

Supplementary Information

Structures of TGF- β with betaglycan and signaling receptors reveal mechanisms of complex assembly and signaling

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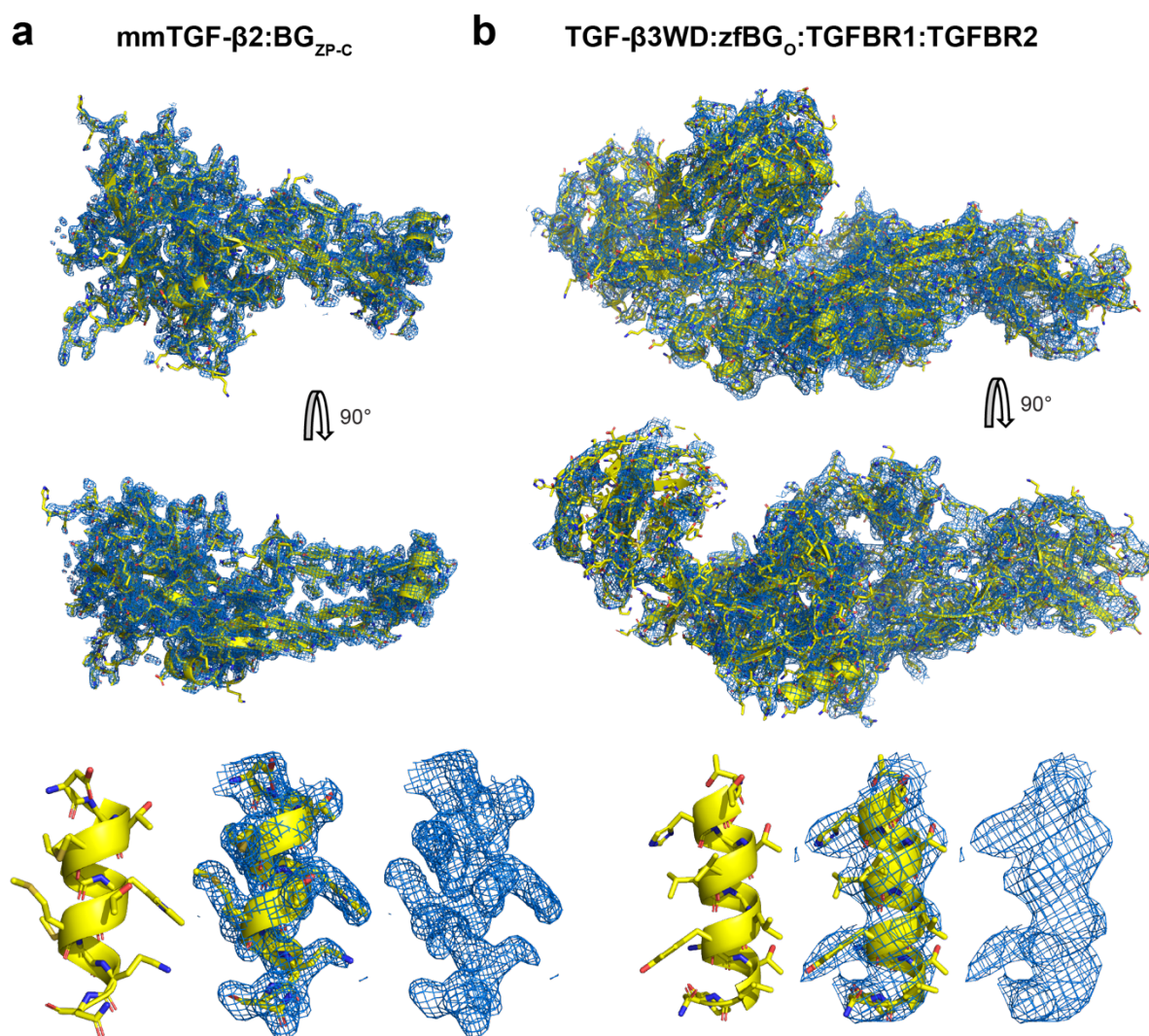
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⁷Departamento de Biología Celular y del Desarrollo, Instituto de Fisiología Celular, UNAM, Mexico City, Mexico

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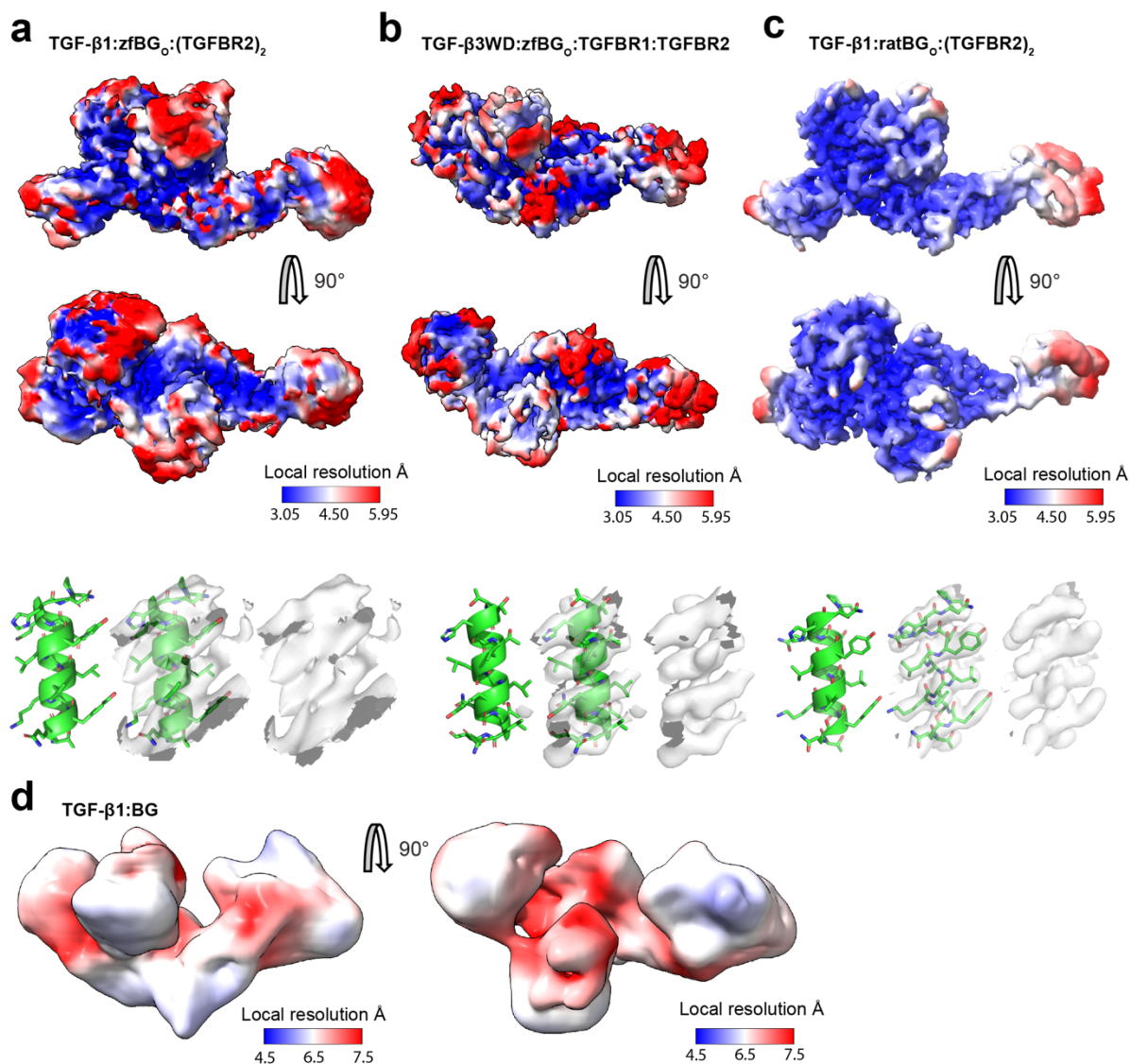
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Caroline S. Hill, Developmental Signalling Laboratory, The Francis Crick Institute, London NW1 1AT, UK, Telephone: +44 (0)20 3796 1251, E-mail: caroline.hill@crick.ac.uk



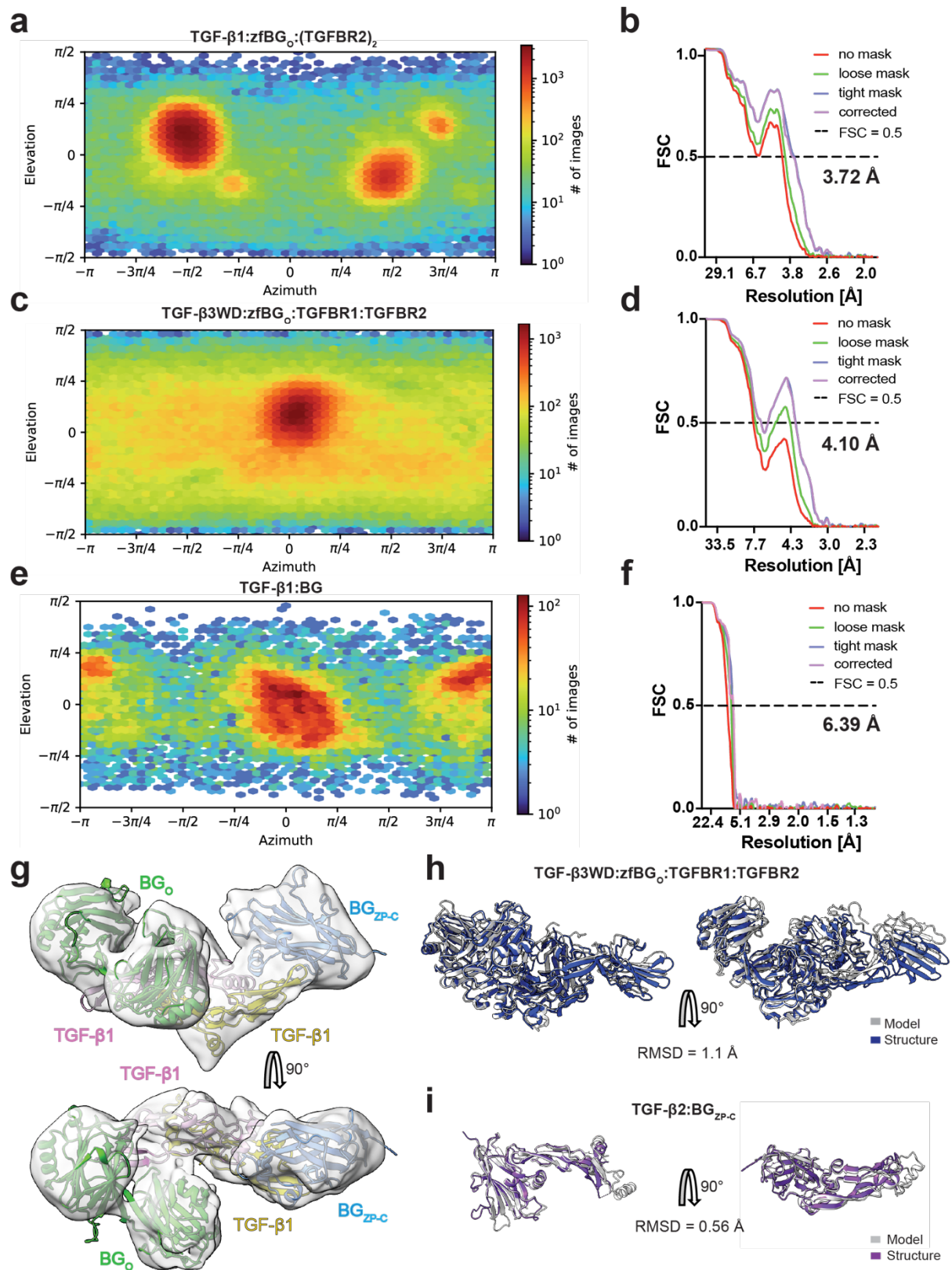
Supplementary Figure 1. Electron density maps of the presented structures.

(a, b) 2Fo-Fc electron density maps for mmTGF- β 2:BG_{ZP-C} (a) and TGF- β 3WD:zfBG_O:TGFBR1:TGFBR2 (b) contoured at 1.0 σ , are displayed as blue mesh representations with a carve distance of 2 Å around the atomic model. Zoomed-in views highlight the quality of the electron density surrounding the FG-helix (a) or the heel helix (b).



Supplementary Figure 2. Cryo-EM maps colored by local resolution.

(a - d) Cryo-EM maps colored by local resolution for the following complexes: TGF- β 1:zfBG_O:(TGFR2)₂ (a), TGF- β 3WD:zfBG_O:TGFR1:TGFR2 (b), TGF- β 1:ratBG_O:(TGFR2)₂ (c) and TGF- β 1:BG (d). For (a - c), corresponding zoomed-in panels highlight the density of the heel helix of the TGF- β monomer adjacent to that bound to BG_O.

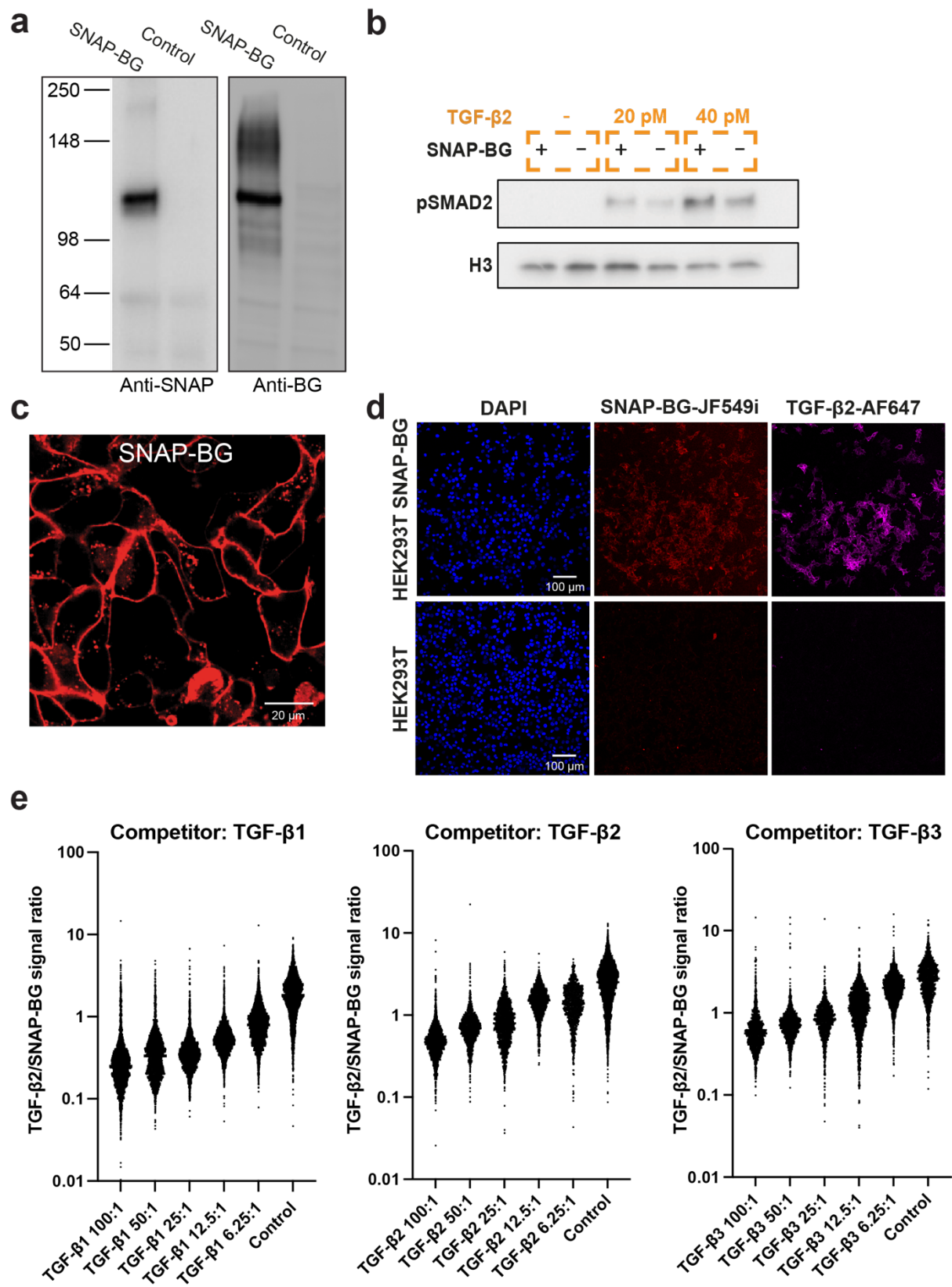


Supplementary Figure 3. Structural details of the Cryo-EM complexes and AF2M models.

(a - f) Particle view distributions for presented 3D reconstructions of TGF- β 1:zfBG_O:(TGFB_R2)₂ (a), TGF- β 3WD:zfBG_O:TGFB_R1:TGFB_R2 (c), or TGF- β 1:BG (e), together with Fourier Shell Correlation (FSC) curves (b, d, f, respectively).

(g) Low resolution Cryo-EM map of the TGF- β :BG complex with fitted model to the density.

(h, i) AF2M models of TGF- β 3WD:BG_O:TGFB_R1:TGFB_R2 (h) and TGF- β 2:BG_{ZP-C} (i). The complexes are overlaid with crystal structures of TGF- β 3WD:zfBG_O:TGFB_R1:TGFB_R2 and mmTGF- β 2:BG_{ZP-C}, respectively.



Supplementary Figure 4. Characterization of SNAP-betaglycan (SNAP-BG) in HEK293T cells.

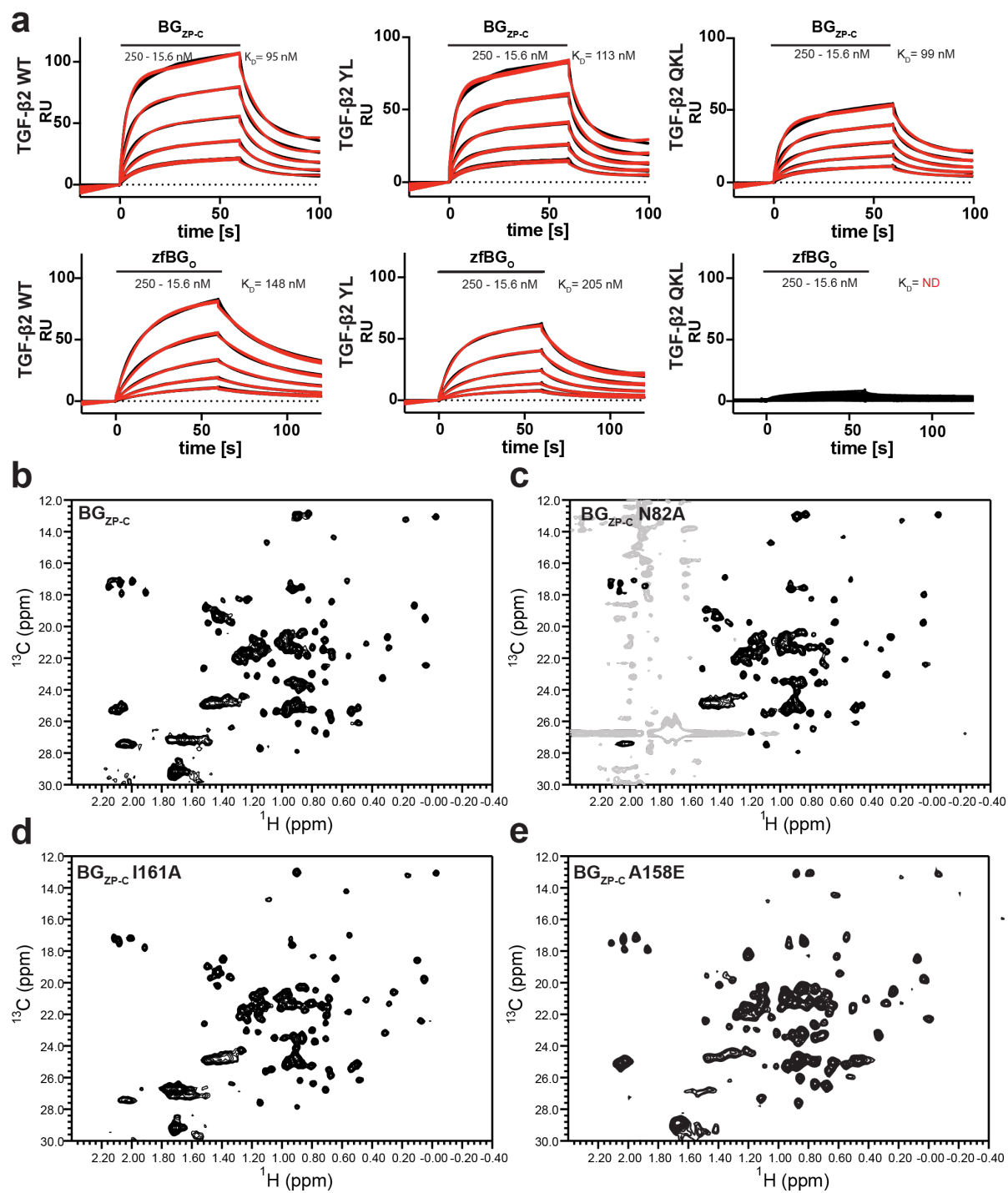
(a) Western blot analysis of SNAP-BG expression in stably transfected HEK293T cells with pCDNA3.1 plasmid harbouring SNAP-BG. Proteins were resolved by SDS-PAGE and probed with an antibody specific to the SNAP-tag (left panel) or BG (right panel). A distinct band is observed at approximately 120 kDa, consistent with the expected molecular weight of the Δ GAG SNAP-BG fusion protein. Additionally, diffuse signal above 120 kDa likely reflects the presence of highly glycosylated population. The anti-BG antibody does not detect low levels of endogenous protein in these cells.

(b) Western blot analysis of L6E9 cell lysate demonstrates a dose-dependent increase in phosphorylated SMAD2 (pSMAD2) levels in the cells transfected with SNAP-BG upon stimulation with TGF- β 2. Histone H3 acts as a loading control.

(c) SNAP-BG is membrane localized. Confocal microscopy images showing SNAP-BG conjugated with a fluorescent ligand (shown in red), predominantly localized on the cell membrane. Scale bar, 20 μ m.

(d) Confocal microscopy images of HEK293T cells stably transfected with a SNAP-tagged BG construct (upper row) or untransfected control cells (bottom row) stained with DAPI to detect the nuclei (left panels, blue), SNAP-tag ligand conjugated to the JF549i fluorescent dye (middle panels, red), along with TGF- β 2 tagged with AF647 fluorescent dye (right panels, violet). Control, untransfected cells present no signal either from SNAP-BG or TGF- β 2. Scale bar, 100 μ m.

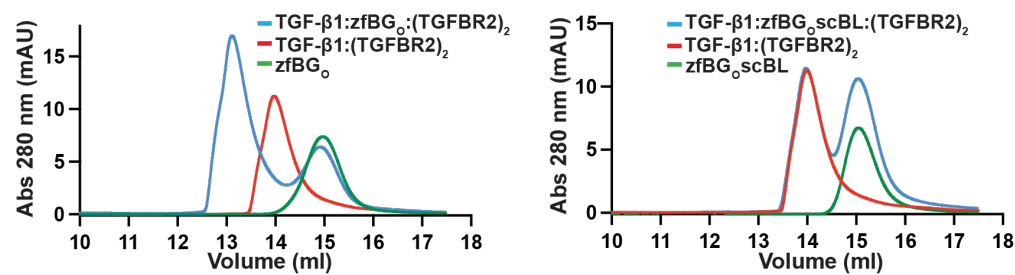
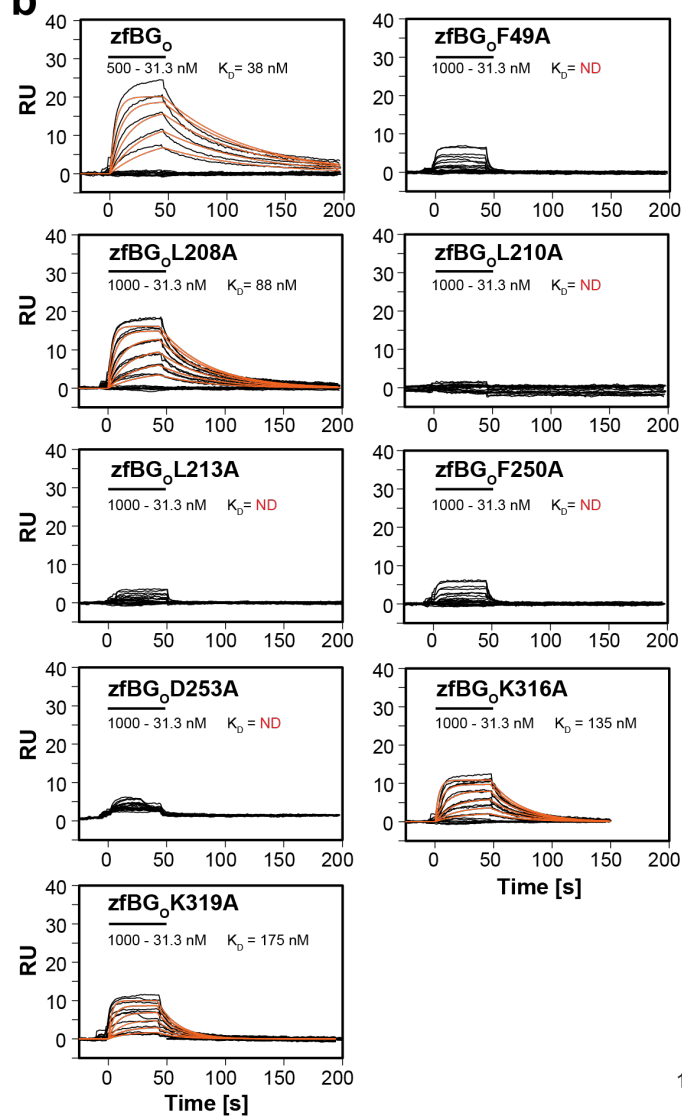
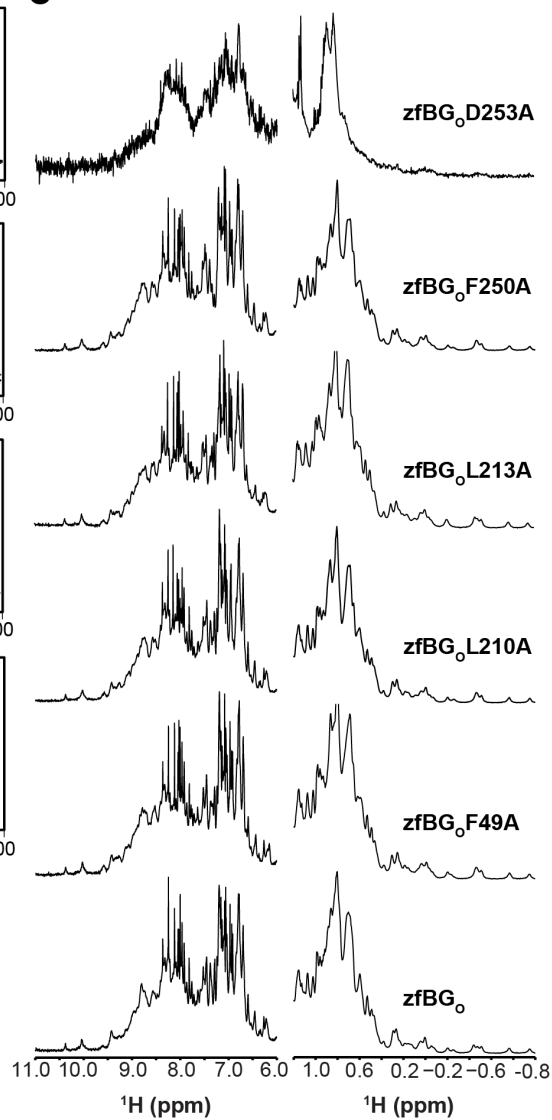
(e) Concentration-dependent effects of TGF- β s as competitors in the binding assay. As the concentration of each TGF- β isoform increases (TGF- β 1, TGF- β 2, TGF- β 3), there is a corresponding decrease in the colocalization signal ratio of TGF- β 2-CF640R/SNAP-BG, indicating assay sensitivity to ligand concentration. Each data point represents the ratio of SNAP-BG signal to InhA signal within a segmented region of the image generated by applying the Otsu thresholding method to the SNAP-BG channel. The analysis was performed on three images per condition, each corresponding to an independent biological replicate (n=3).



Supplementary Figure 5. Mutations affecting TGF- β 2 binding cause only local structural changes.

(a) Sensorgrams from SPR experiment where zfBG_O WT or a BG_{ZP-C} WT 2-fold dilution series (black) were injected over immobilized TGF- β 2 WT, TGF- β 2 (Y50A, L51A located in pre-helix extension), or TGF- β 2 (Q57A, K60A, L64A located on heel helix). zfBG_O binding was severely affected only by mutations in the heel helix, while the binding of BG_{ZP-C} was mostly unaffected. Fitting curves (red) were generated based on three consecutive repeats.

(b - e) Natural abundance methyl ^1H - ^{13}C correlation NMR spectra indicating minimal perturbations in the chemical environment of binding affecting mutants of BG_{ZP-C}, indicating that the mutations lead to localized structural alterations rather than a widespread change in conformation.

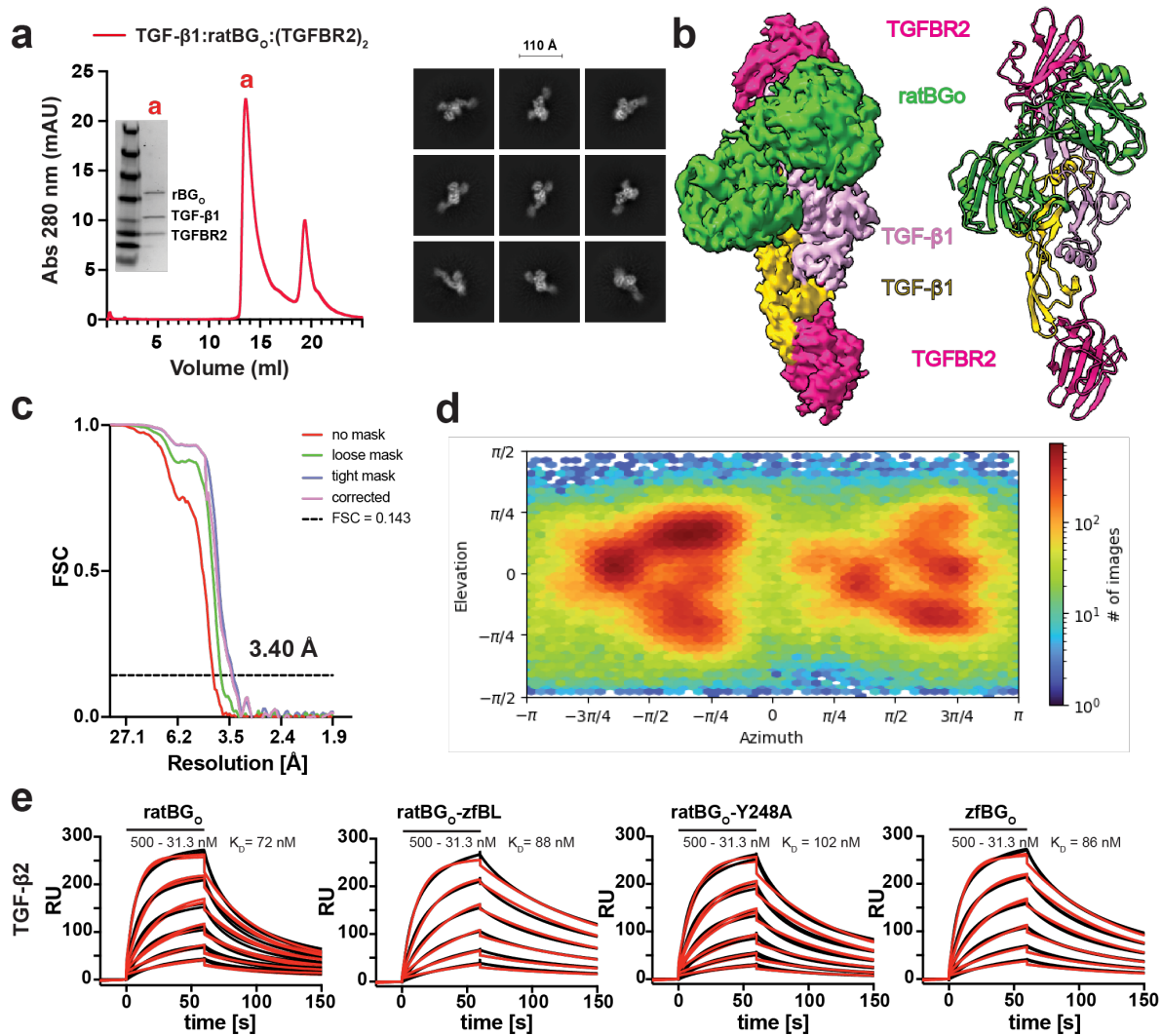
a**b****c**

Supplementary Figure 6. zfBG_O mutations within the TGF- β :zfBG_O binding interface.

(a) SEC profiles of TGF- β 1:zfBG_O:(TGFBR2)₂ and TGF- β 1:(TGFBR2)₂ complexes (left panel) or TGF- β 1:zfBG_OscBL:(TGFBR2)₂ and TGF- β 1:(TGFBR2)₂ complexes (right panel), where zfBG_OscBL corresponds to zfBG_O with BL fully replaced with unrelated sequence (scrambled). No shift in the TGF- β 1:zfBG_OscBL:(TGFBR2)₂ elution volume together with the presence of second peak eluted at the BG_O volume is indicative of zfBG_OscBL not forming a complex with TGF- β 1:(TGFBR2)₂.

(b) SPR sensorgrams of zfBG_O mutants injected in a 2-fold dilution series (black) show binding to immobilized TGF- β 2. Fitting curves (red) were derived from data collected in two consecutive repeats.

(c) 1D proton NMR spectra, covering both the amide and methyl spectral regions. The spectra underscore that mutations predominantly result in localized alterations to the binding interface, without extensive perturbation of the overall protein structure. Notably, the D253A mutant exhibits signal broadening across the spectra, hinting at more widespread structural changes that may suggest alterations in protein folding.



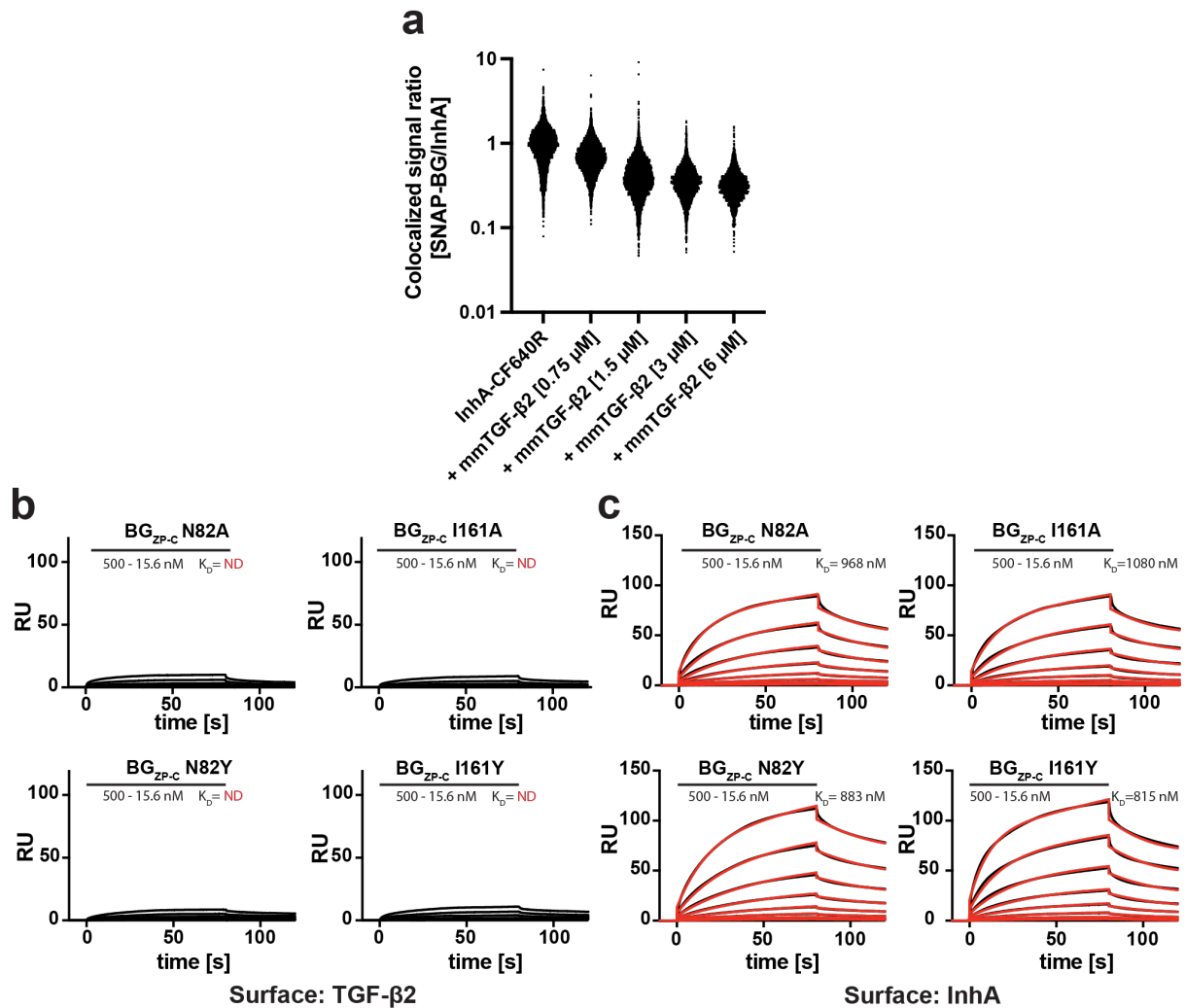
Supplementary Figure 7. Structural details of the TGF-β1:ratBG₀:(TGFB2)₂ complex and SPR validation of the ratBG₀ mutants binding to TGF-β.

(a) SEC purification profile of TGF-β1:ratBG₀:(TGFB2)₂ demonstrates distinct peak of assembled complex (red), as assessed by SDS-PAGE (inset). Selected 2D classes provide an overview of the dataset quality and coverage of different views. Scale bar, 110 Å.

(b) Cryo-EM map with a model built into the density (PDB: 9FDY).

(c, d) FSC curve of the final map refinement (c) with particle view distribution (d).

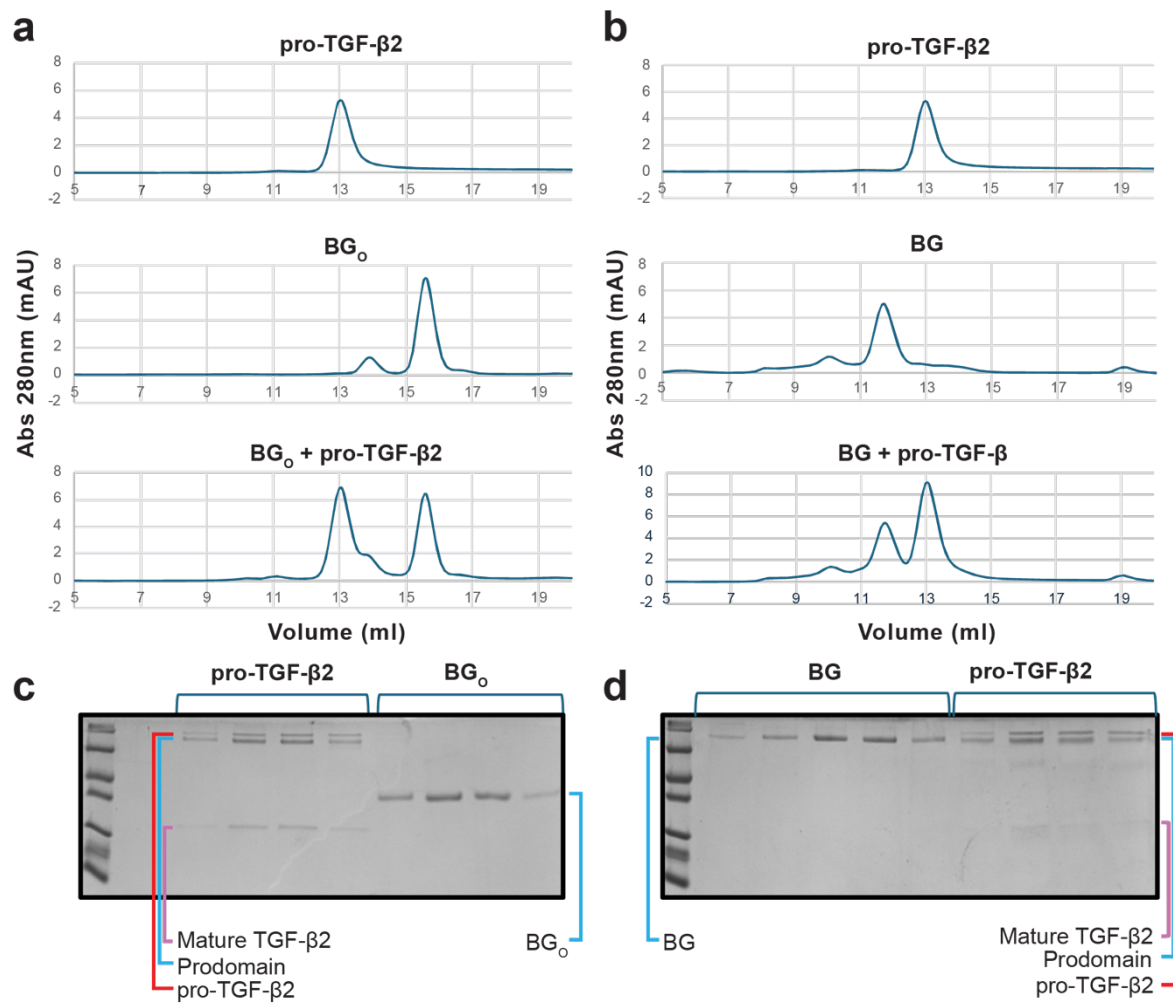
(e) SPR sensorgrams showing response to a 2-fold dilution series of injections (black) of ratBG₀, zfBG₀, as well as two mutants, ratBG₀zfBL and ratBG₀-Y248A, over immobilized TGF-β2 on the chip surface. Fitting curves (red) were derived from data collected in three consecutive repeats.



Supplementary Figure 8. InHA binds BG_{ZP-C} using a different but overlapping interface to the TGF-βs.

(a) Quantification of the concentration-dependent effect of mmTGF-β2 on InHA-CF640R signal strength. Each data point represents the SNAP-BG signal to InHA signal ratio within a segmented region of the image. The analysis was performed on three images, each corresponding to an independent biological replicate (n=3).

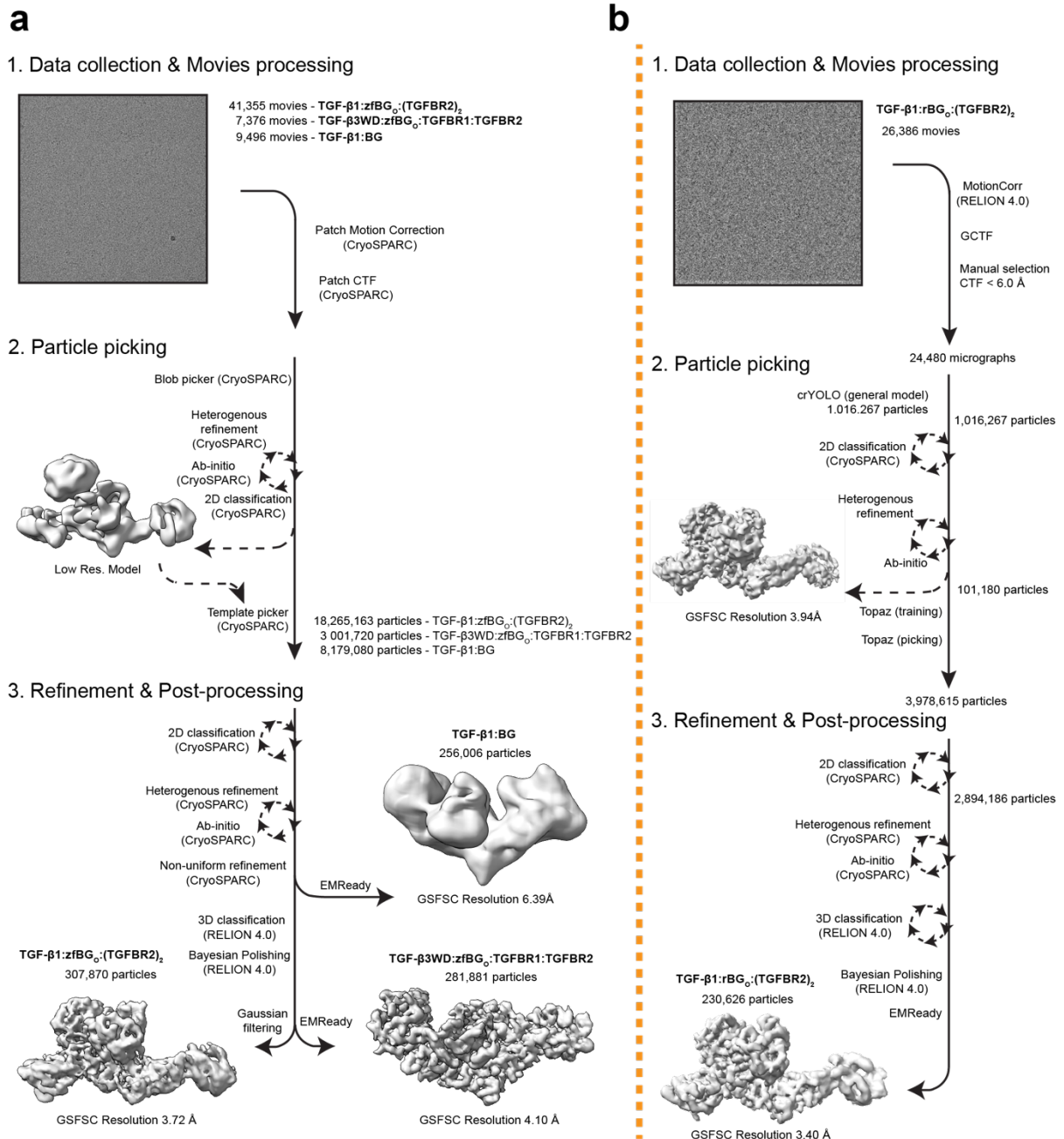
(b, c) SPR sensorgrams showing response to 2-fold serial dilutions of selected mutants of BG_{ZP-C} (black) injected over immobilized TGF-β2 (b) or InHA (c). Fitting curves (red) are derived from the data collected in three consecutive repeats.



Supplementary Figure 9. BG or isolated BG₀ do not form complexes with pro-TGF-β2.

(a, c) SEC profiles of the pro-TGF-β2, BG₀, or mixture of both incubated together for 30 min (a). Fractions containing proteins from the last profile were visualized by SDS-PAGE (c).

(b, d) SEC profiles of the pro-TGF-β2, BG, or mixture of both incubated together for 30 min (b). Fractions containing proteins from the last profile were visualized by SDS-PAGE (d).



Supplementary Figure 10. Cryo-EM data processing workflow.

(a, b) A schematic representation of the Cryo-EM data processing pipeline of TGF- β 1:zfBG_o:(TGFBFR2)₂, TGF- β 3WD:zfBG_o:TGFBFR1:TGFBR2 and TGF- β 1:BG (a), or TGF- β 1:rBG_o:(TGFBFR2)₂ (b) that was collected on grids covered with graphene oxide. The workflow illustrates the steps from raw micrograph collection, particle picking, 2D classification, 3D reconstruction, refinement, post-processing and final map generation.

Supplementary Table 1. X-ray data collection and refinement parameters. Values in parentheses represent the highest resolution shell.

X-ray data collection		
Specimen	mmTGF- β 2:BG _{ZP-C}	TGF- β 3WD:BG _O :TGFBR1:TGFBR2
Accession code	PDB: 8DC0	PDB: 9B9F
X-ray source	APS BEAMLINE 24-ID-E	APS BEAMLINE 24-ID-C
Space group	<i>I</i> 222	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2
Cell Dimensions:		
<i>a</i> , <i>b</i> , <i>c</i> (Å)	76.5, 90.5, 98.9	195.1, 200.9, 47.4
α , β , γ (°)	90, 90, 90	90, 90, 90
Wavelength (Å)	0.97918	0.97918
Resolution range (Å)	66.74-1.93 (2.03-1.93)	139.98-3.0 (3.16-3.0)
Unique reflections	26,132 (3,763)	38,615 (5,562)
Multiplicity	13.0 (13.1)	13.4 (13.9)
Completeness (%)	100 (99.9)	100 (100)
Mean <i>I</i> / σ <i>I</i>	9.3 (1.0)	10.5 (0.6)
R _{pim} (<i>I</i>)	0.052 (0.967)	0.045 (1.43)
CC _{1/2}	0.99 (0.41)	0.99 (0.41)
Refinement		
Reflections used in refinement	26,107	38,508
Reflections used for R-free	1,998	2,011
R-work	0.219	0.235
R-free	0.257	0.278
Number of non-hydrogen atoms:		
Proteins	2,046	11,078
Water	85	0
Ramachandran favored (%)	96.39	93.34
Ramachandran allowed (%)	3.61	6.66
Ramachandran outliers (%)	0.00	0.00
Rotamer outliers (%)	1.28	1.09
Clashscore	7.88	9.29
Average B-factor	54.87	156.18

Supplementary Table 2. Cryo-EM data collection and refinement parameters				
Specimen	TGF- β 3WD: zfBGo: TGfBR1: TGfBR2	TGF- β 1: zfBGo: (TGfBR2) ₂	TGF- β 1:BG	TGF- β 1: ratBGo: (TGfBR2) ₂
Accession code	EMD-50519 PDB: 9FK5	EMD-50524 PDB: 9FKP	EMD-50326	EMD-50333 PDB: 9FDY
Data collection				
Magnification	168675 x	194444 x	168675 x	152009 x
Voltage	300	300	300	300
Electron exposure (e-/Å ²)	50	50	55	50
Defocus range (μm)	-0.75 to -2.25	-0.75 to -2.25	-0.75 to -2.25	-1.5 to -3.5
Pixel size	0.83	0.72	0.83	0.921
Symmetry imposed	C1	C1	C1	C1
Initial particle images	3 001 720	18 265 163	8 179 080	3 978 615
Final particle images	281 881	307 870	256 006	230 626
Map resolution (Å)	4.10	3.72	6.39	3.40
cFAR	0.05	0.01	0.36	0.4
SCF	0.89	0.42	0.97	0.80
FSC threshold	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.143
Refinement				
Map sharpening B factor (Å ²)	99.9	63.5	457	172.1
Chains	5	5	3	5
Non-hydrogen atoms	5766	6093	NA	6120
Protein residues	735	769	NA	770
Ligands	0	0	0	0
Validation				
- MolProbity score	2.03	1.86	NA	2.13
- Clashcore	7.29	7.06	NA	9.26
- Poor rotamers (%)	2.25%	1.86%	NA	2.56%
Ramachandran plot				
- Favored	94.76%	96.05%	NA	95.39%
- Allowed	5.24%	3.95%	NA	4.61%
- Disallowed	0.00%	0.00%	NA	0.00%

Supplementary Table 3: Key resources		
REAGENT	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
Anti-phospho-Smad2 (IF, Dilution: 1 in 500)	Cell Signaling Technology	Cat# 3108; RRID: AB_490941
Anti-SNAP-tag (Polyclonal, Dilution 1:1000)	Invitrogen	Cat# CAB4255 RRID: AB_10710011
Anti-Betaglycan (Polyclonal, Dilution 1:1000)	R&D	Cat#AF5034 RRID: AB_2202608
HRP-conjugated anti-rabbit secondary antibodies (IF, Dilution: 1:5000)	Dako	Cat# P0448 RRID: AB_2617138
HRP-conjugated anti-goat secondary antibodies (IF, Dilution: 1:5000)	Dako	Cat# P0449, RRID:AB_2617143
Bacterial strains		
<i>E. coli</i> BL21(DE3)	EMD-Milipore	Cat# 69450-3
Chemicals, peptides, and recombinant proteins		
Alexa Fluor™ 647 NHS ester	ThermoFisher Scientific	Cat# A20006
CF®640R Succinimide ester	Biotium	Cat# 92108
CF®568 Succinimide ester	Biotium	Cat# 92131
BG-NH ₂ O6-(4-Aminomethyl-benzyl)guanine	AAT Bioquest	Cat# 1256-AAT
DAPI	Sigma	Cat# 10236276001
Recombinant BMP2	R&D systems	Cat# 355-BM-100/CF
Recombinant BMP4	R&D systems	Cat# 314-BP-050/CF
Recombinant Activin A	R&D systems	Cat# 338-AC-050/CF
Recombinant Inhibin A	R&D systems	Cat# 8506-AB-010/CF
Recombinant TGF-β1	This study	

Recombinant TGF- β 2	This study	
Recombinant TGF- β 3	This study	
Recombinant TGF- β 3WD	This study	
Recombinant TGFBR2	This study	
Recombinant TGFBR1	This study	
Recombinant BG	This study	
Recombinant ratBG _{ZP-C} (wilde type + all mutants)	This study	
Recombinant ratBG _O (wilde type + all mutants)	This study	
Recombinant zfBG _O (wilde type + all mutants)	This study	
Paraformaldehyde solution 4% in PBS	ThermoFisher Scientific	Cat# J19943-K2
ProLong TM antifade reagent	Invitrogen	Cat# P36930
EDC	Pierce	Cat# PG82079
EZ-Link Amine-PEG3-Biotin	ThermoFisher Scientific	Cat# 21347
Sulfo-NHS (N-hydroxysulfosuccinimide)	Pierce	Cat# PG82071
DMSO	Sigma	Cat# D1435
Amine Coupling Kit	Cytiva	Cat# BR100050
IPTG	Goldbio	Cat# I2481C
Poly-L-Lysine	Cultrex	Cat# 3438-100-01
FuGene® HD	Promega	Cat# E2311
ExpiFectamine TM 293 Transfection Kit	Gibco	Cat# A14525
Lipofectamine 3000	ThermoFisher Scientific	Cat# L3000015
Fetal Bovine Serum	ThermoFisher Scientific	Cat# 10270-106

DMEM	ThermoFisher Scientific	Cat# 41966029
FreeStyle™ 293 Expression Medium	Gibco	Cat# 12338-018
Penicillin-Streptomycin	ThermoFisher Scientific	Cat# 15140122
NeXtal PEGs II Suite	Molecular Dimensions	Cat#130916
Graphene Oxide	Sigma	Cat# 763705
MES	Sigma	Cat# M5287
HEPES	Sigma	Cat# H3375
Tris-HCl	ThermoFisher Scientific	Cat# 15506017
Sodium acetate	Sigma	Cat# S8750
NaCl	Sigma	Cat# S7653
Glutathione reduced	Sigma	Cat# G6013
Glutathione oxidized	Sigma	Cat# G4376
CHAPS	Goldbio	Cat# C-080-1
DTT	Sigma	Cat# D9779
Acetic acid, glacial	Fisher Scientific	Cat# 10304980
Isopropanol	Fisher Scientific	Cat# 10315720
Acetonitrile	Fisher Scientific	Cat# 10407440
Deposited Data		
X-ray structure of complex: mmTGF-β2:BG _{ZP-C}	PDB, this study	8DC0
X-ray structure of complex: TGF-β3WD: BG _O :TGFB1:TGFBR2	PDB, this study	9B9F
Cryo-EM map of complex: TGF-β3WD: BG _O :TGFB1:TGFBR2	PDB, this study	9FK5, EMD-50519

Cryo-EM map of complex: TGF- β 1:BG _O :(TGFB _R 2) ₂	PDB, this study	9FKP, EMD-50326
Cryo-EM map of complex: TGF- β 1: ratBG _O :(TGFB _R 2) ₂	PDB, this study	9FDY, EMD-50333
Cryo-EM map of complex: TGF- β 1:BG	PDB, this study	EMD-50326
Experimental models: Cell Lines		
HEK293T	Francis Crick Institute Cell Services	N/A
Expi293F	Invitrogen	Cat# A14527
L6E9	Ref ¹	N/A
HEK293T SNAP-BG	This study	N/A
Recombinant DNA		
<i>pCDNA3.1+-SNAP-BG</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-BG</i>	Ref ²	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-zfBG_O</i>	Ref ³	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O</i>	Ref ²	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O-zfBL</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O-Y248A</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-zfBG_O-scBL</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O-F49A</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O-L208A</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O-L210A</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O-L213A</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O-F250A</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O-D253A</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O-K316A</i>	This study	N/A

<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O-K319A</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ratBG_O-zfBL</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ALB-BG_{ZP-C}</i>	Ref ⁴	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ALB-BG_{ZP-C}-N82A</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ALB-BG_{ZP-C}-N82Y</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ALB-BG_{ZP-C}-K86A</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-ALB-BG_{ZP-C}-D88A</i>	This study	N/A
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<i>pCDNA3.1+-ALB-BG_{ZP-C}-I161A</i>	This study	N/A
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<i>pCDNA3.1+-ALB-BG_{ZP-C}-Q166A</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-proTGF-β1</i>	Ref ⁵	N/A
<i>pCDNA3.1+-proTGF-β2</i>	This study	N/A
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<i>pET32a-TGFBR1(31-115)</i>	Ref ⁶	N/A
<i>pET32a-TGFBR2(42-153)</i>	Ref ⁶	N/A
<i>pCMV5-BG_{ZP-C}</i>	Ref ¹	N/A
<i>pCMV5-BG_{ZP-C}-(N82A)</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCMV5-BG_{ZP-C}-(I161A)</i>	This study	N/A
<i>pCMV5-BG_{ZP-C}-(N82A, I161A)</i>	This study	N/A
<i>CAGA₁₂-luciferase</i>	Ref ⁸	N/A
Software		
FIJI (ImageJ)	Ref ⁹	https://imagej.net/Fiji/Downloads
Prism 10	Graph Pad	https://www.graphpad.com/scientific-software/prism/
TopSpin 4.0	Bruker Biospin	https://www.bruker.com/en/products-and-solutions/mr/nmr-software/topspin.html
NMRPipe	Ref ¹⁰	https://www.ibbr.umd.edu/nmrpipe/install.html
CCPNMR	Ref ¹¹	https://ccpn.ac.uk/software/downloads/
CCP4 8.0	Ref ¹²	https://www.ccp4.ac.uk/download/
Phenix 1.21	Ref ¹³	https://phenix-online.org/download/
autoPROC	Ref ¹⁴	https://www.globalphasing.com/autoproc/
PHASER	Ref ¹⁵	https://www.phaser.cimr.cam.ac.uk/index.php/Phaser_Crystallographic_Software

Pointless	Refs ^{16,17}	https://www.ccp4.ac.uk/html/pointless.html
Aimless	Refs ^{16,17}	https://www.ccp4.ac.uk/html/aimless.html
Ctruncate	Refs ^{16,17}	https://www.ccp4.ac.uk/html/ctruncate.html
XDS	Ref ¹⁸	https://wiki.uni-konstanz.de/xds/index.php/Main_Page
Coot	Ref ¹⁹	https://www2.mrc-lmb.cam.ac.uk/personal/pemsley/coot/
ChimeraX1.6	Ref ²⁰	https://www.cgl.ucsf.edu/chimerax/
CrYOLO	Ref ²¹	https://cryolo.readthedocs.io/en/stable/
Relion 4.0	Ref ²²	https://relion.readthedocs.io/en/release-4.0/
CryoSparc	Ref ²³	https://cryosparc.com
ISOLDE	Ref ²⁴	https://tristanic.github.io/isolde/
MotionCor2 1.5.0	Ref ²⁵	https://emcore.ucsf.edu/ucsf-software
GCTF 1.18	Ref ²⁶	https://sbgrid.org/software/titles/gctf
Namdinator	Ref ²⁷	https://namdinator.au.dk/namdinator/
AlphaFold2	Ref ²⁸	https://github.com/google-deepmind/alphafold
TOPAZ	Ref ²⁹	https://emgweb.nysbc.org/topaz.html
PDBePISA	Ref ³⁰	https://www.ebi.ac.uk/pdbe/pisa/
Jalview	Ref ³¹	https://www.jalview.org/

Clustal Omega	Ref ³²	http://www.clustal.org/
Scrubber	Biologic Software	http://www.biologic.com.au/scrubber.html
BiaEval	Biacore	https://www.cytivalifesciences.com/en/us/support/software/biacore-downloads
Other		
Series S CM-4 SPR sensor chip	Cytiva	Cat# BR100534
Classic CM-5 SPR sensor chip	Cytiva	Cat# BR100399
Superdex [®] 200 10/300 GL	Cytiva	Cat# GE17-5175-01
HiLoad [®] 16/600 Superdex [®] 200 pg	Cytiva	Cat# GE28-9893-35
Ni-NTA agarose	Qiagen	Cat# 30210
cOmplete [™] His-Tag Purification column	Roche	Cat# 06781535001
Mono S [®] 5/50 GL	Sigma	Cat# GE17-5168-01
SP Sepharose	Cytiva	Cat# GE17-0729-10
UltrAuFoil R1.2/1.3	Quantifoil	Cat# TEM-Q350AR13A

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