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STRUCTURAL BIOLOGY

Structure of the vasopressin hormone–V2 receptor– β -arrestin1 ternary complex

Julien Bous^{1,2,†‡}, Aurélien Fouillen^{1,2,†}, H  l  ne Orcel², Stefano Trapani¹, Xiaojing Cong², Simon Fontanel^{2,§}, Julie Saint-Paul^{2||}, Jos  phine Lai-Kee-Him¹, Serge Urbach², Nathalie Sibille¹, R  my Soumier², S  bastien Granier^{2,*}, Bernard Mouillac^{2,*}, Patrick Bron^{1*}

Arrestins interact with G protein–coupled receptors (GPCRs) to stop G protein activation and to initiate key signaling pathways. Recent structural studies shed light on the molecular mechanisms involved in GPCR-arrestin coupling, but whether this process is conserved among GPCRs is poorly understood. Here, we report the cryo–electron microscopy active structure of the wild-type arginine-vasopressin V2 receptor (V2R) in complex with β -arrestin1. It reveals an atypical position of β -arrestin1 compared to previously described GPCR-arrestin assemblies, associated with an original V2R/ β -arrestin1 interface involving all receptor intracellular loops. Phosphorylated sites of the V2R carboxyl terminus are clearly identified and interact extensively with the β -arrestin1 N-lobe, in agreement with structural data obtained with chimeric or synthetic systems. Overall, these findings highlight a notable structural variability among GPCR-arrestin signaling complexes.

INTRODUCTION

The biological role of arrestins in G protein–coupled receptor (GPCR) regulation was first found in the visual system more than 40 years ago, when arrestin1 was shown to bind to the light-activated rhodopsin, resulting in the inhibition of receptor signaling (1, 2). The first nonvisual arrestin, found and characterized as a regulator of the β_2 -adrenergic receptor (β_2 AR) function (3), was named β -arrestin and then β -arrestin1 (β arr1, or arrestin2). Since then, a wealth of studies has defined the functions of arrestins in regulating GPCR desensitization, endocytosis, and intracellular trafficking (4, 5). Beyond these roles, arrestins have been involved in the control of multiple cellular signaling pathways as scaffolding proteins (6). One of their better-understood functions is to activate mitogen-activated protein kinases (MAPKs), associated with cell cycle regulation, cell growth, and differentiation (7). Although it is currently accepted that MAPK activation requires endocytosis of stable GPCR- β arr complexes, it was recently shown that β arrs can drive MAPK signaling from clathrin-coated structures (CCSs) after GPCR dissociation (8). This “at a distance” β arr activation, in which transient engagement of the GPCR acts catalytically, also requires a series of interactions with membrane phosphoinositides and CCS-lattice proteins (9).

The molecular mechanisms and the cellular function of GPCR- β arr interactions were particularly well studied using the arginine-vasopressin (AVP) V2 receptor (V2R), which is involved in the control of water reabsorption and urine concentration in the kidney (10, 11). This archetypal model system is well suited to analyze GPCR- β arr assembly because of a long-lasting and stable interaction. The V2R binds both β arr1 and β arr2 (or arrestin 3) with similar high

affinity (12). Moreover, β arrs remain associated with desensitized V2R during clathrin-mediated endocytosis, a phenomenon directly linked to specific clusters of phosphorylated residues in the receptor C-terminal tail (V2RCter). This sustained interaction was first shown to dictate the slow trafficking of the V2R, particularly its rate of dephosphorylation, recycling, resensitization, and/or degradation (13, 14). More recently, this sustained interaction was proposed to enhance AVP-induced cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP) signaling from internalized V2R within endosomes (15). The V2R system was also used to investigate how GPCR phosphorylation patterns can orchestrate arrestin conformations and arrestin-dependent distinct signaling pathways (16).

A synthetic fully phosphorylated Cter peptide of the V2R (V2Rpp) was shown to functionally and conformationally activate β arr1 (17), and its strong affinity was used to investigate the active-state structure of β arr1 using x-ray crystallography (18). The complex was captured in the presence of a synthetic antibody fragment, Fab30, and revealed at high resolution how the N-lobe of β arr1 accommodates the V2R peptide. β arr1 and V2Rpp make extensive contacts, primarily through charge complementarity interactions between phosphate moieties of V2Rpp and arginine/lysine residues of β arr1 (19). The high affinity of V2Rpp for β arr1 was also instrumental in determining the three-dimensional (3D) structures of both muscarinic M2 receptor (M2R)- β arr1 and β_1 AR- β arr1 complexes, as in both cases, the natural C termini of receptors were replaced with that of the V2R (20, 21). Both complexes show a V2RCter location similar to that determined in the V2Rpp- β arr1-Fab30 complex.

Although the presence of a phosphorylated V2RCter was necessary for the structure determination of active β arr1 and several GPCR- β arr1 complexes, the structure of the native full-length V2R in complex with β arrs has not been reported yet. Here, we describe the cryo–electron microscopy (cryo-EM) structure of the AVP-bound wild-type human V2R in complex with a truncated form of human β arr1 stabilized by the single-chain variable fragment of Fab30 (ScFv30). Together with the recent structures of the active conformation of the AVP-bound V2R in complex with the G_s protein (22–24), these findings provide major molecular and structural information to better understand arrestin-GPCR interactions and V2R-associated signaling pathways.

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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Cryo-EM structure determination of the complex

The AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex and the cryo-EM grids were prepared as described in Materials and Methods (figs. S1 to S3). A dataset of 14,080 movies was recorded on a Titan Krios microscope for single-particle analysis. To avoid missing any particle, a large number of objects were picked up using two algorithms that take advantage of neural networks and training strategies and processed with Relion (see Materials and Methods and figs. S4A and S5). Iterative rounds of 2D classification revealed particle classes with clear secondary structural details like V2R transmembrane (TM) domains (fig. S5). A conventional analysis in Relion and cryoSPARC (fig. S4B) provided a cryo-EM map with a limited 6.28-Å resolution, likely because of the strong dynamics of the system that classical 3D variance analyses could not manage efficiently (movie S1). Thus, to tackle the heterogeneity of the protein complex, a subset of particles sorted from the best 2D class averages was imported into cryoSPARC (25, 26) and subjected to an optimized workflow based on iterative cycles of two-model ab initio refinement (fig. S4C). The stack of particles selected at each round corresponds to the best-resolved model. The successive models presented the same overall structural organization of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex (fig. S6). In the end, this process resulted in a subset of 27,637 particles that, once subjected to a nonuniform (NU) 3D refinement, allowed us to compute a density map with a global resolution [Fourier shell correlation (FSC) = 0.143] of 4.75 Å for the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex and a 4.2-Å global resolution density map (EMD-14223) for the V2R Δ CT- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 after V2R and detergent micelle signal subtraction (fig. S7, A and C). The particles were then further curated, resulting in a subset of 8296 particles, which was subjected to a NU 3D refinement, yielding a cryo-EM map with a global resolution of 4.7 Å (EMD-14221) for the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex (fig. S7, A and C). Data collection and processing are summarized in table S1.

The moderate resolution of reconstructions, therefore, indicates a high dynamical behavior of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex around a preferential structural organization. However, the final EM maps that display local resolution ranging from 3.5 to 5.5 Å for the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 (fig. S7B) and the V2R Δ CT- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complexes (fig. S7D) allowed us to clearly determine the position and orientation of V2R, β arr1 Δ CT, and ScFv30 and to model their backbones (Fig. 1). The N terminus (residues 1 to 31), parts of the intracellular loops (ICLs) (residues 148 to 156 from ICL1, residues 183 to 188 in ICL2, and residues 239 to 263 in ICL3), and the Cter of V2R (residues 343 to 355 and 369 to 371) are not included in the final model. The model of β arr1 Δ CT includes residues 6 to 365 (except for residues 332 to 339), whereas ScFv30 is nearly complete (residues 110 to 128 are missing). AVP is also constructed in the refined model (Fig. 1). Refinement and validation statistics of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 and V2R Δ CT- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 structural models [Protein Data Bank (PDB) 7r0c and 7r0j, respectively] are summarized in table S1. The overall architecture of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex (Fig. 1) is similar to the one previously described for muscarinic M2R- β arr1, adrenoceptor β ₁AR- β arr1, and neurotensin receptor 1 (NTSR1)- β arr1 complexes (20, 21, 27, 28). The V2R seven-TM helical bundle engages the β arr1 Δ CT in a core conformation [as defined in (29)], with its Cter contacting the β arr1 Δ CT N domain and the ScFv30 (Fig. 1). The β arr1 Δ CT interacts with V2R through its central crest region, whereas

its hydrophobic C-edge inserts into the detergent micelle. The ScFv30 interacts with both β arr1 Δ CT N- and C-lobes. The model revealed that both V2R and β arr1 Δ CT present characteristics of active-state structures with specific features as discussed below.

The β arr1 engages the V2R with an atypical orientation and a tilted conformation

From reported structures of GPCR- β arr1 complexes (20, 21, 27, 28), β arr1 can harbor two main perpendicular orientations relative to the GPCR bundle axis, separated by a rotation of approximately 90° parallel to the membrane plane. One is observed for M2R and β ₁AR complexes and the other for NTSR1 complexes (Fig. 2A). Unexpectedly, the β arr1 Δ CT presents an atypical intermediate position in the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex, being rotated by 54° or 38° when compared to the NTSR1- β arr1 or to the β ₁AR- β arr1 complex structures, respectively (Fig. 2A). A comparison with the other reported GPCR- β arr1 complexes further highlights the unique organization of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex (fig. S8).

Besides the atypical orientation, the C-edge of the β arr1 Δ CT C-lobe inserts into the detergent micelle (Fig. 1A), through a domain (the s18s19 loop, only partially seen in the density map of the complex) that has been shown to directly interact with clathrin (30). This interaction causes a strong tilt with a 55° angle between the longitudinal axis of β arr1 Δ CT and V2R (Fig. 2B). β arr1 C-edge membrane anchoring has been observed in the structure of all known GPCR- β arr1 complexes (Fig. 2B), whatever the artificial membrane-like environment used for their purification and stabilization (detergent micelles of different chemical nature and nanodiscs). This phenomenon participates in the asymmetry of the different complexes and probably helps in stabilizing β arr1 interactions with GPCRs (20). A tilt comparable to the one determined in the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 structure has been observed in the cryo-EM structure of the NTS₈₋₁₃-NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT complex (27), prepared with equivalent detergent micelles [a mix of lauryl maltose neopentyl glycol (LMNG), glyco-diosgenin (GDN), and cholesteryl hemisuccinate (CHS)], and in the presence of a phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate [PtdIns(4,5)P₂] analog, the dioctyl-PtdIns(4,5)P₂ (diC8PIP₂) (fig. S9A). In other complexes, in which diC8PIP₂ is not present and where the lipid environment of the GPCRs is different (nanodiscs), the arrestin tilt is less pronounced, with an angle ranging from 60° (NTS₈₋₁₃-BRIL-NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT complex in digitonin micelles) to 75° (M2R- β arr1 and β ₁AR- β arr1 complexes, both in nanodiscs) (Fig. 2B). The LMNG-GDN-CHS micelles are artificial membrane-like systems, and, although the β arr1 Δ CT-V2R tilt may be amplified because of the small size of these micelles (average diameter is less than 10 nm) compared to a planar bilayer like the plasma membrane, this tilted orientation may reflect the importance of GPCR-arrestin interactions in the context of subcellular structures with a high degree of curvature like CCs [around 100 nm; (31)] or endosomes (100 to 500 nm) from which GPCR-arrestin signaling has been demonstrated to occur (8, 9). This hypothesis has been previously proposed for the NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT complex (27). We hypothesize that the more the membrane curvature is pronounced, the more the extent of β arr1 tilt would be increased.

It is worth noting that although the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 and the NTS₈₋₁₃-NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT complexes were both prepared and purified in a Hepes-NaCl buffer with LMNG-GDN-CHS detergent micelles, the orientation of β arr1 Δ CT relative to the

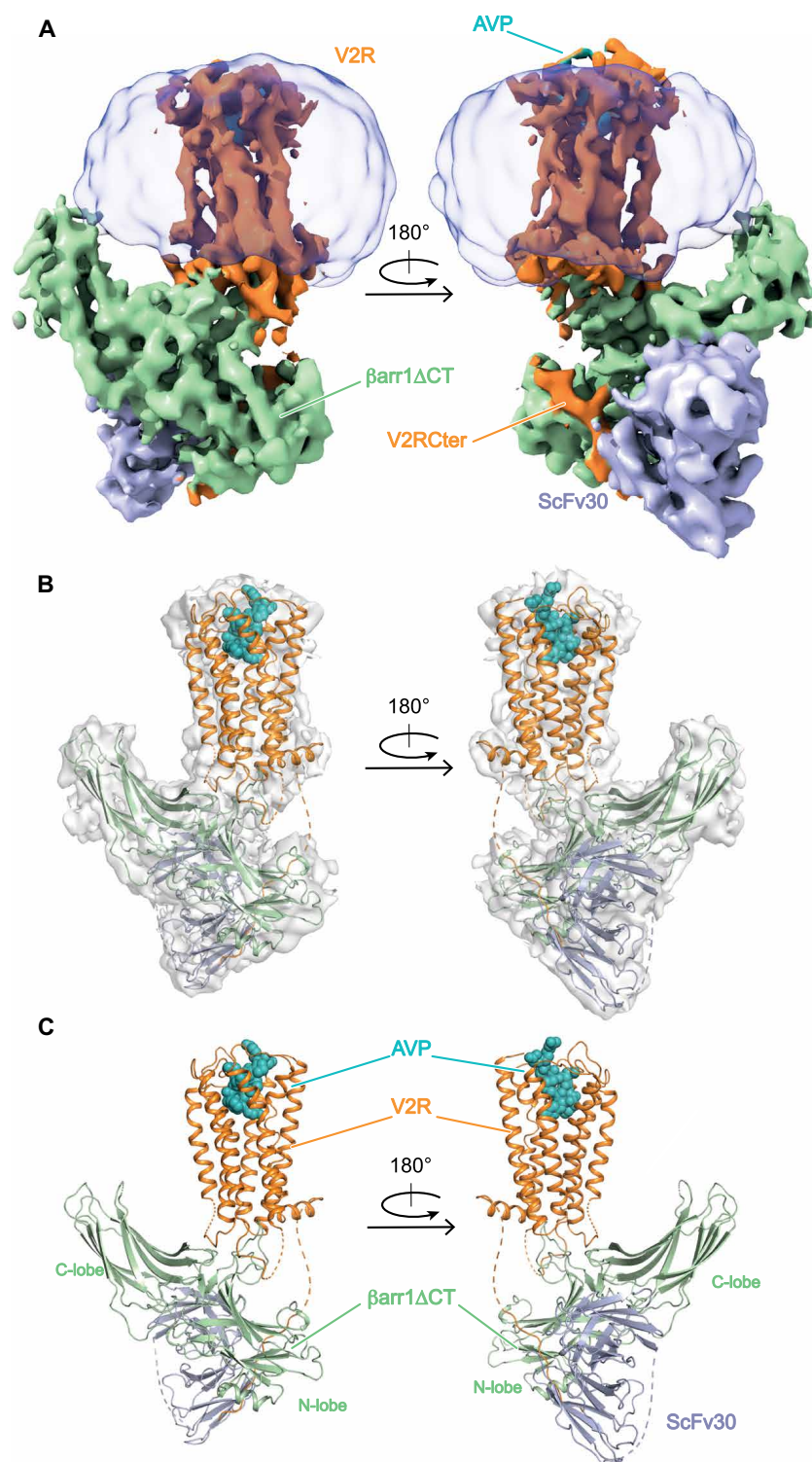


Fig. 1. Overall architecture of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex. (A) Orthogonal views of the cryo-EM density map of the complex. V2R and V2RCter are in orange, AVP is in cyan, β arr1 Δ CT is in light green, ScFv30 is in gray-blue, and LMNG detergent micelle is in transparent gray. (B) Superimposition of the density map and the corresponding model of the complex. Missing parts in the protein chains are shown as dashed lines. The color scheme is as in (A). (C) Final 3D model of the complex.

GPCR bundle in these two assemblies is quite different (Fig. 2, A and B, and fig. S8). This implies that the β arr1 Δ CT original orientation in the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex is mainly driven by a peculiar arrestin-GPCR interface, as discussed later in the manuscript.

A phosphoinositide/phosphoinositol binding site was identified in the C-lobe of β arr1/2 proteins (32) and was shown to play a key role in anchoring these GPCR signaling partners in the plasma membrane at CCSs. In β arr1/2, basic residues (K232, R236, and K250 versus K233, R237, and K251 in β arr1 and β arr2, respectively),

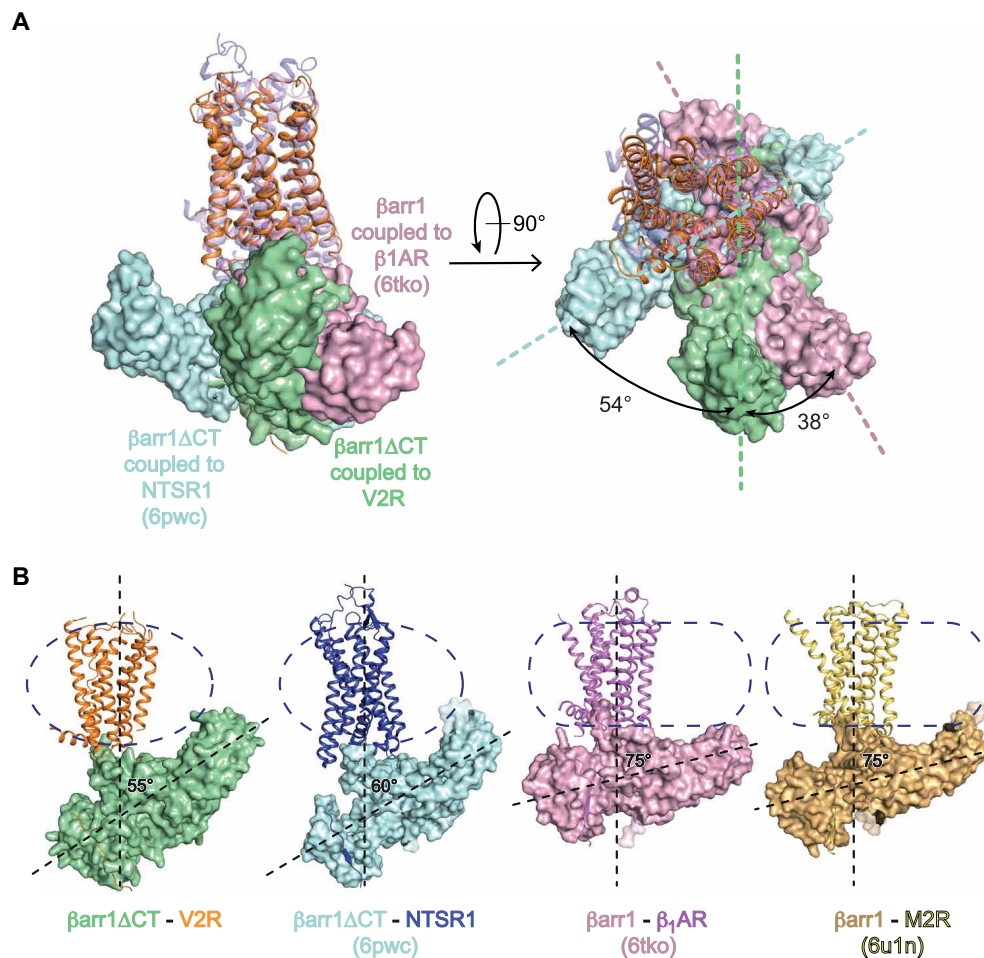


Fig. 2. Atypical orientation of β arr1 Δ CT and tilted conformation involving the C-edge domain. (A) Overlay of the V2R- β arr1 Δ CT structure with NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT (6pwc) and β 1AR- β arr1 (6tko) structures, on the basis of alignment of the receptor chains, viewed from the membrane (left) and from the extracellular space (right). The difference in the orientation of β arr1 Δ CT in the complexes is given by the angle of rotation. V2R and β arr1 Δ CT are colored as in Fig. 1, β arr1 and β 1AR (6tko complex) are in pink, and β arr1 Δ CT and NTSR1 (6pwc complex) are in blue and purple, respectively. (B) Comparison of the tilted conformations of β arr1 (or β arr1 Δ CT) in the different GPCR complexes. The contacts between the β arr1 C-edge and the membrane-like environment are visible for each complex. The detergent micelles (V2R and NTSR1 complexes) or nanodiscs (β 1AR and M2R complexes) are shown as dashed lines. The angle between the longitudinal axis of β arr1s and GPCRs is indicated for each complex. V2R and β arr1 Δ CT are colored as in Fig. 1. NTSR1 (6pwc) is in dark purple, whereas β arr1 Δ CT is in blue. β arr1 and β 1AR (6tko complex) are in pink, and β arr1 and M2R (6u1n complex) are in gold and yellow, respectively.

likely to interact with negatively charged phosphates of phosphoinositides, participate in this binding site. Their mutation leads to β arr1/2 being unable to be recruited either to CCSs (32) or to the plasma membrane (9). A β arr1 variant containing these three mutations showed a 40% reduction in recruitment to NTSR1 when compared to the wild type (27). In the NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT complex, diC8PIP2 forms a bridge between the membrane side of NTSR1 TM1, TM2, and TM4 and the C-lobe of β arr1 Δ CT (fig. S9).

While we added diC8PIP2 during the preparation of the cryo-EM samples, the density map resolution is not high enough to be sure of its correct positioning in the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex. We, however, modeled its putative localization based on several evidence (fig. S9, A and B). Our density map revealed an elongated density protruding from the detergent micelle in a position that would face the β arr1 phosphoinositide binding site. This is better viewed in the unsharpened map of the complex (fig. S9A). Moreover, when aligning the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 and NTS₈₋₁₃-NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT (27) complexes onto the β arr1 Δ CT protein,

the diC8PIP2 moieties also superimpose (fig. S9B). Because of the atypical orientation of β arr1 Δ CT relative to V2R, the phosphoinositide molecule, if positioned at this place, would bridge the C-lobe of β arr1 Δ CT with the membrane side of V2R TM4 only (fig. S9B). We hypothesize that the presence of the phosphoinositide moiety may help the insertion of β arr1 Δ CT in the detergent micelle and the stabilization of the V2R- β arr1 Δ CT interactions, an effect that can be observed when comparing the structure of NTS₈₋₁₃-NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT complex in the presence or absence of diC8PIP2 (two different types of detergent micelles, LMNG-GDN-CHS versus digitonin). The β arr1 Δ CT tilt is more pronounced if the diC8PIP2 is incorporated in the complex (27, 28). To analyze this potential stabilizing effect for the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complex, we performed molecular dynamics (MD) simulations. We found that in the presence of diC8PIP2, root mean square deviations and fluctuations of β arr1 Δ CT C α carbons were obviously reduced (fig. S10). Moreover, the diC8PIP2 constrained β arr1 Δ CT C-lobe in a tilted conformation (fig. S11). In addition, β arr1 Δ CT exhibited a mobility

(rotation and tilting) that was less pronounced in the presence of diC8PIP2 (figs. S10 and S11). In conclusion, the presence of diC8PIP2 in the sample combined with the insertion of the β arr1 Δ CT C-edge into the detergent micelle are probably key parameters to enhance the stability of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex.

V2R and β arr1 Δ CT display active conformational states

Both the receptor and β arr1 displayed the main hallmarks of active conformations (Figs. 1 and 3). From the receptor point of view, a

clear density is observed for the full agonist AVP at the top of the 7TM helix bundle adopting, at this level of resolution, a conformation close to those reported for the active AVP-V2R-G_s structures (Fig. 3A) (22–24). Both V2R TM6 and TM7 exhibited a displacement by 10 and 5 Å, respectively, when compared to their counterparts in the inactive antagonist-bound oxytocin receptor (OTR) structure (Fig. 3B) (33). These displacements are similar to those observed in the different structures of AVP-V2R-G_s complexes (22–24). From the β arr1 point of view, the superimposition of β arr1 Δ CT

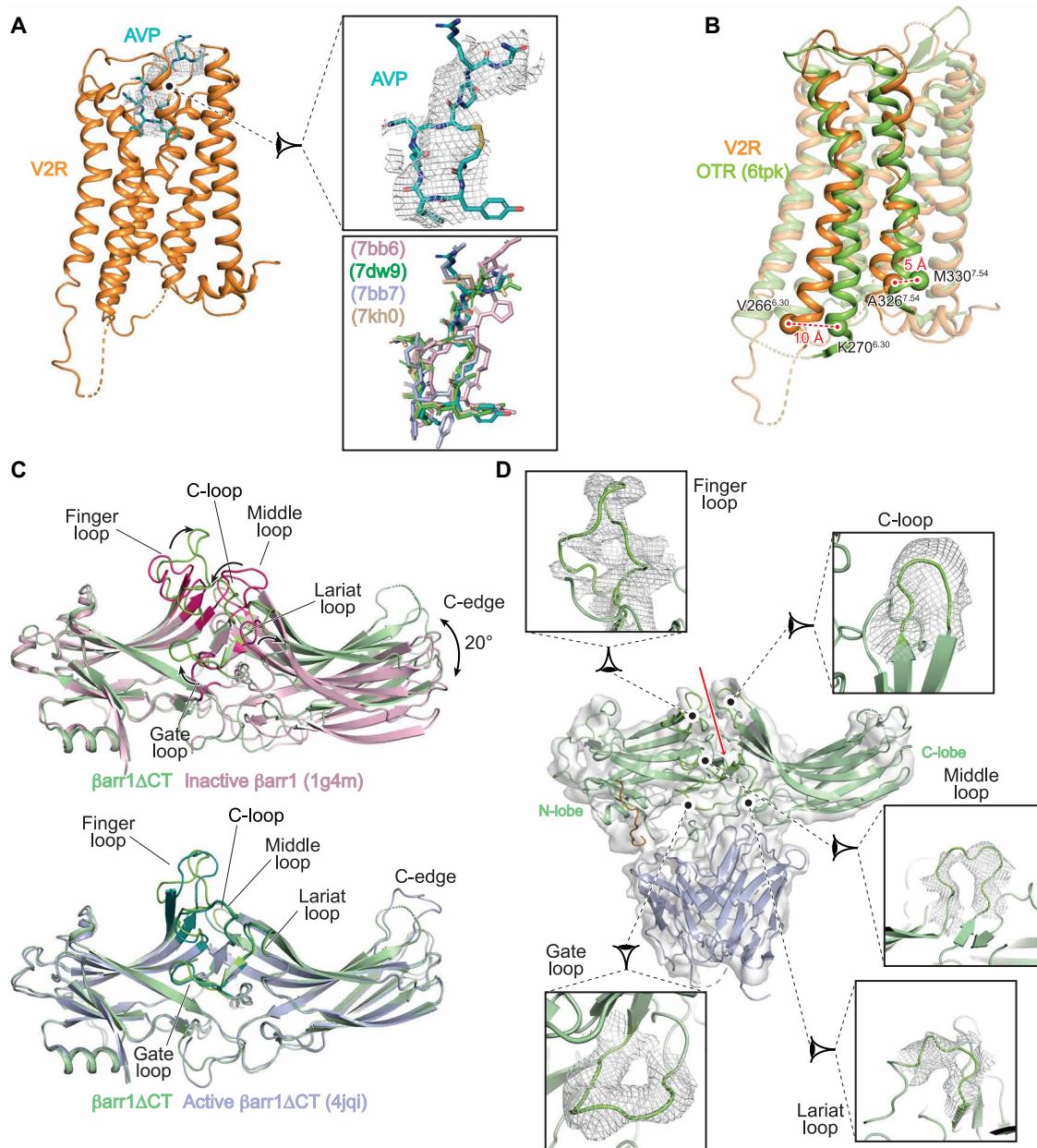


Fig. 3. Active conformations of V2R and β arr1 Δ CT. (A) AVP (blue in the model, density is shown as a mesh) binding to V2R (orange). A close-up view of the AVP binding pose is shown on the right (top). Overlapping of V2R-bound AVP in both G protein- and arrestin-associated complexes (bottom). (B) Comparison of the V2R structure with the inactive OTR (green) structure. Residues 6.30 and 7.54 (Ballesteros-Weinstein numbering) are chosen as references (V266 and A326 in V2R, K270, and M330 in OTR) for measuring the outward (10 Å) and inward (5 Å) movement of TM6 and TM7, respectively. (C) The β arr1 Δ CT (pale green) in the V2R complex is superimposed onto the inactive (top) and active (bottom) states of the β arr1 (1g4m and 4jqj, respectively). Movements of the different loops (in raspberry in the inactive conformations) are indicated by arrows. The C-lobe is translated by 20° upon activation. Inactive β arr1 is illustrated in pink, and active β arr1 Δ CT is in light blue. (D) Overlay of the density map and the corresponding model of the β arr1 Δ CT with close-up views for the different active loops. The color scheme is identical to that of Figs. 1 and 2. Each panel displays the map density as a mesh and the 3D model as a ribbon. The red arrow indicates the central furrow between β arr1 Δ CT N- and C-lobes.

with the inactive β arr1 (PDB 1g4m) clearly shows a rotation of the C-lobe of $\sim 20^\circ$ relative to the N-lobe (Fig. 3C) and movements of the finger loop (FL), gate loop (GL), middle loop (ML), lariat loop (LL), and C-loop (CL), as previously described (34). Moreover, the alignment of β arr1 Δ CT to the active β arr1 (crystal structure of β arr1 in the presence of the V2Rpp phosphopeptide, PDB 4jqj) demonstrates that the FL, GL, ML, and LL also adopt an active state to shape a central crest necessary for GPCR coupling (Fig. 3C). Depending on the GPCR- β arr1 complex considered, different domains of β arr1 are affected. For instance, in the NTS₈₋₁₃-NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT complex (27), the FL, ML, CL, and C-edge display conformations that are different from those in the β arr1 active structure. In the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT, the receptor mainly affects the β arr1 Δ CT FL, the CL, and the C-edge upon interaction, a similar situation found in the M2R- β arr1 complex (20). On the basis of the density map with a better global resolution of 4.2 Å, the different loops of the active form of β arr1 Δ CT were confidently assigned and modeled (Fig. 3D). The conformation of FL, ML, and LL from N-lobe on one side and that of CL and β strand 16 from C-lobe on the other side circumscribe a specific furrow (Fig. 3D, red arrow), which takes a major part in the specific orientation between the receptor and the β arr1 (see below).

The β arr1/V2R interaction surface defines a novel orientation for an arrestin-GPCR signaling complex

The peculiar architecture of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex results in an original V2R- β arr1 interface, as compared to those reported for other GPCR- β arr1 complexes. All ICLs and the 7TM cavity of the V2R are in contact with β arr1 Δ CT (Fig. 4A and fig. S12). First, the density map reveals that ICL1 of V2R directly contacts the ML in the central crest of β arr1 Δ CT (Fig. 4A). This V2R region has been previously shown to interact with the N-terminal helix of the G_s α subunit (22). Second, although ICL2 is not entirely seen in the density map, this V2R region (residues R139 to A147) notably binds in a particularly well-defined furrow between the N- and C-lobes of β arr1 Δ CT, lying in a central position (Figs. 3D and 4, A and B, and fig. S12). Third, most of the V2R ICL3 is not resolved (residues 239 to 263 are missing); however, clear contacts are seen with the N-lobe of β arr1 Δ CT, particularly with the N-terminal part of the FL (Fig. 4A). In addition, the ICL3 of V2R displays a cluster of arginine residues (RRRGR at positions 247 to 252) that may also create ionic contacts with β arr1 Δ CT negatively charged residues, for instance, E66, E67, D78, E134, D143, E145, E152, E155, and E156. To explore a potential role of this arginine cluster in β arr recruitment, we generated a V2R mutant that lacked this sequence [V2R-AAAGAA(247–252)] and found that it was as efficient as the wild-type V2R to recruit β arr2 (fig. S13) using an assay based on HTRF technology (see Materials and Methods). Using a chimeric mutagenesis approach, we and others previously demonstrated that the Cter of V2R is sufficient to transform the AVP V1B and V1A receptors from a transient to a long-lasting interaction in living cells (14, 35), suggesting that this arginine motif in ICL3 by itself cannot play a role in a higher affinity of V2R for β -arrestins. To explore further these potential interactions, we have also performed MD simulations of AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT including V2R ICL2 and ICL3. These two ICLs were highly mobile in the different simulations (fig. S11), consistent with the lack of visibility in the cryo-EM density maps. More pronounced potential contacts were only observed between the V2R arginine cluster and residues P131-G132 in the ML of β arr1 N-lobe in the presence of diC8PIP2, which reduced the

mobility of the whole complex and of ICL3 (figs. S10 and S11 and table S2). We did not observe strong ionic interactions, confirming that the arginine cluster appears unlikely to be crucial for β arr binding.

Together, as compared to the structures of other GPCR- β arr1 complexes, the combination of interactions between ICLs of V2R and the β arr1 Δ CT is quite singular (Fig. 4, Table 1, and fig. S14). As opposed to V2R, ICL1 from M2R does not interact at all with β arr1 (Fig. 4B and Table 1), while that of β ₁AR is positioned close to both the ML and part of FL but with a slightly different orientation (Fig. 4B, Table 1, and fig. S14). The ICL2s from β ₁AR or M2R also insert into the central furrow but with an orientation and deepness that are slightly different (Fig. 4B and Table 1). Unexpectedly for the NTSR1- β arr1 complexes, ICL1 binds to this furrow instead of ICL2 (Fig. 4B and Table 1), a specificity that may explain the particular rotation ($\sim 90^\circ$) of β arr1 in the NTSR1- β arr1 structure when compared to the β ₁AR and M2R complexes (Fig. 2A). The structures of β ₁AR- β arr1 and M2R- β arr1 Δ CT complexes (20, 21) show that residues in the β strand 16 (Y249), CL (I241), LL (R285), or FL (Y63 and R65) domains of β arr1 directly participate in the binding of ICL2 and consequently may affect the orientation between the receptor and β arr1 (Table 1). Notably, Y249 and R285 also interact with ICL1 in the NTSR1- β arr1 complexes (27, 28). These results highlight the role of some key residues in β arr1, regardless of the region of GPCR ICLs they interact with. The global resolution is lower for the V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complex; however, it is tempting to speculate that these residues are involved in the binding of V2R ICL2 (figs. S12 and S14). Together, these data suggest that, depending on the GPCR, the interactions between ICL1 and ICL2 with the particular central furrow of β arr1 are, at least in part, involved in determining the architecture of the signaling GPCR- β arr1 complexes.

Last, the V2R TM cavity formed by the outward motion of TM6 engages the FL of β arr1 Δ CT (from Y63 to L73) (Fig. 4, C and D, and figs. S1B and S14). A comparison of the V2R-coupled β arr1 Δ CT structure with those published for other complexes highlights a strong variability of FL, both in its conformation and its GPCR binding deepness (Fig. 4, C and D). In all GPCR- β arr1 complexes, the FL inserts the receptor core in a pocket delimited by TM2, TM3, TM6, and TM7 and establishes contacts with different residues from these TM helices. However, depending on the receptor, FL can adopt an α -helical domain (in the NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT complex) or can be deeply inserted in the GPCR core (in the β ₁AR- β arr1 complex), contacting conserved I^{6.40} or Y^{7.53} (Weinstein-Ballesteros nomenclature) (Fig. 4, C and D). At the V2R- β arr1 Δ CT interface, the FL inserts V2R like in other GPCR-arrestin complexes but not as deep into the TM core as observed for β arr1 FL in β ₁AR (21). More particularly, it seems to contact residues from the cytoplasmic sides of TM2, TM3, and TM6. For comparison, an interaction between the tip of FL and R^{3.50} (Ballesteros-Weinstein nomenclature) in TM3 has been seen in the M2R- β arr1 (R121^{3.50} and β arr1 D69) and the β ₁AR- β arr1 (R139^{3.50} and β arr1 D69) complexes (20, 21). Considering the V2R, the corresponding R137^{3.50} is part of the ionic lock motif and has been shown to directly interact with the free carboxylic acid function of the G_s protein α subunit Cter in the active structure of the AVP-V2R-G_s-Nb35 complex (22). Therefore, in addition to the key ICL2- β arr1 Δ CT interactions, additional structural parameters including ICL1 positioning, ICL3 dynamic interaction, and a particular FL conformation and binding deepness in the 7TM core are involved in defining the atypical orientation of β arr1 Δ CT bound to the V2R.

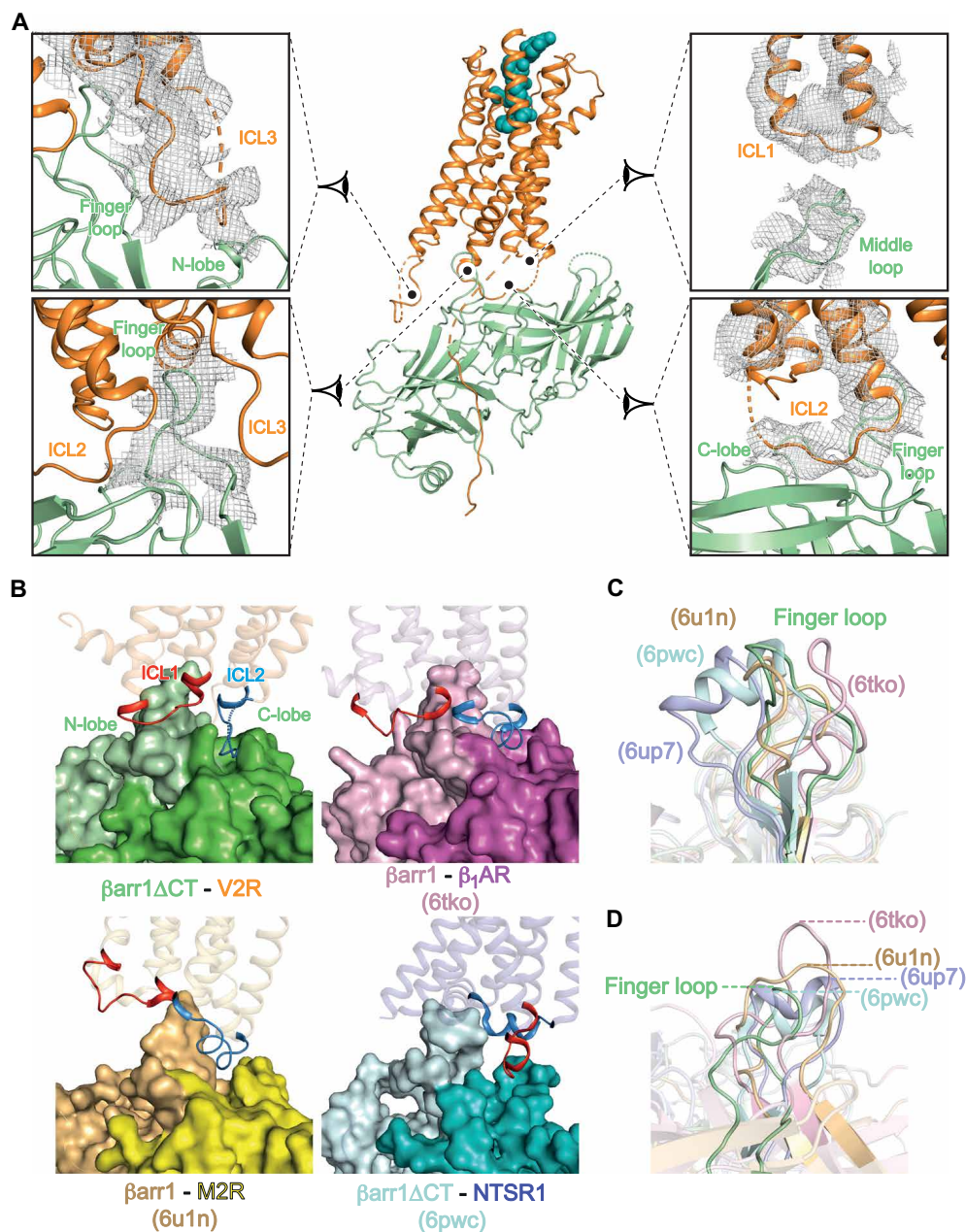


Fig. 4. The V2R/ β arr1 Δ CT interface. (A) The model of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complex is shown in the middle with close-up views for the different domains involved in the interaction surface. The color scheme is identical to that of Fig. 1. Each zoom panel displays the map density as a mesh and the corresponding model as a ribbon. (B) Position of ICL2 (or ICL1) in the central furrow. The V2R-, β_1 AR-, M2R-, and NTSR1 (PDB 6pwc)-associated complexes are compared. ICL1 is in red, and ICL2 is in blue. To have a better view of the central crevice, the N-lobe and the C-lobe of β arr1s are highlighted in light- and dark-related colors: green for the present V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complex, pink for 6tko, yellow for 6u1n, and blue for 6pwc. (C and D) Orthogonal views of the β arr1 FL in the different complexes. The color scheme is identical to that of Fig. 2. (C) Alignment made with β arr1s to illustrate the FL variable conformations in the different GPCR complexes. (D) Alignment made with GPCRs to highlight the FL insertion deepness.

Constitutive phosphorylation of V2R and interaction with β arr1

The Cter of GPCRs plays a key role in many aspects of their regulation, through phosphorylation by various GPCR kinases (GRKs) and subsequent binding to arrestins. The number and arrangement of phosphates may vary substantially for a given receptor, and different phosphorylation patterns have been shown to trigger different arrestin-mediated effects (36). Using atomic-level simulations and site-directed spectroscopy in one study (16) or x-ray crystallography

combined with Bioluminescence Resonance Energy Transfer (BRET) and ^1H nuclear magnetic resonance in another (37), the structural basis regulating this phosphorylation barcode has been revealed recently, indicating how GPCR phosphorylation affects arrestin binding and conformation. Specific phosphobarcodes of V2R Cter phosphopeptides were correlated with conformational changes in β arr1 and selective downstream signaling responses.

Clear interactions between the Cter of V2R and the N-lobe of β arr1 are visualized in the density map of the locally refined β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30

Table 1. Receptor ICL- β arr1 interactions observed in different GPCR- β arr1 structures, in comparison with the rhodopsin-arrestin1 complex. Contact residues or domains from receptors and arrestins are indicated in bold and italics, respectively. For the V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complex, only regions that are seen in the density map are indicated. For other GPCR- β arr1 complexes, residues involved in ICL- β arr1 contacts within a 4-Å distance are shown. In the 5w0p complex, mouse visual arrestin1 (*m-arr1*) is associated with human rhodopsin (91). For information, many residues of the β arr1 (for instance, Y63, Y249, and R285) that are always in contact with the different GPCRs (whatever the orientation) are conserved in the *m-arr1* (with a different numbering; Y68, Y256, and R292).

Receptor ICLs	V2R/ β arr1 Δ CT complex	β 1AR/ β arr1 complex (6tko)	M2R/ β arr1 complex (6u1n)	NTSR1/ β arr1 Δ CT complex (6up7)	NTSR1/ β arr1 Δ CT complex (6pwc)	Rhodopsin/ <i>m-arr1</i> complex (5w0p)
ICL1	R68-I74/ML, FL	T69-T74/E66-D67 (FL), T136 (ML)	No contact	S93-T100/central furrow involving Y63 and R65 (FL), K284-G286 (LL), A247, Y249-V251* (β strand 16)	S93-T100/central furrow involving R285[†] (LL), Y249-C251[†] (β strand 16)	H65-P71/I73 (FL)
ICL2	R139-A147/central furrow between N and C-lobes	S145-R155/central furrow involving F61, Y63-R65 (FL), E134-T136 (ML), R285 (LL), I241, L243 (C-loop), Y249 (β strand 16)	K127-R135/central furrow involving Y63[†] (FL), L129[†], L140[†] (ML), R285[†] (LL), Y249 (β strand 16)	H172-R182/ N245-T246 (C-loop)	H172-R182/F244[†] (C-loop)	C140-G149/central furrow involving F66, Y68 (FL), L133-Q134, K142-C144 (ML), R292 (LL), V248, Y251 (C-loop) D254, Y256 (β strand 16)
ICL3	Subdomain E231-S235/FL (residues at the junction with β strands 5 and 6)	Not seen in the structure	Not seen in the structure	Subdomain F286-P292/ G72-K77 (C-ter of FL, at the junction with β strand 6)	Not seen in the structure	Q236-A241/ R82-L84 (β strand 6), R319, M322 (between GL and β strand 18)

*C251 was replaced with a valine in this cysteine-free variant of human β arr1 (27).

[†]Residues within a 5-Å distance.

subcomponents (Fig. 5A). This region of the complex displays better densities than elsewhere with a local resolution between 3.5 and 4 Å (fig. S7). Densities for V2R phosphoresidues S357, T359, T360, S362, S363, and S364 could be identified (Fig. 5A), in agreement with their position defined in the active structure of β arr1 in complex with a chemically synthesized V2Rpp (18) or with that seen in the M2R- β arr1 and β 1AR- β arr1 complexes (both having a V2R Cter fused instead of their natural Cter). To confirm the presence of these phosphoresidues in the V2RCter, phosphoproteomics of the purified V2R has been performed using trypsin cleavage and the liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) approach, allowing us to identify phosphopeptides and to determine the phosphosite localization (significant phosphosites are correlated to a localization probability superior to 0.75). Most of the phosphoresidues identified in the density map are indeed phosphorylated (fig. S15), since S357, T359, S362, and S364 present a localization probability above 0.75. In addition, T347 and S350, positioned right after helix 8, also display a high localization probability (but are not seen in the density map). Phosphoproteomic experiments also identified three phosphorylation sites in ICL3 (S241, T253, and S255, which are, however, not visible in the density map) (fig. S15), but we did not observe apparent interactions between these phosphorylated residues and β arr1 Δ CT in MD simulations (table S2). Unexpectedly, a majority of the residues that are phosphorylated (both in the ICL3 and in the Cter) were posttranslationally modified whether the V2R-expressing Sf9 cells were stimulated or not with the full agonist AVP (1 μ M for 30 min) before harvesting (fig. S15). This means that the V2R is constitutively phosphorylated in the Sf9 insect cells. The presence of active GRKs has been studied in this cellular system, and the role of these insect cell kinases has been proven in the agonist-induced desensitization and phosphorylation of the human

M2 muscarinic and serotonin 5HT_{1A} receptors (38, 39). In mammals, the V2R is physiologically expressed in principal cells of the collecting duct of the kidney nephron, which constitutes highly specialized polarized cells. By comparison, Sf9 cells that represent a recombinant overexpressing system may not recapitulate a complete pattern of endogenous V2R-associated signaling pathways and trafficking.

On the basis of the density map, the phosphoproteomic results, and previous structural data, we confidently built the interactions between negatively charged phosphates of the V2RCter residues and positively charged K/R residues of the β arr1 N-lobe (distances less than 4 Å) (Fig. 5, B to D). Phosphates of V2R S357, T359, and T360 are in close proximity to K11 and R25, whereas phosphates of V2R S362, S363, and S364 may establish ionic contacts with R7, K10, and K107 of β arr1 (Fig. 5, B and C), like in the crystal structure of the β arr1-V2Rpp-Fab30 (18) and in the structure of the M2R- β arr1 and β 1AR- β arr1 complexes, where both GPCRs have a V2RCter fused instead of their natural sequence (20, 21). The phosphorylation pattern of V2R we identified in the structure of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex (and in the phosphoproteomic analysis) corresponds to the one in the crystal structure of the fully phosphorylated V2R in complex with β arr1 (18, 37).

Comparison of AVP-V2R-G_s-Nb35 and AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complexes

We recently determined the structure of the AVP-bound V2R-G_s complex (22), which led us to compare it with the AVP-bound V2R- β arr1 complex (Fig. 6A). For both complexes, the interface between V2R and the signaling partners is native and was not modified by protein engineering. No mutations were introduced, no chimeric or fusion proteins were constructed, no cross-linking approach was done, and no NanoBIT tethering strategy was used (40).

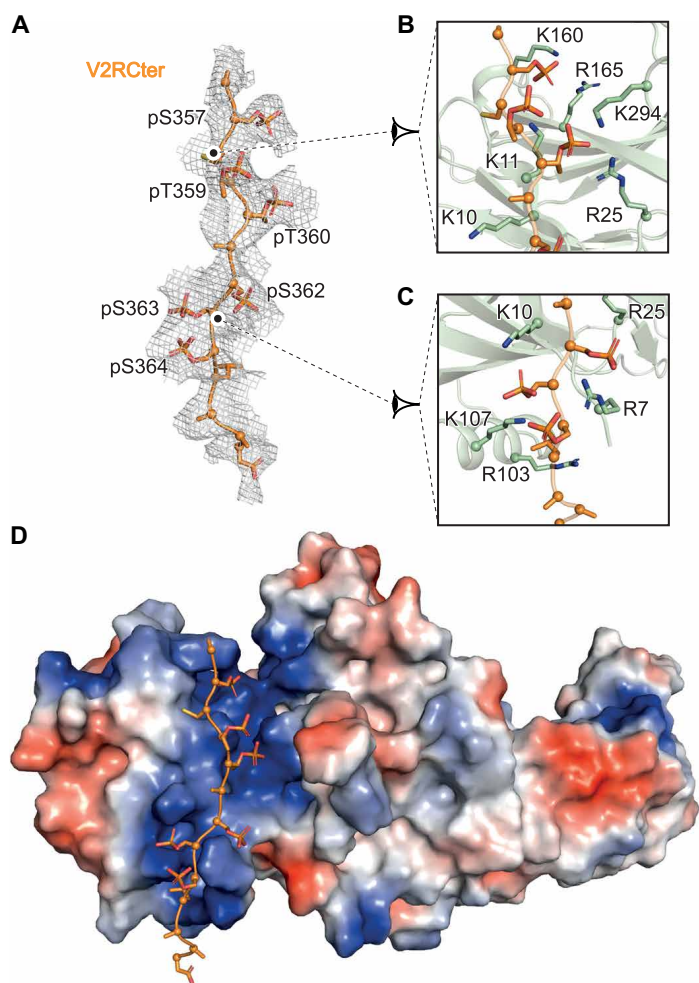


Fig. 5. Phosphorylation of V2R Cter and interaction with β arr1 Δ CT N-lobe.

(A) Overlay of the cryo-EM map of the V2R Cter (mesh) with its corresponding model (in orange). Phosphate moieties of V2R pS357, pS359, pT369, pS362, pS363, and pS364 are shown in red. (B and C) Close-up views of these phosphorylated residues of the V2R Cter and of positively charged residues (in pale green) of the N-lobe of β arr1 Δ CT. (D) Global view of the phosphorylated V2R Cter interacting with the N-lobe of β arr1 Δ CT. The charge potential surface of β arr1 Δ CT is shown in red (negatively charged residues) and blue (positively charged residues) representation.

First, when comparing the structures of AVP-V2R- G_s (PDB 7bb7) and AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complexes to the inactive structure of the related OTR (33), V2R TM6 moves outward in both cases with a similar range of distance, 13 Å (AVP-V2R- G_s assembly) versus 10 Å (AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complex; Fig. 3B), leading to the opening of the receptor core cavity. Second, superposition of V2R from the two complexes (root mean square deviation of 3.5 Å for 1767 atoms) shows that both G_s and β arr1 insert into this core cavity (Fig. 6B). More precisely, the G_s protein α subunit Cter (h5 helix) and the tip of the β arr1 FL overlap in the same space (Fig. 6B). This has already been shown in previous studies. For instance, overlapping of the binding pockets of the visual arrestin FL and the transducin α subunit Cter helix into the TM bundle of active rhodopsin was demonstrated (41, 42). Here, on the basis of the density maps and the corresponding models (Fig. 6, A and B), the main chain of D69 of the β arr1 FL would position its carboxylic acid function in a favorable position to form an ionic bond with R137^{3,50}, as previously

observed for the free carboxylic acid function of the G_s protein α subunit Cter (Fig. 6C) (22). The destabilization of the ionic lock motif is important for the receptor to reach active conformations and to engage with the different G protein- and β arr-dependent signaling pathways. Overall, the V2R conformation in the AVP-bound V2R- G_s complex is very similar to that in the AVP-bound V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complex (Fig. 6B), but some key domains might present slight differences such as the TM7-H8 hinge. These key domains may be involved in biased ligand-induced differential conformations. For instance, using fluorescence spectroscopy and full versus biased ligands, the TM7-H8 hinge region was shown to favor β arr1 interaction over G protein (43).

Because each signaling protein is tightly associated with the V2R TM cavity in both assemblies, it is obvious that G_s and β arr1 cannot couple simultaneously when β arr1 is in the “core” conformation (Fig. 6A). These observations support a steric hindrance-based desensitization mechanism through competition for an overlapping interface at the cytoplasmic TM surface of the V2R (44, 45). This is in agreement with studies showing that desensitization of G protein signaling (i.e., arresting the G protein signaling) is performed exclusively by the receptor core-engaged β arr1 (29, 46), whereas a β arr1 in a “tail” conformation is fully capable of performing other canonical functions (i.e., signaling and receptor internalization). Simultaneous coupling of the two signaling proteins has also been demonstrated when arrestin is preassociated in the tail conformation, i.e., when the β arr1 only attaches to the phosphorylated Cter of the V2R (44). The formation of this megacomplex was proposed to provide a biophysical basis for sustained endosomal G protein signaling (47). Its structure has been solved recently (45). The AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT signaling complex described here only concerns the GPCR core-engaged β arr1 and might be representative of the desensitization step of G protein primary signaling regulated by the β arr1 at the plasma membrane.

The architecture of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex described here notably puts forward an original positioning of the β arr1, an unusual V2R/ β arr1 interface, and a strong tilt of β arr1 Δ CT relative to V2R. This further highlights a notable structural variability among GPCR-arrestin signaling complexes. Although there are multiple sites of interactions between the V2R and β arr1 Δ CT, as well as a structurally important interface between the micelle and the β arr1 C-edge, and despite the addition of stabilizing partners such as the ScFv30, this complex displays a highly flexible behavior. This is in agreement with multiple conformations of arrestins and their versatile role in biological signaling systems (48).

The AVP-V2R- β arr1 complex structure is an additional step to better understand receptor conformational changes upon binding to different signaling proteins. In the future, it would be crucial to determine how the structures of V2R- G_s and V2R- β arr1 complexes in the presence of biased ligands are conformationally different from those defined for unbiased AVP. Developing ligands able to discriminate the G_s protein- and β arr-dependent signaling pathways associated to V2R activation is of crucial importance regarding polycystic kidney disease (49) or two V2R-associated genetic diseases with opposite clinical outcomes, congenital nephrogenic diabetes insipidus (50) and nephrogenic syndrome of inappropriate antidiuresis (51). Structure-based development of novel molecules able to differentiate G_s protein-, core β arr1-, or tail β arr1-associated V2R conformations will pave the way to design better drugs against kidney pathologies (52).

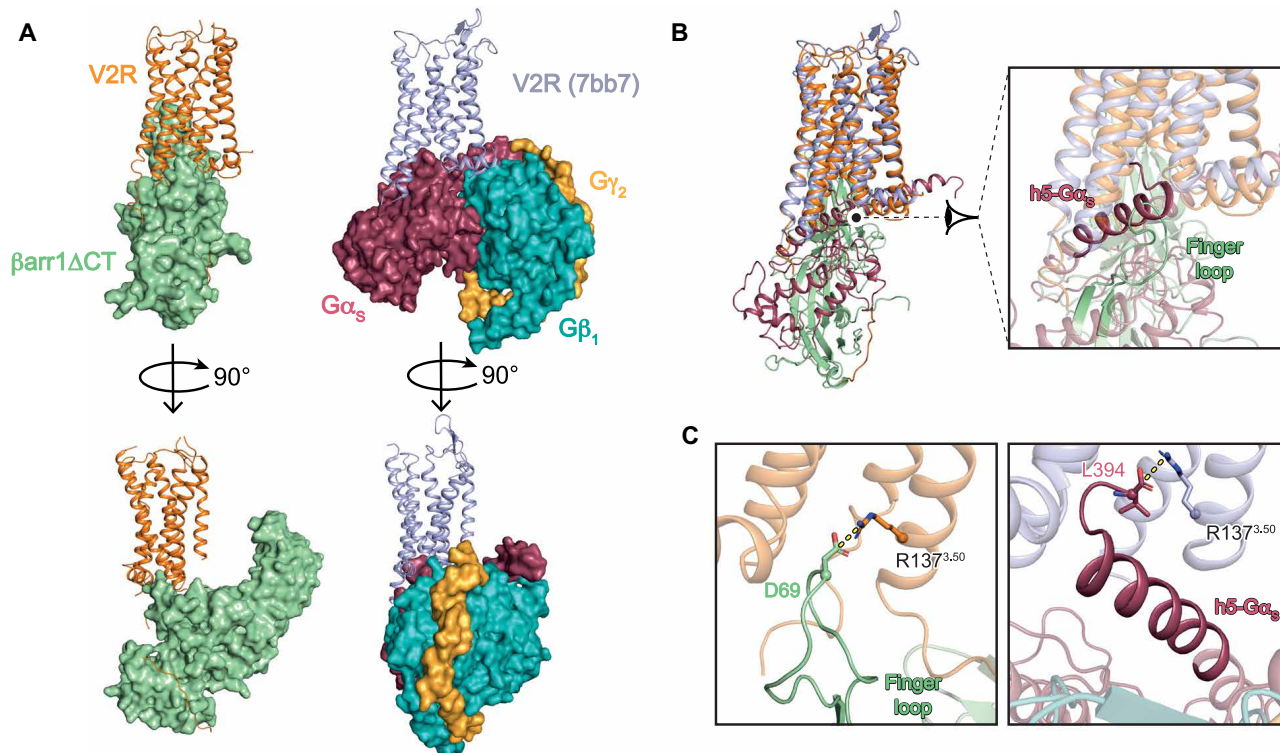


Fig. 6. Comparison of AVP-V2R-G_s and AVP-V2R-βarr1ΔCT complexes. (A) Orthogonal views of V2R-βarr1ΔCT (left) and V2R-G_s (right, PDB 7bb7) complexes. The color scheme for the V2R and βarr1ΔCT is as in Fig. 1. In the other complex, V2R is shown in blue-gray, Gα_s in raspberry, Gβ₁ in turquoise, and Gγ₂ in yellow. (B) Superimposition of the two complexes with a close-up view at the interfaces. The C-terminal helix of the G_s protein (h5-Gα_s helix) and the tip of βarr1ΔCT FL insert into the TM core cavity of the V2R and overlap in the same binding space. (C) Overlapping of βarr1ΔCT FL and G_s Cter h5-helix binding sites in V2R. On the basis of what is described in M2R-βarr1 and β₁AR-βarr1 complexes (20, 21), the FL residue D69 carboxylic function may interact with V2R R137^{3.50} through an ionic bridge in the AVP-V2R-βarr1ΔCT complex. For comparison, the ionic interaction between the Cter free carboxylic function of the Gα_s with V2R R137^{3.50} in the AVP-V2R-G_s complex is shown.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Data analysis and figure preparation

Figures were created using the PyMOL 2.3.5 Molecular Graphics System (Schrödinger LLC) and the UCSF Chimera X 0.9 package (53). Data were plotted with GraphPad Prism 9.1.1 (GraphPad Prism Software Inc.).

V2R expression and purification

The optimized sequence of the human V2R was cloned into the pFastBac1 vector (Thermo Fisher Scientific) using Eco RI/Xba I restriction sites to enable insect Sf9 cell infection using a baculovirus cell expression system. Since it has been demonstrated that the whole C terminus of V2R is crucial for arrestin interaction (13), it was conserved native in our construct. The hemagglutinin signal peptide (MKTIIALS YIFCLVFA), a first Flag-tag (DYKDDDDA), a Twin-Strep-tag (WSHPQFEKGGGSGGGSGGGSSWSHPQFEK), a human rhinovirus 3C (HRV3C) protease cleavage site, and a second Flag-tag were all inserted in frame in the V2R N terminus to facilitate the expression and purification of the receptor (fig. S1A). N22 was substituted with a glutamine residue to avoid N-glycosylation. M1 and L2 residues of the wild-type V2R sequence were not present in this construct. Before production in Sf9 insect cells, this construct was first validated in human embryonic kidney (HEK) cells to control that it retained wild-type pharmacological and functional properties. First, the dissociation constant (K_d) of the fluorescently labeled antagonist

was 4.22 ± 0.7 nM ($n = 3$), in agreement with that defined for the wild-type V2R (54). Then, AVP binding, accumulation of cytosolic cAMP, and recruitment of βarr2 assays (see below for description of the three methods) all confirmed that the V2R is fully functional (fig. S2). The inhibition constant (K_i) for AVP was 3.17 ± 0.97 nM ($n = 3$), and the activation constant (K_{act}) for AVP-induced cAMP production and arrestin recruitment was 0.22 ± 0.09 nM ($n = 3$) and 2.02 ± 0.28 nM ($n = 4$), respectively, in accordance with those determined for a wild-type V2R (22, 54, 55).

The V2R was expressed in Sf9 insect cells using the Bac-to-Bac baculovirus expression system (Thermo Fisher Scientific) according to the manufacturer's instructions, as previously described (22). Briefly, insect cells were grown in suspension in EX-CELL 420 medium (Sigma-Aldrich) to a density of 4×10^6 cells/ml and infected with the recombinant baculovirus at a multiplicity of infection of 2 to 3. The culture medium was supplemented with the V2R pharmacochaperone antagonist tolaptan (TVP) (Sigma-Aldrich) at 1 μM to increase the receptor expression levels (56, 57). The cells were infected for 48 to 54 hours at 28°C, and expression of the V2R was checked by immunofluorescence using an anti-Flag M1 antibody coupled to Alexa Fluor 488. On the basis of the literature where it is described that V2R phosphorylation is agonist dependent, at least in mammalian cell systems such as transfected HEK or COS cells (58), cells were treated with 1 μM AVP 30 min before being harvested by centrifugation (two steps for 20 min at 3000g), and pellets were stored at -80°C until use.

The first step of V2R purification was performed as already described (22). Briefly, the cell pellets were thawed and lysed by osmotic shock in 10 mM tris-HCl (pH 8), 1 mM EDTA buffer containing iodoacetamide (2 mg/ml; Sigma-Aldrich), 1 μ M TVP, and protease inhibitors [leupeptine (5 μ g/ml) (Euromedex), benzamide (10 μ g/ml) (Sigma-Aldrich), and phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF) (10 μ g/ml) (Euromedex)]. After centrifugation (15 min at 38,400g), the pellet containing crude membranes was solubilized using a glass Dounce tissue grinder (15 and 20 strokes using A and B pestles, respectively) in a solubilization buffer containing 20 mM tris-HCl (pH 8), 500 mM NaCl, 0.5% (w/v) *n*-dodecyl- β -D-maltopyranoside (DDM; Anatrace), 0.2% (w/v) sodium cholate (Sigma-Aldrich), 0.03% (w/v) CHS (Sigma-Aldrich), 20% glycerol, iodoacetamide (2 mg/ml), biotin BioLock (0.75 ml/liter, IBA), 1 μ M TVP, and protease inhibitors. The extraction mixture was stirred for 1 hour at 4°C and centrifuged (20 min at 38,400g). The cleared supernatant was poured onto an equilibrated Strep-Tactin resin (IBA) for a first affinity purification step. After 2 hours of incubation at 4°C under stirring, the resin was washed three times with 10 column volumes (CV) of a buffer containing 20 mM tris-HCl (pH 8), 500 mM NaCl, 0.1% (w/v) DDM, 0.02% (w/v) sodium cholate, 0.03% (w/v) CHS, and 1 μ M TVP. The bound receptor was eluted in the same buffer supplemented with 2.5 mM desthiobiotin (IBA). The HRV3C protease was added for overnight cleavage at 4°C [a 1:20 (HRV3C:V2R) weight ratio]. After digestion, the eluate was loaded onto an M2 anti-Flag affinity resin (Sigma-Aldrich). After loading, the DDM detergent was then gradually exchanged with LMNG (Anatrace) and GDN (Anatrace). The LMNG concentration was then decreased gradually from 0.5 to 0.02% and that of GDN decreased from 0.125 to 0.005%. The V2R was eluted in 20 mM Hepes (pH 7.5), 100 mM NaCl, 0.02% LMNG, 0.005% GDN, 0.002% CHS, 10 μ M AVP (Bachem), and Flag peptide (0.4 mg/ml; Covalab). After concentration using a 50-kDa molecular weight cutoff (MWCO) concentrator (Millipore), the V2R was purified by size exclusion chromatography (SEC) using a Superdex 200 Increase (10/300 GL column) connected to an ÄKTA purifier system (GE Healthcare). Fractions corresponding to the pure monomeric receptor were pooled (~2 ml) and concentrated to 50 to 100 μ M with an excess of AVP (200 μ M).

β arr1 expression and purification

A truncated version of β arr1 at residue 382 (β arr1 Δ CT) was produced and purified (fig. S1B), since it has been shown to display a constitutive activity in cells (59). This β arr1 variant was able to effectively desensitize β_2 AR and δ opioid receptor in *Xenopus* oocytes. In addition, its recombinantly purified version was demonstrated to stably interact with the purified NTSR1 (27). It was prepared as follows. BL21(DE3) competent *Escherichia coli* cells (Thermo Fisher Scientific) were transformed using a pET plasmid containing an optimized version of β -arr1 Δ CT fused to a Twin-Strep-tag sequence at its N terminus (Nco I/Xho I subcloning), and large-scale cultures were grown in LB + kanamycin at 37°C (170 rpm) until an optical density at 600 nm at 0.6 U was reached. Cells were induced at 37°C for 5 hours by adding 0.025 mM isopropyl- β -D-thiogalactopyranoside. Cells were collected by centrifugation (two steps for 20 min at 3000g), and pellets were stored at -80°C until use. Cells were resuspended in lysis buffer [20 mM tris-HCl (pH 8), 1 mM EDTA, 200 mM NaCl, and 1 mM β -mercaptoethanol] supplemented with protease inhibitors [leupeptine (5 μ g/ml), benzamide (10 μ g/ml), and PMSF

(10 μ g/ml)]. Cells were lysed by sonication, and the lysate was supplemented with MgCl₂ (5 mM final) and Benzonase (2000 U). After centrifugation (20 min, 4°C, 38,400g), the supernatant was supplemented with biotin BioLock (0.75 ml/liter) and loaded to Strep-Tactin affinity resin at 4°C. The resin was washed with 20 CV of wash buffer [20 mM tris (pH 8), 200 mM NaCl, and 100 μ M Tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine (TCEP)]. The protein was then eluted with 5 CV of wash buffer supplemented with 2.5 mM desthiobiotin (IBA). Subsequently, it was subjected to a Superdex 200 Increase gel filtration step (10/300 GL column) with a buffer containing 20 mM Hepes (pH 7.5), 200 mM NaCl, and 100 μ M TCEP. The fractions corresponding to the purified β arr1 Δ CT were collected, concentrated to approximately 250 μ M using a 10-kDa MWCO concentrator (Millipore). Aliquots were then flash-frozen and stored at -80°C until use.

ScFv30 expression and purification

The single-chain variable fragment ScFv30 with a Twin-Strep-tag added at its C terminus was used in this study to enable a stable interaction between the receptor and β arr1 Δ CT (18, 60). Moreover, this antibody fragment has been shown to not bind to the C terminus of β arr1, and the corresponding Fab30 was shown to lock the β arr1 in its active conformation (21). Briefly, the optimized nucleotide sequence of ScFv30 was cloned in Nco I/Pme I restriction sites of a modified pMT/BIP/V5 vector (Life Technologies) in which the V5 epitope and the 6-His tag were replaced by an enterokinase cleavage site followed by a Twin-Strep-tag (WSHPQFEKGGGS-GGGSGGGSWSHPQFEK). This vector is adapted to the secreted expression of recombinant proteins in *Drosophila melanogaster* S2 Schneider cell cultures (61, 62). In this plasmid, the ScFv30 sequence is in frame with the BIP signal sequence and the Twin-Strep-tag. The expression and purification of ScFv30 were performed as follows. S2 Schneider cells (Life Technologies), cultured in serum-free insect Xpress medium (Lonza), were transfected as reported previously (63) and amplified, and ScFv30 expression was induced with 4 μ M CdCl₂ at a density of $\sim 10 \times 10^6$ cells/ml for 6 to 8 days for large-scale production.

Cells were harvested by centrifugation (38,400g, 10 min, 4°C) to remove cells and cellular debris. Then, protease inhibitors [leupeptine (5 μ g/ml), benzamide (10 μ g/ml), and PMSF (10 μ g/ml)] were added to the supernatant. The sample was filtered and concentrated at 4°C using a Vivaflow 200 cassette with a 10-kDa MWCO (Sartorius). When the volume was reaching around 100 ml, tris-HCl (pH 8; 100 mM) and 0.5 ml of BioLock (IBA) were added. The ScFv30 was purified by Strep-Tactin affinity chromatography (IBA) in a buffer containing 100 mM tris-HCl (pH 8), 150 mM NaCl, and 1 mM EDTA. The eluate was concentrated to reach a 5- to 10-ml volume and dialyzed in two steps (overnight at 4°C, then 2 hours) in a buffer containing 20 mM Hepes (pH 7.5) and 100 mM NaCl. The dialyzed ScFv30 was concentrated to approximately 200 μ M using a 10-kDa MWCO concentrator (Millipore). Aliquots were flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C until use.

Purification of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex

As indicated above, all components of the complex (V2R, β arr1 Δ CT, and ScFv30) were first expressed and purified separately. Then, they were mixed in the presence of an excess of AVP (fig. S3). The mixture was complemented with a PtdIns(4,5)P₂ analog, the dioctyl-PtdIns(4,5)P₂ (diC8PIP₂), for two main reasons: (i) An inositol phosphate binding site was described at the top of the

C-lobe of both β arr1 and β arr2 (32, 64), and (ii) the same analog diC8PIP2 was shown to be important for NTSR1- β arr1 complex formation (27).

Briefly, V2R was mixed with an equimolar concentration of diC8PIP2 (Avanti Polar Lipids Inc.), an excess of β arr1 Δ CT (2:1 molar ratio), and an excess of ScFv30 (2:1 molar ratio) as well as 250 μ M AVP and 2.5 mM MgCl₂. In a representative experiment, concentrations of the different components of the complex were as follows: 35 μ M V2R and diC8PIP₂ and 70 μ M β arr1 Δ CT and ScFv30. The coupling reaction was allowed to proceed at room temperature (RT) for 90 min. The complex was then purified through an orthogonal affinity chromatography procedure followed by an SEC step. First, to remove excess of β arr1 Δ CT and ScFv30, the complex AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 was purified by an M2 anti-Flag affinity chromatography. The mixture was loaded three times on the column, and the resin was washed three times with 10 CV of wash buffer containing 20 mM Hepes (pH 7.5), 100 mM NaCl, 0.002% CHS, 0.02% LMNG, 0.005% GDN, and 10 μ M AVP. The complex and the uncomplexed V2R were then eluted with 5 CV of wash buffer supplemented with Flag peptide (400 μ g/ml). Second, the eluate was then loaded onto Strep-Tactin affinity resin to get rid of the uncomplexed receptors. The resin was washed with 10 CV of wash buffer [20 mM Hepes (pH 7.5), 100 mM NaCl, 0.02% LMNG, 0.005% GDN, 0.002% CHS, and 10 μ M AVP]. The complex was then eluted with 5 CV of wash buffer complemented with 2.5 mM desthiobiotin. Last, the eluate was concentrated with a 50-kDa MWCO concentrator and subjected to an SEC Superose 6 (10/300 GL, GE Healthcare) equilibrated with a buffer containing 20 mM Hepes (pH 7.5), 100 mM NaCl, 0.0011% LMNG, 0.001% GDN, 0.002% CHS, and 10 μ M AVP. The complex displayed a monodisperse peak whose analysis by SDS polyacrylamide gel and Coomassie blue staining confirmed the presence of all proteins (fig. S3). Peak fractions were pooled, supplemented with 0.001% amphipol A8-35, and concentrated using a 50-kDa MWCO concentrator to ~3 mg/ml for cryo-EM studies.

Negative stain microscopy observations

Before preparing cryo-EM grids, we first checked the quality and the homogeneity of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 samples by negative stain EM (NS-EM). Three microliters of each complex at 0.04 mg/ml was applied for 2 min on glow-discharged carbon-coated grids and then negatively stained with 0.75% uranyl formate for 1 min. Observation of EM grids was carried out on a JEOL 2200FS FEG Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM) operating at 200 kV under low-dose conditions (total dose of 20 electrons/Å²) in the zero-energy loss mode with a slit width of 20 eV. Images were recorded on a 4K × 4K slow-scan charge-coupled device camera (Gatan Inc.) at a nominal magnification of ×50,000 with defocus ranging from 0.5 to 1.5 μ m. In total, 55 micrographs were recorded, allowing us to pick 97,182 particles using e2boxer from Eman2 package (65). Further processing was performed with Relion 3.1. The particles were subjected to a 2D classification, including to get rid of free micelles and dissociated components of the complex. From 2D classes, 65,090 particles corresponding to the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complexes were selected, representing 67% of all particles picked, a good prerequisite for cryo-EM analysis. The AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex revealed a homogeneous distribution of particles showing a two-domain organization (V2R in the detergent micelle versus β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30). The 2D class averages clearly

showed the β arr1 Δ CT tightly engaged within the micelle-embedded V2R (fig. S3), an architecture in agreement with the core conformation of the GPCR- β arr1 complex (29).

Cryo-EM sample preparation and image acquisition

For AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 cryo-EM investigation, 3- μ l samples were applied on glow-discharged Quantifoil R1.2/1.3 300-mesh UltrAufoil grids (Quantifoil Micro Tools GmbH, Germany), blotted for 3.5 s, and then flash-frozen in liquid ethane using the semiautomated EM GP2 (Leica Microsystems) plunge freezer (100% humidity and 4°C). Images were collected in one session at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) of Heidelberg (Germany) on a FEI Titan Krios (Thermo Fisher Scientific) at 300 keV through a Gatan Quantum 967 LS energy filter using a 20-eV slit width in zero-loss mode and equipped with a K3 Summit (Gatan Inc.) direct electron detector configured in counting mode. Movies were recorded at a nominal energy-filtered TEM magnification of ×130,000 corresponding to a 0.64-Å calibrated pixel size. The movies were collected in 40 frames in defocus range between -1 and -2 μ m with a total dose of 52.63 e⁻/Å². Data collection was fully automated using SerialEM, resulting in 14,080 movies.

Cryo-EM data processing

Movie frames were aligned and summed using the MotionCorr Relion own implementation (Relion 3.1.2) with seven-by-five patches, a *B* factor of 150, and a binning factor of 2, resulting in motion-corrected images with a pixel size of 1.28 Å. The contrast transfer function parameters were estimated using Gctf (66). The images with a maximal resolution estimation worse than 7 Å were discarded, resulting in 13,566 images (fig. S4A). A first automatic picking (fig. S5) was carried out using boxnet from Warp software package (67), allowing us to select and extract 3,610,370 particles, which were transferred into Relion v3.1.2. Iterative 2D classifications combined with bad 2D class average exclusion sorted out a total of 1,169,437 particles (fig. S4A). Those particle coordinates were used as references to train a model with Topaz (68), a positive-unlabeled convolutional neural network for particle picking (fig. S5). It resulted in the picking of 4,595,394 particles. Both datasets of particles were transferred into Relion 3.1.2 and subjected separately to iterative 2D classifications. The particles selected from the best 2D class averages (1,806,545 particles from boxnet and 2,660,410 particles from Topaz) were then merged and duplicates were removed, yielding a dataset of 3,721,020 particles. A conventional approach (fig. S4B) was first performed with two rounds of 2D classification, allowing us to select 2,206,913 particles, and subjected to an initial model reconstruction and diverse iterative 3D classifications. Although playing with multiple different parameters (*T* value, mask size, number of 3D classes, box size, and Relion vs cryoSPARC), this approach only allowed us to compute a density map at 6.3 Å resolution. An optimized approach (fig. S4C) was then used with first iterative 2D classifications in Relion, based on particle orientation through the use of different mask size, yielding a total of 729,335 particles from best 2D class averages. Several rounds of cryoSPARC v3.2.0 were then performed using 2D classification followed by iterative ab initio reconstruction processing steps (six times using two models), resulting in the selection of a particle stack comprising 27,637 particles that yielded a density map with an overall resolution of 4.75 Å after 3D NU refinement (figs. S4C and S6). Resolution was estimated using the gold standard FSC at 0.143 (FSC = 0.143). This

stack of particles was transferred into Relion for micelle-V2R signal subtraction. The particle boxes were recentered and adapted to the size of the β arr1-ScFv30 complex. Subtracted particles were subjected to local refinement in cryoSPARC, yielding a density map (EMD-14223) with an overall resolution of 4.23 Å (FSC = 0.143) (fig. S7). Attempts to align the complex with micelle subtraction yielded density maps with similar apparent quality and overall resolution than without subtraction ($r \sim 4.8$ to 5 Å). Attempts to align the V2R alone were unsuccessful. The subset of 27,637 particles was then refined using additional ab initio steps to obtain a subset of 8296 particles, which yielded a density map (EMD-14221) with an overall resolution of 4.73 Å after NU refinement (fig. S7). This map displays more detailed features of the dynamic regions of the complex as compared to the initial 27,637-particle density map. Local resolution of the two maps calculated using cryoSPARC (EMD-14221 and EMD-14223) ranged from 3.5 to 5.5 Å. The E_{od} , a coefficient related to the orientation distribution via its corresponding point spread function (69), calculated from the 4.23-Å- and 4.73-Å-resolution maps, was substantially above the 0.6 threshold (0.88 and 0.8, respectively), indicating a uniform resolution of maps in all directions, although some orientations have been discarded upon the process. During the optimized approach, multiple 3D variability analyses were also performed using cryoDRGN, cryoSPARC (movie S1), and Relion with different quantities of particles. Unfortunately, none of the methods brought exploitable data.

Model building and refinement

For each of the two cryo-EM maps [EMD-14221 (full complex) and EMD-14223 (focused around the β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 substructure)], an atomic model was built and refined. A starting model of V2R β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 substructure was built using the atomic structure of the V2R β arr1 (residues 356 to 368 according to residue numbering of UniProt entry P30518) from PDB 6u1n (4-Å resolution) and the Fab30 and β arr1 from PDB 4jqj (2.6-Å resolution). The model was fitted into the EMD-14223 map and manually adjusted (sequence mutations and loop reconstruction) using Coot (70). Then, this intermediate model was rigid body-fitted into the EMD-14221 map and completed with the structure of the V2R TM domain + AVP from PDB 7kh0 (2.8-Å resolution) and a molecule of diC8PIP2. The resulting model of the full complex (AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30) was real space-refined against the EMD-14221 map under standard stereochemical restraints (including Ramachandran restraints) using Coot (70) and Phenix (71). The refined model of the full complex (PDB 7Rr0c) does not include the V2R N-terminal portion (residues 1 to 31), parts of the V2R ICLs (residues 148 to 156 from ICL1, residues 183 to 188 in ICL2, and residues 239 to 263 in ICL3), and parts of the V2R Cter (residues 343 to 355 and 369 to 371), which were not visible in the density maps. The model of β arr1 Δ CT in PDB 7r0c includes residues 6 to 365 (except residues 332 to 339), whereas ScFv30 is nearly complete (residues 110 to 128 are missing). The intermediate model of the V2R β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 substructure (initially fitted in the EMD-14223 map) was further real space-refined (with Phenix and Coot) against the EMD-14223 map by temporarily including the V2R TM domain from PDB 7r0c (to avoid β arr1 Δ CT residues jumping into V2R residual density still present in proximity of β arr1 Δ CT) and by imposing extremely strong geometrical constraints on the V2R model (to avoid unjustified modifications of the V2R regions farther from the β arr1 Δ CT where no density was left after the signal subtraction procedure).

The V2R TM domain was lastly removed from the refined V2R β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 model (PDB 7r0j).

We have also applied a combination of MD approaches (using Chimera X/ISOLDE with the MDFF option checked) that was validated using Coot and Phenix. The obtained model with MD does not substantially improve the model, showing a difference only on the C-edge loop, a dynamic area that is not represented in the initial model. This is not unexpected because of the lack of density map and of the dynamic in this area. For those reasons, the initial model was thus conserved for PDB deposition.

LC-MS/MS and analysis of V2R phosphoresidues

To prepare samples for LC-MS/MS, purification of the V2R was adapted from a previously described protocol (see above in the “V2R expression and purification” section) (22). As indicated, the receptor was first purified by affinity chromatography using Strep-Tactin resin (IBA) following the same protocol. Then, the eluate was then loaded onto an M2 anti-Flag affinity resin (Sigma-Aldrich). The column was washed first with 10 CV of a buffer containing 20 mM Hepes (pH 7.5), 100 mM NaCl, 0.1% (w/v) DDM, 0.01% (w/v) CHS, and 10 μ M TVP. A second wash followed with 10 CV of a buffer containing 20 mM Hepes (pH 7.5), 100 mM NaCl, 0.025% (w/v) DDM, 0.005% (w/v) CHS, and 10 μ M TVP. The bound receptor was eluted in the same buffer supplemented with FLAG peptide (0.4 mg/ml) (5 CV). The fractions corresponding to the receptor were collected, and the HRV3C protease was added for overnight cleavage at 4°C [at a 1:20 (HRV3C:V2R) weight ratio]. After concentration using a 50-kDa MWCO concentrator (Millipore), the V2R was purified by SEC using a Superdex 200 Increase (10/300 GL column) connected to an ÄKTA purifier system (GE Healthcare). Fractions corresponding to the pure monomeric receptor were pooled (~1.5 ml) and concentrated to 30 μ M (1.2 mg/ml).

The purified V2R (100 to 200 μ g) was digested using micro S-Trap columns (<https://protifi.com/>; Huntington, NY) following the supplier's protocol. Briefly, after reduction (20 mM dithiothreitol for 10 min at 95°C) and alkylation (40 mM indole-3-acetic acid for 30 min in the dark), the receptor was digested using 3 μ g of trypsin (Promega, Gold) for 1 hour at 47°C. The peptides obtained were analyzed using nano-throughput high-performance liquid chromatography (Ultimate 3000-RSLC, Thermo Fisher Scientific) coupled to a mass spectrometer (Q Exactive-HF, Thermo Fisher Scientific) equipped with a nanospray source. The preconcentration of the samples was carried out in line on a precolumn (0.3 mm \times 10 mm, Pepmap, Thermo Fisher Scientific) and separation of the peptides was carried out on a column (0.075 mm \times 500 mm, reverse phase C18, Pepmap, Dionex) following a gradient from 2 to 25% buffer B [0.1% Formic acid (AF) in 80% acetonitrile (ACN)] for 100 min at a flow rate of 300 nl/min, then 25 to 40% in 20 min, and, lastly, 40 to 90% in 3 min.

The spectra were acquired in “data-dependent acquisition” (dynamic exclusion of 20 s) mode. The LC-MS/MS analysis cycle is therefore composed of several phases, a “full scan MS” with analysis in the orbitrap at 60,000 resolution followed by MS/MS [higher-energy collisional dissociation (HCD) fragmentation], for the 12 most abundant precursors at a resolution of 30,000. Raw spectra were processed using the MaxQuant environment v1.6.10.43 (72) and Andromeda for database search with match between runs and the iBAQ algorithm enabled. The MS/MS spectra were matched against the sequence of the V2R construct (fig. S15), the reference proteome (Proteome ID UP000008292, release 2021_01) of *Autographa californica* nuclear

polyhedrosis virus, the UniProt entries (release 2021_01, www.uniprot.org/) for *Spodoptera frugiperda* (fall armyworm, taxon identifier 7108), and 250 frequently observed contaminants, as well as reversed sequences of all entries. Enzyme specificity was set to trypsin/P, and the search included cysteine carbamidomethylation as a fixed modification and oxidation of methionine, acetylation (protein N terminus), and phosphorylation of Ser, Thr, and Tyr residues (STY) as variable modifications. Up to two missed cleavages were allowed for protease digestion. The maximum false discovery rate for peptides and proteins was set to 0.01. Representative protein ID in each protein group was automatically selected using the in-house developed Leading tool v3.4 (73). Signal intensities of receptor peptides were extracted using Skyline v2.1.0.31 (74), with the option “use high-selectivity extraction.” For a defined peptide sequence, a score corresponding to the probability of phosphorylation for each possible position (S, T, or Y) was determined (fig. S15). The normalized sum of all these probabilities is then used to define the confidence of localization, known as localization probability (75). Classically, class I phosphosites correspond to sites with a localization probability of at least 0.75 (76). Residues identified as phosphorylated in the density map (such as T360 or S363) may, however, present a localization probability under 0.75 using the phosphoproteomic approach. This apparent discrepancy can be explained. For instance, cleavage of the V2R generates the peptide R₃₄₆TPPSLGPQDESC TTASSSLAKD₃₆₈, which corresponds in part to the C-terminal portion of the receptor. This peptide contains eight potential phosphorylation sites. Such a quantity of T and S residues, in addition to their proximity, makes it difficult to precisely locate all the phosphorylation moieties, and we can only propose a probability score of the presence or absence of a phosphate group for a specific amino acid. Even if a threshold of 0.75 has been chosen as significant, scores of 0.62 (T360) or 0.66 (S363) do not exclude the possibility of phosphorylation at these positions. Also, we have to consider that the detection of the phosphorylation was made on a sample containing multiple proteins including different phosphorylation patterns. Knowing that, and because our cryo-EM maps represent only a subset of particles (27,637 particles following 2D and 3D classification) corresponding to the most representative population allowing to reach high resolution, it is thus not unexpected that we have mostly selected a population where the C-terminal portion of the V2R in contact with the β arr1 is fully phosphorylated. Such a phosphorylation profile is, for example, in agreement with the one seen in the muscarinic M2R–arrestin2 complex using a V2Rpp peptide (containing the same eight phosphorylation sites observed in our map) (20) or with the fully activated V2R C-terminal peptide in complex with the arrestin (18, 37).

Time-resolved fluorescence resonance energy transfer binding assays

V2R binding studies using Tag-lite assays (PerkinElmer Cisbio) based on time-resolved fluorescence resonance energy transfer (TR-FRET) measurements were previously described (22, 54, 77). Briefly, HEK cells were plated in white-walled, flat-bottom, 96-well plates (Greiner CELLSTAR plate, Sigma-Aldrich) in Dulbecco’s minimum essential medium (DMEM) containing 10% fetal bovine serum (Eurobio), 1% nonessential amino acids (GIBCO), and penicillin/streptomycin (GIBCO) at 15,000 cells per well. Cells were transfected 24 hours later with a plasmid coding for the V2R version used in cryo-EM studies fused at its N terminus to the SNAP-tag

(SNAP-V2R) (PerkinElmer Cisbio). Transfections were performed with X-tremeGENE 360 (Merck), according to the manufacturer’s recommendations: 10 μ l of a premix containing DMEM, X-tremeGENE 360 (0.3 μ l per well), SNAP-V2 coding plasmid (30 ng per well), and noncoding plasmid (70 ng per well) was added to the culture medium. After a 48-hour culture period, cells were rinsed once with Tag-lite medium (PerkinElmer Cisbio) and incubated in the presence of Tag-lite medium containing 100 nM benzylguanine-Lumi4-Tb for at least 60 min at 37°C. Cells were then washed four times. For saturation studies, cells were incubated for at least 4 hours at 4°C in the presence of a benzazepine-red nonpeptide vasopressin antagonist (BZ-DY647, PerkinElmer Cisbio) at various concentrations ranging from 1×10^{-10} to 1×10^{-7} M. Nonspecific binding was determined in the presence of 10 μ M vasopressin. For competition studies, cells were incubated for at least 4 hours at 4°C with benzazepine-red ligand (5 nM) and increasing concentrations of vasopressin ranging from 1×10^{-11} to 3.16×10^{-6} M. Fluorescent signals were measured at 620 nm (fluorescence of the donor) and at 665 nm (FRET signal) on a PHERAstar (BMG LABTECH). Results were expressed as the 665/620 ratio [$10,000 \times (665/620)$]. A specific variation of the FRET ratio was plotted as a function of benzazepine-red concentration (saturation experiments) or competitor concentration (competition experiment). All binding data were analyzed with GraphPad 9.1.1 (GraphPad Prism Software Inc.) using the one site-specific binding equation. All results are expressed as the means \pm SEM of at least three independent experiments performed in triplicate (fig. S2). K_i values were calculated from median inhibitory concentration values with the Cheng-Prusoff equation.

cAMP accumulation assays

V2R functional studies based on TR-FRET measurements were described previously (22, 57, 78). Briefly, HEK cells were plated in black-walled 96-well plates (Falcon) at 15,000 cells per well. Cells were transfected 24 hours later with a plasmid coding for the V2R version used in cryo-EM studies. Transfections were performed with X-tremeGENE 360 (Merck), according to the manufacturer’s recommendations: 10 μ l of a premix containing DMEM, X-tremeGENE 360 (0.3 μ l per well), SNAP-V2 coding plasmid (0.002 ng per well), and noncoding plasmid (100 ng per well) was added to the culture medium. After a 24-hour culture period, cells were treated for 30 min at 37°C in the cAMP buffer with or without increasing AVP concentrations (3.16×10^{-12} to 10^{-6} M) in the presence of 0.1 mM RO201724, a phosphodiesterase inhibitor (Sigma-Aldrich). The accumulated cAMP was quantified using the cAMP Dynamic 2 Kit (PerkinElmer Cisbio) according to the manufacturer’s protocol. Fluorescent signals were measured at 620 and 665 nm on a Spark 20M multimode microplate reader (Tecan). Data were plotted as the FRET ratio [$10,000 \times (665/620)$] as a function of AVP concentration [\log (AVP)]. Data were analyzed with GraphPad Prism v9.1.1 (GraphPad Prism Software Inc.) using the “dose-response stimulation” subroutine. Median effective concentrations were determined using the \log (agonist) versus response variable slope (four-parameter) fit procedure. Experiments were repeated at least three times on different cultures, with each condition in triplicate. Data are presented as means \pm SEM (fig. S2).

β -Arrestin recruitment assays

Upon GPCR activation, β -arrestins (β arr) are recruited to stop G protein signaling and to initiate clathrin-mediated receptor internalization.

During this process, the release of the C-terminal domain of β arrs is associated with the binding of β arrs to the adaptor protein 2 (AP2). This interaction can be measured using the HTRF technology (PerkinElmer CisBio) based on the use of two specific antibodies, one directed against β arr2, and the second one specific for AP2. In this assay (β arr2 recruitment kit, PerkinElmer CisBio), the AP2 antibody is labeled with a Europium (Eu) cryptate fluorescent donor, and the one against β arr2 is labeled with a d2 fluorescent acceptor, with their proximity being detected by FRET signals. The specific signal is positively modulated in proportion with the recruitment of β arr2 to AP2 upon V2R activation by AVP. Briefly, HEK cells were plated at a seeding density of 2.5×10^4 cells per well in white-walled 96-well plates (CELLSTAR plate, Sigma-Aldrich) precoated with poly-L-ornithine (14 μ g/ml; Sigma-Aldrich) for 24 hours, in DMEM (GIBCO) complemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (Eurobio), 1% nonessential amino acids (GIBCO), and 1% penicillin-streptomycin antibiotic solution (GIBCO). To produce the V2R, the cells were transfected with 30 ng of the pRK5-Flag-Snap-V2R plasmid (coding for the cleaved V2R construct used in cryo-EM studies) using X-tremeGENE 360 (Merck), according to the manufacturer's recommendations. After a 24-hour culture, cells were used to evaluate the recruitment of β arr2 to AP2 upon V2R activation with the β arr2 recruitment kit (PerkinElmer CisBio), following the manufacturer's recommendation. Briefly, the cells were first washed once with DMEM and incubated for 2 hours at RT with 100 μ l per well of stimulation buffer containing various concentrations of the ligand AVP (ranging from 10^{-6} to 10^{-12} M). The medium was then replaced by 30 μ l per well of stabilization buffer for 15 min at RT. The cells were then washed three times with 100 μ l per well of wash buffer before adding 100 μ l per well of a premix of Eu cryptate and d2 antibodies in detection buffer. Following overnight incubation at RT, 80 μ l of medium was removed from each well before reading the 96-well plates on a Spark 20M multimode microplate reader (Tecan) or a PHERAstar FS (BMG Labtech) by measuring the signals of the donor (Europium cryptate-labeled AP2 antibody) at a wavelength of 620 nm and of the acceptor at 665 nm (d2-labeled β arr2). Last, the results were expressed as the FRET ratio [(665/620) \times 10,000] and plotted using GraphPad 9.1.1 (GraphPad Prism Software Inc.). Experiments were repeated at least three times on different cultures, with each condition in triplicate. Data are presented as means \pm SEM (fig. S2).

MD simulation method

MD simulations were performed for the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complex with and without diC8PIP2 (figs. S10 and S11). The initial models were built from the cryo-EM structure reported here. The missing ICL2 was modeled on the basis of the cryo-EM structure of AVP-V2R-G_s (PDB 7dw9) (24). Other missing loop regions were generated by Modeller v9.15 (79). Residues S241^{ICL3}, T253^{ICL3}, S255^{ICL3}, S357^{Cter}, T359^{Cter}, T360^{Cter}, S362^{Cter}, S363^{Cter}, and S364^{Cter} of V2R were phosphorylated. PACKMOL-Memgen (80) was used to assign the side-chain protonation states and embed the models in a bilayer of 1-palmitoyl-2-oleoyl-glycero-3-phosphocholine (POPC) lipids, and the system was solvated in a periodic 120 Å by 120 Å by 140 Å box of explicit water and neutralized with 0.15 M Na⁺ and Cl⁻ ions. We used the Amber ff14SB-ildn (81) and lipid 14 (82) force fields, as well as the Amber force field parameters, for phosphorylated amino acids (83). The TIP3P (84) and the Joung-Cheatham (85) parameters were used for the water and the ions, respectively.

Effective point charges of the phosphoinositide were obtained by RESP fitting (86) of the electrostatic potentials calculated with the HF/6-31G* basis set.

After energy minimization, all-atom MD simulations were carried out using Gromacs 5.1 (87) patched with the PLUMED 2.3 plugin (88). Each system was gradually heated to 310 K and preequilibrated during 10 ns of brute-force MD in the NPT-ensemble. The replica exchange with solute scaling (REST2) (89) technique was used to enhance the sampling of the loop regions at the V2R-arrestin interface. A total of 24 replicas were simulated in the NVT ensemble. REST2 is a type of Hamiltonian replica exchange simulation scheme, which performs many replicas of the same MD simulation system simultaneously. The replicas have modified free energy surfaces, in which the barriers are easier to cross than in the original system. By frequently swapping the replicas during the MD, the simulations "travel" on different free energy surfaces and easily visit different conformational zones. Last, only the samples on the original free energy surface are collected. The replicas are artificial and are only used to overcome the energy barriers. REST2, in particular, modifies the free energy surfaces by scaling (reducing) the force constants of the "solute" molecules in the simulation system. In this case, the loop regions at the V2R-arrestin interface were considered as solute—the force constants of their van der Waals, electrostatic, and dihedral terms were subject to scaling—to facilitate their conformational changes. The effective temperatures used here for generating the REST2 scaling factors ranged from 310 to 1000 K, following a distribution calculated with the Patriksson-van der Spoel approach (90). Exchange between replicas was attempted every 1000 simulation steps. This setup resulted in an average exchange probability of ~40%. We performed 120 ns \times 24 replicas of MD in the NVT ensemble for each system. The first 40 ns were discarded for equilibration. The original unscaled replica (at 310 K effective temperature) was collected and analyzed.

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Supplementary material for this article is available at <https://science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.abo7761>

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and ScFv30 constructs and built all principal figures. B.M. designed the V2R construct. S.G., B.M., and P.B. wrote the manuscript with the input from J.B. and A.F. Last, S.G., B.M., and P.B. supervised the project. **Competing interests:** The authors declare that they have no competing interests. **Data and materials availability:** The cryo-EM density maps for the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex have been deposited in the Electron Microscopy Data Bank (EMDB) under accession codes EMD-14221 and EMD-14223. The coordinates for the corresponding models of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex have been deposited in the

PDB under accession numbers 7r0c and 7r0j. All data needed to evaluate the conclusions in the paper are present in the paper and/or the Supplementary Materials.

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Supplementary Materials for
**Structure of the vasopressin hormone–V2 receptor– β -arrestin1
ternary complex**

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The PDF file includes:

Figs. S1 to S15
Tables S1 and S2
Legend for movie S1

Other Supplementary Material for this manuscript includes the following:

Movie S1

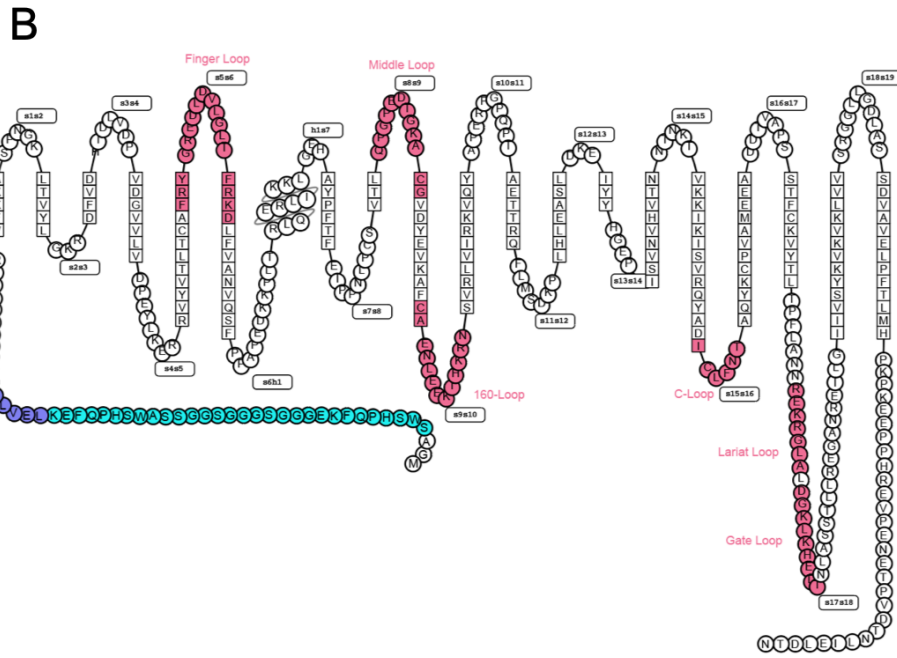
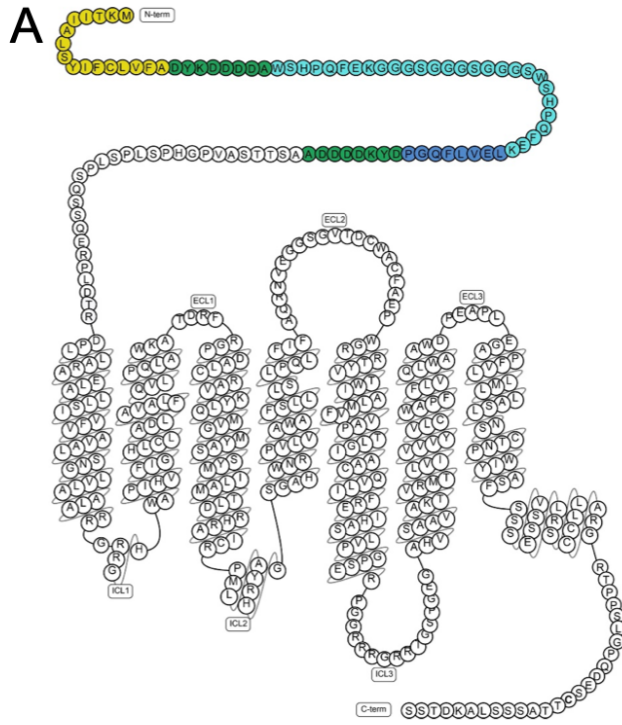


Fig. S1. Cartoons of the V2R and β arr1 Δ CT constructs.

(A) and (B) Modified snake plots of the engineered V2R and β arr1 versions used for Cryo-EM structure determination, respectively (<https://gpcrdb.org>). Purification tags were inserted in the N-terminal part of both constructs for different reasons: i) the C-terminus of V2R has to be maintained in a native form for an efficient β arr1 interaction, ii) the C-terminus of β arr1 was truncated at residue 382 (β arr1 Δ CT), leading to a constitutively active form enhancing V2R coupling. The hemagglutinin signal peptide is shown in yellow, the Flag-tags are in green, the Twin-Strep-tags are in cyan, the human rhinovirus 3C protease cleavage sites are in purple, and all β arr1 Δ CT loops discussed in the manuscript are depicted in pink.

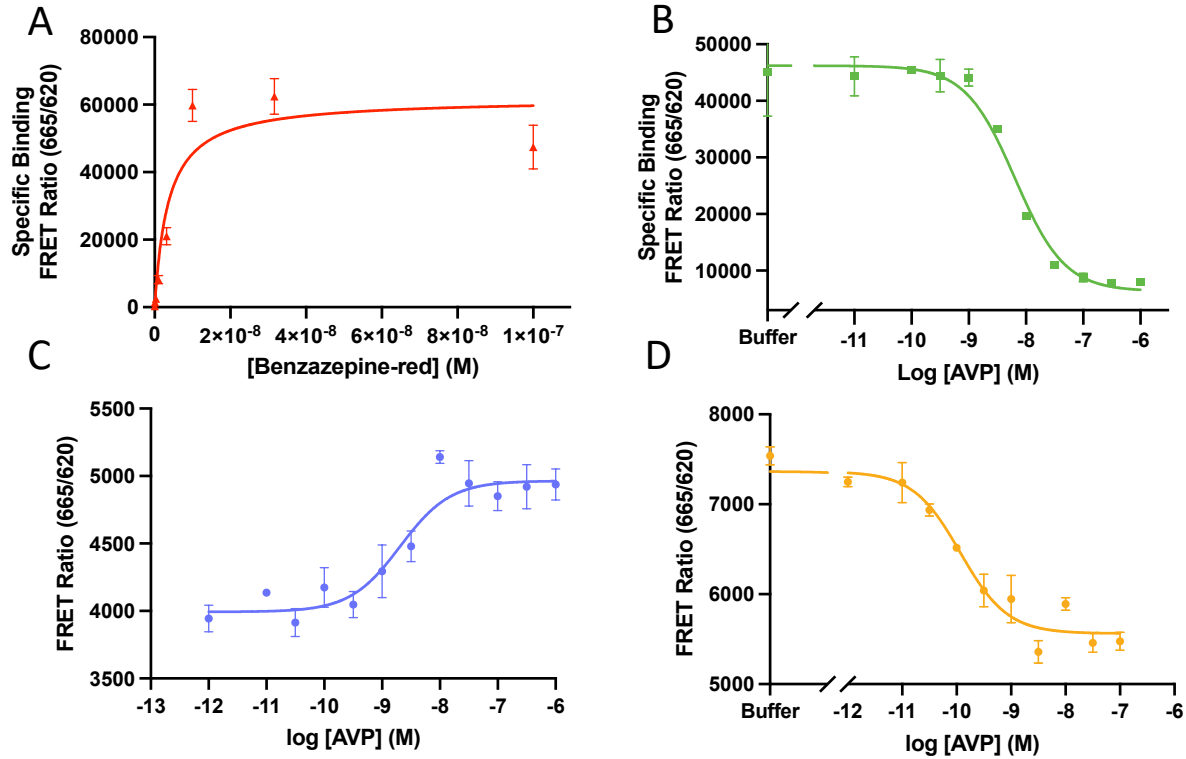


Fig. S2. Pharmacological and functional properties of the V2R construct.

(A) Binding of the benzazepine-red fluorescent antagonist to the V2R measured by FRET. Specific binding from a typical saturation assay is shown as FRET ratio (665nm/620nm x 10,000). (B) Binding of AVP to the V2R is illustrated as FRET ratio (665nm/620nm x 10,000). Specific binding of the fluorescent antagonist is shown. For each competition curve, it was used at 5 nM with or without increasing concentrations of AVP. (C) Dose-response of V2R-dependent recruitment of the β arr2 to AP2 measured by FRET ratio (665nm/620nm x 10,000) in the presence of increasing concentrations of AVP. (D) Dose-response of V2R-dependent Gs protein/adenylyl cyclase activation measured by FRET ratio (665nm/620nm x 10,000). The cAMP accumulation which displaces the fluorescently-labeled cAMP binding to its specific antibody is shown in the presence of increasing concentrations of AVP. For each assay, a typical experiment is represented from at least 3 independent experiments, each point performed in triplicate. Each value is presented as mean \pm SEM.

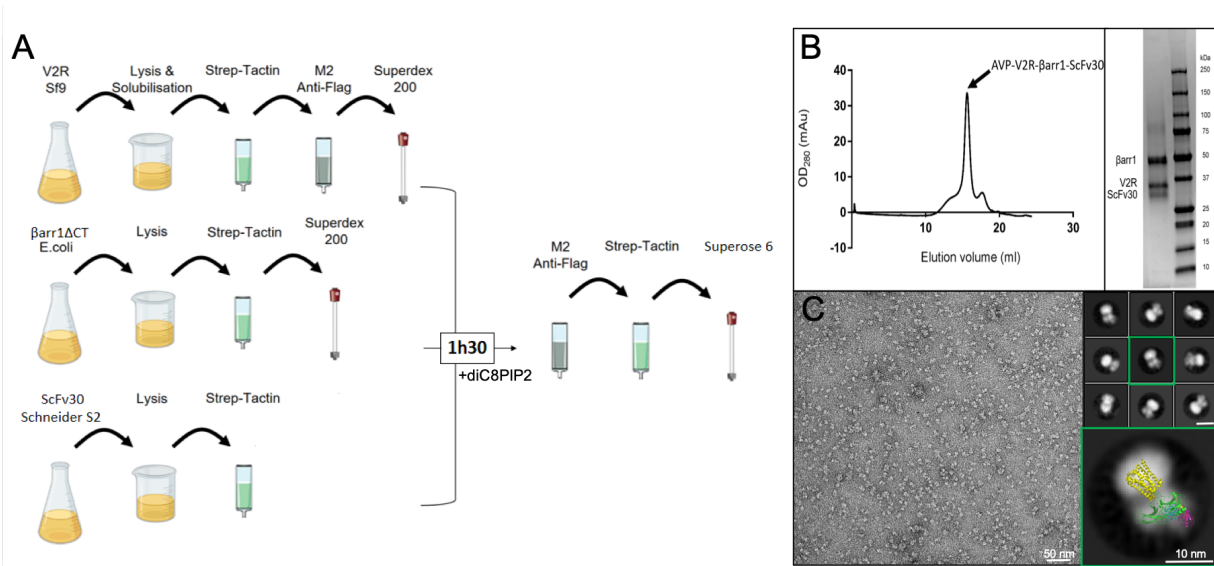
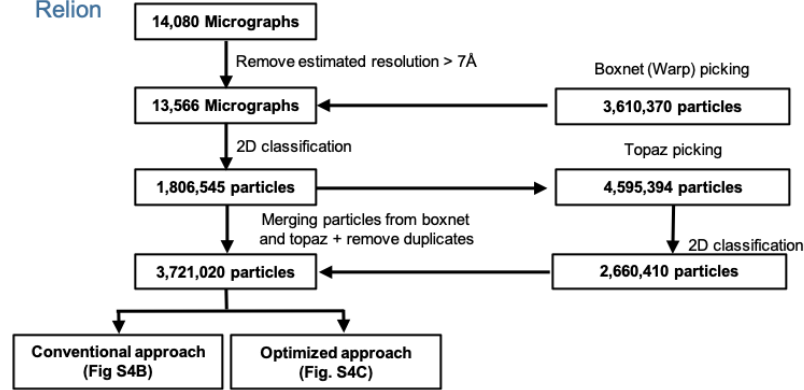


Fig. S3. Overview of the AVP-V2R-βarr1ΔCT-ScFv30 complex preparation, purification and NS-EM analysis.

(A) Workflow for AVP-V2R-βarr1ΔCT-ScFv30 assembly. The V2R, βarr1ΔCT and ScFv30 were expressed and purified separately, the complex being incubated for 1h30 in the presence of diC8PIP2 and then isolated by two successive affinity chromatography steps and a final SEC. (B) A representative chromatogram of the AVP-V2R-βarr1ΔCT-ScFv30 complex using a Superose 6 column shows a monodisperse peak. Fractions containing the sample were combined, used directly for NS-EM and concentrated for Cryo-EM grid preparation. SDS-PAGE of peak fraction from the Superose 6 step is shown on the right. Coomassie blue staining of the proteins confirmed the presence of βarr1ΔCT, V2R and ScFv30 in the complex (AVP is not visible). (C) NS-EM analysis of the sample. A representative micrograph of the purified AVP-V2R-βarr1ΔCT-ScFv30 complex isolated from the SEC peak (scale bar, 50 nm) is shown on the left. 2D most representative class averages showing different orientations (scale bar, 10 nm) are illustrated (top right). A close-up view of a typical 2D class average is presented (bottom right). The 3D model of the M2R-βarr1-Nb24-ScFv30 complex (PDB 6u1n) is fitted onto the particle to show that the AVP-V2R-βarr1ΔCT-ScFv30 particle displayed typical size and characteristics of a GPCR-βarr1-ScFv30 assembly (M2R, yellow; βarr1, green; Nb24, blue; ScFv30, pink).

A

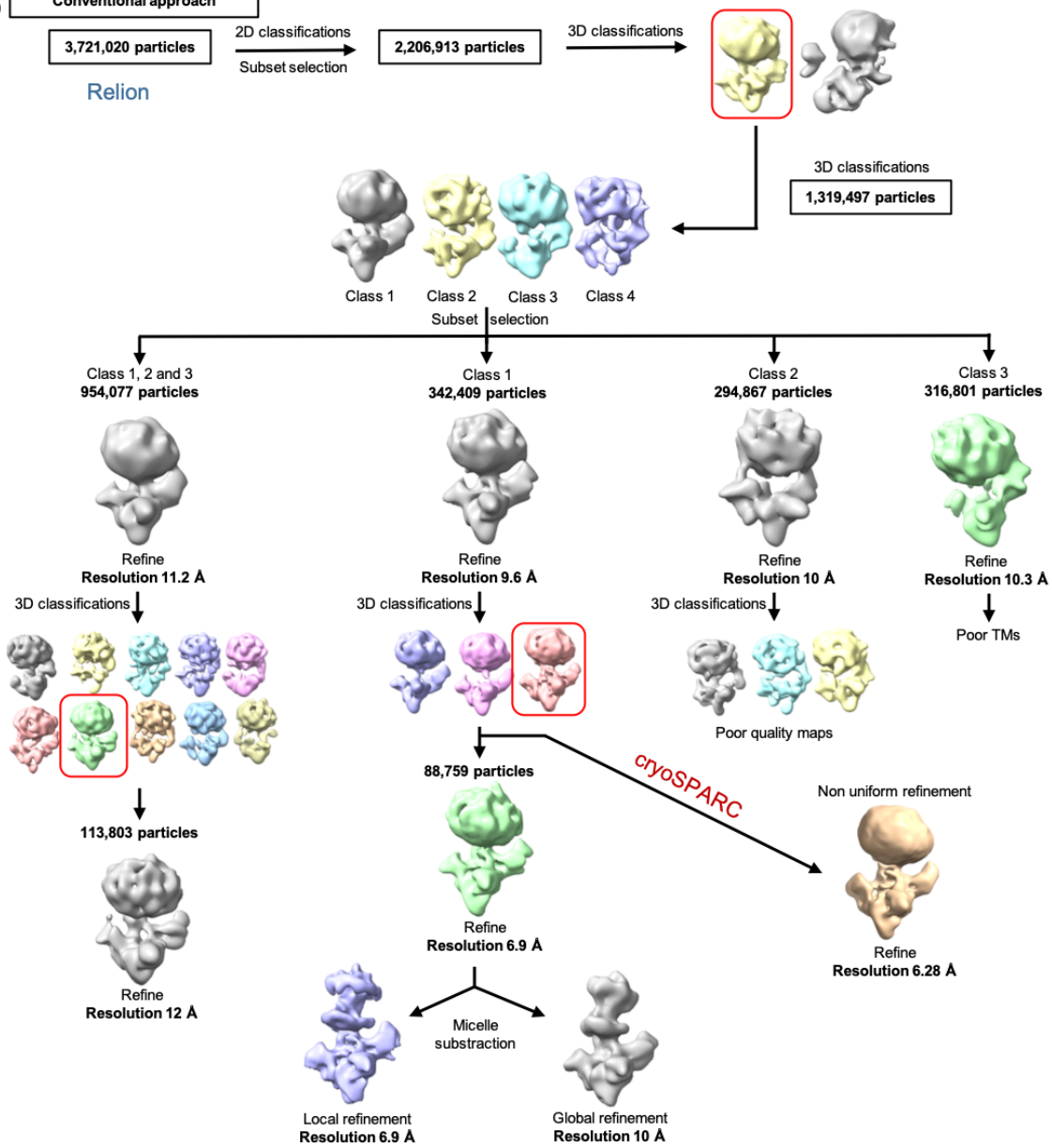
Relion

**B**

Conventional approach

3,721,020 particles

Relion



C

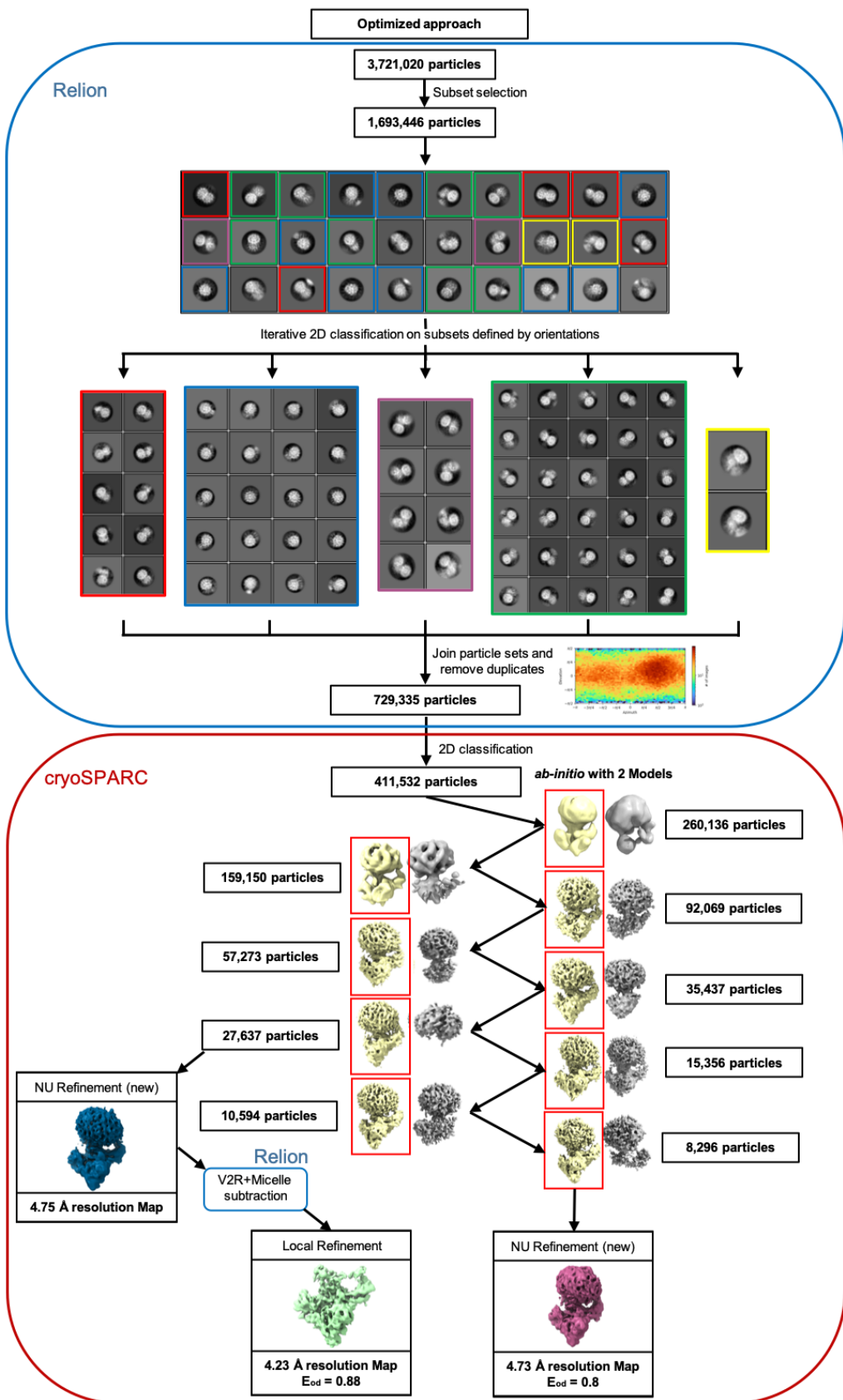


Fig. S4. Cryo-EM workflow.

The different steps of the single particle analysis from a unique movie dataset collected with a Titan Krios are detailed (see also Materials and Methods). Micrographs were treated (movie selection and particle picking) to screen particles which were first subjected to iterative 2D classification in Relion (A). From a set of 3,721,020 particles, two different approaches were performed, a conventional one (B) and an optimized one (C). The conventional workflow, using a 2D classification (only for selected correctly picked particles) and diverse 3D classification approaches in Relion and cryoSPARC provided 3D reconstructions with no better density than 6.28 Å. The optimized approach, combining multiple 2D classifications (based on the orientation of the particles and using different mask size) in Relion followed by multiple rounds of *ab initio* reconstructing processing steps in cryoSPARC, led to a stack of 27,637 particles which was selected to generate a density map with an overall resolution of 4.75 Å after non-uniform refinement. Subtraction of micelles and V2R and local refinement yielded another map with an overall resolution of 4.23 Å. In addition, the subset of 27,637 particles was also refined using 3 additional *ab initio* steps to obtain another stack of 8,296 particles yielding a density map with an overall resolution of 4.73 Å after NU refinement. The Eod, a coefficient related to the orientation distribution via its corresponding point spread function, calculated from the 4.23 Å and 4.73 Å resolution maps, was significantly above the 0.6 threshold (0.88 and 0.8, respectively).

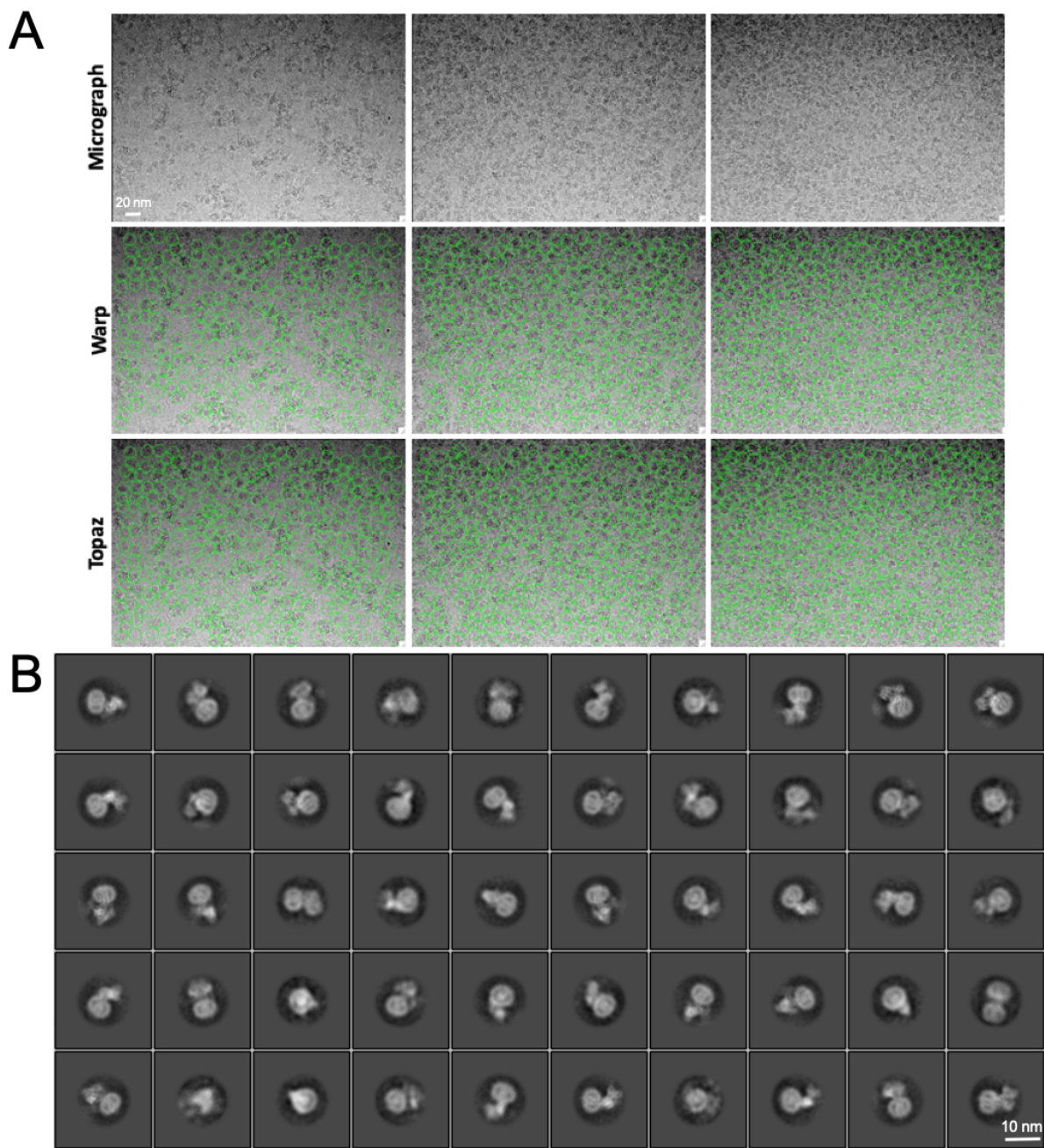


Fig. S5. Cryo-EM images and 2D class averages of the AVP-V2R-βarr1ΔCT-ScFv30 complex.

(A) Three representative micrographs of the complex, showing a different distribution of particles in ice (first row). The picking of the particles was done with Warp or Topaz (second and third row, respectively). Each single particle is circled in green. The combination of Warp and Topaz allowed for an optimal recovery of the data. (B) Most representative 2D class averages showing distinct secondary structure features like the V2R TM regions embedded in the detergent micelle, and different orientations of the AVP-V2R- βarr1ΔCT-ScFv30 complex.

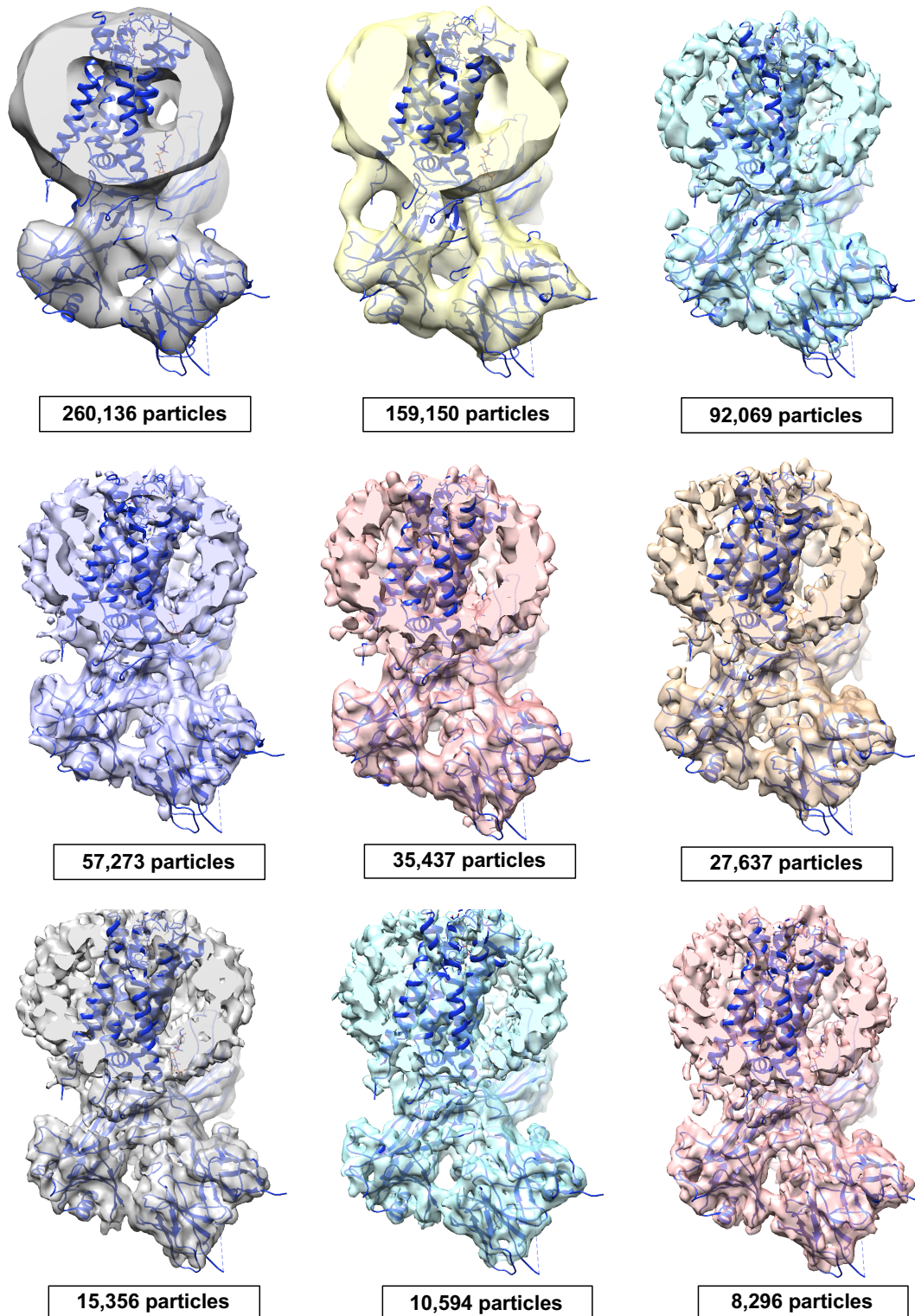


Fig. S6. Screening of the particles with a two-models *ab initio* reconstruction procedure. The refined 3D model fitted in the successive density maps shows that orientation of β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 relative to V2R is maintained through selected models from the iterative rounds of CryoSPARC *ab initio* analysis.

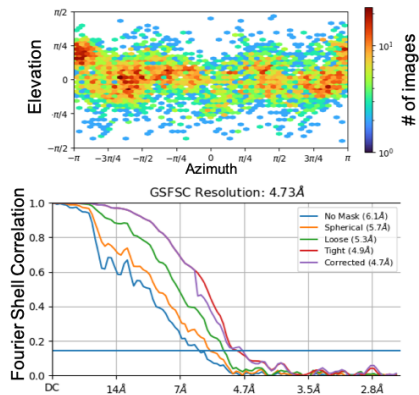
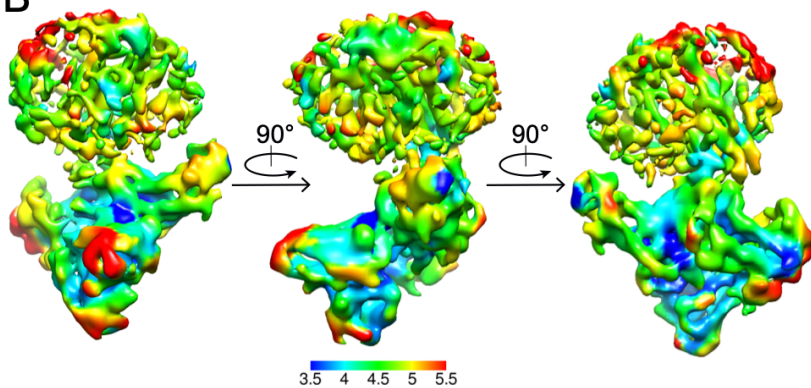
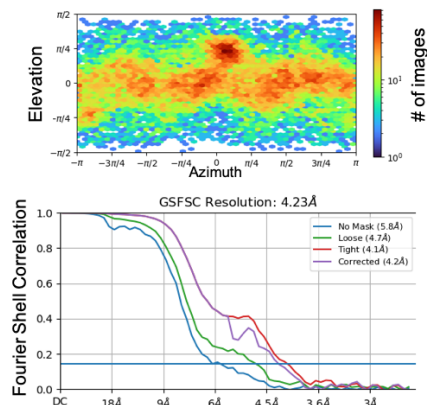
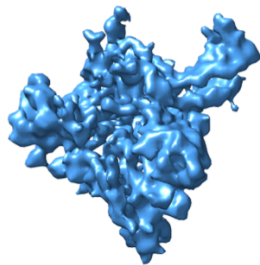
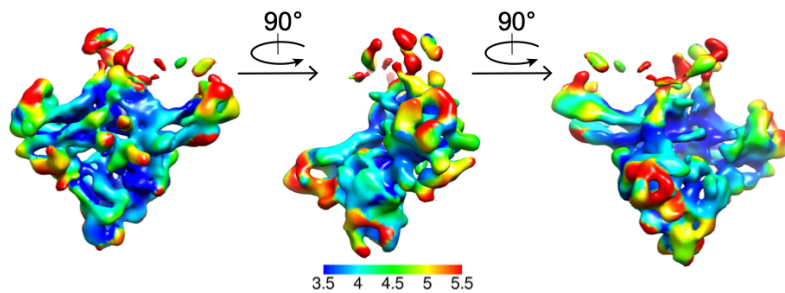
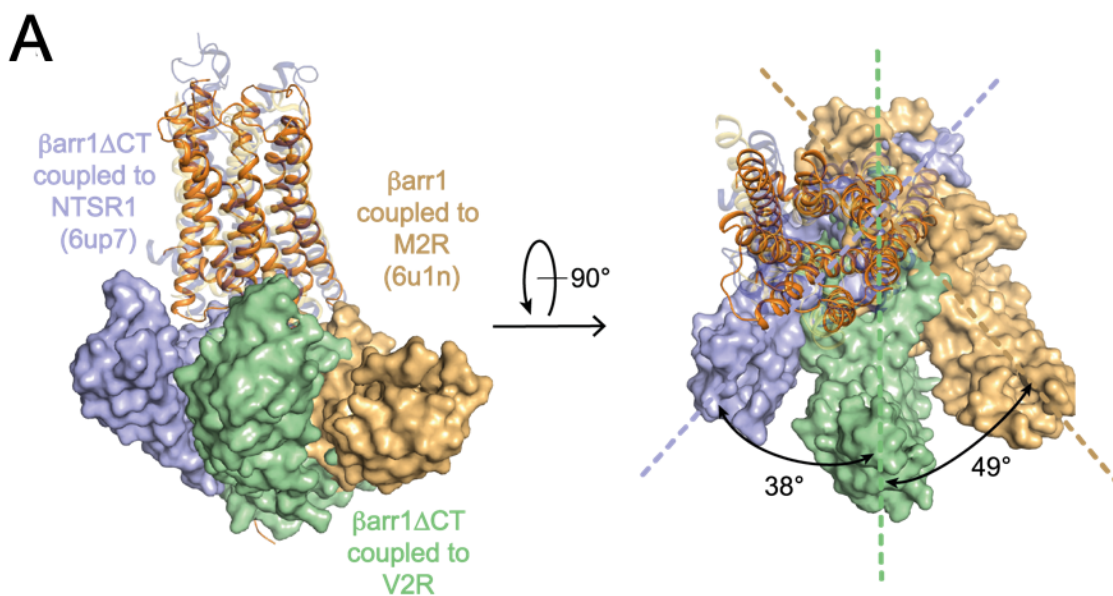
A**B****C****D**

Fig. S7. Cryo-EM density maps of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex and local resolution estimation.

(A) Final density map of the whole AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex and (B) its local resolution estimation. (C) Final density map of the V2RCter- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 subcomplex and (D) its local resolution estimation. For both complexes, viewing direction distribution (top panels) indicates that no preferential orientation of the particles was observed. The density map resolution was determined from Fourier Shell Correlation (FSC) with a cut-off of 0.143 (bottom panel).



B

	V2R	
	Angle (°)	translation (Å)
M2R - 6u1n	49	15
β1AR - 6tko	38	8
NTSR1 - 6up7	38	14
NTSR1 - 6pwc	54	15
Rhodopsin - 5w0p	49	11

Fig. S8. Comparison of the βarr1ΔCT orientation in different GPCR complexes.

(A) Overlay of the V2R-βarr1ΔCT structure with NTSR1-βarr1ΔCT (PDB 6up7) and M2R-βarr1 (6u1n) structures, on the basis of alignment of the receptor chains, viewed from the membrane (left) and from the extracellular space (right). The orientation of βarr1ΔCT in the V2R complex is compared with that in the NTSR1 and in the M2R complexes respectively, and the angles between βarr1s are indicated. V2R and βarr1ΔCT are colored in orange and green, M2R and βarr1 (PDB 6u1n) are in yellow and gold, βarr1ΔCT and NTSR1 (PDB 6up7) are in purple. (B) Geometrical parameters of the different GPCR-arrestin complexes compared to the V2R-βarr1ΔCT complex. The rhodopsin-arrestin1 (PDB 5w0p) is also indicated for information (91). Angles and distances were extracted from Pymol 2.3.5 macro's "angle_between_domains". They represent rotation and displacement that would happen to align βarr1s after each couple of GPCRs is aligned.

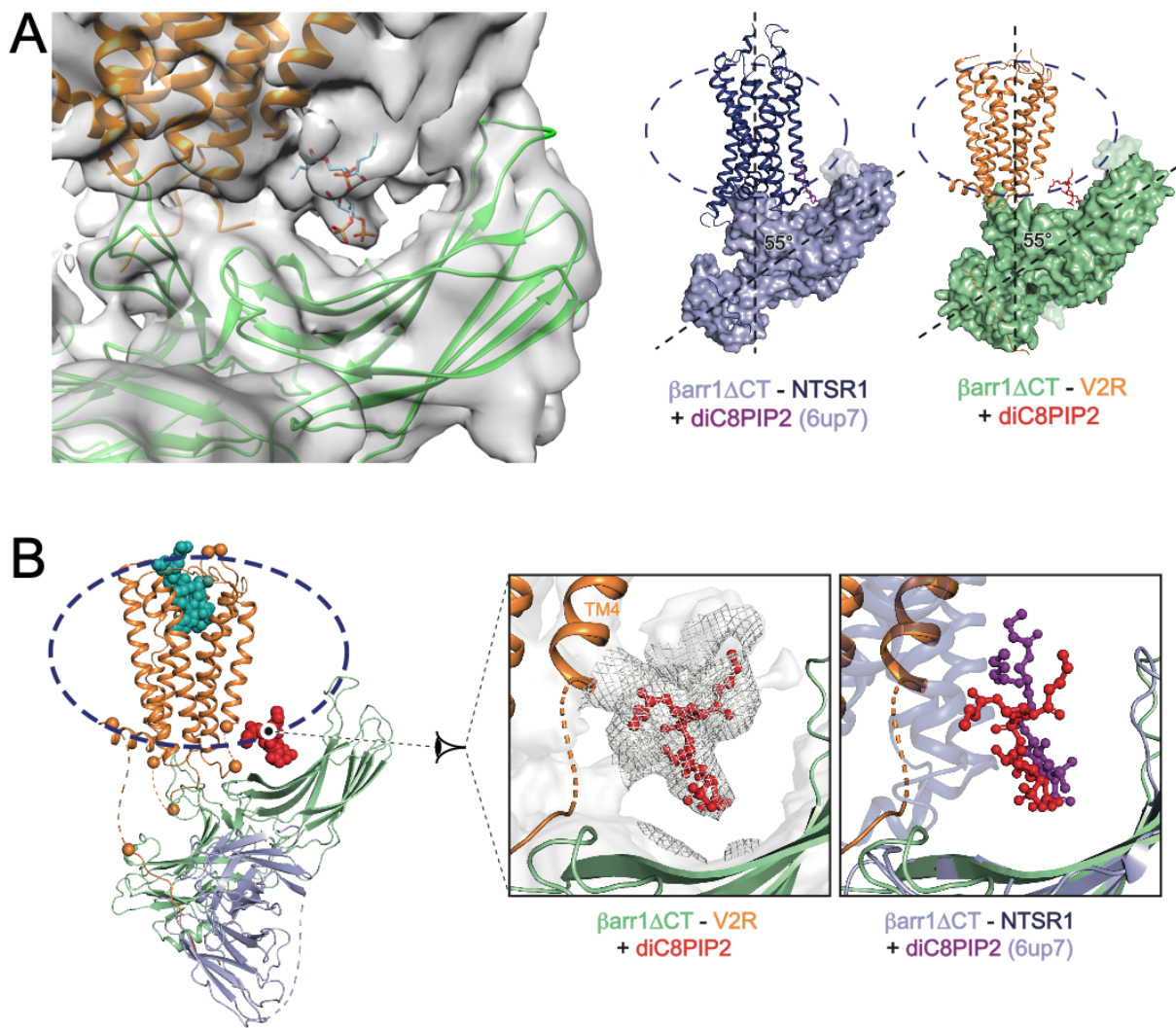


Fig. S9. Putative localization of diC8PIP2 in the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex.

(A) Based on the density map of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex, and on several evidences (see main text), the diC8PIP2 molecule was tentatively modeled at the interface between V2R and the phosphoinositide binding site of β arr1 (left panel). The tilted conformation of β arr1 Δ CT in the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex and the NTS₈₋₁₃-NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT-Fab30 complex (PDB 6up7) were compared (right panel). The detergent micelles are shown as dashed lines. The angle between the longitudinal axis of β arr1 and each GPCR, respectively, is indicated. The diC8PIP2 in V2R and NTSR1 (PDB 6up7) complexes is shown in red and mauve, respectively. NTSR1 is in dark purple whereas β arr1 Δ CT is blue grey. (B) Putative 3D model of diC8PIP2 in the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 complex (left panel). A close-up view of the diC8PIP2 position is shown in the central panel. Its putative density is displayed as a mesh. An overlay of V2R- β arr1 Δ CT with NTSR1- β arr1 Δ CT (right panel) shows that diC8PIP2

superimposes in the two complexes (alignment is done onto β arr1 Δ CT moieties). In A and B, the color scheme for V2R and β arr1 Δ CT is as in Fig. 1.

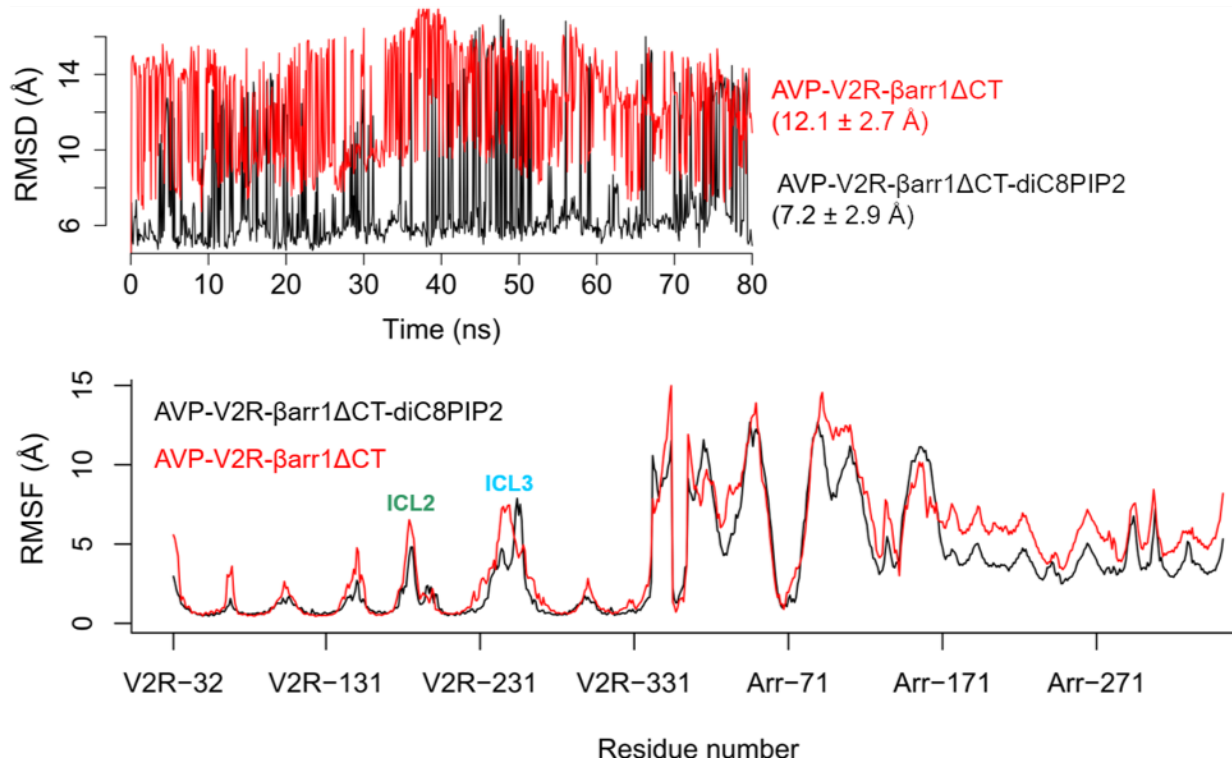


Fig. S10. MD simulations of the AVP-V2R-βarr1ΔCT complex: effect of diC8PIP2.

Root-mean-square deviations (RMSD, top panel) and fluctuations (RMSF, bottom panel) of V2R-βarr1ΔCT C α atoms, during the MD simulations of the AVP-V2R-βarr1ΔCT complex with or without diC8PIP2. The MD trajectories were aligned to the C α atoms of V2R TM helices in the cryo-EM structure.

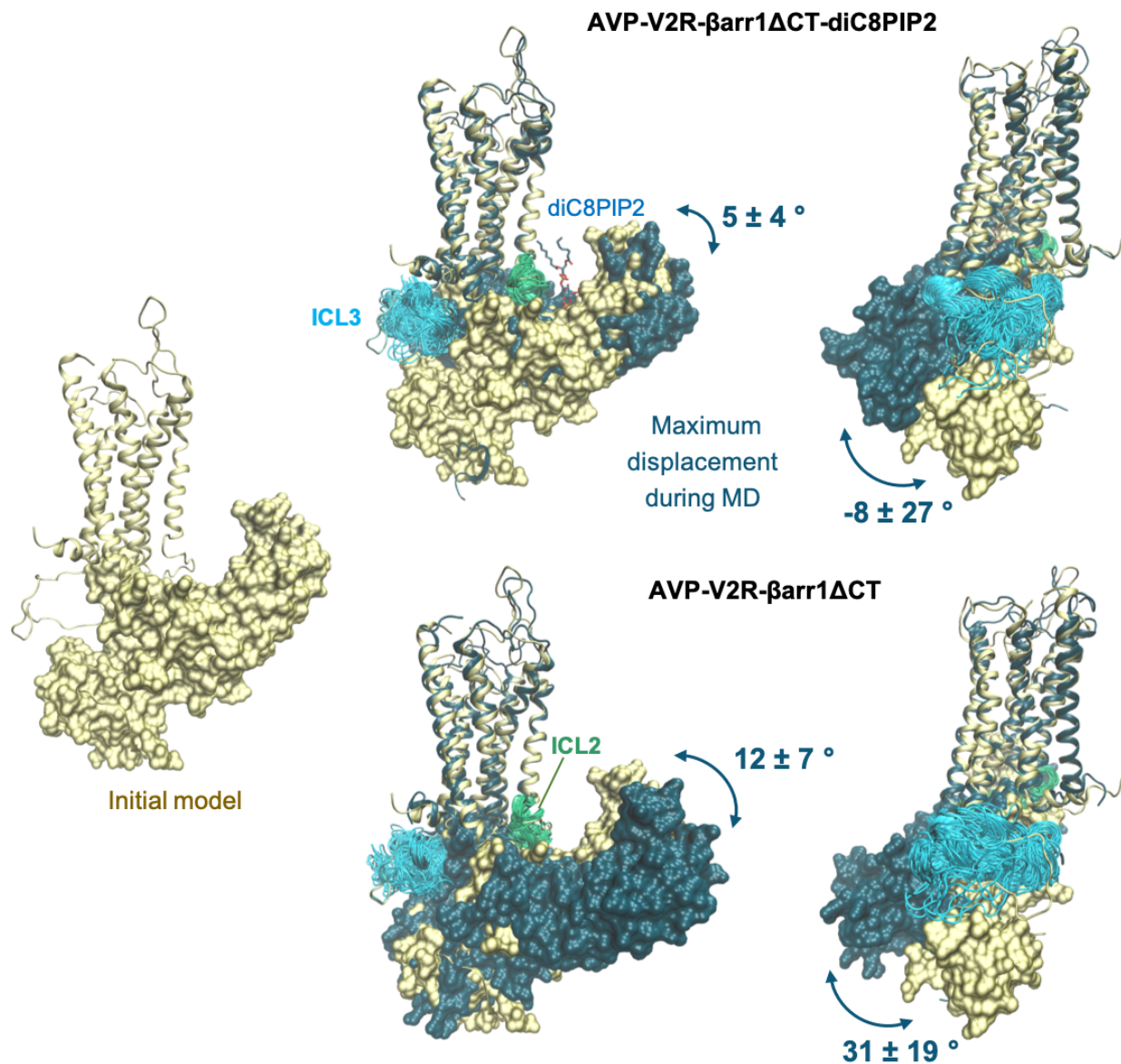


Fig. S11. MD simulations of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complex: mobility of V2R ICLs and β arr1 Δ CT.

The mobility of V2R ICL2, ICL3 and β arr1 Δ CT during the MD simulations of the AVP-V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complex with (top) or without (bottom) diC8PIP2 is shown. MD trajectories were aligned to the C α atoms of V2R TM helices in the initial model built based on the Cryo-EM structure. Rotation of β arr1 Δ CT N-lobe is measured as a dihedral angle with respect to the axis of TM2. Tilt of β arr1 Δ CT C-lobe is calculated as a dihedral angle with respect to the membrane plane. All angles are calculated relative to the initial model, labeled as mean \pm SD during the MD.

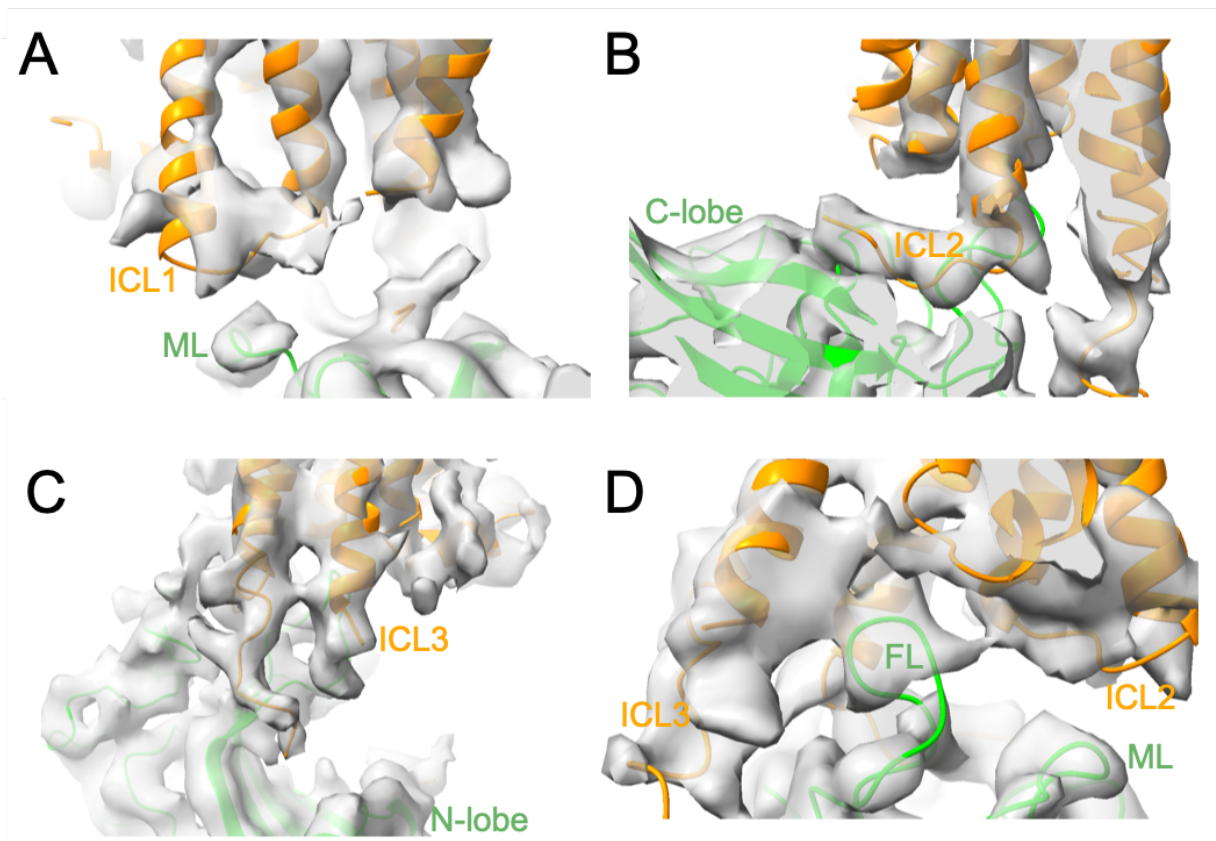


Fig. S12. Interactions at the interface between V2R and β arr1 Δ CT.

In all panels, the cryo-EM density map (in grey) and the corresponding 3D model of the V2R- β arr1 Δ CT complex are superimposed (V2R in dark orange and β arr1 Δ CT in lime green). All intracellular regions of the V2R, ICLs and the cytoplasmic side of the TM core, are in contact with the β arr1 Δ CT. Some closed-up views of the interactions at the V2R- β arr1 Δ CT interface are shown: ICL1-ML (A), ICL2-C-lobe (B), ICL3-N-lobe (C) and TM core-FL (D).

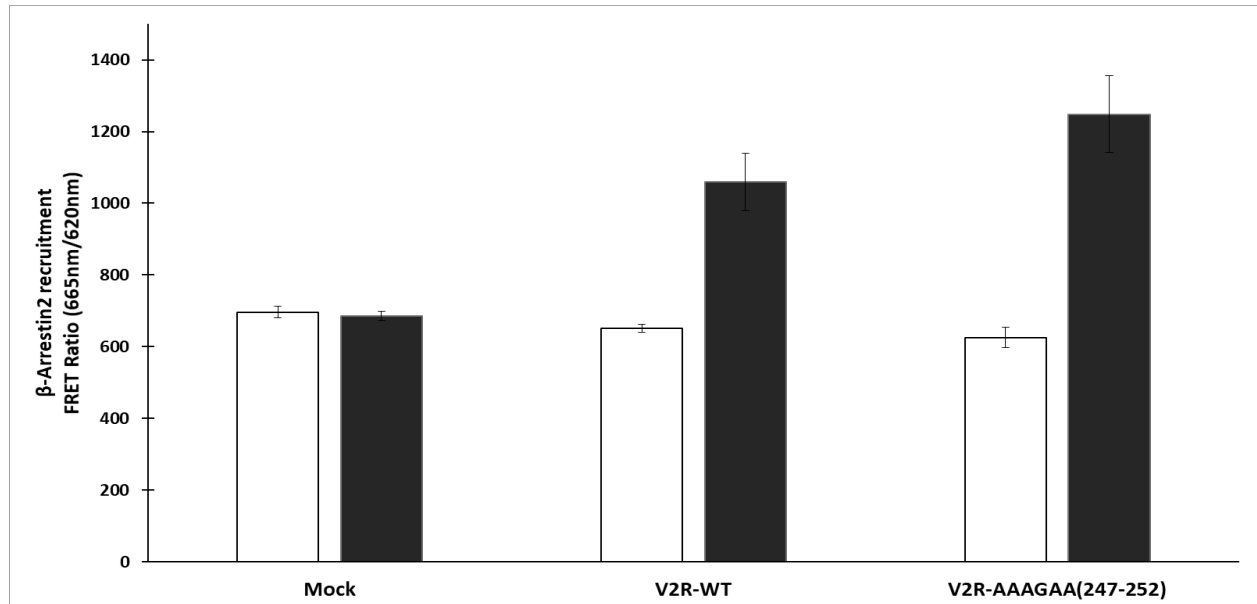


Fig. S13. Mutation of the arginine cluster in V2R ICL3: effect on β -arrestin2 recruitment.

HEK293 cells were transfected and agonist-stimulated as described in Materials and Methods. Briefly, 2 ng of V2R coding-plasmid (either the wild-type or the AAAGAA(247-52) mutant) were mixed with 98 ng of non-coding plasmid per each well. Mock cells correspond to cells transfected with the non-coding plasmid only (100 ng). Activation of the cells with AVP (100 nM, black histograms) or buffer (basal, white histograms) was used to measure recruitment of β arr2 and FRET measurements were performed following manufacturer's instructions. A typical experiment is shown, was repeated at least 3 times, each point in triplicate. Each value is expressed as mean \pm SEM.

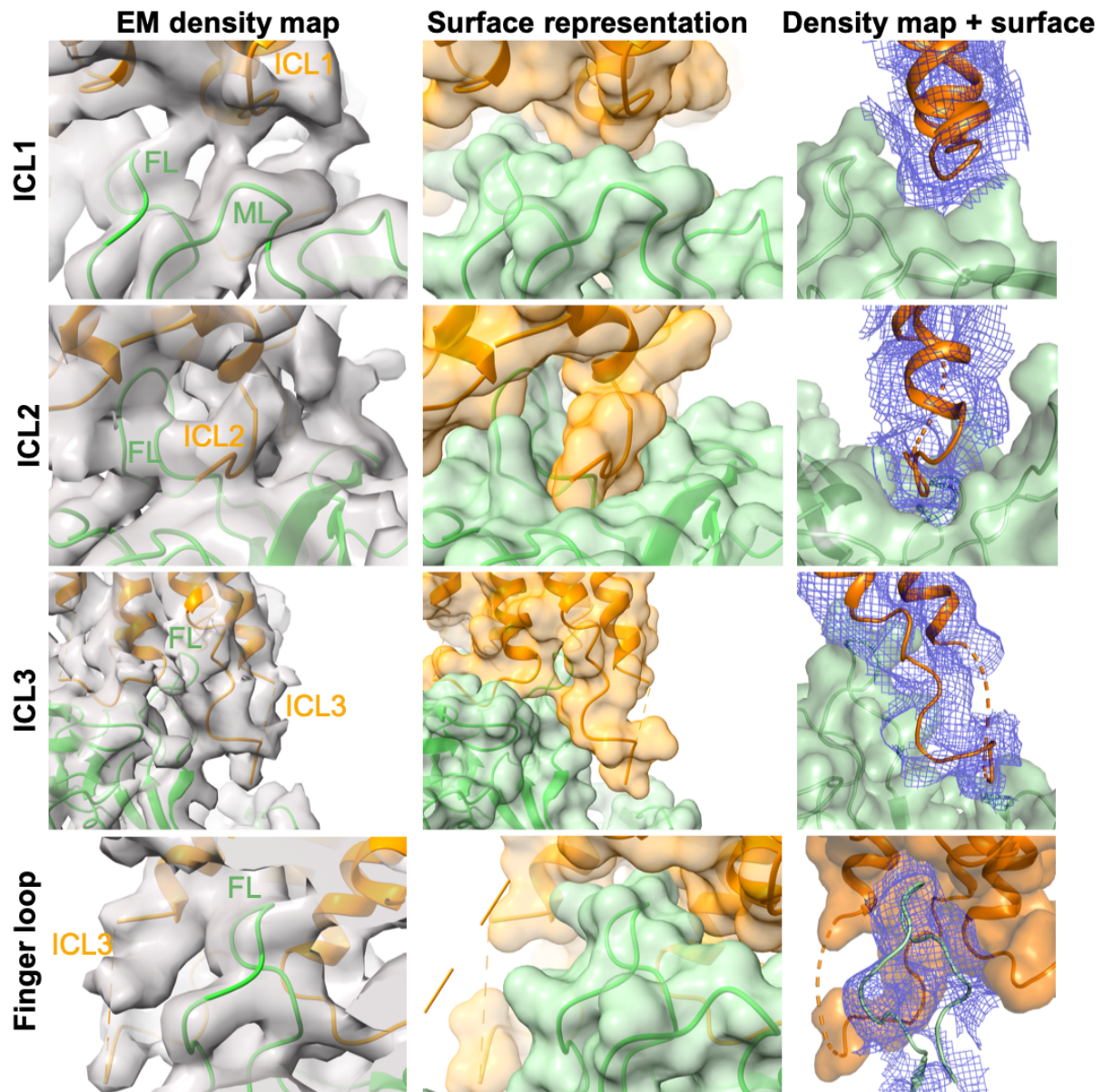


Fig. S14. Close-up views of the interface contacts between V2R and β arr1 Δ CT.

The contacts at the V2R- β arr1 Δ CT interface are shown in different ways: i) density map (in grey) and corresponding model are superimposed in the left column, ii) surface representation in the middle column, and iii) density map (as a blue mesh) combined with surface representation (two different angles are shown) in the right column. In all panels, V2R is in orange and β arr1 Δ CT in green.

	AVP-V2R- β Arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 (PDB 7R0C; EMD-14221)	V2R ^{Cter} - β Arr1 Δ CT-ScFv30 (PDB 7R0J; EMD-14223)
Data collection and processing		
Voltage (kV)	300	300
Electron exposure (e-/A ²)	52.63	52.63
Defocus range (μ m)	-1.0 to -2.0	-1.0 to -2.0
Pixel size (\AA)	0.64	0.64
Symmetry imposed	C1	C1
initial particle images (no.)	3,721,020	3,721,020
Final particle images (no.)	8,293	27,637
Map resolution (\AA)	4.73	4.23
FSC threshold	0.143	0.143
Map local resolution range (\AA)	3.5 to 5.5	3.5 to 5.5
Refinement		
Initial models used (PDB codes)	7KH0, 4JQI, 6U1N	4JQI, 6U1N
Model resolution (\AA)	4.73	4.23
Map sharpening <i>B</i> factor (\AA^2)	-168.2	-188
Model composition		
Non-hydrogen atoms	6,816	4,669
Number of protein residues / atoms	876 / 6,816	596 / 4,669
Number of ligands / ligand atoms	1 / 40	0
average <i>B</i> factor (\AA^2)		
Protein	207	164
Ligands	254	–
R.m.s deviations		
Bond lengths (\AA)	0.006	0.008
Bond angles ($^\circ$)	1.11	1.16
Validation		
MolProbity score	2.32	2.57
Clashscore	26.7	37.3
Poor rotamers (%)	0.14	0.20
Ramachandran plot		
Favored (%)	93.85	91.16
Allowed (%)	6.15	8.84
Disallowed (%)	0	0

Table S1. Cryo-EM data collection, refinement, and validation statistics.

EMD, Electron Microscopy Data; PDB, Protein Data Bank; R.m.s deviations, root mean square deviation.

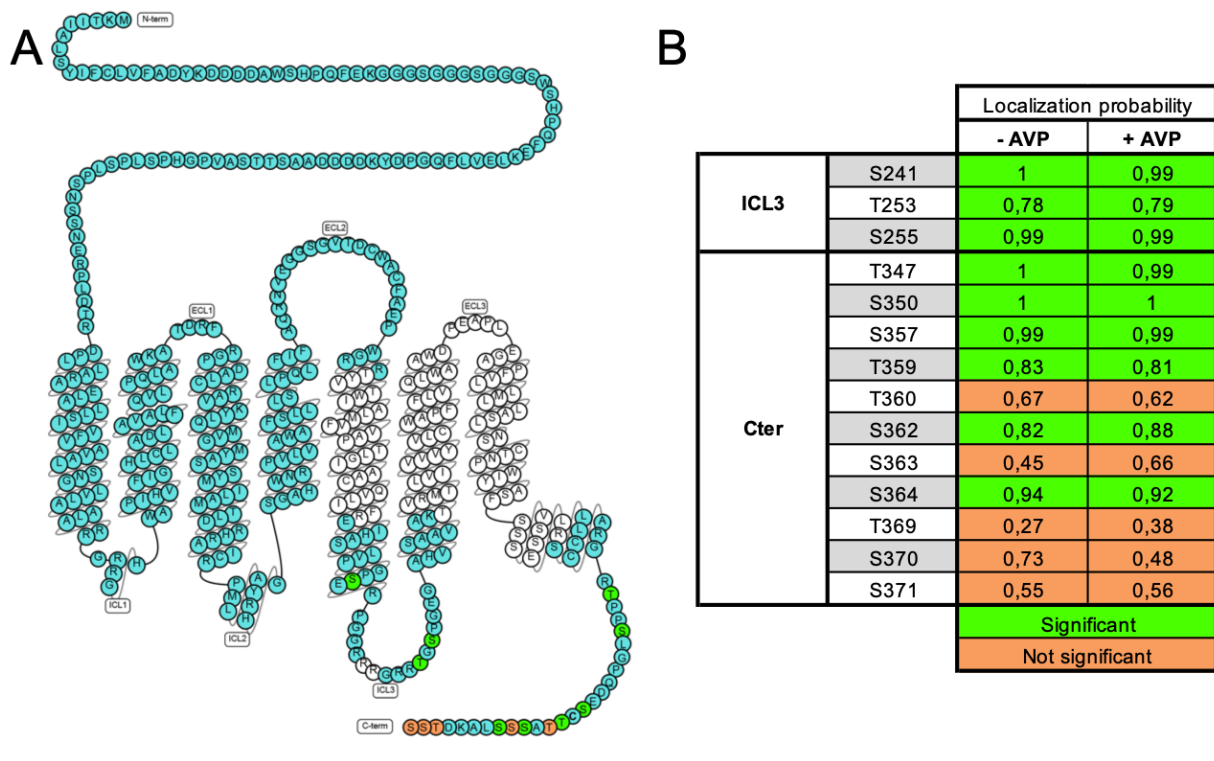


Fig. S15. Phosphoproteomics of the Cryo-EM V2R version.

(A) Modified snake plot of the engineered V2R used for cryo-EM structure determination. Suspensions of Sf9 cells expressing the recombinant V2R were treated or not with AVP 1 μ M for 30 min at 28°C before harvesting. The V2R was then purified using the procedure described in Materials and Methods, isolated as a monodisperse peak by SEC and subjected to trypsin digestion. Peptides were analyzed using nano-HPLC and tandem mass spectrometry. Identified peptides allowed to recover most (approximately 70%) of the V2R sequence (shown in cyan). Phosphoresidues identified by LC-MS/MS are in green and orange. (B) Localization probability of phosphoresidues. Phosphosites were identified in ICL3 and V2RCter regions from cells treated by AVP or not. Significant localization probability (at least 0.75) of phosphates is shown in green, whereas the not significant (< 0.75) is shown in orange.

	V40	V41	L42	E50	R51	R52	V53	Y54	V55	T56	P124	C125	S126	V127	T128	L129	Q130	P131	G132	P133	E134	D135	T136	G137	K138	
AVP-V2R-βArr1ΔCT																										
G239		5																								
S241		13	1																							
E242																										
R243			7																							
P244		3	9																							
G245		6	1											3												
G246		9	13									3	15	19	8		1		3	1		3	4	1	2	
R247	5	18	26				3	7	1	13	1	4	23	9	22	36	9	16	7	3	7	5	3	2		
R248			7											1	2	1	1				1	1	1			
R249			3		6	2	4	11	14	3		2	16	3	1	5		4				1	1			
G250				5	8	3	7	17	17	6		1	7	3	2	16	2	16			1	1				
R251					3		1	7	9	1		3	5	6	6											
R252		1	2		1			8	1	1																
T253			1																							
P256			2																							
AVP-V2R-βArr1ΔCT-diC8PIP2																										
G246																										
R247		11	2				6	2						2	3	4	19	74	87	33	36					
R248														2		2	6	10	15	4	10					
R249														4	4	4	9	16	50	6	31					
G250							7	11						6	3	3	7	1	4	6	18					
R251							8	7	2												9					
R252														2	1	1			1		9					
T253																					3					

Table S2. Contact map between V2R ICL3 and βArr1ΔCT during MD simulations.

Proposed contacts between residues of V2R ICL3 (row) and βArr1ΔCT (column) by MD simulations of the AVP-V2R-βArr1ΔCT complex in the presence or absence of diC8PIP2. They are colored by the lifetime during the simulations (% of the total simulation frames). A 6 Å minimum distance cutoff between residue pairs was used to calculate the contacts in each MD simulation frame. For instance, in the presence of diC8PIP2, R247 from V2R and G132 from βArr1ΔCT formed the most frequent contact (in 87% of the simulation frames).

Movie S1. Representation of the flexibility of the signaling complex. This animation represents the first three principal components (PC1 to PC3) computed by 3D-variability analysis from cryoSPARC. The strong dynamics of the system was not efficiently managed by the analysis, restricting further interpretation.

Structure of the vasopressin hormone–V2 receptor– β -arrestin1 ternary complex

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