

SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES

Evolution, structure and function of the putative biosynthetic gene cluster of the fungal secondary metabolite myriocin, a potent inhibitory sphingolipid

Ben Rutter¹, Michael A Herrera², Gustavo Perez Ortiz², Claudio Greco³, Ben Ashley², Hai Deng⁴, Abigail Hay¹, Cameron Bedford⁵, Marius Wenzel^{6,7}, Stephen Mondo⁸, Zachary Konkel⁹, Jason C Slot⁹, Qinx Ma⁵, Nicolas Helmstetter⁵, Rhys A. Farrer⁵, Dominic J. Campopiano^{*2} & Alexandra C Brand^{*‡1,5,10}

¹ School of Medicine, Medical Sciences & Nutrition, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK

² School of Chemistry, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK

³ Department of Biosciences, Swansea University, Swansea, UK

⁴ Department of Chemistry, School of Natural & Computing Sciences, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK

⁵ Medical Research Council Centre for Medical Mycology at the University of Exeter, Exeter, UK

⁶ Centre for Genome-Enabled Biology & Medicine, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK

⁷ School of Biological Sciences, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK

⁸ US Department of Energy Joint Genome Institute, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley,, CA 94720, USA.

⁹ Department of Plant Pathology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, USA

¹⁰ Living Systems Institute, University of Exeter, Exeter, UK

*Co-senior authors

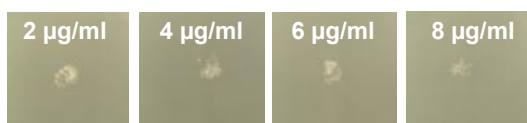
‡Corresponding author: Alexandra Brand a.brand@exeter.ac.uk

a *I. sinclairii* – Day 7

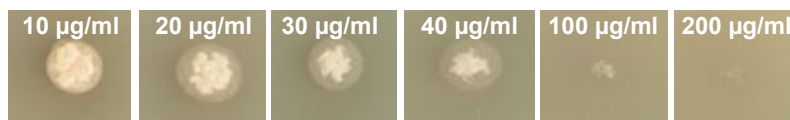
No drug



Fluconazole



Hygromycin B



Nourseothricin

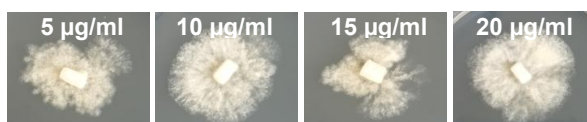


b *M. sterilia* – Day 5

No drug



Fluconazole



Hygromycin B



Nourseothricin

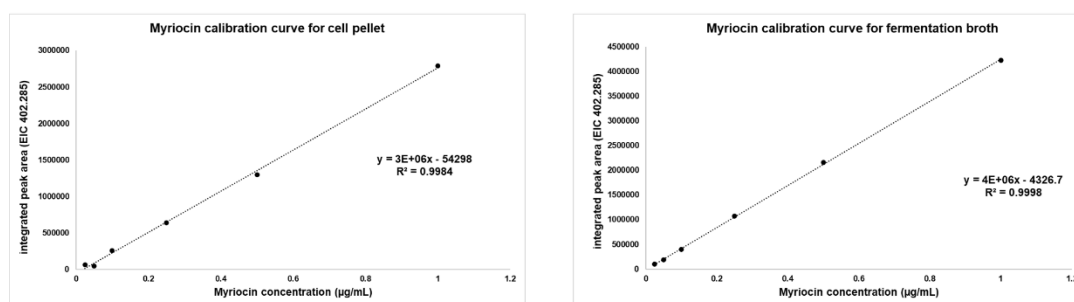


c

Drug	<i>I. sinclairii</i> sensitivity (µg/ml)	<i>M. sterilia</i> sensitivity (µg/ml)
Fluconazole	< 2	> 20
Hygromycin B	20	< 10
Nourseothricin	240	< 180

Fig. S1: Susceptibility of *I. sinclairii* and *M. sterilia* to fluconazole, hygromycin B and nourseothricin. *I. sinclairii* or *M. sterilia* were inoculated onto tryptic soy agar or potato dextrose agar, respectively, containing increasing concentrations of the antifungal agents fluconazole, hygromycin B or nourseothricin. A) *I. sinclairii* plates were incubated at 25 °C for 7 d. B) *M. sterilia* plates were incubated at 37 °C for 5 d. C) Sensitivity was quantified by measuring the ratio of colony diameter compared to the no-drug control.

a



b

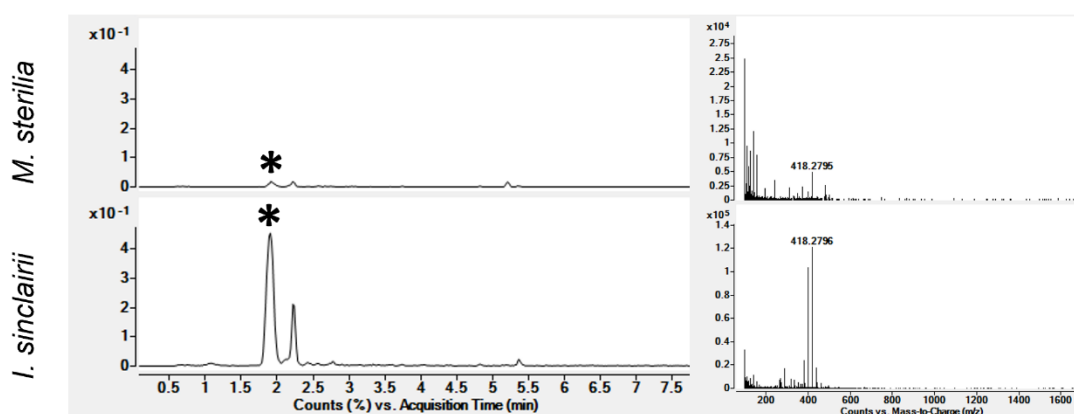
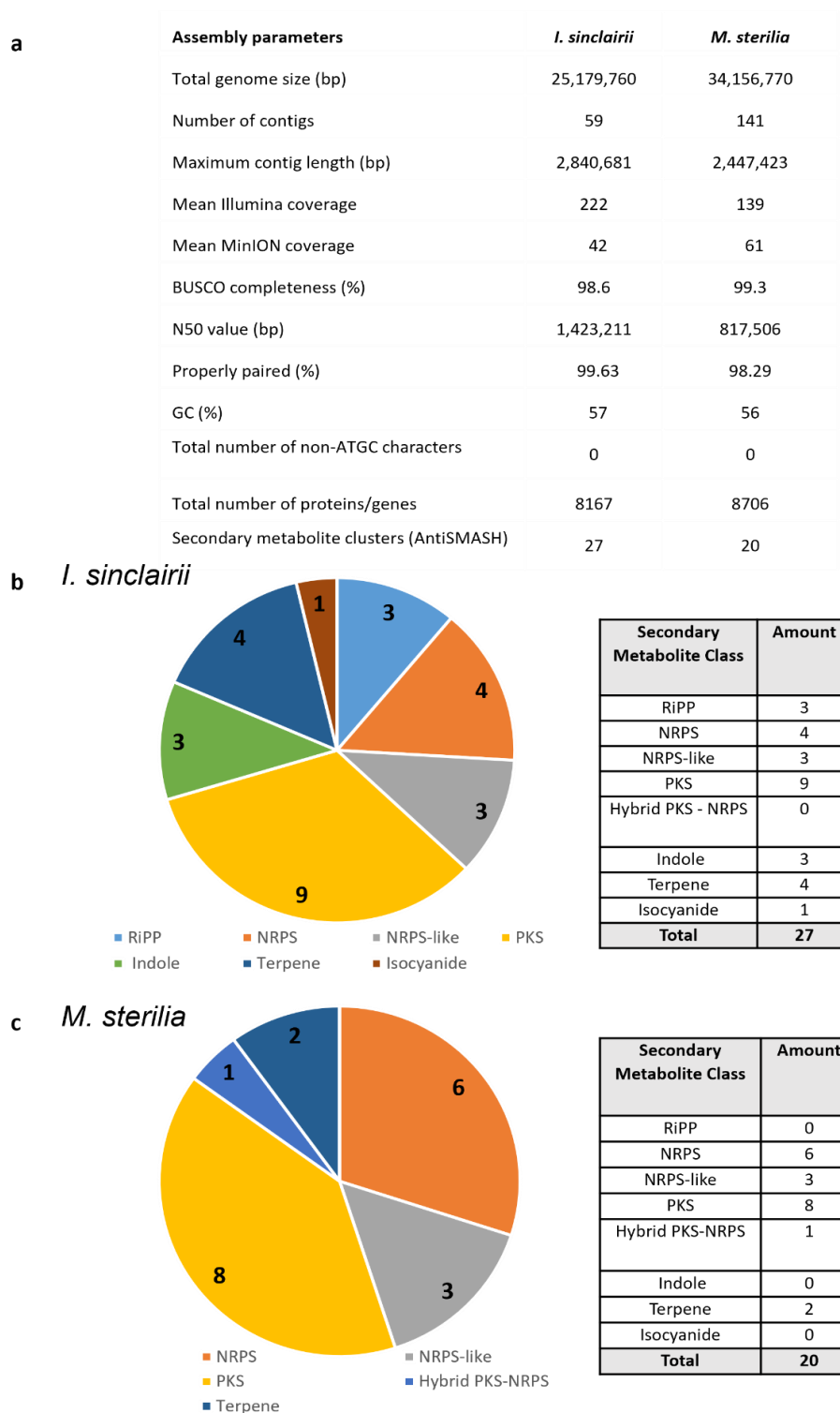


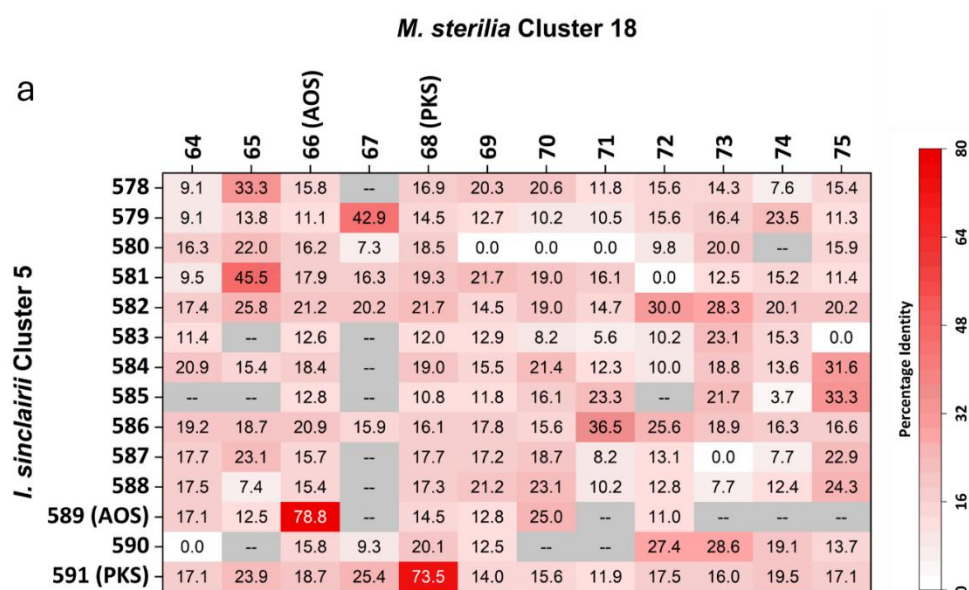
Fig. S2: Myriocin quantification and detection of myriocin derivatives. a. Calibration curves for the quantification of myriocin for the cell pellet (left) and for the fermentation broths (right). b. UHPLC-HRMS analysis in positive mode of the organic extracts for the myriocin derivative. EIC for 418.28, noted with an * (left) and mass spectra (right) for *M. sterilia* (top) and *I. sinclairii* (bottom).



75

Fig. S3: Genome assembly parameters and antiSMASH analysis of secondary metabolite gene clusters by class. a. Comparison of genome assembly parameters for *I. sinclairii* and *M. sterilia*. b,c. Breakdown of secondary metabolite biosynthesis gene clusters by class (AntiSMASH V7.1.0). Putative classifications are based on antiSMASH v7.1.0 fungal mode; RiPP and indole predictions may include false positives and require experimental validation (e.g., via precursor peptide identification or metabolomics). No RiPP BGCs were linked to characterized metabolites in these genomes.

82



b

Primer name	Primer sequence (5' – 3')	Product size (bp)
MsmyrA_1-F	GGCTGGTGAAGCACTTCTT	186
MsmyrA_1-R	CCAGCTGCAGGTGGAAGAC	
MsmyrB_1-F	GCTCGCATGATCGACAATA	201
MsmyrB_1-R	CGTGAACACCATCACGACGTT	
MsActin-F	CCAACATAGTCCTCTCAGGC	164
MsActin-R	TGAGACCGGCAAGAATACTG	
IsmyrA_1-F	CCATCGACTTCTGCTCCAAC	181
IsmyrA_1-R	CCGTGAAAGTCGGCAATCTC	
IsmyrB_1-F	CGCTCATCAAGATGGTCATG	169
IsmyrB_1-R	CCAAACGAGTTGAGGCTGAT	
IsActin-F	AATCAACCCCAAGTCCAACC	169
IsActin-R	AAATGGGAACAACGTGGGTG	

Fig. S4: a. Identification in *I. sinclairii* and *M. sterilia* genomes of a shared gene cluster revealed the predicted iPKS and AOS genes required for myriocin biosynthesis, which were expressed concomitantly with myriocin biosynthesis. A heatmap indicates the percentage identities for each pair of open reading frames (ORFs) within the two clusters in *M. sterilia* (Cluster 18) and *I. sinclairii* (Cluster 5); b. Primers derived from the above clusters and used for RT-PCR of *myrA*, *myrB* and actin (internal control) mRNA isolated from *I. sinclairii* and *M. sterilia*.

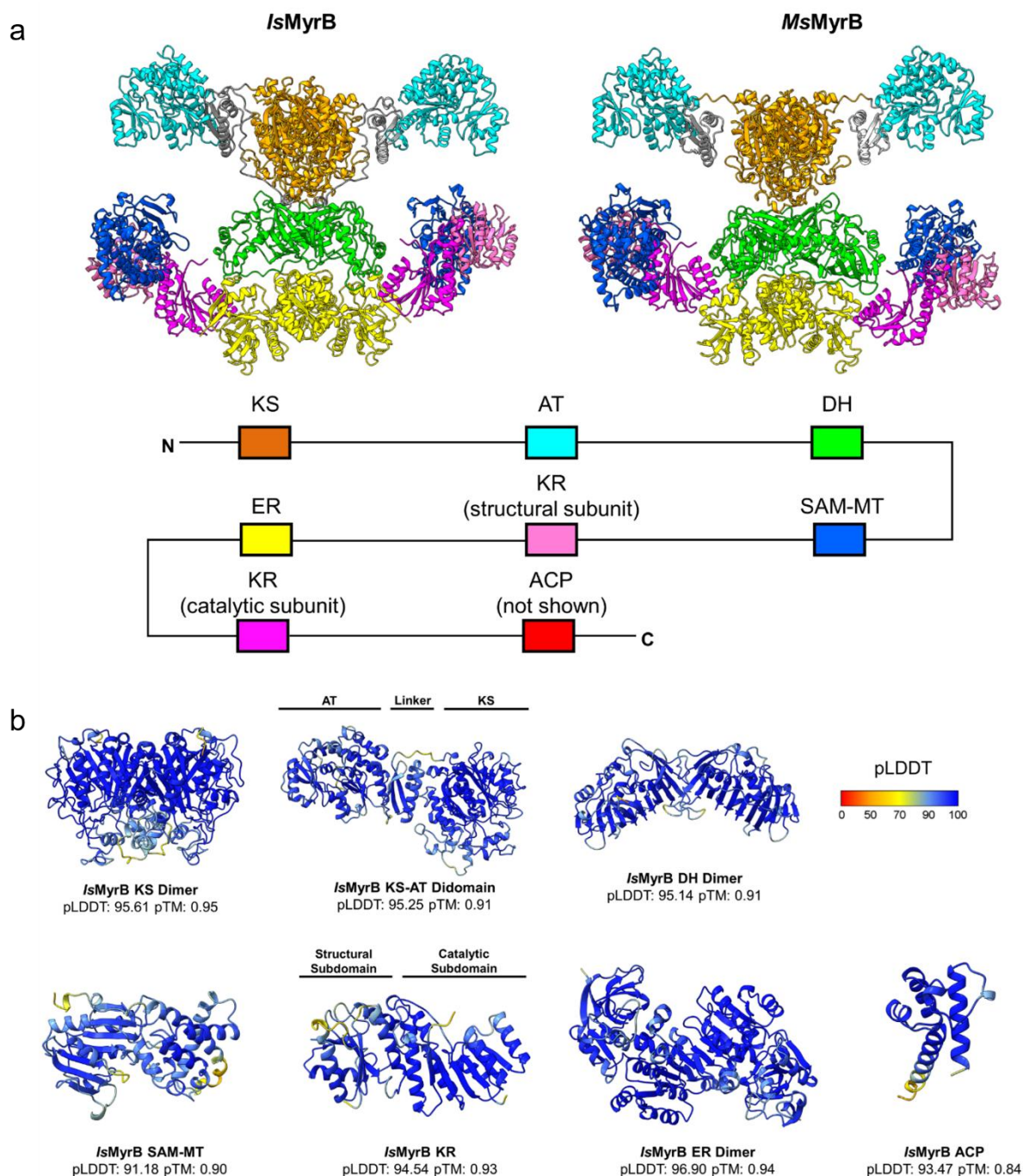


Fig. S5: a. Composite predicted structural models showing the relative domain organisation of the *IsMyrB* and *MsMyrB* homodimers. Mammalian fatty acid synthase (PDB: 2VZ8) was used as a template guide, using structural alignment tools in PyMOL. Acyl Carrier Proteins (ACPs) have been omitted. Colours indicate active domains: KS = Ketoacyl Synthase, AT = acyltransferase, DH = dehydratase, SAM-MT = S-adenosylmethionine-dependent methyltransferase. KR = ketoreductase, ER = enoylreductase. b. The constitutive domains of *IsMyrB*, coloured by pLDDT confidence score (0-100).

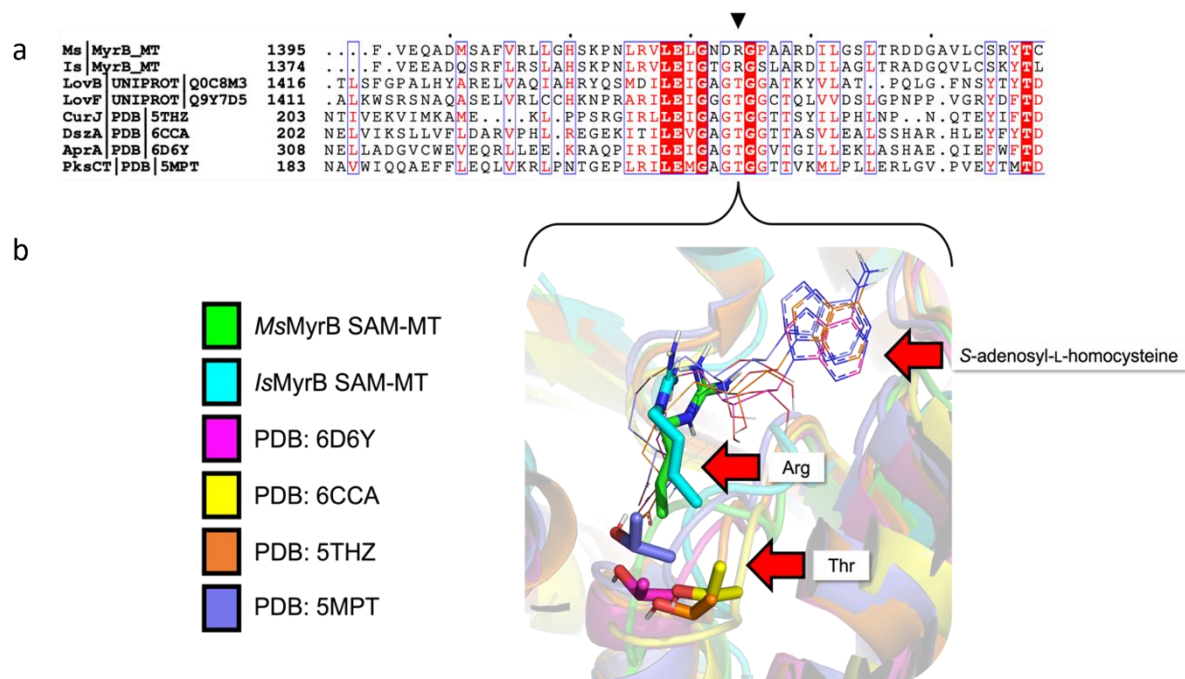
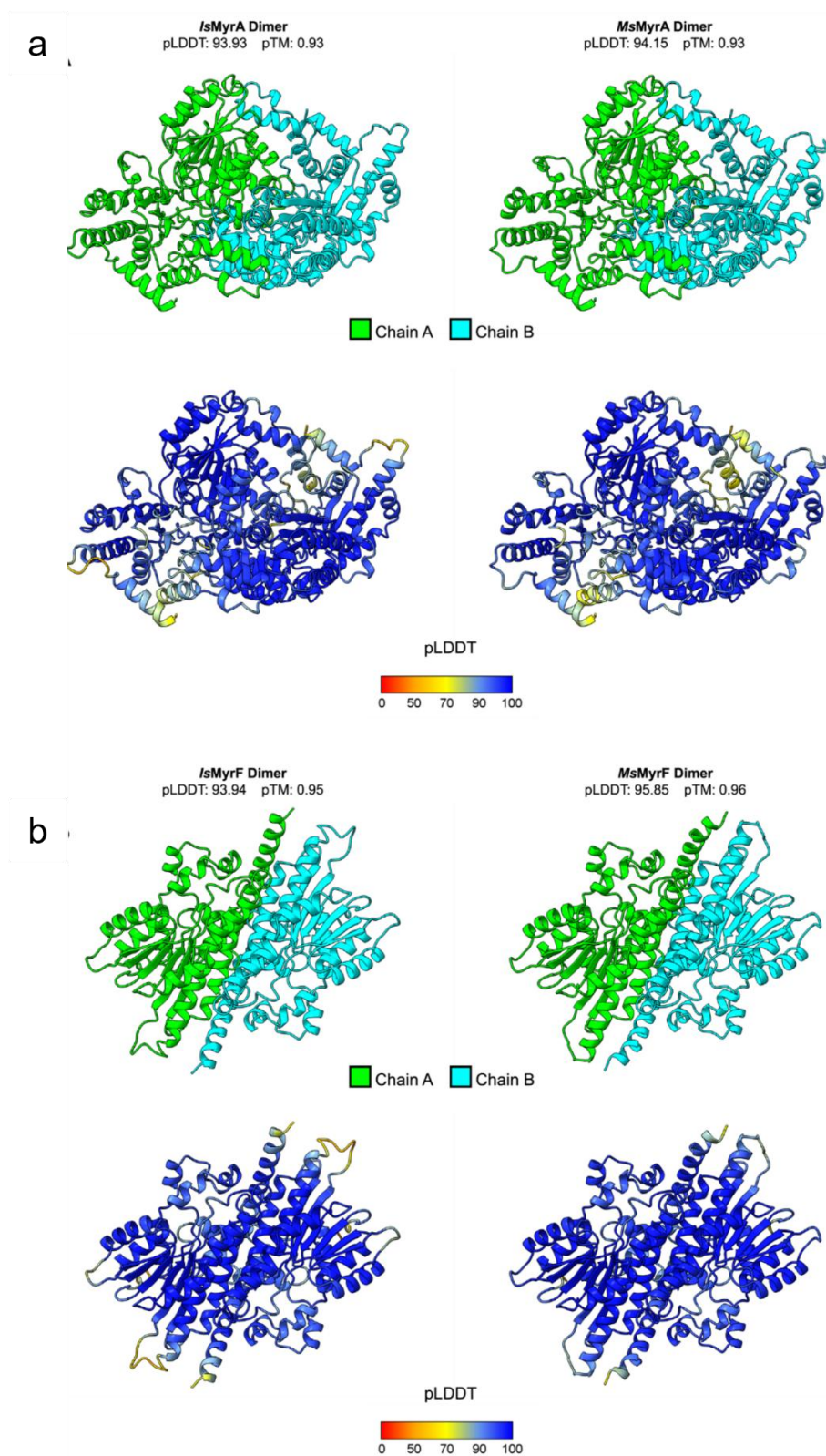


Fig. S6: Occlusion of the *IsMyrB* and *MsMyrB* S-adenosylmethionine binding pocket by a key threonine → arginine mutation. a. Comparison with active, homologous S-adenosylmethionine methyltransferases (SAM-MTs) from the Protein Data Bank revealed a shared mutation in *I. sinclairii* and *M. sterilia* where the 3-carbon threonine is substituted by a 6-carbon arginine (black arrow). b. Modelling suggests that this substitution occludes the S-adenosylmethionine binding pocket, which likely inactivates the domain and correlates with the lack of methyl branching in myriocin. PDB = Protein Data Base.



126

127 **Fig. S7: Structural models of MyrA (AOS) and MyrF (ketodihydrosphingosine reductase –**
 128 **KDRS).** a. Structural models of IsMyrA and MsMyrA, coloured by chain (top) and pLDDT confidence
 129 score (bottom, 0-100). b. Structural models of IsMyrF and MsMyrF, coloured by chain (top) and
 130 pLDDT confidence score (bottom, 0-100).

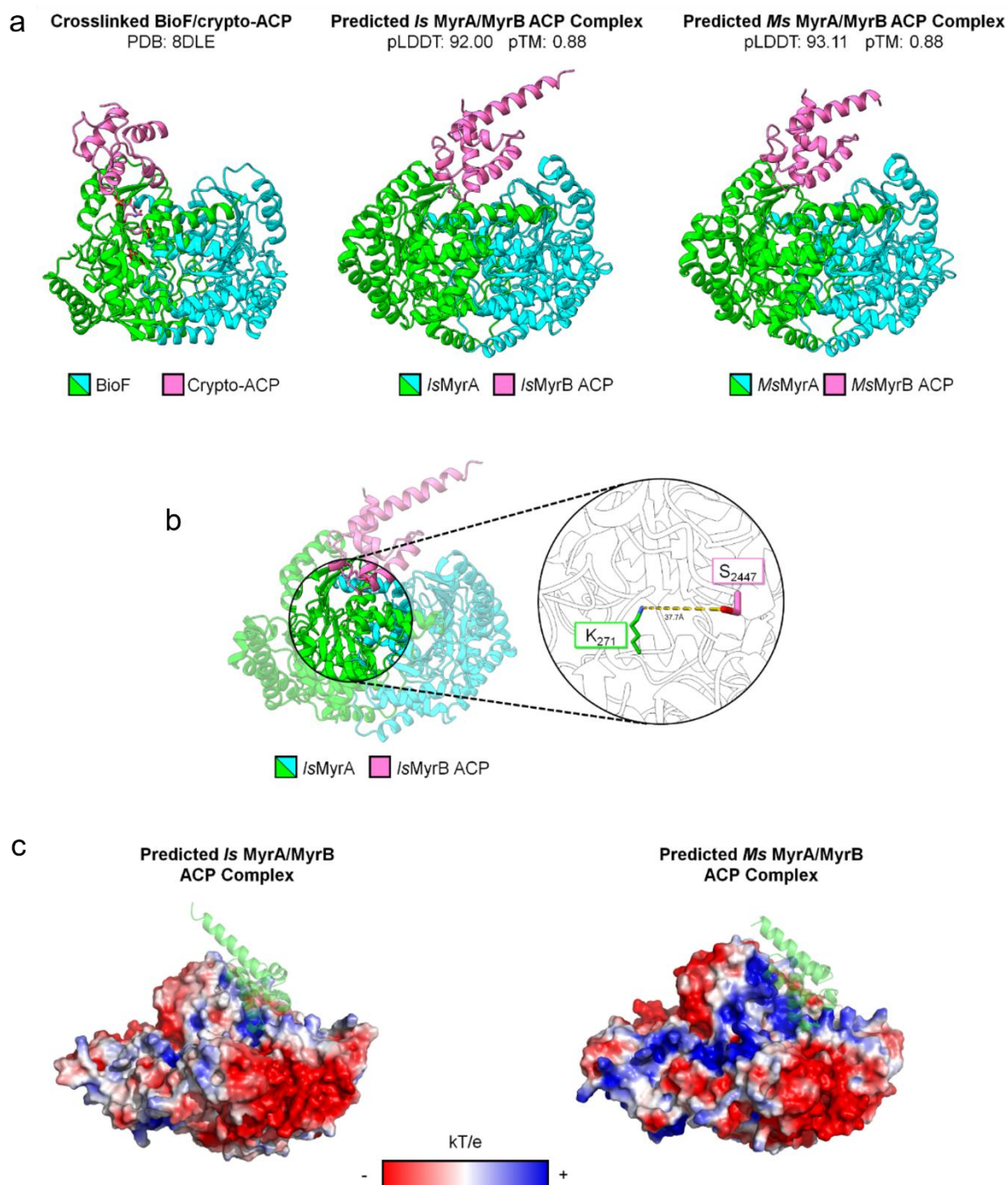


Fig. S8: Interaction between the predicted MyrA (AOS) and MyrB (iPKS) acyl carrier protein complexes. a. Comparison between *E. coli* BioWF/crypto-acyl carrier protein (ACP) experimental structure and the predicted MyrA and *Is*MyrB ACP complexes. b. Predicted docking interface between *Is*MyrA and *Is*MyrB ACP, showing the catalytic *Is*MyrB S₂₄₄₇ positioned directly above the substrate binding tunnel of *Is*MyrA. c. Computed MyrA APBS electrostatic surface potentials, identifying patches of electropositivity around the AOS-ACP docking interface. MyrB ACPs are shown in green.

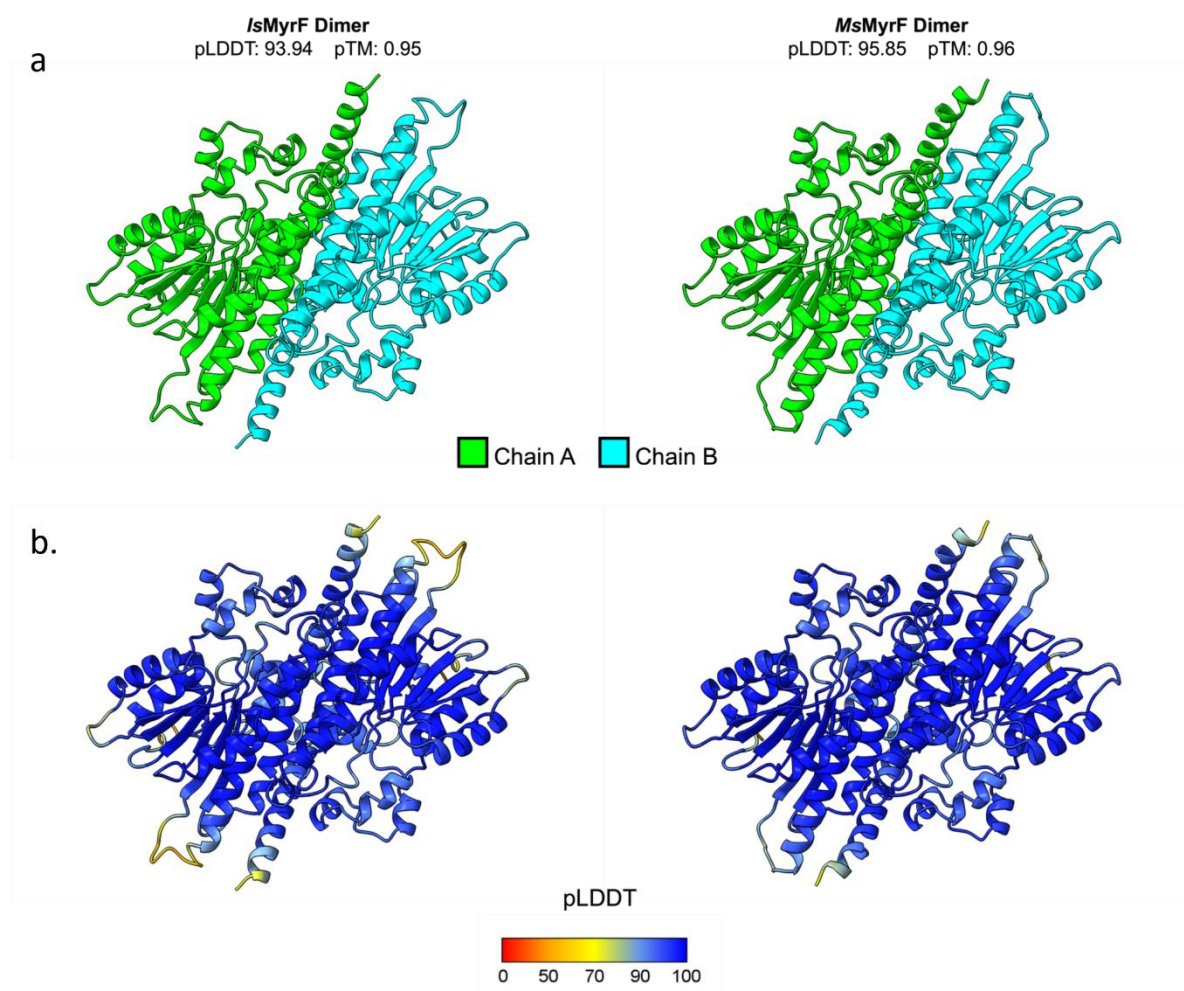


Fig. S9: Structural models of *IsMyrF* and *MsMyrF* homodimers. a. Models coloured by chain.
b. Models colours by pLDDT confidence score, as shown.

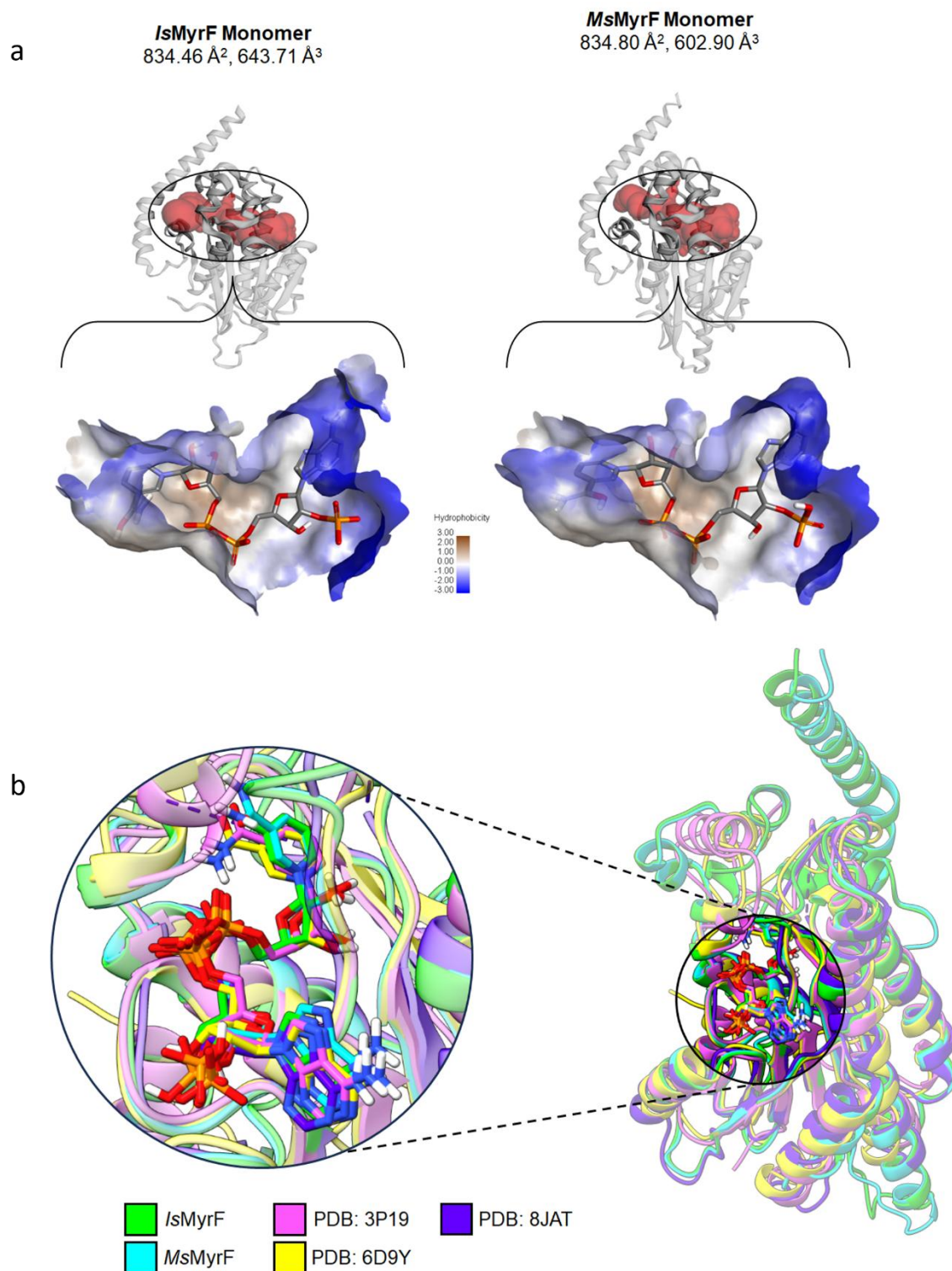


Fig. S10: Structural analysis of *IsMyrF* and *MsMyrF* (myriocin ketodihydrosphingosine reductase (KDSR)). a. Identification of a binding pocket in MyrF by topological analysis (CASTp3.0). NADP⁺ was docked in the identified binding pockets (~ 12.5 kcal mol⁻¹) and Kyte-Doolittle hydrophobicity surfaces were visualised in BIOVIA Discovery Studio 2020. b. Superimposition of homologous, NAD(P)-bound crystal structures over MyrF (with NADP⁺ docked).

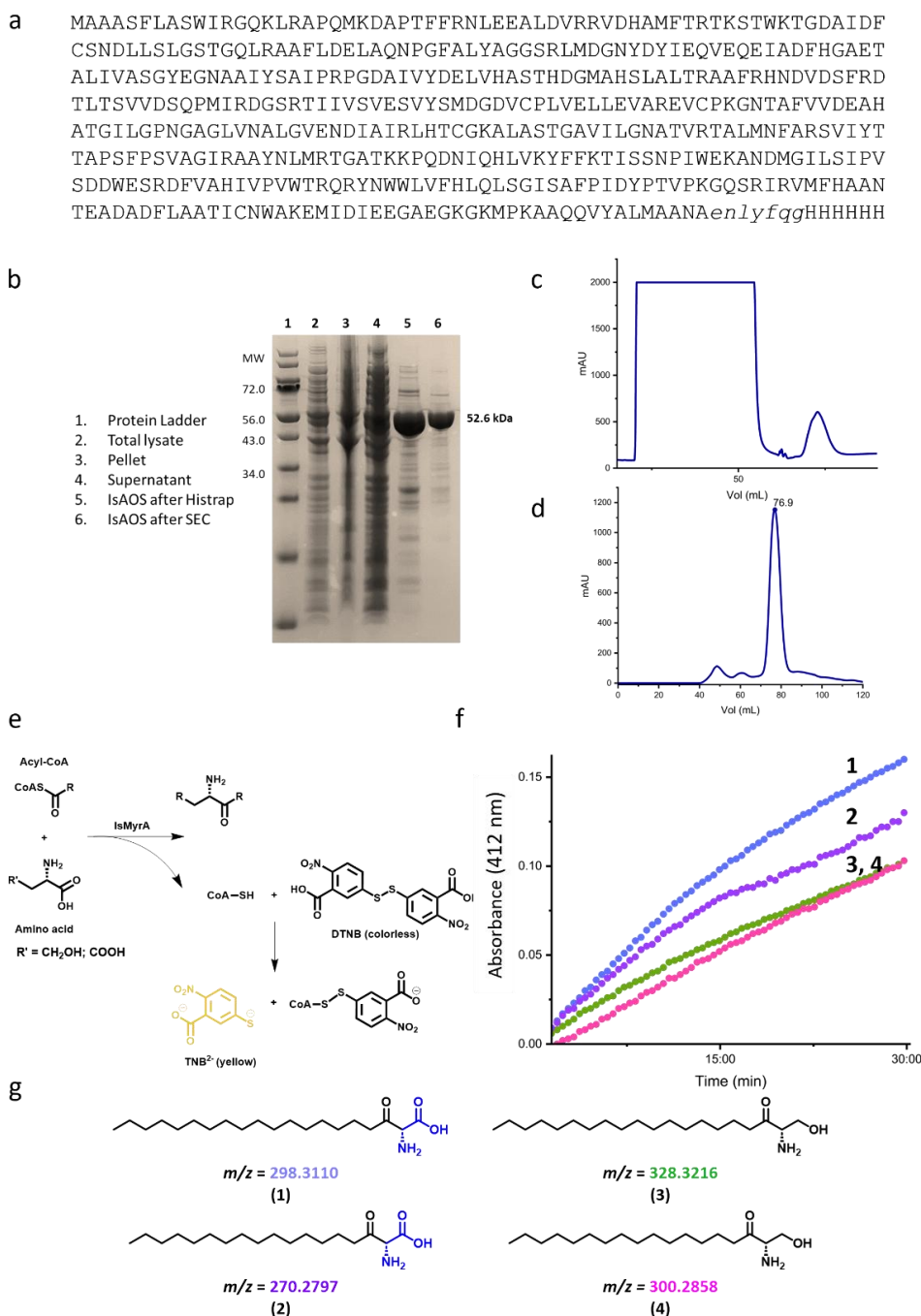


Fig. S11: IsMyrA protein purification and DTNB activity assay. a. Sequence of recombinant IsMyrA construct. b. SDS-PAGE gel of purification of IsMyrA. HiMark Pre-stained Protein Standard was used as ladder. Lanes 2 to 6 show each step of purification from transformed *E. coli* BL21 (DE3) 18+ hours post-induction using IPTG. See Fig. S14 for uncropped gel image. c. IsMyrA IMAC chromatogram. Cell-free extract was loaded using an AKTA start onto a 5 mL Nickel His-Trap FF column and eluted with a 10 – 300 mM imidazole gradient. Protein was detected at 280 nm. d. SEC purification of IsMyrA using a HiLoad 16/600 Superdex 200 pg (120 mL) SEC column, monitored at 280 nm. e. DTNB assay general reaction. The activity of IsMyrA was detected by capturing the CoASH released with 5,5'-dithiobis-(2-nitrobenzoic) acid (DTNB) and the spectrophotometric detection of the TNB^{2-} anion (412 nm). f. IsMyrA activity against acyl-CoAs (C_{16} and C_{18}) and amino acids aminomalonate and L-serine, detected using the DTNB assay. Raw data is available at <https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.32652846>. g. Molecular formula of the respective product of each reaction shown in (f).

Time [min]	A [%]	B [%]	Flow [mL/min]
0.00	70.	30	0.4
1.00	70	30	0.4
8.00	2	98	0.4
9.50	2	98	0.4
9.60	70	30	0.4
10.00	70	30	0.4

Figure S12: Gradient steps for 30% acetonitrile LC-Method used for myriocin detection.

A = MeCN. B = H₂O + 0.1% formic acid.

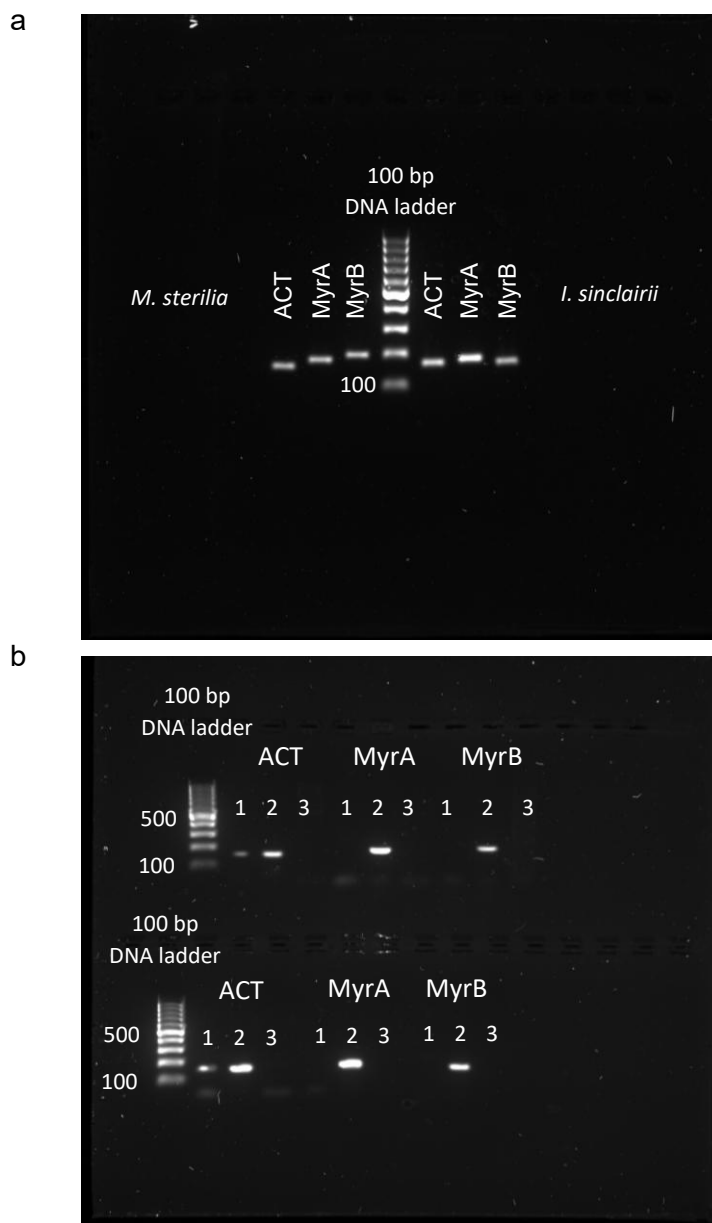


Fig. S13: Uncropped gel images of PCR and RT-PCR products shown in Fig. 4. a. PCR products from genomic DNA for actin *myrA* and *myrB*. Left: *M. sterilia*, right: *I. sinclairii*. b. RT-PCR products for actin, *myrA* and *myrB* (1 = Day 10, 2 = Day 20, 3 = No nucleic acid control). Above: *M. sterilia*, below: *I. sinclairii*.

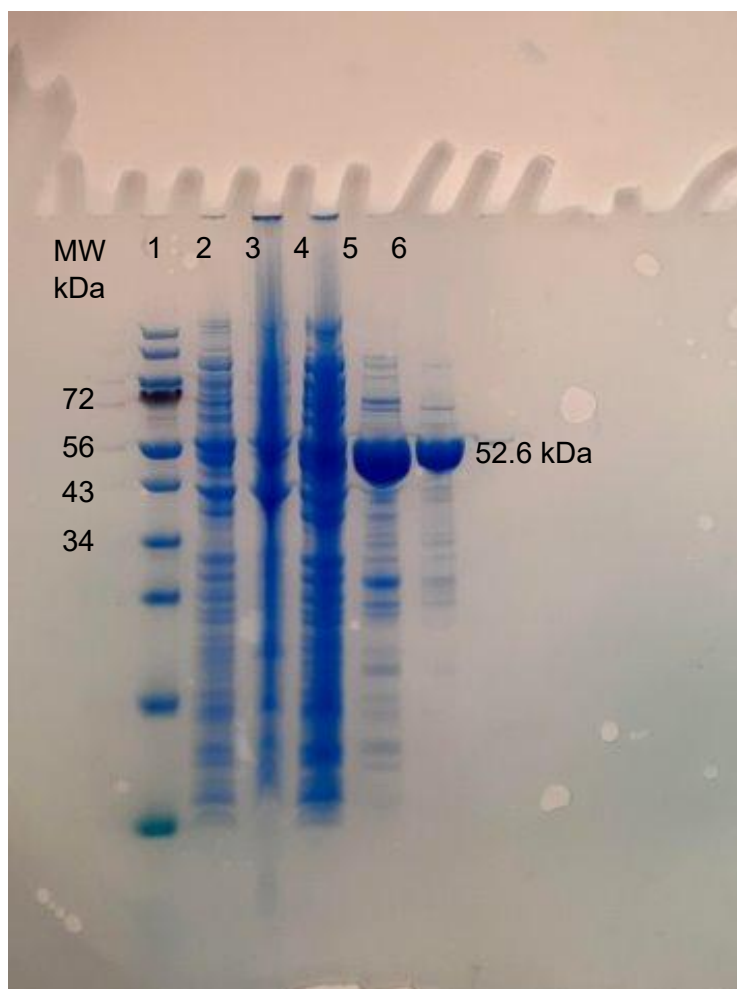


Fig. S14: Uncropped SDS-PAGE gel images of purified recombinant IsMyrA shown in Fig. 6 and Fig. S11.

Lanes (from left to right): 1. Protein molecular weight ladder (kDa); 2. Total lysate; 3. Pellet; 4. Supernatant; 5. IsAOS after Histrap; 6. IsAOS after SEC.