Supplementary Data

Structure and regulatory role of the C-terminal winged helix domain of the archaeal minichromosome maintenance complex

Christoph Wiedemann\(^1\), Anna Szambowska\(^2,4\), Sabine Häfner\(^1\), Oliver Ohlenschläger\(^1\), Karl-Heinz Gührs\(^3\), and Matthias Görlach\(^1,\ast\)

\(^1\)Research Group Biomolecular NMR Spectroscopy,  
\(^2\)Research Group Biochemistry,  
\(^3\)Protein laboratory, Leibniz Institute for Age Research, Fritz Lipmann Institute, Beutenbergstr. 11, D-07745 Jena, Germany;  
\(^4\)Laboratory of Molecular Biology IBB PAS, affiliated with University of Gdansk, Wita Stwosza 59, Gdansk, Poland  
\(*\)Corresponding author: mago@fli-leibniz.de
Table S 1: Primers used in this study

| Primer | Sequence 5′-3′ | Construct<sup>a</sup> |
|--------|---------------|-----------------------|
| CW72   | gtc ctc gac gta gac ttt ttt gta aca ttc | rev <i>Sso</i> MCM C-term. domain, XhoI site |
| CW74   | gtc ctc gac tca gac tat ctt aag gta tcc | rev <i>Mth</i> MCM C-term. domain, XhoI site |
| CW81   | agc agc ggc ctg gtg ccc gcg gaa aac ctg tat ttt cag ggc gta tta gat gac | fwd thrombine to TEV site |
| CW82   | ggc cgg cac gag gcc gcg gcg gcg gaa aac ctg ttt cag | rev thrombine to TEV site |
| CW83   | agt gta gga gtt gat atg taa tga aag tgg aaa a | fwd 2 stop codons distal to <i>Sso</i> MCM M604 |
| CW84   | cat atc aac tcc tac act ctc tag gaa aag | rev 2 stop codons distal to <i>Sso</i> MCM M604 |
| CW85   | aca ata atg act ggt aaa taa tga cct aaa aag cct | fwd 2 stop codons distal to <i>Sso</i> MCM K618 |
| CW86   | ttt acc aag gtt ttt cac ttt tag ttt aag cct tta g | rev 2 stop codons distal to <i>Sso</i> MCM K618 |
| CW89   | gaa aca cct gat aca cca gat aca cct cca aga cca aag gaa a | fwd <i>Sso</i> MCM I555_I557delinsDSD |
| CW90   | tgg gcc ttt gtt ttt gtt ttt ctt cct | rev <i>Sso</i> MCM I555_I557delinsDSD |
| CW91   | gtc cca tgg aaa ttc cta gta aag aga ttt aag c | fwd <i>Sso</i> MCM, NcoI site |
| CW106  | agt gta gga gtt gat atg ggc gcc gcc ggc gec gaa aag agt gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gccgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc gcgcc 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Table S 1: Primers used in this study

| Primer | Sequence 5’-3’ | Construct<sup>a</sup> |
|--------|----------------|----------------------|
| CW143  | agt gta gga gtt gat atg gag aca ggc aag ata gat atga gac aag | fwd substitute Sso E605_V686 by Mth MCM E583_V666, rev CW74 |
| CW144  | gcc tgt ctc cat atc aac tcc tac act ctc tag gaa aag | rev substitute Sso E605_V686 by Mth MCM E583_V666, fwd CW91 |
| CW145  | agt gta gga gtt gat atg gaa acc gga aaa ata gat atag | fwd Sso MCM S606T, rev CW84 |
| CW146  | ata gat ata gat aca ata ccg act ggt aaaa | fwd Sso MCM M615P, rev CW149 |
| CW147  | ata gat ata gat aca ata ggc act ggt aaaa | fwd Sso MCM M615G, rev CW149 |
| CW148  | ata gat ata gat aca ata ggc act ggt aaaa | fwd Sso MCM M615A, rev CW149 |
| CW149  | tat tgt atc tat atc tat ttt tcc act ttc | rev mutation of Sso MCM M615 |
| CW150  | agt gga aaaa atat atat ccc ata ccc act ggt ccc ctt aac acc gc | fwd Sso MCM T613P, M615P and K618P |
| CW151  | agt gga aaaa atat atat ggc ata ggc act ggt ggc ctt aac acc gc | fwd Sso MCM T613G, M615G and K618G |
| CW152  | agt gga aaaa atat atat ggg ata ggg act ggt ggg ctt aac acc gc | fwd Sso MCM T613A, M615A and K618A |
| CW153  | atc tat atc tat ttt tcc act ttc cat atc aac | rev mutation of Sso MCM T613 M615 and K618 |
| CW154  | ggt gat ccc ggt act ggc ggc tca caa atg | fwd Sso MCM K346A Walker A-mutation |
| CW155  | ggg gat agg ggc ttc gtt gtt agg agg agg ttc tcc ttc tca acg tga | rev Sso MCM K346A Walker A-mutation |
| CW156  | cca ata ttg ata act cca ggc caa tta gag | fwd Sso MCM R560A Sensor II-mutation |
| CW157  | cca ata ttg ata act cca ggc caa tta gag | rev Sso MCM R560A Sensor II-mutation |
| Y-shpF  | (t)<sub>44</sub> gct gct gca gac gtc gac gtc gac gag gag aag aag tcc tcc | fwd Y-shapped DNA for helicase assay, rev Y-shpR<sup>c</sup> |
| Y-shpR  | gct gct cac gag gag ctc ctc ctc ctc acc aeg tgg tgg gtc gtc gtc gtc gtc gtc | rev Y-shapped DNA for helicase assay, fwd Y-shpF<sup>c</sup> |

<sup>a</sup> nomenclature for the description of sequence variations as recommended [1]

<sup>b</sup> DNA oligo sequences for EMSA as published in [2]

<sup>c</sup> DNA oligo sequences for helicase assay as published in [3]

Biophysical characterisation

Purified C-terminal domain of Sso MCM represents a folded and thermostable monomer

To obtain initial information about secondary structure elements of the purified C-terminal domain of Sso MCM far-UV CD spectra were recorded. The same initial biophysical characterization is provided for the Mth MCM C-terminal domain (Supplementary Figure S1, S2, S4-S5 and Table S2-S4). The spectra display two minima of ellipticity at 208 and 222 nm and one maximum at 192 nm (Supplementary Figure S1), respectively, that are typical for a high α-helical content (Supplementary Table S2). The secondary structure composition was calculated using CAPITO [4] and CDPro [5]. The heat induced protein unfolding as monitored by CD spectroscopy revealed that the isolated Sso MCM C-terminal domain is highly thermostable (Supplementary Figure S2 and Table S3).
Circular dichroism analysis

Fig. S 1: Far UV-CD spectra of *S. solfataricus* (solid line) and *M. thermautotrophicus* (dashed line) MCM C-terminal domains at 4°C. Circular dichroism (CD) spectra were collected on a JASCO J-710 CD spectropolarimeter at 4°C in a 1 mm quartz cuvette to evaluate the proper fold of the proteins and to estimate the secondary structure content. The instrument was calibrated with D-10-camphorsulphonic acid. Purified proteins were exchanged into pure water using NAP-5 columns (GE Healthcare). The protein concentration was in the 1–10 µM range and verified spectrophotometrically at 280 nm with extinction coefficients calculated using ProtParam (http://web.expasy.org/protparam/). Each CD spectrum represents the average of 10 accumulated scans at 10 nm/min with a 1 nm slit width and a time constant of 4 s for a nominal resolution of 0.7 nm. Data were collected between 185 and 260 nm. No further zeroing was applied after background subtraction.

| Construct | Denaturation temperature |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| *Sso* MCM | ≥ 85°C                   |
| *Sso* MCMΔWH | ≥ 85°C                 |
| *Sso* MCM WH | n. o. "            |
| *Mth* MCM WH | 80°C                    |

*a* not observable in the temperature range up to 90°C
Fig. S 2: Heat denaturation as observed by CD spectroscopy of Sso MCM (a, b), Sso MCM\(\Delta WH\) (c, d), the Sso MCM C-terminal domain (WH) (e, f) and the Mth MCM C-terminal domain (WH) (g, h), respectively. At 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 and 90\(\degree\)C CD spectra were collected between 200 nm and 260 nm (left column). Each CD spectrum represents the average of 5 accumulated scans at 50 nm/min with a 1 nm slit width and a time constant of 1 s for a nominal resolution of 0.83 nm. Ellipticity was observed at 222 nm at temperatures ranging between 20–90\(\degree\)C (right column). Data points were collected in 0.2\(\degree\)C steps with a response time of 1 sec and a bandwidth of 1 nm. Temperature slope was 1\(\degree\)/ min. Denaturation temperature was calculated with Spectra Manager™ software (JASCO).
Thermostability of Sso MCM C-terminal domain assessed by $[^{1}H,^{15}N]$-HSQC spectra

**Fig. S 3:** Temperature sensitivity of the Sso MCM C-terminal domain. $[^{1}H,^{15}N]$-HSQC spectra of an Sso MCM C-terminal domain sample (250 µM) were recorded at 600 MHz with spectral widths of 6893 Hz sampled over 1024 complex points in the $\omega_2$ ($^1H$) dimension, and 1944 Hz over 256 complex points in the $\omega_1$ ($^{15}N$) dimension with 4 scans per increment in the indirect dimension. The $^1H$ and $^{15}N$ radio frequency carriers were set at 4.69 ppm and 116 ppm, respectively. Recycle time was 1 s. a) and b) $[^{1}H,^{15}N]$-HSQC spectra of Sso MCM C-terminal domain recorded at 30°C and 60°C. c) $[^{1}H,^{15}N]$-HSQC spectra of Sso MCM C-terminal domain recorded at 30°C after cooling down from 60°C to 30°C. d) Superposition of the spectra shown in a-c.

The observed $[^{1}H,^{15}N]$-HSQC fingerprint spectra resulted in a highly similar signal pattern for both temperatures suggesting that the overall fold is not affected at higher temperatures.

**Light scattering**

To gain access to hydrodynamic parameters of Sso MCM C-terminal domain we performed dynamic and static light scattering analysis. The hydrodynamic radius derived from dynamic light scattering is 1.55±0.12 nm (Supplementary Figure S4 and Table S4). This value is in line with the calculated one ($R_h$: 1.56–1.72 nm) as obtained for globular spherical proteins on the basis of their molecular weight by applying the Stokes’ law [7]. The molecular weight estimated from $R_h$ (9.3 kD) indicates that the purified, recombinant C-terminal domain of Sso MCM is monomeric in solution. Additionally, results obtained from static light scattering analysis showed
that the Sso MCM C-terminal domain has a molecular mass of about 10.5 kD, which is consistent with the dynamic light scattering results and a calculated molecular weight of 9.5 kD (Supplementary Figure S5).

**Fig. S 4:** Size exclusion chromatography (a) and dynamic light scattering (b) of purified Sso (blue) and Mth MCM C-terminal domain (WH) (green), respectively.

a) Size exclusion chromatography was performed on a HighLoad 16/60 SD 75 column (GE Healthcare) equilibrated in 10 mM Na-Phosphate pH 6.2 and 150 mM NaCl. Flow rate was 1.5 ml/min.

b) Dynamic light scattering (DLS) on purified Mth and Sso MCM WH was performed on a Viscotek 802 DLS equipped with a 50 mW fiber coupled 830 nm diode laser. Fifty transients of 5 s each were recorded at 20°C in a 50 µl volume. Protein concentrations were in the range of 50 µM in 10 mM Na-Phosphate, 150 mM NaCl, pH 6.2. Mass weighted distribution of hydrodynamic radii and a model of globular proteins were utilized for converting hydrodynamic radii to molecular weights. Mass weighted scattering intensity distribution from dynamic light scattering is plotted. OmniSIZE 3.0 software (Viscotek) was used for acquisition and analysis of DLS data.
**Fig. S 5:** Static light scattering of *Sso* (a, b) and *Mth* (c, d) MCM C-terminal WH domain. Static light scattering (SLS) on purified *Mth* and *Sso* MCM WH were performed using a Superdex 200 10/300 GL column (GE Healthcare), equilibrated with the same buffer as for DLS, and 270 Dual detectors (Viscotek) coupled to an Äkta Explorer system (GE Healthcare). 100 µl of purified *Mth* and *Sso* MCM WH were applied to the system with a flow rate of 0.5 ml/min. Protein concentration was in the range of 1 mg/ml. Bovine serum albumin standard (Thermo scientific) was used for calibration and the protein concentration was 2 mg/ml in a 0.9% aqueous NaCl solution. The resulting data were evaluated with the OmniSEC software. Bovine serum albumin (e, f) was used for calibration. Refractive index (RI), right angle light scattering (RALS) and UV signal at 280 nm is shown on in a, c, and e. Adjusted refractive index and calculated molecular weight of the eluted protein are shown on in b, d, and f.
Fig. S 6: Electrophoretic mobility shift assay. DNA (10 μM) of different topologies as indicated below the gels was incubated at room temperature for 30 min with a 100-fold molar excess of isolated archaeal MCM C-terminal domains of Sso or Mth, respectively. Samples were loaded onto a native 12.5% polyacrylamide gel. Gels were run at 20 mA for 2 h in 40 mM Tris-acetat, pH 7.2 at 4°C. Different incubation temperatures, buffer compositions and gel running temperatures were also tested with comparable outcome (not shown).
NMR relaxation parameters

$\{^{1}H,^{15}N\}$ relaxation parameters of selectively $^{15}$N-labeled Sso and Mth MCM C-terminal domains were acquired using two-dimensional, $^{1}$H-detected heteronuclear NMR experiments by recording inversion recovery $\{^{1}H,^{15}N\}$-HSQC for $T_1$ measurements, CPMG [8] spin echo $\{^{1}H,^{15}N\}$-HSQC for $T_2$ measurements and heteronuclear steady-state NOE spectra, respectively. $T_1$ values were measured in a series of spectra with relaxation delays of 0.003, 0.05, 0.1, 0.15, 0.2, 0.35, 0.5, 0.7, 1.2, 2 and 4 s. $T_2$ measurements were taken with relaxation delays of 0.016, 0.033, 0.048, 0.065, 0.081, 0.114, 0.146 and 0.179 s. The relaxation delay for $T_1$ and $T_2$ measurements were 5 s and 3 s, respectively. To allow NOE evolution, $^{1}$H-$^{15}$N steady-state NOE values were measured with two different data sets, one collected without initial proton presaturation and a second with an initial proton presaturation period of 3 s. Protein concentrations were in the 1 mM range.

Estimates of the rotational correlation time, $\tau_c$, of Sso and Mth MCM C-terminal domains were obtained from the ratios of $^{15}$N $T_1$ and $T_2$ values, using a modified equation as reported in [9]. The Debye-Stokes-Einstein equation was used to calculate the hydrodynamic radius from $\tau_c$ [10]. The hydrodynamic properties of Sso and Mth MCM C-terminal domains were also predicted from their NMR-derived structure ensembles using the software HYDROPRO [11].

Fig. S 7: $\{^{1}H,^{15}N\}$ Hetero-NOE, relaxation times $T_1$ and $T_2$ for the Sso MCM C-terminal domain at 17.6 T plotted as a function of the residue number. $T_1$ and $T_2$ spectra were recorded with spectral widths of 8710 Hz sampled over 1024 complex points in the $\omega_2$ ($^{1}$H) dimension, and 2280 Hz over 94 complex points in the $\omega_1$ ($^{15}$N) dimension with 8 scans for each increment in the indirect dimension. Heteronuclear steady-state NOE spectra were acquired with a spectral width of 8710 Hz over 1024 complex points in the $\omega_2$ ($^{1}$H) dimension and 2280 Hz over 68 complex points in the $\omega_1$ ($^{15}$N) dimension with 32 scans for each increment in the indirect dimension. The $^{1}$H and $^{15}$N radio frequency carriers were set at 4.69 ppm and 116 ppm, respectively. Temperature was at 30°C.
Fig. S 8: $\{^{1}\text{H},^{15}\text{N}\}$ Hetero-NOE, relaxation times $T_1$ and $T_2$ for the $Mth$ MCM C-terminal domain at 17.6 T plotted as a function of the residue number. $T_1$ and $T_2$ spectra were recorded with spectral widths of 7653 Hz sampled over 1024 complex points in the $\omega_2$ ($^{1}\text{H}$) dimension, and 2204 Hz over 128 complex points in the $\omega_1$ ($^{15}\text{N}$) dimension with 4 scans for each increment in the indirect dimension. Heteronuclear steady-state NOE spectra were acquired with a spectral width of 7653 Hz over 1024 complex points in the $\omega_2$ ($^{1}\text{H}$) dimension and 2204 Hz over 128 complex points in the $\omega_1$ ($^{15}\text{N}$) dimension with 8 scans for each increment in the indirect dimension. The $^{1}\text{H}$ and $^{15}\text{N}$ radio frequency carriers were set at 4.69 ppm and 119 ppm, respectively. Temperature was at 30°C.

Table S 4: Comparison of hydrodynamic parameters of $Mth$ and $Sso$ MCM C-terminal domains

|          | $Mth$       | $Sso$      |
|----------|-------------|------------|
|          | DLS$^a$     | SLS$^b$    | HYDROPRO$^c$ | NMR$^d$ | DLS | SLS | HYDROPRO | NMR |
| $\tau_c$ [ns] | 4.4±1.1     | –          | 7.7±1.04    | 5.2±1.4  | 3.9±0.9 | – | 5.2±0.4  | 4.4±1.2 |
| $R_h$ [nm]  | 1.62±0.13   | –          | 2.04±0.1   | 1.73±0.15 | 1.55±0.12 | – | 1.79±0.04 | 1.64±0.15 |
| $M_W$ [kD]  | 10.5        | 10.4       | 17.6–22.9  | 9.6–13.8 | 9.3  | 10.5 | 10.9–14.9 | 7.9–11.3 |
| $M_W$ [kD]  | 10.1        | –          | –          | –        | –    | –   | –        | –      |

|          | $Mth$       | $Sso$      |
|----------|-------------|------------|
|          | DLS$^a$     | SLS$^b$    | HYDROPRO$^c$ | NMR$^d$ | DLS | SLS | HYDROPRO | NMR |
| $\tau_c$ [ns] | 4.4±1.1     | –          | 7.7±1.04    | 5.2±1.4  | 3.9±0.9 | – | 5.2±0.4  | 4.4±1.2 |
| $R_h$ [nm]  | 1.62±0.13   | –          | 2.04±0.1   | 1.73±0.15 | 1.55±0.12 | – | 1.79±0.04 | 1.64±0.15 |
| $M_W$ [kD]  | 10.5        | 10.4       | 17.6–22.9  | 9.6–13.8 | 9.3  | 10.5 | 10.9–14.9 | 7.9–11.3 |
| $M_W$ [kD]  | 10.1        | –          | –          | –        | –    | –   | –        | –      |

$^a$ Dynamic light scattering  
$^b$ Static light scattering  
$^c$ calculation with HYDROPRO software [11] from NMR-derived structure ensembles, the average value is indicated  
$^d$ $\tau_c$ was obtained from the $T_1/T_2$ ratio [9] measured on a 750 MHz spectrometer at 30°C for $Mth$ and $Sso$ MCM-WH  
$^e$ rotational correlation time  
$^f$ hydrodynamic radius  
$^g$ for molecular weight calculation a hydration radius (0.16–0.32 nm) was subtracted from the protein hydrodynamic radius [7]  
$^h$ theoretical molecular weight based on amino acid composition  

For DLS, SLS, HYDROPRO and NMR methods, $\tau_c$, $R_h$ and $M_W$, respectively, are mean values ± standard deviations. The errors are obtained by applying the error propagation law. The underlined values indicate those determined from the experimental data. The nonunderlined values are determined using the Stokes-Einstein and the Debye-Stokes-Einstein equation [10].
Table S 5: NMR and refinement statistics for the Mth MCM C-terminal domain

| Description                                      | Value            |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Total distance restraints                        | 2494             |
| **NOE based distance restraints**                |                  |
| intra-residual ([i-j]=0)                         | 291              |
| sequential ([i-j] = 1)                           | 652              |
| medium-range (2≤|i-j|≤4)                         | 812              |
| long-range ([i-j]≥5)                             | 701              |
| **Restrainted H-bonds**                          | 38               |
| **Dihedral angle restraint**                     | 182              |
| Constraint violations                            |                  |
| Distance constraints (Å)                         | 0.007±0.001      |
| Max. distance constraint violation (Å)           | 0.20±0.08        |
| Dihedral angle constraints (°)                   | 0.21±0.14        |
| Max. dihedral angle violation (°)                | 3.22±2.25        |
| CYANA target function (Å²)                       | 0.84±0.23        |
| AMBER energies (kcal mol⁻¹)                      | -1437.1±62.3     |
| **Deviations from idealized geometry**           |                  |
| Bond lengths (Å)                                 | 0.005            |
| Bond angles (°)                                  | 1.450            |
| **mean global RMSD (Å)**                         |                  |
| Total(α)(backbone)                               | 6.37±1.95        |
| Total(α)(heavy atoms)                            | 6.72±1.87        |
| Ordered(α)(backbone)                             | 0.92±0.28        |
| Ordered(α)(heavy atoms)                          | 1.82±0.31        |
| **Ramachandran statistics (%)**d                 |                  |
| Most favored                                     | 85               |
| Additionally allowed                             | 14               |
| Generously allowed                               | 1                |
| Disallowed                                       | 0                |

*a upper & lower distance restraints

*b Mth MCM WH: residues E583-V666

*c Mth MCM WH: residues K598-V666

*d PROCHECK classification [12]

Expression vector derived residues were not included in the structural statistics.

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Fig. S 9: NMR solution structure of the *M. thermautotrophicus* MCM C-terminal domain. a) Superimposition of backbone traces for the 20 structures with the lowest energy after OPAL refinement. b and c) Ribbon representation of the structural ensemble with labeled secondary structure elements. Here, the less ordered residues 579–591 of the *M. thermautotrophicus* MCM C-terminal WH domain are omitted for clarity. The Mth MCM C-terminal domain was expressed and purified as reported [13]. The ¹H, ¹³C and ¹⁵N backbone and side chain chemical shift assignments for the *M. thermautotrophicus* MCM C-terminal WH domain are available from the BioMagResBank (accession numbers: 19187) [13]. The structural coordinates of the *M. thermautotrophicus* MCM C-terminal domain have been deposited to protein data bank (PDB: 2MA3). α1-3: α helix 1-3; β1-3: β strand 1-3
Fig. S 10: Distribution and number of NOEs of the Sso (a, b) and Mth (c, d) MCM C-terminal domain. a) and c) The panels show the number of NOEs as a function of residue |i-j| range. NOE constraints were classified into 4 range categories according to the sequential distance of involved residues (intraresidue k=i, sequential k=i±1, medium-range k=i±2-4, long-range k=i±n n>4). b) and d) The number of NOE constraints used in the structure calculation as a function of residue number.
Table S 6: 20 top ranked homologues of *Sso* MCM C-terminal domain\(^a\) returned by the DALI web server [14]

| No | PDB\(^b\) | Z-score\(^c\) | rmsd\(^d\) | lali\(^e\) | nres\(^f\) | %id\(^g\) | Description |
|----|-----------|----------------|-----------|---------|---------|--------|-------------|
| 1  | 2m45-A    | 13.8           | 0.5       | 67      | 87      | 100    | Minichromosome maintenance protein MCM |
| 2  | 2ma3-A    | 10.9           | 1.1       | 64      | 88      | 20     | Minichromosome maintenance protein MCM |
| 3  | 4o6j-A    | 10.4           | 2.0       | 62      | 213     | 13     | Iron-dependent transcription repressor related protein |
| 4  | 2jt1-A    | 9.9            | 1.7       | 63      | 71      | 19     | Pefl protein |
| 5  | 1dpu-A    | 9.9            | 2.3       | 64      | 69      | 14     | Replication protein a (rpa32) c-terminal domain |
| 6  | 4chu-B    | 9.9            | 1.7       | 63      | 71      | 17     | HTH-type transcriptional regulator iscr |
| 7  | 2heo-A    | 9.8            | 1.4       | 58      | 59      | 14     | Z-DNA binding protein 1 |
| 8  | 4kmf-A    | 9.8            | 1.6       | 60      | 62      | 17     | INF-inducible and ds-dep. eIF-2 kinase |
| 9  | 3mwm-A    | 9.7            | 2.0       | 64      | 127     | 8      | Putative metal uptake regulation protein |
| 10 | 2xm-B     | 9.7            | 1.5       | 61      | 241     | 7      | HTH-type transcriptional regulator ttgv |
| 11 | 4ija-A    | 9.6            | 1.6       | 59      | 363     | 17     | XylR protein |
| 12 | 2x4h-C    | 9.6            | 1.8       | 61      | 131     | 16     | Hypothetical protein sso2273 |
| 13 | 1lva-A    | 9.5            | 1.8       | 62      | 258     | 13     | Selenocysteine-specific elongation factor |
| 14 | 1okr-B    | 9.5            | 1.5       | 61      | 122     | 23     | Methicillin resistance regulatory protein Mecl |
| 15 | 4lb5-A    | 9.4            | 1.5       | 58      | 63      | 24     | Protein kinase containing Z-DNA binding domains |
| 16 | 1ldj-A    | 8.9            | 1.8       | 63      | 725     | 13     | Cullin homolog 1 |
| 17 | 3qdv-D    | 8.8            | 1.8       | 63      | 378     | 11     | NEDD8 |
| 18 | 2qww-A    | 8.8            | 2.4       | 60      | 146     | 17     | Transcriptional regulator, MARR family |
| 19 | 2mh2-A    | 8.7            | 1.9       | 60      | 64      | 18     | Homologous-pairing protein 2 homolog |
| 20 | 2q9w-A    | 8.6            | 1.7       | 62      | 119     | 11     | Conserved hypothetical protein |

\(\text{a}\) the mean structure of the region K620-V686 was submitted  
\(\text{b}\) Protein Data Bank entry code and chain identifier  
\(\text{c}\) normalized score  
\(\text{d}\) root-mean-square deviation of C\(^\alpha\) atoms in the least-squares superimposition of the structurally equivalent C\(^\alpha\) atoms  
\(\text{e}\) number of structurally equivalent residues  
\(\text{f}\) total number of amino acids in the hit protein  
\(\text{g}\) percentage of identical amino acids over structurally equivalent residues

Table S 7: 20 top ranked homologues of *Mth* MCM C-terminal domain\(^a\) returned by the DALI web server [14]

| No | PDB\(^b\) | Z-score\(^c\) | rmsd\(^d\) | lali\(^e\) | nres\(^f\) | %id\(^g\) | Description |
|----|-----------|----------------|-----------|---------|---------|--------|-------------|
| 1  | 2ma3-A    | 14.4           | 0.4       | 68      | 88      | 100    | Minichromosome maintenance protein MCM |
| 2  | 2m45-A    | 10.5           | 2.7       | 67      | 87      | 19     | Minichromosome maintenance protein MCM |
| 3  | 4o6j-A    | 9.8            | 2.1       | 62      | 213     | 18     | Iron-dependent transcription repressor related protein |
| 4  | 2jt1-A    | 9.4            | 2.3       | 64      | 71      | 13     | Pefl protein |
| 5  | 1dpu-A    | 9.2            | 1.8       | 61      | 69      | 16     | Replication protein A (rpa32) C-terminal domain |
| 6  | 4ija-A    | 9.2            | 1.6       | 57      | 363     | 16     | XylR protein |
| 7  | 1hst-A    | 9.1            | 2.4       | 64      | 74      | 14     | Histone H5 |
| 8  | 3ctc-A    | 9.0            | 1.7       | 60      | 187     | 23     | Riboflavin kinase |
| 9  | 2mh2-A    | 8.9            | 1.8       | 61      | 64      | 11     | Homologous-pairing protein 2 homolog |
| 10 | 2heo-A    | 8.8            | 1.7       | 58      | 59      | 16     | Z-DNA binding protein 1 |
| 11 | 1tbc-A    | 8.8            | 1.9       | 63      | 94      | 14     | SSV1 F-93 |
| 12 | 4chu-B    | 8.8            | 3.0       | 63      | 127     | 13     | HTH-type transcriptional regulator ISCR |
| 13 | 1ldj-A    | 8.7            | 1.7       | 61      | 725     | 11     | Cullin homolog 1 |
| 14 | 1p6r-A    | 8.7            | 1.5       | 61      | 82      | 18     | Penicillinase repressor |
| 15 | 3mwm-A    | 8.7            | 2.1       | 62      | 127     | 13     | Putative metal uptake regulation protein |
| 16 | 2xm-B     | 8.6            | 2.4       | 60      | 241     | 8      | HTH-type transcriptional regulator ttgv |
| 17 | 4kmf-A    | 8.5            | 1.8       | 57      | 62      | 9      | INF-inducible and ds-dep. eIF-2 kinase |
| 18 | 3bz6-A    | 8.4            | 2.1       | 66      | 168     | 14     | UPF0502 protein PSPTO_2686 |
| 19 | 1ust-A    | 8.4            | 2.3       | 64      | 92      | 14     | Histone H1 |
| 20 | 3eyy-A    | 8.3            | 1.8       | 61      | 133     | 15     | Putative iron uptake regulatory protein |

\(\text{a}\) the mean structure of the region K598-V666 was submitted  
\(\text{b}\) Protein Data Bank entry code and chain identifier  
\(\text{c}\) normalized score  
\(\text{d}\) root-mean-square deviation of C\(^\alpha\) atoms in the least-squares superimposition of the structurally equivalent C\(^\alpha\) atoms  
\(\text{e}\) number of structurally equivalent residues  
\(\text{f}\) total number of amino acids in the hit protein  
\(\text{g}\) percentage of identical amino acids over structurally equivalent residues
Fig. S 11: Superposition of the Sso MCM C-terminal truncated WH domain (blue) with homologous structures (red) found in a DALI search (see Tab. S6). Superpositions for the 12 structures exhibiting the highest Z score are shown. Note that except for 2ma3 (Mth WH) and 2heo (mouse Z-DNA binding protein 1), the shown WH domains have a more extended wing 1 element and/or a C-terminal extension.
Fig. S 12: Mass spectrometry of the Sso MCM C-terminal WH domain. Isotope distribution of the Sso MCM C-terminal WH domain as experimentally determined by ESI mass spectrometry is shown in a). The experimentally determined isotope distribution was compared to b) predicted isotope distributions for the WH domain with disulfide bridge (oxidised) and c) with free cysteine residues (reduced), respectively. The predicted distributions were calculated using the freeware program "Isotope Pattern Calculator" (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, http://omics.pnl.gov/software/ScalaBLAST.php).
Fig. S 13: Phylogenetic tree of archaeal MCMs. The selection of species was reported [15]. The analysis was performed with MUSCLE [16, 17] under predefined settings on the EMBL-EBI web server [18]. Organism identification is based on the mnemonic UniProtKB entry code. For further information the NCBI protein sequence accession number (gi) is given. Protein sequences were cured by removing known intein sequences [19] where applicable. MCMs with two C-terminal cysteines are highlighted in red, those carrying a single cysteine ∼20-30 residues proximal of the C-terminus in cyan, and the MCM with one cysteine at the very C-terminus in green, respectively.
Fig. S 14: Amino acid sequence alignment of archaeal MCM C-terminal domains for the species shown in Figure S12. The analysis was performed with MUSCLE [16, 17] using the default settings of the EMBL-EBI web server [18] and manually refined using Unipro UGENE [20]. Identification of organisms is based on the mnemonic UniProtKB entry code and the NCBI protein sequence accession number (gi) is given. Cysteine residues are highlighted in purple. Species with MCM C-terminal domains harbouring two cysteines are boxed in red, in blue for a single cysteine ~20-30 residues proximal of the C-terminus and green for one cysteine at the very MCM C-terminus, respectively.
ATPase activity of Sso MCM derivatives

Fig. S 15: a) Hydrolysis of ATP into ADP and free inorganic phosphate. a, top) Schematic reaction scheme of ATP hydrolysis by an ATPase yields ADP and free inorganic phosphate. The α-, β- and γ-phosphates of ATP and the released free inorganic phosphate (P_i) and the α- and β'-phosphates of ADP are indicated. a, bottom) [31P]-NMR spectra of ATP (black) before and after (blue) complete hydrolysis into ADP and free inorganic phosphate. b-d) Time series of [31P]-NMR spectra indicating the progress of ATP hydrolysis catalysed by (b) Sso MCM, (c) Sso MCMΔWH (E605_V686del, C-terminal domain) and (d) buffered ATP diluted into ATPase reaction buffer (see Material and Methods). Expanded regions in d) to show the time-course for free inorganic phosphate (d, top left) and β-phosphate of ATP (d, bottom right), respectively.
Fig. S 16: ATP hydrolysis by Sso MCM constructs under various ATP substrate concentrations. ATP hydrolysis was assayed by \([^{31}P]\)-NMR spectroscopy. Time series of \([^{31}P]\)-NMR spectra were recorded at 60°C. \(^{31}P\) chemical shifts at 60°C were referenced relative to 75 % H\(_3\)PO\(_4\) at 0 ppm. Spectra were processed using Bruker software TOPSPIN V2.1. The integrated peak areas of the free phosphate (red dots, 25 mM ATP; blue, 50 mM ATP; black, 75 mM ATP) are plotted as a function of the reaction time.

Increasing the ATP concentration to 75 mM or decreasing it to 25 mM, respectively, did not significantly change the rate of ATP hydrolysis as judged from the slope of the decrease of the signal intensity integral over time: under all three ATP concentrations the rate for a) the full length wild type MCM was 3.4 s\(^{-1}\) and 7.2 s\(^{-1}\) for b) the MCM construct lacking the C-terminal WH domain, respectively. This indicates that the assays shown in Fig. S15 and S17 were conducted under saturating substrate conditions.
**Fig. S 17:** ATP hydrolysis by *Sso* MCM constructs. Time series of $^{31}$P-NMR spectra were recorded at 60°C. $^{31}$P chemical shifts at 60°C were referenced relative to 75% H$_3$PO$_4$ at 0 ppm. Spectra were processed using Bruker software TOPSPIN V2.1. The integrated peak areas of the free phosphate (red dots) and the β-phosphate of ATP (blue dots) are plotted as a function of the reaction time. Results of the regression analysis for increase of free inorganic phosphate and decrease of β-phosphate of ATP given as black line.
Fig. S 17: ATP hydrolysis by *Sso* MCM constructs continued.
Table S 8: ATP hydrolysis of the Sso MCM constructs under saturating substrate concentrations

| Sso MCM construct                      | free phosphate[a] [mM/ min] | ATP β-phosphate[b] [mM/ min] | kcat [min⁻¹] |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| wild type (full length)                | 0.11                        | -0.10                      | 2±0.6c       |
| K346A                                  | 0.02                        | -0.01                      | 0.2          |
| R560A                                  | 0.01                        | 0.00                       | 0.0          |
| E605_V686del                           | 0.46                        | -0.36                      | 7.2±0.5c     |
| P619_V686del                           | 0.71                        | -0.56                      | 11.2         |
| E605_I609del                           | 0.42                        | -0.38                      | 7.6          |
| I614_K618del                           | 0.38                        | -0.34                      | 6.8          |
| E605_I609del, I614_K618del             | 0.46                        | -0.43                      | 8.6          |
| E605_T616delins(ASG)4                  | 0.50                        | -0.48                      | 9.6          |
| M604_E605ins(A)5                       | 0.29                        | -0.29                      | 5.8          |
| K618_P619ins(A)5                       | 0.32                        | -0.30                      | 6.0          |
| M604_E605ins(Å)5, K618_P619ins(A)5     | 0.23                        | -0.22                      | 4.4          |
| T613_I614ins(A)5, K618_P619ins(A)5     | 0.37                        | -0.33                      | 6.6          |
| M604_E605ins(A)5, T613_I614ins(A)5, K618_P619ins(Å)5 | 0.28 | -0.27 | 5.4 |

substitute E605_V686 by Mth MCM
E583_V666
substitute E605_K618 by Mth MCM
E583_T596
S606T 0.05 -0.06 1.2

M615A 0.28 -0.22 4.4
M615G 0.56 -0.44 8.8
M615P 0.41 -0.32 6.4
T613A, M615A, K618A 0.38 -0.30 6.0
T613G, M615G, K618G 0.48 -0.37 7.4
T613P, M615P, K618P 0.49 -0.39 7.8

wild type + DNA[d] 0.11 -0.09 1.8
E605_V686del + DNA[d] 0.45 -0.40 8.0

[a] nomenclature for the description of sequence variations as recommended [1]
[b] slope of the regression line
[c] standard deviation from three independent experiments
[d] assay in the presence of 3-fold molar excess of sonicated pUC19-derived DNA (fragment size in the range of 80-160 bp)
**Fig. S 18:** a) 1D $^{31}$P-NMR spectra of purified *Sso* MCM (green), sonicated pUC19-derived DNA with a fragment size in the range of 80-160 bp (red) and ATP buffered to pH 7.2 (blue). Spectra were recorded at 600 MHz with a spectral width of 7042 Hz sampled over 1228 complex points in the $\omega_1$ ($^{31}$P) dimension. For both purified *Sso* MCM (green) and sonicated pUC19 derivate DNA (red) 60000 transients in the $^{31}$P-dimension were sampled. The ATP spectra was recorded with 40960 transients. b) $^{31}$P-NMR spectra of *Sso* MCM after complete hydrolysis of ATP into ADP and free inorganic phosphate without DNA (red) and in the presence of DNA (blue). Spectral parameters same as in a) with 30000 transients in the $^{31}$P-dimension. c) Zoomed spectral region of b). The $^{31}$P radio frequency carrier was set at -10.5 ppm. Recycle time was 1 s and temperature was 60°C. $^{31}$P chemical shifts at 60°C were referenced relative to 75 % H$_3$PO$_4$ at 0 ppm. Concentrations of *Sso* MCM protein, ATP and sonicated pUC19 derivate DNA were 50 µM, 50 mM and 150 µM, respectively.
DNA helicase activity of Sso MCM derivatives

Fig. S 19: a, c) Helicase assays were performed with 2 nM 5′-labeled Y-shaped DNA substrate and 1 µM of indicated Sso MCM constructs. After incubation for 30 min at 70°C, the reaction mixtures were cooled to 0°C and 10 µl of helicase loading dye was added. The samples were electrophoresed through a 8% non-denaturing polyacrylamide gels in TBE buffer. Subsequently, gels were dried and exposed to a phosphoimaging screen. Gels were visualized using a phosphoimager (Typhoon Trio; GE Healthcare). Δ refers to boiled DNA substrate (no protein). b, d) The bar graphs represents the percentage of unwound DNA for individual Sso MCM mutants as calculated using the Image Quant software. The mean standard error of three independent experiments is indicated.
Docking approach

Paramagnetic relaxation enhancement

Proton relaxation rates ($R_1$) were obtained from a series of saturation-recovery [$^1$H, $^{15}$N]-HSQC experiments. Spectra were recorded at 30°C on a Bruker 750 MHz AvanceIII NMR system (5 mm triple resonance cryo-probe) with spectral widths of 8710 Hz sampled over 1024 complex points in the $\omega_2$ ($^1$H) dimension, and 2280 Hz over 256 complex points in the $\omega_1$ ($^{15}$N) dimension with 8 scans per increment in the indirect dimension. Data sets were acquired with recovery delays of 0.05, 0.1, 0.2, 0.5, 1, 1.5, 2, 4 and 6 s. The $^1$H and $^{15}$N radio frequency carriers were set at 4.69 ppm and 116 ppm, respectively. For determination of $^1$H solvent PREs, a stock solution of 0.5 M Gd(DTPA-bis(methylamide)) (Omniscan™, GE Healthcare) was added stepwise to a final concentrations of 0, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 mM. Spectra were processed using NMRpipe [21] and analyzed with CCPNmr Analysis [22]. Peak intensities were fitted using PREdator [23] to

$$I = I_0(1 - e^{-R_1t})$$

$I_0$ is the intensity after an infinite recovery delay, $t$ is the recovery time and $R_1$ is the longitudinal relaxation rate. PRE is defined as the increase in relaxation rate upon addition of a paramagnetic co-solvent. Here, PREs are represented by the slope of $R_1$ as function of the concentration of Gd(DTPA-bis(methylamide). For a detailed description of PRE calculation, see [24–26].

Fig. S 20: Paramagnetic relaxation enhancement (PRE) determined for the backbone amide protons of the Sso MCM C-terminal domain. PREs were measured for the Sso MCM C-terminal domain (100 µM) in absence (dashed line) and presence (solid line) of a 3-fold molar excess of Sso MCM∆WH. Secondary structure elements of the Sso MCM C-terminal domain NMR solution structure are indicated.
Fig. S 21: Superimposition of $^{1}{\text{H}},^{15}{\text{N}}$-TROSY-HSQC [27, 28] spectra of the Sso MCM C-terminal domain (gray), Sso MCMΔN-term (ILI555DSD) (red) and Sso MCMΔN-termΔWH (ILI555DSD) (blue). Spectra were recorded at 750 MHz with spectral widths of 9014 Hz sampled over 900 complex points in the $\omega_2$ ($^{1}{\text{H}}$) dimension, and 2432 Hz over 150 complex points in the $\omega_1$ ($^{15}{\text{N}}$) dimension with 32 scans for each increment in the indirect dimension. The $^{1}{\text{H}}$ and $^{15}{\text{N}}$ radio frequency carriers were at 4.74 ppm and 119.0 ppm, respectively. Recycle time was 2.5 s and temperature was 30°C. Protein concentrations were in the 300 µM range. The assignment for the Sso MCM C-terminal domain is given.
The program High Ambiguity Driven Protein-Protein Docking (HADDOCK) was used to generate a docked structure of Sso MCM including the C-terminal WH domain. Residues which are in close proximity to the potential domain interface were defined as active interacting residues (605, 606, 615, 616, 617, 620, 621, 623, 625, 626). Surrounding residues considered indirectly involved in or affected by the domain interaction were defined as passive interacting residues (673 and 674). Residue G601 of Sso MCM (PDB: 3F9V) was defined as active because it represents the most C-terminal residue of the AAA+ domain preceding the most N-terminal residue (V602) of the C-terminal WH domain. No further restrictions and structural assumptions were applied. HADDOCK clustered 191 structures into 9 clusters, which represent 95.5% of the water-refined models generated by HADDOCK.

**Fig. S 22:** Superimposition of [\(^{1}\)H, \(^{13}\)C]-HSQC spectra of the Sso MCM C-terminal WH domain (black), Sso MCMΔN-term (ILI555DSD) (red) and Sso MCMΔN-termΔWH (ILI555DSD) (blue). In all samples the methyl groups of isoleucines are selectively labelled. For selective labeling of isoleucine methyl groups cells were grown in M9 media prepared in D\(_2\)O and supplemented with methyl-\(^{13}\)C, 3,3-D\(_2\) \(\alpha\)-ketobutyric acid (10 mg/100 ml) and \(^{12}\)C-glucose as additional carbon source. The [\(^{1}\)H, \(^{13}\)C]-HSQC spectra were recorded at 750 MHz with spectral widths of 6009 Hz sampled over 600 complex points in the \(\omega_2\) \((^{1}\)H\) dimension, and 1886 Hz over 100 complex points in the \(\omega_1\) \((^{13}\)C\) dimension with 32 scans for each increment in the indirect dimension. The \(^{1}\)H and \(^{13}\)C radio frequency carriers were at 3.76 ppm and 10 ppm, respectively. Recycle time was 2.5 s. Protein concentrations were in the 300 \(\mu\)M range.
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