

*Supporting Information for:*

## **Functional Elucidation of TfuA in Peptide Backbone Thioamidation**

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**Supplementary Table 1. Oligonucleotide primers used in this study.** Nucleotide sequences are given in the 5' to 3' direction. f, forward primer; r, reverse primer; capital letters, mutagenized codon; capitalized and italicized, restriction enzyme recognition site. Mt, *Methanothermobacter* sp. CaT2; Azo, *Azospirillum* sp. B510.

Primer name	Oligonucleotide sequence
<i>Mt</i> ThiS_BamHI	ataGGATCCatggtgataggatgaagtttac
<i>Mt</i> ThiS_HindIII	aaaAAGCTttaaccgcccgtagataaacc
His- <i>Mt</i> TfuA_Sall_f	aaaGTCGACatgcatggtaagaaaataatcatc
His- <i>Mt</i> TfuA_NotI_r	ataGCGGCCGCtattctgtatatgcaagtctc
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_HindIII_f	aaAAGCTTaatgcatggtaagaaaataatcatcttcacg
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_NotI_r	aaaGCGGCCGCtattctgtatatgcaagtctctttatatgacgg
<i>Mt</i> YcaO_HindIII_f	aaAAGCTTaatgttccgggatattcctgtcag
<i>Mt</i> YcaO_NotI_r	aaaGCGGCCGCtcagatggaggacctgatgcg
<i>Mt</i> ThiF_HindIII_f	aaAAGCTTaatgcctgagagatatgaggggatg
<i>Mt</i> ThiF_NotI_r	aaaGCGGCCGCtcaggatagttcaacaattttaaatgggttcg
AzoTfuA_BamHI_f	aaaGGATCCaatgaagatctgtgttttccttggtcc
AzoTfuA_NotI_r	aaaGCGGCCGCtcacgcctgcatctcctcttc
AzoYcaO_NdeI_f	ttaCATATGatgagcttcgacaaatc
AzoYcaO_KpnI_r	attGGTACctcacgccacgcctgccc
<i>Mt</i> ThiS_E47Q/E51D_f	aaaagaacggcCAGatagtcataGATgaagaggagatcttcgatggcg
<i>Mt</i> ThiS_E47Q/E51D_r	atctcctcttcATCtatgactatCTGgccgttctttttcacgacaaccg
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_R85A_f	tgggggcccctgGCAgcctcagagctcagtgaccttg
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_R85A_r	agctctgagggcTGCcagggcccccatgctggcccc
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_D51A_f	taggcataataGCCgggtgtttccaccagagccctgctg
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_D51A_r	tggaaaacaccGGCtattatgctattatgcaagggttctccttc
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_D112A_f	aaatcgaatcgGCTgatgacgttgacgttgaccttaacc
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_D112A_r	gcaacgtcatcAGCcgattcgatttcaccctcaaggtatgatc
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_K198M_f	gcagggaccttATGagggaggacgcactggaggtcatc
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_K198M_r	gcgtcctccctCATaaggctccctgccctctgattcaagg
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_D201N_f	ttaaaggaggAACgcactggaggtcatccgtcatataaag
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_D201N_r	acctccagtgGTTctcccttttaaggctccctgccctc
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_Y104A_f	tcttcagatcaGCActtgagggtgaaatcgaatcggatgatg
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_Y104A_r	tcaccctcaagTGCTgatctgaagatgcccacaacc
<i>Mt</i> TfuA_S80A_f	ttggagggggccGCCatgggggcccctgagggcctcagagc
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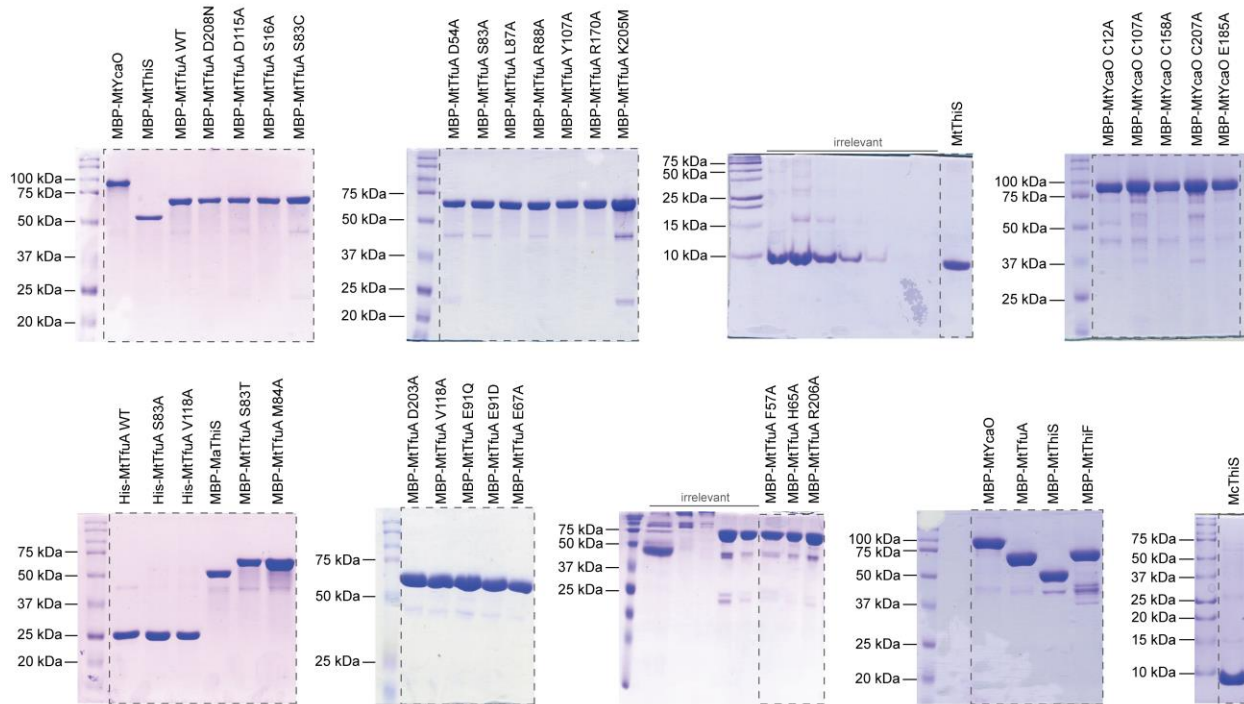
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<i>MtTfuA_L84A_f</i>	atggggggcgcgagggcctcagagctcag
<i>MtTfuA_L84A_r</i>	tgaggccctcgcggcccccattgctggc
<i>MtTfuA_V115A_f</i>	gatgatgacgcggcagttgcctttaaccctg
<i>MtTfuA_V115A_r</i>	ggcaactgccgcgtcatcatccgattcgatttc
<i>MtTfuA_R167A_f</i>	tacccccctcgcgaattacaggaggatcctc
<i>MtTfuA_R167A_r</i>	cctgtaattcgcgaggggtagaagaggttc
<i>MtTfuA_F54A_f</i>	gacgggtgttGCGcaccagagccctgctgttggtcac
<i>MtTfuA_F54A_r</i>	ggctctggtgCGCaacaccgtctattatgcctattatg
<i>MtTfuA_D201A_f</i>	cttaaaggagGCGcactggaggtcatccgtcatataaag
<i>MtTfuA_D201A_r</i>	cctccagtgcCGCctcccttttaaggccctgcccctctg
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<i>MtTfuA_E88Q_r</i>	gtcactgagCTGTgaggccctcagggc
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<i>MtTfuA_H62A_f</i>	gctgttggtGCAaggagatcattgatgcc
<i>MtTfuA_H62A_r</i>	gatctccctTGCaccaacagcagggctc
<i>MtTfuA_D198A_f</i>	gagggcaggGCActtaaaggaggac
<i>MtTfuA_D198A_r</i>	ccttttaagTGCcctgccctctgatcc
<i>MtTfuA_R201A_f</i>	gaccttaaaGCAaggagcgcactggag
<i>MtTfuA_R201A_r</i>	tgcgctctcTGCTttaaggccctgcc
<i>MtYcaO_C12A_f</i>	ggtacattggaGCCaccacagggccgtgaggcc
<i>MtYcaO_C12A_r</i>	gcctgtgggtGGCtccaatgtacctgacaggaatatcccg
<i>MtYcaO_C107A_f</i>	agccagaggacGCTgacggccttgaccctgagtcactg
<i>MtYcaO_C107A_r</i>	tcaaggccgtcAGCgtcctctggctgtgctgtgaatgtttc
<i>MtYcaO_C158A_f</i>	ctccggaaggcGCCatgagctgttccgatcaaacc
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<i>MtYcaO_C207A_f</i>	tggagggtgacGCCtcaggagcggataatgatataatc
<i>MtYcaO_C207A_r</i>	tccgtccctgaGGCgtcaacctccactttgggac
<i>MtYcaO_E185A_f</i>	acgggctgatgGCGgtgattgaaagggatgcctggagc
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**Supplementary Table 2. Data collection, phasing and refinement statistics**

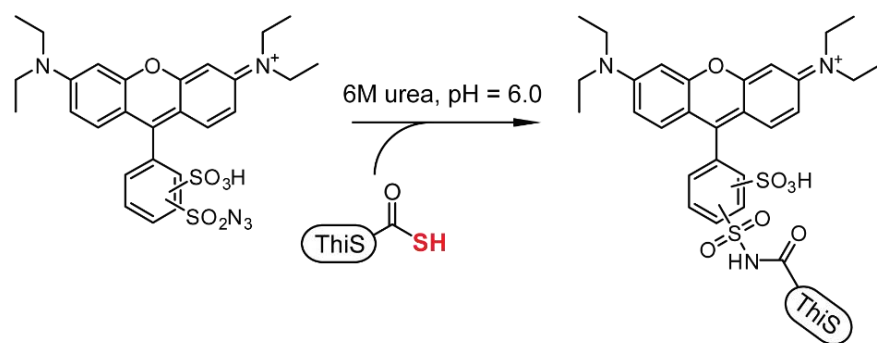
	SeMet	Native
<b>Data collection</b>		
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>	C2
Unit cell dimensions (Å/°)	46.3, 77.8, 129.9	103.5, 36.8, 59.6 / 121.7
Resolution (Å)	50.0 - 1.70 (1.73 - 1.70)	50.9 - 1.65 (1.66 - 1.65)
Total reflections	433,274	172,632
Unique reflections	48,427	23,292
$R_{\text{sym}}$ (%) <sup>1</sup>	0.050 (0.740)	0.055 (0.868)
$I/\sigma I$ <sup>1</sup>	28.2 (2.0)	21.4 (2.2)
Completeness (%) <sup>1</sup>	98.7 (88.5)	99.8 (95.9)
Redundancy	9.0 (7.1)	7.4 (7.4)
CC (1/2)	0.997 (0.839)	0.999 (0.787)
Figure of merit	0.322	
<b>Refinement</b>		
Resolution (Å)		25.0 - 1.65
No. reflections		22,284
$R_{\text{work}} / R_{\text{free}}$ <sup>2</sup>		16.8/19.5
<b>Number of atoms</b>		
Protein		1,681
Solvent		254
<b>B-factors</b>		
Protein		23.3
Solvent		34.5
<b>Ramachandran statistics</b>		
Favored/Allowed		97.67/2.33
Outliers		0
<b>R.m.s deviations</b>		
Bond lengths (Å)		0.746
Bond angles (°)		0.006

1. Highest resolution shell is shown in parenthesis.

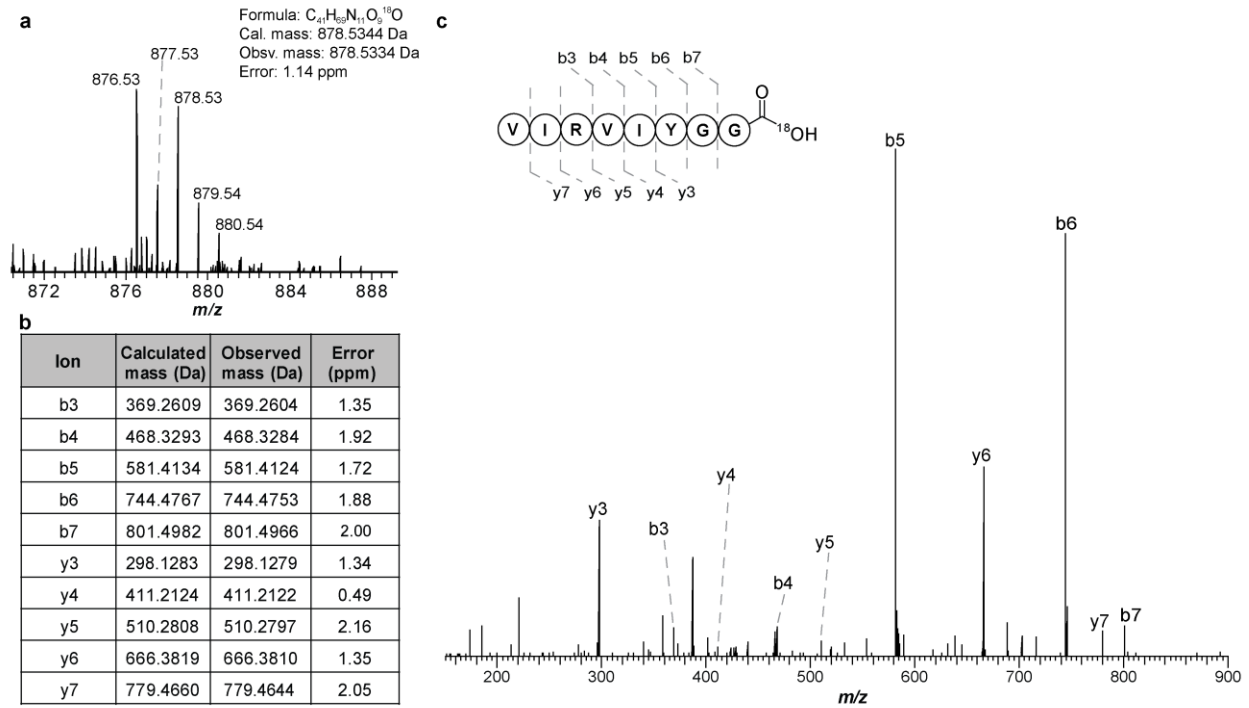
2. R-factor =  $\Sigma(|F_{\text{obs}}| - k|F_{\text{calc}}|) / \Sigma |F_{\text{obs}}|$  and R-free is the R value for a test set of reflections consisting of a random 5% of the diffraction data not used in refinement.



**Supplementary Figure 1. SDS-PAGE analysis of the proteins used in the study.** Protein purity was assessed visually using Coomassie staining. Abbreviations: Mt, *Methanothermobacter* sp. CaT2; Mc, *Methanothermococcus thermolithotrophicus*; Ma, *Methanosarcina acetivorans*; MBP, maltose-binding protein. Each protein was purified in at least two independent experiments and similar purity was observed. Boxed area denotes proteins used in this study.

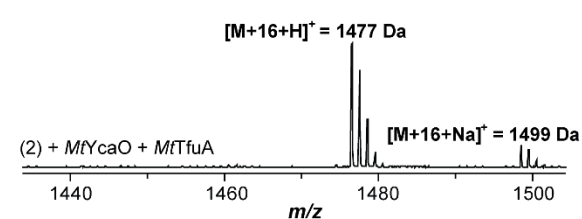
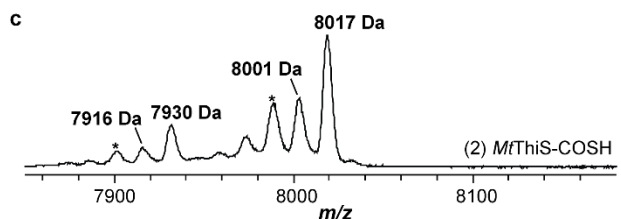
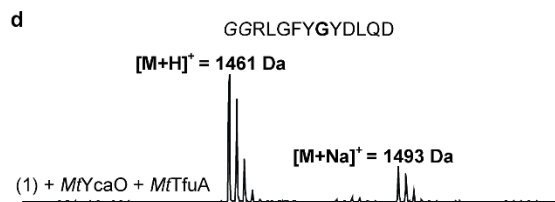
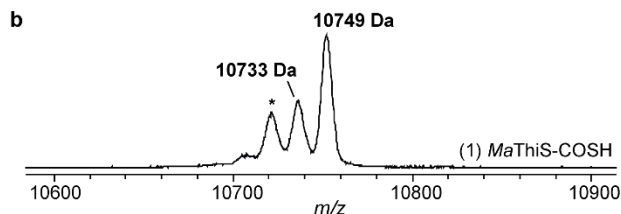


**Supplementary Figure 2. Reaction scheme of ThiS-COSH reacting with lissamine rhodamine sulfonyl azide (LRSA)<sup>1</sup>.** This reaction was used to quantify ThiS-COSH consumption during thioamidation reactions.



**Supplementary Figure 3. High-resolution and tandem MS of the *Mt*ThiS-COOH C-terminal fragment.** (a) The C-terminal GluC peptide fragment of *Mt*ThiS containing a [<sup>18</sup>O] label observed in HRMS. (b) *m/z* 878.53 was subjected to CID with assigned ions indicated in tabular form. (c) MS/MS spectrum showing the +2 Da mass change observed for all y-ions but not observed for any b-ion, localizing the mass increase to the C-terminus.

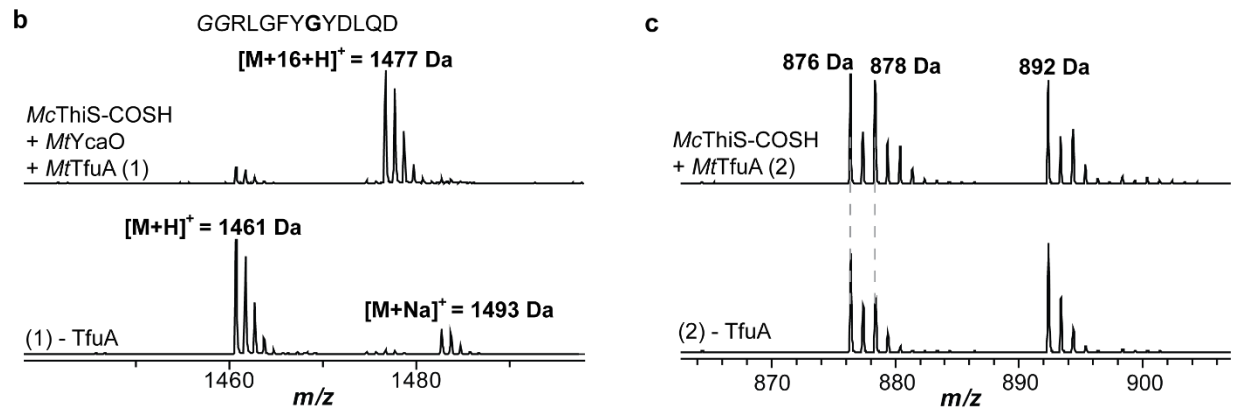
**a** *Mt*ThiS sgsMVIGMKFTVITDDGKKILESGAP---RRIKDLVGLGEL--EIPLETVVVKKNGE-----IVIEEEEIF-----DGDIEIVIRVIYGG  
*Ma*ThiS sgs-MAEVKVKLFLANLREAAGTPELPLSGEKVIDVLLSLTDKYPALKYVIFEKGDSEILILCGSINILINGNNIRHLEGLETLKDSDEIGILPPVSGG  
 : :\*...::: : . \* .: \*\*\* . \* : \* . \*: ::\*: \*:\*: ::\* \*:\* \* : : \*\*



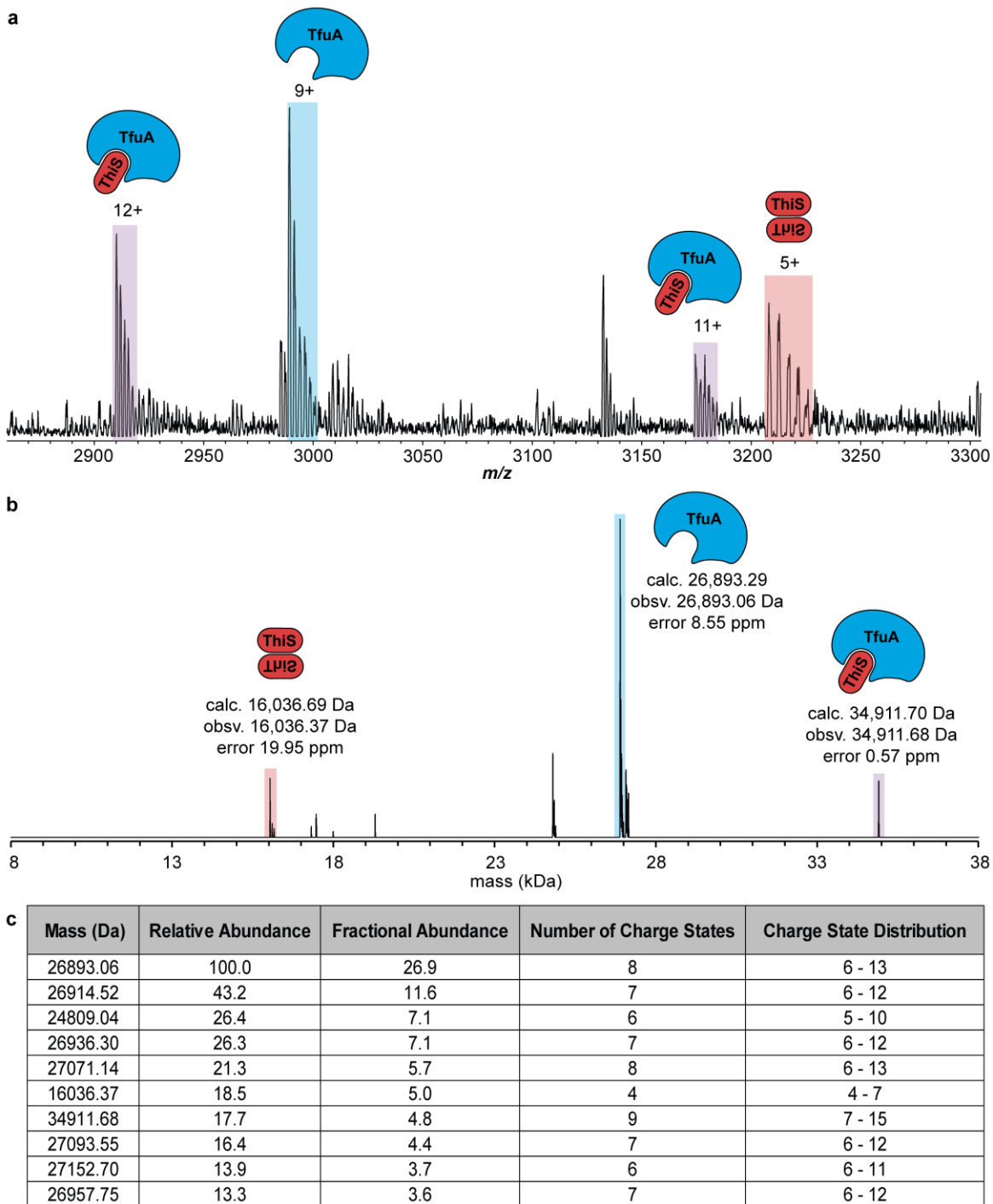
**Supplementary Figure 4. *Ma*ThiS-COSH is not a sulfur donor for thioamidation catalyzed by the *Mt* enzymes.** (a) Sequence alignment of *Mt*ThiS (WP\_048176273.1) and *Ma*ThiS (WP\_011023978.1). The N-terminal SGS is derived from the cloning vector. (b) MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of *Ma*ThiS-COSH ( $m/z$  10,749 Da) and *Ma*ThiS-COOH ( $m/z$  10,733 Da). (c) MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of *Mt*ThiS-COSH ( $m/z$  8,017 Da).  $m/z$  7,930 represents *Mt*ThiS-COSH with the N-terminal Ser (from cloning) proteolytically removed. Asterisks indicate laser-induced deamination. (d) *Top*, MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of the McrA peptide after reaction with *Mt*YcaO, *Mt*TfuA, and non-cognate *Ma*ThiS-COSH, yielding essentially no product. *Bottom*, an identical reaction using cognate *Mt*ThiS-COSH, yielding fully thioamidated McrA peptide.



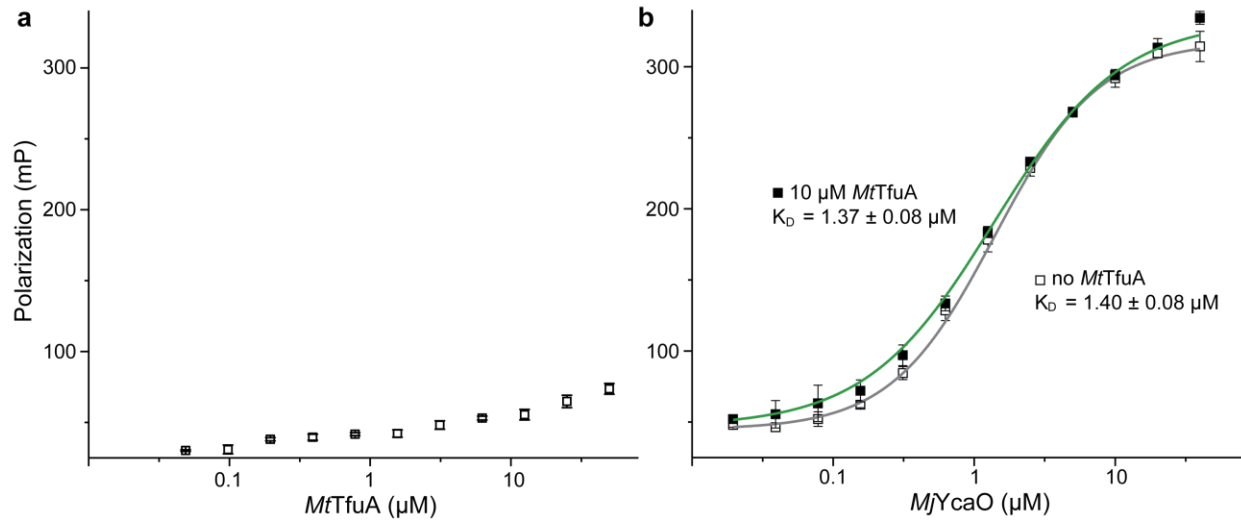
**a** *Mt*ThiS sgsMVIGMKFTVITDDGKKILESGAPRRIKDVLGELEIPIETVVVKKNG**E**IVIE**E**EEEIFDGDIIIEVIRVIYGG  
*Mc*ThiS sgsMVIGMKFTVITDDGKKILESGAPRRIKDVLGELEIPIETVVVKKNG**Q**IVID**E**EEEIFDGDIIIEVIRVIYGG



**Supplementary Figure 5. *Mc*ThiS-COSH as the substrate for *Mt*TfuA-catalyzed hydrolysis and thioamidation.** (a) Sequence alignment of *Mt*ThiS (WP\_048176273.1) and *Mc*ThiS (AAB86213.1) with the two non-identical residues in bold. The N-terminal SGS is derived from the cloning vector. (b) *Top*, MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of the *McrA* peptide reacted with *Mt*YcaO, *Mt*TfuA, and *Mc*ThiS-COSH showing the thioamidated product ( $m/z$  1,477 Da). *Bottom*, control with TfuA omitted. (c) *Top*, MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of the C-terminal GluC peptide fragment of *Mc*ThiS-COSH ( $m/z$  892 Da). Upon treatment with TfuA in [<sup>18</sup>O]-H<sub>2</sub>O, *Mc*ThiS-COSH undergoes hydrolysis to *Mc*ThiS-COOH with incorporation of [<sup>18</sup>O] ( $m/z$  878 Da). *Bottom*, control with TfuA omitted.

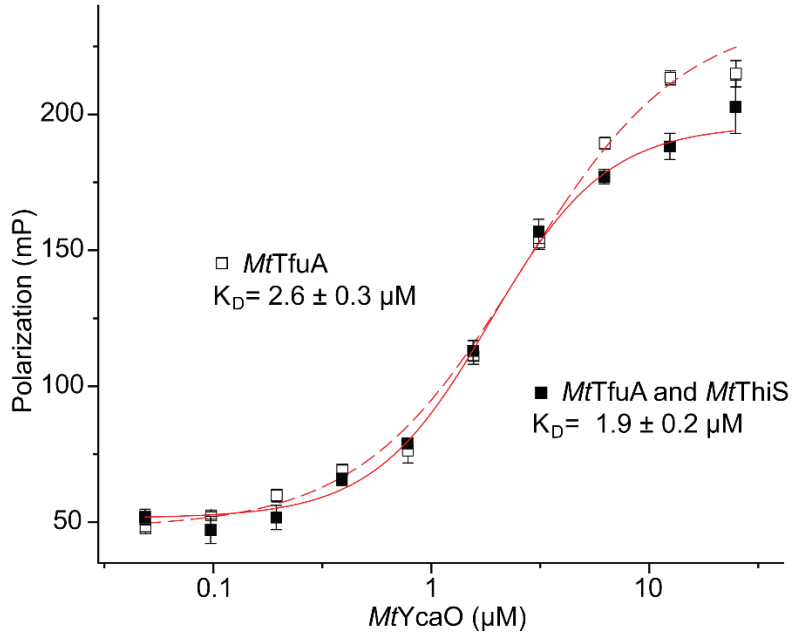


**Supplementary Figure 6. Native mass spectra of *MtTfuA* and *MtThiS-COSH*.** (a) The native mass spectrum acquired using a ThermoFisher Q Exactive Ultra High Mass Range (UHMR) mass spectrometer showing the *MtTfuA* monomer (blue), homodimeric *MtThiS-COSH* (red), and *MtTfuA*:*MtThiS-COSH* heterodimer (purple) at various charge states. (b) Deconvoluted mass spectrum from data in panel a using BioPharma Finder v3.1. The experimental and calculated masses for *MtTfuA* (His-tagged and N-terminal Met removed), *MtThiS-COSH* homodimer, and *MtTfuA*:*MtThiS-COSH* heterodimer are indicated. (c) Mass table of the top ten species by relative abundance.

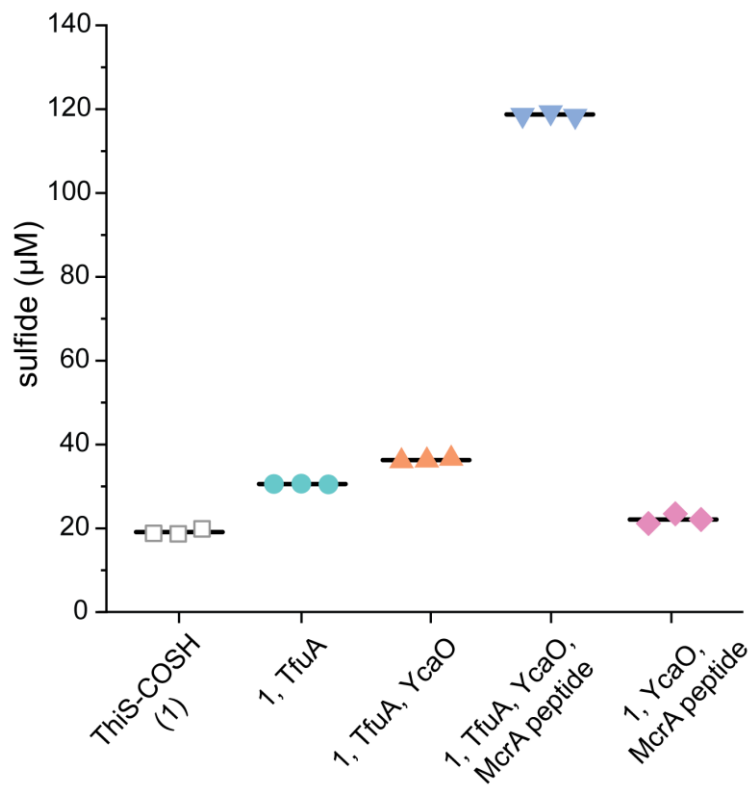


**Supplementary Figure 7. *MtTfuA* does not bind the McrA peptide or change its binding to *MjYcaO*.**

(a) Fluorescence polarization (FP) titration of Tfua with FITC-labeled McrA peptide (GG-RLGFYGYDLQD). No significant polarization was observed. Polarization values are reported as mean values  $\pm$  SD ( $n = 3$  independent experiments). (b) FP titration of the same peptide with *MjYcaO* in the presence (filled squares) and absence (open squares) of *MtTfuA*. Polarization values are reported as mean values  $\pm$  SD ( $n = 3$  independent experiments) and analyzed through non-linear regression (dose-response model). The resultant estimates for  $K_D \pm$  SE are reported.



**Supplementary Figure 8. *MtThiS* does not alter the *MtYcaO*-McrA peptide binding.** Fluorescence polarization (FP) titration of *MtYcaO* with FITC-labeled McrA peptide (GG-RLGFYGYDLQD) in the presence of *MtTfuA* (10  $\mu\text{M}$ , open squares) or *MtTfuA* and *MtThiS* (10  $\mu\text{M}$  each, filled squares). Polarization values are reported as mean values  $\pm$  SD ( $n = 3$  independent experiments) and analyzed through non-linear regression (dose-response model). The resultant estimates for  $K_D \pm$  SE are reported.



**Supplementary Figure 9. Quantification of sulfide released from ThiS-COSH hydrolysis.** Fluorescence quantification of sulfide production as a result of *Mt*ThiS-COSH (150 μM) hydrolysis after a 2 h reaction in the presence of different components (10 μM *Mt*TfuA, *Mt*YcaO, and 50 μM McrA peptide). ATP was omitted to prevent thioamidation of the peptide substrate. Individual data points ( $n = 3$  independent experiments) and the mean values (lines) are presented.





Patatin  
(PF01734)

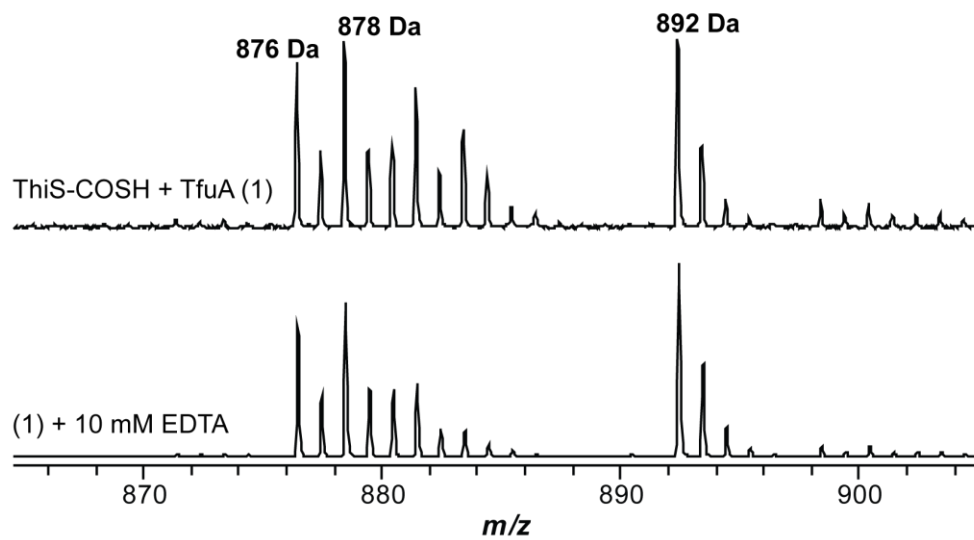


TfuA  
(PF07812)

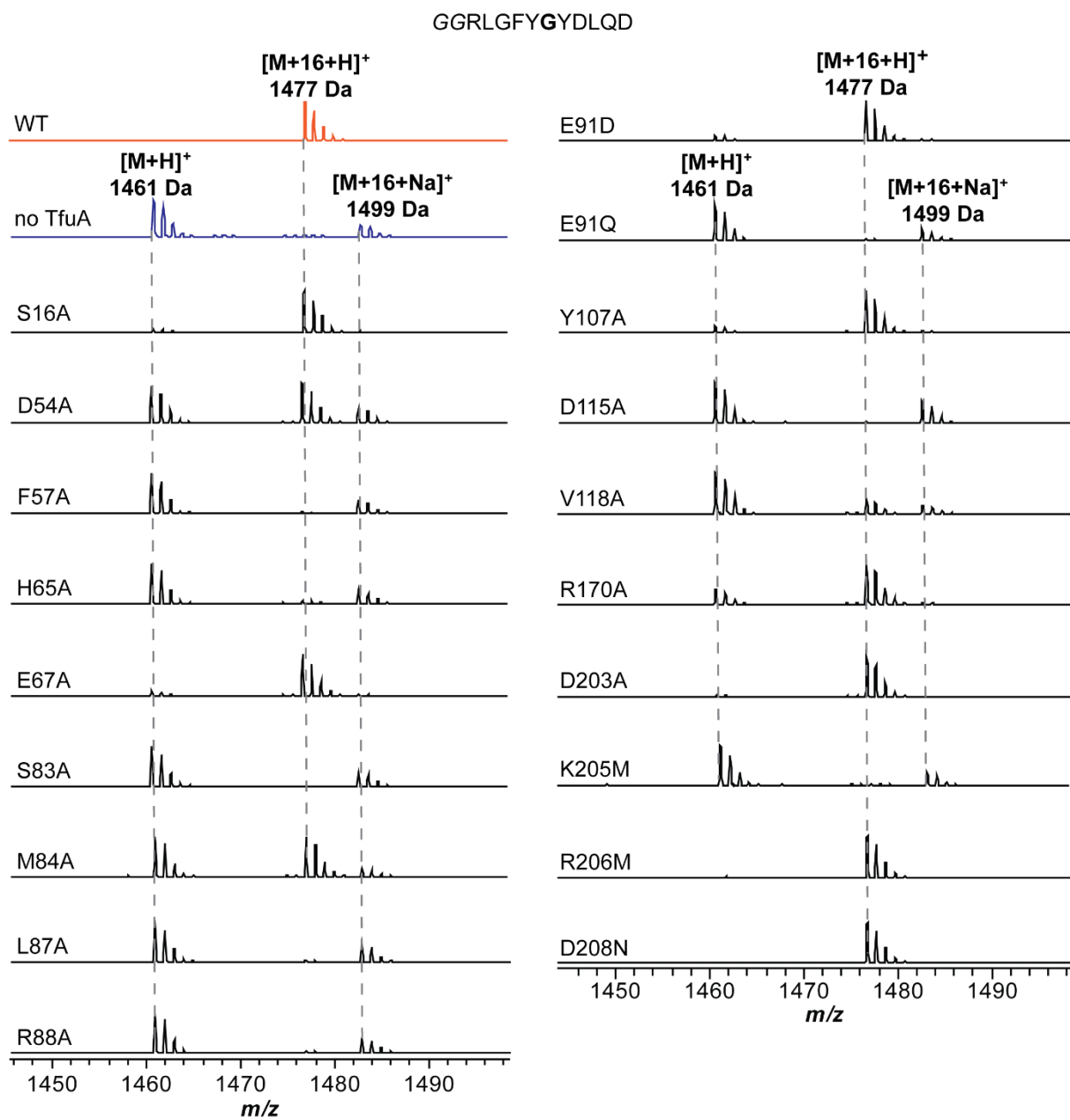


**Supplementary Figure 12. Sequence logos of TfuA and patatin active sites.** Sequence logos were generated for the Patatin and the TfuA protein families using WebLogo<sup>3</sup>. The Gly-(Xaa)<sub>1-2</sub>-Ser-Xaa-Gly motifs from both families contain the active site Ser and are aligned in the HHpred analysis of TfuA<sup>4</sup>. Basic and uncharged polar residues are colored blue and orange, respectively.



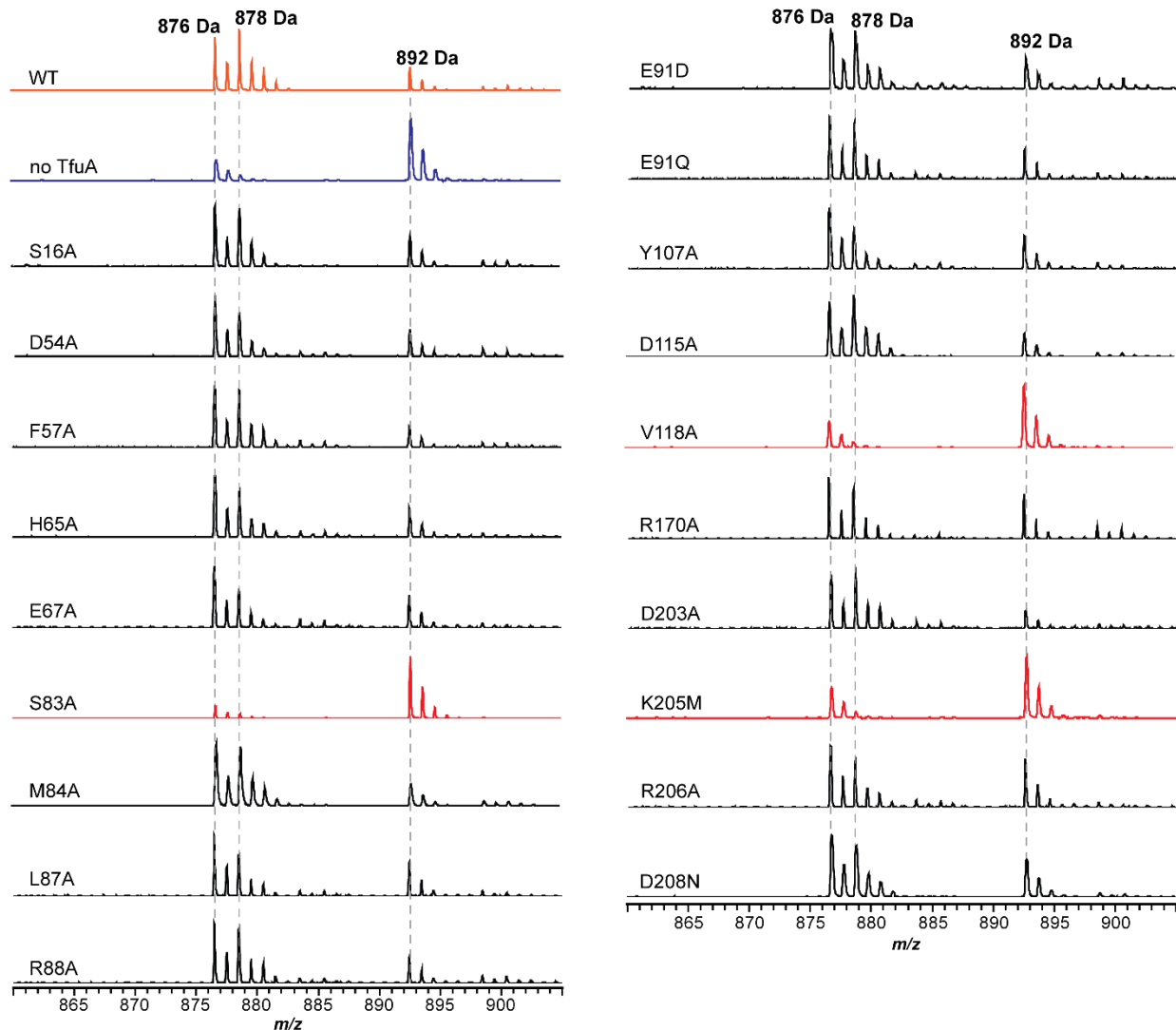


**Supplementary Figure 13. *Mt*TfuA-catalyzed *Mt*ThiS-COSH hydrolysis is unaffected by EDTA.** *Top*, MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of the C-terminal GluC peptide fragment of *Mt*ThiS-COSH ( $m/z$  892 Da). Upon treatment with *Mt*TfuA in [ $^{18}\text{O}$ ]- $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , *Mt*ThiS-COSH undergoes hydrolysis to *Mt*ThiS-COOH with incorporation of [ $^{18}\text{O}$ ] ( $m/z$  878 Da). *Bottom*, identical experiment with 10 mM EDTA added.



**Supplementary Figure 14. MALDI-TOF-MS analysis of McrA peptide thioamidation using *MtTfuA* variants.** MALDI-TOF mass spectra of the McrA peptide (40  $\mu$ M) after reaction with *MtYcaO* (2  $\mu$ M), *MtThiS-COSH* (50  $\mu$ M), and *MtTfuA* (2  $\mu$ M) variants under identical conditions for 1 h.

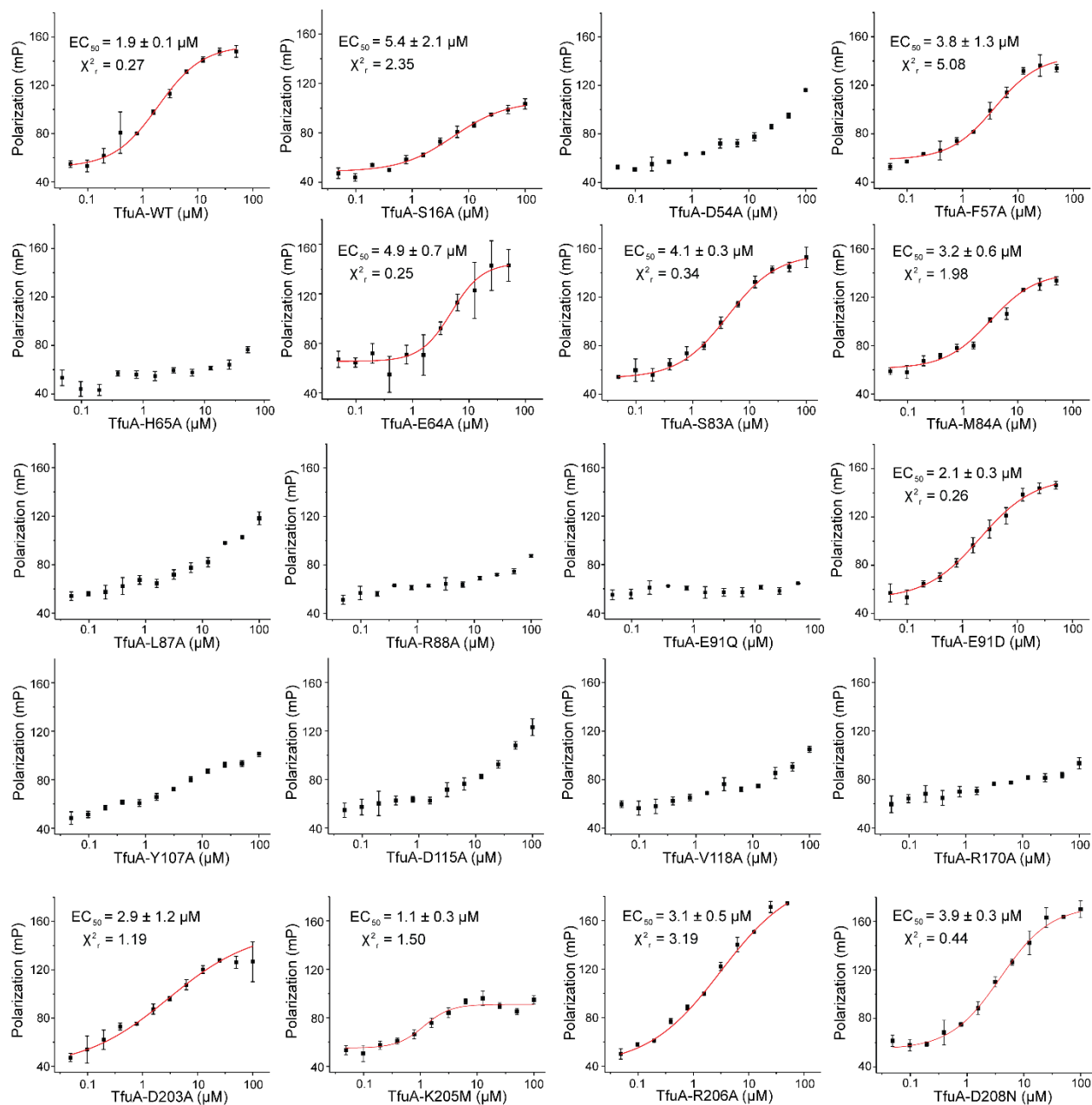
C-terminal GluC fragment: VIRVIYGG



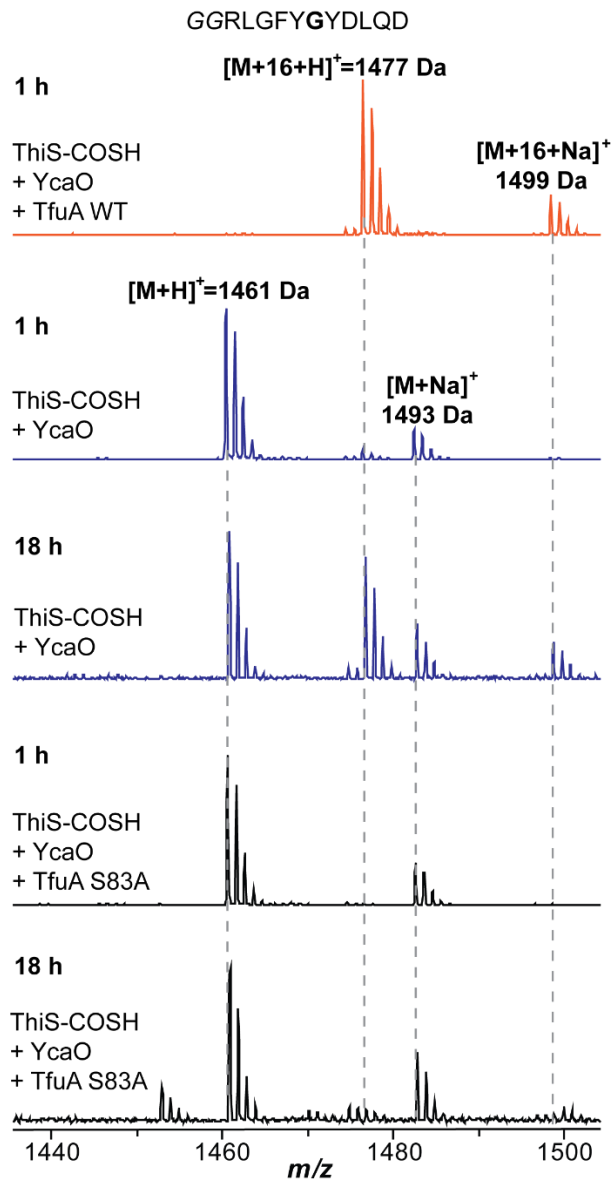
**Supplementary Figure 15. MALDI-TOF-MS analysis of *MtThiS*-COSH hydrolysis using *MtTfuA* variants.** MALDI-TOF mass spectra of the C-terminal GluC peptide fragment of *MtThiS* (45  $\mu$ M, carboxylate,  $m/z$  876 Da; [ $^{18}$ O]-carboxylate,  $m/z$  878 Da; thiocarboxylate,  $m/z$  892 Da) after reaction with *MtTfuA* variants (5  $\mu$ M) under identical conditions. Control reactions with wild-type *MtTfuA* (orange, 5  $\mu$ M) and no TfuA (blue) are highlighted. Three *MtTfuA* variants gave background-levels of *MtThiS*-COSH hydrolysis (S83A, V118A, and K205M, red).



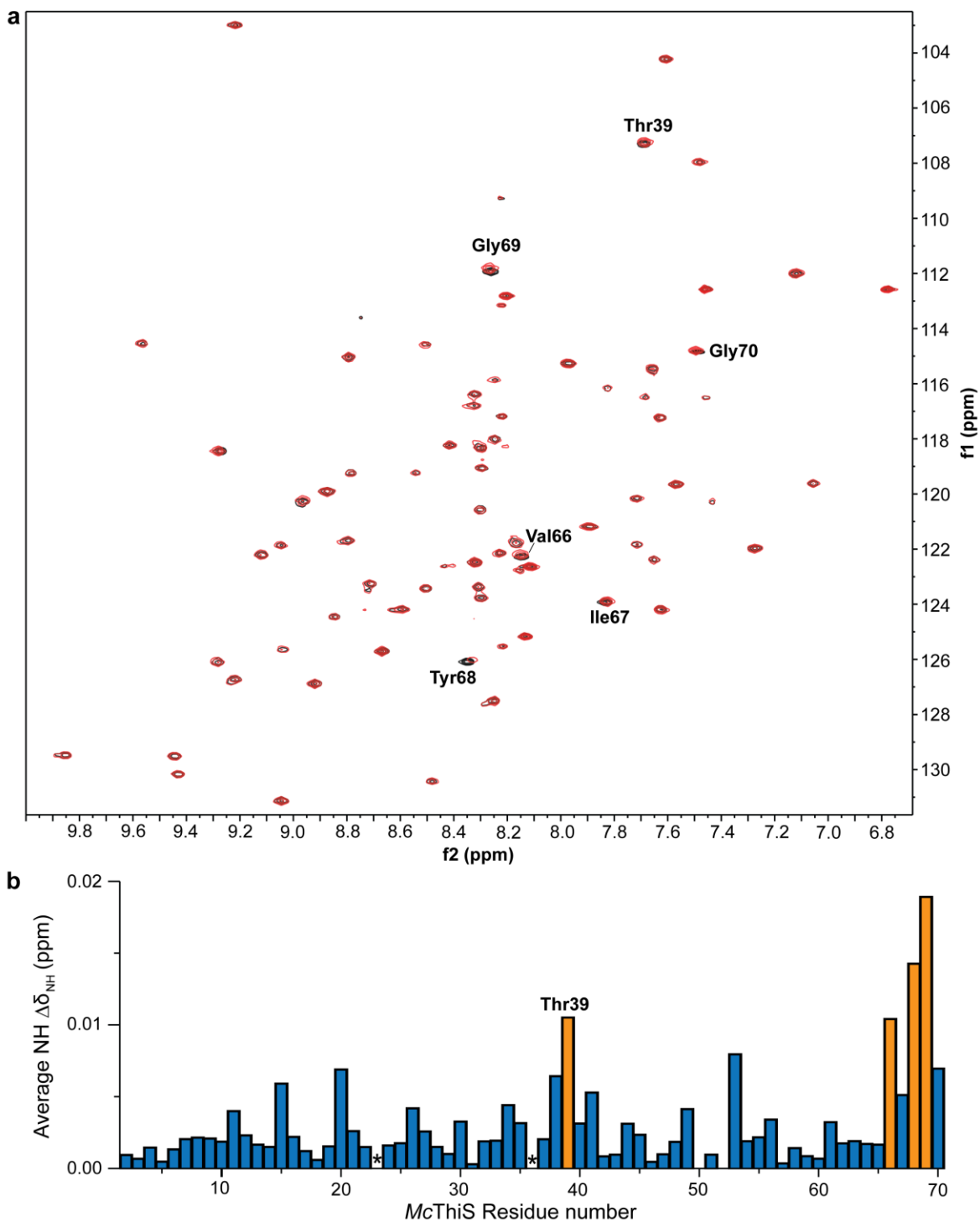
**Supplementary Figure 16. Sulfide release from *Mt*ThiS-COSH hydrolysis using *Mt*TfuA variants.** Endpoint fluorescence quantification of sulfide produced from *Mt*ThiS-COSH (150  $\mu\text{M}$ ) hydrolysis upon reaction with the *Mt*TfuA variant alone (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ), and *Mt*TfuA variant (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ), *Mt*YcaO (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ), and McrA peptide (50  $\mu\text{M}$ ). ATP was absent in all reactions. Individual data points ( $n = 3$  independent experiments) and the mean values (lines) are presented.



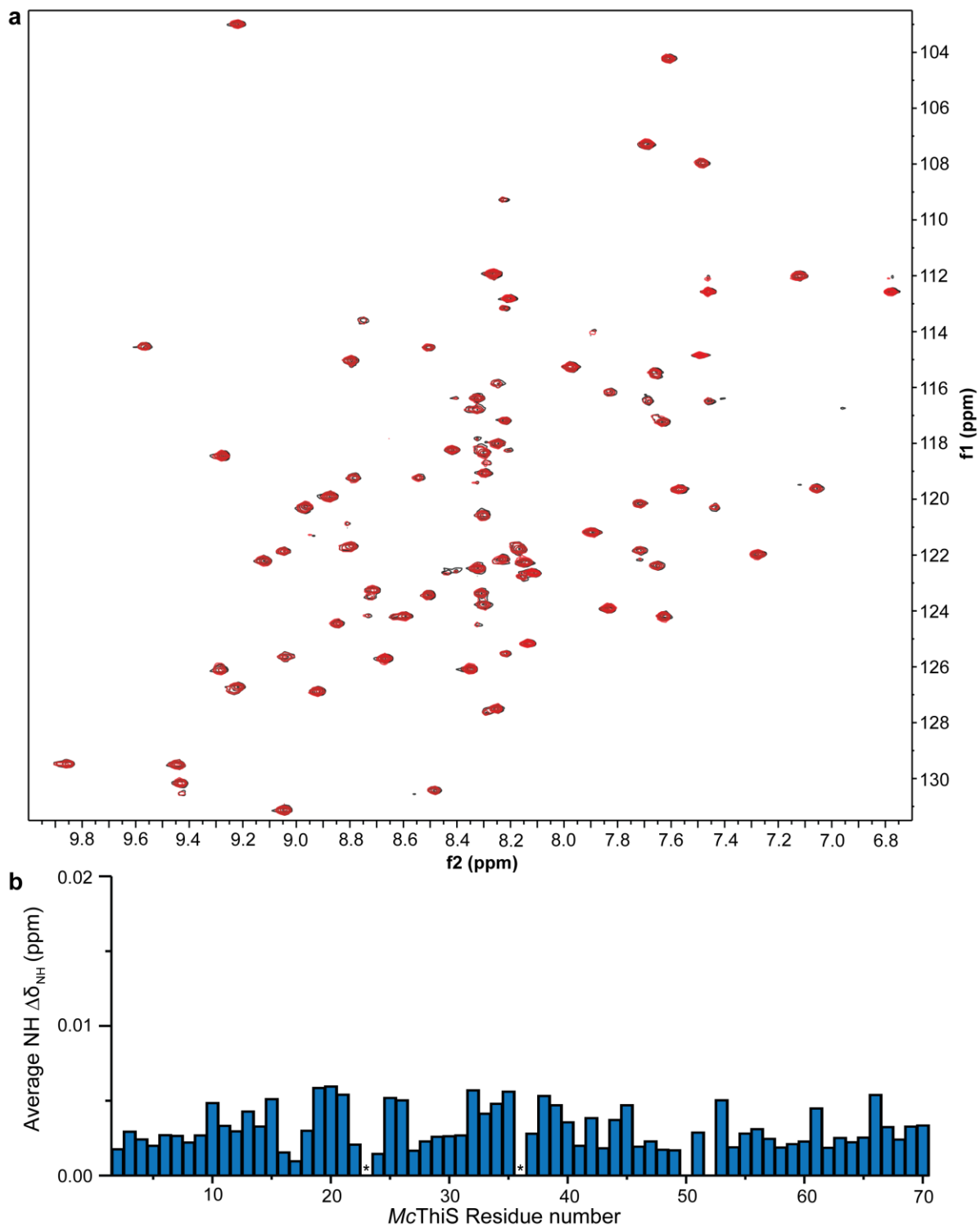
**Supplementary Figure 17. Fluorescence polarization analysis of *MtTfuA* variants.** FP titrations of *MtTfuA* variants using FITC-labeled McrA peptide (*GG-RLGFYGYDLQD*) and 1.5  $\mu\text{M}$  *MtYcaO*. Polarization values are presented as the mean values  $\pm$  SD ( $n = 3$  independent experiments) and fitted into a dose-response model via non-linear regression analysis. The resultant estimates for  $\text{EC}_{50} \pm \text{SE}$  and reduced chi-square values are reported.



**Supplementary Figure 18. MALDI-TOF-MS analysis of reactions using *Mt*TfuA-S83A variant.** *Top*, MALDI-TOF mass spectrum of the McrA peptide after reaction with *Mt*YcaO, *Mt*TfuA, and *Mt*ThiS-COSH showing thioamidated product ( $m/z$  1,477 Da). Identical reactions with TfuA omitted (blue) or substituted by TfuA-S83A (black) at 1 h and 18 h are shown. Reactions containing all components were completed within 1 h, whereas reactions lacking TfuA remained incomplete even after 18 h. Reactions containing the TfuA-S83A were severely inhibited, likely from binding to ThiS-COSH and hindering hydrolysis.



**Supplementary Figure 19. *McThiS*  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ -HMQC spectra upon *MtTfuA-S83A* variant titration. (a)** An overlay of *McThiS*  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ -HMQC spectra in the presence (red) and absence (black) of *MtTfuA-S83A* (2 equiv.). Residues with significant chemical shift perturbations are labeled. **(b)** Chemical shift perturbation for each residue. Residues with the largest chemical shift perturbation upon titration with *MtTfuA-S83A* are highlighted in orange. Asterisks, Pro residues. *MtTfuA-S83A* binds to *McThiS* in a manner similar to wild type *MtTfuA*.

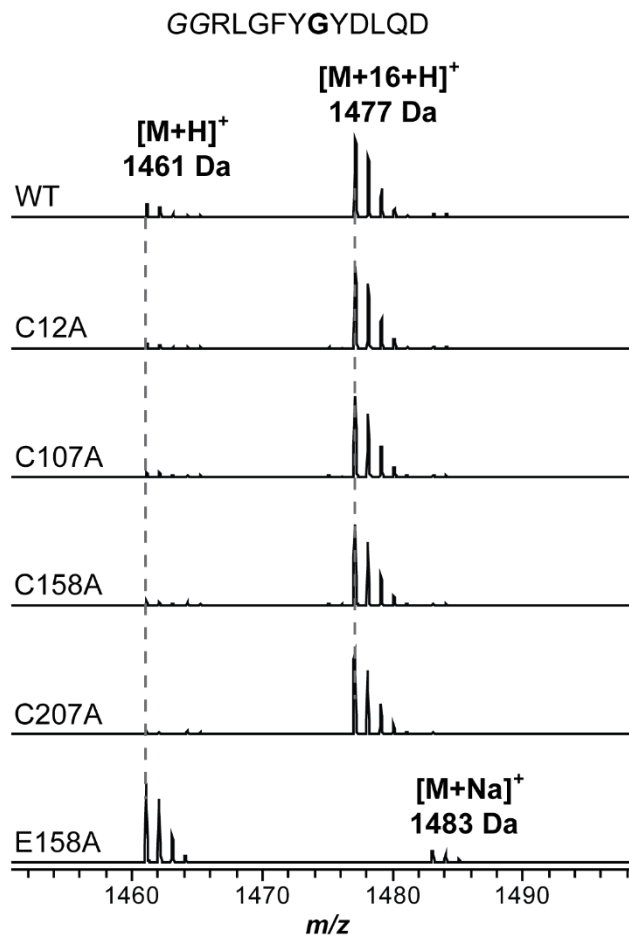


**Supplementary Figure 20. *McThiS*  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ -HMQC spectra upon *MtTfuA*-V118A variant titration. (a) An overlay of *McThiS*  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ -HMQC spectra in the presence (red) and absence (black) of *MtTfuA*-V118A (6 equiv.). (b) Chemical shift perturbation for each residue. Asterisks, Pro residues. *MtTfuA*-V118A does not bind to ThiS in a wild type-like manner.**

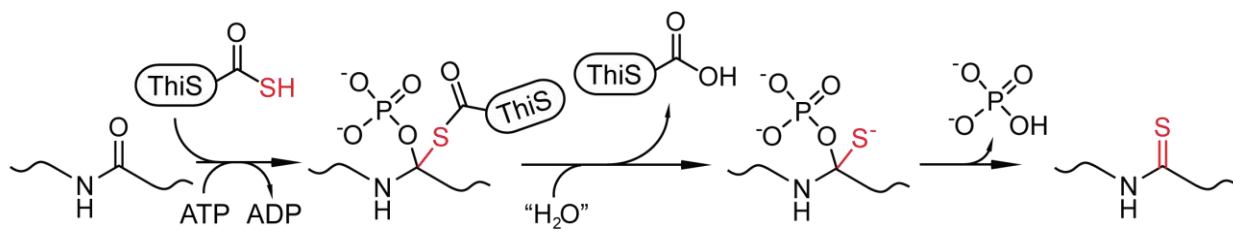


<i>M. maripaludis</i>	-----MEDDINYTLAAYRICTPEETFEKIEPIIKEIGVTRTARIDGLDRIGIPVFSSIRP	55
<i>M. palustris</i>	--MELSSCRKGYRNETQRAVDPAITLERIERLLPTTGITRVADITGLDRIGIPVFSCMRP	58
<i>Candidatus M. intestinalis</i>	--MKLGHTPKKYTHGGHHAVDPETTLKRIEPLAEVAGITRTADITDLDRIGIPVFSSIRP	58
<i>M. acetivorans</i>	MPEIKIDRSLSYLEGTQRVYDEATTLNTKDKQIKKIGVTRIADITNLDRLGIPIFSAIRP	60
<i>Methanothermobacter sp. CaT</i>	---MFRDIPVRYIGCTHRAVRPSETLKAFRDKLSMIGVTRITEITHLDRIGIPVFSAIRP	57
	* : *:: . *:* : * **:*:*:*:*:*:	
<i>M. maripaludis</i>	SAKDGAISVYAGKGATEIQAKVSVSTMEAIERYSAEFDENS-----KLELIK	101
<i>M. palustris</i>	AAADGAISVYNGKATPIAARVSAIMEGIERYSAEVHDRP-----LITGTYDSL	108
<i>Candidatus M. intestinalis</i>	SAESGAISVYNGKGLTKDEAKVSSIMEGIERYSAEVHDRP-----VVRAGVEEFM	108
<i>M. acetivorans</i>	SAAPGAISVYSGKSTQRRARISAIMESIERYCLAERPGVNNANIEGGISAPALVESYSNAQ	120
<i>Methanothermobacter sp. CaT</i>	TAE DGAVSIYAGKATRTQARASAMMEAFERYSAERKPE-----DETFTAQP	104
	: * **:*:* * ** * : * : **:*:* **	
<i>M. maripaludis</i>	EPENPINLDDLLILPGGKRAEYS DTDGIEWVSGTDIISGKTFDVPINS AVHPYDG---KK	157
<i>M. palustris</i>	RQGNVVDPRDLILPNDADP----DRVLSVWKGFDIVQHEEVLLPAHAVFHPPLPQ-GA-AP	162
<i>Candidatus M. intestinalis</i>	AANNAVHPMDLILPQGAAYTSL-RYQVGWVKGETELNSMSEMWPASAVFHPYSS-KLDM	166
<i>M. acetivorans</i>	ENCNVLDPNLSLLSQPFNP---GSLLEWVGAYDLMNREEVFNANAVHYPHYDAPGQCQK	176
<i>Methanothermobacter sp. CaT</i>	EDCDGLDPESLILPGSADL----KSELEWINAENLTGDEEVPVPANAVFHPYNPPEGCMS	160
	: . . *:* : * : . : . : . : . : . *	
<i>M. maripaludis</i>	LFRSNTNGLASGNSEEEAIFHGMLEVIERDAWSISELSKNTYRKVNVENAKNPLIFELK	217
<i>M. palustris</i>	LFRTSTNGIASGNTLEEATFHALAEI IERDAWSIAEVLHDTGPVITDV--TDPTACSLLD	220
<i>Candidatus M. intestinalis</i>	LFRTSTNGLASGNTLEEAILHGLLEVVVERDSWSFTEYYRRVNGDIEIP--GSGPVKDLVD	224
<i>M. acetivorans</i>	LFLSNTNGLASGNVLEEAILHGLLEVIERDAISTAQFTRNLGKEIVLT-EEDGYLYELAR	235
<i>Methanothermobacter sp. CaT</i>	LFRSNTNGLASGNAREEAIFHGLMEVIERDAWSLFEARRGPKVEVDCSGTDNDIISGLLE	220
	** : . **:*:* ** * : . : *:*:*:* : * : : : . *	
<i>M. maripaludis</i>	KFEKAKINIILKDLTSEVGIPVAAISDDVVKDPALLCMGVGCHLHPEIAVLRALTEVA	277
<i>M. palustris</i>	AFSTAGVDIVLHDLTSDIGIPTIAAASDDPVLDRPRLTLGMGHTTSAIATLRALTEVA	280
<i>Candidatus M. intestinalis</i>	KFTAKGIEVHLKDLTSDIGIPTIAAATDDVEMQDPALLTLGIGTHLDPELA AVKALLEVA	284
<i>M. acetivorans</i>	KFKDTGIDLKIWLVPDGTGIPTIIAATDDVVKDPALLVMGAGSHLKPEIATARAITEAA	295
<i>Methanothermobacter sp. CaT</i>	KFHAAGVEVTLVLDLTADTG VATVA AVADDTVLKDPALLTMGVGTHLDP EIAVIRALTEVA	280
	* : : : : : : * : * : * : ** : : ** * * : * * * : * : * : *	
<i>M. maripaludis</i>	QSRATQIHGAREDTNRGDVVRISYDRMKRVHKKWYTFKN-EINIEDMPDNAKLNKKDI	336
<i>M. palustris</i>	QSRVTQIHGAREDTTEADERRSIGYDRVKRLNRYWYEGKS-TVPYAALTSCDTEDFLDDI	339
<i>Candidatus M. intestinalis</i>	QSRLTQIHGAREDTV RGEAARKLGYERMRRINKMWLEDSENSISLDSFPDQVTDIFDDL	344
<i>M. acetivorans</i>	QSRVVQIQGAREDTDREGFIRSVGYDRMKRLNWFVFEEGE-KISLSEVKDLSGKSPTENI	354
<i>Methanothermobacter sp. CaT</i>	QSRATQIHGTREDTVRAEFMR RAGYERMKRLNRHWFSEPEDTITLDDMEDLSTRSFMGDL	340
	** * . **:*:* ** * . * : *:*:*:* : * . : . : . : . : :	
<i>M. maripaludis</i>	ETVKHILKQNGFDKIITVKLNKTD--IDVSRV IIPKMEMYSVDRDRISLWIKDRIRRNLE	394
<i>M. palustris</i>	RVVTDRLAAVGLDRVIVSDLTRPETGVNVVRVVPGLETYAMDNERGERCRHARHRLS	399
<i>Candidatus M. intestinalis</i>	QITRARLNAKGLNRTIIVDLTREEIGISVVKVIVPGMEVFAIDDERVGLRMMNGR-----	399
<i>M. acetivorans</i>	DIILEQLKGLTEKV-IVVDLSREEI AVPVVRV IIPGFELFTIDRDRKQRI TAGKKKEFT	413
<i>Methanothermobacter sp. CaT</i>	EITLRKLHEAGLKD-VFYVDL TRDVGVPVVRVIVPGLEVFSVDPERVGRIRSSI-----	394
	* . : : : * : * : * : * : * : * : *	
<i>M. maripaludis</i>	SNLNLI----- 400	
<i>M. palustris</i>	RTES----- 403	
<i>Candidatus M. intestinalis</i>	----- 399	
<i>M. acetivorans</i>	RDQNDKPKWRR 424	
<i>Methanothermobacter sp. CaT</i>	----- 394	

**Supplementary Figure 21. Sequence alignment of representative TfuA-dependent methanogenic YcaO proteins.** YcaO protein sequences from *Methanothermobacter sp. CaT2* (WP\_048175616.1), *M. maripaludis* (AVB77164.1), *Candidatus M. intestinalis* (WP\_020449401.1), *M. palustris* (ACL16549.1), *M. acetivorans* (WP\_011020223.1) are aligned with Clustal Omega<sup>2</sup>. Residues highlighted in red were substituted in the current study.



**Supplementary Figure 22. MALDI-TOF-MS analysis of McrA peptide thioamidation using *MtYcaO* variants.** MALDI-TOF mass spectra of the McrA peptide after reaction with *MtTfuA*, *MtThiS-COSH*, and *MtYcaO* variants under identical conditions for 1 h. *MtYcaO* Cys variants showed wild-type-like activity. As a control, the presumed ATP-binding deficient *MtYcaO* variant (E158A) exhibited abolished activity.



**Supplementary Figure 23. Alternative sulfur transfer mechanism.** ThiS-COSH attacks activated McrA peptide to form a thioester-hemiorthoamide intermediate. Subsequent hydrolysis aided by TfuA leads to the formation of thioamide and release of ThiS-COOH.

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