## Supporting information

## Covalently Linking Oligomerization-Impaired GlpF Protomers Does Not Completely Re-establish Wild-Type Channel Activity

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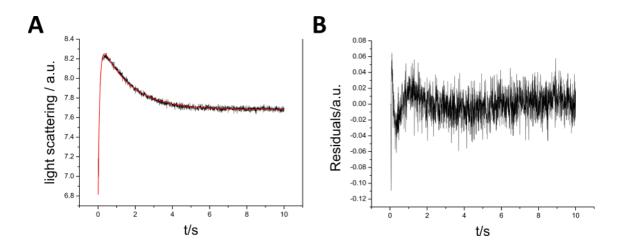
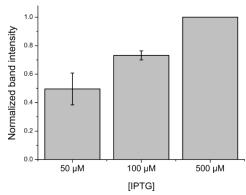
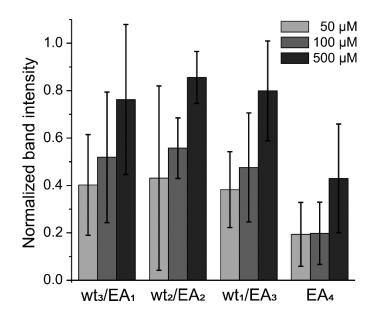


Figure S1: Light-scattering curve fitting.

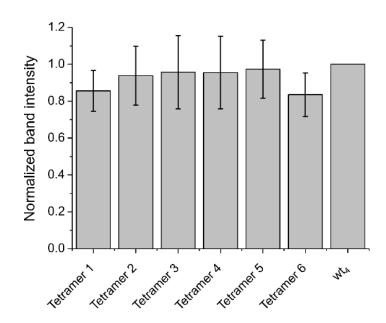
(A) An example of a light-scattering curve is shown in black. Rapid mixing of GlpF with ribitol results in fast cell shrinking, visible as a steep increase of the light-scattering signal. The ribitol and water influx through GlpF is visible as the slow decay in light-scattering intensity. The applied single exponential fit is shown in red. (B) Distribution of residuals of the fit function shown in (A).



**Figure S2**: Densitometric analyses of the Western blots used for the determination of the wt4 expression level at increasing [IPTG] (compare Figure 2 in the main text). The expression level of membrane-integrated GlpF increases with increasing [IPTG]. The intensity at  $500 \, \mu M$  IPTG was set as  $1.0 \, (n = 3 \pm SD)$ .



**Figure S3**: Densitometric analyses of the Western blots used for quantification of the expression level of fused GlpF heterooligomers (compare Figure 3 in the main article). The expression level of membrane-incorporated GlpF increases with increasing [IPTG] (different IPTG concentrations are shown in different gray tones). The intensity of the wt4 construct at [IPTG] =  $500 \mu M$  was set as 1.0. Note that the SD values are high at  $50 \mu M$  and  $100 \mu M$  IPTG. At [IPTG] =  $500 \mu M$ , most heterooligomers show similar expression levels. Solely the expression level of EA4 is reduced by 1.8 in comparison to wt4 (n =  $3 \pm SD$ ).



**Figure S4**: Densitometric analyses of the Western blots used for the determination of the expression level of the fused GlpF  $wt_2/EA_2$  permutations (compare Figure 5 in the main article). All produced heterooligomers have an expression level that is comparable to the GlpF  $wt_4$  homooligomer, which was set as 1.0 (n = 3 ± SD).