

Supporting Information

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SI Text

Fabricated Synthetic Gene Sequences (ORFs). *SN wild-type.* CGGCGTAGAGGATCGAGATCTCGATCCC GCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGGAATTGTGAGCGGATAACAATTCCCCTCTAGAAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAA GAAGGAGATATACCATGGCAACTTCTACTAAAAAATTA CATAAAGAACCAGCAACTTTAATAAAAAGCAATC GATGGCGATACCGTCAAACCTGATGTACAAAGGC CAGCCGATGACCTTTAGACTGCTTCTGGTTCGAT ACCCTGAAACCAAACACCCGGAAGAAAGGCGTG GAAAAATACGGTCCGGAAGCATCAGCGTTCACCAA GAAGATGGTTCGAAAACGCGAAGAAGATCGAGGTA GAATTCGACAAAGGCAACCCGCACGGATAAA TACGGTTCGTGGTCTGGCATACTATGCGGACGGC A A A A T G G T G A A C G A A G C A C T G G T A C G T C A A G G T C T G G C A A A A G T C G C A T A C G T A C A A A C C G A A C A C C C A C G A A C A G C A T C T G C G T A A A A G C G A A G C A C A G G C G A A A A A G G A A G C T G A A C A T C T G G A G C G A A G A T A A C G C A G A T A G T G G C C A A G G A G G C T C G G A C T A T A A A G A C G A C G A C A A G T A A T A A G A G A T C C G G C T G C T A A C A A A G C C C G A A A G G A A G C T G A G T T G G C T G C T G C C A C C G C T G A G C A A T A A C T A G C A T A A C C C C T T G G G C C T C T A A A C G G G T C T T G A G G

ecRBP wild-type. CGGCGTAGAGGATCGAGATCTCGATCCC GCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGG GAATTGTGAGCGGATAACAATTCCCCTCTAGAAA TAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACCAT GAAAGATTGGATTGCAATAGTAGTAAGTACACTCAA TAATCCATTTTTTCGTAAGTCTTAAAGACGCGCC C A A A A G A A G C G G A T A A A C T G G G C T A C A A C C T T G T C G T G C T G G A T A G C C A G A A C A A C C C G G C C A A A G A A C T G G C G A A C G T T C A G G A T C T G A C A G T G C G T G G C A C C A A A A T T C T G C T G A T C A A C C C G A C C G A T T C T G A T G C A G T A G G C A A C C G C G G T G A A A A T G G C G A A C C A G G C G A A C A T T C C G G T G A T T A C C C T G G A T A G A C A G G C G A C C A A A G G A G A A G T G G T T T C C C A T A T T G C G A G C G A C A A C G T T C T G G G C G G C A A A A T T G C G G G C G A C T A C A T T G C C A A A A A A G C G G G T G A A G G C G C G A A A G T G A T T G A A C T G C A G G G T A T T G C C G G A A C G T C A G C A G C A C G T G A A C G T G G T G A A G G T T T C C A G C A G G C A G T A G C G G C G A T A A A T T C A A C G T T C T G G C C T C T C A G C A G C T G A T T T C G A C C G C A T T A A A G G C C T G A A C G T A T G C A G A A C C T G C T G A C G G C A C A T C C A G A T G T A C A G G C C G T G T T C G C G C A G A A C G A T G A A A T G G C A T T A G G C G C A T T A C G C G C A C T G C A A A C C G C A G G T A A A T C C G A C G T G A T G G T T G T A G G C T T T G A T G G T A C C C C G A T G G T G A A A A A G C G G T T A A C G A C G C A A A C T G G C A G C A A C C A T T G C C C A A C T T C C G G A T C A G A T T G G T G C G A A A G G C G T G G A A A C C G C G G A C A A A G T G C T G A A A G G C G A A A A A G T G C A G G C G A A A T A T C C G G T G G A T C T G A A A C T G G T A G T G A A A C A G A A C G G C G G C T C T G A T T A C A A A G A C G A C G A C G A C A A A T A A A A G A G A T C C G G C T G C T A A C A A A G C C C G A A A G G A A G C T G A G T T G G C T G C T G C C A C C G C T G A G C A A T A A C T A G C A T A A C C C C T T G G G G C C T C T A A A C G G G T C T T G A G G

ecMBP wild-type. CGGCGTAGAGGATCGAGATCTCGATCCC GCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGG GAATTGTGAGCGGATAACAATTCCCCTCTAGAAA

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Derivation of ΔG_{bind} for Proteins with Single and Multiple Ligand-Binding Sites. For a macromolecule with a single binding site, the relative concentrations of unliganded and liganded species is described by the binding polynomial

$$P = \left(1 + \frac{[L]}{K_D}\right). \quad [\text{S1}]$$

The expression for a single-site binding isotherm is derived from the differentiation of $\ln(P)$ with respect to $\ln(L)$ using the chain-rule

$$\bar{X} = \frac{d \ln P}{d \ln L} = \frac{d \ln P}{dP} \cdot \frac{dP}{dL} \cdot \frac{dL}{d \ln L} = \frac{K_A [L]}{1 + K_A [L]} = \frac{\frac{[L]}{K_D}}{1 + \frac{[L]}{K_D}}, \quad [\text{S2}]$$

where \bar{X} is the number of moles of ligand bound per mole of macromolecule and K_A and K_D are the relevant equilibrium constants for the law of mass action



$$K_A = \frac{[ML]}{[M][L]}; \quad [\text{S4}]$$

$$K_A = \frac{1}{K_D}. \quad [\text{S5}]$$

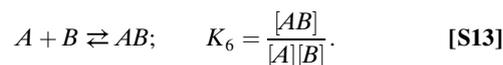
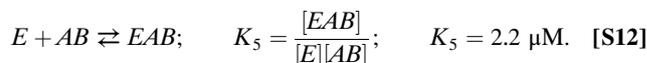
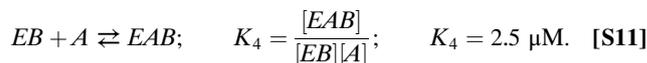
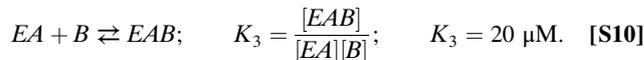
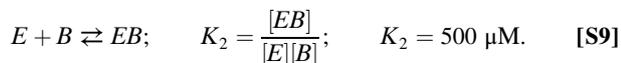
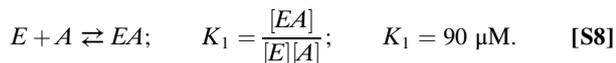
\bar{X} expressed in differential form provides the conceptual link between a ligand-binding isotherm and the free energy of ligand binding (ΔG_{bind}); the area underneath a plot of \bar{X} versus $\ln(L)$ is proportional to the free energy of binding. ΔG_{bind} is obtained by integrating the area under the binding isotherm (i.e. by integrating Eq. S2) and multiplying by the proportionality constant RT

$$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = RT \int \bar{X} d \ln L = RT \int d \ln P = RT \ln P + \Delta G_{\text{ref}}, \quad [\text{S6}]$$

where ΔG_{ref} is the reference free energy of the macromolecule in the absence of ligand. In the specific case of a single binding site, Eq. S6 is expressed as

$$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = RT \ln P = RT \ln \left(1 + \frac{[L]}{K_D} \right) + \Delta G_{\text{ref}}. \quad [\text{S7}]$$

In cases where a macromolecule binds more than one ligand, the expression for ΔG_{bind} is more complex. Consider for example the binding of Ca^{2+} and pdTP (a nucleotide inhibitor) to the enzyme *Staphylococcal* nuclease (SN). Reaction schemes S8 thru S13 describe the formation of the relevant binary and ternary complexes of an enzyme (E) combined with ligands A (Ca^{2+}) and B (pdTP).



The binding of Ca^{2+} and pdTP to SN is fully described by

$$P = 1 + \frac{[A]}{K_1} + \frac{[B]}{K_2} + \frac{[A][B]}{K_1 K_3} + \frac{[B][A]}{K_2 K_4} + \frac{[AB]}{K_5}, \quad [\text{S14}]$$

and ΔG_{bind} is described by

$$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = RT \ln \left(1 + \frac{[A]}{K_1} + \frac{[B]}{K_2} + \frac{[A][B]}{K_1 K_3} + \frac{[B][A]}{K_2 K_4} + \frac{[AB]}{K_5} \right) + \Delta G_{\text{ref}}. \quad [\text{S15}]$$

It has been shown that Ca^{2+} and pdTP bind synergistically to SN. Consequently, the dissociation constant K_5 can be determined independent of the dissociation constants K_1 , K_2 , K_3 , and K_4 by measuring the ligand binding energetics of SN at concentrations of $[AB]$ below K_1 , K_2 , and K_3 (i.e., 3–24 μM). This approach simplifies Eq. S15 considerably,

$$\Delta G_{\text{bind}} = RT \ln \left(1 + \frac{[AB]}{K_5} \right). \quad [\text{S16}]$$

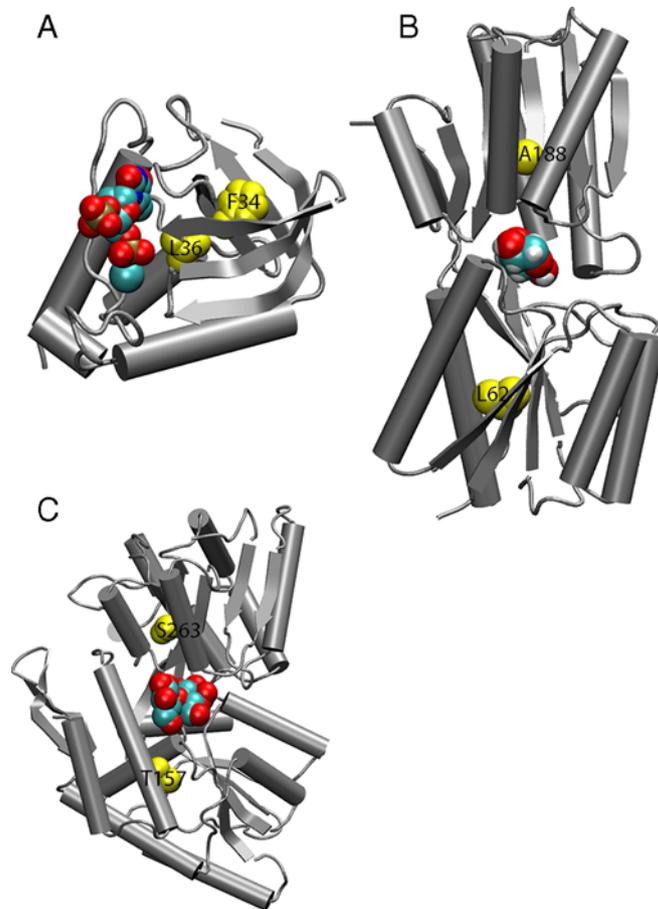


Fig. S1. Cysteine substitution sites in the hydrophobic core of *Staphylococcal* nuclease (A; pdb code 1SNC), *E. coli* ribose-binding protein (B; pdb code 2DRI), and *E. coli* maltose-binding protein (C; pdb code 1ANF).

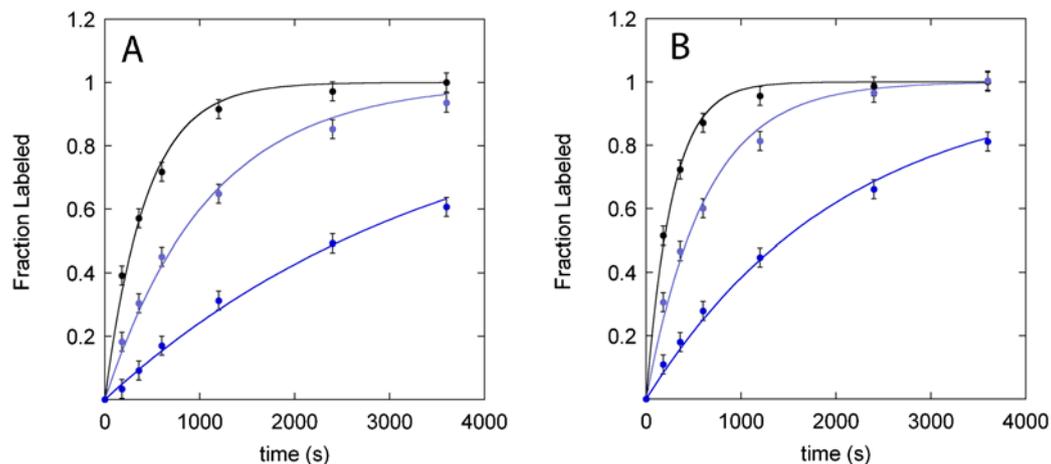


Fig. S3. An illustrative test of EX2 conditions for SN variants F34C and L36C at 38.3 °C. The change in observed rate constant for labeling of these protected cysteines is proportional to the change in concentration of IAM-biotin (black: 3 mM; lighter blue: 1.1 mM; darker blue: 0.3 mM). k_{label} at 3, 1.1, and 0.3 mM IAM-biotin for Cys-34: $2.3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$, $9.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$, and $2.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$, respectively; for Cys-36: $3.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$, $1.0 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$, and $3.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$, respectively.

Table S1. Temperature dependence of ΔG_U for variants of SN and ecRBP

Variant	T °C	[IAM] [M]	$k_{\text{int}} \text{ s}^{-1}$	$k_{\text{ex}} \text{ s}^{-1}$	$\Delta G \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$
SN.F34C	26.3	3.16E-03	2.82E-03	6.10E-05	2.3
SN.F34C	29.3	3.16E-03	3.69E-03	1.10E-04	2.1
SN.F34C	32.3	1.00E-03	1.53E-03	8.00E-05	1.8
SN.F34C	35.3	1.00E-03	1.98E-03	2.60E-04	1.2
SN.F34C	38.3	1.00E-03	2.55E-03	7.20E-04	0.6
SN.F34C	40.3	1.00E-03	3.02E-03	1.30E-03	0.2
SN.L36C	23.3	3.16E-03	2.14E-03	3.10E-05	2.5
SN.L36C	26.3	3.16E-03	2.82E-03	7.20E-05	2.2
SN.L36C	29.3	3.16E-03	3.70E-03	1.50E-04	1.9
SN.L36C	32.3	1.00E-03	1.53E-03	1.20E-04	1.5
SN.L36C	35.3	1.00E-03	1.98E-03	3.60E-04	0.9
SN.L36C	38.3	1.00E-03	2.55E-03	9.20E-04	0.4
ecRBP.L62C	44.5	1.00E-03	4.26E-03	2.00E-04	1.9
ecRBP.L62C	45.2	1.00E-03	4.50E-03	2.60E-04	1.8
ecRBP.L62C	47.1	1.00E-03	5.25E-03	5.20E-04	1.4
ecRBP.L62C	48.9	1.00E-03	6.05E-03	9.30E-04	1.1
ecRBP.L62C	51.7	1.00E-03	7.53E-03	1.90E-03	EX1, 0.7
ecRBP.L62C	54.6	1.00E-03	9.19E-03	2.60E-03	EX1, 0.6
ecRBP.A188C	45.2	1.00E-03	4.50E-03	1.10E-04	2.3
ecRBP.A188C	47.1	1.00E-03	5.25E-03	1.80E-04	2.1
ecRBP.A188C	48.9	1.00E-03	6.05E-03	5.10E-04	1.5
ecRBP.A188C	51.7	1.00E-03	7.53E-03	1.50E-03	0.9
ecRBP.A188C	54.6	1.00E-03	9.19E-03	3.70E-03	0.3

