

Figure SI-1. Linear trap MS3 confirmation of intermediate-loaded pantetheine ejection ions.

In addition to using FT-ICR-MS2 to verify the identity of all observed intermediate-loaded pantetheine ejection ions, ejection ions were subsequently trapped (during the same experiment) and subjected to additional rounds of tandem-MS. Pantetheine ejection ions yield a characteristic pattern of fragment ions, by which their identity can be confirmed (green colored peaks). The LovF intermediates remained bound to thiol-containing pantetheine fragments, resulting in mass shifts of these fragments (blue colored peaks). Each of the intermediate-loaded pantetheine ejection ions also yielded a prominent peak at 261.1 m/z (red colored peaks) as some of the ejection ions trapped in each experiment released their covalently bound intermediate during CID. Two unique pantetheine ejection ion fragmentation patterns occurred: The malonyl-loaded pantetheine ejection ions were observed to predominantly undergo a McLafferty type rearrangement resulting in acetyl-loaded, intact pantetheine ion (labeled *) at 303.1 m/z . This ion was trapped and fragmented again in the linear ion trap, giving the same fragmentation pattern that would be observed from MS³ fragmentation of an actual acetyl-loaded pantetheine ejection ion . MS³ of the β -hydroxy- α -methylbutyryl-loaded pantetheine ejection produced a moderate amount of the standard fragment ions, but also produced a prominent ion with a mass of 317.1 m/z (labeled **). This mass is consistent with that of a pantetheine ejection ion bearing a 56 Da species ion, and likely was the result of a β -elimination reaction upon MS³. Subsequent MS⁴ of the 317.1 m/z species resulted in the typical diagnostic pattern of pantetheine ejection ions in which the thiol containing fragments all showed a mass-addition of 56 Da.

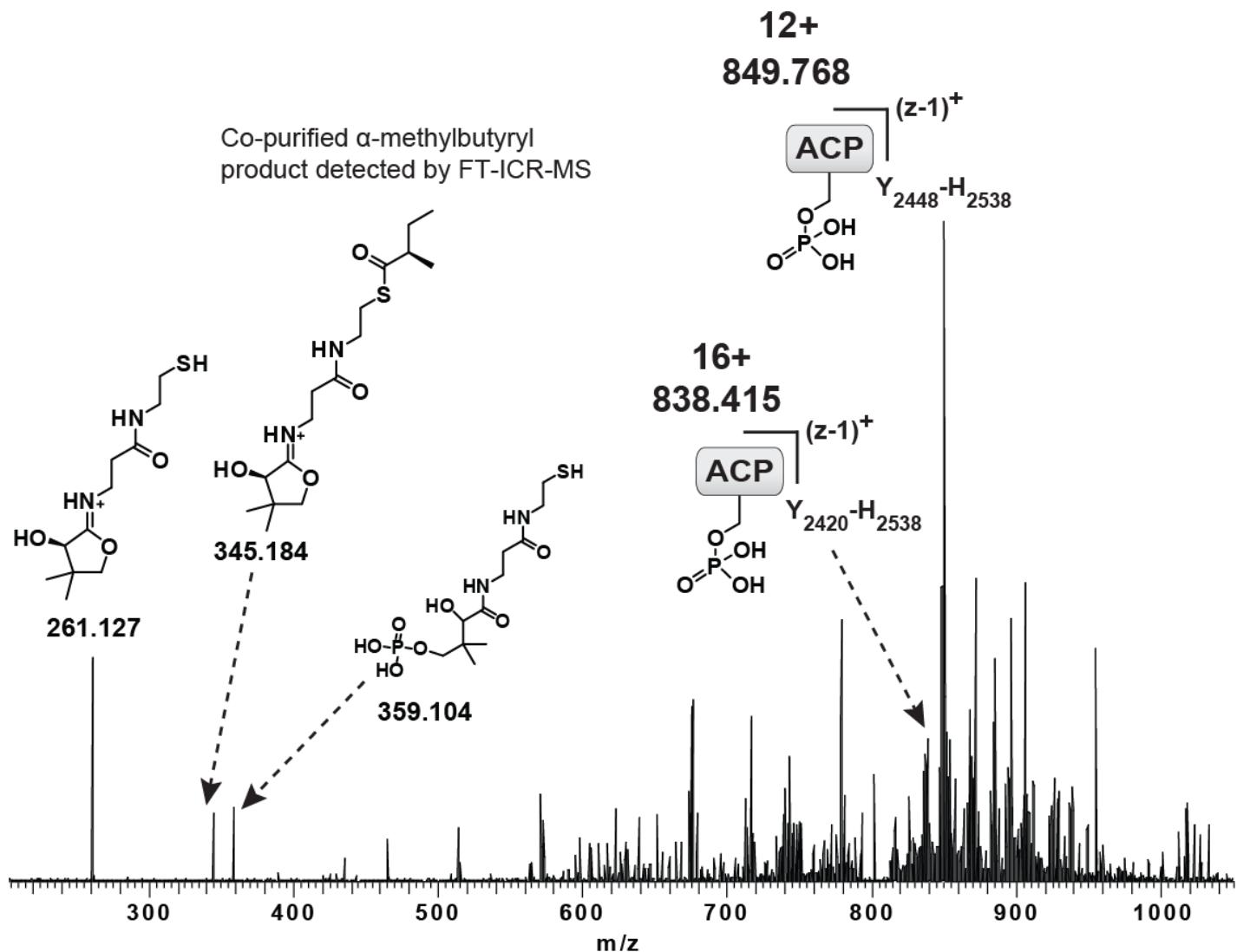


Figure SI-2. Detection of α -methylbutyrate by PPant ejection. FT-ICR-MS² of *holo*-LovF active site peptide following incubation with acetoacetyl-CoA, SAM, and NADPH. A low intensity α -methylbutyryl-loaded PPant ejection ion ($345.184\text{ }m/z$) was detected and could be distinguished from the adjacent acetoacetyl-loaded PPant ejection ion ($345.148\text{ }m/z$). An increase in the HPLC retention time of the ACP active site bearing covalently bound α -methylbutyrate resulted overlap in elution times of the Y₂₄₂₀-H₂₅₃₈ α -methylbutyryl-S-ACP peptide with the Y₂₄₄₈-H₂₅₃₈ ACP peptide bearing other intermediates generated from the *in vitro* reaction. As a result, post-ejection parent phosphopeptides for both Y₂₄₂₀-H₂₅₃₈ and the Y₂₄₄₈-H₂₅₃₈ ACP peptides were detected.