

Exploring the Catalytic Mechanism of the Malonyl-Acetyl Transferase Domain of Human Fatty Acid Synthase

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INTRODUCTION

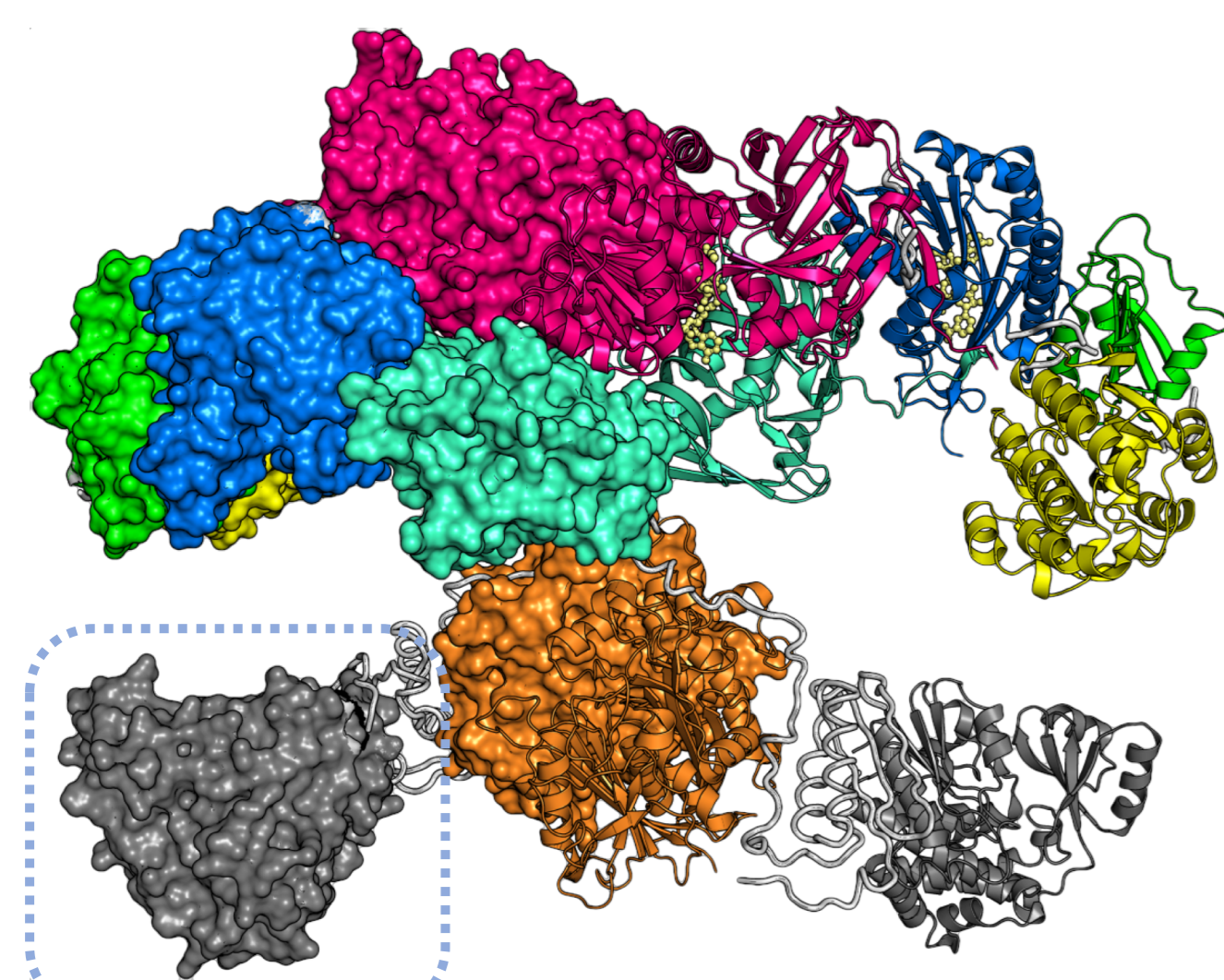


Fig. 1 – Crystallographic structure of the mammalian Fatty Acid Synthase (PDB: 2VZ8).

Malonyl-Acetyl Transferase (MAT) Domain



Loads the initiation primer and the elongation substrate of the FA biosynthesis



Synthesizes saturated fatty acids (FA) using acetyl-CoA and malonyl-CoA



Seven catalytic domains: MAT, KS, KR, DH, ER, TE and ACP



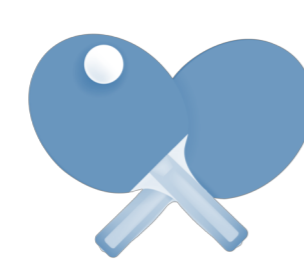
FAS gene is up-regulated in several human cancer cells



FAS inhibitors display anti-cancer properties



Study the catalytic mechanism of the Malonyl-Acetyl Transferase (MAT) domain



Ping-Pong mechanism

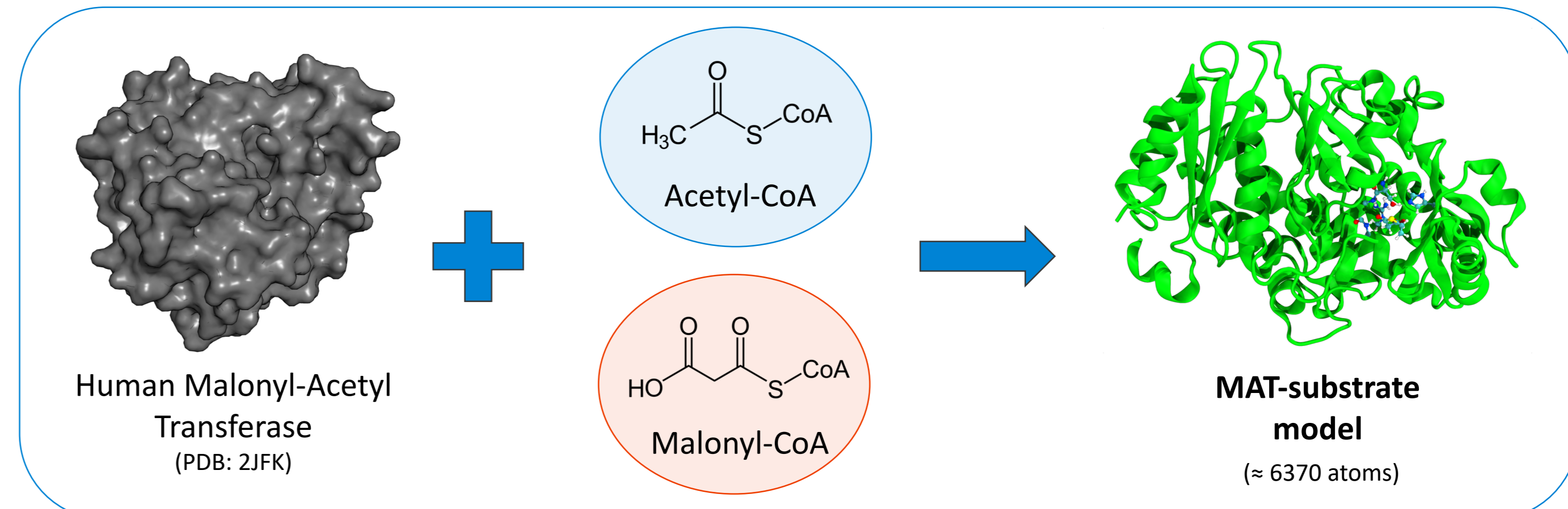
PING

MAT receives acyl moiety from CoA

PONG

MAT transfers acyl moiety to the ACP domain

METHODS



Minimization protocol

- 1. Acyl moiety minimization
- 2. H₂O minimization
- 3. H atoms minimization
- 4. Side chains minimization
- 5. Everything free
- SANDER module of AMBER 12 software

Molecular dynamics

- 500 ps (50 ps Eq. + 450 ps Prod.)
- TIP3P water model, radii 12 Å
- AMBER 12 software

ONIOM QM/MM

- QM Layer = 60 atoms
- Linear-transit scans
- B3LYP/6-31G(d):AMBER
- Geometry optimizations
- B3LYP/6-31G(d):AMBER
- Frequency calculations
- B3LYP/6-31G(d):AMBER
- Single-Point calculations
- B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,2p)-D3:AMBER
- Gaussian 09 (version D) software

DLPNO-CCSD(T)

- Isolated QM Layer
- Single-Point calculations cc-pVDZ and cc-pVTZ
- Extrapolation to CBS limit
- ORCA 4.0.1.2 software

RESULTS

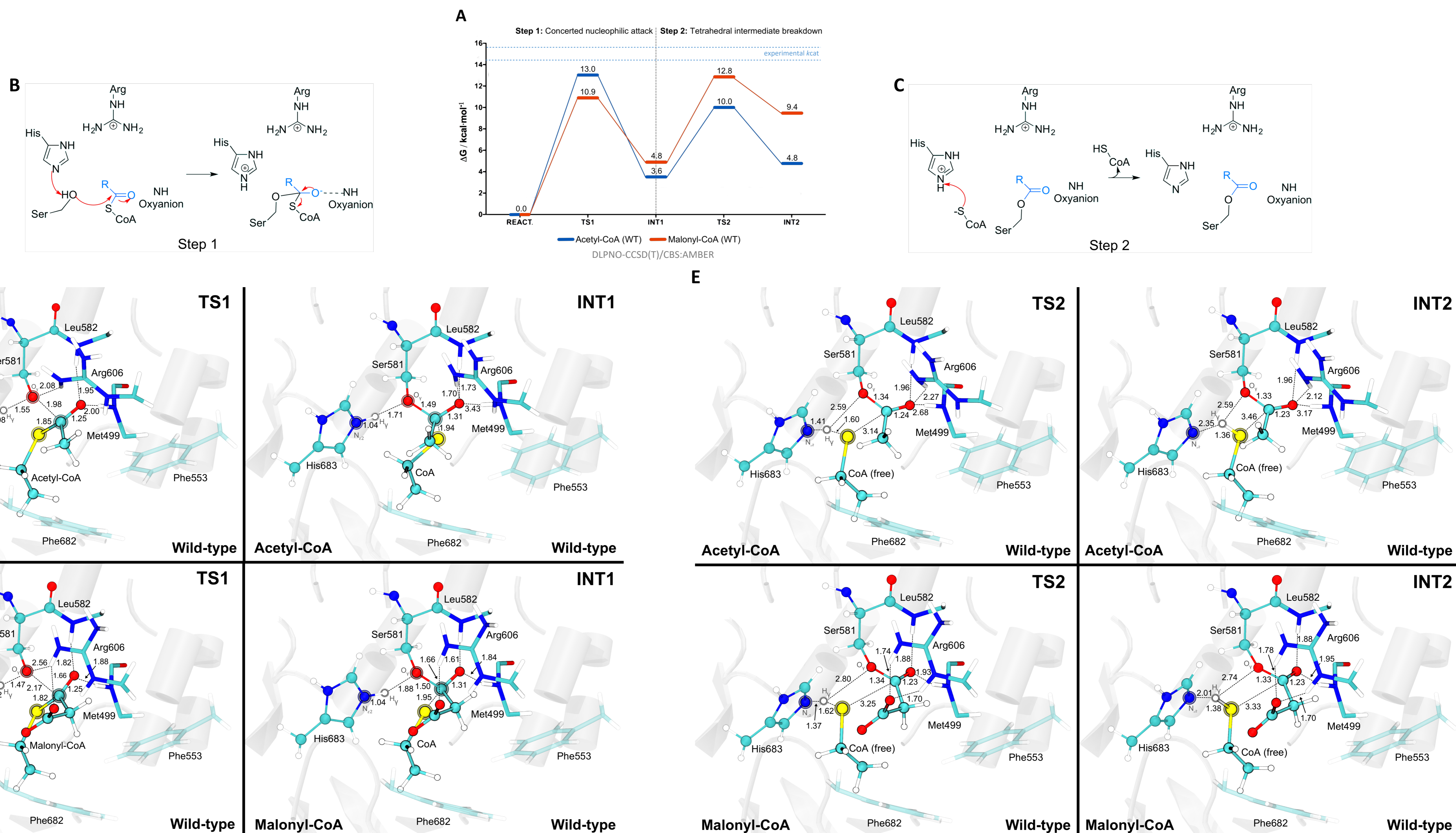


Fig. 2 – The transfer of acetyl and malonyl moieties from CoA to the catalytic Ser581 residue occurs in two consecutive catalytic steps. A) Free-energy profile (DLPNO-CCSD(T)/CBS:AMBER) for the acyl transfer reaction from CoA to MAT. B) Concerted nucleophilic attack of Ser581 on the thioester carbon (Step1). C) Tetrahedral intermediate breakdown (Step2). D and E) Optimized structures of the transition-states (TS) and intermediates (INT) of both catalytic steps; QM layer atoms represented in ball-and-stick form; values are presented in Å.

What is the energetic contribution of the oxyanion hole for the concerted nucleophilic attack?

Replacement (Met499 and Leu582)
NH group → CH₂ group

Oxyanion hole lowers the Step 1 activation energy by:
MAT-acetyl-CoA: 6.7 kcal·mol⁻¹
MAT-malonyl-CoA: 3.6 kcal·mol⁻¹

(Literature (trypsin, subtilisin, KSI): 4-6 kcal·mol⁻¹)

CONCLUSIONS

- Acyl transfer from CoA to MAT occurs in two steps:
 - Step 1: Concerted nucleophilic attack, centered on a Ser-His catalytic dyad
 - Step 2: Tetrahedral intermediate breakdown
- Arg606 and the hydrophobic pocket are important for positioning the malonyl and acetyl moieties, respectively
- The backbone amines of Met499 and Leu582 form an oxyanion hole that stabilizes the TS1 and INT1 for MAT-acetyl-CoA and MAT-malonyl-CoA complexes