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1 ***S. pombe kinesin-5 switches direction using a steric blocking mechanism***

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11 **Supplemental Data**

12 **Supplemental Figure S1.** Resolution of the cryo-EM reconstruction. Fourier Shell Correlation
13 (FSC) curve computed between two half reconstructions. The FSC 0.5 criterion indicates 9.3 Å
14 resolution (dotted line).

15 **Supplemental Figure S2.** Cut7 directional reversal depends on physical crowding. MT gliding
16 driven by Klp2 surfaces, Cut7FL surfaces and Klp2+Cut7 surfaces was compared at different
17 protein concentrations/surface densities and in different buffers. (A) 0.35 μM Klp2 surfaces drive
18 MTs to glide with their plus ends leading, indicating that Klp2 motors step towards MT minus ends,
19 as expected, in both KPEM100 and KPEM100 +150 mM NaCl gliding buffers. (B) 0.5 μM CutFL
20 surfaces also drive MTs to glide with their plus ends leading under both these conditions. (C) A 1.1
21 μM Cut7FL surface generates plus directed steps in KPEM100. Raising the salt concentration by
22 adding 150 mM NaCl reverts this surface to minus end directed stepping. (D) A mixed 0.5 μM
23 Cut7FL and 0.35 μM Klp2 surface steps towards MT minus ends in both KPEM100 + 150 mM
24 NaCl and KPEM + 250 mM NaCl. (E) In stark contrast, a mix of 1.1 μM Cut7 and 0.35 μM Klp2
25 reverses directionality, in both KPEM100 +150 mM NaCl and KPEM + 250 mM NaCl. The data
26 show that a mixed surface of Klp2 and Cut7 converts from net minus end directed stepping to net
27 plus end directed stepping only under crowded conditions. With insufficient crowding, a mixed Klp2
28 plus Cut7 surface steps towards MT minus ends. This control experiment confirms that only when
29 Klp2 is added to an already-high density Cut7 surface does it cause directional switching.

30 **Supplemental Figure S3.** Stepping direction of mixed Cut7FL – dynein MTBD surfaces depends
31 on ionic strength. (A) A mixed surface of Cut7FL and dynein MTBD steps towards MT plus ends in
32 KPEM 100. This same surface reverses direction in (B) KPEM + 100 mM NaCl and (C) KPEM +
33 200 mM NaCl. Flushing with KPEM 100 (D) reverts the surface to plus end directed stepping.

1 **Supplemental Movies**

2 **Movie S1.** Dissolution of a Cut7-assembled MT bundle by ATP-driven sliding of the component
3 MTs on a Cut7 surface. The bundle was formed in solution by mixing Cut7FL motor with polarity
4 marked MTs and then captured on to a Cut7FL-coated coverslip. The Cut7FL surface then drives
5 the bundled MTs to slide apart. The previously-bundled MTs all slide in the same direction across
6 the coverslip surface, indicating that the MTs were aligned in parallel in the two halves of the
7 bundle. Frame interval 5 s.

8 **Movie S2.** Cut7FL-driven sliding of Cut7FL-bundled MTs. Two polarity-marked cargo microtubules
9 (magenta) sliding over two polarity-marked template microtubules (green) that are bound to a
10 neutravidin-coated coverslip via biotin tubulin sparsely incorporated into the green MTs. The cargo
11 MTs slide with their plus ends trailing. Scale bar 5 μm ; frame interval 20 s.

12 **Movie S3.** Cut7FL-driven sliding of Cut7FL-bundled MTs. A polarity-marked cargo microtubule
13 (magenta) slides on a polarity marked template microtubule (green) bound to a neutravidin-coated
14 coverslip via biotin tubulin sparsely incorporated into the green MTs. The MT slides with its plus
15 end leading. Scale bar 5 μm ; frame interval 20 s.

16 **Movie S4.** Cut7FL-driven sliding of Cut7FL-bundled MTs. A polarity-marked cargo microtubule
17 (magenta) slides on a polarity marked template microtubule (green) bound to a neutravidin-coated
18 coverslip via biotin tubulin sparsely incorporated into the green MTs. The cargo MT alternates
19 switches its sliding direction repeatedly. Scale bar 5 μm ; frame interval 20 s.

20 **Movie S5.** Sliding of polarity-marked MTs on a relatively sparse surface of Cut7FL. Conditions:
21 KPEM100 + 100 mM NaCl gliding buffer, 1 mM ATP. MTs slide with their plus ends leading,
22 indicating minus end directed motor stepping. Frame interval 5 s.

23 **Movie S6.** Sliding of MTs on a very sparse surface of Cut7FL. Conditions: KPEM100 + 100 mM
24 NaCl gliding buffer, 1 mM ATP. Overlay emphasises repeated pivoting of the sliding MTs at
25 specific points on the surface. The pivoting behaviour suggests that single surface-attached
26 Cut7FL molecules are stepping rapidly and processively towards minus ends. Time code = mins
27 and secs.

28 **Movie S7.** Sliding of MTs on a high-density surface of Cut7FL at low ionic strength. Conditions:
29 KPEM100 + 100 mM NaCl gliding buffer, 1 mM ATP. MTs move smoothly and slowly with their
30 plus ends (marked) trailing, indicating plus end directed motor stepping. Frame interval is 5 s.

31 **Movie S8.** Cut7FL directionality can be switched by varying buffer conditions. Representative data
32 from a serial wash-through experiment on a single flow cell, corresponding to Fig. 2C. A flow cell in

1 which MTs were gliding on a 1.1 μ M Cut7FL surface in KPEM100 gliding buffer, 1 mM ATP (A)
2 was serially flushed with (B) KPEM100 + 100 mM NaCl gliding buffer, 1 mM ATP (C) KPEM100 +
3 200 mM NaCl gliding buffer, 1 mM ATP (D) KPEM30 gliding buffer, 1 mM ATP.

4 **Movie S9.** Sliding of MTs on a surface of Cut7|67-432 monomers. The assay was performed in
5 KPEM30 gliding buffer, 0.1 mM MgATP. At higher ATP concentrations and/or higher salt
6 concentrations, MTs attached only very rarely to the surface. MTs slide exclusively with their plus
7 ends trailing, indicating plus end directed motor activity. Frame interval is 5 s.

8 **Movie S10.** Sliding of MTs on a surface of Cut7|1-432 monomers. The assay was performed in
9 KPEM100 gliding buffer, 1mM MgATP. MTs slide exclusively with their plus ends trailing,
10 indicating plus end directed motor activity. Frame interval is 30 s.

11 **Movie S11.** Cryo-EM reconstruction with docked pseudo-atomic model of MT-bound *S. pombe*
12 Cut7 motor domain in the AMPPNP state. The N-terminus (blue) is shown in shown in several
13 different possible fits (see text).

14 **Movie S12.** Dynein MTBD can crowd Cut7 and reverse its directionality. In KPEM 100 gliding
15 buffer, Cut7FL surfaces (A) drive MTs to glide with their plus ends (marked) leading, indicating that
16 the motors on the surface are stepping towards MT minus ends. Adding dynein MTBD to this
17 surface under the same buffer conditions causes the MT gliding direction to reverse. Frame
18 interval 60s.

19 **Movie S13.** Klp2 can crowd Cut7 and reverse its directionality. In KPEM100 + 250mM NaCl gliding
20 buffer, 1 mM ATP, a surface made using 1.1 μ M Cut7FL Cut7FL plus 0.35 μ M Klp2 slides MTs with
21 their plus ends trailing, indicating net plus end directed motor stepping (see Fig. 5 and Fig. S2).
22 Plus ends of sliding MTs are marked for clarity. Note that one MT (marked in green) is bidirectional,
23 and that a population of very short MTs moves much more rapidly. We speculate that some
24 surface-tethered Cut7FL tetramers reach above the surface-tethered Klp2 to engage these short
25 MTs. Frame interval 30 s.

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