1	SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
2	
3 4	Structural insights into proprotein convertase activation facilitate the engineering of highly specific furin inhibitors.
5 6	Rupert Klaushofer <sup>1,2‡</sup> , Konstantin Bloch <sup>3‡</sup> , Luisa Susanna Eder <sup>1,2</sup> , Simone Marzaro <sup>1</sup> , Mario
7	Schubert <sup>1</sup> , Eva Böttcher-Friebertshäuser <sup>3</sup> , Hans Brandstetter <sup>1,2</sup> and Sven O. Dahms <sup>1,2,*</sup>
8	
9	<sup>1</sup> Department of Biosciences and Medical Biology, University of Salzburg, Hellbrunner Straße
10	34, A-5020 Salzburg, Austria
11	<sup>2</sup> Center for Tumor Biology and Immunology (CTBI), University of Salzburg, Hellbrunner
12	Straße 34, A-5020 Salzburg, Austria
13 14 15	<sup>3</sup> Institute of Virology, Philipps University, Hans-Meerwein-Straße 2, D-35043 Marburg, Germany
16	<sup>‡</sup> Authors contributed equally
17	* To whom correspondence should be addressed:
18	Sven O. Dahms: sven.dahms@plus.ac.at, Tel: +43-662-80447277
19	

20	Table of contents	S
21		Page
22	Supplementary Methods	3-5
23	Supplementary Figures	
24	Figure S1	6
25	Figure S2	7
26	Figure S3	8
27	Figure S4	9
28	Figure S5	10
29	Figure S6	11
30	Figure S7	12
31	Figure S8	13
32	Figure S9	14
33	Figure S10	15
34	Figure S11	16
35	Figure S12	17
36	Figure S13	18
37	Figure S14	19
38	Figure S15	20
39	Figure S16	21
40	Figure S17	22
41	Figure S18	23
42	Supplementary Tables	
43	Table S1	24
44	Table S2	25
45	Table S3	26
46	Table S4	27
47	Supplementary References	28
48		

# 49 Supplementary Methods

50

71

72

73 74

75

76

77 78

79

80

81 82

83

84

85

86 87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94 95

96

## Expression and purification of proprotein convertases.

The expression plasmids for furin (Asp23-Ala574, UNP P09958 1-3), furin<sup>T562R</sup> (Asp23-Ala574 51 with Thr562Arg-mutation, UNP P09958 4), PC5/6 (Arg33-Gly634, UNP Q92824, 1) and PC7 52 53 (Pro44-Thr667, UNP Q16549, 1) were synthesized and cloned by GeneArt (Thermo Fisher Scientific). In all cases, the DNA was codon-optimized for *Homo sapiens*. The constructs were 54 55 modified at 5'-end (TGATCAGCCACCATGGGGATTCTTCCCAGCCCTGGGATGCCTGCGCTGCTCTCCCTCG 56 57 TGAGCCTTCTCCGTGCTGCTGATGGGTTGCGTAGCTGAAACCGGT) including secretion signal sequence and a Bcl-I restriction site. At the 3'-end the sequences of furin (wild-58 59 PC5/6 PC7 as well as were extended 60 AGCGGTAGCCTGGTGCCGCGCGCAGCCACCACCACCACCACCACTGATGACTCGAG 61 and GGATCCCACCACCACCACCACTGATAATCACTCGAG, respectively. The DNA 62 sequences of furin (wild-type), PC7 and PC5/6 were inserted into the pCDNA3.1(+) expression 63 vector (Invitrogen, Thermo Fisher Scientific) using Bcll and Xhol for the insert-DNA fragment as well as BamHI and XhoI for the vector-DNA fragment. The 5'- and 3'-ends of the furin T562R 64 65 coding sequence were modified with **ACCGGT** AGCGGTAGCCTGGTGCCGCGCGCAGCCACCACCACCACCACCACTGA TGACTCGAG. 66 The modified DNA sequence of furin<sup>T562R</sup> was inserted in the expression vector pHLsec <sup>5</sup> using 67 68 the restriction enzymes Agel and Xhol. The pCDNA3.1(+)-derived plasmids were linearized 69 with Scal (FastDigest, Thermo Fisher Scientific) and used for stable transfection of HEK293S 70 (ATCC CRL3022) cells <sup>1</sup>.

Cells were grown in DMEM (4.5 g l<sup>-1</sup> glucose, 2 mM L-glutamine, 110 mg L<sup>-1</sup> sodium pyruvate, 3.7 g L<sup>-1</sup> NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, nonessential amino acids; PAN-Biotech GmbH) supplemented with 10% (v/v) FBS (Qualified Standard Origin Brazil, Gibco, Thermo Fisher Scientific). Polyclonal selection of stable cell lines was conducted in the presence of 500 µg mL<sup>-1</sup> G418 (Geneticin, Carl Roth GmbH). Large-scale protein expression was performed in multilayer flasks (HyperFlask M, Corning) without G418. For protein expression the medium of confluently grown cells was exchanged with DMEM supplemented with 2 mM sodium butyrate as well as with FBS (2% (v/v), furin) or without FBS (PC5/6 and PC7). The medium exchange was repeated five (furin) or two (PC5/6 and PC7) times every 2-3 days. After harvest the conditioned medium was centrifuged (20 min, 5500 g, 4 °C) and stored at -80 °C until further use. Furin<sup>T562R</sup> was expressed by transient expression of HEK293S <sup>2,3</sup> in 175 cm<sup>2</sup> cell culture flasks (CELLSTAR TC, Red filter screw cap, Greiner Bio-One) with 2% (v/v) FBS, and 5 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub> according to the procedure described by Aricescu and coworkers <sup>5</sup>. The ratio (w/w) of transfection reagent to plasmid-DNA was 2:1 and 0.5 µg DNA were used per cm<sup>2</sup> of cultured cells. The medium was exchanged 24 h after transfection by DMEM without FBS but supplemented with 2 mM CaCl2. After 72 h the conditioned medium was harvested, centrifuged and stored as described above.

Before purification, the medium was thawed in a water bath at 37°C and concentrated by ultrafiltration (Omega 10K ultrafiltration membrane, Pall) in a tangential flow concentrator (Centramate, Pall). During concentration the medium was cooled on ice. Purification steps were performed at ~22°C if not stated otherwise. Concentrated medium was diluted 1:5 in buffer A (100 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8.0, 500 mM NaCl), concentrated again and filtered using a 0.22 µm membrane (GP Millipore Express PLUS, Millipore). Prior to immobilized metal affinity purification (IMAC) buffer B (buffer A supplemented with 500 mM imidazol) was added to the medium to reach a concentration of 10 mM imidazole. NiNTA-superflow resin (Qiagen) was equilibrated in buffer A + 10 mM imidazole, added to the medium and incubated for 30 min.

- The suspension was loaded on a gravity flow column jacket, washed three times with 10 bed volumes (cv) of buffer A + 10 mM imidazole and eluted four times with 1 cv buffer B.
- 99 Furin (wild-type and Thr562Arg) was further purified using immobilized inhibitor affinity purification <sup>6</sup>. For this purpose, the IMAC elution fractions with the highest protein content were
- purification s. For this purpose, the IMAC elution fractions with the highest protein content were pooled, diluted 1:5 with 10 mM Hepes/NaOH, pH 7.4, 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub> and loaded on the inhibitor
- affinity column. The protein was eluted with 10 mM Hepes/NaOH, pH 7.4, 500 mM NaCl and
- 103 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, diluted 1:5 with 10 mM Hepes/NaOH, pH 7.4, 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub> and concentrated by
- 104 ultrafiltration (Amicon Ultra 15 Centrifugal Filter Ultracel 30K, Merck Millipore).
- PC7 was diluted in 50 mM Tris/HCl, at pH 7.5, 10 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, and 0.15 M NaCl to 50 μg mL<sup>-1</sup>
- and activated with thermolysin (2.0 µg mL<sup>-1</sup>) for 16 h at 37 °C. The reaction mixture was
- 107 concentrated by ultrafiltration (Amicon Ultra 15 Centrifugal Filter Ultracel 30K, Merck Millipore)
- and subjected to gel permeation chromatography (GPC, both steps at 4 °C).
- 109 IMAC fraction of PC5/6 were concentrated by ultrafiltration (Amicon Ultra 15 Centrifugal Filter
- 110 Ultracel 30K, Merck Millipore) and subjected to GPC. For PC5/6 and PC7 GPC was performed
- 111 on a Superdex 200 10/300 GL column (GE Healthcare) coupled to a coupled to a
- 112 chromatography system (Aekta Purifier with Unicorn 5.31 software, GE Healthcare) using
- 113 10 mM Hepes/NaOH, pH 7.4, 100 mM NaCl and 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>. Fractions with high protein
- 114 content were pooled and concentrated by ultrafiltration.

# 115 Cloning of PC1/3-prodomain constructs.

- 116 The expression vectors covering the amino acids 28-110 of human PC1/3 (PCSK1, UNIPROT-
- 117 ID P29120) were synthesized and cloned by GeneArt (Thermo Fisher Scientific, wild-type
- 118 PC1/3-prodomain, M1-M5, His<sub>6</sub>-M5, M9 and M10). In all cases the coding sequences (CDS)
- were codon-optimized for *E. Coli*. The CDS of the wild-type PC1/3 prodomain, **M2**, **M3**, **M9**
- 120 and M10 were modified at the 5'-end with the sequence
- 121 CCATGGGCCATCATCATCATCATCACTCTGGTACCGAAAATCTGTATTTTCAGGGT
- adding a Ncol restriction site, the His-tag sequence and the TEV cleavage site. The 3'-end of
- the CDS was modified with the sequence TGATAGCTCGAG that contains a Xhol restriction
- site. The insert sequences for **M1**, **M4-M8** and wild-type PC1/3-prodomain. For the wild-type
- protein a second construct type were generated (that essentially lead to the same protein after
- 126 TEV-cleavage and is expressed and purified in the same way) containing from the 5'-end to
- 127 the 3'-end the sequence CCATGGGCCATCATCATCATCATCACTCTGGCCAT (including a
- 128 Ncol restriction site and the His-tag sequence), the DNA sequence covering the amino acids
- 129 25-260 of the Uniprot entry A0A1S4NYF2 (mNeonGreen), the sequence
- 130 TCTGGTACCGAAAATCTGTATTTTCAGGGTAA coding for the TEV-cleavage site, the
- 131 sequence of the PC1/3 prodomain and the sequence TGATAGCTCGAG that contains a Xhol
- restriction site. The CDS of His<sub>6</sub>-M5 was modfied at the 5'- and 3'-end with the sequences
- 133 CCATGGGCCATCATCA TCATCATCACTCTGGCCATATG (Ncol restriction site and His-tag)
- and TGATAGCTCGAG (Xhol restriction site), respectively. The DNA sequences of all PC1/3-
- prodomain variants were inserted in the pET28a(+) expression vector (Novagen) between the
- prodomain variants were inserted in the prizoa(1) expression vector (Novagen) between the
- Ncol and Xhol restriction sites. PC1/3 prodomain constructs **M6**, **M7** and **M8** (His72 mutants
- of the wild-type PC1/3-prodomain) were generated by site-directed mutagenesis using the
- primer pairs GTTCACTTGAAAATCACTACTTATTCAAAAATAAAAACCACCCCAGAAGGTC (forward) and
- 140 GACCTTCTGGGGTGGTTTTTATTTTTGAATAAGTAGTGATTTTCAAGTGAAC (reverse),
- 141 GTTCACTTGAAAATCACTACTTATTCAAAGATAAAAACCACCCCAGAAGGTC (forward)
- 142 and GACCTTCTGGGGTGGTTTTTATCTTTGAATAAGTAGTGATTTTCAAGTGAAC
- 143 (reverse) as well as
- 144 GTTCACTTGAAAATCACTACTTATTCAAACTGAAAAACCACCCCAGAAGGTC (forward)

- 145 and GACCTTCTGGGGTGGTTTTTCAGTTTGAATAAGTAGTGATTTTCAAGTGAAC
- 146 (reverse), respectively.
- 147 Cloning of nanobody-PC1/3-prodomain fusion constructs.
- The expression vectors covering the amino acids 3-119 of the nanobody Nb14 (PDB-ID 5JMR,
- 149 <sup>4</sup>) and the amino acids 29-110 of the PC1/3-prodomain mutants **M5** and **M9** were synthesized
- and cloned by GeneArt (Thermo Fisher Scientific). In all cases the coding sequences (CDS)
- were codon-optimized for *E. Coli*. The insert sequences contained from the 5'-end to the 3'-
- 152 end the sequence
- 153 CATATGAAATACCTGCTGCCGACCGCTGCTGCTGGTCTGCTCCTCGCTGCCCAGC
- 154 CGGCCATGGCCCAGGGTAGCCATCACCATCATCATAGCGGTGAAAATCTGTATTTT
- 155 CAGGGTAGT (Ndel restriction site, pelB leader sequence, His-tag and TEV-cleavage site),
- the CDS of Nb14, GGTCAGGTTACTAGTGCCGGTGCTAGCGGTCAG (a linker sequence)
- and the sequence TGATAACTCGAG (Xhol restriction site). The DNA sequences of all PC1/3-
- prodomain variants were inserted in the pET28a(+) expression vector (Novagen) between the
- 159 Ndel and Xhol restriction sites.

### Cloning of the nanobody Nb14

- The expression vector of the nanobody Nb14 covering the amino acids 29-106 of the PC1/3-
- prodomain mutant **M9** and the amino acids 3-119 of the nanobody Nb14 (PDB-ID 5JMR, <sup>4</sup>)
- was synthesized and cloned by GeneArt (Thermo Fisher Scientific). The coding sequences
- 164 (CDS) were codon-optimized for *E. Coli*. The insert sequences contained from the 5'-end to
- 165 the 3'-end the sequence
- 166 CATATGAAATACCTGCTGCCGACCGCTGCTGCTGGTCTGCTCCTCGCTGCCCAGC
- 167 CGGCCATGGCCCAGGGTAGCCATCACCATCATCATCATAGCGGTGAAAATGCATTTTAT
- 168 AATGGTGGTCAG (Ndel restriction site, pelB leader sequence, His-tag, linker), the CDS of
- the PC1/3-prodomain mutant M9, the sequence AATCTGTATTTTCAGGGTAGT (linker and
- 170 TEV-cleavage site), the CDS of Nb14 and the sequence TGATAACTCGAG.

171

#### **Supplementary Figures** 172



174

176

177 178

179

180

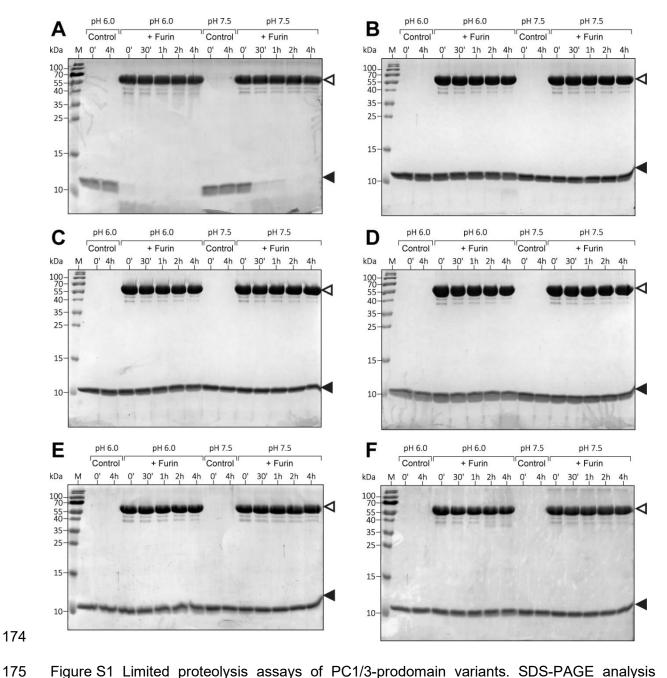


Figure S1 Limited proteolysis assays of PC1/3-prodomain variants. SDS-PAGE analysis limited proteolysis assays of A) the wild-type PC1/3-prodomain as well as mutants B) M1, C) M2, D) M3, E) M4 and F) M5. Assays were either performed with (+Furin) or without furin (Control). The bands of furin and of the PC1/3-prodomain are highlighted by open and closed arrowheads, respectively.



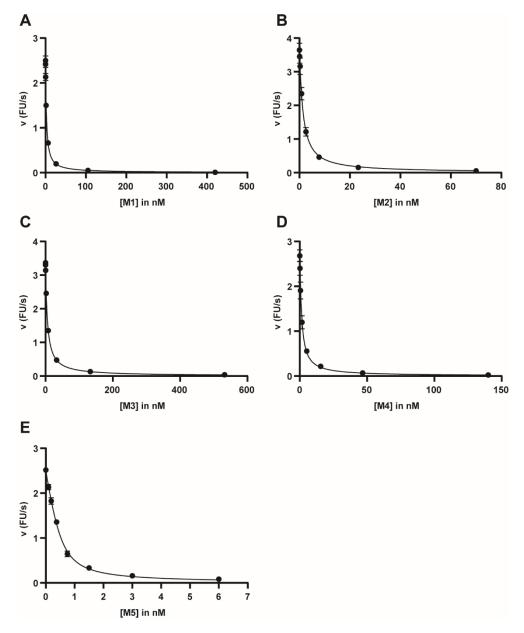


Figure S2 Inhibition of furin by the PC1/3-prodomain mutants A) **M1**, B) **M2**, C) **M3**, D) **M4** and E) **M5** under tight binding conditions. The fit of the points with the Morrison equation is always shown as line. Error bars represent the standard deviations of three replicates (n=3).

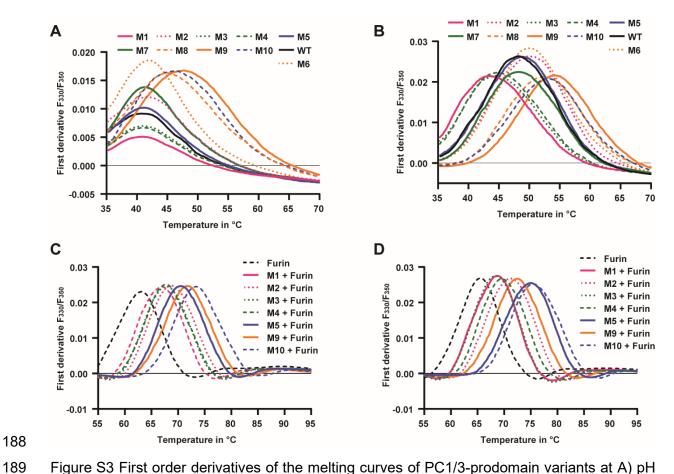


Figure S3 First order derivatives of the melting curves of PC1/3-prodomain variants at A) pH 6.0 and B) 7.4 as well as of furin:PC1/3-prodomain complexes at C) pH 6.0 and D) pH 7.4. (M = mutant, WT = wild-type)

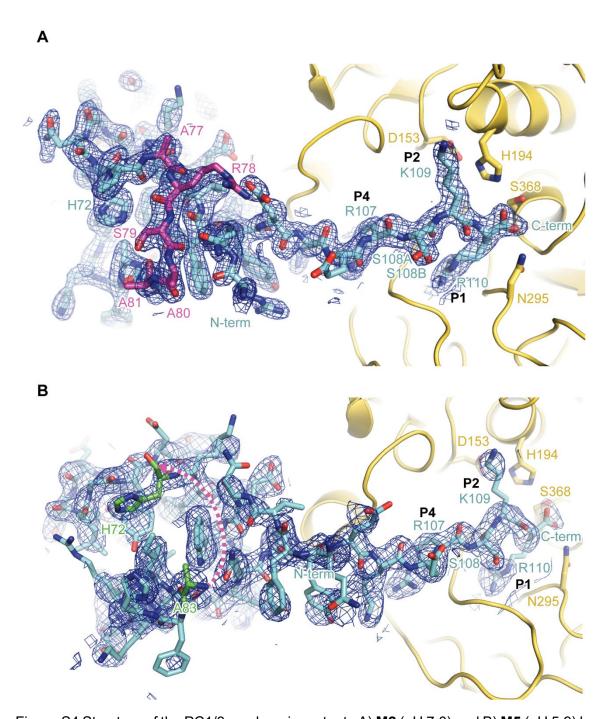


Figure S4 Structure of the PC1/3-prodomain mutants A) **M2** (pH 7.0) and B) **M5** (pH 5.9) bound to furin. Furin (standard orientation) is colored in yellow (cartoon) and the active site residues are shown as stick model. The prodomain is shown as stick model (cyan). The composite  $2\boldsymbol{F}_{\circ}$ - $\boldsymbol{F}_{\circ}$  omit electron density map is contoured at 1  $\sigma$  (blue mesh). The canonical interacting C-terminal residues 107-110 (P1-P4) are marked. A) The secondary cleavage site loop is marked in magenta. Note that this loop of **M2** carries the sequence 77-ARSAA instead of the wild-type sequence 77-RRSRR. B) No electron density of the secondary cleavage site loop of **M5** was observed at pH 5.9. The flanking residues His72 and Ala83 of this loop, which still revealed a defined electron density are marked in green. Thus, the secondary cleavage site loop residues could not be modeled, and the dashed, magenta-colored arrow indicates the chain break between His72 and Ala83.

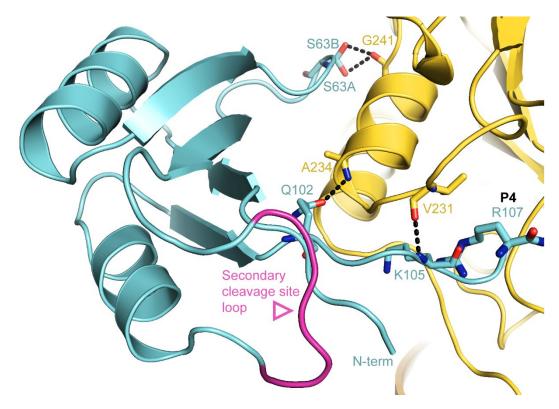
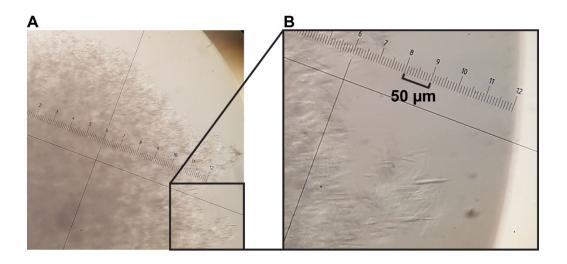


Figure S5 Interactions of the PC1/3-prodomain with furin. The structure of **M2**:furin is shown as cartoon. The prodomain and Furin (in standard orientation) are colored in cyan and yellow, respectively. The secondary cleavage site loop is marked in magenta. Hydrogen bonds are marked by dashed lines. Important residues are given as stick model. S62 was modeled in alternative conformations (S62A and S62B).



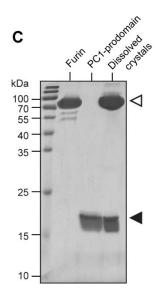


Figure S6 Microcrystals of the **M5**:furin complex. A) Overview picture of a typical crystallization drop. B) Microcrystals at higher magnification with 50 µm scale indicated. C) SDS-PAGE analysis of dissolved microcrystals in comparison to the furin and M5-preparations used for preparation of the crystallization drop. The bands of furin and of the PC1/3-prodomain are highlighted by open and closed arrowheads, respectively.

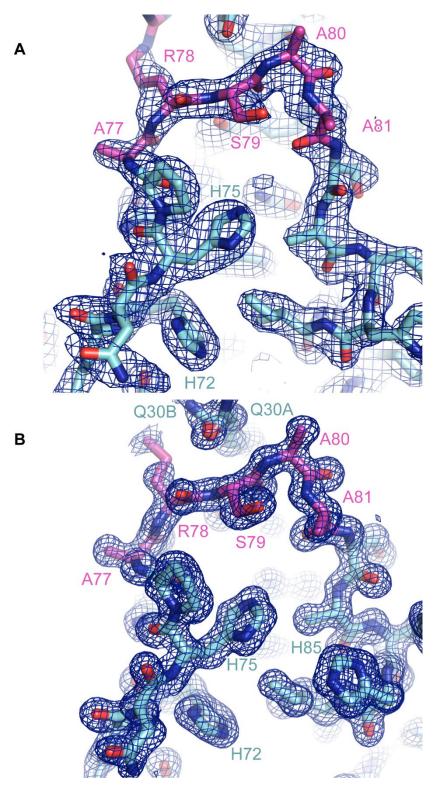


Figure S7 Structure of the secondary cleavage site and flanking regions of A) isolated **M2** (M = mutant) and B) **M2** bound to furin. The prodomain is shown as stick model (cyan) and the composite  $2\mathbf{F}_{\text{o}}$ - $\mathbf{F}_{\text{c}}$  omit electron density map is contoured at 1  $\sigma$  (blue mesh). Note that the secondary cleavage site loop of **M2** carries the sequence 77-ARSAA instead of the wild-type sequence 77-RRSRR.

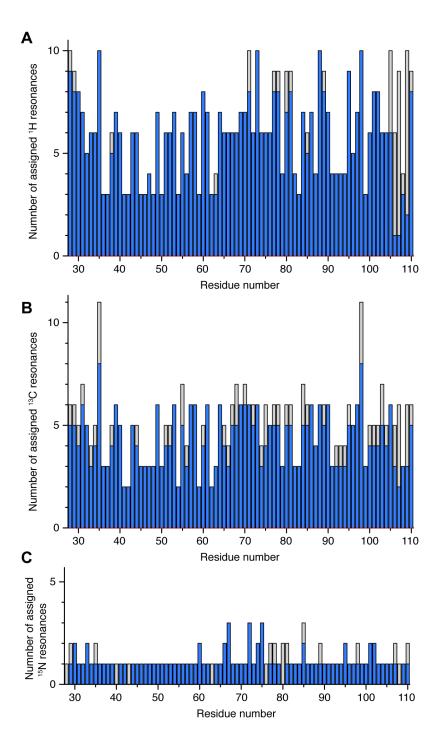
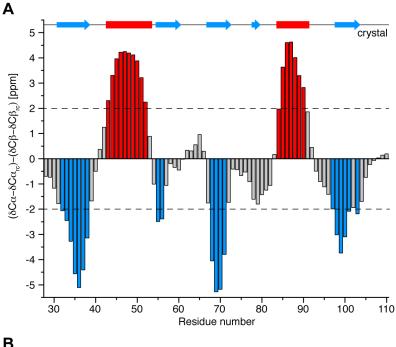


Figure S8 Completeness of the chemical shift assignments for  $^1$ H,  $^{13}$ C and  $^{15}$ N nuclei. The chemical shift assignments are rather complete except some residues in the C-terminus ( $^1$ H,  $^{13}$ C and  $^{15}$ N), some quaternary carbons, which are quite often not assigned and irrelevant for NOE assignments and some  $^{15}$ N chemical shifts, either due to the lack of amide protons (Pro) or non-observable signals in  $^1$ H- $^{15}$ N correlations (Ser63, Arg80, His85 and Ser108) and hard to assign side chain signals e.g. N $_{\rm E}$  of Arg. A) Number of assigned  $^1$ H chemical shifts per residue (blue) and maximal observable chemical shifts per residue (grey). B) Number of assigned  $^{13}$ C chemical shifts per residue (blue) and maximal observable chemical shifts per residue (grey). C) Number of assigned  $^{15}$ N chemical shifts per residue (blue) and maximal observable chemical shifts per residue (grey). Chemical shifts of N $_{\rm C}$  of arginines were not included, because their correlations are typically not observable at neutral conditions.



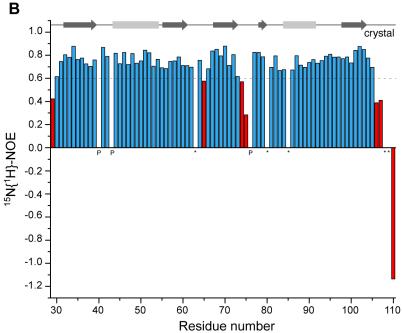


Figure S9 Secondary structure and flexibility analyses of the PC1/3-prodomain. A) Secondary structure predicted from the  $^{13}\text{C}$  chemical shifts (n=1) of C\$\alpha\$ and C\$\beta\$ in comparison to secondary structure found in the crystal structure. Light blue bars indicate \$\beta\$-sheets, red bars \$\alpha\$-helices. Data were smoothed according to (0.25\*\$\Delta\$\delta\$(i-1)+ 0.5\*\$\Delta\$\delta\$(i)+ 0.25\*\$\Delta\$\delta\$(i+1))/4 with i as residue number. "\$\mathbb{r}\$" represents the diamagnetic random coil chemical shift. B) Steady state \$^{15}N\_{1}\$H} nuclear Overhauser effect data (n=1) of \$^{15}N\_{1}\$ belied PC1 prodomain measured at 298 K. Prolines that lack a detectable signal are marked with a P. Residues with missing or unassigned signals are indicated by an asterisk. Bars with values larger than 0.6 indicative of

rigidity are shown in blue. Bars of flexible residues are indicated in red.

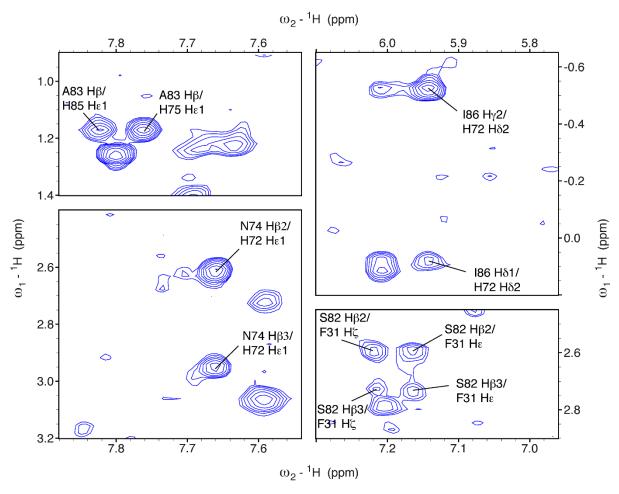


Figure S10 NMR-spectra used for NOE determinations. Regions of a 2D  $^{1}$ H- $^{1}$ H NOESY spectrum illustrating key NOE cross-peaks. The spectrum was recorded with a  $^{15}$ N-labeled protein using a mixing time of 100 ms, 96 transients, 1024  $\times$  700 complex points and  $^{15}$ N decoupling.

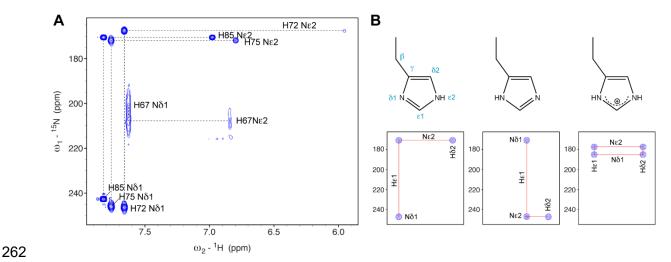
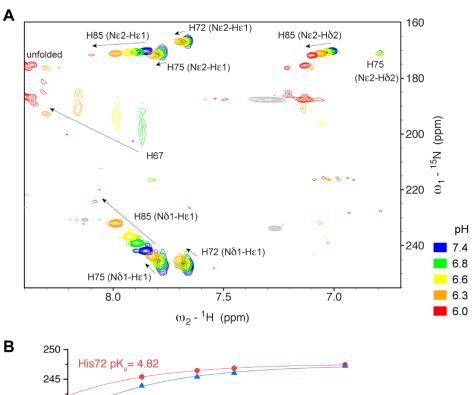


Figure S11 Tautomeric states of the histidine residues in the PC1/3-prodomain. A) 2D  $^{15}\text{N-HMBC}$  spectrum of the PC1/3-prodomain at 298 K, pH 7.4 with assignment. B) The three possible tautomeric states of histidine side chains: the most common neutral H $\epsilon$ 2 form (left), the less common neutral H $\delta$ 1 form (middle) and positively charged form (right) with their typical signal patterns in the  $^{15}\text{N-HMBC}$  spectrum. His72, His75 and His85 correspond to the typical pattern of the most common N $\epsilon$ 2H neutral tautomer. The pattern of His67 indicates a mainly positively charged side chain in fast exchange with a minor population of the neutral and rare H $\delta$ 1 form.





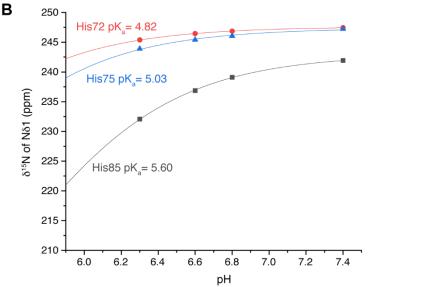


Figure S12. Estimation of pKa values of histidines in the PC1 prodomain. A)  $^1\text{H-}^{15}\text{N}$  HMBC spectra of  $^{15}\text{N-PC1}$  prodomain at 278 K. Overlay of spectrum at pH 7.4 (blue with assignments), pH 6.8 (green), pH 6.6 (yellow), pH 6.3 (orange) and pH 6.0 (red). B) The chemical shift of His  $\delta N^{\delta 1}$  as a function of pH. Data points were fitted to estimate the pKa of each histidine under the assumption that at pH 2.0 all histidine residues are protonated and that the  $^{15}\text{N}$  chemical shift will be then 176 ppm.

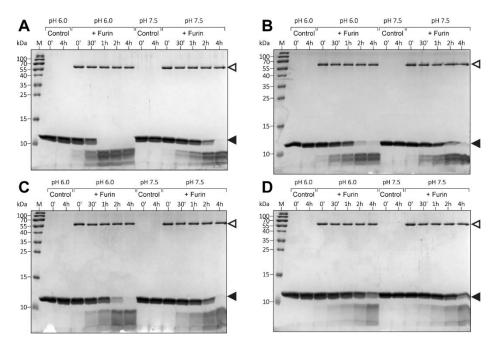


Figure S13. Limited proteolysis assays of PC1/3-prodomain H72-mutants. SDS-PAGE analysis limited proteolysis assays of A) the wild-type PC1/3-prodomain as well as of the mutants B) **M6**, C) **M7** and D) **M8**. Assays were either performed with (+Furin) or without furin (Control). The bands of furin and of the PC1/3-prodomain are highlighted by open and closed arrowheads, respectively.

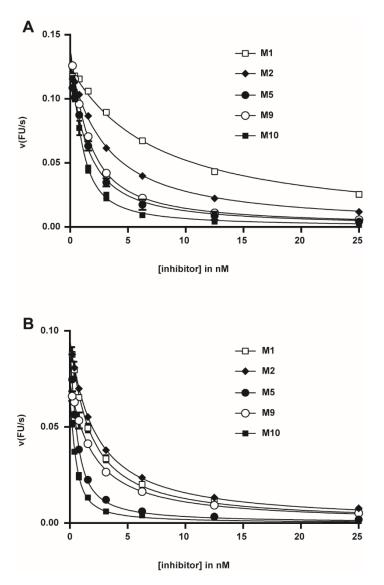


Figure S14 Inhibition of furin by PC1/3-prodomain mutants under tight binding conditions at A) pH 6.0 B) pH 7.4. The fit of the points with the Morrison equation is always shown as line. Error bars represent the standard deviations of three replicates (n=3). (M = mutant)

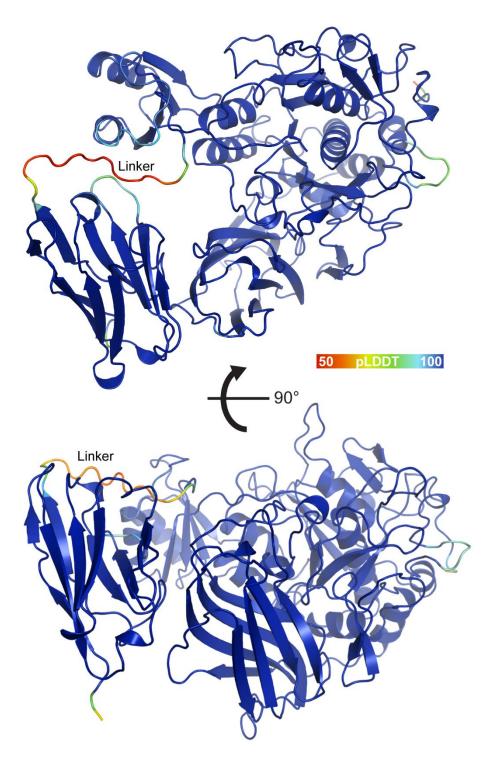


Figure S15. Predicted structure of the fusion protein **F1** in complex with furin. The confidence score (pLDDT) of the structure prediction by Alphafold 3 is shown as color gradient. Blue colors represent pLDDT values close to 100 that indicates modelling with high confidence. Red colors represent pLDDT values <50 that were modelled with low confidence. The ipTM value of the complex is 0.9. The PAE values of furin and of the fusion protein are 1.05 and 1.16, respectively.

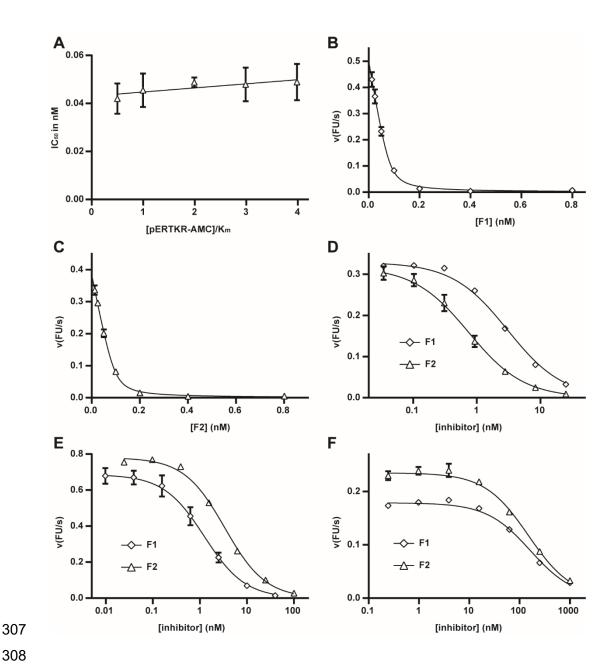


Figure S16 Specific inhibition of furin by nanobody-PC1/3-prodomain fusion proteins. A) Linear relationship of  $IC_{50}$ -values in dependence of substrate concentration/ $K_m$  indicates a competitive inhibition of furin by **F2** under tight binding conditions. The  $K_i$  value is given by the slope of the line (1.71 ± 0.66 pM). Inhibition of furin by B) **F1** and C) **F2** under tight binding conditions. The fit of the points with the Morrison equation is always shown as line. Inhibition of D) furinT562R, E) PC7 and F) PC5/6 by **F1** and **F2** fitted with an equation for competitive inhibition (line). Error bars represent the standard deviations of three replicates (n=3).

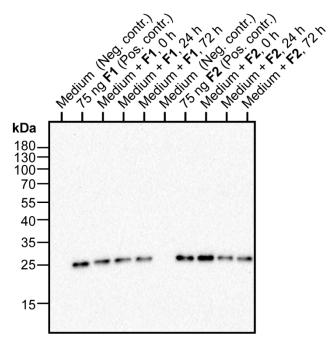


Figure S17 Detection of the fusion proteins F1 and F2 in cell culture supernatant of A549 cells after cultivation for 0-72 h. Anti-nanobody western blot using medium without the fusion proteins and the recombinant fusion proteins as positive and negative controls, respectively. The Western blot shown is representative of three experiments.

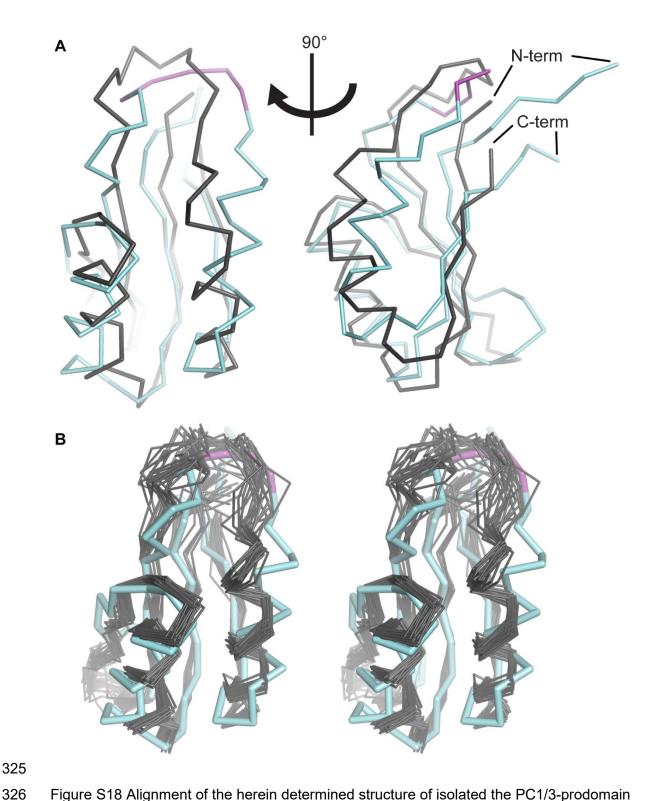


Figure S18 Alignment of the herein determined structure of isolated the PC1/3-prodomain mutant **M2** (cyan) and of the NMR-structure of the mouse PC1/3-prodomain (gray, PDB-ID 1KN6,  $^{7}$ ). The C<sub> $\alpha$ </sub>-atoms of the structures are shown as ribbon representation. The secondary cleavage site loop of **M2** is highlighted in magenta. A) Two orientations of **M2** rotated by 90° as indicated. One structure (first structure in PDB-file) of the ensemble of the PDB-ID 1KN6 is shown. B) Stereo representation showing all 20 structures of the PDB-ID 1KN6.

# 334 Supplementary Tables

# Table S1. Data collection and refinement statistics.

Data collection statistics			
PC1/3-prodomain mutant	M5	M2	M2
PDB ID	9FID	9FIE	9FIC
pH-value of crystallization	5.9	7.0	8.3
Number of crystals	79	5	1
Beamline	ESRF ID23-2	ESRF ID23-1	ESRF ID23-1
Wavelength	0.8731	0.8856	0.8856
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub>	P1	P6 <sub>1</sub>
Unit cell parameters: a(Å), b (Å), c (Å)	58.5, 197.0, 99.9	82.8, 83.7, 103.2	60.0, 60.0, 40.5
α(°), β (°), γ (°)	90.0, 106.8, 90.0	98.5, 89.9, 95.9	90.0, 90.0, 120.0
Resolution range <sup>a</sup> (Å)	49.2-2.4 (2.46-2.40)	46.6-2.0 (2.05-2.00)	30.0-1.3 (1.38-1.30)
R <sub>meas</sub> <sup>a</sup> (%)	53.1 (247.7)	21.0 (126.1)	9.5 (99.1)
l/sigl <sup>a</sup>	4.9 (1.3)	5.5 (1.2)	13.9 (2.0)
CC <sub>1/2</sub> (%) <sup>a</sup>	93.3 (23.9)	98.9 (57.8)	99.9 (77.8)
Completeness (%) <sup>a</sup>	75.1 (78.3)	99.7 (99.6)	100.0 (100.0)
No. of observations (total/unique)	1,291,211 / 63,282	716,591 / 183,598	207208 / 20558
Redundancy	20.4	3.9	10.1
Refinement statistics			
Protein molecules / asymmetric unit	6	8	1
No. of non-hydrogen atoms	12452	18219	774
Protein / water / other	12337 / 106 / 9	17315 / 871 / 33	675 / 96 / 3
Rwork/Rfree	22.8 / 25.2	19.7 / 21.9	14.2 / 17.2
B-factors (Ų)			
Overall/Wilson plot	35.8/37.8	31.1/31.3	18.1 / 19.4
Protein / water / other	35.8 / 30.5 / 39.9	31.2 / 29.6 / 37.0	16.3 / 30.1 / 18.5
RMSD bond length (Å)	0.003	0.003	0.007
RMSD bonded B-factors (Ų)	3.3	1.9	2.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Values of the highest resolution shell are given in parentheses

# Table S2. Observed nuclear Overhauser effects (NOEs) in solution supporting the conformation in the crystal structure.

Observed NOESY	cross-peaks	Observed cross-peak intensity	Distance in crystal structure
xx loop	close protons		[Å]
His72 Hδ2	lle86 Hγ2	+++ a	2.9
His72 Hδ2	lle86 Hδ1	+ a	3.3
His72 Hε1	Asn74 H <sup>N</sup>	+ <sup>a</sup>	3.1
His72 Hε1	Asn74 Hβ2	+++ <sup>a</sup>	2.6
His72 Hε1	Asn74 Hβ3	++ a	4.0
His72 Hε1	His75 H <sup>N</sup>	+ a	3.3
His75 Hδ2	lle86 Hδ1	++ a	3.3
His75 Hε1	Ala83 Hβ	+++ a	2.6
Arg77 Hα	Asn33 Hβ3	+ a	3.1
Ser79 H <sup>N</sup>	Phe31 H <sup>N</sup>	+ b	3.2
Ser79 Hβ2	Arg81 H <sup>N</sup>	++ b	3.1
Ser79 Hβ3	Arg81 H <sup>N</sup>	+ b	3.9
Arg80 Hα	Phe31 H <sup>N</sup>	+ b	3.3
Ser82 Hβ2	Phe31 Hε	+ <sup>a</sup>	2.5
Ser82 Hβ2	Phe31 Hζ	+ a	3.6
Ser82 Hβ3	Phe31 Hε	+ <sup>a</sup>	4.1
Ser82 Hβ3	Phe31 Hζ	+ a	5.1

342 a 2D 1H-1H NOESY

343 b 3D 15N-edited NOESY

Table S3. Overview of enzyme kinetic measurements.

Enzyme	[Enzyme] in nM	Inhibitora	Substrate <sup>b</sup>	[Substrate] in µM	Condition <sup>c</sup>	Km ± SEM used for	Analysis model <sup>d</sup>
						analysis in μΜ	
Furin	0.5	M1	1	100	1	39.0 ± 2.1	1
Furin	0.5	M2	1	100	1	39.0 ± 2.1	1
Furin	0.5	M3	1	100	1	39.0 ± 2.1	1
Furin	0.5	M4	1	100	1	39.0 ± 2.1	1
Furin	0.5	M5	1	100	1	39.0 ± 2.1	1
Furin	0.05	F1	1	150	1	43.2 ± 1.1	1
Furin	0.05	F2	1	100	1	43.2 ± 1.1	1
Furin	1.0	M1	2	10	2	4.94 ± 0.39	1
Furin	1.0	M2	2	10	2	4.94 ± 0.39	1
Furin	1.0	M5	2	10	2	4.94 ± 0.39	1
Furin	1.0	M9	2	10	2	4.81 ± 0.32	1
Furin	1.0	M10	2	10	2	4.55 ± 0.28	1
Furin	0.5	M1	2	2.5	3	1.53 ± 0.05	1
Furin	0.5	M2	2	2.5	3	1.53 ± 0.05	1
Furin	0.5	M5	2	2.5	3	1.53 ± 0.05	1
Furin	0.5	M9	2	2.5	3	1.45 ± 0.04	1
Furin	0.5	M10	2	2.5	3	1.45 ± 0.07	1
Furin <sup>T562R</sup>	0.05	F1	1	100	1	40.8 ± 1.0	2
Furin <sup>T562R</sup>	0.05	F2	1	100	1	40.8 ± 1.0	2
PC7	0.02	F1	3	50	1	27.6 ± 1.1	2
PC7	0.02	F2	3	50	1		2
PC5/6	1	F1	1	20	1	5.82 ± 0.51	2
PC5/6	1	F2	1	20	1	5.56 ± 0.23	2

<sup>346 &</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> M = mutant, F = fusion protein

b Substrate 1: pERTKR-AMC, substrate 2: Ac-RR(Tle)KR-AMC (substrate 10, 8), substrate 3:
H-RR(Tle)KR-AMC (substrate 11, 8)

°Condition 1: 50 mM Hepes/NaOH, pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.2% (v/v) Triton X-100, 37 °C; condition 2: 50 mM Mes/NaOH, pH 6.0, 300 mM NaCl, 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.2% (v/v)

Triton X-100, 25 °C; condition 3 50 mM Hepes/NaOH, pH 7.4, 300 mM NaCl, 2 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>,

352 0.2% (v/v) Triton X-100, 25 °C

351

356

357

d Analysis model 1: tight binding conditions, Morrison equation; Analysis model 2: competitive inhibition:  $v=V_{max}*[S]/([S]+K_m(1+[I]/K_i))$  v = reaction velocity,  $V_{max}$  = maximum velocity, [S] = substrate concentration,  $K_m$  = Michaelis-Menten constant,  $K_i$  = inhibition constant

# Table S4. Experimental details of the applied NMR experiments.

Experiment	Origin <sup>a</sup>	Spectral widths (ppm)	Aquisition times (ms)	Number of scans	Reference
2D <sup>15</sup> N-HSQC	ETHZ	13.88 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 34.54 ( <sup>15</sup> N)	61.44 121.9	4	9
2D <sup>15</sup> N-HMBC	ETHZ	13.95 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 102.8 ( <sup>15</sup> N)	61.2 10.2	256	10
2D <sup>13</sup> C <sup>ali</sup> -HSQC	ETHZ	13.95 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 70.5 ( <sup>13</sup> C)	61.2 24.1	8	11
2D <sup>13</sup> C <sup>aro</sup> -HSQC	ETHZ	13.95 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 44.17 ( <sup>13</sup> C)	61.2 19.2	8	11
2D <sup>15</sup> N- <sup>1</sup> H NOE <sup>b</sup>	ETHZ	13.89 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 34.54 ( <sup>15</sup> N)	61.4 47.6	64	12, 13
2D NOESY with <sup>15</sup> N decoupling	ETHZ	13.89 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 12.25 ( <sup>1</sup> H)	61.4 47.6	96	С
3D HNCA	ETHZ	16.02 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 31.98 ( <sup>13</sup> C)	53.2 7.4	8	14
3D CBCA(CO)NH	ETHZ	28.44 ( <sup>15</sup> N) 13.88 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 62.04 ( <sup>13</sup> C) 28.44 ( <sup>15</sup> N)	17.3 61.4 6.51 19.7	16	15
3D HNCO	ETHZ	13.88 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 12.04 ( <sup>13</sup> C) 28.44 ( <sup>15</sup> N)	61.4 19.3 19.7	8	16
3D HN(CA)CO	hncacogpwg3d from Bruker library	13.88 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 28.44 ( <sup>15</sup> N) 12.06 ( <sup>13</sup> C)	61.4 19.7 22.0	32	17
3D HNCACB	ETHZ	13.88 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 62.05 ( <sup>13</sup> C) 28.44 ( <sup>15</sup> N)	122.9 53.4 19.7	24	14
3D hCCH-TOCSY	hcchdigp3d from Bruker library	12.90 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 66.00 ( <sup>13</sup> C) 66.00 ( <sup>13</sup> C)	68.3 53.2 53.2	8	18
3D <sup>13</sup> C-edited NOESY	ETHZ	12.35 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 37.23 ( <sup>13</sup> C) 12.35 ( <sup>1</sup> H)	69.1 8.9 27.0	8	d
3D <sup>15</sup> N-edited NOESY	ETHZ	12.44 ( <sup>1</sup> H) 34.54 ( <sup>15</sup> N) 12.44 ( <sup>1</sup> H)	68.6 14.8 26.8	8	19

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> ETHZ stands for ETH Zurich, library of the Bio-NMR facility

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> The relaxation delay was 2 sec

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Implementing a <sup>15</sup>N-decoupling in a common 2D NOESY experiment is a trivial modification

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup> This version of this otherwise common experiment was not published.

# **Supplementary References**

367

368 369 1 Dahms, S. O., Haider, T., Klebe, G., Steinmetzer, T. & Brandstetter, H. OFF-State-Specific 370 Inhibition of the Proprotein Convertase Furin. ACS Chem Biol, 371 doi:10.1021/acschembio.1c00411 (2021). 372 2 Dahms, S. O., Arciniega, M., Steinmetzer, T., Huber, R. & Than, M. E. Structure of the 373 unliganded form of the proprotein convertase furin suggests activation by a substrate-374 induced mechanism. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A 113, 11196-11201, 375 doi:10.1073/pnas.1613630113 (2016). 376 3 Dahms, S. O. et al. X-ray Structures of Human Furin in Complex with Competitive Inhibitors. 377 ACS Chem Biol 9, 1113-1118, doi:10.1021/cb500087x (2014). 378 4 Dahms, S. O. et al. The structure of a furin-antibody complex explains non-competitive 379 inhibition by steric exclusion of substrate conformers. Sci Rep 6, 34303, 380 doi:10.1038/srep34303 (2016). 381 5 Aricescu, A. R., Lu, W. & Jones, E. Y. A time- and cost-efficient system for high-level protein 382 production in mammalian cells. Acta Crystallogr D Biol Crystallogr 62, 1243-1250, 383 doi:10.1107/S0907444906029799 (2006). 384 6 Kuester, M. et al. Purification of the proprotein convertase furin by affinity chromatography 385 based on PC-specific inhibitors. Biol Chem 392, 973-981, doi:10.1515/bc.2011.100 (2011). 386 7 Tangrea, M. A., Bryan, P. N., Sari, N. & Orban, J. Solution structure of the pro-hormone 387 convertase 1 pro-domain from Mus musculus. J Mol Biol 320, 801-812, doi:10.1016/s0022-388 2836(02)00543-0 (2002). 389 8 Lam van, T. V. et al. Design, synthesis, and characterization of novel fluorogenic substrates of 390 the proprotein convertases furin, PC1/3, PC2, PC5/6, and PC7. Anal Biochem 655, 114836, 391 doi:10.1016/j.ab.2022.114836 (2022). 392 9 Mori, S., Abeygunawardana, C., Johnson, M. O. & Vanzijl, P. C. M. Improved Sensitivity of 393 HSQC Spectra of Exchanging Protons at Short Interscan Delays Using a New Fast HSQC 394 (FHSQC) Detection Scheme That Avoids Water Saturation. J. Magn. Reson. 108, 94-98, 395 doi:10.1006/jmrb.1995.1109 (1995). 396 Bax, A., Ikura, M., Kay, L. E., Torchia, D. A. & Tschudin, R. Comparison of different modes of 10 397 two-dimensional reverse-correlation NMR for the study of proteins. J. Magn. Reson. 86, 304-398 318, doi:10.1016/0022-2364(90)90262-8 (1990). 399 11 Muhandiram, D. R., Farrow, N. A., Xu, G. Y., Smallcombe, S. H. & Kay, L. E. A Gradient <sup>13</sup>C 400 NOESY-HSQC Experiment for Recording NOESY Spectra of <sup>13</sup>C-Labeled Proteins Dissolved in 401 H<sub>2</sub>O. J. Magn. Reson. B **102**, 317-321, doi:10.1006/jmrb.1993.1102 (1993). 402 12 Zhu, G., Xia, Y., Nicholson, L. K. & Sze, K. H. Protein dynamics measurements by TROSY-based 403 NMR experiments. J Magn Reson 143, 423-426, doi:10.1006/jmre.2000.2022 (2000). 404 13 Renner, C., Schleicher, M., Moroder, L. & Holak, T. A. Practical aspects of the 2D 15N-[1h]-405 NOE experiment. J Biomol NMR 23, 23-33, doi:10.1023/a:1015385910220 (2002).

- 406 14 Grzesiek, S. & Bax, A. Improved 3D triple-resonance NMR techniques applied to a 31 kDa 407 protein. *J. Magn. Reson.* **96**, 432-440, doi:10.1016/0022-2364(92)90099-S (1992).
- 408 15 Grzesiek, S. & Bax, A. Correlating backbone amide and side chain resonances in larger 409 proteins by multiple relayed triple resonance NMR. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **114**, 6291–6293, 410 doi:10.1021/ja00042a003 (1992).
- 411 16 Grzesiek, S., Anglister, J., Ren, H. & Bax, A. Carbon-13 line narrowing by deuterium decoupling in deuterium/carbon-13/nitrogen-15 enriched proteins. Application to triple resonance 4D J connectivity of sequential amides. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 115, 4369–4370, doi:10.1021/ja00063a068 (1993).

415	17	Clubb, R. T., Thanabal, V. & Wagner, G. A constant-time three-dimensional triple-resonance
416		pulse scheme to correlate intraresidue <sup>1</sup> H <sup>N</sup> , <sup>15</sup> N, and <sup>13</sup> C' chemical shifts in <sup>15</sup> N- <sup>13</sup> C-labelled
417		proteins. J. Magn. Reson. <b>97</b> , 432-440, doi:10.1016/0022-2364(92)90252-3 (1992).
418	18	E., K. L., Xu, GY., Singer, A. U., Muhandiram, D. R. & D., F. J. A Gradient-Enhanced HCCH-
419		TOCSY Experiment for Recording Side-Chain <sup>1</sup> H and <sup>13</sup> C Correlations in H2O Samples of
420		Proteins. J. Magn. Reson. B <b>101</b> , 333–337, doi:10.1006/jmrb.1993.1053 (1993).
421	19	Talluri, S. & Wagner, G. An optimized 3D NOESY-HSQC. J Magn Reson B 112, 200-205,
422		doi:10.1006/jmrb.1996.0132 (1996).
400		
423		