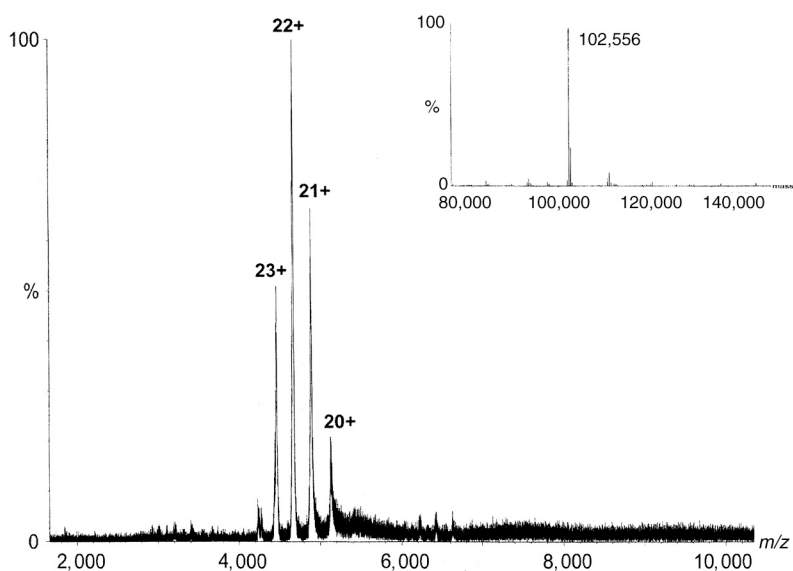
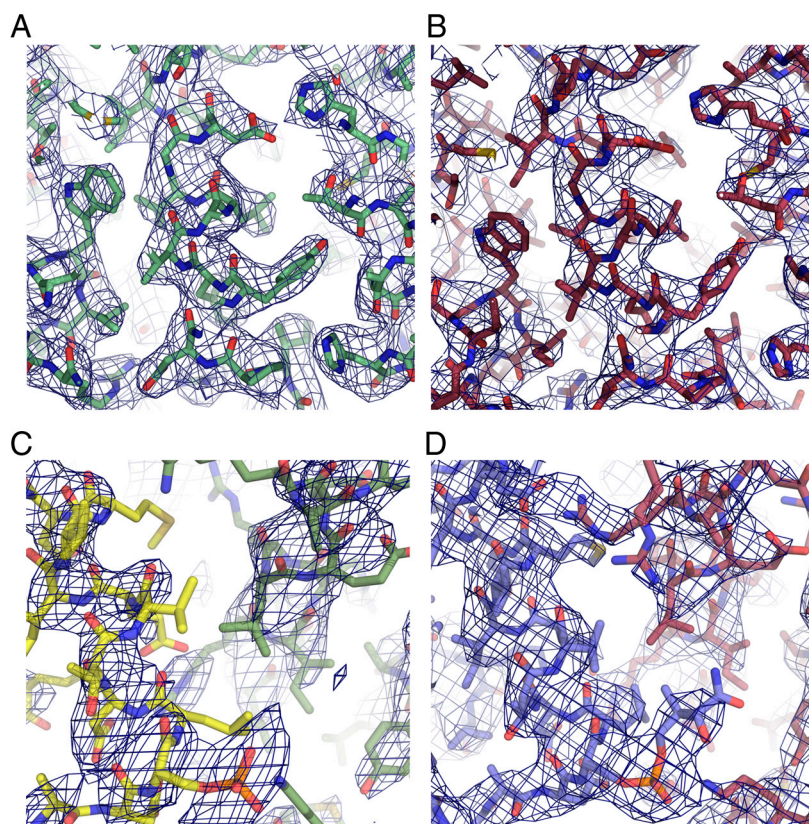


# Supporting Information

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**Fig. S1.** Electrospray ionization mass spectrum of the sample used for crystallization. The calculated mass of the protein is displayed in the inset. Experimental conditions were as follows: source temperature 120 °C, desolvation gas 120 °C at a flow of 300 L/h, cone voltage 80 V with the electrospray capillary voltage held constant at 3,000 V. The collision cell was pressurized by argon (approximately 15 psi valve setting) and the pumping of the electrospray source region throttled to give an “analyzer” gauge reading of  $5.5 \times 10^{-5}$  mbar and a TOF gauge reading of  $4.2 \times 10^{-7}$  mbar. Horse heart myoglobin (Sigma) was used as an external calibrant. Data were analyzed with the MassLynx 3.5 software package including the Maxent deconvolution algorithm.



**Fig. S2.** Electron density ( $2F_o - F_c$ ) maps contoured at  $1\sigma$ , showing the desaturase itself in (A) crystal form 1 and (B) crystal form 2, and the desaturase-acyl carrier protein interface in (C) crystal form 1 and (D) crystal form 2.



**Table S1. Regiochemistry of desaturation products of the castor and ivy desaturases with 14:0, 16:0, and 18:0 substrates**

	14:1		16:1		18:1	
	$\Delta 4$	$\Delta 9$	$\Delta 4$	$\Delta 9$	$\Delta 4$	$\Delta 9$
Castor	17 (0.6)*	83 (0.6)	ND	100	ND	100
Ivy	100	ND	100	ND	3 (0.5)	97 (0.5)

\*Numbers represent percent of product with SD in parenthesis; ND, not detectable with a detection limit of <0.5%.

**Table S2. Protein-protein interaction modeling with Haddock**

Protein 1	Protein 2	Input surface residues 1	Input surface residues 2	Resulting models	Cluster size	Score	Buried surface area	Complex conformation
Castor desaturase	ACP	260, 262, 280, 333, 340, 344	38	cluster1_3	53	-86	1,161	$\Delta 9$
				cluster2_3	141	-79	1,365	unproductive
				cluster3_3	4	-41	1,134	almost $\Delta 9$
Ivy desaturase	ACP	255, 257, 275, 328, 335, 339	38	cluster1_5	135	-97	1,465	$\Delta 4$
				cluster2_5	15	-62	1,255	unproductive
				cluster3_5	23	-53	1,040	unproductive
				cluster4_5	6	-46	1,141	almost $\Delta 9$
				cluster5_5	12	-33	899	tilted $\Delta 9$

ACP, acyl carrier protein.

**Table S3. Castor desaturase basic residues in the acyl carrier protein (ACP)-desaturase interface and corresponding residues in ivy desaturase**

Desaturase species	Specificity	Residues in the observed ACP-desaturase interface								
		R260	(D280)	R333	R336	L337	R340	R344	K346	
Castor desaturase	18:0 $\Delta 9$	R260	(D280)	R333	R336	L337	R340	R344	K346	
Ivy desaturase	16:0 $\Delta 4$	R255	(K275)	K328	R331	V332	K335	K339	K341	

Residues in parenthesis are only part of the modeled  $\Delta 4$ -complex.

**Table S4. Crystallographic data collection and refinement statistics for the two forms of acyl carrier protein (ACP)-desaturase complex crystals**

	Crystal form 1	Crystal form 2
Space group	$P3_121$	$P4_322$
Unit cell, Å	188.3, 188.3, 81.3	76.4, 76.4, 403.4
Molecules in asymmetric unit (desaturase)	3	2
Molecules in asymmetric unit (ACP)	1	2
Resolution, Å	30-3.0 (3.16-3.0)	20-3.35 (3.44-3.35)
$R_{\text{sym}}$	0.08 (0.48)	0.073 (0.6)
$\langle I \rangle / \langle \sigma I \rangle$	21.9 (4.3)	9.7 (2.0)
Completeness, %	99.9 (100.0)	94.6 (96.0)
Multiplicity	11.1 (9.6)	2.6 (2.7)
B factor from Wilson plot	87.9	117
<i>Refinement statistics</i>		
Reflections in working set	32,013	16,101
Reflections in test set	1,363	857
$R_{\text{factor}}/R_{\text{free}}$	24.2/27.7	21.2/25.4
No. of protein atoms	9,045	6,910
No. of metal ions	9	6
No. of water molecules	26	0
Avg B factor	98.1	107.3
<i>rmsd from ideals</i>		
Bond lengths, Å	0.013	0.009
Bond angles, °	1.30	1.10
<i>Ramachandran plot</i>		
Preferred regions	96.3%	95.7%
Outliers	0.27%	0.35%

Data in parentheses are for the highest resolution shell.