

## Supporting Information

The architecture of the OmpC-MlaA complex sheds light on the maintenance of outer membrane lipid asymmetry in *Escherichia coli*

**Jiang Yeow<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Kang Wei Tan<sup>1,\*</sup>, Daniel A. Holdbrook<sup>3,\*</sup>, Zhi-Soon Chong<sup>1</sup>, Jan K. Marzinek<sup>3,4</sup>, Peter J. Bond<sup>3,4,†</sup>, Shu-Sin Chng<sup>1,5,†</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Department of Chemistry, National University of Singapore, Singapore 117543;

<sup>2</sup>National University of Singapore Graduate School for Integrative Sciences and Engineering (NGS), Singapore 117456;

<sup>3</sup>Bioinformatics Institute, Agency for Science, Technology, and Research (A\*STAR), Singapore 138671;

<sup>4</sup>Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore, Singapore 117543;

<sup>5</sup>Singapore Center for Environmental Life Sciences Engineering, National University of Singapore (SCELSE-NUS), Singapore 117456

\*These authors contributed equally to this work.

### Table of contents

#### Supplementary Tables S1 to S4

Table S1. Bacterial strains used in this study

Table S2. Plasmids used in this study

Table S3. Primers used in this study.

Table S4. Summary of all-atom molecular simulations: system compositions and simulation times

#### Supplementary Figures S1 to S14

Figure S1. Seven more positions at the dimeric interface of the OmpC trimer contact MlaA.

Figure S2. SEC-MALS analysis of the OmpC-MlaA complex revealing that one copy of MlaA binds to the OmpC trimer.

Figure S3. N-terminal sequencing and MS/MS analyses identified two specific MlaA peptides binding to OmpC.

Figure S4. Residue pairs on MlaA predicted to contact each other based on coevolution analysis allow the formation of disulfide bonds when substituted with cysteines.

Figure S5. The surface of MlaA is mostly hydrophobic.

Figure S6. The MlaA structure modelled from co-evolution analysis is more stable in the lipid bilayer.

Figure S7. MlaA behaves like an integral membrane protein and is resistant to extraction from membranes under various conditions.

Figure S8. Six major clusters of all-atomistic MD simulated OmpC-MlaA structure depict how MlaA interacts with OmpC in two possible orientations in the OM bilayer.

Figure S9. All six major clusters of MlaA structure from all-atomistic MD simulations of the OmpC-MlaA complex with putative hydrophilic channels depicted.

Figure S10. Substituted cysteine accessibility for residues in MlaA largely agrees with their predicted locations.

Figure S11. Brief analyses of the crystal structures of MlaA-porin complexes.

Figure S12. All single alanine mutations and most double arginine substitutions in the channel, except D161R/D167R, do not disrupt function in MlaA.

Figure S13. Mutations in functional regions of MlaA do not significantly affect protein levels or its interaction with OmpC.

Figure S14. Mutations on residues G19 and R92 do not affect OmpC levels in cells, but weaken trimer stability in vitro.

**Supplementary Tables.**

**Table S1. Bacterial strains used in this study**

Strains	Relevant genotypes and characteristics	References
MC4100	<i>F</i> - <i>araD139 Δ(argF-lac)</i> <i>U169 rpsL150 relA1 flbB5301 ptsF25 deoC1 ptsF25 thi</i>	(1)
NovaBlue	<i>endA1 hsdR17 (rK12- mK12+)</i> <i>supE44 thi-1 recA1 gyrA96 relA1 lac F' [proA+B+ lacIq ZΔM15::Tn10]</i>	Novagen
BL21(λDE3)	<i>fhuA2 [lon] ompT gal (λDE3) [dcm] ΔhsdS</i> <i>λDE3 = λ sBamH1o ΔEcoRI-B</i> <i>int::(lacI::PlacUV5::T7 gene1) i21 Δnин5</i>	Novagen
TKW001	BL21(λDE3) <i>ΔompF::kan</i>	This study
CZS010	MC4100 <i>ΔmlaA::kan</i>	(2)
CZS015	MC4100 <i>ΔompC::kan</i>	(2)
NR1216	MC4100 <i>ΔdsbA::kan</i>	(3)
CZS576	MC4100 <i>ΔompC::kan-(P<sub>rha</sub>-tse2)</i>	This study
CZS594	MC4100 <i>ΔompC::ompC</i>	This study
CZS608	MC4100 <i>ΔompC::ompC<sub>R92A</sub></i>	This study
CZS609	MC4100 <i>ΔompC::ompC<sub>R92L</sub></i>	This study
CZS610	MC4100 <i>ΔompC::ompC<sub>G19W</sub></i>	This study
CZS611	MC4100 <i>ΔompC::ompC<sub>G19W/R92L</sub></i>	This study

**Table S2. Plasmids used in this study**

Plasmids	Relevant genotypes and characteristics	References
pET22b(+)	pT7lac inducible expression vector, contains N-terminal PelB signal peptide for periplasmic localization; Amp <sup>R</sup>	Novagen
pET23/42	pT7 inducible expression vector, contains multiple cloning site of pET42a(+) in pET23a(+) backbone; Amp <sup>R</sup>	(4)
pSLC-246	Template plasmid encoding kanamycin resistance gene for positive selection and toxin gene ( <i>tse2</i> ) under the control of rhamnose induceable promoter (P <sub>rhaB</sub> ) for negative selection.	(5)
pSup-BpaRS-6TRN	Encodes an orthogonal tRNA and aminoacyl-tRNA synthetase permitting ribosomal incorporation of <i>p</i> Bpa at TAG stop codons	(6)
pKM208	A variation of pKM201 expresses the <i>lacI</i> repressor gene that keep expression of <i>red</i> and <i>gam</i> under tight control prior to IPTG induction	(7)
pACYC184	Low copy cloning vector; Cam <sup>R</sup>	(8)
pCDFDuet-1	pT7 inducible expression vector; Spec <sup>R</sup>	Novagen
pDSW206	Promoter down mutations in -35 and -10 of pTrc99a; Amp <sup>R</sup>	(9)
pET23/42- <i>mlaA-His</i>	Encodes full length MlaA with C-terminal His8 tag; Amp <sup>R</sup> (p- <i>mlaA-His</i> )	(2)
pET23/42- <i>dmlaA-His</i>	Encodes delipidated version of MlaA (a.a. 19-250) with N-terminal PelB signal peptide (for periplasmic localization) and C-terminal His8 tag; Amp <sup>R</sup> (p- <i>dmlaA-His</i> )	(2)
pCDF- <i>mlaA-His</i>	Encodes full length MlaA with C-terminal His8 tag; Spec <sup>R</sup>	This study
pCDF- <i>dmlaA-His</i>	Encodes delipidated version of MlaA (a.a. 19-250) with N-terminal PelB signal peptide (for periplasmic localization) and C-terminal His8 tag; Spec <sup>R</sup>	This study
pET22b(+) <i>dmlaA-His</i>	Encodes delipidated version of MlaA (a.a. 19-250) with N-terminal PelB signal peptide and C-terminal His6 tag; Amp <sup>R</sup>	(2)
pACYC184ompC	Encodes full length OmpC under its native promoter; Cam <sup>R</sup>	(2)
pDSW206ompC	Encodes full length OmpC inducible by <i>lacI</i> promoter; Amp <sup>R</sup>	This study

**Table S3. Primers used in this study.**

<b>Primers</b>	<b>Sequence (5' to 3')*</b>
ompC_D7B FP	GAAGTTACAACAA <u>ATAGGGCAACAAATTAGATCTGTACG</u> G
ompC_D7B RP	GATCTAATTGTTGCC <u>CTATTGTTGTAACCTCAGCAGCG</u>
ompC_G8B FP	GAAGTTACAACAA <u>AGACTAGAACAAATTAGATCTGTACG</u> G
ompC_G8B RP	GATCTAATTGTT <u>CTAGTCTTGTTGTAACCTTAGCAGCG</u>
ompC_F40B FP	CCTACATGCGTCT <u>GGCTAGAAAGGTGAAACTCAGG</u>
ompC_F40B RP	GTTCACCTT <u>CTAGCCAAGACGCATGTAGGTCTGG</u>
ompC_L50B FP	G TT ACT GAC CAG <u>TAGACC GGT TAC GGC CAG TG</u>
ompC_L50B RP	GCC GTA ACC GGT <u>CTACTG GTC AGT AAC CTG AGT TTC</u>
ompC_Y53B FP	CCAGCTGACCGG <u>TTAGGGCCAGTGGGAATATC</u>
ompC_Y53B RP	TCCC ACTGGC <u>CCCTAACCGGT CAGCTGGTCAGTAAC</u>
ompC_L80B FP	GCA TTC GCA GG <u>TAGAAA TTC CAG GAT GTG GG</u>
ompC_L80B RP	CATCCTGGA <u>ATTCTAACCTGCGAATGCCACAC</u>
ompC_K81B FP	CATT CGCAGG <u>TCTGTAGTCCAGGATGTGGGTT</u>
ompC_K81B RP	CACATCCTGGA <u>ACTACAGACCTGCGAATGCCACAC</u>
ompC_F82B FP	GGCATT CGCAGG <u>TCTGAAATAGCAGGATGTGGGTT</u>
ompC_F82B RP	GTCGAAAGA <u>ACCCACATCCTGCTATT CAGACCTGC</u>
ompC_Q83B FP	GGTCTGAA <u>ATTCTAGGATGTGGGTTCTTCGAC</u>
ompC_Q83B RP	AGAACCCAC <u>ATCCTAGAATTTCAGACCTGCG</u>
ompC_G86B FP	TTC CAG GAT GT <u>TAGTCT TTC GAC TAC GGT CGT AAC</u>
ompC_G86B RP	GTAGTCGAA <u>AGACTACACATCCTGGAATT CAGACCTGC</u>
ompC_F88B FP	GATGTGGGTT <u>CTTAGGACTACGGTCGTA ACTACGG</u>
ompC_F88B RP	ACGACCGT <u>AGTCCTAACGAAACCCACATCCTG G</u>
ompC_Y90B FP	GGTTCTTCG <u>ACTAGGGTCGTA ACTACGGCG</u>
ompC_Y90B RP	GTAGTTACGAC <u>CC TAGTCGAAAGAACCCACATCCTG</u>
ompC_A129B FP	GGTAACGG <u>CTCTAGACCTACCGTAACACTGAC</u>
ompC_A129B RP	GTTACGGT <u>AGGTCTAGAACGCCGTTACACGCTG</u>
ompC_Y131B FP	CGGCTTC <u>CGCAGCCTAGCGTAACACTGACTTCTTC</u>
ompC_Y131B RP	GTCAGTGT <u>TACGCTAGGT CGGAAGCCGTTACC</u>
ompC_N133B FP	GCGACCTACC <u>CGTTAGACTGACTTCTCGGTCTG</u>
ompC_N133B RP	GAAGAAC <u>GTCACTAACGGTAGGT CGCGAAGCC</u>
ompC_G138B FP	CACTGACTT <u>CTTCTAGCTGGT GACGGCCTGAAC TTGC</u>
ompC_G138B RP	GGCCGT <u>CAACCAGCTAGAACAGTCAGTGTACGG</u>
ompC_L143B FP	CTGGTT <u>GACGGCTAGAACTTGCTGTT CAGTAC</u>
ompC_L143B RP	CAGCAAAGT <u>TTCTAGCCGTCAACCAGACCGAAG</u>
ompC_Y149B FP	CTTGCT <u>GTT CAGTAGCAGGGT AAAAACGGCAAC</u>
ompC_Y149B RP	GTTTTAC <u>CCCTGCTACTGAACAGCAAAGTT CAGGCCG</u>
ompC_G151B FP	GTTCAGTAC <u>CCAGTAGAACAAACGGCAACCCATCTGGT</u>
ompC_G151B RP	GTTGCCGTT <u>TTCTACTGGTACTGAACAGCAAAGTT</u>
ompC_Q266B FP	GTTGCT <u>CACTAGTT CGACTTCGGTCTCGTC</u>
ompC_Q266B RP	CCGAAGTC <u>GAACTAGTACTGAGCAACAGCTTCG</u>
ompC_F267B FP	GCTCAGTAC <u>CACTAGGACTTCGGTCTCGTC</u>

ompC_F267B RP	CAGACCGAAGTC <u>CTACTGGTACTGAGCAACAGC</u>
ompC_L271B FP	GTTCGACTCGG <u>TAGCGTCCGTCCCTGGCTTAC</u>
ompC_L271B RP	CAGGGACGGACG <u>CTAACCGAAGTCGAAC</u> TTGGTAC
ompC_P273B FP	CTTCGGTCTCGG <u>TTAGTCCCTGGCTTAC</u> CTGCAG
ompC_P273B RP	GTAAGCCAGGG <u>ACTAACGCAGACCGAAGTCGAAC</u> TTGG
ompC_L275B FP	GCGTCCGTC <u>CTAGGCTTAC</u> CTGCAGTCTAAAG
ompC_L275B RP	GCAGGTAAGC <u>CTAGGACGGACGCAGACCGAAG</u>
ompC_A302B FP	GTGATGTTGG <u>TTAGACCTACTACTCAAC</u> AAAAACATGT
ompC_A302B RP	CC GAAGTAGTAGGT <u>CTAACCAACATCAACAT</u> ATTCAGGATA
ompC_Y304B FP	TC GTTGGTGCTAC <u>CTAGTACTTC</u> AACAAAAACATGTCC
ompC_Y304B RP	TTTGTGAAGT <u>ACTAGGTAGCACC</u> AACATCAACATATTTC
ompC_M310B FP	AG CTTCAACAAAA <u>ACTAGTCCACCTACGTTGACTAC</u> AAAATC
ompC_M310B RP	CAACGTAGGTGG <u>ACTAGTTTTGTTGAAGT</u> AGTAGG
ompC_L340B FP	AACATCGT <u>AGCTTAGGGCTGGTTACCAG</u> TT
ompC_L340B RP	GTA AAC CAG ACC <u>CTAAC</u> GC TAC GAT GTT ATC AGT GTT
ompC_NS_N5	G ATGAAAGTTAAAGTACTGTCCCTCCTGGTCCCAGCTCTGC
ompC_NS_C3	<u>GTGTAG</u> <u>GCTGGAGCTGCTTC</u> TTAGAA <u>CTGGTAAACCAGACCCAGAGCTACGATGTT</u> ATCA
ompC_NS_N5_C	<u>CATATG</u> <u>AA TATCCTCCTAG</u> ATGAAAGTTAAAGTACTGTCCCTCCTG
ompC_NS_C3_C	TTAGAA <u>CTGGTAAACCAGACCCAG</u>
mlaA_Q126A FP	GAACCCGAA <u>ACTGGCGCGGACTGAA</u> ACCTACCGC
mlaA_Q126A RP	GGTCAGTC <u>CCCGGCCAGTT</u> CGGGTTCGCCATC
mlaA_H131A FP	GGACTGAAC <u>CTGCGCGCT</u> TCGGTAGTACGCTTG
mlaA_H131A RP	CTACCGAAG <u>CGCGCAGGTT</u> CACTCCGGTGCAG
mlaA_F152A FP	GTTCAGT <u>TAACGGCGTACGGTAGCTTC</u> CACGCTG
mlaA_F152A RP	GAAGCTACCGT <u>ACGCCGGTAA</u> CTGAACGTAAGG
mlaA_S155A FP	CCGTTCTACGGT <u>CGCTCACGCTGCGT</u> GATGAC
mlaA_S155A RP	CGCAGCGTGAAC <u>CGCACC</u> GTAGAACCGTAACTG
mlaA_D160A FP	TTCACGCT <u>CGTGC</u> GGACGGTGGTATGGCG
mlaA_D160A RP	ATCACCA <u>CCGTCCGCACG</u> CAGCGTGAAGCTACC
mlaA_D161A FP	CGCT <u>CGTGA</u> T <u>CGGGTGGT</u> GATATGGCGGATG
mlaA_D161A RP	CATATCACC <u>ACCCG</u> CATCACGCA <u>CGTGA</u> AGC
mlaA_D164A FP	GATGACGGTGGT <u>CGCATGGCGG</u> ATGGTTTTAC
mlaA_D164A RP	ACCATCCGCC <u>CATCG</u> CACCACCGT <u>CATCACG</u> CAG
mlaA_D167A FP	GACGGTGGT <u>GATATGGCGG</u> CGGGTTTTACCG
mlaA_D167A RP	AAGAACCGGGTAAA <u>ACCCG</u> CCATATCACC
mlaA_V182A FP	GCCGATGT <u>CTCGGGTAA</u> ATGGACGCTTGAAG
mlaA_V182A RP	CGTCCATT <u>ACCCG</u> CAGACATCGGCCAGGT <u>CAG</u>

mlaA_E188A FP	AAATGGACGCTT <u>CGGGG</u> ATCGAAACCCGCGC
mlaA_E188A RP	GTTTCGAT <u>CCCC</u> CGCAAGCGTCCATTACCCAC
mlaA_T192A FP	GAAGGGATCGAAG <u>CGCG</u> CTCAGCTGCTG
mlaA_T192A RP	CTGAGCGCG <u>CGCT</u> CGATCCCTCAAGCGTC
mlaA_Q195A FP	GAAACCCGCG <u>CTGC</u> GCTGGATTCCGATGG
mlaA_Q195A RP	GAATCCAGCAG <u>CGC</u> CAGCGCGGTTCGATCCC
mlaA_N226A FP	GATTCATCGCT <u>CGGG</u> CGCGAACCTCAAACCG
mlaA_N226A RP	GAGTCGCCG <u>CGC</u> CAGCGATGAAATCATGACG
mlaA_D61R FP	GTCGCCTGGCG <u>TCG</u> CTATGTTCCGCAACCGGCG
mlaA_D61R RP	TTGCGGAACATAG <u>CG</u> ACGCCAGGCGACAGCGAC
mlaA_D160R FP	TTCACGCTGCGT <u>CGC</u> GACGGTGGTGATATGGCG
mlaA_D160R RP	ATCACCA <u>CCGT</u> CGCAGCAGCGTGAAGCTACC
mlaA_D161R FP	CGCTGCGT <u>GATCG</u> CGGTGGTGATATGGCGGATG
mlaA_D161R RP	CATATCACCACCG <u>CG</u> GATCACGCAGCGTGAAGC
mlaA_D164R FP	GATGACGGTGGT <u>CGC</u> ATGGCGGATGGTTTTAC
mlaA_D164R RP	ACCATCCGCCAT <u>CG</u> GACCACCGTCATCACGCAG
mlaA_D167R FP	GACGGTGGT <u>GATATGGCG</u> CGGGTTTTACCG
mlaA_D167R RP	AAGAACCGGGTAAAAACCG <u>CG</u> CGCCATATCACC
mlaA_E188R FP	AAATGGACGCTT <u>CG</u> CGGATCGAAACCCGCGC
mlaA_E188R RP	GTTTCGAT <u>CCC</u> CGCAAGCGTCCATTACCCAC
mlaA_D160R D161R FP	TTCACGCTGCGT <u>CGCC</u> CGGTGGTGATATGGCG
mlaA_D160R D161R RP	ATCACCA <u>CCG</u> CGGCACGCAGCGTGAAGCTACC
mlaA_D160R D164R FP	TTCACGCTGCGT <u>CGC</u> GACGGTGGT <u>CG</u> CATG GCG
mlaA_D160R D164R RP	<u>GCG</u> ACCACCG <u>CG</u> CGACGCAGCGTGAAGCTACC
mlaA_D161R D164R FP	CGCTGCGT <u>GATCG</u> CGGTGGT <u>CG</u> CATGGCGGATG
mlaA_D161R D164R RP	CATGCGACCACCG <u>CG</u> GATCACGCAGCGTGAAGC
mlaA_D161R D167R FP	CGCTGCGT <u>GATCG</u> CGGTGGT <u>GATATGGCG</u> CG
mlaA_D161R D167R RP	CATATCACCACCG <u>CG</u> GATCACGCAGCGTGAAGC
mlaA_D164R D167R FP	GATGACGGTGGT <u>CG</u> CATG <u>GCG</u> CGGGTTTTAC
mlaA_D164R D167R RP	<u>ACCG</u> CGGCCAT <u>CG</u> GACCACCGTCATCACGCAG
3D3R FP SDM	CTTCACGCTGCGT <u>CGCC</u> CGGTGGT <u>CG</u> CG
3D3R RP SDM	ATGGCGGATGGTTTTAC
F <sup>152</sup> YGSF_to_5A FP	AACCATCCGCCAT <u>CG</u> GACCACCG <u>CG</u> CGACGCAGCGTGA
F <sup>152</sup> YGSF_to_5A RP	AGCTACCG
GVGYG_3G3A_FP	GTTCA <u>GGTACCG</u> GGCGGGCGGCGACGCTGCGTGATG
GVGYG_3G3A_RP	ACGGTGG
GVGYG_3G3P_FP	CATCACGCAGCGT <u>CGCC</u> CGCC <u>CG</u> CCGGTA <u>ACTG</u> AAC
	GTAAGG
	CTTGGTCATTAT <u>CGGGTGGCGT</u> AT <u>CGC</u> CTTACGTTAGTT
	ACCG
	CTGAACGTAAGG <u>CGC</u> CATACGCCACCG <u>CG</u> CATAATGACCAAG
	CGTAC
	CTTGGTCATTAT <u>CCTGTGC</u> CTTAT <u>CCT</u> CCTTACGTTAGTT
	ACCG

GVGYG_3G3P_RP	CTGAACGTAAGGAGGATAAGGCACAGGATAATGACCAAG CGTAC
mlaA_P151A FP	TACGTTCAGTTAGCGTTCTACGGTAGCTCACGCTG
mlaA_P151A RP	GCTACCGTAGAACGCTAACTGAACGTAAGGCC
Y <sup>147</sup> VQL_to_4A FP	GGTTATGGCCTCGGGCGGGCGCCGTCTACGGTAGCT TCAC
Y <sup>147</sup> VQL_to_4A RP	CTACCGTAGAACGGCGCCGCCGCCAGGCCATAACCCA CGCC
mlaA_M39C FP	TTCAACCGCACCTGCTACAACCTCAACTCAATG
mlaA_M39C RP	AGTTGAAGTTGTA <u>CAGGTGCGGTTGAACCC</u> TTCAATG
mlaA_Y40C FP	CAACCGCACCATG <u>TGCAACTCAACTCAATG</u>
mlaA_Y40C RP	AGTTGAAGTT <u>GCACATGGTGC</u> GGTTGAACCC
mlaA_F42C FP	ACCATGTACA <u>ACTGCAACTCAATGTATTAGAC</u>
mlaA_F42C RP	TACATTGAAGTT <u>GCAGTTG</u> TACATGGTGC
mlaA_N43C FP	CATGTACA <u>ACTCTG</u> CTTCAATGTATTAGACCCG
mlaA_N43C RP	TAATACATTGA <u>AGCAGAAGTTGTACATGGTGC</u> GG
mlaA_D48C FP	CTTCAATGTATTAT <u>GCCC</u> GTATATTGTCGACC
mlaA_D48C RP	ACAATATA <u>CGGG</u> CATAATACATTGAAGTTGAAG
mlaA_D61C FP	GTCGCCTGGCG <u>TGCTATG</u> TCGCAACC
mlaA_D61C RP	TTGCGGAACATAG <u>CAACGCCAGGCACAGCGAC</u>
mlaA_F74C FP	GTTTGAGCA <u>ACTGC</u> ACTGGCAACCTGAAGAAC
mlaA_F74C RP	CAAGGTTGCC <u>AGTGC</u> AGTTGCTCAAACC
mlaA_L78C FP	CTTACTGGCA <u>ACTGCG</u> AAGAACCTGCGGTGATGG
mlaA_L78C RP	CGCAGGTTCTC <u>CGCAGT</u> GTGCCAGTAAAGTTGCTCAAAC
mlaA_M84C FP	GAACCTGC <u>GGTGTG</u> CGTTAACTACTTCTGCAGG
mlaA_M84C RP	GAAGTAGTTAAC <u>GCACACCC</u> CAGGTTCTCAAGG
mlaA_N86C FP	GCGGTGATGGTT <u>TGCTACTT</u> CTGCAGGGCGA
mlaA_N86C RP	CTGCAAGAAGT <u>AGCAAACCATCACCGCAGGTTCTC</u>
mlaA_D92C FP	TAACTACTCTTG <u>CAGGGCTGCC</u> CTTATCAGGGG
mlaA_D92C RP	GACCATCCC <u>CTGATAAGGGCAGCC</u> CTGCAAGAAG
mlaA_T107C FP	CGCTTTTC <u>CTGAACTGC</u> ATTGGGGATGGCGG
mlaA_T107C RP	CATCCCCAAA <u>ATGCAGTT</u> CAGGAAAAAGCGGGTAAAGTG
mlaA_F114C FP	G
mlaA_F114C RP	GGGATGGCGG <u>TTGCATTGATGTTGCAGGGATG</u>
mlaA_Q126C FP	GCAACATCA <u>ATGCAACCGCCC</u> ATCCCCAAAATGG
mlaA_Q126C RP	GAACCCGAA <u>ACTGTGCC</u> GGACTGAACCTCACCGC
mlaA_T136C FP	GGTCAGT <u>CCGGC</u> ACAGTT <u>CGGGTT</u> CGCCATC
mlaA_T136C RP	CGCTTC <u>CGGTAGTTGC</u> CTGGTCATTATGGCGT
mlaA_Y144C FP	ATAATGACCA <u>AGGCA</u> ACTACCGAAGCGGTGAGG
mlaA_Y144C RP	ATGGCGTGGG <u>TTGC</u> GGGC <u>CTTACGTT</u> CAGTTACC
mlaA_Q149C FP	GAACGTAAGGCC <u>CGCAACCC</u> ACGCCATAATGAC
mlaA_Q149C RP	GGCCTTACGTT <u>GCTTACCG</u> TTCTACGGTAGC
mlaA_L150C FP	GTAGAACGGTA <u>AGCAAA</u> CGTAAGGCCATAACC
mlaA_L150C RP	TTACGTT <u>CAGTGCCC</u> GTCTACGGTAGCTC
	ACCGTAGAACGG <u>GC</u> ACTGAACGTAAGGCC

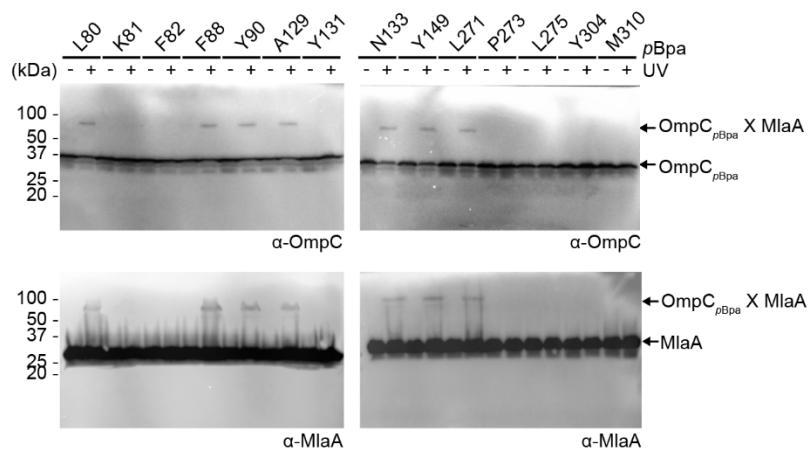
mlaA_T157C FP	CTACGGTAGCTTCTGCCTGCGTGATGACGGTGG
mlaA_T157C RP	TCATCACGCAG <u>GC</u> AGAACGCTACCGTAGAACGG
mlaA_D161C FP	CGCTGCGTGATT <u>GC</u> GGTGGTGATATGGCGGATG
mlaA_D161C RP	CATATCACCACCG <u>CA</u> ATCACGCAGCGTGAAAGC
mlaA_D167C FP	GACGGTGGTGAT <u>GG</u> CGTGCGGTTTACCCG
mlaA_D167C RP	AAGAACCGGGTAAAAACCG <u>CAC</u> GCCATATCACC
mlaA_K184C FP	CCGATGTCTGTGGGTT <u>TG</u> CTGGACGCTTGAAG
mlaA_K184C RP	GATCCCTTCAAGCGTCC <u>AG</u> CAACCCACAGAC
mlaA_E188C FP	AAATGGACGCTT <u>GC</u> GGGATCGAAACCCGCGC
mlaA_E188C RP	GTTCGATCCC <u>G</u> AAAGCGTCCATTACCCAC
mlaA_T192C FP	GAAGGGATCGAAT <u>GC</u> CGCCTCAGCTGCTG
mlaA_T192C RP	CTGAGCGCGG <u>C</u> ATTGATCCCTCAAGCGTC
mlaA_R193C FP	GGGATCGAAAC <u>CTG</u> CGCTCAGCTGCTGGATTCC
mlaA_R193C RP	CAGCAGCTGAG <u>CG</u> CAGGTTCGATCCCTCAAGC
mlaA_Q195C FP	GAAACCCGCG <u>TG</u> CCTGCTGGATTCCGATGG
mlaA_Q195C RP	GAATCCAGCAG <u>GC</u> AAAGCGCGGGTTCGATCCC
mlaA_R204C FP	GATTCCGATGGTCTGCTG <u>CC</u> AGTCGTCCGATCC
mlaA_R204C RP	AATATAAGGATCGGAC <u>G</u> ACTGG <u>C</u> ACAGCAGACCATC
mlaA_P209C FP	CAGTCGTCCGAT <u>TG</u> CTATATTATGGTGC <u>CG</u> GAAG
mlaA_P209C RP	GCACCATAATAT <u>AG</u> CAATCGGAC <u>G</u> ACTGAC <u>GC</u> CAG
mlaA_R220C FP	GCGAAGCGTACTTCC <u>AGT</u> GC <u>CC</u> CATGATT <u>TC</u> CATC
mlaA_R220C RP	CATTAGCGATGAAATCAT <u>GG</u> <u>CA</u> CTGGAA <u>GT</u> AC
mlaA_N226C FP	GATTCATCGCTT <u>GC</u> GGCG <u>CG</u> GA <u>CT</u> CAAACCG
mlaA_N226C RP	GAGTCGCCG <u>CC</u> <u>G</u> CAAGCGATGAA <u>AT</u> CATGACG
mlaA_G227C FP	TTCATCGCTAAT <u>TG</u> CGG <u>CG</u> GA <u>CT</u> CAAACCGCAG
mlaA_G227C RP	GT <u>TTGAG</u> TT <u>CG</u> CC <u>GC</u> CAATTAGCGATGAA <u>AT</u> CATG
pCDFDuet-1_pelB_mlaA_Chis NdeI_Fwd	CGCT <u>CAT</u> AT <u>GAA</u> ATAC <u>CTG</u> CTGCC <u>ACCG</u> CTGCTG
pCDFDuet-1_FL_mlaA_Chis NdeI_Fwd	CGCT <u>CAT</u> AT <u>GAA</u> GT <u>CTCG</u> C <u>CTG</u> T <u>CG</u>
pCDFDuet-1_mlaA_AvrII Rev	AGAT <u>CCTAGG</u> T <u>CA</u> GTGGTGG <u>GTGGTGGTGGT</u> G <u>CTG</u> GAG
pDSW206_ompC_NcoI Fwd	CGAT <u>CCATGG</u> CAAA <u>AGT</u> AA <u>AGT</u> ACT <u>GT</u> CC <u>CT</u> CC
pDSW206_ompC_HindIII Rev	CG <u>CTAAG</u> CT <u>TT</u> AG <u>AA</u> CT <u>GG</u> TA <u>AC</u> CA <u>CC</u> AG <u>AC</u> CC <u>AG</u> AGC

\* sites for mutagenesis or restriction enzyme cleavage, where relevant, are underlined.

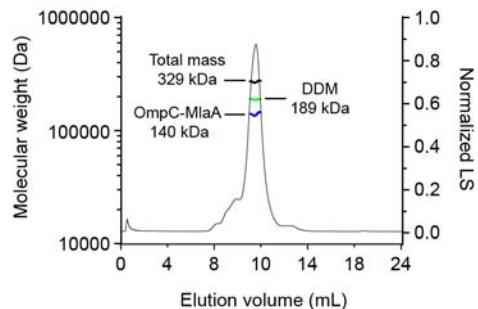
**Table S4. Summary of all-atom molecular simulations: system compositions and simulation times**

Protein Configuration	Lipids	Water and Ions	Simulation time (# of simulations x ns)
MlaA	N/A	9439 H <sub>2</sub> O 29 K <sup>+</sup> 19 Cl <sup>-</sup>	1 x 500
MlaA	272 DMPE	11734 H <sub>2</sub> O 42 K <sup>+</sup> 32 Cl <sup>-</sup>	1 x 500
OmpC trimer MlaA (ClusPro model) in orientation 1	980 DMPE	36113 H <sub>2</sub> O 98 K <sup>+</sup> 98 Cl <sup>-</sup>	1 x 500 1 x 320 1 x 130
OmpC trimer MlaA (ClusPro model) in orientation 2	980 DMPE	36113 H <sub>2</sub> O 98 K <sup>+</sup> 98 Cl <sup>-</sup>	1 x 500 1 x 500

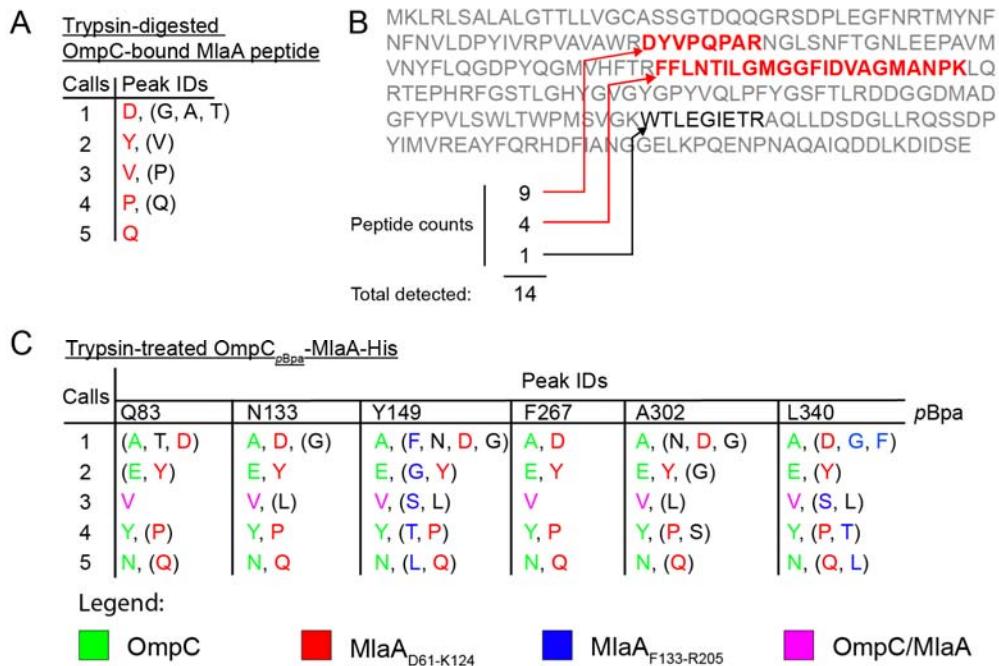
## Supplementary Figures



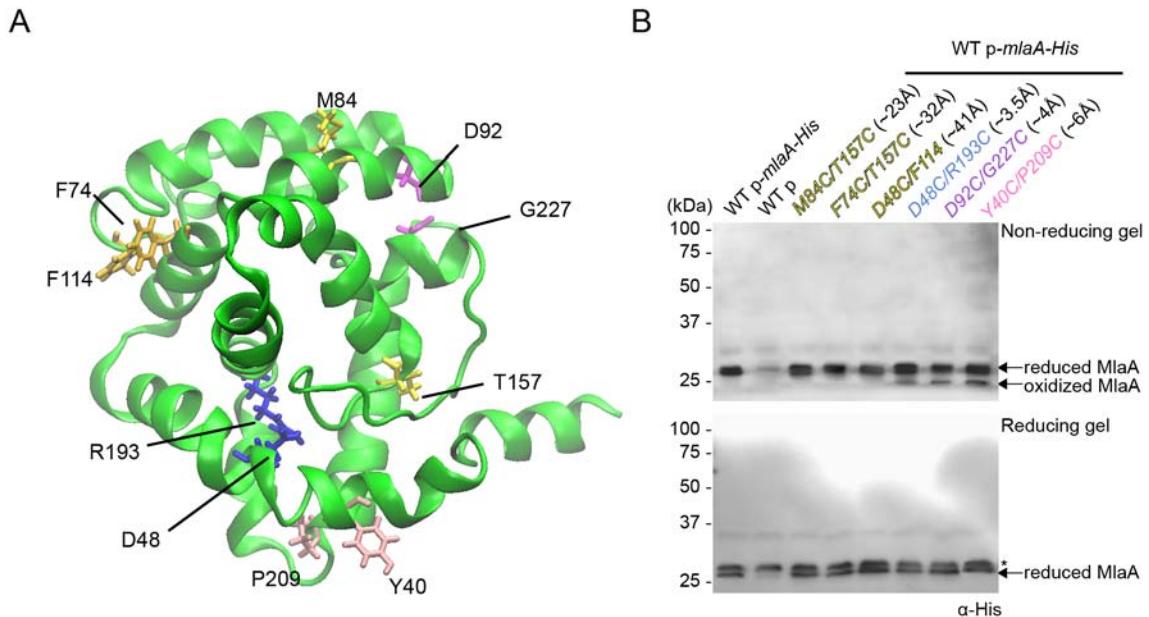
**Figure S1.** Seven more positions at the dimeric interface of the OmpC trimer contact MlaA. Immunoblots showing UV-dependent formation of crosslinks between OmpC and MlaA in  $\Delta$ ompC cells expressing OmpC substituted with pBpa at indicated positions, selected as part of the localized search.



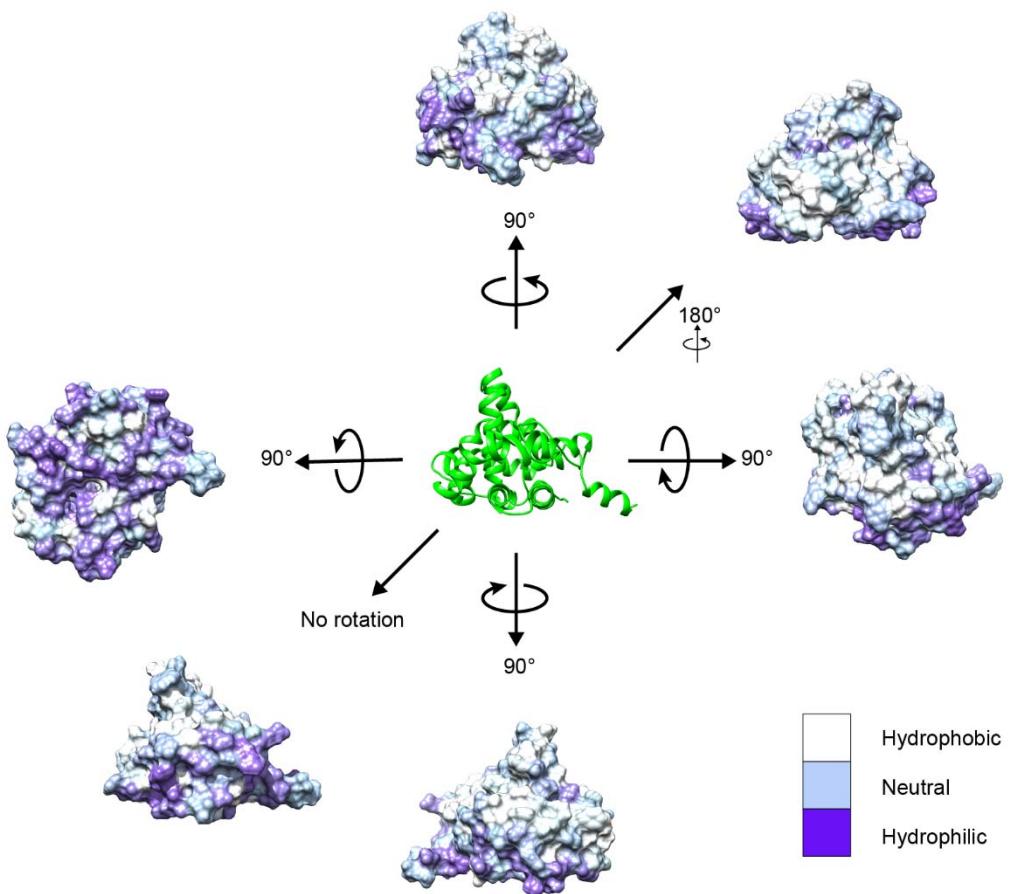
**Figure S2.** SEC-MALS analysis of the OmpC-MlaA complex revealing that one copy of MlaA binds to the OmpC trimer. As indicated, total molecular mass: 329 ( $\pm$  0.4%) kDa; protein molecular mass: 140 ( $\pm$  0.4%) kDa (observed), 148 kDa (predicted, OmpC<sub>3</sub>MlaA); modifier (DDM) molecular mass: 189 ( $\pm$  0.8%) kDa. Numbers stated after  $\pm$  show statistical consistency of analysis.



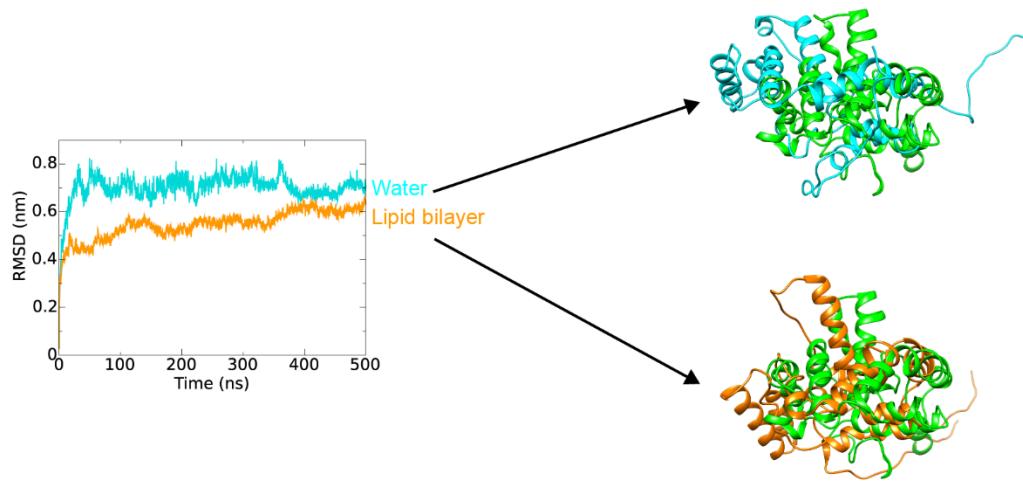
**Figure S3.** N-terminal sequencing and MS/MS analyses identified two specific MlaA peptides binding to OmpC. (A) First five residue calls for the MlaA peptide remaining bound to OmpC after trypsin digestion (see Fig. 2A) revealed that it starts with D<sup>61</sup>YVPQ of full-length MlaA protein. (B) MS/MS analysis of the MlaA peptide remaining bound to OmpC after trypsin digestion detected two MlaA fragments with high peptide counts (sequences colored red), suggesting that the OmpC-bound peptide has boundaries from D61 to K124. (C) First five residue calls for protein bands containing MlaA peptides crosslinked to OmpC<sub>pBpa</sub> (see Fig. 2B) revealed the presence of MlaA peptides starting with D<sup>61</sup>YVPQ and F<sup>133</sup>GSTL, along with OmpC N-terminus A<sup>21</sup>EVYN. Residue calls are assigned to the respective protein/peptide as denoted by the legend.



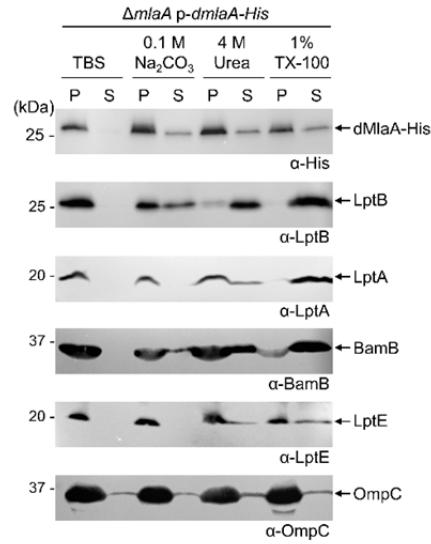
**Figure S4.** Residue pairs on MlaA predicted to contact each other based on coevolution analysis allow the formation of disulfide bonds when substituted with cysteines. (A) Cartoon representation of the MlaA structural model predicted based on residue-residue contacts inferred from co-evolution analysis of metagenomic sequence data prediction (GREMLIN, (10)), with strongly co-evolved residue pairs that are mutated to cysteines highlighted (same colored sticks). The figure was generated using the program PyMOL (12). (B) Immunoblots showing oxidized or reduced forms of indicated MlaA-His double cysteine variants expressed in wild-type cells from the pET23/42 vector (p). Samples were subjected to non-reducing (top) or reducing (bottom) SDS-PAGE prior to transfer. A protein that cross-reacted with the  $\alpha$ -His antibody is denoted with (\*). Distances between cysteine pairs in unit angstrom ( $\text{\AA}$ ), as measured in the model in (A), are indicated in parentheses.



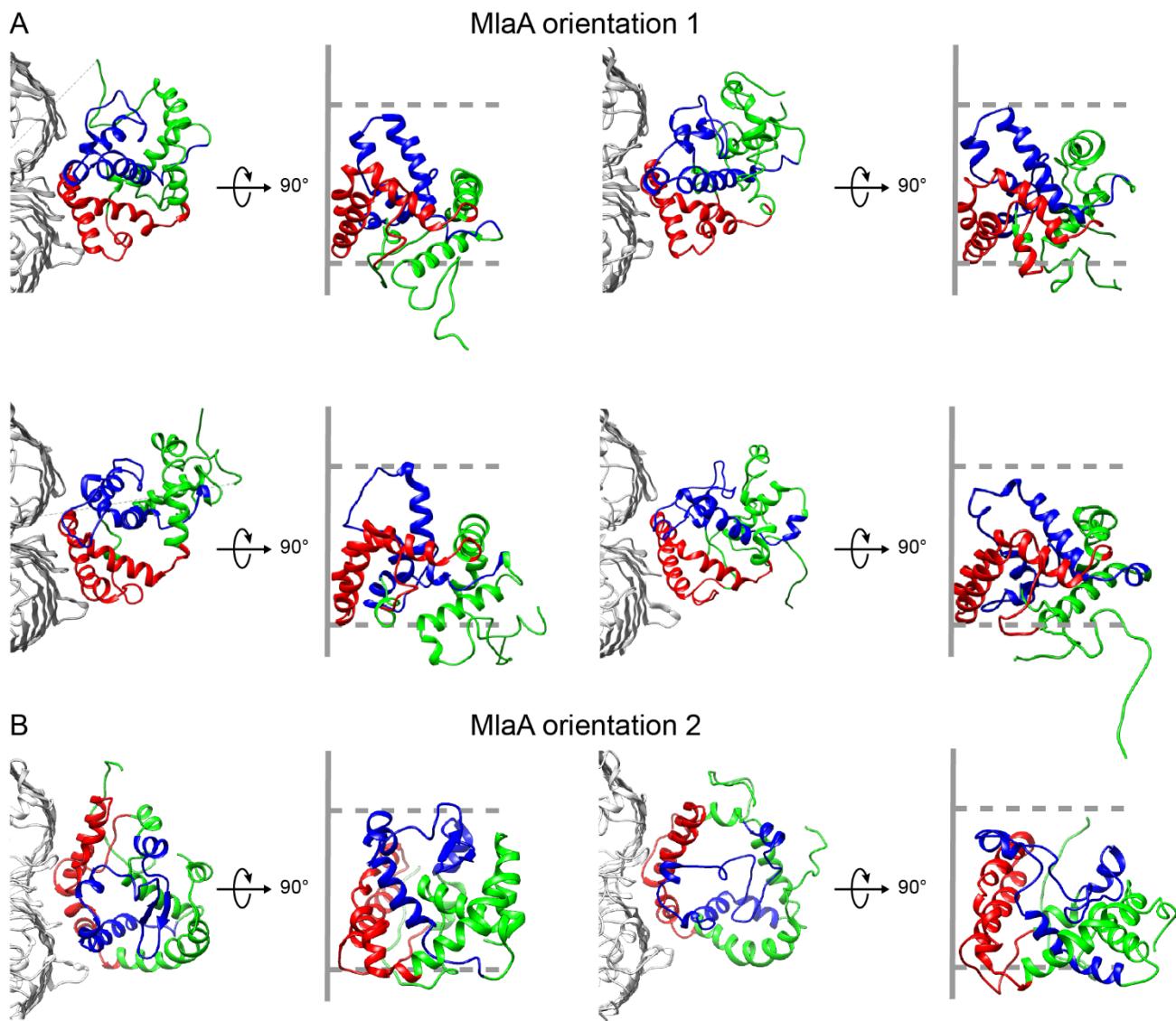
**Figure S5.** The surface of MlaA is mostly hydrophobic. Surface representation of the MlaA model (10) depicted in multiple orientations and colored based on amino acid hydrophobicity. Purple, light blue and white represent most hydrophilic to most hydrophobic amino acids based on the Kyte-Doolittle scale (11). The figures were generated using the program Chimera (13).



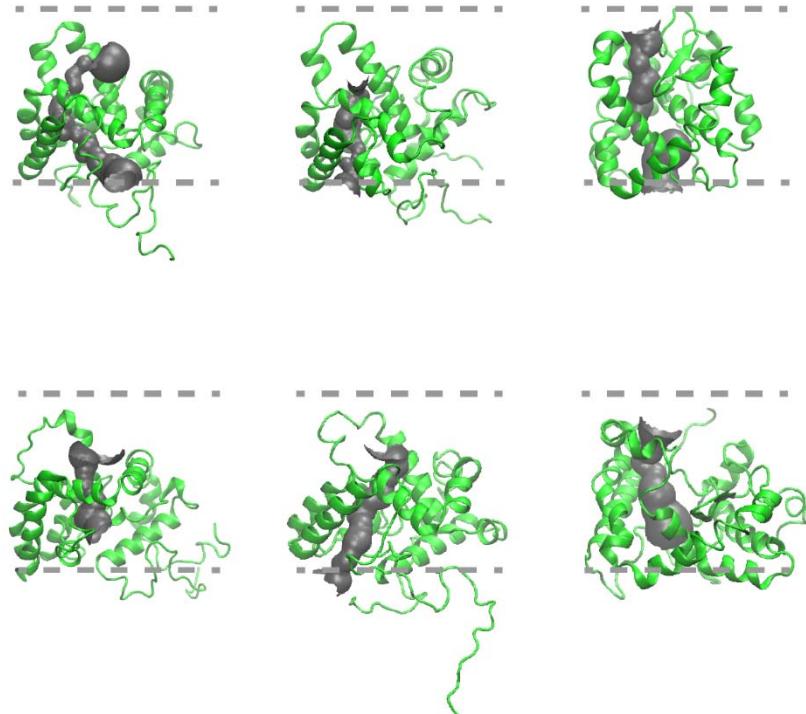
**Figure S6.** The MlaA structure modelled from co-evolution analysis (10) is more stable in the lipid bilayer. Averaged root-mean-square-deviation (RMSD) plots illustrating the changes of the backbone of MlaA models over the course of all-atomistic MD simulations, when placed in water (*cyan*) or in a lipid bilayer (*orange*). Superimpositions of the initial (*green*) and final structures for each simulation are shown on the right. The figures were generated using the program Chimera (13).



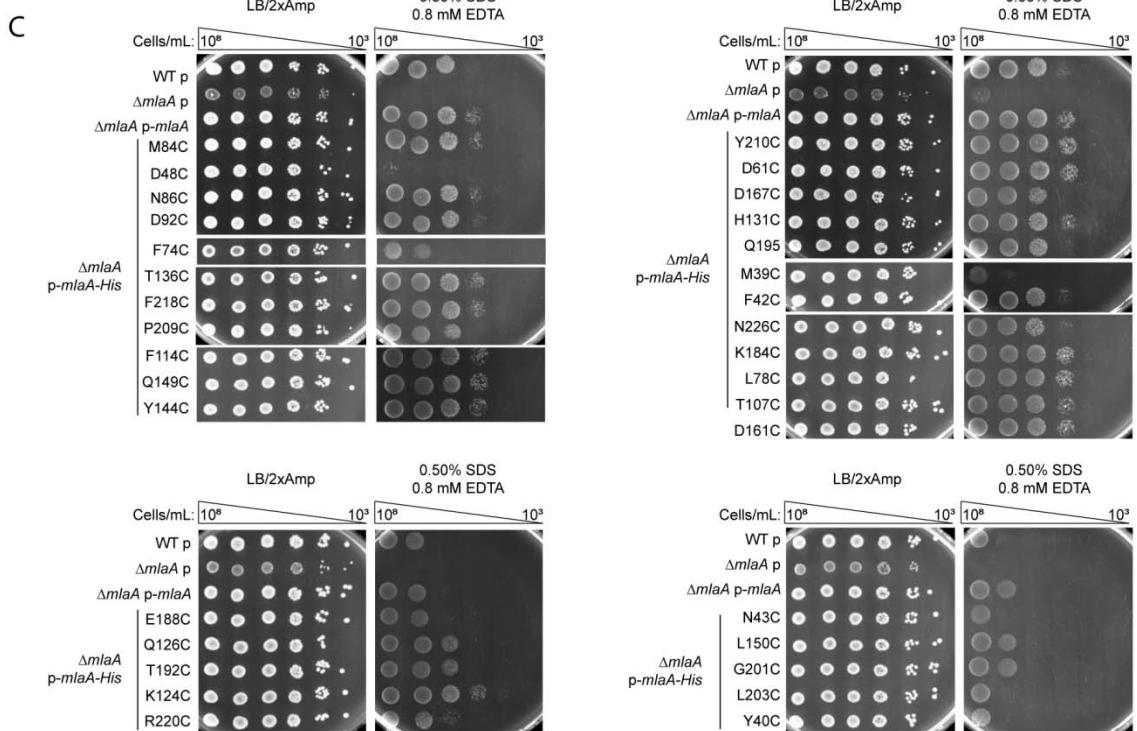
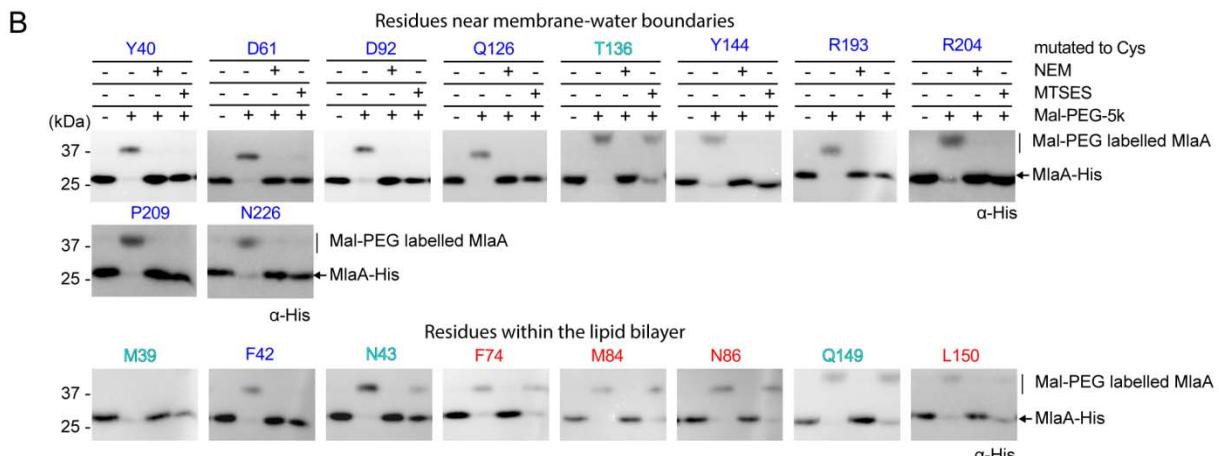
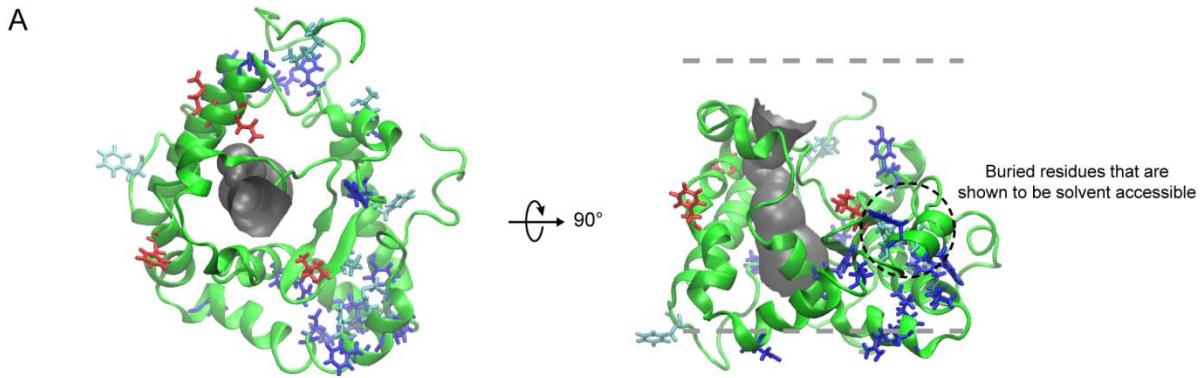
**Figure S7.** MlaA behaves like an integral membrane protein and is resistant to extraction from membranes under various conditions. Immunoblots showing extraction profiles of delipidated MlaA-His (dMlaA-His) from total membranes upon incubation with high pH (0.1 M Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>), chaotropic (4 M urea), or mild detergent (1% (v/v) TX-100) solutions for 1 hour. Samples were subjected to immunoblot analyses after fractionation (insoluble membrane pellet (P) and soluble (S) fractions) by centrifugation. Known peripheral membrane proteins (LptA and LptB), OM lipoproteins (BamB and LptE), and  $\beta$ -barrel proteins (OmpC) are used as controls. Even though both LptA and LptB are peripheral membrane proteins, they exhibit different membrane extraction profiles; while both proteins are easily extracted by 1% TX-100, LptA is more resistant to extraction by 4 M urea. The two OM lipoproteins also exhibit different membrane extraction profiles. Being a lipoprotein with its protein domain residing entirely in the periplasm, BamB appears to have an extraction profile similar to LptA. In contrast, LptE, which is embedded within the lumen of the LptD  $\beta$ -barrel domain, behaves like an integral membrane protein, such as OmpC, and is essentially not extracted from the membrane under the various conditions.



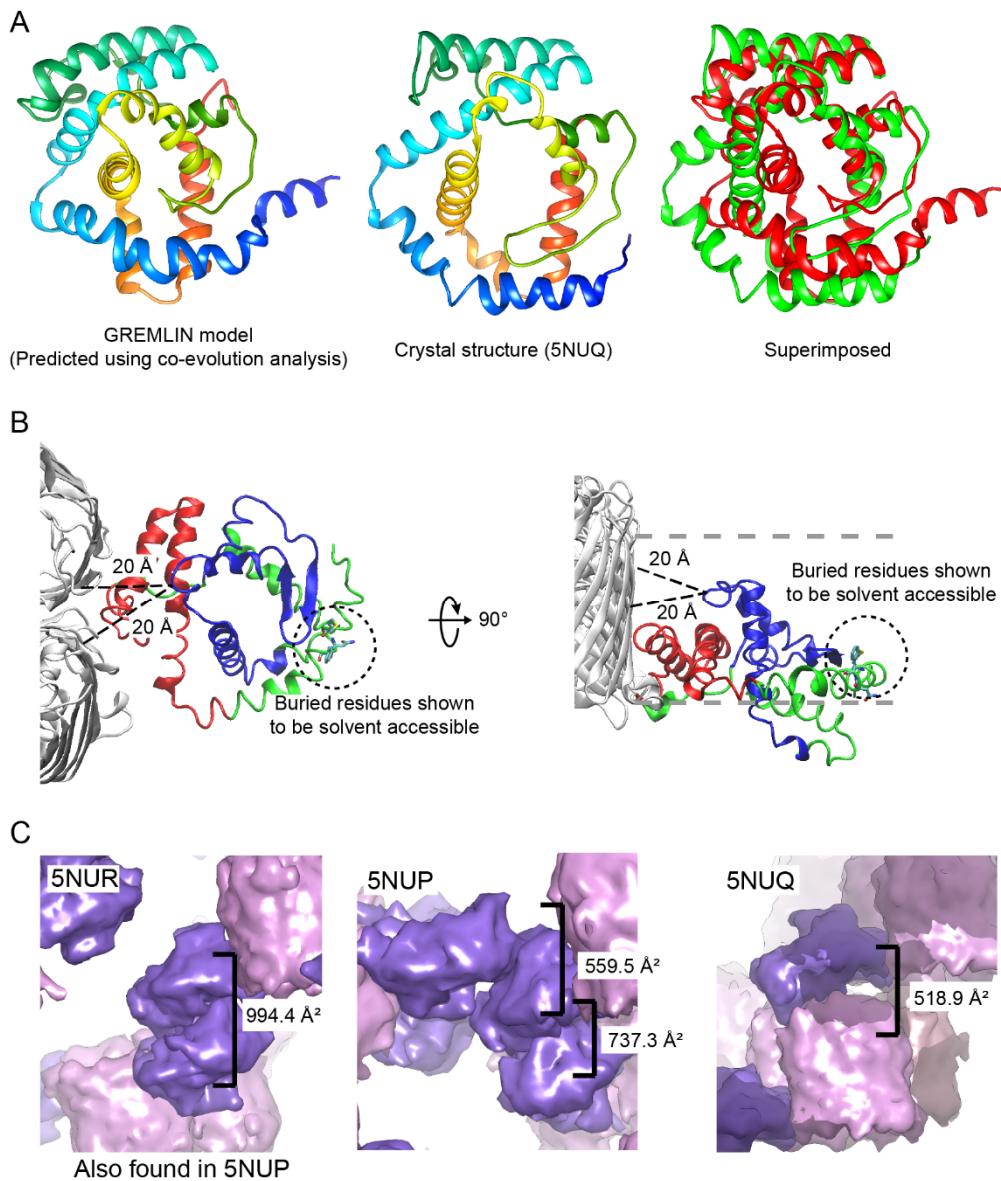
**Figure S8.** Six major clusters of all-atomistic MD simulated OmpC-MlaA structure depict how MlaA interacts with OmpC in two possible orientations in the OM bilayer. The bottom right model in (A) and (B) are reproduced as representative models in Figs. 3A and 3B. MlaA<sub>D61-K124</sub> and MlaA<sub>F133-R205</sub> peptides are highlighted in *red* and *blue*, respectively, as in Fig. 2D. The OM boundaries are indicated as *gray* dashed lines. The figures were generated using the program Chimera (13).



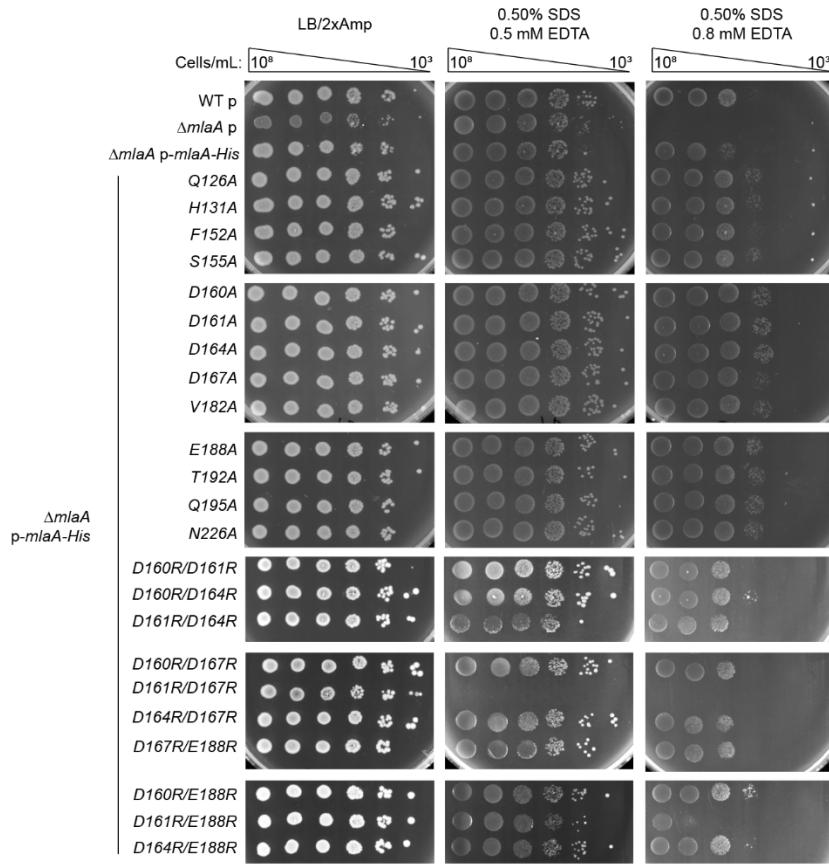
**Figure S9.** All six major clusters of MlaA structure from all-atomistic MD simulations of the OmpC-MlaA complex with putative hydrophilic channels depicted in *gray*. The bottom right model is reproduced in Fig. 4*A*. The OM boundaries are indicated as *gray* dashed lines. The figures were generated using the program VMD (14).



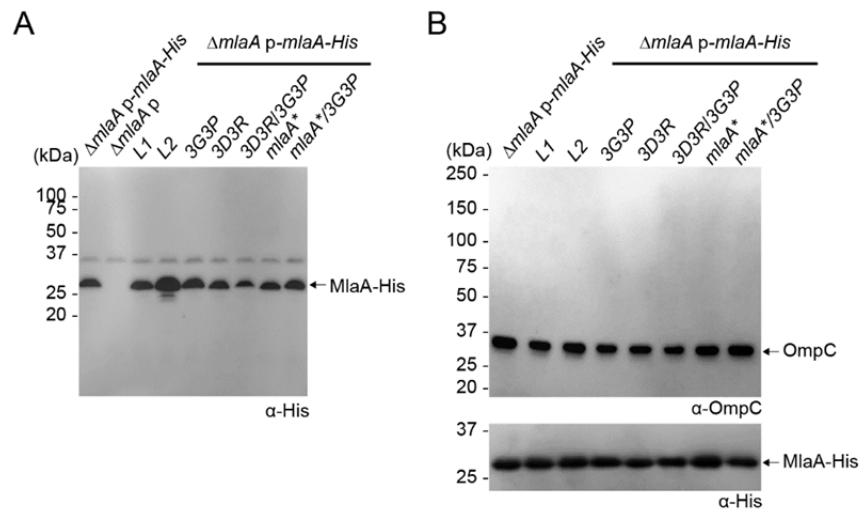
**Figure S10.** Substituted cysteine accessibility for residues in MlaA largely agrees with their predicted locations (near/at membrane-water boundaries or buried within the lipid bilayer). (A) A representative structure of MlaA from all-atomistic MD simulations with its putative channel depicted in gray. Non-channel residues that are fully, partially, or not solvent accessible, based on SCAM in (B), are highlighted in blue, cyan, and red, respectively. The figures were generated using the program VMD (14). (B) Immunoblots showing maleimide-polyethylene glycol (Mal-PEG) alkylation of MlaA variants containing channel-facing residues substituted with cysteine (as depicted in (A)) following labelling by membrane permeable *N*-ethylmaleimide (NEM) or impermeable (MTSES) reagents. Mal-PEG alkylated MlaA<sub>Cys</sub>-His variants show a ~5 kDa mass shift. Positions fully, partially, or not blocked by MTSES, which reflects the level of solvent accessibility, are highlighted in blue, cyan, or red, respectively. (C) Analysis of SDS/EDTA sensitivity of wild-type (WT) and  $\Delta mlaA$  strains producing indicated MlaA cysteine variants from the pET23/42 vector (p).



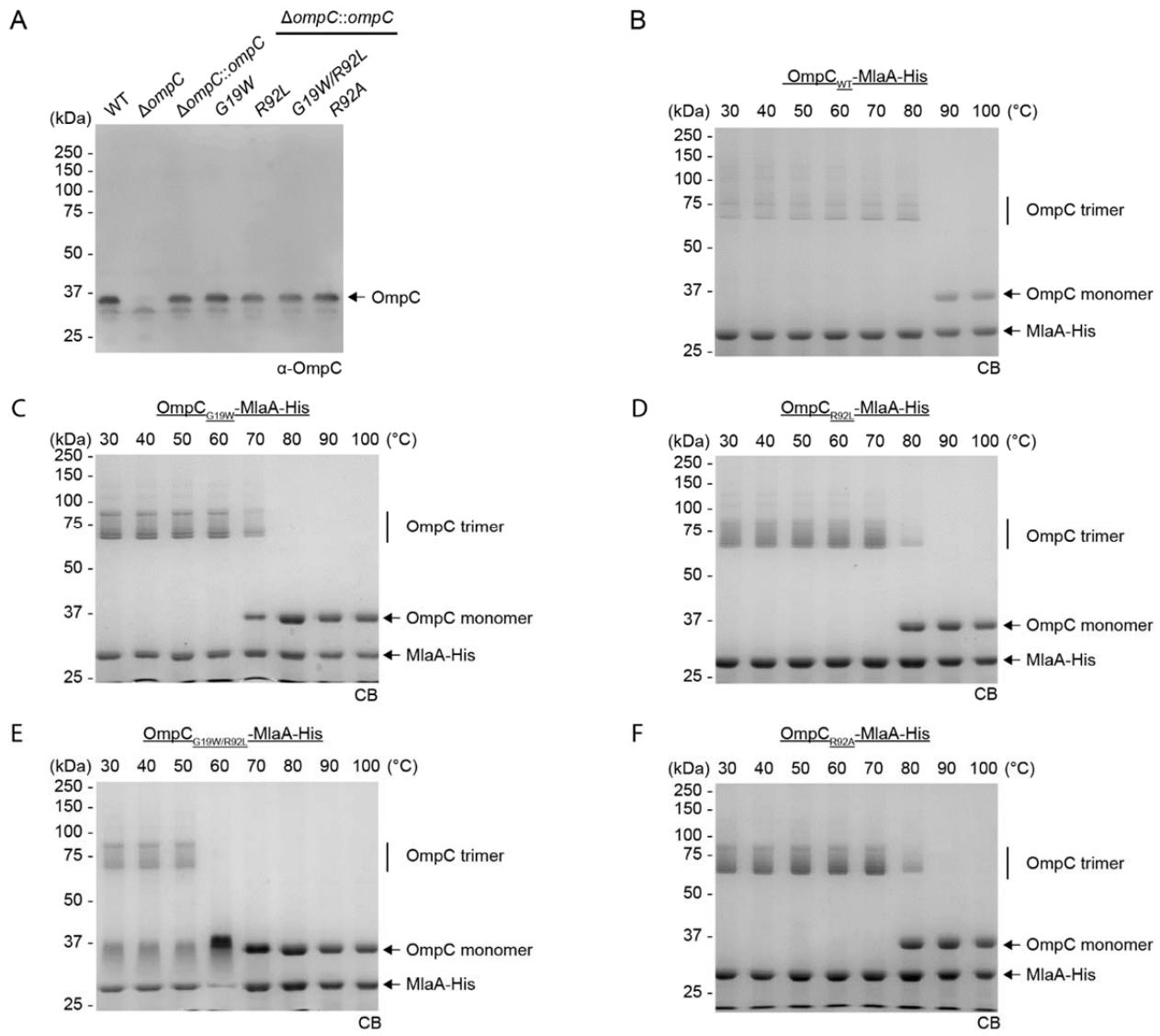
**Figure S11.** Brief analyses of the crystal structures of MlaA-porin complexes. (A) Side-by-side comparison of MlaA model predicted by co-evolution analysis (*left*) with the crystal structure of MlaA derived from the OmpF-MlaA complex (PDB ID: 5NUQ; *middle*). A superimposition of these structures is shown on the right. (B) Cartoon representation of the OmpF-MlaA complex (PDB ID: 5NUQ) in top and side views, with MlaA<sub>D61-K124</sub> and MlaA<sub>F133-R205</sub> peptides highlighted in *red* and *blue*, respectively (as in Fig. 2D). The smallest distances between the MlaA<sub>F133-R205</sub> peptide (*blue*) and porin residues equivalent to L149/L340 in *E. coli* OmpC are indicated. MlaA residues presumably buried in the lipid bilayer but solvent accessible (SCAM; Fig. S10B) are circled and depicted in sticks. (C) Surface representations of MlaA-porin crystal structures illustrating artificial crystal contacts (MlaA-MlaA or MlaA-porin) observed in different crystal forms. The buried surface areas (Å<sup>2</sup>) of these contacts are indicated. Porins and MlaA are shown in *plum* and *medium purple*, respectively. All figures were generated using the program Chimera (13).



**Figure S12.** All single alanine mutations and most double arginine substitutions in the channel, except D161R/D167R, do not disrupt function in MlaA. Analysis of SDS/EDTA sensitivity of wild-type (WT) and  $\Delta mlaA$  strains producing indicated MlaA channel variants from the pET23/42 vector (p).



**Figure S13.** Mutations in functional regions of MlaA do not significantly affect protein levels or its interaction with OmpC. (A) Immunoblot showing the levels of indicated MlaA-His variants produced from the pET23/42 vector (p) in the  $\Delta mlaA$  strain. (B) Immunoblots showing OmpC copurified with indicated MlaA-His variants produced from the pET23/42 vector (p) in the  $\Delta mlaA$  strain.



**Figure S14.** Mutations on residues G19 and R92 do not affect OmpC levels in cells, but weaken trimer stability in vitro. (A) Immunoblot showing the levels of wild-type OmpC and indicated OmpC variants produced from the chromosomal locus. (B-F) In vitro temperature titration of purified OmpC-MlaA-His and the indicated variants subjected to seminative SDS-PAGE (12% Tris.HCl gel), followed by Coomassie blue (CB) staining.

## Supplementary References

1. Casadaban, M. J. (1976) Transposition and fusion of the lac genes to selected promoters in Escherichia coli using bacteriophage lambda and Mu. *J Mol Biol* **104**, 541-555
2. Chong, Z. S., Woo, W. F., and Chng, S. S. (2015) Osmoporin OmpC forms a complex with MlaA to maintain outer membrane lipid asymmetry in Escherichia coli. *Mol Microbiol* **98**, 1133-1146
3. Ruiz, N., Chng, S. S., Hiniker, A., Kahne, D., and Silhavy, T. J. (2010) Nonconsecutive disulfide bond formation in an essential integral outer membrane protein. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* **107**, 12245-12250
4. Wu, T., McCandlish, A. C., Gronenberg, L. S., Chng, S. S., Silhavy, T. J., and Kahne, D. (2006) Identification of a protein complex that assembles lipopolysaccharide in the outer membrane of Escherichia coli. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* **103**, 11754-11759
5. Khetrapal, V., Meher Shahi, K., Rafee, S., Chen, S., Lim, C. L., and Chen, S. L. (2015) A set of powerful negative selection systems for unmodified Enterobacteriaceae. *Nucleic Acids Res* **43**, e83
6. Ryu, Y., and Schultz, P. G. (2006) Efficient incorporation of unnatural amino acids into proteins in Escherichia coli. *Nat Methods* **3**, 263-265
7. Murphy, K. C., and Campellone, K. G. (2003) Lambda Red-mediated recombinogenic engineering of enterohemorrhagic and enteropathogenic E. coli. *BMC Mol Biol* **4**, 11
8. Chang, A. C., and Cohen, S. N. (1978) Construction and characterization of amplifiable multicopy DNA cloning vehicles derived from the P15A cryptic miniplasmid. *J Bacteriol* **134**, 1141-1156
9. Weiss, D. S., Chen, J. C., Ghigo, J. M., Boyd, D., and Beckwith, J. (1999) Localization of FtsI (PBP3) to the septal ring requires its membrane anchor, the Z ring, FtsA, FtsQ, and FtsL. *J Bacteriol* **181**, 508-520
10. Ovchinnikov, S., Park, H., Varghese, N., Huang, P. S., Pavlopoulos, G. A., Kim, D. E., Kamisetty, H., Kyripides, N. C., and Baker, D. (2017) Protein structure determination using metagenome sequence data. *Science* **355**, 294-298
11. Kyte, J., and Doolittle, R. F. (1982) A simple method for displaying the hydrophobic character of a protein. *J Mol Biol* **157**, 105-132
12. DeLano, W. L. (2002). PyMOL. DeLano Scientific, San Carlos, CA, 700.
13. Pettersen, E. F., Goddard, T. D., Huang, C. C., Couch, G. S., Greenblatt, D. M., Meng, E. C., and Ferrin, T. E. (2004) UCSF Chimera--a visualization system for exploratory research and analysis. *J Comput Chem* **25**, 1605-1612
14. Humphrey, W., Dalke, A., and Schulten, K. (1996) VMD: visual molecular dynamics. *J Mol Graph* **14**, 33-38, 27-38