

Supporting Information Appendix for:

**Effects of an HIV-1 Maturation Inhibitor on the Structure and Dynamics of CA-SP1 Junction Helices in Virus-Like Particles**

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## SI Methods

### *Production of segmentally labeled $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC*

The full  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC sequence is shown in Fig. S4A. This sequence includes a T287C substitution, which has been shown to increase the yield of VLPs (1). Our strategy for producing segmentally labeled  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC is depicted in Fig. S4B. As in earlier work on segmental labeling of HIV-1 CA (2), we used the split intein DnaE from *Nostoc punctiforme*, which is compatible with a variety of amino acid sequences at the splicing site and remains active under a variety of buffer conditions, including high denaturant concentrations (3, 4).  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC was produced by the trans-splicing reaction between two fusion protein constructs. The N-terminal fusion construct included residues 1-265 of  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC followed by the N-terminal intein segment of *Npu* DnaE. The C-terminal fusion construct included the C-terminal intein segment of *Npu* DnaE followed by residues 266-348 of  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC. Because residue 266 is a native cysteine, no mutations in  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC were required.

In the folded state of HIV-1 CA, residue 266 (which is residue 218 of the CA sequence) is at the C-terminal end of helix H11 and is followed by the disordered C-terminal tail of CA. We therefore reasoned that this splicing site would be accessible for the trans-splicing reaction and would produce good yields of ligated product. Also, this choice of splicing site allowed us to leave most of CA unlabeled, minimizing congestion in ssNMR spectra. The N-terminal construct was cloned into the expression vector pET21 using NdeI and XhoI restriction sites. The C-terminal construct was cloned into a pET11a vector using NdeI and BamHI sites. The N-terminal and C-terminal constructs contain His<sub>6</sub> tags at their C-terminal and the N-terminal ends, respectively. This allowed the ligated product to be separated from unreacted constructs and from the refolded intein in a single step by affinity chromatography, simplifying purification of ligated  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC.

Transformed *Escherichia coli* BL21 (DE3) competent cells were added to 2.0 ml of Luria-Bertani (LB) medium with 100  $\mu$ g/ml ampicillin, grown at 37° C for 3 h, transferred into 100 ml of either LB (for the unlabeled N-terminal construct) or isotopically labeled minimal medium (for the labeled C-terminal construct) to prepare the subculture, then grown overnight at 37° C. One liter of the minimal medium contained 33.2 ml of 30X salt solution (1 M Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>-7H<sub>2</sub>O, 1 M KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, and 100 mM Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), 3.2 g of <sup>13</sup>C<sub>6</sub>-glucose, 1.5 g of <sup>15</sup>NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, 1 ml of 2 M MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 100

$\mu$ l of 2 M  $\text{CaCl}_2$ , 50 mg of thiamine, 10 ml of minimum essential medium (MEM) vitamin solution (100X) and 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  of ampicillin. One liter of LB or minimal medium was inoculated with 100 ml of the overnight culture. The cells were grown at 37° C with shaking at 220 rpm. Protein expression was initiated by the addition of 0.5 mM isopropyl  $\beta$ -D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) at an optical density (OD at 600 nm) of 0.8-1.2 for both constructs. After induction, cells were grown at 37° C for 4 h. The cells were harvested by centrifugation at 9000 rpm (12100 X g) for 30 min. The OD of the culture before harvesting was 2-3.5. Cell pellets were stored at -80° C. Approximately 120 mg of the N-terminal fusion construct or 45 mg of the C-terminal fusion construct was obtained from a one-liter culture (with LB medium or minimal medium, respectively).

For purification, cell pellets from each one-liter culture were resuspended in roughly 50 ml of lysis buffer [50 mM Tris, 500 mM NaCl, 1 mM tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine (TCEP), 1 tablet of EDTA-free Complete protease inhibitor (Roche), 200  $\mu$ l of lysozyme from a stock of 20 mg/ml, pH 8.0]. The solution was sonicated (Branson model 250 sonifier, tapered horn with 3 mm diameter tip) at a duty cycle of 40% and an amplitude of 4 for 15 min, then incubated for 15 min at room temperature with 6  $\mu$ l of nuclease (Pierce Universal Nuclease for Cell Lysis, ThermoFisher Scientific). The cell debris was pelleted by centrifugation at 18000 rpm (26500 X g) for 40 min. The pellet was then dissolved in buffer containing 50 mM Tris, 500 mM NaCl, 1 mM TCEP, 1 tablet of protease inhibitor and 7 M urea at pH 8.0 and pelleted again at 18000 rpm (26500 X g) for 40 min. The supernatant was purified by affinity chromatography on a Ni-NTA column (Qiagen). His<sub>6</sub>-tagged fusion protein constructs were eluted with elution buffer (50 mM Tris, 500 mM NaCl, 1 mM TCEP, 400 mM imidazole, and 7 M urea, pH 8.0)

To initiate the trans-splicing reaction, eluted N-terminal and C-terminal constructs were mixed in a 1:1 molar ratio and dialyzed at room temperature for 40 h, using 30 ml dialysis bags with 3.5 kDa cutoff. The dialysis buffer contained 50 mM Tris, 500 mM NaCl, 1.0 mM TCEP, and 2.5 M urea at pH 6.8. Protein concentrations, estimated by UV absorption at 280 nm, were kept below 60  $\mu\text{M}$  during dialysis. Samples for SDS-PAGE and reverse-phase high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) were taken at several time points to follow the ligation reaction. The protein mixture was then incubated with Ni-NTA beads, which had been equilibrated with dialysis buffer, and subsequently passed through a gravity column to remove intein proteins and unreacted fusion proteins. The purified ligated product, collected in the flow-through, was

refolded by overnight dialysis at 4° C against a buffer containing 50 mM Tris, 500 mM NaCl, and 1 mM TCEP at pH 6.8. The protein was chromatographed on a Hi-Trap SP-FF Sepharose column (GE Healthcare) and flow-through fractions were pooled and concentrated. The protein was further purified on a Superdex 75 10/300 GL size-exclusion column (GE Healthcare). Production of ligated  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC was confirmed by SDS-PAGE and mass spectrometry (Fig. S5). The final yield of ligated  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC was approximately 54% (*i.e.*, 22 mg of ligated product from a total of 60 mg of N-terminal and C-terminal fusion constructs in a 1:1 molar ratio).

#### *Formation of VLPs with and without BVM*

As previously described (1), VLPs were prepared at a final concentration of 10 mg/ml (260  $\mu$ M) by mixing 600  $\mu$ l of segmentally-labeled  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC in 30 mM MES at pH 6, 500 mM NaCl and 1 mM TCEP with 231  $\mu$ l of 1.5 M tartrate and 92  $\mu$ l of 1 M Tris, pH 7.5. This buffer composition is termed VLP-formation (VF) buffer. The resulting solution was incubated at 37° C for 2 h, followed by overnight incubation at room temperature. Formation of spherical  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC assemblies was verified by transmission electron microscopy (TEM).

To incorporate BVM (Millipore Sigma catalog number SML2057) into VLPs, a BVM stock solution at a concentration of 30 mg/ml was prepared in dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO). This stock was gradually diluted over 2 h in VF buffer containing  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin to attain a clear solution with a final concentration of 500  $\mu$ g/ml BVM (855  $\mu$ M), 3% w/v  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin and 0.8% v/v DMSO. In this solution, the hydrophobic BVM molecules are solubilized by their containment within  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin cages. The BVM/ $\beta$ -cyclodextrin solution was then mixed with a suspension of preformed VLPs (10 mg/ml) in equal volumes to reach a final concentration of 130  $\mu$ M  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC (as monomer) and 428  $\mu$ M BVM. The mixture was incubated at room temperature for four days with occasional stirring to allow transfer of BVM from  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin cages to VLPs. Incorporation of BVM into VLPs was then verified by assays described below.

#### *Preparation of mature HIV-1 protease*

Cloning, expression and isolation of the active mature HIV-1 protease (PR) optimized for structural studies and enzyme kinetics via mutations (Q7K, L33I, L63I, C67A, C95A) to restrict self-degradation and prevent cysteine-thiol oxidation has been described previously (5). Induction for protein expression, isolation of inclusion bodies and protein purification followed previously

described protocols (6, 7). A stock solution of the folded PR in 25 mM sodium acetate at pH 5 (8) was diluted to the desired concentration in assay buffer.

#### *Effect of BVM on PR-catalyzed cleavage of $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC in VLPs*

PR was added to a suspension of VLPs in VF buffer, with a 1:10 molar ratio of PR to  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC. The solution was incubated at 24° C, and aliquots were taken for TEM analysis at various time points. TEM images (Figs. 1 and S1) were obtained with an FEI Morgagni microscope, operating at 80 keV. Negatively-stained samples were prepared on glow-discharged carbon films (Quantifoil grids, 2 nm film thickness). After diluting the VLP/PR aliquot by a factor of ten in VF buffer, a 10  $\mu$ l volume was adsorbed to the carbon film for 30 s, then blotted with filter paper, rinsed with VF buffer, blotted, rinsed with deionized water, blotted, stained with 2% w/v uranyl acetate for 20-30 s, blotted, and dried in air.

To confirm directly that the effects on protein assembly morphologies seen in TEM images were due to effects on PR-catalyzed cleavage of  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC, processing of VLPs by PR was monitored by SDS-PAGE on 10-20% gradient Tris-Glycine gels (Fig S2). Reaction mixtures in VF buffer contained 36  $\mu$ M  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC (in VLPs with or without BVM) and 1.38  $\mu$ M PR. Aliquots (8  $\mu$ l) were drawn at the indicated times and mixed with 4  $\mu$ l of SDS-PAGE sample loading buffer, heated to 85° C for 2 min prior to electrophoresis.  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC and its cleavage products were visualized by staining the gel with Coomassie brilliant blue G-250 (Bio-Rad) and imaged.

#### *Effect of BVM on PR activity and PR-catalyzed cleavage of unassembled Gag*

Stock solutions (100 mM in DMSO) of BVM and the PR inhibitor darunavir (DRV) were diluted to 300  $\mu$ M in 5 mM sodium acetate, pH 6, from which they were added to the assay mixture. Assays to test for inhibition of PR by BVM (Fig. S3A) were carried out in 50 mM sodium acetate buffer (pH 5) at a final concentration of 200 nM PR either in the absence or presence of BVM at 2.5 and 10  $\mu$ M and 380  $\mu$ M of the chromogenic substrate (9) Lys-Ala-Arg-Val-Nle-[4-nitrophenylalanine]-Glu-Ala-Nle-NH<sub>2</sub> (California Peptide Research) in a total volume of 120  $\mu$ l at 28 °C. A positive control for the inhibition of catalytic activity of PR was carried out using 1  $\mu$ M of DRV.

Fig. S3A shows that BVM does not inhibit the catalytic activity of mature PR at 2.5  $\mu\text{M}$  concentration in 50 mM acetate buffer at pH 5, or even up to 50-fold molar excess over PR significantly. The initial rate of cleavage of the chromogenic substrate is nearly identical either with or without BVM.

Assays (20  $\mu\text{l}$ ) to monitor cleavage of  $\Delta\text{Gag}$ , a truncated Gag construct that includes full-length MA, CA, SP1 and NC subunits, shown in Figs. S3B and S3C, were carried out at room temperature as described previously (10, 11).  $\Delta\text{Gag}$  (50  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in 20 mM sodium phosphate, pH 6.5, 300 mM NaCl, 0.1 mM  $\text{ZnCl}_2$  and 1 mM TCEP was mixed with the PR to give a final concentration of 0.92  $\mu\text{M}$ . Aliquots (2  $\mu\text{l}$ ) were drawn at the indicated times and mixed with 3  $\mu\text{l}$  of the above assay buffer and 2  $\mu\text{l}$  of SDS-PAGE sample loading buffer, heated to 85  $^\circ\text{C}$  for 2 min and subjected to electrophoresis on 4-20% gradient mini-protean TGX precast gel (Bio-Rad).  $\Delta\text{Gag}$  and its cleavage products were visualized either by exposing the gel to UV light (TGX gel) or by staining with Coomassie brilliant blue G-250 (Bio-Rad), and imaged. Reactions were also carried out in a final concentration of 10  $\mu\text{M}$  BVM or 5  $\mu\text{M}$  of DRV for the indicated times, followed by SDS-PAGE.

In Fig. S3C, BVM has no detectable effect on  $\Delta\text{Gag}$  processing by PR, and particularly on the cleavage between CA and SP1. Band intensities which signify the appearance and the disappearance of the CA-SP1 intermediate are similar in their time course (compare zoomed in view of blue and red boxes in Fig. S3C). A control digest in the presence of DRV at 5  $\mu\text{M}$  shows complete inhibition as expected.

### *Solid state NMR*

For ssNMR measurements, thin-wall 3.2 mm magic-angle spinning (MAS) rotors (Revolution NMR) were packed by ultracentrifugation with approximately 30 mg of sample, containing approximately 15 mg of VLPs without BVM or 10 mg of VLPs with BVM. Except for dipolar-shift correlation (DIPSHIFT) measurements, all ssNMR measurements were performed at 17.5 T (745.5 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR frequency) using a Varian InfinityPlus spectrometer console and a three-channel low-electric-field MAS NMR probe (Black Fox, LLC). An MAS frequency of 12.00 kHz was used. Sample temperatures were maintained at 10-12 $^\circ\text{C}$  with cooled nitrogen gas in all measurements.

Two-dimensional (2D) and three-dimensional (3D) NCACX and NCOCX ssNMR spectra, as well as 2D  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  ssNMR spectra, were obtained with standard methods, using cross-polarization for  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$  and  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  polarization transfers (12), frequency-selective cross-polarization for  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^{13}\text{C}_\alpha$  and  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^{13}\text{CO}$  polarization transfers (13), and dipolar-assisted rotational resonance (DARR) for  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  polarization transfers (14). Two-pulse phase-modulated  $^1\text{H}$  (TPPM) decoupling (15) with an 80 kHz  $^1\text{H}$  radio-frequency (RF) field was applied during evolution and detection periods of 2D and 3D measurements. Other experimental parameters are given in Table S1. 2D and 3D spectra were analyzed and plotted with nmrPipe (16) and Sparky (<https://www.cgl.ucsf.edu/home/sparky/>) software.  $^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shifts are relative to 2,2-dimethyl-2-silapentane-5-sulfonate (DSS), based on an external reference of 1- $^{13}\text{C}$ -L-alanine powder at 179.65 ppm.  $^{15}\text{N}$  chemical shifts are relative to liquid ammonia, based on the reported NMR frequency ratios for DSS and liquid ammonia (17).

$^{15}\text{N}$   $T_{1\rho}$  and  $T_2$  relaxation measurements were performed with RF pulse sequences in Figs. S9A and S9B, using 92 kHz continuous-wave  $^1\text{H}$  decoupling during incremented  $^{15}\text{N}$  spin-lock and spin-echo periods ( $\tau_{\text{SL}}$  and  $\tau_{\text{echo}}$ , respectively). A 40 kHz  $^{15}\text{N}$  spin-locking field was used. These field strengths were found to give  $T_{1\rho}$  data that are not affected by undesired  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$  cross-polarization or other extraneous effects. DARR mixing periods ( $\tau_{\text{mix}}$ ) were 50 ms in NCACX-detected measurements and 100 ms in NCOCX-detected measurements. Values of  $T_{1\rho}$  and  $T_2$  were derived from the experimental data by fitting with single-exponential decay functions in Origin software (OriginLab Corp.). Plots of  $T_{1\rho}$  and  $T_2$  for the diffusion-in-a-cone model in Figs. 4C and 4D are based on the theoretical expressions derived below.

$^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$  DIPSHIFT measurements (18-20) were performed at 14.1 T (599.2 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  NMR frequency) with an MAS frequency of 7.00 kHz, using a Varian InfinityPlus spectrometer console and a three-channel BioMAS probe (Varian). These measurements were performed with the RF pulse sequence in Fig. S9C.  $^1\text{H}$  homonuclear decoupling with the Lee-Goldburg (LG) technique (21) was applied during incremented dipolar evolution periods  $\tau_{\text{LG}}$ , with an  $^1\text{H}$  carrier frequency offset of 51.2 kHz and a  $^1\text{H}$  RF field of 72.4 kHz. A DARR mixing period of 0.1 ms was used for data plotted in Fig. 5, and 30 ms for data plotted in Fig. S12. Simulations of DIPSHIFT data for Fig. 5 were performed with a custom-written program that calculates the evolution of isolated  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$  spin pairs under MAS, with  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$  dipole-dipole couplings acting only during  $\tau_{\text{LG}}$  periods.

## Theoretical expressions for $R_{1\rho}$ and $R_2$ relaxation rates

Although  $^{15}\text{N}$  spin relaxation in ssNMR of proteins under MAS has been treated previously (22-25), we are not aware of explicit expressions for the dependence of orientationally-averaged  $^{15}\text{N}$   $R_{1\rho}$  and  $R_2$  relaxation rates on motional amplitude and diffusion constant in previous work. Therefore, expressions for orientationally-averaged  $^{15}\text{N}$   $R_{1\rho}$  and  $R_2$  relaxation rates under MAS are derived below with the assumption that these rates are determined only by fluctuations in one-bond  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$  magnetic dipole-dipole couplings due to molecular motions. Only fluctuations in the secular (*i.e.*, truncated) part of the dipole-dipole coupling are considered, as these are expected to dominate  $R_{1\rho}$  and  $R_2$  when motions occur on timescales greater than 100 ns.

We begin with a rotating-frame nuclear spin Hamiltonian (in units of rad/s) that includes the dipole-dipole coupling, which is time-dependent both due to MAS at frequency  $\omega_R$  and due to molecular motions, and rf fields applied on-resonance with the  $^1\text{H}$  spin ( $I$ , with gyromagnetic ratio  $\gamma_I$ ) and the  $^{15}\text{N}$  spin ( $S$ , with gyromagnetic ratio  $\gamma_S$ ), with amplitudes  $\omega_I$  and  $\omega_S$ , respectively:

$$H(t) = d(t)I_z S_z + \omega_I I_x + \omega_S S_x \quad (1)$$

The dipole-dipole coupling strength is

$$d(t) = \sum_{m=-2}^2 A_m(\alpha, \beta, \gamma; t) \exp(im\omega_R t) \quad (2)$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} A_{\pm 2} = & \frac{\gamma_I \gamma_S \hbar}{8R^3} \{ \sin^2 \theta [e^{2i\phi} (1 \mp \cos \beta)^2 e^{-2i\alpha} + e^{-2i\phi} (1 \pm \cos \beta)^2 e^{2i\alpha}] \\ & \pm 2 \sin 2\theta [e^{i\phi} \sin \beta (1 \mp \cos \beta) e^{-i\alpha} - e^{-i\phi} \sin \beta (1 \pm \cos \beta) e^{i\alpha}] \\ & + 2(3 \cos^2 \theta - 1) \sin^2 \beta \} e^{\pm 2i\gamma} \end{aligned} \quad (3a)$$



$$\begin{aligned}
A_{\pm 1} = & \mp \frac{\gamma_I \gamma_S \hbar}{2\sqrt{2}R^3} \{ \sin^2 \theta [e^{2i\phi} \sin \beta (1 \mp \cos \beta) e^{-2i\alpha} - e^{-2i\phi} \sin \beta (1 \pm \cos \beta) e^{2i\alpha}] \\
& + \sin 2\theta [e^{i\phi} (1 \mp \cos \beta) (2 \cos \beta \pm 1) e^{-i\alpha} - e^{-i\phi} (1 \pm \cos \beta) (2 \cos \beta \mp 1) e^{i\alpha}] \\
& \pm (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1) \sin 2\beta \} e^{\pm i\gamma}
\end{aligned} \tag{3b}$$

and  $A_0 = 0$ . Euler angles  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  specify the orientation of a molecule-fixed axis system in the MAS rotor. Polar and azimuthal angles  $\theta(t)$  and  $\phi(t)$  specify the direction of the  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$  bond vector in the molecule-fixed axis system and are stochastically time-dependent due to molecular motion.  $R$  is the  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$  bond distance. In terms of second-rank spherical harmonics  $Y_{2,m}(\theta, \phi)$  and reduced Wigner rotation matrix elements  $d_{m,m'}^{(2)}(\beta)$ ,

$$A_m = \frac{\sqrt{6}\gamma_I \gamma_S \hbar}{R^3} \sum_{m'=-2}^2 (-1)^{m'} Y_{2,m'}(\theta, \phi) d_{m,-m'}^{(2)}(-\beta) e^{-im'\alpha} d_{0,m}^{(2)}(-\theta_M) e^{im\gamma}, \quad \text{with } \theta_M = \cos^{-1}(1/\sqrt{3}).$$

Note that  $A_m^* = A_{-m}$ .

In an interaction representation with respect to  $\omega_I I_x + \omega_S S_x$ , the Hamiltonian becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{H}(t) = & d(t) [I_z S_z \cos \omega_1 t \cos \omega_s t + I_y S_z \sin \omega_1 t \cos \omega_s t \\
& + I_z S_y \cos \omega_1 t \sin \omega_s t + I_y S_y \sin \omega_1 t \sin \omega_s t]
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Following standard treatments of spin relaxation (26-28),  $R_{1\rho}$  and  $R_2$  are derived from a second-order approximate solution to the Liouville equation for the spin density operator  $\rho(t)$  in this interaction representation, namely

$$\rho(t) \approx \rho(0) - i \int_0^t dt' [\tilde{H}(t'), \rho(0)] - \int_0^t dt' \int_0^{t'} dt'' [H(t'), [H(t''), \rho(0)]] \tag{5}$$

Taking  $\rho(0) = S_x$ , which corresponds to an initial state of transverse S-spin magnetization along the x-axis of the rotating frame, the subsequent time-dependent amplitude of transverse magnetization becomes

$$\overline{\langle S_x(t) \rangle} = \text{Tr}\{S_x \overline{\rho(t)}\} / \text{Tr}\{S_x^2\} = 1 - \int_0^t dt' \int_0^{t'} dt'' \overline{F(t', t'')} \quad (6)$$

Overlines in Eq. (6) denote ensemble averages over the trajectories of molecular motions, and

$$F(t', t'') = \frac{1}{4} [f_{zz}(t')f_{zz}(t'') + f_{yz}(t')f_{yz}(t'') + f_{zy}(t')f_{zy}(t'') + f_{yy}(t')f_{yy}(t'')] \quad (7)$$

with  $f_{uv}(t)$  being the coefficient of  $I_u S_v$  in  $\tilde{H}(t)$ .

In the general case, the right-hand side of Eq. (6) contains products of all pairs of terms in Eqs. (3a) and (3b), evaluated at  $t'$  and  $t''$ . However, if we consider molecular motion that is axially symmetric about an average N-H bond direction (for which  $\theta = 0$ ), so that all values of  $\phi(t)$  are equally probable at all times, then only terms proportional to  $\sin^2 \theta(t') \sin^2 \theta(t'') \exp(\pm 2i[\phi(t') - \phi(t'')])$ ,  $\sin 2\theta(t') \sin 2\theta(t'') \exp(\pm i[\phi(t') - \phi(t'')])$ , and  $[3 \cos^2 \theta(t') - 1][3 \cos^2 \theta(t'') - 1]$  survive in the ensemble average. The dependence on  $\alpha$  also disappears. If in addition we average over  $\gamma$ , only terms proportional to  $A_m(t') A_{-m}(t'')$  survive, and the dependence on the MAS frequency  $\omega_R$  disappears.

$\overline{F(t', t'')}$  can be expressed as a sum of terms that depend on  $\tau \equiv t' - t''$  and/or  $\eta = t' + t''$ . This is true because, with the assumption that the motion is a stationary random process, the following correlation functions depend only on  $\tau$ :

$$C_0(\tau) \equiv \frac{1}{4} \overline{[3 \cos^2 \theta(t') - 1][3 \cos^2 \theta(t'') - 1]} \quad (8a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} C_1(\tau) &\equiv \frac{3}{8} \overline{\sin 2\theta(t') \sin 2\theta(t'') \exp(\pm i[\phi(t') - \phi(t'')])} \\ &= \frac{3}{8} \overline{\sin 2\theta(t') \sin 2\theta(t'') \cos([\phi(t') - \phi(t'')])} \end{aligned} \quad (8b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} C_2(\tau) &\equiv \frac{3}{8} \overline{\sin^2 \theta(t') \sin^2 \theta(t'') \exp(\pm 2i[\phi(t') - \phi(t'')])} \\ &= \frac{3}{8} \overline{\sin^2 \theta(t') \sin^2 \theta(t'') \cos(2[\phi(t') - \phi(t'')])} \end{aligned} \quad (8c)$$

Moreover,  $\cos \omega_1 t' = \cos \frac{\omega_1 \tau}{2} \cos \frac{\omega_1 \eta}{2} - \sin \frac{\omega_1 \tau}{2} \sin \frac{\omega_1 \eta}{2}$ , etc. Importantly, only a subset of the terms in  $\overline{F(t', t'')}$  makes contributions to the right-hand side of Eq. (6) that grow linearly with  $t$  at large values of  $t$ . This subset consists of the terms that depend only on  $\tau$  (and do not depend on  $\eta$ ) and decay to zero with increasing  $\tau$ . Other terms make oscillatory contributions that do not grow with  $t$  at large values of  $t$ . Defining  $G(\tau)$  to be the sum of terms in  $\overline{F(t', t'')}$  that depend only on  $\tau$  and decay to zero with increasing  $\tau$ , it is readily shown that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t dt' \int_0^{t'} dt'' G(\tau) &= \int_0^t d\tau (t - \tau) G(\tau) \\ &\approx t \int_0^\infty d\tau G(\tau) \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

The approximation in the second line is valid when  $t$  is large compared to the decay time of  $G(\tau)$ .

The transverse spin relaxation rate is then  $\int_0^\infty d\tau G(\tau)$ .

Using Eqs. (3), (4), (7), and (8), it can then be shown that

$$\begin{aligned} G(\tau) &= \left( \frac{\gamma_I \gamma_S \hbar}{R^3} \right)^2 \left\{ [C_2(\tau) - C_2(\infty)] \left[ \frac{(1 - \cos \beta)^4 + (1 + \cos \beta)^4}{96} + \frac{\sin^2 \beta [(1 - \cos \beta)^2 + (1 + \cos \beta)^2]}{12} \right] \right. \\ &\quad + [C_1(\tau) - C_1(\infty)] \left[ \frac{\sin^2 \beta [(1 - \cos \beta)^2 + (1 + \cos \beta)^2]}{24} + \frac{(1 - \cos \beta)^2 (2 \cos \beta + 1)^2 + (1 + \cos \beta)^2 (2 \cos \beta - 1)^2}{12} \right] \\ &\quad \left. + [C_0(\tau) - C_0(\infty)] \left[ \frac{\sin^4 \beta}{16} + \frac{\sin^2 2\beta}{8} \right] \right\} [\cos(\omega_I + \omega_S)\tau + \cos(\omega_I - \omega_S)\tau] \\ &= \left( \frac{\gamma_I \gamma_S \hbar}{R^3} \right)^2 \left\{ [C_2(\tau) - C_2(\infty)] \left[ \frac{9 + 6 \cos^2 \beta - 7 \cos^4 \beta}{48} \right] + [C_1(\tau) - C_1(\infty)] \left[ \frac{3 - 6 \cos^2 \beta + 7 \cos^4 \beta}{12} \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. + [C_0(\tau) - C_0(\infty)] \left[ \frac{1 + 6 \cos^2 \beta - 7 \cos^4 \beta}{16} \right] \right\} [\cos(\omega_I + \omega_S)\tau + \cos(\omega_I - \omega_S)\tau] \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

The orientationally-averaged transverse spin relaxation rate is then

$$\int_0^\infty d\tau \int_0^\pi d\beta \sin \beta G(\tau) = \left( \frac{\gamma_I \gamma_S \hbar}{R^3} \right)^2 \int_0^\infty d\tau \left\{ \frac{1}{5} [C_2(\tau) - C_2(\infty)] + \frac{1}{5} [C_1(\tau) - C_1(\infty)] \right. \\ \left. + \frac{1}{10} [C_0(\tau) - C_0(\infty)] \right\} [\cos(\omega_I + \omega_S)\tau + \cos(\omega_I - \omega_S)\tau] \quad (11)$$

To proceed further, we use the approximate expressions for  $C_m(\tau)$  derived by Lipari and Szabo (29) for orientational diffusion of a vector within a cone of half-angle  $\theta_0$ , according to which  $C_m(\tau) - C_m(\infty) \approx X_m \exp(-\tau/\tau_m)$  with

$$X_0 = \frac{1}{20} [x_0(1+x_0)(9x_0^2 - 1) + 4] - \frac{1}{4} x_0^2(1+x_0)^2 \quad (12a)$$

$$X_1 = \frac{1}{10} (1-x_0)[(2+x_0)(1+3x_0^2) + 3x_0] \quad (12b)$$

$$X_2 = \frac{1}{40} (1-x_0)^2(3x_0^2 + 9x_0 + 8) \quad (12c)$$

$$\tau_0 = \frac{1}{D_w X_0} \left\{ \frac{x_0^2(1+x_0)^2}{2(x_0-1)} \left[ \ln \frac{(1+x_0)}{2} - \frac{(1-x_0)}{2} \right] + \frac{(1-x_0)(2-x_0-9x_0^2-7x_0^3)}{60} \right\} \quad (13a)$$

$$\tau_1 = \frac{(1-x_0)^2(9+32x_0+44x_0^2+20x_0^3)}{120D_w X_1} \quad (13b)$$

$$\tau_2 = \frac{(1-x_0)^3(8+12x_0+5x_0^2)}{240D_w X_2} \quad (13c)$$

where  $x_0 \equiv \cos \theta_0$  and  $D_w$  is the orientational diffusion constant. As usual,  $D_w$  is defined such that an orientation distribution that is proportional to a second-rank spherical harmonic function decays exponentially with characteristic time  $(6D_w)^{-1}$  when the diffusion is fully isotropic (*i.e.*, when  $\theta_0 = \pi$ ). (Note that the expression in the original Lipari-Szabo paper (29) that corresponds to Eq. 13a contains a typographical error.) With these single-exponential approximations for the correlation functions, the orientationally averaged relaxation rates become

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{R}_{1p} = & \left( \frac{\gamma_I \gamma_S \hbar}{\mathbf{R}^3} \right)^2 \left\{ \frac{X_2 \tau_2}{5} \left( \frac{1}{1 + (\omega_I + \omega_S)^2 \tau_2^2} + \frac{1}{1 + (\omega_I - \omega_S)^2 \tau_2^2} \right) \right. \\
& \left. + \frac{X_1 \tau_1}{5} \left( \frac{1}{1 + (\omega_I + \omega_S)^2 \tau_1^2} + \frac{1}{1 + (\omega_I - \omega_S)^2 \tau_1^2} \right) + \frac{X_0 \tau_0}{10} \left( \frac{1}{1 + (\omega_I + \omega_S)^2 \tau_0^2} + \frac{1}{1 + (\omega_I - \omega_S)^2 \tau_0^2} \right) \right\} \\
(14)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{R}_2 = \left( \frac{\gamma_I \gamma_S \hbar}{\mathbf{R}^3} \right)^2 \left( \frac{2X_2 \tau_2}{5(1 + \omega_I^2 \tau_2^2)} + \frac{2X_1 \tau_1}{5(1 + \omega_I^2 \tau_1^2)} + \frac{X_0 \tau_0}{5(1 + \omega_I^2 \tau_0^2)} \right) \quad (15)$$

With  $\mathbf{R}$  in Å units,  $\frac{\gamma_I \gamma_S \hbar}{\mathbf{R}^3} = \frac{76504}{\mathbf{R}^3} \text{ s}^{-1}$  for a  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$  dipole-dipole coupling.

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**Table S1:** Conditions for 2D and 3D ssNMR measurements on  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC VLPs. Measurements were performed at 17.5 T (187.51 MHz  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR frequency, 75.56 MHz  $^{15}\text{N}$  NMR frequency) with MAS at 12.00 kHz.

spectrum	measurement conditions
2D NCACX	100.8 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_1$ increment, 80 complex $t_1$ points, 10.0 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_2$ increment, 512 complex $t_2$ points, 25 ms $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ DARR period, 1.5 s recycle delay, 768 <sup>a</sup> or 1280 <sup>b</sup> scans per FID
2D NCOCX	100.8 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_1$ increment, 80 complex $t_1$ points, 10.0 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_2$ increment, 512 complex $t_2$ points, 50 ms $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ DARR period, 1.5 s recycle delay, 768 <sup>a</sup> or 1280 <sup>b</sup> scans per FID
2D $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$	15.0 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_1$ increment, 214 complex $t_1$ points, 10.0 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_2$ increment, 512 complex $t_2$ points, 25 ms $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ DARR period, 1.5 s recycle delay, 96 scans per FID
3D NCACX	100.8 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_1$ increment, 50 complex $t_1$ points, 75.6 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_2$ increment, 42 $t_2$ complex $t_2$ points, 10.0 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_3$ increment, 512 complex $t_2$ points, 25 ms $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ DARR period, 1.5 s recycle delay, 32 scans per FID
3D NCOCX	100.8 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_1$ increment, 50 complex $t_1$ points, 75.6 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_2$ increment, 42 $t_2$ complex $t_2$ points, 10.0 $\mu\text{s}$ $t_3$ increment, 512 complex $t_2$ points, 25 ms $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ DARR period, 1.5 s recycle delay, 32 scans per FID

<sup>a</sup>VLPs without BVM; <sup>b</sup>VLPs with BVM



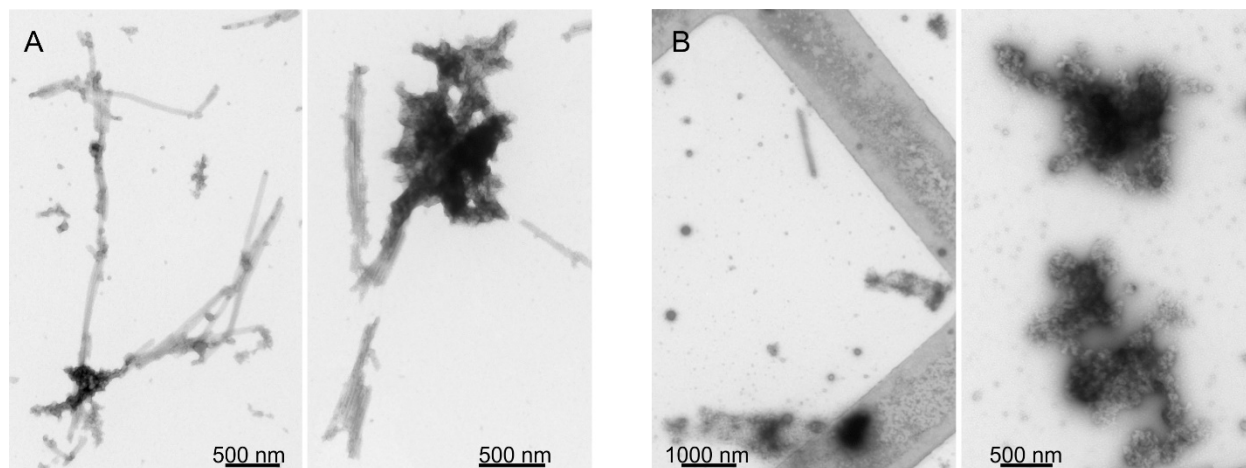
**Supporting Figures**

Figure S1: TEM images of VLPs with and without BVM after treatment with PR for 48 h.

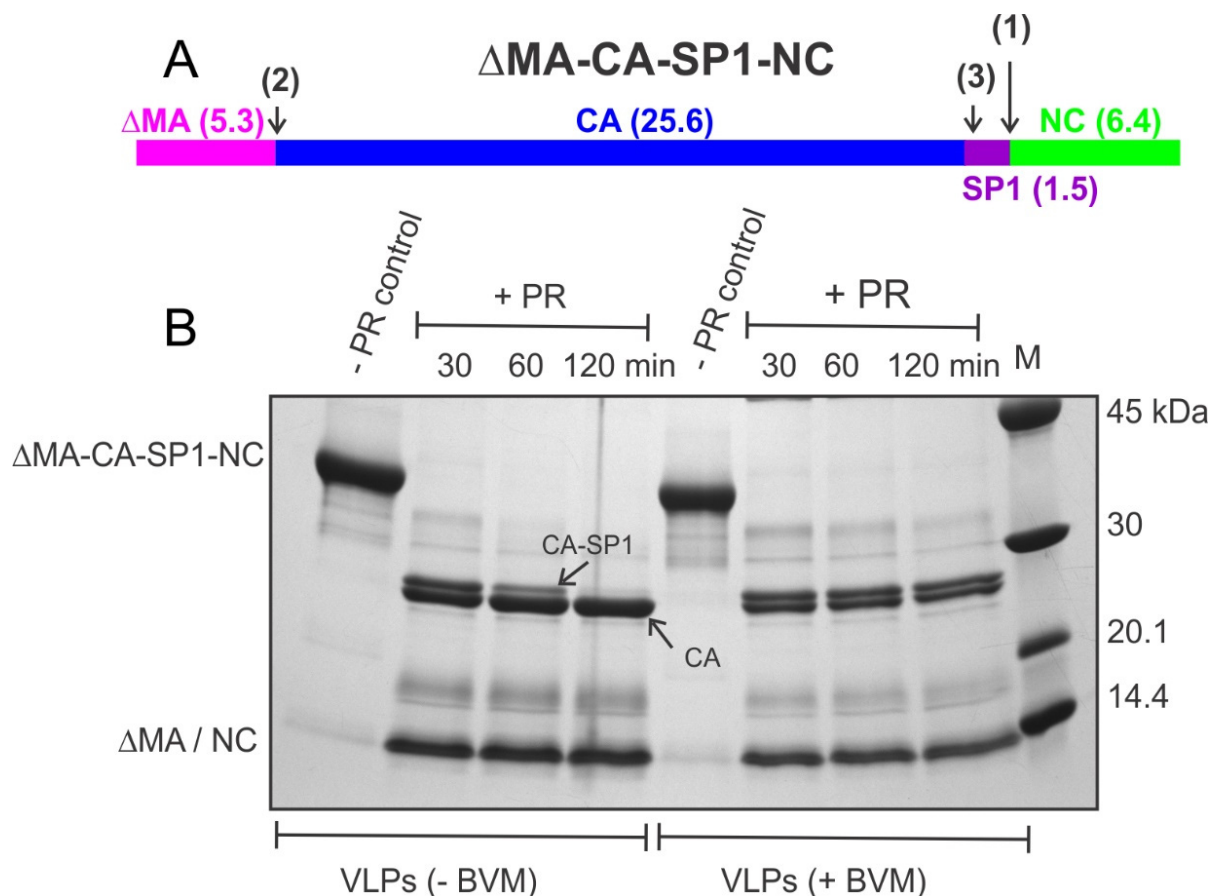


Figure S2: (A) Schematic representation of the sequential PR-catalyzed cleavages of  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC in VLPs, with the order of cleavage (numbers in parentheses), cleavage site positions (black arrows), and molecular weights of the products (kDa) indicated. (B) Time course of processing of VLPs by PR monitored by SDS-PAGE on a 10-20% gradient Tris-Glycine gel. Molecular weight markers are in the lane marked M. After 30 min, cleavage steps 1 and 2 are nearly complete, producing the intermediate product CA-SP1. From 30 to 120 min, in the absence of BVM, CA-SP1 is almost completely cleaved to produce CA. In the presence of BVM, CA-SP1 remains uncleaved at 120 min. (The constant CA band in the presence of BVM is attributable to unassembled  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC, which is fully cleaved before 30 min, and which constitutes approximately 30% of the  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC in the reaction mixtures under the conditions of these experiments.)

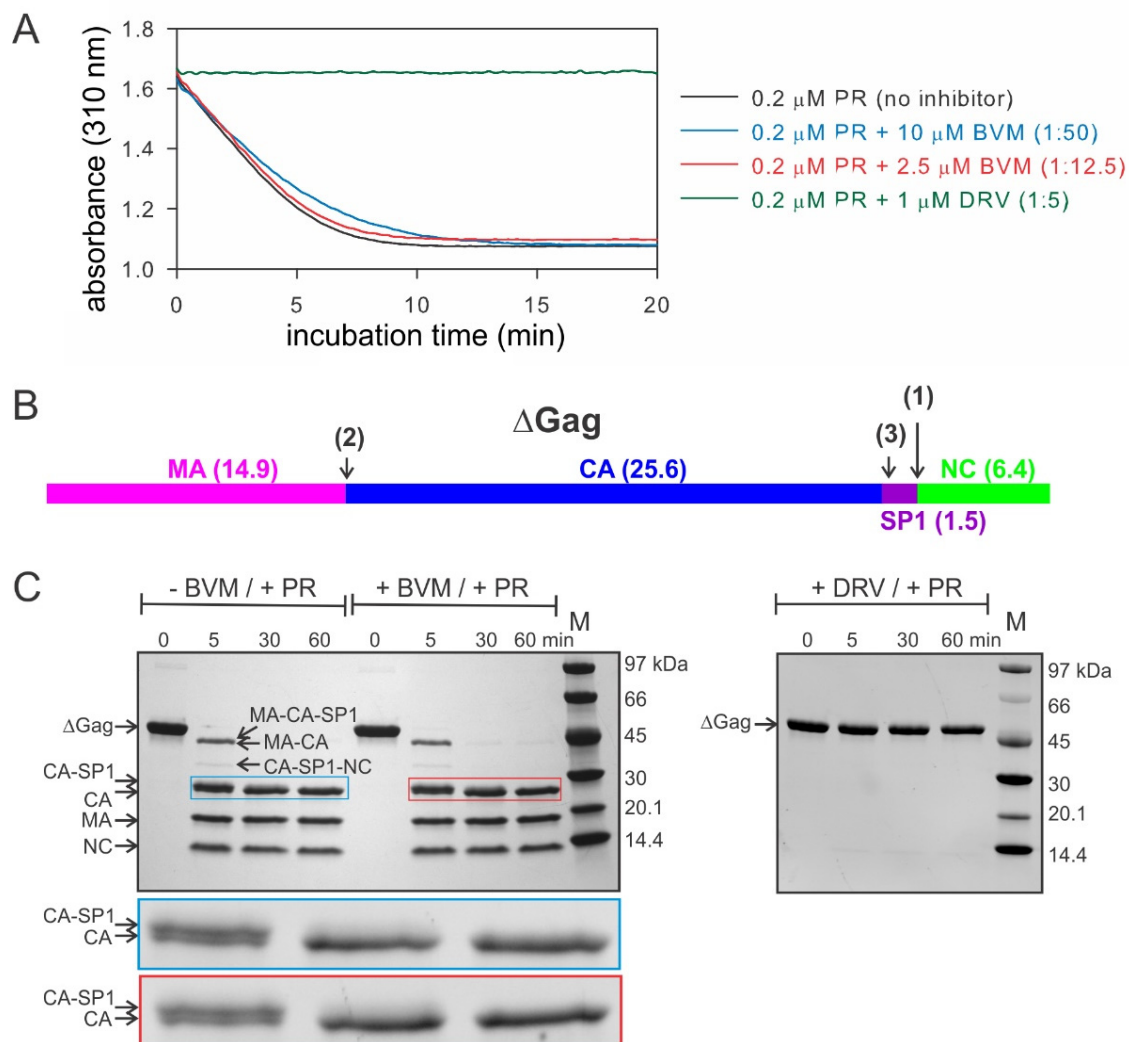


Figure S3: (A) Time-dependent absorbance due to PR-catalyzed cleavage of a chromogenic substrate at the indicated concentrations of PR and BVM. BVM has little direct effect on PR activity. Complete inhibition of activity by DRV (green trace) is shown as positive control. (B) Schematic representation of the sequential PR-catalyzed cleavages of  $\Delta$ Gag, with the order of cleavage (numbers in parentheses), cleavage site positions (black arrows), and molecular weights of the products (kDa) indicated. (C) Time course of processing of unassembled  $\Delta$ Gag by PR monitored by SDS-PAGE on 4-20% gradient mini-protean TGX gel. Molecular weight markers are in the lane marked M, Reaction mixtures contained 50  $\mu$ M unassembled  $\Delta$ Gag (*i.e.*, no VLPs) and 0.92  $\mu$ M PR in the absence or presence of BVM (10  $\mu$ M). Cleavage of full length 48.4 kDa  $\Delta$ Gag (left panel) between SP1 and NC (step 1) yields MA-CA-SP1 + NC, followed by cleavage between MA and CA (step 2) to generate MA and the intermediate CA-SP1. SP1 is cleaved subsequently (slowest step 3) from the C-terminus of CA-SP1, roughly half of which is still detectable just above the CA band at 5 min. No full-length  $\Delta$ Gag or CA-SP1 remains at 5 and 30 min, respectively. The time course is nearly identical in the absence or presence of BVM, as seen in the expanded regions outlined in blue or red, respectively. As a positive control, 5  $\mu$ M darunavir (DRV) completely blocks PR-catalyzed cleavage of  $\Delta$ Gag (right panel).

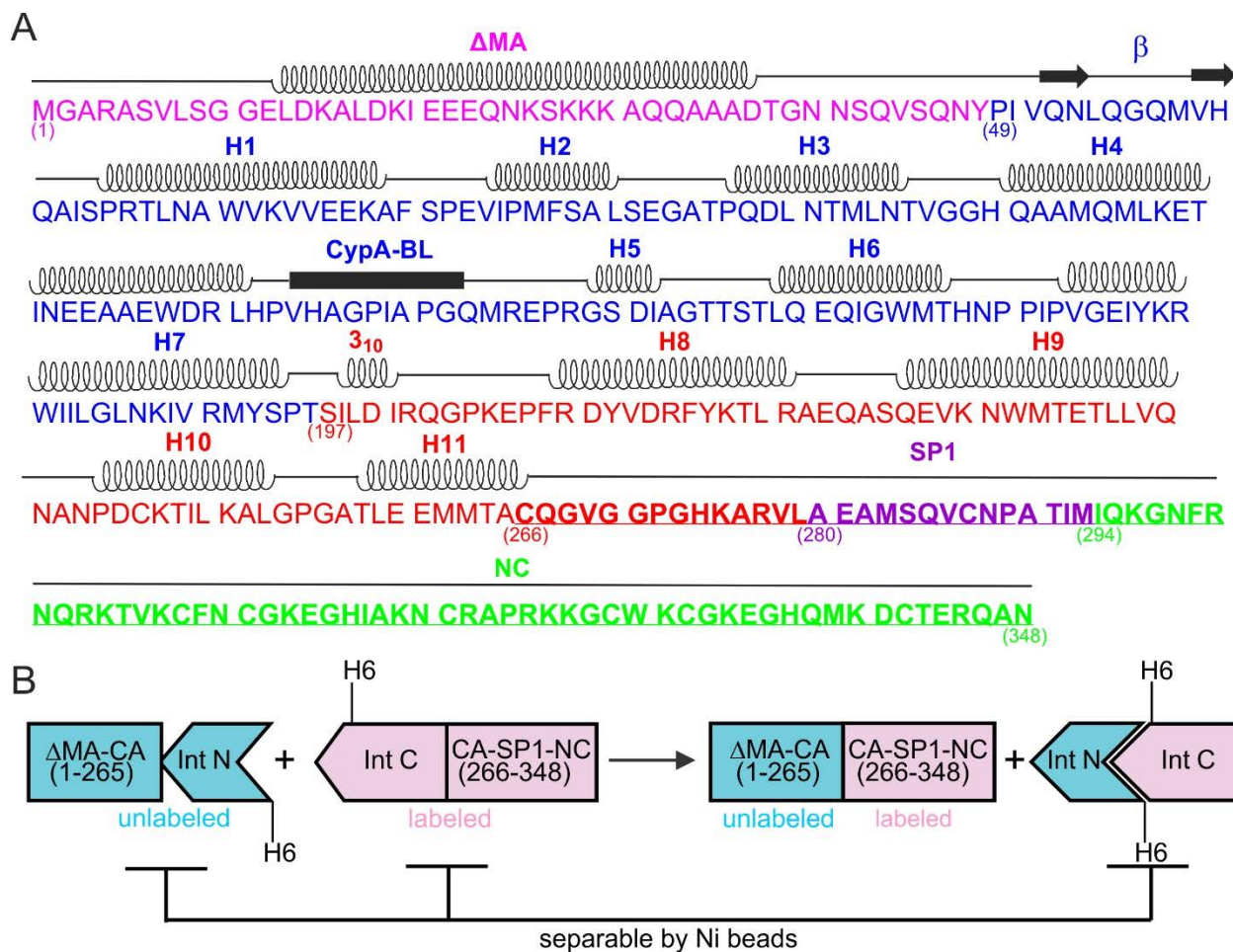


Figure S4: Strategy for production of segmentally labeled  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC. (A) Amino acid sequence, with  $\Delta$ MA in magenta, N-terminal domain of CA in blue, C-terminal domain of CA in red, SP1 in purple, and NC in green. The  $\beta$ -hairpin segment,  $\alpha$ -helical segments H1-H11, cyclophilin A binding loop, and  $3_{10}$  helical segment of CA are indicated. (B) His<sub>6</sub>-tagged fusion proteins, consisting of residues 1-265 of  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC fused to the N-terminal intein domain and residues 266-348 of  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC fused to the C-terminal intein domain, undergo trans-splicing to produce segmentally labeled, full-length  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC. The full-length intein and unreacted fusion proteins are removed by affinity chromatography.

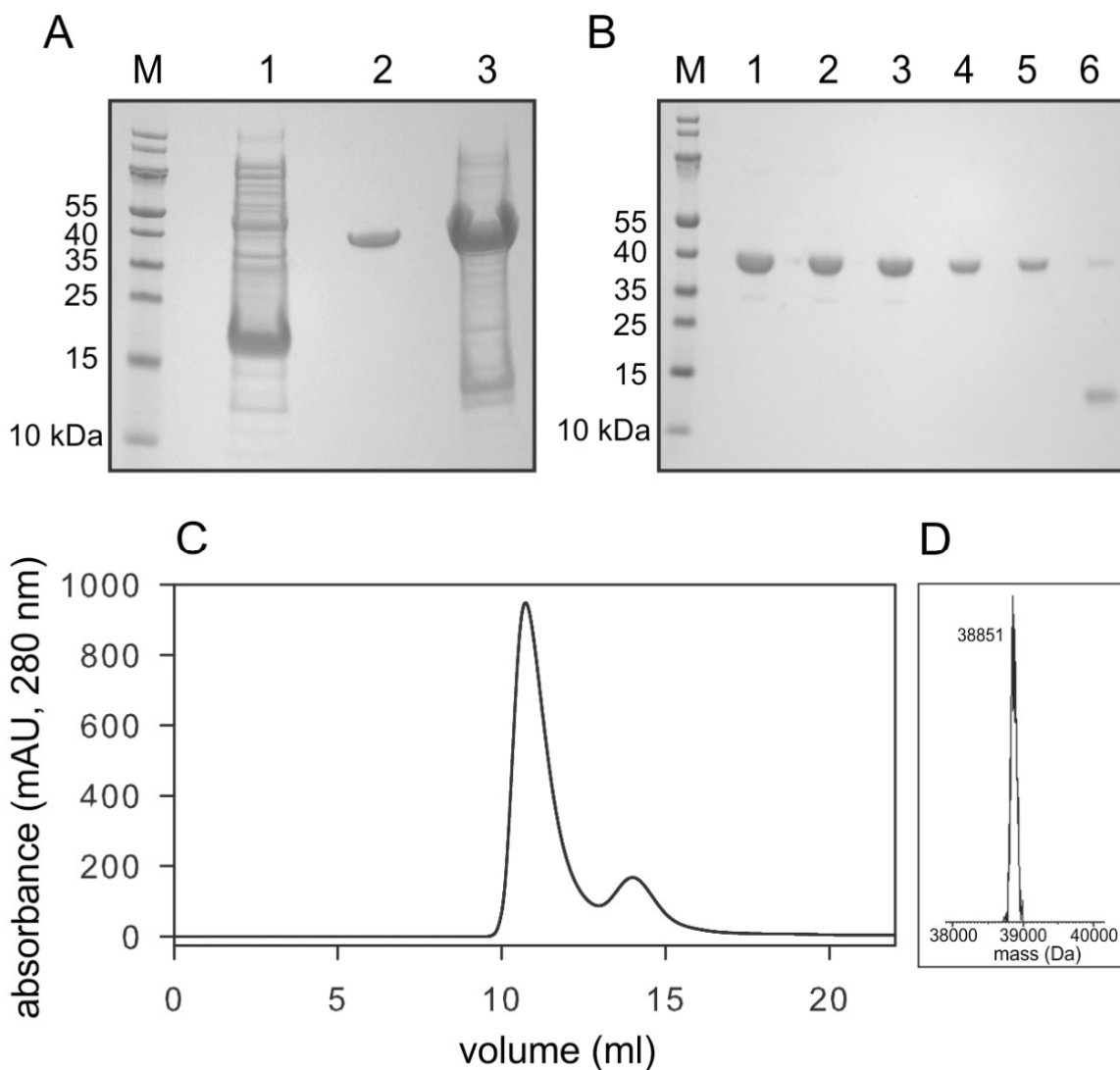


Figure S5: (A) SDS-PAGE analysis of the cell lysate from over-expression of the  $\Delta$ MA-CA-IntN construct (lane 3, 42.2 kDa), the cell lysate from over-expression of the IntC-CA-SP1-NC construct (lane 1, 15.1 kDa), and purified, segmentally-labelled  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC (lane 2, 38.9 kDa). Molecular weight markers are in the lane marked M. (B) SDS-PAGE analysis of fractions from the first chromatographic purification step, using a Hi-Trap SP-FF Sepharose column. Fractions containing  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC are in lanes 2-6. The unbound fraction is in lane 6. Gels were stained using Imperial protein stain. (C) Chromatogram from the second purification step, using a Superdex 75 10/300 GL column. The main peak contains segmentally-labeled  $\Delta$ MA-CA-SP1-NC. (D) Mass spectrum of the main peak after deconvolution of multi-charged  $m/z$  data from electrospray ionization.

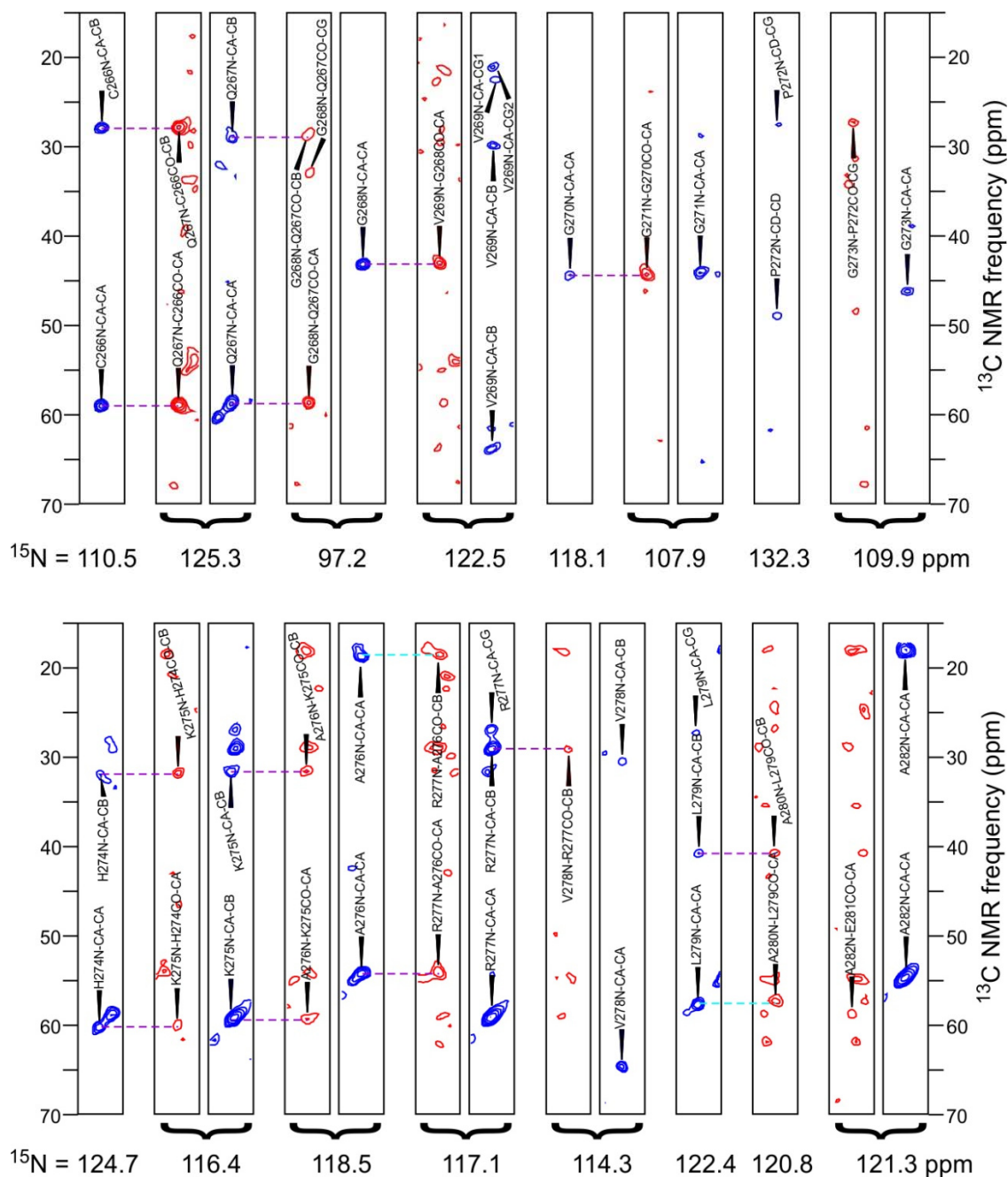


Figure S6: Portions of 2D planes (*i.e.*, "strip plots") from the 3D NCACX spectrum (blue contours) and the 3D NCOCX spectrum (red contours) of segmentally labeled VLPs without BVM.  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  planes are taken at the indicated  $^{15}\text{N}$  frequencies in the  $t_1$  dimension, with the  $t_2$  dimension on the horizontal axis and the  $t_3$  dimension on the vertical axis. In the  $t_2$  dimension, each strip is centered at the  $^{13}\text{C}_\alpha$  frequency of the labeled crosspeaks and has a width of 5 ppm. Contour levels increase by successive factors of 1.3. Site-specific assignments are derived from a combination of these 3D spectra and the 2D spectra in Fig. 2. Dashed purple lines indicate connections that support these assignments.

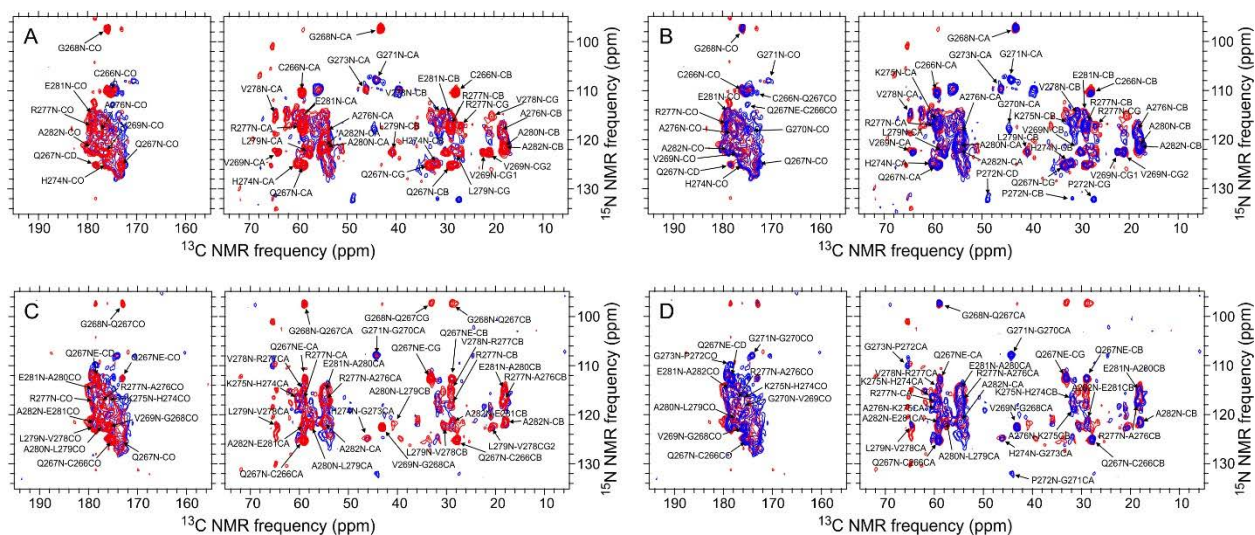


Figure S7: Superpositions of 2D NCACX (A,B) and NCOCX (C,D) spectra of segmentally-labeled VLPs with and without BVM. In panels A and C, contours for VLPs with BVM (red) are displayed over counters for VLPs without BVM (blue). Assignments refer to 2D spectra of VLPs with BVM. In panels B and D, contours for VLPs without BVM (blue) are displayed over counters for VLPs with BVM (red). Assignments refer to 2D spectra of VLPs without BVM. Contour levels increase by successive factors of 1.3.

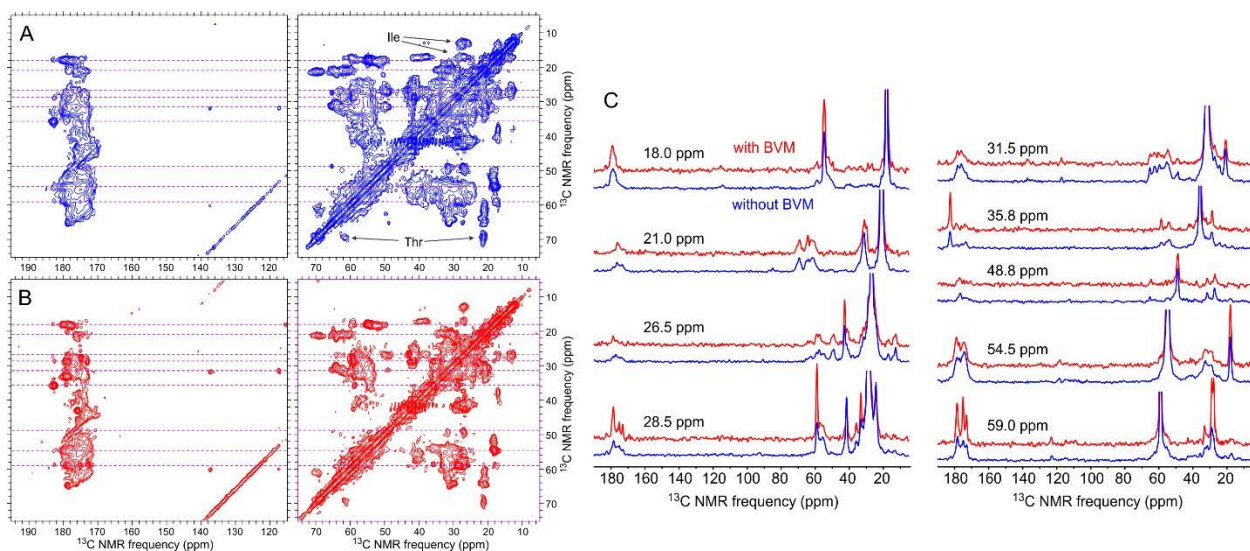


Figure S8: 2D  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  spectra of segmentally-labeled VLPs without (A, blue contours) and with (B, red contours) BVM. Contour levels increase by successive factors of 1.4. (C) 1D slices from the 2D  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  spectra, taken at the dashed purple lines in panels A and B.

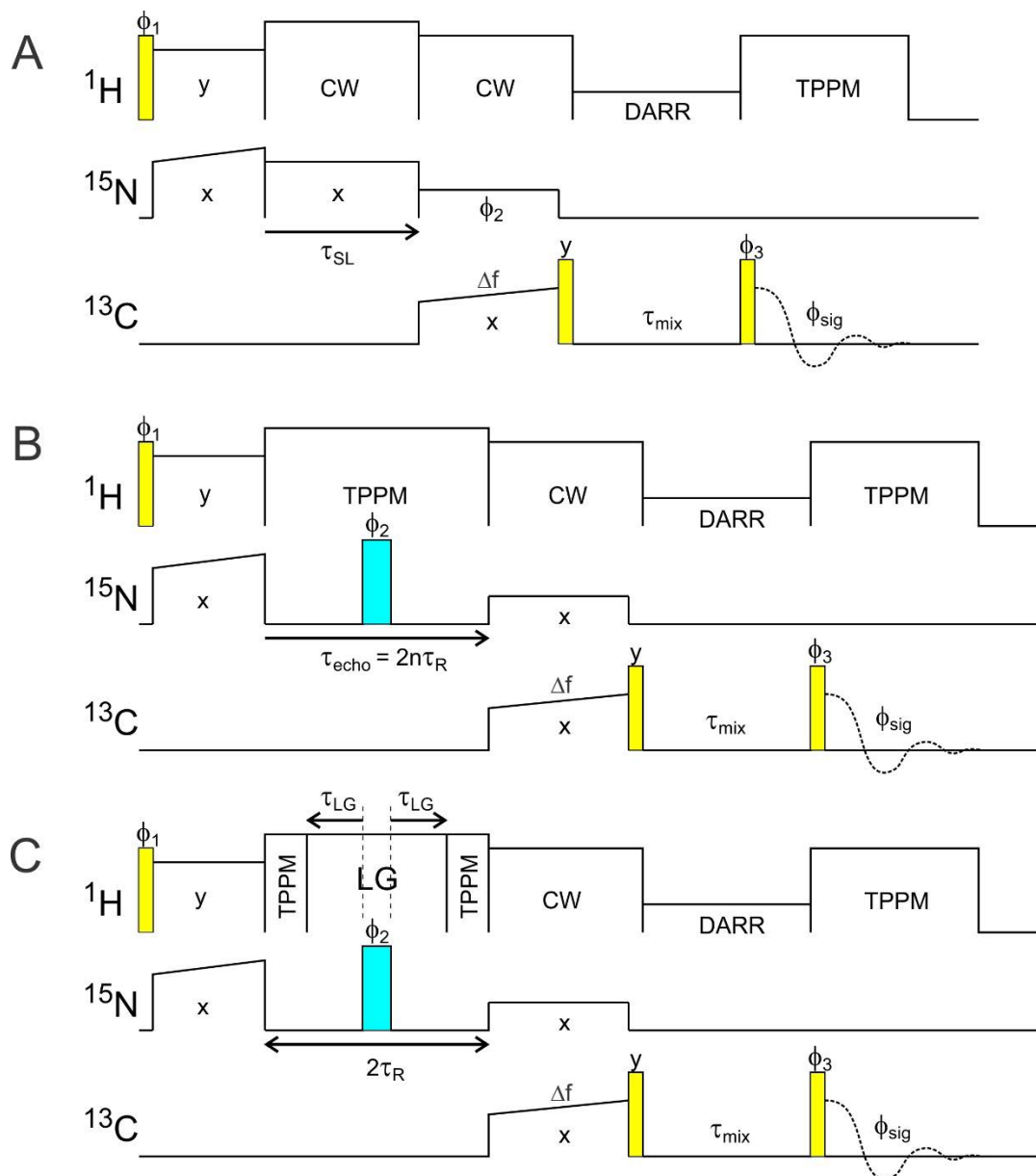


Figure S9: Radio-frequency pulse sequences for  $^{13}\text{C}$ -detected  $^{15}\text{N}$   $T_{1\rho}$  measurements (A),  $^{15}\text{N}$   $T_2$  measurements (B), and DIPSHIFT measurements of  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$  dipole-dipole couplings (C). Yellow and cyan rectangles are  $\pi/2$  and  $\pi$  pulses, respectively.  $^{13}\text{C}$  carrier frequency offsets  $\Delta f$  are adjusted to select  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$ CO or  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^{13}\text{C}\alpha$  cross-polarization transfers, for NCOCX-detected or NCACX-detected measurements. MAS rotation,  $^{13}\text{C}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  polarization transfer,  $^{15}\text{N}$  spin-locking,  $^{15}\text{N}$  spin-echo, and  $^1\text{H}$ - $^1\text{H}$  Lee-Goldburg decoupling periods are  $\tau_R$ ,  $\tau_{\text{mix}}$ ,  $\tau_{\text{SL}}$ ,  $\tau_{\text{echo}}$ , and  $\tau_{\text{LG}}$ , respectively. Other abbreviations are: CW = continuous wave decoupling; TPPM = two-pulse phase-modulated decoupling; DARR = dipolar-assisted rotational resonance. Phase cycling in panel A includes:  $\phi_1 = x, -x$ ;  $\phi_2 = x, x, -x, -x$ ;  $\phi_3 = x, x, x, x, y, y, y, y$ ;  $\phi_{\text{sig}} = x, -x, -x, x, y, -y, -y, y$ . Phase cycling in panels B and C includes:  $\phi_1 = x, -x$ ;  $\phi_2 = x, x, y, y, -x, -x, -y, -y$ ;  $\phi_3 = x, x, x, x, x, x, x, x, y, y, y, y, y, y, y, y$ ;  $\phi_{\text{sig}} = x, -x, -x, x, x, -x, -x, x, y, -y, -y, y, y, -y, -y, y, y, -y, -y, y$ .



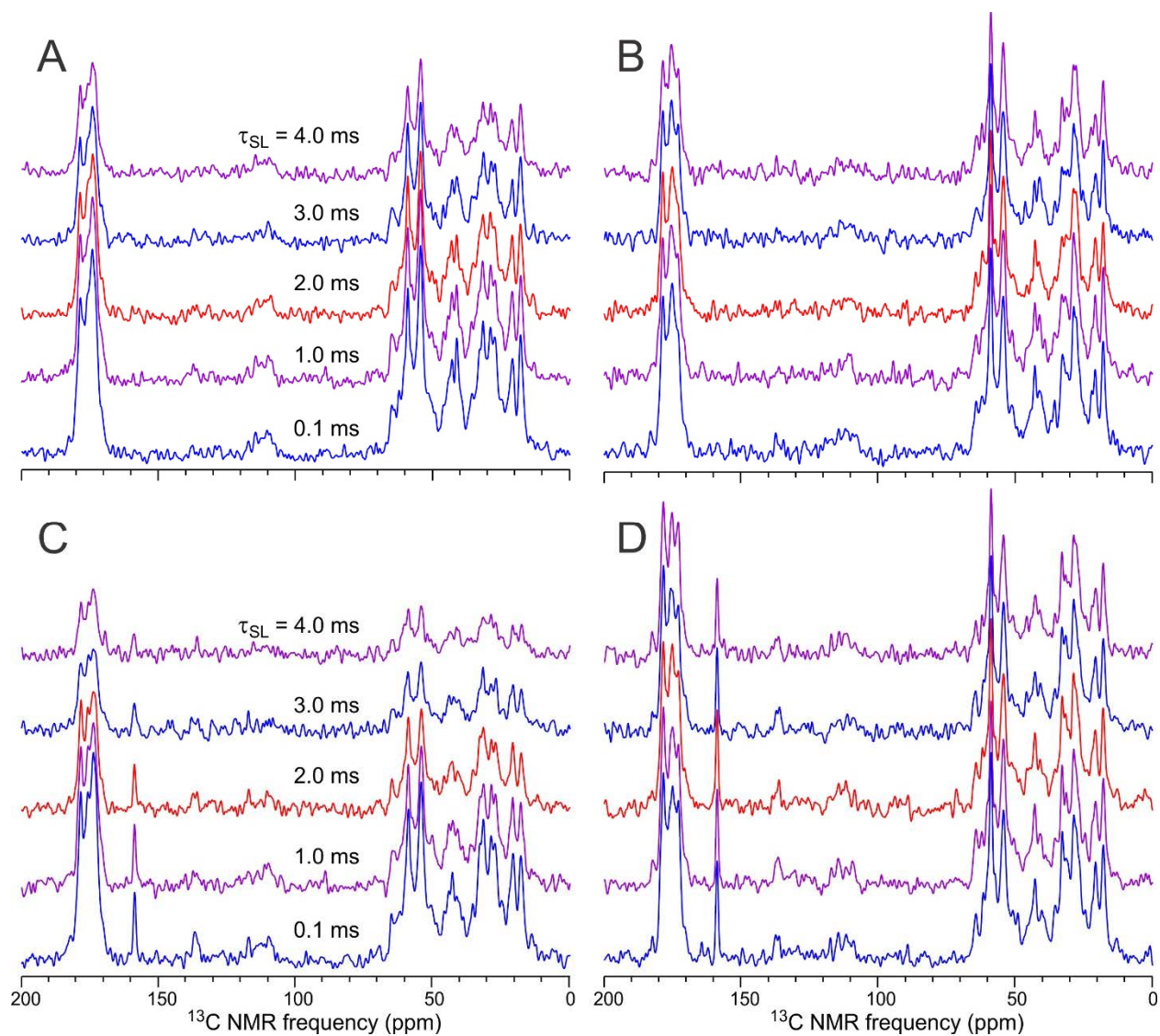
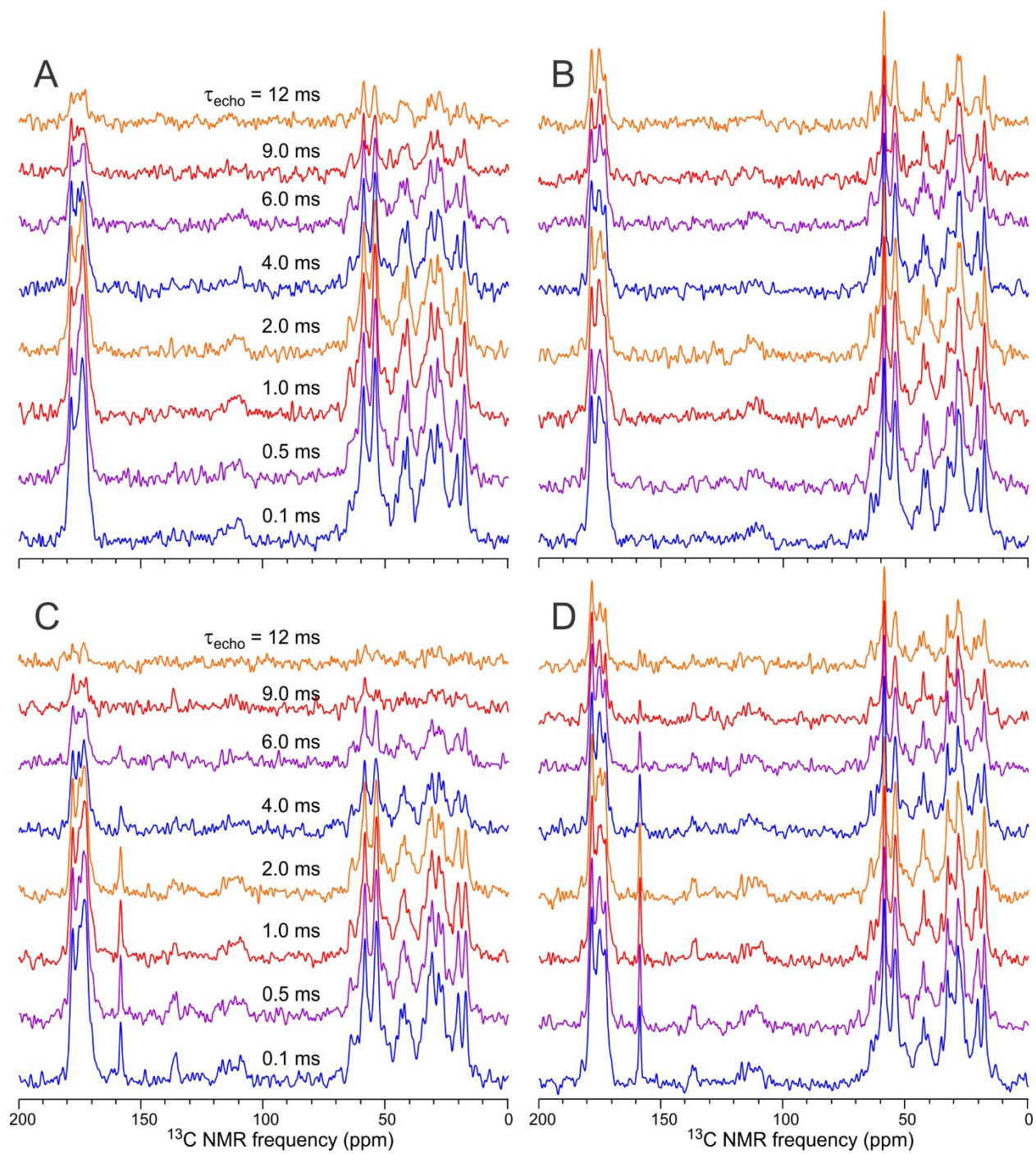


Figure S10: 1D  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectra from  $^{15}\text{N}$   $T_{1\rho}$  measurements. (A) VLPs without BVM, NCACX-detected. (B) VLPs with BVM, NCACX-detected. (C) VLPs without BVM, NCOCX-detected. (D) VLPs with BVM, NCOCX-detected.



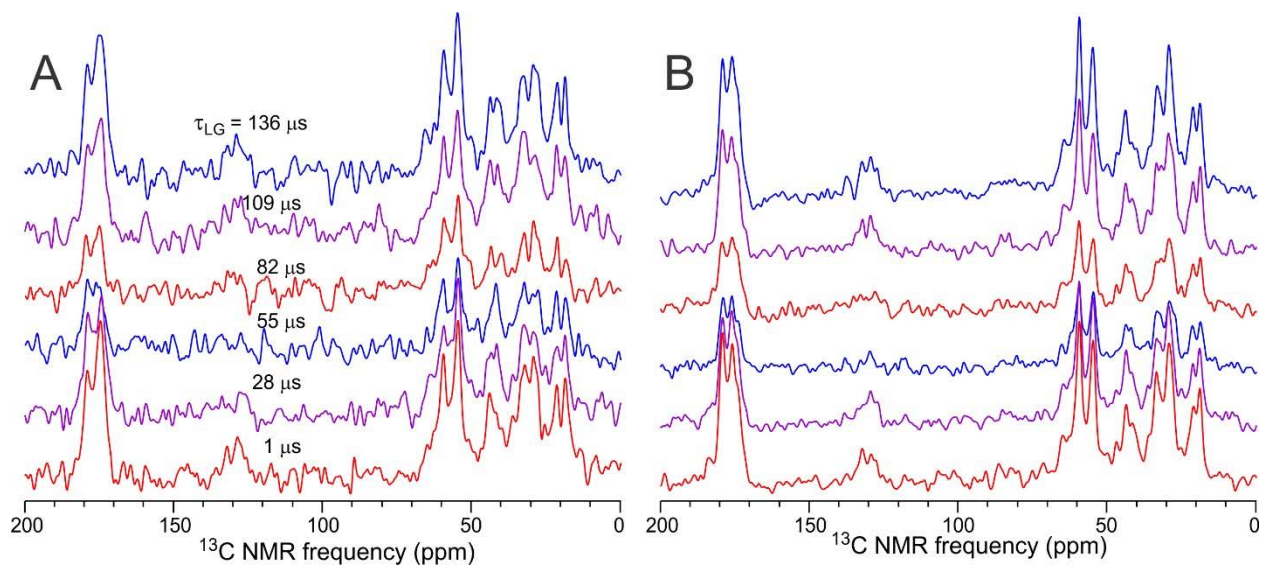


Figure S12: 1D  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectra from NCACX-detected  $^{15}\text{N}$ - $^1\text{H}$  DIPSHIFT measurements on VLPs without BVM (A) and VLPs with BVM (B).

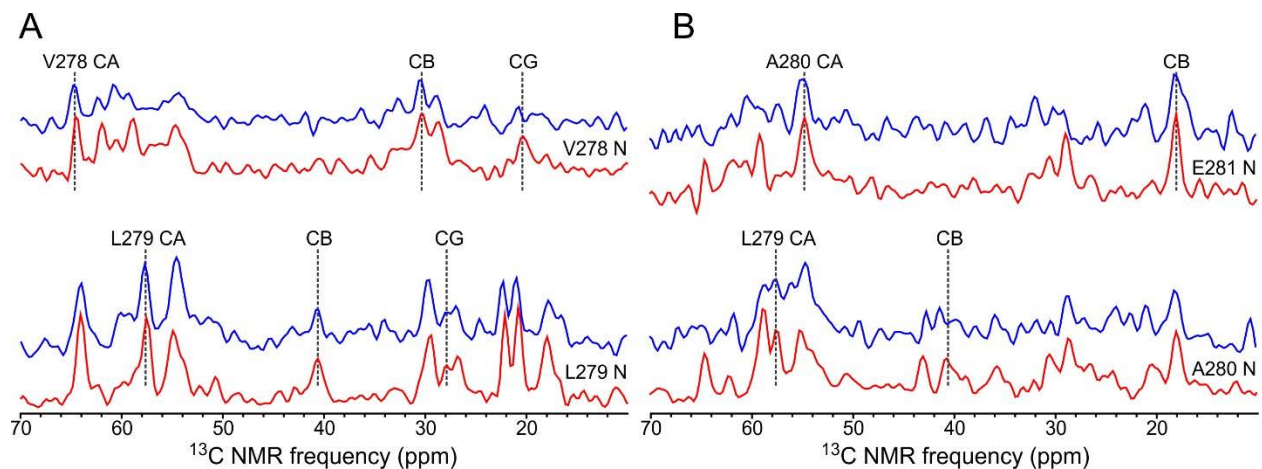


Figure S13: 1D slices from 2D NCACX (A) and NCOCX (B) spectra at  $^{15}\text{N}$  NMR frequencies of V278, L279, A280, or E281. The full 2D spectra are shown in Fig. 2. Slices from spectra of VLPs with BVM (red) and without BVM (blue) are compared, and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR frequencies of V278, L279, and A280 are indicated by vertical dashed lines.