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Supplemental information

Deciphering the role of recurrent FAD-dependent

enzymes in bacterial phosphonate catabolism

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Figure S1 – Recurring presence of genes coding for FAD-dependent oxidoreductases in clusters dedicated to AEP degradation. Related to Figure 2 and Table S1. The genes for the predicted oxidoreductases are shown in red. Other highlighted genes: phnW (light blue), phnX (light green), phnA (pink), phnY (yellow) and pbfA (orange). Putative phosphonate-related transporter genes are shown in grey. The dark brown genes in the Chitinobacter bivalviorum and M. fucicola clusters are homologs of $phnZ$ (another gene presumably involved in an (R) -HAEP degradation process, alternative to the PbfA reaction1).

Figure S2 – Multiple sequence alignment of four FAD-dependent enzymes analyzed in this study. Related to Figure 2, Table S1, Figure S1 and Figure S3. The enzymes are: PbfB from V. vulnificus, PbfC from Azospirillum sp. B510, PbfD1 from A. baumannii and PbfD2 from M. fucicola. A green shade highlights residues that are identical in all four proteins, whereas a yellow shading highlights residues that are identical across three sequences. A light blue shade signals residues that are identical only between PbfD1 and PbfD2.

Figure S3 – An alternative representation of the maximum likelihood phylogenetic tree shown in Figure 2 of the main text. Related to Figure 2, Table S1, Figure S1 and Figure S2. The tree was built based on the MSA of 64 FAD-dependent enzymes encoded in gene clusters for the degradation of AEP. Individual enzymes are indicated by the names of the organisms to which they belong, Accession IDs of all sequences are provided in Table S1. Groups of sequences that we labelled PbfB, PbfC and PbfD are highlighted in light green, light red and light blue, respectively. In the case of PbfD, a darker shade of blue signals a subset of enzymes (termed PbfD1 in the text) whose genes usually cluster with phnW and phnX, whereas the remaining pbfD genes (termed pbfD2) were most commonly associated with phnX alone (see Table S1). Note that while this tree only includes sequences associated to gene clusters for AEP degradation, PbfB, PbfC and PbfD homologs were detected in other bacteria, where they were associated with other genomic contexts. This suggests that the evolutionary origins of these genes may be ancient, predating the split between the major bacterial phyla and the recruitment of these FAD-dependent oxidoreductases by AEP degradation gene clusters. Indeed, the three types of oxidoreductases displayed a markedly different taxonomical range of distribution, even though a complete assessment of their spread is hampered by the frequent occurrence of horizontal gene transfer in prokaryotes ² .

Figure S4 – Reactions catalyzed by the functionally validated FAD enzymes most similar to PbfB, C and D. Related to Table 1 and Table S2. Reacting amino groups are highlighted in light blue (a darker shade signals secondary amines). Carbonyl groups in the products are highlighted in pink.

Figure S5 – Phylogenetic relationships between PbfB, PbfC, PbfD and representative members belonging to eight groups of FAD-dependent oxidoreductases of known function. Related to Table 1 and Table S2. See Table S2 for descriptions and accession IDs of these previously characterized oxidoreductases. Only the bootstrap support nodes for the main sequence groups are shown. Although the interpretation of phylogenetic inference is complicated by the existence of other groups of functionally uncharacterized enzymes (which could not be included in the present analysis) this tree clearly shows a tighter relationship between PbfB and γ-glutamyl putrescine oxidase (PuuB), in line with the data reported in Table 1 of the main text. Similarly, the PbfC clade was most closely related with 4-methylamino butyrate oxidase (MabO) and with the mammalian dehydrogenases SarDH and DMDGH, even though these three types of enzymes were much larger than PbfC, displaying additional C-terminal domains in addition to the PF01266 domain. PbfD sequences were largely divergent from all the other enzymes with known function, being most closely related with the oxidases SolA and SoxA.

Figure $S6 - 1H$ NMR analysis of the products generated by the oxidoreductases upon the oxidation of M_1 AEP. Related to Figure 3. The spectrum of M_1 AEP (bottom, black line, 400 MHz, 10%) D₂O in water) is compared with the spectra obtained after a 1-hour incubation at room temperature in the presence of either PbfC (red line), PbfD1 (dark blue line) or PbfD2 (light blue line). Reaction conditions are described in the Methods. The new peak appearing at 2.61 ppm upon incubation of M1AEP with the enzymes is assigned to methylamine, as shown by comparison with a methylamine standard (top spectrum). New peaks at 2.90-2.94 ppm and at 9.6 ppm are attributed to PAA based on published data³ and on the direct comparison to the spectrum of PAA generated upon transamination of AEP by PhnW or upon deamination of R-HAEP by PbfA⁴.

Figure S7 - Analysis of the products generated by PbfD1 upon the oxidation of M₂AEP. Related to Figure 3. The ¹H NMR spectrum of M₂AEP (bottom, black line, 400 MHz, 10% D₂O in water) is compared with the spectrum obtained after a 1-hour incubation at room temperature in the presence of PbfD1 (middle, blue line). The top spectrum, provided as a reference, is that of a dimethylamine standard.

Figure S8 – Apparent catalytic parameters of PbfC (top row), PbfD1 (middle) and PdfD2 (bottom) towards AEP and different N-monoalkylated derivatives. Related to Table 2. The activity of PbfC was measured through the DCPIP assay, as described in the Methods, whereas the activities of PbfD1 and PbfD2 were measured through the coupled assay with PhnX and ADH. The high kcat/K_M of PbfD2 towards N-propyl-AEP (bottom row, left) contrasts with the apparent lack of activity observed in the preliminary microtiter assays (Fig. 2 of the main text). We note however that the good k_{cat}/K_M reported here arises from a combination of low K_M and low k_{cat} (bottom row, right). The low k_{cat} was presumably limiting the reaction of PbfD2 with N-propyl-AEP under the plate assay conditions.

Figure S9 – SDS-PAGE of the three purified oxidoreductases used in this study. Related to STAR Methods. The three enzymes have very similar expected molecular masses (43.3 to 45.6 kDa). PbfD2, despite having the smaller expected mass, showed a slightly lower electrophoretic mobility as compared to the other two oxidoreductases. PbfD1, whose purification yield was much higher than for PbfC or PbfD2, showed up on gel as two close but distinct bands, the lower of which corresponded possibly to a partially digested protein.

Supplemental Schemes

Scheme S1 – Synthetic strategy for the synthesis of compounds 5-7. Related to STAR Methods.

Scheme S2 – Synthetic strategy for the synthesis of di- and trimethylated compounds 9-11. Related to STAR Methods.

Scheme S3 – Synthesis scheme for the preparation of (R) -19 and (R) -18. Related to STAR Methods.

Scheme S4 – Overview of the required steps towards (R) -17. Related to STAR Methods.

Supplemental Tables

Table S1 - A list of representative FAD-dependent enzymes found within bacterial gene clusters dedicated to AEP degradation. Related to Figure S1, Figure S2, Figure S3 and Figure 2. The sequences were sampled from a larger set of 260 sequences retrieved from genomic analysis of AEP degradation clusters. Enzymes belonging to the PbfB subgroup are highlighted in light green; they were genomically annotated as "FAD-dependent oxidoreductases" in Genbank. Enzymes of the PbfC subgroup are highlighted in pink and were genomically annotated as "FAD-binding oxidoreductases". Enzymes of the PbfD subgroup are highlighted in light blue; they were genomically annotated as "TIGR03364 family FAD-dependent oxidoreductases". Enzymes whose activity was experimentally tested in this study are shown in bold. The rightmost column of the table signals (when is the case) the presence in the cluster of homologs of either *pbfA* (which serves to convert R-HAEP to PAA⁴) or *phnZ* (which could serve to degrade R -HAEP through a different route, generating glycine^{1,5,6}).

Table S2 - FAD-dependent enzymes (family PF01266) of known function, most similar to PbfB, PbfC and PbfD. Related to Table 1, Figure S4 and Figure S5. The reactions catalysed by these enzymes are shown in Figure S4. The sequences listed in this table were used to build the phylogenetic tree in Figure S5. Some of these sequences (in bold) were also employed in the context of Table 1 of the main text.

Supplemental Data

Data S1 - Recorded ¹H, ¹³C and ³¹P NMR spectra of all the compounds synthesized for this study. Related to the STAR methods and to Schemes S1-S4. All assignments, solvents and device parameters are given in the STAR Methods. The first spectrum shown in each series is the full ¹H NMR spectrum. Expansions are depicted where they were regarded as necessary. Then the ¹³C NMR spectrum is depicted in the same manner, followed by the $3^{1}P$ NMR spectrum. The x-axes and peak labels are is in ppm for ³¹P NMR spectra, while the peak labels are in Hz for all given¹³C and ¹H NMR spectra. Structures are always given on top of the full ¹H NMR spectrum. Integrals are denoted below the x-axes where they are regarded as necessary and the integration range is marked. The numbering of compounds is in accordance with the numbering of substances in the main text and in Schemes S1- S4.

¹H NMR of Diethyl-(2-bromethyl)phosphonate (1)

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¹³C NMR of Diethyl-(2-bromoethyl)phosphonate (1)

³¹P NMR of Diethyl-(2-bromoethyl)phosphonate (1)

 -25.57

¹H NMR of Diethyl 2-methylamino-ethylphosphonate (2, partially as its hydrobromide)

13C NMR of Diethyl 2-methylamino-ethylphosphonate (2, partially as its hydrobromide)

³¹P NMR of Diethyl 2-methylamino-ethylphosphonate (2, partially as its hydrobromide)

¹H NMR of 2-Methylamino-ethylphosphonic acid (5)

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¹³C NMR of 2-Methylamino-ethylphosphonic acid (5)

¹H NMR of Diethyl 2-ethylamino-ethylphosphonate (3, partially as its hydrobromide)

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13C NMR of Diethyl 2-ethylamino-ethylphosphonate (3, partially as its hydrobromide)

³¹P NMR of Diethyl 2-ethylamino-ethylphosphonate (3, partially as its hydrobromide)

¹H NMR of 2-Ethylamino-ethylphosphonic acid (E₁-AEP, 6)

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 $31P$ NMR of 2-Ethylamino-ethylphosphonic acid (E₁-AEP, 6)

¹H NMR of Diethyl 2-propylamino-ethylphosphonate (4, partially as its hydrobromide)

¹³C NMR of Diethyl 2-propylamino-ethylphosphonate (4, partially as its hydrobromide)

³¹P NMR of Diethyl 2-propylamino-ethylphosphonate (4, partially as its hydrobromide)

¹H NMR of 2-Propylamino-ethylphosphonic acid $(P_1$ -AEP, 7)

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$13C$ NMR of 2-Propylamino-ethylphosphonic acid (P₁-AEP, 7)

 $31P$ NMR of 2-Propylamino-ethylphosphonic acid (P₁-AEP, 7)

¹H NMR of Diethyl 2-dimethylamino-ethylphosphonate (8, partially as hydrobromide)

13C NMR of Diethyl 2-dimethylamino-ethylphosphonate (8, partially as hydrobromide)

¹H NMR of 2-Dimethylamino-ethylphosphonic acid (M_2 -AEP, 9)

¹³C NMR of 2-Dimethylamino-ethylphosphonic acid (M_2 -AEP, 9)

 $31P$ NMR of 2-Dimethylamino-ethylphosphonic acid (M₂-AEP, 9)

1H NMR of Diethyl 2-trimethylammonium-ethylphosphonate iodide (10)

13C NMR of Diethyl 2-trimethylammonium-ethylphosphonate iodide (10)

³¹P NMR of Diethyl 2-trimethylammonium-ethylphosphonate iodide (10))

¹H NMR of 2-Trimethylammonio-ethylphosphonic acid (M₃-AEP, 11)

¹³C NMR of 2-Trimethylammonio-ethylphosphonic acid (M3-AEP, 11)

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 $31P$ NMR of 2-Trimethylammonio-ethylphosphonic acid (M₃-AEP, 11)

¹H NMR of (R)-Diisopropyl 1-hydroxy-2-aminoethylphosphonate $[(R)-14]$

³¹P NMR of (R)-Diisopropyl 1-hydroxy-2-aminoethylphosphonate $[(R)-14]$

¹H NMR of (R)-Diisopropyl 1-hydroxy-2-tosylamido-ethylphosphonate $[(R)-15]$

¹³C NMR of (R)-Diisopropyl 1-hydroxy-2-tosylamido-ethylphosphonate $[(R)-15]$

³¹P NMR of (R)-Diisopropyl 1-hydroxy-2-tosylamido-ethylphosphonate $[(R)-15]$

¹H NMR of (R)-Diisopropyl 1-hydroxy-2-(N-methyl-N-tosyl-amido)-ethylphosphonate $[(R)-16]$

Ts $\sqrt{\frac{P(0)P(r)}{P(0)P(r)}}$
(R)-16

13C NMR of (R)-Diisopropyl 1-hydroxy-2-(N-methyl-N-tosyl-amido)-ethylphosphonate [(R)-16]

³¹P NMR of ((R)-Diisopropyl 1-hydroxy-2-(N-methyl-N-tosyl-amido)-ethylphosphonate $[(R)-16]$

³¹P NMR of ((R)-Diisopropyl 1-hydroxy-2-(N-methyl-N-tosyl-amido)-ethylphosphonate $[(R)-16]$ + chiral solvating agent

¹H NMR of (R)-1-Hydroxy-2-(methylammonio)ethylphosphonic acid $[(R)-17, (R)-M_1-HAEP]$

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¹³C NMR of (R)-1-Hydroxy-2-(methylammonio)ethylphosphonic acid $[(R)-17, (R)-M_1-HAEP]$

³¹P NMR of (R)-1-Hydroxy-2-(methylammonio)ethylphosphonic acid $[(R)-17, (R)-M_1-HAEP]$

¹H NMR of (R)-1-Hydroxy-2-(dimethylammonio)-ethylphosphonic acid $[(R)$ -18, (R) -M₂-HAEP]

¹³C NMR of (R)-1-Hydroxy-2-(dimethylammonio)-ethylphosphonic acid $[(R)-18, (R)-M₂-HAEP]$

³¹P NMR of ((R)-1-Hydroxy-2-(dimethylammonio)-ethylphosphonic acid $[(R)$ -18, (R) -M₂-HAEP]

¹³C NMR of (R)-1-Hydroxy-2-(trimethylammonio)-ethylphosphonic acid $[(R)-19, (R)-M₂-HAEP]$

³¹P NMR of (R)-1-Hydroxy-2-(trimethylammonio)-ethylphosphonic acid $[(R)-19, (R)-M₂-HAEP]$

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