Supplementary Information

Structure of Csx1-cOA4 complex reveals the basis of RNA decay in Type III-B CRISPR-Cas

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Supplementary Figure 1. Structure-based sequence alignment of type III-B CRISPR-associated CARF ribonucleases. The amino acid sequences of Csx1 from *S. islandicus* (SisCsx1), *Pyrococcus furiosus* (PfuCsx1), *Sulfolobus sulfataricus* (SsoCsx1), *Thermus termophilus* (TtCsm6) and *Thermus onnurineus* (ToCsm6) were aligned by using Clustal Omega (https://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo). The figure was prepared using ESPript (http://espript.ibcp.fr/ESPript/ESPript/index.php). Residue numbers are labelled according to the SisCsx1 sequence. The different structural domains of SisCsx1 and their amino acid composition are depicted as boxes above the sequences, and labelled with the same names and color code as in Fig. 1A. Key residues for cOA4 binding, RNA catalysis, and Csx1 oligomerization are marked according to their region: CARF domain (blue triangle), HEPN domain (orange stars), and hexamer insertion region (orange dots), respectively. Residues involved in intramolecular sulphur bridge bonds are displayed along the SisCsx1 sequence by green numbers (1, 2 and 3).

Supplementary Figure 2. SEC-MALS analysis. SisCsx1, SisCsx1/cOA4 complex, and SisCsx1-I383A/L390D/R391A variant were injected into a Superdex 200 Increase 10/300 GL column. The change in refractive index as a function of protein concentration was used to compute the molar masses for the different samples. The discontinued lines plotted on the right axis scale correspond to the RI traces from the SEC column scaled across the greatest magnitude of all chromatogram data. The molar masses across the eluting peaks are plotted as open circles on the left axis scale (molar mass). The average molecular weights are displayed on the figure.

Supplementary Figure 3. Cryo-EM data processing and reconstruction. (A) Representative cryo-EM micrograph of the Csx1 complex. A few picked particles are highlighted in red circles. (B) Reference-free 2D class averages selected for further processing. (C) Overview of the cryo-EM data processing workflow for the Csx1 complex in cisTEM. Marked up in red: Filtering of the micrographs based on the estimated contrast transfer function (CTF) maximum resolution, as well as the data processing job types performed, including particle picking, 2D classification, *ab initio* reference model generation, and 3D refinement. (D) The particle Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curve of the final 3D reconstruction. The minimum refinement limit used for the final 3D reconstruction was 8.5 Å.(E) Local resolution map calculated using MonoRes within the Scipion package. (F) Euler angular distribution plot of the relative orientations of all particles included in the final 3D reconstruction of the Csx1 complex.

Supplementary Figure 4. cOA4 production and purification including ESI-MS analysis of LC elution peaks. **(A)** cOA were generated in vitro using Cmr-α-RNP from *S. islandicus* Rey15A was performed as described 35. The gel sows the presence of two main products after the reaction. **(B)** The two cOA species were separated by reverse phase HPLC. The molecular weights of 1316 Da, and 987 Da indicate that they were composed of 4 and 3 AMPs respectively. **(C)** Drawing of the cOA4 chemical formula. Mass spectra of the compounds and the isotopic patterns of the cOA4 **(D)** and cOA3 **(E)** detected compounds.

Supplementary Figure 5. Temperature effect on SisCsx1 activation in the presence of cOA4. **(A)** Gels and chart displaying the activity of SisCsx1 measured at different temperatures in the presence of 100 nM cOA4, 18 nM SisCsx1 and 2.5 µM of RNA9 (see Fig. 6C) as substrate. **(B)** Effect of the presence of metals on SisCsx1 activity. The experiment conditions were the same as in (A)**. (C)** Effect of the pH on SisCsx1 activity shows that high pHs promoting histidine protonation do not support cleavage. The experiment conditions were the same as in (A) except the different buffers and that the substrate is RNA1 (see Fig. 6C). The experiments were repeated three times and the bars in the chart represent the s.d. Source data are provided as a Source Data file for Supplementary Figs 5A-C.

Supplementary Figure 6. Schematic representation of cOA4 interactions in SisCsx1 second messenger binding pockets. The interactions were depicted by LigPlot in conf1 **(A-B)** and conf2 **(C-D)**.

Supplementary Figure 7. (A) Electrostatic potential of the cOA4-binding pocket. Top view of a SisCsx1 dimer in the apo, conf1, and conf2 structures. The detailed view shows how the shape in one of the pockets and the electrostatic potential in the cleft change upon binding and the conf1-conf2 transition. (B) The figure shows the Fo-Fc omit maps of the cOA4 molecule in conf1 and conf2. (C) Fo-Fc difference maps. The figure shows the negative peaks in the Fo-Fc electron density when the cOA₄ conformations conf1 and conf2 are exchanged (red negative, green positive), thus validating the observed conformational changes. Maps are displayed at \pm 5.0 σ contour value.

Supplementary Figure 8. SisCsx1 and I383A/L390D/R391A mutant cOA4 binding and CARF and HEPN mutant ssRNase activity. (A) Binding assays of SisCsx1 and I383A/L390D/R391A variant. The experiments were performed as described in Materials and Methods. Quantification of the bands corresponding to the complex between the proteins and cOA4 from three independent experiments are plotted below. Curve fitting of SisCsx1 binding was fitted using a non-liner regression specific binding model as implemented in PRISM. A K_d of ~18 nM was calculated for cOA₄ binding by SisCsx1. As there is no saturation for I383A/L390D/R391A mutant binding, it is not possible to plot a % scale. (B) *in vitro* RNA cleavage assay of the SisCsx1 CARF domain variants. 1 µM of RNA1 (see Fig. 6C) was incubated at 70˚C for 1 minute in the presence of 25nM of cOA4 and 18nM of corresponding proteins. The cleavage reactions were separated on 15% Novex TBE-urea polyacrylamide gel. (C) *in vitro* RNA cleavage assay of the SisCsx1 HEPN domain variants. 2.5 µM of RNA9 (see Fig. 6C) was incubated at 70°C for 5 minutes in the presence of 100nM of cOA₄ and 18nM of corresponding proteins. The cleavage reactions were separated on 15% Novex TBE-urea polyacrylamide gel. (D) Cooperativity experiment raw data. The chart shows one of the typical experiments to assess cooperativity. The increase in fluorescence is generated by the cleavage of the ssRNA substrate in different concentrations of cOA4. Briefly, increasing concentration of cOA4 from 1 to 128 nM were incubated in the presence of 34 nM of SisCsx1 and 0.2 μ M dark-RNA at 70 °C for 3 minutes and the reactions were stopped on ice (Methods). The experiments were repeated three times and the bars in the chart represent the s.d. Source data are provided as a Source Data file for Supplementary Figs 8A-C.

Supplementary Figure 9. (A) Detection of sulfate atoms in the catalytic pocket in conf2. The Fo-Fc map displays sulphate ions (1.5σ) bound to both R354 and R399 in the catalytic pocket suggesting that they can be involved in ssRNA phosphate backbone binding to promote cleavage. 2fo-fc electron density map contoured at 1.1σ show the quality of the structures. (B) The zoom shows the catalytic centre in the HEPN domain. The catalytic H404 residues are labelled in the centre. (C-D) The zooms show 2fo-fc electron density of the region between the HTH (green) HEPN (orange) and CARF (blue) domains. The ´symbol differentiates residues from the two monomers.

Supplementary Table 1. Cryo-EM statistics for data collection and processing.

In the analysis, 808 micrographs received 60 e-/Å2, and 1253 received 40 e-/Å2. Csx1: 400-pixel box, resampled to 1 Å/px.

Supplementary Table 2. X-ray crystallographic data collection and refinement statistics.

*Values in parentheses are for highest-resolution shell. One crystal was used to solve each structure.

Ellipsoidal Completeness according to STARANISO 26 cutoff criteria.

Supplementary Table 3. Hydrogen bonds in the HEPN domain interactions between dimers in the apo, conf1, and conf2 structures.

Conf1

Conf2

Supplementary Table 4. *Sulfolobus* strains used in this work.

Supplementary Table 5. Plasmids used in this work.

Supplementary Table 6. Oligonucleotides used in this work.

