## **Supplementary Information**

## **Cryo-EM Structures of the SARS-CoV-2 Endoribonuclease Nsp15 Reveal Insight into Nuclease Specificity and Dynamics**

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**Supplementary Fig. 1. Nsp15 is a central regulator of SARS-CoV-2 RNA processing.** Upon viral entry, the single-strand SARS-CoV-2 positive-sense genomic RNA (+gRNA; yellow) is released into the cytoplasm and translated by host ribosomes to generate viral polyproteins pp1a and pp1ab. Subsequent proteolytic cleavage of the polyproteins results in a variety of nonstructural proteins (Nsp) essential for diverse viral functions. Transcription of the positive-sense genomic RNA produces a negative-sense genomic RNA (-gRNA; green) intermediate. The negative-sense strand is a template for reverse transcription (RT) generating a series of positivesense subgenomic RNAs (+sgRNA; brown), which are translated into diverse structural proteins. In addition, the negative-sense strand is also the template for viral replication. The non-structural protein Nsp15 (orange) is a poly-(U) specific endonuclease that cleaves 3¢ to uridines within the viral genomic RNA. Nsp15 cleavage sites (blue arrowheads) have been mapped all along the positive-sense genomic RNA and 5'-end of the negative-sense genomic RNA. Nsp15 viral RNA processing plays an important role for evading detection by the host innate immune response.



**Supplementary Fig. 2. Purification of recombinant SARS-CoV-2 Nsp15 variants.** Purified Nsp15 variants wild-type (black), H235A (blue), and H250A (red) were resolved over a Superdex-200 increase 10/300 GL gel filtration column using SEC buffer. Inset is an SDS-PAGE analysis of recombinant Nsp15 wild-type (wt), H235A, and H250A variants. Purifications were performed at least three times for each construct.



**Supplementary Fig. 3. Overview of cryo-EM processing scheme for UTP-bound Nsp15. a** A representative micrograph of wt-Nsp15 in the presence of excess UTP in vitreous ice. Four technical replicates of SARS-CoV-2 UTP-bound Nsp15 sample were imaged with similar results. **b** Selected 2D classes generated from 1087 movies collected from an UltrAuFoil R1.2/1.3 300 mesh grid. **c** Angular distribution of UTP-bound wt-Nsp15 particles. **d** Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curve for the UTP-bound Nsp15 reconstruction. The overall resolution is 3.38 Å according to the FSC 0.143 criteria 1,2. **e** Cryo-EM reconstruction of UTP-bound Nsp15 colored based on local resolution calculated using cryoSparc v2<sup>3</sup>. **f** Cryo-EM density for Nsp15 endoU active site (gray) with the corresponding model shown as a cartoon with individual active site residues, 5¢- UMP, and modeled phosphate shown as sticks. **g** Cryo-EM processing workflow. Picked particles (383,271) were subjected to 2D classification, 3D classification, and refinement prior to local refinement of a single Nsp15 protomer in cryoSPARC v2 $3$ .



**Supplementary Fig. 4. Arrangement of Nsp15 endoU domains.** Orthogonal views of **a** surface rendering and **b** cartoon model of hexameric Nsp15. The ND, MD, and endoU domains are outlined in orange, red, and beige, respectfully. The Nsp15 ND and MD domains are colored as seen in Fig. 2B. The endoU domains of six Nsp15 protomers (P1 to P6) are colored in bright hues of green, purple, red, yellow, gray, and cyan, respectfully. **c** Cartoon model (left) and corresponding electrostatic surface potential of an Nsp15 protomer (middle) and hexamer (right). Dinucleotide RNA substrate is modeled into the Nsp15 endoribonuclease active sites and shown as green sticks. The dinucleotide model was created based on the positioning the bridging phosphate interaction with H250 and alignment with the attaching O2<sup>'</sup>. The 3<sup>'</sup> nucleotide was oriented for base stacking with W333.



(http:// consurf-hssp.tau.ac.il) of Nsp15 homologues plotted with respect to its domain architecture. Conserved and variable amino acid residues are colored as purple and green bars, respectively. The SARS-CoV-2 Nsp15 model of the protomer is shown as a cartoon and colored based on amino acid residue conservation. **b** Surface representation of hexameric Nsp15 illustrating conserved (purple) to variable (green) residues based on the Consurf analysis. The ND, MD, and endoU domains are outlined in orange, red, and beige, respectfully. **c** Sequence alignment of Nsp15 performed by PROMAL3D<sup>4</sup> and illustrated by JalView<sup>5</sup>. Black arrowheads mark the position of Nsp15 endoU residues located within the active site.



**Supplementary Fig. 6. Model phosphate alignment.** An unpublished structure (PDB: 7K1L) was deposited in the PDB during revision of this manuscript. This structure represents a mimic of the cyclic phosphate intermediate, and **a** superposition with our structure (PDB: 7K0R) reveals good agreement between the uridine-2′,3′-vanadate and our placement of the model phosphate. **b and c** The standalone structures superposed in **a**.



**Supplementary Fig. 7. RNA analysis using mass spectrometry. a** The MS spectrum of the uncut FI-AAAUAA-TAMRA synthetic oligonucleotide shows doubly and triply charged species that correspond in mass to the theoretical mass of the intact oligonucleotide. **b** The MSMS spectrum of the m/z 1463.42 ion yields extensive fragmentation $<sup>6</sup>$  that confirms the identity of 5'-HO-AA-</sup> TAMRA cleavage product. **c** The MSMS spectrum of the m/z 914.14 ion yields extensive fragmentation $<sup>6</sup>$  that confirms the identity of FI-AAAU-2'3'-cP cleavage product. This spectrum is</sup> chimeric due to a coeluting, co-isolating molecule(s). Peaks labeled with asterisks (\*) arise from coeluting, co-isolating species as determined by extracted ion chromatograms generated for the various fragment ions in the 914.14 channel. Fragment ions that have a distinct peak at 6.2 minutes were assumed to arise from the 5'-FI-AAAU-2'3'-cP cleavage product.



**Supplementary Fig. 8. Overview of cryo-EM processing scheme for apo-state Nsp15 H235A dataset i. a** A representative micrograph of apo-state Nsp15 H235A in vitreous ice. Four technical replicates of SARS-CoV-2 Nsp15 H235A sample were imaged with similar results. **b** Selected 2D classes generated from 1377 movies collected from an UltrAuFoil R1.2/1.3 300 mesh grid. **c** Angular distribution of apo-state Nsp15 H235A particles. **d** Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curve for the apo-state Nsp15 H235A reconstruction. The overall resolution is 3.30 Å according to the FSC 0.143 criteria<sup>1,2</sup>. **e** Cryo-EM reconstruction of apo-state Nsp15 H235A colored based on local resolution calculated using cryoSparc v2<sup>3</sup>. **f** Cryo-EM processing workflow. Picked particles (382,348) were subjected to 2D classification, 3D classification, and refinement prior to local refinement of a single Nsp15 protomer in cryoSPARC  $v2<sup>3</sup>$ .



**Supplementary Fig. 9. Overview of cryo-EM processing scheme for apo-state wt Nsp15. a** A representative micrograph of apo-state wt-Nsp15 in vitreous ice. Four technical replicates of SARS-CoV-2 wt Nsp15 sample were imaged with similar results. **b** Selected 2D classes generated from 662 movies collected from an UltrAuFoil R1.2/1.3 300 mesh grid. **c** Angular distribution of apo-state wt-Nsp15 particles. **d** Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curve for the apostate Nsp15 reconstruction. The overall resolution is 3.02 Å according to the FSC 0.143 criteria<sup>1,2</sup>. **e** Cryo-EM reconstruction of apo-state Nsp15 colored based on local resolution calculated using cryoSparc v2<sup>3</sup>. f Cryo-EM processing workflow. Picked particles (672,879) were subjected to 2D classification, 3D classification, and refinement prior to local refinement of a single Nsp15 protomer in cryoSPARC  $v2<sup>3</sup>$ .



**Supplementary Fig. 10. Overview of cryo-EM processing scheme for apo-state Nsp15 H235A dataset ii. a** A representative micrograph of apo-state Nsp15 H235A in vitreous ice. Four technical replicates of SARS-CoV-2 Nsp15 H235A sample were imaged with similar results. **b** Selected 2D classes generated from 1882 movies collected from an UltrAuFoil R1.2/1.3 300 mesh grid. **c** Angular distribution of apo-state Nsp15 H235A particles. **d** Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curve for the apo-state Nsp15 reconstruction. The overall resolution is 2.94 Å according to the FSC 0.143 criteria<sup>1,2</sup>. **e** Cryo-EM reconstruction of apo-state Nsp15 H235A colored based on local resolution calculated using cryoSparc<sup>3</sup>. **f** Cryo-EM processing workflow. Picked particles (641,748) were subjected to 2D classification, 3D classification, and refinement prior to local refinement of a single Nsp15 protomer in cryoSPARC  $v2^3$ .



**Supplementary Fig. 11. Molecular dynamics of Nsp15. a** Root mean square deviations (RMSDs) from three runs (black, red, and green) of a substrate-free monomer (left) and 5¢-UMPbound monomer (right). Root mean square deviations (RMSDs) from three replicates of **b** substrate-free protomers from the hexamer (black= hexamer RMSD; colored plots= individual monomer RMSDs) and **c** 5¢-UMP-bound protomers from the hexamer (black= hexamer RMSD; colored plots= individual monomer RMSDs). Individual protomer RMSDs from hexamer systems are smaller when compared with the values of monomer systems, due to subdued dynamics of monomer in the hexameric configurations. **d** B-factors calculated from the positional fluctuations of the backbone atoms (red= substrate-free monomer; black= 5¢-UMP-bound monomer; green= a substrate-free monomer from the hexamer; blue= a 5¢-UMP-bound monomer from the hexamer).



**Supplementary Fig. 12. Nsp15 Molecular Dynamics Simulations.** Dynamical cross-correlation matrices (DCCM) from 2-3 independent runs for a 5'-UMP-free Nsp15 monomer, a 5'-UMP-bound Nsp15 monomer, a 5'-UMP-free monomer from the Nsp15 hexamer, and a 5'-UMP-bound monomer from the Nsp15 hexamer. Inset features the models of UMP-bound SARS-CoV-2 Nsp15 (PDB ID 6WLC) and apo-state HCoV-229E Nsp15 (PDB ID 4RS4) determined using crystallography. Ribbon diagram is colored according to average B factor value where blue is 31.7, white is 73.5, and red is 115.3.



**Supplementary Table 1**. Theoretical masses of putative Nsp15 RNA cleavage products.





\*Nsp15 models were the 5ʹ-UMP-bound Nsp15 crystal structure (xray) or the average model from three independent molecular dynamics simulations. **PDB ID 6WLC** was the reference coordinates used to generate the Nsp15 models.



**Supplementary Table 3**. Binding free energies estimated using MMGBSA calculations for the 50-ns segments of the final 450 ns of the 5'-UMP-bound Nsp15 hexamer simulation.

**Supplementary Table 4.** Sequences of codon optimized Nsp15 constructs used in this study.





## **Supplementary References**

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