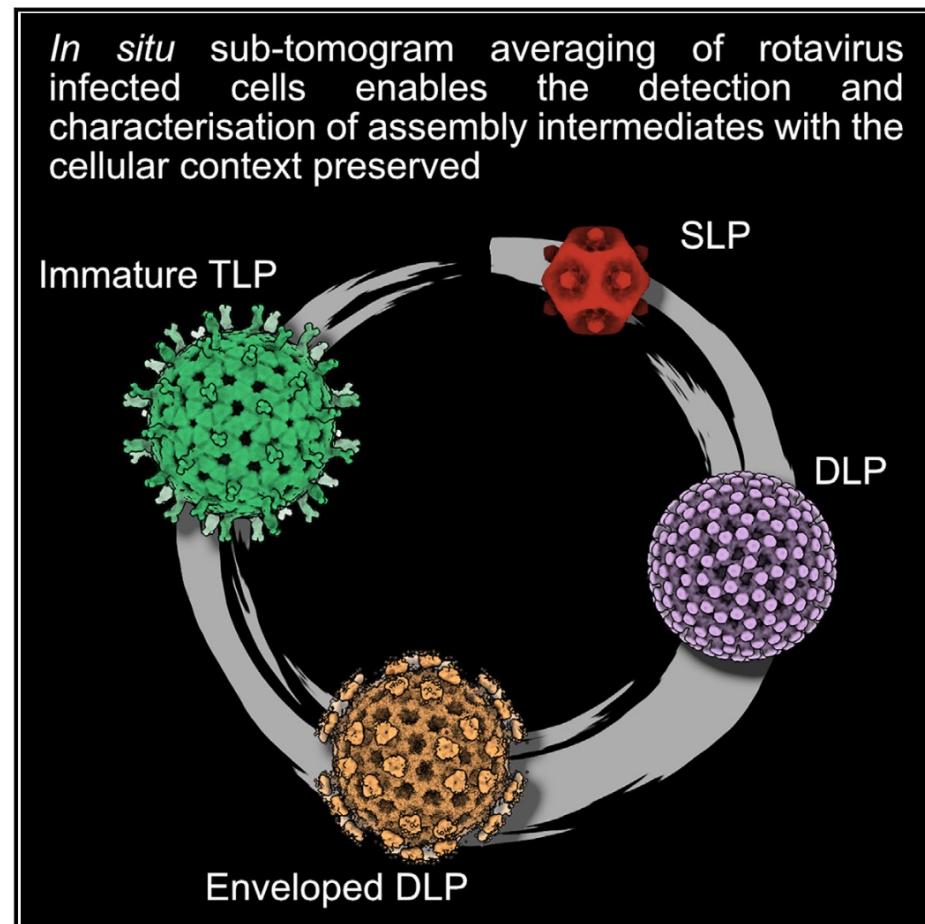


# Cell Host & Microbe

## Characterization of the rotavirus assembly pathway *in situ* using cryoelectron tomography

### Graphical abstract



### Authors

Pranav N.M. Shah, James B. Gilchrist,  
Björn O. Forsberg, ..., Geoff Sutton,  
David I. Stuart, Mark Boyce

### Correspondence

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[david.stuart@strubi.ox.ac.uk](mailto:david.stuart@strubi.ox.ac.uk) (D.I.S.),  
[mark.boyce@strubi.ox.ac.uk](mailto:mark.boyce@strubi.ox.ac.uk) (M.B.)

### In brief

Shah et al. used cryo-tomography to characterize the assembly pathway of rotavirus inside infected cells. The use of flash frozen samples preserved the assembly stages in their native state and relative proportions, and subtomogram averaging revealed their molecular structures, to near atomic detail in the best case.

# Author



**Division of Structural Biology**  
*Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine*

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## Stuart Group: Structural Virology



Viruses are attractive targets for study at the molecular level, since they are sufficiently simple that we may hope to achieve a rather complete understanding of their biology. In practice although their genomes are compact they display astonishing diversity, both in structure and function. Our attempts to relate structure to function have benefited from the developments in

X-ray crystallographic methods that have brought very complex structures within reach of description in atomic detail. Our targets range from picornaviruses, small ssRNA viruses, which include a number of important animal and human pathogens, to the larger dsRNA viruses. At both ends of this spectrum (from less than 10,000,000 to about 100,000,000 Daltons) we now have representative atomic structures.

Our efforts are particularly focused on virus-receptor interactions and basic

### OUR TEAM

#### Mohammad Bahar

Post Doctoral Research Associate



#### Mark Boyce

Senior fellow



#### John Clarke

Student



#### Elizabeth Fry

Post Doctoral Research Associate



### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

#### Hand-foot-and-mouth disease virus receptor

#### KREMEN1 binds the canyon of Coxsackie Virus A10

[Journal article](#)

Zhao Y. et al, (2020), Nature Communications, 11

#### Multiple liquid crystalline geometries of highly compacted nucleic acid in a dsRNA virus

[Journal article](#)

Iica SL. et al, (2019), Nature, 570, 252 - 256

#### The structure of a prokaryotic viral envelope protein expands the landscape of membrane fusion proteins

[Journal article](#)

El Omari K. et al, (2019), Nature Communications, 10

#### Machining protein microcrystals for structure

# Author

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## PRANAV SHAH



### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### Email

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### RESEARCH GROUPS

[Stuart Group: Structural Virology](#)

# Pranav Shah

POST DOCTORAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

**Characterization of the rotavirus assembly pathway in situ using cryoelectron tomography.**

[Journal article]

Shah PNM. et al, (2023), *Cell Host Microbe*, 31, 604 - 615.e4

**A robust normalized local filter to estimate occupancy directly from cryo-EM maps**

[Preprint]

Forsberg BO. et al, (2023)

**Delineating organizational principles of the endogenous L-A virus by cryo-EM and computational analysis of native cell extracts**

[Preprint]

Schmidt L. et al, (2022)

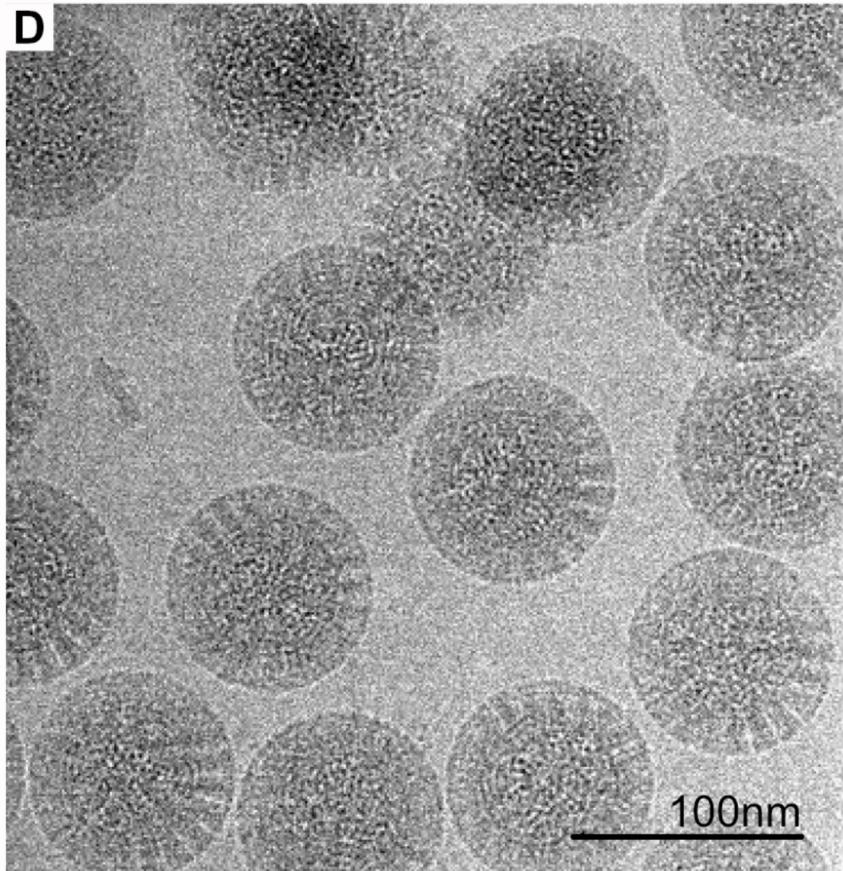
**Purification of African Swine Fever Virus.**

[Journal article]

Shimmon GL. et al, (2022), *Methods in molecular biology* (Clifton, N.J.), 2503, 179 - 186

**Author Correction: Neutralizing nanobodies bind SARS-CoV-2 spike RBD and block interaction with ACE2**

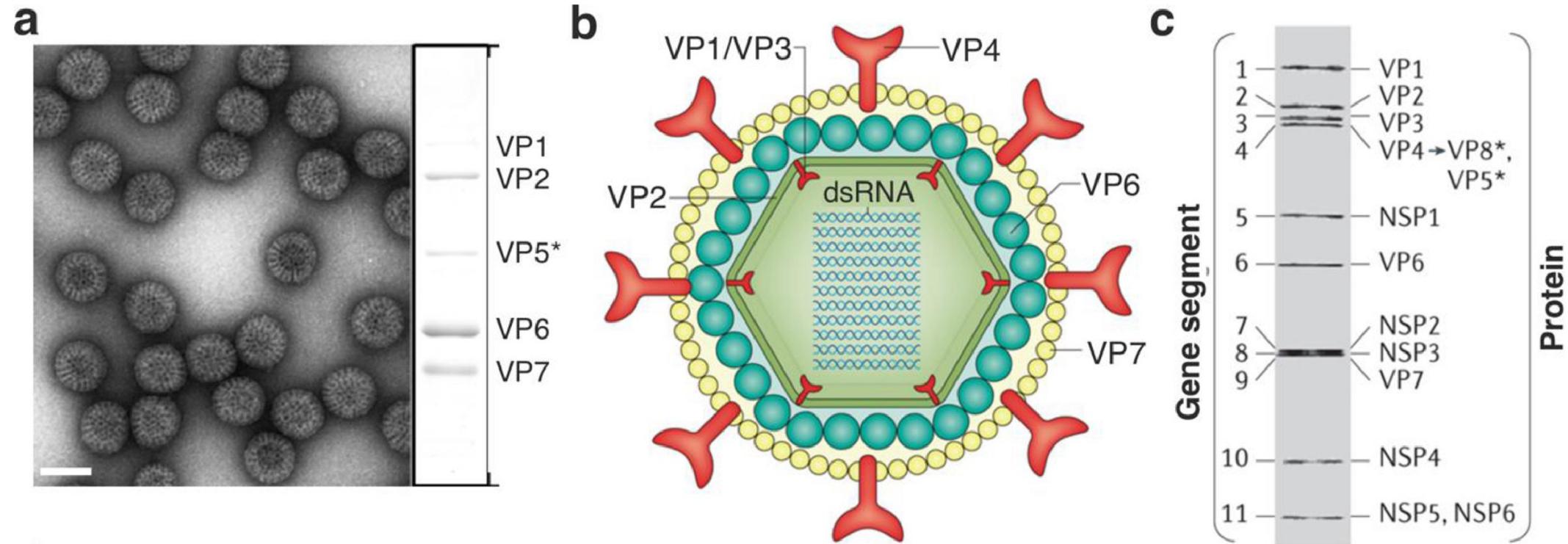
# Background



*Reoviridae*, or Respiratory Enteric Orphan viruses呼肠孤病毒，是双链RNA病毒的一个科

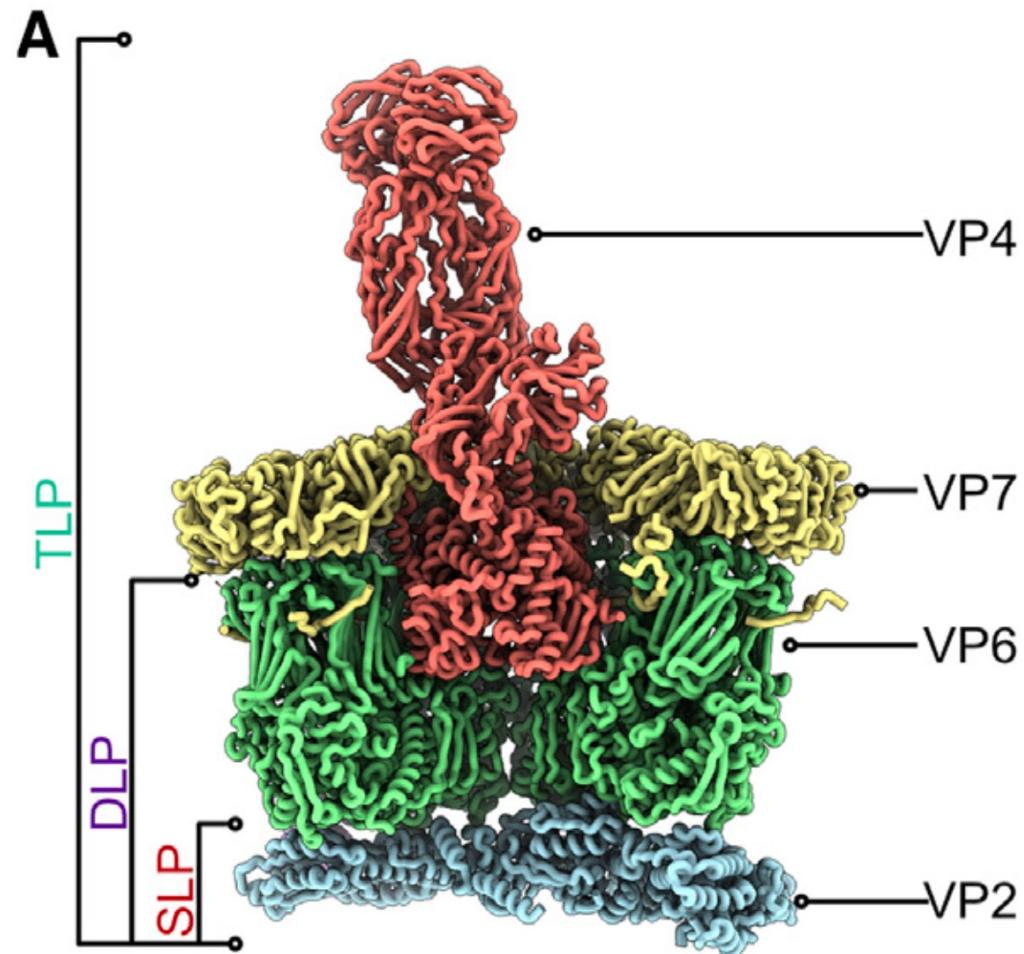
- Rotaviruses, part of the Reovirus family, are a major cause of infant deaths in the developing world, killing over 800,000 children under the age of 2 each year.
- viral gastroenteritis病毒性肠胃炎

# Background



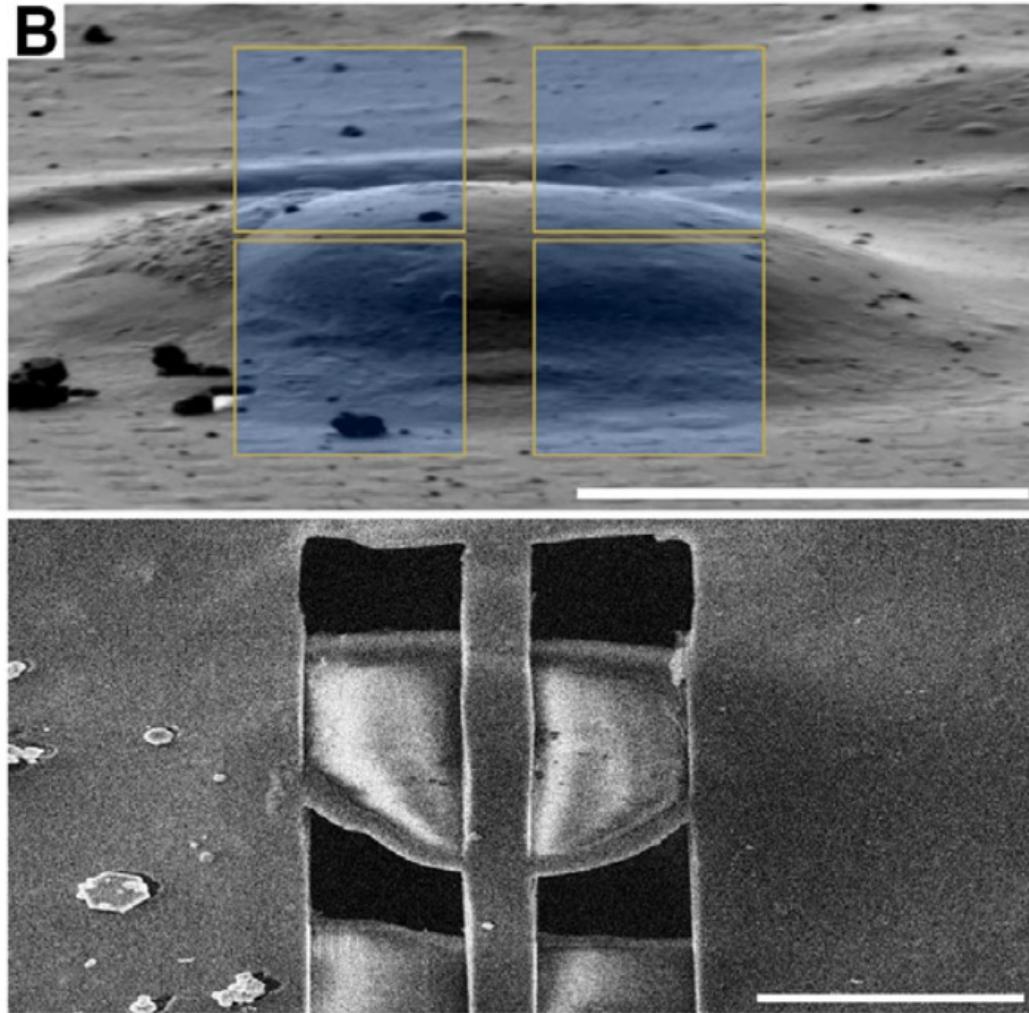
(Sarah Caddy, et al. Virus Research, 2021)

# Background

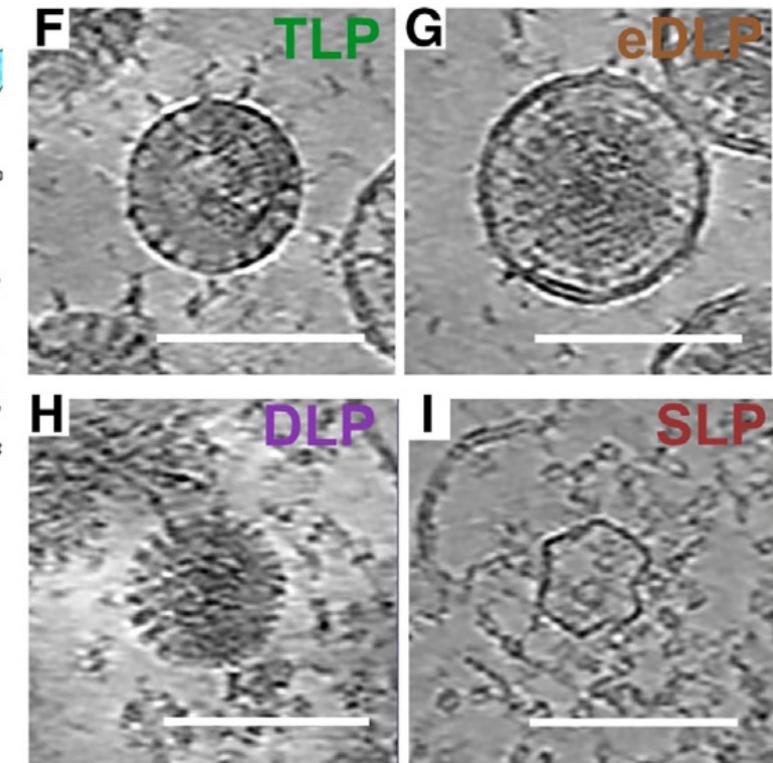
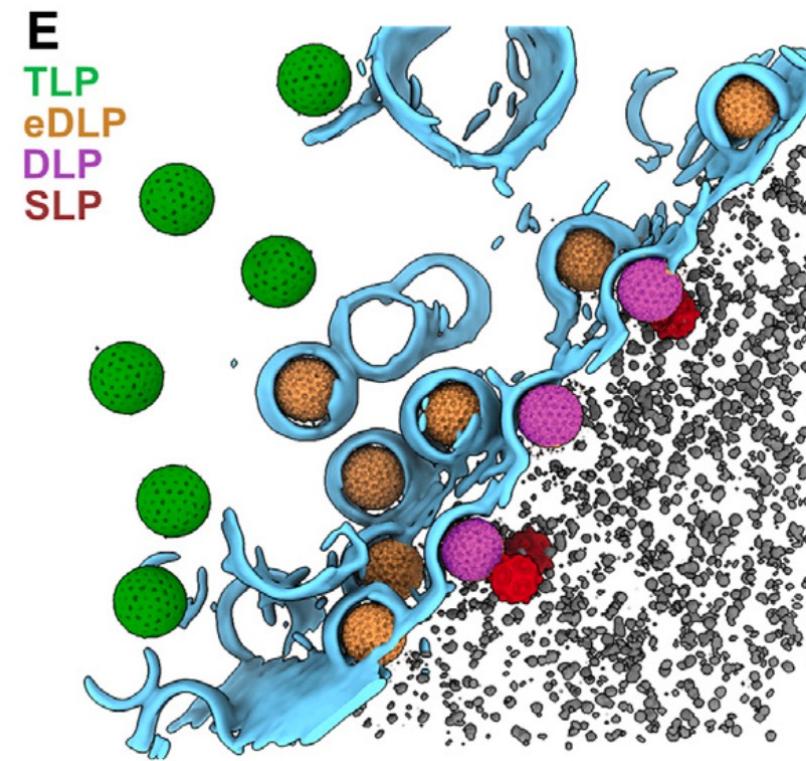
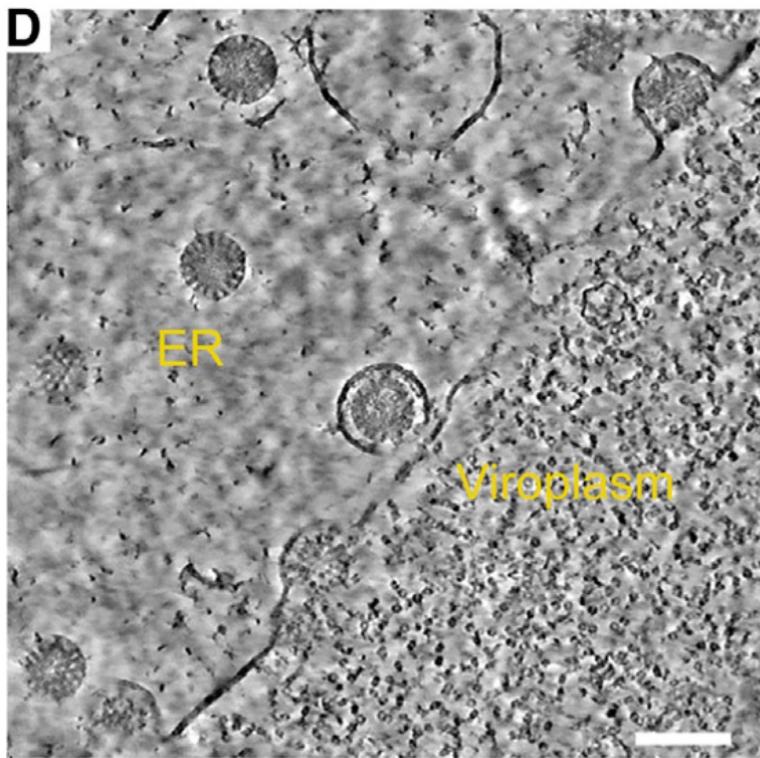


- Multi-layered
  - Icosahedral shell:
    - 120 VP2, 11 VP1
    - 260 VP6
    - 260 VP7
    - 60 VP4
  - dsRNA
- TLP

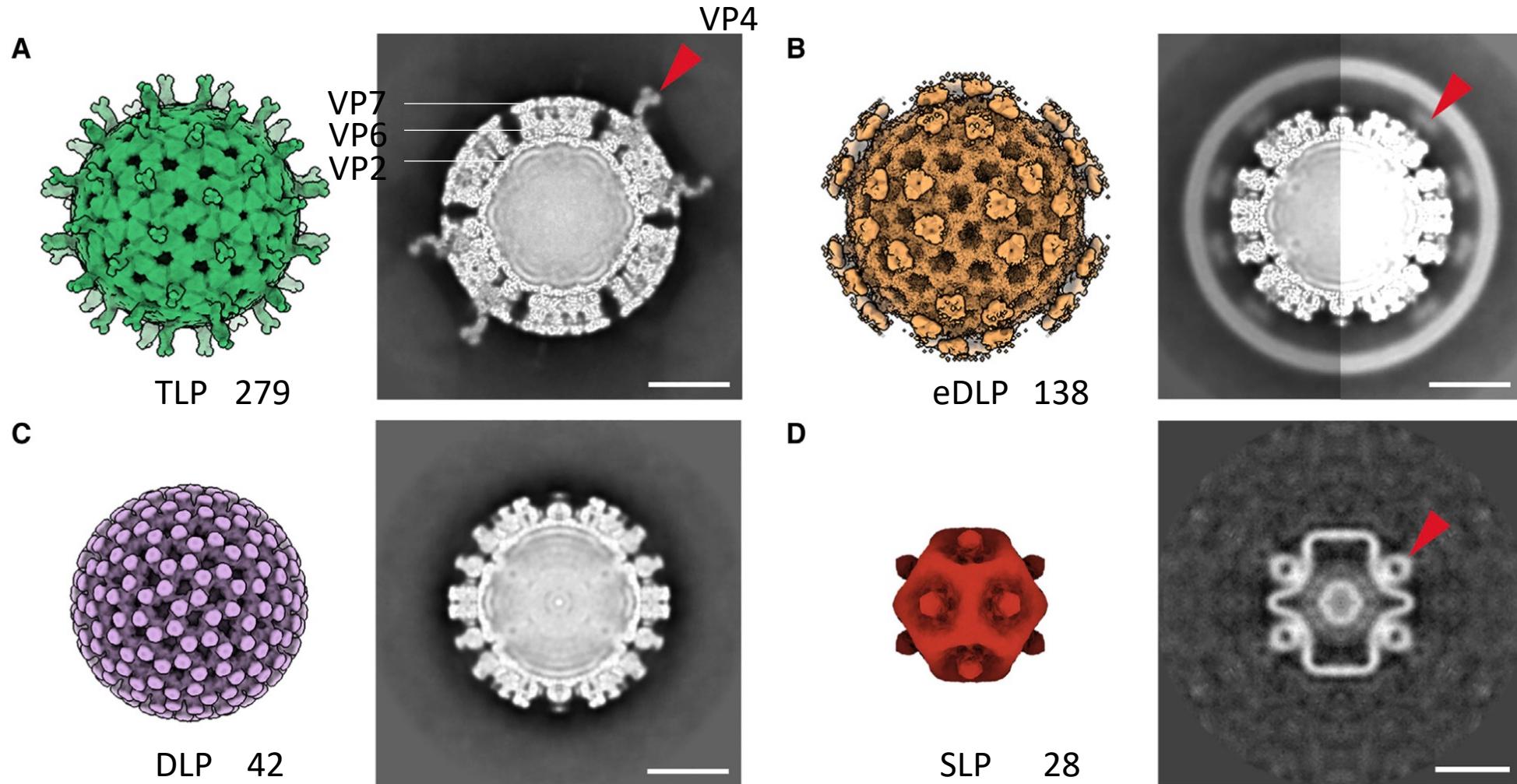
# Result 1: Intermediates of assembly



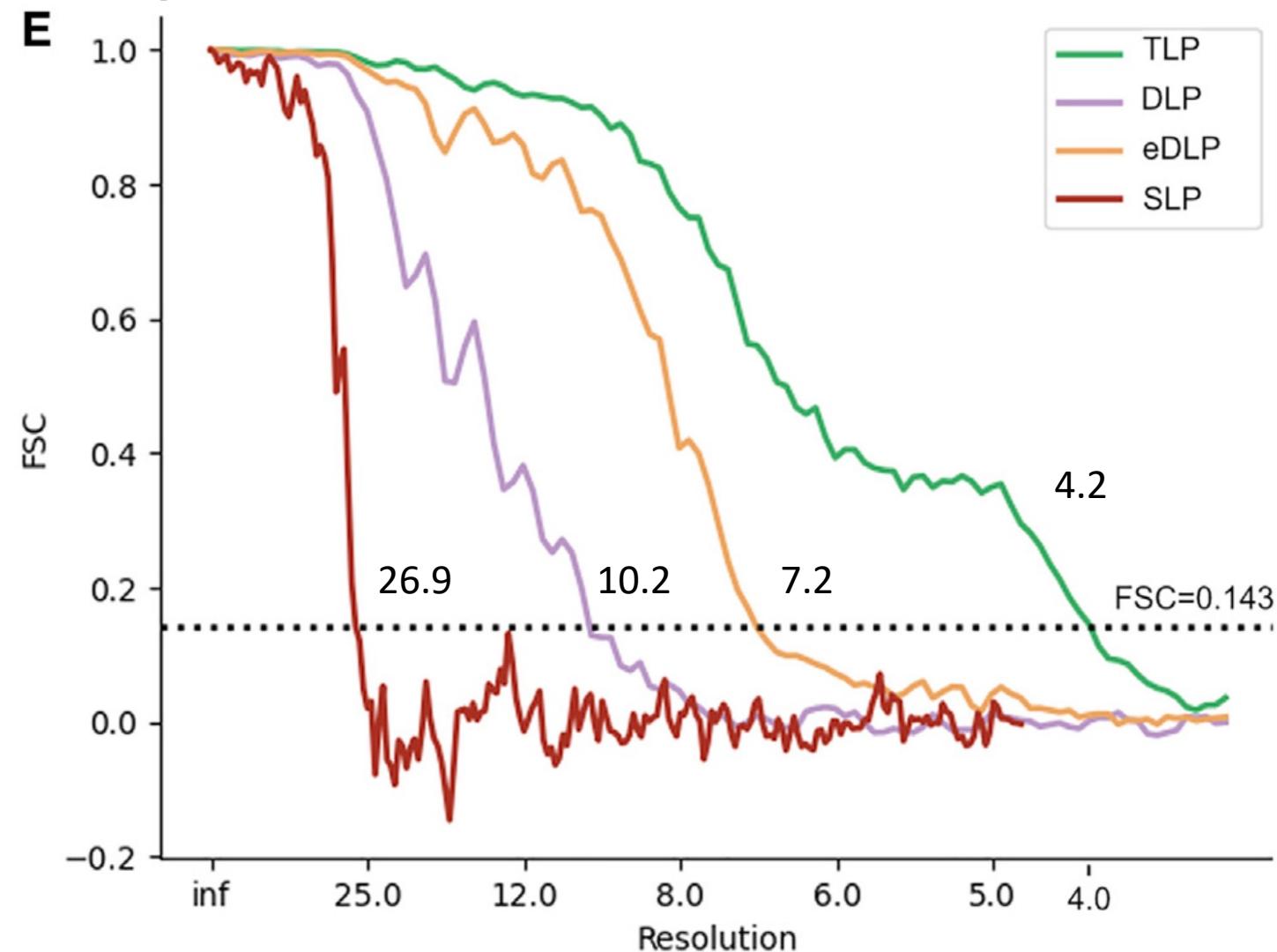
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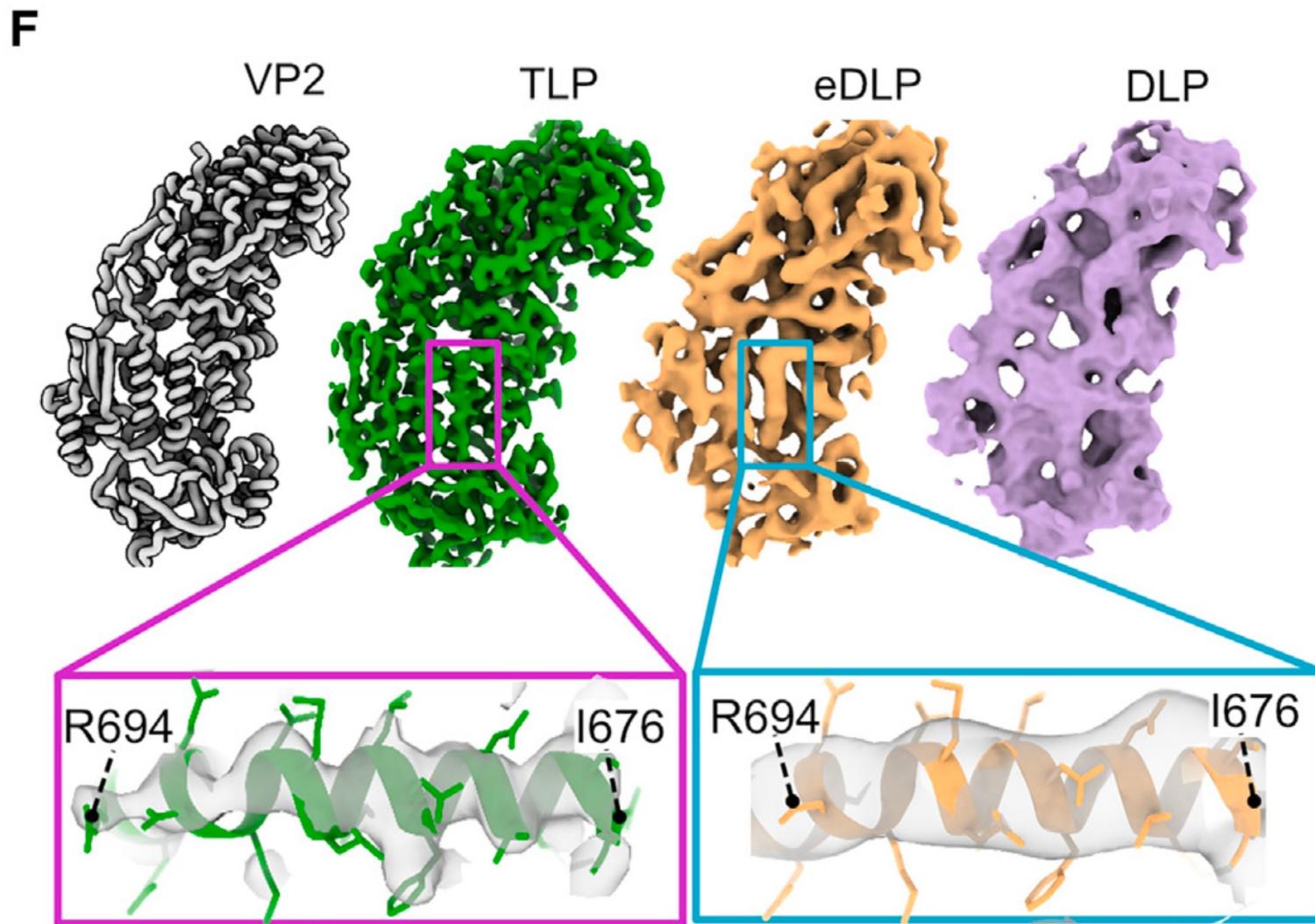
# Result2: High-resolution structures using STA



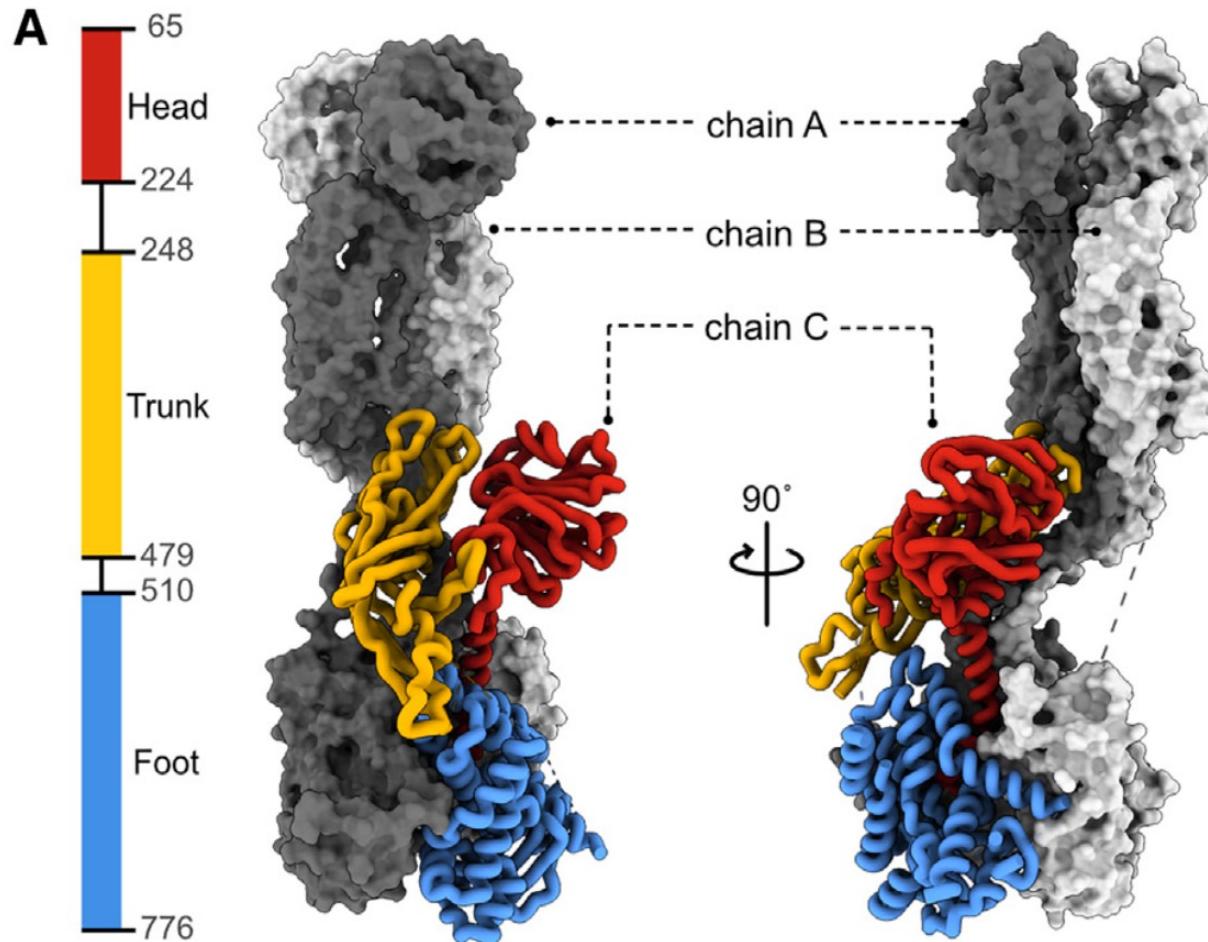
## Result2: High-resolution structures using STA



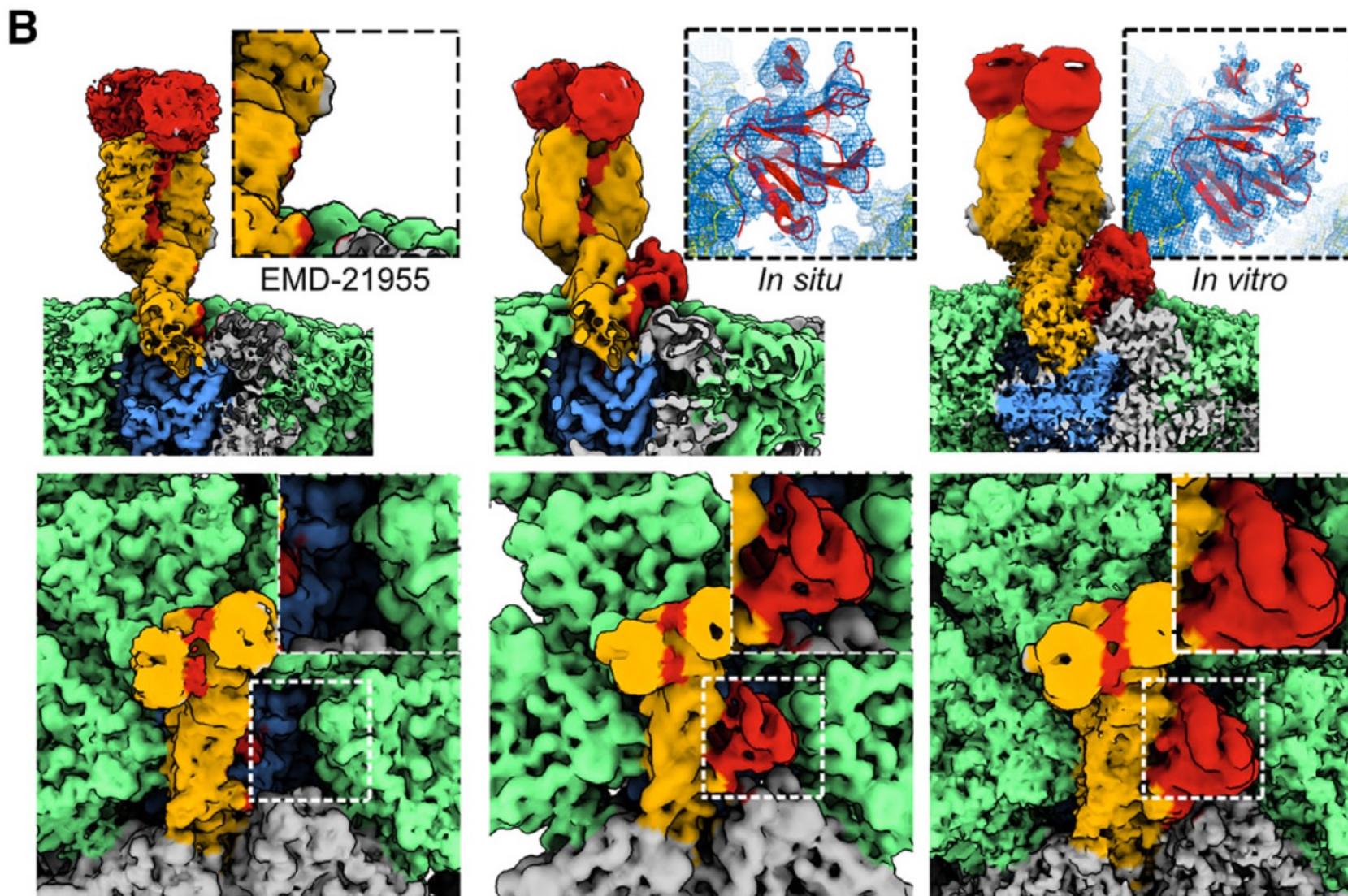
## Result2: High-resolution structures using STA



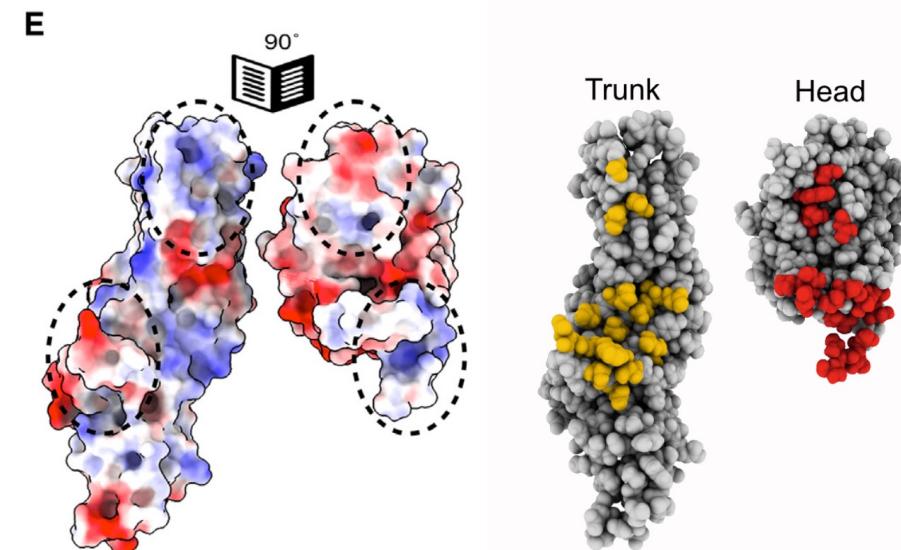
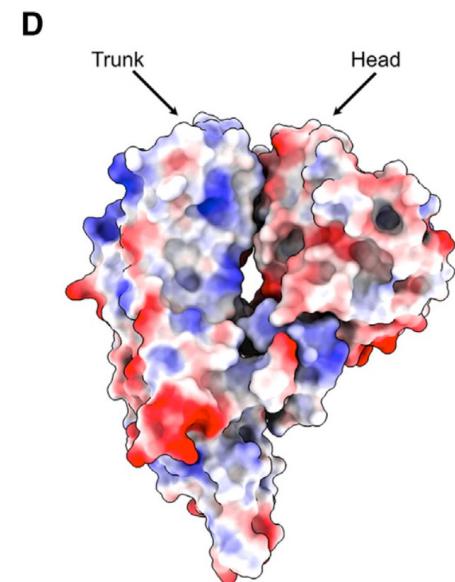
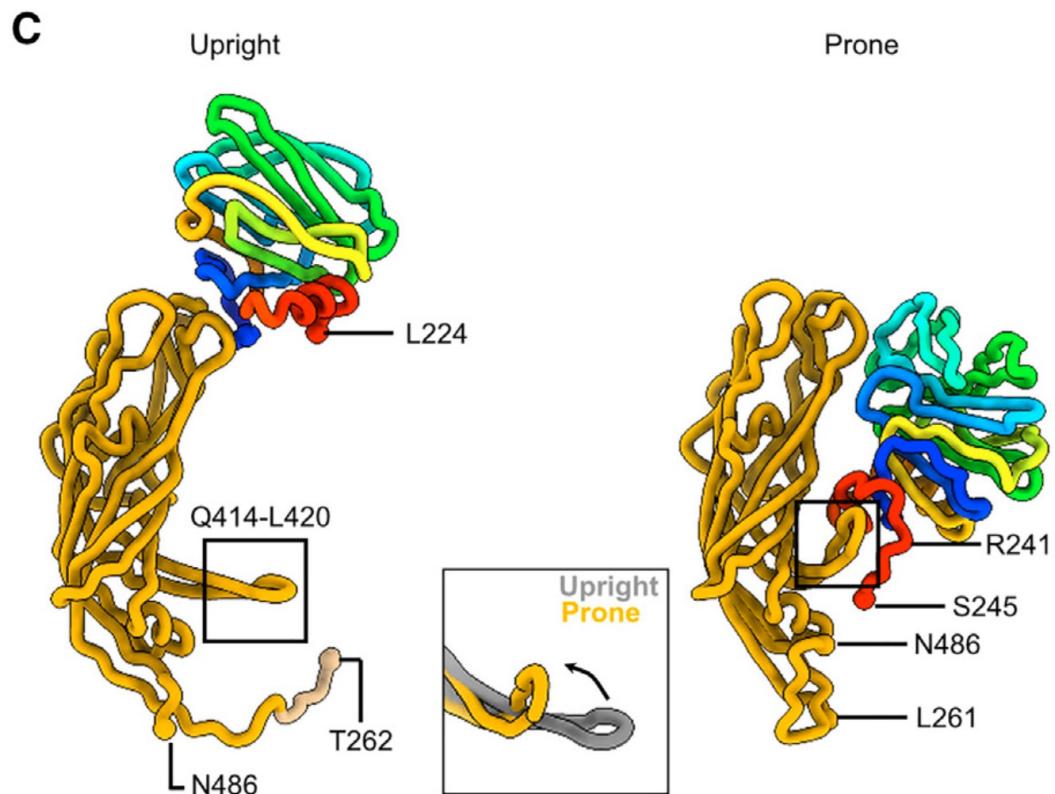
# Result3: VP4 structure prior to exposure to trypsin



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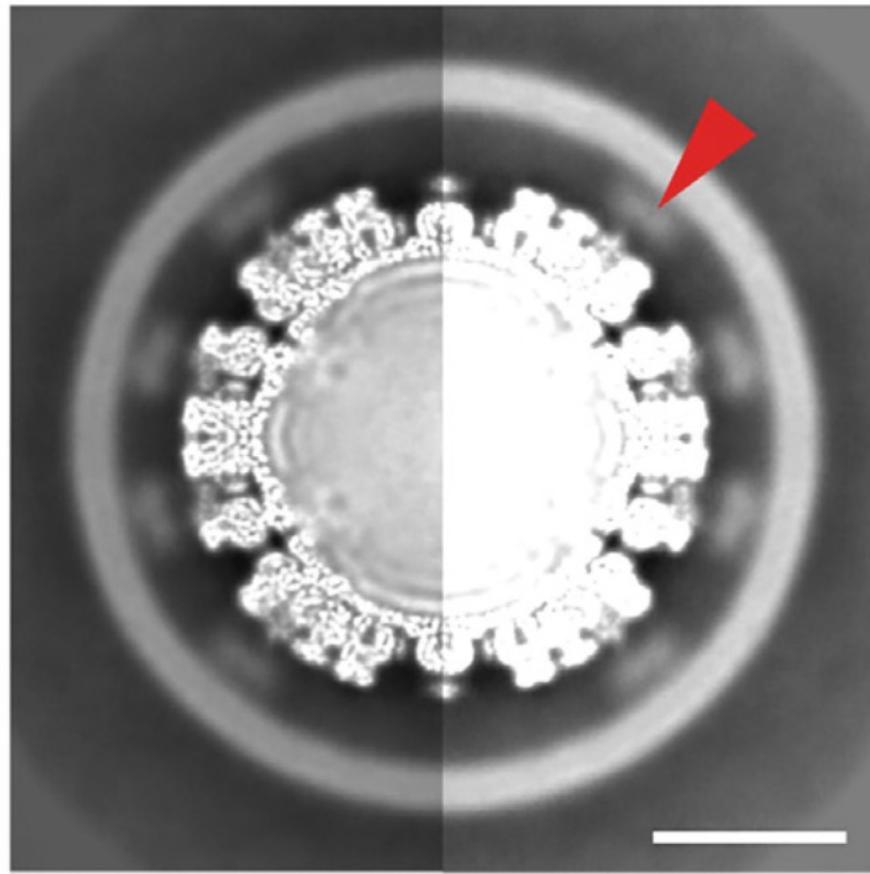
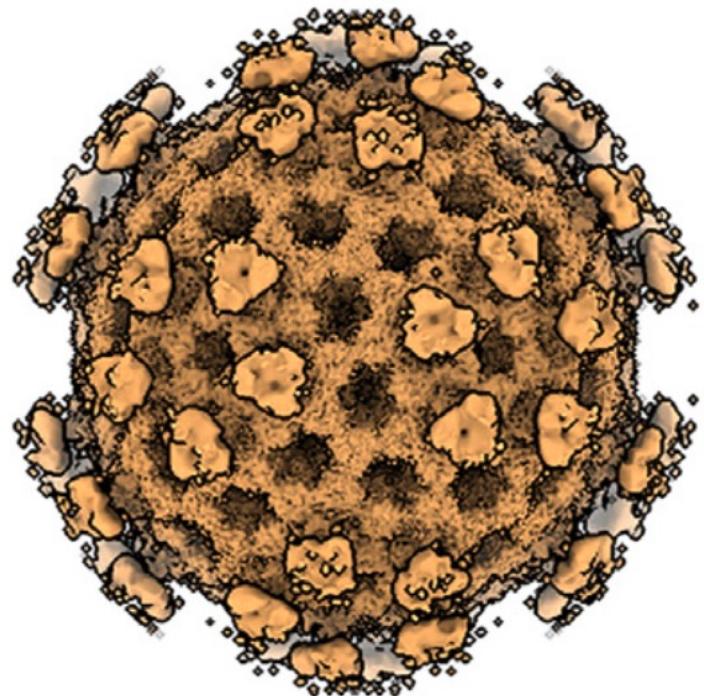


# Result3: VP4 structure prior to exposure to trypsin

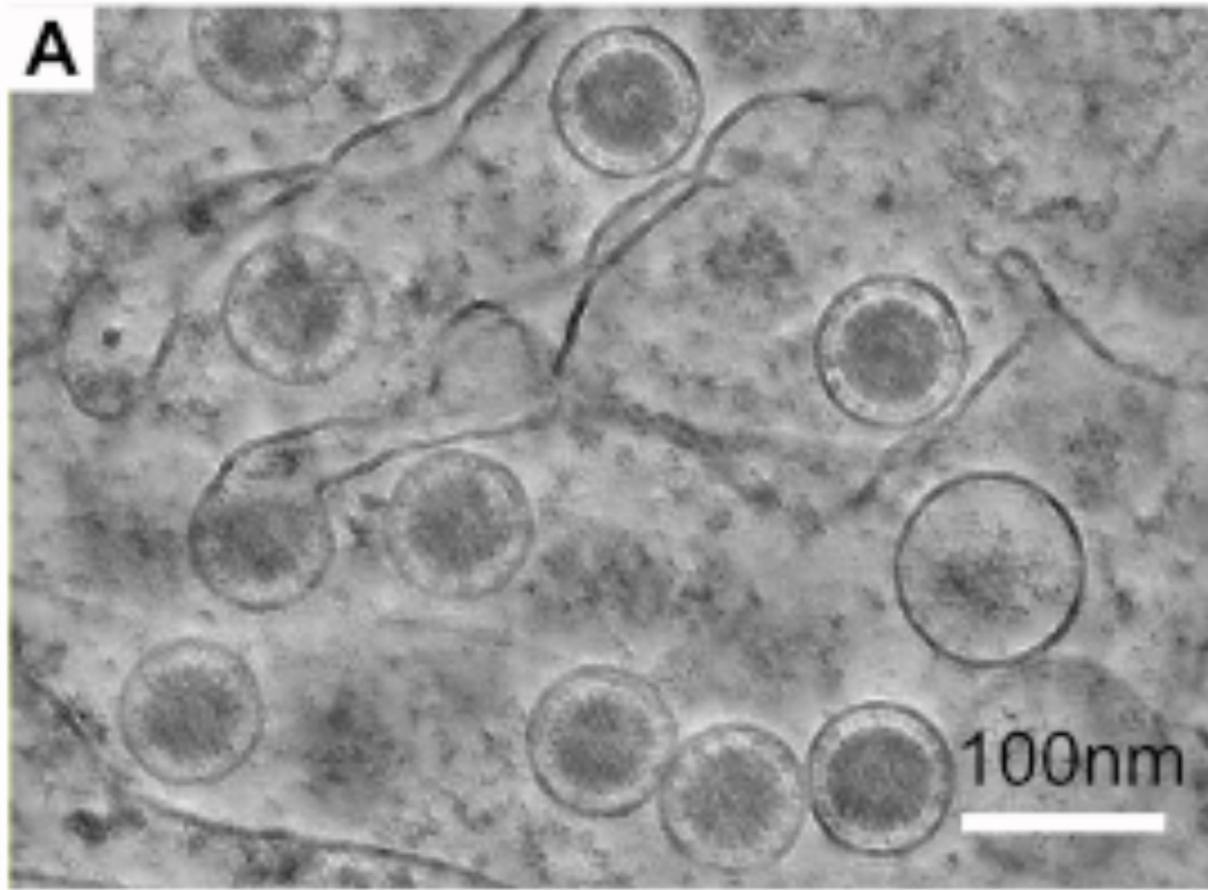


# Result4: a trimeric conformation of VP4 in eDLP

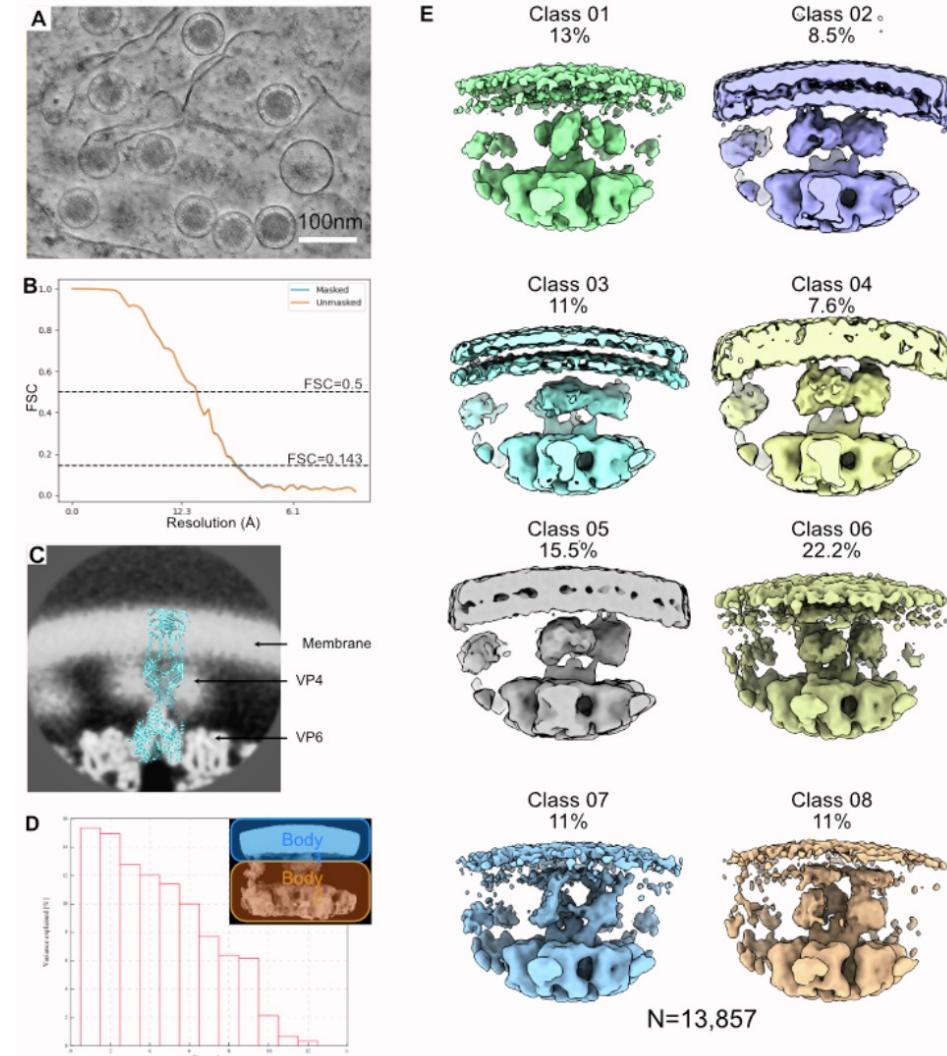
**B**



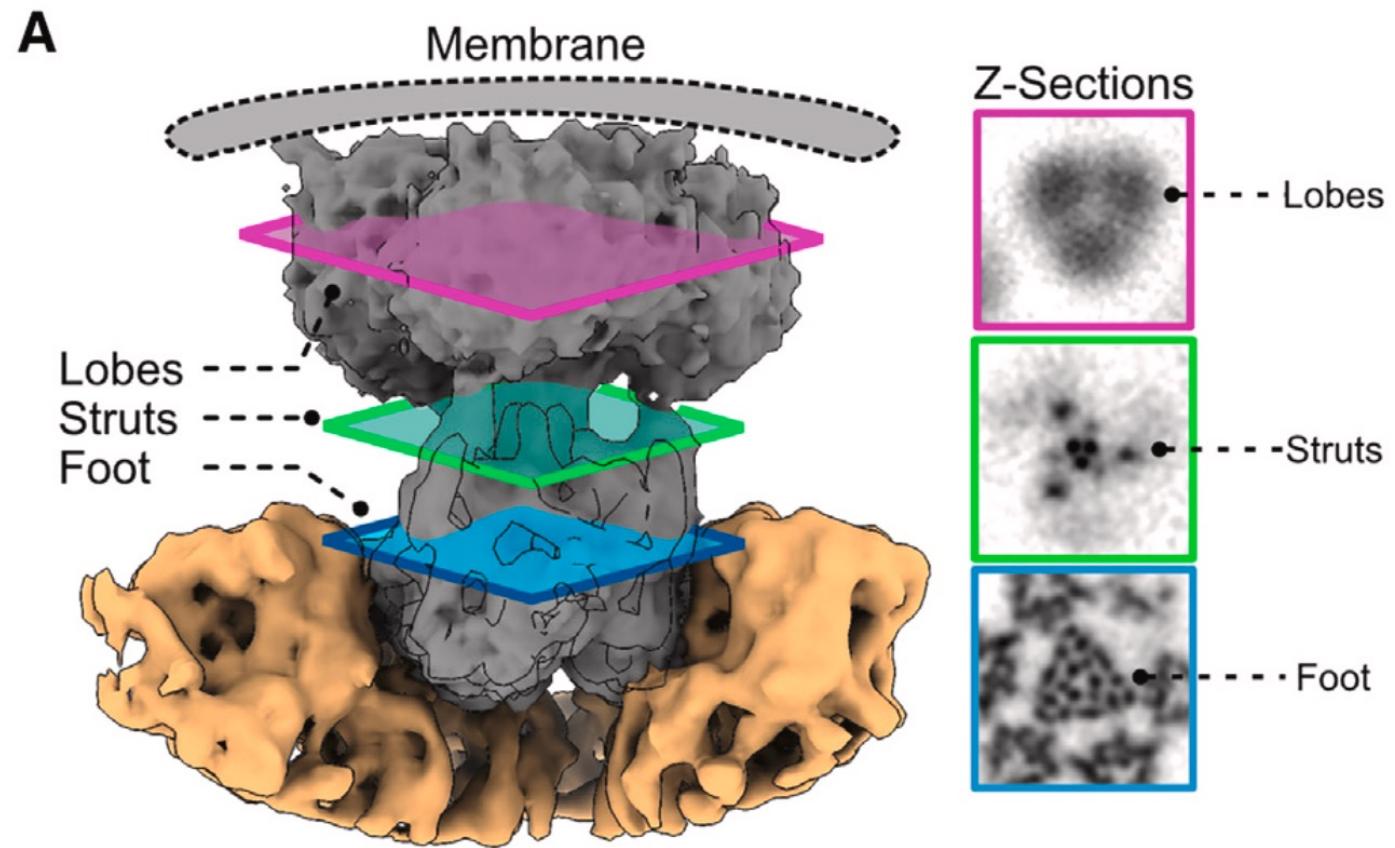
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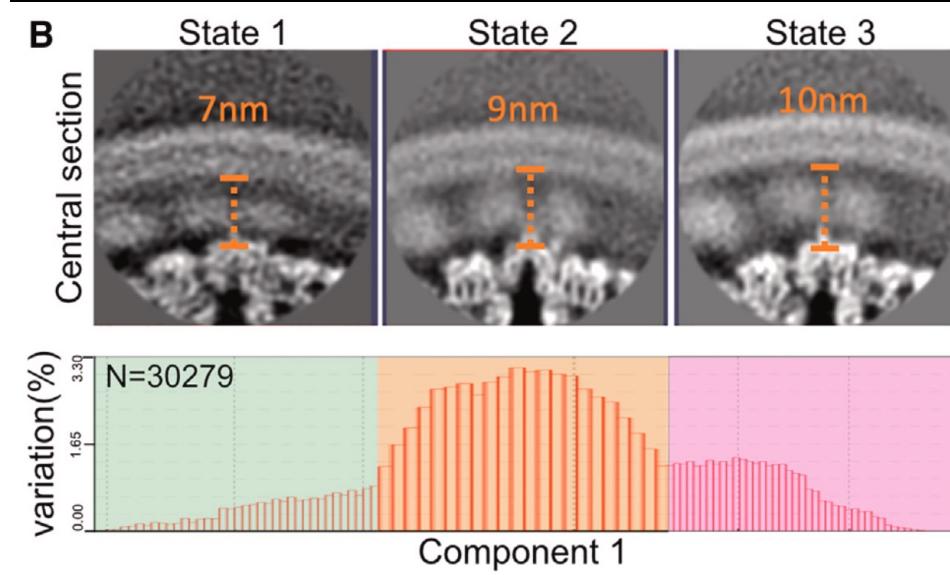
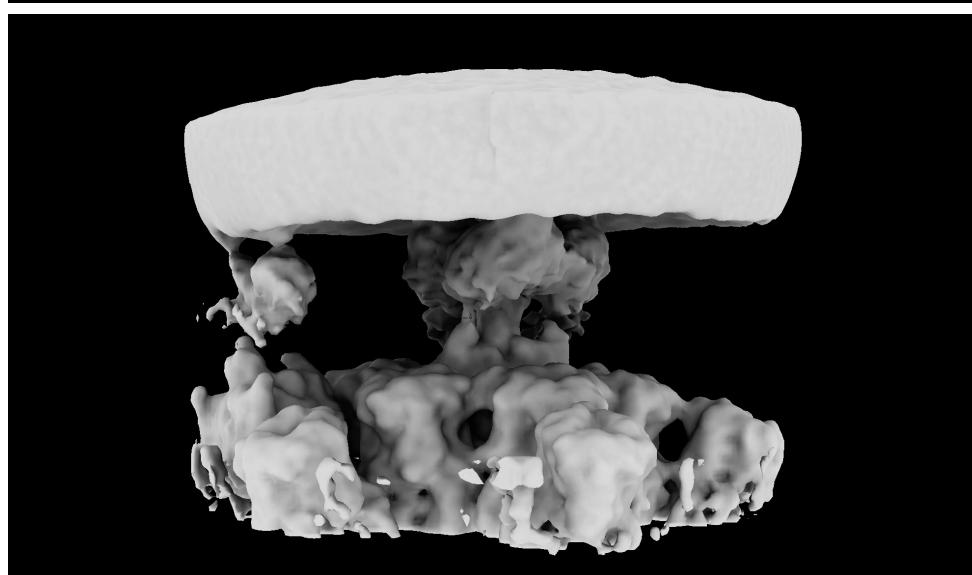
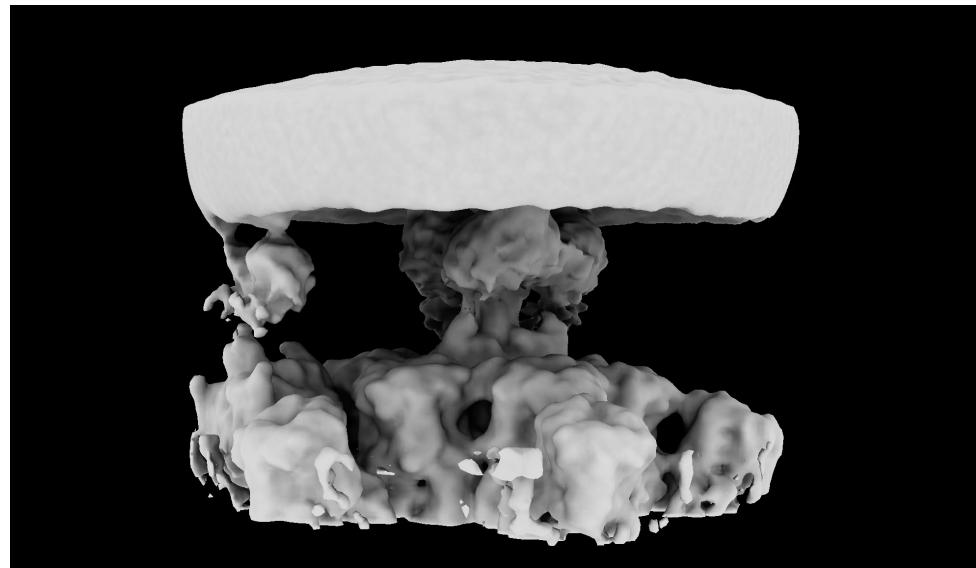
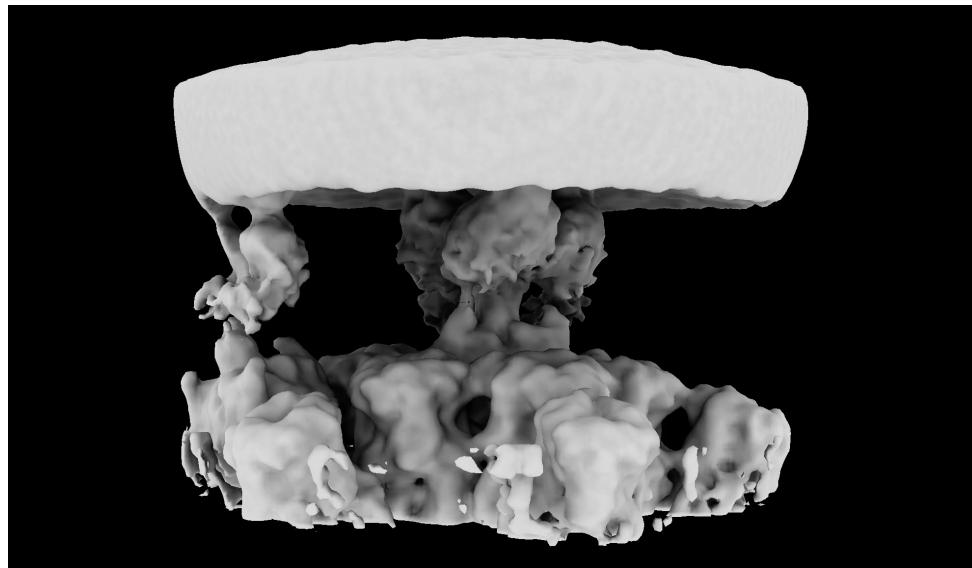
Thapsigargin  
毒胡萝卜素



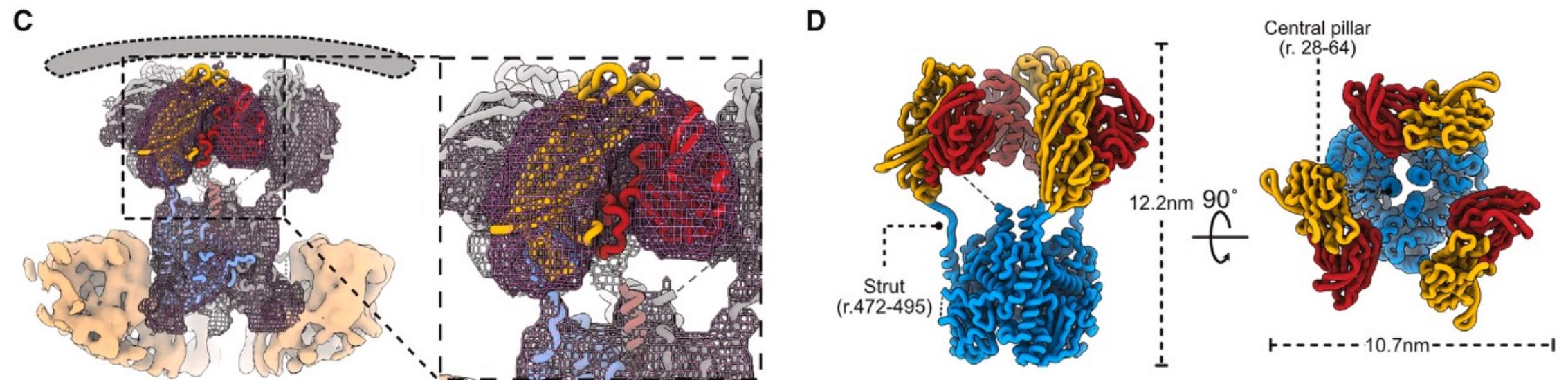
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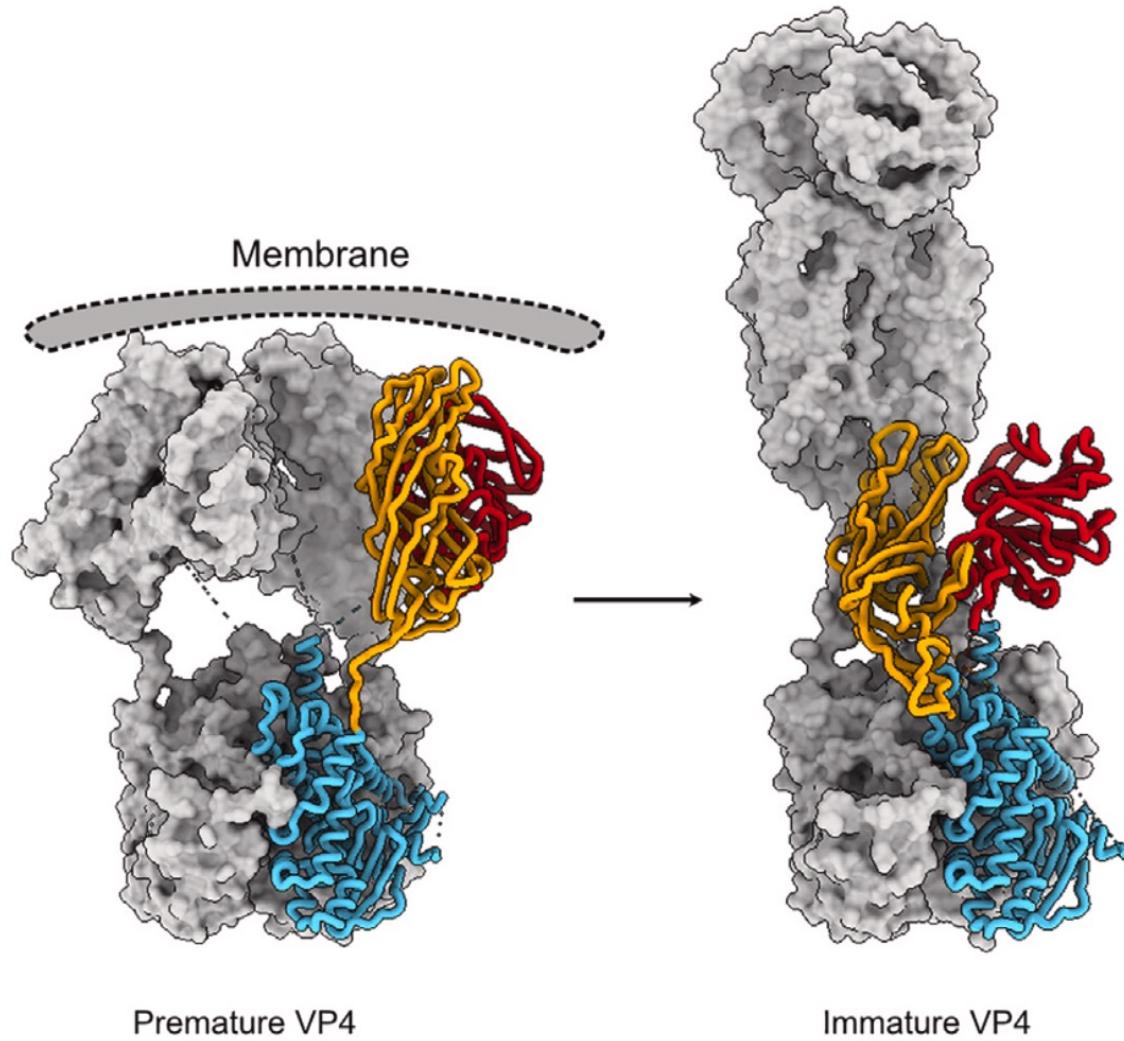


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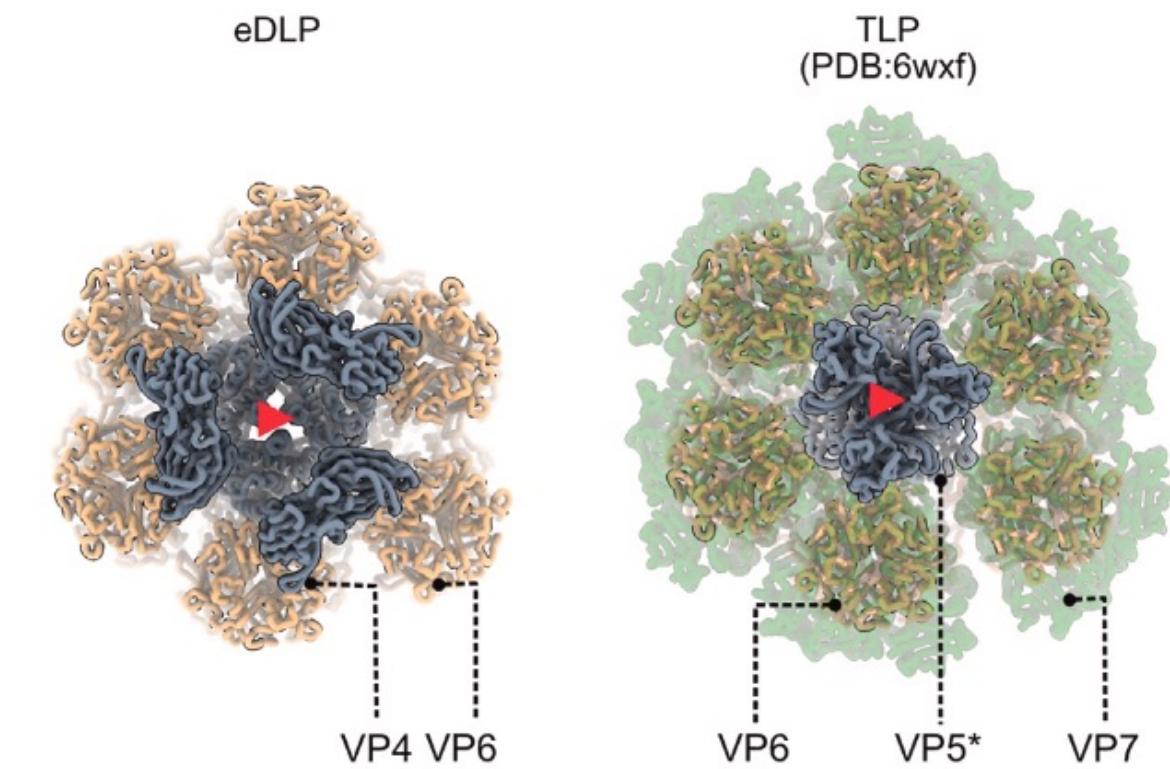


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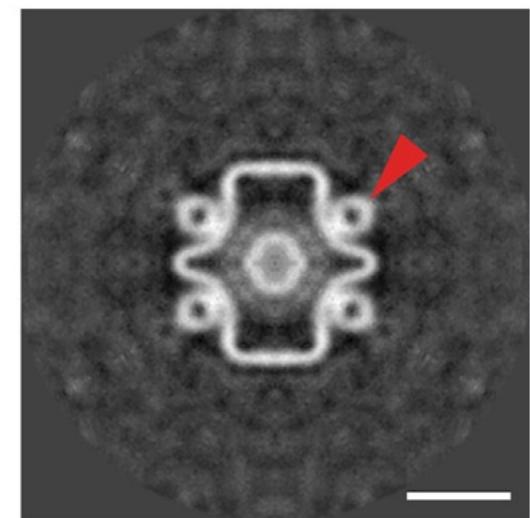
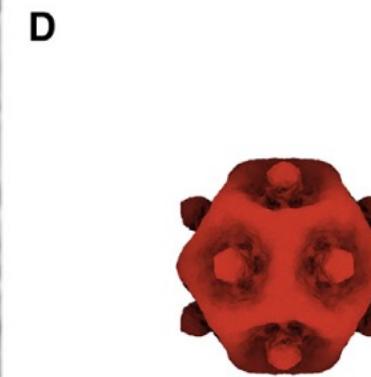
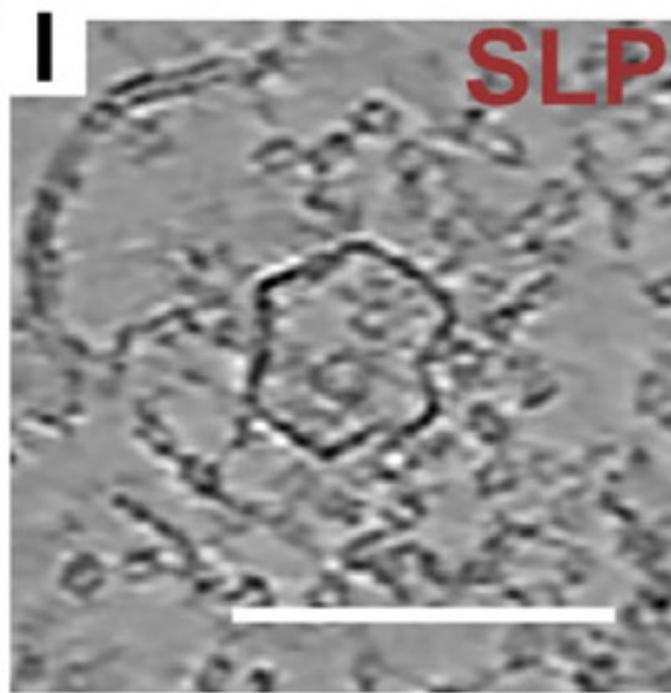
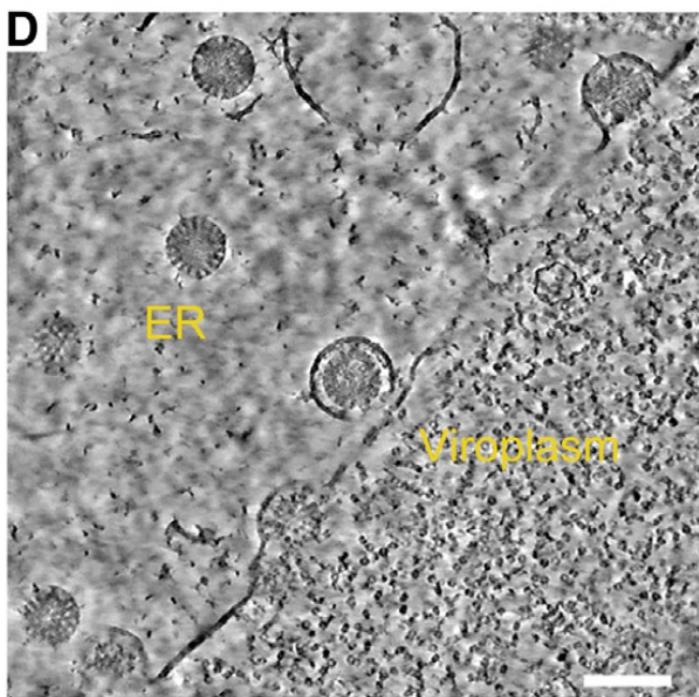
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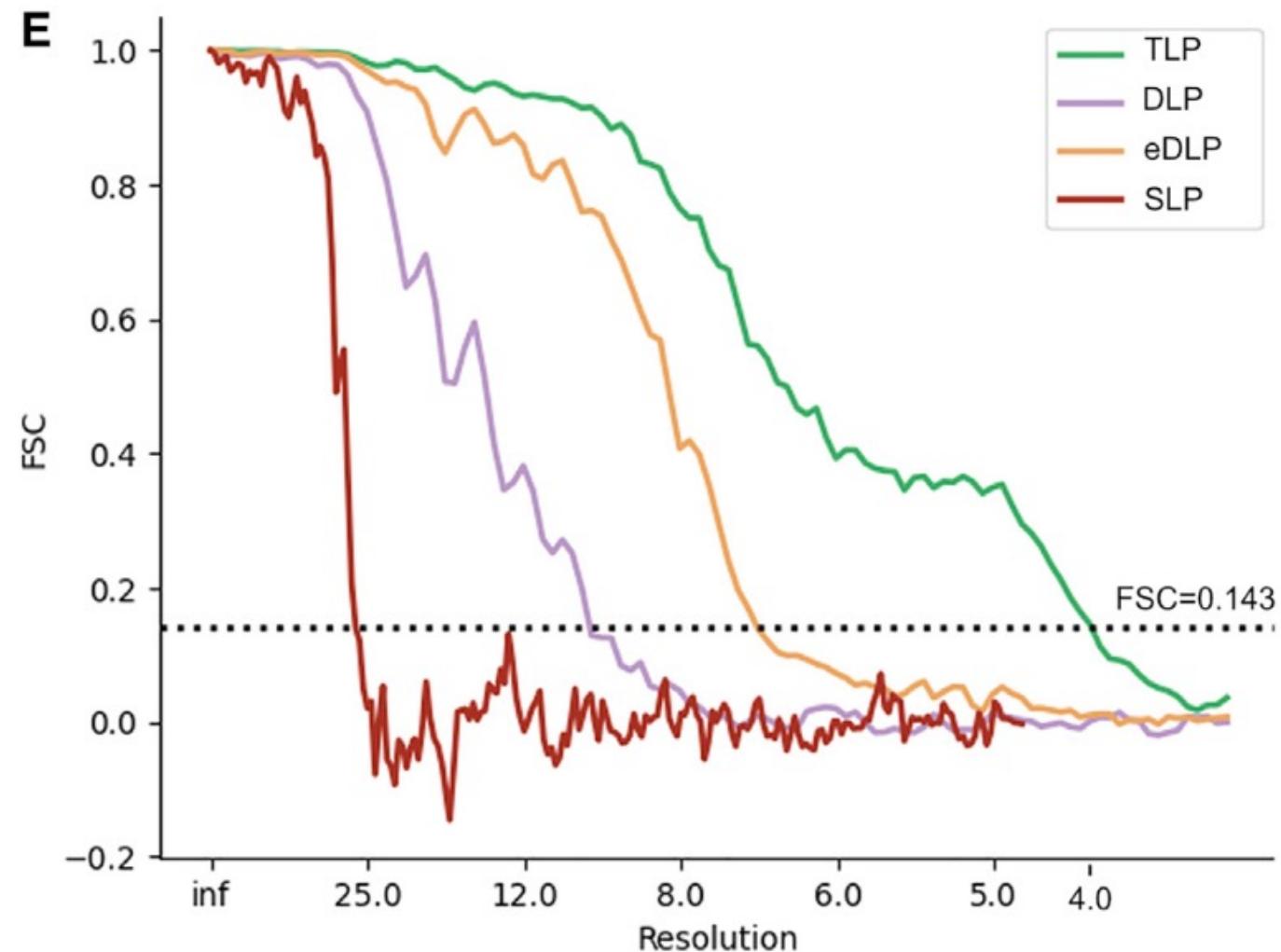
F



# Result5: SLP is assembled in the viroplasm

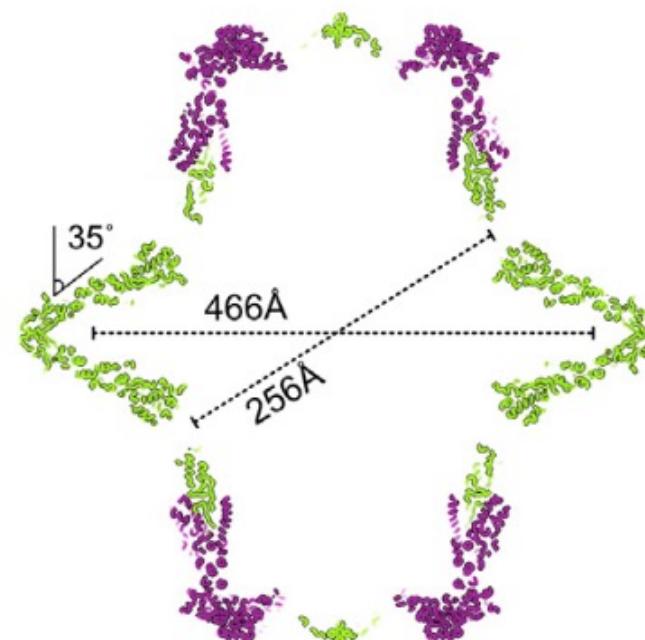
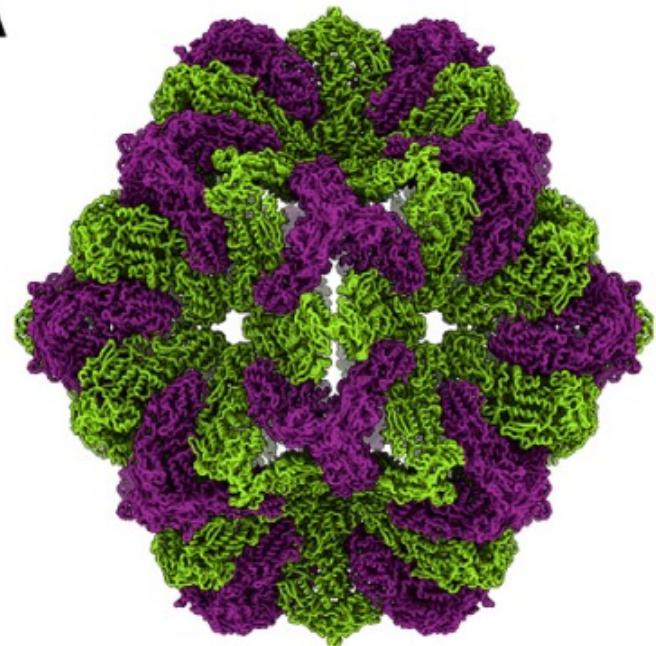


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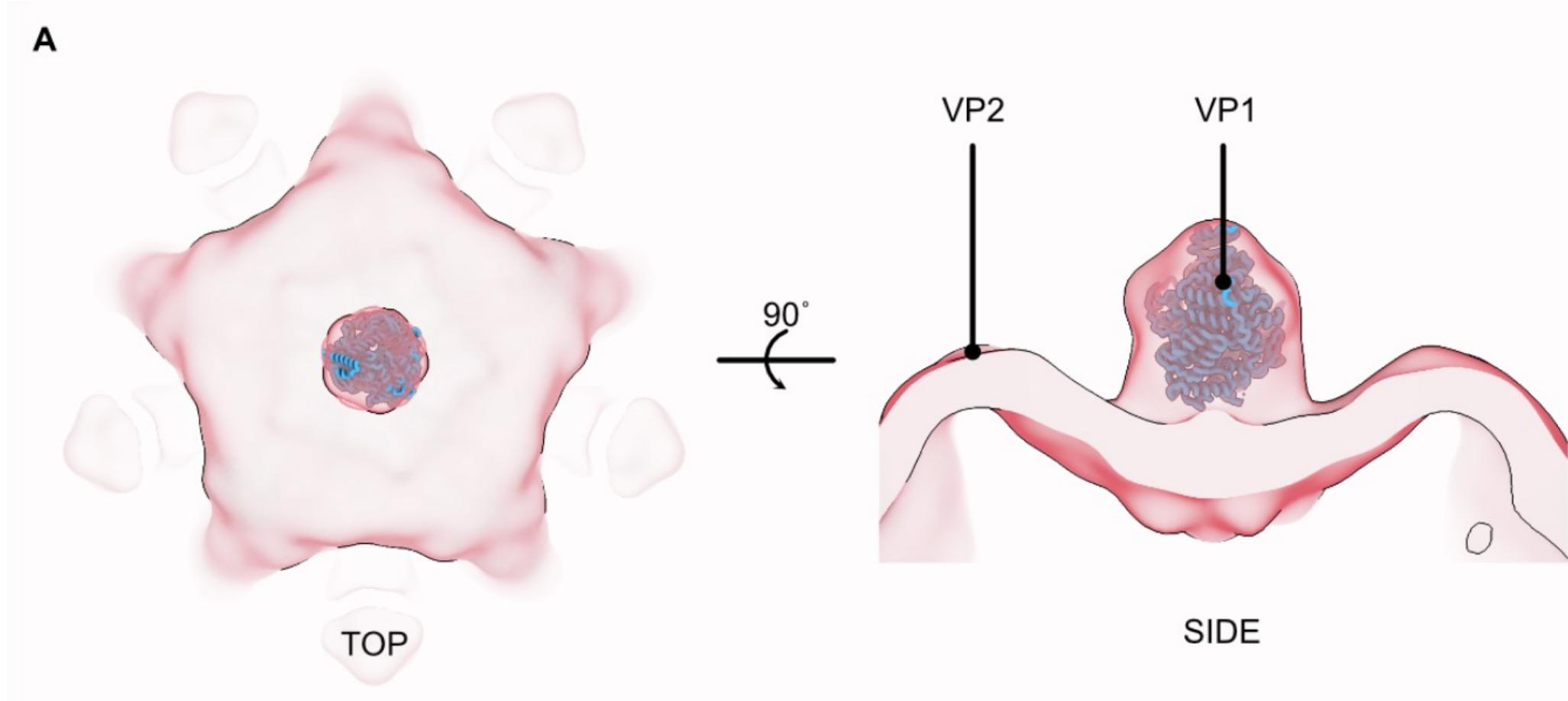


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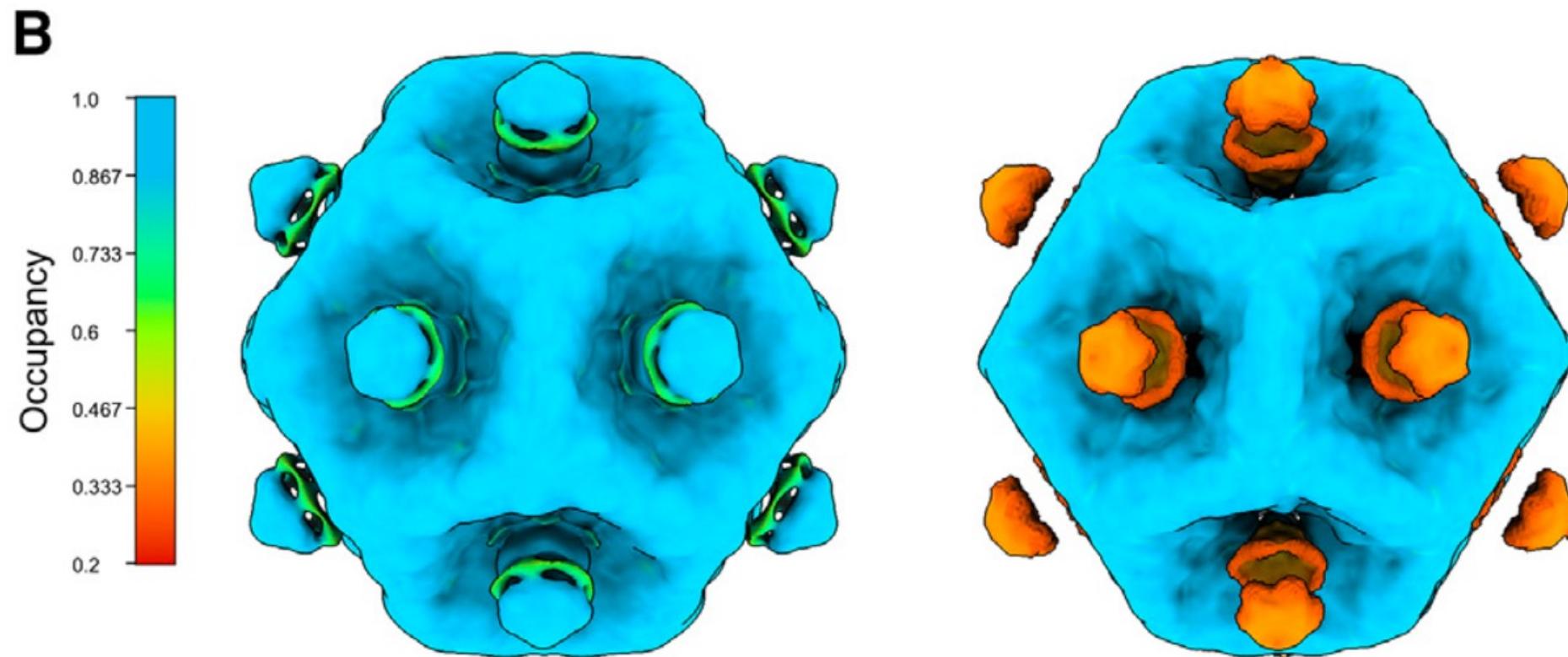
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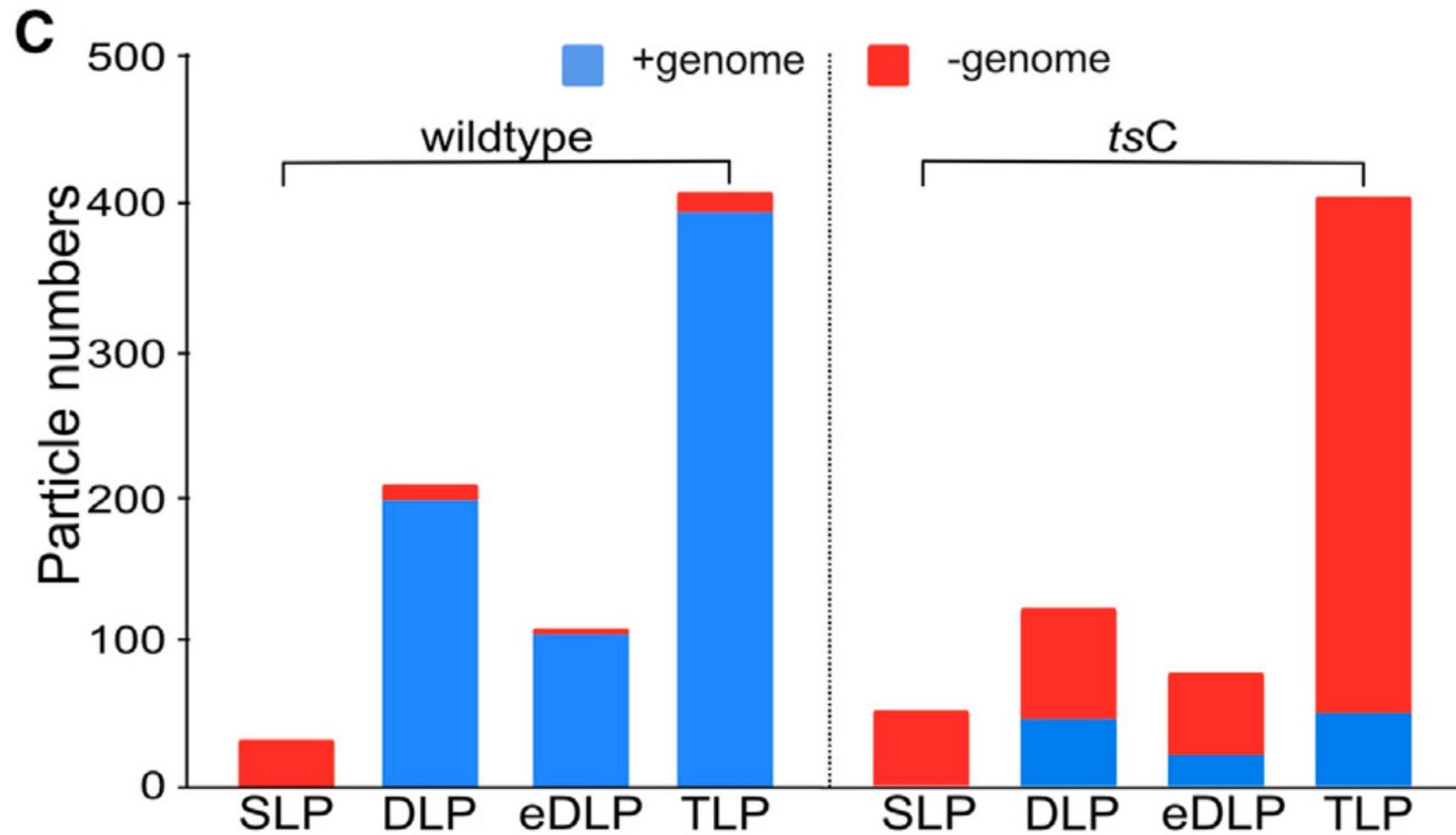
# Result5: SLP is assembled in the viroplasm



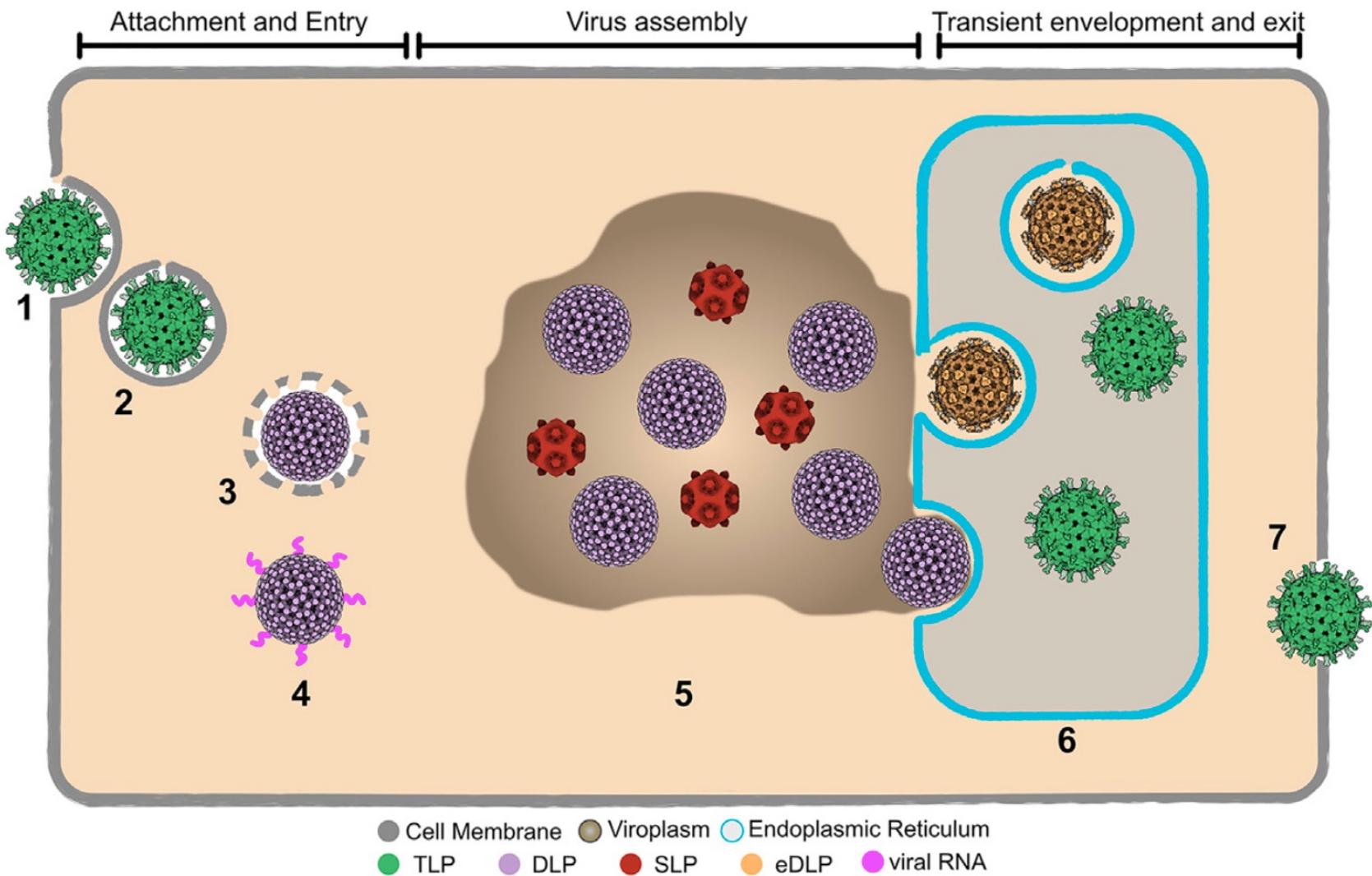
# Result5: SLP is assembled in the viroplasm



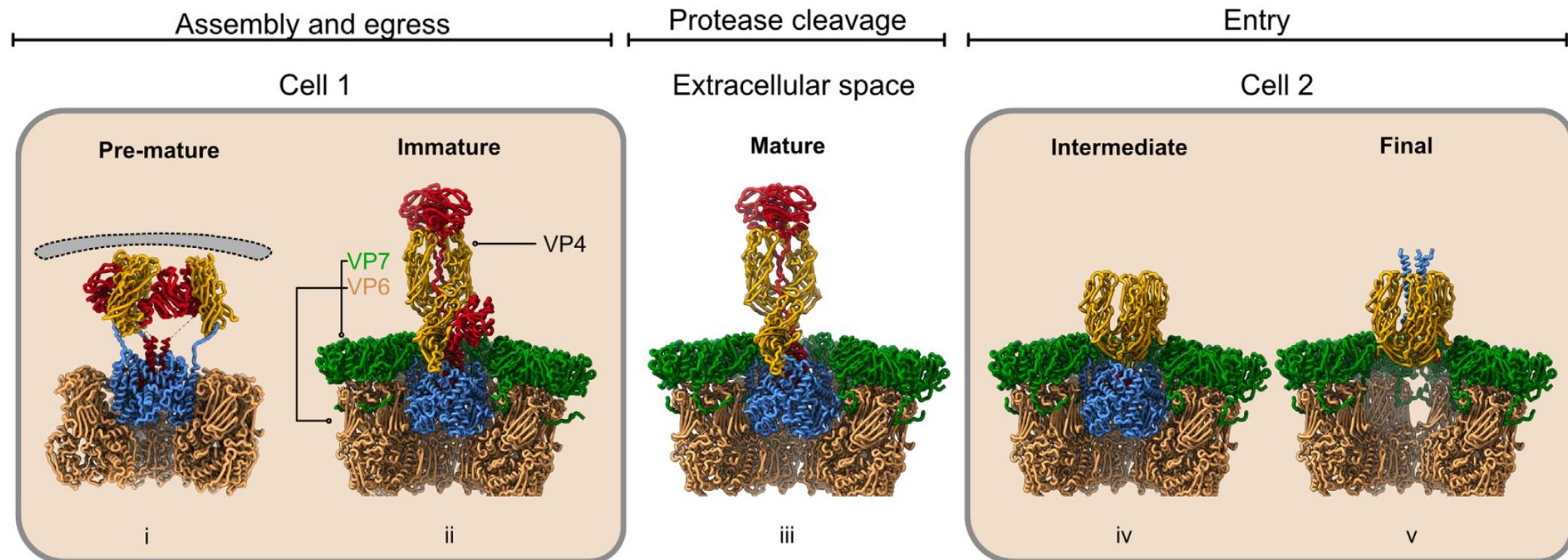
# Result5: SLP is assembled in the viroplasm



# Discussion



# Discussion



- have detected and characterized at the molecular level assembly stages not previously detectable;
- how the assembly events relate spatially to the cellular structures
- delicate, short-lived forms that cannot be purified outside of their native milieu