# Computational design of interleukin-2 mimetics 

Shawn Yu

## A dissertation

submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

University of Washington
2015

Reading Committee
David Baker, Chair

Valerie Daggett
Marion Pepper

Program Authorized to Offer Degree:
Department of Bioengineering
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Shawn Yu

# University of Washington 


#### Abstract

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Chair of Supervisory Committee: Professor David Baker Biochemistry

Interleukin-2 is a cytokine that plays a central role in immune system homeostasis, exerting paradoxical immunostimulatory and immunoregulatory effects based on its interactions with various receptor subunits differentially expressed across different cell types. It has been explored for a wide range of potential therapeutic applications. For my work in this dissertation, I have computationally designed minimalist interleukin-2 mimetics that retain only the structural elements necessary for binding and signal transduction with decreased dependence on biochemical context. It is my hope that these computationally designed mimetics can form the basis of useful engineered therapeutics in applications where it is desirable to shift the balance of the immune response.


## Acknowledgments

I would like to express my deep gratitude for those who have helped me on the work presented in my dissertation. First, I would like to thank the members of the protein interface design team for helpful discussions.

Sarel Fleishman and Eva-Maria Strauch developed and polished many of the computational tools used in interface design. I must also recognize David La, Gabriel Rocklin, Lucas Nivon, Neil King, Jacob Bale, David Kim, Ray Wang, and Gustav Oberdorfer for sharing valuable computational protocols that I used throughout various stages of my doctoral research.

James Moody, Aaron Chevalier, and Christopher Bahl have been incredibly patient and helpful in guiding me along as I transitioned into experimental work, but I have also relied extensively on the experience of Cassie Bryan, Matt Bick, Jeremy Mills, Justin Siegel, Possu Huang Jorgen Nelson, Jiayi Dou, Austin Day, Luke Dang, and many others.

Experimental assistance was provided by Lauren Carter and the rest of the Protein Production Facility.

Special recognition goes to Daniel-Adriano Silva for his essential computational protocols and his experimental assistance, but also for his seemingly limitless enthusiasm and curiosity.

I am also deeply indebted to K. Christopher Garcia, Jamie Spangler, and other members of the Garcia Lab, as well as to Marion Pepper and her lab for their collaboration.

Finally, I would like to thank my family and friends for their support; my supervisory committee of Dr. James Carothers, Dr. Wendy Thomas, Dr. Valerie Daggett, Dr. Kim Woodrow, Dr. Marion Pepper, and Dr. Julie Overbaugh for their guidance; and most of all, to Dr. David

Baker for providing me with his mentorship and the opportunity to work in such an amazing lab over the years!

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## Introduction and Background

Protein-protein interactions are central to many processes in biology, including hostpathogen recognition and cell signaling. The rapidly increasing number of deposited protein complex structures has allowed structural biologists to better understand the relationship between protein structure and function. Meanwhile, rational design efforts have matured over the course of several decades; with the aid of computational tools, it has become possible to rationally design protein binders to a specific interface in order to inhibit or otherwise modify the native interaction.

## Computational Protein Design

The field of rational protein design has undergone tremendous progress over the course of several decades. Rational design efforts from first principles without the use of sophisticated computational methods saw the successful design of de novo helices, sheets, and even bundles, onto which catalytic activity could be introduced. ${ }^{1-3}$ In addition, the use of programs such as DEZYMER ${ }^{4-6}$ and ORBIT $^{7}$ has guided the design of protein motifs from novel sequences as well as biosensors and enzymes. In 2007, Liu et al. used a combination of programs, including SCAP ${ }^{8}$ and CHARMM ${ }^{9}$ to guide the grafting of key interacting residues to achieve a high-affinity protein-protein interface interaction. ${ }^{10}$

## Rosetta

The ROSETTA molecular modeling software consists of a number of applications which can be used in the structural prediction and design of proteins as well as other macromolecules. ${ }^{11,12}$ Successful designs efforts using ROSETTA encompass novel folds ${ }^{13}$, geometrically idealized versions of existing folds ${ }^{14}$, helical bundles ${ }^{15}$, repeat proteins ${ }^{16,17}$, and
symmetric assemblies ${ }^{18,19}$. ROSETTA proteins have been designed for binding to DNA ${ }^{20,21}$, binding to various ligands ${ }^{22-24}$, and even catalysis of a diverse range of substrates ${ }^{25-29}$.

ROSETTA has also been successfully used in protein interface design targets, including influenza virus hemagglutinin ${ }^{30,31}$, immunoglobulin $G^{32}$, and Epstein-Barr viral Bcl-2 protein ${ }^{33}$. Moreover, these protein interface design efforts employed a variety of methods including "hotspot-centric" centric de novo design ${ }^{34}$, in which the binding interactions were explicitly designed into optimized "hotspot" residues; a side-chain grafting approach ${ }^{35}$, in which motifs of interest were placed onto naturally existing proteins; and a new Fold From Loops procedure ${ }^{36}$ in which new protein structures were built de novo using only a functional input motif and a target topology as guide. The work covered in this thesis in designing in an interleukin-2 mimetic makes use of existing methods and principles used in previous protein interface design efforts, but also features a new computational method in which the entire protein is designed de novo to give a geometrically idealized variant with regular secondary structural elements and shorter loops.

## Interleukin-2

IL-2 is an immunoregulatory cytokine that promotes the proliferation, differentiation, and survival of mature T and B cells. It is produced primarily by $\mathrm{CD}^{+} \mathrm{T}$ cells following antigen stimulation ${ }^{37}$, but to a lesser extent by $\mathrm{CD}^{+}$cells, NK T cells, activated dendritic cells, and mast cells as well ${ }^{38}$.

IL-2 binds to cell surface receptors formed by various combinations of three IL-2R subunits: IL-2R $\alpha$ (CD25), IL-2R $\beta$ (CD122), and IL-2R $\gamma$ (CD125 or the common cytokine receptor $\gamma$ chain, $\gamma_{c}$ ), as illustrated in Figure I-1. The interaction between formed between IL-2 and IL-2R $\alpha$ is termed the "low-affinity" complex. The combination of IL-2R $\beta$ and $\gamma_{c}$ forms the
"intermediate-affinity" receptor, although IL-2 binds weakly to IL-2R $\beta$ alone and does not bind at all to $\gamma_{c}$ alone; the intermediate affinity complex is the minimal functional form of the receptor, as binding event causes IL-2R $\beta$ and $\gamma_{c}$ to heterodimerize, unleashing intracellular signaling pathways via the JAK1 and JAK3 kinases associated with the intracellular domains of IL-2R $\beta$ and $\gamma_{c}$, respectively. The combination of IL- $2 \mathrm{R} \alpha, \operatorname{IL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta$, and $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ forms the "highaffinity" complex, with IL-2R $\alpha$ causing a conformational change in IL-2 that allows the cytokine to better engage IL-2R $\beta$ and $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$. IL-2 exerts pleiotropic effects through binding to different receptor complexes, with components differentially expressed across different cell types. For instance, because regulator T cells and activated T effector cells express high levels of IL-2R $\alpha$ in addition to IL-2R $\beta$ and $\gamma_{c}$, they are preferentially stimulated over NK and memory $\mathrm{CD}^{+} \mathrm{T}$ cells which generally express low levels of IL-2R $\alpha$.

IL-2 has been explored for a variety of potential applications, including as an antitumor immunotherapy ${ }^{37}$ and as an adjuvant in anti-retroviral therapies and other treatments for immunocompromised patients ${ }^{39}$. Due to its ability to stimulate regulatory T cells, IL-2 has also been used for suppression of autoimmune diseases such as Type 1 diabetes ${ }^{40}$ and myasthenia gravis ${ }^{41}$ as well as infectious diseases such as tuberculosis ${ }^{42}$, where the ability to modulate immune response prevents destructive immunopathology without excessively suppressing protective immunity. Finally, it has been proposed that IL-2 inhibitors could serve useful immunosuppressive purposes ${ }^{38}$ to complement current inhibitors that currently target the downstream signaling pathways mediated through IL-2 activation of JAK1 ${ }^{43}$ and JAK3 ${ }^{44}$.

Using directed evolution approaches, Levin et al. have engineered IL-2 "superkines" which exhibit dramatically increased binding affinity for the IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ intermediate-affinity receptor in the absence of IL-2R $\alpha$ (Figure I-2). ${ }^{45}$ They demonstrate that these IL- 2 superkines
exhibit potent antitumor efficacy in four different tumor models, with far less pulmonary edema than induced by wild-type IL-2, which is attributed to preferential stimulation of cytotoxic T cells over regulatory T cells made possible by the reduced dependence on IL-2R $\alpha$. Furthermore, subsequent IL-2 receptor "signaling clamps" based on these superkines have weakened binding to $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$, thereby serving as partial agonists or non-agonists that are immunomodulatory or immunosuppressive. ${ }^{46}$ In short, conventional protein engineering methods have been employed to develop a wide range of cytokines with different, desirable applications depending on clinical context.

## Computationally designed interleukin- 2 mimetics

In the course of my doctoral work, I have designed and optimized a wide range of IL-2 mimetics which fall into two broad categories. The "three-helix designs" are derived from a naturally occurring protein of with some structural similarity but unrelated function to that of the IL-2, with mutations made to the existing protein to repurposes it for binding to the IL-2 receptors, using methods based on existing side-chain grafting approaches previously employed by Azoitei et al. ${ }^{47}$ The "four-helix designs" are idealized, de novo creations that recapture the structural features of IL-2 that allow it to bind the intermediate affinity IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ complex, designed using new computational methods. Neither the three-helix nor the four-helix designs maintain any structural analog to that of helix B in IL-2, which forms the contact with IL-2R $\alpha$, and as such, which allows these mimetics to bind the intermediate affinity complex with even less dependence on IL-2R $\alpha$. These mimetics are developed in hopes of forming the basis of new therapeutics, and a wide range of variants belonging of such mimetics are engineered in hopes of better elucidating the functional effects of binding affinity on the IL-2 pathway.

Figures


Figure I-1: IL-2 quaternary complex. (a) The high-affinity receptor complex consists of the interaction between IL2 (violet), IL-2R $\alpha$ (cyan), IL-2R $\beta$ (blue), and $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ (gold); (b) side view of the same. Image from Wang et al. ${ }^{48}$


Figure I-2: IL-2 superkines or receptor signaling clamps allow for more precise tuning than are possible with wildtype IL-2 cytokine. Left-IL-2 superkine D10 contains core mutations that stabilize a conformation similar to that of IL-2 in its liganded conformation, thereby allowing it to better bind IL-2R $\beta$ even in the absence of IL-2R $\alpha^{45}$ Right-receptor signaling clamps with mutations that diminish the affinity for $\gamma_{c}$ allow for precise control of signaling output. ${ }^{46}$

## Computational Design of Interleukin-2 Mimetics

## Background

Interleukin-2 (IL-2) is an immunoregulatory cytokine that promotes the proliferation, differentiation, and survival of mature T and B cells. As a cytokine with paradoxical effects on the immune response, promoting both immunostimulatory effector cells and immunosuppressive regulatory cells, IL-2 is a target of significant therapeutic importance. ${ }^{37-44}$ The molecular basis of these diverse effects is explained by its interaction with its receptors: through the formation of an intermediate-affinity ternary complex consisting of IL-2, IL-2R $\beta$, and $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$, the cytokine can initiate signaling pathways via intracellular JAK kinases complexed with the IL-2R $\beta$ and $\gamma_{c}$ receptor subunits. Alternatively, the signal can also be initiated through the formation of a high-affinity quaternary complex that also includes IL-2R $\alpha$, a non-signaling subunit that is more highly expressed on regulatory T cells.

Recently developed IL-2 "superkine" mutants have enhanced binding affinity for IL$2 R \beta / \gamma_{c}$ even in the absence of IL-2R $\alpha$, inducing superior expansion of cytotoxic $T$ cells, leading to improved antitumor responses in vivo, with less expansion of T regulatory cells and reduced pulmonary edema. ${ }^{45}$ Moreover, variants of such superkines have been engineered for weaker interactions with $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$, allowing them to be tuned as partial agonists for immunomodulation or even non-agonists for immunosuppression. ${ }^{46}$ The highest affinity superkines characterized differ from wild-type IL-2 by only 5-6 amino acids and are nearly structurally identical. Computationally designed proteins that preserve only the structural elements necessary for binding IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ can provide not only a validation of our computational design methods, but also a cytokine mimetic that is truly independent of any interactions with IL-2R $\alpha$.

## Results

## Computational Design by MotifGraft

Two computational design methods were employed in the development of firstgeneration binders against IL-2 $\beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$. The first method (MotifGraft) featured a side-chain grafting approach for transplanting binding motifs onto naturally occurring scaffolds, previously employed in the presentation of HIV epitopes ${ }^{35,47}$ and in the design of inhibitors of Epstein-Barr Viral Bcl-2 protein ${ }^{33}$. Three helices were used in various combinations to serve as input for MotifGraft. During the construction of input motifs, helix A was defined as encompassing residues from Lys-8 to Gly-27 of PDB 2B5I, chain A, forming contacts against both IL-2R $\beta$ and $\gamma_{c}$; helix C encompassing residues from Arg-83 to Lys-97, contacting IL-2R $\beta$; input helix D encompassing residues from Val-115 to Thr-131, contacting $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$. Three separate input motifs were defined as containing helices A and D; helices A and C; or helices A, C, and D. These input motifs were run against a small pre-existing scaffold set of 1046 entries from the PDB (Table S11), as well as against a list of 23 scaffolds (Table S1-2) which were identified as compatible with one of the three input motifs using a TM-align ${ }^{49}$ search against a more expansive set of scaffolds. MotifGraft yielded a total of 262 designs, of which 19 matched the motif for helices A and C and 243 matched helices A and D. No MotifGraft designs matched motifs for all three helices. After extensive consideration involving both automated filtering and manual inspection, thirty sequences (corresponding to 15 unique designs and variants thereof) were selected for experimental testing (Table 1-1). Of 15 these unique designs, only one (corresponding to the four sequences $\operatorname{Rbg} 01, \operatorname{Rbg} 02, \operatorname{Rbg} 03$, and $\operatorname{Rbg} 29$ ) matched helices A and C ; the remainder matched helices A and D (Figure 1-1). Of these 30 binders, only 24 were tested, but none exhibited binding on yeast display.

## Focused Library Selection and Emergence of Rbg32

During the semi-automated process of introducing beneficial mutations to the original 30 designs, several candidate mutations were identified as being potentially beneficial to the design in terms of different metrics (such as binding energy, total pose energy, buried solvent-accessible surface area, etc.). Seven different unique designs (Rbg03, Rbg12, Rbg16, Rbg17, Rbg18, Rbg21, and Rbg25) were selected for diversification based on a combination of these mutations, resulting in seven "focused" libraries each containing 7 to 12 mutated residues representing an amino acid diversity of 1024 to 65536.

Binding signal emerged from the selection of the library based on Rbg21 (Figure 1-2), a design with input motif containing helices A and D. Sanger sequencing results revealed strong convergence towards a common sequence, subsequently labeled as Rbg32. Notably, many of the mutations in which Rbg21 differed from Rbg32 are found on helix A in which the latter contains residues that are found on wild-type human IL-2 (Figure 1-3) , suggesting that more conservative design of Rbg21 that recapitulates the structural features of IL-2 may have yielded more successful initial designs. However, residues on positions that would correspond to helix D were not as conserved in this regard.

The scaffold protein for Rbg32 is the mitochondrial interacting domain of an AAA ATPase Vps4 from Sulfolobus solfataricus (PDB: 2v6y, chain A) Structurally, Vps4 protein consists of three "open" helices, interacting with Vps2 to complete a four-helix bundle. ${ }^{50}$

However, in the computational model of the interaction between Rbg32/IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$, the "missing" fourth helix that would be represented by Vps 2 is instead distal to junction formed by $\mathrm{IL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$. While the absence of such a helix suggests that the binding interaction between Rbg32 and IL$2 \mathrm{R} \beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ is likely to be unaffected by the presence of IL-2R $\alpha$, it also suggests that the resulting

Rbg32 designed binder may not be especially stable, as the scaffold protein has been removed from its native biochemical context in which Vps2 was present. As such, single disulfide bonds were engineered into six Rbg32 variants (Table 1-2) to confer better stability. Two such variants (Rbg32.4 and Rbg32.5) exhibited improved binding signal, presumably due to enhanced stability, and cysteine mutations in from both Rbg32.4 and Rbg32.5 were introduced into the Rbg32.7 variant containing two disulfide bonds (Figure 1-4). However, as can be seen in Figure 1-9, yeast surface titrations against biotinylated human IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}(\mathrm{~b}-\mathrm{hIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma)$ indicate that Rbg32.4, Rbg32.5, and Rbg32.7 bind very weakly ( $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{d}} \sim 1-10 \mu \mathrm{M}$ ) compared to IL-2 ( $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{d}}=240-$ 260 nM ).

## Computational Design of De Novo Binders with Idealized Geometry

A second computational approach employed in the design effort featured a new idealization protocol in which the entire protein sequence was designed computationally to recapitulate the three-dimensional arrangement of the secondary structures of IL-2. This yielded a total of 210 candidate designs, of which 62 were explicitly restricted from having methionine residues in the core and 148 were allowed to have methionine. After testing with ab initio forward folding tests, four designs (Rbg33, Rbg36, Rbg40, and Rbg42) were selected for experimental testing (Table 1-3). Structurally, these designs are 87 -residue, four-helix bundles that closely recapitulate the topology of wild-type human IL-2, especially at helices A, C, and D, where IL- 2 binds IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ (Figure 1-5). These designed mimetics do not contain the loops that connect helices A to B or helices C to D on IL-2, which run antiparallel and parallel to helix B , respectively. As a result, the mimetics less faithfully recapitulates the structure of helix B. Because helix B and these loops form the interface that would bind IL-2R $\alpha$, these de novo designs are likely to bind IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ with minimal dependence on IL-2R $\alpha$ (Figure 1-6). In
addition to these four designs, eight additional designs representing variants of the above with disulfide bonds engineered were also ordered for experimental testing.

## Experimental Characterization of Four-Helix Binders

Of the twelve four-helix designs ordered, ten (all but Rbg33 and Rbg34) exhibited binding signal at $1 \mu \mathrm{Mb}$-IL-2R $\beta \gamma$ on yeast display. Six exhibited binding signal at 1 nM b-IL$2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ (Figure 1-7), of which Rbg40 only did not contain a disulfide bond. Rbg40, Rbg41, and Rbg43 were chosen for expression and characterization by circular dichroism (Figure 1-8). Both $\operatorname{Rbg} 40$ and Rbg41 exhibit some loss of native conformation when heated to $95^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ but retain most of that character when cooled back down to $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, whereas $\operatorname{Rbg} 43$ (not shown) is marked by more significant loss of structural character. Rbg40 and Rbg41 also show cooperative unfolding under chemical denaturation, with Rbg40 exhibiting greatest stability. Neither Rbg40 nor Rbg41 are completely unfolded at a maximum temperature of $95^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in a thermal melt.

Yeast surface titrations against b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ show that while Rbg32.4, Rbg32.5, and Rbg32.7 have little or no binding affinity, $\operatorname{Rbg} 40, \operatorname{Rbg} 41$, and $\operatorname{Rbg} 43$ have binding affinities comparable to that of IL-2 (Figure 1-9), with enhanced cooperativity for the ternary complex compensating for slightly weaker binding to the hIL-2R $\beta$ receptor subunit (Figure 1-10). Moreover, in addition to binding b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$, the four-helix binders have been demonstrated by Spangler ${ }^{51}$ to be capable of stimulating STAT5 phosphorylation in YT-1 natural killer cells with half maximal effective concentrations comparable to those of IL-2 (Figure 1-11), demonstrating that designed mimetics are capable of inducing biological signaling.

## Methods

## Preparation of computational models

The structure of human IL-2, IL-2R $\beta$, and $\gamma_{c}$ in quaternary complex (along with IL-2R $\alpha$ ) was taken from the Protein Data Bank (PDB: 2B5I). ${ }^{48}$ The protein structures were energetically minimized in full-atom mode, subject to coordinate constraints under a harmonic function ("relax with coordinate constraints", Protocol S1-1). In addition, a separate PDB ("IL-2 file") consisting of just chain A from 2B5I (IL-2) was also generated using relax with coordinate constraints. A third PDB file ("target file") was generated consisting of chains B and C from 2B5I (IL-2R $\beta$ and $\gamma_{c}$, respectively) renumbered and renamed as a single chain.

## Computational design of interleukin-2 mimetics

Helices A and C; helices A and D; or helices A, C, and D from the IL-2 file above were used as input motifs. A pre-existing scaffold set (Table S1-1) consisting of 1046 entries was supplemented with 23 entries identified by TM-align ${ }^{49}$ as potential structurally compatible scaffolds (Table S1-2). Candidate scaffolds were run through a modified version of Multigraft Match ${ }^{35}$, originally described by Correia et al., adapted for RosettaScripts ${ }^{52}$, using the target file described above (Protocol S1-2). Briefly, compatible scaffolds were matched for surfaceexposed segments with conformation similar to those of the input motifs. Sidechains from input motif were transferred onto the candidate scaffold, then filtered for backbone clashes with the target and for binding energy. Amino acids within the scaffold but outside the input motif were designed against the target.

Four-helix IL-2 mimetics based on the original IL-2 file were idealized using a new computational method (Protocol S1-3). ${ }^{53}$ Briefly, overlapping 4-mer fragments from the input
were clustered by torsion angle from the vall database of all known fragments ${ }^{54}$ from the PDB. Transition count matrices of clusters were used to idealize secondary structure. Loops were introduced to connect secondary structures using a novel loop building method based on assembly of 4-mers. Designs were then subject to sequence optimization followed by forward folding simulations.

## Addition of disulfide bonds

Single disulfide bonds were added to Rbg32, Rbg33, Rbg36, Rbg40, and Rbg42 using the disulfide-building option of RemodelMover in RosettaScripts (Protocol S1-4). ${ }^{52}$ Briefly, sixdimensional rotation-translation vectors between residue backbones for all combinations of amino acid pairs in the input sequence were compared against a database of such vectors for all known disulfides.

Two disulfide bonds were added to $\operatorname{Rbg} 32$ to yield $\operatorname{Rbg} 32.7$ by combining the cysteine mutations from Rbg32.4 and Rbg32.5.

## Yeast cell transformation

Designs Rbg01 to Rbg30 were reverse translated into genes optimized for Escherichia coli using DNAWorks ${ }^{55}$, ordered as synthetic DNA from Gen9; designs Rbg32, Rbg32.1 to Rbg32.8, and Rbg33 to Rbg44 were ordered as gBlock gene fragments from Integrated DNA Technologies. Genes were transformed by heat shock into Saccharomyces cerevisiae strain EBY100 cells, along with linearized pETCON vector (a modified version of the pCTCON2 yeast display vector originally described by Chao et al.), double digested by NdeI and XhoI restriction enzymes. ${ }^{56}$ Sanger sequencing of colony PCR products were used to verify successful homologous recombination.

Focused libraries corresponding to candidate MotifGraft-based designs Rbg03, Rbg12, Rbg17, Rbg18, Rbg21, Rbg25, and Rbg30 were created by assembly PCR using oligonucleotides shown in Table S1-3. Genes were transformed by electroporation into conditioned Saccharomyces cerevisiae strain EBY100 cells, along with linearized pETCON vector, using the protocol previously described by Benatuil et al. ${ }^{57}$

## Yeast display screening

Yeast cells were grown in 1 mL c-Trp-Ura media at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h or to an optical density of 1.0 at 600 nm , then induced in 1 mL SGCAA for expression at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 16 h . Screens were conducted using either tetramerized or non-tetramerized human IL- $2 \mathrm{R} \beta$ and $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ receptors, expressed as acid/base zipper heterodimers with C-terminal BAP tag (Table S1-4) to facilitate biotinylation (b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ ), provided as a gift from the Garcia Lab. For initial screening assays using tetramerized b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$, tetramers were formed by incubating $1 \mu \mathrm{Mb}$ b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ with 250 nM streptavidin, R-phycoerythrin conjugate (SAPE, Immunology Consultants Laboratory) in phosphate buffered saline supplemented with $0.5 \%$ BSA and 2 mM EDTA (PBE) for 15 min on ice. Yeast cells were then incubated with tetramerized b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ for 2 h at room temperature in PBE, then labeled with $1 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ FITC conjugated chicken anti-C-Myc (anti-C-Myc-FITC, Life Technologies) in $50 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ PBE per $1 \times 10^{6}$ cells for 15 min on ice. For subsequent screening assays using non-tetramerized $\mathrm{b}-\mathrm{hIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$, cells were incubated with $\mathrm{b}-\mathrm{hIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ for 2 h at room temperature in PBE, then labeled with $1 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ SAPE and $1 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ anti-C-Myc-FITC in $50 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ PBE per $1 \times 10^{6}$ cells for 15 min on ice. Measurements were performed on an Accuri C6 flow cytometer.

## Fluorescence activated-cell sorting

Yeast cells containing focused libraries were grown in 1 mL c-Trp-Ura media at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h or to an optical density of 1.0 at 600 nm , induced in 1 mL SGCAA for expression at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$
for 16 h , incubated with $1 \mu \mathrm{M}$ b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ pre-tetramerized with 250 nM SAPE for 2 h at room temperature in PBE, labeled with $1 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ anti-C-Myc-FITC in $50 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ PBE per $1 \times 10^{6}$ cells for 15 $\min$ on ice, and collected in 1 mL c-Trp-Ura media based on a combination of gates based on FSC, SSC, PE, and FITC signals. Selection process was repeated for a total of four rounds. Colony PCR was performed on cells collected from final round of selection, and Sanger sequencing was performed on colony PCR products to determine the sequence identity of a sample of 12 clones from the final enriched library. FACS experiments were performed on the BD Influx cell sorter from BD Biosciences.

## Recombinant expression

Plasmids containing genes encoding designs of interest in pETCON yeast expression vector were extracted from yeast EBY100 cells using Zymolyase from Zymo Research. Genes of interest were amplified from pETCON with primers shown in Table S1-5, inserted into pET29b E. coli expression vector using Gibson assembly ${ }^{58}$, and transformed into E. coli XL10-gold strain cells by heat shock. Plasmids containing genes encoding designs of interest in pET29b vector were extracted from E. coli XL10-gold cells by Miniprep (Qiagen) and transformed into E. coli BL21(DE3) strain cells. Cells were grown at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in 0.5 L Terrific Broth to an optical density of 0.6 at 600 nm and induced with 0.1 mM isopropyl $\beta$-D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) for expression at $18^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 6 h . Cell pellets were harvested by centrifugation and lysed by sonication. Protein was purified by Ni-NTA chromatography (eluted in PBS with 250 mM imidazole), verified by SDS-PAGE and mass spectrometry, and again purified for monomers via size exclusion chromatography (eluted in PBS).

## Circular dichroism

Circular dichroism wavelength scan measurements were conducted on an Aviv Circular Dichroism Spectrometer, Model 420. Wavelength scan spectra were recorded from 260 nm to 195 nm in increments of 1 nm at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and $95^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$, and then repeated at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Proteins were diluted to $0.1 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ in PBS, pH 7.4 buffer, for normal conditions; in PBS with 1 mM TCEP, pH 7.4 buffer, for reducing conditions; or in PBS with 1 mM potassium ferricyanide, pH 7.4 buffer, for oxidizing conditions. Measurements were conducted in a cuvette with pathlength 1 mm.

Thermal denaturation curves were conducted in $2^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ steps with a heating rate of $2^{\circ} \mathrm{C} / \mathrm{min}$, with the absorption signal measured at 222 nm . Protein samples were diluted to $0.1 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ in PBS, pH 7.4 buffer, for normal conditions; in PBS with 1 mM TCEP, pH 7.4 buffer, for reducing conditions; or in PBS with 1 mM potassium ferricyanide, pH 7.4 buffer, for oxidizing conditions. Measurements were conducted in a cuvette with pathlength 1 mm .

Chemical denaturation experiments were conducted using titration by guanidinium hydrochloride $(\mathrm{GuHCl})$. Protein samples without disulfide bonds were prepared in $0.1 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ in PBS, pH 7.4 buffer. Protein samples with disulfide bonds were prepared in $0.1 \mathrm{mg} / \mathrm{mL}$ in both PBS, pH 7.4 buffer, and in PBS with 1 mM TCEP, pH 7.4 buffer. Samples were titrated with GuHCl ranging from 0 M to 4 M , in increments of 0.5 M . Measurements were conducted in a cuvette with pathlength 1 cm using a Hamilton Microlab 500 Series Diluter and Dispenser.

## Discussion

The disparity in success rate of the putative binders designed by the MotifGraft approach and those designed by the idealization protocol highlights the advantages of the latter. Naturally occurring proteins offer a large but limited repertoire of structures from which to design.

Moreover, most mutations, including those intended to confer functional properties such as improved binding, are destabilizing, and naturally existing proteins are generally selected only for the minimum stability needed for biological function. ${ }^{59}$ In contrast, de novo approaches provides the limitless canvas of any biophysically accessible protein structure, limited only by our computational abilities, and furthermore, de novo proteins can be designed with greater stability than anything found in nature. ${ }^{13-15}$

Nonetheless, the Rbg32 binder that resulted from the MotifGraft approach has distinctive advantages. $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ is a cytokine receptor subunit that is common to a large family of receptor complexes, but IL-2 binds $\gamma_{c}$ only very weakly. ${ }^{48}$ Because the input helix D used in the MotifGraft approach interacts at the Rbg32/ $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ interface, an optimized version of Rbg 32 may be a $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$-specific binder or the basis of such a binder when used as a template in conjunction with methods such as the idealization protocol. Indeed, conventional sequencing results from the selection of the lib_Rbg21 focused library (Figure 1-2) indicate that most of the mutations at helix A (lying at the junction between IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ ) were reversions to IL-2, but that mutations contacting $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ tended to adopt different identities, suggesting that such residues are less conserved. Indeed, because $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ is a common receptor to many cytokines responsible for so many biological functions when heterodimerized with other receptor subunits, IL-2 and other cytokines may not have been selected during the course of natural evolution for extremely strong binding to $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$.

The idealized four-helix de novo designs feature binding affinities comparable to that of IL-2 cytokine and have been capable of stimulating STAT5 phosphorylation despite no experimental optimization. Rbg40 will serve as the starting point for future directed evolution experiments for improved binding, as circular dichroism measurements suggest that it is the most
stable of the characterized variants, and the absence of any disulfide bonds facilitates recombinant expression under a wider range of conditions. Recombinant IL-2 mimetics based on Rbg40 may have several advantages over existing cytokines, including smaller size, greater ease of expression, and improved thermostability. Moreover, excessive loops in IL-2 that are vestigial remnants of evolution have been excised during the computational design process, further stabilizing the mimetics against unwanted interactions such as proteases. Finally, helix B and the two extensive loops that connect helices A and B and helices C and D on IL-2 are replaced with a single helix on Rbg40, thus eliminating the interface for any potential interaction with IL-2R $\alpha$.

As a result, IL-2 mimetics based on Rbg40 are likely even less dependent on IL-2R $\alpha$ than even recently evolved superkines ${ }^{45}$ for binding to IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$.

## Tables and Figures

| Design | Scaffold | Sequence Identity |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Rbg01 | 1TQGA | EYLGVFADETKEYLQNLNDTLLELEKNPEDMELINEAFRAALSLLGMAGTMGFSSLLK <br> VCIALENAADKARNSEIKTTSDALDAARAGVEFITRMVDKIVS |
| Rbg02 | 1TQGA | EYLGVFADETKELLQNLNDTLLELEKNPEDMELINEAFRAALSLLGMAGTMGFSSLLL <br> VAIALLLAADKARNSEIKTTSDALDAARAIVEFITRFVDKIVS |
| Rbg03 | 1TQGA | EYLGVFADETKELLQNLNDTLLELEKNPEDMELINEAFRAALTLLGMAGTMGFSSLLK <br> ACIALLNAADAARNSEIKTTSDALDAARAIVEFITRFVDKIVS |
| Rbg04 | 4A5XA | PQSTAAATALKRAVELDSESRYPQAAACAQEGINLLAQVIRGTKDNTKRCNLREKASK <br> AMDRLEDIQKYLDQE |
| Rbg05* | 3EABA | GSMEAERARVWHKQAFEWASIALRIDEDEKAGQKEQAAEWLKKGAEAAQAGIAVIITG <br> QGEQCERARRLQAILMANLVDAQERLQLIE |
| Rbg06* | 3EABA | GSMEAERVRVFHKQAFEAISIALRIDEDEKAGQKEQAVEAAKVGLEALRQGIAVIVTG <br> QGEQCERARRLQAKAMTNAVMAQARIALLE |
| Rbg07 | 2W2UA | SAQVMLEEMARWAAIAAVKADKEGNAEEAARAAKAALEALRQLASLYRDGSTAAIAEQ <br> MANEAQRRIAVLKELI |
| Rbg08 | 2V6XA | DWLTKGIELAQKAIDLDTATQYEEAYTAAQNGIDAAQAAIAYAKNPRSKEIARAKLTD <br> LLTRAEQIKKHLESEEAN |
| Rbg09* | 2V6XA | DFLTKGIEWLQKAIDLDTATQYEEAATAYQAGISYAALALKYEKNPKSKDLIRAKITE <br> AIARLEDIQKHLESEEAN |
| Rbg10 | 2V6XA | DFLTKGIEWLQKAIDLDTATQYEEAATAYQAGISYAALALKYEKNPKSKDLIRAKIRE <br> AIARLEDIQKHLESEEAN |
| Rbg11 | 2V6XA | DFLTKGIEWLQKAIDLDTATQYEEAATAYQAGISYAALALKYEKNPKSKDLIRAKILE <br> AIARLMDIQKHLESEEAN |
| Rbg12 | 2QSBA | VRVDQNLFNEVMQLLDELSQDITSPKNVRKLAQDAAAKLSQENESLDLACATAISMAQ <br> EAIADPNVPARGRTDLIAILSALEAIS |
| Rbg13 | 2QSBA | VRVDQNLFNEVMNLLDELSQDITSPKNVRKLAQDAAAKLSQENESLDLACATAISMAQ <br> EAIADPNVPARGRRDLIAILSALEAIS |


| Rbg14* | 2V6XA | DWLTKGIELAQKAIDLDTATQYEEAYTAAQNGIDAAQAAIAYAKNPRSKDIARAKLTD LLTRAEQIKKHLESEEAN |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rbg15* | 2V6YB | SAQVMLEDLARAAAIAAVKADKEGKVCEAVRAYKAALEAARQLIVLYPESVARTAYEQ MANEAQARISYLEKVL |
| Rbg 16 | 1X91A | SSEMSTICDKTLNPSFCLKFLNTKFASANLQALAKTTLDSTQARATQAIAKAQAAIAG GVDPESKLAYRACLDALQNAIGNAEEAFEHAASGDGMGANMKVSAALDGADWCLDALS RLRSVDSSAVNNAKTLKNLCGIALVIANMLPRN |
| Rbg17 | 1Z6OM | HRSCRNSMRQQIQMAIGASLQALAMGAHASKDVVNRPGVAQLAFDAASEEREHAMKLI ELLLMRGELTNDVSSLLQVRPPTRTSWKGGVEALEHAASMEQAITESARNVIKACEDD SEFNAYHLADYLTGDIVEEQIAGLRDVQGKASTLKKLMDRHEALGEFIFAKKLLGIDV |
| Rbg18 | 3EABA | GSMEAERVRVWHKQAFEWISIALRIDEDAKAGQKEQAIEWYKKGIEALQAAIAVIVTG QGEQCERARRMQKILMANLVDALDRLQLLE |
| Rbg19 | 2W2UA | SAQVMLEEMARKYAINAVKADKEGNAEEAITNAKKAAEAAQWLIALYKDGSTARIYEA MFNDLKRRIEVLKELI |
| Rbg20 | 2W2UA | SAQVMLEEMARKYAINAVKADKEGNAEEAITNAKKAAEAAQWLIALYWDGSTAAILIA MLSDLQWRIEVLKELI |
| Rbg21 | 2V6YA | SAQVMLEDLARELAIAAVKADKEGKVEDAATYYKAALEAVRQIIVLYPESVARTAYEQ MANEAQKRIAYLEKVL |
| Rbg22 | 3EABA | GSMEAERVRVWHKQAFEWISIALRIDEDAKAGQKEQAIEWYKKGIAALQAAIAVIVTG QGEQCERARRMQAILMANLVDALDRLQLLE |
| Rbg23 | 1Z6OM | HRSCRNSMRQQIQMAIGASLQALAMGAHASKDVVNRPGVAQLAFDAASEEREHAMKLI ELLLMRGELTNDVSSLLQVRPPTRTSWKGGVEALEHAASMEQAIIASARNVIKACEDD SEFNAYHLADYLTGDILREQIAGLRDVQGKASTLKKLMDRHEALGEFIFAKKLLGIDV |
| Rbg24 | 2V6YA | SAQVMLEDLAREAAIAAVKADKEGKVEDAARYYKAALEAVRQIIVLYPESVARTAYEQ MANEAQKRIAYLQKVL |
| Rbg25 | 3EABA | GSMEAERVRVWHKQAFEAISIALRIDEDEKAGQKEQAAEAAKAGLEAARQGIAVIVTG QGEQCERARRLQAKMMTNVVMAQARISLLE |
| Rbg26 | 3EABA | GSMEAERVRVFHKQAFEAISIALRIDEDEKAGQKEQAVEAAKAGLEALRQGIAVIVTG QGEQCERARRLQAKAMTNAVKAQARIALLE |
| Rbg27 | 3EABA | GSMEAERARVWHKQAFEWASIALRIDEDEKAGQKEQAAEWLKKGAEAAQAAIAVIITG QGEQCERARRLQAILMANLVDAQERLQLIE |
| Rbg28 | 4A5XA | PQSTAAATALKRAVELDSESRYPQAAACAQEGINLLAQVIRGTKDNTKRCNLREKASK AMDRLEDIRKYLDQE |
| Rbg29 | 1TQGA | EYLGVFADETKEYLQNLNDTLLELEKNPEDMELINEAFRAALSLLGMAGTMGFSSLLK ACIALENAADKARNSEIKTTSDALDAARAGVEFITRMVDKIVS |
| Rbg30* | 1X91A | SSEMSTICDKTLNPSFCLKFLNTKFASANLQALAKTTLDSTQARATQAIAKAQAAIAG GVDPESKEAYRACLDALQSAIGNAEEAFEHAASGDGMGANMKVSAALDGADWCLDALS RLRSVDSSAVNNAKTLKNLCGIALVIANMLPRN |

Table 1-1: Preliminary designs Rbg01 to Rbg30, corresponding scaffold PDB ID and chain letter used in Multigraft application, and amino acid sequence identity of design. Designs indicated in red served as the template for focused libraries, with corresponding red amino acid residues indicating positions replaced with degenerate codons. Asterisk (*) denotes designs not experimentally tested.

| Design | Sequence identity |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg32 | SAQVMLEDLARELAIAAVKADKEGKVEDAATYYEHALLDLQQI IVLYPESVARTAYEQMITEAQRRI <br> ANLEKVL |
| Rbg32.1 | SAQVMLEDLCRELAIAAVKADKEGKVEDAATYYEHALLCLQQI IVLYPESVARTAYEQMITEAQRRI <br> ANLEKVL |
| Rbg32.2 | SAQVMLEDLARECAIAAVKADKEGKVEDAATYYECALLDLQQI IVLYPESVARTAYEQMITEAQRRI <br> ANLEKVL |
| Rbg32.3 | SAQVMLEDLARECAIAAVKADKEGKVEDAATYYEHCLLDLQQI IVLYPESVARTAYEQMITEAQRRI <br> ANLEKVL |
| Rbg32.4 | SAQVMLEDLARELAIACVKADKEGKVEDAATYCEHALLDLQQIIVLYPESVARTAYEQMITEAQRRI <br> ANLEKVL |
| Rbg32.5 | SAQVMLEDLARELAIAAVKADKEGKVEDACTYYEHALLDLQQIIVLYPESVARTAYEQMITEAQRRI |


|  | ANCEKVL |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg32.6 | SAQVMLEDLARELAIAAVKADKEGKVEDAATYYEHACLDLQQI IVLYPESVARTAYEQMITECQRRI <br> ANLEKVL |
| Rbg32.7 | SAQVMLEDLARELAIACVKADKEGKVEDACTYCEHALLDLQQIIVLYPESVARTAYEQMITEAQRRI <br> ANCEKVL |

Table 1-2: Sequence identities of Rbg32, which emerged from selection of focused library lib_Rbg21, and its variants in which mutations to cysteine have been introduced to confer disulfide bonds.

| Design | Sequence Identity |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg33 | STKKWQLQAEHALLDWQMALNKS PEPNENLNRAITAAQSWISTGKIDLDKAEDIRRNSDQARREAEKRGI <br> DVRDISNAQVILLEAR |
| Rbg34 | STKKWQLQAEHALLDWQMALNKSPEPNENLNRAITAAQSCISTGKCDLDKAEDIRRNSDQARREAEKRGI <br> DVRDLISNAQVILLEAR |
| Rbg35 | STKKWQLQAEHALLDWQMALNKS PEPNENLNRAITAAQSWISTGKIDCDKAEDIRRNSDQARREAEKRGI <br> DVRDLSNAQVILLEAC |
| Rbg36 | STKKLQLQAEHFLLDVQMILNES PEPNEELNRAITDAQSWISTGKIDLDRAEELARNLEKVRDEALKRGI <br> DVRDLVSNAKVIALELK |
| Rbg37 | STKKLQLQAEHFLLDVQMILNES PEPNEELNRCITDAQSWISTGKIDLDRAEECARNLEKVRDEALKRGI <br> DVRDLVSNAKVIALELK |
| Rbg38 | STKKLQLQAEHFLLDVQMILNESPEPNEELNRAITDAQSCISTGKCDLDRAEELARNLEKVRDEALKRGI <br> DVRDLVSNAKVIALELK |
| Rbg39 | STKKLQLQAEHFLLDVQMILNESPEPNEELNRAITDAQSWISTGKIDLDRAEELCRNLEKVRDEALKRGI <br> DVRDLVSNACVIALELK |
| Rbg40 | STKKLQLQAEHALLDAQMMLNRSPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWISTGKIDLDGAKELAKEVEELRQEAEKRGI <br> DVRDLASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg41 | STKKLQLQAEHALLDAQMMLNRSPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSCISTGKCDLDGAKELAKEVEELRQEAEKRGI <br> DVRDLASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg42 | STKKIQLQLEHALLDVQMALNRSPEPNESLNRMITWLQSWISTGKIDLDNAQEMAKEAEKIRKEMEKRGI <br> DVRDLISNIIVILLELS |
| Rbg43 | STKKIQLQLEHALLDVQMALNRSPEPNESLNRMITWLQSCISTGKCDLDNAQEMAKEAEKIRKEMEKRGI <br> DVRDLISNIIVILLELS |
| Rbg44 | STKKIQLQLEHALLDVQMALNRS PEPNESLNRMITWLQSWISTGKIDLDNAQEMCKEAEKIRKEMEKRGI <br> DVRDLISNICVILLELS |

Table 1-3: Sequence identities of four-helix de novo designs Rbg33 to Rbg44. Rbg33, Rbg36, Rbg40, and Rbg42 are original de novo designs; the other eight are variants in which disulfide bonds have been engineered.



Figure 1-1: Computational model of Rbg21, a representative MotifGraft design. Top-Top view of Rbg21 (cyan), a three-helix design which lies at the interface of the IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ receptor. Bottom-Side view of the same. Computational models visualized using PyMOL. ${ }^{60}$
$\begin{array}{llllllllllllll}\text { Rbg21 pos } & 34 & 35 & 38 & 39 & 40 & 41 & 60 & 61 & 65 & 66 & 68 & 69\end{array}$


| Rbg32 | E | H | L | D | L | Q | I | T | R | R | A | N |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Rbg32b | E | H | L | D | L | Q | I | T | R | R | A | S |

Figure 1-2: Focused library lib_Rbg21 contained mutations at 12 positions representing a diversity of 65536, converging on the sequence corresponding to Rbg32. Red background indicates desirable amino acids allowed by the designed codon; blue background indicates unintended amino acids allowed by the designed codon.


Figure 1-3: Comparison of Rbg21 (cyan) with wild-type human IL-2 (selected side chains shown in magenta sticks). Residues allowed to mutate in lib_Rbg21 are shown in yellow. Left - on helix A, residues on the original Rbg21 tend to revert to their corresponding identities on IL-2, as illustrated by K34E, A35H, E38L, and A39D observed on Rbg32. Right-mutation R41Q represents another reversion to IL-2 on helix A, but of the residues that correspond to helix D, only N61T represents a residue present on IL-2. K65R and Y69N, as well as the unmutated Arg-66 and Ala-68, are residues which differ from IL-2. Computational models visualized using PyMOL. ${ }^{60}$


Figure 1-4: Representative yeast display plots for Rbg32.4 (left), Rbg32.5 (middle), and Rbg32.7 (right) at $1 \mu \mathrm{M} \mathrm{h}$ -IL-2R $\beta \gamma$ heterodimer.


Figure 1-5: Left—Rbg40 (yellow) consists of 87 residues and four helices and closely recapitulates the topology of wild-type human IL-2 (green), especially at helices A, C, and D. Helix B on IL-2 (upper left helix) deviates slightly in Rbg40, as the adjacent loops connecting A to B and C to D (top) are excised. Other four-helix de novo designs closely resembled Rbg40 in structure. Computational model visualized using PyMOL. ${ }^{60}$ Right-Forward folding experiments suggest a reasonable energetic minimum close to that of the intended structure.


Figure 1-6: Computational model of Rbg40, a representative idealized design. Top-Top view of Rbg40 (cyan), a four-helix design which lies at the interface of the IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ receptor. Bottom-Side view of the same.
Computational models visualized using PyMOL. ${ }^{60}$


Figure 1-7: Yeast display screens for four-helix de novo designs Rbg37 (top left), Rbg38 (top middle), Rbg39 (top right), Rbg40 (bottom left), Rbg41 (bottom middle), and Rbg43 (bottom right). Designs were expressed on yeast cell surface, incubated with 1 nM b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$, and labeled with SAPE. Rbg35, Rbg36, Rbg42, and Rbg44 also exhibited binding signal at higher concentrations of b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$.





Figure 1-8: Circular dichroism experiments for Rbg 40 , Rbg 41 , and Rbg 43 . Top left-far-ultraviolet circular dichroism spectra for Rbg 40 at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (black), heated to $95^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (red), and recooled to $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (blue). Top right- farultraviolet circular dichroism spectra for Rbg41 at $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (black), heated to $95^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (red), and recooled to $25^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ (blue). Both Rbg40 and Rbg41 retain strong alpha helical character after heating and recooling; Rbg43 (data not shown) exhibited greater loss of conformation. Bottom left-Chemical denaturation curves for Rbg40, Rbg41, and Rbg43. Rbg40 (red) retains structure at high concentrations of denaturant and exhibits cooperative folding. Denaturation experiments were also conducted for Rbg41 and Rbg43 under reducing conditions to disrupt their disulfide bonds. Bottom right-Thermal denaturation curves for Rbg 40 and Rbg 41 , under normal, oxidizing, and reducing conditions. Neither melted completely under these conditions.
Rbg32 Design Yeast Surface Heterodimer Titrations


| Binder | Kd /nM |
| :--- | ---: |
| IL-2 | 240 |
| Rbg32.4 | $>10000$ |
| Rbg32.5 | No Binding |
| Rbg32.7 | $>10000$ |



Figure 1-9: Yeast surface heterodimer titrations for three-helix MotifGraft designs (left) and four-helix idealized designs (right). First-generation three-helix MotifGraft binders exhibited binding affinities significantly weaker than that of wild-type IL-2 for b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$, while first-generation four-helix idealized binders exhibited comparable affinities. ${ }^{51}$


| Analyte | IL-2R $\boldsymbol{l}$ | IL-2R $\boldsymbol{l}$ (cooperative) | $\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{\boldsymbol{c}}$ | $\gamma_{\mathbf{c}}$ (cooperative) |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :--- | :--- |
| IL-2 | 140 | 45 | No Binding | 180 |
| Rbg40 | 1500 | 158 | No Binding | 260 |
| Rbg41 | 720 | 94 | No Binding | 190 |
| Rbg43 | 2900 | 34 | No Binding | 530 |

Figure 1-10: Surface plasmon resonance cooperativity studies. Top left-IL-2, Rbg40, Rbg41, and Rbg43 were flowed over immobilized IL-2R $\beta$ in the absence or presence (cooperative) of $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$. Top right-IL-2, Rbg40, Rbg41, and Rbg43 were flowed over immobilized $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ in the absence or presence (cooperative) of IL-2R $\beta$. Bottom-measured binding affinities for each analyte in nanomolars. First-generation four-helix mimetics have reduced affinity for IL$2 \mathrm{R} \beta$ compared to IL-2 but comparable affinity for the intermediate receptor complex due to increased cooperativity. ${ }^{51}$


## Soluble Rbg Construct pSTAT5 Stimulation: YT-1 Cells



Figure 1-11: Stimulation assays for four-helix binders. In IL-2R $\beta \gamma$-expressing YT-1 natural killer cell lines, Rbg40, Rbg41, and Rbg43 were able to stimulate STAT5 phosphorylation at comparable $\mathrm{EC}_{50}$ levels to that of IL-2 when presented on yeast surface (top) or presented in soluble form (bottom). ${ }^{51}$

## Optimization of Designed Binders Against Human Interleukin-2 Receptor

## Background

First-generation interleukin-2 (IL-2) mimetics Rbg32.7 and Rbg40 are two computationally designed proteins that bind biotinylated human IL-2R $\beta \gamma$ heterodimer, with Rbg40 achieving nearly comparable affinity to that of wild-type IL-2. Moreover, Rbg40 has also been demonstrated in STAT5 phosphorylation assays to elicit stimulation of natural killer cells expressing IL-2R $\beta \gamma$ with potency comparable to that of wild-type IL-2. However, in applications where immunostimulation is desirable, higher binding affinities may be necessary. IL-2 superkines have been reported to bind the IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ receptor form with significantly greater affinities than that of wild-type IL-2. ${ }^{45}$

Previously, site saturation mutagenesis had been used with deep sequencing to obtain comprehensive sequence-function maps on computationally designed inhibitors of influenza hemagglutinin. ${ }^{31}$ By combining single mutations identified as beneficial, Whitehead et al. were able to obtain variants with subnanomolar binding affinity. These methods are applied to the work described in this section to obtain complete sequence-function maps for every residue on Rbg32.7 and Rbg40, and the resulting data are used to create combinatorial libraries of diversity exceeding $10^{7}$, subsequently subjected to conventional directed evolution methods to isolate optimized binders against IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$.

## Results

## Sequence-Function Maps by Site-Saturation Mutagenesis

In order to optimize the "first-generation" three-helix MotifGraft and four-helix idealized binders for improved binding, site saturation mutagenesis (SSM) experiments were conducted to
provide sequence-function maps ("heatmaps") to better inform subsequent directed evolution. Rbg32.7 and Rbg40 were used as representative templates for MotifGraft and idealized designs, respectively.

All 74 residue positions were presented in the SSM library constructed for $\operatorname{Rbg} 32.7$, with all 1480 single mutants (including mutations to stop codon) represented between 18 to 1845 times in DNA reads. The heatmap for Rbg32.7 on the final round of selection was characterized by depletion at most residue positions (Figure 2-1), with many residues lying on the N -terminal helix from Val-4 to Glu-23 corresponding to those of low conservation (Figure 2-2). Because the N-terminal helix was not represented in the input motif for the parent Rbg21 nor subjected to targeted mutations in the focused library lib_Rbg21, it is less optimized on Rbg32.7 than other regions of the protein.

Specific strongly enriched mutations in SSM data include L9N and M5E, which suggests that the placement of the N-terminal helix in Rbg32.7 is closer to that of helix C of IL-2, as both mutations suggest the formation of hydrogen bonds that are present between the interaction between wild-type IL-2/IL-2R $\beta$ (Figure 2-3). In addition, alanine residues Ala-14, Ala-36, and Ala-63 on the original Rbg32.7 sequence-lying on the three different helices, each pointing into the core-were replaced by larger hydrophobic residues in subsequent rounds of selection.

All 87 residue positions were represented in the SSM library constructed for Rbg40, with all 1740 single mutants represented between 1 to 468 times in DNA reads. In contrast to the observations for Rbg32.7, the SSM heatmap for Rbg40 (Figure 2-4) contains more positions of enrichment over wild-type but fewer mutations with extremely high enrichment ratios. Notably, mutations of Ser-42 to several hydrophobics (Phe, Leu, Val) presumably improve hydrophobic packing near the $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ interface (Figure 2-5), to sit over the saddle formed by Tyr-103, Cys-160, and

Cys-209 of $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$. In addition, mutations of Arg-73 and Leu-75 to Asp or Glu seem to confer better electrostatic complementary near the IL-2R $\beta$ interface.

## Affinity Maturation of Combinatorial Libraries

Combinatorial libraries for Rbg32.7 (Figure 2-6) and Rbg40 (Figure 2-8) were created based on SSM enrichment data, with amino acid diversities of $3.15 \times 10^{6}$ and $1.47 \times 10^{6}$, respectively. Rbg32.7 and Rbg40 combinatorial libraries were each subjected to four rounds of selection under increasingly stringent conditions according to Figure S2-1. Deep sequencing results on the final round of selection on Rbg32.7 combinatorial library included 594834 DNA reads in which all residues were consistent with the designed Rbg 32.7 combinatorial library, with the eight most prevalent sequences by frequency accounting for $10.72 \%$ of these DNA reads. In addition, another 53741 DNA reads were identified as differing from the designed Rbg32.7 combinatorial library by exactly one amino acid substitution, with the four most prevalent such sequences by frequency accounting for $3.15 \%$ of these DNA reads. These twelve sequences were collectively assigned as second-generation three-helix MotifGraft binders with labels Rbg32.8A to Rbg32.8L (Figure 2-6).

The Rbg32.7 mutations identified as most enriched on SSM were also strongly enriched in combinatorial library selection. M5E and A68F were two of the most enriched mutations in SSM and were present in nearly all selected sequences of the combinatorial library, including all 12 second-generation binders. (L9N was the single most enriched mutation in SSM and was present in all sequences of the combinatorial library by design.) However, the most prevalent sequences that emerged were not simply a collection of the most enriched single point mutations, as covariation was evident in several trends that emerged, generally in the form of two or more
sterically incompatible mutations which would each individually improve metrics such as hydrophobic packing in the absence of others.

Likewise, deep sequencing results on the final round of selection on Rbg40 combinatorial library included 63856 DNA reads in which all residues were consistent with the designed Rbg40 combinatorial library, with the six most prevalent sequences by frequency accounting for $2.84 \%$ of these DNA reads. In addition, another 8049 DNA reads were identified as differing from the designed Rbg40 combinatorial library by exactly one amino acid substitution, with the four most prevalent such sequences by frequency accounting for $2.42 \%$ of these DNA reads. These twelve sequences were collectively identified as second-generation three-helix idealized binders, Rbg40.1A to Rbg40.1H (Figure 2-8). Interestingly, one of the strongest selective pressures manifested as a preference for Glu on position 62, a mutation for which enrichment was not evident on all SSM heatmaps. In retrospect, such a mutation results in better electrostatic complementarity and is consistent with the analogous Glu-67 in IL-2. The presence of R62E rendered mutations such as L75D or L75E less necessary for electrostatic complementarity, and in many sequences, L75Y (an enriched mutation with less significant electrostatic contributions) emerged instead.

The A68F mutation that was present on nearly all (99.70\%) sequences of the final $\operatorname{Rbg} 32.7$ combinatorial library is particularly interesting, as it is analogous to the S 42 F ( $50.08 \%$ ) or the similar S42Y (35.15\%) mutations that were highly enriched in the Rbg40 library. In both cases, these substitutions represent mutations that were identified using directed evolution, rather than reversions to wild-type IL-2 where Ser-130 was present instead.

## Yeast Surface Heterodimer Titrations

Optimized, second-generation Rbg32.7 (Figure 2-10) and Rbg40 (Figure 2-11) were displayed on yeast cell surface for titration against b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ and exhibited significantly improved binding affinities compared to IL-2 control or wild-type first-generation Rbg32.7 and Rbg40. Of the twelve Rbg32.7 second-generation clones, all eleven which expressed had higher binding affinities for $\mathrm{b}-\mathrm{hIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma\left(\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{d}}=7.2 \mathrm{nM}\right.$ for Rbg 32.7 H$)$ than did IL-2, representing a roughly 1000-fold improvement in binding affinity compared to first generation Rbg32.7. All ten $\operatorname{Rbg} 40$ second-generation clones also had higher binding affinities for b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma\left(\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{d}}=1.4 \mathrm{nM}\right.$ for Rbg40.1F). Interestingly, the strongest binders within these second-generation clones were not simply the most prevalent ones selected from combinatorial library sorting (Rbg32.7A and Rbg40.1A).

## Methods

## Creation of SSM libraries

Forward primers and reverse primers were designed for each amino acid residue on Rbg32.7 (Table S2-1) and Rbg40 (Table S2-2), resulting in a "left" PCR product with a degenerate NNK codon and a "right" PCR product when amplified with COR and COF primers, respectively. Amplification of "left" and "right" products by COF and COR primers yielded a series of template products each consisting of a degenerate NNK codon at a different residue position. These products were pooled to yield the SSM library. SSM libraries were transformed by electroporation into conditioned Saccharomyces cerevisiae strain EBY100 cells, along with linearized pETCON vector, using the protocol previously described by Benatuil et al. ${ }^{57}$

## Creation of combinatorial libraries

Combinatorial libraries for $\operatorname{Rbg} 32.7$ and $\operatorname{Rbg} 40$ against hIL- $2 \mathrm{R} \beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ were created by assembly PCR using oligonucleotides shown in Table S2-3. Genes were transformed by electroporation into conditioned Saccharomyces cerevisiae strain EBY100 cells, along with linearized pETCON vector, using the protocol previously described by Benatuil et al. ${ }^{57}$

## Fluorescence-activated cell sorting

Fluorescence-activated cell sorting was conducted using human IL-2R $\beta$ and $\gamma_{c}$ receptors, expressed as acid/base zipper heterodimers with C-terminal BAP tag (Table S1-4) to facilitate biotinylation (b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ ), provided as a gift from the Garcia Lab. Yeast cells containing SSM or combinatorial libraries were grown in 1 mL c-Trp-Ura media at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h or to an optical density of 1.0 at 600 nm and induced in 1 mL SGCAA for expression at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 16 h . Five million $\left(5 \times 10^{6}\right)$ cells were collected; incubated with b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ for 2 h in phosphate buffered saline supplemented with $0.5 \%$ BSA and 2 mM EDTA (PBE); and labeled with $5 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ streptavidin, R-phycoerythrin conjugate (SAPE, Immunology Consultants Laboratory) and $5 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ FITC conjugated chicken anti-C-Myc (anti-C-Myc-FITC, Life Technologies) in $250 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ PBE for 15 min on ice; and collected in 1 mL c-Trp-Ura media based on a combination of gates based on FSC, SSC, PE, and FITC signals. Selection process was repeated for three or four rounds with concentration of b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ and incubation temperature varying as indicated in Figure S2-1. For rounds of selections involving a dissociation step, cells were incubated with 1 mL PBE for 1 h at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ after incubation with b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ but before labeling with SAPE or anti-C-Myc-FITC.

FACS experiments were performed on the BD Influx cell sorter from BD Biosciences and on the SH800 Cell Sorter from Sony Biotechnology.

## Yeast-display titrations

Yeast cells were grown in 1 mL c-Trp-Ura media at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h or to an optical density of 1.0 at 600 nm , and induced in 1 mL SGCAA for expression at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 16 h . Fifty thousand $\left(5 \times 10^{5}\right)$ cells were collected; incubated with b-hIL- $2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ for 2 h at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in PBE; and labeled with $1 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ streptavidin, Alexa Fluor 647 conjugate (SA-647) and $1 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ anti-C-Myc-FITC in $50 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ PBE for 15 min on ice. Human IL-2 displayed on EBY100 strain cells containing pCT302 vector ${ }^{45}$ served as controls where applicable. Measurements were performed on Accuri C6 flow cytometer. Cells were gated using FlowJo v10 software and median FL-4 values were used for titration data. Data were fitted using Prism 6 software, using a non-linear one site total saturation binding model.

## Library preparation and sequencing

DNA from SSM or combinatorial libraries were prepped for sequencing using a protocol adapted from Chevalier et al. Briefly, aliquots of culture from naïve and selected libraries were grown in 1 mL c-Trp-Ura media at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ overnight or to an optical density of 4.0 at 600 nm . Cells were treated with Zymolyase to lyse their cell walls (Zymo research), subjected to Miniprep to isolate plasmid DNA (Qiagen), and purified of residual genomic or ssDNA with Exonuclease I and Lambda Exonuclease (New England Biolabs). Two PCR steps were then included to add Illumina adapter regions and to introduce unique barcodes for each library. Sequencing was performed using the MiSeq desktop sequencer.

## Sequence-Function Maps

For naïve and selected libraries, forward and reverse paired-end FASTQ files from MiSeq were merged with PEAR ${ }^{61}$ using default p-value, minimum overlap, assembly length, and quality score threshold options. For each sequence in the merged FASTQ file, the sub-sequence
between restriction sites CATATG and CTCGAG was identified as the gene, checked for appropriate length compared to the SSM template, and translated into the corresponding amino acid sequence. The number of occurrences of each amino acid sequence was tabulated, with only wild-type and single-point mutations included in the final analysis. Enrichment values were determined as follows:

$$
\begin{gathered}
E_{s, N}=\log _{2}\left(\frac{p_{s, N} / p_{s, 0}}{p_{w t, N} / p_{w t, 0}}\right) \\
p_{i=s, j}=\frac{c_{s, j}+k}{\sum_{i} c_{i, j}+k}
\end{gathered}
$$

where the enrichment value $E_{s, N}$ of a particular sequence in round $N$ was given by the binary logarithm of the ratio of $p_{s, N}$, the proportion of sequence in round $N$, and $p_{s, 0}$, the proportion of sequence in the naïve library, normalized by the corresponding ratio for the proportion of wildtype template sequence $p_{w t, N}$ in round $N$ over its proportion in the naïve library. Proportion values $p_{s, j}$ were calculated by taking the ratio between the number of observations of sequence $s$ in round $j$, plus a pseudocount factor $k=0.1$, over the number of observations of all wild-type and single mutants, plus a pseudocount factor $k=0.1$.

## Recombinant expression

Plasmids containing genes in pETCON yeast expression vector were extracted from yeast EBY100 cells using Zymolyase from Zymo Research. Genes of interest were amplified from pETCON with primers shown in Table S2-4, inserted into pET29b E. coli expression vector using Gibson assembly ${ }^{58}$, and transformed into E. coli XL10-gold strain cells by heat shock. Plasmids containing genes encoding designs of interest in pET 29 b vector were extracted from $E$. coli XL10-gold cells by Miniprep (Qiagen) and transformed into E. coli BL21(DE3) strain cells.

Cells were grown at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in 0.5 L Terrific Broth to an optical density of 0.6 at 600 nm and induced with 0.1 mM isopropyl $\beta$-D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) for expression at $18^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 6 h. Cell pellets were harvested by centrifugation and lysed by sonication. Protein was purified by Ni-NTA chromatography (eluted in PBS with 250 mM imidazole), verified by SDS-PAGE and mass spectrometry, and again purified for monomers via size exclusion chromatography (eluted in PBS).

## Discussion

SSM has provided useful information on sequence-function relationships, serving as a way to not only identify potentially beneficial mutations, but also in the absence of highresolution crystallographic data, as a means to partially validate the structure of the computational designs. Affinity maturation methods that combine SSM data with traditional directed evolution techniques on combinatorial libraries can yield significant improvement in binding affinity (roughly 1000-fold for Rbg32.7 and 100-fold for Rbg40).

While SSM provides valuable information on mutations that are beneficial for binding, it is worth noting that the best sequences that emerged were not simply collections of the single best point mutations. Epistasis was most evident in the case of two or more sterically incompatible mutations which would each individually improve metrics such as hydrophobic packing. For instance, SSM data suggest that Ala-14 and Val-18 of Rbg32.7 would benefit from mutations to larger, hydrophobic residues, as both are positioned on consecutive turns of a helix that points into a relatively poorly packed core. However, two such mutations are less compatible simultaneously because of the possibility of steric clashes or the presence of too many hydrophobic residues compromising the overall stability of the desired conformation. As a result, whereas position 14 contains $29.72 \%$ Phe and $47.55 \%$ Tyr in the final $\operatorname{Rbg} 32.7$ combinatorial
library, those frequencies drop to $26.37 \%$ and $25.06 \%$, respectively, when position 18 is occupied by Trp. Likewise, Ala-14, Ala-36, and Ala-63 lie on the three different helices of Rbg32.7 and are oriented towards the interior. While mutations of these residues to larger hydrophobic ones appear enriched on SSM, they are not simultaneously compatible. When position 36 is occupied by Ala, position 36 contains only $11.86 \%$ Ala; when Trp- 36 is present instead, position 63 contains $53.15 \%$ Ala. (Note that Ala-14 is excluded from the designed library, so potential steric issues selective pressures largely exert at positions 36 and 63 instead.)

It also appears that proteins which are less optimized for their intended target yield more conclusive SSM data. In the case of the relatively unoptimized Rbg32.7, the heatmap was dominated by several mutations with extremely high enrichment ratios (M5E, L9N, A68F) which persisted through multiple rounds of sorting on the combinatorial library and appeared to contribute to the drastically improved binding affinity of the second-generation three-helix variants. In contrast, the heatmap for Rbg 40 featured more mutations that were enriched over wild-type but very few specific mutations that were extremely highly enriched; rather, positions such as Gln-8, Arg-22, Ser-23, Ser-42, and Ala-65 were permissive towards mutations to a wide range of hydrophobic residues.

## Tables and Figures

| Design | Sequence |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg32.8A | SAQVELEDNARELYIACGKALKEGKVEDACTYCEHALLDLQQLQVLYPESVARTDYEQMITEVQRRI <br> FNCEKVL |
| Rbg32.8B | SAQVELEDNARELLIACLKADKEGKVEDACTYCEHALLDLQQLIVLYPESVARTDYEQMITETQRRI <br> FNCEKVL |
| Rbg32.8C | SAQVELEDNARELYIACVKAVKVGKVEDACTFCEHALLDLQQLKVLYPESVARTDYEQMITELQRRI <br> FNCEKVL |
| Rbg32.8D | SAQVELEDNARELFIACGKAVKVGKVEDACTFCEHALLDLQQLIVLYPESVARTAYEQMITEAQRRI <br> FNCEKVL |
| Rbg32.8E | SAQVELEDNARELYIACLKAVKVGKVEDACTYCEHGLLDLQQLIVLYPESVARTDYEQMITEMQRRI <br> FNCEKVL |
| Rbg32.8F | SAQVELEDNARELYIACLKADKEGKVEDACTICEHALLDLQQILVLYPESVARTAYEQMITEMQRRI <br> FNCEKVL |


| Rbg32.8G | SAQVELEDNARELHIACWKADKEGKVEDACTFCEHALLDLQQLIVLYPESVARTDYEQMITETQRRI <br> FNCEKVL |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg32.8H | SAQVELEDNARELYIACVKADKVGKVEDACTFCEHSLLDLQQLLVLYPESVARTAYEQMITELQRRI <br> FNCEKVL |
| Rbg32.8I | SAQVELEDNARELLIACGKAVKEGKVEDACTYCEHALLDLQQLKVLYPESVARTDYEQMITEMQRRI <br> FNCEKFL |
| Rbg32.8J | SAQVELEDNARELFIACVKADKVGKVEDACTICEHALLDLQQLLVLYPESVARTDYEQMITELQRRI <br> FKCEKVL |
| Rbg32.8K | SAQVELEDNARELYIACVKAHKVGKVENACTYCEHALLDLQQLLVLYPESVARTDYEQMITEMQRRI <br> FNCEKVL |
| Rbg32.8L | SAQVELEDNARELYIACLEAVKEGKVEDACTYCEHALLDLQQLQVLYPESVARTDYEQMITEVQRRI <br> FNCEKVL |

Table 2-1: Second-generation three-helix MotifGraft binders against human IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$.

| Design | Sequence |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg40.1A | STKKTQLLAEHALLDAFMMLNVVPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIYTGKIDADGAKELAKEVEELEQEYE <br> KRGIDVEDDASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40.1B | STKKTQLLAEHALLDAHMMLNMLPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIHTGKIDGDGAQELAKEVEELEQEYE <br> KRGIDVEDEASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40.1C | STKKTQLLAEHALLDAFMMLNMVPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAKELAKEVEELEQEFE <br> KRGIDVEDEASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40.1D | STKKTQLLAEHALLDALMMLNMVPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAQELAKEVEELEQELE <br> KRGIDVEDYASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40.1E | STKKTQLLAEHALLDAHMMLNVVPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIYTGKIDRDGAQELAKEVEELEQELE <br> KRGIDVDDDASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40.1F | STKKTQLLAEHALLDALMMLNLLPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAQELAKEVEELEQEHE <br> KRGIDVEDYASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40.1G | STKKTQLLAEHALLDAYMMLNMVPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWILTGKIDSDGAQELAKEVEELEQELE <br> KRGIDVDDDASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40.1H | STKKTHLLAEHALLDAYMMLNVMPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAKELAKEVEELEQEFE <br> KRGIDVDDDASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40.1I | STKKTQLLAEHALLDAYMMLNLVPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDADGAQELAIEVEELEQEYE <br> KRGIDVDDYASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40.1J | STKKTQLMAEHALLDAFMMLNVLPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDGDDAQELAKEVEELEQELE <br> KRGIDVDDDASNLKVILLELA |

Table 2-2: Second-generation four-helix idealized binders against human IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$.


Figure 2-1: Enrichment data for Rbg32.7 SSM round 2 library. The second round of selection was performed binding against 50 nM b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ at $4^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Enrichment data for round $1\left(4^{\circ} \mathrm{C}\right)$ not shown.


Figure 2-2: Structure of Rbg32.7 colored by conservation of original amino acid in SSM selection, with red indicating poor conservation and blue indicating high conservation. The left-most helix is the N -terminal helix which contains contact residues exclusively against IL-2R $\beta$. Because this helix was not included in the input motif during the design process and did not contain any mutations in the focused library lib_Rbg21, it is less optimized against b-hIL2R $\beta \gamma$ than the other two helices.


Figure 2-3: Selected mutations from Rbg32.7 SSM enrichment data. Left-enriched mutations on the N-terminal helix of Rbg32.7 (cyan), contacting IL-2R $\beta$ (green), such as M5E and L9N (yellow), suggest that this helix probably resembles helix C of IL-2 (pink) in which Asp-84 and Ser-87 of IL-2 form hydrogen bonds with Lys-71 and Arg-42 of IL-2R $\beta$, respectively, more closely than suggested by the computational model. Right-enriched mutations A14, A36, and A63 (yellow)on different helices of Rbg32.7 (cyan) each point towards the hydrophobic core, suggesting that improved hydrophobic packing of the interior contributes to the enrichment of these mutations in the selected clones. Computational models visualized using PyMOL. ${ }^{60}$


Figure 2-4: Enrichment data for Rbg40 SSM round 3 library. The selection for the heatmap above was performed binding against 200 pM b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Enrichment data for rounds 1 and round 2 and for other temperatures not presented.


Figure 2-5: Selected mutations from Rbg40 SSM enrichment data. Left-mutation of Ser-42 (yellow) to Phe, Tyr, Leu allows the new residue to pack over the saddle formed by Tyr-103, Cys-160, and Cys-209 (magenta) on $\gamma_{c}$ This highly enriched mutation is also observed on Rbg32.7 at Ala-68, where all selected sequences in the combinatorial library converge to Phe. Right-electrostatic surface representation of IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ reveals large patches of positive charge (blue) on IL-2R $\beta$ near the interface with Rbg40 (cyan). Mutation of Leu-73 and Lys-75 (yellow) to Asp or Glu results in better electrostatic complementarity. Computational models visualized using PyMOL. ${ }^{60}$


Rbg32.8A
Rbg32.8B
Rbg32.8C
Rbg32.8D
Rbg32.8E
Rbg32.8F
Rbg32.8G
Rbg32.8H
Rbg32.8I
Rbg32.8J
Rbg32.8K
Rbg32.8L

| E | N | Y | G | L | E | Y | A | L | Q | D | V | F |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| E | N | L | L | D | E | Y | A | L | I | D | T | F |
| E | N | Y | V | V | V | F | A | L | K | D | L | F |
| E | N | F | G | V | V | F | A | L | I | A | A | F |
| E | N | Y | L | V | V | Y | G | L | I | D | M | F |
| E | N | Y | L | D | E | I | A | I | L | A | M | F |
| E | N | H | W | D | E | F | A | L | I | D | T | F |
| E | N | Y | V | D | V | F | S | L | L | A | L | F |
| E | N | L | G | V | E | Y | A | L | K | D | M | F |
| E | N | F | V | D | V | I | A | L | L | D | L | F |
| E |  | Y | L | V | E | Y | A | L | Q | D | V | F |

Figure 2-6: Second-generation three-helix MotifGraft binders against human IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$. Combinatorial library for Rbg 32.7 contained 13 mutations from original Rbg 32.7 with a combined diversity of $3.15 \times 10^{6}$. Shown in black background are the amino acid identities of the original sequence. Red background indicates desirable amino acids allowed by the designed codon; blue background indicates unintended amino acids allowed by the designed codon. Amino acids from the original sequence are allowed by the designed codon unless indicated by an asterisk. Identities of the twelve clones ( Rbg 32.8 A to Rbg 32.8 L ) at indicated positions are listed at the bottom. Sequences with exactly one amino acid substitution not present in the designed combinatorial library ( $\mathrm{Rbg} 32.8 \mathrm{I}-\mathrm{V} 73 \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{Rbg} 32.8 \mathrm{~J}-\mathrm{N} 69 \mathrm{~K}$, Rbg32.8K-D28N, Rbg32.8L-K19E) are indicated in italics.


Figure 2-7: Sequence logos for Rbg32.7 combinatorial library, with the height of each letter corresponding to the frequency of the corresponding amino acid at that position. Left-sequence logo for naïve library depicting all allowable mutations present in roughly equal frequencies at each codon. Right-after four rounds of sorting, there is strong convergence towards Glu-5 and Phe-68, in addition to weaker selective pressures elsewhere. Sequence logos generated using Seq2Logo. ${ }^{62}$


| Rbg40.1A | T | L | F | V | V | Y | A | K | E | Y | E | D |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rbg40.1B | T | L | H | M | L | H | G | Q | E | Y | E | E |
| Rbg40.1C | T | L | F | M | V | F | G | K | E | F | E | E |
| Rbg40.1D | T | L | L | M | V | F | G | Q | E | L | E | Y |
| Rbg40.1E | T | L | H | V | V | Y | R | Q | E | L | D | D |
| Rbg40.1F | T | L | L | L | L | F | G | Q | E | H | E | Y |
| Rbg40.1G | T | L | Y | M | V | L | S | Q | E | L | D | D |
| Rbg40.1H | T | L | Y | V | M | F | G | $K$ | E | F | D | D |
| Rbg40.1I | T | L | Y | L | V | F | A | Q | E | Y | D | Y |
| Rbg40.1J | T | M | F | V | L | F | G | Q | E | L | D | D |

Figure 2-8: Second-generation four-helix idealized binders against human IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$. Combinatorial library for Rbg40 contained 12 mutations from original Rbg40 with a combined amino acid diversity of $1.47 \times 10^{6}$. Shown in black background are the amino acid identities of the original sequence. Red background indicates desirable amino acids allowed by the designed codon; blue background indicates unintended amino acids allowed by the designed codon. Amino acids from the original sequence are allowed by the designed codon unless indicated by an asterisk. Identities of the ten clones (Rbg40.1A to Rbg40.8J) at indicated positions are listed at the bottom. Sequences with exactly one amino acid substitution not present in the designed combinatorial library (Rbg40.1G-L48S, Rbg40.1H-Q6H, Rbg40.1I-K56I, Rbg40.1J-G50D) are indicated in italics.


Figure 2-9: Sequence logos for Rbg40 combinatorial library, with the height of each letter corresponding to the frequency of the corresponding amino acid at that position. Left - sequence logo for naïve library depicting all allowable mutations present in roughly equal frequencies at each codon. Right-after four rounds of sorting, there is moderate selection for Leu-8 and Glu-62 and for Phe and Tyr at position 42. Sequence logos generated using Seq2Logo. ${ }^{62}$


Figure 2-10: Yeast surface titration curves for second-generation Rbg32.8 clones against hIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ with IL-2 control. Rbg32.8B did not express.


Figure 2-11: Yeast surface titration curves for second-generation Rbg40.1 clones against hIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ with IL-2 and Rbg40 control.

## Optimization of Designed Binders Against Mouse Interleukin-2 Receptor

## Background

Sequence-function maps from site saturation mutagenesis have provided enrichment data to guide the optimization of computationally designed proteins, as illustrated in the maturation of influenza virus hemagglutinin. ${ }^{31}$ Moreover, such data has been used to not only improve binding affinity against a target of interest, but to improve affinity and even modulate specificity for closely related targets such as H1 and H5 subtype hemagglutinin. When combined with structural information, the empirical data yielded from such experiments can help improve the force fields and design methods used in computational protein design.

In this section, empirical data from SSM experiments are used to engineer interleukin-2 mimetics with improved binding affinity to the mouse IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ receptor complex in the absence of high-resolution structural information on the IL- $2 \mathrm{R} \beta / \gamma_{c}$ or the IL- $2 / \mathrm{IL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ complexes. Furthermore, the development of such binders with improved affinity for mouse receptor would better enable in vivo studies on the biological effects of these mimetics in mouse animal models.

## Results

## Cross-Reactivity with Mouse Receptors

Human and mouse IL-2 cytokine and receptor subunits share modest sequence similarity (Table 3-1), allowing some attenuated cross-reactivity when cytokine of one species engages the receptor of another (Figure 3-1). However, first-generation four-helix designs Rbg40, Rbg41, and Rbg 43 have reduced binding affinities for the individual $\mathrm{mIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta$ subunit and for the mIL$2 \mathrm{R} \beta / \gamma_{c}$ complex, despite exhibiting comparable binding affinity for the hIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ complex (Figure 1-10). Two four-helix variants (Table 3-2) were designed by comparing residues on

Rbg40.1F to analogous ones on hIL-2, then substituting based on a sequence comparison between mIL-2 and h-IL2, but the amino acid substitutions introduced did not improve the binding affinities of these variants for $\mathrm{mIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ above that of Rbg 40.1 F (Figure 3-2).

## Sequence-Function Maps

In order to optimize Rbg 40.1 F for improved binding against $\mathrm{mIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$, site saturation mutagenesis (SSM) experiments were conducted to provide sequence-function maps to better inform subsequent rounds of directed evolution. All 87 residue positions were presented in the SSM library constructed for Rbg40.1F, with all 1740 single mutants (including mutations to stop codon) represented between 9 to 9809 times in DNA reads.

In the absence of high-resolution structure for mouse IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ or the IL-2/IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ complexes, the empirical enrichment data obtained from such experiments against biotinylated mouse IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}(\mathrm{~b}-\mathrm{mIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma)$ alone cannot be validated with computational predictions or human intuition that rely on accurate structural information. Therefore, the Rbg40.1F SSM library was selected against b-mIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ and $\mathrm{b}-\mathrm{hIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ in parallel so that known structural information about the latter could allow for inferences on the nature of the enriched mutations in selections against the former.

Sequence-function maps for Rbg40.1F when selected against mIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ ("mouse heatmap") and hIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ ("human heatmap") are shown in Figure 3-3 and Figure 3-4, respectively. Most of the enriched residues on the mouse or human heatmaps were included in the corresponding combinatorial libraries as shown in Figure 3-5. Whereas many of the enriched mutations that appear on the mouse heatmap are located at the interface, the enriched mutations that emerged on the human heatmap are distributed more on surface residues and loops. Furthermore, the mouse heatmap featured several highly enriched mutations with enrichment
ratios $\left(\sim 2^{9}\right)$ significantly higher than those in the human heatmap $\left(\sim 2^{6}\right)$. Both observations are consistent with the expectation that the mouse heatmap contain a greater proportion of interface residues with high enrichment ratios, as the starting template Rbg 40.1 F had previously been already optimized against hIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$.

Interestingly, none of the substitutions introduced by sequence-based substitutions were particularly enriched in the mouse heatmap. One residue of note was Ala-9, as both A9F and A9M were highly enriched mutations on the human heatmap which made intuitive sense structurally given that the replacement of Ala-9 with a larger hydrophobic residue would better pack the protein core (Figure 3-6). Because these mutations affect the stability of the protein, rather than the binding interface, one might expect them to be also enriched on the mouse heatmap, but A9F and A9M are depleted in the mouse SSM libraries instead.

## Affinity Maturation of Combinatorial Libraries

Combinatorial libraries for mouse (Figure 3-7) and for human (Figure 3-8) were created based on Rbg40.1F SSM enrichment data, with amino acid diversities of $1.05 \times 10^{6}$ and $3.15 \times$ $10^{6}$, respectively. Each combinatorial library was subjected to four rounds of selection under increasingly stringent conditions according to Figure S3-1. Twelve clones from the final mouse library and twelve clones from the final human combinatorial library were sequenced by conventional Sanger methods, with the mouse library yielding three unique sequences and the human library yielding six unique sequences (Table 3-1). Curiously, several highly enriched mutations including A9F and A9M in the human combinatorial library were completely unrepresented in the final third-generation sequences, replaced instead by amino acid residues that were only included in the degenerate codon to allow access to the residues that were enriched

## Yeast Surface Heterodimer Titrations

Optimized, third-generation mouse binders were displayed on yeast cell surface for titration against b-mIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ and exhibited 100-fold improved binding affinities over IL-2 or Rbg40.1F (Figure 3-9). On the other hand, third-generation human binders exhibited binding affinities only comparable to those of Rbg40.1F (Figure 3-10).

## Methods

## Creation of SSM libraries

Forward primers and reverse primers were designed for each amino acid residue on Rbg40.1F (Table S3-1), resulting in a "left" PCR product with a degenerate NNK codon and a "right" PCR product when amplified with COR and COF primers, respectively. Amplification of "left" and "right" products by COF and COR primers yielded a series of template products each consisting of a degenerate NNK codon at a different residue position. These products were pooled to yield the SSM library. SSM libraries were transformed by electroporation into conditioned Saccharomyces cerevisiae strain EBY100 cells, along with linearized pETCON vector, using the protocol previously described by Benatuil et al. ${ }^{57}$

## Creation of combinatorial libraries

Two separate combinatorial libraries for Rbg40.1F were created by assembly PCR, one specific for mIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ and one specific for hIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$. Oligonucleotides used are shown in Table S3-2. Genes were transformed by electroporation into conditioned Saccharomyces cerevisiae strain EBY100 cells, along with linearized pETCON vector, using the protocol previously described by Benatuil et al. ${ }^{57}$

## Fluorescence-activated cell sorting

Fluorescence-activated cell sorting was conducted using mouse or human IL-2R $\beta$ and $\gamma_{c}$ receptors, expressed as acid/base zipper heterodimers with C-terminal BAP tag (Table S3-3 and Table S1-4, respectively) to facilitate biotinylation (b-mIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ or b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ ), provided as gifts from the Garcia Lab. Yeast cells containing SSM or combinatorial libraries were grown in 1 mL c-Trp-Ura media at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h or to an optical density of 1.0 at 600 nm and induced in 1 mL SGCAA for expression at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 16 h . Five million $\left(5 \times 10^{6}\right)$ cells were incubated with b-$\mathrm{mIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ or $\mathrm{b}-\mathrm{hIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ for 2 h in phosphate buffered saline supplemented with $0.5 \% \mathrm{BSA}$ and 2 mM EDTA (PBE); and labeled with $5 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ streptavidin, Alexa Fluor 647 conjugate (SA-647) and $5 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ FITC conjugated chicken anti-C-Myc (anti-C-Myc-FITC, Life Technologies) in $250 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ PBE for 15 min on ice; and collected in 1 mL c-Trp-Ura media based on a combination of gates based on FSC, SSC, PE, and APC signals. Selection process was repeated for four rounds with concentration of $\mathrm{b}-\mathrm{mIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ or $\mathrm{b}-\mathrm{hIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ and incubation temperature varying as indicated in Figure S3-1. For rounds of selections involving a dissociation step, cells were incubated with 1 mL PBE for 1 h at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ after incubation with $\mathrm{b}-\mathrm{mIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ or $\mathrm{b}-\mathrm{hIL}-2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ but before labeling with SA-647 or anti-C-Myc-FITC. FACS experiments were performed on the SH800 Cell Sorter from Sony Biotechnology equipped with a 488 nm excitation laser.

## Yeast-display titrations

Yeast cells were grown in 1 mL c-Trp-Ura media at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 24 h or to an optical density of 1.0 at 600 nm , and induced in 1 mL SGCAA for expression at $30^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 16 h . Fifty thousand $\left(5 \times 10^{5}\right)$ cells were collected, incubated with b-hIL- $2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ for 2 h at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in PBE , and labeled with $1 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ SA-647 and $1 \mu \mathrm{~g}$ anti-C-Myc-FITC in $50 \mu \mathrm{~L}$ PBE for 15 min on ice. Human IL-2 displayed on EBY100 strain cells containing pCT302 vector ${ }^{45}$ and Rbg40.1F displayed on

EBY100 strain cells containing pETCON vector served as controls where applicable.
Measurements were performed on Accuri C6 flow cytometer. Cells were gated using FlowJo v10 software and median FL-4 values were used for titration data. Data were fitted using Prism 6 software, using a non-linear one site total saturation binding model.

## Library preparation and sequencing

DNA from SSM libraries were prepped for sequencing using a protocol adapted from Chevalier et al. Briefly, aliquots of culture from naïve and selected libraries were grown in 1 mL c-Trp-Ura media at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ overnight or to an optical density of 4.0 at 600 nm . Cells were treated with Zymolyase to lyse their cell walls (Zymo research), subjected to Miniprep to isolate plasmid DNA (Qiagen), and purified of residual genomic or ssDNA with Exonuclease I and Lambda Exonuclease (New England Biolabs). Two PCR steps were then included to add Illumina adapter regions and to introduce unique barcodes for each library. Sequencing was performed using the MiSeq desktop sequencer.

## Sequence-Function Maps

For naïve and selected libraries, forward and reverse paired-end FASTQ files from MiSeq were merged with PEAR ${ }^{61}$ using default p-value, minimum overlap, assembly length, and quality score threshold options. For each sequence in the merged FASTQ file, the sub-sequence between restriction sites CATATG and CTCGAG was identified as the gene, checked for appropriate length compared to the SSM template, and translated into the corresponding amino acid sequence. The number of occurrences of each amino acid sequence was tabulated, with only wild-type and single-point mutations included in the final analysis. Enrichment values were determined as follows:

$$
\begin{gathered}
E_{S, N}=\log _{2}\left(\frac{p_{s, N} / p_{s, 0}}{p_{w t, N} / p_{w t, 0}}\right) \\
p_{i=s, j}=\frac{c_{s, j}+k}{\sum_{i} c_{i, j}+k}
\end{gathered}
$$

where the enrichment value $E_{s, N}$ of a particular sequence in round $N$ was given by the binary logarithm of the ratio of $p_{s, N}$, the proportion of sequence in round $N$, and $p_{s, O}$, the proportion of sequence in the naïve library, normalized by the corresponding ratio for the proportion of wildtype template sequence $p_{w t, N}$ in round $N$ over its proportion in the naïve library. Proportion values $p_{s, j}$ were calculated by taking the ratio between the number of observations of sequence $s$ in round $j$, plus a pseudocount factor $k=0.1$, over the number of observations of all wild-type and single mutants, plus a pseudocount factor $k=0.1$.

## Recombinant expression

Plasmids containing genes in pETCON yeast expression vector were extracted from yeast EBY100 cells using Zymolyase from Zymo Research. Genes of interest were amplified from pETCON with primers shown in Table S3-4, inserted into pET29b E. coli expression vector using Gibson assembly ${ }^{58}$, and transformed into E. coli XL10-gold strain cells by heat shock. Plasmids containing genes encoding designs of interest in pET29b vector were extracted from $E$. coli XL10-gold cells by Miniprep (Qiagen) and transformed into E. coli BL21(DE3) strain cells. Cells were grown at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ in 0.5 L Terrific Broth to an optical density of 0.6 at 600 nm and induced with 0.1 mM isopropyl $\beta$-D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) for expression at $18^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ for 6 h. Cell pellets were harvested by centrifugation and lysed by sonication. Protein was purified by Ni-NTA chromatography (eluted in PBS with 250 mM imidazole), verified by SDS-PAGE and
mass spectrometry, and again purified for monomers via size exclusion chromatography (eluted in PBS).

## Discussion

In retrospect, several inconsistencies were noted in the sequence-function maps generated and the sequences that emerged from selection against the combinatorial libraries for the thirdgeneration four-helix binders. Significantly improved mIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ binders have been isolated despite these problems, but the optimization of better hIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ binders appears to have made no significant progress, suggesting that any issues common to both libraries may have actually hindered the maturation of even stronger mIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ binders.

The sorting experiments performed on the SSM and combinatorial libraries in this section differ from those in previous sections by the use of streptavidin, Alexa Fluor 647 conjugate rather than streptavidin, phycoerythrin conjugate. The large phycoerythrin fluorophore is prone to non-specific binding, which would incorrectly yield abnormally high affinity (low $\mathrm{K}_{\mathrm{d}}$ ) values in yeast display titrations. The smaller Alexa Fluor 647 fluorophore is preferable biochemically as it is less susceptible to these issues and would be more appropriate for titrations or selections performed at extremely low concentrations of IL- $2 \mathrm{R} \beta / \gamma_{c}$ target. Unfortunately, the selections were performed with a cell sorter equipped with only a 488 nm excitation laser, which is spectrally incompatible with the excitation spectrum of Alexa Fluor 647. It is believed that the excitation which produced the binding signal in these experiments came not from a monochromatic laser, but rather, accidentally from a FRET-based mechanism: the emission spectrum of the FITC fluorophore used for expression signal overlaps with the absorption spectrum of Alexa Fluor 647. Indeed, no binding signal is observed under the same experimental setup when two known binders are labeled with SA-647 but not anti-C-Myc-FITC.

The advantage of such a setup is that binding signal is indeed coupled to expression within the selected population. However, because the efficiency of FRET transfer is strongly dependent on the distance between the donor and the acceptor and on the relative orientation of the dipoles, the binding signal observed on yeast display is subject to significant statistical variation. As such, enrichment data from the sequence-function maps should be interpreted with appropriate caution for all but the strongest correlations, especially since aberrational depletion of a residue in early rounds of SSM selection result in a bottleneck effect that obscures the true correlation in later rounds.

Tables and Figures



Table 3-1: EMBOSS Pairwise Sequence Alignment ${ }^{63}$ results for comparisons of mouse and human IL-2 cytokine, IL-2R $\beta$ ectodomain, and $\gamma_{c}$ ectodomain. Sequence similarities were $70.3 \%, 72.6 \%$, and $85.0 \%$ for IL-2, IL-2R $\beta$, and $\gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$, respectively.

| Design | Sequence |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg40.1F | STKKTQLLAEHALLDALMMLNLLPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAQELAKEVEELEQEHEK <br> RGIDVEDYASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40.2A | STKKTQLHAEQALLDALMMLNLLPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAQELAKEVEELEQEHEK <br> RGIDVENYASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40.2B | STKKTQLHAEQALLDALMMLNLLPEPNEKLNRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAQELAKEVEELEQEHEK <br> RGIDVENFASNLKVILLELA |

Table 3-2: Rbg40.2A and Rbg40.2B differed from Rbg40.1F at 3-4 positions (red) and were designed based on sequence comparisons of mIL-2 and hIL-2.

| Design | Sequence |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg40F.M | STEKTQLAAEHALRDALMLKHLLNEPNEKLARIITTMQSWQFTGKIDGDGAQELAKEVEELQQEHEV |
| 1 | RGIDVEDYASNLKVILLHLA |
| Rbg40F.M | STKNTQLAAEDALLDALMLRNLLNEPNEKLARIITTMQSWQFTEKIDGDGAQELAKEVEELQQEHEE |
| 2 | RGIDVEDYASNLKVILLQLA |
| Rbg40F.M | STEKTQHAAEDALRDALMLRNLLNEPNEKLARIITTMQSWQFTEKIDGDGAQELAKEVEELQQEHEV |
| 3 | RGIDVEDYASNLKVILLQLA |
| Rbg40F.H | STKKTQLLIEHALLDALDMSRNLPEPNEKLSRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAQQLAKEVEELEQEHEK |
| 1 | RGEDVEDEASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40F.H | STKKTQLLLEHALLDALHMRRNLPEPNEKLSRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAQELAKEVEELEQEHEK |
| 2 | RGRDVEDDASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40F.H | STKKTQLLIEHALLDALNMRKKLPEPNEKLSRIITDMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAQQLAKEVEELEQEHEK |
| 3 | RGGDVEDYASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40F.H | STKKTQLLLEHALLDALHMSRELPEPNEKLNRIITDMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAQDLAKEVEELEQEHEK |
| 4 | RGGDVEDYASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40F.H | STKKTQLLIEHALLDALHMSRKLPEPNEKLSRIITTMQSWIFTGKIDGDGAQHLAKEVEELEQEHEK |
| 5 | RGGEVEDEASNLKVILLELA |
| Rbg40F.H | STKKTQLLIEHALLDALHMKRKLPEPNEKLNRIITNMQSWIFTEKIDGDGAQDLAKEVEELEQEHEK |
| 6 | RGQDVEDYASNLKVILLELA |

Table 3-3: Third-generation four-helix idealized binders. Rbg40F.M1 to Rbg40F.M3 were evolved against mouse IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$; Rbg40F.H1 to Rbg40F.H6 were evolved against human IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$.


| Analyte | mIL-2R $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ | mIL-2R $\boldsymbol{\beta}$ (cooperative) | mIL-2R $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ | mIL-2R $\boldsymbol{\gamma}$ (cooperative) |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| mIL-2 | 3000 | 53 | $>40000$ | 66 |
| hIL-2 | 16000 | 580 | $>40000$ | 180 |
| Rbg40 | No Binding | 3400 | No Binding | 570 |
| Rbg41 | $>40000$ | 4500 | $>40000$ | 420 |
| Rbg43 | No Binding | $>40000$ | $>40000$ | $>40000$ |

Figure 3-1: Surface plasmon resonance cross-reactivity studies. Top left-mIL-2, hIL-2, Rbg40, Rbg41, and Rbg43 were flowed over immobilized mIL-2R $\beta$ in the absence or presence (cooperative) of mIL-2R $\gamma$. Top right-mIL-2, hIL-2, Rbg 40 , Rbg 41 , and Rbg 43 were flowed over immobilized mIL-2R $\gamma$ in the absence or presence (cooperative) of mIL-2R $\beta$. Bottom - measured binding affinities for each analyte in nanomolars. Ternary mouse complex affinity for first-generation four-helix mouse mimetics is reduced compared to hIL-2 and significantly reduced compared to mIL-2. ${ }^{51}$
Rbg40.2 binders


| Design | $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{d}} / \mathbf{n M}$ |
| :--- | ---: |
| Rbg40.2A | 22694 |
| Rbg40.2B | 17610 |
| hIL-2 | $>100000$ |
| Rbg40 | No binding |
| Rbg40.1F | 16950 |
| hIL-2:hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ (positive) | 161.7 |

Figure 3-2: Yeast surface titration curves for $\operatorname{Rbg} 40.2$ and $\operatorname{Rbg} 40.2 \mathrm{~B}$ against mIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$. Sequence alignmentbased substitutions did not improve the affinity of these binders beyond that of unsubstituted second-generation Rbg40.1F, but Rbg40.1F does appear to bind mIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ more strongly than hIL-2 or first-generation Rbg40. Titration curve for hIL-2 against b-hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ (hIL-2:hIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ ) is presented as a positive control for binding signal.


Figure 3-3: Enrichment data for Rbg40.1F SSM round 4 library against mIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$. The selection for the heatmap above was performed binding against 500 pM b-mIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Enrichment data for rounds 1-3 and for other temperatures not presented.


Figure 3-4: Enrichment data for Rbg40.1F SSM round 4 library against hIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$. The selection for the heatmap above was performed binding against 200 pM b-hIL- $2 \mathrm{R} \beta \gamma$ at $37^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$. Enrichment data for rounds 1-3 and for other temperatures not presented.


Figure 3-5: Enriched mutations from Rbg40.1F SSM library were designed into combinatorial libraries against mouse IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ (top left) or human IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ (top right). Residue positions containing enriched mutations included in the combinatorial library are depicted in yellow. Note the distribution of such positions is nearer the IL$2 \mathrm{R} \beta$ or $\gamma_{c}$ interfaces in the library selected against mouse IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$. Computational models visualized using PyMOL. ${ }^{60}$


Figure 3-6: Highly enriched mutations on Rbg40.1F SSM library selection against human IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ include A9M and A9F. Replacing Ala-9 (yellow sphere with black asterisk) with a larger residue allows for better hydrophobic packing and elimination of the void in the protein core. Computational model visualized using PyMOL. ${ }^{60}$



Figure 3-7: Third-generation four-helix binders against mouse IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$. Combinatorial library for Rbg40.1F contained 18 mutations from original Rbg40.1F with a combined amino acid diversity of $1.05 \times 10^{6}$. Shown in black background are the amino acid identities of the original sequence. Red background indicates desirable amino acids allowed by the designed codon; blue background indicates unintended amino acids allowed by the designed codon. Amino acids from the original sequence are allowed by the designed codon unless indicated by an asterisk. Identities of the three clones (Rbg40F.M1 to Rbg40F.M3) at indicated positions are listed at the bottom.


| Rbg40F.H1 | I | E | L | D | S | R | N | S | T | G | Q | E | D | E |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Rbg40F.H2 | L | E | L | H | R | R | N | S | T | G | E | R | D | D |
| Rbg40F.H3 | I | E | L | N | R | K | K | S | D | G | Q | G | D | Y |
| Rbg40F.H4 | L | E | L | H | S | R | E | N | D | G | D | G | D | Y |
| Rbg40F.H5 | I | E | L | H | S | R | K | S | T | G | H | G | E | E |
| Rbg40F.H6 | I | E | L | H | K | R | K | N | N | E | D | Q | D | Y |

Figure 3-8: Third-generation four-helix binders against human IL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$. Combinatorial library for Rbg40.1F contained 14 mutations from original Rbg40.1F with a combined amino acid diversity of $3.15 \times 10^{6}$. Shown in black background are the amino acid identities of the original sequence. Red background indicates desirable amino acids allowed by the designed codon; blue background indicates unintended amino acids allowed by the designed codon. Amino acids from the original sequence are allowed by the designed codon unless indicated by an asterisk. Identities of the six clones (Rbg40F.H1 to Rbg40F.H6) at indicated positions are listed at the bottom.

## Rbg40F.M mouse binders



Figure 3-9: Yeast surface titration curves for third-generation binders against mIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ with IL-2 and Rbg40.1F control. All three clones expressed successfully with dramatically improved affinity for mIL-2R $\beta \gamma$ heterodimer compared to IL2 or Rbg40.1F.

## Rbg40F.H human binders



Figure 3-10: Yeast surface titration curves for third-generation binders clones against hIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ with IL-2 and Rbg40.1F control.

## Supplementary Materials

## Computational Design of Interleukin-2 Mimetics



| 2vdbB | 2vh7A | 2vi6A | 2vjeA | 2vjeB | 2vlqA | 2vn5B | 2vn6B | 2vqeO | 2vqgA | 2vx9A | 2vxaA |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2vyxA | 2w2uA | 2w4fA | 2w7vA | 2w9jA | 2w9qA | 2wiub | 2wptA | 2wy 8 | 2x1fA | 2x2bA | $2 \times 3 \mathrm{dA}$ |
| 2x48A | 2x4kA | $2 \times 5 \mathrm{gA}$ | 2xcjA | 2xenA | 2xf5A | 2xf7A | 2xi8A | 2xj3A | 2xk5B | 2xkoc | 2 xmj A |
| 2 xmmA | 2xmwA | 2xnqA | 2xnrA | 2xqqA | 2xrhA | 2xvcA | 2 xvtA | 2xz0D | 2 y 1 rI | $2 y 3 y A$ | 2 yeoA |
| 2yizA | 2yj0A | $2 y w k A$ | 2yy3A | 2za4B | 2 zbcA | 2 zboA | 2zc2A | 2zdjA | 2 zfzA | 2 zggA | 2 zong |
| 2zplA | 2zqeA | 2zw0A | 2zw1A | 2zxyA | 3a01A | 3a02A | 3a03A | 3a0sA | 3 a 0 vA | 3 alpB | $3 a 1 y A$ |
| 3 arA | 3a5eA | 3a9fA | 3a9jA | 3a9jB | 3adgA | 3adjA | 3aeiA | 3ajfA | 3ajiB | 3aqeA | 3arcu |
| 3aucA | 3ax2A | 3ax3A | 3 b 0 fA | 3b11X | 3b1sB | 3 b 4 qA | 3b7hA | 3bbzA | 3bd1A | 3beeA | 3bp3A |
| 3bpdA | 3 bpqB | 3bpuA | 3bq7A | 3bqpA | 3br8A | 3briA | 3 brlA | 3bs3A | 3bs5B | 3bs7A | 3bs9A |
| 3bypA | 3 bzvB | 3 bzxB | 3bzyB | 3 bzzB | 3 COOB | 3 c 01 E | 3 c 0 fB | 3c57A | 3 c 8 pA | 3 ccdA | dA |
| 3cfiA | 3ci0I | 3cimA | 3cjkB | 3 cjsB | 3 cnqP | 3cqxC | 3csxA | 3cu4A | 3cuoA | 3 cztX | 3 d 2 wA |
| 3d36C | 3d3bJ | 3d3cJ | 3d5rc | 3d5sc | 3d81A | 3dbhI | 3 dbl I | 3df6A | 3 dgpA | 3dgpB | 3dmiA |
| 3dnjA | 3dr0A | 3ds0A | 3ds1A | 3ds2A | 3ds4A | 3dsgA | 3dvhA | $3 d w g C$ | 3dxsX | 3e19A | 3e21A |
| 3e71A | 3 e 7 rL | 3eabA | 3eipA | 3ej3A | 3ej7A | 3ej9A | 3ej9B | 3 ncA | 3eqyA | 3eusA | 3excX |
| 3eyiA | 3f2eA | 3f6wA | 3fapB | 3fauA | 3fb9A | 3fblA | 3ff5A | 3filA | 3fjuB | 3 fmyA | 3fojA |
| 3fryA | 3fyaA | 3fyrA | 3 g 0 vA | 3 glbA | 3g21A | 3 g 26 A | 3g27A | 3g28A | 3 g 6 e | 3 g 9 mA | 3 ge 3 C |
| 3 ggeA | 3ghdA | 3gjnA | 3 gklC | 3 gzfA | 3 gzmA | 3 h 2 vE | 3h36A | 3 h 8 yA | 3h92A | 3 hglA | 3hluA |
| 3 hmrA | 3hphe | 3htuA | 3hz7A | 3i31A | 3i71A | 3ibwA | 3ic4A | 3id1A | 3id3A | 3idwA | 3il8A |
| 3ipjA | 3iqoA | 3iufA | 3iwlA | 3jstA | 3jtnA | 3jtpA | 3jtzA | 3jxoA | 3 klrB | 3 k 2 aA | $3 k 2 t A$ |
| 3kr3D | 3ksed | 3ku7A | 3 kucB | 3 kudB | 3 kupA | 3kw6A | 3 kwrA | 3 kycD | 3kz3A | 3 kzdA | 317 hA |
| 319aX | 3ldcA | 3lddA | 3le1A | 31 fpA | 31hrA | 31klA | 311 hA | 31 nyA | 3103A | 31 peA | 31 vkB |
| 3m03A | 3 mldA | 3 m 4 gA | 3 m 8 aA | 3ma5A | 3mabA | 3 mb 2 A | 3md1A | 3mdfA | 3mi7X | 3mshA | 3 mszA |
| 3 mtnB | 3mxgA | 3mycA | 3 mzwB | 3n01A | 3 n 3 kB | 3n7sC | 3narA | 3nerA | 3ng8A | 3nirA | $3 \mathrm{nnh} A$ |
| 3ns6A | 3ntwA | 3nxaA | 3nzlA | 301 fA | 302 pE | 3046A | 3oeiC | 3offa | 3ofgA | 3ofhA | 3oizA |
| 301 mD | 3omtA | 3onjA | 3oufA | 3ousA | 3ouvA | 3ov5A | 3ov8A | $30 z z B$ | 3p04A | 3 plxA | $3 p 5 t L$ |
| 3 ph 0 C | 3 ph 2 B | 3 phxB | 3pluA | 3po0A | 3psmA | 3pxmA | 3pyjA | $3 q 2 p A$ | 3qc8B | 3qmqA | 3qmxA |
| 3qwoc | 3qx1A | 3r07C | 3r15A | 3r27A | 3 r 2 cJ | 3r68A | 3r69A | 3r8sz | 3rcoA | 3rd2A | 3rdyA |
| 3rjpA | 3rjsA | 3rklA | 3rkqA | 3rq9A | 3rzwC | 3s1kA | 3s64A | 3s7rA | 3s8qA | 3sd6A | 3sjmA |
| 3solA | 3szsA | 3t46A | 3t47A | 3t49A | $3 t 7 y A$ | 3tduC | 3tjyA | $3 t n v A$ | 3 toeA | 3 toqA | 3 tqmA |
| 3 tr 3 A | 3trgA | 3tysA | 3u43A | 3 u 5 ek | $3 u 8 v A$ | 3ub0B | 3ucgA | 3ue7B | 3ul4B | 3ulqB | 3 v 2 cR |
| 3v2d2 | 3v31A | 3 v 6 cB | 3v6eB | 3v7eA | 3 vc 8 A | 3vcbA | 3vkeA | $3 y g s P$ | 3 zr 8 X | $3 z z p A$ | 451 cA |
| 4a20A | 4a3nA | 4a47A | 4a4jA | 4a56A | $4 \mathrm{a} u \mathrm{~B}$ | 4a5xA | 4a69C | $4 \mathrm{a} \times \mathrm{xA}$ | 4aazA | 4ajyc | 4 b 2 bB |
| 4b6wA | 4b6xA | 4dfcA | 4 dh 2 B | 4dijA | 4djgA | 4ds1A | $4 d t g K$ | 4 duqA | 4 e 1 pA | 4e34A | $4 \mathrm{e} \times \mathrm{xG}$ |
| 4 e 6 kG | 4eefg | 4eewA | 4efoA | 4ep8A | 4ersA | 4 es 1 A | 4 evuA | $4 f 3$ fC | 4f87A | $4 f i s A$ | 4 fjoA |
| 4fl4A | 4 fm 3 A | 4fp5D | 4 fqnA | 4fxiA | 4 g 30 A | 4g69A | $4 \mathrm{gd1F}$ | $4 \mathrm{gd1R}$ | $4 \mathrm{gd1T}$ | 4 gdkA | 4 gocA |
| 4 gofa | 4gu2A | 4gvbB | 4heiA | 4hjkA | 4hk2A | 4htiA | 4hw5A | 4i16A | $4 i 4 d A$ | 4id3A | 4iejA |
| 6insE | 9antA |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Table S1-1: List of 1046 scaffolds used in MotifGraft, with first four characters corresponding to PDB ID and fifth character corresponding to chain ID.

| Scaffold | Input helices |
| :--- | :--- |
| 1 mw 5 A | $\mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{D}$ |
| 1 tqgA | A, C |
| 1 u 89 A | A, D |
| 1 wrdA | A, C |
| 1 x 91 A | $\mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{D}$ |
| 1 yzmA | A, D |
| 1 z 0 kB | A, D |
| 1 z 6 M | A, D |
| $2 \mathrm{j} 0 \circ \mathrm{~A}$ | A, C, D |
| 21 m 9 A | A, D |
| 2 p 5 tA | A, D |


| $2 r l d A$ | A, D |
| :--- | :--- |
| $2 \mathrm{v} 0 \circ \mathrm{~A}$ | $\mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{D}$ |
| 2 v 6 yA | $\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{D}$ |
| 3ajfA | A, D |
| 3am6A | A, D |
| 3dfbA | A, D |
| 3eabA | A, D |
| 3iqcA | A, D |
| 3onjA | A, D |
| 3pcvA | A, D |
| 3rf3A | A, D |
| 4hwhA | A, D |
| Tabesi | Lis |

Table S1-2: List of scaffolds identified by TM-align ${ }^{49}$ as structurally compatible with IL-2, with corresponding IL-2 input helices provided. Four of these entries are redundant with those in Table S1-1.

| Oligonucleotide | Sequence |
| :--- | :--- |
| lib_Rbg03_f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGGAGTACCTGGG |
| lib_Rbg03_r2 | CAGGTTCTGCAGCAGTTCTTTGGTTTCGTCCGCGAAAACACCCAGGTACTCCATATGGCT |
| lib_Rbg03_f3 | AAGAACTGCTGCAGAACCTGAACGACACCCTCCTGGAACTCGAAAAAAACCCGGAAGACA |
| lib_Rbg03_r4 | AGGGTCAGCGCCGCACGGAACGCTTCGTTGATCAGTTCCATGTCTTCCGGGTTTTTTTCG |
| lib_Rbg03_f5 | TTCCGTGCGGCGCTGACCCTGCTGGGTATGGCGGGTACCATGGGTTTCTCTTCTCTCCTG |
| lib_Rbg03_r6 | GTGGTTTTGATTTCAGAGTTAMGGRYAGCGTCCGCAKCAWKCAGCAGGKSTWYGCACWGTWK <br> CAGGAGAGAAGAGAAACCCA |
| lib_Rbg03_f7 | AACTCTGAAATCAAAACCACCTCTGACGCGMTAGACGCGGCTCGTGYGATCGTTGAGGAGAT <br> CACCCGTTTTGTTGATAA |
| lib_Rbg03_r8 | AAGCTTTTGTTCGGATCCGCCTCCCTCGAGAGAAACGATTTTATCAACAAAACGGGTGAT |
| lib_Rbg12_f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGGTTCGTGTGGACCAGA |
| lib_Rbg12_r2 | GACAGTTCGTCGAGCAGTTGCATAACTTCGTTGAACAGGTTCTGGTCCACACGAACCATA |
| lib_Rbg12_f3 | CAACTGCTCGACGAACTGTCCCAAGACATCACCTCTCCGAAAAACGTTCGTAAACTGGCG |
| lib_Rbg12_r4 | GAGATTCGTTTTCCTGAGACAGTTTCGCAGCCGCGTCTTGCGCCAGTTTACGAACGTTTT |
| lib_Rbg12_f5 | GTCTCAGGAAAACGAATCTCTGGACCTGGCGTGCGCGASGGCGATCTCCATGGCTCAGGA |
| lib_Rbg12_r6 | CGGCACGTTCGGGTCAGCGATAGCCTCCTGAGCCATGGAGATCGC |
| lib_Rbg12_f7 | TCGCTGACCCGAACGTGCCGRMAARAGGTCGTWYAGACCTGRWASMCATCCTGTYAGMCCTG <br> GAAGCTATTTCCCTCGA |
| lib_Rbg16_f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGTCCTCTGAGATGTCT |
| lib_Rbg16_r2 | TCAGGCAGAAAGACGGGTTCAGGGTTTTGTCGCAGATAGTAGACATCTCAGAGGACATAT |
| lib_Rbg16_f3 | GAACCCGTCTTTCTGCCTGAAATTCCTGAACACCAAATTCGCGTCCGCTAACCTCCAGGC |
| lib_Rbg16_r4 | CGCACGCGCCTGAGTAGAATCGAGGGTGGTCTTCGCGAGCGCCTGGAGGTTAGCGGACGC |
| lib_Rbg16_f5 | ATTCTACTCAGGCGCGTGCGAMCCAGGCGATTRCTAAAGCGCAAGCGGCTATCGCTGGTGGT <br> GTTGACCCGGAA |
| lib_Rbg16_r6 | TTACCGATCGCGTTTTGCAGAKCAWSGAGACAAKSCYYGTAAGCCAGTTTAGWTTCCGGGTC <br> AACACCACCAG |
| lib_Rbg16_f7 | CTGCAAAACGCGATCGGTAACGCGGAAGAAGCGTTCGAGCACGCGGCGTCTGGTGACGGC |
| lib_Rbg16_r8 | CACCGTCCAGAGCAGCAGACACTTTCATGTTCGCACCCATGCCGTCACCAGACGCCGCGT |
| lib_Rbg16_f9 | GTCTGCTGCTCTGGACGGTGCGGACTGGTGCCTGGACGCTCTGTCTCGTCTCCGTTCCGT |
| lib_Rbg16_r10 | GTTTTTCAGAGTTTTCGCGTTATTAACAGCAGAAGAGTCAACGGAACGGAGACGAGACAG |
| lib_Rbg16_f11 | ACGCGAAAACTCTGAAAAACCTGTGCGGTATCGCGCTGGTTATCGCGAATATGCTGCCGC |
| lib_Rbg16_r12 | AAGCTTTTGTTCGGATCCGCCTCCCTCGAGGTTACGCGGCAGCATATTCGCGATA |


| lib_Rbg12_r8 | AAGCTTTTGTTCGGATCCGCCTCCCTCGAGGGAAATAGCTTCCAG |
| :---: | :---: |
| lib_Rbg17_f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGCACCGTTCTTGCCGTAATTCTATGCGTCAG |
| lib_Rbg17_r2 | CCAGCGCCTGCAGAGACGCACCGATCGCCATCTGGATCTGCTGACGCATAGAATTACGGC |
| lib_Rbg17_f3 | TGCGTCTCTGCAGGCGCTGGCGATGGGCGCTCACGCGTCTAAGGACGTTGTTAACCGTCC |
| lib_Rbg17_r4 | TTCTTCAGACGCCGCGTCAAACGCGAGCTGCGCAACACCCGGACGGTTAACAACGTCCTT |
| lib_Rbg17_f5 | TTGACGCGGCGTCTGAAGAACGTGAACACGCGATGAAGCTGATCGAACTGCTGCTGATGC |
| lib_Rbg17_r6 | ACCTGGAGGAGAGAAGAAACGTCGTTGGTCAGTTCACCACGCATCAGCAGCAGTTCGATC |
| lib_Rbg17_f7 | GTTTCTTCTCTCCTCCAGGTTCGTCCGCCGACCCGTACCTCCTGGAAAGGTGGTGTTGAAGC GCTGGAG |
| lib_Rbg17_r8 | GCGCAGACTCGGTGATCGCCTGTTCSAWASTTRBCGCGYGCTCCAGCGCTTCAACACCAC |
| lib_Rbg17_f9 | GGCGATCACCGAGTCTGCGCGTAATGTTATCAAAGCGTGCGAAGACGACTCTGAATTTAA |
| lib_Rbg17_r10 | AACGATGTCACCGGTCAGATAGTCCGCCAGGTGGTACGCGTTAAATTCAGAGTCGTCTTC |
| lib_Rbg17_f11 | ATCTGACCGGTGACATCGTTGAASAGCWARWASMCGGTCTGCKTGACSTTCAGGGTAAAGCG TCTACCCT |
| lib_Rbg17_r12 | GAACTCACCCAGAGCTTCGTGACGGTCCATCAGTTTTTTGAGGGTAGACGCTTTACCCTG |
| lib_Rbg17_f13 | ACGAAGCTCTGGGTGAGTTCATCTTCGCTAAAAAGCTCCTCGGTATCGACGTTCTCGAGG |
| lib_Rbg17_r14 | AAGCTTTTGTTCGGATCCGCCTCCCTCGAGAACGTCGATACCG |
| lib_Rbg18_f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGGGTTCTATGGAAGCG |
| lib_Rbg18_r2 | TCCATTCGAAAGCCTGTTTGTGCCAAACACGAACACGTTCCGCTTCCATAGAACCCATAT |
| lib_Rbg18_f3 | CAAACAGGCTTTCGAATGGATCTCTATCGCGCTGCGTATCGATGAAGACGCGAAAGCGGG |
| lib_Rbg18_r4 | GATACCTTTTTTGTACCATTCAATCGCTTGTTCCTTCTGACCCGCTTTCGCGTCTTCATC |
| lib_Rbg18_f5 | AATGGTACAAAAAAGGTATCRMAGCGCTGCAGGCGGCGATTKCGGTTATCGTTACCGGTCAA GG |
| lib_Rbg18_r6 | ACGACGCGCACGTTCACACTGTTCACCTTGACCGGTAACGATAAC |
| lib_Rbg18_f7 | AGTGTGAACGTGCGCGTCGTWYGCAGMWAMWACTGRWGSMCAACCTGSTTGACGCGCTGGAC CGTCTGCA |
| lib_Rbg18_r8 | AAGCTTTTGTTCGGATCCGCCTCCCTCGAGTTCGAGGAGCTGCAGACGGTCCAGCGCGTC |
| lib_Rbg21_f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGTCCGCGCAGGTTATGCTGG |
| lib_Rbg21_r2 | GCTTTAACCGCCGCAATCGCCAGTTCACGCGCCAGGTCCTCCAGCATAACCTGCGCGGAC |
| lib_Rbg21_f3 | GCGATTGCGGCGGTTAAAGCGGACAAAGAAGGTAAAGTTGAAGACGCGGCGACCTACTAC |
| lib_Rbg21_r4 | CGGTACGCGCAACAGATTCCGGGTACAGAACGATGATCTGTYGAASGKCTWSCAGCGCGKST TYGTAGTAGGTCGCCGCGTCTT |
| lib_Rbg21_f5 | GGAATCTGTTGCGCGTACCGCGTACGAACAGATGRYCAMCGAAGCGCAGARAAKAATCKCGW MTCTCGAAAAAGTTCTGCTCGA |
| lib_Rbg21_r6 | AAGCTTTTGTTCGGATCCGCCTCCCTCGAGCAGAACTTTTTCGAG |
| lib_Rbg25_f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGGGT |
| lib_Rbg25_r2 | CCTGTTTGTGCCAAACACGAACACGTTCAGCTTCCATAGAACCCATATGGCTAGCCGACC |
| lib_Rbg25_f3 | TCGTGTTTGGCACAAACAGGCGTTCGAAGCGATCTCTATCGCGCTGCGTATCGACGAAGA |
| lib_Rbg25_r4 | AGCCGCTTCCGCAGCCTGTTCTTTCTGACCCGCTTTTTCGTCTTCGTCGATACGCAGCGC |
| lib_Rbg25_f5 | AACAGGCTGCGGAAGCGGCTRAASMTGGTCTGSWGGMCDYACRAMWGGGTATCGCGGTTATC GTTACCGGT |
| lib_Rbg25_r6 | TCGCCTGCAGACGACGCGCACGTTCGCACTGTTCACCTTGACCGGTAACGATAACCGCGA |
| lib_Rbg25_f7 | TGCGCGTCGTCTGCAGGCGAAAATGATGACCAACVTCRYCATGGCTCAAGCGCGTATCTC |
| lib_Rbg25_r8 | AAGCTTTTGTTCGGATCCGCCTCCCTCGAGTTCCAGCAGAGAGATACGCGCTTGAGCCAT |

Table S1-3: Oligonucleotides used in the assembly of focused MotifGraft libraries. All sequences are written in $5^{\prime} \rightarrow 3$ ' orientation.

## Human IL-2R $\beta$ with basic leucine zipper

AVNGTSQFTCFYNSRANISCVWSQDGALQDTSCQVHAWPDRRRWNQTCELLPVSQASWAC NLILGAPDSQKLTTVDIVTLRVLCREGVRWRVMAIQDFKPFENLRLMAPISLQVVHVETH

RCNISWEISQASHYFERHLEFEARTLSPGHTWEEAPLLTLKQKQEWICLETLTPDTQYEF QVRVKPLQGEFTTWSPWSQPLAFRTKPAALGKDTSRGGLEVLFQGPEFGGSTTAPSAQLK KKLQALKKKNAQLKWKLQALKKKLAQHHHHHH

## Human $\gamma_{c}$ with acidic leucine zipper

LNTTILTPNGNEDTTADFFLTTMPTDSLSVSTLPLPEVQCFVFNVEYMNCTWNSSSEPQP TNLTLHYWYKNSDNDKVQKCSHYLFSEEITSGCQLQKKEIHLYQTFVVQLQDPREPRRQA TQMLKLQNLVIPWAPENLTLHKLSESQLELNWNNRFLNHCLEHLVQYRTDWDHSWTEQSV DYRHKFSLPSVDGQKRYTFRVRSRFNPLCGSAQHWSEWSHPIHWGSNTSKENSRGGLEVL FQGPEFGGSTTAPSAQLEKELQALEKENAQLEWELQALEKELAQGLNDIFEAQKIEWHEH HHHHH
Table S1-4: b-hIL2R $\beta \gamma$ heterodimer construct was formed by co-expressing IL-2R $\beta$ ectodomain (residues 1-214) and $\gamma_{c}$ ectodomain (residues 1-232) onto complementary leucine zipper base/acid pairs, with the latter containing a C-terminal BAP tag to facilitate biotinylation.

| Primer | Templates | Sequence |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 5'_Rbg32 | Rbg32, Rbg32.1 <br> to Rbg32.4, <br> Rbg32.6 | AAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACATATGTCCGCGCAGGT <br> TATG |
| 3'_Rbg32 | Rbg32, Rbg32.1 <br> to Rbg32.4, <br> Rbg32.6 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGCAGAACTTTTT <br> CCAG |
| $3^{\prime} \_$Rbg32_C71 | Rbg32.5, <br> Rbg32.7 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGCAGAACTTTTT <br> CGC |
| 5'_Rbg35 | Rbg35 | AAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACATATGTCTACCAAAAA <br> ATGGCAAC |
| $3^{\prime} \_$Rbg35 | Rbg35 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGGCACGCTTC |
| 5'_Rbg36-41 | Rbg36 to Rbg41 | AAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACATATGTCTACCAAAAA <br> ACTCCAGC |
| 3'_Rbg36-39 | Rbg36 to Rbg39 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGCTTGAGTTCCA <br> G |
| $3^{\prime} \_$Rbg40-41 | Rbg40, Rbg41 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGAGCCAGCTCC |
| 5'_Rbg42-44 | Rbg42 to Rbg44 | AAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACATATGTCTACCAAAAA <br> GATCCAGC |
| 3'_Rbg42-44 | Rbg42 to Rbg44 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGAGAGAGCTCCA <br> G |
| 3'_Rbg39 | Rbg39 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGCTTGAGCTCCA <br> G |
| 3'_Rbg41 | Rbg41 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGAGCCAGTTCG |

Table S1-5: Primers used to subclone genes from first-generation designs into pET29b. All sequences are written in 5' $\rightarrow$ 3' orientation.

```
relax.static.linuxgccrelease -database /work/shawnyu/rosetta/main/database -
ignore unrecognized res -relax:constrain_relax to_start_coords -
relax:coord_constrain_sidechains -relax:ramp_constraints false -ex1 -ex2 -
use_input_sc -score:weights talaris2013 -no_his_his_pairE -no_optH false -
flip_HNQ -s $1
```

Protocol S1-1: Representative command for preparation of input PDB by relax with coordinate constraints.

```
rosetta_scripts.static.linuxgccrelease -database
/work/shawnyu/rosetta/main/database -overwrite -out:file:renumber_pdb false -
ex1 -ex2 -ignore_zero_occupancy false -out:output -parser:protocol
motifgraft AD.xm\overline{l}}-\textrm{s
```

motifgraft_AD.xml
<dock_design>

```
    <TASKOPERATIONS>
        <InitializeFromCommandline name="init"/>
        <LimitAromaChi2 name="arochi2"/>
        <IncludeCurrent name="inclcur"/>
        <ExtraRotamersGeneric name="exrot" ex1="1" ex2="1"
extrachi_cutoff="1"/>
        <DisallowIfNonnative name="nohis" disallow_aas="GPH"/>
        <OperateOnCertainResidues name="hotspot_on\overline{lyrepack">}
            <RestrictToRepackingRLT/>
            <ResiduePDBInfoHasLabel property="HOTSPOT"/>
        </OperateOnCertainResidues>
        <OperateOnCertainResidues name="scaffold_onlyrepack">
            <RestrictToRepackingRLT/>
            <ResiduePDBInfoHasLabel property="SCAFFOLD"/>
        </OperateOnCertainResidues>
        <OperateOnCertainResidues name="context_norepack">
            <PreventRepackingRLT/>
            <ResiduePDBInfoHasLabel property="CONTEXT"/>
        </OperateOnCertainResidues>
        <LayerDesign name="core_design" layer="core" core="40.0"/>
        <RestrictChainToRepacking name="chain1_onlyrepack" chain="1"/>
    </TASKOPERATIONS>
    <SCOREFXNS>
        <talaris2013_sfxn weights="talaris2013">
            <Reweight scoretype="res_type_constraint" weight="1.0"/>
        </talaris2013_sfxn>
        <talaris2013_cart weights="talaris2013">
            <Reweight scoretype="cart_bonded" weight="1.0"/>
            <Reweight scoretype="res_type_constraint" weight="1.0"/>
        </talaris2013_cart>
    </SCOREFXNS>
    <FILTERS>
        <ScoreType name="total_score" scorefxn="talaris2013_sfxn"
score_type="total_score" confidence="0" threshold="0"/>
        <Ddg name="ddg" scorefxn="talaris2013_sfxn" jump="1" confidence="0"
repack="1" repeats="1"/>
    </FILTERS>
    <MOVERS>
        <MotifGraft name="motif_grafting" context_structure="./Rbg.pdb"
motif_structure="./motif-AD.pdb" RMSD_tolerance="\overline{1}.0"
NC_points_RMSD_tolerance="1.0" clash_score_cutoff="5"
clash_test_residue="GLY" hotspots="5:12,12:15"
combinatory_fragment_size_delta="3:3,6:1"
max_fragment_replacement_size_delta="0:0,0:0" full_motif_bb_alignment="1"
allow_independent_alignment_per_fragment="0"
graft_only_hotspots_by_replacement="0"
only_allow_if_N_point_match_aa_identity="0"
only_allow_if_C_point_match_aa_identity="0"
revert_graft_to_native_sequence="1" allow_repeat_same_graft_output="0"/>
    <PackRotamersMover name="pack_graft" scorefxn="talaris2013_sfxn"
task_operations="init,scaffold_onlyrepack,hotspot_onlyrepack,context_norepack
,arochi2,inclcur,exrot,nohis"/>
    <PackRotamersMover name="pack_core" scorefxn="talaris2013_sfxn"
task_operations="init,core_design,hotspot_onlyrepack,context_norepack,arochi2
,inclcur,exrot,nohis"/>
    <TaskAwareMinMover name="cart_min" bb="1" chi="1" jump="1"
cartesian="1" scorefxn="talaris2013_cart"
```

```
task_operations="init,chain1_onlyrepack,context_norepack,arochi2,inclcur,exro
t,nohis"/>
    <TaskAwareMinMover name="kine_min" bb="0" chi="1" jump="1"
scorefxn="talaris2013_sfxn"
task_operations="init,chain1_onlyrepack,context_norepack,arochi2,inclcur,exro
t,nohis"/>
            <FastRelax name="fr" scorefxn="talaris2013_sfxn" repeats="3"
task_operations="init,chain1_onlyrepack, context_norepack,arochi2,inclcur,exro
t,nohis"/>
    </MOVERS>
    <APPLY_TO_POSE>
    </APPLY_TO_POSE>
    <PROTOCOLS>
            <Add mover_name="motif_grafting"/>
            <Add mover_name="pack_graft"/>
            <Add mover_name="pack_core"/>
            <Add mover_name="cart_min"/>
            <Add mover_name="kine_min"/>
            <Add filte\overline{r}="total scōre"/>
            <Add filter="ddg"/>
        </PROTOCOLS>
</dock_design>
```

Protocol S1-2: Representative command for running MotifGraft, with an example protocol for input motif consisting of helices A and D shown below.

```
/work/dadriano/DEVEL/rosetta_main_git_epigraft_fragments/main/source/bin/rose
tta_scripts.default.linuxgccrelease -database
/work/dadriano/DEVEL/rosetta_main_git_epigraft_fragments/main/database/ -
overwrite -out:file:renumber_pdb false -ignore_zero_occupancy false -
out:output -parser:protocol ./design uIdealwResfile.xml -holes:dalphaball
/work/dadriano/PROGRAMS/rosetta-helpers/DAlphaBall.icc -s ./input.pdb -
out:path:all results_D2/ -out:suffix _t89 -nstruct 20
design_uIdealwResfile.xml
```

```
<dock_design>
```

<dock_design>
<\overline{SCOREFXNS>}
<\overline{SCOREFXNS>}
<SFXN6 weights="talaris2013.wts"/>
<SFXN6 weights="talaris2013.wts"/>
<SFXN6dA weights="talaris2013_downAla.wts"/>
<SFXN6dA weights="talaris2013_downAla.wts"/>
</SCOREFXNS>
</SCOREFXNS>
<FILTERS>
<FILTERS>
<SSPrediction name="sspred"
<SSPrediction name="sspred"
cmd="/work/dadriano/PROGRAMS/psipred/runpsipred_single" use_probability="0"
cmd="/work/dadriano/PROGRAMS/psipred/runpsipred_single" use_probability="0"
use_svm="0" threshold="0.80" confidence="1"/>
use_svm="0" threshold="0.80" confidence="1"/>
<ScoreType name="rama" scorefxn="SFXN6" score_type="rama"
<ScoreType name="rama" scorefxn="SFXN6" score_type="rama"
threshold="0.0" confidence="0"/>
threshold="0.0" confidence="0"/>
<PackStat name="pack" threshold="0.63" confidence="1"/>
<PackStat name="pack" threshold="0.63" confidence="1"/>
<Holes name="holes" threshold="1.2" confidence="0" />
<Holes name="holes" threshold="1.2" confidence="0" />
<ScoreType name="score" scorefxn="SFXN6" score_type="total_score"
<ScoreType name="score" scorefxn="SFXN6" score_type="total_score"
threshold="0.0" confidence="0"/>
threshold="0.0" confidence="0"/>
<ResidueCount name="nres" confidence="0"/>
<ResidueCount name="nres" confidence="0"/>
<CalculatorFilter name="score_res" equation="SCORE/NRES" threshold="-
<CalculatorFilter name="score_res" equation="SCORE/NRES" threshold="-
1.7" confidence="1">
1.7" confidence="1">
<SCORE name="SCORE" filter_name="score"/>
<SCORE name="SCORE" filter_name="score"/>
<NRES name="NRES" filter_name="nres"/>
<NRES name="NRES" filter_name="nres"/>
</CalculatorFilter>
</CalculatorFilter>
<CompoundStatement name="filt" >

```
    <CompoundStatement name="filt" >
```

```
<AND filter_name="sspred"/>
<AND filter_name="rama"/>
<AND filter_name="score_res"/>
<AND filter_name="pack"/}/
    </CompoundStatement>
</FILTERS>
<TASKOPERATIONS>
    <InitializeFromCommandline name="init"/>
    <IncludeCurrent name="inclcur"/>
    <LimitAromaChi2 name="limitchi2"/>
    <ReadResfile name="resfile" filename="./input.resfile"/>
</TASKOPERATIONS>
<MOVERS>
    <Dssp name="dssp"/>
    <FastDesign name="fdesign" task_operations="init,resfile,limitchi2"
scorefxn="SFXN6dA" allow_design="1" only_design_worst_region="0"
design_by_psipred="0" design_by_frag_qual="0" rēpeats="2"
clear_\overline{desígnable_residues="0" m}\mp@subsup{\}{M}{\prime}<redesigns="2000"/>
    <\overline{F}astRelax näme="relax"/>
    <ParsedProtocol name="complexDesign" >
        <Add mover_name="fdesign"/>
        <Add mover_name="relax"/>
        <Add mover_name="dssp"/>
    </ParsedProtocōl>
    <LoopOver name="fastDesignProtein" mover_name="complexDesign"
filter_name="filt" drift="0" iterations="10"
ms_whenfail="FAIL_DO_NOT_RETRY"/>
</MOVERS>
<APPLY TO POSE>
</APPLY'TTO_POSE>
<PROTOCOLLS>
    <Add mover_name="fastDesignProtein"/>
    <Add filter_name="sspred"/>
    <Add filter_name="pack"/>
    <Add filter_name="score"/>
    <Add filter_name="score_res"/>
    <Add filter_name="holes"/>
    <Add filter_name="rama"/>
</PROTOCOLS>
</dock_design>
<dock_design>
    <\overline{SCOREFXNS>}
        <SFXN6 weights="talaris2013.wts"/>
    </SCOREFXNS>
    <FILTERS>
    </FILTERS>
    <TASKOPERATIONS>
        <InitializeFromCommandline name="init"/>
        <LimitAromaChi2 name="limitchi2"/>
        <ReadResfile name="resfile" filename="./input.resfile"/>
    </TASKOPERATIONS>
    <MOVERS>
        <PackRotamersMover name="design_u_resfile"
scorefxn="talaris2013_resCons" task_ope\overline{rations="init,resfile,limitchi2"/>}
    <FastRelax name="relax"/>
```

```
</MOVERS>
<APPLY TO POSE>
</APPL\overline{Y}_TO-POSE>
<PROTOCOLLS>
    <Add mover_name="design_u_resfile"/>
    <Add mover_name="relax"}\overline{/}
    </PROTOCOLS>
</dock_design>
```

Protocol S1-3: Representative command and protocol for design of an idealized design after loop remodeling.

```
rosetta_scripts.default.linuxgccrelease -database
/work/shawnyu/rosetta/main/database -ignore_unrecognized_res -overwrite -
out:file:renumber_pdb false -ex1 -ex2 -scorè:weights talāris2013 \
-s $1 -parser:protocol fast_disulfide.xml -parser:script_vars stringency=$2 -
save top 1000
```


## fast_disulfide.xml

```
<dock_design>
    <\overline{SCOREFXNS>}
    </SCOREFXNS>
    <FILTERS>
```

        <ResidueCount name="count_cyd" residue_types="CYD" confidence="1"
    min_residue_count="2"/>
<ScoreType name="dslf_fal3" score_type="dslf_fal3" threshold="0"
confidence="0"/>
<CalculatorFilter name="dslf" equation="t1*t1" threshold="0.000001">
<VAR name="t1" filter="dslf_fa13"/>
</CalculatorFilter>
</FILTERS>
<TASKOPERATIONS>
<RestrictToRepacking name="restrict"/>
<OperateOnCertainResidues name="cyd_only" >
<PreventRepackingRLT/>
<ResidueName3Isnt name3="CYD"/>
</OperateOnCertainResidues>
</TASKOPERATIONS>
<MOVERS>
<DumpPdb name="dump10" fname="match_rt_under_1.0" tag_time="True"/>
<DumpPdb name="dump15" fname="match_rt_under_1.5" tag_time="True"/>
<DumpPdb name="dump20" fname="match_rt_under_2.0" tag_time="True"/>
<DumpPdb name="dump25" fname="match_rt_under_2.5" tag_time="True"/>
<DumpPdb name="dump60" fname="match_rt_under_6.0" tag_time="True"/>
<RemodelMover name="remodel10" fast_disulf="True"
match_rt_limit="1.0" quick_and_dirty="True" bypass_fragments="True"
min_disulfides="1" max_disulfides="1" min_loop="8"/>
<RemodelMover name="remodel15" fast_disulf="True"
match_rt_limit="1.5" quick_and_dirty="True"-bypass_fragments="True"
min_disulfides="1" max_disūlfī̄es="1" min_loop="8"/>
<RemodelMover name="remodel20" fast_disulf="True" match_rt_limit="2"
quick_and_dirty="True" bypass_fragments="True" min_disulfides="1"
max_dísulfides="1" min_loop=" $\overline{8} " />$
<RemodelMover name="remodel25" fast_disulf="True"
match_rt_limit="2.5" quick_and_dirty="True" bypass_fragments="True"
min_disulfides="1" max_disulfīes="1" min_loop="8"/>
<RemodelMover name="remodel60" fast_disulf="True" match_rt_limit="1"
quick_and_dirty="True" bypass_fragments="True" min_disulfides="̄"

```
max_disulfides="1" min_loop="8"/>
    <FastRelax namē="relax" task_operations="restrict,cyd_only"
repeats="1"/>
    <PackRotamersMover name="pack" task_operations="cyd_only"/>
    <ParsedProtocol name="build_disulf10">
            <Add mover_name="remodel10"/>
            <Add filter_name="count_cyd"/>
            <Add mover \overline{name="relax"/}>>
            <Add mover_name="dump10"/>
    </ParsedProtocol>
    <ParsedProtocol name="build_disulf15">
            <Add mover_name="remodel15"/>
            <Add filte\overline{r name="count cyd"/>}
            <Add mover_ñame="relax"/>>
            <Add mover_name="dump15"/>
    </ParsedProtocol>
    <ParsedProtocol name="build_disulf20">
            <Add mover_name="remode\overline{l20"/>}
            <Add filte\overline{r}name="count_cyd"/>
            <Add mover_ñame="relax"/>>
            <Add mover_name="dump20"/>
        </ParsedProtocol>
        <ParsedProtocol name="build_disulf25">
            <Add mover_name="remode\overline{l25"/>}
            <Add filter_name="count_cyd"/>
            <Add mover_name="relax"/>
            <Add mover_name="dump25"/>
        </ParsedProtocol>
        <ParsedProtocol name="build_disulf60">
            <Add mover_name="remodel}60"/>
            <Add mover_name="relax"/>
            <Add filter_name="count_cyd"/>
            Add filter_n_name="dslf"/>
            <Add mover_name="dump60"/>
    </ParsedProtocōl>
    <LoopOver name="disulfide_loop10" mover_name="build_disulf10"
iterations="10" drift="0"/>
    <LoopOver name="disulfide_loop15" mover_name="build_disulf15"
iterations="10" drift="0"/>
    <LoopOver name="disulfide_loop20" mover_name="build_disulf20"
iterations="10" drift="0"/>
    <LoopOver name="disulfide_loop25" mover_name="build_disulf25"
iterations="10" drift="0"/>
            <LoopOver name="disulfide_loop60" mover_name="build_disulf60"
iterations="25" drift="0"/>
    </MOVERS>
    <PROTOCOLS>
            <Add mover_name="disulfide_loop%%stringency%%"/>
            MAKE SURE TO USE -save_top:1000 at the command line
    </PROTOCOLS>
</dock design>
```

Protocol S1-4: Representative command and protocol for adding disulfide bonds to a structure. Stringency threshold for rotation-translation matrix is specified at the command line level.

## Optimization of Designed Binders Against Human Interleukin-2 Receptor

| Primer | Sequence |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_01F | AGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGNNKGCGCAGGTTATGCTGGA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_01R | CATATGGCTAGCCGACCCT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_02F | GGTCGGCTAGCCATATGTCCNNKCAGGTTATGCTGGAGGACC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_02R | GGACATATGGCTAGCCGACC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_03F | GGCTAGCCATATGTCCGCGNNKGTTATGCTGGAGGACCTGG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_03R | CGCGGACATATGGCTAGCC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_04F | AGCCATATGTCCGCGCAGNNKATGCTGGAGGACCTGGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_04R | CTGCGCGGACATATGGCT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_05F | CCATATGTCCGCGCAGGTTNNKCTGGAGGACCTGGCGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_05R | AACCTGCGCGGACATATGG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_06F | ATGTCCGCGCAGGTTATGNNKGAGGACCTGGCGCGT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_06R | CATAACCTGCGCGGACAT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_07F | TCCGCGCAGGTTATGCTGNNKGACCTGGCGCGTGAA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_07R | CAGCATAACCTGCGCGGA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_08F | CGCGCAGGTTATGCTGGAGNNKCTGGCGCGTGAACTGG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_08R | CTCCAGCATAACCTGCGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_09F | CGCAGGTTATGCTGGAGGACNNKGCGCGTGAACTGGCT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_09R | GTCCTCCAGCATAACCTGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_10F | AGGTTATGCTGGAGGACCTGNNKCGTGAACTGGCTATCGCT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_10R | CAGGTCCTCCAGCATAACCT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_11F | ATGCTGGAGGACCTGGCGNNKGAACTGGCTATCGCTTGTGT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_11R | CGCCAGGTCCTCCAGCAT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_12F | CTGGAGGACCTGGCGCGTNNKCTGGCTATCGCTTGTGTTAAAG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_12R | ACGCGCCAGGTCCTCCAG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_13F | GAGGACCTGGCGCGTGAANNKGCTATCGCTTGTGTTAAAGCT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_13R | TTCACGCGCCAGGTCCTC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_14F | GACCTGGCGCGTGAACTGNNKATCGCTTGTGTTAAAGCTGATAA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_14R | CAGTTCACGCGCCAGGTC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_15F | CTGGCGCGTGAACTGGCTNNKGCTTGTGTTAAAGCTGATAAAGAAG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_15R | AGCCAGTTCACGCGCCAG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_16F | GGCGCGTGAACTGGCTATCNNKTGTGTTAAAGCTGATAAAGAAGGTAA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_16R | GATAGCCAGTTCACGCGCC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_17F | GCGTGAACTGGCTATCGCTNNKGTTAAAGCTGATAAAGAAGGTAAAGTTG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_17R | AGCGATAGCCAGTTCACGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_18F | CGTGAACTGGCTATCGCTTGTNNKAAAGCTGATAAAGAAGGTAAAGTTGA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_18R | ACAAGCGATAGCCAGTTCACG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_19F | AACTGGCTATCGCTTGTGTTNNKGCTGATAAAGAAGGTAAAGTTGAAGA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_19R | AACACAAGCGATAGCCAGTT |
|  |  |


| Rbg32.7_SSM_20F | AACTGGCTATCGCTTGTGTTAAANNKGATAAAGAAGGTAAAGTTGAAGACGC |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_20R | TTTAACACAAGCGATAGCCAGTT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_21F | GGCTATCGCTTGTGTTAAAGCTNNKAAAGAAGGTAAAGTTGAAGACGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_21R | AGCTTTAACACAAGCGATAGCC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_22F | GCTATCGCTTGTGTTAAAGCTGATNNKGAAGGTAAAGTTGAAGACGCTT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_22R | ATCAGCTTTAACACAAGCGATAGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_23F | ATCGCTTGTGTTAAAGCTGATAAANNKGGTAAAGTTGAAGACGCTTGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_23R | TTTATCAGCTTTAACACAAGCGAT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_24F | TCGCTTGTGTTAAAGCTGATAAAGAANNKAAAGTTGAAGACGCTTGCAC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_24R | TTCTTTATCAGCTTTAACACAAGCGA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_25F | CTTGTGTTAAAGCTGATAAAGAAGGTNNKGTTGAAGACGCTTGCACC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_25R | ACCTTCTTTATCAGCTTTAACACAAG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_26F | TTGTGTTAAAGCTGATAAAGAAGGTAAANNKGAAGACGCTTGCACCTATTG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_26R | TTTACCTTCTTTATCAGCTTTAACACAA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_27F | GTGTTAAAGCTGATAAAGAAGGTAAAGTTNNKGACGCTTGCACCTATTGTG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_27R | AACTTTACCTTCTTTATCAGCTTTAACAC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_28F | AAAGCTGATAAAGAAGGTAAAGTTGAANNKGCTTGCACCTATTGTGAACAC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_28R | TTCAACTTTACCTTCTTTATCAGCTTT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_29F | AGCTGATAAAGAAGGTAAAGTTGAAGACNNKTGCACCTATTGTGAACACGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_29R | GTCTTCAACTTTACCTTCTTTATCAGCT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_30F | AAGAAGGTAAAGTTGAAGACGCTNNKACCTATTGTGAACACGCGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_30R | AGCGTCTTCAACTTTACCTTCTT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_31F | AGGTAAAGTTGAAGACGCTTGCNNKTATTGTGAACACGCGCTGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_31R | GCAAGCGTCTTCAACTTTACCT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_32F | AGTTGAAGACGCTTGCACCNNKTGTGAACACGCGCTGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_32R | GGTGCAAGCGTCTTCAACT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_33F | GTTGAAGACGCTTGCACCTATNNKGAACACGCGCTGCTCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_33R | ATAGGTGCAAGCGTCTTCAAC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_34F | AAGACGCTTGCACCTATTGTNNKCACGCGCTGCTCGA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_34R | ACAATAGGTGCAAGCGTCTT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_35F | GACGCTTGCACCTATTGTGAANNKGCGCTGCTCGACCTG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_35R | TTCACAATAGGTGCAAGCGTC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_36F | CGCTTGCACCTATTGTGAACACNNKCTGCTCGACCTGCAGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_36R | GTGTTCACAATAGGTGCAAGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_37F | GCACCTATTGTGAACACGCGNNKCTCGACCTGCAGCAGATC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_37R | CGCGTGTTCACAATAGGTGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_38F | CCTATTGTGAACACGCGCTGNNKGACCTGCAGCAGATCATCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_38R | CAGCGCGTGTTCACAATAGG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_39F | TGTGAACACGCGCTGCTCNNKCTGCAGCAGATCATCGTTCT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_39R | GAGCAGCGCGTGTTCACA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_40F | GAACACGCGCTGCTCGACNNKCAGCAGATCATCGTTCTGTACC |


| Rbg32.7_SSM_40R | GTCGAGCAGCGCGTGTTC |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_41F | CACGCGCTGCTCGACCTGNNKCAGATCATCGTTCTGTACCCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_41R | CAGGTCGAGCAGCGCGTG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_42F | GCGCTGCTCGACCTGCAGNNKATCATCGTTCTGTACCCGGA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_42R | CTGCAGGTCGAGCAGCGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_43F | CTGCTCGACCTGCAGCAGNNKATCGTTCTGTACCCGGAATC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_43R | CTGCTGCAGGTCGAGCAG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_44F | GCTCGACCTGCAGCAGATCNNKGTTCTGTACCCGGAATCTGT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_44R | GATCTGCTGCAGGTCGAGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_45F | TCGACCTGCAGCAGATCATCNNKCTGTACCCGGAATCTGTTGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_45R | GATGATCTGCTGCAGGTCGA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_46F | ACCTGCAGCAGATCATCGTTNNKTACCCGGAATCTGTTGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_46R | AACGATGATCTGCTGCAGGT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_47F | CTGCAGCAGATCATCGTTCTGNNKCCGGAATCTGTTGCGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_47R | CAGAACGATGATCTGCTGCAG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_48F | TGCAGCAGATCATCGTTCTGTACNNKGAATCTGTTGCGCGTACC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_48R | GTACAGAACGATGATCTGCTGCA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_49F | CAGATCATCGTTCTGTACCCGNNKTCTGTTGCGCGTACCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_49R | CGGGTACAGAACGATGATCTG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_50F | TCATCGTTCTGTACCCGGAANNKGTTGCGCGTACCGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_50R | TTCCGGGTACAGAACGATGA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_51F | ATCGTTCTGTACCCGGAATCTNNKGCGCGTACCGCGT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_51R | AGATTCCGGGTACAGAACGAT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_52F | CGTTCTGTACCCGGAATCTGTTNNKCGTACCGCGTACGAACA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_52R | AACAGATTCCGGGTACAGAACG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_53F | TACCCGGAATCTGTTGCGNNKACCGCGTACGAACAGATG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_53R | CGCAACAGATTCCGGGTA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_54F | CCGGAATCTGTTGCGCGTNNKGCGTACGAACAGATGATCAC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_54R | ACGCGCAACAGATTCCGG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_55F | GGAATCTGTTGCGCGTACCNNKTACGAACAGATGATCACCGAA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_55R | GGTACGCGCAACAGATTCC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_56F | TCTGTTGCGCGTACCGCGNNKGAACAGATGATCACCGAAGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_56R | CGCGGTACGCGCAACAGA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_57F | GTTGCGCGTACCGCGTACNNKCAGATGATCACCGAAGCGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_57R | GTACGCGGTACGCGCAAC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_58F | GCGCGTACCGCGTACGAANNKATGATCACCGAAGCGCAG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_58R | TTCGTACGCGGTACGCGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_59F | GCGTACCGCGTACGAACAGNNKATCACCGAAGCGCAGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_59R | CTGTTCGTACGCGGTACGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_60F | TACCGCGTACGAACAGATGNNKACCGAAGCGCAGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_60R | CATCTGTTCGTACGCGGTA |


| Rbg32.7_SSM_61F | ACCGCGTACGAACAGATGATCNNKGAAGCGCAGCGCCG |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_61R | GATCATCTGTTCGTACGCGGT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_62F | CGCGTACGAACAGATGATCACCNNKGCGCAGCGCCGT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_62R | GGTGATCATCTGTTCGTACGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_63F | TACGAACAGATGATCACCGAANNKCAGCGCCGTATCGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_63R | TTCGGTGATCATCTGTTCGTA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_64F | AACAGATGATCACCGAAGCGNNKCGCCGTATCGCGAACT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_64R | CGCTTCGGTGATCATCTGTT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_65F | ATGATCACCGAAGCGCAGNNKCGTATCGCGAACTGCGA |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_65R | CTGCGCTTCGGTGATCAT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_66F | ATCACCGAAGCGCAGCGCNNKATCGCGAACTGCGAAAAAG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_66R | GCGCTGCGCTTCGGTGAT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_67F | ACCGAAGCGCAGCGCCGTNNKGCGAACTGCGAAAAAGTTCT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_67R | ACGGCGCTGCGCTTCGGT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_68F | GAAGCGCAGCGCCGTATCNNKAACTGCGAAAAAGTTCTGCTC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_68R | GATACGGCGCTGCGCTTC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_69F | GCGCAGCGCCGTATCGCGNNKTGCGAAAAAGTTCTGCTCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_69R | CGCGATACGGCGCTGCGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_70F | CAGCGCCGTATCGCGAACNNKGAAAAAGTTCTGCTCGAGGG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_70R | GTTCGCGATACGGCGCTG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_71F | CGCCGTATCGCGAACTGCNNKAAAGTTCTGCTCGAGGGAG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_71R | GCAGTTCGCGATACGGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_72F | CCGTATCGCGAACTGCGAANNKGTTCTGCTCGAGGGAGGC |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_72R | TTCGCAGTTCGCGATACGG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_73F | CGTATCGCGAACTGCGAAAAANNKCTGCTCGAGGGAGGCG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_73R | TTTTTCGCAGTTCGCGATACG |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_74F | TCGCGAACTGCGAAAAAGTTNNKCTCGAGGGAGGCGGAT |
| Rbg32.7_SSM_74R | AACTTTTTCGCAGTTCGCGA |
| COF | TGACAACTATATGCGAGCAAATCCCCTCAC |
| COR | AACTTTTTCGCAGTTCGCGA |

Table S2-1: Primers used in the creation of SSM library for Rbg32.7. All sequences are written in 5' $\rightarrow$ 3' orientation.

| Primer | Sequence |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg40_01F | AGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGNNKACCAAAAAACTCCAGCTGCA |
| Rbg40_01R | CATATGGCTAGCCGACCCT |
| Rbg40_02F | GGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGTCTNNKAAAAAACTCCAGCTGCAGGC |
| Rbg40_02R | AGACATATGGCTAGCCGACCC |
| Rbg40_03F | TCGGCTAGCCATATGTCTACCNNKAAACTCCAGCTGCAGGC |
| Rbg40_03R | GGTAGACATATGGCTAGCCGA |
| Rbg40_04F | CGGCTAGCCATATGTCTACCAAANNKCTCCAGCTGCAGGCG |
| Rbg40_04R | TTTGGTAGACATATGGCTAGCCG |


| Rbg40_05F | GGCTAGCCATATGTCTACCAAAAAANNKCAGCTGCAGGCGGAAC |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg40_05R | TTTTTTGGTAGACATATGGCTAGCC |
| Rbg40_06F | TAGCCATATGTCTACCAAAAAACTCNNKCTGCAGGCGGAACACG |
| Rbg40_06R | GAGTTTTTTGGTAGACATATGGCTA |
| Rbg40_07F | GCCATATGTCTACCAAAAAACTCCAGNNKCAGGCGGAACACGCG |
| Rbg40_07R | CTGGAGTTTTTTGGTAGACATATGGC |
| Rbg40_08F | TGTCTACCAAAAAACTCCAGCTGNNKGCGGAACACGCGCT |
| Rbg40_08R | CAGCTGGAGTTTTTTGGTAGACA |
| Rbg40_09F | ACCAAAAAACTCCAGCTGCAGNNKGAACACGCGCTCCTGG |
| Rbg40_09R | CTGCAGCTGGAGTTTTTTGGT |
| Rbg40_10F | AAACTCCAGCTGCAGGCGNNKCACGCGCTCCTGGAC |
| Rbg40_10R | CGCCTGCAGCTGGAGTTT |
| Rbg40_11F | CTCCAGCTGCAGGCGGAANNKGCGCTCCTGGACGC |
| Rbg40_11R | TTCCGCCTGCAGCTGGAG |
| Rbg40_12F | CAGCTGCAGGCGGAACACNNKCTCCTGGACGCGCAG |
| Rbg40_12R | GTGTTCCGCCTGCAGCTG |
| Rbg40_13F | CTGCAGGCGGAACACGCGNNKCTGGACGCGCAGATGAT |
| Rbg40_13R | CGCGTGTTCCGCCTGCAG |
| Rbg40_14F | CAGGCGGAACACGCGCTCNNKGACGCGCAGATGATGCT |
| Rbg40_14R | GAGCGCGTGTTCCGCCTG |
| Rbg40_15F | GCGGAACACGCGCTCCTGNNKGCGCAGATGATGCTCAAC |
| Rbg40_15R | CAGGAGCGCGTGTTCCGC |
| Rbg40_16F | GAACACGCGCTCCTGGACNNKCAGATGATGCTCAACCGTTC |
| Rbg40_16R | GTCCAGGAGCGCGTGTTC |
| Rbg40_17F | CACGCGCTCCTGGACGCGNNKATGATGCTCAACCGTTCTCC |
| Rbg40_17R | CGCGTCCAGGAGCGCGTG |
| Rbg40_18F | GCGCTCCTGGACGCGCAGNNKATGCTCAACCGTTCTCCG |
| Rbg40_18R | CTGCGCGTCCAGGAGCGC |
| Rbg40_19F | CTCCTGGACGCGCAGATGNNKCTCAACCGTTCTCCGGAAC |
| Rbg40_19R | CATCTGCGCGTCCAGGAG |
| Rbg40_20F | CTGGACGCGCAGATGATGNNKAACCGTTCTCCGGAACCG |
| Rbg40_20R | CATCATCTGCGCGTCCAG |
| Rbg40_21F | GACGCGCAGATGATGCTCNNKCGTTCTCCGGAACCGAAC |
| Rbg40_21R | GAGCATCATCTGCGCGTC |
| Rbg40_22F | CGCGCAGATGATGCTCAACNNKTCTCCGGAACCGAACGA |
| Rbg40_22R | GTTGAGCATCATCTGCGCG |
| Rbg40_23F | CGCAGATGATGCTCAACCGTNNKCCGGAACCGAACGAAAAAC |
| Rbg40_23R | ACGGTTGAGCATCATCTGCG |
| Rbg40_24F | CAGATGATGCTCAACCGTTCTNNKGAACCGAACGAAAAACTGAACC |
| Rbg40_24R | AGAACGGTTGAGCATCATCTG |
| Rbg40_25F | ATGCTCAACCGTTCTCCGNNKCCGAACGAAAAACTGAACCG |


| Rbg40_25R | CGGAGAACGGTTGAGCAT |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg40_26F | TGCTCAACCGTTCTCCGGAANNKAACGAAAAACTGAACCGTATCAT |
| Rbg40_26R | TTCCGGAGAACGGTTGAGCA |
| Rbg40_27F | AACCGTTCTCCGGAACCGNNKGAAAAACTGAACCGTATCATCACC |
| Rbg40_27R | CGGTTCCGGAGAACGGTT |
| Rbg40_28F | CCGTTCTCCGGAACCGAACNNKAAACTGAACCGTATCATCACCA |
| Rbg40_28R | GTTCGGTTCCGGAGAACGG |
| Rbg40_29F | TTCTCCGGAACCGAACGAANNKCTGAACCGTATCATCACCACC |
| Rbg40_29R | TTCGTTCGGTTCCGGAGAA |
| Rbg40_30F | CTCCGGAACCGAACGAAAAANNKAACCGTATCATCACCACCATG |
| Rbg40_30R | TTTTTCGTTCGGTTCCGGAG |
| Rbg40_31F | CCGGAACCGAACGAAAAACTGNNKCGTATCATCACCACCATGCA |
| Rbg40_31R | CAGTTTTTCGTTCGGTTCCGG |
| Rbg40_32F | CGGAACCGAACGAAAAACTGAACNNKATCATCACCACCATGCAGTC |
| Rbg40_32R | GTTCAGTTTTTCGTTCGGTTCCG |
| Rbg40_33F | CCGAACGAAAAACTGAACCGTNNKATCACCACCATGCAGTCTTG |
| Rbg40_33R | ACGGTTCAGTTTTTCGTTCGG |
| Rbg40_34F | CCGAACGAAAAACTGAACCGTATCNNKACCACCATGCAGTCTTGG |
| Rbg40_34R | GATACGGTTCAGTTTTTCGTTCGG |
| Rbg40_35F | AACGAAAAACTGAACCGTATCATCNNKACCATGCAGTCTTGGATCTC |
| Rbg40_35R | GATGATACGGTTCAGTTTTTCGTT |
| Rbg40_36F | GAAAAACTGAACCGTATCATCACCNNKATGCAGTCTTGGATCTCTACTG |
| Rbg40_36R | GGTGATGATACGGTTCAGTTTTTC |
| Rbg40_37F | CTGAACCGTATCATCACCACCNNKCAGTCTTGGATCTCTACTGGTAAG |
| Rbg40_37R | GGTGGTGATGATACGGTTCAG |
| Rbg40_38F | AACCGTATCATCACCACCATGNNKTCTTGGATCTCTACTGGTAAGATCG |
| Rbg40_38R | CATGGTGGTGATGATACGGTT |
| Rbg40_39F | CCGTATCATCACCACCATGCAGNNKTGGATCTCTACTGGTAAGATCGA |
| Rbg40_39R | CTGCATGGTGGTGATGATACGG |
| Rbg40_40F | TCATCACCACCATGCAGTCTNNKATCTCTACTGGTAAGATCGACCT |
| Rbg40_40R | AGACTGCATGGTGGTGATGA |
| Rbg40_41F | CACCACCATGCAGTCTTGGNNKTCTACTGGTAAGATCGACCTGG |
| Rbg40_41R | CCAAGACTGCATGGTGGTG |
| Rbg40_42F | ACCACCATGCAGTCTTGGATCNNKACTGGTAAGATCGACCTGGA |
| Rbg40_42R | GATCCAAGACTGCATGGTGGT |
| Rbg40_43F | ACCATGCAGTCTTGGATCTCTNNKGGTAAGATCGACCTGGATGG |
| Rbg40_43R | AGAGATCCAAGACTGCATGGT |
| Rbg40_44F | CCATGCAGTCTTGGATCTCTACTNNKAAGATCGACCTGGATGGTGC |
| Rbg40_44R | AGTAGAGATCCAAGACTGCATGG |
| Rbg40_45F | TGCAGTCTTGGATCTCTACTGGTNNKATCGACCTGGATGGTGCG |
| Rbg40_45R | ACCAGTAGAGATCCAAGACTGCA |


| Rbg40_46F | GCAGTCTTGGATCTCTACTGGTAAGNNKGACCTGGATGGTGCGAAG |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg40_46R | CTTACCAGTAGAGATCCAAGACTGC |
| Rbg40_47F | AGTCTTGGATCTCTACTGGTAAGATCNNKCTGGATGGTGCGAAGGAA |
| Rbg40_47R | GATCTTACCAGTAGAGATCCAAGACT |
| Rbg40_48F | TGGATCTCTACTGGTAAGATCGACNNKGATGGTGCGAAGGAACTCG |
| Rbg40_48R | GTCGATCTTACCAGTAGAGATCCA |
| Rbg40_49F | TCTCTACTGGTAAGATCGACCTGNNKGGTGCGAAGGAACTCGC |
| Rbg40_49R | CAGGTCGATCTTACCAGTAGAGA |
| Rbg40_50F | TACTGGTAAGATCGACCTGGATNNKGCGAAGGAACTCGCGA |
| Rbg40_50R | ATCCAGGTCGATCTTACCAGTA |
| Rbg40_51F | TGGTAAGATCGACCTGGATGGTNNKAAGGAACTCGCGAAAGAAGT |
| Rbg40_51R | ACCATCCAGGTCGATCTTACCA |
| Rbg40_52F | ATCGACCTGGATGGTGCGNNKGAACTCGCGAAAGAAGTTGAA |
| Rbg40_52R | CGCACCATCCAGGTCGAT |
| Rbg40_53F | CGACCTGGATGGTGCGAAGNNKCTCGCGAAAGAAGTTGAAGAA |
| Rbg40_53R | CTTCGCACCATCCAGGTCG |
| Rbg40_54F | CCTGGATGGTGCGAAGGAANNKGCGAAAGAAGTTGAAGAACTGC |
| Rbg40_54R | TTCCTTCGCACCATCCAGG |
| Rbg40_55F | TGGATGGTGCGAAGGAACTCNNKAAAGAAGTTGAAGAACTGCGTC |
| Rbg40_55R | GAGTTCCTTCGCACCATCCA |
| Rbg40_56F | GGTGCGAAGGAACTCGCGNNKGAAGTTGAAGAACTGCGTCAG |
| Rbg40_56R | CGCGAGTTCCTTCGCACC |
| Rbg40_57F | TGCGAAGGAACTCGCGAAANNKGTTGAAGAACTGCGTCAGGA |
| Rbg40_57R | TTTCGCGAGTTCCTTCGCA |
| Rbg40_58F | GCGAAGGAACTCGCGAAAGAANNKGAAGAACTGCGTCAGGAAGC |
| Rbg40_58R | TTCTTTCGCGAGTTCCTTCGC |
| Rbg40_59F | AAGGAACTCGCGAAAGAAGTTNNKGAACTGCGTCAGGAAGCG |
| Rbg40_59R | AACTTCTTTCGCGAGTTCCTT |
| Rbg40_60F | GGAACTCGCGAAAGAAGTTGAANNKCTGCGTCAGGAAGCGG |
| Rbg40_60R | TTCAACTTCTTTCGCGAGTTCC |
| Rbg40_61F | ACTCGCGAAAGAAGTTGAAGAANNKCGTCAGGAAGCGGAAAAAC |
| Rbg40_61R | TTCTTCAACTTCTTTCGCGAGT |
| Rbg40_62F | TCGCGAAAGAAGTTGAAGAACTGNNKCAGGAAGCGGAAAAACGTG |
| Rbg40_62R | CAGTTCTTCAACTTCTTTCGCGA |
| Rbg40_63F | CGAAAGAAGTTGAAGAACTGCGTNNKGAAGCGGAAAAACGTGGTAT |
| Rbg40_63R | ACGCAGTTCTTCAACTTCTTTCG |
| Rbg40_64F | AGAAGTTGAAGAACTGCGTCAGNNKGCGGAAAAACGTGGTATCG |
| Rbg40_64R | CTGACGCAGTTCTTCAACTTCT |
| Rbg40_65F | GTTGAAGAACTGCGTCAGGAANNKGAAAAACGTGGTATCGACGTT |
| Rbg40_65R | TTCCTGACGCAGTTCTTCAAC |
| Rbg40_66F | GAACTGCGTCAGGAAGCGNNKAAACGTGGTATCGACGTTCG |


| Rbg40_66R | CGCTTCCTGACGCAGTTC |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg40_67F | CTGCGTCAGGAAGCGGAANNKCGTGGTATCGACGTTCGT |
| Rbg40_67R | TTCCGCTTCCTGACGCAG |
| Rbg40_68F | TGCGTCAGGAAGCGGAAAAANNKGGTATCGACGTTCGTGACC |
| Rbg40_68R | TTTTTCCGCTTCCTGACGCA |
| Rbg40_69F | GTCAGGAAGCGGAAAAACGTNNKATCGACGTTCGTGACCTG |
| Rbg40_69R | ACGTTTTTCCGCTTCCTGAC |
| Rbg40_70F | AGGAAGCGGAAAAACGTGGTNNKGACGTTCGTGACCTGGC |
| Rbg40_70R | ACCACGTTTTTCCGCTTCCT |
| Rbg40_71F | GAAGCGGAAAAACGTGGTATCNNKGTTCGTGACCTGGCGT |
| Rbg40_71R | GATACCACGTTTTTCCGCTTC |
| Rbg40_72F | GCGGAAAAACGTGGTATCGACNNKCGTGACCTGGCGTCTAAC |
| Rbg40_72R | GTCGATACCACGTTTTTCCGC |
| Rbg40_73F | GGAAAAACGTGGTATCGACGTTNNKGACCTGGCGTCTAACCTG |
| Rbg40_73R | AACGTCGATACCACGTTTTTCC |
| Rbg40_74F | ACGTGGTATCGACGTTCGTNNKCTGGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGT |
| Rbg40_74R | ACGAACGTCGATACCACGT |
| Rbg40_75F | GTGGTATCGACGTTCGTGACNNKGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCC |
| Rbg40_75R | GTCACGAACGTCGATACCAC |
| Rbg40_76F | ATCGACGTTCGTGACCTGNNKTCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCTG |
| Rbg40_76R | CAGGTCACGAACGTCGAT |
| Rbg40_77F | GACGTTCGTGACCTGGCGNNKAACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCTGG |
| Rbg40_77R | CGCCAGGTCACGAACGTC |
| Rbg40_78F | GTTCGTGACCTGGCGTCTNNKCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCTGGAGC |
| Rbg40_78R | AGACGCCAGGTCACGAAC |
| Rbg40_79F | TCGTGACCTGGCGTCTAACNNKAAAGTTATCCTGCTGGAGCTG |
| Rbg40_79R | GTTAGACGCCAGGTCACGA |
| Rbg40_80F | TGACCTGGCGTCTAACCTGNNKGTTATCCTGCTGGAGCTGG |
| Rbg40_80R | CAGGTTAGACGCCAGGTCA |
| Rbg40_81F | ACCTGGCGTCTAACCTGAAANNKATCCTGCTGGAGCTGGC |
| Rbg40_81R | TTTCAGGTTAGACGCCAGGT |
| Rbg40_82F | CTGGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGTTNNKCTGCTGGAGCTGGCTC |
| Rbg40_82R | AACTTTCAGGTTAGACGCCAG |
| Rbg40_83F | TGGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCNNKCTGGAGCTGGCTCTCGA |
| Rbg40_83R | GATAACTTTCAGGTTAGACGCCA |
| Rbg40_84F | GGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGNNKGAGCTGGCTCTCGAGGG |
| Rbg40_84R | CAGGATAACTTTCAGGTTAGACGCC |
| Rbg40_85F | TCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCTGNNKCTGGCTCTCGAGGGAGG |
| Rbg40_85R | CAGCAGGATAACTTTCAGGTTAGA |
| Rbg40_86F | ACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCTGGAGNNKGCTCTCGAGGGAGGCG |
| Rbg40_86R | CTCCAGCAGGATAACTTTCAGGT |


| Rbg40_87F | AAAGTTATCCTGCTGGAGCTGNNKCTCGAGGGAGGCGGAT |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg40_87R | CAGCTCCAGCAGGATAACTTT |
| COF | TGACAACTATATGCGAGCAAATCCCCTCAC |
| COR | AACTTTTTCGCAGTTCGCGA |

Table S2-2: Primers used in the creation of SSM library for Rbg40. All sequences are written in 5' $\rightarrow$ 3' orientation.

| Oligonucleotide | Sequence |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg32.7_combinatori al_f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGTCCGCGCAGGTT |
| Rbg32.7_combinatori al_r2 | CAGTTCACGCGCATTGTCCTCCAGCWYAACCTGCGCGGACATATGGC |
| Rbg32.7_combinatori al_f3 | AGGACAATGCGCGTGAACTGYWTATCGCTTGTKKGAAAGCTSWTAAAGWAGGTAAAGTTG AAGACGCTT |
| Rbg32.7_combinatori al_r4 | CTGCTGCAGGTCGAGCAGCSMGTGTTCACAAWWGGTGCAAGCGTCTTCAACTTTACCT |
| Rbg32.7_combinatori al_f5 | GCTGCTCGACCTGCAGCAGMTCMWAGTTCTGTACCCGGAATCTG |
| Rbg32.7_combinatori al_r6 | CGGTGATCATCTGTTCGTAGKCGGTACGCGCAACAGATTCCGGGTACAGAACT |
| Rbg32.7_combinatori al_f7 | CTACGAACAGATGATCACCGAADYGCAGCGCCGTATCKYCAACTGCGAAAAAGTTCTGC |
| Rbg32.7_combinatori al_r8 | AAGCTTTTGTTCGGATCCGCCTCCCTCGAGCAGAACTTTTTCGCAGTTG |
| Rbg40_combinatorial _f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGTCTACCAAAAAAACCCAGCTG |
| Rbg40_combinatorial _r2 | GCGTCCAGGAGCGCGTGTTCCGCSABCAGCTGGGTTTTTTTGGTAG |
| Rbg40_combinatorial f3 | GAACACGCGCTCCTGGACGCGYWCATGATGCTCAACDTKDTGCCGGAACCGAACGAAAAA |
| Rbg40_combinatorial r4 | GATCCAAGACTGCATGGTGGTGATGATACGGTTCAGTTTTTCGTTCGGTTCCGGCA |
| Rbg40_combinatorial _f5 | CCACCATGCAGTCTTGGATCYWTACTGGTAAGATCGACSSGGATGGTGCGMAGGAACTCG CGAAAGAAGTTG |
| Rbg40_combinatorial _r6 | ACGTCGATACCACGTTTTTCGWRTTCCTGWTCCAGTTCTTCAACTTCTTTCGCGAGTTCC |
| Rbg40_combinatorial _f7 | GAAAAACGTGGTATCGACGTTSAKGACDASGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCT |
| Rbg40_combinatorial _r8 | AAGCTTTTGTTCGGATCCGCCTCCCTCGAGAGCCAGCTCCAGCAGGATAACTTTCAGGTT |

Table S2-3: Oligonucleotides used in the assembly of combinatorial libraries based on Rbg32.7 and Rbg40. All sequences are written in $5^{\prime} \rightarrow 3$ ' orientation.

| Primer | Templates | Sequence |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $5^{\prime} \_$Rbg32.8 | Rbg32.8A to Rbg32.8L | AAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACATATGTC <br> CGCGCAGGTTG |
| 3'_Rbg32.8 | Rbg32.8A to Rbg32.8H, <br> Rbg32.8J to Rbg32.8L | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGCA <br> GAACTTTTTCGC |
| 3'_Rbg32.8I | Rbg32.8 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGCA <br> GAAATTTTTCGC |
| 5'_Rbg40.1 | Rbg40.1A to Rbg40.1G, <br> Rbg40.1I, Rbg40.1J | AAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACATATGTC <br> TACCAAAAAAACCCAG |
| 5'_Rbg40.1H | Rbg40.1H | AAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACATATGTC <br> TACCAAAAAAACCCAC |


| $3^{\prime} \_$Rbg40.1 | Rbg40.1A to Rbg40.1J | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGAG <br> CCAGCTCCAG |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

Table S2-4: Primers used to subclone genes encoding second- and third-generation binders against hIL2 $\beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$ into pET29b. All sequences are written in $5^{\prime} \rightarrow 3^{\prime}$ orientation.


Figure S2-1: Selection schemes for Rbg32.7 and Rbg40 SSM and combinatorial libraries.
Optimization of Designed Binders Against Mouse Interleukin-2 Receptor

| Primer | Sequence |
| :--- | :--- |
| Rbg40.1F_01F | AGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGNNKACCAAAAAAACCCAGCTGC |
| Rbg40.1F_01R | CATATGGCTAGCCGACCCT |
| Rbg40.1F_02F | GGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGTCTNNKAAAAAAACCCAGCTGCTGG |
| Rbg40.1F_02R | AGACATATGGCTAGCCGACCC |
| Rbg40.1F_03F | TCGGCTAGCCATATGTCTACCNNKAAAACCCAGCTGCTGGC |
| Rbg40.1F_03R | GGTAGACATATGGCTAGCCGA |
| Rbg40.1F_04F | CGGCTAGCCATATGTCTACCAAANNKACCCAGCTGCTGGCG |
| Rbg40.1F_04R | TTTGGTAGACATATGGCTAGCCG |
| Rbg40.1F_05F | GGCTAGCCATATGTCTACCAAAAAANNKCAGCTGCTGGCGGAAC |
| Rbg40.1F_05R | TTTTTTGGTAGACATATGGCTAGCC |
| Rbg40.1F_06F | TAGCCATATGTCTACCAAAAAAACCNNKCTGCTGGCGGAACACG |
| Rbg40.1F_06R | GGTTTTTTTGGTAGACATATGGCTA |
| Rbg40.1F_07F | GCCATATGTCTACCAAAAAAACCCAGNNKCTGGCGGAACACGCG |


| Rbg40.1F_07R | CTGGGTTTTTTTGGTAGACATATGGC |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg40.1F_08F | TGTCTACCAAAAAAACCCAGCTGNNKGCGGAACACGCGCT |
| Rbg40.1F_08R | CAGCTGGGTTTTTTTGGTAGACA |
| Rbg40.1F_09F | ACCAAAAAAACCCAGCTGCTGNNKGAACACGCGCTCCTGG |
| Rbg40.1F_09R | CAGCAGCTGGGTTTTTTTGGT |
| Rbg40.1F_10F | AAAACCCAGCTGCTGGCGNNKCACGCGCTCCTGGAC |
| Rbg40.1F_10R | CGCCAGCAGCTGGGTTTT |
| Rbg40.1F_11F | ACCCAGCTGCTGGCGGAANNKGCGCTCCTGGACGC |
| Rbg40.1F_11R | TTCCGCCAGCAGCTGGGT |
| Rbg40.1F_12F | CAGCTGCTGGCGGAACACNNKCTCCTGGACGCGCTCA |
| Rbg40.1F_12R | GTGTTCCGCCAGCAGCTG |
| Rbg40.1F_13F | CTGCTGGCGGAACACGCGNNKCTGGACGCGCTCATGAT |
| Rbg40.1F_13R | CGCGTGTTCCGCCAGCAG |
| Rbg40.1F_14F | CTGGCGGAACACGCGCTCNNKGACGCGCTCATGATGCT |
| Rbg40.1F_14R | GAGCGCGTGTTCCGCCAG |
| Rbg40.1F_15F | GCGGAACACGCGCTCCTGNNKGCGCTCATGATGCTCAAC |
| Rbg40.1F_15R | CAGGAGCGCGTGTTCCGC |
| Rbg40.1F_16F | GAACACGCGCTCCTGGACNNKCTCATGATGCTCAACTTGTTGC |
| Rbg40.1F_16R | GTCCAGGAGCGCGTGTTC |
| Rbg40.1F_17F | CACGCGCTCCTGGACGCGNNKATGATGCTCAACTTGTTGCC |
| Rbg40.1F_17R | CGCGTCCAGGAGCGCGTG |
| Rbg40.1F_18F | GCGCTCCTGGACGCGCTCNNKATGCTCAACTTGTTGCCGG |
| Rbg40.1F_18R | GAGCGCGTCCAGGAGCGC |
| Rbg40.1F_19F | CTCCTGGACGCGCTCATGNNKCTCAACTTGTTGCCGGAAC |
| Rbg40.1F_19R | CATGAGCGCGTCCAGGAG |
| Rbg40.1F_20F | CTGGACGCGCTCATGATGNNKAACTTGTTGCCGGAACCG |
| Rbg40.1F_20R | CATCATGAGCGCGTCCAG |
| Rbg40.1F_21F | GACGCGCTCATGATGCTCNNKTTGTTGCCGGAACCGAA |
| Rbg40.1F_21R | GAGCATCATGAGCGCGTC |
| Rbg40.1F_22F | CGCGCTCATGATGCTCAACNNKTTGCCGGAACCGAACG |
| Rbg40.1F_22R | GTTGAGCATCATGAGCGCG |
| Rbg40.1F_23F | GCGCTCATGATGCTCAACTTGNNKCCGGAACCGAACGAAAAAC |
| Rbg40.1F_23R | CAAGTTGAGCATCATGAGCGC |
| Rbg40.1F_24F | CGCTCATGATGCTCAACTTGTTGNNKGAACCGAACGAAAAACTGAACC |
| Rbg40.1F_24R | CAACAAGTTGAGCATCATGAGCG |
| Rbg40.1F_25F | TGATGCTCAACTTGTTGCCGNNKCCGAACGAAAAACTGAACCG |
| Rbg40.1F_25R | CGGCAACAAGTTGAGCATCA |
| Rbg40.1F_26F | TGCTCAACTTGTTGCCGGAANNKAACGAAAAACTGAACCGTATCAT |
| Rbg40.1F_26R | TTCCGGCAACAAGTTGAGCA |
| Rbg40.1F_27F | AACTTGTTGCCGGAACCGNNKGAAAAACTGAACCGTATCATCACC |
| Rbg40.1F_27R | CGGTTCCGGCAACAAGTT |


| Rbg40.1F_28F | TTGTTGCCGGAACCGAACNNKAAACTGAACCGTATCATCACCA |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg40.1F_28R | GTTCGGTTCCGGCAACAA |
| Rbg40.1F_29F | TTGCCGGAACCGAACGAANNKCTGAACCGTATCATCACCACC |
| Rbg40.1F_29R | TTCGTTCGGTTCCGGCAA |
| Rbg40.1F_30F | TGCCGGAACCGAACGAAAAANNKAACCGTATCATCACCACCATG |
| Rbg40.1F_30R | TTTTTCGTTCGGTTCCGGCA |
| Rbg40.1F_31F | CCGGAACCGAACGAAAAACTGNNKCGTATCATCACCACCATGCA |
| Rbg40.1F_31R | CAGTTTTTCGTTCGGTTCCGG |
| Rbg40.1F_32F | CGGAACCGAACGAAAAACTGAACNNKATCATCACCACCATGCAGTC |
| Rbg40.1F_32R | GTTCAGTTTTTCGTTCGGTTCCG |
| Rbg40.1F_33F | CCGAACGAAAAACTGAACCGTNNKATCACCACCATGCAGTCTTG |
| Rbg40.1F_33R | ACGGTTCAGTTTTTCGTTCGG |
| Rbg40.1F_34F | CCGAACGAAAAACTGAACCGTATCNNKACCACCATGCAGTCTTGG |
| Rbg40.1F_34R | GATACGGTTCAGTTTTTCGTTCGG |
| Rbg40.1F_35F | AACGAAAAACTGAACCGTATCATCNNKACCATGCAGTCTTGGATCTTT |
| Rbg40.1F_35R | GATGATACGGTTCAGTTTTTCGTT |
| Rbg40.1F_36F | GAAAAACTGAACCGTATCATCACCNNKATGCAGTCTTGGATCTTTACTGG |
| Rbg40.1F_36R | GGTGATGATACGGTTCAGTTTTTC |
| Rbg40.1F_37F | CTGAACCGTATCATCACCACCNNKCAGTCTTGGATCTTTACTGGTAAGA |
| Rbg40.1F_37R | GGTGGTGATGATACGGTTCAG |
| Rbg40.1F_38F | AACCGTATCATCACCACCATGNNKTCTTGGATCTTTACTGGTAAGATCG |
| Rbg40.1F_38R | CATGGTGGTGATGATACGGTT |
| Rbg40.1F_39F | CCGTATCATCACCACCATGCAGNNKTGGATCTTTACTGGTAAGATCGAC |
| Rbg40.1F_39R | CTGCATGGTGGTGATGATACGG |
| Rbg40.1F_40F | TCATCACCACCATGCAGTCTNNKATCTTTACTGGTAAGATCGACGG |
| Rbg40.1F_40R | AGACTGCATGGTGGTGATGA |
| Rbg40.1F_41F | CACCACCATGCAGTCTTGGNNKTTTACTGGTAAGATCGACGGG |
| Rbg40.1F_41R | CCAAGACTGCATGGTGGTG |
| Rbg40.1F_42F | ACCACCATGCAGTCTTGGATCNNKACTGGTAAGATCGACGGGG |
| Rbg40.1F_42R | GATCCAAGACTGCATGGTGGT |
| Rbg40.1F_43F | CACCATGCAGTCTTGGATCTTTNNKGGTAAGATCGACGGGGATG |
| Rbg40.1F_43R | AAAGATCCAAGACTGCATGGTG |
| Rbg40.1F_44F | ACCATGCAGTCTTGGATCTTTACTNNKAAGATCGACGGGGATGGT |
| Rbg40.1F_44R | AGTAAAGATCCAAGACTGCATGGT |
| Rbg40.1F_45F | TGCAGTCTTGGATCTTTACTGGTNNKATCGACGGGGATGGTGC |
| Rbg40.1F_45R | ACCAGTAAAGATCCAAGACTGCA |
| Rbg40.1F_46F | TGCAGTCTTGGATCTTTACTGGTAAGNNKGACGGGGATGGTGCG |
| Rbg40.1F_46R | CTTACCAGTAAAGATCCAAGACTGCA |
| Rbg40.1F_47F | AGTCTTGGATCTTTACTGGTAAGATCNNKGGGGATGGTGCGCAG |
| Rbg40.1F_47R | GATCTTACCAGTAAAGATCCAAGACT |
| Rbg40.1F_48F | TTGGATCTTTACTGGTAAGATCGACNNKGATGGTGCGCAGGAACT |


| Rbg40.1F_48R | GTCGATCTTACCAGTAAAGATCCAA |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg40.1F_49F | CTTTACTGGTAAGATCGACGGGNNKGGTGCGCAGGAACTCG |
| Rbg40.1F_49R | CCCGTCGATCTTACCAGTAAAG |
| Rbg40.1F_50F | CTGGTAAGATCGACGGGGATNNKGCGCAGGAACTCGCG |
| Rbg40.1F_50R | ATCCCCGTCGATCTTACCAG |
| Rbg40.1F_51F | TAAGATCGACGGGGATGGTNNKCAGGAACTCGCGAAAGAAGT |
| Rbg40.1F_51R | ACCATCCCCGTCGATCTTA |
| Rbg40.1F_52F | ATCGACGGGGATGGTGCGNNKGAACTCGCGAAAGAAGTTGAA |
| Rbg40.1F_52R | CGCACCATCCCCGTCGAT |
| Rbg40.1F_53F | GACGGGGATGGTGCGCAGNNKCTCGCGAAAGAAGTTGAAGAA |
| Rbg40.1F_53R | CTGCGCACCATCCCCGTC |
| Rbg40.1F_54F | GGGGATGGTGCGCAGGAANNKGCGAAAGAAGTTGAAGAACTGG |
| Rbg40.1F_54R | TTCCTGCGCACCATCCCC |
| Rbg40.1F_55F | GATGGTGCGCAGGAACTCNNKAAAGAAGTTGAAGAACTGGAACAG |
| Rbg40.1F_55R | GAGTTCCTGCGCACCATC |
| Rbg40.1F_56F | GGTGCGCAGGAACTCGCGNNKGAAGTTGAAGAACTGGAACAGG |
| Rbg40.1F_56R | CGCGAGTTCCTGCGCACC |
| Rbg40.1F_57F | GCGCAGGAACTCGCGAAANNKGTTGAAGAACTGGAACAGGAAC |
| Rbg40.1F_57R | TTTCGCGAGTTCCTGCGC |
| Rbg40.1F_58F | CGCAGGAACTCGCGAAAGAANNKGAAGAACTGGAACAGGAACAC |
| Rbg40.1F_58R | TTCTTTCGCGAGTTCCTGCG |
| Rbg40.1F_59F | CAGGAACTCGCGAAAGAAGTTNNKGAACTGGAACAGGAACACGA |
| Rbg40.1F_59R | AACTTCTTTCGCGAGTTCCTG |
| Rbg40.1F_60F | GGAACTCGCGAAAGAAGTTGAANNKCTGGAACAGGAACACGAAAAA |
| Rbg40.1F_60R | TTCAACTTCTTTCGCGAGTTCC |
| Rbg40.1F_61F | ACTCGCGAAAGAAGTTGAAGAANNKGAACAGGAACACGAAAAACGT |
| Rbg40.1F_61R | TTCTTCAACTTCTTTCGCGAGT |
| Rbg40.1F_62F | TCGCGAAAGAAGTTGAAGAACTGNNKCAGGAACACGAAAAACGTGG |
| Rbg40.1F_62R | CAGTTCTTCAACTTCTTTCGCGA |
| Rbg40.1F_63F | GCGAAAGAAGTTGAAGAACTGGAANNKGAACACGAAAAACGTGGTATCG |
| Rbg40.1F_63R | TTCCAGTTCTTCAACTTCTTTCGC |
| Rbg40.1F_64F | AAAGAAGTTGAAGAACTGGAACAGNNKCACGAAAAACGTGGTATCGAC |
| Rbg40.1F_64R | CTGTTCCAGTTCTTCAACTTCTTT |
| Rbg40.1F_65F | AAGTTGAAGAACTGGAACAGGAANNKGAAAAACGTGGTATCGACGTT |
| Rbg40.1F_65R | TTCCTGTTCCAGTTCTTCAACTT |
| Rbg40.1F_66F | TGAAGAACTGGAACAGGAACACNNKAAACGTGGTATCGACGTTGA |
| Rbg40.1F_66R | GTGTTCCTGTTCCAGTTCTTCA |
| Rbg40.1F_67F | GAACTGGAACAGGAACACGAANNKCGTGGTATCGACGTTGAGG |
| Rbg40.1F_67R | TTCGTGTTCCTGTTCCAGTTC |
| Rbg40.1F_68F | ACTGGAACAGGAACACGAAAAANNKGGTATCGACGTTGAGGACTAC |
| Rbg40.1F_68R | TTTTTCGTGTTCCTGTTCCAGT |


| Rbg40.1F_69F | GGAACAGGAACACGAAAAACGTNNKATCGACGTTGAGGACTACG |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg40.1F_69R | ACGTTTTTCGTGTTCCTGTTCC |
| Rbg40.1F_70F | AGGAACACGAAAAACGTGGTNNKGACGTTGAGGACTACGCG |
| Rbg40.1F_70R | ACCACGTTTTTCGTGTTCCT |
| Rbg40.1F_71F | AGGAACACGAAAAACGTGGTATCNNKGTTGAGGACTACGCGTCTAA |
| Rbg40.1F_71R | GATACCACGTTTTTCGTGTTCCT |
| Rbg40.1F_72F | ACACGAAAAACGTGGTATCGACNNKGAGGACTACGCGTCTAACC |
| Rbg40.1F_72R | GTCGATACCACGTTTTTCGTGT |
| Rbg40.1F_73F | CGAAAAACGTGGTATCGACGTTNNKGACTACGCGTCTAACCTGAA |
| Rbg40.1F_73R | AACGTCGATACCACGTTTTTCG |
| Rbg40.1F_74F | AACGTGGTATCGACGTTGAGNNKTACGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGTT |
| Rbg40.1F_74R | CTCAACGTCGATACCACGTT |
| Rbg40.1F_75F | CGTGGTATCGACGTTGAGGACNNKGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCC |
| Rbg40.1F_75R | GTCCTCAACGTCGATACCACG |
| Rbg40.1F_76F | TGGTATCGACGTTGAGGACTACNNKTCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCTG |
| Rbg40.1F_76R | GTAGTCCTCAACGTCGATACCA |
| Rbg40.1F_77F | GACGTTGAGGACTACGCGNNKAACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCTGG |
| Rbg40.1F_77R | CGCGTAGTCCTCAACGTC |
| Rbg40.1F_78F | ACGTTGAGGACTACGCGTCTNNKCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCTGGAGC |
| Rbg40.1F_78R | AGACGCGTAGTCCTCAACGT |
| Rbg40.1F_79F | GTTGAGGACTACGCGTCTAACNNKAAAGTTATCCTGCTGGAGCTG |
| Rbg40.1F_79R | GTTAGACGCGTAGTCCTCAAC |
| Rbg40.1F_80F | AGGACTACGCGTCTAACCTGNNKGTTATCCTGCTGGAGCTGG |
| Rbg40.1F_80R | CAGGTTAGACGCGTAGTCCT |
| Rbg40.1F_81F | GGACTACGCGTCTAACCTGAAANNKATCCTGCTGGAGCTGGC |
| Rbg40.1F_81R | TTTCAGGTTAGACGCGTAGTCC |
| Rbg40.1F_82F | TACGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGTTNNKCTGCTGGAGCTGGCTC |
| Rbg40.1F_82R | AACTTTCAGGTTAGACGCGTA |
| Rbg40.1F_83F | ACGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCNNKCTGGAGCTGGCTCTCGA |
| Rbg40.1F_83R | GATAACTTTCAGGTTAGACGCGT |
| Rbg40.1F_84F | CGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGNNKGAGCTGGCTCTCGAGGG |
| Rbg40.1F_84R | CAGGATAACTTTCAGGTTAGACGCG |
| Rbg40.1F_85F | TCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCTGNNKCTGGCTCTCGAGGGAGG |
| Rbg40.1F_85R | CAGCAGGATAACTTTCAGGTTAGA |
| Rbg40.1F_86F | ACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCTGGAGNNKGCTCTCGAGGGAGGCG |
| Rbg40.1F_86R | CTCCAGCAGGATAACTTTCAGGT |
| Rbg40.1F_87F | AAAGTTATCCTGCTGGAGCTGNNKCTCGAGGGAGGCGGAT |
| Rbg40.1F_87R | CAGCTCCAGCAGGATAACTTT |
| COF | TGACAACTATATGCGAGCAAATCCCCTCAC |
| COR | AACTTTTTCGCAGTTCGCGA |

Table S3-1: Primers used in the creation of SSM library for Rbg40.1F. All sequences are written in $5^{\prime} \rightarrow 3^{\prime}$ orientation.

| Oligonucleotide | Sequence |
| :---: | :---: |
| Rbg40.1F_mouse_combo_f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGTCTACC |
| Rbg40.1F_mouse_combo_r2 | GGAGCGCGTSTTCCGCCGCGWGCTGGGTWTYTKYGGTAGACATATGGCTAGCCG |
| Rbg40.1F_mouse_combo_f3 | CGCGGCGGAASACGCGCTCCKGGACGCGCTCATGMTGARGMACTTGTTGAACGAA CCGAACGAAAAACTG |
| Rbg40.1F_mouse_combo_r4 | CACCATCCCCGTCGATCTTCYCAGTAAACTGCCAAGACTGCATGGTGGTTWKGAT CMTCRMCAGTTTTTCGTTCGGTTCGT |
| Rbg40.1F_mouse_combo_f5 | GAAGATCGACGGGGATGGTGCGCAGGAACTCGCGAAAGAAGTTGAAGAACTG |
| Rbg40.1F_mouse_combo_r6 | CCTCAACGTCGATACCACGTWCTTCGTGTTCCTGTTSCAGTTCTTCAACTTCTTT CG |
| Rbg40.1F_mouse_combo_f7 | ACGTGGTATCGACGTTGAGGACTACGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGTTATCCTGCTG |
| Rbg40.1F_mouse_combo_r8 | AAGCTTTTGTTCGGATCCGCCTCCCTCGAGAGCCAGSTSCAGCAGGATAACTTTC AGGT |
| Rbg40.1F_human_combo_f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGTCTACCAAAAAAACCCAGCTGCTG |
| Rbg40.1F_human_combo_r2 | GCGCGTCCAGGAGCGCGTGTTSSAWCAGCAGCTGGGTTTTTTTGG |
| Rbg40.1F_human_combo_f3 | ACACGCGCTCCTGGACGCGCWGVACATGARSARGRASTTGCCGGAACCGAACGAA AAACT |
| Rbg40.1F_human_combo_r4 | TAAAGATCCAAGACTGCATGKYGGTGATGATACGGYTCAGTTTTTCGTTCGGTTC CGG |
| Rbg40.1F_human_combo_f5 | CATGCAGTCTTGGATCTTTACTGRGAAGATCGACGGGGATGGTGCGCAGSASCTC GCGAAAGAAGTTGAAGA |
| Rbg40.1F_human_combo_r6 | ACCACGTTTTTCGTGTTCCTGTTCCAGTTCTTCAACTTCTTTCGCGAG |
| Rbg40.1F_human_combo_f7 | AGGAACACGAAAAACGTGGTSRGGASGTTGAGGACKASGCGTCTAACCTGAAAGT TATCCTGCT |
| Rbg40.1F_human_combo_r8 | AAGCTTTTGTTCGGATCCGCCTCCCTCGAGAGCCAGCTCCAGCAGGATAACTTTC AGGTT |
| Rbg40.1F_human_combo_f1 | AGCGGAGGCGGAGGGTCGGCTAGCCATATGTCTACCAAAAAAACCCAGCTGCTG |

Table S3-2: Oligonucleotides used in the assembly of mouse and human combinatorial libraries based on Rbg40.1F. All sequences are written in $5^{\prime} \rightarrow 3^{\prime}$ orientation.

## Mouse IL-2R $\beta$ with basic leucine zipper

AVKNCSHLECFYNSRANVSCMWSHEEALNVTTCHVHAKSNLRHWNKTCELTLVRQASWAC NLILGSFPESQSLTSVDLLDINVVCWEEKGWRRVKTCDFHPFDNLRLVAPHSLQVLHIDT QRCNISWKVSQVSHYIEPYLEFEARRRLLGHSWEDASVLSLKQRQQWLFLEMLIPSTSYE VQVRVKAQRNNTGTWSPWSQPLTFRTRPADPMKEISRGGLEVLFQGPEFGGSTTAPSAQL KKKLQALKKKNAQLKWKLQALKKKLAQHHHHHH
Mouse $\gamma_{c}$ with acidic leucine zipper
PLPEVQCFVFNIEYMNCTWNSSSEPQATNLTLHYRYKVSDNNTFQECSHYLFSKEITSGC QIQKEDIQLYQTFVVQLQDPQKPQRRAVQKLNLQNLVIPRAPENLTLSNLSESQLELRWK SRHIKERCLQYLVQYRSNRDRSWTELIVNHEPRFSLPSVDELKRYTFRVRSRYNPICGSS QQWSKWSQPVHWGSHTVEENSRGGLEVLFQGPEFGGSTTAPSAQLEKELQALEKENAQLE WELQALEKELAQGLNDIFEAQKIEWHEHHHHHH
Table S3-3: b-mIL2R $\beta \gamma$ heterodimer construct was formed by co-expressing IL-2R $\beta$ ectodomain (residues 1-215) and $\gamma_{c}$ ectodomain (residues 34-233) onto complementary leucine zipper base/acid pairs, with the latter containing a C-terminal BAP tag to facilitate biotinylation.

| Primer | Templates | Sequence |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 5'_40F.M1,3 | Rbg40F.M1, <br> Rbg40F.M3 | AAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACATATGTCTACCGAAA <br> AAACCC |
| 5'_40F.M2 | Rbg40F.M2 | AAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACATATGTCTACCAAAA <br> ATACCCAGC |
| 3'_40F.M1 | Rbg40F.M1 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGAGCCAGGTGC |
| 3'_40F.M2,3 | Rbg40F.M2, <br> Rbg40F.M3 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGAGCCAGCTGC |


| 5,_Rbg40.1 | Rbg40F.H1 to <br> Rbg40F.H6 | AAATAATTTTGTTTAACTTTAAGAAGGAGATATACATATGTCTACCAAAA <br> AAACCCAG |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 3,_Rbg40.1 | Rbg40F.H1 to <br> Rbg40F.H6 | TAGCAGCCGGATCTCAGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGGTGCTCGAGAGCCAGCTCC <br> AG |

Table S3-4: Primers used to subclone genes encoding third-generation binders into pET29b. All sequences are written in $5^{\prime} \rightarrow 3^{\prime}$ orientation.


Figure S3-1: Selection schemes for Rbg40.1F SSM and combinatorial libraries against mIL-2R $\beta / \gamma_{c}$ (top) and hIL$2 R \beta / \gamma_{\mathrm{c}}$.

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