

Structural insights into RyR channel gating modulated by intrinsic junctional protein

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Biological Sciences - Article

Keywords:

Posted Date: March 17th, 2022

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-1434924/v1>

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1 Structural insights into RyR channel gating modulated by intrinsic junctional protein

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23

24 **Abstract**

25 The type-1 ryanodine receptor (RyR1) is an intracellular calcium release channel for
26 skeletal muscle excitation-contraction coupling. Published structures of RyR1 showed RyR1 is
27 open only in the assistance of exogenous regulators, such as caffeine, ryanodine, PCB-95 and
28 diamide. Here, we report that with a mild purification procedure, a single transmembrane
29 protein junctin is co-purified with RyR1. RyR-junctin complex can be activated to open state
30 by Ca^{2+} only. Junctin inserts its transmembrane helix next to S1, S4 and S₄₋₅ linker of RyR1,
31 exerting an out-ward pushing force to the TM domain, facilitating the dilation of S6. Junctin
32 regulates the channel conformation by directly affecting the TM domain via Jun/S₁₋₄-S₄₋₅ linker.
33 Additional ATP increases the channel open probability by further stabilizing the channel in the
34 open state. Our results demonstrate junctin forms an intrinsic complex with RyR1 and play a
35 key role in the channel gating of RyR1 in physiological context.

36

37 Ryanodine receptors (RyRs) are a class of calcium (Ca^{2+}) release channels located in the
38 sarcoplasmic reticulum (SR) membranes of excitable cells, which release Ca^{2+} from SR into
39 cytosol in response to stimuli. RyRs play a key role in Ca^{2+} induced biological process
40 including neural excitation, signal transduction and muscle contraction¹⁻³. During excitation-
41 contraction coupling (E-C coupling), the functions of RyRs are modulated by a variety of
42 factors, including proteins (junctin, triadin, calsequestrin(CSQ), calmodulin, FK506-binding
43 protein (FKBP), etc.)⁴⁻⁸, small molecules (ATP, ryanodine, caffeine, PCB-95, etc.)⁹⁻¹¹ and ions
44 (Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , etc.)¹².

45 Ca^{2+} and ATP are key endogenous regulators of RyRs. Functional studies demonstrated
46 that Ca^{2+} alone is sufficient to activate RyR channels; the open probability of RyR channel has
47 a bell-shaped Ca^{2+} concentration dependence curve¹³⁻¹⁶. The critical Ca^{2+} activation
48 concentration is 10^{-7} M and the channel open probability increases with the increase of Ca^{2+}
49 concentration at range of 10^{-7} - 10^{-4} M¹⁶. At this concentration range, ATP enhances the open
50 probability of RyR channel. At $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ 10^{-5} M, ATP increases the channel open probability
51 almost to 100%¹⁷.

52 Junctin, triadin and CSQ are key proteins located in SR membrane. It is proposed these
53 three proteins in situ might form a quaternary complex with RyR and modulate the channel
54 activity of RyR⁸. Junctin is a 26 kDa single transmembrane (aa23-44) protein¹⁸ located in SR
55 membrane with a short N-terminal part (aa1-22, ~10% of the sequence) facing the cytoplasm
56 and a long C-terminal part (aa45-210, ~80% of the sequence) located in the SR lumen^{18,19}.
57 Triadin is a 95 kDa single transmembrane protein with high homology to junctin^{19,20}. Both
58 junctin and triadin have KEKE motif in the luminal fragment, which might interact with the
59 positively-charged helix of CSQ, and regulate the RyR channel^{7,8,21}.

60 Single channel recording experiments have demonstrated that junctin can enhance the
61 open probability of Ca^{2+} -activated RyR channel. Junctin significantly increase the channel open
62 probability of RyR activated by 10^{-7} M $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ under the SR lumen $[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ $\sim 10^{-3}$ M^{20,22}.

63 The RyR structures have been studied exhaustively by cryo-electron microscopy, with
64 structures of open and closed states captured²³⁻³⁴. All of the current open-state structures were
65 obtained in the assistance of exogenous pharmacological activators, such as caffeine, ryanodine,
66 PCB-95 and diamide^{25,28,31,34-36}. Contradictory to functional studies, the RyR channel can be
67 activated only to a 'primed' state by Ca^{2+} alone or even in the presence of ATP^{25,31}, in which,
68 the gate is not fully open for Ca^{2+} release. The contradiction between structural studies and
69 functional studies still remains a mystery. The structural studies are based on purified RyR

70 samples whereas some functional studies based on partially purified RyR samples or even SR
71 vesicles, which suggests that some key factors might be missing in the purified RyR samples,
72 leading to the loss of RyR1 full activation by Ca^{2+} and $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{ATP}$ in the structural studies.

73 Here, we report that by a mild purification procedure, we obtained an RyR1-junctin
74 complex. Structural studies of this RyR1-junctin complex revealed that RyR1-junctin complex
75 can be activated by Ca^{2+} or $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{ATP}$ to open state. In the Ca^{2+} alone sample, two Ca^{2+} activated
76 structures were obtained, corresponding to primed and open states respectively. In the
77 $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{ATP}$ sample, only one structure was obtained corresponding to full open state. Detailed
78 structural analysis revealed that junctin interacts with RyR1 by inserting its transmembrane
79 helix into the RyR1 transmembrane domain at position next to S1, S4 and S₄₋₅ linker by
80 hydrophobic interactions. These interactions exert an out-ward pushing force to the RyR1
81 transmembrane domain. This pushing force acts synergically with Ca^{2+} or $\text{Ca}^{2+}/\text{ATP}$, which
82 exert a pull force to the RyR1 S6 from the top, greatly facilitate the dilation of S6, thus the
83 opening of RyR1 channel. Our work demonstrates junctin forms an intrinsic complex with
84 RyR1 and play a key role in the channel gating of RyR1 in physiological context.

85

86 **Results**

87 **Junctin forms an intrinsic complex with RyR1**

88 When we purified the RyR1 by sucrose gradient sedimentation^{37,38}, we discovered a
89 protein with an apparent molecular mass between 25-35 kDa co-migrated with RyR1 (Fig. S1a).
90 According to this apparent molecular mass, we inferred this protein as junctin. To identify this
91 protein, we performed mass spectroscopy analysis on this protein, and compared the peptide
92 finger prints with data base. As shown in Fig.S1b and S1c, six finger print peptides (boxes 1-6
93 in Fig.S1b) from mass spectroscopy match with the sequence of rabbit cardiac junctin and they
94 cover different sequence fragments across junctin (Fig.S1d), but these sequence fragments are
95 different from other species (e.g. human, canine, and mouse cardiac muscle) in junctin. The
96 peptide finger prints identify this protein as junctin. The co-migration of junctin with RyR1 in
97 sucrose gradient sedimentation suggests that junctin forms a complex with RyR1. As this
98 complex is directly purified from SR membranes, this suggests junctin is an intrinsic part of
99 the RyR1 complex (we denoted the sample containing junctin as native RyR1). To confirm
100 junctin as an intrinsic part of RyR1 complex, we then performed cryo-electron microscopy
101 studies on the RyR1 sample containing junctin.

102 In the samples with junctin, an extra helix together with a loop appear in the RyR1
103 transmembrane domain, whereas in the samples without junctin, the extra helix and loop are

104 missing. The structural data indicate this extra helix with a loop is contributed by junctin. The
105 predicted model of transmembrane helix together with the loop of junctin (sequence
106 SFFTWFMI ALLGVWTSVA VVWFDL) matches well with the EM density map (Fig.S1c).
107 The junctional protein triadin was not detected in SDS-PAGE gel and mass spectroscopy
108 (Fig.S1a). Several other proteins exist in the RyR1 samples containing junctin, which are
109 identified as Ca²⁺-ATPase, junctophilin and CSQ by mass spectroscopy. Ca²⁺-ATPase and CSQ
110 are ruled out as the single transmembrane helix contributors since Ca²⁺-ATPase is a protein
111 with 10 transmembrane helices whereas CSQ is a soluble protein with no transmembrane
112 helix³⁹. Junctophilin is also ruled out as the predicted transmembrane helix of junctophilin
113 (sequence NS VMIVLVMLLN IGLAILFVHFL) does not match the EM density map.

114 To elucidate how junctin interacts with RyR1, we performed detailed structural analysis
115 of junctin with RyR1 (Fig. 1). Structural analysis reveals that the transmembrane helix of
116 junctin is located in the RyR1 transmembrane domain, adjacent to S1 and runs parallel with S1;
117 the loop is located in the SR luminal side and runs roughly parallel with the membrane plane
118 (Fig. 1a, 1b). The interactions between junctin and RyR1 are mainly hydrophobic: on the
119 cytoplasmic side, a cluster of hydrophobic residues of junctin (F23, F24, W26, F27) interact
120 with S1 (L4567, F4571, F4568), S4 (V4820, I4816, A4817, L4813) and S₄₋₅ linker (L4823) of
121 RyR1 (Fig. 1c ,1e, S5b, S5c); on the luminal side, hydrophobic residues of junctin (I30, L33,
122 W36) interact with F4575, F4579 of S1 of RyR1 (Fig. 1d ,1f, S5b, S5c). We infer through these
123 interactions, junctin may provide a pushing force to RyR1 transmembrane domain and facilitate
124 the gating of RyR1 as a channel regulator.

125

126 **Junctin facilitate the gating of RyR1 channel by Ca²⁺ and ATP**

127 To study whether junctin affects channel gating by Ca²⁺ and ATP, we performed cryo-EM
128 of RyR1-junctin complex in the presence of Ca²⁺ and Ca²⁺/ATP, and compared with the RyR1
129 structures without junctin. We performed cryo-EM at 5 different conditions: (1) purified RyR1
130 in the absence of junctin and Ca²⁺ (5 mM EGTA, denoted RyR1-EGTA); (2) purified RyR1 in
131 the presence of Ca²⁺ alone (RyR1 + 100 nM Ca²⁺, denoted RyR1-nM[Ca²⁺]); (3) native RyR1-
132 junctin in the presence of Ca²⁺ alone (RyR1-junctin + 100 nM Ca²⁺, denoted RyR1-
133 Jun/nM[Ca²⁺]); (4) purified RyR1 in the presence of Ca²⁺ and ATP (20 μM Ca²⁺ + 2 mM ATP,
134 denoted RyR1-μM[Ca²⁺]/ATP); (5) native RyR1-junctin in the presence of Ca²⁺ and ATP
135 (RyR1-junctin + 20 μM Ca²⁺ + 2mM ATP, denoted RyR1-Jun/μM[Ca²⁺]/ATP). Condition 1
136 was used to obtain the RyR1 structure at resting (closed) state; condition 2 was used to obtain
137 the purified RyR1 structure at critical Ca²⁺ activation concentration; condition 3 was used to

138 see the effect of junctin on the gating of RyR1 by Ca^{2+} alone at critical Ca^{2+} activation
139 concentration; condition 4 was used to obtain the purified RyR1 structure activated by Ca^{2+}
140 and ATP; and condition 5 was used to see the effect of junctin on the gating of RyR1 by Ca^{2+}
141 and ATP. The data collection and image processing procedures are outlined in Fig. S2 and the
142 data collection and model statistics are summarized in Table S1. Altogether, six different
143 structures were obtained (Fig. S3). These structures can be classified into four categories
144 according to the activation states, namely closed, pre-open (primed), activated shut, activated
145 open and full open states (Fig.S6, a-f).

146 The mushroom-like cytoplasmic region of RyR has “breathing” motion when the channel
147 is transiting from closed state to open state, obvious expansion of outside shell and downward
148 rotation of core region are observed. As shown in Fig2b, upon the Ca^{2+} loading(RyR1-
149 $100\text{nM}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$), the shell region, including NTD, Helical domain (HD1), and Handle domain,
150 move outward from the central axis and downward toward SR membrane, while the central
151 domain contracts, thus the whole cytoplasmic structure is expanded⁴⁰. CTD, VSD and TM
152 domain remain inactive, leading the structure to the pre-open state (Fig. 2b). In the presence of
153 junctin (RyR1-Jun/ $\text{nM}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$), we observed additional outward movement of handle domain,
154 central domain and TM domain (S1, S4 and S6) (Fig.2c). The pore diameter increases from
155 6.2\AA to 13.8\AA , thus inducing the channel to open state for Ca^{2+} release (Fig.S6e, S6j, S6m).
156 The distance of diagonal I4937 in the gate is even larger than RyR- Ca^{2+} /ATP/caffeine that was
157 reported by des Georges²⁵ and RyR1 activated by Ca^{2+} /ATP/caffeine/CHL from Ruifang Ma²⁸.
158 Interestingly, when analysing the data of RyR1-Jun/ $\text{nM}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$, we also obtained one 3D
159 structure whose gate remains inactivated, while the conformation is different from the
160 previously reported pre-open state, namely activated shut state (Fig.S2, S3c, S6d, S6i). The
161 shut state was obtained from 60% of the particles (Fig.S7). The shut state has a relative larger
162 gate size (6.8\AA) (Fig.S6d) than the pre-open state (6.2\AA) (Fig.S6b) in TM region, however, the
163 cytoplasmic domain has a larger expansion than pre-open state (Fig.S8a). The existence of shut
164 and open state in RyR1-Jun/ $\text{nM}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ sample shows that junctin together with $\text{nM} [\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ can
165 activate the RyR in open state to allow hydrated Ca^{2+} to release, and the open probability is
166 only 40%.

167 Since both Ca^{2+} and ATP are important activators of RyR1, we further compared the
168 structures of RyR1 with/without junctin in presence of $20\mu\text{M} \text{Ca}^{2+}$ and 2mM ATP. In condition
169 4 (RyR1- $\mu\text{M}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ /ATP), $\mu\text{M}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]$ /ATP can induce a large conformational change of
170 cytoplasmic domain, but not sufficient for S6 dilation. ATP interacts with CTD and U-motif,

171 to further stabilize the calcium activated central domain. The TM helix remains the same size
172 as in nM $[Ca^{2+}]$ (Fig.2d, S6c, S6k, S6m). For the sample of RyR1-Jun/ $\mu M[Ca^{2+}]/ATP$, the RyR1
173 is in an open conformation with a large outward shift of CTD, U-motif and TM helix. The pore
174 diameter is 15.1Å (Fig.2e and Fig.S6f, S6l, S6m), which is more expanded than the previous
175 observed open state. We name this conformation as full open state. In this sample, only the full
176 open structure is observed, thus the open probability is 100%.

177

178 **Junctin induced the conformational transitions of RyR1 in cooperation with Ca^{2+}/ATP**

179 To understand the synergic regulations of the junctin, Ca^{2+} and ATP, we compared the
180 conformational transitions of RyR in closed state (RyR1-EGTA) and activated open state
181 (RyR1-Jun/nM $[Ca^{2+}]$). The global transition contains complicated domains cooperation in the
182 core region, e.g. central domain, VSC, CTD and TM domain (Fig.3a). The interface among
183 these four domains is called O-ring³⁶. The high-affinity Ca^{2+} binding site locates at the interface
184 between $\alpha 10$, $\alpha 13$, $\alpha 16$ at central domain and H3-H4 loop at CTD, which brings central domain
185 and CTD in a closer adjacent (Fig.S4k, S4m-n). The movement of central domain causes in-
186 ward shift of $\alpha 4$ and an out-ward shift of $\alpha 22$ and $\alpha 21$ (i.e, U-motif). The interaction between
187 $\alpha 4$ and C3'/C2, the interaction between $\alpha 22$ and S2' of VSC domain, enable an outward
188 movement of VSC domain (Fig.3 b-c, S5 e-f). The changes of S2' and S3' of VSC are
189 transmitted to S2 and S3 in TM domain, exerting a pushing force to TM S₁₋₄. Since the signal
190 transduction is through a long-range allosteric gating from central domain to the TM
191 domain^{25,32}, we name it as $\alpha 4/Umotif-VSC-S_{1-4}-S_{4-5}$ linker-gate path. In the other hand, CTD
192 is also clamped by the U-motif via a hydrophobic chamber and transfers the movement directly
193 to S6 of TM domain. Since the four residues I4937 of S6 from RyR tetramers form the gate of
194 Ca^{2+} release, the movement of CTD directly pull the trigger for channel opening. This signal
195 transduction is named as Umotif/CTD-S6 path. The endogenous regulator junctin inserts into
196 the membrane adjacent to S1 and S4, which cause a large outward shift of S1 and S2 (Fig.2c,
197 3e, 3f). Besides, the cytoplasmic side of junctin has hydrophobic interaction with S₄₋₅ linker,
198 which pulls S₄₋₅ linker away from the central axis. The hydrophobic interaction between S₄₋₅
199 linker (I4826, V4830, H4832, N4833) and S6 (F4940, E4942, A4939, I4936) can facilitate the
200 dilation of S6 (Fig.S5g)²⁵.

201 In the previous reported RyR1 open structures, RyR1 can only be fully activated with the
202 assistance of exogenous regulators, such as ATP/Caffeine, ryanodine, PCB-95 and
203 diamide^{25,28,31,34,36}. ATP interacts with H2 of CTD, $\alpha 21$ of U-motif and cytoplasmic side of S6
204 (Fig.2d, S4l, S4o). Caffeine interacts with $\alpha 4$, VSC, CTD and $\alpha 22$, locking the central domain

205 in a contracted state. The additional ATP/Caffeine enhances the signal transmission of both
206 $\alpha 4$ /Umotif-VSC-S₁₋₄-S₄₋₅ linker-gate path and Umotif/CTD-S6 path, leading to S6 dilation.
207 PCB95 can also strength the contraction of central domain²⁶. The diamide insecticide (CHL)
208 interacts with TM S₁₋₄, inducing a displacement of S₄₋₅ linker, causing movement of S5 and S6
209 to open the pore²⁸. In our activated open structure (RyR1-Jun/nM[Ca²⁺]), in presence of low
210 concentration Ca²⁺(nM), junctin by itself can exert a pushing force to the TM domain, which
211 is sufficient to open the channel. RyR can be fully activated by the cooperation of endogenous
212 regulators junctin and Ca²⁺, with the open probability of 40% (Fig.S7).

213 Although in the physiological membrane, RyR can be fully activated by $\mu\text{M}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]/\text{ATP}$,
214 our structure (condition 4, RyR1- $\mu\text{M}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]/\text{ATP}$) shows that purified RyR1 is in pre-open state
215 in presence of $\mu\text{M}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]/\text{ATP}$. However, there is only one structure in full open state with the
216 native RyR/junctin complex (RyR-Jun/ $\mu\text{M}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]/\text{ATP}$). The overall structures of the upper part
217 of O-ring at pre-open and full-open state are very similar, $\alpha 4$, $\alpha 10$, $\alpha 13$, $\alpha 16$, $\alpha 19$ (central
218 domain) and H3-H4 loop (CTD) are barely moved. The regions that interacting with TM
219 domain have small out-ward movement, such as U-motif ($\alpha 20'$, $\alpha 21$, $\alpha 22$), CTD (H2, H3) and
220 VSC (S2', C2, C3) (Fig.3g-3i). As expectation, the TM domain S1, S2 and S₄₋₅ linker are
221 pushed outward by the insertion of junctin (Fig.3j, 3k). We noticed that the Ca²⁺ and ATP
222 binding sites are similar to the pre-open state except the global movement of these sub-regions,
223 which may indicate the initiation of conformational changes is from TM regions. In the
224 activated open and full open structures, I4937 in RyR1 channel can both be open for Ca²⁺
225 release with the help of low concentration of Ca²⁺. We speculated that junctin is the key trigger
226 here to directly pull S6 outward through TM S₁₋₄. We name it as Jun/S₁₋₄-S₄₋₅ linker-gate path,
227 which is independent from the conformation of cytoplasmic domains. Additional mM
228 concentration of ATP can increase the open probability by locking the interface between CTD
229 and S6.

230

231 **RyR1 activation is regulated by different allosteric communication pathway**

232 The modulation of RyR1 is crucial for channel activities and calcium homeostasis in cell.
233 While multiple type modulators, such as proteins, small molecules and ions can synergistically
234 regulate the channel kinetics in situ^{7,9,22}. The channel open probability primarily depends on
235 calcium concentration in cytoplasm with a bell-shaped curve. RyR1 is in closed state when the
236 Ca²⁺ concentration is lower than nano-molar, e.g. RyR-EGTA(Fig.4a). When activated by Ca²⁺
237 at concentration between nano-molar and micro-molar level, Ca²⁺ binds to the high-affinity
238 binding site at the central domain, leading to the conformational changes of the neighboring

239 structures, e. g. $\alpha 4$, CTD and U-motif, then the channel is activated in pre-open state but the
240 gate remains closed (Fig.4b). However, Ca^{2+} alone, even with the help of mM concentration
241 ATP, is not sufficient to drive the channel to the open state (Fig.4e). ATP interacts with the
242 CTD, U-motif and cytoplasmic S6 and regulates the channel open probability by pulling S6
243 outward directly. While in our structure (condition 4), the gate has the same size as pre-open
244 state (Fig.S6b-c). Additional caffeine can lock the $\alpha 4$ in central domain to a more contracted
245 conformation, thus to enhance the pulling force from ATP to S6 (Fig.4f)³¹. ATP/Caffeine can
246 active the RyR1 channel through $\alpha 4$ /Umotif-VSC-S₁₋₄-S₄₋₅ linker-gate path and Umotif/CTD-
247 S6 path (Fig.4g). Besides, 37% of the particles of RyR1 in Ca^{2+} /ATP/Caffeine were activated,
248 the rest have a closed gate, which is corresponding to the shut state we reported here (Fig.S7)
249 ³¹.

250 In our study, RyR1 can be activated by a mechanism without help of ATP/Caf. Junctin
251 inserts into the SR membrane, in adjacent to the RyR S1-S4 helix, pushing the TM helix
252 outward from the central axis. Besides, junctin also interacts with S₄₋₅ linker, exerting a pulling
253 force to S6 to facilitate the pore open. Junctin regulates the channel conformation by directly
254 affecting the TM domain via Jun/S₁₋₄-S₄₋₅ linker-gate path (Fig.4g), which is similar to the
255 mechanism modulated by insecticide CHL. Jun/S₁₋₄-S₄₋₅ linker-gate path facilitate S6 dilation
256 from bottom to up which promote 40% channel to open state. Additional ATP increases the P_0
257 and further stabilizes the channel in open state (Fig.4c, 4d).

258

259 **Discussion**

260 **Junctin is critical for channel open in native environment**

261 Single channel recording experiments showed that in its native membrane environment,
262 RyR1 can be activated by Ca^{2+} /ATP, in 10^{-7} - 10^{-5} M Ca^{2+} range. The open probability increases
263 with Ca^{2+} concentration, and it increases to $P_0 \sim 1$ with additional mM concentration ATP¹⁷.
264 However, the purified RyR1 are in pre-open state with a closed pore under the buffer condition
265 of μM Ca^{2+} and mM ATP, as described in our sample RyR1- $\mu\text{M}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]/\text{ATP}$ as well as previous
266 reported structures in $50 \mu\text{M}$ Ca^{2+} and 7mM ATP³⁵. Since the structures were solved with
267 purified RyR1, the open probability may not stay the same as in the native membrane. In our
268 samples of RyR1 with junctional protein junctin, we obtained the structures which are
269 consistent with single channel recording experiments. RyR1-Jun complex can be activated by
270 a low Ca^{2+} concentration (nM), however, at the same time, 60% proteins are still in shut state.
271 With $\mu\text{M}[\text{Ca}^{2+}]/\text{ATP}$, all the channels are in full open state, corresponding to the open

272 probability as 100%. The channel open probability depends on the calcium concentration and
273 ATP in its environment, as shown in single channel recording experiments. These results
274 indicate that without the exogenous regulator, such as Caffeine, PCB95 and CHL, the
275 endogenous regulator junctin plays a critical role to facilitate the pore open in the native SR
276 membrane.

277

278 **Junctin promote RyR1 into shut state at nM Ca²⁺ that is distinguished from pre-open**
279 **state**

280 According to the bell-shaped Ca²⁺ action curve, RyR1 activation probability P₀ increases
281 at nM Ca²⁺ concentration and is highest at μM Ca²⁺. With the association regulator junctin,
282 majority (60%) of RyR1 is facilitated to shut state at low concentration (nM) Ca²⁺. Although
283 the pore remains closed, the shut state presents a more expansion on cytoplasmic domains than
284 the pre-open state, indicating an intermediate conformation between pre-open and open state
285 (Fig.S8). To investigate the domains transitions upon RyR1 activation, we compared the
286 conformational changes from pre-open to shut state, then to the open state. The core regions,
287 e.g. α4, U-motif, VSC and CTD in shut state is similar to pre-open, but outer shell (NTD, HD1
288 and Handle domain) is more expanded from the central axis (Fig.S8a, S8b). Besides, junctin
289 interacts with the TM domain, so the TM S₁₋₄ and its adjacent VSC domain also move outward
290 but without pore dilation. When RyR1 is further activated to the open state, the fundamental
291 changes are shift at TM S₁₋₄ and S6 to allow channel open. All of the domains located in outer
292 shell and core regions (NTD, HD1, handle domain, α4, U-motif, VSC and CTD) moved
293 outward to adapt the pore dilation (Fig.S8c-S8h). Among these domains, since VSC interacts
294 with TM domain and central domain, the conformational changes at TM domain would cause
295 an obvious movement of VSC, and we observed that S2', C2, C3 and S3' have a larger shift
296 when RyR changes from shut to open state. In addition, CTD also have a larger movement
297 from shut to open. This sub-region in O-ring is not stabilized with Jun/Ca²⁺ only sample, so
298 only 40% receptors are in open state and 60% receptors are still in shut state. Since α22 from
299 U-motif interacts with S2' of VSC domain and CTD is also clamped by the U-motif, additional
300 ATP in the sample interacts with H2 of CTD, α21 of U-motif, which help to lock the structure
301 of CTD and VSC in the full open state.

302

303 **Methods**

304 **RyR1 purification**

305 RyR1 was purified from CHAPS-solubilized skeletal heavy SR essentially as described
306 previously with modifications^{37,38}. Briefly, skeletal heavy SR vesicles were suspended in buffer
307 A (0.2 M NaCl, 20 mM Na-HEPES, pH 7.4, 2 mM DTT, 2 mM PMSF, 1:1 000 diluted protease
308 inhibitor cocktail (Sigma-Aldrich, P8340) and 1.2% CHAPS (AMRESCO)/0.6% soybean
309 lecithin (Sigma-Aldrich, 11145); the CHAPS/protein ratio was 12:1 (wt/wt)). The sample was
310 centrifuged for 1 h at 110 000× g after incubation on ice for 30 min with shaking. The
311 supernatant was loaded onto a 5-ml hydroxyapatite ceramic (Bio-Rad) column equilibrated
312 with buffer B (200 mM NaCl, 10 mM Na-HEPES, pH 7.4, 0.5% CHAPS/0.25% soybean
313 lecithin, 2 mM DTT, 2 mM PMSF, 1:1 000 diluted protease inhibitors cocktail). The column
314 was washed with buffer B containing 10 mM K₂HPO₄, followed washing with buffer B
315 containing 50 mM K₂HPO₄. Proteins were then eluted with 15 ml of buffer B containing 200
316 mM K₂HPO₄. The eluate was collected and concentrated by centrifugation at 1 000× g in a
317 100-kDa cut-off Amicon centrifugal filter (Millipore) and stored in small aliquots at -80 °C.
318 The purified RyR1 samples are prepared by loading the sample onto the top of a 5% - 20%
319 (w/v) linear sucrose gradient in buffer B. After centrifugation for 16 h in a Beckman SW28
320 rotor at 26 000 rpm, the gradient was fractionated into 1.5-ml fractions. The fractions
321 containing RyR1 were collected for the cryo-EM analysis. The mild purified samples were
322 prepared by omitting hydroxyapatite ceramic affinity chromatography column. The fractions
323 containing RyR1 and junctin were collected for cryo-EM analysis.

324 **Mass Spectroscopy**

325 The mild purified RyR1 sample was loaded to a home-made 4%-12% SDS-PAGE gel and run
326 for 90 min at 120V. The gel was detected by silver staining and washed with milli-Q water to
327 remove the background stain. To identify the proteins that co-migrate with RyR1, the gel slice
328 for mass spectroscopy analysis was cut out before the protein bands were separated to identify
329 proteins in the sample. The gel slice corresponding to molecular weight of 26 kDa (green box
330 in Fig.S1a) was cut from the gel and further diced in 1mm³ cubes and then hydrolyzed with
331 trypsin. In LC-MS/MS analysis, digested products were separated by a 120 min gradient
332 elution at a flow rate 0.300 μL/min with the Thermo Ultimate 3000 nano-UPLC system which
333 was directly interfaced with the Thermo Fusion LUMOS mass spectrometer. The analytical
334 column was an Acclaim PepMap RSLC column (75 μm ID, 250 mm length, C18). Mobile
335 phase A consisted of 0.1% formic acid, and mobile phase B consisted of 100% acetonitrile and
336 0.1% formic acid. The Fusion LUMOS mass spectrometer was operated in the data-dependent
337 acquisition mode using Xcalibur 4.1.50 software and there is a single full-scan mass spectrum
338 in the Orbitrap (375-1500 m/z, 60,000 resolution) followed by data-dependent MS/MS scans.
339 The MS/MS spectra from each LC-MS/MS run were searched against the selected database
340 using the software Proteome Discovery (version 2.2)

341 **RyR1 sample preparation for cryo-EM and data collection**

342 The purified and native RyR1 samples are incubated with the corresponding buffers (EGTA,
343 Ca²⁺, ATP) conditions 1-5 for one hour before plunge freeze. Aliquots of 3μl of RyR1 at a

344 concentration of approximately 25nM is applied to glow-discharged Lacey carbon grids (400-
345 mesh CuTED PELLA). Grids were transferred to FEI Titan Krios electron microscope
346 (Thermo-Fisher) that was operating at 300 kV. Images were collected automatically using
347 software EPU and recorded in movie mode using FEI Falcon-III detector at a nominal
348 magnification of 75,000 \times , corresponding to a pixel size of 1.09 Å. A dose fractioned data
349 collection was used to take each micrograph with 30 frames, resulting a total dose of 50 e⁻ per
350 Å². A total number of 2265/5364/6454/7665/6633 movie stacks for RyR1 samples in conditions
351 1-5 were obtained with the defocus range 1.2-2.2 μ m.

352 **Cryo-EM data analysis**

353 For all of the datasets, the movie frames were further processed with MotionCorr2 for the
354 motion correction and dose weighting⁴¹. The contrast transfer function parameters were
355 estimated by Gctf⁴². Similar image processing procedures were performed on all the dataset
356 and the details are shown in Fig.S2. With regard to the dataset of condition 1(RyR1-EGTA),
357 2265 micrographs were obtained after evaluation with CTF parameters. 443,814 particles were
358 picked automatically with Laplacian-of-Gaussian approach and extracted in Relion 3.0/3.1
359 ⁴³with a binned pixel size of 2.18Å. After 2 rounds of 2D classification and 2 rounds of 3D
360 classification, the particles were cleaned up and re-centered, re-extracted with the original pixel
361 size of 1.09Å. The remaining 60,110 good particles were imported into CryoSPARC v3.2.0⁴⁴,
362 and subjected into a non-uniform refinement, which yield a reconstruction at 4.0 Å (C4
363 symmetry). The resolution estimation was reported according to the gold-standard Fourier shell
364 correlation (FSC) using the 0.143 criterion. The local resolution map was calculated by
365 Blocres⁴⁵. For the datasets of condition 2 (RyR1-100nM Ca^{2+}), condition 4 (RyR1- μ M Ca^{2+} /ATP)
366 and condition 5 (RyR1-Jun/ μ M Ca^{2+} /ATP), the individual particles stacks with the number of
367 183,859/114,423/103,688 were reconstructed into 3.4Å, 3.9Å and 3.9Å, respectively.

368 For the dataset of condition 3(RyR1-Jun/nM Ca^{2+}), an ab initio reconstruction and one round of
369 heterogeneous refinement were performed after imported into CryoSPARC and resulted in two
370 different classes. After the non-uniform refinement, one class of 78,641 good particles yield a
371 reconstruction of RyR1 in shut state at 3.8 Å and another class of 52,414 particles with a
372 reconstruction of RyR1 in open state at 4.2Å.

373 **Model building, refinement, analysis**

374 To build the structural models, a recently published structure (PDB ID: 6WOT) was used as
375 the initial model²⁷. This structure was modified and docked into the density maps by
376 CHIMERA⁴⁶. The atomic models were then refined against maps iteratively by cycles of real
377 space refinement in PHENIX with secondary structure and geometry restrained⁴⁷. The refined
378 models were further manually improved in Coot⁴⁸. Extensive reports on evaluation were
379 provided by the PHENIX comprehensive validation program. The analysis of pore dimensions
380 was conducted using HOLE and illustrated in VMD⁴⁹.

381

382 **Acknowledgement**

383 We thank State Key Laboratory of Natural and Biomimetic Drugs, Peking University for the

384 mass spectroscopy analysis of junctin component. We thank Cryo-EM Centre and Department
385 of Biology, Southern University of Science and Technology, Shenzhen for Cryo-EM data
386 collection.

387 This work was supported by the National Key Research and Development Program of China
388 (Grant No. 2017YFA0504700) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Grant
389 No. 31770785) to C.C.Y. This work was in part supported by the National Natural Science
390 Foundation of China, Youth Science Fund (Project No. 31900868, to C.L and 32100963, to
391 H.H), Shenzhen Science and Technology Innovation Committee (Projects No.
392 JCYJ20210324131802008, to H.H). This work was also supported by Kobilka Institute of
393 Innovative Drug Discovery and Presidential Fellowship and University Development Fund at
394 the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen (H.H, Q.C).

395

396 **Author contributions**

397 R.W performed the protein purification and mass spectroscopy analysis; C.L, C.C.L and Q.C
398 performed the EM analysis, collected the cryo-EM data, performed image processing and 3D
399 reconstruction; R.W and C.Y analyzed the data; C.L, C.Y and H.H initiated the project,
400 supervised the research, and wrote the manuscript.

401

402 **Competing interests**

403 The authors declared no competing interests.

404

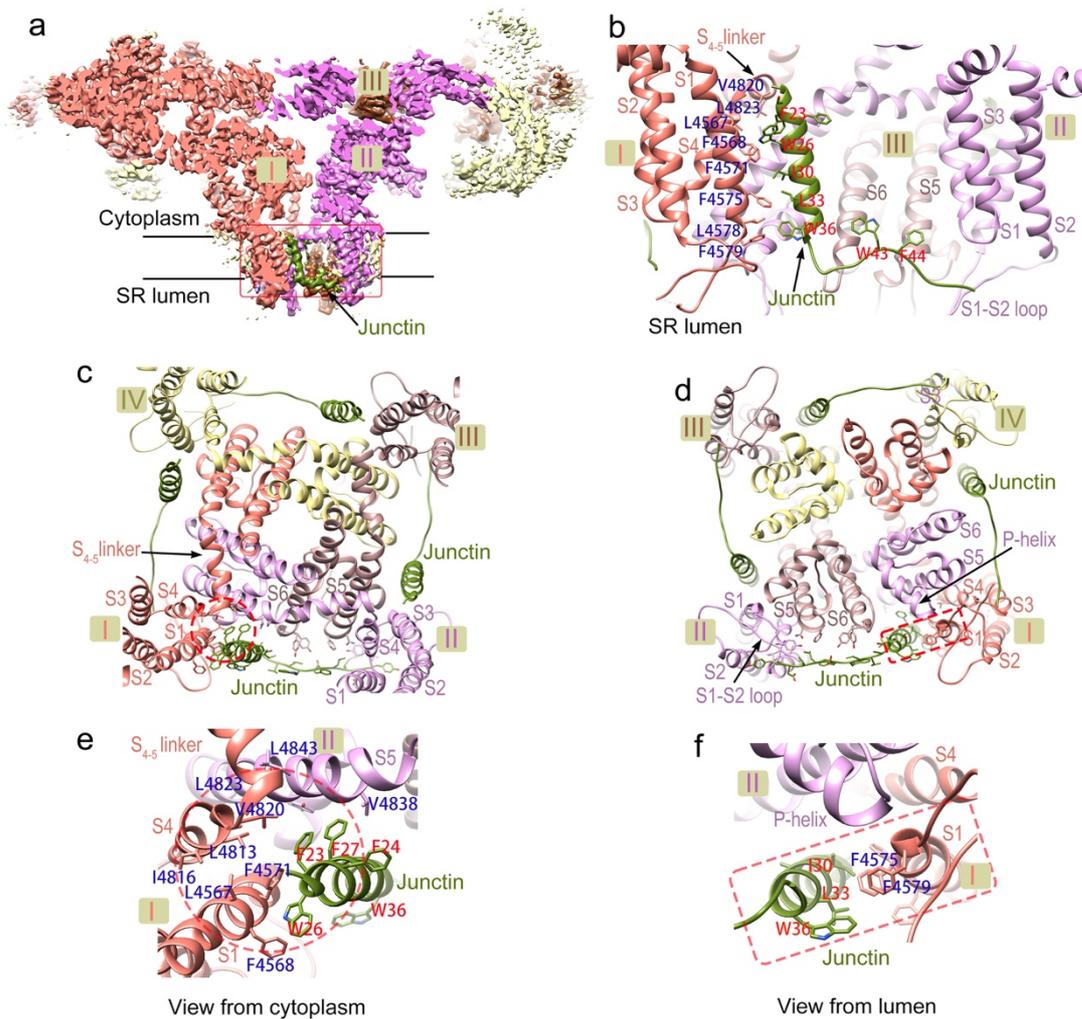
405 **References**

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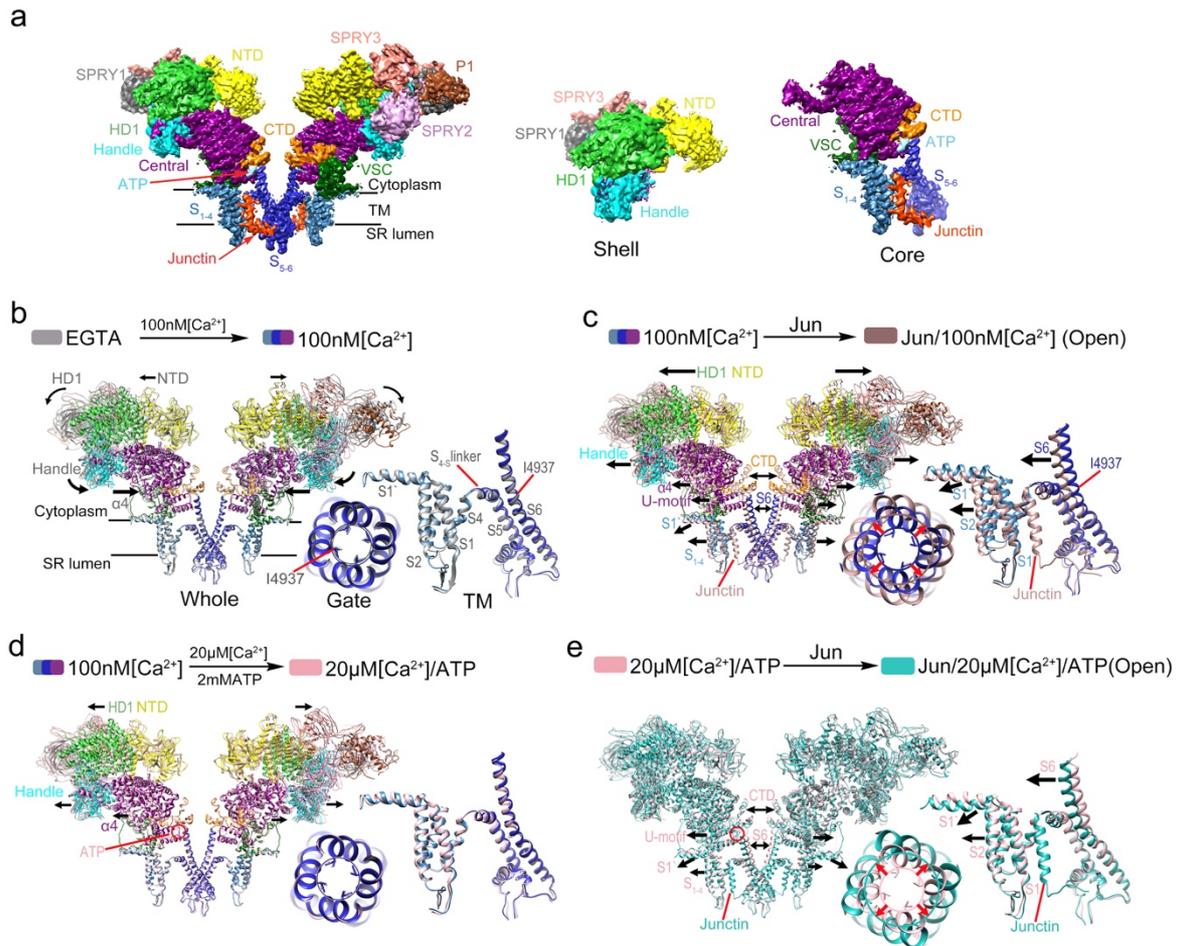
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521
522



526 Fig.1 The structure of RyR-junctin complex and binding sites of junctin. (a) the cryo-EM
 527 density of RyR1-junctin complex shows an extra density indicating the junctin TM helix with
 528 a small loop in lumen (dark green). Two RyR sub-units (pink and purple) are shown in cutting
 529 section to allow a clear visualization of junctin. The model of RyR-junctin in TM and luminal
 530 domain (red box in a) are illustrated in side-view(b), top-bottom view(c) and bottom-top
 531 view(d). (e) and (f) are enlarged regions from (c, circle) and (d, rectangle), respectively. I, II,
 532 III and IV represent four sub-units in RyR1 tetramer.

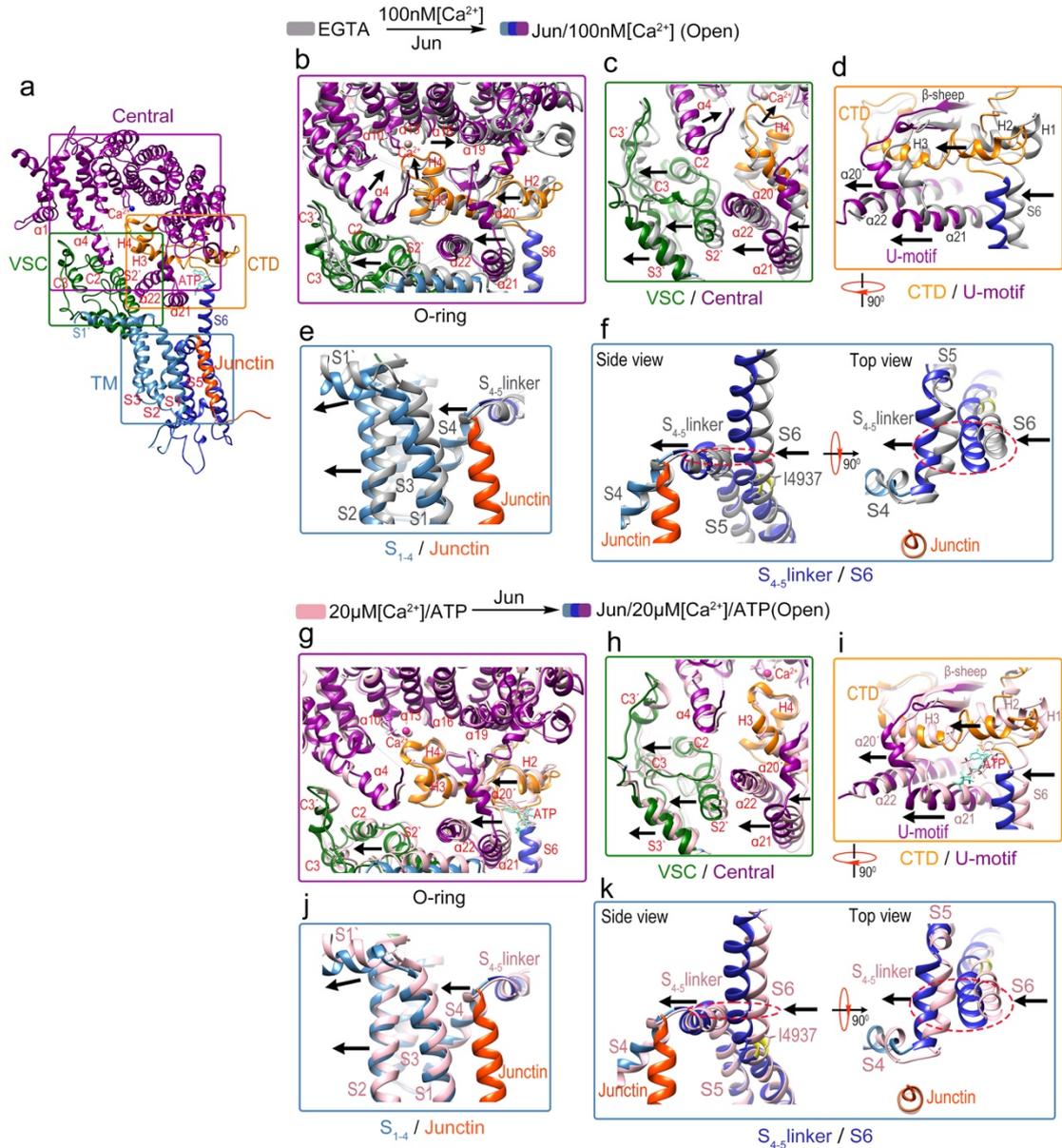


536

537 Fig.2 Conformational transitions of the whole and TM domain in RyR1 in different structures.

538 (a) Structural illustration of domain organization. (b) Conformational transitions of purified
 539 RyR1 after Ca²⁺ loading. Condition 1(RyR1-EGTA) is shown in grey; condition 2 (RyR1-
 540 100nM [Ca²⁺]) is colored by domains. HD1, green; NTD, yellow; Handle, cyan; central domain,
 541 purple; CTD, brown; S₁₋₄, light blue; S₅₋₆, blue. (c) Conformational transitions from purified
 542 RyR1(condition 2, same color scheme as panel b) to native RyR1-junctin in nM Ca²⁺(condition
 543 3, brownish red). (d) Conformational transitions of purified RyR1 from condition 2 (same color
 544 scheme as (b)) to condition 4 (pink). (e) Conformational transitions of RyR1-junctin from
 545 condition 4 (RyR1-μM[Ca²⁺]/ATP, pink) to condition 5 (RyR1-Jun/μM[Ca²⁺]/ATP, teal). The
 546 insets show enlarged transmembrane structures and conformational change of the gate (I4937).
 547 Jun=junctin.

548



549

550 Fig.3 Conformational transitions of the core region (central domain, VSC, CTD, S₁₋₄ and S₄₋₅

551 linker) in RyR1 functional state. (a) Structural illustration of domain organization: central

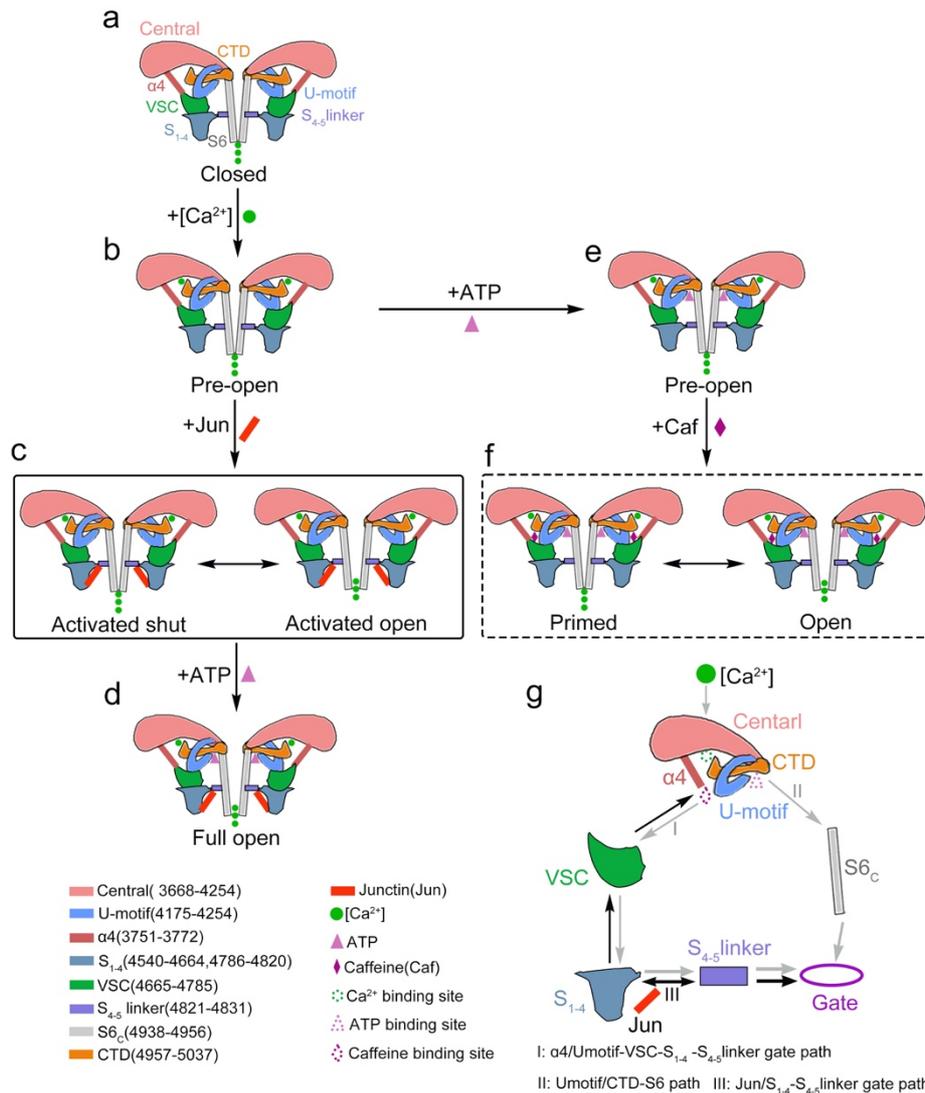
552 domain, purple; VSD, green; CTD, brown; S₁₋₄, light blue; S₅₋₆, blue. (b)-(f) show the domain

553 transitions from closed state (condition 1, grey) to activated open state (condition 3, colored).

554 (g)-(k) show the domain transitions from pre-open state (condition 4, pink) to full open state

555 (condition 5, colored). Jun=junctin.

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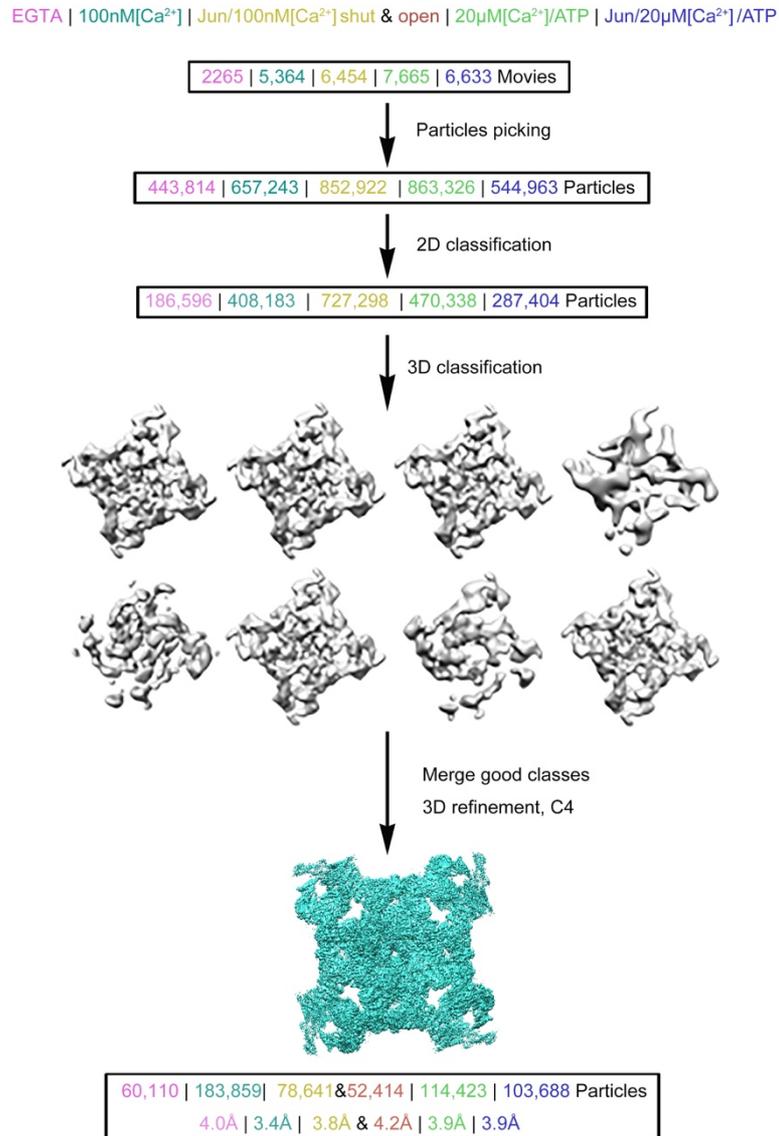


557

558 Fig.4 The modulation of RyR1 by Ca^{2+} , ATP, Caffeine and junctin. Two opposite monomers
 559 are displayed with domains in cartoon. (a) RyR1 in rest state without Ca^{2+} and the channel is
 560 closed. (b) In the presence of Ca^{2+} , RyR1 is in pre-open state with a closed gate. (c) In the
 561 presence of Ca^{2+} and junctin, RyR1s have two conformations (solid box), which are activated
 562 shut (gate is closed) and activated open states (gate is open). (d) In the presence of Ca^{2+} , ATP
 563 and junctin, RyR1 is in full open state. (e) In the presence of Ca^{2+} and ATP, RyR1 is in pre-
 564 open state with a closed gate. (f) In the presence of Ca^{2+} , ATP and exogenous regulator (e.g.
 565 Caffeine), RyR1 have two conformations (dashed box), which are primed (gate is closed) and
 566 open states (37% of particles, gate is open)³¹. (g) Schematic diagram of RyR gating mechanism.
 567 Ca^{2+} /ATP/Caf regulate the channel through $\alpha 4$ /Umotif-VSC- S_{1-4} - S_{4-5} linker-gate path and
 568 Umotif/CTD- $S6$ path, as indicated by the gray arrows. Junctin regulates the channel through
 569 Jun/ S_{1-4} - S_{4-5} linker-gate path, as indicated by the black arrows.

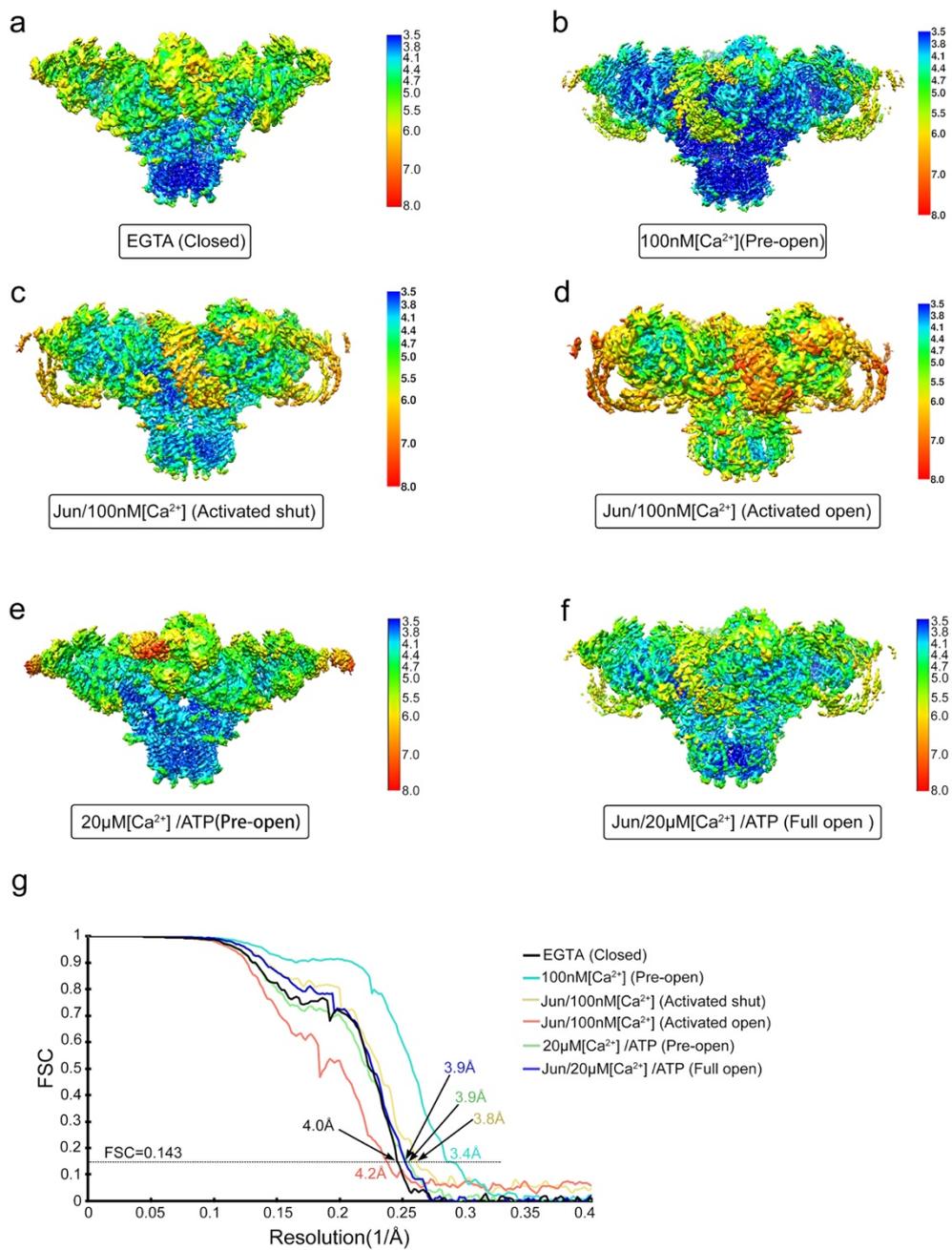
575 respectively. (b) Mass spectroscopy analysis located six finger print fragments (six boxes). (c)
576 The model of junctin fits into the extra density in the mild purified RyR1 structure. (d)
577 Sequence alignment of junctin from rabbit, human, canine and mouse, indicating junctin has
578 high homology.

579



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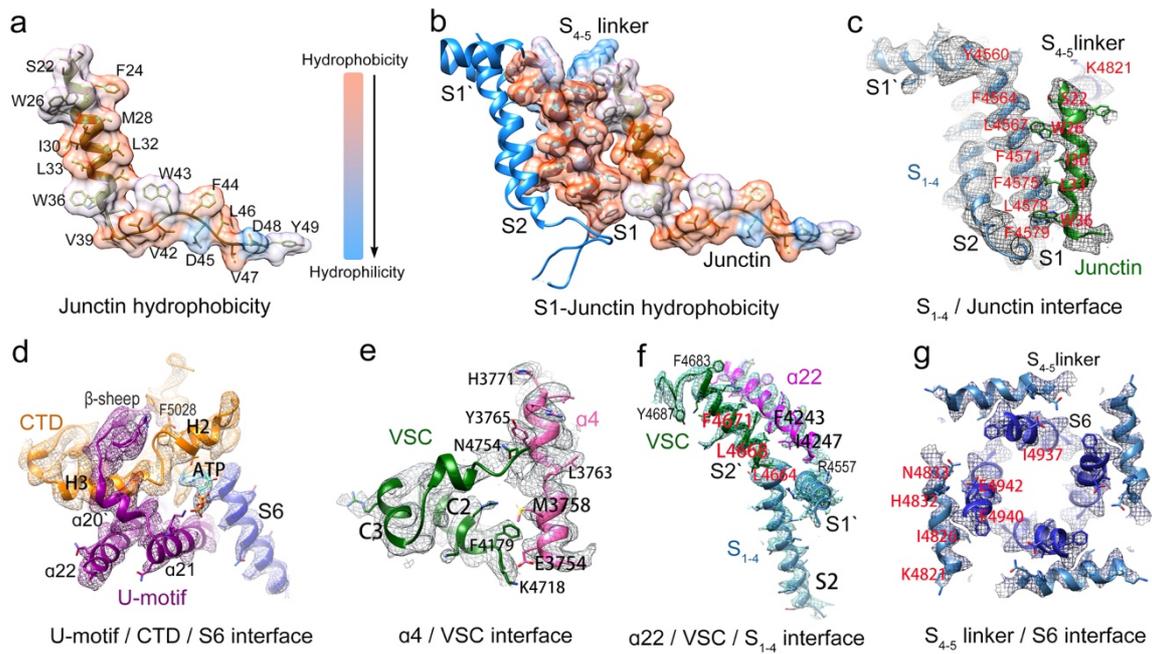
582 Fig.S2 Flow chart of cryo-EM data processing. Five RyR1 samples under conditions 1-5 are
 583 imaged and processed: condition 1, RyR1-EGTA in closed state, pink; condition 2, RyR1-
 584 100nM[Ca²⁺] in pre-open state, cyan; condition 3, RyR1-Jun/nM[Ca²⁺], two structures in shut
 585 and open state are obtained (yellow and salmon); condition 4, RyR1-μM[Ca²⁺]/ATP in pre-
 586 open state, green; condition 5, RyR1-Jun/μM[Ca²⁺]/ATP in full open state, blue.



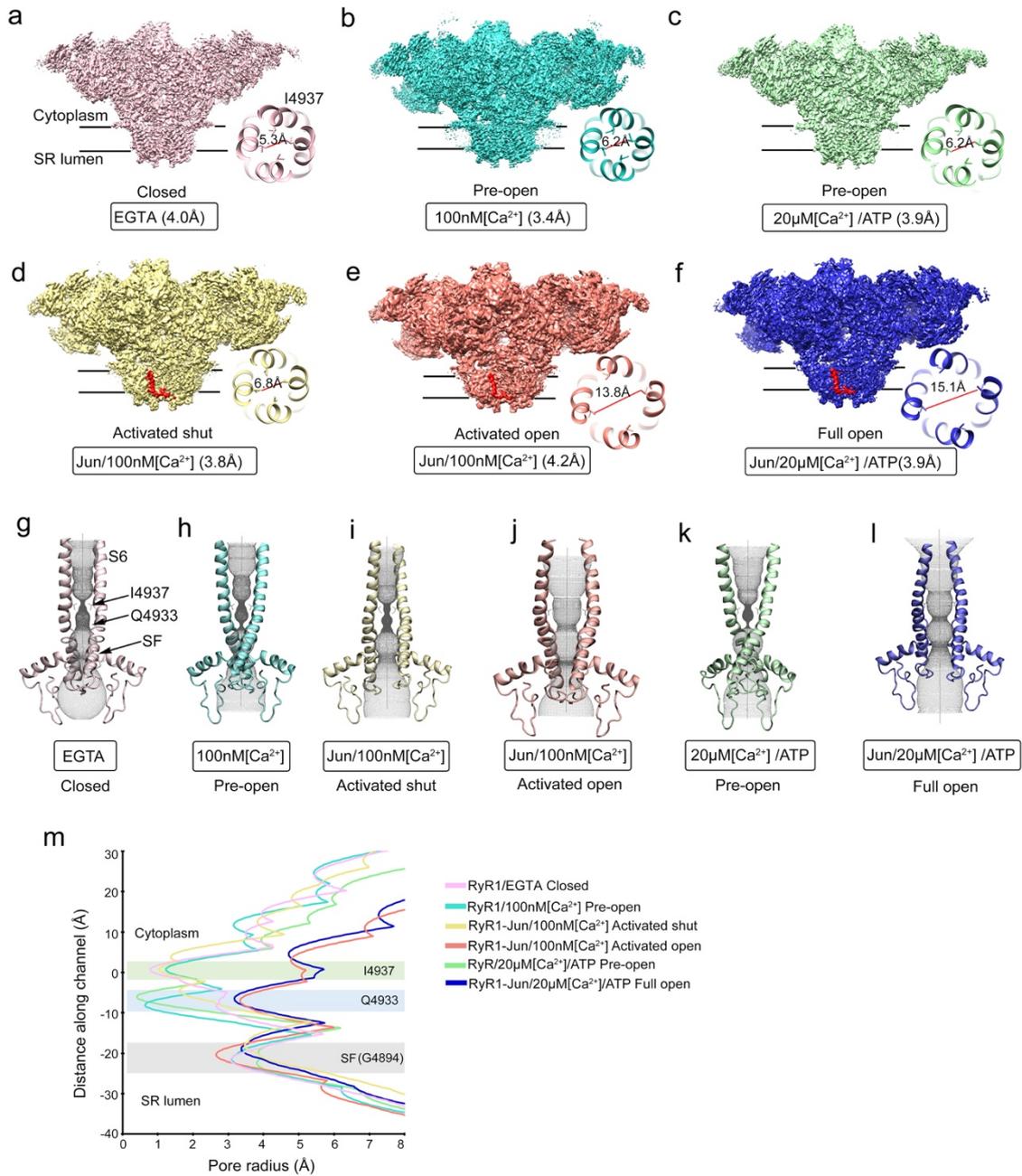
587

588 Fig.S3 Local resolution maps and FSC curves of the six reconstructions calculated by blocres

589 and cryoSPARC.

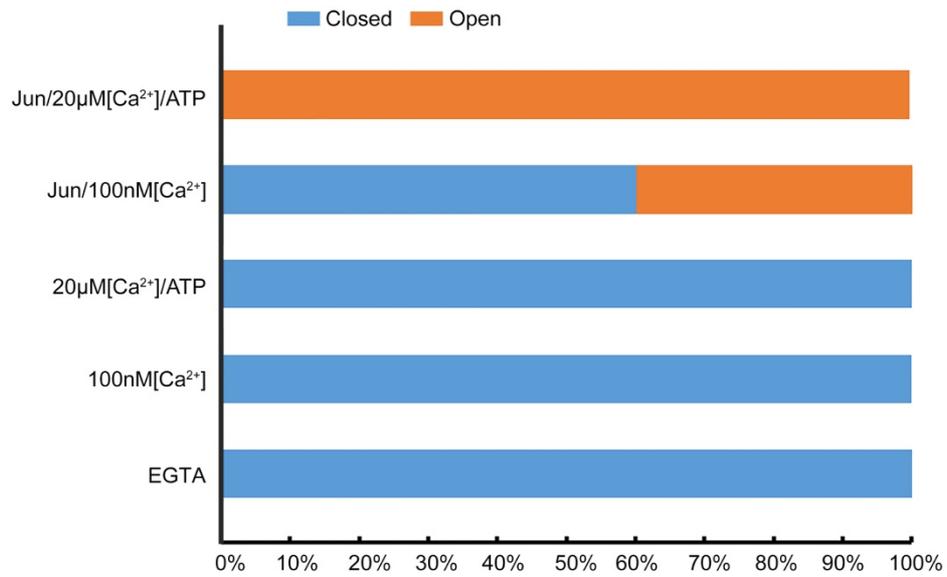


597 Fig.S5 Representative domains that participate in the conformational transitions. (a) and (b)
 598 are hydrophobic surface of junctin and S1, S₄₋₅ linker of RyR1. (c)-(g) cryoEM densities of
 599 interface between junctin and RyR1, and interfaces among the key domains in core region.



600

601 Fig.S6 The side-view of the six reconstructions and pore conformations. Insets of (a)-(f)
 602 show the gate diameters by measuring two opposing residues I4937. (g)-(m) are the pore
 603 calculation of the ion permeation path, measured by HOLE. SF=selective filter.



604

605 Fig.S7 Proportions of closed and open particles in the RyR1 samples at conditions 1, 2, 3, 4
 606 and 5. In condition 1 (EGTA), 2 (100nM [Ca²⁺]) and 4 (20µM[Ca²⁺]/ATP), the gate is closed.

607 In condition 3 (Jun/100nM [Ca²⁺]), both closed gate and open gate are observed, with 60% and
 608 40% particles, respectively. In condition 5 (Jun/20µM[Ca²⁺]/ATP), the gate is open.

616 states. In open state, the shell region and core region ($\alpha 4$, U-motif and CTD) move outward
617 from the central axis. The insets highlight the structures of TM region and the gate. The helix
618 S1', S1, S2 and S6 have an outward shift so the gate is open. (c)-(i) the movement of the key
619 domains during conformational transitions. The insets show the movement of helix in NTD,
620 Handle domain, HD1, $\alpha 4$, U-motif, VSC, CTD and S6 in cartoon.
621

623 Table. S1 Summary of data collection and model statistics.

Dataset	EGTA (closed)	nM[Ca ²⁺] (Pre-open)	Jun/nM[Ca ²⁺] (Activated shut)	Jun/nM[Ca ²⁺] (Activated open)	μM[Ca ²⁺]/AT P (Pre-open)	Jun/μM[Ca ²⁺] /ATP (Full open)
EMDB						
PDB						
Ligand						
[Ca ²⁺] _{free}	-	100nM	100nM	100nM	20μM	20μM
ATP	-	-	-	-	2mM	2mM
EGTA	5mM	-	-	-	-	-
Data collection						
Electron Microscope	FEI Titan Krios					
Voltage (kV)	300					
Detector	Falcon-III/K3					
Pixel size (Å)	1.09/0.855					
Electron dose (e ⁻ /Å ²)	50					
Defocus rang(μm)	-1.2 to -2.2					
Reconstruction						
Software	RELION 3.0/3.1/CryoSPARC					
Symmetry	C4					
Number of Particles	60,110	183,859	78,641	52,414	114,423	103,688
Final resolution (Å)	4.0	3.4	3.8	4.2	3.9	3.9
Map sharpening B-factor (Å ²)	-164.4	-160.4	-126	-136.5	-194.5	-143.8
Model building						
Software	COOT					
Refinement						
Software	PHENIX					
Validation						

R.m.s deviations						
Bonds length(Å)	0.003	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.002
Bonds angle(Å)	0.618	0.601	0.987	0.991	0.928	0.494
Ramachandran plot statistics (%)						
Preferred	90.80	91.05	91.75	90.74	90.64	91.53
Allowed	9.12	8.84	8.25	9.2	9.34	8.47
Outlier	0.08	0.11	0	0.07	0.03	0
Rotamer outliers (%)	0	0.45	0	0.22	0.00	0.04
MolProbity score	2.01	2.09	1.97	2.20	2.67	1.87

624

625

626

627 Table. S2 RyR1 Domain Definitions

628

Domain symbol definition in Zalk, R et al [24]	Domain symbol in this paper (Yan Z et al [23])
Shell:1-3613	
NTD-A: N-terminal domain A (1-208) NTD-B: N-terminal domain B (209-392) Nsol: N-terminal solenoid (393-627)	NTD: N-terminal domain (1-631) NTD-A (1-205), NTD-B (206-394), NTD-C (395-631)
SPRY1: SP1a/ryanodine receptor domain 1 (628-849) SPRY2: SP1a/ryanodine receptor domain 2 (1055-1241) SPRY3: SP1a/ryanodine receptor domain 3 (1242-1656)	SPRY1 (632-826,1466-1491,1615-1634) SPRY2 (827-857,1070-1241) SPRY3 (1242-1614)
RY1&2: RYR repeats 1 and 2 (850-1054) RY3&4: RYR repeats 3 and 4 (2735-2938)	P1 (858-1055) P2 (2734-2940)
JSol: junctional solenoid (1657-2144)	Handle domain (1651-2145)
BSol: bridging solenoid (2145-3613)	Helical domain: HD1 (2146-2712); HD2 (3016-3572)
Channel and Core: 3614-5037	
SCLP: shell-core linker peptide (3614-3666) CSol: core solenoid (3667-4174) TaF: thumb and Forefingers domain (4175-4253)	Central domain (3668-4254) α_4 (3751-3772) U-motif: U-shaped subdomain (4175-4254)
pVSD: pseudo voltage sensor domain from S1' to S4 (4541-4819) S2S3: helical-bundle domain between S2 and S3 (4666-4786)	S ₁₋₄ : S1', S1, S2, S3, S4, (4540-4664, 4786-4820) VSC: voltage-sensor like domain between S2 and S3 (4665-4785)
Pore: channel pore domain (4820-4956) S6c: cytoplasmic extension of S6 (4938-4956) Gate: Ile4937	S ₄₋₅ linker: S4-S5 linker (4821-4831) S ₅₋₆ : channel helices S5-S6(4832-4956) S6c: cytoplasmic extension (4938-4956) of S6 Gate: Ile4937
CTD: C-terminal domain (4957-5037)	CTD: C-terminal domain (4957-5037)

629

Supplementary Files

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