Supporting Information

## Asymmetric Zinc(II) Complexes as Functional and Structural Models for Phosphoesterases

Lena J. Daumann, Laurene Marty, Gerhard Schenk, and Lawrence R. Gahan



Figure S1. Mass spectrum of  $[Zn_2(CH_3L4)(CH_3COO)_2]PF_6$  in MeOH (a) and MeCN (b). Inset with red numbers shows the calculated isotope pattern for the major (identified) ion peak.



Figure S2 Mass spectrum of  $[Zn_2(CH_3L5)(CH_3COO)_2]PF_6$  in MeOH (a) and MeCN (b). Inset with red numbers shows the calculated isotope pattern for the major peak.



Figure S3 a) Mass spectrum of  $[Zn_2(CH_3L4)(CH_3COO)_2]PF_6$  in the presence of 1 eq. diphenylphosphate in MeCN. Final concentration of complex and substrate were both 10  $\mu$ M. b) Mass spectrum of  $[Zn_2(CH_3L5)(CH_3COO)_2]PF_6$  in the presence of 1 eq. diphenylphosphate in MeCN. Final concentration of complex and substrate were both 10  $\mu$ M.



Figure S4 Aromatic region of CH<sub>3</sub>HL4 and its zinc complex.



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Figure S8  $^{31}$ P-NMR spectra of [Zn<sub>2</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>L4)(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>]PF<sub>6</sub> measured in CD<sub>3</sub>CN in the presence of a) one equivalent DPP, b) two equivalents DPP and c) five equivalents DPP.



Figure S9 The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of a)  $CH_3HL5$ ; b)  $[Zn_2(CH_3L5)(CH_3OO)_2]^+$  and c)  $[Zn_2(CH_3L5)(CH_3OO)_2]^+ + 1$  equivalent DPP; d)  $[Zn_2(CH_3L5)(CH_3OO)_2]^+ + 2$ equivalents DPP; e)  $[Zn_2(CH_3L5)(CH_3OO)_2]^+ + 5$  equivalents DPP



Figure S10  ${}^{31}$ P-NMR spectra of  $[Zn_2(CH_3L5)(CH_3OO)_2]^+$  in CD<sub>3</sub>CN the presence of a) 1 equivalent DPP, b) 2 equivalents DPP c) 5 equivalents DPP at room temperature.

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Figure S11 The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum in D<sub>2</sub>O:CD<sub>3</sub>CN (1:1) of a) CH<sub>3</sub>HL5; b) CH<sub>3</sub>HL5 + 1 eq.  $Zn(OAc)_2$ ; c) CH<sub>3</sub>HL5 + 2 eq.  $Zn(OAc)_2$ ; d) CH<sub>3</sub>HL5 + 3 eq.  $Zn(OAc)_2$ ; e) CH<sub>3</sub>HL5 + 3 eq.  $Zn(OAc)_2$ ; + 1 eq. DPP; f) CH<sub>3</sub>HL5 + 3 eq.  $Zn(OAc)_2$ ; + 2 eq. DPP; g) [CH<sub>3</sub>HL5 + 3 eq.  $Zn(OAc)_2$ ; + 3 eq. DPP.



Figure S12 IR spectra of plain MR and [Zn<sub>2</sub>(CH3L4)(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>+</sup> immobilized on MR



Figure S13 XPS survey spectra of MR (left) and MR treated with Zn(CH<sub>3</sub>COO)<sub>2</sub> (right)



Figure S14 XPS survey spectrum of MR-CH<sub>3</sub>HL4