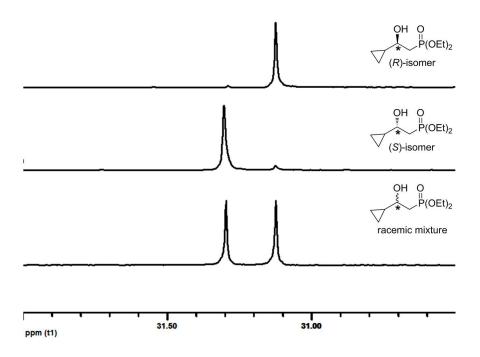


Figure S2.1-1. ³¹P NMR spectra (161.8 MHz, CDCl₃) of chemically synthesized (*R*)-**10** (top spectrum), (*S*)-**10** (middle spectrum), and racemic-**10** (bottom spectrum). Quinine was added as chiral shifting reagent. Each sample contains 40 mg of quinine and 10 mg of substrate dissolved in 0.65 mL of CDCl₃.

2.2. Chemical synthesis of compound 15.

Scheme S2. Synthetic scheme for the preparation of 15.

(2-Cyclopropyl-2-oxoethyl)phosphonic acid (15). To a stirred solution of 9 (439 mg, 2.0 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (20 mL) was added allyITMS (2.5 mL, 16.0 mmol) and TMSBr (1.3 mL, 10.0 mmol). The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 12 h, and the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in CHCl₃ (6 mL) and extracted with 0.5 M NH₄HCO₃ (8 mL × 2). The aqueous extracts were collected and lyophilized to afford 15 as a white solid (220 mg, 85%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, D₂O) δ 2.97 (d, J = 22.0 Hz, 2H), 2.07-2.14 (m, 2H), 0.88-0.92 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, D₂O) δ 211.8, 46.3 (d, J = 112.7 Hz), 22.0, 12.5; ³¹P NMR (161.8 MHz, D₂O) δ 13.3; HRMS-CI calc. for C₅H₁₂O₄P (M+H)⁺ 165.0311, found 165.0311.

2.3. Chemical synthesis of compound 16.

Diethyl (2-oxo-2-methylenecyclopropyl)ethylphosphonate (18). To a stirred solution of diethyl methylphosphonate (400 mg, 2.62 mmol) in THF (15 mL) was added n-BuLi (1.1 mL, 2.5 M solution in hexanes, 2.65 mmol) at -78 °C. After stirring at the same temperature for 20 min, the lithiated reagent was transferred via a

cannula needle to a solution of **17** (315 mg, 2.50 mmol) in THF (15 mL) at -78 °C. The resulting mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h and then slowly warmed to room temperature. After stirring for an additional 2 h, the reaction was quenched with saturated NH₄Cl (8 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (30 mL × 5). The organic extracts were combined, washed with brine and dried over Na₂SO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified using flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate) to give the desired compound **18** as a colorless oil (423 mg, 73%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.41 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 2H), 4.02-4.11 (m, 4H), 2.91-3.11 (m, 2H), 2.64-2.68 (m, 1H), 1.87-1.92 (m, 1H), 1.65 (tt, J = 2.1, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 1.24 (dt, J = 0.6, 5.7 Hz, 6H); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 199.4 (d, J = 3.0 Hz), 132.0, 104.8, 62.8 (dd, J = 3.8, 6.5 Hz), 40.4 (d, J = 127.5 Hz), 27.6, 16.6 (d, J = 6.0 Hz), 13.3; ³¹P NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 20.9; HRMS-ESI (M+H)⁺ calc. for C₁₀H₁₈O₄P 233.0937, found 233.0940.

Scheme S3. Synthetic scheme for the preparation of 16.

Diethyl (2-hydroxy-2-methylenecylclopropyl)ethylphosphonate (19). To a stirred solution of 18 (350 mg, 1.51 mmol) and CeCl₃·7H₂O (555 mg, 1.51 mmol) in methanol (20 mL) was added NaBH₄ (58 mg, 1.52 mmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred for 20 min before quenching with a mixture of 1 N HCl (3 mL, 3 mmol) and water (10 mL). The resulting solution was extracted with ethyl acetate (20 mL × 5). The organic extracts were combined, washed with brine (20 mL × 2), and dried over Na₂SO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified using flash column chromatography (ethyl acetate) to give the desired compound 19 as a mixture of inseparable diastereomers (colorless oil, 311 mg, 88%). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 5.45-5.47 (m), 5.32-5.36 (m), 3.97-4.07 (m), 3.78 (d, J = 3.2 Hz), 3.56-3.63 (m), 3.40-3.49 (m), 1.91-2.06 (m), 1.58-1.88 (m), 1.15-1.27 (m) 0.92-1.04 (m), 0.90-0.95 (m); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 132.6, 132.0, 104.1, 104.0, 69.0 (d, J = 5.2 Hz), 68.4 (d, J = 4.4 Hz), 61.7, 61.6, 61.52, 61.48, 33.3 (d, J = 137.7 Hz), 32.6 (d, J = 135.7 Hz), 22.2 (d, J = 19.4 Hz), 21.7 (d, J = 18.6 Hz), 16.1 (d, J = 6.0 Hz), 8.2, 6.7; ³¹P NMR (161.8 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 29.6, 29.5; HRMS-ESI calc. for NaC₁₀H₉O₄P (M+Na)⁺ 257.0913, found 257.0915.

2-Hydroxy-2-(methylenecyclopropyl)-ethylphosphonic acid (16). To a stirred solution of **19** (159 mg, 0.68 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) was added allyITMS (542 mg, 4.76 mmol) and TMSBr (420 mg, 2.75 mmol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 h and the solvent was then removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in CHCl₃ (6 mL) and extracted with 0.2 M NH₄HCO₃ (8 mL × 2). The aqueous extracts were collected and lyophilized to afford **16** as a white solid (102 mg, 85%). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, D₂O, pre-saturated) δ

5.40 (s, 1H), 5.29 (s, 1H), 3.30-3.42 (m, 1H), 1.72-1.90 (m, 2H), 1.58 (br, 1H), 1.85 (t, J = 9 Hz), 0.89-0.93 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, D₂O) δ 133.8, 132.8, 104.0, 103.7, 70.5 (d, J = 2.4 Hz), 70.3 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 35.3 (d, J = 130.1 Hz), 35.0 (d, J = 130.4 Hz), 22.0 (d, J = 15.1 Hz), 21.5 (d, J = 14.4 Hz), 7.4, 7.1; ³¹P NMR (242.8 MHz, D₂O) δ 21.4; HRMS-ESI cal. for C₆H₁₀O₄P (M-H)⁻, 177.0317, found 177.0322.

2.4. Chemical synthesis of compound 24.

H₂C COOEt
$$(P_3PO(OPh)_2)$$
 $(P_4PO(OPh)_2)$ $(P_4PO(OP$

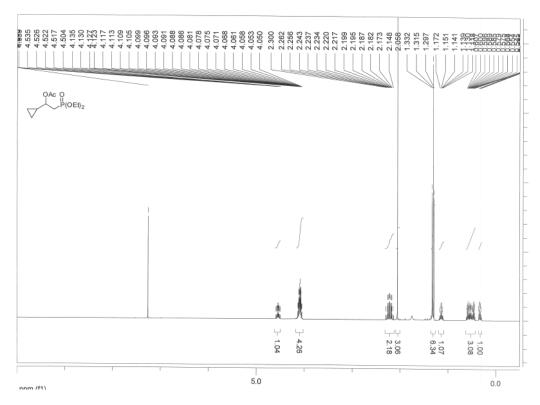
Scheme S4. Synthetic scheme for the preparation of **24**.

Diphenyl (2-oxo-2-methylenecyclopropyl)ethylphosphonate (26). To a solution of diphenyl methylphosphonate (650 mg, 2.62 mmol) in THF (15 mL) was added dropwise *n*-BuLi (1.1 mL, 2.5 M solution in hexanes, 2.65 mmol) at -78 °C. After stirring at the same temperature for 3 min, a solution of **17** (315 mg, 2.50 mmol) in THF (15 mL) was added to the lithiated reagent in one portion. The resulting mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 15 min and then quenched with saturated NH₄Cl (8 mL). The mixture was warmed to room temperature and extracted with ethyl acetate (30 mL × 5). The organic extracts were combined, washed with brine, and dried over Na₂SO₄. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, and the resulting residue was purified using flash column chromatography (hexanes: ethyl acetate = 3:2 ~ 0:1) to give the desired compound **26** as a colorless oil (155 mg, 19%). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29-7.35 (m, 4H), 7.15-7.28 (m, 6H), 5.46-5.52 (m, 2H), 3.30-3.49 (m, 2H), 2.80-2.86 (m, 1H), 1.98-2.04 (m, 1H), 1.77 (tt, J = 2.7, 8.7 Hz, 1H); ³¹P NMR (121.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 14.0; ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 198.2 (d, J = 6.5 Hz), 150.4 (d, J = 8.2 Hz), 131.8, 130.2, 125.9, 121.1 (d, J = 4.3 Hz), 105.4, 41.1 (d, J = 130 Hz), 28.0 (d, J = 16.5 Hz), 13.9, 13.3; HRMS-ESI cal. for C₁₈H₁₈O₄P (M+H)⁺ 329.0943, found 329.0937.

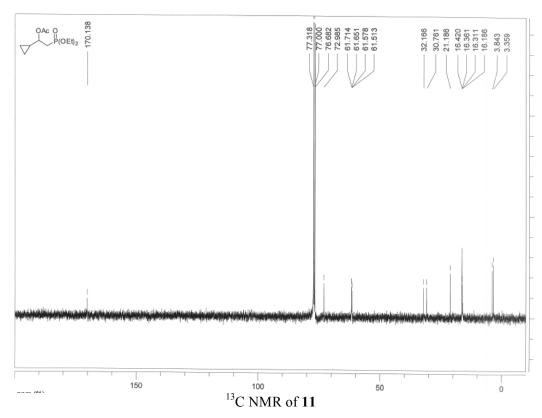
(2-Oxo-2-methylenecyclopropyl)ethylphosphonate (24). Compound 26 (100 mg, 0.30 mmol) and NH₄F (111 mg, 3.0 mmol) were dissolved in a 1:1 mixture of CH₃CN: H₂O (14 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at 60 °C for 3 h.⁴ After most of the organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the mixture was subjected to ion-exchange chromatography using DEAE-Sephadex (HCO₃⁻). The column was first washed with H₂O and the crude product was eluted with 100 mM NH₄HCO₃. The eluate was concentrated via lyophilization to 1 mL and further purified by HPLC using a DIONEX Carbopac PA1 column. A 0 to 100% gradient of H₂O and 200 mM NH₄HCO₃ was applied to elute the product. Fractions containing the desired product were combined and lyophilized to give 24 as a white solid (16.5 mg, 31%), which slowly decomposed to a red solid. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, D₂O) δ 5.40 (m, 2H), 2.82-2.96 (m, 1H), 2.81 (t, *J* = 6 Hz, 1H), 2.00-2.11 (m, 1H), 1.72-1.75 (m, 2H); ¹³C

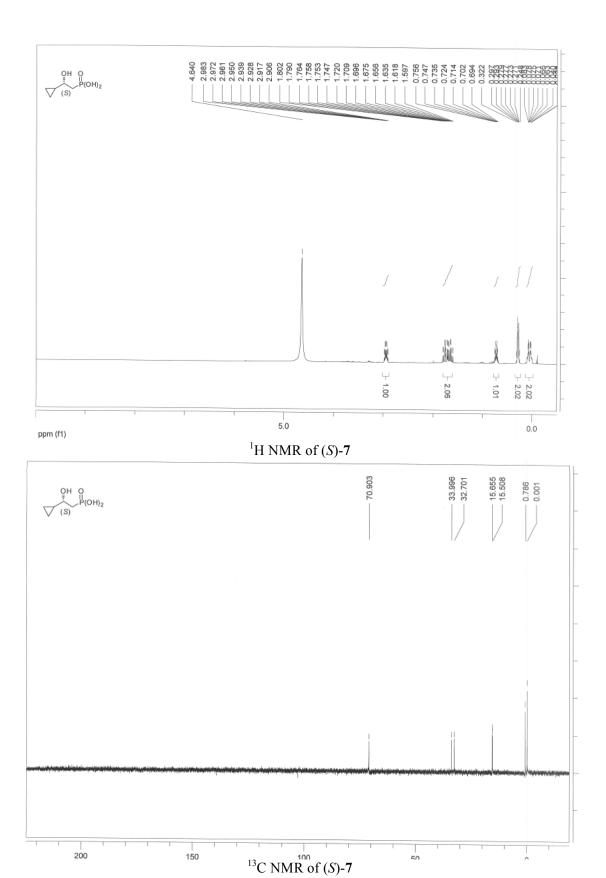
NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 209.6, 132.5, 103.6, 47.9, 26.4, 13.8; ³¹P NMR (202.3 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 11.7; HRMS-ESI cal. for $C_6H_{10}O_4P$ (M+H)⁺ 177.0311 found 177.0313.

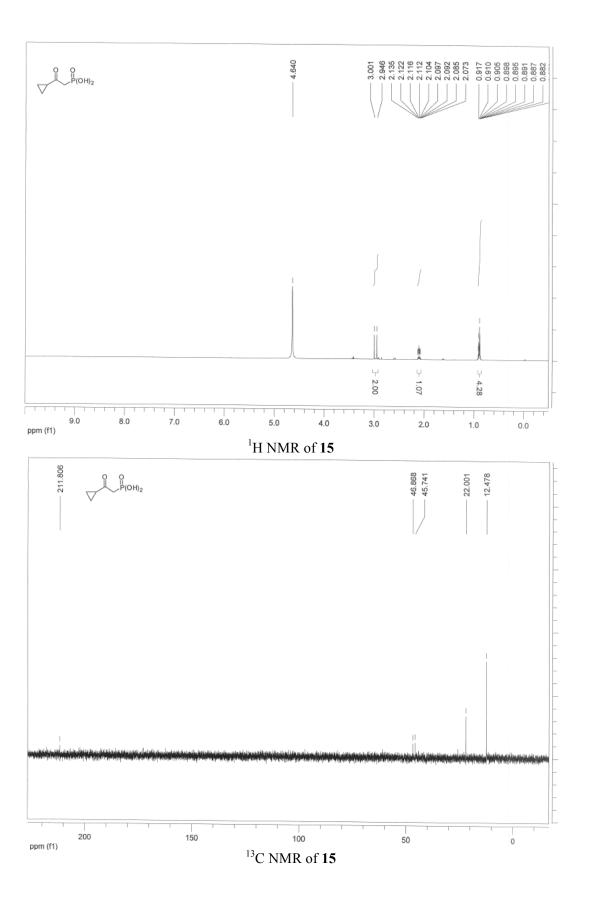
3. NMR spectra of compounds 7, 11, 15, 16, 18, 19, 24, and 26.

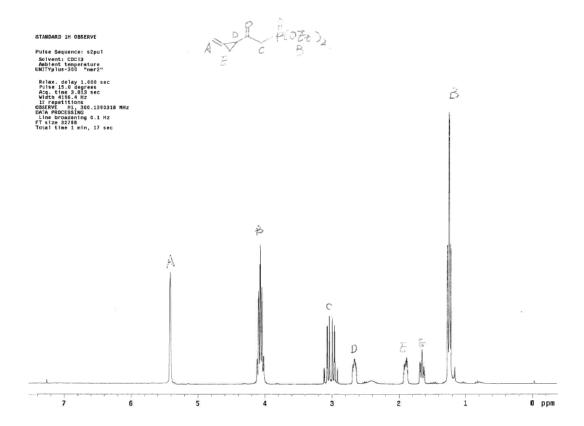


¹H NMR of **11**

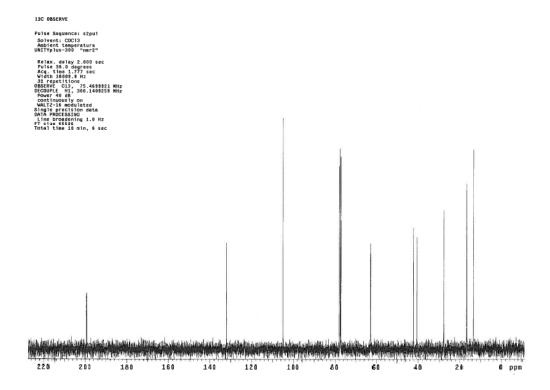




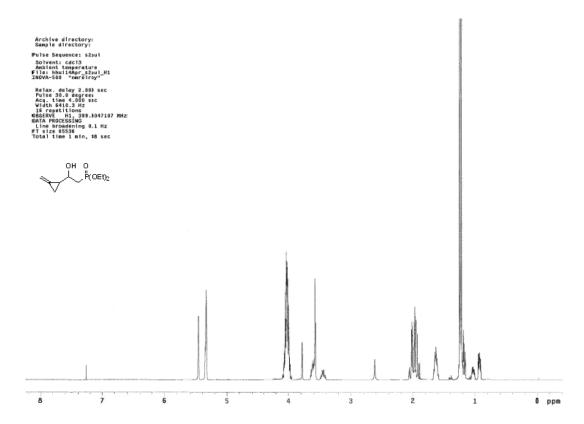




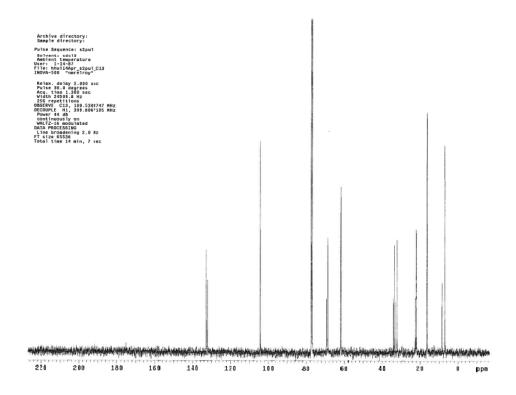
¹H NMR of **18**



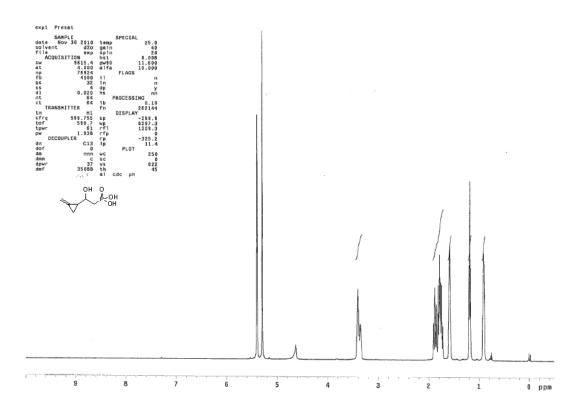
¹³C NMR of **18**



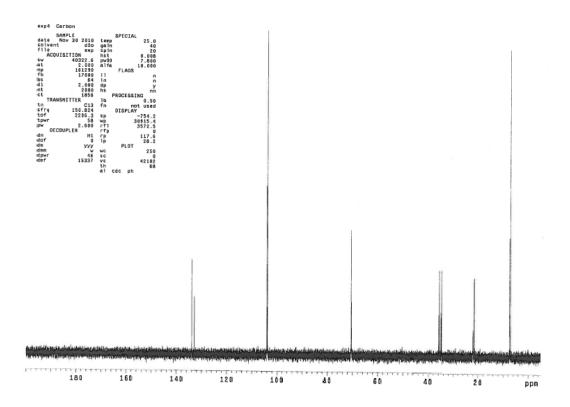
¹H NMR of **19**



¹³C NMR of **19**

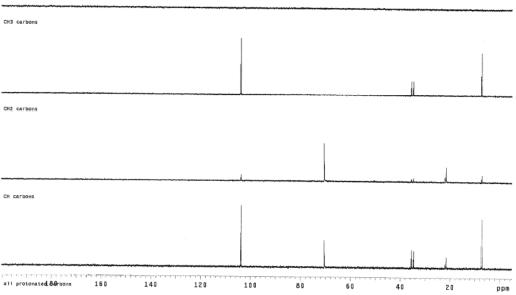


¹H NMR of **16**

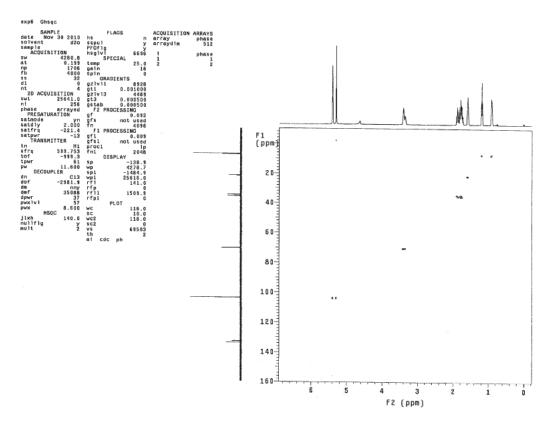


¹³C NMR of **16**

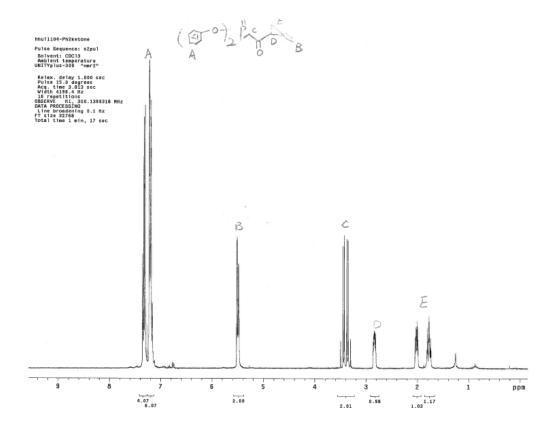




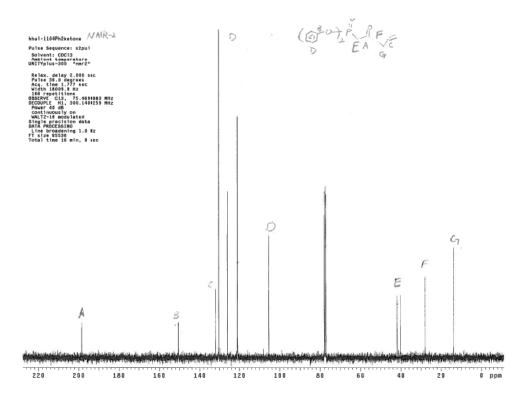
¹³C NMR DEPT of **16**



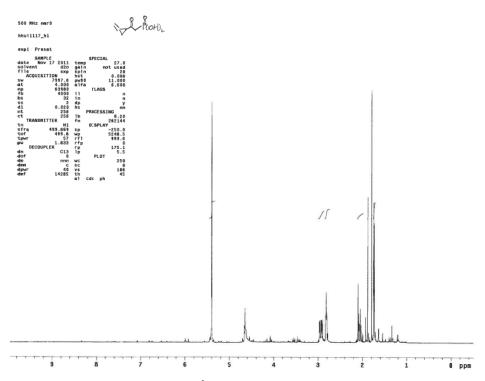
HSQC NMR of 16



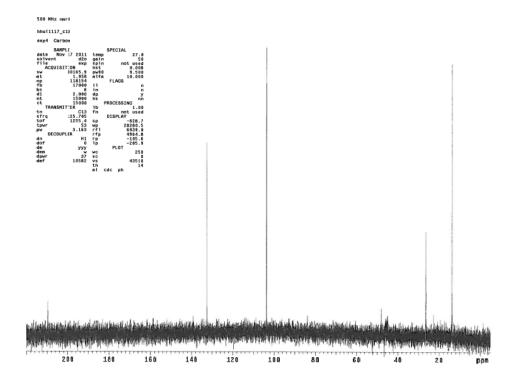
¹H NMR of **26**



¹³C NMR of **26**



¹H NMR of **24**



¹³C NMR of **24**

4. Using ¹H NMR to monitor the enzymatic conversion of (S)-7, (R)-7, 16 and 24 by HppE.

A freshly prepared reaction solution containing 0.25 mM HppE, 7.5 mM FMN, 10 mM NADH, and 5 mM of the test substrate analogue in 650 μ L of 50 mM Tris buffer (pH 7.5) was analyzed using 1 H-NMR (Varian DirectDrive 600 MHz NMR spectrometer) with DMSO-d₆ (30 μ L) as the internal standard. The reaction was initiated by adding the reconstituted HppE to the pre-mixed solution containing all other reaction regents. The progress of the conversion was followed by recording the 1 H-NMR spectra at different time points.

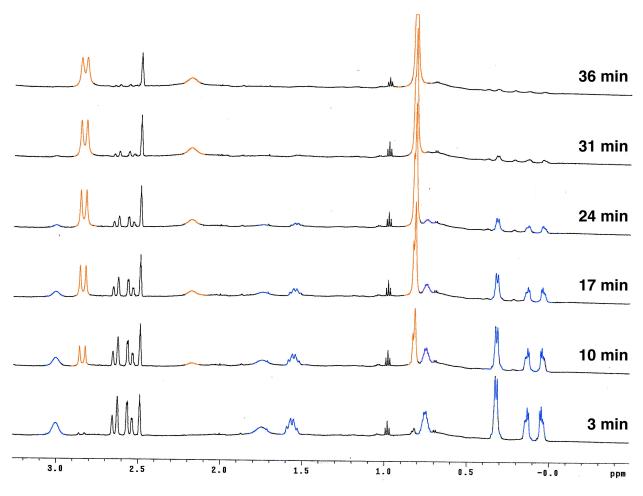


Figure S4-1. ¹H NMR spectra of HppE-catalyzed conversion of (*R*)-7 (blue) to **15** (orange).

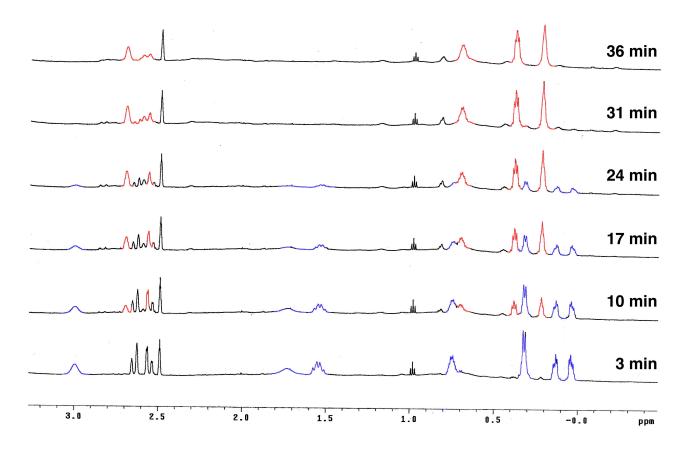


Figure S4-2. ¹H NMR spectra of HppE-catalyzed conversion of (S)-7 (blue) to 13 (red).

Enzymatic reaction between (S)-HPP and HppE that was pretreated with compound 24.

A freshly prepared solution of 0.35 mM HppE, 7.5 mM FMN, 10 mM NADH, and 8 mM **24** in 600 μ L of 50 mM Tris buffer (pH 7.5) was pre-incubated for 10 min and then (S)-HPP was added to the reaction mixture.

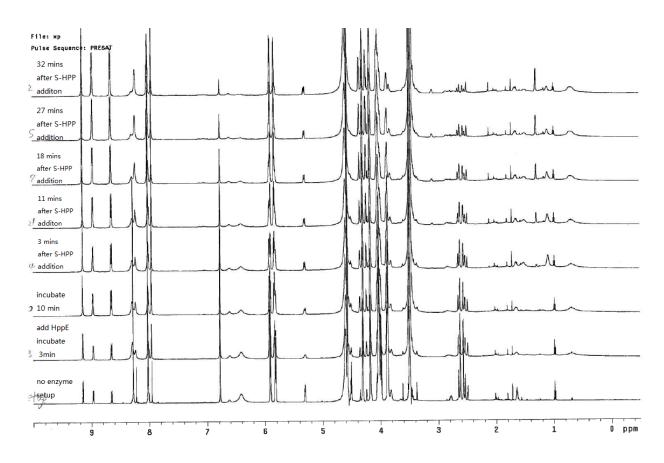
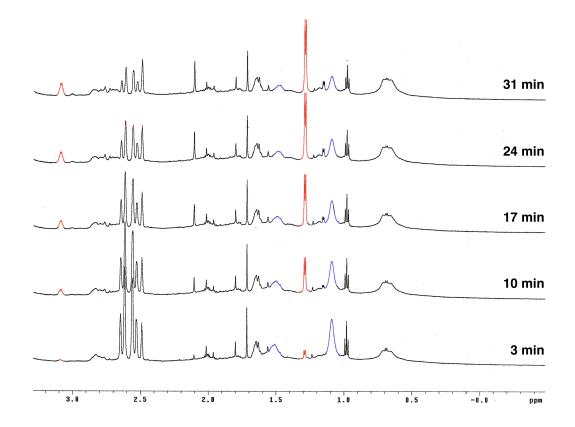


Figure S4-3. ¹H NMR spectra of the enzymatic reaction between (*S*)-HPP (blue) and HppE preincubated with **24**. The high-field region is shown below with peaks corresponding to the fosfomycin product labeled in red.



5. Analysis of enzymatic reactions by high resolution Fourier Transform Ion Cyclotron Resonance Mass Spectrometry (FTICR-MS).

A freshly solution of 5 mM FMN, 20 mM NADH, and 2 mM (R)-7, (S)-7, or 16 in 20 mM Tris buffer (pH 7.5) was prepared and used as the control sample for each experiment. For the enzymatic reaction samples, reconstituted HppE was added to the above solution prepared in parallel, and the enzyme versus substrate ratio was 1 : 4 for (R)-7 and (S)-7, and 1.1 : 1 for 16. Each reaction was allowed to proceed at room temperature for 1 h, and then subjected to centrifugal filtration to remove the protein. The filtrate was collected for MS analysis.

The reaction and control samples were each diluted to 1 μ M of substrate concentration with an electrospray ionization (ESI) solution of 50% isopropanol immediately prior to MS analysis. All MS analyses were performed on a SolariX 9.4 T: hybrid quadrupole-FTICR mass spectrometer (Burker Daltonik GmbH, Bremen, Germany) equipped with a nano-ESI source, and acquired in negative ion mode (m/z 100-1000) using electrospray voltage of 1300 V. All MS spectra were obtained by quadrupole mass selection of m/z 110 to 210 and accumulation of 20 spectra. The mass accuracy and resolution were about 3 ppm and 200,000, respectively, for [M - H]⁻¹ of cyclopropane-containing substrate analogue (S)-7 at m/z 165.0317.

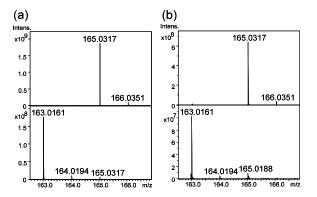


Figure S5-1. High resolution mass spectra of HppE-catalyzed reaction products (bottom) and the control experiments (top) obtained with cyclopropyl-containing substrate analogues (a) (S)-7 to 13, and (b) (R)-7 to 15.

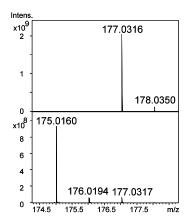


Figure S5-2. High resolution mass spectra of HppE-catalyzed reaction products (bottom) and the control experiment (top) obtained with methylenecyclopropyl-containing substrate analogue, **16**.

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