

The molecular basis of thioalcohol production in human body odour

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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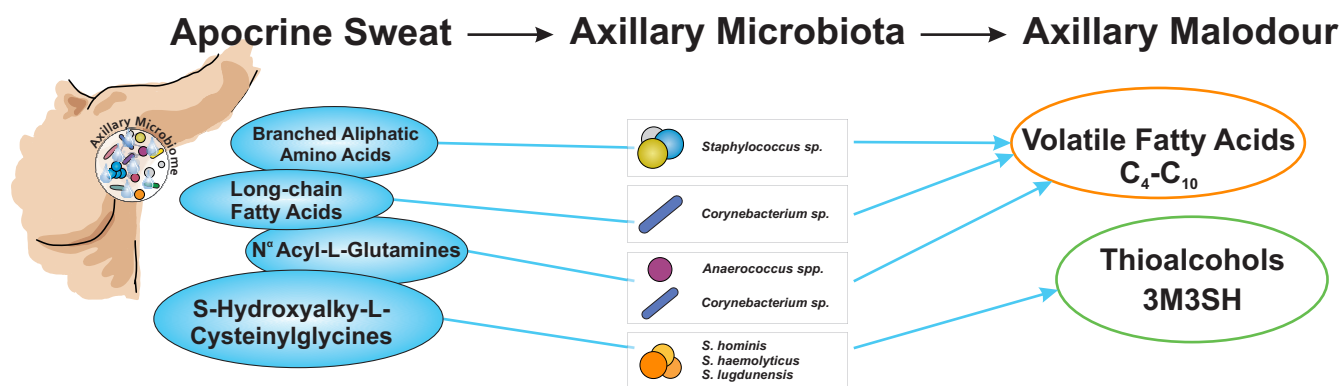


Figure S1 Biochemical origins of axillary malodour

Axillary malodour is composed of a mixture of volatile organic compounds. Volatile fatty acids (VFAs) and thioalcohols are considered the main causal agents of malodour¹. The volatile compounds in axillary malodour are derived from the bacterial metabolism of odourless precursors secreted in apocrine sweat. *Corynebacterium sp.* produce structurally unusual medium chain acids from *N*-acylglutamine precursors. *Staphylococcus sp.* contribute by converting branched chain amino acids (such as leucine) into odorous short chain fatty acids (C₄-C₅). Malodour producing staphylococci such as *S. hominis* produce volatile sulphur thiols from dipeptide conjugated thiol precursors (S-hydroxyalkyl-L-cysteinylglycines) that are secreted from the apocrine gland. These volatile thiols give BO its characteristic odour and are particularly pungent exhibiting a significantly lower olfactory threshold compared to other odorous volatiles in axillary malodour.

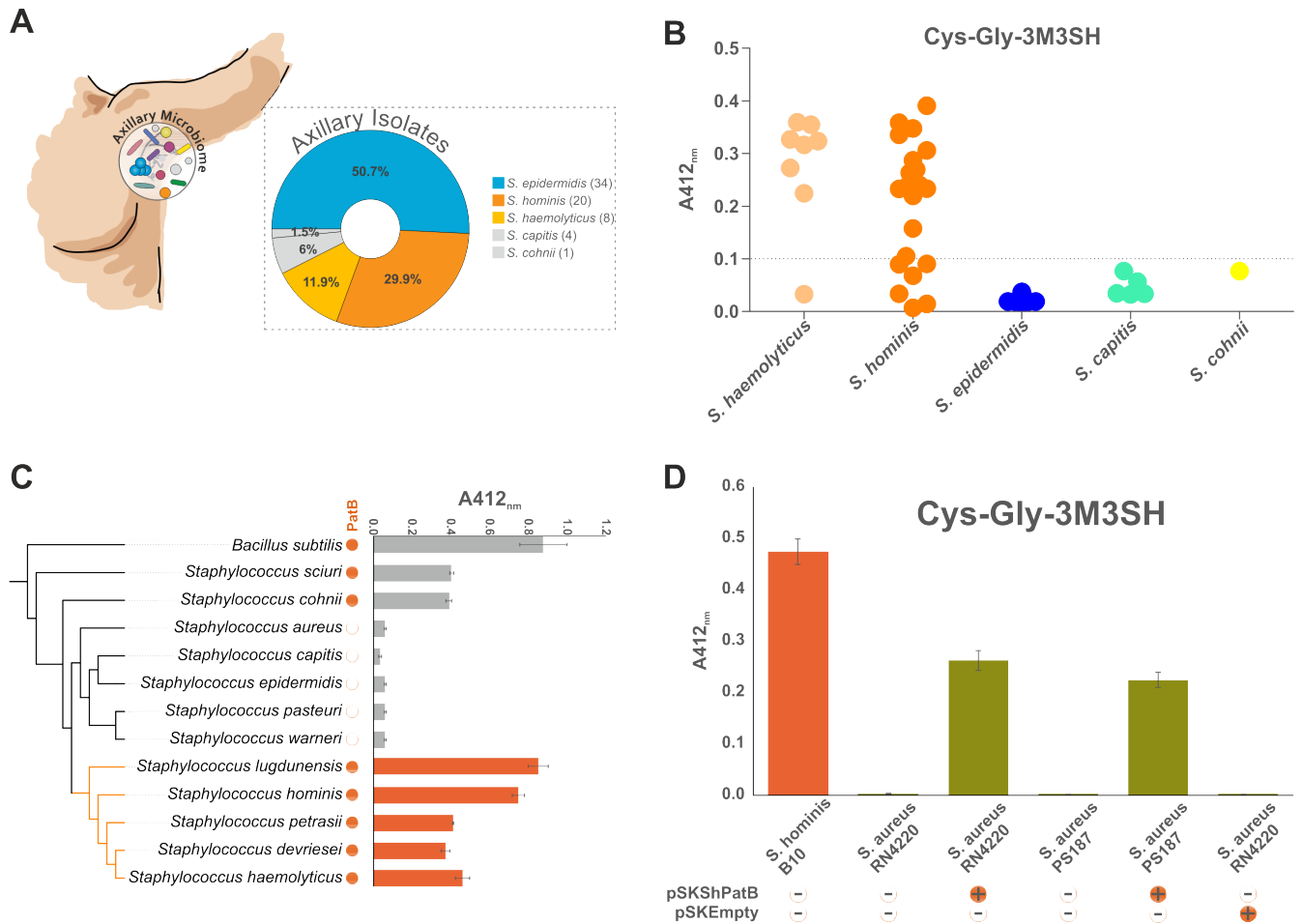


Figure S2 Bacterial biotransformation of Cys-Gly-3M3SH.

A. Overview of *Staphylococcal* sp. isolated from a Unilever axillary project. *S. epidermidis* is the most abundant staphylococcal species found in the axillary microbiota followed by *S. hominis* and *S. haemolyticus*. **B.** Axillary *Staphylococcus* isolates were screened for in vivo biotransformation of Cys-Gly-3M3SH. Whole cells were incubated at 37C overnight with Cys-3M3SH (2.5mM). Release of 3M3SH in the supernatant was detected by labelling with DTNB and measuring absorbance at 412nm (y-axis). Despite being the most dominant staphylococcal species in the underarm *S. epidermidis* lacks an equivalent ShPatB ortholog and does not metabolise Cys-Gly-3M3SH. In contrast, *S. hominis* and *S. haemolyticus* contain the PatB enzyme, yet several axillary isolates strains display differential in vivo activity toward Cys-Gly-3M3SH. **C.** In vivo biotransformation of Cys-Gly-3M3SH. Bacteria containing PatB enzymes are capable of metabolising the malodour precursor. Release of 3M3SH was labelled with DTNB and absorbance measured at 412nm. **D.** Non-malodour producing *S. aureus* can efficiently uptake and metabolise Cys-Gly-3M3SH upon overexpression of ShPatB. Wild type *S. aureus* does not contain a ShPatB ortholog and cannot metabolise Cys-3M3SH. Phylogenetic tree and bar chart was generated using iTOL (<https://itol.embl.de/>)

Staphylococcus hominis core genome (n=65)

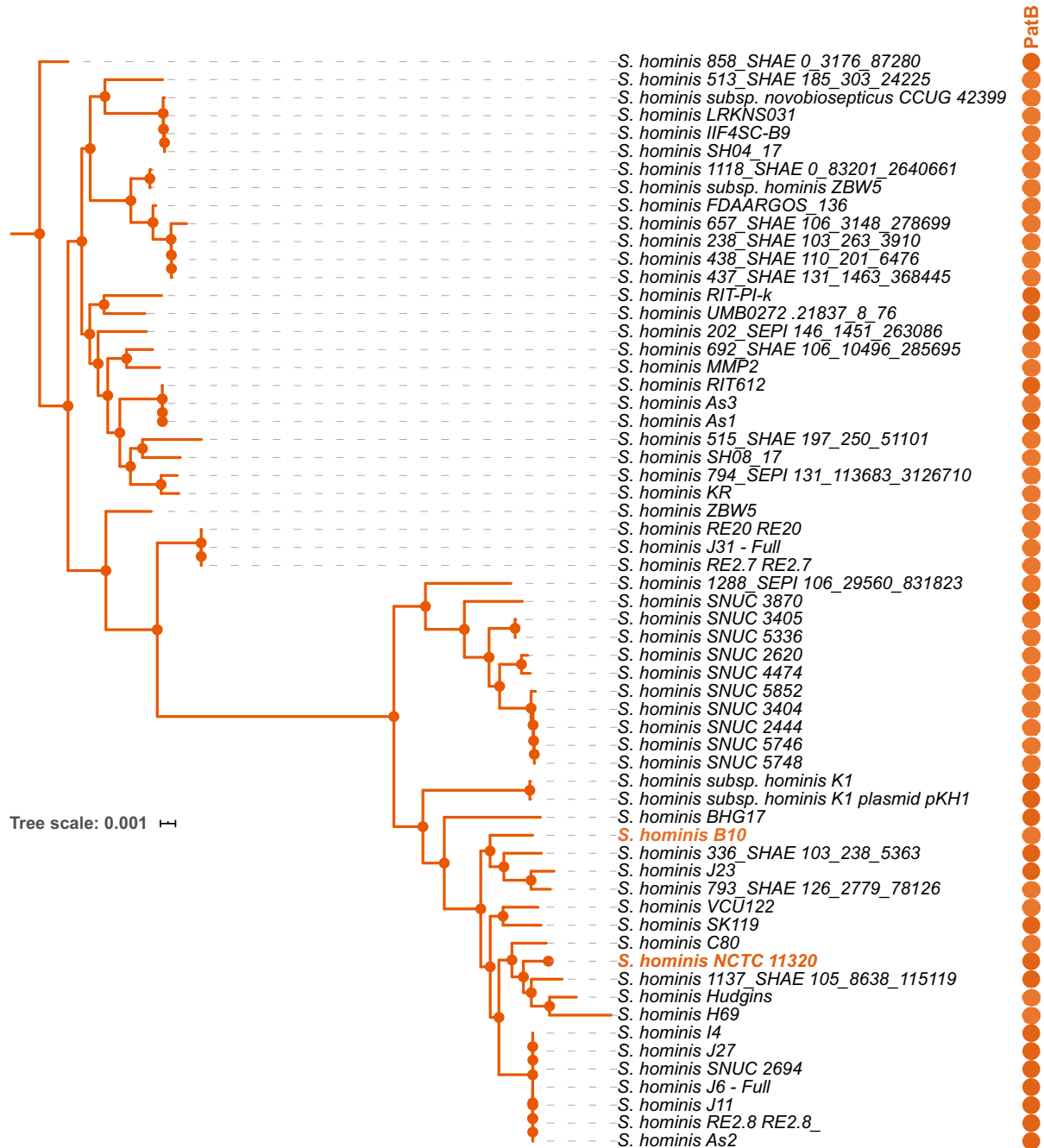


Figure S3 *S. hominis* Core Genome Phylogeny

ShPatB is a core gene present in *S. hominis* sp. Phylogenetic tree was generated using iTOL (<https://itol.embl.de/>)

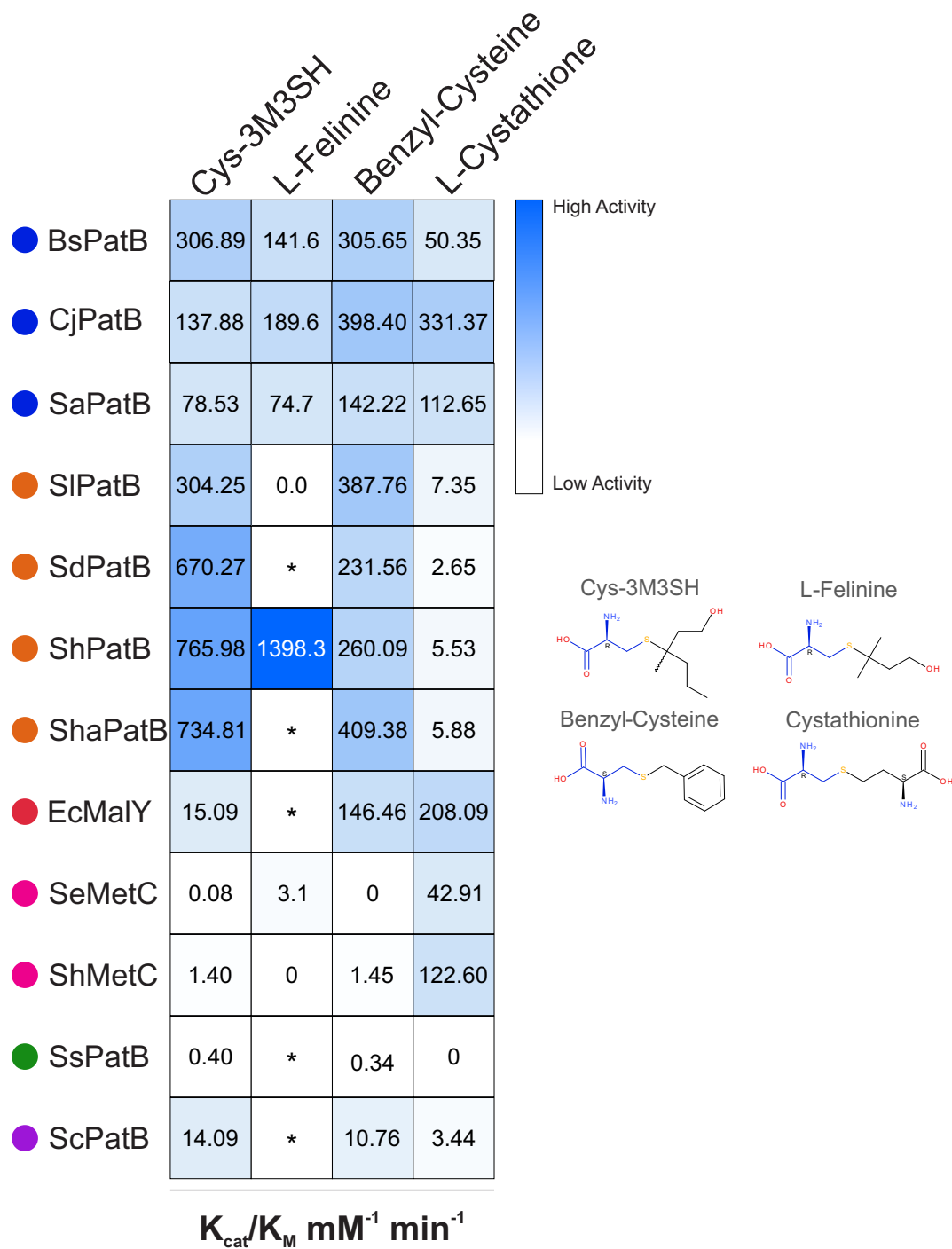


Figure S4 ShPatB prefers Cys-3M3SH and related substrates.

Comparison of catalytic efficiencies (K_{cat}/K_M) for selected PLP dependent C-S -lyases against various cysteine-S-conjugate substrates. Malodour producing staphylococci have the highest activity toward Cys-3M3SH compared to other substrates

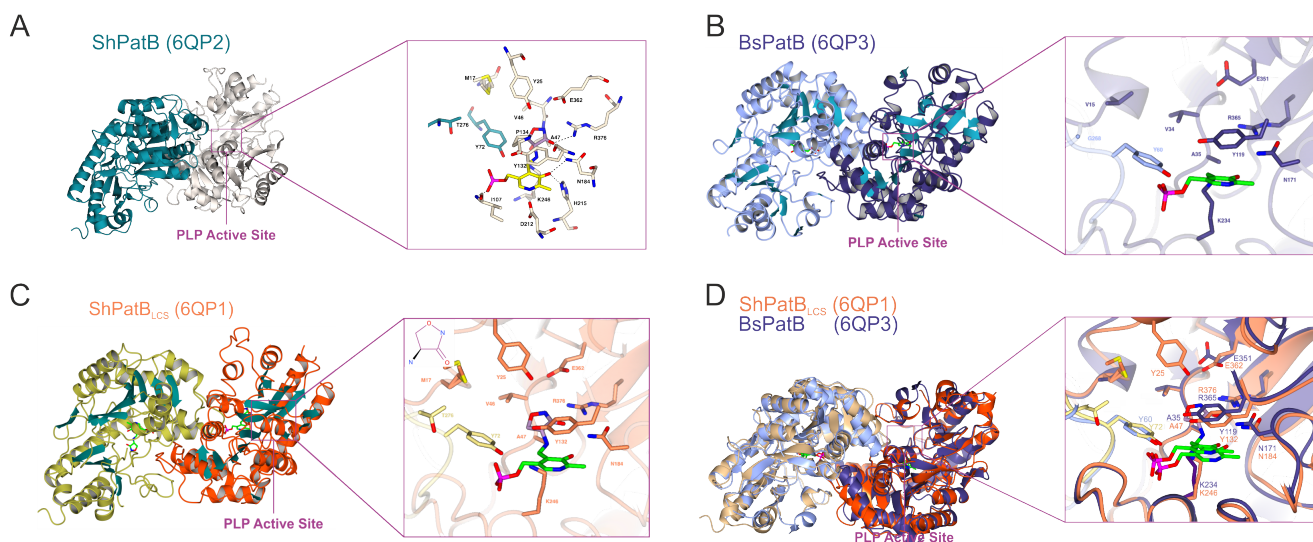


Figure S5 Overall architecture of ShPatB and BsPatB PLP dependent C-S-lyases.

A. Crystal structure of ShPatB (PDB 6QP2) with zoomed view of PLP bound in the internal aldimine form to K246. **B.** Crystal structure of PatB from *Bacillus subtilis* (PDB 6QP3) showing internal aldimine of PLP covalently bound to K234 in active site of BsPatB. **C.** Structure of ShPatB bound in complex with L-cycloserine (PDB ID 6QP1). L-cycloserine is shown in the external aldimine form bound to PLP. **D.** Superposition of the ShPatB_{LCS} (orange) and BsPatB (blue) done using the SSM superpose algorithm on CCP4MG with a calculated RMSD of 1.31. All structural images were generated in CCP4MG (<http://www.ccp4.ac.uk/MG/>)

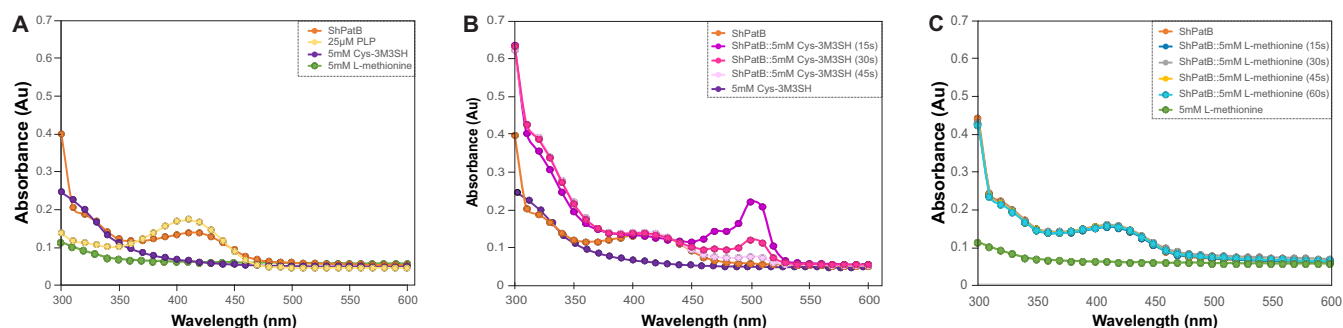


Figure S6 UV-Vis Absorption spectra of wild-type ShPatB in the presence of Cys-3M3SH

A. Absorption spectra of ShPatB, PLP and substrates only. Presence of the PLP cofactor observed at peak 410nm. **B.** Spectral changes of ShPatB in the presence of 5mM Cys-3M3SH. ShPatB with Cys-3M3SH shows a peak at 500nm concomitant with a slight decrease in absorption at 410nm (PLP). At later timepoints, the peak at 500nm subsequently decreases and the peak at 410nm returned to the level of wildtype ShPatB. **C.** Absorption spectra of ShPatB in the presence of L-methionine. No additional peaks were observed with L-methionine, a methionine gamma-lyase substrate.

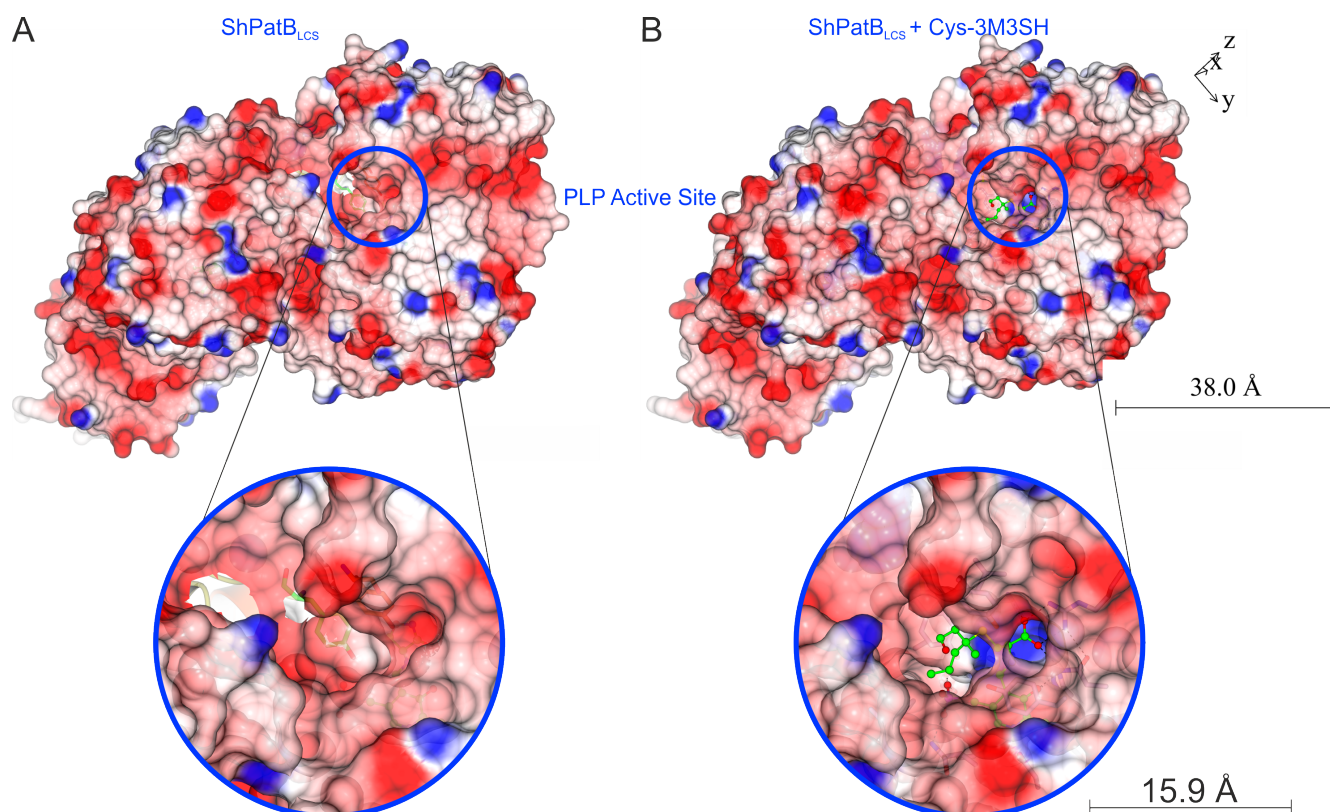


Figure S7 Modelled Cys-3M3SH extends toward the protein surface

A. Electrostatic surface potential of ShPatB_{LCS} and **B.** electrostatic surface potential of ShPatB_{LCS} with Cys-3M3SH modelled into the binding site. The side group of Cys-3M3SH extends outward toward the protein surface from the recessed binding site. Electrostatic surfaces were generated by CCP4MG. Colours represent charge density blue (positive) and red (negative). Images were generated in CCP4MG (<http://www.ccp4.ac.uk/MG/>)

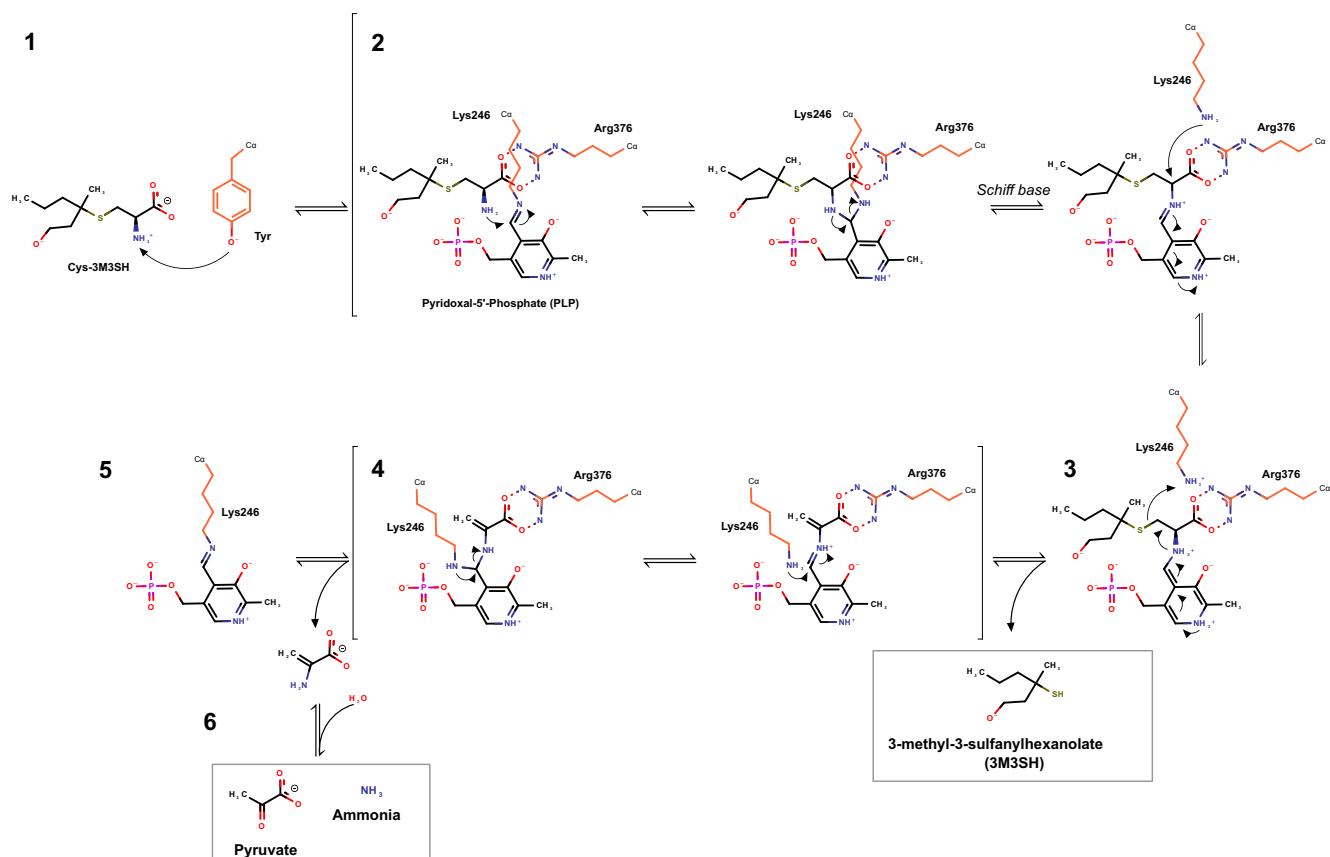


Figure S8 Suggested mechanism of Cys-3M3SH cleavage by ShPatB

Residues are shown in orange. **(1)** A conserved tyrosine residue within the binding pocket deprotonates the amino group on Cys-3M3SH. **(2)** The deprotonated amine group carries out a nucleophilic attack on the PLPLys246 bond to release Lys246 and form a Schiff base with the PLP. **(3)** The free Lys246 can now accept the proton via the sulphur causing the C-S bond breakage and the release of the odorous molecule, 3-methyl-3-sulfanylhexanolate (3M3SH). **(4)** The lysine is able to carry out a nucleophilic attack on the external aldimine, **(5)** releasing the internal aldimine and **(6)** -aminoacrylate which is tautomerized and hydrolysed to form pyruvate and ammonia.

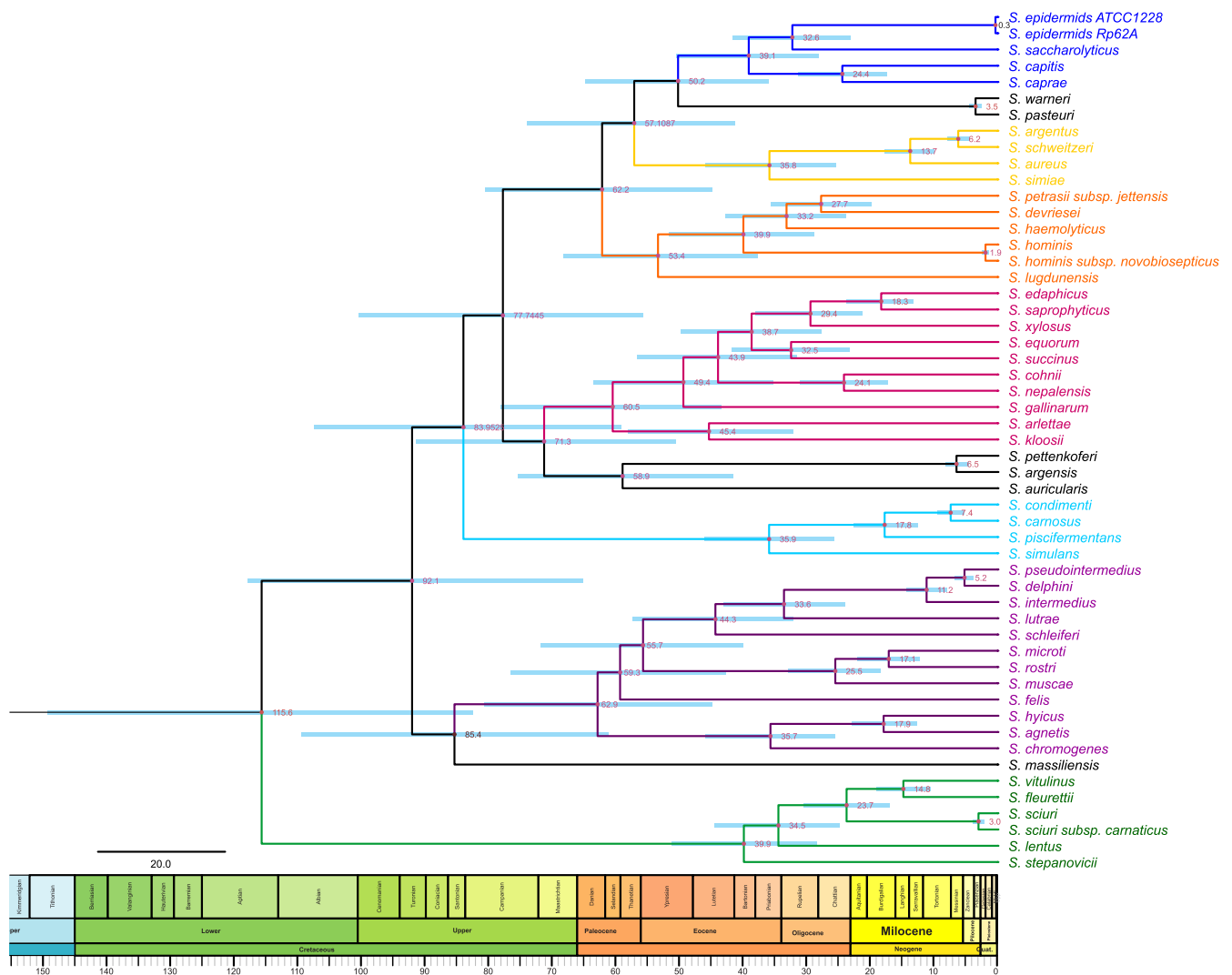


Figure S9 Estimated divergence time for *Staphylococcus* spp.

Expanded phylogenetic tree showing all estimated divergence times for *Staphylococcus* spp. Divergence confidence intervals are drawn as blue scale bars around the respective nodes (represented by pink dots). Phylogenetic tree was generated using FigTree V1.4.4.

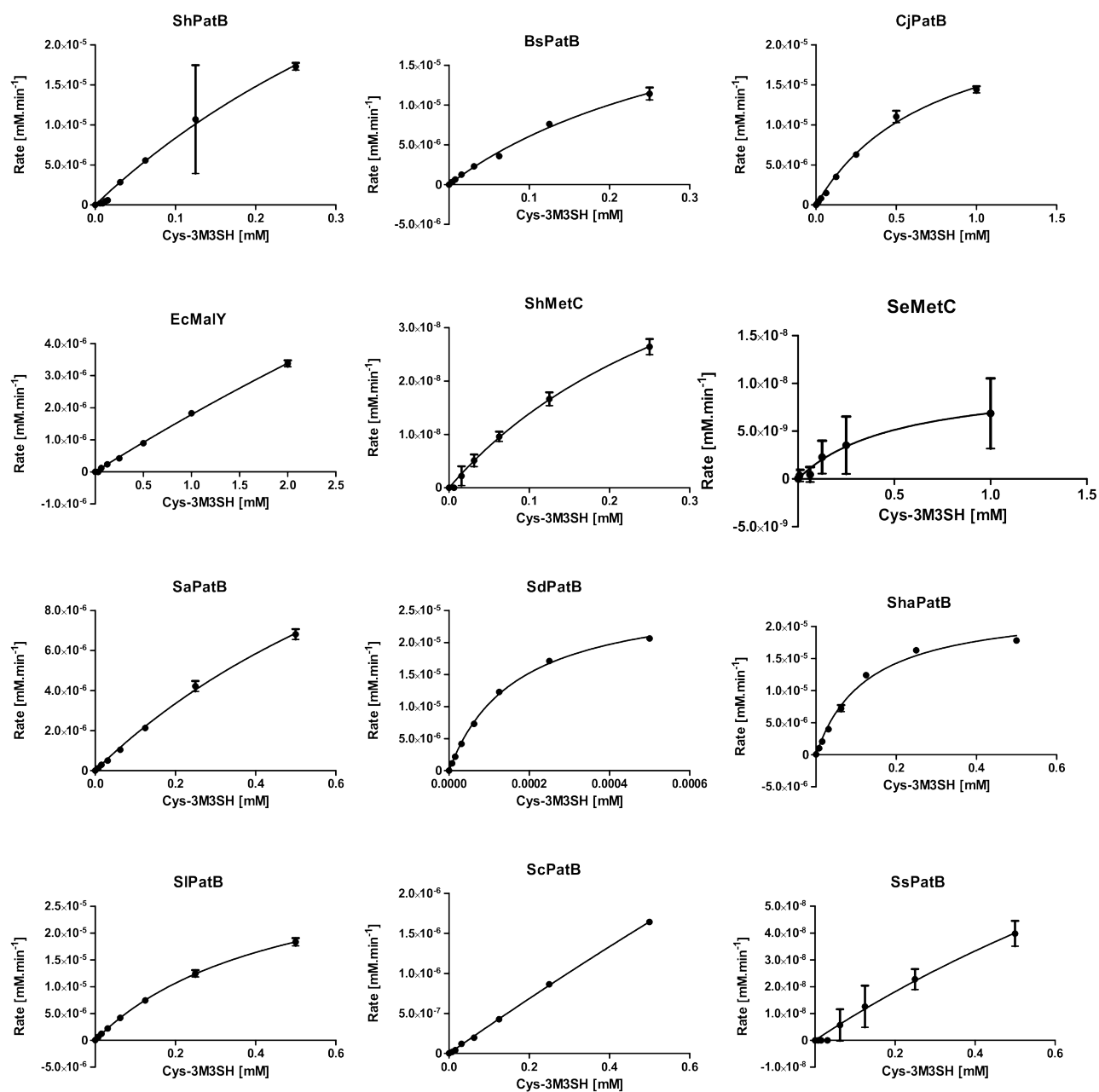


Figure S10 Michaelis-Menten plots for biotransformation of Cys-3M3SH by various C-S lyases.
Dots represent experimental points, lines are Michaelis-Menten fit

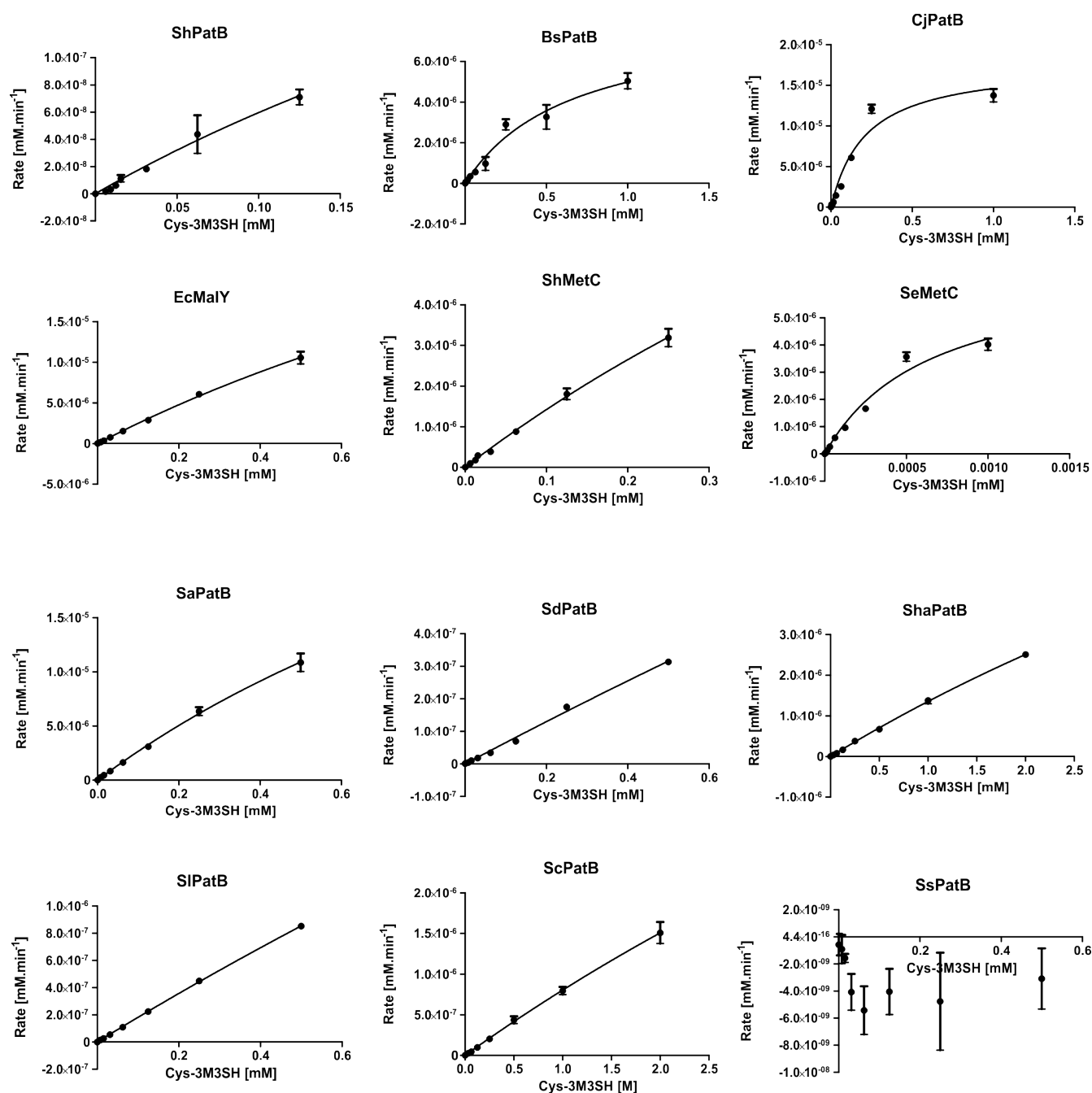


Figure S11 Michaelis-Menten plots for biotransformation of Cystathionine by various C-S lyases.
Dots represent experimental points, lines are Michaelis-Menten fit

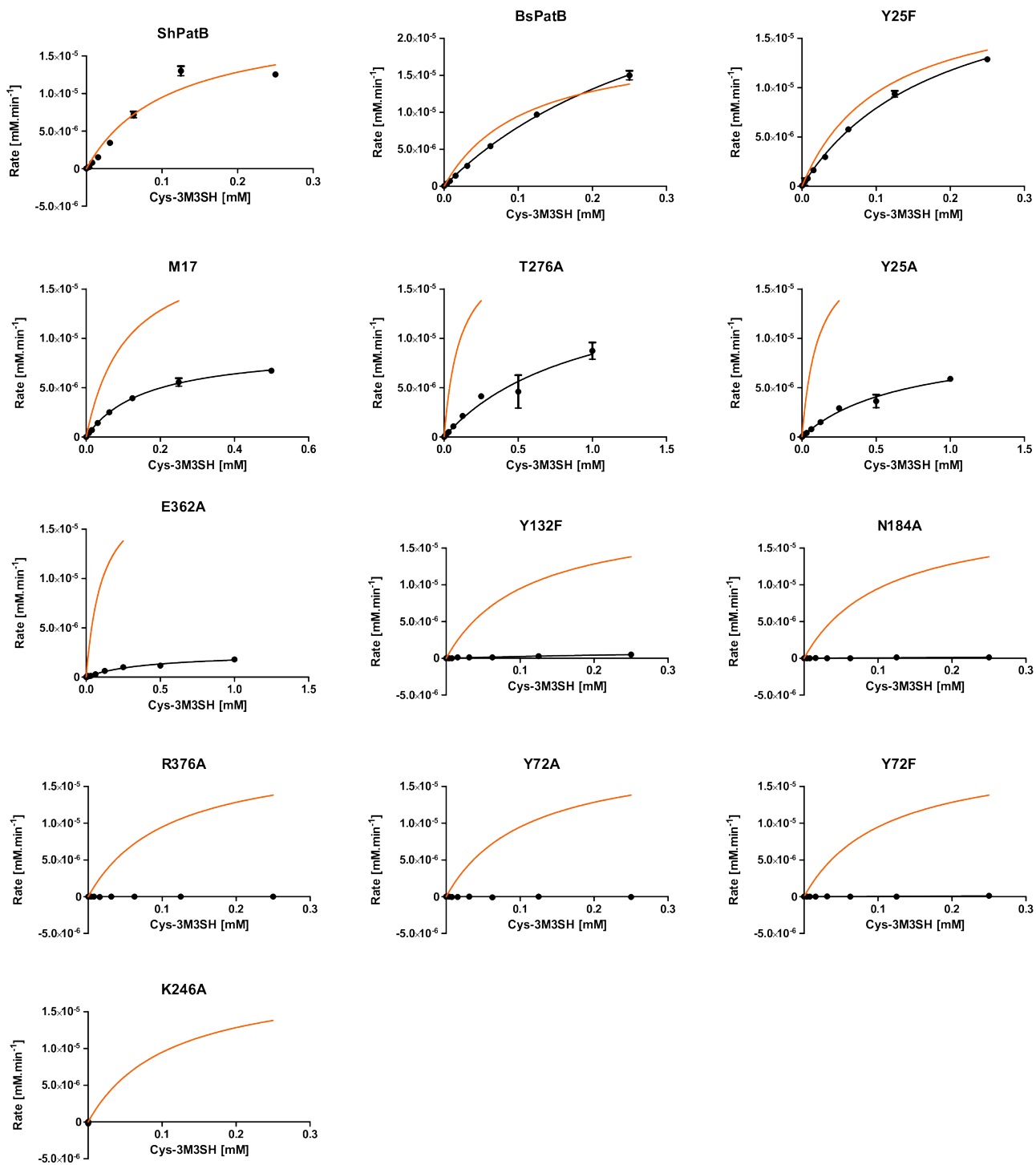


Figure S12 Michaelis-Menten plots for biotransformation of Cys-3M3SH by various ShPatB mutants. ShPatB wild-type (orange line) is shown in each plot for comparison. Dots represent experimental points, lines are Michaelis-Menten fit

Supplementary Data Tables

Kinetic characterisation of C-S- β -lyases with various cysteine-S-conjugate ligands.

Table S1 | Cys-3M3SH

Enzyme	μM	$K_M(\text{mM})$	$K_M[95\% \text{ CI}]$	$k_{\text{cat}}(\text{min}^{-1})$	$K_{\text{cat}}[95\% \text{ CI}]$	$k_{\text{cat}}/K_M(\text{mM}^{-1}\text{min}^{-1})$	R^2
ShPatB	0.25	0.11	[0.02, 0.20]	74.47	[47.2, 101.7]	670.90	0.970
ShaPatB	0.25	0.13	[0.08, 0.17]	93.10	[80.15, 106.10]	734.81	0.991
SdPatB	0.25	0.17	[0.14, 0.19]	111.60	[104.80, 118.40]	670.27	0.999
BsPatB	0.25	0.38	[0.07, 0.41]	115.30	[76.73, 153.80]	306.89	0.996
SlPatB	0.25	0.47	[0.45, 0.49]	141.90	[138.30, 145.50]	304.25	1.000
CjPatB	0.25	0.74	[0.52, 0.97]	102.60	[85.66, 119.50]	137.88	0.996
SaPatB	0.25	1.16	[0.69, 1.63]	91.10	[63.11, 119.10]	78.53	0.998
EcMalY	0.24	17.49	[2.53, 32.45]	264.00	[28.89, 235.10]	15.09	0.999
ScPatB	0.25	7.09	[-0.10, 14.27]	99.85	[4.27, 195.40]	14.09	1.000
EcTnaA	1.00	2.15	[1.08, 3.22]	3.06	[2.12, 4.00]	1.42	0.993
ShMetC	0.125	0.38	[0.22, 0.54]	0.53	[0.38, 0.69]	1.40	0.998
SsPatB	0.25	2.09	[-1.19, 5.36]	0.83	[-0.26, 1.92]	0.40	0.991
SeMetC	0.25	0.53	[0.13, 0.92]	0.04	[0.03, 0.06]	0.08	0.984

Table S2 | L-Cystathionine

Enzyme	μM	$K_M(\text{mM})$	$K_M[95\% \text{ CI}]$	$k_{\text{cat}}(\text{min}^{-1})$	$K_{\text{cat}}[95\% \text{ CI}]$	$k_{\text{cat}}/K_M(\text{mM}^{-1}\text{min}^{-1})$	R^2
CjPatB	0.25	0.21	[0.057,0.37]	70.88	[50.34,91.42]	331.37	0.954
EcMalY	0.125	2.2	[1.06,3.34]	457.8	[257.2,658.5]	208.09	0.999
ShMetC	0.125	1.27	[0.31,2.22]	155.7	[54.76,256.6]	122.6	0.998
SaPatB	0.25	1.72	[1.04,2.39]	193.3	[131.5,255.1]	112.65	0.999
BsPatB	0.25	0.66	[0.21,1.10]	33.01	[21.28, 44.73]	50.35	0.978
SeMetC	0.25	0.65	[0.22,1.08]	27.94	[18.21,37.67]	42.91	0.979
SlPatB	0.25	6.52	[3.10,9.94]	47.92	[24.28,71.55]	7.35	1
ShaPatB	0.25	11.7	[6.51,16.94]	68.93	[42.01,95.86]	5.88	1
ShPatB	0.125	0.63	[-0.55,1.81]	3.47	[-2.14,9.08]	5.53	0.989
ScPatB	0.25	14.2	[7.33,21.07]	48.83	[27.67,70.00]	3.44	1
SdPatB	0.25	10.39	[-37.02,57.80]	27.55	[-93.22,148.3]	2.65	0.996
EcTnaA	1	*	-	*	-	*	-
SsPatB	0.25	*	-	*	-	*	-

Table S3 | L-Felinine

Enzyme	μM	$K_M(\text{mM})$	$K_M[95\% \text{ CI}]$	$k_{\text{cat}}(\text{min}^{-1})$	$K_{\text{cat}}[95\% \text{ CI}]$	$k_{\text{cat}}/K_M(\text{mM}^{-1}\text{min}^{-1})$	R^2
ShPatB	0.125	0.1	[0.011,0.28]	200.1	[105.7,294.3]	1398.3	0.9561
CjPatB	0.25	0.8	[0.74,0.93]	158.8	[148.7,168.9]	189.6	1.000
BsPatB	0.25	0.4	[0.20,0.60]	56.7	[37.51,75.85]	141.6	0.996
SaPatB	0.25	1.1	[0.67,1.50]	81.2	[58.19,104.2]	74.7	0.998
EcMalY	0.125	*	-	*	-	*	-
SeMetC	0.25	4.7	[2.48,7.00]	14.6	[8.634, 20.49]	3.1	0.999
ShMetC	0.125	*	-	*	-	*	-
EcTnaA	1	3.3	[0.55,5.97]	0.7	[0.3042,1.131]	0.2	0.989
SdPatB	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
ShaPatB	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
SlPatB	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
ScPatB	*	-	-	-	-	-	-
SsPatB	*	-	-	-	-	-	-

Table S4| Steady state kinetics for ShPatB variants for Cys-3M3SH catalysis.

Enzyme	$K_M(\text{mM})$	$k_{\text{cat}}(\text{min}^{-1})$	$k_{\text{cat}}/K_M(\text{mM}^{-1}\text{min}^{-1})$	R^2
ShPatB	0.11	77.09	699.55	0.952
Y25F	0.19	90.88	485.21	0.999
BsPatB	0.36	146.4	409.63	0.999
M17A	0.16	44.83	278.97	0.999
T276A	0.97	66.06	68.34	0.975
Y25A	0.69	38.88	56.06	*
E362A	0.42	9.804	23.42	0.984
Y132F	0.48	5.822	12.04	0.952
N184A	0.52	1.774	3.14	0.752
K246A	*	*	*	*
R376A	*	*	*	*
Y72A	*	*	*	*
Y72F	*	*	*	*

Table S5| Data collection, phasing and refinement statistics for all structures in this study.

	ShPatB _{LCS}	ShPatB	BsPatB
PDB	6QP1	6QP2	6QP3
Source and Beamline	Diamond i03	Diamond i03	Diamond i04
Wavelength	0.9762	0.9763	0.9795
Type	Synchrotron	Synchrotron	Synchrotron
Detector	Dectris Pilatus	Dectris Pilatus	Dectris Pilatus
Data Statistics			
Space group	P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁	P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁	P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁
Cell constants a, b, c (Å)	55.47, 115.46, 118.96	54.75, 113.63, 118.10	75.28, 105.53, 209.58
Cell constants α, β, γ (°)	90.00, 90.00, 90.00	90.00, 90.00, 90.00	90.00, 90.00, 90.00
Overall resolution range (Å)	51.94 - 1.42	52.40 - 1.60	61.28 - 2.30
Inner shell resolution range (Å)	51.94 - 7.78	52.40 - 8.76	61.28 - 11.26
Outer shell resolution range (Å)	1.44 - 1.42	1.63 - 1.60	2.35 - 2.30
Overall completeness (%)	99.5	100	96
R_{merge} for all I⁺ and I^{-a}	0.103	0.098	0.197
< I/σ(I) >	1.34	1.35	1.65
Overall multiplicity	7.9	8	7.9
Refinement Statistics			
Program	REFMAC	REFMAC	REFMAC
Number of unique reflections	143787	97859	72018
Number of reflections, Free R set	7085 (4.93% overall)	4990 (5.10% overall)	3601 (5% overall)
R, R_{free}^{b,c}	0.200, 0.226	0.201, 0.243	0.215, 0.260
Total number of atoms	6889	6686	12174
Average B, all atoms (Å²)	23	30	29
RMS Deviations – Bonds^d	0.0118	0.0195	0.0087
RMS Deviations – Angles^d	1.625	1.364	1.652
Ramachandran plot^e	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%

^aR_{merge} = $\frac{\sum_{hkl} \sum_i |I_i| - \langle I \rangle}{\sum_{hkl} \sum_i \langle I \rangle}$ where I_i is the intensity of the i th measurement of a reflection with indexes hkl and I is the STATISTICALLY WEIGHTED AVERAGE REFLECTION INTENSITY.

^b R-factor = $\frac{||F_o| - |F_c||}{|F_o|}$ where F_o and F_c are the observed and calculated structure factor amplitudes, respectively.

^cR-free is the R-factor calculated with 5 % of the reflections chosen at random and omitted from refinement.

^dRoot-mean-square deviation of bond lengths and bond angles from ideal geometry.

^ePercentage of residues in outlier regions.

Table S6 | List of bacterial strains used in this study.

Strain	Genotype	Reference
<i>Escherichia coli</i> MC1061	F– λ – δ (ara-leu)7697 [araD139]B/r δ (codB-lacI)3 galK16 galE15 e14– mcrA0 relA1 rpsL150(StrR) spoT1 mcrB1 hsdR2(r–m+)	2
<i>Escherichia coli</i> BW25113	(araD-araB)567 (rhaD-rhaB)568 lacZ4787 (::rrnB-3) hsdR514 rph-1	3
<i>S. aureus</i> NCTC 8325	Wild-type reference strain	4
<i>S. aureus</i> RN4220	Restriction deficient derivative of 8325, capable of accepting plasmids from <i>E. coli</i>	5
<i>S. epidermidis</i> Rp62a	Wild-type reference strain	6
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i> 168	Reference strain, <i>trpC2</i>	7
<i>S. hominis</i> B10	Skin isolated strain	University of Liverpool
<i>Corynebacterium jekieum</i> K411	Wild-type reference strain	8
<i>Staphylococcus lugdunensis</i> HKU0901	Wild-type reference strain	9
<i>S. haemolyticus</i> JCSC1435	Wild-type reference strain	10
<i>S. capitis</i>	20326, DSM Type strain	11
<i>S. hominis subsp. novobiosepticus</i>	15614, DSM Type strain	12
<i>S. sciuri</i>	20345, DSM Type strain	13
<i>S. pasteurii</i>	10656, DSM Type strain	14
<i>S. warneri</i>	20260, DSM Type strain	15
<i>S. cohnii</i>	20260, DSM Type strain	15
<i>S. devriesei</i>	25293, DSM Type strain	16

Table S7 | List of plasmids used in this study.

Plasmid	Description	Accession No.	Reference
pBAD	L-arabinose inducible expression vector, Amp ^R , His ₁₀	-	17
pBAD::EcMalY	MalY protein from <i>E. coli</i> BW25113	P23256	This study
pBAD::ShMetC	MetC protein from <i>S. hominis</i> B10	WP_077700742	This study
pBAD::SeMetC	MetC protein from <i>S. epidermidis</i> Rp62a	Q5HRU7	This study
pBAD::ShPatB	PatB protein from <i>S. hominis</i> B10	WP_077700575.1	This study
pBAD::BsPatB	PatB protein from <i>B. subtilis</i> 168	Q08432	This study
pBAD::CjAecD	PatB protein from <i>C. jejune</i> K411	Q4JWQ6	This study
pBAD::SlPatB	PatB protein from <i>S. lugdunensis</i> HKU09-01	ADC86375.1	This study
pBAD::SdPatB	PatB protein from <i>S. devreisei</i>	WP_103167498	This study
pBAD::ShaPatB	PatB protein from <i>S. haemolyticus</i> JCSC1435	Q4L9Z5	This study
pBAD::SsPatB	PatB protein from <i>S. sciuri</i>	WP_075577893	This study
pBAD::ScPatB	PatB protein from <i>S. cohnii</i>	WP_107523385	This study
pBAD::SaPatB	PatB protein from <i>S. anginosus</i> IMU102	A6BMJ3	This study
pSK5632	<i>E. coli</i> - <i>S. aureus</i> expression shuttle vector	-	18
pSKShPatB	pSK5632 containing PatB from <i>S. hominis</i> B10	WP_077700575.1	This study

Table S8 | List of staphylococci genomes used for phylogenetic analyses.

Organism	Genbank Accession No.
<i>S. agnetis</i>	NZ_CP009623
<i>S. argensis</i>	NZ_PPPX01000001.1
<i>S. argentus</i>	NC_016941.1
<i>S. arlettae</i>	NZ_ALWK01000001.1
<i>S. aureus</i> NCTC 8325	NC_A1:B53007795.1
<i>S. auricularis</i>	NZ_LLER01000001
<i>S. capitis</i>	NZ_CP007601
<i>S. caprae</i>	NZ_AP018585
<i>S. carnosus</i>	NC_012121.1
<i>S. chromogenes</i>	NZ_PPQK01000001
<i>S. cohnii</i>	NZ_LATV01000015
<i>S. condimenti</i>	NZ_PPQY01000001.1
<i>S. delphini</i>	NZ_LR134263
<i>S. devriesei</i>	NZ_PYZJ01000001.1
<i>S. edaphicus</i>	NZ_MRZN01000010.1
<i>S. epidermids</i> ATCC 1228	NC_004461.1
<i>S. epidermids</i> Rp62A	NC_002976.31
<i>S. equorum</i>	NZ_CP013114.1
<i>S. felis</i>	NZ_CP027770
<i>S. fleurettii</i>	NZ_PYYE01000001.1
<i>S. gallinarum</i>	NZ_JXCF01000004.1
<i>S. hyicus</i>	NZ_CP008747
<i>S. haemolyticus</i>	NC_007168.1
<i>S. hominis</i>	NZ_GL545252
<i>S. hominis subsp. novobiosepticus</i>	NZ_PPQX01000001.1
<i>S. kloosii</i>	NZ_CP027846
<i>S. lentus</i>	NZ_AJXO01000001
<i>S. lugdunensis</i>	NC_013893.1_1
<i>S. lutrae</i>	NZ_CP020773
<i>S. massiliensis</i>	NZ_AMSQ01000001.1
<i>S. microti</i>	NZ_JXWY01000001
<i>S. muscae</i>	NZ_CP027848
<i>S. nepalensis</i>	NZ_CP017460.1
<i>S. pasteurii</i>	NC_022737.1
<i>S. petrasii subsp. jettensis</i>	NZ_PPQT01000001.1
<i>S. pettenkoferi</i>	NZ_AGUA01000116
<i>S. piscifermentans</i>	NZ_LT906447.1
<i>S. pseudointermedius</i>	NC_014925
<i>S. rostri</i>	NZ_PPRF01000001
<i>S. saccharolyticus</i>	NZ_UHDZ01000002.1
<i>S. saprophyticus</i>	NC_007350.1
<i>S. schleiferi</i>	NZ_CP009470.1
<i>S. schweitzeri</i>	NZ_LR134304.1
<i>S. sciuri</i>	NZ_CP022046.2
<i>S. simiae</i>	NZ_AEUN01000565
<i>S. simulans</i>	NZ_CP014016.2
<i>S. stepanovicii</i>	NZ_LT906462.1
<i>S. succinus</i>	NZ_CP018199.1
<i>S. vitulinus</i>	NZ_AJTR01000001.1
<i>S. warneri</i>	NC_020164.1
<i>S. xylosus</i>	NZ_CP007208.1

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