## **Supporting Information for**

## **Architecture of the flexible tail tube of bacteriophage SPP1**

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MGMPETPIMGQDVKYLFQSIDAATGSAPLFPAYQTDGSVSGERELFDEQT

KNGRILGPGSVADSGEVTYYGKRGDAGQKAIEDAYQNGKQIKFWRVDTVK

NENDKYDAQFGFAYIESREYSDGVEGAVEISISLQVIGELKNGEIDTLPE

1 MPIMGQDVKYLFQSIDAATGSAPLFPAYQTDGSVSGERELFDEQTKNGRI LGPGSVADSGEVTYYGKRGDAGQKAIEDAYQNGKQIKFWRVDTVKNENDK

YDAQFGFAYIESREYSDGVEGAVEISISLQVIGELKNGEIDTLPEEIVNV

EIVNVSKGGYDFQQPGQTTGEAPGTVPAPHHHHHH

 $\mathbf a$ 

 $\mathbf b$ 

70

70

60

50

40

<sup>13</sup>C chemical shift / ppm

 $\mathbf{1}$ 

51

101

151

51

101

 $>qp17.1$ :

 $>\Delta N-3$  qp17.1:

Figure S2. Aliphatic region of 2D hCC solid-state NMR correlation spectra of fully-protonated gp17.1 (pink) and  $\Delta N-3$ gp17.1 (blue) tail tubes at 11 kHz MAS and 900 MHz external magnetic field strength. The zoom into the alanine region reveals that both spectra show the same fingerprint, demonstrating that the N-terminal truncation does not impair the structural organization of the tail tube.

30

20

Zoom into the alanine

region



**Figure S3.** Typical micrographs of polymerized gp17.1 tail tubes. a) The flexible tubes show variable bending and cross each other. Yellow circles represent the maximum observed curvature of the tail tubes as described in the methods. The curvature was averaged over the five most bent tubes observed in the micrographs. b) Exemplary picked straight filament segments for cryo-EM image processing. The green circles label the starting and ending coordinates. The scale bar measures 50 nm.



Figure S4. Quality of the cryo-EM map. Cryo-EM density of the inner (a) and outer  $\beta$ -sheet (b) resolves sidechains.



**Figure S5.** Final ten lowest-energy structures of two SPP1 tail-tube rings after hybrid structure calculation (PDB ID 6YQ5). One gp17.1 subunit within the top ring is highlighted in red. The assembly is shown from the side a) and from the top b). The direction of the tail structure is baseplate upwards.



**Figure S6.** Electrostatic potential of two rings of the SPP1 phage tail-tube. The structure (PDB ID 6YQ5) was prepared with PDB2PQR<sup>1</sup> and the potential was computed with the Adaptive Poisson-Boltzmann Solver (APBS) program<sup>2</sup>. The color gradient represents the electrostatic potential. The tail features a highly negatively charged lumen. The tail-tube is shown in a side view from the a) inside and b) outside. The direction of the tail structure is baseplate upwards.



**Figure S7.** Structural alignment of the TTPs gp17.1 (*Siphoviridae*, SPP1 phage), and gp53<sup>3</sup> (*Siphoviridae*, 80 phage), YSD1\_22<sup>4</sup> (*Siphoviridae*, YSD1), Rcc01691<sup>5</sup> (*Rhodobacter capsulatus*, gene transfer agent) and gp19<sup>6</sup> (*Myoviridae*, T4 phage) disregarding additional Ig-like domains. Structural alignments were performed with ChimeraX using the Needleman-Wunsch algorithm with a BLOSUM-62 residue similarity matrix of weight 0.7 and secondary structure scoring of weight 0.3.<sup>7</sup> In general, all TTPs share a common fold with RMSDs of 0.97 Å for gp17.1 and gp53 (**a**, between 67 pruned CA atom pairs), 1.16 Å for gp17.1 and YSD1\_22 (**b**, between 11 pruned CA atom pairs), 1.08 Å for gp17.1 and Rcc01691 (**c**, between 35 pruned CA atom pairs), and 1.36 Å for gp17.1 and gp19 (**d**, between 21 pruned CA atom pairs). Structural differences are highlighted in magenta for gp17.1 and in green for the others. All TTPs share a common fold consisting of a  $\beta$ -sandwich-type fold that is flanked by an  $\alpha$ -helix. gp17.1 and gp53 additionally feature similar loop regions – the C-arm (143-176) (even if not completely resolved in gp53) and the loop (40-59). YSD1\_22 features an additional N-terminal loop (N-loop) and a domain (domain2) that embraces the neighboring subunit but lacks the ring-ring connecting C-terminal extension. Rcc01691 has no additional loops and lacks the ring-ring connecting C-terminal extension. gp19 lacks the ring-ring connecting C-terminal extension but has two additional loop regions (N-loop,  $\alpha$ -loop).



**Figure S8.** Relaxation rates a)  $R_1$  and b)  $R_1$  as a function of residue number. Missing values represent residues that superimpose in the 2D hNH spectrum. The data were collected at 40 kHz MAS, 900 MHz external magnetic field strength and a temperature of +18 °C. The  $R_{1\rho}$  rates were collected with a spin lock field of 5 kHz. The error bars represent twice the standard deviation of the fitting errors, which were estimated from Monte Carlo simulations with 1000 repetitions using the spectral noise level as input. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



**Figure S9.** Combined fit of <sup>15</sup>N R1<sub>P</sub> relaxation dispersion plots of residues belonging to the inner  $\beta$ -barrel to a twostate Bloch McConell exchange process. The fit was conducted with a global exchange coefficient  $k_{ex}$ , individual  $\phi_{ex}$ and individual R1p rates. The data were collected at 40 kHz MAS, 900 MHz external magnetic field strength and a temperature of +18 °C. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



Figure S10. <sup>15</sup>N R1<sub>P</sub> relaxation dispersion plots of residues 6 to 98 of gp17.1. The line represents the best fit to a two-state Bloch McConell equation as described in the Methods. Missing residues superimpose in the 2D hNH spectrum and/or are unassigned. The data were collected at 40 kHz MAS, 900 MHz external magnetic field strength and a temperature of +18 °C. Ile18, Ala20, Thr22 and Gly23 have a different y-axis scaling. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



**Figure S11.** <sup>15</sup>N R1<sub>P</sub> relaxation dispersion plots of residues 99 to 174 of gp17.1. The line represents the best fit to a two-state Bloch McConell equation as described in the Methods. Missing residues superimpose in the 2D hNH spectrum and/or are unassigned. The data were collected at 40 kHz MAS, 900 MHz external magnetic field strength and a temperature of +18 °C. Glu123, Gly124, Val151 and Gly164 have a different y-axis scaling. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



Figure S12. <sup>15</sup>N relaxation dispersion mapped onto three subunits of two rings of the SPP1 tail tube. Residues highlighted in pink and turquoise show non-flat relaxation dispersion profiles and are, thus, involved in motions on the millisecond timescale. Residues turquoise can be fitted in a combined manner to a two-state Bloch McConell exchange process. Residues in orange show flat profiles, residues in white superimpose or are unassigned. The direction of the tail structure is baseplate upwards. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



**Figure S13.** Exemplary 2D class averages for the straight segments.



**Figure S14.** Fourier shell correlation (FSC) calculated between two half maps. According to the 0.143 criterion the obtained resolution is 4.3 Å. The FSC curve was fitted using 1/[e ((*x-A)/B*)+1] <sup>C</sup> , yielding *A*=0.122, *B*=0.015, and *C*=0.228. The fit yields a more robust resolution estimate of 4.0 Å (red). The model/map FSC (green) yields a similar cross-resolution estimate (at FSC of 0.5).



**Figure S15.** 2D class averages of bent tail tubes.

**Table S1.** Methyl-labeled and/or deuterated protein samples used in this study. The precursors were supplemented to the bacterial culture as described by us in Zinke et al. 2018 and in the protocols provided by NMR-Bio (Grenoble).





**Table S2.** Summary of the acquired solid-state NMR spectra including their purpose. Methyl-labeled and/or deuterated samples were studied at 40 kHz MAS. The fully-protonated samples were studied at 11 kHz MAS.

**Table S3.** Parameters used for the spectral reconstruction of the non-uniformly sampled 4D spectrum. The reconstruction was conducted using the hmsIST software package.<sup>14</sup>



**Table S4.** Pulse program parameters. All experiments were conducted at a magic-angle spinning rate of 40 kHz and an external B<sub>0</sub> field corresponding to 900 MHz <sup>1</sup>H Larmor frequency. Unless mentioned otherwise, carrier positions were set to the center of the chemical shift range.





**Table S5.** Acquisition parameters for 2D, 3D, and 4D spectra. The highest dimension is always the direct dimension. Parameters for 2D hCH, 3D HNhH, and 3D HChH spectra are exemplarily shown for the LV-methyl labeled species. Acquired points for further methyl-labeled samples vary due to inherently different chemical shift dispersions. The 4D HNhhNH spectrum was recorded on the uniformly labeled sample and with non-uniform sampling (25 %).



**Table S6.** Processing parameters for 2D, 3D and 4D spectra. The highest dimension is always the direct dimension.

	<b>Points after FT</b>				<b>Window function</b>			
<b>Experiment</b>	F1	F <sub>2</sub>	F3	F4	F <sub>1</sub>	F <sub>2</sub>	F3	F4
2D hCH	1k $(^{13}C)$	4k ( <sup>1</sup> H)	N/A	N/A	sin <sup>2</sup> , $\varphi$ =45°	sin <sup>2</sup> , $\omega$ =45°	N/A	N/A
3D HNhH	128 $(^1H)$	128 $(^{15}N)$	4k $(^{1}H)$	N/A	sin <sup>2</sup> , $\varphi$ =60°	$sin^2$ , $\phi = 60^\circ$	$sin^2$ , $\phi = 60^\circ$	N/A
3D HChH	128 $(^1H)$	128 $(^{13}C)$	$2k(^{1}H)$	N/A	sin <sup>2</sup> , $\varphi = 60^\circ$	sin <sup>2</sup> , $\varphi$ =60°	$\sin^2$ , $\phi = 60^\circ$	N/A
<b>4D HNhhNH</b>	64 $(^{15}N)$	64 $(^1H)$	64 $(^{15}N)$	1k $(^{1}H)$	sin <sup>2</sup> , $\varphi = 90^\circ$	sin <sup>2</sup> , $\phi = 90^\circ$	sin <sup>2</sup> , $\phi = 90^\circ$	$sin^2$ , $\phi = 60^\circ$

Table S7. Values for the fitting of the relaxation dispersion profiles of the inner  $\beta$ -barrel residues to a two-state Bloch McConell exchange process. Exemplary chemical shift differences between the two sites p<sub>A</sub> (95%) and p<sub>B</sub> (5%) are extracted from the  $\phi_{\text{ex}}$  individual values.



**Table S8.** Cryo-EM data collection, refinement and validation statistics



**Table S9.** Overview of long-range distance restraints from solid-state NMR. The numbers of spectrally unambiguous (chemical shift cutoffs <sup>15</sup>N ~0.15 ppm, <sup>13</sup>C ~0.15 ppm, <sup>1</sup>HN ~0.05 ppm, <sup>1</sup>Hmethyl ~0.03 ppm) restraints are shown in brackets.



**Table S10.** Violations of solid-state NMR long-range distance restraints.



**Table S11.** Ensemble RMSDs after hybrid structure calculation (PDB ID 6YQ5). For each pair from the ensemble the RMSD between coordinates of an atom selection was computed using the Kabsch algorithm. These values were then averaged over all combinations and the standard deviation of these was computed. There is significant difference between the RMSDs within a single subunit and the corresponding RMSD values computed for the entire assembly.



## **Supporting References**

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