



Fig. S3. Circular dichroism (CD) spectra of the PP2Ac- $\alpha$ 4 mixture (A) and the PP2Ac-PTPA complex (B) prior to and after PPI treatment. Eviction of catalytic metal ions by PPI did not alter the CD spectra of the PP2Ac-PTPA complex, but altered the CD spectra of PP2Ac- $\alpha$ 4, suggesting that PTPA binding hinders partial unfolding of apo-PP2Ac. The changes in the CD spectra of PP2Ac- $\alpha$ 4 are likely due to partial unfolding near the PP2A active site upon removal of catalytic metal ions; the presence of  $\alpha$ 4 prevents aggregation of the inactivated partially folded PP2Ac [7]. The overall spectra are shown in the upper panel and the close-up view of each spectrum is shown in the lower panel.