

Supplementary Information

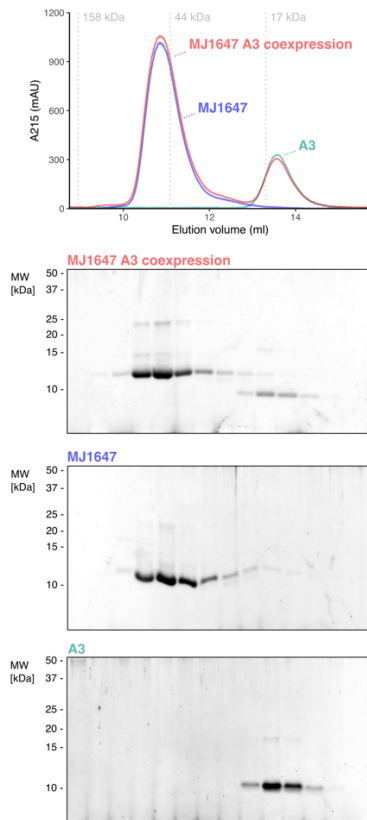
DNA-bridging by an archaeal histone variant via a unique tetramerisation interface

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Supplementary Table 1

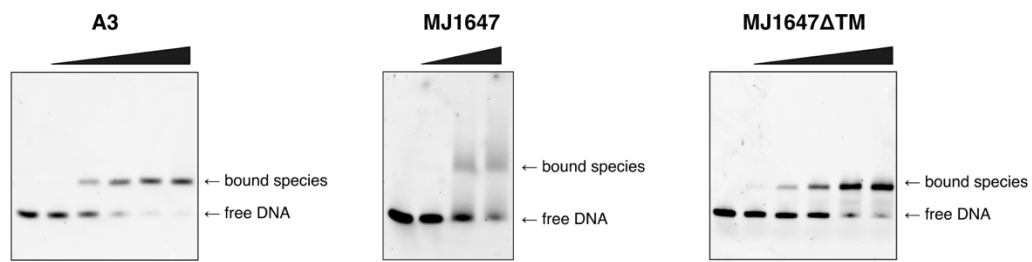
List of oligonucleotides used in this study

Oligo ID	Oligo name	SEQUENCE	Purpose (resulting plasmid)
Heterologous expression of MJ1647, A3 and variants			
FW697	MJ1647 NdeI fw	GGAATTCATATGTTACCAAAAGCTACAGTAA	cloning of gene for MJ1647 into pET21a(+) (p1540)
FW2341	MJ1647 XhoI rv	GCGCGCTCGAGCTATAATTAGATGTTATTACATTCAACA	cloning of gene for MJ1647 into pET21a(+) (p1540)
FW1078	MJ1647 dTM XhoI rv	GGGCTCGAGTCATCTCTTTAATCTTTTCATCATCACACTG	cloning of gene for MJ1647ΔTM into pET21a(+) (p1542)
FW693	MJ1258 NdeI fw	GGAATTCATATGGCTGAGCTTCCAGTTGC	cloning of gene for MJ1258 (A3) into pET21a(+) (p1539)
FW2222	MJ1258 XhoI rv	GCCGCTCGAGTTAACCTCTCAATGCTGCCTTT	cloning of gene for MJ1258 (A3) into pET21a(+) (p1539)
FW2171	MJ1647 K80E fw	AAATGCCAATATTAATTAAGAGATGTTGA	Site-directed mutagenesis of p1540 to produce MJ1647 K80E
FW2172	MJ1647 K80E rv	CATCAGTTCTTTCACTAAGTTCCA	Site-directed mutagenesis of p1540 to produce MJ1647 K80E
FW2178	MJ1647 E95K fw	AATTATAGCTGACTCGAGC	Site-directed mutagenesis of p1540 to produce MJ1647 E95C (p1650)
FW2179	MJ1647 E95K rv	TAGATGTTATTACATTCAACA	Site-directed mutagenesis of p1540 to produce MJ1647 E95C (p1650)
FW2327	MJ1647 C28S/C62S vector fw	AGATATTAACAGCTCTGATGATGAAAGATTAAGAGAAAGA	NEBuilder Hifi assembly on p1540 to produce MJ1647 C28S/C62S (p1737)
FW2328	MJ1647 C28S/C62S vector rv	CTTCAAGCATATTAGAGAGTTCATCAACCGCCTCT	NEBuilder Hifi assembly on p1540 to produce MJ1647 C28S/C62S (p1737)
FW2329	MJ1647 C28S/C62S insert fw	GGTTGATGAACTCTCTAATATGCTTGAAGAAATTATAAAG	NEBuilder Hifi assembly on p1540 to produce MJ1647 C28S/C62S (p1737)
FW2330	MJ1647 C28S/C62S insert rv	ATCTTTTCATCATCAGACTGTTAATATCTCTTGCTT	NEBuilder Hifi assembly on p1540 to produce MJ1647 C28S/C62S (p1737)
FW2331	MJ1647 K80C/E95C fw	TGTTGAATGTAATAACATCTTGTTTATAGCTGACTCGAGCACCA	Site-directed mutagenesis of p1737 to produce MJ1647 C28S/C62S/K80C/E95C (p1740)
FW2332	MJ1647 K80C/E95C rv	TCTCTTAATTAATATTGGCATAAATCAGTTCTTTCACTAAGTTCCA	Site-directed mutagenesis of p1737 to produce MJ1647 C28S/C62S/K80C/E95C (p1740)
FW2333	MJ1647 E95 fw	TGTTGAATGTAATAACATCTGAATTATAGCTGACTCGAGCACCA	Site-directed mutagenesis with FW2332 of p1737 to produce MJ1647 C28S/C62S/K80C (p1739)
FW2334	MJ1647 K80 rv	TCTCTTAATTAATATTGGCATCTTATCAGTTCTTTCACTAAGTTCCA	Site-directed mutagenesis of p1737 with FW2331 to produce MJ1647 C28S/C62S/E95C (p1742)
FW2240	MJ1647 XhoI rv2	GCGCGCTCGAGTCATAATTAGATGTTATTACATTCAACA	cloning of gene for MJ1647 with FW697 into pETDuet-1 (p1689)
FW2192	MJ1258 NcoIFor	GCGCGCCATGGCTGAGCTTCCAGTTGC	cloning of gene for MJ1258 (A3) into pETDuet-1 (p1689)
FW2243	MJ A3 stp BamHI rv	GCCGGGATCCTTAACCTCTCAATGCTGCCTTT	cloning of gene for MJ1258 (A3) into pETDuet-1 (p1689)
Amplification and cloning of templates for EMSA, in vitro transcription and chromatin reconstitution assays			
FW1137	rpo5 operon fw	CATATGACTGTAAAAGTATGGAGTTGATTTAATATTTT	Cloning of rpo5 operon into pGEM for agarose EMSAs (p1664)
FW1138	rpo5 operon rv	CTCGAGTCTTTAGCCACAACCTCTGGA	Cloning of rpo5 operon into pGEM for agarose EMSAs (p1664)
FW1522	T6 rpo5 NcoI fw	GCGGCCATGGAAGAATTACAATGGCTGCAG	Cloning of 500 bp part of rpo5 operon into pGEM containing T6 promoter (p1471)
FW1523	T6 rpo5 BamHI rv	GCGGGGATCCGTTAACTTGAATTGTTATC	Cloning of 500 bp part of rpo5 operon into pGEM containing T6 promoter (p1471)
	30 bp fw	CATACTGGTTCCAAAGCATGAAATAGTTCCAA	EMSAs
	30 bp rv	TTGGAATATTTTCATGCTTTGGAACCATGATG	EMSAs
	60 bp fw	CATACTGGTTCCAAAGCATGAAATAGTTCCAAAGAAGAAGTTGAGGAG TTTTGAAGAGA	EMSAs
	60 bp rv	TCTCTTCAAACTCCTCAACTTCTTTTGGAACTATTTTCATGCTTTG GAACCATGATG	EMSAs



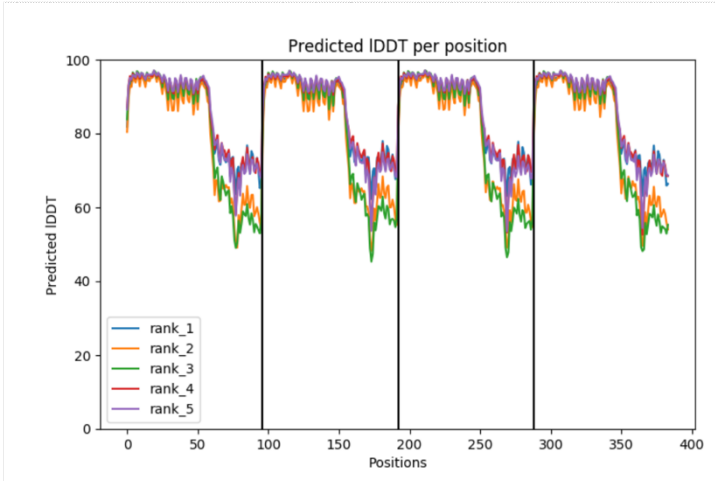
Supplementary Figure 1

SEC of recombinantly co-expressed MJ1647 and A3 versus the single proteins alone. Absorption profiles (top) and SYPRO-Orange-stained SDS-PAGE gels of the fractions (bottom) show distinct elution profiles for MJ1647 and A3 with no evidence of significant levels of cross-dimerisation between the proteins.



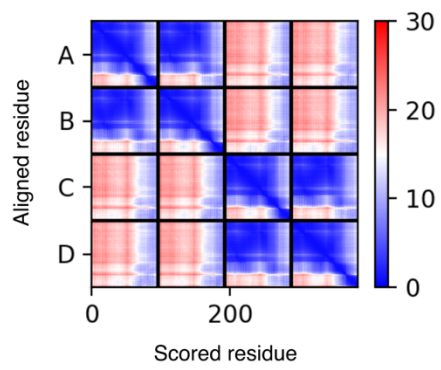
Supplementary Figure 2

EMSA experiments testing binding to 30 bp DNA templates. Increasing concentrations of histones A3, MJ1647 and the deletion variant MJ1647ΔTM were incubated with the respective ³²P-labelled DNA templates and resolved on native polyacrylamide gels. Protein concentrations were 2, 4, 6, 12, 14 μM histone monomers for A3 and MJ1647ΔTM, 4, 8, 12 μM for MJ1647.



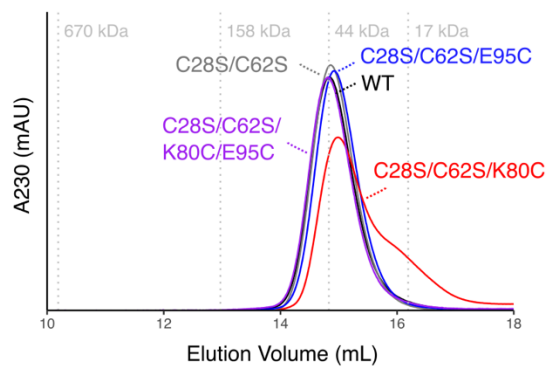
Supplementary Figure 3

Predicted local Distance Difference Test (pIDDT) for the five MJ1647 tetramer models produced by AlphaFold2.



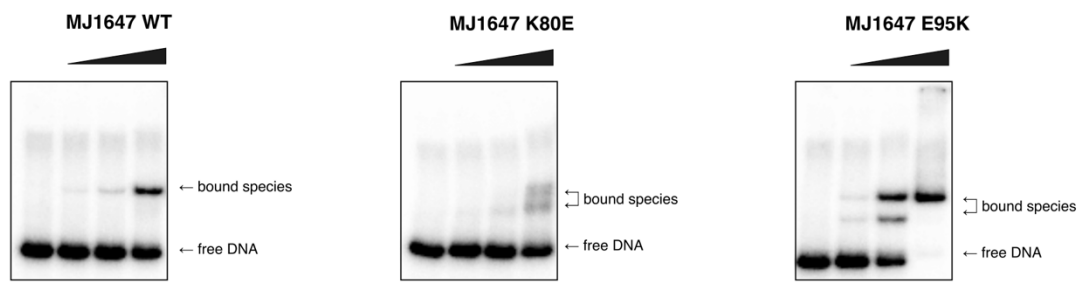
Supplementary Figure 4

Predicted alignment error (PAE) for the rank 1 MJ1647 tetramer model produced by AlphaFold2. A to D denote the four amino acid chains.



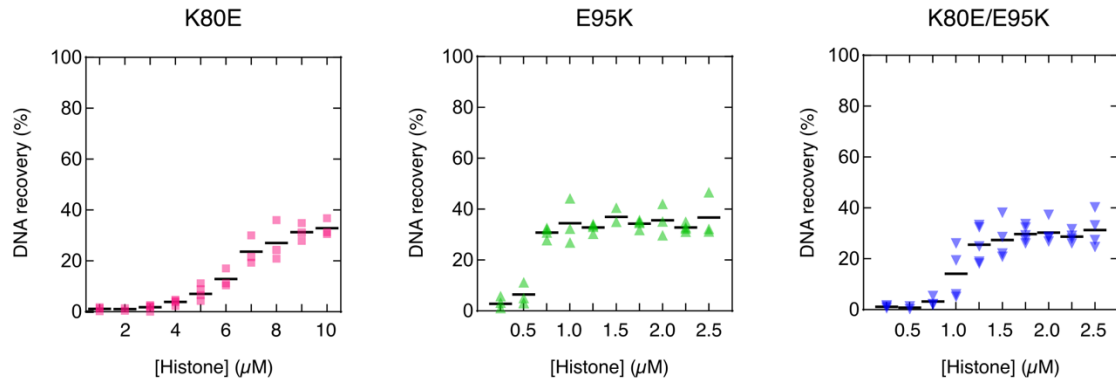
Supplementary Figure 5

Size exclusion chromatography elution profiles of MJ1647 cysteine mutants K80C, E95C, K80C/E95C in the MJ1647 C28S/C62S background compared to WT MJ1647.



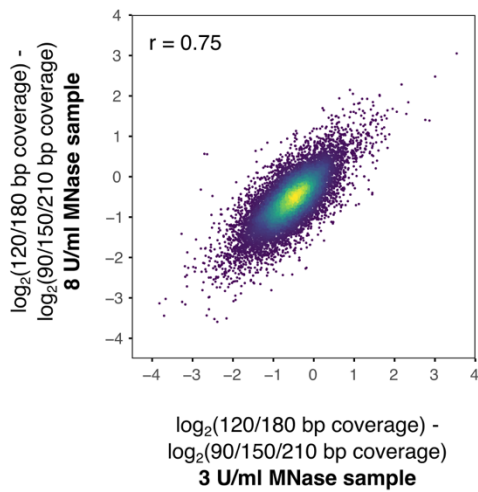
Supplementary Figure 6

MJ1647 K80E and E95K bind to 60 bp DNA as dimer at lower protein concentrations. EMSA experiments testing binding of 0.04 to 0.16 μ M MJ1647 WT, K80E, and E95K monomers to 60bp 32 P-labelled DNA.



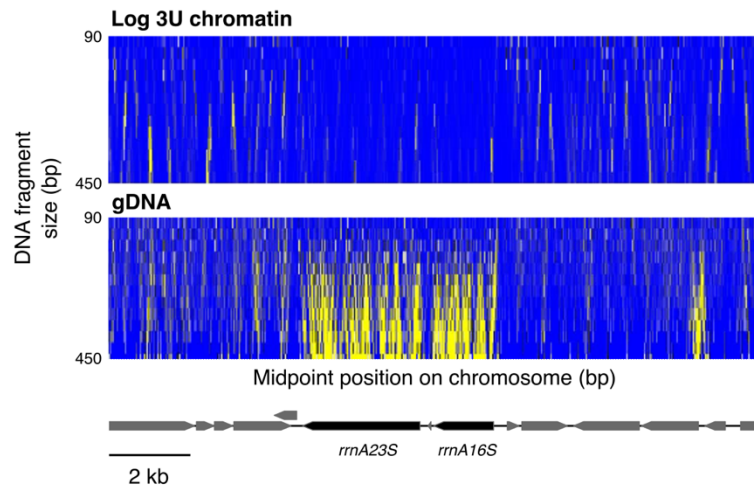
Supplementary Figure 7

MJ1647 K80E and E95K mutants retain DNA bridging activity. DNA bridging assays with salt bridge mutants of MJ1647 K80E and E95K and the double mutant K80E/E95K compared to wild-type MJ1647. DNA recovery (%) is plotted as a function of histone monomer concentration. Black bars show mean values of at least three independent measurements for each protein with colored symbols showing the individual replicates.



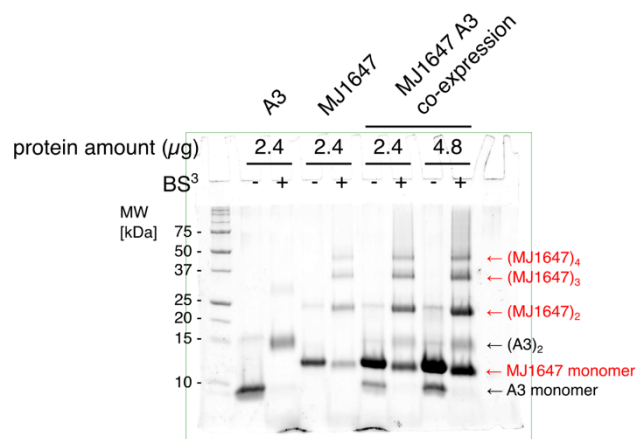
Supplementary Figure 8

MNase-seq data for *M. jannaschii* show coverage of both odd and even 30mer multiples for all genomic regions. The \log_2 -ratio of even 30mer multiple coverage (120 and 180 ± 5 bp DNA fragments) over odd 30mer multiple coverage (90, 150 and 210 ± 5 bp) was calculated for the 3u and 8u MNase-seq samples over consecutive 120 bp bins ($n = 14810$) covering the main chromosome and extrachromosomal elements. Bins with 0 coverage values were removed.



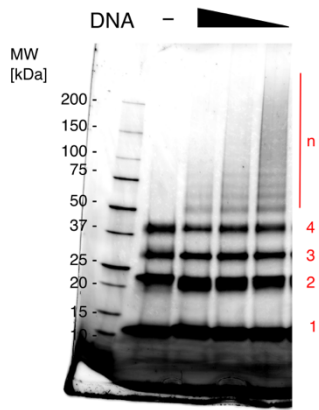
Supplementary Figure 9

rRNA loci are underchromatinised in *M. jannaschii*. MNase (3 units/ml) resistant mid-point frequency values from log-phase cells ranging in size from 90-450 bp in 30 bp intervals are plotted as a heatmap relative to a 16 kb region of the chromosome with positive frequency values coloured yellow. The rRNA operon genes are highlighted in black. The genomic DNA control MNase-seq data (gDNA) show increased signal across the rRNA operon likely due to the higher GC-content that counters the cutting preference of MNase.



Supplementary Figure 10

Unedited/uncropped gel for Figure 1h



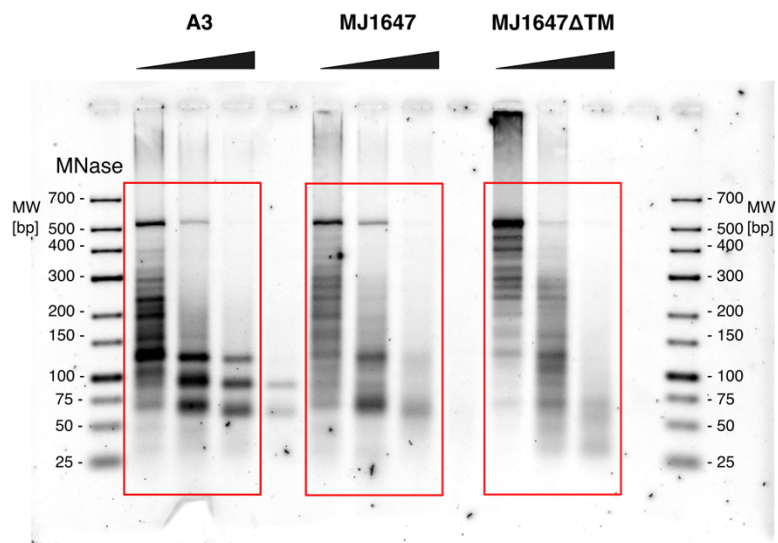
Supplementary Figure 11

Unedited/uncropped gel for Figure 1i



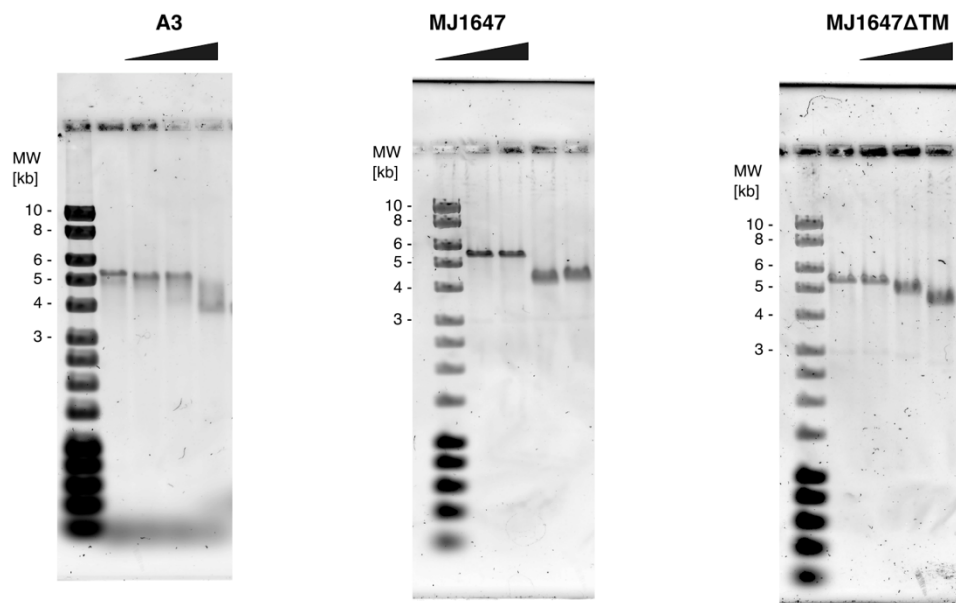
Supplementary Figure 12

Unedited/uncropped gels for Figure 2abc



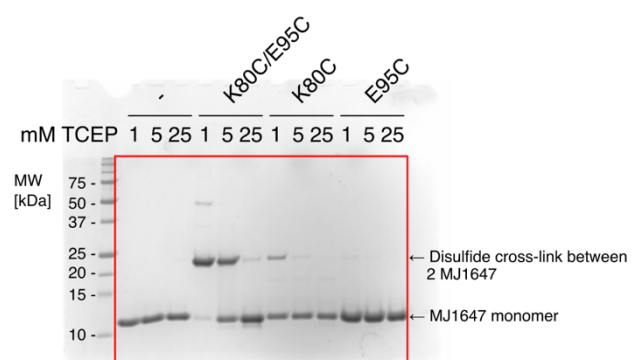
Supplementary Figure 13

Unedited/uncropped gels for Figure 2def



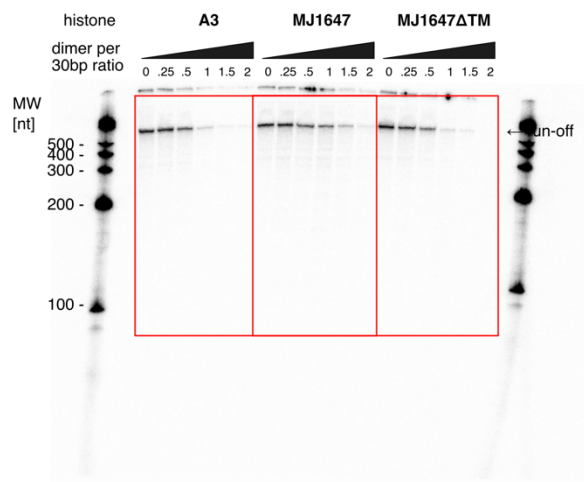
Supplementary Figure 14

Unedited/uncropped gels for Figure 2ghi



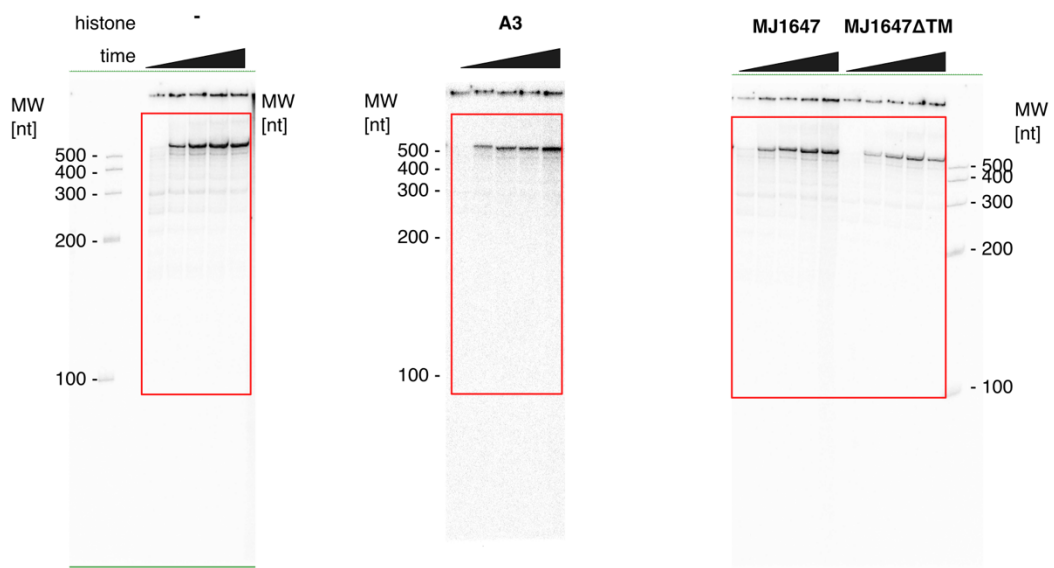
Supplementary Figure 15

Unedited/uncropped gel for Figure 4e

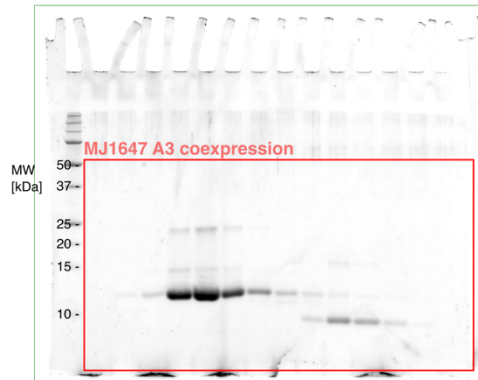
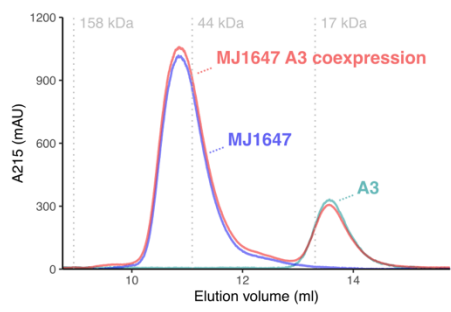


Supplementary Figure 16

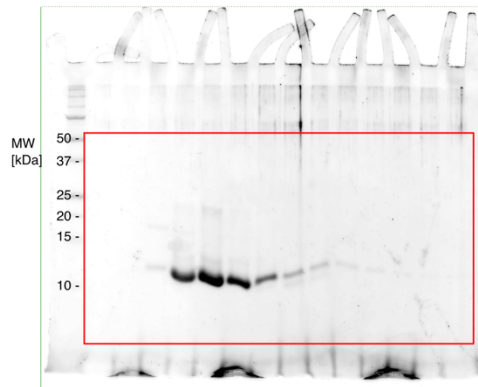
Unedited/uncropped gel for Figure 6a



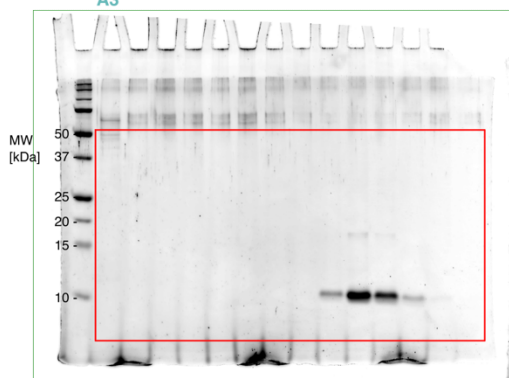
Supplementary Figure 17
Unedited/uncropped gel for Figure 6b



MJ1647

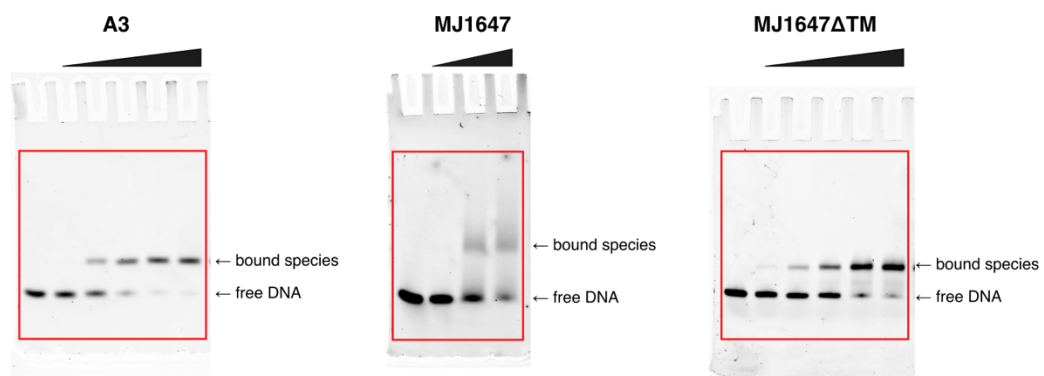


A3



Supplementary Figure 18

Unedited/uncropped gel for Supplementary Figure 1



Supplementary Figure 19

Unedited/uncropped gel for Supplementary Figure 2



Supplementary Figure 20
Unedited/uncropped gel for Supplementary Figure 6