Supplementary Information

A molecular mechanism to diversify Ca2+ signaling downstream of Gs protein-coupled receptors

Julian Brands^{1,2,15}, Sergi Bravo^{1,15}, Lars Jürgenliemke^{1,3,15}, Lukas Grätz⁴, Hannes Schihada⁵, Fabian Frechen⁶, Judith Alenfelder¹, Cy Pfeil^{1,2,12}, Paul Georg Ohse¹, Suzune Hiratsuka⁷, Kouki Kawakami^{7,13}, Luna C. Schmacke⁵, Nina Heycke¹, Asuka Inoue^{7,8}, Gabriele König⁹, Alexander Pfeifer¹⁰, Dagmar Wachten⁶, Gunnar Schulte⁴, Torsten Steinmetzer⁵, Val J. Watts¹¹, Jesús Gomeza^{1,16}, Katharina **Simon1,14,16, Evi Kostenis1,16, ***

1) Molecular, Cellular and Pharmacobiology Section, Institute for Pharmaceutical Biology, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany

2) Research Training Group 1873, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany

3) Research Training Group 2873, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany

4) Department of Physiology and Pharmacology, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden

5) Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Philipps-University Marburg, Marburg, Germany

6) Institute of Innate Immunity, Medical Faculty, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany

7) Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Tohoku University, Sendai 980-8578, Japan

8) Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kyoto University, Kyoto 606-8501, Japan

9) Institute for Pharmaceutical Biology, University of Bonn, Bonn, Germany

10) Institute of Pharmacology and Toxicology, University Hospital, University of Bonn, Bonn, **Germany**

11) Department of Medicinal Chemistry and Molecular Pharmacology, Purdue Institute of Drug Discovery, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana

12) Present address: Amsterdam Institute for Molecular and Life Sciences (AIMMS), Division of Medicinal Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Amsterdam, **Netherlands**

13) Present address: Komaba Institute for Science, The University of Tokyo, Meguro, Tokyo 153-8505, Japan

14) Present address: Department of Pharmaceutical and Pharmacological Sciences, University of Padova, 35131 Padova, Italy

15) These authors contributed equally: Julian Brands, Sergi Bravo, Lars Jürgenliemke

16) Shared senior authors

* Correspondence to Evi Kostenis (kostenis@uni-bonn.de)

Supplementary Fig. 1: Isoproterenol stimulates cAMP accumulation in HEK293 cells via endogenous β2ARs. Addition of isoproterenol (Iso) to naïve HEK293 cells caused an increase of the intracellular second messenger cAMP. Treatment of cells with the β_2 AR-specific inhibitor ICI-118,551 (ICI) (100 nM) blocked the Iso-mediated cAMP increase, whereas CGP-20712A (300 nM), a β_1 AR-specific inhibitor, hardly impacted cAMP formation when applied alone or in combination with ICI. Data are means + SD of n=2 independent experiments, each performed in triplicate. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 2: Iso-triggered β2AR-Ca2+ after Gq priming is not diminished by PTX pretreatment. HEK293 cells were primed with 100 µM ATP at t = 20 s, followed by a second addition at t = 140 s of either Iso or Calcium ionophore A23187 in the absence or presence of PTX. Shown are representative traces and concentration effect curves derived from the maximum calcium response of the second addition of Iso on β_2 AR, as well as bar chart quantification of A23187 (5 µM) after ATP priming. Where indicated, cells were pretreated overnight (16 h) with 100 ng/ml of PTX. Representative traces are mean + SD, averaged data are mean + SEM of n = 3 biologically independent experiments, each performed in duplicate. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 3: Endogenous Gs-coupled prostanoid EP2/EP4 and adenosine A2A/A2B receptors elevate intracellular cAMP after ligand stimulation. Addition of prostaglandin E₁ (PGE₁) to activate endogenous EP_2/EP_4 or of NECA to stimulate endogenous A_{2A}/A_{2B} receptors, respectively, in naïve HEK293 cells caused detectable increases in the intracellular cAMP concentration. Cells were pretreated with 100 ng/ml PTX to produce inactivation of Gi/o proteins. Data are means ± SEM of n = 4 independent experiments, each performed in triplicate. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 4: FR pretreatment but not Gαs deletion abolishes the Gq-mediated first $Ca²⁺$ **peak. a**, **b** Representative $Ca²⁺$ traces evoked by 100 μ M CCh at t = 20 s and followed by a second addition of 5 µM calcium ionophore A23187 at t = 140 s in HEK293, HEK-∆Gs, and HEK293 cells pretreated with $1 \mu M$ of the Gq inhibitor FR. The right panels show the quantification of the first addition as maximum Ca^{2+} amplitudes for either solvent, 100 μ M ATP, or 100 µM CCh. Note that representative traces for 100 µM ATP are already contained in the main Figure 1. Cells in (**b**) were treated overnight with 100 ng/ml PTX to inactivate Gi/o. Data are means + SEM of n = 3 independent experiments (**a**) and n = 6 independent experiments (**b**), each performed in duplicate. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 5: Iso promotes cAMP formation in preACs and MEFs within the Ca2+ detection window. FRET recordings of cAMP dynamics in preACs and MEF single cells after addition of either Iso or Fsk, obtained with the pcDNA3.1-mICNDB-FRET sensor¹; see also Fig. 5e for cartoon illustration of the sensor principle. FRET data for preACs are means + SEM of n $= 6$ (Iso) and n = 4 (Fsk) cells; FRET data for MEFs are means + SEM of n = 17 (Iso) and n = 11 (Fsk) cells. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 6: UTP priming is mandatory to elicit Gs-calcium in mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs). Representative calcium recordings (**a**) and their quantification (**b**) obtained in mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs) following a two-step addition protocol. At t = 20 s, cells were primed with solvent or 100 µM UTP (**a**), followed by a second addition at t = 140 s of the βAR stimulus Iso in the absence and presence of 1 µM FR. **b** Bar chart quantification of the data in (**a**) including calcium ionophore A23187 (5 µM) as control. Representative recordings are mean + SEM, bar graphs are mean \pm SEM of n = 4 biologically independent experiments, each performed in duplicate. Cells were PTX-pretreated (100 ng/ml, 16 h) to silence any potential Gi/o input to the Ca²⁺ recordings. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 7: The cellular abundance of β2ARs is comparable across cell lines and transfection conditions. N-terminally SNAP-tagged β₂AR was labeled with SNAP-Lumi4[®]-Tb reagent followed by detection of fluorescence intensity (relative fluorescence units, RFU) at 620 nM. The data are plotted as mean + SEM of n = 3 biologically independent experiments. Statistical significance was determined using a one-way ANOVA with Dunnett´s post-hoc analysis. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 8: IP₃ is formed during the priming phase within the $Ca²⁺$ detection window. Real-time BRET recording of intracellular IP₃ formation in response to 100 µM ATP or solvent in HEK293 cells transfected to express the IP₃-BRET sensor²; see also Fig. 6c for cartoon illustration of the sensor principle. ATP addition to cells resulted in an immediate increase in intracellular IP₃ levels. Real-time BRET recordings show mean + SEM, the bar chart represents quantification of data as mean + SEM for n = 3 independent experiments, each performed in quadruplicate. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 9: Fsk measurably elevates cAMP within the Ca2+ detection window. a, **b** HEK293 cells were transiently transfected to express the cAMP-GloSensor™ biosensor to resolve the initial kinetic phase of cAMP formation in real-time. a Similar to the Ca²⁺ mobilization assays with two consecutive additions, either solvent or 100 µM ATP were added at t = 20 s, followed by the second addition at t = 120 s of either solvent, 30 μ M Fsk, or 1 μ M Iso as reference stimulus. Fsk-promoted cAMP formation is readily detectable after ligand addition, is independent of the Gq prestimulus and - with respect to Iso - slower in onset and lower in magnitude. **b** Quantification of the peak response maxima in (**a**) for n = 2 independent experiments and expressed as percentage of the 1μ M Iso response obtained with solvent as primer in each individual experiment. The representative GloSensor™ luminescence timecourse is the mean + SEM of a triplicate measurement. RLU, relative light units. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

cAMP accumulation

Supplementary Fig. 10: Genetic deletion of adenylyl cyclase (AC) isoforms 3 and 6 in HEK293 cells strongly diminishes intracellular cAMP formation. Cyclic AMP production stimulated with the indicated concentrations of Iso and Fsk in parental HEK293 and HEK-∆AC3/6 KO cells with targeted deletion of the alleles coding for the AC isoforms 3 and 6. Cytosolic cAMP levels were significantly lower in the HEK-∆AC3/6 background as compared to the parental cell line, while Iso log EC₅₀ values were essentially unaltered (HEK293: Iso pEC₅₀= 7.7 ± 0.3; HEK-ΔAC3/6 KO: Iso pEC₅₀= 7.6 ± 0.5). Concentration-effect curves are means \pm SD of n = 2 independent experiments performed in triplicate. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 11: Fsk does not mobilize detectable Ca2+ after solvent priming in preACs and MEFs. a, b Representative calcium recordings and their quantification obtained in pre-ACs (**a**) or mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs) (**b**) following a two-step addition protocol. At t = 20 s, cells were treated with solvent, followed by a second addition at t = 140 s of fsk. Bar chart quantification of the data in (**a** and **b**) plotted as area under the curve (AUC) including calcium ionophore A23187 (5 µM) as control. Representative recordings are mean + SEM, bar graphs are mean \pm SEM of $n = 3$ biologically independent experiments, each performed in duplicate. Cells were PTX-pretreated (100 ng/ml, 16 h) to silence any potential Gi/o input to the $Ca²⁺$ recordings. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 12: 2-APB eliminates Iso-mediated β2AR-Ca2+ after Gq priming in ΔAC3/6 cells. Calcium mobilization in ΔAC3/6 cells following the two consecutive addition protocol. At t = 20 s, the Gq stimulus ATP 100 μ M was added, followed by a second addition at t = 140 s of Iso. Data show representative Iso-induced $Ca²⁺$ traces and their quantification as concentration-effect-curves in the absence or presence of 50 μ M of the IP₃R antagonist 2-APB after ATP priming. Real-time Ca^{2+} recordings are mean values + SEM of technical duplicates, concentration-effect curves are mean values \pm SEM of n = 4 (w/o 2-APB) and n = 3 (with 2-APB) independent biological experiments. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 13: Gq priming but not the mere elevation of cytosolic Ca²⁺ enables Gs-**Ca2+.** HEK293 cells were first stimulated with 1 µM SERCA inhibitor thapsigargin (thapsi) to increase cytosolic Ca²⁺, followed by a second addition of 1 μ M Iso, 30 μ M Fsk, 100 μ M CCh or buffer. Shown are real-time Ca^{2+} fluorescence recordings of one representative experiment as mean + SEM and the bar chart quantification displaying the means \pm SEM of n = 3 independent experiments, each performed in duplicate. RFU, relative fluorescence units. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

PLCB1 **(WT)**

PLCB1 **(allele 1)** *PLCB1* **(allele 2)**

PLCB2 **(WT)**

PLCB2 **(allele 1)** *PLCB2* **(allele 2)**

PLCB3 **(WT)**

PLCB3 **(allele 1)** *PLCB3* **(allele 2)**

PLCB3 **(allele 3)**

PLCB4 **(WT)**

PLCB4 **(allele 1)**

Supplementary Fig. 14: Selected sgRNA and the resulting mutant sequences for each of the PLCβ isoforms. In the panels labeled as WT, *PLCB*-targeting sgRNA sequences, as well as the PAM sequences and the corresponding restriction enzyme for genotype screening, are shown. In the mutant-allele panels, the new sequences of each *PLCB* gene are shown along with the types of mutations (deletion or insertion). DSB, a site of double-stranded break by the *Streptococcus pyogenes* Cas9 (SpCas9) nuclease. The figure panels were generated by the SnapGene software. Note that the established cell line, while harboring the WT sequence in the *PLCB4* gene and an in-frame mutation in the *PLCB2* gene, is unresponsive to Gq-GPCR stimulation and allows investigation of Ca^{2+} signaling of each individual PLCβ isoform after reexpression; see also Supplementary figures 15 and 16).

Supplementary Fig. 15: All PLCβ1-4 isoforms maintain their natural regulation by Gq/11 after re-expression in HEK-ΔfPLCβ1-4 cells. HEK-ΔfPLCβ1-4 cells were transfected with each of the individual PLCβ isoforms or empty pcDNA3.1 expression vector and stimulated with ATP as Gq stimulus in the absence or presence of the Gq inhibitor FR. $Ca²⁺$ responses were undetectable in HEK-ΔfPLCβ1-4 cells, re-emerged with expression of each individual PLCβ isoform, and were eliminated upon pretreatment with 1 μM of the Gq inhibitor FR. Data are mean values + SEM (vector: *n* = 3; PLCβ1 and β4 : *n* = 4; PLCβ2 and β3: *n* = 3), each performed in technical duplicate. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 16: Re-expression of PLCβ1-4 isoforms in HEK-ΔfPLCβ**1-4 mutant cellsreestablishes their natural regulation by both Gq/11 and/or Gi-liberated Gβγ subunits.** HEK- Δ_f PLC β 1-4 cells do not promote detectable Ca²⁺ in response to a dual Gq/Gi-GPCR stimulus, well-established to liberate intracellular Ca^{2+} in a PTX- and FR-dependent manner (Pfeil et al., 2020). Here, we utilized the Gi/q-sensitive rat ortholog of GPR17 (rGPR17) and its small molecule agonist MDL29.951 to probe natural regulation of PLCβ1-4 by Gq and Gi-Gβγ. Ligandpromoted Ca²⁺ signals in HEK-Δ_fPLCβ1-4 cells transfected to express rGPR17 were strictly dependent on re-expression of each individual PLCβ isoform and showed the isoformexpected sensitivity to pretreatment with the G protein signaling inhibitors FR (no cytosolic Ca²⁺ detectable) and PTX (cytosolic Ca²⁺ increase diminished only after re-expression of Gβγregulated PLCβ2 and PLCβ3). Ligands and pathway inhibitors were used at a final concentration of 100 μ M (MDL29.951, rep. traces), 1 μ M (FR), and 100 ng/ mL (PTX). Concentration-effect curves for peak Ca²⁺ responses are the mean values \pm SEM of n = 3 biological replicates, each performed in technical duplicate. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 17: Gs-mediated calcium is Gq-dependent across all four PLCβ isoforms. HEK-Δ_fPLCβ1-4 cells were transfected to express each individual PLCβ isoform and stimulated with 100 μM ATP as a Gq pre-stimulus, followed by the addition of Iso. All cells with PLCβ reexpression empowered Gs calcium after Gq priming, while treatment with 1 μM FR abolished this Gs-mediated response. Data are mean values + SEM (vector: *n* = 3; PLCβ1 and β4: *n* = 4; PLCβ2 and β3: *n* = 3), each performed in technical duplicate. Source data are provided as

a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 18: Effect of Gβγ scavenger masGRK3ct on Ca2+ transients induced by CCh and the calcium ionophore A23187. Cytosolic Ca²⁺ mobilization measurements in HEK-ΔfPLCβ1-4 (**a**) or HEK293-wt cells (**b**) transfected with or without the Gβγ scavenger masGRK3ct and stimulated with either CCh or A23187. Bar chart quantifications display the mean peak responses of Ca^{2+} signals for CCh and A23187 in the presence or absence of coexpressed masGRK3ct obtained in n = 5 (**a**) or n = 6 (**b**) separate experiments, each performed in technical duplicates. Statistical significance in $Ca²⁺$ peak responses was determined by a two-tailed student´s t-test. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Fig. 19: PLCβ3 wild-type and mutant isozymes are expressed at comparable protein abundance in HEK293-wt and HEK-∆Gs cells. Western blot analysis of cell lysates was used to quantify the expression of the indicated PLCβ isozymes in wild-type and Gs-deficient cells. Cell lysates, collected in parallel with the functional experiments, were resolved by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotted with an anti-PLCβ3 mouse monoclonal antibody. β-Actin was used as a loading control. Molecular weight is given in kiloDalton (kDa). Representative blots of n = 3 independent experiments with similar results. Uncropped versions of blots are provided at the end of this Supplementary Information file.

Supplementary Fig. 20: Plasma membrane localization of FLAG-Lg-BiT-CAAX and functional validation of the NanoBiT-based PIP2 depletion biosensor. a, b Subcellular localization of FLAG-LgBiT-CAAX assessed via confocal microscopy. Confocal images of HEK293A cells transfected to express FLAG-LgBiT-CAAX (**a**) with the same amount of plasmid DNA as in the NanoBiT enzyme complementation experiments or transfected with empty pcDNA3.1 control vector only (b). **c**, **d** HEK293A cells transfected to express SmBIT-PLC δ 1PH, FLAG-LgBIT-CAAX, and the Gq-coupled muscarinic M_1R were treated with the indicated concentrations of CCh in the absence (**c**) and presence (**d**) of 1 µM FR. Before CCh addition we observed high basal luminescence upon substrate addition, consistent with efficient NanoLuc® complementation between FLAG-LgBIT-CAAX and SmBIT-PLC δ 1PH. Stimulation of cells with CCh led to rapid concentration-dependent reduction in luminescence indicative of PIP2 hydrolysis (**c**). Pretreatment of cells with the Gq/11 inhibitor FR abolished the CCh-induced luminescence decrease, consistent with Gq-dependent and PLCβ-mediated hydrolysis of plasma membrane PIP2 (**d**). **e** Concentration effect relationship of the data in (**c**) and (**d**). **f, g** Gq-mediated and PLCβ-dependent hydrolysis of plasma membrane PIP₂ is undetectable in PLCβ1-4-deficient HEK293 cells (HEK-∆fPLCβ1-4) (**f**) but re-emerges upon PLCβ3 re-expression (**g**). Same experiment as in (**c**) but conceived with HEK-∆fPLCβ1-4 cells transfected to re-express PLCβ3 after challenge with vehicle or 100 µM CCh. Real-time recordings show mean + SEM, averaged data are mean + SEM of n = 3 biologically independent experiments, each performed in triplicate. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary References

1. Mukherjee, S. *et al.* A novel biosensor to study cAMP dynamics in cilia and flagella. *eLife* **5** (2016).

2. Gulyás, G. *et al.* Measurement of inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate in living cells using an improved set of resonance energy transfer-based biosensors. *PloS one* **10,** e0125601 (2015).

Reagents and Commercial Assay Kits

Supplementary Table 1: Reagents

Supplementary Table 2: Commercial Assay Kits

Uncropped scans of blots in Supplementary Fig. 19

