Mavacamten inhibits myosin activity by stabilising the myosin interacting-heads motif and stalling motor force generation

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Abstract

Most sudden cardiac deaths in young people arise from hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, a genetic disease of the heart muscle, with many causative mutations found in the molecular motor beta-cardiac myosin that drives contraction. Therapeutic intervention has until recently been limited to symptomatic relief or invasive procedures. However, small molecule modulators of cardiac myosin are promising therapeutic options to target disease progression. Mavacamten is the first example to gain FDA approval but its molecular mode of action remains unclear, limiting our understanding of its functional effects in disease. To better understand this, we solved the cryoEM structures of beta-cardiac heavy meromyosin in three ADP.Pi-bound states, the primed motor domain in the presence and absence of mavacamten, and the sequestered autoinhibited interacting-heads motif (IHM) in complex with mavacamten, to 2.9 Å, 3.4 Å and 3.7 Å global resolution respectively. Together with quantitative crosslinking mass spectrometric analysis, these structures reveal how mavacamten inhibits myosin. Mavacamten stabilises ADP.Pi binding, stalling the motor domain in a primed state, reducing motor dynamics required for actin-binding cleft closure, and slowing progression through the force generation cycle. Within the two-headed myosin molecule, these effects are propagated and lead to stabilisation of the IHM, through increased contacts at the motor-motor interface. Critically, while mavacamten

treatment can thus rescue cardiac muscle relaxation in diastole, it can also reduce contractile output in systole in the heart.

Introduction

Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM) affects at least 1 in 500 people and is the most common cause of heart failure in the young[1]. It is a genetic disease of the sarcomere, with ~40 % of known disease-causing mutations found in the beta-cardiac myosin (βCM) heavy chain gene (MYH7) [2] and causing ~30% of disease cases[3]. The exact disease mechanism(s) for HCM remains unclear. Treatment typically involves symptomatic relief, with beta or calcium channel blockers, or invasive procedures, such as septal myectomy, which do not address the root cause of disease[4]. More recently, small molecule treatments have been developed to directly modulate βCM force production[5] and tackle disease progression. Mavacamten[6,7] is the first of these to be FDA approved, with many others in clinical trials[8,9]. However, our understanding of the molecular mechanism of mavacamten is limited, restricting our understanding of its functional effects within disease.

βCM is the molecular motor responsible for force generation in cardiac ventricular tissue[10], fuelled by ATP and through its interaction with filamentous actin. A single βCM molecule is comprised of two heavy chains and four light chains, of which two are essential (ELC) and two regulatory (RLC). Each heavy chain consists of an N-terminal globular motor domain, light chain binding domain (LCD) (where one ELC and one RLC bind) followed by an alpha helical region through which two heavy chains dimerise to form a coiled coil. The coiled coil is further divided into subfragment 2 (S2) and the filament-forming light meromyosin (LMM). Each motor domain is divided into four subdomains, the N-terminal domain, lower 50k domain (L50), upper 50k domain (U50) and the converter that together with the LCD forms the lever[11,12].

Myosin molecules form bipolar filaments, with their LMM tails in the filament backbone and their paired motor domains on the filament surface[13,14]. To drive contraction they work in concert, interacting with actin to generate force transmitted by their levers in response to nucleotide and actin-binding state[12]. The motor domain together with the lever, collectively termed S1 or a myosin head, as well as cardiac heavy meromyosin (cHMM) (myosin lacking its LMM region), are competent to produce force and thus frequently studied to understand the myosin mechanochemical cycle.

Upon ATP binding a myosin head undergoes lever priming and ATP hydrolysis, to form a primed conformation[15,16]. In this ADP.Pi bound state myosin has an open actin-binding cleft between the U50 and L50 domains and can only interact with actin weakly. Conformational change within the motor leads to stronger actin-binding, cleft closure, Pi release and myosin lever swing (powerstroke), generating force[17,18]. ADP release from the motor results in a further, more minor, shift in lever position[19]. Re-binding of ATP opens the actin binding-cleft, disassociating the motor from actin and the cycle starts again[15]. Phosphate release is the rate limiting step for βCM in both the absence (basal turnover) and presence of actin[20,21].

Within the heart, muscle contraction and thus force production are tightly regulated by two distinct mechanisms[22]. Actin thin filament regulation acts as an on-off switch, controlling when contraction can occur through intracellular calcium levels dictating when sites on actin are available for myosin binding[23]. Myosin thick filament regulation fine tunes the force output of individual thick filaments by controlling the number of motors available to produce force within the filament[24]. To do this, βCM can form a sequestered state outside of the force generation cycle called the interacting-heads motif (IHM).

The IHM forms through the asymmetric interaction of two ADP.Pi bound primed motors from the same molecule folding down against their S2 coiled coil[13,14]. Within the IHM one of the heads (termed the blocked head: BH) is blocked from interacting with actin as its actin-binding cleft is sequestered by the converter of the other head (termed free head: FH). In filaments, the IHM state is further stabilised through interactions with the thick filament backbone, titin and myosin-binding protein C[13,14].

In HCM, the number of βCM molecules available to interact with actin and produce force are hypothesised to increase[25,26], resulting in diminished relaxation and the diastolic dysfunction observed clinically[27]. Thus, HCM may potentially be treated by therapeutics which either inhibit myosin activity or increase IHM formation.

Mavacamten is a cardiac myosin allosteric inhibitor that inhibits sarcomeric force production, reducing cardiac contraction in animal models, isolated cells and muscle fibres[28]. It inhibits basal and actin-activated ATPase activity by inhibiting Pi release and stabilises an autoinhibited off-state[29], reducing the number of functionally available motors to generate contractile force[28]. However, although mavacamten can stabilise an autoinhibited off-state[29], the detailed structural nature of this state, the mechanism of this stabilisation, and how it inhibits Pi release are unclear[30].

Several recent studies have begun to build on biochemical observations and unpick the structural mechanism of mavacamten. Three cryoEM structures have resolved the human cardiac thick filament, two in the presence[13,14] and one in the absence of mavacamten[31]. These structures demonstrated that mavacamten stabilises the IHM but do not have sufficient resolution (resolutions ranging from ~20 Å to 6 Å) to observe the underlying mechanism. Additionally, a recent crystal structure of a bovine S1 fragment complexed with ADP.BeFx and mavacamten showed the mavacamten binding site and that it restrains the lever[32]. The authors used molecular dynamic simulations to investigate how mavacamten inhibits myosin activity and proposed that mavacamten binding alters the L50 domain actin-binding interface to form a motor incompetent for force generation[32]. Yet this proposed mechanism does not explain how mavacamten inhibits Pi release.

Here, we performed a comprehensive analysis of the effects of mavacamten on cardiac myosin, from in vitro motility assays to structure determination by cryoEM and cross-linking studies using mass spectrometry. We show how mavacamten allosterically stabilises the IHM and inhibits Pi release from individual motor domains. We see no evidence for a significantly altered L50 domain structure or destabilisation of the L50 domain helix-loop-helix actin-binding interface upon mavacamten binding, as recently proposed[32]. In the context of the thick filament structures[13,14,31], as well as recent observations made on the actin activation of myosin[18], our data allow us to present a full structural mechanism for mavacamten inhibition of myosin.

Results

Mavacamten stabilises an off-pathway stalled ADP.Pi state

To ensure our cHMM construct was functionally active and inhibited by mavacamten, as expected, we tested its ability to drive actin filament movement by use of an in vitro filament gliding assay[33] in comparison to a single-headed myosin construct (cS1) (Extended Data Fig. 2, Supplementary Table. 1). The mavacamten concentration required to reduce motility to 50% (IC_{50}) was 0.14 μM for cHMM and ~4-fold higher for cS1 (0.62 μM) (consistent with previous reports[28]). When filament movement was tracked over time in the presence of mavacamten, we observed that the number of moving filaments did not change for cS1 but decreased for cHMM in a dose dependant manner (Extended Data Fig. 2d, Supplementary Movie 1), consistent with the cHMM

138 construct forming the IHM and reducing the number of motors available to interact with
139 actin and produce movement.
140 To corroborate this, we examined the ratio of open head to IHM cHMM molecules in
141 the presence and absence of mavacamten (Extended Data Fig. 3) using a negative
142 stain EM assay. We found that mavacamten significantly (P=0.0002, determined by
143 an unpaired two-tailed student's T-test with respect to the βCM control) increased the
144 percentage of cHMM molecules in the IHM when compared to cHMM alone.
145 To understand how mavacamten elicits these effects we used cryoEM to solve the
146 structure of the cHMM motor domain in an open heads conformation, in the presence
147 (MD_{mava}) and absence of mavacamten (MD), and the cHMM IHM conformation in the
148 presence of mavacamten (IHM_{mava}) (see Methods, Extended Data Fig. 1 &
149 Supplementary Fig. 1 & 2 respectively).
150 We pre-incubated cHMM with ATP to enable formation of open and IHM ADP.Pi states
151 prior to the addition of mavacamten (or DMSO as control), followed by subsequent
152 cross-linking with BS3 (see Methods). We then optimised cryoEM grid and vitrification
153 conditions for imaging either cHMM molecules in the open state or in the IHM, which
154 were then selected for downstream processing accordingly (see methods).
155 The MD_{mava} and MD were resolved to 2.9 Å and 3.4 Å global resolution respectively
156 (Supplementary Fig. 1; Supplementary Table. 2). To interpret the cryoEM density maps
157 we built pseudo-atomic models using a homology model and molecular dynamics
158 driven flexible fitting[34] (Supplementary Table. 3). Both maps showed density for
159 MgADP.Pi and a primed lever with associated ELC density, confirming they were in a
160 primed conformation (Extended Data Fig. 4, Fig. 1.)
161 Mavacamten was clearly resolved, positioned between the converter and the U50 (Fig.
162 1a). The mavacamten-protein interactions are predominantly hydrophobic formed by
163 the sidechain backbones of residues R721, L770, and I713 on the converter with
164 isopropyl pyrimidinedione, methylethyl ester and phenyl moieties of mavacamten (Fig.
165 1b-c) as well as H666 on the L50 and T167 on the U50 with the isopropyl
166 pyrimidinedione and phenyl moieties. These hydrophobic contacts are then further
167 supported by an ionic interaction between Y164 on the U50 and the isopropyl
168 pyrimidinedione moiety and hydrogen bonding between N711, the backbone of R712
169 from the converter, and D168 from the U50 to the isopropyl pyrimidinedione and
170 methylethyl ester moieties (Fig. 1b-c).

Binding of mavacamten rotates the lever 9° towards the U50 of the motor, perpendicular to the working stroke, when compared to the canonical primed MD conformation (Fig. 1d). This allows formation of a salt bridge between D778 and K146, creating additional communication between the lever and U50 domain (Fig. 1; Supplementary Movie. 2). Thus, mavacamten acts as a molecular glue, bonding the lever against the U50.

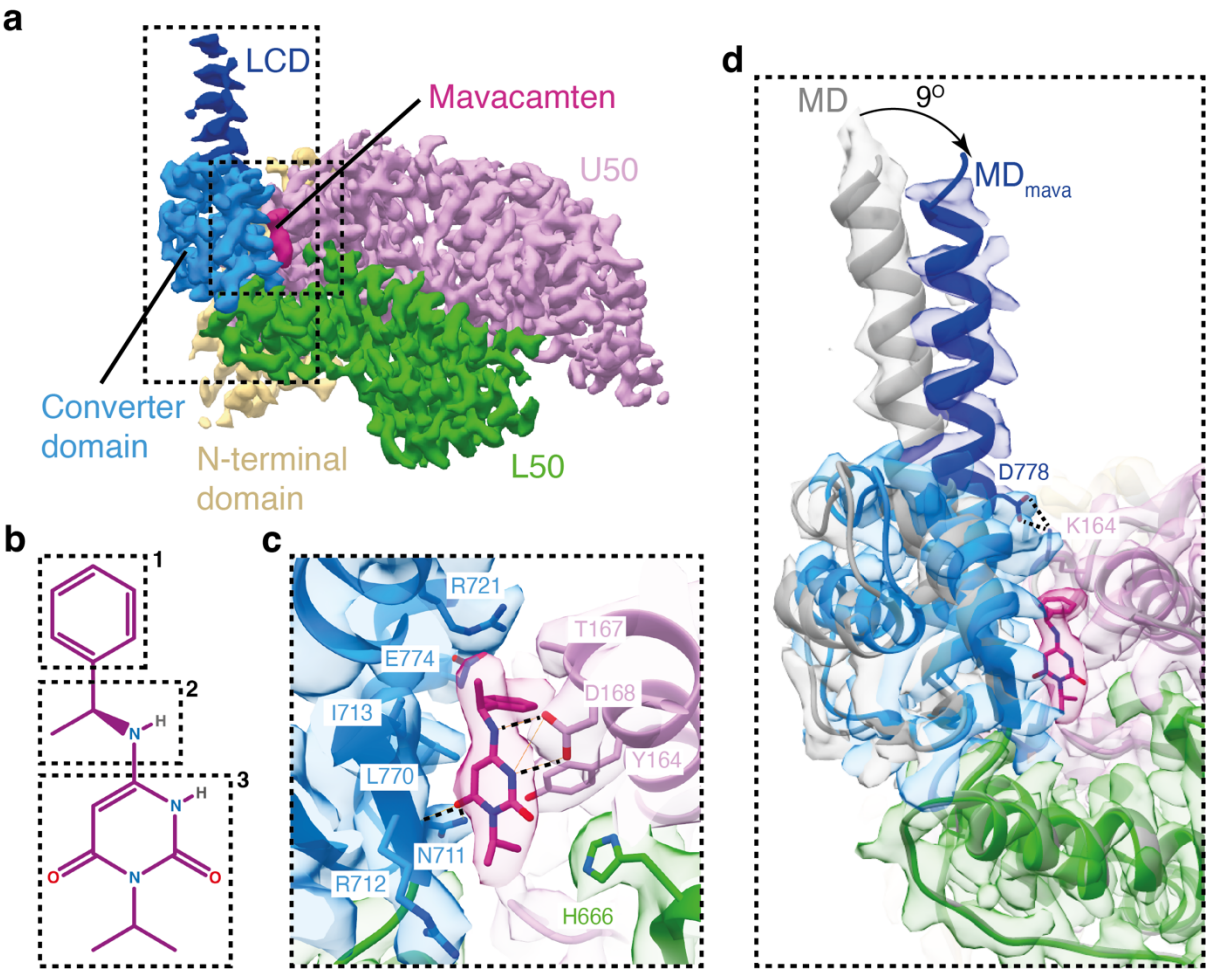


Figure 1. Mavacamten restrains the lever and D helix. (a) Segmented cryoEM map of the βCM motor in complex with mavacamten (MD_{mava}), split by subdomain (contour 0.6): N-terminal domain beige, L50 green, U50 pink, converter domain light blue, LCD dark blue and mavacamten in burgundy. (b) phenyl (1), methylethyl ester (2) and isopropyl pyrimidinedione (3) moieties of mavacamten (c) Mavacamten binding site highlighting key interactions: hydrophobic R721, L770, I713, H666 and T267 ; Ionic: Y164 and hydrogen bonding from N711, R712 and D168 (d) Overlay of MD grey and MD_{mava} coloured and segmented maps (contour MD: 0.5, MD_{mava}: 0.6) showing 9° shift in the lever due to Mavacamten binding (global alignment).

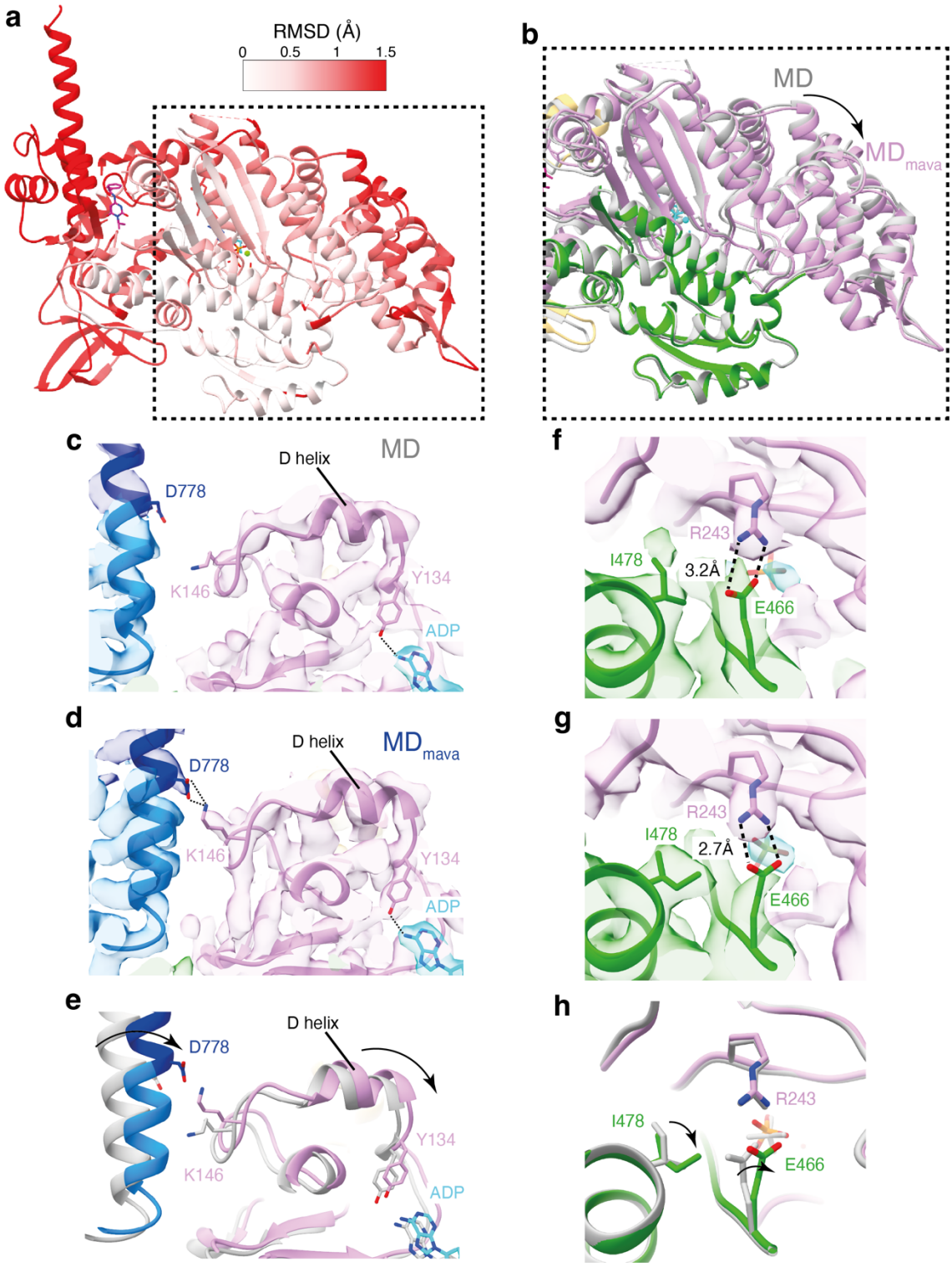
To understand how mavacamten may affect the association of myosin with actin in the weakly-bound ADP.Pi state, we aligned the MD and MD_{mava} structures on the L50 helix-loop-helix (HLH), the primary actomyosin binding interface[18]. Mavacamten binding

subtly shifts the U50 relative to the L50, pinching the actin binding cleft in a motion distinct from cleft closure (Fig. 2a,b; Supplementary Movie. 2). This may be driven by the increased communication between the lever and the U50, which moves the D-helix towards the active site, altering the relative position of Y134 and nucleotide (Fig. 2c-e), compressing the ADP.Pi binding site.

The shift of the U50 domain towards the L50 domain results in several rotamer changes around the backdoor, an ionic interaction between E466 and R243 that blocks the phosphate exit tunnel in the primed conformation[18]. I478 adopts a rotamer conformation facing the backdoor and the E466 side chain is rotated such that the distance between the R243 nitrogen (NH1) and E466 oxygen (OE1) is reduced from 3.2Å to 2.7Å (Fig. 2f-h; Supplementary Movie. 2). This shows that in the presence of mavacamten the back door interaction is stabilised, which may reduce the likelihood of Pi release.

These structural observations are not seen in the crystal structure of bovine S1 in complex with mavacamten (PDB ID: 8QYQ)[32] Extended Data Fig. 5). Thus, our cryoEM structures demonstrate how mavacamten stabilises a stalled ADP.Pi state, and provide structural evidence for the mechanism of inhibited Pi release[29,32,35].

It is important to note that the mavacamten induced structural changes are directionally opposed to those observed upon actin activation[18], where the release of the Pi is accelerated ~100-fold. Recent structural observations for myosin-5 have shown that upon initial binding of myosin to actin the U50 domain, particularly the D-helix, is cocked back towards the converter. This cocking back motion expands the nucleotide pocket destabilising the free Pi and promotes cleft closure[18]. Thus, we wondered whether mavacamten binding through cocking of the U50 forward, stabilising ADP.Pi binding, may also reduce motor domain dynamics to limit cleft closure. This would slow the transition from weak to strong binding of myosin to actin in the mechanochemical cycle, which is needed to sustain force and enable Pi release.



219

220 **Figure 2. Mavacamten binding shifts the D-helix position stabilising Pi in the active site.**
221 (a) RMSD comparison between MD and MD_{mava} structures coloured on MD_{mava} model (aligned
222 on the HLH). (b) Overlay of MD grey and MD_{mava} coloured, (aligned on the HLH) showing the
223 subtle shift in the U50 (pink) towards the L50 (green). (c-e) Positioning of D778 and K146 in
224 (c) MD, (d) MD_{mava} and (e) overlay MD gray and MD_{mava} coloured, highlighting communication
225 between lever and D helix in MD_{mava}. (f-h) MD and MD_{mava} structures in segmented maps
226 respectively (contour MD: 0.6 and MD_{mava}: 0.5), highlighting change in back door R243-E466
227 contact and I478. (h) Overlay of MD grey and MD_{mava} coloured highlighting change in residue
228 positioning.

229 **Mavacamten binding reduces myosin lever and actin-binding cleft dynamics**

230 To investigate the effect of mavacamten on primed motor lever and actin-binding cleft
231 dynamics, we used a quantitative crosslinking mass spectrometry (qXL-MS)
232 approach. We used the MS-cleavable, amine and hydroxyl reactive cross-linker,
233 disuccinimidyl dibutyric urea (DSBU) to crosslink cS1 ADP.Pi in the absence and
234 presence of mavacamten and then identified and quantified the crosslinks obtained
235 using a label-free qXL-MS comparative approach[36-38]. 85 unique interpeptide cross-
236 links and 49 monolinks changed in normalised signal intensity by at least two-fold
237 between the two conditions (see Supplementary Material 1 & 2), indicating that adding
238 mavacamten significantly affected cS1 conformational dynamics.

239 To interpret the effects of mavacamten on cS1 dynamics, we generated S1 models,
240 $S1_{mava}$ and S1 in the presence and absence of mavacamten, by superimposing the FH
241 lever, ELC and RLC from our IHM_{mava} model (see Fig. 4a) onto our MD_{mava} and MD
242 structures respectively. We then annotated the models with crosslinks that significantly
243 increased or decreased in signal intensity 2-fold accordingly and measured their Cα-
244 Cα distances (Supplementary Table 4, $p<0.05$ across three replicates). Crosslinks
245 within the accepted DSBU reaction distance of 30 Å Cα-Cα were expected[39].
246 Comparatively, the observation of a crosslink between two residues with a Cα-
247 Cα distance >30 Å indicated conformational dynamics that allowed the two reacting
248 side chains to come into range.

249 Thus, if an increase in a crosslink signal intensity in the presence of mavacamten was
250 observed with the same Cα-Cα distance in both $S1_{mava}$ and S1 models, the rise in
251 signal intensity indicated increased sampling of that conformational state and reduced
252 dynamics. Whereas, an increase in signal intensity for a crosslink with a Cα-
253 Cα distance >30 Å would suggest increased dynamics, as there was an increase in
254 reactivity, e.g. increased time in which the two residues sampled a conformation
255 outside our model in sufficient proximity to react.

256 To enable understanding of the changes in conformational dynamics that occur
257 between individual motor subdomain domains, or the motor and LCs, on the addition
258 of mavacamten, we focussed on interpreting interdomain crosslinks. 45 of the
259 identified crosslinks were interdomain, of which we could annotate 29 on our models
260 (Fig. 3a,b; Supplementary Table 4). The remainder could not be annotated as they

were located within unmodelled or flexible regions, such as the N-terminal extension of the ELC or myosin loop2.

In the presence of mavacamten, the number of crosslinks (<30 Å Cα-Cα distance) increased significantly between residues that connect the U50 domain to the ELC (Fig. 3a,c; Supplementary Table 4). This is consistent with the lever being pulled in towards the U50 domain when mavacamten binds, as observed in our cryoEM structures (Fig. 1). Crosslinking was also increased between the RLC (K115 and K111), and the LCD (K803), and loop1 (S205). The RLC-loop1 crosslinks had a Cα-Cα distance >30 Å in our S1 models but would have a Cα-Cα distance <30 Å if the lever was bent at the pliant point, forming the IHM blocked head lever position (Fig. 3d). Thus, these crosslinks can also be interpreted to indicate increased proximity of lever position relative to the U50 domain in the presence of mavacamten (Supplementary Table 4).

In the presence of mavacamten, the number of crosslinks between the base of the converter (CON) and the L50 domain ($K707_{L50}$-$K757_{CON}$, $K707_{L50}$- $T761_{CON}$) (Fig. 3e) increased significantly, without an increase in Cα-Cα distances in our S1 models, indicating increased stability of L50-converter position. Exploratory crosslinks (Cα-Cα distance >30 Å) between the ELC T72 and K98 and N-terminal domain (K21, K34 and K50) and converter (K707) respectively were significantly decreased in the presence of mavacamten (Fig. 3b,e). This suggests that the lever position is less dynamic, exploring a narrower range of primed conformations, preventing sampling of states that would allow these crosslinks to form.

When considering actin-binding cleft dynamics, the cleft is ordinarily thought to open and close rapidly on the μs timescale[16] but with an equilibrium strongly favouring the open cleft position, and thus retention of Pi in the active site. In the presence of mavacamten, crosslinks (<30 Å Cα-Cα distance) between the HCM loop in the U50 domain (K405 and K413), and the strut (K598) and C-terminal end of loop2 (T646) within the L50 domain (Fig. 3f; Supplementary Table. 4), bridging the actin-binding cleft increase in signal intensity. This suggests that cleft dynamics are reduced when mavacamten binds, as there is an increase in sampling of conformations which enable these crosslinks to form. This reduction in cleft dynamics may help prevent the weak to strong binding transition, inhibiting phosphate release and effective actomyosin cross-bridging.

293 Crosslinking of loop2 (K633-K640) to loop2 K633 and L50 K657, also significantly
294 increased, alongside a decrease in K657-K450 crosslinking in the presence of
295 mavacamten. This suggested that the binding of mavacamten stabilises the
296 conformation of loop2 enabling K657 to more readily crosslink with K633 than with
297 K450. The number of exploratory crosslinks (>30 Å $C\alpha$-$C\alpha$ distance) between U50
298 K450 and L50 K707 and T646 was reduced in the presence of mavacamten, indicating
299 reduced motor domain dynamics due to interaction with the drug.
300 Strikingly, the single crosslink between K570-K572 within loop3 of the L50 had the
301 largest increase in signal intensity in the presence of mavacamten (Supplementary
302 Material 1). This is beautifully explained when we examine the hydrogen bonding
303 network of loop 3 within the MD and MD_{mava} structures respectively (Extended Data
304 Fig. 6). K570 is solvent exposed within both structures but in the presence of
305 mavacamten, an ionic interaction between D469 and K572 is lost and instead D587
306 interacts with R567. This leaves K572 without a binding partner, making it available for
307 crosslinking to K570 and accounting for this dramatic change in reactivity.
308 Although the rearrangement of this hydrogen bonding network may increase the
309 dynamics of loop 3 in the presence of mavacamten, there is a corresponding decrease
310 to the exploratory crosslink $K565_{L50}$-$K707_{L50}$, between the N-terminal end of loop3 and
311 the base of the converter (Supplementary Material 1). This allows us to reasonably
312 conclude that the localised increase in dynamics of loop 3 is due to allosteric
313 communication and not a wholesale increase of dynamics within the L50.
314 Corroborating this, we see no evidence within the cryoEM density maps for a decrease
315 in stability of the HLH in the presence of mavacamten (Supplementary information Fig.
316 1l,m).

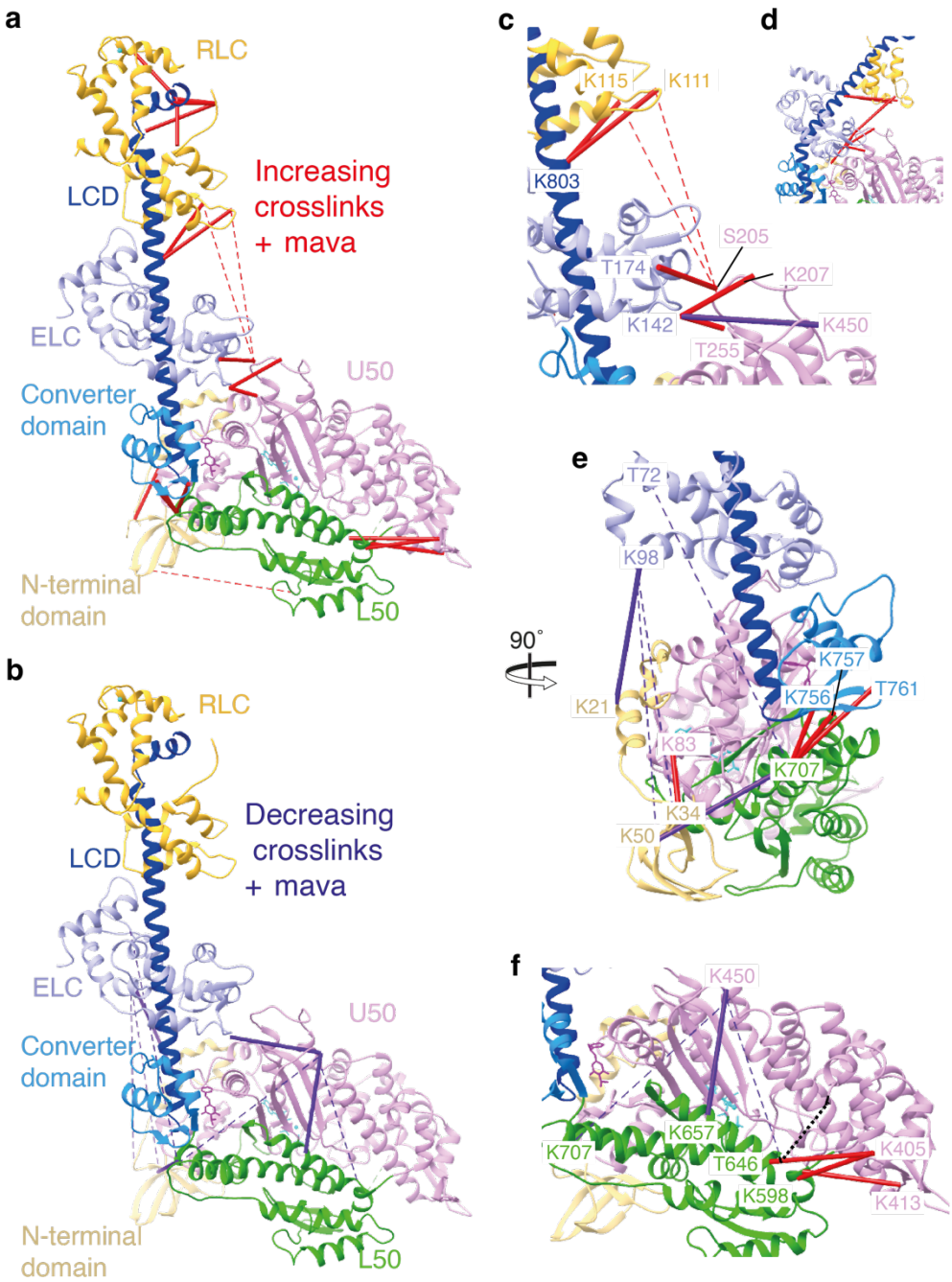


Figure 3. qXL-MS analysis of crosslinks in the presence of mavacamten. Overview of crosslinks observed to (a) increase and (b) decrease in the presence of mavacamten mapped onto the $S1_{mava}$ model coloured by subdomain: N-terminal domain beige, L50 green, U50 pink, converter domain light blue, LCD dark blue, ELC light purple, RLC yellow and mavacamten burgundy. Solid lines denominate DSBU crosslinks with a <30 Å Cα-Cα distance whilst dashed lines represent crosslinks with a >30 Å Cα-Cα distance, red = increasing, purple = decreasing. (c-d) Magnified view of increasing crosslinks between the LCs and U50 subdomain, with a (c) open head and (d) BH lever position. (e) Overview of crosslinks showing increased stability of lever position in the presence of mavacamten (f) Overview of crosslinks showing changes in U50-L50 position in the presence of mavacamten. Loop2 is represented by a dotted black line. Crosslinks shown here are further described in Supplementary Table 4.

330 In addition to changes in crosslinking, we also observed changes to monolink signal
331 intensity, where the crosslinker reacts with a residue and solvent. Monolinks for the
332 ELC residues K142 and K147 and LCD residue K803 decrease in the presence of
333 mavacamten as the ELC and LCD residues are instead able to crosslink with the U50
334 and RLC respectively (see Supplementary Material 1). The most significant decrease
335 in monolinking in the presence of mavacamten was $K146_{U50}$, which is expected given
336 the formation of an ionic interaction between $K146_{U50}$ and $D778_{LCD}$ in the presence of
337 mavacamten in our structures that increases communication between the lever and
338 nucleotide binding site.
339 Together, our combined cryoEM and qXL-MS structural analysis suggests that
340 mavacamten stabilises ADP.Pi binding and limits actin-binding cleft closure, required
341 for the weak to strong binding transition, to inhibit phosphate release. Thus,
342 mavacamten stabilises an off-pathway stalled myosin motor conformation that is
343 unable to progress through the mechanochemical cycle.

344 **Mavacamten restrains the IHM through stabilisation of the free head motor**
345 **domain**
346 To understand how mavacamten stabilises the IHM we used cryoEM to solve the
347 structure of cHMM IHM in complex with mavacamten (IHM_{mava}) to a global resolution
348 of 3.7Å (Supplementary information Fig. 2; Fig. 4a) and compared it to our MD_{mava}
349 structure and to the mavacamten free folded-back state (IHM^{40}) previously reported
350 (PDB ID: 8ACT)[40]. The overall appearance of the IHM_{mava} is consistent with the IHM
351 structure. However, mavacamten binding induces distinct conformational changes
352 within the motor domain of the BH and FH respectively.
353 Mavacamten is bound to both the BH and FH of the IHM_{mava} (Fig. 4b,c). The FH
354 mavacamten binding site is compressed, with the lever domain lying even closer to
355 the U50 than in the MD_{mava} structure (Extended Data Fig. 7) yet maintains all
356 interactions previously observed (Fig. 4c). Conversely, due to formation of the BH lever
357 conformation, the mavacamten BH binding site is expanded (Extended Data Fig. 7)
358 compared to the MD_{mava} structure, and its interaction with N711 and L770 is lost (Fig.
359 4b). This suggests mavacamten may have a greater effect on IHM_{mava} stabilisation
360 through its interaction with the FH.
361 Indeed, the structural changes caused by mavacamten in the FH are the most
362 prominent and provide a mechanism through which allosteric IHM stabilisation occurs.
363 Comparison of the MD_{mava} and IHM_{mava} FH, by alignment on the main body of the motor
364 (residues 3-710), shows the IHM_{mava} FH lever adopts a much sharper angle than in
365 the MD_{mava} structure, rotating 5° perpendicular to the lever swing (Fig. 4d). If the same
366 comparison is performed between the IHM^{40} FH and IHM_{mava} FH a rotation of 9° is
367 observed in the same direction (Extended Data Fig. 8). The change in FH lever angle
368 allows the converter to form a more extensive interface with the BH, strengthening
369 existing contacts at the $U50_{BH}$-$converter_{FH}$ interface (Fig. 4e) between $N391_{BH}$ and the
370 backbone of $S738_{FH}$ as well as $Y386_{BH}$ and $Q734_{FH}$ (Fig. 4f).
371 As the FH converter now packs more tightly against the $U50_{BH}$ several new
372 interactions form, supporting the interface. Interactions are formed between $S738_{FH}$,
373 $S392_{BH}$ and $D382_{BH}$, $D717_{FH}$ and $K397_{BH}$ as well as $R735_{FH}$ and $N391_{BH}$ in addition to
374 a hydrophobic interaction between $A393_{BH}$ and $L714_{FH}$ (Fig. 4f; Supplementary Movie.
375 3). The movement also results in rearrangement of $F735_{FH}$, which now forms a
376 hydrophobic interface with $K383_{BH}$, $L302_{BH}$ and $Y386_{BH}$. (Fig. 4f; Supplementary
377 Movie. 3). Interactions are also altered at the HCM $loop_{BH}$-$transducer_{FH}$ interface with

the formation of an ionic interaction between $D409_{BH}$ and $R249_{FH}$ (Supplementary Movie. 3). Finally, a new interaction interface between the $U50_{BH}$ and the ELC_{FH} is able to form between $K611_{BH}$ and $D143_{BH\text{-}ELC}$ (Supplementary Movie. 3).

In summary, the change in FH lever angle upon mavacamten binding provides increased structural rigidity to the IHM through the generation of new interfaces, strengthening the motor-motor contact, providing a structural mechanism for its allosteric stabilising effects. This mechanism is supported by recent structural observations in which IHM crowns in a relaxed mavacamten-free thick filament structure were less ordered than in their mavacamten-bound counterparts, particularly in the free head of the disordered crown/crown 2[13,31].

The blocked head conformation within the IHM_{mava} also deviates from that observed in both the MD_{mava} and the IHM[40] structures but only in the relative positioning of the U50 domain. When the MD_{mava} is aligned on the $L50_{BH}$ domain of the IHM_{mava} it is apparent that the $U50_{BH}$ domain has moved across the $L50_{BH}$ towards S2. If the same alignment is performed with the IHM[40] and IHM_{mava} the same shift is observed (Extended Data Fig. 9). This conformational change in the $U50_{BH}$ is needed to accommodate the altered $converter_{FH}$ position upon mavacamten binding. Thus, the conformational changes observed in the blocked head upon mavacamten binding are a consequence of its IHM stabilising effect but not a contributor to IHM stabilisation.

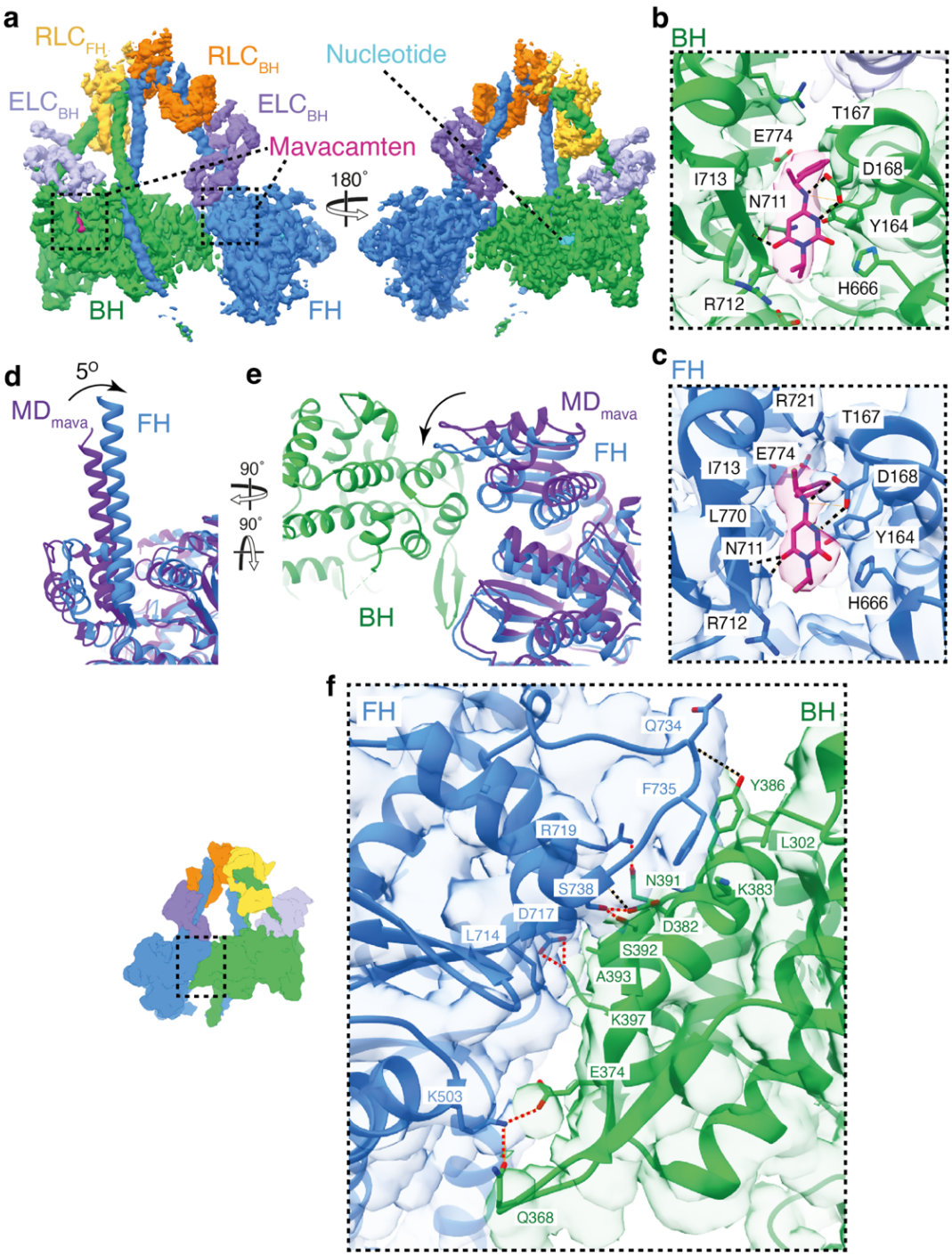


Figure 4. Mavacamten strengthens the motor-motor interface in the IHM by altering the FH lever conformation. (a) Segmented cryoEM map of the IHM$_{mava}$ structure coloured by chain (contour: 0.08): BH green, FH blue, ELC$_{BH}$ light purple, ELC$_{FH}$ purple, RLC$_{BH}$ yellow, RLC$_{FH}$ orange, mavacamten burgundy, and the nucleotide in light blue. (b-c) The IHM$_{mava}$ model fitted to the segmented map highlighting the BH and FH mavacamten pockets respectively. (d) Side view of the FH lever blue overlaid MD$_{mava}$ dark purple (aligned on the motor D3-P710) highlighting the 5° shift of the lever. (e) Top-down view of (d) including the BH in green showing the movement of the free head converter. (f) Interaction interfaces between the U50$_{BH}$-converter$_{FH}$ (contour: 0.01), with H-bonds unique to the IHM$_{mava}$ in red (compared to PDB ID: 8ACT[40]).

408 Along with stabilising the motor-motor interface, mavacamten reduces the activity of
409 the FH by restraining the nucleotide pocket. Comparison of the IHM_{mava} FH to our
410 MD_{mava} structure and IHM[40] shows the D $helix_{FH}$, is moved further towards the
411 nucleotide pocket in the IHM_{mava} structure (Fig. 5c-e; Extended Data Fig. 8). The $U50_{FH}$
412 has also shifted relative to the $L50_{FH}$ further pinching the actin binding cleft (Fig. 5a-b;
413 Extended data Fig. 8). The resulting shift of the D-$helix_{FH}$ and surrounding loops further
414 reduces the available space for ADP dynamics, increasing the stability of ADP.Pi within
415 the active site (Fig. 5f-g, Extended data Fig. 8e). Once again this is an opposite motion
416 to that observed during actin activation[18].

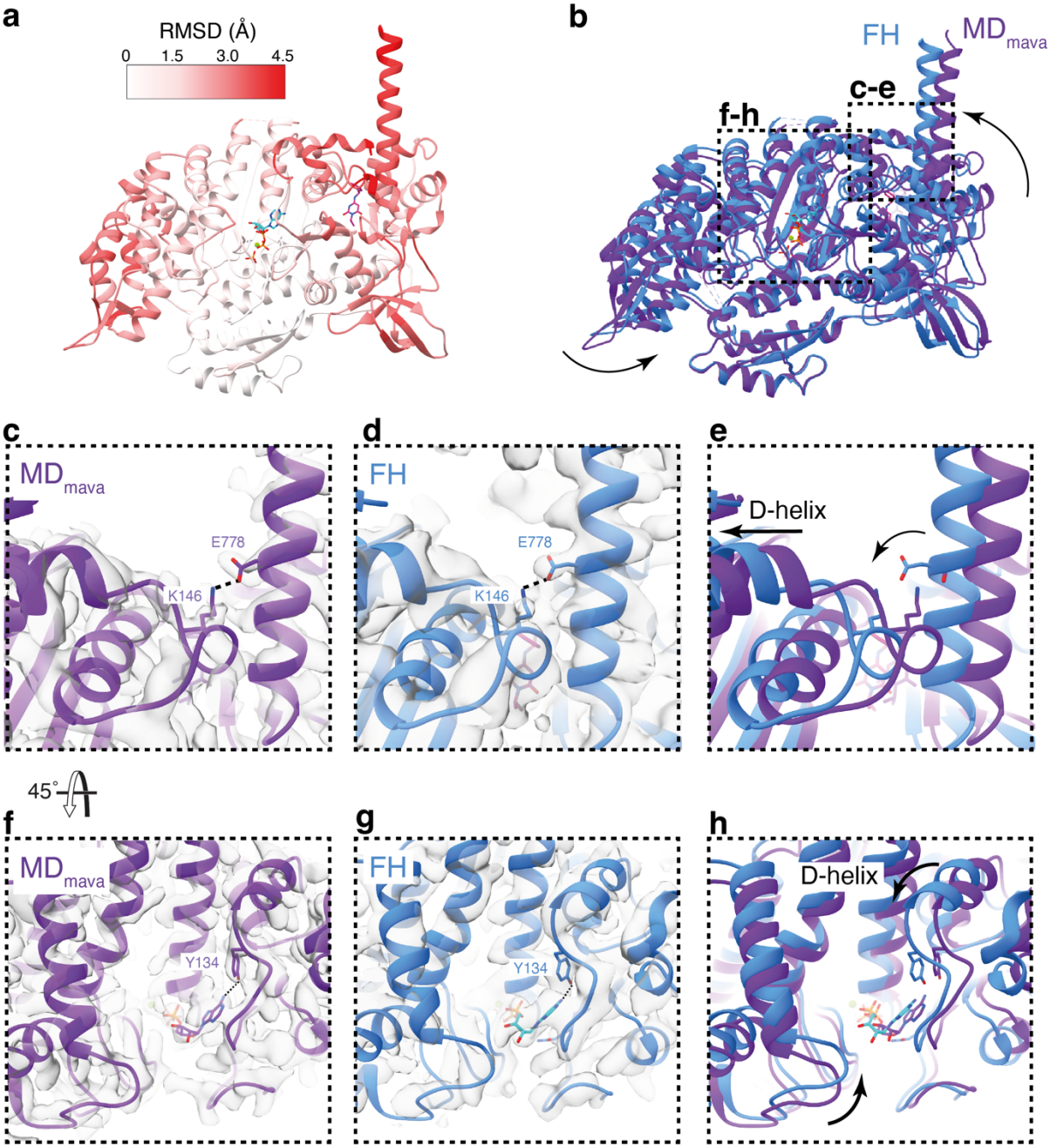


Figure 5. Mavacamten further inactivates the IHM free head. (a) RMSD comparison between MD_{mava} and IHM_{mava} FH aligned on the L50, coloured on IHM_{mava} FH model. (b) Overlay of MD_{mava} and IHM_{mava} FH blue highlighting domain movements. (c-e) Structural comparison of lever and D-helix conformation showing E778-K146 coupling hydrogen bond. (c) MD_{mava} model and cryoEM map (contour: 0.9), (d) IHM_{mava} FH model and cryoEM map (contour: 0.15) and (e) model overlay coloured as in (b). (f-H) Structural comparison of active site. (f) MD_{mava} model and cryoEM map (contour: 0.9), (g) IHM_{mava} FH model and cryoEM map (contour: 0.15) and (h) model overlay coloured as in (b).

428 Within the IHM_{mava} structure, the BH is further restrained by its interaction with S2 (Fig.
429 6). S2 predominantly interacts with the BH via the FH heavy chain directly
430 strengthening the interaction between the two chains (Fig. 6a). The contact interfaces
431 are predominantly charged interactions and can be split into three main regions on the
432 BH motor; the OH loop, W-helix and HLH (Fig. 6b-f; Supplementary Movie. 3).
433 The S2 in our IHM_{mava} structure adopts a curved conformation more closely resembling
434 that observed in the thick filament structures[13,14,31] over the previous single particle
435 report of IHM[40] (Extended Data Fig. 10). This is unlikely to be an effect of mavacamten,
436 but rather due to our use of a construct containing a native cHMM S2 domain
437 sequence compared to that used to determine the prior IHM[40] structure, which had a
438 short S2 sequence, ending at K942, followed by a leucine zipper[40].
439 Examination of the S2-BH interface in our IHM_{mava} structure shows that it contains
440 many more HCM mutation sites (R435C,H,S,L[41-44], R660N[45], R652G[46], K903K/G[47,48],
441 I909M[49], I913K[50]) in addition to those previously reported in the IHM[40] (K450E/T[51,52],
442 Q882E[53], Q892K[54]). Thus, maintenance of this interface is likely crucial to regulate
443 force production during cardiac contractions.

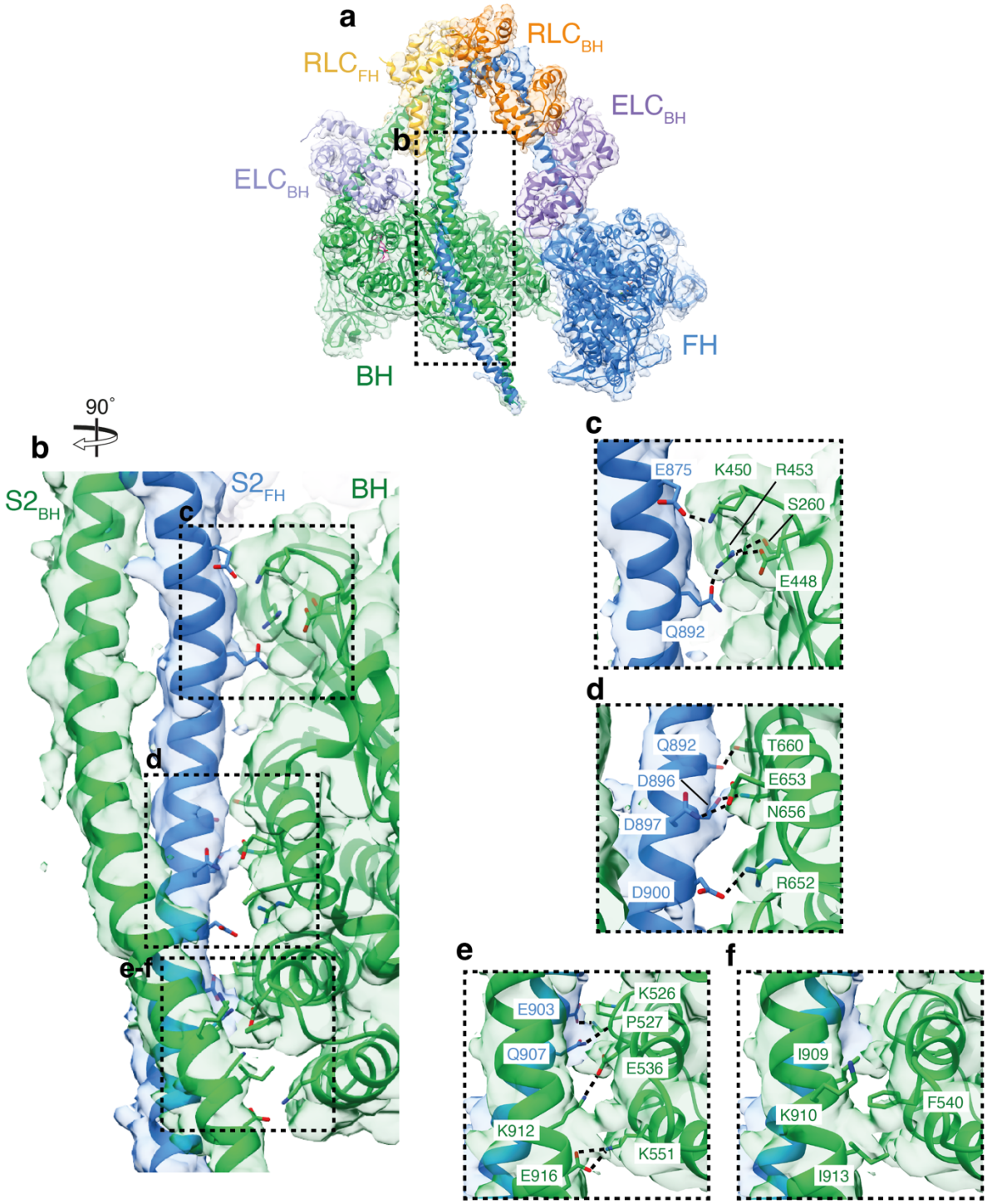


Figure 6. IHM$_{mava}$ S2 novel interactions. (a) IHM$_{mava}$ model in segmented cryoEM map coloured by chain (contour: 0.02): blocked head green, free head blue, blocked head ELC light purple, free head ELC purple, blocked head RLC yellow, free head RLC orange, mavacamten burgundy and the nucleotide in light blue. (b) Overview of IHM$_{mava}$ S2-BH interactions (modelled utilising molecular dynamics in ISOLDE) in segmented cryoEM map (contour 0.01) BH green, FH blue. (c) S2-HO linker hydrogen bonding: E875$_{FH}$-K450$_{BH}$, Q892$_{FH}$-R453$_{BH}$ and R453$_{BH}$-E448$_{BH}$. (d) S2-W helix hydrogen bonding: Q892$_{FH}$-T660$_{BH}$, D896$_{FH}$-N656$_{BH}$, D897$_{FH}$-N653$_{BH}$ and D900$_{FH}$-R652$_{BH}$. (e-f) S2-HLH interactions (e) hydrogen bonding: E903$_{FH}$-P527$_{BH}$ backbone, Q907$_{FH}$-K526$_{BH}$, K912$_{BH}$-E536$_{BH}$ and E916$_{BH}$-K551$_{BH}$ (f) hydrophobic interactions: I909$_{BH}$, I913$_{BH}$ F450$_{BH}$, and the aliphatic side chain backbone of K910$_{BH}$.

Discussion

In this work we have shown three high resolution cryoEM structures, two cHMM motor domains with and without mavacamten bound, alongside the cHMM IHM in complex with mavacamten, containing the native substrate ADP.Pi. The open head cHMM motor domain structures in combination with our qXL-MS analysis and the new understanding of actin activation[18], allow us to present a new mechanism through which mavacamten elicits its effect on the myosin mechanochemical cycle (Fig. 7). Primed motors show lever and cleft dynamics that allow them to undergo basal ATPase activity (Fig. 7a) and weakly associate with actin. This can be regulated by sequestration of myosin molecules into the IHM, which significantly reduces ATPase activity (Fig. 7b). Upon weak binding of myosin to actin (Fig. 7c), cleft closure, Pi release and powerstroke are accelerated, resulting in post-powerstroke actomyosin (Fig. 7d). Mavacamten stalls motor force generation by restraining lever position and inducing structural changes that stabilise ADP.Pi binding and limit cleft dynamics (Fig 7e). This in turn increases the abundance of the IHM by strengthening interactions at the motor-motor interface (Fig. 7f). We find no evidence to support the proposal that mavacamten destabilises the L50 to prohibit myosin weakly binding to actin[32]. Instead, in disordered relaxed motors that can weakly associate with actin (Fig. 7g), we propose that mavacamten stabilises ADP.Pi binding and reduces actin-binding cleft dynamics to limit cleft closure. This inhibits the weak-to-strong actin binding transition that is required for progression through the mechanochemical cycle (Fig. 7h).

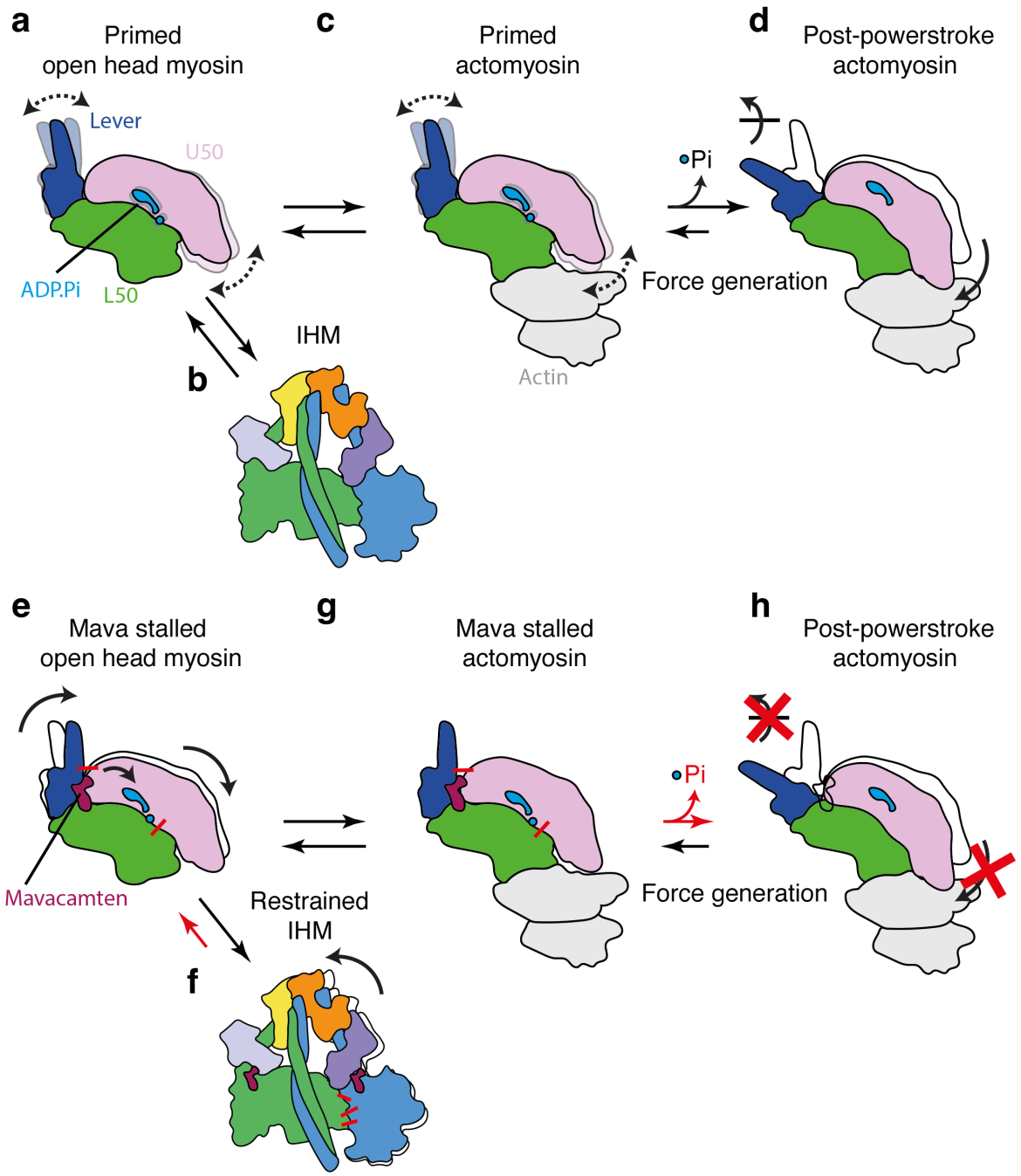


Figure 7. Overview of myosin force generation and mavacamten's structural mechanism. (a-d) Schematic representation of βCM force generation: (a) Primed open head motor with both the lever and U50 dynamically exploring conformations able to transition to (b) the IHM preventing further force generation or (c) primed actomyosin. The primed actomyosin is initially weakly-bound but rapidly proceeds through the weak-to-strong actin binding transition, releasing phosphate and undergoing the force generating powerstroke resulting in formation of (d) post-powerstroke actomyosin. (e-h) Schematic representation of βCM force generation in the presence of mavacamten: (a) Mavacamten stalled open head motor with restrained lever and shifted U50 stabilising the Pi able to transition to (f) the restrained IHM, stabilised by increased motor-motor interactions. Mava stalled open head myosin may also interact with actin forming (g) stalled actomyosin. The stalled actomyosin does not readily undergo cleft closure (red-X) preventing phosphate release and its transition through lever swing (red-X) to (h) post-powerstroke actomyosin.

491 With deeper insight into the impact of mavacamten on motor mechanics, future work
492 can begin to apply this in a clinically meaningful setting. The exploration of HCM
493 mutations in the mavacamten binding site and key interfaces created by mavacamten
494 will provide insight into the functional effects of the drug in patients with specific
495 mutations. For example, the HCM mutations R712L and E774V would directly affect
496 the mavacamten binding site likely rendering mavacamten less effective in patients
497 with these mutations[55]. The HCM mutations R719W and R723G, within immediate
498 proximity of the binding site, do mildly affect mavacamten binding[28,55].
499 The newly formed network of motor-motor interactions in the presence of mavacamten
500 also harbour several sites of pathogenic mutations: D382N[56], K383V[57], A393V[58],
501 R719W[59], R719Q[60], R719P[61], Q734P[52] and Q734E[62] . The presence of one of these
502 mutations may lessen the effectiveness of mavacamten by reducing its IHM stabilising
503 effects. Thus, further work is required to ascertain the effectiveness of mavacamten in
504 the presence of disease-causing mutations within and surrounding the mavacamten
505 binding site and at IHM contact interfaces. A deeper understanding of the mechanism
506 through which mavacamten inhibits motor function in the context of disease may
507 potentially allow us to predict patients who would be non-responders or who would
508 potentially suffer unintended side effects from treatment with mavacamten, such as a
509 significant reduction in systolic function. This would provide a path forward for
510 personalised medicine alongside the development of more effective therapeutics.
511

512 **Methods**

513 *Adenovirus manipulation*

514 The human β-cardiac HMM (cHMM) used for cryoEM encodes residues 1-1137 of the
515 *MYH7* gene (GenBank: AAA51837.1). This design includes 42 heptad repeats of the
516 S2 domain with a FLAG tag added at the C-terminus (1138-1146) (Extended Data Fig.
517 2) and has been extensively analyzed[55,63]. A revised design was used for antibody
518 capture for the motility assay that incorporates an epitope for an anti-S2 mAb
519 (10F12.3)[64]. The antibody recognizes an epitope 'AEKH RADLSRE' spanning heptads
520 43 and 44 of MYH7. The epitope was added into coiled-coil S2 domain of β-cHMM
521 followed by one additional heptad (45 heptads) and a FLAG tag at the C-terminus. The
522 single-headed cS1 design encodes residues 1-834 MYH7 followed by a short linker
523 fused to a GFP domain and a FLAG tag at the C-terminus. The expression cassette
524 includes two IRES sequences for co-expression of human MYL3 (vLC1) and MYL2

525 (vLC2). The DNA sequences were assembled, inserted into an AdEasy shuttle vector,
526 and sequenced (GeneWiz, Azenta Life Sciences, South Plainfield, NJ). Adenovirus
527 plasmids were generated by recombination in E. coli strain BJ5183-Ad1 and the
528 transgene inserts in the plasmids were sequenced. New viruses were packaged and
529 amplified in Ad293 cells through five passages to produce high titer virus stocks[65]. The
530 virus was harvested and purified by CsCl density gradient sedimentation yielding final
531 virus titers of ~10^{11} infectious units per mL ($IU \cdot mL^{-1}$) for infection of C2C12 cells and
532 protein production.
533
534 *Muscle cell expression and purification of β-cardiac HMM and S1*
535 Maintenance of the mouse myogenic cell line, C2C12 (CRL 1772; American Type
536 Culture Collection, Rockville, MD), has been described in detail elsewhere[66].
537 Confluent C2C12 myoblasts were infected with replication defective recombinant
538 adenovirus (AdcHMM2.0) at 2.7 X 10^8 $IU \cdot mL^{-1}$ in fusion medium (89% DMEM, 10%
539 horse serum, 1% FBS). Expression of recombinant myosin (cHMM or cS1) was
540 monitored by accumulation of co-expressed GFP fluorescence in infected cells.
541 Myocyte differentiation and GFP accumulation were monitored until the cells were
542 harvested (198 – 264 hr). Cells were chilled, media removed, and the cell layer was
543 rinsed with cold PBS. The cell layer was scraped into Triton extraction buffer: 100 mM
544 NaCl, 0.5% Triton X-100, 10 mM Imidazole pH 7.0, 1 mM DTT, 5 mM MgATP, and
545 protease inhibitor cocktail (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis). The cell suspension was
546 collected in an ice-cold Dounce homogenizer and lysed with 15 strokes of the tight
547 pestle. The cell debris in the whole cell lysate was pelleted by centrifugation at 17,000
548 x g for 15 min at 4°C. The Triton soluble extract was fractionated by ammonium sulfate
549 precipitation using sequential steps of 0-30% saturation and 30-60% saturation. The
550 myosin precipitates between 30-60% saturation of ammonium sulfate. The recovered
551 pellet was dissolved in and dialyzed against 50 mM Tris, 150 mM NaCl, pH 7.4, 0.5
552 mM MgATP for affinity purification of the FLAG-tagged myosin on M2 mAb-Sepharose
553 beads (Sigma-Aldrich). Bound myosin was eluted with 0.1 $mg \cdot mL^{-1}$ FLAG peptide
554 (Sigma-Aldrich). Protein was concentrated and buffer exchanged on Amicon Ultracel-
555 10K centrifugal filters (Millipore; Darmstadt, Germany), dialyzed exhaustively into 10
556 mM MOPS, 100 mM KCl, 1 mM DTT before a final centrifugation at 300,000 x g for 10
557 min at 4°C. Aliquots were drop frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored in vapor phase at –

147°C. The sequence of the β-cHMM and cS1 preparations used in this study were confirmed by LC-MS/MS of protein digests. Bound light chains are those that are constitutively expressed in the C2C12 cells (MLC1/MLC3 and rLC2) or co-expressed with the cS1gfp (vLC1 and vLC2).

In vitro motility assay

Measurement of in vitro motility of the S2 epitope tagged cHMM was done as previously described for skeletal muscle myosin[64,67]. Nitrocellulose-coated glass coverslips were incubated with 0.1 mg/mL of the anti-S2 mAb, 10F12.3, in PBS followed by blocking the surface with 1% BSA/PBS. The cS1gfp was tethered with the anti-GFP mAb 3E6 (Invitrogen, ThermoFisher) bound to nitrocellulose-coated glass coverslips. The β-cHMM and cS1 proteins were diluted to 20 µg/mL in motility buffer (MB) (25 mM imidazole, pH 7.8, 25 mM KCl, 4 mM $MgCl_2$, 1 mM MgATP, 1 mM DTT) supplemented with 1% BSA (MB/BSA). The antibody-coated coverslips were incubated with the proteins for 2 hr in a humidified chamber at 4 °C. The coverslips were washed sequentially with MB/BSA and 3-times with MB before blocking with 0.5 µM unlabelled F-actin (5 min) and two final washes with MB. The coverslips were mounted on a 15-µL drop of 2 nM rhodamine-phalloidin–labelled actin in a modified motility buffer (with 7.6 mM MgATP, 50 mM DTT, 0.5% methyl cellulose, 0.1 mg/mL glucose oxidase, 0.018 mg/mL catalase, 2.3 mg/mL glucose) in a small parafilm ring fixed on an alumina slide with vacuum grease. The chamber is observed with a temperature-controlled stage and objective set at 32 °C on an upright microscope with an image-intensified CCD camera capturing images to an acquisition computer at 5–30 fps depending on assay parameters. Movement of actin filaments in 2–3 fields/slide for 500 frames/field of continuous imaging were captured and analyzed with semiautomated filament tracking programs as previously described[67]. The trajectory of every filament with a lifetime of at least 10 frames is determined; the instantaneous velocity of the filament moving along the trajectory, the filament length, the distance of continuous motion and the duration of pauses are tabulated. A weighted probability of the actin filament velocity for hundreds of events is fit to a Gaussian distribution and reported as a mean velocity and SD for each experimental condition.

591 *Negative stain head counting analysis*

592 cHMM was first prepared by crosslinking with bis(sulfosuccinimidyl)suberate (BS3) for
593 30 minutes at 25 °C in the following conditions: 2 μM cHMM, 50 μM mavacamten (5
594 % DMSO), 1 mM BS3, 1 mM EGTA, 1 mM ATP, 2 mM $MgCl_2$, 56 mM KCl, 10 mM
595 MOPS pH 7.2. The reaction was then quenched with a 100 mM final concentration of
596 Tris pH 8 preventing further crosslinking. Crosslinking was confirmed by SDS-PAGE
597 analysis (Supplementary Fig. 3).

598 Negative stain grids were prepared using the flicking method[68] by applying 5 μl of
599 crosslinked cHMM diluted 5-fold in buffer to a negative stain grid (produced in-house)
600 glow discharged for 30s (PELCO easiGlow™) prior to use. The excess HMM was then
601 flicked off and a drop of 2 % uranyl acetate applied. The excess was again flicked off
602 and the addition of a 2 % uranyl acetate drop repeated four times. Finally, the grid was
603 blotted with Whatman no. 42 Ashless filter paper and dried. Negative stain image
604 collection was performed using the FEI Tecan F20 equipped with a FEI CETA (CMOS
605 CCD). Images were collected at 29,000x magnification at a defocus of -1 to -3 μm.
606 Images were double blinded prior to counting of open and IHM-like particles. Images
607 were only included in the analysis if a minimum of 250 particles were detected within
608 the image such that the sample size was sufficient to obtain 80 % power with a 95 %
609 confidence interval. Data was then plotted into box plots and the significance in change
610 between populations was calculated using a two-tailed student t-test in GraphPad
611 Prism.

612

613 *CryoEM grid preparation and data collection*

614 Prior to cryoEM grid preparation cHMM was crosslinked with BS3 using the same
615 protocol as for negative stain with altered buffer conditions: 2 μM cHMM, 50 μM
616 mavacamten (5 % DMSO), 1 mM BS3, 1 mM EGTA, 1 mM ATP, 2 mM $MgCl_2$, 50 mM
617 KCl, 10 mM MOPS pH 7. Grids were prepared using the Vitrobot Mark IV (Thermo
618 Fisher). 3μl of the BS3 crosslinked cHMM diluted 2-fold in buffer was applied to an
619 UltrAuFoil™R 1.2/1.3 300 mesh gold grid (Quantifoil) for motor domain reconstruction
620 and a UC-A on Lacey 400 mesh Cu continuous carbon grid (Agar scientific) for IHM
621 reconstruction, glow discharged for 30 seconds at 10 mA prior to use (PELCO
622 easiGlow™). Grids were then blotted with Whatman no. 42 Ashless filter paper (Agar
623 Scientific, UK) for 1s with a force of 6, and wait time of 2s at 8 °C and 95 % humidity
624 before vitrification in liquid ethane. Data was collected on a FEI Titan Krios (Astbury

625 Biostructure Laboratory, University of Leeds) operating at 300 kV equipped with a
626 Falcon 4 direct electron camera with a specimen pixel size of 0.82 Å. Micrographs
627 were collected using EPU acquisition software at 96,000x magnification with a total
628 dose of 43e^-/Å^2 and a defocus range of -1.2 to -3.0 µm. Total micrographs for each
629 reconstruction were: MD 9,948 over one session, MD_{mava} 21,395 over two sessions
630 and IHM_{mava} 34,287 over three sessions.
631
632 *CryoEM data processing and model building*
633 MD and MD_{mava} single motor domain image processing was carried out in RELION
634 4.0[69] with subsequent processing in cryoSPARC V4.2[70]. Raw movies were imported
635 into RELION for motion correction using MotionCor2[71] and CTF estimation using
636 CTFFIND-4.1[72]. Automated particle picking was then performed using Topaz initially
637 implementing the general model then a trained Topaz[73] model on selected single motor
638 domain 2D classes, this was repeated for each dataset. Particles were extracted in a
639 box size of 360^2 pixels centred on individual motor domains. The resulting particles
640 from both collections were then combined and classified using cryosparc reference-
641 free 2D classification[70]. Classes resembling single motor domains were selected for
642 further classification. An initial model was generated using cryoSPARC's ab-initio
643 reconstruction into five classes. The resulting maps were then refined through
644 heterogeneous, homogeneous and finally non-uniform refinement[70,74] on combined
645 selected classes with a final particle stack of 88,809 MD and 200,487 MD_{mava}. The
646 resulting map was then sharpened using a negative B-factor automatically determined
647 by cryoSPARC and local resolution estimation was calculated in cryoSPARC[70].
648 IHM_{mava} image processing followed the same pipeline except IHM 2D classes were
649 selected to train a topaz[73] model and only three ab-initio[70] classes were used for initial
650 model generation. A total of 197,869 particles contributed to the final map.
651 To interpret the cryoEM maps, atomic models for the single motor domain and IHM
652 were produced. Homology models for human βCM heavy and light chains were
653 generated using the smooth muscle myosin shutdown structure (PDBID: 67Z4)[75].
654 These models were then truncated at residue 796 (within the LCD) and flexibly fit to
655 the single motor domain density using ISOLDE[34]. Phenix real space refinement was
656 then performed followed by adjustments in Coot[76] and ISOLDE[34], this was repeated
657 until satisfied. The IHM model was then built using two MD_{mava} motor domain models
658 joined to the homology modelled LCD, S2 and light chains. The model was flexibly

659 fitted into the IHM map by use of ISOLDE and refined using Phenix real space
660 refinement with final adjustments in Coot[76] and ISOLDE[34].
661

662 *qXL-MS sample preparation, measurement, data preparation and analysis*
663 Purified cS1 (25 µL, final concentration of 4 µM in 10 mM MOPS, pH 7.3, 50 mM KCl,
664 1 mM $MgCl_2$, 0.34 mM DTT, 1 mM EGTA, 1 mM ATP) was incubated with 50 mM of
665 Mavacamten or DMSO control for 30 minutes at 25 °C. DSBU (600 µM; 149 molar fold
666 excess) was added, or DMSO control, and was allowed to react for 20 minutes at 25
667 °C (final DMSO concentration of 1.6 % v/v). The reaction was quenched by the addition
668 of Tris (1 M, pH 7.3) to final concentration of 20 mM and incubation at room
669 temperature for 15 minutes. Samples were flash frozen for storage prior to digestion.
670 Crosslinking was confirmed by SDS-PAGE analysis (Supplementary Fig. 3)
671 Three replicates of both crosslinked and non-crosslinked control samples (≈14.5 µg)
672 were processed for MS analysis using S-Trap micro spin columns (Protifi) as described
673 previously[77] after which the peptides were resuspended in 5 % v/v acetonitrile/0.1 %
674 v/v formic acid. Samples, ≈10 % of the final volume of each replicate, were analyzed
675 on an Vanquish Neo LC (Thermo) coupled to an Orbitrap Eclipse mass spectrometer
676 (Thermo) in positive ion and DDA mode. Separation of peptides was performed using
677 PepMap Neo C18 trap cartridge (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 174500) before using the
678 EASY spray C18 column (Thermo Fisher Scientific, ES903). Elution of peptides from
679 the column was achieved using a gradient elution of a 7.5-42.5 % (v/v) solvent B (0.1
680 % (v/v) formic acid in acetonitrile) in solvent A (0.1 % (v/v) formic acid in water) over
681 97.5 min at 250 nl min^{-1}. The eluate was infused into the instrument using an EASY-
682 Spray nanoelectrospray ionization source.
683 An online exclusion list was generated from the MS1 measurement of a non-
684 crosslinked control sample using the AcquireX AB workflow editor (Thermo Fisher
685 Scientific application module) and was applied when performing MS analysis of the
686 crosslinked samples. The Full Scan and Deepscan methods were adapted from
687 previously reported method[77] where the 'Full scan' method that lacks an MS^2 product
688 ion scan found in the Deepscan method both were Xcalibur AcquireX AB enabled and
689 identical chromatographic parameters.
690 The .RAW MS files produced were processed directly in FragPipe (v21.1)[78], without
691 conversion to mzML, subject to a mass offset search using MSFragger (v4.0)[78] where

692 default “Mass-Offset-Common-PTMs” workflow was loaded and amended. False
693 discovery rate (FDR) at the protein/peptide/ion level was set to 1 % and tolerances for
694 precursors/fragments set to 10 ppm. The generated calibrated MZML files were then
695 taken forward as the generated interact.pep.xml file.
696 MeroX (v2.0.1.4) was used to search the replicate files individually for crosslinks and
697 monolinks (from residues K,S,T and Y) against FASTA files for the S1GFP construct
698 and associated LCs, as used for the MSfragger search, without the appended decoys
699 and common contaminants from MSfragger, with a 1.0 % FDR and 50 score cutoff.
700 Precursor and fragment ion precision was set to 10 ppm with a 2.0 signal to noise
701 ratio. A single reporter ion fragment was allowed to be missing in the database search.
702 Dead-end crosslinks were allowed to react with Tris as well as allowing intrapeptide
703 crosslinks and the neutral loss of C_4H_7NO.
704 The software package Skyline[79] (MacCoss Lab Software, v23.1.0.455) was used to
705 quantify the crosslinks and monolinks found by MeroX using a modified process laid
706 out by Chen and Rappsiliber[37] and since improved by Sinz[80] and separately by Jaing
707 et al[81]. The six replicate MeroX search result .ZHRM files results were converted to
708 the ProXL XML files (https://github.com/yeastrc/proxl-import-merox).
709 All crosslinks and monolink peptides were manually curated and all peaks of all
710 transitions were manually inspected and aligned in Skyline. Crosslinks and monolinks
711 were kept for quantitation if at least two of the replicates had convincing MS2
712 assignment in MeroX (spectral matched scored over 125 and near complete MS2 peak
713 identification), and all three of the DMSO or Mavacamten replicates had well defined
714 MS1 peaks with matching retention times and strong Skyline MS2 signal. Further to
715 this, cross- or mono-links with peptides where DSBU is potentially labelled on different
716 residues but the assignment or resolution of the peaks poor were determined by cross-
717 referencing the MeroX annotated MS2 spectrum with the Skyline MS2 transitions. In
718 some cases, where the baseline separation of the peaks was good but where no clear
719 determination could be made, the highest scoring option within MeroX (annotated MS2
720 spectrum) was used and all MS1 signals were assigned to this assignment.
721 The signal intensity for each peptide for each replicate was normalised, as described
722 by Chen and Rappsiliber[37], using the total non-DSBU reacted signal intensity of each
723 replicate. The interact.pep.xml file from the MSfragger search was used to import the
724 search of the six replicates into a separate Skyline file. Monolink signal intensity was
725 combined from peptides that contain the same monolinked residue regardless of

726 peptide charge state or length. Similarly, crosslink signal intensity was combined from
727 dipeptides that bear the same residue to residue crosslink.
728 An aligned interpeptide crosslink, intrapeptide crosslink or monolink was determined
729 to have changed significantly in the presence or absence of Mavacamten by
730 conducting pairwise comparisons via a single tailed, homoscedastic t-test using
731 relative signal intensity (Supplementary Material 2). The significance was measured
732 by protein fold changes >2 and $p < 0.05$.
733
734 *Data availability*
735 The electron density maps and atomic models for MD, MD_{mava} and IHM_{mava} have been
736 deposited into EMDB, with accession codes EMD-51721, EMD-51720 and EMD-
737 51719, and the PDB files with accession codes 9GZ3, 9GZ2 and 9GZ1, respectively.
738 The XL-MS dataset generated in this study, including experimental settings and XL
739 identification results, has been deposited to the ProteomeXchange Consortium via the
740 PRIDE[82] partner repository with the dataset identifier PXD059316.
741 The following models were used for comparison purposes in our study, Bovine S1
742 cardiac myosin in complex with mavacamten PDB ID: 8QYQ and the folded-back state
743 (IHM), PDB ID: 8ACT. In addition to the above models, the following cryoEM maps
744 were used for comparisons: the folded-back state (IHM) EMDB ID: 15353, the human
745 cardiac thick filament EMDB ID: 29726 and the human cardiac thick filament EMDB
746 ID: 40471.

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Author contributions

C.A.S designed the project. B.B and D.A.W produced the beta cardiac myosin. D.A.W performed in vitro motility assay and data analysis. S.N.M performed the cryoEM grid preparation, screening, optimisation and data collection. S.N.M performed the cryoEM data processing, model building and validation. S.N.M and C.A.S performed cryoEM data analysis and interpretation. J.R.T.P performed crosslinking spectrometry preparation, data collection and data processing. J.R.T.P and C.A.S performed crosslinking spectrometry data interpretation. S.N.M performed main figure, supplementary figure and movie generation. S.N.M, J.R.T.P and C.A.S wrote the manuscript. All authors discussed the results and commented on the manuscript.

Competing Interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

Materials & Correspondence

Correspondence and material requests should be addressed to C.A.S.

1022 **Supplementary Table 1** Inhibition of cardiac myosin motor activity by mavacamten

1023

cHMM		cS1	
IC_{50} =	0.14 ± 0.01 μM	IC_{50} =	0.62 ± 0.07 μM
V_o =	1.26 ± 0.04 μm/s	V_o =	2.05 ± 0.05 μm/s
V_i =	1.12 ± 0.04 μm/s	Vi =	1.77 ± 0.07 μm/s
V_{min} =	0.14 μm/s	V_{min} =	0.28 μm/s

1024

1025 **Supplementary Table 2:** Data collection and processing statistics for MD, MD_{mava}
1026 and IHM_{mava} EM structures. Where multiple collections were combined individual
1027 values for each collection are listed.

	MD	**MD_{mava}**	**IHM_{mava}**
Data collection and processing			
Magnification	96,000 x	96,000 x	96,000 x
Voltage (kV)	300	300	300
Nominal defocus range (μm)	-1.5 to -3	-1.5 to -3	-1.5 to -3
Pixel size (Å)	0.822	0.822	0.822
Total fluence ($e^-/Å^2$)	42.92	43.68	43.49
		43.02	42.92
			42.96
Exposure time (s)	3.63	3.63	3.95
		3.84	3.63
			3.78
Number of micrographs	9,948	9,936	9,074
		11,404	13,097
			12,116
Initial number of particles	3,436,065	6,830,129	3,876,170
	poMD	**MD_{mava}**	**IHM_{mava}**
Final number of particles	88,809	200,487	197,869
Resolution (FSC = 0.143)	3.4 Å	2.9 Å	3.7 Å

1028

1029 **Supplementary Table 3:** Model building and refinement statistics for MD, MD_{mava}
1030 and IHM_{mava} EM data.

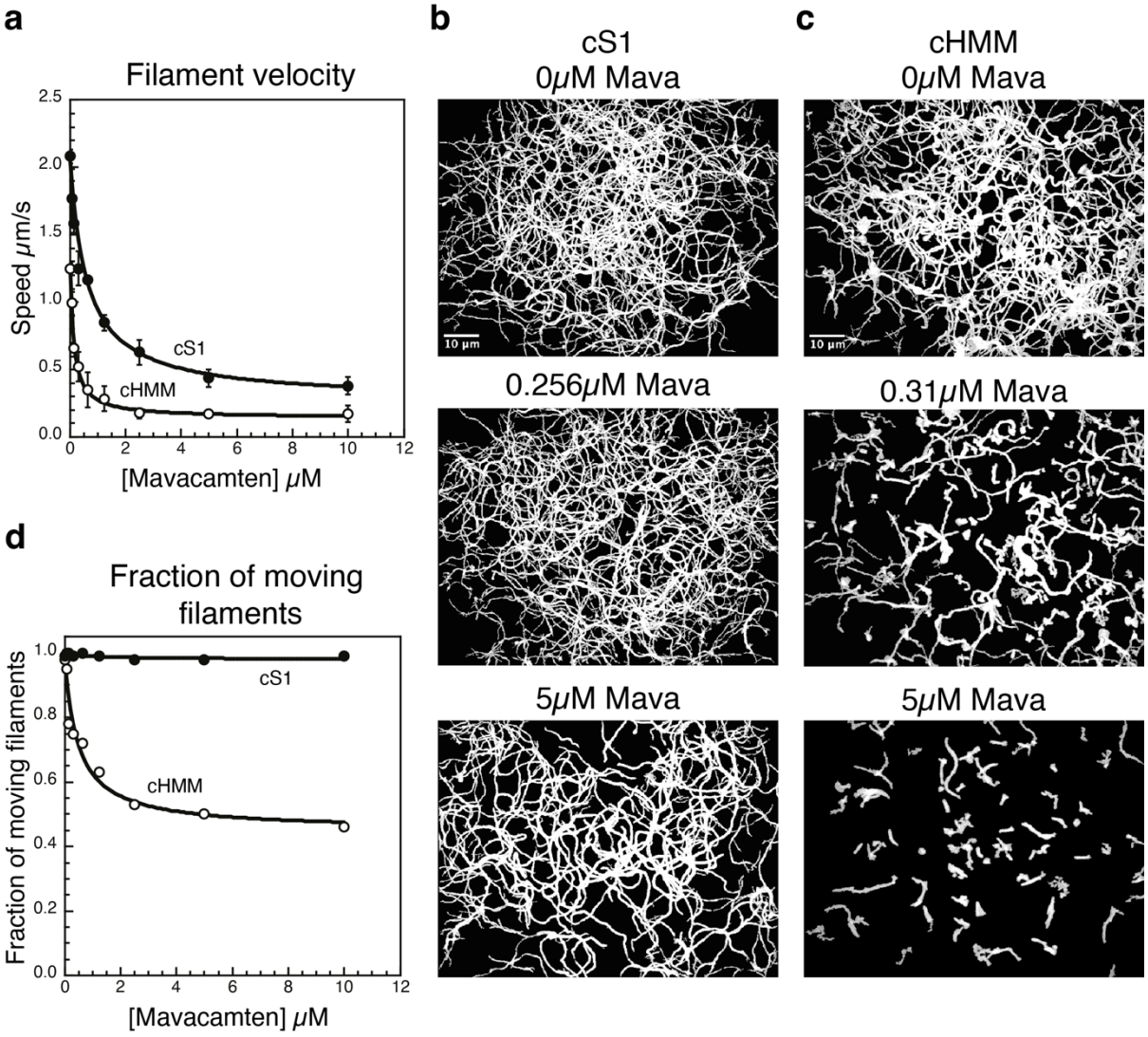
	MD	**MD_{mava}**	**IHM_{mava}**
Model Refinement			
Initial Model used	MD_{mava}	6Z47	MD_{mava} + 6Z47
Map-model correlation (FSC = 0.143)	3.4Å	2.9Å	3.7Å
Map-sharpening B-factor (Å^2)	-152.9	-132.3	-151.9
Model composition			
Non-hydrogen atoms	6180	6201	19297
Protein residues	764	764	2380
Ligands	1	2	4
R.M.S.Z deviations			
Bond lengths (Å)	0.34	0.36	0.33
Bond angles (°)	0.6	0.63	0.65
Validation			
MolProbity score	1.13	1.14	1.98
Clashscore	1.38	1.38	14
Poor rotamers (%)	0	0	0
Ramachandran plot			
Favoured (%)	96	96	96
Allowed (%)	4	4	4
Disallowed (%)	0	0	0

1031

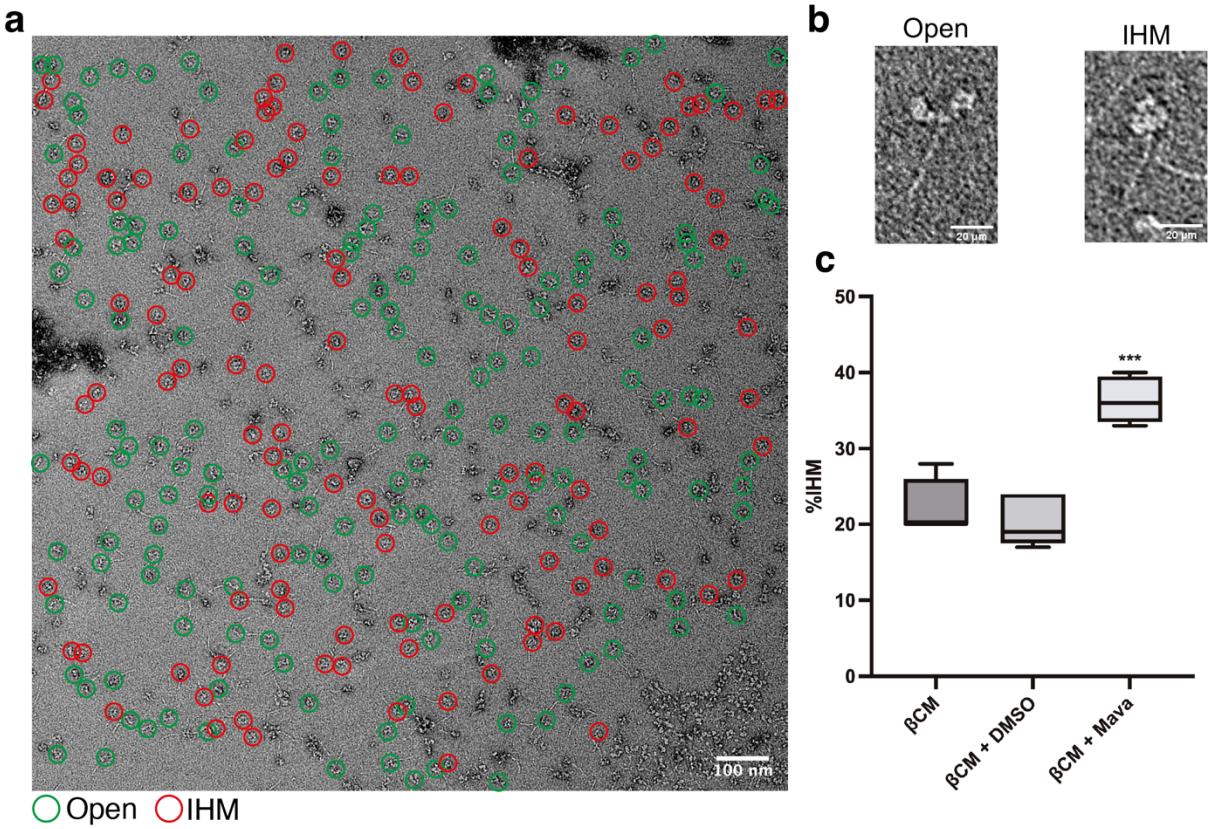
Supplementary Table 4: Interdomain crosslinks annotated on Fig. 4. Cα-Cα distances that change >2 Å between models are highlighted in green. Positive to negative log2fold change in crosslink intensity on addition of mavacamten is indicated on a colour scale from red to blue.

Protein1	Domain 1	Residue 1	Protein 2	Domain2	Residue2	Cα-Cα distance Å MD (BHapo)	Cα-Cα distance Å MDmava (BHmava)	Log2 fold change in intensity + mavacamten	T-test	Indication with mava	Figure Panel
MYH7	U50	S205	ELC	EF-hand 2	T147	18.2	15.3	2.65	0.004	increased proximity	a/c/d
MYH7	U50	K207	ELC*	EF-hand 2	K142	18.3	15.5	1.69	0.005	increased proximity	c/d
MYH7	U50	T255	ELC*	EF-hand 2	K142	12.2	7.9	1.50	0.026	increased proximity	a/c/d
MYH7	U50	K450	ELC	EF-hand 2	K142	26.9	22.8	-1.19	0.016	decreased reactivity	b/c
MYH7	U50	S205	RLC	EF-hand 2	K115	*47.8* (29.7)	*42.5* (22.4)	5.96	0.004	increased stability	a/c/d
MYH7	U50	S205	RLC	loop region	K111	*42.4* (25.5)	*37.9* (18.8)	3.02	0.047	increased stability	a/c/d
MYH7	LCD	K803	RLC	EF-hand 2	K111	21.5	21.5	3.02	0.002	increased stability	a/c/d
MYH7	LCD	K803	RLC	EF-hand 2	K115	21.4	21.4	1.83	0.001	increased stability	a/c/d
MYH7	LCD	K837	RLC	-	K165	11.9	11.9	3.81	0.006	increased stability	a
MYH7	LCD	K825	RLC	-	K165	19.2	19.2	2.91	0.024	increased stability	a
MYH7	LCD	K835	RLC	-	K160	12.2	12.2	2.79	0.008	increased stability	a
MYH7	LCD	K835	RLC	-	K165	9.5	9.5	2.19	0.008	increased stability	a
MYH7	LCD	K835	RLC	EF-hand 1	K62	18.4	18.4	1.51	0.012	increased stability	a
MYH7	NTD	K34	ELC	loop region	K98	*46*	*47.7*	-2.43	0.000	reduced dynamics	b/e
MYH7	NTD	K21	ELC	loop region	K98	28.3	27.9	-2.45	0.001	reduced dynamics	b/e
MYH7	NTD	K50	ELC	loop region	K98	*49.9*	*51*	-4.19	0.006	reduced dynamics	b/e
MYH7	NTD	K34	MYH7	U50	K83	15.9	15.7	3.90	0.000	increased stability	a/e
MYH7	NTD	K58	MYH7	L50	K565	*39.9*	*40.2*	2.83	0.000	increased reactivity	a/e
MYH7	NTD	K50	MYH7	L50	K707	29.9	28.8	-0.72	0.020	reduced reactivity	b/e
MYH7	L50	K707	ELC	EF-hand 1	K72	*60.6*	*60.4*	-1.61	0.011	reduced dynamics	b/e
MYH7	L50	K707	MYH7	CON	Y756	12.4	12.3	6.20	0.013	increased stability	a/e
MYH7	L50	K707	MYH7	CON	K761	20.8	20.9	3.60	0.019	increased stability	a/e
MYH7	L50	K707	MYH7	CON	K757	13.1	13.1	2.64	0.002	increased stability	a/e
MYH7	U50	K405	MYH7	L50	T646	20.2	20.2	2.74	0.001	increased stability	a/e
MYH7	U50	K413	MYH7	L50	K598	19.4	19.3	1.78	0.001	increased stability	a/f
MYH7	U50	K405	MYH7	L50	K598	18.1	17.6	1.40	0.004	increased stability	a/f
MYH7	U50	K450	MYH7	L50	T646	*34.9*	*34.7*	-2.08	0.005	reduced dynamics	b/f
MYH7	U50	T449	MYH7	L50	K707	*45.6*	*45.2*	-2.21	0.004	reduced dynamics	b/f
MYH7	U50	K450	MYH7	L50	K657	24.5	24.8	-3.95	0.003	reduced reactivity	b/f

Extended data figures

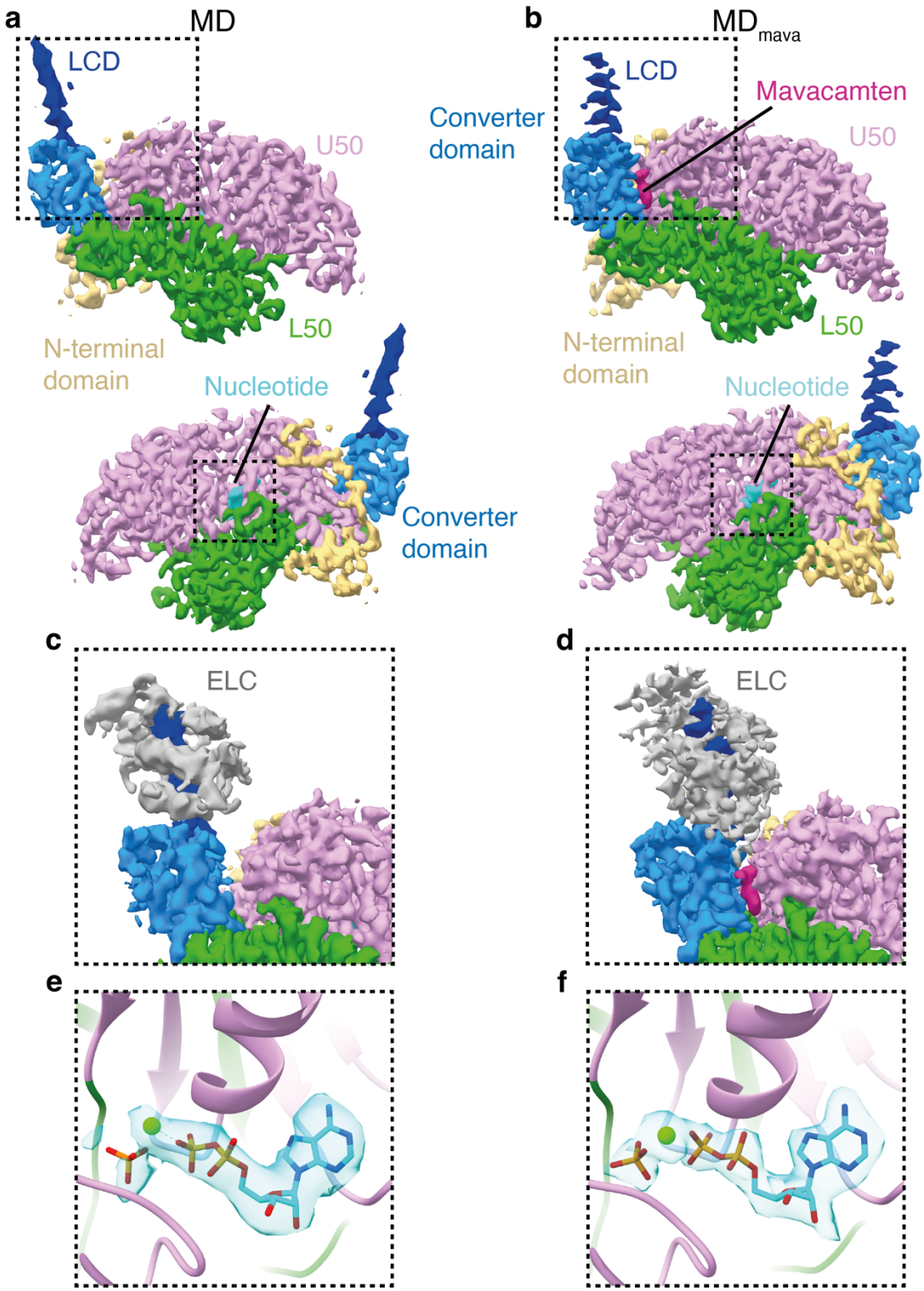


Extended Data Fig. 1. Mavacamten inhibits the gliding velocity of actin filaments more effectively for cHMM compared to cS1. (a) Actin filament gliding velocity for cS1 and cHMM over a titration of mavacamten. The filament speed powered by cS1 is slowed up to 86 % by mavacamten with an IC_{50} of 0.62 μM. Comparatively, the filament speed powered by cHMM is slowed by 90 % with a 4-fold lower IC_{50} of 0.14 μM. (b-c) Summed plot of actin filament movement over 100 seconds of motility for (b) cS1 and (c) cHMM at mavacamten concentrations of 0 μM, ~0.3 μM and 5 μM. (d) Analysis of the number of moving filaments for cS1 and cHMM over a titration of mavacamten. Mavacamten has no impact on the fraction of filaments moving for cS1 however, mavacamten decreases the fraction of moving filaments for cHMM in a concentration dependent manner.

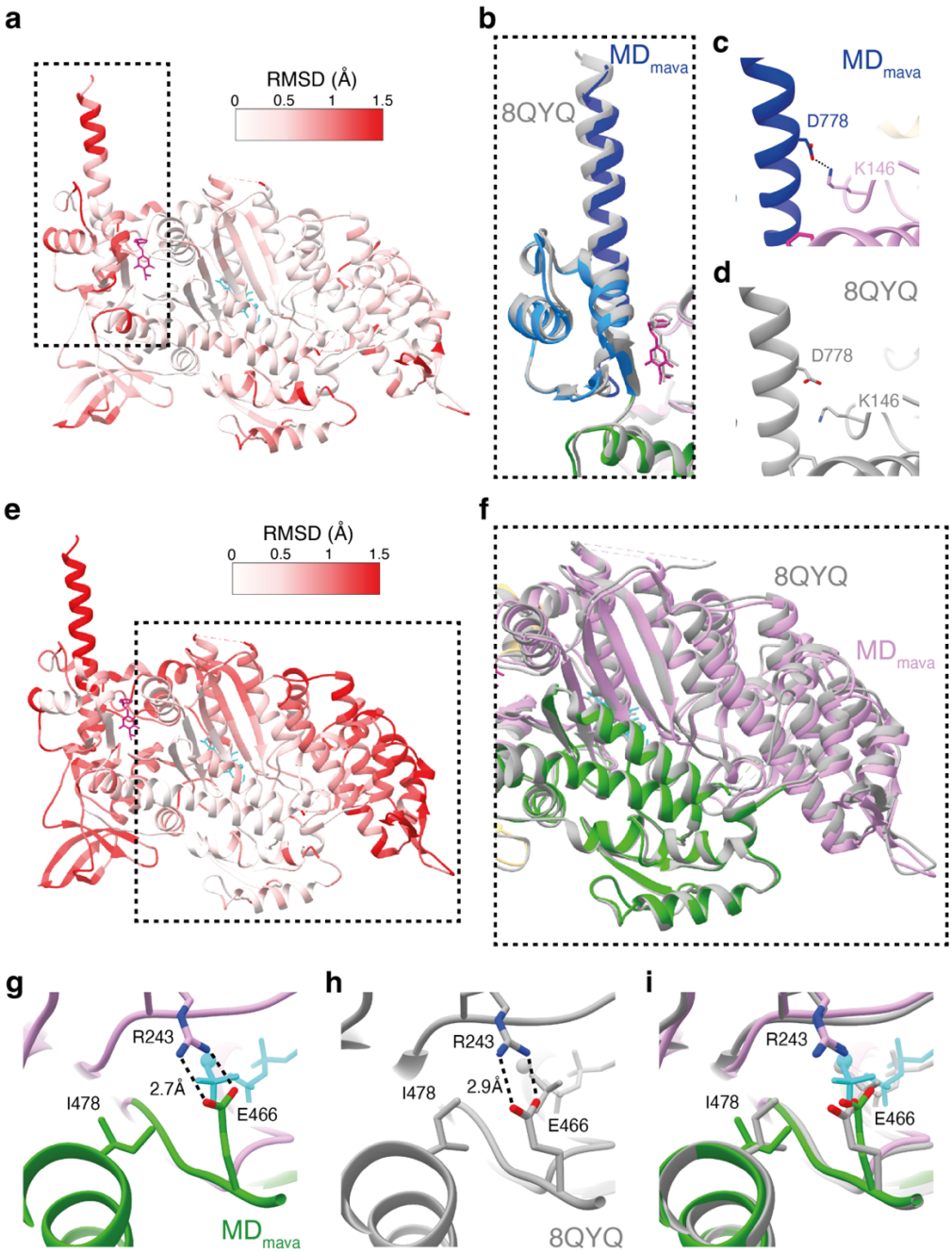


Extended Data Figure 2. Direct observation of IHM stabilisation due to mavacamten. (A) Representative negative-stain EM micrograph used during head counting assay. Counted ßCM particles highlighted by coloured circle, green: open, red: IHM. (b) Representative negative stain open and IHM ßCM molecule. (c) Box plot showing percentage of IHM over 5 biological replicates. The ßCM control resulted in a median of 20 % with a first and 3rd quartile of 20 % and 24 % respectively. ßCM containing 2.5 % v/v DMSO showed a median of 19 % with a first and third quartile of 18 % and 24 % with no significant difference to the ßCM control determined by an unpaired two-tailed student t-test. Mavacamten shows a median of 36 % with a first and third quartile of 34 % and 39 %, a significant increase in % IHM formation with a P-value of = 0.0002 determined by an unpaired two-tailed student t-test with respect to the ßCM control.

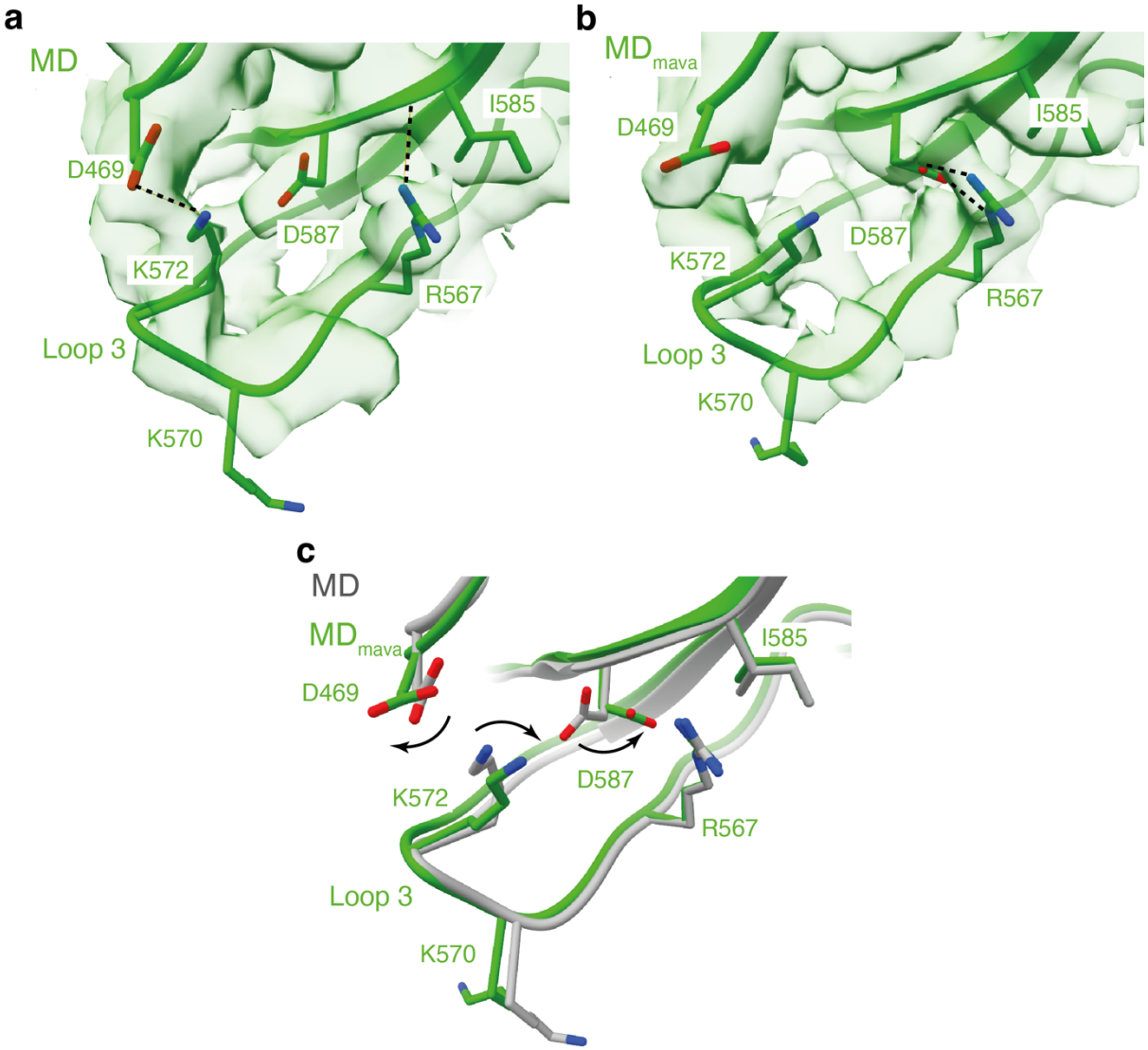
Extended Data Figure 3. cHMM heavy chain sequence and sub domains (a) Key for cHMM sequence (b) cHMM heavy chain sequence highlighting resolved sub-domains and key structural regions with C-terminal flag tag.



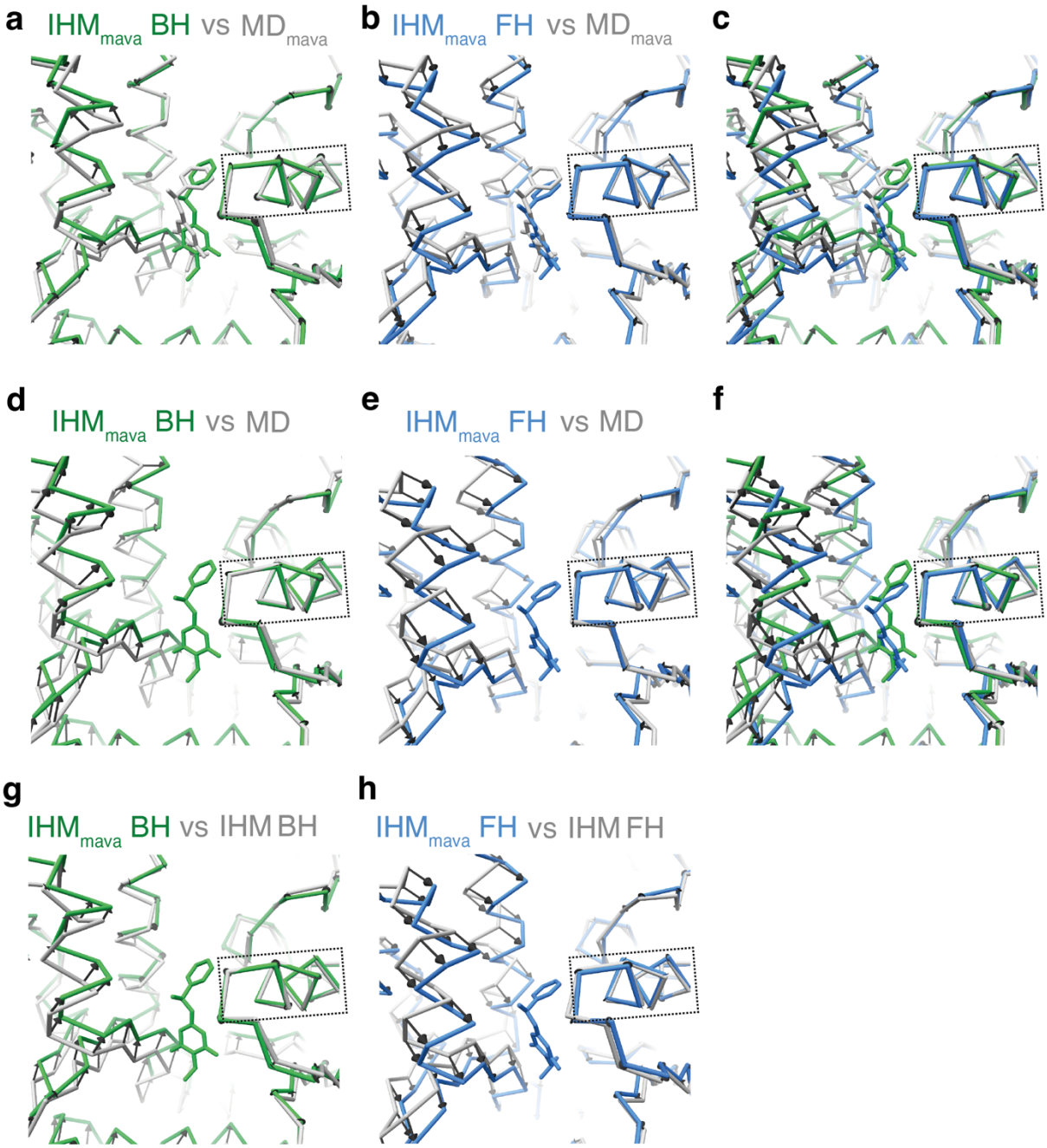
Extended Data Figure 4. Primed motor domain cryoEM maps. (a) Segmented cryoEM map MD, split by subdomain (contour 0.5): N-terminal domain beige, L50 green, U50 pink, converter domain light blue and LCD dark blue. (b) Segmented cryoEM map of MD_{mava}, split by subdomain (contour 0.6) coloured as (a) with mavacamten in burgundy. (c-d) Magnified view of segmented cryoEM map lever displaying ELC density grey (c) MD (contour 0.3) (d) MD_{mava} (contour 0.36) (e-f) ADP.Pi fit to segmented density colured by hetroatom (c) MD (contour 0.5) (d) MD_{mava} (contour 0.6).



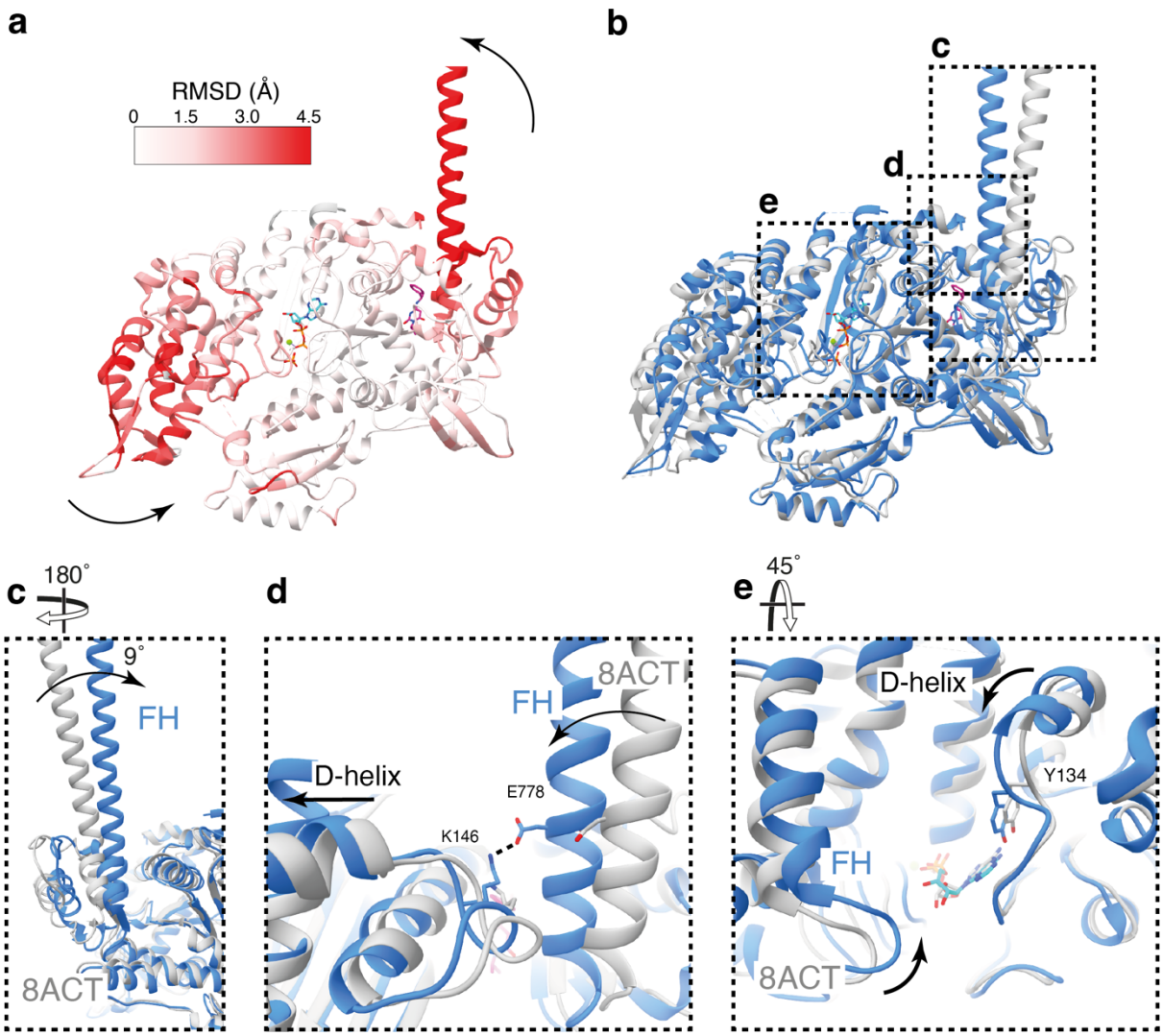
Extended Data Figure 5. Comparison of MD_{mava} structure to bovine S1 crystal structure. (a) RMSD comparison between MD_{mava} and crystal structure of bovine S1 in complex with mavacamten (burgundy) (PDB ID: 8QYQ) coloured on MD_{mava} pdb (global structure alignment). (b) Overlay of lever position between MD_{mava}, coloured by subdomain (L50 green, U50 pink, converter domain light blue, LCD dark blue and Mavacamten in burgundy) and 8QYQ grey (global structure alignment). (c-d) Magnified view of D778 and K146 interaction in (c) MD_{mava}, coloured as in (b) and (d) 8QYQ grey. (e) RMSD comparison as in (a) but aligned using L50. (f) magnified view of (e) displayed as overlay of MD_{mava} coloured as in (b) and 8QYQ grey showing differing U50 conformation. (g-i) Magnified view of back door residues R243, E466 as well as I478 highlighting differing conformation between (g) MD_{mava} coloured as in (b) with the nucleotide in turquoise, (h) 8QYQ grey and (i) overlay.



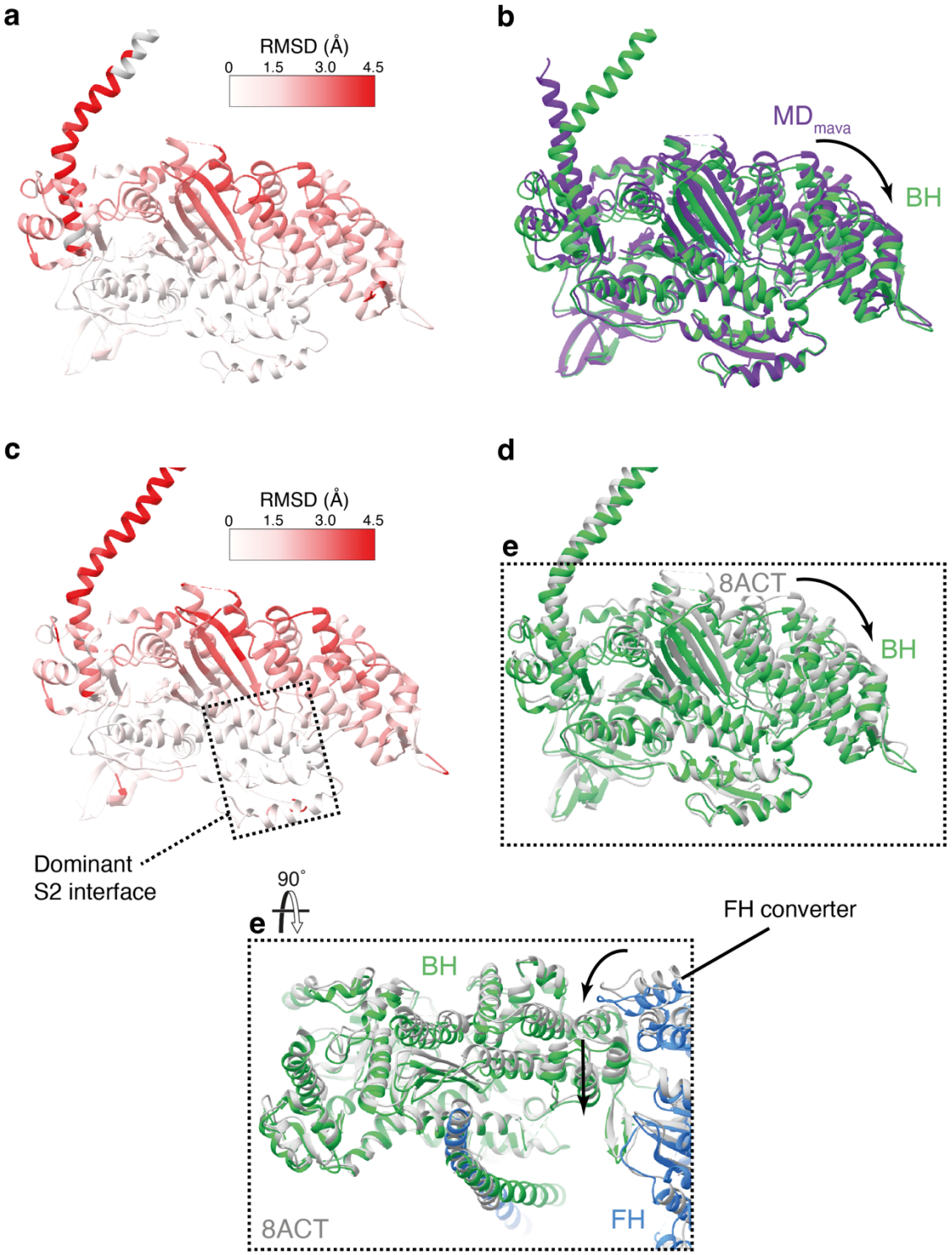
Extended Data Figure 6. Allosteric effect of mavacamten on loop 3 hydrogen bonding (a-c) Magnified view of loop 3 hydrogen bonding network. (a) MD model green in segmented cryoEM map (contour 0.25), highlighting hydrogen bonding between D469-K572 and R567-I585 alongside D587 position. (b) MD_{mava} model green in segmented cryoEM map (contour 0.42), highlighting hydrogen bonding between R567-D587 and D469, K572 position. (c) Overlay of MD gray and MD_{mava} green models highlighting change in D469, K572 and D587 resulting in loss of D469-K572 interaction explaining subsequent increase in crosslinking reactivity for K572 in the presence of mavacamten.



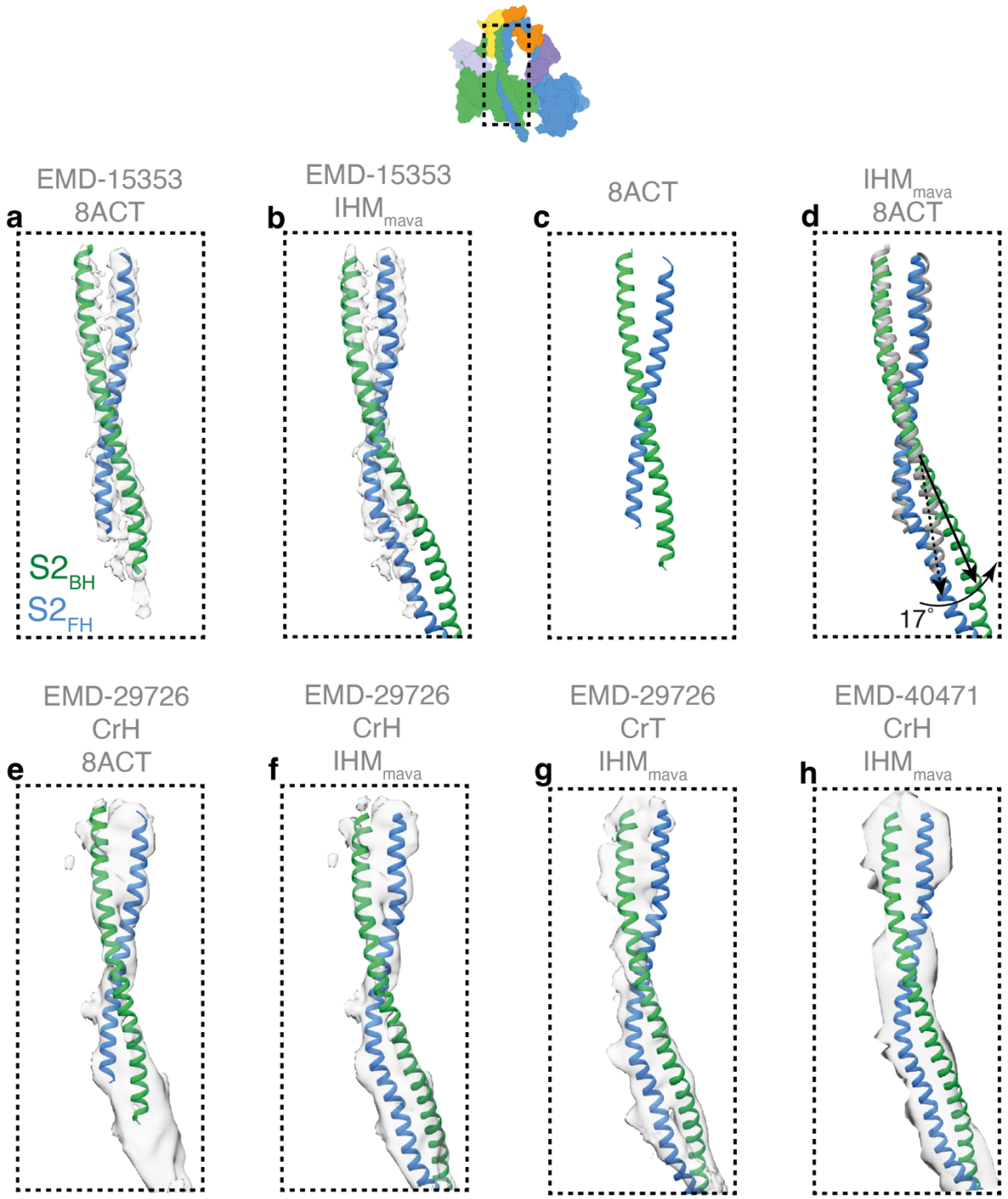
Extended Data Figure 7. Change within the mavacamten binding site between the blocked and free head of the IHM. (a-c) Comparison of the MD_{mava} and IHM_{mava} mavacamten binding sites shown as backbone trace with vector arrows between alpha carbons. Models were aligned on the HE helix (residues 154-168) highlighted by the dashed box. (a) MD_{mava} grey and IHM_{mava} BH green. (b) MD_{mava} grey and IHM_{mava} FH blue. (c) Overlay of panels (a-b) to highlight that the conformational change is in opposite directions for the two heads of the IHM. (d-f) Comparison of the MD and IHM_{mava} mavacamten binding sites dispayed as in (a). (d) MD grey and IHM_{mava} BH green. (e) MD grey and IHM_{mava} FH blue. (f) Overlay of (d-e). (g-h) Comparison of the IHM and IHM_{mava} mavacamten binding sites displayed as in (a). (g) IHM BH grey and IHM_{mava} BH green. (h) IHM FH grey and IHM_{mava} FH blue.



Extended Data Figure 8. FH IHM$_{mava}$ comparison to the IHM. (a) RMSD comparison between IHM$_{mava}$ FH and folded-back state FH (PDB ID: 8ACT) aligned on the L50, coloured on IHM$_{mava}$ FH model, highlighting domain movements. (b) Overlay of IHM$_{mava}$ FH blue and folded-back state FH grey. (c) Side view of the IHM$_{mava}$ FH lever overlaid on the folded-back state FH highlighting the 9° shift of the lever, coloured as in (b). (d) Structural comparison of lever and D-helix conformation showing E778-K146 coupling hydrogen bond in IHM$_{mava}$ FH but not in the folded-back state FH, coloured as in (b). (e) Structural comparison of active site highlighting loop closure around active site in IHM$_{mava}$, coloured as in (b).



Extended Data Figure 9. BH IHM$_{mava}$ comparison to MD$_{mava}$ and the IHM. (a) RMSD comparison between IHM$_{mava}$ BH and MD$_{mava}$ aligned on the L50, coloured on IHM$_{mava}$ BH model (b) Overlay of IHM$_{mava}$ BH green and MD$_{mava}$ purple, highlighting U50 movement. (c) RMSD comparison between IHM$_{mava}$ BH and folded-back state BH (PDB ID: 8ACT) aligned on the L50, coloured on IHM$_{mava}$ FH model, highlighting the region the IHM$_{mava}$ S2 has the most interactions with the BH in our model. (d) Overlay of IHM$_{mava}$ BH (green) and folded-back state BH (grey), highlighting U50 movement. (e) Overlay of IHM$_{mava}$ (green/blue) and folded-back state (grey) aligned on the BH, highlighting how the change in FH lever angle changes BH U50 conformation.



Extended Data Figure 10. IHM_{mava} S2 comparison. (a-d) Comparison of S2 conformation between IHM_{mava} and IHM. (a) IHM S2 PDB ID: 8ACT (green/blue) rigidly fitted into corresponding segmented map EMD-15353 (contour 0.2). (b) IHM_{mava} (green/blue) rigidly fitted into segmented map EMD-15353 (contour 0.2). (c) IHM S2 model (green/blue). (d) IHM_{mava} S2 model (green/blue) compared to IHM S2 model (grey) highlighting BH heavy chain angle change of 17° (measured from BH 878-905). (e) Comparison of S2 conformation between IHM and mavacamten stabilised thick filament EMD-29726 horizontal crown (CrH)(contour 0.15) (f-h) Comparison of S2 conformation between IHM_{mava} and mavacamten stabilised thick filament EMD-29726 (f) horizontal crown (CrH)(contour 0.15) and (g) tilted crown (CrT)(contour 0.15).(h) Comparison of S2 conformation between IHM_{mava} mavacamten free thick filament CrH EMD-40471(contour 5.0).

Supplementary Movie 1. Mavacamten reduces the number of moving filaments in cHMM and not cS1. Movie demonstrates actin gliding movment displayed as summed plots of actin filament movement over 100 seconds of motility in Fig. 1b,c. Actin gliding is shown for cHMM and cS1 +/- 5 μM mavacamten, each panel correspond to 100 sec of movement captured at 5 frames/sec. Playback is at 20 fps (4x speed) to illustrate the slow movement at 5 μM mavacamten. Without drug the actin filaments glide smoothly over both cHMM and cS1 surfaces. However, at saturating [mavacamten] (5 μM) the fraction of moving filaments for cHMM decreases and movement is often interrupted by long pauses. Comparatively, filaments continue to move smoothly over the cS1 surface with only a reduction in speed.

Supplementary Movie 2. Structural changes induced by mavacamten binding open motors. Overview of key structural changes in the motor domain induced by mavacamten binding. Model state and morph direction is shown in the top left of the movie. (0:00) Overview of MD segmented cryoEM map (contour 0.5) split by subdomain: N-terminal domain beige, L50 green, U50 pink, converter domain light blue and LCD dark blue. (0:14) 360° rotation of MD PDB in segmented map. (0:30) Fade to un split sharpened MD cryoEM map (contour 0.56) and representation of mavacamten binding. (0:35) Morph of map and pdb from MD to MD_{mava}. (0:44) Conformational changes induced by mavacamten binding, MD pdb grey and MD_{mava} pdb coloured. (0:58) 360° rotation of MD_{mava} pdb in segmented cryoEM map (contour 0.6) split by subdomain coloured as in (0:00) as well as Mavacamten in burgundy. (1:17) Magnified view of mavacamten binding site. (1:35) magnified view of LCD D-helix interaction. (1:39) Fade to un split sharpened MD_{mava} cryoEM map (contour 0.56) followed by morph of map and model from MD_{mava} to MD and back. (1:51) Highlighting conformational change at the D-helix between MD grey and MD_{mava} coloured. (2:17) Magnified view of MD_{mava} back door pdb in segmented cryoEM map shown as in (0:58). (2:20) Fade to un split sharpened MD_{mava} cryoEM map (contour 0.56) followed by morph of map and model from MD_{mava} to MD and back. (2:34) Highlighting conformational change at the back door between MD grey and MD_{mava} coloured.

Supplementary Movie 3. IHM_{mava} interaction interfaces. (0:00) Overview and 360° rotation of IHM_{mava} segmented cryoEM map coloured by chain (contour: 0.08): blocked head green, free head blue, blocked head ELC light purple, free head ELC purple, blocked head RLC yellow, free head RLC orange, mavacamten burgundy and the nucleotide in light blue. (0:31) 360° rotation of IHM_{mava} PDB in segmented cryoEM map coloured as in (0:00). (0:50) Magnified view of BH mavacamten binding site. (1:07) Magnified view of FH mavacamten binding site. (1:30) Magnified view of motor-motor interface (change in map contour to 0.01). (1:46) Magnified view of HCM $loop_{BH}$ $transducer_{FH}$ interface. (2:03) Magnified view of BH ELC_{FH} interface. (2:22) Overview of S2 BH interface highlighting the three main contact regions on the BH: OH-helix, W-helix and HLH. (2:36) Magnified view of S2 OH-$helix_{BH}$ interface. (2:49) Magnified view of S2 W-$helix_{BH}$ interface. (3:01) Magnified view of S2 HLH_{BH} interface.