

1 **Potent Neutralizing Monoclonal Antibodies Directed to**
2 **Multiple Epitopes on the SARS-CoV-2 Spike**

3
4 Lihong Liu^{1*}, Pengfei Wang^{1*}, Manoj S. Nair^{1*}, Jian Yu^{1*}, Yaoxing Huang^{1*}, Micah A. Rapp^{2*},
5 Qian Wang^{3*}, Yang Luo¹, Vincent Sahi¹, Amir Figueroa⁴, Xinzheng V. Guo⁵, Gabriele Cerutti²,
6 Jude Bimela², Jason Gorman⁶, Tongqing Zhou⁶, Peter D. Kwong^{6,7}, Joseph G. Sodroski³,
7 Michael T. Yin⁸, Zizhang Sheng^{1,2}, Lawrence Shapiro^{1,2,7#}, and David D. Ho^{1#}

8
9 ¹Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center, Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians
10 and Surgeons, New York, NY 10032, USA.

11 ²Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027, USA.

12 ³Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02215, USA.

13 ⁴Department of Microbiology & Immunology Flow Cytometry Core, Columbia University
14 Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, NY 10032, USA.

15 ⁵Human Immune Monitoring Core, Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and
16 Surgeons, New York, NY 10032, USA.

17 ⁶Vaccine Research Center, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD 20892, USA.

18 ⁷Department of Biochemistry, Columbia University, New York, NY 10032, USA.

19 ⁸Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Internal Medicine, Columbia University Vagelos
20 College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, NY 10032, USA.

21 *Equal contribution. #Co-senior authors.

22 Address correspondence to David D. Ho: dh2994@cumc.columbia.edu

23 Abstract

24 **The SARS-CoV-2 pandemic rages on with devastating consequences on human lives and the**
25 **global economy. The discovery and development of virus-neutralizing monoclonal**
26 **antibodies could be one approach to treat or prevent infection by this novel coronavirus.**
27 **Here we report the isolation of 61 SARS-CoV-2-neutralizing monoclonal antibodies from 5**
28 **infected patients hospitalized with severe disease. Among these are 19 antibodies that**
29 **potently neutralized the authentic SARS-CoV-2 *in vitro*, 9 of which exhibited exquisite**
30 **potency, with 50% virus-inhibitory concentrations of 1 to 9 ng/mL. Epitope mapping showed**
31 **this collection of 19 antibodies to be about equally divided between those directed to the**
32 **receptor-binding domain (RBD) and those to the N-terminal domain (NTD), indicating that**
33 **both of these regions at the top of the viral spike are quite immunogenic. In addition, two**
34 **other powerful neutralizing antibodies recognized quaternary epitopes that are overlapping**
35 **with the domains at the top of the spike. Cyro-electron microscopy structures of one**
36 **antibody targeting RBD, a second targeting NTD, and a third bridging RBD and NTD**
37 **revealed recognition of the closed, “all RBD-down” conformation of the spike. Several of**
38 **these monoclonal antibodies are promising candidates for clinical development as potential**
39 **therapeutic and/or prophylactic agents against SARS-CoV-2.**

40

41 Background

42 A novel coronavirus, now termed SARS-CoV-2^{1,2}, has caused nearly 8 million confirmed
43 infections globally, leading to about 450,000 deaths. This pandemic has also put much of the
44 world on pause, with unprecedented disruption of lives and unparalleled damage to the economy.
45 A return to some semblance of normalcy will depend on science to deliver an effective solution,

46 and the scientific community has responded admirably. Drug development is well underway, and
47 vaccine candidates are entering clinical trials. Another promising approach is the isolation of
48 SARS-CoV-2-neutralizing monoclonal antibodies (mAbs) that could be used as therapeutic or
49 prophylactic agents. The primary target for such antibodies is the viral spike, a trimeric protein^{3,4}
50 that is responsible for binding to the ACE2 receptor on the host cell^{1,3,5,6}. The spike protein is
51 comprised of two subunits. The S1 subunit has two major structural elements: RBD and NTD; the
52 S2 subunit mediates virus-cell membrane fusion after the RBD engages ACE2. Reports of
53 discovery of neutralizing mAbs that target the RBD have been published recently⁷⁻¹¹. We now
54 describe our efforts in isolating and characterizing a collection of mAbs that not only target
55 multiple epitopes on the viral spike but also show exquisite potency in neutralizing SARS-CoV-2.

56

57 **Patient Selection**

58 Forty patients with PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection were enrolled in an observational
59 cohort study on virus-neutralizing antibodies. Plasma samples from all subjects were first tested
60 for neutralizing activity against SARS-CoV-2 pseudovirus (Wuhan-Hu-1 spike pseudotyped with
61 vesicular stomatitis virus). Widely varying neutralizing titers were observed, with IC₅₀ ranging
62 from a reciprocal plasma dilution of <100 to ~13,000 (Fig. 1a). Five patients were chosen for mAb
63 isolation because their plasma virus-neutralizing titers were among the highest. The clinical
64 characteristics of these 5 cases are summarized in Extended Data Table 1. In brief, all were
65 severely ill with acute respiratory distress syndrome requiring mechanical ventilation. Their ages
66 ranged from 50 to 71. Two were Hispanic females, two were white males, and one was a black
67 male. One patient died, while the others recovered. Importantly, blood for isolation of SARS-
68 CoV-2 mAbs was obtained on day 18 to 32 post onset of symptoms.

69

70 **Monoclonal Antibody Isolation and Construction**

71 Peripheral blood mononuclear cells from each patient were put through an experimental schema
72 (Extended Data Fig. 1a) starting with cell sorting by flow cytometry. The sorting strategy focused
73 on live memory B lymphocytes that were CD3-negative, CD19-positive, and CD27-positive
74 (Extended Data Fig. 1b). The final step focused on those cells that bound the SARS-CoV-2 spike
75 trimer (S trimer)⁴. S trimer-positive memory B cells were enriched (0.4% to 1.4%) in the 5 patients
76 as compared to a normal health donor (0.2%) (Extended Data Fig. 1c). A total of 602, 325, 14,
77 147, and 145 such B cells from Patient 1, Patient 2, Patient 3, Patient 4, and Patient 5, respectively,
78 were labelled with a unique hashtag. The cells were then placed into the 10X Chromium (10X
79 Genomics) for single-cell 5' mRNA and V(D)J sequencing to obtain paired heavy (H) and light (L)
80 chain sequences. A careful bioinformatic analysis was carried out on 1,145 paired sequences to
81 downselect “high-confidence” antigen-specific mAbs. A total of 331 mAb sequences were
82 recovered, representing 252 individual clones. Only 6 mAbs were from Patient 3, whereas 44 to
83 100 mAbs were identified from each of the other patients (Extended Data Table 2). The VH and
84 VL sequences of 252 antibodies (one per clone) were codon-optimized and synthesized, and each
85 VH and VL gene was then cloned into an expression plasmid with corresponding constant region
86 of H chain and L chain of human IgG1, and mAbs were expressed by co-transfection of paired
87 full-length H chain and L chain genes into Expi293 cells. The supernatant from each transfection
88 was collected for the screening assays and antibody purification.

89

90 **Monoclonal Antibody Screening**

91 All 252 transfection supernatants were screened for binding to S trimer and RBD by enzyme-
92 linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs), as well as for neutralization against SARS-CoV-2
93 pseudovirus and live virus. These results are graphically represented in Fig. 1b and tabulated in
94 Extended Data Table 2. It was evident that a substantial percentage of the mAbs in the supernatants
95 bound S trimer, and a subset of those bound RBD. Specifically, 121 supernatants were scored as
96 positive for S trimer binding, yielding an overall hit rate of 48%. Of these, 38 were positive for
97 RBD binding while the remaining 83 were negative. It is interesting to note that none of the 13
98 trimer-specific mAbs from Patient 5 recognized RBD. In the pseudovirus neutralization screen,
99 61 supernatants were scored as positive, indicating that half of the trimer-specific mAbs were virus
100 neutralizing. In particular, 15 supernatants retained neutralizing activity even when diluted by
101 1,000-fold or more. In the screen for neutralization against SARS-CoV-2 (strain USA-
102 WA1/2020), 41 supernatants were scored as positive, including 10 that neutralized the virus
103 completely (+++). Overall, this screening strategy was quite effective in picking up neutralizing
104 mAbs (vertical lines and labelled antibodies at the bottom of Fig. 1b) that were later identified as
105 potent.

106

107 **Sequence Analysis of S Trimer-Specific Monoclonal Antibodies**

108 Of the 121 mAbs that bound S trimer, 88% were IgG isotype, with IgG1 being predominant
109 (Extended Data Fig. 2a). Small numbers of antibodies of IgM and IgA isotypes were also found.
110 Comparison to the IgG repertoire of three healthy human donors¹², a statistically significant over-
111 representation of IGHV3-30, IGKV3-20, and IGHJ6 genes was observed for this collection of
112 SARS-CoV-2 mAbs (Extended Data Figs. 2b and 2c). A longer CDRH3 length was also noted
113 (Extended Data Fig. 2d). Interestingly, the average percentages of somatic hypermutation in VH

114 and VL were 2.1 and 2.5, respectively, which were significantly lower than those found in healthy
115 individuals (Extended Data Fig. 2e) and remarkably close to germline sequences.

116

117 **Antigen Binding and Virus Neutralization**

118 Since the screening for pseudovirus neutralization was performed quantitatively with serial
119 dilutions of the transfection supernatants, we plotted in Extended Data Fig. 3 the best-fit
120 neutralization curves for 130 samples that were positive in at least one of the screens shown in Fig.
121 1b. Most were non-neutralizing or weakly neutralizing, but 18 showed evidently better potency.
122 One additional supernatant was initially missed in the pseudovirus screen (Patient 1 in Extended
123 Data Fig. 3) but was later found to be a potent neutralizing mAb. Together, these 19 mAbs were
124 purified from transfection supernatants and further characterized for their binding and
125 neutralization properties. As shown in Fig. 2a, all but one (2-43) of the mAbs bound the S trimer
126 by a quantitative ELISA. Using two other quantitative ELISAs, nine of the antibodies clearly
127 bound RBD, with little or no binding to NTD. Eight antibodies bound NTD to varying degrees,
128 with no binding to RBD. Two mAbs bound neither RBD nor NTD, and were therefore categorized
129 as “Others”.

130

131 The pseudovirus neutralization profiles for these purified 19 mAbs are shown in the top portion of
132 Fig. 2b. The RBD-directed antibodies neutralized the pseudovirus with IC_{50} of 0.005 to 0.512
133 $\mu\text{g/mL}$; the NTD-directed antibodies were slightly less potent, with IC_{50} ranging from 0.013 to
134 0.767 $\mu\text{g/mL}$. A common feature of the NTD mAbs was the plateauing of virus neutralization at
135 levels short of 100%. Two antibodies, categorized as “Others”, neutralized with IC_{50} of 0.071 and
136 0.652 $\mu\text{g/mL}$, with mAb 2-51 exhibiting the plateauing effect typical of NTD antibodies. Antibody

137 neutralization of the authentic or live SARS-CoV-2 (strain USA-WA1/2020) was carried out using
138 Vero cells inoculated with a multiplicity of infection of 0.1. As shown in the bottom portion of
139 Fig. 2b, the RBD-directed antibodies again neutralized the virus but with IC_{50} of 0.0007 to 0.209
140 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$; the NTD-directed antibodies showed similar potency, with IC_{50} ranging from 0.007 to
141 0.109 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$. Here, the plateauing effect seen in the pseudovirus neutralization assay was less
142 apparent. Antibodies 2-43 and 2-51 neutralized the live virus with IC_{50} of 0.003 and 0.007 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$,
143 respectively. Overall, nine mAbs exhibited exquisite potency in neutralizing authentic SARS-
144 CoV-2 *in vitro* with IC_{50} of 0.009 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ or less, including four directed to RBD (2-15, 2-7, 1-57,
145 and 1-20), three to NTD (2-17, 5-24, and 4-8), and two to undetermined regions on the S trimer
146 (2-43 and 2-51). It is remarkable that Patient 2 alone contributed five of the top nine SARS-CoV-
147 2 neutralizing mAbs.

148

149 **Epitope Mapping**

150 All 19 potent neutralizing mAbs (Fig. 2) were further studied in antibody competition experiments
151 to gain insight into their epitopes. In addition, 12 mAbs that bound the S trimer strongly during
152 the initial supernatant screen were also chosen, including 5 that bound RBD (1-97, 2-26, 4-13, 4-
153 24, and 4-29) and 7 that did not bind RBD (1-21, 2-29, 4-15, 4-32, 4-33, 4-41, and 5-45). Four of
154 these mAbs were weak in neutralizing SARS-CoV-2 pseudovirus, and the remaining 8 were non-
155 neutralizing (Extended Data Fig. 4). First, a total of 16 non-RBD mAbs were evaluated for
156 competition in binding to S trimer by ELISA in a “checkerboard” experiment. The extent of the
157 antibody competition is reflected by the intensity of the heatmap shown in Fig. 3a, left panel.
158 There is one large cluster (A) of mAbs that competed with one another, and it partially overlaps a
159 small cluster (B). A third cluster (C) does not overlap at all. Note that all but one of the antibodies

160 in cluster A recognized NTD. Antibody 2-51 is clearly directed to the NTD region even though it
161 could not bind NTD. Moreover, one mAb each from clusters B and C also recognized NTD,
162 thereby indicating that all three clusters are within or near the NTD. One mAb, 1-21, appears to
163 have a unique non-overlapping epitope (epitope region D).

164

165 Second, a similar “checkerboard” competition experiment was carried out by ELISA for 14 of our
166 RBD-directed mAbs plus CR3022^{13,14}. Here, the heatmap shows that there are four epitope
167 clusters that are serially overlapping (Fig. 3a, right panel). There is one large cluster (E) that
168 contains mAbs largely capable of blocking ACE2 binding. Furthermore, 4 antibodies in this
169 cluster lost binding to a mutant RBD (L455R, A475R, G502R) that could no longer bind ACE2
170 (our unpublished findings). Taken together, these results suggest that most of the mAbs in cluster
171 E are directed to the ACE2-binding interface of RBD. The next cluster (F) connects to both cluster
172 E and cluster G, the location of which is defined by its member CR3022¹⁵. Lastly, cluster G
173 overlaps another cluster (H), which includes 1-97 that strongly inhibited the binding of 2-30 to the
174 S trimer. This finding suggests that cluster H may be proximal to one edge of cluster E.

175

176 One potent neutralizing mAb, 2-43, did not bind S trimer by ELISA (Fig. 2a) and thus could not
177 be tested in the above competition experiments. However, 2-43 did strongly bind S trimer when
178 expressed on the cell surface as determined by flow cytometry, and this binding was competed out
179 by itself but not by RBD, NTD, ACE2, or the soluble S trimer⁴ (Extended Data Fig. 5). NTD-
180 directed mAbs had only a modest effect on its binding to cell-surface S trimer, but numerous RBD-
181 directed mAbs in cluster E potentially blocked the binding of 2-43, demonstrating that this antibody

182 is likely targeting a quaternary epitope on the top of RBD that includes a portion of the interface
183 with ACE2.

184

185 The results in Fig. 3a and Extended Data Fig. 5 could be represented by two sets of Venn diagrams
186 shown in Fig. 3b. In the non-RBD region, the potent neutralizing mAbs reside exclusively in
187 cluster A and bind a patch on the NTD. Weaker neutralizing mAbs recognize a region at the
188 interface between clusters A and B. In the RBD region, the most potent neutralizing mAbs also
189 group together within one cluster (E). Given that all block ACE2 binding, it is likely they
190 recognize the top of RBD and neutralize the virus by competitive inhibition of receptor binding.
191 Cluster G contains CR3022, a mAb known to be directed to an epitope on a cryptic site on the side
192 of RBD when it is in the “up” position¹⁵. Cluster F is therefore likely situated between the top and
193 this “cryptic” site. The Venn diagram also suggests that cluster H may occupy a different side
194 surface near the top of RBD, perhaps in the region recognized by S309⁸.

195

196 **Cryo-Electron Microscopy**

197 To further understand antibody recognition of the viral spike and to aid the interpretation of the
198 mapping studies, we determined cryo-EM structures of Fabs from three mAbs in complex with the
199 S trimer⁴. First, single-particle analysis of the complex with 2-4 Fab (RBD-directed) yielded maps
200 of high quality (Fig. 4a; Extended Data Table 3; Extended Data Fig. 6), with the most abundant
201 particle class representing a 3-Fab-per-trimer complex, refined to an overall resolution of 3.2 Å.
202 While density for the constant portion of the Fabs was visible, it was blurred due to molecular
203 motion, and thus only the variable domains were included in the molecular model. Fab of 2-4
204 bound the spike protein near the apex, with all RBDs in the “down” orientation, and the structure

205 of the antibody-bound spike protein was highly similar to previously published unliganded spike
206 structures in the “all-down” conformation^{3,4}. The 2-4 epitope on RBD has a buried surface area
207 of 751 Å², sharing 284 Å² with the interface of ACE2. Detailed interactions between 2-4 and RBD,
208 along with comparative analyses, are discussed and exhibited in Extended Data Fig. 7. Overall,
209 Fig. 4a shows that neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 by mAb 2-4 likely results from locking RBD in
210 the down conformation while also occluding access to ACE2.

211

212 Second, we also produced 3D cryo-EM reconstructions of the Fab of 4-8 (NTD-directed) in
213 complex with the S trimer (Extended Data Table 3; Extended Data Fig. 8). Two main particle
214 classes were observed – one for a 3-Fab-bound complex with all RBDs “down” at 3.9 Å resolution
215 (Fig. 4b), and another a 3-Fab-bound complex with one RBD “up” at 4.0 Å resolution (Extended
216 Data Fig. 9). However, molecular motion prevented visualization of the interaction at high
217 resolution. Nevertheless, the density in the 4-8 map reveals the overall positions of the antibody
218 chains targeting NTD, and helps to anchor the results of the antibody competition experiments.
219 How such binding to the tip of NTD results in SARS-CoV-2 neutralization remains unclear.

220

221 Third, a 7.8 Å resolution reconstructions of the Fab of 2-43 in complex with the S trimer (Extended
222 Data Table 3; Extended Data Fig. 10) revealed three bound Fabs, each targeting a quaternary
223 epitope on the top of the spike that included the RBD of one protomer and the NTD of another
224 (Fig. 4c), consistent with the epitope mapping results (Extended Data Fig. 5 and Fig. 3b). Given
225 these findings, the inability of 2-43 to bind S trimer by ELISA is likely an artifact of the assay
226 format, as this mAb did bind the spike expressed on the cell surface and in the cryo-EM study.

227 Fig. 4c suggests that 2-43 could block SARS-CoV-2 infection by occluding the site necessary for
228 ACE2 binding.

229

230 Armed with these three cryo-EM reconstructions, we used the Venn diagrams from Fig. 3b to map
231 the epitopes of many of our SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing mAbs onto the surface of the spike (Fig.
232 4d). This is obviously a rough approximation since antibody footprints are much larger than the
233 area occupied by the mAb number. However, the spatial relationship of the antibody epitopes
234 should be reasonably represented by Fig. 4d.

235

236 **Discussion**

237 We have discovered a collection of SARS-CoV-2-neutralizing mAbs that are not only potent but
238 also diverse. Nine of these antibodies can neutralize the authentic virus *in vitro* at concentrations
239 of 9 ng/mL or less (Fig. 2b), including 4 directed to RBD, 3 directed to NTD, and 2 to quaternary
240 epitopes nearby. Surprisingly, many of these mAbs have V(D)J sequences close to germline
241 sequences, without extensive somatic hypermutations (Extended Data Fig. 2e), a finding that bodes
242 well for vaccine development. Our most potent RBD-specific mAbs (e.g., 2-15, 2-7, 1-57, and 1-
243 20) compare favorably with such antibodies recently reported^{7,8,10,16-20}, including those with high
244 potency^{9,11,21,22}. It appears from the epitope mapping studies that mAbs directed to the top of RBD
245 strongly compete with ACE2 binding and potently neutralize the virus, whereas those directed to
246 the side surfaces of RBD do not compete with ACE2 and neutralize less potently (Figs. 3b and
247 4d). Our collection of non-RBD neutralizing mAbs is unprecedented in that such antibodies only
248 have been sporadically reported and only with substantially lower potencies²²⁻²⁴. The most potent
249 of these mAbs are directed to (e.g., 2-17, 5-24, and 4-8) or overlapping with (2-51) a patch on the
250 NTD (Figs. 3b and 4d). It is unclear how NTD-directed mAbs block SARS-CoV-2 infection and

251 why their neutralization profiles are different from those of RBD-directed antibodies (Fig. 2b).
252 Nevertheless, vaccine strategies that do not include NTD will be unable to induce an important
253 class of virus-neutralizing antibodies.

254

255 The isolation of two mAbs (2-43 and 2-51) directed to epitopes that do not map to RBD and NTD
256 is also unprecedented. Cryo-EM of 2-43 bound to the S trimer has confirmed its epitope as
257 quaternary in nature, crossing from the top of RBD to the top of an adjacent NTD (Fig. 4c). It will
258 be equally informative to understand the epitope of 2-51 as well. In this study, we also show the
259 first evidence by cryo-EM for a neutralizing mAb (4-8) bound to the NTD of the viral spike (Fig.
260 4b), as well as another high-resolution structure of a mAb (2-4) bound to RBD (Fig. 4a).
261 Collectively, these findings will contribute to the understanding of how antibodies bind and
262 neutralize SARS-CoV-2.

263

264 The potency and diversity of our SARS-CoV-2-neutralizing mAbs are likely attributable to patient
265 selection. Previously, we observed that infected individuals with severe disease developed a more
266 robust virus-neutralizing antibody response²⁵. If Patient 2 had not been included, five of the top
267 neutralizing mAbs would be lost. The diversity of our antibodies is also attributable, in part, to
268 the choice of using the S trimer to sort from memory B cells, while most groups focused on the
269 use of RBD^{7,9-11,16-19,21}. The characterization of this diverse collection of mAbs has allowed us to
270 observe that all potent SARS-CoV-2-neutralizing antibodies described to date are directed to the
271 top of the viral spike. RBD and NTD are, no doubt, quite immunogenic. Neutralizing antibodies
272 to the stem region of the S trimer remain to be discovered. In conclusion, we believe several of

273 our monoclonal antibodies with exquisite virus-neutralizing activity are promising candidates for
274 development as modalities to treat or prevent SARS-CoV-2 infection.

275 **References**

- 276 1 Zhou, P. *et al.* A pneumonia outbreak associated with a new coronavirus of probable bat
277 origin. *Nature* **579**, 270-273, doi:10.1038/s41586-020-2012-7 (2020).
- 278 2 Wang, C., Horby, P. W., Hayden, F. G. & Gao, G. F. A novel coronavirus outbreak of global
279 health concern. *Lancet* **395**, 470-473, doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(20)30185-9 (2020).
- 280 3 Walls, A. C. *et al.* Structure, Function, and Antigenicity of the SARS-CoV-2 Spike
281 Glycoprotein. *Cell* **181**, 281-292 e286, doi:10.1016/j.cell.2020.02.058 (2020).
- 282 4 Wrapp, D. *et al.* Cryo-EM structure of the 2019-nCoV spike in the prefusion conformation.
283 *Science* **367**, 1260-1263, doi:10.1126/science.abb2507 (2020).
- 284 5 Hoffmann, M. *et al.* SARS-CoV-2 Cell Entry Depends on ACE2 and TMPRSS2 and Is Blocked
285 by a Clinically Proven Protease Inhibitor. *Cell* **181**, 271-280 e278,
286 doi:10.1016/j.cell.2020.02.052 (2020).
- 287 6 Wang, Q. *et al.* Structural and Functional Basis of SARS-CoV-2 Entry by Using Human ACE2.
288 *Cell* **181**, 894-904 e899, doi:10.1016/j.cell.2020.03.045 (2020).
- 289 7 Ju, B. *et al.* Human neutralizing antibodies elicited by SARS-CoV-2 infection. *Nature*,
290 doi:10.1038/s41586-020-2380-z (2020).
- 291 8 Pinto, D. *et al.* Cross-neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 by a human monoclonal SARS-CoV
292 antibody. *Nature*, doi:10.1038/s41586-020-2349-y (2020).
- 293 9 Cao, Y. *et al.* Potent neutralizing antibodies against SARS-CoV-2 identified by high-
294 throughput single-cell sequencing of convalescent patients' B cells. *Cell*,
295 doi:10.1016/j.cell.2020.05.025 (2020).
- 296 10 Wu, Y. *et al.* A noncompeting pair of human neutralizing antibodies block COVID-19 virus
297 binding to its receptor ACE2. *Science* **368**, 1274-1278, doi:10.1126/science.abc2241
298 (2020).
- 299 11 Hansen, J. *et al.* High-Throughput Effort Using Both Humanized Mice and Convalescent
300 Humans Yields SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Cocktail. *Science*, doi:in press (2020).
- 301 12 Sheng, Z. *et al.* Gene-Specific Substitution Profiles Describe the Types and Frequencies of
302 Amino Acid Changes during Antibody Somatic Hypermutation. *Front Immunol* **8**, 537,
303 doi:10.3389/fimmu.2017.00537 (2017).
- 304 13 ter Meulen, J. *et al.* Human monoclonal antibody combination against SARS coronavirus:
305 synergy and coverage of escape mutants. *Plos Med* **3**, e237,
306 doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.0030237 (2006).
- 307 14 Tian, X. *et al.* Potent binding of 2019 novel coronavirus spike protein by a SARS
308 coronavirus-specific human monoclonal antibody. *Emerg Microbes Infect* **9**, 382-385,
309 doi:10.1080/22221751.2020.1729069 (2020).
- 310 15 Yuan, M. *et al.* A highly conserved cryptic epitope in the receptor binding domains of
311 SARS-CoV-2 and SARS-CoV. *Science* **368**, 630-633, doi:10.1126/science.abb7269 (2020).
- 312 16 Rogers, T. F. *et al.* Rapid isolation of potent SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing antibodies and
313 protection in a small animal model. *bioRxiv*, doi:10.1101/2020.05.11.088674 (2020).
- 314 17 Chen, X. *et al.* Human monoclonal antibodies block the binding of SARS-CoV-2 spike
315 protein to angiotensin converting enzyme 2 receptor. *Cell Mol Immunol* **17**, 647-649,
316 doi:10.1038/s41423-020-0426-7 (2020).

- 317 18 Zeng, X. *et al.* Isolation of a human monoclonal antibody specific for the receptor binding
318 domain of SARS-CoV-2 using a competitive phage biopanning strategy. *Antibody*
319 *Therapeutics* **3**, 95-100, doi:10.1093/abt/tbaa008 (2020).
- 320 19 Liu, X. *et al.* Neutralizing Antibodies Isolated by a site-directed Screening have Potent
321 Protection on SARS-CoV-2 Infection. *bioRxiv*, 2020.2005.2003.074914,
322 doi:10.1101/2020.05.03.074914 (2020).
- 323 20 Zost, S. J. *et al.* Rapid isolation and profiling of a diverse panel of human monoclonal
324 antibodies targeting the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein. *bioRxiv*,
325 doi:10.1101/2020.05.12.091462 (2020).
- 326 21 Robbiani, D. F. *et al.* Convergent Antibody Responses to SARS-CoV-2 Infection in
327 Convalescent Individuals. *bioRxiv*, doi:10.1101/2020.05.13.092619 (2020).
- 328 22 Brouwer, P. J. M. *et al.* Potent neutralizing antibodies from COVID-19 patients define
329 multiple targets of vulnerability. *bioRxiv*, 2020.2005.2012.088716,
330 doi:10.1101/2020.05.12.088716 (2020).
- 331 23 Chi, X. *et al.* A potent neutralizing human antibody reveals the N-terminal domain of the
332 Spike protein of SARS-CoV-2 as a site of vulnerability. *bioRxiv*, 2020.2005.2008.083964,
333 doi:10.1101/2020.05.08.083964 (2020).
- 334 24 Wang, C. *et al.* A human monoclonal antibody blocking SARS-CoV-2 infection. *Nat*
335 *Commun* **11**, 2251, doi:10.1038/s41467-020-16256-y (2020).
- 336 25 Wang, P. *et al.* SARS-CoV-2 Neutralizing Antibody Responses Are More Robust in Patients
337 with Severe Disease. *bioRxiv*, 2020.2006.2013.150250, doi:10.1101/2020.06.13.150250
338 (2020).
- 339

340 **Figures and Legends**

Fig. 1a

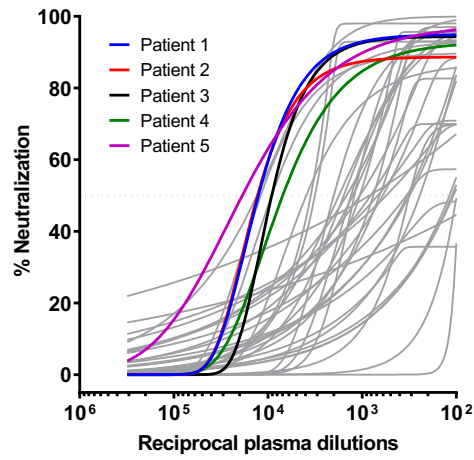
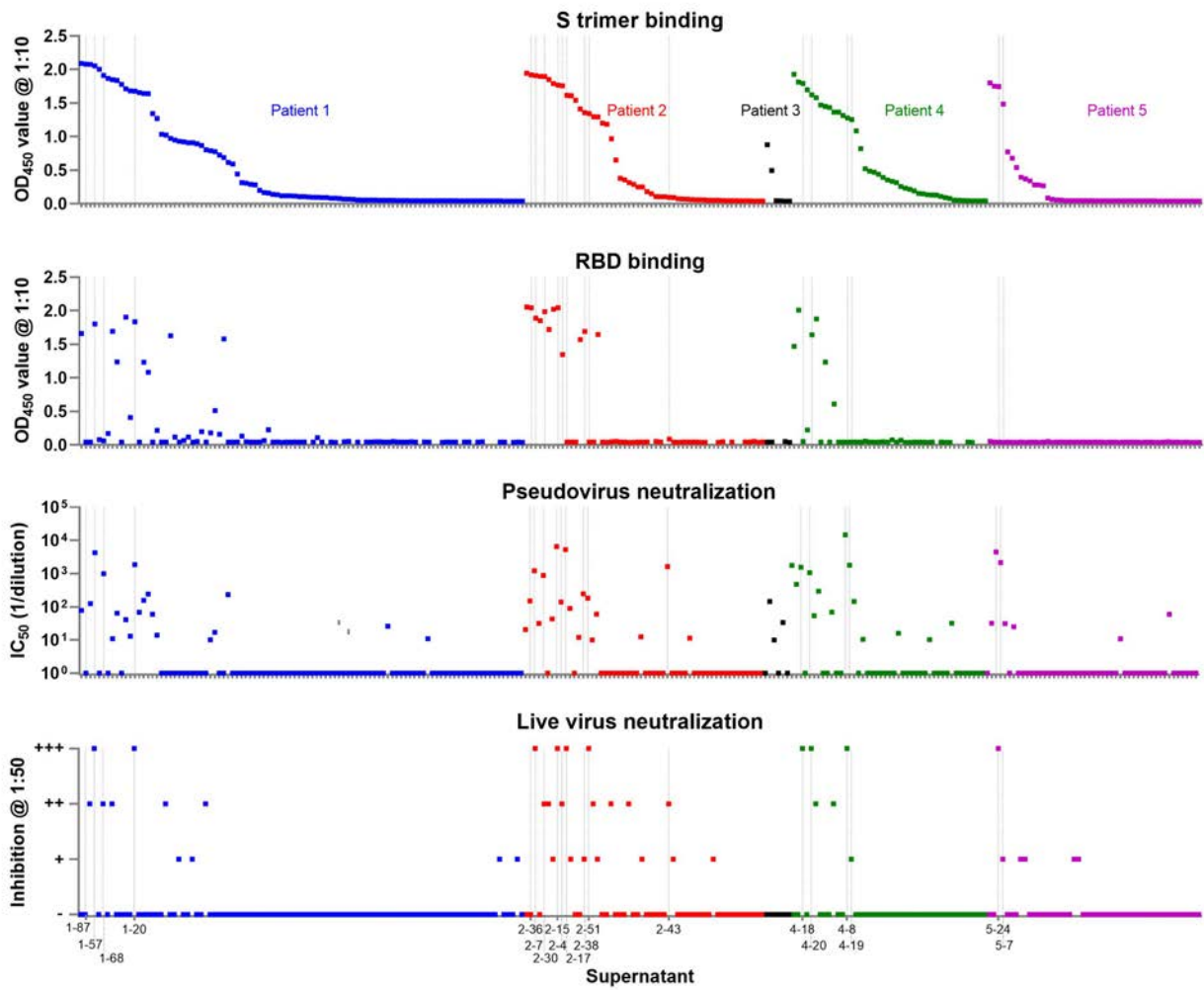


Fig. 1b



341 **Fig. 1 Isolation of SARS-CoV-2 mAbs from infected patients with severe disease. a,** Plasma
342 neutralization profile of 40 patients against SARS-CoV-2 pseudovirus (highlighted are 5 top
343 neutralizers chosen). **b,** All 252 transfection supernatants were screened for binding to S trimer
344 and RBD, as well as for neutralization against SARS-CoV-2 pseudovirus and live virus. For
345 pseudovirus neutralization, the 50% inhibitory dilutions (IC₅₀) of each supernatant were plotted.
346 For live virus, semi-quantitative representation of the inhibition at a dilution of 1:50, with
347 neutralization levels ranging from (-) for none to (++++) for complete neutralization, was plotted.
348 Potent antibodies later identified are marked by vertical lines and labelled at the bottom. The
349 antibodies from each patient are colored as in **a**.

Fig. 2a

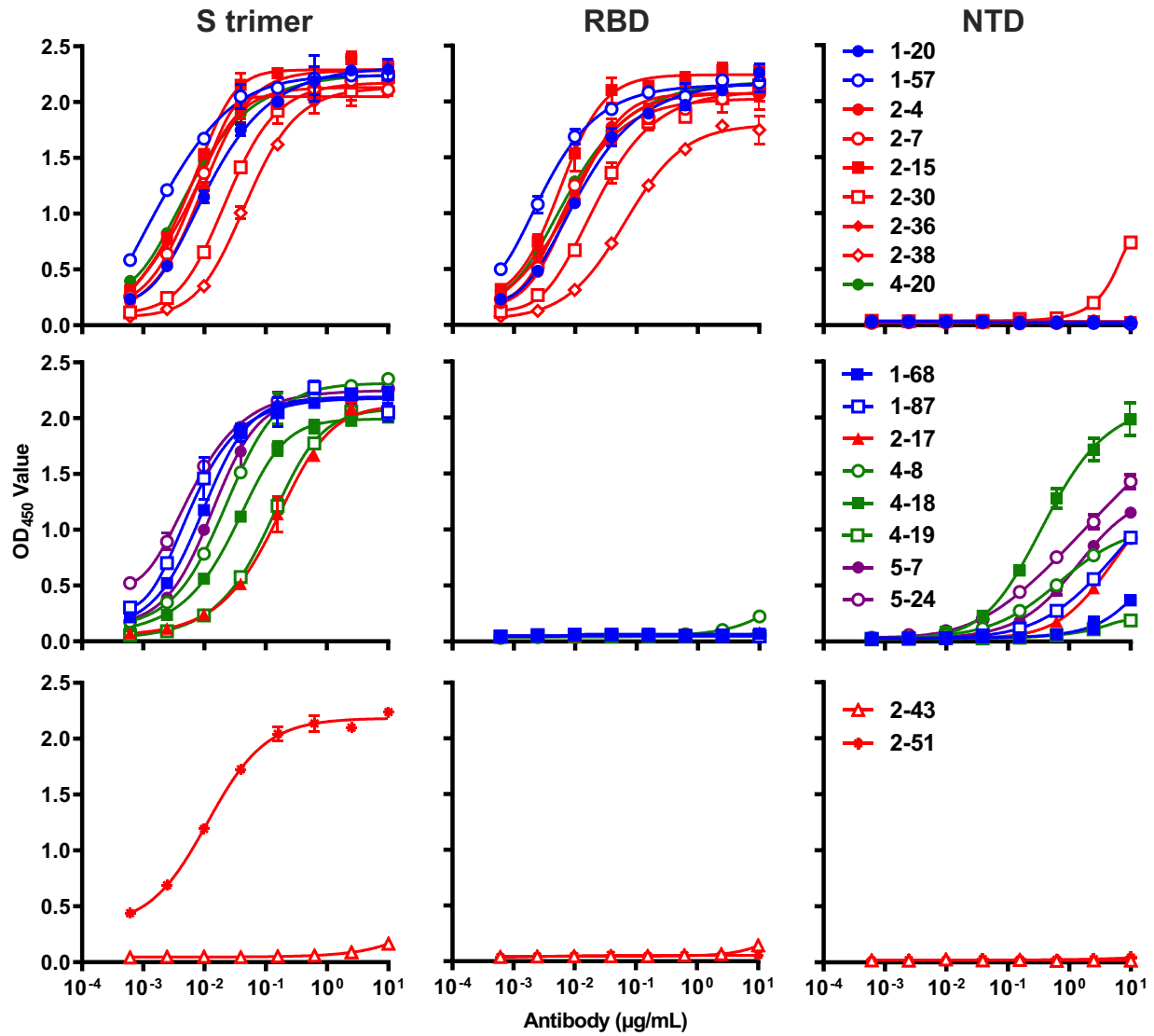
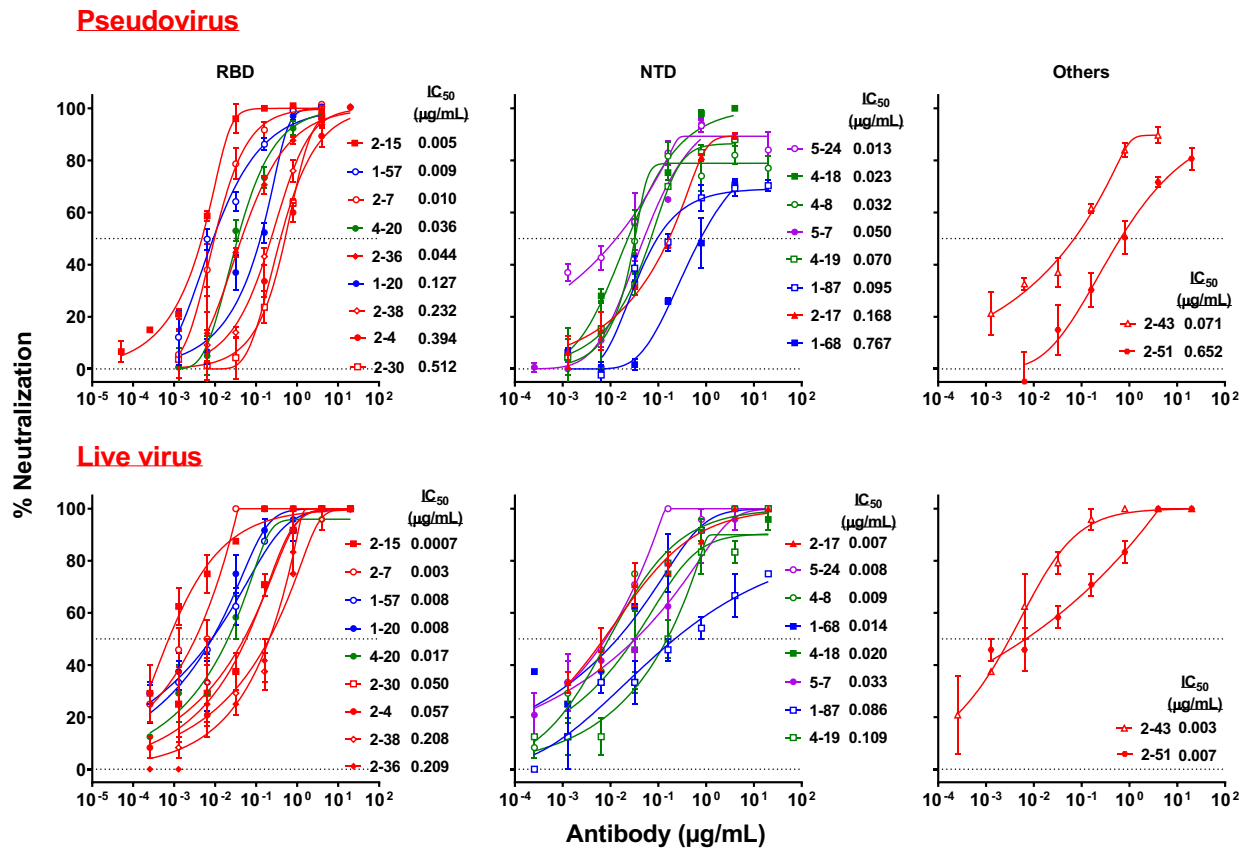


Fig. 2b

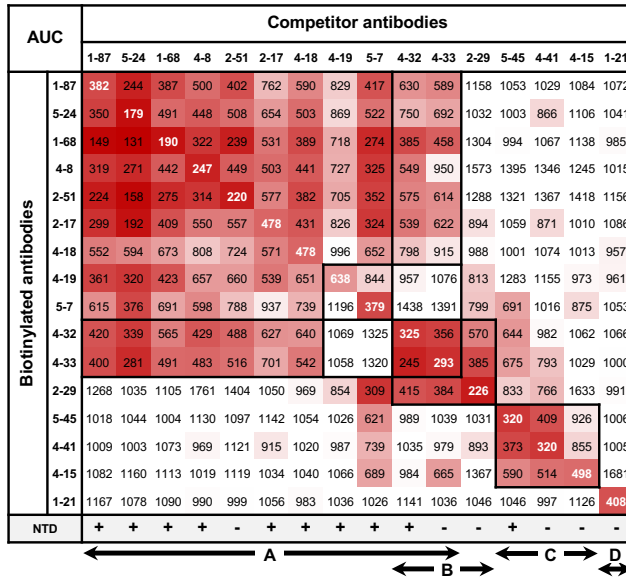


351 **Fig. 2 Characterization of SARS-CoV-2 potent neutralizing mAbs.** a, Binding profiles of 19
 352 purified potent neutralizing mAbs against SARS-CoV-2 S trimer (left), RBD (middle), and NTD
 353 (right). Note that mAb 2-30 bound multiple proteins at high concentrations. b, The pseudovirus
 354 (top panels) and live virus (bottom panels) neutralization profiles for the 19 purified mAbs. Epitope
 355 classifications are listed on top of the panel b. Single replicate of the binding experiment and
 356 triplicates of neutralization are presented as mean \pm SEM.

357

Fig. 3a

Non-RBD binders



RBD binders

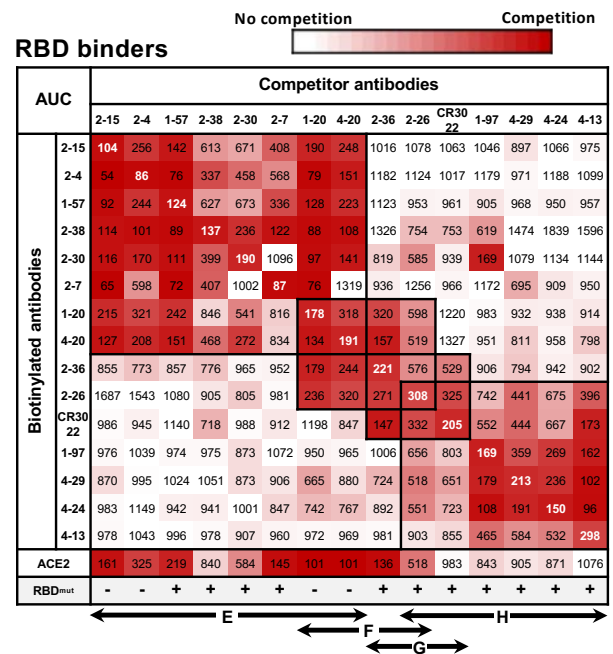
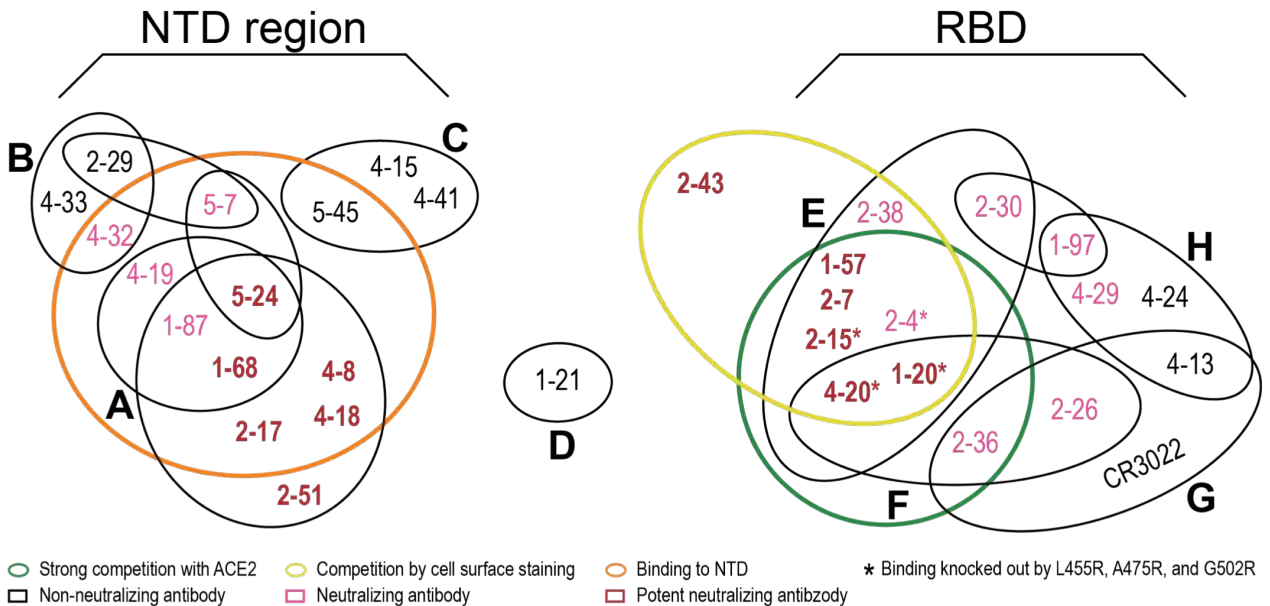


Fig. 3b



358 **Fig. 3 Epitope mapping of select neutralizing and non-neutralizing mAbs. a**, competition
359 results of non-RBD binders (left) and RBD binders (right) in blocking ACE2 or biotinylated mAb
360 binding to the S trimer. In addition, the ability to bind NTD and RBD_{mut} of each mAb is shown.
361 The numbers in each box show the area under each competition curve (AUC) as tested by ELISA.
362 +/- indicates binding/no binding of the mAb to the protein. **b**, Venn diagram interpretation of
363 results from **a** and Extended Data Fig. 5.

Fig. 4a

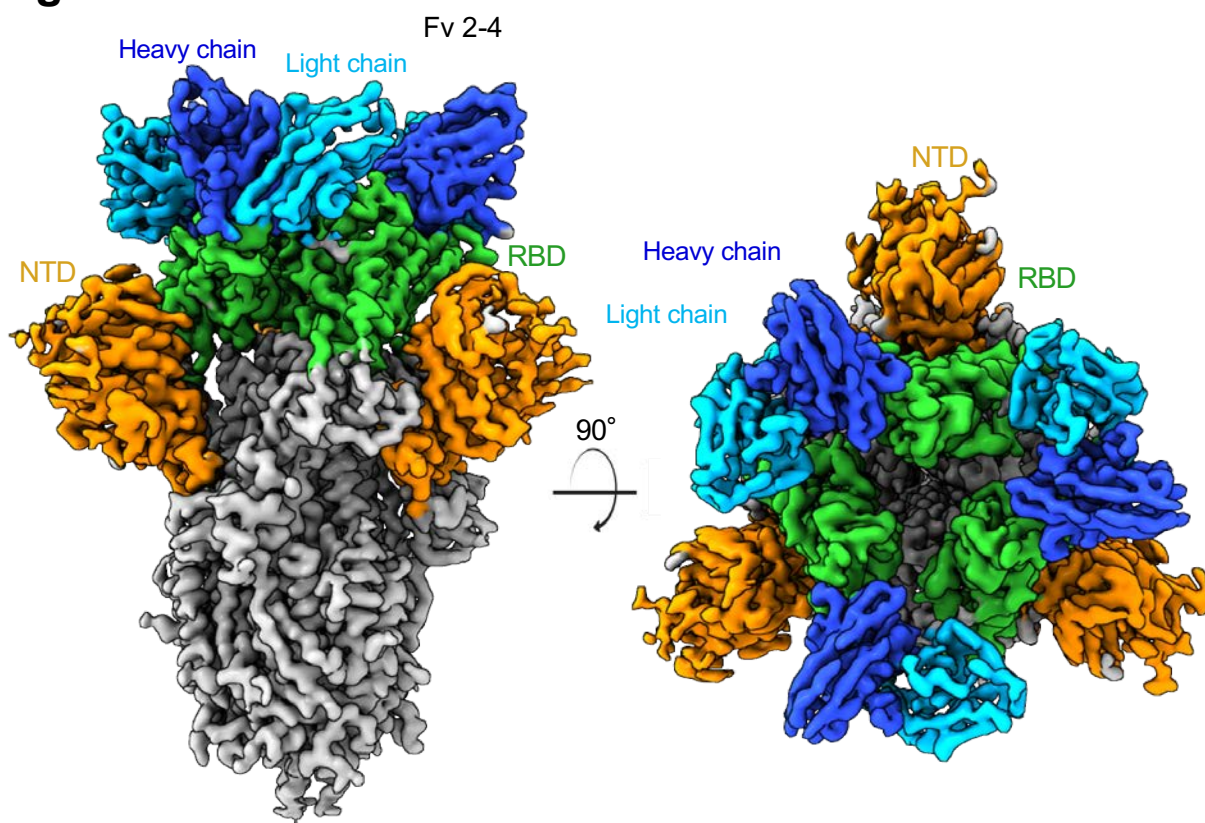


Fig. 4b

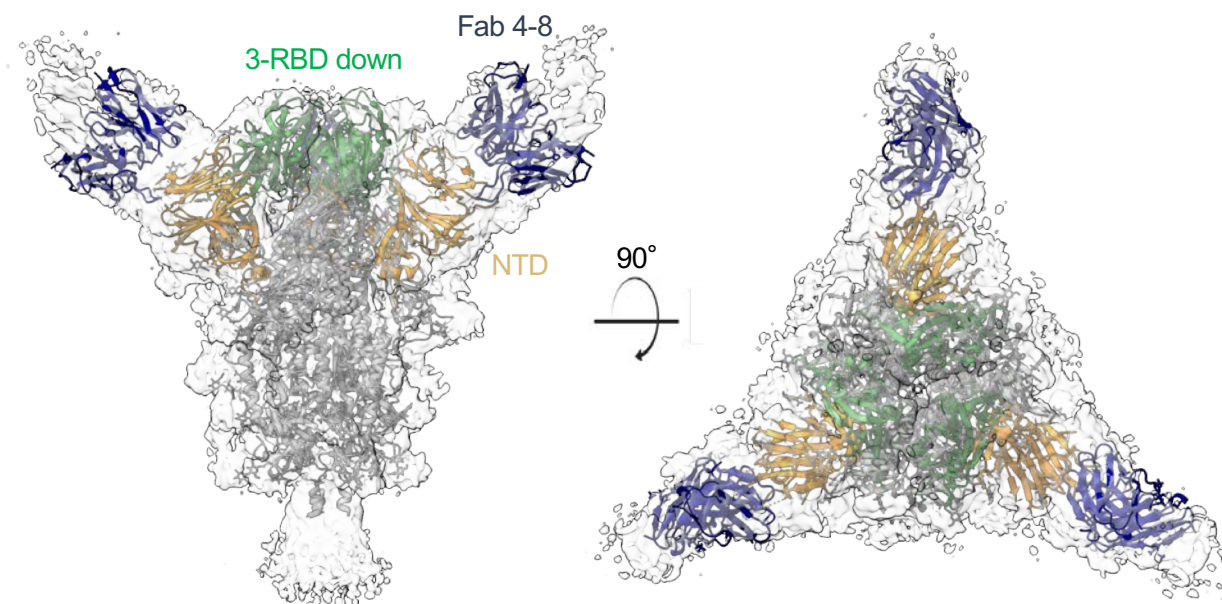


Fig. 4c

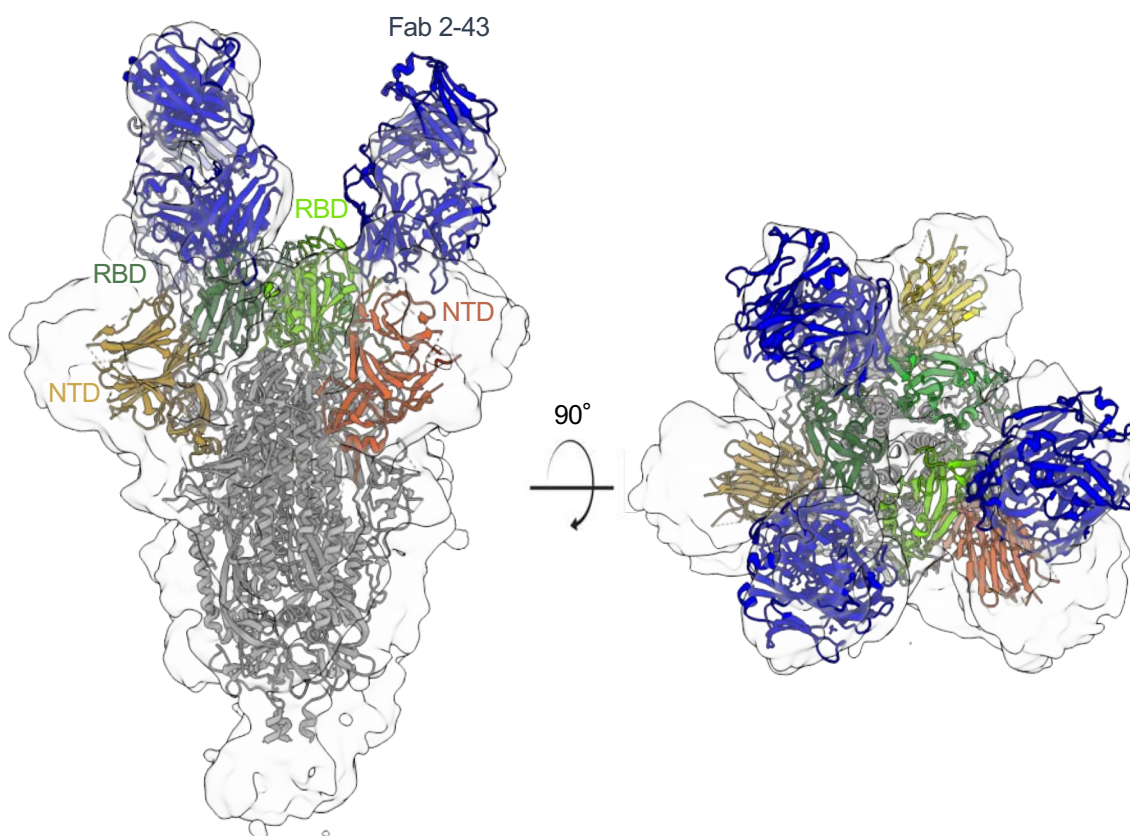
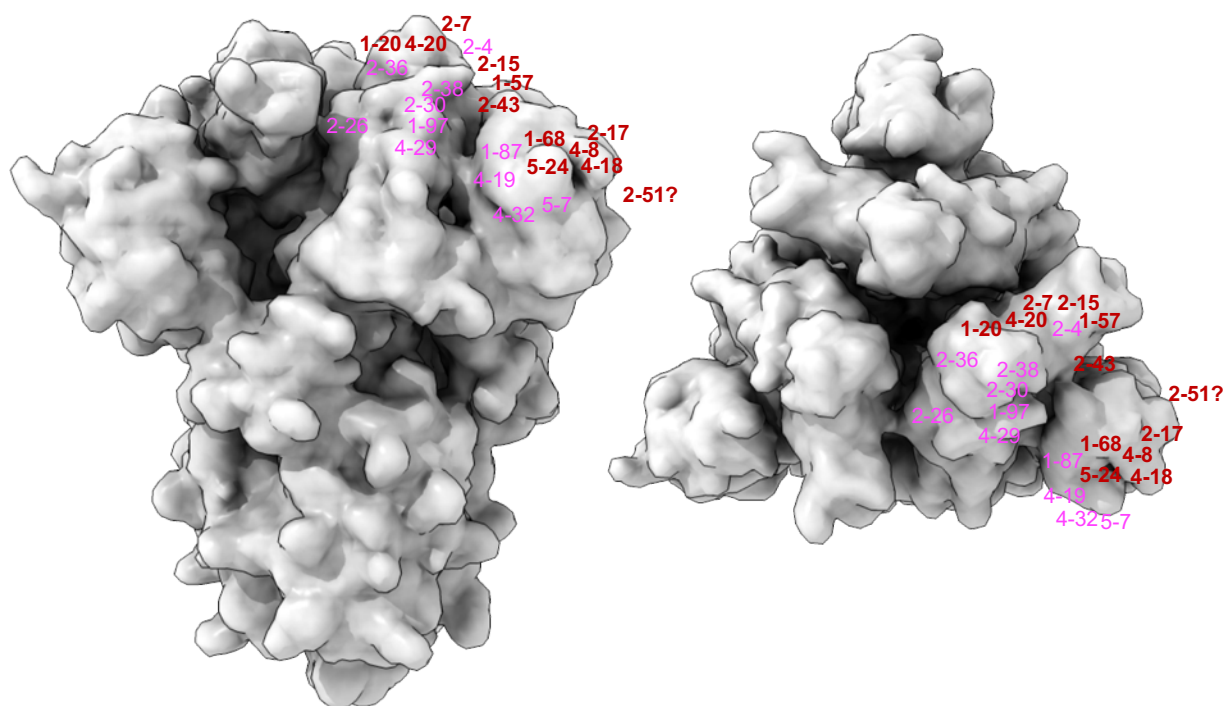


Fig. 4d



366 **Figure 4. Cryo-EM reconstructions of Fab-spike complexes and visualization of neutralizing**
367 **epitopes on the spike surface. a**, Cryo-EM 3D reconstruction of antibody 2-4 in complex with S
368 trimer at 3.2 Å overall resolution. Density is colored according to spike domain with RBD in green,
369 NTD in orange, with other regions colored grey. **b**, Cryo-EM reconstruction of antibody 4-8 in
370 complex with S trimer (ribbon diagram, colored as in **a**) at 3.9 Å overall resolution, with RBDs in
371 the “all-down” configuration. The resolution of antibody density is limited by molecular motion.
372 Although the binding of Fab to NTD and antibody position are clear, the identities of heavy and
373 light chain are uncertain. **c**, Cryo-EM reconstruction of the antibody 2-43 in complex with S trimer
374 at 7.8 Å resolution reveals a quaternary epitope involving RBD from one subunit and NTD from
375 the next. **d**, Mapping of the Venn diagrams from Fig. 3b onto the surface of the viral spike.

376 **Methods**

377

378 **Expression and Purification of SARS-CoV-2 Proteins**

379 The mammalian expression vector that encodes the ectodomain of the SARS-CoV-2 S trimer and
380 the vector encoding RBD fused with SD1 at the N-terminus and an HRV-3C protease cleavage
381 site followed by a mFc tag and an 8xHis tag at the C-terminus were kindly provided by Jason
382 McLellan⁴. SARS-CoV-2 NTD (aa1-290) with an HRV-3C protease cleavage site, a mFc tag, and
383 an 8xHis tag at the C-terminus was also cloned into mammalian expression vector pCAGGS. Each
384 expression vector was transiently transfected into Expi293 cells using 1 mg/mL of
385 polyethylenimine (Polysciences). Five days post transfection, the S trimer was purified using
386 Strep-Tactin XT Resin (Zymo Research), and the RBD-mFc and NTD-mFc were purified using
387 protein A agarose (ThermoFisher Scientific). In order to obtain RBD-SD1 and NTD, the mFc and
388 8xHis tags at the C-terminus were removed by HRV-3C protease (Millipore-Sigma) and then
389 purified using Ni-NTA resin (Invitrogen) followed by protein A agarose.

390

391 **Sorting for S Trimer-Specific B cells and Single-Cell BCR Sequencing**

392 Peripheral blood mononuclear cells from five patients and one healthy donor were stained with
393 LIVE/DEAD™ Fixable Yellow Dead Cell Stain Kit (Invitrogen) at ambient temperature for 20
394 mins, followed by washing with RPMI-1640 complete medium and incubation with 10 µg/mL of
395 S trimer at 4°C for 45 mins. Afterwards, the cells were washed again and incubated with a cocktail
396 of flow cytometry and hashtag antibodies, containing CD3 PE-CF594 (BD Biosciences), CD19
397 PE-Cy7 (Biolegend), CD20 APC-Cy7 (Biolegend), IgM V450 (BD Biosciences), CD27 PerCP-
398 Cy5.5 (BD Biosciences), anti-His PE (Biolegend), and human Hashtag 3 (Biolegend) at 4°C for 1

399 hr. Stained cells were then washed, resuspended in RPMI-1640 complete medium and sorted for
400 S trimer-specific memory B cells (CD3-CD19+CD27+S trimer+ live single lymphocytes). The
401 sorted cells were mixed with mononuclear cells from the same donor, labeled with Hashtag 1, and
402 loaded into the 10X Chromium chip of the 5' Single Cell Immune Profiling Assay (10X Genomics)
403 at the Columbia University Human Immune Monitoring Core (HIMC; RRID:SCR_016740). The
404 library preparation and quality control were performed according to manufacturer's protocol and
405 sequenced on a NextSeq 500 sequencer (Illumina).

406

407 **Identification of S Trimer-Specific Antibody Transcripts**

408 For each sample, full-length antibody transcripts were assembled using the VDJ module in Cell
409 Ranger (version 3.1.0, 10X Genomics) with default parameters and the GRCh38 genome as
410 reference. To identify cells from the antigen sort, we first used the count module in Cell Ranger
411 to calculate copies of all hashtags in each cell from the Illumina NGS raw reads. High confidence
412 antigen-specific cells were identified as follows. Briefly, based on the copy numbers of the
413 hashtags observed, a cell must contain more than 100 copies of the antigen sort-specific hashtag
414 to qualify as an antigen-specific cell. Because hashtags can fall off from cells and bind to cells
415 from a different population in the sample mixture, each cell usually has both sorted and spiked-in-
416 specific hashtags. To enrich for true antigen-specific cells, the copy number of the specific hashtag
417 has to be at least 1.5x higher than that of the non-specific hashtag. Low quality cells were
418 identified and removed using the cell-calling algorithm in Cell Ranger. Cells that do not have
419 productive H and L chain pairs were excluded. If a cell contains more than two H or/and L chain
420 transcripts, the transcripts with less than 3 unique molecular identifiers were removed. Cells with
421 identical H and L chain sequences, which may have resulted from mRNA leakage, were merged

422 into one cell. Additional filters were applied to remove low quality cells and/or transcripts in the
423 antibody gene annotation process.

424

425 **Antibody Transcript Annotation and Selection Criteria**

426 Antigen-specific antibody transcripts were processed using our bioinformatics pipeline SONAR
427 for quality control and annotation²⁶. Briefly, V(D)J genes were assigned for each transcript using
428 BLAST²⁷ with customized parameters against a germline gene database obtained from the
429 international ImMunoGeneTics information system (IMGT) database^{26,28}. Based on BLAST
430 alignments of V and J regions, CDR3 was identified using the conserved second cysteine in the V
431 region and WGXG (H chain) or FGXG (L chain) motifs in the J region (X represents any amino
432 acid). For H chain transcripts, the constant domain 1 (CH1) sequences were used to assign isotype
433 using BLAST with default parameters against a database of human CH1 genes obtained from
434 IMGT. A BLAST E-value threshold of 1E-6 was used to find significant isotype assignments, and
435 the CH1 allele with the lowest E-value was used. Sequences other than the V(D)J region were
436 removed and transcripts containing incomplete V(D)J or/and frame shift were excluded. We then
437 aligned each of the remaining transcripts to the assigned germline V gene using CLUSTALO²⁹
438 and calculated the somatic hypermutation level.

439

440 To select representative antibodies for functional characterization, we first clustered all antibodies
441 using USEARCH³⁰ with the following criteria: identical heavy chain V and J gene assignments,
442 the same length of CDRH3, and CDRH3 identity higher than 0.9. For each cluster, cells with the
443 same light chain V and J gene assignments were grouped into a clone. All clone assignments were
444 manually checked. We then calculated the clonal size for each clone, and one H and L chain pair

445 per clone was chosen for antibody synthesis. For clones with multiple members, the member with
446 the highest somatic hypermutation level was chosen for synthesis. For cells having multiple high
447 quality H or L chains, which may be from doublets, we synthesized all H and L chain
448 combinations.

449

450 **Analysis of S Trimer-Specific Antibody Repertoire**

451 Because 88% of the S trimer-specific antibodies were IgG isotype, we therefore compared the
452 repertoire features to IgG repertoires from three healthy donors³¹ (17,243 H chains, 27,575 kappa
453 L chains, 20,889 lambda L chains). The repertoire data from the three healthy donors were
454 combined and annotated using SONAR with the same process as above.

455

456 **Antibody Expression and Purification**

457 For each antibody, variable genes were optimized for human cell expression and synthesized by
458 GenScript. VH and VL were inserted separately into plasmids (gWiz or pcDNA3.4) that encode
459 the constant region for H chain and L chain. Monoclonal antibodies were expressed in Expi293
460 (ThermoFisher, A14527) by co-transfection of H chain and L chain expressing plasmids using
461 polyethylenimine and culture in 37°C shaker at 125 RPM and 8% CO₂. On day 3 post transfection,
462 400 µL of supernatant were collected for screening for binding to S trimer and RBD by ELISA,
463 and for neutralization of SARS-CoV-2 pseudovirus and authentic virus. Supernatants were also
464 collected on day 5 for antibody purification by rProtein A Sepharose (GE, 17-1279-01) affinity
465 chromatography.

466

467 **Production of Pseudoviruses**

468 Recombinant Indiana VSV (rVSV) expressing SARS-CoV-2 spike was generated as previously
469 described^{32,33}. HEK293T cells were grown to 80% confluency before transfection with pCMV3-
470 SARS-CoV-2-spike (Sino Biological) using FuGENE 6 (Promega). Cells were cultured overnight
471 at 37°C with 5% CO₂. The next day, medium was removed and VSV-G pseudotyped ΔG-
472 luciferase (G*ΔG-luciferase, Kerafast) was used to infect the cells in DMEM at a MOI of 3 for
473 1 hr before washing the cells with 1X DPBS three times. DMEM supplemented with 2% fetal
474 bovine serum and 100 I.U./mL of penicillin and 100 μg/mL of streptomycin were added to the
475 inoculated cells, which were cultured overnight as described above. The supernatant was
476 harvested the following day and clarified by centrifugation at 300 g for 10 mins before aliquoting
477 and storing at -80°C.

478

479 **Pseudovirus Neutralization**

480 Neutralization assays were performed by incubating pseudoviruses with serial dilutions of heat-
481 inactivated plasma together with supernatant or purified antibodies, and scored by the reduction in
482 luciferase gene expression. In brief, Vero E6 cells (ATCC) were seeded in a 96-well plate at a
483 concentration of 2×10^4 cells per well. Pseudoviruses were incubated the next day with serial
484 dilutions of the test samples in duplicate or triplicate for 30 mins at 37°C. The mixture was added
485 to cultured cells and incubated for an additional 24 hrs. The luminescence was measured by
486 Britelite plus Reporter Gene Assay System (PerkinElmer). IC₅₀ was defined as the dilution at
487 which the relative light units were reduced by 50% compared with the virus control wells (virus +
488 cells) after subtraction of the background in the control groups with cells only. The IC₅₀ values
489 were calculated using non-linear regression in GraphPad Prism 8.0.

490

491 **Authentic SARS-CoV-2 Neutralization**

492 Supernatants containing expressed mAbs were diluted 1:10 and 1:50 in EMEM with 7.5%
493 inactivated fetal calf serum and incubated with authentic SARS-CoV-2 (strain USA-WA1/2020;
494 MOI 0.1) for 1hr at 37°C. Post-incubation, the mixture was transferred onto a monolayer of Vero-
495 E6 cells that was cultured overnight. After incubation of the cells with the mixture for 70 hrs at
496 37°C, cytopathic effects (CPE) caused by the infection were scored for each well from 0 to 4 to
497 indicate the degree of virus inhibition. Semi-quantitative representation of the inhibition for each
498 antibody-containing supernatant at a dilution of 1:50 is shown in the lowest panel of Fig. 1b with
499 neutralization levels ranging from (-) for none to (+++) for complete neutralization.

500

501 An end-point dilution assay in a 96-well plate format was performed to measure the neutralization
502 activity of select purified mAbs. In brief, each antibody was serially diluted (5-fold dilutions)
503 starting at 20 µg/mL. Triplicates of each mAb dilution were incubated with SARS-CoV-2 at a
504 MOI of 0.1 in EMEM with 7.5% inactivated fetal calf serum for 1 hr at 37°C. Post incubation, the
505 virus-antibody mixture was transferred onto a monolayer of Vero-E6 cells grown overnight. The
506 cells were incubated with the mixture for 70 hrs. CPE were visually scored for each well in a
507 blinded fashion by two independent observers. The results were then converted into percentage
508 neutralization at a given mAb concentration, and the averages \pm SEM were plotted using a five-
509 parameter dose-response curve in GraphPad Prism 8.0.

510

511 **Epitope Mapping by ELISA**

512 50 ng/well of S trimer, 50 ng/well of RBD, and 100 ng/well of NTD were coated on ELISA plates
513 at 4°C overnight. The ELISA plates were then blocked with 300 µL of blocking buffer (1% BSA

514 and 10% bovine calf serum (BCS) (Sigma) in PBS at 37°C for 2 hrs. Afterwards, supernatants
515 from the antibody transfection or purified antibodies were serially diluted using dilution buffer
516 (1% BSA and 20% BCS in PBS), incubated at 37°C for 1 hr. Next, 100 µL of 10,000-fold diluted
517 Peroxidase AffiniPure goat anti-human IgG (H+L) antibody (Jackson ImmunoResearch) were
518 added into each well and incubated for 1 hr at 37°C. The plates were washed between each step
519 with PBST (0.5% Tween-20 in PBS). Finally, the TMB substrate (Sigma) was added and
520 incubated before the reaction was stopped using 1M sulfuric acid. Absorbance was measured at
521 450 nm.

522

523 For the competition ELISA, purified mAbs were biotin-labeled using One-Step Antibody
524 Biotinylation Kit (Miltenyi Biotec) following manufacturer recommendations and purified using
525 40K MWCO Desalting Column (ThermoFisher Scientific). 50 µL of serially diluted competitor
526 antibodies were added into S trimer-precoated ELISA plates, followed by 50 µL of biotinylated
527 antibodies at a concentration that achieves an OD₄₅₀ reading of 1.5 in the absence of competitor
528 antibodies. Plates were incubated at 37°C for 1 hr, and 100 µL of 500-fold diluted Avidin-HRP
529 (ThermoFisher Scientific) were added into each well and incubated for another 1 hr at 37°C. The
530 plates were washed by PBST between each of the previous steps. The plates were developed
531 afterwards with TMB and absorbance was read at 450 nm after the reaction was stopped.

532

533 For the ACE2 competition ELISA, 100 ng of ACE2 protein (Abcam) was immobilized on the
534 plates at 4°C overnight. The unbound ACE2 was washed away by PBST and then the plates were
535 blocked. After washing, 100 ng of S trimer in 50 µL of dilution buffer was added into each well,
536 followed by adding another 50 µL of serially diluted competitor antibodies and then incubating

537 the plates at 37°C for 1 hr. The ELISA plates were washed 4 times by PBST and then 100 µL of
538 2000-fold diluted anti-strep-HRP (Millipore Sigma) were added into each well for another 1 hr at
539 37°C. The plates were then washed, developed with TMB, and absorbance was read at 450 nm
540 after the reaction was stopped.

541

542 For all the competition ELISA experiments, the relative binding of biotinylated antibodies or
543 ACE2 to the S trimer in the presence of competitors was normalized by comparing to competitor-
544 free controls. Relative binding curve and the area under curve (AUC) were generated by fitting
545 the non-linear five-parameter dose-response curve in GraphPad Prism 8.0.

546

547 **Cell-Surface Competition Binding Assay**

548 Expi293 cells were co-transfected with vectors encoding pRRL-cPPT-PGK-GFP (Addgene) and
549 pCMV3-SARS-CoV-2 (2019-nCoV) Spike (Sino Biological) at a ratio of 1:1. Two days after
550 transfection, cells were incubated with a mixture of biotinylated mAb 2-43 (0.25 µg/mL) and
551 serially diluted competitor antibodies at 4°C for 1 hr. Then 100 µL of diluted APC-streptavidin
552 (Biolegend) were added to the cells and incubated at 4°C for 45 mins. Cells were washed 3 times
553 with FACS buffer before each step. Finally, cells were resuspended and 2-43 binding to cell-
554 surface S trimer was quantified on LSRII flow cytometer (BD Biosciences). The mean
555 fluorescence intensity of APC in GFP-positive cells was analyzed using FlowJo and the relative
556 binding of 2-43 to S trimer in the presence of competitors was calculated as the percentage of the
557 mean fluorescence intensity compared to that of the competitor-free controls.

558

559 **Cryo-EM Data Collection and Processing**

560 SARS-CoV-2 S trimer at a final concentration of 2 mg/ml was incubated with 6-fold molar excess
561 per spike monomer of the antibody Fab fragments for 30 mins in 10 mM Tris-HCl, 150 mM NaCl,
562 and 0.005% n-Dodecyl- β -D-maltoside (DDM). 2 μ L of sample were incubated on C-flat 1.2/1.3
563 carbon grids for 30 secs and vitrified using a Leica EM GP Plunge Freezer. Data were collected
564 on a Titan Krios electron microscope operating at 300 kV equipped with a Gatan K3 direct detector
565 and energy filter using the Legimon software package³⁴. A total electron fluence of 51.3 e/ \AA^2 was
566 fractionated over 40 frames, with a total exposure time of 2 secs. A magnification of 81,000x
567 resulted in a pixel size of 1.058 \AA , and a defocus range of -0.4 to -3.5 μ m was used. All processing
568 was done using cryoSPARC v2.14.2³⁵. Raw movies were aligned and dose-weighted using patch
569 motion correction, and the CTF was estimated using patch CTF estimation. A small subset of
570 approximately 200 micrographs were picked using blob picker, followed by 2D classification and
571 manual curation of particle picks, and used to train a Topaz neural network³⁶. This network was
572 then used to pick particles from the remaining micrographs, which were extracted with a box size
573 of 384 pixels.

574

575 For the Fab 2-4 dataset, 2D classification followed by *ab initio* modelling and 3D heterogeneous
576 refinement revealed 83,927 particles with three 2-4 Fabs bound, one to each RBD. A
577 reconstruction of these particles using Non-Uniform Refinement with imposed C3 symmetry
578 resulted in a 3.6 \AA map, as determined by the gold standard FSC. Given the relatively low
579 resolution of the RBD-Fab interface, masked local refinement was used to obtain a 3.5 \AA map with
580 significantly improved density. A masked local refinement of the remainder of the S trimer resulted
581 in a 3.5 \AA reconstruction. These two local refinements were aligned and combined using the vop
582 maximum function in UCSF Chimera³⁷. This was repeated for the half maps, which were used,

583 along with the refinement mask from the global Non-Uniform refinement, to calculate the
584 3DFSC³⁸ and obtain an estimated resolution of 3.2 Å. All maps have been submitted to the EMDB
585 with the ID EMD-22156.

586

587 For the Fab 4-8 dataset, image preprocessing and particle picking was performed as above. 2D
588 classification, *ab initio* modelling, and 3D heterogeneous classification revealed 47,555 particles
589 with 3 Fabs bound, one to each NTD and with all 3 RBDs in the down conformation. While this
590 particle stack was refined to 3.9 Å using Non-Uniform refinement with imposed C3 symmetry,
591 significant molecular motion prevented the visualization of the Fab epitope at high resolution
592 (EMD-22159). In addition, 105,278 particles were shown to have 3 Fabs bound, but with 1 RBD
593 in the up conformation. These particles were refined to 4.0 Å using Non-Uniform refinement with
594 C1 symmetry (EMD-22158), and suffered from the same conformational flexibility as the all-
595 RBD-down particles. This flexibility was visualized using 3D variability analysis in cryoSPARC.

596

597 For the Fab 2-43 dataset, which was collected at an electron fluence of 53.43 e/Å², image
598 preprocessing and particle picking was performed as above, save that motion correction was
599 performed using MotionCor2³⁹. 2D classification, *ab initio* modelling, and 3D heterogeneous
600 classification revealed 18,884 particles with 3 Fabs bound, which was refined to 7.8 Å resolution
601 (EMD-22157).

602

603 **Cryo-EM Model Fitting**

604 An initial homology model of the 2-4 Fab was built using Schrodinger Release 2020-2:
605 BioLuminate⁴⁰. The RBD was initially modeled using the coordinates from PDB ID 6W41. The

606 remainder of the S timer was modeled using the coordinates from PDB ID 6VSB. These models
607 were docked into the consensus map using Chimera. The model was then fitted interactively using
608 ISOLDE 1.0b5⁴¹ and COOT 0.8.9.2⁴², and using real space refinement in Phenix 1.18⁴³. In cases
609 where side chains were not visible in the experimental data, they were truncated to alanine.
610 Validation was performed using Molprobity⁴⁴ and EMRinger⁴⁵. The model was submitted to the
611 PDB with the ID 6XEY. Figures were prepared using ChimeraX⁴⁶.

612 **Methods references**

- 613
- 614 26 Schramm, C. A. *et al.* SONAR: A High-Throughput Pipeline for Inferring Antibody
615 Ontogenies from Longitudinal Sequencing of B Cell Transcripts. *Frontiers in immunology*
616 **7**, 372, doi:10.3389/fimmu.2016.00372 (2016).
- 617 27 Altschul, S. F. *et al.* Gapped BLAST and PSI-BLAST: a new generation of protein database
618 search programs. *Nucleic Acids Res* **25**, 3389-3402 (1997).
- 619 28 Lefranc, M. P. *et al.* IMGT, the international ImMunoGeneTics information system. *Nucleic*
620 *Acids Res* **37**, D1006-1012, doi:10.1093/nar/gkn838 (2009).
- 621 29 Sievers, F. & Higgins, D. G. Clustal Omega, Accurate Alignment of Very Large Numbers of
622 Sequences. *Multiple Sequence Alignment Methods* **1079**, 105-116, doi:10.1007/978-1-
623 62703-646-7_6 (2014).
- 624 30 Edgar, R. C. Search and clustering orders of magnitude faster than BLAST. *Bioinformatics*
625 **26**, 2460-2461, doi:10.1093/bioinformatics/btq461 (2010).
- 626 31 Sheng, Z. *et al.* Gene-Specific Substitution Profiles Describe the Types and Frequencies of
627 Amino Acid Changes during Antibody Somatic Hypermutation. *Frontiers in immunology* **8**,
628 537 (2017).
- 629 32 Nie, J. *et al.* Establishment and validation of a pseudovirus neutralization assay for SARS-
630 CoV-2. *Emerg Microbes Infect* **9**, 680-686, doi:10.1080/22221751.2020.1743767 (2020).
- 631 33 Whitt, M. A. Generation of VSV pseudotypes using recombinant DeltaG-VSV for studies
632 on virus entry, identification of entry inhibitors, and immune responses to vaccines. *J Virol*
633 *Methods* **169**, 365-374, doi:10.1016/j.jviromet.2010.08.006 (2010).
- 634 34 Suloway, C. *et al.* Automated molecular microscopy: the new Legimon system. *J Struct Biol*
635 **151**, 41-60, doi:10.1016/j.jsb.2005.03.010 (2005).
- 636 35 Punjani, A., Rubinstein, J. L., Fleet, D. J. & Brubaker, M. A. cryoSPARC: algorithms for rapid
637 unsupervised cryo-EM structure determination. *Nat Methods* **14**, 290-296,
638 doi:10.1038/nmeth.4169 (2017).
- 639 36 Bepler, T. *et al.* Positive-unlabeled convolutional neural networks for particle picking in
640 cryo-electron micrographs. *Nature Methods* **16**, 1153-1160, doi:10.1038/s41592-019-
641 0575-8 (2019).
- 642 37 Pettersen, E. F. *et al.* UCSF Chimera--a visualization system for exploratory research and
643 analysis. *J Comput Chem* **25**, 1605-1612, doi:10.1002/jcc.20084 (2004).
- 644 38 Tan, Y. Z. *et al.* Addressing preferred specimen orientation in single-particle cryo-EM
645 through tilting. *Nat Methods* **14**, 793-796, doi:10.1038/nmeth.4347 (2017).
- 646 39 Zheng, S. Q. *et al.* MotionCor2: anisotropic correction of beam-induced motion for
647 improved cryo-electron microscopy. *Nat Methods* **14**, 331-332, doi:10.1038/nmeth.4193
648 (2017).
- 649 40 Zhu, K. *et al.* Antibody structure determination using a combination of homology
650 modeling, energy-based refinement, and loop prediction. *Proteins* **82**, 1646-1655,
651 doi:10.1002/prot.24551 (2014).
- 652 41 Croll, T. I. ISOLDE: a physically realistic environment for model building into low-resolution
653 electron-density maps. *Acta Crystallogr D Struct Biol* **74**, 519-530,
654 doi:10.1107/S2059798318002425 (2018).

- 655 42 Emsley, P. & Cowtan, K. Coot: model-building tools for molecular graphics. *Acta*
656 *Crystallogr D Biol Crystallogr* **60**, 2126-2132, doi:10.1107/S0907444904019158 (2004).
- 657 43 Adams, P. D. *et al.* Recent developments in the PHENIX software for automated
658 crystallographic structure determination. *J Synchrotron Radiat* **11**, 53-55,
659 doi:10.1107/s0909049503024130 (2004).
- 660 44 Davis, I. W., Murray, L. W., Richardson, J. S. & Richardson, D. C. MOLPROBITY: structure
661 validation and all-atom contact analysis for nucleic acids and their complexes. *Nucleic*
662 *Acids Res* **32**, W615-619, doi:10.1093/nar/gkh398 (2004).
- 663 45 Barad, B. A. *et al.* EMRinger: side chain-directed model and map validation for 3D cryo-
664 electron microscopy. *Nat Methods* **12**, 943-946, doi:10.1038/nmeth.3541 (2015).
- 665 46 Goddard, T. D. *et al.* UCSF ChimeraX: Meeting modern challenges in visualization and
666 analysis. *Protein Sci* **27**, 14-25, doi:10.1002/pro.3235 (2018).
- 667

668 **Acknowledgements**

669 We thank Nianshuang Wang and Jason McLellan for providing reagents for generating the SARS-
670 CoV-2 S trimer and RBD-SD1 with mFc tag. We thank Wendy Chen for assistance with
671 generating the Venn diagrams, and Brandon Dekosky and Xueling Wu for helpful input. This
672 study was supported by funding to D.D.H. from the Jack Ma Foundation, the JPB Foundation,
673 Samuel Yin, Roger Wu, and Carol Ludwig. Cryo-EM data collection was performed at the
674 National Center for CryoEM Access and Training (NCCAT) and the Simons Electron Microscopy
675 Center located at the New York Structural Biology Center, supported by the NIH Common Fund
676 Transformative High Resolution Cryo-Electron Microscopy program (U24 GM129539) and by
677 grants from the Simons Foundation (SF349247) and NY State Assembly. Data analysis was
678 performed at the National Resource for Automated Molecular Microscopy (NRAMM), supported
679 by the NIH National Institute of General Medical Sciences (GM103310).

680

681 **Author Contributions**

682 D.D.H conceived of the project. L.L., P.W., M.S.N, J.Y., Y.H. performed many of the
683 experiments. M.T.Y. was responsible for recruiting patients, obtaining clinical specimens, and
684 summarizing clinical data. L.L., V.S., A.F. and X.V.G. performed and analyzed the B-cell sorting,
685 10X Genomics, sequencing and analysis of the clones. Z.S. performed bioinformatic analyses on
686 10X next-generation sequencing data and antibody repertoire. J.Y. cloned, expressed, and purified
687 the mAbs. L.L. and Q.W. performed the epitope mapping and binding experiments. P.W.
688 conducted the pseudovirus neutralization assays and M.S.N. and Y.X. performed infectious SARS-
689 CoV-2 neutralization assays. M.A.R., G.C., J.B, J.G., and L.S. carried out the cryo-EM studies.
690 Y.L. helped with project management. T.Z. and P.D.K. provided key reagents for the study, and

691 P.D.K. contributed to the analysis and discussion of the data. L.L., P.W., M.S.N., J.Y., Y.H., Z.S.,
692 M.A.R., Q.W, L.S., and D.D.H analyzed the results, and D.D.H. wrote the manuscript, with
693 contributions from each author. J.G.S. provided valuable suggestions.

694

695 **Competing Interest Declaration**

696 A provisional patent application has been filed for the monoclonal antibodies described in the
697 manuscript.

698 **Extended Data**

699

700 **Extended Data Table 1 Patient information**

Patient	Age	Sex & Race	Days from symptom onset to:	Biomarker	Complications	Outcome
1	57	Female, Hispanic	Admission: 7 MV: 12 Ab isolation: 18	hsCRP = 208 mg/L ESR = 58 mm/hr IL-6 = 23 pg/mL Ferritin = 766 ng/mL D-dimer = 3.4 µg/mL FEU	ARDS	Discharged on day 30
2	71	Female, Hispanic	Admission: 20 MV: 20 Ab isolation: 29	hsCRP = 33 mg/L ESR > 130 mm/hr IL-6 = 13 pg/mL Ferritin = 425 ng/mL D-dimer = 5.7 µg/mL FEU	ARDS Ventilator associated pneumonia	Discharged on day 45
3	61	Male, White	Admission: 10 MV: 10 Ab isolation: 21	hsCRP = 51 mg/L ESR = 57 mm/hr IL-6 > 315 pg/mL Ferritin = 3,238 ng/mL D-dimer = 7.4 µg/mL FEU	ARDS Acute kidney injury (hemodialysis) Sepsis	Death on day 28
4	51	Male, Black	Admission: 7 MV: 10 Ab isolation: 25	hsCRP = 88 mg/L ESR = 110 mm/hr IL-6 = 77 pg/mL Ferritin = 510 ng/mL D-dimer = 13.4 µg/mL FEU	ARDS Acute kidney injury (no hemodialysis) Ventilator associated pneumonia	Discharged on day 51
5	50	Male, White	Admission: 5 MV: 7 Ab isolation: 32	hsCRP = 2 mg/L ESR = 63 mm/hr	ARDS Neuropathy	Discharged on day 27

701 Abbreviation: ARDS, acute respiratory distress syndrome; MV, mechanical ventilation; hsCRP,

702 high sensitivity C-reactive protein, ULN>10 mg/L; ESR, erythrocyte sedimentation rate,

703 ULN=20 mm/hr; Interleukin 6, ULN= 5 pg/mL; Ferritin, ULN=150 ng/mL; D-dimer quantitative

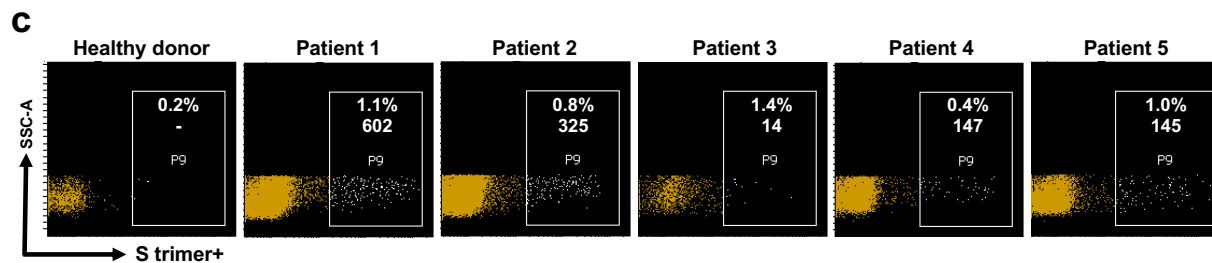
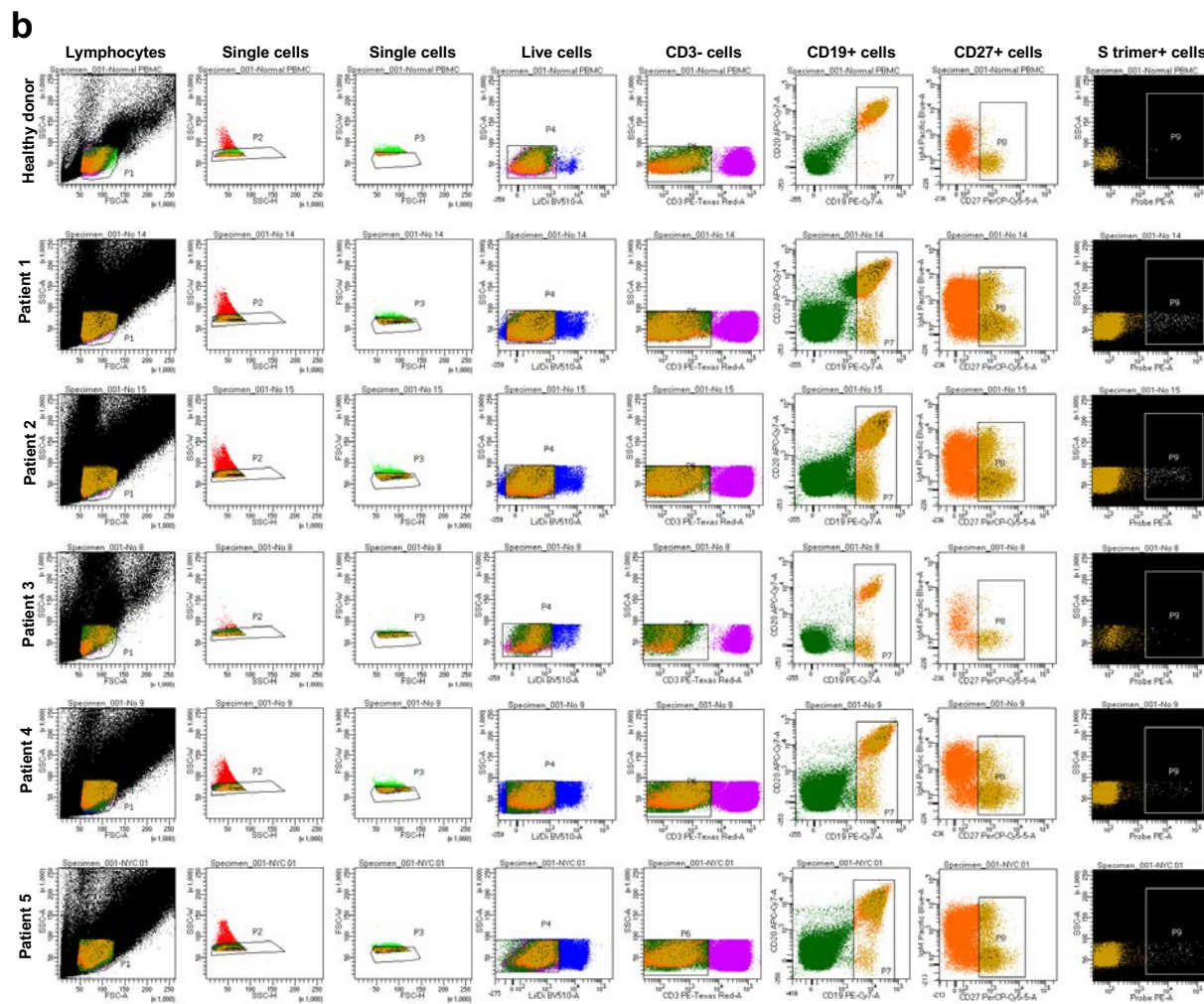
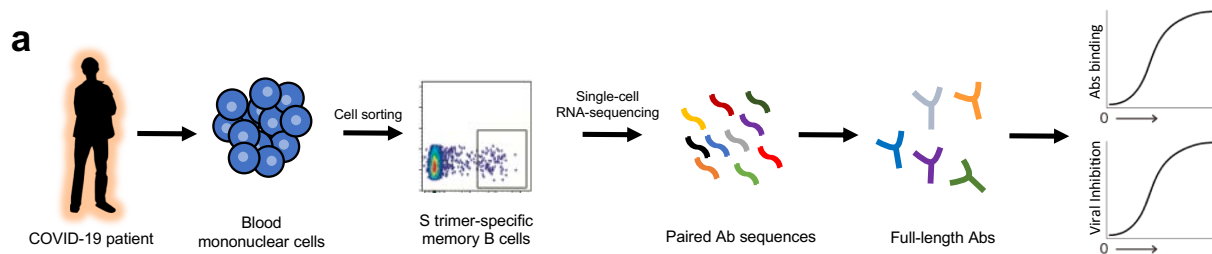
704 ULN= 0.8µg/mL FEU.

705 **Extended Data Table 2 Summary of mAb screening.**

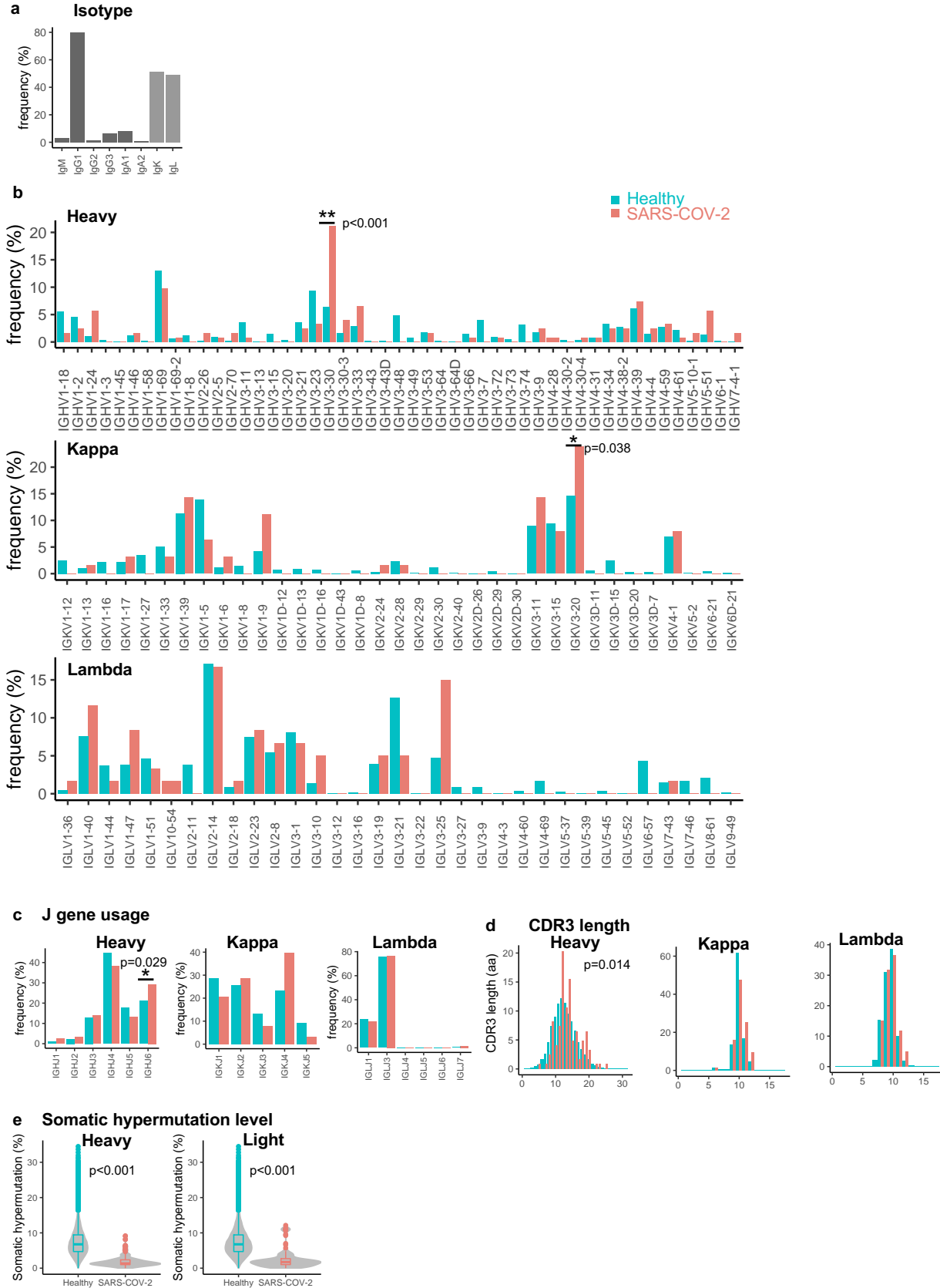
	Abs	Binding Abs			Neutralizing Abs	
		S trimer	RBD	Non-RBD	Pseudovirus	Live virus
Total	252	121	38	83	61	41
Patient 1	100	45	19	26	19	11
Patient 2	54	29	12	17	18	18
Patient 3	6	2	0	2	3	0
Patient 4	44	32	7	25	14	6
Patient 5	48	13	0	13	7	6

706 **Extended Data Table 3 Cryo-EM data collection, refinement, and validation statistics.**

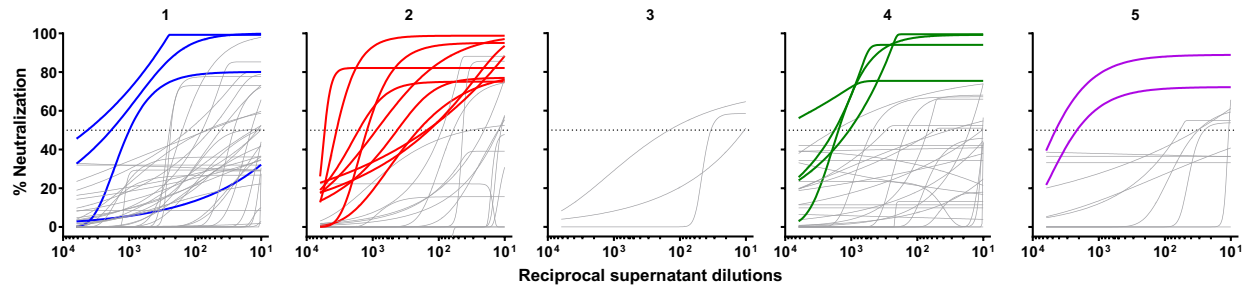
	SARS-CoV-2 spike with Fab 2-4 (EMDB-22156) (PDB 6XEY)	SARS-CoV-2 spike RBD up with Fab 4-8 EMDB-22158	SARS-CoV-2 spike RBD down with Fab 4-8 EMDB-22159	SARS-CoV-2 spike with Fab 2-43 EMDB-22157
Data collection and processing				
Magnification	81,000	81,000	81,000	81,000
Voltage (kV)	300	300	300	300
Electron exposure (e ⁻ / Å ²)	51.30	51.30	51.30	53.43
Defocus range (µm)	-0.4 to -3.5	-0.4 to -3.5	-0.4 to -3.5	-0.4 to -3.5
Pixel size (Å)	1.058	1.058	1.058	1.058
Symmetry imposed	C3	C1	C3	C1
Initial particle images (no.)	556,983	256,848	256,848	709,052
Final particle images (no.)	83,927	105,278	47,555	18,885
Map resolution (Å)	3.25	4.0	3.9	7.8
FSC threshold	0.143	0.143	0.143	0.143
Map resolution range (Å)	406.3-3.25	406.3-4.0	406.3-3.9	406.3-7.8
Refinement				
Initial model used (PDB code)	6VSB			
Model resolution (Å)	3.7			
FSC threshold	0.5			
Model resolution range (Å)	406.3-3.25			
Map sharpening <i>B</i> factor (Å ²)	-97.5			
Model composition				
Non-hydrogen atoms	28,672			
Protein residues	3785			
Ligands	63			
<i>B</i> factors (Å ²)				
Protein	60.89			
Ligand	50.00			
R.m.s. deviations				
Bond lengths (Å)	0.012			
Bond angles (°)	1.879			
Validation				
MolProbity score	1.05			
Clashscore	0.16			
Poor rotamers (%)	0.25			
Ramachandran plot				
Favored (%)	92.09			
Allowed (%)	7.77			
Disallowed (%)	0.13			



708 **Extended Data Fig. 1 SARS-CoV-2 S trimer-specific antibody isolation strategy. a,** Schema
709 for isolating of S trimer-specific mAbs from memory B cells in the blood of infected patients. **b,**
710 Sorting results on the isolation of S trimer-specific memory B cells using flow cytometry. **c,**
711 Magnified representation of the panel of S trimer-positive memory B cells for each patient. Inset
712 numbers indicate the absolute number and the percentage of S trimer-specific memory B cells
713 isolated from each case.

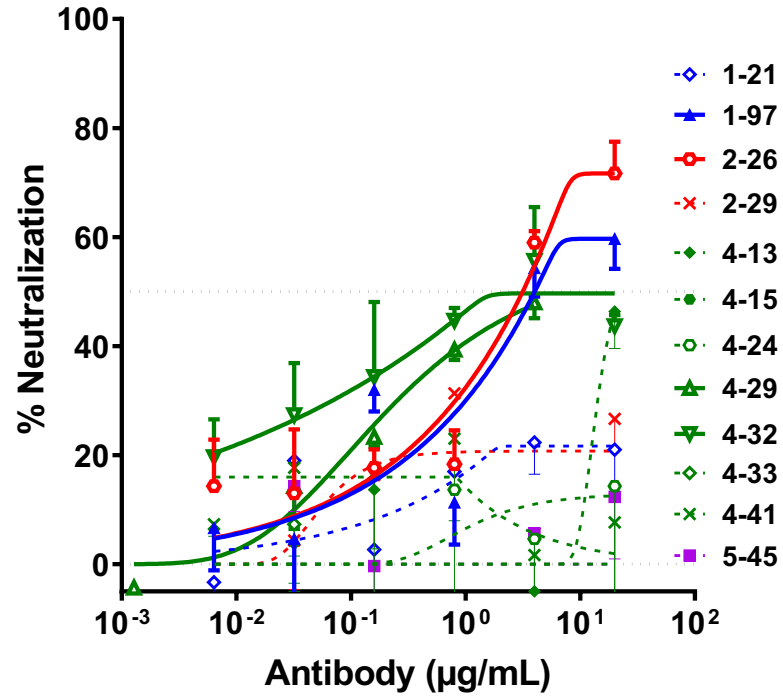


715 **Extended Data Fig. 2 Genetic features of SARS-CoV-2-specific antibody repertoire. a,** Most
716 of the 121 trimer S-specific antibodies are of IgG isotype. The kappa and lambda light chains are
717 comparably used. **b,** Compared to IgG repertoires of healthy human donors, IGHV3-30 and
718 IGKV3-20 genes are over-represented in heavy and light chain repertoires, respectively (β 2-test,
719 $p < 0.05$). **c,** The usage of IGHJ6 gene was significantly higher in antigen-specific antibodies (β 2-
720 test, $p < 0.05$). **d,** The CDRH3 length of antigen-specific antibodies is significantly longer than in
721 healthy donors (Kolmogorov–Smirnov test, $p = 0.014$). **e,** For both heavy and light chains, the V
722 region nucleotide somatic hypermutation levels are significantly lower than in antibodies of
723 healthy donors (Kolmogorov–Smirnov test, $p < 0.001$).

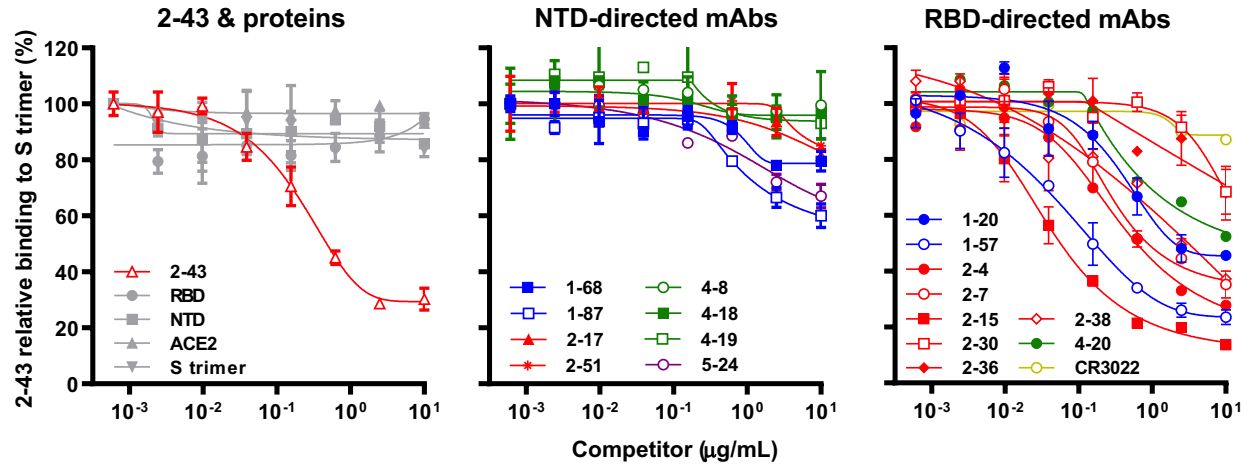


724

725 **Extended Data Fig. 3 The best-fit pseudovirus neutralization curves for 130 samples that**
726 **were positive in at least one of the screens shown in Fig. 1b.** The 18 transfection supernatants
727 that showed evidently better potency are highlighted in colors, while others with non-neutralizing
728 or weakly neutralizing activities are shown in grey. One additional supernatant (Patient 1) that
729 was initially missed in the pseudovirus screen but later found to be a potent neutralizing mAb (1-
730 87) is also highlighted.

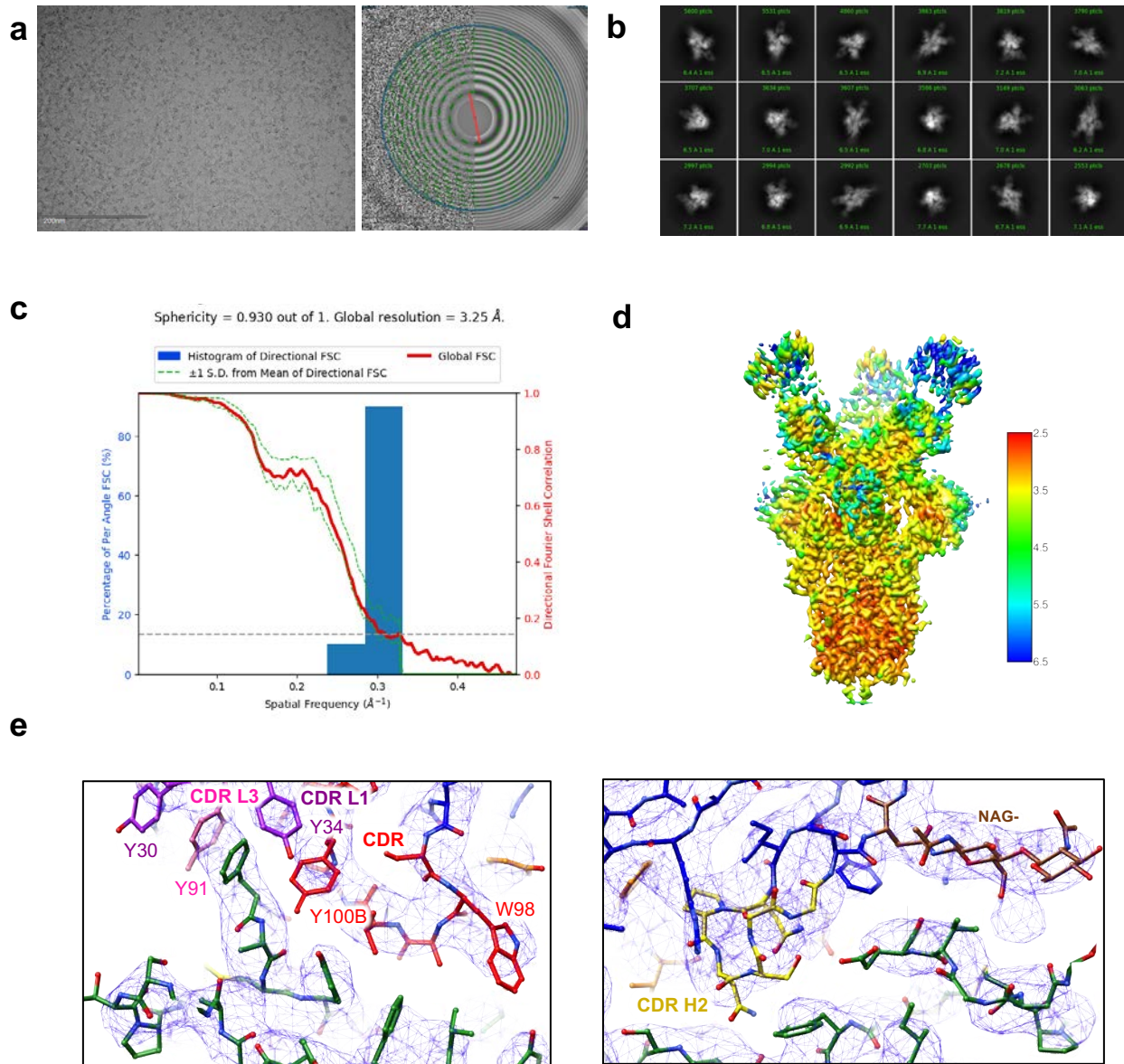


731 Extended Data Fig. 4 The pseudovirus neutralization profiles for 12 purified mAbs that
732 strongly bound the S trimer but with weak or no virus-neutralizing activities. The four mAbs
733 with weak neutralizing activities against SARS-CoV-2 pseudovirus are shown in solid lines, and
734 the remaining 8 non-neutralizing mAbs are shown in dashed lines.



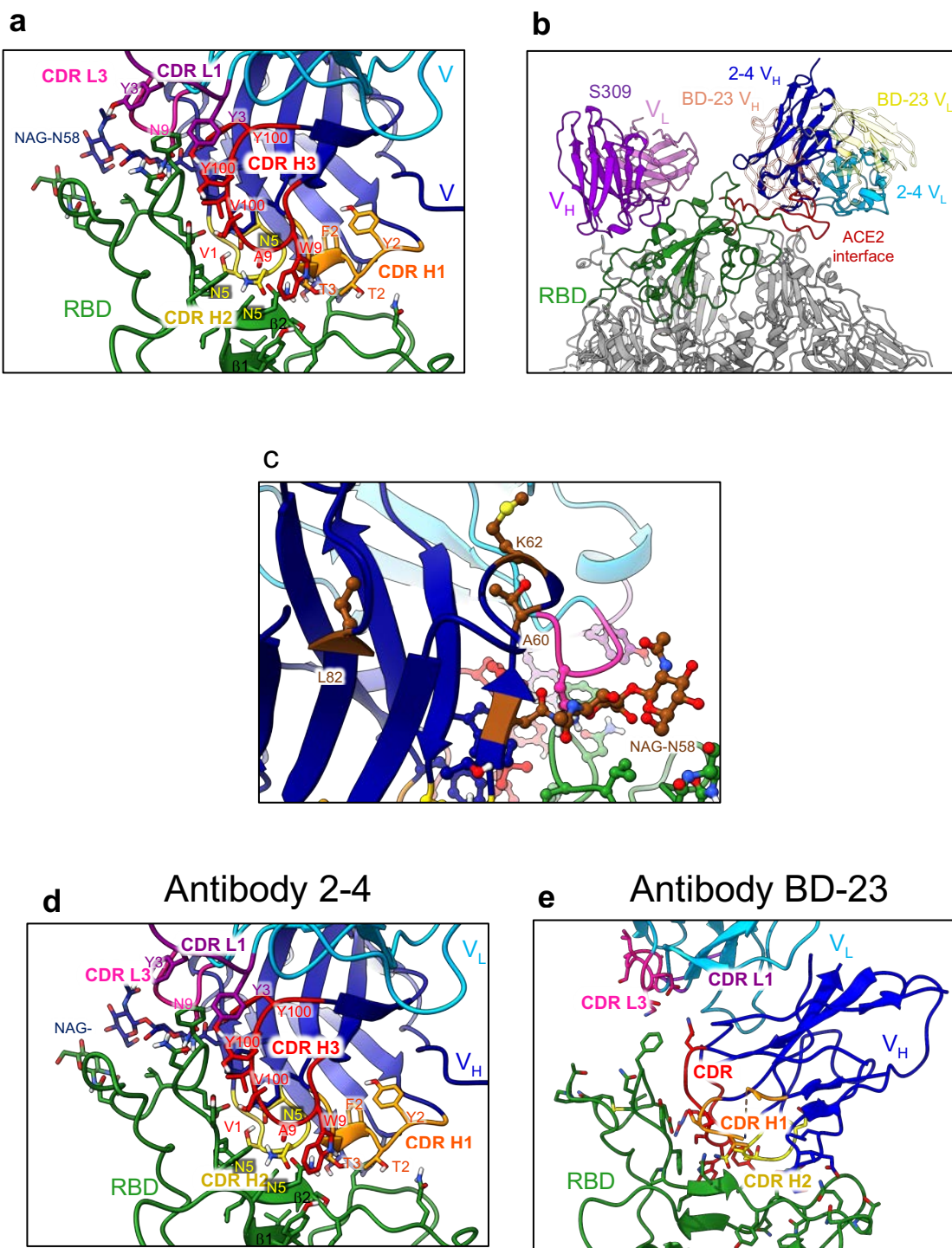
735

736 **Extended Data Fig. 5** Monoclonal Ab 2-43 bound to S trimer expressed on Expi293 cell
737 surface can be competed out by mAbs directed to RBD but only minimally by mAbs to the
738 NTD region.

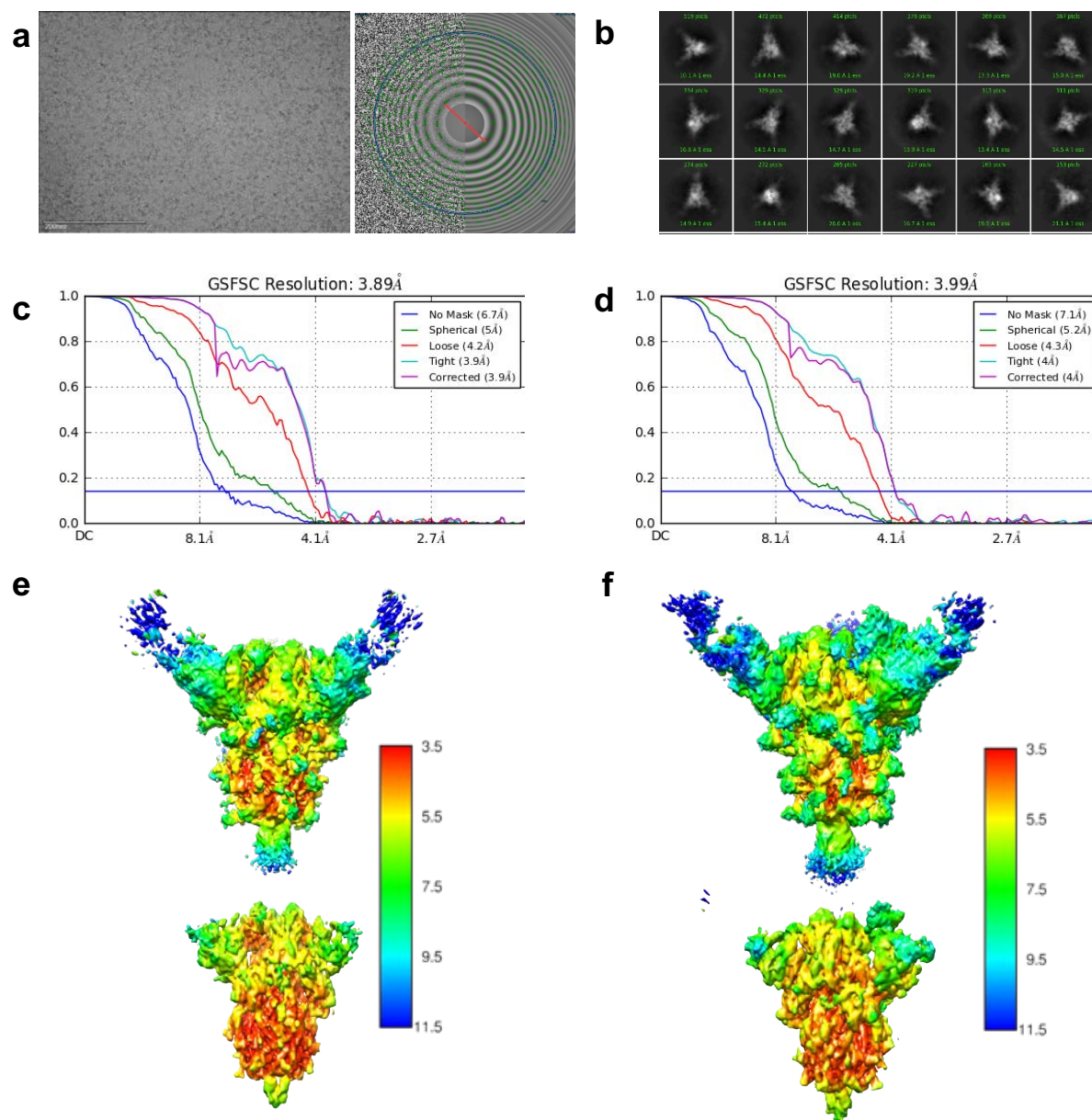


739

740 **Extended Data Fig. 6 Cryo-EM data processing for antibody 2-4 in complex with the S**
741 **trimer.** **a**, Representative micrograph and CTF of the micrograph. **b**, Representative 2D class
742 averages. **c**, Resolution of the consensus map with C3 symmetry as calculated by 3DFSC. **d**, The
743 local resolution of the full map as calculated by cryoSPARC at an FSC cutoff of 0.5. **e**,
744 Representative density of the Fab 2-4 and RBD interface, showing CRR H3, L3, and L3 (left),
745 along with CDR H2 and the N-linked glycosylation at ASN58 (right).

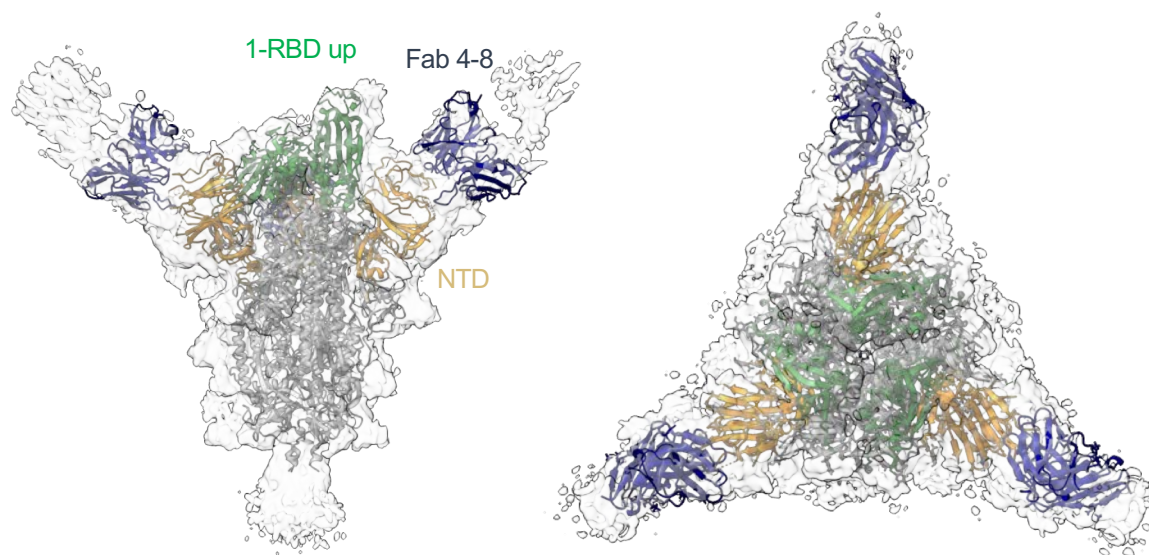


747 **Extended Data Fig. 7 a**, Fab 2-4 binding interface with RBD. **b**, Positions of antibodies 2-4,
748 S309⁸, and BD-23⁹ on the trimeric CoV-2 spike. **c**, Somatic hypermutations found only in the
749 antibody 2-4 heavy chain, shown in brown. The mutation A60T creates an NxT sequence leading
750 to N58 glycosylation. **d**, Antibody 2-4 in complex with S trimer. CDR loops are indicated in colors,
751 and side chains are shown for interacting residues. **e**, Antibody BD-23⁹ in complex with S trimer.

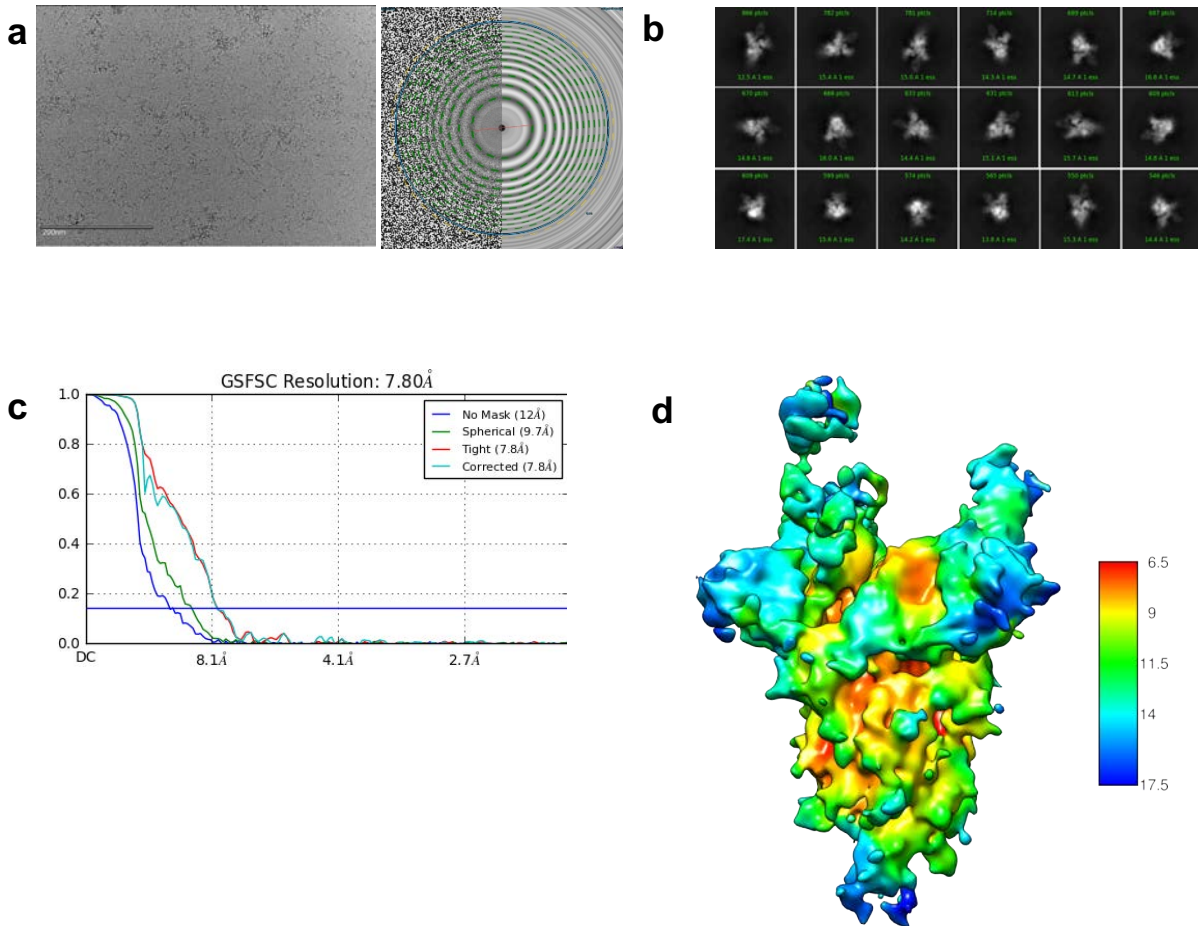


752 **Extended Data Fig. 8 Cryo-EM data processing for antibody 4-8 in complex with the S**
 753 **trimer. a**, Representative micrograph and CTF of the micrograph. **b**, Representative 2D class
 754 averages. **c**, Resolution of the spike in the RBD down conformation in complex with Fab 4-8 **d**,
 755 Resolution of the spike in the RBD up conformation in complex with Fab 4-8. **e**, Local resolution
 756 of the spike in the RBD down conformation in complex with Fab 4-8 at an FSC cutoff of 0.5. Two

- 757 thresholds are shown. **f**, Local resolution of the spike in the RBD up conformation in complex with
758 Fab 4-8 at an FSC cutoff of 0.5. Two thresholds are shown.



759 **Extended Data Fig. 9 3D reconstructions of NTD-targeting neutralizing antibody 4-8 in complex**
760 **with the SARS-CoV-2 spike trimer with the 1-RBD-up conformation.**



761 **Extended Data Fig. 10 Cryo-EM data processing for antibody 2-43 in complex with the S**
762 **trimer. a**, Representative micrograph and CTF of the micrograph. **b**, Representative 2D class
763 averages. **c**, Resolution of Fab 2-43 in complex with S trimer. **d**, The local resolution of the full
764 map as calculated by cryoSPARC at an FSC cutoff of 0.5.