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SI Materials and Methods

Cloning and Mutagenesis. Total DNA from enterococci was prepared as previously described (1). Full-length *vanXY* genes were amplified by PCR with oligonucleotide primers that introduced flanking 5′-NdeI and 3′-HindIII sites that were used to clone the gene into p15TV-LIC vector (2), which codes for an N-terminal $His₆$ -tagged protein, followed by a tobacco etch virus (TEV) protease cleavage site and the VanXY ORFs. Mutations in Van-XY enzymes were introduced using the QuikChange mutagenesis kit (Stratagene) with oligonucleotide pairs (Table S4).

Protein Expression and Purification. Freshly transformed Escherichia coli BL21-CodonPlus (DE3)-RIPL cells were grown in 0.5 L of LB medium containing 100 μg/mL ampicillin. Cultures were grown at 37 °C to an OD₆₀₀ of 0.8 and induced for 16 h at 16 °C with 1 mM isopropyl-1-thio-β-D-galactopyranoside, and cells were then harvested by centrifugation and resuspended in 20 mL of buffer A [50 mM Hepes (pH 7.5), 300 mM NaCl, 10% (vol/vol) glycerol] supplemented with 10% (vol/vol) BugBuster 10X Protein Extraction Reagent (Novagen), 25 units of Benzonase (Sigma-Aldrich), and 5 mM imidazole. The mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature and centrifuged at $20,000 \times g$ for 45 min, and the supernatant was applied to a 1-mL HisTrap Fast Flow column (GE Healthcare) equilibrated with buffer A containing 40 mM imidazole. The protein was eluted with buffer A with a gradient of 40–500 mM imidazole over 20 mL. Fractions containing the recombinant His-tagged proteins were identified by SDS/PAGE, pooled, and dialyzed overnight against 3 L of 50 mM Hepes (pH 7.5), 300 mM NaCl, 5% (vol/vol) glycerol, 1 mM Tris(2carboxyethyl)phosphine hydrochloride (TCEP), concentrated when needed with a Centriprep 30 concentrator, and stored at −80 °C. For crystallization of VanXY_G, the His₆-tags were cleaved by TEV protease in 500 mM NaCl, 50 mM Tris (pH 7.5), 1 mM TCEP, 1 mM EDTA, and 20% glycerol. Molecular weights in solution were verified by size-exclusion chromatography using a HiLoad 16/60 Superdex 75 size-exclusion column (GE Healthcare).

Crystallization and Structure Determination. Crystals of apo VanXY_G were grown at 23 °C using hanging-drop vapor diffusion by mixing 56 mg/mL protein with reservoir solution containing 0.2 M ammonium sulfate, 0.1 M sodium cacodylate (pH 6.3), and 30% (vol/vol) polyethylene glycol (PEG) 8K. Crystals of apo Van XY_C^{D59S} were grown at 23 °C using hanging-drop vapor diffusion by mixing 10 mg/mL protein with reservoir solution containing 0.1 M magnesium chloride, 0.05 M Mes (pH 5.6), 20% (vol/vol) PEG 8K. Crystals of the VanXY_G-PHY and VanXY_C^{D59S}-PHY complexes were obtained by first growing crystals of the respective apo-proteins and then transferring to a soaking solution containing reservoir solution supplemented with 75 mM and 50 mM PHY, respectively. PHY, obtained from M. Anderluh and S. Gobec (University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia) was from a racemic mixture of $(L, L), (D, L), (L, D)$, and (D, D) diastereoisomers. Crystals of the $VanXY_C^{DS9S}-D-Ala$ complex were obtained by cocrystallization from the same reservoir solution as the apoprotein plus 2.5 mM acetyl-L-Lys-D-Ala-D-Ala (Sigma-Aldrich). Crystals of the Van XY_C^{559S} -Cu²⁺-D-Ala-D-Ala complex were obtained with the following procedure: $VanXY_C^{D59S}$ (apo) was crystallized as above and 0.1 M phenanthroline was added to the crystal drop with a 2-h incubation, followed by transfer of the crystal to a new drop containing reservoir solution [containing 22% (vol/vol) PEG 8K and supplemented with 10 mM $CuCl₂$] for 1.5 h,

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followed by transfer of the crystal to a final drop (with $1 \text{ mM } CuCl₂$) and 20 mM D-Ala-D-Ala) and final incubation of 30 min before cryoprotection. All crystals were cryoprotected with paratone oil before diffraction data collection. Diffraction data were collected at 100 K at beamlines 21-ID-D or 21-ID-G at Life Sciences Collaborative Access Team, Advanced Photon Source, at the following wavelengths: 0.97918 Å (selenomethionine peak) for VanXY_G apo, 1.27689 Å (Zn²⁺ peak) for VanXY_G-PHY complex, 1.27696 Å (Zn^{2+} peak) for $\text{VanXY}_{\text{C}}^{\text{D59S}}$ apo, 1.27696 Å (Zn^{2+}) peak) for $\text{VanXY}_{\text{C}}^{\text{D59S}}$ –PHY complex, and 0.97856 Å (selenomethionine peak) for $\text{VanXY}_{\text{C}}^{\text{D59S}}$ -D-Ala complex. Diffraction data for $VanXY_C^{D59S} - D-Ala-D-Ala complex was$ collected at a home-source Rigaku Micromax-007 HF copper rotating anode fitted with a Rigaku R-AXIS IV++ image plate detector. Diffraction data were reduced with HKL-3000 (3) or XDS (4) and CCP4 Aimless (5). Presence of Zn^{2+} was verified by X-ray fluorescence at LS-CAT beamline 21ID-D. The Van-XYG apo structure was solved by single-wavelength anomalous dispersion phasing using PHENIX.solve (6), which identified all four of the four selenomethionine residues in the primary sequence. The VanXY_G structure was built using PHENIX.autobuild and refined using PHENIX.refine (6). The VanXY_G-PHY, Van- XY_C ^{D59S} apo, Van $XY_{C_{cor}}^{D59S}$ –PHY complex, and the Van XY_C^{D59S} – $D-AIa$ and $VanXY_C^{D59S}-D-Ala-D-Ala$ complex structures were solved by molecular replacement using the apo structure of Van XY_G or Van XY_C ^{D59S} as a search model in PHENIX.phaser (6) and refined with PHENIX.refine. All residues of each Van- XY_G (residues 1–254) and Van XY_C ^{D59S} (residues 1–190) were clearly resolved in the electron density. Occupancy of Zn^{2+} ions in all structures was refined. The presence of ligands was validated using omit maps: all atoms of the ligand and zinc atoms were deleted, followed by simulated annealing (Cartesian) using PHENIX.refine with default parameters, followed by model
building into residual positive $F_o - F_c$ density. Occupancy values building into residual positive $F_o - F_c$ density. Occupancy values for PHY were refined. B-factors were refined as isotropic for Van $XY_{\rm G}$ (apo) and Van $XY_{\rm C}^{D59S}$ (apo), anisotropic for Van- XY_C ^{D59S}-PHY and Van XY_G -PHY, isotropic for Van XY_C ^{D59S}-D-Ala, and isotropic for $VanXY_C^{D59S}-Cu²⁺-D-Ala-D-Ala. All in$ spection of electron density was carried out using Coot (7). All geometries were verified with PHENIX.refine and the Research Collaboratory for Structural Bioinformatics PDB Validation server. Average B-factor and bond angle/bond length rmsd values were calculated using PHENIX.

Sequence and Structural Analysis. Structure superpositions were performed using Mustang (8). Structure similarity searches were performed using the PDBeFold server (9). The buried surface area between protein chains of $\text{VanXY}_{\text{C}}^{\text{D59S}}$ was calculated using the PDBePISA server (10). Interactions between enzyme and ligand atoms were identified with PDBsum or Coot; hydrogen bonds shown in figures were cutoff at or below 3.50 Å in length. Pockets/binding cavities were identified using the CASTp server (11) with default probe size of 1.4 Å. Modeling of van peptidases with no solved structures was performed using Phyre2 server (12), with VanX enzymes modeled using the structure of VanX (PDB ID code 1R44) (13) as the template; VanXY and VanY enzymes modeled onto structures of VanXY_G. Secondary structure elements in Fig. S2 were assigned based on the solved structures of VanX, VanXY_G, and VanXY_C^{D59S}. The phylogenetic tree of M15 metallopeptidases in Fig. S8 was calculated using MrBayes (14), with an input of the multiple sequence alignment in Fig. S2, corresponding to the

structure superposition calculated by Mustang, followed by manual editing to ensure gaps correlated with secondary structure elements.

Enzyme Kinetics. The method for assaying D,D-dipeptidase and D,D-pentapeptidase activities of VanXY proteins was based on the amino acid oxidase-lactate dehydrogenase coupled assay (15) using a Uvikon UV931 spectrophotometer (Kontron Instruments). The reaction was carried out in 0.1 mL containing 50 mM Hepes (pH 7.5), 0.2 mM NADH, 0.01 μg of lactate dehydrogenase (LDH), 0.03 μg of D-amino acid oxidase (D-AAO), 100 units of catalase at 37 °C, 15 μg of VanXY, and various concentrations of D-Ala-D-Ala and UDP-MurNAc-pentapeptide [D-Ala] substrates. The dipeptides D-Ala-D-ser, D-Ala-L-Ala, L-Ala-L-Ala, and L-Ala-D-Ala (Genscript Corporation) were

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also tested as substrates or inhibitors. The steady-state kinetic parameters (the mean values of at least three independent measurements) were obtained by fitting experimental data to the Hanes–Woolf equation using the program EnzFitter (Biosoft). For comparison and because $VanXY_G$ is monomeric whereas VanXY_C is a dimer, catalytic constants k_{cat} for VanXY_C mutants were calculated for one monomer. The inhibition assays were performed after incubation of $VanXY_G$ or $VanXY_C$ (0.5 nmol) with PHY concentrations ranging from 0 to 1 mM in Hepes buffer [50 mM (pH 7.5)], and $D-Ala-D-Ala$ (0.01–2 mM). The K_i values were calculated using Enzfitter software (Biosoft) and determined by fitting experimental data to the equations for competitive, noncompetitive, and mixed inhibition models.

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Fig. S1. Oligomeric states of VanXYc^{D59S} and VanXY_G. (A) The two chains in the asymmetric unit of the VanXYc^{D59S} crystal are shown, forming a presumptive dimer. The first chain is colored as in Fig. 1 (residues 1–20 and 175–188 yellow, 21–174 blue); second chain, residues 1–20 and 175–188 orange, 21–174 red. (B) Size-exclusion chromatography profiles of VanXY_C, VanXY $c^{\rm D595}$, and VanXY_G. To account for dilution and loading differences, absorbance values (280 nm) were scaled to a common arbitrary scale. Calculated molecular masses in kDa are indicated in bold at the top of the plot, and calibration standards in kDa are indicated at the bottom of the plot. Sequence molecular masses (in some cases containing expression tag) are indicated at the right of the plot.

Fig. S2. Structure-based multiple sequence alignment of M15 family peptidases. Sequences are grouped, and their names are colored according to MEROPS subfamilies M15A, M15B, M15C, and M15D. VanXY names are bolded and placed at the top of the alignment. Secondary structure elements (red, helices; yellow, strands) from the crystal structures of VanXY_C and VanX are indicated above and below the alignment, respectively, and labeled for VanXY_C. β4-α5 bisubstrate selectivity loop from VanXY_C is boxed in green. Residues essential for catalytic mechanism (His-Asp-His Zn²⁺-coordinating triad, transition statestabilizing Arg, and catalytic base Glu) are boxed in black. The glutamine (Gln67 in VanXY_C, Gln79 in VanXY_G) involved in conferring carboxypeptidase activity is indicated with a black star above the alignment.

Fig. S3. Structure of VanXYC D59S•PHY complex. (A) Overall structure of VanXYG•PHY complex. Surface-exposed surface representation is shown in cyan and purple as in Fig. 2C. (B) Interactions between VanXY $\mathsf{C}^\mathsf{D595}, \mathsf{Zn}^{2+}$, and PHY, shown in same view as Fig. 2 D and E. (C) Chemical structure of PHY, phosphinate d Ala-D-Ala analog, numbered according to the pentapeptide[D-Ala] it mimics, as in Fig. 2A.

Fig. S4. Inhibition kinetics of PHY against D-Ala-D-Ala hydrolysis by VanXY enzymes. VanXY_C (A) and VanXY_G (B) activities after addition of enzyme to a mixture of D-Ala-D-Ala (0–2 mM) and PHY at different concentrations (0–1 mM). The Lineweaver–Burk plots at different concentrations of PHY were bestfitted to a competitive inhibition. Apparent K_i values are indicated on each graph and were calculated by using Enzfitter software (Biosoft).

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Fig. S5. Electron density of VanXY ligands. Shown is stick representations of PHY bound to active sites of (A) VanXY_C^{D59S} and (B) VanXY_G, (C) D-Ala bound to VanXY $_\text{C}^\text{D595}$, and (D) ɒ-Ala-ɒ-Ala bound to VanXY $_\text{C}^\text{D595}$. Green mesh, simulated annealing omit (F $_\text{o}$ – F $_\text{c}$) density after omitting ligand atoms at 3 o . Purple mesh, anomalous difference density at 15 σ (A and B), and 6 σ (C), corresponding to Zn²⁺ ions. Both (ι, D) and (b, D) diastereoisomers of PHY are shown and labeled.

Fig. S6. Putative UDP-MurNAc-L-Ala-D- γ -Glu-L-Lys-D-Ala-D-Ala binding cavity in VanXY_C and equivalent regions of VanXY_G and VanX. (A) View of VanXY_C^{D595} putative UDP-MurNAc-L-Ala-D-γ-Glu-L-Lys-D-Ala-D-Ala binding cavity from the VanXY_C^{D595}-PHY complex. Residues experimentally shown to interact with this substrate are colored in magenta. (*B*) View of VanXY_G showing equivalent view as in A. Residues shaded white and labeled are those equivalent to VanXY_C^{D59S} residues shown to interact with UDP-MurNAc-L-Ala-D-γ-Glu-L-Lys-D-Ala-D-Ala. (C) View of VanX showing equivalent view as in A. Yellow, VanX-specific secondary structures elements, including N-terminal residues that block the presence of the UDP-MurNAc-L-Ala-D-γ-Glu-L-Lys-D-Ala-D-Ala binding cavity (residues within these elements of VanX are labeled).

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Fig. S7. Electron density and B-factors of bisubstrate selectivity loop (β4–α5) of VanXY enzymes. (A) VanXY_C (Left) residues in β4–α5 loop are shown in magenta sticks, coordinates obtained from complex structure with PHY. VanXY_G (Right) residues in the equivalent region from complex with PHY. Electron density is $2F_O - F_C$ density contoured at 1 σ . (B) Average per-residue B-factors as calculated by Phenix for chains A and B of VanXY_C (Left) and VanXY_G (Right); β4-α5 loop is labeled. Dashed lines, average B-factor for the full-length protein.

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Fig. S8. Phylogenetic reconstruction of metallopeptidase M15 family enzymes. Phylogeny was calculated using MrBayes (14) and the structure-based multiplesequence alignment in Fig. S2. Sequences are grouped and sequence names are colored according to MEROPS subfamilies M15A, M15B, M15C, and M15D. Bootstrap replicates (out of 100) are labeled at each node. Ba, Bacillus anthracis; Bs, Bacillus subtilis; Ec, Escherichia coli; Ef, Enterococcus faecium; Ll, Lactococcus lactis; Nm, Nonomurea sp. ATCC 39727; Ph, bacteriophage A500; S.alb, Streptomyces albus G; Sp, Streptococcus pneumoniae; St, Streptomyces toyocayensis.

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Table S1. X-ray diffraction data collection and refinement statistics

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 $*R_{merge} = \sum_h \sum_i |I_i(h) - \langle I(h) \rangle / \sum_h \sum_i I_i(h)$, where $I_i(h)$ and $\langle I(h) \rangle$ are the *i*th and mean measurement of the intensity of reflection h. Figures in parentheses indicate the values for the outer shells of the data.

[‡]The number of reflections indicated is the unmerged reflections.
[§]R = ∑|F_p^{obs} – F_p^{calc}|/∑F_p^{obs}, where F_p^{obs} and F_p^{calc} are the observed and calculated structure factor amplitudes, respectively.
[¶]

jjPHY contains 12 atoms per molecule; two diastereoisomers are observed bound to each chain of each VanXY enzyme.

NA, Not applicable; ND, not detected.

Table S3. Kinetic characterization of VanXY_C and VanXY_G mutants

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NA, Not applicable; ND, not detected.

Table S4. Oligonucleotide primers for mutagenesis

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Lowercase letters indicate gene sequence. Uppercase letters indicate mutated sequence.