

Chemistry & Biology, Volume 22

Supplemental Information

**The Tetracycline Destructases: A Novel
Family of Tetracycline-Inactivating Enzymes**

Kevin J. Forsberg, Sanket Patel, Timothy A. Wencewicz, and Gautam Dantas

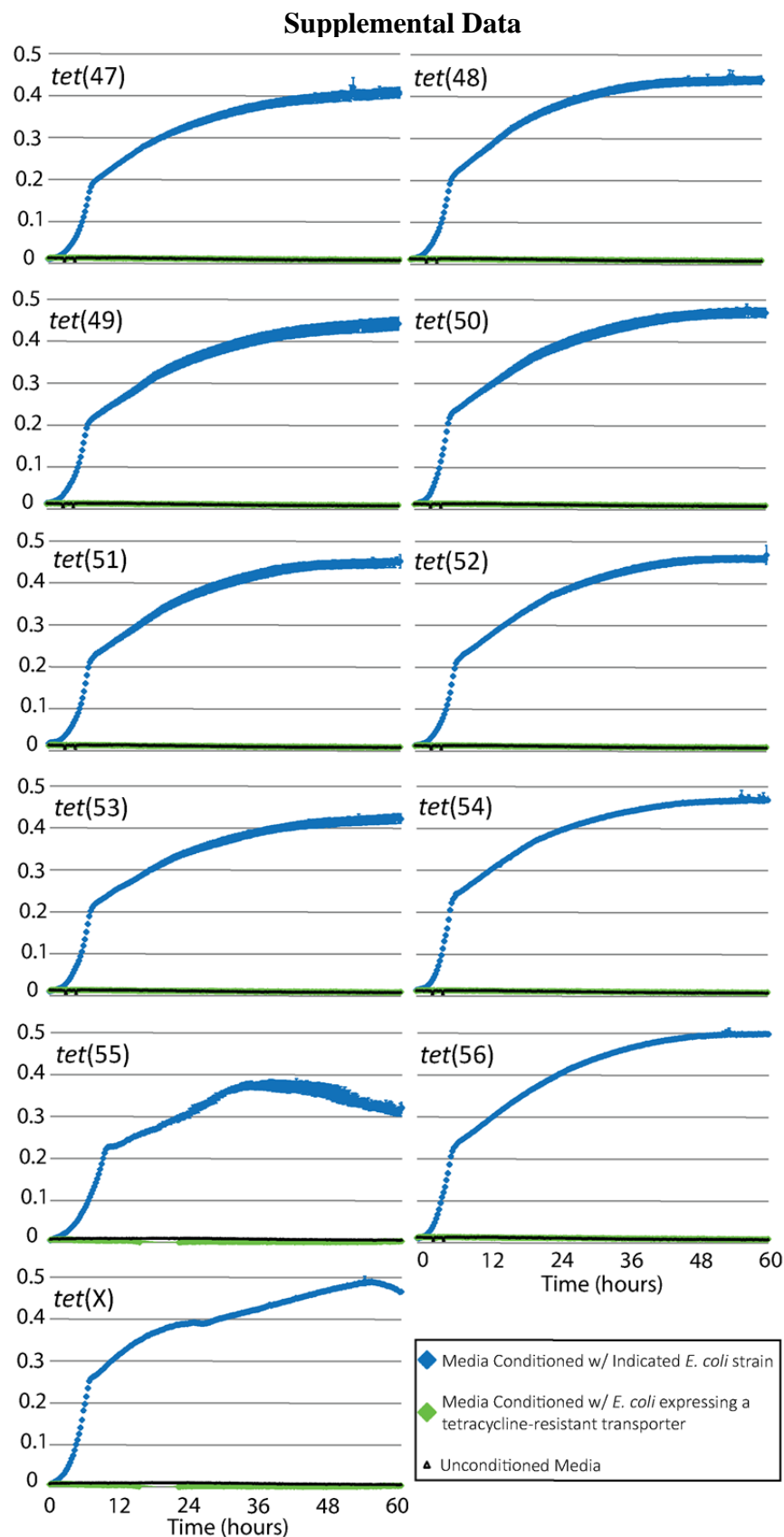


Figure S1, related to figure 1 and main text: Tetracycline-susceptible *E. coli* grown in pre-conditioned, tetracycline-containing media. Y-axes give the absorbance at 600nm, corrected for the background value of a media-only control. Each panel depicts growth of the susceptible strain in media conditioned by *E. coli* expressing (i) the indicated inactivation gene (blue), (ii) a resistant transporter (green), or (iii) unconditioned media (black). The *tet(X)* ORF was used as a positive control for tetracycline inactivation. Values are the average of three trials; error bars depict st. dev.

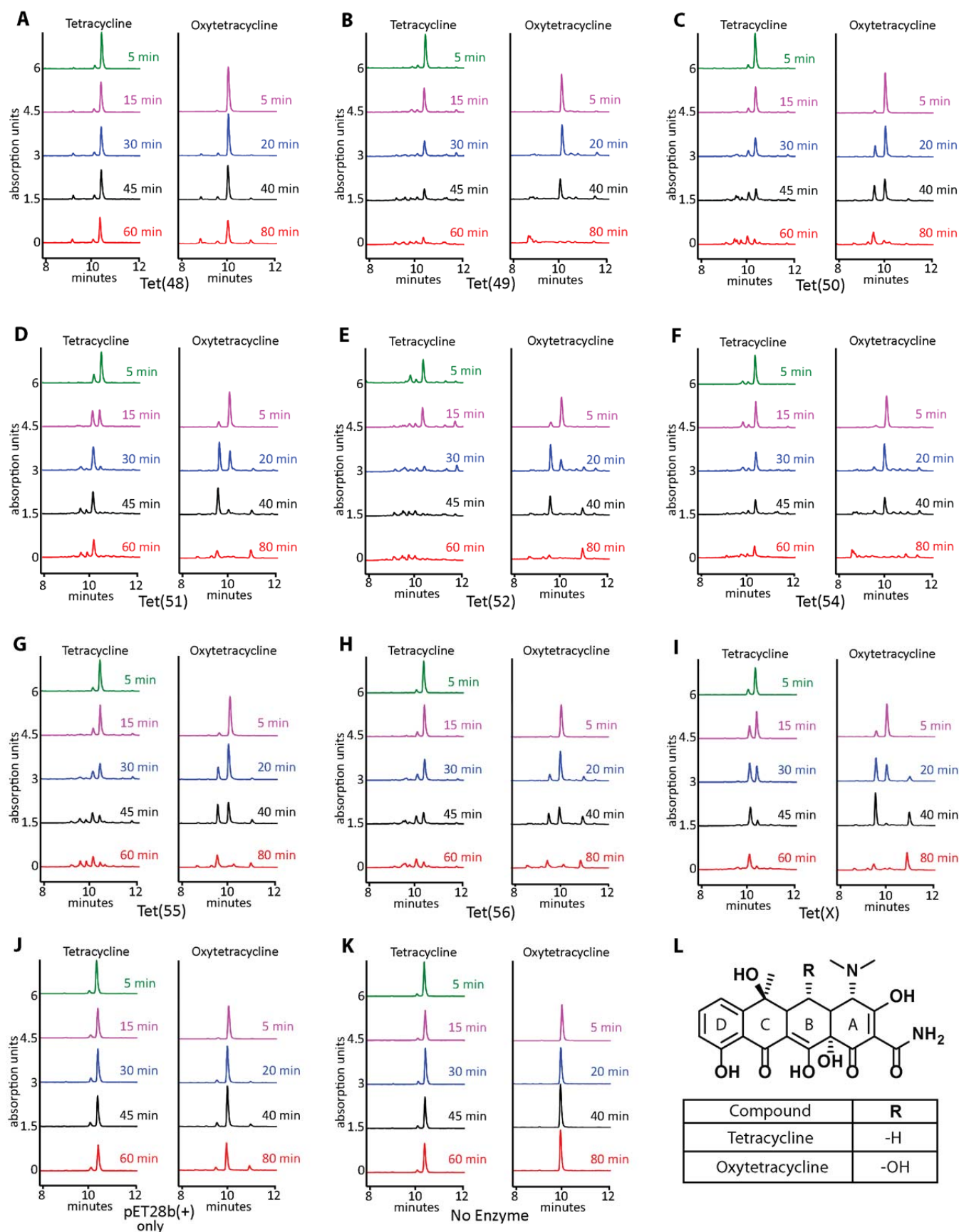


Figure S2, related to figures 3 and 4: Tetracycline and oxytetracycline degradation is catalyzed by diverse flavoenzymes. (A-K) Reverse phase HPLC separation of tetracycline and enzymatically-catalyzed degradation products at 260nm. See figure S3 for absorbance at 363nm. Elimination of antibiotic substrates at both wavelengths indicates that both the β -tricarbonyl (L, ring A) and aryl β -diketone chromophores are disrupted (L, rings B-D).

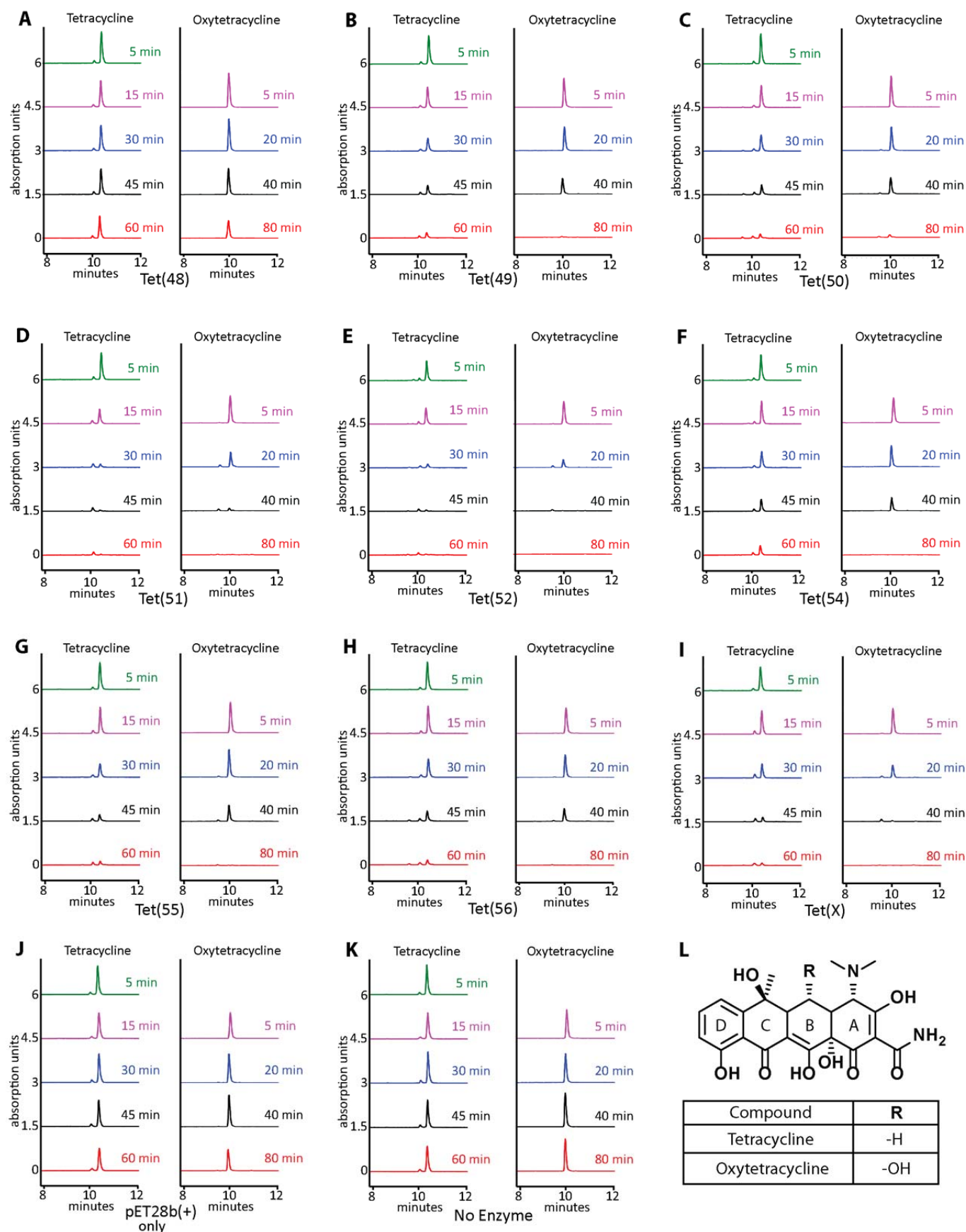


Figure S3, related to figures 3 and 4: Tetracycline and oxytetracycline degradation is catalyzed by diverse flavoenzymes. (A-K) Reverse phase HPLC separation of tetracycline and enzymatically-catalyzed degradation products at 363nm. See figure S2 for absorbance at 260nm. Elimination of antibiotic substrates at both wavelengths indicates that both the β -tricarbonyl (L, ring A) and aryl β -diketone chromophores are disrupted (L, rings B-D).

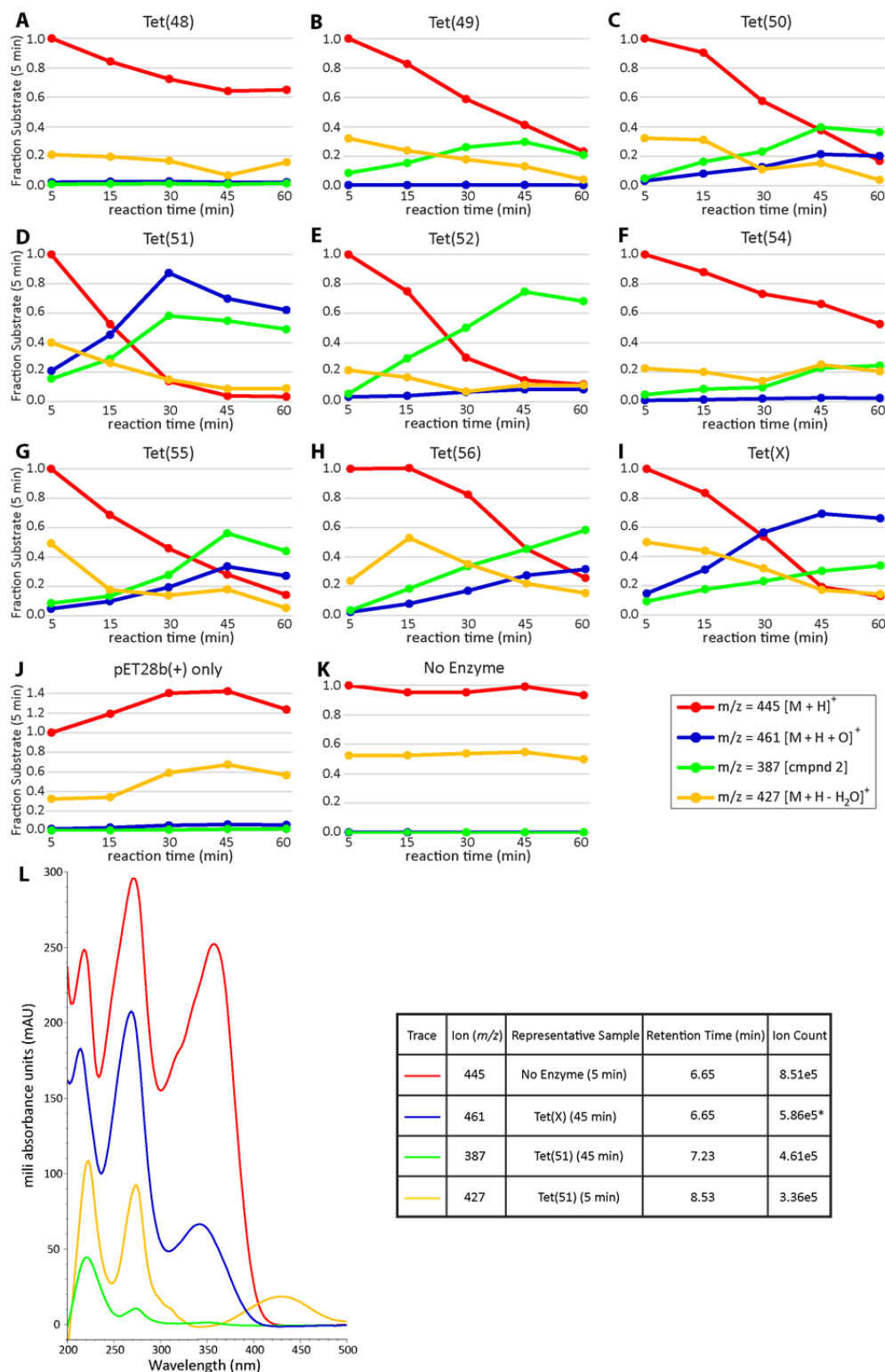


Figure S4, related to figure 4: Tetracycline degradation yields multiple products. (A-K) The relative proportions of ion counts attributable to tetracycline (m/z for $[M+H]^+$ equals 445 in positive ion mode) and associated reaction products (see legend). The data is generated from the reactions using tetracycline depicted in figures S2-S3. Putative structures for the indicated products are depicted in figures 6 and S6. (L) Representative spectra for ions discussed in this manuscript. The asterisk (*) denotes a sample where multiple ions (m/z 445 and 461) were not sufficiently resolved by retention time; 78% of the represented sample (based on raw ion counts) can be attributed to the ion with mass 461. Observed retention times are consistent with the expected polarity of the structures depicted in figure S6. The ion with an m/z value of 387 does not absorb beyond 280nm, consistent with the loss of conjugation in figure S6.

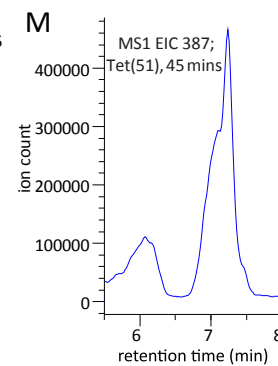
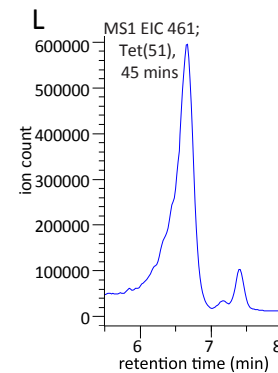
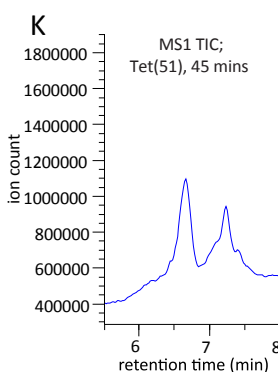
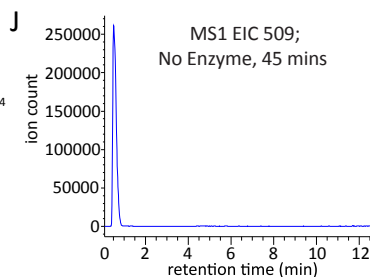
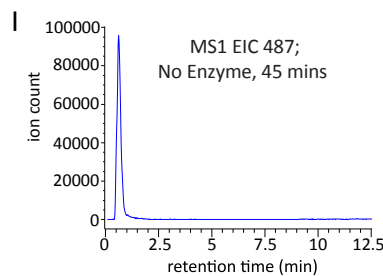
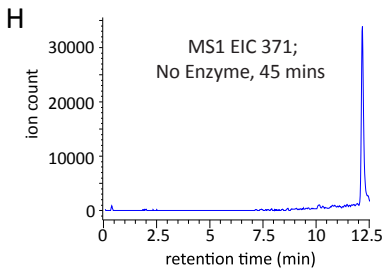
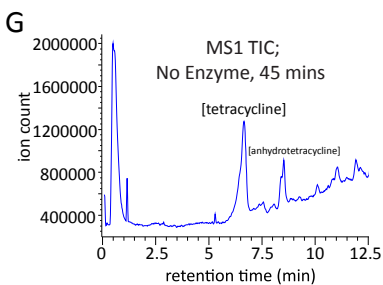
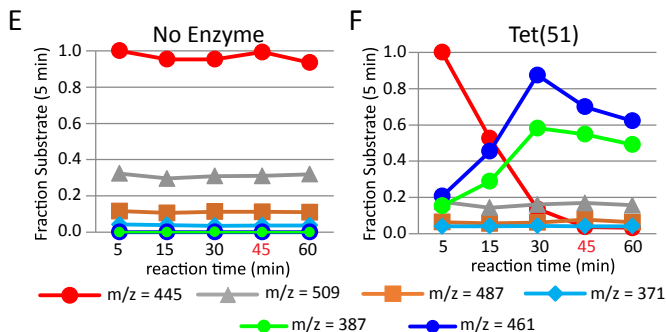
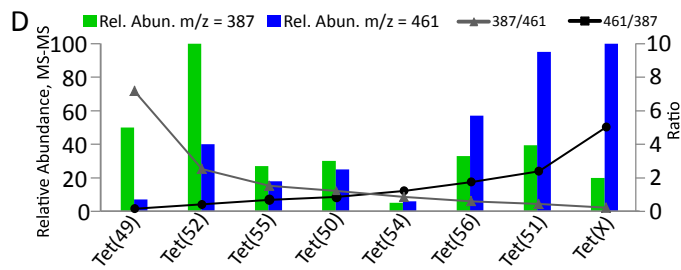
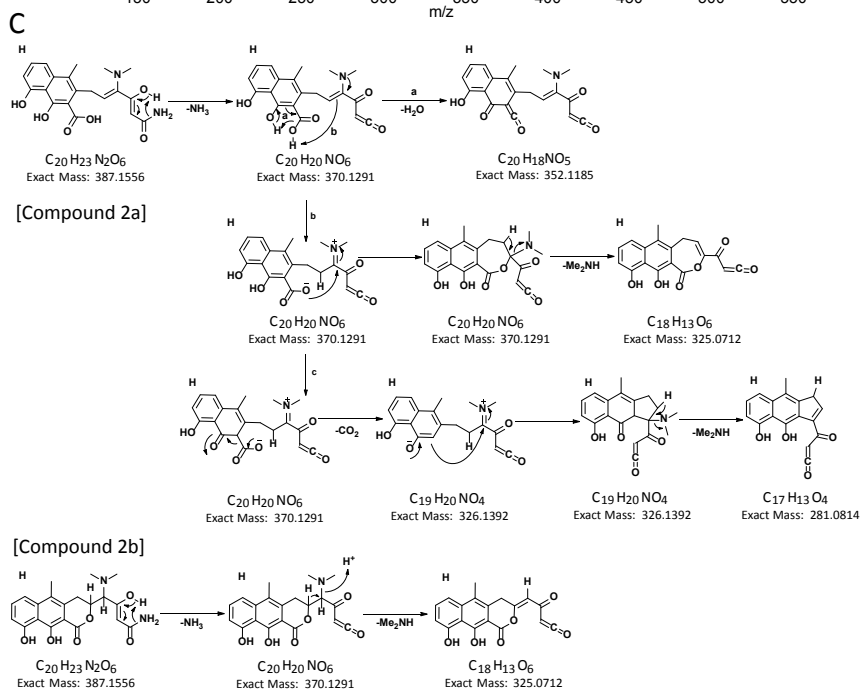
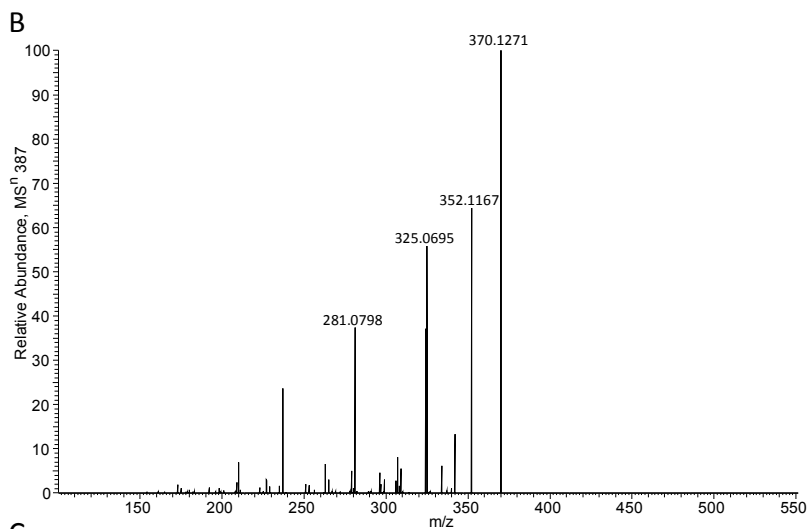
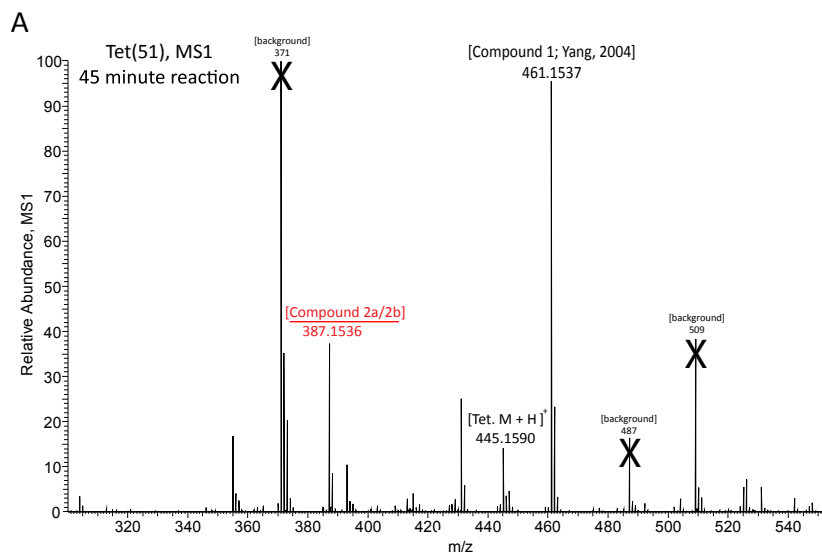


Figure S5, related to figures 4 and 5: Flavoenzymes oxidize tetracycline in multiple fashions. (A) Representative MS1 spectra from direct-injection, high resolution tandem MS. All spectra are available in supplementary dataset 1. Peaks marked with an 'X' indicate background ions associated with the reaction, as shown in (E) and (G-J). The product labeled in red was used to generate the fragmentation profile pictured in (B). (B) The MSⁿ fragmentation profile for the compound with an m/z of 387 is consistent with the proposed structure of compounds **2a/2b** in figures 6 and S6, as schematized in (C). (D) The relative abundance values and associated ratios for the two major reaction products ($m/z = 387$ and $m/z = 461$), as quantified by high-resolution tandem MS using all tetracycline-active enzymes. The distinct product profiles indicate differential oxidative preferences for the various flavoenzymes. (E-F) Ion counts for background ions and reaction products in tetracycline degradation reactions, from the reactions depicted in figures S2-S4. Background ions are present in all reactions and do not change over time; representative LC-MS traces from the 45 minute timepoint in (E) are depicted in (G-J). Reaction products increase in abundance as reactions progress at the expense of substrate; representative LC-MS traces from the 45 minute timepoint in (F) are depicted in (K-M). The two product peaks in (M) are consistent with the multiple reaction products proposed in figures 6 and S6. TIC; total ion count. EIC; extracted ion count.

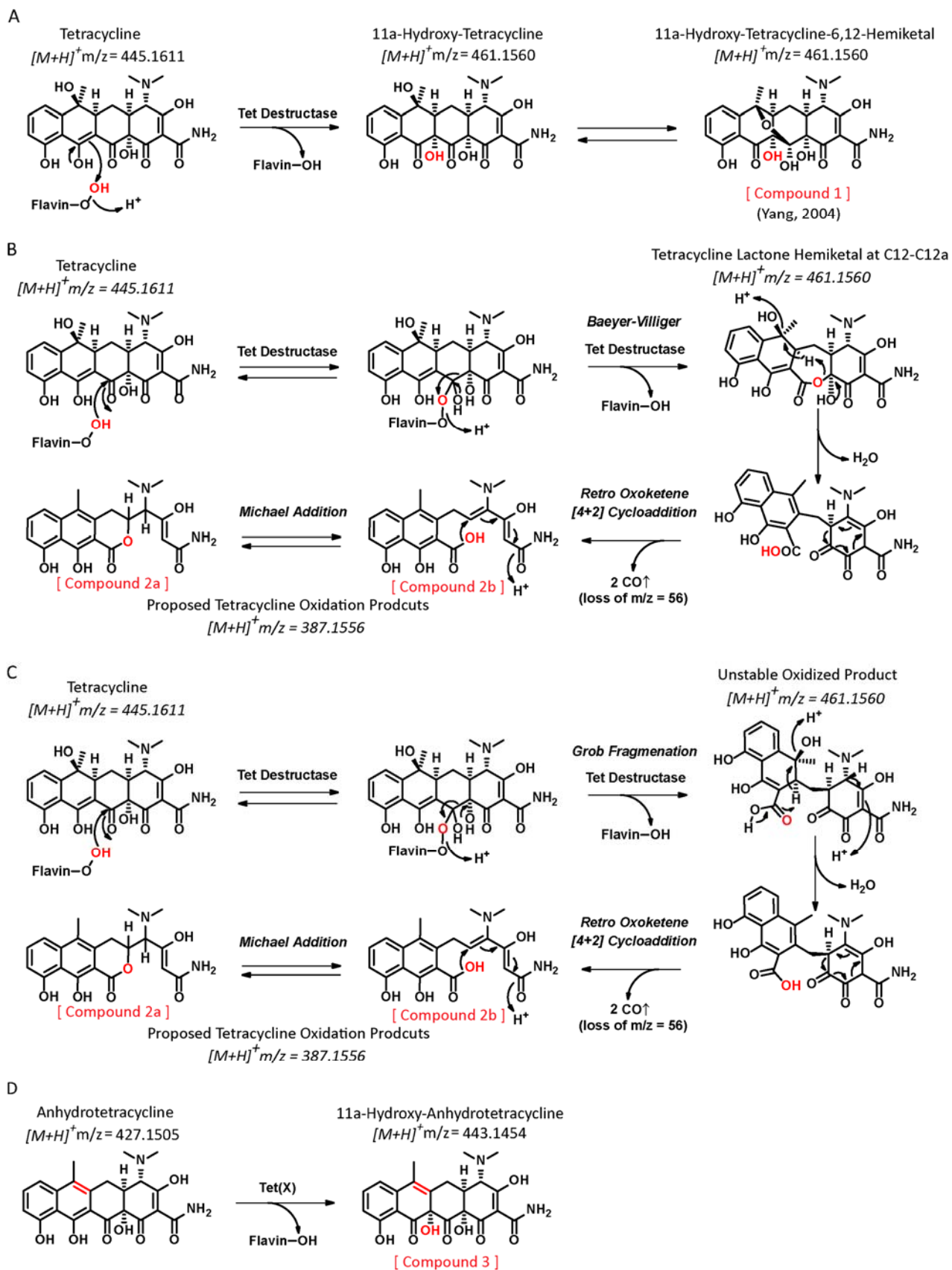


Figure S6, related to figure 6: Reactions schemes for the enzymatic degradation of tetracycline and anhydrotetracycline. (A) Monooxygenation of tetracycline as described in (Yang, 2004). (B) Production of compounds **2a/2b** by a Baeyer-Villiger reaction. (C) Production of compounds **2a/2b** by a Grob fragmentation. (D) Monooxygenation of anhydrotetracycline, depicted per the activity described in (Yang, 2004).

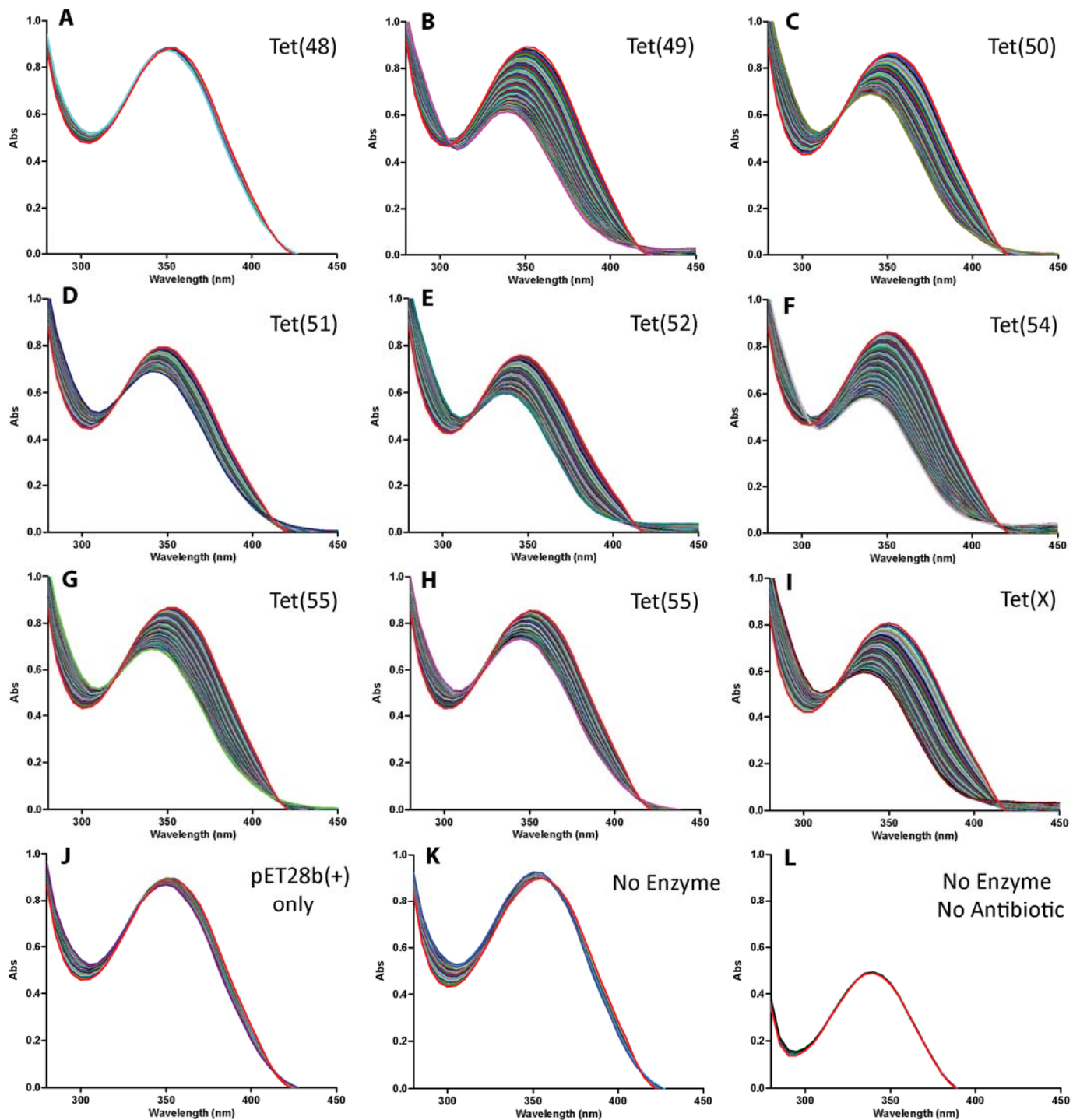


Figure S7, related to figure 3: UV-visible spectrum of enzymatic oxytetracycline degradation. (A-L) Each panel shows the elimination of oxytetracycline over the course of three hours, in a reaction containing the indicated purified enzyme (or control), oxytetracycline, and an NADPH regeneration system. Absorbance scans were taken at one minute intervals. The rainbow pattern depicts a spectral change over time; absorbance at 360nm or 400nm always decreased with time.

Table S1, related to table 1: Metagenomic contigs containing tetracycline-inactivating enzymes, as reported in Forsberg *et. al. Nature*, 2014. For predicted functions depicted below, both Pfam numbers and nucleotide coordinates are given. Genbank accession numbers are given.

Genotype	Soil_Contig	Full Contig Accession Number	Syntenic Antibiotic Resistance Genes	Other Notable Functions Found on Contig
<i>tet</i> (47)	S08_6	KJ693557	none	PF00118: cpn60/GroEL chaperonin (2..928)
<i>tet</i> (48)	S08_12	KJ693683	PF04655: aminoglycoside phosphotransferase (3..344)	PF13310: RhuM family virulence protein (1650..1814)
<i>tet</i> (49)	S11_5	KJ694493	none	
<i>tet</i> (50)	S11_7	KJ694463	none	
<i>tet</i> (51)	S14_2	KJ695235	none	
<i>tet</i> (52)	S14_3	KJ695236	none	PF02517: Putative bacteriocin immunity factor (1..831)
<i>tet</i> (53)	S15_14	KJ695302	none	
<i>tet</i> (54)	S19_4	KJ696048	PF04655: aminoglycoside phosphotransferase (2..430)	PF00239: Resolvase, N terminal domain (2009..2602)
<i>tet</i> (55)	S20_12	KJ696343	none	
<i>tet</i> (56)-2	S17_9	KJ695851	none	

Table S2, related to main text and experimental procedures: Genbank accession numbers for all described tetracycline resistance genes and reaction-specific conditions for their amplification from metagenomic selections via PCR.

Gene Name	Gene Length (bp)	Accession No.	Forward Primer (5' - 3')	Reverse Primer (5' - 3')	Annealing Temp.	Extension Time (min)
<i>tet</i> (47)	1248	KR857681	ATGCGCTGTCATTTCCGATG	TCATTCATAATCCGGTAACGAAAT	56C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (48)	1200	KR857682	ATGACATTCTATTTAAGGAATTTAAAGGT	TTATTTATAGGCTGAATACTCAGGTAATTT	57C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (49)	1164	KR857683	ATGTCTGCAATAAAATAAAATTCTCGTAATA	TTATTCATAATTAGGTAACGAAATCATAT	55C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (50)	1167	KR857684	ATGACTAAACATATAAAAAATTCTTGAATAGGG	TTATTCGTATTGTGGCAAGTTTATTGAATTAG	57C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (51)	1164	KR857685	ATGCCTATCATAAAATAAAATTCTGGTAATA	TCATTCATAATTCGGCAACG	55C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (52)	1173	KR857686	ATGTCTAATGTGAATAAAATTCTCG	TCAGTGCGGATTGGCGTA	55C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (53)	1164	KR857687	ATGTCTACTATAAAATAAAATTCTCGTGATCGG	TCATTCATACTCTGGCAACGAAAT	59C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (54)	1167	KR857688	ATGTCTACTATAAAAAAAATTCTCGTG	TCATTCATACTCAGGCAGCTT	55C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (55)	1158	KR857689	ATGCCCCACACCAAAAAAAT	TTAATACTCCGGCAACTCGAT	57C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (56)	1170	YP_003456135	ATGTCTAAAAATATCAAAATTCTCGTC	CTATGATGATTCATATTGAGGTAAGG	57C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (X)	1167	JQ990987	ATGACAATGCGAATAGATACAGA	TTATACATTTAACAATTGCTGAAACG	55.4C	1.5
Tetracycline-Resistant Transporter	1506	KF630260	ATGGAGAACACTCGTATGTCTT	TCAGGCCGCTGTTCG	57C	2

Table S3, related to experimental procedures: Experimental details for detecting tetracycline inactivation via growth assays in conditioned-media. N.G. indicates no growth was observed.

Tetracycline Resistance Gene	Batch	OD600 of starter culture	Volume of starter culture in 10ml	Time Media Conditioned (hrs)	OD600 at filtration
<i>tet</i> (47)	1	0.41	10µl	24	0.72
<i>tet</i> (48)	1	0.4	10µl	24	0.56
<i>tet</i> (49)	1	0.37	10µl	24	0.72
<i>tet</i> (50)	1	0.54	10µl	24	0.97
<i>tet</i> (51)	1	0.43	10µl	24	0.64
<i>tet</i> (52)	1	0.36	10µl	24	0.7
<i>tet</i> (53)	1	0.35	10µl	24	0.75
<i>tet</i> (54)	1	0.41	10µl	24	0.66
<i>tet</i> (55)	2	0.45	10µl	42	0.59
<i>tet</i> (56)	1	0.17	20µl	24	0.77
<i>tet</i> (X)	2	0.43	10µl	42	0.61
Ctrl: Tetracycline resistant transporter (batch #1)	1	0.51	10µl	24	0.49
Ctrl: Tetracycline resistant transporter (batch #2)	2	0.46	10µl	42	0.53
Ctrl: None (unconditioned media, batch #1)	1	0.32	10µl	24	N.G.
Ctrl: None (unconditioned media, batch #2)	2	0.47	10µl	42	N.G.

Table S4, related to experimental procedures: Experimental details for quantifying tetracycline levels in media supporting the growth of various tetracycline resistance genes. N.G. indicates no growth was observed.

Tetracycline Resistance Gene	OD600 of starter culture	Volume of starter culture in 10ml	Time Media Conditioned (hrs)	OD600 at filtration
<i>tet</i> (47)	0.97	14.17µl	48	0.45
<i>tet</i> (48)	0.99	13.89µl	48	0.45
<i>tet</i> (49)	0.91	15.11µl	48	0.35
<i>tet</i> (50)	1.38	10µl	48	0.43
<i>tet</i> (51)	0.97	14.17µl	48	0.50
<i>tet</i> (52)	0.74	18.58µl	48	0.55
<i>tet</i> (53)	0.94	14.63µl	48	0.41
<i>tet</i> (54)	0.88	15.63µl	48	0.28
<i>tet</i> (55)	0.87	15.81µl	48	0.61
<i>tet</i> (56)	0.92	14.95µl	48	0.43
Ctrl: Tetracycline resistant transporter	0.95	14.47µl	48	0.39
Ctrl: None (unconditioned media)	1.0	13.75µl	48	N.G.

Table S5, related to experimental procedures: Optimized parameters for MRM transitions used to detect both tetracycline and the internal standard PIPES from minimal growth media.

Q1 MS	Q3 MS	Time (msec)	ID	Declustering Potential (Volts)	Collision Energy (Volts)
445.3	410.2	150	Tetracycline	100	28
445.3	154.1	150	Tetracycline	60	37
445.3	98.1	150	Tetracycline	65	60
303	195.2	150	PIPES	100	33
303	152.1	150	PIPES	100	33
303	70.1	150	PIPES	100	33

Table S6, related to experimental procedures: Reaction-specific conditions for the addition of BamHI and NdeI cut sites to tetracycline resistance genes via PCR amplification.

Gene Name	Gene Length (bp)	Accession No.	Forward Primer (5' - 3')	Reverse Primer (5' - 3')	Annealing Temp.	Extension Time (min)
<i>tet</i> (47)	1248	KR857681	TAATACATATGATGCGCTGTCATTTCCGATG	TAAATGGATCCTCATTCAATCCGGTAACGAAAT	56C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (48)	1200	KR857682	TAATACATATGATGACATTCTATTTAAGGAATTTAAAGGT	TAATTGGATCCTTATTTATAGGCTGAATACTCAGGTAATTT	57C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (49)	1164	KR857683	TAATACATATGATGTCTGCAATAAATAAAATTCTCGTAATA	TAATTGGATCCTTATTCATAATTAGGTAACGAAATCATAT	55C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (50)	1167	KR857684	TAATACATATGATGACTAAACATATAAAAAATTCTGTAATAGGG	TAATTGGATCCTTATTCGTATTGTGGCAAGTTTATTGAATTAG	57C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (51)	1164	KR857685	ATAATCATATGATGCCTATCATAAATAAAATTCTGGTAATA	TAATTGGATCCTCATTCAATTCGGCAACG	55C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (52)	1173	KR857686	ATTATCATATGATGTCTAATGTGAATAAAATTCTCG	TTTATGGATCCTCAGTGCGGATTGGCGTA	55C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (53)	1164	KR857687	TAATACATATGATGTCTACTATAAATAAAATTCTCGTGATCGG	TAATTGGATCCTCATTCACTCTGGCAACGAAAT	59C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (54)	1167	KR857688	TAATACATATGATGTCTACTATAAAAAAAATTCTCGTG	TAATTGGATCCTCATTCACTCAGGCAGCTT	55C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (55)	1158	KR857689	TAATACATATGATGCCCCACACCAAAAAAAT	TAATTGGATCCTTAATACTCCGGCAACTCGAT	57C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (56)	1170	YP_003456135	ATTAACATATGATGTCTAAAAATATCAAAATTCTCGTC	TAATTGGATCCCTATGATGATTCATATTGAGGTAAGG	57C	1.5
<i>tet</i> (X)	1167	JQ990987	TAATACATATGATGACAATGCGAATAGATACAGA	TAATTGGATCCTTATACATTTAACAATTGCTGAAACG	55C	1.5

Table S7, related to experimental procedures: Details of enzyme purification. For the empty-vector control, a percent extinction coefficient of 10 was used to estimate total background protein. OD600 indicates optical density, i.e. the absorbance of the culture at 600nm light. NA; not applicable.

Genotype	OD600 at induction	OD600 at harvesting	Enzyme Mol Wt (KDa)	A280 Ext. Coefficient	A280	Concentration (mg/ml)	Volume Recovered (ml)	Amt. Recovered (mg)
Tet(47)	0.25	0.73	43.95	40340	Purification Unsuccessful			
Tet(48)	0.23	0.46	45.00	44350	2.149	2.18	1.25	2.73
Tet(49)	0.23	0.60	43.79	42860	5.538	5.66	1	5.66
Tet(50)	0.24	0.87	43.63	42860	28.276	28.78	0.75	21.59
Tet(51)	0.22	0.37	43.97	41370	3.733	3.97	1.4	5.55
Tet(52)	0.29	0.66	44.10	34380	6.865	8.81	1.5	13.21
Tet(53)	0.33	0.58	43.62	42860	Purification Unsuccessful			
Tet(54)	0.35	0.57	44.07	49850	4.636	4.1	1.1	4.51
Tet(55)	0.31	1.02	42.92	45840	39.474	37	0.75	27.75
Tet(56)	0.47	0.77	44.02	42860	19.561	20.1	1.7	34.17
Tet(X)	0.43	0.70	43.71	36440	25.768	30.9	1.2	37.08
empty pET28(b)+	0.37	0.71	NA	$\epsilon_{1\%} = 10.0$	8.839	9	1.1	9.9

Supplemental Experimental Procedures

Sub-Cloning of Tetracycline Resistance Genes into pZE21

For each soil-derived, putative FAD-dependent oxidoreductase, the full-length ORF was subcloned from the purified PCR-product that resulted from amplifying the resistance-conferring metagenomic DNA fragments in original the tetracycline selections (Forsberg et al., 2014). PCRs were performed in a total volume of 25µl using the following reagents: 1µl of template (amplified PCR product), 1µl of 10mM dNTPs (NEB, Ipswich, MA), 2.5µl of 10x ThermoPol buffer (NEB), 0.5µl of Taq polymerase (NEB, 5U/µl), and 1µl each of forward and reverse primer, at 10µM. All reactions were incubated at 94°C for 10 minutes, subjected to 35 cycles of: (i) 94°C for 45 seconds, (ii) reaction-specific annealing temperature for 45 seconds, and (iii) 72°C for a reaction-specific extension time, and finally incubated at 72°C for 10 minutes before being held at 4°C. Target-specific accession numbers and reaction-specific primer sequences/cycling conditions are indicated in table S2.

The *Legionella* homolog was cloned from a genomic DNA preparation from *L. longbeachae* (ATCC 33462). Lawns of *L. longbeachae* grown on charcoal yeast extract agar plates were given generously by Dr. Joseph Vogel (Washington University in St. Louis) and cells collected by scraping and combining growth from three agar plates. Cells were pelleted and genomic DNA extracted via bead-beating and phenol-chloroform extraction. Cell pellets were re-suspended in 500µl “Buffer A” (200mM NaCl, 200mM Tris, 20mM EDTA), and 210µl of 20% SDS and 500µl of phenol:chloroform:IAA (25:24:1, pH7.9) were added to the mixture. The solution was then added to 250µl of 0.1mm zirconium beads (BioSpec Products, Bartlesville, OK, cat#1107910) before cooling on ice for five minutes. Cells were lysed by bead-beating with the mini bead-beater 24 (BioSpec Products, cat#112011) at maximum intensity for two minutes, cooled on ice for two minutes, and beat again for two minutes. Lysed cells were spun at 6800 rcf at 4°C for three minutes and the aqueous phase transferred to a pre-spun phase-lock gel tube (5Prime, Gaithersburg, MD, cat#2302820). One volume of phenol:chloroform:IAA (25:24:1), pH7.9 was added to the tube and mixed by inversion. Tubes were then spun at 20800 rcf at room temperature for five minutes. The aqueous phase was transferred to a new microcentrifuge tube and one volume of -20°C isopropanol and 1/10th volume 3M NaOAc (Ambion, Austin, TX, cat#AM9740, pH 5.5) added. After overnight storage at -20°C, the tube was spun in a pre-chilled (4°C)

tabletop centrifuge before a wash with 500µl of room-temperature ethanol was performed. After washing, the tube was spun down a final time, residual ethanol removed by evaporation, and the DNA pellet re-suspended in 50µl of warm, nuclease-free H₂O. An aliquot of this genomic DNA preparation (2µl, 340ng) was used for PCR-amplification of the target homolog with the conditions outlined in the preceding paragraph, and according to the reaction-specific parameters outlined in table S2.

Both control genotypes (*tet(X)* and the tetracycline-resistant transporter) were amplified via PCR using template extracted from functional selections with fecal metagenomic libraries. Templates were extracted exactly as outlined previously for selections with soil libraries (Forsberg et al., 2014). The transporter was amplified from accession #KF630260, as described previously and with reaction-specific and gene-specific information provided in table S2. We PCR-amplified *tet(X)* (sequence identical to accession #JQ990987) using 2.5µl of template and the PFX DNA polymerase, per suggested methods (http://tools.invitrogen.com/content/sfs/manuals/platinumpfx_pps.pdf), and according to the details provided in table S2.

All purified PCR products were cloned 9bp downstream of the ribosome binding site within the pZE21 expression vector (Lutz and Bujard, 1997) and transformed into *E. coli* MegaX cells (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). To facilitate cloning, Taq-amplified PCR products were blunted using the END-IT enzyme mix (Epicentre, Madison, WI cat#ER0720) and ligated to the expression vector using the Fast-Link DNA ligation kit (Epicentre, cat#LK11025). PCRs performed with PFX (a blunt-end polymerase) were phosphorylated (rather than blunted) prior to ligation using T4 PNK (Epicentre, cat#P0505H) per manufacturer's recommendations.

All sub-cloned genes were verified to confer tetracycline resistance when expressed in *E. coli* MegaX at a minimum of 16µg/ml and subjected to Sanger sequencing to confirm appropriate sequence and orientation. In some instances, small discrepancies between the confirmatory Sanger sequence and the original Illumina-generated, assembled sequence were observed (Forsberg et al., 2014), none of which impacted resistance-conferring activity when expressed in *E. coli*. In two constructs (*tet*(47) and *tet*(48)), multiple in-frame start codons were present in the assembled metagenomic contigs which resulted in several potential open reading frames for which *a priori* predictions of optimality were not obvious. In both cases, the longest potential open

reading frame was cloned from its metagenomic source (1248bp and 1200bp for *tet*(47) and *tet*(48), respectively); accession numbers corresponding to the exact sequences used in this study are reported in table S2. Accession numbers for the original metagenomic contigs are reported in table S1.

Determination of Tetracycline Minimum Inhibitory Concentrations

Determination of all minimum inhibitory concentrations was performed in liquid media using Mueller-Hinton broth (2g Beef Infusion Solids, 1.5g Starch, 17.5g Casein hydrolysate, pH 7.4, in a final volume of 1L) supplemented with 50µg/ml kanamycin (the resistance marker on the pZE21 expression vector) and tetracycline at the reported concentrations. All minimum inhibitory concentrations were performed in a final volume of 200µl, with a 2.5% initial cellular inoculum. Growth of *E. coli* transformants was profiled via absorbance measurements at 600nm (OD600) using the Synergy H1 microplate reader (Biotek Instruments, Inc, Winooski, VT) for a minimum of 48 hours at 37°C. Cultures were protected from light. MIC determinations were performed using *E. coli* strains transformed with all soil-derived tetracycline inactivation genes and the homolog from *L. longbeachae*.

Tetracycline Media-Darkening Growth Assays

E. coli transformants expressing either the tetracycline-resistant transporter (control) or a putative tetracycline-inactivating protein were grown in 8ml of Luria-Bertani (LB) broth (5g Yeast Extract, 5g NaCl, 10g of Tryptone in 1L H₂O) at 37°C for 4 days, protected from light, and shaking at 225 rpm. Cultures were inoculated with 10µl of starter culture grown to an optical density that ranged from 0.35 to 0.54 (excepting the transformant expressing the ORF from *L. longbeachae*, for which 20µl of starter culture with an optical density of 0.17 was used). To the cultures indicated in figure 2, tetracycline was added at a concentration of 100µg/ml, excepting the *tet*(55) construct, as this drug concentration inhibited the growth of this transformant. For this culture only, 32µg/ml tetracycline was used. After 96 hours, images were taken using a standard digital camera.

Detecting Tetracycline Inactivation with Conditioned-Media Growth Assays

To test for the ability of the *E. coli* transformants expressing the various tetracycline resistance proteins to inactivate the antibiotic, we grew each transformant in tetracycline-containing media, filtered out cells, and compared the cytotoxicity of the spent supernatant to either (i) unconditioned media, or (ii) media conditioned

with an *E. coli* transformant encoding a tetracycline-resistant transport protein. To condition media, an inoculum of log phase *E. coli* transformants was introduced to 10ml of Mueller-Hinton broth containing 50µg/ml kanamycin (the resistance marker on the pZE21 expression vector) and 8µg/ml tetracycline. The inoculated cells were determined to be in log phase via absorbance measurements at OD600 using the Synergy H1 microplate reader (Biotek Instruments, Inc) every 15 minutes and were introduced into fresh media at the densities and volumes outlined in table S3. Cultures were grown until reaching an OD600 measurement of ~0.5-1.0, at which point cells were pelleted and the supernatant passed through a 0.2µm filter. Due to variable growth rates, cultures used to condition media were grown for different periods of time to reach the appropriate cellular density: one batch was grown for 24 hours while a second was allowed to progress 42 hours. As detailed in table S3, the appropriate negative controls (unconditioned media and transporter-conditioned media) were repeated for both intervals. To verify that the initial concentration of tetracycline (8µg/ml) entirely prevented the growth of our tetracycline-susceptible *E. coli* strain (MegaX + an empty pZE21 vector), the control strain was inoculated into Mueller-Hinton broth containing 50µg/ml kanamycin and 8µg/ml tetracycline, per table S3. No growth was observed (table S3), confirming the potency of the tetracycline antibiotic.

After conditioning and filtration, supernatants were used as growth media for the tetracycline-susceptible *E. coli* strain. In all cases, growth assays were performed in a final volume of 225µl supernatant inoculated with 5µl of tetracycline-susceptible *E. coli* at an OD600 value of 0.6. Growth was profiled via absorbance measurements at 600nm using the Synergy H1 microplate reader (Biotek Instruments, Inc) every 15 minutes for a minimum of 60 hours at 37°C. Cultures were protected from light. Absorbance values were corrected for the background absorbance of the filtered supernatant by subtracting measurements of uninoculated controls from those receiving inoculum.

Quantifying Tetracycline Levels via Liquid Chromatography-Tandem Mass Spectrometry

To confirm *E. coli* transformants expressing the various tetracycline resistance proteins inactivate the antibiotic, levels of the drug were quantified in growth media by liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS). Strains were grown in 10ml of M9 minimal media (1X M9 minimal salts [Sigma, St. Louis, MO, cat #M6030], 2mM MgSO₄, 100µM CaCl₂) supplemented with 9g/L glucose, 100mg/L thiamine

(Sigma #T4625), 100mg/L leucine (Sigma #L8912), 8 μ g/ml tetracycline (Sigma #268054), and 15.1 mg/L PIPES (piperazine-N,N'-bis(2)-ethanesulfonic acid; Sigma #P6757, used as an internal control for quantification via mass spectrometry). Cultures were inoculated with transformants previously grown for 13 hours at 37°C and normalized to the optical density of the transformant, according to table S4. Strains were allowed to grow for 48 hours, shaking continuously at 225rpm and protected from light, to OD600 values given in table S4. Subsequently, cells were pelleted and supernatants passed through a 0.2 μ M filter before tetracycline levels were quantified via LC-MS/MS by Dr. Sophie Alvarez at the Proteomics and Mass Spectrometry Facility at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center (St. Louis, MO USA).

To quantify absolute tetracycline levels, LC-MS/MS was performed using filtered supernatants diluted three-fold and transferred to HPLC vials. The LC-MS/MS system used is composed of a Shimadzu (Kyoto, Japan) LC system with two Shimadzu solvent delivery pumps (model LC10AD), a Shimadzu integrated controller (SCL10Avp), a Valco (Houston, TX) two-position diverter valve, and a LEAP CTC PAL autosampler with a 50 μ l sample loop. This LC system is interfaced with an AB Sciex (Framingham, MA) 4000 QTRAP mass spectrometer equipped with a TurboIonSpray (TIS) electrospray ion source. Source parameters were set as follows: curtain gas, 20 arbitrary units (a.u.); source gas 1, 50 a.u.; source gas 2, 50 a.u.; collision activated dissociation, high; interface heater, on; temperature, 500 °C; ion spray voltage, +5500. Both quadruples (Q1 and Q3) were set to unit resolution. Analyst software (version 1.4.2) was used to control sample acquisition and data analysis. The 4000 QTRAP mass spectrometer was tuned and calibrated according to the manufacturer's recommendations. Tetracycline and the internal standard used (PIPES) were detected using 3 MRM transitions previously optimized using each standard (tetracycline, Sigma #268054; PIPES, Sigma #P6757) as detailed in table S5.

For LC separation, a ZORBAX Eclipse XDB-C18 column (4.6 mm x 150 mm, Agilent, Santa Clara, CA) was used flowing at 0.5 ml/min. The gradient was from 95% solvent A (0.1% [v/v] formic acid in Milli-Q water), held for 2 min, to 80% solvent B (100% Methanol) in 8 min. The LC was then ramped to 95% B and held for 2.5 min, then ramped back to initial conditions (95% solvent A) in 1 min and re-equilibrated for an additional 2 min. For quantification, a series of standard samples containing different concentrations of

tetracycline and a constant concentration of PIPES was prepared. The peak area in samples was first normalized in the same manner used for optimization of the standards and then quantified according to the standard curve. The linear range of the standard curve for tetracycline quantification was between 0.008 and 10 μM , with an r^2 value of 0.999.

Sub-Cloning of Tetracycline Resistance Genes into pET28b(+)

All genes encoding putative tetracycline-inactivating enzymes were cloned into the pET28b(+) vector (Novagen, Darmstadt, Germany) digested using BamHI and NdeI restriction enzymes. Digestion of the pET28b(+) vector was performed in a total volume of 50 μl using the following reagents mixed well and incubated at 37°C overnight: (i) 2.5 μg of purified vector DNA, isolated via miniprep with a Qiagen purification kit (Venlo, Netherlands, cat#27104) per manufacturer's recommendations, (ii) 5 μl NEB cutsmart buffer, (iii) 0.67 μl BamHI-HF (100U/ μl , NEB), and (iv) 3 μl NdeI (20U/ μl , NEB). Subsequently, digested vector was dephosphorylated using 1/10th volume calf intestinal phosphatase (CIP, 10U/ μl , NEB) with 1/10th volume NEB buffer #3 followed by incubation at 37°C for three hours. BamHI and NdeI cut sites were added to each cloned putative tetracycline-inactivating gene using ~1-2ng of template (subcloned genes in pZE21) and the PFX DNA polymerase, per suggested protocols (http://tools.invitrogen.com/content/sfs/manuals/platinumpfx_pps.pdf). All reactions were incubated at 94°C for 10 minutes, subjected to 35 cycles of: (i) 94°C for 45 seconds, (ii) reaction-specific annealing temperature for 45 seconds, and (iii) 72°C for a reaction-specific extension time, and finally incubated at 72°C for 10 minutes before being held at 4°C. Reaction-specific primer sequences/cycling conditions are indicated in table S6.

Purified PCR product was digested in a 50 μl reaction incubated at 37°C overnight and containing (i) 30 μl of pure amplicon (2 - 4.8 μg DNA), (ii) 5 μl NEB cutsmart buffer, (iii) 0.67 μl BamHI-HF (100U/ μl , NEB), (iv) 3 μl NdeI (20U/ μl , NEB), and (v) 1 μl of DpnI (20U/ μl , NEB, to linearize residual pZE21 vector containing sub-cloned tetracycline resistant genes). To facilitate cloning, each digested amplicon was ligated to digested pET28b(+) using the Fast-Link DNA ligation kit (Epicentre, cat#LK11025) per manufacturer's recommendations. All cloned genes were subjected to Sanger sequencing to confirm appropriate sequence and orientation.

Enzyme Purification

After ligation into pET28b(+), all putative tetracycline-inactivating genotypes were purified by miniprep and transformed into BL21-Star(DE3) *E. coli* cells (Life Technologies, Carlsbad, CA) via heat-shock. Enzymes were purified using similar protocols but in two separate groups of six; each group was purified on a separate day. Group #1 consisted of genotypes Tet(47), Tet(48), Tet(49), Tet(50), Tet(51), and Tet(52). Group #2 consisted of genotypes: Tet(53), Tet(54), Tet(55), Tet(56), Tet(X), and an empty pET28b(+) vector. Overnight cultures of each strain were prepared and 500µl used to inoculate 1L LB broth containing 50µg/ml kanamycin and grown to the optical densities detailed in table S7, at which time samples were cooled to 15°C and 500µl of 1M Isopropyl β-D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) was added to induce expression. Cells were then allowed to grow at 15°C overnight and harvested the following day, at optical densities given in table S7. For each sample, 1ml of both uninduced and induced cells were frozen at -20°C for use in SDS protein gels.

The following buffers were used in purification: *Lysis buffer* (50mM K₂HPO₄, 500mM NaCl, 5mM Beta-Mercaptoethanol, 20mM imidazole, 10% glycerol), *Elution buffer* (50mM K₂HPO₄, 500mM NaCl, 5mM Beta-Mercaptoethanol, 300mM imidazole, 10% glycerol), and *Dialysis buffer* (50mM K₂HPO₄, 150mM NaCl, 1mM DTT, 5% Glycerol). Samples were kept in a cold room at 4°C or on ice throughout the purification process. After overnight induction with IPTG, each sample was pelleted by centrifugation at 10,000g for 10 minutes at 4°C, supernatants discarded, and cells resuspended in 40ml of lysis buffer containing SIGMAFAST protease inhibitor (Sigma cat#S8820) at a concentration of one tablet in 100ml buffer. Resuspended cells were subsequently flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen and thawed in a room-temperature water bath. Cells were then lysed using an EmulsiFlex-C5 homogenizer (Avestin, Ottawa, Canada) at a minimum psi of 15,000, lysates collected, and clarified at 50,000 rpm for 35 minutes at 4°C (samples in group #2 were clarified at 39,000 rpm). From each sample, approximately 1ml of both lysate and clarified supernatant was stored for use in SDS protein gels.

Proteins were purified from supernatant by elution through Ni-NTA agarose beads (Invitrogen cat#R901), using 8ml of beads for samples in group #1 and 15ml for group #2 samples. After beads were washed twice with 50ml diH₂O, clarified supernatant was mixed with the beads while gently rocking at 4°C for

30 to 60 minutes to facilitate binding of the His₆-tagged enzymes to the Ni-NTA beads. Bound beads were allowed to settle and the supernatant permitted to flow through purification columns and the drippings collected. Beads were subsequently washed with 40ml of lysis buffer, with wash also collected by drip. Proteins were then eluted from Ni-NTA beads by flowing elution buffer over beads three separate times, each elution was collected separately, and mixed before dialysis. Samples in group #1 were eluted with three volumes of 20ml elution buffer while group #2 samples used elution volumes of 10ml. All group #1 samples were dialyzed using 10 kDa molecular weight cut-off SnakeSkin Pleated Dialysis tubing from Thermo Scientific (Waltham, MA) in 2L dialysis buffer overnight before transfer into a fresh 4L of dialysis buffer the following day, and allowed to dialyze for additional 5 hours, reaching a final 1:80 dilution. Each sample from group #2 was dialyzed in 1L of dialysis buffer overnight using the same tubing; for a final 1:34 dilution. For each sample, aliquots of supernatant flow-through, washes, and each elution were maintained for use in SDS protein gels.

Running SDS Protein Gels

For each sample, an SDS protein gel was run using uninduced cells, induced cells, lysate, clarified supernatant, flowthrough, wash, elution #1, elution #2, and elution #3. The volume of induced cells used was normalized to the number of uninduced cells collected, per the OD600 values reported in table S7 such that band intensities were comparable within samples and facilitated inference of proper expression induction. Cell aliquots were spun down at 9,000 rpm at 4°C and supernatants discarded before pellets were resuspended in diH₂O. One part resuspended pellet was mixed with two parts SDS gel loading dye (containing 10% w/v SDS, 50% v/v glycerol, 0.25M Tris-HCl pH 6.8, 0.5M dithiothreitol, 0.25% w/v bromophenol blue), heated at 90°C for ten minutes, centrifuged at 13,000 rpm for 20 minutes at room temperature, and 10µl of sample loaded into gel wells. For lysates, clarified supernatants, flowthrough, washes, and all elutions, three parts sample was mixed with one part loading dye and heated at 90°C for ten minutes. For lysates and clarified supernatants, 10µl of sample was loaded on SDS gels whereas 15µl was used for flowthrough, washes, and all elutions. As a size marker, 12µl of BioRad (Hercules, CA) Precision Plus Dual Xtra Standard (cat#161-0377) was included. The loaded SDS gels (BioRad Any kD Mini-PROTEAN TGX Gel; cat#456-9033) ran for 10 minutes at 150 volts and then 35 minutes at 185 volts. Gels were subsequently stained with coomassie blue dye and then destained

by gentle rocking overnight using a 10/10/80 ratio of acetic acid to methanol to water. Gels were imaged the subsequent day; the expected size of all tetracycline-inactivating enzymes is approximately 44KDa. For samples Tet(47) and Tet(53), no band of the desired size was visible in any elution, indicating purification was unsuccessful. These samples were not carried through to further *in vitro* experimentation.

Concentrating, Quantifying, and Storing Enzymes

To concentrate samples, dialyzed eluate was loaded into a 10kDa centrifugal filtration unit (Millipore, Darmstadt, Germany, cat#ACK5010PG), removing proteins smaller than 10KDa. Before sample was loaded, concentration columns were conditioned with 15ml of dialysis buffer and centrifuged at 4,500 rpm for 15 minutes at 4°C. Samples were then concentrated in 15ml aliquots and precipitate avoided by periodic gentle pipetting. All samples were concentrated to volumes below 1.7ml and concentration quantified using A280 measurements taken with a NanoDrop Spectrophotometer (Thermo Scientific). For each enzyme, extinction coefficients were determined using ExPASy's ProtParam tool (<http://web.expasy.org/protparam>) assuming reduced cysteines; all parameters, concentrations, and yields are reported in table S7. Notably, solutions of purified protein showed a yellow hue in a concentration-dependent fashion, indicating likely flavin content (Yang et al., 2004).

Preparing *In vitro* Enzymatic Reactions

All reactions were performed using 100mM TAPS buffer (Sigma #T5130), pH 8.5, unless otherwise noted. Inactivation reactions contained 1.4mM antibiotic (either tetracycline or oxytetracycline), 350µg enzyme, and an NADPH regenerating system in a total volume of 564µl. For reactions using anhydrotetracycline, 1mM substrate was used with 200ug enzyme in a 475ul reaction. The NADPH regenerating system consisted of the following components (final concentrations): glucose-6-phosphate (40mM, Sigma #G7879), NADP⁺ (4mM, Sigma #N5755), MgCl₂ (1mM, Sigma #M9272), and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (4U/ml, Sigma #G2921). Before addition to the reaction, the regenerating system was prepared as a 4X stock as follows. The glucose-6-phosphate and NADP⁺ were dissolved in TAPS and the mixture pH'd to 8.4 before the addition of MgCl₂ and glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase. The solution was then incubated at 37°C for 30 minutes to generate NADPH before the regeneration solution was added to each reaction. The reaction was started by the

addition of a putative tetracycline-inactivating enzyme. Before enzyme addition, the pH of each reaction was measured and verified to be between 8.1 and 8.3. Enzymes were thawed on ice with FAD added to a final concentration of 5 μ M. FAD was also added to 'no-enzyme' controls, matched to the highest concentration in any other experiment. The same reactions were used for UV-visible spectroscopy (following dilution), reverse phase HPLC, and (where applicable) LC-MS and high-resolution tandem MS.

UV-visible Spectroscopy

After enzyme addition, reactions were immediately mixed and 25 μ l added to 975 μ l TAPS (40-fold dilution) such that absorbance readings would fall within the dynamic range of the spectrometer used (a Cary 60 UV/Vis system, Agilent). For reactions using anhydrotetracycline, a 50-fold dilution factor was used. Absorbance then was measured from 280nm to 450nm or 550nm light, at 1-5nm intervals, for up to 3.5 hours. Time course spectra can be seen in figures 3, 6, and S7.

Sampling Reactions

From each reaction, samples were taken at indicated timepoints by transferring a 50 μ l volume into a 200 μ l quencher solution comprised of equal parts acetonitrile (Sigma #34851) and 0.25M HCl. Reactions were quenched under acidic conditions because prior work with Tet(X) demonstrated that enzymatic degradation products of tetracyclines are unstable at neutral pH, but stable at low pH (Moore et al., 2005; Yang et al., 2004). In many cases, soil-derived enzymes showed similar initial products as Tet(X) by reverse phase HPLC. Reactions that appeared to progress slowly accumulated less degradation product, consistent its lower stability at neutral pH. Slower reactions expose products to unfavorable pH levels for longer periods of time and would therefore be expected to result in diminished levels of any compound unstable at the reaction's pH. After an aliquot of reaction was quenched, the sample was centrifuged at 10,000 rpm for 10 minutes at 4°C and 200 μ l transferred to a suitable vial for reverse phase HPLC.

High Performance Liquid Chromatography to Separate Tetracycline Degradation Products

Products generated from enzymatic inactivation of both tetracycline and oxytetracycline were separated by reverse phase HPLC using a Phenomenex (Torrance, CA) Luna C18 column (5 μ m, 100 Å, 4.6 x 250mm, part #00G-4252-E0). The column was first equilibrated using H₂O containing 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid (solvent

A), before ramping to 25% solvent B (acetonitrile containing 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid). Products of enzymatic activity were then eluted using 25 μ l of sample along a linear gradient from 25% to 75% solvent B over 14 minutes at a flow rate of 1ml/min. HPLC was performed using a Beckman Coulter (Pasadena, CA) system (gold 126 solvent module + gold 168 detector module) attached to an autosampler such that samples were allowed to run in continuous succession overnight.

Liquid Chromatography Mass Spectrometry of Tetracycline Degradation Products

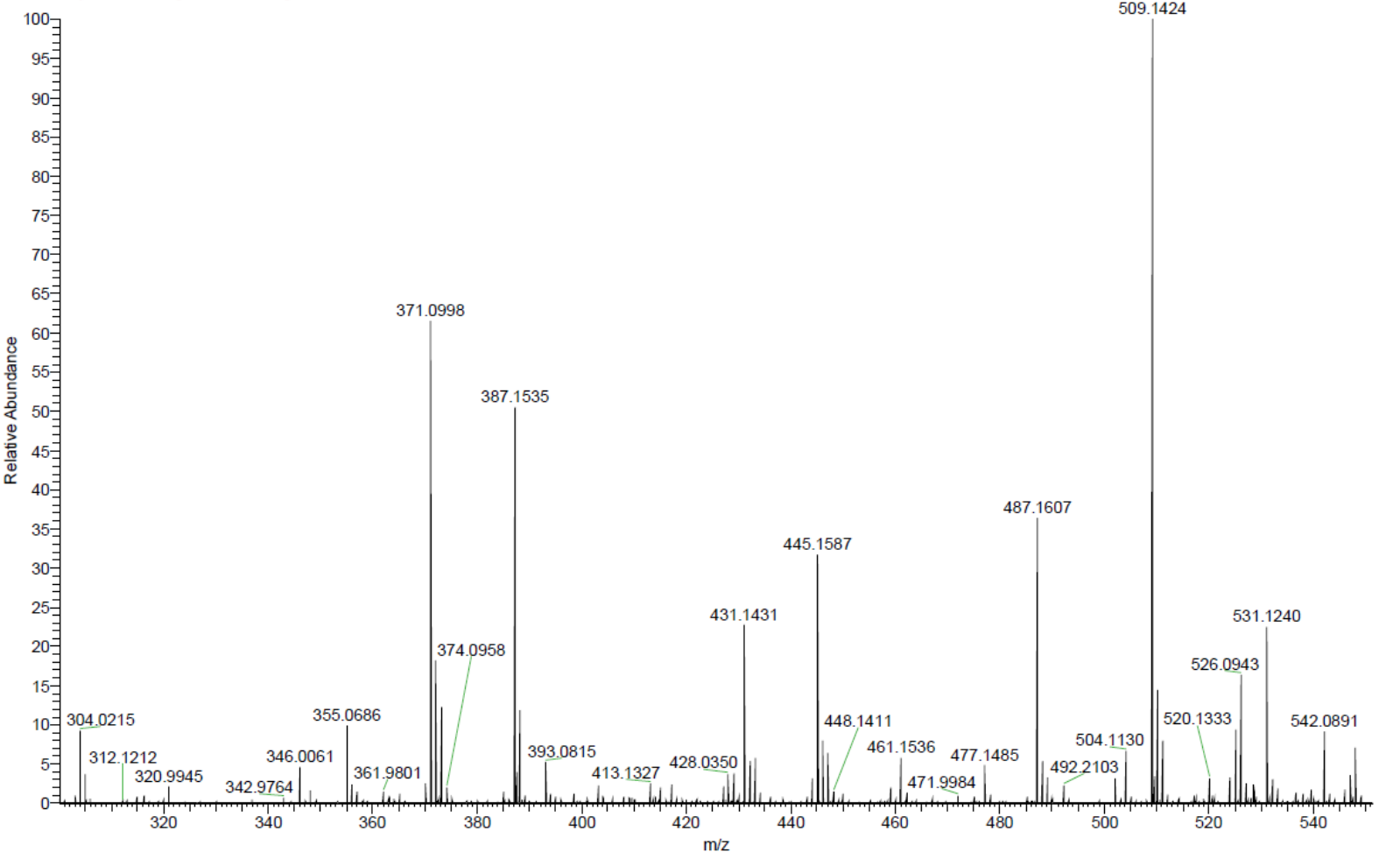
After reverse phase HPLC as described above, samples were analyzed by LC-MS using an Agilent single quadrupole LC/MS 6130. Reaction products were first separated by reverse phase HPLC using a Phenomenex Gemini C18 column (5 μ m, 110 Å, 2 x 50mm, part #00B-4435-B0). The column was equilibrated using H₂O plus 0.1% formic acid and reaction products eluted using 30 μ l of sample along a linear gradient to 95% acetonitrile plus 0.1% formic acid over 14 minutes at a flow rate of 0.5ml/min. Electrospray ionization was used for analysis of reaction products by mass spectrometry and ion counts for a particular m/z peak determined by peak height. Panels in figures 4, 5, S4, and S5 depict ion counts of various analytes from each enzymatic (or control) reaction, normalized to the counts observed for peak associated with the tetracycline substrate (m/z of 445) at the first timepoint taken (5 minutes post reaction initiation).

High Resolution Tandem Mass Spectrometry of Tetracycline Degradation Products

Reactions were performed as described above and 45 minute timepoints were quenched and frozen before analysis by high-resolution tandem mass spectrometry. Samples were diluted 6x with 50% MeOH/0.1% formic acid and run on LTQ-Orbitrap Velos by direct infusion using the Advion Triversa nanomate. The samples were acquired using a high resolution (60,000) mass spectrometer. The MS scan was acquired from 300-550 m/z . The 387 m/z compound was fragmented by MS2 and MS3-CID with collision energies of 15 and 25 eV respectively. Detailed parameters associated with any given spectra are given in supplemental dataset 1.

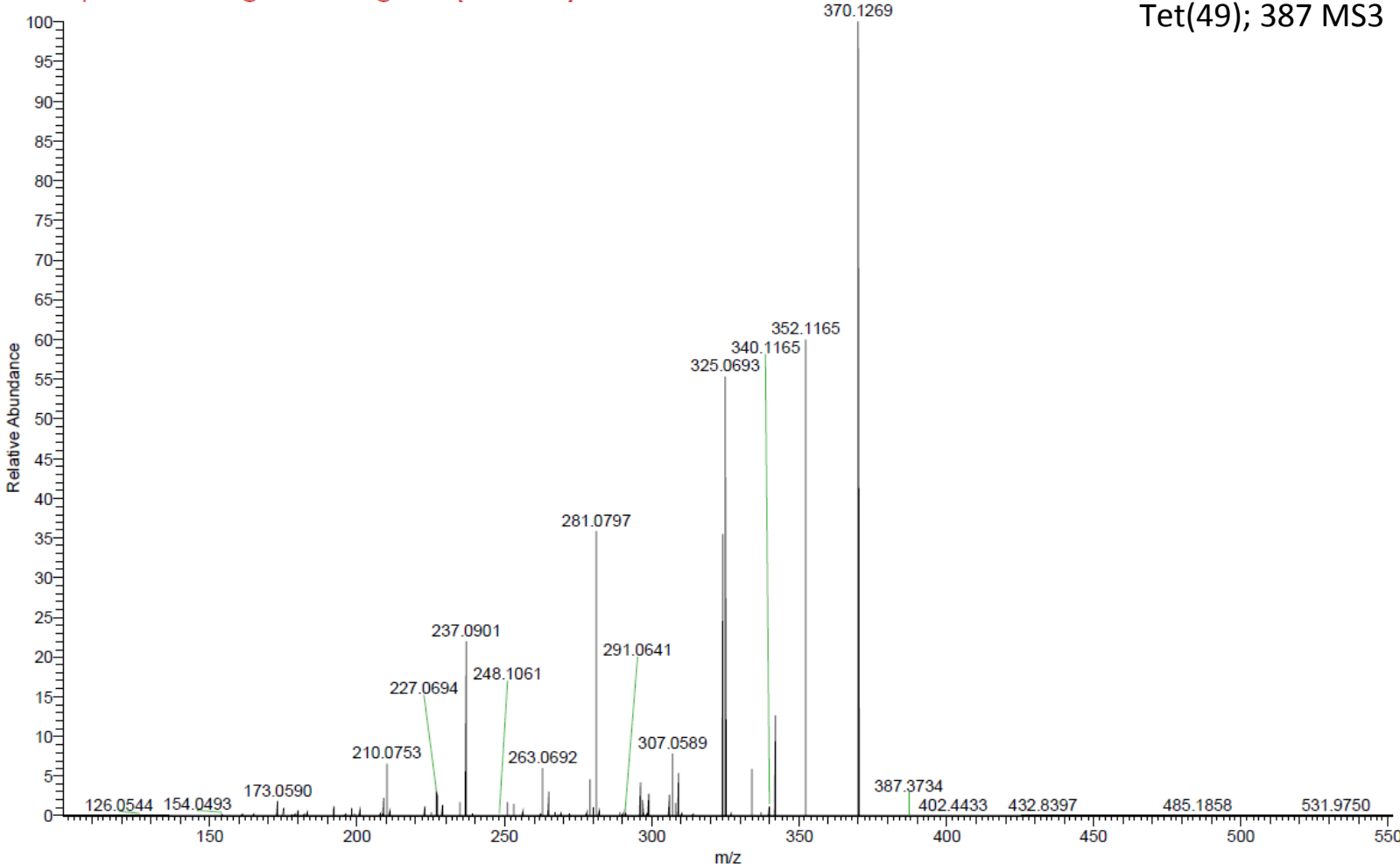
Tet(49) MS1

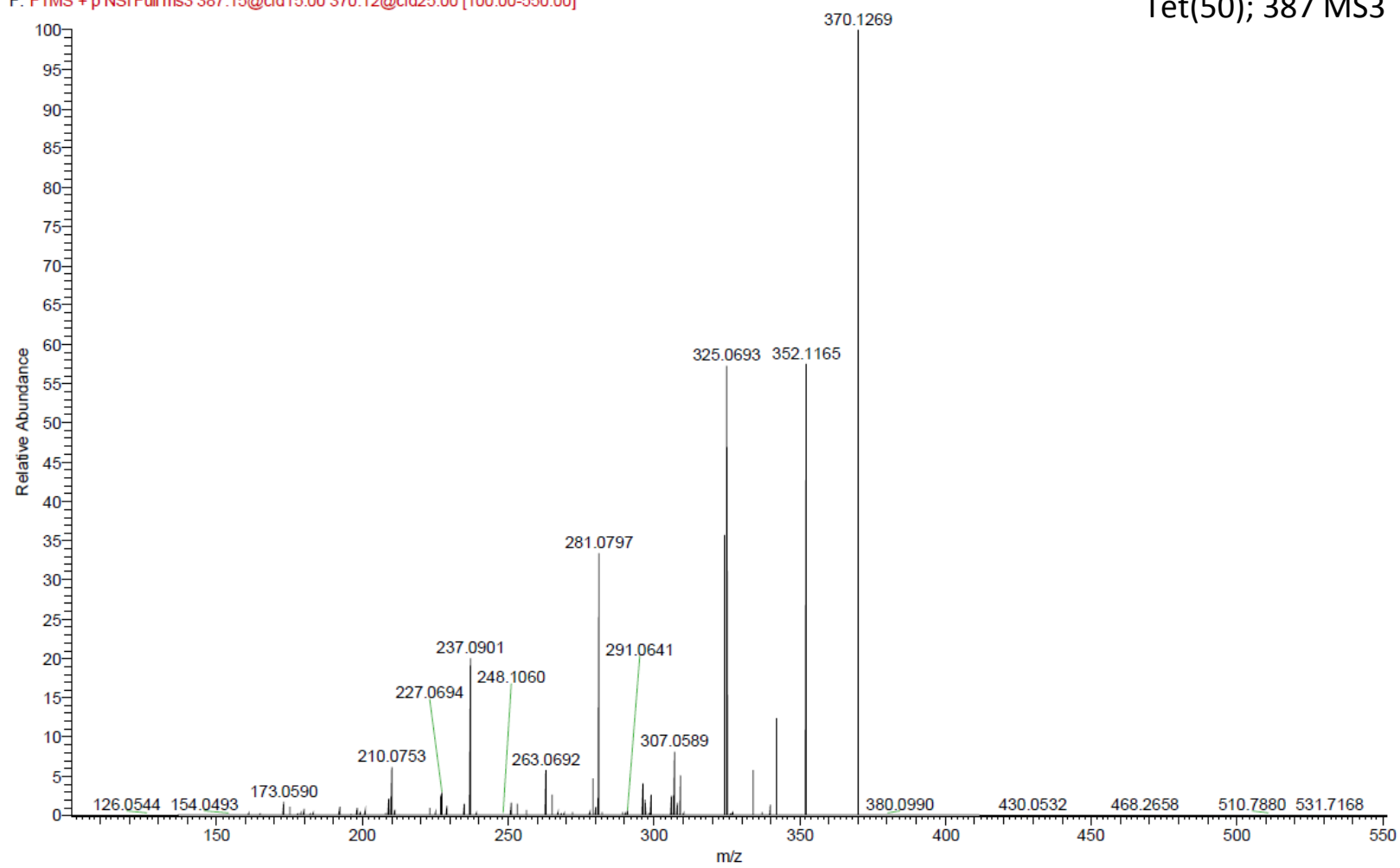
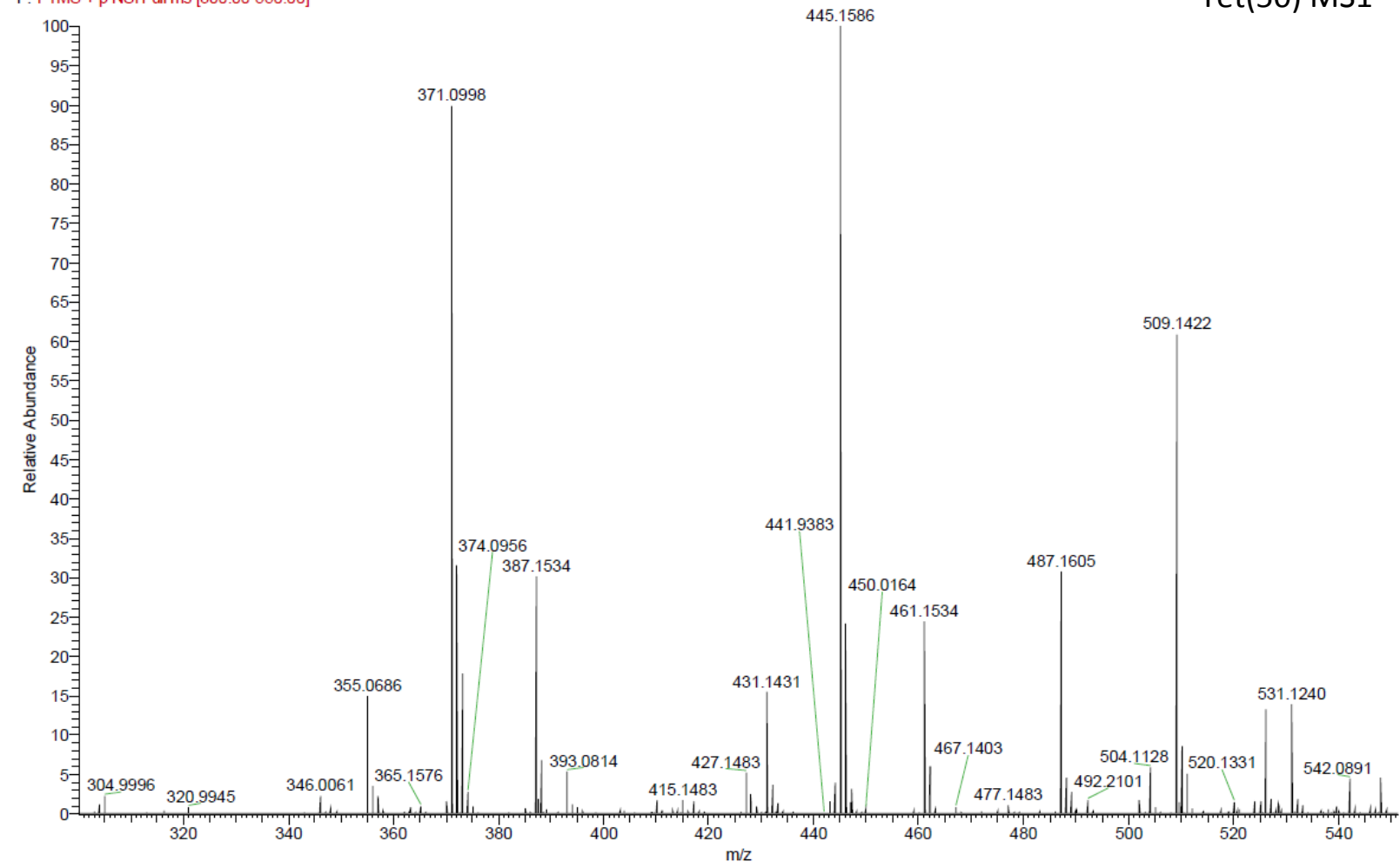
KF_20150422_A_MS#2-13 RT: 0.03-0.33 AV: 12 NL: 6.67E6
F: FTMS + p NSI Full ms [300.00-550.00]



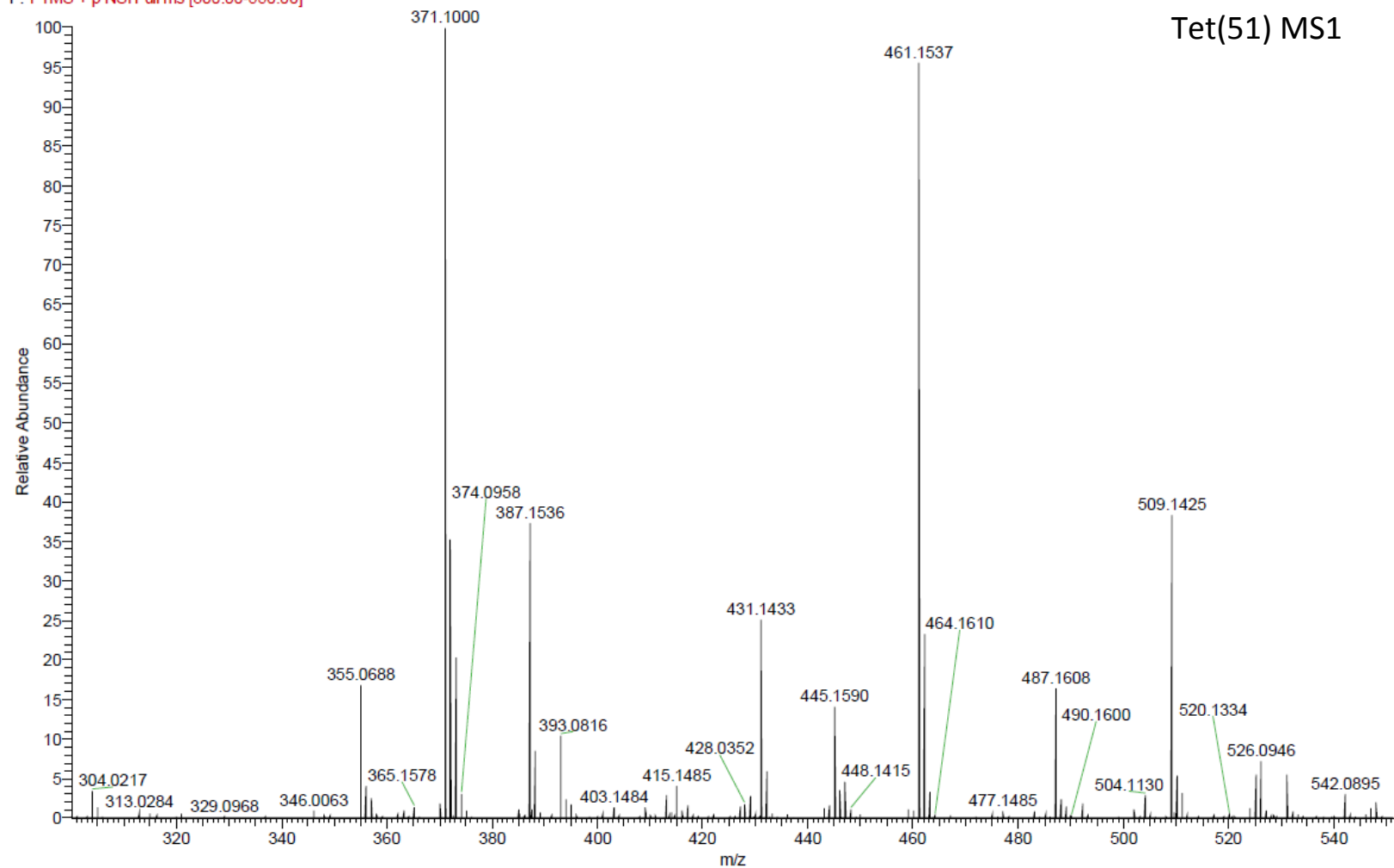
Tet(49); 387 MS3

KF_20150422_A_MS3_387 #2-13 RT: 0.03-0.22 AV: 12 NL: 9.68E4
F: FTMS + p NSI Full ms3 387.15@cid15.00 370.12@cid25.00 [100.00-550.00]

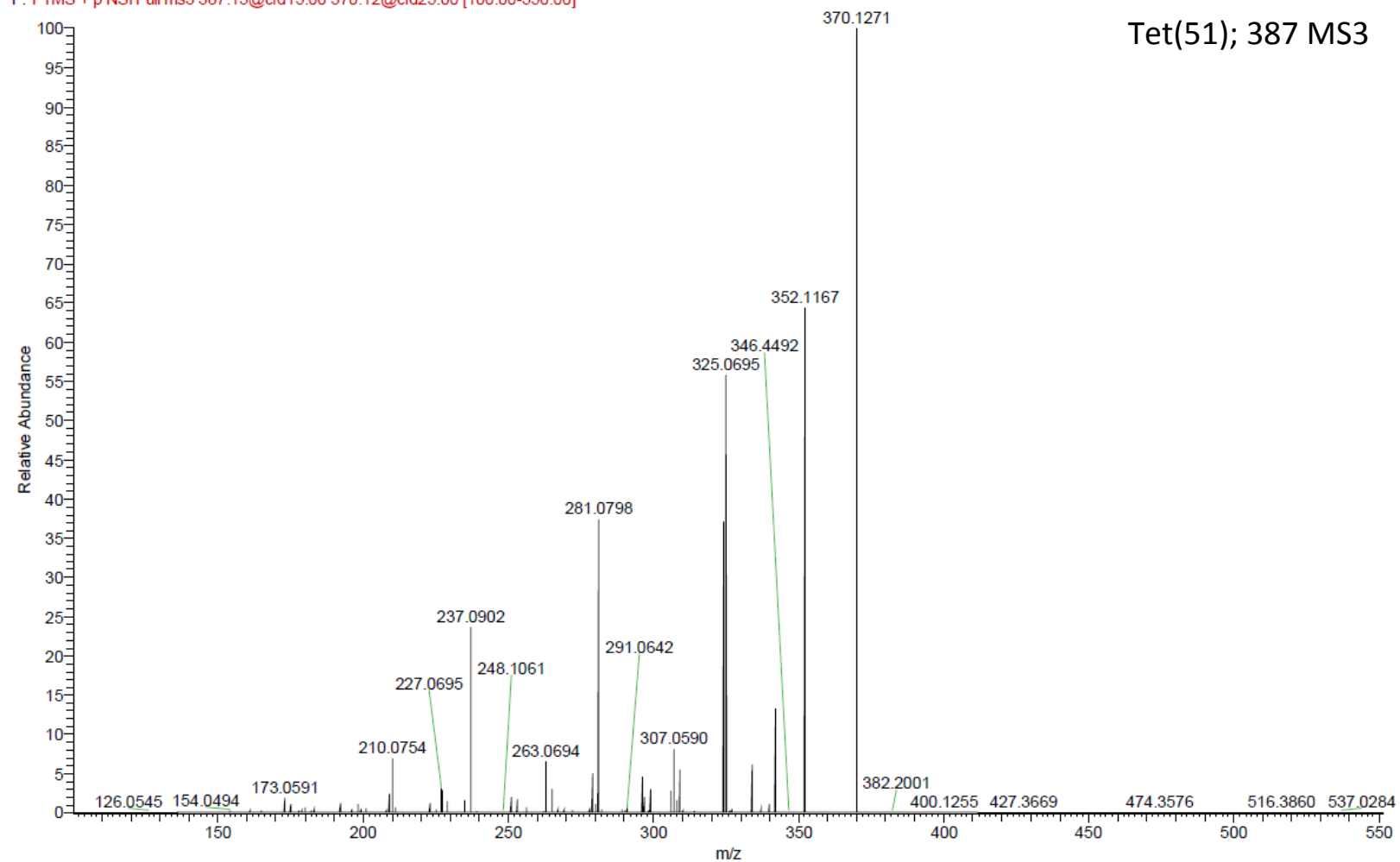




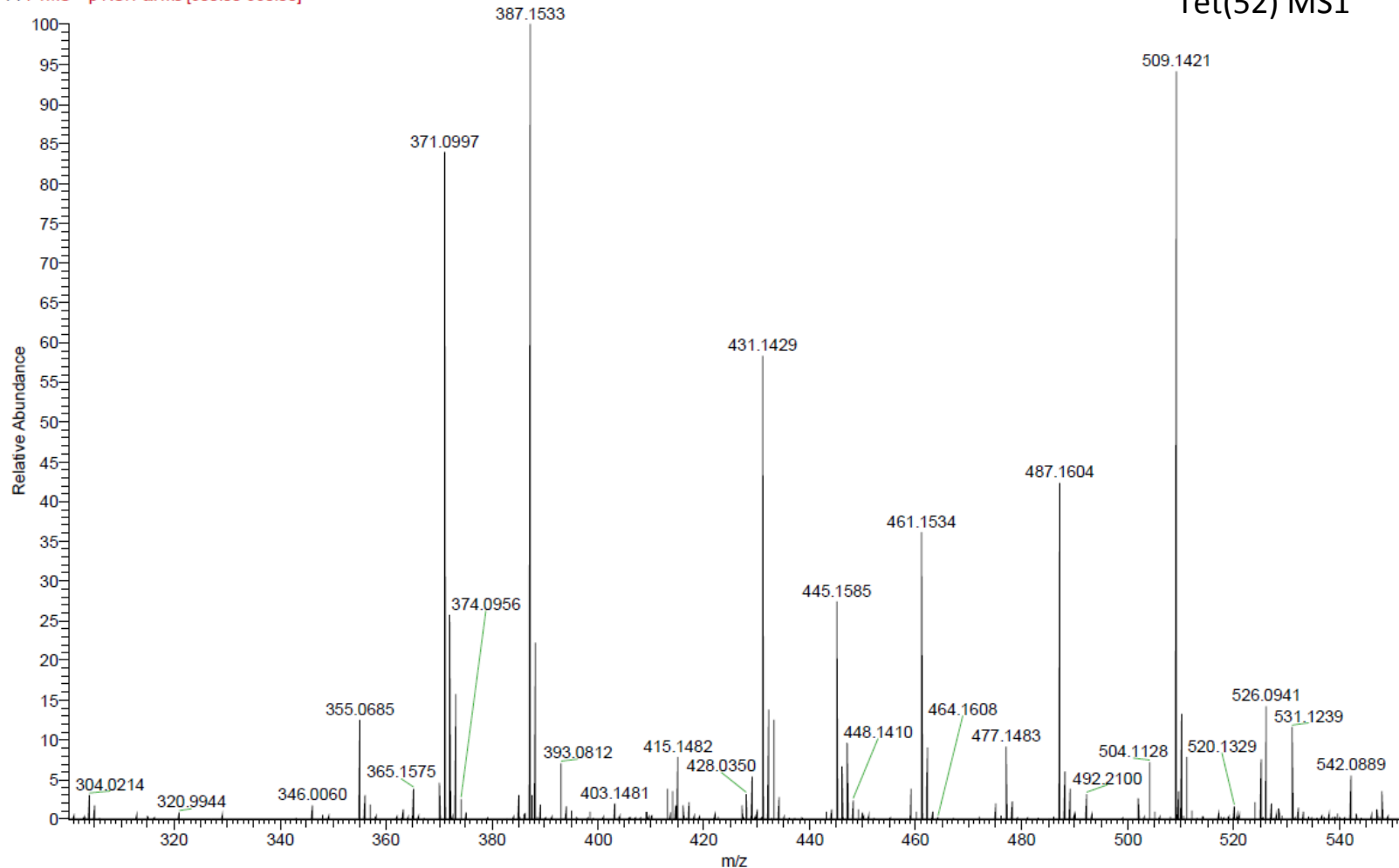
KF 20150422 D MS #2-13 RT: 0.04-0.34 AV: 12 NL: 7.55E6
F: FTMS + p NSI Full ms [300.00-550.00]



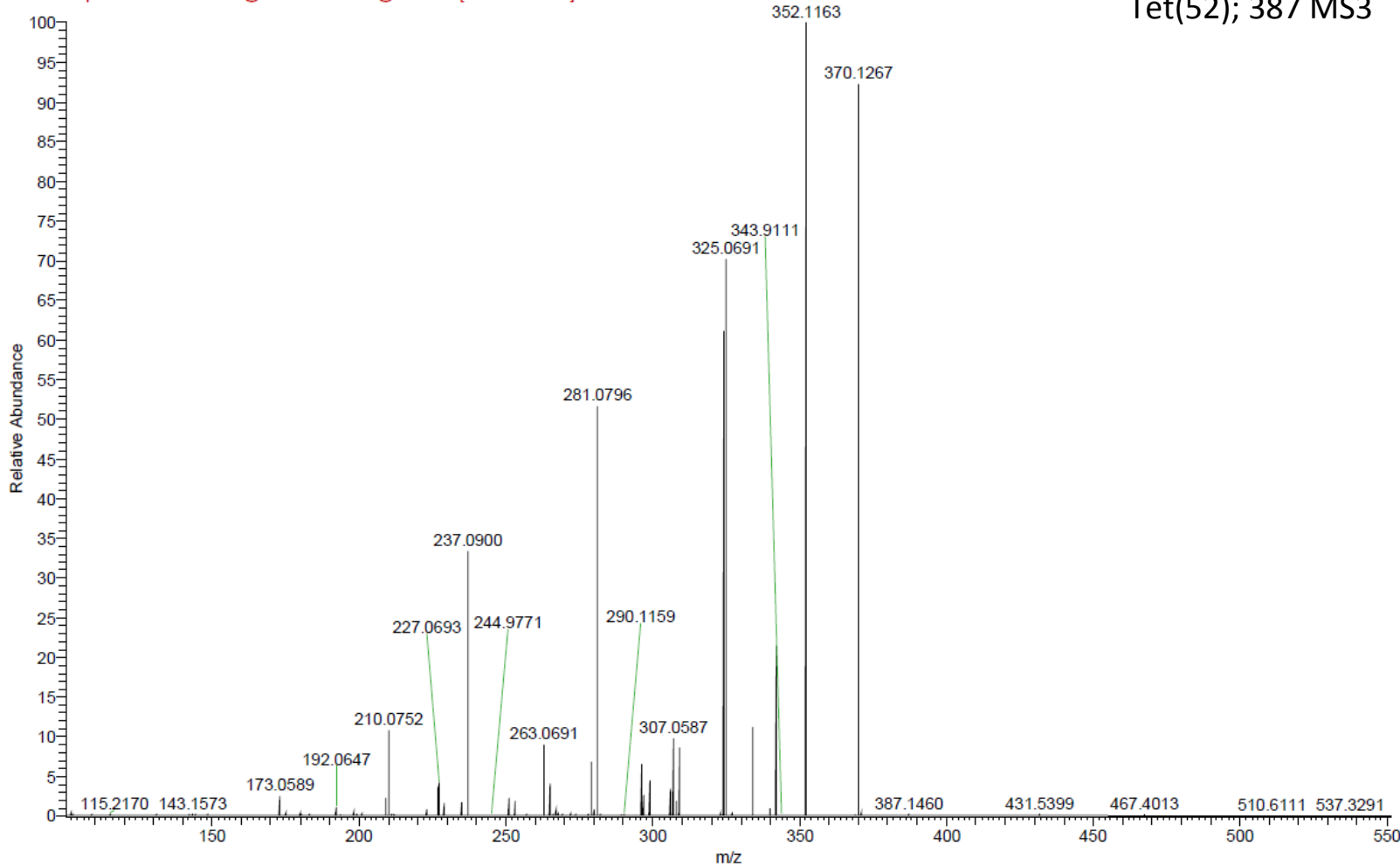
KF 20150422 D MS3_387 #2-14 RT: 0.02-0.23 AV: 13 NL: 8.79E4
F: FTMS + p NSI Full ms3 387.15@cid15.00 370.12@cid25.00 [100.00-550.00]



Tet(52) MS1

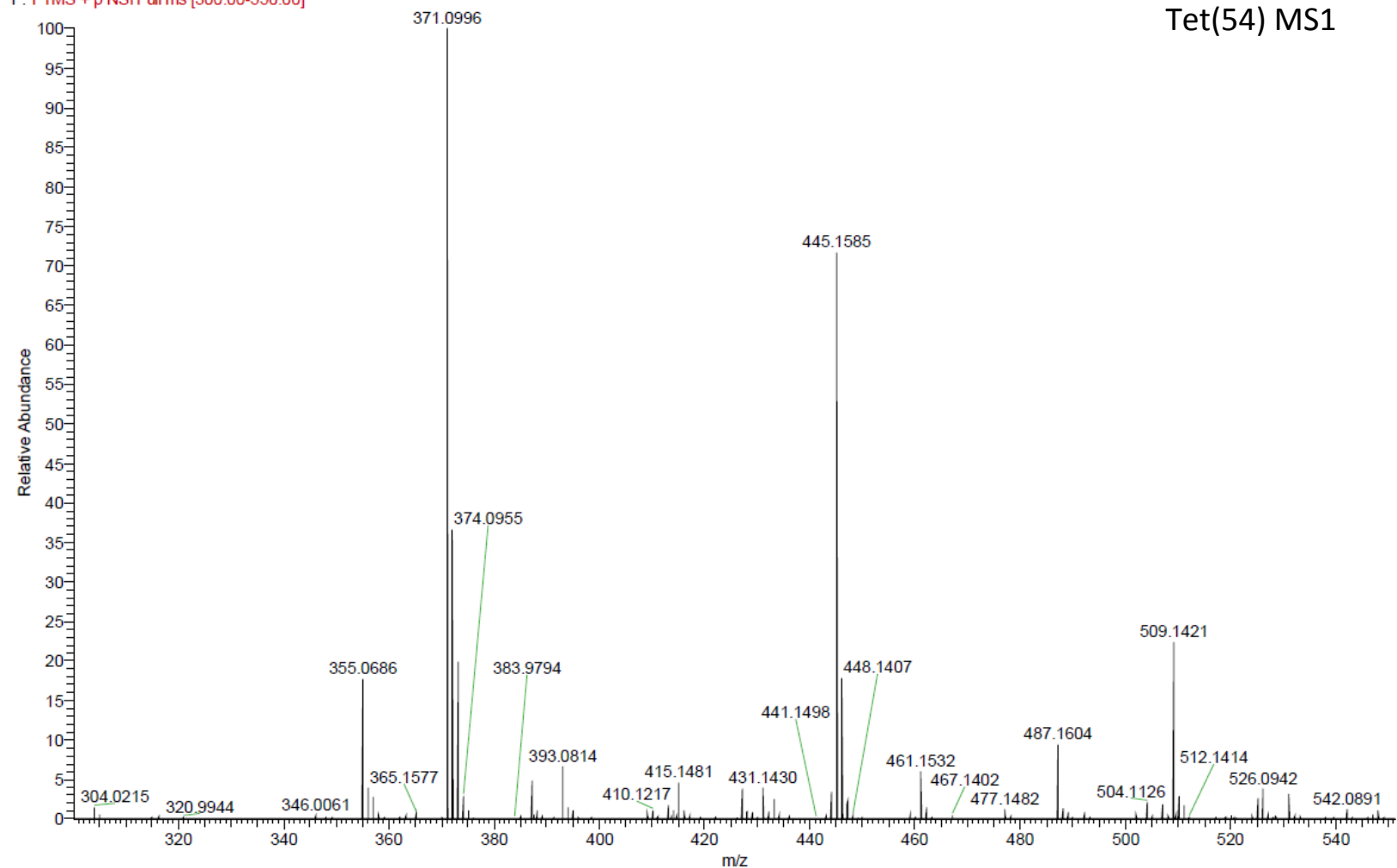


Tet(52); 387 MS3



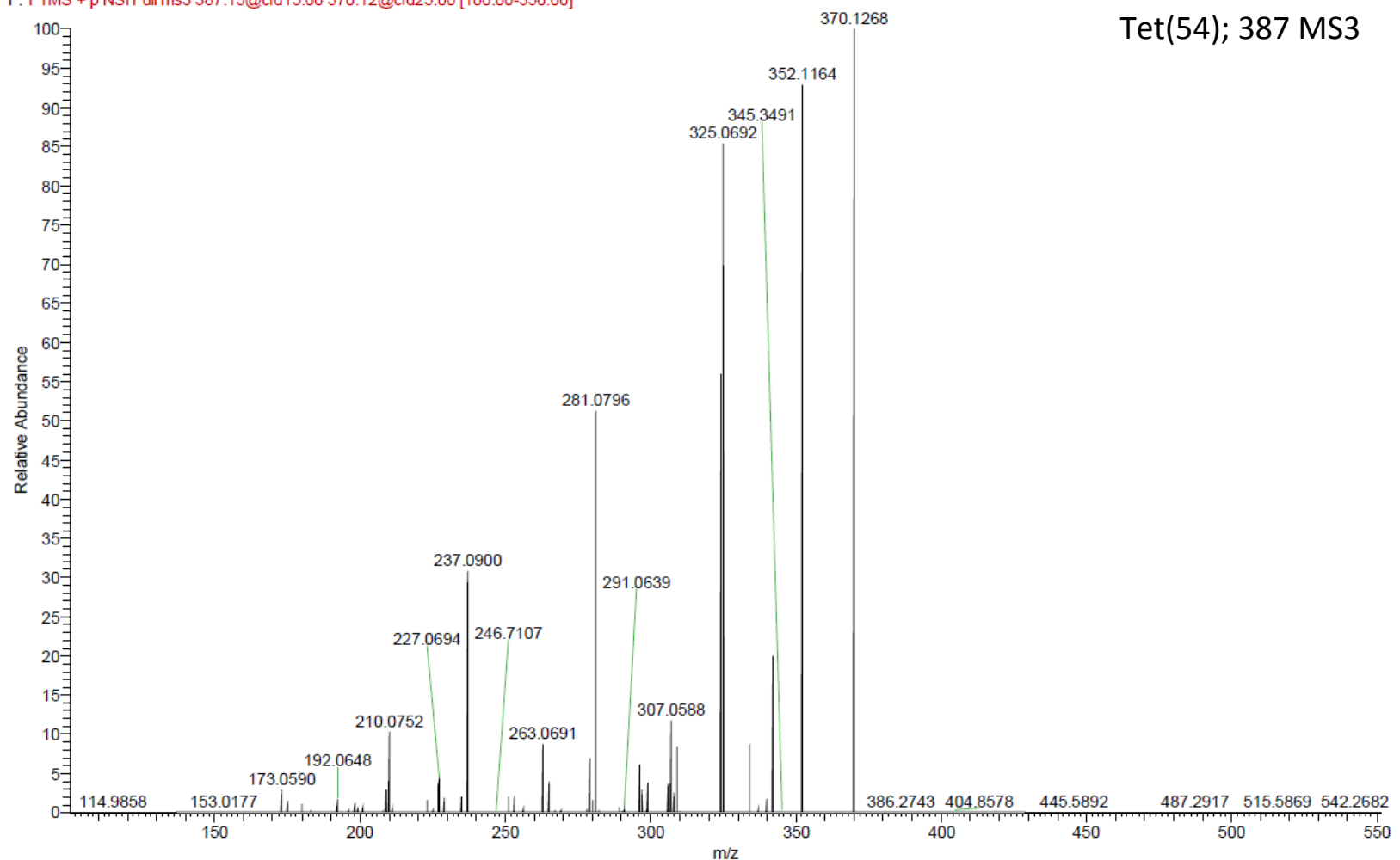
KF 20150422 I MS #2-13 RT: 0.04-0.34 AV: 12 NL: 1.10E7
F: FTMS + p NSI Full ms [300.00-550.00]

Tet(54) MS1



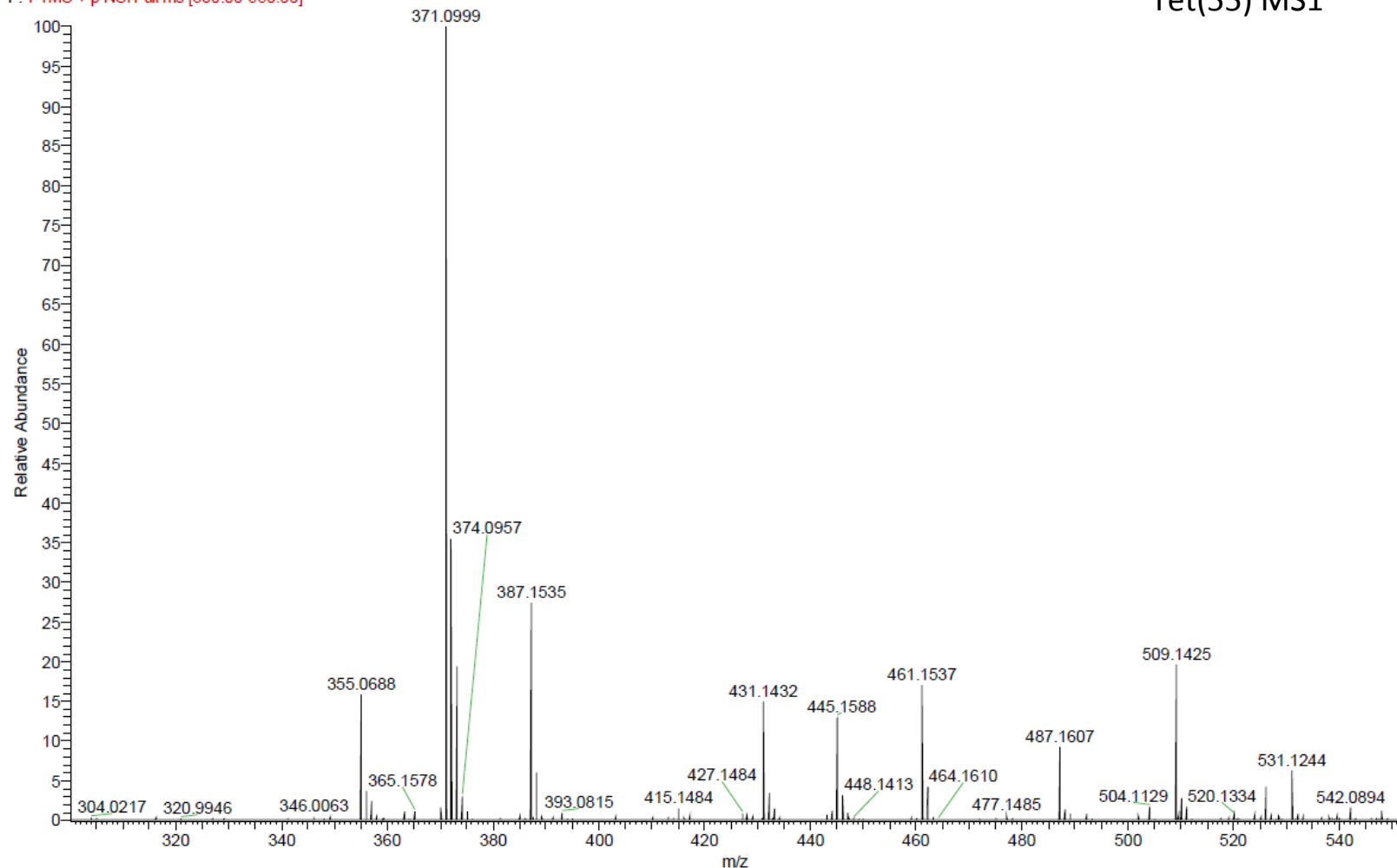
KF 20150422 I MS3_387 #2-13 RT: 0.03-0.23 AV: 12 NL: 1.72E4
F: FTMS + p NSI Full ms3 387.15@cid15.00 370.12@cid25.00 [100.00-550.00]

Tet(54); 387 MS3



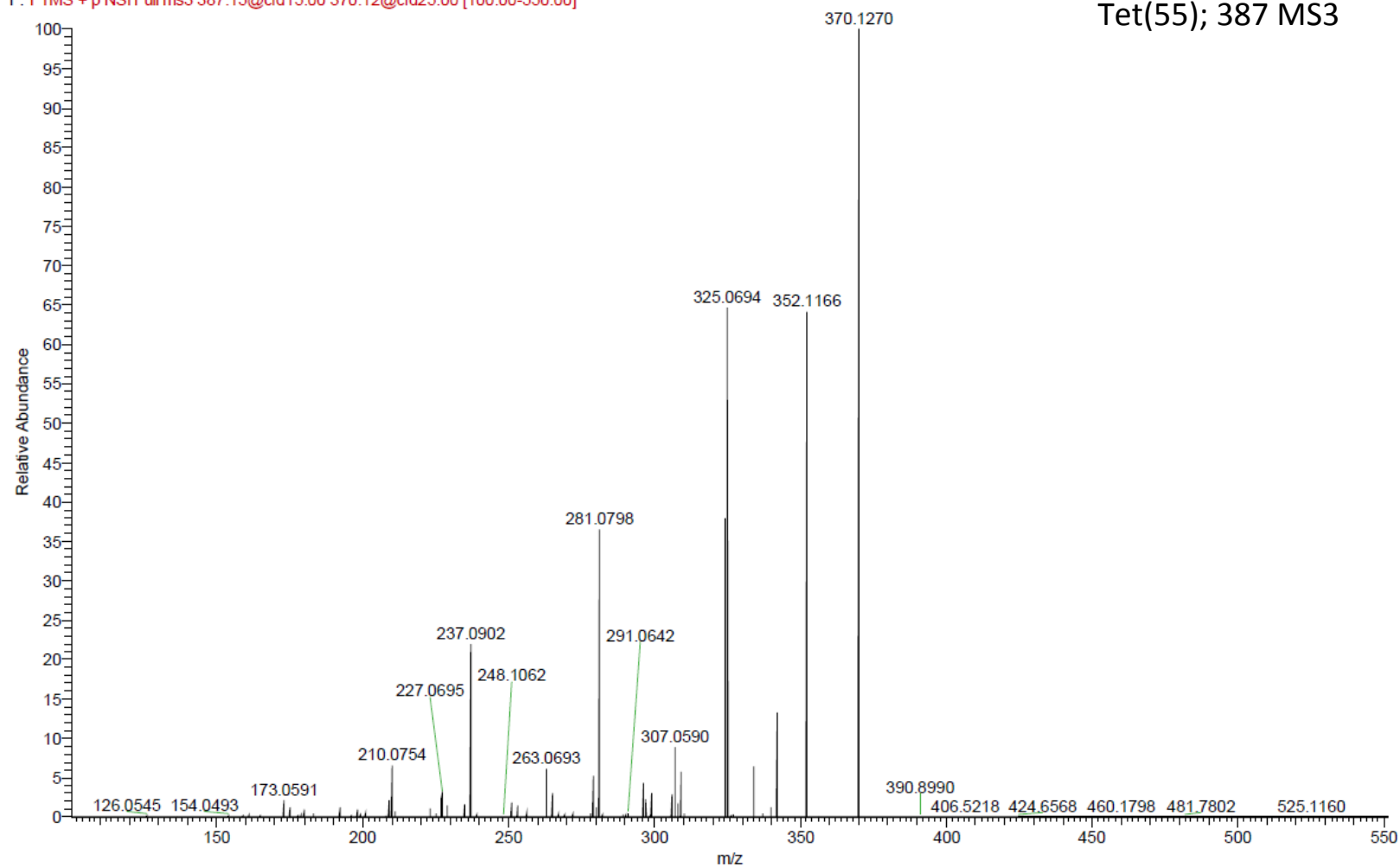
KF_20150422_J_MS #2-13 RT: 0.03-0.34 AV: 12 NL: 8.02E6
F: FTMS + p NSI Full ms [300.00-550.00]

Tet(55) MS1

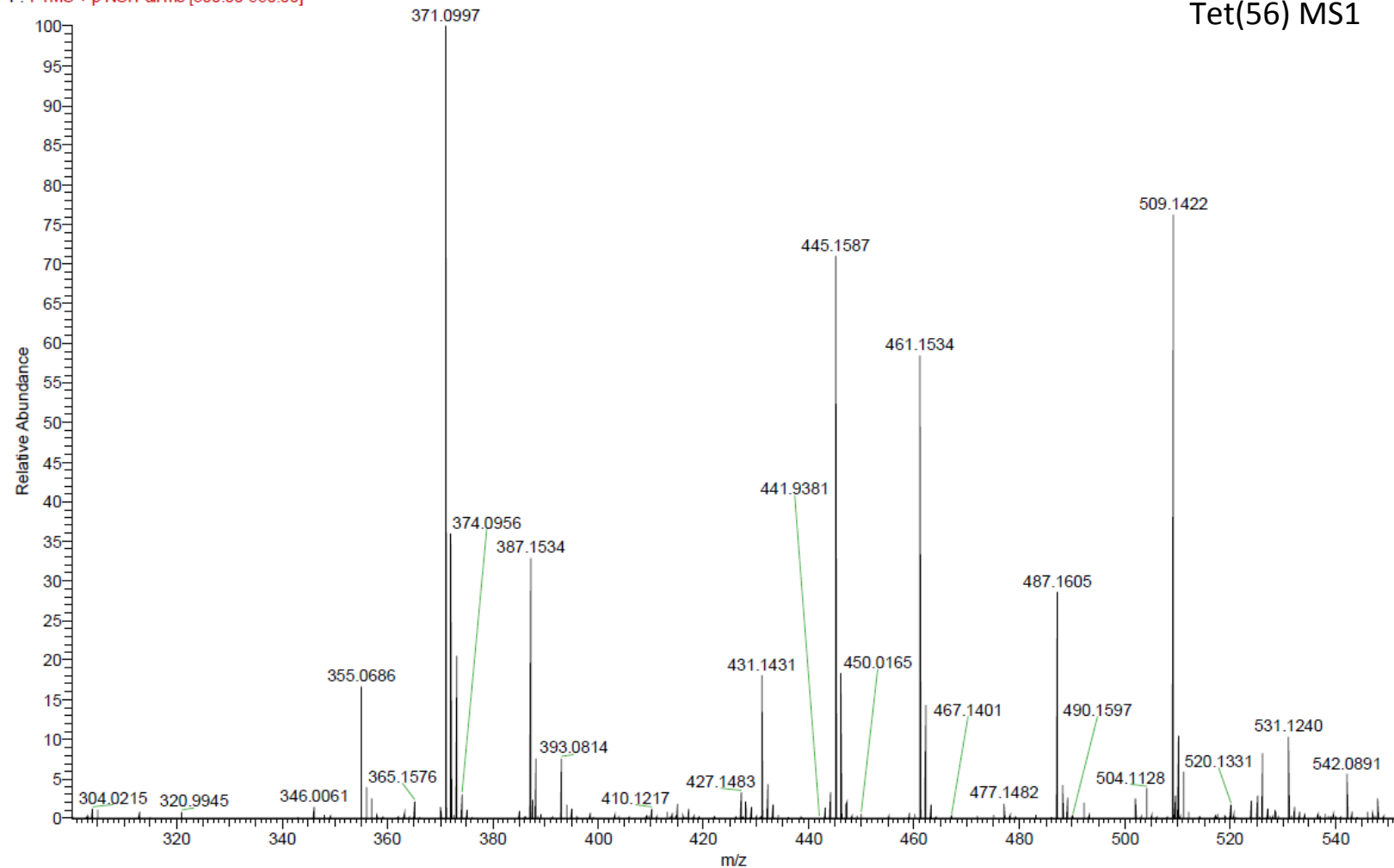


KF_20150422_J_MS3 387 #1-11 RT: 0.01-0.19 AV: 11 NL: 5.98E4
F: FTMS + p NSI Full ms3 387.15@cid15.00 370.12@cid25.00 [100.00-550.00]

Tet(55); 387 MS3



Tet(56) MS1



Tet(56); 387 MS3

