

1 **Title: A Supercomplex Incorporating Both Electron Transport Chain and ATP**

2 **Synthase**

3

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38

39 **Abstract:** The mitochondrial oxidative phosphorylation system powering most aerobic  
40 organisms is typically depicted as two spatially segregated machineries<sup>1</sup>: electron transport  
41 chain complexes I-IV (ETC CI-CIV) that generates proton motive force and adenosine  
42 triphosphate (ATP) synthase (complex V, CV) that consumes it<sup>2,3</sup>. Using the kinetoplastid  
43 parasite *Trypanosoma brucei* in its procyclic form, we characterize a *bona fide* ETC-ATP  
44 synthase supercomplex that directly incorporates CII, CIV dimer and ATP synthase  
45 (CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV) alongside conventional assemblies. Cryo-EM structure shows a clear  
46 organizing principle in which ATP synthase engages CIV<sub>2</sub> via a non-canonical hetero-  
47 dimerization module of two subunit *g* paralogs, *g'* and *g''*, replacing the canonical *g/g*  
48 dimerization interface required for ATP synthase dimerization<sup>4</sup>. The resulting ~2 MDa  
49 assembly forms an arc-shaped membrane region, which stabilizes shallow positive membrane  
50 curvature as indicated by atomistic simulations. Genetic disruption of *g'/g''* selectively  
51 destabilizes the supercomplex and triggers pronounced cristae remodeling from discoidal to  
52 elongated tubular form, accompanied by a reduced maximal polarization capacity and  
53 comparatively modest effects on steady-state ATP output. These findings establish a  
54 structurally defined ETC-ATP synthase supercomplex and suggest its primary role in  
55 architectural quality control, constraining ATP synthase supramolecular organization to  
56 safeguard mitochondrial integrity rather than simply enhancing chemiosmotic coupling.

57

58 **Main:** The oxidative phosphorylation (OXPHOS) system, localized to the mitochondrial  
59 cristae, powers most aerobic eukaryotes by coupling electron transport-driven proton motive  
60 force (PMF) generation and PMF-driven ATP synthesis. It consists of four ETC complexes  
61 CI-CIV<sup>5</sup> and a terminal F<sub>1</sub>F<sub>0</sub> ATP synthase, or CV<sup>6</sup>. ETC complexes assemble into  
62 respiratory/ETC supercomplexes in different stoichiometries and architectures<sup>7-20</sup>. Previous  
63 cryo-electron microscopic (cryo-EM) studies showed that the most complete assemblies can  
64 contain the entire ETC, such as the (CICIII<sub>2</sub>CII)<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> in ciliates<sup>21,22</sup> and the CII<sub>2</sub>CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> in  
65 parasitic organisms lacking CI<sup>23</sup>. Recent advances in *in situ* structural biology further

66 revealed that the native organization might be even more complex and heterogeneous<sup>24,25</sup>.  
67 Despite all these efforts, the functional relevance of these supercomplexes remain extensively  
68 debated<sup>7,26</sup>. Apart from ETC, ATP synthases also join together to form higher order  
69 assemblies, for instance by dimerizing with different inter-protomer angles, thereby  
70 contributing to diverse cristae morphologies<sup>4,27–40</sup>. Canonical ATP synthase dimers mainly  
71 rely on subunits *e* and *g* to organise adjacent monomers across eukaryotic clades, which  
72 could be traced back to the last eukaryotic common ancestor<sup>4</sup>. Therefore, subunit *g* remains a  
73 central component for canonical ATP synthase dimerization and multimerization.  
74  
75 Bioenergetic coupling ultimately requires tight coordination between proton sources (ETC)  
76 and proton sinks (ATP synthase) inside cristae, raising a basic but unresolved question that  
77 whether the ETC complexes can form a stable, architecturally defined assembly with the ATP  
78 synthase. In the original chemiosmotic theory of Peter Mitchell, oxidative phosphorylation  
79 functions via the mechanism of vectorial coupling, in which electron transfer and ATP  
80 synthesis are linked through directional translocation of protons across a coupling  
81 membrane<sup>2</sup>. Such membrane-based coupling, analogized to a ‘proton circuit’, is further  
82 quantified by breaking down the PMF into the electrical and the osmotic components<sup>3</sup>. A  
83 central implication of this framework is that the bioenergetic function is inseparable from  
84 supramolecular organization<sup>18,19</sup>: the coupling membrane is not merely an insulated support,  
85 but also an active element that constrains where proton sources and sinks can be positioned,  
86 and how efficiently their fluxes can be coordinated.  
87  
88 Specifically speaking, ETC supercomplexes and ATP synthase multimers are usually viewed  
89 as spatially segregated entities within the inner mitochondrial membrane (IMM). For  
90 opisthokonts and archaeplastidans, CV<sub>2</sub> rows are confined to the cristae ridges, while ETC  
91 supercomplexes populate the flat regions of the IMM and exist as large but discrete,  
92 fluid macromolecules<sup>1,24,25</sup>. Since ATP synthase is a rotary machine embedded in a highly  
93 curved membrane environment, its direct association with the ETC components must be

94 compatible with its rotational motion and the membrane shaping constraints. Preliminary  
95 studies have described the proximity between respirasomes and ATP synthase rows<sup>41,42</sup>, and  
96 biochemical evidence has suggested ETC-ATP synthase association in several lineages,  
97 including mammals and plants<sup>43-45</sup>, but a structurally resolved supercomplex and its  
98 organizing principle have remained elusive.

99

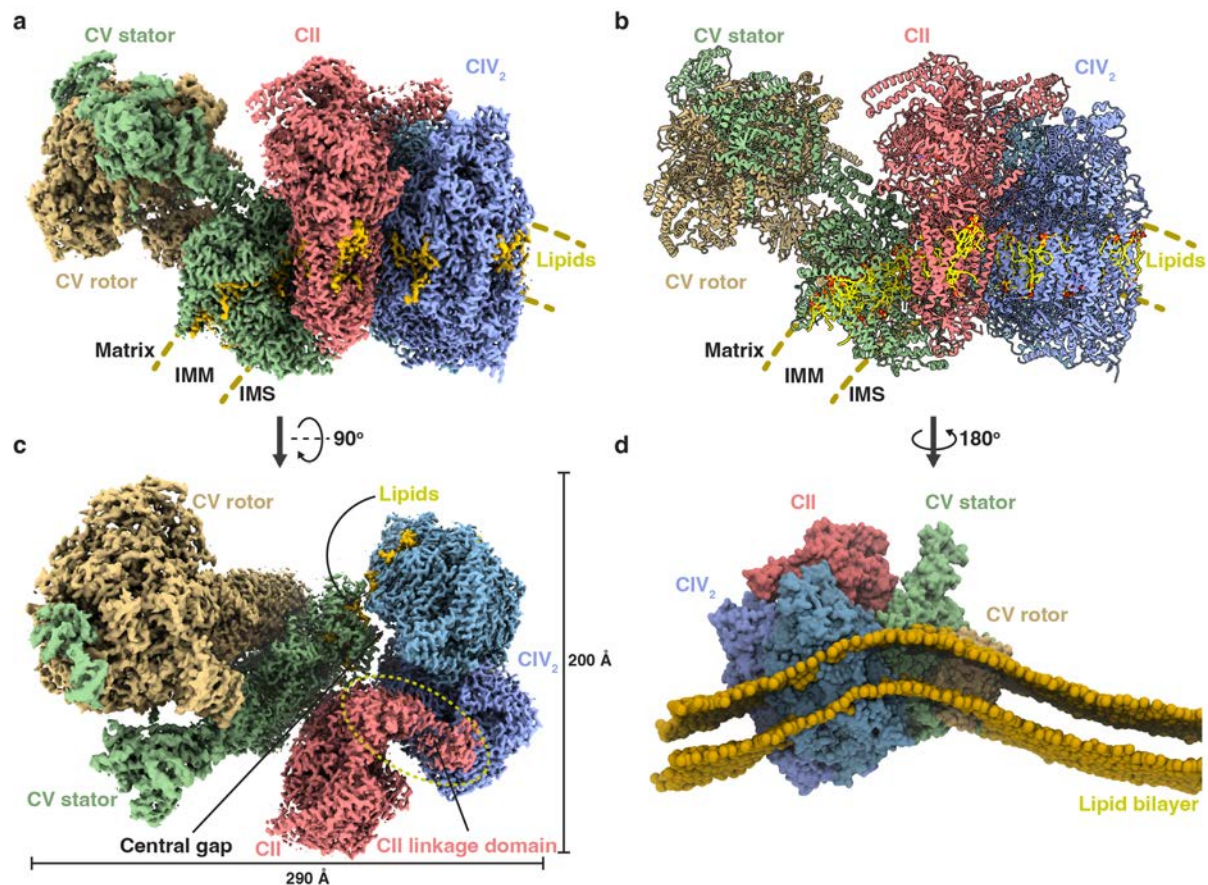
100 Here we address this gap by using a kinetoplastid parasite *Trypanosoma brucei*, a member of  
101 the eukaryotic supergroup of Discoba<sup>46</sup>. As the causative agent of human African  
102 trypanosomiasis, it transitions from a glycolysis-dependent bloodstream form to a procyclic  
103 form featuring a fully developed, respiratory-active mitochondrion during its life cycle<sup>47,48</sup>.  
104 We characterise a supercomplex that physically links CII and a CIV dimer to ATP synthase,  
105 namely CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV. The assembly is enabled by a non-canonical, heterodimeric *g'g''*  
106 module that repurposes the canonical ATP synthase dimerization interface. Genetic  
107 perturbation reveals that the primary consequence of disrupting this linkage is the remodeling  
108 of *T. brucei*'s discoidal cristae, which further induces a drop in the maximal efficiency of  
109 chemiosmotic coupling. Together, these findings establish a direct ETC-CV supercomplex  
110 and suggest that such OXPHOS organization is tuned to safeguard mitochondria both  
111 morphologically and functionally.

112

### 113 ***Structure determination and overall architecture of T. brucei CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV and CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>***

114 To isolate the ETC-CV supercomplex from CV oligomers, ETC complexes and  
115 supercomplexes, digitonin-solubilized mitochondrial membranes from procyclic *T. brucei*  
116 TREU927 were purified sequentially by sucrose gradient ultracentrifugation and anion  
117 exchange chromatography (Supplementary Fig. 1). Cryo-EM datasets were collected for  
118 fractions corresponding to isolated complexes of CIII<sub>2</sub> and CIV<sub>2</sub>, CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> supercomplex  
119 and the highest molecular weight (MW) CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex, respectively  
120 (Supplementary Tables 1-4). For the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV dataset, particles were classified into three  
121 rotational states of ATP synthase, and the most populated state is state 3, following the

122 nomenclature established for *T. brucei* CV<sub>2</sub><sup>4</sup> (Extended Data Fig. 1a). Within each state, local  
123 refinements of CII, CIV<sub>2</sub> and distinct regions of CV yielded maps at 2.9 Å to 3.9 Å  
124 resolution. These local refined densities were merged into a composite CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV map  
125 (Extended Data Fig. 2a-c). To facilitate model building, we generated a consensus  
126 reconstruction of the shared, membrane embedded portion of the supercomplex CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV  
127 (CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>mem</sub>), refined across all rotational states to 2.8 Å (Extended Data Fig. 2d). For the  
128 CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> dataset, CIII<sub>2</sub> and CIV<sub>2</sub> regions were locally refined to 3.14 Å and 3.23 Å,  
129 respectively, and combined into a composite CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> map (Extended Data Figs. 1b,c and  
130 2e-g).



131  
132 **Fig. 1 | Overall architecture and mitochondrial membrane bending of the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV**  
133 **supercomplex. a,b,** Cryo-EM density map (a) and model (b) of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV viewed parallel  
134 to the IMM plane. Constituent complexes and associated lipids are colored as labeled. c,  
135 View from the matrix side showing the counterclockwise arrangement of CII, CIV<sub>2</sub> and CV.  
136 The central gap is labeled and the lineage-specific CII linkage domain is highlighted by a  
137 dashed circle. d, Atomistic MD simulation snapshot of the membrane-embedded region of  
138 CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV in lipid bilayer showing induction of a shallow positive membrane curvature  
139 (phosphorus atoms shown as yellow spheres).

140

141 CII, CIV<sub>2</sub> and CV are arranged in counterclockwise order when the ~2 MDa CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV  
142 supercomplex is viewed from the matrix side perpendicular to the IMM (Fig. 1a-c and  
143 Supplementary Video 1). A visible gap at the center separates the three complexes and is  
144 likely occupied by lipids *in vivo* as densities for several cardiolipin molecules are resolved in  
145 this region. When viewed parallel to the IMM with CII in front, the membrane embedded  
146 regions of CV, CII and CIV<sub>2</sub> trace a continuous arc with an overall curvature of ~36° (Fig.  
147 1a,b and Extended Data Fig. 3d). This bending is less pronounced than that is caused by the  
148 canonical ATP synthase dimer, which spans a comparable membrane footprint but enforces a  
149 ~48° curvature (Extended Data Fig. 3d). Therefore, whereas CV<sub>2</sub> decorates the highly curved  
150 rim of discoidal cristae, CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV is expected to occupy a less curved zone between the  
151 peripheral region and the flatter central part of the membrane. In contrast, the ~1.4 MDa  
152 CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> supercomplex is essentially flat in terms of its inter complex angle, suggesting  
153 localization in an even more central, low curvature region than CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV (Extended Data  
154 Fig. 4 and Supplementary Video 1, see also Extended Data Fig. 5).

155

156 To directly assess the contribution of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex to membrane bending, we  
157 performed atomistic molecular dynamics (MD) simulations of the protein-lipid complex. The  
158 CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex maintained the membrane curvature throughout the simulations  
159 (Fig. 1d and Supplementary Video 2), while a corresponding CIICIV<sub>2</sub> lacking CV relaxed  
160 rapidly towards a flatter membrane conformation (Supplementary Video 3). A similar  
161 relaxation towards a flat bilayer was observed for a protein free lipid membrane  
162 (Supplementary Video 4), suggesting that stable curvature is specifically sustained by the  
163 assembly of CIICIV<sub>2</sub> with CV, i.e., the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex.

164

### 165 ***A non-canonical ATP synthase dimerization module orchestrates CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV assembly***

166 The dimeric CIV<sub>2</sub> approaches CV from the stator side near subunit *a* where the canonical  
167 (*e/g*)<sub>2</sub> dimerization module is positioned in CV<sub>2</sub><sup>4</sup> (Fig. 2a). Importantly, when CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV

168 and CV<sub>2</sub> are superposed via a common CV protomer, the second CV protomer in CV<sub>2</sub>  
169 overlaps with the CIV protomer that is proximal to CV in CII-CIV<sub>2</sub>CV (hereafter CIV<sub>P</sub>)  
170 (Extended Data Fig. 3d). Instead of the expected homodimer of the canonical subunit *g*, a  
171 heterodimer formed by two non-canonical *g*-like subunits *g*' and *g*'' (Supplementary Table 3)  
172 is found at the CIV<sub>P</sub>-CV interface (Fig. 2b). These two subunits interlock via IMM-parallel  
173 helices H2 and H3, which are homologous to the helices forming the canonical *g*-*g* interface  
174 in CV<sub>2</sub><sup>4</sup>. Subunit *g*'' lacks the N-terminal helix H1 present in *g* and *g*', avoiding a steric clash  
175 with COX5B from the distal CIV protomer (CIV<sub>D</sub>) (Fig. 2b). To avoid ambiguity, the three  
176 conserved helices shared among *g/g'/g''* are uniformly referred to as H2-H4<sup>*g/g'/g''*</sup> (Extended  
177 Data Fig. 3a,b). The N-termini of the two subunit *e* helices insert into 'sockets' formed by  
178 H3<sup>*g'/g''*</sup> and H4<sup>*g'/g''*</sup> (Fig. 2a,b). Interestingly, the subunit *e* within the *e/g'* module projects  
179 perpendicularly into the IMM near the center of this three-complex assembly (Fig. 2c).  
180 Together, these observations indicate that CIV-CV association is mediated by a signature  
181 *e/g'/e/g''* heterotetrameric module, suggesting that the emergence of *g'* and *g''* in  
182 Euglenozoa likely preceded or coincided with the evolution of an ETC-CV supercomplex.  
183  
184 The *T. brucei* CII structure further reveals that the core subunits SDHB and SDHD are each  
185 split into two polypeptides (SDHB/D1 and 2) (Extended Data Fig. 6d,e), consistent with prior  
186 biochemical observations, although SDHC and SDHD1 were previously misassigned<sup>49</sup>. CII  
187 wedges into the gap formed between CIV<sub>D</sub> and the exterior of the CV's F<sub>o</sub> stator (Fig. 1c).  
188 The *e/g'/e/g''* module also contributes to CII-CV association, as subunit *g'* extends across the  
189 central gap to contact the CII's accessory subunit SDHTB7, emphasizing the organizational  
190 role of this module in both CIV<sub>2</sub>-CV and CII-CV assembly (Fig. 2c). Beyond this contact,  
191 interfaces between CII and CV are limited and are largely bridged by lipid molecules  
192 (Extended Data Fig. 3f). Interfacial lipids have been repeatedly observed in bioenergetic  
193 assemblies<sup>21,22,25,50</sup>, including mammalian respiratory supercomplexes<sup>19</sup>, emphasizing the  
194 importance of lipids, especially cardiolipin, in stabilizing higher order supercomplexes<sup>51</sup>.  
195

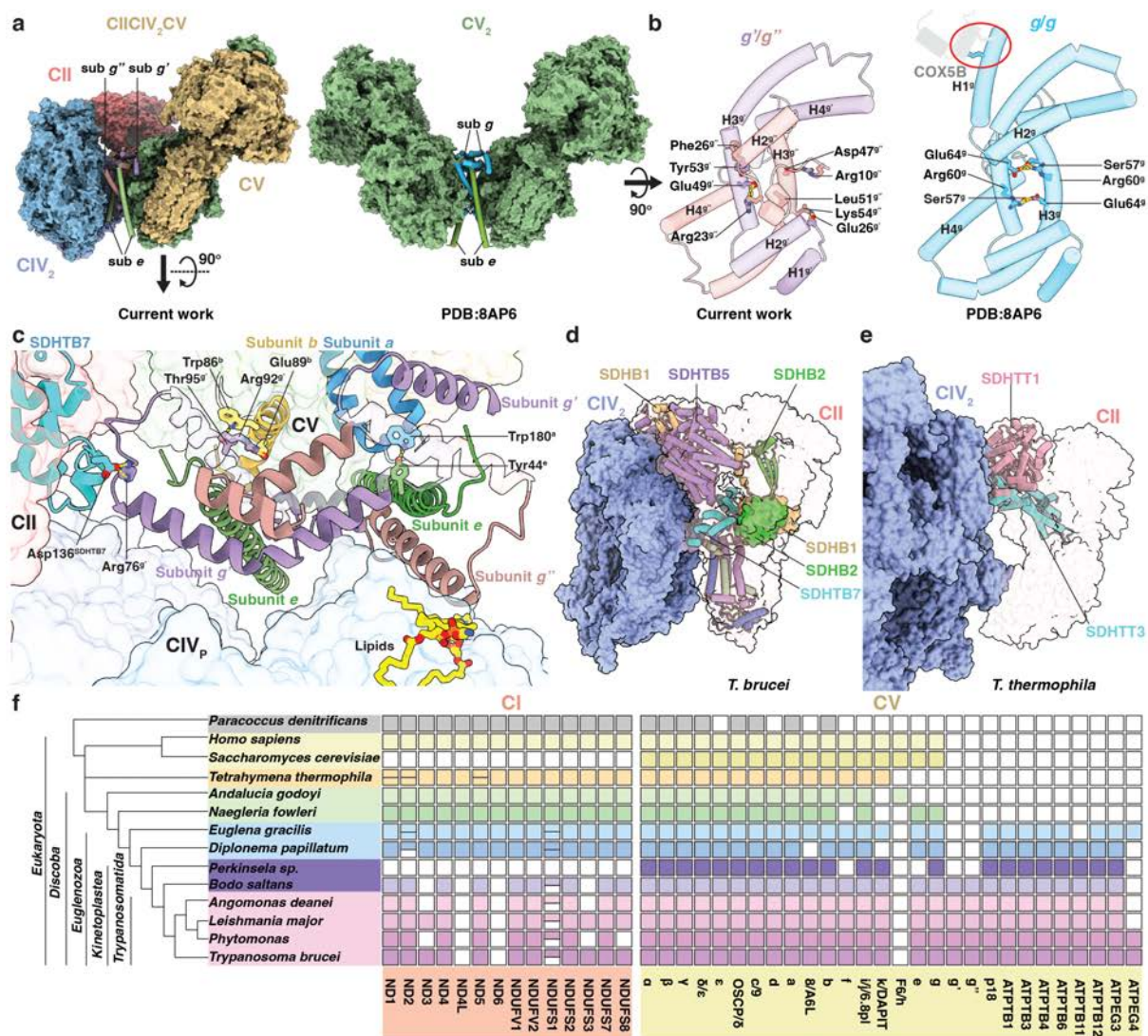
196 In contrast to the lipid-rich CII-CV interface, CII-CIV<sub>2</sub> association is mediated by a bracket-  
197 shaped CII linkage domain that contacts CIV<sub>D</sub> from the matrix side (Fig. 1c). This lineage-  
198 specific feature comprises newly identified CII accessory subunits SDHTB5 and SDHTB6  
199 (Fig. 2d). The splitting of SDHB contributes to this interaction: N- and C-terminal extensions  
200 respectively arising from the SDHB1-SDHB2 division point serve as attachment sites for  
201 SDHTB5 and SDHTB6. The C-terminal extension of SDHB1 even traverses SDHTB5 and  
202 directly participates in linkage domain's contacts with the CIV<sub>D</sub> subunit COXEG7 (Fig. 2d  
203 and Extended Data Fig. 6d).

204

205 The linkage domain is further supported by SDHTB7, the *g'/g''* contacting subunit which  
206 forms a largely horizontal helix bundle stabilized by transmembrane helices near the two  
207 SDHD subunits (Fig. 2d and Extended Data Fig. 6g). SDHTB7 thereby provides a second  
208 anchor for the linkage domain in addition to its association with the CII's hydrophilic core.  
209 An orthologue identified based on structural similarity, SDHTB7, exists in *Tetrahymena*  
210 *thermophila* (SDHTT3), where it serves as an attachment site for the additional hydrophilic  
211 subunit SDHTT1 that contacts the enlarged CIV<sub>2</sub> in the CIV<sub>2</sub>(CICIII<sub>2</sub>CII)<sub>2</sub> supercomplex<sup>21,22</sup>  
212 (Fig. 2e and Extended Data Fig. 6f). These observations suggest that SDHTB7/SDHTT3  
213 specifically provides a platform for different lineage-specific expansions of the CII  
214 hydrophilic domain, enabling versatile CII-CV interactions and incorporation of CII into ETC  
215 supercomplexes (Fig. 2d,e and Extended Data Fig. 6g). CII-containing supercomplexes are  
216 present in Alveolata<sup>21-23</sup> and Discoba (Fig. 1), but appear to be absent from  
217 opisthokonts<sup>9,20,24</sup>, consistent with the subunit SDHTB7/SDHTT3 being a synapomorphy  
218 within Diphoda following divergence from Opimoda<sup>52</sup>. Moreover, SDHTB7/SDHTT3  
219 orthologues are enriched in Diphoda<sup>21-23</sup> but excluded from Opimoda (Extended Data Fig.  
220 6h). Notably, since CII-containing supercomplex has not been reported in free-living  
221 euglenids such as *Euglena gracilis*<sup>53</sup>, a potential secondary loss of SDHTB7 or its ortholog  
222 will require further investigation.

223

224 In summary, assembly of the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex is enabled by lineage-specific  
 225 innovations, including ATP synthase subunits *g*'/*g*'', paralogues of the canonical  
 226 dimerization subunit *g*, and the CII linkage domain components SDHTB5-7. While the latter  
 227 mediate CII docking onto CIV<sub>2</sub> in a manner reminiscent of the *T. thermophila*  
 228 CIV<sub>2</sub>(CICIII<sub>2</sub>CII)<sub>2</sub> architecture, *g*/*g*'/*g*'' provide an additional layer of control that partitions  
 229 assembly towards ATP synthase oligomers versus an ETC-CV supercomplex.  
 230



231  
 232 **Fig. 2 | The kinetoplastid-specific *g*'/*g*'' module and the CII linkage domain orchestrate**  
 233 **CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV assembly.** **a**, Side view of the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV and CV<sub>2</sub> (PDB: 8AP6) shown as  
 234 surfaces, with respective non-canonical *e*/*g*'/*e*/*g*'' and canonical (*e*/*g*)<sub>2</sub> modules shown as  
 235 cartoons. **b**, Matrix view of the interlocking *g*' (lavender) and *g*'' (salmon) subunits (left) and  
 236 the canonical *g/g* (blue) module (right), with helix numbering indicated. A potential steric  
 237 clash between H1<sup>g</sup> and COX5B (grey) is marked (red circle) if the canonical *g/g* module is

238 placed into CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV interface. **c**, Close-up of the *e/g'/e/g''* module bridging CV with CII  
239 and the proximal CIV<sub>P</sub>. **d,e**, Interfaces between CII (transparent) and CIV<sub>2</sub> (solid) in *T. brucei*  
240 (**d**) and *T. thermophila* (**e**), highlighting the SDHTB7/SDHTT3 orthologue supporting  
241 additional hydrophilic elements that contact CIV<sub>2</sub>. In *T. brucei*, lineage-specific extensions of  
242 SDHB1 (yellow) and SDHB2 (green) help to stabilize SDHTB5 (cartoons). For panels **b-e**,  
243 key residues/lipids and interactions are shown as sticks and dashed lines, respectively.  
244 **f**, Phylogenetic distribution of selected CI and CV subunits across representative taxa, with  
245 filled squares indicating presence of an orthologue, whereas empty squares indicating  
246 absence.

247

### 248 ***The appearance of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV coincides evolutionarily with loss of Complex I***

249 To pinpoint when ETC-CV supercomplexes, such as CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV emerged during evolution,  
250 we performed sequence- and structure-based homology searches for subunits of CII, CIV, CV  
251 and the core subunits of CI across a panel of model species with an emphasis on Discoba  
252 (Fig. 2f, Extended Data Figs. 3g, 4g, 6h and Supplementary Table 5). These analyses  
253 demonstrate that within Kinetoplastea, *Perkinsela sp.* occupying a phylogenetic position most  
254 distant from trypanosomatids, already encodes two *g*-like subunits, and the free-living *Bodo*  
255 *saltans* is the first kinetoplastid in our sampling to encode three *g*-like subunits (Fig. 2f and  
256 Extended Data Fig. 3g). Therefore, the initial split of subunit *g* likely occurred in the common  
257 ancestor of Kinetoplastea, as only the canonical *g* subunit can be found in other major  
258 euglenozoan classes such as Euglenida and Diplonemea.

259

260 In parallel, the 14 core CI subunits are conserved in Euglenida<sup>53</sup> and Diplonemea<sup>54,55</sup>,  
261 whereas in Kinetoplastea two core CI subunits, ND4L and ND6, could not be detected in the  
262 mitochondrial genome<sup>56</sup> (Fig. 2f). This pattern suggests that a canonical transmembrane CI,  
263 and therefore a respirasome, is likely restricted to Euglenida and Diplonemea. Among  
264 kinetoplastids, non-trypanosomatid species such as *Perkinsela sp.* and *B. saltans* show no  
265 clear evidence of CI, although the *B. saltans* genome remains incomplete<sup>57,58</sup>. Within  
266 trypanosomatids, the mitochondrial transcripts CR3 and CR4 have been suggested as  
267 homologues of ND4L and ND6<sup>59</sup>, however, we detect neither structural nor sequence  
268 similarity between CR3/CR4 and ND4L/ND6 from mammals or other discobans

269 (Supplementary Fig. 2g-i). Electrophoretic analyses have nevertheless reported NADH  
270 dehydrogenase activity in the mitochondrial complexes from several trypanosomatids,  
271 including a *Phytomonas serpens* complex containing hydrophilic CI subunits NDUFA6 and  
272 NDUFA9<sup>60-63</sup>. However, this does not necessitate the presence of CI's membrane arm.  
273 Consistently, we did not identify full CI-like particles in 2D classes from cryo-EM data  
274 collected on crude *T. brucei* mitochondrial fractions exhibiting NADH dehydrogenase activity  
275 (Supplementary Fig. 2a-f). Given the fundamental roles of ND4L and ND6 in coupling  
276 electron transfer to proton pumping<sup>64</sup>, these observations support the conclusion that, at least  
277 in the procyclic stage, trypanosomatids likely lack a PMF-generating CI.

278  
279 The coincidence of ND4L and ND6 loss with subunit *g* duplication in *Perkinsela sp.*  
280 indicates that the appearance of ETC-CV supercomplex may have accompanied, and  
281 potentially compensated for the loss of transmembrane CI at the root of kinetoplastid  
282 evolution. Exceptions do exist, for example *Perkinsela sp.* have only two *g*-like subunits  
283 rather than three found in most kinetoplastids, yet already lacks CI, and whether it assembles  
284 an alternative *g/g'*-based CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV organization remains unknown. Conversely, *P. serpens*  
285 has three *g*-like subunits but has lost CIII<sub>2</sub> and CIV<sup>65</sup>, making formation of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV  
286 supercomplex unlikely. In this lineage, *g*-like subunits may represent evolutionary remnants.  
287 For most other kinetoplastids, the specific loss of the CI membrane arm is consistent with  
288 CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV contributing to the compensation for diminished mitochondrial membrane  
289 potential maintenance or cristae shaping functions normally associated with CI and  
290 respirasome.

291  
292 ***Knockout of subunit g' or g'' destabilizes and disassembles the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex***

293 To investigate the physiological role of the ETC-CV supercomplex in mitochondrial  
294 metabolism, we generated single homozygous knockout (KO) strains of subunits *g'*, *g''* and  
295 the CIV subunit NDUFA4, as well as tetracycline-inducible conditional KO strains of  
296 kinetoplastid-specific CIV subunits COXTB2 and COXTB3 (hereafter *g*<sup>-/-</sup>, *g'*<sup>-/-</sup>, NDUFA4<sup>-/-</sup>

297 and COXTB2/3<sup>-/-tet</sup>, respectively, Extended Data Fig. 7a). In addition to the non-canonical g-  
298 like subunits, NDUFA4, COXTB2 and COXTB3 contributed to formation of the CIV<sub>P</sub>-CV  
299 interface. All KO strains showed near-complete loss of the targeted gene products while  
300 maintaining normal expression of representative subunits from each OXPHOS complex  
301 (Extended Data Fig. 7b,c). Western blot analysis of digitonin-extracted mitochondrial lysates  
302 resolved by BN-PAGE demonstrated that constitutive NDUFA4<sup>-/-</sup> and conditional  
303 COXTB2/3<sup>-/-tet</sup> four days post induction (COXTB2/3<sup>-/-tet</sup> day 4) result in near-complete loss  
304 of CIV-containing bands (Fig. 3a). By contrast, g<sup>-/-</sup> and more strongly g''<sup>-/-</sup> specifically  
305 reduced the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV band while retaining 60%-80% of the wild type (WT) levels of  
306 lower-MW CIV<sub>2</sub>-containing bands. Surprisingly, strong decreases in monomeric ATP  
307 synthase levels are also observed for the g<sup>-/-</sup> and g''<sup>-/-</sup> strains, consistent with a shift of CV  
308 into dimers and potentially higher order assemblies (Fig. 3a).

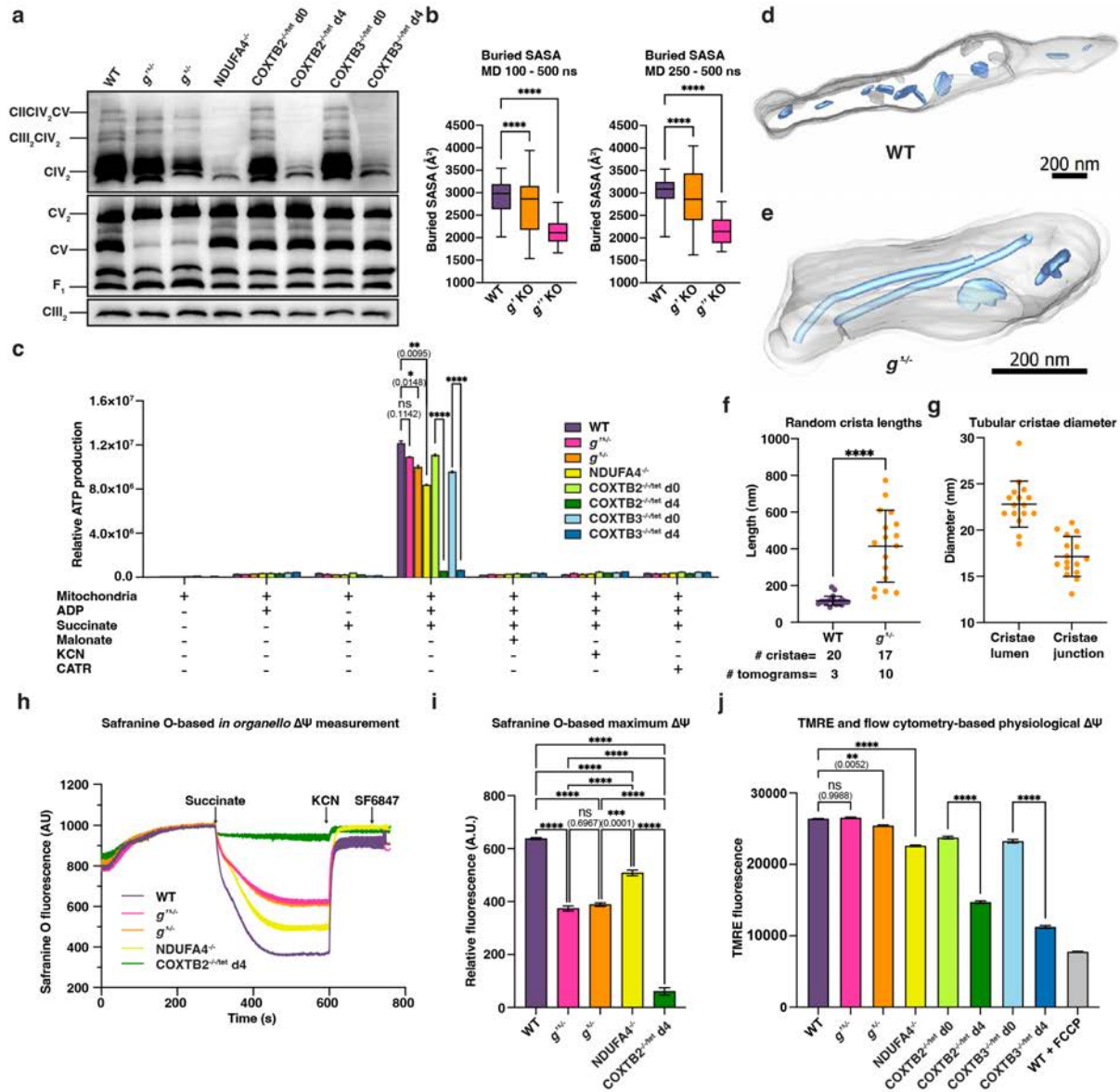
309

310 To further probe the destabilization of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV upon removal of subunit g' or g'', we  
311 performed atomistic MD simulations in which g' and g'' were knocked out *in silico* (see  
312 Methods). In both simulations, the CIV<sub>P</sub>-CV interface was perturbed, as quantified by  
313 changes in the buried solvent accessible surface area (SASA) between the two complexes  
314 (Fig. 3b). Subunit g' KO simulation showed a larger spread of buried SASA values,  
315 indicating an interface that frequently samples tighter and looser states. In contrast, subunit  
316 g'' KO displayed a reduced median buried SASA, consistent with a persistently weakened  
317 CIV<sub>P</sub>-CV association, in agreement with the BN-PAGE characterization (Fig. 3a,b).

318 Inspection of the trajectories revealed additional local rearrangements (Extended Data Fig. 8  
319 and Supplementary Videos 5-7). In the subunit g'' KO simulation, helices H1<sup>g'</sup> and H3<sup>g'</sup>  
320 became distorted, with bending angles increasing from 10°±2 and 29°±1 in WT to 34°±19  
321 and 45°±2, respectively (Extended Data Fig. 8a-f and Supplementary Videos 5 and 7).

322 Conversely, in the subunit g' KO simulation, H3<sup>g''</sup> adopted a straighter conformation, with its  
323 internal helical angle changing from 22°±1 in WT to 17°±1 (Extended Data Fig. 8a-c, g-i and  
324 Supplementary Videos 5 and 6). Together, the BN-PAGE and MD results demonstrate that

325 the loss of subunit  $g''$  or  $g'$  destabilizes the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex or prevent its  
 326 assembly, and is accompanied by enhanced formation of dimeric ATP synthase.  
 327



328  
 329 **Fig. 3 | Bioenergetic and morphological consequences of disrupting CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV**  
 330 **assembly.** **a**, Immunoblotting of digitonin-extracted mitochondrial lysates from WT and KO  
 331 strains, resolved by BN-PAGE. Antibodies detect COXEG7 (CIV), subunit  $\beta$  (CV) and  
 332 UQCRC1 (CIII<sub>2</sub>). CIII<sub>2</sub>, which is not part of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV or CV<sub>2</sub>, is used as a loading  
 333 control. **b**, Box plots of buried SASA at the CIV<sub>P</sub>-CV interface during the last 400 ns (left) or  
 334 250 ns (right) of 500 ns MD simulations of WT and *in silico*  $g'/g''$  KO supercomplexes. **c**,  
 335 ATP production in permeabilized WT and KO cells in the presence or absence of the  
 336 indicated substrates and inhibitors. **d,e**, Representative electron tomographs of WT (**d**) and  
 337  $g''$  (**e**) mitochondria; segmented cristae in blue. **f**, Length measurements of all visible cristae  
 338 from WT and  $g''$  tomographs. **g**, Diameter measurements of tubular cristae lumen and

339 junction from  $g^{-/-}$  tomographs. **h,i**, Safranin O-based *in organello* measurements of  
340 membrane polarization capacity: representative traces (**h**) and maximal  $\Delta\Psi_m$  values (**i**) after  
341 energization with succinate and subsequent addition of KCN and the uncoupler SF6847. **j**,  
342 TMRE and flow cytometry-based measurements of physiological  $\Delta\Psi_m$  in living cells. FCCP-  
343 treated WT cells serve as a depolarized control. Numerical data are represented as mean  $\pm$   
344 SEM (n = 3 biologically independent replicates).

345

### 346 ***CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV impacts cristae morphology more than bioenergetic output in kinetoplastids***

347 Since the physiological significance of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV is best assessed through the consequences  
348 of its loss, we measured mitochondrial membrane potential ( $\Delta\Psi_m$ ), ATP production rates, and  
349 growth of WT and KO strains. *In organello*, cyanide-sensitive  $\Delta\Psi_m$  driven by saturating  
350 succinate decreased  $\sim 40\%$  in  $g^{-/-}$  and  $g'^{-/-}$  and was nearly abolished in COXTB2<sup>-/-tet</sup> four  
351 days post induction, consistent with near-complete loss of CIV expression in this strain (Fig.  
352 3a,h,i). By contrast, flow cytometry-based measurement in living cells did not detect a  
353 meaningful difference in physiological  $\Delta\Psi_m$  between WT and  $g'/g''$  KOs (Fig. 3j). Together,  
354 these results suggest that loss of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV reduces the maximal polarization capacity, but  
355 not the physiological ability of OXPHOS to maintain  $\Delta\Psi_m$  under steady-state conditions.  
356 Consistent with this interpretation, succinate-driven ATP synthesis, powered by CII-CIV  
357 electron transfer, decreased by only 10-20% for  $g^{-/-}$  and  $g'^{-/-}$ , in line with their mild growth  
358 defects under both respiratory and glycolytic conditions (Fig. 3c and Extended Data Fig. 7e-  
359 g). Thus, despite a reduced upper limit of PMF generation, disassembly of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV does  
360 not markedly compromise apparent chemiosmotic coupling under the conditions tested.

361

362 To investigate whether the reduced polarization capacity is linked to structural remodeling,  
363 we assess mitochondrial ultrastructures in WT,  $g^{-/-}$  and  $g'^{-/-}$  by transmission electron  
364 microscopy (TEM) of resin embedded thin sections. Elongated, tubular cristae were observed  
365 in  $g'^{-/-}$  and, more prominently in  $g^{-/-}$ , in contrast to the canonical discoidal cristae typical of  
366 kinetoplastids (Extended Data Fig. 9). To visualize and quantify these changes, we  
367 reconstructed tilt series-based electron tomograms from defined numbers of WT and  $g^{-/-}$   
368 mitochondrial thin sections (Supplementary Videos 8 and 9). Tomography confirmed, both  
369 morphologically and statistically, that a substantial fraction of  $g^{-/-}$  cristae become elongated

370 and adopt a tubular morphology with a median lumen diameter of  $\sim 23$  nm, whereas WT  
371 cristae remain discoidal (Fig. 3d-g and Extended Data Fig. 9 ). Accordingly, the distribution  
372 of cristae lengths in  $g^{-/-}$  shows a larger spread and higher median than in WT (Fig. 3f and  
373 Extended Data Fig. 9c).

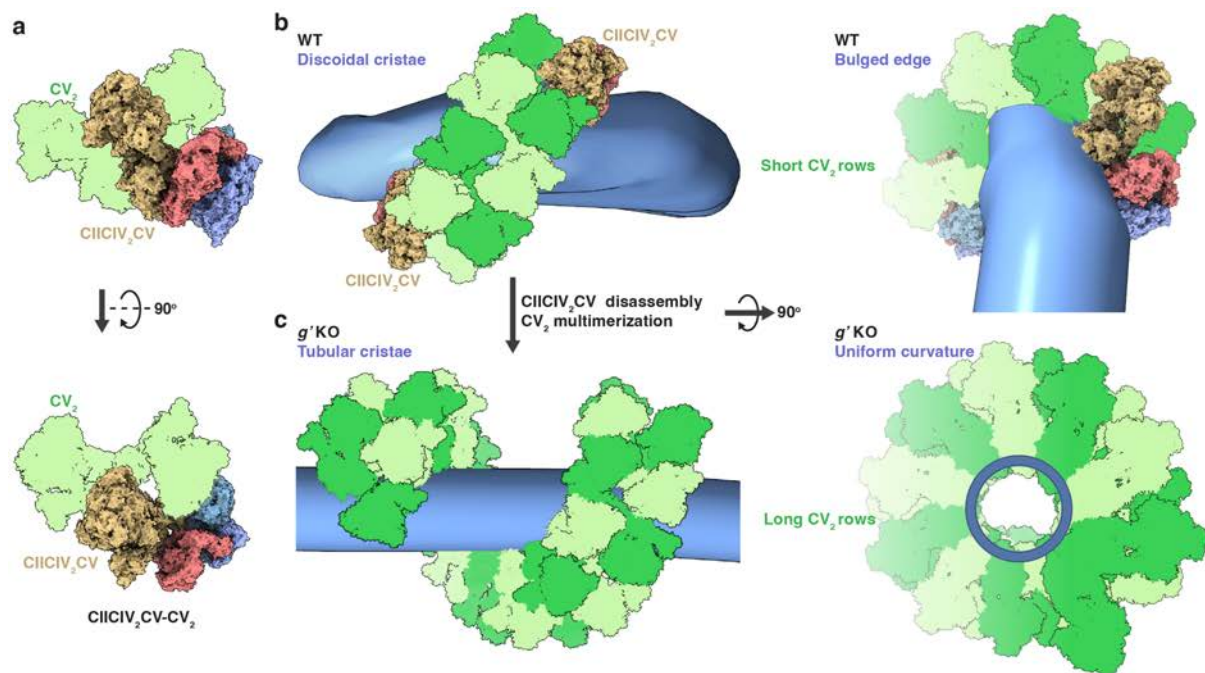
374

### 375 ***CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV may preserve discoidal cristae by limiting CV<sub>2</sub> row extension***

376 Tubular cristae are typically observed in ciliates, where long, helical rows of ATP synthase  
377 dimers coil around the cristae tube and impose a uniform cylindrical curvature<sup>29,30</sup>. In  
378 kinetoplastids, we propose that CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV contributes to maintaining short CV<sub>2</sub> rows by  
379 preventing further row extension (Fig. 4, see also the accompanying manuscript). In this  
380 model, the F<sub>1</sub> head of CV within CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV can dock into the inter-F<sub>1</sub> space of a CV<sub>2</sub>,  
381 analogous to the interaction between adjacent CV<sub>2</sub> units within multimeric row<sup>31</sup> (Fig. 4a).  
382 Structurally, the membrane portion of  $e/g'/e/g''$ -linked CIV<sub>P</sub>-CV is not bulkier than an F<sub>0</sub>  
383 dimer and is geometrically compatible with CV<sub>2</sub> association. This is also consistent with the  
384 shallower curvature of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV relative to CV<sub>2</sub> and its likely more central localization  
385 compared to CV<sub>2</sub> rows at the rim of discoidal cristae (Extended Data Fig. 3d). However,  
386 unlike CV<sub>2</sub>, CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV is intrinsically asymmetric, and the opposite CII-CIV<sub>D</sub> end does not  
387 provide a compatible interface for continued addition of CV<sub>2</sub> unit (Fig. 4b). Thus,  
388 CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV could act as a cap that constrains CV<sub>2</sub> assemblies and without it, uncontrolled  
389 elongation of CV<sub>2</sub> spirals drive the transition from discoidal to tubular cristae (Fig. 4c). This  
390 model is line with the sharp decrease in CV monomer in  $g^{-/-}$ , indicating redistribution of CV  
391 into dimer rows (Fig. 3a). A related constraining effect of ETC components on ATP synthase  
392 rows has been implicated in *E. gracilis*, where negative curvature in the respirasome  
393 membrane domain positions it adjacent to the CV<sub>2</sub>-decorated cristae rim, potentially  
394 imposing a steric limit on uncontrolled CV<sub>2</sub> elongation<sup>31,53</sup>. By analogy, emergence of  
395 CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV in Kinetoplastea may partially compensate for the evolutionary loss of CI by  
396 providing a structural mechanism to keep CV<sub>2</sub> oligomers finite and the cristae discoidal.

397

398 The reduced maximal  $\Delta\Psi_m$  in  $g^{-/-}$  is also consistent with cristae remodeling. In contrast to  
 399  $CV_2$ ,  $CIV_2$  assemblies such as  $CIII_2CIV_2$  are comparatively flat and may be poorly  
 400 accommodated by the highly curved tubular cristae with 20 to 25 nm diameters (Fig. 3g,  
 401 Extended Data Fig. 4a,b and Extended Data Fig. 9d-f). A shift towards tubular morphology  
 402 would therefore reduce the membrane area available for  $CIV_2$ -containing supercomplexes, in  
 403 line with the observed decreases in  $CIII_2CIV_2$  and overall  $CIV_2$  abundance in  $g^{-/-}$  (Fig. 3a).  
 404 Since  $CIV$  contributes to PMF generation, reduced capacity is expected to lower the upper  
 405 limit of mitochondrial polarization (Fig. 3h,i). ATP production and growth, however, are only  
 406 mildly affected, because physiological  $\Delta\Psi_m$  does not need full capacity OXPHOS operation  
 407 to be maintained, thus does not decrease below the threshold that would compromise fitness<sup>66</sup>  
 408 (Fig. 3c,j and Extended Data Fig. 7e-g).  
 409



410  
 411 **Fig. 4 | Proposed mechanism of cristae morphogenesis quality control by CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV.** a,  
 412 Hypothetical model of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV (solid surfaces) associating with an ATP synthase dimer  
 413 (green silhouettes). b, In WT discoidal cristae, short CV<sub>2</sub> rows (schematized as four CV<sub>2</sub>  
 414 units) are proposed to be capped at both ends by CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV, limiting row extension. c, In  $g^{-/-}$   
 415 mitochondria, loss of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV removes this constraint, allowing CV<sub>2</sub> to assemble into  
 416 extended rows that impose cylindrical curvature and promote tubular cristae.

417

418 **Discussion**

419 Mitochondrial OXPHOS is commonly depicted as two coordinated yet spatially segregated  
420 modules: an ETC that generates PMF and an ATP synthase that consumes it to produce ATP.  
421 Here we show that, in kinetoplastids, these functions can be integrated within a structurally  
422 defined supercomplex in which CII and CIV<sub>2</sub> associate directly with ATP synthase (Fig. 1).  
423 This supercomplex is a coordinated, multi-interface assembly rather than a fortuitous  
424 juxtaposition of stable modules. Cryo-EM reveals a clear organizing principle. The CV<sub>2</sub>  
425 homodimeric *g/g* module linking two CVs<sup>4</sup> is repurposed into a non-canonical, heterodimeric  
426 module built from two *g* paralogues, *g'* and *g''*, to resolve *g/g*'s geometrical incompatibility  
427 for CIV or other ETC complexes to associate. The new *g'/g''* module preserves the  
428 interlocking helical scaffold of the canonical interface while removes the steric features that  
429 would clash with CIV (Fig. 2a,b). Together with lineage-specific CII features and integral  
430 structural lipids, a rotary ATP synthase is integrated into ETC supercomplex without  
431 sterically obstructing catalysis, as proven by the presence of three rotational states in our  
432 cryo-EM dataset (Extended Data Fig. 3e).

433

434 A central implication of this organization is functional: disruption of the *g'/g''* module  
435 selectively destabilizes CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV, accompanied by pronounced remodeling of cristae from  
436 discoidal to elongated tubular morphologies (Fig. 3d-g, Extended Data Fig. 9 and  
437 Supplementary Videos 8 and 9). In contrast, steady-state bioenergetic outputs are only  
438 modestly affected, and physiological  $\Delta\Psi_m$  measured in living cells remains largely  
439 unchanged, even though maximal polarization capacity under saturating substrate supply is  
440 reduced (Fig. 3c,h-j). This pattern supports a model that although the primary role of  
441 CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV is architectural, it nonetheless maintains a reserve capacity for polarization by  
442 safeguarding cristae organization. Phylogenetic analysis places this mechanistic finding into  
443 evolutionary context<sup>67</sup> (Fig. 2f). The molecular innovations of subunit *g* enabling ETC-ATP  
444 synthase integration arose around the time canonical, PMF-generating CI<sup>68-71</sup> was lost or  
445 became highly divergent. This suggests temporal coincidence and plausible functional

446 linkage that in a CI-reduced context, the above architectural and functional duties, probably  
447 originally attributed to CI or the respirasome, are taken over by the ETC-CV supercomplex.  
448  
449 The structure raises the possibility that physical proximity between the proton source and  
450 sink could facilitate lateral proton transfer along the membrane surface<sup>72-74</sup> (Extended Data  
451 Fig. 10a). Consistent with this, the supercomplex provides a plausible negatively charged  
452 corridor on the IMS surface linking the putative proton exit of CIV<sub>P</sub><sup>75,76</sup> to the ATP  
453 synthase luminal half channel<sup>6,28</sup> (Extended Data Fig. 10b-d). However, two observations  
454 argue against lateral proton transfer being the dominant physiological role of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV.  
455 First, the supercomplex lacks CIII<sub>2</sub>, and thus cannot by itself represent a complete ETC  
456 conduit from typical electron donors to oxygen. It must operate within a broader membrane  
457 context that includes additional respiratory assemblies. It's nonetheless worth noting that the  
458 limited interface in our CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> structure, observed elsewhere as well<sup>77,78</sup>, imply  
459 vulnerability to detergent conditions, suggesting that the native ETC-CV network may be  
460 partially underrepresented in digitonin preparations (Extended Data Fig. 4a-d). More  
461 importantly, genetic disruption of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV does not produce a major bioenergetic loss  
462 under the conditions tested (Fig. 3c and Extended Data Fig. 7d). Together, these findings  
463 return to Mitchell's point that oxidative phosphorylation is ultimately a systems problem,  
464 defined by circuits, boundary conditions, and the physical constraints of the coupling  
465 membrane<sup>3</sup>. In this context, the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex exemplifies an emerging picture  
466 that chemiosmosis anticipates but structural biology has rarely made explicit: supercomplexes  
467 do not simply optimize bioenergetics kinetically<sup>15,18,19,79</sup>, but can also stabilize the membrane  
468 environment in which bioenergetics is possible, tuning curvature, available surface area, and  
469 the spatial compatibility of OXPHOS components.

470

## 471 **Conclusion**

472 Together, our structural, genetic, and computational analyses establish a *bona fide* ETC-ATP  
473 synthase supercomplex. We identify a specific module of subunits *g'g''* that rewires ATP

474 synthase assembly to couple the respiratory chain to cristae morphogenesis. It replaces the  
475 canonical ATP synthase *g/g* dimerization interface and accommodates CIV<sub>2</sub> without  
476 obstructing rotary catalysis. The resulting conversion of discoidal cristae into elongated  
477 tubules, coupled with a reduced maximal polarization but modest steady-state bioenergetic  
478 decline, argues that CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV primarily functions as an architectural constraint preserving  
479 cristae organization and bioenergetic reserve.

480

481 Our discovery provides a structural instantiation of the logic that transformed oxidative  
482 phosphorylation from a search for chemical intermediates into a membrane-based systems  
483 problem. In this sense, it extends Mitchell's chemiosmotic concept: beyond establishing a  
484 proton motive force, oxidative phosphorylation depends on the hosting membrane geometry  
485 and supramolecular organization that reliably generate that shape. Related architecture-  
486 energetics couplings have been proposed in other lineages as well. For instances, steric  
487 constraints imposed by respirasomes in euglenids<sup>31,53</sup> and the parallel organization of ETC  
488 and ATP synthase spirals in ciliates<sup>22,80</sup> suggest that different eukaryotic groups may employ  
489 different supramolecular solutions but converge on the same purpose to sculpt and stabilize a  
490 specific type of cristae morphology.

491

## 492 **Methods**

493 *T. brucei* culture and mitochondria isolation - The Trypanosomiasis Research Edinburgh  
494 University (TREU) 927 strain of *T. brucei* in its procyclic form were cultured at 27 °C, in  
495 SDM-79 medium supplemented with 10% (v/v) fetal bovine serum (FBS)<sup>4,81,82</sup>. For  
496 mitochondria isolation<sup>22,50,53</sup>, ~2.5 × 10<sup>10</sup> cells were harvested by centrifugation at 4 °C and  
497 11,000 × g for 10 minutes, washed in Wash buffer (20 mM sodium phosphate pH 8.0, 150  
498 mM NaCl and 20 mM glucose), resuspended in Hypotonic buffer (1 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0  
499 and 1 mM EDTA), and disrupted by 100 strokes in a 40 ml Dounce homogenizer. The lysis  
500 was stopped by immediate addition of 1 M sucrose to a final sucrose concentration of 0.25 M.  
501 Crude mitochondria were pelleted by centrifugation at 4 °C and 16,000 × g for 15 minutes

502 and resuspended in Isotonic buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 250 mM sucrose, 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>  
503 and 0.3 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>). DNase I treatment was performed by addition of 13 mg/ml stock to a  
504 final DNase I concentration of 5 µg/ml and incubation on ice for 60 minutes. One volume of  
505 the STE buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 250 mM sucrose, 2 mM EDTA) was added and  
506 mitochondria were pelleted by centrifugation at 4 °C and 16,000 × g for 15 minutes. The  
507 pellet was again resuspended in minimal volume of STE buffer and loaded on a  
508 discontinuous sucrose gradient with 30%, 45%, and 60% sucrose (w/v) in STE buffer.  
509 Loaded gradients were centrifuged at 4 °C and 29,000 rpm for 2 hours in an Optima XPN  
510 Ultracentrifuge using a SW32 Ti rotor (Beckman Coulter). Fine mitochondria vesicles were  
511 harvested from the 45-60% sucrose interface, further diluted by STE buffer to 50 ml and  
512 pelleted again by centrifugation at 4 °C and 16,000 × g for 15 minutes. The fine mitochondria  
513 pellet was labeled by its measured mass and stored at -80 °C until use.

514

515 *Sodium dodecyl sulphate, blue native polyacrylamide electrophoresis and immunoblotting -*

516 Small scale mitochondria isolation for electrophoretic purpose was done as following<sup>4,83</sup>. 2.5  
517 × 10<sup>8</sup> cells were harvested by centrifugation at 4 °C and 1,300 × g for 10 minutes and  
518 resuspended in 10 ml Wash Buffer as a washing step. The cells were pelleted again,  
519 resuspended in 3 ml of Hypotonic buffer and then homogenized for 8 strokes in a 7 ml  
520 Dounce homogenizer. The isotonicity was restored by adding 600 µl of 60% sucrose in  
521 Hypotonic buffer followed by 3 additional strokes. The homogenate was centrifuged at 4 °C  
522 and 15,000 × g for 10 minutes and resuspended in 700 µl of STM buffer (20 mM Tris pH 8.0,  
523 2 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 250 mM sucrose). 3 µl each of 1 M MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.1 M CaCl<sub>2</sub> and 4 U/µl DNase  
524 I was added to the resuspension, followed by incubation on ice for 1 hour with gentle  
525 agitation. 760 µl STE buffer was added to the resuspension, which was then aliquoted in  
526 equal volumes into two 1.5 ml microcentrifuge tubes and centrifuged at 4 °C and 15,000 × g  
527 for 10 minutes. The crude mitochondrial pellet was flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored  
528 at -80 °C.

529

530 For denaturing sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE),  
531 whole cell lysates were prepared from cells resuspended in PBS buffer (10 mM phosphate  
532 buffer, 130 mM NaCl, pH 7.3). The suspension was mixed with an equal volume of 2 × SDS  
533 loading buffer (150 mM Tris-HCl, pH 6.8, 300 mM 1,4-dithiothreitol, 6% (w/v) SDS, 30%  
534 (w/v) glycerol, and 0.02% (w/v) bromophenol blue) to a final concentration of  $1 \times 10^7$  cells  
535 in 30  $\mu$ l. The lysates were boiled at 100 °C for 10 min and separated on 5-12% gradient Tris-  
536 glycine polyacrylamide gels.

537

538 For blue native polyacrylamide electrophoresis (BN-PAGE), crude mitochondria of each  
539 strain were solubilized in 80  $\mu$ l MX buffer (30 mM HEPES pH 7.7, 150 mM potassium  
540 acetate, 0.002% PMSF and 10% (v/v) glycerol) with 10% digitonin with gentle agitation at  
541 4 °C for 1 hour. Lysate was cleared by centrifugation at 4 °C and  $16,000 \times g$  for 30 minutes  
542 and the total protein concentration was estimated by BCA assay. Mitochondrial lysate with  
543 10  $\mu$ g total protein was mixed with 1.5  $\mu$ l loading dye (500 mM  $\epsilon$ -aminocaproic acid (ACA),  
544 5% (w/v) Coomassie Brilliant Blue G-250), added by 50% (v/v) glycerol to a final glycerol  
545 concentration of 5%. Total volume of each sample was replenished to 20  $\mu$ l by MX buffer.  
546 BN-PAGE was performed with 3-12% Bis-Tris gel (Invitrogen) using a program of 80 V for  
547 15 minutes, 100 V for 3.5 hours and 130 V for 0.5 hour at 4 °C.

548

549 For immunoblotting of both SDS-PAGE and BN-PAGE, bands on the gel were transferred  
550 onto a PVDF membrane by electroblotting at 100 V for 1.5 hours at 4 °C. The PVDF  
551 membrane was blocked by incubation with 5% skimmed milk in  $1 \times$  PBST (8.5 mM  
552  $\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$  and 1.5 mM  $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$  pH  $7.4 \pm 0.1$ , 137 mM NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl and 0.05% Tween-  
553 20), followed by incubation with primary antibody against CII subunit SDHA, CIII<sub>2</sub> subunit  
554 UQCRFS1 Rieske domain, CIV subunit COXEG7 or CV subunit  $\beta$ , and secondary anti-rabbit  
555 antibody, all diluted in  $1 \times$  PBST with 5% skimmed milk. The PVDF membrane was then  
556 incubated in the Super ECL Detection Reagent ECL (YEASEN) and chemiluminescence was  
557 detected on a Fully Automated Chemiluminescence Image Analysis System (Tanon). The

558 levels of CIII<sub>2</sub> and mitochondrial 70kDa heat shock protein (mtHsp70) were used as the  
559 internal loading controls of the immunoblots of BN-PAGE and SDS-PAGE, respectively.

560

561 *Electron transport chain and ATP synthase supercomplex purification* - All the following  
562 biochemical steps were performed at 4 °C unless otherwise stated. To isolate the membrane  
563 fraction of *T. brucei* mitochondria, the fine mitochondria pellet was thawed and homogenized  
564 in milli-Q H<sub>2</sub>O at 10 ml per gram of mitochondria mass using a KIMBLE Dounce tissue  
565 grinder. The homogenate was added by 3 M KCl to a final KCl concentration of 150 mM and  
566 homogenized again to dissociate the peripheral membrane proteins. The homogenate was  
567 pelleted by centrifugation at 32,000 × g for 45 minutes, resuspended by homogenization in  
568 M10 buffer (20 mM Tris pH 7.4, 50 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 2 mM DTT, 0.002% PMSF  
569 (w/v) and 10% glycerol (v/v)) at 18 ml per gram of mitochondria mass as a washing step and  
570 pelleted again by centrifugation again at 32,000 × g for 45 minutes. The resulting  
571 mitochondrial membrane pellet was weighed and resuspended in buffer M10 at 1.5 ml per  
572 gram of membrane mass by homogenization. Total protein concentration was determined  
573 using a bicinchoninic acid (BCA) assay kit (Beijing LABLEAD Trading Co., Ltd.) following  
574 the manufacturer's instructions. The mitochondrial membrane was then added by M90 buffer  
575 (20 mM Tris pH 7.4, 50 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 2 mM DTT, 0.002% PMSF (w/v) and 90%  
576 glycerol (v/v)) to a final glycerol concentration of 30% (v/v) and stored at -80 °C until use.

577

578 For electron transport chain complexes and ATP synthase supercomplexes purification,  
579 mitochondrial membrane containing ~200 mg total protein was thawed and solubilized in  
580 MX buffer added by 2% digitonin at a detergent-to-protein ratio of 2:1 (w/w) for 2 hours with  
581 gentle agitation. After removal of insoluble materials by centrifugation at 16,000 × g for 45  
582 minutes, the supernatant was loaded onto a continuous 10-45% (w/v) sucrose gradient in  
583 SGB buffer (15 mM HEPES pH 7.7, 20 mM KCl and 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>) added by 0.015% glyco-  
584 diosgenin (GDN (w/v)) and centrifuged at 29,000 rpm for 20 hours in an Optima XPN  
585 Ultracentrifuge using a SW32 Ti rotor (Beckman Coulter). The gradients were then manually

586 fractionated into 1 ml fractions, which were then subjected to BN-PAGE. To stain with CIV  
587 activity, the gel was incubated in CIV buffer of 50 mM sodium phosphate pH 7.2, 0.05% 3,3-  
588 diaminobenzidine tetrahydrochloride and 50  $\mu$ M commercial porcine heart cytochrome *c*  
589 (Macklin). To stain with ATP synthase/CV activity, the gel was incubated in CV buffer of 50  
590 mM glycine pH 8.5, 5 mM  $MgCl_2$ , 5 mM ATP and 2 mM  $Pb(CH_3COO)_2$ . Both staining was  
591 carried out at room temperature (RT) by slow agitation overnight. Fractions displaying CIV  
592 or CV activity were pooled and loaded onto a 5 ml Q-Sepharose HP column (Cytiva)  
593 equilibrated in Q-A buffer (30 mM Tris pH 7.4, 50 mM NaCl, 2 mM  $MgCl_2$ , 0.002% PMSF  
594 (w/v), 10% glycerol (v/v) and 0.015% GDN) for anion exchange chromatography (ANX).  
595 The column was first washed with 25 ml of Q-A buffer and then eluted with a 100 ml linear  
596 gradient from 0% to 100% Q-B buffer (Q-A buffer with 1 M NaCl) mixed in Q-A buffer.  
597 ANX fractions were again subjected to BN-PAGE and staining of CIV and CV activities.  
598 Fractions containing supercomplex  $CIICIV_2CV$  were judged by presence of both CIV and  
599 CV activities at its highest electrophoretic position. Fractions containing supercomplex  
600  $CIII_2CIV_2$  were judged by presence of CIV activity at the electrophoretic positions lower than  
601  $CIICIV_2CV$  but higher than individual  $CIII_2$  or  $CIV_2$ . The rest fractions with CIV activity  
602 contain mostly individual  $CIII_2$  and  $CIV_2$ . These three groups of fractions were respectively  
603 pooled, concentrated and loaded onto the Superose 6 Increase 10/300 GL column (Cytiva) for  
604 size-exclusion chromatography (SEC) equilibrated in SEC Buffer (20 mM Tris pH 7.4,  
605 50 mM NaCl, 5 mM  $MgCl_2$ , 0.002% PMSF and 0.015% GDN (w/v)). SEC fractions were  
606 again subjected to BN-PAGE and staining of CIV and CV activities. The fractions  
607 corresponding to relatively pure supercomplex  $CIICIV_2CV$ , supercomplex  $CIII_2CIV_2$  and  
608 individual  $CIII_2/CIV_2$  were directly used for cryo-EM grid preparation before snap freezing  
609 and storage in liquid  $N_2$ .

610

611 *Cryo-EM grid preparation and data collection* - The cryo-EM grid preparation and data  
612 collection were carried out at the Center of Cryo-Electron Microscopy at Zhejiang  
613 University. For each of the three fractions representing  $CIICIV_2CV$ ,  $CIII_2CIV_2$  and

614 CIII<sub>2</sub>/CIV<sub>2</sub>, 3 µl sample was applied to a pre-glow discharged Quantifoil R1.2/1.3 300 mesh  
615 copper grid coated with 2 nm continuous carbon layer, before blotting for 1.5 s under 100%  
616 humidity at 4 °C and vitrification in liquid ethane by Vitrobot Mark IV (Thermo Fisher).  
617 Grids were stored in liquid N<sub>2</sub> until use. Cryo-EM micrographs were collected on a Titan  
618 Krios G2 microscope (Thermo Fisher) operating at 300 kV, equipped with a Selectris energy  
619 filter and a Falcon4i detector operating at 244 frames/s. EPU software was used for  
620 automated data collection following standard procedures. For all three datasets, the grids  
621 were imaged at a calibrated magnification of × 105,000 with a physical pixel size of 1.2 Å  
622 and a defocus range from -0.8 to -2.0 µm. A total dose of 52.00 e<sup>-</sup>/Å<sup>2</sup> with 7.10 s exposure  
623 time was fractionated into 1,733 frames. A total of 13,347, 12,510 and 1,511 raw  
624 micrographs were collected for CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV, CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> and CIII<sub>2</sub>/CIV<sub>2</sub> datasets respectively.  
625

626 *Cryo-EM image processing* - Raw micrographs of all three datasets were imported into  
627 cryoSPARC (v4.4.1)<sup>84</sup> for patch motion correction and contrast transfer function (CTF)  
628 estimation.

629  
630 For the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV dataset, 5,950,660 particles were initially picked and extracted using  
631 boxsize 448. Subsequent 2D classification and multi-class 3D *ab-initio* reconstruction yielded  
632 579,050 particles corresponding to supercomplex CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV that were used for initial  
633 overall homogeneous refinement and non-uniform refinement<sup>85</sup> with global and local CTF  
634 corrections<sup>86</sup> under C1 symmetry, giving a final overall resolution of 2.83 Å. However, the *c*-  
635 ring and F<sub>1</sub> regions of CV were barely visible in the refined overall map. Local refinements  
636 focused on CII, CIV<sub>2</sub>, the membrane region of the CV stator (CV\_F<sub>o</sub>\_stator) and the α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>  
637 region + the part of γ subunit that's embedded inside α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub> (CV\_α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>γ<sub>top</sub>) gave resolutions of  
638 2.83 Å, 2.71 Å, 2.80 Å and 3.47 Å, respectively. A composite map (CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>mem</sub>)  
639 combining local refinements of CII, CIV<sub>2</sub> and CV\_F<sub>o</sub>\_stator was generated using the  
640 Combine Focused Maps program in Phenix-1.20.1<sup>87</sup>. 3D classification without alignment was  
641 performed using particles from the above CV\_α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>γ<sub>top</sub> local refinement and the CV\_α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>γ<sub>top</sub>

642 mask as both solvent and focus masks. This classification gave three sensible classes, with  
643 33,147, 43,117 and 47,450 particles respectively, corresponding to the rotational states 1-3 of  
644 CV. These three classes refined to overall resolutions of 3.11 Å, 3.06 Å and 3.03 Å  
645 respectively. For each class, local refinements were performed on CII, CIV<sub>2</sub>, CV\_F<sub>o</sub>\_stator,  
646 CV\_α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>γ<sub>top</sub>, CV\_c-ring+γ<sub>bottom</sub> and CV\_peripheral\_stalk regions, giving resolutions ranging  
647 from 2.86 Å to 3.94 Å. Composite maps of the entire CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV were generated as above  
648 for each CV rotational state using these local refinement maps<sup>87</sup>.

649  
650 For the CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> dataset, 6,343,816 particles were initially picked and extracted using  
651 boxsize 448. Following 2D classification, 111,499 particles that shows possible  
652 supercomplex assembly of CIII<sub>2</sub> and CIV<sub>2</sub> were manually selected and subjected to 3D *ab-*  
653 *initio* reconstruction with only one class to generate the initial reference volume<sup>84</sup>. Overall  
654 homogeneous refinement and non-uniform refinement<sup>85</sup> with both global and local CTF  
655 corrections<sup>86</sup> under C1 symmetry gave a reconstruction at 2.84 Å, but the CIV<sub>2</sub> region was  
656 much less visible than the CIII<sub>2</sub> region in this overall map. To separate supercomplex  
657 CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> from individual CIII<sub>2</sub>, local refinement was first performed on these 111,499  
658 particles focusing on the CIV<sub>2</sub> region, which gave a resolution of 3.54 Å. Particles from this  
659 CIV<sub>2</sub> local refinement were then exported to Relion-4.0<sup>88</sup> for subsequent 3D classification  
660 without alignment masking the same CIV<sub>2</sub> region. This approach identified a class of 21,346  
661 particles with well-defined CIV<sub>2</sub> density, which refined to an overall resolution of 3.31 Å.  
662 Local refinements of this class focusing on the CIII<sub>2</sub> and CIV<sub>2</sub> regions gave resolutions of  
663 3.14 Å and 3.23 Å, respectively. Composite map of supercomplex CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> were generated  
664 as above using these two local refinements<sup>87</sup>.

665  
666 For the CIII<sub>2</sub>/CIV<sub>2</sub> dataset, 762,590 particles were initially picked and extracted using  
667 boxsize 256. Following 2D classification and multi-class 3D *ab-initio* reconstruction,  
668 293,996 CIII<sub>2</sub> and 82,850 CIV<sub>2</sub> particles were selected<sup>84</sup>. Overall homogeneous refinements

669 and non-uniform refinements<sup>85</sup> with global and local CTF corrections under C1 symmetry  
670 gave maps with overall resolutions of 2.65 Å for CIII<sub>2</sub> and 2.75 Å for CIV<sub>2</sub><sup>86</sup>.

671

672 *Model building and refinement* - All manual model building was performed in Coot-0.9.6<sup>89</sup>.

673 Mainchain backbones for conserved subunits were built by first rigid-body fitting published

674 structures into respective local refinement maps in ChimeraX<sup>90-92</sup>, then manually adjust in

675 Coot according to densities<sup>89</sup>. Reference models used to facilitate model building included

676 porcine CII (PDB 1ZOY)<sup>93</sup>, *T. thermophila* CII, CIII<sub>2</sub> and CIV<sub>2</sub> (PDB 8B6G, 8B6J and

677 8B6H)<sup>21</sup>, *E. gracilis* CIII<sub>2</sub> and CIV (PDB 8IUF)<sup>53</sup> and *T. brucei* CV (PDB 8APA)<sup>4</sup>.

678 Mainchain backbones of non-CV Tb-specific subunits were built *de novo* according to

679 density. Sequences of each subunit were identified according to published methods<sup>94</sup>. Briefly,

680 for each subunit side chains were first ‘guessed’ *de novo* according to a segment of density

681 with high resolution, then this segment of sequence were used as a query for BLAST search

682 against *T. brucei* proteome either from UniProt (UP000008524)<sup>95,96</sup> or from the TriTrypDB

683 website<sup>97,98</sup>. The manually built CII, CIII<sub>2</sub>, CIV<sub>2</sub> and CV subunits were rigid-body fitted into

684 the CIII<sub>2</sub>, CIV<sub>2</sub> and composite CII/CIV<sub>2</sub>/CV and CIII<sub>2</sub>/CIV<sub>2</sub> maps with chain ID adjusted as in

685 Supplementary Tables 3 and 4<sup>90-92</sup>. Automatic model refinements were performed using the

686 phenix.refine<sup>99</sup> and phenix.real\_space\_refine<sup>100</sup> programs, initially using automatically

687 generated secondary structure restraints, custom bond linkage and custom ligand description

688 file in Phenix-1.20.1. The output models were then manually edited according to refinement

689 outcomes in Coot<sup>89</sup>, with assistance from secondary structure information predicted by

690 AlphaFold<sup>101</sup>. The next round of automatic refinements were then performed and this

691 iterative process continues until the refined model reported high model-map correlation and

692 good geometric statistics<sup>102</sup>.

693

694 *Sequence analysis* - Homology detection of the OXPHOS complexes subunits

695 (Supplementary Table 5) was done running (PSI-)Blast<sup>103</sup> against the Discoba proteomes

696 with default cutoffs, and with HHPred<sup>104</sup> for proteins available in the HHPred database (PDB

697 proteins, and proteins from *N. fowleri*, *T. brucei* and *T. thermophila*). *Leishmania* proteins  
698 were detected at the genus level, the ID of the *Leishmania major* protein was recorded when  
699 available, otherwise the ID of other *Leishmania* species was recorded. When no homologs  
700 could be detected at the level of predicted proteins, tblastn was used to search for potential  
701 proteins that were missed in the automated protein prediction for that species, e.g., subunit g'  
702 in *B. saltans*. For the proteins for which structures were available, e.g., from *E. gracilis*,  
703 homology detection was also done by comparing 3D structures, leading e.g., to assignment of  
704 *T. brucei* protein Q583E7 to subunit COX7A. For the CV subunits the results were compared  
705 with the analysis of Sinha et al<sup>105</sup>. Most of the results were consistent, except for subunit *k* in  
706 *Andalucia godoyi* (ANDGO\_05913.mRNA.1) that we could not confirm and subunit *g* in *T.*  
707 *thermophila* (XP\_001032300.2) that was structurally not homologous to canonical subunit *g*,  
708 based on the *T. thermophila* CV<sub>2</sub> structure (PDB: 6YNY)<sup>30</sup>. The *g* subunit phylogeny was  
709 created with neighbor joining, using the identity matrix and correcting for multiple  
710 substitutions and using MrBayes 3.2.6 at [www.phylogeny.fr](http://www.phylogeny.fr) with default settings<sup>106</sup>. The  
711 alignment was created with clustalX<sup>107</sup>. The final tree was visualized and annotated using the  
712 Interactive Tree of Life (iTOL) tool<sup>108-110</sup> to generate a circular layout figure.

713  
714 *Atomistic molecular dynamics simulations of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex* - The 3.03 Å cryo-  
715 EM structure of the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex was used to construct the fully atomistic  
716 simulation model system. The F<sub>1</sub> part of the CV complex was truncated to keep the system  
717 size tractable with the  $\alpha_3$ ,  $\beta_3$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\epsilon$ , OSCP, ATPTB3, ATPTB4 and three p18 subunits and  
718 the F<sub>1</sub> regions of subunits *d* and 8 excluded. All protein subunits from other complexes were  
719 included in the model. Missing loops in subunits SDHTB6 (residue 102-115), SDHTB10  
720 (residue 46-55), SDHB1 (residue 169-183) and SDHTB5 (residue 192-202 and 337-348)  
721 were filled using Modeller software<sup>111</sup>. All structurally resolved lipids were included in the  
722 model system. Protonation states of titratable amino acid residues were defined using  
723 PropKa<sup>112</sup>. Force field parameters of redox-active cofactors were taken from the literature or  
724 the CHARMM-GUI small molecule library; copper and heme centers of CIV, and FeS

725 clusters, FAD and quinone of CII<sup>113–117</sup>. All redox-active cofactors were modelled in their  
726 oxidized states except the Cu<sub>B</sub> center of CIV, which was in cuprous form. The FAD molecule  
727 of CII was modelled without covalent linkage to the protein. The protein, lipids, ions and  
728 water solvent (see more below) were described using the CHARMM36 forcefield<sup>118</sup>.

729  
730 To construct the lipid membrane around the supercomplex, we applied the following  
731 procedure. The OPM-aligned<sup>119</sup> models of CIV<sub>2</sub> (PDB 1V55)<sup>120</sup> and CV<sub>2</sub> (PDB 6B2Z)<sup>34</sup> were  
732 superposed to the supercomplex. Individual, pre-equilibrated membrane patches, comprising  
733 75% POPE, 20% POPC and 5% TLCL, were obtained from CHARMM-GUI<sup>115</sup> and were  
734 then aligned to each of the OPM-based orientations. The CIV<sub>2</sub>- and CV<sub>2</sub>-aligned membrane  
735 patches were found to be in good agreement with the structural lipids within the  
736 supercomplex structure. A third membrane patch was constructed to achieve periodic  
737 boundary conditions (PBCs) and to allow sufficient space for protein-lipid equilibration and  
738 relaxation. The *c*-ring of CV was filled with four POPC-molecules with two lipids each  
739 facing one of the two sides of the membrane. The membrane-protein system was then  
740 solvated in a TIP3P water box, neutralized and ionized with 0.15 mol/l NaCl. The final  
741 simulation box size was 290 Å × 500 Å × 255 Å, comprising ca. 3.3 million atoms.

742  
743 A stepwise equilibration protocol was employed to relax the protein-membrane-solvent  
744 system by gradually releasing restraints from different parts of the system (Supplementary  
745 Table 6). First, an energy minimization of the entire system was performed for 50,000 steps  
746 without any restraints. Following this, the system was equilibrated in an NVT-ensemble,  
747 using the v-rescale thermostat<sup>121</sup>. Next, four NPT-steps followed, using different restraints  
748 (Supplementary Table 6), the v-rescale thermostat<sup>121</sup> and the Berendsen barostat<sup>122</sup>. The force  
749 constant of the harmonic restraints was 2000 kJ/mol/nm<sup>2</sup>. For production runs, the Nosé-  
750 Hoover thermostat<sup>123</sup> and the Parrinello-Rahman barostat<sup>124</sup> were employed to maintain a  
751 pressure of 1 atm and 310 K temperature, respectively. Long-range electrostatics were  
752 calculated using particle mesh-Ewald summation<sup>125</sup>, and the LINCS-algorithm<sup>126</sup> was used to

753 enable a time step of 2 fs. The cutoff for non-bonded interactions was 12 Å. Simulations were  
754 performed with Gromacs-2022.4<sup>127</sup>. Three production runs of 500 ns length were performed  
755 for each of the setup. Four different protein-membrane simulation setups were constructed a)  
756 a wild-type system containing CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex excluding the F<sub>1</sub> part of CV (see  
757 above) b) CII-CIV<sub>2</sub> subcomplex in membrane, c) a CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex without the g'  
758 and d) g'' subunit. An additional simulation setup containing only the lipid membrane was  
759 also simulated for 100 ns with restraints 2000 kJ/mol/nm<sup>2</sup> on the CV-equivalent patch and for  
760 100 ns without restraints.

761

762 The simulation data was analysed using VMD<sup>128</sup>, MDAnalysis<sup>129,130</sup>, Bendix<sup>131</sup> and the  
763 Gromacs toolbox. Solvent-accessible surface area (SASA) was computed using the  
764 GROMACS SASA module, which implements the Shake-Rupley algorithm with a probe  
765 radius of 0.14 nm<sup>132</sup>. For each trajectory frame, SASA was calculated for selected CIV<sub>P</sub>  
766 complex, CV without c-ring, and the same selection treated as a single combined group.  
767 Buried SASA corresponds to the solvent-exposed surface lost upon interaction between the  
768 selected complexes, and was computed according as; Buried SASA = SASA(CIV<sub>P</sub>) +  
769 SASA(CV) – SASA(CIV<sub>P</sub>CV). Figures and movies were produced using VMD<sup>128</sup> and  
770 ffmpeg<sup>133</sup>.

771

772 *Generation and verification of knock-out T. brucei cell lines* - All knock-out cell lines were  
773 generated in procyclic *T. brucei* cells constitutively expressing T7 RNA polymerase, Tet  
774 repressor and Cas9 nuclease from a single construct<sup>134</sup>. For the conditional expression of  
775 COXTB2 and COXTB3, an ectopic tetracycline regulatable copy of the respective gene was  
776 introduced to the parental strain by transfection of a *NotI*-linearized pLEW79-based construct  
777 carrying the respective coding sequence (CDS) inserted between the *Bam*HI and *Hind*III sites  
778 and the phleomycin resistance marker (Supplementary Table 7). Positive clones were selected  
779 using phleomycin (2.5 µg/ml). To knockout both alleles of individual genes of interests, two  
780 linear DNA molecules for expression of single guide RNAs (sgRNAs) and two repair

781 templates containing selection marker genes with UTRs flanked by homology arms targeting  
782 their recombination to the locus of interest were generated by polymerase chain reaction  
783 (PCR) with oligonucleotides designed using the LeishGEdit tool<sup>135</sup> (Supplementary Table 7).  
784 The repair templates were amplified from donor plasmids pPOTv5 (hygromycin) and  
785 pHD2164 (neomycin). The cells were electroporated with a mixture of both sgRNAs and  
786 both repair templates (4 µg each) using Amaxa Nucleofactor II. Clonal populations of  
787 knockout cells were selected in SDM79 medium supplemented with hygromycin (5 µg/ml)  
788 and G418 (2.5 µg/ml). In the selected clones, the absence of CDS of gene of interest and  
789 presence of the two selection markers was verified by PCR with specific primers  
790 (Supplementary Table 7). The sequences of all oligonucleotides are provided in  
791 Supplementary Table 7.

792

793 *Mitochondrial ATP synthesis, membrane potential and reactive oxygen species generation*  
794 *measurements* - ATP production measurements were performed as described previously with  
795 following modifications<sup>4,136</sup>. A total of 10<sup>8</sup> cells were harvested, washed with PBS (pH 7.4),  
796 and resuspended in 600 mM sorbitol, 20 mM Tris-HCl, 2 mM EDTA, pH 7.75, with 0.015%  
797 (w/v) digitonin for 5 minutes on ice. The organellar pellet was collected by centrifugation  
798 (4,000 × g, 3 minutes, 4 °C) and was resuspended in 75 µl of ATP production assay buffer  
799 (600 mM sorbitol, 10 mM MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 15 mM potassium phosphate buffer pH 7.4, 20 mM Tris-  
800 HCl pH 7.4, 2.5 mg/ml fatty acid-free BSA). Samples were treated with 5 mM succinate  
801 (sodium salt) and 67 µM ADP to induce ATP production. Control samples were preincubated  
802 with the inhibitors malonate (6.7 mM), potassium cyanide (1 mM), or carboxyatractyloside  
803 (6.5 µM) for 10 minutes at room temperature. After 30 minutes at room temperature, 1.5 µl of  
804 70% perchloric acid was added and the samples were incubated for 10 minutes on ice and  
805 centrifuged (maximum speed, 5 minutes, 4 °C). The supernatant (60 µl) was collected and  
806 neutralized by the addition of 11.5 µl of 1M KOH. After centrifugation, ATP concentration in  
807 the resulting supernatant was measured using the Roche ATP Bioluminescence Assay Kit HS

808 II in a Tecan Spark plate reader. The luminescence values obtained with the knockout strains  
809 were normalized against those from the wildtype samples.

810

811 To measure *in situ* mitochondrial membrane potential ( $\Delta\Psi_m$ ) in intact cells<sup>137</sup>, a total of  $10^6$   
812 cells were harvested by centrifugation, resuspended in SDM79 with 60 nM  
813 tetramethylrhodamine ethyl ester (TMRE), and incubated for 30 minutes at 27 °C in the dark.  
814 After incubation, cells were pelleted, resuspended in 1 ml of PBS (pH 7.4), and analyzed by  
815 flow cytometry (FACSymphony A1 Cell Analyzer, BD Biosciences, San Jose, CA). A total  
816 of 10,000 events were collected from each sample. The protonophore carbonyl cyanide 4-  
817 (trifluoromethoxy)phenylhydrazone (FCCP; 20  $\mu$ M) was used to depolarize the membrane in  
818 control samples.

819

820 Spectrofluorometric assessment of mitochondrial membrane polarization in digitonin-  
821 permeabilized cells using safranin O dye (Sigma S2255) was performed as described  
822 previously with some modifications<sup>4</sup>. Briefly,  $2 \times 10^7$  cells were pelleted (1,300 g, 10  
823 minutes, RT) and washed with 1 ml of ANT buffer (8 mM KCl, 110 nM K-gluconate, 10 mM  
824 NaCl, 10 mM free-acid HEPES, 10 mM  $K_2HPO_4$ , 0.015 mM EGTA potassium salt, 10 mM  
825 mannitol, 0.5 mg/ml fatty acid-free BSA, 1.5 mM  $MgCl_2$ , pH 7.25). The cells were  
826 permeabilized by 8  $\mu$ M digitonin (Sigma D141) in 2 ml of ANT buffer with 5  $\mu$ M safranin O.  
827 Fluorescence was recorded for 750 s in Hitachi F-7000 spectrofluorimeter (Hitachi High  
828 Technologies) with the following parameters: 2 Hertz acquisition rate and 495 nm and 585  
829 nm excitation and emission wavelengths, respectively. 5 mM succinate (Sigma S2378) and 1  
830 mM potassium cyanide were added after 300 s and 600 s, respectively. The uncoupler SF  
831 6847 (250 nM; Enzo Life Sciences BML-EI215-0050) was added to serve as a control for  
832 maximal depolarization.

833

834 For reactive oxygen species (ROS) production measurement<sup>137</sup>,  $5 \times 10^6$  *T. brucei* cells in the  
835 exponential growth phase were pelleted (1,300 g, 10 minutes, RT), resuspended in SDM79

836 with 5  $\mu$ M MitoSOX Red Mitochondrial Superoxide dye (Thermo Fisher Scientific Waltham,  
837 MA), and incubated for 30 minutes at 27 °C. After incubation, cells were washed with  
838 phosphate buffered saline (PBS; pH 7.4), resuspended in 1 ml of PBS, and immediately  
839 analyzed by flow cytometry (FACSymphony A1 Cell Analyzer, BD Biosciences, San Jose,  
840 CA). For all samples, 10,000 events were collected.

841

842 *Conventional transmission electron microscopy - T. brucei* pellets were prepared for  
843 transmission electron microscopy (TEM) using a modified protocol based on Knott et  
844 al<sup>138,139</sup>. Dehydration was performed using a graded acetone series (30, 50, 70, 80, 90, 95, and  
845 100%, 15 min each), followed by infiltration with SPI-Pon resin (SPI) using acetone–resin  
846 mixtures at ratios of 1:2, 1:1, and 2:1 (1 h each), and overnight incubation in pure embedding  
847 medium under vacuum in a desiccator. Polymerization was carried out at 62 °C for 48 h.

848

849 Ultrathin sections (70 nm) for conventional TEM and semithin sections (200 nm) for electron  
850 tomography were prepared using an EM UC7 ultramicrotome (Leica), collected on 300-mesh  
851 copper grids (SPI), and carbon coated. TEM images were acquired using a JEM-1400Flash  
852 transmission electron microscope (JEOL) equipped with a Xarosa CMOS camera (EMSYS).  
853 Electron tomography tilt series were collected over an angular range of  $\pm 60^\circ$  with  $1^\circ$   
854 increments using a 200 kV JEM-2100F microscope (JEOL) equipped with a K2 Summit  
855 direct electron detector (Gatan) and controlled by SerialEM<sup>140</sup>. The pixel size was set to 0.67  
856 or 0.84 nm. Tomogram reconstruction, filtering, 3D model visualization, and quantitative  
857 measurements were performed using the IMOD software package<sup>141</sup>.

858

859 *Quantification of crista length, lumen diameter, and crista junction diameter -* For initial  
860 screening to quantify elongated crista in *g'* and *g''* knockouts versus parental WT *T. brucei*  
861 strains, 109 cristae were measured from 35 (WT), 46 (*g''<sup>-/-</sup>*) and 41 (*g''<sup>-/-</sup>*) TEM images using  
862 Fiji<sup>142</sup> as previously described<sup>139</sup>. Briefly, the Line Selection Tool was used to draw a straight  
863 line connecting each crista rim in WT crista or each visible end of the elongated tubular

864 crista. The Measure tool was used to record the length of each line. The same approach was  
865 used to measure crista lumen diameter and crista junction diameter in the indicated number of  
866 virtual sections of reconstructed tomogram in Fig. 3f,g. Cristae length of elongated cristae  
867 was quantified in 3D using IMOD by measuring the length of a three-dimensional line tracing  
868 the central axis of each crista. These measurements were depicted schematically in Extended  
869 Data Fig. 9a. GraphPad Prism version 10.6.1 was used to plot data and calculate statistical  
870 significance was calculated using Welch's t test.

871

872 *Statistics and reproducibility* - All bioenergetic and MD measurements were performed with  
873 three biologically independent replicates and represented as the mean  $\pm$  standard error of the  
874 mean (SEM), following generally accepted rules. All statistical tests and regressions were  
875 performed in GraphPad Prism (version 10.2.0). For ATP production assay (Fig. 3c), two-way  
876 analysis of variance (ANOVA) with Tukey's multiple-comparisons test was performed to  
877 compare between pairs of individual means. For  $\Delta\Psi_m$  measurements (Fig. 3i,j), ROS  
878 production assay (Extended Data Fig. 7d) and buried SASA calculations (Fig. 3b), ordinary  
879 one-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple-comparisons test was performed to compare  
880 between pairs of individual means. For random crista length measurements from  
881 reconstructed tomographs (Fig. 3f), unpaired two-tailed *t*-test was performed to compare  
882 between WT and *g<sup>-/-</sup>* means. For random crista length measurements from TEM images  
883 (Extended Data Fig. 9c), ordinary one-way ANOVA with Holm-Šidák's multiple-  
884 comparisons test was performed to compare between pairs of individual means. A  
885 significance in difference was defined as follows: \*\*\*\*,  $P < 0.0001$ ; \*\*\*,  $P < 0.001$ ; \*\*,  $P <$   
886  $0.01$ ; \*,  $P < 0.05$  and not statistically significant (NS),  $P > 0.05$ .

887

888 **Data availability:** The composite maps and structural models and for *T. brucei*  
889 mitochondrial supercomplexes are available from the Electron Microscopy Database  
890 (EMDB) and the Protein Data Bank (PDB) and with the following accession codes.  
891 CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>state1</sub>: EMD-67252 and PDB-9XTV; CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>state2</sub>: EMD-67253 and PDB-

892 9XTW; CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>state3</sub>: EMD-67254 and PDB-9XTX; CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>mem</sub>: EMD-67255 and  
893 PDB-9XTY; CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>: EMD-67256 and PDB-9XTZ; CIII<sub>2</sub>: EMD-67189 and PDB-9XT1;  
894 CIV<sub>2</sub>: EMD-67192 and PDB-9XT9. Maps for consensus and local refinements are available  
895 from the EMDB with the following accession codes. CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>state1</sub>: consensus map EMD-  
896 67205, CII region EMD-67206, CIV<sub>2</sub> region EMD-67207, CV\_F<sub>o</sub>\_stator region EMD-67208,  
897 CV\_α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>γ<sub>top</sub> region EMD-67209, CV\_c-ring+γ<sub>bottom</sub> region EMD-67210, CV\_peripheral\_stalk  
898 region EMD-67211; CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>state2</sub>: consensus map EMD-67212, CII region EMD-67213,  
899 CIV<sub>2</sub> region EMD-67214, CV\_F<sub>o</sub>\_stator region EMD-67215, CV\_α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>γ<sub>top</sub> region EMD-  
900 67216, CV\_c-ring+γ<sub>bottom</sub> region EMD-67217, CV\_peripheral\_stalk region EMD-67218;  
901 CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>state3</sub>: consensus map EMD-67219, CII region EMD-67220, CIV<sub>2</sub> region EMD-  
902 67221, CV\_F<sub>o</sub>\_stator region EMD-67222, CV\_α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>γ<sub>top</sub> region EMD-67223, CV\_c-  
903 ring+γ<sub>bottom</sub> region EMD-67224, CV\_peripheral\_stalk region EMD-67225; CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>mem</sub>:  
904 consensus map EMD-67226, CII region EMD-67227, CIV<sub>2</sub> region EMD-67228,  
905 CV\_F<sub>o</sub>\_stator region EMD-67229; CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>: consensus map EMD-67230, CIII<sub>2</sub> region  
906 EMD-67231, CIV<sub>2</sub> region EMD-67232.  
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1306 administration: L.Z.

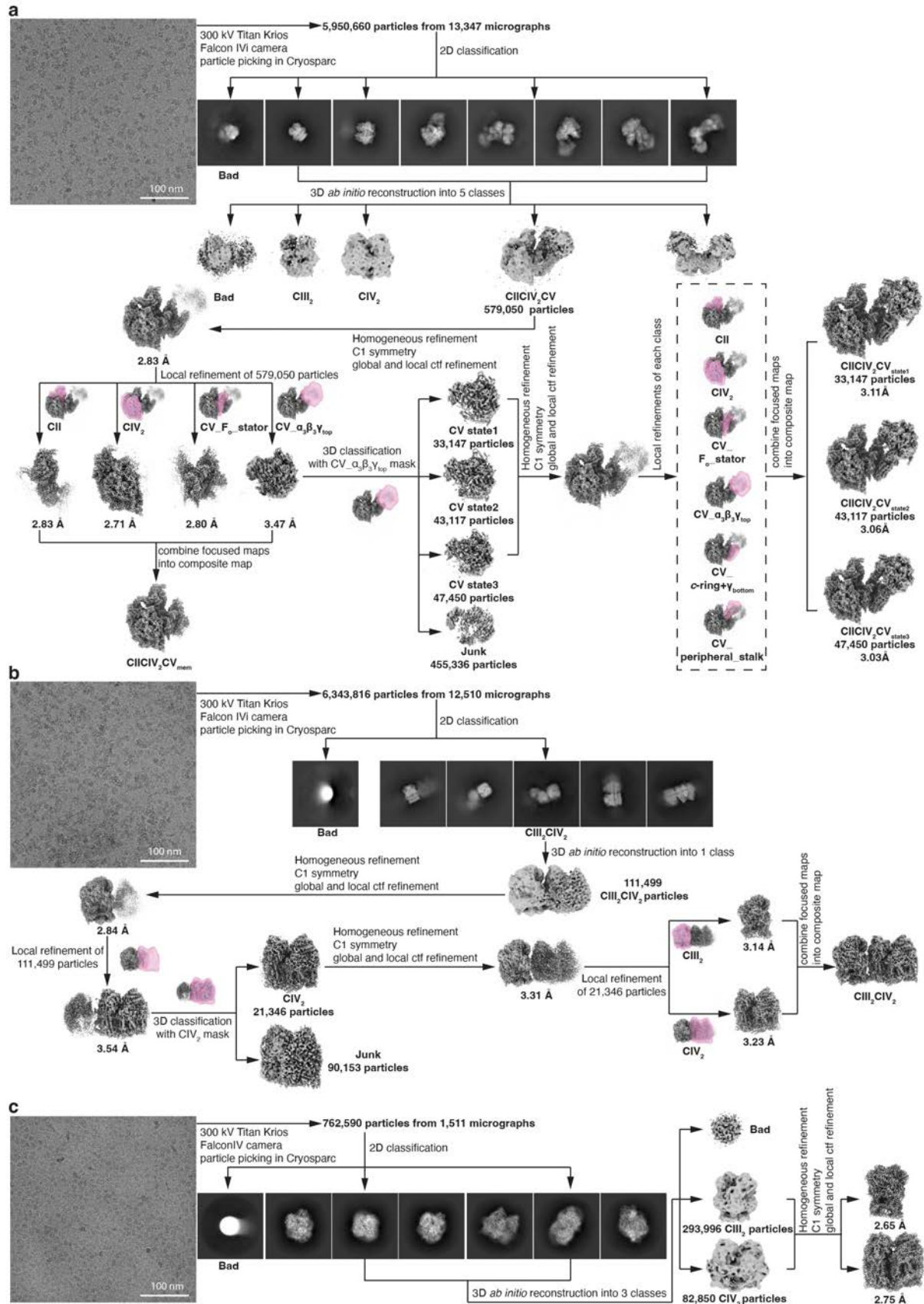
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1308 **Competing interests:** The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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1310 **Correspondence and requests for materials** should be addressed to Long Zhou.

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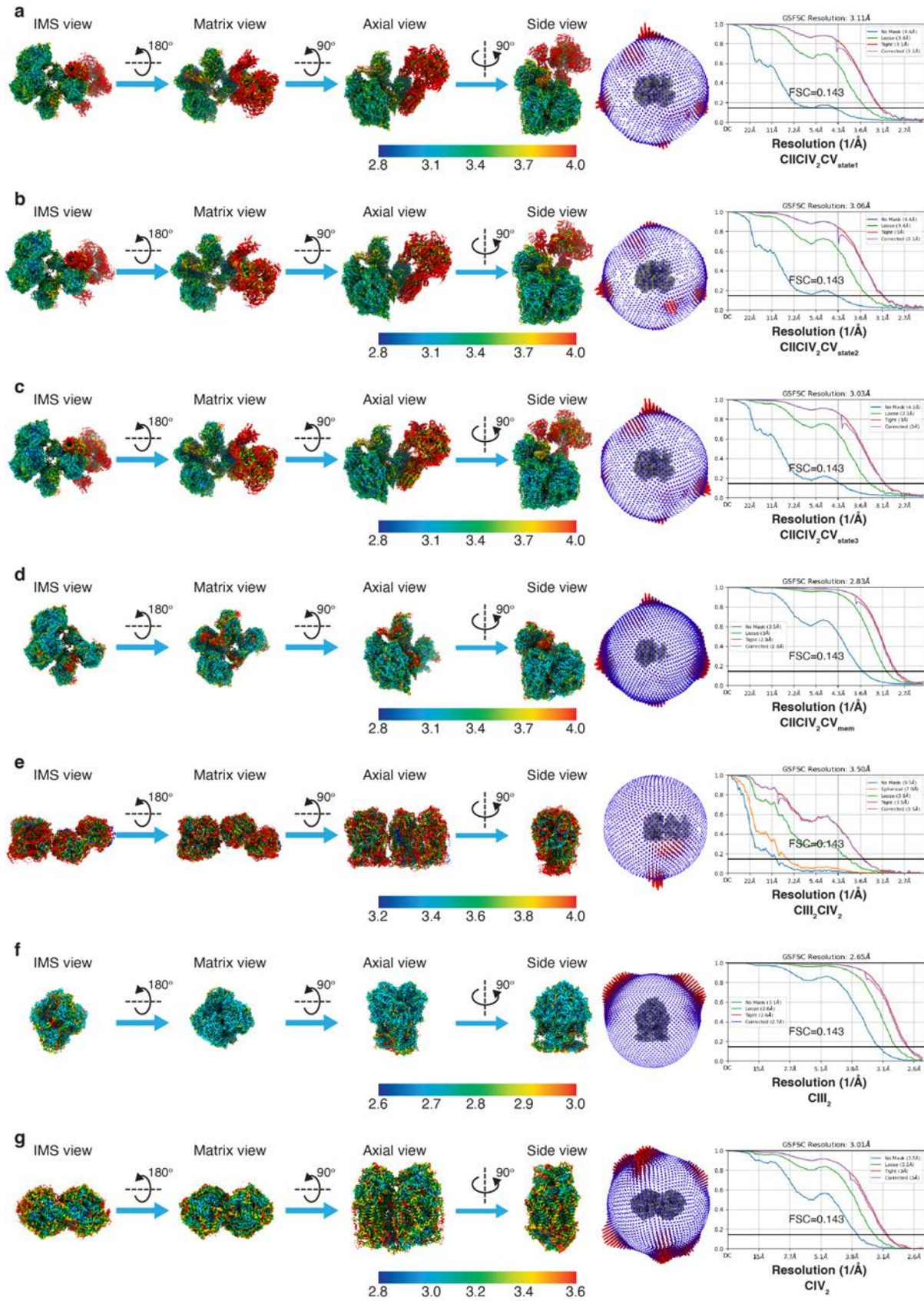
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**Extended Data Fig. 1 | Cryo-EM image processing of supercomplex CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV, CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>, CIII<sub>2</sub> and CIV<sub>2</sub>.** **a**, A total of 13,347 micrographs were collected from a 300 kV Titan Krios microscope equipped with Falcon IVi camera, from which 5,950,660 particles

1316 were initially picked and extracted using boxsize 448. A total of 579,050 supercomplex  
1317 CII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>CV particles were selected after 2D classification and multi-class 3D *ab-initio*  
1318 reconstruction. Overall homogeneous and non-uniform refinements gave a final overall  
1319 resolution of 2.83 Å, but *c*-ring and F<sub>1</sub> region of CV were barely visible. Local refinements of  
1320 CII, CIV<sub>2</sub> and the membrane-embedded region of the CV stator (CV\_F<sub>o</sub>\_stator) gave  
1321 resolutions of 2.83 Å, 2.71 Å and 2.80 Å, respectively. A composite map (CII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>mem</sub>)  
1322 combining local refinements of CII, CIV<sub>2</sub> and CV\_F<sub>o</sub>\_stator represented the best resolution  
1323 that could be achieved for the consensus region of CII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>CV in different CV rotational  
1324 states. Local refinement of the α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub> and the part of γ subunit that's embedded inside α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>  
1325 (CV\_α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>γ<sub>top</sub>) was also performed for further rotational state classification, giving a  
1326 resolution of 3.47 Å. 3D classification using these locally refined particles gave three sensible  
1327 classes corresponding to the rotational states 1-3 of CV. Overall homogeneous refinement,  
1328 non-uniform refinement and local refinements of CII, CIV<sub>2</sub>, CV\_F<sub>o</sub>\_stator, CV\_α<sub>3</sub>β<sub>3</sub>γ<sub>top</sub>,  
1329 CV\_*c*-ring+γ<sub>bottom</sub> and CV\_peripheral\_stalk regions were sequentially performed on particles  
1330 of these three classes, giving resolutions ranging from 2.86 Å to 3.94 Å, followed by  
1331 composite map generation. Masks used for individual local refinements are indicated as pink  
1332 transparent surfaces. **b**, A total of 12,510 micrographs were collected in the CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> dataset  
1333 and 6,343,816 particles were initially picked and extracted using boxsize 448. A total of  
1334 111,499 possible CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> particles were selected after 2D classification. 3D *ab-initio*  
1335 reconstruction with only one class, overall homogeneous refinement and non-uniform  
1336 refinement gave an overall resolution of 2.84 Å, but the CIV<sub>2</sub> region was barely visible. To  
1337 separate supercomplex CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> from individual CIII<sub>2</sub>, local refinement of the CIV<sub>2</sub> region  
1338 was performed, giving a resolution of 3.54 Å. 3D classification masking CIV<sub>2</sub> separated  
1339 21,346 particles with well-defined CIV<sub>2</sub> density. These particles, representing supercomplex  
1340 CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>, refined to an overall resolution of 3.31 Å. Local refinements of the CIII<sub>2</sub> and CIV<sub>2</sub>  
1341 regions gave resolutions of 3.14 Å and 3.23 Å, respectively, followed by composite map  
1342 generation. **c**, A total of 1,511 micrographs were collected in the CIII<sub>2</sub>/CIV<sub>2</sub> dataset and  
1343 762,590 particles were initially picked and extracted using boxsize 256. A total of 293,996  
1344 CIII<sub>2</sub> and 82,850 CIV<sub>2</sub> particles were selected after 2D classification and multi-class 3D *ab-*  
1345 *initio* reconstruction. Overall homogeneous and non-uniform refinements gave final  
1346 resolutions of 2.65 Å for CIII<sub>2</sub> and 3.01 Å for CIV<sub>2</sub>.  
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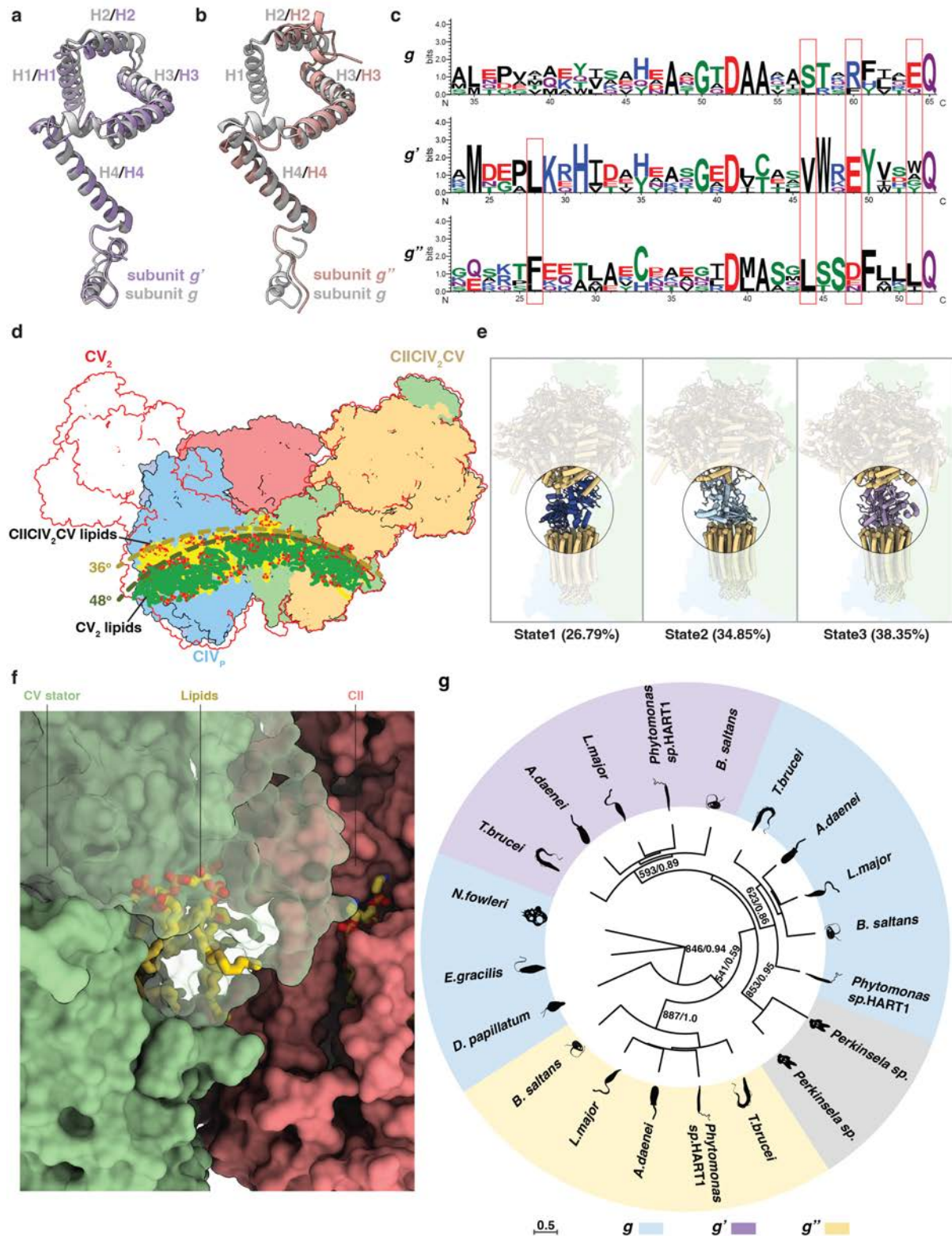
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**Extended Data Fig. 2 | Local resolution maps, projection orientation distributions and Fourier shell correlation (FSC) curves of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV, CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>, CIII<sub>2</sub> and CIV<sub>2</sub>. a-d, Local resolutions are plotted on the cryo-EM maps or composite maps of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>state1</sub> (a),**

1352 CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>state2</sub> (**b**), CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>state3</sub> (**c**), CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV<sub>mem</sub> (**d**), CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub> (**e**), CIII<sub>2</sub> (**f**) and  
1353 CIV<sub>2</sub> (**g**) in different viewing directions. Orientational distributions of particle projections are  
1354 individually plotted. FSC curves (gold standard FSC=0.143 for resolution estimation) of the  
1355 corresponding consensus refinements are shown.

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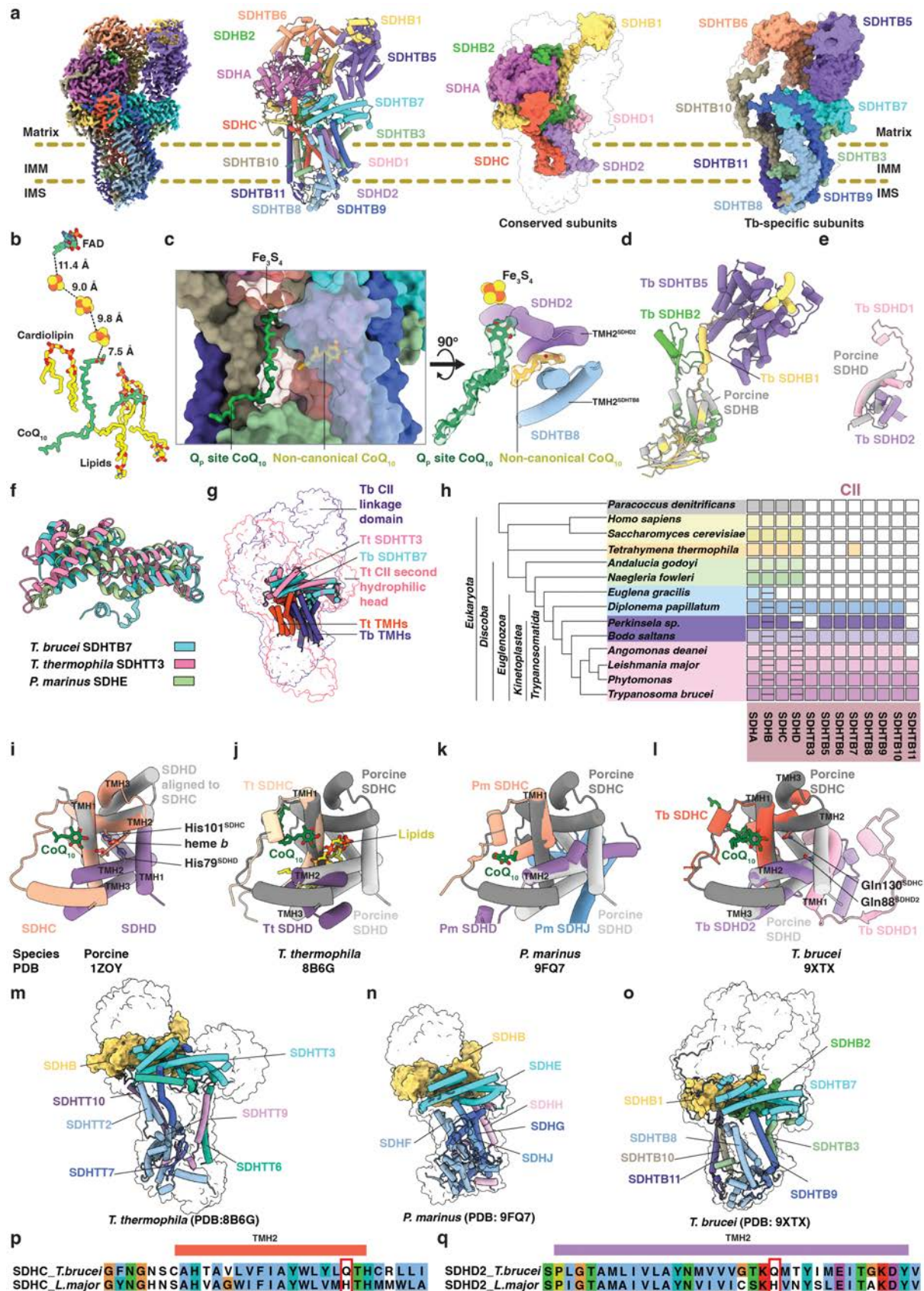
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 1358 **Extended Data Fig. 3 | Additional structural and evolutionary characteristics of *T.***  
 1359 ***brucei* supercomplex CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV. **a,b**, Structural superpositions of subunit g' (purple, **a**) or**  
 1360 **g'' (brown, **b**) with subunit g (grey). Numbering of helices are labeled. Note that subunit g''**  
 1361 **lacks the H1 as found in subunit g and g'. **c**, Sequence alignments of the g, g' and g''**  
 1362 **subunits respectively, using species *T. brucei*, *L. major*, *Angomonas daenei*, *Phytomonas sp.***  
 1363 **HART1 and *B. saltans*, with residues numbered according to the *T. brucei* sequence.**  
 1364 **Residues that are conserved in at least one of these subunits but are considerably altered**

1365 across different subunits, such as reversed charge or polarity, are marked by red boxes. **d**,  
1366 Side view of the structural superposition of the supercomplex CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV (colored  
1367 silhouettes) and a CV<sub>2</sub> (PDB: 8AP6, empty silhouette), aligned by a common monomeric  
1368 copy of CV. The steric clash is obvious between the other monomeric CV copy of CV<sub>2</sub> and  
1369 the CIV<sub>P</sub> of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV. **e**, The three rotational states of CV inside supercomplex  
1370 CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV, highlighting the conformations of the rotationally asymmetric part of CV rotor,  
1371 including the bottom part of subunit  $\gamma$  and subunits  $\delta$  and  $\epsilon$ . Morphing through the three  
1372 rotational states is shown in Supplementary Video 1. Note that rotational State 3, as named  
1373 after the nomenclature of *T. brucei* CV<sub>2</sub>, is the most populated. **f**, Surface representation of  
1374 the CII-CV interface within CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex, displaying the bridging lipids (yellow  
1375 sticks) in between. **g**, Circular presentation of the subunit *g* phylogeny within Discoba (see  
1376 Methods), indicating two gene duplication events at the base of the kinetoplastids that have  
1377 led to the *g*, *g'* and *g''* subunits. While the separation into three paralogous groups across  
1378 kinetoplastids is strongly supported, the branching order of the subunits is unresolved. Note  
1379 that *Perkinsela* appears to have undergone a parallel and independent duplication of the *g*  
1380 subunit to the kinetoplastids and the two resultant *g* paralogues are colored in grey. The  
1381 accession numbers of the sequences, from the innermost to the outermost clade in the circular  
1382 tree: XP\_011775304, CAD2222471, XP\_001687526, CCW69062, CYKH01002228  
1383 (position 4653-5084 in the DNA sequence), XP\_011771764, EPY39046, XP\_001686043,  
1384 CCW69339, CUG92605, KNH06072, KNH08985, XP\_829068, CCW69283, EPY38894,  
1385 XP\_001686918, CUG89822, KAJ9452804, comp12813\_c0\_seq1, XP\_002677150.  
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1395 Evolutionary distribution showing the presence (filled squares) or absence (empty squares) of  
1396 CIV subunits across the same set of species as in Fig. 2f.  
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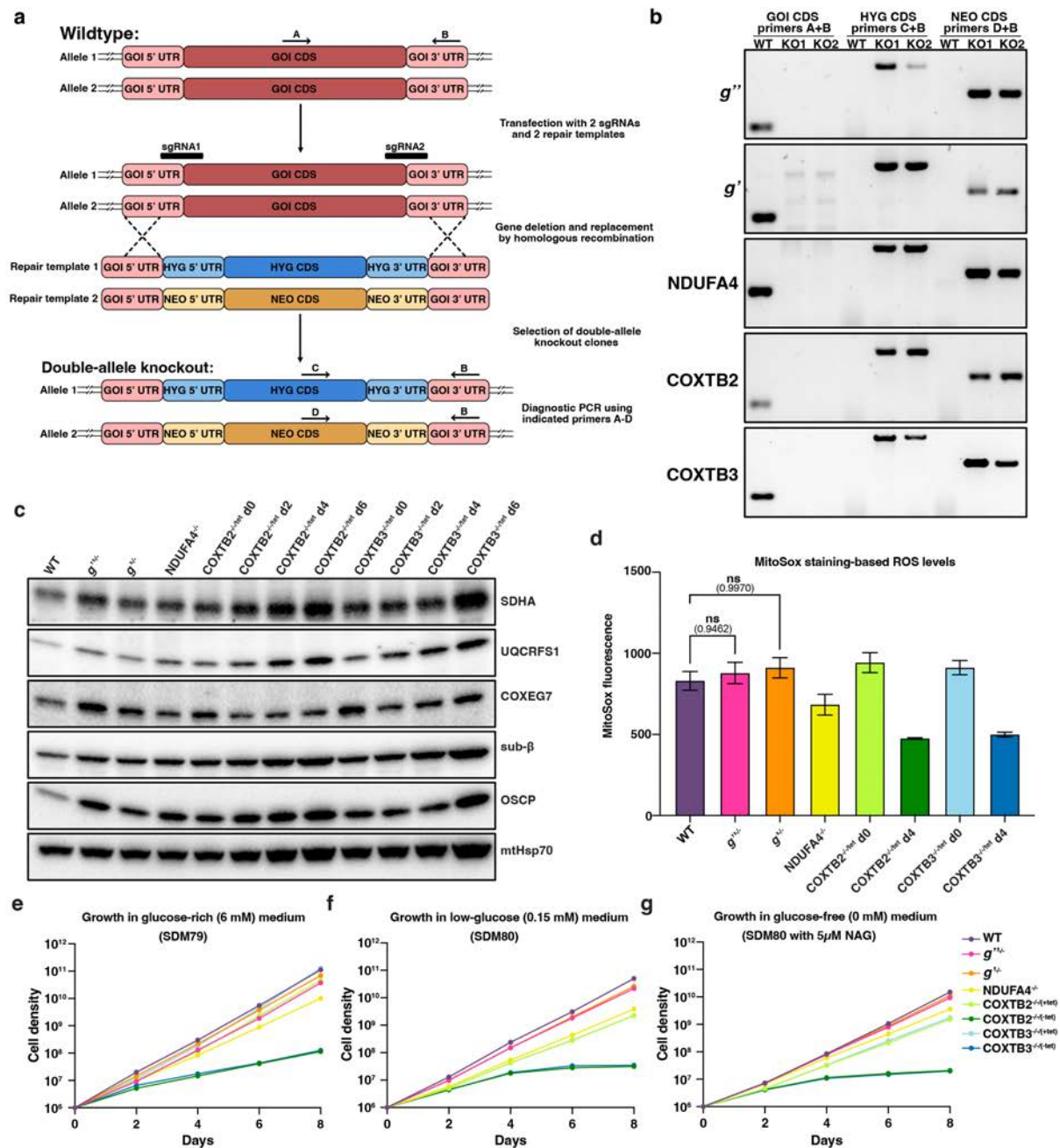




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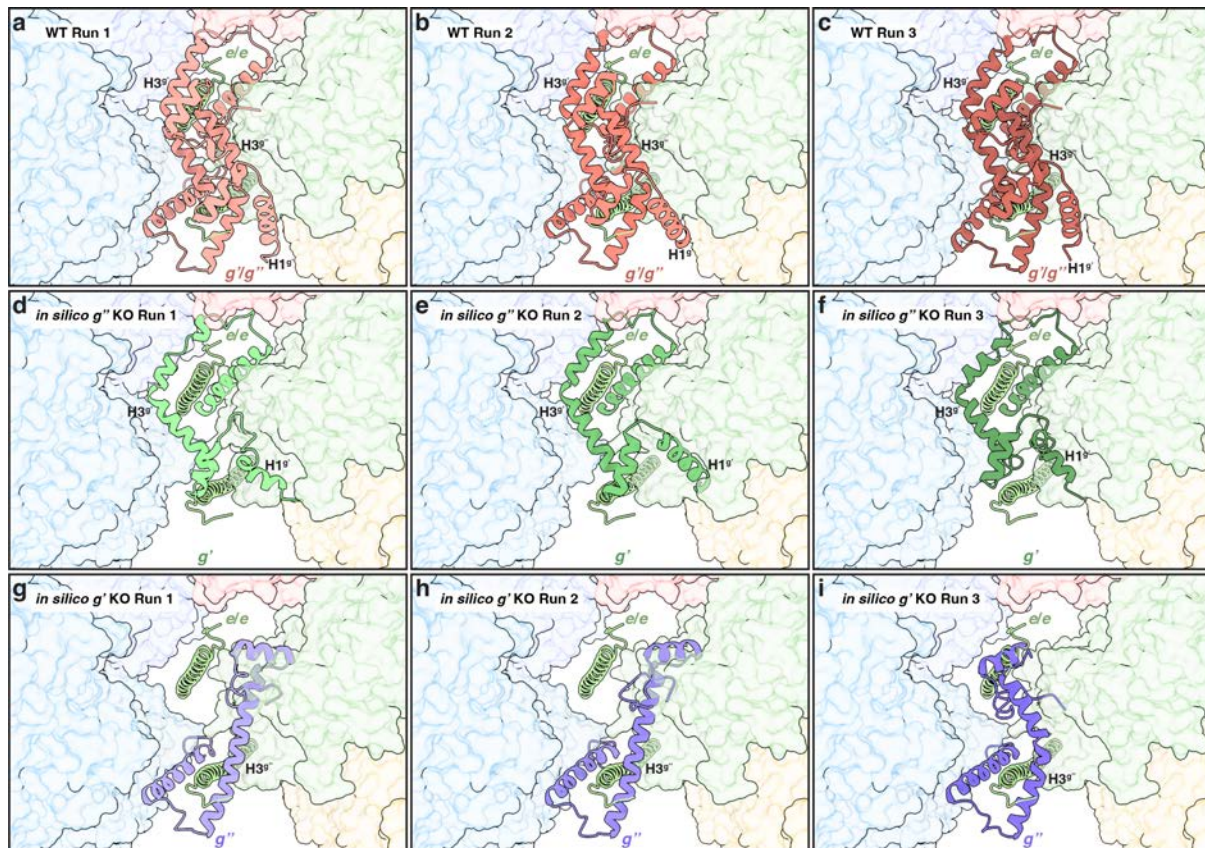
**Extended Data Fig. 6 | Structural and evolutionary characterizations of *T. brucei* CII. a,**  
From left to right: cryo-EM map, structure (cartoons) colored by individual subunits, core  
and conserved subunits (solid surfaces) colored individually, on top of the silhouette of  
complete CII. **b**, Co-factors, key lipids and CoQ<sub>10</sub> in CII. FeS clusters are shown as spheres;

1418 FAD, CoQ<sub>10</sub>, and bound lipids are shown as sticks. Distances between key electron transfer  
1419 co-factors are labeled. **c**, The two CoQ<sub>10</sub> molecules bound in CII. Trans-membrane subunits  
1420 are shown as surfaces (left) or cartoons (right) and colored individually. Some surfaces are  
1421 shown in transparency to allow visualization of elements behind. The canonical site CoQ<sub>10</sub>  
1422 (green stick and transparent surface) is located just below the Fe<sub>3</sub>S<sub>4</sub> cluster. The additional,  
1423 non-canonical CoQ<sub>10</sub> (yellow stick and transparent surface) bound between TMH2<sup>SDHD2</sup> and  
1424 TMH2<sup>SDHTB8</sup>. **d**, Structural superposition of *T. brucei* SDHB1 (yellow) and SDHB2 (green)  
1425 with porcine SDHB (PDB: 1ZOY, grey), illustrating the C-terminal extension of *T. brucei*  
1426 SDHB1 spanning across SDHTB5 (purple). **e**, Structural superposition of *T. brucei* SDHD1  
1427 (pink) and SDHD2 (light purple) with porcine SDHD (PDB: 1ZOY, grey). **f**, Structural  
1428 superposition of *T. brucei* SDHTB7 (cyan), *T. thermophila* SDHTT3 (PDB: 8B6G, pink) and  
1429 *P. marinus* SDHE (PDB: 9FQ7, green). **g**, Structural superposition of CII structures from *T.*  
1430 *thermophila* (red silhouette) and *T. brucei* (black silhouette). The homologous  
1431 SDHTT3/SDHTB7 subunits and their supporting TMHs are shown in cartoons. **h**,  
1432 Evolutionary distribution showing the presence (filled squares) or absence (empty squares) of  
1433 CII subunits across the same set of species as in Fig. 2f. Note that the lack of core subunits  
1434 SDHC and SDHD in *E. gracilis* and the lack of accessory subunits in *A. godoyi* and *N.*  
1435 *fowleri* are probably due to high sequence divergences rather than real absence of these  
1436 subunits. **i-l**, Structures of hydrophobic core subunits, SDHC and SDHD, from *S. scrofa* (**i**,  
1437 PDB: 1ZOY), *T. thermophila* (**j**, PDB: 8B6G), *P. marinus* (**k**, PDB: 9FQ7) and *T. brucei* (**l**,  
1438 PDB: 9XTX), shown in cartoons. Key co-factors and residues, such as the canonical position  
1439 CoQ<sub>10</sub> (green), membrane-embedded heme *b* (soft orange) or lipids (yellow) occupying the  
1440 same position and the heme-coordinating histidines or glutamines occupying the same  
1441 position are shown as sticks. In (**i**), an additional copy of SDHD (grey) is structurally aligned  
1442 to SDHC to demonstrate the pseudo C2 symmetry. In (**j-l**), classic structure of porcine SDHC  
1443 and SDHD (grey) are always superposed. **m-o**, Additional hydrophobic accessory subunits  
1444 with TMHs (cartoons) supporting the conserved SDHTT3/SDHE/SDHTB7 (cyan cartoons)  
1445 and SDHBs (solid yellow and green surfaces), on top of silhouettes of complete CII  
1446 structures from *T. thermophila* (**m**, PDB: 8B6G), *P. marinus* (**n**, PDB: 9FQ7) and *T. brucei*  
1447 (**o**, PDB: 9XTX). **p,q**, Sequence alignments of the TMH2<sup>SDHC</sup> and TMH2<sup>SDHD</sup> regions from  
1448 *T. brucei* and *L. major*, highlighting the positions of potential heme-coordinating histidines  
1449 (red boxes).  
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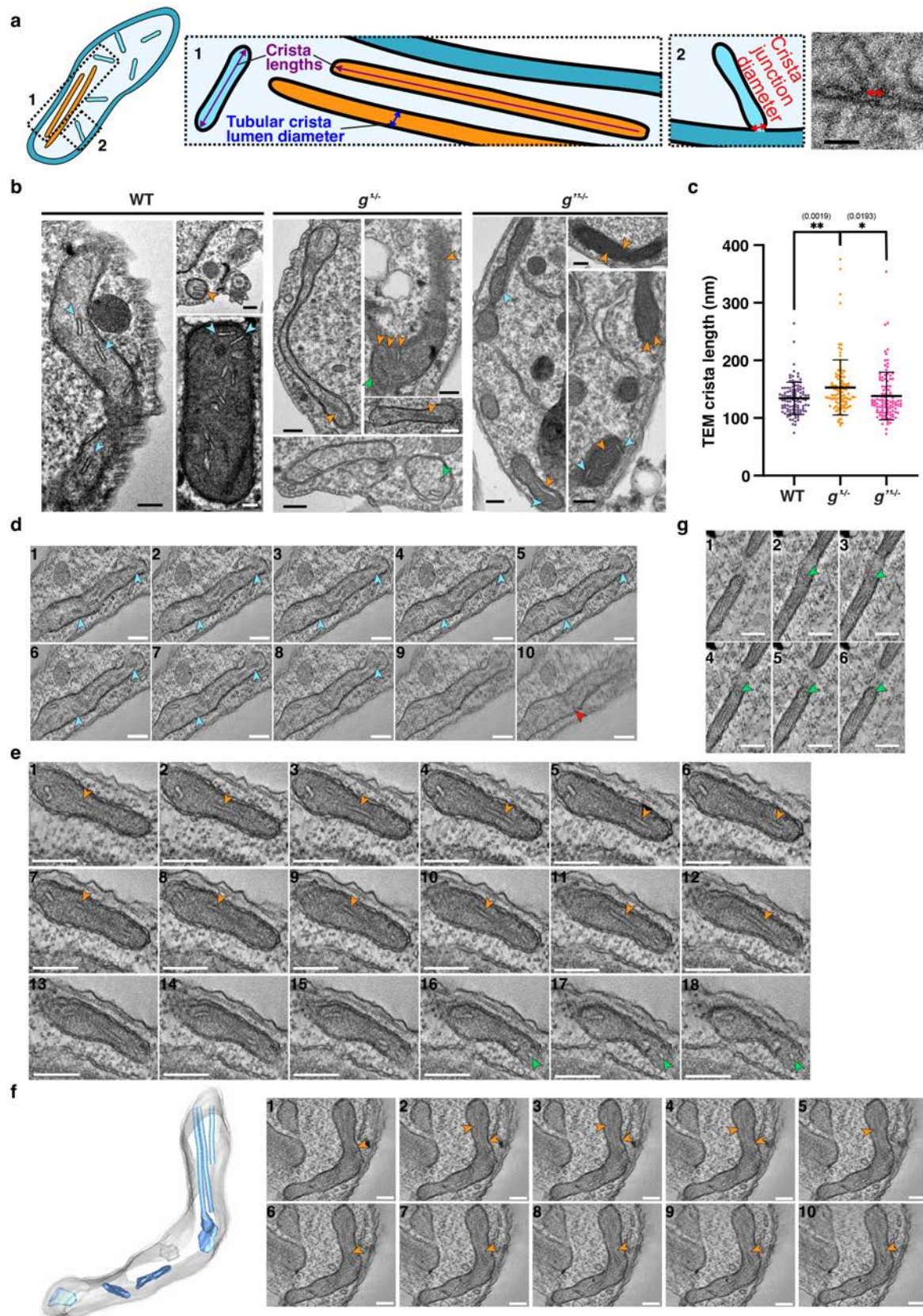
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**Extended Data Fig. 7 | Generation and characterization of double-knockout *T. brucei* strains.** **a**, Schematics of the double-knockout generation strategy. **b**, Diagnostic PCRs for parallel verification of knockout clones using specific primers, with genomic DNA sourced from cells employed in growth assays and from cryopreserved stabilates. **c**, Western blot analysis of representative OXPHOS subunits resolved by SDS-PAGE from knockout strains. Antibodies used detect SDHA(CII), COXEG7 (CIV), subunit β (CV) and subunit OSCP (CV). mtHsp70 is used as an internal loading control. **d**, Measurement of ROS productions by the WT and knockout strains. **e-g**, Growth curves of WT and knockout strains in glucose-rich (**e**), low-glucose (**f**) and glucose-free media (**g**). The ROS levels in (**d**) are represented as mean ± SEM (n = 3 biologically independent replicates).



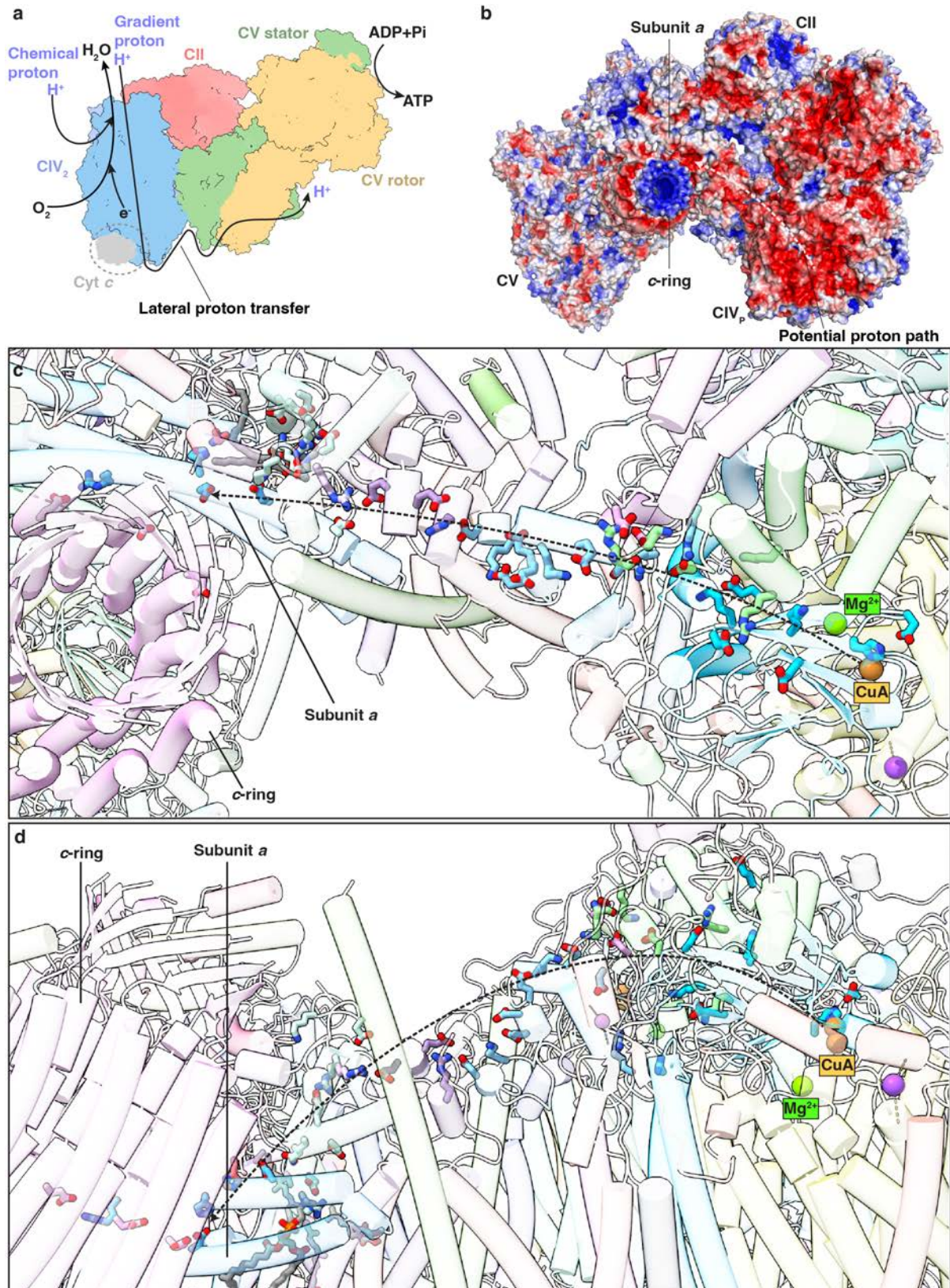
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**Extended Data Fig. 8 | End-of-run structures of the MD simulations of WT and *in silico* g'/g'' KO. a-i,** End-of-run structures in the MD simulations of WT CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV (a-c), *in silico* g'' KO (d-f) and *in silico* g' KO (g-i). Three replicates are shown for each of the starting conditions. Note that while the WT g'/g'' module stay more or less the same as the starting cryo-EM structure of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV, H1<sup>s</sup> displays different levels of distortion in the three replicates of *in silico* g'' KO and H3<sup>s</sup>, originally curved, displays different levels of straightening up in the three replicates of *in silico* g' KO.



1472  
 1473 **Extended Data Fig. 9 | Mitochondrial cristae morphology is altered in  $g'$  and  $g''$  KO cell**  
 1474 **lines. a**, Schematic illustration of a mitochondrion, with boxed areas (dashed rectangles)  
 1475 enlarged in the insets to the right. They illustrate the measured lengths (purple double arrows)  
 1476 of discoidal (cyan) and tubular cristae (orange), the lumen diameters (blue double arrows) of

1477 tubular cristae and crista junction diameter (red double arrows). The rightmost panel is an  
1478 image from an electron tomogram in which crista junction diameter was measured. **b**,  
1479 Exemplar TEM images of thin sections from strains indicated at top. **c**, Quantification of  
1480 cristae length in WT and  $g^{-/-}/g''^{-/-}$  cells. Bar and whiskers show mean and standard  
1481 deviation, respectively. **d,e**, The subsets of tilt sections from the 3D reconstructions of the  
1482 WT cell from Fig. 3d (**d**) and the  $g^{-/-}$  cell from Fig. 3e (**e**). **f,g**, Two additional subsets of tilt  
1483 sections from the  $g^{-/-}$  cells. 3D electron tomogram is reconstructed for one of them (**f**). (**g**)  
1484 demonstrates a series of transverse planes of a tubular crista (green arrowheads). Scale bars,  
1485 200 nm (except **f**, 50 nm). Blue arrowheads, WT cristae; orange arrowheads, frontal plane of  
1486 tubular cristae; green arrowheads, transverse plane of tubular crista; red arrowhead, crista  
1487 junction. Tilt series are shown every 5 (**f**), 10 (**d, e**) or 20 (**g**) sections.  
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**Extended Data Fig. 10 | Lateral proton transfer and the proposed surface proton path on CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV.** **a**, A schematic of lateral proton transfer. The gradient protons, pumped from the matrix to the IMS side by CIV<sub>P</sub>, travel along the protein surface as depicted in **(b)** and return to the matrix side by powering the ATP synthesis of CV. The approximate binding position of cytochrome *c* (grey) is inferred based on the structure PDB: 5IY5. **b**, Surface

1495 electrostatic potential of the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex, viewed from the IMS side. Positions  
1496 of individual complexes, CV subunit *a* and the *c*-ring are labeled. Note that a continuous path  
1497 (dashed arrow) formed by negatively charged surface can be identified, leading from the IMS  
1498 opening of CIV's proton exit route to the IMS half-channel of CV. **c,d**, Zoom-in views, from  
1499 the matrix (**c**) or parallel to the membrane (**d**), showing the residues capable of proton  
1500 transfer lining the proposed surface proton path in (**b**). Key co-factors, such as the Cu<sub>A</sub>, and  
1501 subunits, such as subunit *a* and *c*-ring, defining the start and end of such path are labeled.  
1502

1 **Title: A Supercomplex Incorporating Both Electron Transport Chain and ATP**

2 **Synthase**

3

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9

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44 in procyclic *T. brucei* mitochondria.

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54 homology detection of OXPHOS complex subunits.

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59 three rotational states and CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>.

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62

## 63 **Supplementary Discussion**

64 *T. brucei* ETC structures confirm kinetoplastids' mitochondrial transcript editing features

65 Our CIII<sub>2</sub>, CIV<sub>2</sub> and CV structures confirm known gene fragmentation and transcript  
66 editing/splicing features of the *T. brucei* mitochondrial genomes<sup>70</sup>. For example, maxicircle  
67 encoded COXIII and subunit *a* (ATP6) transcripts are pan-edited throughout their sequences  
68 by uridine insertion/deletion<sup>71–73</sup>, while COXII and COB transcripts are only edited at  
69 specific positions to create either a downstream frameshift or an upstream start codon<sup>74–76</sup>.  
70 The obtained cryo-EM density maps agree with the translations of these edited transcripts  
71 (Extended Data Fig. 4e,f).

72

73 Specifically, the 20-residue N-terminal helix of COB, introduced by a new start codon  
74 originated from uridine additions, has clear density in our CIII<sub>2</sub> structure (Extended Data Fig.  
75 5d). They form part of the quinone headgroup binding cavity of the *T. brucei* Q<sub>N</sub> site, where  
76 clear ubiquinone/coenzyme Q<sub>10</sub> (CoQ<sub>10</sub>) density can be observed (Extended Data Fig. 5a).  
77 Superposition of COB structures demonstrates that *T. brucei* CIII<sub>2</sub> adopts a canonical  
78 conformation in this region as most other species (Extended Data Fig. 5b). Only that in *E.*  
79 *gracilis* this NT helix has rotated away from the Q<sub>N</sub> site, effectively weakening CoQ<sub>10</sub>  
80 binding here as reflected by lack of ligand in its CIII<sub>2</sub> structure of comparable resolution<sup>6</sup>  
81 (Extended Data Fig. 5b). Sequence alignment of COB reveals the existence of an *E. gracilis*-  
82 specific double tyrosine motif here (Tyr19/22), which if not rotated, would produce a Q<sub>N</sub>  
83 environment too narrow for quinone headgroup to enter (Extended Data Fig. 5b,c). Therefore,  
84 euglenids and kinetoplastids have evolved different strategies to deal with structural  
85 variations at the COB NT. The early-branching euglenids could not edit transcript and had to  
86 tolerate the appearance of double tyrosine motif by structural rearrangement<sup>77</sup>. On the other  
87 hand, parasitic kinetoplastids accumulate mutations more efficiently in their maxicircle  
88 encoded subunits due to selective pressure relaxation in the anaerobic phase of life cycle and  
89 have gained uridine insertion/deletion capabilities as remedies<sup>70</sup>. Canonical Q<sub>N</sub> site structure  
90 can thus be maintained, thanks to the combinatory effects of both genetic drift in the

91 bloodstream stage (such as for Tb\_Leu19<sup>COB</sup>) and natural selection of the transcript editing in  
92 the procyclic stage (such as for Tb\_Leu16<sup>COB</sup>)<sup>76</sup>.

93

94 *Structural details of T. brucei's divergent CII, apart from its linkage domain*

95 The structure of *T. brucei* CII reveals the splitting of its core subunits SDHB and SDHD  
96 (Extended Data Fig. 6d,e). Splitting of core OXPHOS subunits, mostly the hydrophobic ones  
97 of CI, CIV and CV, has been repeatedly reported for a range of eukaryotic clades<sup>3-6,18,73</sup>, so  
98 that genes encoding the split, less hydrophobic fragments can be relocated to the nuclear  
99 genome to keep the mitochondrial genome streamlined<sup>78</sup>. Splitting of CII subunits, however,  
100 has not been structurally visualized until the current study. It is noteworthy that such trans-  
101 membrane subunit splitting makes sequence-based structure prediction of the resultant  
102 fragments less reliable. Therefore, the possibility cannot be ruled out that the aforementioned  
103 dissimilarity between the Alphafold predicted structures of *T. brucei* mitochondrial  
104 transcripts CR3/CR4 and structures of canonical ND4L/ND6 is because the former are the  
105 mitochondrial remnants after splitting of the latter (Supplementary Fig. 2g-i).

106

107 A total of eight lineage-specific accessory subunits (prefixed by 'SDHTB') are identified in  
108 *T. brucei* CII (Extended Data Fig. 6a). In a broader perspective, the membrane-embedded  
109 regions of known eukaryotic CII structures from mammals<sup>17,79</sup>, *T. thermophila*<sup>5,18</sup>, *Perkinsus*.  
110 *marinus*<sup>80</sup> and the currently studied *T. brucei* display high diversity in terms of the numbers  
111 and positions of their TMHs. The classic, mammalian CII contains two hydrophobic core  
112 subunits, SDHC and SDHD (Extended Data Fig. 6i). Each with three TMHs (TMH1-3), they  
113 display a pseudo-2-fold symmetry and embrace a b-type heme in the middle. The heme iron  
114 is axially coordinated by two histidine residues, each on the TMH2 of subunit SDHC or  
115 SDHD. In this way, a tetra-TMH hydrophobic core with heme *b* surrounded in the center, is  
116 formed by the N-terminal TMH1 and TMH2 of subunits SDHC and SDHD, while the two C-  
117 terminal TMH3 run more or less parallel to respective heme-iron coordinating TMH2. Such  
118 structural motif however, is not always conserved among CIIs across different eukaryotic

119 clades. Importantly, the matrix ends of TMH1<sup>SDHC</sup> and TMH2<sup>SDHD</sup> form CII's CoQ<sub>10</sub> redox  
120 site where CoQ<sub>10</sub> receives electrons from the terminal Fe<sub>3</sub>S<sub>4</sub> cluster, thereby representing the  
121 evolutionarily most conserved part of the tetra-TMH core (Extended Data Fig. 6i). In our *T.*  
122 *brucei* CII structure, clear CoQ<sub>10</sub> densities can be observed, not only at this canonical site, but  
123 also at a non-canonical site in-between CII's TMH2<sup>SDHD2</sup> (corresponds to canonical  
124 TMH3<sup>SDHD</sup>) and TMH2<sup>SDHTB8</sup>, likely representing a local energy minimum along the route of  
125 CoQ<sub>10</sub> entering and exiting CII (Extended Data Fig. 6b,c). Similar CoQ binding sites *en route*  
126 to the redox reaction centers are also known in CI and CIII<sub>2</sub><sup>5,81</sup>.

127

128 In accordance with the above, *T. thermophila* CII has lost TMH2<sup>SDHC</sup>, TMH3<sup>SDHC</sup> and  
129 TMH1<sup>SDHD</sup>, reserving only TMH1<sup>SDHC</sup>, TMH3<sup>SDHD</sup> and the matrix half of TMH2<sup>SDHD</sup>  
130 (Extended Data Fig. 6j). Since both heme iron-coordinating histidines are lost in the process,  
131 no membrane-embedded heme is found with the original space occupied by lipids, indicating  
132 that this heme is not absolutely required for electron transport in CII<sup>79</sup>. Similar pattern is  
133 observed for the SDHC and SDHD of *P. marinus*, also belonging to the clade Alveolata, only  
134 that a full TMH2<sup>SDHD</sup>, interrupted by a kink in the middle, is present (Extended Data Fig. 6k).  
135 The single TMH of the accessory subunit SDHJ spatially overlaps with *T. thermophila*  
136 TMH3<sup>SDHD</sup>, which is however quite displaced compared to the TMH3<sup>SDHD</sup> in the classic,  
137 mammalian SDHD structure. Like *T. thermophila*, *P. marinus* has also lost the CII heme,  
138 suggesting that this is common trait of alveolates. On the other hand, unlike alveolates, *T.*  
139 *brucei* CII has more or less retained the tetra-TMH core in its hydrophobic region, only that  
140 the SDHD1 TMH is severely displaced so that the C2 symmetry is broken (Extended Data  
141 Fig. 6l). But *T. brucei* CII still loses the CII heme due to His-to-Gln mutations in both  
142 TMH2<sup>SDHC</sup> and TMH2<sup>SDHD</sup>. It is worth mentioning that this double His<sup>TMH2</sup> motif is  
143 conserved in CII of the closely related *Leishmania tarentolae* implicating the presence of  
144 membrane-embedded heme *b* (Extended Data Fig. 6p,q). In general, since the hydrophobic  
145 subunits of CII are encoded by the nuclear genome, reduction of their TMHs cannot be  
146 attributed to the evolutionary pressure of mitochondrial genome streamlining. The above

147 observed phenomenon thereby is more likely linked to the evolutionary process of CII's  
148 heme *b* which remains elusive.  
149  
150 Moreover, despite the reduction of core subunit TMHs, a number of new TMHs from  
151 lineage-specific accessory subunits have emerged in these non-mammalian eukaryotic  
152 species, but without much of apparent structural homology regarding their positions relative  
153 to SDHC and SDHD (Extended Data Fig. 6m-o). For example, different organizations of  
154 accessory TMHs are developed to support the horizontal subunit SDHTT3/SDHE/SDHTB7,  
155 which is the only accessory subunit with clear structural homology across clades. For *T.*  
156 *thermophila*, subunits SDHTT2, SDHTT7 and the horizontal helices of SDHTT6 form a  
157 frame to support SDHTT3, while a separate TMH group of SDHTT9 and SDHTT6 support  
158 the second hydrophilic head, also linked to the conserved SDHTT3 (Extended Data Fig. 6m).  
159 For *P. marinus* and *T. brucei*, such role of supporting SDHTT3 orthologues, SDHE and  
160 SDHTB7, is fulfilled by TMHs from SDHF, SDHG, SDHH, SDHJ and SDHTB3, SDHTB8,  
161 SDHTB9, respectively (Extended Data Fig. 6n,o). It is noteworthy that SDHTT2, SDHF and  
162 SDHTB8 are all double TMH subunits occupying roughly similar positions in respective  
163 CIIs. However, sequence-based homology search failed to identify them as orthologues  
164 (Extended Data Fig. 6h). A second function of the accessory TMHs is to support the N-  
165 terminal  $\alpha/\beta$  domain of hydrophilic core subunit SDHB, which overhang unsupported by the  
166 hydrophobic subunits SDHC and SDHD in mammalian CII<sup>17,79</sup>. SDHTT10 of *T. thermophila*  
167 and SDHTB10 and SDHTB11 of *T. brucei* serve such function, likely to increase the  
168 stabilities of augmented CIIs, especially after the split of SDHB in *T. brucei* (Extended Data  
169 Fig. 6d,e,m,o). Taken together, although very limited sequence and structural homology is  
170 observed among accessory, trans-membrane subunits of CII apart from the  
171 SDHTT3/SDHE/SDHTB7 mentioned in the Main Text (Extended Data Fig. 6f), they likely  
172 represent different ways developed by different eukaryotic clades to stabilize the specialized  
173 structural elements of their CIIs, such as the SDHTT3/SDHE/SDHTB7 subunits, the split of

174 SDHB and the second hydrophilic head, so that their CIIIs can better assemble into respective  
175 CII-containing supercomplexes.

176

177 *Structural variations among the three g subunits help to serve different assembly purposes*

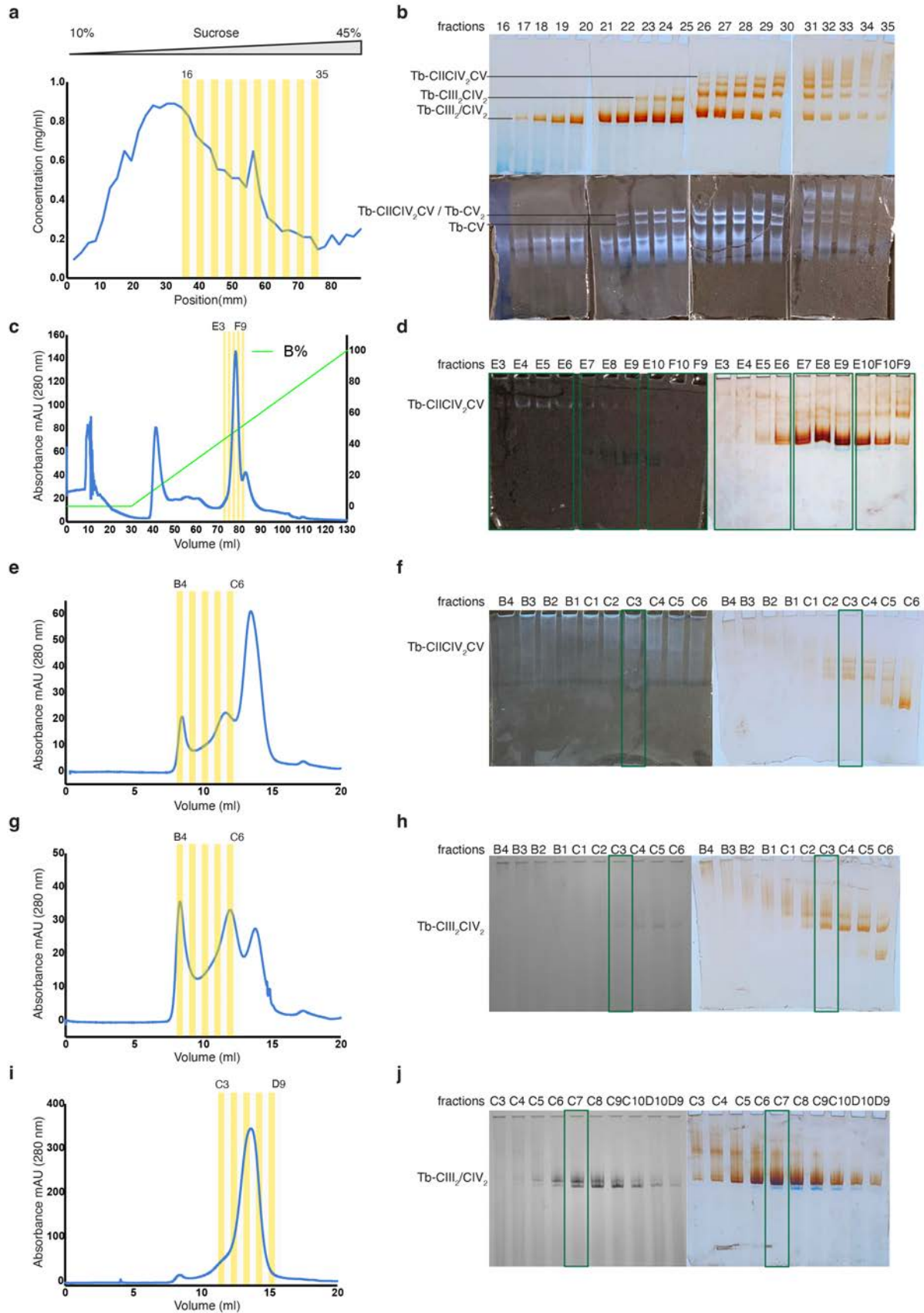
178 A closer look at the alignment of *g/g'/g''* sequences from a range of kinetoplastids reveals  
179 several key residues that are conserved among sequences belonging to a specific *g*, *g'* or *g''*  
180 subunit, but are substituted by residues with reversed charge or polarity across different *g*  
181 subunits (Extended Data Fig. 3c). For example, in subunit *g* the conserved salt bridge  
182 network Ser57<sup>s</sup>-Arg60<sup>s</sup>-Glu64<sup>s</sup> maintains dimerization in the (*e/g*)<sub>2</sub> module in CV<sub>2</sub> by  
183 locking the two IMM-parallel helices<sup>s</sup> next to each other (Fig. 2b and Extended Data Fig. 3c).  
184 However, in subunit *g''*, negative-to-neutral substitution of Glu64<sup>s</sup> by Leu51<sup>g''</sup> allows  
185 adjacent positive-to-negative charge reversal of Arg60<sup>s</sup> by Glu49<sup>g'</sup>/Asp47<sup>g''</sup>, which further  
186 dictates the removal of another nearby negative charge by Glu64<sup>s</sup>-to-Tyr53<sup>g'</sup> substitution  
187 (Fig. 2b and Extended Data Fig. 3c). Although such ‘dominos style’ mutations disrupt the salt  
188 bridge network Ser57<sup>s</sup>-Arg60<sup>s</sup>-Glu64<sup>s</sup> and abolish *g'/g''* subunits’ abilities to self-dimerize  
189 or hetero-dimerize with subunit *g*, they introduce a new framework for *g'* and *g''* to hetero-  
190 dimerize with each other and form the interlocked *e/g'/e/g''* structure in *T. brucei*  
191 CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV. For example, Glu49<sup>g'</sup>, substituting Arg60<sup>s</sup>, contributes to *g'-g''* hetero-  
192 dimerization by interacting with the *g''*-specific N-terminal loop, which is kept in a favorable  
193 position by Asp47<sup>g''</sup>, again a substitution of Arg60<sup>s</sup> on *g''*. Similarly, Tyr53<sup>g'</sup> substituting  
194 Glu64<sup>s</sup> forms  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking with Phe26<sup>g''</sup> and stabilizes the *e/g'/e/g''* apparatus from the end  
195 of the lipid-filled central gap (Fig. 2b).

196

197 The reasons that kinetoplastids have to evolve two additional *g* subunits with substantial  
198 alterations to get the ETC-CV supercomplex assembled are multifaceted. First of all, while  
199 homodimeric (*e/g*)<sub>2</sub> can be used to assemble CV<sub>2</sub>, different structures and sequences are  
200 needed to respectively bind CIV<sub>P</sub> and CV (Fig. 2a). Subunit *g'* simultaneously interacts with  
201 CII, CIV<sub>2</sub> and CV via electrostatic/polar contacts, a function that cannot be fulfilled by

202 subunit  $g$  or  $g''$ , while subunit  $g''$  interacts with  $CIV_2$  through hydrophobic interactions  
203 maintained via bridging lipid molecules (Fig. 2c). More importantly, the newly established  
204  $g'-g''$  heterodimeric interface introduces a shallower membrane bending compared to  $g-g$   
205 homodimer ( $36^\circ$  vs  $48^\circ$ ), which agrees with  $CIICIV_2CV$ 's cristae position with less  
206 membrane curvature than that introduced by  $CV_2$  (Extended Data Fig. 3d).  
207

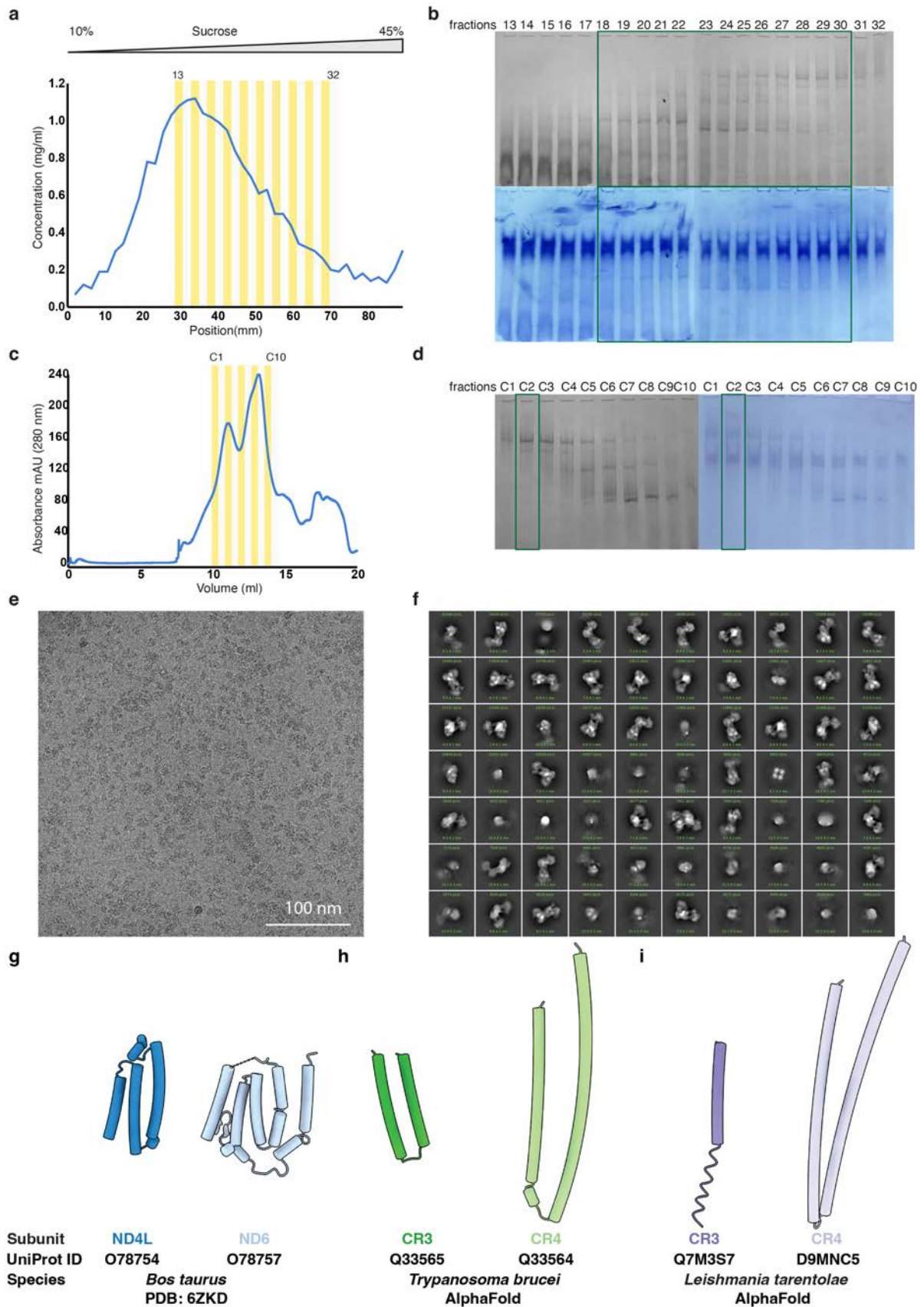
208 **Supplementary Figures**



209  
210  
211

**Supplementary Fig. 1 | Purification of ETC complexes, supercomplex and ETC-CV supercomplex from procyclic *T. brucei*.** a,b, Sucrose gradient ultracentrifugation profile of

212 280 nm absorbance (**a**) and the corresponding BN-PAGE (**b**) of digitonin-extracted *T. brucei*  
213 mitochondrial complexes and supercomplexes. All the shown fractions are pooled and used  
214 for subsequent anion-exchange chromatography. **c,d**, Q-Sepharose HP anion-exchange  
215 chromatogram (**c**) and the corresponding BN-PAGE (**d**). The three groups of fractions  
216 separately pooled, concentrated and used for subsequent SEC chromatography are indicated  
217 by green boxes. **e,f**, Superose 6 Increase 10/300 GL size-exclusion chromatogram (**e**) and the  
218 corresponding BN-PAGE (**f**), using the CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV-containing fractions E3-E6 from (**d**). The  
219 fraction directly used for cryo-EM grid preparations is indicated by green box. **g,h**, The same  
220 as in (**e**) and (**f**) but using the fractions E10-F9 from (**d**) containing higher MW CIV species.  
221 **i,j**, The same as in (**e**) and (**f**) but using the fractions E7-E9 from (**d**) containing lower MW  
222 CIV species. BN-PAGE gels in panels (**b**), (**d**) and (**f**) are stained by CV (white bands) and  
223 CIV (dark orange bands) activities. BN-PAGE gels in panels (**h**) and (**j**) are stained by  
224 coomassie blue (grey scale) and CIV activity (dark orange bands).  
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**Supplementary Fig. 2 | Biochemical and structural evidences of the absence of canonical CI in procyclic *T. brucei* mitochondria.** **a,b**, Sucrose gradient ultracentrifugation profile of 280 nm absorbance (**a**) and the corresponding BN-PAGE (**b**) of digitonin-extracted *T. brucei* mitochondrial complexes and supercomplexes. The fractions pooled for subsequent SEC

231 chromatography are designated by green boxes. **c,d**, Superose 6 Increase 10/300 GL size-  
232 exclusion chromatogram (**c**) and the corresponding BN-PAGE (**d**). The fraction directly used  
233 for cryo-EM grid preparation is marked by a green box. All BN-PAGE gels were stained by  
234 coomassie blue (grey scale; **b**: top panel, **d**: left panel) and CI/NADH dehydrogenase activity  
235 (blue-purple bands; **b**: bottom panel, **d**: right panel). **e**, Representative cryo-EM micrograph  
236 from a dataset of 5,750 movies collected on a 300 kV Titan Krios microscope equipped with  
237 a Falcon IVi camera, using fraction C2 in (**d**) with prominent NADH dehydrogenase activity.  
238 **f**, Reference-free 2D classification of 1,998,743 initially picked particles. All sensible 2D  
239 class averages show characteristic features of CV<sub>2</sub> or CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV, but not the shape of  
240 canonical CI. **g-i**, Structural comparisons of mammalian CI core subunits ND4L and ND6 (**g**,  
241 dark and light blue, PDB: 6ZKD) with AlphaFold predictions of *T. brucei* CR3 and CR4 (**h**,  
242 dark and light green) and *L. tarentolae* CR3 and CR4 (**i**, dark and light purple). UniProt  
243 identifiers of each of the subunits involved are labeled.  
244

245 **Supplementary Tables**

246 **Supplementary Table 1 | Cryo-EM data collection, image processing and model**  
 247 **validation of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV**

	CIICIV <sub>2</sub> CV <sub>mem</sub> (EMDB-67255) (PDB 9XTY)		CIICIV <sub>2</sub> CV <sub>state1</sub> (EMDB-67252) (PDB 9XTV)		CIICIV <sub>2</sub> CV <sub>state2</sub> (EMDB-67253) (PDB 9XTW)		CIICIV <sub>2</sub> CV <sub>state3</sub> (EMDB-67254) (PDB 9XTX)	
Magnification	105,000							
Voltage (kV)	300							
Electron exposure (e <sup>-</sup> /Å <sup>2</sup> )	52.00							
Defocus range (μm)	-0.8 to -2.0							
Pixel size (Å)	1.20							
Symmetry imposed	C1							
Micrographs No.	13,347							
Initial particle No.	5,950,660							
Final particle No.	579,050		33,147		43,117		47,450	
Map resolutions (Å)	CII	2.83	CII	3.04	CII	3.01	CII	3.01
FSC threshold 0.143	CIV <sub>2</sub>	2.71	CIV <sub>2</sub>	2.93	CIV <sub>2</sub>	2.88	CIV <sub>2</sub>	2.86
	CV_Fo_stator	2.80	CV_Fo_stator	3.01	CV_Fo_stator	2.99	CV_Fo_stator	2.90
			CV_α3β3γ <sub>top</sub>	3.51	CV_α3β3γ <sub>top</sub>	3.41	CV_α3β3γ <sub>top</sub>	3.40
			CV_c-	3.61	CV_c-	3.73	CV_c-	3.43
			ring+γ <sub>bottom</sub>		ring+γ <sub>bottom</sub>		ring+γ <sub>bottom</sub>	
			CV_PS	3.94	CV_PS	3.92	CV_PS	3.69
Initial models used	8APA		8APA		8APF		8APK	
Model resolution (Å)	2.9		3.3		3.4		3.3	
FSC threshold 0.5								
Map sharpening B factor (Å <sup>2</sup> )	CII	119.5	CII	44.8	CII	48.2	CII	49.3
	CIV <sub>2</sub>	116.1	CIV <sub>2</sub>	42.6	CIV <sub>2</sub>	44.7	CIV <sub>2</sub>	47.0
	CV_Fo_stator	116.7	CV_Fo_stator	41.6	CV_Fo_stator	44.7	CV_Fo_stator	46.4
			CV_α3β3γ <sub>top</sub>	34.9	CV_α3β3γ <sub>top</sub>	40.7	CV_α3β3γ <sub>top</sub>	41.3
			CV_c-	47.3	CV_c-	54.3	CV_c-	48.1
			ring+γ <sub>bottom</sub>		ring+γ <sub>bottom</sub>		ring+γ <sub>bottom</sub>	
			CV_PS	65.1	CV_PS	61.9	CV_PS	52.9
Model composition								
Non-hydrogen atoms	98004		140614		140738		140881	
Protein residues	11377		16943		16962		16980	
Ligands	89		89		89		89	
B factors (Å <sup>2</sup> )								
Protein	62.53		96.51		104.58		93.90	
Ligand	42.68		42.68		42.19		42.68	
R.m.s. deviations								
Bond lengths (Å)	0.010		0.009		0.009		0.008	
Bond angles (°)	0.709		0.653		0.666		0.626	
Validation								
MolProbity score	1.28		1.58		1.62		1.49	
Clashscore	4.93		7.00		7.52		6.85	
Poor rotamers (%)	0.65		0.61		0.79		0.52	
Ramachandran plot								
Favored (%)	97.90		96.86		96.67		97.44	
Allowed (%)	2.10		3.14		3.33		2.56	
Disallowed (%)	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	

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249 **Supplementary Table 2 | Cryo-EM data collection, image processing and model**  
 250 **validation of CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>, CIII<sub>2</sub> and CIV<sub>2</sub>**

	CIII <sub>2</sub> CIV <sub>2</sub> (EMDB-67256) (PDB 9XTZ)	CIII <sub>2</sub> (EMDB-67189) (PDB 9XT1)	CIV <sub>2</sub> (EMDB-67192) (PDB 9XT9)
Magnification		105,000	
Voltage (kV)		300	
Electron exposure (e-/Å <sup>2</sup> )		52.00	
Defocus range (µm)		-0.8 to -2.0	
Pixel size (Å)		1.20	
Symmetry imposed		C1	
Micrographs No.	12,510		1,511
Initial particle No.	6,343,816		762,590
Final particle No.	21,346	293,996	82,850
Map resolutions (Å)	CIII <sub>2</sub> 3.14	2.65	3.01
FSC threshold 0.143	CIV <sub>2</sub> 3.23		
Initial models used		8IUF	8IUF
Model resolution (Å)	3.5	2.8	3.2
FSC threshold 0.5			
Map sharpening <i>B</i> factor (Å <sup>2</sup> )	CIII <sub>2</sub> 23.5 CIV <sub>2</sub> 27.6	115.0	106.9
Model composition			
Non-hydrogen atoms	99696	43782	55914
Protein residues	11562	5100	6462
Ligands	130	73	57
<i>B</i> factors (Å <sup>2</sup> )			
Protein	166.83	36.88	47.83
Ligand	132.29	42.58	29.74
R.m.s. deviations			
Bond lengths (Å)	0.007	0.009	0.005
Bond angles (°)	0.629	0.603	0.704
Validation			
MolProbity score	1.58	1.45	1.44
Clashscore	7.89	5.90	6.60
Poor rotamers (%)	0.65	0.59	0.81
Ramachandran plot			
Favored (%)	97.19	97.32	97.67
Allowed (%)	2.81	2.68	2.33
Disallowed (%)	0.00	0.00	0.00

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**Supplementary Table 3 | Model summary of *T. brucei* supercomplex CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV (using the CV state 3 model as an example)**

Subunit Name	UniProt /Gene ID	Annotation	Chain ID	Total residues	Residues built	% built	TMH	Ligands	Lipids
<b>CII</b>									
SDHA	Q57TV5	Succinate dehydrogenase [ubiquinone] flavoprotein subunit, mitochondrial, SDH1	SA	609	12-609	98.19%	0	1 × FAD	
SDHB1	Q57YX5	succinate dehydrogenase iron-sulfur subunit, SDH2N	B1	242	25-169/182-237	83.06%	0	1 × Fe <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	
SDHB2	Q38EW9	succinate dehydrogenase iron-sulfur subunit, putative, SDH2C	B2	188	2-179	94.68%	0	1 × Fe <sub>3</sub> S <sub>4</sub> 1 × Fe <sub>4</sub> S <sub>4</sub>	
SDHC	Q57WH4	Uncharacterized protein	SC	151	27-149	81.46%	3	1 × CoQ <sub>10</sub>	1 × PC
SDHD1	Q57TS4	Succinate dehydrogenase subunit 11, SDH11	D1	88	21-88	77.27%	1		
SDHD2	Q389G4	succinate dehydrogenase cytochrome B subunit, SDH4	D2	129	42-129	68.22%	2		1 × PC 2 × PE
SDHTB3	Q586B1	succinate dehydrogenase subunit 3, SDH3	SE	104	2-104	99.04%	1		
SDHTB5	Q57XJ6	succinate dehydrogenase subunit 5, SDH5	SF	483	14-192/202-337/348-478	92.34%	0		
SDHTB6	Q57X18	succinate dehydrogenase subunit 6, SDH6	SG	333	35-102/115-333	86.19%	0		
SDHTB7	Q584Q7	succinate dehydrogenase subunit 7, SDH7	SH	240	27-240	89.17%	0		
SDHTB8	Q586R6	Succinate dehydrogenase subunit 8, SDH8	SI	151	1-139	92.05%	2	1 × CoQ <sub>10</sub>	
SDHTB9	Q38BU1	Succinate dehydrogenase subunit 9, SDH9	SJ	135	12-135	91.85%	1		
SDHTB10	Q57VW2	Succinate dehydrogenase subunit 10, SDH10	SK	127	30-46/55-126	70.08%	1		1 × PC 1 × CDL
SDHTB11	Tb927.9.8815	hypothetical protein	SL	86	10-86	89.53%	1		
<b>CIV<sub>2</sub></b>									
COX1	P04371	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit 1	C1, c1	549	1-549	100%	12	1 × heme <i>a</i> 1 × heme <i>a</i> <sub>3</sub> 1 × Cu <sub>B</sub> 1 × Mg <sup>2+</sup> 1 × Na <sup>+</sup>	1 × PC 1 × CDL

COX2	P04372	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit 2	C2, c2	210	1-210	100%	2	2 × Cu <sub>A</sub>	
COX3	Q35993	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit 3	C3, c3	288	1-288	100%	7		4 × PC 2 × PE
COX4	Q57XX4	Cytochrome c oxidase VII, putative	C4, c4	165	2-165	99.39%	1		2 × PE
COX5B	Q38BB3	Cytochrome-c oxidase	5B, 5b	224	23-224	90.18%	0	1 × Fe <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	
COX5C	Q38EH2	Uncharacterized protein	5C, 5c	198	1-198	100%	1		1 × PE
COX6A	Q382X7	Uncharacterized protein	6A, 6a	159	54-159	66.67%	1		1 × PC
COX6B	Q38CL0	Cytochrome C oxidase subunit VI, putative	6B, 6b	158	2-157	99.36%	0		
COX7A	Q583E7	Cytochrome c oxidase VIII (COX VIII), putative	7A, 7a	157	29-157	82.17%	1		1 × CDL 1 × PE
COX7C	Q57XS9	Uncharacterized protein	7C, 7c	152	28-151	81.58%	1		1 × CDL 1 × PE
NDUFA4	Q4FKG8	P27 protein	A4, a4	241	1-238	98.76%	1		1 × PC 1 × CDL
COXEG7	Q4GYG7	Cytochrome C oxidase subunit IV	4G, 4g	353	45-353	87.54%	0		2 × PC
COXEG8	Q38FK9	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit V, putative	4H, 4h	196	18-196	91.33%	0		
COXTB1	Q382M2	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit 10, putative	4A, 4a	116	21-116	82.76%	0		
COXTB2	Q386L8	Uncharacterized protein	4B, 4b	121	22-114	76.86%	1		
COXTB3	Q38AY6	Uncharacterized protein	4C, 4c	104	24-104	77.88%	1		1 × PC
COXTB4	Q38AD2	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit IX	4D, 4d	124	13-121	87.90%	1		
<b>CV</b>									
α	Q57TX9	ATP synthase alpha chain, mitochondrial	VA	584	45-151/161-438/446-584	89.73%	0		
	Q57TX9	ATP synthase alpha chain, mitochondrial	VB	584	46-150/162-440/447-584	89.38%	0		
	Q57TX9	ATP synthase alpha chain, mitochondrial	VC	584	45-150/161-584	90.75%	0		
β	Q57XX1	ATP synthase subunit beta	VD	519	27-513	93.83%	0		
	Q57XX1	ATP synthase subunit beta	VE	519	28-507	92.49%	0		
	Q57XX1	ATP synthase subunit beta	VF	519	28-304/314-339/352-513	89.60%	0		

p18	Q57ZP0	Ribonucleoprotein p18, mitochondrial, putative	VJ	188	24-188	87.77%	0		
	Q57ZP0	Ribonucleoprotein p18, mitochondrial, putative	VK	188	23-188	88.30%	0		
	Q57ZP0	Ribonucleoprotein p18, mitochondrial, putative	VN	188	24-188	87.77%	0		
$\gamma$	Q38CM0	ATP synthase subunit gamma, mitochondrial	VG	305	2-57/62-301	97.05%	0		
$\delta/\epsilon$	Q586H1	ATP synthase, epsilon chain, putative	VH	182	22-182	88.46%	0		
$\epsilon$	Q38B96	mitochondrial ATP synthase epsilon chain	VI	75	11-75	86.67%	0		
OSCP/ $\delta$	Q38AG1	ATP synthase delta chain, mitochondrial	V1	255	18-203/210-255	90.98%	0		
d	Q57ZW9	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit d	Vd	370	17-325/333-350	88.38%	0		
b	Q580A0	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit b	Vp	105	26-105	76.19%	1		1 × PC 1 × CDL
a	P24499	ATP synthase subunit a	Va	231	1-231	100%	0		1 × PC 1 × CDL
c/sub 9	Q57WQ3	ATPase subunit 9, putative	VO	117	40-117	66.67%	2		
	Q57WQ3	ATPase subunit 9, putative	VP	117	40-117	66.67%	2		
	Q57WQ3	ATPase subunit 9, putative	VQ	117	40-117	66.67%	2		
	Q57WQ3	ATPase subunit 9, putative	VR	117	40-117	66.67%	2		
	Q57WQ3	ATPase subunit 9, putative	VS	117	40-117	66.67%	2		
	Q57WQ3	ATPase subunit 9, putative	VT	117	40-117	66.67%	2		
	Q57WQ3	ATPase subunit 9, putative	VU	117	40-117	66.67%	2		
	Q57WQ3	ATPase subunit 9, putative	VV	117	40-117	66.67%	2		
	Q57WQ3	ATPase subunit 9, putative	VW	117	40-117	66.67%	2		
	Q57WQ3	ATPase subunit 9, putative	VX	117	40-117	66.67%	2		
8/A6L	Q585K5	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit 8	Vc	114	29-114	75.44%	1		
f	Q57ZE2	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit f	Vf	145	2-136	93.10%	1		1 × CDL
i/j/6.8pl	Q57ZM4	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit i/j	Vi	104	2-104	99.04%	1		1 × PC
k/DAPIT	Q57VT0	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit k	Vk	124	20-124	84.68%	1		1 × CDL

e	Q387J1	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit e	Vl	106	18-64	44.34%	1		1 × CDL
	Q387J1	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit e	VL	106	18-75	54.72%	1		1 × PC 1 × CDL
g'	Q57TY1	Uncharacterized protein	Vm	139	6-139	96.40%	1		1 × PC
g''	Q383S5	Uncharacterized protein	VM	122	10-113	85.25%	1		
ATPEG3	Q583U4	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit ATPEG3	Vq	98	15-98	85.71%	0		1 × CDL
ATPEG4	Tb927.11.224 5	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit ATPEG4	Vr	62	1-62	100%	1		1 × PC
ATPTB1	Q38CI8	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit ATPTB1	Ve	396	1-383	96.72%	0		4 × CDL
ATPTB3	Q385E4	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit ATPTB3	Vg	269	2-268	99.26%	0		
ATPTB4	Q389Z3	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit ATPTB4	Vh	157	21-157	87.26%	0		
ATPTB6	Q387C5	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit ATPTB6	Vj	169	2-169	99.41%	2		1 × PC 1 × CDL
ATPTB11	Q582T1	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit ATPTB11	Vn	156	18-156	89.10%	1		
ATPTB12	Q57Z84	mitochondrial ATP synthase subunit ATPTB12	Vo	101	5-100	95.05%	0		

**Supplementary Table 4 | Model summary of *T. brucei* supercomplex CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>**

Subunit Name	UniProt /Gene ID	Annotation	Chain ID	Total residues	Residues built	% built	TM H	Ligands	Lipids
<b>CIII<sub>2</sub></b>									
MPP-alpha	Q386B6	Mitochondrial processing peptidase alpha subunit, putative	QB,Qb	518	20-37/54-154/166-291/297-517	89.96%	0		
MPP-beta	Q57W51	Mitochondrial processing peptidase, beta subunit, putative	QA,Qa	489	2-489	99.80%	0	1 × Cu <sup>2+</sup>	2 × PC 1 × CDL
COB	Q33573 P00164	Cytochrome b	QC,Qc	368	1-368	100%	8	1 × heme <i>b<sub>L</sub></i> 1 × heme <i>b<sub>H</sub></i> 3 × CoQ <sub>10</sub>	2 × PC 2 × CDL 1 × PE
CYC1	D6XKS6	Cytochrome c1, heme protein, mitochondrial	QD,Qd	258	4-258	98.84%	1	1 × heme <i>c</i>	1 × PE
UQCRFS1	Q38D40	Reiske iron-sulfur protein, mitochondrial	QE,Qe	297	18-297	94.28%	1	1 × Fe <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	2 × PC 1 × PE
UQCRH	Q584K6	Ubiquinol-cytochrome C reductase, putative	QF,Qf	71	5-71	94.37%	0		
UQCRB	Q38BH2	Ubiquinol-cytochrome c reductase complex 14 kDa protein	QG,Qg	201	9-201	0.9602	0		
UQCRQ	Q38BH6	Uncharacterized protein	QH,Qh	120	14-120	89.17%	1		2 × PC
UQCR9	Q582B1	Uncharacterized protein	QI,Qi	73	5-68	87.67%	1		1 × PE
UQCR10	Q381D5	Uncharacterized protein	QJ,Qj	146	2-146	99.32%	1		2 × PC 1 × CDL 1 × PE
UQCREG1	Q57WV3	Uncharacterized protein	QK,Qk	85	10-85	89.41%	1		
UQCRTB1	Tb927.6.50 95	hypothetical protein	QL,Ql	72	31-68	52.78%	1		1 × PC
UQCRTB2	( <i>Poly-UNK</i> )	-	QM,Qm	-	-	-	0		
<b>CIV<sub>2</sub></b>									

COX1	P04371	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit 1	C1, c1	549	1-549	100%	12	1 × heme <i>a</i> 1 × heme <i>a</i> <sub>3</sub> 1 × Cu <sub>B</sub> 1 × Mg <sup>2+</sup> 1 × Na <sup>+</sup>	1 × PC 1 × CDL
COX2	P04372	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit 2	C2, c2	210	1-210	100%	2	2 × Cu <sub>A</sub>	
COX3	Q35993	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit 3	C3, c3	288	1-288	100%	7		4 × PC 2 × PE
COX4	Q57XX4	Cytochrome c oxidase VII, putative	C4, c4	165	2-165	99.39%	1		2 × PE
COX5B	Q38BB3	Cytochrome-c oxidase	5B, 5b	224	23-224	90.18%	0	1 × Fe <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	
COX5C	Q38EH2	Uncharacterized protein	5C, 5c	198	1-198	100%	1		1 × PE
COX6A	Q382X7	Uncharacterized protein	6A, 6a	159	54-159	66.67%	1		1 × PC
COX6B	Q38CL0	Cytochrome C oxidase subunit VI, putative	6B, 6b	158	2-157	99.36%	0		
COX7A	Q583E7	Cytochrome c oxidase VIII (COX VIII), putative	7A, 7a	157	29-157	82.17%	1		1 × CDL 1 × PE
COX7C	Q57XS9	Uncharacterized protein	7C, 7c	152	28-151	81.58%	1		1 × CDL 1 × PE
NDUFA4	Q4FKG8	P27 protein	A4, a4	241	1-238	98.76%	1		1 × PC 1 × CDL
COXEG7	Q4GYG7	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit IV	4G, 4g	353	45-353	87.54%	0		2 × PC
COXEG8	Q38FK9	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit V, putative	4H, 4h	196	18-196	91.33%	0		
COXTB1	Q382M2	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit 10, putative	4A, 4a	116	21-116	82.76%	0		
COXTB2	Q386L8	Uncharacterized protein	4B, 4b	121	22-114	76.86%	1		
COXTB3	Q38AY6	Uncharacterized protein	4C, 4c	104	24-104	77.88%	1		1 × PC
COXTB4	Q38AD2	Cytochrome c oxidase subunit IX	4D, 4d	124	13-121	87.90%	1		

**Supplementary Table 5 | Compilation of accession numbers and sequence identifiers for homology detection of OXPHOS complex subunits**

	Subunit Name	<i>Paracoccus denitrificans</i>	<i>Homo sapiens</i>	<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	<i>Tetrahymena thermophila</i>	<i>Andalucia godoyi</i>	<i>Naegleria fowleri</i>	<i>Euglena gracilis</i>	<i>Diplonema papillatum</i>	<i>Perkinsela sp.</i>	<i>Bodo saltans</i>	<i>Phytomonas sp. HART1</i>	<i>Angomonas deanei</i>	<i>Leishmania major</i>	<i>Trypanosoma brucei</i>	
<b>Complex I</b>	<b>NDUFV1</b>	A1B491	P49821		Q23KE4	KAF0853034.1	XP_044565516.1	comp62912_c0_sequence.6	KAJ9456521.1		CUG04023.1	CCW69117	EPY26903.1	XP_001687575.1	XP_844719.1	
	<b>NDUFV2</b>	A1B494	P19404		I7MEP0	KAF0852880.1	XP_044558906.1	EG_transcript_19472_sga_contig_466476_sga_contig_302717	KAJ9451711.1		CUI13279.1	CCW69698	EPY34415.1	XP_001682281.1	XP_011775131.1	
	<b>NDUFS1</b>	A1B489	P28331		Q23KA9	YP_007890479.1	YP_007890029.1 (complete)	comp61469_c0_sequence.q1_c	KAJ9441941.1 (N-Termini)	APQ44793.1		CUG91825.1(N-Termini)	CCW69582.1	EPY36509.1	XP_001682557.1	XP_011778675.1
								EG_transcript_7035								
	<b>NDUFS2</b>	A1B495	O75306		Q951B1	YP_007890532.1	YP_007890059.1	EG_transcript_13592	QH98665.1			MH614645	W6LFE0_9TRYP	AIL54360.1	QNL34152.1	P21301.2
	<b>NDUFS7</b>	A1B497	O75251		Q951B4	YP_007890530.1	XP_044566503.1	EG_transcript_32395	KAJ9454377.1			CUG94143.1	CCW71109.1	EPY15021.1	XP_003392646	XP_011779287.1

<b>NDUFS8</b>	A1B486	O00217		I7MDW5	YP_0078 90505.1	YP_0078 90031.1	comp543 09_c0_se q4_c	APQ4478 9.1		P30826.1		KJ778684 .1	ADI7523 2.1	P30826.1
<b>NDUFS3</b>	A1B496	O75489		Q950Z4	YP_0078 90531.1	YP_0078 90064.1	comp629 60_c0_se q11	A0A1L6 C400_9E UGL					ADI7523 4.1	AAA037 49.1
<b>ND1</b>	A1B487	P03886		Q950Y3	YP_0078 90480.1	YP_0078 90019.1	sga_conti g_684056	A0A1L6 C3Y0_9E UGL		O63544_ BODSA	CCW723 03.1	A0A077E VP0_9TR YP	AAL5966 4	Q8LU83_ TRYCR
				NP_1493 80										
<b>ND2</b>	A1B479	P03891		Q951A3	YP_0078 90520.1	YP_0078 90054.1	sga_conti g_881214	A0A1L6 C404 (8 TM)		MH61464 5.1 (complete )	W6LE64 _9TRYP (short)_	AIL5435 6.1 (15TM)	ADI7523 6 (15TM)	QHI4207 6.1 (short, incomplete)
				Q951B2			sga_conti g_196706 5							
<b>ND3</b>	A1B498	P03897		Q950Z7	YP_0078 90529.1	YP_0078 90056.1	sga_conti g_187649 1(5'3' Frame 2 172-292)	A0A1L6 C3Z9_9E UGL					ADK129 74.1	Q33578_ 9TRYP
<b>ND4</b>	A1B480	P03905		Q950X9	M4QCU1	M4H5J8	sga_conti g_171091	A0A6G5 ZTZ8		MH61464 5.1	Q9MD52 _9TRYP	A0A077E VQ1_9T RYP	B7TYN8	Q33575_ 9TRYP
<b>ND4L</b>	A1B482	P03901		Q950Z5	M4Q9C3	M4H736	EG_trans cript_323 04	A0A2D2 AJX8_9E UGL					a	b
<b>ND5</b>	A1B481	P03915		Q950Z0	M4Q9H5	M4H5I5								

					Q951C2			sga_contig_187649 1(5'3' Frame 3)	A0A1L6 C3Z3		AAC3897 5.1	AAF2692 8.1 (partial)	A0A077E VN6_9T RYP	ACJ4721 5.1	NU5M_T RYBB
	<b>ND6</b>	P29922	P03923		Q950Y2	YP_0078 90506.1	YP_0078 90036.1	sga_contig_187649 1(5'3' Frame 2 18-171)	A0A6G5 ZU20_9E UGL					c	d
<b>Complex II</b>	<b>SDHA</b>	Q59661	P31040	Q00711	8B6G_C A / Q23DI3	KAF0852 145	XP_0445 61902.1	CAAHFI 01047940 3.1	KAJ9463 228.1	KNH097 43.1	CUI1525 4.1	CCW719 35	EPY2994 0	XP_0037 22511	Q57TV5
	<b>SDHB</b>	Q59662	P21912	P21801	8B6G_C B / I7M403	YP_0078 90524.1	YP_0078 90028.1	CAAHFI 01082406 6.1	KAJ9444 546	KNH048 81	CUF3410 1	CCW675 10	EPY4045 4	XP_0016 83488.1	Q57YX5
								CAAHFI 01077404 3.1	KAJ9466 554	KNH054 04.1	CUG9065 2.1	CCW677 90	EPY2810 5.1	GET8728 9	Q38EW9
	<b>SDHC</b>	Q59659	Q99643	P33421	8B6G_C C / Q23RH8	YP_0078 90526.1	XP_0445 64462.1		KAJ9460 132.1	KNH037 64.1	CUG9238 9.1	CCW678 51.1	EPY4104 7.1	XP_0016 87740.1	Q57WH4
	<b>SDHD</b>	Q59660	O14521	P37298	8B6G_C D / AF39643 6.1 (mt- genome sequence)	YP_0078 90525.1	XP_0445 62692.1		KAJ9473 657.1	-	CUG8341 1.1	CCW659 69.1	EPY4043 2.1	XP_0671 78424.1	Q57TS4
								KAJ9472 158.1	XU18scaf fold_2 49201 to 49398	CUG8713 8.1	CCW662 11.1	EPY2044 2.1	XP_0671 75562.1	Q389G4	

	<b>SDHTB3</b>								KAJ9473 657.1	-	CUG8341 1.1	CCW659 69.1	EPY4043 2.1	XP_0671 78424.1	Q586B1
	<b>SDHTB5</b>								KAJ9459 767.1	KNH067 51.1	CUG0624 0.1	CCW674 09.1	EPY3592 1.1	XP_0014 66612.1	Q57XJ6
	<b>SDHTB6</b>								KAJ9450 339.1	KNH055 95.1	CUG7558 4.1	CCW717 06.1	EPY3080 1.1	XP_0016 82130.1	Q57X18
	<b>SDHTB7</b>				I7MEX7				KAJ9470 139	KNH080 26	CUG0668 7.1	CCW680 13.1	EPY2970 0.1	XP_0014 66954	Q584Q7
	<b>SDHTB8</b>								KAJ9472 475.1	KNH078 53.1	CUE7599 3.1	CCW704 76.1	EPY4210 9.1	XP_0038 76787.1	Q586R6
	<b>SDHTB9</b>								KAJ9469 225.1	KNH096 37.1	CUG8790 4.1	CCW705 04.1	EPY4179 4.1	XP_0038 63420	Q38BU1
	<b>SDHTB10</b>								KAJ9461 077.1	KNH062 24.1	CUE9113 8.1	CCW691 13.1	EPY4000 2.1	XP_0671 81342	Q57VW2
	<b>SDHTB11</b>										CUG9386 9.1	CCW675 14.1		XP_0677 12371.1	Tb927.9.8 815
<b>Complex IV</b>	<b>COX1</b>	P98002	P00395	P00401	Q950Y4	YP_0078 90504.1	YP_0078 90026.1	sga_conti g_120883 6	APQ4478 2.1	ALR7378 3.1	AAC3897 8.1		AIL5435 2.1	QNL3416 0.1	P04371
	<b>COX2</b>	P08306	P00403	P00410	Q950Y9	YP_0078 90507.1	WND644 68.1	gnl Egra 5 053115	ADP8893 4.1	ALR8730 2.1	AAC3897 6.1		AIL5435 4.1	QNL3415 8.1	P04372
	<b>COX3</b>	P06030	P00414	P00420	Q950Y6 Q950Y7	YP_0078 90030.1	YP_0078 90030.1	comp547 37_c0_se q2 sga_conti g_113279 2	ADP8893 5.1	ALR8730 3.1	MH61464 5.1 (M)		AIL5435 9.1	QNL3415 3.1	Q35993

<b>COX4</b>		P13073	P00424		KAF0852 574.1	f	comp535 43_c0_se q2	e	KNH050 38.1	CUF1440 6.1		EPY3936 2.1	XP_0016 83868.1	Q57XX4
<b>COX5B</b>		P10606	P04037	Q23FF5	KAF0852 361.1	XP_0445 66338.1	comp547 22_c0_se q3_cut	KAJ9443 665.1	KNH055 23.1	CUG9120 9.1		EPY4341 8.1	XP_0016 86618.1	Q38BB3
<b>COX6C /COX5C</b>		P09669	P07255	Q23DS4			gnl Egra  Contig14 35		KNH053 41.1	CUE7379 9.1		EPY3499 4.1	XP_8885 54.1	Q38EH2
<b>COX6A</b>		P12074	P32799	W7XCY5	KAF0852 336.1	XP_0445 59870.1	EG_trans cript_361 10	KAJ9457 934.1	KNH092 36	CUG8761 7.1		EPY3860 4.1	XP_0016 81164.1	Q382X7
<b>COX6B</b>		P14854	Q01519	Q24I72	KAF0852 864.1	XP_0445 60469.1	comp543 64_c0_se q4	KAJ9447 346.1	KNH036 11.1	CUG0851 4.1		EPY4215 7.1	XP_0016 83136.1	Q38CL0
<b>NDUFA4</b>		O00483		W7WZP1	<a href="#">KAF0852 576.1</a>	g	gnl Egra  Contig26 18		KNH070 42.1	CUF1191 2.1		EPY3683 6.1	XP_0016 84379.1	Q4FKG8
<b>COXEG7</b>							comp554 36_c0_se q3_cut	KAJ9472 334.1	KNH083 74.1	CUG8838 2.1		EPY2608 1.1	XP_0016 81672.1	Q4GYG7
<b>COXEG8</b>							gi 109781 798_cut	KAJ9467 144.1	KNH076 39.1	CUE6723 7.1		EPY3976 7.1	XP_0014 70514.1	Q38FK9
<b>COX7C</b>				W7X287			comp557 10_c0_se q1_cut		KNH041 93.1			EPY3837 8.1	XP_0016 87555.1	Q57XS9

	<b>COX7A</b>				I7MGF9	A0A8K0 AI33		comp471 02_c0_se q2_cut		KNH036 37.1	CUF4219 7.1		EPY3990 2.1	XP_0016 85143.1	Q583E7
	<b>COXTB1</b>									KNH039 33.1	CUG8804 6.1		EPY4126 0.1	XP_0016 83361.1	Q382M2
	<b>COXTB2</b>									KNH040 04.1	CUG8625 3.1		EPY4257 7.1	XP_0016 85967.1	Q386L8
	<b>COXTB3</b>									KNH092 79.1	-		EPY3905 4.1	XP_0016 86751.1	Q38AY6
	<b>COXTB4</b>									KNH036 26.1	CUI1532 5.1		EPY2435 6.1	XP_0016 87296.1	Q38AD2
	<b>COX5A</b>		P20674	P00427											
<b>Complex V</b>	<b>α</b>	A1B8N8	P25705	P07251	XP_0010 08384.2	YP_0078 90470.1	UAT9706 0.1	comp275 80_c0_se q1	KAJ9467 574.1	KNH069 57.1	CUG9260 8.1	CCW613 45.1	EPY3152 0.1	XP_0016 84527.1	Q57TX9
	<b>β</b>	A1B8P0	P06576	P00830	XP_0010 32631.2	KAF0852 911.1	CAG4714 653.1	comp304 87_c1_se q1	KAJ9462 080.1	KNH083 19.1	CUF1432 6.1	CCW709 24.1	EPY1496 8.1	XP_0016 83872.1	Q57XX1
	<b>γ</b>	A1B8N9	P36542	P38077	XP_0010 10761.1	YP_0078 90471.1	YP_0078 90034.1	EG_trans cript_192 35	KAJ9470 261.1	KNH069 98.1	CUG0861 5.1	CCW703 96.1	EPY4085 0.1	XP_0016 83142.1	B0Z0F6
	<b>δ/ε</b>	A1B8P1	P30049	Q12165	XP_0010 10921.2	KAF0852 905.1	XP_0445 69753.1	comp814 7_c0_seq 1	KAJ9443 837.1	KNH074 09.1	CUG9106 6.1	CCW682 03.1	EPY2836 9.1	XP_0016 84970.1	Q586H1
	<b>ε</b>		P56381	P21306	XP_0010 27329.2	KAF0852 181.1	XP_0445 60194.1	comp366 26_c0_se q1	KAJ9451 454.1	XU18scaf fold_1:26 6201- 266374	CYKH01 001976	CCW670 77.1	EPY3822 4.1	CAG9583 580.1	Q38B96

									[Sequenc e]					
<b>p18</b>						XP_0445 58360.1	comp365 94_c0_se q1	KAJ9463 001.1	KNH074 63.1	CUG9221 1.1	CCW720 37.1	EPY4127 5.1	XP_0016 81946.1	Q57ZP0
<b>e</b>		P56385	NP_0106 09.1			XP_0445 61800.1	EG_trans cript_337 01	KAJ9440 524.1		CUF1450 2.1	CCW708 76.1	CAD2217 185.1	CAG9575 068.1	Q387J1
<b>g'</b>										CUG8982 2.1	W6L785	S9WW64	Q4Q180	Q383S5
<b>g''</b>										CYKH01 002228.1, whole genome shotgun equence scaffold	CCW690 62.1	CAD2222 471.1	XP_0016 87526.1	Q57TY1
<b>g</b>		O75964	NP_0153 45.1	i		XP_0445 66339.1	comp128 13_c0_se q1	KAJ9452 804.1	KNH060 72, KNH089 85	CUG9260 5.1	CCW693 39.1	EPY3904 6.1	XP_0016 86043.1	XP_0117 71764.1
<b>OSCP/δ</b>	A1B8N7	P48047	P09457	XP_0010 08856.2	KAF0852 331.1	XP_0445 65181.1	comp366 35_c0_se q1	KAJ9447 567.1	KNH073 40.1	CUG9355 5.1	CCW700 92.1	EPY3447 1.1	XP_0016 87269.1	Q38AG1
<b>c/sub 9</b>	A1B618	P05496	P61829	NP_1493 81.1	YP_0078 90500.1	YP_0078 90063.1	EG_trans cript_457 06	KAJ9434 812.1	KNH017 96.1	CUG8967 2.1	CCW721 88.1	EPY3483 2.1	XP_0016 83009.1	Q57WQ3

<b>a</b>	A1B619	P00846	P00854	NP_1493 65.1	YP_0078 90509.1	YP_0078 90055.1	sga_conti g_684056 (5'3' Frame 3 1-274)	A0A1L6 C3Z2	A0A0U2 UX58_9E UGL	MH61464 5.1	CCW723 05.1	AIL5435 7.1	QNL3415 5.1	P24499
<b>8/A6L</b>		P03928	P00856	Q950Y8	YP_0078 90466.1	YP_0078 90038.1	sga_conti g_684056 (5'3' Frame 3 275-331)		KNH017 92.1	CUG9036 5.1	CCW675 92.1	EPY3300 6.1	XP_0016 86184.1	Q585K5
<b>d</b>		O75947	P30902	XP_0010 32833.1	A0A8K0 F458	XP_0445 66963.1	comp205 20_c0_se q1	EPY3205 6.1	XU18scaf fold_3:42 004- 42447 [Sequenc e]	CUE9615 6.1	CCW684 80.1	EPY2681 6.1	XP_0016 81139.1	Q57ZW9
<b>ATPTB1</b>							EG_trans cript_757 3	KAJ9458 980.1	KNH076 37.1	CUG7567 6.1	CCW703 76.1	EPY3228 3.1	XP_0016 83111.1	Q38CI8
<b>f</b>		P56134	Q06405	XP_0010 27673.2	KAF0852 856.1		VDSF_6_ rev_Run0 1_Cp357 _MD1/ G11.esd	KAJ9453 328.1		CUE6899 6.1	CCW709 62.1	EPY4233 5.1	XP_0016 83919.1	Q57ZE2
<b>ATPTB3</b>							EG_trans cript_144 28	KAJ9471 222.1	KNH080 71.1	CUE9411 4.1	CCW683 63.1	EPY2419 3.1	XP_0016 81572.1	Q385E4

<b>ATPTB4</b>							comp816 7_c0_seq 1	KAJ9451 387.1	KNH074 15.1	CUG7267 3.1	CCW698 76.1	CAD2213 009.1	XP_0016 87030.1	Q389Z3
<b>i/j/6.8pl</b>		P56378	P81450	XP_0010 32687.2	VRVR01 000020.1	A0A6A5 BI56	comp126 74_c0_se q1	KAJ9447 998.1	KNH048 79.1	CUF6693 4.1	CCW688 43.1	EPY2522 0.1	XP_0014 62824.1	Q57ZM4
<b>ATPTB6</b>							EG_trans cript_287 74	KAJ9458 588.1	KNH017 97.1	CUG9412 8.1	CCW711 14.1	EPY3539 4.1	XP_0037 21871.1	Q387C5
<b>k/DAPIT</b>		Q96IX5	P81451	XP_0010 31468.1	h		EG_trans cript_557 85		KNH096 01.1	CUG9308 2.1	CCW701 60.1	EPY3873 0.1	XP_0016 84114.1	Q57VT0
<b>ATPTB11</b>								KAJ9462 348.1	KNH076 06.1	CUG9195 5.1	CCW710 03.1	EPY3280 9.1	XP_0016 83968.1	Q582T1
<b>ATPTB12</b>							GDJR010 05257.1	KAJ9459 969.1	KNH047 97.1	CUE9797 6.1	CCW684 66.1	EPY2907 7.1	XP_0016 81153.1	Q57Z84
<b>b</b>	5DN6_V, W	P24539	P05626	XP_0010 16306.2	YP_0078 90467.1	YP_0078 90035.1	comp820 8_c0_seq 1	KAJ9471 685.1	KNH080 57.1	CUI1558 8.1	CCW671 67.1	EPY3778 6.1	XP_0016 86508.1	Q580A0
<b>F6/h</b>		NP_0010 03696.1	Q12349		KAF0852 839.1									
<b>ATPEG3</b>							GDJR010 12366.1	KAJ9464 142.1	KNH086 70.1	CUG8631 0.1	CCW663 51.1	EPY4134 4.1	XP_0016 83315.1	Q583U4
<b>ATPEG4</b>							GEFR010 49309.1				CCW710 41.1			Tb927.11. 2245

<sup>a-d</sup> For *Trypanosoma brucei* and *Leishmania tarentolae*, transcripts CR3 (Q33565 and Q7M3S7) and CR4 (Q33564 and D9MNC5) are not included here based on the analyses in the Main Text.

<sup>e-h</sup> *Diplonema papillatum* subunit COX4 (KAJ9445835.1), *Naegleria fowleri* subunits COX4 (XP\_044557135.1) and NDUFA4 (XP\_044556366) and *Andalucia godoyi* subunit *k* (ANDGO\_05913.mRNA.1) are not included here since we cannot confirm their sequence homology with known subunit sequences.

<sup>i</sup> *Tetrahymena thermophila* subunit *g* (XP\_001032300.2) is not included here due to lack of structural homology with known subunit *g* structures.

**Supplementary Table 6 | The protocol for equilibration of protein-lipid-solvent system**

Step	Time	Restrains							
		Protein	Lipids					Redox cofactors	
	[ns]		CIV <sub>2</sub> -aligned mem-brane patch	CV <sub>2</sub> -aligned mem-brane patch	Third Mem-brane patch	Structural	Modelled		
NVT	0.1	Heavy atoms	Tail atoms <sup>a</sup>	Tail atoms	Tail atoms	Tail atoms	Tail atoms	Tail atoms	All
NPT1	1	Heavy atoms	None	Tail atoms	Tail atoms	Tail atoms	Tail atoms	Tail atoms	All
NPT2	10	Heavy atoms	None	Tail atoms	None	Tail atoms	None	None	All
NPT3	10	Backbone	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
NPT4	10	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None

<sup>a</sup> The last carbon atoms of the lipid tails.

### Supplementary Table 7 | The oligonucleotides used for knockout strain generation

<b>Primers for sgRNA generation</b>	
Universal reverse primer for sgRNA amplification (G00)	AAAAGCACCGACTCGGTGCCACTTTTTCAAGTTGATAACGGACTAGCCTTATTTAACTTGCTATTTCTAGCTCTAAAAC
Forward primer for 5' sgRNA for <i>g''</i> KO	gaaattaatacgcactcactataggTGGCCCAACCTTCCTTTCTTgttttagagctagaaatagc
Forward primer for 3' sgRNA for <i>g''</i> KO	gaaattaatacgcactcactataggCAACACCTACGCACTTGACTgttttagagctagaaatagc
Forward primer for 5' sgRNA for <i>g'</i> KO	gaaattaatacgcactcactataggGATGTCGCGAGTGCAGTAAGgttttagagctagaaatagc
Forward primer for 3' sgRNA for <i>g'</i> KO	gaaattaatacgcactcactataggATGCGTGTCCCGTAATGTTgttttagagctagaaatagc
Forward primer for 5' sgRNA for NDUFA4 KO	gaaattaatacgcactcactataggATTTATATCATATTCAGGTAgttttagagctagaaatagc
Forward primer for 3' sgRNA for NDUFA4 KO	gaaattaatacgcactcactataggGGTTACTACAGTAAGCGATGgttttagagctagaaatagc
Forward primer for 5' sgRNA for COXTB2 KO	gaaattaatacgcactcactataggCAAAAAAAAAACAATAACAgttttagagctagaaatagc
Forward primer for 3' sgRNA for COXTB2 KO	gaaattaatacgcactcactataggAGTTAGGCATGGAATAGGGTgttttagagctagaaatagc
Forward primer for 5' sgRNA for COXTB3 KO	gaaattaatacgcactcactataggATATAGTGAAGTAATCGAATgttttagagctagaaatagc
Forward primer for 3' sgRNA for COXTB3 KO	gaaattaatacgcactcactataggTGTTGCGTATCCACAGCGAgttttagagctagaaatagc
<b>Primers for repair template generation</b>	
Forward primer for Hygromycin repair template (pPOTv5) for <i>g''</i> KO	ATATATATATATATATTTTCACTTAATTCATAGGCTAGGGCACAGCAAGGT
Reverse primer for Hygromycin repair template (pPOTv5) for <i>g''</i> KO	CGTTCACCTTGGCAACGCCCGCCGCTCCAGGGGCTCGAATCCCCCATT
Forward primer for Hygromycin repair template (pPOTv5) for <i>g'</i> KO	ATAATGTCACGAAAAGCTCTTACAAGACCAAGGCTAGGGCACAGCAAGGT
Reverse primer for Hygromycin repair template (pPOTv5) for <i>g'</i> KO	CAGGGCAGCAGTACCACAAACGCTAAGAAGGGGCTCGAATCCCCCATT
Forward primer for Hygromycin repair template (pPOTv5) for NDUFA4 KO	TGTTTTTTTTTGTGCTCAACGATGTATCCAAGGCTAGGGCACAGCAAGGT
Reverse primer for Hygromycin repair template (pPOTv5) for NDUFA4 KO	ACAGTGACAATAGTAATGAGCGATGGCGAAGGGGCTCGAATCCCCCATT
Forward primer for Hygromycin repair template (pPOTv5) for COXTB2 KO	TTACTAACAGTGTCAGACATCAGCTTCATAGGCTAGGGCACAGCAAGGT
Reverse primer for Hygromycin repair template (pPOTv5) for COXTB2 KO	CTCCACATGTACAGTTCGAGCGAGCTTCCCGGGGCTCGAATCCCCCATT
Forward primer for Hygromycin repair template (pPOTv5) for COXTB3 KO	ATATATACATTATATATATACATTATATATATAGGCTAGGGCACAGCAAGGT
Reverse primer for Hygromycin repair template (pPOTv5) for COXTB3 KO	CAAAGGAGACTAAAATGCGTACCTGTGCCTGGGGCTCGAATCCCCCATT
Forward primer for Neomycin repair template (pHD2164) for <i>g''</i> KO	ATATATATATATATATTTTCACTTAATTCATGCACAGCAAGGCTTCTGAAATTC
Reverse primer for Neomycin repair template (pHD2164) for <i>g''</i> KO	CGTTCACCTTGGCAACGCCCGCCGCTCCCAATCCCCCATTCTTCTTTTACA
Forward primer for Neomycin repair template (pHD2164) for <i>g'</i> KO	ATAATGTCACGAAAAGCTCTTACAAGACCAGCACAGCAAGGCTTCTGAAATTC

Reverse primer for Neomycin repair template (pHD2164) for g' KO	CAGGGCAGCAGTCACCACAAACGCTAAGAAATCCCCCATTCTCTTTTACA
Forward primer for Neomycin repair template (pHD2164) for NDUFA4 KO	TGTTTTTTTTTGCTCAACGATGTATCCAGCACAGCAAGGTCTTCTGAAATTC
Reverse primer for Neomycin repair template (pHD2164) for NDUFA4 KO	ACAGTGACAATAGTAATGAGCGATGGCGAAATCCCCCATTCTCTTTTACA
Forward primer for Neomycin repair template (pHD2164) for COXTB2 KO	TTACTAACAGTGTACAGACATCAGCTTCATGCACAGCAAGGTCTTCTGAAATTC
Reverse primer for Neomycin repair template (pHD2164) for COXTB2 KO	CTCCACATGTACAGTTCGAGCGAGCTTCCCATCCCCCATTCTCTTTTACA
Forward primer for Neomycin repair template (pHD2164) for COXTB3 KO	ATATATACATTATATATATACATTATATATGCACAGCAAGGTCTTCTGAAATTC
Reverse primer for Neomycin repair template (pHD2164) for COXTB3 KO	CAAAGGAGACTAAAATGCGTACCTGTGCCTATCCCCCATTCTCTTTTACA
<b>Primers for GOI:pLEW79 construct generation</b>	
Forward primer for cloning COXTB2 into pLEW79 (with HindIII site)	CTAAGCTTATGCTCCGCCGTTG
Reverse primer for cloning COXTB2 into pLEW79 (with BamHI site)	ATGGATCCCTAAGCGAGGTCGGTATC
Forward primer for cloning COXTB3 into pLEW79 (with HindIII site)	CTAAGCTTATGCTCCGACGCGT
Reverse primer for cloning COXTB3 into pLEW79 (with BamHI site)	ATGGATCCTTACACTGCCCTGTCTCAG
<b>Primers for diagnostic PCR</b>	
Forward primer (A) on g'' CDS for diagnostic PCR	CGAGTAGCTTAACCTCTGAC
Reverse primer (B) on g'' UTR for diagnostic PCR	CTCCAAAACAACCAAAGCACA
Forward primer (A) on g' CDS for diagnostic PCR	AAGCGTCATGTTGAAGAGC
Reverse primer (B) on g' UTR for diagnostic PCR	AACTTTTACCCCCACCACA
Forward primer (A) on NDUFA4 CDS for diagnostic PCR	CTTCCTACACCCGGATATTAC
Reverse primer (B) on NDUFA4 UTR for diagnostic PCR	GCATGTTAGTGAATGAAGAAGAG
Forward primer (A) on COXTB2 CDS for diagnostic PCR	CTAATCCTGGTGAAACGGG
Reverse primer (B) on COXTB2 UTR for diagnostic PCR	CCTTGCATCTCATGTCACC
Forward primer (A) on COXTB3 CDS for diagnostic PCR	GACGGTATACAACTACGACC
Reverse primer (B) on COXTB3 UTR for diagnostic PCR	TAACAAAGGAGACTAAAATGCGT
Forward primer (C) for Hygromycin CDS for diagnostic PCR	GAGGGCGAAGAATCTCGTGCT
Forward primer (D) for Neomycin CDS for diagnostic PCR	CTTGCCGAATATCATGGTGG

## Supplementary Videos

**Supplementary Video 1** Cryo-EM maps and models of CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV morphing through the three rotational states and CIII<sub>2</sub>CIV<sub>2</sub>.

**Supplementary Video 2** MD simulation of WT CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV supercomplex shows that the membrane curvature is sustained. Complex IV dimer is colored in blue and purple, Complex II in red, Complex V stator in green and Complex V rotor in beige. The lipid bilayer phosphorus atoms are shown as orange spheres.

**Supplementary Video 3** MD simulation of CIICIV<sub>2</sub> subcomplex shows the loss of membrane curvature (see also Supplementary Video 2).

**Supplementary Video 4** MD simulation of pure (protein-free) lipid bilayer does not show any noticeable membrane curvature (see also Supplementary Video 2).

**Supplementary Video 5** MD simulation of WT supercomplex CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV. The  $g'/g''$  subunits are highlighted in dark red and show overall conformational stability (see also Supplementary Video 2).

**Supplementary Video 6** MD simulation of supercomplex CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV without subunit  $g'$ . KO simulation shows that helix 3 of  $g''$ , here highlighted in dark blue, shows significant distortion along the simulation (see also Supplementary Video 5).

**Supplementary Video 7** MD simulation of supercomplex CIICIV<sub>2</sub>CV without subunit  $g''$ . KO simulation shows that helix 1 and 3 of  $g'$ , here colored in dark green, undergo distortion from the original arrangement (see also Supplementary Video 5).

**Supplementary Video 8** 3D reconstruction of electron tomogram corresponding to WT mitochondria in Fig. 3d. Selected tilt sections shown in Extended Data Fig. 9d.

**Supplementary Video 9** 3D reconstruction of electron tomogram corresponding to  $g'^{-/-}$  mitochondria in Fig. 3e. Selected tilt sections shown in Extended Data Fig. 9e.

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