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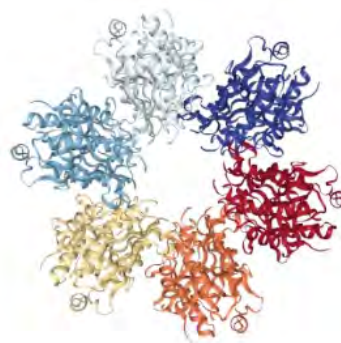
Structure-functional studies of protein P4 from bacteriophage $\phi 8$

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The dsRNA bacteriophages of *Cystoviridae* family infect gram-negative *Pseudomonas* species bacteria [1]. The bacteriophages package their genome into empty capsid – procapsid, which protects the genome from degradation inside as well as outside host cell. The genome packaging is performed by a molecular motor - P4 proteins, which are components of procapsid [1, 2]. The P4s possess an NTPase activity that converts the chemical energy from ATP hydrolysis to a mechanical movement of packaging ssRNA precursors into a procapsid, where the replication and transcription of dsRNA occurs [1, 3]. The P4s are RNA helicases belonging to the Superfamily 4 of helicases with characteristic presence of conserved sequence motifs (H1, H1a, H2, H3 and H4) [2, 3]. The RNA helicases cause the distribution of RNA-protein complexes and carry out RNA unwinding [2]. The P4 assembles into hexameric ring (Fig.1), which has on the outer perimeter NTP-binding sites and the nucleic acid binding sites are located in the central channel. Each P4 monomer consist of N-terminal, core NTPase domain with sequence motif and C-terminal domain. The C-terminal domain is inserted into the central channel of hexamer and its conformational changes regulate ring stability and ATPase activity of P4s [3]. Here we report our crystallization experiment results of the $\phi 8$ P4 protein crystals.



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