

Bottom-up assembled synthetic SARS-CoV-2 mini-viruses reveal lipid membrane affinity of Omicron variant spike glycoprotein

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Supporting information

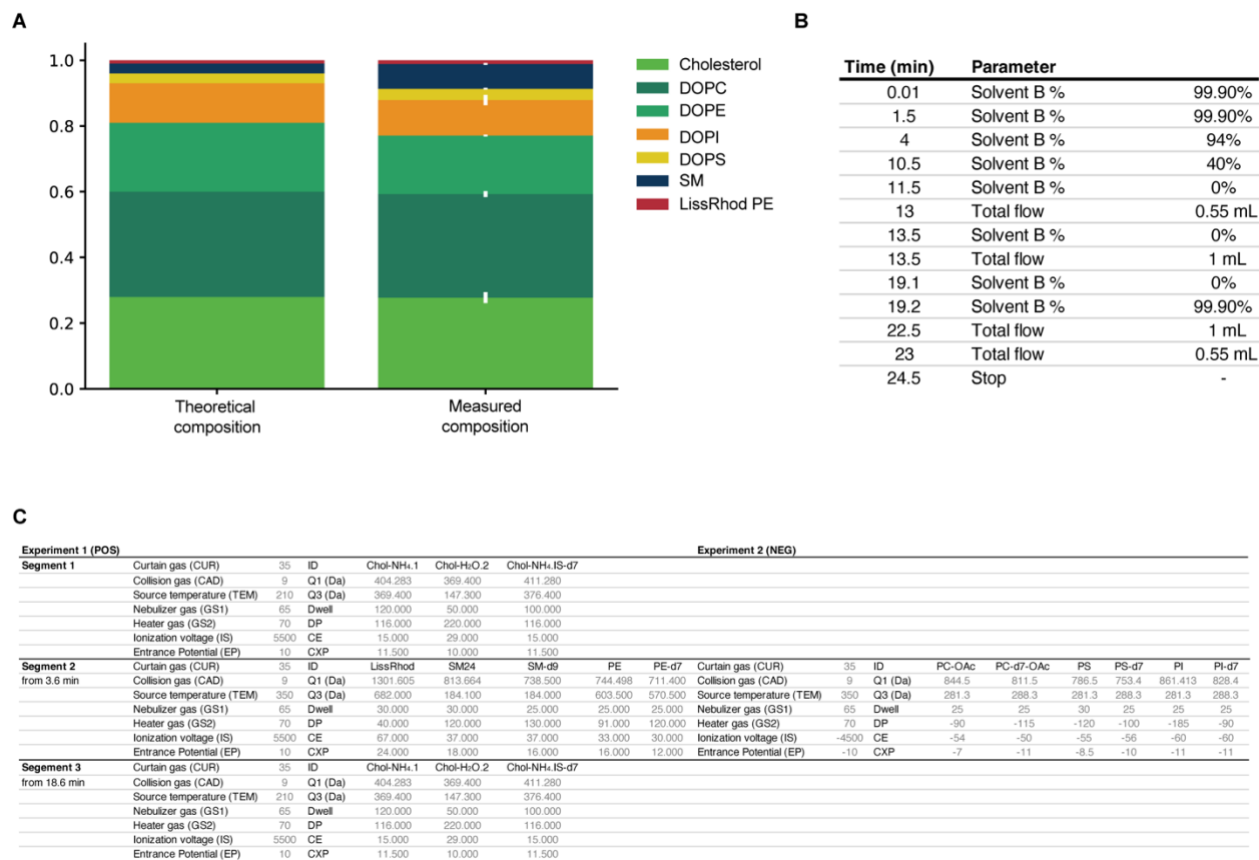


Figure S1. Lipid composition as measured by mass spectrometry. A) Lipid composition of re-dissolved SUVs determined via LC-MS/MS. Data in A corresponds to n = 3 biological replicates. B) UPLC gradient information. C) Source and MS parameters of the applied segmented LC-MS/MS (MRM) method. Segment 1 allows the measurement of cholesterol at low temperature and with high dwell times (ms). Segment 2 features an increased temperature and polarity switching with regard to the ionization process for the measurement of lipids. The parameters for

lipid fragment transitions measured in positive mode are supplied in the column labelled Experiment 1 (POS). The parameters for lipid fragment transitions measured in negative ionization mode are given in the column labelled Experiment 2 (NEG).

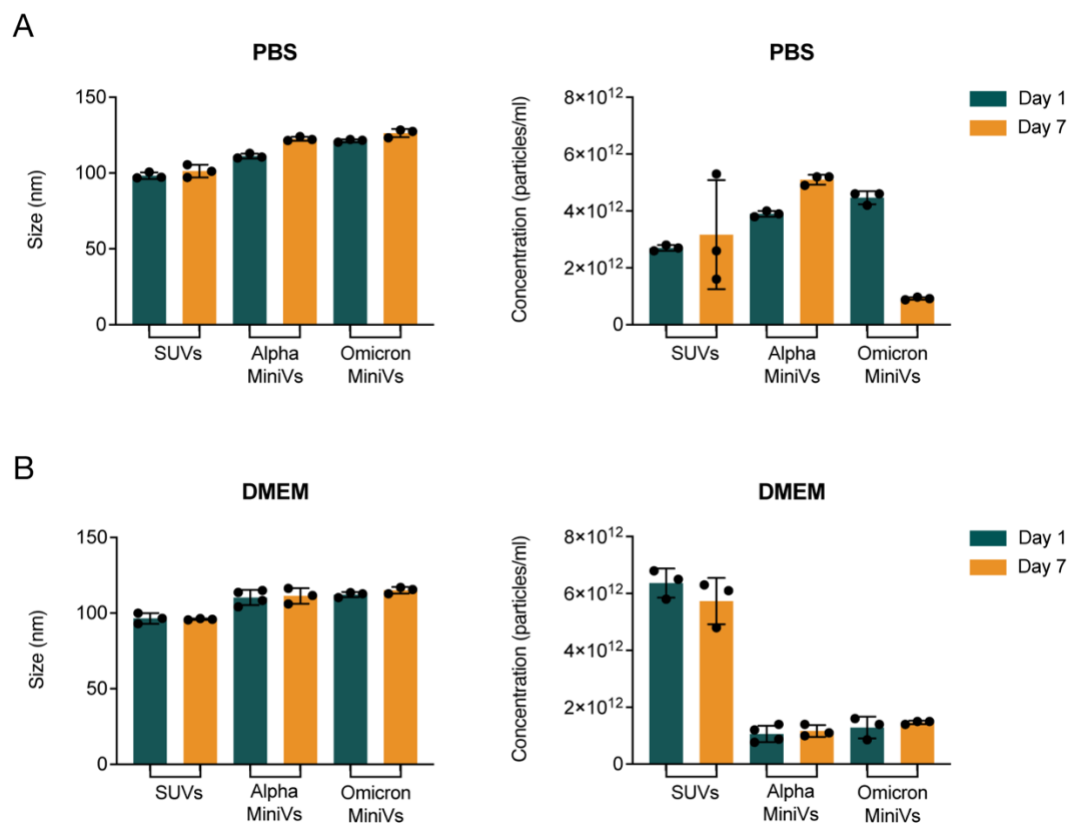


Figure S2. SUVs and MiniVs stability analysis over time obtained by nanoparticle tracking analysis. Size and concentration analysis of SUVs, Alpha and Omicron MiniVs after 1h and 7 days of incubation in PBS (A) and DMEM (B). Results correspond to the mean \pm SD from $n = 3$ biological replicates in each experimental condition.

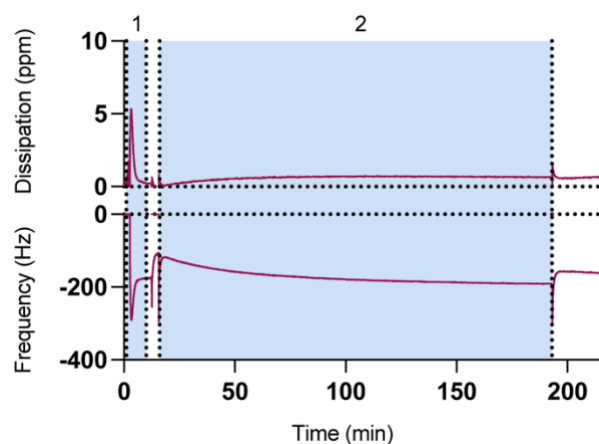


Figure S3. Over time energy dissipation and frequency change of SUVs in contact with a non-functionalized SLB. Phases marked in blue correspond to: 1) SLB formation; 2) Addition of SUVs.

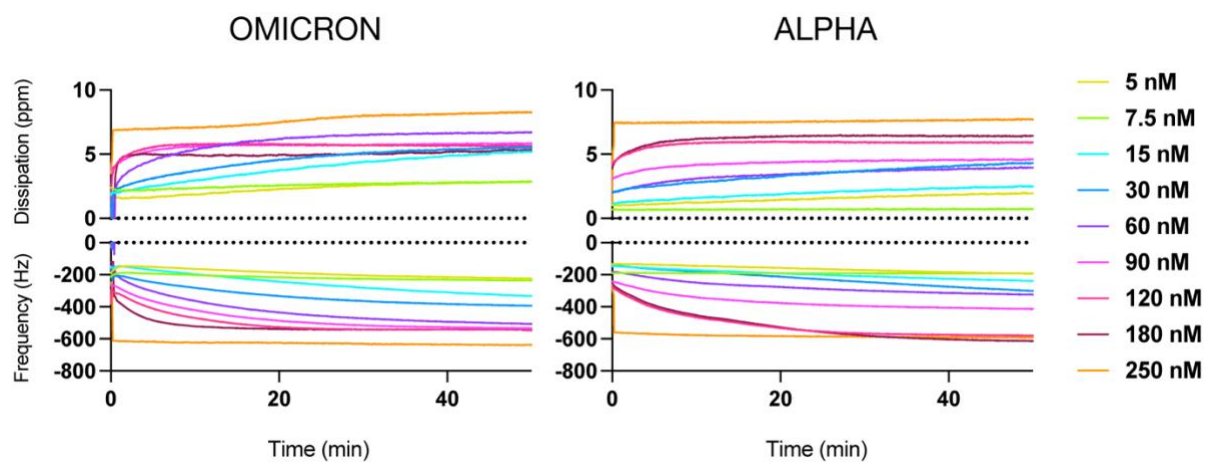


Figure S4. Over time energy dissipation and frequency change of Omicron (left) and Alpha (right) S in contact with a non-functionalized SLB.

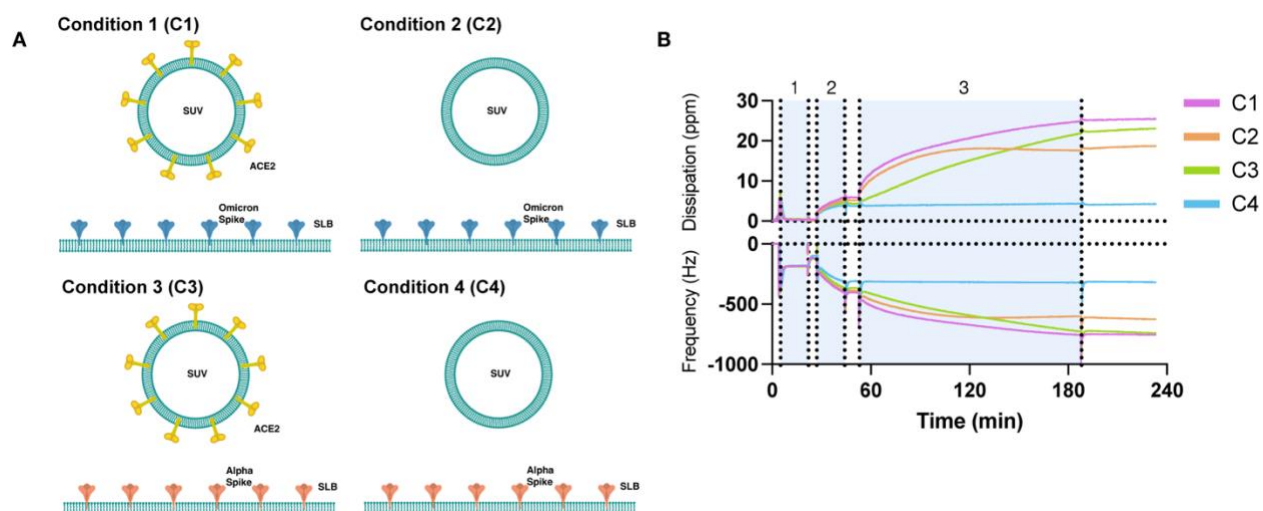


Figure S5. QCM-D measurement of Omicron or Alpha-functionalized SLBs. A) Schematic illustration of the experimental conditions (C1-4) implemented in the experiments depicted in B. Conditions 1 and 3 consist of Omicron or Alpha-functionalized SLBs in contact with ACE2-functionalized SUVs, respectively. Conditions 2 and 4 consist of Omicron or Alpha-functionalized SLBs in contact with naive SUVs, respectively. B) Representative graph depicting energy dissipation and frequency changes over time under the conditions defined in A). Phases marked in blue correspond to: 1) SLB formation, 2) Addition of Alpha S or Omicron S and 3) Addition of ACE2-functionalized SUVs or naive SUVs.

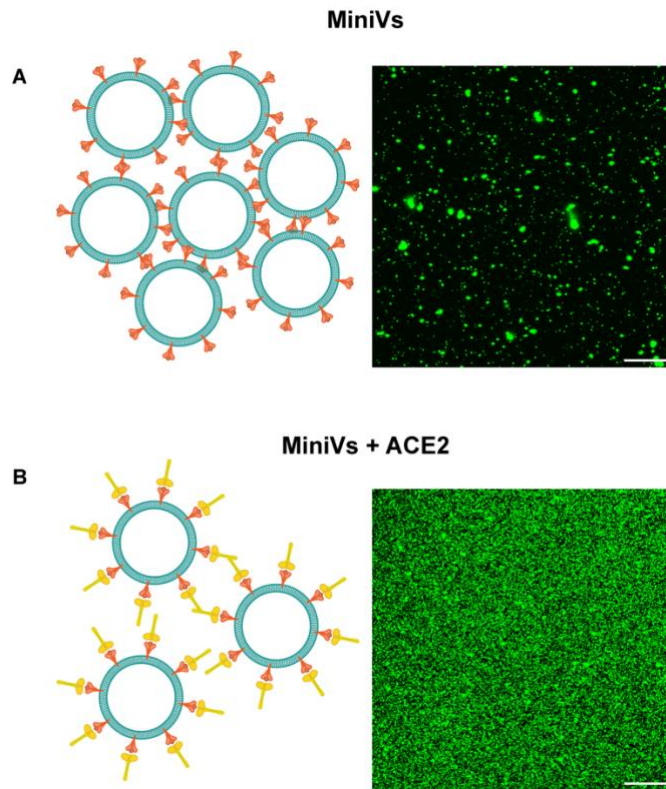


Figure S6. A) Schematic illustration of S-mediated Omicron MiniV aggregation (left) and representative confocal image of fluorescently labelled Omicron MiniVs (1% Liss Rhod PE) (right). B) Schematic illustration of ACE2 blocking of Omicron MiniVs (left) and representative confocal image of fluorescently labelled Omicron MiniVs (1% Liss Rhod PE) (right). Scale bars are 20 μm .

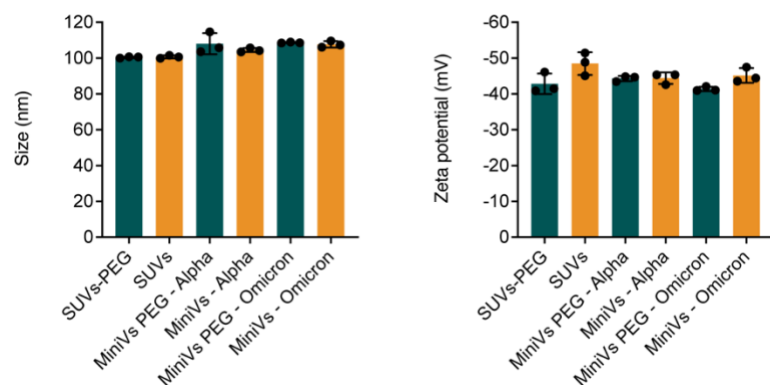


Figure S7. Size and zeta potential measurements of pegylated (green) and non-pegylated (orange) SUVs and MiniVs. Size distribution values were obtained by nanoparticle tracking analysis and zeta potential values were obtained by dynamic light scattering in MilliQ water. Results correspond to the mean \pm SD from $n = 3$ biological replicates in each experimental condition.

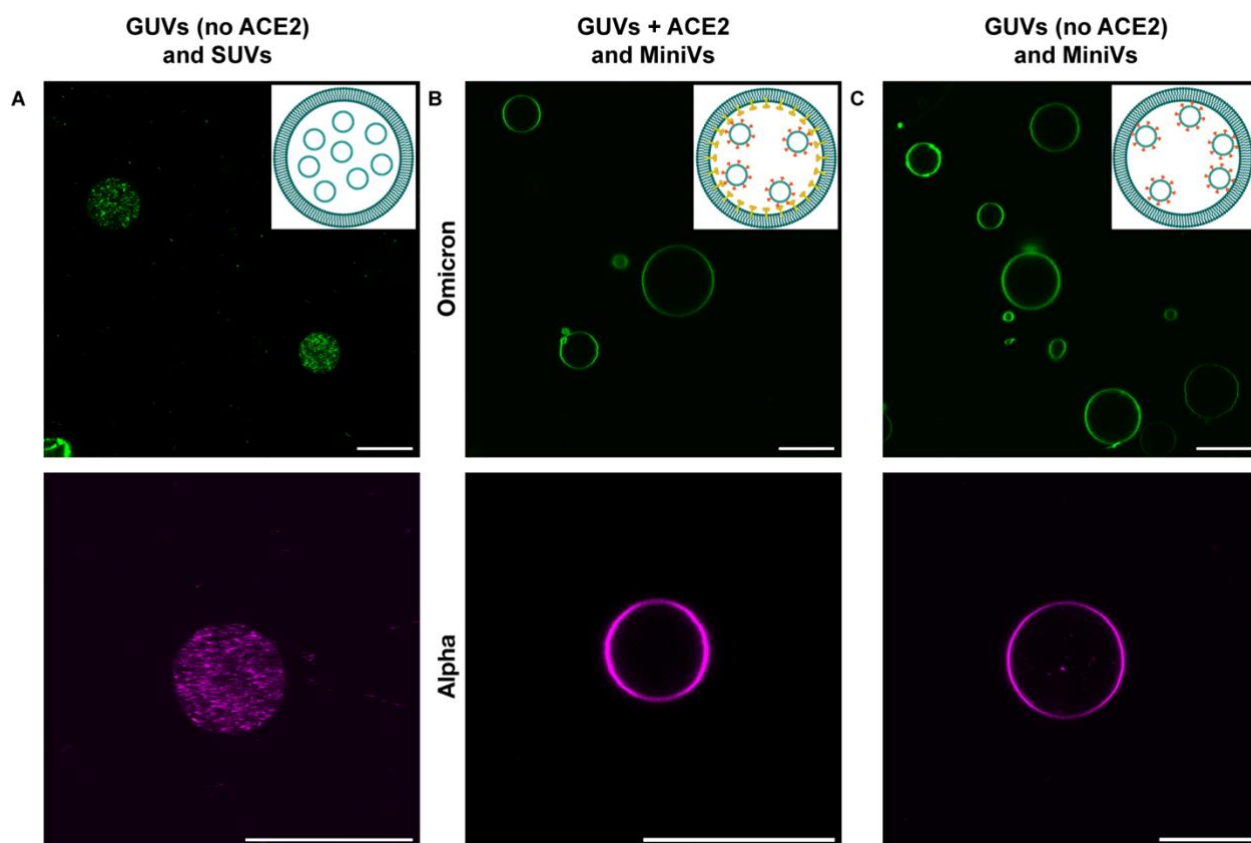


Figure S8. Representative confocal microscopy images of MiniV- or SUV-loaded GUVs. A) Encapsulation of fluorescently labelled SUVs (1% Liss Rhod PE) in non-functionalized GUVs. B and C) Encapsulation of Omicron or Alpha MiniVs (1% Liss Rhod PE) in ACE2-functionalized GUVs (B) or non-functionalized GUVs (C). Scale bars are 20 μm .

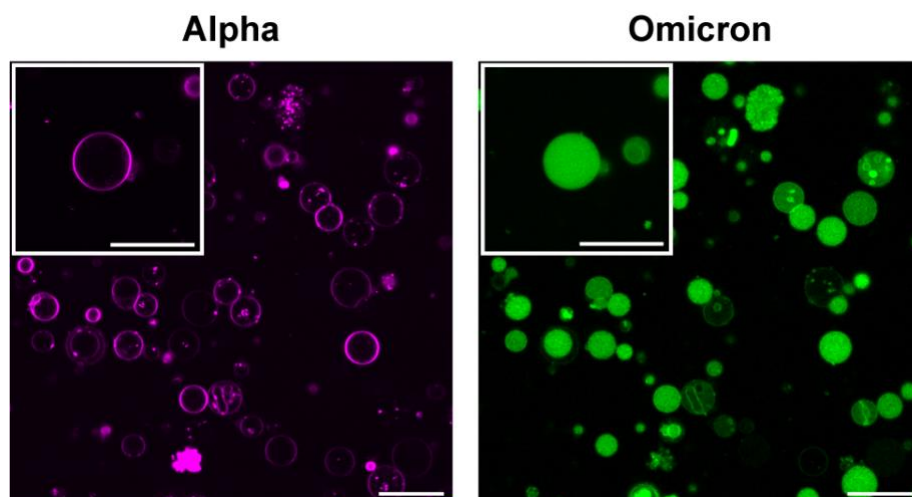


Figure S9. Competition assay to determine Omicron and Alpha MiniVs affinity to the positively-charged non-functionalized GUVs. The fluorescence signals originate from Omicron MiniVs (1% ATTO488 DOPE) (right) or Alpha MiniVs (1% ATTO647 DOPE) (left). The scale bars are 20 μm .

SUVS + ACE2

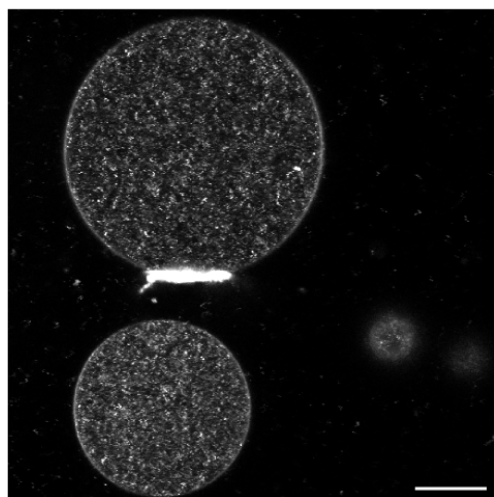


Figure S10. ACE2-functionalized SUVs encapsulated within non-functionalized GUVs. Scale bar is 20 μm .

Omicron

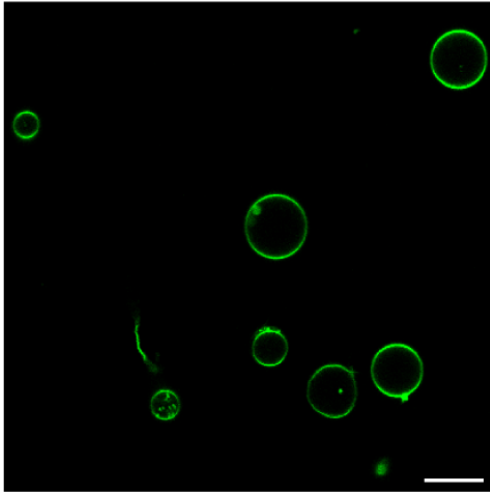


Figure S11. Omicron MiniVs encapsulated in GUVs with a lipid composition lacking NTA-functionalized lipids. Scale bar is 20 μm .

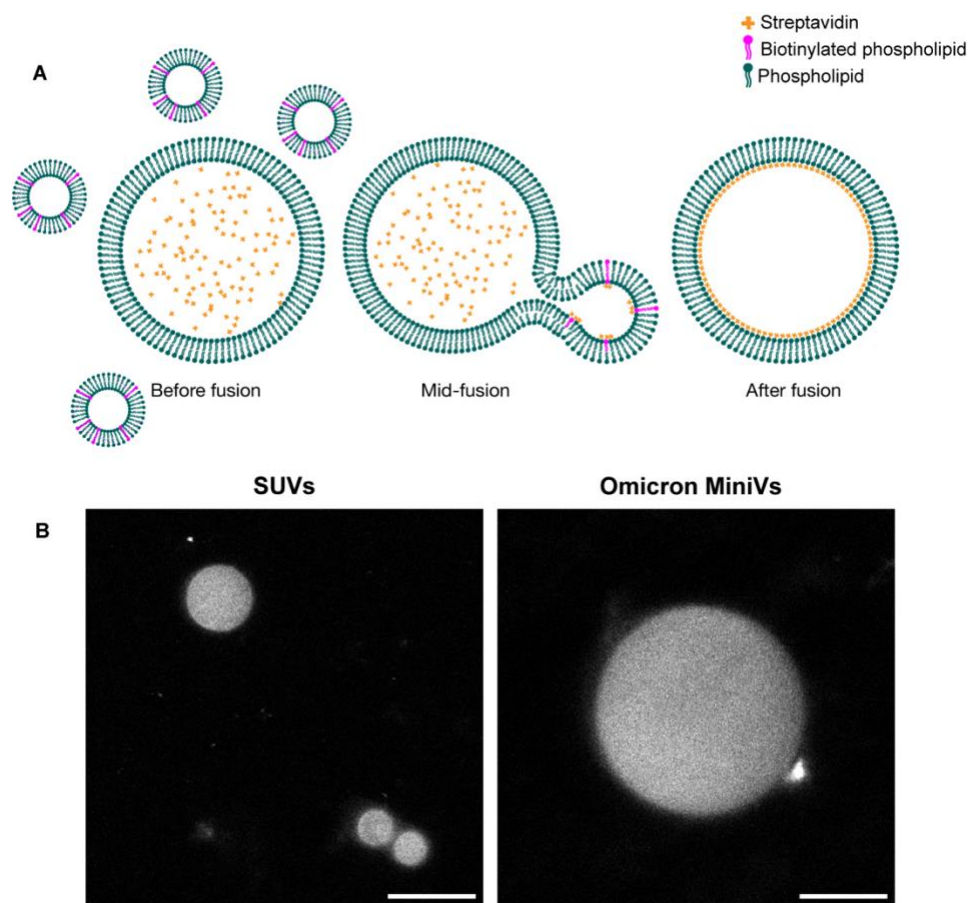


Figure S12. A) Schematic illustration of the fusion experiment. B) Non-fluorescent SUVs (left) or Omicron MiniVs (right) incubated with fluorescent (Alexa-Fluor405) streptavidin-containing GUVs. Scale bars are 20 μm .

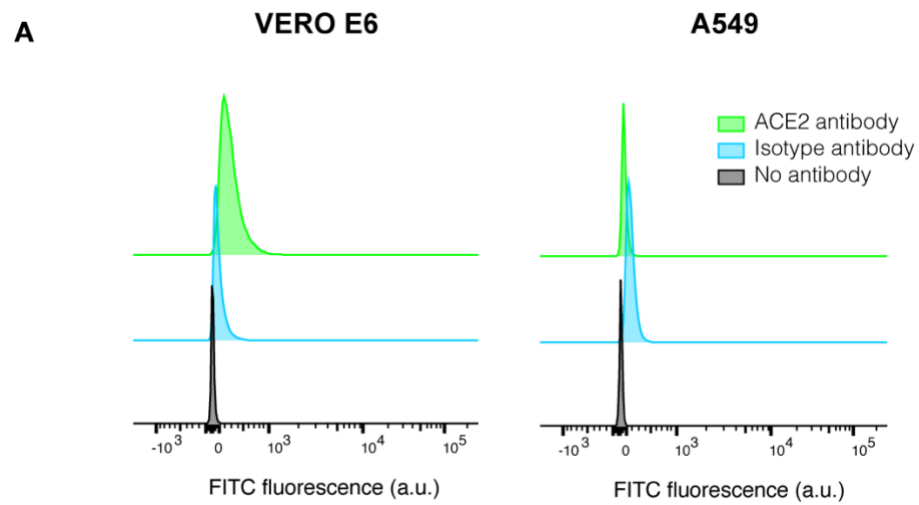


Figure S13. ACE2 receptor staining of VERO E6 and A549 cells.

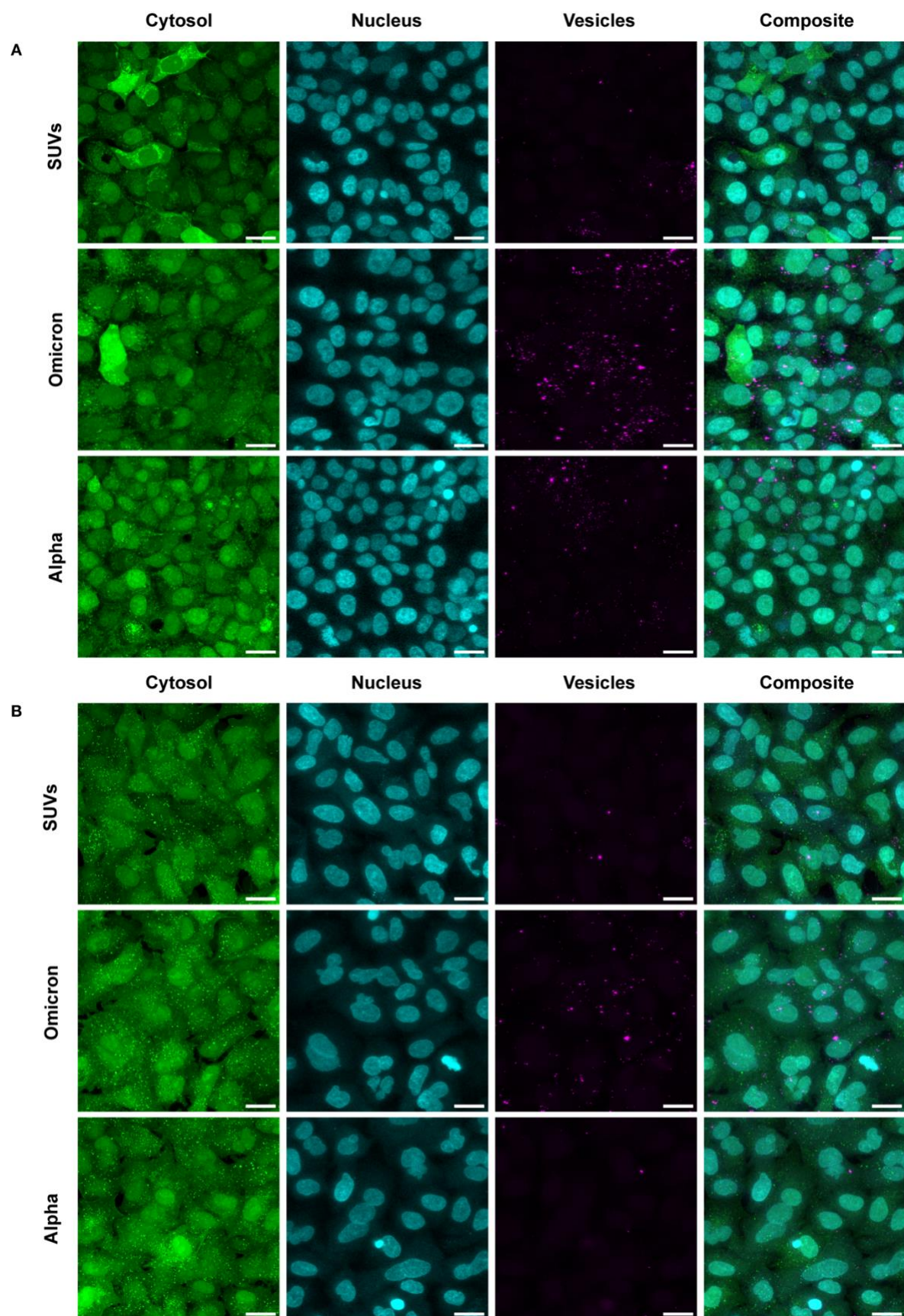


Figure S14. A) Representative images of maximal confocal microscopy z-projections of VERO E6 cells incubated with SUVs, Omicron and Alpha MiniVs for 1h. B) Representative images of maximal confocal microscopy z-projections of Vero E6 and A549 cells incubated with Omicron and Alpha MiniVs (magenta) for 1h. Cells were stained with CellTracker™Green CMFDA (cytoplasm, green) and Hoechst 33342 (nucleus, cyan). The scale bars are 20 µm.