

Reporting Summary

Nature Portfolio wishes to improve the reproducibility of the work that we publish. This form provides structure for consistency and transparency in reporting. For further information on Nature Portfolio policies, see our [Editorial Policies](#) and the [Editorial Policy Checklist](#).

Statistics

For all statistical analyses, confirm that the following items are present in the figure legend, table legend, main text, or Methods section.

n/a Confirmed

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The exact sample size (n) for each experimental group/condition, given as a discrete number and unit of measurement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A statement on whether measurements were taken from distinct samples or whether the same sample was measured repeatedly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The statistical test(s) used AND whether they are one- or two-sided
<i>Only common tests should be described solely by name; describe more complex techniques in the Methods section.</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | A description of all covariates tested |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A description of any assumptions or corrections, such as tests of normality and adjustment for multiple comparisons |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | A full description of the statistical parameters including central tendency (e.g. means) or other basic estimates (e.g. regression coefficient) AND variation (e.g. standard deviation) or associated estimates of uncertainty (e.g. confidence intervals) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | For null hypothesis testing, the test statistic (e.g. F , t , r) with confidence intervals, effect sizes, degrees of freedom and P value noted
<i>Give P values as exact values whenever suitable.</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | For Bayesian analysis, information on the choice of priors and Markov chain Monte Carlo settings |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | For hierarchical and complex designs, identification of the appropriate level for tests and full reporting of outcomes |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Estimates of effect sizes (e.g. Cohen's d , Pearson's r), indicating how they were calculated |

Our web collection on [statistics for biologists](#) contains articles on many of the points above.

Software and code

Policy information about [availability of computer code](#)

Data collection	Serial EM 3.7 is used to collect cryo-EM data.
Data analysis	MotionCor2 (v 1.1.0); CTFFIND4 (v 4.1.5); SAMUEL(v 17.05); SPIDER(v 17.05); RELION(v 3.0); Phenix(v1.19.2); Coot(v 0.8.9); Chimera X (v 1.4); Graphpad Prism (v 9.4.1); Topaz (v 0.2.0); cryoSPARC (v 3.2); GROMACS (v 2018); MedusaDock (v 2.0); VirtualFlow; Xcalibur (v 4.3.73.11); MolProbity; 3DFSC.

For manuscripts utilizing custom algorithms or software that are central to the research but not yet described in published literature, software must be made available to editors and reviewers. We strongly encourage code deposition in a community repository (e.g. GitHub). See the Nature Portfolio [guidelines for submitting code & software](#) for further information.

Data

Policy information about [availability of data](#)

All manuscripts must include a [data availability statement](#). This statement should provide the following information, where applicable:

- Accession codes, unique identifiers, or web links for publicly available datasets
- A description of any restrictions on data availability
- For clinical datasets or third party data, please ensure that the statement adheres to our [policy](#)

The three-dimensional cryo-EM density maps have been deposited into the Electron Microscopy Data Bank under accession numbers EMD-28552 [<https://www.ebi.ac.uk/pdbe/entry/emdb/EMD-28552>]. The coordinates are deposited into the Protein Data Bank with accession number 8ERC [<http://doi.org/10.2210/pdb8ERC/pdb>]. This study also cited published chicken MBOAT5 in complex with lyso-PC (PDB: 7F3X) [<http://doi.org/10.2210/pdb7F3X/pdb>] or in complex with

arachidonyl-CoA (PDB: 7F40) [<http://doi.org/10.2210/pdb7F40/pdb>]. The raw TLC, gel and blot data generated in this study are provided in the Source Data file.

Human research participants

Policy information about [studies involving human research participants and Sex and Gender in Research](#).

Reporting on sex and gender	This is not relevant to our studies, because our research did not involve human research participants.
Population characteristics	This is not relevant to our studies, because our research did not involve human research participants.
Recruitment	This is not relevant to our studies, because our research did not involve human research participants.
Ethics oversight	This is not relevant to our studies, because our research did not involve human research participants.

Note that full information on the approval of the study protocol must also be provided in the manuscript.

Field-specific reporting

Please select the one below that is the best fit for your research. If you are not sure, read the appropriate sections before making your selection.

☒ Life sciences ☐ Behavioural & social sciences ☐ Ecological, evolutionary & environmental sciences

For a reference copy of the document with all sections, see [nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf](https://www.nature.com/documents/nr-reporting-summary-flat.pdf)

Life sciences study design

All studies must disclose on these points even when the disclosure is negative.

Sample size	Sample sizes were determined based on previous reports and best practices.
Data exclusions	No data were excluded from analyses.
Replication	Each experiment was repeated at least two times in independent experiments. Experimental findings were reproduced reliably.
Randomization	This is not relevant to our study, because no grouping was needed.
Blinding	Investigators were not blinded to group allocation, because no grouping was needed for this study.

Reporting for specific materials, systems and methods

We require information from authors about some types of materials, experimental systems and methods used in many studies. Here, indicate whether each material, system or method listed is relevant to your study. If you are not sure if a list item applies to your research, read the appropriate section before selecting a response.

Materials & experimental systems

n/a	Involved in the study
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Antibodies
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eukaryotic cell lines
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Palaeontology and archaeology
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Animals and other organisms
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical data
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Dual use research of concern

Methods

n/a	Involved in the study
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> ChIP-seq
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Flow cytometry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> MRI-based neuroimaging

Eukaryotic cell lines

Policy information about [cell lines and Sex and Gender in Research](#)

Cell line source(s)	FreeStyle™ 293-F Cells (ThermoFisher Scientific); SUM159 cell (ATCC, CRL-1504)
Authentication	No further authentications were performed for this study.
Mycoplasma contamination	Mycoplasma contamination test was performed and shown to be negative.
Commonly misidentified lines (See ICLAC register)	None of the cell lines used are listed in the ICLAC database.