

Structures of synthetic nanobody–SARS-CoV-2–RBD complexes reveal distinct sites of interaction and recognition of variants

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Article

Keywords: SARS-CoV-2, receptor-binding domain (RBD), X-ray crystal structures

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-625642/v1>

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1 **Structures of synthetic nanobody–SARS-CoV-2–RBD complexes reveal distinct**
2 **sites of interaction and recognition of variants**

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14

15 **Abstract**

16 The worldwide spread of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and
17 emergence of new variants demands understanding the structural basis of the interaction of
18 antibodies with the SARS-CoV-2 receptor-binding domain (RBD). Here we report five X-ray
19 crystal structures of sybodies (synthetic nanobodies) including binary and ternary complexes of
20 Sb16–RBD, Sb45–RBD, Sb14–RBD–Sb68, and Sb45–RBD–Sb68; and Sb16 unliganded. These
21 reveal that Sb14, Sb16, and Sb45 bind the RBD at the ACE2 interface and that the Sb16 interaction
22 is accompanied by a large CDR2 shift. In contrast, Sb68 interacts at the periphery of the interface.
23 We also determined cryo-EM structures of Sb45 bound to spike (S). Superposition of the X-ray
24 structures of sybodies onto the trimeric S protein cryo-EM map indicates some may bind both "up"
25 and "down" configurations, but others may not. Sensitivity of sybody binding to several recently
26 identified RBD mutants is consistent with these structures. (151 words)

27

28 SARS-CoV-2, a β -coronavirus, is remarkable for its high infectivity, rapid world-wide
29 dissemination, and evolution of highly infectious new variants ¹⁻⁴. The virus exploits its trimeric
30 spike (S) glycoprotein to adsorb to the host cell-surface receptor, angiotensin converting enzyme
31 (ACE) 2 ⁵, resulting in proteolytic processing and conformational changes required for membrane
32 fusion and cell entry ⁶. Understanding the fundamental molecular and cell biology and chemistry
33 of the viral life cycle and the nature of the host immune response offer rational avenues for
34 developing diagnostics, therapeutics, and vaccines ^{7,8}. Emerging viral variants that exhibit
35 increased infectivity and virulence emphasize the need for continued improvement in
36 immunization and therapeutic approaches. Specifically, the B.1.1.7 (UK), B.1.351 (South Africa),
37 P.1 (Brazil), and other strains demand careful attention ⁹⁻¹⁴. Exploring the detailed structures of

38 anti-viral antibodies can provide critical understanding of means to attenuate viral adsorption and
39 entry, and to prevent or retard ongoing infection and communal spread. An evolving database of
40 X-ray and cryo-EM structures of the SARS-CoV-2 S and RBD and their interactions with ACE2
41 or various antibodies contributes to the design of effective antibodies or immunogens ¹⁵. Recent
42 studies indicate the value of single domain antibodies derived from camelids (nanobodies) ¹⁶ or
43 camelid-inspired synthetic libraries (sybodies) ^{17,18}, and the potential effectiveness of multivalent
44 constructs ¹⁹. Many properties of nanobodies make them well-suited for structural studies and drug
45 development ²⁰. Here, we take advantage of available sequences of five SARS-CoV-2 RBD-
46 directed sybodies – Sb14, Sb15, Sb16, Sb45, and Sb68 (previously designated Sb#14, Sb#15,
47 Sb#16, Sb#45, and Sb#68 ¹⁸). These sybodies effectively inhibit the ACE2–RBD interaction and
48 neutralize viral infectivity ¹⁸. We describe binding studies and X-ray structures of binary
49 complexes of Sb16–RBD and Sb45–RBD; ternary complexes of Sb14-RBD-Sb68 and Sb45–
50 RBD–Sb68; and Sb16 unliganded. In addition, we report cryo-EM structures of Sb45 complexed
51 with trimeric S and evaluate sybody interactions with several mutant RBD representative of newly
52 evolving variants.

53

54 **Results**

55 **Binding and affinity analysis.** Sybodies were expressed in *E. coli* and purified via metal-affinity
56 chromatography to high purity. These sybodies behaved as monomers by size exclusion
57 chromatography (SEC) ²¹ (Extended Data Fig. 1), and we confirmed their activity in binding to
58 the bacteria-expressed RBD as visualized by SEC (Extended Data Fig. 1). As determined by
59 surface plasmon resonance (SPR), all five sybodies bind to immobilized RBD with K_D values of

60 6.8 to 62.7 nM, consistent with previous determinations using RBD-YFP or RBD-Fc molecules
61 by related techniques¹⁸ (Fig.1).

62 **Structure of Sybody-RBD binary and ternary complexes.** To gain insight into the precise
63 topology of the interaction of four of these sybodies with the RBD, we determined crystal
64 structures of their complexes: Sb16–RBD, Sb45–RBD; the ternary Sb45–RBD–Sb68 and Sb14–
65 RBD–Sb68; and of Sb16 alone. These crystals diffracted X-rays to resolutions from 1.7 to 2.6 Å
66 (Table 1). After molecular replacement, model building, and crystallographic refinement (see
67 Methods), we obtained structural models that satisfied standard criteria for fitting and geometry
68 (Table 1). Illustrations of the quality of the final models as compared with the electron density
69 maps are shown in Extended Data Fig. 2.

70 The structure of the RBD of these complexes (Fig. 2a, b) revealed little difference between
71 insect-expressed²² and our bacteria-expressed and refolded RBD. Each of the sybodies has a barrel
72 of two β-sheets stabilized by a single disulfide-linked loop of 75 or 76 amino acids characteristic
73 of an IgV fold^{23,24}. The Sb16–RBD complex (Fig. 2a, 3a) illustrates that CDR2 (residues 50-60)
74 and CDR3 (residues 98-106) bestride the saddle-like region of the ACE2-binding surface of the
75 RBD (see sequence alignment in Fig. 2f). Sb16 angulates over the RBD by 83°. However, Sb45
76 (Fig. 2b and 3b) straddles the RBD saddle in the opposite orientation, at an angle of -36°, and
77 frames the interface with CDR2 (residues 50-59) and CDR3 (residues 97-111). CDR1s of both
78 sybodies (residues 27-35) lie between the CDR2 and CDR3 loops. Superposition of the two
79 structures, based on the RBD, emphasizes the diametrically opposite orientation of the two (Fig.
80 2c), revealing that the CDR2 of Sb16 and CDR3 of Sb45 recognize the same epitopic regions.

81 Exploring conditions using mixtures of two or three sybodies and the RBD, we obtained
82 crystals and solved the structures of ternary complexes consisting of Sb45–RBD–Sb68 at 2.6 Å

83 resolution (Table 1 and Fig. 2d) and Sb14–RBD–Sb68 at 1.7 Å resolution (Fig. 2e). The refined
84 models revealed that while Sb14 and Sb45 interact with the ACE2 interface of the RBD, Sb68
85 binds the RBD at a distinct site (Fig. 2d, e). In the ternary complex, Sb45 binds in an identical
86 orientation to that observed in the binary Sb45–RBD structure (RMSD of superposition, 0.491 Å
87 for 1981 atoms), but Sb68 addresses a completely different face of the RBD – similar to that bound
88 by Fab of CR3022 on RBD of SARS-CoV-2²⁵ and by V_{HH}72 on RBD of SARS-CoV-1²⁶. Of
89 particular interest, whereas Sb45 CDR2 and CDR3 span the RBD saddle as noted above, the
90 distinct contacts of Sb68 to the RBD are through the longer CDR3, with only minor contributions
91 from CDR1 and CDR2. Walter et al visualized similar distinct interactions in cryo-EM maps of
92 two sybodies (Sb15 and Sb68) bound to S protein with local resolution of 6-7 Å¹⁸. Similarly,
93 Sb14, which interacts via distinct sybody residues with the RBD at the ACE2 site (see description
94 below), still permits Sb68 to bind to its epitope as seen in the Sb45–RBD–Sb68 structure (Fig. 2d).

95 Scrutiny of the different interfaces provides insights into the distinct ways each sybody
96 exploits its unique CDR residues for interaction with epitopic residues of the RBD (Fig. 3).
97 (Compilation of the contacting residues for each of the four sybodies to the RBD is provided in
98 Supplementary Table 1). Both Sb16 and Sb45 use longer CDR2 and CDR3 to straddle the RBD,
99 positioning CDR1 residues over the central crest of the saddle (Fig. 2a-c; Fig.3a,b and
100 Supplementary Table 1). Also, several non-CDR residues (Y37, E44, and W47 for Sb16), derived
101 from framework 2²⁷, provide additional contacts to the RBD (see Supplementary Table 1). By
102 contrast with Sb16 and Sb45, Sb14, despite interacting with a large surface area of the RBD, uses
103 both CDR2 and CDR3 on the same side and exploits many non-CDR residues, particularly sheets
104 of β-strand as its binding surface (Fig. 3c and Supplementary Table 1). The interface of Sb68 with

105 RBD (Fig. 3d) is quite different, predominantly exploiting nine CDR3, four CDR2, and one CDR1
106 residues at the interface (see Supplementary Table 1).

107 **Sybodies block ACE2-RBD interaction in discrete ways.** To evaluate the structural basis for the
108 ability of these four sybodies to block the interaction of RBD with ACE2, we superposed each of
109 three sybody–RBD structures onto the ACE2–RBD structure and examined the steric clashes (Fig.
110 4a). Sb16 and Sb45 directly impinge on the ACE2 binding site, offering a structural rationale for
111 their viral neutralization capacity¹⁸. Sb68, which also blocks viral infectivity, binds to RBD at a
112 site which appears to be noncompetitive for ACE2 binding. The carbohydrate at ACE2 residues
113 N322 and N546 provides an explanation (Fig. 4a).

114 To compare the epitopic areas captured by these sybodies, we evaluated the buried surface
115 area (BSA) interfaces between RBD and ACE2 or the sybodies. The BSA at the ACE2–RBD,
116 Sb14–RBD, Sb16–RBD, Sb45–RBD, and Sb68–RBD interfaces are 844 Å², 1,040 Å², 1,003 Å²,
117 976 Å², and 640 Å², respectively (Fig. 3a-e). Sb16 and Sb45 capture more surface area than ACE2
118 or other published nanobody or sybody–RBD complexes (see Supplementary Table 2). The
119 interface with Sb68 is the smallest (640 Å²) (Fig. 3d). The total BSA captured by Sb45 and Sb68
120 in the ternary complex is 1,650 (1,010 plus 640) Å² (Supplementary Table 2) and is consistent with
121 the view that a linked bispecific sybody, as described by Walter et al¹⁸, would exert strong avidity
122 effects. Supplementary Table 2 summarizes these BSA values and those of other nanobody–RBD
123 interactions.

124 Although Sb68 reveals the smallest BSA with the RBD and binds at a distinct site, it still
125 blocks ACE2 binding. A reasonable explanation for the ability of Sb68 to block the ACE2–RBD
126 interaction arises on inspection of the sites where Sb68, bound to the RBD, might clash with ACE2.
127 Scrutiny of a superposition of Sb68–RBD with ACE2–RBD reveals several areas of steric

128 interference. Sb68 loop 40-44 clashes with amino acid side chains of ACE2 (residues 318-320 and
129 548-552), loop 61-64 with ACE2 N322 carbohydrate, and loop 87-89 (a 3₁₀ helix) with ACE2
130 N546 carbohydrate as well as residues 313 and 316-218 (Fig. 4a). The ACE2 used in the
131 crystallographic visualization of ACE2–RBD ²⁸ was expressed in *Trichoplusia ni* insect cells,
132 which produce biantennary N-glycans terminating with N-acetylglucosamine residues ^{29,30}.
133 Electron density was observed only for the proximal N-glycans at residues N322 and N546, but
134 larger, complex, non-sialylated, biantennary carbohydrates have been detected in glycoproteomic
135 analysis of ACE2 in mammalian cells ³¹. These carbohydrates are highly flexible, adding greater
136 than 1500 Da at each position, and are larger than the single carbohydrate residues visualized in
137 the crystal structure. Additionally, molecular dynamics simulations of ACE2–RBD implicated the
138 direct interaction of carbohydrate with the RBD ³². Thus, the ability of Sb68 to impinge on ACE2
139 interaction with RBD likely involves the steric clash of the N322- and N546-linked glycans.

140 We also obtained a 1.9 Å structure of free Sb16 (Extended Data Fig. 3). Remarkably, the
141 CDR2 of Sb16 shows Y54 in starkly different positions in the unliganded structure as compared
142 to the complex: the C α carbon is displaced by 6.0 Å, while the O η oxygen of Y54 is 15.2 Å
143 distant, indicative of dynamic flexibility.

144 **Analysis of cryo-EM maps of Sb45-trimeric S complexes.** To gain further insight into the
145 interaction of Sb45 with the full S protein, we prepared complexes of Sb45 with HexaPro S (S-
146 6P) ³³ and acquired cryo-EM images as described in Methods. All image processing, 2D class, 3D
147 reconstruction, and map refinements were performed with cryoSPARC ³⁴⁻³⁷, model fitting with
148 Chimera ³⁸ and refinement with PHENIX ³⁹. We identified two conformations of S-6P with RBD
149 in either a 1-up, 2-down (7N0G/EMD-24105) or 2-up, 1-down (7N0H/EMD-24106) position as
150 determined by 3D classification (3D Ab-initio reconstruction) (Extended Data Fig.4). We have
151 built in additional loops of the NTD and glycans based on the models of 6XKL, 7KGJ, and 7B62.

152 We used unsharpened maps for the model refinement. The overall correlation coefficients (CC)
153 (mask/volume/peaks) of models for 7N0G and 7N0H are 0.84/0.84/0.77 and 0.83/0.83/0.77
154 respectively. The model quality is shown in Table 2. There are three Sb45s binding to the 1-up, 2-
155 down form of S-6P (7N0G/EMD-24105); one binds the up position of RBD, two bind the down
156 position of RBD (Fig. 5a) with CC values of 0.51, 0.49 and 0.58 respectively (Extended Data Fig.
157 5a-c). Only two Sb45s bind to the 2-up, 1-down form of S-6P (7N0H/EMD-24106), with one on
158 the up position of the RBD, and the other on the down position of the RBD (Fig. 5b) with CC
159 values of 0.51 and 0.71 respectively (Extended Data Fig. 5d,e). It seems that Sb45 can bind all the
160 down positions of the RBD. In particular, Sb45-Z binds well to RBD-C with higher CC values
161 (Extended Data Fig. 5c,e), with additional contacts to the neighboring (up position) RBD-A (Fig.
162 5a). These variations in saturation of the available conformations by Sb45 reflect the mobility of
163 the RBD. Notably, the interfaces between Sb45 and RBD of S-6P are the same as those in the
164 crystal structure (7KGG) (Fig. 2). Moreover, the RBD domains are compressed down towards the
165 center of S, approximately 2-4 Å as compared with uncomplexed S-6P (6XKL).

166
167 **Superposition of sybodies on trimeric spike protein models.** To gain additional insight into the
168 structural consequences of the interactions of each of these sybodies with a trimeric S protein, we
169 superposed each of the individual sybody–RBD complexes on S-6P of our cryo-EM structures
170 (7N0G and 7N0H) (see Extended Data Fig. 6). Sb16 and Sb45 may dock on all three RBDs in the
171 trimeric S in any of the four configurations, without any apparent clash (Extended Data Fig. 6a,b).
172 Sb14, however, reveals clashes when the Sb14–RBD complex is superposed on trimeric S in any
173 down position (Extended Data Fig. 6e). Sb68 could not be superposed without clashes to any RBD
174 of the 3-down or to the 1-up, 2-down position. The only permissible superpositions were to two in
175 the 2-up, 1-down; and to all three in the 3-up position (Extended Data Fig. 6f). For paired sybodies,
176 Sb16 and Sb68 (Extended Data Fig. 6b), or Sb45 and Sb68 (Extended Data Fig. 6d), superposition

177 was possible without clashes, with two or more RBDs in the up conformation. Walter et al ¹⁸
178 suggested that a covalent bispecific Sb15–Sb68 reagent could bind S in both the 2-up and 3-up
179 configurations, based on cryo-EM maps of complexes of S with Sb15 and Sb68. It appears that
180 Sb16 binds to S in an orientation similar to but in detail distinct from that of Sb15. This analysis
181 demonstrates an advantage of the small size of sybodies or nanobodies in accessing epitopic
182 regions of S.

183 **Binding to RBD mutants.** The major circulating variants, specifically B.1.1.7 (UK), B.1.351
184 (South Africa), and P.1 (Brazil), contain mutations in the RBD that lead to increased binding
185 affinity to ACE2 and have the potential to reduce vaccine efficacy ⁴⁰⁻⁴³. Specifically, in addition
186 to other mutations throughout the S protein and viral genome, all three harbor N501Y. B.1.351
187 and P.1 also have the E484K substitution, as well as substitution of K417 (to N for B.1.351 and to
188 T for P.1). To assess the effect that substitution at each of these positions exerts on reactivity with
189 Sb14, Sb15, Sb16, Sb45, and Sb68, we engineered individual mutations in the RBD and tested
190 them by SPR (see Fig. 6a). In general, the five sybodies which interact with the parental
191 (designated wild type (WT)) RBD with K_D values of 6.8×10^{-9} (for Sb15) to 6.3×10^{-8} M (for
192 Sb68) (see Fig. 1), showed different patterns of binding to the K417N, E484K, and N501Y
193 mutants. Sb68 bound each with similar affinity, consistent with its epitope lying outside of the
194 ACE2 binding site on RBD, while each of the others revealed a distinct pattern. Sb14 binding was
195 most affected by K417N. Sb15 bound both K417N and E484K less efficiently than N501Y. Sb16,
196 largely unaffected in binding to K417N showed decreased recognition of N501Y and failed to
197 interact detectably with E484K. Similar to Sb16, Sb45 also failed to bind E484K and showed
198 decreased recognition of K417N and N501Y as compared to WT. To understand the structural
199 basis of these differences in recognition of the different RBD mutants, we generated models based

200 on the sybody–RBD structures (Fig. 6b-e). For Sb16, Sb45, and Sb14, interaction with the N501Y
201 mutant resulted in displacement of its 496-506 loop by 2.0 Å, 1.0 Å, and 1.5 Å respectively.
202 Nevertheless, R60 of Sb16 and H103 of Sb45 maintained contact with N501Y. This suggests that
203 N501Y mutation would not escape recognition by these sybodies. Other cryo-EM studies indicate
204 modest effects of the N501Y substitution on binding to different antibodies ⁴⁴. In contrast to the
205 effects of N501Y, E484K revealed major incompatibilities due to charge repulsion, in the
206 interaction with Sb16 via K32 and of Sb45 via R33 (Fig. 6d,e).

207

208 **Discussion**

209 Our studies of the X-ray structures of Sb16 alone, Sb16–RBD, Sb45–RBD, the ternary Sb14–
210 RBD–Sb68 and Sb45–RBD–Sb68 complexes, and the cryo-EM structures of Sb45–S provide
211 critical detail describing the basis of the inhibition of S binding to the cell surface ACE2 receptor
212 and the resulting block of viral infectivity. Sybodies and nanobodies, by virtue of their single
213 domain structure and ability to be expressed in *E. coli* systems, as noted by others ^{17,19}, offer
214 advantages over Fab. Barnes et al ⁴⁵ categorized a host of anti-S and anti-RBD Fabs into four
215 classes (1-4) based on the location of the footprint, and whether the Fab has access to either the up
216 only or up and down configuration of the RBD in the context of the full trimer (Extended Data
217 Fig. 7a). By superposition (Extended Data Fig. 7a), Sb14 clearly belongs to Class 1 because it
218 completely covers the light chain of the B38 Fab (7BZ5). Sb16 partially clashes with B38 but it
219 primarily overlaps with the heavy chain of COVA2-39 (7JMP) and it can bind both to up and down
220 positions of the RBD in S (Extended Data Fig.6), indicating that it belongs to Class 2 (Extended
221 Data Fig. 7a). Sb45 clashes effectively with the heavy chain of COVA2-39, and our cryo-EM
222 structures (7N0G, 7N0H) indicate that Sb45 can bind to both up and down forms of S-6P (Fig.5).

223 Thus, Sb45 qualifies as Class 2 (Extended Data Fig. 7a). By contrast, Sb68 competes most with
224 the CR3022 heavy chain (6W41), V_{HH}72 (6WAQ)²⁶ and V_{HH}-U (7KN5)⁴⁶ placing it in Class 4.
225 However, unlike the other class 4 antibodies, Sb68 competes presumably due to its spatial
226 orientation. Overall, our structural studies not only define the Sb14, Sb16, Sb45, and Sb68 epitopes
227 at high resolution, but also reveal that these sybodies capture a rather large epitopic area
228 (Supplementary Table 2), suggesting that a judicious choice of several sybodies or nanobodies
229 have the potential to effectively saturate the available RBD surface.

230 The significance of the ternary structures of Sb45–RBD–Sb68 (7KLW) and Sb14–RBD–
231 Sb68 (7MFU) is shown in a recent paper⁴⁶. Koenig et al⁴⁶ determined a ternary nanobody structure
232 of V_{HH}-E–RBD–V_{HH}-U (7KN5) which illustrates the binding to two distinct epitopic sites. The
233 ternary structure may also be considered as illustrative of the potential behavior of a bispecific
234 construct linking two nanobodies. The bivalent or multivalent binding by antibody or nanobody
235 would be expected to increase neutralization potential^{19,46-48}. Superposition of Sb14–RBD–Sb68
236 or Sb45–RBD–Sb68 on V_{HH}-E–RBD–V_{HH}-U indicates that Sb14, Sb45 and V_{HH}-E represent class
237 1 and class 2 in recognizing the epitopic region but do so in somewhat different orientations
238 (Extended Fig. 7b). Sb45 exploits its two lengthy CDR2 and CDR3 loops which ride along both
239 sides of the RBD surface, and Sb14 uses both CDR2 and CDR3 on the same side close to Sb68,
240 while V_{HH}-E uses a long CDR3 loop engaging one side of the RBD surface. Furthermore, Sb14
241 and Sb68 in Sb14–RBD–Sb68 (7MFU) show contacts (Y57-E44, G55-E44, and T54-H108)
242 between two specific sybodies on the RBD surface (Extended Data Fig. 7c), which emphasizes the
243 importance of bivalent and multivalent antibodies/nanobodies against the virus.

244 Recently, several SARS-CoV-2 spike variants have been isolated and characterized with
245 respect to their infectivity and severity of disease. The UK-SARS-CoV-2 variant has multiple

246 substitutions including N501Y in the RBD ¹. The mutation of E484K leads to repulsion of charged
247 residues of antibody/nanobody/sybodies (Fig.6). To accommodate such a mutation, the
248 complementary charged residues of the antibody/nanobody/sybody should also reverse their
249 charge. Alternatively, employing another antibody/nanobody/sybody with opposite charge could
250 capture such a escape mutation. Indeed, knowledge of the location of common or recurrent escape
251 mutations and their potential resistance to antibody/nanobody/sybodies would provide a rational
252 basis for either sequential or simultaneous use of reagents with complementary specificity. Thus,
253 precise mapping of anti-RBD antibody, nanobody, and sybody epitopes, especially for those that
254 are developed for clinical trials, has implications not only for mechanistic understanding of the
255 interactions of the RBD with ACE2, but also for evaluating the potential susceptibility of newly
256 arising viral variants to currently administered vaccines and antibodies.

257

258 **Online Methods**

259 **Subcloning, expression and purification of RBD, spike, and sybody proteins.** The sequences
260 encoding the RBD of the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein (amino acids 333 to 529) were subcloned
261 into pET21b(+), (Novagen) via *NdeI* and *EcoRI* restriction sites, using pcDNA3-SARS-CoV-2-
262 RBD-8his (Addgene #145145, ⁴⁹) as template. The primers used were forward primer, 5'-
263 TGCAGTCATATGAATCTTTGTCCGTTCCGGTGAG and reverse primer, 5'-
264 TGCAGTGAATTCTCACCCTTTTGGGCCCAAACT. The RBD was expressed as
265 inclusion bodies in *E. coli* strain BL21(DE3) (Novagen). Expression, isolation of inclusion bodies,
266 denaturation and reduction was done in 6 M guanidine hydrochloride and 0.1 mM DTT as
267 described elsewhere ⁵⁰. Briefly, refolding was carried out in a refolding buffer supplemented with
268 oxidized and reduced glutathione and arginine for 3 days at 4 °C followed by dialysis against

269 HEPES buffer (25 mM HEPES, pH 7.3, 150 mM NaCl). Concentrated and filtered protein was
270 analyzed by size-exclusion chromatography on a Superdex 200 10/300 GL column (GE
271 Healthcare) equilibrated with HEPES buffer. The peak corresponding to 24 kDa (monomeric)
272 protein was collected, concentrated, and further purified by ion-exchange chromatography on
273 Mono-Q® (Cytiva). Mutant RBD were generated by Site directed mutagenesis, performed with
274 the QuikChange Lightning Multisite mutagenesis kit (Agilent, Santa Clara, CA, USA). All mutants
275 were sequenced through GeneWiz and protein expression, refolding, and purification were done
276 as described above.

277 Plasmids pSb-init encoding sybodies Sb14, Sb15, Sb16, Sb45. and Sb68 (Addgene #15322,
278 153523, #153524, #153526, and #153527, respectively) were originally reported by Walter et al
279 ¹⁸ and generously made available. All plasmids were verified by DNA sequencing. Purification of
280 the recombinant proteins from the periplasm of *E. coli* MC1061 was based on a protocol described
281 elsewhere ²¹. Briefly, *E. coli* MC1061, transformed with a sybody-encoding plasmid, was grown
282 in Terrific Broth (TB) medium (Gibco) supplemented with 25 µg/ml chloramphenicol, at 37 °C
283 with shaking at 160 rpm for 2 hrs. The temperature was then decreased to 22 °C until A₆₀₀ reached
284 0.5. Protein expression was induced by addition of L-(+)-arabinose (Sigma) to a final concentration
285 of 0.02% (w/v) and expression continued overnight at 22 °C and 160 rpm. The next day cells were
286 collected by centrifugation at 2000 x g for 15 minutes. The cell pellet was then washed twice in
287 PBS and resuspended in periplasmic extraction buffer (50 mM Tris/HCl pH 8.0, 0.5 mM EDTA,
288 0.5 µg/ml lysozyme, 20% w/v sucrose (Sigma)) at 4 °C for 30 min followed by addition of TBS
289 (pH 8.0) and 1 mM MgCl₂. Cells were then centrifuged at 10,000 rpm (Fiberlite™ F21-8 x 507
290 Fixed Angle Rotor) for 30 min. Following transfer of the supernatant to a fresh tube, imidazole
291 was added to a final concentration of 10 mM. Ni-NTA resin (Qiagen) equilibrated with TBS was

292 added to the supernatant and incubated for 1 hr at RT with mild agitation. The resin was collected,
293 washed three times with buffer supplemented with 30 mM imidazole and sybody proteins were
294 eluted with 300 mM imidazole in TBS.

295 Plasmid encoding spike HexaPro (designated “S” throughout) was procured from Addgene
296 (#154754) ³³ and transfected into Expi293F™ cells (ThermoFisher Scientific) using
297 manufacturer’s protocol. Briefly, Expi293F™ cells were seeded to a final density of $2.5-3 \times 10^6$
298 viable cells/ml and grown overnight at 37 °C in Expi293™ Expression Medium (Gibco). The
299 following day, cell viability was determined, and cell density was adjusted to 3×10^6 viable
300 cells/ml with fresh, prewarmed Expi293™ Expression Medium. Transfection was then done as per
301 manufacturer’s instructions using 1 µg/ml plasmid DNA. Cultures were grown for 6 days
302 following transfection and supernatant was collected, filtered through a 0.22 µm filter and passed
303 over Ni-NTA resin for affinity purification. Further purification was accomplished by size-
304 exclusion chromatography using a Superose 6 10/300 GL column (Cytiva) in a buffer consisting
305 of 2 mM Tris pH 8.0, 200 mM NaCl. Purification of sybodies, RBD, and 6-SP is shown in
306 Extended Data Fig.8.

307 **Preparative and analytical size-exclusion chromatography.** Sybodies purified by Ni-NTA
308 affinity chromatography were concentrated using Amicon 10K MWCO concentrators and purified
309 on a Sepax SRT-10C SEC100 column at a flow rate of 1 ml/min. Monomeric sybodies elute at a
310 retention volume of 11–12.5 ml from the Sepax SRT-10C SEC100 column. Monomeric peak
311 fractions were collected and analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Analytical SEC of RBD-sybody complexes
312 was performed on a Shodex KW-802.5 column at a flow rate of 0.75 ml/min in TBS buffer (pH.
313 8.0). (The interaction of individual sybodies with the column matrix is a well-documented
314 phenomenon ²¹).

315 **Surface Plasmon Resonance.** SPR experiments were performed on a Biacore T200 (Cytiva) at
316 25 °C in 10 mM HEPES pH 7.2, 150 mM NaCl, 3 mM EDTA, 0.05% Tween-20. RBD was
317 immobilized on a series S CM5 sensor chip (Cytiva) by amine (NHS/EDC) coupling to flow cells.
318 For background subtraction a reference cell was mock coupled. Binding and kinetic studies were
319 performed multiple times for each sybody. Graded and increasing concentrations of SB16, SB45
320 and SB68 were injected over the RBD-immobilized surface at a flow rate of 30ml/min with an
321 association time of 120 s and dissociation time of 2000 s. Binding data were analyzed by surface
322 site affinity distribution analysis by EVILFIT^{51,52}. In general, these values were consistent with
323 fits to the Langmuir binding equation for a 1:1 interaction model using Biacore T200 Evaluation
324 Software v3.0, but revealed better statistics.

325 **Thermal stability.** Thermal melt analysis of the recombinant proteins was performed in triplicate
326 in 96-well plates in a QuantStudio 7 Flex real time PCR machine (Applied Biosystems). Each
327 well contained 2-4 mg protein in buffer (25mM TRIS pH 8, 150 mM NaCl) and 5x Sypro Orange
328 (Invitrogen, stock 5000x) in a total volume of 20 ml. Following an initial two-minute hold at 25
329 °C, the plate was heated to 99 °C at a rate of 0.05 °C/sec. Data were analyzed with Protein Thermal
330 Shift Software v1.3 (Invitrogen) to obtain T_m values for RBD, S, Sb14, Sb15, Sb16, Sb45, and
331 Sb68 (Extended Data Fig. 9).

332 **Crystallization, data collection, structure determination and crystallographic refinement.**

333 Purified sybodies (Sb14, Sb15, Sb16, Sb45 and Sb68) and RBD were mixed in approximate 1:1
334 molar ratio to a final concentration of 8 mg/ml. The protein mixtures were incubated on ice for 1
335 hour prior to screening. Initial screening for crystals was carried out using the hanging drop vapor
336 diffusion method using the Mosquito robotic system (sptlabtech.com). Crystals of SB16–RBD and
337 SB45-RBD complexes and Sb16 alone were observed within one week using Protein Complex

338 (Qiagen) and Wizard Classic 4 (Rigaku). Conditions for Sb16–RBD were either 0.1M HEPES pH
339 7.0, 15% PEG 20000, or 0.1M HEPES pH 7.0, 18% PEG 12000; and for Sb45–RBD was 18%
340 PEG 12000 and 12% PEG 8000, 0.1 M HEPES pH 7.5, 0.2 M NaCl. Crystallization condition for
341 Sb14–RBD–Sb68 was 12% PEG 8000, 0.1 M MOPS, pH 7.5, 0.1 M Mg Acetate. Sb16 alone
342 crystallized in 20% PEG 4000, 0.1 M MES, pH 6.0, 0.2 M LiSO₄. We also screened mixtures of
343 two or three sybodies with RBD. Crystals of Sb45–RBD–Sb68 were obtained after one month
344 following mixing the three proteins in an equimolar ratio in 10% PEG 8000, 0.1M sodium
345 cacodylate pH 6.0.

346 Crystals of protein complexes were optimized with slight adjustments of the concentration
347 of PEG components. Crystals were cryoprotected in mother liquor containing 5% ethylene glycol
348 and 5% glycerol and flash frozen in liquid nitrogen for data collection. Diffraction data were
349 collected at the Southeast Regional Collaborative Access Team (SER-CAT) beamline 22ID-D at
350 the Advanced Photon Source, Argonne National Laboratory and data were processed with XDS
351 ⁵³. Multiple data sets were collected for the protein complexes from 2.3-3.2 Å resolution. The
352 initial model of Sb16 and Sb45 for the molecular replacement search were built by the MMM
353 server (manaslu.fiserlab.org/MMM ⁵⁴), using the heavy chain V domain and the RBD of the Fab
354 B38–RBD complex (PDBid: 7BZ5) ²². The initial model of Sb68 for molecular replacement was
355 built based on the V_H domain of 7BZ5. Molecular replacement solutions were found using Phaser
356 ^{39,55}. Subsequent refinements were carried out with PHENIX ⁵⁶. CDR loops were manually rebuilt
357 by fitting to the electron density maps with Coot ⁵⁷. In particular, Sb68 CDR loops were deleted
358 before refinement and built in manually based on electron density maps. Illustrations and
359 calculations of superpositioned models were prepared in PyMOL (The PyMOL Molecular

360 Graphics System, Version 2.4.0 Schrödinger, LLC). Calculation of hinge relationships of domains
361 was accomplished with HINGE
362 (<https://collab.niaid.nih.gov/sites/research/DIR/LIG/SIS/Lists/Programs/homeview.aspx>)
363 provided courtesy of Peter Sun, NIAID. Buried surface area (BSA) calculations were performed
364 with PISA (<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/pdbe/pisa/>). The final structures for the RBD-SB16 and RBD-
365 SB45 complexes showed $R_{\text{work}}/R_{\text{free}}$ (%) 25.4/27.7 and 18.6/21.6 respectively, and for SB16 alone
366 with $R_{\text{work}}/R_{\text{free}}$ 22.4/25.9. Data collection and structure refinement statistics are provided in Table
367 1.

368 **Cryo-EM sample preparation and data collection.** Freshly purified S-6P was incubated with
369 Sb45 in a 1:3 molar ratio and repurified by size exclusion chromatography. Negative stain
370 screening was accomplished with a Tecnei T12 120-keV microscope (Thermo Fisher). The protein
371 complexes were concentrated to 0.7-1 mg/ml and 3 μl of the sample was applied onto holey-carbon
372 cryo-EM grids (Cu R1.2/1.3, 300 mesh, Quantifoil), which had been glow discharged for 60
373 seconds, blotted for 3 seconds, and plunge frozen into liquid ethane with a Vitrobot (Thermo Fisher
374 Scientific) at 4 °C and 95% humidity. Cryo-EM data in selected grid regions were collected on a
375 Titan Krios 300-keV microscope (Thermo Fisher). Images were acquired automatically with
376 SerialEM⁵⁸ on a BioQuantum-K2 summit detector (Gatan) with a 20eV energy filter slit in super-
377 resolution mode at 130x nominal magnification (1.052 Å binned pixel size) and a defocus range
378 from -0.7 to -2.0 μm . An exposure time of 8s at 0.2s per frame was recorded with a total exposure
379 of about 56 electrons/Å². Two raw data sets were collected on two frozen grids: one with 1,780
380 micrographs and one with 7,945 micrographs.

381 **Image processing and structure solution.** All image processing, 2D class, 3D reconstruction,
382 and map refinements were performed with cryoSPARC v3.1 and v3.2^{36 34,35,37}. A total of 9,725

383 micrographs was imported into cryoSPARC. Following “patch motion correction” and “patch CTF
384 estimation,” the number of micrographs was reduced to 9,703. Micrographs were inspected by
385 “curate exposures,” in which outliers of defocus range, defective micrographs, and those with a
386 low-resolution estimation of the CTF fit ($>5 \text{ \AA}$) were discarded, resulting in 9,237 micrographs.
387 “Blob picker” was used with the particle diameter between 128 and 256 angstroms for picking
388 particles. After “inspect particles” with NCC (Normalized Correlation Coefficient) 0.28 and
389 “power threshold” between 500 and 1000 (which removed ice and aggregates), the number of
390 particles was 1,876,941. To determine the “box size,” we performed several trials indicating that
391 the box size should be larger than 336 pixels, and finally used a box size of 400 pixels and extracted
392 1,433,963 particles. After “2D classification” (100 classes), 18 2D classes were selected, retaining
393 662,994 particles. The particles were submitted to a series of “Ab initio 3D reconstruction”
394 classification and divided into 2 or 4 sub-groups. After removing the particles of un-recognized or
395 “defective” shape, a total of 417,460 particles with shape resembling spike remained. These
396 particles were subjected to “homogeneity refinement,” followed by “CTF global and local
397 refinement” and “non-uniform refinement.” No symmetry was imposed aside from C1 during the
398 map refinements. The map after refinement could reach 2.84 \AA resolution by the gold-standard
399 FSC estimation with a 0.143 cut-off criterion. We then identified further the two conformations of
400 S-6P as previously described³³. One sub-class of 214,171 particles revealed the conformation of
401 “1-up, 2-down” of RBD (Extended Data Fig. 4c), and one sub-class of 61,062 particles showed
402 the conformation of “2-up, 1-down” (Extended Data Fig. 4c). The maps of “1-up,2-down” and “2-
403 up,1-down” were refined at 3.02 \AA and 3.34 \AA resolution respectively. Local resolution plots for
404 each map are shown in Extended Data Fig. 4d,e. The maps are deposited in EMDB as EMD-24105
405 and EMD-24106.

406 An initial model for S-6P was generated using PDB 6XKL and was fit as a rigid body into
407 the map using Chimera ³⁸ followed by PyMOL. The Sb45–RBD (7KGJ) crystal structure was
408 superimposed onto the S-6P model in PyMOL. We used real space refinement in PHENIX ³⁹
409 including rigid-body refinement. The model was split into subdomains, NTD (24-289) and RBD
410 (334-528) for rigid-body refinement. Simulated annealing (SA) was performed initially, including
411 a local grid search and ADP refinement, using secondary structure restraints. We noticed that the
412 original 6XKL model lacked some loops in RBD and NTD domains, which were replaced by the
413 RBD domain from 7KGJ, and the NTD domain from 7B62 ⁵⁹ with all loops. For the model of the
414 “1-up” form of S-6P, the CC was 0.84/0.78 (volume/peaks) with three Sb45 domains bound to
415 three RBDs. However, the CC for three Sb45-X, Sb45-Y, and Sb45-Z are 0.51, 0.49, and 0.58
416 respectively, which indicates that the Sb45 does not fully bind to S-6P. For the “2-up” form of S-
417 6P, we first generated the model by superimposing the A-chain of the “1-up” form of S-6P onto
418 B-chain and replaced B-chain for the real space refinement, the resulting model with an overall
419 CC of 0.83/0.76 (volume/peaks), but with only two Sb45 domains, one Sb45-X binds to A-chain
420 (up RBD) and one Sb45-Z binds to C-chain (down RBD) with CC 0.44 and 0.68 respectively.
421 These two models are deposited in PDB as 7N0G and 7N0H. Data processing, refinement
422 statistics, and model validation are listed in Table 2.

423 **Acknowledgments.** We appreciate the help of Joy (Huaying) Zhao and Peter Schuck, NIBIB, NIH
424 in analyzing SPR data, and thank Peter Sun, NIAID, NIH for access to his program, HINGE. We
425 thank Barney Graham, NIAID, NIH for plasmids used in initial aspects of the work, and Apostolos
426 Gittis, NIAID, NIH, for help in protein characterization. We appreciate the advice of Michael
427 Mage and D. K. Taylor during this work. This work was supported by the Intramural Research
428 Program of the NIAID, NIH, including funds from the CARES Act. X- ray data were collected at

429 Southeast Regional Collaborative Access Team (SER-CAT) 22-ID (or 22-BM) beamline at the
430 Advanced Photon Source, Argonne National Laboratory. SER-CAT is supported by its member
431 institutions (www.ser-cat.org/members.html) and equipment grants (S10_RR25528 and
432 S10_RR028976) from the National Institutes of Health. Use of the Advanced Photon Source was
433 supported by the U. S. Department of Energy, Office of Science, Office of Basic Energy Sciences,
434 under Contract No. W-31-109-Eng-38. The Electron Microscopy Resource is supported by the
435 National Cancer Institute and NIH Intramural Research Program Cryo-EM Consortium (NICE).

436 **Author contributions.** J.A., J.J., K.N., and D.H.M. conceived the project; J.A., K.N., and L.F.B.
437 engineered constructs, purified protein, and performed binding analyses; J.J. screened for crystals,
438 processed X-ray data, and refined the structures; J.A., J.J., and A.Z. did negative staining and
439 sample preparation; R.H. and A.Z. collected images, and pre-processed cryo-EM data; J.J., A.Z.,
440 and R.H. solved and refined cryo-EM structures and with X.D. analyzed cryo-EM data; all authors
441 contributed to the final manuscript.

442 **Competing interests.** The authors declare no competing interests.

443 **Data and materials availability.** All data are included in the paper or in the supplementary
444 material. X-ray structure factors and coordinates are deposited at the protein data bank
445 (www.pdb.org) under accession numbers 7MFU, 7KGG, 7KGJ, 7KLW, and, 7MFV for Sb14-
446 RBD-Sb68, Sb16-RBD, Sb45-RBD, Sb45-RBD-Sb68, and Sb16 respectively. Cryo-EM maps
447 of SB45+S-6P (1-up, 2-down) and Sb45+S-6P (2-up, 1-down) have been deposited in the EMDB
448 under accession numbers EMD-24105 and EMD-24106 and their respective models under 7N0G
449 and 7N0H.

450

451 **Figure Legends**

452 **Fig. 1| Sybodies bind RBD with K_D values in the nanomolar range.** RBD was coupled to a
453 biosensor chip as described in Methods. Graded concentrations (31 to 500 nM) of each of the
454 indicated sybodies were offered to the coupled surface (from $t=0$ to $t=160$ s), followed by buffer
455 washout, and measurement of net binding (in resonance units, RU). Experimental curves were fit
456 by global analysis using BIAeval 2.0 (Cytiva). Curves shown are representative of at least two
457 determinations.

458 **Fig. 2| Overall structures of Sb14, Sb16, Sb45 and Sb68 complexed with SARS-CoV-2 RBD.**
459 Ribbons (sybodies) and ribbons plus surface (RBD) representations of the complex of (a) Sb16
460 (slate) with RBD (grey) (7KGK); (b) Sb45 (cyan) with RBD (7KGJ), (d) Sb45 and Sb68 (purple)
461 with RBD (7KLW) and (e) Sb14 (blue) and Sb68 (magenta) with RBD (7MFU). Sb16-RBD and
462 Sb45-RBD superimposed based on the RBD are shown in (c) to highlight CDR loops, which are
463 color coded as CDR1 (pink), CDR2 (orange) and CDR3 (red). The CDR2 of Sb16 and CDR3 of
464 Sb45 interact similarly with the RBD surface. Panel (f) shows a sequence alignment of the four
465 sybodies.

466 **Fig. 3| Interfaces and interactions of sybodies with RBD.** (a) Sb16-RBD, (b) Sb45-RBD, (c)
467 Sb14-RBD, and (d) Sb68-RBD. (Individual contacting residues are listed in Supplementary Table
468 1). CDR1, CDR2, CDR3 regions are painted pink, orange and red respectively. Additional non-
469 CDR region contacting residues are colored lime. On the RBD surface, the epitopic residues that
470 contact the sybodies are colored according to the sybody CDR.

471 **Fig. 4| Sybodies clash with ACE2 in RBD complex structures.** (a) Sb16 (slate), Sb45 (cyan),
472 Sb14 (blue), and Sb68 (purple) – RBD complexes were superposed on the ACE2–RBD structure

473 (salmon) (6M0J) based on the RBD. Views of Sb16 (b), Sb45 (c), and Sb14 (d) are shown alone
474 as well. Sb14 and Sb16 are buried inside ACE2; Sb45 is partially buried in ACE2; and Sb68 has
475 major clashes with two N-glycan sites (N322 and N546) of ACE2 (inset). (e) Epitopic area (on
476 RBD) captured by ACE2 (salmon) is indicated along with its BSA.

477 **Fig. 5| X-ray model of sybody superposed on cryo-EM Structures of SB45–S-6P.** (a) Model
478 of Sb45+S-6P (1-up, 2-down) is fitted to the map with Sb45-X bound to RBD-A (up), Sb45-Y to
479 RBD-B (down), and Sb45-Z to RBD-C (down), and CC (Sb45-X/Sb45-Y/Sb45-Z) are
480 0.52/0.49/0.57 respectively; (b) Model of Sb45+S-6P (2-up, 1-down) is fitted to the map with
481 Sb45-X bound to RBD-A (up), and Sb45-Z bound to RBD-C (down), and CC (Sb45-X/Sb45-Z)
482 are 0.47/0.70 respectively.

483 **Fig. 6| RBD mutations affect sybody binding.** (a) SPR binding of each of the indicated sybodies
484 (across top) to each of the individual RBD mutants. Inset shows binding of sybodies to wild type
485 RBD (from Fig. 1). Experimental tracings are shown in red, curve fits in black and k_a (s^{-1}) and K_D
486 (M) values as determined from global fitting with BIAeval 2.0 are provided in each panel. (b)
487 Location of contacts of Sb16, Sb45, and Sb14 are shown. E484, K417 and N501 of RBD (wild
488 type) interact with K32, Y54 and R60 of Sb16 respectively; E484 and N501 of RBD (wild type)
489 interact with R33 and H103 of Sb45 respectively; and E484, K417 and N501 of RBD (wild type)
490 interact with Q39, E35, and Y60 of Sb14 respectively. (c) Comparison of complex structures with
491 minimized models involving the N501Y mutation. *In silico* mutagenesis of N501Y was performed
492 using 7KGGK (Sb16+RBD), 7KGGJ (Sb45+RBD), and 7MFU (Sb14+RBD+Sb68). Following amino
493 acid substitution in Coot, local energy minimization (within 15 to 20 Å of the mutant residue) was
494 performed through three rounds in PHENIX. For the Sb16-RBD complex, when N501 is mutated
495 to Y501, the loop (496-506, from yellow to wheat) extends about 2.4 Å, but R60 (revealing a

496 double conformation) still forms hydrogen bonds with the Y501 loop; for the Sb45-RBD complex,
497 when N501 is mutated to Y501, the loop (496-506, from yellow to wheat) extends about 1.0 Å,
498 but H103 of Sb45 would still interact with Y501; for the Sb14-RBD complex, when N501 is
499 mutated to Y501, the loop (496-506, from yellow to wheat) is extended about 2.0 Å, but T58 and
500 K65 still the hydrogen bonds with Y501; **(d)** The surface charge of Sb16, K32 forms a hydrogen
501 bond with E484 of RBD with the opposite charge; the surface charge of Sb45, R33 forms a
502 hydrogen bond with E484 of RBD with the opposite charge; the surface charge of Sb14, Q39 (a
503 neutral residue) interacts with E484 of RBD; **(e)** Surface charge of wild type of RBD and surface
504 charge of RBD with the three mutations (E484, K417N, and N501Y). When E484 is mutated to
505 K484, the surface charge is changed from negative to positive, therefore the hydrogen bonds are
506 broken – pushing Sb16 and Sb45 out of contact, while since Q39 of Sb14 is not a charged residue,
507 it still may interact with K484 of the mutated RBD.
508

509 **Table 1| X-ray data collection and refinement statistics**

	Sb16-RBD	Sb45-RBD	Sb14-RBD-Sb68	Sb45-RBD-Sb68	Sb16
PDBID	7KGK	7KGJ	7MFU	7KLW	7MFV
Data collection					
Space group	P6 _s 22	P3 ₂ 21	P2 ₁	C222 ₁	P6 _s 22
Cell dimensions					
<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)*	65.64, 65.64, 344.69	62.55, 62.55, 168.82	66.82, 83.05, 92.83	74.50, 102.40, 138.97	68.92, 68.92, 107.17
α , β , γ (°)□	90.0, 90.0, 120.0	90.0, 90.0, 120.0	90.0, 106.71, 90.0	90.0, 90.0, 90.0	90.0, 90.0, 120.0
Resolution (Å)	57.34-2.60 (2.69-2.60)	45.59-2.30 (2.38-2.30)	42.17-1.70 (1.76-1.70)	44.12-2.60 (2.69-2.60)	34.46-1.90 (1.97-1.90)
<i>R</i> _{sym} or <i>R</i> _{merge}	0.080 (0.455)	0.101 (0.849)	0.086 (0.765)	0.095 (0.739)	0.074 (3.39)
<i>I</i> / σ (<i>I</i>)	18.0 (3.3)	14.9 (3.4)	8.9 (1.7)	13.1 (2.1)	15.2 (0.7)
Completeness (%)	98.8 (99.1)	99.3 (98.3)	98.4 (93.8)	98.8 (98.7)	94.5 (85.0)
Redundancy	10.3 (10.9)	7.9 (8.2)	3.1 (3.1)	7.2 (7.4)	12.4 (12.6)
<i>R</i> _{pim}	0.024 (0.134)	0.038 (0.293)	0.057 (0.510)	0.038 (0.287)	0.022 (1.05)
CC _{1/2}	0.999 (0.987)	0.997 (0.919)	0.995 (0.640)	0.998 (0.895)	0.999 (0.526)
Estimated twin fraction	0.0 (none)	0.06 (-h, -k, l)	0.0 (none)	0.0 (none)	0.0 (none)
Refinement					
Resolution (Å)	56.09-2.60 (2.69-2.60)	45.59-2.30 (2.38-2.30)	42.27-1.70 (1.76-1.70)	36.72-2.60 (2.69-2.60)	34.46-1.90 (1.97-1.90)
No. reflections	13219 (1185)	17592 (1687)	105129 (9993)	16508 (1627)	11788 (1025)
<i>R</i> _{work} / <i>R</i> _{free} (%)	25.8/27.7 (36.3/44.2)	18.6/21.6 (24.1/29.8)	18.1/21.5 (27.0/31.6)	20.6/25.5 (29.3/34.5)	22.8/25.8 (34.5/33.5)
No. atoms	2486	2641	7798	3552	976
Protein	2486	2500	6798	3456	907
Water + ligands	0	141	962+38	96	65+4
B-factor Wilson/Ave	39.3/59.8	26.9/32.9	20.3/26.9	33.9/31.5	31.8/45.0
Protein	59.8	32.8	25.7	31.5	45.0
Water + ligands	0	34.7	34.5+40.0	29.5	45.1+55.8
R.m.s. deviations					
bond length (Å)	0.002	0.005	0.004	0.003	0.013
bond angle (°)	0.54	0.74	0.74	0.64	1.17
Ramachandran					
favored (%)	92.9	97.4	98.3	96.3	95.6
allowed (%)	7.1	2.6	1.5	3.7	3.5
outliers (%)	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.9

510

511 *Values in parenthesis are for highest resolution shell.

512

513 **Table 2** | Cryo-EM data collection, refinement and validation statistics

	Sb45+S-6P (1-up,2-down)	Sb45+S-6P (2-up,1-down)
514		
515	EMDB ID	EMD-24105
516	PDB-ID	7N0G
517	Data collection and processing	
518	Magnification	130,000
519	Voltage (kV)	300
520	Electron exposure (e ⁻ /Å)	56
521	Defocus range (μm)	-0.7 to -2.0
522	Pixel size (Å/pixel)	0.526 (1.052 binned)
523	Raw micrographs (no.)	9,725
524	Extract particles (no.)	1,447,993
525	Selected 2D particles (no.)	662,994
526	Refined particles (no.)	417,460
527	Particles for final map (no.)	214,171
528	Symmetry imposed	C1
529	Map resolution (Å)	3.02
530	FSC threshold	0.143
531	Refinement	
532	Initial model used	6XKL, 7KGJ
533	Model composition	
534	Atoms	29,062
535	Residues	3,592
536	Ligands (NAG)	73
537	Overall B-factor (Å ²)	
538	Protein (min/max/mean)	36.8/589.6/157.0
539	Ligands (min/max/mean)	55.3/340.1/129.9
540	R.m.s. deviations	
541	bond length (Å)	0.003
542	bond angle (°)	0.548
543	CC (mask/volume/peaks)	0.84/0.84/0.77
544	Validation	
545	MolProbity score	1.62
546	Clashscore	7.71
547	Poor rotamers	0.00

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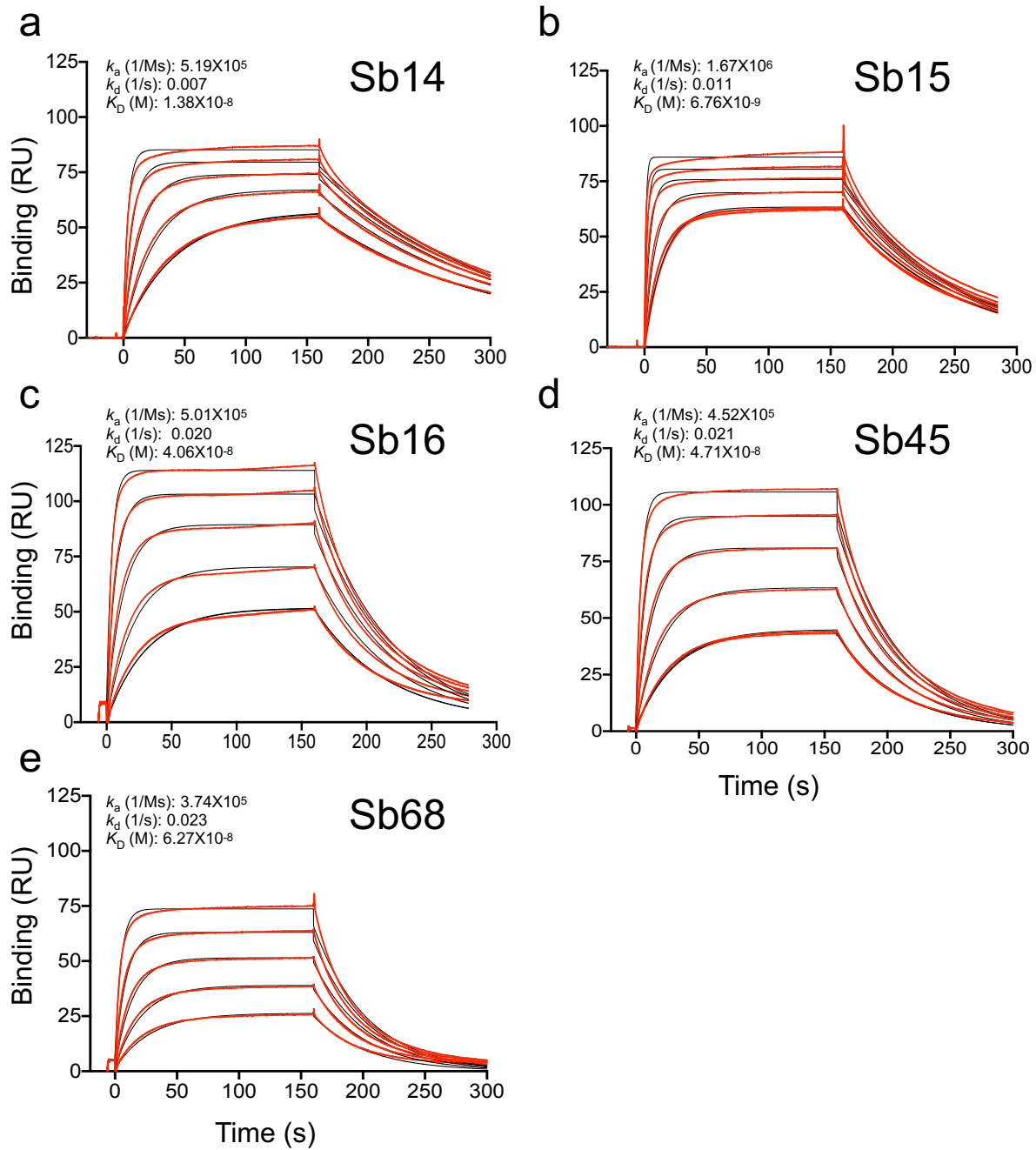


Fig. 1.

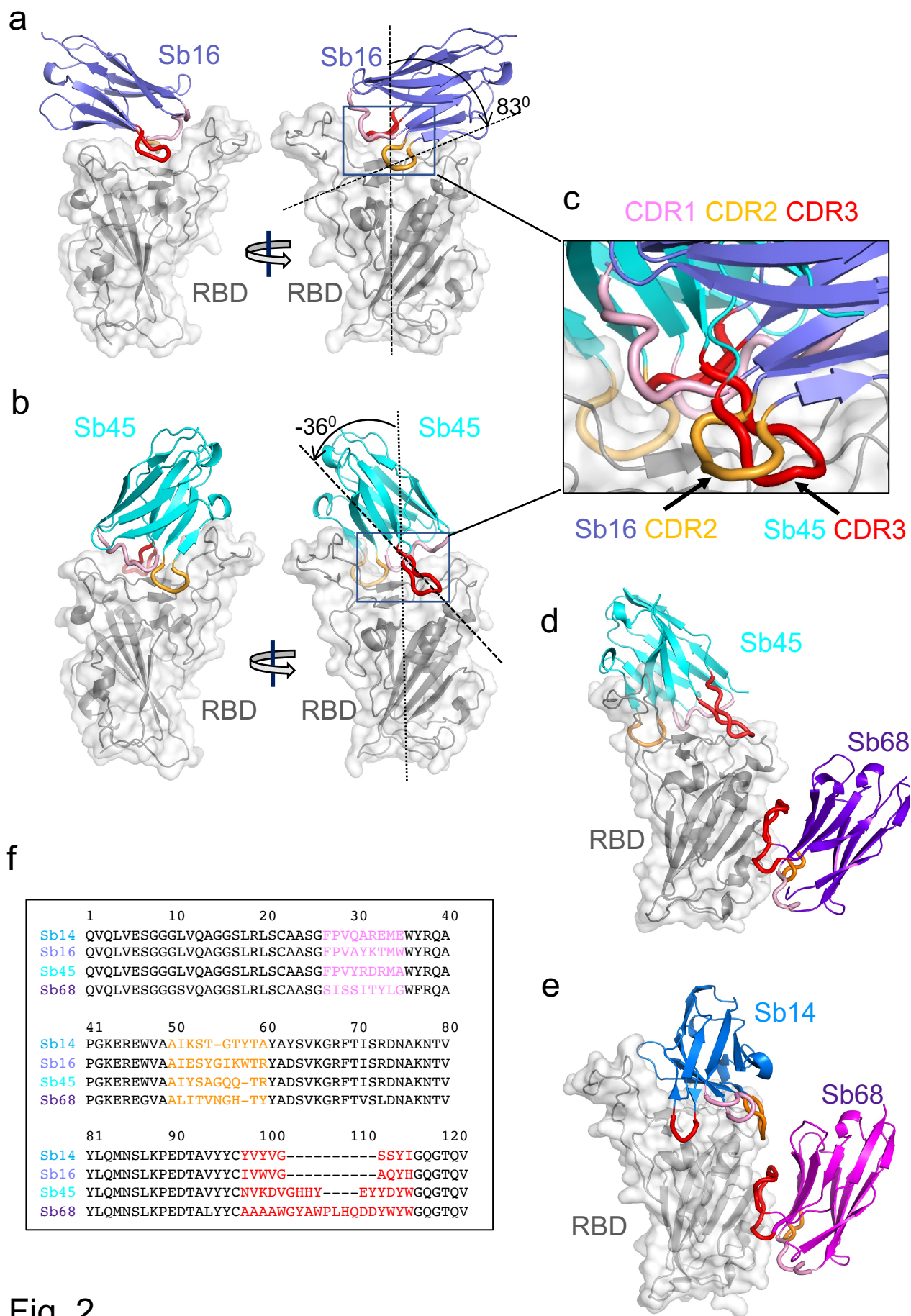


Fig. 2.

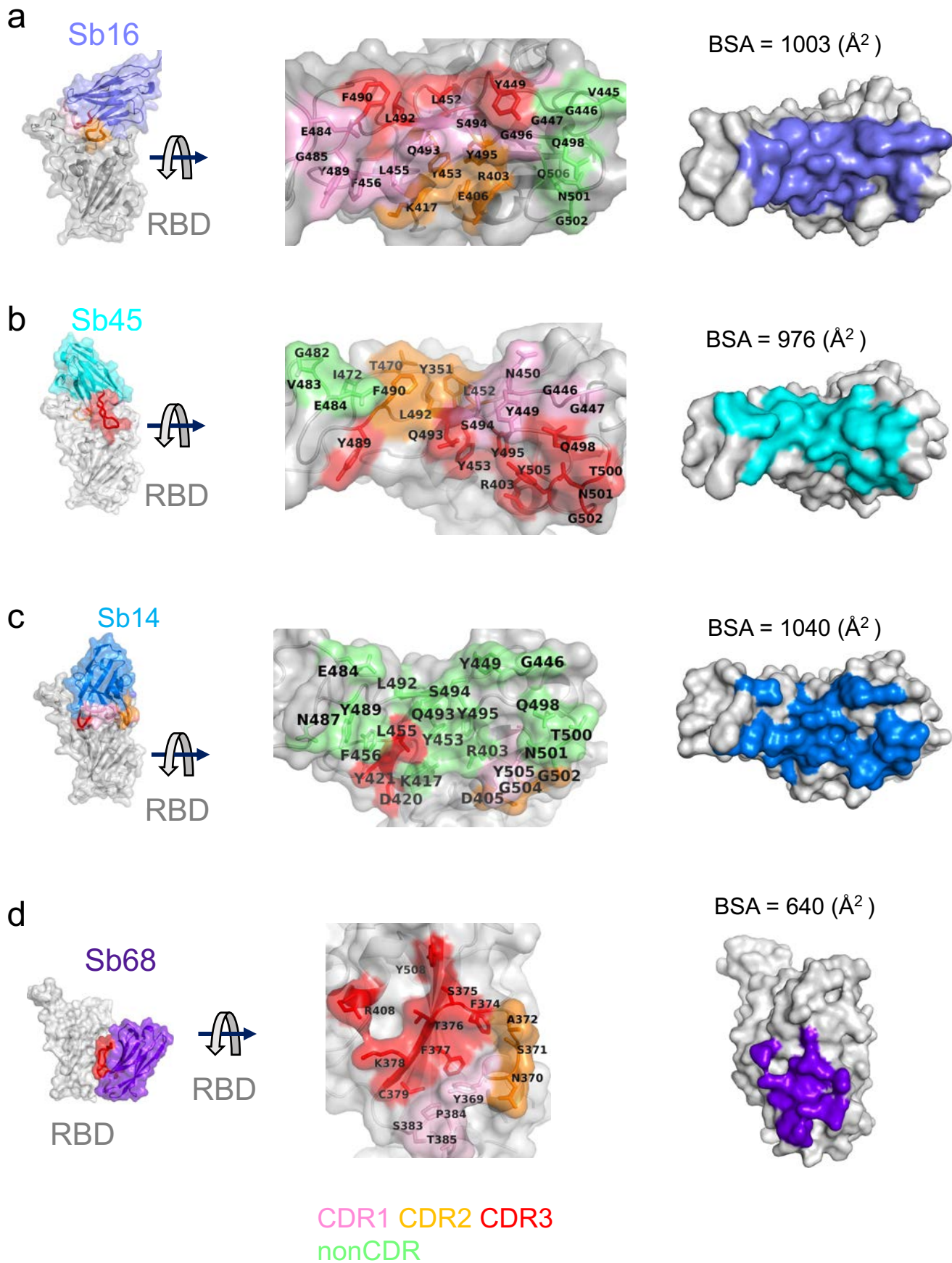


Fig. 3.

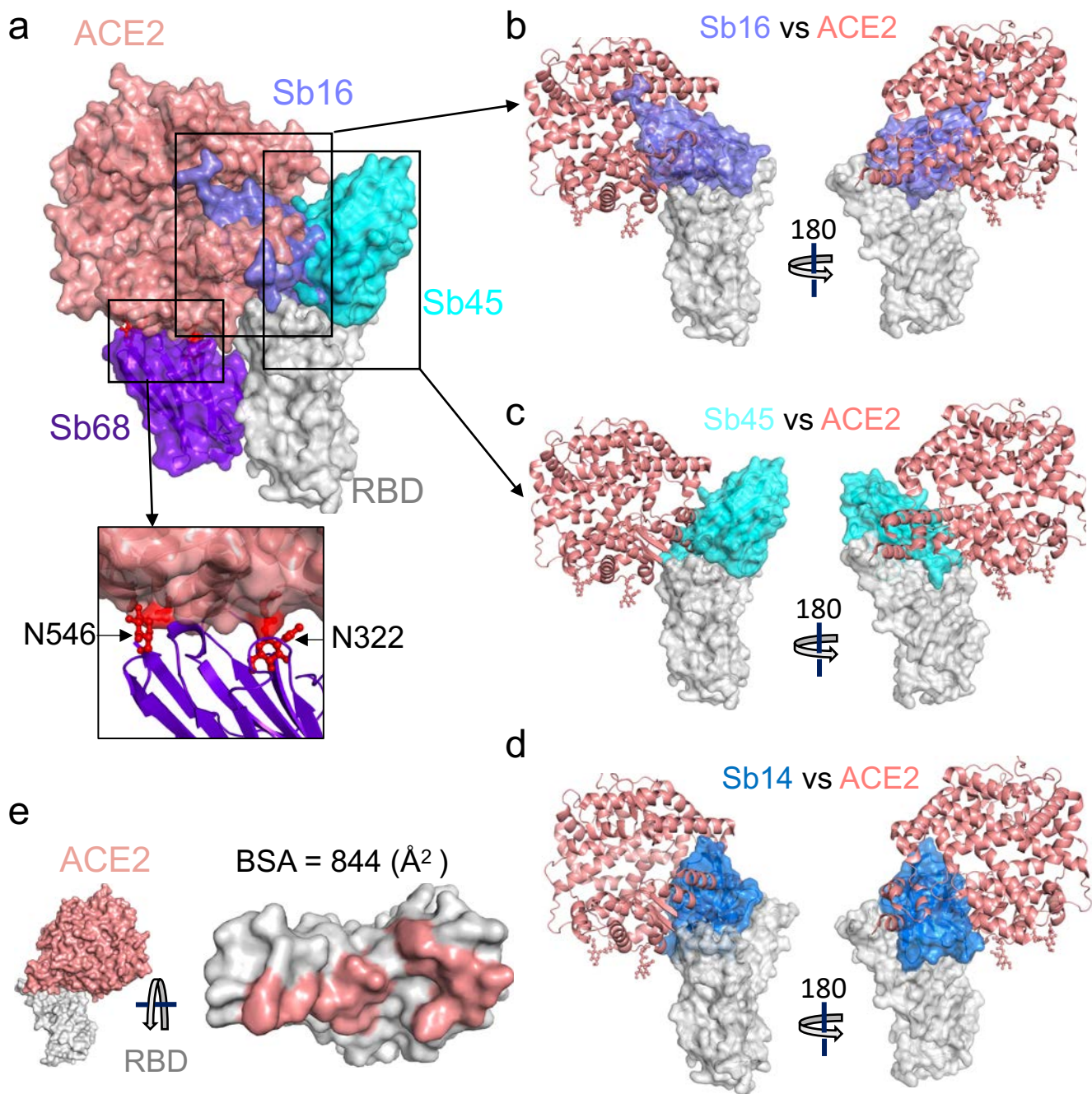


Fig. 4.

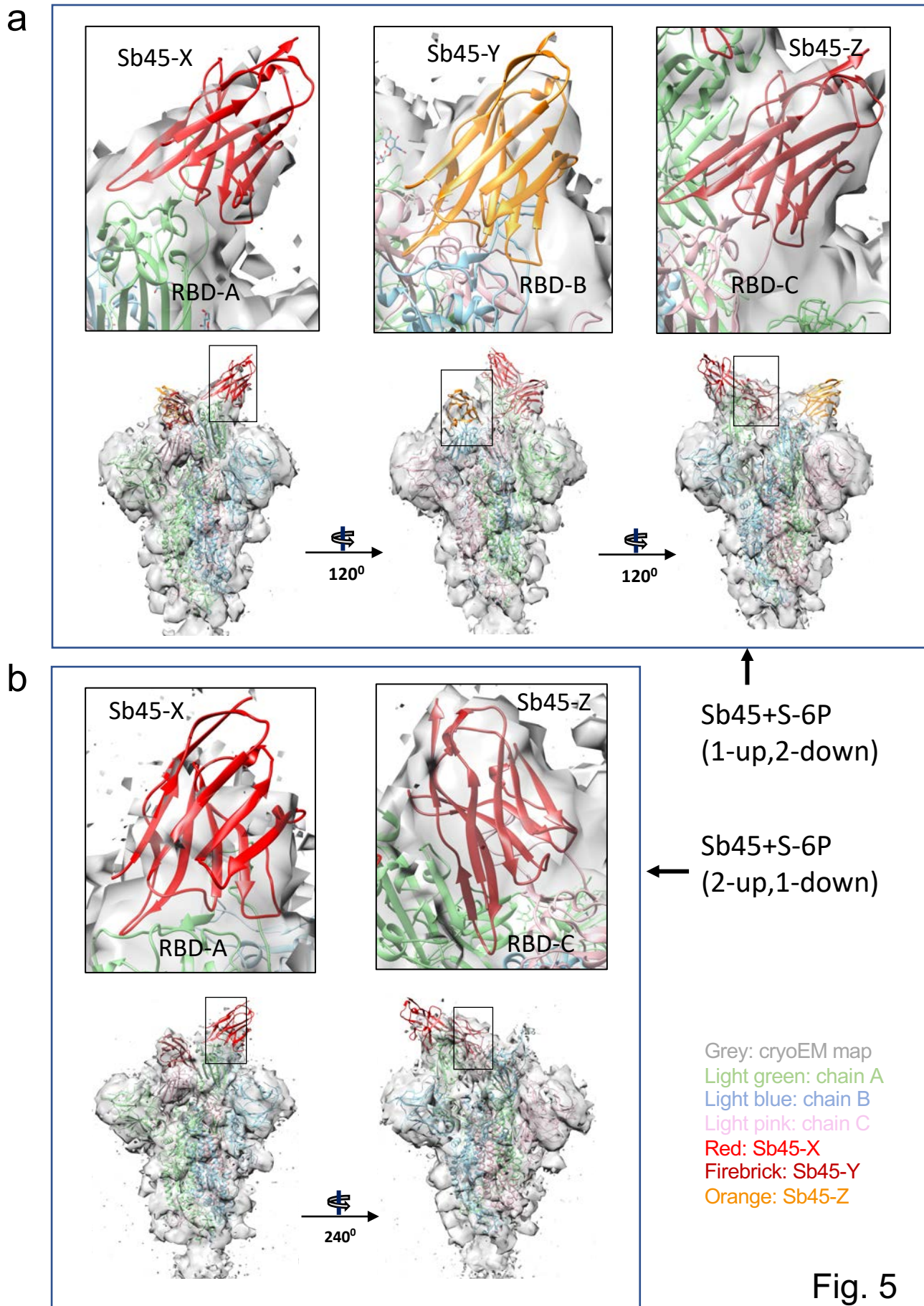


Fig. 5

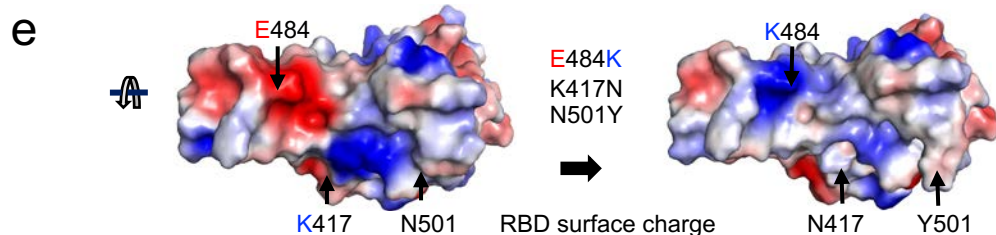
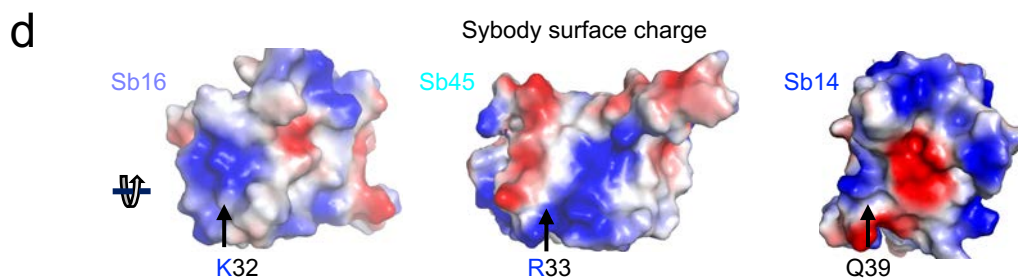
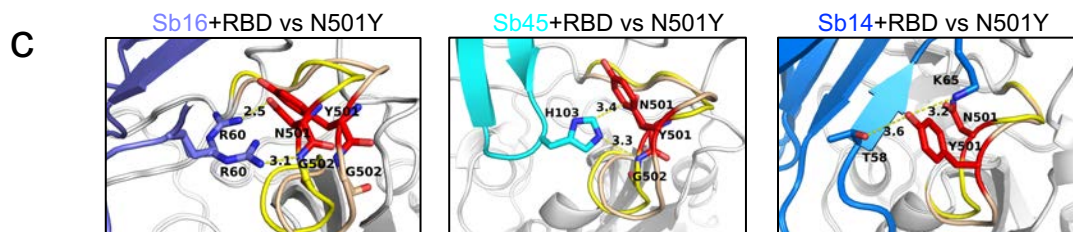
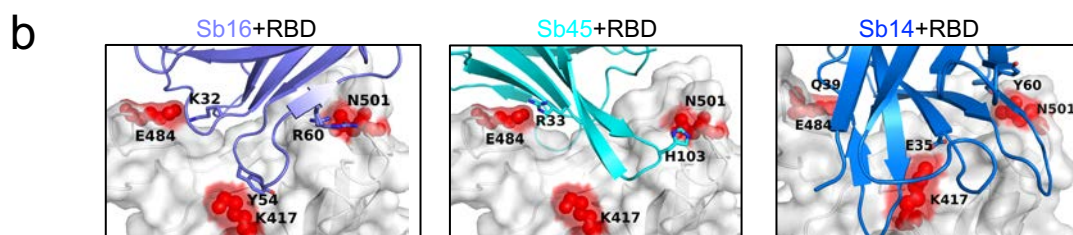
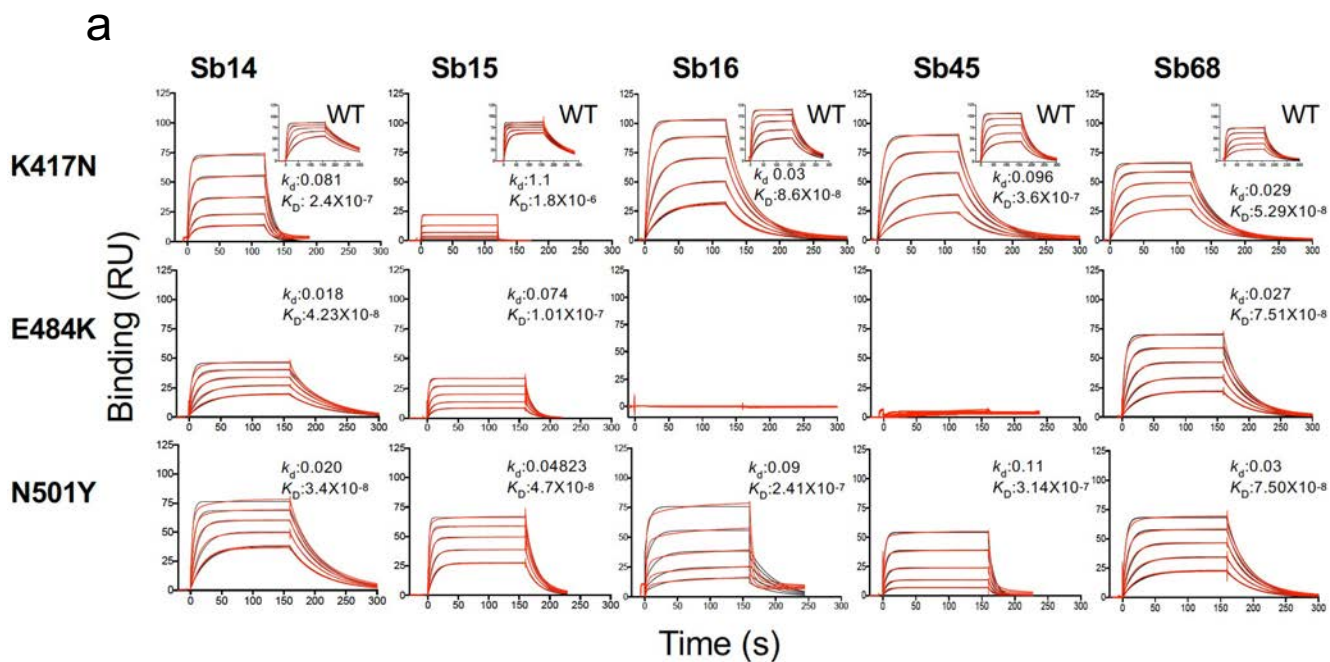


Fig. 6

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