## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

## **Insights into dynein motor domain function from a 3.3 Å crystal structure**

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## **Supplementary Figures**

**Supplementary Figure 1** The crystallization construct is able to undergo ATP.vanadate mediated UV cleavage at AAA1. (**a**) The crystallization construct (GST-Dyn1-314kD∆3039-3291) and a related construct with a full length stalk (GST-Dyn1-314kD) were incubated with ATP in the absence (-Vi) or presence of (+Vi) of vanadate followed by UV-irradiation. The presence of vanadate causes cleavage of the protein in AAA1 leading to the appearance of a  $\approx$  70kD fragment for both constructs. (**b**) ATP-dependence of the cleavage reaction. GST-Dyn1314kD∆3039-3291 was incubated with vanadate (+Vi), with ATP (+ATP) or in the presence of both compounds (+ATP, +Vi). Cleavage only occurs in the presence of ATP and vanadate.



**Supplementary Figure 2** Examples of the electron density quality in different AAA+ domains and connector peptides between AAA+ domains. Panels (**a**) and (**b**) refer to the overall quality of the electron density in (**a**) AAA4 and (**b**) AAA1 (ATP soaked crystal structure). Panels (**c**- **f**) refer to the quality of the electron density in the nucleotide binding sites of AAA+ domains AAA1 – AAA4: (**c**) AAA1 site (ATPsoaked crystal-structure), (**d**) AAA2 site (LuAc-1 derivative), (**e**) AAA3 site (ATPsoaked crystal-structure) and (**f**) AAA4 site (ADP-soaked crystal-structure). Selected amino-acid residues are labelled. In all panels, the map-sharpened 2Fo-Fc electron density is shown as mesh in grey or lightblue and contoured at 1σ. The mapsharpened Fo-Fc difference density for the ligands occupying the nucleotide bindings sites (sulphate ion in the case of AAA1) is shown as mesh in red and contoured at 3σ. (**g**) connector peptide (magenta) between AAA1S and AAA2L. (**h**) connector peptide (magenta) between AAA2S and AAA3L.



**Supplementary Figure 3** Microtubule cosedimentation and ATPase assays. (**a**) Wild-type  $(GST_{Dvn1331kD})$  and variants with a mutated AAA5-linker interface were incubated with microtubules in the presence and absence of ATP. The samples were centrifuged and subsequently analysed by SDS-PAGE. Disrupting the docking site between AAA5 and the linker interferes with ATP mediated release from microtubules. IP = input, P = pellet and S = supernatant. (**b**) The basal (white) and MT-stimulated (shaded) ATPase activities of the wild-type (GST-Dyn1 $_{331kD}$ ) dynein motor domain and variants with a mutated AAA5-linker interface. Disrupting the docking site between AAA5 and the linker leads to significantly reduced ATPase activities and prevents microtubule mediated stimulation of the ATPase activity. All measurements were carried out in duplicate and the error bars represent the s.d..





AAA4S

**Supplementary Figure 4** Nucleotide binding to sites AAA1-AAA4. (**a-d**) Different degrees of cleft closure in nucleotide binding sites AAA1-AAA4. (**a**) Open cleft of AAA1 in the ADP-soaked crystal structure. A sulfate-ion binds to the Walker A motif. (**b**) Closed cleft in AAA2 in the LuAc-1 derivative crystal structure. (**c**) Semi-closed cleft of AAA3 and (**d**) semi-closed cleft of AAA4 (both ADP-soaked crystal structure). The solvent accessible area of the nucleotides in AAA2-AAA4 is written in bottom right corner of each respective panel. The map-sharpened 2Fo-Fc difference density is shown in grey and contoured at 1σ and the Fo-Fc difference density around the nucleotides is shown in red and contoured at 3σ throughout the appropriate panels. (**e**) The P-loops of AAA1 and AAA3 are aligned and residues within a 4 Å radius from the nucleotide base are shown in stick representation. In AAA3, hydrophobic residues of the large and small domains form a binding pocket for the nucleotide base. In contrast, in AAA1 the large and small domains have swung open leading to much fewer residues that have the potential to contact the nucleotide base. (**f**) Alignment as described in (e) with AAA1 and AAA4. Compared to AAA1, there are more hydrophobic residues in AAA4 that can contribute to nucleotide base binding. (**g-i**) Comparison of the base binding pockets of AAA1, AAA3, AAA4. (**g**) Open pocket of the AAA1 nucleotide binding site harbouring a modelled ATP-molecule (grey) (ADP-soaked crystal structure). (**h**) Closed pockets of the AAA3 and (**i**) AAA4 nucleotide binding sites (ADP soaked crystal structure). The accessible surface area of the adenine base in (g-i) is indicated in  $A^2$  and shows that a base modelled into AAA1 is more accessible than those observed in AAA3 and AAA4.



**Supplementary Figure 5** Crystallographic environment of the dynein motor domain and simulated closure of the AAA1 nucleotide binding site. (**a**) and (**b**) different crystallographic environments for the two protein copies in the asymmetric unit. The dynein motor domain is depicted as grey cartoon representation. (**a**) Molecule A and (**b**) Molecule B. Amino-acid residues involved in crystal packing contacts ( $\leq 3.5 \text{ Å}$ ) are highlighted as spheres. red = contacts specific for Molecule A, blue = contacts specific for Molecule B, green = contacts common to both molecules. Only a few contact sites are common to both molecules, the majority of crystal contacts is either specific for molecule A or molecule B. (**c**) and (**d**) simulated closure of the cleft between AAA1 and AAA2 based on the ATP-bound crystal structure of the AAA+ family member NtrC. For clarity, only the linker, AAA1 and the AAA2L domains are shown in color-coded cartoon representation. Conserved amino-acid residues are highlighted as red spheres. (**c**) Situation as observed in the crystal structure presented here. The conserved patches on the AAA2 β-hairpins and the linker cleft are approximately 18 Å away from each other. (**d**) The modelled closure of the AAA1 site would bring both regions in close contact. (**e**) Close up of the AAA2 β-hairpin inserts. Conserved amino-acid residues are represented as red spheres and labelled.