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3 **Characterisation of the Semliki Forest Virus-host cell interactome reveals the**  
4 **viral capsid protein as an inhibitor of nonsense-mediated mRNA decay**

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7 **Lara Contu<sup>1,2</sup>, Giuseppe Balistreri<sup>3,4</sup>, Michal Domanski<sup>1</sup>, Anne-Christine Uldry<sup>5</sup>, Oliver Mühlemann<sup>1\*</sup>**

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12 <sup>1</sup> Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Bern, Freiestrasse 3, CH-3012 Bern,  
13 Switzerland

14 <sup>2</sup> Graduate School for Cellular and Biomedical Sciences, University of Bern, Mittelstrasse 43, CH-3012  
15 Bern, Switzerland

16 <sup>3</sup> Faculty of Biological and Environmental Sciences, University of Helsinki, Viikinkaari 9, 00790 , Helsinki,  
17 Finland

18 <sup>4</sup>Queensland Brain Institute, The University of Queensland, St Lucia QLD 4072, Brisbane, Australia

19 <sup>5</sup> Proteomics & Mass Spectrometry Core Facility, Department for BioMedical Research, University of  
20 Bern, Freiburgstrasse 15, CH-3010 Bern, Switzerland

21

22 \* Correspondence to: [oliver.muehlemann@dcb.unibe.ch](mailto:oliver.muehlemann@dcb.unibe.ch)

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25 Key words: Semliki Forest Virus; SFV; capsid; siRNA screen; alphavirus; RNA virus; NMD; virus-host  
26 protein interactions, nonsense-mediated mRNA decay

27

1 **Abstract:**  
2 The positive-sense, single-stranded RNA alphaviruses pose a potential epidemic threat.  
3 Understanding the complex interactions between the viral and the host cell proteins is crucial for  
4 elucidating the mechanisms underlying successful virus replication strategies and for developing  
5 specific antiviral interventions. Here we present the first comprehensive protein-protein interaction  
6 map between the proteins of Semliki Forest Virus (SFV), a mosquito-borne member of the  
7 alphaviruses, and host cell proteins. Among the many identified cellular interactors of SFV proteins,  
8 the enrichment of factors involved in translation and nonsense-mediated mRNA decay (NMD) was  
9 striking, reflecting the virus' hijacking of the translation machinery and indicating viral  
10 countermeasures for escaping NMD by inhibiting NMD at later time points during the infectious  
11 cycle. In addition to observing a general inhibition of NMD about 4 hours post infection, we also  
12 demonstrate that transient expression of the SFV capsid protein is sufficient to inhibit NMD in cells,  
13 suggesting that the massive production of capsid protein during the SFV reproduction cycle is  
14 responsible for NMD inhibition.

15  
16 **Introduction:**  
17 As we live through the current SARS-COV2 pandemic, the world is reminded of the unpredictable  
18 nature of viral epidemics and the importance of studying potential emerging viral threats. Recent  
19 studies present valid arguments for the worldwide epidemic threat of alphaviruses (among other  
20 arboviruses) that currently circulate endemically in particular regions <sup>1,2</sup>. The outbreak potential of  
21 alphaviruses has already been showcased by the two worldwide epidemics caused by Chikungunya  
22 virus (CHIKV) that affected more than 8 million people in over 50 countries and could be attributed to  
23 a single point mutation leading to a 100-fold increase in infectious virus in the salivary glands of urban  
24 mosquitoes <sup>1,2</sup>. This demonstrates that small genetic alterations can cause dramatic changes in human  
25 transmissibility and infection. Semliki Forest Virus (SFV) is closely related to CHIKV, both evolutionarily  
26 grouped within the Semliki Forest (SF) clade of the Old World alphaviruses (Family: *Togaviridae*) <sup>3</sup>. SFV  
27 causes lethal encephalitis in mice <sup>4</sup>. Though mostly associated with mild febrile illness or  
28 asymptomaticity in humans, SFV is endemic to African regions <sup>1</sup> and a handful of studies indicate  
29 serious disease relevant symptoms associated with SFV in humans, including encephalitis, myalgia and  
30 arthralgia <sup>5-8</sup>.

31  
32 SFV is a small (~70 nm in diameter), enveloped virus comprising a nucleocapsid core made up of 240  
33 copies of capsid protein that surrounds its positive-sense single-stranded RNA genome (~11.8 kb). The  
34 genome contains a 5' cap (N7mGppp) and poly(A) tail and is organised into two distinct open reading

1 frames (ORFs). The first ORF encodes the non-structural proteins (nsP1, nsP2, nsP3 and nsP4) (Figure  
2 1a), which are translated as one polyprotein (P1234) immediately upon exposure of the viral mRNA-  
3 genome to the cytoplasm<sup>9–12</sup>. The polyprotein is then proteolytically cleaved by the protease activity  
4 of nsP2 to yield functional viral replicate complexes<sup>13</sup>. The first protein to be cleaved from the  
5 polyprotein is nsP4, comprising RNA-dependent RNA polymerase activity. The resulting P123  
6 polyprotein in complex with nsP4 forms the viral replication complex (RC), responsible for synthesizing  
7 minus strand template RNA from the genomic viral (v)-RNA early during infection<sup>9</sup>. The ensuing  
8 double-stranded vRNA intermediates can trigger the activation of Protein Kinase double-stranded  
9 RNA-dependent (PKR), resulting in phosphorylation of the  $\alpha$ -subunit of the eukaryotic translation  
10 Initiation Factor 2 (eIF2) and thus causing a decrease in global translation of host cell messenger RNAs  
11 (mRNAs)<sup>10,14,15</sup>. As proteolytic cleavage of P123 by nsP2 progresses, individual nsPs form new viral RCs  
12 of altered composition, resulting in a shift from synthesis of the minus strand template, to synthesis  
13 of new viral genomes and viral subgenomic RNA (sgRNA) from the 26S promoter (Figure 1a)<sup>9,16</sup>.  
14 Alphavirus replication occurs in membrane invaginations called ‘spherules’, where high  
15 concentrations of RCs are present<sup>9,11</sup>. Binding of host cell proteins to RCs has been reported, though  
16 the abundances and the functions thereof are still not fully understood<sup>11,17,18</sup>. In addition, individual  
17 SFV proteins localise independently of the RC to perform functions separate from viral replication  
18<sup>9,11,19,20</sup>. One example is the nsP2 protein, which translocates to the nucleus<sup>21</sup> and has been shown to  
19 suppress host cell transcription through induction of polyubiquitination followed by rapid degradation  
20 of Rpb1, a catalytic subunit of the RNA polymerase II complex<sup>22</sup>.

21  
22 The second ORF of SFV encodes the structural proteins (Figure 1a), which are translated as a single  
23 polyprotein (C-E3-E2-6K-E1) from the sgRNA later during infection<sup>23</sup>. SgRNA translation occurs despite  
24 phosphorylation-induced inactivation of eIF2 $\alpha$ <sup>10,17,24–27</sup>. Once translated, the capsid (C)  
25 autoproteolytically cleaves itself from the growing polypeptide chain, while the remaining polyprotein  
26 is translocated into the Endoplasmic Reticulum (ER) lumen and processed by cellular enzymes into the  
27 glycoproteins, precursor E2 (pE2), E1 and the small membrane protein, 6K. These move through  
28 vesicles in the secretory pathway to the plasma membrane (PM), during which pE2 is further cleaved  
29 into E3 and E2 glycoproteins<sup>23</sup>. Nucleocapsids are formed through binding of capsid proteins to the  
30 vRNA<sup>17</sup>. Encapsidated viral genomes interact with the cytoplasmic domains of the glycoproteins  
31 exposed at the inner side of the PM from where they bud as mature, enveloped, infectious viral  
32 particles<sup>28</sup>.

33

1 Here, we investigated the virus-host protein interactome of SFV. A greater understanding of the  
2 repertoire of host proteins that may be exploited by viruses is a vital first step toward developing  
3 antiviral strategies aimed at targeting or interfering with interactions that may be critical for the  
4 infection. While previous studies have reported host interactors of SFV from isolations of RCs from  
5 lysosome fractions, as well as affinity purifications and localisation studies of recombinant virus in  
6 which nsP3 was tagged with the fluorescent protein ZsGreen (ZsG)<sup>18,29–31</sup>, there are so far no SFV  
7 studies that assess the complete set of viral-host protein-protein interactors (PPI). Using affinity  
8 purifications followed by high-throughput quantitative mass spectrometry, we identified host protein  
9 interactors of individual SFV proteins in human cells. In addition, using a genome-wide siRNA screen  
10 we assigned pro or antiviral functions to some of the identified SFV interactors. Gene ontology (GO)  
11 enrichment analyses of protein complexes that could form between the identified host interactors  
12 revealed highly significant GO terms related to translation and Nonsense-mediated mRNA Decay  
13 (NMD). NMD is known to restrict infection of alphaviruses, but whether and how the virus counteracts  
14 this cellular intrinsic defence is still not clear<sup>32</sup>. Here we show that during the course of infection SFV  
15 suppresses NMD. We present evidence that the capsid protein of SFV is sufficient to suppress NMD  
16 independently of translation inhibition.

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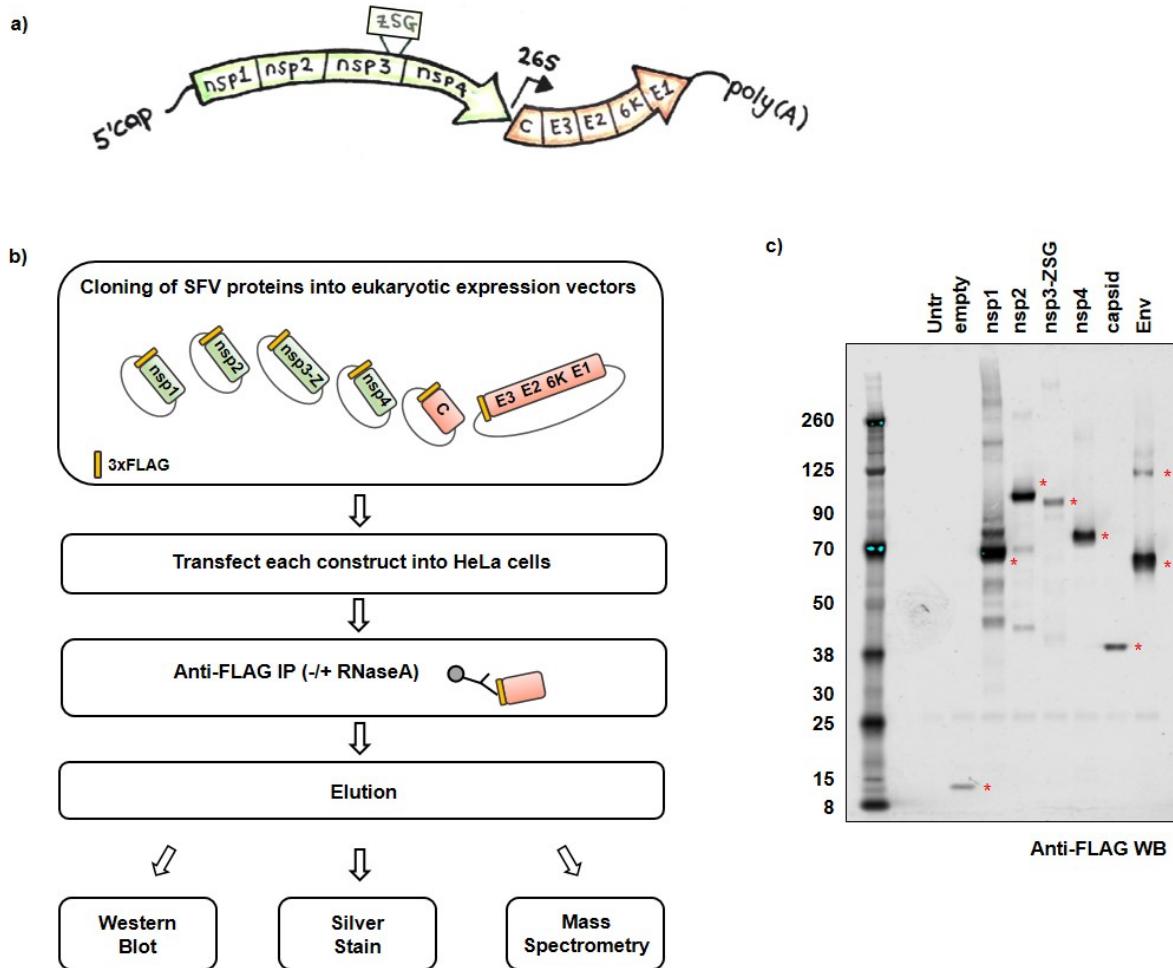
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19 **Results:**

20 As obligatory parasites, all viruses exploit the host cell to favour their own replication. In turn, cells  
21 have evolved mechanisms to protect against viral infections. To gain insight into the repertoire of host  
22 proteins that could be exploited by SFV, we systematically mapped the interactions between the  
23 individual SFV proteins, nsP1-4, C, and the envelope polyprotein, Env (which includes E3, E2, 6K and  
24 E1), and the host cell proteome using high-throughput quantitative mass spectrometry (Figure 1a).  
25 The SFV proteins were N-terminally tagged with 3xFLAG and transiently expressed in HeLa cells, a cell  
26 type susceptible to infection by SFV<sup>33</sup>. The proteins were then affinity purified from the respective  
27 lysates using anti-FLAG antibodies, with and without treatment with RNase A to distinguish RNA-  
28 mediated from protein-mediated interactions (Figure 1b). Western blot analysis of the eluates from  
29 each anti-FLAG affinity purification revealed the successful pulldown of all six transiently expressed  
30 SFV proteins (Figure 1c).

31

32 The protein compositions of the eluates, from three biological replicates of each affinity purified SFV  
33 protein, were analysed by quantitative mass spectrometry (Figure 2a and Suppl. Figure 1). Significant



1 interactors (see Methods) (Figure 2b, purple circles and Table 1) were further filtered by abundance,  
 2 such that proteins whose abundance made up at least 0.5 % of the relevant SFV bait protein were  
 3

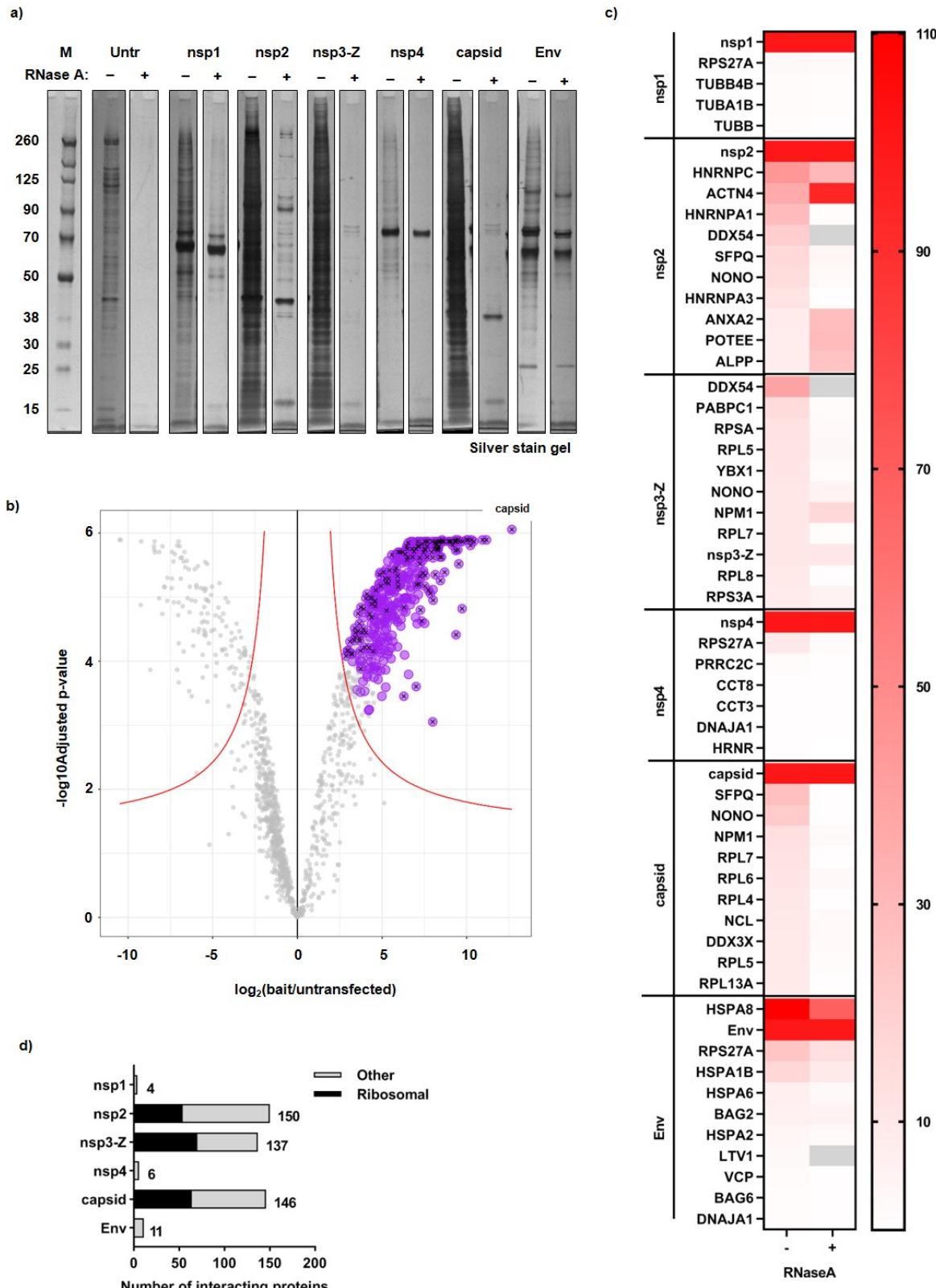
4  
 5 **Figure 1. Strategy for creation of Semliki Forest Virus (SFV) – host protein-protein interaction map.** a, Schematic illustration  
 6 of the genomic organisation of SFV. The first ORF encoding the non-structural proteins (nsp1, nsp2, nsp3, nsp4) is highlighted  
 7 in green. The ZSG tag inserted within the nsp3 protein is also depicted. The second ORF encoding the structural proteins  
 8 (capsid, E3, E2, 6K, E1) is highlighted in orange. Other viral features depicted include the 5' cap, poly(A) tail, as well as the  
 9 position of the 26S subgenomic viral promoter. b, Flowchart outlining the experimental approach to transiently express N-  
 10 terminally FLAG-tagged (yellow rectangle) SFV proteins in mammalian cells in order to construct a SFV-host protein-protein  
 11 interactome. Nsp3-Z refers to the nsp3 protein with the ZSG tag, C refers to the capsid, and E3 E2 6K E1 refer to the envelope  
 12 proteins (Env) that were expressed as one polyprotein. c, Anti-FLAG western blot of SFV proteins after transient transfection  
 13 and affinity purification from HeLa cells (without RNase A treatment). Red asterisks indicate 3xFLAG tagged SFV proteins at  
 14 their expected sizes. Untransfected cells (Untr) and cells transfected with a plasmid encoding only the 3xFLAG tag with no  
 15 additional coding region (empty) were included as controls. The expected sizes of the 3xFLAG-tagged proteins were: empty  
 16 ~8kDa; nsp1 ~63kDa; nsp2 ~92kDa; nsp3-Z ~82kDa; nsp4 ~72kDa; capsid ~33kDa and Env (polyprotein ~111kDa, cleavage  
 17 intermediates ~57kDa / ~64kDa). The affinity purifications were conducted in triplicate ( $\pm$  RNase A treatment), and eluates  
 18 analysed by mass spectrometry.

19  
 20 retained (Figure 2b, black crosses and Table 1). In the case of the nsP3 bait (here fused with ZsG as in  
 21 the recombinant virus, nsP3-Z), which was very lowly abundant in the sample as it proved difficult to  
 22 elute from the beads (Suppl. Figure 2), we retained proteins whose abundance made up at least 5 %  
 23 of the bait (Table 1). The heat map in figure 2c summarises the most abundant significant interactors

1 of each SFV protein in the –RNase A samples, with their corresponding abundance in the +RNase A  
2 samples alongside them. Many of the host interactors identified in the –RNase A sample were lost  
3 upon treatment with RNase A, indicating that these interactions were likely mediated by RNA. This  
4 was clear for many nsP2, nsP3-Z and capsid interactors, where the heat map (Figure 2c) corroborated  
5 the observations in the analytical silver stain gel (Figure 2a). In both the heat map and the gel, we  
6 noted proteins in the nsP2 eluate that were enriched in the +RNase A sample compared to the –RNase  
7 A sample. Also reflected in the heat map were proteins observed in the gel that were more than or as  
8 abundant as nsP2 (~92 kDa) (Figure 2a and c, +RNase A samples). The quantified lists obtained to  
9 create the heat map were overall consistent with the patterns observed on the silver-stained gels.  
10 Since many SFV-host protein interactions were dependent on RNA, we chose to focus on the lists of  
11 interactors from the –RNase A datasets going forward. A summary of these revealed that a large  
12 fraction of the interactions for nsP2, nsP3-Z and capsid consisted of ribosomal proteins (Figure 2d).

13

14 These stringent lists of interactors are displayed as SFV-host interactome networks (Figure 3a and  
15 Suppl. Figure 3). Affinity purified SFV proteins are displayed as black circles, while host cell proteins  
16 are displayed as smaller, colour-coded circles. Host proteins that were identified as unique interactors  
17 to one of the SFV proteins are connected to the relevant host protein with a grey line. Many of the  
18 host proteins were identified as interactors to more than one of the SFV proteins. For simplicity, these  
19 non-unique interactors are grouped into grey boxes with grey lines connecting the whole group of  
20 proteins to the SFV proteins for which they were identified as interactors (Figure 3a). Considering this  
21 overlap, the total number of host proteins that were identified as interactors was 251 (Figure 3a and  
22 Suppl. Figure 3), 77 of which were ribosomal proteins and are shown separately (Suppl. Figure 3). Host  
23 proteins displayed in the networks were manually curated and categorised into colour-coded groups  
24 based on descriptions gathered from both Gene Ontology (GO) and STRING analyses (Figure 3a).  
25 Interactions that stood out included subunits of the chaperonin-containing t-complex polypeptide 1  
26 (CCT complex) (pink) that interacted with both nsP2 and nsP4, a number of cytoskeletal proteins or  
27 proteins involved in cytoskeletal signalling (grey) interacting with nsP2 and nsP1 (tubulins), ER  
28 chaperones (pink) bound uniquely to Env, and a large number of RNA binding proteins (violet)  
29 interacting with nsP2, nsP3-Z and capsid. In addition, a striking presence of rRNA processing /  
30 ribosome biogenesis factors emerged as interactors, many of which were found bound uniquely to  
31 the capsid (dark pink) (Figure 3a). Previously reported human protein-protein interactions were  
32 analysed by STRING and additionally displayed on the networks (pink dashed lines). The dense  
33 network of edges (pink dashed lines) that emerged among the rRNA processing / ribosome biogenesis  
34 factors (dark pink) reflects the known protein-protein interactions that have been reported between

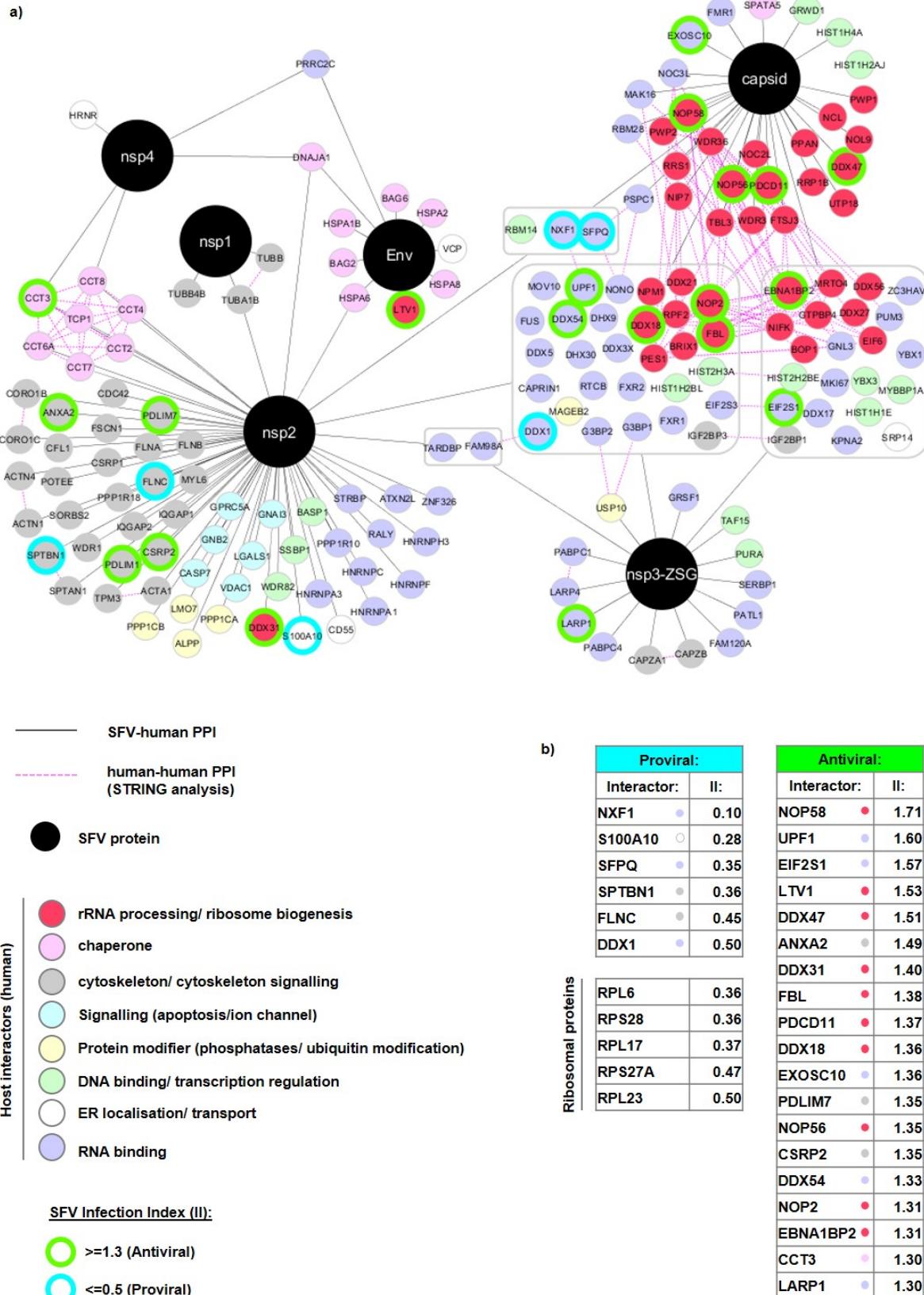


1  
2 **Figure 2. Summary of host protein interactors of individual SFV proteins, revealed by mass spectrometry analysis. a,**  
3 Analytical silver stained gel showing the SFV affinity purification eluates that were analysed by mass spectrometry (for both  
4  $\pm$  RNase A treated samples). **b,** Volcano Plot showing significantly enriched proteins in the SFV capsid protein sample ( $\neg$ RNase  
5 A) compared to the untransfected control. The capsid sample was selected to display an example of the mass spectrometry  
6 analysis that was performed for all SFV baits: iTop3 values were used to perform Differential Expression tests (by applying  
7 the Empirical Bayes tests) for each test sample (SFV bait) compared to the untransfected control sample. The  $\log_2FC$  and  $-\log_{10}(\text{adjusted p-value})$  values from each analysis from three biological replicates were plotted. A significance curve (red)  
8

1 was calculated based on a minimal log2FC of 1 and a maximum adjusted p-value of 0.05. All proteins that were (i) significantly  
2 enriched in the SFV capsid sample compared to the control, (ii) persistently significant through the imputation cycles, and  
3 (iii) identified as 'true' interactors by SAINT analysis (FDR<=0.05) are depicted in purple. Black crosses indicate proteins with  
4 an abundance threshold of at least 0.5 % of the capsid bait. The position of the SFV capsid bait protein in the volcano plot is  
5 depicted. **c**, Using the list of -RNase A interactors, a threshold of abundance of at least 0.5 % of the bait protein (in the case  
6 of nsp3-Z, at least 5 % of the bait protein) was applied. A heat map summarising either the top10 most abundant interactors  
7 (or all if there were fewer than 10 interactors identified) for each SFV bait protein without RNase A treatment (-) is shown.  
8 The corresponding abundance as % of bait of the interactors that were statistically significantly enriched when treated with  
9 RNase A (+) is also shown in the heat map. Grey blocks indicate proteins that did not appear or were not statistically  
10 significantly enriched in the +RNase A samples. Note that due to the low abundance of nsp3-Z, the abundance as % of bait  
11 of nsp3-Z and all its interactors are presented as a factor of 10 less than what was calculated (for better visual representation  
12 of the heat map as a whole). For all values and the complete list of interactors, see Table 1. **d**, Bar graph summary of the  
13 number of interactors collected for each bait, with the fraction of ribosomal protein interactors depicted in black, and all  
14 other host interactors depicted in grey.  
15

16 them (Figure 3a). This indicates that the capsid protein (and to a lesser extent nsP2/nsP3-Z) may  
17 interact with a complex of proteins involved in rRNA processing and/or ribosome biogenesis.  
18

19 We next set out to determine whether the identified host proteins have pro- or antiviral effects in the  
20 context of infection. To systematically address this question, we used a genome-wide fluorescence  
21 microscopy-based siRNA screen<sup>33</sup> to identify host proteins that affected SFV replication (Table 2). In  
22 this screen, a recombinant SFV expressing the ZsGreen fluorescent protein fused in frame with nsP3  
23 (SFV-ZSG) was used, allowing for the quantification of the fraction of infected cells by automated  
24 fluorescence imaging. Thus, in the infection assays, the sequences of the viral proteins is the same as  
25 those used in our interactome experiment. An 'Infection Index' (II) value was calculated for each gene  
26 depletion. This value indicated the fold change of infection upon depletion of the respective gene  
27 product, compared to the control, non-specific siRNAs (set as 1). A low multiplicity of infection (MOI)  
28 of 0.3 was used to allow for detection of both reduced or increased infection levels. The maximum II  
29 obtained in the screen was 1.85 (Table 2). We therefore chose to set an II threshold of 1.3 to identify  
30 proteins having a potential antiviral role against SFV, and an II threshold of 0.5 to indicate proteins  
31 having a potential proviral role for SFV (Table 2). When we compared the proteins identified in the  
32 siRNA screen with the SFV-host protein interaction networks, a sizable fraction of the interactors  
33 overlapped. Those with potential pro- or antiviral roles during infection are depicted with turquoise  
34 or green outlines, respectively (Figure 3a and Suppl. Figure 3) and collected in two lists: 'Proviral' and  
35 'Antiviral', with their II values shown alongside them (Figure 3b). As expected, all the identified  
36 ribosomal proteins affecting SFV replication had a proviral effect (Suppl. Figure 3) and are listed  
37 separately (Figure 3b). In addition to ribosomal proteins, many other RNA binding proteins were also  
38 identified as having a potential role in SFV replication (Figure 3a and b [violet circles]). Those with the  
39 strongest proviral effects included the mRNA transport protein, nuclear RNA export factor 1 (NXF-1),  
40 as well as the splicing regulator, Splicing factor, proline- and glutamine-rich (SFPQ). Those with the  
41 strongest antiviral effects included proteins involved in mRNA turnover (Up-frameshift protein 1

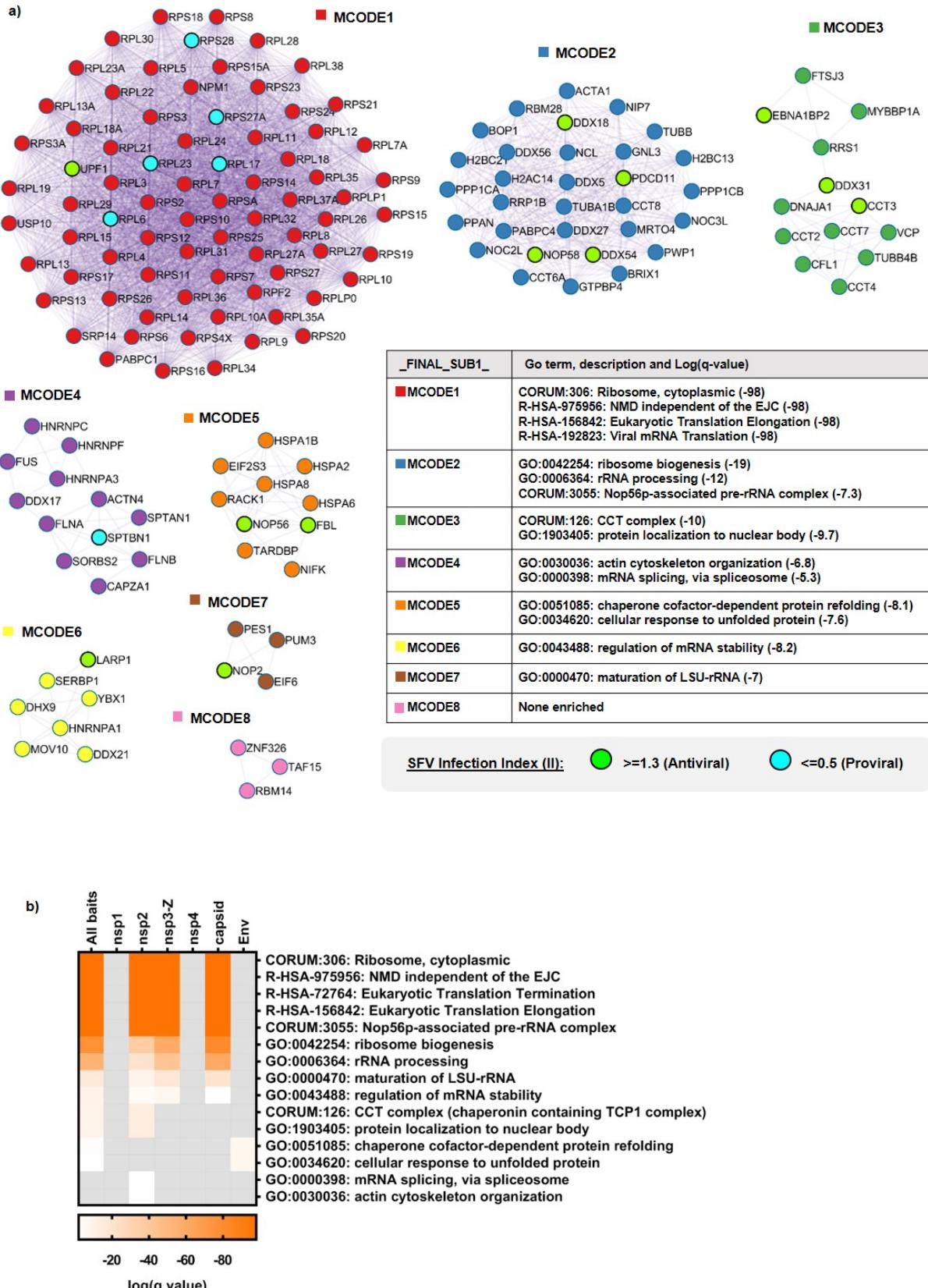


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2  
3 **Figure 3. Network visualisation of the SFV-host protein interactome.** a, In total, 174 host proteins are displayed. SFV  
4 proteins are depicted in black circles and host proteins are displayed in smaller colour-coded circles according to the key.  
5 SFV-host protein-protein interactions (PPI) are depicted with solid grey lines. Grey boxes reflect host proteins identified as  
6 interactors to more than one SFV protein. In these cases, the solid grey lines connect the grouped set of host proteins to the

1 SFV proteins for which they were identified as interactors. Host-host PPI ascertained through STRING analysis are depicted  
2 with dashed pink lines. The host interactors were collected based on three independent biological replicates. For simplicity,  
3 ribosomal proteins (77) are shown separately in Suppl. Figure 3. SFV-host protein interactors identified through a genome-  
4 wide fluorescence microscopy based siRNA screen as exhibiting potential roles in SFV replication are additionally depicted  
5 by green and turquoise borders. A protein was defined as having a potential antiviral or proviral role if their Infection Index  
6 (II) values were  $\geq 1.3$  or  $\leq 0.5$ , respectively. **b**, Tables showing the II values of SFV-host interactors with potential proviral or  
7 antiviral roles.  
8

9 [UPF1] and Exosome component 10 [EXOSC10]) and translation initiation (eukaryotic initiation factor  
10 subunit 1 [EIF2S1], aka eIF2 $\alpha$ ). Notably, more than 50 % of these proteins have assigned functions in  
11 rRNA processing or ribosome biogenesis (Figure 3a and b [dark pink circles]).  
12

13 We reasoned that analysing protein complexes that could exist or form between SFV protein  
14 interactors could give us further insight into how the virus could be influencing cellular function. We  
15 therefore performed protein-protein interaction enrichment analysis on the full list of SFV interactors  
16 (ribosomal proteins included) using the Metascape online tool ([www.metascape.org](http://www.metascape.org)), which  
17 incorporates various protein complex databases (see Methods and Figure Legend 4). From this, the  
18 integrated Molecular Complex Detection (MCODE) algorithm identified eight MCODE networks  
19 (Figure 4a). GO enrichment analysis of the MCODE networks revealed biological functions related to  
20 translation and NMD (MCODE1), ribosome biogenesis (MCODE2 and MCODE7), chaperones (MCODE3  
21 and MCODE5), actin cytoskeleton organisation and mRNA splicing (MCODE4), and regulation of mRNA  
22 stability (MCODE6) (Figure 4a). This analysis corroborated what we observed through manual curation  
23 (Figure 3). Interestingly, each MCODE network (except MCODE8) included at least one SFV interactor  
24 that was identified as having a potential influence on SFV replication (Figure 4a). Since Metascape  
25 allows for the input of multigene lists, the protein-protein interaction enrichment analysis, followed  
26 by the MCODE algorithm was, in addition, applied independently to the lists of interactors for each  
27 individual SFV protein. GO enrichment analysis of the set of MCODE networks for each individual list  
28 (nsP1, nsP2, nsP3-Z, nsP4, capsid and Env) as well as for the merged list (All baits) was also applied.  
29 This allowed us to compare the significance of the GO terms collected in Figure 4a for the different  
30 SFV proteins (Figure 4b). We observed that the most significantly enriched GO terms were those  
31 related to translation, NMD and ribosome biogenesis. In addition, it became clear that it was mainly  
32 the interactors of nsP2, nsP3-Z and capsid that contributed to the enrichment of these GO terms  
33 (Figure 4b). Ribosome biogenesis related GO terms were most highly enriched for the capsid  
34 interactors (Figure 4b).  
35

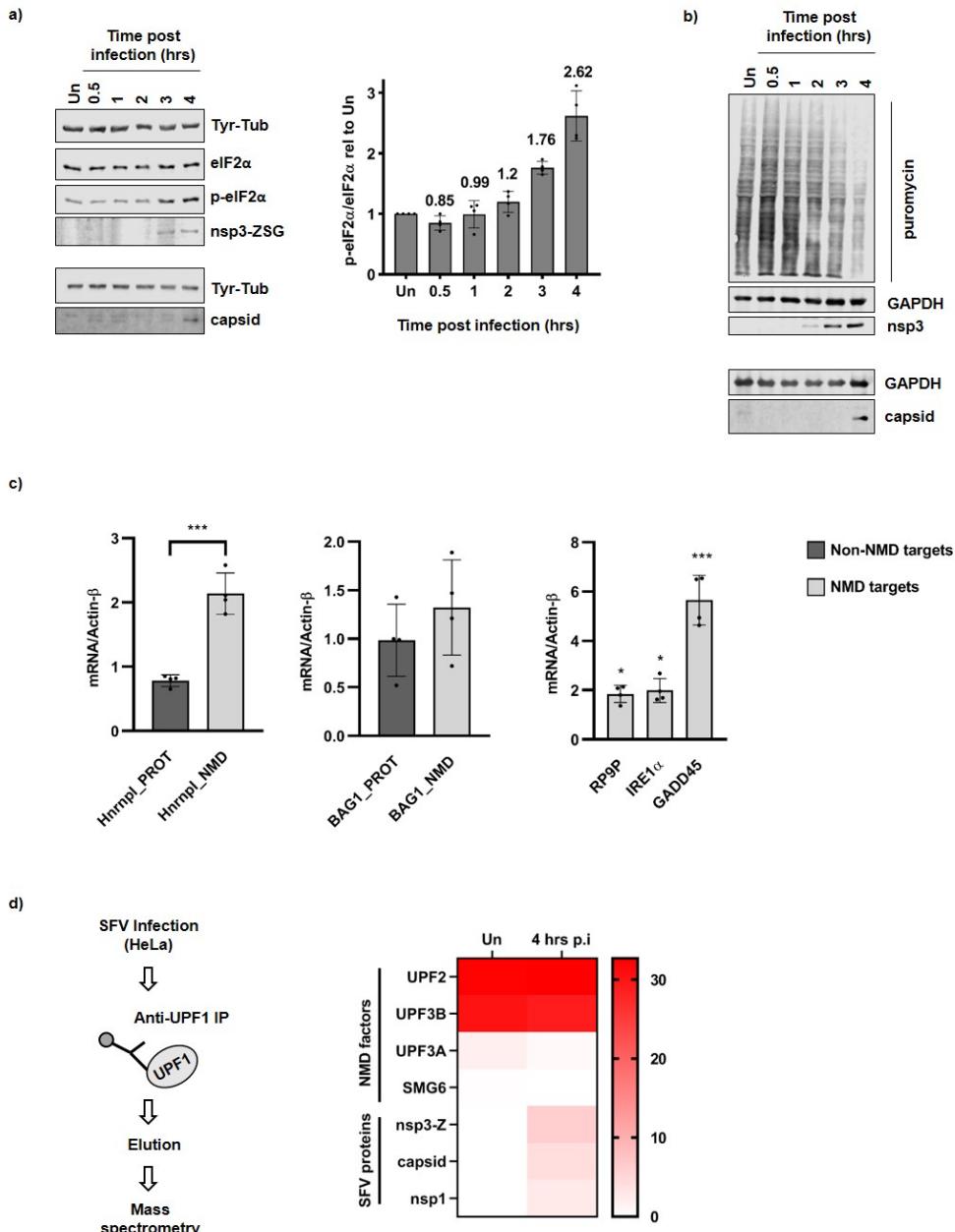


1  
2 **Figure 4. SFV interactors are highly enriched for GO terms related to translation, NMD and ribosome biogenesis.** a, Protein-  
3 protein interaction enrichment analysis for the full list of SFV interactors was carried out using Metascape with the following  
4 databases: BioGrid, InWeb\_IM and OmniPath. Densely connected network components were identified by applying the  
5 Molecular Complex Detection (MCODE) algorithm and the resultant MCODE networks are displayed. In addition, the proteins  
6 identified as having an effect on SFV replication through the siRNA screen are shown within the MCODE complexes (green

1 and turquoise circles). In order to assign biological meanings to the MCODE networks, GO enrichment analyses were  
2 performed using the following sources: KEGG Pathway, GO Biological Processes, Reactome Gene Sets, Canonical Pathways  
3 and CORUM. All genes in the genome were used as the enrichment background. Between 1-4 GO terms were chosen to  
4 represent each MCODE network, with the relevant significance values depicted alongside them. **b**, Heat map comparing the  
5 significance of GO terms (chosen in a) among the different SFV baits. GO enrichment analysis was applied to the set of  
6 MCODE networks identified for each individual list (nsp1, nsp2, nsp3-Z, nsp4, capsid and Env), as well as for the merged list  
7 (All baits) and the significance values depicted in the heat map.  
8

9 Because of the enriched GO terms, we chose to investigate the effect of SFV on translation, NMD and  
10 ribosome biogenesis. We reported previously that the NMD machinery could target the SFV genome  
11 independently of the 3' UTR<sup>33</sup>. Half-life measurements of the genome of a replication incompetent  
12 SFV mutant suggested that this occurred early during infection, upon entry of the viral genome into  
13 cells<sup>33</sup>. Since viruses are known to evade cellular defence responses against viral infection, we  
14 wondered whether the virus could inhibit NMD at later stages of infection. Since NMD depends on  
15 translation<sup>34</sup> and viruses are known to inhibit translation, it was important to carefully analyse the  
16 time course of infection in our system in an attempt to disentangle these two tightly linked cellular  
17 processes. We used anti-ZsG or anti-nsP3 antibodies to detect nsP3-Z, as a representative for the  
18 presence of early produced non-structural proteins expressed from the gRNA, and anti-capsid  
19 antibodies to detect the capsid, as a representative for the presence of structural proteins that are  
20 expressed from sgRNAs later during the virus replication cycle (Figure 5a and b). The nsP3-Z protein  
21 was reproducibly detected at 3-4 hours post infection (p.i.) and as early as 2 hours p.i., while the capsid  
22 was reproducibly detected at 4 hours p.i. (Figure 5a and b). We measured the presence of  
23 phosphorylated (p-)eIF2 $\alpha$  compared to total eIF2 $\alpha$  as an indication of virus-induced translation  
24 inhibition and showed that a virus-dependent accumulation of p-eIF2 $\alpha$  was reproducibly detected at  
25 3-4 hours p.i. (Figure 5a). In addition, we performed time course puromycin incorporation assays to  
26 assess global translation activity using a more direct method<sup>35</sup>. This assay involves a puromycin pulse  
27 for 10 minutes, which causes the release of nascent polypeptides and results in many puromycin-  
28 labelled polypeptides of different lengths that can then be visualised by western blotting using anti-  
29 puromycin antibodies. The decrease in puromycin 3-4 hours p.i. is therefore indicative of a decrease  
30 in global translation, in agreement with the observed increase in p-eIF2 $\alpha$  (Figure 5b).  
31

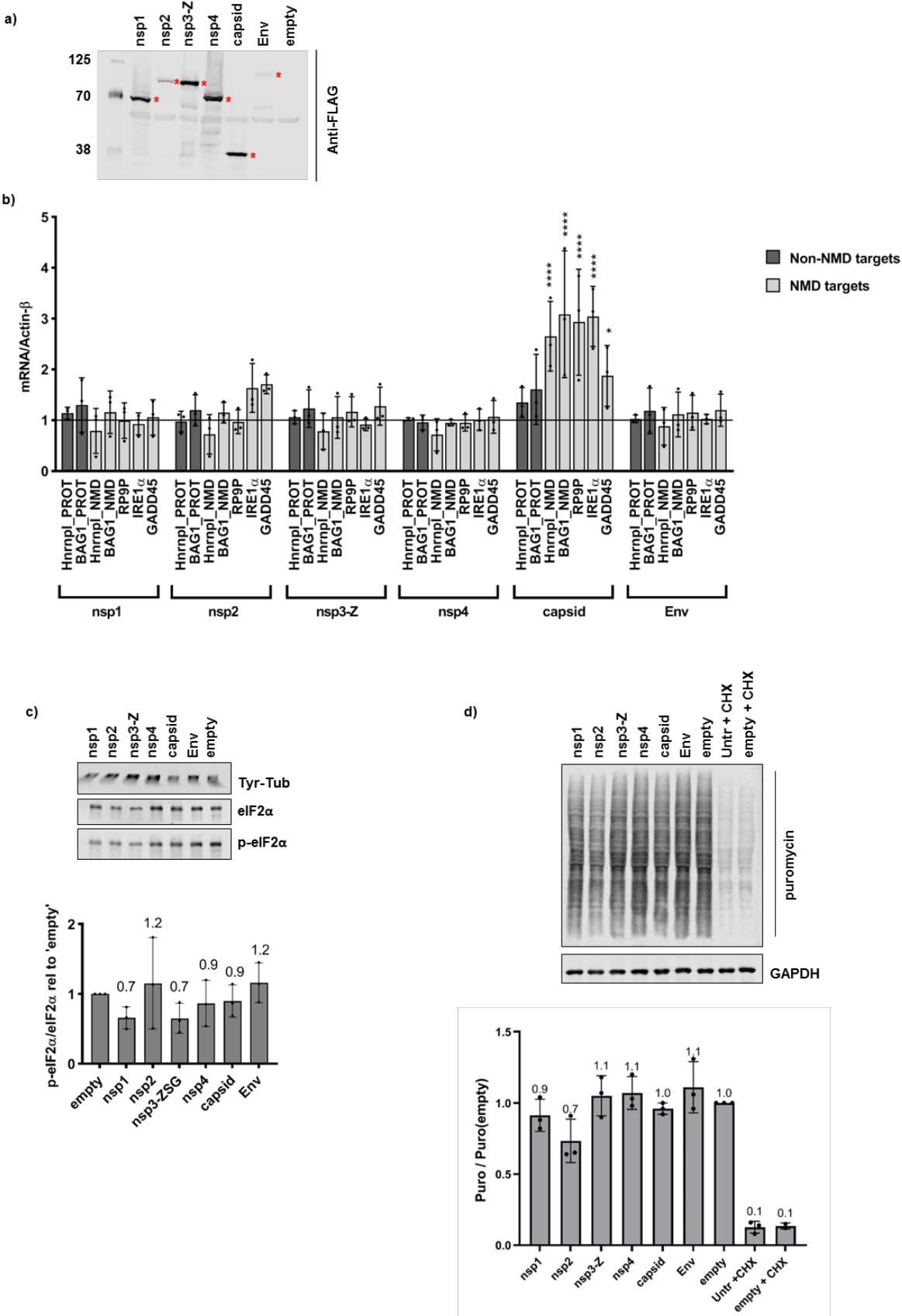
32 We set aside samples from the time course infections in Figure 5a to assess NMD activity by measuring  
33 relevant RNA levels by RT-qPCR. To assess NMD activity, we adapted an assay described in<sup>36</sup>, which  
34 measures the relative amounts of a NMD-sensitive splice isoform (NMD target) versus a NMD  
35 insensitive protein coding isoform (non-NMD target) of the same gene. We showed that at 4 hours  
36 p.i., the NMD-sensitive isoforms of both Hnrnpl (Hnrnpl\_NMD) and BAG1 (BAG1\_NMD) increased  
37 compared to the respective mRNA levels in uninfected cells, while the NMD insensitive isoforms  
38 (Hnrnpl\_PROT and BAG1\_PROT) remained relatively stable (Figure 5c). Notably, Hnrnpl\_NMD already



1  
2 **Figure 5. SFV infection inhibits translation and NMD, and UPF1 associates with SFV proteins. a,** Representative western  
3 blots showing the induction of phosphorylated (p)-elF2 $\alpha$  versus elF2 $\alpha$ , as well as the accumulation of SFV proteins from the  
4 first ORF (nsp3-Z) and the second ORF (capsid) of the viral genome in a time course infection. SFV-ZSG infected HeLa cells  
5 were harvested at 0.5, 1, 2, 3 and 4 hours post infection. Uninfected cells (Un) were harvested at the 4 hour time point. Tyr-  
6 Tub was used as a loading control. The upper four panels represent a single blot that was cut and probed, while the lower  
7 two panels indicate a separate blot, on which the same set of samples was used. The bar graph (right) indicates the ratio of  
8 p-elF2 $\alpha$  / elF2 $\alpha$  relative to the uninfected sample, calculated from densitometry measurements of four western blots from  
9 independent time course infections. Mean values are shown above each bar (n=4) and error bars reflect SD. **b,** Western blots  
10 showing the incorporation of puromycin into nascent polypeptides during a time course infection with SFV-ZSG (MOI=10).  
11 GAPDH was used as a loading control. Nsp3-Z and capsid indicate the accumulation of SFV proteins during the infection. The  
12 upper 3 panels represent a single blot, while the lower two panels are from a separate blot analysing the same set of samples.  
13 **c,** RT-qPCR analysis showing mRNA levels relative to Actin- $\beta$  of NMD targets (light grey bars) and non-NMD targets (dark grey  
14 bars) at 4 hours post infection, normalised to the uninfected control. Bar graphs display the mean  $\pm$  SD (n=4). Statistical  
15 significance was determined using unpaired, two-tailed t-tests, corrected for multiple comparisons using the Holm-Šídák  
16 method (GraphPad Prism v8.4.1), with alpha = 0.05. Asterisks indicate adjusted p values: p $\leq$ 0.05\*, p $\leq$ 0.001\*\*\*. **d,** Flow chart  
17 (left) depicting experimental approach for UPF1 immunoprecipitations (UPF1 IP) in uninfected (Un) and Infected (4 hours  
18 p.i.) cells, followed by mass spectrometry analysis to confirm UPF1 as an interactor of SFV proteins. Heat map (right) showing  
19 the abundance as % of the UPF1 bait for NMD factors and SFV proteins detected by mass spectrometry in the UPF1 eluate  
20 samples. Normalised spectral abundance factor (dNSAF) values were used.

1 started to accumulate at 3 hours p.i., whereas the increase of BAG1\_NMD only became apparent at 4  
2 hours p.i. (Suppl. Figure 4). In addition, we measured the RNA levels of the well-known endogenous  
3 NMD targets, RP9P, IRE1 $\alpha$  and GADD45, which also accumulated 3-4 hours p.i. (Figure 5c and Suppl.  
4 Figure 4). Together, these data are indicative of reduced NMD activity 3-4 hours p.i., suggesting that  
5 SFV can indeed inhibit NMD at later stages of infection. Since the timing of the NMD inhibition  
6 correlated with that of eIF2 $\alpha$ -dependent inhibition of cellular mRNA translation, we were unable to  
7 pull apart the effect the viral infection had on the two cellular processes independently. Translation  
8 inhibition by SFV, and RNA viruses in general, is well described to occur through induction of p-eIF2 $\alpha$ ,  
9 which occurs upon host cell detection of the double-stranded viral RNA intermediate that arises during  
10 its replication cycle <sup>10,14,15</sup>. We therefore reasoned that, if one of the SFV proteins was responsible for  
11 the NMD inhibitory phenotype, we would be able to disentangle the effect of the virus on the two  
12 cellular processes. Taking the mass spectrometry data analysis (Figure 4b) into account, we reasoned  
13 that nsP2, nsP3-Z or capsid could be responsible for the NMD inhibitory phenotype. First, in order to  
14 confirm the interactions identified between nsP2, nsP3-Z and capsid with cellular UPF1 (Figure 3), we  
15 performed a reciprocal UPF1 immunoprecipitation (IP) from SFV infected cell lysates harvested 4  
16 hours p.i. (Figure 5d). Mass Spectrometry allowed us to analyse the abundance of NMD factors and  
17 SFV proteins in the UPF1 eluates of uninfected (Un) and infected (4 hrs p.i.) cell lysates. The abundance  
18 of these proteins as a percentage of the UPF1 bait is depicted in the heat map (Figure 5d). UPF2 and  
19 UPF3B were ~30 % as abundant as UPF1, indicating the success of the UPF1 IPs. UPF3A (in both) and  
20 SMG6 (in the uninfected sample only) were detected at lower abundances in the UPF1 IPs. The  
21 changes in levels of UPF3A and SMG6 detected in the uninfected sample compared to the infected  
22 sample were small and their significances remain unclear. The SFV proteins, nsP3-Z, capsid and nsP1  
23 were identified in the UPF1 eluates of the infected sample (Figure 5d). It should be noted that their  
24 abundance was higher than that of the NMD factors, UPF3A and SMG6. Taken together, we were  
25 therefore able to confirm the interactions of nsP3-Z and capsid with UPF1.

26  
27 The results above suggested that nsP3-Z and capsid were the most likely candidates to influence NMD  
28 activity in cells. Nevertheless, we decided to analyse the effect of all individual SFV proteins on NMD  
29 activity. To do this, the SFV proteins (from plasmids described in Figure 1b) were transiently expressed  
30 in HeLa cells (Figure 6a) and the relevant RNAs for each sample were measured by RT-qPCR analysis  
31 (Figure 6b). A striking and significant increase in the levels of NMD targets was observed upon  
32 expression of the capsid protein, while the non-NMD targets remained relatively stable (Figure 6b).  
33 No other significant changes in the levels of RNAs were observed upon expression of any of the other  
34 SFV proteins (Figure 6b). This data indicated that expression of the SFV capsid alone was sufficient to



1  
2 **Figure 6. SFV capsid protein inhibits NMD without affecting translation.** a, Anti-FLAG western blot showing expression  
3 levels of N-terminally 3xFLAG-tagged SFV proteins in HeLa cells. Red asterisks indicate the proteins at their expected sizes.  
4 b, RT-qPCR analysis showing mRNA levels relative to Actin- $\beta$  of NMD targets (light grey bars) and non-NMD targets (dark grey

1 bars) upon expression with the different SFV proteins, normalised to the 'empty' control. Bar graph displays the mean  $\pm$  SD  
2 of three independent biological replicates. Statistical significance was determined using a 2-way ANOVA for multiple  
3 comparisons, followed by the Dunnett's multiple comparison test (alpha = 0.05) (GraphPad Prism v8.4.1). Asterisks indicate  
4 adjusted p values:  $p \leq 0.05^*$ ,  $p \leq 0.0001^{****}$ . **c**, Western blot (top) showing p-eIF2 $\alpha$  versus eIF2 $\alpha$  upon expression of the SFV  
5 proteins. Tyr-Tub was used as a loading control. The bar graph (bottom) indicates the ratio of p-eIF2 $\alpha$  / eIF2 $\alpha$  relative to the  
6 'empty' control. The ratios were calculated from densitometry measurements of three western blots of independent  
7 transfection experiments. Mean values are shown above each bar (n=3) and error bars indicate SD. **d**, Western blot showing  
8 puromycin incorporation, indicative of ongoing translation, in SFV-protein expressing cells. Cycloheximide (CHX) was used as  
9 a positive control for global translation inhibition, GAPDH was used as a loading control. The bar graph (bottom) indicates  
10 the quantification of the puromycin signal relative to the puromycin signal of the 'empty' control transfection. Mean values  
11 are shown above each bar (n=3) and error bars indicate SD.  
12

13 suppress NMD in cells. Since translation-related GO terms were also enriched for capsid interactors  
14 (among other SFV proteins) (Figure 4b), it was important to investigate whether expression of capsid  
15 influenced translation in cells, as this would in turn influence NMD activity. We showed that  
16 expression of capsid did not induce p-eIF2 $\alpha$  (Figure 6c) nor, as judged from the puromycin  
17 incorporation assays, effect changes in global translation (Figure 6d). In addition, polysome profile  
18 gradients revealed that cells expressing the SFV capsid retained intact polysomes (Suppl. Figure 5),  
19 indicative of unperturbed translation. These three independent sets of data convincingly show that  
20 expression of the capsid protein did not influence global translation in cells. We therefore concluded  
21 that the SFV capsid suppresses NMD through a mechanism independent of translation inhibition. Since  
22 ribosome biogenesis related GO terms were most highly enriched among capsid interactors compared  
23 to the other SFV proteins, we used capsid expressing cells to look for any indication of altered  
24 ribosomes/rRNA that could give us any hints on the mechanistic action of capsid. However, we did  
25 not find any indications for capsid-induced defects in ribosome biogenesis or decreased ribosome  
26 abundance: 18S rRNA, 28S rRNA and 45S precursor rRNA as well as polysome gradients were not  
27 altered (Suppl. Figure 5).  
28

## 29 **Discussion:**

30 A better understanding of the 'arms race' between viruses establishing a productive infection and the  
31 evolution of host cell protective mechanisms against them could aid in the development of antiviral  
32 strategies. Thorough investigations of virus-host interactomes provide crucial resources in advancing  
33 this knowledge. This study presents the first systematic virus-host protein interactome of the  
34 alphavirus, SFV. In addition to confirming previously identified host factors<sup>18,29-31</sup>, our approach  
35 revealed many novel SFV-cell interactions. Many of the identified interactions were mediated by RNA.  
36 By comparing the results of the interactome with a siRNA screen against SFV host factors, we  
37 pinpointed pro- or antiviral activity to numerous newly identified cellular proteins. Below, we provide  
38 an overview on the interactors identified and discuss the potential role of these cellular proteins in  
39 the context of a viral infection.  
40

1 CCT complex: Subunits of the CCT complex were among the host interactions that stood out in the  
2 SFV-host protein interactome map (Figure 3). We identified seven members of the CCT complex, six  
3 of which (CCT2, CCT3, CCT4, CCT6A, CCT7 and TCP1) were previously found in RCs<sup>18</sup>. Our data revealed  
4 that the seven CCT complex members detected interacted with the viral helicase nsP2. Very little is  
5 known of the host partners of the viral RNA-dependant RNA polymerase nsP4. We identified CCT3 and  
6 CCT8 as specific nsP4 interactors. These results suggest that nsP2 and nsP4 could be responsible for  
7 recruiting the CCT complex to RCs during infection. The CCT complex, known to assist in the correct  
8 folding of cellular proteins such as actin and tubulin<sup>37-39</sup>, could play a crucial role in guiding the folding  
9 of the two long polyprotein precursors that, after proteolytic cleavages, generate all the individual  
10 viral proteins. The CCT complex could contribute to the shift of the nsPs in their relative stoichiometric  
11 compositions during the course of the infection by differentially stabilising individual nsPs. CCT3 was  
12 additionally identified in the siRNA screen. The CCT complex could therefore present an interesting  
13 novel antiviral target.

14

15 Cytoskeleton: Interestingly, nsP2 interacted with a large number of cytoskeleton or cytoskeleton  
16 signalling proteins, of which ACTN4 was highly abundant in the nsP2 pulldown sample and enriched  
17 upon treatment with RNase A, indicating ACTN4 may bind directly to nsP2. Additionally, tubulins  
18 (TUBB, TUBA1B, TUBB4B) were the only non-ribosomal proteins identified as nsP1 interactors. NsP1  
19 has previously been reported to anchor the RC to the PM and to induce formation of filopodia-like  
20 structures, concomitant with a rearrangement of cytoskeletal proteins<sup>20</sup>. Since during the course of  
21 an infection, nsPs form RCs within dynamic 'spherule' structures<sup>9,11</sup>, the binding of nsPs to cytoskeletal  
22 proteins and their chaperones may play a crucial role in reorganising the host cytoskeletal network,  
23 thereby enabling the RCs to migrate. Cytoskeleton/ cytoskeletal signalling interactors additionally  
24 identified in the siRNA screen include ANXA2, CSRP2, FLNC and SPTBN1. Further studies are needed  
25 to validate these interactions and elucidate mechanisms by which SFV proteins could exploit the host  
26 cytoskeleton or hijack the CCT complex to aid in the infection.

27

28 ER chaperones: The specificity of our approach was also confirmed by the unique interactors of the  
29 viral envelope protein (Env), a transmembrane trimer that folds and is post-translationally modified  
30 in the lumen of the secretory pathway<sup>17</sup>. These include a number of ER chaperones (BAG2, BAG6,  
31 HSPA1B, HSPA2, HSPA6, HSPA8) and the transitional ER ATPase, VCP.

32

33 RNA binding proteins: The nsP2, nsP3-Z and capsid proteins were found to mediate many of their host  
34 interactors through RNA (Figure 2a and c). As such, a large number of RNA-binding proteins were

1 identified as host interactors of these three SFV proteins (Figure 3a), raising the question of whether  
2 they could play a role in altering and exploiting the compositions of mRNPs during infection. Some of  
3 the identified RNA-binding proteins that were previously found in SFV RCs include HNRNPC, HNRNPA1,  
4 SFPQ, DHX9, DDX3X, PABPC1, G3BP1 and G3BP2<sup>18</sup>. In addition to being found in RCs, the nsP3:G3BP  
5 interaction has been well characterised<sup>29–31</sup>. SFV nsP3 has been reported to bind G3BP and suppress  
6 the formation of stress granules, thought to have antiviral activity<sup>30</sup>. Consistent with these previous  
7 findings, we identified G3BP1, G3BP2 and USP10, a deubiquitinase protein known to bind G3BP<sup>30</sup>, as  
8 interactors of nsP3-Z. USP10 was identified as a unique interactor of nsP3, while G3BP1 and G3BP2  
9 were identified as also interacting with nsP2 and capsid. Thanks to a nuclear translocation signal, nsP2  
10 shuttles between cytoplasm and nucleus during infection and interferes with transcription<sup>22</sup>. In line  
11 with this, and as observed by others, we observed localisation of the 3xFLAG-nsP2 in the nucleus of  
12 HeLa cells at steady state (data not shown). Our study identified a number of nuclear proteins  
13 interacting with nsP2, many of which are splicing regulators, including HNRNPC, HNRNPA1, HNRNPA3,  
14 HNRNPF, HNRNPH3 and SFPQ. HNRNPC was the most abundant significantly enriched protein in the  
15 nsP2 pulldown. It was also significantly enriched and abundant in the RNaseA-treated nsP2 sample,  
16 indicating that this interaction may be either direct or mediated by another protein. Interestingly,  
17 SFPQ was found to be one of the most abundant interactors not only of nsP2, but also of capsid (Figure  
18 2c). SFPQ was additionally identified through the siRNA screen, along with the mRNA export factor,  
19 NXF-1, as being among the strongest proviral interactors (i.e. depletion of these factors inhibited viral  
20 infection). The binding of nsP2 and capsid to these nuclear proteins could influence the regulation of  
21 RNA processing or mRNA modification steps in the nucleus or re-localise nuclear proteins to the  
22 cytoplasm in order to achieve a productive infection. Some cytoplasmic viruses, for example, hijack  
23 nuclear proteins including splicing factors (hnRNPs and SFPQ) from the nucleus to the cytoplasm,  
24 increasing infectivity<sup>40–42</sup>. We also identified RNA-binding interactors exhibiting strong antiviral effects  
25 (i.e. depletion of these proteins enhanced viral infection). These included UPF1, EXOSC10 and EIF2S1  
26 (also known as eIF2α). We have previously validated the antiviral role of UPF1, the master regulator  
27 of NMD<sup>33</sup>. Here we have identified candidate viral proteins that might counteract cellular intrinsic  
28 antiviral functions.

29  
30 Ribosomal and ribosome biogenesis factors: Notably, 77 of the 251 identified host cell interactors were  
31 ribosomal proteins. Consistent with reports indicating the association of SFV capsid<sup>43–45</sup> and other  
32 alphavirus nsP2 and nsP3<sup>31,46</sup> with ribosomal subunits, ribosomal interactors identified came mainly  
33 from nsP2, nsP3-Z and capsid affinity purifications (Figure 2d). Some of these exhibited proviral  
34 activity, including RPS27a, which was interestingly the only ribosomal protein to be found bound to

1 (in addition to nsP2) nsP1, nsP4 and Env (Figure 2c). We were surprised by the presence of newly  
2 identified nuclear interactors involved in rRNA processing and ribosome biogenesis, many of which  
3 exhibited antiviral activity. Interestingly, many of these were uniquely bound to capsid (Figure 3a).  
4 Evidence of capsid in the nucleus has previously been reported <sup>47</sup> and we were able to trap 3xFLAG-  
5 capsid in the nucleus of HeLa cells upon blocking of export (data not shown). Even so, little is known  
6 about the role of the capsid in the nucleus and how this could affect the cellular ribosome. We  
7 therefore assessed polysome gradients (Suppl. Figure 5) and measured 18S, 28S and 45S precursor  
8 rRNAs in nuclear fractions of capsid expressing cells (data not shown), but found no obvious  
9 phenotypic changes compared to cells expressing the 'empty' vector. Perhaps the effects of these  
10 interactions on the ribosome are more subtle or only affect a small pool of 'specialised' ribosomes,  
11 making changes difficult to detect. Since viruses rely on the host cell ribosome for translation of their  
12 own genomes, a better understanding of the involvement of the viral proteins in recruiting or  
13 potentially altering the host cell ribosomes through interaction with specific ribosomal proteins and  
14 this novel set of ribosome biogenesis factors definitely warrants further investigation.

15  
16 To obtain additional hints about possible functional consequences of the detected interactions  
17 between SFV and host cell proteins, we used MCODE to analyse the protein complexes that could form  
18 between all host interactors, including the ribosomal proteins (Figure 4 and Suppl. Figure 3). GO  
19 enrichment analyses of the protein complexes reinforced many of the cellular processes discussed  
20 above and revealed that the most highly enriched GO terms were related to translation and NMD  
21 (Figure 4a and b). As a counter defence strategy, viruses are known to inhibit cellular mRNA decay  
22 factors that can degrade viral RNAs and restrict infection <sup>32,48,49</sup>. We therefore hypothesized and  
23 decided to investigate, whether SFV was able to inhibit the NMD pathway, which has antiviral activity  
24 against alphaviruses <sup>33</sup>. Indeed, we found that starting from 3-4 hours after infection, SFV antagonises  
25 the NMD pathway, with consequent stabilisation of *bona fide* NMD mRNA transcripts (Figure 5c and  
26 Suppl. Fig. 4). Viruses known to inhibit mRNA decay pathways do so by different mechanisms. Often a  
27 viral protein counteracts a key cellular regulator. Here, we show novel data that in the case of SFV, it  
28 is the capsid protein that inhibits NMD (Figure 6b). Therefore, inhibiting this function of the viral capsid  
29 could lead to novel avenues for therapeutic intervention.

30  
31 Using both SFV protein affinity purifications in transient expression experiments and UPF1 IPs in SFV  
32 infected cells, we show that the core NMD factor UPF1 binds to SFV capsid among other SFV proteins  
33 in an RNA-dependent manner. Together, this indicates that the capsid, and potentially other SFV  
34 proteins, associate with mRNP molecules that also contain UPF1. The large number of ribosomal

1 proteins pulled down by capsid (Figures 2d, S3, and 4b) could indicate that UPF1 and capsid are  
2 perhaps sitting on ribosome-associated mRNPs. Further studies are required to elucidate the  
3 mechanism of NMD inhibition. Thus far, evidence for NMD suppression by the capsid proteins of the  
4 *Coronavirus*, Mouse Hepatitis Virus (MHV) as well as the *Flavivirus*, Zika Virus (ZIKV) have been  
5 reported<sup>50,51</sup>. It was also postulated that the capsid or 'core' protein of Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) may  
6 be responsible for the NMD inhibitory phenotype that was reported upon HCV infection<sup>52</sup>. Our  
7 findings therefore add SFV as the first alphavirus to a growing list of viruses of which the capsid protein  
8 is responsible for an NMD inhibitory effect. Though the stability of the SFV genome has thus far been  
9 attributed to evasion of deadenylation through binding to HuR<sup>53</sup>, the virus may require additional  
10 strategies to protect itself in order to ensure efficient translation of viral genes and packaging of  
11 genomes into new progeny viruses. Perhaps the SFV capsid plays a protective role against degradation  
12 of its RNAs by NMD.

13

14 In summary, we present here two valuable resources that will aid in the study of SFV: a SFV-host  
15 protein interactome as well as a genome-wide siRNA screen for host factors influencing SFV infection.  
16 Interestingly, some of the SFV host interactors we identified have been identified for other  
17 alphaviruses through methods including the recombinant tagging of one of the viral proteins during  
18 infection followed by imaging or affinity purifications and Yeast-2-Hybrid assays<sup>46,54-57</sup>. For example,  
19 G3BP1, G3BP2, FXR1, FXR2, CAPZB and CAPZA1 have also been found to interact with nsP3 of  
20 Venezuela Equine Encephalitic virus (VEEV)<sup>55</sup> and HNRNPC and HNRNPA3 have been found to interact  
21 with nsP2 of CHIKV<sup>46</sup>. Noteworthy, the Yeast-2-Hybrid screen used to elucidate CHIKV-host protein  
22 interactions would not have detected RNA-mediated interactions<sup>46</sup>. We therefore believe our study  
23 provides a valuable resource not only for the study of SFV, but also for the further study of other  
24 related alphaviruses. Our results suggest that RNA binding proteins, so far not investigated in the  
25 context of virus infections, play crucial roles in SFV infectivity. SFV-host protein-protein interactions  
26 for many of these proteins occurred through an RNA substrate, indicating that the SFV proteins are  
27 likely binding to the same mRNPs. Analysing changes in compositions of cellular mRNPs during the  
28 course of infection may provide mechanistic insight into how SFV proteins may be influencing the  
29 landscape of host mRNPs, in turn affecting or exploiting RNA processes such as transport, splicing,  
30 degradation and translation.

31

32

1 **Material and Methods:**

2

3 **Plasmids**

4 The coding sequences for the SFV proteins were cloned into pcDNA5\_FRT\_TO\_3xFlag(N), to yield  
5 pcDNA5.3xFLAG-nsp1, pcDNA5.3xFLAG-nsp2, pcDNA5.3xFLAG-nsp3-ZSG, pcDNA5.3xFLAG-nsp4,  
6 pcDNA5.3xFLAG-capsid and pcDNA5.3xFLAG-Env, which were used for all subsequent transfections.  
7 pcDNA5\_FRT\_TO\_3xFlag(N) was linearised using *Bam*HI. PCR products for each of the SFV proteins,  
8 were generated from either SFV-ZSG(-3'UTR)<sup>33</sup>, SFV-capsid or SFV-Envelope<sup>58</sup> plasmids using the  
9 following primers:

nsp1:	5'-CGACAAGCTTGGATCCGCCGCCAAAGTGCATGTTGAT-3' and 5'-CTGGACTAGTGGATCTTATGCACCTGCGTGACTCTAGTT-3'
nsp2:	5'-CGACAAGCTTGGATCCGGGGTCGTGGAAACACCTC-3' and 5'-CTGGACTAGTGGATCTAACACCCGGCCGTGTGCA-3'
nsp3-ZSG:	5'-CGACAAGCTTGGATCCGCCACCACCTACAGAGTTAAGAGAGCAG-3' and 5'-CTGGACTAGTGGATCTTATGCACCCGCGCGGCCTA-3'
nsp4:	5'-CGACAAGCTTGGATCCTATTTCTCCTCGGACACTGGCA-3' and 5'-CTGGACTAGTGGATCTAACGCACCAATCTAGGACCG-3'
capsid:	5'-CGACAAGCTTGGATCCAATTACATCCCTACGCAAACGTTT-3' and 5'-CTGGACTAGTGGATCCTACCACTCTCGGACCCCT-3'
Env:	5'-CGACAAGCTTGGATCCTCCGCCCGCTGATTACTG-3' and 5'-CTGGACTAGTGGATCTTATCTGGAGCCAAATGCAAG-3'

10

11 Primers were designed such that each PCR product contained 15-bp homology arms complementary  
12 to the ends of *Bam*HI-linearised pcDNA5\_FRT\_TO\_3xFlag(N). The respective PCR products were then  
13 cloned into pcDNA5\_FRT\_TO\_3xFlag(N) using In-Fusion® HD Cloning Kit (Cat. No. 639650, Takara).

14

15 **Antibodies and dilutions:**

16 Primary antibodies: Mouse monoclonal anti-FLAG M2 (1:2500) (Sigma Aldrich, Cat#: F3165); Mouse  
17 monoclonal anti-Tyrosine-Tubulin (1:10000) (Sigma Aldrich, Cat#: 9028); Rabbit polyclonal anti-eIF2α  
18 (1:1000) (cell signalling technology, Cat#: 9722); Mouse monoclonal anti-eIF2α, L57A5 (1:1000) (cell  
19 signaling technology, Cat#: 2103); Rabbit polyclonal anti-p-eIF2α (Ser51) (1:1000) (cell signaling  
20 technology, Cat#: 9721); Rabbit anti-nsp3 (1:3000)<sup>9</sup>; Mouse monoclonal anti-ZsGreen1 (ZSG) clone  
21 TI2C2 (1:2000) (OriGene, Cat#: TA180002); Mouse anti-capsid (1:3000)<sup>33</sup>; Mouse monoclonal anti-  
22 puromycin, 12D10, (1:15000) (Millipore, Cat#: MABE343); Rabbit polyclonal anti-GAPDH (FL-335)

1 (1:1000) (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Cat#: sc-25778); Goat polyclonal anti-RENT1 (UPF1) (1:1000)  
2 (Bethyl, Cat#: A300-038A). Secondary antibodies (1:10000) (LICOR): Donkey anti-goat 800CW; Donkey  
3 anti-rabbit 800CW; Donkey anti-mouse 800CW; Donkey anti-rabbit 680LT; Donkey anti-mouse 680LT.  
4

5 **Cell culture**

6 HeLa cells were cultured in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM) supplemented with FCS,  
7 Penicillin and Streptomycin (DMEM +/+) at 37 °C under 5 % carbon dioxide atmosphere. Passaging and  
8 harvesting of cells were done by detachment using Trypsin/EDTA solution at approximately 1:10 (v/v)  
9 of the culture volume. Cells were quantified using trypan blue staining followed by automated cell  
10 counting using the Countess® Automated Cell Counter (Thermo Fisher Scientific).

11

12 **SFV protein expression and affinity purification**

13 HeLa cells were seeded (2.5x10<sup>6</sup> per dish) into 15 cm dishes. The following day, 20.8 µg of the relevant  
14 pcDNA5.3xFLAG plasmids (described above) were transfected using Dogtor transfection reagent (OZ  
15 Biosciences), as per manufacturer's recommendations. Cells were harvested 48 hours later, collected  
16 by centrifugation (250 x g, 4 °C, 5 minutes), washed once with 1xPBS, and stored at -80 °C until use.  
17 500 µL of lysis buffer (150 mM NaCl, 0.5 % Triton X-100, 50 mM HEPES [pH 7.4], 1x protease inhibitor  
18 cocktail [Biotool]) was added to each cell pellet and resuspended by vortexing. Cells were lysed by  
19 sonication (2x10 second pulses, Amp = 45) and cell lysates cleared by centrifugation (16000 x g, 4 °C  
20 for 10 minutes). 12 µg anti-FLAG M2 antibody was coupled to 1.5 mg of magnetic Dynabeads M270  
21 Epoxy (Thermo Fisher Scientific), as per manufacturer's instructions. The beads were washed with lysis  
22 buffer and 500 µL of the cleared cell lysate was added, and the mixture was then incubated at 4 °C for  
23 one hour with rotation. Beads were collected on a magnet and washed three times with lysis buffer.  
24 At the third wash, each sample was split into two (for treatment or no treatment with RNase A). For  
25 +RNase A samples, RNase A treatment was performed on the beads. The supernatant was removed  
26 using the magnet, and 50 µL of RNase A (0.8 mg/mL, Sigma Aldrich) containing lysis buffer was added  
27 to the beads and incubated at 25 °C for 15 minutes, shaking. Thereafter, the RNase A treated beads  
28 were washed with lysis buffer, and then samples eluted from the beads using 3xFLAG peptide  
29 (sciencepeptide.com): 20 µg of FLAG peptide was incubated with the beads at 25 °C for 15 minutes,  
30 shaking. The FLAG peptide elution was also performed for the -RNase A samples. Thereafter, the  
31 eluates were collected and 10 µL of loading buffer (4xLDS + DTT [75 mM]) was added to each eluate,  
32 while 30 µL of loading buffer was added to the remaining beads samples. The samples were then  
33 incubated at 75 °C for 10 minutes, ready for analysis by western blot, silver stain, and coomassie gel  
34 for mass spectrometry sample preparation.

1

2 **Silver stain**

3 Samples were electrophoresed on 26-well NuPAGE™ 4-12 % Bis-Tris gradient gels (Thermo Fisher  
4 Scientific) in 1xMOPS running buffer at 200V for approx. 1 hour. The gels were fixed in 50 % methanol  
5 / 12 % acetic acid for one hour at room temperature, followed by three 5 minutes washes in 35 %  
6 ethanol. The gels were sensitised for 2 minutes in 0.02 % sodium thiosulfate, followed by three 5  
7 minutes washes in Milli-Q H<sub>2</sub>O. The gels were stained in 0.2 % silver nitrate / 0.03 % formaldehyde for  
8 20 minutes, followed by two 1 minute washes in Milli-Q H<sub>2</sub>O. The gels were developed in 0.57 M  
9 sodium carbonate + 0.02 % formaldehyde / 0.0004 % sodium thiosulfate and then incubated in 50 %  
10 methanol / 12 % acetic acid for 5 minutes. Thereafter, the gels were placed in 1 % acetic acid for short  
11 term storage at 4 °C. Images were taken using the gel documentation system ([www.vilber.com](http://www.vilber.com))

12

13 **Coomassie gels and mass spectrometry analysis**

14 The protein compositions of the eluates from the SFV affinity purifications were analysed by label-free  
15 quantitative mass spectrometry. The eluates (20 µL) were electrophoresed in 1xMOPS running buffer  
16 about 1 cm into the 26-well NuPAGE™ gels and then stained with coomassie-blue (10 % phosphoric  
17 acid, 10 % ammonium sulfate, 0.12 % coomassie G-250, 20 % methanol) as described previously <sup>59</sup>.  
18 Images were taken using the gel documentation system. Rectangular segments (10 mm x 3 mm) for  
19 each lane were cut from the gels using sterile blades. The gel pieces were reduced, alkylated and  
20 digested by trypsin as described elsewhere <sup>60</sup>. The digests were analysed by liquid chromatography  
21 (LC)-MS/MS (PROXEON coupled to a QExactive HF mass spectrometer, ThermoFisher Scientific),  
22 injecting 5 µL of the digests. Peptides were trapped on a µPrecolumn C18 PepMap100 (5µm, 100 Å,  
23 300 µm×5mm, ThermoFisher Scientific, Reinach, Switzerland) and separated by backflush on a C18  
24 column (5 µm, 100 Å, 75 µm×15 cm, C18) by applying a 60-minutes gradient of 5 % acetonitrile to 40  
25 % in water, 0.1 % formic acid, at a flow rate of 350 nL/min. The Full Scan method was set with  
26 resolution at 60,000 with an automatic gain control (AGC) target of 1E06 and maximum ion injection  
27 time of 50 ms. The data-dependent method for precursor ion fragmentation was applied with the  
28 following settings: resolution 15,000, AGC of 1E05, maximum ion time of 110 milliseconds, mass  
29 window 1.6 m/z, collision energy 27, under fill ratio 1%, charge exclusion of unassigned and 1+ ions,  
30 and peptide match preferred, respectively. Proteins in the different samples were identified and  
31 quantified with MaxQuant <sup>61</sup> against the human swissprot <sup>62</sup> database (release June 2019), in addition  
32 to custom nsP1, nsP2, nsP3-Z, nsP4, capsid and Env sequences. The following MaxQuant settings were  
33 used: separate normalisation groups for the +Rnase A and -Rnase A samples, mass deviation for  
34 precursor ions of 10 ppm for the first search, maximum peptide mass of 6000Da, match between runs

1 activated with a matching time window of 0.7 min only allowed across replicates; cleavage rule was  
2 set to strict trypsin, allowing for 3 missed cleavages; allowed modifications were fixed  
3 carbamidomethylation of cysteines, variable oxidation of methionines, deamination of asparagines  
4 and glutamines and acetylation of protein N-termini. Protein intensities are reported as MaxQuant's  
5 iTop3<sup>63</sup> values (sum of the intensities of the three most intense peptides). Peptide intensities were  
6 first normalised by variance stabilisation normalisation and imputed. Imputation values were drawn  
7 from a Gaussian distribution of width 0.3 centred at the sample distribution mean minus 1.8x the  
8 sample standard deviation, provided there were at least 2 evidences in the replicate group. In order  
9 to perform statistical tests, iTop3 values were further imputed at the protein level, following the rule:  
10 'if at least two detections in at least one group' and using the following protein impute parameters:  
11 imputation values were drawn from a Gaussian distribution of width 0.3 centred at the sample  
12 distribution mean minus 2.5x the sample standard deviation. Potential contaminants and proteins  
13 marked 'only identified by site' were removed prior to performing Differential Expression (DE) tests,  
14 which were done by applying the empirical Bayes test<sup>64</sup> followed by the FDR-controlled Benjamini and  
15 Hochberg<sup>65</sup> correction for multiple testing. A significance curve was calculated based on a minimal  
16 log<sub>2</sub> fold change of 1 and a maximum adjusted *p*-value of 0.05. Proteins that were consistently  
17 reported as DE throughout 20 imputation cycles were flagged as "persistent". In addition, SAINT  
18 analysis was performed according to<sup>66</sup> and a significance threshold of FDR<0.05 was applied.

19

## 20 **Collection of SFV protein interactors through further filtering by abundance**

21 Significant interactors for each SFV bait protein were defined as those that were significantly  
22 differentially expressed (enriched) compared to the untransfected control and the significance  
23 persisted throughout the imputation cycles. In addition, the proteins taken as "significant interactors"  
24 had to be considered "true interactors" as determined using SAINT analysis (with a threshold FDR of  
25 ≤ 0.05). To simplify the lists and attempting to retain potentially biologically relevant interactors, we  
26 further filtered the lists, retaining proteins whose abundance made up at least 0.5 % of the relevant  
27 bait protein. In the case of the nsp3-Z bait, which was very lowly abundant in the sample as it proved  
28 difficult to elute from the beads, we retained proteins whose abundance made up at least 5 % of the  
29 SFV bait.

30

## 31 **Interaction Networks**

32 The final lists of proteins were used to create SFV-host protein interaction networks using  
33 Cytoscape\_v3.7.2. STRING analysis (string-db.org, version 11.0) was performed using a minimum  
34 required interaction score of highest confidence (0.900) for both database and experimental evidence

1 and the known protein-protein interactions were overlaid onto the SFV-protein interactome  
2 networks, using Cytoscape\_v3.7.2.

3

4 **siRNA screen**

5 The automated, image-based, genome-wide siRNA screen against cellular host factors involved in the  
6 infection of SFV was described previously (Balistreri *et al.*, 2014). Briefly, HeLa cells were transfected  
7 with siRNA at a final concentration of 20 nM in 384-well plates using 0.1 µL RNAiMAX (Life  
8 Technologies) per well in 100 µL cell culture medium. The siRNA library consisted of four pooled siRNA  
9 oligonucleotides per gene (Human ON-TARGETplus, Dharmacon). 72 hours after transfection, cells  
10 were infected for 6 hours with SFV-ZsG at a concentration giving an infection rate of approx. 30 % in  
11 control siRNA-treated cells. Following fixation in 4 % formaldehyde and Hoechst staining, nine images  
12 per well were acquired using high-content automated fluorescence microscopes (ImageX-press,  
13 Molecular Devices). Infected cells were detected using Cell Profiler ([www.cellprofiler.org](http://www.cellprofiler.org)) and  
14 Advanced Cell Classifier ([www.acc.ethz.ch/acc.html](http://www.acc.ethz.ch/acc.html)) and the % of infected cells per well was  
15 determined. An “Infection Index” value was calculated for each gene, indicating the fold change of  
16 infection upon depletion of the gene product, compared to the control siRNAs, which was set as 1. An  
17 Infection Index threshold of 1.3 was chosen to indicate proteins having a potential antiviral role against  
18 SFV, and an Infection Index threshold of 0.5 to indicate proteins having a potential proviral role for  
19 SFV (Table 2, raw data). The proteins identified in the siRNA screen were overlaid with the SFV-host  
20 protein interaction networks.

21

22 **Protein-protein Interaction Enrichment Analysis / MCODE Analysis**

23 Protein-protein interaction enrichment analysis was performed using the Metascape online tool  
24 ([www.metascape.org](http://www.metascape.org)) according to <sup>67</sup>. Metascape allows for the input of multigene lists. For each  
25 given list (ie: interactors of nsp1, nsp2, nsp3-Z, nsp4, capsid and Env) as well as for the merged list,  
26 protein-protein interaction enrichment analysis was carried out using the following databases:  
27 BioGrid, InWeb\_IM and OmniPath. The resultant networks contained the subset of proteins that form  
28 physical interactions with at least one other member in the list (PPI networks - not shown). If the  
29 network contained between 3 and 500 proteins, the Molecular Complex Detection (MCODE) algorithm  
30 was applied to identify densely connected network components, which were extracted from the PPI  
31 networks and displayed as individual ‘MCODE’ networks. These MCODE networks were identified  
32 separately for each individual list (not shown) as well as for the merged list (Figure 4a). In order to  
33 assign biological meanings to the MCODE networks, Gene ontology (GO) / Pathway and Process  
34 enrichment analysis was applied to each MCODE network (FINAL\_SUB1\_MCODE1, 2,3,4,5,6,7)

1 identified for the merged list of interactors. GO / pathway and process enrichment analysis was carried  
2 out with the following ontology sources: KEGG Pathway, GO Biological Processes, Reactome Gene  
3 Sets, Canonical Pathways and CORUM, using the Metascape tool. All genes in the genome were used  
4 as the enrichment background. From the top10 most significant GO term descriptions gathered for  
5 each MCODE network (Table 3, Supplementary Information), between 1-4 terms were chosen to  
6 assign biological meaning to each MCODE term (Figure 4a). The log(q-value) of the terms indicates the  
7 significance calculated using the merged list of interactors (Table 3, Supplementary Information, and  
8 Figure 4a). This list of GO term descriptions was then used to compare these biological functions  
9 among individual SFV proteins (Figure 4b). To do this, GO / pathway and process enrichment analysis  
10 was additionally applied to the set of MCODE networks (MCODE\_ALL) for the individual lists (nsp1,  
11 nsp2, nsp3-Z, nsp4, capsid and Env), as well as for the merged list (All baits) (FINAL\_MCODE\_ALL).  
12 From this analysis, the significance [log(q value)] values for the chosen list of GO term descriptions  
13 were then used to create a heat map (GraphPad Prism v8.4.1) (Figure 4b).

14

### 15 **SFV time course infection**

16 HeLa cells were seeded  $\leq$  12 hours prior to SFV time course infection. Medium was aspirated and  
17 replaced with ice-cold infection medium (RPMI, 0.02 M HEPES [pH7.1], 0.2 % BSA) and cells placed at  
18 4 °C for 15 minutes in preparation for the infection. Medium was aspirated and cells were infected  
19 with SFV-ZSG in infection medium at an MOI of 10. In order to synchronise the infection, cells were  
20 placed at 4 °C for 45 minutes, with swirling every 5 minutes. The SFV-ZSG-containing media was  
21 aspirated, cells washed once with 1x PBS, warm infection medium was added and cells were incubated  
22 at 37 °C. Cells were harvested at 0.5, 1, 2, 3 and 4 hours post infection (post incubation at 37 °C). The  
23 uninfected control was also harvested after 4 hours incubation at 37 °C. During harvesting, cells for  
24 each condition were split in half, such that one half was collected for western blot analysis, and the  
25 other for RNA analysis. After the cells were collected by centrifugation at 4 °C for 5 minutes at 250 x g  
26 and washed with 1x PBS, the cell pellets for western blot analysis were resuspended in 2x SDS-PAGE  
27 loading buffer and heated at 95 °C for 5 minutes, while those for RNA analysis were resuspended in  
28 900  $\mu$ L TRI-reagent for RNA extraction.

29

### 30 **Puromycin incorporation assay (Time course infection)**

31 HeLa cells were infected with SFV-ZSG as described above, with the following adjustment: 10 minutes  
32 prior to the relevant harvesting time point (0.5, 1, 2, 3 and 4 hours post infection), cells were pulse  
33 labelled for 10 minutes with 10  $\mu$ g/mL puromycin followed by a 10 minutes recovery step with  
34 infection medium at 37 °C. Cells were harvested and washed pellets resuspended in 2x SDS-PAGE

1 loading buffer and incubated at 95 °C for 5 minutes. Lysates were electrophoresed in 10 % SDS-PAGE  
2 gels and analysed by western blot using mouse anti-puromycin antibodies.

3

4 **RNA extraction and RT-qPCR**

5 Total RNA was extracted from TRI-reagent by isopropanol precipitation and resuspended in disodium  
6 citrate buffer (pH 6.5). Contaminating DNA was degraded by treatment with Turbo DNase (Ambion).  
7 Thereafter, reverse transcription was carried out using AffinityScript Multiple Temperature Reverse  
8 Transcriptase (Agilent), followed by qPCR using Brilliant III Ultra-Fast SYBR® Green qPCR Master Mix  
9 (Agilent), according to manufacturer's instructions. The following primers were used:

Hnrnpl_PROT	5'- CAATCTCAGTGGACAAGGTG - 3' 5'- CTCCATATTCTGCGGGGTGA - 3'
Hnrnpl_NMD	5'- GGTCGCAGTGTATGTTGATG - 3' 5'- GGCCTTGTTGGGGTTGCT - 3'
BAG1_PROT	5'- ACTCATATTAAAGGGAAAATCTCTG - 3' 5'- TTGGGCAGAAAACCTGCTG - 3'
BAG1_NMD	5'- CATATTAAGGTTCTAACAGATA - 3' 5'- TGTTTCCATTTCCTTCAGAGA - 3'
RP9P	5'- CAAGCGCCTGGAGTCCTAA - 3' 5'- AGGAGGTTTTCTAACTCGTGATCT - 3'
IRE1 $\alpha$	5'- TGCAGGTCCAACACATGTGG-3' 5'- TCAGGCCTTCATTATTCTTGC-3'
GADD45 $\beta$	5'- TCAACATCGTGCAGGTGTCG - 3' 5'- CCCGGCTTCTCGCAGTAG - 3'
Actin $\beta$	5'- TCCATCATGAAGTGTGACGT -3' 5'- TACTCCTGCTTGCTGATCCAC -3'

10

11 The reaction and fluorescence readout was carried out in the Rotor-Gene 6200 (Corbett Life Science)  
12 real-time system. Threshold cycle values (ct-values) were set manually and the relative mRNA levels  
13 calculated using the comparative CT method. Graphs are displayed as the mean  $\pm$  the standard  
14 deviation (SD), with n values indicated in the respective figure legends. For the time course infections,  
15 statistical significance was determined using unpaired, two-tailed t-tests, corrected for multiple  
16 comparisons using the Holm-Šídák method, with alpha = 0.05. For the transient transfections,  
17 statistical significance was determined using a 2way ANOVA for multiple comparisons, followed by the  
18 Dunnett's multiple comparison test (alpha = 0.05). Within each column [each qPCR assay], each SFV

1 protein was compared against the "empty" control row. GraphPad Prism v8.4.1 was used for statistical  
2 analyses and to create the plots.

3

4 **UPF1 immunoprecipitation and mass spectrometry**

5 HeLa cells were infected as described under "SFV time course infection" and harvested at 4 hours post  
6 infection. The uninfected control was also harvested at 4 hours post infection. After the cells were  
7 harvested by centrifugation at 4 °C for 5 minutes at 250 x g and washed with 1x PBS, the cell pellets  
8 were frozen and stored at –80 °C until use. Cell pellets were thawed on ice and a volume of 500 µL of  
9 lysis buffer (0.5 % Np40 (IGEPAL), 150 mM NaCl, 50 mM Tris buffer [pH 7.5], 1xprotease Inhibitor  
10 cocktail [Biotool], RNase Inhibitor [6 µL RNase Inhibitor / mL of lysis buffer]) was added to each. The  
11 cell pellets were resuspended by vortexing and cells lysed by sonication: 3x 5 seconds pulses, 45 %  
12 Amplitude, with cooling on ice between each sonication. Cell lysates were cleared by centrifugation  
13 at 4°C for 10 minutes at 16000 x g. Goat anti-UPF1 antibody (Bethyl) was coupled to magnetic  
14 Dynabeads Protein G (Thermo Fisher Scientific). An amount of 1.5 mg of beads pellet per sample was  
15 resuspended in 200 µL PBS-T (0.02 % Tween20) containing 12 µg antibody. The mixture was rotated  
16 for one hour at 4 °C. The coupled beads were washed three times with lysis buffer and then 500 µL of  
17 the cleared cell lysate was added to the beads pellet. The cleared lysates and coupled beads were  
18 incubated at 4 °C for one hour with rotation. The beads were collected on a magnet and washed three  
19 times with lysis buffer. At the third wash, each sample was split into two (for treatment or no  
20 treatment with RNaseA). The supernatant was removed and the beads were resuspended with 20 µL  
21 lysis buffer + 10 µL loading buffer (4x LDS+DTT). The samples were incubated at 75 °C for 10 minutes.  
22 Using the magnet, the supernatants (eluates) were transferred to new tubes, ready to load onto gels  
23 for coomassie staining and mass spectrometry sample preparation. The compositions of the eluates  
24 were quantified by mass spectrometry, following the same protocol as above. Triplicate samples were  
25 processed against the same sequence database as above, by Transproteomics pipeline (TPP)<sup>68</sup> tools.  
26 Four database search engines were used (Comet<sup>69</sup>, X tandem<sup>70</sup>, MSGF<sup>71</sup> and Myrimatch<sup>72</sup>, with search  
27 parameters as above. Each search was followed by the application of the PeptideProphet<sup>73</sup> tool; the  
28 iProphet<sup>74</sup> tool was then used to combine the search results, which were filtered at the false discovery  
29 rate of 0.01; furthermore, the identification was only accepted if at least two of the search engines  
30 agreed on the identification. Protein inference was performed with ProteinProphet<sup>75</sup>. For those  
31 protein groups accepted by a false discovery rate filter of 0.01, a Normalized Spectral Abundance  
32 Factor (NSAF)<sup>76</sup> was calculated based on the peptide to spectrum match count; shared peptides were  
33 accounted for by the method of<sup>77</sup>, giving normalised spectral abundance factor (dNSAF) values. The

1 dNSAF values were used to calculate abundance as a % of the UPF1 bait protein, which were reported  
2 for the NMD factors and SFV proteins that were detected in the samples.

3

4 **Small-scale SFV protein expression and puromycin incorporation assays**

5 HeLa cells ( $1.5 \times 10^5$  per well) were seeded into 6-well plates. The following day, 1.25  $\mu$ g of the relevant  
6 pcDNA5.3xFLAG plasmids were transfected using Dogtor transfection reagent (OZ Biosciences), as per  
7 manufacturer's recommendations. Cells were harvested 48 hours later, after which  $1 \times 10^6$  cells per  
8 condition were collected to make lysates for western blot analysis, while the remaining cells were  
9 collected for RNA analysis. The cells were harvested at 4 °C for 5 minutes at 250 x g, washed once with  
10 1x PBS, and resuspended in either 2x SDS-PAGE Loading Buffer (for protein analysis) or 900  $\mu$ L of TRI  
11 reagent (for RNA analysis). For the puromycin incorporation assays, cells were transfected as above  
12 and prior to harvesting, the medium was aspirated and medium containing either DMSO or 100  $\mu$ g/mL  
13 cycloheximide (CHX) was added to the cells and incubated for 2 hours at 37 °C. Thereafter, the cells  
14 were pulse labelled for 10 minutes with puromycin (10  $\mu$ g/mL). After the 10 minutes pulse, as a  
15 recovery step, medium containing either DMSO or CHX was re-added to the cells for 30 minutes at 37  
16 °C. Cells were harvested as above and  $1 \times 10^6$  cells per condition were resuspended in 2x SDS-PAGE  
17 loading buffer and incubated at 95 °C for 5 minutes for western blot analyses.

18

19 **Western blot analysis**

20 Lysates were loaded into either 10 % SDS-PAGE gels or pre-casted 4-12 % Bis-Tris 26-well NuPAGE™  
21 or 10-well Bolt™ gels (Invitrogen, Thermo Fisher Scientific) and electrophoresed in either 1x SDS-PAGE  
22 running buffer or 1x MOPS running buffer. Proteins were transferred onto nitrocellulose membranes  
23 using either the BioRAD Semi-Dry Blot system (30 minutes in 1xBjerrum buffer + 20 % methanol) for  
24 SDS-PAGE gels or the iBlot2® (P0, 7mins, using iBlot® 2NC regular stacks) (Invitrogen, Thermo Fisher  
25 Scientific) for pre-casted gels. Membranes were blocked for 1 hour at room temperature (RT) in 5 %  
26 milk-TBS-T (0.1 % Tween20), or in the case of Rb anti-eIF2 $\alpha$ , Ms anti-eIF2 $\alpha$  and Rb anti-p-eIF2 $\alpha$  blots,  
27 5 % milk-TBS, and then incubated with the indicated primary antibodies at 4°C overnight. Primary  
28 antibodies were diluted in 5 % milk-TBS-T, apart from Rb anti-eIF2 $\alpha$ , Ms anti-eIF2 $\alpha$  and Rb anti-p-  
29 eIF2 $\alpha$ , which were diluted in 5 % BSA-TBS-T (0.1 % Tween20). After three 10 minutes washes in TBS-  
30 T, membranes were incubated with the indicated secondary antibodies in 5 % milk-TBS-T for 1.5 hours  
31 at RT, followed by three 10 minutes TBS-T washes. The blots were then visualised using the Odyssey  
32 System (LICOR).

33

34

1 **Polysome Fractionations**

2 The protocol for polysome fractionations was adapted from <sup>78</sup>. HeLa cells were transfected with the  
3 'empty' (pcDNA5\_FRT\_TO\_3xFlag) or 'capsid' (pcDNA5.3xFLAG-capsid) plasmids as described for the  
4 large scale transfections above. The cells were treated with 100 µg/mL CHX for 4 mins at 37 °C prior  
5 to harvesting. Cells were washed once with ice-cold PBS containing 100 µg/mL CHX, scraped off the  
6 surface of the dish with 750 µL per 15cm dish of PBS-CHX and then transferred into tubes. Cells were  
7 collected by centrifugation at 4 °C for 5 minutes at 500 x g and lysed in 600 µL of lysis buffer (10 mM  
8 Tris-HCl [pH 7.5], 10 mM NaCl, 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 1 % Triton X-100, 1 % sodium deoxycholate,  
9 supplemented fresh with 1 mM DTT, 0.2 U/µL RNase Inhibitor [NxGen] and 100 µg/mL CHX) on ice  
10 with occasional vortexing. Thereafter, cell lysates were cleared by centrifugation at 4 °C for 5 minutes  
11 at 16000 x g and loaded onto ice-cold 15-50 % sucrose-CHX gradients and ultracentrifuged at 4 °C for  
12 2 hours at 274 000 x g in a SW-41Ti rotor (Beckman). Gradients were fractionated and monitored at  
13 an absorbance of 254 nm with a fraction collector (BioComp Instruments) at a speed of 0.2-mm/s,  
14 with a distance of 3.71 mm per fraction.

15

16 **Subcellular Fractionations and rRNA analysis**

17 HeLa cells (2.5x10<sup>6</sup> per dish) were seeded into 15 cm dishes and transfected with the relevant  
18 pcDNA5.3xFLAG plasmids as described previously. Cells were harvested 48 hours later: 1x10<sup>7</sup> cells per  
19 condition 'empty' or 'capsid' were collected and fractionated into nuclear and cytoplasmic fractions  
20 according to <sup>79</sup>. For RNA analysis, 900 µL of TRI-Reagent was added to 1x10<sup>6</sup> cell equivalents of each  
21 fraction (Cyto and nuclear) and RNA extracted as described above. The quality of the 18S and 28S rRNA  
22 in the fractions was assessed using the 2100 Bioanalyzer Instrument (Agilent) with Agilent RNA 6000  
23 Nano Kit, as per the manufacturer's instructions. The 28S rRNA and 45S pre-rRNA of the nuclear  
24 fractions were further analysed by RT-qPCR using the following primers: 28S rRNA: fwd: 5'-  
25 AGAGGTAAACGGGTGGGTC-3'; rev: 5'-GGGGTCGGAGGAACGG-3' and 45S pre-rRNA: fwd: 5'-  
26 GAACGGTGGTGTGTCGTT-3'; rev: 5'-GCGTCTCGTCTCGTCTCACT-3'.

27

28 **Data availability statement:**

29 The data supporting the findings of this study are available within the paper and its supplementary  
30 files (Table1, Table2, Table3). The mass spectrometry proteomics data have, in addition, been  
31 deposited to the ProteomeXchange Consortium via the PRI-DE database identifier PXD022036  
32 (<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/pride/>).

33

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7

8

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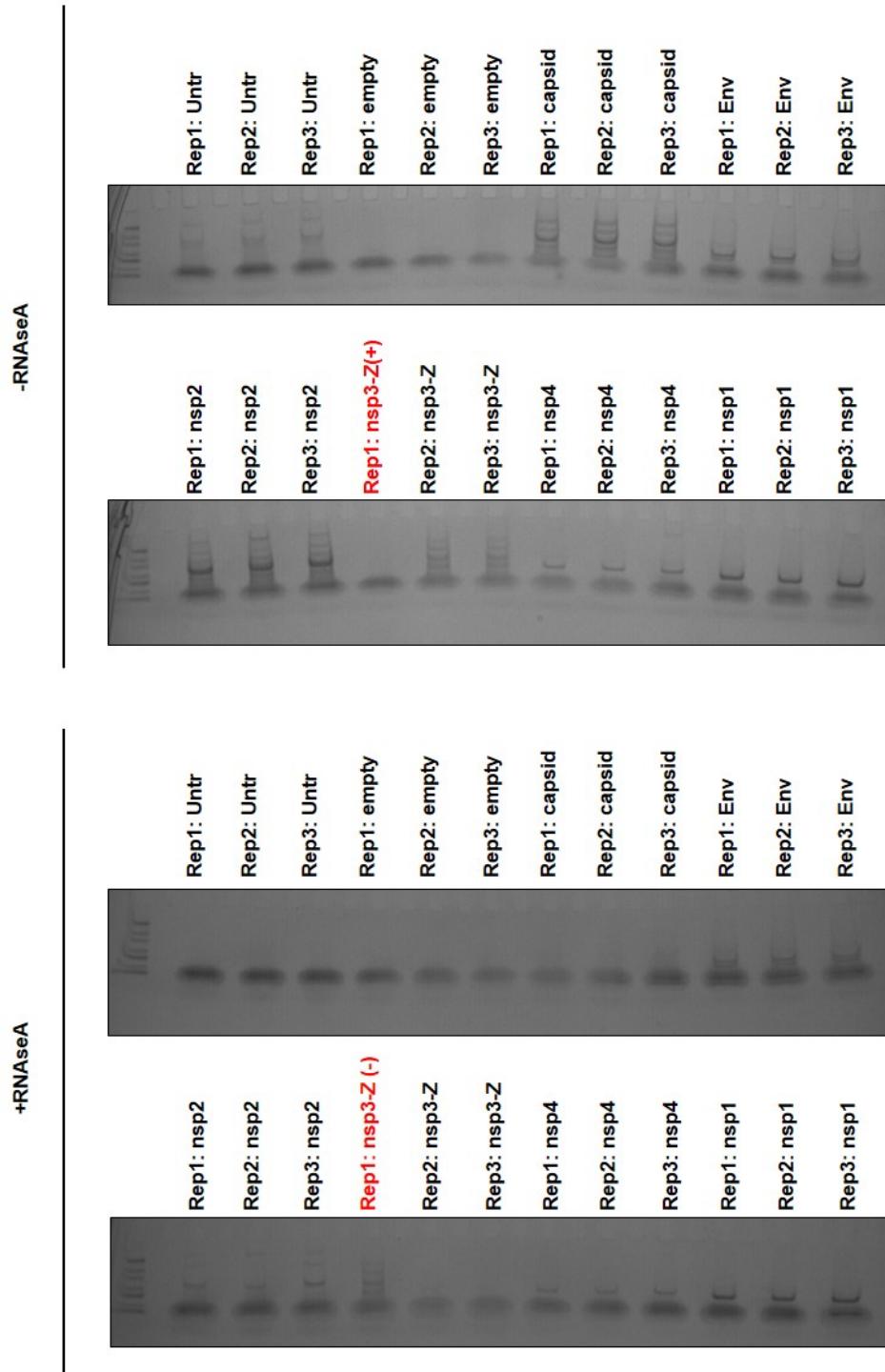
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1 **Supplementary Figures:**

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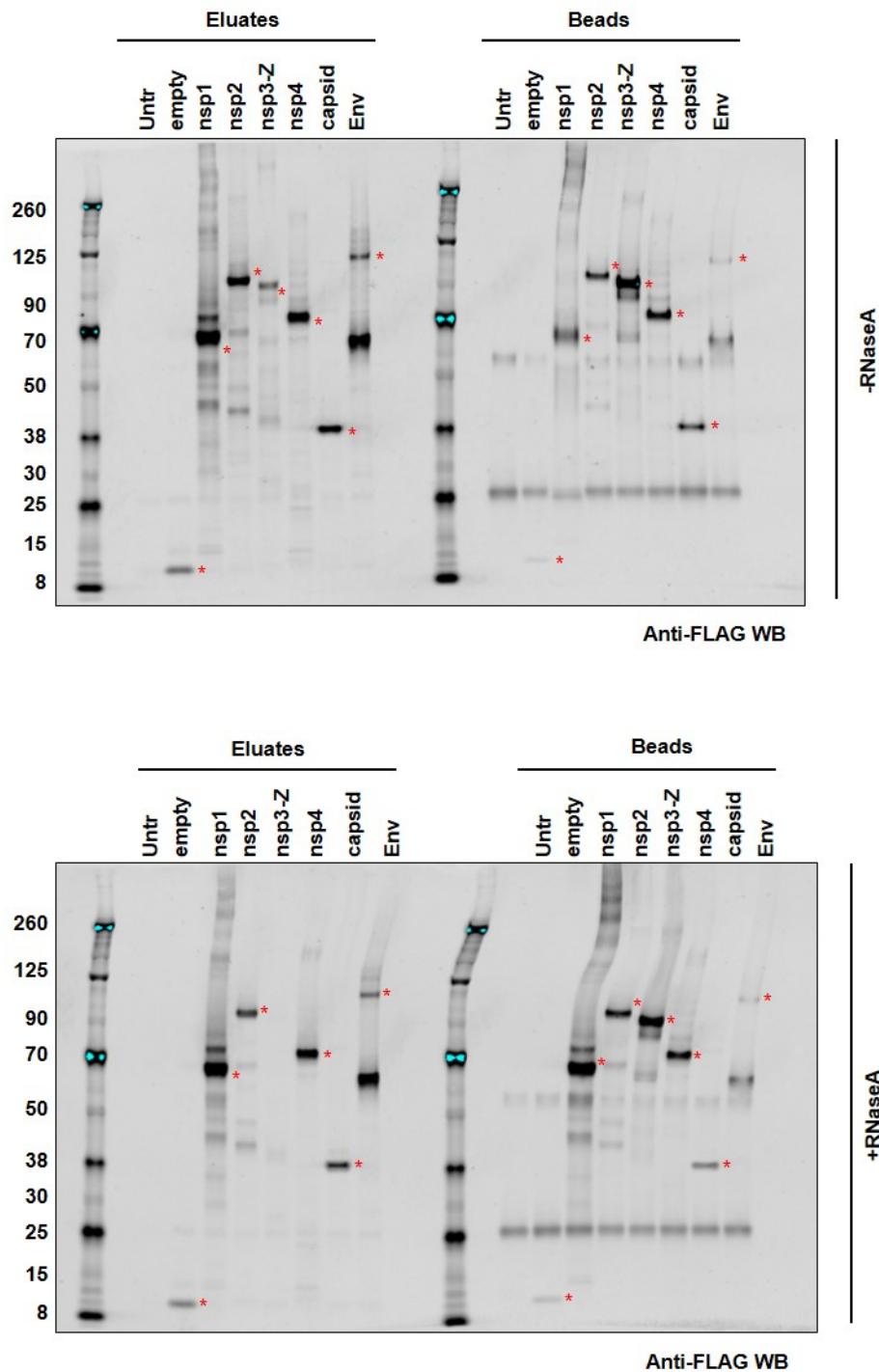
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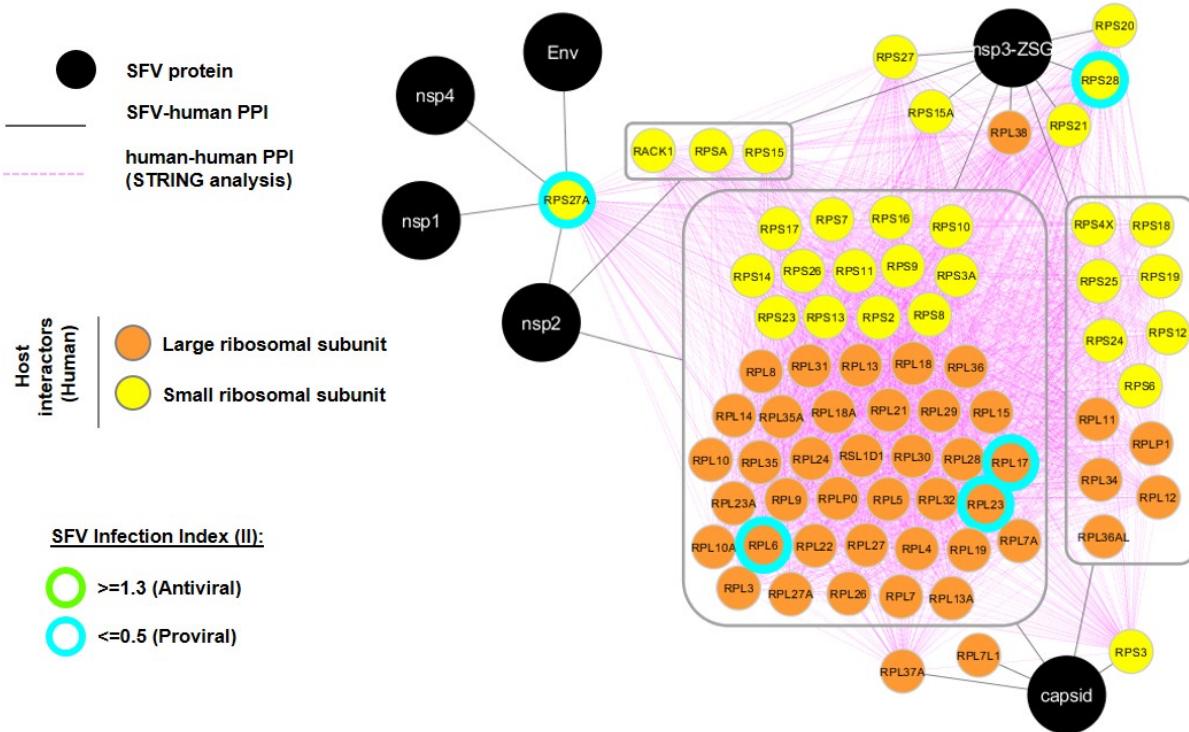
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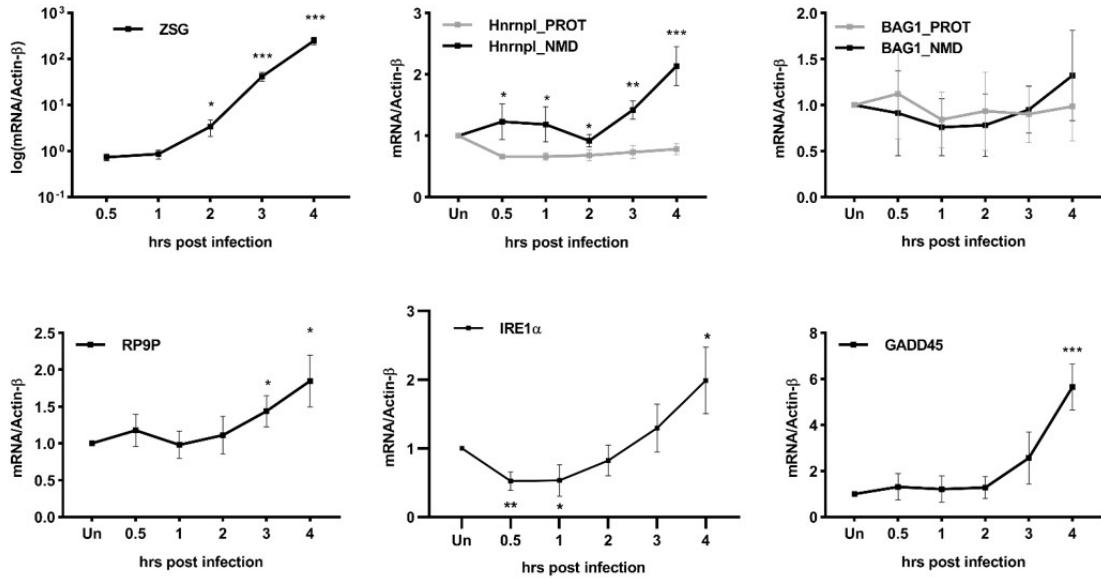
**Supplementary Figure 1: Coomassie-stained gels showing eluate samples of SFV affinity purifications that were sent for mass spectrometry analysis.** Geldoc images of coomassie-stained gels showing eluates (20  $\mu$ L) from three biological replicates of each SFV affinity purification electrophoresed 1 cm into the gels, prior to cutting. Rectangular segments (10 mm x 3 mm) for each lane were cut from the gel and samples were processed for mass spectrometry analysis. Note that samples of Rep1: nsp3-Z were loaded in opposite positions, hence highlighted in red and denoted (+) and (-).



1  
2 **Supplementary Figure 2: Anti-flag western blots of SFV affinity purifications with (bottom) and without (top) treatment**  
3 **with RNaseA.** Red asterisks indicate 3xFLAG tagged SFV proteins (or the 3xFLAG alone) at respective sizes. 'Untr' refers to an  
4 untransfected control condition that underwent the affinity purification procedure, while 'empty' denotes transfection with  
5 a plasmid construct containing only the 3xFLAG tag (with no additional coding region) followed by affinity purification. The  
6 expected sizes of the proteins (3xFLAG included) were: empty ~8kDa; nsp1 ~63kDa; nsp2 ~92kDa; nsp3-Z ~82kDa; nsp4  
7 ~72kDa; capsid ~33kDa and Env ~111kDa. The left side of the WBs indicate the Eluates (after flag peptide elution from the  
8 beads) of each SFV affinity purification, which were sent for mass spectrometry analysis. The right hand side of the WBs  
9 indicate the SFV proteins that were still present on the beads after the flag peptide elution step.  
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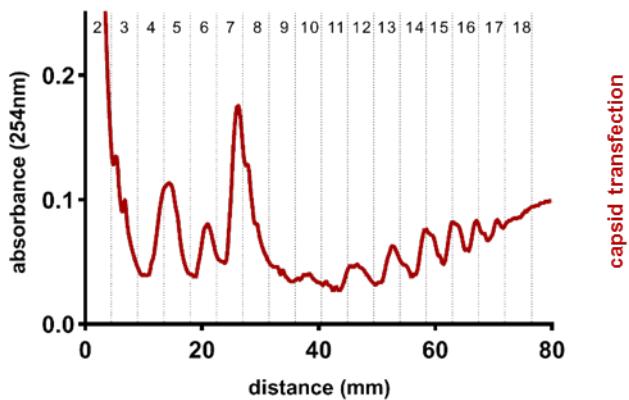
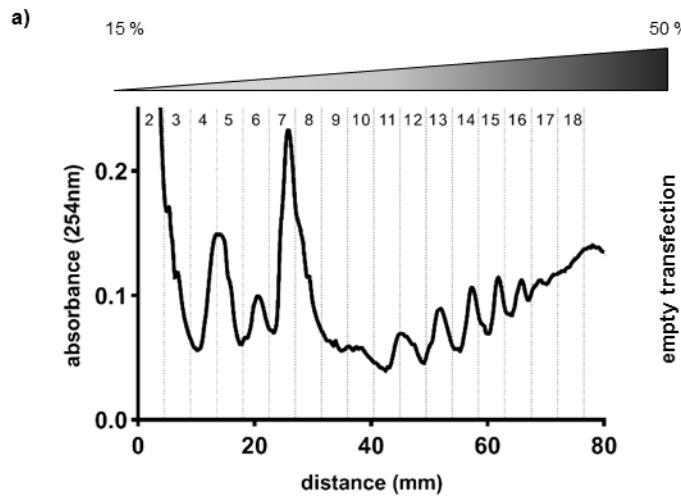


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2 **Supplementary Figure 3. A network visualisation of the SFV-ribosomal host protein interactome.** In total, 77 ribosomal  
3 host proteins are displayed. SFV proteins are depicted in black circles and host proteins are displayed in smaller colour-coded  
4 circles according to the key. SFV-host PPI are depicted with solid grey lines. Grey boxes reflect host proteins that were  
5 identified as interactors to more than one of the SFV proteins. In these cases, the solid grey lines connect the grouped set of  
6 host proteins to the SFV proteins for which they were identified as interactors. Host-host PPI ascertained through STRING  
7 analysis are depicted with dotted pink lines. The host interactors were collected based on three independent biological  
8 replicates. SFV-ribosomal host protein interactors identified through a genome-wide fluorescence microscopy based siRNA  
9 screen as exhibiting potential proviral roles in SFV replication are additionally shown (turquoise borders, II  $\leq 0.5$ ). None were  
10 identified as having a potential antiviral role (Threshold  $\geq 1.3$ ).  
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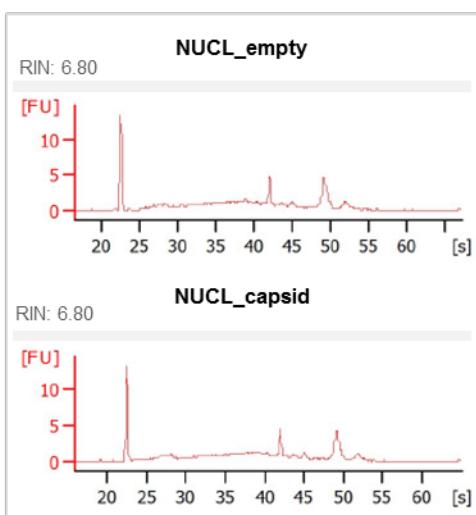
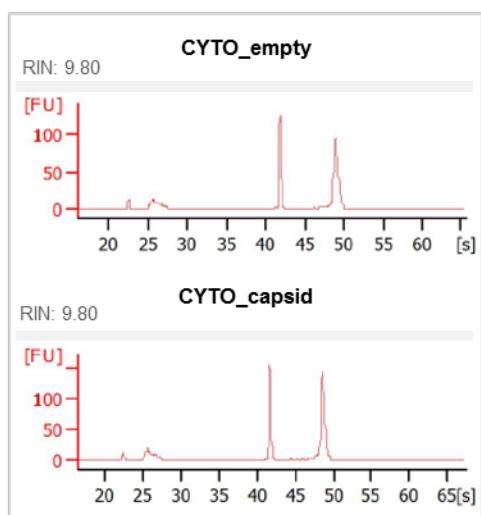


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2 **Supplementary Figure 4 (Related to Figure 5). SFV infection inhibits NMD at 3-4 hours post infection.** RT-qPCR analysis  
3 showing mRNA levels relative to Actin- $\beta$  of the viral RNA (first graph – ‘ZSG’), NMD targets (black lines) and non-NMD targets  
4 (light grey lines) normalised to either the 0.5 hr sample (in the case of the viral RNA ‘ZSG’) or the Uninfected control,  
5 at different time points post SFV-ZSG infection. Cells were infected with an MOI of 10. Line graphs display the mean  $\pm$  SD of  
6 four independent biological replicates (n=4). Statistical significance was determined using unpaired, two-tailed t-tests,  
7 corrected for multiple comparisons using the Holm-Šídák method, with alpha = 0.05 (GraphPad Prism, v8.4.1). Asterisks  
8 indicate adjusted p values: p $\leq$ 0.05\*, p $\leq$ 0.01\*\*, p $\leq$ 0.001\*\*\*.  
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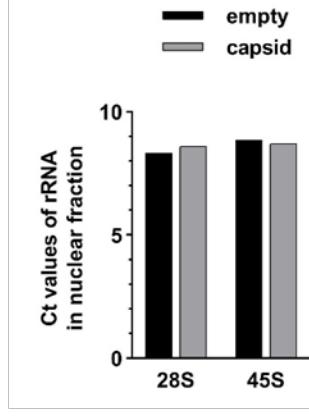
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**b)**



**c)**



**Supplementary Figure 5 (Related to Figure 6). SFV capsid expression did not alter polysome profiles or rRNA.** *a*, HeLa cells expressing 'empty' (pcDNA5\_FRT\_TO\_3xFlag) or 'capsid' (pcDNA5.3xFLAG-capsid) plasmids were treated with CHX [100 µg/mL], lysed and ultracentrifuged (274 000 x g, 2 hours, 4°C) through a 15-50% sucrose-CHX gradient to separate ribosomal subunits and monosomes from active/translating polysomes (Protocol adapted from <sup>78</sup>). The gradients were fractionated and the absorbance values (254 nm) throughout the gradient is plotted. *b*, Bioanalyzer analyses of RNA extracted from cytoplasmic (CYTO) and nuclear (NUCL) fractions of 'empty' or 'capsid' expressing cells. The peaks at ~42 and 49 [s] indicate the 18S and 28S rRNAs, respectively. RIN values indicate RNA integrity, 10 being the highest. *c*, RT-qPCR analysis showing raw CT values of 28S and 45S rRNAs from 'empty' or 'capsid' expressing cells.