

1 **Mechanistic insight into substrate processing and**
2 **allosteric inhibition of human p97**

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21 **ABSTRACT**

22 p97, also known as valosin-containing protein (VCP), processes ubiquitinated substrates and
23 plays a central role in cellular protein homeostasis. Mutations in human p97 are associated with
24 multisystem proteinopathy (MSP), a dominantly inherited degenerative disorder that can affect
25 muscle, bone and the central nervous system. It is also a drug target for cancer therapy with
26 various inhibitors developed over the past decade. Despite significant structural insights into the
27 fungal homologue of p97, Cdc48, little is known about how human p97 processes its substrates
28 and how the activity is allosterically affected by inhibitors. Here, we report a series of cryo-
29 electron microscopy (cryo-EM) structures of substrate-engaged human p97 complex with
30 resolutions ranging from 2.9 to 3.8 Å that captured “power stroke”-like motions of both the D1
31 and D2 ATPase rings of p97. The structures elucidated how the unfolded substrate is engaged
32 in the pore at atomic level. Critical conformational changes of the inter-subunit signaling (ISS)
33 motifs were revealed, providing molecular insights into substrate translocation. Furthermore, we
34 also determined cryo-EM structures of human p97 in complex with NMS-873, the most potent
35 p97 inhibitor, at a resolution of 2.4 Å. The structures showed that NMS-873 binds at a cryptic
36 groove in the D2 domain and interacts with the ISS motif, preventing its conformational change,
37 thus blocking substrate translocation allosterically. Finally, using NMS-873 at a
38 substoichiometric concentration, we captured a series of intermediate states, suggesting how
39 the cofactor Npl4 coordinates with the D1 ring of p97 to initiate the translocation.

40

41 **Keywords**

42 **p97, NMS-873, single-particle cryo-EM, translocation, allosteric inhibition**

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44 INTRODUCTION

45 p97 is a 500 kDa protein that belongs to the family of ATPases Associated with diverse
46 cellular Activities (AAA)¹⁻³. It undergoes repetitive ATP hydrolysis and conformational changes
47 to extract ubiquitinated substrates from various cellular components, such as membranes,
48 ribosomes, and chromatin⁴. p97 plays a central role in many cellular processes, including
49 endoplasmic reticulum-associated degradation (ERAD), mitochondrial-associated degradation,
50 chromatin-associated degradation, autophagy, and endosomal trafficking⁵. Mutations in human
51 p97 have been found in multisystem proteinopathy (MSP), a dominantly inherited degenerative
52 disorder that can affect muscle, bone and the central nervous system, that can manifest
53 clinically as inclusion body myopathy with early-onset Paget disease and frontotemporal
54 dementia (IBMPFD) and familial amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)^{6,7}. Moreover, recent studies
55 have also targeted p97 for the treatment of cancer and viral infections^{8,9}.

56 p97 has two tandem AAA domains named D1 and D2 and an additional N domain at the
57 N-terminus (**Fig. 1a**). This protein functions as a homomeric hexamer, with twelve copies of
58 ATPase domains organized into two rings¹⁰. Crystal structures of full-length p97 were
59 determined more than a decade ago^{11,12}. High-resolution single-particle cryo-electron
60 microscopy (cryo-EM) structures have also been reported^{13,14}. However, all the structures of p97
61 determined thus far adopt a sixfold symmetric conformation, providing limited information
62 regarding the mechanism since almost all AAA proteins, including close homologues of p97,
63 break symmetry when engaged with substrates¹⁵⁻¹⁷. Recent cryo-EM studies of Cdc48, the
64 yeast homolog of p97, in complex with either *in vivo*¹⁸ or *in vitro*¹⁹ substrates provided crucial
65 insight into the working states. However, with medium resolution (3.7 Å to 4.2 Å) and limited
66 conformational states, critical mechanistic questions, such as how the AAA domains in two rings
67 coordinate to achieve translocation, remain to be answered. It is also not clear whether human
68 p97 shares the same mechanism as its yeast homologue. In addition, owing to its biomedical
69 importance, many small-molecule inhibitors of p97 have been developed in the past

70 decade^{8,20,21}. Little is known regarding the allosteric inhibition mechanism due to the lack of a
71 p97 structure in a working state, which is of considerable biological and clinical interest.

72 In this study, starting from a fully assembled p97 complex with the cofactor Npl4/Ufd1
73 and a substrate, we triggered ATP hydrolysis and determined a series of substrate-engaged
74 p97 structures with resolutions ranging from 2.9 to 3.8 Å using single-particle cryo-EM. The
75 structures captured “power stroke”-like motions of both the D1 and D2 rings of p97 and
76 elucidated how the two rings coordinate to achieve translocation through the pore loops,
77 intersubunit signaling (ISS) motifs, and N- and C-terminal tails. We further determined the cryo-
78 EM structures of p97 in the presence of NMS-873, an allosteric noncompetitive inhibitor²¹, at a
79 resolution of 2.4 Å and uncovered its inhibition mechanism. It is worth noting that NMS-873 has
80 been shown to be active in tumor cell lines and IBMPFD patient fibroblasts^{21,22}. More
81 interestingly, low nanomolar concentrations of NMS-873 was recently reported to inhibit the
82 replication of several viruses, including severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2
83 (SARS-CoV-2) and influenza virus, through its inhibition on p97²³⁻²⁵. Finally, using NMS-873 at a
84 substoichiometric concentration, we captured a series of intermediate states, suggesting how
85 p97 coordinates with its cofactor Npl4 to initiate substrate translocation. Taken together, our
86 results established a comprehensive understanding of substrate processing and allosteric
87 inhibition of human p97.

88

89 RESULTS

90 Capture the working states of human p97

91 First, we assembled complexes of p97 from recombinantly overexpressed components
92 without introducing additional ATP. Two mutations, A232E and E578Q, were introduced into the
93 human p97 construct to stabilize the complex as previously described²⁶. The A232E mutation is
94 found in MSP patients and is known as an activating mutant with its N domains locked in the “up
95 conformation”²⁷. E578Q is a mutation in the Walker B motif of the D2 domain that slows
96 substrate unfolding^{19,28}. Combined, the two mutations decreased but maintained the unfolding
97 activity of p97 (**Extended Data Fig. 1a**) and minimized the conformational heterogeneity
98 resulting from the N domains. All the structural work in this study used the p97 (A232E/E578Q)
99 mutant and Npl4/Ufd1 as the cofactors. For substrates, either polyubiquitinated Ub-Eos (Ub_n-
100 Eos) or K48-linked hexa-ubiquitin (Ub₆) was used. The assembled complex, named p97-
101 Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos or p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆, eluted as single peaks in the size-exclusion
102 chromatograms (**Extended Data Fig. 1b and c**). To capture the working states of p97, ATP
103 hydrolysis was triggered by adding 5 mM ATP to the purified complexes followed by incubation
104 at room temperature for 5 minutes. To relieve the orientation preference, either CHAPSO or
105 fluorinated octyl maltoside (FOM) was added immediately before sample vitrification (**Fig. 1b**).
106 Three datasets, namely, p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-CHAPSO, p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM, and
107 p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-FOM, were collected, and a total of 9 different cryo-EM maps with
108 resolutions ranging from 2.9 to 3.8 Å were reconstructed using single-particle analysis
109 (**Extended Data Figs. 2-4, Extended Data Table 1**). Atomic models were built based on
110 existing p97 structures (**Extended Data Table 2**). For well-resolved regions, individual residues
111 were manually built into the density. For flexible regions, rigid body docking was used to fit
112 individual secondary structure elements or subdomains (see Methods for details).

113

114 Open and closed states of the D2 ring

115 In the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-CHAPSO dataset, two conformational states of the D2
116 ring were resolved (**Fig. 1c and d**). In the open state (3.6 Å, **Fig. 1c**, corresponding to class 2 in
117 **Extended Data Fig. 2**), all six D2 domains interacted with the substrate and formed an open,
118 right-handed spiral, whereas in the closed state (3.1 Å, **Fig. 1d**, corresponding to class 1 in
119 **Extended Data Fig. 2**), the bottom D2 domain (termed chain F) detached from the substrate
120 and shifted up to interact with the top D2 domain (termed chain E), closing the gap of the spiral
121 in the open state. Only five D2 domains (chains A-E) interacted with the substrate in the closed
122 state. The two states suggested a “power stroke”-like motion of the D2 domain (**Supplemental**
123 **Movie 1**). Compared to the same complex structure in the presence of ATP γ S that was
124 previously published²⁶ (PDB ID: 7JY5), there was a relative 20 degree rotation of the D2 ring to
125 the D1 ring in both states (**Fig. 1e and Extended Data Fig. 5a**). A superimposition of the two
126 states showed that the D2 domain immediately above chain F (chain A) also shifted up from the
127 open state to the closed state (**Extended Data Fig. 6a and Supplemental Movie 1**). The
128 particles in the open state were significantly less than those in the closed state (13% vs. 70%),
129 suggesting that the open state is relatively transient. A third class was resolved from the 3D
130 classification (3.8 Å, class 3 in **Extended Data Fig. 2**), with better resolved density for the
131 cofactor Npl4 but otherwise the same conformation as the closed state.

132

133 **Conformational changes in the D1 ring**

134 In the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM dataset, three conformational states of the D1 ring
135 were resolved (**Extended Data Fig. 3**). All the D2 rings were in the same conformation as the
136 closed state described above. Using the same naming convention, we discovered from the
137 superimposed structures that chain A shifted up slightly from class 1 (3.6 Å) to class 2 (3.4 Å)
138 and much further from class 2 to class 3 (3.0 Å) (**Extended Data Fig. 7a**). No open spiral
139 conformation similar to the open state of the D2 ring was observed for the D1 ring, although a
140 right-handed spiral was still formed by chains B-F. The three states of the D1 ring also

141 suggested a “power stroke”-like motion despite the differences from the D2 ring (**Supplemental**
142 **Movie 2**). It is worth noting that no conformational changes in the D1 ring were observed for the
143 p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-CHAPSO dataset. The conformation of the D1 ring in the open and
144 closed states was very similar to class 3 of the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM dataset (see
145 Discussion).

146

147 **Sequential but asynchronous hydrolysis in D1 and D2 rings**

148 The resolutions of the maps allowed us to build atomic models and identify the
149 nucleotides in most nucleotide binding sites (**Extended Data Figs. 6d and 7d**). For the less well
150 resolved chains A and F, the identity of the nucleotides could not be determined with certainty,
151 but the density of a nucleotide was clearly visible (**Extended Data Figs. 6d and 7d**). All
152 nucleotide binding sites were occupied, suggesting that the nucleotide exchange might be very
153 fast. When superimposing all the AAA domains within the same ring, two major conformations
154 were observed: one with a larger angle between the α/β and the α subdomain, potentially
155 corresponding to an ATP binding conformation, and the other with a smaller angle between the
156 α/β and the α subdomain, potentially corresponding to an ADP binding conformation (**Extended**
157 **Data Figs. 6c and 7c**). Such binary conformations have been observed for N-ethylmaleimide
158 sensitive factor (NSF), a close homologue of human p97¹⁷.

159 When focusing on the well-resolved sites, we discovered a new compact ATP binding
160 mode in both the D1 and D2 rings involving a previously defined ISS motif²⁹. Specifically, the
161 ISS motif changed from a helical conformation to a triangular loop that inserted into the
162 neighboring nucleotide binding site (**Fig. 1e and f**). L335 in the D1 domain and M611 in the D2
163 domain are the key residues interacting with the hydrophobic residues in the Walker B motifs of
164 the neighboring subunits (**Fig. 1f**). As a result, ATP is coordinated by three more residues than
165 the ATP_γS-bound structure (PDB ID: 7JY5), including one additional arginine finger residue
166 (R362 in D1 and R638 in D2), an aspartic acid from the ISS motif (D333 in D1 and D609 in D2),

167 and a basic residue following the Walker A motif (R256 in D1 and K529 in D2) (**Fig. 1f**). This
168 binding mode was observed only when ATP was engaged and only for two to four consecutive
169 binding sites in both rings (**Fig. 1e, Extended Data Figs. 6b and 7b**). We hypothesize that this
170 tight binding mode results from rotational compression in ATPase rings essential for substrate
171 translocation. For ATP hydrolysis to occur, the ISS motif needs to be retracted. For example,
172 the ISS motif in the D2 domain of chain A retracted in the closed state (not in the open state)
173 since the neighboring D2 domain in chain B is the next subunit to undergo ATP hydrolysis (**Fig.**
174 **1e and Extended Data Fig. 6b**).

175 Another unexpected observation is that the hydrolysis in the D1 and D2 rings is not in
176 sync, which means that at a given time, the D1 and D2 domains of the same chain may engage
177 different nucleotides. If viewed from the top, hydrolysis propagates counterclockwise in both
178 ATPase rings, with the D1 ring one or two subunits ahead of the D2 ring (**Fig. 1e**). This feature
179 is unique for human p97 and has not been observed for other type II AAA proteins, including
180 yeast Cdc48.

181

182 **Interactions between the pore loops and the substrate**

183 In all six maps discussed above, we observed the density corresponding to a
184 translocating peptide going through the central pore of p97 (**Fig. 2a**). A continuous extended
185 peptide could be modeled into the density. The peptide went through the pore from the N-
186 terminus (bottom in **Fig. 2a**) to the C-terminus (top in **Fig. 2a**), as the other direction fit much
187 worse into the density. This directionality of translocating peptide is consistent with that of
188 Cdc48^{19,30}. The density corresponding to the side chains was averaged, and polyalanine was
189 modeled.

190 In general, the density of the translocating peptide in the D2 ring was better than that in
191 the D1 ring. Three residues in pore loop-I (PL-I) of the D2 domain, namely, M550, W551, and
192 F552, interacted with the peptide like a “pitching grip” (**Fig. 2a**). Each PL-I formed two hydrogen

193 bonds with the nitrogen and carbonyl oxygen of one residue in the translocating peptide through
194 the carbonyl oxygen of M550 and nitrogen of F552. Every other residue in the translocating
195 peptide was hydrogen bonded by a PL-I so 12 residues were engaged with six PL-I in the D2
196 ring, which formed a spiral in the open state, with chain F at the bottom and chain E at the top
197 (**Fig. 2a**). In the closed state, the PL-I of chain F detached from the translocating peptide. The
198 remaining five PL-I formed the spiral in a very similar way except for the side chain of M550 in
199 chain A (now the bottom chain), which was pointing downwards and would not allow an
200 additional PL-I to engage (**Fig. 2a inset**). In both the open and closed states, the density of five
201 pore loop-II (PL-II) in the D2 ring was resolved (chains A to E) but at lower resolution (**Fig. 2a**
202 **inset**). PL-II in the D2 ring did not form hydrogen bonds with the translocating peptide and likely
203 played a less important role in translocation. We mutated the residues of PL-I and PL-II and
204 performed the substrate unfolding assay^{1,26,31}. Indeed, the PL-I mutation (W551A/F552A)
205 abolished the unfolding activity, whereas the PL-II mutation (I590A/D592A) showed no effect
206 (**Fig. 2d**). A closer examination revealed that R599 was π -stacked with F552 of PL-I (**Fig. 2b**).
207 This interaction might be critical to stabilize the “pitching grip” conformation of PL-I since the
208 R599A mutant did not show any unfolding activity, similar to the PL-I mutation (**Fig. 2d**). In
209 contrast, the pore loops in the D2 domain of the nontranslocating structure (PDB ID: 7JY5) were
210 mostly unstructured (**Fig. 2c**).

211 PL-I in the D1 ring interacted with the translocating peptide in the same fashion as that
212 in the D2 ring, except that only four PL-I (chains B-E) were engaged and the three residues
213 were K277, L278, and A279 (**Fig. 2a**). The “pitching grip” and hydrogen bonding pattern still
214 existed, but the interaction was not as strong as that of the D2 ring since the average length of
215 the hydrogen bonds was 3.9 Å in the D1 ring and 3.4 Å in the D2 ring. Two PL-II of the D1 ring
216 (chains C and D) were involved in the interaction with the peptide by forming a hydrogen bond
217 through H317 (**Fig. 2a**). Interestingly, H317 of chains B and C also stacked with W551 (PL-I of

218 D2) of chains D and E, respectively (**Fig. 2a**, red double arrow). This π - π stacking might be
219 involved in the coordination of two ATPase rings.

220 To further investigate the behavior of p97 with substrates of different sizes, we used a
221 much smaller substrate, Ub₆ (**Extended Data Fig. 1c**), and collected a third dataset, p97-
222 Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-FOM (**Extended Data Fig. 4**). Again, three conformations of the D1 ring that
223 were very similar to those of the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM dataset were resolved.
224 Intriguingly, the density corresponding to the translocating peptide was resolved only in the D2
225 ring (**Fig. 2e**). The D1 ring was essentially void of the translocating peptide despite adopting the
226 same conformation. One possible explanation is that the D1 ring is engaged only when a
227 “complicated” substrate such as Ub_n-Eos is encountered.

228 We noticed that the D2 ring of the closed state is similar to one of the Cdc48 structures³⁰.
229 Both have five PL-I engaging with the translocating peptide. When the D2 rings from two
230 structures were superimposed, it was obvious that the two rings of p97 are out of register, that is,
231 the lowest D2 and D1 domains are not in the same chain (**Fig. 2f**), whereas in Cdc48, the two
232 rings essentially formed a single “split washer” (**Fig. 2g**). This out-of-register feature is
233 consistent with the asynchronous hydrolysis occurring in the D1 and D2 rings.

234

235 **N- and C-terminal tails and the linker between D1 and D2 rings**

236 In addition to the ATPase rings, some of the N- and C-terminal tails (**Fig. 1a**) of p97
237 were also resolved in the cryo-EM maps. Both the resolved N-terminal (L12 to R22) and C-
238 terminal (G767-S775) tails interacted with the neighboring subunit in a counterclockwise manner
239 if viewed from the top (N-terminal tail, **Fig. 3a**) or a clockwise manner if viewed from the bottom
240 (C-terminal tail, **Fig. 3c**). The N-terminal tail interacted with an acidic patch in the α subunit of
241 the D1 domain (**Fig. 3b**). The C-terminal tail interacted with a groove in the α subunit of the D2
242 domain. Such interactions have not been described before and may play important roles in the
243 coordination between different chains. Truncations of either the N- or C-terminal tails greatly

244 affected the unfolding activity of p97 (**Fig. 3f**). The linker between the D1 and D2 rings was
245 resolved for chains B-E. Compared to the structure of nontranslocating p97 (PDB ID: 7JY5), a
246 19 Å shift of L464 was observed (**Fig. 3e**). In the translocating structure, L464 interacted with
247 A569 in the D2 domain, which contributed to the relative twist of the D2 ring (**Fig. 1e**). The
248 L464A mutation decreased the unfolding activity of p97 (**Fig. 3f**). Notably, the N- and C-terminal
249 tails and the linker regions are less conserved between human p97 and yeast Cdc48, which
250 might contribute to the different conformations of the ATPase rings.

251

252 **NMS-873 inhibits the translocation by locking the ISS motif**

253 Inhibition of p97 has emerged as a promising strategy in anticancer and antiviral studies⁸.
254 NMS-873, the first discovered noncompetitive inhibitor of p97 (**Fig. 4a**), was recently
255 characterized as a candidate for the treatment of cancers, neurodegenerative diseases, and
256 viral infections²²⁻²⁴. However, the mechanism of inhibition remained unclear. We introduced
257 NMS-873 at saturation (80 μM) after triggering ATP hydrolysis and substrate translocation (**Fig.**
258 **4b**). Two datasets were collected using Ub_n-Eos and Ub₆ as the substrate. A single map was
259 obtained from each dataset with overall resolutions of 2.4 Å (Ub₆, **Extended Data Fig. 8**) and
260 2.8 Å (Ub_n-Eos, **Extended Data Fig. 9**). The two maps are essentially identical; therefore, only
261 the map with the higher resolution is shown (**Fig. 4c**). NMS-873 binds at a cryptic groove next to
262 the ISS motif of the D2 domain (**Fig. 4d**) and is surrounded by many hydrophobic residues (**Fig.**
263 **4e**). Through the interaction with the alkyl chain of K615, NMS-873 locked the ISS motif and
264 prevented the essential conformational change discovered in the translocating structures (**Fig.**
265 **4f**). As a result, no translocating peptides were found in the central pore, and the structure was
266 6-fold symmetric, although a substrate was present, and ATP hydrolysis was triggered before
267 adding NMS-873.

268 Compared to the ATPγS-bound nontranslocating structure (PDB ID: 7JY5), the relative
269 positions of the ATPase rings in the NMS-873-bound structure are similar (**Extended Data Fig.**

270 **5b**). The bottom opening of the D2 ring was expanded, which is similar to that of the ADP-bound
271 structures¹³, although ATP was engaged (**Extended Data Fig. 5c**). The pore loops in the D2
272 domain of the NMS-873-bound structure were resolved but retracted from the pore compared to
273 the translocating structure (**Extended Data Fig. 5e**). The smaller angle between the α/β and the
274 α subdomains suggested that it is more similar to an ADP-bound state (**Extended Data Fig. 5d**).
275 Indeed, superimposing the NMS-873-bound structure with another inhibitor-bound structure
276 (UPCDC30245, PDB ID: 5FTJ¹³) showed surprising similarities, including the conformations of
277 pore loops and a shared binding pocket of the two inhibitors in the D2 domain (**Extended Data**
278 **Figs. 5f and 5g**). The difference is that the UPCDC30245-bound structure was determined in
279 the presence of ADP without a cofactor and a substrate, and the compound was not fully
280 resolved in the cryo-EM map¹³. Importantly, the interaction between K615 and the biphenyl
281 group of NMS-873, which essentially locks the ISS motif, does not occur in the UPCDC30245-
282 bound structure (**Fig. 4f and Extended Data Fig. 5g**). Previous studies found that
283 UPCDC30245, a phenyl indole amide-based allosteric inhibitor, is an uncompetitive inhibitor and
284 binds only in the presence of ADP, whereas triazole-based NMS-873 is a noncompetitive
285 inhibitor and can bind in the absence of nucleotides²¹. This locking mechanism of NMS-873
286 through K615 might be the key for noncompetitive allosteric inhibition.

287

288 **Conformational states of Npl4 revealed by NMS-873 at a substoichiometric concentration**

289 We further discovered that NMS-873 did not fully inhibit the unfolding activity of p97 at a
290 substoichiometric concentration (6 equivalents (eq) is the stoichiometric concentration, **Fig. 4g**).
291 On the reasoning that intermediate structures could be captured using NMS-873 as a modulator,
292 a dataset was collected following the same protocol using Ub_n-Eos as the substrate and in the
293 presence of 10 μ M NMS-873 (~0.2 eq, **Fig. 5a**). As expected, multiple intermediate structures
294 were resolved after 3D classification (**Extended Data Fig. 10**). Two out of six maps (~11%
295 particles) are in the nontranslocating state, with flat and symmetric ATPase rings and no density

296 for a translocating peptide (**Fig. 5c**). One of the nontranslocating maps (Class 1, ~8% particles)
297 showed the density of NMS-873 (**Fig. 5c**, top) in all six binding pockets, suggesting that the
298 binding of NMS-873 is highly cooperative. The cofactor Npl4 was resolved in four out of six
299 maps (**Extended Data Fig. 10**). Both nontranslocating maps showed density for Npl4, with
300 either one or two of its zinc finger motifs (ZF1 and ZF2, **Fig. 5b**) binding on top of the D1 ring
301 (**Fig. 5c**). Such seesaw conformations of Npl4 have been described in a previous study²⁶. The
302 four translocating structures all had spiral ATPase rings and a translocating peptide similar to
303 the conformation of the closed state (**Extended Data Fig. 10**). Two maps (class 5 and class 6)
304 had very poor densities of Npl4 and differed in the D1 ring in a similar way to class 1 and class 3
305 of the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM dataset. The other two maps showed density for Npl4, but
306 with its zinc finger motifs interacting with different chains (**Fig. 5d**), suggesting a rotation of Npl4
307 on top of the D1 ring. Although the resolution of Npl4 is not sufficient for atomic model building,
308 a trace density connected to the translocating peptide can be seen to be engaged in a groove of
309 Npl4 (**Fig. 5d**, top), which is reminiscent of a substrate processing complex structure of Cdc48¹⁹.
310

311 **DISCUSSION**

312 Here, we report the cryo-EM structures of human p97 in several working states, with a
313 translocating peptide going through the central pore. Together, the structures revealed “power
314 stroke”-like conformational changes in both the D1 and D2 rings. Surprisingly, the two AAA
315 domains undergoing power stroke motion in each ring were not from the same chain, which
316 seemed to be a unique feature of human p97 and was not observed for Cdc48 and other Type-II
317 AAA proteins^{15,16,19,30,32,33}. The unusual structural feature corresponds to the asynchronous
318 hydrolysis taking place in the two ATPase rings (**Fig. 1e**). Regarding translocation, the D2 ring
319 seemed to play a more important role by tightly interacting with the peptide through backbone
320 hydrogen bonds. The D1 ring was engaged when encountering a much larger substrate.
321 Previous biochemical studies have shown that the D2 ring of p97 had higher ATPase activity
322 and provided the driving force for translocation, which is consistent with our structures³⁴. The
323 structures of Cdc48 also showed fewer interactions between the translocating peptide and the
324 pore loops of the D1 ring¹⁹, further supporting this hypothesis. Although the structures strongly
325 support a sequential hydrolysis model³⁵, it is not clear whether the power strokes in the D1 and
326 D2 rings take place concurrently. Multiple structures from a single dataset are needed to
327 address this question. In this study, the motions of the D1 and D2 rings were resolved from two
328 datasets, one using CHAPSO and the other using FOM as the detergent to fix the orientation
329 preference. CHAPSO required a much higher concentration of the complex than FOM (8x) to
330 keep the samples in the hole but seemed to preserve the complex better and yielded more
331 particles with Npl4. Since the open state is a minor conformation (7% of the total particles,
332 **Extended Data Fig. 2**), the higher concentration of the CHAPSO dataset may have contributed
333 to its discovery.

334 The cryo-EM structures of human p97 in complex with NMS-873 revealed the
335 mechanism of allosteric inhibition by locking the ISS motif in the D2 domain, which together with
336 the ISS motif in the D1 domain played critical roles in forming the compressed ATPase rings

337 essential for substrate translocation (**Fig. 1f**). Targeting the ISS motif of p97, therefore, may
338 serve as a potential strategy for the development of new inhibitors.

339 Multiple structures in the presence of NMS-873 at a substoichiometric concentration
340 suggested that Npl4 may play a critical role in the initiation of translocation by unfolding the
341 ubiquitin chain and threading it into the central pore through a seesaw motion. The pore loops in
342 the D1 and D2 rings catch the thread-in peptide, and the two rings are compressed to spiral
343 conformations. Following sequential ATP hydrolysis and power stroke motions circulating in
344 both rings, the peptide in the pore is translocated downward. Npl4 might be unnecessary once
345 the translocation starts.

346 Mutations in p97 have been linked to MSP^{6,36}. Structures of p97 in working states
347 provided crucial insights into the consequences of the mutations (**Extended Data Table 3**,
348 **Supplemental Movie 3**). The resolutions of the cryo-EM maps in this study are among the
349 highest of type II AAA proteins^{15,17,19,30,33,37}, allowing a comprehensive understanding of
350 substrate processing and allosteric inhibition of human p97 and shedding light on the
351 mechanism of other type II AAA proteins.

352

353 **METHODS**

354 **Protein expression and purification**

355 Wildtype human p97, human p97 mutants, Npl4/Ufd1, His₆-Ub^{G76V}-Ub^{G76V}-mEos3.2 (Ub-
356 Eos), human UBA1, Ube25k and gp78RING-Ube2g2 were purified as previously
357 described^{26,31,38}. Briefly, all proteins were expressed in *E. coli* BL21(DE3) cells and purified
358 through Ni-NTA resin at 4 °C. All purified proteins were further buffer-exchanged to the Storage
359 Buffer containing 50 mM HEPES, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM MgCl₂, 0.5 mM tris(2-
360 carboxyethyl)phosphine (TCEP) before snap freezing.

361

362 **Preparation of polyubiquitinated Ub-Eos and polyubiquitin chain**

363 For cryo-EM studies, His-tagged Ub-Eos was directly used for polyubiquitination. For the
364 substrate unfolding assay, Ub-Eos was first irradiated under LED UV light (385-395 nm,
365 uvBeast V2) for 1 hour at 4 °C to induce the photoconversion of mEos3.2, followed by
366 polyubiquitination. The polyubiquitination reaction was performed as previously described³¹.
367 Briefly, 20 μM Ub-Eos was mixed with 1 μM UBA1, 20 μM gp78RING-Ube2g2, and 500 μM
368 ubiquitin in the Ubiquitination Buffer containing 20 mM Hepes, pH 7.4, 150mM KCl, 10 mM ATP,
369 and 10 mM MgCl₂. After incubation at 37 °C overnight, the mixture was incubated with Ni-NTA
370 resin to remove free ubiquitin chains. The elution was further separated using a Superdex 200
371 (GE Healthcare) size-exclusion column equilibrated in the Storage Buffer. Polyubiquitinated Ub-
372 Eos (Ub_n-Eos) with longer ubiquitin chains (estimated over 10 ubiquitin subunits) was collected
373 and flash frozen for the substrate unfolding assay.

374 K48-linked polyubiquitin chains were assembled by mixing 1 μM UBA1, 10 μM Ube25k,
375 and 1 mM ubiquitin in the Ubiquitination Buffer at 37 °C for 4 hours. The reaction mixture was
376 then diluted 10 folds with 50 mM NaOAc, pH 4.5, and separated by a Mono S cation exchange
377 column. The corresponding peak for hexa-ubiquitin chain (Ub₆) was collected and further

378 purified with a Superdex 75 (GE Healthcare) size-exclusion column equilibrated in the Storage
379 Buffer.

380

381 **Assembly of substrate-engaged p97 complex**

382 p97-Npl4/Ufd1 complex was assembled as previously described²⁶. A p97 mutant bearing
383 A232E and E578Q mutations was used in order to decrease the heterogeneity of N domains
384 and reduce the unfolding activity of the complex. Two-fold molar excess of Ub₆ or Ub_n-Eos was
385 added to the p97-Npl4/Ufd1 complex, followed by gel filtration using a Superose 6 column (GE
386 Healthcare) equilibrated in the Storage Buffer (**Extended Data Fig. 1b and 1c**). The assembled
387 substrate-engaged p97 complex was flash frozen in liquid nitrogen for structural studies. No
388 nucleotide was supplemented during the assembly.

389

390 **Specimen preparation for single-particle cryo-EM**

391 All samples for cryo-EM were prepared as previously described²⁶, with the following
392 modifications. Either fluorinated octyl maltoside (FOM) or CHAPSO was used to relieve the
393 preferred orientations instead of IGEPAL CA-630. The complex was concentrated to ~2.5
394 mg/mL followed by incubation with 5 mM ATP at room temperature for 5 minutes before adding
395 FOM (final concentration 0.01% v/v, Fig. 1b). Glow discharged Quantifoil Cu 1.2/1.3 grids were
396 used for FOM supplemented samples. Alternatively, the samples were concentrated to
397 ~20mg/mL followed by incubation with 5 mM ATP at room temperature for 5 minutes before
398 adding CHAPSO (final concentration 4 mM, Fig. 1b). Non-glow-discharged Quantifoil Cu 1.2/1.3
399 grids were used for CHAPSO supplemented samples. In both cases, 3.5 µL sample was applied
400 to the grid and was blotted for 1 second using standard Vitrobot filter paper (Ted Pella, 47000-
401 100) before plunge freezing in liquid ethane. For substrate-engaged p97-Npl4/Ufd1 complex in
402 the presence of NMS-873, besides the aforementioned procedures, NMS-873 was
403 supplemented right after the incubation with ATP at either 10 µM or 80 µM final concentration.

404 The samples were incubated for another 30 min at room temperature before adding the
405 detergents and plunge freezing (Fig. 4b and 5a).

406

407 **Data collection for single-particle cryo-EM**

408 Data collection was performed either in Advanced Electron Microscopy Facility at the
409 University of Chicago or National Cryo-Electron Microscopy Facility at the National Cancer
410 Institute. All datasets were acquired as movie stacks with a Titan Krios electron microscope
411 operating at 300 kV, equipped with either a Gatan K2 Summit or K3 direct detector camera. A
412 single stack typically consists of 40 frames with a total exposure around 50 electrons/Å². The
413 defocus range was set at -1.0 to -2.5 μm. See **Extended Data Table 1** for the details.

414

415 **Image processing**

416 Movie stacks were subjected to beam-induced motion correction using MotionCor2³⁹.
417 CTF parameters for each micrograph were determined using CTFFIND4⁴⁰. Particle picking, two-
418 and three-dimensional classifications, three-dimensional refinement, and local resolution
419 estimation were performed in RELION-3⁴¹. Particle picking was performed by manually
420 choosing ~2,000 particles and generating templates through reference free 2D classification,
421 followed by automatic template based picking. False-positive particles or particles classified in
422 poorly defined classes were discarded after 2D classification. The initial 3D classification was
423 performed on a binned dataset with the previously reported p97 structures as the reference
424 model²⁶. The detailed data processing flows are shown in Extended Data Figs. 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, and
425 10. To make sure that the 3D classification did not miss any major conformations, additional
426 runs were performed with different number of classes (ranges from 3-8) and different
427 regularization parameters (ranges from 2-6). Since we did not observe a dependence on the
428 regularization parameter, the results from the default value (T=4) were shown in the figures.

429 Data processing statistics are summarized in **Extended Data Table 1**. Reported resolutions are
430 based on Fourier shell correlation (FSC) using the FSC=0.143 criterion.

431

432 **Model building, refinement, and validation**

433 Model building was based on the existing cryo-EM structures of human p97²⁶ (PDB ID:
434 7JY5). The models of individual domains (N, D1, and D2) were first docked into the cryo-EM
435 maps as rigid bodies using UCSF Chimera⁴² followed by further adjustment using COOT⁴³. For
436 well-resolved regions, sharpened maps were used and individual residues were manually
437 adjusted and fit into the density. For flexible regions, unsharpened maps were used and
438 individual secondary structure elements or subdomains were fit into the density as rigid bodies.
439 A short β strand was automatically built into the density corresponding to the translocating
440 peptide using COOT, followed by manual extension on either ends and real-space refinement
441 until the all the density was covered. The final models were subjected to global refinement and
442 minimization in real space using the real-space refinement module in Phenix⁴⁴. Model validation
443 was performed using the comprehensive validation tool in Phenix. The statistics of model
444 refinement is shown in **Extended Data Table 2**.

445

446 **Substrate unfolding assay**

447 Substrate unfolding assay was performed as previously described^{26,31}. Briefly, 20 nM
448 photoconverted polyubiquitinated Ub-Eos was mixed with 400 nM p97 or p97 mutants and 500
449 nM Npl4/Ufd1 in the Assay Buffer containing 50 mM Tris pH 7.4, 5 mM KCl, 20 mM MgCl₂, 1
450 mM EDTA, 0.5 mM TCEP, and 0.01% Triton. Proteins were pre-incubated in a 96-well plate
451 (Costar 3694) for 10 minutes at 37 °C before initiating the reaction by supplementing the ATP
452 regeneration mixture (5 mM ATP, 30 mM creatine phosphate, and 50 μ g/mL creatine
453 phosphokinase). Fluorescence signal was monitored using a TECAN safire2 plate reader at 540
454 nm excitation and 580 nm emission wavelengths with 30 seconds intervals for 60 min. Each

455 reaction condition was repeated three times. Background fluorescence was measured by mixing
456 the same amount of substrate with 6 M guanidine-HCl and was subtracted from the average of
457 the experimental groups. Normalized fluorescence was plotted using GraphPad Prism 8.4.2.
458

459 **DATA AVAILABILITY**

460 Cryo-EM maps have been deposited in the Electron Microscopy Data Bank (EMDB)
461 under the accession codes EMDB-23449 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-CHAPSO, Class 1), EMDB-
462 23450 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-CHAPSO, Class 2), EMDB-23451 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-
463 CHAPSO, Class 3), EMDB-23446 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM, Class 1), EMDB-23447 (p97-
464 Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM, Class 2), EMDB-23448 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM, Class 3),
465 EMDB-23443 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-FOM, Class 1), EMDB-23444 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-FOM,
466 Class 2), EMDB-23445 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-FOM, Class 3), EMDB-23442 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-
467 NMS-873-FOM), EMDB-23452 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-NMS-873-CHAPSO), EMDB-23453
468 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-NMS-873(substoichiometric)-CHAPSO, Class 1), EMDB-23454 (p97-
469 Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-NMS-873(substoichiometric)-CHAPSO, Class 2), EMDB-23455 (p97-
470 Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-NMS-873(substoichiometric)-CHAPSO, Class 3), EMDB-23456 (p97-
471 Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-NMS-873(substoichiometric)-CHAPSO, Class 4), EMDB-23457 (p97-
472 Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-NMS-873(substoichiometric)-CHAPSO, Class 5), EMDB-23458 (p97-
473 Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-NMS-873(substoichiometric)-CHAPSO, Class 6). The atomic models have
474 been deposited in the Protein Data Bank (PDB) under the accession codes 7LN5 (p97-
475 Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-CHAPSO, Class 1), 7LN6 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-CHAPSO, Class 2),
476 7LN2 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM, Class 1), 7LN3 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM, Class 2),
477 7LN4 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM, Class 3), 7LMZ (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-FOM, Class 1), 7LN0
478 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-FOM, Class 2), 7LN1 (p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-FOM, Class 3), 7LMY (p97-
479 Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-NMS-873-FOM).

480

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488 research was, in part, supported by the National Cancer Institute's National Cryo-EM Facility at
489 the Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research under contract HSSN261200800001E.

490

491 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

492 M.P. and M.Z. designed all the experiments and interpreted the results. M.P., Y.Y., H.A.,
493 Q.Z., and Y.X. cloned, expressed, and purified all the complexes and carried out related
494 biochemical characterizations. M.P., Y.Y., and M.Z. performed cryo-EM data collection and
495 processing. M.Z., M.P., and L.L. wrote the paper. M.Z., L.L., and M.P. supervised the project.

496

497 **COMPETING INTERESTS**

498 The authors declare no competing interests.

499

500

501

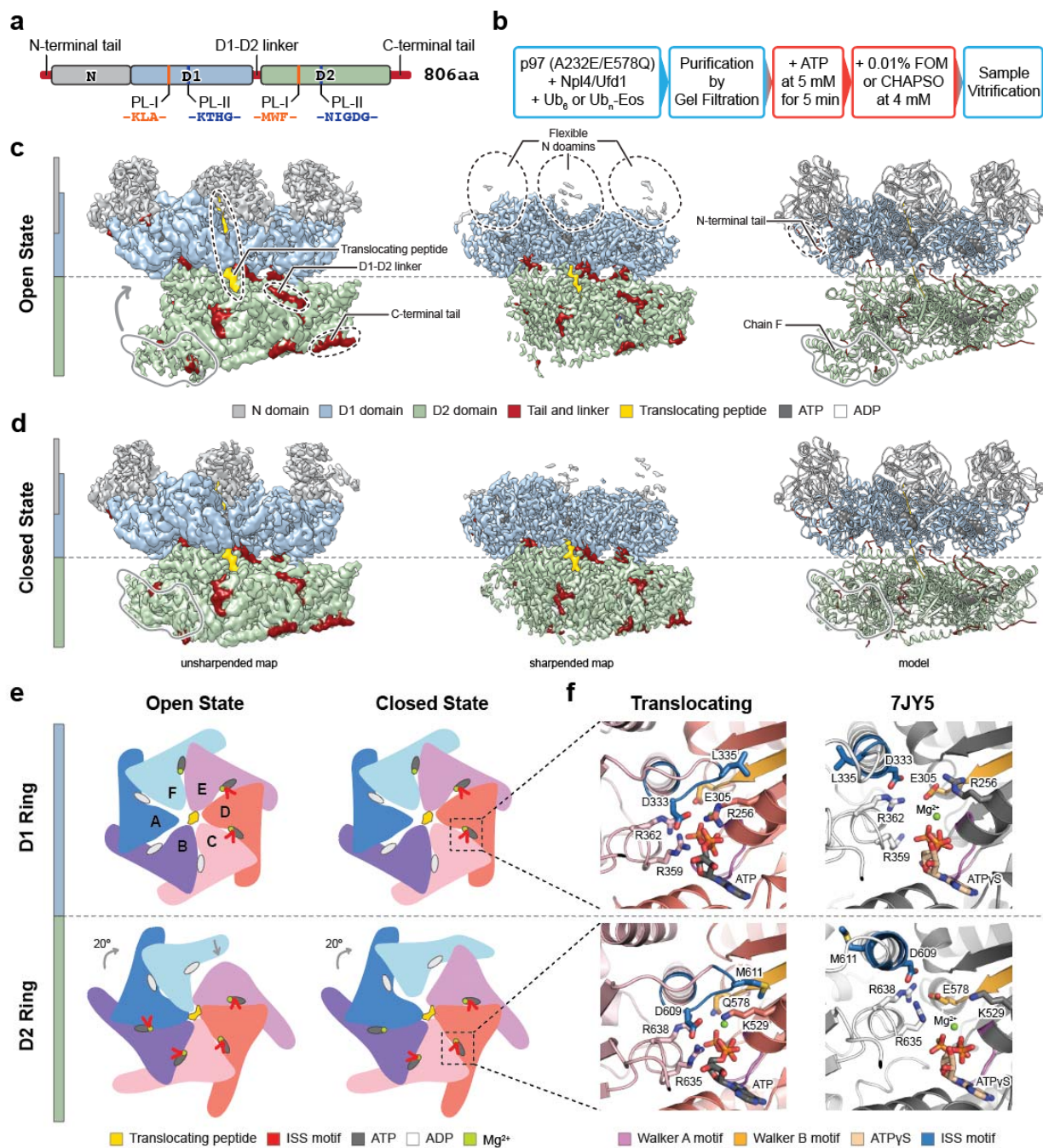
502

503

504

505 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

506 **FIGURE 1**



507

508

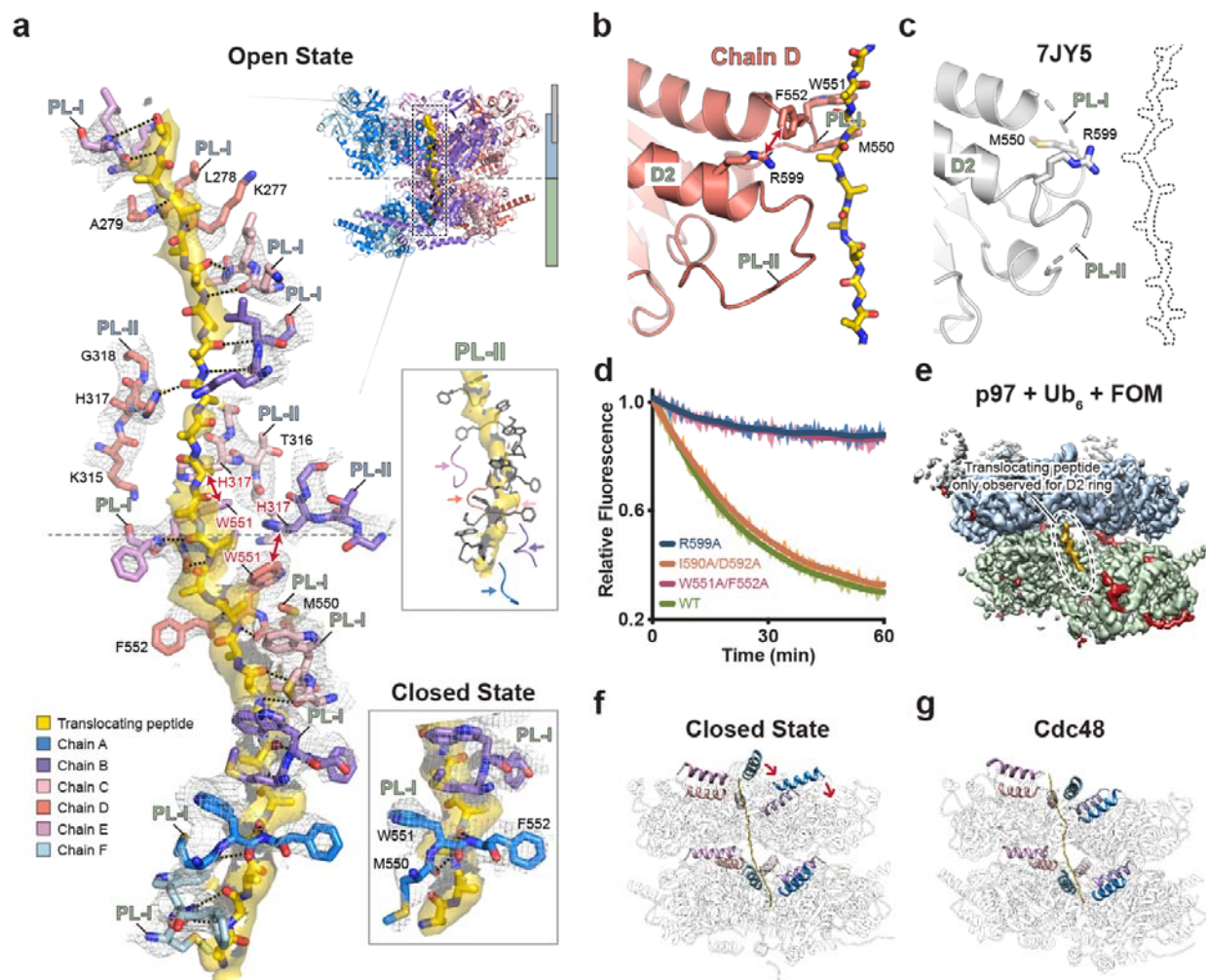
509

510

511 **Figure 1: Structures of human p97 in working states.**

512 **a**, Domain architecture of human p97. The color code of individual domains is used whenever
513 possible. Pore loop residues in D1 and D2 domains are listed. **b**, Sample preparation
514 procedures. Steps performed at 4 °C are in blue boxes. Steps performed at room temperature
515 are in red boxes. **c and d**, Cryo-EM maps and models of human p97 engaged with a
516 translocating peptide. The maps and models are aligned. Contour level: unsharpened map,
517 0.015; sharpened map, 0.035. **c**, Open state. **d**, Closed state. **e**, Illustrations showing the
518 arrangement of the D1 and D2 rings in the open and closed states, respectively. **f**, Magnified
519 views of compressed ATP binding sites in the D1 and D2 rings. The corresponding ATP γ S
520 binding sites from the nontranslocating structure (PDB ID: 7JY5) are shown for comparison.
521

522 **FIGURE 2**



523

524 **Figure 2: Interactions between the pore loops and the substrate.**

525 **a**, Interactions between the translocating peptide and the interacting pore loops in the D1 and

526 D2 rings. The density of the pore loops and the translocating peptide are shown as a gray mesh

527 and yellow surface, respectively. Contour level: 6.0 root-mean-square deviation (rmsd). The

528 closed state and PL-II of the D2 ring are shown in the insets. Hydrogen bonds between the pore

529 loops and the peptide are labeled with black dotted lines. π - π interactions between H317 and

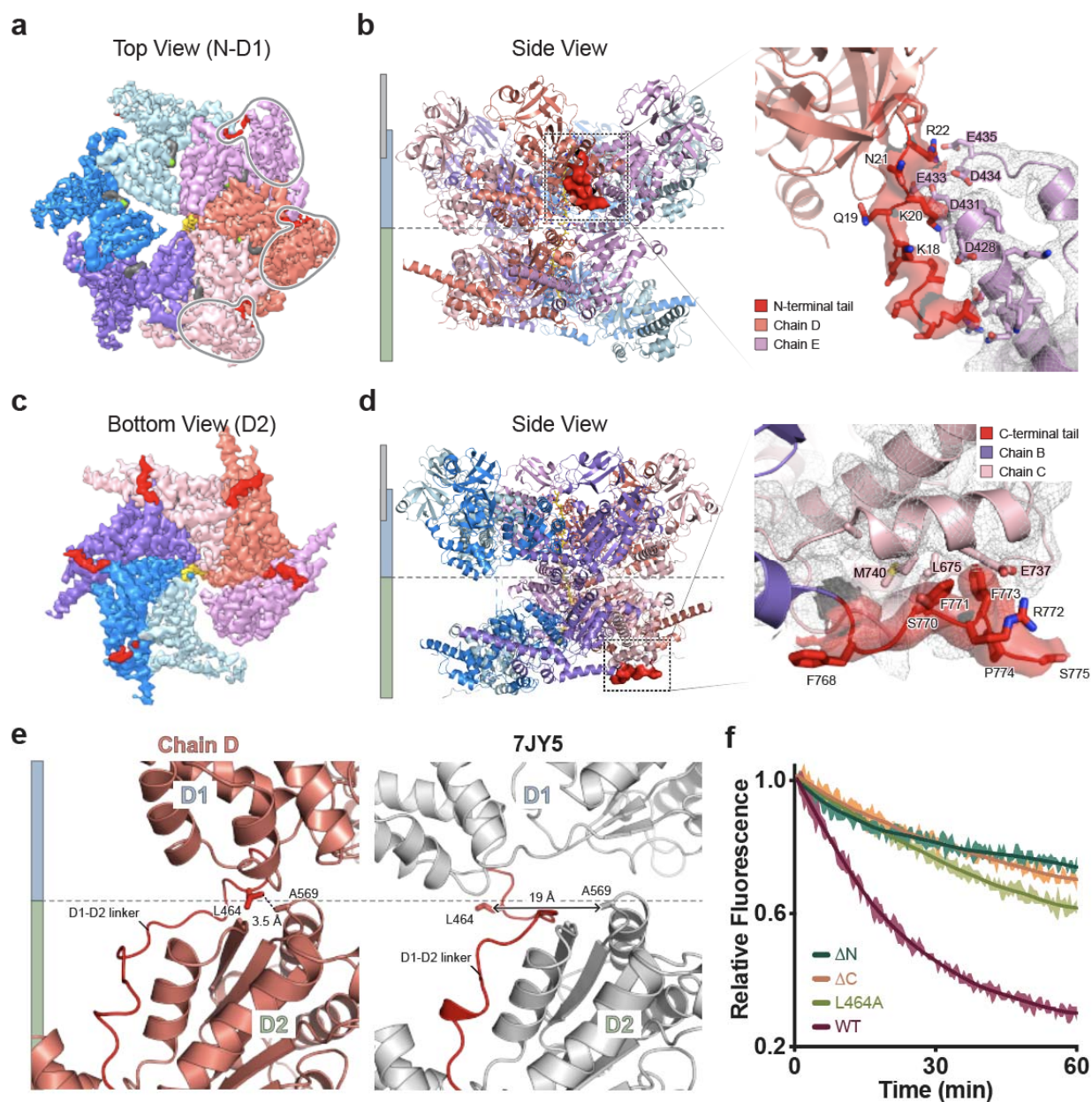
530 W551 are labeled with red double arrows. **b and c**, A comparison of the D2 domain in chain D

531 of the open state (panel **b**) and that of the nontranslocating structure (panel **c**, PDB ID: 7JY5).

532 The D2 domains are aligned. **d**, Substrate unfolding assay for the pore loop mutants of p97. The

533 error bands represent the standard deviation from triplicate experiments. **e**, Unsharpened cryo-
534 EM map (class 1) of the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-FOM dataset (**Extended Data Fig. 4**). The map is
535 shown in a similar orientation to **Fig. 1c and 1d**. Contour level: 0.015. **f and g**, A comparison of
536 cryo-EM models of translocating structures of p97 (closed state, panel **f**) and Cdc48 (PDB ID:
537 6OPC, panel **g**). The two models are aligned based on the D2 ring. The α 2 helices immediately
538 before PL-I in D1 and D2 domains are colored. The color code is the same as that in panel **a**.
539

540 **FIGURE 3**



541

542

543 **Figure 3: N- and C-terminal tails and the linker between the D1 and D2 rings.**

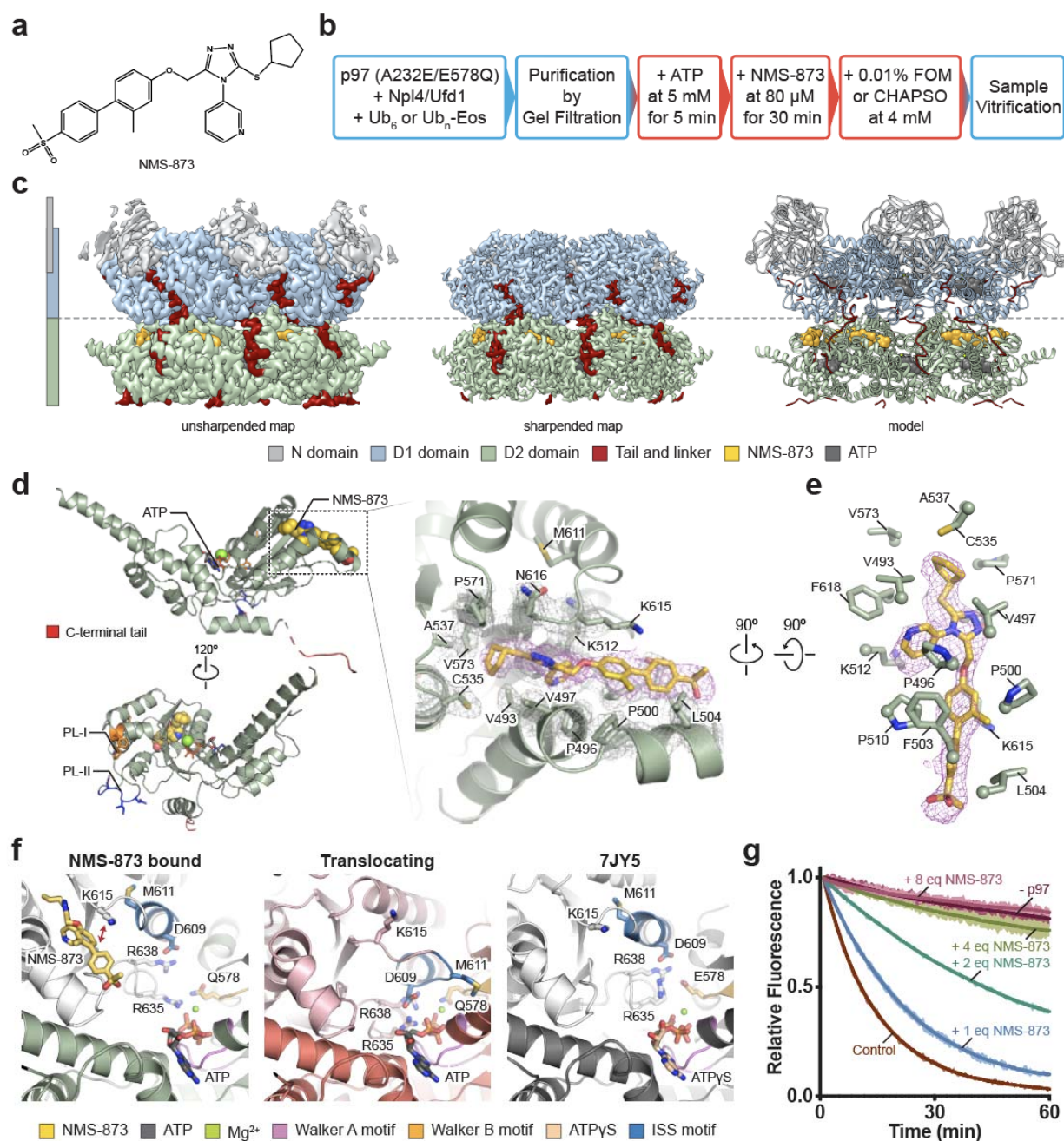
544 **a**, Top view of the unsharpened cryo-EM map focused on the N and D1 domains (open state).

545 N-terminal tails are colored in red. Contour level: 0.015. **b**, A side view of the cryo-EM model of

546 the open state with the density of one N-terminal tail highlighted and magnified. Contour level:

547 6.0 rmsd. **c**, A bottom view of the unsharpened cryo-EM map focused on the D2 ring (open
548 state). C-terminal tails are shown in red. Contour level: 0.015. **d**, A side view of the cryo-EM
549 model of the open state with the density of one C-terminal tail highlighted and magnified.
550 Contour level: 6.0 rmsd. **e**, A comparison of the D1-D2 linker in chain D of the open state and
551 that of the nontranslocating structure (PDB ID: 7JY5). The D2 domains are aligned. **f**, Substrate
552 unfolding assay for tail and linker mutants of p97. The error bands represent the standard
553 deviation from triplicate experiments.
554

555 **FIGURE 4**



556

557 **Figure 4: NMS-873 inhibits translocation by locking the ISS motif.**

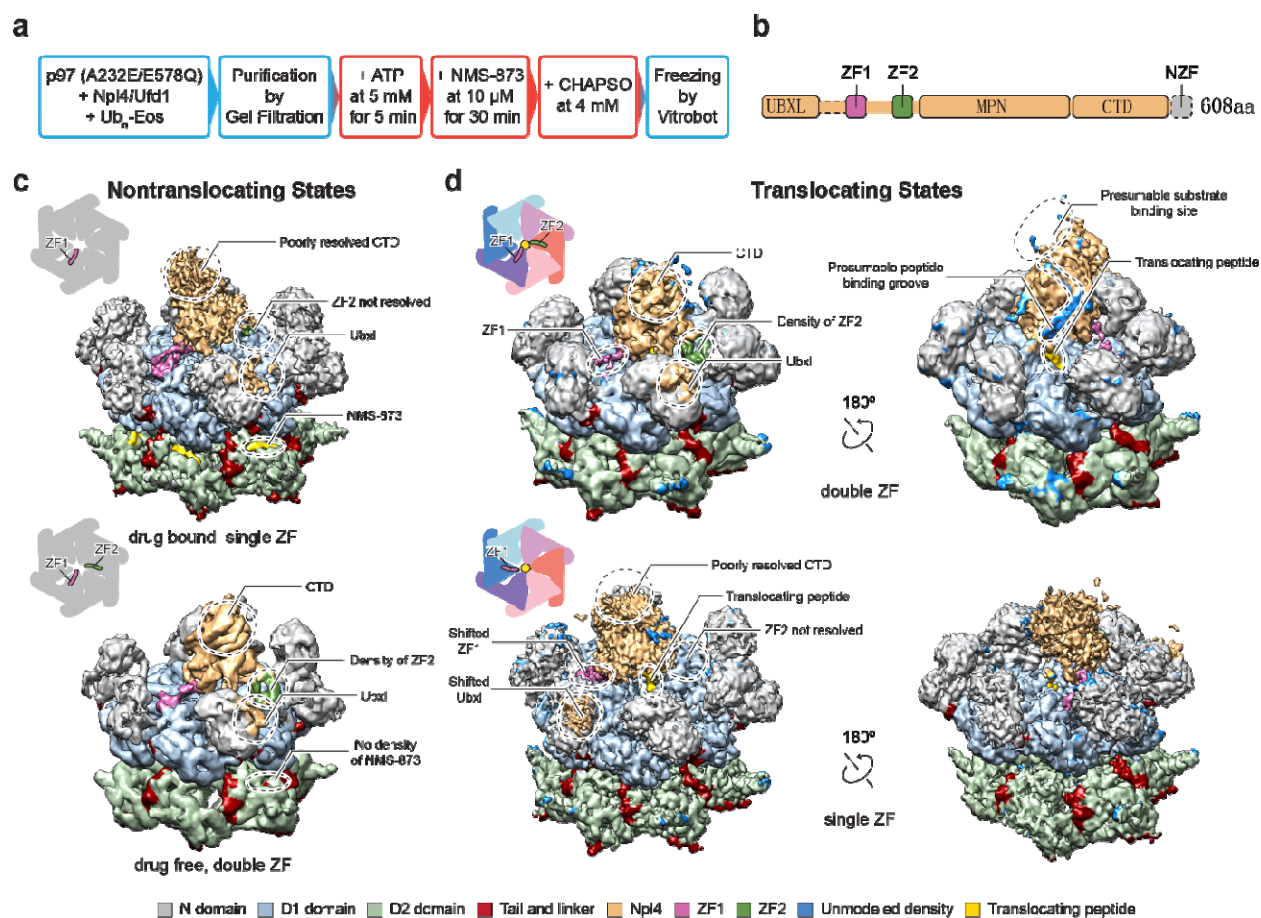
558 **a**, Chemical structure of NMS-873. **b**, Sample preparation procedures. Steps performed at 4 °C

559 are in blue boxes. Steps performed at room temperature are in red boxes. **c**, Cryo-EM maps

560 and models of human p97 in complex with NMS-873. The maps and models are aligned.

561 Contour level: unsharpened map, 0.018; sharpened map, 0.052. **d**, D2 domain of the complex
562 structure in panel **c**, with the NMS-873 binding site zoomed in. The density of NMS-873 and the
563 interacting residues are shown as magenta and gray mesh, respectively. Contour level: 6.0
564 rmsd. **e**, A different view of the NMS-873 binding site, with side chains of interacting residues
565 shown. Contour level: 6.0 rmsd. **f**, A comparison of nucleotide binding sites in NMS-873 bound,
566 translocating (chain D in open state), and nontranslocating (PDB ID: 7JY5) structures. The
567 bottom D2 domains (green, salmon, and gray) are aligned. **g**, Substrate unfolding assay for
568 wild-type p97 in the presence of different concentrations of NMS-873. One p97 hexamer can
569 bind 6 equivalents (eq) of NMS-873.
570

571 **FIGURE 5**



572

573 **Figure 5: Conformational states of Npl4 in the presence of NMS873 at a**

574 **substoichiometric concentration.**

575 **a**, Sample preparation procedures. Steps performed at 4 °C are in blue boxes. Steps performed

576 at room temperature are in red boxes. **b**, Domain architecture of human Npl4. The color code of

577 the individual motifs are the same as that in panels **c** and **d**. Dotted parts are not resolved in the

578 cryo-EM maps. **c**, Two cryo-EM maps in nontranslocating states resolved from the dataset

579 (**Extended Data Fig. 10**), one bound with NMS-873 (top). **d**, Two cryo-EM maps in

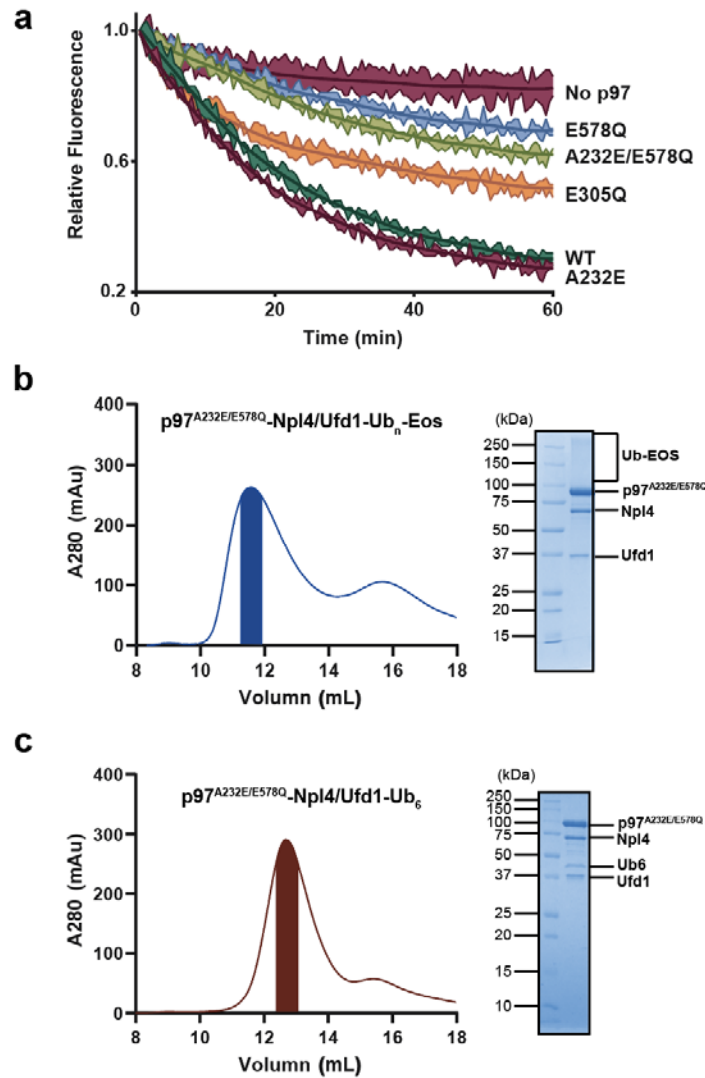
580 translocating states resolved from the dataset. Different positions of zinc finger motifs of Npl4

581 are illustrated in the insets.

582

583 EXTENDED DATA FIGURES

584 EXTENDED DATA FIGURE 1



585

586 **Extended Data Figure 1: Substrate unfolding activity of various p97 mutants and the**
587 **purification of cofactor- and substrate-engaged p97 complexes.**

588 **a**, Substrate unfolding assay for wild-type (WT) p97 and various mutations. E305Q and E578Q

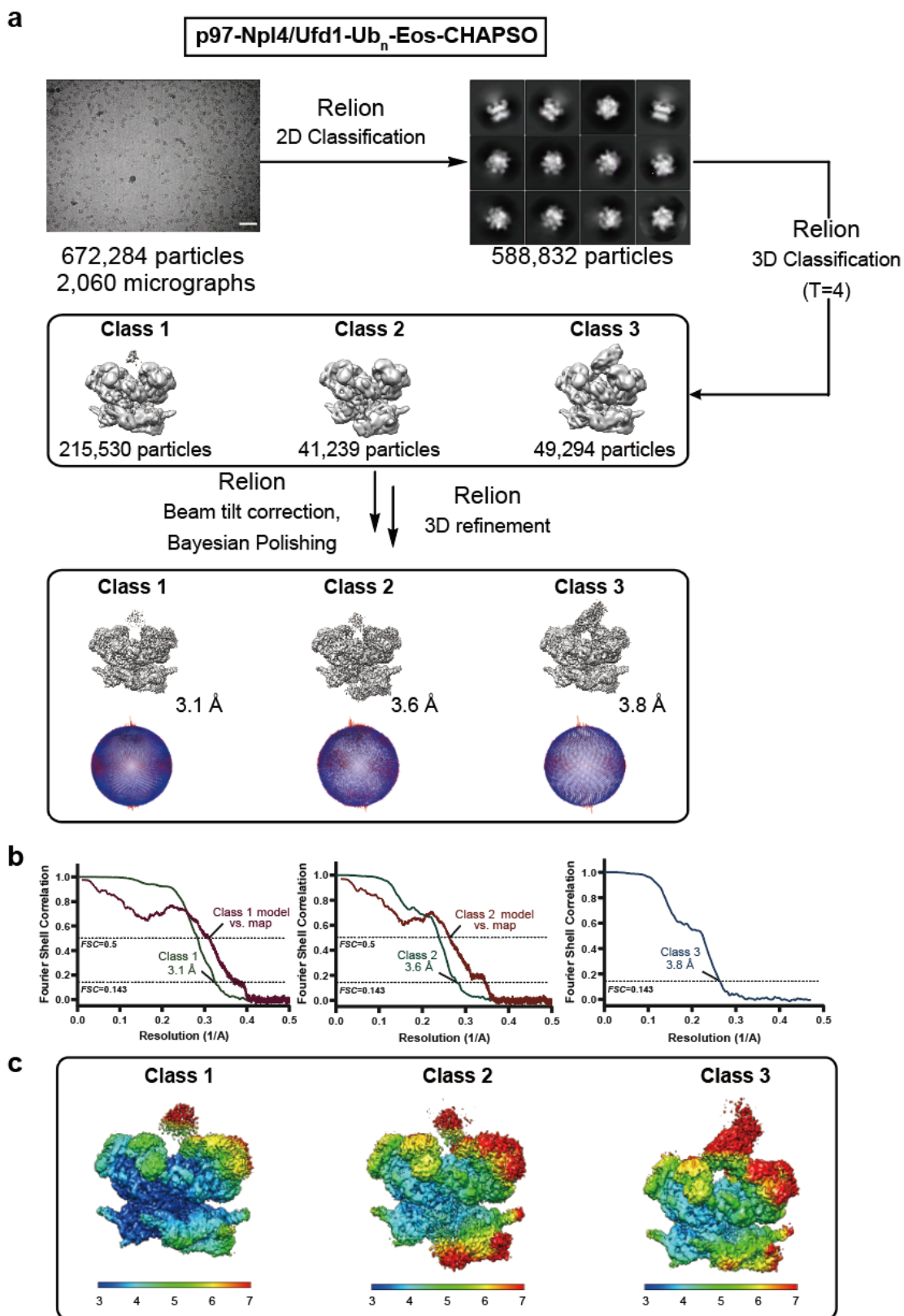
589 are the two Walker B mutations in the D1 and D2 domains, respectively. A232E is a disease

590 mutation found in multisystem proteinopathy (MSP)^{27,31}. **b**, Gel filtration chromatogram and

591 SDS-PAGE gel of the p97^{A232E/E578Q}-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos complex. **c**, Gel filtration chromatogram

592 and SDS-PAGE gel of the p97^{A232E/E578Q}-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos complex.

593 EXTENDED DATA FIGURE 2

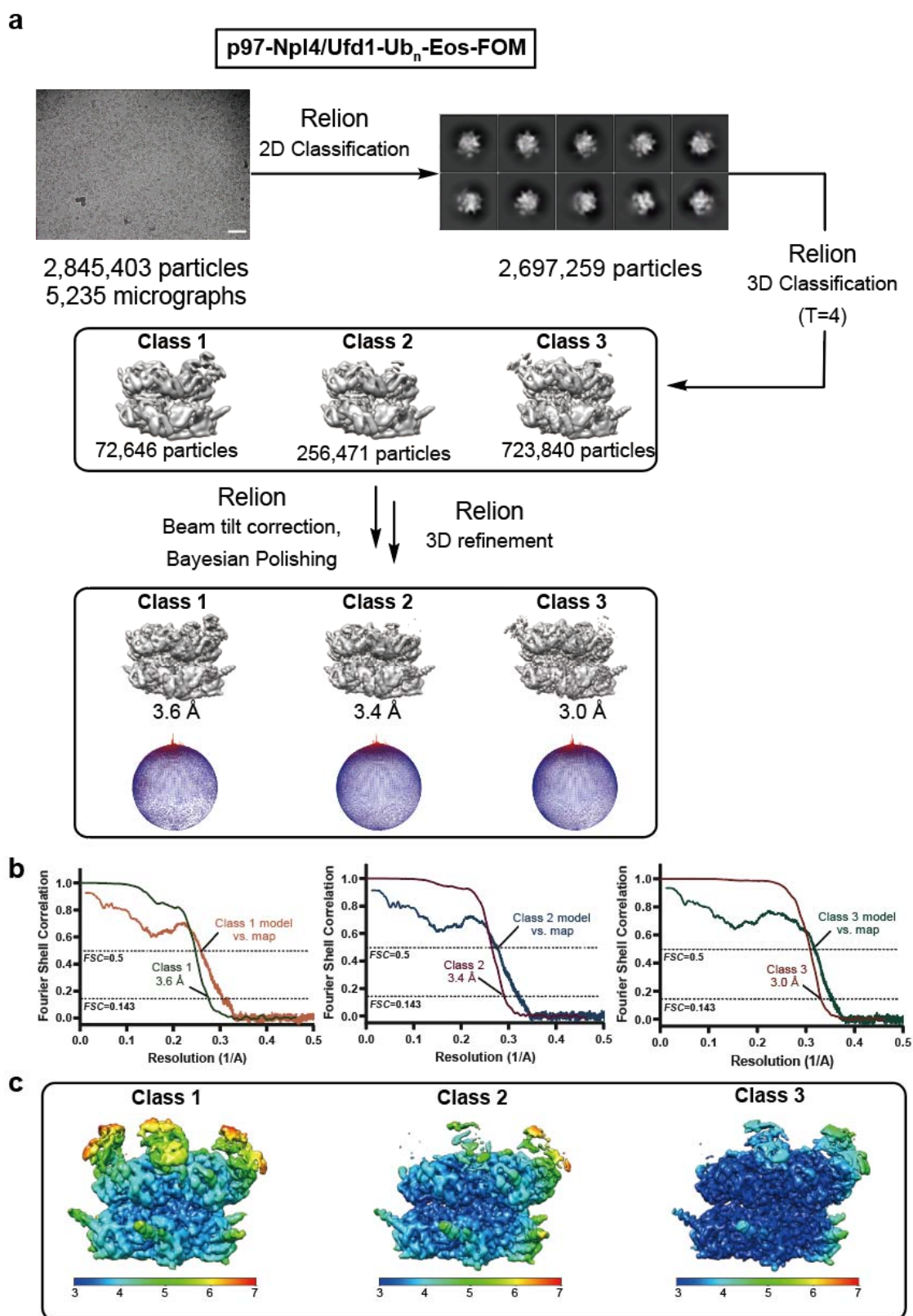


595 **Extended Data Figure 2: Single-particle cryo-EM analyses for the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-**
596 **CHAPSO dataset.**

597 **a**, The workflow of data processing. The dataset was subjected to particle selection, 2D
598 classification, and multiple rounds of 3D classification. A representative micrograph (scale bar
599 corresponds to 50 nm) and representative 2D class averages are shown. Three classes were
600 resolved from the dataset, including class 1 (closed state), class 2 (open state), and class 3
601 (similar to the closed state but with the Npl4 density). The distributions of the Euler angles for
602 each reconstruction are shown below the maps. **b**, Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curves of the
603 masked maps after Relion postprocessing. The resolutions were determined by the FSC=0.143
604 criterion. The model vs. map FSC curves are also shown for class 1 and class 2 (red). **c**, Local
605 resolutions of the maps calculated using Relion.

606

607 EXTENDED DATA FIGURE 3

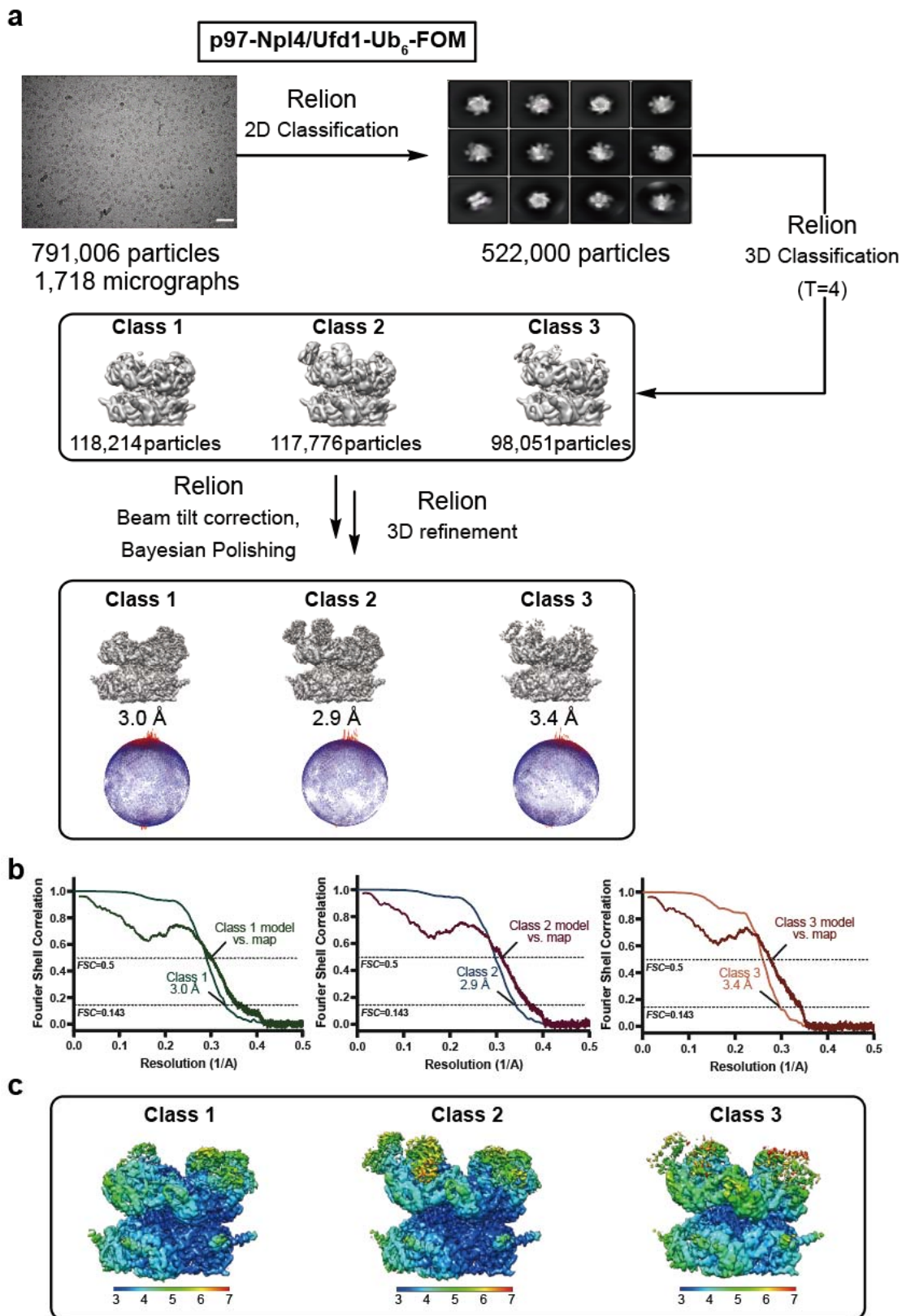


609 **Extended Data Figure 3: Single-particle cryo-EM analyses for the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-**
610 **FOM dataset.**

611 **a**, The workflow of data processing. The dataset was subjected to particle selection, 2D
612 classification, and multiple rounds of 3D classification. A representative micrograph (scale bar
613 corresponds to 50 nm) and representative 2D class averages are shown. Three classes were
614 resolved from the dataset. The distributions of the Euler angles for each reconstruction are
615 shown below the maps. **b**, FSC curves of the masked maps after Relion postprocessing. The
616 resolutions were determined by the FSC=0.143 criterion. The model vs. map FSC curves for
617 each class are also shown. **c**, Local resolutions of the maps calculated using Relion.

618

619 EXTENDED DATA FIGURE 4



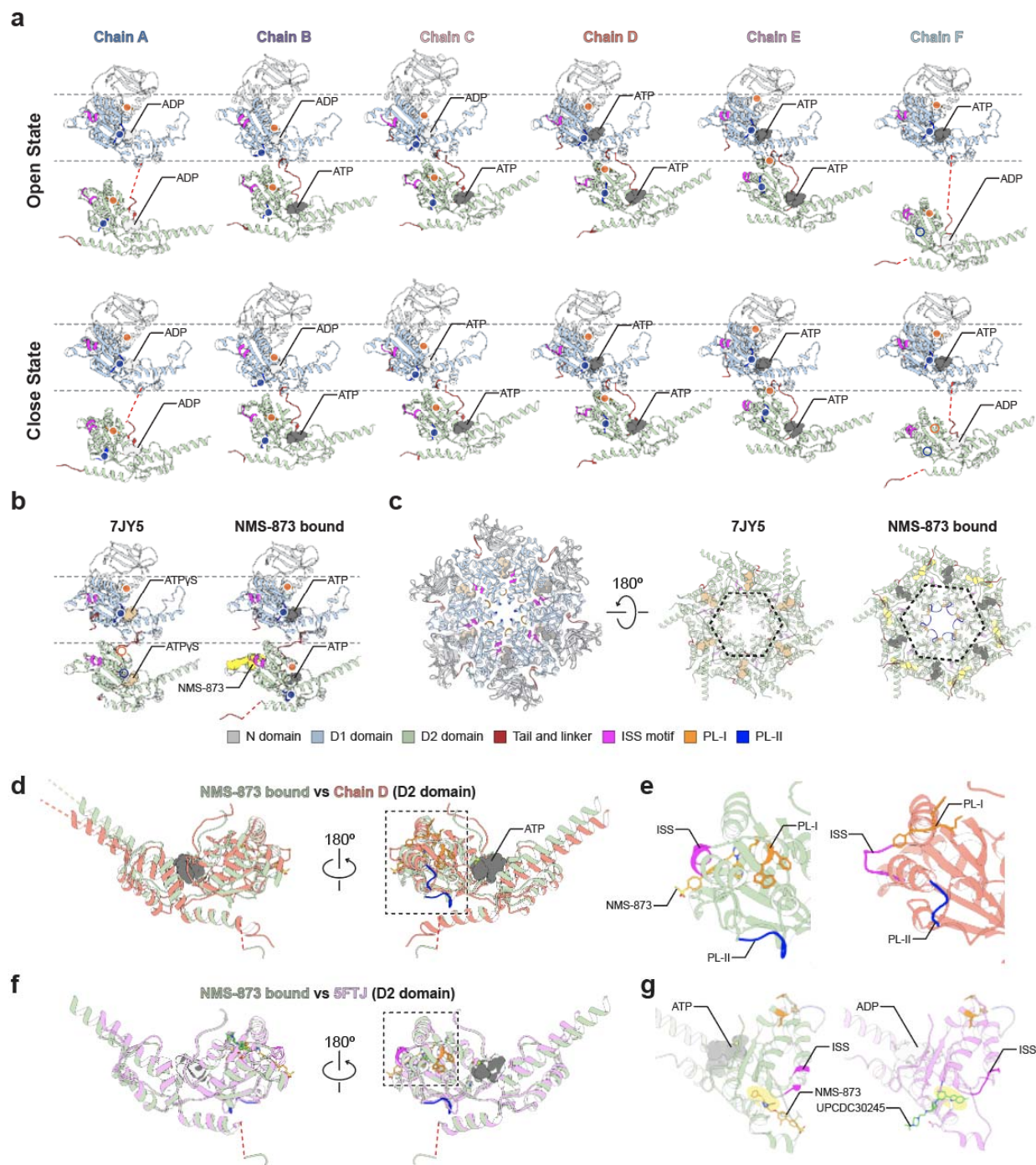
621 **Extended Data Figure 4: Single-particle cryo-EM analyses for the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-FOM**
622 **dataset.**

623 **a**, The workflow of data processing. The dataset was subjected to particle selection, 2D
624 classification, and multiple rounds of 3D classification. A representative micrograph (scale bar
625 corresponds to 50 nm) and representative 2D class averages are shown. Three classes were
626 resolved from the dataset. The distributions of the Euler angles for each reconstruction are
627 shown below the maps. **b**, FSC curves of the masked maps after Relion postprocessing. The
628 resolutions were determined by the FSC=0.143 criterion. The model vs. map FSC curves for
629 each class are also shown. **c**, Local resolutions of the maps calculated using Relion.

630

631

632 **EXTENDED DATA FIGURE 5**



633

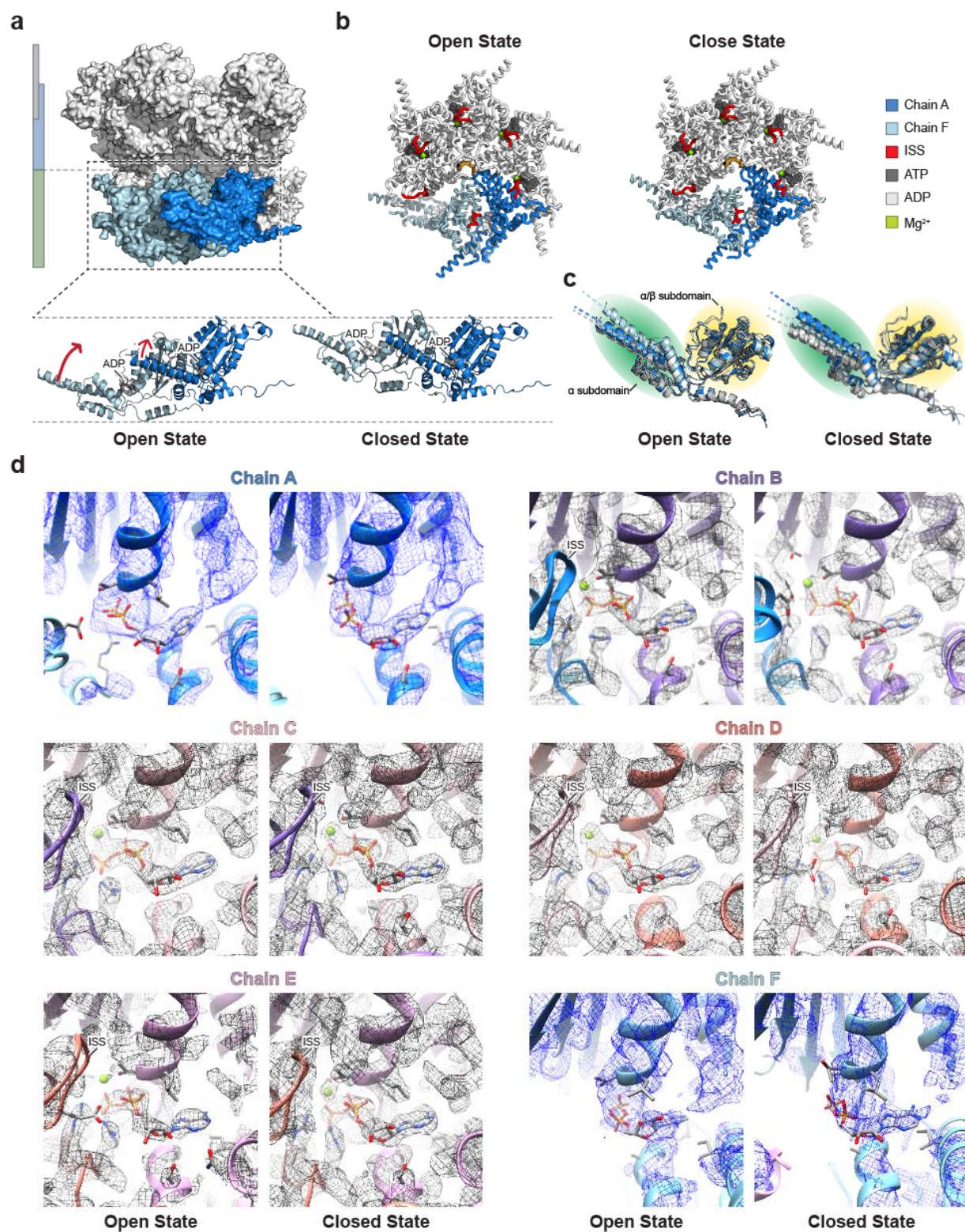
634 **Extended Data Figure 5: Comparison of various p97 structures.**

635 **a**, Unrolling of the open (top row) and closed (bottom row) states of p97. The lateral and vertical

636 movement of D2 domains can be visualized. The positions of pore loops are marked with solid

637 dots. Unresolved pore loops are marked by open circles. **b**, Unrolling of the ATP γ S-bound
638 nontranslocating structure (PDB ID: 7JY5) and NMS-873-bound structure. Only one chain of
639 each structure is shown since both structures are sixfold symmetric. **c**, A superimposition of
640 7JY5- and NMS-873-bound structures. Left: a top view of the N and D1 domains; Right: a
641 bottom view of the D2 ring. The opening of the D2 ring is marked by a dotted hexagon. Panels **a**,
642 **b**, and **c** share the same color code. **d**, A comparison of the D2 domain in the NMS-873-bound
643 structure and that in chain D of the open state. The superimposition is based on the α/β
644 subdomain. **e**, Magnified views of the dotted box in panel **d**, showing the conformations of the
645 PL-I, PL-II, and ISS motifs. **f**, A comparison of the D2 domain in NMS-873- and UPCDC30245
646 (PDB ID: 5FTJ)-bound structures. The superimposition is based on the α/β subdomain. **g**,
647 Magnified views of the dotted box in panel **f**, showing the binding sites of the compounds and
648 the conformations of the ISS motif.
649

650 **EXTENDED DATA FIGURE 6**



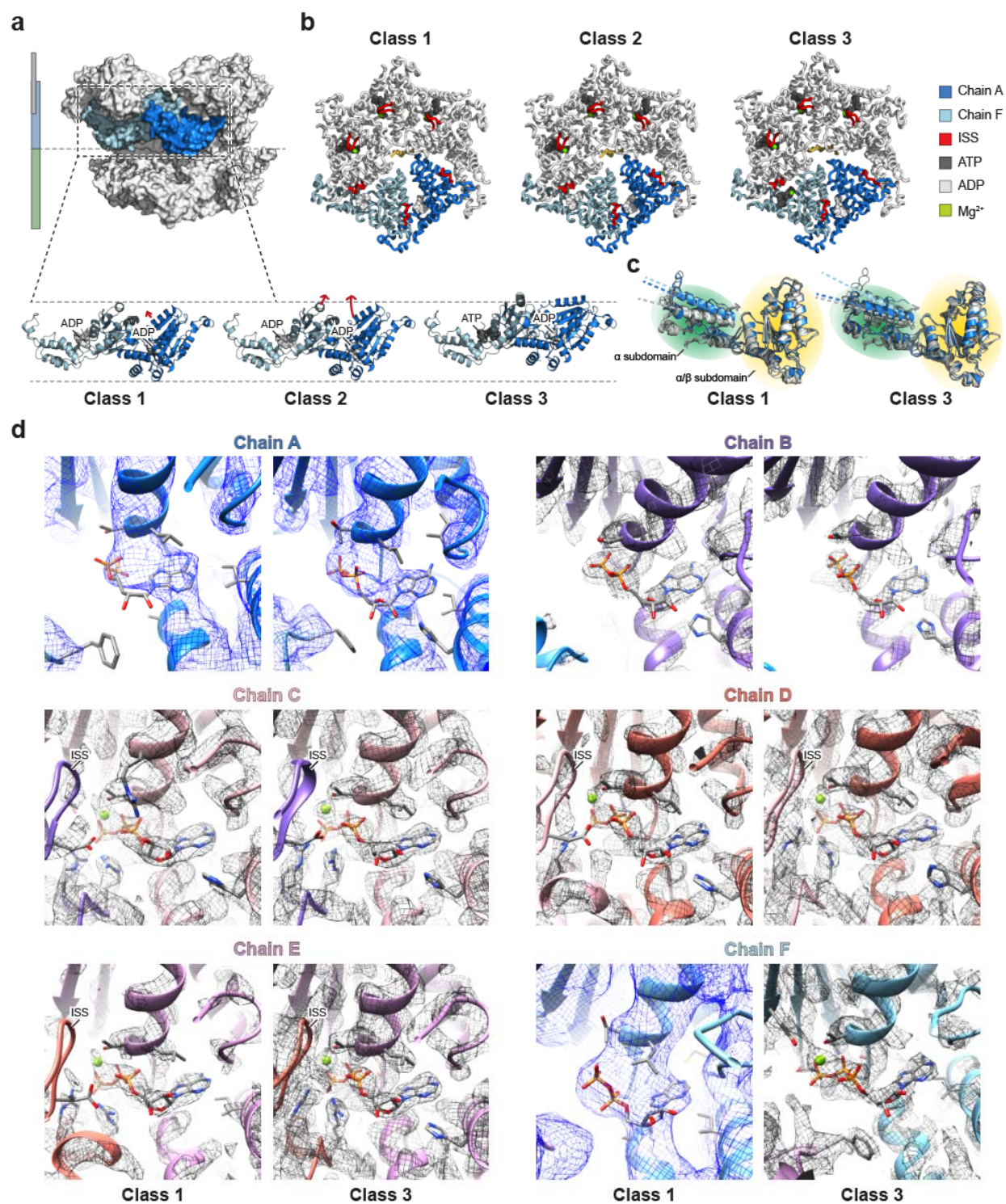
651

652 **Extended Data Figure 6: The power stroke motion and the nucleotide binding sites of the**
653 **D2 domains.**

654 **a**, A superimposition of the open and closed state structures, with two D2 domains (chain A and
655 chain F) magnified. The relative positions of the D2 domains in chain A and chain F can be
656 visualized. **b**, Top views of the D2 ring in the open and closed states, highlighting chain A, chain
657 F, and the ISS motifs. **c**, Superimpositions of all D2 domains in the open and closed states
658 based on the α/β subdomain. The directions of $\alpha 7$ helices are highlighted by dotted lines for
659 comparison (dark blue, chain A; light blue, chain F; and gray, other chains). **d**, Individual
660 nucleotide binding sites of the D2 domains in the open and closed states. Blue mesh:
661 unsharpened map at contour level; Gray mesh: sharpened map at contour level.;

662

663 **EXTENDED DATA FIGURE 7**



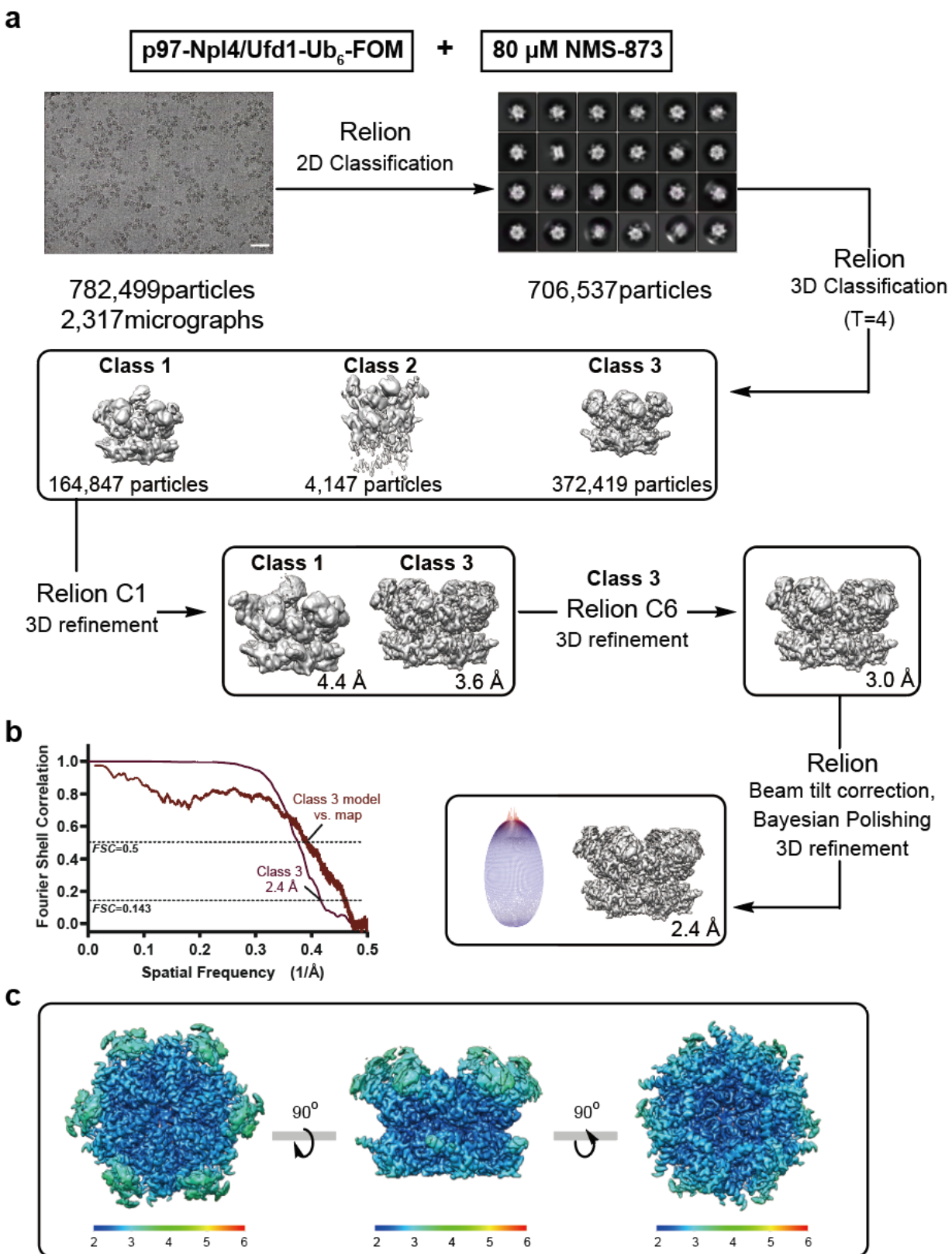
664

665

666 **Extended Data Figure 7: The power stroke motion and the nucleotide binding sites of the**
667 **D1 domains.**

668 **a**, A superimposition of three structures (classes 1, 2, and 3) from the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-
669 FOM dataset, with two D1 domains (chain A and chain F) magnified. The relative positions of
670 the D1 domains in chain A and chain F can be visualized. **b**, Top views of the D1 ring in the
671 three classes, highlighting chain A, chain F, and the ISS motifs. **c**, Superimpositions of all D1
672 domains in class 1 and class 3 based on the α/β subdomain. The directions of $\alpha 7$ helices are
673 highlighted by dotted lines for comparison (dark blue, chain A; light blue, chain F; and gray,
674 other chains). **d**, Individual nucleotide binding sites of the D1 domains in class 1 and class 3.
675 Blue mesh: Unsharpened map at contour level; Gray mesh: sharpened map at contour level.;
676

677 EXTENDED DATA FIGURE 8



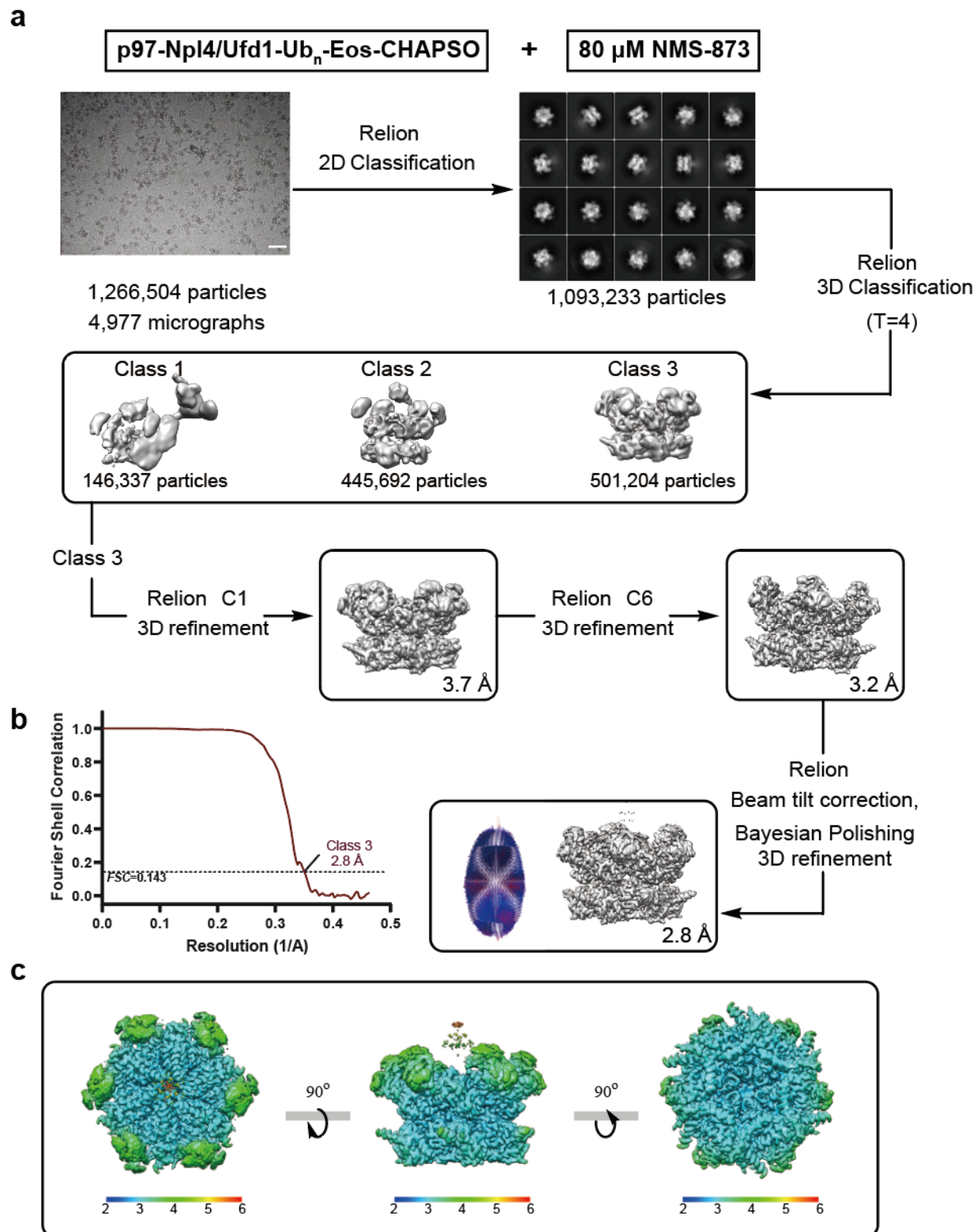
679 **Extended Data Figure 8: Single-particle cryo-EM analyses for the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆**
680 **complex in the presence of 80 μ M NMS-873.**

681 **a**, The workflow of data processing. The dataset was subjected to particle selection, 2D
682 classification, and multiple rounds of 3D classification. A representative micrograph (scale bar
683 corresponds to 50 nm) and representative 2D class averages are shown. A single class was
684 resolved from the dataset. The distribution of the Euler angles is shown next to the map. **b**, The
685 FSC curve of the masked map after Relion postprocessing. The resolution was determined by
686 the FSC=0.143 criterion. The model vs. map FSC curve is also shown. **c**, Local resolution of the
687 map calculated using Relion.

688

689

690 EXTENDED DATA FIGURE 9



692 **Extended Data Figure 9: Single-particle cryo-EM analyses for the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos**
693 **complex in the presence of 80 μM NMS-873.**

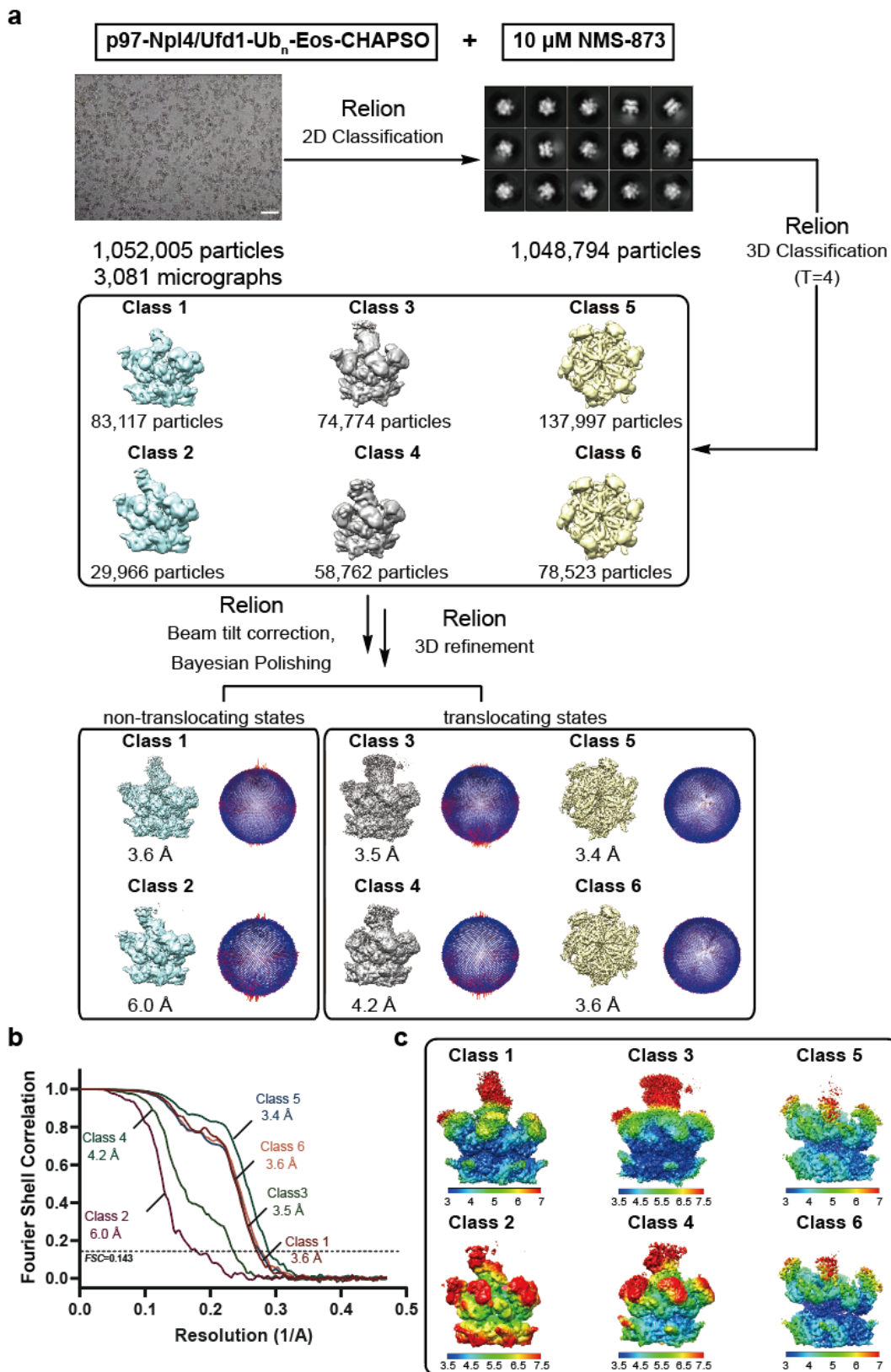
694 **a**, The workflow of data processing. The dataset was subjected to particle selection, 2D
695 classification, and multiple rounds of 3D classification. A representative micrograph (scale bar
696 corresponds to 50 nm) and representative 2D class averages are shown. A single class was
697 resolved from the dataset. The distribution of the Euler angles is shown next to the map. **b**, The
698 FSC curve of the masked map after Relion postprocessing. The resolution was determined by
699 the FSC=0.143 criterion. **c**, Local resolution of the map calculated using Relion.

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702

703 **EXTENDED DATA FIGURE 10:**



705 **Extended Data Figure 10: Single-particle cryo-EM analyses for the p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-**

706 **Eos complex in the presence of 10 μ M NMS-873.**

707 **a**, The workflow of data processing. The dataset was subjected to particle selection, 2D
708 classification, and multiple rounds of 3D classification. A representative micrograph (scale bar
709 corresponds to 50 nm) and representative 2D class averages are shown. Six classes were
710 resolved from the dataset, including two in nontranslocating states (Class 1 and Class 2) and
711 four in translocating states (Class 3 through Class 6). The distributions of the Euler angles for
712 each reconstruction are shown next to the maps. **b**, FSC curves of the masked maps after
713 Relion postprocessing. The resolutions were determined by the FSC=0.143 criterion. **c**, Local
714 resolutions of the maps calculated using Relion.

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719 **EXTENDED DATA TABLE 1: Statistics of cryo-EM data collection and processing**

	p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos			p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos		
Detergent	CHAPSO (4 mM)			FOM (0.001%)		
Microscope	Krios (UChicago)			Krios (NCI)		
Magnification	81,000			81,000		
Voltage (kV)	300			300		
Spherical aberration (mm)	2.7			2.7		
Detector	K3			K3		
Camera mode	Super resolution counting			Super resolution counting		
Exposure rate (e ⁻ /pixel/s)	15			15		
Total exposure (e ⁻ /Å ²)	50			50		
Defocus range (μm)	-1.0 to -2.5			-1.0 to -2.5		
Pixel size (Å)	1.063			1.0794		
Mode of data collection	Image shift			Image shift		
Energy filter	20 eV slit			20 eV slit		
Software for data collection	EPU			Latitude S		
Number of micrographs	2,060			5,235		
Symmetry imposed	C1			C1		
Box size (pixel)	320			320		
Initial particle images (no.)	672,284			2,845,403		
Particle images for 3D (no.)	588,832			2,697,259		
	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
Final particle images (no.)	215,530	41,239	49,294	72,646	256,471	723,840
Map resolution, masked (Å)	3.09	3.58	3.77	3.63	3.45	3.02
B-factor estimated (Å ²)	79.7	79.7	80.3	97.6	109	96.8
EMD accession code	23449	23450	23451	23446	23447	23448

720

	p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆		
Detergent	FOM (0.001%)		
Microscope	Krios (UChicago)		
Magnification	81,000		
Voltage (kV)	300		
Spherical aberration (mm)	2.7		
Detector	K3		
Camera mode	Super resolution counting		
Exposure rate (e ⁻ /pixel/s)	15		
Total exposure (e ⁻ /Å ²)	50		
Defocus range (μm)	-1.0 to -2.5		
Pixel size (Å)	1.063		
Mode of data collection	Image shift		
Energy filter	20 eV slit		
Software for data collection	EPU		
Number of micrographs	1,718		
Symmetry imposed	C1		
Box size (pixel)	320		
Initial particle images (no.)	791,006		
Particle images for 3D (no.)	522,000		
	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3
Final particle images (no.)	118,214	117,776	98,051
Map resolution, masked (Å)	3.06	2.98	3.40
B-factor estimated (Å ²)	69.1	64.7	77.3
EMD accession code	23443	23444	23445

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722

	p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-NMS-873 (80 μM)	p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-NMS-873 (80 μM)
Detergent	FOM (0.001%)	CHAPSO (4 mM)
Microscope	Krios (UChicago)	Krios (NCI)
Magnification	81,000	81,000
Voltage (kV)	300	300
Spherical aberration (mm)	2.7	2.7
Detector	K3	K3
Camera mode	Super resolution counting	Super resolution counting
Exposure rate (e ⁻ /pixel/s)	15	15
Total exposure (e ⁻ /Å ²)	50	50
Defocus range (μm)	-1.0 to -2.5	-1.0 to -2.5
Pixel size (Å)	1.063	1.0794
Mode of data collection	Image shift	Image shift
Energy filter	20 eV slit	20 eV slit
Software for data collection	EPU	Latitude S
Number of micrographs	2,317	4,977
Symmetry imposed	C6	C6
Box size (pixel)	320	320
Initial particle images (no.)	782,499	1,266,504
Particle images for 3D (no.)	706,537	1,093,233
Final particle images (no.)	372,419	501,204
Map resolution, masked (Å)	2.41	2.87
B-factor estimated (Å ²)	58.8	96.2
EMD accession code	23442	23452

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724

		p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-NMS-873 (10 μM)					
Detergent	CHAPSO (4 mM)						
Microscope	Krios (UChicago)						
Magnification	81,000						
Voltage (kV)	300						
Spherical aberration (mm)	2.7						
Detector	K3						
Camera mode	Super resolution counting						
Exposure rate (e ⁻ /pixel/s)	15						
Total exposure (e ⁻ /Å ²)	50						
Defocus range (μm)	-1.0 to -2.5						
Pixel size (Å)	1.063						
Mode of data collection	Image shift						
Energy filter	20 eV slit						
Software for data collection	Latitude S						
Number of micrographs	3081						
Symmetry imposed	C1						
Box size (pixel)	320						
Initial particle images (no.)	1,052,005						
Particle images for 3D (no.)	1,048,794						
	Non-Translocating			Translocating			
	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5	Class 6	
Final particle images (no.)	83,317	29,966	74,774	58,762	137,997	78,523	
Map resolution, masked (Å)	3.69	6.07	3.58	4.25	3.47	3.65	
B-factor estimated (Å ²)	105	198	93.0	129	91.7	92.0	
EMD accession code	23453	23454	23455	23456	23457	23458	

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727 **EXTENDED DATA TABLE 2: Statistics of cryo-EM model refinement and geometry**
728

Dataset: p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-CHAPSO		
	Class1 (Closed State)	Class2 (Open State)
Composition (#)		
Chains	8	8
Atoms	35,051	35,072
Residues	Protein: 4,447	Protein: 4,456
Water	0	0
Ligands	MG: 7	MG: 7
	ADP: 5	ADP: 5
	ATP: 7	ATP: 7
Bonds (RMSD)		
Length (Å)	0.003	0.004
Angles (°)	0.617	0.673
MolProbity score	1.52	1.68
Clash score	9.95	10.93
Ramachandran plot (%)		
Outliers	0.00	0.02
Allowed	1.54	2.63
Favored	98.46	97.35
Rotamer outliers (%)	0.03	0.03
Cβ outliers (%)	0.00	0.00
Peptide plane (%)		
Cis proline/general	10.1/0.0	10.2/0.0
Twisted proline/general	0.0/0.0	0.0/0.0
CaBLAM outliers (%)	1.83	1.58
ADP (B-factors)		
Iso/Aniso (#)	35,051/0	35072/0
min/max/mean		
Protein	0.48/75.21/37.58	0.36/49.31/19.03
Ligand	11.67/65.09/33.22	2.26/41.30/13.85
PDB accession code	7LN5	7LN6

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Dataset: p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub_n-Eos-FOM			
	Class1	Class2	Class3
Composition (#)			
Chains	8	8	8
Atoms	34,941	34,920	35,103
Residues	Protein: 4,433	Protein: 4,431	Protein: 4,455
Water	0	0	0
Ligands	MG: 7	MG: 7	MG: 8
	ADP: 5	ADP: 5	ADP: 4
	ATP: 7	ATP: 7	ATP: 8
Bonds (RMSD)			
Length (Å)	0.004	0.005	0.003
Angles (°)	0.651	0.674	0.604
MolProbity score	1.57	1.55	1.43
Clash score	11.31	10.70	7.52
Ramachandran plot (%)			
Outliers	0.07	0.07	0.00
Allowed	1.61	1.75	2.07
Favored	98.32	98.18	97.93
Rotamer outliers (%)	0.00	0.00	0.03
Cβ outliers (%)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Peptide plane (%)			
Cis proline/general	8.5/0.0	8.5/0.0	10.1/0.0
Twisted proline/general	0.0/0.0	0.0/0.0	0.0/0.0
CaBLAM outliers (%)	1.58	1.65	1.48
ADP (B-factors)			
Iso/Aniso (#)	34,941/0	34,920/0	35,103/0
min/max/mean			
Protein	0.79/73.39/37.41	0.45/71.85/36.71	0.39/86.71/50.32
Ligand	7.76/90.54/36.11	7.16/72.98/34.80	15.72/92.31/44.90
PDB accession code	7LN2	7LN3	7LN4

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Dataset: p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-FOM			
	Class1	Class2	Class3
Composition (#)			
Chains	8	8	8
Atoms	34,994	34,983	34,796
Residues	Protein: 4,434	Protein: 4,434	Protein:
Water	0	0	0
Ligands	MG: 8	MG: 7	MG: 7
	ADP: 4	ADP: 4	ADP: 5
	ATP: 8	ATP: 8	ATP: 7
Bonds (RMSD)			
Length (Å)	0.004	0.003	0.006
Angles (°)	0.654	0.646	0.759
MolProbity score	1.60	1.59	1.79
Clash score	12.30	11.95	14.43
Ramachandran plot (%)			
Outliers	0.09	0.05	0.05
Allowed	1.64	1.75	2.63
Favored	98.27	98.20	97.32
Rotamer outliers (%)	0.00	0.03	0.00
Cβ outliers (%)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Peptide plane (%)			
Cis proline/general	8.9/0.0	8.9/0.0	9.0/0.0
Twisted proline/general	0.0/0.0	0.0/0.0	0.0/0.0
CaBLAM outliers (%)	1.60	1.67	
ADP (B-factors)			
Iso/Aniso (#)	34,994/0	34,983/0	34,796/0
min/max/mean			
Protein	3.48/79.40/39.29	2.27/77.11/40.21	2.28/70.59/33.60
Ligand	12.21/68.94/37.64	8.22/74.08/36.83	11.82/52.39/30.60
PDB accession code	7LMZ	7LN0	7LN1

Dataset: p97-Npl4/Ufd1-Ub₆-NMS-873 (80 μM)	
Composition (#)	
Chains	6
Atoms	35,646
Residues	Protein: 4,470
Water	0
Ligands	MG: 12
	NM3: 6 (NMS-873)
	ATP: 6
Bonds (RMSD)	
Length (Å)	0.003 (0)
Angles (°)	0.845 (3)
MolProbity score	1.79
Clash score	8.11
Ramachandran plot (%)	
Outliers	0.00
Allowed	2.71
Favored	97.29
Rotamer outliers (%)	1.89
Cβ outliers (%)	0.00
Peptide plane (%)	
Cis proline/general	10.0/0.0
Twisted proline/general	0.0/0.0
CaBLAM outliers (%)	0.95
ADP (B-factors)	
Iso/Aniso (#)	35,646/0
min/max/mean	
Protein	1.58/57.10/22.25
Ligand	2.92/28.45/15.85
PDB accession code	7LMY

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736 **EXTENDED DATA TABLE 3: A summary of human p97 disease mutations and potentially**
737 **affected structures**
738

Disease Mutations	Potentially Affected Structures
R93C/R93H, I114V, I151V	N domain structure
I126F, T127A, P137L, M158V, R159G/R159C/R159H, E185K	N-cofactor interaction
I27V, R95C/R95G/R95H, G97E, R155S/R155H/R155L, G156C/G156S, G157R, M158V, R159G/R159C/R159H, R191G/R191Q, L198W, G202W, A232E, T262A, K386E, N387H/N387S/N387T, A439S/A439P/A439G	N-D1 interaction
I206F	D1 nucleotide binding site
A232E	D1-D1 interaction
D395G	D1 domain structure
N401S	D1-D2 interaction
R487H, R662C	D2-D2 interaction
D592N	Pore loop II of D2 domain
N750S	C terminal tail

739

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