

Supporting Information

Rao et al. 10.1073/pnas.1316453111

SI Materials and Methods

Cloning, Expression, and Purification of the Est3 Protein. The *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Est3 gene was cloned into a pET–His₁₀–Smt3 (Smt3 is yeast SUMO) expression vector (1). The final Est3 mutant construct (referred to as “Est3^{ΔN}” in the text) contains a deletion of the first 12 residues plus the Cys142Ser mutation and was made by side-directed mutagenesis. Proteins were expressed from *Escherichia coli* BL21(DE3) cells in Luria Broth (LB) by induction with isopropyl β-D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) and postinduction growth for 24 h at 15 °C. Cells were harvested by centrifugation and the resulting cell pellet resuspended and lysed in lysis buffer [buffer A: 100 mM potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7.5), 100 mM sodium sulfate (Na₂SO₄), 10% (vol/vol) glycerol, 10 mM imidazole and 3 mM βME, and an EDTA-free protease inhibitor mixture tablet (Roche)]. Postlysis supernatant was subjected to Ni²⁺-affinity chromatography by gravity flow (GE Healthcare) and eluted. His₁₀–SUMO–Est3^{ΔN} was incubated with SUMO specific protease, Ulp1, to cleave off the His₁₀–SUMO tag (1) and further purified by size-exclusion chromatography (Superdex75, GE Healthcare) in buffer B [100 mM potassium phosphate buffer (pH 7.5), 100 mM Na₂SO₄, 5% (vol/vol) glycerol, and 3 mM βME]. A second round of Ni²⁺-affinity chromatography (in buffer B) led to separation of untagged Est3^{ΔN} from the contaminating His₁₀–SUMO tag. Est3^{ΔN} eluted at >95% purity and was concentrated and buffer exchanged to the experimentally appropriate buffer, using a 9000 MWCO protein concentrator (Pierce).

¹⁵N-labeled Est3^{ΔN} protein was expressed in *E. coli* BL21 (DE3) in minimal M9 growth medium (2), supplemented with 1× MEM vitamin solution (Invitrogen), 1× Metal Mix (2), and 50 mg/L kanamycin; 2 g/L glucose provided the sole carbon source. For uniformly ¹⁵N,¹³C-labeled Est3^{ΔN}, 2 g/L of [¹³C] glucose (Sigma/Isotec) was used. *E. coli* BL21(DE3) pLysS cells were used for expression of uniformly ²H,¹⁵N,¹³C-labeled Est3^{ΔN} protein and labeling protocol adapted from previous description (3). In short, a culture grown in LB at 37 °C was harvested by centrifugation, resuspended in M9/H₂O (3), and grown at 37 °C to an OD₆₀₀ of 0.5. Cells were harvested and resuspended in 50 mL M9/D₂O, supplemented with 2 g/L [²H,¹³C] glucose (Sigma/Isotec) as the sole carbon source, 1.5 g/L ammonium-¹⁵N₂ sulfate as the sole nitrogen source, and 4% (wt/vol) ¹³C,¹⁵N,D Isogro (Sigma/Isotec). At an OD₆₀₀ of 0.5, the cells were transferred to 1 L of M9/D₂O, grown to OD₆₀₀ of ~0.9 and cold-shocked on ice for ~1 h. Protein expression was induced with 1.0 mM IPTG, followed by postinduction growth for 24 h at 15 °C. The proteins were purified as described above.

Selective Ile, Leu, and Val (ILV) methyl-protonated sample was prepared as described elsewhere (4), with some modifications. The cell growth protocol was the same as for uniformly ²H,¹⁵N,¹³C-labeling Est3^{ΔN} protein until transfer to 1 L M9/D₂O. At an OD₆₀₀ of ~0.9, M9/D₂O was supplemented with ILV methyl-protonated precursors; 100 mg/L 2-keto-3-(methyl-d₃)-butyric acid-1,2,3,4-¹³C₄,3-d₁ sodium salt and 50 mg/L 2-ketobutyric acid-¹³C₄,3,3-d₂ sodium salt (Isotec). The M9/D₂O culture was grown for another ~1.5 h, followed by cold-shock on ice for ~1 h, induction of protein expression with 1.0 mM IPTG, and post-induction growth for ~30 h at 15 °C. The protein was purified as described above.

High-Throughput Screening for NMR Sample Buffer for Est3. A high-throughput microdrop screening strategy was used to arrive at NMR buffer components for the Est3^{ΔN} protein (initially stored in

buffer B). The screens were set up and scored as described elsewhere (5), with some modifications. Initial screening trays were set up on Intelli-Plate 96-well plates on an Art Robbins Instruments Crystal Phoenix automated drop-setter. Lindwall Screen (6) and preformulated 96-well ready buffers from Hampton Research [Detergent Screen HT(HR2-406), Additive Screen HT (HR2-138), Additive Screen (HR2-428), SaltRx HT(HR2-136)] were tested for enhancing Est3^{ΔN} solubility. Identified conditions were confirmed manually by setting drops in a 24-well tray. Finally, a manually confirmed condition was retested for solubility in a 50-μL volume. The screens identified low-conductivity buffering salts (7), Bis-Tris propane and Mops, as well as the additives arginine, glutamic acid, and the nondetergent sulfobetaine NDSB-195 as being favorable for protein stability and NMR. The NMR sample buffer (Buffer C) was 50 mM Bis-Tris propane/Mops (pH 7.1), 50 mM Na₂SO₄, 100 mM arginine, 100 mM glutamic acid, 100 mM NDSB-195, and 2 mM DTT.

NMR Spectroscopy. All NMR data were collected at 25 °C on ~280-μM samples in buffer C. ²H,¹³C,¹⁵N-labeled Est3^{ΔN} protein was used for transverse relaxation-optimized spectroscopy (TROSY) and non-TROSY heteronuclear single-quantum coherence (HSQC) experiments and chemical shifts referenced to 2,2,3,3-d₄-3-(trimethylsilyl)-propionic acid. Backbone assignments were done with ²H,¹³C,¹⁵N-labeled Est3^{ΔN} sample using TROSY versions of the BioPack pulse-sequences for the following experiments: HNCA, HN(CA)CB, HN(CO)CA, HN(COCA)CB, HNCO, and ¹⁵N NOESY-HSQC with a short mixing time (150 ms). The HNCO and ¹⁵N NOESY-HSQC spectra were collected on an Agilent DD2 900 MHz spectrometer equipped with a salt-tolerant hydrogen cyanide (HCN) cryogenically cooled probe. All other experiments used an Agilent VNMR5 800 MHz spectrometer equipped with a salt-tolerant HCN cryogenically cooled probe. The Pine server (8) was used for automated backbone assignments followed by manual confirmation of assignments in the CcpNMR (9) analysis software. Backbone assignment was 97% complete and the chemical shifts table was deposited in the Biological Magnetic Resonance Bank.

In addition to backbone assignments, distance and orientational restraints were obtained for structure calculation. Assignment of ¹⁵N NOESY-HSQC, on the ²H,¹³C,¹⁵N-Est3^{ΔN} sample, with a mixing time of 250 ms produced long-distance amide ¹H-¹H NOE restraints. Assignment of 100% of ILV methyl resonances, on a selectively methyl-protonated Est3^{ΔN} sample, in a 2D ¹H,¹³C-HMQC spectrum used the 3D HMCMBCA and HMCMBGBCA spectra (10). A 3D methyl ¹H-¹H ¹³C HMQC-NOESY spectrum, collected with a 450-ms mixing time, provided methyl ¹H-¹H NOE distances. In total, amide ¹H-¹H NOEs and methyl ¹H-¹H NOEs contributed 128 long-distance restraints.

Amide ¹H-¹⁵N residual dipolar couplings (RDCs) were measured using 140 μM ¹⁵N-labeled Est3^{ΔN} in buffer C with no Pf1 phage and in ~9.6 mg/mL liquid crystalline Pf1 phage (11). ¹⁵N-HSQC and ¹⁵N-TROSY HSQC spectra were recorded for both isotropic and aligned samples. The shift difference between the ¹⁵N chemical shifts for HSQC versus the TROSY-HSQC spectra were calculated for the isotropic sample and then multiplied by 2 to yield the scalar coupling constant (*J*) in Hz. The RDC values (*D*) for 112 NH bond vectors were calculated by subtracting this value for *J* from the scaled shift differences obtained from the aligned spectra (11).

Qualitative H/D exchange data for structure validation was acquired as follows. A reference ^{15}N -HSQC spectrum was collected on protonated ^{15}N -labeled Est3^{ΔN} sample in NMR buffer C. This sample was subsequently buffer exchanged to NMR buffer C made in D₂O and ^{15}N -HSQC spectra obtained at 7 h, 24 h, 3 d, 6 d, and 9 d after deuterated buffer exchange. The ^{15}N - $\{^1\text{H}\}$ -heteronuclear NOE experiments for backbone dynamics involved acquisition of a reference ^{15}N -HSQC spectrum and an amide proton-saturated ^{15}N - $\{^1\text{H}\}$ -heteronuclear NOE HSQC spectrum. The values were calculated by taking the ratio of the peak heights of the nonsaturated spectrum to the peak heights of the saturated spectrum (12).

All NMR data were processed in NMRPipe (13) and spectra were analyzed with CcpNMR analysis software (9).

Structure Calculations. Structures were generated using resolution-adapted structural recombination (RASREC) Rosetta (14). Rosetta parameters were selected initially using a beta version of the CS-Rosetta Toolkit (15) (www.csrosetta.org), and subsequently confirmed on release of Version 1.3 of the toolkit with Rosetta 3.4 (www.rosettacommons.org) compiled with message passing interface (MPI) support. Rosetta calculations used the JANUS Supercomputer (University of Colorado Boulder) that consists of 1,368 compute nodes, each with two hexcore 2.8 GHz Intel Westmere central processing units (CPUs), 24 GB RAM, and an 800 TB Lustre filesystem. Calculations were run across 44 nodes, totaling 528 CPUs. Each calculation took 6–9 h to generate 500 RASREC-selected structures. Input parameters for the calculations were generated using TALOS+ (torsion angle likelihood obtained from shift) (16), CYANA, and in-house scripts. The 20

best-scored structures from the Rosetta output were extracted, converted to Protein Data Bank (PDB) format, and parsed for input to Xplor-NIH (17) using in-house scripts.

Xplor-NIH calculations were performed using a MacBook Pro 2.53 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo (Apple) with 4 GB RAM. All input parameters for the Rosetta calculations were converted to Xplor format using in-house scripts. Validations were performed using Xplor-NIH (17) without further refinement of the structure. This method was used to obtain statistical representations of the restraint violations. CYANA-2.1 (18) calculations were performed using a MacBook Pro 2.53 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo with 4 GB RAM. Restraints for CYANA structure calculations were obtained directly from CcpNMR Analysis (9) software and TALOS+ (16). Manually assigned NOE restraint lists were used for CYANA calculations. Structure geometry was assessed by PROCHECK (19).

In Vivo Assessment of Telomere Function. Effects of missense mutations in *EST3* were assessed by two assays, which measured (i) the ability to complement an *est3*-Δ strain in a standard loss-of-function (LOF) assay and (ii) the ability to disrupt telomere replication when over-expressed in the presence of the wild-type *EST3* gene [overexpression dominant negative (ODN)]. This latter assay used a yeast strain which was sensitized to defects in telomerase (due to a mutation in *YKU80*), thereby permitting rapid initial detection of *est3*⁻ defects as an immediate reduction in viability (20–22). Missense mutations that exhibited an ODN phenotype in this viability assay were subsequently shown to have ODN effects on telomere length, as well telomere length defects in the LOF assay.

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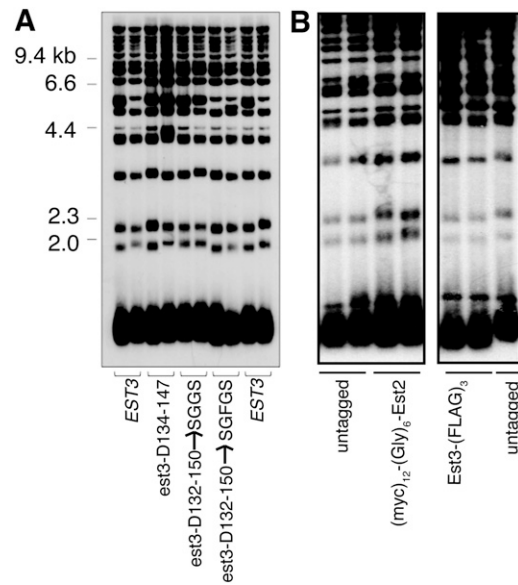


Fig. 55. Telomere length phenotypes of selected *est3*⁻ mutations. (A) Telomere length of *est3*-Δ strains containing single copy plasmids expressing wild-type *EST3* or deletions or deletion/substitutions of the 19-aa L45 structured region, under the control of the native *EST3* promoter; telomere length was assessed after ~75 generations of growth. (B) Telomere length of strains expressing (myc)₁₂-(Gly)₆-Est2 or Est3-(FLAG)₃, integrated into the genome in place of the wild-type *EST2* or *EST3* loci, respectively, compared with the wild-type strain (“untagged”), also assessed after ~75 generations of growth.

Table S1. Structural statistics for the 20 best-scored Est3^{ΔN} RASREC Rosetta structures

No. of residues	170
NOE-based distance restraints	
NOE distance restraints (violations ≥ 0.5 Å)	292 (64 \pm 3.3)
Intraresidue	0
Interresidue	292
Sequential, $ i - j = 1$	111
Medium range, $ i - j < 4$	57
Long range, $ i - j > 5$	124
Other restraints	
$\varphi + \psi$ dihedral-angle restraints (violations $\geq 5^\circ$)*	254 (28 \pm 3.7)
RDC restraints (violations ≥ 5 Hz)	112 (8 \pm 2.6)
Average RMSD to the average structure, all residues [†]	
Backbone, Å	1.5 \pm 0.16
Heavy atom, Å	2.0 \pm 0.17
Average RMSD to the average structure, OB fold only; residues 66–163	
Backbone, Å	0.89 \pm 0.13
Heavy atom, Å	1.3 \pm 0.14
Ramachandran plot summary, % [‡]	
Most favored regions	86.0
Allowed regions	13.7
Generally allowed regions	0.3
Disallowed regions	0.0
Deviations from ideal geometry	
Bond lengths, Å	0.009
Bond angles, °	0.6

*Torsion-angle restraints were derived from TALOS+ (1).

[†]RMSDs calculated using iCing server (2).

[‡]Analysis performed using PROCHECK (3).

1. Shen Y, Delaglio F, Cornilescu G, Bax A (2009) TALOS+: A hybrid method for predicting protein backbone torsion angles from NMR chemical shifts. *J Biomol NMR* 44(4):213-223.

2. Doreleijers JF, et al. (2012) CING: An integrated residue-based structure validation program suite. *J Biomol NMR* 54(3):267-283.

3. Laskowski RA, MacArthur MW, Moss DS, Thornton JM (1993) PROCHECK: A program to check the stereochemical quality of protein structures. *J Appl Cryst* 26:283-291.

Table S2. Internal validation for convergence of RASREC Rosetta calculations

RASREC Rosetta calculation	No. of NOE constraints (% of full-set)*	Backbone RMSD to final structure [†]
Final structure	128 (100)	
Validation I	116 (90)	1.4
Validation II	115 (90)	1.1
Validation III	115 (90)	0.8
Validation IV	115 (90)	1.0
Validation V	98 (77)	0.8

*Structure calculation runs were done in presence of full-set of restraints, for the final structure, and subsequent runs with depleted restraints set.

[†]RMSDs for backbone atoms were calculated using the "super" script in PyMOL (1).

1. Schrödinger, LLC. The PyMOL Molecular Graphics System, Version 1.5.0.4. Available at www.pymol.org.

Table S3. List of mutations in surface-exposed Est3 residues

D14R	D49R	Q90R	S137E
S15E	L52E	E94R	H138R, H138E
V16E	H54R, H54E	S96E, S96R	K140E
F17R, F19E	M55E	Q97R	C142E
Q19R	S56R	E98R	S144R
P20E	P57R	S101R	N146R
K23E	T58R	N102R	I146E
A24R	L60E	E104R*	S148E
L25E	T61R	R105E	K149E
E27R	N62R	T106R	E150R
D28R	P63R	H107E, H107R	I151E
N29R	C64R	N108R	N156R
E31R	K68E*	C109R	N158R
H32R, H32E	T70E	R110E*	Q159R
D33R	K71E*	T112A, T112I**	R161R
Q34R	Y73R, Y73E	S113R	F163R, F163E
Y35R, Y35E	N74R	E114	D164R*
H36E	V75E*	T116E	D166R*
P37E	C76R	N117K*	Q167R
S38R	D77R	D124R	V168E*
G39R	Y78R, Y78E	D126R	L171E
H40R, H40E	K79E	V128E	S172E
V41E	Y81R, Y81E	V130E	T173E
P43R	S83E	T131R	P175E
S44R	R85E	N132R	F176R, F176E
T46R	S87E	S133E	K179E
K47E	S88E	R134E	Y180R, Y180E
Q48R	H89E	M136E	L181E

Surface residues were mutated by the introduction of a charged amino acid (rather than to alanine), to maximally disrupt function, and assessed for effects on telomere replication as described in Supporting Materials and Methods. Mutations with moderate to severe effects on telomere replication are highlighted in red, with more modest phenotypes indicated in pink; residues marked by an asterisk have been analyzed in previous studies (1, 2). For the three alleles that are highlighted in lavender, we have previously argued that charge-swap mutations introduced into these three residues result in partial destabilization of the mutant protein (2).

1. Lee J, Mandell EK, Tucey TM, Morris DK, Lundblad V (2008) The Est3 protein associates with yeast telomerase through an OB-fold domain. *Nat Struct Mol Biol* 15(9):990-997.
2. Lubin JW, Rao T, Mandell EK, Wuttke DS, Lundblad V (2013) Dissecting protein function: An efficient protocol for identifying separation-of-function mutations that encode structurally stable proteins. *Genetics* 193(3):715-725.