

Supplementary information

Role of charges in a dynamic disordered complex between an IDP and a folded domain

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Supplementary Fig. 17: Normalized CSPs (CSP_{sum}; see methods).

Supplementary Fig. 18: CSP_{sum} plotted against apparent K_D .

Supplementary Fig. 19: Apparent K_{DS} plotted against net charge of variants.

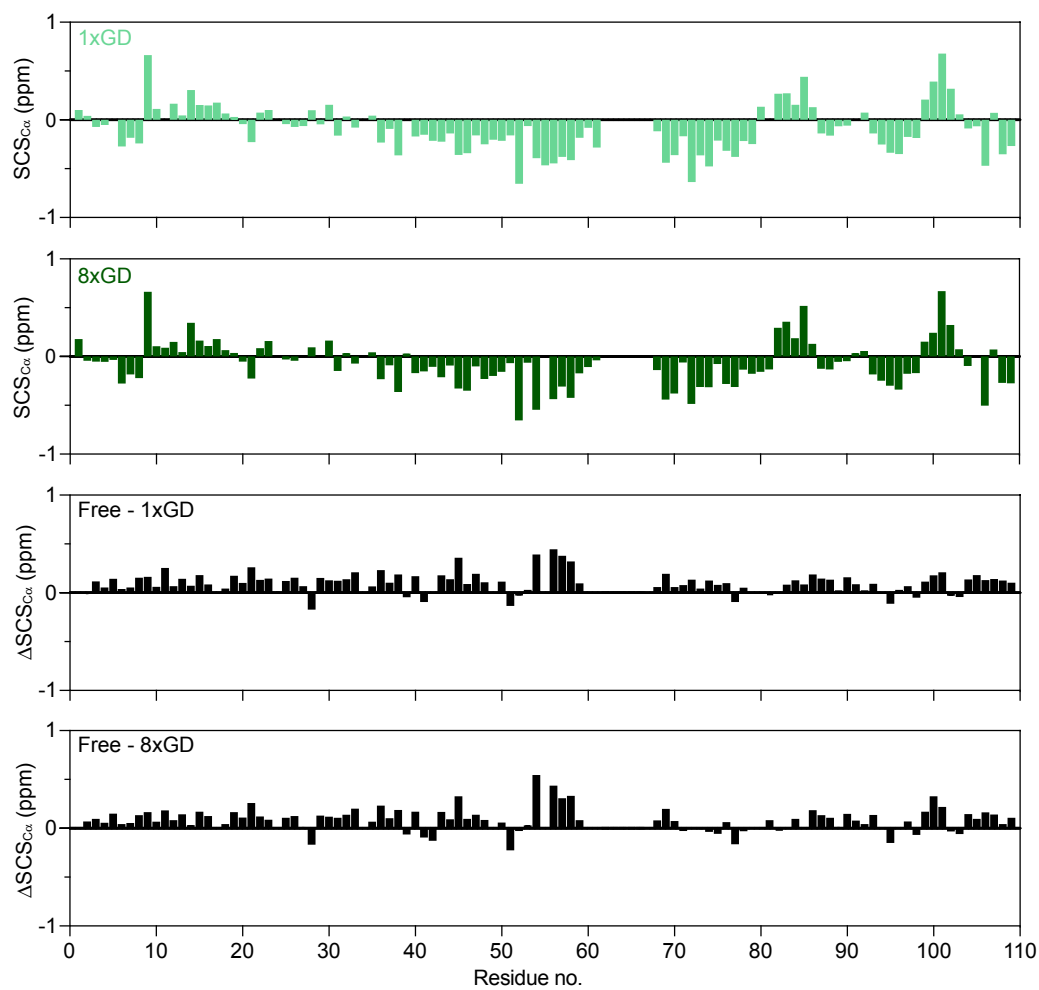
Supplementary Fig. 20: Illustration of charge clustering in GD charge density variants

Supplementary Fig. 21: Comparison of relaxation parameters calculated from two independent simulations

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

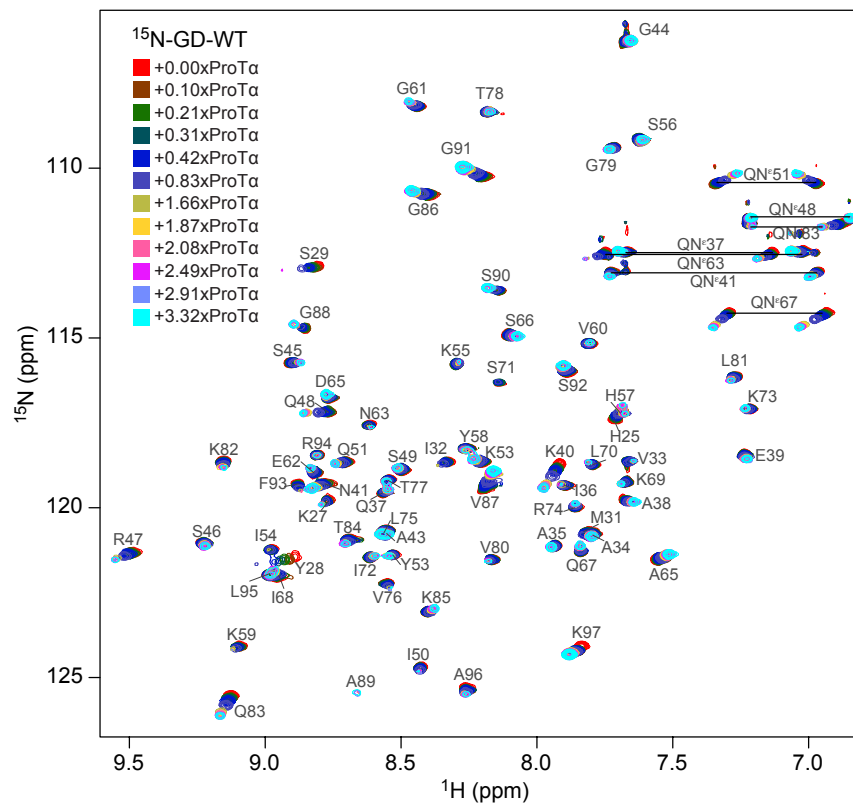
Supplementary Table 1: Extraction of K_D values at higher stoichiometries from the CG simulation.

Supplementary Table 2: Summary of simulations performed.



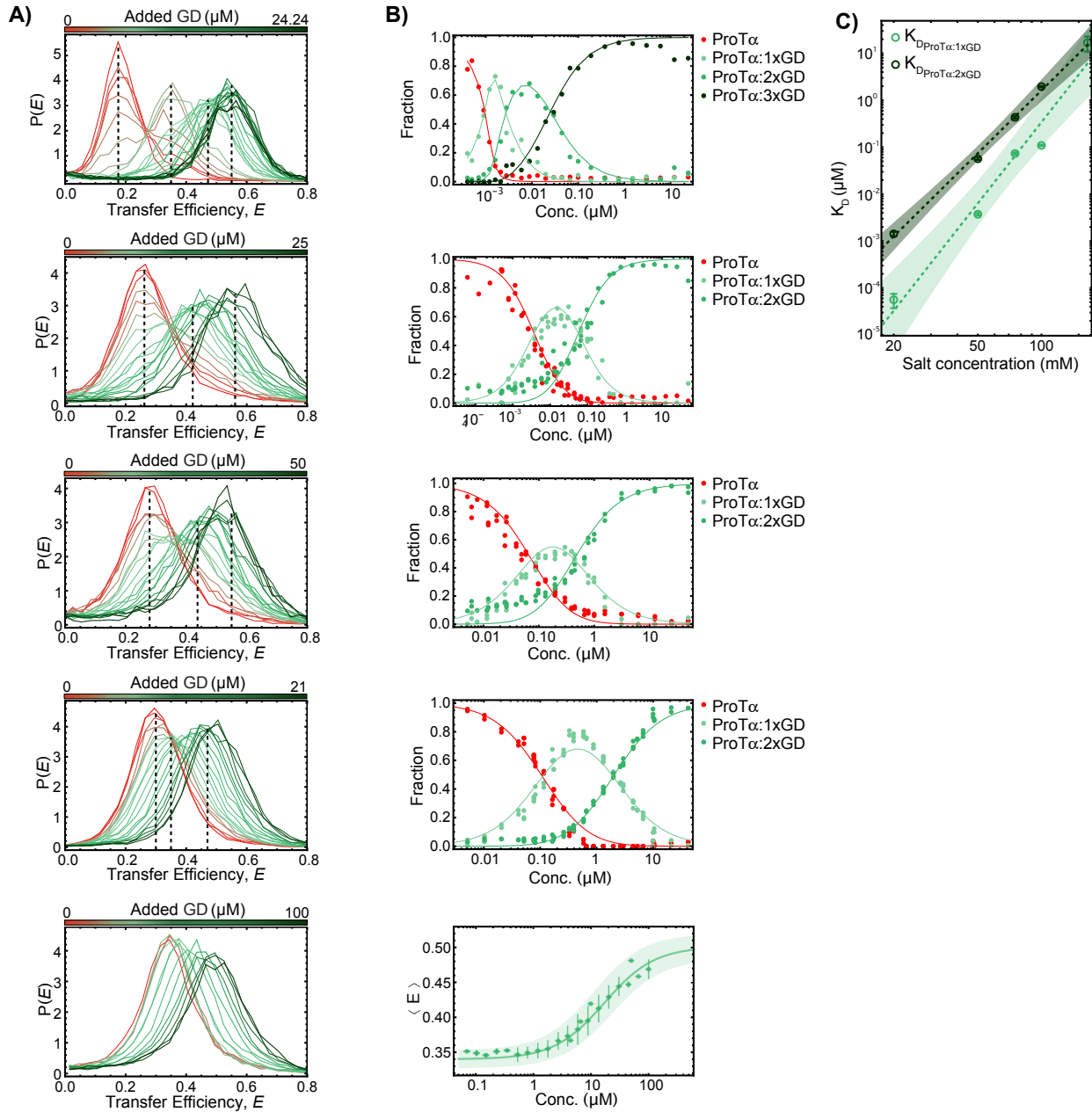
Supplementary Fig. 1: $C\alpha$ secondary chemical shifts ($SCS_{C\alpha}$) of ProTa in the presence of equimolar concentration of GD (top panel, light green) and at a 8x molar ratio of GD (second panel, dark green). Difference in $C\alpha$ secondary chemical shifts ($\Delta SCS_{C\alpha}$) of ProTa in its free and GD-bound states (equimolar ratio, third panel, and 8x molar ratio, bottom panel)

Related to Figure 1.

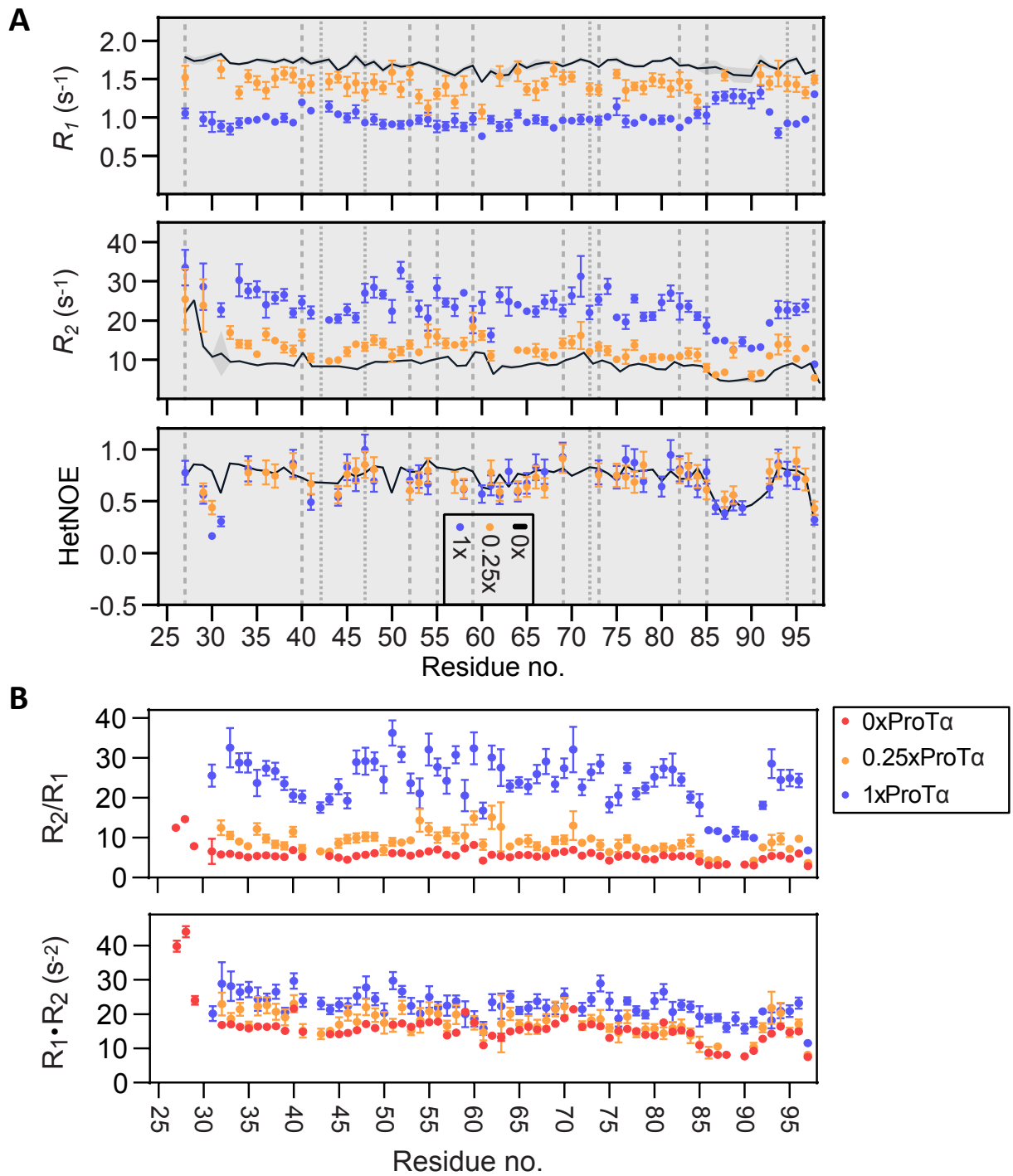


Supplementary Fig. 2: ^{15}N -HSQC spectra of ^{15}N -GD titrated with ProTa at ratios in accordance with the color key. Peak assignments are inserted as labels.

Related to Figure 2.

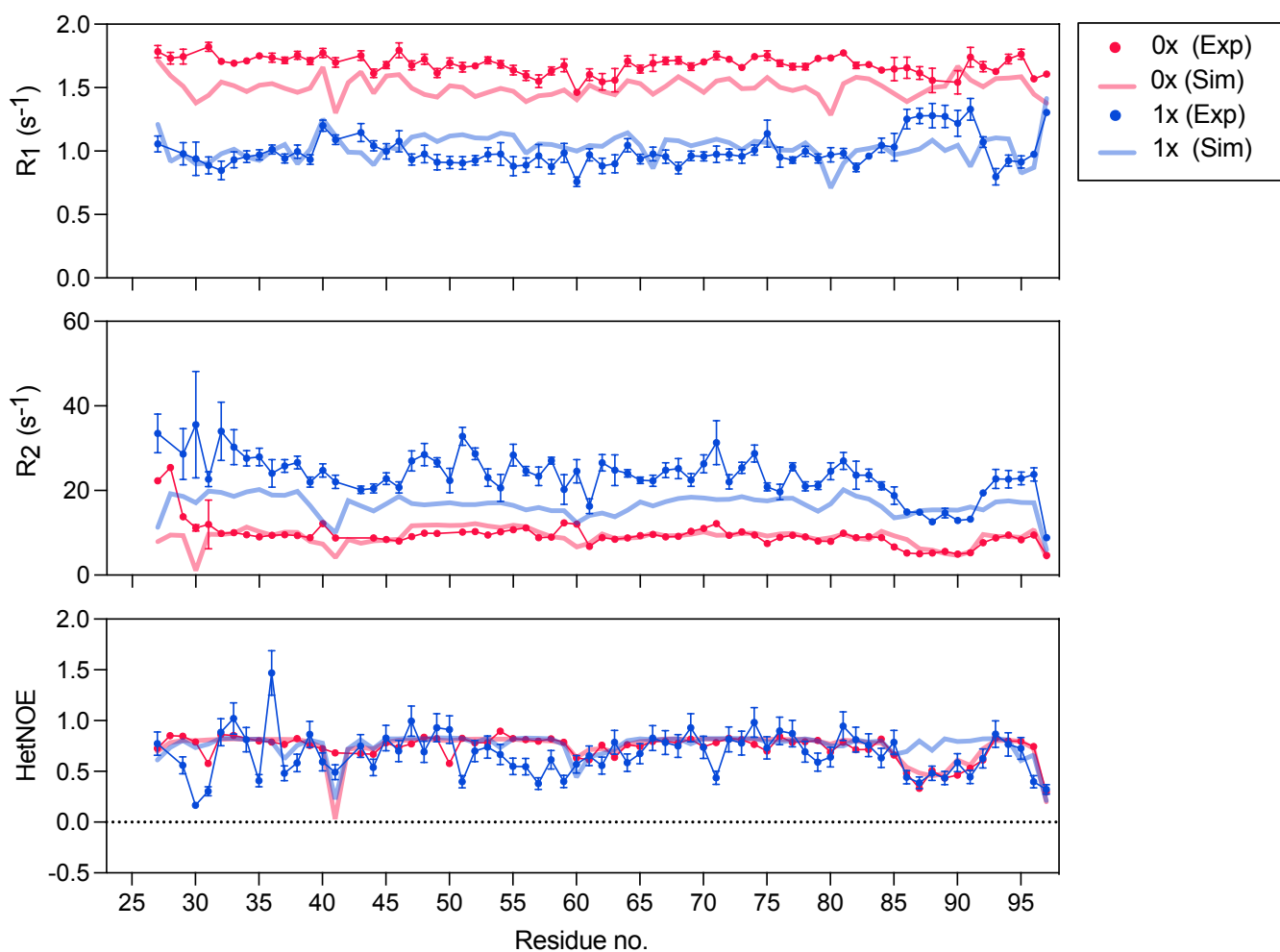


Supplementary Fig. S3: Interaction of fluorescently labeled ProTa with GD measured at different ionic strengths using smFRET. **A)** Transfer efficiency histograms from smFRET experiments of labeled ProTa with increasing concentration of GD at five different ionic strengths (IS) (from top to bottom: 20, 50, 75, 100 and 165 mM). Multiple subpopulations are visible (especially at 20, 50, 75 and 100 mM ionic strength) indicating increasing ProTa compaction upon binding of multiple GD molecules (up to three GD bound to ProTa can be identified at 20mM, whereas only up to two GD molecules bound to ProTa are visible at 50, 75 and 100 mM ionic strength) At an ionic strength of 165 mM, no subpopulations can be identified due to fast exchange between the free and bound states of ProTa. The mean transfer efficiencies of the subpopulations are indicated by vertical dashed lines in each plot. **B)** Relative fraction of the visible subpopulations in the histograms in panel A) fit with a model describing the equilibrium of ProTa free and bound to up to three GD molecules, at 20 mM ionic strength, or up to two GD molecules, at 50, 75 and 100 mM. **C)** Affinity of the 1:1 ProTa:GD and 1:2 ProTa:GD complexes as a function of ionic strength. The dashed lines and the shaded areas are the fit and 90% confidence interval of the Record-Lohman fit describing the counter ion release upon the formation of the complex. Related to Figure 1.



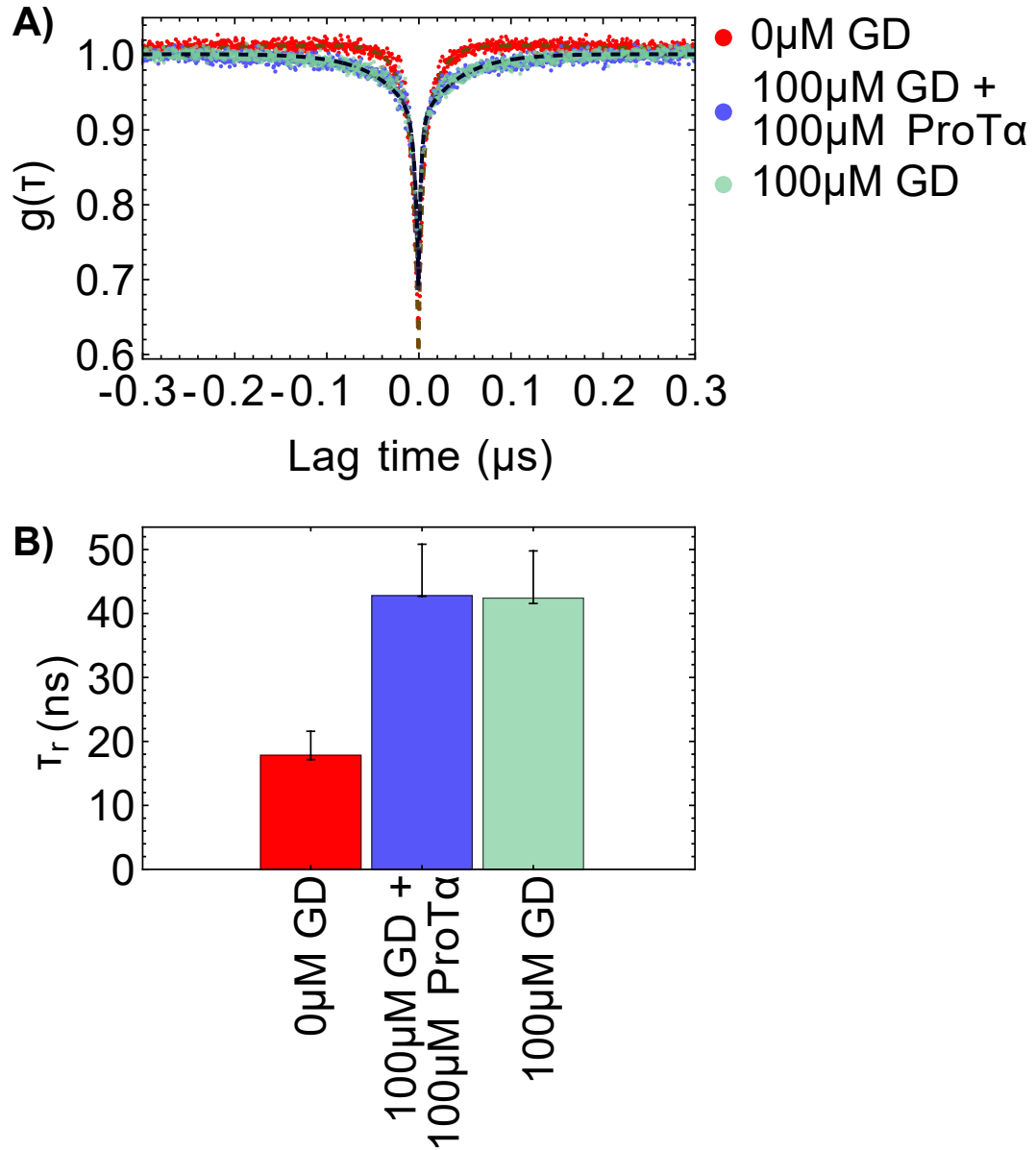
Supplementary Fig. 4: **A)** R_1 and R_2 relaxation rates and hetNOEs of GD in the absence (black line, data from Martinsen et al., ²) and the presence of 0.25x and 1x molar ratio of ProTa. The data in the presence of ProTa are the same as shown in Fig. 2D. **B)** Bracken plots ³ of ^{15}N -GD R_1 and R_2 relaxation rates (600 MHz) upon addition of 0-1 times molar ratio of ProTa in accordance with the color key. Errors bars are standard errors of the fits.

Related to Figure 2.



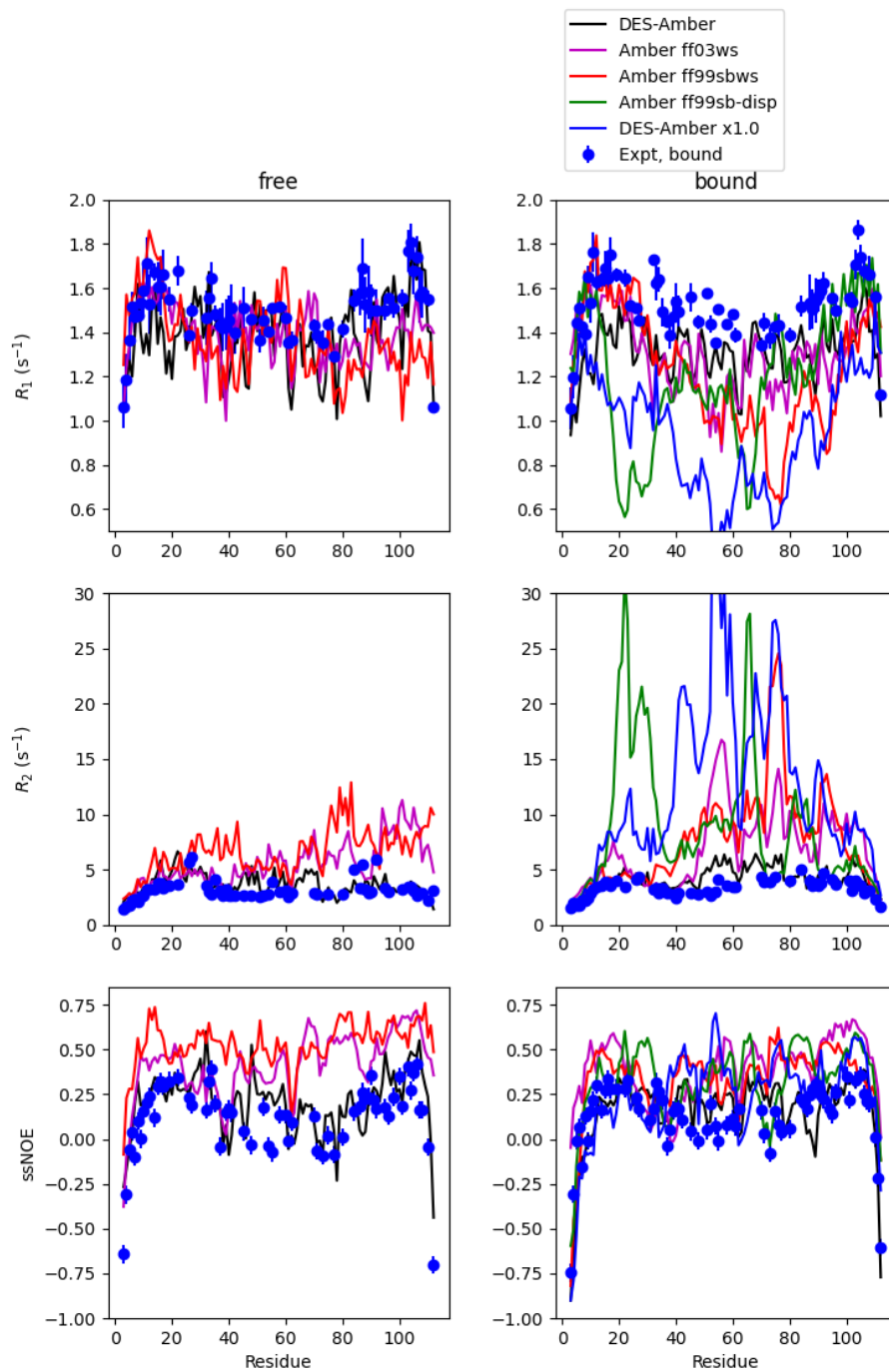
Supplementary Fig. 5: Comparison of experimentally determined relaxation rates R_1 and R_2 , and hetNOEs for free ^{15}N -GD (blue symbols) and equimolar ratio of ^{15}N -GD:ProTα (red symbols) and the relaxation rates determined by molecular dynamics simulation with the DES-Amber force field (lines colored correspondingly). Errors bars on the experimental data are standard errors of the fits.

Related to Figure 3.



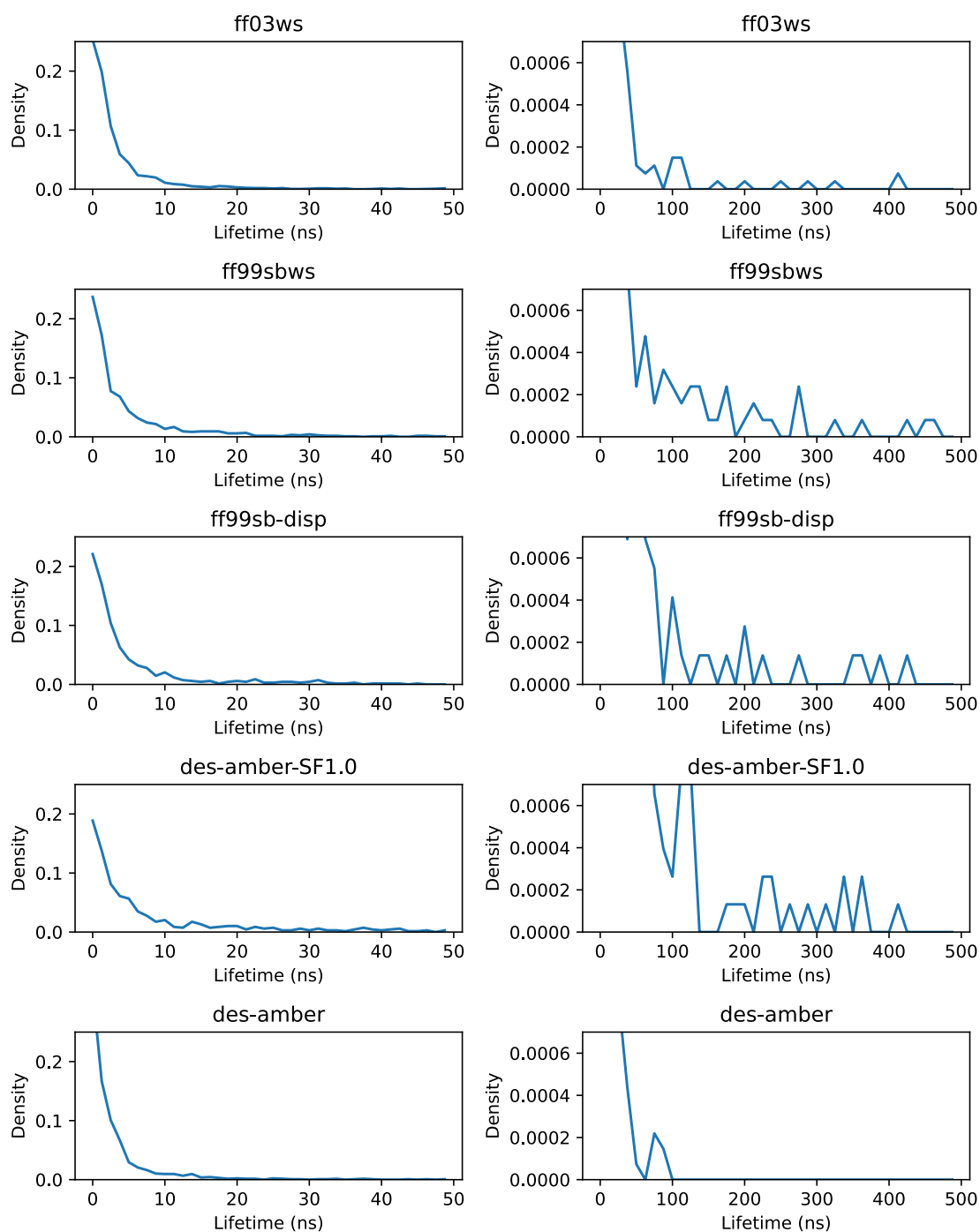
Supplementary Fig. 6: Influence of GD binding on the chain dynamics of ProT α from nsFCS. **A)** Donor-acceptor crosscorrelations from nsFCS of fluorescently labeled ProT α in the absence of GD (yellow), in the presence of 100 μM GD (dark purple), and in the presence of 100 μM GD and 100 μM unlabeled ProT α (light purple). **B)** Comparison of resulting reconfiguration times, τ_r , obtained from the fit, with error bars reflecting the systematic uncertainty in the Förster radius of 7%⁴.

Related to Figure 3.



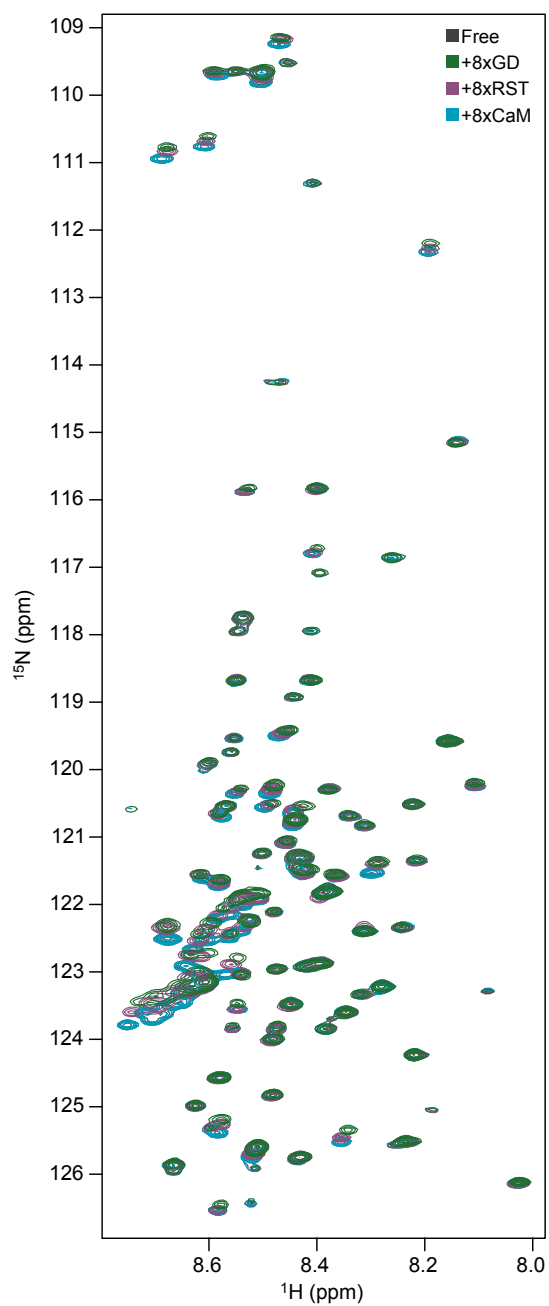
Supplementary Fig. 7: Comparison of experimentally determined relaxation rates for free ^{15}N -ProT α (left column) and GD bound ^{15}N -ProT α (right column, equimolar ratio) with the relaxation rates determined from molecular dynamics simulation for several different force fields (see legend). Errors bars of the experimental data are standard errors of the fits.

Related to Figure 3.



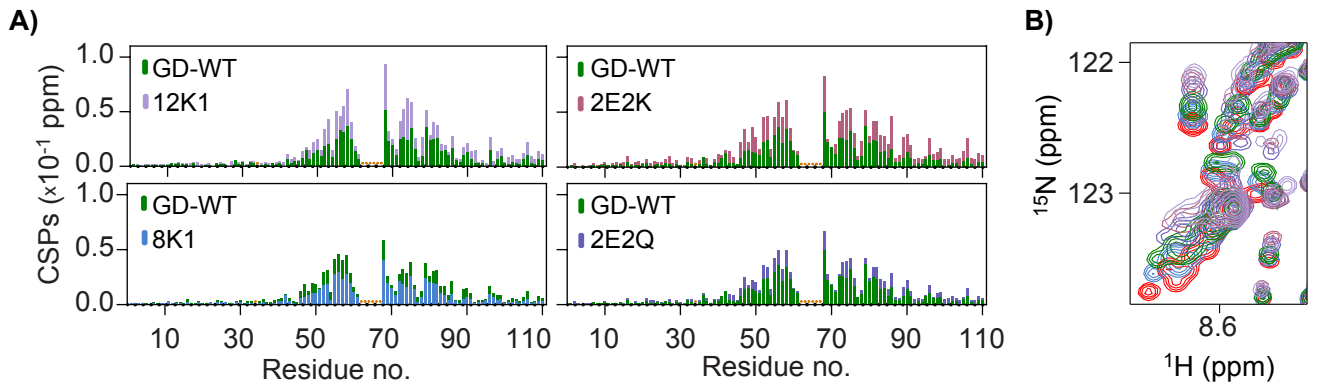
Supplementary Fig. 8: Distributions of lifetimes of intermolecular contacts from GD-ProT α simulations using different forcefields (labeled at the top of plots). Left column shows short-lifetime distribution while right column shows the long-lifetime tail of each distribution.

Related to Figure 3.



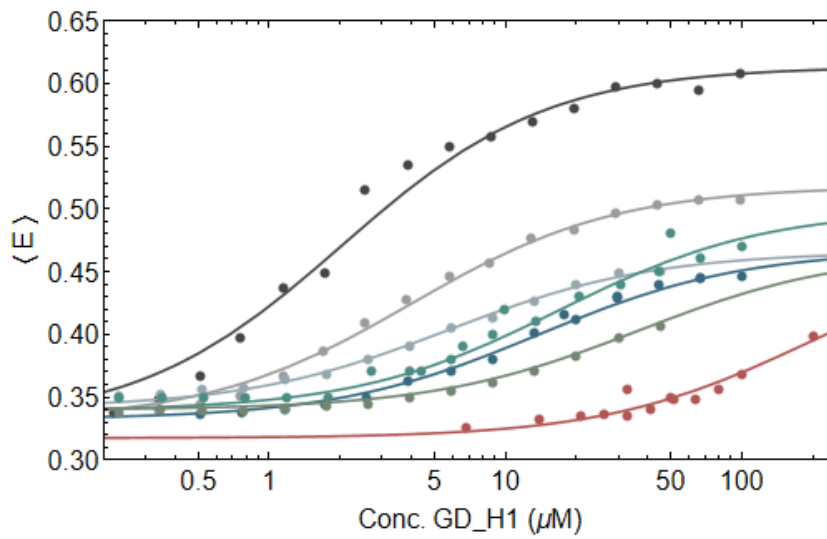
Supplementary Fig. 9: ^{15}N -HSQC spectra of ^{15}N - ProTa in its free state (black) or added 8 molar ratio of either GD (green), RST (purple) or CaM (light blue).

Related to Figure 3.



Supplementary Fig. 10: *A)* Backbone amide chemical shift perturbations (CSPs) of ^{15}N -ProTa upon addition of GD-WT (green) or GD net charge variants (grey, see Tab. 1) at 4x molar ratio, plotted against residue number. Orange '*' highlight unassigned residues. *B)* Trajectories of the CSPs of ^{15}N -ProTa induced by the different GD variants in A), same color scheme, free ^{15}N -ProTa in red.

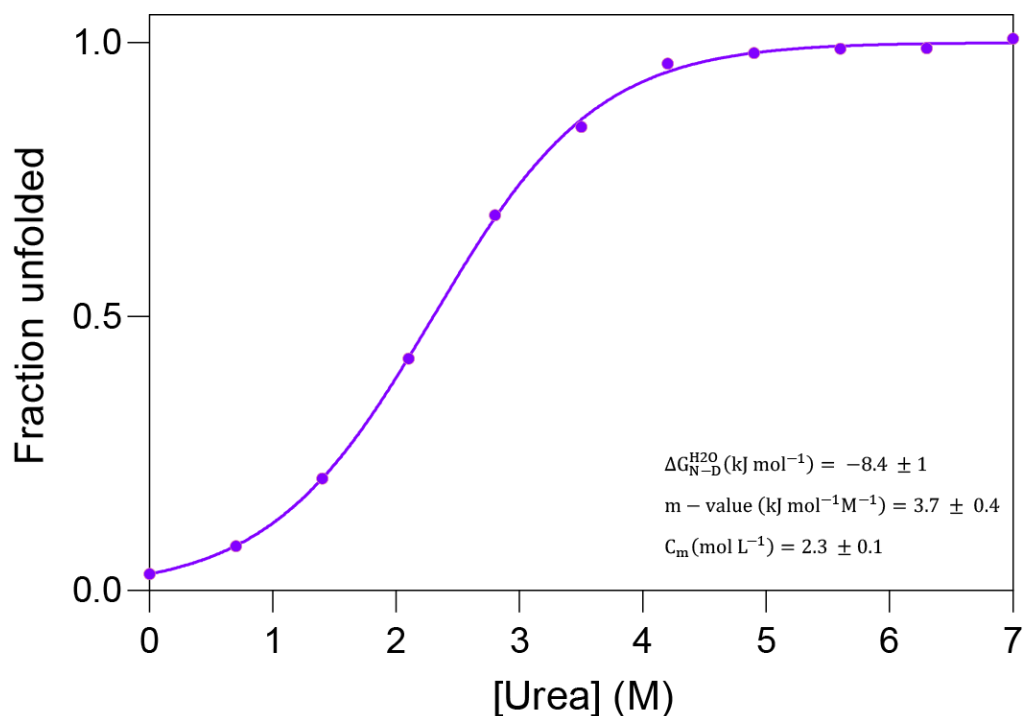
Related to Figure 4.



• GD_12K1-2E2Q • GD-12K2 • GD74-70 • GD_2S-2 • GD_WT • GD73-34 • GD_8K-2

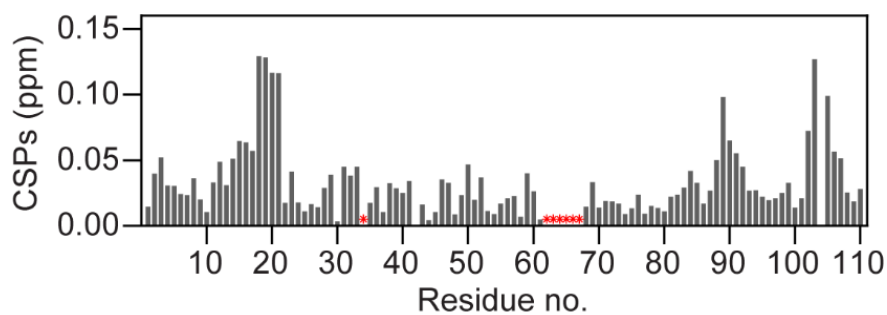
Supplementary Fig. 11: smFRET measurements with fits to binding isotherms (see Methods) for determining K_{DS} of GD variants binding to ProTa.

Related to Figure 4.



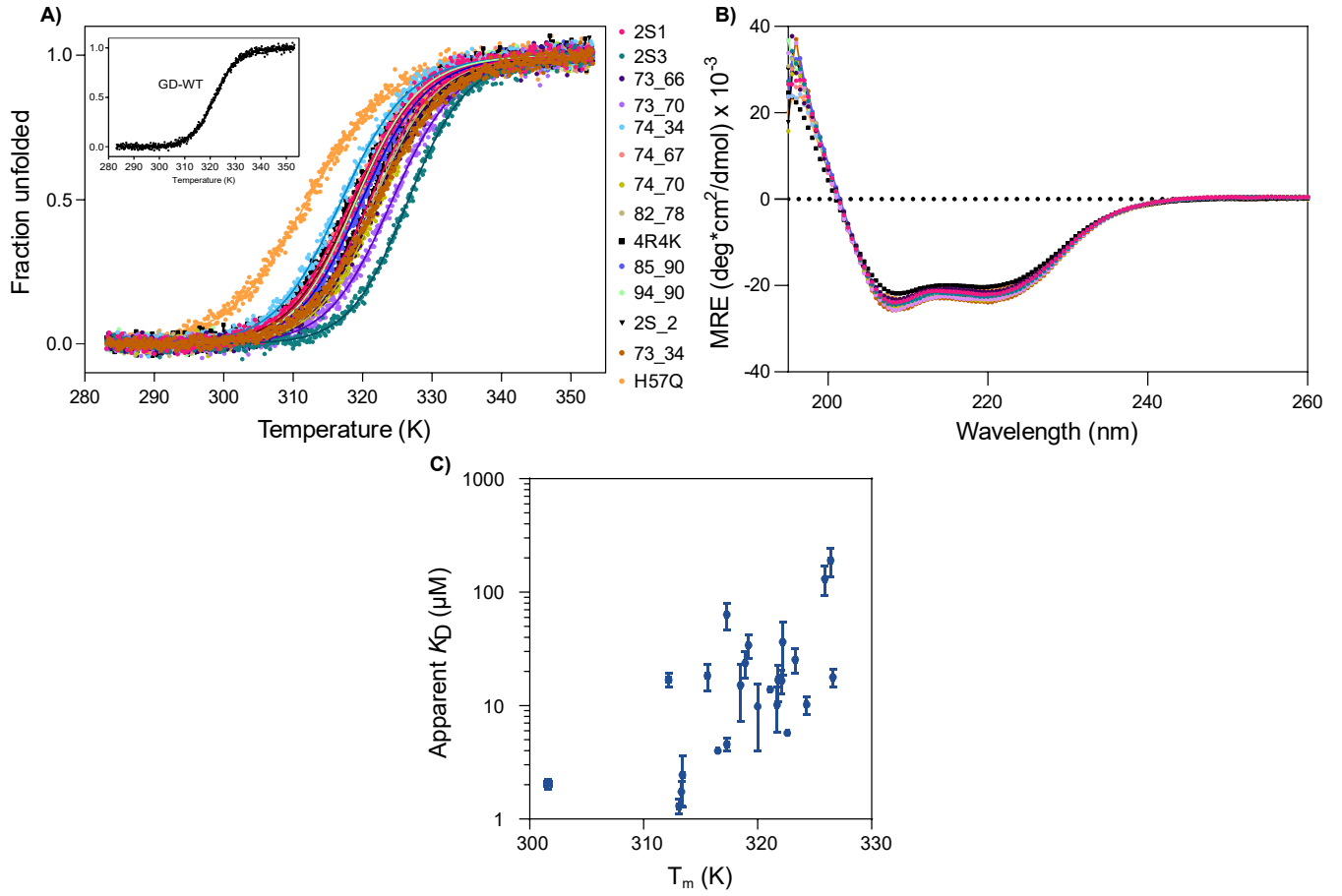
Supplementary Fig. 12: Urea-induced unfolding of GD-WT measured by far-UV CD spectroscopy from changes in $\Theta_{222\text{nm}}$ as a function of urea concentration with fit (see Methods).

Related to Figure 4.



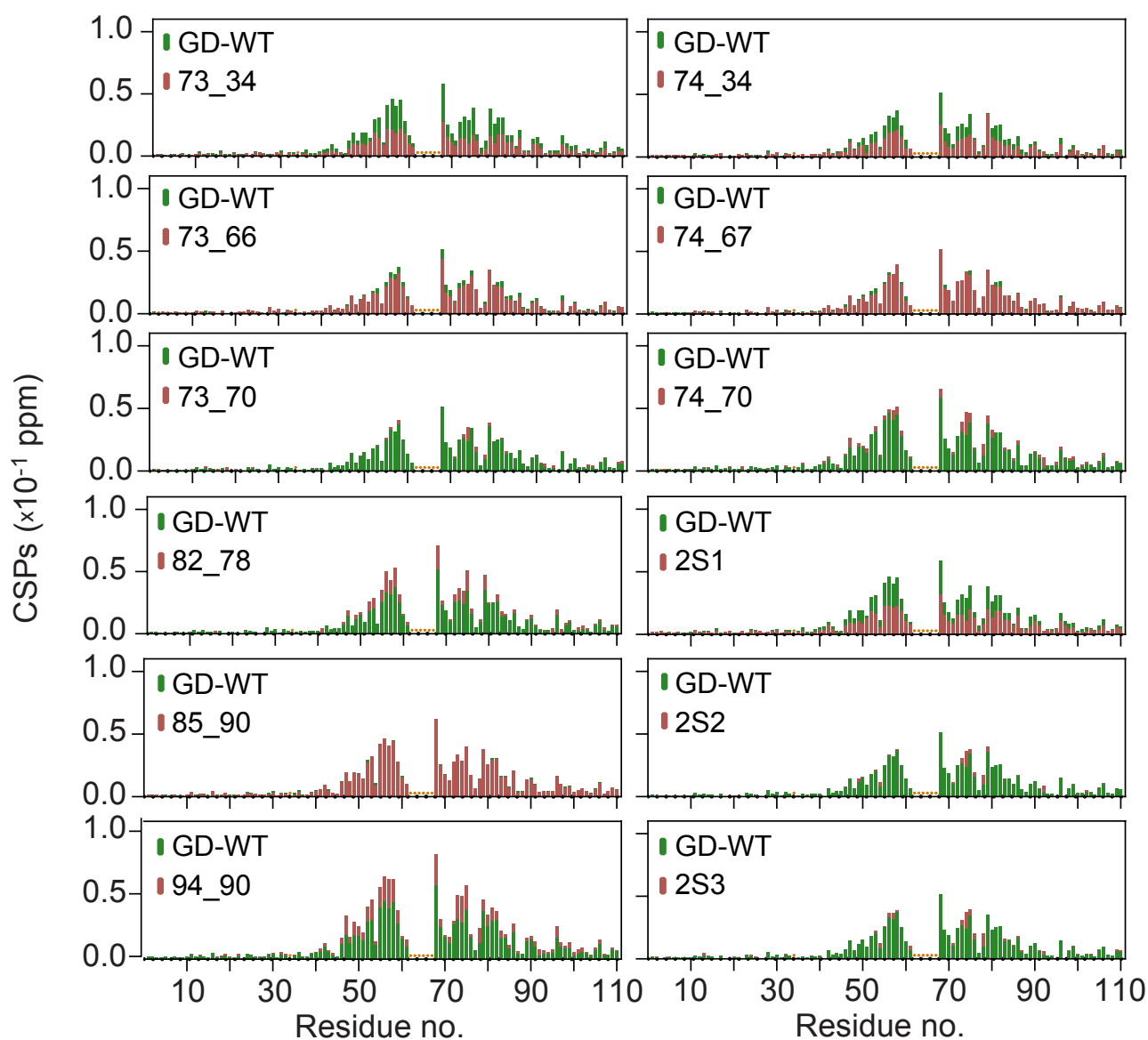
Supplementary Fig. 13: Backbone amide chemical shift perturbations (CSPs) of free ^{15}N -ProTa upon addition of 4 M urea (free ^{15}N -ProTa (0M urea) - free ^{15}N -ProTa (4M urea)), plotted against residue number. Red '*' highlight unassigned residues. Large CSPs are seen in the three regions where ProTa has positive charges and are likely linked to faster exchange rate with the solvent⁵.

Related to Figure 4.



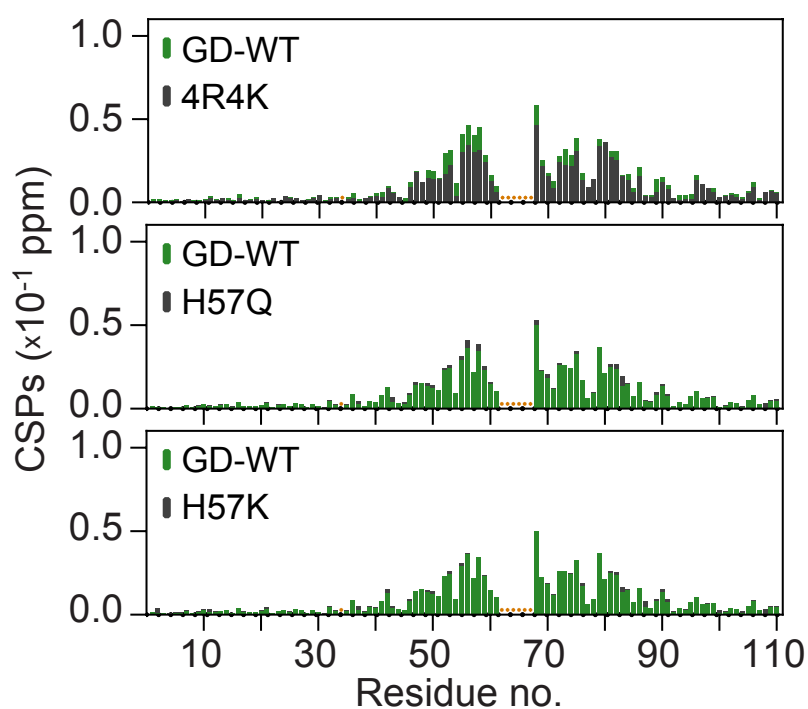
Supplementary Fig. 14: Structure analyses of the GD charge swap variants. **A)** Thermal denaturation measured by far-UV CD spectroscopy monitoring changes in Θ_{222nm} as a function of temperature for GD-WT (insert) and GD variants (according to color code) and the corresponding fits. All data were normalized using the linear relations for the pre-and post-transition slopes representing the folded and unfolded states, respectively, obtained from the fits. **B)** Far-UV CD spectra of the same charge swap variants, same color code as in A. All data were acquired with a protein concentration of 20 μ M and an ionic strength of 165 mM, pH 7.4. **C)** Correlation between melting temperature and apparent K_D measured by smFRET. Errors bars are standard errors of the fits.

Related to Figure 5



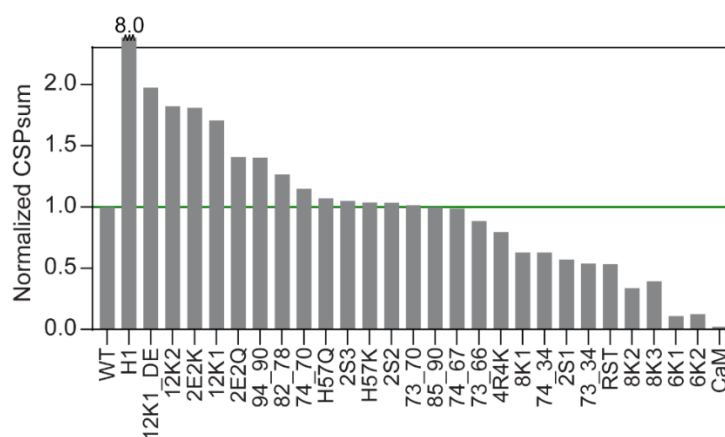
Supplementary Fig. 15: Backbone amide chemical shift perturbations (CSPs) of ^{15}N -ProTa upon addition of GD-WT (green) or GD charge swap variants (red, see table 1) at a molar ratio of 1:4, plotted against residue number. Orange '*' highlight unassigned residues.

Related to Figure 5



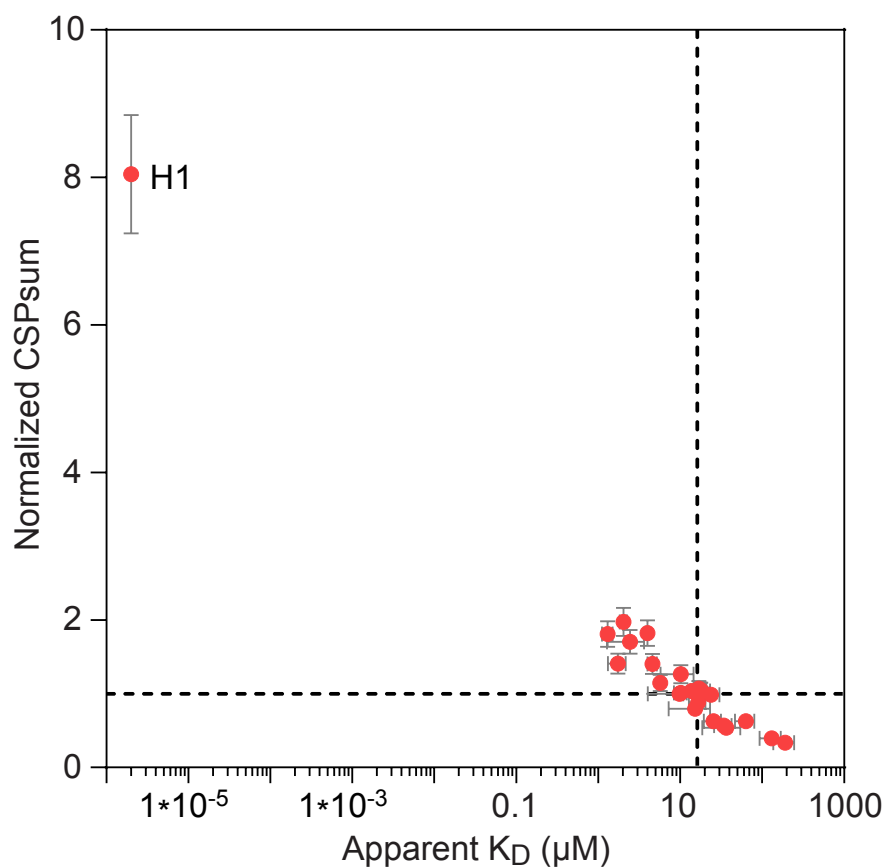
Supplementary Fig. 16: Backbone amide chemical shift perturbations (CSPs) of ^{15}N -ProTa upon addition of GD-WT (green) or GD variant (black, see table 1) at a molar ratio of 1:4, plotted against residue number. Orange “*” highlight unassigned residues.

Related to Figure 5.



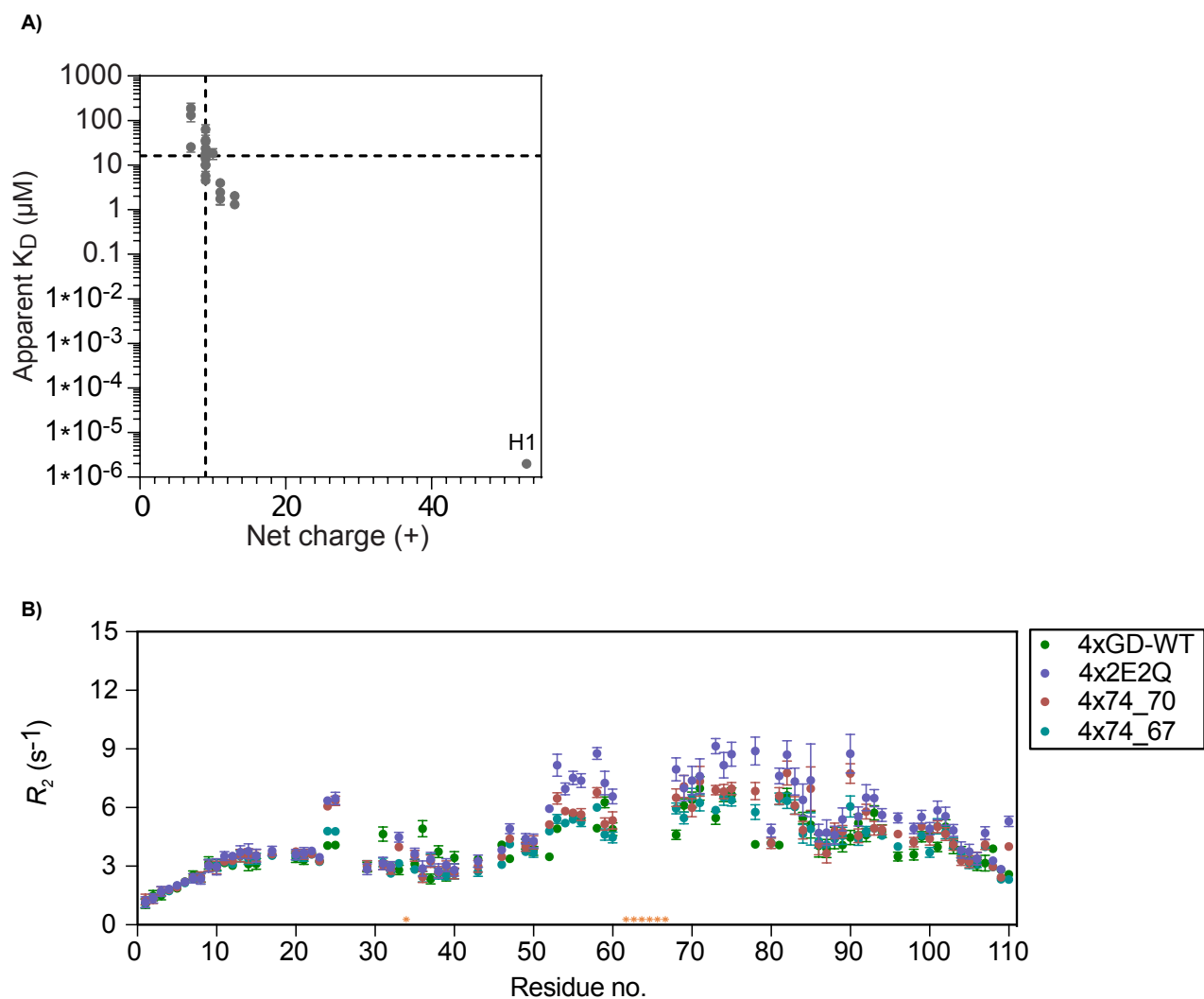
Supplementary Fig. 17: Normalized backbone amide chemical shift perturbations (CSPsum; see methods) of ^{15}N -ProTa upon addition equimolar amounts of different RST, CaM, GD variants, GD-WT and full-length H1. The bar representing full-length H1 has been shortened for illustrative purposes.

Related to Figure 5.



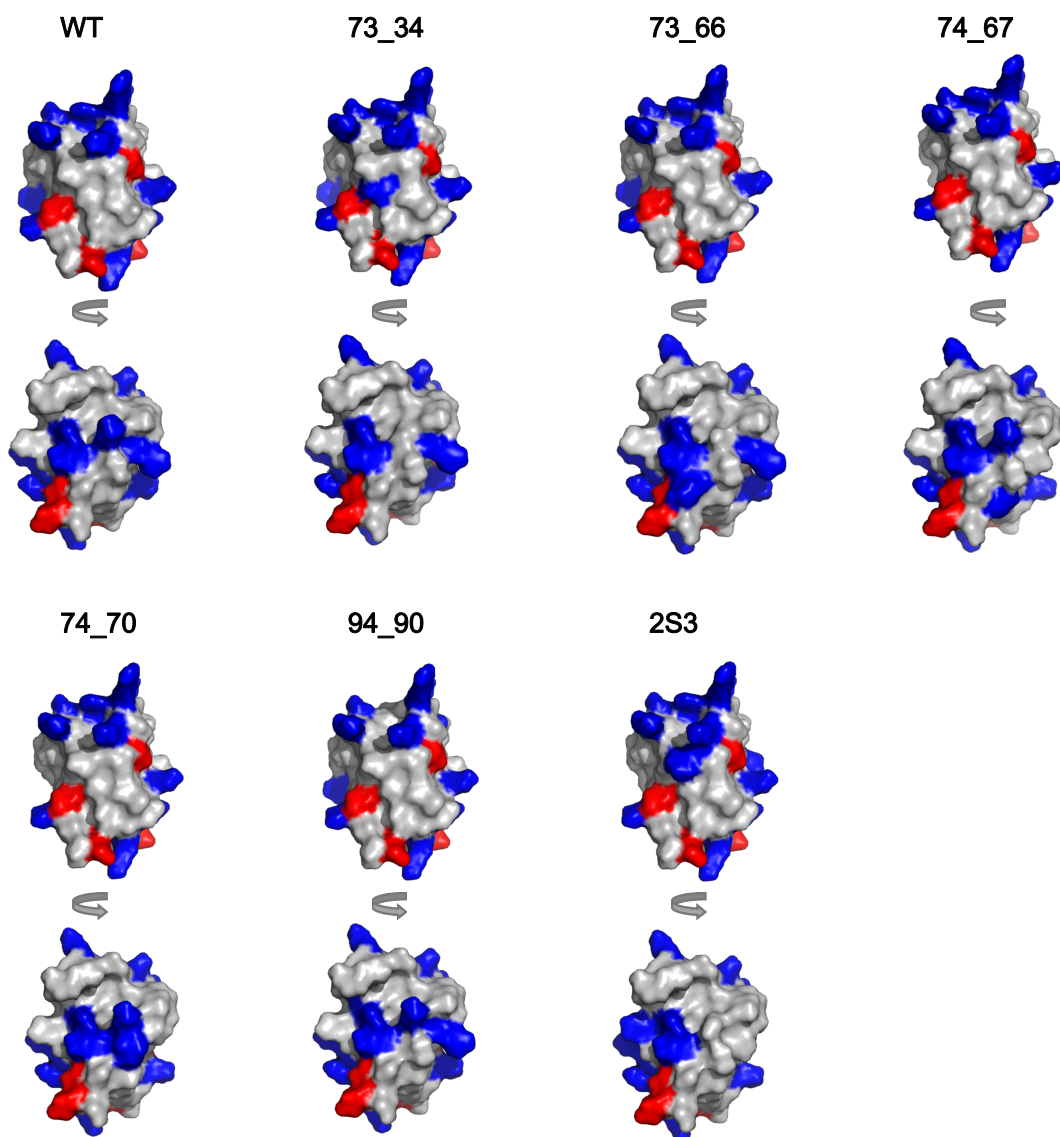
Supplementary Fig. 18: Normalized sum of backbone amide chemical shift perturbations (CSP_{sum} ; see methods) plotted against apparent K_D for GD-WT, 23 GD variants and full-length H1. The black dotted line represents GD-WT values. Errors bars for the K_D s are standard errors of the fits. Errors bars for the normalized CSPsum are propagated errors from three repetition of GD WT.

Related to Figure 5.



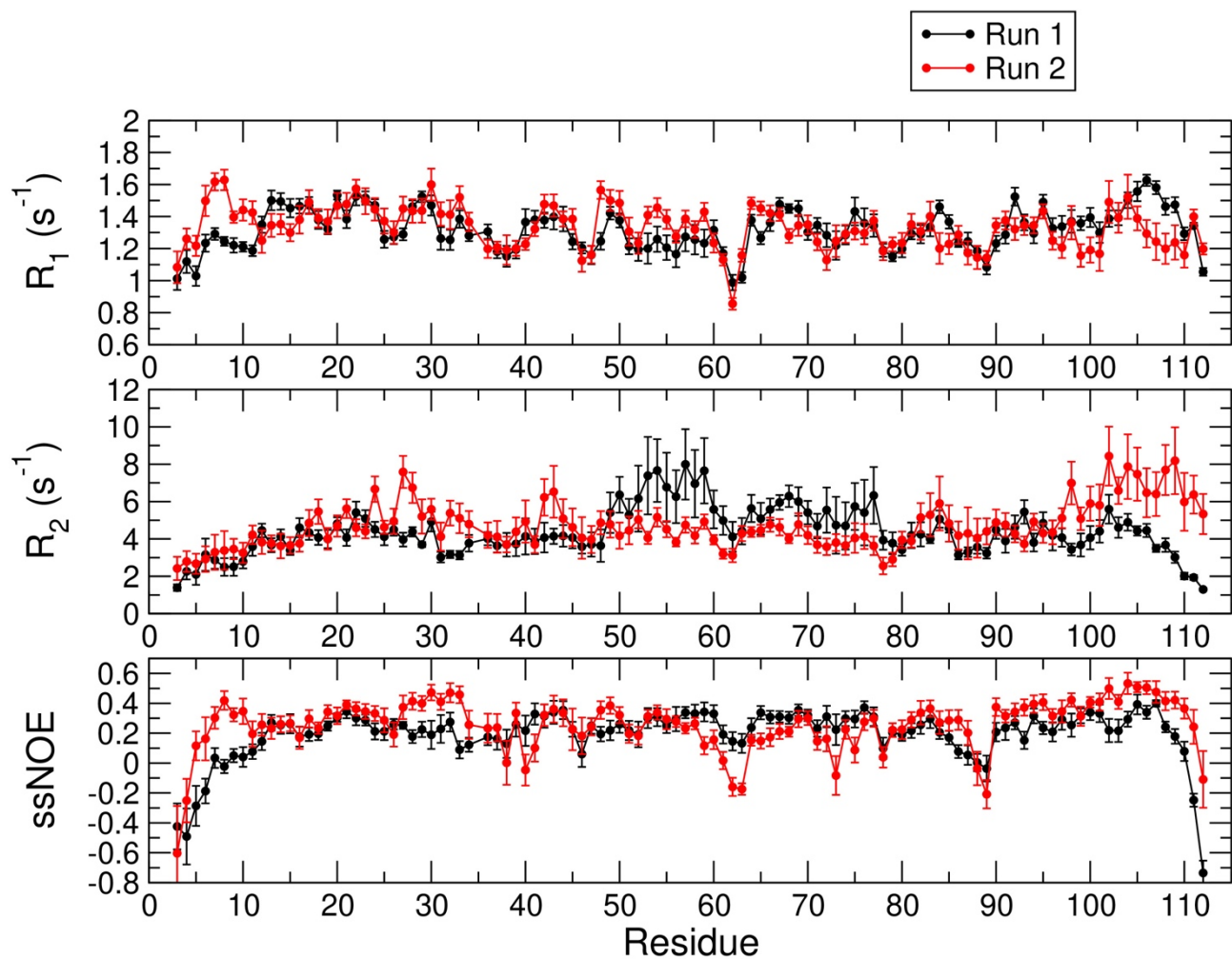
Supplementary Fig. 19: *A)* Apparent K_D s for ProT α plotted against net charge of GD-WT, 23 GD variants and full-length H1. The black dotted line indicates GD-WT values. *B)* R_2 values of ProT α mixed at 1:4 molar ratio with GD-WT, GD 74_70, GD 74_67 and GD 2E2Q. Error bars are standard errors from the fits. Missing data points are due to signal overlap or proline residues.

Related to Figure 5.



Supplementary Fig. 20: Illustration of charge clustering in GD charge clustering variants. Shown here are the seven different +9 variants of GD including GD-WT in two orientations each.

Related to Figure 5.



Supplementary Fig. 21: Comparison of relaxation parameters calculated from two independent simulations of the GD:ProTa complex with the DES-Amber force field.

Related to Figure 5.

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

Supplementary Table 1: K_D values at higher stoichiometries from the coarse-grained simulations

		Excess titration	Stoichiometric titration
1:1	$\langle E \rangle_{ProTa:GD}$	0.50 ± 0.01	0.475 ± 0.004
	$K_D (\mu M)$	18 ± 6	15 ± 2
1:4	$\langle E \rangle_{ProTa:GD1}$	0.51 ± 0.04	0.4754 ± 0.0003
	$\langle E \rangle_{ProTa:GD2}$	0.53 ± 0.04	0.4950 ± 0.0003
	$\langle E \rangle_{ProTa:GD3}$	0.54 ± 0.05	0.5077 ± 0.0003
	$\langle E \rangle_{ProTa:GD4}$	0.54 ± 0.05	0.5085 ± 0.0003
	$K_{DProTa:GD1} (\mu M)$	18 ± 7	15.2 ± 0.6
	$K_{DProTa:GD2} (\mu M)$	$(0 \pm 4)10^9$	$(0 \pm 4)10^9$
	$K_{DProTa:GD3} (\mu M)$	$(0.0 \pm 3)10^8$	$(0.0 \pm 3)10^8$
	$K_{DProTa:GD4} (\mu M)$	$(2 \pm 2)10^7$	$(1 \pm 2)10^8$

Supplementary Table 2: Summary of simulations performed (detailed setups provided at <https://dx.doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.11106958>)

System	Force Field	# Atoms	# replicates	Trajectory lengths (μs)
ProT α + GD	Amber ff99SBws ⁶	492,885	1	1.60
ProT α + GD	Amber ff03ws ⁶	492,885	1	4.06
ProT α + GD	Amber-99SB-disp ⁷	492,885	1	1.02
ProT α + GD	DES-Amber-SF1.0 ⁸	495,661	1	0.83
ProT α + GD	DES-Amber ⁸	495,629	2	1.33, 0.86
ProT α	Amber ff99SBws ⁶	496,184	1	0.58
ProT α	Amber ff03ws ⁶	493,448	1	0.89
ProT α	DES-Amber ⁸	496,188	1	0.43
GD	Amber ff99SBws ⁶	21,419	10	1.0 each
GD	Amber ff03ws	21,423	10	1.0 each
GD	DES-Amber ⁸	21,479	10	1.0 each
ProT α	Coarse-grained ⁹	112	10	511
ProT α + GD	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	10	30
ProT α + 2 GDs	Coarse-grained ⁹	262	10	30
ProT α + 3 GDs	Coarse-grained ⁹	337	10	30
ProT α + 4 GDs	Coarse-grained ⁹	412	10	30
ProT α + 5 GDs	Coarse-grained ⁹	487	10	30
ProT α + 6 GDs	Coarse-grained ⁹	562	10	30
ProT α + 7 GDS	Coarse-grained ⁹	637	10	30
ProT α + 20 GDS	Coarse-grained ⁹	1612	6	20.7
Prota + WT GD 260 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.4
Prota + WT GD 280 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	4.9
Prota + WT GD 300 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.1
Prota + WT GD 320 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.3
Prota+GD73-34 260 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.0
Prota+GD73-34 280 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	4.9

Prota+GD73-34 300 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.1
Prota+GD73-34 320 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.2
Prota+GD73-66 260 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	4.8
Prota+GD73-66 280 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	4.9
Prota+GD73-66 300 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.1
Prota+GD73-66 320 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.3
Prota+GD74-34 260 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	4.7
Prota+GD74-34 280 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	4.9
Prota+GD74-34 300 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.1
Prota+GD74-34 320 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.2
Prota+GD74-67 260 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	4.8
Prota+GD74-67 280 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	4.9
Prota+GD74-67 300 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.1
Prota+GD74-67 320 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.3
Prota+GD74-70 260 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.5
Prota+GD74-70 280 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	4.9
Prota+GD74-70 300 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.1
Prota+GD74-70 320 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.2
Prota+GD94-90 260 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.4
Prota+GD94-90 280 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	4.9
Prota+GD94-90 300 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.1
Prota+GD94-90 320 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.3
Prota+GD CC 260 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.0
Prota+GD CC 280 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	4.9
Prota+GD CC 300 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.1
Prota+GD CC 320 K	Coarse-grained ⁹	187	28 umbrellas	5.2

Supplementary References

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6. Best, R. B., Zheng, W. & Mittal, J. Balanced Protein–Water Interactions Improve Properties of Disordered Proteins and Non-Specific Protein Association. *J Chem Theory Comput* **10**, 5113–5124 (2014).
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