

Supporting Information

Matching protein interfaces for improved medium-chain fatty acid production

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Materials and Methods

Materials. Chemical standards were purchased from: C8:0 (A10991, Alfa Aesar); C10:0 (A15658, Alfa Aesar); C12:0 (A12492, Alfa Aesar); C14:0 (A10257, Alfa Aesar); C16:0 (P0006, TCI); C18:0 (S0080, TCI).

Homology Model and Docking. AbTE homology mode was generated using Phyre2¹ intensive mode. The mode for 181 out of the 183 residues (99%) was modeled at >90% confidence. For docking *Escherichia coli* acyl-carrier protein (ACP, PDB ID: 2FAE, chain A) onto *E. coli* tesA (PDB ID: 1U8U) ClusPro was used². The 9 balanced models were analyzed using PyMol used to deduce the most likely ACP-tesA interactions. Structural alignment of TesA with AbTE was used to identify the ACP-AbTE interactions.

AbTE mutant generation. Site-directed mutagenesis was performed using the QuikChange protocol with some modifications. PCR reaction: 0.8 ng/μL of template, 2.5 ng/μL of each primer, 1X iProof HF polymerase buffer, 0.02 U/μL iProof polymerase (BioRad), 0.5 mM dNTPs to 50 μL final volume. Thermocycler protocol: 95°C 1min, 17 cycles: [95°C 50sec, 60°C 50sec, 72°C 2min 30sec], 72°C 7 min. DpnI (1 μL) was added to PCR reaction and incubated at 37°C for 1 hour and heat inactivated at 65°C for 20 min. 10 μL of reaction was transformed into competent DH10B *E. coli* cells.

SDS-PAGE gel of AbTE:WT and AbTE variants. Overnight cultures of PPY1331, PPY1333, PPY1340 were diluted 1:50 in 1 mL of M9 media (0.5% glucose, amp¹⁰⁰) and grown at 37°C, 250 r.p.m., until reaching OD₆₀₀ = 0.3-0.4. The cells were then induced with 500 μM of IPTG (500 mM stock) and grown at 30°C, 250 rpm for 24 hours. A 1 mL of sample was removed from the culture medium and centrifuged for 5 min at 7354g. The pellet was resuspended in 200 μL PBS (Teknova cat # P0195), sonicated twice for 20 sec each, and centrifuged at 7354g for 5 min. The A₂₈₀ of the resulting supernatant was measured using the NanoDrop Lite (Thermo) to measure protein concentration. The supernatants were diluted to a concentration of 2 mg/mL of total protein to a final volume of 20 μL. After addition of 4 μL of 6X SDS loading dye to the 20 μL of the supernatant, the samples were then heated at 95°C for 15 min. 20 μL of each sample was loaded to the SDS-PAGE gel, which was run at 200 V for 50 min at 4°C, and stained with Coomassie Blue.

Table SI1. Table of strains

Strain #	Description	Reference
PPY11	W303: MATa, leu2-3, trp1-1, can1-100, ura3-1, ade2-1, his3-11	ATCC 208352
PPY140	PPY11 $\Delta far1$, $\Delta sst2$, $\Delta ste2$	Mukherjee, 2015
PPY643	PPY140, pESC-His3-P _{TEF1} -OR1G1, pRS415-Leu2-P _{FIG1} -GFP	Mukherjee, 2015
PPY252	DH10B	Invitrogen
PPY251	MG1655	ATCC 47076
PPY260	DH5α	Invitrogen
PPY1151	BW25113 $\Delta fadE739::kan$	Keio collection
PPY1236	PPY252, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:WT	This study
PPY1331	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:WT	This study
PPY1332	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:S11A	This study
PPY1333	PPY251, pMB1-Ampr-P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R	This study
PPY1334	PPY251, pMB1-Ampr-P _{TRC} -AbTE:A165R	This study
PPY1335	PPY251, pMB1-Ampr-P _{TRC} -AbTE:A121R	This study
PPY1336	PPY251, pMB1-Ampr-P _{TRC} -AbTE:T120R	This study
PPY1337	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A121R	This study
PPY1338	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/T120R	This study

PPY1339	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:T120R/A121R	This study
PPY1340	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A165R	This study
PPY1341	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:A121R/A165R	This study
PPY1342	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:T120R/A165R	This study
PPY1396	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A165R/T120R	This study
PPY1397	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A165R/A121R	This study
PPY1398	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A165R/N158D	This study
PPY1403	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -CnTE	This study
PPY1404	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -CpTE	This study
PPY1405	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -UcTE	This study
PPY1406	BL21	NEB
PPY1407	PPY260, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:WT	This study
PPY1408	PPY1152, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:WT	This study
PPY1409	PPY1461, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:WT	This study
PPY1503	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17E	This study
PPY1504	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17E/A165E	This study
PPY1505	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17E/A165R	This study
PPY1506	PPY251, pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A165E	This study

Table SI2. Table of plasmids

Strain #	Plasmid name	Description	Reference
PPY269	pKM260	pESC-His3-P _{TEF1} -OR1G1- P _{ADH1}	Mukherjee, 2015
PPY586	pKM586	pRS415-Leu2-P _{FIG1} -GFP	Mukherjee, 2015
PPY1023	pSS185	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AgGPPS-(GSG) ₂ -AgPS	Sarria, 2014
PPY1090	pSS174	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -CnTE	This study
PPY1148	pSS183	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -CpTE	This study
PPY1236	pSS192	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:WT	This study
PPY1237	pSS193	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -UcTE	This study
PPY1310	pSS196	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R	This study
PPY1311	pSS197	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:T120R	This study
PPY1312	pSS198	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:A121R	This study
PPY1320	pSS199	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:A165R	This study
PPY1321	pSS200	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A165R	This study
PPY1322	pSS201	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:A121R/A165R	This study
PPY1323	pSS202	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:T120R/A165R	This study

PPY1326	pSS203	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A121R	This study
PPY1327	pSS204	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/T120R	This study
PPY1328	pSS205	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:T120R/A121R	This study
PPY1329	pSS206	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:S11A	This study
PPY1393	pSS208	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A165R/T120R	This study
PPY1394	pSS209	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A165R/A121R	This study
PPY1395	pSS210	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A165R/N158D	This study
PPY1499	pSS251	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17E	This study
PPY1500	pSS252	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17E/A165E	This study
PPY1501	pSS253	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17E/A165R	This study
PPY1502	pSS254	pMB1-Amp ^r -P _{TRC} -AbTE:G17R/A165E	This study
BL136	pTB1	pET-28b -AbTE:WT	This study
BL137	pTB2	pET-28b -AbTE:G17R	This study
BL138	pTB3	pET-28b -AbTE:G17R/A165R	This study

Table SI3. Table of primers

Name	Sequence (codon change)
SS455	TAACAATTTACACAGGAAACAGACCATGGATGTTGCCAGATTGGTCTATG
SS456	CCTGCAGGTCGACTCTAGAGGATCCCCGGGTTATTTAGATTCAAGTTGGATGCAAACCC
SS547	GAAAATACCACCAAATTATGGCACT AGA TATAGTCAGGCATTTG
SS541	CGACAGTCTGAGTGCGGGTTAT AGA ATTAACCCCGAACAGGGCTGG
SS542	CCAGCCCTGTTTCGGGGTTAATT CT TATAACCCGCACTCAGACTGTCTG
SS545	GCAAAATGACCAGATCCATCCAAAT CGC AAAGCCCAGTCAATCTTGCTAAATAACG
SS546	CGTTATTTAGCAAGATTGACTGGGCTTT GCG ATTTGGATGGATCTGGTCATTTTGC
SS547	GAAAATACCACCAAATTATGGCACT AGA TATAGTCAGGCATTTG
SS548	CAAATGCCTGACTATAT TCT AGTGCCATAATTTGGTGGTATTTTC
SS549	GAAAATACCACCAAATTATGGC AGG GCCTATAGTCAGGCATTTG
SS550	CAAATGCCTGACTATAGGC CCT GCCATAATTTGGTGGTATTTTC
SS583	GAAAATACCACCAAATTATGGCAGG AGA TATAGTCAGGCATTTG
SS584	CAAATGCCTGACTATAT TCT CCTGCCATAATTTGGTGGTATTTTC
SS601	CAAAACCATTTCTTATCTTAGGCGAC GCT CTGAGTGCGGGTTATGGCATTAAACC
SS602	GGTTAATGCCATAACCCGCACTCAG AGC GTGCGCCTAAGATAAGAATGGTTTTG
SS608	GGCTGGACACAAAAGTCTAATGCA GAT GACCAGATCCATCCAAATGC
SS609	GCATTTGGATGGATCTGGTC ATC TTGCATTAGACTTTTGTGTCCAGCC

SS617	CGACAGTCTGAGTGC GGGTTAT GAA ATTAACCCCGAACAGGGCTGG
SS618	CCAGCCCTGTTC GGGGTTAAT TTC ATAACCCGCACTCAGACTGTCTG
SS619	GCAAAATGACCAGATCCATCCAAAT GAAAA AGCCCAGTCAATCTTGCTAAATAACG
SS620	CGTTATTTAGCAAGATTGACTGGGCTTT TTC ATTGATGGATCTGGTCATTTTGC
TB1	TGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACCatgggcaaaaccattcttcttag
TB2	CTTTCGGGCTTTGTTAGCAGCCGGATCttaatggtgatggtgatggtgttaaag
TB3	ctttacaccatcaccatcaccattaaGATCCGGCTGCTAACAAGCCCGAAAG
TB4	ctaagataagaatggttttgcccatGGTATATCTCCTTCTTAAAGTTAAACA

Table SI4. Site-directed mutagenesis primers and templates

Strain #	Plasmid name	Mutation	Template	Mutagenesis primers
PPY1310	pSS196	G17R	PPY1236 (pSS192)	SS541/542
PPY1311	pSS197	T120R	PPY1236 (pSS192)	SS549/550
PPY1312	pSS198	A121R	PPY1236 (pSS192)	SS547/548
PPY1320	pSS199	A165R	PPY1236 (pSS192)	SS545/546
PPY1321	pSS200	G17R/A165R	PPY1310 (pSS196)	SS545/546
PPY1322	pSS201	A121R/A165R	PPY1312 (pSS198)	SS545/546
PPY1323	pSS202	T120R/A165R	PPY1320 (pSS199)	SS549/550
PPY1326	pSS203	G17R/A121R	PPY1312 (pSS198)	SS541/542
PPY1327	pSS204	G17R/T120R	PPY1311 (pSS197)	SS541/542
PPY1328	pSS205	T120R/A121R	PPY1311 (pSS197)	SS583/584
PPY1329	pSS206	S11A	PPY1236 (pSS192)	SS601/602
PPY1393	pSS208	G17R/A165R/T120R	PPY1321 (pSS200)	SS549/550
PPY1394	pSS209	G17R/A165R/A121R	PPY1321 (pSS200)	SS547/548
PPY1395	pSS210	G17R/A165R/N158D	PPY1321 (pSS200)	SS608/609
PPY1499	pSS251	G17E	PPY1310 (pSS196)	SS617/618
PPY1500	pSS252	G17E/A165E	PPY1499 (pSS251)	SS619/620
PPY1501	pSS253	G17E/A165R	PPY1321 (pSS200)	SS617/618
PPY1502	pSS254	G17R/A165E	PPY1310 (pSS196)	SS619/620

	<i>Escherichia coli</i> TesA	<i>Acinetobacter baylyi</i> TE
<i>Escherichia coli</i> TesA		38.3%
<i>Acinetobacter baylyi</i> TE	38.3%	
<i>Cocos nucifera</i> TE	19.0%	16.9%
<i>Umbellularia californica</i> TE	21.1%	14.7%
<i>Cuphea palustris</i> TE	16.7	16.9%

Figure SI1. Percent sequence identity of thioesterases uses in this work. Bacterial thioesterases (blue boxes); plant thioesterases (green boxes).

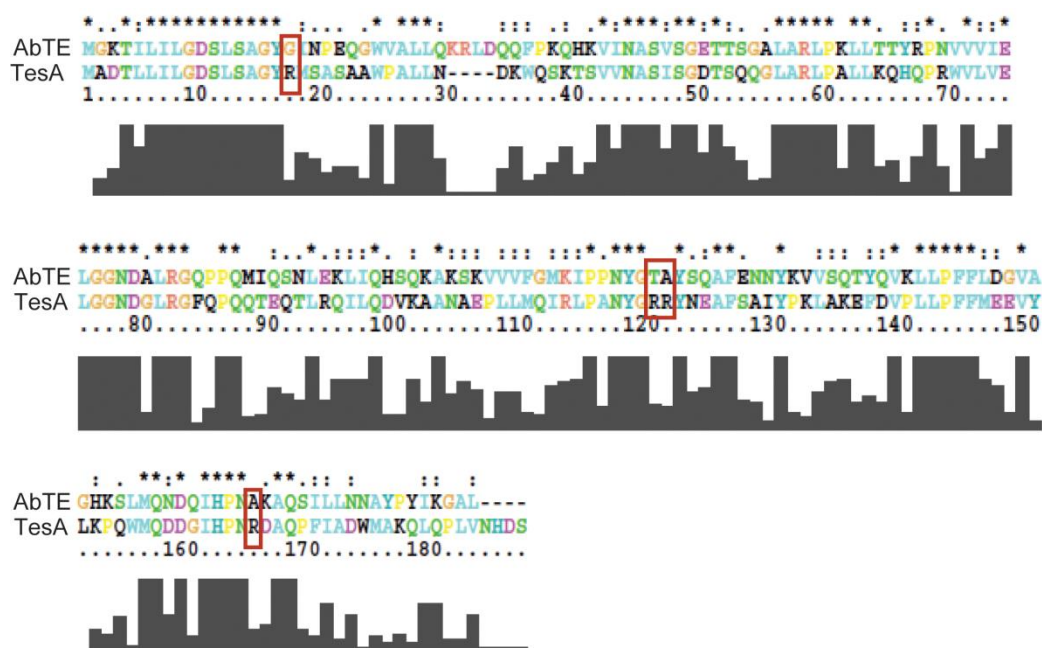


Figure SI2. Amino acid sequence alignment of AbTE wt and *E. coli* TesA with the signal peptide removed. Red boxes indicate amino acids targeted for mutagenesis.

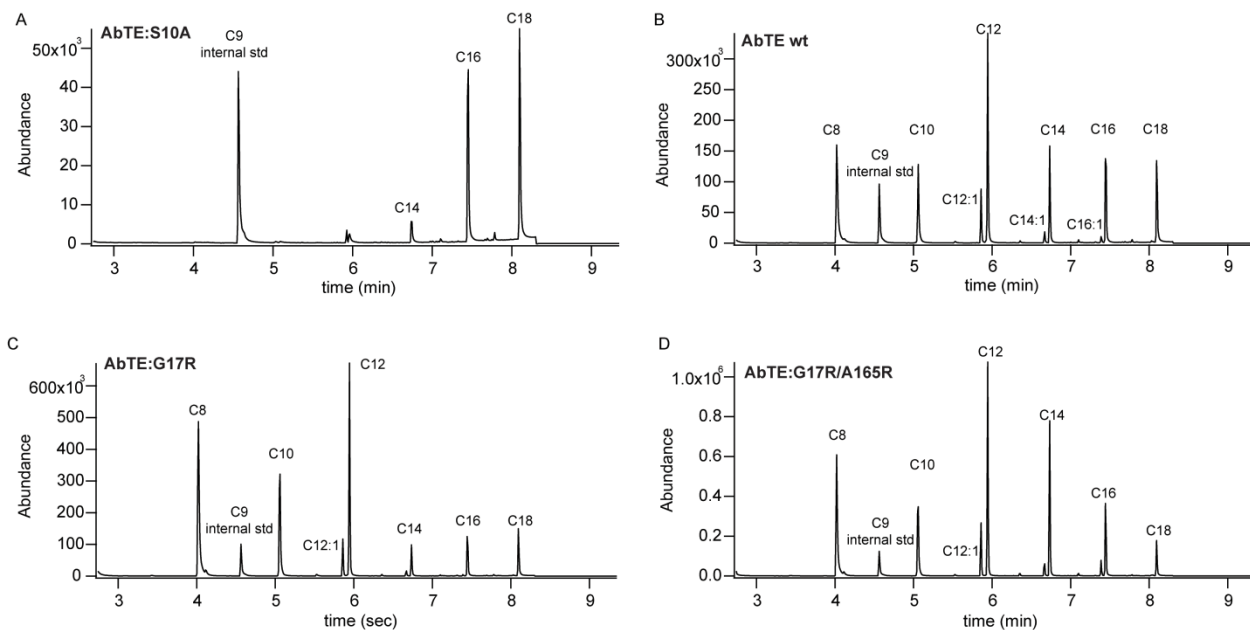


Figure SI3. Gas chromatograms of secreted fatty acids produced by *E. coli* expressing AbTE and AbTE variants. A) AbTE:S11A (inactive enzyme), B) Wild-type AbTE) C) AbTE:G17R D) AbTE:G17R/A165R. Single Ion Monitoring: 74 and 87.

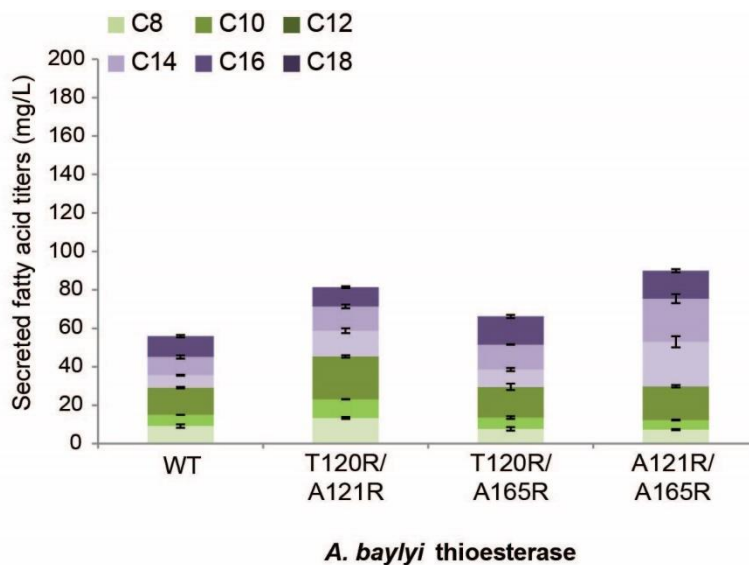


Figure SI4. Secreted fatty acid production of *E. coli* expressing AbTE:WT, AbTE: T120R/A121R, AbTE: T120R/A165R, AbTE: A121R/A165R.

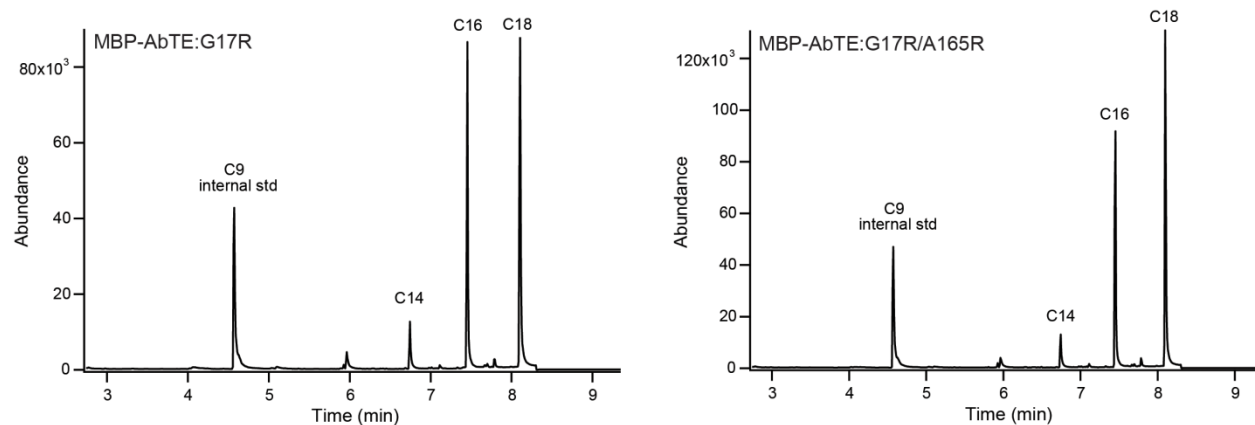


Figure SI5: Effect of fusing maltose binding protein (MBP) to AbTE mutants. Gas chromatograms of MBP-AbTE:G17R (left) and MBP-AbTE:G17R/A165R (right). Single Ion Monitoring: 74 and 87.

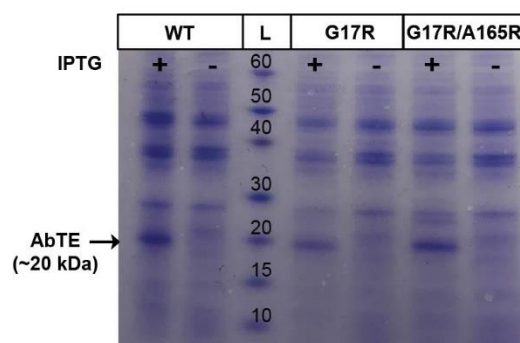


Figure SI6: Protein levels of *Acitenobacter baylyi* TE expressed in *E. coli*. Coomassie stained SDS-PAGE gel of induced (+IPTG) and uninduced (-IPTG) *E. coli* cultures expressing AbTE:WT, AbTE:G17R and AbTE:G17R/A165R.

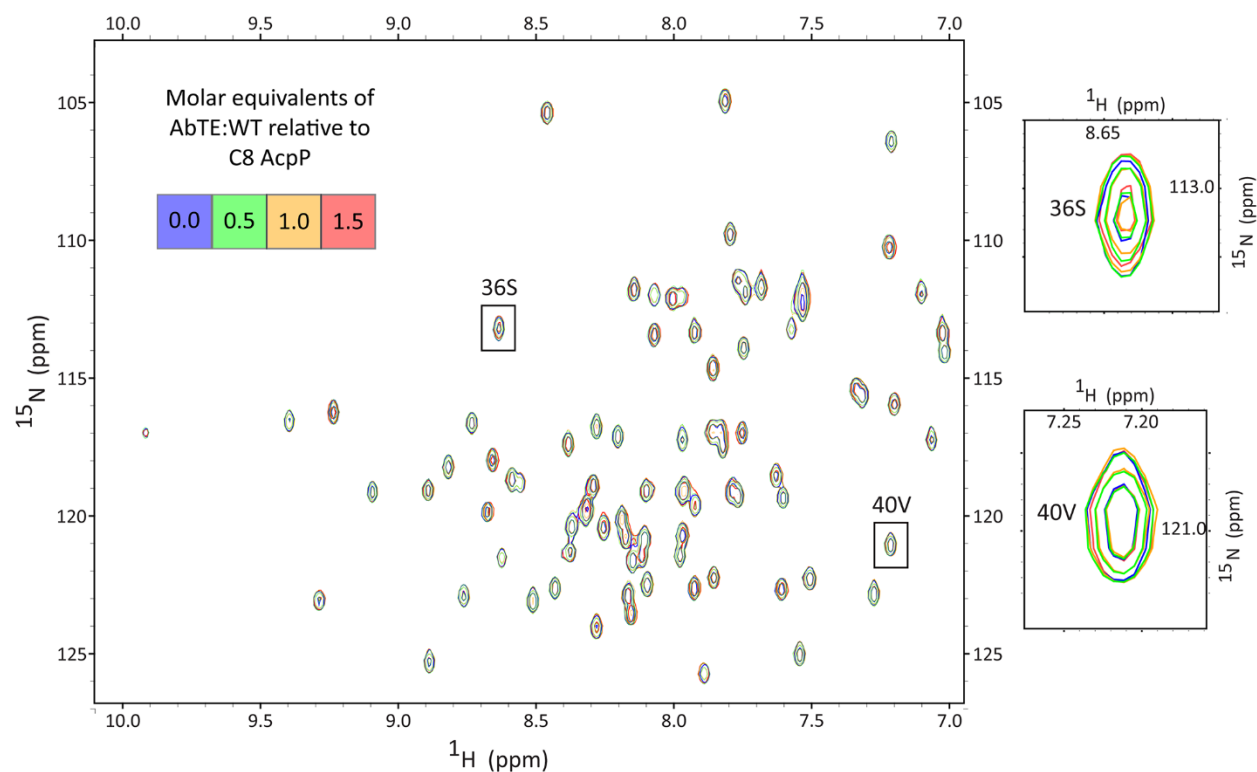


Figure S17: HSQC titration of wild type AbTE with *E. coli* ^{15}N -octanoyl-AcpP. The titration was performed up to 1.5 molar equivalents of AbTE:WT to confirm lack of interactions.

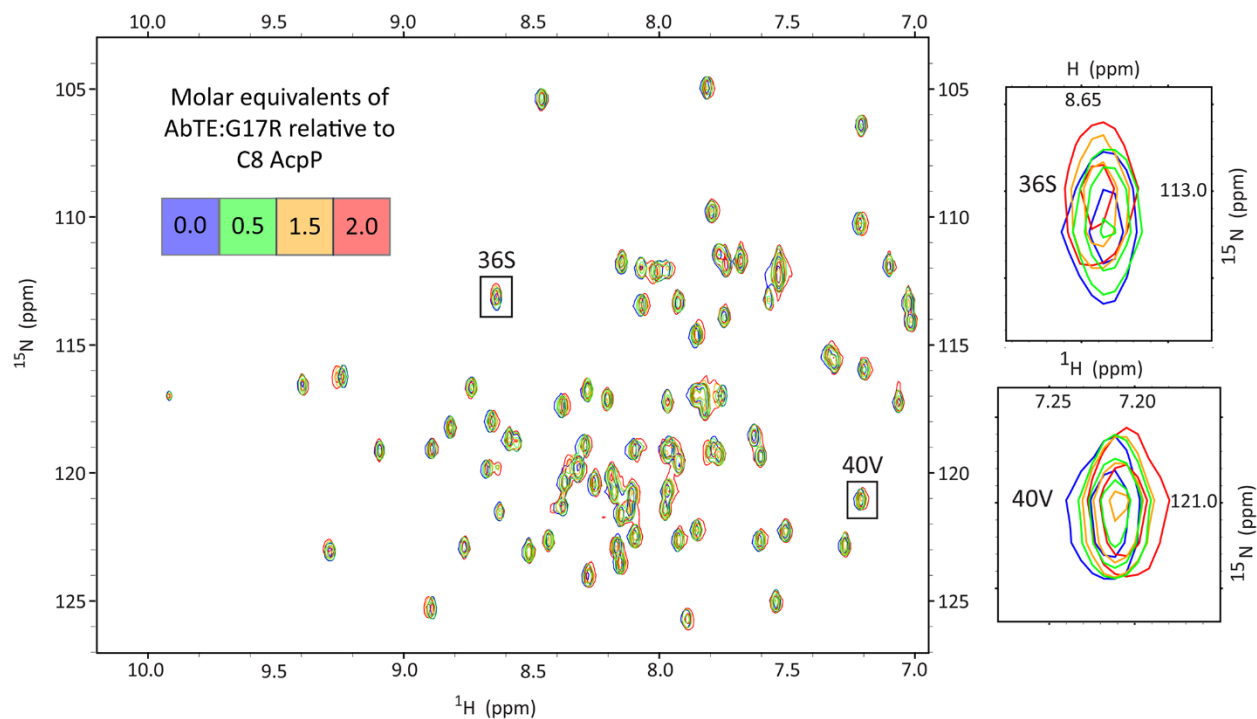


Figure S18: HSQC titration of AbTE:G17R with *E. coli* ^{15}N -octanoyl-AcpP. The titration was performed up to 2 molar equivalents of AbTE:G17R to confirm small interactions.

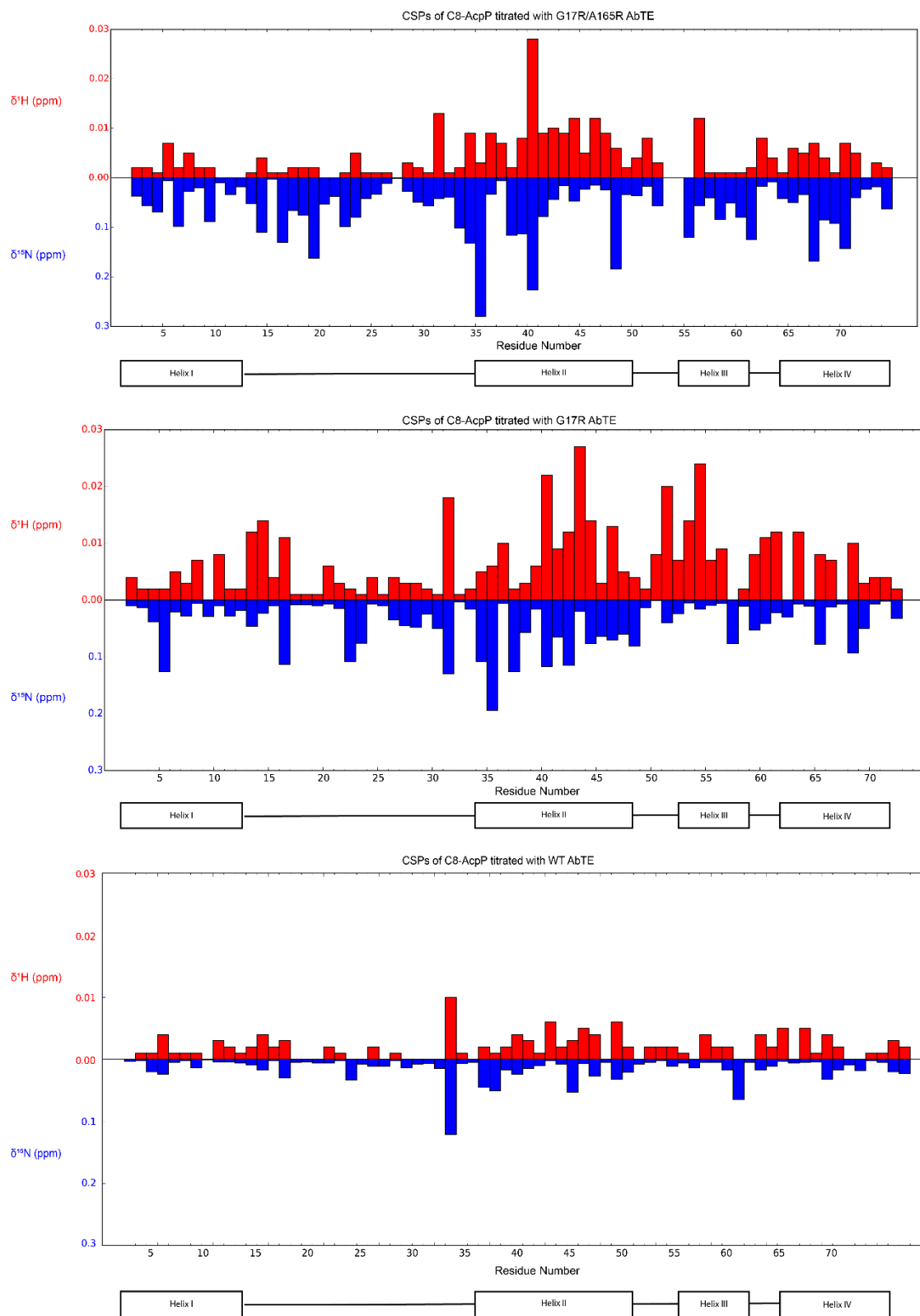


Figure SI9: HSQC titrations of AbTE:WT, AbTE:G17R, and AbTE:G17R/A165R with *E. coli* ^{15}N -octanoyl-AcpP. Here perturbations are separated by resonances in the ^1H and ^{15}N dimensions

***Cocos nucifera* thioesterase FatB3 (*S. cerevisiae* codon-optimized, N-term signal peptide removed):**

ATGTTGCCAGATTGGTCTATGTTGTTGGCTGCTATTAGAACCATTTTCTCCGCTGCTGAGAAGCAATG
GACTTTGCTCGATTCTAAGAAGCGAGGTGCTGATGCTGTTGCTGATGCTTCTGGTGTGGTAAGATG
GTTAAGAATGGCTTGGTCTACAGACAGAACTTCTCCATTAGATCCTACGAAATTGGTGTGATAAGAG
AGCTTCCGTTGAGGCTTTGATGAATCATTTCCAAGAACTTCTTTGAATCATTGTAAGTGTATTGGTTT
GATGCATGGTGGTTTCGGTTGTACTCCAGAAATGACTAGAAGAAATTTGATTTGGGTGTTGCTAAGA
TGTTGGTTCATGTTGAAAGATACCCCTGGTGGGGTGATGTTGTTCAAATTAATACTTGGATTTCTTCTT
CTGGTAAGAATGGTATGGGTAGAGATTGGCATGTTTCATGATTGTCAAATGGTTTGCCAATTATGAGA
GGTACTTCTGTTTGGGTATGATGGATAAGCATACTAGAAGATTGTCTAAGTTGCCAGAAGAAGTTAG
AGCTGAAATTACTCCATTCTTCTCTGAAAGAGATGCTGTTTTGGATGATAATGGTAGAAAGTTGCCAA
AGTTCGATGACGATTCTGCTGCTCATGTTAGAAGAGGTTTACTCCAAGATGGCATGATTCGATGTT
AATCAACATGTTAATAATGTTAAGTACGTTGGTTGGATTTTGAATCTGTTCCAGTTTGGATGTTGGAT
GGTTACGAGGTTGCTACTATGTCTTTGGAGTACAGAAGAGAGTGTAGAATGGATTCTGTTGTTCAATC
TTTGACTGCTGTTTCTTCTGATCATGCTGATGGTTCTCCAATTGTTGTCAACATTTGTTGAGATTGGA
AGATGGTACTGAAATTGTTAGAGGTCAAATGAATGGAGACCAAAGCAACAAGCTAGAGATTTGGGT
AATATGGGTTTGCATCCAATGAATCTAAATAA

***Cuphea palustris* thioesterase FatB1 (*S. cerevisiae* codon-optimized, N-term signal peptide removed):**

ATGAGGCCAAACATGTTGATGGATTCCTTCGGCTTGAAAGAGTCGTCCAAGATGGTTTGGTCTTCA
GACAATCCTTCTCCATTAGATCCTATGAAATTTGTGCTGATAGAAGTCTTCCATTGAACTGTCATGA
ACCATGTCCAAGAACTTCCTTGAACCAATGTAAGTCCATTGGTTTGTGGATGATGGTTTCGGTAGA
TCCCCAGAAATGTGTAAGAGAGATTTGATTTGGGTCGTCACTAGAATGAAGATTATGGTCAACAGATA
CCCAACTTGGGGTGATACTATTGAAGTCTCCACTTGGTTGTCTCAATCTGGTAAGATTGGTATGGGTA
GAGATTGGTTGATTTCTGATTGTAACACTGGTGAATTTTGGTCAGAGCTACTTCCGTCTACGCTATG
ATGAACCAGAAGACGAGAAGATTCTCCAAGTTGCCACATGAAGTCAGACAAGAATTTGCTCCACATTT
CTTGATTCCCCACCAGCTATTGAAGATAACGATGGTAAGTTGCAAAAGTTTCGATGTCAAGACTGGT
GATTCCATTAGAAAGGGTTTGACTCCAGGTTGGTACGATTTGGATGTCAACCAACATGTCTCTAACGT
CAAGTACATTGGTTGGATTTTGAATCTATGCCAACTGAAGTCTTGAAACTCAAGAATTGTGTTCTT
TGACTTTGGAATACAGAAGAGAATGTGGTAGAGATTCTGTCTTGGAATCCGTCACCTCTATGGACCCA
TCTAAGGTCGGTGATAGATTCCAATACAGACATTTGTTGAGATTGGAAGATGGTGCTGATATTATGAA
GGGTAGAAGTGAATGGAGACCAAAGAACGCTGGTACTAACGGTGCTATTTCTACTGGTAAGACTTAA

***Umbellularia californica* thioesterase FatB2 (*E. coli* codon-optimized, N-term signal peptide removed):**

ATGACTCTAGAGTGGAACCGAAACCAAACTGCCTCAACTGCTGGATGATCACTTCGGTCTGCACG
GTCTGGTGTTCGTCTGCTACTTTTCGCAATTCGTTCTTATGAAGTGGGTCCAGATCGTTCTACCTCCATC
CTGGCCGTCATGAACCACATGCAGGAAGCCACCCTGAATCACGCGAAATCTGTTGGTATCCTGGGT
GATGGTTTCGGCACTACTCTGGAATGTCTAAACGTGACCTGATGTGGGTAGTGCGTCGCACCCAC
GTAGCAGTAGAGCGCTACCCTACTTGGGGTGACACTGTGGAAGTCGAGTGTGGATTGGCGCGTCC
GGTAACAATGGTATGCGTCGCGATTTTCTGGTCCGTGACTGTAAACGGGCGAAATCCTGACGCGTT
GCACCTCCCTGAGCGTTCTGATGAACACCCGCACTCGTCGCCTGTCTACCATCCCGGACGAAGTGC
GCGGTGAGATCGGTCCTGCTTTCATCGATAACGTGGCAGTTAAAGACGACGAAATCAAGAACTGCA
AAAATGAACGACTCCACCGCGGACTACATCCAGGGCGGTCTGACTCCGCGCTGGAACGACCTGGA

TGTTAATCAGCATGTGAACAACCTGAAATACGTTGCTTGGGTCTTCGAGACTGTGCCGGACAGCATT
TTCGAAAGCCATCACATTTCTCTTTTACTCTGGAGTACCGTCGCGAATGTACTCGCGACTCCGTTCT
GCGCAGCCTGACCACCGTAAGCGGCGGTTCTAGCGAGGCAGGTCTGGTCTGCGACCATCTGCTGC
AACTGGAAGGCGGCTCCGAAGTCCTGCGTGCGCGTACGGAGTGGCGTCCAAAGCTGACGGATTCTT
TCCGCGGCATCTCCGTAATTCCGGCGGAACCTCGTGTTTAA

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