



# HHS Public Access

Author manuscript

*Proteins*. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2022 September 28.

Published in final edited form as:

*Proteins*. 2020 January ; 88(1): 47–56. doi:10.1002/prot.25765.

## Structural characterization of $\beta$ -ketoacyl ACP synthase I bound to platencin and fragment screening molecules at two substrate binding sites

Edward I. Patterson<sup>1</sup>, Jeffrey D. Nanson<sup>2,3</sup>, Jan Abendroth<sup>4,5</sup>, Cassie Bryan<sup>4,6</sup>, Banumathi Sankaran<sup>7</sup>, Peter J. Myler<sup>4,8</sup>, Jade K. Forwood<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Pathology, University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, Texas

<sup>2</sup>School of Chemistry and Molecular Biosciences, University of Queensland, Brisbane, QLD, Australia

<sup>3</sup>The Institute for Molecular Biosciences (IMB), University of Queensland, Brisbane, QLD, Australia

<sup>4</sup>Seattle Structural Genomics Center for Infectious Disease (SSGCID), Seattle, Washington

<sup>5</sup>UCB Beryllium Discovery Corp, Bainbridge Island, Washington

<sup>6</sup>Institute for Protein Design, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington

<sup>7</sup>Berkeley Center for Structural Biology, Advanced Light Source, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California

<sup>8</sup>Center for Global Infectious Disease Research, Seattle Children's Research Institute, Seattle, Washington

<sup>9</sup>School of Biomedical Sciences, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, Australia

### Abstract

The bacterial fatty acid pathway is essential for membrane synthesis and a range of other metabolic and cellular functions. The  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases carry out the initial elongation reaction of this pathway, utilizing acetyl-CoA as a primer to elongate malonyl-ACP by two carbons, and subsequent elongation of the fatty acyl-ACP substrate by two carbons. Here we describe the structures of the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *Brucella melitensis* in complex with platencin, 7-hydroxycoumarin, and (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol. The enzyme is a dimer and based on structural and sequence conservation, harbors the same active site configuration as other  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases. The platencin binding site overlaps with the fatty acyl compound supplied by ACP, while 7-hydroxyl-coumarin and (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol bind at the secondary fatty acyl binding site. These high-resolution structures, ranging between 1.25 and 1.70 Å resolution, provide a basis for in silico inhibitor

---

**Correspondence** Jade K. Forwood, School of Biomedical Sciences, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, New South Wales 2678, Australia. jforwood@csu.edu.au.

screening and optimization, and can aid in rational drug design by revealing the high-resolution binding interfaces of molecules at the malonyl-ACP and acyl-ACP active sites.

## Keywords

drug design; fatty acid synthesis; structure

## 1 | INTRODUCTION

Fatty acid synthesis is an essential and ubiquitous process required for membrane synthesis, cell signaling, energy storage, and a wide range of other cellular functions. The reaction pathway required for fatty acid synthesis is similar in both prokaryotes and eukaryotes; however, key differences exist in the enzyme architecture that catalyze these reactions. Mammals and fungi utilize the type I fatty acid synthase (FAS) complex, a multifunctional enzyme which catalyzes all the reactions required for fatty acid elongation, while bacteria utilize a type II FAS system, where the enzymes are discrete and monofunctional.<sup>1-4</sup> Differences between bacterial and eukaryotic FAS enzymes are becoming thoroughly described through the impressive library of high-resolution structures,<sup>5-11</sup> and represent attractive targets for the development of novel antibacterial inhibitors. Antibiotics targeting the type II FAS pathway are currently in use, and the mechanisms of inhibition have been resolved using structural methods.<sup>12-16</sup>

The canonical bacterial type II FAS pathway, based on *Escherichia coli* fatty acid biosynthesis, utilize three  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-acyl carrier protein (ACP) synthases, KASI, KASII, and KASIII (also known as FabB, FabF, and FabH, respectively).  $\beta$ -Ketoacyl-ACP synthase III (FabH) carries out the initial elongation reaction of the type II FAS pathway, typically utilizing acetyl-CoA as a primer to elongate malonyl-ACP by two carbons via Claisen condensation.<sup>12,13</sup> Subsequent elongation of the acyl-ACP substrate by two carbons is performed by either  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I (FabB) or II (FabF), by a similar catalytic mechanism. The  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases I and II contain a His-His-Cys catalytic triad at the base of their substrate binding pockets, while the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase III contains a His-Asn-Cys catalytic triad.<sup>17-19</sup> In *E. coli*,  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I and II mediate the elongation of both saturated and unsaturated fatty acids.

Inhibitors thiolactomycin and cerulenin have been shown to bind the active site of  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I, blocking the malonyl-ACP and acyl-ACP substrate binding pockets, respectively.<sup>12,13</sup> The  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase inhibitors platencin and platensimycin have demonstrated antimicrobial activity against *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, extensively drug resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*.<sup>20-22</sup> Based on the structures of *E. coli*  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase II in complex with platencin (PDB ID: 3HO2) and platensimycin (PDB ID: 2GFX), these inhibitors block the malonyl subsite of  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases to prevent elongation of the fatty acyl-ACPs. Using these examples as a template for successful inhibition, new compounds can be screened to target  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases.

*Brucella* spp. are the causative agents of brucellosis, a common zoonotic disease that has a nearly worldwide distribution, with particularly high incidence in the Middle East and central Asia.<sup>23,24</sup> Those working closely with livestock and animal products, such as milk and meat, are the most vulnerable.<sup>25</sup> Three species, *Brucella melitensis*, *B. abortus*, and *B. suis*, are classified as select agents, pathogens that present a substantial threat to human health, animal health, and animal products by both the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention and US Department of Agriculture (<https://www.selectagents.gov/SelectAgentsandToxinsList.html>). *B. melitensis* is the most likely species to cause zoonotic infections, and also has the most acute symptoms.<sup>26,27</sup> The vaccine for *B. melitensis*, while able to limit incidence of infection, has not been sufficiently attenuated for human use.<sup>25</sup> The most effective treatment has been a combination of doxycycline and streptomycin,<sup>28,29</sup> although the parenteral route of administration for streptomycin complicates this regimen. Given the widespread distribution, lack of human vaccine, and need for multidrug treatment, the discovery of new treatment options is crucial.

The structural determination of the *B. melitensis*  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I and complexes with bound molecules at the active site will provide new information on an essential protein of a select agent, and a platform for in silico drug design. Here we describe the structures of *B. melitensis*  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I in complex with the compounds platencin, 7-hydroxycoumarin, and (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol. Two of these compounds, platencin and (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol, have been investigated for antibiotic properties with other bacterial targets.<sup>20,30,31</sup> The third compound, 7-hydroxycoumarin, is known to interact with a bacterial reductase.<sup>32</sup> These structures will aid in rational drug design by revealing the high-resolution binding interfaces of molecules at the malonyl-ACP and acyl-ACP active sites.

## 2 | MATERIALS AND METHODS

### 2.1 | Cloning, expression, and purification of $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I

The gene for BrabA.00113.a was amplified from genomic DNA and cloned into the expression vector pBG1861 using ligation-independent cloning.<sup>33</sup> The expression vector provides a 3C-cleavable N-terminal His6-tag (SSGCID target ID BrabA.00113.a, SSGCID construct ID BrabA.00113.a.A1, SSGCID batch BrabA.00113.a.A1. PW25441). BrabA.00113.a was expressed in *E. coli* Rosetta BL21 (DE3)R3 following standard SSGCID protocols, as described previously.<sup>34</sup> Purification was performed using Ni-NTA affinity and size exclusion chromatography following standard SSGCID protocols.<sup>35</sup> The His-tag was not cleaved. The purified protein was concentrated to 22.94 mg/mL in its final buffer (25 mM HEPES pH 7.0, 500 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol, 2 mM DTT, 0.025% NaN<sub>3</sub>), flash frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

### 2.2 | Crystallization, data collection, and structure determination

Crystallization set ups were done with apo protein at 22.94 mg/mL, using 96-well XJR crystallization trays (Rigaku Reagents) with 0.4  $\mu\text{L}$  protein mixed with 0.4  $\mu\text{L}$  reservoir, equilibrating against 80  $\mu\text{L}$  reservoir solution. Crystallization conditions were searched for with sparse matrix screens JCSG+ (Rigaku Reagents), CrystalScreen HT, Index

HT (Hampton Research), and PACT (Molecular Dimensions). Crystallization trays were incubated at 285 K. Crystals were observed in all trays. A crystal from condition PACT H12 (20% PEG 3350, 100 mM BisTris propane pH 8.5, 200 mM sodium malonate) was cryoprotected with a solution of reservoir with 25% ethylene glycerol, and vitrified in liquid nitrogen. Diffraction data were collected in-house on a Rigaku FR-E+ SuperBright rotating anode equipped with Rigaku VariMax optics and a Saturn 944+ detector, using CuK $\alpha$  X-rays. All data sets were reduced with the XDS package.<sup>36</sup> Diffraction data are summarized in Table 1.

The structure of apo BrabA.00113.a was solved using the program PHASER<sup>37</sup> from the CCP4 package,<sup>38</sup> with PDB entry 1DD8 modified with the CCP4 program CHAINSAW<sup>39</sup> as the search model. The initial model was extended with ARP/wARP.<sup>40</sup> Manual model building was performed using Coot,<sup>41</sup> and the structure was refined in reciprocal space with Refmac5.<sup>42</sup> The coordinates and structure factors of the apo structure were deposited in the PDB with accession code 3LRF.

For fragment studies, crystals were grown in condition PACT H12. 2.5  $\mu$ L of 50 mM compound stock solution in methanol were dried in the well of a crystallization tray. The dried fragment was overlaid with 2.5  $\mu$ L of a soaking solution (100 mM MES pH 6.5, 30% PEG 3350, 10% glycerol), and crystals were transferred into the soaking drop. Crystals were incubated overnight, and vitrified by plunging them into liquid nitrogen. Diffraction data were collected at ALS beamline 5.0.1 on an ADSC Q310r CCD detector (3MQD, 3U0E), or at APS beamline 21-ID-G on a Rayonix MX-300 CCD detector (3U0F).

For the platencin co-crystal structure, BrabA.00113.a was crystallized in the presence of 2.5 mM platencin (Bioaustralis) in PACT condition H2 (20% PEG 3350, 100 mM BisTris propane pH 8.5, 200 mM sodium bromide). The crystal was cryoprotected with 20% ethylene glycol, and vitrified in liquid nitrogen. All ligand-bound structures were refined as described for the non-ligand bound structure.

### 3 | RESULTS

#### 3.1 | Structure of the $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *Brucella melitensis*

Bacterial  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases catalyze the elongation reactions of the type II FAS pathway. These enzymes perform essential functions and exhibit structural differences to eukaryote  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases, making them promising targets for antibacterial drug design. To facilitate the design of new inhibitory molecules, we set out to determine the high-resolution crystallographic structures of a  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase from *B. melitensis* in the absence and presence of platencin and fragment screen molecules.<sup>43</sup> The  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase from *B. melitensis* was expressed recombinantly, and purified by affinity and size exclusion chromatography. Crystals belonging to the *C*2 space group with unit cell parameters  $a = 77.48$  Å,  $b = 83.27$  Å,  $c = 72.87$  Å,  $\beta = 120.97^\circ$  diffracted to 1.6 Å resolution. Molecular replacement using the *E. coli* structure of  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I, PDB entry 1DD8 as the search model was used to solve the structure, which together with model building and refinement, resulted in a high-quality structural model with  $R_{\text{work}}$

and  $R_{\text{free}}$  values of 0.129 and 0.158, respectively. A summary of the crystallographic and refinement statistics is presented in Table 1.

The  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase protomer is comprised of 15  $\alpha$ -helices, 13  $\beta$ -strands, and two mixed  $\beta$ -sheets (Figures 1 and 2). This typical thiolase-like fold arrangement is conserved in  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases. A DALI search<sup>44</sup> revealed three similar structures deposited to the PDB, all of which were  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I molecules (FabB): *Vibrio cholera* (r.m.s.d 0.8 Å, sequence identity 64% over 403 aligned residues, PDB ID: 4XOX), *E. coli* (r.m.s.d 0.8 Å, sequence identity 61% over 401 aligned residues, PDB ID: 1G5X), and *Yersinia pestis* (r.m.s.d 0.8 Å, sequence identity 56% over 404 aligned residues, PDB ID: 3OYT). A clear separation was observed for the next class of structurally related  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases, all of which were  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase II molecules (FabF): *Burkholderia vietnamiensis* (r.m.s.d 1.4 Å, sequence identity 39% over 401 aligned residues, PDB ID: 4DDO), *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (r.m.s.d 1.4 Å sequence identity 38% over 396 aligned residues, PDB ID: 2RJT), and *B. melitensis* (r.m.s.d 1.5 Å sequence identity 41%, over 400 aligned residues PDB ID: 3KZU). No reasonable degree of sequence or structural identity to  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase III molecules (FabH) was observed. These results suggest that the *B. melitensis*  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase reported here is most likely to be a  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I.

While the crystal asymmetric unit contained a single protomer, an extensive surface area of 5740Å<sup>2</sup> was buried between two symmetry related protomers, suggesting the enzyme is likely to exist as a dimer (Figure 3). Analysis of the protein interfaces using PISA<sup>45</sup> indicates that the dimer is stable in solution. Moreover, the same biological assemblies were formed from closely related homologues identified in the DALI search described above. The dimer interface for the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase in this structure is mediated by 30 hydrogen bonds and 10 salt bridges (see Table 2 for a full description of the interactions). The majority of the dimer interactions are located on secondary structure elements, with  $\alpha$ -helices 6 to 10 and  $\beta$ -strand 8 involved in dimer formation. Other interactions are localized to the loop regions connecting  $\alpha$ 2- $\beta$ 3 (LGF<sup>44</sup>),  $\alpha$ 5- $\beta$ 4 (E<sup>96</sup>),  $\beta$ 4- $\alpha$ 6 (GGP<sup>107</sup>),  $\alpha$ 6- $\alpha$ 7 (PK<sup>125</sup>, VGP<sup>129</sup>),  $\alpha$ 7- $\alpha$ 8 (S<sup>137</sup>),  $\alpha$ 8- $\beta$ 5 (KIKG<sup>152</sup>),  $\beta$ 5- $\alpha$ 9 (SISSA<sup>160</sup>),  $\alpha$ 9- $\beta$ 6 (K<sup>179</sup>),  $\beta$ 8- $\alpha$ 12 (DGYD<sup>266</sup>), and  $\beta$ 12- $\beta$ 13 (FGG<sup>395</sup>) (Figure 2).

### 3.2 | Active site and bound inhibitors

The active site of  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases is well established.<sup>5-8,11,12,46</sup> A Cys residue (Cys<sup>161</sup> in this structure) positioned at the N-terminus of  $\alpha$ 9 is activated by the strong helix dipole moment, and accepts the acyl-group from acyl-ACP. Upon binding malonyl-ACP, two His residues positioned at the end of  $\beta$ 9 and  $\alpha$ 14 (His<sup>296</sup> and His<sup>333</sup> in this structure) initiate a second nucleophilic attack and stabilize formation of an enol intermediate. A highly conserved Phe residue at the end of  $\beta$ 12 (Phe<sup>393</sup> in this structure) is involved in substrate specificity and guiding the entry of an acyl chain to the binding cavity. Overall, the structure of the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase in this study supports the highly conserved and well-described active site (Figures 2 and 3).

To understand the binding mechanism of inhibitors and fragment screen molecules at the active site, we crystallized the enzyme in the presence of both platencin, and fragment

screens. Platencin is a potent broad-spectrum inhibitor, with activity against  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase III and  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase II,<sup>20,21</sup> however, structural characterization of platencin bound to a  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I is yet to be reported. Crystals formed in the presence of platencin displayed the same space group as the unbound  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase (Table 1), with well-ordered density for platencin (Figure 4). The binding interface for platencin is 385Å<sup>2</sup>, and is mediated by five hydrogen bonds and a range of hydrophobic interactions. Key hydrogen bonds include active site residues His<sup>296</sup> and His<sup>333</sup>, and non-catalytic residues Val<sup>268</sup>, Thr<sup>300</sup>, and Ala<sup>302</sup> (Figure 4).

There are currently two other structures of platencin bound to  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases in the Protein Data Bank; *E. coli* (PDB ID: 3HO2), and *B. vietnamiensis* (PDB ID: 4F32). The binding is similar across all three structures, with the *E. coli* counterpart exhibiting an interface of 423Å<sup>2</sup> and four hydrogen bonds mediated by His<sup>340</sup> (equivalent to His<sup>333</sup>), as well as Thr<sup>307</sup> (equivalent to Thr<sup>300</sup>), Ala<sup>309</sup> (equivalent to Ala<sup>302</sup>), and an additional Thr<sup>270</sup>. Similarly, the *B. vietnamiensis* binding interface is 402Å<sup>2</sup>, and mediated by six hydrogen bonds, including the active site residues His<sup>313</sup> (equivalent to His<sup>296</sup>), His<sup>349</sup> (equivalent to His<sup>333</sup>), Thr<sup>317</sup> (equivalent to His<sup>300</sup>), Val<sup>319</sup> (equivalent to Ala<sup>302</sup>), while additional interactions with Thr<sup>280</sup>, and Gly<sup>282</sup> were not observed in our structure.

To assist with inhibitor screening and in silico drug design, we also crystallized the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase in the presence of small molecules from fragment screens. We identified two molecules bound in close proximity to the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase active site (Table 1). Fragments 7-hydroxyl-coumarin (PDB ID: 3U0F) (Figure 5), and (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol (PDB ID: 3MQD) (Figure 6), were bound within >4 Å of the active site Cys<sup>161</sup>, but at discrete sites from platencin (closest atoms are 5.8 Å apart). The 7-hydroxyl-coumarin bound through hydrophobic interactions involving Gly<sup>105</sup>, Gly<sup>106</sup>, Thr<sup>109</sup>, Ala<sup>160</sup>, Glu<sup>189</sup>, Leu<sup>195</sup>, Phe<sup>199</sup>, and Leu<sup>335</sup>. The (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol bound through Gly<sup>105</sup>, Gly<sup>106</sup>, Pro<sup>107</sup>, Thr<sup>109</sup>, Ala<sup>160</sup>, Cys<sup>161</sup>, Glu<sup>189</sup>, Leu<sup>195</sup>, Phe<sup>199</sup>, and Leu<sup>335</sup>.

To assess the relative binding site of platencin, 7-hydroxyl-coumarin, and (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol to the substrate binding sites, we superimposed various substrate bound structures. These structures included lauric acid bound synthase to *E. coli*  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I<sup>11</sup> (PDB ID: 2BYX), and an unpublished structure of a  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I bound to ACP and a reaction mimic (unpublished, PDB ID: 5KOF). Platencin overlaps directly with the ACP linked acyl-compound, while the 7-hydroxyl-coumarin and (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol bind at the second fatty acid site (Figure 7). These structural analyses suggest these compounds bind at the two distinct fatty acid substrate binding sites, and represent good platforms for in silico drug design.

## 4 | CONCLUSION

In this article, we describe the structure of  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase from *B. melitensis* in the presence of platencin, 7-hydroxyl-coumarin and (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol bound at two substrate binding sites. Based on the structure, the enzyme is most closely related to  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I (FabB). The enzyme harbors the same dimer and

active site configuration as other  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthases. Platencin binding overlaps with the same binding site as the fatty acyl compound supplied by ACP, while 7-hydroxyl-coumarin and (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol bind at the fatty acyl binding site. These high-resolution structures of the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *B. melitensis* bound to molecules that block substrate binding, range between 1.25 and 1.70 Å resolution, providing a basis for in silico inhibitor screening and optimization.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank the SSGCID Cloning, Protein Production and Crystal Core groups and Banu Sankaran at the Advanced Light Source at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. This work was supported by National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (contract nos. HHSN272201700059C, HHSN272201200025C, and HHSN272200700057C to P.J.M.).

### Funding information

National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, Grant/Award Numbers: HHSN272200700057C, HHSN272201200025C, HHSN272201700059C

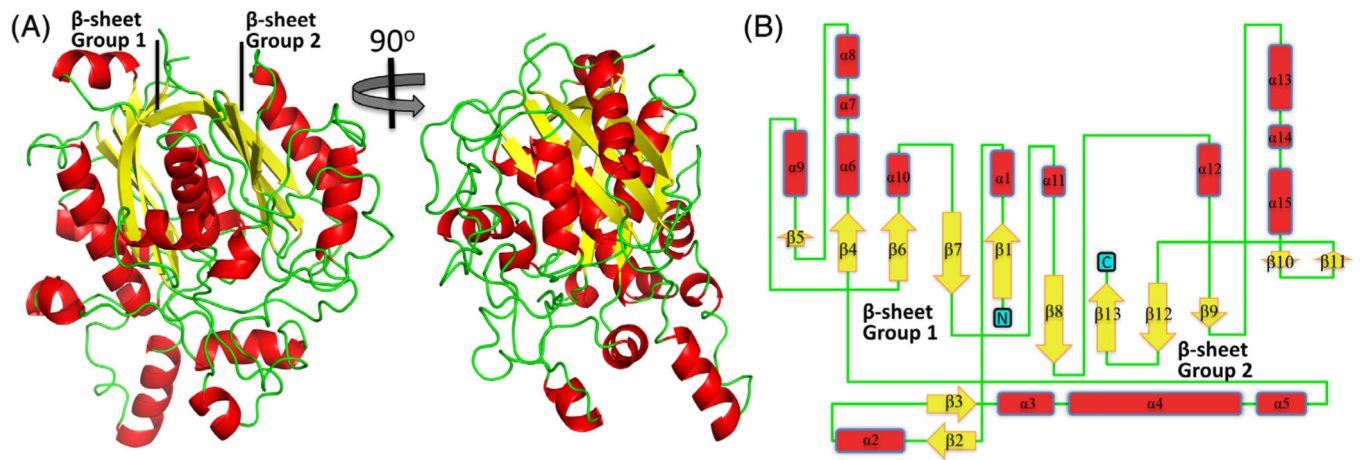
## REFERENCES

- Herbst D, Townsend C, Maier T The architectures of iterative type I PKS and FAS. *Nat Prod Rep*. 2018;35:1046–1069. [PubMed: 30137093]
- Grininger M Perspectives on the evolution, assembly and conformational dynamics of fatty acid synthase type I (FAS I) systems. *Curr Opin Struct Biol*. 2014;25:49–56. [PubMed: 24457260]
- White S, Zheng J, Zhang Y-M, Rock C The structural biology of type II fatty acid biosynthesis. *Biochemistry-US*. 2005;74:791–831.
- Beld J, Lee J, Burkart M Fatty acid biosynthesis revisited: structure elucidation and metabolic engineering. *Mol Biosyst*. 2014;11:38–59. [PubMed: 25360565]
- Olsen J, Kadziola A, von Wettstein-Knowles P, Siggaard-Andersen M, Lindquist Y, Larsen S The X-ray crystal structure of  $\beta$ -ketoacyl [acyl carrier protein] synthase I. *FEBS Lett*. 1999;460:46–52. [PubMed: 10571059]
- Price A, Rock C, White S The 1.3-angstrom-resolution crystal structure of  $\beta$ -Ketoacyl-acyl carrier protein synthase II from *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. *J Bacteriol*. 2003;185:4136–4143. [PubMed: 12837788]
- Huang W, Jia J, Edwards P, Dehesh K, Schneider G, Lindquist Y Crystal structure of  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-acyl carrier protein synthase II from *E. coli* reveals the molecular architecture of condensing enzymes. *EMBO J*. 1998;17:1183–1191. [PubMed: 9482715]
- Davies C, Heath R, White S, Rock C The 1.8 Å crystal structure and active-site architecture of  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-acyl carrier protein synthase III (FabH) from *Escherichia coli*. *Structure*. 2000;8:185–195. [PubMed: 10673437]
- Nanson J, Himiari Z, Swarbrick C, Forwood J Structural characterisation of the Beta-Ketoacyl-acyl carrier protein synthases, FabF and FabH, of *Yersinia pestis*. *Sci Rep-UK*. 2015;5(14):797.
- da Costa T, Nanson J, Forwood J Structural characterisation of the fatty acid biosynthesis enzyme FabF from the pathogen *Listeria monocytogenes*. *Sci Rep-UK*. 2017;7:srep39277.
- von Wettstein-Knowles P, Olsen J, McGuire K, Henriksen A Fatty acid synthesis. *FEBS J*. 2006;273:695–710. [PubMed: 16441657]
- Price A, Choi K, Heath RJ, Li Z, White SW, Rock CO Inhibition of  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-acyl carrier protein synthases by thiolactomycin and cerulenin structure and mechanism. *J Biol Chem*. 2001;276:6551–6559. [PubMed: 11050088]
- Luckner S, Machutta C, Tonge P, Kisker C Crystal structures of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* KasA show mode of action within cell wall biosynthesis and its inhibition by thiolactomycin. *Structure*. 2009;17: 1004–1013. [PubMed: 19604480]

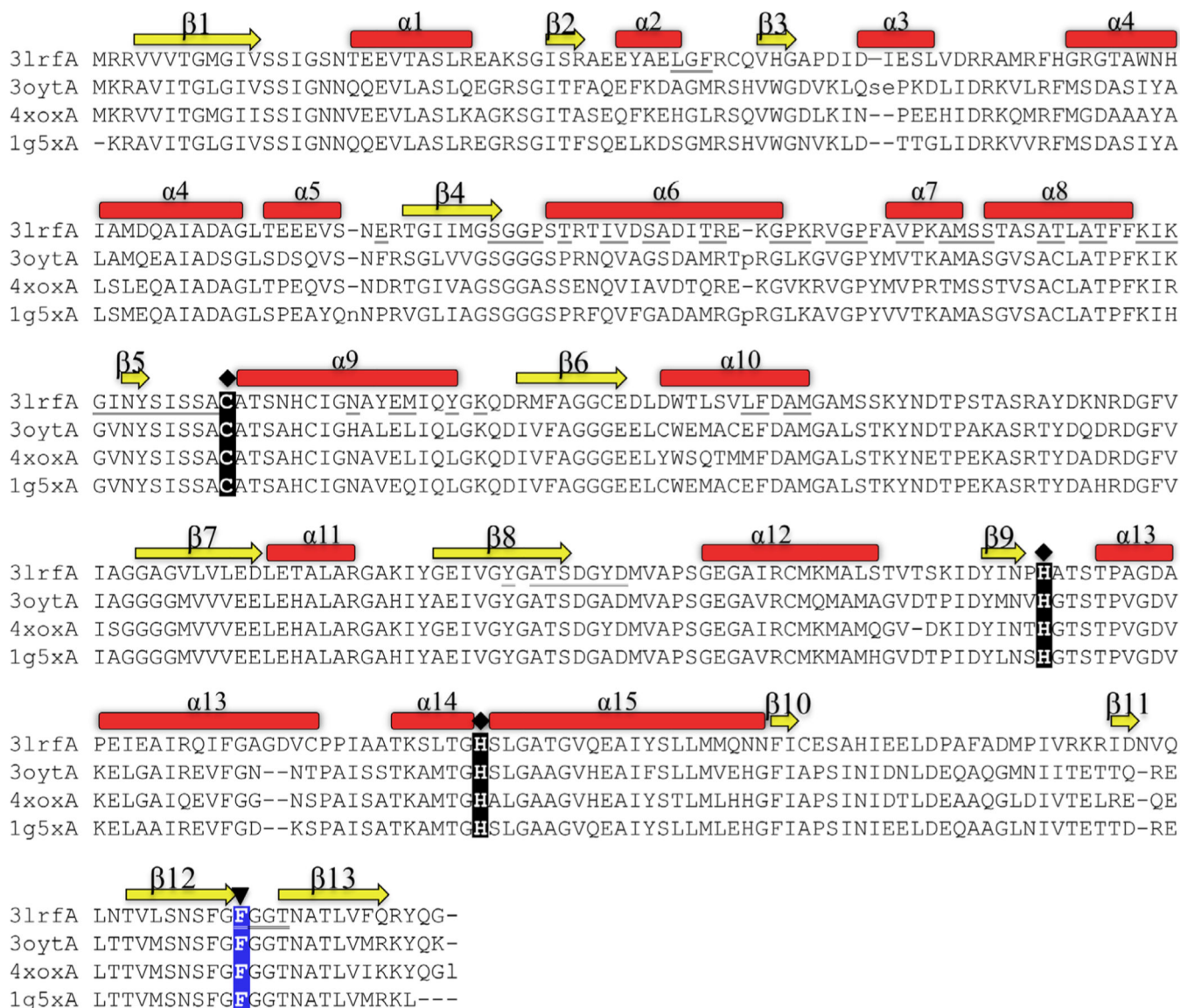
14. Stewart M, Parikh S, Xiao G, Tonge P, Kisker C Structural basis and mechanism of enoyl reductase inhibition by triclosan. *J Mol Biol.* 1999;290:859–865. [PubMed: 10398587]
15. Dessen A, Quémard A, Blanchard JS, Jacobs WR, Sacchettini JC Crystal structure and function of the isoniazid target of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. *Science.* 1995;267:1638–1641. [PubMed: 7886450]
16. Chollet A, Mourey L, Lherbet C, et al. Crystal structure of the enoyl-ACP reductase of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (InhA) in the apo-form and in complex with the active metabolite of isoniazid pre-formed by a biomimetic approach. *J Struct Biol.* 2015;190:328–337. [PubMed: 25891098]
17. Garwin JL, Klages AL, Cronan JE Structural, enzymatic, and genetic studies of beta-ketoacyl-acyl carrier protein synthases I and II of *Escherichia coli*. *J Biol Chem.* 1980;255(11):949–956. [PubMed: 6243302]
18. De Mendoza D, Ulrich K, Cronan JE Thermal regulation of membrane fluidity in *Escherichia coli*. Effects of overproduction of beta-ketoacyl-acyl carrier protein synthase I. *J Biol Chem.* 1983;258:2098–2101. [PubMed: 6337151]
19. Feng Y, Cronan J *Escherichia coli* unsaturated fatty acid synthesis complex transcription of the *fabA* gene and in vivo identification of the essential reaction catalyzed by FabB. *J Biol Chem.* 2009;284: 29 526–29 535.
20. Wang J, Kodali S, Lee SH, et al. Discovery of platencin, a dual FabF and FabH inhibitor with in vivo antibiotic properties. *Proc Natl Acad Sci.* 2007;104:7612–7616. [PubMed: 17456595]
21. Wang J, Soisson SM, Young K, et al. Platensimycin is a selective FabF inhibitor with potent antibiotic properties. *Nature.* 2006;441: 358–361. [PubMed: 16710421]
22. Moustafa G, Nojima S, Yamano Y, et al. Potent growth inhibitory activity of (±)-platencin towards multi-drug-resistant and extensively drug-resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. *MedChemComm.* 2013;4: 720–723.
23. Pappas G, Akritidis N, Bosilkovski M, Tsianos E Brucellosis. *New Engl J Med.* 2005;352:2325–2336. [PubMed: 15930423]
24. Pappas G, Papadimitriou P, Akritidis N, Christou L, Tsianos E The new global map of human brucellosis. *Lancet Infect Dis.* 2006;6:91–99. [PubMed: 16439329]
25. Seleem M, Boyle S, Sriranganathan N Brucellosis: a re-emerging zoonosis. *Vet Microbiol.* 2010;140:392–398. [PubMed: 19604656]
26. Mantur BG, Amarnath SK, Shinde RS Review of clinical and laboratory features of human brucellosis. *Indian J Med Microbiol.* 2007;25: 188–202. [PubMed: 17901634]
27. Reguera JM, Alarcon A, Miralles F, Pachon J, Juarez C, Colmenero JD *Brucella* endocarditis: clinical, diagnostic, and therapeutic approach. *Eur J Clin Microbiol Infect Dis.* 2003;22:647–650. [PubMed: 14566576]
28. Solera J, Rodriguez-Zapata M, Geijo P, et al. Doxycycline-rifampin vs doxycycline-streptomycin in treatment of human brucellosis due to *Brucella melitensis*. The GECMEI group. Grupo de Estudio de Castilla-la Mancha de Enfermedades Infecciosas. *Antimicrob Agents Chem.* 1995; 39:2061–2067.
29. Seleem M, Jain N, Pothayee N, Ranjan A, Riffle JS, Sriranganathan N Targeting *Brucella melitensis* with polymeric nanoparticles containing streptomycin and doxycycline. *FEMS Microbiol Lett.* 2009;294:24–31. [PubMed: 19493005]
30. Baugh L, Gallagher LA, Patrapuvich R, et al. Combining functional and structural genomics to sample the essential *Burkholderia* Structome. *PLoS One.* 2013;8:e53851. [PubMed: 23382856]
31. Moynié L, Leckie SM, McMahon SA, et al. Structural insights into the mechanism and inhibition of the  $\beta$ -hydroxydecanoyl-acyl carrier protein dehydratase from *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. *J Mol Biol.* 2013; 425:365–377. [PubMed: 23174186]
32. Werther T et al. Redox-dependent substrate-cofactor interactions in the Michaelis-complex of a flavin-dependent oxidoreductase. *Nat Commun.* 2017;8:ncomms16084.
33. Aslanidis C, Jong P d. Ligation-independent cloning of PCR products (LIC-PCR). *Nucleic Acids Res.* 1990;18:6069–6074. [PubMed: 2235490]



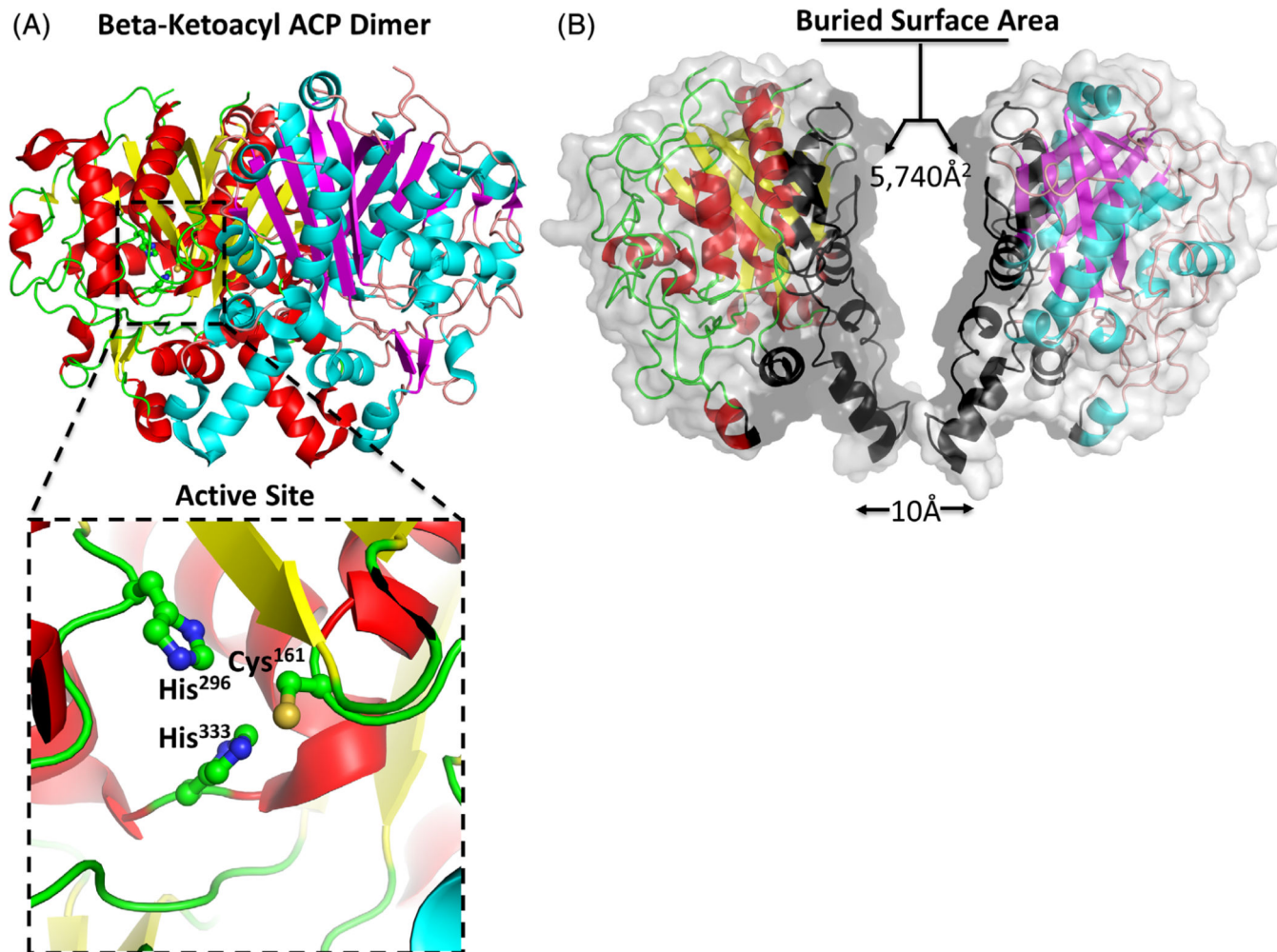
34. Choi R et al. Immobilized metal-affinity chromatography protein-recovery screening is predictive of crystallographic structure success. *Acta Crystallogr Sect F Struct Biol Cryst Commun.* 2011;67:998–1005.
35. Bryan C, Bhandari J, Napuli AJ, et al. High-throughput protein production and purification at the Seattle structural genomics Center for Infectious Disease. *Acta Crystallogr Sect F Struct Biol Cryst Commun.* 2011;67:1010–1014.
36. Kabsch W XDS. *Acta Crystallogr Sect D Biol Crystallogr.* 2010;66: 125–132. [PubMed: 20124692]
37. McCoy A, Grosse-Kunstleve RW, Adams PD, Winn MD, Storoni LC, Read RJ Phaser crystallographic software. *J Appl Crystallogr.* 2007; 40:658–674. [PubMed: 19461840]
38. Project N The CCP4 suite: programs for protein crystallography. *Acta Crystallogr Sect D Biol Crystallogr.* 1994;50:760–763. [PubMed: 15299374]
39. Stein N CHAINSAW: a program for mutating pdb files used as templates in molecular replacement. *J Appl Crystallogr.* 2008;41:641–643.
40. Langer G, Cohen S, Lamzin V, Perrakis A Automated macromolecular model building for X-ray crystallography using ARP/wARP version 7. *Nat Protoc.* 2008;3:1171–1179. [PubMed: 18600222]
41. Emsley P, Cowtan K Coot: model-building tools for molecular graphics. *Acta Crystallogr Sect D Biol Crystallogr.* 2004;60:2126–2132. [PubMed: 15572765]
42. Vagin AA, Steiner RA, Lebedev AA, et al. REFMAC5 dictionary: organization of prior chemical knowledge and guidelines for its use. *Acta Crystallogr Sect D Biol Crystallogr.* 2004;60:2184–2195. [PubMed: 15572771]
43. Davies D Structural genomics and drug discovery: methods and protocols. *Methods Mol Biol Clifton N J.* 2014;1140:315–323.
44. Holm L, Laakso L Dali server update. *Nucleic Acids Res.* 2016;44: W351–W355. [PubMed: 27131377]
45. Krissinel E, Henrick K Inference of macromolecular assemblies from crystalline state. *J Mol Biol.* 2007;372:774–797. [PubMed: 17681537]
46. Zhang Y-M, Hurlbert J, White SW, Rock CO Roles of the active site water, Histidine 303, and phenylalanine 396 in the catalytic mechanism of the elongation condensing enzyme of *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. *J Biol Chem.* 2006;281:17 390–17 399.

**FIGURE 1.**

The tertiary structure of the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *Brucella melitensis*. A, A cartoon representation of  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I showing the two  $\beta$ -sheets. B, Topology arrangement of secondary structural elements of  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I [Color figure can be viewed at [wileyonlinelibrary.com](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com)]

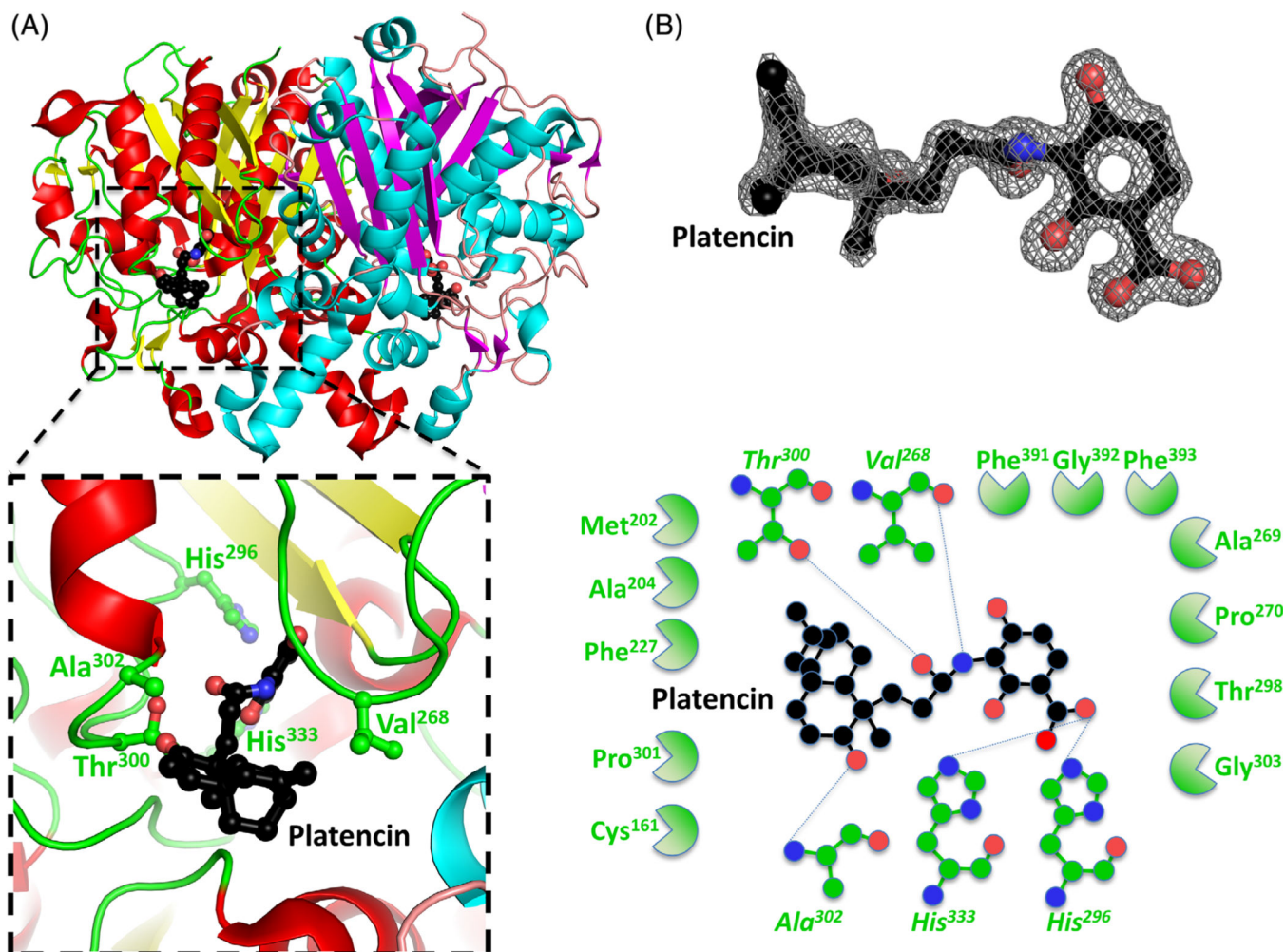
**FIGURE 2.**

Structural alignment of the most closely related structures in the PDB. 3lrfA is the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *Brucella melitensis* in this study. 3oytA is the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *Yersinia pestis* (r.m.s.d 0.8 Å, sequence identity 56%). 4xoxA is the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *Vibrio cholera* (r.m.s.d 0.8 Å, sequence identity 64%) and 1g5x is the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *Escherichia coli* (r.m.s.d 0.8 Å, sequence identity 61%). The catalytic active site residues (Cys, His, His) are highlighted with a diamond-shaped symbol, and the highly conserved Phe residue at the end of  $\beta$ 12 (highlighted with an upside-down triangle) mediates substrate specificity and entry of an acyl chain to the binding cavity.  $\beta$ -Sheets are displayed yellow;  $\alpha$ -helices are displayed red. Underlined residues indicate residues at the dimer interface (see also Figure 3B) [Color figure can be viewed at [wileyonlinelibrary.com](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com)]



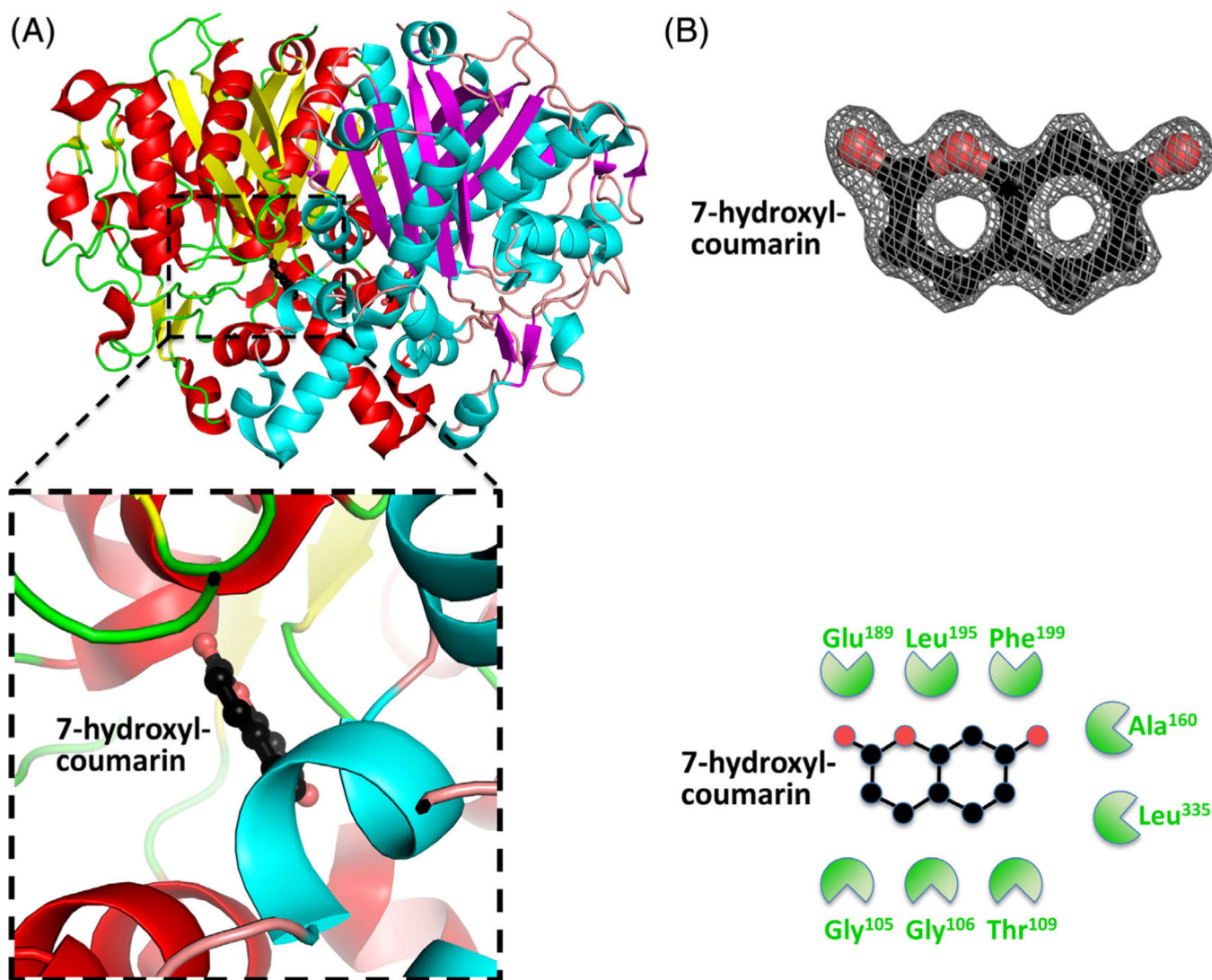
**FIGURE 3.**

The  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *Brucella melitensis* forms a dimer. A, The two monomers are shown in cartoon form, with one monomer colored red ( $\alpha$ -helices) and yellow ( $\beta$ -sheets), and the second monomer colored blue ( $\alpha$ -helices) and purple ( $\beta$ -sheets). The insert shows a zoom of the conserved active site residues Cys<sup>161</sup>, His<sup>296</sup>, His<sup>333</sup>. B, The two monomers bury a surface area 5740 Å<sup>2</sup>. The contacting interface residues are shaded black, and each the monomers have been translated 10 Å<sup>2</sup> to illustrate the extent of the buried interface [Color figure can be viewed at [wileyonlinelibrary.com](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com)]

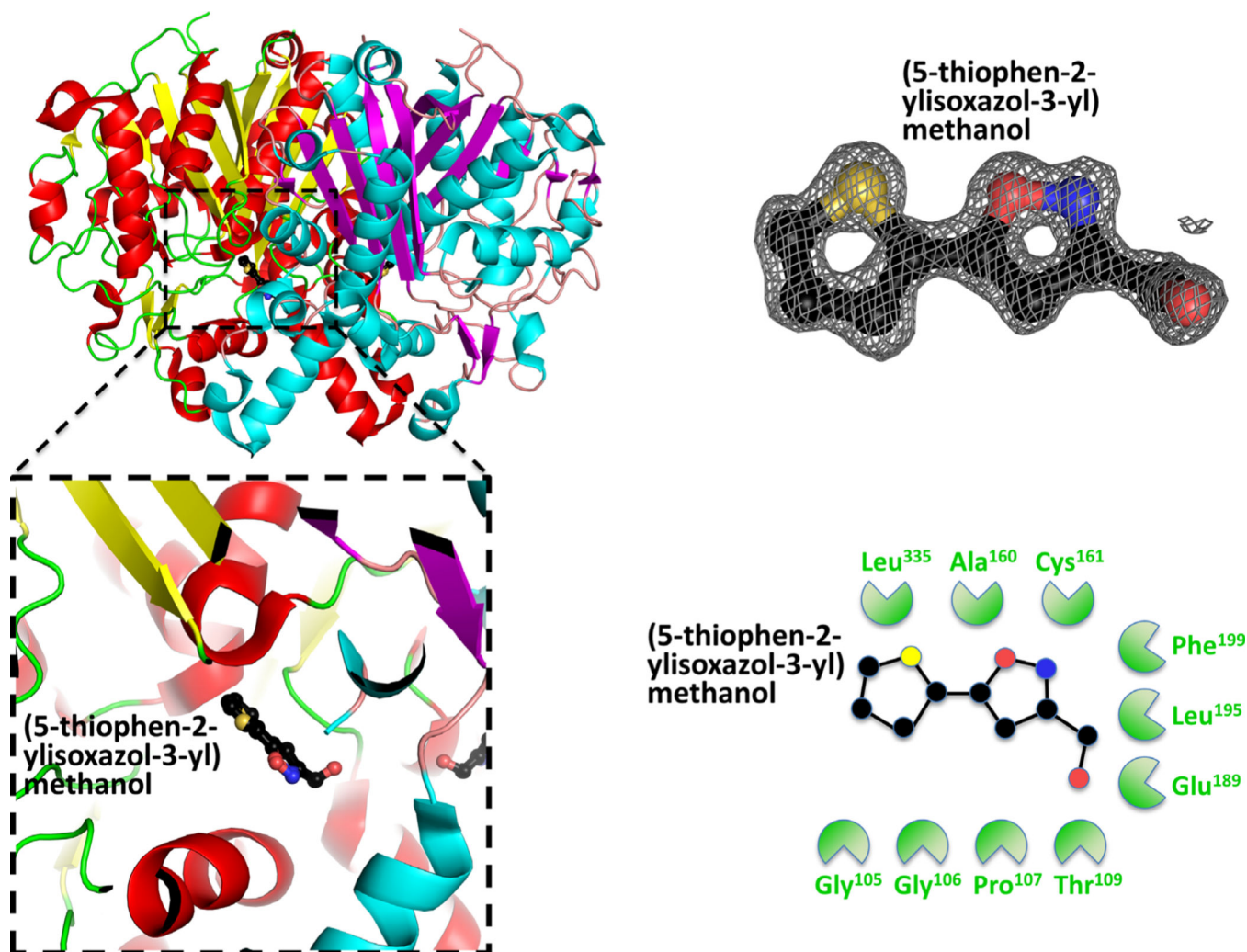


**FIGURE 4.**

Structure of the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *Brucella melitensis* bound to platencin. A, The two monomers are shown in cartoon form, with one monomer colored red ( $\alpha$ -helices) and yellow ( $\beta$ -sheets), and the second monomer colored blue ( $\alpha$ -helices) and purple ( $\beta$ -sheets). Platencin is colored black (carbon), red (oxygen), and blue (nitrogen). The insert shows the binding pocket and interface residues. B, The location of platencin was supported by good electron density. The electron density map ( $2F_o - F_c$ ) is contoured to 2 sigma, and colored gray. The full binding pocket and interacting residues are presented in cartoon form. The blue dashed lines indicate hydrogen bonds. The green shaped amino acids indicate hydrophobic interactions [Color figure can be viewed at [wileyonlinelibrary.com](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com)]



**FIGURE 5.** Structure of the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *Brucella melitensis* bound to 7-hydroxyl-coumarin. A, The two monomers are shown in cartoon form, with one monomer colored red ( $\alpha$ -helices) and yellow ( $\beta$ -sheets), and the second monomer colored blue ( $\alpha$ -helices) and purple ( $\beta$ -sheets). 7-Hydroxyl-coumarin is colored black (carbon), red (oxygen), and blue (nitrogen). The insert shows the binding pocket and interface residues. B, The location of 7-hydroxyl-coumarin was supported by good electron density. The electron density map ( $2F_o - F_c$ ) is contoured to 2 sigma, and colored gray. The full binding pocket and interacting residues are presented in cartoon form. The green shaped amino acids indicate hydrophobic interactions [Color figure can be viewed at [wileyonlinelibrary.com](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com)]



**FIGURE 6.** Structure of the  $\beta$ -ketoacyl-ACP synthase I from *Brucella melitensis* bound to (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol. A, The two monomers are shown in cartoon form, with one monomer colored red ( $\alpha$ -helices) and yellow ( $\beta$ -sheets), and the second monomer colored blue ( $\alpha$ -helices) and purple ( $\beta$ -sheets). (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol is colored black (carbon), red (oxygen) and blue (nitrogen). The insert shows the binding pocket and interface residues. B, The location of (5-thiophen-2-ylisoxazol-3-yl)methanol was supported by good electron density. The electron density map ( $2F_o - F_c$ ) is contoured to 2 sigma, and colored gray. The full binding pocket and interacting residues are presented in cartoon form. The green shaped amino acids indicate hydrophobic interactions [Color figure can be viewed at [wileyonlinelibrary.com](http://wileyonlinelibrary.com)]





TABLE 1

Crystallization statistics for the structures determined in this study

Crystal parameters	apo	(1-methyl-1h-indazol-3-yl) methanol	7-hydroxycoumarin	Platencin
Space group	C2	C2	C2	C2
Cell dimensions	77.48, 83.27, 72.87	78.07, 83.62, 73.64	78.56, 83.25, 73.81	78.16, 84.48, 74.02
$a = b = c$ (Å), $\alpha = \beta = \gamma$	90, 120.97, 90	90, 121.37, 90	90, 121.20, 90	90, 120.81, 90
<i>Data set</i>				
X-ray Source	Rigaku F-RE+ SuperBright	ALS beamline 5.0.1	APS beamline 21-ID-G	Rigaku F-RE+ SuperBright
Wavelength (Å)	1.5418	0.9774	0.97856	1.5418
Resolution (Å)	50–1.60 (1.64–1.60)	41–1.25 (1.28–1.25)	39–1.25 (1.28–1.25)	50–1.70 (1.74–1.70)
$R_{\text{merge}}$	0.039 (0.327)	0.091 (0.404)	0.061 (0.350)	0.033 (0.187)
$I/\sigma(I)$	34.2 (4.9)	12.1 (4.0)	15.3 (3.6)	47.8 (7.5)
Completeness (%)	98.1 (91.8)	99.7 (99.1)	97.8 (93.0)	98.5 (96.8)
# reflections, unique	51 414 (3537)	111 226 (8269)	109 578 (7661)	44 869 (3278)
Multiplicity	8.1 (4.8)	5.4 (5.2)	4.5 (3.6)	11.2 (4.3)
<i>Refinement statistics</i>				
$R_{\text{work}}$	0.129	0.113	0.122	0.142
$R_{\text{free}}$	0.158	0.133	0.134	0.169
RMSD bond lengths (Å)	0.015	0.018	0.008	0.015
RMSD bond angles (°)	1.47	1.69	1.32	1.40
<i>Ramachandran:</i>				
favored (%)	96.79	96.79	97.28	96.52
allowed (%)	2.72	2.72	3.21	4.11
Outliers (%)	0.49	0.49	0.49	0.63
Molprobability clash score	1.14	3.00	3.65	1.32
Molprobability score	1.02	1.29	1.29	1.09
<i>B factors</i>				
overall	12.9	10.7	10.3	16.9
protein	10.9	8.7	8.4	15.3
ligands	8.75	10.4	18.4	24.2
solvent	25.2	24.3	21.1	28.2

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

---

Crystal parameters	Sample	apo	(1-methyl-1 <i>H</i> -indazol-3-yl) methanol	7-hydroxycoumarin	Platencin
PDB code		3lrj	3mqd	3u0f	4jv3

TABLE 2

## Hydrogen bond and salt bridge interactions at the dimer interface

<b>Hydrogen bond interactions</b>			
1	A:ARG 120[ NH1]	2.72	A:ASP 117[ OD2]
2	A:ARG 120[ NH2]	2.97	A:ASP 117[ OD1]
3	A:SER 137[ N ]	2.74	A:GLY 105[ O ]
4	A:SER 137[ OG ]	2.89	A:SER 137[ OG ]
5	A:ASN 154[ ND2]	2.89	A:GLY 394[ O ]
6	A:ASN 154[ ND2]	3.22	A:SER 262[ OG ]
7	A:SER 156[ N ]	2.93	A:SER 158[ O ]
8	A:SER 158[ N ]	2.84	A:SER 156[ O ]
9	A:SER 158[ OG ]	3.55	A:SER 158[ OG ]
10	A:ALA 160[ N ]	3.54	A:SER 138[ OG ]
11	A:LYS 179[ NZ ]	2.66	A:GLU 173[ OE2]
12	A:SER 262[ N ]	3.16	A:LYS 151[ O ]
13	A:SER 262[ N ]	2.88	A:GLY 152[ O ]
14	A:SER 262[ OG ]	2.65	A:ILE 150[ O ]
15	A:ARG 277[ NH1]	2.74	A:LYS 151[ O ]
16	A:THR 396[ OG1]	2.63	A:ASN 154[ O ]
17	A:ASP 117[ OD2]	2.72	A:ARG 120[ NH1]
18	A:ASP 117[ OD1]	2.97	A:ARG 120[ NH2]
19	A:GLY 105[ O ]	2.74	A:SER 137[ N ]
20	A:SER 262[ OG ]	3.22	A:ASN 154[ ND2]
21	A:GLY 394[ O ]	2.89	A:ASN 154[ ND2]
22	A:SER 158[ O ]	2.93	A:SER 156[ N ]
23	A:SER 156[ O ]	2.84	A:SER 158[ N ]
24	A:SER 138[ OG ]	3.54	A:ALA 160[ N ]
25	A:GLU 173[ OE2]	2.66	A:LYS 179[ NZ ]
26	A:GLY 152[ O ]	2.88	A:SER 262[ N ]
27	A:LYS 151[ O ]	3.16	A:SER 262[ N ]
28	A:ILE 150[ O ]	2.65	A:SER 262[ OG ]
29	A:LYS 151[ O ]	2.74	A:ARG 277[ NH1]
30	A:ASN 154[ O ]	2.63	A:THR 396[ OG1]
<i>Salt bridges</i>			
1	A:ARG 120[ NH1]	3.62	A:ASP 117[ OD1]
2	A:ARG 120[ NH1]	2.72	A:ASP 117[ OD2]
3	A:ARG 120[ NH2]	2.97	A:ASP 117[ OD1]
4	A:ARG 120[ NH2]	3.50	A:ASP 117[ OD2]
5	A:LYS 179[ NZ ]	2.66	A:GLU 173[ OE2]
6	A:ASP 117[ OD1]	3.62	A:ARG 120[ NH1]
7	A:ASP 117[ OD2]	2.72	A:ARG 120[ NH1]
8	A:ASP 117[ OD1]	2.97	A:ARG 120[ NH2]

**Hydrogen bond interactions**

9	A:ASP 117[ OD2]	3.50	A:ARG 120[ NH2]
10	A:GLU 173[ OE2]	2.66	A:LYS 179[ NZ ]

---

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript