# **Supplementary Information for**

# **The cytoplasmic synthesis and coupled membrane translocation of**

## **eukaryotic polyphosphate by signal-activated VTC complex**

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References



**Supplementary Figure 1.** (**a**) Schematic working model and (**b**) domain architectures of Vtc subunits. TM, trans-membrane domain; SPX, SYG1/Pho81/XPR1 domain; TTM, triphosphate tunnel metalloenzyme domain. A yellow star indicates the catalytic polymerase domain for polyP synthesis.



**Supplementary Figure 2. Purification of the VTC complex and polyP activity assay.** (**a**) Representative size-exclusion chromatography (SEC) purification of the Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4 complex in the absence of InsP<sub>6</sub>. In, input sample before SEC step. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments were repeated more than five times independently with similar results. (**b**) TBE-PAGE visualization of polyP synthesized by the Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4 complex. The reactions

were performed with required times before stopped. 5  $\mu$ M protein complex and 10 mM InsP<sub>6</sub> were used for each reaction. A commercial polyP with an average chain length of 60 residues (polyP60) was used as the marker. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments were repeated three times independently with similar results. (**c**) TBE-PAGE visualization of polyP synthesized by Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4 complex. The reactions were performed at required  $InsP<sub>6</sub>$ concentrations. 5 μM protein complex were used and reactions were performed for 4 hours. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments were repeated three times independently with similar results. (**d**) Quantification of the produced polyP from (**c)** using DAPI-based measuremen[t](#page-25-0)<sup>1</sup>. PolyP60 was used for assay calibration. Data from three measurements were averaged, and the error indicates SD. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. (**e**) SEC analysis of the reaction mixture. 5  $\mu$ M protein complex and 10 mM InsP<sub>6</sub> were used and the reaction of polyP synthesis was performed for 2 hours. Then the reaction mixture was subjected onto SEC. Fractions of eluent were visualized on SDS-PAGE gel. In, input reaction mixture before SEC step. CPK, creatine phosphokinase used in the reaction. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments were repeated two times independently with similar results. (**f**) DAPI detecting the retained polyP in the collected SEC fractions of the reaction mixture. Fractions of VTC at 10.5-15 ml elution volume of (**e**) were collected and concentrated for the DAPI detection. 0.2 μM concentrated protein fractions and 10 μM DAPI were used for the fluorescent detection. As controls, 0.2 μM purified VTC complex and 10 μM DAPI were used, respectively. The experiments were repeated two times independently with similar results.



**Supplementary Figure 3. Purification of the VTC complex for cryo-EM analysis.** (**a**) Representative SEC purification of the Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4 complex carrying three point mutations on Vtc4 (Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4<sub>R264A/R266A/E426N</sub>) in the presence of 1 mM InsP<sub>6</sub>. In, input sample before SEC step. Fractions of Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4<sub>R264A/R266A/E426N</sub> at 14 and 14.5 ml elution volume were pooled for cryo-EM analysis. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments were repeated more than five times independently with similar results. (**b**) TBE-PAGE visualization of polyP synthesized by Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4 (Wt) and Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4<sub>R264A/R266A/E426N</sub>

(mutant) complex. 5 μM protein complex and 10 mM  $\text{InsP}_6$  were used, and reactions were performed for 4 hours. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments were repeated three times independently with similar results. Blocking VTC activity via three amino-acid substitutions of known catalytic residues in TTM<sup>VTC4</sup> (R[2](#page-25-1)64A/R266A/E426N)<sup>2</sup>, allowed us to collect high-quality cryo-EM micrographs for single particle analysis.



**Supplementary Figure 4. Cryo-EM structural analysis of the VTC complex.** (**a**) Flow chart for EM data processing. 3D refinement generated a 3.0 Å map of Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4<sub>R264A/R266A/E426N</sub> in complex with InsP<sub>6</sub>. Typical particles of the complex are marked by green circles in the representative electron micrograph. Details can be found in Methods. (**b**) Gold-standard Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curve for the VTC map refinement. Average resolution of this map is estimated to be 3.0 Å. (**c**) Angular distribution of the particles used for reconstruction. (**d**) Sharpened map of the complex, colored according to local resolution.



**Supplementary Figure 5. Representative EM densities.** (**a**) The EM density map of the Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4R264A/R266A/E426N in complex with InsP6. (**b-f**) EM density maps for the indicated trans-membrane helices in the TM region of the complex. (**g**) and (**h**), EM density maps for the indicated molecules observed in the complex. All the densities were contoured at 5.5  $\sigma$  and visualized using PyMol 2.4.1.



**Supplementary Figure 6. Structural segments of the InsP6-activated VTC complex.** (**a**) Orientation between the catalytic TTM<sup>Vtc4</sup> domain and the assembled trans-membrane channel. The connection between TTM<sup>Vtc4</sup> and TM<sup>Vtc4</sup> (residues 472-618) is represented in magenta surface. The N-terminus of  $Vtcl_A$  protomer (residues 1-21) is shown in cartoon representation. (**b**) Structure comparison between  $InsP_6$ -bound  $SPX<sup>Vt c4</sup>$  in our entire yeast VTC complex and

previously reported isolated SPX fragments. The structure of isolated yeast  $SPX<sup>Vtc4</sup>$  fragment (5IIT.PDB)<sup>[3](#page-25-2)</sup> and isolated *Chaetomium thermophilum* SPX<sup>CtVtc4</sup> fragment in complex with InsP<sub>6</sub>  $(5IJP,PDB)^3$  $(5IJP,PDB)^3$  $(5IJP,PDB)^3$  are colored in gray and purple cartoon representations, respectively. InsP<sub>6</sub> of 5IJP.PDB is shown in white stick representation. (c) The second  $\text{InsP}_6$  molecule ( $\text{InsP}_{6B}$ ) binds simultaneously to TTM<sup>Vtc3</sup> and TTM<sup>Vtc4</sup>. (**d**) The third InsP<sub>6</sub> molecule (InsP<sub>6C</sub>) appears in the positively charged tunnel of  $TTM<sup>Vtc4</sup>$ . Positive residues in inner wall of the tunnel are shown as stick in the cartoon representation of  $TTM<sup>Vtc4</sup>$ . Electrostatic surface is represented in the same perspective, colored in terms of electrostatic potential and displayed in a scale from red (−5 kT/e) to blue (+5 kT/e). (**e**) Molecules of two phosphates and two lipids occupy in the cytoplasmic side and luminal side of trans-membrane channel, respectively. Phosphates and lipids are shown in stick representations.



**Supplementary Figure 7. Coordination of InsP<sup>6</sup> bound to different SPX domain-containing proteins.** All SPX domains (depicted as cartoon diagrams) are shown in the same orientations. Other proteins in the complex structures have been omitted for clarity. Positively charged residues constituting the basic surface patch in SPX proteins are shown in stick representation. Yellow dashed lines indicate the coordination of  $InsP<sub>6</sub>$ .



**Supplementary Figure 8. Electrostatic surface (upper panel) and molecular surface (lower panel) representation of SPX and TTM domains in the InsP6-activated VTC complex.** They are displayed in the same perspective. Electrostatic potential is calculated with the APBS plugin in PyMOL, colored and displayed in a scale from red (−5 kT/e) to blue (+5 kT/e). SPX<sup>Vtc3</sup> PBC (Y22, K26, K130) and KSC (K126, K129, K133) residues are shown in stick representation.



**Supplementary Figure 9. Sites of point mutations used in this study.** The VTC complex structure is presented in same scheme as Fig. 1 in the main text. Mutations of subunit Vtc4 R264A/R266A/E426N were used for structure determination, and others were used for function studies.



**Supplementary Figure 10. An InsP<sup>6</sup> molecule is coordinated between TTMVtc4 and TTMVtc3 in the InsP<sub>6</sub>-activated VTC complex. (a)** InsP<sub>6B</sub> binds to a positively charged cleft that is formed by TTM<sup>Vtc4</sup> and TTM<sup>Vtc3</sup>. The Electrostatic surface (left) and molecular surface (right) representation of  $TTM<sup>Vtc3</sup>$  and  $TTM<sup>Vtc4</sup>$  domains are displayed in the same perspective. Electrostatic potential is calculated with the APBS plugin in PyMOL, colored and displayed in a scale from red (−5 kT/e) to blue (+5 kT/e). Residues for InsP<sub>6</sub> coordination are shown in stick representation. (b) InsP<sub>6B</sub> promotes TTM<sup>Vtc4</sup>-TTM<sup>Vtc3</sup> association. The isolated TTM<sub>189-480</sub><sup>Vtc4</sup> and  $TTM_{183-553}$ <sup>Vtc3</sup> contain residues 189-480 and residues 183-553, respectively.  $TTM_{189-480}$ <sup>Vtc4</sup>,mutant and TTM<sub>183-553</sub><sup>Vtc3,mutant</sup> carry K300A/R302A/K320A and K333A/K362A/K364A/Y380F point

mutations, respectively. (*Top*) Gel filtration profiles of  $TTM_{183-553}^{\text{Vtc3}}$ ,  $TTM_{189-480}^{\text{Vtc4}}$ ,  $TTM_{189-480}$ <sup>Vtc4</sup> and  $TTM_{183-553}$ <sup>Vtc3</sup> mixture,  $TTM_{189-480}$ <sup>Vtc4,mutant</sup> and  $TTM_{183-553}$ <sup>Vtc3</sup> mixture,  $TTM_{189-480}$ <sup>Vtc4</sup> and  $TTM_{183-553}$ <sup>Vtc3,mutant</sup> mixture in the presence of 1 mM InsP<sub>6</sub>, and TTM<sub>189-480</sub><sup>Vtc4</sup> and TTM<sub>183-553</sub><sup>Vtc3</sup> mixture in the absence of InsP<sub>6</sub> were colored in gray, black, red, yellow, cyan and blue, respectively. (*Bottom*) Coomassie-blue stained SDS-PAGE gels of each peak fractions. About 25 μM protein or 50 μM mixture (25 μM for each) were used for the SEC assay. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments were repeated two times independently with similar results. (**c**) Assay of VTC-catalyzed polyP synthesis. Cleft mutations in either  $TTM<sup>Vtc4</sup>$  (Vtc4<sup>TTM,mutant</sup>, Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4<sub>K300A/R302A/K320A</sub>) or  $TTM<sup>Vtc3</sup>$  $(Vtc3^{TTM,mutant})$ Vtc1/Vtc3<sub>K333A/K362A/K364A/Y380F</sub>/Vtc4) had little impact on InsP<sub>6</sub>-stimulated polyP synthesis by VTC complex. 5 μM protein complex were used and reactions were performed at required InsP<sub>6</sub> concentrations for 4 hours. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments were repeated two times independently with similar results.



**Supplementary Figure 11. Channel path analysis.** Surface representation with half-cut view (left) and cartoon representation (middle) of the TM1s-assembled trans-membrane channel. Basic residues of the five TM1s in the interior wall and the occupied phosphates are shown in stick representations. Channel path (gray dots representation) and channel radius (right) was calculated using  $HOLE<sup>4</sup>$  $HOLE<sup>4</sup>$  $HOLE<sup>4</sup>$  for the VTC complex structure, without the inside phosphates and lipids. The dashed line indicates the narrowest position of the channel, that is surrounded by R31 of TM1<sup>Vtc1</sup>, R709 of TM1<sup>Vtc3</sup>, and R629 of TM1<sup>Vtc4</sup>, with a radius of 1.5 Å. The VTC complex structure is colored in same scheme as Fig. 4b in the main text.



**Supplementary Figure 12. Sample used for smFRET analysis.** (**a**) Specifically labeling of the VTC complex. Control, all intrinsic cysteine in the Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4 complex were substituted; K415C/K689C, substituting all intrinsic cysteine in the VTC complex and further generating additional cysteine to K415 and K689 in the Vtc4 subunit. The images of Alexa488 and Cy5 on SDS-PAGE gel were obtained using Typhoon, and the gel was further stained using coomassie brilliant blue (CBB). Source data are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments were repeated three times independently with similar results. (**b**) Assay of VTC-catalyzed polyP synthesis. Wt, the Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4 wild-type complex; probes-conjugated VTC complex, the sample used for smFRET analysis. 5 μM protein complex were used and reactions were performed at required Ins $P_6$  concentrations for 3 hours. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments were repeated three times independently with similar results. (**c**) Calculated average distance between conjugated probes. The accessible volume of conjugated probes on the structure were sampled using  $Xplor-NIH<sup>5</sup>$  $Xplor-NIH<sup>5</sup>$  $Xplor-NIH<sup>5</sup>$  (See Methods for details). The geometric centers of the two chromophores were represented with gray spheres, and the average distance between them is 42.6  $\pm$  6.5 Å. The VTC complex structure is colored in same scheme as Fig. 5c in the main text.



**Supplementary Figure 13. Sequence alignment.** The sequence of yeast Vtc3 subunit is aligned with Vtc2. Structure-based alignment was performed by ESPript (3.0). The sequence identity is indicated by white letters against a red background, and the sequence of a similarity over 90% is indicated by red letters. The secondary elements of Vtc3 are labeled at the top of the alignment.



**Supplementary Figure 14. Structure comparison.** The structure of isolated TTM<sup>Vtc[2](#page-25-1)</sup> fragment<sup>2</sup> (3G3O.PDB) is superposed to the TTM<sup>Vtc3</sup> domain in the InsP<sub>6</sub>-activated Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4 complex structure, with an overall RMSD of 1.03 Å.



**Supplementary Figure 15. Samples used for the assay of VTC-catalyzed polyP synthesis in this study.** Wt, Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4; Vtc3<sup>SPX,PBC</sup>, Vtc1/Vtc3<sub>Y22F/K26A/K130A</sub>/Vtc4; Vtc4<sup>SPX,PBC</sup>, Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4<sub>Y22F/K26A/K133A</sub>; Vtc3<sup>SPX,KSC</sup>,<br>Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4<sub>K129A/K132A/K136A</sub>: Vtc1<sup>TM1,mutant</sup>  $V$ tc1/Vtc3<sub>K126A/K129A/K133A</sub>Vtc4; Vtc4<sup>SPX,KSC</sup>  $Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4<sub>K129A/K132A/K136A</sub>$ ;  $Vtc1_{K24A/R31A}/Vtc3/Vtc4;$  $Vtc3^{TM1,mutant}$  $Vtc1/Vtc3_{K694A/K698A/R705A/R709A}/Vtc4$ ;  $Vtc4^{TM1,mutant}$ ,  $Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4_{K622A/R629A}$ ; Vtc $1^{\Delta N}$ ,  $Vtc1<sub>Δ1-21</sub>/Vtc3$  /Vtc4; Vtc4<sup>TTM,mutant</sup>, Vtc1/Vtc3/Vtc4<sub>K300A/R302A/K320A</sub>;  $Vtc3^{TTM,mutant}$ Vtc1/Vtc3K333A/K362A/K364A/Y380F/Vtc4. Source data are provided as a Source Data file. The experiments were repeated two times independently with similar results.

#### **Supplementary Table 1.**

Cryo-EM data collection and refinement statistics





## **Supplementary Table 2.**

List of yeast strains used in this study

pr, promoter



**Supplementary Table 3.** 

List of primers used in this study





## **Primers for prokaryotic expression**





# **Primers for eukaryotic expression**









## **Supplementary References**

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