	(1) Head-only (EMD-13893)	(2) Hinge/Arm (EMD-13894)	(3) Composite (EMD-13895, PDB 7QCD) ¹
Data collection and processing			
Magnification	88,000	88,000	88,000
Voltage (kV)	300	300	300
Electron exposure (e-/Ų)	50	50	50
Defocus range (µm)	-1 to -3.5	-1 to -3.5	-1 to -3.5
Pixel size (Å)	1.1	1.1	1.1
Symmetry imposed	C1	C1	C1
Initial particle images (no.)	824,644	380,714	-
Final particle images (no.)	84,810	106,660	-
Map resolution (Å)	6.5	8.5	-
FSC threshold	0.143	0.143	-
Refinement			
Non-hydrogen atoms	-	-	25133
Protein residues	-	-	3137
B-factors (Å ²)	-		
Protein	-	-	not refined ³
R.m.s. deviations	-		
Bond lengths (Å)	-	-	0.005
Bond angles (°)	-	-	0.779
Validation	-		
MolProbity Score	-	-	3.11
Clashscore	-	-	33.06
Poor rotamers (%)	-	-	9.48
Ramachandran plot	-		
Favoured (%)	-	-	94.67
Allowed (%)	-	-	5.17
Disallowed (%)	-	-	0.16

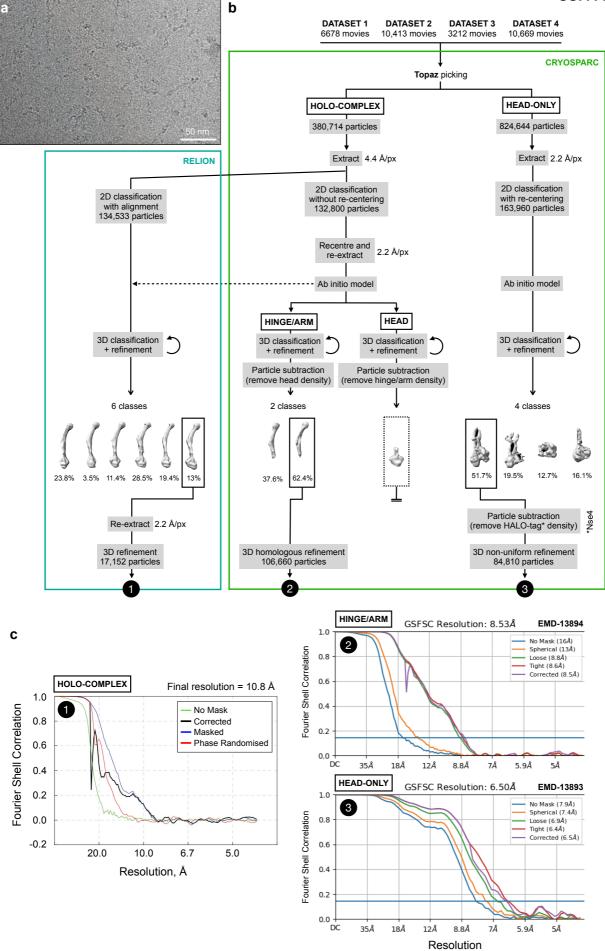
Supplementary Table 1 | Cryo-EM data collection, refinement, and validation statistics

 A pseudo-atomic model of the entire complex was built and refined against a composite map generated from map (1) and map (2)

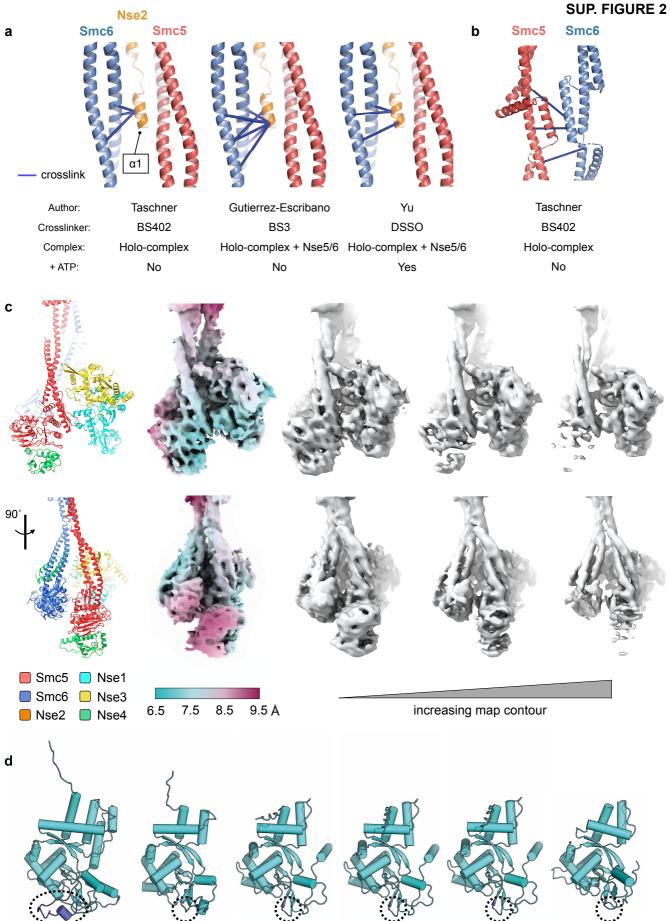
² Values obtained from Local Resolution Map (Phenix)

³ Individual B-factors were not refined

SUP. FIGURE 1



(a) Representative cryo-EM micrograph (b) Summary of image-processing workflow, used to determine the structure of the budding yeast Smc5/6 holo-complex. (c) Fourier Shell Correlation (FSC) curves estimating the average resolution of the indicated maps.



NSE1_SCHPO Cys199, Gly200

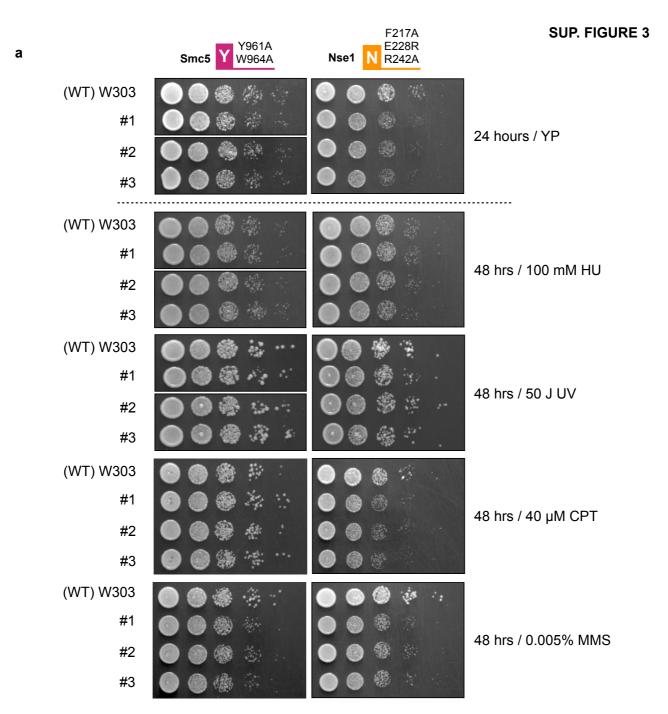
NSE1_YEAST

Glu287-Gln303

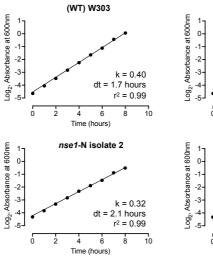
NSE1_HUMAN Cys207, Gly208 NSE1_MOUSE Cys207, Gly208

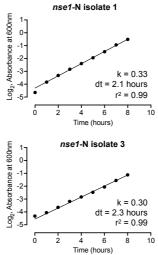
NSE1_RAT Cys207, Gly208 NSE1_DROME Cys200, Ser201

(a) Selected cross-linking mass spectrometry (XL-MS) data taken from 3 separate studies, supporting interaction of the first helix of Nse2 (α2) with the arm of Smc5. Study, type of crosslinker used, complex composition and nucleotide status are summarised below the molecular graphics. Cross-links were visualised using the PyXLinkViewer plugin (ref. 1) for PyMOL (The PyMOL Molecular Graphics System, Version 2.3.2, Schrödinger, LLC). XL-MS data reported in (refs. 2, 3 and 4). (b) Selected XL-MS data taken from 2 supporting interaction of the two SMC 'joints' in the Smc5/6 holo-complex. (c) Different representations for the 'head-end' of the Smc5/6 complex. Sequentially from left to right: secondary structure molecular cartoon; estimate of local resolution as calculated by ResMap-1.1.4 (ref. 5) mapped onto the surface of the composite cryo-EM map; composite map shown at increasing contour levels. See associated keys for additional details. (d) AlphaFold predicts the presence of a budding yeast-specific loop insertion in Nse1 (amino acids 287-303, coloured dark blue).

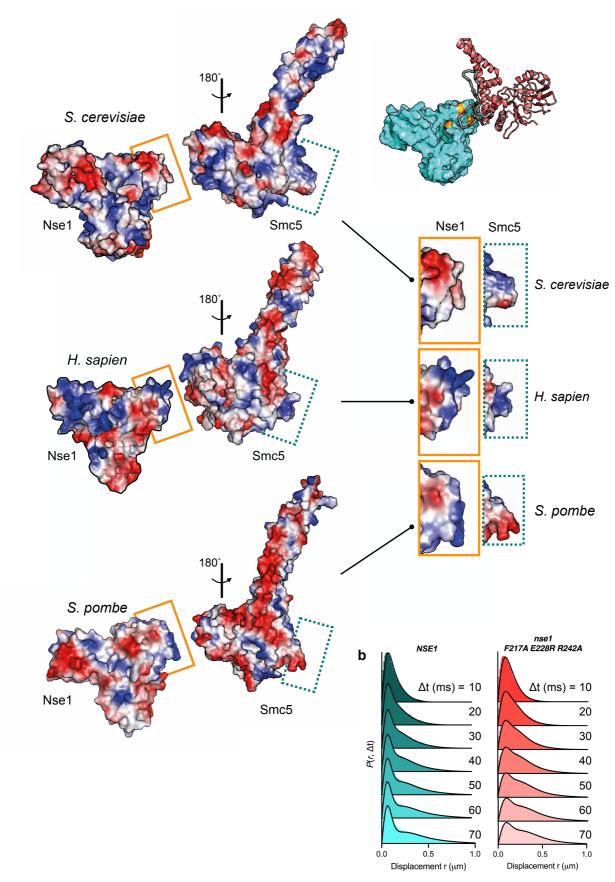


b

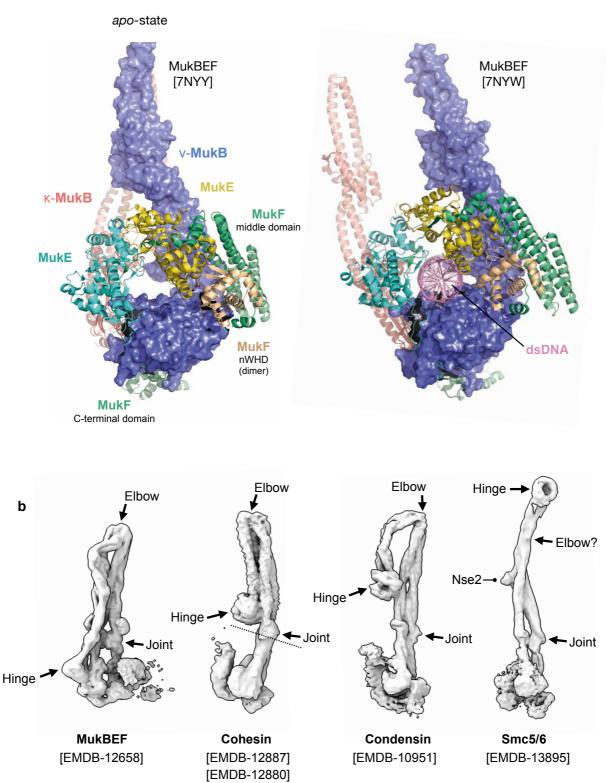




(a) Yeast strains carrying the Y-set of Smc5 mutations are not sensitive to a range of genotoxic agents and have no obvious growth defect. Those carrying the N-set of Nse1 mutations are mildly sensitive to treatment with camptothecin (CPT) or methyl methanesulphonate (MMS). Dose, type of treatment and duration of growth are as indicated; where HU = hydroxyurea, UV = ultraviolet light. The W303 strain is included as a wild-type (WT) control. (b) Representative growth curves for the 3 isolates containing the N-set of mutations introduced into Nse1. The W303 strain is included as a wild-type (WT) control. Data are fitted to an Exponential (Malthusian) grown curve, with k defining a rate constant (slope), dt indicating the calculated doubling time, and r^2 a goodness of fit parameter.



(a) Molecular surface representations for S. cerevisiae, H. sapiens and S. pombe Nse1 and corresponding head domain of Smc5, coloured by electrostatic potential (APBS plugin, PyMOL The surface of Nse1 and the conserved loop extending from Smc5 display a high degree of charge complimentary (visualisation aided by rotation of the head domain through 180°). The interacting regions, as bounded by the drawn rectangles, are shown in an expanded view on the right. AlphaFold accession codes for each model: AF-Q07913-F1 (NSE1 YEAST), AF-Q08204-F1 (SMC5_YEAST), AF-Q8WV22-F1 (NSE1_HUMAN), AF-Q8IY18-F1 (SMC5_HUMAN), AF-Q53EK2-F1 (NSE1 SCHPO), AF-O13710-F1 (SMC5 SCHPO). (a, inset) Molecular secondary structure cartoon highlighting the position of the mutated amino acid residues in Nse1 (carbon atoms coloured in orange and shown in 'stick' representation) relative to that of the Smc5 'W-loop' (coloured in dark grey, with the side chain of Leu978 shown in 'stick' representation). Please also see associated key for additional details. (b) Probability density function plots, with fitting (Spot-On, ref. 6; solid line) for Nse4–Halo-JFX646 single-molecule displacements over the first 8 frames (10ms-70ms), in NSE1 and nse1-F217A E228R R242A genetic backgrounds. Displacements were calculated from three pooled independent experiments, each containing three technical repeats.



а

(a) Side-by-side visualisation of the reported *apo* (left) and fully 'engaged' / DNA-bound states (right) of MukBEF (ref. 7), positioned relative to each other using the head domain / arm of the v-MukB moiety as a fixed reference (shown as a molecular surface); v-MukB/MukE appears to behave largely as a rigid body, already 'primed' to interact and accept a DNA duplex, potentially obviating the need for a large conformation change driven by a 'flip-flop' type mechanism. (b) Representative cryo-EM map for MukBEF (ref. 7) shown alongside those for the reported *apo*-states of budding yeast cohesin (ref. 8), condensin (ref. 9) and Smc5/6 (this paper). EMDB accession codes are as indicated.

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