Supporting Information for

Structure of the priming arabinosyltransferase AftA required for AG biosynthesis of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*

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This file includes: Figures S1-S10 Tables S1-S2



Fig. S1. Characterization of *Mtb* AftA.

(A) Size-exclusion chromatography on a Superdex 200 gel filtration column (GE healthcare) for *Mtb* AftA purified with detergent GDN.

(B) SDS-PAGE of the main peak fraction from size-exclusion chromatography corresponding to (A) as imaged by Coomassie Brilliant Blue. The band about 50 kDa corresponds to AftA protein used for EM study.

(C) Negative staining of AftA protein.

(D) Dimer interface with the a Phe360 pair chosen for cysteine mutation indicated with red circles.

(E) Western blot analysis of dimerization on cell membrane. Cell membranes containing 10×His-AftA, 10×His-AftA(F360C), were treated with and without 10 mM DTT. For F360C without DTT, the stronger monomeric AftA signal than the dimeric signal may be due to the dynamic equilibrium between monomeric and dimeric state, or the non-fully-oxidized environment of the membrane where F360C was embedded.



Fig. S2. Cryo-EM data processing and validation of *Mtb* AftA.

(A) Flow chart for the processing of cryo-EM data. The density observed around the TM region of the final model is the signal of detergent that wraps around the membrane protein.

(B) Representative electron micrograph.

(C) Selected reference-free 2D class averages.

(D) Gold-standard fourier correlation curves of 3D reconstructions.

(E) Posterior precision directional distributions of all particles used in the final 3D reconstruction reported by cryoSPARC.

(F) The density map colored according to the local resolution estimation using cryoSPARC.



Fig. S3. Example regions of cryo-EM maps of AftA.(A) The cryo-EM map (threshold 0.28) of TM1-13 and ECL2&ECL5.

(B) The cryo-EM map (threshold 0.28) of CTD including α 1-6 and β 1-9.

(C) Alignment of the two AftA protomers.



Fig. S4. Comparison of dimer assembly pattern of AftA with other GT-C enzymes. (up) Cartoon representations of AftA, Pmt1-Pmt2 (PDB code 6P25), EmbA-EmbB (PDB code 7BVF), EmbC-EmbC (PDB code 7BVE). Each structure is colored by chain; (down) Arrangement of the TM helices for the structures is shown as a slice through the TM domain. Two AftA monomers show an asymmetric rotation while other dimers are arranged in a two-fold (EmbC₂) or a pseudo-two-fold (EmbA-EmbB, Pmt1-Pmt2) symmetry.



Fig. S5. the metal ion binding mode in AftA is different from three representative GT-C enzymes.

Cartoon representations of AftA, EmbB(PDB code 7BVF), PglB(PDB code 5OGL), ArnT (PDB code 5F15). Ca^{2+} , Mn^{2+} and Zn^{2+} are represented by green, magenta and blue spheres.



Fig. S6. Conservation of the GT-C core in both TMD and CTD.

(A) Arrangement of the TM helices for the structures is shown as a slice through the TM domain. 11 TM helices inside the dashed circles have a common arrangement. From left to right are AftA, ArnT(PDB code 5F15), AftD(PDB code 6W98), Pmt1(PDB code 6P25), PglB(PDB code 5OGL), EmbB(PDB code 7BVF). The catalytically essential Asp is shown as a magenta asterisk at the beginning of ECL1(2 in AftA and EmbB)-h1.

(B) Superimpose the TMD core (TM3-13) of AftA on the TMD core (TM1-11) of ArnT which has a donor UndP around its GT-C core, the phospholipid moiety of the sugar donor lies within the proposed donor cavity. AftA is shown as blue ribbon, while ArnT is gray.

(C) Structures of the luminal dome of representative GT-C members are aligned to the CTD of AftA. The structurally conserved core is highlighted in red, orange and yellow. From left to right are AftA, AftD(PDB code 6W98), ArnT(PDB code 5F15), CMT(PDB code 7ZLH), PglB(PDB code 5OGL).

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Fig. S7. Sequence alignment of AftA within the Corynebacterianeae.

Sequence alignment of AftA from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Mycobacterium smegmatis*, *Mycobacteroides abscessus*, *Mycobacterium bovis*, *Mycobacterium leprae*, *Mycobacterium marinum*, *Mycobacterium avium*, *Mycolicibacterium fortuitum*, *Corynebacterium glutamicum* and *Corynebacterium diphtheriae*. Catalytic site Asp and conserved amino acids mentioned in the article are highlight as \blacktriangle and \bigstar .



Fig. S8. Effect of EDTA and ethambutol on the activity and thermostability of AftA.

(A) Enzymatic activity of WT Mtb AftA when adding EDTA and ethambutol.

(B) Thermostability of AftA protein in EDTA at different concentrations.



Fig. S9. Comparison of active sites of *Mtb* AftA and *Mtb* EmbB.

(A) Section of AftA active site, shown as electrostatic surface.

(B) Section of EmB active site bound with ethambutol, shown as electrostatic surface.



Fig. S10. AcpM binding sites.

- (A) Left, cytoplasmic surface of EmbC, shown as electrostatic surface. Right, the 4'-Ppant binding tunnel formed by TM2, TM6, TM7 and ICL1 of EmbC.
- (B) Left, cytoplasmic surface of AftD, shown as electrostatic surface. Right, the 4'-Ppant binding tunnel formed by TM13-16 of AftD.
- (C) Cytoplasmic surface of AftA, shown as electrostatic surface.

AftA a	ipo
EMDB: 35410	
PDB ID: 8IF8	
Cryo-electron microscopy data collection	
Microscope	FEI Titan Krios
Voltage (keV)	300
Camera	Gatan K3-Summit
Automation software	SerialEM
Normal / Calibrated magnification	105,000 / 59,000
Exposure rate $(e^{-}/(pixel^2 \cdot s))$	16.8
Total dose $(e^{-}/Å^2)$	60
Exposure time (s)	2.4
Number of frames collected	40
Defocus range (µm)	1.2-2.0
Pixel size (Å/pixel)	0.832
3D reconstruction	
Number of movies	6113
Symmetry imposed	C1
Initial Particle Number	2,752,481
Final particle images (No.)	147,896
Resolution (unmasked, Å)	3.9
Resolution (masked, Å)	3.14
Sharpening B-factor (Å ²)	-103.9
Local resolution range (Å)	2.7-4.7
Coordinate and B-factor refinement	
Model composition	
Atoms (non-H)	9307
Protein residues	1218
Ligands	2
Mean B-factor protein atoms (Å ²)	54.31
Mean B-factor Ligand atoms ($Å^2$)	56.81
Rmsd bonds (Å)	0.006
Rmsd bond angles (°)	0.745
Model-to-map scores	
CC (mask)	0.88
CC (volume)	0.85
CC (box)	0.70
Mean CC for ligands	0.82

 Table S1. Cryo-EM data collection and modeling statistics.

Validation	
MolProbity score	1.85
Clash score	6.79
Rotamer outliers (%)	0
Cβ outliers (%)	0
CaBLAMoutliers (%)	3.58
Ramachandran plot	
Favored (%)	92.23
Allowed (%)	7.69
Outliers (%)	0.08

Table S2. Summary of model building

Protopmer Name	Chain	Total residues/ Range built	Unmodelled residues	% atomic model	Ligands			
AftA Protomer 1	В	643/ 20-639	1-19, 640-643	96.4%	Ca ²⁺			
AftA Protomer 2	С	643/ 21-339, 351- 598, 609-639	1-20, 340-350, 599-608	93.0%	Ca ²⁺			