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# Supplemental Information

# Interactions of a Bacterial RND

### Transporter with a Transmembrane Small Protein

## in a Lipid Environment

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**Supplementary Information**

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**Figure S1. Related to Figure 1.** Cryo-EM of AcrBZ in saposin A disc. (**A**) Representative cryo-EM micrograph image of AcrBZ in saposin A disc. The image has been corrected for drift. (**B**) Typical two-dimensional class averages of the particles. (**C**) Gold-standard Fourier Shell Correlation indicating the resolution of the density maps. Shown are FSC plots generated between reconstructions from random halves of the data. (**D**) Local resolution estimation by ResMap of AcrBZ. (**E**) Details of

structure-map overlay reveals quality of fit suitable to validate observed structural differences.



**Figure S2. Related to Figure 3.** Structural changes associated with AcrZ binding. Overlay of AcrB (grey; partially transparent) and AcrBZ (colored) protomers in L, T, O, conformation from cryo-EM derived structures of protein(s) reconstituted in *E. coli* lipids inside a saposin A-disc. To facilitate visualisation, only part of the protein is displayed for which changes were greatest: PC1/2, PN2, I2, TMH 2, TMH 8, TMH 10- 12, and TMH 4-6 (i.e. reference frame). Color Code: PC2, pink; PN2, purple; PC1, dark green; TMH 8, orange; TMH 4-6, navy blue; TMH 2, cyan; TMH 10-12, blue; I2, grey.



**Figure S3. Related to Figure 4.** Mutation of AcrZ interfacial residues. (**A**) The sequence of AcrZ. Interfacial residues predicted by previous structure and mutated are highlighted in red. (**B**) Structure of AcrB (grey) and AcrZ (blue) with interfacial residues indicated in red. (**C**) Split adenylate cyclase two-hybrid assays of the interaction between plasmid-encoded T25-AcrB and the empty vector, wild type AcrZ-T18 or the indicated mutant. T25-AcrB and the AcrZ-T18 indicated were co-expressed in an adenylate cyclase deficient strain and grown to  $OD_{600} \sim 1$  when cells were harvested for β-galactosidase activity assay. Shown are the average and standard deviation of three experiments. The first and second wt and vector samples are the same. (**D**) Exponentially-growing cultures of the *E. coli* ∆*acrZ* strains carrying the pBAD24 empty vector, wild type AcrZ or the indicated AcrZ mutant were applied across chloramphenicol gradient plates to visualize differences in antibiotic sensitivity. The plates were incubated overnight at 37°C and photographed. Shown here is a representative image of an experiment carried out in triplicate.



**Figure S4. Related to Figure 5.** Cardiolipin and POPG enrichment around AcrB and AcrBZ. (**A**) The number of cardiolipin (left) and POPG (right) found within 6 Å of AcrB (black) and AcrBZ (red or blue) throughout 5 µs of coarse-grained simulations. Data shown from three independent repeats. (**B**) Partial mass density of cardiolipin (red) and POPG (blue) and around AcrB (white space in the middle of the graph). This is normalized to the number of cardiolipin and POPG in the membrane. (**C**) Same

analysis performed on AcrBZ. (**D**) The number of each lipid species divided by the total number of lipids in contact with AcrB and AcrBZ during the simulation.



**Figure S5. Related to Figure 6.** Structural comparison of substrate entry site between saposin A disc reconstituted AcrB and AcrBZ with cardiolipin enrichment. L protomers of cryo-EM derived AcrB (in grey; partially transparent) reconstituted in *E. coli* lipids inside a saposin A disc and AcrBZ (blue) reconstituted in *E. coli* lipids enriched with cardiolipin inside a saposin A disc. Channel 2 entry is restricted by a loop region of PC1/2 (red) for substrate entry from the outer leaflet of the inner membrane. In the surface view, the entry site is open in case of the AcrBZ complex with 5% cardiolipin addition (**A**) and closed in AcrB without cardiolipin enrichment (**B**). The channel 1 entry site, protruding from the periplasm, is slightly lowered in case of AcrBZ (**C**), for easier access from above the membrane outer surface area, and elevated in case of AcrB (**D**). The dashed lines indicate the approximate level of the outer leaflet boundary with the periplasm (at which substrates presumably enter the complex).



**Figure S6. Related to Figure 6.** Translocation of chloramphenicol into the binding site of AcrBZ and AcrB unaffected by the switch loop conformation. (**A**) A steered molecular dynamic simulation was performed whereby a chloramphenicol molecule was pulled from the periplasmic space into the deep binding pocket of the L protomer of AcrBZ. Views from the top (left) and side (right) of the protein are shown. Snapshots of chloramphenicol (nitrite group is orange, hydroxyl is green, and the rest is grey as shown in inset) and the switch loop (red) were taken every 1 ns of the simulation. The approximate position of the deep binding pocket is indicated by the black dotted circle. (**B**) A steered molecular dynamic simulation performed for AcrB showing a similar entry pathway of the drug into the protein. These simulations indicate that the switch loop is flexible and is able to allow the passage of chloramphenicol for both AcrBZ and AcrB.



**Figure S7. Related to Figure 6.** Chloramphenicol binds more stably to AcrBZ with 5% cardiolipin. (**A**) and (**B**) Snapshots of chloramphenicol (same color scheme as Figure S6 for the antibiotic and Figure 6C,D for protein) bound to the binding site of the T protomer of AcrBZ and AcrB, respectively, taken every 10 ns from a 500 ns simulation. Residues highlighted in Figure 6C,D are shown in red. (**C**) and (**D**) The coordinate along the z-axis (perpendicular to the plane of the membrane) of the nitrite and hydroxyl moieties during two independent simulations (Sim1 and Sim2) with

AcrBZ and AcrB, respectively. Arrows in (**D**) indicate the time points at which the drug molecule flipped its orientation within the binding site. (**E**) and (**F**) The most frequently sampled conformation of the drug molecule from these simulations. The binding of chloramphenicol to AcrBZ was potentially stabilized by a pi-stacking interaction between its nitrobenzene ring and either F178 and F615. This interaction was absent in the AcrB simulations and the closest aromatic residue was F617, which was more than 4 Å away.

**Table S1.** Cryo-EM data collection and refinement statistics for AcrBZ and AcrB structures, Related to

Figure 1.





#### **Table S3.** Oligonucleotides. Related to Figure 4.

