

Supplementary Material

Title: Contributions of the N-terminal intrinsically disordered region of the SARS-CoV-2 nucleocapsid protein to RNA-associated phase separation

Authors: Milan Zachrdla^[1,*], Adriana Savastano^[1,*], Alain Ibáñez de Opakua^[1,*], Maria-Sol Cima-Omori^[1] and Markus Zweckstetter^[1,2]

Corresponding author: Prof. Dr., M., Zweckstetter

German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE)

Von-Siebold Straße 3a, 37075 Göttingen, Germany

Markus.Zweckstetter@dzne.de

[1] German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE)

Von-Siebold Straße 3a, 37075 Göttingen, Germany

[2] Max Planck Institute for Multidisciplinary Sciences

Am Faßberg 11, 37077 Göttingen, Germany

* These authors contributed equally.

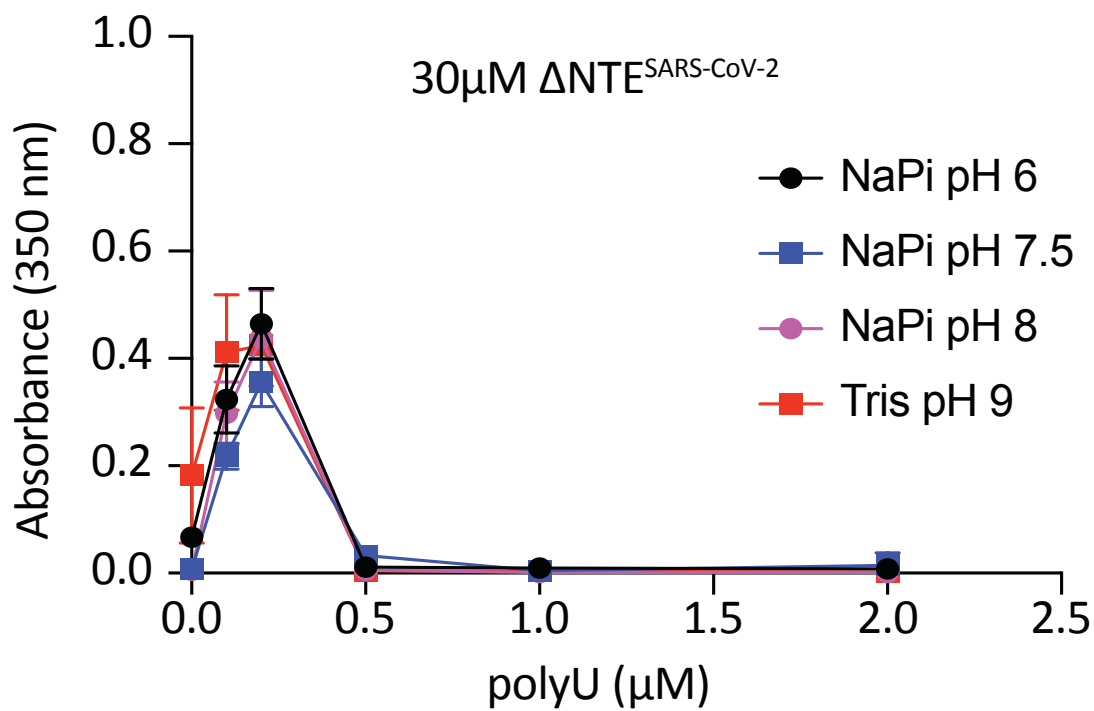


Figure S1. Absorbance at 350 nm of 30 μM ΔNTE^{SARS-CoV-2} without or with 0.1, 0.2, 0.5, 1, 2 μM polyU RNA in 20 mM sodium phosphate buffer at the pH values 6 (black), 7.5 (blue), and 8 (pink) and in 20 mM Tris buffer at pH 9 (red).

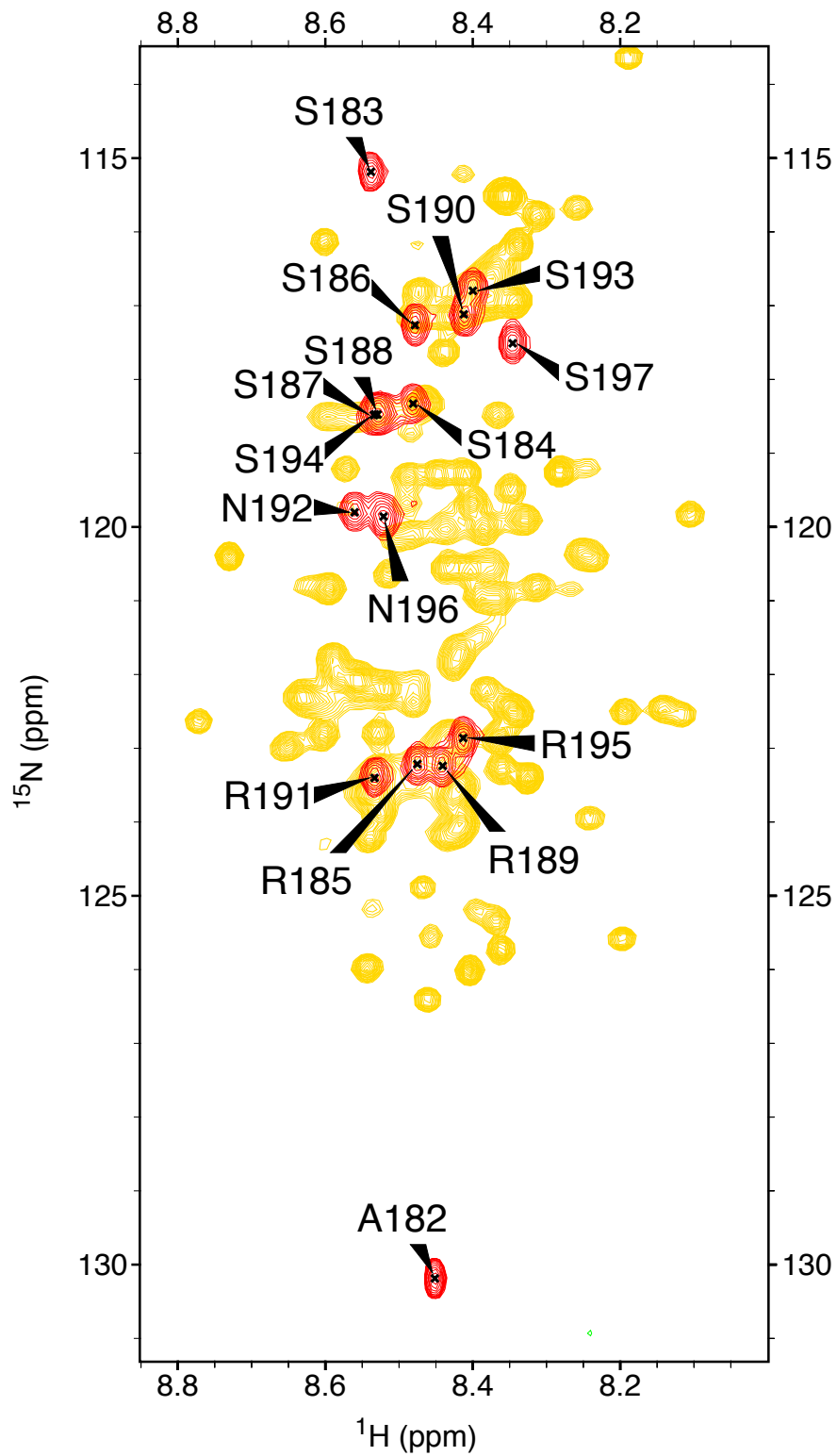


Figure S2. Superposition of ^1H - ^{15}N HSQC spectra of full-length N^{SARS-CoV-2} in yellow and the SR region of N^{SARS-CoV-2} in red measured at 5 °C with amino-acid assignments.

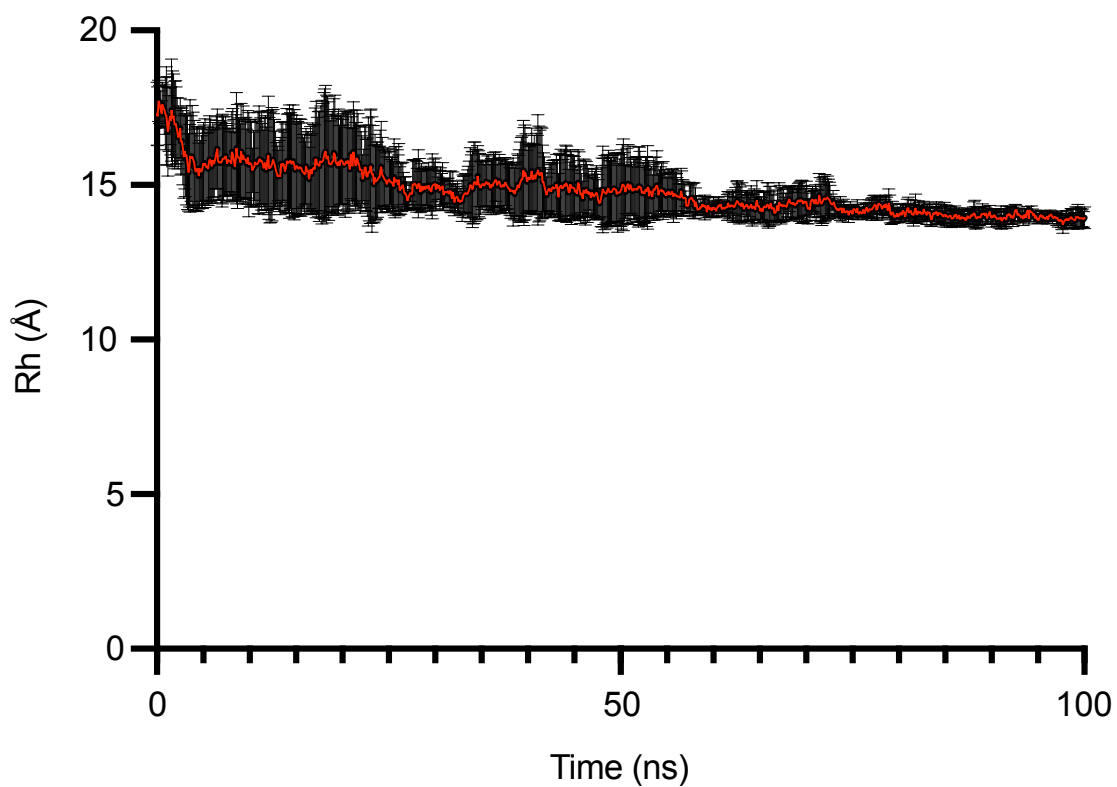


Figure S3. Hydrodynamic radius (Rh) of the NTE measured by 100 ns long molecular dynamics simulations for residues 1-50. An average value of Rh from 5 independent simulations and the standard deviation is represented by red line and black error bars, respectively.

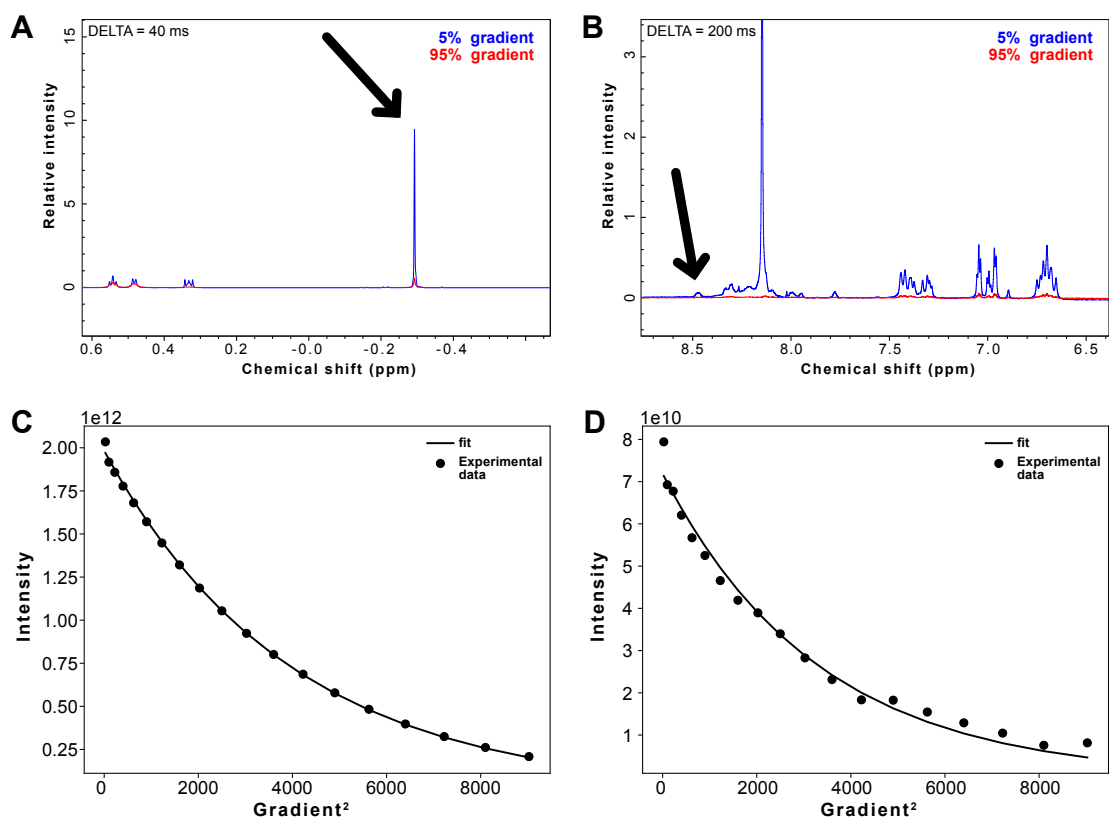


Figure S4. NMR diffusion of the NTE using pulse-field-gradient experiments. A-B Overlay of 1D experiments measured with 5 % (blue) and 95 % (red) gradient strength with diffusion delays optimized for DSS (40 ms) and the NTE (200 ms). Black arrows indicate peaks that were used for analysis. C-D Fit of intensities for DSS signal (C) and a selected peak from amide region of the NTE (D).

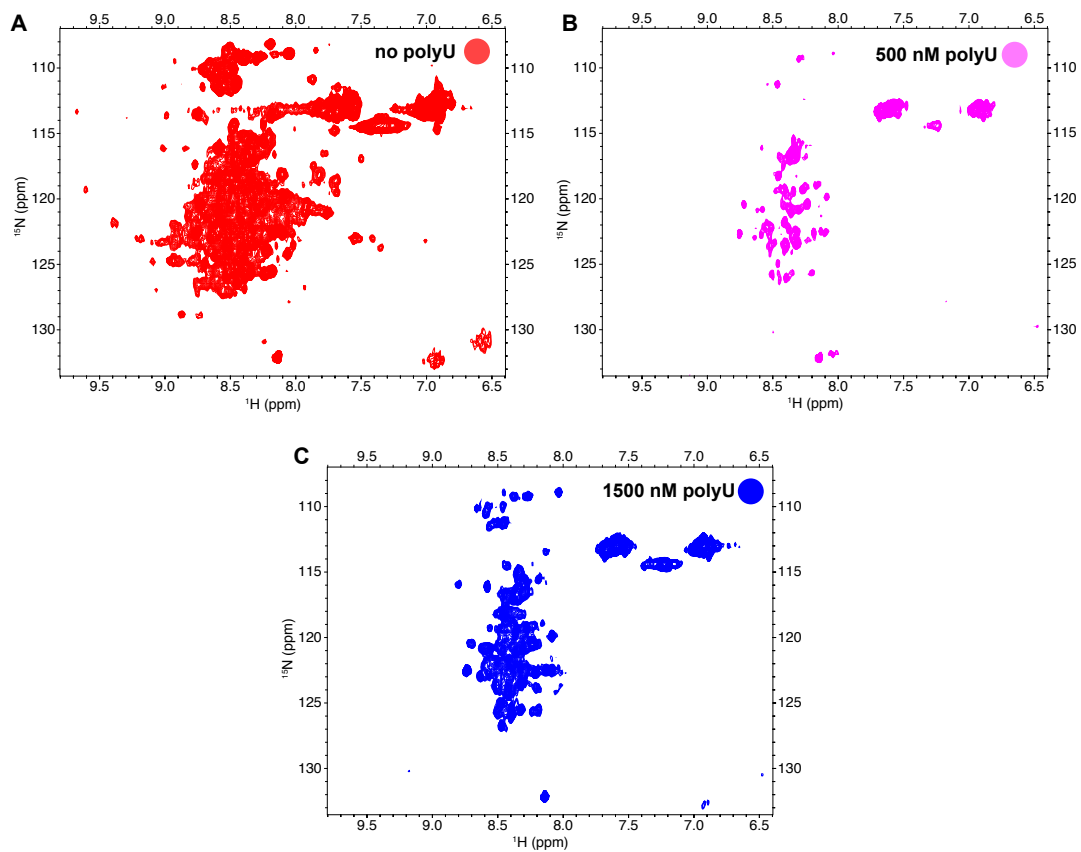


Figure S5. PolyU titration of $\text{N}^{\text{SARS-CoV-2}}$. ^1H - ^{15}N HSQC spectra of the full-length $\text{N}^{\text{SARS-CoV-2}}$ with 0 nM (A), 500 nM (B), and 1500 nM (C) concentration of polyU. All spectra were measured at 5 °C.

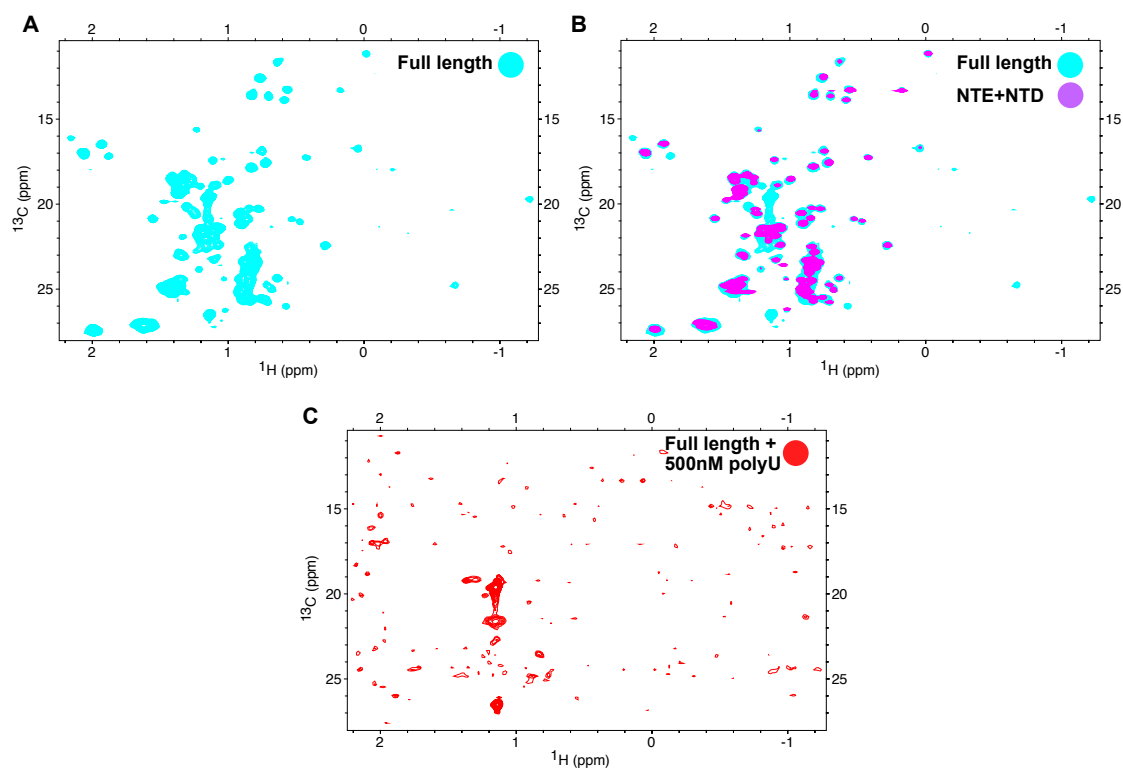


Figure S6. ^{13}C natural abundance NMR XL-ALSOFAST ^1H spectra of methyl region. A) Full-length $\text{N}^{\text{SARS-CoV-2}}$. B) Overlay of full-length $\text{N}^{\text{SARS-CoV-2}}$ with a construct missing the dimerization domain and the C-terminal extension. C) Spectrum of full-length $\text{N}^{\text{SARS-CoV-2}}$ upon addition of 500nM polyU. All spectra were measured at 25 °C on 800 MHz spectrometer.

1. Rößler P, Mathieu D, Gossert AD (2020) Enabling NMR Studies of High Molecular Weight Systems Without the Need for Deuteration: The XL-ALSOFAST Experiment with Delayed Decoupling. *Angewandte Chemie International Edition* 59:19329–19337.

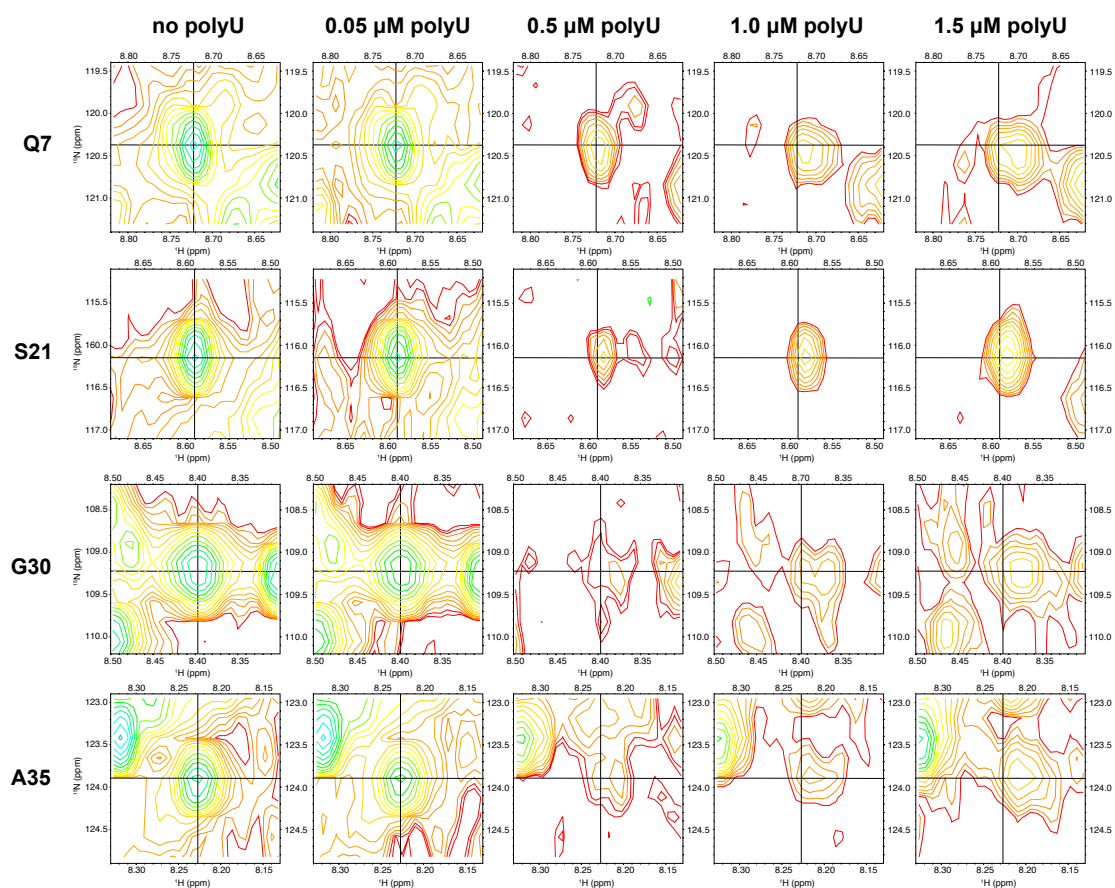


Figure S7. Titration of N^{SARS-CoV-2} with polyU. ¹H-¹⁵N HSQC spectra of Q7, S21, G30, and A35 in the presence of 0, 0.05, 0.5, 1.0 and 1.5 μM polyU RNA. Spectra were measured at 5 °C at 700MHz.

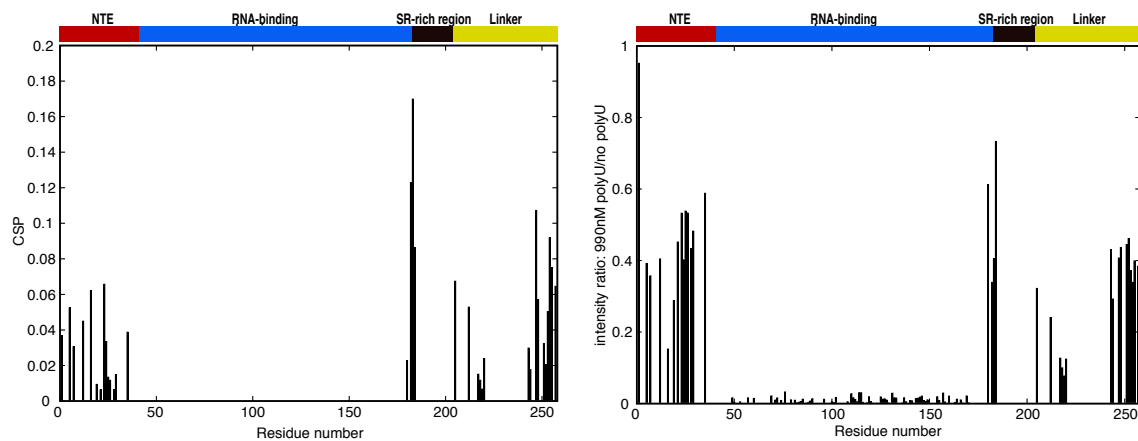


Figure S8. Titration of N(1-257) with polyU measured at 25 °C at 700 MHz. Chemical shift perturbation between protein without polyU and 990 nM polyU concentration (left). PolyU concentration was adjusted to compensate for protein charge change resulting from deletion of the C-terminal part. Intensity ratio between the spectra with 990 nM polyU and without polyU (right). RNA-binding domain signals are indicated with small bars estimated from spectral noise due to the fact that the signals were broadened beyond detection upon addition of polyU.