Determination of host cell proteins constituting the molecular microenvironment of coronavirus replicase complexes by proximity-labeling

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22 Abstract

23 Positive-sense RNA viruses hijack intracellular membranes that provide niches for viral RNA 24 synthesis and a platform for interactions with host proteins. However, little is known about host 25 factors at the interface between replicase complexes and the host cytoplasm. We engineered a 26 biotin ligase into a coronaviral replication/transcription complex (RTC) and identified >500 27 host proteins constituting the RTC microenvironment. siRNA-silencing of each RTC-proximal 28 host factor demonstrated importance of vesicular trafficking pathways, ubiquitin-dependent 29 and autophagy-related processes, and translation initiation factors. Notably, detection of 30 translation initiation factors at the RTC was instrumental to visualize and demonstrate active 31 translation proximal to replication complexes of several coronaviruses. 32 Collectively, we establish a spatial link between viral RNA synthesis and diverse host factors 33 of unprecedented breadth. Our data may serve as a paradigm for other positive-strand RNA 34 viruses and provide a starting point for a comprehensive analysis of critical virus-host 35 interactions that represent targets for therapeutic intervention.

36 Introduction

Positive-strand RNA viruses replicate at membranous structures that accommodate the viral replication complex and facilitate RNA synthesis in the cytosol of infected host cells (1-5). Rewiring host endomembranes is hypothesized to provide a privileged microenvironment physically separated from the cytosol, thereby ensuring adequate concentrations of macromolecules for viral RNA synthesis, preventing recognition of replication intermediates such as double-stranded RNA (dsRNA) by cytosolic innate immune receptors (6, 7), and providing a platform that facilitates molecular interactions with host cell proteins.

44 Ultrastructural studies have reported the origin, nature, and extent of membrane modifications 45 induced by coronaviruses (order *Nidovirales*, family *Coronaviridae*), which materialize as an 46 ER-derived network of interconnected double-membrane vesicles (DMVs) and convoluted 47 membranes (CM) in perinuclear regions of infected cells to which the viral 48 replication/transcription complex (RTC) is anchored (4, 8, 9). The RTC is generated by 49 translation of the genomic RNA into two large polyproteins that are extensively auto-50 proteolytically processed by viral proteases to give rise to 16 processing end-products, termed 51 non-structural proteins (nsps) 1-16. Nsp1 is rapidly cleaved from the polyproteins and not 52 considered an integral component of the coronaviral RTC, but interferes with host cell 53 translation by inducing degradation of cellular mRNAs (10-12). Although it has not yet been 54 formally demonstrated, the remaining nsps (2-16) are thought to comprise the RTC and harbor 55 multiple enzymes and functions, such as de-ubiquitination, proteases, helicase, polymerase, 56 exo- and endonuclease, and N7- and 2'O-methyltransferases (13-18). Many of these functions 57 have been studied using reverse genetic approaches, which revealed their importance in virus-58 host interactions (19-23). In most cases phenotypes were described via loss-of-function 59 mutagenesis, however, in the context of virus infection, the specific interactions of RTC 60 components with host cell factors remain largely unknown.

61 A number of individual host cell proteins have been shown to impact coronavirus replication 62 by using various screening methods, such as genome-wide siRNA, kinome, and yeast-two-63 hybrid screens (24-28). Likewise, genome-wide CRISPR-based screens have been applied to 64 other positive-stranded RNA viruses, such as flaviviruses, and identified critical host proteins required for replication (29, 30). Some of these proteins were described in the context of 65 66 distinct ER processes, such as N-linked glycosylation, ER-associated protein degradation (ERAD), and signal peptide insertion and processing. Although individual proteins identified 67 68 by these screens may interact with viral replication complexes, they likely constitute only a 69 small fraction of the global replicase microenvironment.

70 To capture the full breadth of host cell proteins and cellular pathways that are spatially 71 associated with viral RTCs, we employed a proximity-based labeling approach involving a 72 promiscuous *E. coli*-derived biotin ligase (BirA_{R118G}). BirA_{R118G} biotinylates proximal (<10 73 nm) proteins in live cells without disrupting intracellular membranes or protein complexes, and 74 hence, does not rely on high affinity protein-protein interactions, but is able to permanently tag 75 transient interactions (31). Covalent protein biotinylation allows stringent lysis and washing 76 conditions during affinity purification and subsequent mass spectrometric identification of 77 captured factors. By engineering a recombinant MHV harboring BirA_{R118G} as an integral 78 component of the RTC we identified >500 host proteins reflecting the molecular 79 microenvironment of MHV replication structures. siRNA-mediated silencing of each of these 80 factors highlighted, amongst others, the functional importance of vesicular ER-Golgi apparatus 81 trafficking pathways, ubiquitin-dependent and autophagy-related catabolic processes, and 82 translation initiation factors. Importantly, the detection of active translation in close proximity 83 to the viral RTC highlighted the critical involvement of translation initiation factors during 84 coronavirus replication. Collectively, the determination of the coronavirus RTC-associated 85 microenvironment provides a functional and spatial link between conserved host cell processes

and viral RNA synthesis, and highlights potential targets for the development of novel antiviral
agents.

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89 **Results**

90 Engineering the BirA_{R118}-biotin ligase into the MHV replicase transcriptase complex

To insert the promiscuous biotin ligase $BirA_{R118G}$ as an integral subunit of the MHV RTC, we used a vaccinia virus-based reverse genetic system (32, 33) to generate a recombinant MHV harboring a myc-tagged $BirA_{R118G}$ fused to nsp2. This strategy was recently employed by Freeman *et al.* for a fusion of green fluorescent protein (GFP) with nsp2 (34). MHV-BirA_{R118G}nsp2 retained the cleavage site between nsp1 and $BirA_{R118G}$, while a deleted cleavage site between $BirA_{R118G}$ and nsp2 ensured the expression of a $BirA_{R118G}$ -nsp2 fusion protein (Fig. 1a).

98 MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 replicated to comparable peak titers and replication kinetics as the 99 parental wild-type MHV-A59 (Fig. 1b). MHV-EGFP-nsp2, which was constructed in parallel 100 and contained the coding sequence of EGFP (34) instead of BirA_{R118G}, was used as a control 101 and also reached wild-type virus peak titers, with slightly reduced viral titers at 9 hours post-102 infection (h.p.i.) compared to MHV-A59 and MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 (Fig. 1b).

103 To confirm the accommodation of BirA_{R118G} within the viral RTC, MHV-A59-, MHV-104 BirA_{R118G}-nsp2-, and mock-infected L929 fibroblasts were visualized using indirect 105 immunofluorescence microscopy. BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 remained strongly associated with the MHV 106 RTC, as indicated by the co-localization of BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 with established markers of the 107 MHV replicase, such as nsp2/3 and nsp8 (Fig. 1c; Supplemental Fig. S1). This observation 108 corroborates previous studies demonstrating that nsp2, although not required for viral RNA 109 synthesis, co-localizes with other nsps of the coronaviral RTC (35-37). Importantly, by

110 supplementing the culture medium with biotin, we could readily detect biotinylated proteins with fluorophore-coupled streptavidin that appeared close to the MHV RTC in MHV-111 112 BirA_{R118G}-nsp2-infected cells, demonstrating efficient proximity-dependent biotinylation of 113 RTC-proximal host factors (Fig. 1c; Supplemental Fig. S1). Furthermore, to define the 114 localization of the nsp2 fusion protein at the ultrastructural level, we replaced the BirA_{R118G} 115 biotin ligase with the APEX2 ascorbate peroxidase to generate recombinant MHV-APEX2nsp2. APEX2 mediates the catalysis of 3,3'-diaminobenzidine (DAB) into an insoluble 116 117 polymer that can be readily observed by electron microscopy (38). As shown in figure 1d, 118 APEX2-catalized DAB polymer deposition was readily detectable at characteristic coronavirus 119 replication compartments, such as DMVs and CM, categorically demonstrating that the nsp2 120 fusion proteins localize to known sites of coronavirus replication (4, 8).

121 Importantly, our collective results establish that the recombinant MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 122 replicates with comparable kinetics to wild-type MHV-A59, expresses a functional BirA_{R118G} 123 biotin ligase that is tightly associated with the MHV RTC, and that biotinylated, RTC-proximal 124 proteins can be readily detected in MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 infected cells.

125

126 Determination of the coronavirus RTC-proximal proteome

To further demonstrate the efficiency and specificity of BirA_{R118G}-mediated biotinylation we assessed, by western blot analysis, fractions of biotinylated proteins derived from MHV-A59-, MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2-, or non-infected cells that were grown with or without the addition of biotin (Fig. 2a,b). A characteristic pattern of endogenously biotinylated proteins was observed under all conditions where no exogenous biotin was added to the culture medium (Fig. 2b). The same pattern was detectable in non-infected and wild-type MHV-A59-infected cells when the culture medium was supplemented with biotin, suggesting that the addition of biotin in the

134 absence of the BirA_{R118G} biotin ligase does not recognizably change the fraction of endogenously biotinvlated proteins. In contrast, we observed a greatly increased fraction of 135 136 biotinylated proteins in lysates derived from MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2-infected cells treated with 137 biotin. This result demonstrates that virus-mediated expression of the BirA_{R118G} biotin ligase results in efficient biotinylation when biotin is added to the culture medium. Moreover, we 138 139 could readily affinity purify, enrich, and recover the fraction of biotinylated proteins under 140 stringent denaturing lysis and washing conditions by using streptavidin-coupled magnetic 141 beads (Fig. 2b).

142 Affinity purified proteins derived from biotin-treated MHV-A59- and MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2infected cells were subjected to mass spectrometric analysis (n=3). Liquid chromatography 143 144 tandem-mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) was performed from in-gel digested samples and log-145 transformed label free quantification (LFQ) levels were used to compare protein enrichment 146 between samples (Fig. 2c). Overall, 1381 host proteins were identified, of which 513 were 147 statistically significantly enriched in MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2-infected samples over MHV-A59-148 infected samples. These host proteins represent a comprehensive repertoire of RTC-proximal factors throughout MHV infection (Fig. 2c, table S1). Importantly, viral replicase gene 149 150 products nsp2-10 and nsp12-16, and the nucleocapsid protein were significantly enriched in 151 fractions derived from MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2-infected cells (Fig. 2c, d). This is in agreement 152 with studies demonstrating co-localization and interactions amongst individual nsps, and with 153 studies showing association of the nucleocapsid protein with the coronavirus RTC (8, 39-41). 154 It also highlights the specificity and effectiveness of the labeling approach in live cells and is 155 the first experimental evidence showing that collectively these viral nsps and the nucleocapsid 156 (N) protein are subunits of the coronavirus RTC. Furthermore, these results corroborate previous reports that nsp1 is likely not an integral component of the coronavirus RTC (10-12, 157 158 42). Amongst the "not detected" or "not enriched" viral proteins are (i) nsp11, which is a short

peptide of only 14 amino acids at the carboxyterminus of polyprotein 1a with a yet unassigned role or function in coronavirus replication, (ii) the structural proteins spike (S) protein, envelope (E) protein, and membrane (M) protein, which mainly localize to sites of viral assembly before being incorporated into newly-formed viral particles, and (iii) all accessory proteins (NS2a, HE, ORF4, ORF5a). Altogether, these results validate the proximitydependent biotinylation approach and demonstrate the specific and exclusive labeling of MHV-RTC-associated proteins (Fig. 2d).

166 The BirA_{R118G} biotin ligase biotinylates proteins in its close proximity that must not necessarily 167 have tight, prolonged, or direct interaction (31). Therefore, the identified RTC-proximal host 168 proteins, recorded over the entire duration of the MHV replication cycle, likely include proteins 169 that display a prolonged co-localization with the MHV RTC, proteins that may locate only 170 transiently in close proximity to the RTC, and proteins of which only a minor fraction of the 171 cellular pool may associate with the RTC. To this end, we assessed the localization of a limited 172 number of host proteins from our candidate list in MHV-infected cells. Accordingly, we 173 identified RTC-proximal host proteins displaying a pronounced co-localization with the MHV 174 RTC, such as the ER protein reticulon 4 (rtn4; Fig. 2e), and host proteins where co-localization 175 by indirect immunofluorescence microscopy was not readily detectable, such as the eukaryotic 176 translation initiation factor 3E (eIF3E; Fig. 2e). However, in the latter case, a more sensitive 177 detection technique, such as a proximity ligation assay that relies on proximity-dependent antibody-coupled DNA probe amplification (43), demonstrated proximity of eIF3E and 178 179 dsRNA in MHV-infected cells (Fig. 2f).

Collectively, our results show that the approach of integrating a promiscuous biotin ligase as an integral subunit into a coronavirus RTC revealed a comprehensive list of host cell proteins that comprises the RTC microenvironment. The efficacy and specificity of our approach is best illustrated by the fact that we were able to identify all expected viral components of the MHV

RTC, while other viral proteins, such as nsp1, structural proteins S, E, and M, and accessory proteins, were not amongst the significantly enriched proteins. Our data further suggest that the RTC microenvironment may be highly dynamic and likely also contains proteins that are only transiently present in the microenvironment or only comprise a sub-fraction of the cellular pool in close proximity to the MHV RTC.

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190 Functional classification of RTC-proximal host factors

191 To categorize functionally-related proteins from the list of RTC-proximal host proteins and 192 identify enriched biological themes in the dataset, we performed a functional classification of 193 RTC-proximal factors using Gene Ontology (GO) enrichment analysis. 86 GO biological 194 process (BP) terms were significantly enriched in the dataset (p-value <0.05), of which 32 195 terms were highly significant (p-value <0.005) (Fig. 3a, Table S2). Additional analysis using 196 AmiGO revealed that 25 of these 32 highly significant GO BP terms fell into 5 broad functional 197 categories, namely cell adhesion, transport, cell organization, translation, and catabolic 198 processes. To examine these categories further, identify important cellular pathways within 199 them, and extract known functional associations among RTC-proximal host proteins, we 200 performed STRING network analysis on the RTC-proximal proteins in each category (Fig. 3b, 201 c, Fig S2).

Despite "cell-cell adhesion" scoring high, it likely represents a typical limitation of gene annotation databases, where many genes play multiple roles in numerous pathways and processes. Accordingly, most genes assigned to the GO BP term cell-cell adhesion are also found in the other categories described below.

The category "transport" included protein trafficking and vesicular-mediated transport pathways and comprised the majority of RTC-proximal factors (Fig. 3a, b). Protein interaction

208 network analysis, using STRING, revealed at least 4 distinct clusters of interacting factors 209 within this category (Fig. 3b). Cluster I, protein transport, comprised nuclear transport 210 receptors at nuclear pore complexes, such as importins and transportins. Interestingly, this 211 cluster also contained Sec63, which is part of the Sec61 translocon (44) and has been implicated 212 in protein translocation across ER membranes. The list of RTC-proximal factors also included 213 signal recognition particles SRP54a and SRP68 (Table S2) proteins that promote the transfer 214 of newly synthetized integral membrane proteins or secreted proteins across translocon 215 complexes. Furthermore, the list contained Naca and BTF3, which prevent the translocation of 216 non-secretory proteins towards the ER lumen (45, 46). Interestingly, genome-wide CRISPR 217 screens have identified proteins involved in biosynthesis of membrane and secretory proteins 218 as required for flavivirus replication (29, 30), suggesting similarities between flaviruses and 219 coronaviruses concerning the requirement of ER-associated protein sorting complexes for viral replication. 220

221 Cluster II included vesicle components, tethers and SNARE (Soluble N-ethylmaleimide-222 sensitive-factor Attachment protein Receptor) proteins characteristic of the COPII-mediated 223 ER-to-Golgi apparatus anterograde vesicular transport pathway whereas, cluster III contained 224 components of the COPI-related retrograde Golgi-to-ER transport machinery. Moreover, 225 Cluster IV was comprised of proteins that mediate clathrin-coated vesicle (endosomal) 226 transport between the plasma membrane and the trans-Golgi network (TGN), which is also 227 closely associated with the actin cytoskeleton. Together with sorting nexins, cluster IV 228 components can be regarded as regulating late-Golgi trafficking events and interacting with the 229 endosomal system.

Many of the cellular processes and host proteins assigned to "transport" (specifically in clusters II-IV) are also listed in the category "cell organization" (Fig. 3a, S2a). However, this category actually extends the importance of vesicular transport as it also contains factors involved in the

architecture, organization, and homeostasis of the ER and Golgi apparatus, and the cytoskeleton-supporting these organelles. The prominent appearance of biological processes linked to protein and vesicular transport between the ER and both the cis- and trans-Golgi network, is in agreement with previous findings that have reported the relevance of the early secretory pathway for a number of RNA viruses, including coronaviruses (24, 26, 47-50).

238 Notably, a number of MHV RTC-proximal factors were part of the host translation machinery 239 and assigned to category "translation" (Fig. 3a, c). We found enrichment of factors involved in 240 the initiation of translation, particularly multiple subunits of eIF3 and eIF4 complexes, as well 241 as eIF2, eIF5, the Ddx3y helicase, and the Elongation factor-like GTPase 1, which are required 242 for the formation of 43S pre-initiation complexes, 48S initiation complexes, and the assembly 243 of elongation-competent 80S ribosomes (51). The high degree of interaction between these 244 subunits is suggestive of the presence of the entire translation initiation apparatus in close 245 proximity to the viral RTC. The 60S ribosomal protein L13a (Rpl13a), ribosome biogenesis 246 protein RLP24 (Rsl24d1), ribosome-binding protein 1 (Rbp1), release factor Gspt1, and 247 regulatory elements, such as Igf2bp1, Gcn111, Larp, Fam129a and Nck1, are further indicative 248 of the host cell translation machinery near sites of viral RNA synthesis. Notably, our results 249 are in line with a recent genome-wide siRNA screen where translation factors were suggested 250 to play a role in the replication of avian infectious bronchitis coronavirus (IBV) (27). The 251 implication of this finding has, to our knowledge, not been further investigated.

Lastly, the category "catabolic processes" (Fig. 3a, S2b) includes a subset of autophagy-related factors and numerous ubiquitin-dependent ERAD components, including the E3 ubiquitinprotein ligase complex and 26S proteasome regulatory subunits (Psmc2, Psmd4). Interestingly, the importance of the ERAD pathway has also been reported in the genome-wide CRISPR screen on flaviviruses, and the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway has been noted to be important for IBV and MHV replication (27, 52).

Collectively, the catalogue of coronavirus RTC-proximal proteins greatly expands the repertoire of candidate proteins implicated in the coronavirus replication cycle, and contains several factors that have previously been reported to impact the replication of other positivesense RNA viruses. Importantly, since our screening approach was tailored to detect host factors associated with the coronavirus RTC, it provides a spatial link of these factors to the site of viral RNA synthesis.

264

265 Identification of proviral factors within the coronavirus RTC microenvironment

266 In order to assess the potential functional relevance of RTC-proximal factors identified in our 267 MHV- BirA_{R118G}-nsp2-mediated proximity-dependent screen, we designed a custom siRNA 268 library individually targeting the expression of each of the 513 identified RTC-proximal host 269 proteins. siRNA-treated L929 cells were infected (MOI=0.05, n=4) with a recombinant MHV 270 expressing a Gaussia luciferase reporter protein (MHV-Gluc) (53) and replication was assessed 271 by virus-mediated Gaussia luciferase expression (Fig. 4a). Cell viability after siRNA 272 knockdown was also assessed and genes resulting in cytotoxicity following silencing were 273 discarded from further analysis. Importantly, we included internal controls of known relevance 274 for MHV entry (MHV receptor Ceacam1a) and replication (Gbf1, Arf1) on each plate and found in each case that siRNA silencing of these factors significantly reduced MHV 275 276 replication, which underscores the robustness and effectiveness of our approach (Fig. S3a) (24). 277 We found that siRNA-mediated silencing of 53 RTC-proximal host factors significantly 278 reduced MHV replication compared to non-targeting siRNA controls. These factors can 279 therefore be considered proviral and required for efficient replication (Fig. 3b; table S3).

Notably, siRNA targets that had the strongest impact on MHV replication were in majoritycontained within the functional categories highlighted in Fig. 3a (Fig. 4b). Indeed, in line with

282 the hypothesis that MHV subverts key components mediating both anterograde and retrograde 283 vesicular transport between the ER, Golgi apparatus and endosomal compartments for the 284 establishment of replication organelles, several factors contained within these pathways 285 impaired MHV replication as exemplified by the siRNA-mediated silencing of Kif11, Snx9, Dnm11, Scfd1, Ykt6, Stx5a, Clint1, Aak11, or Vapa (Fig. 4b). Consistently, ER-associated 286 287 protein sorting complexes associated with the ribosome and newly synthetized proteins (Naca, 288 BTF3, SRP54a, SRP68) that were revealed in the GO enrichment analysis (Fig. 3a, table S2), 289 also appear to be required for efficient MHV replication (Fig. 4b).

Furthermore, we also observed significantly reduced MHV replication upon silencing of core elements of the 26S and 20S proteasome complex (Psmd1 and Psmc2, and Psmb3, respectively), suggesting a crucial role of the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway for efficient CoV replication (27, 52). Indeed, this finding may provide a link to the described coronavirus RTCencoded de-ubiquitination activity residing in nsp3 that has been implicated in innate immune evasion (16, 17, 54).

Most interestingly, this custom siRNA screen identified a crucial role of the host protein synthesis apparatus that was associated with the MHV RTC as indicated by the proximitydependent proteomic screen (Fig. 3a, c). Silencing of ribosomal proteins Rpl13a and Rls24d1 and several subunits of the eIF3 complex resulted in greatly reduced MHV replication and scored with highest significance in the siRNA screen, suggesting that proximity of the host cell translation machinery to the viral RTC likely has functional importance for coronavirus replication (Fig. 4b).

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304 Active translation near sites of viral mRNA synthesis

305 Due to the striking dependence of MHV replication on a subset of RTC-proximal translation 306 initiation factors, we extended these results in independent assays. For this, we selected all host 307 factors assigned to the category "translation" (Fig. 3a) and assessed virus replication following 308 siRNA-mediated silencing of each factor. Measurement of luciferase activity after MHV-Gluc 309 infection confirmed initial findings obtained by screening the entire siRNA library of MHV 310 RTC-proximal factors (Fig. 4c). Specifically for Rpl13a, and eIFs 3i, 3f, and 3e viral replication 311 was reduced to levels comparable to our controls Ceacam1a (MHV receptor) and Gbf1 (24). 312 Consistently, cell-associated viral mRNA levels (Fig. 4d) and viral titers (Fig. 4e) were reduced 313 upon siRNA silencing of these factors. Although the silencing of a subset of host translation 314 factors severely restricted MHV replication, effective knockdown of these factors (Fig. S3c) 315 did not affect cell viability (Fig. S3b, d) and only moderately affected host cell translation 316 levels (Fig. 4f, S3e). This data demonstrates that the reduced viral replication observed after 317 siRNA knockdown is not due to a general impairment of host translation.

318 Subsequently, we aimed to visualize the localization of active translation during virus infection 319 by puromycin incorporation into nascent polypeptides on immobilized ribosomes 320 (ribopuromycylation) followed by fluorescence imaging using antibodies directed against 321 puromycin (55). In non-infected L929 cells, ribopuromycylation resulted in an expected 322 diffuse, mainly cytosolic, staining pattern interspersed with punctate structures indicative of 323 translation localized to dedicated subcellular cytosolic locations (Fig. 5). In striking contrast, 324 MHV-infected L929 cells displayed a pronounced enrichment of actively translating ribosomes 325 near the viral RTC as indicated by the strong overlap between the viral replicase and the 326 ribopuromycylation stain. Interestingly, active translation in vicinity of the RTC was strongest 327 during the early phase of infection at 6 h.p.i., and was observed until 8 h.p.i., before gradually decreasing as the infection advanced along with the appearance of typical syncytia formation 328 329 indicative of cytopathic effect (CPE).

330 Remarkably, we observed a similar phenotype in Huh7 cells infected with human 331 coronaviruses, such as HCoV-229E or the highly pathogenic MERS-CoV (Fig. 6). The HCoV-332 229E RTC, which was detected with an antiserum directed against nsp8, appeared as small and 333 dispersed perinuclear puncta during early infection and eventually converged into larger perinuclear structures later in infection. Consistent with findings obtained for MHV, we 334 335 observed a striking co-localization of the HCoV-229E RTC with sites of active translation 336 during the early phase of the infection (Fig. 6, S4). The co-localization gradually decreased as 337 the infection reached the late phase with upcoming signs of CPE. Finally, we further 338 demonstrated that active translation is localized to the site of MERS-CoV RNA synthesis as 339 dsRNA puncta highly overlapped with the ribopuromycylation stain in MERS-CoV-infected 340 Huh7 cells (Fig. 6). Collectively, these results not only confirm the spatial link between 341 individual components of the host cell translation machinery and coronavirus replication 342 compartments as identified by proximity-dependent biotinylation using MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2, 343 but they also demonstrate that active translation is taking place in close proximity to the viral 344 RTC.

345

346 **Discussion**

In this study, we made use of a recently developed system based on proximity-dependent biotinylation of host factors in living cells (31). By engineering a promiscuous biotin ligase (BirA_{R118G}) as an integral component of the coronavirus replication complex, we provide a novel approach to define the molecular mircoenvironment of viral replication complexes that is applicable to many other RNA and DNA viruses.

352 We show that nsp2 fusion proteins encoded by recombinant MHV-APEX2-nsp2 and MHV-

353 BirA_{R118G}-nsp2, are indeed part of the RTC and localize to characteristic coronavirus

354 replicative structures. On the ultrastructural level, APEX2-catalized DAB polymer 355 depositions were detected at DMVs and CMs, and we observed co-localization of BirA_{R118G} 356 with established coronavirus RTC markers, such as nsp2/3 and nsp8, by indirect 357 immunofluorescence microscopy. Notably, in MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2-infected cells the detection of biotinylated coronavirus replicase gene products nsp2-10, nsp12-16, and the 358 359 nucleocapsid protein by mass spectrometry demonstrates that these proteins are in close 360 proximity during infection. This extends previous immunofluorescence and electron 361 microscopic studies that were limited by the availability of nsp-specific antibodies and could 362 only show localization of individual nsps to coronavirus replicative structures (4, 8, 35-37). 363 Moreover, the close proximity of BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 to MHV replicative enzymes, such as the 364 RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (nsp12), the NTPase/helicase (nsp13), the 5'-cap 365 methyltransferases (nsp14, nsp16), the proof-reading exonuclease (nsp14), in MHV-BirA_{R118G}-366 nsp2-infected cells further suggest close proximity of nsp2 to the site of viral RNA synthesis. 367 We thus propose that nsp2-16 and the nucleocapsid protein collectively constitute a functional 368 coronavirus replication and transcription complex in infected cells.

369 The analysis of the host proteome enriched at MHV replication sites revealed a comprehensive 370 list of host proteins that constitute the coronavirus RTC microenvironment. This included several individual factors and host cell pathways, especially transport mechanisms involving 371 372 vesicle-mediated trafficking, which have previously been shown to assist coronavirus 373 replication. (24, 26, 27, 49, 52). Moreover, numerous coronavirus RTC-proximal host proteins 374 and pathways also have documented roles in the life cycle of other, more intensively studied, 375 positive-stranded RNA viruses, suggesting considerable commonalities and conserved virus-376 host interactions at the replication complexes of a broad range of RNA viruses (29, 30, 56). Importantly, our list of RTC-proximal proteins by far exceeds the number of host cell proteins 377 378 currently known to interact with viral replication complexes and the vast majority of MHV

RTC-proximal proteins have not been described before. These likely include proteins with defined temporal roles during particular phases of the viral life cycle and proteins that did not yet attract our attention in previous screens because of functional redundancies. We therefore expect that this approach will find wide application in the field of virus-host interaction, target identification for virus inhibition, and provides a starting point to reveal similarities and differences between replication strategies of a broad range of viruses.

385 One novel finding that arose immediately from our RTC-proximity screen is the demonstration 386 of a close spatial association of host cell translation with the coronavirus RTC. Indeed, the 387 biotin ligase-based proteomic screen identified a number of translation initiation factors, most 388 prominently several eIF3 subunits that were found to have functional importance for viral 389 replication, and numerous ribosome- and translation-associated proteins within the coronavirus 390 RTC microenvironment (Fig. 3, 4). In addition, the presence of subunits of the signal 391 recognition particle in proximity to the coronavirus RTC and their functional relevance for 392 viral replication is indicative of an importance for the translation of membrane proteins. 393 Notably, the coronavirus RTC is translated as two polyproteins that contain nsp3, 4 and 6 with 394 multiple trans-membrane domains that are believed to anchor the RTC at ER-derived 395 membranes (4, 47). It is thus tempting to speculate that the coronavirus RTC is either attracting, 396 or deliberately forming in proximity to, the ER-localized host translation machinery in order 397 to facilitate replicase translation and insertion into ER membranes. This idea is also applicable 398 to many other positive-stranded RNA viruses that express viral polyproteins with embedded 399 trans-membrane domains to anchor the viral replication complex in host endomembranes. 400 Recent experimental evidence for Dengue virus supports this hypothesis. By using cell 401 fractionation and ribosomal profiling it has been shown that translation of the Dengue virus (family *Flaviviridae*) genome is associated with the ER-associated translation machinery 402 403 accompanied by ER-compartment-specific remodeling of translation (57). Moreover, several

404 recent genome-wide CRISPR screens demonstrated the functional importance of proteins
405 involved in biosynthesis of membrane and secretory proteins, further supporting a pivotal role
406 of the ER-associated translation machinery for virus replication (30).

407 Compartmentalization of cellular translation to sites of viral RNA synthesis has been described 408 for dsRNA viruses of the orthoreovirus family, which replicate and assemble in distinct 409 cytosolic inclusions known as viral factories to which the host translation machinery is 410 recruited (58). The data presented here indicate that coronaviruses have evolved a similar 411 strategy by compartmentalizing and directing viral RNA synthesis to sites of ER-associated 412 translation. Likewise, this strategy has a number of advantages. Coronaviruses would not 413 require sophisticated transport mechanisms that direct viral mRNA to distantly located 414 ribosomes. A close spatial association of viral RNA synthesis and translation during early post-415 entry events would rather allow for remodeling the ER-associated translation machinery to 416 ensure translation of viral mRNA in a protected microenvironment. Viruses have evolved 417 diverse mechanisms to facilitate translation of their mRNAs including highly diverse internal 418 ribosomal entry sites, recruitment of translation-associated host factors to viral RNAs, and even 419 transcript-specific translation (59, 60). Accordingly, by remodeling defined sites for viral 420 mRNA translation, the repertoire and concentration of translation factors can be restricted to 421 factors needed for translation of these viral mRNAs. A microenvironment that is tailored 422 towards the translational needs of viral mRNAs in proximity to the viral replicase complex 423 would also make virus replication tolerant to host- or virus-induced shut down of translation at 424 distal sites within the cytosol. Finally, proximity of viral mRNA synthesis and translation can 425 also be considered a mechanism to evade cytosolic mRNA decay mechanisms and innate 426 immune sensors of viral RNA.

The novel finding of a close association of the host translation machinery with sites of viral
RNA synthesis during coronavirus infection exemplifies the power of the MHV-BirA_{R118G}-

429 nsp2 -mediated labelling approach to identify RTC-proximal cellular processes that 430 significantly contribute to viral replication. Indeed, the ability of BirA_{R118G} to label viral and 431 host factors independently of high affinity and prolonged molecular interactions enables the 432 establishment of a comprehensive repertoire reflecting the history of protein association with the viral RTC, recorded during the entire course of infection. In future studies it will be 433 important to provide an "RTC-association map" with temporal resolution. Like we have seen 434 435 for translation initiation factors in this study, association of host cell proteins with the viral 436 RTC might not persist throughout the entire replication cycle but might be of importance only 437 transiently or during specific phases of the replication cycle. Given its short labelling time, 438 APEX2 indeed offers this possibility to dissect protein recruitment to the viral RTC in a time-439 resolved manner, i.e. to detect RTC-associated host proteins at specific time points post 440 infection. This will ultimately result in a dynamic, high resolution molecular landscape of 441 virus-host interactions at the RTC and provide an additional impetus to elucidate critical virus-442 host interactions that take place at the site of viral RNA synthesis. These interactions should 443 be exploited in the development of novel strategies to combat virus infection, based on 444 conserved mechanisms of interactions at replication complexes of a broad range of positivestranded RNA viruses. 445

446

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454

455 Author Contributions

- 456 Conceptualization, P.V., V.T.; Investigation, P.V., M.G., S.P., N.E., S.B.L., J.P., H.P., V.G.,
- 457 R.D.; Formal Analysis, J.K., S.B.L., C.S., M.H.; Writing Original Draft, P.V., V.T.;
- 458 Supervision, V.T., R.D., M.H., R.B., M.S.; Funding Acquisition, V.T., R.D., M.H., R.B., M.S.,
- 459 S.P.

460

461 **Declaration of Interests**

462 The authors declare no competing interests

463 Methods

464 Cells

Murine L929 fibroblasts (Sigma) and murine 17Cl1 fibroblasts (gift from S.G. Sawicki) were
cultured in MEM supplemented with 10% (v/v) heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (FBS), 100
µg/ml streptomycin and 100 IU/ml penicillin (MEM+/+). Huh-7 hepatocarcinoma cells (gift
from V. Lohnmann) and Vero B4 cells (kindly provided by M. Müller) were propagated in
Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium-GlutaMAX supplemented with, 1 mM sodium pyruvate,
10% (v/v) heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum, 100 µg/ml streptomycin, 100 IU/ml penicillin
and 1% (w/v) non-essential amino acids.

472

473 Viruses

Recombinant MHV strain A59 (WT), MHV-Gluc (61), which expresses a *Gaussia* luciferase
reporter replacing accessory gene 4 of MHV strain A59, and HCoV-229E were generated as
previously described(32, 33, 62). Viruses were propagated on 17Cl1 cells (MHV) and Huh-7
cells (hCoV-229E) and their sequence was confirmed by RT-PCR sequencing. MERS-CoV
(63, 64) was propagated and titrated on Vero cells.

479

480 Generation of recombinant MHV viruses

Recombinant MHV viruses were generated using a vaccinia virus-based system as described before (33). In short, a pGPT-1 plasmid encoding an *Escherichia coli* guanine phosphoribosyltransferase (GPT) flanked by MHV-A59 nt 447-950 and 1315-1774 was used for targeted homologous recombination with a vaccinia virus (VV) containing a full-length cDNA copy of the MHV-A59 genome (32). The resulting GPT-positive VV was further used for recombination with a plasmid containing the EGFP coding sequence flanked by MHV-A59 nt 477-956 and 951-1774 for the generation of MHV-GFP-nsp2, based on the strategy

488 employed by Freeman et al.(34). Alternatively, a plasmid containing the BirA_{R118G} coding 489 sequence (31) or the APEX2 coding sequence (65), with a N-terminal myc-tag or V5-tag, 490 respectively, and a C-terminal (SGG)₃ flexible linker flanked by MHV-A59 nt 477-956 and 491 951-1774 was used for the generation of MHV- BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 and MHV-APEX2-nsp2. The 492 resulting VV were used to generate full-length cDNA genomic fragments by restriction 493 digestion of the VV backbone. Rescue of MHV-GFP-nsp2, MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 and MHV-494 APEX2-nsp2 was performed by electroporation of capped in vitro transcribed recombinant 495 genomes into a BHK-21-derived cell line stably expressing the nucleocapsid (N) protein 496 layered on permissive 17Cl1 mouse fibroblasts. Recombinant MHV viruses were plaque-497 purified three times and purified viruses were passaged three times for stock preparations. All 498 plasmid sequences, VV sequences and recombinant MHV sequences were confirmed by PCR 499 or RT-PCR sequencing. Viruses were propagated on 17Cl1 cells and virus stocks were titrated 500 by plaque assay on L929 cells.

501

502 Viral replication assay

503 L929 cells were infected with MHV-A59, MHV-GFP-nsp2, MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 or MHV-504 APEX2-nsp2 in quadruplicate at an MOI=1. Virus inoculum was removed 2 h.p.i., cells were 505 washed with PBS and fresh medium was added. Viral supernatants were collected at the 506 indicated time point and titrated by plaque assay on L929 cells. Titers reported are the averages 507 of three independent experiments \pm standard error of the mean (SEM).

508

509 Immunofluorescence imaging

Biotinylation assays were carried out as described before with minor modifications(66). 10⁶
L929 cells grown on glass coverslips were infected with MHV-A59, MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 or
MHV-APEX2-nsp2 at an MOI=1, or non-infected in medium supplemented with 67 μM biotin

513 (Sigma B4501). Cells were washed three times with PBS at the indicated time points and fixed 514 with 4% (v/v) neutral buffered formalin before being washed three additional times. Cells were 515 permeabilized in PBS supplemented with 50 mM NH₄Cl, 0.1% (w/v) Saponin and 2% (w/v) 516 BSA (CB) for 60 min and incubated 60 min with the indicated primary antibodies diluted in CB (polyclonal anti-MHV-nsp2/3 or nsp8 (gift from S. Baker), 1:200 (35, 67); anti-myc, 517 518 1:8000 Cell Signalling 2276). Cells were washed three times with CB and incubated for 60 min 519 with donkey-derived, AlexaFluor488-conjugated anti-mouse IgG (H+L) and donkey-derived, 520 AlexaFluor647-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG (H+L) (Jackson Immunoresearch). Cells were 521 additionally labelled with streptavidin conjugated to AlexaFluor 594 (Molecular Probes) to 522 detect biotinylated proteins. Coverslips were mounted on slides using ProLong Diamond 523 Antifade mountant containing 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI) (Thermo Fisher 524 Scientific).

525 For indirect immunofluorescence detection of viral and host proteins, L929 cells were grown 526 on glass coverslips in 24-well plates and infected with MHV-A59 or MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 527 (MOI=1). At the indicated time point, cells were fixed with 4% (v/v) formalin and processed 528 using primary monoclonal antibodies directed against dsRNA (J2 Mab, English Scientific and 529 Consulting) or myc-tab (Cell signalling 2276) and polyclonal antibodies recognizing eIF3E 530 (Sigma, HPA023973) or RTN4 (Nogo A+B, Abcam 47085) as well as secondary donkey-531 derived, AlexaFluor488-conjugated anti-mouse and AlexaFluor647-conjugated anti-rabbit IgG 532 (H+L), as described above.

For proximity ligation assays, L929 cells were seeded in 24-well plates on glass coverslips and infection with MHV-A59 or MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 (MOI=1). At the indicated time point, cells were washed with PBS, fixed with 4% (v/v) formalin and permeabilized with 0.1% (v/v) Triton X-100. Proximity ligation was performed as recommended by the manufacturer (Duolink In Situ detection reagents Red, Sigma) using monoclonal antibodies directed against dsRNA (J2,

English & Scientific Consulting) or myc-tag (Cell Signaling 2276) and polyclonal antibodies
recognizing eIF3E (Sigma, HPA023973) or RTN4 (Nogo A+B, Abcam 47085). Coverslips
were mounted using Duolink® In Situ Mounting Media with DAPI (Sigma).

All samples were imaged by acquiring 0.2 µm stacks over 10 µm using a DeltaVision Elite
High-Resolution imaging system (GE Healthcare Life Sciences) equipped with a 60x or 100x
oil immersion objective (1.4 NA). Images were deconvolved using the integrated softWoRx
software and processed using Fiji (ImageJ).

545

546 **Biotinylation assay – western blot – mass spectrometry**

547 L929 cells were infected with MHV-A59 or MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2, and for comparison 548 MHV_{H277A} and MHV_{H227A}-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2, at an MOI=1 in medium supplemented with 67 μ M 549 biotin (Sigma B4501). At 15 h.p.i., cells were washed three times with PBS and lysed in ice-550 cold buffer containing 50 mM TRIS-Cl pH 7.4, 500 mM NaCl, 0.2% (w/v) SDS, 1 mM DTT 551 and 1x protease inhibitor (cOmplete Mini, Roche). Cells were scraped off the flask and 552 transferred to tubes. Cells were kept on ice until the end of the procedure. Triton X-100 was 553 added to each sample to a final concentration of 2%. Samples were sonicated for two rounds 554 of 20 pulses with a Branson Sonifier 250 (30% constant, 30% power). Equal volumes of 50 555 mM TRIS-Cl were added to each sample and samples were centrifuged at 4 °C for 10 min at 556 18000 x g. Supernatants were incubated with magnetic beads on a rotator at 4 °C overnight 557 (800 µl Dynabeads per sample, MyOne Streptavidin C1, Life Technologies) that were 558 previously washed with lysis buffer diluted 1:1 with 50 mM TRIS-Cl. Beads were washed 559 twice with buffer 1 (2% (w/v) SDS), once with buffer 2 (0.1% (w/v) deoxycholic acid, 1% 560 (v/v) Triton X-100, 1 mM EDTA, 500 mM NaCl, 50 mM HEPES pH 7.5), once with buffer 3 561 (0.5% w/v deoxycholic acis, 0.5% NP40, 1 mM EDTA, 250 mM LiCl, 10 mM TRIS-Cl pH

562 7.4) and once with 50 mM TRIS-Cl pH 7.4. Proteins were eluted from beads by the addition
563 of 0.5 mM biotin and Laemmli SDS-sample buffer and heating at 95 °C for 10 min.

564 For SDS-PAGE and western blot analysis, cells were cultured in 6-well plates and lysates were 565 prepared and affinity purified as described above. Proteins were separated on 10% (w/v) SDSpolyacrylamide gels (Bio-Rad), and proteins were electroblotted on nitrocellulose membranes 566 567 (Amersham Biosciences, GE Healthcare) in a Mini Trans-Blot cell (Bio-Rad). Membranes 568 were incubated in a protein-free blocking buffer (Advansta) and biotinylated proteins were 569 probed by incubation with horseradish peroxidase-conjugated Streptavidin (Dako). Proteins 570 were visualized using WesternBright enhanced chemiluminescence horseradish peroxidase 571 substrate (Advansta) according to the manufacturer's protocol.

572 For mass spectrometry analysis, lysates and affinity purification were performed as described above from $4*10^7$ cells cultured in 150 cm² tissue culture flasks. Proteins were separated 1 cm 573 574 into a 10% (w/v) SDS-polyacrylamide gel. A Coomassie stain was performed and 4x 2 mm 575 bands were cut with a scalpel. Proteins on gel samples were reduced, alkylated and digested 576 with Trypsin(68). Digests were loaded onto a pre-column (C18 PepMap 100, 5 µm, 100 A, 300 577 µm i.d. x 5 mm length) at a flow rate of 20 µL/min with solvent C (0.05% TFA in 578 water/acetonitrile 98:2). After loading, peptides were eluted in back flush mode onto the 579 analytical Nano-column (C18, 3 µm, 100 Å, 75 µm x 150 mm, Nikkyo Technos C. Ltd., Japan) 580 using an acetonitrile gradient of 5% to 40% solvent B (0.1% (v/v) formic acid in 581 water/acetonitrile 4,9:95) in 40 min at a flow rate of 400 nL/min. The column effluent was 582 directly coupled to a Fusion LUMOS mass spectrometer (Thermo Fischer, Bremen; Germany) 583 via a nano-spray ESI source. Data acquisition was made in data dependent mode with precursor 584 ion scans recorded in the orbitrap with resolution of 120'000 (at m/z=250) parallel to top speed 585 fragment spectra of the most intense precursor ions in the Linear trap for a cycle time of 3 586 seconds maximum. Spectra interpretation was performed with Easyprot on a local, server run

587 under Ubuntu against a forward + reverse Mus musculus (UniprotKB version 2016 04) and 588 database, MHV (UniprotKB version 2016 07) using fixed modifications of 589 carboamidomethylated on Cysteine, and variable modification of oxidation on Methionine, 590 biotinylation on Lysine and on protein N-term, and deamidation of Glutamine and Asparagine. 591 Parent and fragment mass tolerances were set to 10 ppm and 0.4 Da, respectively. Matches on 592 the reversed sequence database were used to set a Z-score threshold, where 1% false 593 discoveries (FDR) on the peptide spectrum match level had to be expected. Protein 594 identifications were only accepted, when two unique peptides fulfilling the 1% FDR criterion 595 were identified. MS identification of biotinylated proteins was performed in three independent 596 biological replicates. For label-free protein quantification, LC-MS/MS data was interpreted 597 with MaxQuant (version 1.5.4.1) using the same protein sequence databases and search 598 parameters as for EasyProt. Match between runs was activated, however samples from different 599 treatments were given non-consecutive fraction numbers in order to avoid over-interpretation 600 of data. The summed and median normalized top3 peptide intensities extracted from the 601 evidence table as a surrogate of protein abundance (69) and LFQ values were used for statistical 602 testing. The protein groups were first cleared from all identifications, which did not have at 603 least two valid LFQ values. Protein LFQ levels derived from MaxQuant were log-transformed. 604 Missing values were imputed by assuming a normal distribution between sample replicates. A 605 two-tailed t-test was used to determine significant differences in protein expression levels 606 between sample groups and p-values were adjusted for multiple testing using the Benjamini-607 Hochberg (FDR) test.

608

609 **Computational analysis**

610 Database for Annotation, Visualization, and Integrated Discovery (DAVID) was used to 611 perform GO enrichment analysis on the RTC-proximal cellular factors identified via mass

612 spectrometry(70-73). GO BP terms with a p-value <0.05 were considered to be terms that were 613 significantly enriched in the dataset. Additional analysis of significant GO terms was conducted 614 using AmiGO and revealed that the top 32 GO BP terms (p-value <0.005) were predominantly 615 associated with five broad functional categories (cell-cell adhesion, transport, cell organization, 616 translation, and catabolic processes)(74). Alternatively, enrichment analysis was performed 617 using SetRank (data not shown), a recently described algorithm that circumvents pitfalls of 618 commonly used approaches and thereby reduces the amount of false-positive hits (75) and the 619 following databases were searched for significant gene sets: BIOCYC (76), GO (72), ITFP 620 (77), KEGG (78), PhosphoSitePlus (79), REACTOME (80), and WikiPathways (81). Both 621 independent approaches lead to highly similar results and consistently complement results 622 obtained upon GO Cellular Components analysis.

523 STRING functional protein association networks were generated using RTC-proximal host 524 proteins found within each of the five broad functional categories. Default settings were used 525 for active interaction sources and a high confidence interaction score (0.700) was used to 526 maximize the strength of data support. The MCL clustering algorithm was applied to each 527 STRING network using an inflation parameter of 3 (82, 83).

628

629 siRNA screen

A custom siRNA library targeting each individual RTC-proximal factor (On Target Plus, SMART pool, 96-well plate format, Dharmacon, GE Healthcare) was ordered. 10 nM siRNA were reverse transfected into L929 cells (8*10³ cells per well) using Viromer Green (Lipocalyx) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Cells were incubated 48 hours at 37 °C 5% CO₂ and cell viability was assessed using the CytoTox 96[®] Non-Radioactive Cytotoxicity Assay (Promega). Cells were infected with MHV-Gluc (MOI=0.05, 1000 plaque forming units/well), washed with PBS 3 h.p.i. and incubated in MEM+/+ for additional 12 hours.

Gaussia luciferase was measured from the supernatant using PierceTM Gaussia Luciferase Glow Assay Kit (ThermoFisher Scientific). Experiments were carried out in 4 independent replicates and both cytotoxicity values and luciferase counts were normalized to the corresponding nontargeting scrambled control of each plate. A one-way ANOVA (Kruskal-Wallis test, uncorrected Dunn's test) was used to test the statistical significance of reduced viral replication (mean < 95% as compared to scramble control, n=216). The R package ggplot2 was used to create the bubble plot (Fig 4B).

644

645 siRNA screen validation

L929 cells were transfected with 10 nM siRNA as described above. 48 h post-transfection, cell 646 viability was assessed using the CytoTox 96[®] Non-Radioactive Cytotoxicity Assay (Promega) 647 and visually inspected by automated phase-contrast microscopy using an EVOS FL Auto 2 648 649 Imaging System equipped with a 4x air objective. Cells were infected with MHV-Gluc 650 (MOI=0.05), washed with PBS 3 h.p.i. and incubated for 9 additional hours. Gaussia luciferase 651 activity, viral titers and cell viability were measured from the supernatant as described above. 652 One-way ANOVAs (ordinary one-way ANOVA, uncorrected Fisher's LSD test) were used to 653 test the statistical significance.

654 Total cellular RNA was isolated from cells using the NucleoMag® RNA Kit (Machery Nagel, Switzerland) on a KingFisherTM Flex Purification System (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 655 656 Switzerland) according to the manufacture's instructions. The QuantiTect Probe RT-PCR Kit (Qiagen, Switzerland) was used according to the manufactures instructions for measuring the 657 658 cell associated viral RNA levels with primers and probe specific to the MHV genome fragment 659 coding the nucleocapsid gene (Table S4). Primers and Probe for mouse Glyceraldehyde 3-660 phosphate dehydrogenase (GAPDH) where obtained from ThermoFisher Scientific 661 (Mm03302249 g1, Catalog Number: 4331182). The MHV levels were normalized to GAPDH

662	and shown as $\Delta\Delta Ct$ over mock (ΔCt values calculated as Ct reference - Ct target). The
663	QuantiTect SYBR® Green RT-PCR Kit (Qiagen, Switzerland) was used according to the
664	manufactures instructions for measuring the expression levels of Rpl13a, eIF3E, eIF3I, eIF3F,
665	eIF4G1, eIF4G2, eIF2ak3, Rsl24d1 and Tbp. All primer pairs where placed over an exon intron
666	junction (Table S4). All expression levels are displayed as $\Delta\Delta$ Ct over non-targeting siRNA
667	(Δ Ct values calculated as Ct target - Ct Tbp) (84). One-way ANOVA (ordinary one-way
668	ANOVA, uncorrected Fisher's LSD test) was used to test the statistical significance.

669

670 **Total cellular translation**

671 siRNA-based silencing was performed as described above. 48 h post-transfection, control cells were incubated with 355 µM cycloheximide (Sigma) and 208 µM Emetin (Sigma) for 30 min 672 673 to block protein synthesis. Cells were treated with 3 µM puromycin for 60 min followed by 674 three PBS washes(85). Total cell lysates were prepared using M-PER mammalian protein 675 extraction reagent (Thermo Scientific) supplemented with protease inhibitors (cOmplete Mini, 676 Roche). Lysates were separated on a 10% (w/v) SDS-PAGE and electroblotted as described 677 above. Western blots were probed using a monclonal AlexaFluor647-conjugated anti-678 puromycin antibody (clone 12D10, Merk Millipore) and a donkey-derived HRP-conjugated 679 anti-mouse (Jackson immunoresearch 715-035-151). Actin was detected using a monoclonal 680 HRP-conjugated anti-actin antibody (Sigma A3854) and used to normalize input.

681

682 **Ribopuromycylation assay**

Ribopuromycylation of actively translating ribosomes was performed as described before (55).

L929, Huh-7 cells were seeded on glass coverslips and infected with MHV-A59 (L929),

685 HCoV-229E (Huh-7), MERS-CoV (Huh-7) and at MOI=1. One hour after inoculation, cells

686 were washed with PBS and incubated further for the indicated time. Cells were treated with

687 355 µM cycloheximide and 208 µM Emetin (Sigma) for 15 min at 37°C. Cells were further 688 incubated in medium containing 355 µM cycloheximide, 208 µM Emetin and 182 µM 689 puromycin (Sigma) for additional 5 min. Cells were washed twice in ice-cold PBS and fix on 690 ice for 20 min in buffer containing 50 mM TRIS HCl, 5 mM MgCl₂, 25 mM KCl, 355 µM 691 cycloheximide, 200 mM NaCl, 0.1% (v/v) TritonX-100, 3% formalin and protease inhibitors (cOmplete Mini, Roche). Cells were blocked for 30 min in CB, and immunostained as 692 693 described above using polyclonal anti-MHV-nsp2/3 (gift from S. Baker), polyclonal anti-694 HCoV-229E-nsp8 (gift from J. Ziebuhr), or monoclonal anti-dsRNA (J2 MAB, English and 695 Scientific Consulting) as primary antibodies to detect MHV, HCoV-229E and ZIKV 696 replication complexes, respectively. Donkey-derived, AlexaFluor488-conjugated anti-mouse 697 or anti-rabbit IgG (H+L) were used as secondary antibodies. Additionally, ribosome-bound 698 puromycin was detected using a monoclonal AlexaFluor647-conjugated anti-puromycin 699 antibody (clone 12D10, Merk Millipore). Slides were mounted, imaged and processed as 700 described above.

701

702 DAB staining and transmission electron microscopy

703 L929 fibroblasts were seeded in 24-well plates and infected with MHV-APEX2-nsp2, MHV-704 A59, or non-infected for 10 h. 3,3-diaminobenzidine (DAB) stains were performed as described 705 previously (38). Briefly, cells were fixed at 10 h.p.i. using warm 2% (v/v) glutaraldehyde in 706 100 mM sodium cacodylate, pH 7.4, supplemented with 2 mM calcium chloride (cacodylate 707 buffer) and placed on ice for 60 min. The following incubations were performed on ice in ice-708 cold buffers unless stated otherwise. Cells were washed 3x with sodium cacodylate buffer, 709 quenched with 20 mM glycine in cacodylate buffer for 5 min. before 3 additional washes with 710 cacodylate buffer. Cells were stained in cacodylate buffer containing 0.5 mg/ml DAB and 10 711 mM H2O2 for 20 min until DAB precipitates were visible by light microscopy. Cells were

712 washed 3x with cacodylate buffer to stop the staining reaction. Processing of samples for 713 transmission electron microscopy (TEM) was performed as described previously (86). Briefly, 714 cells were washed once with PBS prewarmed to 37 °C and subsequently fixed with 2.5% (v/v) 715 glutaraldehyde (Merck, Darmstadt, Germany) in 0.1 M cacodylate buffer (Merck, Hohenbrunn, 716 Germany) pH 7.4 for 30 min at room temperature or overnight at 4 °C. After three washes in 717 cacodylate buffer for 10 min each, cells were post-fixed with 1% OsO4 (Chemie Brunschwig, 718 Basel, Switzerland) in 0.1 M cacodylate buffer for 1 h at 4 °C and again washed three times 719 with cacodylate buffer. Thereafter, cells were dehydrated in an ascending ethanol series (70%, 720 80%, 90%, 94%, 100% (v/v) for 20 min each) and embedded in Epon resin, a mixture of Epoxy 721 embedding medium, dodecenyl succinic anhydride (DDSA) and methyl nadic anhydride 722 (MNA) (Sigma Aldrich, Buchs, Switzerland). Ultrathin sections of 90 nm were then obtained 723 with diamond knives (Diatome, Biel, Switzerland) on a Reichert-Jung Ultracut E (Leica, 724 Heerbrugg, Switzerland) and collected on collodion-coated 200-mesh copper grids (Electron Microscopy Sciences, Hatfield, PA, USA). Sections were double-stained with 0.5% (w/v) 725 726 uranyl acetate for 30 min at 40 °C (Sigma Aldrich, Steinheim, Germany) and 3% (w/v) lead 727 citrate for 10 min at 20 °C (Laurylab, Saint Fons, France) in an Ultrastain® (Leica, Vienna, 728 Austria) and examined with a Philips CM12 transmission electron microscope (FEI, 729 Eindhoven, The Netherlands) at an acceleration voltage of 80 kV. Micrographs were captured 730 with a Mega View III camera using the iTEM software (version 5.2; Olympus Soft Imaging 731 Solutions GmbH, Münster, Germany).

733 Figure legends

734 Figure 1. Characterization of the recombinant MHV-BirAR118G-nsp2. (a) Genome 735 organization of recombinant MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2. The positive-sense RNA genome of MHV 736 contains a 5' cap and a 3' poly(A) tail. ORF1a and ORF1b encode the viral replication and 737 transcription complex (nsp1-16). myc-BirA_{R118G} was inserted as an N-terminal fusion with 738 nsp2 within ORF1a. The cleavage site between nsp1 and myc-BirA_{R118G} was retained (black 739 arrow) while a deleted cleavage site between BirA_{R118G} and nsp2 ensured the release of a 740 BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 fusion protein from the pp1a polyprotein. The cleavage site between nsp2 and 741 nsp3 was also retained. (b) Viral replication kinetics of recombinant MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 742 were compared to wild-type MHV-A59 and recombinant MHV-GFP-nsp2. Murine L929 743 fibroblasts were infected at a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 1 plaque forming unit (pfu) per 744 cell. Viral supernatants were collected at the indicated time points, titrated by plaque assay and 745 expressed in pfu per ml. Data points represent the mean and SEM of three independent 746 experiments, each performed in quadruplicate. (c) Immunofluorescence analysis of MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2-mediated biotinylation of RTC-proximal factors. L929 cells were infected with 747 748 MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 (MOI=1) in medium supplemented with 67µM biotin. Cells were fixed 749 15 hours post infection (h.p.i.) and processed for immunofluorescence analysis with antibodies 750 directed against the BirA_{R118G} (anti-myc), the viral replicase (anti-nsp2/3) and biotinylated 751 factors (streptavidin). Nuclei are counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-752 stacks acquired with a DeltaVision Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Scale 753 bars: 20 µm. (d) Ultrastructural analysis of MHV-APEX2-nsp2 infection. L929 cells were 754 infected with MHV-APEX2-nsp2 and MHV-A59 (MOI=2), or mock infected. At 10 h.p.i., 755 cells were fixed, stained with DAB and processed for electron microscopy investigations. Representative low and high magnifications are displayed. 756

758 Figure 2. Determination of the coronavirus RTC-proximal proteome (a) Schematic 759 overview of the BirA_{R118G}-mediated proximity biotinylation assay using MHV-BirA_{R118G}-760 nsp2. (b) Western blot analysis of MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2-infected L929 cells. L929 cells were 761 infected with MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2, MHV-A59 (parental wild-type strain) or non-infected in medium with and without supplementation of 67 µM biotin. Cells were lysed 15 h.p.i. and 762 763 biotinylated factors were subjected to affinity purification using streptavidin-coupled magnetic 764 beads. Total cell lysates and affinity-purified fractions were separated by SDS-PAGE and 765 analysed by western blot probed with horse radish peroxidase (HRP)-coupled Streptavidin. (c) 766 Host and viral factors identified by LC-MS/MS. 4*107 L929 cells were infected with MHV-767 BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 or MHV-A59 in medium supplemented with 67µM biotin. 15 h.p.i., lysates 768 were affinity purified and LC-MS/MS was performed from in-gel digested samples. MS 769 identification of biotinylated proteins was performed in three independent biological replicates. 770 Spectral interpretation was performed against a Mus musculus and MHV database and log₂-771 transformed LFQ levels (x-axis) were used to determine significant differences in protein 772 enrichment between sample groups (Student's T-test, y-axis). Identified cellular proteins are 773 displayed as black dots, MHV proteins are highlighted in red (nsp: non-structural protein, N: 774 nucleocapsid, S: spike, M: membrane, 2a: accessory protein 2a). (d) Summary of viral proteins 775 identified by LC-MS/MS. nsp2-10, nsp12-16, and nucleocapsid were significantly enriched in 776 fractions derived from MHV-BirAR118G-nsp2-infected cells whereas nsp1, nsp11, structural 777 proteins spike (S), envelope (E) and membrane proteins (M) as well as all accessory proteins 778 (NS2a, HE, ORF4, ORF5a) were either not significantly enriched or not detected. (e,f) 779 Immunofluorescence analysis of RTC-proximal cellular factors. L929 cells were seeded on 780 coverslips, infected with MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2 (e) or MHV-A59 (f), fixed at 9 h.p.i. and 781 processed for immunofluorescence using anti-myc, anti-RTN4 and anti-eIF3E antibodies (e) 782 or anti-dsRNA, anti-RTN4 and anti-eIF3E antibodies (f). Secondary fluorophore-coupled

antibodies were used to detect the viral replicase and endogenous levels of RTN4 and eIF3E
(e). Proximity ligations were performed using Duolink In Situ detection reagents (f). Nuclei
are counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-stacks acquired with a
DeltaVision Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Intensity profiles highlighted in
the magnified regions are shown. Scale bars: 20 µm.

788

789 Figure 3. Functional classification of RTC-proximal host factors (a) Gene Ontology 790 enrichment analysis of RTC-proximal cellular factors. 32 terms were highly significant (p-791 value <0.005) and were assigned to 5 broad functional categories: cell-cell adhesion, transport, 792 cell organization, translation, catabolic processes. (b-c) STRING protein interaction network 793 analysis of the categories "transport" (b) and "translation" (c). The nodes represent RTC-794 proximal host proteins and the edges represent the interactions, either direct (physical) or 795 indirect (functional), between two proteins in the network. Cellular proteins assigned to the 796 "transport" category separated into 4 distinct interaction clusters. I: protein transport, II: COPII 797 anterograde transport, III: COPI retrograde transport, IV: clathrin-mediated transport.

798

799 Figure Identification of proviral factors within the 4. coronavirus RTC 800 microenvironment (a) Impact of siRNA-silencing of RTC-proximal cellular proteins on viral 801 replication. L929 fibroblasts were reverse-transfected with siRNAs (10 nM) for 48 h before 802 being infected with MHV-Gluc (MOI=0.05, n=4). Replication was assessed by virus-mediated 803 Gaussia luciferase expression at 15 h.p.i. and was normalized to levels of viral replication in 804 cells targeted by scrambled siRNA controls. Target proteins to the left of the dashed line 805 represent RTC-proximal factors whose silencing decreased viral replication. (b) Bubble plot 806 illustrating host proteins that significantly impact MHV replication. Bubble size is proportional

807 to the level of viral replication impairment. Colors correspond to the functional categories 808 highlighted in Figure 3. Light grey bubbles (below the dashed line) represent host proteins that 809 did not significantly impact MHV replication (p-value > 0.05). (c, d, e, f) Silencing of RTC-810 proximal components of the cellular translation machinery. Upon 48h siRNA silencing of 811 factors assigned to the category "translation" (Figure 3), L929 fibroblasts were infected with 812 MHV-Gluc (MOI=0.05, n=3). Luciferase activity (c), cell-associated viral RNA levels (d) and 813 viral titers (e) were assessed at 12 h.p.i.. (f) Western blot quantification of total cellular 814 translation following silencing of a subset of the host translation apparatus. Upon 48h siRNA-815 silencing, L929 fibroblasts were pulsed with 3 µM puromycin for 60 min. Control cells were 816 treated, prior to puromycin incubation, with 355 µM cycloheximide and 208 µM Emetin for 817 30 min to block protein synthesis. Cell lysates were separated by SDS-PAGE and Western 818 blots were probed using anti-puromycin antibodies to assess puromycin incorporation into 819 polypeptides and normalized to actin levels. Error bars represent the mean \pm standard deviation, 820 where * is $p \le 0.05$, ** is $p \le 0.005$, *** is $p \le 0.0005$ and **** is p < 0.0001.

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822 Figure 5. Active translation near sites of MHV mRNA synthesis. Visualization of active translation in MHV-infected L929 fibroblasts. Cells infected with MHV-A59 (MOI=1) or non-823 824 infected cells were cultured for 6, 8, 10 and 12 hours and pulsed with cycloheximide, emetine 825 and puromycin for 5 min to label translating ribosomes. All cells, including non-treated control 826 infections, were subjected to a coextraction/fixation procedure to remove free puromycin. Cells 827 were labelled using anti-nsp2/3 antiserum and anti-puromycin antibodies. Nuclei are 828 counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-stacks acquired with a DeltaVision 829 Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Note the gradual decrease of overlap 830 between the viral replication and actively translating ribosomes highlighted in the intensity 831 profiles. Scale bar: 20 µm.

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 Visualization of active translation during hCoV-229E and MERS-CoV infections. Huh7 cell were infected with HCoV-229E and MERS-CoV (MOI=1) for 12 h and 6 h, respectively. Cell were pulsed with cycloheximide, emetine and puromycin for 5min to label translatin ribosomes and subjected to a coextraction/fixation procedure to remove free puromycin. Non infected and/or non-pulsed cells were used as control. Cells were labelled using anti-nsp (HCoV-229E) or dsRNA (MERS-CoV) and anti-puromycin antibodies. Nuclei ar counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-stacks acquired with a DeltaVisio Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Intensity profiles of magnified regions ar shown. Scale bar: 20 µm. 	833	Figure 6. Active translation near sites of HCoV-229E and MERS-CoV mRNA synthesis.
 were infected with HCoV-229E and MERS-CoV (MOI=1) for 12 h and 6 h, respectively. Cell were pulsed with cycloheximide, emetine and puromycin for 5min to label translatin ribosomes and subjected to a coextraction/fixation procedure to remove free puromycin. Non infected and/or non-pulsed cells were used as control. Cells were labelled using anti-nsp (HCoV-229E) or dsRNA (MERS-CoV) and anti-puromycin antibodies. Nuclei ar counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-stacks acquired with a DeltaVisio Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Intensity profiles of magnified regions ar shown. Scale bar: 20 µm. 	834	Visualization of active translation during hCoV-229E and MERS-CoV infections. Huh7 cells
 were pulsed with cycloheximide, emetine and puromycin for 5min to label translatin ribosomes and subjected to a coextraction/fixation procedure to remove free puromycin. Non infected and/or non-pulsed cells were used as control. Cells were labelled using anti-nsp (HCoV-229E) or dsRNA (MERS-CoV) and anti-puromycin antibodies. Nuclei ar counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-stacks acquired with a DeltaVisio Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Intensity profiles of magnified regions ar shown. Scale bar: 20 µm. 	835	were infected with HCoV-229E and MERS-CoV (MOI=1) for 12 h and 6 h, respectively. Cells
 ribosomes and subjected to a coextraction/fixation procedure to remove free puromycin. Non infected and/or non-pulsed cells were used as control. Cells were labelled using anti-nsp (HCoV-229E) or dsRNA (MERS-CoV) and anti-puromycin antibodies. Nuclei ar counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-stacks acquired with a DeltaVisio Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Intensity profiles of magnified regions ar shown. Scale bar: 20 µm. 	836	were pulsed with cycloheximide, emetine and puromycin for 5min to label translating
 infected and/or non-pulsed cells were used as control. Cells were labelled using anti-nsp (HCoV-229E) or dsRNA (MERS-CoV) and anti-puromycin antibodies. Nuclei ar counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-stacks acquired with a DeltaVisio Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Intensity profiles of magnified regions ar shown. Scale bar: 20 µm. 	837	ribosomes and subjected to a coextraction/fixation procedure to remove free puromycin. Non-
 (HCoV-229E) or dsRNA (MERS-CoV) and anti-puromycin antibodies. Nuclei ar counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-stacks acquired with a DeltaVisio Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Intensity profiles of magnified regions ar shown. Scale bar: 20 µm. 	838	infected and/or non-pulsed cells were used as control. Cells were labelled using anti-nsp8
 counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-stacks acquired with a DeltaVisio Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Intensity profiles of magnified regions ar shown. Scale bar: 20 µm. 	839	(HCoV-229E) or dsRNA (MERS-CoV) and anti-puromycin antibodies. Nuclei are
 841 Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Intensity profiles of magnified regions ar 842 shown. Scale bar: 20 μm. 	840	counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-stacks acquired with a DeltaVision
shown. Scale bar: 20 μm.	841	Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Intensity profiles of magnified regions are
	842	shown. Scale bar: 20 µm.

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1044 Supplemental Figure 1. Immunofluorescence analysis of MHV-BirA_{R118G}-nsp2-mediated 1045 biotinylation. MHV-BirAR118G-nsp2, MHV-A59- or non-infected L929 fibroblasts were 1046 cultured in medium supplemented with 67µM biotin. Cells were fixed 12 hours post infection 1047 (h.p.i.) and processed for immunofluorescence analysis with antibodies directed against the 1048 BirA_{R118G} (anti-myc), the viral replicase (anti-nsp2/3 or nsp8) and biotinylated factors 1049 (streptavidin). Nuclei are counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved z-stacks 1050 acquired with a DeltaVision Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. Scale bars: 20 1051 μm.

1052

1053 **Supplemental Figure 2.** STRING protein interaction network analysis of the categories "cell 1054 organization" (a) and "catabolic processes" (b). The nodes represent RTC-proximal host 1055 proteins and the edges represent the interactions, either direct (physical) or indirect 1056 (functional), between two proteins in the network.

1057

1058 Supplemental Figure 3. (a) siRNA controls contained in each 96-well plate during siRNA-1059 silencing of the RTC-proximal library. Controls included the established factors such as MHV 1060 entry receptor (Ceacam1a), Gbf1, Arf1. Arfgap2 was found to moderately affect MHV 1061 replication during pilot experiments and was included to cover the entire inhibitory range. (b) 1062 Cell viability following 48h siRNA-silencing of components of the cellular translation machinery. (c) Expression levels of Rpl13a, eIF3E, eIF3I, eIF3F, eIF4G1, eIF4G2, eIF2ak3, 1063 1064 Rsl24d1 following siRNA knockdown compared to expression levels in cells treated with non-1065 targetting siRNA. (d) Visual inspection of L929 treated with siRNA targetting eIF3E, eIF3I, 1066 eIF3F, Rrbp1, Rpl13a, non-targetting siRNA (scramble). Note that RNA silencing (b) and 1067 translation activity (c) in Rpl13a-silenced cells could not be assessed, likely due to cytotoxicity

1068 observed by visual inspection of cells. (e) Western blot and western blot analysis of total 1069 cellular translation. Upon 48h siRNA-silencing, L929 fibroblasts were pulsed with 3 μ M 1070 puromycin for 60 min. Control cells were treated, prior to puromycin incubation, with 355 μ M 1071 cycloheximide and 208 μ M Emetin for 30 min to block protein synthesis. Western blots were 1072 probed using anti-puromycin antibodies to assess puromycin incorporation into polypeptides 1073 and normalized to actin levels. Error bars represent the mean \pm standard deviation of three 1074 independent experiments, where * is ** is p \leq 0.005.

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1076 Supplemental Figure 4. Visualization of active translation during HCoV-229E infections. 1077 Huh7 cells were infected with HCoV-229E (MOI=1) for 12, 15, 18, 24 h. Cells were pulsed with cycloheximide, emetine and puromycin for 5min to label translating ribosomes and 1078 1079 subjected to a coextraction/fixation procedure to remove free puromycin. Non-infected and/or 1080 non-pulsed cells were used as control. Cells were labelled using anti-nsp8 (HCoV-229E) and 1081 anti-puromycin antibodies. Nuclei are counterstained with DAPI. Z-projection of deconvolved 1082 z-stacks acquired with a DeltaVision Elite High-Resolution imaging system are shown. 1083 Intensity profiles of magnified regions are shown. Scale bar: 20 µm.



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PLA dsRNA - RTN4

elF3E

MHV non



PLA dsRNA - eIF3E non-infected signal

2 3 4 µm













MHV-A59

mock





