

SPF45/RBM17-dependent, but not U2AF-dependent, splicing in a distinct subset of human short introns

Kazuhiro Fukumura^{1*}, Rei Yoshimoto¹, Luca Sperotto^{2,3}, Hyun-Seo Kang^{2,3}, Tetsuro Hirose⁴, Kunio Inoue⁵, Michael Sattler^{2,3} & Akila Mayeda^{1*}

¹Division of Gene Expression Mechanism, Institute for Comprehensive Medical Science, Fujita Health University, Toyoake, Aichi 470-1192, Japan

²Institute of Structural Biology, Helmholtz Zentrum München, 85764 Neuherberg, Germany

³Biomolecular NMR and Center for Integrated Protein Science Munich, Chemistry Department, Technical University of Munich, 85748 Garching, Germany

⁴Institute for Genetic Medicine, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Hokkaido 060-0815, Japan

⁵Department of Biology, Graduate School of Science, Kobe University, Kobe, Hyogo 657-8501, Japan

*e-mails: fukumura@fujita-hu.ac.jp (K.F.), mayeda@fujita-hu.ac.jp (A.M.)

Contents

Table S1

Table S2

Fig. S1

Fig. S2

Fig. S3

Fig. S4

Fig. S5

Fig. S6

Fig. S7

Fig. S8

Fig. S9

Data 1

(Uploaded in a separate Excel file)

Table S1 List of siRNA library targeting human nuclear proteins and the results of each knockdown

*PSI (Percent Spliced In) in this Table is the ratio of retained intron inclusion (Percent Retained-intron In)

No	Protein/gene name (HGNC gene symbol)	Knockdown (KD) efficiency (Control KD=1)	PSI* (control KD=0.103)	No	Protein/gene name (HGNC gene symbol)	Knockdown (KD) efficiency (Control KD=1)	PSI* (control KD=0.103)
1	Acinus (ACIN1)	0.580	0.149	40	FXR2	0.107	0.240
2	AHDC1	0.007	0.264	41	GRSF1	0.026	0.172
3	AKAP149 (AKAP1)	0.307	0.231	42	GRY-RBP (SYNCRIP)	0.034	0.151
4	AKAP8L	0.042	0.233	43	hnRNP A/B (HNRNPAB)	0.035	0.143
5	Aly C12 (ALYREF)	0.075	0.107	44	hnRNP D-like (HNRNPDL1)	Undetectable	N/A
6	ASR2B (SRRT)	0.018	0.134	45	hnRNP RALY (RALY)	0.016	0.202
7	Ataxin1 (ATXN1)	Undetectable	N/A	46	hnRNP A0 (HNRNPA0)	0.595	0.202
8	Barentsz (CASC3)	0.120	0.116	47	hnRNP A1 (HNRNPA1)	0.045	0.102
9	CArg-binding factor A (NFYB)	0.404	0.149	48	hnRNP A2/B1 (HNRNPA2B1)	0.019	0.162
10	CBP20 (NCBP2)	0.049	0.094	49	hnRNP A3 (HNRNPA3)	0.101	0.130
11	CBX7	Undetectable	N/A	50	hnRNP C1/C2 (HNRNPC)	0.025	0.104
12	CELF5	Undetectable	N/A	51	hnRNP D (HNRNPD)	0.007	0.132
13	CELF6	Undet.	N/A	52	hnRNP E1 (PCBP1)	0.027	0.254
14	Cflm68 (CPSF6)	0.160	0.111	53	hnRNP F (HNRNPF)	0.061	0.114
15	CIRBP	0.468	0.159	54	hnRNP H1 (HNRNPH1)	0.104	0.393
16	CLK1	0.746	0.113	55	hnRNP H2 (HNRNPH2)	0.153	0.148
17	CLK4	0.154	0.127	56	hnRNP H3 (HNRNPH3)	0.022	0.158
18	CPSF5 (NUDT21)	0.026	0.180	57	hnRNP K (HNRNPK)	0.022	0.218
19	CPSF7	0.109	0.220	58	hnRNP L (HNRNPL)	0.004	0.203
20	CUGBP (CELF1)	0.039	0.195	59	hnRNP M (HNRNPM)	0.006	0.196
21	DAZAP1	Undetectable	N/A	60	hnRNP R (HNRNPR)	0.082	0.242
22	DGCR8	1.220	N/A	61	hnRNP U-like 1 (HNRNPUL1)	0.045	0.125
23	ECM2	Undetectable	N/A	62	HP1a (CBX5)	0.104	0.206
24	ELAVlike (ELAVL1)	0.039	0.102	63	IMP1 (HM13)	0.805	0.176
25	ES349 (FUBP1)	0.276	0.137	64	IMP3	0.369	0.102
26	EWS (EWSR1)	0.072	0.226	65	kin 17 (KIN)	0.188	0.164
27	F9/11A1 (DDX18)	0.034	0.202	66	KSRP (KHSRP)	0.101	0.201
28	F9/17A4 (NUP153)	0.079	0.134	67	La atoantigen (SSB)	0.451	0.160
29	F9/29D5 (SRM160)	0.267	0.269	68	Matrin3 (MATR3)	0.430	0.169
30	F9/3B6 (ZNF346)	0.329	0.102	69	MBD1	0.061	0.075
31	FAM113A (PCED1A)	0.031	0.137	70	MBD2	0.108	0.202
32	FAM98A	0.062	0.195	71	MBNL (MBNL1)	0.109	0.127
33	FIGN	Trace	0.211	72	MECP2	0.114	0.190
34	FLJ10005 (SLTM)	0.227	0.152	73	MEX3A	Undetectable	N/A
35	FLJ10968 (IM3)	0.026	0.176	74	MEX3B	Undetectable	N/A
36	FLJ20273 (RBM47)	Undetectable	N/A	75	MEX3D	Undetectable	N/A
37	FUBP3	0.125	0.204	76	MINT (SPEN)	3.404	N/A
38	FUS	0.117	0.249	77	MSP58 (MCRS1)	0.018	0.267
39	FXR1	0.076	0.172	78	MSY2 (YBX2)	Undetectable	N/A

No	Protein/gene name (HGNC gene symbol)	Knockdown (KD) efficiency (Control KD=1)	PSI (control KD=0.103)	No	Protein/gene name (HGNC gene symbol)	Knockdown (KD) efficiency (Control KD=1)	PSI (control KD=0.103)
79	NOL8	0.291	0.151	117	SAFB	0.115	0.221
80	Nopp34 (NIFK)	0.341	0.179	118	Sam68 (KHDRBS1)	0.018	0.235
81	Nucleolin (NCL)	0.691	0.304	119	SART3	0.080	0.173
82	Peptidylprolyl isomerase E (PPIE)	0.015	0.135	120	SC35 (SRSF2)	1.536	N/A
83	POLDIP3	0.006	0.146	121	SERBP1	0.222	0.291
84	PPARGC1 (PPARGC1A)	0.039	0.252	122	set1 (SETD1A)	0.230	0.248
85	PSF (SFPQ)	Undetectable	N/A	123	SF2 (SRSF1)	0.011	0.164
86	PSP1 (PSPC1)	1.335	N/A	124	SFRS10 (TRA2B)	0.377	0.249
87	PSP2 (RBM14)	0.016	0.074	125	SPF45 (RBM17)	0.023	0.454
88	PTB (PTBP1)	0.009	0.173	126	SR140 (U2SURP)	0.234	0.250
89	PUF60	0.009	0.267	127	SRM300 (SRRM2)	0.576	0.231
90	Puralpha (PURA)	0.076	0.196	128	SRp20 (SRSF3)	0.040	0.222
91	p54nrb (NONO)	0.029	0.102	129	SRp30c (SRSF9)	0.026	0.264
92	RAVER1	Undetectable	N/A	130	SRp38 (SRSF10)	0.290	0.204
93	RBM10	0.031	0.239	131	SRp40 (SRSF5)	0.050	0.207
94	RBM12	0.254	0.140	132	SRp54 (SRSF11)	0.119	0.274
95	RBM15	0.387	0.248	133	SRp75 (SRSF4)	0.183	0.138
96	RBM19	0.033	0.412	134	SRp86 (SREK1)	0.019	0.102
97	RBM22	0.012	0.241	135	STRBP	0.023	0.123
98	RBM28	0.132	0.192	136	TAF15	0.264	0.158
99	RBM3	0.008	0.169	137	TAP (NXF1)	0.219	0.099
100	RBM30 (RBM4B)	0.094	0.335	138	TAT-SF1 (HTATSF1)	0.008	0.164
101	RBM42	0.590	0.233	139	TEP1	Undetectable	N/A
102	Rbm4a (RBM4)	0.074	0.102	140	TIA1	0.139	0.172
103	RBM5	0.101	0.213	141	U2AF ³⁵ (U2AF1)	0.031	0.113
104	RBM6	0.127	0.184	142	U2AF ⁶⁵ (U2AF2)	0.032	0.120
105	RBM7	0.015	0.127	143	UBAP2L	0.018	0.125
106	RBM8A	0.005	0.399	144	vigilin (HDLBP)	0.023	0.102
107	RBMX	0.022	0.116	145	vpap (PARP4)	0.041	0.375
108	RBMX2	0.007	0.296	146	WF9/2C7 (ZRSR2)	0.171	0.198
109	RBPM5	0.561	0.216	147	WF9/5A7 (RBM39)	0.093	0.133
110	RDBP (NELFE)	0.007	0.280	148	wig-1 (ZMAT3)	1.312	N/A
111	RIP-1 (KRR1)	0.035	0.255	149	YB-1 (YBX1)	0.015	0.171
112	RNPS1	0.023	0.274	150	ZC3H6	0.003	0.094
113	Ro autoantigen 60 kDa (RO60)	Trace	0.119	151	ZFR	0.079	0.119
114	RPP25	0.270	0.197	152	ZNF335	0.007	0.114
115	RUNX3	0.001	0.136	153	ZNF74	0.243	0.213
116	SAF-A (HNRNPU)	Undetectable	N/A	154	9G8 (SRSF7)	2.200	N/A

Table S2 List of synthetic oligonucleotides used in the experiments

siRNAs (sense sequences) for cellular knockdown (dT: deoxyribonucleotide)		
SPF45-siRNA#1	5'-GAACAAGACAGACCGAGAUAUdT-3'	Knockdown of SPF45
SPF45-siRNA#2	5'-GACCCUAUGUUUCCUAAUGdT-3'	Knockdown of SPF45
U2AF ⁶⁵ -siRNA	5'-GCACGGUGGACUGAUUCGUdT-3'	Knockdown of U2AF ⁶⁵
PRP43-siRNA	5'-AAACAGAAUAGCAGGAUAAdT-3'	Knockdown of PRP43
SF4-siRNA	[SMARTpool ON-TARGETplus Human SUGP1 siRNA (horizon)]	Knockdown of SF4
Primer DNAs for plasmid constructions		
HNRNPH1-E7F-EcoRI	5'-GGAATTCGCTATGGAGGCTATGATGA-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-HNRNPH1
HNRNPH1-E8R-XhoI	5'-CCCTCGAGGGCAGTAGCTCTGTAAGGTAAT-3'	
AdMLF-BamHI	5'-CGGGATCCGACTCTCTCCGCATCGCTG-3'	
AdMLR-EcoRI	5'-GGAATTCCTGTCGAGGGCCGACGGGT-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-AdML
EML3-E17F-EcoRI	5'-GGAATTCCTGTTGTTTGGACACAG-3'	
EML3-E18R-XhoI	5'-CCCTCGAGGGCATAACGCGCCAAAGCGGC-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-EML3
MUS81-E13F-EcoRI	5'-GGAATTCCTGTTGTTTGGACACAG-3'	
MUS81-E14R-XhoI	5'-CCGCTCGAGGGTGTGTATCGATCCACCA-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-MUS81
HNRNPH1-5'SSAdML-S	5'-GGAAGGGGTGAGTTAAGAATTGAATTCTC-3'	
HNRNPH1-5'SSAdML-AS	5'-CTTAACACACCCCTTCCAAATCTATCTGAC-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-HNRNPH1/5'SSAdML
HNRNPH1-BranchAdML-S	5'-GAAGGAGTCATACACTCTGTCCATCTAGA-3'	
HNRNPH1-BranchAdML-AS	5'-AAGAGTGTATGACTCCTTCAACTGAGAAAT-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-HNRNPH1/BranchAdML & pcDNA3-HNRNPH1/AdML 5'SS-BP-3'SS
HNRNPH1-3'SSAdML-S	5'-TCCATACAGCTCTCAATTACTGTTTTTCAG-3'	
HNRNPH1-3'SSAdML-AS	5'-ATTGAGAGCTGTATGGACAAGAGTGAAGC-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-HNRNPH1/3'SSAdML
HNRNPH1-AdMLPPT25-S	5'-TTATCCTGTCCCTTTTTTCCACAGACCTCAATTACTGTTTTTC-3'	
HNRNPH1-AdMLPPT25-AS	5'-GAAAAAAAAGGGACAGGATAAGTAAGCATCCTTCAACTGAG-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-HNRNPH1/AdML-PPT25
HNRNPH1-AdMLPPT25mt-S	5'-TTATCCTGTGCTGTTGTGTCCACAGACCTCAATTACTGTTTTTC-3'	
HNRNPH1-AdMLPPT25mt-AS	5'-GACACAACAGCGACAGGATAAGTAAGCATCCTTCAACTGAG-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-HNRNPH1/AdML-PPT25mt
HNRNPH1-AdMLPPT13-S	5'-CTTTTTTTTCCACAGACCTCAATTACTGTTTTTCAG-3'	
HNRNPH1-AdMLPPT13-AS	5'-TGAGGTCTGTGGAAGGTAAGGTAAGCATCCTTCAACTG-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-HNRNPH1/AdML-PPT13
HNRNPH1-5'AdML-S1	5'-AGATAGATTGGAAGAGGTAAGGACTCCCTCTCAAAGCGG-3'	
HNRNPH1-5'AdML-AS1	5'-GATGGACAAGAGTGAAGCAATCATCAAGGAAACCCTGG-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-HNRNPH1/5'AdML
HNRNPH1-5'AdML-S2	5'-CCAGGGTTTCTTGATGATTGCTTACACTCTGTCCATC-3'	
HNRNPH1-5'AdML-AS2	5'-CCGCTTTTGAGAGGGAGTCTTACCTCTTCAAATCTATCT-3'	
HNRNPH1-XhoI2-S	5'-TGCTTACACTCGAGCTCGAGCTCTGTCCATCTAGACCTC-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-HNRNPH1/XhoI x2
HNRNPH1-XhoI2-AS	5'-CTCGAGCTCGAGTGAAGCATCCTTCAACTGAG-3'	
HNRNPH1-AdMLPPT13-XhoI2-S	5'-CTCGAGCTCGAGCTTTTTTCCACAGACCTCAATTACTGTTTTTCAG-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-HNRNPH1/AdML-PPT13/XhoI x2
HNRNPH1-AdMLPPT13-XhoI2-AS	5'-GAAAAAAAAGCTCGAGCTCGAGTGAAGCATCCTTCAACTG-3'	
EML3-AdMLPPT25-S	5'-TTATCCTGTCCCTTTTTTCCACAGATGGGTTGTACCTGGCCAT-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-EML3/AdML-PPT25
EML3-AdMLPPT25-AS	5'-GAAAAAAAAGGGACAGGATAACTCAGAGAGGGAAGGGCCA-3'	
EML3-AdMLPPT13-S	5'-CTTTTTTTTCCACAGACCGGTTGTACCTGGCCATTG-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-EML3/AdML-PPT13
EML3-AdMLPPT13-AS	5'-GGTCTGTGAAAAAAGCTCAGAGAGGGAAGGGCC-3'	
EML3-5'AdML-S1	5'-GTACAGCCAGGTGGAACTCCCTCTCAAAGCGG-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-EML3/5'AdML
EML3-5'AdML-AS1	5'-GCAATACAGTCACTCAGAGATCATCAAGGAAACCCTGG-3'	
EML3-5'AdML-S2	5'-CCAGGGTTTCTTGATGATCTCTGAGTGAAGTATTGC-3'	
EML3-5'AdML-AS2	5'-CCGCTTTTGAGAGGGAGTCCACCTGGGCTGTAC-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-Flag-SPF45/UHMmt
SPF45-F-EcoRI	5'-GGAATCTGATGTCCCTGTACGATGACCT-3'	
SPF45-R-XhoI	5'-CCCTCGAGGGTCAAACCTGTTCTGCCAAATCC-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-Flag-SPF45/UHMmt
SPF45-UHMmt-F	5'-GTGCGGGAGAGGTGAAGGAAGACTTGAAG-3'	
SPF45-UHMmt-R	5'-CACCTCTCCCGCACCAACCA-3'	

SPF45-ΔG-F	5'-CTTCCTCGCTGGCGACGCCACAGAGAAAGA-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-Flag-SPF45/ΔG
SPF45-ΔG-R	5'-TGGCGTCGCCAGCGAGGAAGGAGTTGCTAG-3'	
SPF45-siR-F	5'-CCAATGTTCCCAAACGATTATGAGAAAGTA-3'	Construction of pcDNA3-Flag-SPF45/siR, pcDNA3-Flag-SPF45/UHMmt/siR & pcDNA3-Flag-SPF45/ΔG/siR
SPF45-siR-R	5'-TTTGGGAACATTGGATCATATTCGTGCTAGCT-3'	
Primer DNAs for analysis		
HNRNPH1-E7F-EcoRI	See above	Splicing assay of endogenous HNRNPH1 intron 7
HNRNPH1-E8R-XhoI	See above	
RFC4-E9F-EcoRI	See above	Splicing assay of endogenous HNRNPH1 intron 7
RFC4-E10R-XhoI	See above	
EML3-E17F-EcoRI	See above	Splicing assay of endogenous EML3 intron 17
EML3-E17R-XhoI	See above	
DUSP1-F	5'-TGCAGTACCCCACTCTACGA-3'	Splicing assay of endogenous DUSP1 intron 2
DUSP1-R	5'-GAGACGTTGATCAAGGCAGTG-3'	
NFKBIA-F	5'- TCCTCAACTTCCAGAACAACC-3'	Splicing assay of endogenous NFKBIA intron 2
NFKBIA-R	5'-TCAGCAATTTCTGGCTGGT-3'	
MUS81-E13F-EcoRI	5'-GGAATTCCCCTGGGAACCCTGAATCAG-3'	Splicing assay of endogenous MUS81 intron 13
MUS81-E14R-XhoI	5'-CCGCTCGAGGGTGTGTATCGATCCACCA-3'	
RECQL4-E15F-EcoRI	5'-GGAATTCCAAGACCTGCGAGAGCTGCG-3'	Splicing assay of endogenous RECQL4 intron 15
RECQL4-E16R-XhoI	5'-CCGCTCGAGGCAGTTCAGACGGCAATGGG-3'	
MTA1-E5F-EcoRI	5'-GGAATTCGAAATGGAGAACCCGGAAATG-3'	Splicing assay of endogenous MTA1 intron 5
MTA1-E6R-XhoI	5'-CCGCTCGAGGCTCCAGGTAGGACTTGAG-3'	
AdML-E1F	5'-CGTTCTGTCCTCACTCTCTTCCGC-3'	Splicing assay of AdML mini-gene pre-mRNA (FIG. 3)
AdML-E2R	5'-ACCGCGAAGAGTTTGTCTCAACC-3'	
T7	5'-AATACGACTCACTATAG-3'	Splicing assay of AdML mini-gene pre-mRNA (FIG. 6)
AdML-E2R	5'-ACCGCGAAGAGTTTGTCTCAACC-3'	
T7	See above	Splicing assay of HNRNPH1 mini-gene pre-mRNA
HNRNPH1-E8R-XhoI	See above	
T7	See above	Splicing assay of EML3 mini-gene pre-mRNA
EML3-E17R-XhoI	See above	
T7	See above	Splicing assay of NUS81 mini-gene pre-mRNA
MUS81-E14R-XhoI	See above	
AdML-I1F	5'-GACTTCTGCGCTAAGATTGTCA-3'	qPCR detection of AdML pre-mRNA in CLIP assay
AdML-I1R	5'-TTGTCTTTTCTGACCAGATGGA-3'	
HNRNPH1-E7F-EcoRI	See above	qPCR detection of HNRNPH1 pre-mRNA in CLIP assay
HNRNPH1-I7R	5'-GGTCTAGATGGACAAGAGTGT-3'	
EML3-E17F-EcoRI	See above	qPCR detection of EML3 pre-mRNA in CLIP assay
EML3-I17-R	5'-GCATGTGAGTCCAGGGTT-3'	
MUS81-E13F-EcoRI	See above	qPCR for detection of EML3 pre-mRNA in CLIP assay
MUS81-I13R	5'-CAGGCCATGTCTGAGAAGCT-3'	
SP6	5'-ATTTAGGTGACACTAT-3'	Reverse transcription in CLIP assay

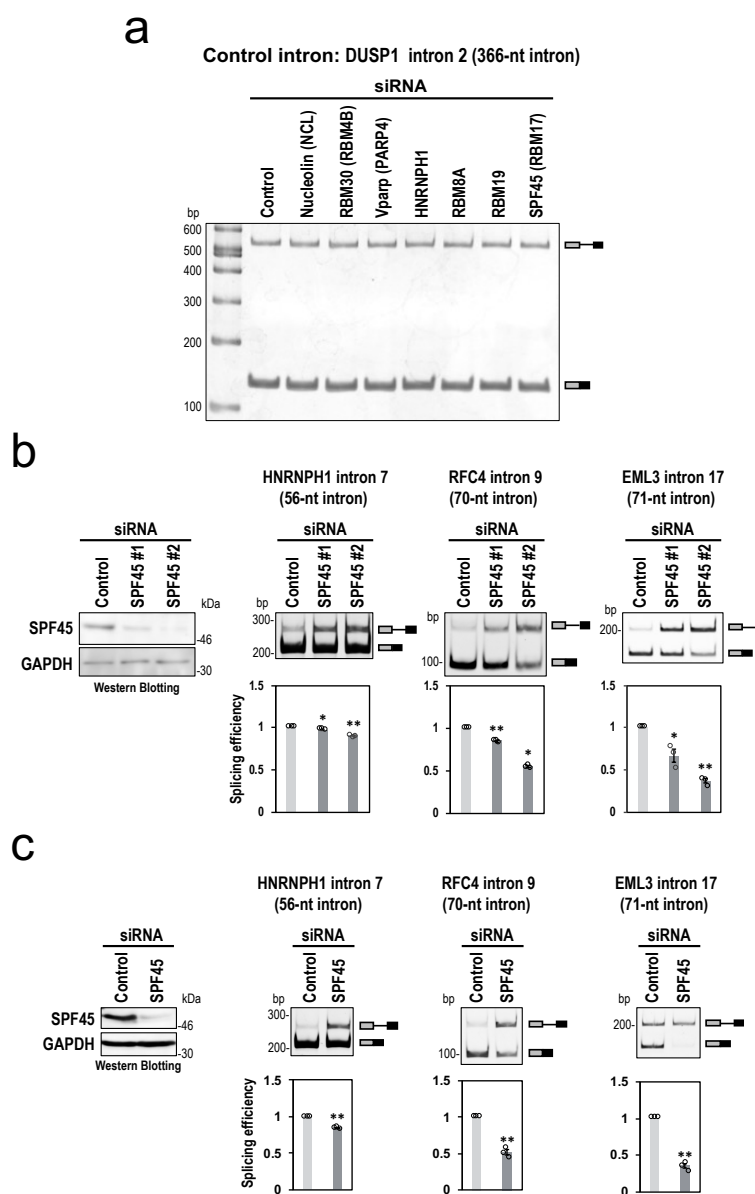


Fig. S1 Our discovered splicing in short introns is neither substrate-specific nor cell-specific events.

a, The knockdown of top seven splicing repression factors, tested in the short HNRNPH1 intron ($PSI > 0.3$, Table S1), do not affect conventional splicing in the control long intron. After the siRNA transfection in HeLa cells, endogenous splicing of the indicated control intron was analyzed by RT-PCR. Displayed PAGE gel is a representative of three independent experiments. **b**, Splicing repression in the three kinds of short introns is dependent on the knockdown efficiency. HeLa cells were transfected with control siRNA and two different siRNAs (#1, #2) targeting SPF45. The SPF45 protein depletion was checked by a Western blotting (left panel). *In cellulo* splicing assays of the indicated three short introns using RT-PCR. Means $\pm$ SEM are given for three independent experiments and two-tailed paired Student *t*-test values were calculated (HNRNPH1 intron: $p=0.0104$ for Control vs SPF45 #1 siRNA, $p=0.0028$ for Control vs SPF45 #2 siRNA; RFC4 intron: $p=0.0037$ for Control vs SPF45 #1 siRNA, $p=0.0240$ for Control vs SPF45 #2 siRNA; EML3 intron: $p=0.0470$ for Control vs SPF45 #1 siRNA, $p=0.0017$ for Control vs SPF45 #2 siRNA). * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$. **c**, Splicing repression in the three kinds of short introns is also observed in HEK293 cells. The same *in cellulo* splicing assays in panel 'b' were performed using SPF45-knockdown HEK293 cells (with siRNA #2). Means $\pm$ SEM are given for three independent experiments and two-tailed paired Student *t*-test values were calculated (HNRNPH1 intron: $p=0.0015$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA #2; RFC4 intron: $p=0.0058$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA #2; EML3 intron: $p=0.0032$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA #2). ** $P < 0.01$. Source data of all the above panels are provided as a Source Data file.

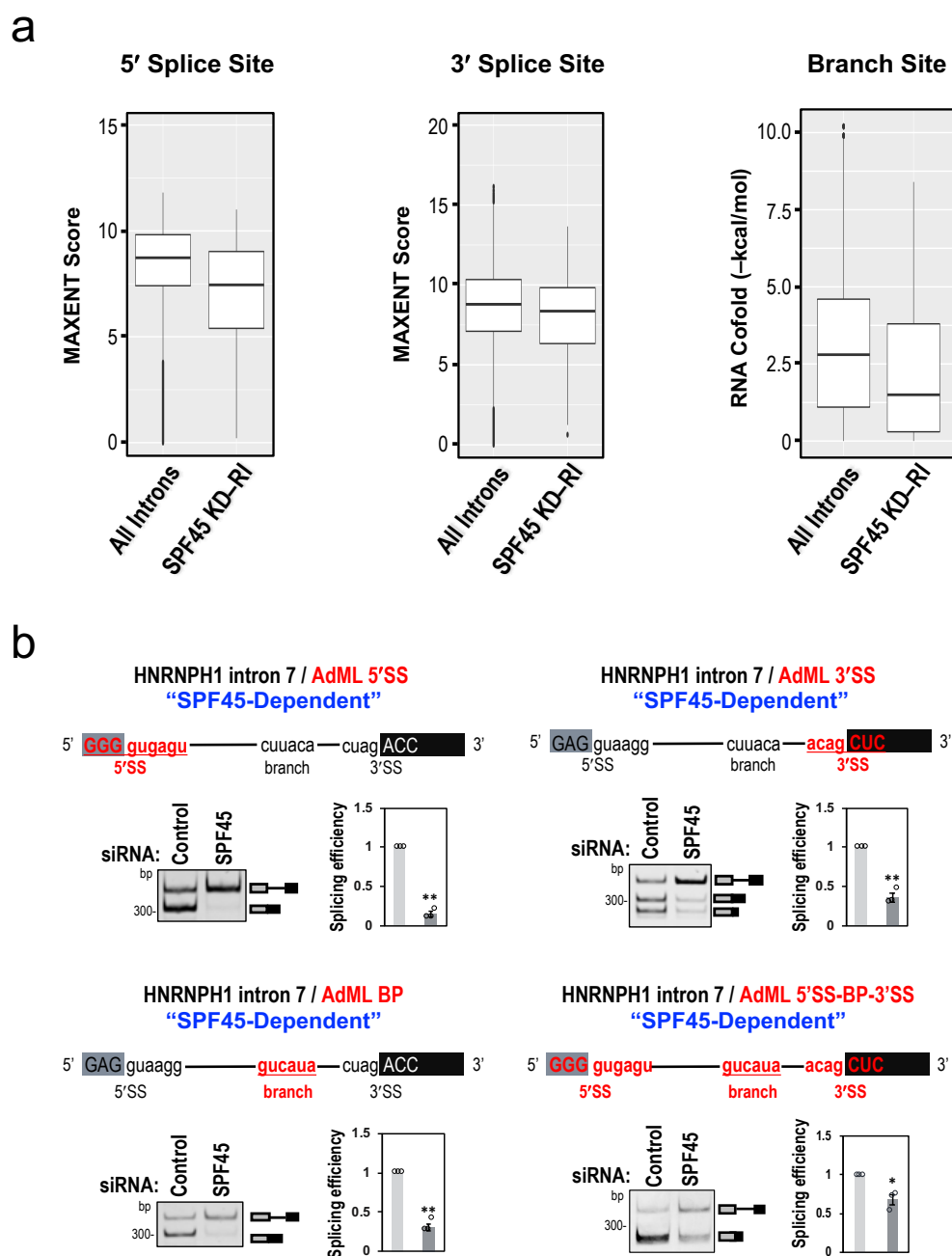


Fig. S2 Neither splice sites nor branch site is the determinant for SPF45-dependent splicing in short introns.

a, The box plots compare the strengths of the 5'/3' splice sites and the branch site of all introns (in human RefGene) with those of the retained introns in SPF45-knockdown HEK293 cells. Box plots show the summary of the data set; median (middle line), 25–75th percentile (box), and <5th and >95th percentile (whiskers), together with outliers (single points). **b**, The splice sites and/or branch site sequences have no effect on SPF45-dependent splicing. Chimeric HNRNPH1-intron 7 pre-mRNAs are schematically shown (red color indicates AdML derived sequences). These pre-mRNAs were expressed from mini-genes in HeLa cells and their splicing was assayed by RT-PCR. PAGE images and quantifications of RT-PCR are shown. Means $\pm$ SEM are given for three independent experiments and two-tailed paired Student *t*-test values were calculated (HNRNPH1 intron/AdML5'SS: $p=0.0017$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA; HNRNPH1 intron/AdML BP: HNRNPH1 intron/AdML 5'SS-BP-3'SS: $p=0.0415$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA). * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$. Source data of all the above panels are provided as a Source Data file.

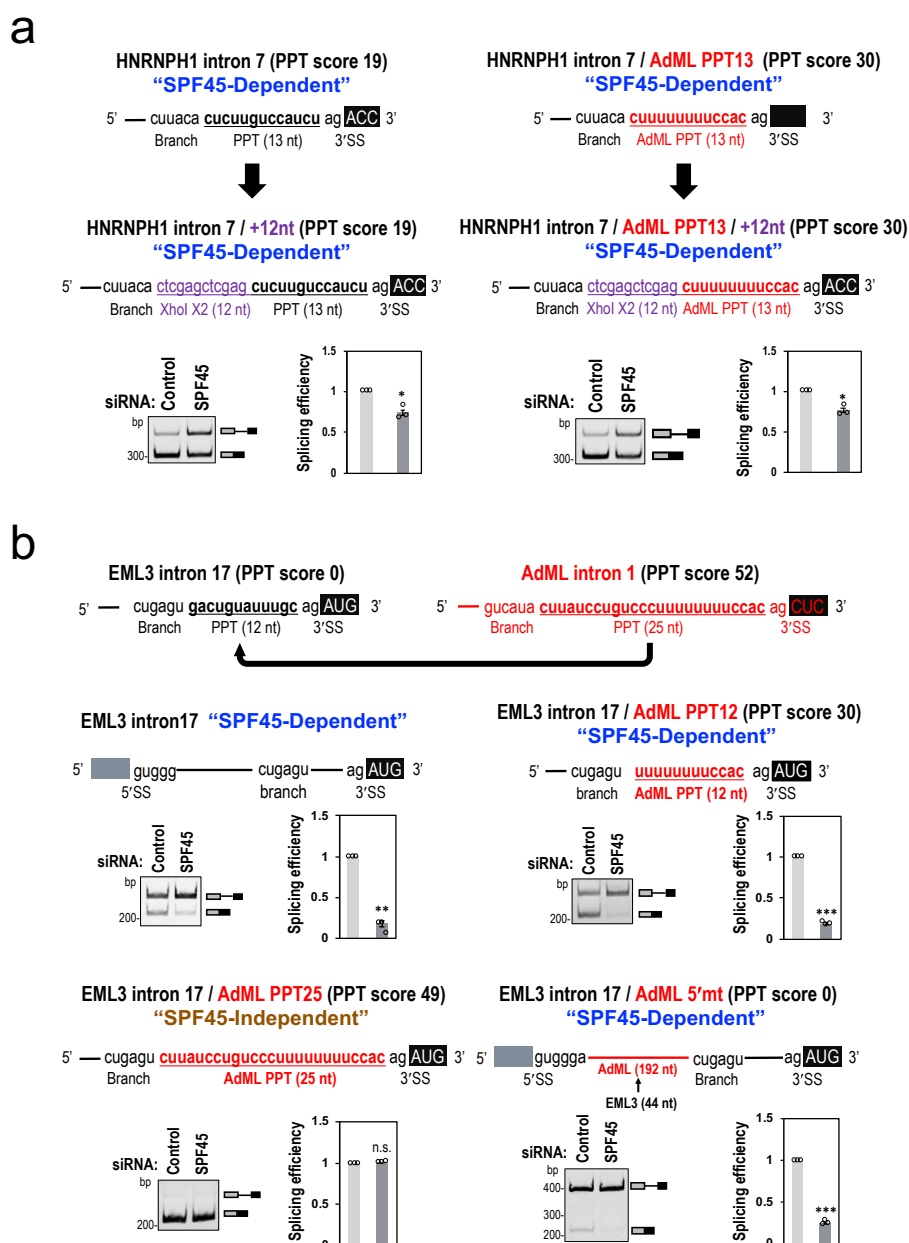


Fig. S3 Truncated polypyrimidine tract (PPT) *per se* is the determinant for SPF45-dependent splicing in short introns.

a, Extending the distance between the branch site and the 3' splice site has no effect on SPF45-dependent splicing. Original HNRNPH1 pre-mRNA and variant pre-mRNAs with AdML PPT and extended 12-nt fragment (dimer of XhoI site) are schematically shown (red color: AdML derived sequences). Means $\pm$ SEM are given for three independent experiments and two-tailed paired Student *t*-test values were calculated (HNRNPH1 intron/+12nt: $p=0.0305$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA; HNRNPH1 intron/AdML PPT13/+12nt: $p=0.0214$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA). * $P < 0.05$. **b**, Critical role of the truncated PPT is also verified in the another SPF45-dependent short intron. Original EML3 and AdML pre-mRNAs, and chimeric EML3 pre-mRNAs are schematically shown (red color: AdML derived sequences). See Fig. 3 for the *in cellulo* splicing assays. Means $\pm$ SEM are given for three independent experiments and two-tailed paired Student *t*-test values were calculated (EML3 intron: $p=0.0025$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA; EML3 intron/AdML PPT25 $p=0.1190$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA; EML3 intron/AdML PPT12: $p=0.0001$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA; EML3 intron/AdML 5'mt: $p=0.0004$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA). ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$, n.s.= not statistically significant $P > 0.05$. Source data of all the above panels are provided as a Source Data file.

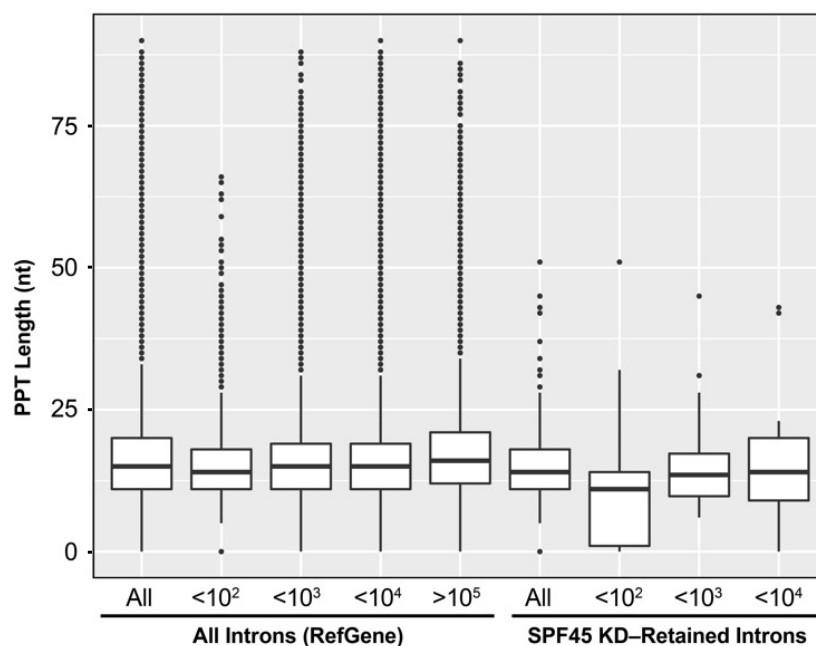


Fig. S4 Truncated polypyrimidine tract (PPT) is dominated in the set of the SPF45-dependent introns shorter than 100 nt.

The box plots compare the PPT-length distributions of all introns (in human RefGene) with those of the retained introns in SPF45-knockdown HEK293 cells. The numbers of introns are indicated in parentheses (discrepancy of the total numbers comparing with Fig. 2b is due to the elimination of introns with ambiguous branch point and PPT). Box plots show the summary of the data set; median (middle line), 25–75th percentile (box), and <5th and >95th percentile (whiskers), together with outliers (single points). Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

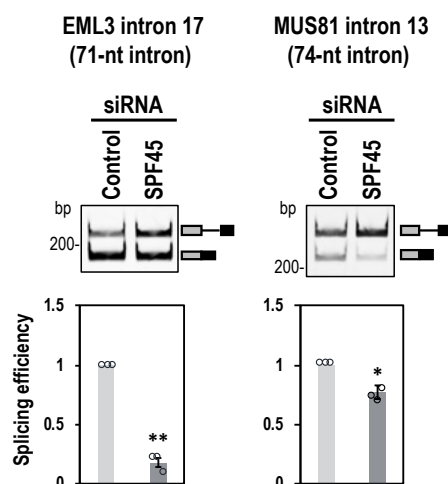


Fig. S5 The SPF45-dependency is recapitulated in ectopically expressed two mini-genes including short introns.

In cellulo splicing assays (see Fig. 3) of EML3-intron 17 and MUS81-intron 13 pre-mRNAs were performed using control siRNA- and SPF45 siRNA-treated HeLa cells (see Fig. 1 for the depletion efficiency of SPF45). Means $\pm$ SEM are given for three independent experiments and two-tailed paired Student *t*-test values were calculated (EML3 intron: $p=0.0025$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA; MUS81 intron: $p=0.0157$ for Control vs SPF45 siRNA). * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$. Source data of the above panels are provided as a Source Data file.

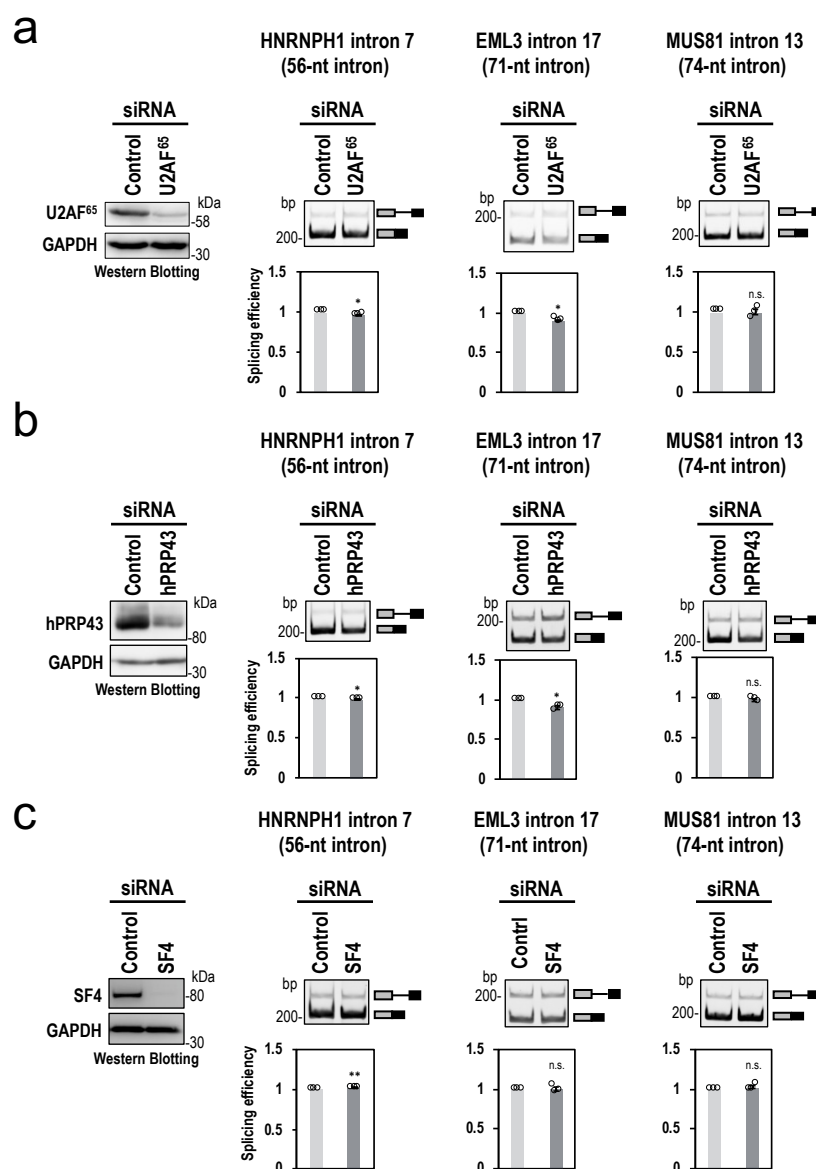


Fig. S6 Knockdown of the potential SPF45-interacting factors (U2AF⁶⁵, hPRP43 and SF4) has no effect on SPF-45 dependent splicing.

a, HeLa cells were transfected with control siRNA and siRNA targeting U2AF⁶⁵. At 72 h post-transfection, the U2AF⁶⁵ protein depletion was checked by a Western blotting with indicated antibodies (left panel). *In cellulo* splicing assays of the indicated three short introns using RT-PCR (see also Fig. S1). Means $\pm$ SEM are given for three independent experiments and two-tailed paired Student *t*-test values were calculated (HNRNPH1 intron: $p=0.0201$ for Control vs U2AF⁶⁵ siRNA; EML3 intron: $p=0.0223$ for Control vs U2AF⁶⁵ siRNA; MUS81 intron: $p=0.9882$ for Control vs U2AF⁶⁵ siRNA). * $P < 0.05$, n.s. * $P > 0.05$. **b**, HeLa cells were transfected with control siRNA (Ctl) and siRNA targeting hPRP43. See above for Western blotting and *in cellulo* splicing assays. Means $\pm$ SEM are given for three independent experiments and two-tailed Student *t*-test values were calculated (HNRNPH1 intron: $p=0.0295$ for Control vs hPRP43 siRNA; EML3 intron: $p=0.0405$ for Control vs hPRP43 siRNA; MUS81 intron: $p=0.2182$ for Control vs hPRP43 siRNA). * $P < 0.05$, n.s. * $P > 0.05$. **c**, HeLa cells were transfected with control siRNA (Ctl) and siRNA targeting SF4. See above for Western blotting and *in cellulo* splicing assays. Means $\pm$ SEM are given for three independent experiments and two-tailed paired Student *t*-test values were calculated (HNRNPH1 intron: $p=0.0072$ for Control vs SF4 siRNA; EML3 intron: $p=0.8010$ for Control vs SF4 siRNA; MUS81 intron: $p=0.3989$ for Control siRNA vs SF4 siRNA). ** $P < 0.01$, n.s. * $P > 0.05$. Source data of all the above panels are provided as a Source Data file.

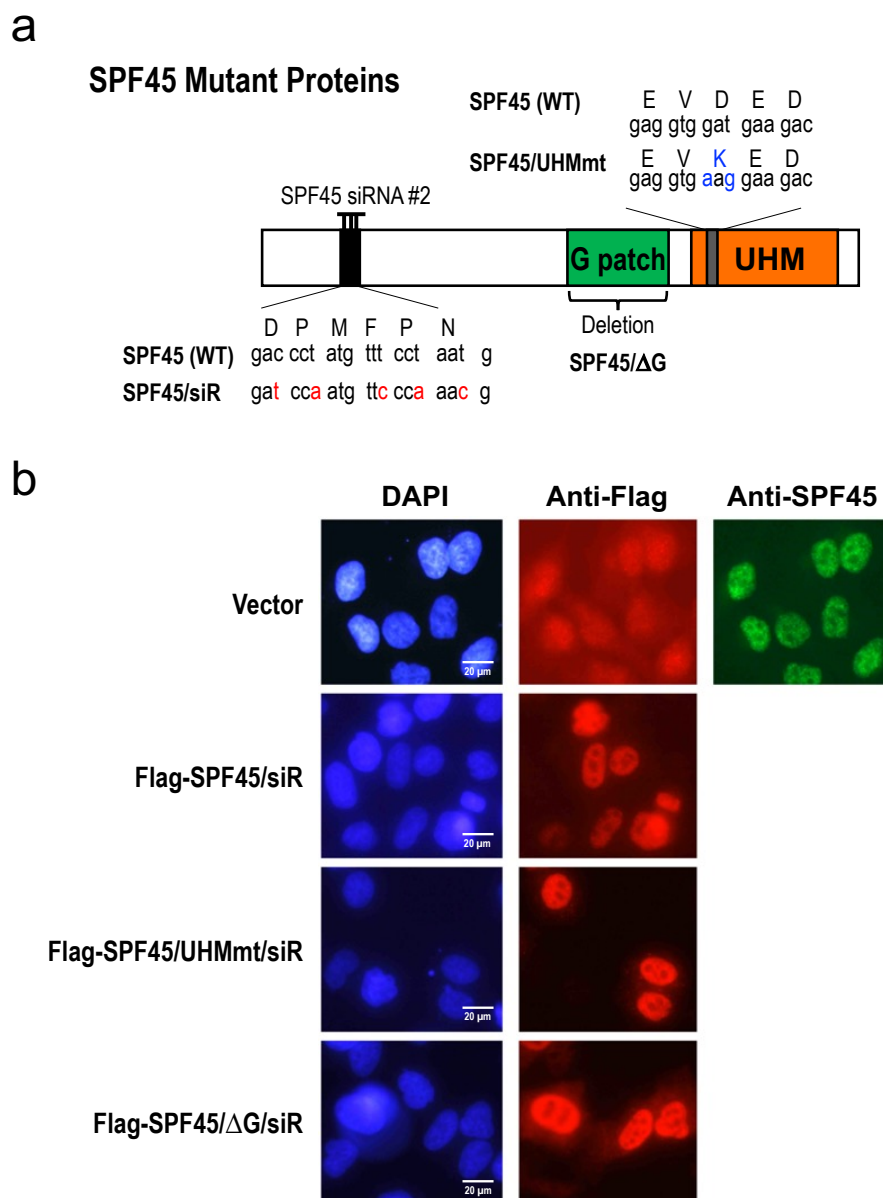


Fig. S7 Subcellular localization of SPF45/siR, SPF45/UHMmt/siR, and SPF45/ΔG/siR proteins.

a, Schematic structures of SPF45 and the induced mutations in the indicated expression plasmids. The D→K mutation in SPF45/UHMmt, whose protein cannot bind ULM, is highlighted in blue. The target of SPF45-siRNA#2 is depicted and introduced five silent siRNA-resistant mutations were highlighted in red.

b, HeLa cells were transfected with Flag-SPF45/siR, Flag-SPF45/UHMmt/siR, and Flag-SPF45/ΔG/siR expression plasmids and their subcellular localizations were examined by immunofluorescence microscopy using indicated antibodies. Cells were also stained with DAPI to detect nuclei. Immunofluorescence microscopic assays are representative of three independent experiments. Source data of the above microscopy images are provided as a Source Data file.

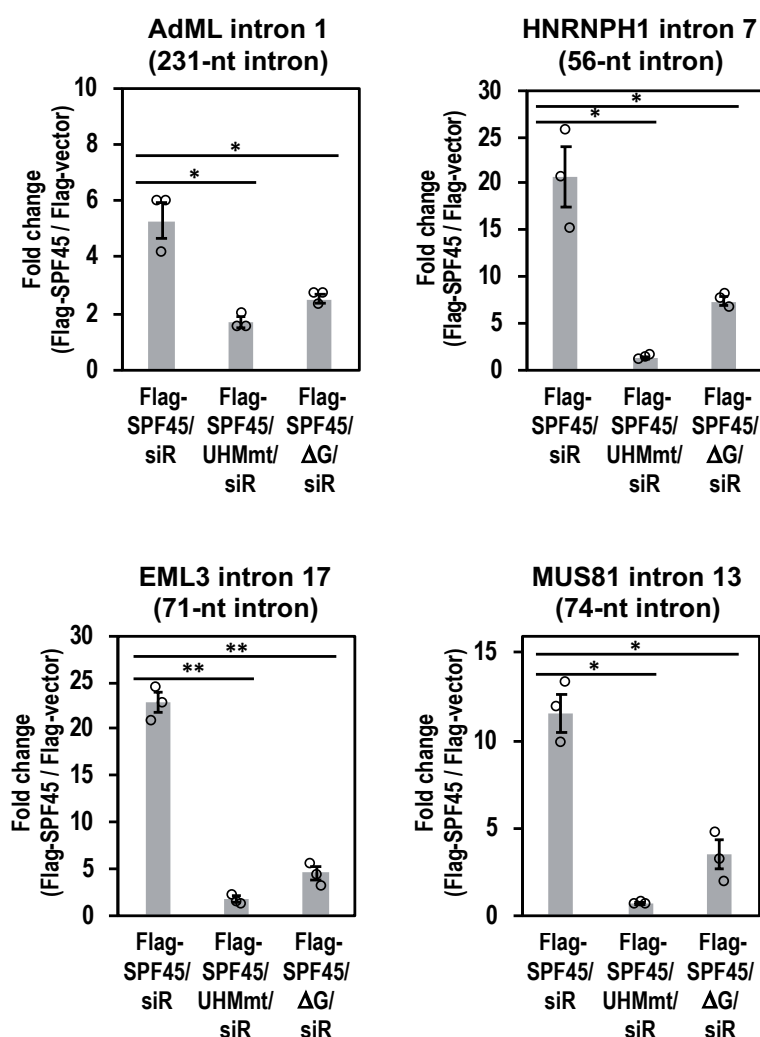


FIG. S8 Specific association of SPF45 to short introns is dependent on the binding to SF3b155 through UHM–ULM interaction.

In cellulo formaldehyde crosslinking and immunoprecipitation analysis (see Fig. 4a) demonstrates that the SPF45 association to indicated three short introns is drastically impaired by the UHM mutation in SPF45. Since SPF45 can bind to both short and control introns *via* five ULMs in SF3b155 (see Fig. 4a), it is consistent to observe the impairment also in control AdML intron. Means $\pm$ SEM are given for three independent experiments and two-tailed paired Student *t*-test values were calculated (AdML intron: $p=0.0470$ for Flag-SPF45/siR vs Flag-SPF45/UHMmt/siR; AdML intron: $p=0.0277$ for Flag-SPF45/siR vs Flag-SPF45/ΔG/siR; HNRNPH1 intron: $p=0.0270$ for Flag-SPF45/siR vs Flag-SPF45/UHMmt/siR; HNRNPH1 intron: $p=0.0394$ for Flag-SPF45/siR vs Flag-SPF45/ΔG/siR; EML3 intron: $p=0.0041$ for Flag-SPF45/siR vs Flag-SPF45/UHMmt/siR; EML3 intron: $p=0.0072$ for Flag-SPF45/siR vs Flag-SPF45/ΔG/siR; MUS81 intron: $p=0.0101$ for Flag-SPF45/siR vs Flag-SPF45/UHMmt/siR; MUS81 intron: $p=0.0358$ for Flag-SPF45/siR vs Flag-SPF45/ΔG/siR). * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$. Source data of the above graphs are provided as a Source Data file.

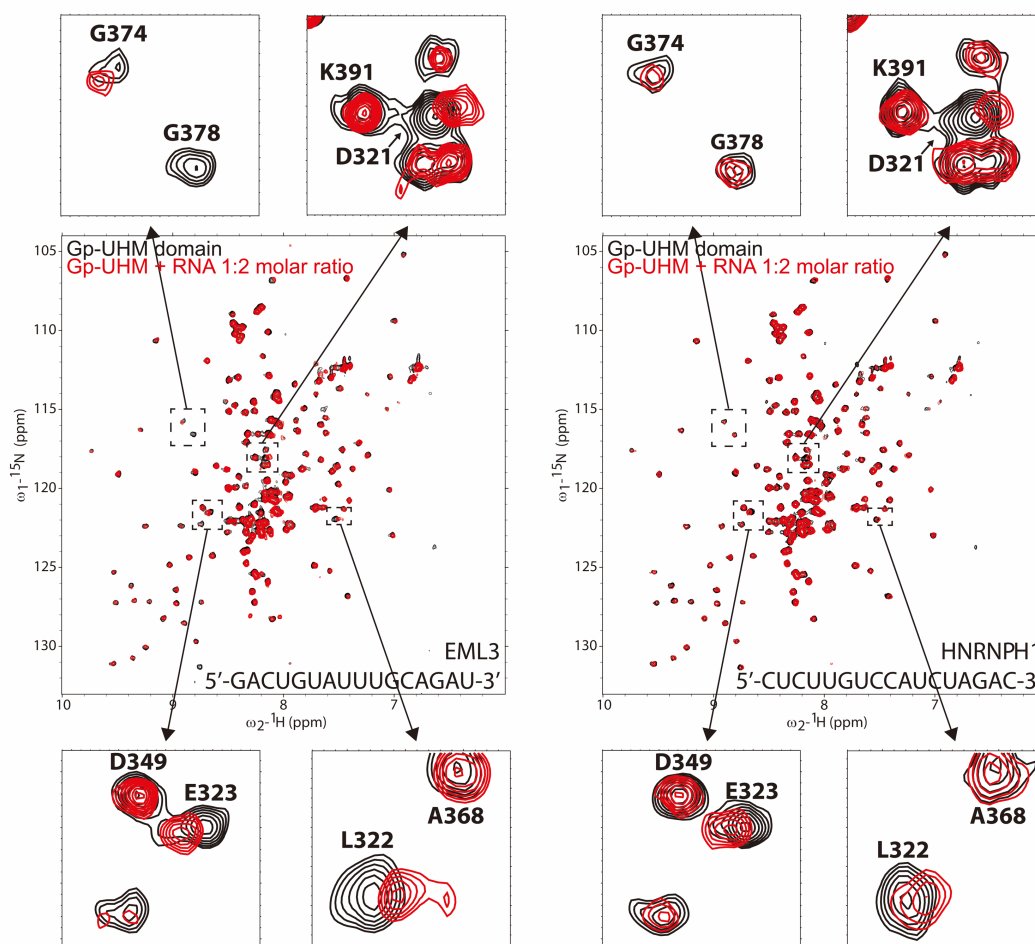


FIG. S9 The G-patch motif and UHM domain of SPF45 do not bind significantly to RNA sequences of the truncated PPT from two short introns.

Comparison of NMR ^1H , ^{15}N correlation spectra of SPF45 G-patch-UHM domain after 2-molar excess addition of the truncated PPTs from EML3 (left panel) and hnRNPH1 (right panel). Only minor changes (small chemical shift changes and line-broadening) are observed, which suggest non-specific and very weak interactions (with high micro-molar K_D).