

1 **TRPML1 gating modulation by allosteric mutations and lipids**
2 **(Design of allosteric mutations that recapitulate the gating of TRPML1)**

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Abstract:

Transient Receptor Potential Mucolipin 1 (TRPML1) is a lysosomal cation channel whose loss-of-function mutations directly cause the lysosomal storage disorder mucopolidosis type IV (MLIV). TRPML1 can be allosterically regulated by various ligands including natural lipids and small synthetic molecules and the channel undergoes a global movement propagated from ligand-induced local conformational changes upon activation. In this study, we identified a functionally critical residue, Tyr404, at the C-terminus of the S4 helix, whose mutations to tryptophan and alanine yield gain- and loss-of-function channels, respectively. These allosteric mutations mimic the ligand activation or inhibition of the TRPML1 channel without interfering with ligand binding and both mutant channels are susceptible to agonist or antagonist modulation, making them better targets for screening potent TRPML1 activators and inhibitors. We also determined the high-resolution structure of TRPML1 in complex with the PI(4,5)P₂ inhibitor, revealing the structural basis underlying this lipid inhibition. In addition, an endogenous phospholipid likely from sphingomyelin is identified in the PI(4,5)P₂-bound TRPML1 structure at the same hotspot for agonists and antagonists, providing a plausible structural explanation for the inhibitory effect of sphingomyelin on agonist activation.

62 **Introduction:**

63 Transient Receptor Potential Mucolipin 1 (TRPML1) is a Ca²⁺-permeable, non-selective,
64 lysosomal cation channel ubiquitously expressed in mammalian cells (Dong *et al*, 2008;
65 LaPlante *et al*, 2002; Sun *et al*, 2000). TRPML1 plays critical roles in many important cellular
66 activities including lipid accumulation (Shen *et al*, 2012), signaling transduction (Kilpatrick *et al*,
67 2016), lysosome trafficking (Venkatachalam *et al*, 2015), and autophagy (Scotto Rosato *et al*,
68 2019). The loss-of-function mutations in TRPML1 directly cause the lysosomal storage disorder
69 mucopolidosis type IV (MLIV), a neurodegenerative disease characterized by abnormal
70 neurodevelopment, retinal degeneration, and iron-deficiency anemia (Bargal *et al*, 2000; Bassi *et*
71 *al*, 2000; Gan & Jiang, 2022; Nilius *et al*, 2007). Because of its physiological importance and
72 direct disease association, TRPML1 has been extensively studied and is a potential target for
73 drug development.

74 TRPML1 can be regulated by various ligands including both natural lipids and small
75 synthetic molecules. The channel can be activated by the lysosome-specific phosphatidylinositol
76 3,5-bisphosphate (PI(3,5)P₂) (Dong *et al*, 2010), but inhibited by the plasma membrane-enriched
77 PI(4,5)P₂ (Zhang *et al*, 2012). Given its pharmacological importance, many synthetic agonists
78 and antagonists have been developed for TRPML1 activation and inhibition (Chen *et al*, 2014;
79 Grimm *et al*, 2010; Samie *et al*, 2013; Shen *et al.*, 2012). Interestingly, the mTOR (Mammalian
80 target of rapamycin) inhibitor rapamycin and its derivatives can also synergistically activate
81 TRPML1 with PI(3,5)P₂ (Gan *et al*, 2022; Zhang *et al*, 2019). Recent studies also suggest that
82 sphingomyelin, a major membrane component, can also modulate the TRPML1 activation (Shen
83 *et al.*, 2012).

84 Several TRPML1 channel structures in both open and closed conformations with various
85 ligands have been determined (Chen *et al*, 2017; Fine *et al*, 2018; Gan *et al.*, 2022; Schmiede *et*
86 *al*, 2017; Schmiede *et al*, 2021), revealing some unique features of the TRPML1 channel. Firstly,
87 all ligand-binding sites in the structures converge to two hot spots: The N-terminal poly-basic
88 pocket for PIP₂ and the inter-subunit interface in the middle of the membrane between S5 and S6
89 for agonists, antagonists, and rapamycin (Fine *et al.*, 2018; Gan *et al.*, 2022; Schmiede *et al.*,
90 2017; Schmiede *et al.*, 2021) (Figure 1a). Secondly, all open TRPML1 structures are almost
91 identical regardless of the activation stimuli. Thirdly, structural comparison between the open

92 and closed conformation illustrates that TRPML1 gating is not merely a local conformational
93 change but involves the global movement of almost the entire channel mediated by tight inter-
94 and intra-subunit packing within the channel tetramer (Movie supplement 1). Finally, the
95 necessity of global movement for channel activation underlies the allosteric regulation of
96 TRPML1 by two distantly bound ligands - that is, the ligand-induced local conformational
97 change at one site can propagate to the other site and thereby affect the binding of the other
98 ligand (Gan *et al.*, 2022). The high allostery of TRPML1 gating would allow us to design
99 allosteric mutations that are remote from the channel pore but can still stabilize the channel in an
100 open or closed state, mimicking the ligand activation or inhibition of the channel. To this end,
101 we identified Tyr404 on the S4 helix as an allosteric site whose mutation can promote or inhibit
102 TRPML1 gating. Furthermore, we also determined a high-resolution structure of PI(4,5)P₂-
103 inhibited TRPML1 and demonstrated that in addition to competing against PI(3,5)P₂ activator for
104 the same site, PI(4,5)P₂ also allosteric inhibits small molecule agonist by stabilize the channel in
105 the closed conformation. Furthermore, the high-resolution PI(4,5)P₂-bound TRPML1 structure
106 also revealed a bound phospholipid likely from sphingomyelin at the agonist/antagonist site,
107 providing a plausible explanation for sphingomyelin inhibition of TRPML1.

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109 **Results:**

110 **Allosteric mutations at Tyr404 recapitulate TRPML1 gating**

111 Our previous study on the allosteric activation of TRPML1 by PI(3,5)P₂ and rapamycin
112 demonstrated that ligand-induced local conformational changes can propagate to distal parts of
113 the channel through tight inter- and intra-subunit packing within the channel tetramer, allowing
114 the channel to integrate the stimuli from these two distantly bound ligands. The PI(3,5)P₂ and
115 rapamycin-induced local conformational changes converge to the same driving force on S4 helix,
116 resulting in a slight bend of the C-terminal half of the S4 that facilitates the channel opening
117 (Gan *et al.*, 2022) (Figure 1B). A key interaction coupled to the S4 bending movement is the
118 insertion of Tyr404 side chain into a pocket surrounded by S1, S3, and S4 helices where its
119 aromatic ring is sandwiched between the side chains of Leu66 and Arg403. We hypothesized
120 that mutations at Tyr404 that stabilize its sidechain in the pocket would facilitate channel
121 activation; conversely, mutations that destabilize its sidechain in the pocket would negatively

122 modulate the channel activation. To test this, we replaced Tyr404 with tryptophan and alanine,
123 respectively, and measured the effect of these mutations on channel activity. As illustrated in the
124 electrophysiological recordings using whole-cell patches, the Y404W mutant elicits large
125 inward-rectifying currents without any ligands, indicating that Y404W is a gain-of-function
126 (GOF) mutant (Figure 1C). Adding extra activation ligands such as PI(3,5)P₂, rapamycin, or
127 small molecule agonist ML-SA1 only marginally increases the currents. The Y404W GOF
128 mutant mimics a ligand-activated channel, yet its mutation site is remote from the pore domain
129 and the channel can still be allosterically inhibited by small molecule antagonists (ML-SI1 and
130 ML-SI3) (Figure 1D). This is distinct from other gain-of-function mutants in which proline
131 substitutions on the S5 helix lock the pore in an open state and the channels are no longer
132 susceptible to antagonist inhibition (Dong *et al.*, 2009; Grimm *et al.*, 2007; Kim *et al.*, 2007;
133 Nagata *et al.*, 2008; Xu *et al.*, 2007).

134 Y404A, on the other hand, represents a loss-of-function mutant and elicits much lower
135 currents even in the presence of potent agonist ML-SA1 (Figure E). While ML-SA1 can potently
136 activate the wild-type TRPML1 channel, the Y404A mutation mimics PI(4,5)P₂ inhibition and
137 allosterically inhibits ML-SA1 binding, significantly decreasing the efficacy of ML-SA1
138 activation (Figure F&G).

139 **Structure of GOF Y404W mutant**

140 To reveal the structural basis underlying the channel activation of the Y404W mutant, we
141 determined its structure in the absence of any ligands to 2.86 Å resolution (Figure supplement 2
142 and Methods). As expected, the Y404W mutant adopts an open conformation with a structure
143 almost identical to other ligand-activated open TRPML1, consistent with its GOF property
144 (Figure 2A). Like Tyr404 in the wide-type open TRPML1, the side chain of W404 in the mutant
145 is inserted into the pocket surrounded by S1, S3, and S4 helices and sandwiched between Leu66
146 and Arg403 (Figure 2B). However, the larger indole ring of Trp404 provides a better spatial
147 fitting into the pocket than the phenol ring of Tyr404 and several surrounding residues (Lys65,
148 Gln69, and Leu358) provide extra van der Waals contacts to the Trp404 side chain. Thus, by
149 enhancing the stability of the aromatic side chain inside the pocket, Y404W mutation facilitates
150 the bending of S4 which in turn propagates to the pore through the S4-S5 linker and activates the
151 channel (Gan *et al.*, 2022). The Y404W mutant structure demonstrates that the sidechain packing

152 in the pocket is essential for stabilizing the open channel and the lack of such packing capacity in
153 the Y404A mutant with a small side-chain likely destabilizes the open conformation, yielding a
154 loss-of-function channel.

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156 **Structure of TRPML1 in PI(4,5)P₂-bound closed state**

157 While PI(4,5)P₂ inhibits PI(3,5)P₂ activation of TRPML1 by directly competing for the
158 same binding site, it also allosterically inhibits the agonist-activated channel (Chen *et al.*, 2017),
159 suggesting that PI(4,5)P₂ binding stabilizes the TRPML1 channel in a closed conformation. A
160 previous low-resolution structure of TRPML1 in complex with PI(4,5)P₂ revealed the
161 approximate location of PI(4,5)P₂ binding but failed to explain how its binding stabilizes the
162 channel in the closed state and allosterically inhibits the agonist-activated channel (Fine *et al.*,
163 2018). To address this, we determined the structure of PI(4,5)P₂-bound TRPML1 at 2.46 Å
164 (Figure 3A, Figure supplement 3-4 and Methods). The density from the IP3 head group of
165 PI(4,5)P₂, especially the phosphate groups on C4 and C5 of the inositol, can be clearly defined in
166 the EM map (Figure 3A-3C). The phosphatidyl group, however, is flexible and could not be
167 resolved in the structure. While PI(4,5)P₂ binding overlaps with that of PI(3,5)P₂, their IP3 head
168 group positions are quite different (Figure 3B-3E). In the PI(3,5)P₂-bound structure (Figure 3D),
169 the head group protrudes deep into the N-terminal PIP₂-binding pocket enclosed by two short
170 clamp-shaped helices of H1 and H2, and the cytosolic ends of S1 and S2 helices, allowing its C3
171 phosphate to engage in direct interactions with Arg403 and Tyr355 to facilitate channel
172 activation (Gan *et al.*, 2022). These C3 phosphate-mediated interactions are absent in PI(4,5)P₂-
173 bound structure. Instead, the head group of PI(4,5)P₂ is trapped at the entrance of the pocket and
174 forms a bridge between S1 and S2 with its phosphate groups stabilized by positively charged
175 residues from H2, S1, and S2 (Figure 3B & 3C). A major conformational change between the
176 open and closed states is an upward movement of the S1 helix, a prerequisite for Tyr404
177 insertion between Leu66 and Arg403 and the subsequent bending of S4 (Figure 3E). Therefore,
178 the PI(4,5)P₂-mediated bridging interaction between S1 and S2 would hinder the S1 movement
179 and stabilize the channel in the closed conformation, exerting allosteric inhibition on agonist
180 activation.

181

182 **Endogenous sphingomyelin lipid at the agonist- and antagonist-binding site**

183 The high-resolution structure of PI(4,5)P₂-bound closed TRPML1 also reveals a well-defined
184 density from an endogenous lipid molecule at the inter-subunit interface between S5 and S6
185 (Figure 4A). The lipid contains a choline head group and is likely a phosphatidylcholine (PC) or
186 sphingomyelin (SM), the two main choline-containing phospholipid components of the outer
187 leaflet of the plasma membrane. The tail from one of the lipid alkyl chains penetrates deep into
188 an inter-subunit pocket in the middle of the membrane, overlapping with the hotspot for both
189 channel agonist and antagonist (Figure supplement 1). This alkyl chain has to be displaced upon
190 agonist or antagonist binding, suggesting that the lipid occupation would compete against agonist
191 or antagonist binding. We suspect this bound lipid is sphingomyelin which is also enriched in the
192 endocytic recycling compartment and has been shown to inhibit TRPML1 activity (Schuchman,
193 2010; Shen *et al.*, 2012; Slotte, 2013). Key evidence to support SM inhibition is that its
194 enrichment can reduce the agonist (i.e. SF-51 and ML-SA1) activation of TRPML1 (Shen *et al.*,
195 2012). Indeed, we did observe the reduction of SF-51-activated TRPML1 current upon SM
196 enrichment (Figure 4B). However, based on our structure, we hypothesize that the role of
197 sphingomyelin is to stabilize rather than directly inhibit the channel; the SM inhibition upon
198 enrichment is an indirect effect attributable to its competition against agonist binding that
199 reduces the apparent efficacy of agonist activation. This hypothesis would imply that SM can
200 also function as an indirect activator by competing against antagonists and reducing their
201 effectiveness in channel inhibition. The gain-of-function Y404W mutant, which is still
202 susceptible to antagonist inhibition, provides a good system to test that. As shown in Figure 4C,
203 SM shows no obvious inhibition to the mutant channel activity whereas antagonist ML-SI1
204 markedly reduces the mutant channel current; upon SM enrichment, ML-SI1 inhibition is
205 mitigated resulting in a recovery of the channel current. This observation confirms the
206 competitive binding of SM at the hot spot for both agonists and antagonists.

207

208 **Summary**

209 In this study, we designed and analyzed the allosteric mutations at Tyr404 that recapitulate the
210 gating of TRPML1. Replacing this tyrosine with tryptophan or alanine stabilizes or destabilizes
211 the channel in the open state, yielding a gain- or loss-of-function mutant. The structure of the

212 Y404W mutant adopts the same open structure as ligand-activated TRPML1, once again
213 highlighting the global conformational change for TRPML1 channel activation. As Tyr404 is
214 distant from the hot spots for ligand binding, the two gain- and loss-of-function mutants can still
215 be allosterically modulated by antagonists and agonists. Thus, these allosteric mutants can mimic
216 ligand-activated or inhibited TRPML1 without interfering with ligand binding, making them
217 better targets for screening potent small molecule TRPML1 inhibitors and activators. We also
218 investigated the structural basis of PI(4,5)P₂ inhibition of TRPML1 by determining the PI(4,5)P₂-
219 bound structure, revealing a different binding mode by its head group at the N-terminal polybasic
220 site than that of PI(3,5)P₂. The head group of PI(4,5)P₂ mediates a bridging interaction between
221 S1 and S2 and stabilizes TRPML1 in a closed conformation. In the high-resolution PI(4,5)P₂-
222 bound TRPML1 structure, we also visualize clear density from a choline-containing
223 phospholipid at the same site for agonists or antagonists. In light of its high membrane
224 abundance and competing effect on agonist activation and antagonist inhibition, this bound lipid
225 is likely from sphingomyelin.

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229 **Methods:**

230 **Protein expression and purification**

231 Protein expression and purification were performed as previously described (Gan *et al.*, 2022).
232 The *Mus musculus* TRPML1 gene with a C-terminal thrombin cleavage site and a 10× His tag
233 was cloned into a pEZTBM vector (Morales-Perez *et al.*, 2016) and heterologously expressed in
234 HEK293F cells using the BacMam system. The baculovirus was produced in Sf9 cells and used
235 to transduce the HEK293F cells at a ratio of 1:40 (virus:HEK293F, v/v) and supplemented with
236 1 mM sodium butyrate to boost the protein expression. Cells were cultured in suspension at
237 37 °C for 48 h and harvested by centrifugation at 3,000g. All purification procedures were
238 carried out at 4 °C unless specified otherwise. The cell pellet was re-suspended in buffer A
239 (20 mM Tris pH 8.0, 150mM NaCl) supplemented with a protease inhibitor cocktail (containing
240 1 mg ml⁻¹ each of DNase, pepstatin, leupeptin, and aprotinin and 1 mM PMSF) and
241 homogenized by sonication on ice. Protein was extracted with 1% (w/v) n-dodecyl-β-D-
242 maltopyranoside (DDM; Anatrace) supplemented with 0.2% (w/v) cholesteryl hemisuccinate
243 (CHS; Sigma-Aldrich) by gentle agitation for 2 h. After extraction, the supernatant was collected
244 after a 1 h centrifugation at 48,000g and incubated with Ni-NTA resin and 20 mM imidazole
245 with gentle agitation. After 1 h, the resin was collected on a disposable gravity column (Bio-Rad),
246 washed with buffer B (buffer A + 0.04% glyco-diosgenin (GDN; Anatrace)) with 20 mM
247 imidazole. The washed resin was left on-column in buffer B and digested with thrombin
248 overnight. After digestion, the flow-through was concentrated, and purified by size-exclusion
249 chromatography on a Superose 6 10/300 GL column (GE Healthcare) pre-equilibrated with buffer
250 B. The protein peak was collected and concentrated. For PI(4,5)P₂-bound structure, purified
251 protein was incubated with 0.5mM PI(4,5)P₂ on ice for 4 h. The lipid ligand used in this study is
252 PI(4,5)P₂ diC8 (Echelon)

253 **Electron microscopy data acquisition**

254 Electron microscopy data acquisition followed the protocol previously described (Gan *et al.*,
255 2022). The cryo-EM grids were prepared by applying 3.5 μl protein (3.5 mg/mL) to a glow-
256 discharged Quantifoil R1.2/1.3 200-mesh copper holey carbon grid (Quantifoil, Micro Tools
257 GmbH) and blotted for 3.0 s under 100% humidity at 4 °C before being plunged into liquid
258 ethane using a Mark IV Vitrobot (FEI). For the dataset of Y404W, micrographs were acquired

259 on a Titan Krios microscope (FEI) operated at 300 kV with a K3 Summit direct electron detector
260 (Gatan), using a slit width of 20 eV on a GIF-Quantum energy filter. Data were collected using
261 CDS (Correlated Double Sampling) mode of the K3 camera with a super resolution pixel size of
262 0.413 Å. The defocus range was set from -0.9 to -2.2 μm. Each movie was dose-fractionated to
263 60 frames with a dose rate of 1e-/Å²/frame for a total dose of 60e-/Å². The total exposure time
264 was between 5 to 6 s. For the PI(4,5)P₂-bound dataset, micrographs were acquired on a Titan
265 Krios microscope (FEI) operated at 300 kV with a Falcon4 electron detector (Thermo Fisher),
266 using a slit width of 20 eV on a post-column Selectris X energy filter (Thermo Fisher Scientific).
267 Data was collected using Falcon 4 camera with a pixel size of 0.738 Å. The defocus range was
268 set from -0.9 to -2.2 μm. Each movie was dose-fractionated to 60 frames with a dose rate of 1e-
269 /Å²/frame for a total dose of 60e-/Å². The total exposure time was between 3.5 to 4 s.

270

271 **Image processing**

272 Images were processed as previously described (Gan *et al.*, 2022). Movie frames were motion
273 corrected and binned two times and dose-weighted using MotionCor2 (Zheng *et al.*, 2017). The
274 CTF parameters of the micrographs were estimated using the GCTF program (Zhang, 2016). The
275 rest of the image processing steps were carried out using RELION 3.1 (Nakane *et al.*, 2020;
276 Scheres, 2012; Zivanov *et al.*, 2018). All resolution was reported according to the gold-standard
277 Fourier shell correlation (FSC) using the 0.143 criterion (Henderson *et al.*, 2012). Local
278 resolution was estimated using Relion. Aligned micrographs were manually inspected to remove
279 those with ice contamination and bad defocus. Particles were selected using Gautomatch (K.
280 Zhang, MRC LMB, [https://www2.mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk/research/locally-developed-](https://www2.mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk/research/locally-developed-software/zhang-software/)
281 [software/zhang-software/](https://www2.mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk/research/locally-developed-software/zhang-software/)) and extracted using a binning factor of 3. 2D classification was
282 performed in Relion 3.1. Selected particles after 2D classification were subjected to one around
283 3D classification. The mouse TRPML1 map (EMD-8883 (Chen *et al.*, 2017)) low-pass filtered to
284 30 Å was used as the initial reference. Classes that showed clear features of the TRPML1
285 channel were combined and subjected to 3D auto-refinement and another round of 3D
286 classification without performing particle alignment using a soft mask around the protein portion
287 of the density. The best resolving classes were then re-extracted with the original pixel size and
288 further refined. Beam tilt, anisotropic magnification, and per-particle CTF estimations and

289 Bayesian polishing were performed in Relion 3.1 to improve the resolution of the final
290 reconstruction.

291 For the Y404W structure dataset, a total of 4,724 movies were collected and 4,505 were selected
292 after motion correction and CTF estimation. A total number of 864,698 particles were extracted
293 from the selected micrographs and were subjected to one round of 2D classification, from which
294 87,846 particles were selected. After the initial 3D classification, 35,460 particles were selected
295 and subjected to a 3D auto-refinement job and further ctf refinements, yielding a map at 2.86Å
296 overall resolution (Figure supplement 2).

297 For the PI(4,5)P₂-bound dataset, a total of 8,164 movies were collected and 7,895 were selected
298 after motion correction and CTF estimation. A total number of 1,065,778 particles were
299 extracted from the selected micrographs and were subjected to one round of 2D classification,
300 from which 555,281 particles were selected. After the initial 3D classification, 359,441 particles
301 were selected and subjected to a 3D auto-refinement job. Next, a soft mask excluding the micelle
302 density was applied and particles were sorted into 5 classes without performing alignment. From
303 this, one classe with a total number of 60,597 particles were selected and further refined. In the
304 postprocess step, a B-factor of -60 was manually given, yielding a map at 2.46Å overall
305 resolution (Figure supplement 3).

306 **Model building, refinement and validation**

307 Model building, refinement and validation followed the previously described protocol (Gan *et al.*,
308 2022). The structure of mouse TRPML1 (PDB code: 5WPV) was used as the initial model and
309 was manually adjusted in Coot (Emsley *et al.*, 2010) and refined against the map by using the real
310 space refinement module with secondary structure and non-crystallographic symmetry restraints
311 in the Phenix package (Adams *et al.*, 2010). The final structure model of Y404W includes
312 residues 40-200, 216-527. The final structure model of the PI(4,5)P₂-bound includes residues 39-
313 200, 216-285, 296-527. About 40 residues at the amino terminus and 50 residues at the carboxy
314 terminus are disordered and not modeled. The statistics of the geometries of the models were
315 generated using MolProbity (Chen *et al.*, 2010). All the figures were prepared in PyMol
316 (Schrödinger, LLC.), UCSF Chimera (Pettersen *et al.*, 2004).

317 **Electrophysiology**

318 Electrophysiology was carried out following a previously described protocol with minor
319 modifications (Gan *et al.*, 2022). For electrophysiological analysis, the two di-leucine motifs
320 (15^{LL} and 577^{LL}) of mouse TRPML1 responsible for lysosomal targeting were replaced with
321 alanines to facilitate the trafficking of the channel to the plasma membrane (Grimm *et al.*, 2010;
322 Vergarajauregui & Puertollano, 2006). The N-terminal GFP tagged, plasma membrane-targeting
323 TRPML1 mutant (TRPML1-4A) and derived point mutations were overexpressed in HEK293
324 cells and the channel activities were directly measured by patching the plasma membrane. In this
325 setting, the extracellular side is equivalent to the luminal side of TRPML1 in endosomes or
326 lysosomes. 48 h after transfection, cells were dissociated by trypsin treatment and kept in
327 complete serum-containing medium; the cells were re-plated onto 35 mm tissue culture dishes
328 and kept in a tissue culture incubator until recording. Patch clamp in the whole-cell or inside-out
329 configuration was used to measure TRPML1 activity on the HEK plasma membrane. The
330 standard bath solution for whole cell current recording contained (in mM): 145 sodium
331 methanesulfonate, 5 NaCl, 1 MgCl₂, 10 HEPES buffered with Tris, pH 7.4; and the pipette
332 solution contained (in mM): 140 caesium methanesulfonate, 5 NaCl, 5 MgCl₂, 10 EGTA, 10
333 HEPES buffered with Tris, pH 7.4. The bath solution for inside-out configuration contained (in
334 mM): 140 potassium methanesulfonate, 5 NaCl, 2 MgCl₂, 0.4 CaCl₂, 1 EGTA, 10 HEPES
335 buffered with Tris, pH 7.4; and the pipette solution contained (in mM): 145 sodium
336 methanesulfonate, 5 NaCl, 1 MgCl₂, 0.5 EGTA, 10 HEPES buffered with Tris, pH 7.4. For
337 whole cell recording of PI(3,5)P₂-activated channel, we had to include high concentration of
338 PI(3,5)P₂ (100 μM) in the pipette solution (cytosolic side) in order to quickly obtain stable
339 PI(3,5)P₂-evoked current, likely because of the slow diffusion of this lipid ligand. PI(4,5)P₂ was
340 added in the cytosolic side, Tem, ML-SA1, ML-SI3, ML-SI1, SM were added in the bath
341 solution. SM competition assays with SF-51 and ML-SI1 were conducted under pH 4.6. The
342 patch pipettes were pulled from Borosilicate glass and heat polished to a resistance of 2–5 MΩ
343 (2–3 MΩ for inside-out patch, and 3–5 MΩ for whole-cell current recording). Data were acquired
344 using an AxoPatch 200B amplifier (Molecular Devices) and a low-pass analogue filter set to
345 1 kHz. The current signal was sampled at a rate of 20 kHz using a Digidata 1550B digitizer
346 (Molecular Devices) and further analyzed with pClamp 11 software (Molecular Devices). After
347 the patch pipette attached to the cell membrane, the giga seal (>10 GΩ) was formed by gentle
348 suction. The inside-out configuration was formed by pulling the pipette away from the cell, and

349 the pipette tip was exposed to the air for 2 seconds. The whole-cell configuration was formed by
350 short zap or suction to rupture the patch. The holding potential was set to 0 mV. The whole-cell
351 and inside-out macroscopic current recordings were obtained using voltage pulses ramped from
352 -140 mV to +50 mV over a duration of 800 ms. The sample traces for the I-V curves of
353 macroscopic currents shown in each figure were obtained from recordings on the same patch. All
354 data points are mean \pm s.e.m. ($n \geq 5$).

355 **Data availability.** The cryo-EM density maps of mouse TRPML1 have been deposited in the
356 Electron Microscopy Data Bank (EMDB) under accession numbers 45429 (Y404W), 45432
357 (PI(4,5)P₂-bound). Atomic coordinates have been deposited in the Protein Data Bank (PDB)
358 under accession numbers 9CBZ (Y404W), 9CC2 (PI(4,5)P₂-bound).

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366
367 **Author contributions:** N.G. prepared the samples; Y.H. and N.G. performed data acquisition,
368 image processing, and structure determination; W.Z. performed electrophysiology recording; All
369 authors participated in research design, data analysis, discussion, and manuscript preparation.

370
371 **Declaration of interests:** The authors declare no competing financial interests.

372
373

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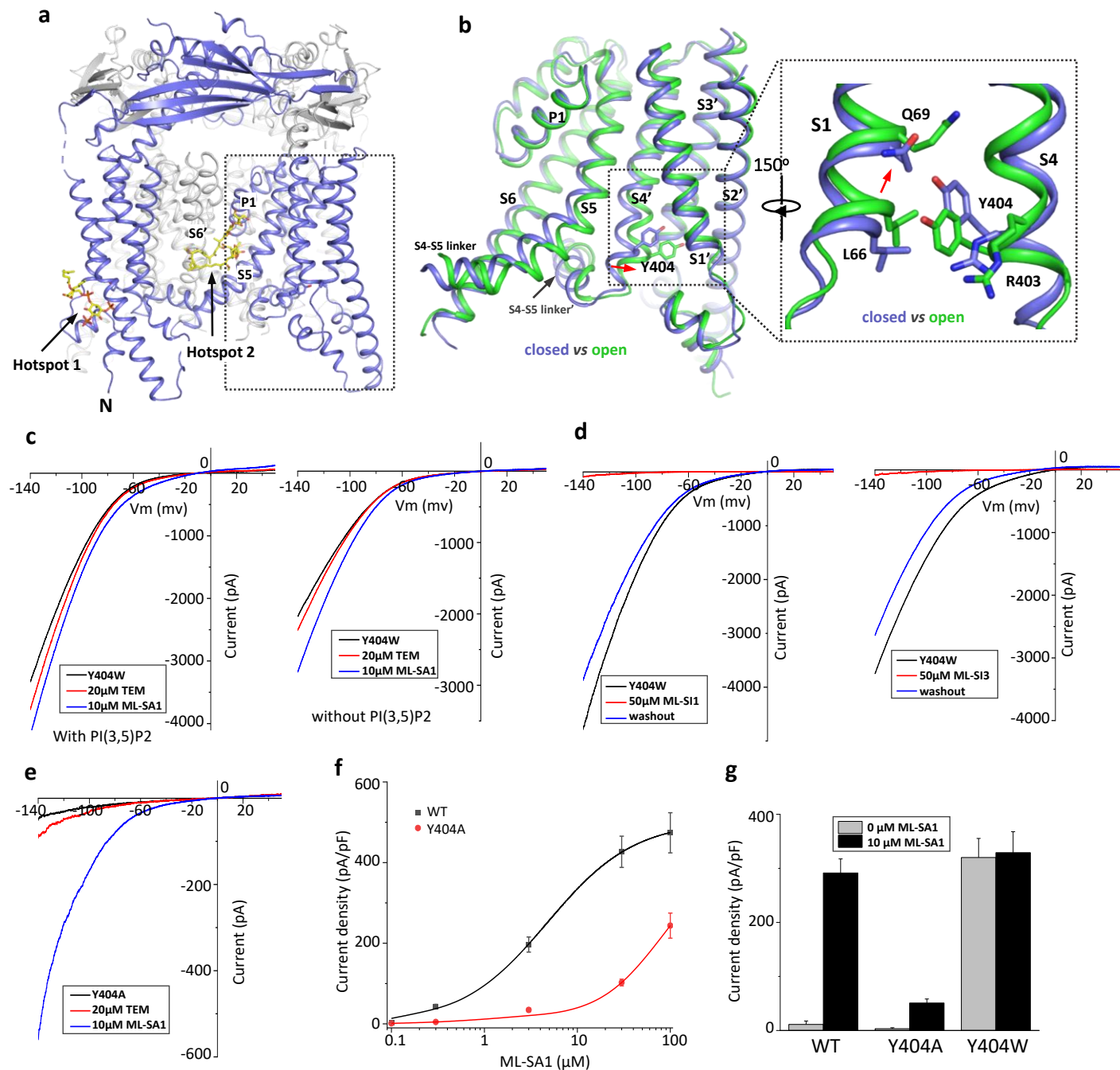


Figure 1 Design and characterization of allosteric mutations at Tyr404 that recapitulate TRPML1 gating. (a)

The structure of PI(3,5)P₂/Temsirrolimus-activated TRPML1 (PDB code:7SQ9) illustrating the two hot spots for ligand binding. Temsirolimus (Tem) is a rapamycin analog. (b) Ligand-induced conformational change and the zoomed-in view of the Y404 movement. Only the boxed region in (a) is shown in the structural comparison between the open (green) and closed (blue) structures. Red arrows mark the bending of S4 and upward movement of S1. (c) Sample traces of Y404W gain-of-function mutant recorded using patch clamp in whole-cell configuration with (left) or without (right) 100 μM PI(3,5)P₂ in the pipette (cytosolic). Tem or agonist ML-SA1 was introduced in the bath solution (extracellular/luminal). (d) Sample traces of Y404W inhibition by antagonists ML-SI1 (left) and ML-SI3 (right) recorded using patch clamp in whole-cell configuration. The antagonists were introduced in the bath solution (extracellular/luminal). (e) Sample traces of Y404A loss-of-function mutant with 100 μM PI(3,5)P₂ in the pipette (cytosolic). Tem or ML-SA1 was introduced in the bath solution (extracellular/luminal). (f) ML-SA1 activation of TRPML1(WT) and Y404A mutant measured at -140 mV. Data for WT is least square fits to the Hill equation with EC₅₀=4.8±0.7 μM, n=0.93±0.10. Data points are mean ± SEM (n=5 independent experiments). (g) Current density of wild-type and mutant TRPML1 at -140mV with and without 10μM ML-SA1. Data points are mean ± SEM (n=5 independent experiments)

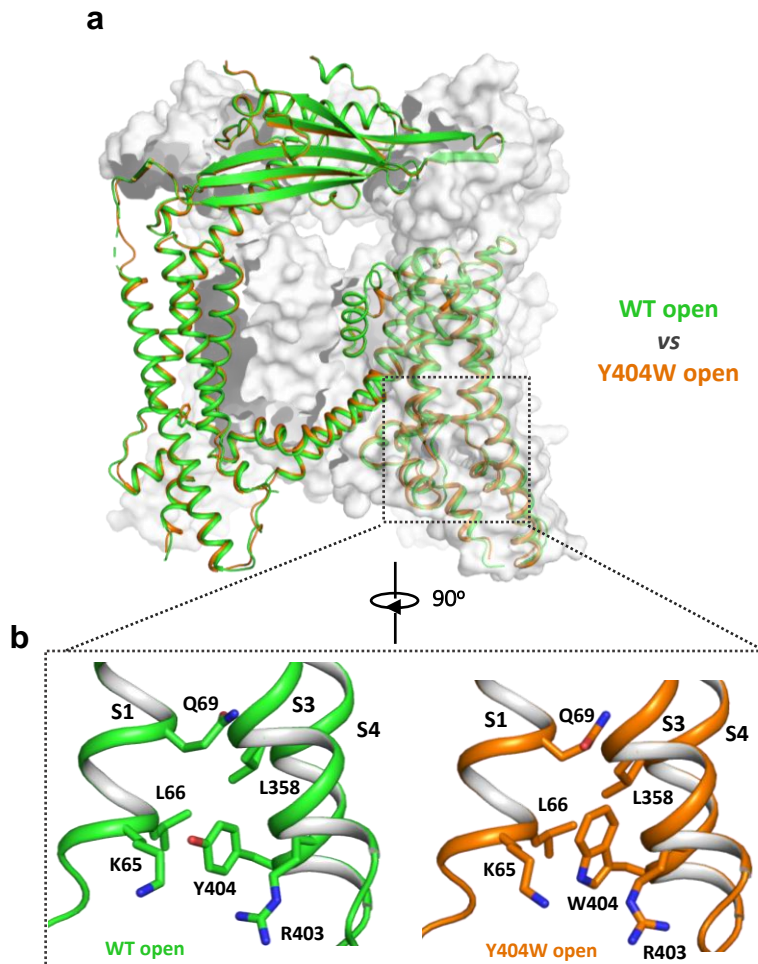


Figure 2. Y404W mutant adopts an open conformation in the absence of ligands. (a) Structural comparison between PI(3,5)P₂/Tem-bound open structure (green) and the Y404W mutant structure (orange). Only the front subunit and the neighboring S1-S4 regions are highlighted in color for clarity. **(b)** Zoomed-in views of the regions surrounding Y404 (WT, green) and W404 (mutant, orange).

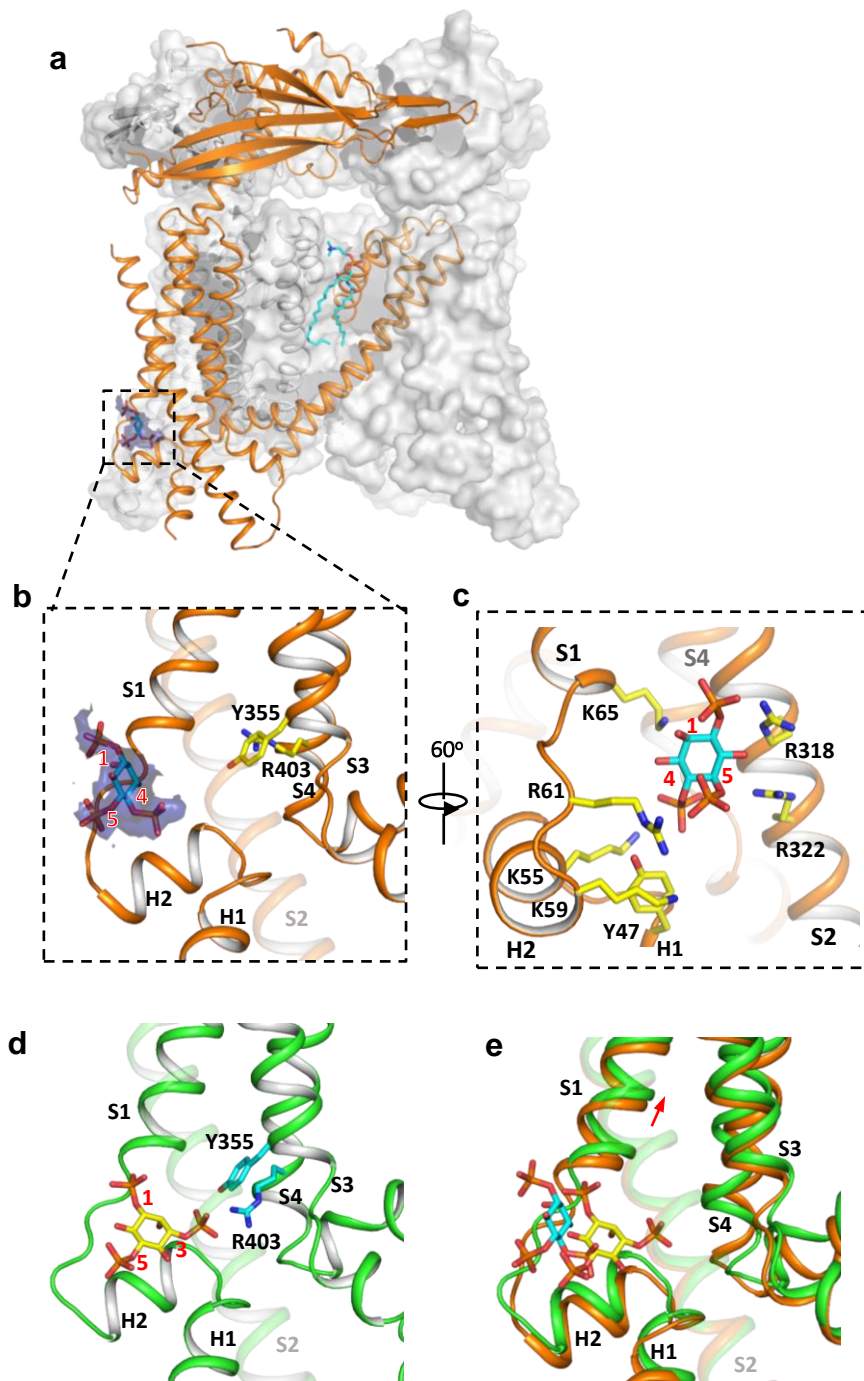


Figure 3. Structure of TRPML1 in complex with PI(4,5)P₂. (a) Overall structure of PI(4,5)P₂-bound TRPML1 with the front subunit shown in orange cartoon and the rest shown as grey surface representation. Density for PI(4,5)P₂ head group is shown in blue surface. (b) Zoomed-in view of the PI(4,5)P₂-binding pocket with the density of its IP₃ head group shown in blue surface. (c) Zoomed-in view of the PI(4,5)P₂-binding pocket with side chains of IP₃-interacting residues shown as yellow sticks. (d) Zoomed-in view of the IP₃ position in the PI(3,5)P₂-bound open TRPML1 structure. The C3 phosphate group directly interacts with Y355 and R403. (e) Comparison of the head group positions in PI(3,5)P₂-bound open (green) and PI(4,5)P₂-bound closed (orange) structures. The inositol rings PI(3,5)P₂ and PI(4,5)P₂ are colored yellow and cyan, respectively. The red arrow marks the upward movement of S1 from closed to open conformation.

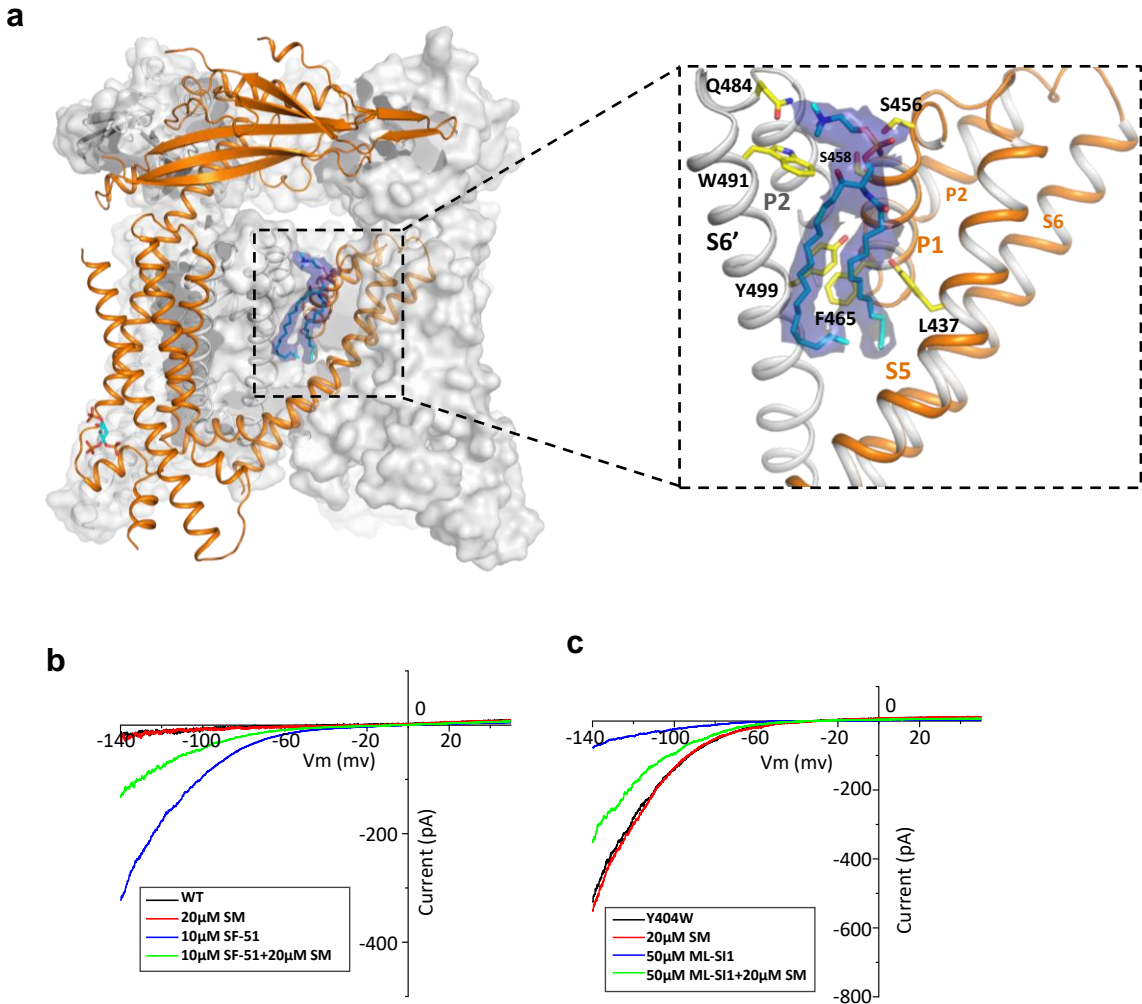


Figure 4. Sphingomyelin binding in TRPML1. (a) Overall structure of PI(4,5)P₂-bound TRPML1 and the zoomed-in view of the lipid-binding site. The lipid density is shown as blue surface and modeled as sphingomyelin (SM). The side chains of lipid-interacting residues are shown as yellow sticks. (b) SM inhibition effect on SF-51-activated wild-type TRPML1. (c) SM activation effect on ML-SI1-inhibited Y404W mutant. Currents shown in (b) and (c) were recorded using patch clamp in whole-cell configuration with pH 4.6 in the bath solution as the adverse effect of SM on agonist or antagonist is subtle and is measurable only at low luminal pH.

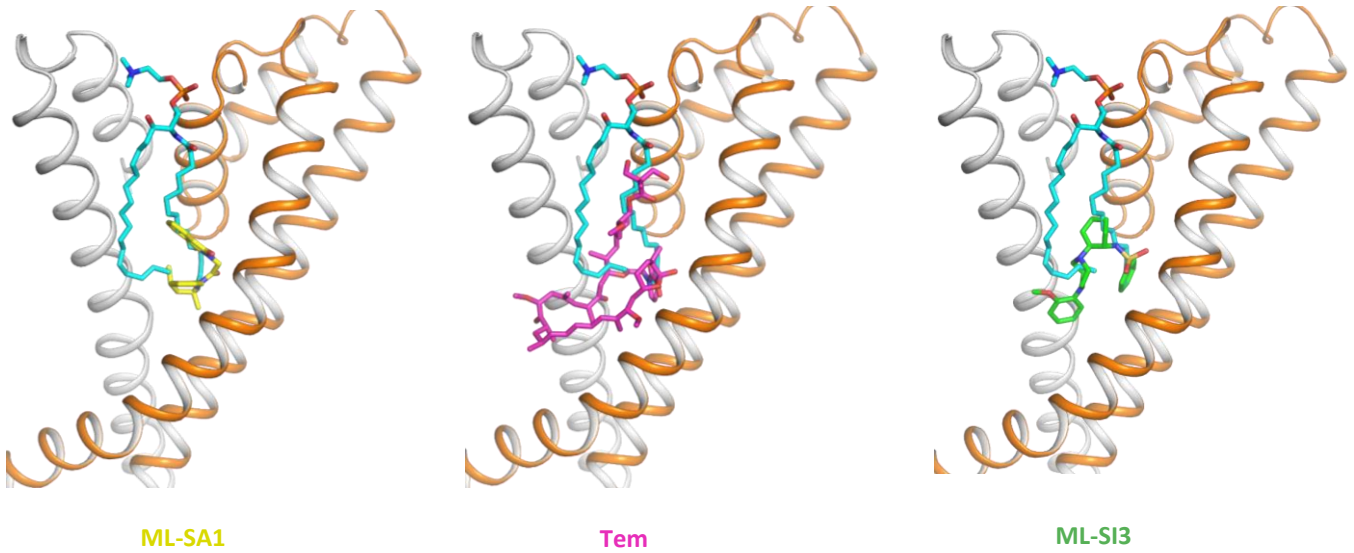


Figure supplement 1. Sphingomyelin (cyan) binding overlaps with that of agonist ML-SA1 (yellow), rapamycin analog Tem (magenta), or antagonist ML-SI3 (green).

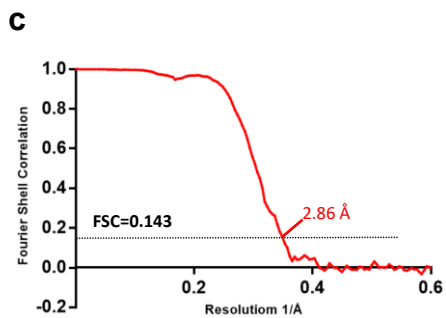
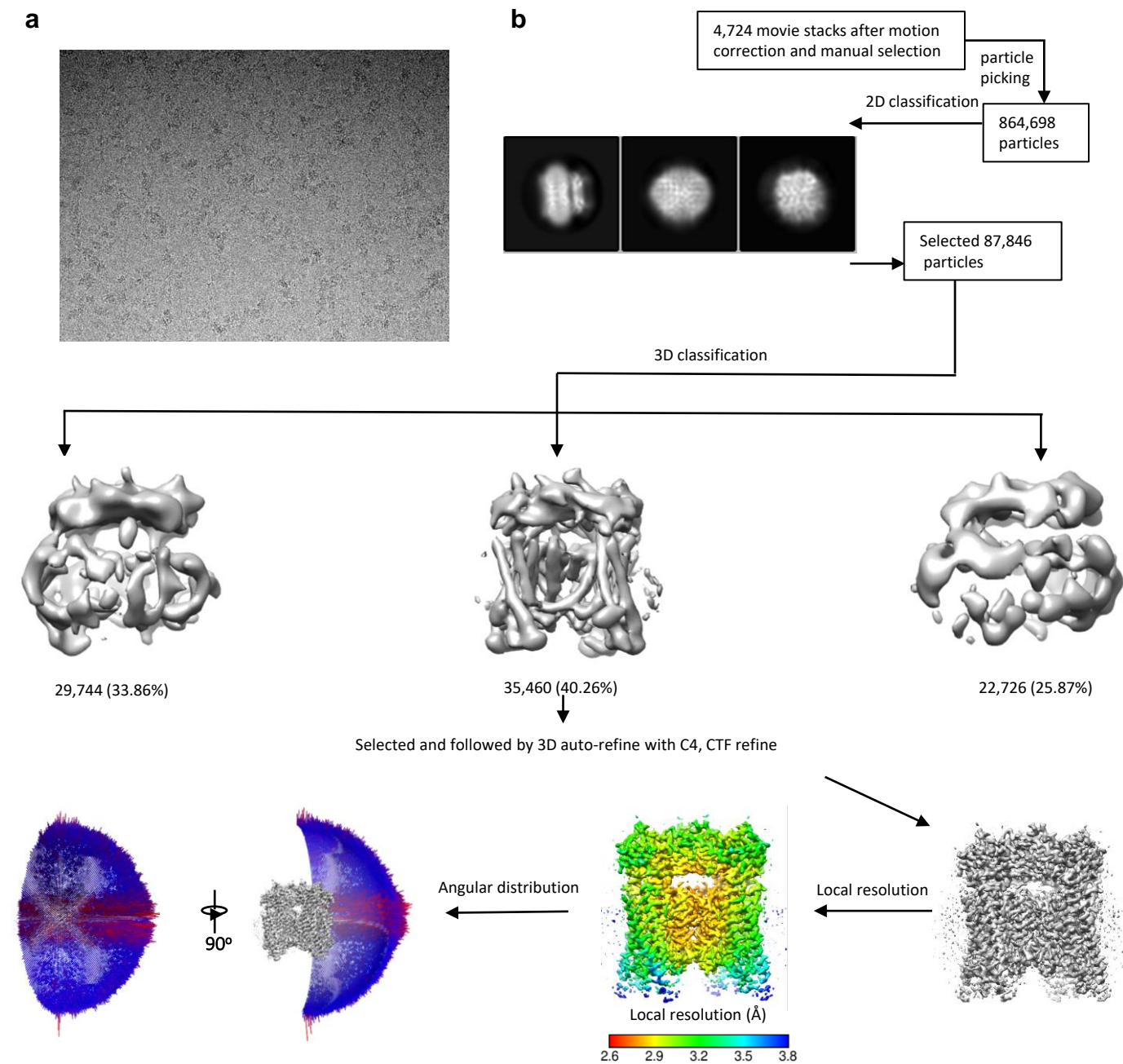


Figure supplement 2: Cryo-EM data processing scheme of the TRPML1 Y404W. (a) Representative micrograph. (b) Flow chart of the cryo-EM data processing procedure and the Euler angle distribution of particles used in the final three-dimensional reconstruction. Selected 2D class averages are shown. The final structure represent an open state. (c) Fourier Shell Correlation curves showing the overall resolution at FSC=0.143.

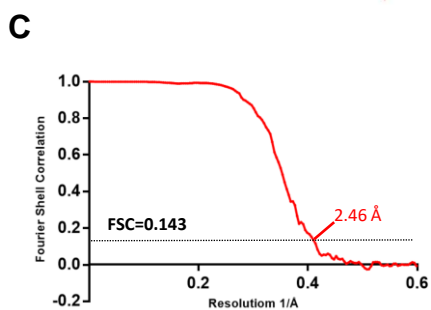
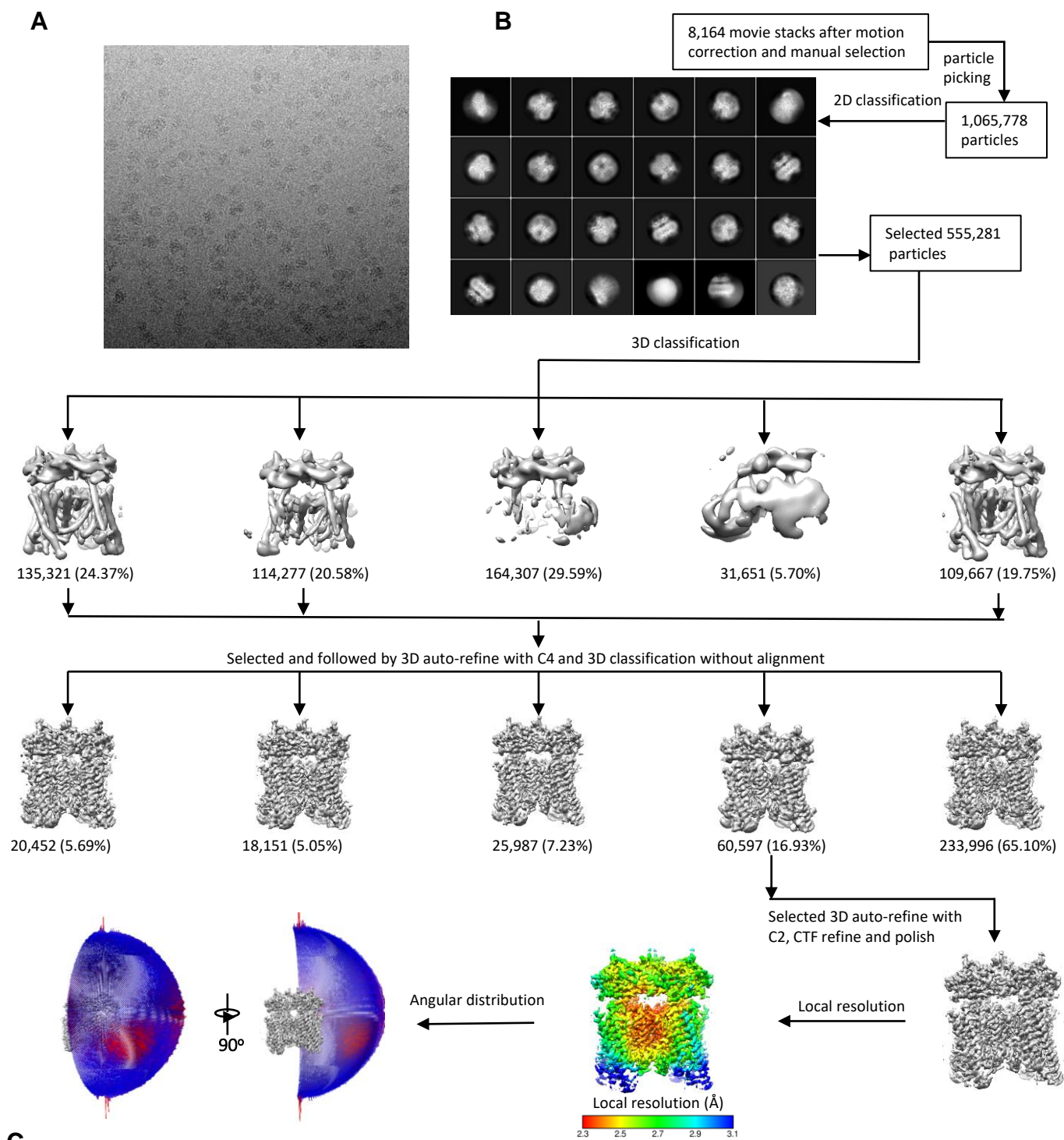


Figure supplement 3: Cryo-EM data processing scheme of the TRPML1 sample prepared in the presence of PI(4,5)P₂. (a) Representative micrograph. (b) Flow chart of the cryo-EM data processing procedure and the Euler angle distribution of particles used in the final three-dimensional reconstruction. Selected 2D class averages are shown. The final structure represent an open state. (c) Fourier Shell Correlation curves showing the overall resolution at FSC=0.143.

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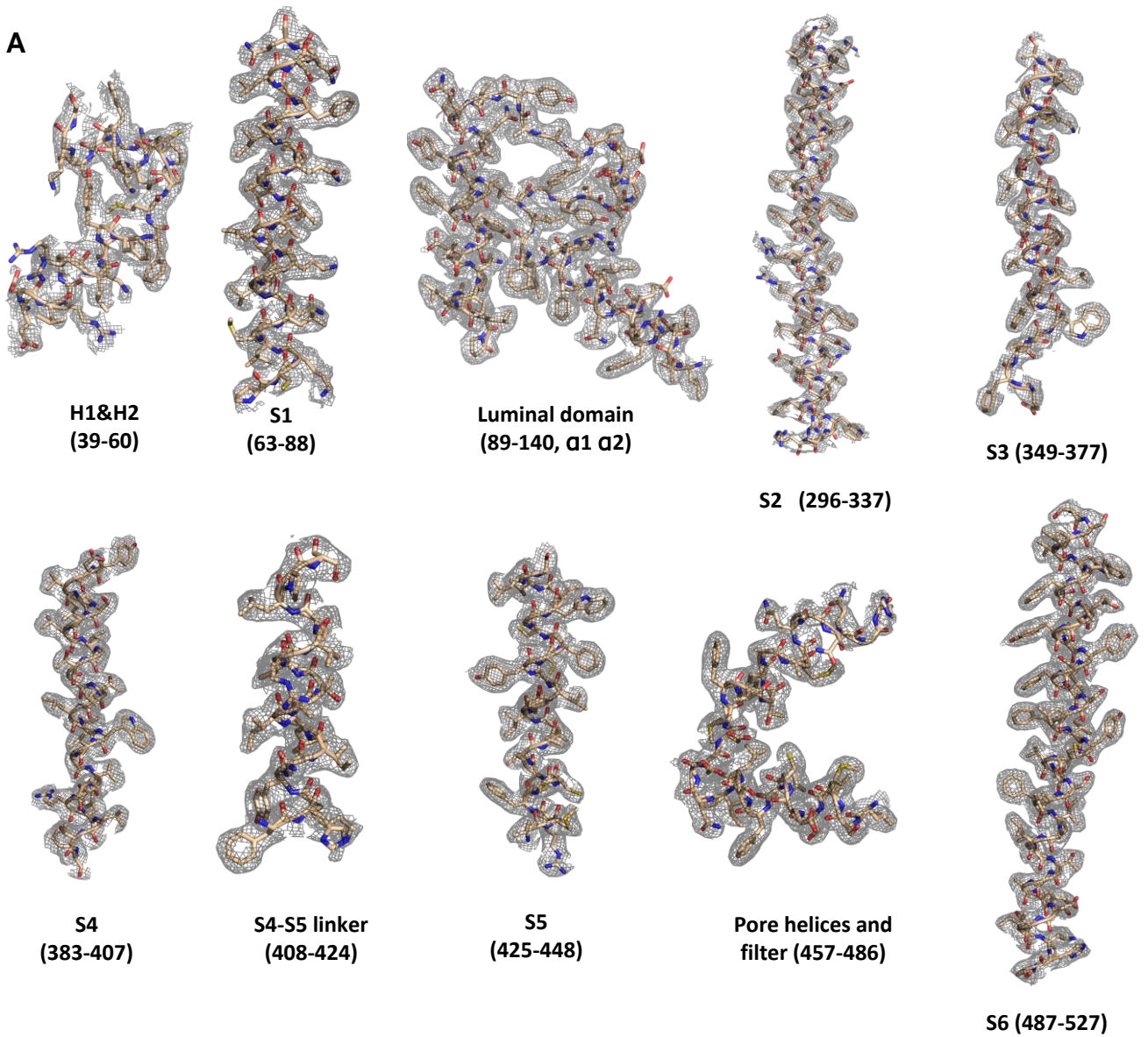


Figure supplement 4 : Sample density maps of the PI(4,5)P₂-bound closed TRPML1 structure contoured at 4 σ .

Top View



Movie supplement 1. Conformational changes between open and closed TRPML1