#### **Supplementary Material**

Cryo-EM of NCP interactions in trans

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#### Figure S1: Nucleosome core particle dimers

(A) Chromatogram and SDS-PAGE showing assembly of the native octamer. Excess of H2A/H2B dimer, used in the octamer assembly, was removed by size exclussion chromatography. Black line shows migration of the octamer. Red line shows migration of the H2A/H2B dimer. Selected fractions, marked with a black bar on the chromatogram, were analyzed by SDS-PAGE.

(B) Native gel showing NCP assembly.

**(C)** Representative 2D class averages showing pairs of nucleosome core particles in many different orientations. Many details are visible in 2D class averages.

### Α

#### Particles A : 574 000







Β



D

Class A



Resolution: 7.2 Å 43 000 particles

Class A

Class B



Resolution: 7.6 Å 33 000 particles

Class B

Class C



Resolution: 7.4 Å 42 000 particles

Class C



43 000 particles



33 000 particles

42 000 particles

#### Figure S2: Cryo-EM of NCP dimer particles

(A) Cryo-EM map and local resolution estimation of the NCP at 4.7 Å (0.143 cutoff in FSC curve).

(B) Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curve showing the resolution of cryo-EM map of the NCP.

(C) Cryo-EM maps of NCP 1 of the 3 classes that have the adjacent NCP 2.

**(D)** A lower counter of the 3 classes that have the adjacent NCP 2. The density for NCP 2 is shown in red. NCP 1 is shown in blue.

Class A1

Class A2





Class A4





Class A5



Class A6







Class B2



📕 8 Å 📕 12 Å 🗌 16 Å 📕 20 Å 📕 24 Å

#### Figure S3: Local resolution calculation of NCP dimer reconstructions

Local resolution estimate determined by Relion. NCP 1 is resolved at 8-10 Å, while the NCP 2 is present at much lower resolution (15-25 Å). The side view is shown at higher contour level to show local resolution of NCP 1.



# **Supplementary Figure 4**

### Figure S4: NCP pairs can adopt multiple conformations

(A) Lower contour level of cryo-EM maps A4 and A5 showing the contact NCP 1 and NCP 2. The NCP 1 is shown in light blue and the NCP 2 is shown in red.



Class A3

Class A4



Class A5



#### Figure S5: Fitting of the X-ray model into cryo-EM maps.

The X-ray model of the NCP (PDB ID 3LZ1) was fitted into the Classes A1-A5. Cryo-EM density for both NCPs is shown in transparent blue. The molecular model for NCP 1 is shown in blue and for NCP 2 in red.



**E** NCP side contacting 2<sup>nd</sup> NCP

NCP side without the 2<sup>nd</sup> NCP



#### Figure S6: H4-tail delocalizes when adjacent to the second nucleosome core particle

(A) Comparison of the NCP models fitted into the tetra-nucleosome structure of 30 nm fiber (Song *et al*, 2014). In the tetra-nucleosome, adjacent NCPs are stacked with histone octamers facing each others.

(B) NCP model with depicted histones, histone tails and acidic patch (red circle).

**(C)** Cryo-EM map of the combined reconstruction of the classes A1-A3 at 8.3 Å (0.143 cutoff in FSC curve).

- (D) Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curve showing the resolution of cryo-EM map of the NCP.
- (E) H4 tail is changing the conformation upon the interactions with the second NCP.

#### **References :**

Song F, Chen P, Sun D, Wang M, Dong L, Liang D, Xu R-M, Zhu P & Li G (2014) Cryo-EM study of the chromatin fiber reveals a double helix twisted by tetranucleosomal units. *Science* 344: 376–380