

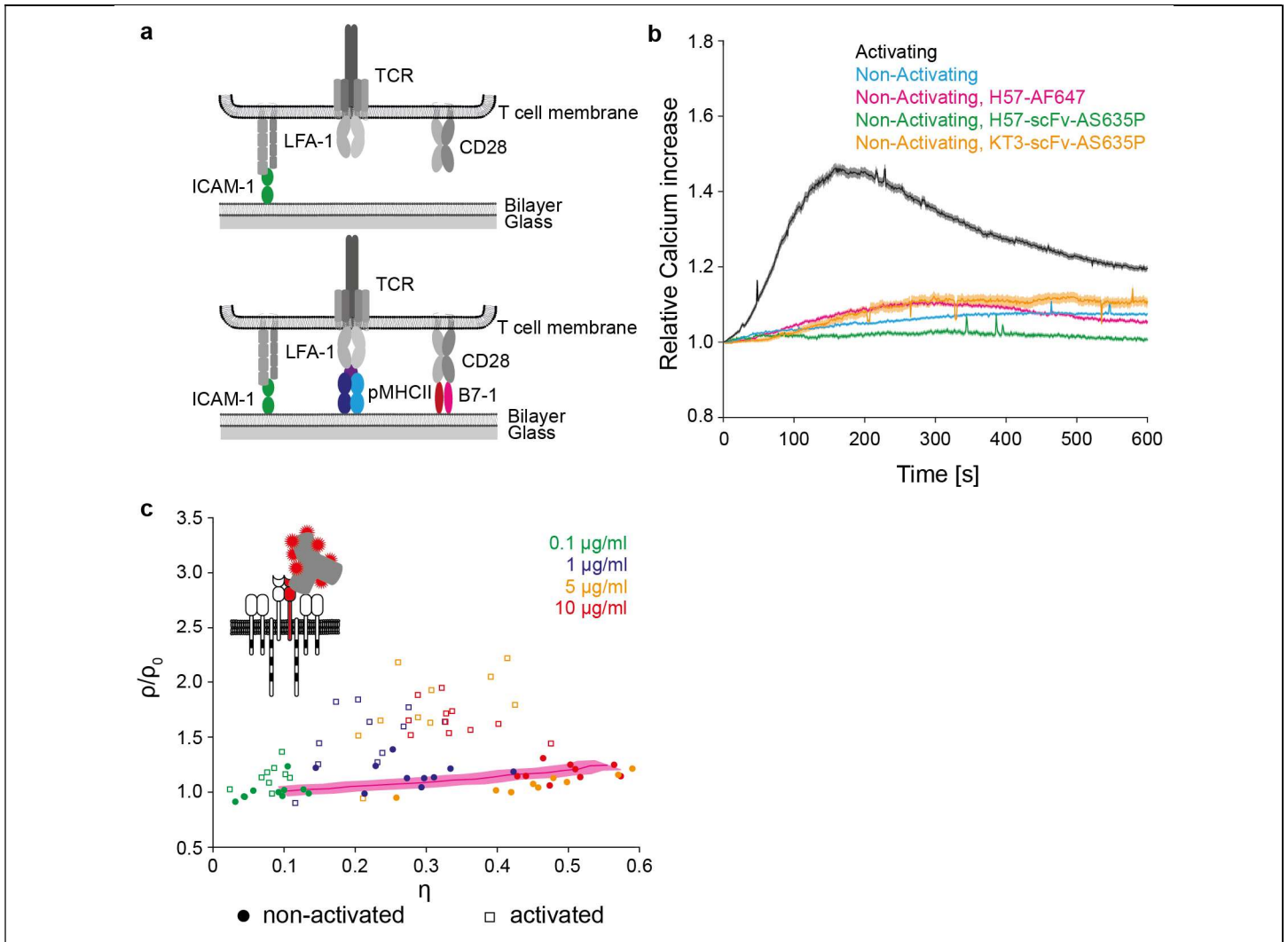
In the format provided by the authors and unedited.

# TCRs are randomly distributed on the plasma membrane of resting antigen-experienced T cells

Benedikt Rossboth <sup>1</sup>, Andreas M. Arnold<sup>1</sup>, Haisen Ta<sup>2</sup>, René Platzer<sup>3</sup>, Florian Kellner <sup>3</sup>,  
Johannes B. Huppa <sup>3</sup>, Mario Brameshuber <sup>1\*</sup>, Florian Baumgart <sup>1\*</sup> and Gerhard J. Schütz <sup>1\*</sup>

---

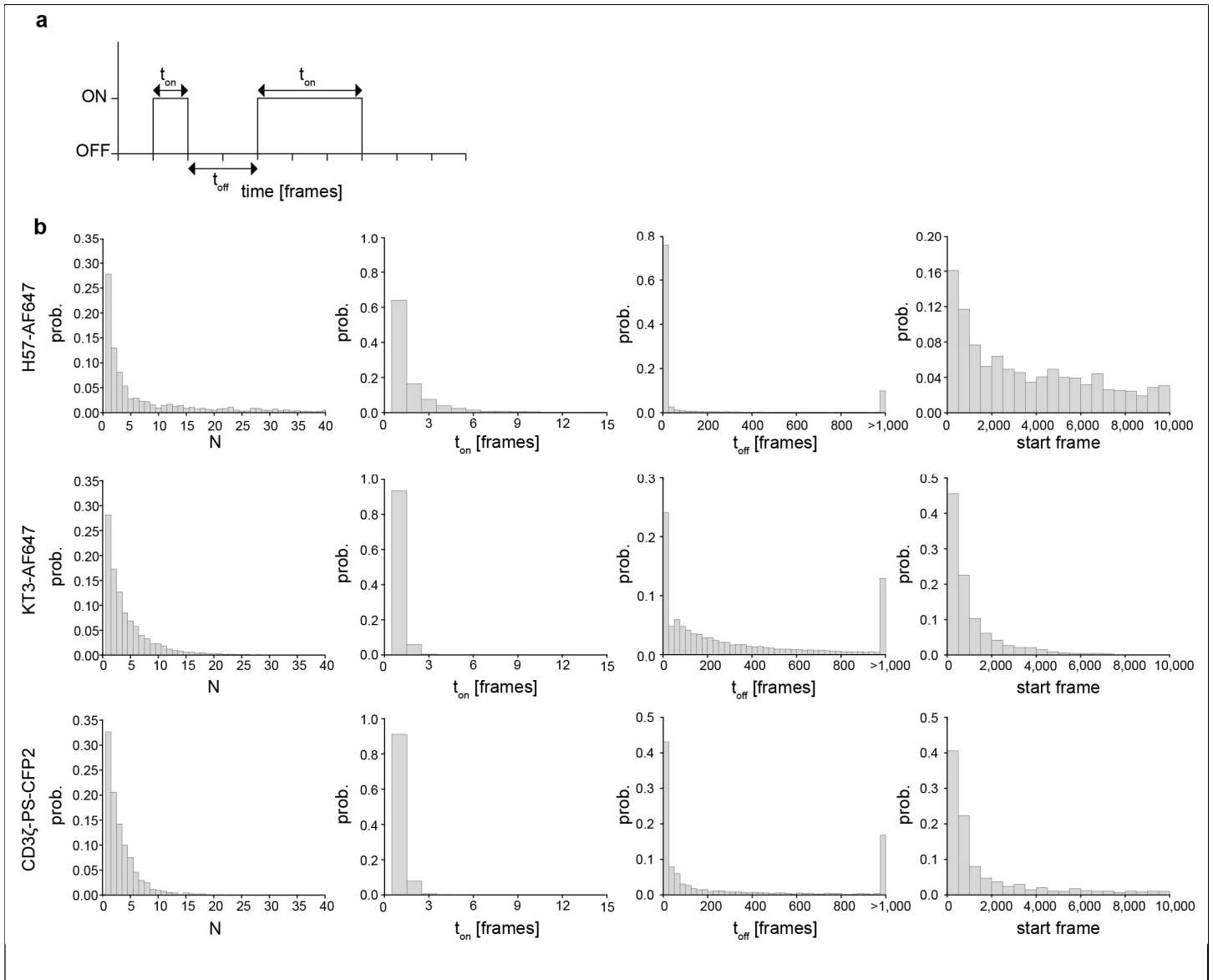
<sup>1</sup>Institute of Applied Physics, TU Wien, Vienna, Austria. <sup>2</sup>Department of NanoBiophotonics, Max Planck Institute for Biophysical Chemistry, Göttingen, Germany. <sup>3</sup>Institute for Hygiene and Applied Immunology, Center for Pathophysiology, Infectiology and Immunology, Medical University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria. \*e-mail: [brameshuber@iap.tuwien.ac.at](mailto:brameshuber@iap.tuwien.ac.at); [baumgart@iap.tuwien.ac.at](mailto:baumgart@iap.tuwien.ac.at); [schuetz@iap.tuwien.ac.at](mailto:schuetz@iap.tuwien.ac.at)



### Supplementary Figure 1

#### T cell activation model systems, quantification of T cell activation by ratiometric $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ imaging and titration steps in label-density-variation dSTORM with H57-AF647

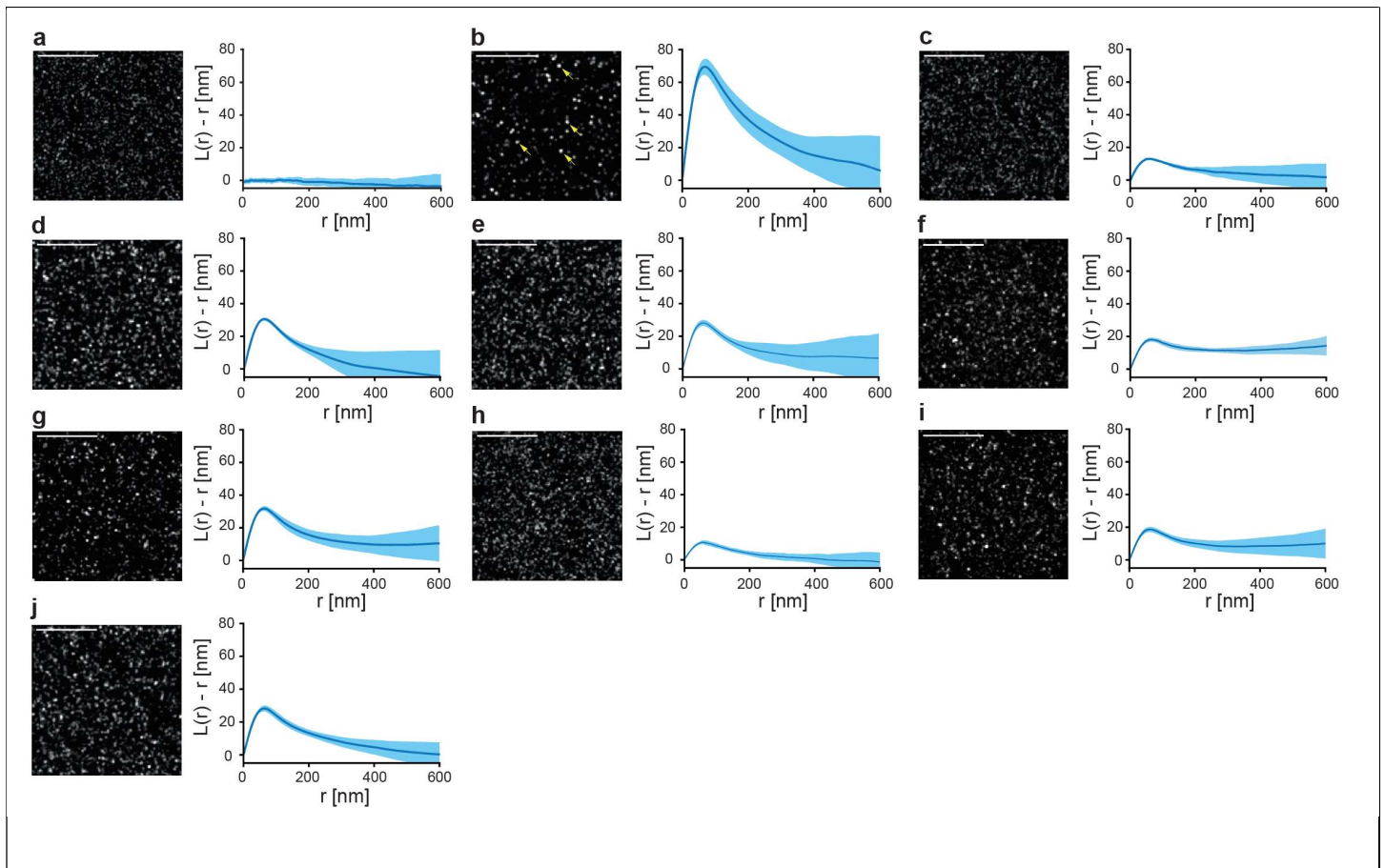
(a) Schematic of model system: primary murine  $\text{CD4}^+$   $\text{T}_{\text{EFF}}$  cells on supported lipid bilayers displaying ICAM-1 (green) for non-activating conditions (top), or ICAM-1, B7-1 (red), and cognate pMHCII (here MCC-I-E<sup>k</sup>) (blue) for activating conditions (bottom). (b) Ratiometric  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  imaging via Fura-2 to assess activation state of primary murine  $\text{CD4}^+$   $\text{T}_{\text{EFF}}$  cells. T cell activation and concomitant increase in cytosolic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  under activating conditions (black, 2,128 cells from 7 independent experiments) or non-activating conditions (see a): unlabeled cells (blue, 2,362 cells from 7 independent experiments), or cells labeled with H57-AF647 (magenta, 763 cells from 2 independent experiments), H57-scFv-AS635P (green, 293 cells from 3 independent experiments), or KT3-scFv-AS635P (orange, 1205 cells from 4 independent experiments). Data shown as medians  $\pm$  SE of the median. (c) Label-density-variation dSTORM using H57-AF647. Data represent one titration experiment shown in Fig. 2b with each data point color-coded according the antibody concentrations used for labeling; Red line and pink shading indicate the reference line and its uncertainty for a random distribution derived from simulations based on the experimentally determined blinking statistics of H57-AF647 (mean  $\pm$  SEM; n=50 independent simulations).



**Supplementary Figure 2**

**Single molecule blinking statistics**

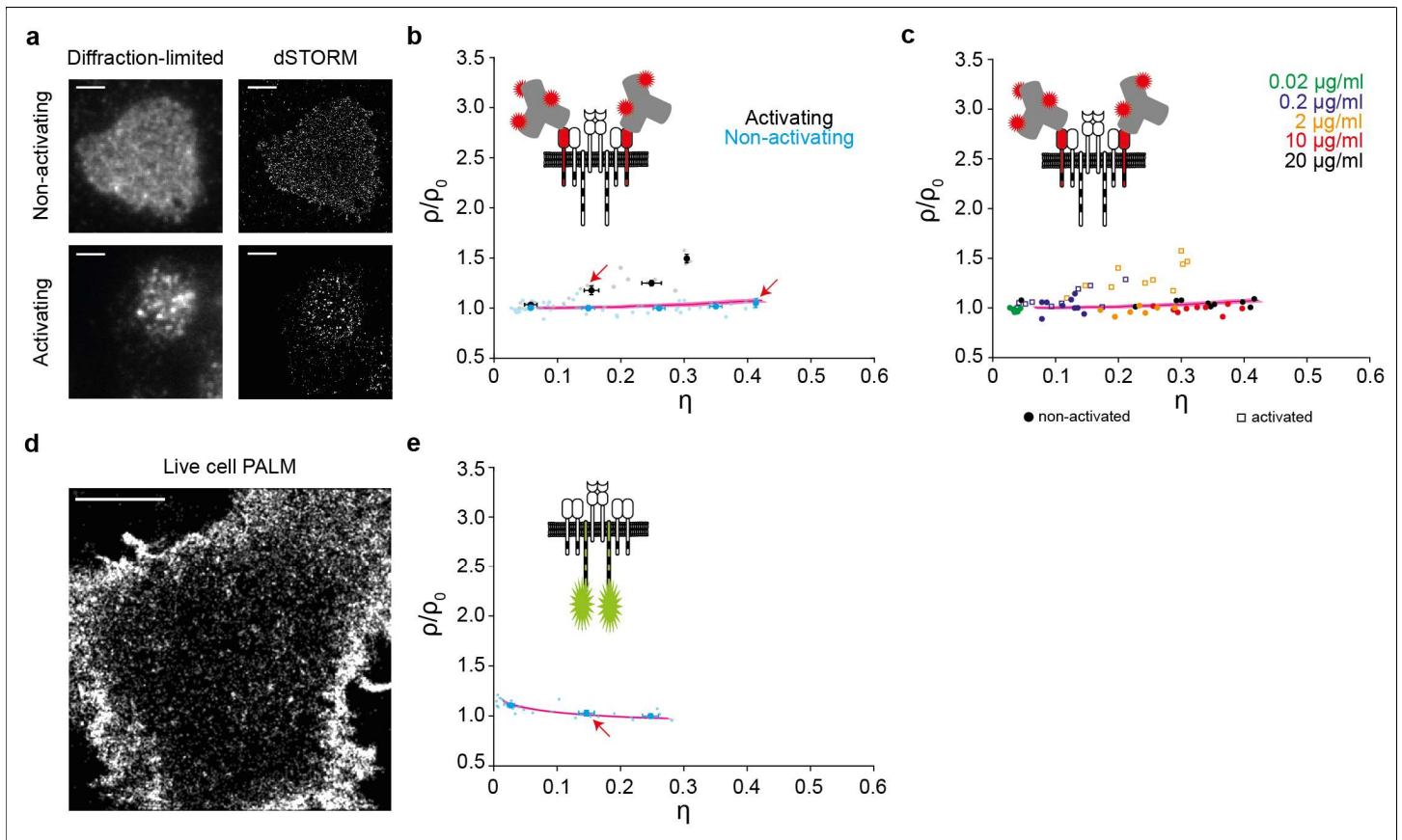
Blinking statistics of labels used for label-density-variation SMLM experiments derived from time traces of recorded localizations. Data were recorded on fixed primary murine CD4<sup>+</sup> T<sub>EFF</sub> cells labeled with antibody concentrations or PS-CFP2 expression levels so low that well-separated single molecule signals could be observed. **(a)**  $t_{on}$ : time a single molecule was detectable in consecutive frames,  $t_{off}$ : time a molecule remained in a dark state. **(b)** Histograms summarizing the blinking data with respect to the total number of observation per molecule,  $N$ ,  $t_{on}$ ,  $t_{off}$  and the first frame in which a molecule was detected;  $n=1,827$  for H57-AF647,  $n=6,151$  for KT3-AF647 and  $n=1,409$  for PS-CFP2.



### Supplementary Figure 3

#### Effect of blinking on SMLM data and Ripley's K analysis

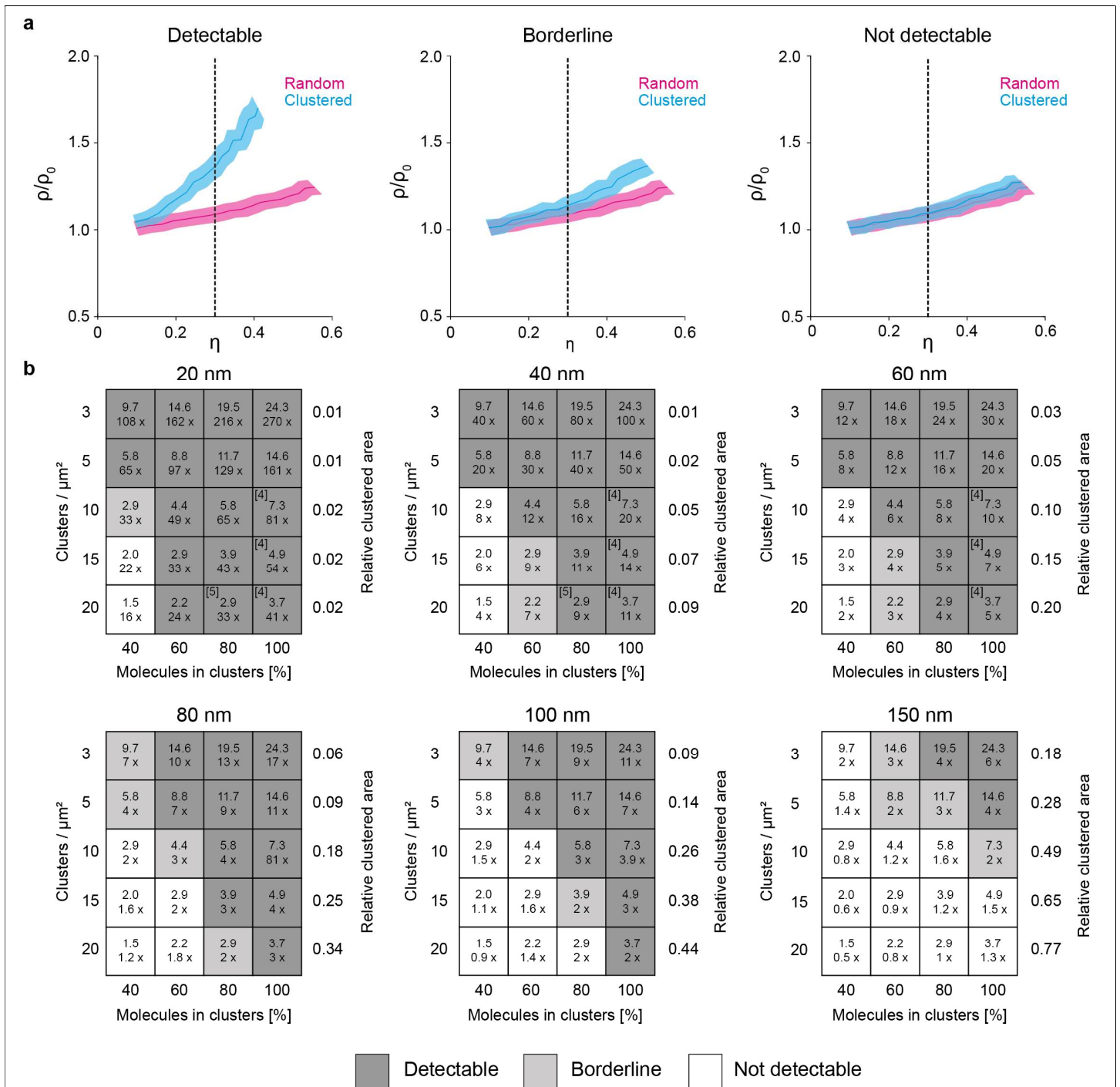
A molecular density of 70 molecules/ $\mu\text{m}^2$  in ROIs of  $5 \times 5 \mu\text{m}$  was simulated in 10 independent runs per condition. Blinking was simulated based on experimentally determined blinking statistics (**Supplementary Fig. 2**). Localization maps are shown for each condition (*left panels*) with corresponding Ripley's K analysis (*right panels*). Random molecular distributions were simulated (**a**) without blinking, i.e. each molecule is represented by one localization or (**b**) including blinking statistics determined for anti-TCR $\beta$  H57-AF647. Yellow arrows indicate clearly visible blinking-related localization clusters. (**c-j**) Further scenarios relevant for this study were simulated as follows: (**c**) Randomly distributed dimers without blinking; (**d**) randomly distributed dimers with blinking based on anti-CD3 $\epsilon$  KT3-AF647; (**e**) randomly distributed dimers with blinking based on PS-CFP2; (**f**) randomly distributed dimers that diffuse according to parameters determined for the TCR (mobile fraction of 64% and  $D = 0.047 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ) with blinking based on PS-CFP2; (**g**) randomly distributed monomers with blinking based on PS-CFP2; (**h**) a mix of 70% randomly distributed dimers and 30% randomly distributed monomers without blinking; (**i**) a randomly distributed mix of 70% dimers and 30% monomers that both diffuse according to parameters determined for the TCR (mobile fraction of 64% and  $D = 0.047 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ) and that both show blinking based on PS-CFP2; (**j**) a randomly distributed mix of 70% dimers and 30% monomers that both show blinking based on PS-CFP2. Ripley's K curves are shown as mean  $\pm$  SD; Scale bars:  $2 \mu\text{m}$ .



#### Supplementary Figure 4

#### Label-density-variation SMLM of CD3 $\epsilon$ labeled with KT3-AF647 and CD3 $\zeta$ -PS-CFP2

(a) Representative diffraction-limited microscopy images (*left*) and dSTORM localization maps (*right*) of fixed primary murine CD4<sup>+</sup> T<sub>EFF</sub> cells labeled with KT3-AF647 during interaction with non-activating (*top*) or activating (*bottom*) supported lipid bilayers (n=10 and n=19 biologically independent samples for activating and non-activating conditions, respectively); Scale bars: 3  $\mu\text{m}$ . (b) Normalized  $\rho$ -versus- $\eta$  plot derived from label-density-variation dSTORM of fixed primary mouse CD4<sup>+</sup> TEFF cells under non-activating or activating conditions (key) labeled with KT3-AF647 (0.02, 0.2, 2 and 20  $\mu\text{g/ml}$ ): red arrows indicate data points corresponding to the cells in a; inset (top left), labeling strategy. Each symbol (gray or blue shading) represents an individual cell (n = 58 samples (non-activating) or n = 20 samples (activating)); red line and pink shading indicate the reference line and its uncertainty, respectively, for a random distribution derived from simulations based on the experimentally determined blinking statistics of KT3-AF647 (mean  $\pm$  s.e.m. of n = 50 independent simulations). Data were binned from four independent experiments based on  $\eta$  with a bin size of 0.1 and represented as mean  $\pm$  s.e.m: blue (non-activating), black (activating). (c) Label-density-variation dSTORM using KT3-AF647. Data are identical to b with each data point color-coded according the antibody concentrations used for labeling; red line and pink shading indicate the reference line and its uncertainty for a random distribution derived from simulations based on the experimentally determined blinking statistics of KT3-AF647 (mean  $\pm$  SEM; n=50 independent simulations). (d) Live primary murine CD4<sup>+</sup> T<sub>EFF</sub> expressing CD3 $\zeta$ -PS-CFP2 under non-activating conditions. Representative map of all recorded localizations is shown (n=29 biologically independent samples. Scale bars: 3  $\mu\text{m}$ ). (e) Normalized  $\rho$  versus  $\eta$  plot derived from label density variation PALM based on the intrinsic expression level variabilities of primary murine CD4<sup>+</sup> T<sub>EFF</sub> cells expressing CD3 $\zeta$ -PS-CFP2 under non-activating conditions (key): red arrows indicate data points corresponding to the cell in d; inset (top left), labeling strategy. Each symbol (blue shading) represents an individual cell (n = 29 samples); red line and pink shading indicate the reference line and its uncertainty, respectively, for a random distribution derived from simulations based on the experimentally determined blinking statistics of PS-CFP2 (mean  $\pm$  s.e.m. of n = 50 independent simulations). Data were binned from two independent experiments based on  $\eta$  with a bin size of 0.1 and represented as mean  $\pm$  s.e.m (blue).

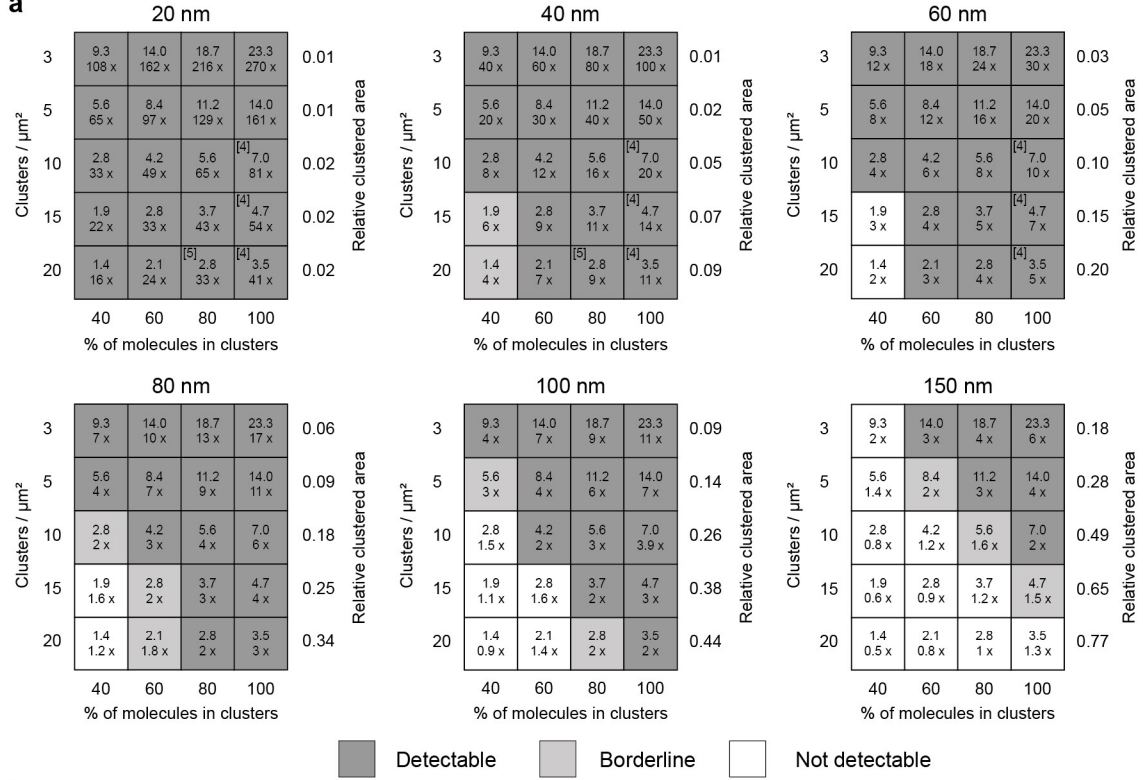
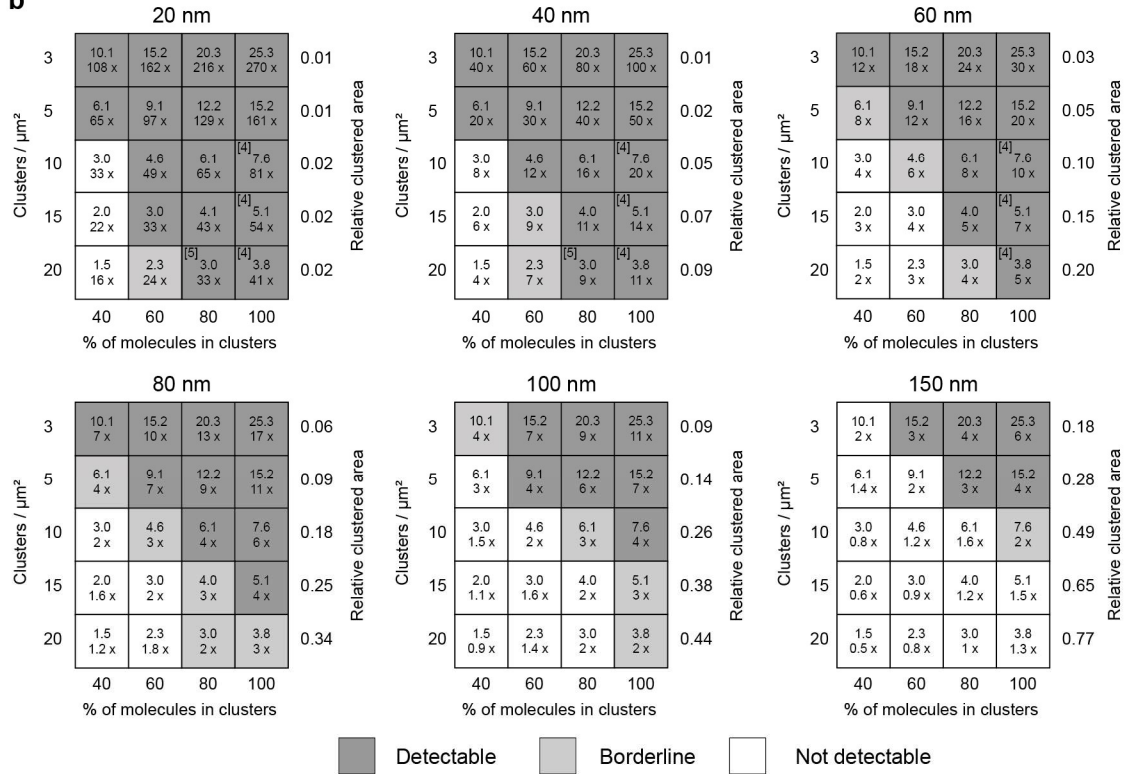


**Supplementary Figure 5**

**Classification criteria for cluster detection and sensitivity of label-density-variation SMLM to detect nanoclustering in experiments using H57-AF647**

(a) Schematic normalized  $\rho$  versus  $\eta$  plots of random (red) and different cluster scenarios (blue): cluster scenarios were classified as clearly detectable, when confidence intervals did not show overlap at  $\eta=0.3$  (left); as borderline, when confidence intervals overlapped at  $\eta=0.3$ , but mean values were outside the confidence intervals (center); as not detectable, when mean values were lying within the

respective confidence intervals at  $\eta=0.3$  (*right*). All curves are plotted as mean  $\pm$  SEM. The dashed line indicates  $\eta=0.3$ , where the detectability was evaluated. **(b)** Normalized  $\rho$  versus  $\eta$  plots were calculated for different simulated clustering scenarios and assessed for the difference from simulated random molecular distributions; detectable difference (dark gray), borderline (light gray) and not detectable difference (white) as shown in **a**. Reference numbers indicate scenarios published in the literature. Simulations of nanoclusters with radii of 20, 40, 60, 80, 100 and 150 nm for 3, 5, 10, 15 and 20 clusters/ $\mu\text{m}^2$ . The fraction of molecules inside clusters was varied between 40% and 100%. Average molecular densities were adjusted to 73 molecules/ $\mu\text{m}^2$  based on H57-AF647 labeling of TCR $\beta$  (**Fig. 2a**). Blinking statistics were based on experimental data of H57-AF647. Numbers in boxes indicate the average number of molecules per cluster and the relative enrichment of molecules inside *versus* outside of clusters is indicated. The relative clustered area (*right*) was calculated from thresholded binary cluster maps. The figure is an extension of **Fig. 4a**: panels for 20 nm and 60 nm are identical to **Fig. 4a**.

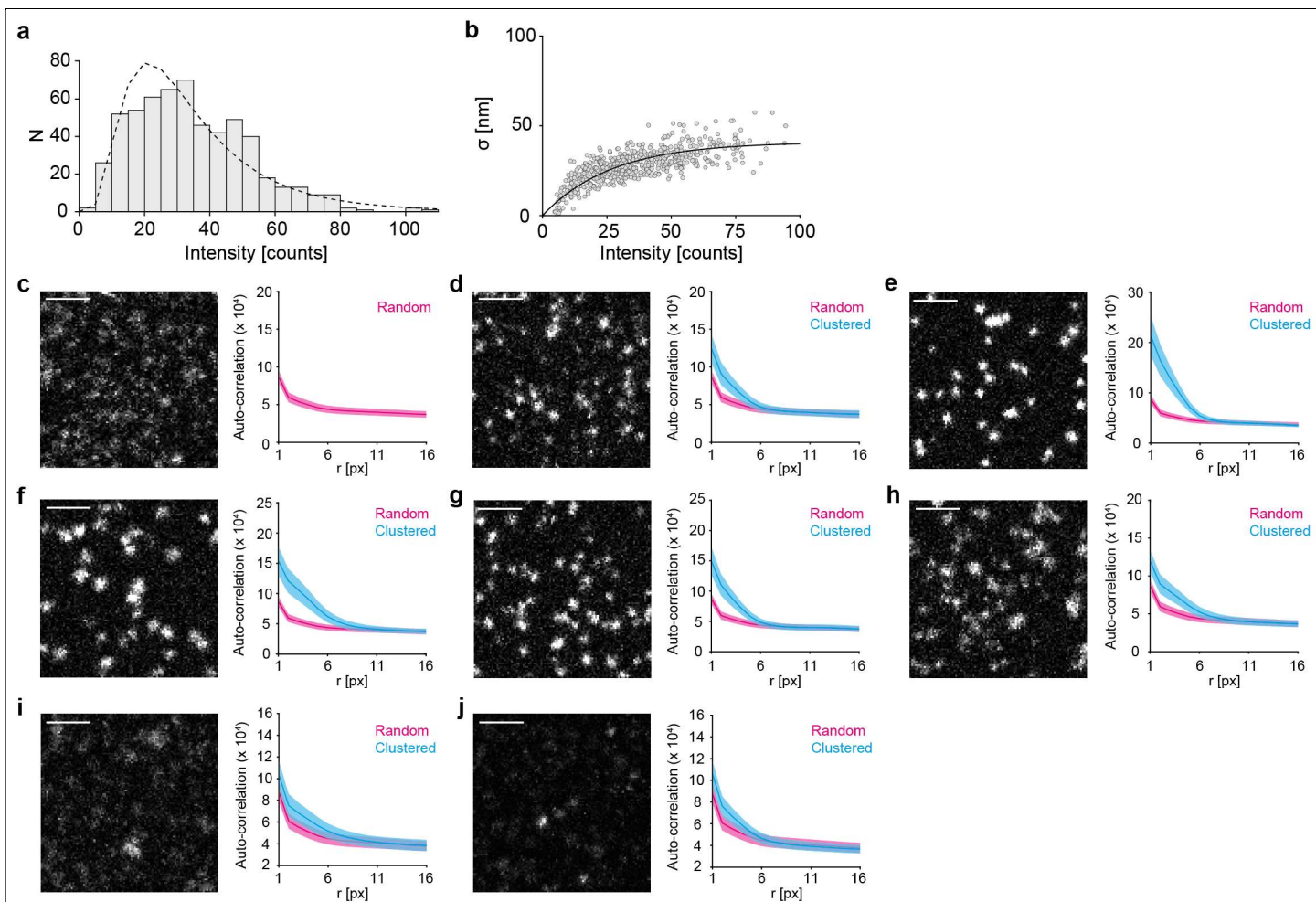
**a****b**



## Supplementary Figure 6

### Sensitivity of label-density-variation SMLM to detect nanoclustering in experiments using KT3-AF647 (a) and PS-CFP2 (b)

Normalized  $\rho$  versus  $\eta$  plots were calculated for different simulated clustering scenarios and assessed for the difference from simulated random molecular distributions; detectable difference (dark gray), borderline (light gray) and not detectable difference (white) (see **Supplementary Fig. 5a**). Reference numbers indicate scenarios published in the literature. Simulations of nanoclusters with radii of 20, 40, 60, 80, 100 and 150 nm for 3, 5, 10, 15 and 20 clusters/ $\mu\text{m}^2$ . The fraction of molecules inside clusters was varied between 40% and 100%. Average molecular densities were adjusted to (a) 70 molecules/ $\mu\text{m}^2$  based on KT3-AF647 labeling of CD3 $\epsilon$  (**Supplementary Fig. 5a**) or (b) 76 molecules/ $\mu\text{m}^2$  based on  $\zeta$ -PS-CFP2 PALM experiments (**Fig. 3a**). Blinking statistics were based on experimental data of the respective fluorescent probes. Numbers in boxes indicate the average number of molecules per cluster and the relative enrichment of molecules inside *versus* outside of clusters is indicated. The relative clustered area (*right*) was calculated from thresholded binary cluster maps. **b** is an extension of **Fig 4b**: panels for 20 nm and 60 nm are identical to **Fig. 4b**.



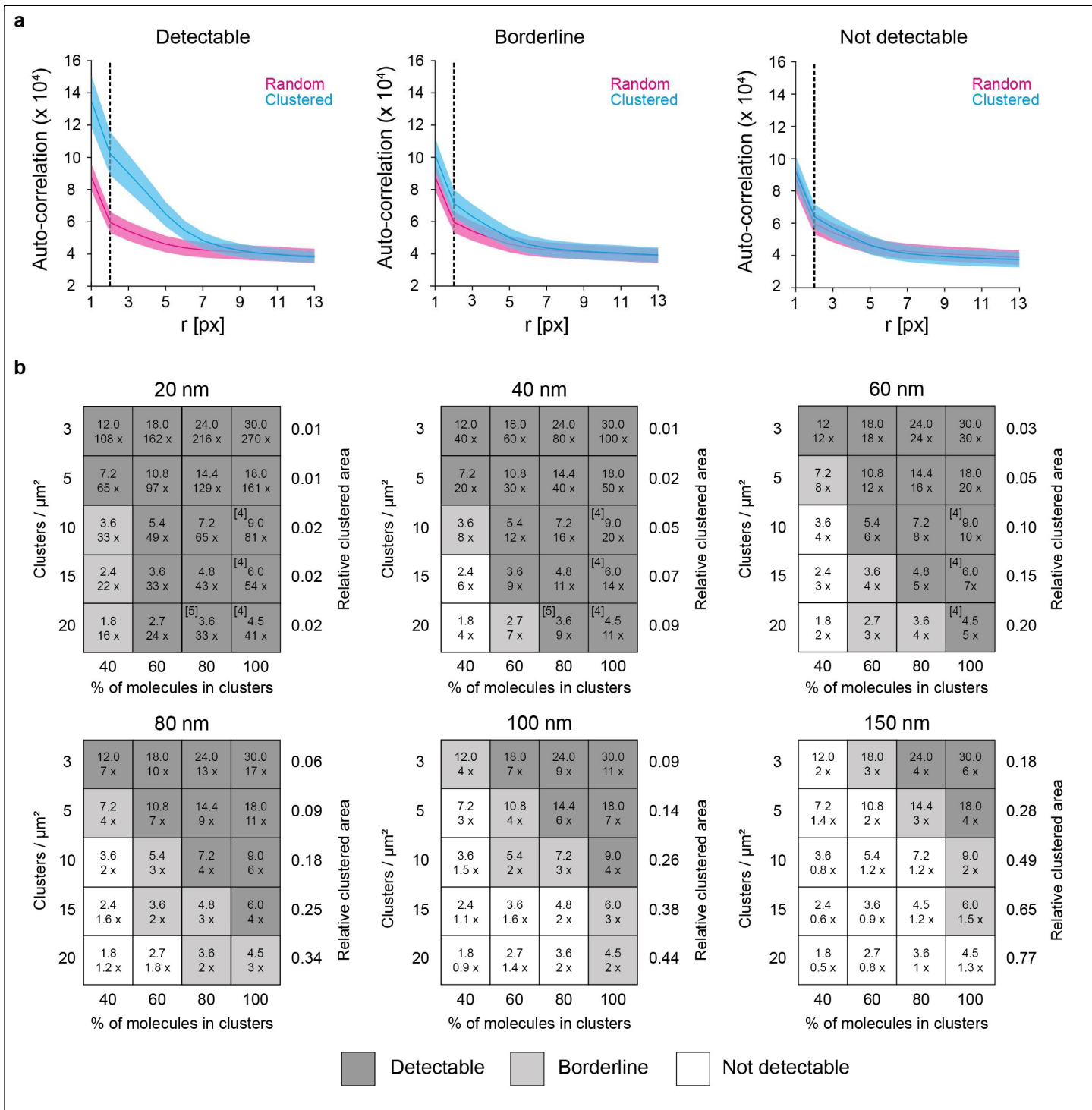
**Supplementary Figure 7**

**Characterization of single molecule signals in STED microscopy and simulated STED microscopy data of different clustering scenarios**

Characterization of single molecule signals in STED microscopy: **(a)** Fitting of single molecule signals with a Gaussian intensity profile yielded the integrated intensity ( $I$ ) and the width ( $\sigma$ ). Values for  $I$  could be fitted well with a log-normal distribution (dashed line), yielding a mean of 35.14 and a variance of 508.52. **(b)** The signal width  $\sigma$  showed a characteristic dependence on the intensity. The data were fitted with Eq. 1 (black line).

Simulated STED microscopy images (left) analyzed by image autocorrelation analysis. Red curves represent analysis of simulated random data ( $n=5$ ); blue curves represent analysis of simulated cluster scenarios ( $n=5$ ). Molecular densities were matched to the experiment. **(c)** A random distribution of molecules. **(d-j)** Different cluster scenarios characterized by cluster radius ( $r$ ), fraction of molecules inside clusters and density of clusters per area (clusters/ $\mu\text{m}^2$ ): **(d)**  $r=20$  nm, 80% in clusters, 20 clusters/ $\mu\text{m}^2$ ; **(e)**  $r=20$  nm, 100% in clusters, 10 clusters/ $\mu\text{m}^2$ ; **(f)**  $r=60$  nm, 100% in clusters, 10 clusters/ $\mu\text{m}^2$ ; **(g)**  $r=20$  nm, 100% in clusters, 20 clusters/ $\mu\text{m}^2$ ; **(h)**  $r=60$  nm, 100% in clusters, 20 clusters/ $\mu\text{m}^2$ ; **(i)**  $r=100$  nm, 15% in clusters, 0.5 clusters/ $\mu\text{m}^2$ ; **(j)**  $r=40$  nm, 10% in clusters, 0.5 clusters/ $\mu\text{m}^2$ . Curves are shown as means  $\pm$  SEM; Scale bars: 500 nm.





**Supplementary Figure 9**

**Classification criteria for cluster detection and sensitivity of STED image autocorrelation analysis to detect nanoclustering**

(a) Schematic of image autocorrelation curves of random (red) and different cluster scenarios (blue): cluster scenarios were classified as clearly detectable, when confidence intervals did not show overlap within the first two data points (left); as borderline, when confidence intervals overlapped within the first two data points, but mean values were outside the confidence intervals (center); as not detectable, when mean values were lying within the respective confidence intervals within the first two data points (right). All curves are plotted as

mean  $\pm$  SEM. The dashed line indicates that detectability was evaluated within the first two data points. **(b)** Image autocorrelation analysis was performed for different simulated clustering scenarios and assessed for the difference from simulated random molecular distributions; detectable difference (dark gray), borderline (light gray) and not detectable difference (white) as shown in **a**. Reference numbers indicate scenarios published in the literature. Simulations of nanoclusters with radii of 20, 40, 60, 80, 100 and 150 nm for 3, 5, 10, 15 and 20 clusters/ $\mu\text{m}^2$ . The fraction of molecules inside clusters was varied between 40% and 100%. Average molecular densities were adjusted to 75 molecules/ $\mu\text{m}^2$  based on KT3-scFv-AS635P labeling of CD3 $\epsilon$  (**Fig. 5**). Parameters of the simulated point spread function were based on experimental data. Numbers in boxes indicate the average number of molecules per cluster and the relative enrichment of molecules inside *versus* outside of clusters is indicated. The relative clustered area (*right*) was calculated from thresholded binary cluster maps. The figure is an extension of **Fig. 6**: panels for 20 nm and 60 nm are identical to **Fig. 6**.