

Figure S1. The locations of the K244A/K245A mutations on the OrfX1–OrfX3 complex and the C31S mutation on OrfX1. (A) Crystal structure of the OrfX1–OrfX3 tetrameric complex with K244A/K245A mutations in OrfX3 shown as sphere representations. These two residues are located on the OrfX3 surface, which are not involved in OrfX3 dimerization nor its interaction with OrfX1. (B) The structure of OrfX1 with C31S mutation shown as a sphere representation.

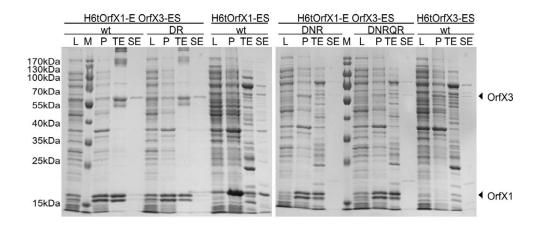


Figure S2. Validation of interactions between OrfX1 and OrfX3 in the OrfX1–OrfX3 complex. Co-expression analysis of the WT H6tOrfX1-ES, WT H6tOrfX3-ES, H6tOrfX1-OrfX3-ES WT complex and the respective OrfX3 mutants D152R/R162A (DR), D57A/N60A/R62A/Q93A/R162A (DNRQR). Protein load of WT and DR eluates (TE, SE) were 10-fold reduced to account for the high protein expression. L, clear lysate; P, cell pellet after lysis; TE, eluate from Co²⁺-Talon matrix; SE, eluate from StrepTactin matrix. Samples were analyzed by SDS-PAGE analysis and Coomassie stain.

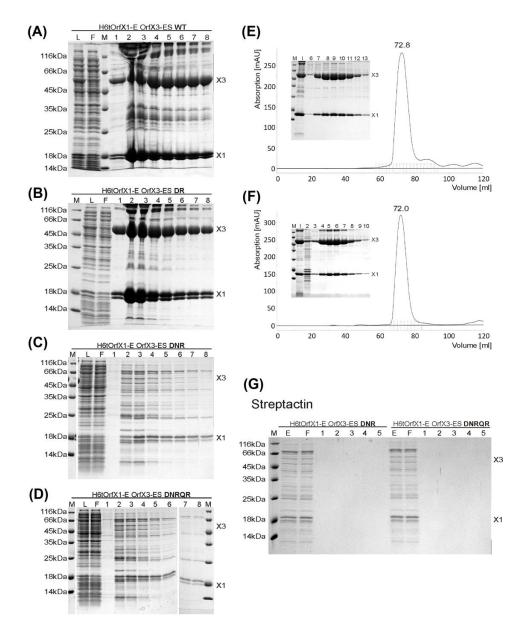


Figure S3. Validation of interactions between OrfX1 and OrfX3 in the OrfX1–OrfX3 complex. Immobilized metal affinity chromatography (IMAC) purification of the H6tOrfX1-OrfX3-ES WT complex (**A**) and the respective OrfX3 mutants D152R/R162A (DR) (**B**), D57A/N60A/R62A (DNR) (**C**), D57A/N60A/R62A/Q93A/R162A (DNRQR) (**D**). L, clear lysate; F, flow through; the numbers indicate fractions eluted from Co²⁺-Talon matrix. (**E–F**) The pooled IMAC fractions of the WT and the DR mutants were treated with thrombin to remove the His tag and further subjected to size-exclusion chromatography (Superdex-200 16/60PG). Please note the His-tagged OrfX1 shows as double bands on SDS-PAGE, but a single band after His tag removal. (**G**) The pooled IMAC fractions of the DNR and DNRQR mutants were subjected to StrepTactin binding targeting the Strep-tagged OrfX3, which did not yield detectable OrfX3 or the OrfX1–OrfX3 complex. E, eluate from Co²⁺-Talon matrix; F, flow through; the numbers indicate eluate from StrepTactin matrix. All samples were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and Coomassie stain.

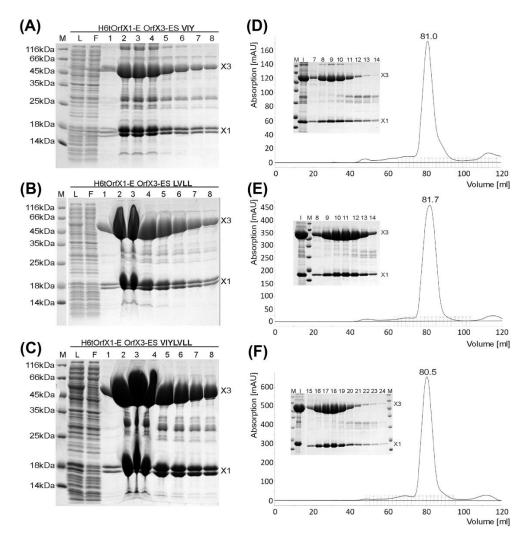
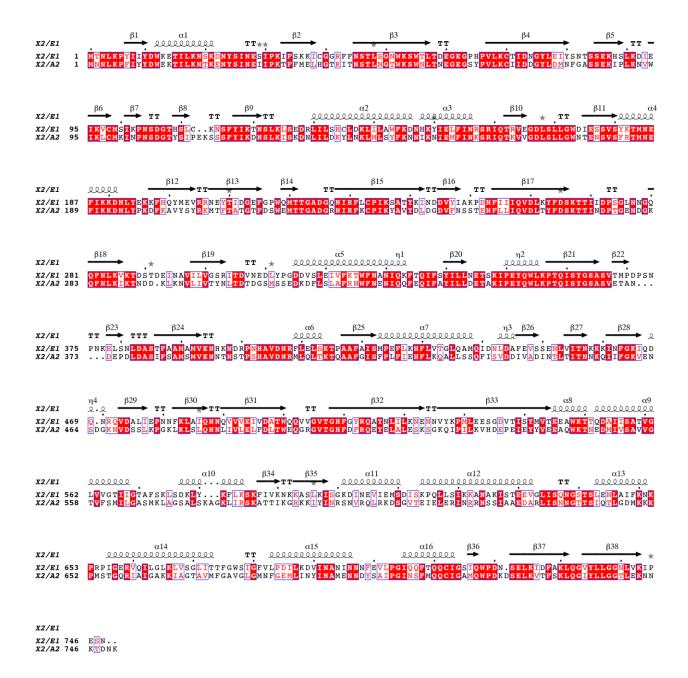


Figure S4. Validation of interactions between the homodimeric OrfX3 in the OrfX1–OrfX3 complex. (A–C) IMAC purification of the respective H6tOrfX1-OrfX3-ES complex mutants V377E/I379E/Y381S (VIY), L390E/V394D/L401E/L405E (LVLL), and (VIY/LVLL); L, clear lysate; F, flow through, the numbers indicate fractions eluted from Co²⁺-Talon matrix. All samples were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and Coomassie stain. (**D–F**) The pooled IMAC fractions of the three mutants were treated with thrombin to remove the His tag and further subjected to size-exclusion chromatography (Superdex-200 16/60PG).





	SeMet-OrfX1-			- SeMet-OrfX2
	OrfX3 (K244A/K245A)	(K244A/K245A) PDB: 8FBD) C31S PDB: 8FBE	PDB: 8FBF
Data collection	(**************************************			
Wavelength (Å)	0.97918	0.97918	0.97918	0.9795
Resolution (Å)	173.01-2.35 (2.40-2.35)	141.28-2.05 (2.09-2.05)	49.02-1.73 (1.76-1.73)	65.05-1.85 (1.92-1.85)
Space group Cell dimensions	P 2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁	P 2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁	P 32	P 2 ₁
a, b, c (Å)	39.2, 173.0, 242.8	39.3, 174.0, 242.0	56.6, 56.6, 84.3	106.3, 83.2, 108.4
α, β, γ (°)	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 120	90, 105.8, 90
Completeness (%)	99.9 (99.8)	99.2 (95.4)	99.8 (100.0)	99.8 (99.5)
Redundancy R_{merge} (%) R_{pim} (%) Mean $I/\sigma(I)$ $CC_{1/2}$	3.7 (3.7) 14.0 (136.2) 8.2 (80.1) 12.0 (1.5) 0.996 (0.543)	4.7 (4.5) 8.9 (77.8) 6.5 (61.7) 11.1 (1.6) 0.994 (0.545)	3.5 (3.5) 5.3 (77.8) 3.4 (49.7) 17.3 (1.8) 0.999 (0.555)	6.7 (6.2) 14.7 (75.8) 6.2 (31.8) 22.2 (2.3) 0.966 (0.892)
Refinement Resolution (Å) No. reflections <i>R</i> _{work} / <i>R</i> _{free} (%) No. atoms Protein		49.67-2.05 104, 662 17.99/21.90 9, 958	19.94-1.73 31, 471 17.21/21.65 2, 379	19.89-1.85 154, 831 19.12/23.95 11, 855
Ligand/ion Water B-factors (Å ²)		9, 938 8 572	2, 379 0 238	20 848
Protein Ligand/ion Water r.m.s. deviations		48.4 45.5 46.7	35.2 - 42.1	35.2 48.6 39.1
Bond lengths (Å) Bond angles (°)		0.008 1.073	0.007 1.080	0.006 1.008

Table S1. Data collection and refinement statistics.

Values in parentheses are for the highest resolution shell.

Interacting residues at the OrfX1–OrfX3 heterodimer interface						
Type of interaction	Chain ID	Residues in OrfX1	Chain ID	Residues in OrfX3		
Salt Bridge	A, C	D58	B, D	R78		
Salt Bridge	A, C	E108	B, D	R162		
Salt Bridge	A, C	E122	B, D	R162		
H-bond	А	N14	В	E151		
H-bond	С	N14	D	D152		
H-bond	A, C	N30	B, D	Q233		
H-bond	A, C	C31	B, D	S59		
H-bond	A, C	S32	B, D	D57		
H-bond	A, C	N34	B, D	D57		
H-bond	A, C	Y35	B, D	G55		
H-bond	A, C	Y37	B, D	N60		
H-bond	А	K52	В	Y147		
H-bond	A, C	N102	B, D	G55		
H-bond *	A, C	N102	B, D	R62		
H-bond	A, C	Y104	B, D	N60		
H-bond	A, C	Y104	B, D	Q93		
H-bond	A, C	N107	B, D	P124		
H-bond	A, C	N126	B, D	S133		
Hydrophobic	A, C	1119	B, D	Y40, Y159, L163		
Hydrophobic	A, C	L120, V123, I124	B, D	F155		
Cation-pi	A, C	Y104	B, D	R62		
Van der Waals	A, C	N30	B, D	Q235		
Van der Waals	A, C	P33	B, D	Q234, Q235, K236		
Van der Waals	A, C	V105	B, D	1130		
Van der Waals	A, C	1106	B, D	P124, E125		
Van der Waals	A, C	K116, N117, G118	B, D	Y40		
Van der Waals	A, C	L120	B, D	F155		
Van der Waals	A, C	L130	B, D	S133		

 Table S2. Interacting residues at the OrfX1–OrfX3 heterodimer interface.

* indicates a water-mediated H-bond.

Table S3. Interacting residues at the OrfX3 homodimer interface in the OrfX1–OrfX3
complex.

Interacting residues at the OrfX3 homodimer interface in the OrfX1–OrfX3 complex							
Type of interaction	Chain ID	Residues OrfX3	Chain ID	Residues in OrfX3'			
H-bond	В	S375	D	N387			
H-bond	B, D	N378	D, B	S382			
H-bond	B, D	Q380	D, B	Q380			
H-bond	B, D	S382	D, B	N378			
Van der Waals	B, D	V377, I379	D, B	E383, Y381			
Hydrophobic	B, D	S398, L401, S402 L405	D, B	L390, V393, V394, L397, S398			