

# Understanding $\beta$ -strand mediated protein-protein interactions: tuning binding behaviour of intrinsically disordered sequences by backbone modification

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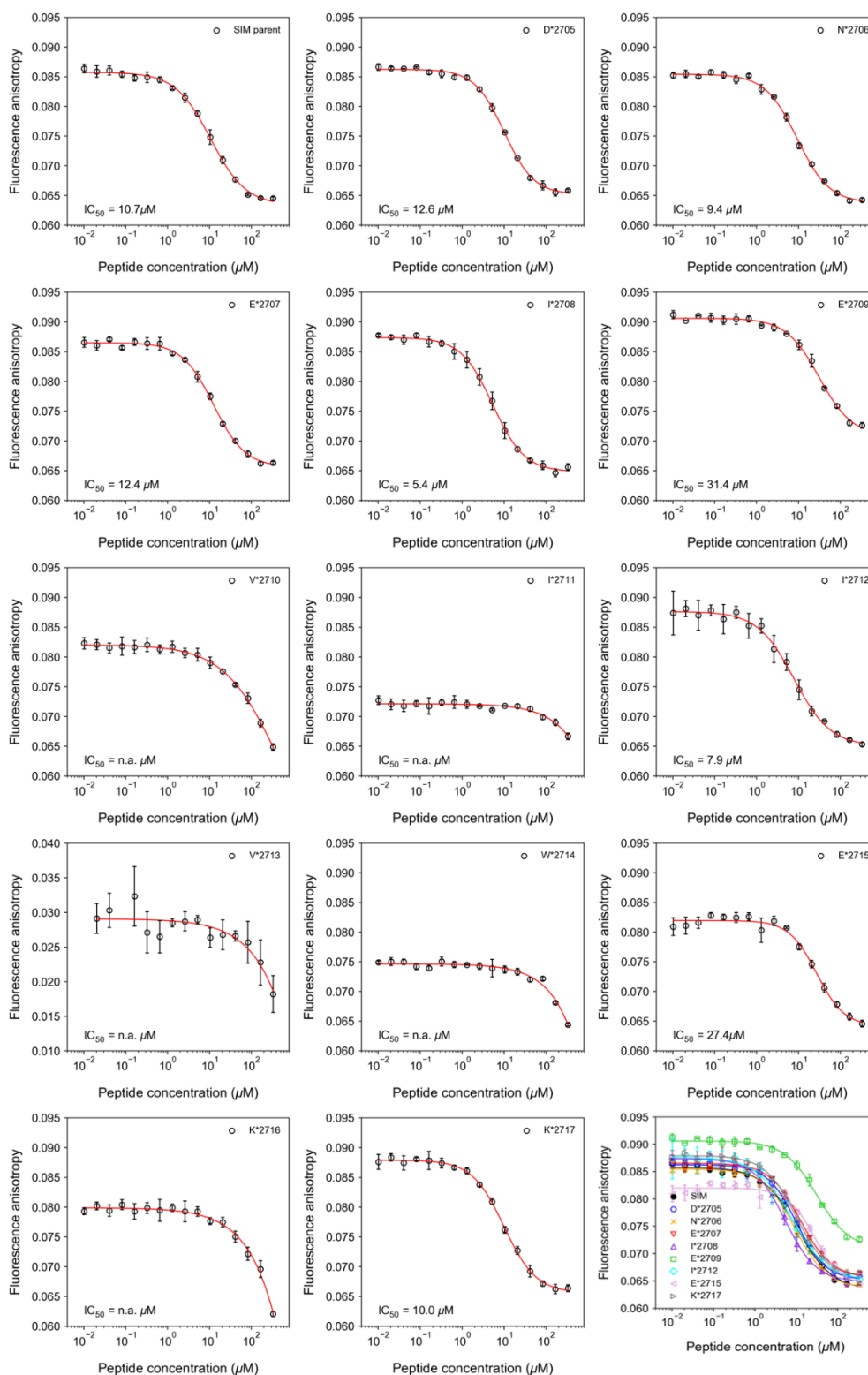
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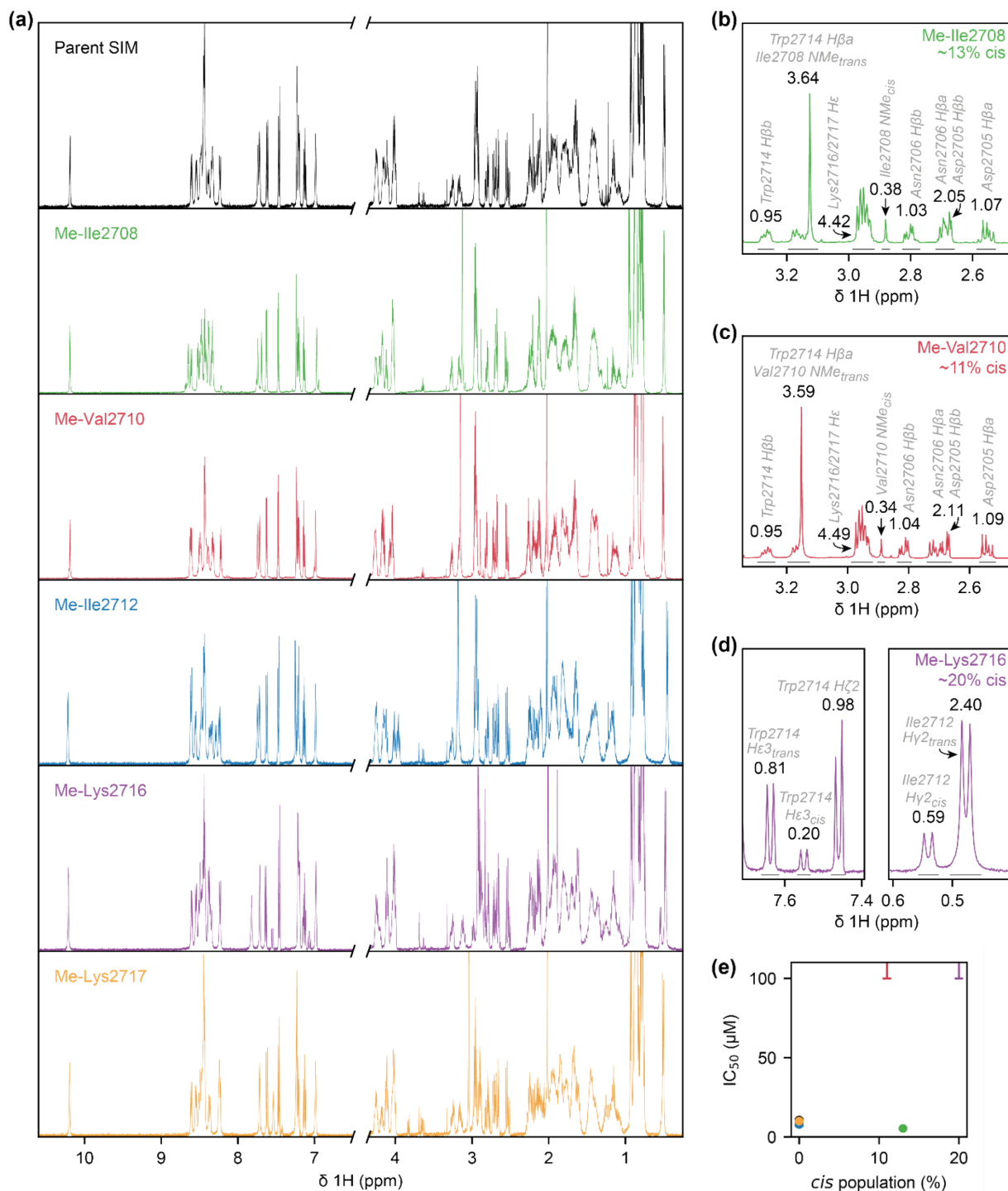
# SI Figures and Tables



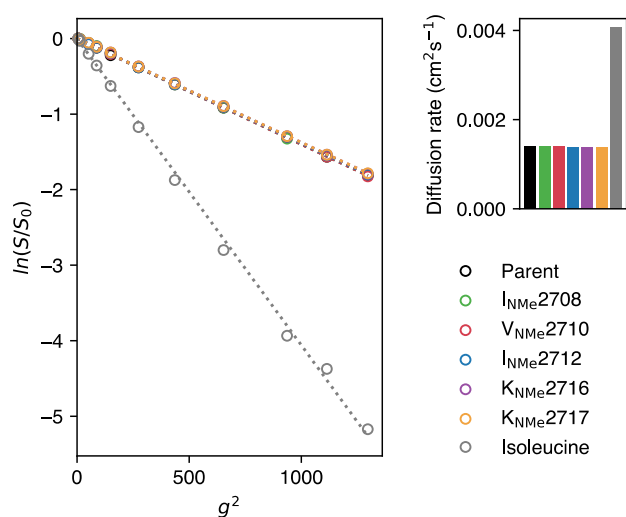
**Figure S1.** Fluorescence competition anisotropy data. The parent SIM peptide and its *N*-methylated variants were each titrated (333.3  $\mu\text{M}$  to 10.2 nM) against a constant concentration of SUMO protein (3  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and FAM-SIM fluorescent tracer peptide (50 nM) in Tris-buffered saline (20 mM Tris, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl and 0.03% Triton-X). Note I: the different y axis scale for Me-Val2713 is a consequence of this data being acquired on a different instrument. Note II: these values are not directly comparable with those reported in our prior publication<sup>1</sup> where a different buffer composition was used: 20 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl, 0.01 % Triton-X, pH 7.4 using 50 nM FAM PEG-SIM tracer and 3  $\mu\text{M}$  SUMO protein.

**Table S1.** Inhibitory potencies for *N*-methylated SIM peptides to SUMO. IC<sub>50</sub> values were determined through competition FA experiments (20 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl, 0.03% Triton X, pH 8.0).

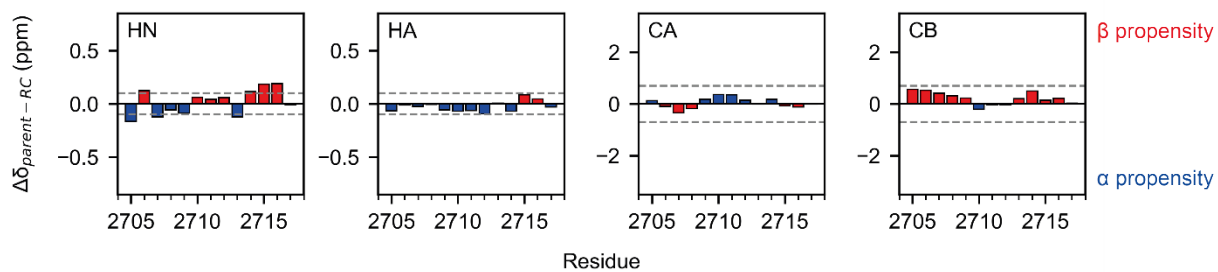
<b>Peptide name</b>	<b>IC<sub>50</sub> at 20 °C (<math>\mu</math>M)</b>
Me-Asp2705	12.6 $\pm$ 0.5
Me-Asn2706	9.4 $\pm$ 0.5
Me-Glu2707	12.4 $\pm$ 0.8
Me-Ile2708	5.4 $\pm$ 0.3
Me-Glu2709	31.4 $\pm$ 3.0
Me-Val2710	> 100
Me-Ile2711	> 300
Me-Ile2712	7.9 $\pm$ 1.0
Me-Val2713	> 100
Me-Trp2714	> 100
Me-Glu2715	27.4 $\pm$ 1.9
Me-Lys2716	> 100
Me-Lys2717	10.0 $\pm$ 0.4
Parent SIM	10.7 $\pm$ 0.7



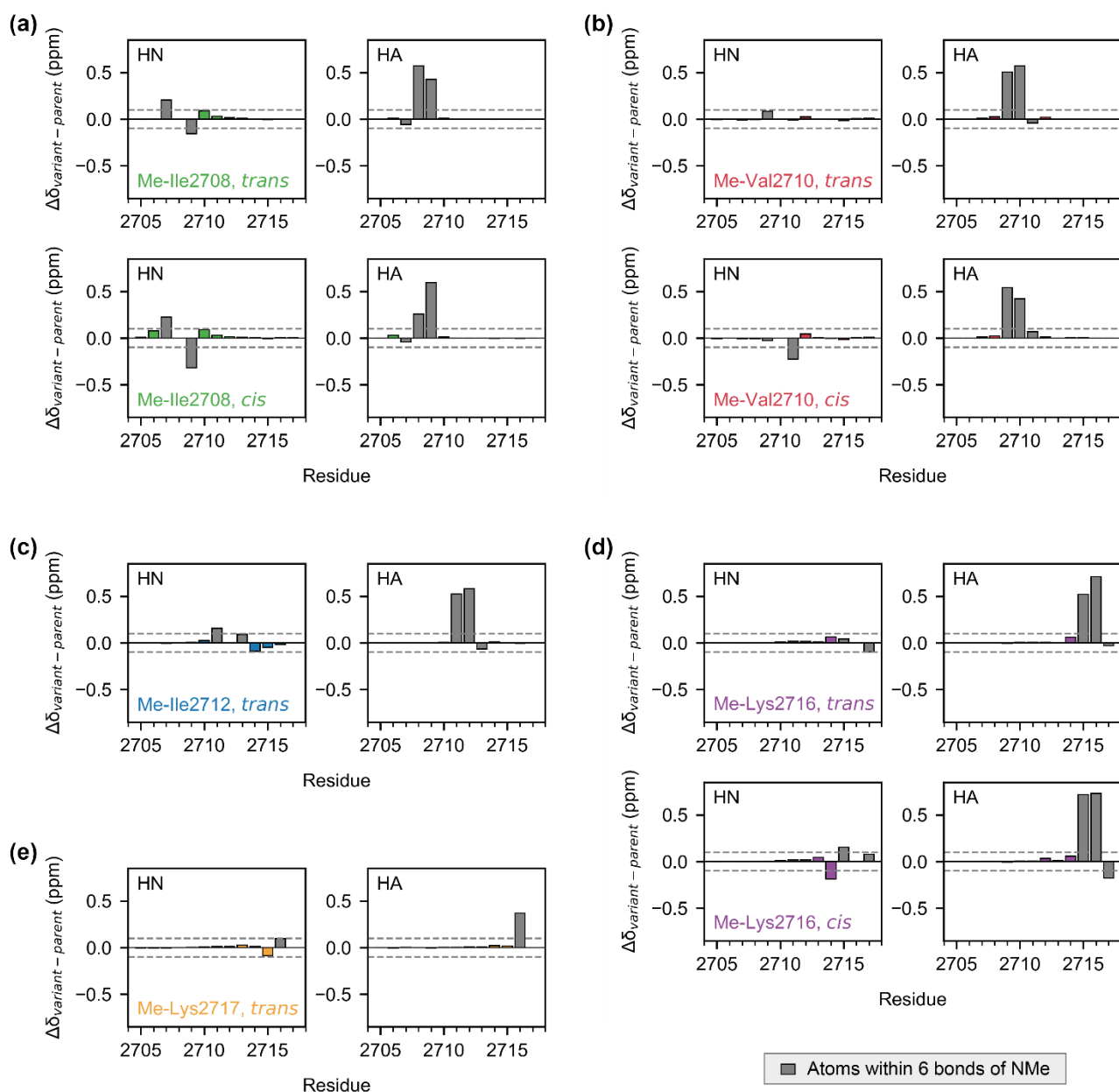
**Figure S2.**  $^1\text{H}$  spectra acquired for the parent SIM peptide and *N*-methylated variants of interest show that while some variants have detectable *cis* populations (assigned based on: (i) comparison to parent SIM shifts, and (ii) NOEs) around the *N*-methylated peptide bond, this does not account for the observed changes in SUMO binding affinity. (a)  $^1\text{H}$  spectra were acquired at 5  $^\circ\text{C}$  with 500  $\mu\text{M}$  peptide in 20 mM sodium phosphate pH 7.4, 0.02%  $\text{NaN}_3$ , at 750 MHz (Me-Ile2708, Me-Val2710) or 500 MHz (all other peptides). (b)–(d)  $^1\text{H}$  assignments (see Table S2) that were obtained through various  $^1\text{H}$ – $^1\text{H}$  correlation experiments (TOCSY, COSY, and NOESY) indicated that Me-Ile2708, Me-Val2710, and Me-Lys2716 had a detectable population of the *cis* isomer at the methylated amide bond. Integration of the relevant signals in the  $^1\text{H}$  spectra allowed the approximate *cis* population to be calculated. Integral regions are indicated by the grey lines under the peaks, and the relative areas of these regions are indicated. (e) While some of the *N*-methylated peptides exhibited a detectable population of the *cis* isomer ( $p_{\text{cis}}$ ) (i.e., Me-Ile2708, Me-Val2710 (red) and Me-Lys2716), no correlation between  $p_{\text{cis}}$  and potency was observed.<sup>2</sup> The exact  $\text{IC}_{50}$  values for Me-Val2710 (red) and Me-Lys2716 (purple) could not be accurately determined in competition fluorescence anisotropy experiments (Fig. S1) but are known to be  $>100$   $\mu\text{M}$ .



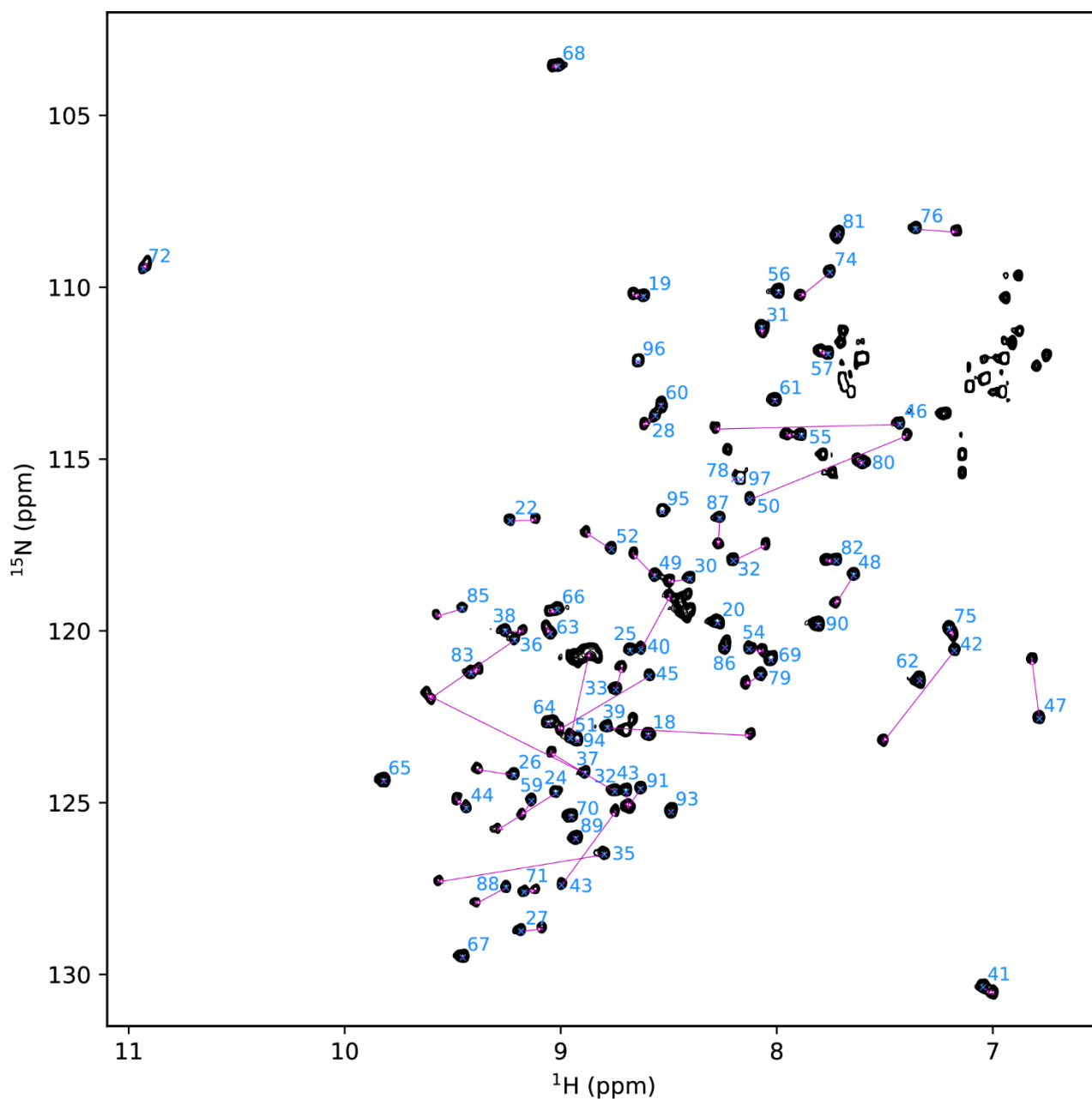
**Figure S3.** Pulsed field gradient diffusion NMR analysis on the parent SIM peptide and select *N*-methylated variants. Integral region = 0.7-1.0 ppm. None of the *N*-methylated variants exhibited any changes or difference in diffusion rate relative to the parent SIM peptide.



**Figure S4.**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  Secondary chemical shifts of parent SIM peptide.

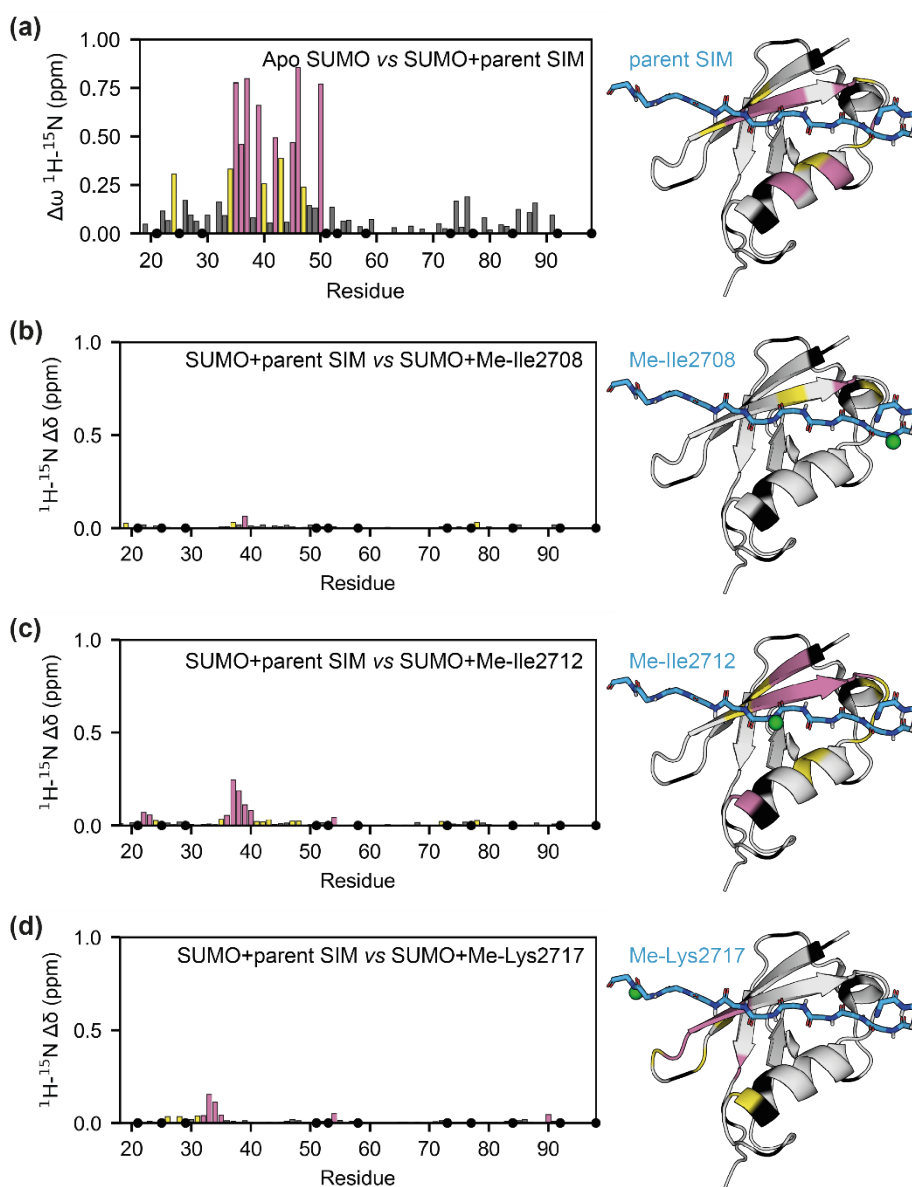


**Figure S5.**  $^1\text{H}$  secondary chemical shifts differences between parent SIM and variant SIM peptides. Bars in grey indicate atoms within six bonds of the carbon of the introduced methyl group. The remaining bars are coloured according to the associated variant.

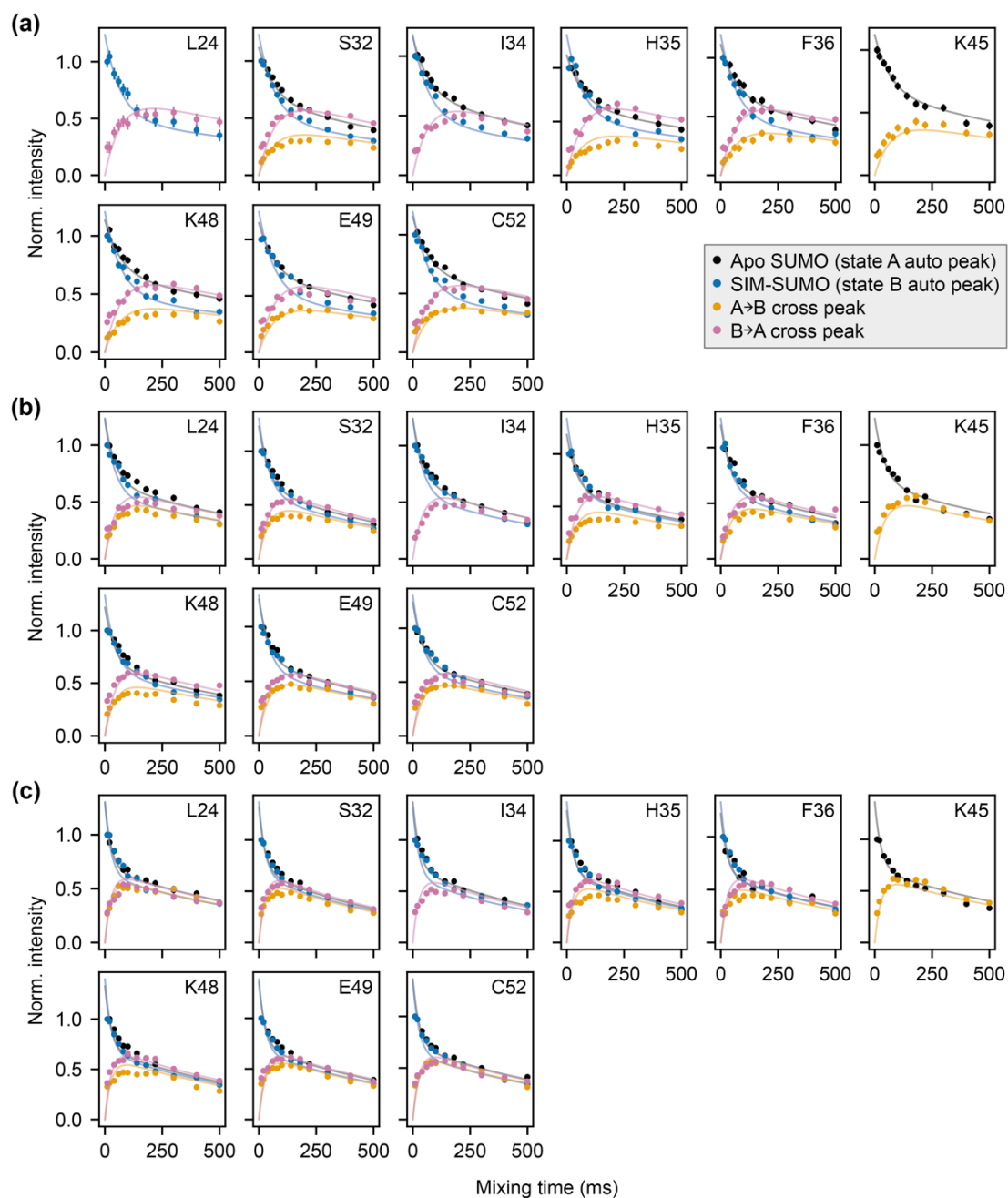


**Figure S6.**  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$  HSQC of  $^{15}\text{N}$ -SUMO (250  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the presence of the parent SIM peptide (125  $\mu\text{M}$ ), in 20 mM sodium phosphate pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 5%  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , 2 mM DTT, 0.02%  $\text{NaN}_3$ , at 5°C, 750 MHz. Amide resonances are labelled by residue number, with two peaks being observed for certain residues due to slow exchange between the apo and SIM-bound states of SUMO. For these residues, the apo and bound peaks are linked by a pink line.

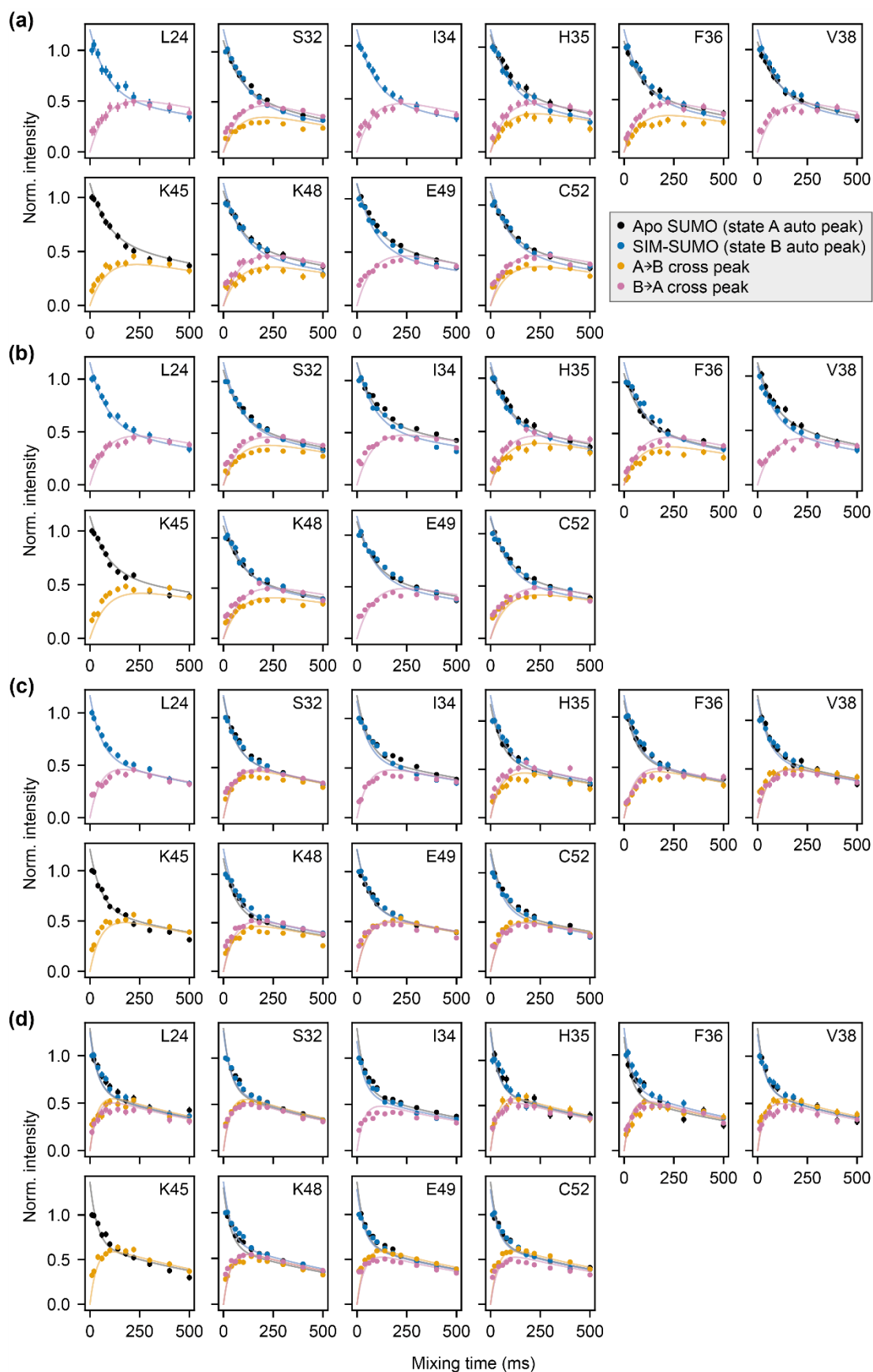




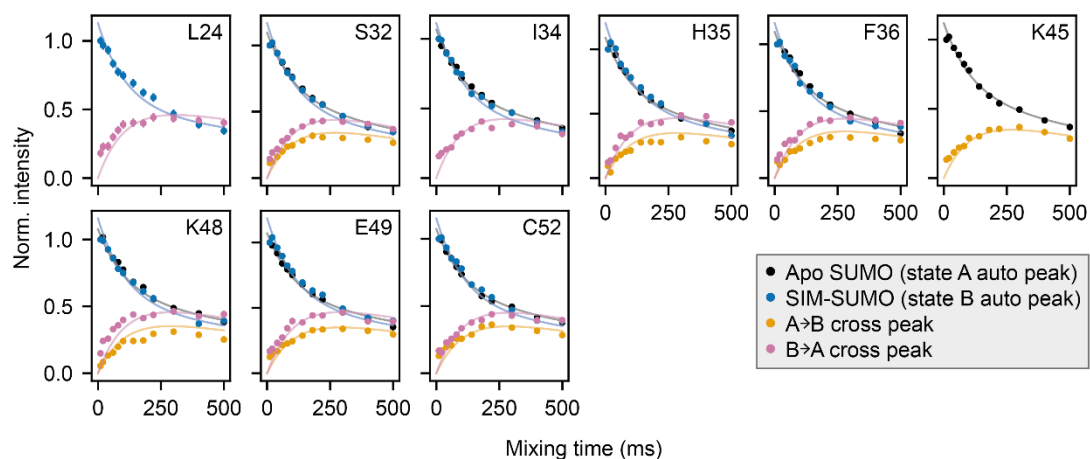
**Figure S7.** Chemical shift perturbation analysis for SUMO in the presence/absence of different SIM variants. In all cases combined  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$  chemical shift differences are shown. (a) Difference between unbound SUMO and SUMO bound to the parent SIM peptide. (b-d) Difference between SUMO bound to the parent SIM peptide and SUMO bound to either Me-Ile2708 (b), Me-Ile2712 (c), or Me-Lys2717 (d). In all cases, SUMO residues which could not be confidently assigned in both states are shown in black, while the remaining residues are coloured according to the magnitude of  $\Delta\omega$ , relative to relative to the standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ) of the dataset ( $< 1\sigma$ , grey;  $1-2\sigma$ , yellow;  $\geq 2\sigma$ , pink). Mapping the magnitude of  $\Delta\omega$  onto to structure of SUMO (PDB 2LAS)<sup>3</sup> confirms that parent SIM (cyan) binds to SUMO in the canonical binding groove (between the  $\alpha 1$  helix and  $\beta 2$  strand) (a), and that the three *N*-methylated SIM variants shown in this figure are likely to adopt the same canonical binding pose given that the only differences between the bound state chemical shifts of the various SIM/SUMO complexes occur at SUMO residues which lie adjacent to the *N*-methylated SIM residue (green in the structures) in the canonical bound state (b-d).



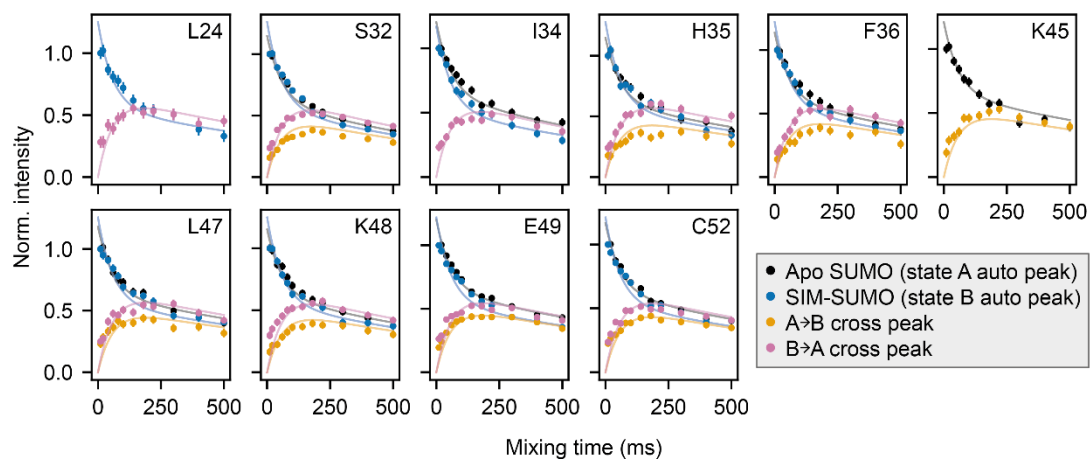
**Figure S8.**  $^{15}\text{N}$  ZZ-exchange profiles as a function of mixing time for  $^{15}\text{N}$ -SUMO (250  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the presence of the parent SIM peptide (125  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 5°C (a), 10°C (b), or 15°C (c). Filled circles represent the experimental data and error bars were calculated from the signal-to-noise ratio. Solid lines represent fits to a 2-state model (see Figure 3a).



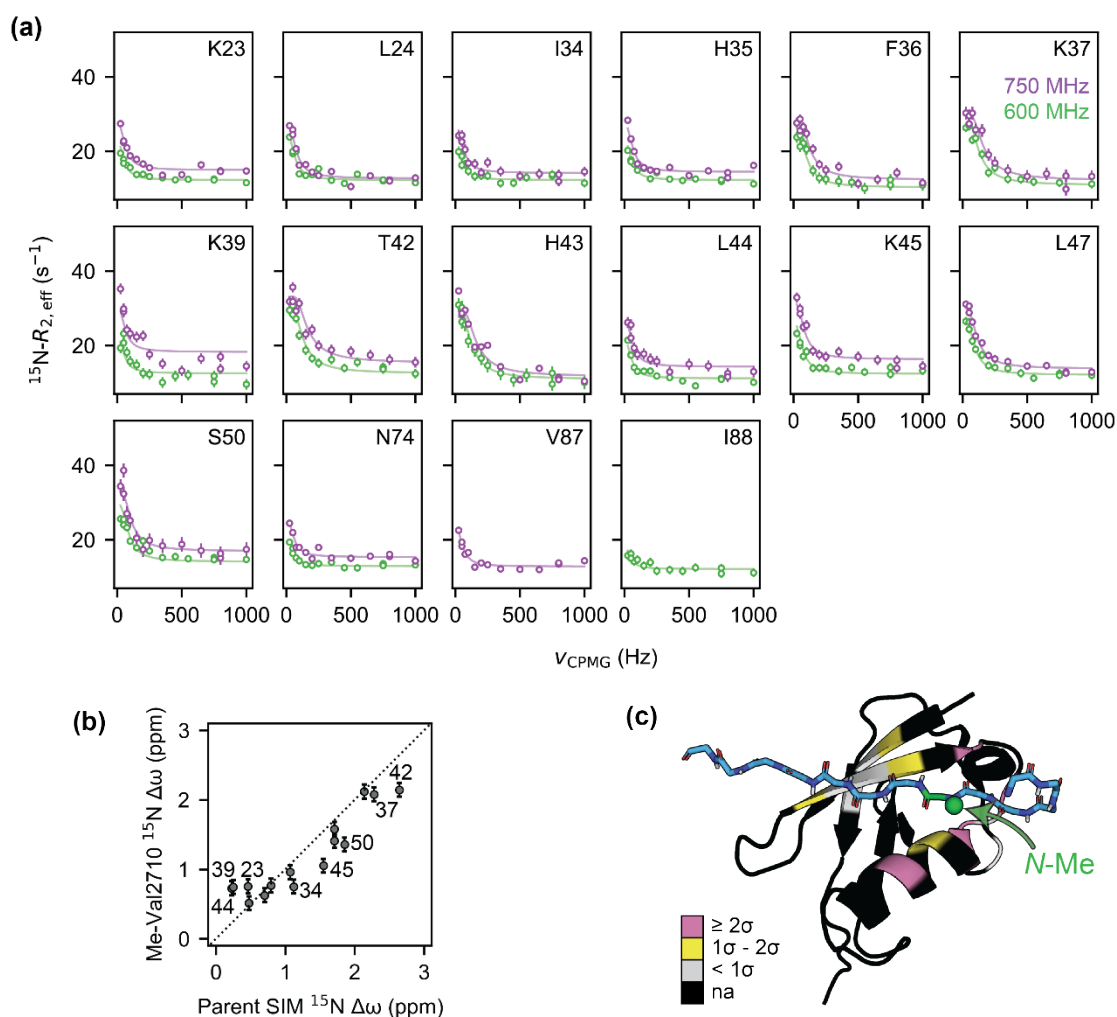
**Figure S9.**  $^{15}\text{N}$  ZZ-exchange profiles as a function of mixing time for  $^{15}\text{N}$ -SUMO (250  $\mu\text{M}$  (a) or 240  $\mu\text{M}$  (b-d)) in the presence of Me-Ile2712 SIM (125  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 5°C (a, b), 10°C (c), or 15°C (d). Filled circles represent the experimental data and error bars were calculated from the signal-to-noise ratio. Solid lines represent fits to a 2-state model (see Figure 3a).



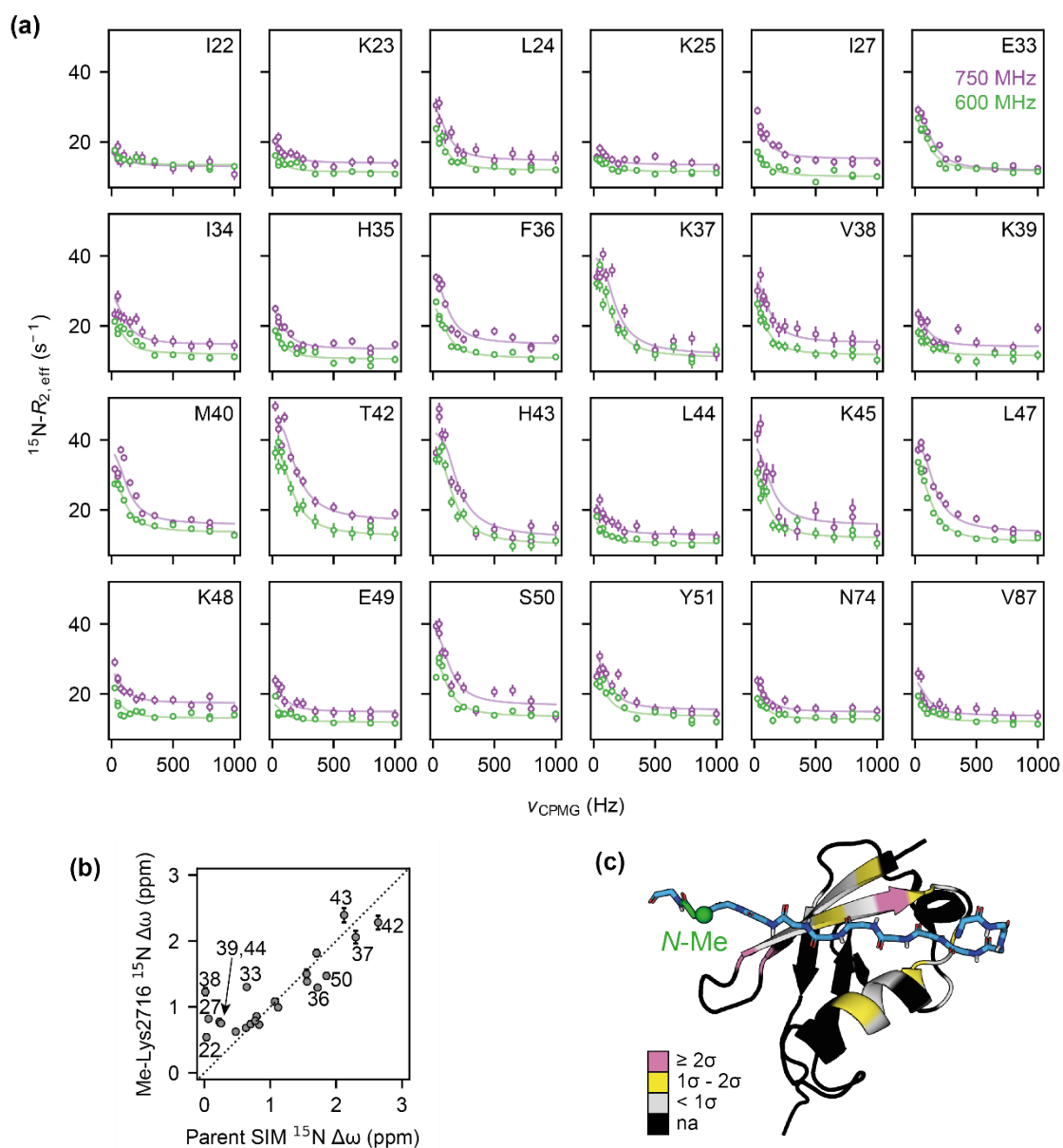
**Figure S10.**  $^{15}\text{N}$  ZZ-exchange profiles as a function of mixing time for  $^{15}\text{N}$ -SUMO (250  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the presence of Me-Ile2708 SIM (125  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 5°C. Filled circles represent the experimental data and error bars were calculated from the signal-to-noise ratio. Solid lines represent fits to a 2-state model (see Figure 3a).



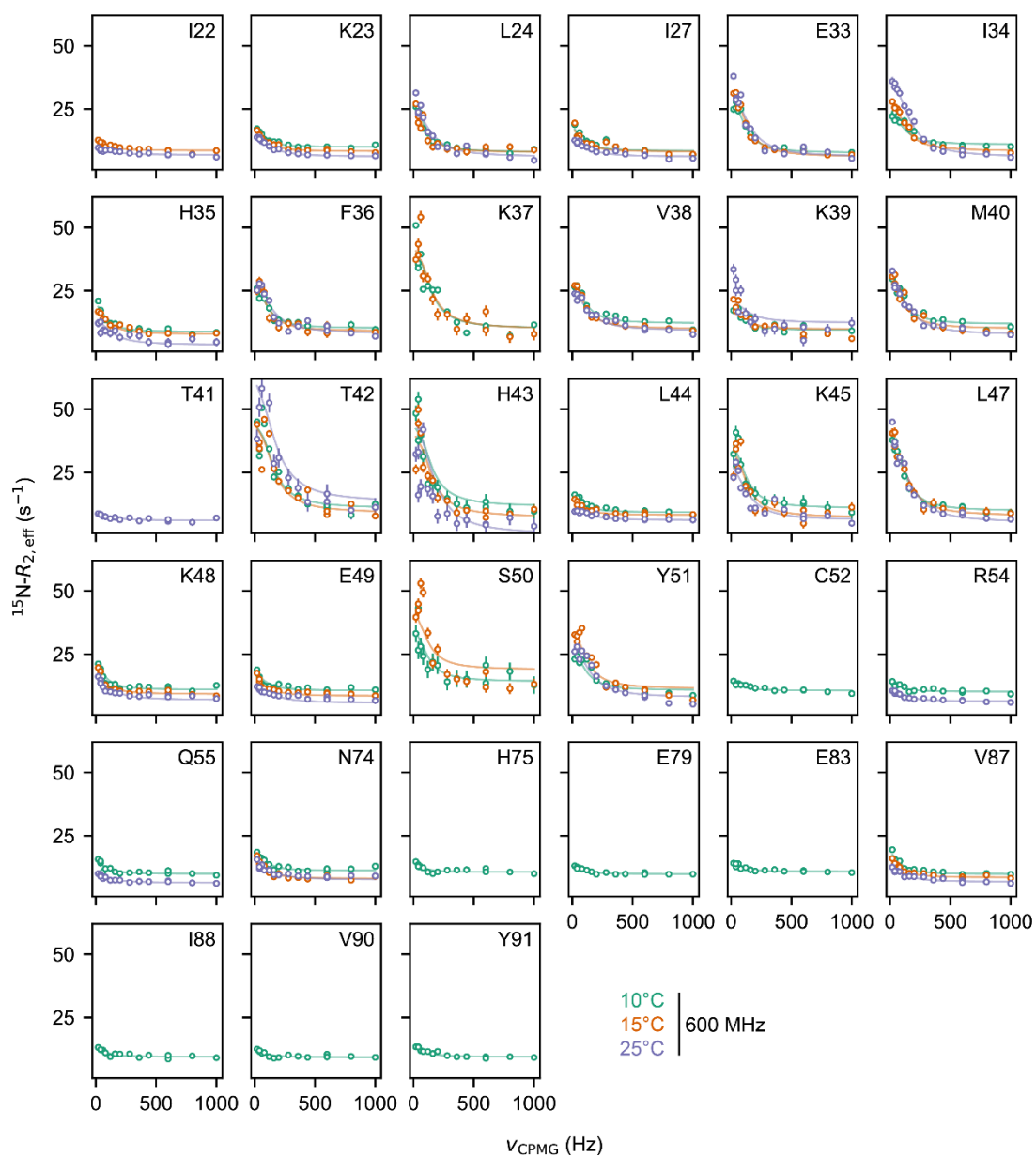
**Figure S11.**  $^{15}\text{N}$  ZZ-exchange profiles as a function of mixing time for  $^{15}\text{N}$ -SUMO (250  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the presence of Me-Lys2717 SIM (125  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 5°C. Filled circles represent the experimental data and error bars were calculated from the signal-to-noise ratio. Solid lines represent fits to a 2-state model (see Figure 3a).



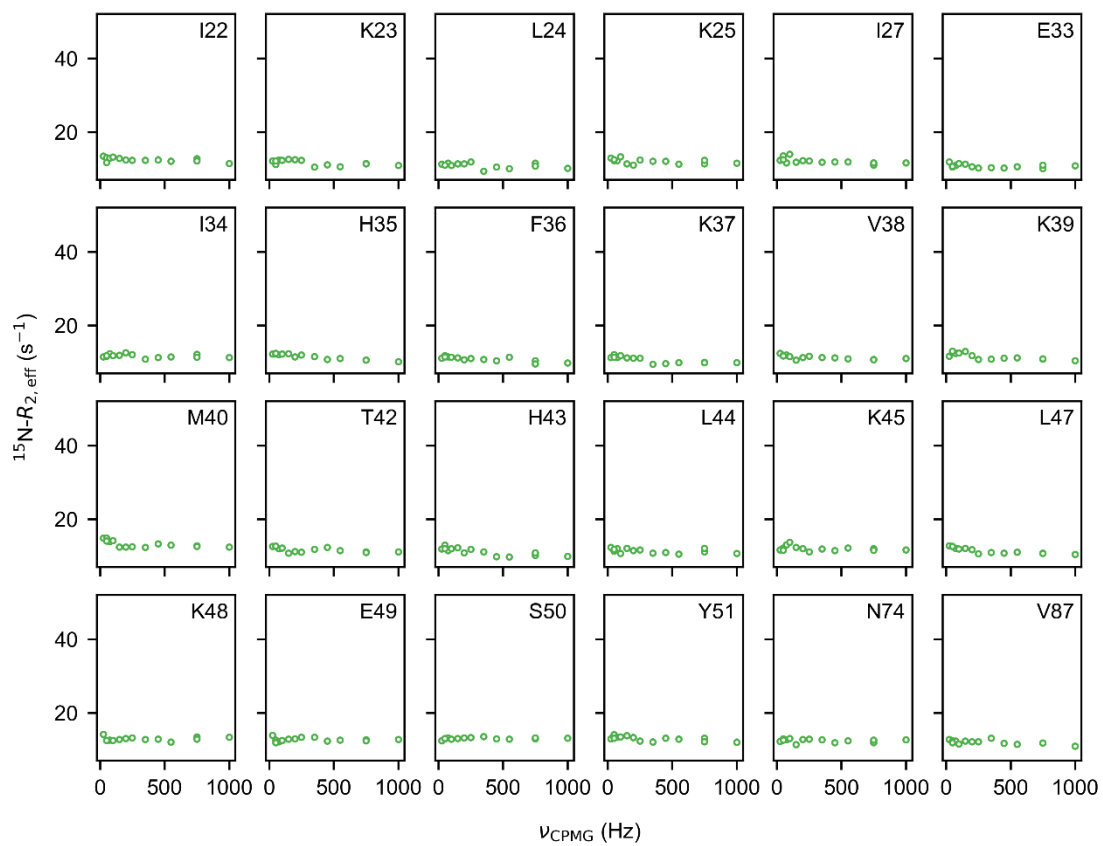
**Figure S12.** (a)  $^{15}\text{N}$ -CPMG profiles for  $^{15}\text{N}$ -SUMO (250  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the presence of Me-Val2710 SIM (50  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 5°C and 600 (green) or 750 (magenta) MHz. Circles represent the experimental data and solid lines represent fits to a 2-state model (see Figure 3a). (b) Correlation between the fitted chemical shifts of SUMO in the presence of Me-Val2710 and those observed directly from the  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$  HSQC spectrum of SUMO in the presence of parent SIM (Pearson correlation coefficient: 0.93). Residue numbers are shown above select datapoints. (c) Structure of the complex between SUMO and parent SIM (PDB: 2LAS), coloured by the chemical shift difference between the fitted chemical shifts of SUMO in the presence of Me-Val2710 and those observed directly for SUMO in the presence of parent SIM. The colour scheme is relative to the standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ) of the dataset ( $<1\sigma$ , grey;  $1-2\sigma$ , yellow;  $\geq 2\sigma$ , pink). The site of N-methylation is shown as a green sphere.



**Figure S13.** (a)  $^{15}\text{N}$  CPMG profiles for  $^{15}\text{N}$ -SUMO (250  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the presence of Me-Lys2716 SIM (50  $\mu\text{M}$ ) at 5 $^{\circ}\text{C}$  and 600 (green) or 750 (magenta) MHz. Circles represent the experimental data and solid lines represent fits to a 2-state model (see Figure 3a). (b) Correlation between the fitted chemical shifts of SUMO in the presence of Me-Lys2716 and those observed directly from the  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{15}\text{N}$  HSQC spectrum of SUMO in the presence of parent SIM (Pearson correlation coefficient: 0.86). Residue numbers are shown above select datapoints. (c) Structure of the complex between SUMO and parent SIM (PDB: 2LAS), coloured by the chemical shift difference between the fitted chemical shifts of SUMO in the presence of Me-Lys2716 and those observed directly for SUMO in the presence of parent SIM. The colour scheme is relative to the standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ) of the dataset ( $<1\sigma$ , grey;  $1-2\sigma$ , yellow;  $\geq 2\sigma$ , pink). The site of N-methylation is shown as a green sphere.



**Figure S14.**  $^{15}\text{N}$  CPMG profiles of SUMO (250  $\mu\text{M}$ ) in the presence of Me-Lys2716 (50  $\mu\text{M}$ ) acquired at 600 MHz and 10  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  (green), 15  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  (red) or 25  $^{\circ}\text{C}$  (blue).



**Figure S15.** In the absence of a SIM peptide, SUMO (250  $\mu\text{M}$ ) shows no CPMG curves, indicating that the CPMG profiles observed for SUMO in the presence of Me-Val2710 (Fig. S11) and Me-Lys2716 (Fig. S12) report on peptide binding. Data was acquired at 600 MHz, 5  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .



## Materials and methods

### Peptide synthesis

Peptides were synthesised using a Liberty Blue microwave-assisted automated peptide synthesiser (CEM Corporation) on a rink amide 100-200 mesh MBHA resin (Merck) using standard Fmoc-coupling chemistry. Double Fmoc deprotection steps were performed with 5:20:75 vol% formic acid (Fisher Scientific):morpholine (Sigma Aldrich):DMF (Cambridge Reagents) for 30 sec at 75°C (125 W) then 1 min at 90°C (30 W) for each deprotection; 5% formic acid prevented aspartimide formation. Double peptide couplings followed, using 1 M *N,N'*-diisopropylcarbodiimide (Sigma Aldrich) as the activator and 0.5 M Oxyma (Biosynth Carbosynth) as the activator base, for 30 sec at 75°C (125 W) then 4 min at 90°C (30 W) for each coupling, except in the case of the *N*-methylated and their succeeding amino acids (as synthesised C→*N*), for which extended coupling times of 10 mins at 90°C (30 W) were used. Peptides were acetylated at their *N*-termini via 0.5 mL pyridine (Fisher Scientific) with 0.25 mL acetic anhydride (BDH Laboratories) for 15 mins under agitation. For Me-Asp2705, the acetylation step was performed 3 times, with thorough washing of the resin between. Peptides were cleaved from the resin in 2.5:97.5 vol% triisopropylsilane (Acros Organics):trifluoroacetic acid (Sigma Aldrich) for 90-120 min under agitation. It was necessary to omit water during peptide cleavage as this sometimes resulted in peptide degradation. The cleaved peptide mixture was then filtered from the resin and the volume reduced to <5 mL using a flow of nitrogen. Peptides were obtained by precipitation from the addition of diethylether (VWR Chemicals) followed by centrifugation to remove the supernatant. The peptide pellet was then dissolved in 1:1 vol% H<sub>2</sub>O:acetonitrile (Fisher Scientific) and lyophilised to yield the crude peptides as white powders.

### HPLC purifications

Peptides were purified using linear gradients of buffer B vs. buffer A on a JASCO HPLC system. Me-Lys2716, Me-Lys2717 were purified using basic buffers (A = 25 mM ammonium bicarbonate in H<sub>2</sub>O, B = 100% acetonitrile). All other peptides were purified using acidic buffers (A = 0.1 vol% TFA in H<sub>2</sub>O, B = 0.1 vol% TFA in acetonitrile) and a 50°C column oven. To obtain sufficient resolution, reverse-phase columns ranging in size from a preparatory C18 Vydac column (250 x 22 mm, particle size = 10 μM, pore size = 300 Å, Grace), through a semi-preparatory C18(2) Luna column (150 x 10 mm, particle size = 5 μM, pore size = 100 Å, Phenomenex) or a C8(2) Luna column (250 x 10 mm, particle size = 5 μM, pore size = 100 Å, Phenomenex), to an analytical C18 Kinetex column (100 x 4.6 mm, particle size = 5 μM, pore size = 100 Å, Phenomenex) were employed as required. Generally, ≤1 mg of crude peptide was dissolved (either in 20:80 vol% buffer B:A or 20:60:20 vol% buffer B:A:DMSO) and purified at a time, regardless of column size. A preparatory flow cell was used in all cases. Chromatograms were recorded at 220 nm and 280 nm simultaneously.

### Analytical HPLC

Peptide purity was confirmed using a JASCO HPLC system equipped with a reverse-phase analytical C18 Kinetex column (100 x 4.6 mm, particle size = 5 μM, pore size = 100 Å, Phenomenex) and an analytical flow cell, and using gradients of acidic buffer B (0.1 vol% TFA in acetonitrile) vs. buffer A (0.1% TFA in H<sub>2</sub>O). Chromatograms were recorded at 220 nm and 280 nm simultaneously.

### Mass spectrometry

Peptide identities were confirmed using either a Waters Synapt G2S IMS Q-TOF mass spectrometer, in positive ion mode, equipped with an Advion Nanomate Triverser nanospray source (peptides were dissolved in 1:1 vol% H<sub>2</sub>O:acetonitrile and infused at 1.4 kV), or an ultrafleXtreme II MALDI-TOF instrument (Bruker) in reflector positive or negative ion mode from peptides co-crystallised with dihydroxybenzoic acid matrix (Sigma Aldrich) on a ground steel plate.

## Concentration determination

Concentrations were determined using a NanoDrop 2000 spectrophotometer (Thermo Scientific) using the known extinction coefficient of 5'6-fluorescein ( $\epsilon_{494\text{ nm}} = 68,000\text{ M}^{-1}\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) for FAM-SIM, or tryptophan for all other peptides ( $\epsilon_{280\text{ nm}} = 5690\text{ M}^{-1}\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ). The concentration of SUMO was determined using the calculated extinction coefficient of  $\epsilon_{280\text{ nm}} = 4470\text{ M}^{-1}\text{ cm}^{-1}$  based on the protein sequence.

## Fluorescence anisotropy

Enough peptide was purified to enable titration of stock solutions (in H<sub>2</sub>O) to ~pH 8.0 before the appropriate amount (determined by peptide concentration) was then aliquoted and freeze-dried to allow reconstitution at 2 mM in 500  $\mu\text{L}$  peptide buffer (20 mM Trizma® base (Sigma Aldrich), 150 mM NaCl (Fisher Scientific), pH 8.0). The pH and concentration were then confirmed.

Competition binding assays were performed in triplicate within 384-well plates (Greiner Bio-one). Competitor peptides serially diluted and then SUMO protein and FAM-SIM tracer added to sample wells (333.3  $\mu\text{M}$  > 10.2 nM, 3  $\mu\text{M}$ , 50 nM final concentrations of competitor, SUMO and tracer respectively). Control wells lacked tracer. The plates were kept in the dark for at least 30 min before fluorescence polarisation was measured. For all peptides other than Me-Val2713, this was done using a Perkin Elmer CLARIOstar plate reader (BMG Labtech), with excitation at 482 nm (bandwidth = 16 nm) and emission at 530 nm (bandwidth = 40 nm). For Me-Val2713, the data were collected using a Spark 10M plate reader (Tecan), with excitation at 485 nm (bandwidth = 20 nm) and emission at 535 nm (bandwidth = 25 nm).

Perependicular (P) and parallel (S) intensities of the control wells were averaged and deducted from each corresponding sample to give the corrected values,  $P_{\text{corr}}$  (where  $P_{\text{corr}} = P_{\text{sample}} - P_{\text{av. control}}$ ) and  $S_{\text{corr}}$  (where  $S_{\text{corr}} = S_{\text{sample}} - S_{\text{av. control}}$ ). The total sample intensities (I) and anisotropies (r) were then calculated as follows:

$$I = (2 \times P_{\text{corr}}) + S_{\text{corr}}$$

$$r = (S_{\text{corr}} - P_{\text{corr}}) / I$$

Fluorescence anisotropy values were plotted against competitor peptide concentrations and fit to a logistic function of the form  $Y = A2 + (A1 - A2) / (1 + (x/x_0)^p)$  for determination of half-maximal inhibitory concentrations (IC<sub>50</sub>) of the peptide competitors (A2 is the upper asymptote and A1 the lower asymptote).

Note: To ensure a set of self-consistent IC<sub>50</sub> values for comparison, experiments were performed using a single batch of protein given subtle batch dependent variations in active concentration of protein. The values obtained here are not directly comparable with those reported in our prior publication<sup>1</sup> where a different buffer composition was used (20 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl, 0.01 % Triton-X, pH 7.4 using 50 nM FAM PEG-SIM tracer and 3  $\mu\text{M}$  SUMO protein).

## Protein expression

<sup>14</sup>N-labelled SUMO (human GlyThrHisMet-SUMO<sub>18-97</sub>) was expressed and purified as previously described from a pet19b His-TEV-SUMO1<sub>18-97</sub> construct.<sup>1</sup> <sup>15</sup>N-labelled SUMO was expressed and purified following the same protocol as above, with the expression being carried out in M9 minimal media supplemented with <sup>15</sup>N-NH<sub>4</sub>Cl.

## NMR spectroscopy – general information

All NMR spectra acquired for isolated peptide samples were natural abundance spectra acquired at 5 °C, with 500  $\mu\text{M}$  peptide in 20 mM sodium phosphate pH 7.4, 0.02% NaN<sub>3</sub>, on 750 or 500 MHz Bruker NMR spectrometers. Random coil reference shifts for the parent SIM sequence (DNEIEVIIVWEKK) were obtained using the Poulsen IDP/IUP Random Coil Chemical Shifts (can be accessed at <https://spin.niddk.nih.gov/bax/>). These random coil shifts are calculated using neighbour correction factors,<sup>4</sup> and pH- and temperature-corrections.<sup>5</sup>

All NMR spectra acquired using  $^{15}\text{N}$ -labelled protein samples were acquired at 5 °C, in 20 mM sodium phosphate pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 0.02%  $\text{NaN}_3$ , on 750 or 600 MHz Bruker NMR spectrometers.

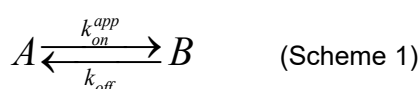
Protein and peptide NMR spectra were processed with NMRPipe and analysed in CcpNmr analysis.

## Pulsed field gradient NMR

Diffusion NMR measurements on SIM peptides alone were measured in an interleaved manner on a 750 MHz Bruker spectrometer using pulse sequences that employ bipolar gradients. Data were recorded at 5 °C, with a 400 ms diffusion delay.

## $^{15}\text{N}$ ZZ-exchange spectroscopy

$^{15}\text{N}$  ZZ-exchange experiments were performed in an interleaved manner as described previously<sup>4</sup> using mixing times between 10 and 500 ms. Data were fit to a simple 2-state model:



where state A represents unbound SUMO and state B represents SUMO bound to SIM. The time-evolution of the longitudinal magnetisations during mixing are described by the corresponding McConnell equations:<sup>4</sup>

$$\frac{dM_z^{aa}}{dt} = k_{off} M_z^{ab} - M_z^{aa}(k_{on}^{app} + R_1^a)$$

$$\frac{dM_z^{bb}}{dt} = k_{on}^{app} M_z^{ba} - M_z^{bb}(k_{off} + R_1^b)$$

$$\frac{dM_z^{ab}}{dt} = k_{on}^{app} M_z^{aa} - M_z^{ab}(k_{off} + R_1^b)$$

$$\frac{dM_z^{ba}}{dt} = k_{off} M_z^{bb} - M_z^{ba}(k_{on}^{app} + R_1^a)$$

where  $M_z^{aa}$  is the z-magnetization of unbound SUMO,  $M_z^{bb}$  is the z-magnetization of bound SUMO, and  $M_z^{ab}$ ,  $M_z^{ba}$  are the z-magnetizations of the corresponding exchange cross-peaks.  $R_1^a$ ,  $R_1^b$  are the longitudinal relaxation rates for states A and B, and  $k_{on}^{app}$ ,  $k_{off}$  are the pseudo-first order association and dissociation rates, respectively. Simple analytical solutions to the above equations are available<sup>4</sup> and were used to fit the ZZ-exchange data. Fitting parameters included  $k_{on}^{app}$ ,  $k_{off}$ , residue specific  $R_1^a$ ,  $R_1^b$  rates, and scaling factors  $I_{aa}$ ,  $I_{bb}$  that incorporate any differences in the relaxation rates of the bound and unbound species. Scaling factors for the exchange cross-peaks  $I_{ab}$ ,  $I_{ba}$  were not included as these were absent at the start of the mixing period in all cases. Uncertainties in the fitted parameters were calculated using a Monte-Carlo approach based on the noise of the experiment. Fitting was performed using in-house scripts written in Python employing the LmFit module available at <https://lmfit.github.io/lmfit-py/>.

The  $K_D$  value of 33.6  $\mu\text{M}$  for the native peptide sequence (Ac-DNEIEVIVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>) determined here in 20 mM sodium phosphate, pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM DTT, 0.02%  $\text{NaN}_3$ , 5 °C is not directly comparable to the  $K_D$  value of 3.7  $\mu\text{M}$  reported in our prior study<sup>1</sup> (for FAM-peg-DNEIEVIVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>) in 20 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl, 0.01 % Triton-X, pH 7.4 as the two sequences differ and different buffers were used.

## $^{15}\text{N}$ CPMG relaxation dispersion

$^{15}\text{N}$  CPMG relaxation dispersions were recorded at 600 and 750 MHz using a pulse scheme with amide proton decoupling to measure the rates of in-phase  $^{15}\text{N}$  coherences.<sup>6</sup> The  $^{15}\text{N}$ -CPMG evolution period was set to 40 ms.  $^1\text{H}_\text{N}$  constant wave decoupling was applied at a radiofrequency field strength of 11 kHz. The experiment recorded with the relaxation period omitted served as a reference for the calculation of  $R_{2,\text{eff}}$  rates as a function of  $\nu_{\text{CPMG}}$ . Uncertainties in  $R_{2,\text{eff}}$  values were obtained from duplicate measurements at two different  $\nu_{\text{CPMG}}$  frequencies. Data were fit to the 2-state model of Scheme 1 using in-house scripts written in Python employing the LmFit module as described previously.<sup>7</sup> To fit CPMG data at temperatures other than 5 °C, where only 600 MHz data are available, the chemical shifts of the bound states were restrained such that they are within 0.2 ppm within their values at 5 °C. This assumption is safe as the chemical shifts of SUMO bound to parent SIM at different temperatures are all within the 0.2 ppm limit.

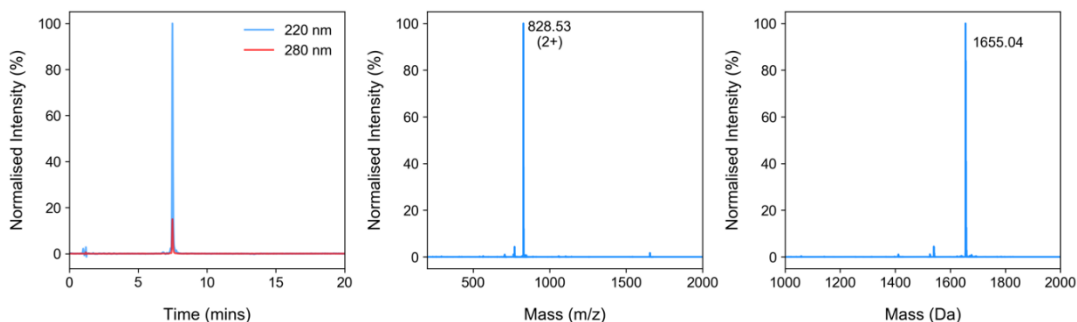
## Ramachandran Calculations

Simulated annealing calculations were carried out in XPLOR-NIH<sup>8</sup> using parameter and topology files that were manually amended to include *N*-methylated amino acids. To generate Ramachandran plots, the  $\phi$ ,  $\psi$  backbone dihedral angles were varied in a grid search and a simulated annealing calculation was performed at each point of the search to minimize a pseudo-energy potential that included terms to describe violations from ideal bond geometry and van der Waals clashes. Note that this treatment does not include any attractive energy terms and thus the resulting Ramachandran plots are slightly different than the expected.

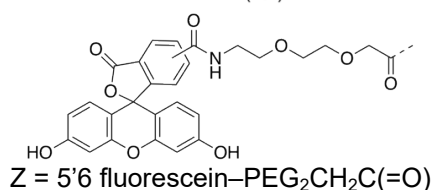
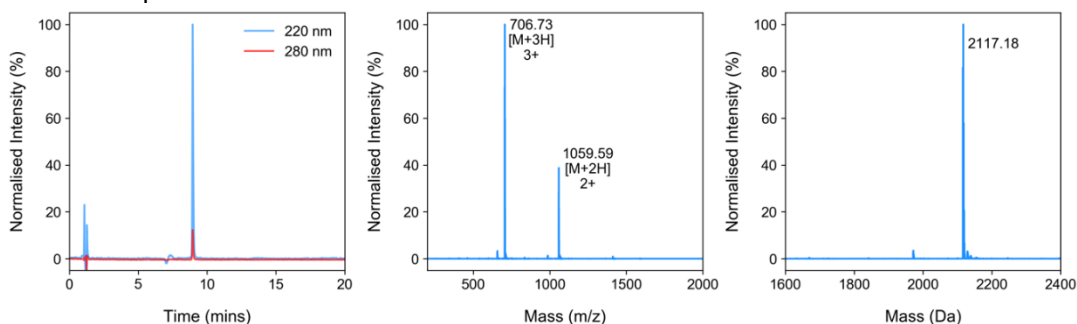
## SIM peptide characterisation by analytical HPLC and mass spectrometry

Analytical HPLC and mass spectrometry characterisation of peptides used in this study is shown below. In all parts (except g and k): left = analytical HPLC trace, centre = raw nanospray mass spectrum collected in positive ion mode, right = deconvoluted spectrum. In g and k: left = analytical HPLC trace, right = MALDI-TOF spectrum. Where not otherwise noted, HPLC was performed at room temperature.

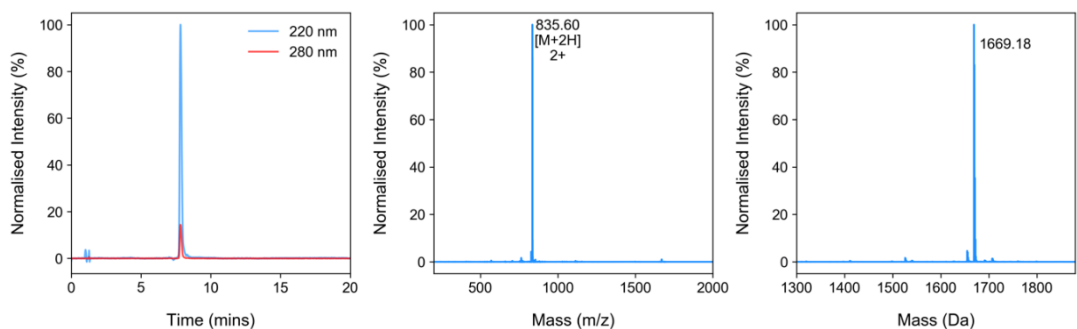
**a) Peptide: parent SIM. Sequence: Ac-DNEIEVIIVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass: 1654.88 Da. Observed mass: 1655.04 Da.**



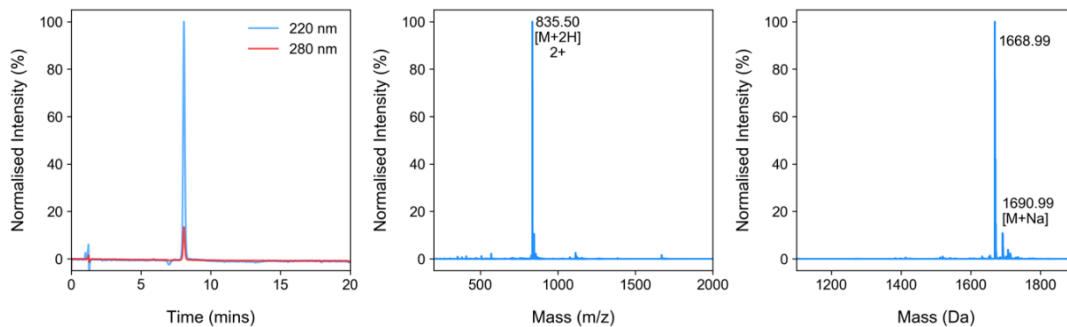
**b) Peptide: FAM-SIM. Sequence: Z-DNEIEVIIVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>; Z = 5'6 fluorescein-PEG<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>C(=O). Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass: 2117.32 Da. Observed mass: 2117.18 Da.**



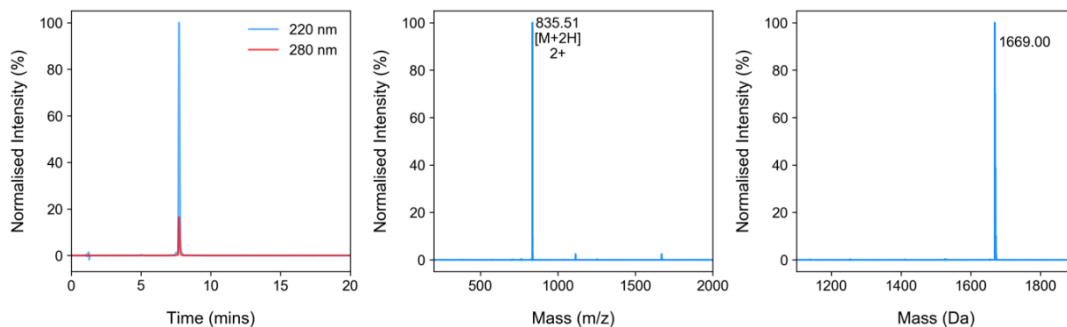
**c) Peptide: Me-Asp2705. Sequence: Ac-(NMe)DNEIEVIIVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass: 1668.91 Da. Observed mass: 1669.18 Da.**



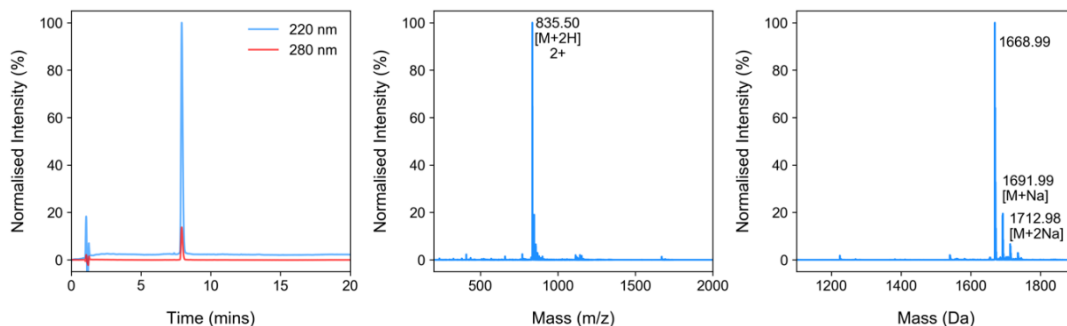
**d) Peptide: Me-Asn2706. Sequence: Ac-D (NMe) NEIEVIIVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass: 1668.91 Da. Observed mass: 1668.99 Da.**



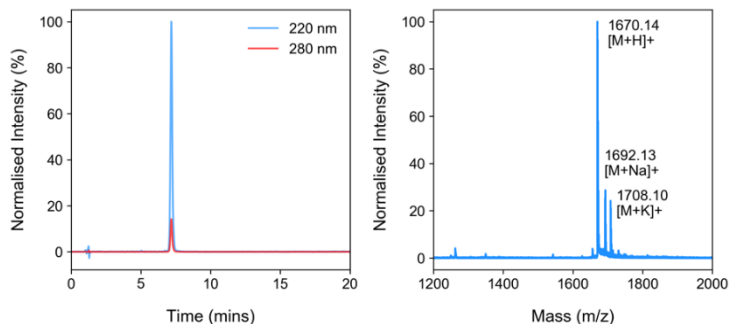
**e) Peptide: Me-Glu2707. Sequence: Ac-DN (NMe) EIEVIIVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass: 1668.91 Da. Observed mass: 1669.00 Da.**



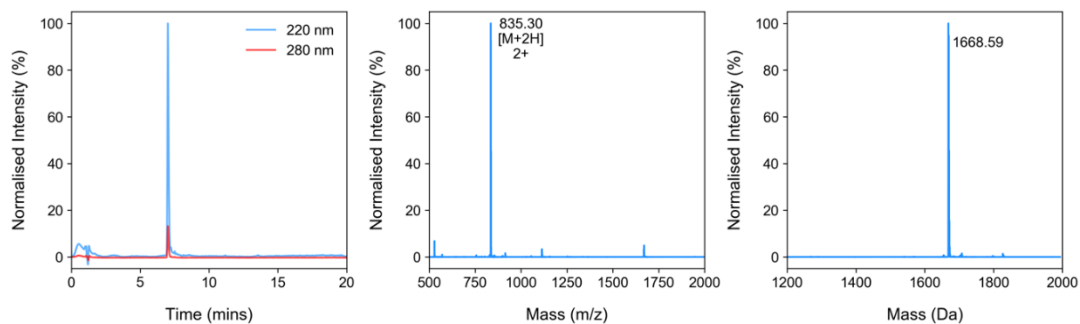
**f) Peptide: Me-Ile2708. Sequence: Ac-DNE (NMe) IEVIIVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass: 1668.91 Da. Observed mass: 1668.99 Da.**



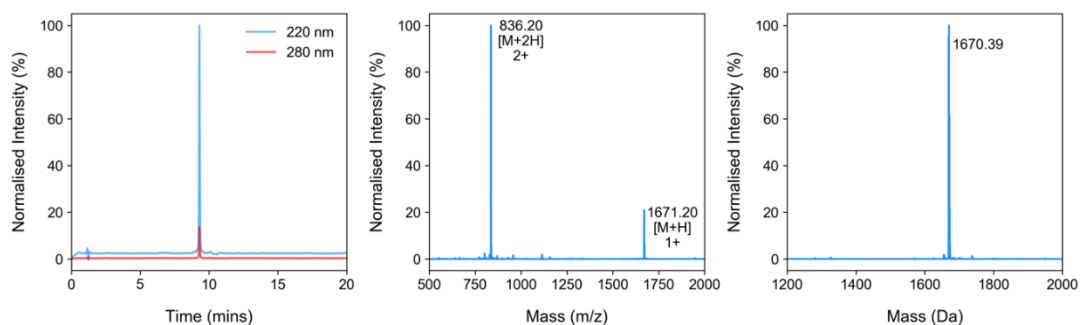
**g) Peptide: Me-Glu2709. Sequence: Ac-DNEI (NMe) EVIIVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass (reflector positive mode) = 1669.92 Da. Observed mass: 1670.14 Da.**



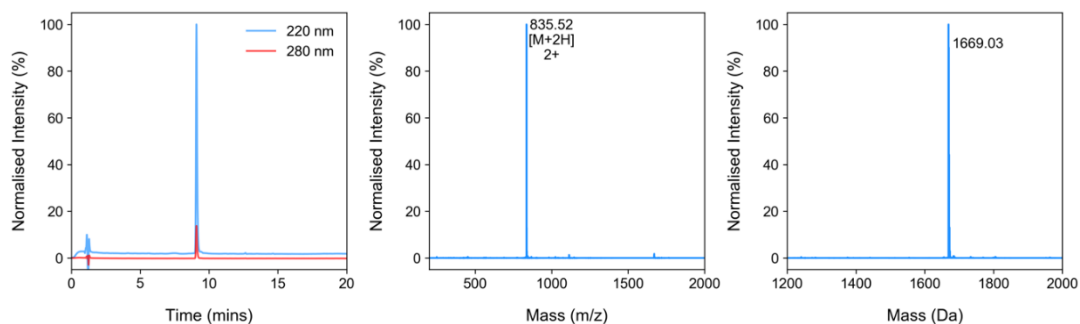
**h) Peptide: Me-Val2710. Sequence: Ac-DNEIE (NMe) VIIVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass: 1668.91 Da. Observed mass: 1668.59 Da.**



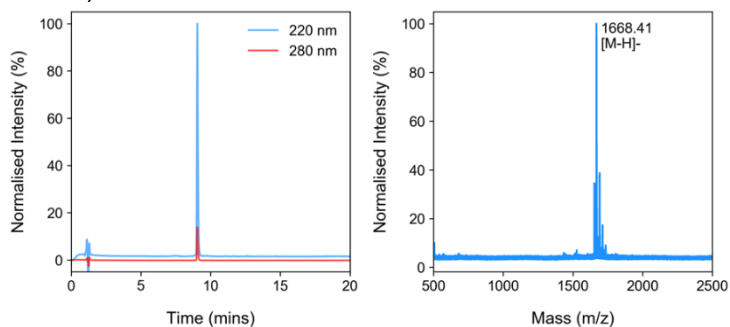
**i) Peptide: Me-Ile2711. Sequence: Ac-DNEIEV (NMe) IIVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B, 50°C. Expected mass: 1668.91 Da. Observed mass: 1670.39 Da.**



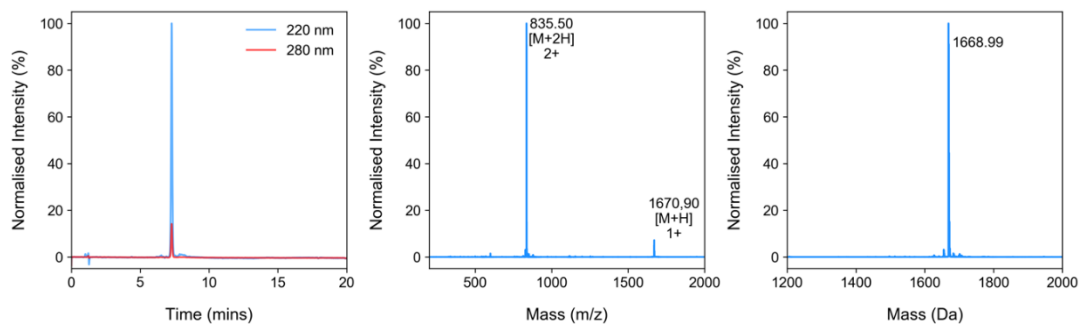
**j) Peptide: Me-Ile2712. Sequence: Ac-DNEIEVI (NMe) IVWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass: 1668.91 Da. Observed mass: 1669.03 Da.**



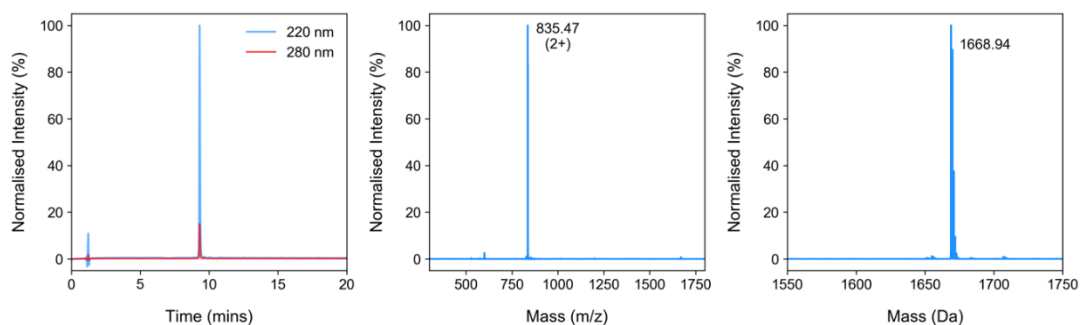
**k) Peptide: Me-Val2713. Sequence: Ac-DNEIEVII (NMe) VWEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass (reflector negative mode) = 1668.12 Da. Observed mass: 1668.41 Da.**



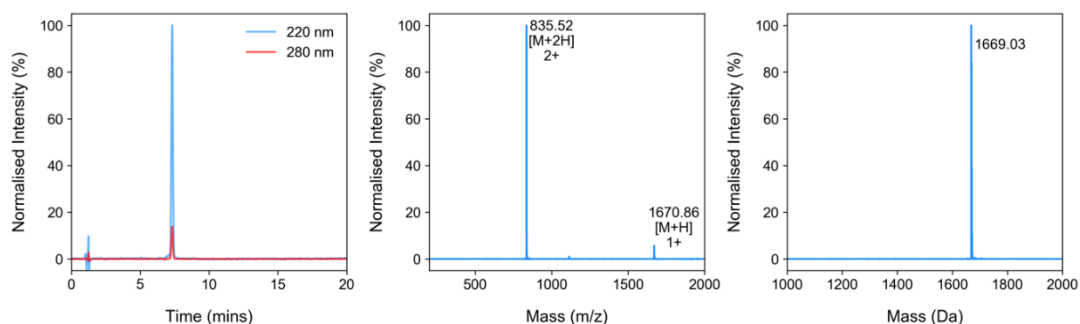
**l) Peptide: Me-Trp2714. Sequence: Ac-DNEIEVIIV (NMe) WEKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass: 1668.91 Da. Observed mass: 1668.99 Da.**



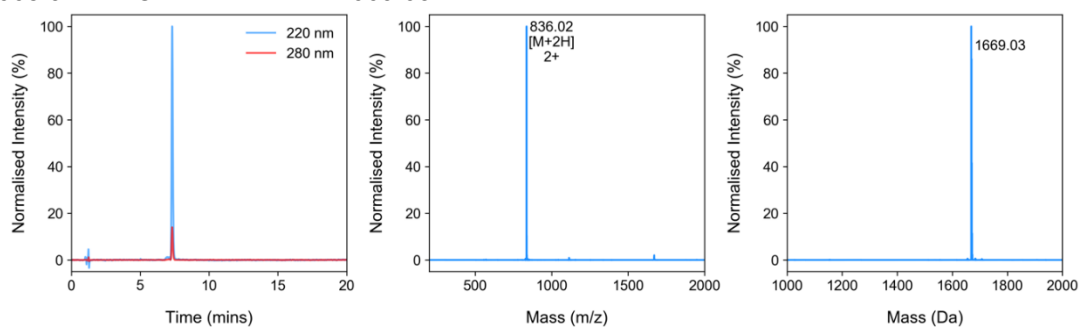
**m) Peptide: Me-Glu2715. Sequence: Ac-DNEIEVIIVW (NMe) EKK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B, 50°C. Expected mass: 1668.91 Da. Observed mass: 1668.94 Da.**



**n) Peptide: Me-Lys2716. Sequence: Ac-DNEIEVIIVWE (NMe) KK-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass: 1668.91 Da. Observed mass: 1669.03 Da.**



**o) Peptide: Me-Lys2717. Sequence: Ac-DNEIEVIIVWEK (NMe) K-NH<sub>2</sub>. Gradient: 20-80% Buffer B. Expected mass: 1668.91 Da. Observed mass: 1669.03 Da.**





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