TRPML1 gating modulation by allosteric mutations and lipids

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Abstract:

Transient Receptor Potential Mucolipin 1 (TRPML1) is a lysosomal cation channel whose loss-of-function mutations directly cause the lysosomal storage disorder mucolipidosis type IV (MLIV). TRPML1 can be allosterically regulated by various ligands including natural lipids and small synthetic molecules and the channel undergoes a global movement propagated from ligand-induced local conformational changes upon activation. In this study, we identified a functionally critical residue, Tyr404, at the C-terminus of the S4 helix, whose mutations to tryptophan and alanine yield gain- and loss-of-function channels, respectively. These allosteric mutations mimic the ligand activation or inhibition of the TRPML1 channel without interfering with ligand binding and both mutant channels are susceptible to agonist or antagonist modulation, making them better targets for screening potent TRPML1 activators and inhibitors. We also determined the high-resolution structure of TRPML1 in complex with the PI(4,5)P_2 inhibitor, revealing the structural basis underlying this lipid inhibition. In addition, an endogenous phospholipid likely from sphingomyelin is identified in the PI(4,5)P_2-bound TRPML1 structure at the same hotspot for agonists and antagonists, providing a plausible structural explanation for the inhibitory effect of sphingomyelin on agonist activation.

Introduction:

Transient Receptor Potential Mucolipin 1 (TRPML1) is a Ca^{2+}-permeable, non-selective, lysosomal cation channel ubiquitously expressed in mammalian cells (Dong *et al*, 2008; LaPlante *et al*, 2002; Sun *et al*, 2000). TRPML1 plays critical roles in many important cellular activities including lipid accumulation (Shen *et al*, 2012), signaling transduction (Kilpatrick *et al*, 2016), lysosome trafficking (Venkatachalam *et al*, 2015), and autophagy (Scotto Rosato *et al*, 2019). The loss-of-function mutations in TRPML1 directly cause the lysosomal storage disorder mucolipidosis type IV (MLIV), a neurodegenerative disease characterized by abnormal neurodevelopment, retinal degeneration, and iron-deficiency anemia (Bargal *et al*, 2000; Bassi *et al*, 2000; Gan & Jiang, 2022; Nilius *et al*, 2007). Because of its physiological importance and direct disease association, TRPML1 has been extensively studied and is a potential target for drug development.

TRPML1 can be regulated by various ligands including both natural lipids and small synthetic molecules. The channel can be activated by the lysosome-specific phosphatidylinositol

3,5-bisphosphate (PI(3,5)P_2) (Dong *et al*, 2010), but inhibited by the plasma membrane-enriched PI(4,5)P_2 (Zhang *et al*, 2012). Given its pharmacological importance, many synthetic agonists and antagonists have been developed for TRPML1 activation and inhibition (Chen *et al*, 2014; Grimm *et al*, 2010; Samie *et al*, 2013; Shen *et al.*, 2012). Interestingly, the mTOR (Mammalian target of rapamycin) inhibitor rapamycin and its derivatives can also synergistically activate TRPML1 with PI(3,5)P_2 (Gan *et al*, 2022; Zhang *et al*, 2019). Recent studies also suggest that sphingomyelin, a major membrane component, can also modulate the TRPML1 activation (Prat Castro *et al*, 2022; Shen *et al.*, 2012).

Several TRPML1 channel structures in both open and closed conformations with various ligands have been determined (Chen *et al*, 2017; Fine *et al*, 2018; Gan *et al.*, 2022; Schmiege *et al*, 2017; Schmiege *et al*, 2021), revealing some unique features of the TRPML1 channel. Firstly, all ligand-binding sites in the structures converge to two hot spots: The N-terminal poly-basic pocket for PIP_2 and the inter-subunit interface in the middle of the membrane between S5 and S6 for agonists, antagonists, and rapamycin (Fine *et al.*, 2018; Gan *et al.*, 2022; Schmiege *et al.*, 2017; Schmiege *et al.*, 2021) (Figure 1a). Secondly, all open TRPML1 structures are almost identical regardless of the activation stimuli. Thirdly, structural comparison between the open and closed conformation illustrates that TRPML1 gating is not merely a local conformational change but involves the global movement of almost the entire channel mediated by tight inter- and intra-subunit packing within the channel tetramer (Movie supplement 1). Finally, the necessity of global movement for channel activation underlies the allosteric regulation of TRPML1 by two distantly bound ligands - that is, the ligand-induced local conformational change at one site can propagate to the other site and thereby affect the binding of the other ligand (Gan *et al.*, 2022). The high allostery of TRPML1 gating would allow us to design allosteric mutations that are remote from the channel pore but can still stabilize the channel in an open or closed state, mimicking the ligand activation or inhibition of the channel. To this end, we identified Tyr404 on the S4 helix as an allosteric site whose mutation can promote or inhibit TRPML1 gating. Furthermore, we also determined a high-resolution structure of PI(4,5)P_2-inhibited TRPML1 and demonstrated that in addition to competing against PI(3,5)P_2 activator for the same site, PI(4,5)P_2 also allosteric inhibits small molecule agonist by stabilize the channel in the closed conformation. Furthermore, the high-resolution PI(4,5)P_2-bound TRPML1 structure

also revealed a bound phospholipid likely from sphingomyelin at the agonist/antagonist site, providing a plausible explanation for sphingomyelin inhibition of TRPML1.

Results:

Allosteric mutations at Tyr404 recapitulate TRPML1 gating

Our previous study on the allosteric activation of TRPML1 by PI(3,5)P_2 and rapamycin demonstrated that ligand-induced local conformational changes can propagate to distal parts of the channel through tight inter- and intra-subunit packing within the channel tetramer, allowing the channel to integrate the stimuli from these two distantly bound ligands. The PI(3,5)P_2 and rapamycin-induced local conformational changes converge to the same driving force on S4 helix, resulting in a slight bend of the C-terminal half of the S4 that facilitates the channel opening (Gan *et al.*, 2022) (Figure 1b). A key interaction coupled to the S4 bending movement is the insertion of Tyr404 side chain into a pocket surrounded by S1, S3, and S4 helices where its aromatic ring is sandwiched between the side chains of Leu66 and Arg403. We hypothesized that mutations at Tyr404 that stabilize its sidechain in the pocket would facilitate channel activation; conversely, mutations that destabilize its sidechain in the pocket would negatively modulate the channel activation. To test this, we replaced Tyr404 with tryptophan and alanine, respectively, and measured the effect of these mutations on channel activity. As illustrated in the electrophysiological recordings using whole-cell patches, the Y404W mutant elicits large inward-rectifying currents without any ligands, indicating that Y404W is a gain-of-function (GOF) mutant (Figure 1c and Figure supplement 1a). Adding extra activation ligands such as PI(3,5)P_2, rapamycin, or small molecule agonist ML-SA1 only marginally increases the currents. The Y404W GOF mutant mimics a ligand-activated channel, yet its mutation site is remote from the pore domain and the channel can still be allosterically inhibited by small molecule antagonists (ML-SI1 and ML-SI3) (Figure 1d and Figure supplement 1b). This is distinct from other gain-of-function mutants in which proline substitutions on the S5 helix lock the pore in an open state and the channels are no longer susceptible to antagonist inhibition (Dong *et al*, 2009; Grimm *et al*, 2007; Kim *et al*, 2007; Nagata *et al*, 2008; Xu *et al*, 2007).

Y404A, on the other hand, represents a loss-of-function mutant and elicits much lower currents even in the presence of potent agonist ML-SA1 (Figure 1e and Figure supplement 1c).

While ML-SA1 can potently activate the wild-type TRPML1 channel, the Y404A mutation mimics PI(4,5)P_2 inhibition and allosterically inhibits ML-SA1 binding, significantly decreasing the efficacy of ML-SA1 activation (Figure 1f & g).

Structure of GOF Y404W mutant

To reveal the structural basis underlying the channel activation of the Y404W mutant, we determined its structure in the absence of any ligands to 2.86 Å resolution (Figure supplement 2-3 and Methods). As expected, the Y404W mutant adopts an open conformation with a structure almost identical to other ligand-activated open TRPML1, consistent with its GOF property (Figure 2a and Figure supplement 3b). Like Tyr404 in the wide-type open TRPML1, the side chain of W404 in the mutant is inserted into the pocket surrounded by S1, S3, and S4 helices and sandwiched between Leu66 and Arg403 (Figure 2b). However, the larger indole ring of Trp404 provides a better spatial fitting into the pocket than the phenol ring of Tyr404 and several surrounding residues (Lys65, Gln69, and Leu358) provide extra van der Waals contacts to the Trp404 side chain. Thus, by enhancing the stability of the aromatic side chain inside the pocket, Y404W mutation facilitates the bending of S4 which in turn propagates to the pore through the S4-S5 linker and activates the channel (Gan *et al.*, 2022). The Y404W mutant structure demonstrates that the sidechain packing in the pocket is essential for stabilizing the open channel and the lack of such packing capacity in the Y404A mutant with a small side-chain likely destabilizes the open conformation, yielding a loss-of-function channel. It is worth noting that Arg403 plays two essential roles in TRPML1 gating: its side chain is part of the pocket that stabilizes Tyr404 in the open state; its guanidinium group forms a salt bridge with the C3 phosphate group of PI(3,5)P_2 upon ligand activation (Gan *et al.*, 2022). As expected, Arg403 is highly conserved in the TRPML channel family, and its R403C variant identified in an MLIV patient is a loss-of-function mutant (Chen *et al.*, 2014).

Structure of TRPML1 in PI(4,5)P_2-bound closed state

While PI(4,5)P_2 inhibits PI(3,5)P_2 activation of TRPML1 by directly competing for the same binding site, it also allosterically inhibits the agonist-activated channel (Chen *et al.*, 2017), suggesting that PI(4,5)P_2 binding stabilizes the TRPML1 channel in a closed conformation. A previous low-resolution structure of TRPML1 in complex with PI(4,5)P_2 revealed the

approximate location of PI(4,5)P_2 binding but failed to explain how its binding stabilizes the channel in the closed state and allosterically inhibits the agonist-activated channel (Fine *et al.*, 2018). To address this, we determined the structure of PI(4,5)P_2-bound TRPML1 at 2.46 Å (Figure 3a, Figure supplement 3-5 and Methods). The density from the IP3 head group of PI(4,5)P_2, especially the phosphate groups on C4 and C5 of the inositol, can be clearly defined in the EM map (Figure 3a-3c). The phosphatidyl group, however, is flexible and could not be resolved in the structure. While PI(4,5)P_2 binding overlaps with that of PI(3,5)P_2, their IP3 head group positions are quite different (Figure 3b-3e). In the PI(3,5)P_2-bound structure (Figure 3d), the head group protrudes deep into the N-terminal PIP_2-binding pocket enclosed by two short clamp-shaped helices of H1 and H2, and the cytosolic ends of S1 and S2 helices, allowing its C3 phosphate to engage in direct interactions with Arg403 and Tyr355 to facilitate channel activation (Gan *et al.*, 2022). These C3 phosphate-mediated interactions are absent in PI(4,5)P_2-bound structure. Instead, the head group of PI(4,5)P_2 is trapped at the entrance of the pocket and forms a bridge between S1 and S2 with its phosphate groups stabilized by positively charged residues from H2, S1, and S2 (Figure 3b & 3c). A major conformational change between the open and closed states is an upward movement of the S1 helix, a prerequisite for Tyr404 insertion between Leu66 and Arg403 and the subsequent bending of S4 (Figure 3e). Therefore, the PI(4,5)P_2-mediated bridging interaction between S1 and S2 would hinder the S1 movement and stabilize the channel in the closed conformation, exerting allosteric inhibition on agonist activation.

Endogenous sphingomyelin lipid at the agonist- and antagonist-binding site

The high-resolution structure of PI(4,5)P_2-bound closed TRPML1 also reveals a well-defined density from an endogenous lipid molecule at the inter-subunit interface between S5 and S6 (Figure 4a). The lipid contains a choline head group and is likely a phosphatidylcholine (PC) or sphingomyelin (SM), the two main choline-containing phospholipid components of the outer leaflet of the plasma membrane. The tail from one of the lipid alkyl chains penetrates deep into an inter-subunit pocket in the middle of the membrane, overlapping with the hotspot for both channel agonist and antagonist (Figure supplement 6). This alkyl chain has to be displaced upon agonist or antagonist binding, suggesting that the lipid occupation would compete against agonist or antagonist binding. We suspect this bound lipid is sphingomyelin which is also enriched in the

endocytic recycling compartment and has been shown to inhibit TRPML1 activity (Prat Castro *et al.*, 2022; Schuchman, 2010; Shen *et al.*, 2012; Slotte, 2013). Key evidence to support SM inhibition is that its enrichment can reduce the agonist (i.e. SF-51 and ML-SA1) activation of TRPML1 (Shen *et al.*, 2012). Indeed, we did observe the reduction of SF-51-activated TRPML1 current upon SM enrichment (Figure 4b and Figure supplement 7a). However, based on our structure, we hypothesize that the role of sphingomyelin is to stabilize rather than directly inhibit the channel; the SM inhibition upon enrichment is an indirect effect attributable to its competition against agonist binding that reduces the apparent efficacy of agonist activation. This hypothesis would imply that SM can also function as an indirect activator by competing against antagonists and reducing their effectiveness in channel inhibition. The gain-of-function Y404W mutant, which is still susceptible to antagonist inhibition, provides a good system to test that. As shown in Figure 4c and Figure supplement 7b, SM shows no obvious inhibition to the mutant channel activity whereas antagonist ML-SI1 markedly reduces the mutant channel current; upon SM enrichment, ML-SI1 inhibition is mitigated resulting in a recovery of the channel current. This observation confirms the competitive binding of SM at the hot spot for both agonists and antagonists.

Summary

In this study, we designed and analyzed the allosteric mutations at Tyr404 that recapitulate the gating of TRPML1. Replacing this tyrosine with tryptophan or alanine stabilizes or destabilizes the channel in the open state, yielding a gain- or loss-of-function mutant. The structure of the Y404W mutant adopts the same open structure as ligand-activated TRPML1, once again highlighting the global conformational change for TRPML1 channel activation. As Tyr404 is distant from the hot spots for ligand binding, the two gain- and loss-of-function mutants can still be allosterically modulated by antagonists and agonists. Thus, these allosteric mutants can mimic ligand-activated or inhibited TRPML1 without interfering with ligand binding, making them better targets for screening potent small molecule TRPML1 inhibitors and activators. We also investigated the structural basis of PI(4,5)P_2 inhibition of TRPML1 by determining the PI(4,5)P_2-bound structure, revealing a different binding mode by its head group at the N-terminal polybasic site than that of PI(3,5)P_2. The head group of PI(4,5)P_2 mediates a bridging interaction between

S1 and S2 and stabilizes TRPML1 in a closed conformation. In the high-resolution PI(4,5)P_2-bound TRPML1 structure, we also visualize clear density from a choline-containing phospholipid at the same site for agonists or antagonists. In light of its high membrane abundance and competing effect on agonist activation and antagonist inhibition, this bound lipid is likely from sphingomyelin.

Methods:

Protein expression and purification

Protein expression and purification were performed as previously described (Gan *et al.*, 2022). The *Mus musculus* TRPML1 gene with a C-terminal thrombin cleavage site and a 10× His tag was cloned into a pEZTBM vector (Morales-Perez *et al*, 2016) and heterologously expressed in HEK293F cells using the BacMam system. The baculovirus was produced in Sf9 cells and used to transduce the HEK293F cells at a ratio of 1:40 (virus:HEK293F, v/v) and supplemented with 1 mM sodium butyrate to boost the protein expression. Cells were cultured in suspension at 37 °C for 48 h and harvested by centrifugation at 3,000g. All purification procedures were carried out at 4 °C unless specified otherwise. The cell pellet was re-suspended in buffer A (20 mM Tris pH 8.0, 150mM NaCl) supplemented with a pro0tease inhibitor cocktail (containing 1 mg ml−1 each of DNase, pepstatin, leupeptin, and aprotinin and 1 mM PMSF) and homogenized by sonication on ice. Protein was extracted with 1% (w/v) n-dodecyl-β-D-maltopyranoside (DDM; Anatrace) supplemented with 0.2% (w/v) cholesteryl hemisuccinate (CHS; Sigma-Aldrich) by gentle agitation for 2 h. After extraction, the supernatant was collected after a 1 h centrifugation at 48,000g and incubated with Ni-NTA resin and 20 mM imidazole with gentle agitation. After 1 h, the resin was collected on a disposable gravity column (Bio-Rad), washed with buffer B (buffer A + 0.04%glyco-diosgenin (GDN; Anatrace)) with 20 mM imidazole. The washed resin was left on-column in buffer B and digested with thrombin overnight. After digestion, the flow-through was concentrated, and purified by size-exclusion chromatography on a Superose 6 10/300 GL column (GE Heathcare) pre-equilibrated with buffer B. The protein peak was collected and concentrated. For PI(4,5)P_2-bound structure, purified protein was incubated with 0.5mM PI(4,5)P_2 on ice for 4 h. The lipid ligand used in this study is PI(4,5)P_2 diC8 (Echelon)

Electron microscopy data acquisition

Electron microscopy data acquisition followed the protocol previously described (Gan *et al.*, 2022). The cryo-EM grids were prepared by applying 3.5 µl protein (3.5 mg/mL) to a glow-discharged Quantifoil R1.2/1.3 200-mesh copper holey carbon grid (Quantifoil, Micro Tools GmbH) and blotted for 3.0 s under 100% humidity at 4 °C before being plunged into liquid ethane using a Mark IV Vitrobot (FEI). For the dataset of Y404W, micrographs were acquired

on a Titan Krios microscope (FEI) operated at 300 kV with a K3 Summit direct electron detector (Gatan), using a slit width of 20 eV on a GIF-Quantum energy filter. Data were collected using CDS (Correlated Double Sampling) mode of the K3 camera with a super resolution pixel size of 0.413 Å. The defocus range was set from −0.9 to −2.2 μm. Each movie was dose-fractionated to 60 frames with a dose rate of 1e-/Å^2/frame for a total dose of 60e-/Å^2. The total exposure time was between 5 to 6 s. For the PI(4,5)P_2-bound dataset, micrographs were acquired on a Titan Krios microscope (FEI) operated at 300 kV with a Falcon4 electron detector (Thermo Fisher), using a slit width of 20 eV on a post-column Selectris X energy filter (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Data was collected using Falcon 4 camera with a pixel size of 0.738 Å. The defocus range was set from -0.9 to -2.2 μm. Each movie was dose-fractionated to 60 frames with a dose rate of 1e-/Å^2/frame for a total dose of 60e-/Å^2. The total exposure time was between 3.5 to 4 s.

Image processing

Images were processed as previously described (Gan *et al.*, 2022). Movie frames were motion corrected and binned two times and dose-weighted using MotionCor2 (Zheng *et al*, 2017). The CTF parameters of the micrographs were estimated using the GCTF program (Zhang, 2016). The rest of the image processing steps were carried out using RELION 3.1 (Nakane *et al*, 2020; Scheres, 2012; Zivanov *et al*, 2018). All resolution was reported according to the gold-standard Fourier shell correlation (FSC) using the 0.143 criterion (Henderson *et al*, 2012). Local resolution was estimated using Relion. Aligned micrographs were manually inspected to remove those with ice contamination and bad defocus. Particles were selected using Gautomatch (K. Zhang, MRC LMB, https://www2.mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk/research/locally-developed-software/zhang-software/) and extracted using a binning factor of 3. 2D classification was performed in Relion 3.1. Selected particles after 2D classification were subjected to one around 3D classification. The mouse TRPML1 map (EMD-8883 (Chen *et al.*, 2017)) low-pass filtered to 30 Å was used as the initial reference. Classes that showed clear features of the TRPML1 channel were combined and subjected to 3D auto-refinement and another round of 3D classification without performing particle alignment using a soft mask around the protein portion of the density. The best resolving classes were then re-extracted with the original pixel size and further refined. Beam tilt, anisotropic magnification, and per-particle CTF estimations and

Bayesian polishing were performed in Relion 3.1 to improve the resolution of the final reconstruction.

For the Y404W structure dataset, a total of 4,724 movies were collected and 4,505 were selected after motion correction and CTF estimation. A total number of 864,698 particles were extracted from the selected micrographs and were subjected to one round of 2D classification, from which 87,846 particles were selected. After the initial 3D classification, 35,460 particles were selected and subjected to a 3D auto-refinement job and further ctf refinements, yielding a map at 2.86Å overall resolution (Figure supplement 2).

For the PI(4,5)P_2-bound dataset, a total of 8,164 movies were collected and 7,895 were selected after motion correction and CTF estimation. A total number of 1,065,778 particles were extracted from the selected micrographs and were subjected to one round of 2D classification, from which 555,281 particles were selected. After the initial 3D classification, 359,441 particles were selected and subjected to a 3D auto-refinement job. Next, a soft mask excluding the micelle density was applied and particles were sorted into 5 classes without performing alignment. From this, one classe with a total number of 60,597 particles were selected and further refined. In the postprocess step, a B-factor of -60 was manually given, yielding a map at 2.46Å overall resolution (Figure supplement 4).

Model building, refinement and validation

Model building, refinement and validation followed the previously described protocol (Gan *et al.*, 2022). The structure of mouse TRPML1 (PDB code: 5WPV) was used as the initial model and was manually adjusted in Coot (Emsley *et al*, 2010) and refined against the map by using the real space refinement module with secondary structure and non-crystallographic symmetry restraints in the Phenix package (Adams *et al*, 2010). The final structure model of Y404W includes residues 40-200, 216-527. The final structure model of the PI(4,5)P_2-bound includes residues 39-200, 216-285, 296-527. About 40 residues at the amino terminus and 50 residues at the carboxy terminus are disordered and not modeled. The statistics of the geometries of the models were generated using MolProbity (Chen *et al*, 2010). All the figures were prepared in PyMol (Schrödinger, LLC.), UCSF Chimera (Pettersen *et al*, 2004). Pore radii were calculated using the HOLE program(Smart *et al*, 1996).

Electrophysiology

Electrophysiology was carried out following a previously described protocol with minor modifications (Gan *et al.*, 2022). For electrophysiological analysis, the two di-leucine motifs (15_{LL} and 577_{LL}) of mouse TRPML1 responsible for lysosomal targeting were replaced with alanines to facilitate the trafficking of the channel to the plasma membrane (Grimm *et al.*, 2010; Vergarajauregui & Puertollano, 2006). The N-terminal GFP tagged, plasma membrane-targeting TRPML1 mutant (TRPML1-4A) and derived point mutations were overexpressed in HEK293 cells and the channel activities were directly measured by patching the plasma membrane. In this setting, the extracellular side is equivalent to the luminal side of TRPML1 in endosomes or lysosomes. 48 h after transfection, cells were dissociated by trypsin treatment and kept in complete serum-containing medium; the cells were re-plated onto 35 mm tissue culture dishes and kept in a tissue culture incubator until recording. Patch clamp in the whole-cell or inside-out configuration was used to measure TRPML1 activity on the HEK plasma membrane. The standard bath solution for whole cell current recording contained (in mM): 145 sodium methanesulfonate, 5 NaCl, 1 $MgCl_2$, 10 HEPES buffered with Tris, pH 7.4; and the pipette solution contained (in mM): 140 caesium methanesulfonate, 5 NaCl, 5 $MgCl_2$, 10 EGTA, 10 HEPES buffered with Tris, pH 7.4. The bath solution for inside-out configuration contained (in mM): 140 potassium methanesulfonate, 5 NaCl, 2 $MgCl_2$, 0.4 $CaCl_2$, 1 EGTA, 10 HEPES buffered with Tris, pH 7.4; and the pipette solution contained (in mM): 145 sodium methanesulfonate, 5 NaCl, 1 $MgCl_2$, 0.5 EGTA, 10 HEPES buffered with Tris, pH 7.4. For whole cell recording of $PI(3,5)P_2$-activated channel, we had to include high concentration of $PI(3,5)P_2$ (100 μM) in the pipette solution (cytosolic side) in order to quickly obtain stable $PI(3,5)P_2$-evoked current, likely because of the slow diffusion of this lipid ligand. $PI(4,5)P_2$ was added in the cytosolic side, Tem, ML-SA1, ML-SI3, ML-SI1, SM were added in the bath solution. SM competition assays with SF-51 and ML-SI1 were conducted under pH 4.6. The patch pipettes were pulled from Borosilicate glassand heat polished to a resistance of 2–5 MΩ (2–3 MΩ for inside-out patch, and 3–5 MΩ for whole-cell current recoding). Data were acquired using an AxoPatch 200B amplifier (Molecular Devices) and a low-pass analogue filter set to 1 kHz. The current signal was sampled at a rate of 20 kHz using a Digidata 1550B digitizer (Molecular Devices) and further analyzed with pClamp 11 software (Molecular Devices). After the patch pipette attached to the cell membrane, the giga seal (>10 GΩ) was formed by gentle

suction. The inside-out configuration was formed by pulling the pipette away from the cell, and the pipette tip was exposed to the air for 2 seconds. The whole-cell configuration was formed by short zap or suction to rupture the patch. The holding potential was set to 0 mV. The whole-cell and inside-out macroscopic current recordings were obtained using voltage pulses ramped from −140 mV to +50 mV over a duration of 800 ms. The sample traces for the I–V curves of macroscopic currents shown in each figure were obtained from recordings on the same patch. All data points are mean ± s.e.m. ($n \geq 5$).

Data availability. The cryo-EM density maps of mouse TRPML1 have been deposited in the Electron Microscopy Data Bank (EMDB) under accession numbers 45429 (Y404W), 45432 (PI(4,5)P_2-bound). Atomic coordinates have been deposited in the Protein Data Bank (PDB) under accession numbers 9CBZ (Y404W), 9CC2 (PI(4,5)P_2-bound).

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Author contributions: N.G. prepared the samples; Y.H. and N.G. performed data acquisition, image processing, and structure determination; W.Z. performed electrophysiology recording; All authors participated in research design, data analysis, discussion, and manuscript preparation.

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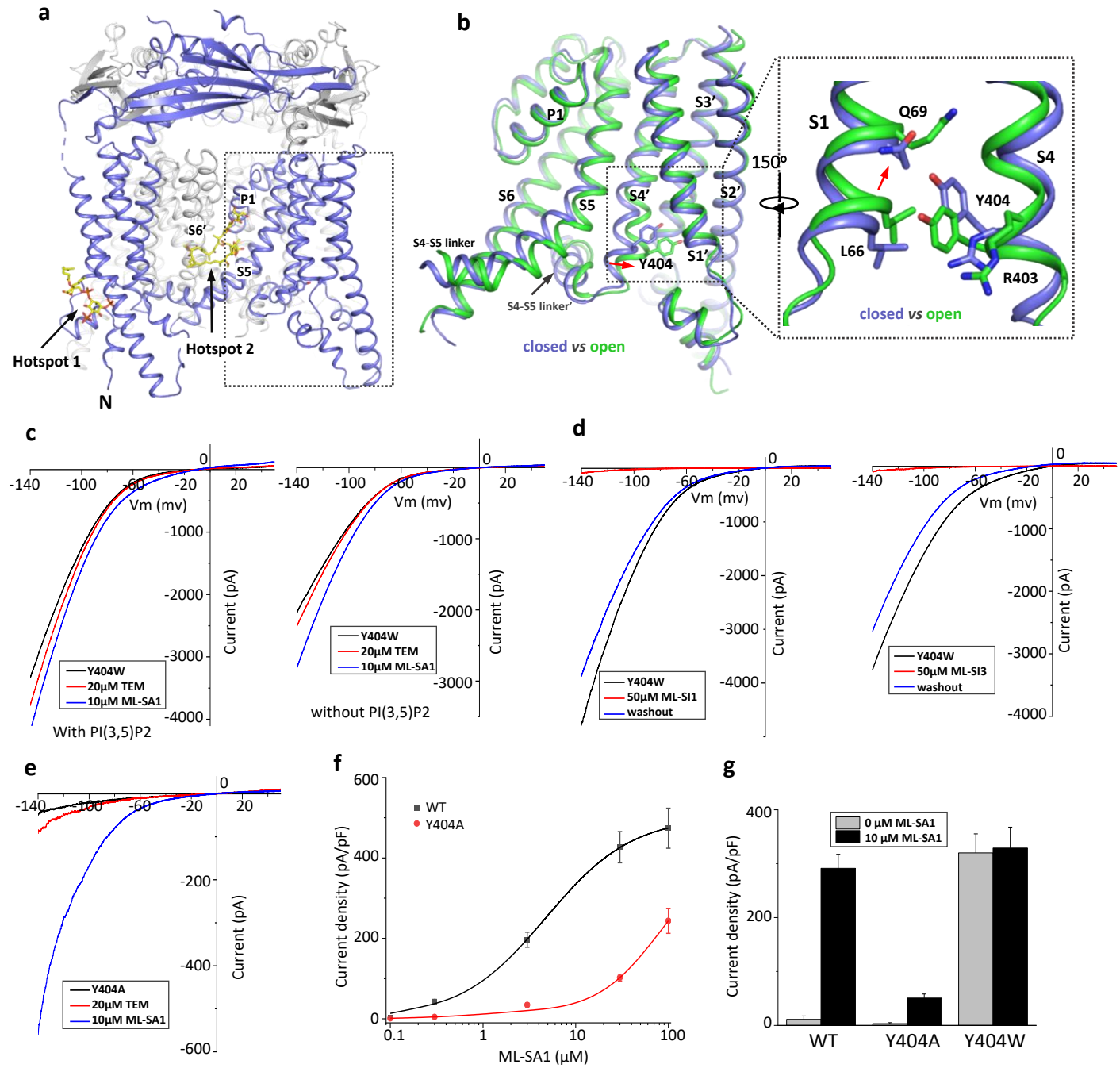


Figure 1 Design and characterization of allosteric mutations at Tyr404 that recapitulate TRPML1 gating. (a) The structure of PI(3,5)P_2/Temsirolimus-activated TRPML1 (PDB code:7SQ9) illustrating the two hot spots for ligand binding. Temsirolimus (Tem) is a rapamycin analog. (b) Ligand-induced conformational change and the zoomed-in view of the Y404 movement. Only the boxed region in (a) is shown in the structural comparison between the open (green) and closed (blue) structures. Red arrows mark the bending of S4 and upward movement of S1. (c) Sample traces of Y404W gain-of-function mutant recorded using patch clamp in whole-cell configuration with (left) or without (right) 100 μM PI(3,5)P_2 in the pipette (cytosolic). Tem or agonist ML-SA1 was introduced in the bath solution (extracellular/luminal). (d) Sample traces of Y404W inhibition by antagonists ML-SI1 (left) and ML-SI3 (right) recorded using patch clamp in whole-cell configuration. The antagonists were introduced in the bath solution (extracellular/luminal). (e) Sample traces of Y404A loss-of-function mutant with 100 μM PI(3,5)P_2 in the pipette (cytosolic). Tem or ML-SA1was introduced in the bath solution (extracellular/luminal). (f) ML-SA1 activation of TRPML1(WT) and Y404A mutant measured at -140 mV. Data for WT is least square fits to the Hill equation with EC_{50}=4.8±0.7 μM, n=0.93±0.10. Data points are mean ± SEM (n=5 independent experiments). (f) Current density of wild-type and mutant TRPML1 at -140mV with and without 10μM ML-SA1. Data points are mean ± SEM (n=5 independent experiments)

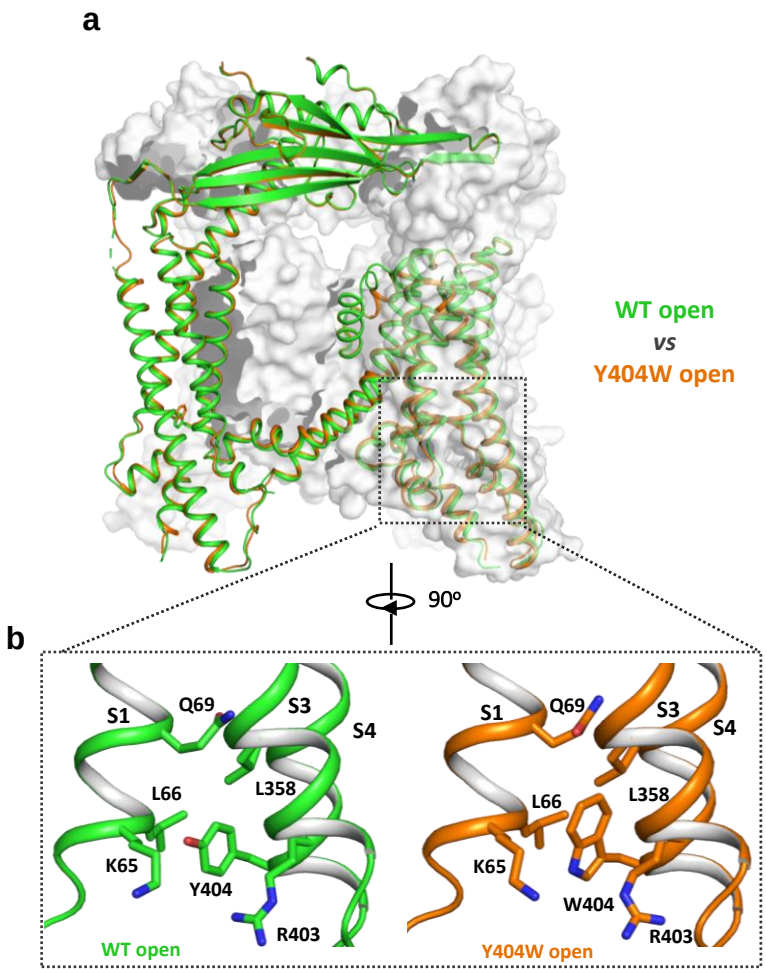


Figure 2. Y404W mutant adopts an open conformation in the absence of ligands. (a) Structural comparison between PI(3,5)P_2/Tem-bound open structure (green) and the Y404W mutant structure (orange). Only the front subunit and the neighboring S1-S4 regions are highlighted in color for clarity. (b) Zoomed-in views of the regions surrounding Y404 (WT, green) and W404 (mutant, orange).

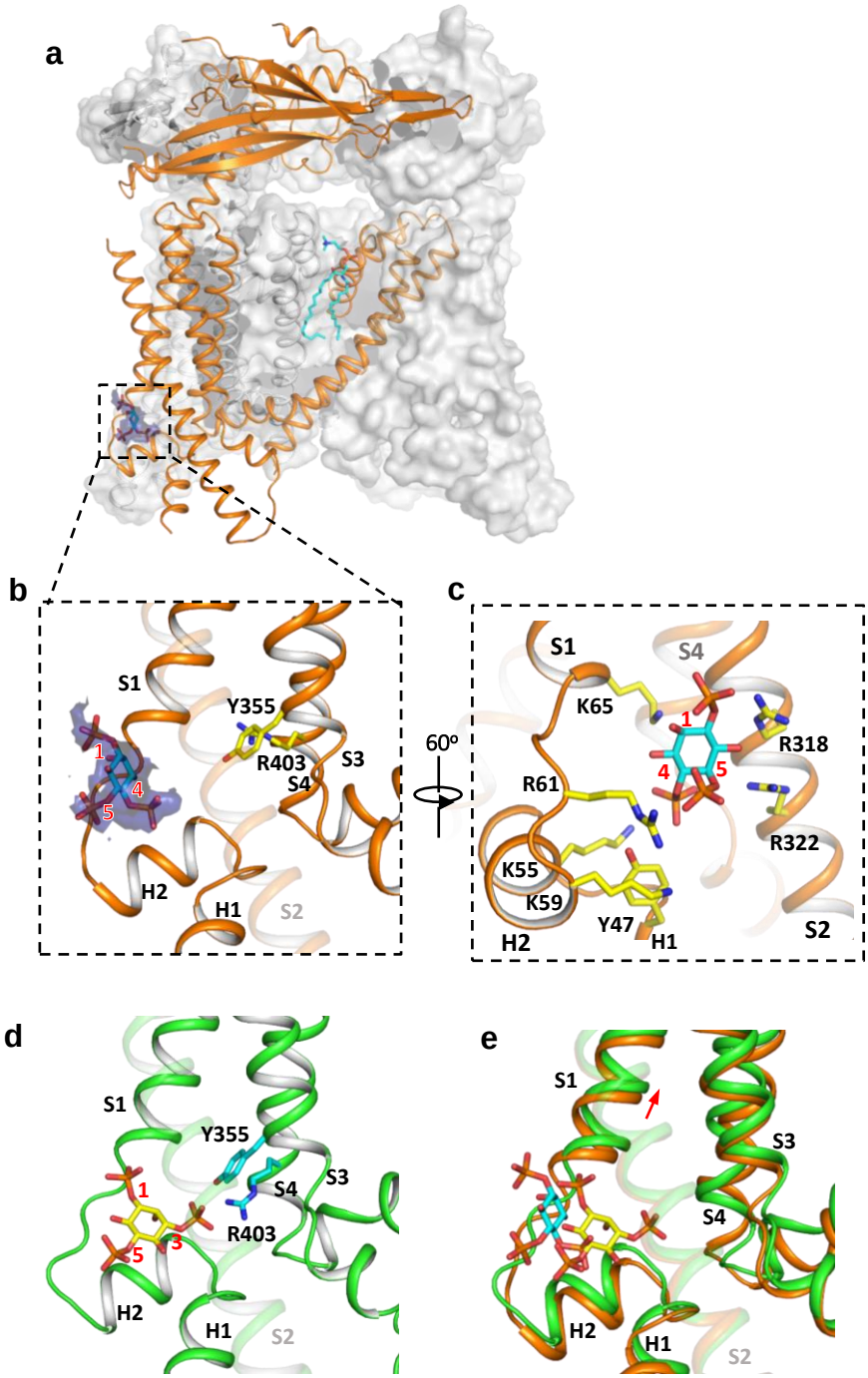


Figure 3. Structure of TRPML1 in complex with PI(4,5)P_2. (a) Overall structure of PI(4,5)P_2-bound TRPML1 with the front subunit shown in orange cartoon and the rest shown as grey surface representation. Density for PI(4,5)P_2 head group is shown in blue surface. (b) Zoomed-in view of the PI(4,5)P_2-binding pocket with the density of its IP3 head group shown in blue surface. (c) Zoomed-in view of the PI(4,5)P_2-binding pocket with side chains of IP3-interacting residues shown as yellow sticks. (d) Zoomed-in view of the IP3 position in the PI(3,5)P_2-bound open TRPML1 structure. The C3 phosphate group directly interacts with Y355 and R403. (e) Comparison of the head group positions in PI(3,5)P_2-bound open (green) and PI(4,5)P_2-bound closed (orange) structures. The inositol rings PI(3,5)P_2 and PI(4,5)P_2 are colored yellow and cyan, respectively. The red arrow marks the upward movement of S1 from closed to open conformation.

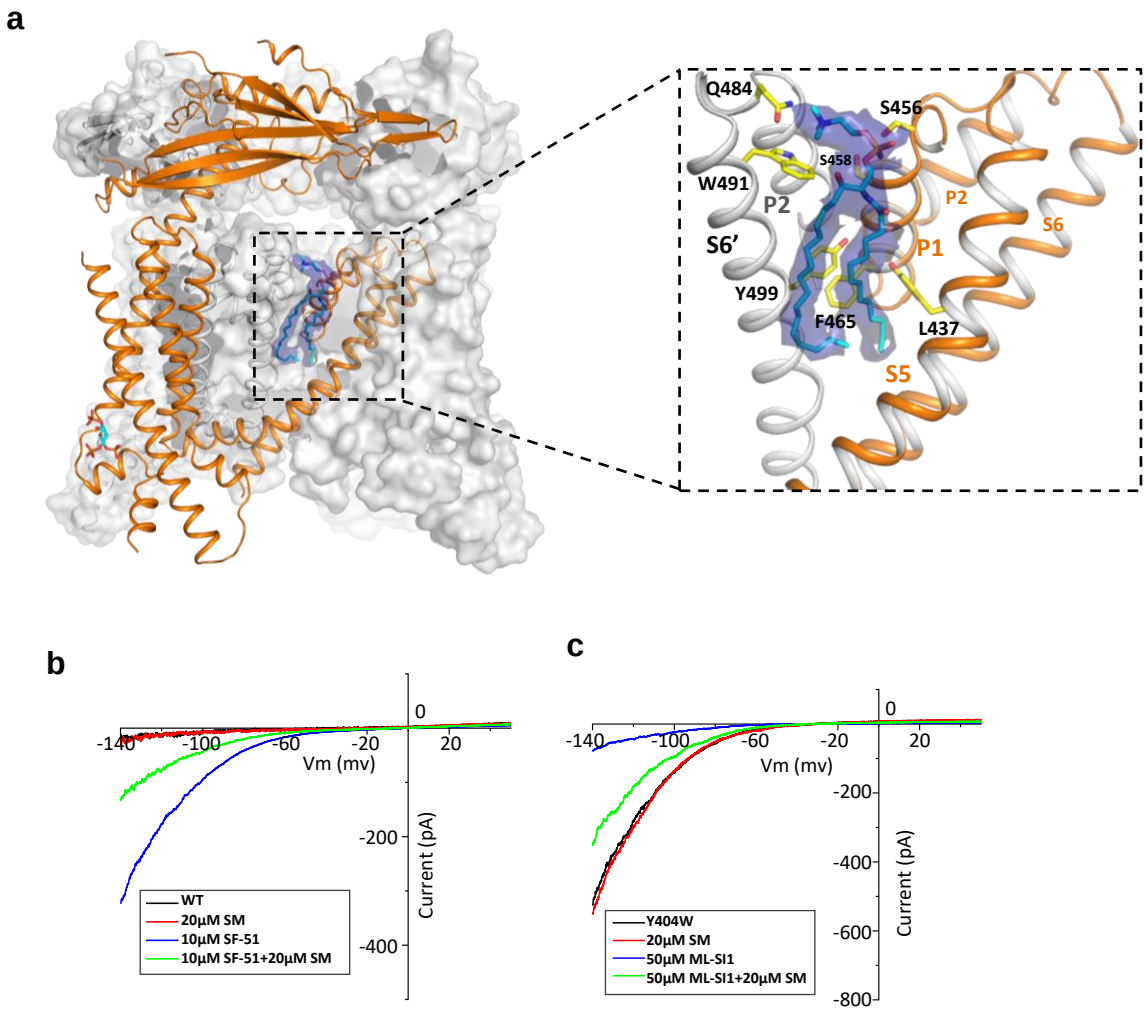


Figure 4. Sphingomyelin binding in TRPML1. (a) Overall structure of PI(4,5)P_2-bound TRPML1 and the zoomed-in view of the lipid-binding site. The lipid density is shown as blue surface and modeled as sphingomyelin (SM). The side chains of lipid-interacting residues are shown as yellow sticks. (b) SM inhibition effect on SF-51-activated wild-type TRPML1. (c) SM activation effect on ML-SI1-inhibited Y404W mutant. Currents shown in (b) and (c) were recorded using patch clamp in whole-cell configuration with pH 4.6 in the bath solution as the adverse effect of SM on agonist or antagonist is subtle and is measurable only at low luminal pH.

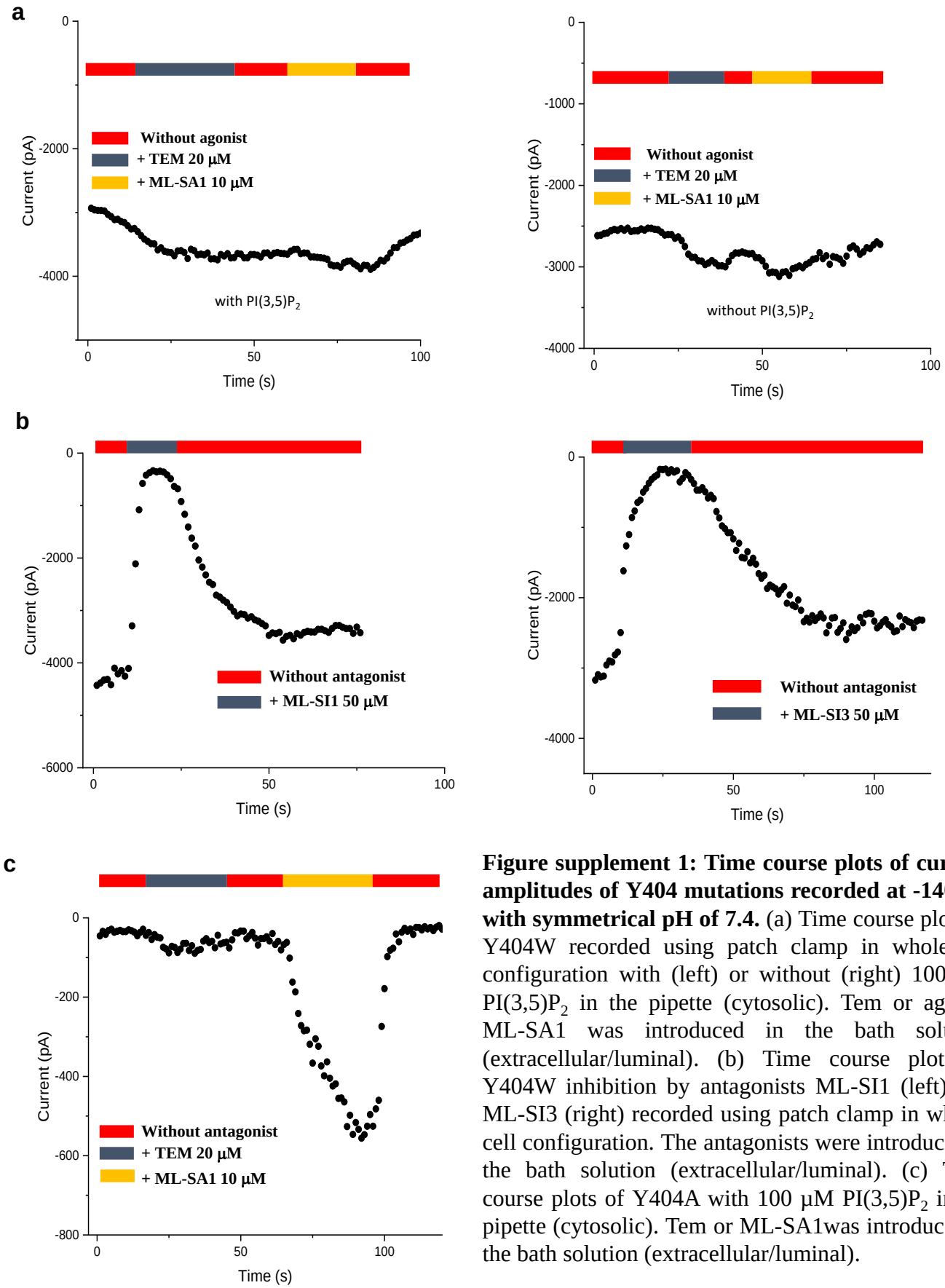
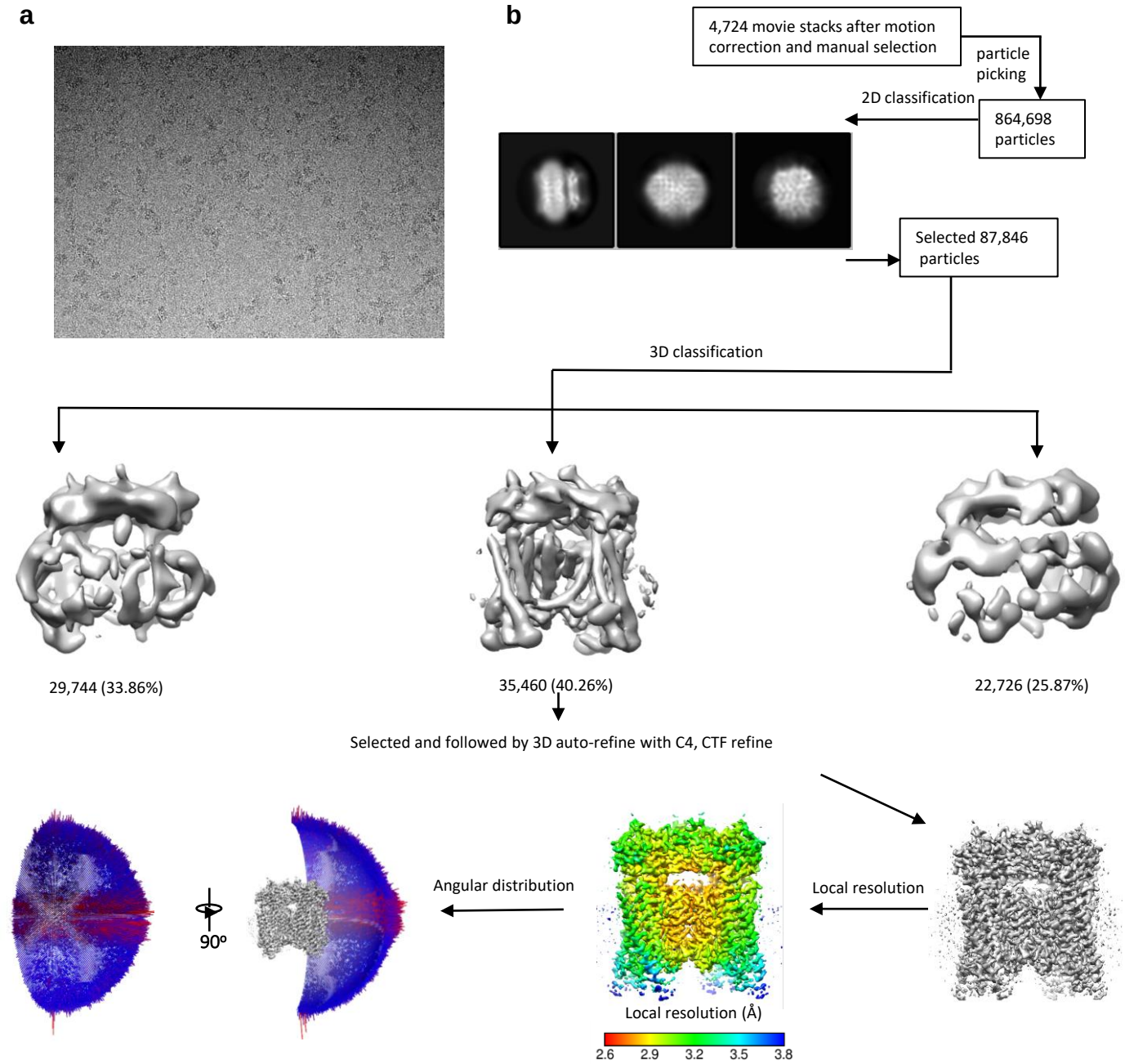


Figure supplement 1: Time course plots of current amplitudes of Y404 mutations recorded at -140mV with symmetrical pH of 7.4. (a) Time course plots of Y404W recorded using patch clamp in whole-cell configuration with (left) or without (right) 100 µM PI(3,5)P_2 in the pipette (cytosolic). Tem or agonist ML-SA1 was introduced in the bath solution (extracellular/luminal). (b) Time course plots of Y404W inhibition by antagonists ML-SI1 (left) and ML-SI3 (right) recorded using patch clamp in whole-cell configuration. The antagonists were introduced in the bath solution (extracellular/luminal). (c) Time course plots of Y404A with 100 µM PI(3,5)P_2 in the pipette (cytosolic). Tem or ML-SA1was introduced in the bath solution (extracellular/luminal).



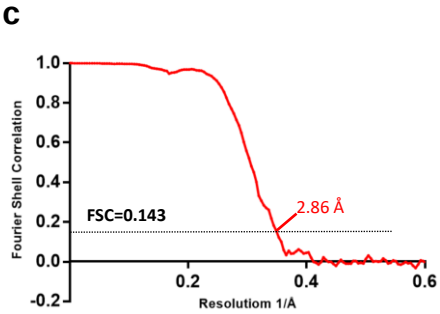


Figure supplement 2: Cryo-EM data processing scheme of the TRPML1 Y404W. (a) Representative micrograph. (b) Flow chart of the cryo-EM data processing procedure and the Euler angle distribution of particles used in the final three-dimensional reconstruction. Selected 2D class averages are shown. The final structure represent an open state. (c) Fourier Shell Correlation curves showing the overall resolution at FSC=0.143.

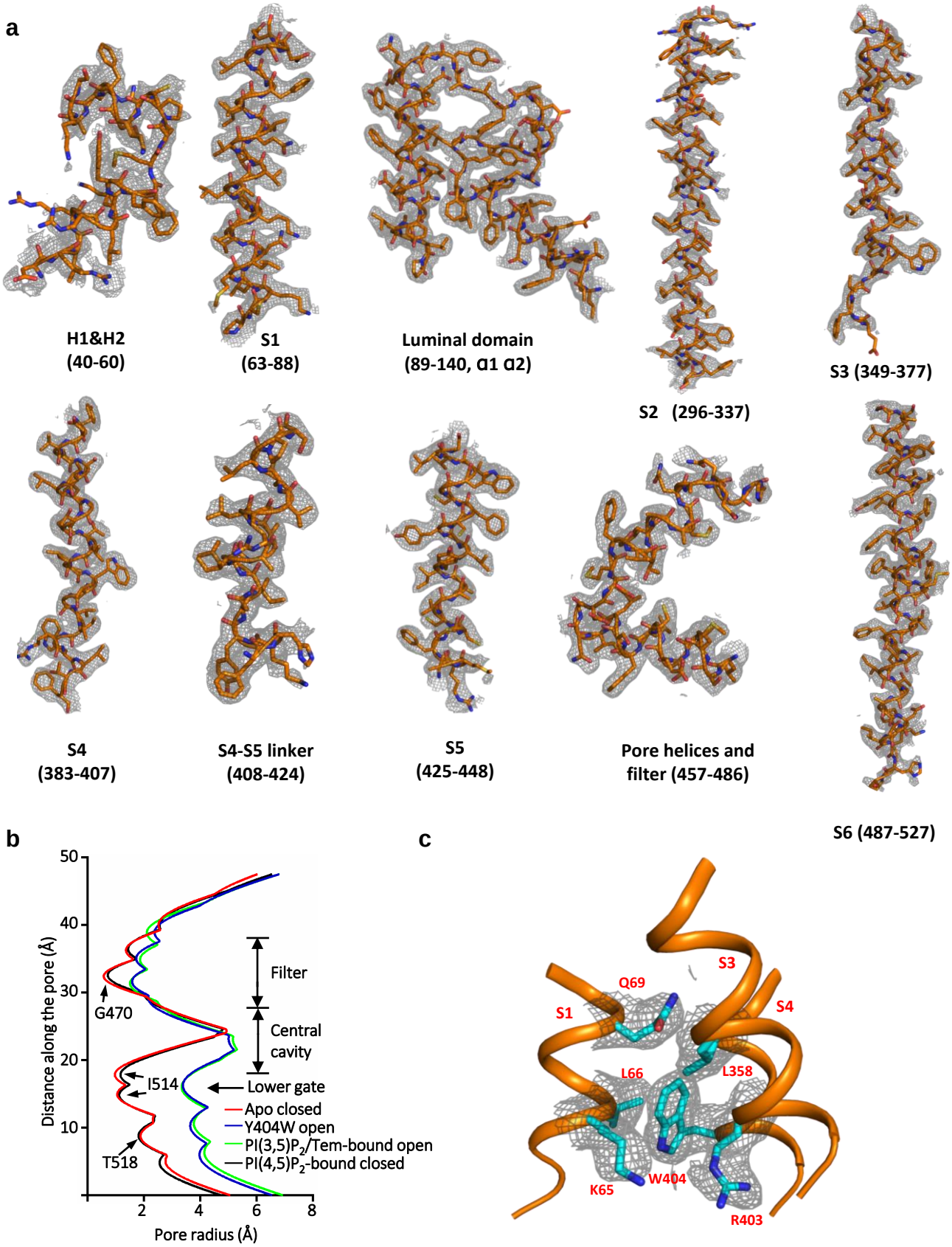
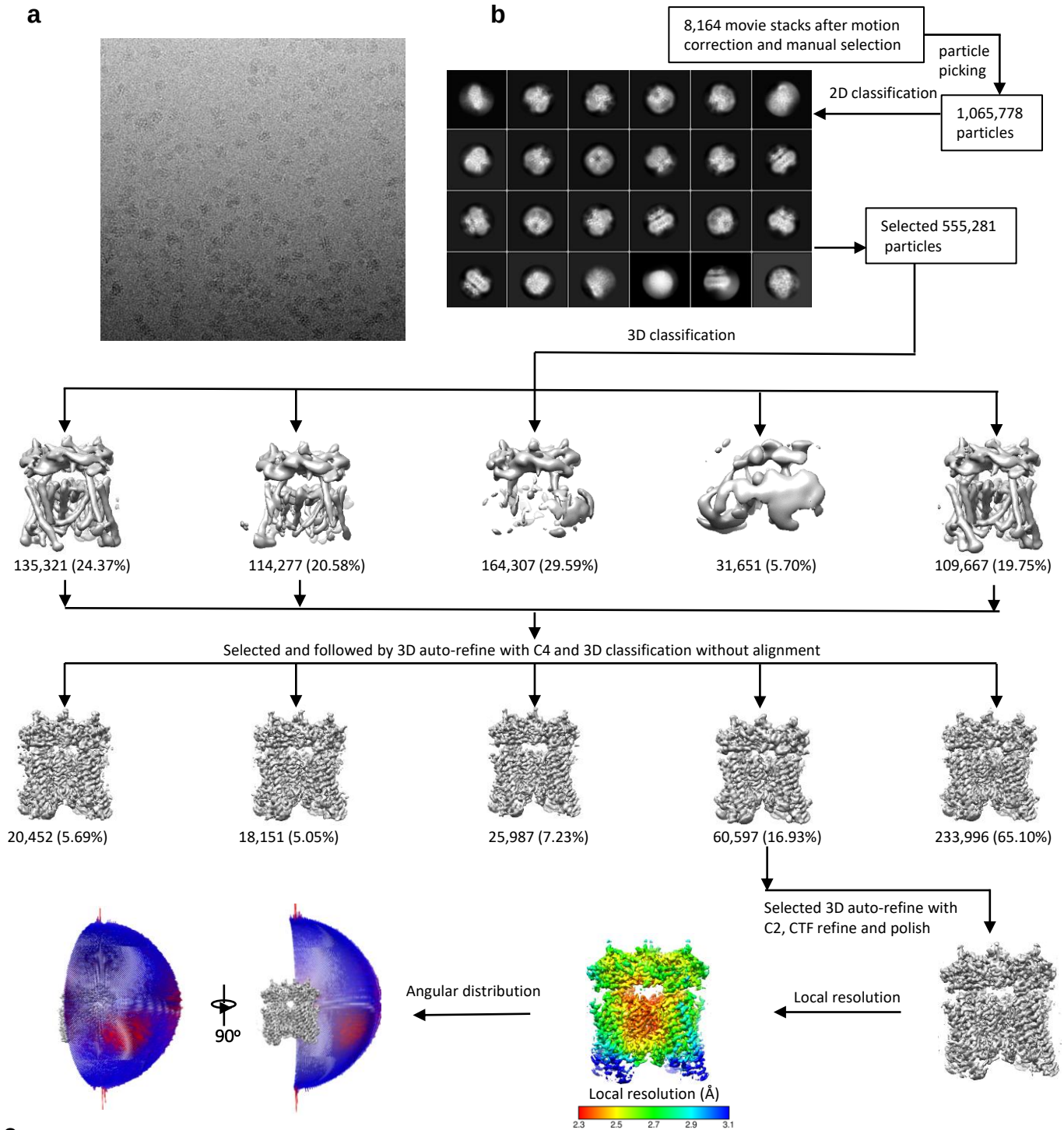


Figure supplement 3: Sample density maps of Y404W and pore radius: (a) Sample density maps of the Y404W open TRPML1 structure contoured at 4 σ. (b) Pore radius along the central axis in the open and closed states. PDB codes for apo closed and PI(3,5)P_2/Tem-bound open are 7SQ8 and 7SQ9, respectively. (c) EM density map surrounding W404 region shown in grey mesh and contoured at 4σ, key W404-interacting residues are shown in cyan. The local resolution of this region is 3.2 Å.



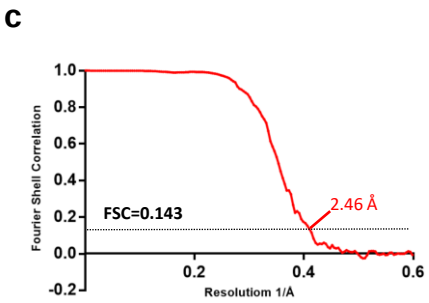


Figure supplement 4: Cryo-EM data processing scheme of the TRPML1 sample prepared in the presence of PI(4,5)P_2. (a) Representative micrograph. (b) Flow chart of the cryo-EM data processing procedure and the Euler angle distribution of particles used in the final three-dimensional reconstruction. Selected 2D class averages are shown. The final structure represent an open state. (c) Fourier Shell Correlation curves showing the overall resolution at FSC=0.143.

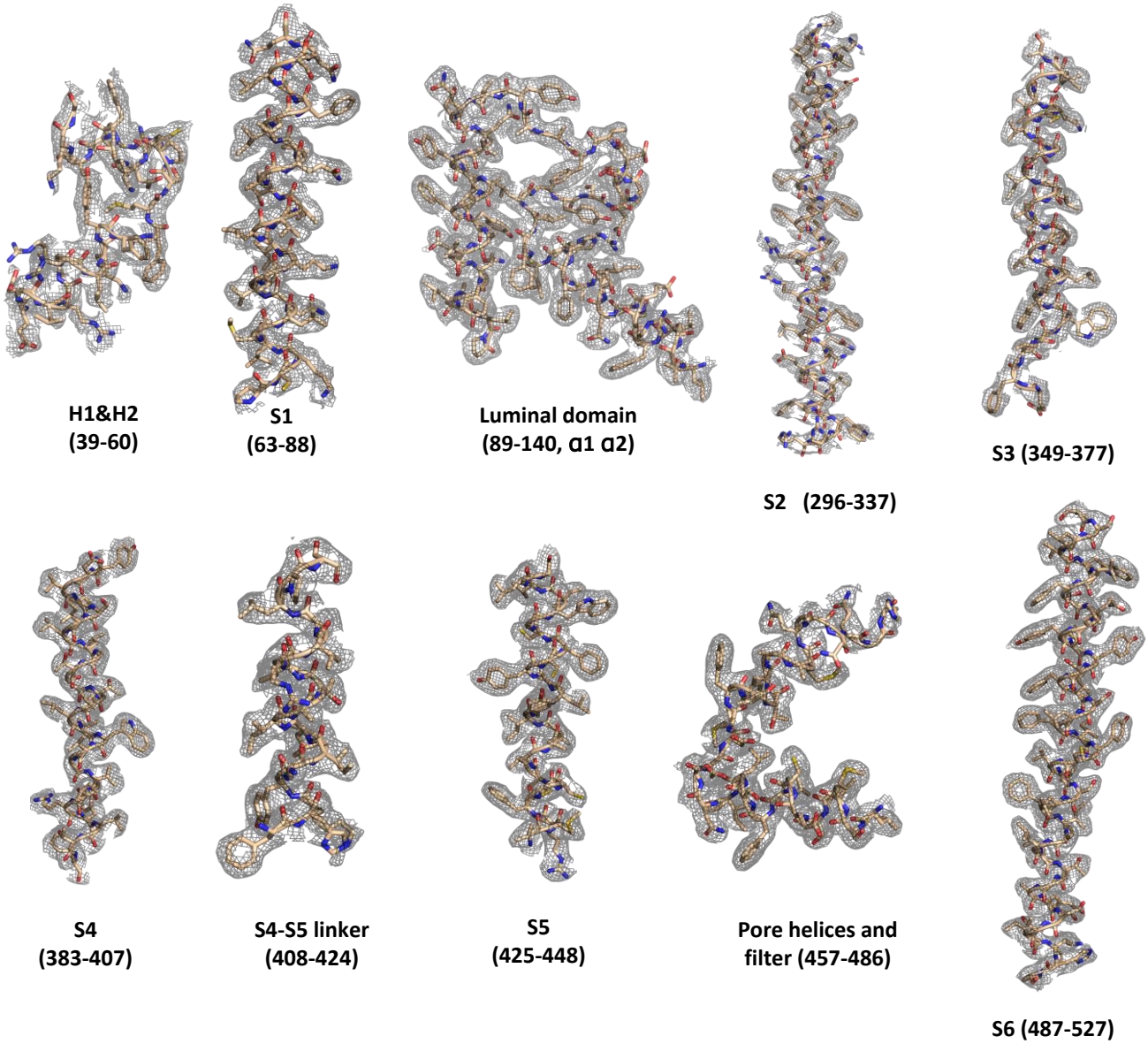


Figure supplement 5 : Sample density maps of the PI(4,5)P_2-bound closed TRPML1 structure contoured at 4 σ.

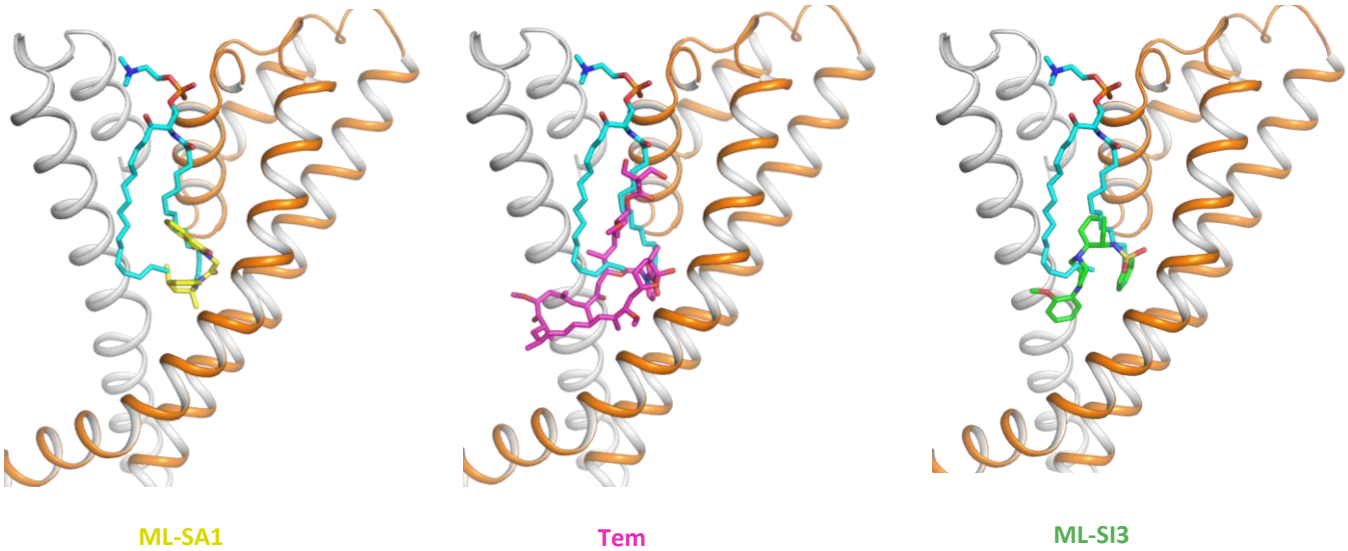


Figure supplement 6: Sphingomyelin (cyan) binding overlaps with that of agonist ML-SA1 (yellow), rapamycin analog Tem (magenta), or antagonist ML-SI3 (green).

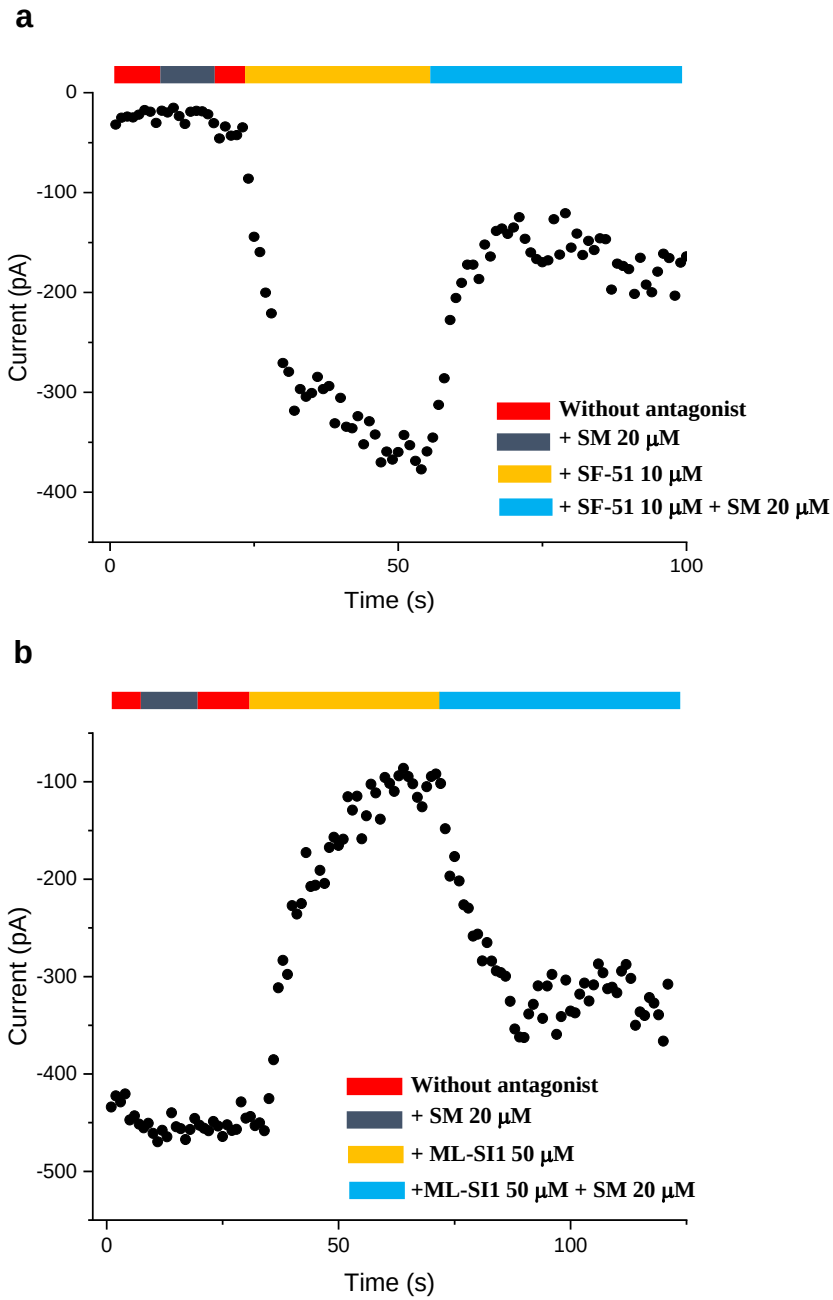
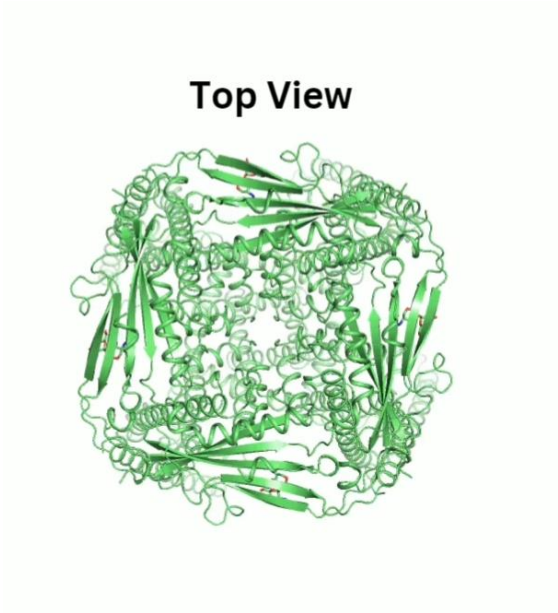


Figure supplement 7: Time course plots of sphingomyelin affected TRPML1 current amplitudes. (a) Sphingomyelin inhibition effect on SF-51-activated wild-type TRPML1. (b) SM activation effect on ML-SI1-inhibited Y404W mutant. Currents shown in (a) and (b) were recorded at -140mV using patch clamp in whole-cell configuration with pH 4.6 in the bath solution as the adverse effect of SM on agonist or antagonist is subtle and is measurable only at low luminal pH.



Movie supplement 1. Conformational changes between open and closed TRPML1