

1 **Structural classification of neutralizing antibodies against the SARS-CoV-2 spike**  
2 **receptor-binding domain suggests vaccine and therapeutic strategies**

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23 **Abstract**

24 The COVID-19 pandemic presents an urgent health crisis. Human neutralizing antibodies  
25 (hNAbs) that target the host ACE2 receptor-binding domain (RBD) of the SARS-CoV-2 spike<sup>1-5</sup>  
26 show therapeutic promise and are being evaluated clinically<sup>6-8</sup>. To determine structural  
27 correlates of SARS-CoV-2 neutralization, we solved 8 new structures of distinct COVID-19  
28 hNAbs<sup>5</sup> in complex with SARS-CoV-2 spike trimer or RBD. Structural comparisons allowed  
29 classification into categories: (1) *VH3-53* hNAbs with short CDRH3s that block ACE2 and bind  
30 only to “up” RBDs, (2) ACE2-blocking hNAbs that bind both “up” and “down” RBDs and can  
31 contact adjacent RBDs, (3) hNAbs that bind outside the ACE2 site and recognize “up” and  
32 “down” RBDs, and (4) Previously-described antibodies that do not block ACE2 and bind only  
33 “up” RBDs<sup>9</sup>. Class 2 comprised four hNAbs whose epitopes bridged RBDs, including a *VH3-53*  
34 hNAbs that used a long CDRH3 with a hydrophobic tip to bridge between adjacent “down” RBDs,  
35 thereby locking spike into a closed conformation. Epitope/paratope mapping revealed few  
36 interactions with host-derived *N*-glycans and minor contributions of antibody somatic  
37 hypermutations to epitope contacts. Affinity measurements and mapping of naturally-occurring  
38 and in vitro-selected spike mutants in 3D provided insight into the potential for SARS-CoV-2  
39 escape from antibodies elicited during infection or delivered therapeutically. These  
40 classifications and structural analyses provide rules for assigning current and future human  
41 RBD-targeting antibodies into classes, evaluating avidity effects, suggesting combinations for  
42 clinical use, and providing insight into immune responses against SARS-CoV-2.

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45 Neutralizing antibodies (NAbs) against SARS-CoV-2 protect against infection in animal  
46 models<sup>1,3,4,10,11</sup> and are being evaluated for prophylaxis and as therapeutics in humans<sup>7,8</sup>. These  
47 antibodies target the SARS-CoV-2 spike (S) trimer<sup>3,5,10,12-17</sup>, a viral glycoprotein that mediates  
48 binding to angiotensin-converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) receptor<sup>18,19</sup>. S trimer comprises three  
49 copies of an S1 subunit containing the receptor-binding domain (RBD) and three copies of S2,  
50 which includes the fusion peptide and transmembrane regions<sup>20,21</sup>. The RBDs of SARS-CoV-2  
51 and other coronaviruses exhibit flexibility, such that they bind ACE2 only when they are in an  
52 “up” conformation, as compared with the “down” RBD conformation of the closed, prefusion S  
53 trimer<sup>20-25</sup>.

54  
55 Many hNAbs isolated from COVID-19 convalescent donors target the RBD, binding to distinct,  
56 sometimes non-overlapping, epitopes<sup>3-5,10,12-14,17</sup>. A subset of these antibodies blocks viral entry  
57 by binding to the ACE2-binding site on the RBD<sup>6,11,13,15,26,27</sup>. A family of recurrent ACE2-blocking  
58 hNAbs is composed of heavy chains (HCs) encoded by the *VH3-53* or *VH3-66* gene  
59 segment<sup>3,12,13,16,17,27-29</sup>, a majority of which are known or predicted<sup>15,26,28,30,31</sup> to exhibit a common  
60 RBD binding mode resulting from the use of germline-encoded residues within the  
61 complementarity-determining regions 1 and 2 (CDRH1 and CDRH2) and a CDRH3 that is  
62 shorter than the average length (15 amino acids; IMGT<sup>32</sup> CDR definition) in human antibodies<sup>33</sup>.  
63 Other SARS-CoV-2 RBD-binding antibodies are encoded by *VH3-30*<sup>5</sup>, which have also been  
64 isolated from SARS-CoV-infected donors<sup>34</sup>, and antibodies with a variety of the other VH gene  
65 segments<sup>3,5,10,12-17</sup>.

66  
67 To classify commonalities and differences among RBD-binding hNAbs isolated from  
68 convalescent COVID-19 individuals<sup>5</sup>, we solved complexes of hNAbs with stabilized (2P and 6P  
69 versions)<sup>35,36</sup> of soluble S trimer and used high-resolution details of the binding orientations of  
70 *VH1-2*, *VH1-46*, *VH3-30*, *VH3-53*, *VH4-34*, and *VH5-51* and hNAbs to elucidate rules for binding

71 by four distinct anti-RBD antibody classes (Supplementary Table 2). The hNAbs chosen for  
72 structures are highly potent, achieving 90% neutralization in pseudotype virus assays at  
73 concentrations ranging from 22-140 ng/mL<sup>5</sup>, thus our structural analyses and classifications  
74 directly relate to understanding mechanisms of neutralization and potency differences between  
75 hNAbs.

76

### 77 **Class 1: *VH3-53*/short CDRH3 hNAbs that block ACE2 binding and bind “up” RBDs**

78 We solved Fab and Fab-RBD crystal structures of C102 (Supplementary Table 1), which we  
79 compared to our previous cryo-EM structure of S trimer complexed with the related hNAb  
80 C105<sup>26</sup> (Extended Data Fig. 1,2). Both C102 and C105 are *VH3-53* hNAbs with short (9 and 12  
81 residues) CDRH3s (Extended Data Fig. 1g) that were isolated from the same donor<sup>5</sup>. They  
82 share structural similarities with each other and with other *VH3-53*/short CDRH3 hNAb  
83 structures solved as complexes with RBDs<sup>12,30,37,38</sup> (Extended Data Fig. 2a). Importantly, the  
84 C102-RBD structure resembled the analogous portion of the C105-S structure<sup>26</sup> (Extended Data  
85 Fig. 2a). These results establish that Fab-RBD structures can reproduce interactions with RBDs  
86 in the context of an S trimer; however, Fab-RBD structures do not reveal the state(s) of the  
87 antibody-bound RBD in the complex (“up” versus “down”) or the potential inter-protomer  
88 contacts by Fabs.

89

90 Since the C105 Fab bound either two or three “up” RBDs on S with no observed interactions  
91 with “down” RBDs or with adjacent RBDs<sup>26</sup> (Extended Data Fig. 1f), we used the higher-  
92 resolution C102 Fab-RBD structure to deduce a more accurate epitope/paratope than possible  
93 using the C105-S cryo-EM structure with flexible “up” RBDs (Extended Data Fig. 1a-e). Buried  
94 surface area (BSA) calculations showed that the C102 CDRH3 played a relatively minor role in  
95 the paratope: of 1045 Å<sup>2</sup> BSA on the antibody (786 Å<sup>2</sup> on the HC; 259 Å<sup>2</sup> on the light chain; LC),  
96 CDRH3 accounted for only 254 Å<sup>2</sup> (Extended Data Fig. 2b). This contrasts with the majority of

97 antibodies in which CDRH3 contributes equally or more to the interface with antigen than the  
98 sum of CDRH1 and CDRH2 contributions<sup>39</sup>. The epitopes on RBD for all available *VH3-53*/short  
99 CDRH3 hNAbs span the ACE2 binding site<sup>15,26,28,30,31</sup> and show common RBD-binding  
100 interactions, represented by the C102 epitope (Extended Data Fig. 1b-e), which buried 1017 Å<sup>2</sup>  
101 on RBD (Extended Data Fig. 2b). The ACE2-blocking epitope for these hNAbs is sterically  
102 occluded in the RBD “down” conformation (Fig. 1b; Extended Data Fig. 1f); therefore, class 1  
103 hNAbs can only bind to “up” RBDs, as observed in the C105-S structure<sup>26</sup>, and as previously  
104 discussed, IgGs in this class could crosslink adjacent RBDs within a single trimer to achieve  
105 tighter binding through avidity effects<sup>26</sup>.

106

## 107 **Class 2: hNAbs that overlap with the ACE2 binding site and recognize both “up” and** 108 **“down” RBD conformations**

109 In addition to the recurrent *VH3-53* hNAbs with short CDRH3s, a small subset of potentially  
110 neutralizing *VH3-53* encoded antibodies utilize longer CDRH3s (>15 residues, IMGT definition<sup>32</sup>,  
111 Extended Data Fig. 1g)<sup>5,12</sup>. A recent structure of a RBD complexed with a *VH3-53*/long CDRH3  
112 hNAb (COVA2-39) revealed a different RBD binding mode<sup>38</sup>, thus confirming predictions that  
113 binding with a C102-like interaction requires a short CDRH3<sup>26,30</sup>. To further elucidate molecular  
114 mechanisms for binding of *VH3-53*/long CDRH3 hNAbs, we solved a 3.2 Å cryo-EM structure of  
115 C144 (*VH3-53/VL2-14*; 25-residue CDRH3) bound to a S trimer<sup>36</sup> (Extended Data Fig. 3).  
116 Despite the ability of ligand-free stabilized S trimers to adopt “up” RBD conformations<sup>36</sup> and  
117 modeling suggesting the C144 binding site would be accessible on “up” RBDs (Fig. 1b), the  
118 C144-S structure revealed three C144 Fabs bound to a completely closed S with three “down”  
119 RBDs (Fig. 1a). The C144 binding mode differs from class 1 hNAbs, whose binding orientation  
120 is incompatible with “down” RBD conformations (Fig. 1b). In addition, the binding orientation  
121 observed for C144 differs from the binding described for COVA2-39, whose RBD epitope is  
122 predicted to be accessible only on “up” RBDs<sup>38</sup> due to steric hinderances imposed on the LC by

123 the N343<sub>RBD</sub>-associated glycan on the adjacent RBD (Extended Data Fig. 1h). Despite  
124 orientation differences, the RBD epitopes of C144, C102 and COVA2-39 overlap with the ACE2  
125 binding site, suggesting a neutralization mechanism involving direct competition with ACE2 (Fig.  
126 1b).<sup>40</sup>

127

128 An interesting feature of C144 binding is that its long CDRH3 bridges between adjacent “down”  
129 RBDs to lock the spike glycoprotein into a closed, prefusion conformation, providing an  
130 additional neutralization mechanism in which S cannot open to engage ACE2 (Fig. 1c,d). The  
131 formation of C144’s quaternary epitope is driven by sandwiching CDRH3 residues F100<sub>D</sub> and  
132 W100<sub>E</sub> into a hydrophobic RBD cavity at the base of an *N*-linked glycan attached to N343<sub>RBD</sub>.  
133 The cavity comprises the RBD  $\alpha$ 1 helix (337-344),  $\alpha$ 2 helix (364-371), and hydrophobic  
134 residues (F374<sub>RBD</sub> and W436<sub>RBD</sub>) at the edge of the RBD 5-stranded  $\beta$ -sheet (Fig. 1e,f). By  
135 contrast to CDRH3s of class 1 *VH3-53*/short CDRH3 hNAbs, C144’s CDRH3 contributed to a  
136 majority (~60%) of the paratope and buried 330 Å<sup>2</sup> surface area on the adjacent RBD (Extended  
137 Data Fig. 2b), likely explaining observed escape at residue L455<sub>RBD</sub> (Fig. 1f) in C144 selection  
138 experiments<sup>40</sup>. Despite adjacent hydrophobic residues (F100<sub>D</sub> and W100<sub>E</sub>) likely to be solvent-  
139 exposed before antigen binding, C144 IgG showed no evidence of non-specific binding in a  
140 polyreactivity assay (Extended Data Fig. 1i).

141

142 Given the unusual binding characteristics of C144, we investigated whether antibodies that  
143 showed similar S binding orientations in low-resolution negative-stain EM (nsEM)  
144 reconstructions<sup>5</sup> utilize similar neutralization mechanisms. We characterized Fab-S cryo-EM  
145 structures (overall resolutions from 3.4-3.8 Å) of potent hNAbs (C002, C104, C119, and C121)  
146 predicted to compete with ACE2 binding<sup>5</sup>, which varied in their V gene segment usage and  
147 CDRH3 lengths (Fig. 2, Extended Data Figs. 3,4; Extended Data Table 1). Fab-S cryo-EM

148 structures of these class 2 hNAbs showed bound RBDs in both “up” or “down” conformations,  
149 consistent with observations of similar hNAbs from nsEM<sup>5,12</sup> and single-particle cryo-EM  
150 studies<sup>10,34,41</sup>. By contrast, the C144-S structure showed Fabs bound only to “down” RBDs (Fig.  
151 1), suggesting that C144 binding requires recognition of the closed S trimer, or that C144 Fab(s)  
152 initially bound to “up” RBD(s) could trap the closed (3 RBDs “down”) S conformation through  
153 CDRH3-mediated interactions between adjacent RBDs.

154

155 To better understand commonalities of class 2 RBD epitopes, we further analyzed two  
156 additional potent hNAbs, C002 (*VH3-30/VK1-39*, 17-residue CDRH3,  $IC_{50}=8.0$  ng/mL<sup>5</sup>) and  
157 C121 (*VH1-2/VL2-23*, 23-residue CDRH3,  $IC_{50}=6.7$  ng/mL<sup>5</sup>), for which cryo-EM Fab-S  
158 structures were solved to 3.4 Å and 3.6 Å, respectively (Fig. 2a,b) using crystal structures of  
159 unbound C002 and C121 Fabs for fitting (Supplementary Table 1). The C002 and C121 RBD  
160 epitopes are focused on the receptor-binding ridge, overlapping with polar and hydrophobic  
161 residues along the flat face of the RBD responsible for ACE2 interactions (Fig. 2c-e). Similar to  
162 C144, hNAbs C002 and C121 buried most of the RBD epitope against HC CDR loops, with LC  
163 CDR loops engaging the receptor-binding ridge (Fig. 3). Interestingly, Fab-S structures of C002,  
164 C121, C119 and C104 revealed a quaternary epitope involving an adjacent RBD (Extended  
165 Data Figs. 3,4, 5a-c), albeit distinct from the quaternary binding of C144 (Fig. 1c-e). This  
166 C102/C121/C119/C104 type of secondary interaction was only observed when a Fab was  
167 bound to a “down” RBD and adjacent to an “up” RBD. The extent of the secondary interactions  
168 varied depending on the antibody pose (Extended Data Fig. 5a-c). Bridging interactions  
169 between adjacent “up” and “down” RBDs would not allow the two Fabs of a single IgG to bind  
170 simultaneously to an S trimer. However, this class of antibodies could support bivalent  
171 interactions between two adjacent “down” RBDs (Extended Data Fig. 5h, Extended Data Table  
172 1).

173

174 Characterization of the highest resolution interface (C002-S structure) showed C002 LC  
175 framework regions (FWRs) 1 and 2 interfaced with the RBD residues comprising the 5-stranded  
176  $\beta$ -sheet and  $\alpha$ -helix that spans residues 440<sub>RBD</sub>–444<sub>RBD</sub> (Fig. 2e), which is typically located near  
177 the three-fold axis of a closed S trimer. In addition to contacting neighboring RBDs, inter-  
178 protomer engagement with the N165<sub>NTD</sub>-associated glycan in the N-terminal domain (NTD) was  
179 observed for the class 2 hNAb BD23<sup>13</sup>. If fully processed, the N165<sub>NTD</sub> glycan could adopt a  
180 conformation that would allow interactions with HC FWR3 and CDRH1 (Fig. 2e). However, in  
181 the structures reported here, we did not observe N165<sub>RBD</sub> glycan density beyond the initial  
182 GlcNAc.

183

184 Given differences in class 2 hNAb V gene segments, CDRH3 lengths, and antibody poses, we  
185 investigated sequence features that drive conserved interactions. Sequence differences  
186 between SARS-CoV-2 and SARS-CoV RBD, including at positions 486<sub>RBD</sub> and 493<sub>RBD</sub> (F and Q,  
187 respectively, in SARS-CoV-2), in the ACE2 receptor-binding motif (RBM) allowed more  
188 favorable ACE2 binding to the SARS-CoV-2 RBD<sup>42</sup>. Analysis of interactions by C144, C002, and  
189 C121 revealed common interactions with these residues and also for E484<sub>RBD</sub> by both antibody  
190 HC and LC residues (Fig. 3). In particular, class 2 hNAb interactions with F486<sub>RBD</sub> mimicked  
191 ACE2 interactions, in that F486<sub>RBD</sub> buries into a hydrophobic pocket typically involving  
192 CDRL1/CDRL3 tyrosine residues<sup>43</sup> (Fig. 3d,h,i). Mimicking of the ACE2 F486<sub>RBD</sub> binding pocket  
193 by SARS-CoV-2 hNAb was observed across different LC V gene segments (Extended Data  
194 Table 1), suggesting that there is no restriction in LC V gene segment usage for class 2 hNAb.  
195 Interestingly, a germline-encoded feature described for *VH3-53*/short CDRH3 class 1 hNAb,  
196 the CDRH2 SxxS motif, is also found in other class 2 hNAb (e.g., C121 and C119) despite  
197 different VH gene segment usage. Similar to *VH3-53* hNAb C144 and COVA2-39, the C121  
198 CDRH2 SxxS motif forms a potential hydrogen bond network with residue E484<sub>RBD</sub> (Fig. 3b,j).

199



200 Overall, these results suggest a convergent mode of recognition by germline-encoded residues  
201 across diverse VH/VL gene segments for SARS-CoV-2, which may contribute to low levels of  
202 somatic hypermutation observed for these hNABs (Extended Data Fig. 6, Extended Data Table  
203 1).

204

205 **Class 3: hNABs that bind outside the ACE2 binding site and recognize both “up” and**  
206 **“down” RBD conformations**

207 C135 is a potent hNAB that showed binding properties distinct from class 1, class 2, and the  
208 cross-reactive SARS-CoV antibody CR3022<sup>5</sup> (which we categorized as a class 4 antibody;  
209 Extended Data Table 1). To evaluate the mechanism of C135-mediated neutralization of SARS-  
210 CoV-2, we solved the cryo-EM structure of a C135-S complex to 3.5 Å (Fig. 4a, Extended Data  
211 Fig. 7), using an unbound C135 crystal structure for fitting (Supplementary Table 1). The  
212 structure revealed three C135 Fabs bound to an S trimer with 2 “down” and 1 “up” RBDs,  
213 although the C135-bound “up” RBD conformation was weakly resolved and therefore not  
214 modeled. C135 recognizes an glycopeptidic epitope similar to the cross-reactive SARS-CoV  
215 hNAB S309<sup>34</sup>, focusing on a region of the RBD near the N343<sub>RBD</sub> glycan and non-overlapping  
216 with the ACE2 binding site (Fig. 4b, Extended Data Fig. 7c,d). Despite differences in binding  
217 orientations between C135 and S309, targeting of the RBD epitope was mainly V<sub>H</sub>-mediated  
218 (the BSA of RBD on the C135 HC represented ~480Å<sup>2</sup> of ~700 Å<sup>2</sup> total BSA) and included  
219 interactions with the core fucose moiety of the N343<sub>RBD</sub> glycan. The smaller C135 footprint  
220 relative to S309 (~700 Å<sup>2</sup> versus ~1150 Å<sup>2</sup> BSA, respectively; Extended Data Fig. 7c,d) focused  
221 on interactions with RBD residues R346<sub>RBD</sub> and N440<sub>RBD</sub>, which are engaged by residues from  
222 HC and LC CDR loops (Fig. 4c,d) and are not conserved between SARS-CoV-2 and SARS-CoV  
223 RBDs, rationalizing the lack of SARS-CoV cross-reactivity observed for C135<sup>5</sup>.

224

225 The discovery of class 3 hNAbs such as C135 and S309 that were raised during SARS-CoV-2  
226 or SARS-CoV natural infections, respectively, and bind outside of the ACE2 binding site,  
227 provides the potential for additive neutralization effects when combined with hNAbs that block  
228 ACE2, while also limiting viral escape<sup>1,40</sup>. A pair of antibodies in human clinical trials that  
229 includes REGN10987<sup>8</sup>, a hNAb that binds distal to the ACE2 binding site, prevented SARS-  
230 CoV-2 viral escape *in vitro*, but did not show synergistic neutralization<sup>6</sup>. Comparison of C135  
231 and REGN10987 interactions with S showed similarities in epitopes (interactions focused on  
232 residues R346<sub>RBD</sub> and N440<sub>RBD</sub>; Extended Fig. 7c,f). However, REGN10987 binding would  
233 sterically hinder ACE2 interactions, whereas C135 binding does not (Extended Data Fig. 7b,  
234 Fig. 4b). Interestingly, a structure of S complexed with C110 (*VH5-51/VK1-5*), isolated from the  
235 same donor as the C102 and C105 (class 1) and C119 and C121 (class 2) hNAbs<sup>5</sup>, showed a  
236 binding pose resembling REGN10987's (Extended Data Fig. 7b,e-f). The C110 epitope showed  
237 similarities with both class 3 and class 2 hNAbs, binding distal to the ACE2 binding motif, but  
238 like REGN10987, could potentially sterically interfere with ACE2 (Extended Fig. 7). For each of  
239 these class 3 hNAbs, the Fab binding pose suggests that intra-protomer crosslinking by a single  
240 IgG is not possible (Extended Data Table 1).

241

242 Class 3 hNAbs add to the anti-SARS-CoV-2 antibody repertoire and could likely be effectively  
243 used in therapeutic combinations with class 1 or class 2 hNAbs. However, when using  
244 structures to predict whether hNAbs have overlapping epitopes, it is sometimes not sufficient to  
245 only examine Fab-RBD structures or even static images of S trimer because of the dynamic  
246 nature of the spike. Thus what might appear to be non-overlapping epitopes on an isolated RBD  
247 could overlap in some (Fig. 4e,f), but not all (Extended Data Fig. 8), scenarios on a spike trimer,  
248 complicating interpretation of competition experiments using monomeric RBDs and S trimers.  
249 The opposite can also be true; i.e., two Fabs that are predicted to be accommodated on a trimer  
250 could clash on an RBD monomer (Fig. 4g,h). Finally, adjacent monomers in different

251 orientations could accommodate different antibodies that target overlapping sites (Extended  
252 Data Fig. 8).

253

### 254 **RBD substitutions affect hNAb binding to varying extents**

255 VSV reporter viruses pseudotyped with SARS-CoV-2 S can escape by mutation from hNAbs  
256 C121, C135, or C144<sup>40</sup>, three of the antibodies used for the structural studies reported here.  
257 RBD mutations that were selected in response to antibody pressure correlated with the epitopes  
258 mapped from the structures of their Fabs complexed with S trimer (Fig. 1,2,4).

259

260 To further assess the effects of these and other RBD substitutions, we assayed hNAbs for  
261 which we obtained structural information (eight from this study; C105-S complex from ref.<sup>26</sup>) for  
262 binding to mutated RBD proteins. The RBD mutants included two that induced escape from the  
263 class 3 hNAb C135 (R346S and N440K)<sup>40</sup> (Fig. 4c,d), one found in circulating isolates<sup>44</sup> that  
264 conferred partial resistance to C135 (N439K)<sup>40</sup> (Fig. 4d), a circulating variant (A475V) that  
265 conferred resistance to class 1 and 2 *VH3-53* hNAbs<sup>44</sup>, two that induced escape from C121 or  
266 C144 (E484K and Q493R)<sup>40</sup> (Fig. 3), and a circulating variant that conferred partial resistance to  
267 C121 (V483A)<sup>40</sup>. Kinetic and equilibrium constants for the original and mutant RBDs were  
268 derived from surface plasmon resonance (SPR) binding assays in which RBDs were injected  
269 over immobilized IgGs (Extended Data Fig. 9). Loss of binding affinity was consistent with RBD  
270 mutations that conferred escape, with hNAbs within each class being similarly affected by the  
271 same point mutations, which was not seen when comparing effects of point mutations between  
272 hNAb classes. This suggests that antibody pressure that leads to escape from one hNAb class  
273 would be unlikely to affect a different class. These results suggest a therapeutic strategy  
274 involving hNAbs of different classes for monoclonal NAb treatment of SARS-CoV-2–infected  
275 individuals.

276

## 277 **Conclusions**

278 The Fab-S structures reported here represent a comprehensive structural, biophysical, and  
279 bioinformatics analysis of SARS-CoV-2 NAbs (Extended Data Fig. 10), providing critical  
280 information for interpreting correlates of protection for clinical use. The structures reveal a  
281 wealth of unexpected interactions of hNAbs with the spike trimer, including five antibodies that  
282 reach between adjacent RBDs on the protomers of a single spike trimer. A dramatic example of  
283 bridging between spike protomers involved a hNAb, C144, that uses a long CDRH3 with a  
284 hydrophobic tip to reach across to an adjacent RBD, resulting in all three RBDs on spike trimer  
285 being locked into a closed conformation. This example, and the four other hNAbs that contact  
286 adjacent RBDs, demonstrates that crystal structures of Fab-monomeric RBD complexes, while  
287 informative for defining a primary epitope on one RBD, do not reveal how antibodies actually  
288 recognize the flexible “up”/“down” RBD conformations on the spike trimer that are targeted for  
289 neutralization on the virus. Indeed, our cryo-EM structures of Fab-spike trimer complexes  
290 showed many possible combinations of recognized RBDs: three “up,” two “up” and one “down,”  
291 one “up” and two “down,” and three “down,” with some structures showing three Fabs bound per  
292 trimer and others showing two Fabs bound per trimer. By analyzing the approach angles of  
293 antibodies bound to RBDs on spike trimers, we can predict whether a particular IgG can bind to  
294 a single spike trimer to gain potency through avidity effects, which would also render the  
295 antibody more resistant to spike mutations. In addition, structural information allowed us to  
296 assess RBD mutants that arose in circulating viral isolates and/or were obtained by *in vitro*  
297 selection. Taken together, this comprehensive study provides a blueprint for designing antibody  
298 cocktails for therapeutics and potential spike-based immunogens for vaccines.

299

## 300 **Methods**

### 301 **Protein Expression**

302 Expression and purification of SARS-CoV-2 ectodomains were conducted as previously  
303 described<sup>26</sup>. Briefly, constructs encoded the SARS-CoV-2 S ectodomain (residues 16-1206 of  
304 the early SARS-CoV-2 GenBank MN985325.1 sequence isolate with 2P<sup>35</sup> or 6P<sup>36</sup> stabilizing  
305 mutations, a mutated furin cleavage site between S1 and S2, a C-terminal TEV site, foldon  
306 trimerization motif, octa-His tag, and AviTag) were used to express soluble SARS-CoV-2 S  
307 ectodomains. Constructs encoding the SARS-CoV-2 RBD from GenBank MN985325.1  
308 (residues 331-524 with C-terminal octa-His tag and AviTag) and mutant RBDs were made as  
309 described<sup>26</sup>, SARS-CoV-2 2P S, 6P S, and RBD proteins were purified from the supernatants of  
310 transiently-transfected Expi293F cells (Gibco) by nickel affinity and size-exclusion  
311 chromatography<sup>26</sup>. Peak fractions were identified by SDS-PAGE, and fractions corresponding to  
312 S trimers or monomeric RBDs were pooled and stored at 4°C. Fabs and IgGs were expressed,  
313 purified, and stored as described<sup>45,46</sup>.

314

### 315 **X-ray crystallography**

316 Crystallization trials were carried out at room temperature using the sitting drop vapor diffusion  
317 method by mixing equal volumes of a Fab or Fab-RBD complex and reservoir using a TTP  
318 LabTech Mosquito robot and commercially-available screens (Hampton Research). Crystals  
319 were obtained in 0.2 M ammonium sulfate, 20% w/v PEG 3350 (C102 Fab), 0.2 M sodium  
320 citrate tribasic, 20% w/v PEG 3350 (C102-RBD), 0.2 M lithium sulfate monohydrate, 20% w/v  
321 PEG 3350 (C002 Fab), 0.04 M potassium phosphate, 16% w/v PEG 8000, 20% v/v glycerol  
322 (C135 Fab), 0.2 M ammonium citrate pH 5.1, 20% PEG 3350 (C121 Fab), or 0.2 M sodium  
323 tartrate dibasic dihydrate pH 7.3, 20 % w/v PEG 3350 (C110 Fab). A C135 Fab crystal was  
324 directly looped and cryopreserved in liquid nitrogen. Other crystals were quickly cryoprotected in  
325 a mixture of well solution with 20% glycerol and then cryopreserved in liquid nitrogen.

326

327 X-ray diffraction data were collected for Fabs and the Fab-RBD complex at the Stanford  
328 Synchrotron Radiation Lightsource (SSRL) beamline 12-1 on a Pilatus 6M pixel detector  
329 (Dectris) at a wavelength of 1.0 Å. Data from single crystals of C121 Fab and C110 Fab were  
330 indexed and integrated in XDS<sup>47</sup> and merged using AIMLESS in *CCP4*<sup>48</sup> (Supplementary Table  
331 1). Data from single crystals of C102 Fab, C135 Fab, and C002 fab were indexed and  
332 integrated using XDS<sup>47</sup> and merged in Phenix<sup>49</sup>. Diffraction data for C002 Fab were  
333 anisotropically truncated and scaled using the UCLA Anisotropy Server<sup>50</sup> prior to merging. Data  
334 from a single crystal of C102 Fab-RBD complex were indexed and integrated using XIA2<sup>51</sup>  
335 implementing DIALS<sup>52,53</sup> and merged using AIMLESS in *CCP4*<sup>48</sup>. For C110 Fab and C121 Fabs,  
336 structures were determined by molecular replacement in PHASER<sup>54</sup> using the coordinates for  
337 B38 (PDB 7BZ5) or an inferred germline form of the HIV-1 NAb IOMA<sup>55</sup> inferred germline  
338 (unpublished), respectively, after removing CDR loops as a search model. For C002 Fab, C102  
339 Fab, C102 Fab-RBD, and C135 Fab, structures were determined by molecular replacement in  
340 PHASER<sup>54</sup> using B38 Fab coordinates (PDB 7BZ5) after trimming HC and LC variable domains  
341 using Sculptor<sup>56</sup> (and for the C102 Fab-RBD data, also RBD coordinates from PDB 7BZ5) as  
342 search models. Coordinates were refined using Phenix<sup>49</sup> and cycles of manual building in Coot<sup>57</sup>  
343 (Supplementary Table 1).

344

### 345 **Cryo-EM Sample Preparation**

346 Purified Fabs were mixed with SARS-CoV-2 S 2P trimer<sup>35</sup> or SARS-CoV-2 S 6P trimer<sup>36</sup> (1.1:1  
347 molar ratio Fab per protomer) to a final Fab-S complex concentration of 2-3 mg/mL and  
348 incubated on ice for 30 minutes. Immediately before deposition of 3 µL of complex onto a 300  
349 mesh, 1.2/1.3 AuUltraFoil grid (Electron Microscopy Sciences) that had been freshly glow-  
350 discharged for 1 min at 20 mA using a PELCO easiGLOW (Ted Pella), a 0.5% w/v octyl-  
351 maltoside, fluorinated solution (Anatrace) was added to each sample to a final concentration of

352 0.02%. Samples were vitrified in 100% liquid ethane using a Mark IV Vitrobot (Thermo Fisher)  
353 after blotting at 22°C and 100% humidity for 3 s with Whatman No. 1 filter paper.

354

### 355 **Cryo-EM Data Collection and Processing**

356 Single-particle cryo-EM data were collected on a Titan Krios transmission electron microscope  
357 (Thermo Fisher) operating at 300 kV for all Fab-S complexes except for C144-S, which was  
358 collected on a Talos Arctica (Thermo Fisher) operating at 200 kV. Movies were collected using  
359 SerialEM automated data collection software<sup>58</sup> with beam-image shift over a 3 by 3 pattern of  
360 1.2 µm holes with 1 exposure per hole. Movies were recorded in super-resolution mode on a K3  
361 camera (Gatan) for the C144-S dataset on the Arctica (0.435 Å/pixel) or on a K3 behind  
362 BioQuantum energy filter (Gatan) with a 20 eV slit on the Krios (0.418 Å/pixel) for all other  
363 datasets. Data collections parameters are summarized in Supplementary Table 2. In general,  
364 the data processing workflow described below was performed for all data sets in cryoSPARC  
365 v2.15<sup>59</sup>.

366

367 Cryo-EM movies were patch motion corrected for beam-induced motion including dose  
368 weighting within cryoSPARC<sup>59</sup> after binning super-resolution movies. The non-dose-weighted  
369 images were used to estimate CTF parameters using CTFFIND4<sup>60</sup> or with cryoSPARC  
370 implementation of the Patch CTF job, and micrographs with power spectra that showed poor  
371 CTF fits or signs of crystalline ice were discarded. A subset of images were randomly selected  
372 and used for reference-free particle picking using Blob picker in cryoSPARC<sup>59</sup>. Particles were  
373 subjected to 2D classification and the best class averages that represented different views were  
374 used to generate 3 *ab initio* models. The particles from the best classes were used in another  
375 2D classification job, and the best set of unique views was utilized as templates for particle  
376 picking on the full set of images. Initial particle stacks were extracted, down-sampled x2, and  
377 used in heterogeneous refinement against the 3 *ab initio* volumes generated with the smaller

378 dataset (*ab initio* volumes used were interpreted as a Fab-S complex, free Fab or dissociated S  
379 protomers, and junk/noise class). Particles assigned to the Fab-S volume were further cleaned  
380 via iterative rounds of 2D classification to select class averages that displayed unique views and  
381 secondary structural elements. Resulting particle stacks were homogeneously refined before  
382 being split into 9 individual exposure groups based upon collection holes. Per particle CTF and  
383 aberration corrections were performed and the resulting particles further 3D refined. Additional  
384 processing details are summarized in Supplementary Table 2.

385

386 Given the known heterogeneity of spike trimers<sup>20,21</sup>, homogeneously refined particles were used  
387 for 3D classification in cryoSPARC<sup>59</sup> (*ab initio* job: k=4 classes, class similarity=0.3). This  
388 typically resulted in one or two majority Fab-S complexes, with the other minority populated  
389 classes representing junk or unbound S trimer. Particles from the good class(es) were further  
390 subjected to 3D classification (*ab initio* job: k=4, class similarity=0.7) to attempt to separate  
391 various Fab-S complex states. If multiple states were identified (as observed for C002-S and  
392 C121-S complexes), particles were heterogeneously refined, followed by re-extraction without  
393 binning (0.836Å/pixel) before homogeneous refinement of individual states. For all other  
394 datasets, the majority of particles represented one state that was homogeneously refined after re-  
395 extraction without binning.

396

397 Particle stacks for individual states were non-uniformly refined with C1 symmetry and a dynamic  
398 mask. To improve resolution at the Fab-RBD interfaces, volumes were segmented in Chimera<sup>61</sup>  
399 and the regions corresponding to the NTD<sub>S1</sub>/RBD<sub>S1</sub> domains and Fab V<sub>H</sub>-V<sub>L</sub> domains were  
400 extracted and used to generate a soft mask (5-pixel extension, 10-pixel soft cosine edge). Local  
401 refinements with the mask resulted in modest improvements of the Fab-RBD interface, which  
402 allowed for fitting and refinement of this region. The particles were then subjected to CTF  
403 refinement and aberration correction, followed by a focused, non-uniform refinement with



404 polished particles imposing C1 symmetry (except for the C144-S complex where C3 symmetry  
405 was utilized). Final overall resolutions were according to the gold-standard FSC<sup>62</sup>. Details of  
406 overall resolution and locally-refined resolutions according to the gold-standard FSC<sup>62</sup> can be  
407 found in Supplementary Table 2.

408

### 409 **Cryo-EM Structure Modeling and Refinement**

410 Coordinates for initial complexes were generated by docking individual chains from reference  
411 structures into cryo-EM density using UCSF Chimera<sup>63</sup>. The following coordinates were used:  
412 SARS-CoV-2 S trimers: PDBs 6VYB and 6XKL, “up” RBD conformations: PDB 7BZ5, unbound  
413 C102, C002, C110, C135 Fab structures (this study) (Supplementary Table 1). Initial models  
414 were then refined into cryo-EM maps using one round of rigid body refinement followed by real  
415 space refinement. Sequence-updated models were built manually in Coot<sup>57</sup> and then refined  
416 using iterative rounds of refinement in Coot<sup>57</sup> and Phenix<sup>49</sup>. Glycans were modeled at potential  
417 *N*-linked glycosylation sites (PNGSs) in Coot<sup>57</sup> using ‘blurred’ maps processed with a variety of  
418 B-factors<sup>64</sup>. Validation of model coordinates was performed using MolProbity<sup>65</sup> (Supplementary  
419 Table 2).

420

### 421 **Structural Analyses**

422 CDR lengths were calculated based on IMGT definitions<sup>32</sup>. Structure figures were made with  
423 PyMOL (Version 1.8.2.1 Schrodinger, LLC) or UCSF ChimeraX<sup>61</sup>. Local resolution maps were  
424 calculated using cryoSPARC v 2.15<sup>59</sup>. Buried surface areas were calculated using PDBePISA<sup>66</sup>  
425 and a 1.4 Å probe. Potential hydrogen bonds were assigned as interactions that were <4.0Å  
426 and with A-D-H angle >90°. Potential van der Waals interactions between atoms were assigned  
427 as interactions that were <4.0Å. Hydrogen bond and van der Waals interaction assignments are  
428 tentative due to resolution limitations. RMSD calculations following pairwise Cα alignments were

429 done in PyMOL without rejecting outliers. Criteria for epitope assignments are described in  
430 figure legends.

431

432 To evaluate whether intra-spike crosslinking by an IgG binding to a single spike trimer was  
433 possible (Extended Data Table 1), we first measured the C $\alpha$  distance between a pair of  
434 residues near the C-termini of adjacent Fab C<sub>H</sub>1 domains (residue 222<sub>HC</sub> on each Fab)  
435 (Extended Data Fig. 5h). We compared this distance to the analogous distances in crystal  
436 structures of intact IgGs (42 Å, PDB 1HZH; 48 Å, PDB 1IGY; 52 Å, PDB 1IGT). To account for  
437 potential influences of crystal packing in these measurements, as well as flexibility in the V<sub>H</sub>-  
438 V<sub>L</sub>/C<sub>H</sub>1-C<sub>L</sub> elbow bend angle and uncertainties in C<sub>H</sub>1-C<sub>L</sub> domain placement in Fab-S cryo-EM  
439 structures, we set a cut-off of  $\leq 65$  Å for this measured distance as possibly allowing for a single  
440 IgG to include both Fabs. Entries in the “Potential IgG intra-spike binding” column in Extended  
441 Data Table 1 are marked “No” if all of the adjacent Fabs in cryo-EM classes of that structure are  
442 separated by  $>65$  Å for this measured distance. Entries in the “Potential IgG intra-spike binding”  
443 column in Extended Data Table 1 are marked as “Yes” if at least one pair of the adjacent Fabs  
444 in cryo-EM classes of that structure are separated by  $\leq 65$  Å for this measured distance.

445

#### 446 **Surface plasmon resonance (SPR) binding experiments**

447 SPR experiments were performed using a Biacore T200 instrument (GE Healthcare). IgGs were  
448 immobilized on a CM5 chip by primary amine chemistry (Biacore manual) to a final response  
449 level of  $\sim 3000$  resonance units (RUs). Concentration series of the original SARS-Cov-2 RBD  
450 and RBD mutants (six 4-fold dilutions starting from a top concentration of 1000 nM) were  
451 injected at a flow rate of at a flow rate of 30  $\mu$ L/min over immobilized IgGs for a contact time of  
452 60 sec, followed by a injection of 0.01 M HEPES pH 7.4, 0.15 M NaCl, 3 mM EDTA, 0.005% v/v  
453 surfactant P20 buffer for a dissociation time of 300 sec. Binding reactions were allowed to reach  
454 equilibrium, and  $K_D$ s were calculated from the ratio of association and dissociation rates ( $K_D =$

455  $k_d/k_a$ ) derived from a 1:1 binding model (C002, C102, C105, C110, and C119 (except for C119-  
456 E484K), C121, C135, and C144), or from a two-state binding model ( $K_D = k_d1/k_a1 \times$   
457  $k_d2/[k_d2+k_a2]$ ) (C104, C119-E484K). Kinetic constants were calculated using Biacore T200  
458 Evaluation Software v3.2 using a global fit to all curves in each data set. Flow cells were  
459 regenerated with 10 mM glycine pH 2.0 at a flow rate of 90  $\mu$ L/min.

460

### 461 **Polyreactivity assays**

462 IgGs were evaluated for off-target interactions by measuring binding to baculovirus extracts  
463 containing non-specific proteins and lipids as described<sup>60</sup>. The assays were automated on a  
464 Tecan Evo2 liquid handling robot fitted with a Tecan Infinite M1000 plate reader capable of  
465 reading luminescence. Maxisorb 384-well plates (Nunc) were adsorbed overnight with a 1%  
466 preparation of recombinant baculovirus particles generated in Sf9 insect cells<sup>67</sup>. The adsorbed  
467 plate was blocked with 0.5% BSA in PBS, then incubated with 20  $\mu$ L of a 1.0  $\mu$ g/mL solution of  
468 IgG in PBS for 3 hours. Polyreactivity was quantified by detecting bound IgG using an HRP-  
469 conjugated anti-human IgG secondary antibody (Genscript) and SuperSignal ELISA Femto  
470 Maximum Sensitivity Substrate (Thermo Scientific). Relative Light Units (RLU) were measured  
471 at 475 nm in the integrated plate reader. Engineered human anti-HIV-1 IgGs previously  
472 demonstrated to exhibit high levels of polyreactivity (NIH45-46<sup>G54W</sup> and 45-46m2)<sup>61,62</sup> were used  
473 as positive controls. NIH45-46, which exhibited intermediate polyreactivity<sup>63</sup>, was also evaluated  
474 for comparisons. Negative control IgGs with low polyreactivity included the human HIV-1  
475 antibodies N6<sup>64</sup> and 3BNC117<sup>63</sup> and bovine serum albumin (BSA). RLU values are presented  
476 as the mean and standard deviation of triplicate measurements in Extended Data Fig. 1i.

477

### 478 **Reporting Summary**

479 Further information on research design is available in the Nature Research Reporting Summary  
480 linked to this paper.

481

## 482 **Data availability**

483 The cryo-EM maps and atomic models will be deposited at the EMDB and the PDB. Crystal  
484 structure data will be deposited in the PDB. Described materials will be available upon request,  
485 in some cases after completion of a materials transfer agreement.

486

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508

509 **Author contributions**

510 C.O.B., M.C.N., A.P.W., and P.J.B. conceived the study and analyzed data; D.F.R. and M.C.N.  
511 provided monoclonal antibody sequences and plasmids derived from COVID-19 convalescent  
512 donors. C.O.B. and K.H.T. performed protein purifications and C.O.B. assembled complexes for  
513 cryo-EM and X-ray crystallography studies. C.O.B. performed cryo-EM and interpreted  
514 structures with assistance from M.A.E., K.A.D, S.R.E., A.G.M., and N.G.S. C.A.J. and C.O.B.  
515 performed and analyzed crystallographic structures, with refinement assistance from M.A.E and  
516 K.M.D. Y.E.L. performed polyreactivity assays. H.B.G. performed and analyzed SPR  
517 experiments. A.P.W. analyzed antibody sequences. C.O.B., M.C.N., A.P.W., and P.J.B. wrote  
518 the paper with contributions from other authors.

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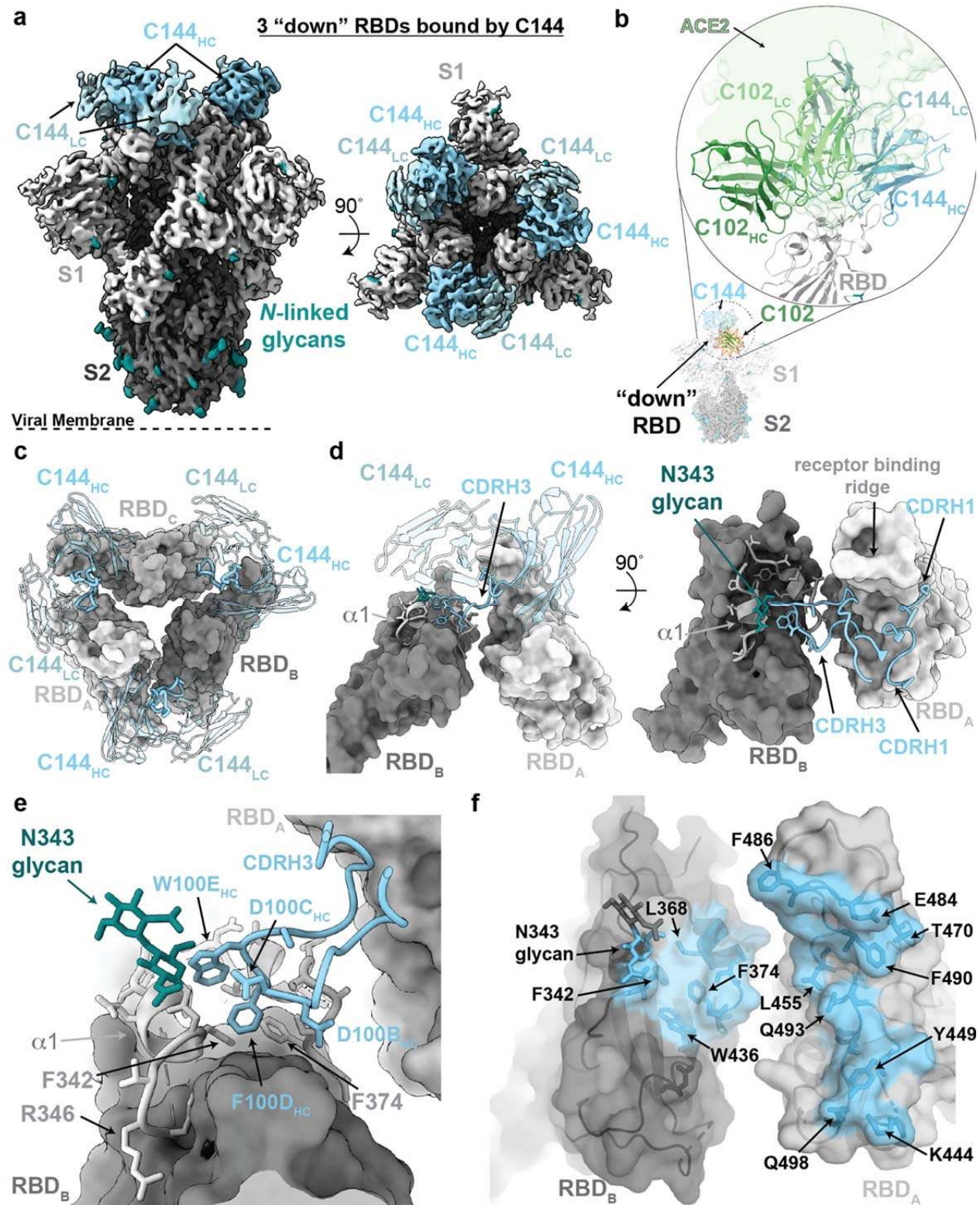
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**Figure 1**

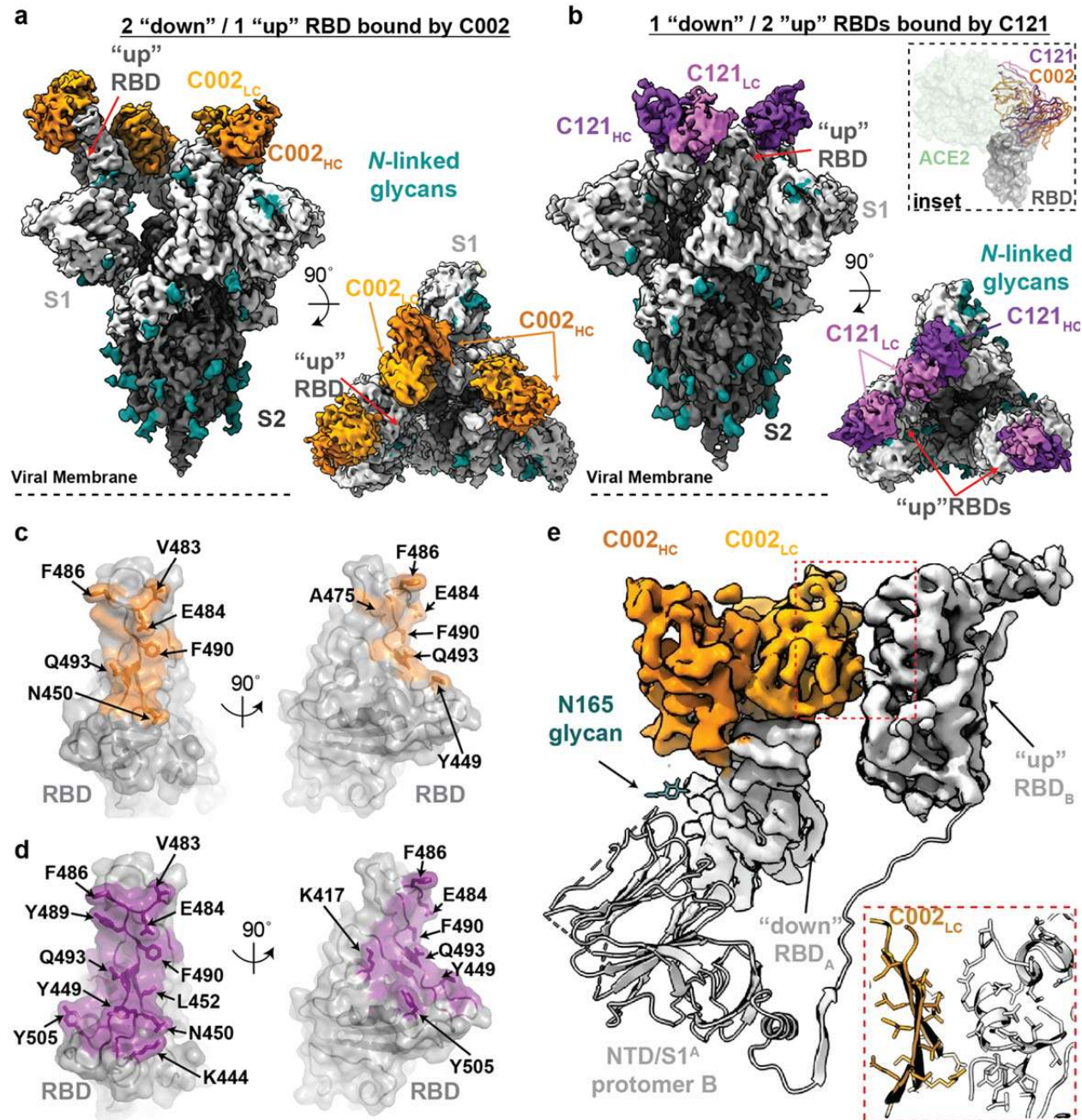


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720 **Figure 1. Cryo-EM structure of the C144-S complex illustrates a distinct *VH3-53* hNAb**  
721 **binding mode. a**, 3.2 Å cryo-EM density for C144-S trimer complex revealing C144 binding to a  
722 closed (3 RBDs “down”) spike conformation. **b**, Overlay of C102 Fab (from C102-RBD crystal  
723 structure; Extended Data Fig. 1) and C144 Fab (from C144-S structure) aligned on a RBD  
724 monomer. ACE2 (PDB 6M0J; light green surface) is aligned on the same RBD for reference.  
725 C144 adopts a distinct conformation relative to the C102-like *VH3-53*/short CDRH3 NAb class,  
726 allowing binding to the “down” RBD conformation on trimeric spike, whereas C102-like NAb  
727 can only bind “up” RBDs. **c**, Quaternary epitope of C144 involving bridging between adjacent  
728 RBDs via the CDRH3 loop. **d,e**, Close-up view of CDRH3-mediated contacts on adjacent  
729 protomer RBD (dark gray). C144 CDRH3 residues F100<sub>D</sub> and W100<sub>E</sub> are buried in a  
730 hydrophobic pocket comprising the RBD α1 helix, residue F374<sub>RBD</sub> and the N343<sub>RBD</sub>-glycan. **f**,  
731 Surface representation of C144 epitope (light blue) across two adjacent RBDs. RBD epitope  
732 residues (defined as residues containing atom(s) within 4 Å of a Fab atom) are labeled in black.  
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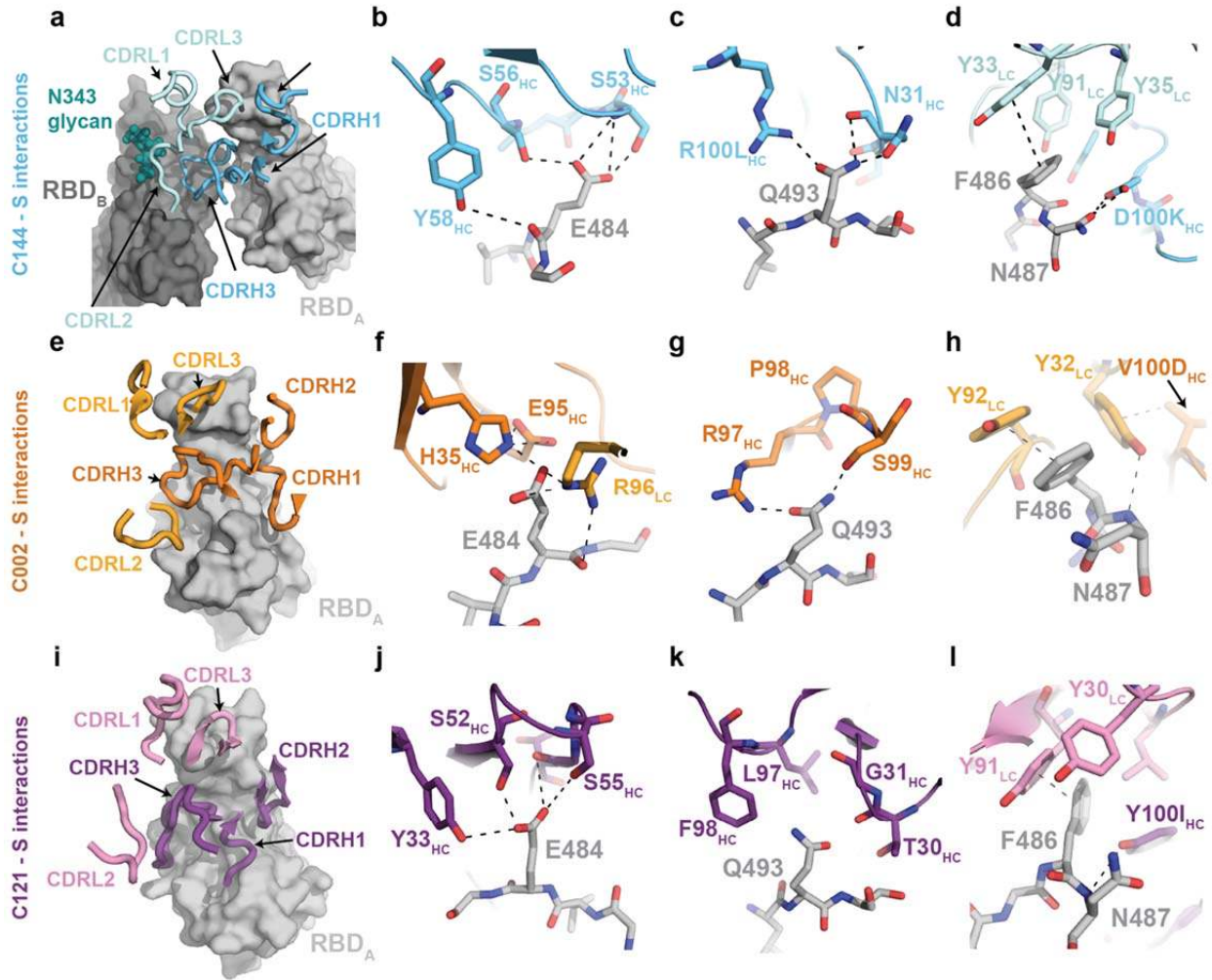
**Figure 2**



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738 **Figure 2. Cryo-EM structures of class 2 C002 and C121 hNAbs show binding to “up” and**  
739 **“down” RBDs. a,b**, Cryo-EM densities for C002-S (panel a; 3.4 Å) and C121-S complexes  
740 (panel b; 3.7 Å) revealing binding of C002 or C121 to both “down” and “up” RBDs. Inset:  
741 Alignment of C002 and C121 Fabs on the same RBD. ACE2 is represented as a green surface  
742 for reference. **c,d**, Surface representations of C002 epitope (orange, panel c) and C121 epitope  
743 (purple, panel d) on the RBD surface (gray). RBD epitope residues (defined as residues  
744 containing atom(s) within 4 Å of a Fab atom) are labeled in black. **e**, C002 forms inter-protomer  
745 contacts via binding to an adjacent “up” RBD conformation on the surface of the trimer spike  
746 (also observed for class 2 C121-, C119-, and C104-S structures, see Extended Data Fig. 5).  
747 Red box: Close-up of adjacent “up” RBD and C002 LC interface.  
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750 **Figure 3**  
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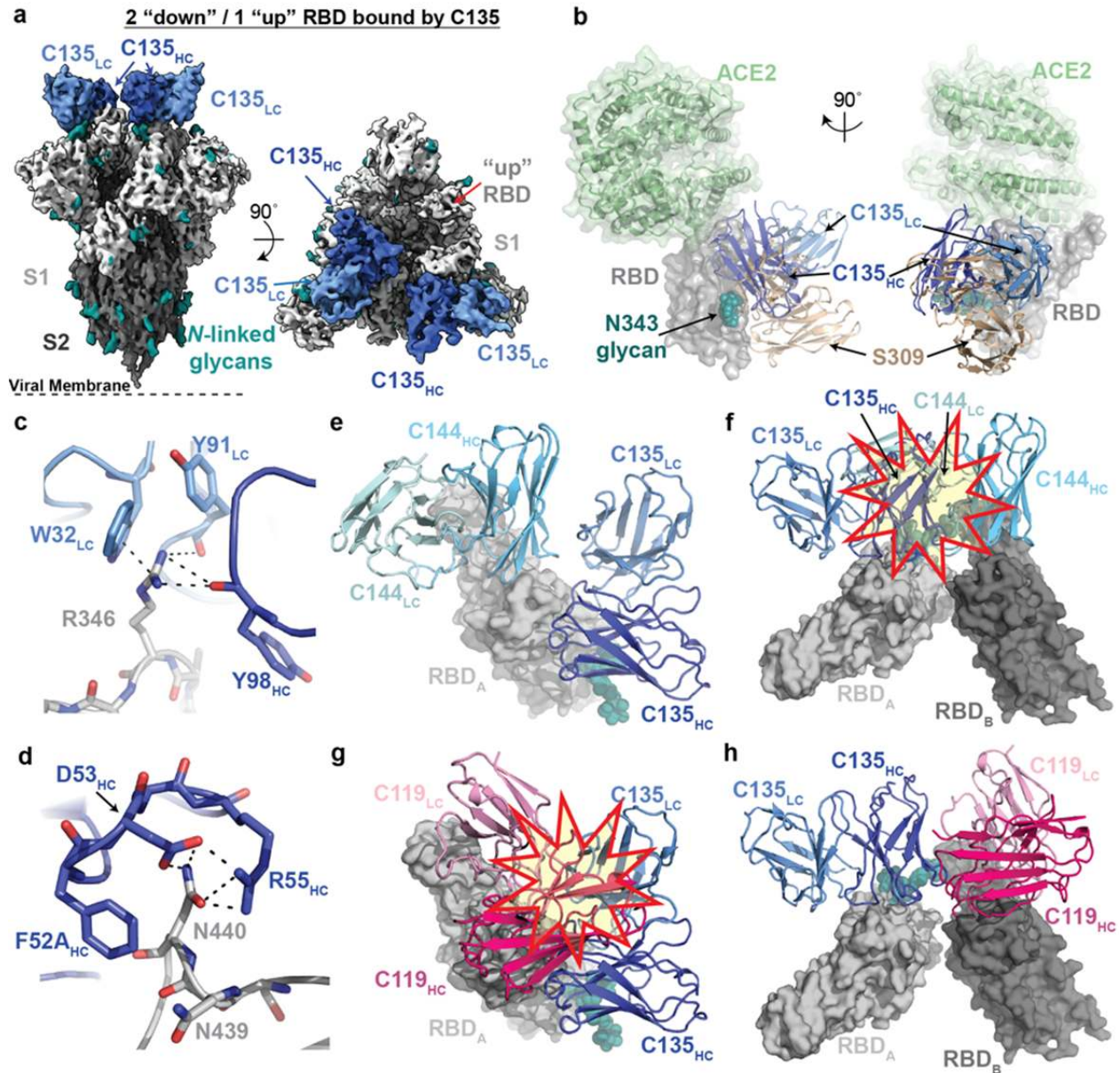
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755 **Figure 3. Details of common RBD interactions among class 2 hNABs.** Conserved  
756 interactions between the RBD and CDRs of class 2 NABs as observed for **a-d**, C144 (HC: cyan,  
757 LC: sky blue), **e-h**, C002 (HC: dark orange, LC: light orange), and **i-l**, C121 (HC: purple, LC:  
758 pink). Primary and secondary epitopes on adjacent “down” RBDs are shown for C144.  
759 Secondary epitopes for C002 and C121, which require adjacent “up” RBDs, are shown in  
760 Extended Data Fig. 5. RBDs are gray; potential H-bonds and pi-pi stacking interactions (panel d,  
761 Y33<sub>LC</sub> and F486<sub>RBD</sub>; panel h, Y92<sub>LC</sub> and F486<sub>RBD</sub>; panel l, Y91<sub>LC</sub> and F486<sub>RBD</sub>) are indicated by  
762 dashed lines.

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**Figure 4**



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**Figure 4. Cryo-EM structure of S complexed with the class 3 (non-ACE2 blocking) hNAb**

769 **C135.** **a**, 3.5 Å cryo-EM density of C135-S complex. **b**, Composite model of C135-RBD (blue  
770 and gray, respectively) overlaid with the SARS-CoV-2 NAb S309 (sand, PDB 6WPS) and  
771 soluble ACE2 (green, PDB 6M0J). The model was generated by aligning on 188 RBD  
772 C $\alpha$  atoms. **c-d**, C135 CDRH (dark blue) and CDRL (light blue) interactions with residues  
773 R346<sub>RBD</sub> (panel c) and N440<sub>RBD</sub> (panel d). Potential pi-pi stacking interactions in c and H-bonds

774 in c and d are illustrated by dashed black lines. **e-f**, Model of RBD interactions of NAb C135  
775 (class 3) and C144 (class 2) demonstrating that both Fabs can bind simultaneously to a single  
776 monomeric RBD (panel e), but would clash if bound to adjacent “down” RBDs on S trimer (panel  
777 f). Steric clashes indicated by a red and yellow star in f. **g-h**, Model of RBD interaction of NAb  
778 C135 (class 3) and C119 (class 2) demonstrating that both Fabs cannot bind simultaneously to  
779 a single monomeric RBD (panel g), but do not clash if bound to adjacent “down” RBDs on S  
780 trimer (panel h). Steric clashes indicated by a red and yellow star in g.  
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## Extended Data Table 1. Anti-SARS-CoV-2 NAb classification and structural properties.

Extended Table 1. Classification and structural properties of SARS-CoV-2 RBD-specific antibodies

Antibody	Reference	IGHV (# of aa SHM)	CDRH3 length (aa) <sup>^</sup>	IGLV (# of aa SHM)	CDRL3 length (aa) <sup>^</sup>	IC <sub>50</sub> /IC <sub>90</sub> (ng/mL) <sup>†</sup>	Potential IgG intra- spike binding <sup>§</sup>	Contacts adjacent RBD	Structural Information
<b>Class 1: Blocks ACE2, accessibility of RBD epitope only in "up" conformation</b>									
C102	this study	VH3-53 (2)	11	VK3-20 (0)	9	34 / 143	???	???	3.0 Å Fab-RBD
C105	Barnes, et al. <sup>1</sup>	VH3-53 (0)	12	VL2-8 (1)	11	26.1 / 134	Yes	No	3.4 Å Fab-S, PDB 6XCM
B38	Wu, et al. <sup>2</sup>	VH3-53 (1)	9	VK1-9 (2)	10	117 / NA	???	???	1.8 Å Fab-RBD, PDB 7BZ5
CC12.3	Yuan, et al. <sup>3</sup>	VH3-53 (3)	12	VK3-20 (1)	9	20 / NA	???	???	2.9 Å Fab-RBD, PDB 6XC7
<b>Class 2: Blocks ACE2, accessibility of RBD epitope in "up"/"down" conformations</b>									
C002	this study	VH3-30 (1)	17	VK1-39 (1)	9	8.9 / 37.6	Yes	Yes	3.4 Å Fab-S
C104	this study	VH4-34 (6)	17	VK3-20 (3)	9	23.3 / 140	Yes	Yes	3.7 Å Fab-S
C119	this study	VH1-46 (1)	20	VL2-14 (3)	11	9.1 / 97.8	Yes	Yes	3.5 Å Fab-S
C121	this study	VH1-2 (2)	22	VL2-23 (0)	10	6.7 / 22.3	Yes	Yes	3.6 Å Fab-S
C144	this study	VH3-53 (3)	25	VL2-14 (1)	10	6.9 / 29.7	Yes	Yes	3.3 Å Fab-S
COVA2-39	Wu, et al. <sup>4</sup>	VH3-53 (3)	17	VL2-23 (1)	10	36 / NA	???	???	1.7 Å Fab-RBD, PDB 7JMP
5A6	Wang, et al. <sup>5</sup>					75.5 / NA	Yes	Yes	2.4 Å Fab-S
P2B-2F6	Ju, et al. <sup>6</sup>	VH4-38*02 (2)	20	VL2-8 (0)	10	50 / NA	???	???	2.9 Å Fab-RBD, PDB 7BWJ
Ab2-4	Liu, et al. <sup>7</sup>	VH1-2 (3)	15	VL2-8 (0)	10	394 / NA	Yes	No	3.2 Å Fab-S, PDB 6XEY
BD23	Cao, et al. <sup>8</sup>	VH7-4*02 (0)	19	VK1-5*03 (0)	9	4800 / NA	No	No	3.8 Å Fab-S, PDB 7BYR
<b>Class 3: Does not overlap with ACE2 binding site, accessibility of RBD epitope in "up"/"down" conformations</b>									
C135	this study	VH3-30 (4)	12	VK1-5 (3)	9	16.6 / 48.9	No	No	3.5 Å Fab-S
S309	Pinto, et al. <sup>9</sup>	VH1-18 (6)	20	VK3-20 (3)	8	79* / NA	No	No	3.1 Å Fab-S, PDB 6WPS
C110	this study	VH5-51 (2)	21	VK1-5 (3)	9	18.4 / 77.3	No	No	3.8 Å Fab-S
REGN10987	Hansen, et al. <sup>10</sup>	VH3-30 (4)	13	VL2-14 (6)	10	6.1 / NA	???	???	3.9 Å Fab-RBD, PDB 6XDG
<b>Class 4: Does not overlap with ACE2 binding site, accessibility of RBD epitope only in "up" conformation</b>									
CR3022	Yuan, et al. <sup>11</sup>	VH5-51 (8)	12	VK4-1 (3)	9	>10,000 / NA	???	???	3.1 Å Fab-RBD, PDB 6W41
COV1-16	Liu, et al. <sup>12</sup>	VH1-46 (1)	20	VK1-33 (3)	10	130 / NA	???	???	2.9 Å Fab-RBD
EY6A	Zhou, et al. <sup>13</sup>	VH3-30*18 (3)	14	VK1-39 (0)	10	70-20,000** / NA	No	Yes	3.7 Å Fab-S, PDB 6ZDH

<sup>^</sup>Average human antibody CDRH3 and CDRL3 lengths are 15 (CDRH3) and 9-10 (CDRL3) amino acids.

\*IC<sub>50</sub> calculated against authentic SARS-CoV-2 virus.

\*\*IC<sub>50</sub> varied depending on neutralization assay utilized.

†Unknown IC<sub>90</sub>s indicated as NA (not available).

§Potential for intra-spike crosslinking by an IgG binding to a single spike trimer was evaluated as described in the Methods.

??? Inference that cannot be made from a structure of a Fab bound to a RBD.

IGHV = Immunoglobulin heavy chain variable gene segment;

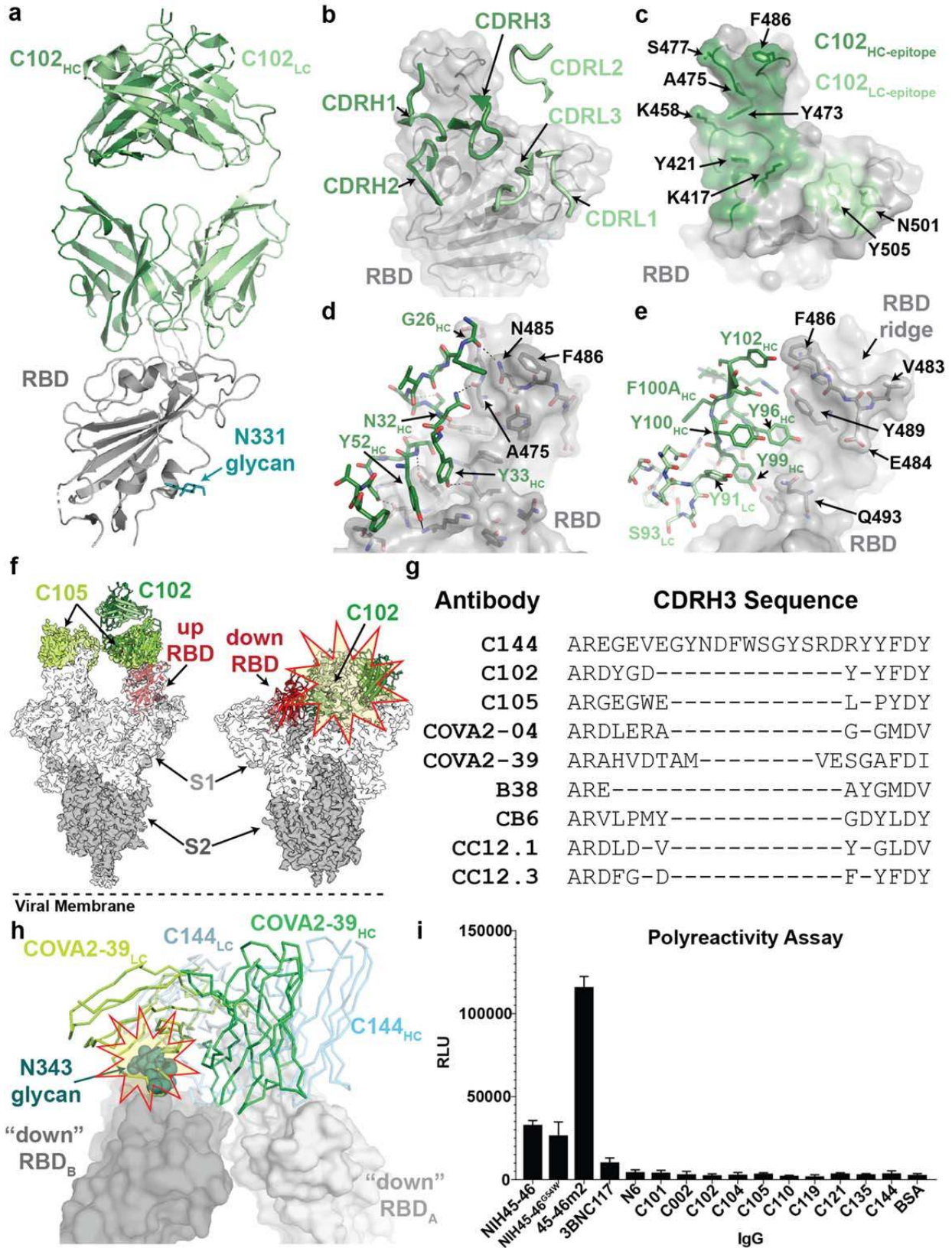
IGLV = Immunoglobulin light chain variable gene segment

V gene segments, somatic hypermutation (SHM) information, CDR lengths, IC<sub>50</sub>/IC<sub>90</sub> values for NAbS in this study are from ref.<sup>14</sup>.

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787 **Extended Data Figure 1**  
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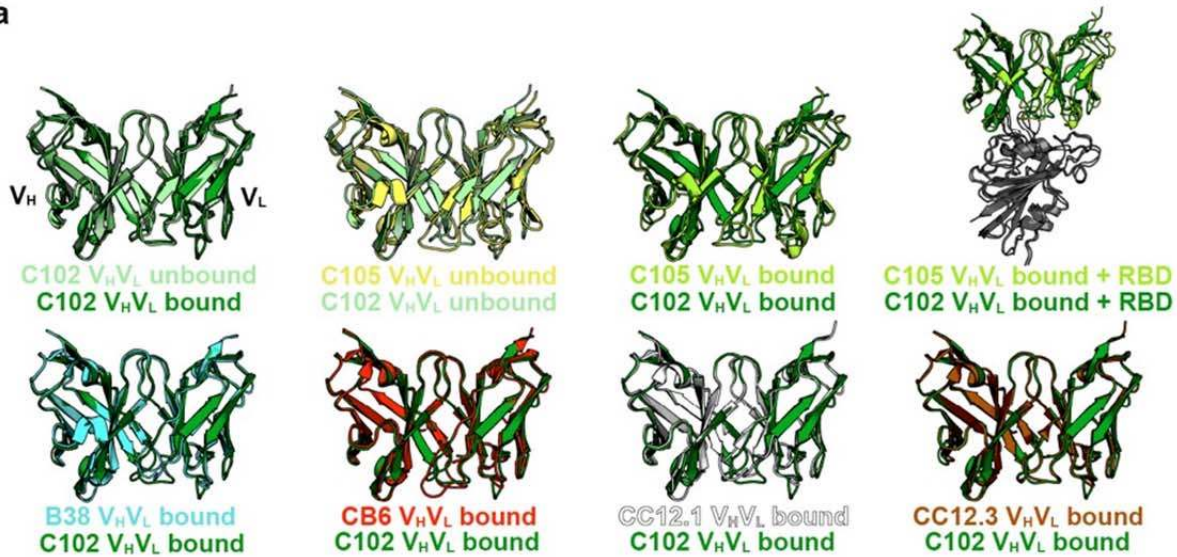
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791 **Extended Data Figure 1: X-ray structure and epitope mapping of *VH3-53* hNAb C102.** **a**, X-  
792 ray structure of C102 Fab – RBD<sub>331-518</sub> complex. **b**, C102 CDR loops mapped on the RBD  
793 surface. **b**, Surface representation of C102 epitope colored by C102 HC (dark green) and LC  
794 (light green) interactions. **c**, CDRH1, CDRH2 and **d**, CDRH3 interactions with RBD residues.  
795 Potential H-bond contacts are illustrated as dashed lines. **f**, Left: Overlay of C102-RBD crystal  
796 structure (cartoon) with C105-S trimer cryoEM density (PDB 6XCM, EMD-22127) illustrating  
797 conserved binding to RBD epitope in an “up” conformation. Right: The C102 epitope is sterically  
798 occluded when aligned to a “down” RBD conformation (red and yellow star). SARS-CoV-2 S  
799 domains are dark gray (S2 domain) and light gray (S1 domain); the C105 Fab is yellow-green.  
800 **g**, Alignment of selected CDRH3 sequences for *VH3-53/VH3-66* SARS-CoV-2 neutralizing  
801 antibodies (IMGT definition<sup>15</sup>). **h**, Overlay of hNAb COVA2-39 Fab<sup>4</sup> (lime green and lemon, from  
802 COVA2-39-RBD structure, PDB 7JMP) and C144 Fab (blue, from C144-S structure) aligned on  
803 a RBD<sub>A</sub> of C144 epitope. COVA2-39 adopts a distinct conformation relative to the C102-like  
804 *VH3-53*/short CDRH3 NAb class and to C144, recognizing its RBD epitope only in an “up” RBD  
805 conformations due to steric clashes (red and yellow star) with the N343<sub>RBD</sub>-associated glycan on  
806 the adjacent RBD. **i**, Polyreactivity assay. IgGs were evaluated for binding to baculovirus  
807 extracts to assess non-specific binding. Polyreactive positive control IgGs were NIH45-46,  
808 NIH45-46<sup>G54W</sup>, and 45-46m2. Negative controls were bovine serum albumin (BSA) and IgGs  
809 N6 and 3BNC117. Relative Light Unit (RLU) values are presented as the mean and standard  
810 deviation of triplicate measurements.

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814 **Extended Data Figure 2**  
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a



**Alignments of V<sub>H</sub>V<sub>L</sub> Domains of VH3-53/short CDRH3 NAb**

Structure 1	Structure 2	# Ca atoms	RMSD (Å)	PDB Structure 1	PDB Structure 2
C102 unbound	C102 bound	225	0.9	This study	This study
C105 unbound	C102 unbound	220	2.0	6XCA	This study
C105 bound	C102 bound	220	3.0	6XCM	This study
C105 bound + RBD	C102 bound + RBD	403	2.4	6XCM	This study
B38 bound	C102 bound	222	1.1	7BZ5	This study
CB6 bound	C102 bound	223	1.2	7C01	This study
CC12.1 bound	C102 bound	224	1.1	6XC2	This study
CC12.3 bound	C102 bound	224	0.6	6XC4	This study

b

Structure	Interface Buried Surface Area (Å <sup>2</sup> )						
	C102 Fab/RBD	B38 Fab/RBD	CB6 Fab/RBD	CC12.1 Fab/RBD	CC12.3 Fab/RBD	C144 Fab/RBD	
	this study VH3-53/short	7BZ5 VH3-53/short	7C01 VH3-53/short	6XC2 VH3-53/short	6XC4 VH3-53/short	this study VH3-53/long	RBD B
<b>Heavy Chain Paratope</b>	786	736	732	786	721	706	367
FWRH1	150	115	96	107	95	114	0
CDRH1	151	175	133	140	146	52	0
FWRH2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CDRH2	230	243	253	255	245	158	0
FWRH3	1	0	0	0	1	64	0
CDRH3	254	203	251	286	233	318	367
FWRH4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Light Chain Paratope</b>	259	486	355	560	164	87	20
FWRL1	0	15	0	18	1	0	0
CDRL1	219	239	127	262	111	51	0
FWRL2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CDRL2	0	0	0	14	0	0	20
FWRL3	0	35	1	34	0	0	0
CDRL3	40	196	227	231	52	36	0
FWRL4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Paratope</b>	1046	1222	1087	1347	885	793	387
<b>Heavy Chain Epitope</b>	791	689	736	763	677	722	330
<b>Light Chain Epitope</b>	227	504	313	574	186	100	22
<b>Total Epitope</b>	1017	1193	1049	1337	863	822	351

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818 **Extended Data Figure 2. Overview of *VH3-53/VH3-66* hNAb structures. a**, Superimposition

819 of V<sub>H</sub> and V<sub>L</sub> domains of C102 with other *VH3-53/VH3-66* NAbs (top) and RMSD calculations

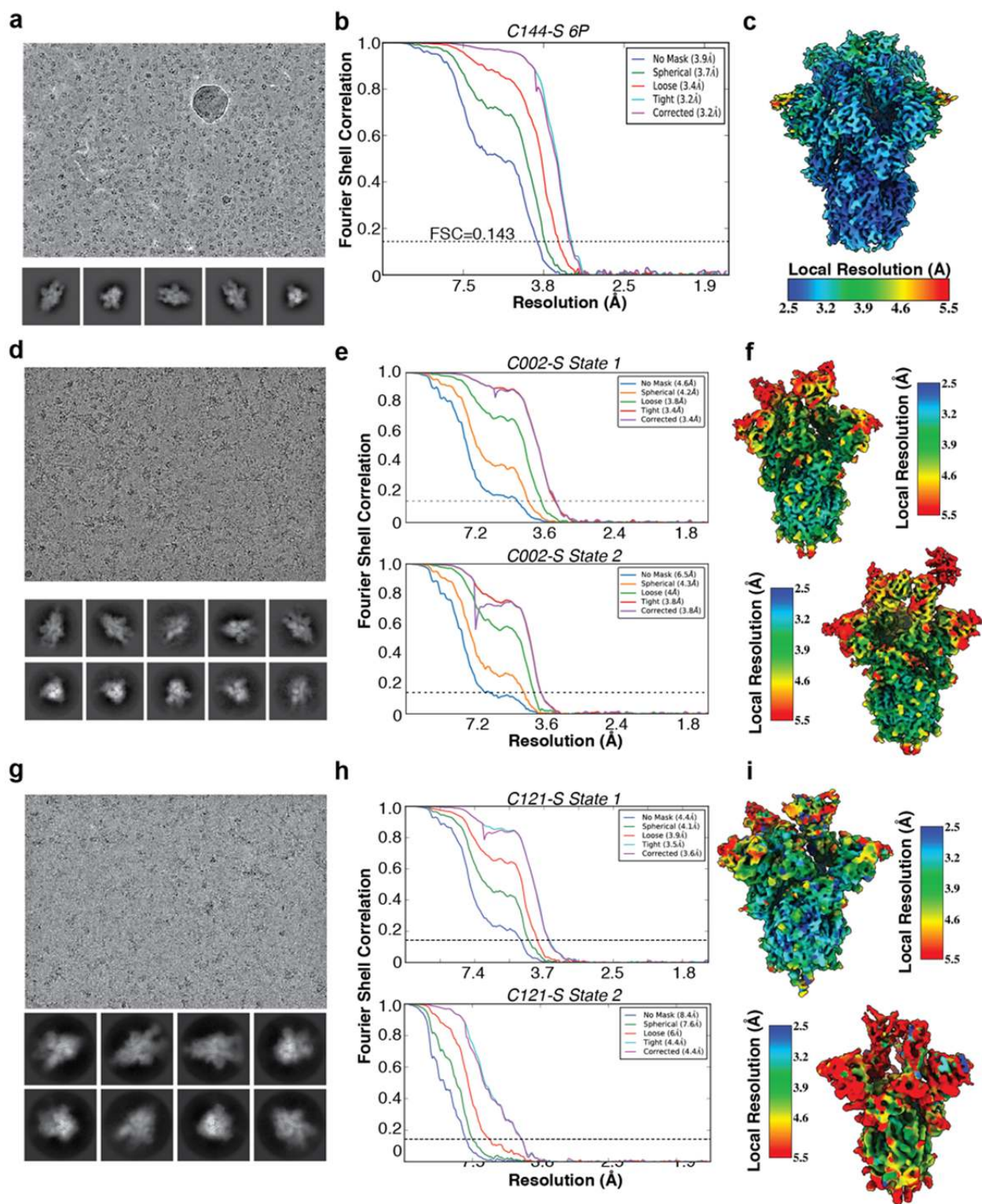
820 (bottom). **b**, BSA comparisons for the indicated Fab/RBD structures. BSAs were calculated

821 using PDBePISA<sup>16</sup> and a 1.4 Å probe.

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824 **Extended Data Figure 3**  
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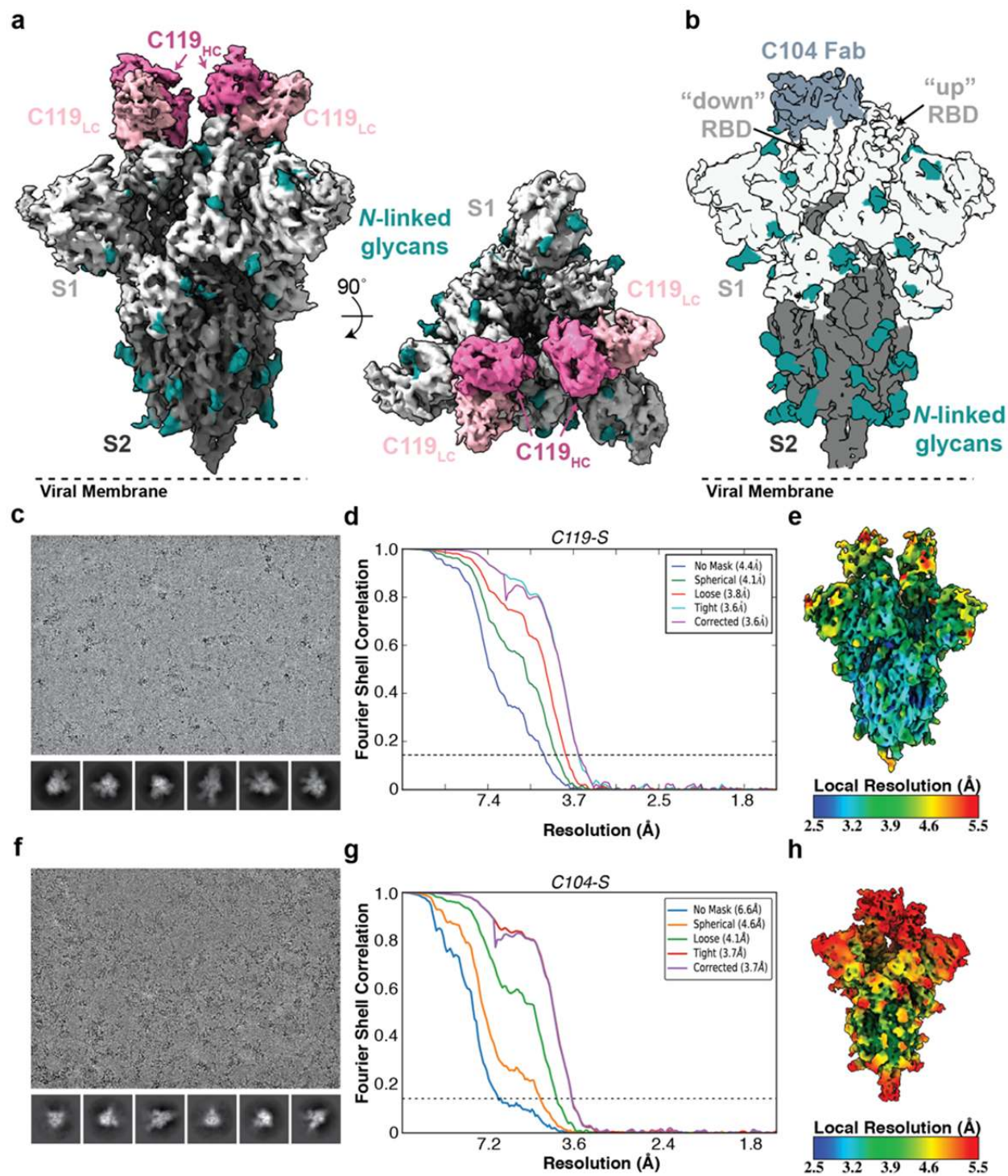


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828 **Extended Data Figure 3. Cryo-EM data processing and validation for C144-S, C002-S, and**  
829 **C121-S complexes.** Representative micrograph, 2D class averages, gold-standard FSC plots,  
830 and local resolution estimations for **a-c**, C144-S 6P, **d-f**, C002-S 2P, and **g-i**, C121-S 2P. For  
831 the C002-S dataset, two classes were resolved: State 1, C002 Fabs bound to 3 “down” RBDs,  
832 and State 2, C002 Fabs bound to 2 “down”/1 “up” RBD. For the C121-S 2P dataset, two classes  
833 were resolved: State 1, C121 Fabs bound to 2 “down”/1 “up” RBD and State 2, C121 Fabs  
834 bound to 1 “down”/2 “up” RBDs.

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837 **Extended Data Figure 4**  
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841 **Extended Data Figure 4. Cryo-EM processing, validation, and reconstruction for C119-S**  
842 **and C104-S complexes. a, 3.6 Å cryo-EM reconstruction for a C119-S trimer complex. b, 3.7 Å**

843 cryo-EM reconstruction for a C104-S trimer complex. Representative micrograph, 2D class  
844 averages, gold-standard FSC plot, and local resolution estimation for **c-e**, C119-S2P and, **d-f**,  
845 C104-S. Both complexes revealed binding of Fabs to both “down” and “up” RBD conformations.

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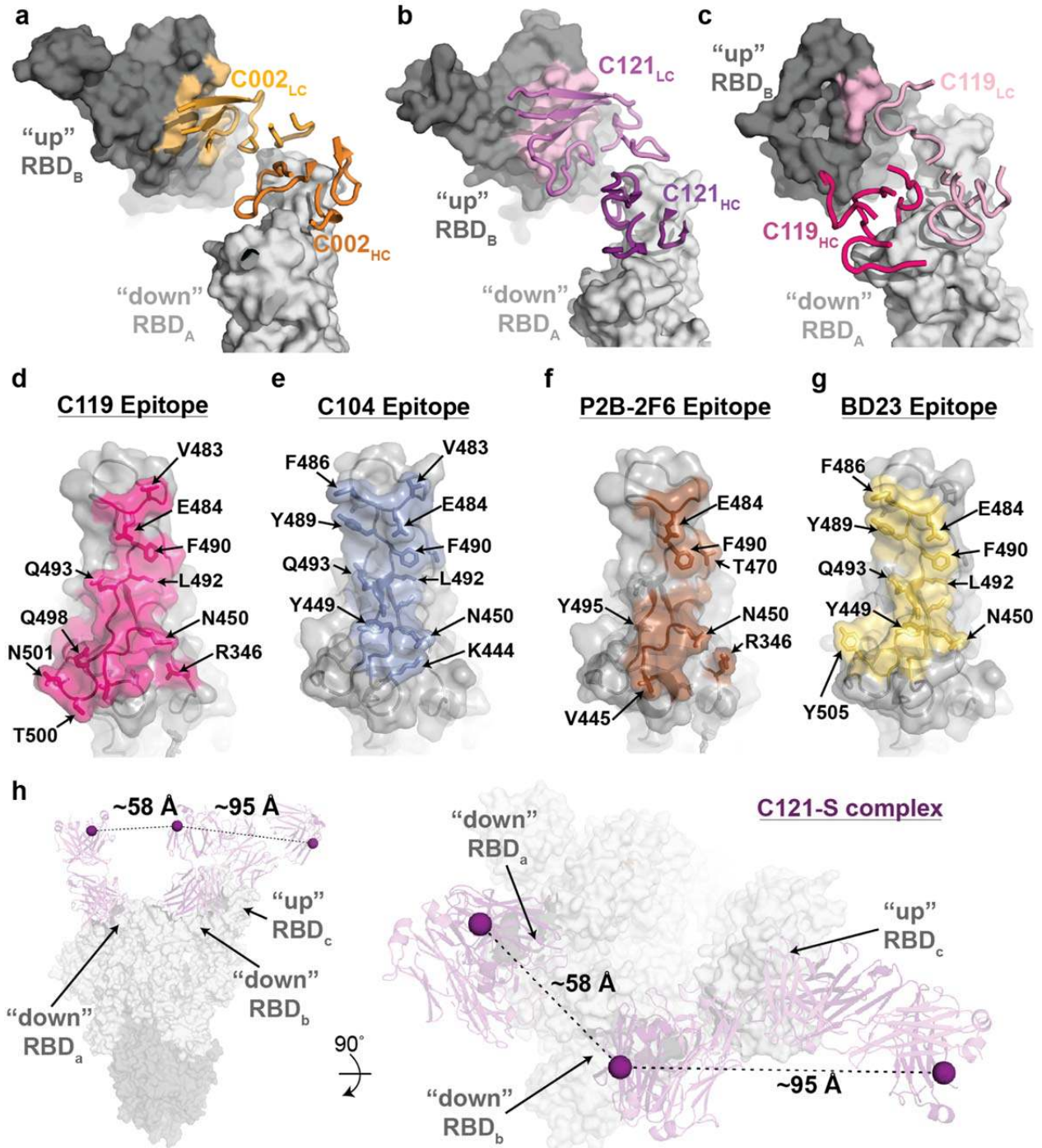
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850 **Extended Data Figure 5**



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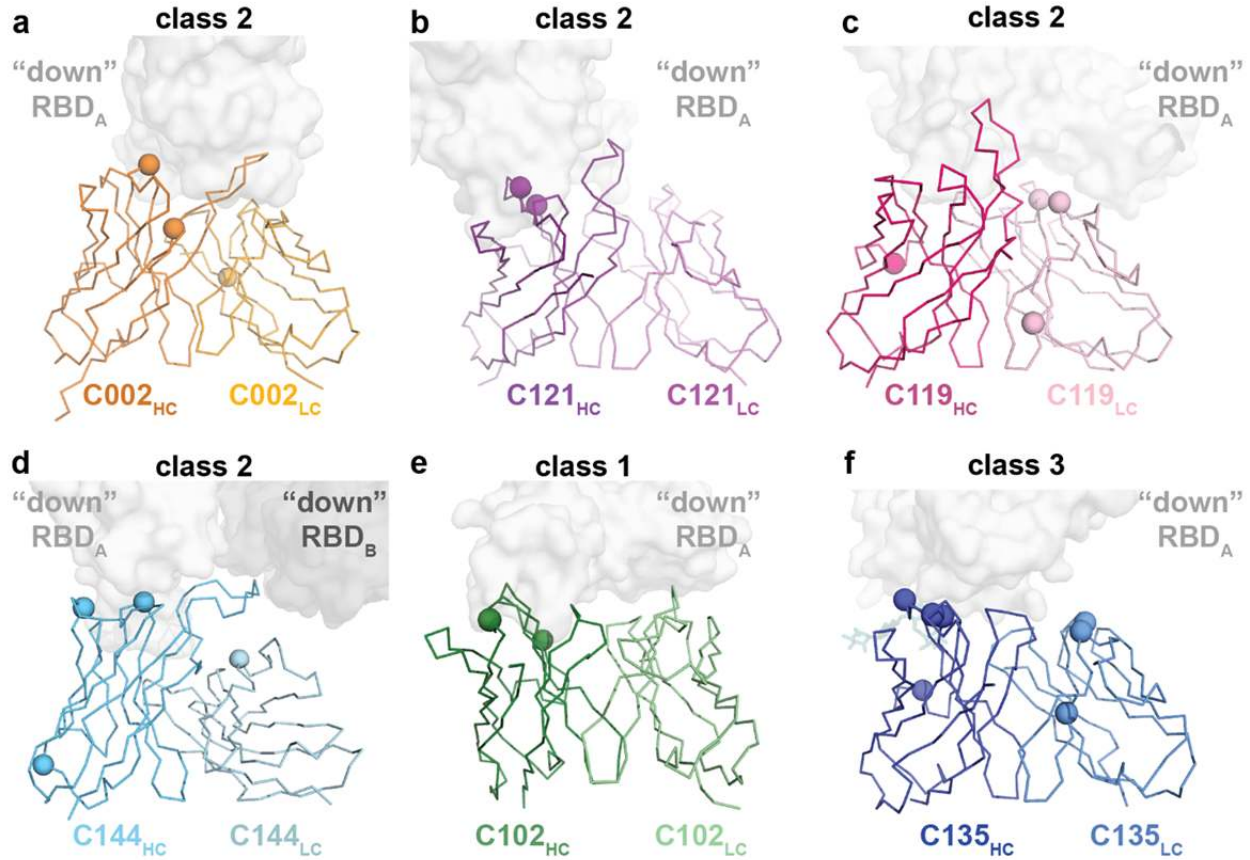
853 **Extended Data Figure 5. Primary and secondary epitopes of class 2 hNABs.**

854 **a-c**, Primary epitopes for C002 (panel a), C121 (panel b), and C119 (panel c) on "down" RBD. A  
855 secondary epitope is observed if a Fab is bound to an adjacent "up" RBD for these NABs.

856 Antibody paratopes are represented as cartoons. A similar interaction in the C104-S structure is  
857 not shown due to low local resolution on the “up” RBD. **d-g**, Primary epitopes for C119 (panel  
858 d), C104 (panel e), P2B-2F6 (panel f; PDB 7BWJ), and BD23 (panel g, PDB 7BYR). The  
859 existence of secondary epitopes for P2B-2F6 and BD23 cannot be determined because the  
860 P2B-2F6 epitope was determined from a crystal structure with an RBD<sup>6</sup>, and the BD23-S cryo-  
861 EM structure showed only one bound Fab<sup>8</sup>. **h**, Measurement of C $\alpha$  distance between the C-  
862 termini of adjacent C121 C<sub>H</sub>1 domains (residue 222<sub>HC</sub> on each Fab). Measurements of this type  
863 were used to evaluate whether intra-spike crosslinking by an IgG binding to a single spike trimer  
864 was possible for hNAbs in Extended Data Table 1.

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866 **Extended Data Figure 6**  
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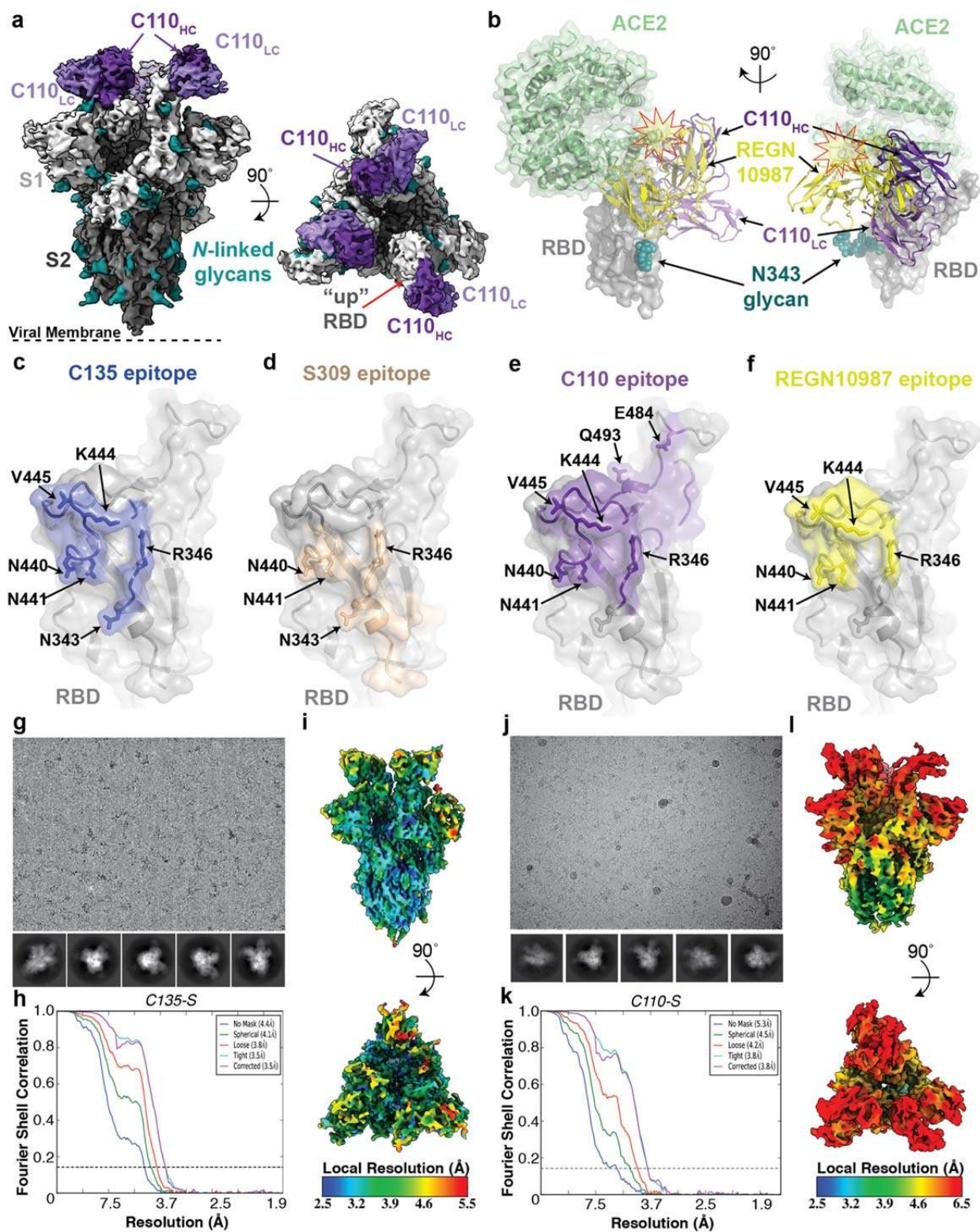


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870 **Extended Data Figure 6. Mapping somatic hypermutations (SHMs) of SARS-CoV-2 NAbS.**

871 **a-f**, Somatic hypermutations in HC and LC V gene segments for C002 (panel a), C121 (panel  
872 b), C119 (panel c), C144 (panel d), C102 (panel e) and C135 (panel f) are shown as spheres on  
873 the antibody V<sub>H</sub> and V<sub>L</sub> domains (ribbon representations). The primary RBD epitope is shown as  
874 a light gray surface; secondary RBD epitope for C144 is in dark gray.

875 **Extended Data Figure 7**  
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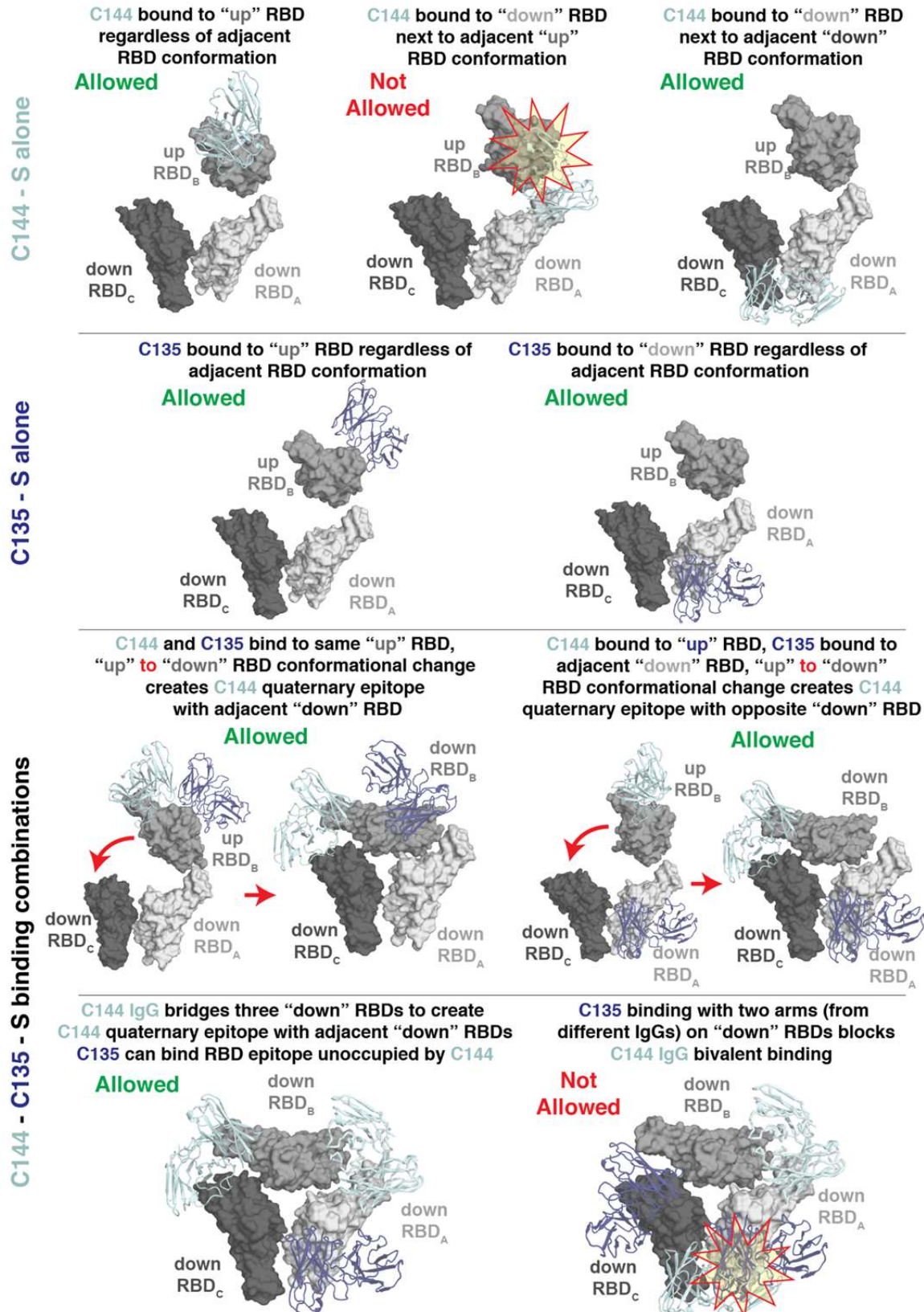


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879 **Extended Data Figure 7. Cryo-EM structure of C110-S complex and epitope mapping. a,**  
880 3.8 Å cryo-EM reconstruction of C110-S trimer complex. **b,** Composite model of C110-RBD  
881 (purple and gray, respectively) overlaid with the SARS-CoV-2 NAb REGN-10987 (yellow, PDB  
882 6XDG) and soluble ACE2 (green, PDB 6M0J). Model was generated by aligning structures on  
883 188 RBD C $\alpha$  atoms. **c-f,** Surface representation of RBD epitopes for **c,** C135 (blue), **d,** S309  
884 (brown, PDB 6WSP), **e,** C110 (purple) and **f,** REGN-10987 (yellow, PDB 6XDG). Given the low  
885 resolution of the antibody-RBD interface, epitopes were assigned by selection of any RBD  
886 residue within 7 Å of any antibody C $\alpha$  atom. Mutation sites found in sequence isolates<sup>17</sup> (green)  
887 and in laboratory selection assays<sup>18</sup> (red) are shown. Representative micrograph, 2D class  
888 averages, gold-standard FSC plot, and local resolution estimation for **g-i,** C135-S 2P and, **j-l,**  
889 C110-S 2P. Both complexes revealed binding of Fabs to both 2 “down”/1 “up” RBD  
890 conformations.

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893 **Extended Data Figure 8**  
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897 **Extended Data Figure 8. Possibilities for simultaneous engagement of C144 and C135 on**  
898 **spikes with different combinations of “up” and “down” RBDs.** Modeling of C144 (light blue)  
899 and C135 (dark blue)  $V_H$ - $V_L$  domains on different RBD conformations. Steric clashes are shown  
900 as a red and yellow star.

901 **Extended Data Figure 9**  
902

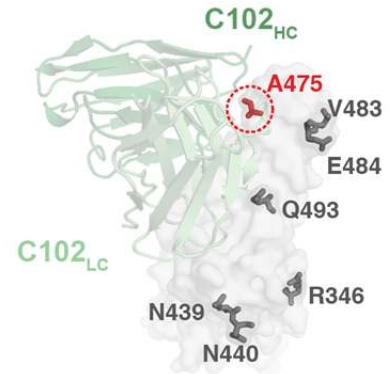
**a**

**C102**  
*VH3-53/VK3-20 Class 1*

RBD	$k_a$ ( $10^5$ ) ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )	$k_d$ ( $10^{-3}$ ) ( $s^{-1}$ )	$K_D$ (nM)
wt	1.4	3.8	27
R346S	1.2	8.6	72
N439K	1.0	3.2	32
N440K	1.4	7.6	55
A475V	0.8	31.9	395
V483A	1.0	3.1	32
E484K	1.4	8.7	61
Q493R	2.2	17.5	81

**C105**  
*VH3-53/VL2-8 Class 1*

RBD	$k_a$ ( $10^5$ ) ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )	$k_d$ ( $10^{-3}$ ) ( $s^{-1}$ )	$K_D$ (nM)
wt	0.7	0.9	14
R346S	0.5	1.1	20
N439K	0.6	1.1	19
N440K	0.6	1.1	18
A475V	1.0	22	225
V483A	0.5	0.8	15
E484K	0.6	1.1	19
Q493R	0.7	0.4	6



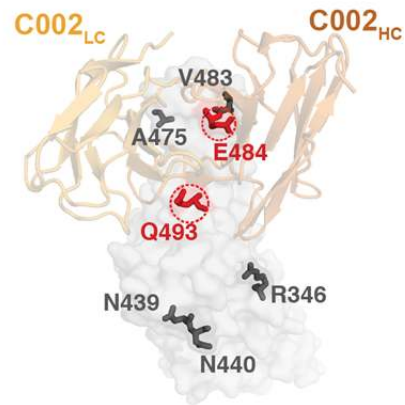
**b**

**C144**  
*VH3-53/VL2-14 Class 2*

RBD	$k_a$ ( $10^5$ ) ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )	$k_d$ ( $10^{-3}$ ) ( $s^{-1}$ )	$K_D$ (nM)
wt	2.3	41.	18
R346S	1.1	5.6	52
N439K	1.2	3.6	29
N440K	1.4	5.8	40
A475V	1070	10820	101
V483A	1.3	4.1	32
E484K	n.b.	n.b.	n.b.
Q493R	n.b.	n.b.	n.b.

**C002**  
*VH3-30/VK1-39 Class 2*

RBD	$k_a$ ( $10^5$ ) ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )	$k_d$ ( $10^{-3}$ ) ( $s^{-1}$ )	$K_D$ (nM)
wt	8.3	9.0	11
R346S	3.2	8.6	27
N439K	6.0	9.7	16
N440K	3.3	8.1	24
A475V	2.1	6.3	31
V483A	2.7	2.9	11
E484K	n.b.	n.b.	n.b.
Q493R	1.8	106	596



**C121**  
*VH1-2/VL2-23 Class 2*

RBD	$k_a$ ( $10^5$ ) ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )	$k_d$ ( $10^{-3}$ ) ( $s^{-1}$ )	$K_D$ (nM)
wt	5.2	2.5	0.5
R346S	6.3	5	0.8
N439K	5.0	3.8	0.8
N440K	6.9	4.1	0.6
A475V	6.4	4.7	0.7
V483A	2.0	1.5	0.8
E484K	n.b.	n.b.	n.b.
Q493R	10	115	111

**C119**  
*VH1-46/VL2-14 Class 2*

RBD	$k_a$ ( $10^5$ ) ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )	$k_d$ ( $10^{-3}$ ) ( $s^{-1}$ )	$K_D$ (nM)
wt	2.6	2.6	10
R346S	2.6	5.7	22
N439K	6.4	12.5	20
N440K	1.8	3.8	21
A475V	1.4	2.8	20
V483A	1.7	3.7	22
*E484K	1.1	.005 28   2.7	91
Q493R	5.3	11	20

**\*C104**  
*VH4-34/VK3-20 Class 2*

RBD	$k_a$ ( $10^5$ ) ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )	$k_d$ ( $10^{-3}$ ) ( $s^{-1}$ )	$K_D$ (nM)
wt	1.2	.008 17.6   1.3	19
R346S	1.4	.003 28.4   3.3	97
N439K	1.1	.008 28.4   0.9	24
N440K	1.5	.003 31.2   3.7	108
A475V	1.2	.004 25.0   5.2	124
V483A	0.9	.015 24.5   5.4	69
E484K	n.b.	n.b. n.b.   n.b.	n.b.
Q493R	1.1	.022 36.1   1.2	17

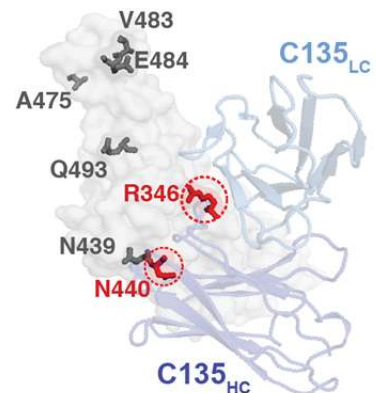
**c**

**C135**  
*VH3-30/VK1-5 Class 3*

RBD	$k_a$ ( $10^5$ ) ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )	$k_d$ ( $10^{-3}$ ) ( $s^{-1}$ )	$K_D$ (nM)
wt	1.9	1.2	6
R346S	n.b.	n.b.	n.b.
N439K	1.3	4.9	37
N440K	n.b.	n.b.	n.b.
A475V	1.5	1.8	12
V483A	1.4	1.3	9
E484K	2.7	1.8	7
Q493R	1.3	1.7	13

**C110**  
*VH5-51/VK1-5 Class 3*

RBD	$k_a$ ( $10^5$ ) ( $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ )	$k_d$ ( $10^{-3}$ ) ( $s^{-1}$ )	$K_D$ (nM)
wt	0.7	0.09	1.3
R346S	0.2	1.1	68
N439K	0.4	0.3	8
N440K	0.5	0.1	2
A475V	0.4	0.1	3
V483A	0.4	0.09	2
E484K	0.4	0.9	27
Q493R	0.3	0.3	12



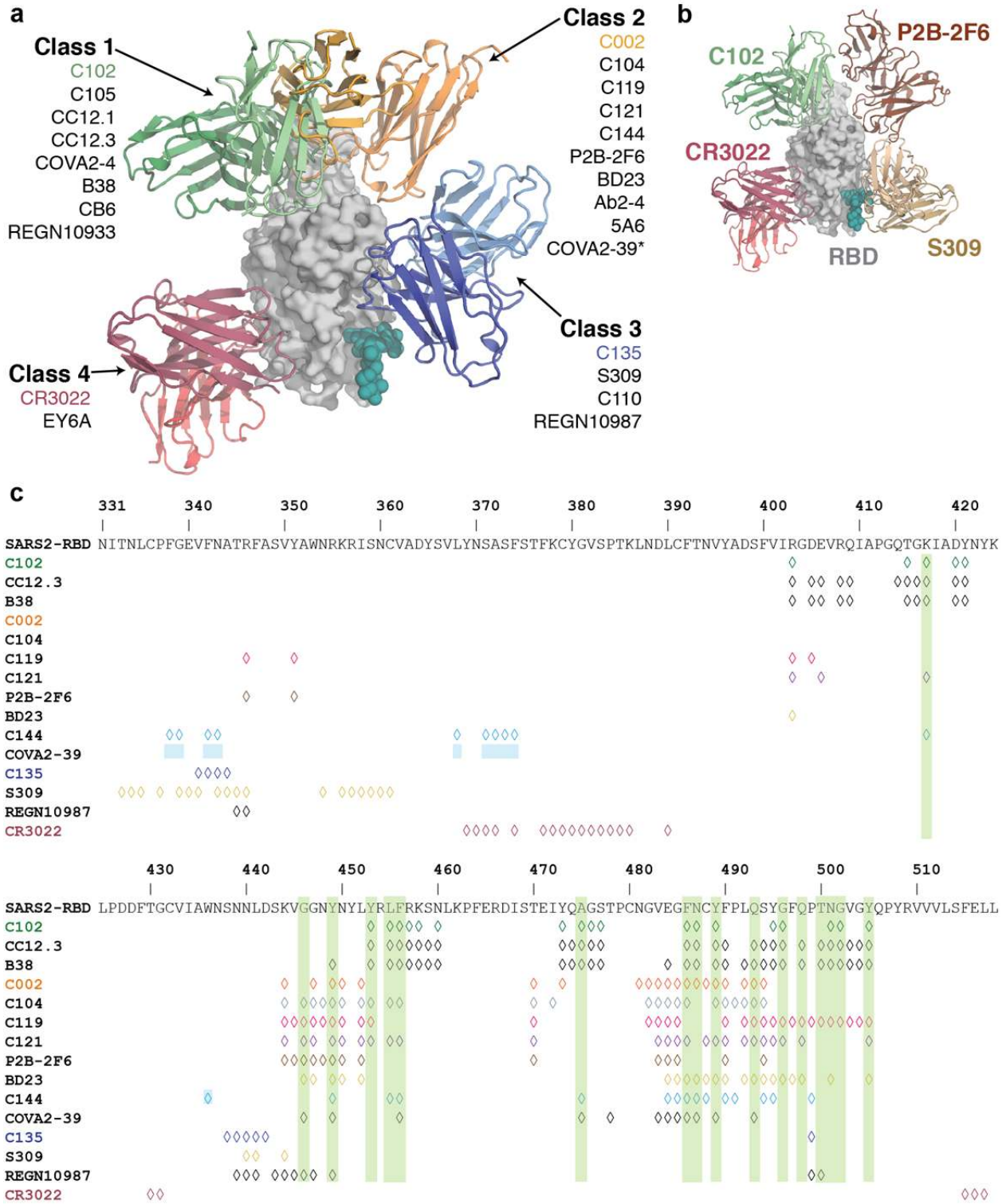
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904 **Extended Data Figure 9. SPR binding data for hNAbs.**

905 Kinetic and equilibrium constants for binding to unaltered RBD (indicated as wt) and mutant  
906 RBDs are shown in tables beside structures of a representative NAb-RBD complex for each  
907 class. Residues that were mutated are highlighted as colored sidechains on a gray RBD  
908 surface. Antibody  $V_H$ - $V_L$  domains are shown as cartoons. Kinetic and equilibrium constants for  
909 NAbs that contact adjacent RBDs on S trimer (C144, C002, C119, and C121) do not account for  
910 contacts to a secondary RBD since binding was assayed by injected monomeric RBDs over  
911 immobilized IgGs. \* indicates kinetic constants determined from a two-state binding model.  
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913 **Extended Data Figure 10**  
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917 **Extended Data Figure 10: Summary of hNAbs.** **a**, Structural depiction of a representative  
918 NAb from each class binding its RBD epitope. **b**, Composite model illustrating non-overlapping  
919 epitopes of NAbs from each class bound to a RBD monomer. **c**, Epitopes for SARS-CoV-2  
920 NAbs. RBD residues involved in ACE2 binding are boxed in green. Diamonds represent RBD  
921 residues contacted by the indicated antibody.

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