Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics. This journal is © the Owner Societies 2018



Figure 1S. The structure of biradical **BR**, used for calibration experiments.



Fig.2S. (A) Semilogarithmic plot of 3-pulse ELDOR time traces for 0.1 mol. % Alm16 and 0.3 mol. % Alm1 in a glassy solvent (methanol+ethanol). The slope of linear approximations is expected to obey the theoretical relation [A. D. Milov, A. G. Maryasov, Yu. D. Tsvetkov, *Appl. Magn. Reson.*, *1998*, **15**, 107-143]:

$$\ln(E(T)/E(0)) = -\frac{8\pi^2}{9\sqrt{3}} \frac{g^2 \mu_B^2}{h} C p_B T$$

where *C* is the volume spin label concentration taken in cm<sup>-3</sup> units. The  $p_{\rm B}$  value was 0.22 (calculated from Eq. (4) (main text)). The derived C values turned out to be  $(1\pm0.15)*10^{17}$  cm<sup>-3</sup> for Alm16 and  $(3.03\pm0.05)*10^{17}$  cm<sup>-3</sup> for Alm1, that corresponds to ~0.095 mol. % and ~0.285 mol. %, respectively. (B) 3-pulse ELDOR time traces for Alm16 at different peptide/lipid ratio in dry lipid film before hydration.



Fig. 3S. 3-pulse ELDOR time traces in semilogarithmic plot for biradical BR for offset v<sub>A</sub>-v<sub>B</sub>=+70 MHz (lower curve) and v<sub>A</sub>-v<sub>B</sub>= - 70 MHz (upper curve), for positions of pumping and observation pulses in the EPR spectrum shown in the inserts.  $V_{INTER}(T)$  decays in both cases are shown by dashed lines. The calculated by Eq. (4) (main text) the  $p_{B(A)}^0$  value for the excitation in the spectral right position is 0.085 and at the spectral maximum is 0.21. Then, according to the relation  $p_B = \frac{p_B^0}{1 - p_A^0}$ , the calculated values are  $p_B(+70 \text{ MHz}) = 0.23$  and  $p_B(-70 \text{ MHz}) = 0.11$ , which are to be compared with the obtained from  $V_{INTER}(\infty)$  values the experimental ones,  $p_B(+70 \text{ MHz}) = 0.227$  and  $p_B(-70 \text{ MHz}) = 0.12$ .



Fig. 4S. Comparison of 3- and 4-pulse ELDOR experiments for Alm16 at P/L =1/100. The pulses are depicted by rectangles. The depth of intra-cluster modulation in 4-pulse ELDOR is shown by  $\lambda$ , the underestimation in 4-pulse ELDOR experiment in compare with 3-pulse experiment is shown by  $\Delta\lambda$ . The number of scans and number of shots per point are the same for both experiments.



Fig. 5S. The  $A_{ZZ}$  splitting for Alm1 and Alm16 in POPC membrane at different P/L obtained from CW EPR spectra (see insert), taken at 100 K. For comparison, the  $A_{ZZ}$  values are shown by dotted lines for Alm1 and Alm16 in methanol/ethanol glass, for lipids spin-labeled at the polar head (0-PCSL), and for stearic acids labeled at the 5<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup> acyl carbon positions (5-DSA and 16-DSA, respectively) in POPC membrane.



Figure 6S. Illustration of convergence of the three-Gaussian fit of PELDOR data in frequency domain employing a fully random Monte Carlo process: for different number of trials four independent realizations are shown. Data are shifted upwards for convenience. The sample is Alm16 in POPC membrane, P/L = 1/200.



Figure 7S. The comparison of P(r) functions for Alm16, P/L= 1/200, by 3-Gaussian Monte-Carlo simulation (red curve) and Tikhonov regularization (simulation performed in DeerAnalysis software, version 2016 (blue curve) and version 2006 (green curve)).

Figure 8S. The time-domain experimental (circles) and simulated  $V_n(T)$  curves for P(r) functions, calculated by different methods (see Fig. 7S).