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Supporting Information

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**Determination of Enantiomeric Compositions by Transient Absorption Spectroscopy using proteins as chiral selectors**

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**Table S1.** Percentage of free, site I- and site II-bound (*S*)- and (*R*)-FBPMe in the presence of PSA at different FBPMe/PSA ratios.

	<b>t (μs)</b>	<b>FBPMe/PSA Molar ratios</b>					
		<b>1:1.25</b>	<b>1:1</b>	<b>1.5:1</b>	<b>2:1</b>	<b>3:1</b>	<b>4:1</b>
<i>(R)</i> -FBPMe	$\tau_{\text{FREE}} = 1.5$	-	-	22	30	44	57
	$\tau_{\text{SITE-I}} = 95.3$	75	77	57	50	31	22
	$\tau_{\text{SITE-II}} = 9.5$	25	23	21	20	25	21
<i>(S)</i> -FBPMe	$\tau_{\text{FREE}} = 1.5$	-	-	27	33	55	59
	$\tau_{\text{SITE-I}} = 41.2$	53	53	35	33	21	18
	$\tau_{\text{SITE-II}} = 6.0$	47	47	38	34	24	23

**Table S2.** Percentage of free, site I- and site II-bound (*S*)- and (*R*)-FBP in the presence of PSA at different FBP/PSA ratios.

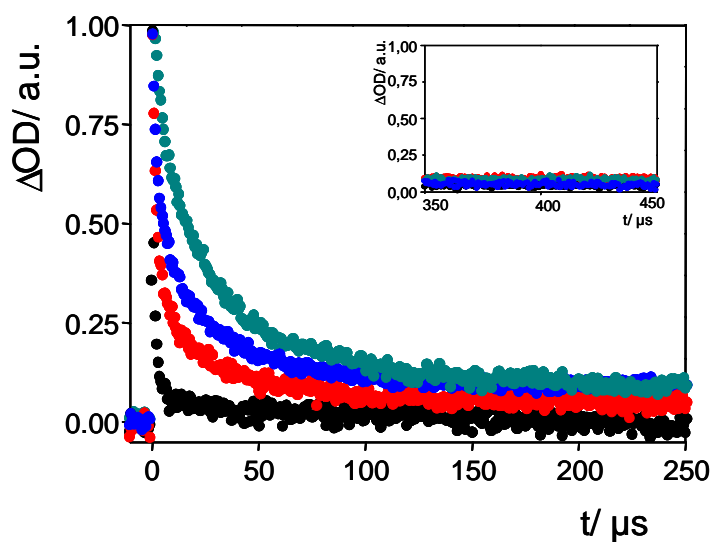
	<b>t (μs)</b>	<b>FBP/PSA Molar ratios</b>					
		<b>1:1.25</b>	<b>1:1</b>	<b>1.5:1</b>	<b>2:1</b>	<b>3:1</b>	<b>4:1</b>
<i>(R)</i> -FBP	$\tau_{\text{FREE}} = 1.5$	-	-	26	42	60	75
	$\tau_{\text{SITE-I}} = 6.8$	44	45	30	24	14	10
	$\tau_{\text{SITE-II}} = 45.0$	56	55	44	36	26	15
<i>(S)</i> -FBP	$\tau_{\text{FREE}} = 1.5$	-	-	33	50	66	75
	$\tau_{\text{SITE-I}} = 6.5$	44	44	30	20	10	10
	$\tau_{\text{SITE-II}} = 44.5$	56	56	37	30	24	14

**Table S3.** Optical rotation (O.R.), standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ) and % coefficient of variance (C.V.) of mixtures containing different percentages of (*S*)- and (*R*)-FBP in MeCN solutions at  $2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M total concentration.

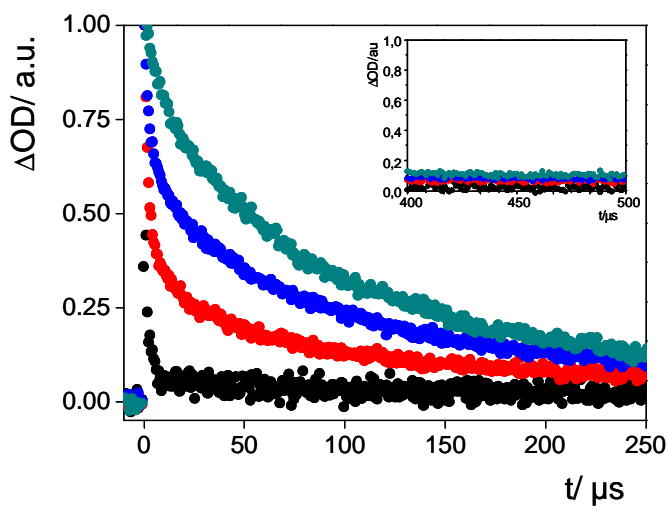
<b>% (<i>S</i>)-FBP</b>	<b>O.R.<sup>a,b</sup></b>	<b>s<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>C.V.<sup>b</sup> %</b>
100	-0,0031	0,0048	-152
90	-0,0014	0,0056	-393
80	0,0012	0,0031	260
70	-0,0020	0,0033	-167
60	0,0017	0,0034	198
50	-0,0020	0,0014	-67
40	0,0023	0,0014	62
30	0,0035	0,0029	84
20	-0,0010	0,0045	-446
10	-0,0023	0,0025	80
0	-0,0026	0,0026	-102

<sup>a</sup> Measured in a JASCO polarimeter P-1030 with a quartz cell of 10 cm pathway. <sup>b</sup> No reliable values for the were obtained, indicating that polarimetry does not provide accurate results in the same range of minute concentrations of the LFP based method.

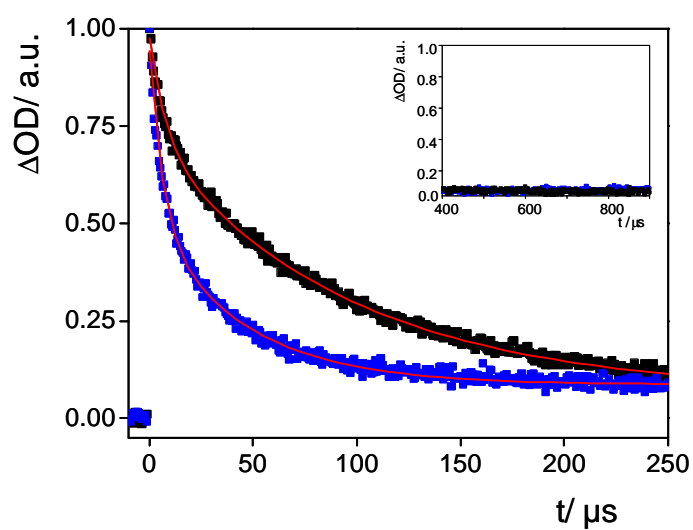
## Supporting Figures



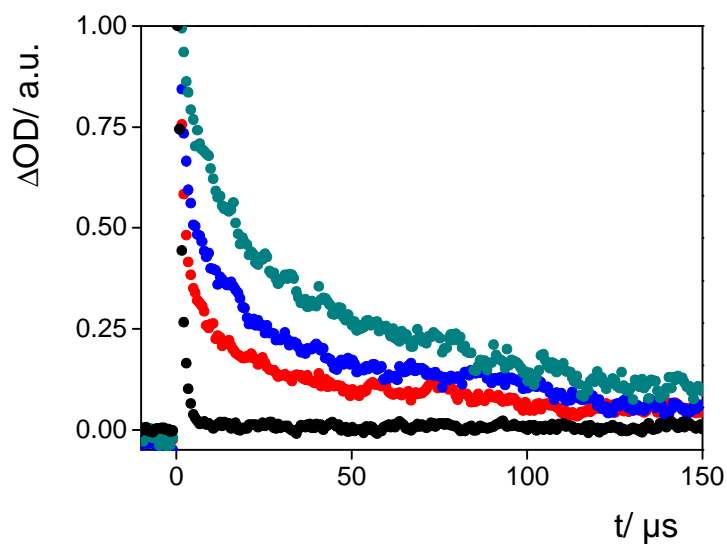
**Figure S1.** Laser flash photolysis ( $\lambda_{exc} = 266$  nm) of  $(S)$ -FBPMe (black) and  $(S)$ -FBPMe/PSA at different molar ratios, 4:1 (red), 2:1 (blue) and 1:1.25 (cyan). Normalized decays monitored at 360 nm. The concentration of  $(S)$ -FBPMe was  $2.5 \cdot 10^{-5}$  M in all cases. Inset: Traces obtained at longer decay times.



**Figure S2.** Laser flash photolysis ( $\lambda_{exc} = 266$  nm) of  $(R)$ -FBPMe (black) and  $(R)$ -FBPMe/PSA at different molar ratios, 4:1 (red), 2:1 (blue) and 1:1.25 (cyan). Normalized decays monitored at 360 nm. The concentration of  $(R)$ -FBPMe was  $2.5 \cdot 10^{-5}$  M in all cases. Inset: Traces obtained at longer decay times.

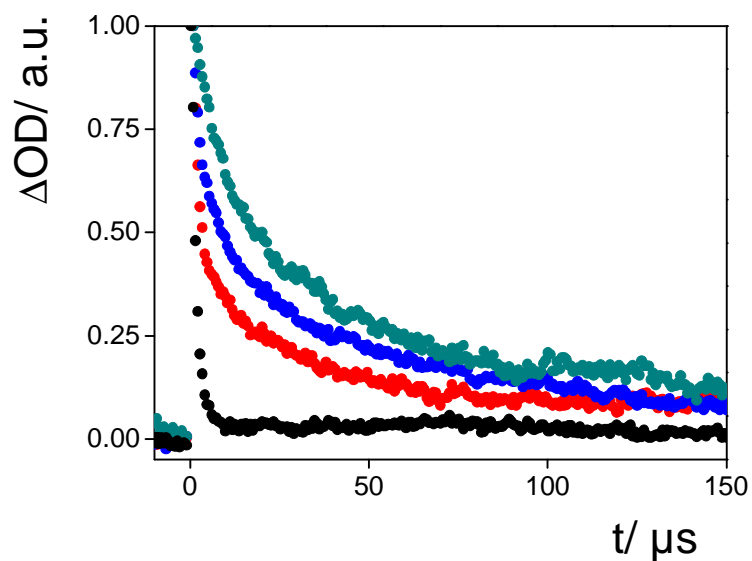


**Figure S3.** Laser flash photolysis ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 266$  nm) of (*R*)-FBPMe/PSA (black) and (*S*)-FBPMe/PSA (blue) at 1:1 molar ratio, showing a high stereodifferentiation in the triplet lifetimes. Normalized decays monitored at 360 nm. The concentration of FBPMe was  $2.5 \cdot 10^{-5}$  M in all cases. Fittings are shown in red. Inset: Traces obtained at longer decay times

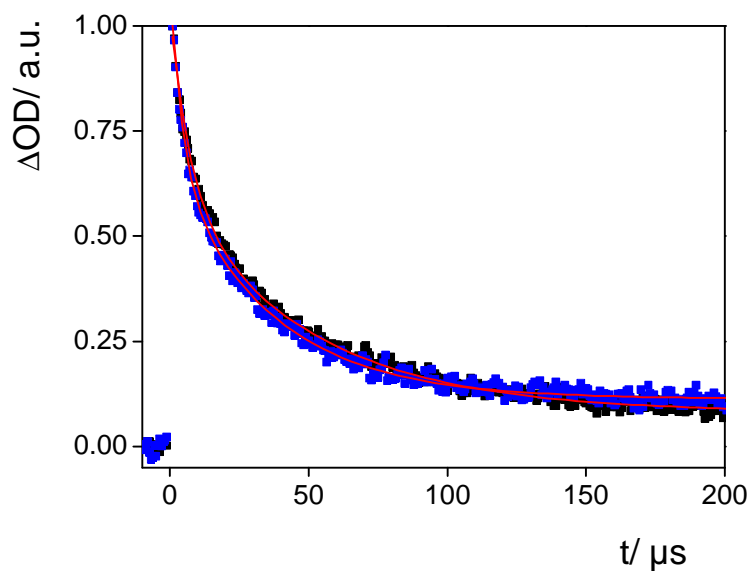


**Figure S4.** Laser flash photolysis ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 266$  nm) of (*S*)-FBP (black) and (*S*)-FBP/PSA at different molar ratios, 4:1 (red), 2:1 (blue) and 1:1.25 (cyan). Normalized decays monitored at 360 nm. The concentration of (*S*)-FBP was  $2.5 \cdot 10^{-5}$  M in all cases.

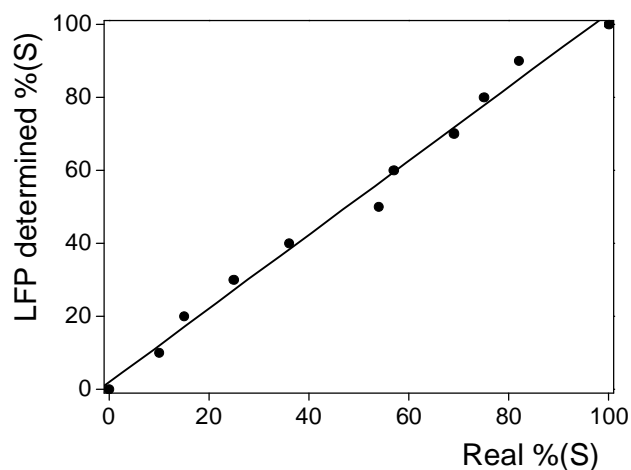




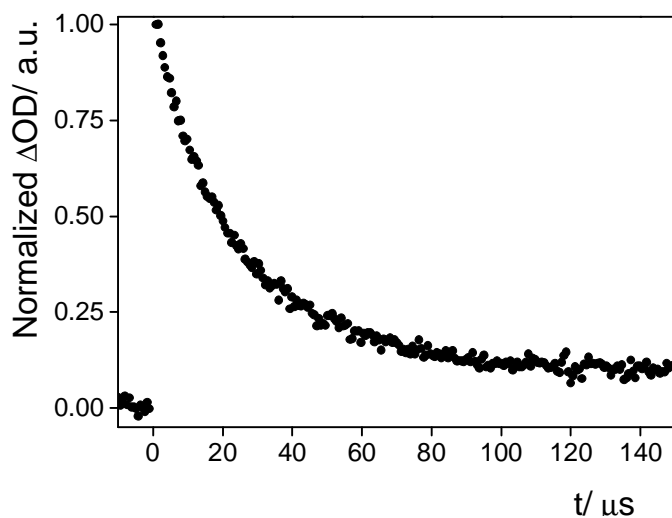
**Figure S5.** Laser flash photolysis ( $\lambda_{exc} = 266$  nm) of (*R*)-FBP (black) and (*R*)-FBP/PSA at different molar ratios, 4:1 (red), 2:1 (blue) and 1:1.25 (cyan). Normalized decays monitored at 360 nm. The concentration of (*R*)-FBP was  $2.5 \cdot 10^{-5}$  M in all cases.



**Figure S6.** Laser flash photolysis ( $\lambda_{exc} = 266$  nm) of (*R*)-FBP/PSA (black) and (*S*)-FBP/PSA (blue) at 1:1 molar ratio, showing no stereodifferentiation in the triplet lifetimes. Normalized decays monitored at 360 nm. The concentration of FBP was  $2.5 \cdot 10^{-5}$  M in all cases. Fittings are shown in red.



**Figure S7.** LFP-determined against known real percentages of (*S*)-FBP in the presence of BSA, together with the linear fit of the experimental points.

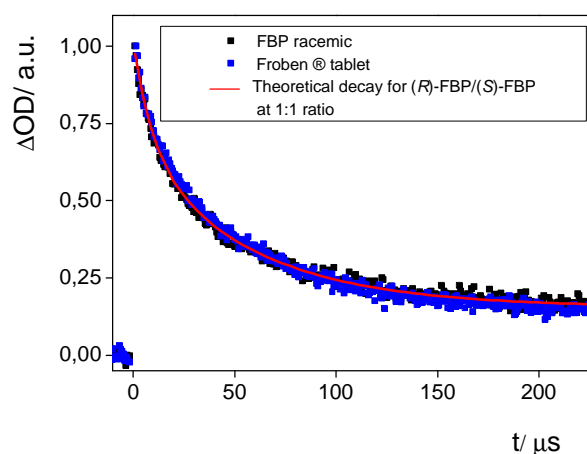


$$\tau_1^S = 8.5 \mu\text{s}, \tau_{II}^S = 31.6 \mu\text{s}, A_I^S/A_{II}^S = 0.333$$

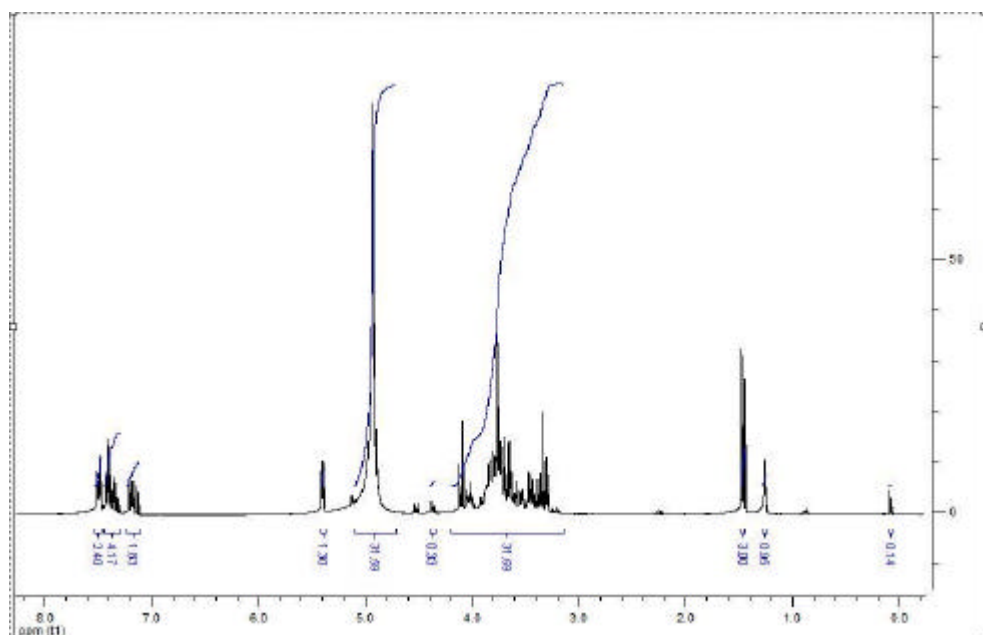
$$\tau_1^R = 7.5 \mu\text{s}, \tau_{II}^R = 25.4 \mu\text{s}, A_I^R/A_{II}^R = 0.370$$

Real	LFP determined
70	67
50	51
40	42

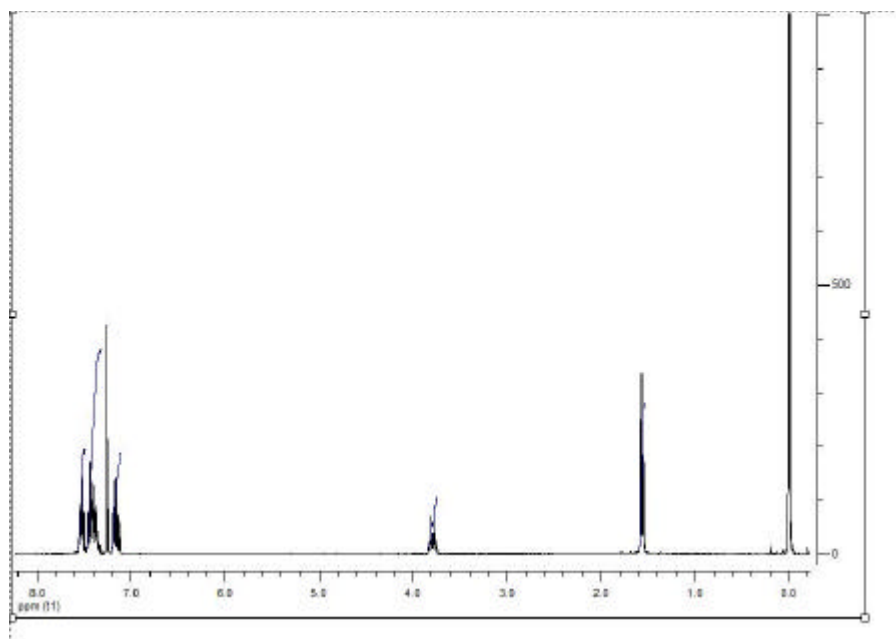
**Figure S8.** Laser flash photolysis ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 266 \text{ nm}$ ) of (*S*)-NPX/(*R*)-NPX/HSA at 0.5:0.5:1 molar ratios. Normalized decay monitored at 420 nm. The total concentration of NPX was  $4 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ M}$ . From the lifetimes and preexponential factors found for the separate enantiomers, real vs. LFP-determined percentages of (*S*)-NPX were compared for three (*S*)/(*R*) mixtures (table on the right).



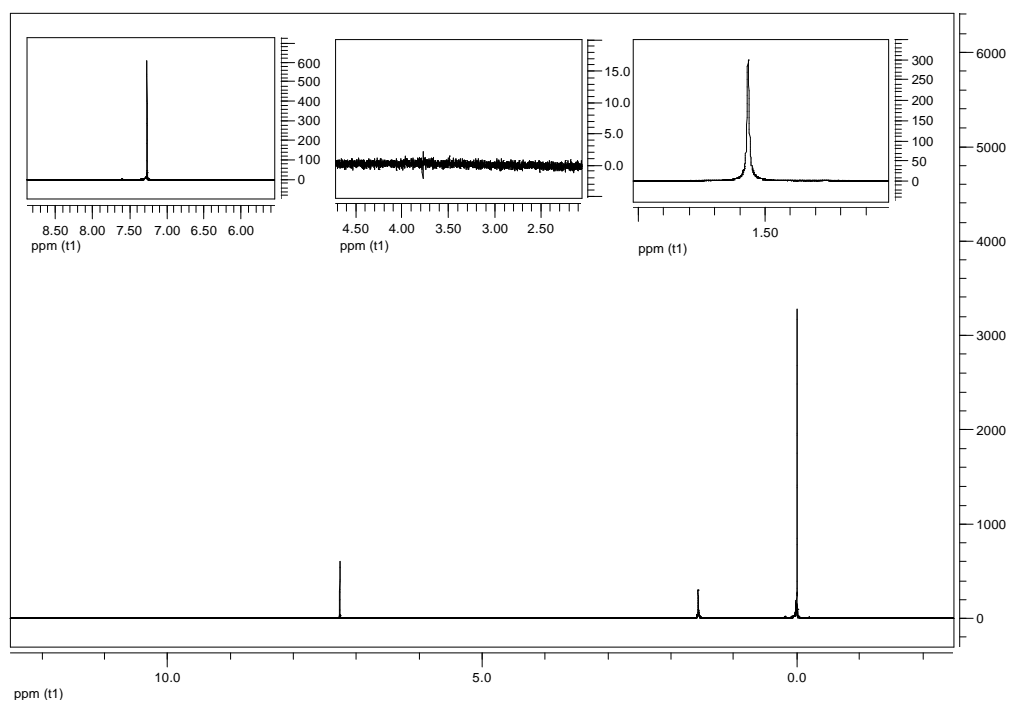
**Figure S9.** Decays at 360 nm of the LFP experiment ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 266 \text{ nm}$ ) for racemic FBP/BSA and Froben®/BSA, compared with the fitting for a 50:50 enantiomeric composition. A tablet of Froben® 50 (Abbott Laboratories Limited) weights 200 mg; 50 of them correspond to racemic flurbiprofen, while the other 150 are different excipients: glucose, saccharose, lactose, maize starch, povidone, magnesium estearate, estearic acid, titanium dioxide, sandarac varnish, carnauba wax, colloidal silicon dioxide, black ink, etc.



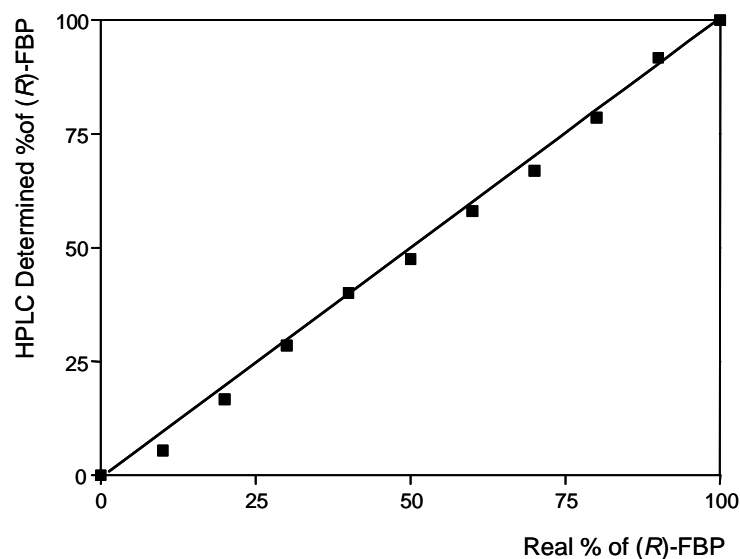
**Figure S10.**  $^1\text{H}$ -RMN 300 MHz spectrum of Froben 50 ® in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ . A tablet was dissolved in 80 mL of  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ , filtered, and the solvent evaporated in vacuo to afford a white powder. Then, 10 mg of this solid were dissolved in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  (0.7 mL), and the resulting solution was submitted to NMR spectroscopy.



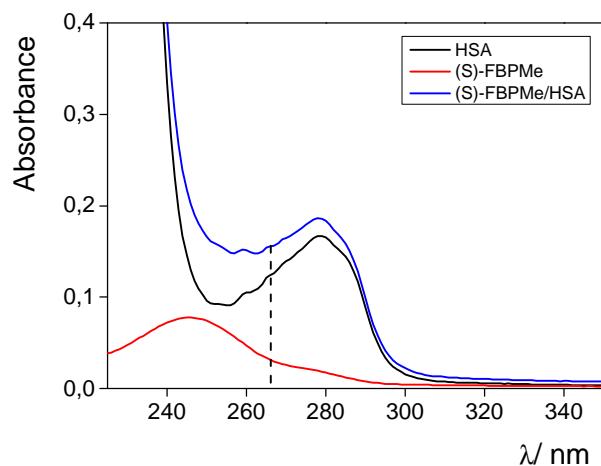
**Figure S11.**  $^1\text{H}$ -RMN 300 MHz spectrum of racemic FBP (10 mg in 0.7 ml of  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ) for comparison with Froben  $\text{\textcircled{R}}$ .



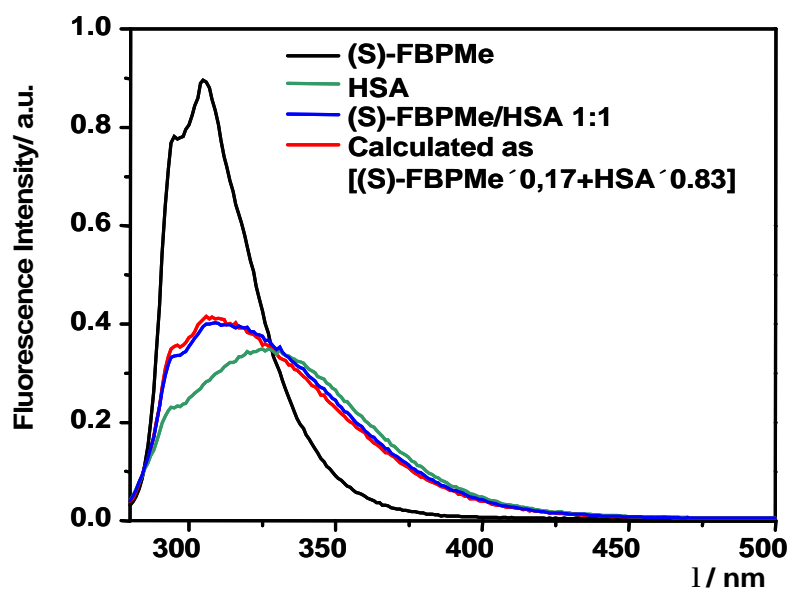
**Figure S12.**  $^1\text{NMR}$  Spectrum (300 MHz) of the amount of FBP required for the LFP experiment ( $1 \cdot 10^{-7}$  mol) in 0.7 mL of  $\text{CDCl}_3$ . No signals of the drug (see magnifications in the insets) were detected at this concentration.



**Figure S13.** HPLC-determined compositions of different mixtures of (*S*)- and (*R*)-FBP against known real values, together with the linear fit of the experimental points. The same amount of FBP required for the LFP experiment ( $1 \cdot 10^{-7}$  mol) was dissolved in 300  $\mu\text{L}$  of *tert*-butyl methyl ether. An aliquot of 200  $\mu\text{L}$  of this solution was injected in a HPLC system (reverse phase) provided with a chiral column (Kromasil 100 TBB 5  $\mu\text{m}$  25 cm  $\times$  1 cm). The eluent employed was *tert*-butyl methyl ether/hexane/acetic acid (60:40:0.1) with a flux of 1.5 mL/min. The detection system was a chiral polarimeter (JASCO OR-1590). The time to record a full chromatogram was *ca.* 25 min.



**Figure S14.** UV absorption spectra of ( $2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  M) solutions of (*S*)-FBPMe, HSA and 1:1 (*S*)-FBPMe/HSA in PBS. In the complex, at 266 nm, 17% of the incident light is absorbed by (*S*)-FBPMe, while 83% is absorbed by the protein.



**Figure S15.** Emission spectra ( $\lambda_{\text{exc}} = 266 \text{ nm}$ ) of isoabsorptive solutions ( $A = 0.2$ ) of (S)-FBPMe, HSA and 1:1 (S)-FBPMe/HSA in PBS. Emission of the complex shows a good matching with the calculations from the independent emissions of the two components, taking into account the relative absorbance.