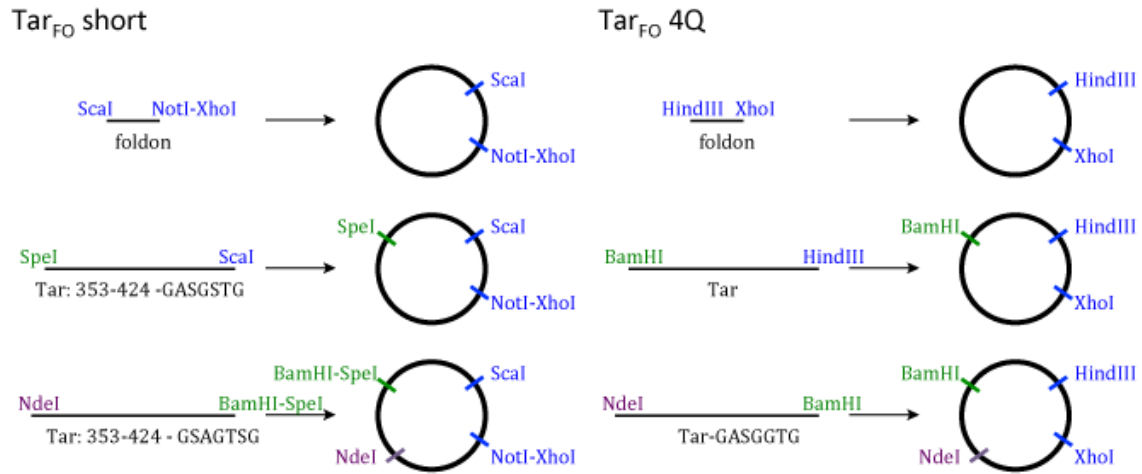


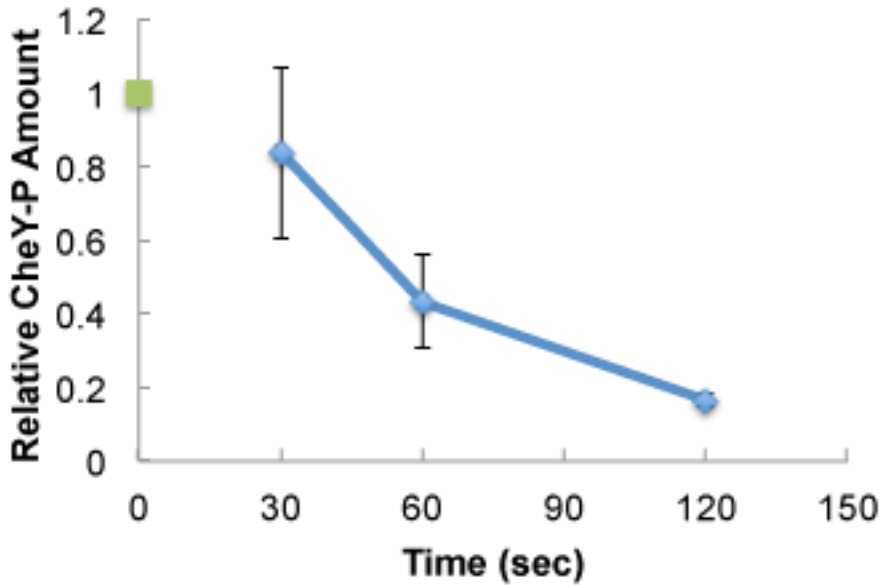
## Supporting Information

### **Preformed soluble chemoreceptor trimers that mimic cellular assembly states and activate CheA autophosphorylation**

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**SI Figure 1:** Schemes for cloning the Tar<sub>FO</sub> constructs (not to scale).



**SI Figure 2:** CheY-P production by CheA in complex with CheW and Tar<sub>FO</sub> short. 30 min of CheA autophosphorylation followed by CheY addition and quenching after the times indicated. Loss of CheY-P over time cannot be overcome by additional transfer from CheA-P. Lines drawn between time points to aid visualization. Zero time point (green square) represents the amount of CheA-P present after 30 min autophosphorylation. An exponential fit to the CheY-P decay curve ( $Y_t = Y_0 e^{-k-p t}$ ) gives  $k_p = 0.020 \pm 0.002 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ ;  $t_{1/2} = 34 \text{ sec}$ ;  $R^2 = 0.98$ . For the autophosphorylation assay *E. coli* CheA (1  $\mu\text{M}$ ), CheW (1  $\mu\text{M}$ ), and Tar<sub>FO</sub> short (1  $\mu\text{M}$ ) were allowed to complex at 25 °C for 1 hour prior to  $\gamma$ -<sup>32</sup>P-ATP exposure for 30 minutes after which CheY (25  $\mu\text{M}$ ) was added and the reaction then quenched after the times indicated.