

**Supplementary Fig. 1** Density maps of the barbed end grooves of Arp2 and Arp3 showing distance measurements  $x_2$  and  $x_3$ . **a**, Stereo view of Arp2 barbed end groove with density map shown around Arp2. Atoms used as endpoints for measurements are shown as spheres with dashed lines indicating distance  $x_2$  (I136 C $\alpha$  to V169 C $\alpha$ ) and  $x_3$  (S148 C $\alpha$  to D383 C $\alpha$ ). A portion of the D-loop from actin n+1 is shown in stick representation with cyan carbon atoms. **b**, Stereo view of Arp3 barbed end groove with density map shown around Arp3. Atoms used as endpoints for measurements are shown as spheres with dashed lines indicating distance  $x_2$  (V159 C $\alpha$  to Y200 C $\alpha$ ) and  $x_3$  (L179 C $\alpha$  to R418 C $\alpha$ ). A portion of the D-loop from actin n stick representation with cyan carbon atoms.



**Supplementary Fig. 2**| The WASP-C segment likely blocks engagement of the D-loop of actins with the barbed end grooves of Arp2 or Arp3. **a**, Hypothetical model of WASP bound to the activated Arp2/3 complex. The model was made by superposing the cross-linking and mass spectrometry-based WASP-CA binding model<sup>28</sup> onto the activated structure presented here. The WASP-V region was modeled into position on actins n and n+1 based on the structure PDB 2A40<sup>56</sup>. **b**, Diagrammatic representation showing WASP blocking long pitch interactions in the protofilament containing Arp3. In addition to WASP-C blocking the D-loop of actin subunit n, the WASP-V region may block association of the D-loop actin n+2 with actin n.