



**Supplementary Materials for**  
**Structural basis for the recognition of the SARS-CoV-2 by**  
**full-length human ACE2**

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**This PDF file includes:**

Materials and Methods  
Figs. S1 to S9  
Table S1  
Caption for Movie S1  
References

**Other Supporting Online Material for this manuscript includes the following:**  
(available at [science.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/science.abb2762/DC1](https://science.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/full/science.abb2762/DC1))

MDAR Reproducibility Checklist (.pdf)  
Movie S1 (.mov)

## **Materials and Methods**

### **Protein preparation**

The cDNAs for full-length human B<sup>0</sup>AT1 (accession number: NM\_001003841) and ACE2 (accession number: NM\_001371415) were subcloned into pCAG respectively. An N-terminal FLAG tag was fused to B<sup>0</sup>AT1, and one Strep tag was fused after the N-terminal signal peptide of ACE2 using a standard two-step PCR.

HEK 293F cells (Invitrogen) were cultured in SMM 293T-II medium (Sino Biological Inc.) at 37 °C under 5% CO<sub>2</sub> in a Multitron-Pro shaker (Infors, 130 rpm). To co-express B<sup>0</sup>AT1 and ACE2, the cells were transiently transfected with the plasmids and polyethylenimines (PEIs) (Polysciences) when the cell density reached approximately  $2.0 \times 10^6$ /ml. For transfection one liter of cell culture, about 0.75 mg plasmids for B<sup>0</sup>AT1 and 0.75 mg plasmids for ACE2 were premixed with 3 mg PEIs in 50 ml of fresh medium for 15 mins before adding to cell culture. The transfected cells were cultured for 48-60 hours before harvesting.

For purification of the B<sup>0</sup>AT1 and ACE2 complex, the cells were collected in a buffer containing 25 mM Tris, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, and three protease inhibitors , aprotinin (1.3 µg/ml, AMRESCO), pepstatin (0.7 µg/ml, AMRESCO), and leupeptin (5 µg/ml, AMRESCO). The membrane fraction was solubilized at 4 °C for 2 hours with 1% (w/v) glyco diosgenin (GDN, Anatrace) and the cell debris was removed by centrifugation at 18,700 g for 45 mins. The supernatant was loaded to anti-FLAG M2 affinity resin (Sigma). After rinsing with a wash buffer containing 25 mM Tris, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, and 0.02% GDN (w/v), the protein was eluted with wash buffer plus 0.2 mg/ml FLAG peptide. The eluent was further purified by Strep-Tactin Sepharose (IBA). After eluted with the wash buffer supplemented with 4 mM desthiobiotin (IBA), the eluent was then concentrated and subject to size-exclusion chromatography (Superose 6 Increase 10/300 GL, GE Healthcare) in the buffer containing 25 mM Tris, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, and 0.02% GDN. The peak fractions were collected and concentrated for EM analysis.

### **Cryo-EM sample preparation and data acquisition**

For cryo-sample preparation, the purified ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex was concentrated to ~ 8 mg/ml. For the RBD-ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex, the purified ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex was mixed with the RBD (residues 319-541) of the S protein of the SARS-CoV-2, which has a C-terminal mouse Fc tag (Sino Biological Inc.), at a molar ratio of about 1:1.1 in the presence of 10 mM leucine. After 2 hour-incubation, aliquots (3.3  $\mu$ l) of the mixture were placed on glow-discharged holey carbon grids (Quantifoil Au R1.2/1.3), which were blotted for 3.0 s or 3.5 s and flash-frozen in liquid ethane cooled by liquid nitrogen with Vitrobot (Mark IV, Thermo Fisher Scientific). The cryo grids were transferred to a Titan Krios operating at 300 kV equipped with Gatan K3 Summit detector and GIF Quantum energy filter. Movie stacks were automatically collected using AutoEMation (39), with a slit width of 20 eV on the energy filter and a defocus range from -1.2  $\mu$ m to -2.2  $\mu$ m in super-resolution mode at a nominal magnification of 81,000 $\times$ . Each stack was exposed for 2.56 s with an exposure time of 0.08 s per frame, resulting in a total of 32 frames per stack. The total dose rate was approximately 50 e<sup>-</sup>/ $\text{\AA}^2$  for each stack. The stacks were motion corrected with MotionCor2 (40) and binned 2-fold, resulting in a pixel size of 1.087  $\text{\AA}$ /pixel. Meanwhile, dose weighting was performed (41). The defocus values were estimated with Gctf (42).

### **Data processing**

Particles were automatically picked using Relion 3.0.6 (43-46) from manually selected micrographs. After 2D classification with Relion, good particles were selected and subject to 3D classification with Relion with C2 symmetry against an initial model generated with Relion (the ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex). The open and closed conformation particles were selected and subject to local defocus correction (42), 3D auto-refinement and post-processing. To improve the map quality of the closed conformation, the dataset was further focused refined with adapted mask applied on the extracellular region and the TM region, respectively. For TM region, the dataset was symmetry-expanded before refinement. For the dataset of the open conformation

of the ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex, the dataset was further subject to 2 rounds of heterogeneous refinement and non-uniform refinement with cryoSPARC (47). For the RBD-ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex, the methods for particle picking and 2D classification are same to that for ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex. The good particles selected from 2D classification are subject to three cycles of heterogeneous refinement with C1 symmetry using cryoSPARC. The good particles were selected and subject to homogeneous refinement with C2 symmetry, resulting in the 3D reconstruction for the whole structure. The map quality in the extracellular region or in the TM region was improved by focused refinement with Relion. To further improve the map quality for RBD and the binding interface between ACE2 and RBD, the particles were C2-symmetry expanded and re-centered at the location of the interface between ACE2 and RBD. The re-extracted dataset was 3D classified with Relion focused on the interface between ACE2 and RBD. Then the good particles were selected and subject to focused refinement with Relion, resulting in the 3D reconstruction of better quality on the binding interface and RBD.

The resolution was estimated with the gold-standard Fourier shell correlation 0.143 criterion (48) with high-resolution noise substitution (49). Refer to Supplemental Figures S1-S3,S5-S6 and Supplemental Table S1 for details of data collection and processing.

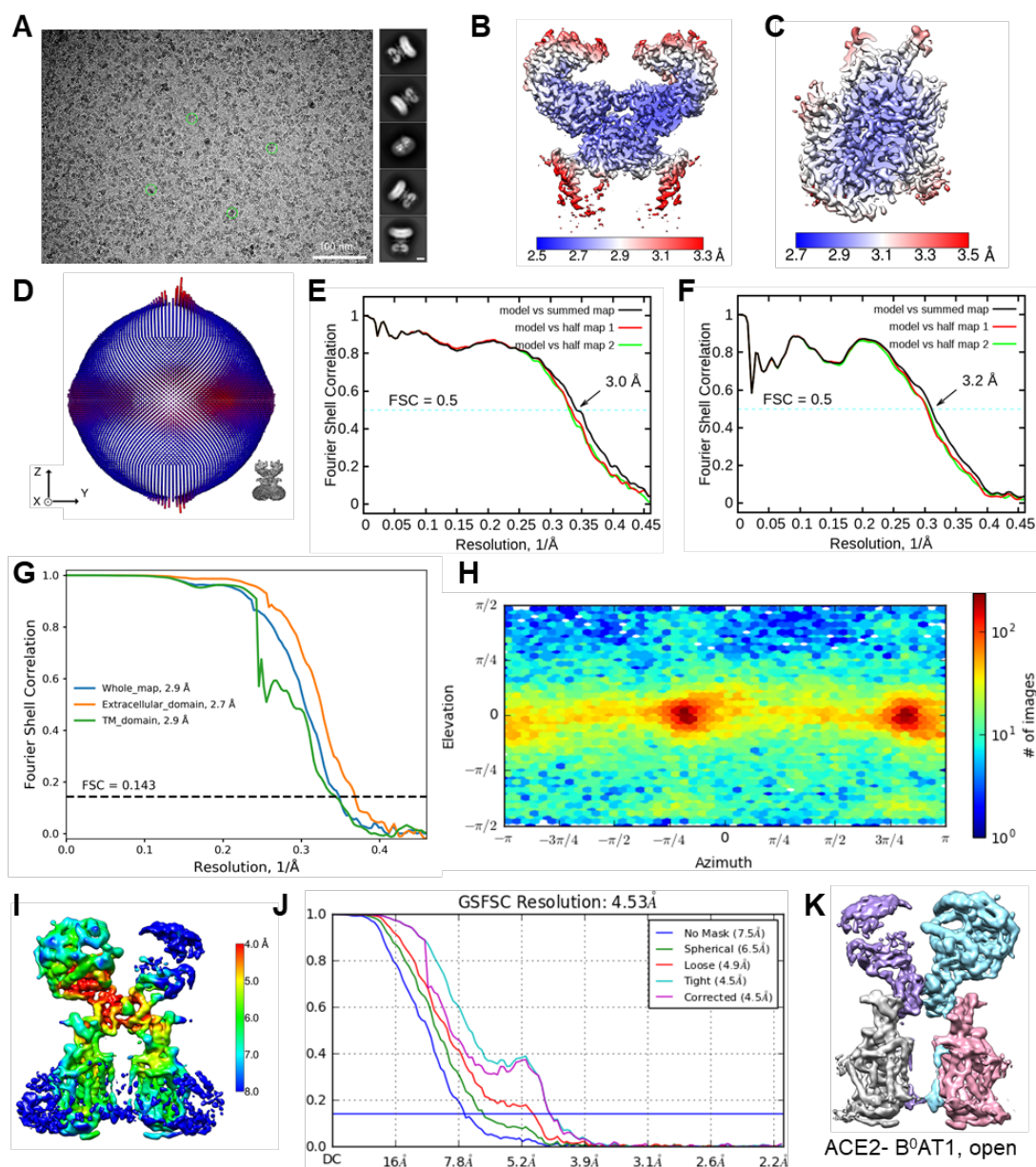
### **Model building and structure refinement**

Model building of the ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex was performed by molecular dynamics flexible fitting (MDFF) (50) of the published structure (PDB ID: 6ACJ) for the PD domain of ACE2 or *ab initio* with Phenix (51) and Coot (52) for the other parts based on the focused-refined cryo-EM maps with aromatic residues as landmarks, most of which were clearly visible in the cryo-EM map. Each residue was manually checked with the chemical properties taken into consideration during model building. Several segments, whose corresponding densities were invisible, were not modeled.

For the RBD-ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex, the model building was accomplished based on the focused refined maps of the ternary complex. For the ACE2- B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex part

and RBD part, the model of the ACE2- B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex described above and the atomic model of SARS-RBD (PDB ID: 2AJF) was used as template, respectively. Structural refinement was performed in Phenix with secondary structure and geometry restraints to prevent overfitting. To monitor the potential overfitting, the model was refined against one of the two independent half maps from the gold-standard 3D refinement approach. Then, the refined model was tested against the other map. Statistics associated with data collection, 3D reconstruction and model building is summarized in Table S1.

## Supplementary Figures and Legends

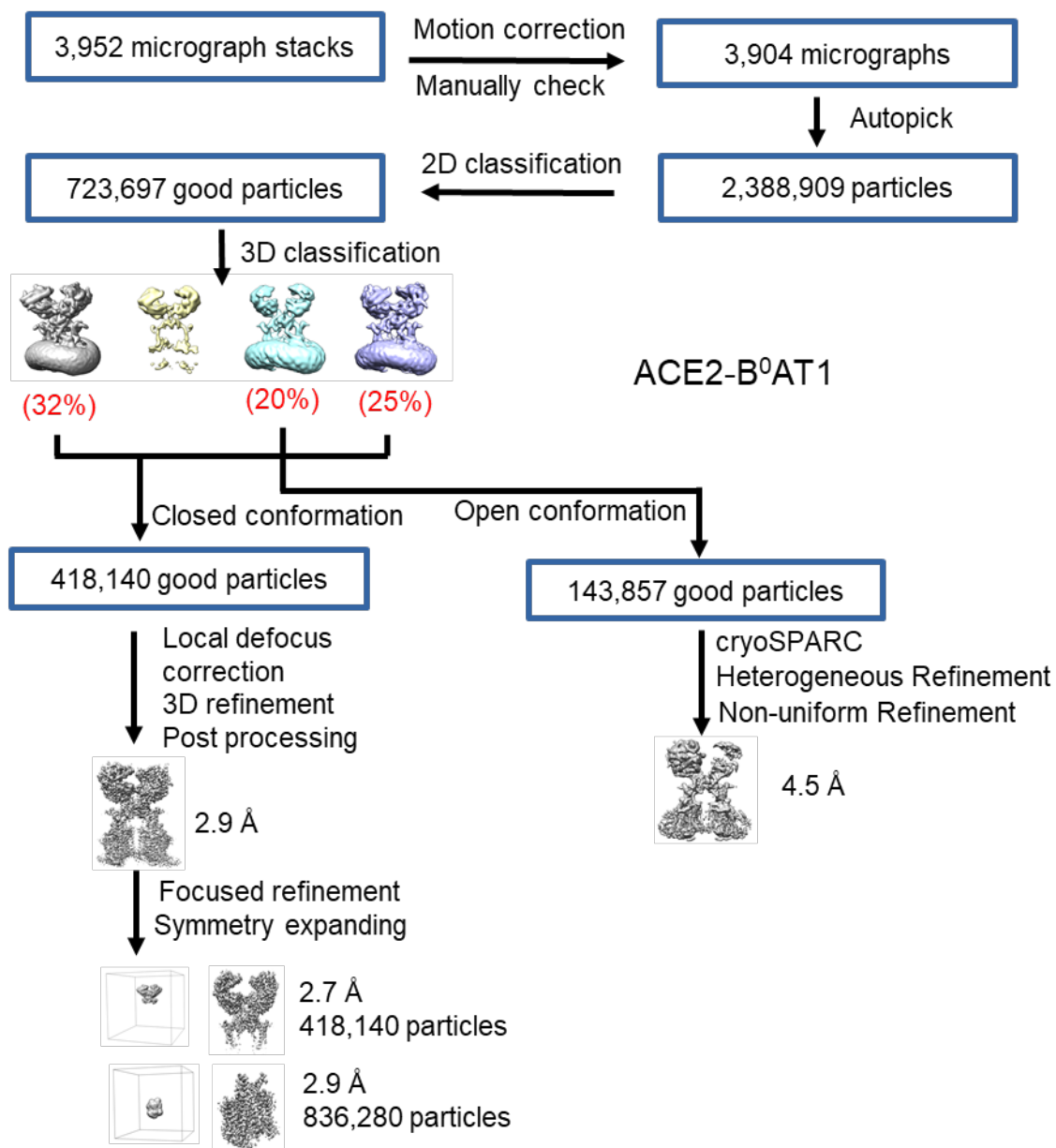


**Fig. S1**

Cryo-EM analysis of ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex in closed and open conformation.

**(A)** Representative electron micrograph and 2D class averages of cryo-EM particle images. The scale bar in 2D class averages represents 10 nm. **(B)** and **(C)** Local resolution map for the 3D reconstruction of extracellular region and TM region of closed ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex. **(D)** Euler angle distribution of closed ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex in the final 3D reconstruction. **(E)** FSC curve of the refined model of closed ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 versus the extracellular region that it is refined against (black);

of the model refined against the first half map versus the same map (red); and of the model refined against the first half map versus the second half map (green). The small difference between the red and green curves indicates that the refinement of the atomic coordinates did not suffer from overfitting. **(F)** FSC curve of the refined model of TM region of closed ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex, which is the same as the (E). **(G)** Gold standard FSC curves of the overall structure (blue), extracellular region (orange) and TM region (green) of closed ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex. **(H)** Euler angle distribution of open ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex in the final 3D reconstruction in cryoSPARC. **(I)** Local resolution map for the 3D reconstruction of open ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex. **(J)** Gold standard FSC curve of open ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex is estimated by cryoSPARC. **(K)** Cryo-EM map of the ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex in the open conformation. The map is coloured by subunits.

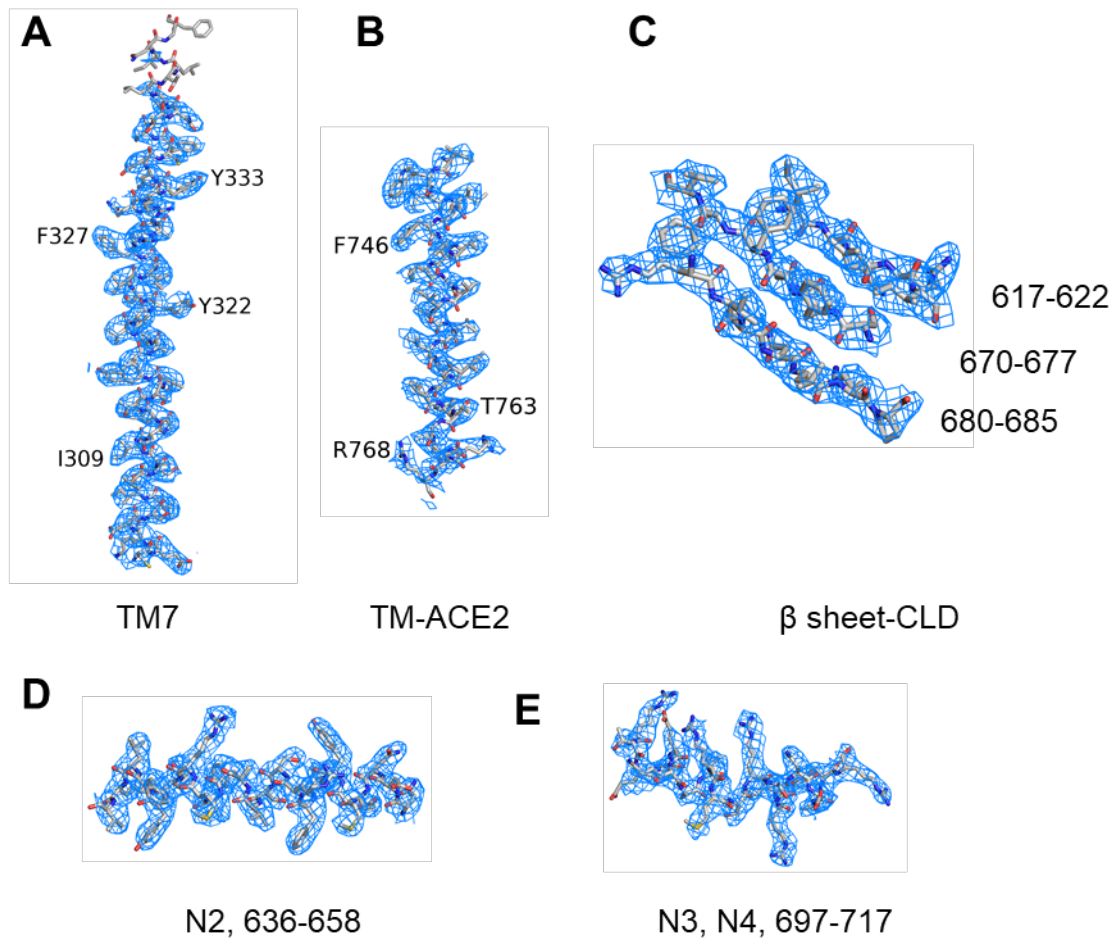


**Fig. S2**

Flowchart for cryo-EM data processing for ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex.

Please see the “Data Processing” section in Methods for details.

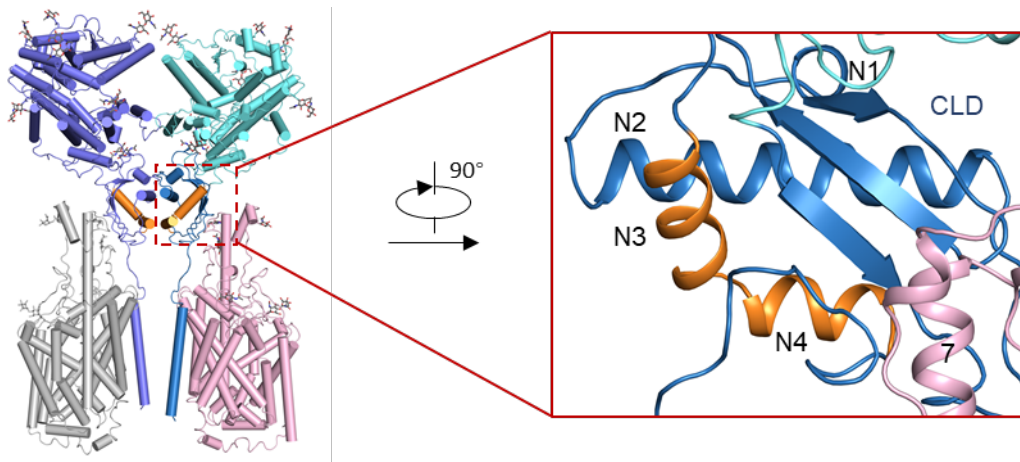




**Fig. S3**

Representative Cryo-EM densities.

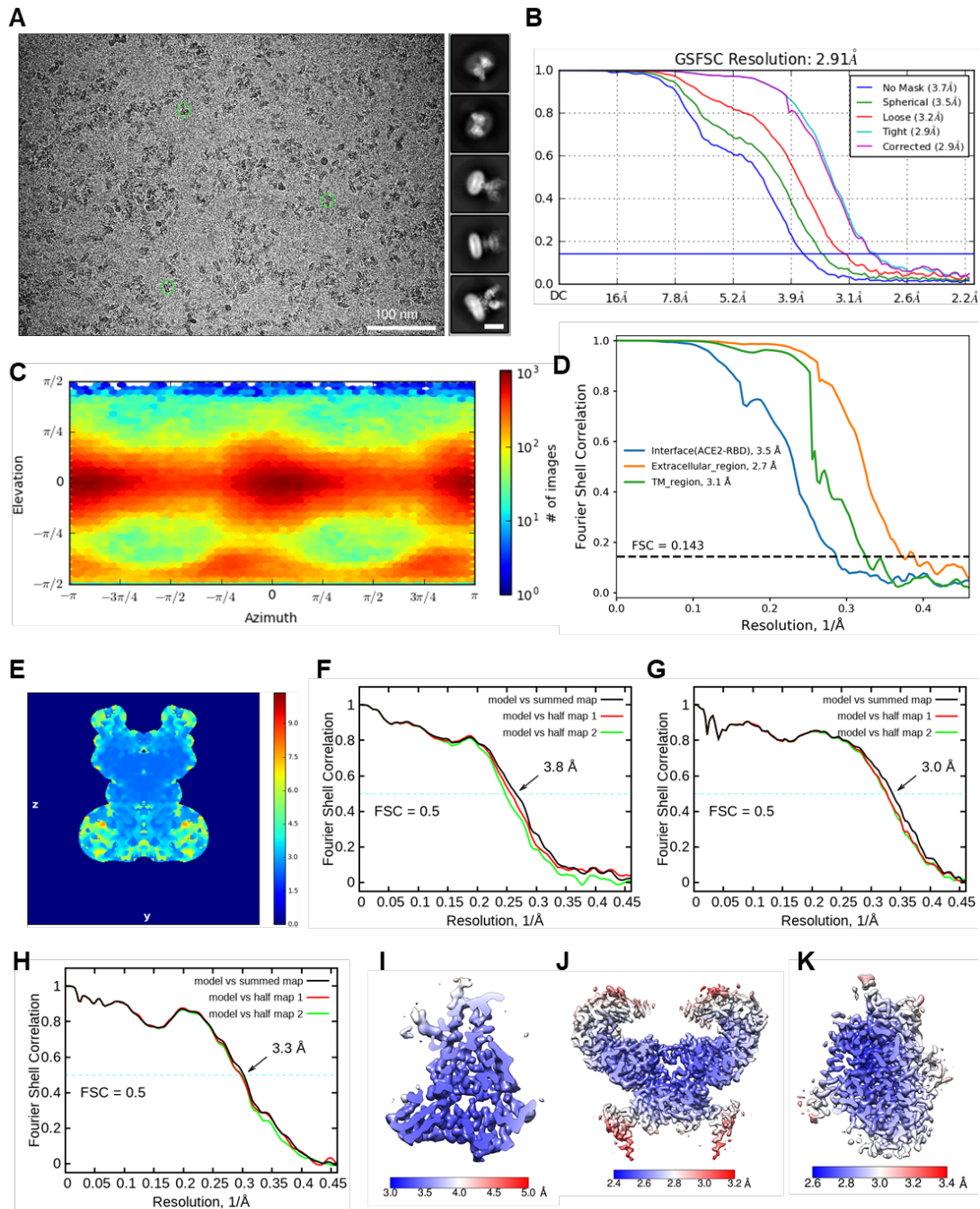
Shown here are the cryo-EM maps of indicated segments of ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex in the closed conformation. All densities are generated in PyMOL and contoured at 8  $\sigma$ .



**Fig. S4**

Structure of the Neck domain in CLD.

The Neck domain exhibits a ferredoxin-like fold. The four  $\alpha$ -helices in CLD are labelled N1-N4. The segment containing the predicted cleavage site is colored orange.

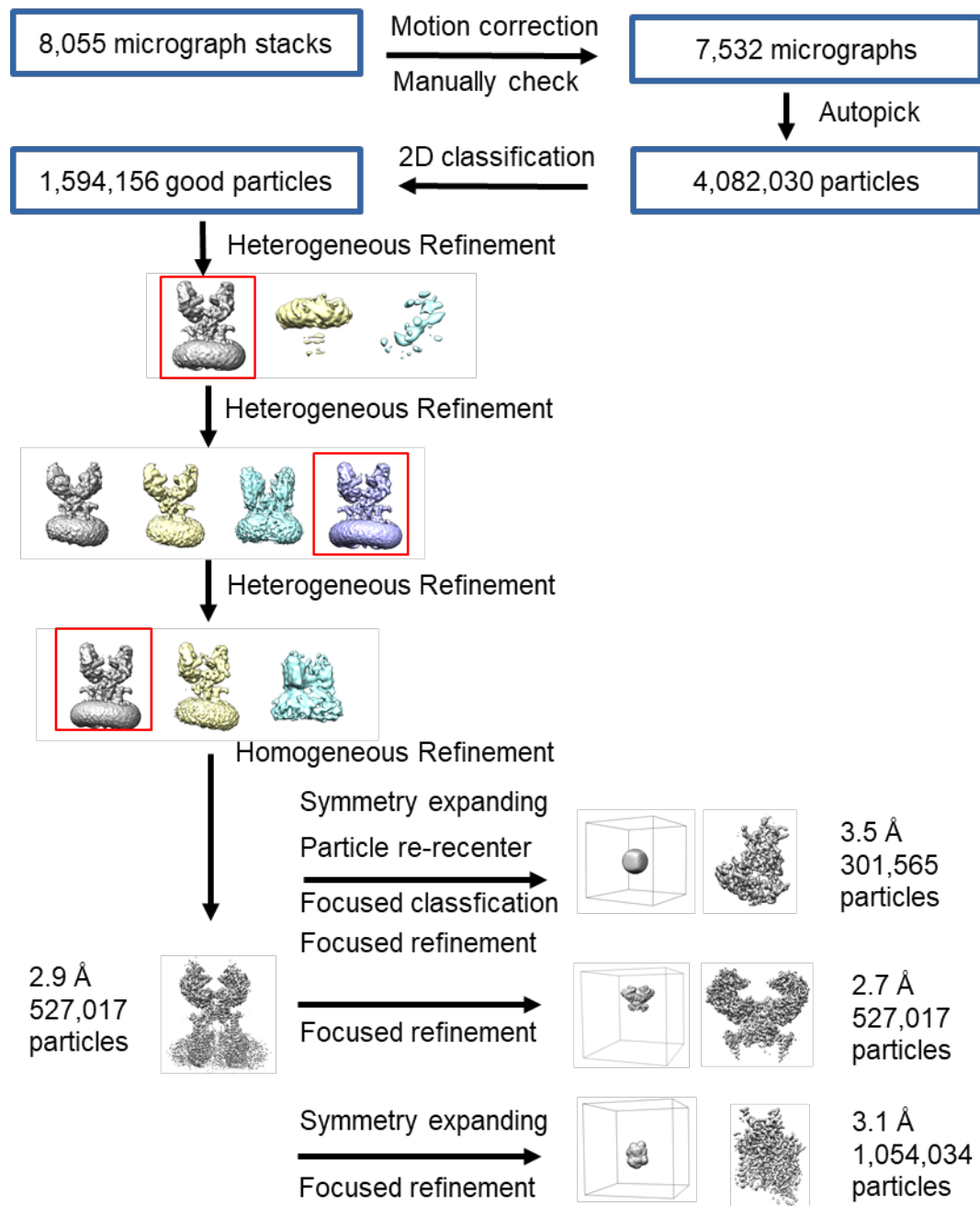


**Fig. S5**

Cryo-EM analysis of the RBD-ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 ternary complex.

(A) Representative electron micrograph and 2D class averages of cryo-EM particle images. The scale bar in 2D class averages represents 10 nm. (B) Gold standard FSC curve of the cryoSPARC 3D reconstruction of the ternary complex. (C) Euler angle distribution of the ternary complex in the final cryoSPARC 3D reconstruction.

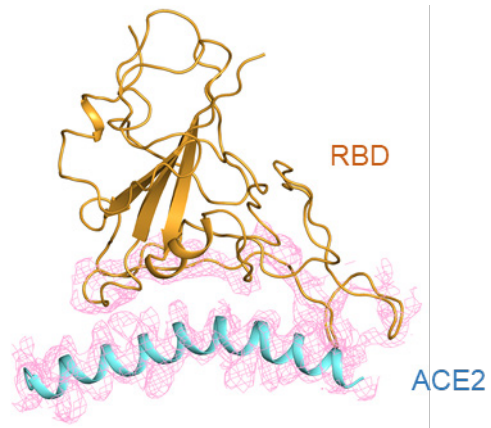
**(D)** Gold standard FSC curves of the interface between RBD and ACE2 (blue), TMcellular region (orange) and TM region (green) of the RBD-ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 ternary complex. **(E)** Local resolution map for the 3D reconstruction of the whole structure of RBD-ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 ternary complex. **(F)** FSC curve of the refined model of RBD-ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 ternary complex versus the interface between RBD and ACE2 that it is refined against (black); of the model refined against the first half map versus the same map (red); and of the model refined against the first half map versus the second half map (green). The small difference between the red and green curves indicates that the refinement of the atomic coordinates did not suffer from overfitting. **(G)** and **(H)** are FSC curves of the refined model of extracellular region and TM region of RBD-ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 ternary complex, which are the same as the (F), respectively. **(I)-(K)** are local resolution maps for the 3D reconstruction of the interface between RBD and ACE2, extracellular region and TM region of the RBD-ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 ternary complex, respectively.



**Fig. S6**

Flowchart for cryo-EM data processing for RBD-ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 ternary complex.

Please see the “Data Processing” section in Methods for details.



**Fig. S7**

Cryo-EM density of the interface between RBD and ACE2.

The density, shown as pink meshes, is contoured at  $12 \sigma$ .

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SARS-CoV-2 RBD RVQPTESI VRFPNITNLCFFGEVFNATR FASVYAWN RKR ISNCVADYSVLYNSAS FSTFK 378
SARS-CoV RBD RVVPSGDV VRFPNITNLCFFGEVFNATK FPSVYAW ERKK ISNCVADYSVLYNSTF FSTFK 365

SARS-CoV-2 RBD CYGVSPTKLNDLCFTNVYADSFVIRGDEV RQIAPGQTGKIADYNYKLPDDFTGCVI AWNS 438
SARS-CoV RBD CYGVSATKLNDLCFSNVYADSFVVKGDV RQIAPGQTGV IADYNYKLPDDFMGCVLAWNT 425

SARS-CoV-2 RBD NNLD SKVG GNYYLYR LFR KSNL K PFERDISTE IYQAGST PCNGVEGF NCF P LQS YGFQ 498
SARS-CoV RBD RNIDATST GNYYKYR YLR RHGKLR PFERDIS NVVPS PDGK PCT . PPALN CYW PLND YGFY 484

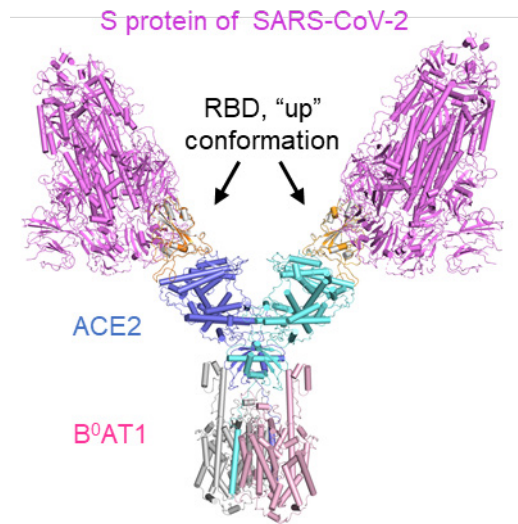
SARS-CoV-2 RBD PTN GVGYPYRVVVL SFELLH APATVCGPKK STNL VKNKCVNF 541
SARS-CoV RBD TTTGI GYQPYRVVVL SFELLN APATVCGPKL STDLI KNQCVNF 527

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**Fig. S8**

Sequence alignment for the RBD of the S proteins from SARS-CoV-2 and SARS-CoV.

The two sequences were aligned using ClustalX. Invariant amino acids are shaded blue. The altered interface residues between nCoV-RBD and SARS-CoV RBD are indicated by solid circles and color-coded using the same scheme as for the boxes in Figure 4. The Uniprot IDs: SARS-CoV-2 S protein (P0DTC2) and SARS-CoV S protein (P59594).



**Fig. S9**

Structural superimposition of the RBD-ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 ternary complex with the S protein of SARS-CoV-2 (PDB code: 6VSB).

In the trimeric S protein, one RBD exhibits “up” conformation and the other two are “down”. Clash between ACE2 and the S protein can be avoided only when the ternary complex is superimposed to the “up” RBD, as shown here.



**Table S1 Cryo-EM data collection and refinement statistics.**

<b>Data collection</b>			
EM equipment	Titan Krios (Thermo Fisher Scientific)		
Voltage (kV)	300		
Detector	Gatan K3 Summit		
Energy filter	Gatan GIF Quantum, 20 eV slit		
Pixel size (Å)	1.087		
Electron dose (e-/Å <sup>2</sup> )	50		
Defocus range (µm)	-1.2 ~ -2.2		
Number of collected micrographs	3,952		8,055
Number of selected micrographs	3,904		7,532
Sample	ACE2- B <sup>0</sup> AT1 complex		RBD-ACE2-B <sup>0</sup> AT1 complex
<b>3D Reconstruction</b>			
Conformation	closed	open	closed
Software	Relion	cryoSPARC	cryoSPARC/Relion/Relion/Relion <sup>b</sup>
Number of used particles	418,140/418,140/ 836,280 <sup>a</sup>	143,857	527,017/301,565/ 527,017/1054,034 <sup>b</sup>
Resolution (Å)	2.9/2.7/2.9 <sup>a</sup>	4.5	2.9/3.5/2.7/3.1 <sup>b</sup>
Symmetry	C2/C2/C1 <sup>a</sup>	C1	C2/C1/C2/C1 <sup>b</sup>
Map sharpening B factor (Å <sup>2</sup> )	-90/-90/-150 <sup>a</sup>	-140	-118/-150/-90/-150 <sup>b</sup>
PDB code	6M18	6M1D	6M17
EMDB code	EMD-30040/ EMD-30044/ EMD-30045 <sup>a</sup>	EMD-30041	EMD-30039/ EMD-30046/ EMD-30042/ EMD-30043 <sup>b</sup>
<b>Refinement</b>			
Software		Phenix	
Cell dimensions (Å)		313.056	
Model composition			
Protein residues	2,708	2,708	3,078
Side chains assigned	2,708	2,708	3,078
Sugar	38	N/A	44
Phospholipid	4	N/A	N/A
Zn	2	N/A	2
Water	30	N/A	8
RMSD			
Bonds length (Å)	0.01	0.005	0.008
Bonds Angle (°)	1.085	1.123	1.187
Ramachandran plot statistics (%)			
Preferred	91.11	90.55	91.01
Allowed	8.74	9.30	8.53
Outlier	0.15	0.15	0.46

<sup>a</sup>whole structure/ extracellular region/ TM region<sup>b</sup>whole structure/ interface between RBD and ACE2/ extracellular region/ TM region

**Movie S1**

The structural morph between the closed and open conformation of the ACE2-B<sup>0</sup>AT1 complex.

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