

Reporting Summary

Nature Portfolio wishes to improve the reproducibility of the work that we publish. This form provides structure for consistency and transparency in reporting. For further information on Nature Portfolio policies, see our [Editorial Policies](#) and the [Editorial Policy Checklist](#).

Statistics

For all statistical analyses, confirm that the following items are present in the figure legend, table legend, main text, or Methods section.

n/a Confirmed

- The exact sample size (n) for each experimental group/condition, given as a discrete number and unit of measurement
- A statement on whether measurements were taken from distinct samples or whether the same sample was measured repeatedly
- The statistical test(s) used AND whether they are one- or two-sided
 - Only common tests should be described solely by name; describe more complex techniques in the Methods section.*
- A description of all covariates tested
- A description of any assumptions or corrections, such as tests of normality and adjustment for multiple comparisons
- A full description of the statistical parameters including central tendency (e.g. means) or other basic estimates (e.g. regression coefficient) AND variation (e.g. standard deviation) or associated estimates of uncertainty (e.g. confidence intervals)
- For null hypothesis testing, the test statistic (e.g. F , t , r) with confidence intervals, effect sizes, degrees of freedom and P value noted
 - Give P values as exact values whenever suitable.*
- For Bayesian analysis, information on the choice of priors and Markov chain Monte Carlo settings
- For hierarchical and complex designs, identification of the appropriate level for tests and full reporting of outcomes
- Estimates of effect sizes (e.g. Cohen's d , Pearson's r), indicating how they were calculated

Our web collection on [statistics for biologists](#) contains articles on many of the points above.

Software and code

Policy information about [availability of computer code](#)

Data collection EPU, Serial EM

Data analysis WinCoot 0.9.7, Pymol 4.6, Chimera 1.16, ChimeraX 1.4, Phenix 1.19.2, cryoSparc 3.3.2, cryoSparc 4.2.1

For manuscripts utilizing custom algorithms or software that are central to the research but not yet described in published literature, software must be made available to editors and reviewers. We strongly encourage code deposition in a community repository (e.g. GitHub). See the Nature Portfolio [guidelines for submitting code & software](#) for further information.

Data

Policy information about [availability of data](#)

All manuscripts must include a [data availability statement](#). This statement should provide the following information, where applicable:

- Accession codes, unique identifiers, or web links for publicly available datasets
- A description of any restrictions on data availability
- For clinical datasets or third party data, please ensure that the statement adheres to our [policy](#)

The cryo-EM density map and atomic model for the Cm-PSII-FCPII and Cm-FCP trimer structure at 2.93 Å and 2.72 Å resolution have been deposited in the Electron Microscopy Data Bank with accession codes EMD-35987 and EMD-36054. The structural models of Cm-PSII-FCPII and Cm-FCP trimer were deposited in the Protein Data Bank under PDB ID 8J5K and 8J7Z. The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding authors upon request. Other data are cited from the previously published papers and PDB databank, and they are clearly indicated in the text where appropriate.

Research involving human participants, their data, or biological material

Policy information about studies with [human participants or human data](#). See also policy information about [sex, gender \(identity/presentation\), and sexual orientation](#) and [race, ethnicity and racism](#).

Reporting on sex and gender

N/a

Reporting on race, ethnicity, or other socially relevant groupings

N/a

Population characteristics

N/a

Recruitment

N/a

Ethics oversight

N/a

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

Field-specific reporting

Please select the one below that is the best fit for your research. If you are not sure, read the appropriate sections before making your selection.

Life sciences Behavioural & social sciences Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences

For a reference copy of the document with all sections, see nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf

Life sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Sample size

The number of cryo-EM micrographs collected was based on the previous knowledge and the particles picked from these micrographs could reach to an atomic resolution.

Data exclusions

The exclusion criteria were not pre-established. 2D and 3D classification yielded multiple classes. Only the particles in the classes that showed clear structural signals and intact structures were chosen, combined and used in the final reconstruction and refinement. Details are described in the flowchart of Supplementary Fig. 1. and Methods.

Replication

Multiple rounds of structural refinement have been performed and all resulted in same density maps, although at different resolutions. Most experiments concerning the purification and characterization of Cm-PSII-FCPII and Cm-FCP trimer (detergent-solubilization, sucrose density gradient centrifugation, SDS-PAGE, absorption spectrum, fluorescence emission spectra) have been repeated independently for more than 3 times, and all successfully reproduced.

Randomization

Randomization of samples are not relevant to our study because we aimed to solve the structure of the specific protein supercomplex.

Blinding

Blinding is not relevant to our study because we aimed to solve the structure of the specific protein supercomplex.

Reporting for specific materials, systems and methods

We require information from authors about some types of materials, experimental systems and methods used in many studies. Here, indicate whether each material, system or method listed is relevant to your study. If you are not sure if a list item applies to your research, read the appropriate section before selecting a response.

Materials & experimental systems

n/a	Involved in the study
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Antibodies
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Eukaryotic cell lines
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Palaeontology and archaeology
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Animals and other organisms
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical data
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Dual use research of concern
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Plants

Methods

n/a	Involved in the study
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> ChIP-seq
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Flow cytometry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> MRI-based neuroimaging