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# A Fluorescent Probe Identifies Active Site Ligands of Inositol Pentakisphosphate 2-Kinase

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## ABSTRACT

Inositol pentakisphosphate 2-kinase catalyzes the phosphorylation of the axial 2-OH of *myo*-inositol 1,3,4,5,6-pentakisphosphate for *de novo* synthesis of *myo*-inositol hexakisphosphate. Disruption of inositol pentakisphosphate 2-kinase profoundly influences cellular processes; from nuclear mRNA export and phosphate homeostasis in yeast and plants, to establishment of left-right asymmetry in zebra fish. We elaborate an active site fluorescent probe that allows high throughput screening of *Arabidopsis* inositol pentakisphosphate 2-kinase. We show that the probe has a binding constant comparable to the  $K_m$  values of inositol phosphate substrates of this enzyme, and can be

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3 used to prospect for novel substrates and inhibitors of inositol phosphate kinases. We  
4 identify several micromolar  $K_i$  inhibitors and validate this approach by solving the  
5 crystal structure of protein in complex with purpurogallin. We additionally solve  
6 structures of protein in complexes with epimeric higher inositol phosphates. This probe  
7 may find utility in characterization of a wide family of inositol phosphate kinases.  
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## 17 INTRODUCTION

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19 Inositol pentakisphosphate 2-kinase (IP5 2-K) catalyzes the phosphorylation of the axial  
20 2-hydroxyl of *myo*-inositol 1,3,4,5,6-pentakisphosphate <sup>1</sup> and its deletion in mice is  
21 embryo lethal <sup>2</sup>. The single yeast ortholog, named IPK1, was identified as one of three  
22 genes that complement a synthetic lesion in mRNA export from the yeast nucleus <sup>3</sup>, a  
23 phenotype that has been confirmed in plants <sup>4</sup>. Knockdown of the gene disrupts left-right  
24 asymmetry in zebrafish <sup>5</sup> and in plants disruption reduces the accumulation of inositol  
25 hexakisphosphate in vegetative and storage tissues <sup>6</sup>, where it accumulates to several  
26 percent of seed dry weight <sup>7</sup>. More recently, inositol pentakisphosphate 2-kinase has  
27 received considerable attention as the enzyme responsible for the metabolic connection  
28 between receptor-activated inositol phosphate metabolism and the metabolism of an  
29 emergent class of signaling molecule, the diphosphoinositol phosphates <sup>8</sup>, albeit a class of  
30 molecule described in the early 90's <sup>9</sup>. In yeast, disruption of IPK1 leads to the  
31 accumulation of PP-InsP<sub>4</sub> <sup>10</sup>, a molecule not identified in plants.  
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51 While the study of inositol pentakisphosphate 2-kinase has been aided by high resolution  
52 description of crystal structure for plant <sup>11, 12</sup> and mammalian <sup>13</sup> enzymes which elucidate  
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3 folding motions that accompany catalysis<sup>11, 12, 14, 15</sup>, probes of the active site have yet to  
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5 be described. This limits study to coupled enzyme assays<sup>12, 15</sup>, to end-point assays<sup>11</sup> or  
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7 assays that demand HPLC separation of products, commonly radiolabeled<sup>16</sup>. The latter  
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9 two approaches do not allow for real-time measurement, while the former is easily  
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11 confounded by interferences. An additional complication is the lack of known inhibitors  
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13 of the enzyme, something that could be obviated with development of a high-throughput  
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15 screening method. Here we report a small molecule active site probe of *Arabidopsis*  
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17 *thaliana* inositol pentakisphosphate 2-kinase (AtIP5 2-K) which may find utility in  
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19 characterization of this family of enzymes.  
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27 Fluorescent derivatives of phosphoinositides have been exploited in commercial assays of  
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29 phosphoinositide phosphatases. In one such assay, the PtdIns(3,4)P<sub>2</sub> product of end-point  
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31 5-dephosphorylation of PtdIns(3,4,5)P<sub>3</sub>, when added to a synthetic BODIPY-tagged  
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33 PtdIns(3,4)P<sub>2</sub>, competes for binding to a PtdIns(3,4)P<sub>2</sub>-specific binding protein, assayed  
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35 by change in fluorescence anisotropy or polarization<sup>17</sup>. We rationalized that a  
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37 fluorescent – tagged inositol pentakisphosphate, 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub><sup>18</sup> may, in contrast, work  
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39 directly as an active-site ligand for inositol phosphate kinases that accommodate inositide  
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41 and nucleotide co-substrates in relatively large (volume) active sites or in enzymes such  
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43 as inositol pentakisphosphate 2-kinase which show ligand-induced folding motions that  
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45 accompany catalysis<sup>14, 15</sup>. To date, this and similar molecules have been used only as  
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47 ligands of inositol phosphate-binding proteins such as the IP<sub>3</sub> receptor<sup>19</sup> and the histone  
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49 deacetylase, HDAC4, which binds D-Ins(1,4,5,6)P<sub>4</sub> between itself and its cognate partner  
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<sup>20</sup>. We further rationalized that IP5 2-K, which lacks phosphatase activity<sup>21</sup>, would, in

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3 the absence of nucleotide, be unable to dephosphorylate the fully substituted inositol ring  
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5 of the probe or phosphorylate it. Among proteins with inositol phosphate kinase or  
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7 diphosphoinositol phosphate kinase activity, dephosphorylation of the fully phosphate-  
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9 substituted ring is the exclusive catalytic property of inositol hexakisphosphate kinase<sup>22</sup>  
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11 and diphosphoinositol phosphate kinase, the latter additionally possessing a distinct  
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13 phosphatase domain<sup>23, 24</sup>.  
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## 21 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 22 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> binds to AtIP5 2-K

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25 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> was incubated at 25 °C for 10 min with AtIP5 2-K and polarization of the  
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27 probe measured as a function of protein concentration (Figure 1B). The increase in  
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29 polarization from a machine-set value of 35 mP for unbound probe was fitted to a 4-  
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31 parameter logistic function yielding an EC<sub>50</sub> of 63±0.6 (mean, se) nM for AtIP5 2-K.  
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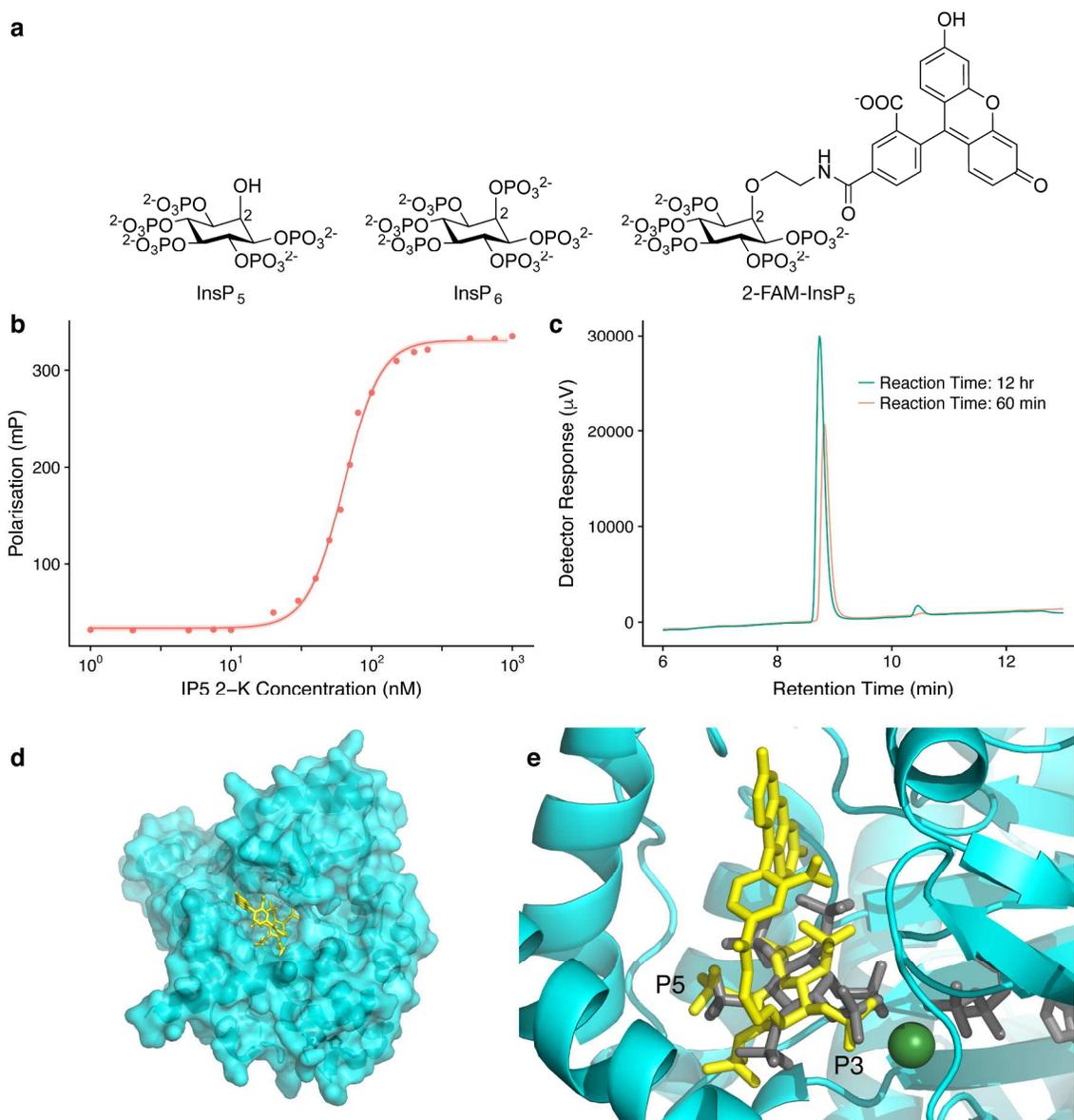


Figure 1. 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub> is an active site ligand of AtIP5 2-K. (A) structures of myo-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub> (InsP<sub>5</sub>), myo-InsP<sub>6</sub> and 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub>. (B) Binding of 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub> to AtIP5 2-K followed by increase of fluorescence polarization of 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub>, 95% confidence limits shown by shading around line of best fit. Data was plotted with ggplot2 in R<sup>25</sup>. (C) AtIP5 2-K catalyzed phosphotransfer from 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub> to ADP; ADP elutes at approx. 8.7 min, ATP at approx. 10.4 min. (D) Surface representation of the closed conformation of AtIP5 2-K (PDB 2XAM) (cyan)<sup>12</sup>

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3 used as a receptor for docking of 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub> (yellow). (E) Close-up of the active site of  
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5 AtIP5 2-K (cyan) showing lowest energy docked conformation of 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub> (yellow)  
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7 overlaid with the crystallographically-determined position of myo-InsP<sub>6</sub> (black). The positions of  
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9 ADP (black) and magnesium (green) were fixed during docking.  
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13 We performed similar experiments with the structurally-related potato multikinase  
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15 StIPMK<sup>26</sup> and the unrelated kinase AtITPK4, an *Arabidopsis* inositol 1,3,4-trisphosphate  
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17 5/6-kinase<sup>27</sup>. These experiments gave EC<sub>50</sub> values of 40 ± 2 nM with a 1 nM probe  
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19 concentration for StIPMK, and 12.6 ± 0.02 μM with 10 nM probe concentration for  
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21 AtITPK4. For AtIP5 2-K, transformation of polarization to fraction bound yielded K<sub>d</sub> =  
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23 0.26 μM (Supporting Information Figure 1). This value is considerably lower than the  
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25 K<sub>m</sub> (22 μM for InsP<sub>5</sub>)<sup>21</sup>, but is similar to the K<sub>d</sub> (for InsP<sub>5</sub>) of 0.6 μM obtained by  
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27 isothermal calorimetry<sup>14</sup>. 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> was clearly a poorer probe for AtITPK4, a  
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29 protein whose presumed ATP-grasp structural fold is shared not only with plant ITPKs  
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31 that show phosphotransferase activity<sup>29</sup>, but also with mammalian (PPIP5K), and  
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33 yeast/plant diphosphoinositol phosphate kinases<sup>24, 28</sup>.  
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### 43 **2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> is an active site ligand of AtIP5 2-K**

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46 As the inositol moiety lacks a free hydroxyl group that might provide a site for  
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48 phosphorylation, we tested whether the probe was a substrate for the inositol phosphate-  
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50 ADP phosphotransferase activity of AtIP5 2-K<sup>1</sup>. Incubation of enzyme with 2-FAM-  
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52 InsP<sub>5</sub> and ADP revealed a time- and 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub>-dependent conversion of ADP to ATP  
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54 monitored by HPLC by increase of ATP (Figure 1C). Thus, despite the absence of an  
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3 axial phosphate, the molecule is a substrate for phosphotransfer to ADP as acceptor;  
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5 though the reaction was considerably slower than that using InsP<sub>6</sub> substrate, yielding  
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7 0.82% and 3.3% conversion of ADP to ATP for 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> and InsP<sub>6</sub>, respectively,  
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9 over 12h. We posit that the protein-ligand interactions required for accommodation of the  
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11 planar fluorescein moiety of the 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> force one or more equatorial phosphates  
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13 into positions which allow catalysis. In the presence of ATP, the enzyme did not  
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15 phosphorylate the probe (data not shown). In an attempt to confirm that 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub>  
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17 binds to the active site of AtIP5 2-K we undertook extensive cocrystallization and ligand  
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19 soaking experiments, but were unsuccessful.  
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### 25 ***In silico* docking supports active site binding of 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub>**

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28 Since crystallographic data confirming the binding of 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> to AtIP5 2-K proved  
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30 elusive, we turned to *in silico* docking to predict the binding of this large ligand in the  
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32 active site of the enzyme. The three known conformers of AtIP5 2-K, open (PDB 4AXC),  
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34 half-closed (PDB 4AXE) and closed (PDB 2XAM), were used as receptor structures in  
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36 separate docking calculations employing 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> as a flexible ligand. The lowest  
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38 energy binding pose predicted for the closed conformer indicated that the inositol ring  
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40 binds in a similar position and orientation to that of *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub>, such that the 1D-P3 and  
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42 1D-P5 positions are conserved (Figure 1D, E). This positioning of the inositol phosphate  
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44 moiety was also observed in four other binding poses within 0.5 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> of the lowest  
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46 energy pose (Supporting Information Figure 2). These four poses place a phosphate  
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48 group close to the (*myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub>) 1D-P4 and 1D-P6 positions, with 1D-P1 and P2 positions  
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50 unoccupied. In the lowest energy pose (Figure 1D), the FAM moiety is oriented such  
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52 that it protrudes from the active site pocket between W129 ( $\alpha$ 6 of the N lobe, for  
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3 nomenclature <sup>12</sup>) and E205 (CIP-I lobe <sup>12</sup>), suggesting the active site in the closed  
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5 conformation can accommodate 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub>. Whilst the result of docking using the  
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7 half-closed structure as receptor was consistent in terms of placement of the FAM  
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9 moiety, the binding modes for the open (apo) structure were more variable and did not  
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11 consistently place the inositol ring in the same position as that of *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> (Supporting  
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13 Information Figure 2).  
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### 16 17 18 **AtIP5 2-K accommodates *neo*- and *D-chiro*-inositol hexakisphosphate substrates**

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21 Having determined 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> to be an active site ligand, we sought to establish its  
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23 utility in reporting the binding of other epimers of higher inositol phosphates to AtIP5 2-  
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25 K, prior to prospecting for novel substrates of the enzyme. While highly phosphorylated  
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27 isomers of other inositols are widespread in nature <sup>30</sup>, the underpinning enzymology is  
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29 not described <sup>31</sup>. We initially tested the ability of a range of inositol phosphates to  
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31 displace 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> from AtIP5 2-K. Displacement of the probe was fitted to a 4-  
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33 parameter logistic (Figure 2).  
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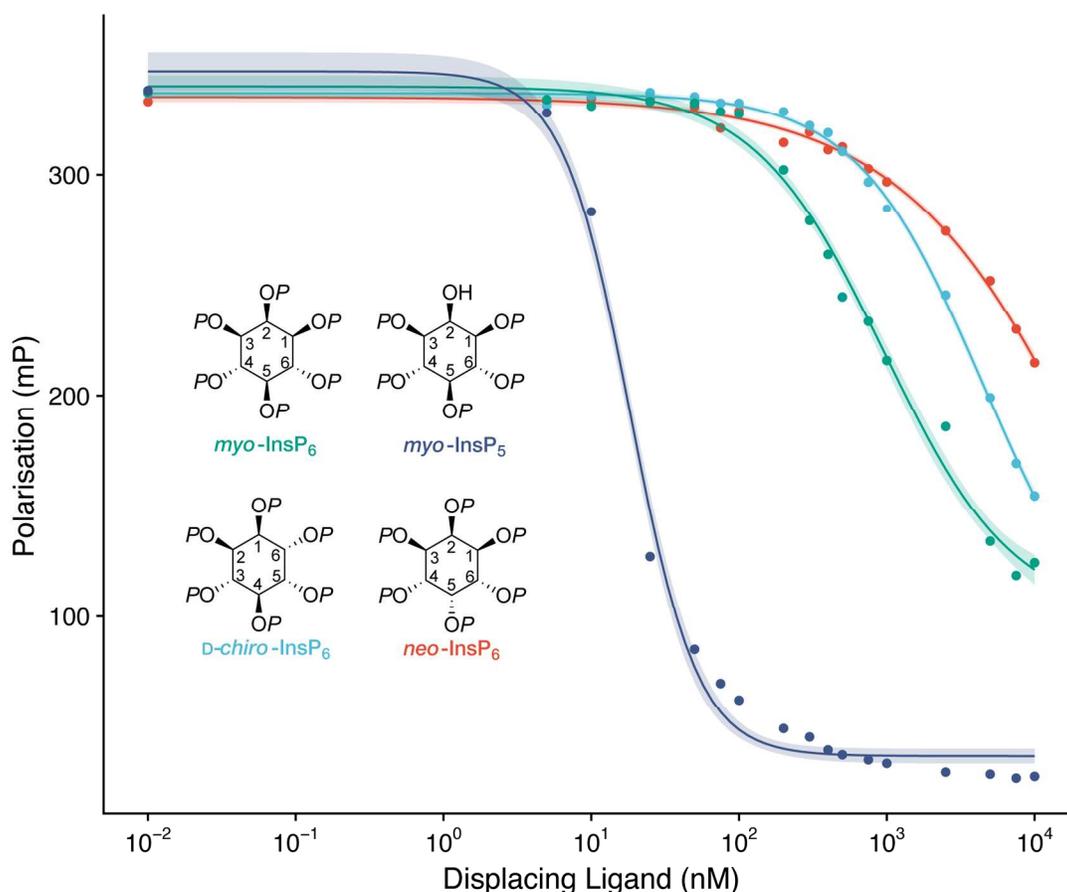
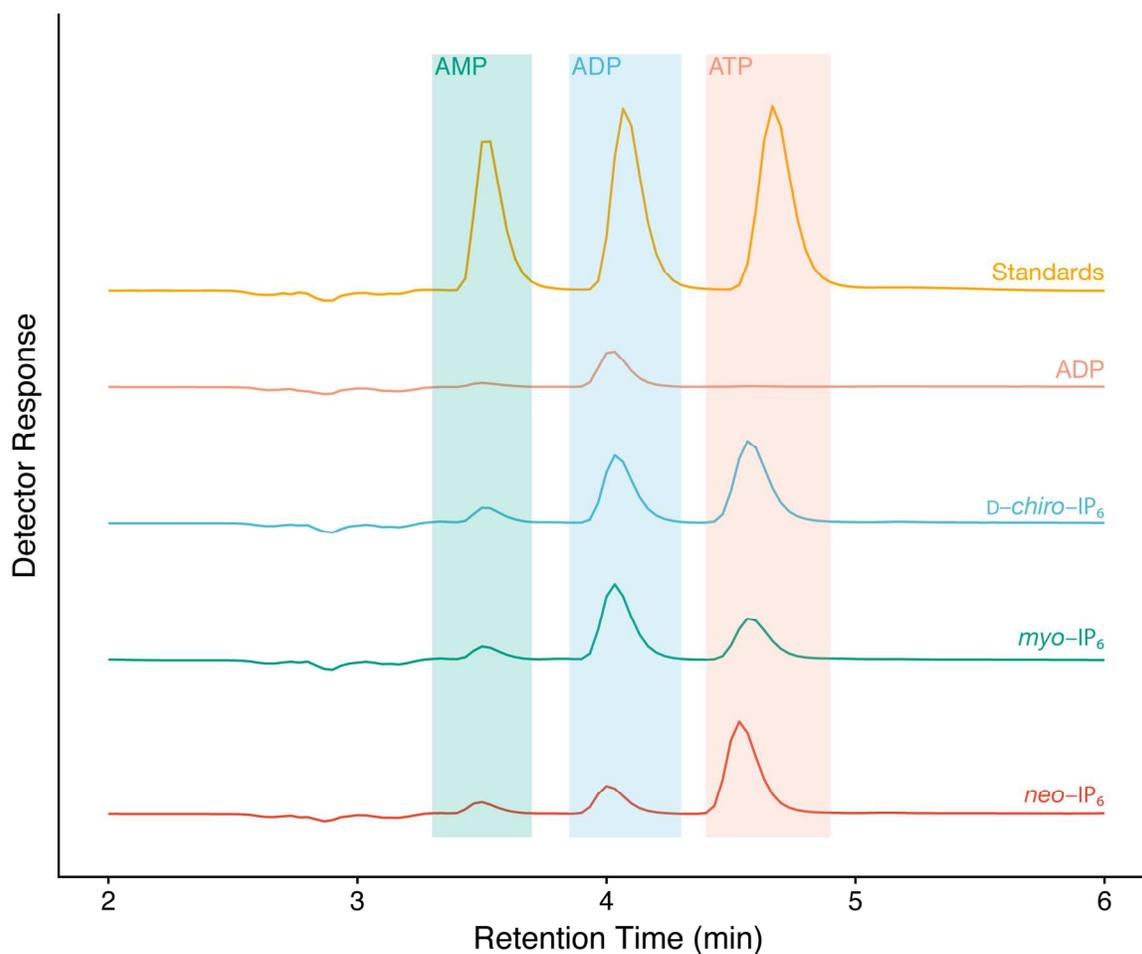


Figure 2. Displacement of 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub> binding to AtIP5 2-K by *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub>, *D*-chiro-InsP<sub>6</sub>, *neo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> and *myo*-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub>, 95% confidence limits are shown. The structures of inositol phosphates are shown as Mills projections, with 1D-numbering of inositol ring carbon atoms.

The known kinase substrate *myo*-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub> and kinase product *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> yielded EC<sub>50</sub> values (mean, standard error) of  $18 \pm 1$  and  $959 \pm 1$  nM, respectively, reflecting the acceptance of these molecules as substrates for kinase and phosphotransferase activities, respectively (Figure 3). AtIP5 2-K has been shown to phosphorylate the axial 2-hydroxyl of *myo*-inositol phosphate substrates, *D*-Ins(1,4,5,6)P<sub>4</sub>, *D*-Ins(3,4,5,6)P<sub>4</sub>, Ins(1,3,4,6)P<sub>4</sub> and Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub><sup>11, 12, 14, 15, 21</sup>. We recently showed that *neo*-inositol 1,3,4,6-tetrakisphosphate and *D*-chiro-inositol 2,3,4,5-tetrakisphosphate are substrates for

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3 the kinase activity of AtIP5 2-K , while *D-chiro*-inositol 1,3,4,6-tetrakisphosphate is not  
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5 <sup>32</sup>. The first possesses axial hydroxyls on the 2- and 5- positions, the second has axial  
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7 hydroxyls on the 1- and 6-positions, while the third has no axial hydroxyls <sup>31</sup>. In the  
8  
9 current study, *D-chiro*-InsP<sub>6</sub> and *neo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> displaced 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> with EC<sub>50</sub>s of 4496 ±  
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11 1 nM and > 500 ± 0.5 μM, respectively, (Figure 2) and proved to be substrates for  
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13 inositol phosphate-ADP phosphotransferase activity (Figure 3).  
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Figure 3. *Myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub>, *D-chiro*-InsP<sub>6</sub> and *neo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> are substrates of the inositol phosphate-ADP phosphotransferase activity of IP5 2-K. Inositol phosphate-dependent conversion of ADP to ATP was followed by HPLC of nucleotides.

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3 **Crystal structures of AtIP5 2-K in ternary complex with *myo*-, *neo*- and *D-chiro*-**  
4 **inositol phosphates**  
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9 To address the structural determinants of reactivity towards these novel substrates of the  
10 inositol phosphate-ADP phosphotransferase activity of AtIP5 2-K, we undertook  
11 cocrystallization experiments with these compounds in the presence of ADP. We are not  
12 aware that *neo*- and *D-chiro*-inositol phosphates have been identified as protein ligands in  
13 the PDB. Crystal structures were obtained in space group P1 at a resolution of 3.0 Å for  
14 the complex with *D-chiro*-InsP<sub>6</sub> (PDB entry 6GFG) and at 2.65 Å for *neo*-InsP<sub>5</sub> (6GFH)  
15 (Figure 4 and Supporting Information Table 1). To provide reference points for analysis,  
16 we also solved the structures of the ternary complexes of AtIP5 2-K with *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> and  
17 ADP (2.03 Å resolution; PDB entry 6FJK) and with *myo*-InsP<sub>5</sub> and ADP (2.36 Å  
18 resolution; PDB entry 6FL3).  
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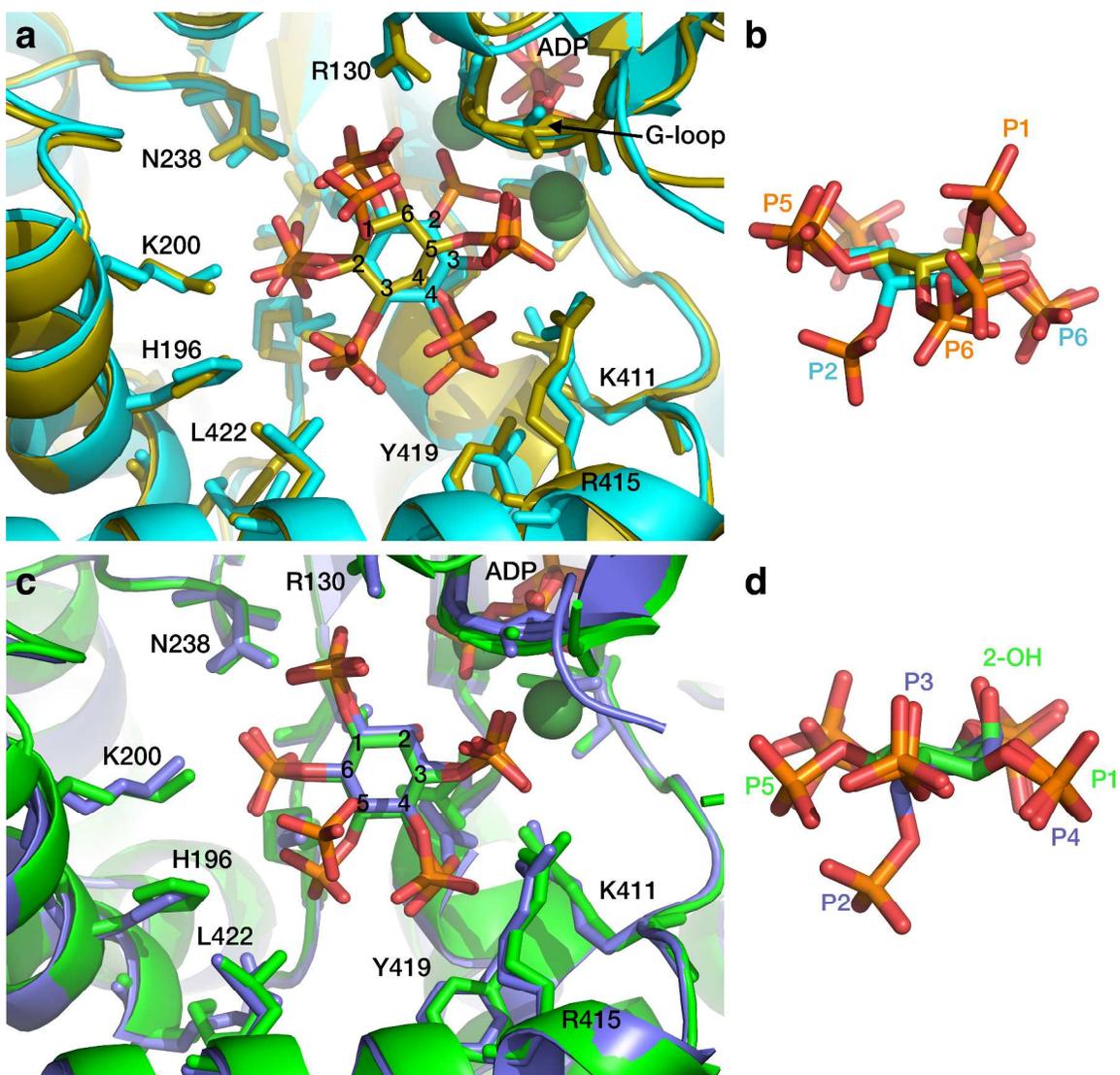


Figure 4. Ternary complexes of AtIP5 2-K with epimeric higher inositol phosphates. (A) Complex of AtIP5 2-K with ADP and myo-InsP<sub>6</sub> (cyan) overlaid with D-chiro-IP<sub>6</sub> (gold). (B) Orthogonal (to A) projection of myo-InsP<sub>6</sub> (cyan) and D-chiro-InsP<sub>6</sub> (gold) ligands. The numbering of carbons is shown for both ligands. (C) AtIP5 2-K with ATP and myo-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub> (green) overlaid with neo-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub> (purple), the numbering of carbons is shown for myo-InsP<sub>6</sub>. (D) Orthogonal (to C) projection of myo-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub> (green) and neo-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub> (purple) ligands.

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3 *neo-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub>* (purple) ligands. We use the common 1-D nomenclature for *myo-InsP<sub>5</sub>*  
4 and *myo-InsP<sub>6</sub>*. The numbering of substituents on *D-chiro-InsP<sub>6</sub>* is unequivocal, as is the  
5 numbering of substituents on *neo-InsP<sub>5</sub>*; however, because of symmetry elements *neo-*  
6 *Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub>* = *neo-Ins(1,2,3,4,6)P<sub>5</sub>*  
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13 These structures revealed no significant differences in the conformation of backbone  
14 atoms between each other, root mean square deviation (RMSD) 0.46 Å over 400 common  
15 atoms (Supporting Information Table 2). Similarly, when PDB entry 6JFK was compared  
16 with that solved with the same ligands in space group P2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub><sup>12</sup> with a non-His-tagged  
17 form of the protein (PDB 4AQK), we obtained a RMSD 0.77 Å with 398 common C<sub>α</sub>  
18 atoms (Supporting Information Table 2). The 12 contacts made with *myo-InsP<sub>6</sub>* by active  
19 site residues (inositide contacts) and 18 with ADP (nucleotide contacts) are conserved in  
20 the *D-chiro-InsP<sub>6</sub>*- and *neo-InsP<sub>5</sub>*-liganded structures (contact residues are defined in  
21 Supporting Information Table 3). In the structure of the complex with *myo-*  
22 *Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub>* and ADP, the 5-phosphate group of the inositide ligand, unlike the other  
23 phosphates, makes only a single amino acid contact with the enzyme, this being with the  
24 sidechain of Lys170, whilst its other contacts are to water molecules.  
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41 Crystallization of the enzyme with *D-chiro-InsP<sub>6</sub>* and ADP yielded clear electron density  
42 accommodating both the coenzyme and ligand in each of the two monomers of the  
43 enzyme found in the crystallographic asymmetric unit (Figure 4 A,B and Supporting  
44 Information Figures 3,4). The two adjacent axial 1- and 6- phosphates of the ligand  
45 broadly occupy the position observed for the D-1-phosphate in the complex with *myo-*  
46 *InsP<sub>6</sub>*, liganded to Arg130. Only minor differences in enzyme conformation were  
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60 observed between the *D-chiro-InsP<sub>6</sub>* and *myo-InsP<sub>6</sub>* complexes (RMSD 0.42 Å over 296

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3 residues of the N-I and C-lobes, and 0.48 Å over the entire protein, 391 residues  
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5 (Supporting Information Table 2). The positions of ligand- and coenzyme-binding  
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7 residues were also preserved: the RMSD for inositide contact residues was 0.42 Å whilst  
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9 that for nucleotide contact residues was 0.25 Å (Supporting Information Table 4).

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13 For crystals grown in the presence of *neo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> and ADP, difference electron density  
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15 maps revealed *neo*-inositol 1,2,3,4,6-pentakisphosphate [*neo*-Ins(1,2,3,4,6)P<sub>5</sub> = *neo*-  
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17 Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub>] bound similarly in both active sites. In addition, residual difference  
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19 electron density and omit maps indicated not ADP but ATP bound as coenzyme,  
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21 presumably arising from phosphotransfer between *neo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> and ADP (Figure 4 C,D and  
22  
23 Supporting Information Figures 3C, 4C). No significant difference in the conformation of  
24  
25 backbone residues was observed between the *neo*-InsP<sub>5</sub> and *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> complexes  
26  
27 (RMSD 0.53 Å over 298 residues of the N-I and C-lobes and 0.56 Å over the entire  
28  
29 protein). *Neo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> possesses a C<sub>2</sub> axis of rotational symmetry that bisects the C1-C6 and  
30  
31 C3-C4 bonds. Consequently, axial substituents P2 and P5 are superposable, as are  
32  
33 equatorial C1 and C6, and C3 and C4. In the *neo*-inositol 1,2,3,4,6-pentakisphosphate-  
34  
35 liganded structure (PDB entry 6GFH), one of the axial positions (5-OH), is apposed to  
36  
37 the magnesium ion and ATP in a position occupied by the 2-hydroxyl group of *myo*-  
38  
39 InsP<sub>5</sub> (PDB entry 6FL3). The orientation of the other axial position (of the *neo*-ligand), a  
40  
41 phosphate (P2), is apposed to that of the equatorial 5-phosphate of *myo*-InsP<sub>5</sub>.  
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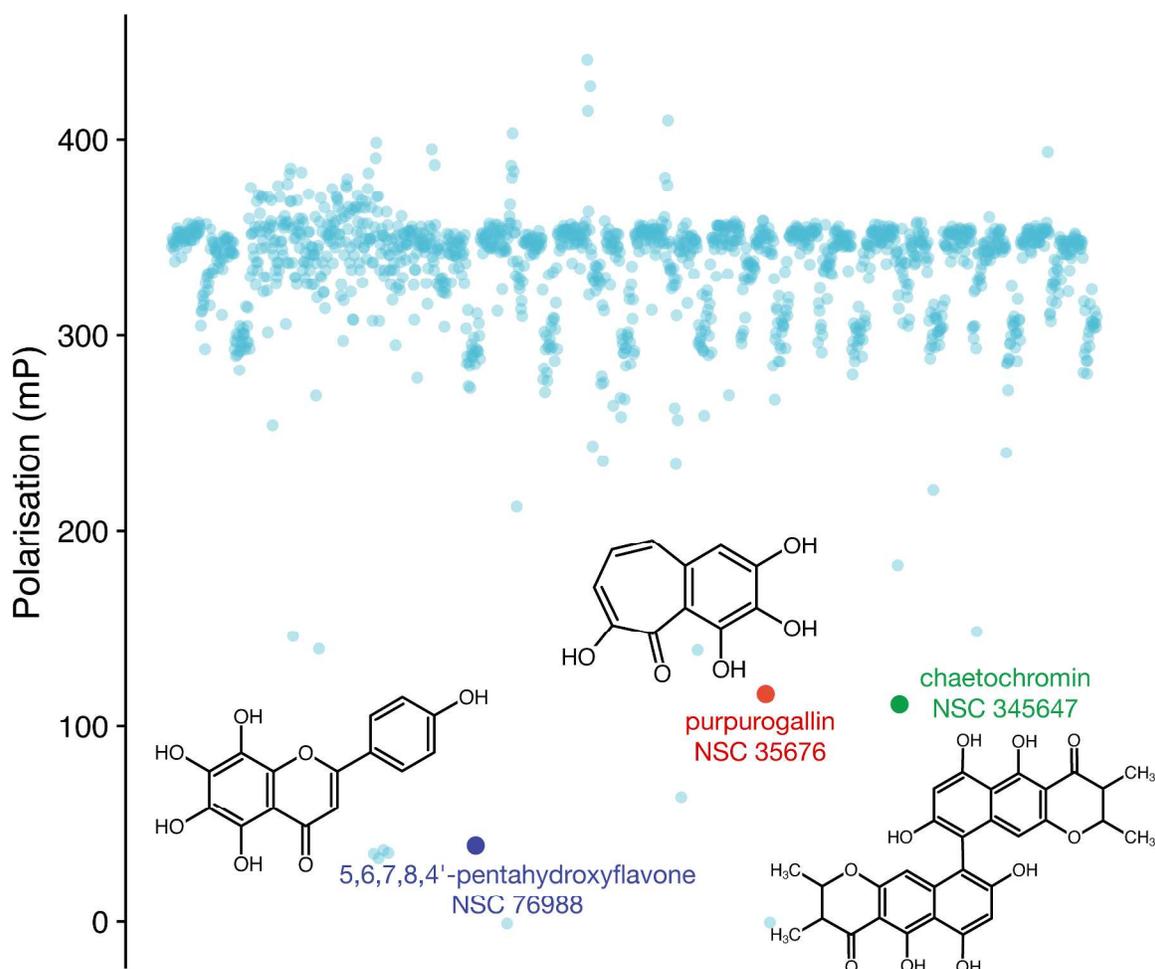
49 Comparison of the structures of complexes of AtIP5 2-K with *myo*-, *neo*- and D-*chiro*-  
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51 inositol phosphate ligands reveals, for the D-*chiro*- and *neo*- ligands, the conservation of  
52  
53 interactions with Arg130 and Arg415 and the effective colocalization of the different  
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55 inositol phosphate ligands (Fig. 4 A-D and Supplementary Information Figure 5). All  
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3 enzyme-ligand complexes, also retain contacts between phosphate and at least two of the  
4  
5 trio of lysines, Lys168, Lys170 and Lys200, that co-ordinate P2 and 1D-P6, P5 and 1D-  
6  
7 P6, and 1D-P6 of *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub>, respectively<sup>12, 33</sup>, suggesting that these residues are major  
8  
9 determinants of recognition of other (including epimeric) higher inositol phosphate  
10  
11 substrates of the enzyme. Other residues that make contacts with *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> are involved  
12  
13 in recognition of *neo*-InsP<sub>5</sub> and/or *D-chiro*-InsP<sub>6</sub>, albeit *via* contacts to differently  
14  
15 numbered phosphates of the ligand (Supplementary Information Figure 5). Thus, Tyr419,  
16  
17 which contacts 1D-P4 in the *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> complex, contacts P3 in the *neo*-InsP<sub>5</sub> complex,  
18  
19 but lacks contacts in the *D-chiro* InsP<sub>6</sub> complex. Arg415 contacts 1D-P3 and 1D-P4  
20  
21 (*myo*-) and contacts P3 and P4 in *neo*-InsP<sub>5</sub> and P3 in *D-chiro*-InsP<sub>6</sub>. Lys170 which  
22  
23 contacts P5 and 1D-P6 (*myo*-), contacts P1 (*neo*-) and P4 (*D-chiro*-); while Asn238 which  
24  
25 contacts 1D-P1 and 1D-P6 (*myo*-) makes contact with P1 and P6 of the *neo*-ligand and P5  
26  
27 of the *chiro*-ligand.  
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### 34 **A High Throughput-compatible fluorescence polarization Screen (HTS) identifies** 35 **novel AtIP5 2-K ligands** 36 37 38

39  
40 The binding of 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> to AtIP5 2-K and its displacement by confirmed active site  
41  
42 ligands affords the opportunity to identify novel active-site ligands. We therefore  
43  
44 determined whether 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> and AtIP5 2-K could be used to develop an assay  
45  
46 suitable for high-throughput screens. In the first instance we used 96-well microtiter  
47  
48 plates to match the format of the NCI Diversity Set II, Developmental Therapeutics  
49  
50 Program NCI/NIH, before developing assays in 384-well microtiter plates. Compounds  
51  
52 were tested as singletons at 12.5  $\mu$ M concentration in 0.1 % DMSO for their ability to  
53  
54 displace 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> (5 nM) from 100 nM protein in a 100  $\mu$ L volume. Control  
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3 samples of unbound probe (with machine set value of 35 mP) and ‘fully-bound’ probe  
4  
5 (reaching 350 mP) yielded a  $Z'$ -factor<sup>34</sup> of >0.9. An initial screen yielded a hit rate of  $\approx$   
6  
7 1 % at polarization value < 150 mP, more than 9 standard deviations removed from the  
8  
9 mean of the ‘fully-bound’ value (Figure 5). A number of initial ‘hits’ were discarded on  
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11 analysis of their optical properties at the concentration used, either absorbance or  
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13 fluorescence, or on subsequent preliminary dose-response analysis.  
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Figure 5. High Throughput-compatible Screen of IP5 2-K ligands. Anisotropy of AtIP5 2-K-bound 2-FAM-IP5. The chemical structures of NCI Diversity Set II ligands carried forward to individual analysis are shown with the data points that identify them.

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3 Of the remainder, eight compounds were further ordered from the NCI DTP for follow up  
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5 study: NSC 19063, NSC 35676, NSC 36815, NSC 107022, NSC 76988, NSC 37627,  
6  
7 NSC 91529, and NSC 345647, and taken forward for initial dose-response analysis over  
8  
9 5 decades of concentration in the range 1 nM-100  $\mu$ M, before further refinement of the  
10  
11 assay. These assays were performed in 20  $\mu$ L volume in 384-well plates with 2nM 2-  
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13 FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> and 200 nM protein, quadruplicate samples were pipetted by hand.  
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18 Of these eight compounds, three (Figure 5): NCI 35676, purpurogallin, CAS# 569-77-7,  
19  
20 an aglycone with similarity to catechol (1,2-dihydroxybenzene) and an inhibitor of  
21  
22 catechol-O-methyltransferase<sup>35</sup>; NCI 76988, 5,6,7,8,4'-pentahydroxyflavone  
23  
24 (nortangeretin), CAS# 577-26-4 and NSC 345647, chaetochromin, CAS# 75514-37-3,  
25  
26 yielded IC<sub>50</sub> (mean, standard error) of  $3.7 \pm 1.0 \mu$ M,  $17.6 \pm 8.0 \mu$ M and unestimable,  
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28 respectively (Figure 6A).  
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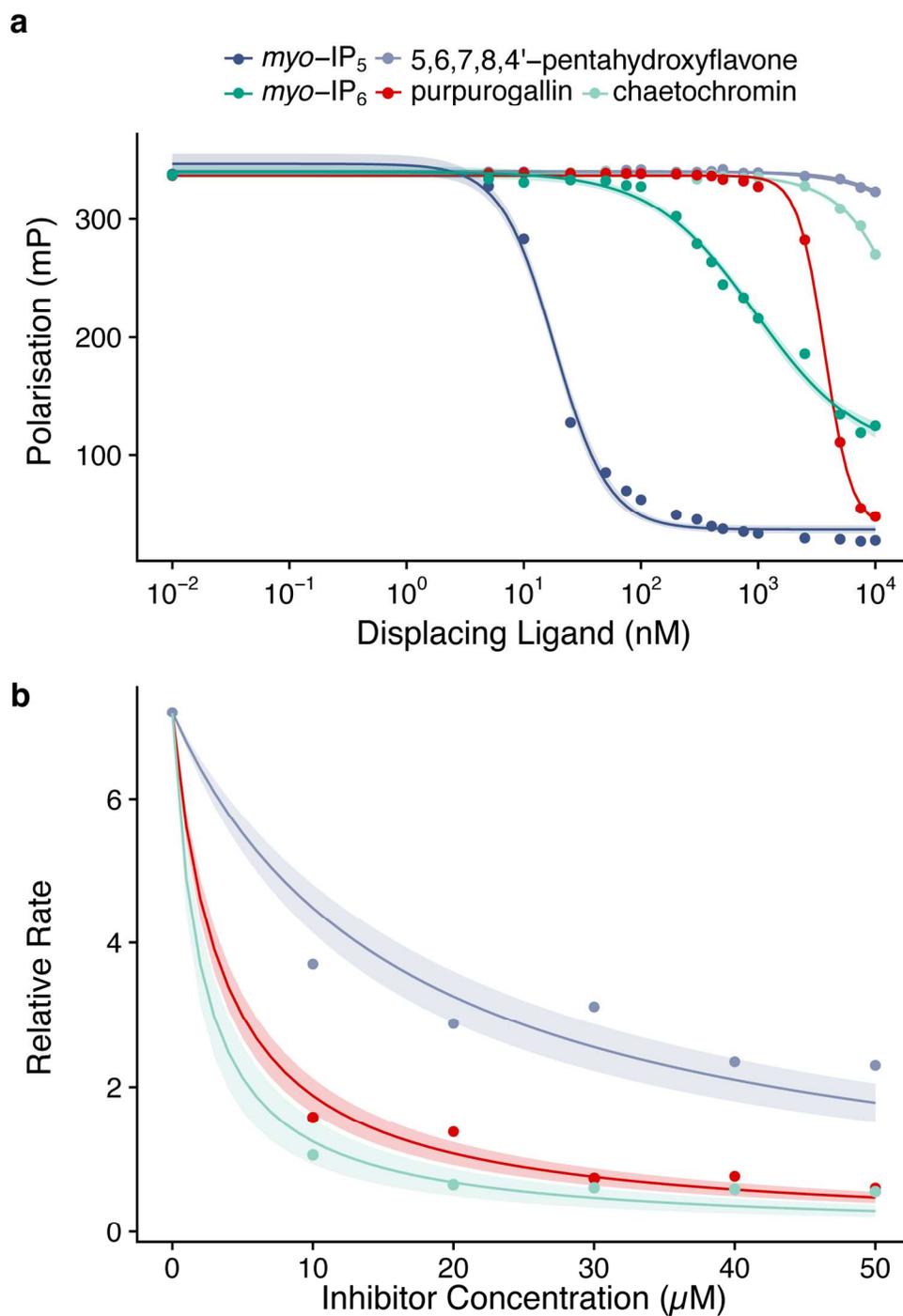


Figure 6. (A) Inhibition of 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub> binding to AtIP<sub>3</sub> 2-K by myo-InsP<sub>6</sub>, myo-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub>, purpurogallin, 5,6,7,8,4'-pentahydroxyflavone and chaetochromin; (B) Morrison plot of

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3 *inhibition of IP5 2-K by purpurogallin, 5,6,7,8,4'-pentahydroxyflavone and chaetochromin; 95%*  
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5 *confidence limits are shown. For comparison myo-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub> and myo-InsP<sub>6</sub> are*  
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7 *shown again in (A).*  
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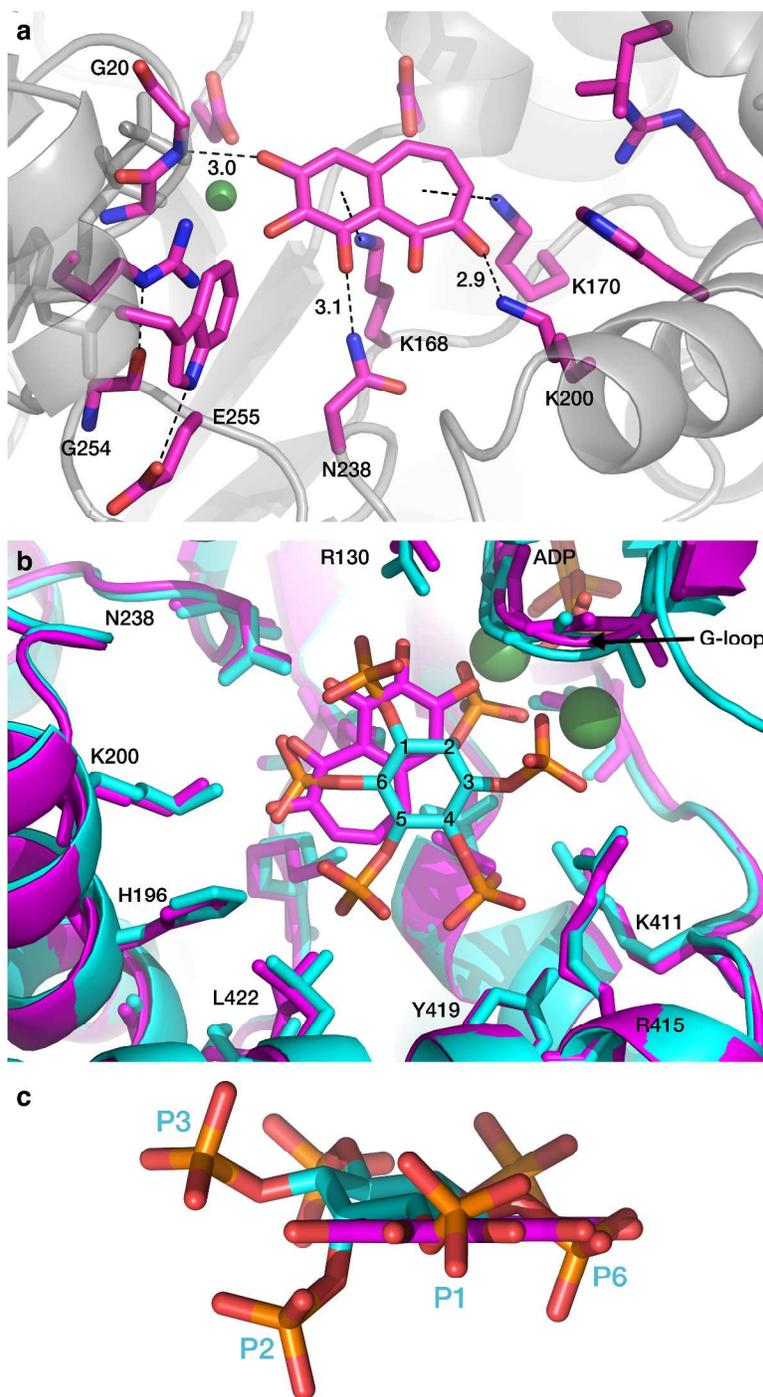
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11 As proof of concept that the displacement assay yields novel active site ligands, we  
12 performed assays of the ability of purpurogallin, 5,6,7,8,4'-pentahydroxyflavone and  
13 chaetochromin to inhibit the InsP<sub>5</sub> kinase activity of AtIP5 2-K, measured as HPLC-  
14 monitored production of ADP. Assays constructed to limit substrate depletion to less  
15 than 8%, gave, when fitted to the Morrison equation ( $K_m$  InsP<sub>5</sub> set at 22  $\mu\text{M}$ <sup>21</sup>),  $K_i$   
16 values (mean, standard error) of  $1.08 \pm 0.12 \mu\text{M}$ ,  $5.04 \pm 0.74 \mu\text{M}$  and  $0.64 \pm 0.09 \mu\text{M}$  for  
17 purpurogallin, 5,6,7,8,4'-pentahydroxyflavone and chaetochromin, respectively (Figure  
18 6B).  
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### 30 **Ternary structure of AtIP5 2-K with purpurogallin and ADP**

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33 We also sought to verify active site binding of ligands by X-ray crystallography.  
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35 Cocrystals obtained with purpurogallin at 5 mM gave a structure for the enzyme plus  
36 bound ADP which, when refined using data to 2.1 Å resolution (Supporting Table 1),  
37 revealed difference Fourier electron density features in the active sites of both monomers  
38 in the asymmetric unit (PDB entry 6FL8). Furthermore, this density coincided with that  
39 otherwise occupied by inositol phosphate ligands in our structures of ternary complexes  
40 described above. Modeling of purpurogallin to this density (Figure 7 and Supporting  
41 Information Figures 3,4) and subsequent refinement gave a structure revealing near 'co-  
42 planarity' of the rings of purpurogallin with the inositol ring (for consideration of the  
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3 ‘planarity’ of *myo*-inositol, see <sup>36</sup>). A number of specific protein-ligand interactions are  
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5 revealed (Figure 7).  
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3 *Figure 7. Ternary complex of AtIP5 2-K with purpurogallin and ADP. (A) Interactions of AtIP5*  
4 *2-K with purpurogallin (magenta). Enzyme polypeptide backbone is shown as a grey cartoon*  
5 *with active site residues in magenta. Hydrogen bonds are shown as dashed lines (distances in*  
6 *Ångstrom indicated), cation- $\pi$  interactions as dotted lines. The characteristic interactions of*  
7 *the ‘fully-closed’ form of the enzyme (between G254 and E255 with W129 and R130) are also*  
8 *shown. (B) AtIP5 2-K active site showing ADP and myo-InsP<sub>6</sub> (cyan) overlaid with*  
9 *purpurogallin (magenta). (C) Orthogonal (to B) projection of myo-InsP<sub>6</sub> (cyan) and*  
10 *purpurogallin (magenta) ligands.*  
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21 For the 6-membered ring of purpurogallin, a cation- $\pi$  interaction with Lys168 is observed  
22 and hydrogen bonding interactions can be identified with both Gly20 and the sidechain of  
23 Asn238 with hydroxyl substituents to the ring. The positioning of the 7-membered ring  
24 is stabilized by a further cation- $\pi$  interaction, this time with Lys170, while one of the  
25 ring’s hydroxyl substituents forms a hydrogen bond with the side chain of Lys200. This  
26 trio of lysines, Lys168, Lys170 and Lys200, offer conserved interactions with the inositol  
27 phosphate ligands of Figure 4 and Supporting Information Figures 3,4.  
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40 For ligands of modest affinity such as purpurogallin, careful analysis of the fit of the  
41 ligand to electron density maps is important. Consideration of a combination of real space  
42 correlation coefficients, real space R-factors and temperature factor data is necessary to  
43 assess protein–ligand model quality<sup>37</sup>. These crystallographic statistics for purpurogallin  
44 (and for the other ligands described above) are presented in Supporting Information Table  
45 5. The validity of our interpretation for purpurogallin is supported by the observation that  
46 the enzyme is found in the ‘closed’ conformation previously only observed when in  
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3 ternary complex with inositol phosphate ligands and nucleotide. For example, the RMSD  
4 against the complex with *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> (PDB entry 6JFK) is 0.60 Å for 397 residues  
5  
6 (Supporting Information Table 2), while the RMSDs between the inositide- and  
7  
8 nucleotide-coordinating residues of the two structures are 0.52 Å and 0.35 Å, respectively  
9  
10 (Supporting Information Table 4). Additionally, Gly254 and Glu255 (strand L3) form  
11  
12 interactions respectively, with Arg130 and Trp129 (helix α6), interactions serving as  
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14 hallmark features of the ‘fully-closed’ form of the enzyme<sup>14, 15</sup>. Significantly, all  
15  
16 published inositide ligand-free structures (i.e. those binding only nucleotide) adopt the  
17  
18 ‘half-closed’ conformation<sup>15</sup>. These data, with those of Figures 5 and 6, reveal a  
19  
20 rationale for design of inhibitors that trap protein in the fully closed (ordinarily, inositide-  
21  
22 and nucleotide co-liganded) state.  
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### 32 **Inhibition of labeling of inositol phosphates *in vivo***

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35 Finally, to assess the potential of compounds identified by our HTS screen to inhibit  
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37 AtIP5 2-K *in vivo*, we radiolabeled *Arabidopsis thaliana* seedlings with <sup>32</sup>P  
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39 orthophosphate in media containing purpurogallin, 5,6,7,8,4'-pentahydroxy flavone or  
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41 chaetochromin and quantified inositol phosphates and ATP by HPLC. In labeled  
42  
43 *Arabidopsis*, ATP and InsP<sub>6</sub> are by far the strongest labeled peaks, other than  
44  
45 unincorporated inorganic phosphate, while *myo*-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub> is the least strongly  
46  
47 labeled of InsP<sub>5</sub>s<sup>38</sup>. Because AtIP5 2-K catalyses transfer of the labeled γ-phosphate to  
48  
49 *myo*-Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub> to produce *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub>, analysis of the ratio of labeling InsP<sub>6</sub>-ATP  
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51 reveals the effect of the compound on enzyme activity. While we have no test of the  
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53 permeability to, or metabolism of these compounds by plant cells, both purpurogallin and  
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chaetochromin reduced the  $\text{InsP}_6$ -ADP ratio, from  $1.33 \pm 0.08$  to  $1.04 \pm 0.03$  ( $n=3$ ; t-test  $P = 0.0042$ ) and  $1.01 \pm 0.11$  ( $n=3$ ; t-test  $P = 0.0152$ ), respectively, indicative of inhibition of AtIP5 2-K (Figure 8).

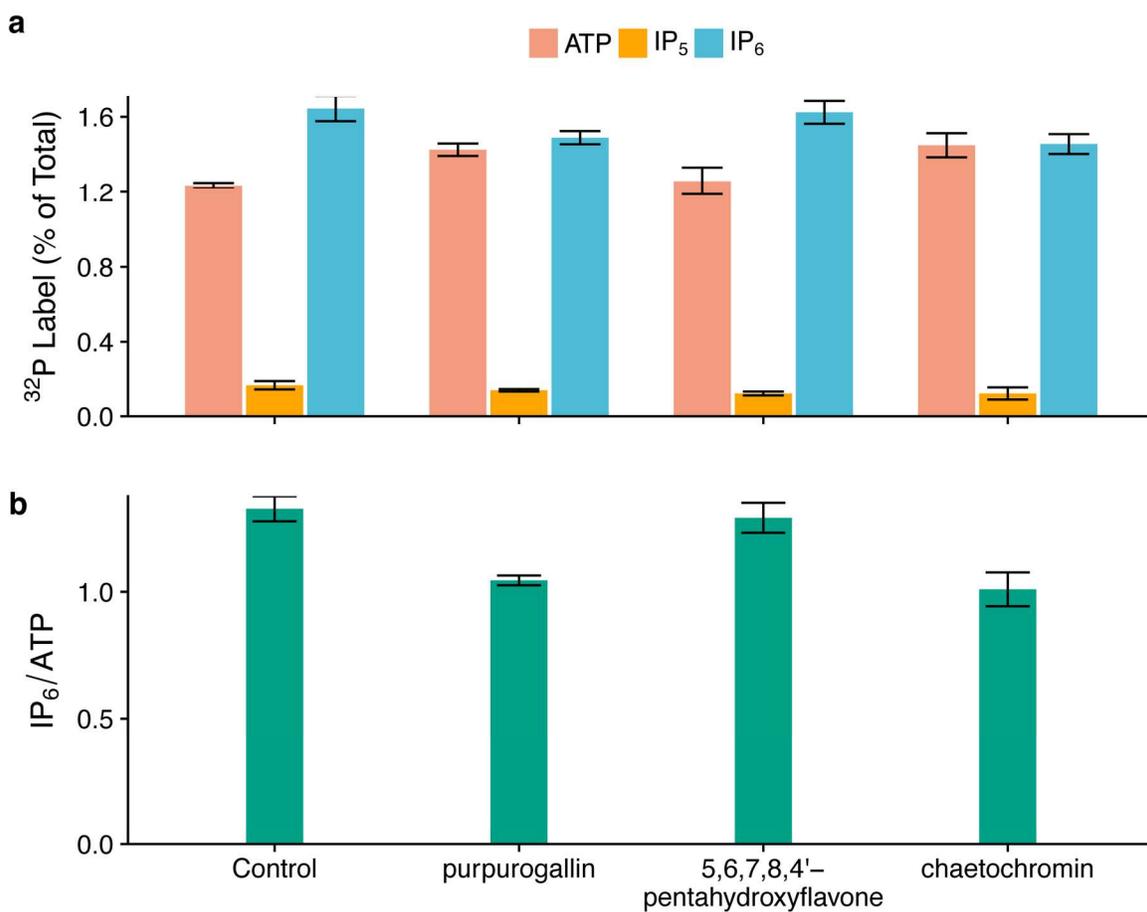


Figure 8. Inhibition of  $^{32}\text{P}$  Pi-labeling of inositol phosphates in Arabidopsis. (A) Distribution of label in ATP,  $\text{InsP}_5$  and  $\text{InsP}_6$  and (B) ratio of labelling  $\text{IP}_6$ :ATP, 95% confidence limits are shown.

## CONCLUSIONS

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3 We have elaborated a fluorescent probe of the active site of inositol pentakisphosphate 2-  
4 kinase. Screening with which allows identification of potential substrates and inhibitors,  
5 confirmed by ligand-binding assays and validated by crystallographic analysis of  
6 substrate-enzyme and inhibitor-enzyme complexes. While little attention has been given  
7 to the biology of inositol phosphates other than those derived from *myo*-inositol, other  
8 higher inositol phosphates, *neo*-inositol hexakisphosphate, *D-chiro*-inositol  
9 hexakisphosphate and *scyllo*-inositol hexakisphosphate are abundant in soils<sup>30,39</sup>. It is  
10 possible that they are synthesized by pathways that employ orthologs of IP5 2-K. Indeed,  
11 *neo*-inositol hexakisphosphate and *neo*-diphosphoinositol phosphates are found in  
12 amoeboid organisms<sup>40</sup>. The present work identifies tools for the characterization of  
13 enzymes that bind highly phosphorylated inositols and provides a rationale for  
14 phosphorylation and dephosphorylation of other epimeric higher inositol phosphates by a  
15 ubiquitous metazoan enzyme.

16  
17 We further show the assay to be amenable to high-throughput screens, and in  
18 identification of a ligand that locks the enzyme in the ‘fully-closed’ conformation provide  
19 a basis for ligand-based drug discovery programs using these structures as templates for  
20 discovery of potential new pharmacophores that could target higher inositol phosphate  
21 metabolism. While the active sites of numerous inositol phosphate kinases are decorated  
22 with basic residues that dominate interactions with highly polar inositol phosphate  
23 ligands, our work illustrates how the same residues can be recruited to bind ligands of  
24 wholly unrelated structure, perhaps rendering such proteins ‘druggable’. Finally, we  
25 establish the principle of the use of fluorescence polarization-based direct competition  
26 assays on inositol phosphate kinases and inositol phosphate-nucleotide

phosphotransferases of ATP-grasp and IPK folds.

## EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

### 1. Chemical synthesis

Synthesis of 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> = 2-*O*-(2-(5-fluoresceinylcarboxy)-aminoethyl)-*myo*-inositol 1,3,4,5,6-pentakisphosphate (triethylammonium salt) was as described <sup>18</sup>. The synthesis of *neo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> and *D-chiro*-InsP<sub>6</sub> was described <sup>39</sup>. These inositol phosphates and 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> were fully characterized by <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>31</sup>P and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectroscopy and found to be ≥95% purity. 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> was additionally analysed by reverse phase analytical HPLC and confirmed to be ≥95% pure. Myo-Inositol 1,3,4,5,6-pentakisphosphate was supplied from SiChem and *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> from Merck, both with ≥98% purity.

### 2. Fluorescence polarization assays

Fluorescence polarization assays were performed in 50 μL volume in Corning, Non-binding 96-well plates (Product No. 3650 or 3991) or in 20 μL volume in Corning, Non-binding 384-well plates (Product No. 3575). Fluorescence was recorded on a BMG ClarioSTAR plate reader with polarization and fluorescein filter set: 485 nm, 12 nm; dichroic 505 nm; emission 505 nm, 16 nm; and 200 flashes. Data was exported and fitted to a 4-parameter logistic in ggplot2. The initial library screen was performed in 96-well format on a BMG PheraSTAR fitted with a 485/520 nm fluorescence polarisation module. For binding assays, 2 nM 2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> in 20 mM HEPES pH 7.3, 1mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> at 25°C, was incubated with increasing protein concentrations (1nM- 2μM). For inhibitor assays, inhibitor (5nM-10μM) was titrated against 100nM AtIP5 2-K protein and 2nM 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub> in buffer as above. For both, aliquots (20μl) were dispensed in quadruplicate

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3 wells and polarization of the probe was measured at 25°C. Data were rendered in ggplot2  
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### 8 **3. HPLC**

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11 For assay of phosphotransfer from 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub> to ADP, AtIP5 2-K (1 μM) was incubated  
12  
13 with 50 μM ADP and 50 μM 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub> in 1mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 20 mM Hepes buffer, pH 7.3 at  
14  
15 25°C. Reactions were stopped by the addition of an equal volume of 60 mM (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>  
16  
17 HPO<sub>4</sub>, pH 3.5 and 20 μL aliquots were subjected to anion ion-exchange HPLC on a 2  
18  
19 mm x 250 mm Dionex (Sunnyvale, CA) IonPac AS11 column with 2mm x 50 mM AG11  
20  
21 guard column. The column was eluted at a flow rate of 0.4 ml. min<sup>-1</sup> with a gradient of  
22  
23 NaOH delivered from solvent reservoirs containing water (A) and 225 mM NaOH (B)  
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25 delivered according to the schedule: time (min), %B; 0,0; 20,100. Nucleotides were  
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27 detected at 260 nm.  
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32 For assay of phosphotransfer to ADP, AtIP5 2-K (240 nM) was incubated with 500 μM  
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34 ADP and 50 μM *myo*-, *neo*- or *D-chiro*-InsP<sub>6</sub> in 1mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 20 mM Hepes buffer, pH  
35  
36 7.3 at 25°C. Reactions were stopped after 240 min by boiling for 1 min and 50 μL  
37  
38 aliquots of a 10 times dilution of the original assay, in water, were subjected to reverse-  
39  
40 phase ion-pair HPLC <sup>29</sup>.  
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44  
45 For assay of inhibition of AtIP5 2-K, protein 30 nM was incubated with 50 μM ATP and  
46  
47 50 μM Ins(1,3,4,5,6)P<sub>5</sub> in 1mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 20 mM Hepes buffer, pH 7.3. Reactions, at  
48  
49 25°C, were stopped by the addition of an equal volume of 60 mM (NH<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> HPO<sub>4</sub>, pH 3.5,  
50  
51 and placed on ice before analysis by reverse-phase ion-pair HPLC <sup>13</sup>. Reactions were  
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53 constructed to limit depletion of ATP to less than 8%. Inhibitors, up to 50 μM, were pre-  
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3 incubated with enzyme and nucleotide for 20 min before addition of inositol  
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6 phosphate to start the assay.  
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#### 8 9 **4. Radiolabeling of *Arabidopsis* seedlings**

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11 *Arabidopsis thaliana* seedlings (ecotype Col-0) were radiolabeled with 370 kBq of  $^{32}\text{P}$   
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13 orthophosphate in media containing 10  $\mu\text{M}$   $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$  and processed according to <sup>38</sup>.  
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### 19 **ANCILLARY INFORMATION**

#### 20 21 22 **Supplementary information**

23  
24 Protein purification, structural and docking methods, probe binding, docking images,  
25  
26 structural density images, structural ligand interactions, refinement statistics, pairwise  
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28 comparisons and definition of binding regions, ligand validation.(PDF)  
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34 Molecular formula strings (CSV)  
35  
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#### 38 39 **PDB ID codes**

40  
41 Authors will release the atomic coordinates and experimental data upon article  
42  
43 publication. For AtIP5 2-K with ligands (numbered according to SMILES csv file);  
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45

- 46 **1** *myo*-InsP<sub>5</sub> (PDB entry 6FL3)  
47  
48 **2** *myo*-InsP<sub>6</sub> (PDB entry 6FJK)  
49  
50  
51 **4** *neo*-InsP<sub>5</sub> (PDB entry 6GFH)  
52  
53 **5** *D-chiro*-InsP<sub>6</sub> (PDB entry 6GFG)  
54  
55  
56 **6** purpurogallin (PDB entry 6FL8)  
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## Homology models

## Corresponding Author details

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## Author contributions

H.W., M.G., and K.B. were involved in all the aspects of purifying AtIP5 2-K, library screening and displacement assays. C.A.B. and H.W. performed enzyme assays and HPLC analysis. H.W. and A.M.H. determined the X-ray structures. A.M.R. and Y.H.G. synthesized 2-FAM-IP<sub>5</sub>, *neo*- and *D-chiro*-inositol hexakisphosphate. C.A.B., A.M.R. and B.V.L.P. conceived the study and with H.W. and A.M.H. wrote the manuscript.

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## Abbreviations

2-FAM-InsP<sub>5</sub> 2-*O*-(2-(5-fluoresceinylcarboxy)-aminoethyl)-*myo*-inositol 1,3,4,5,6-pentakisphosphate (triethylammonium salt)

IP5 2-K inositol pentakisphosphate 2-kinase

AtIP5 2-K *Arabidopsis thaliana* inositol pentakisphosphate 2-kinase

1		
2		
3	PP-InsP	diphosphoinositol phosphate
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5		
6	PtdIns	phosphatidyl inositol phosphate
7		
8		
9	InsP <sub>5</sub>	<i>myo</i> -inositol 1,3,4,5,6-pentakisphosphate
10		
11	IPTK4	inositol 1,3,4-trisphosphate 5/6-kinase 4
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14	StIPMK	<i>Solanum tuberosum</i> inositol-polyphosphate multikinase
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17	PPIP5K	diphosphoinositol pentakisphosphate kinase
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