### Supplementary material

### Figure S1.

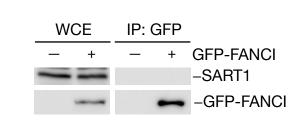
### **Interaction between UBL5 and FANCI**

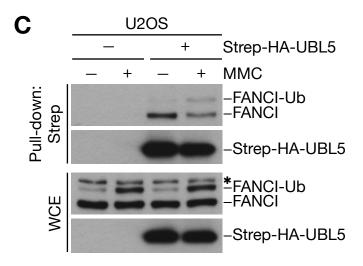
- A. List of selected proteins with high SILAC (H/L) ratios identified in mass spectrometry (MS)-based analysis of UBL5-interacting proteins, as described previously<sup>1</sup>. HeLa cells transfected with Strep-HA-UBL5 plasmid or empty vector were cultured in heavy (H) or light (L) SILAC medium, respectively. Cell lysates were incubated with Strep-Tactin Sepharose. Bound complexes were washed extensively and analyzed by MS.
- B. Whole cell extracts (WCE) of U2OS cells transfected with cDNA encoding GFP-FANCI were subjected to GFP immunoprecipitation followed by immunoblotting with SART1 and GFP antibodies.
- C. U2OS cells transfected with cDNA encoding Strep-HA-tagged UBL5 were treated or not with 1 μM mitomycin C (MMC) for 18 h. Whole cell extracts (WCE) were subjected to Strep-Tactin pull-down followed by immunoblotting with FANCI and HA antibodies. \*, non-specific band.

Protein symbol SILAC ratio (H/L)	
SART1	9.21
*UBL5	7.28
MFAP1	5.87
WBP11	4.79
NPW38	3.76
PRPF38A	3.70
FANCI	3.09
EFTUD2	2.97
SNRPD1	2.75
PRPF8	2.69
SNRPD3	2.66

Α

В

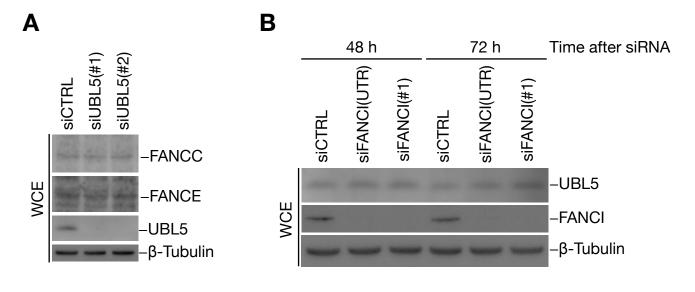




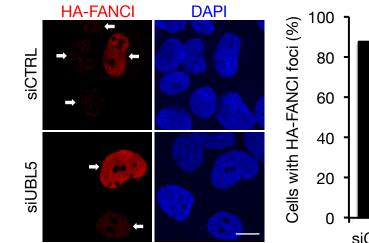
### Figure S2.

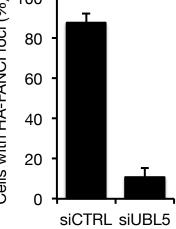
### UBL5 is required for the integrity of the FA pathway

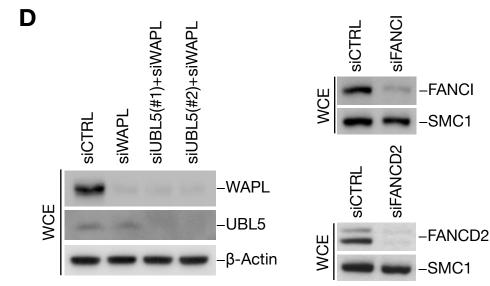
- **A.** Extracts of HeLa cells transfected with UBL5 siRNAs were analyzed by immunoblotting with indicated antibodies.
- **B.** Extracts of HeLa cells transfected with non-targeting (CTRL) or FANCI siRNAs were analyzed by immunoblotting with indicated antibodies.
- C. U2OS cells were transfected with non-targeting control (CTRL) or UBL5 siRNA, subsequently transfected with a construct encoding HA-FANCI and then treated with 0.2 μM MMC for 24 h. Cells were fixed and immunostained with HA antibody. Representative images are shown. Arrows indicate cells transiently expressing HA-FANCI. Scale bar, 10 μm. For quantification, 200 cells were counted in each experiment. Mean values (±SD) from three independent experiments are shown.
- **D.** Extracts of U2OS cells transfected with indicated siRNAs were analyzed by immunoblotting. See also Fig. 2F.



С



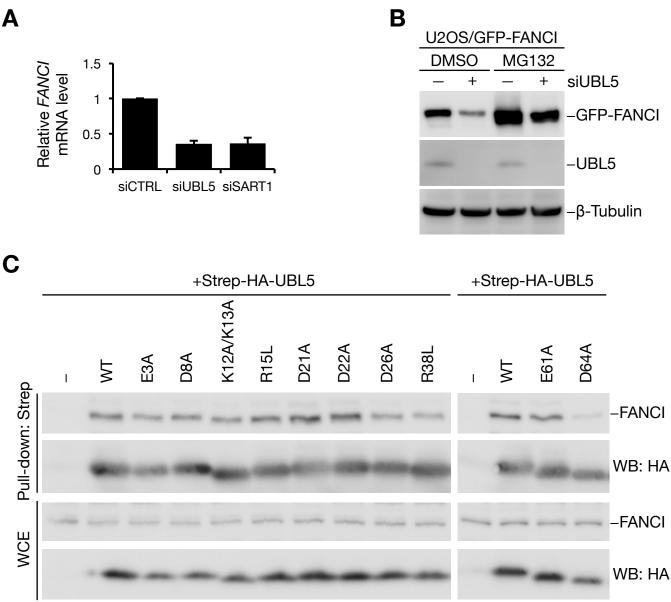


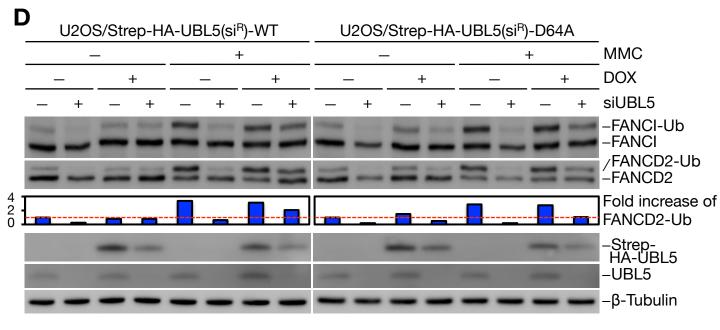


### Figure S3.

# UBL5 has a direct role uncoupled from its pre-mRNA splicing involvement in promoting the FA pathway

- A. HeLa cells were transfected with non-targeting control (CTRL), UBL5 or SART1 siRNAs. Total mRNAs were extracted and levels of FANCI mRNA were measured by reverse transcription-qPCR, normalized to the expression of β-Actin.
- B. U2OS cells stably expressing GFP-tagged FANCI and transfected with nontargeting control (CTRL) or UBL5 siRNAs were harvested following addition of MG132. Cell lysates were immunoblotted with GFP, UBL5 and β-Tubulin antibodies.
- C. Whole cell extracts (WCE) of HeLa cells transfected with indicated Strep-HA-UBL5 constructs were subjected to Strep-Tactin pull-down followed by immunoblotting with FANCI and HA antibodies.
- D. U2OS cells stably expressing siRNA-resistant (si<sup>R</sup>) forms of Strep-HA-UBL5 WT or D64A mutant were induced or not with doxycycline, transfected with non-targeting control (CTRL) or UBL5 siRNAs and treated with MMC for 24 h. Cell extracts were analyzed by immunoblotting with indicated antibodies.





Α

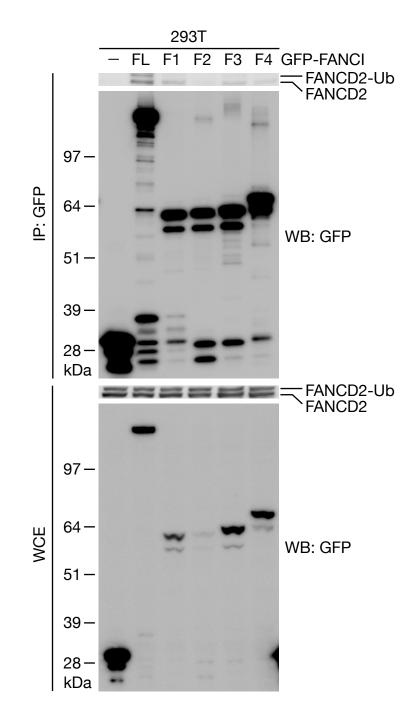
Figure S4.

## **Binding of FANCI fragments to FANCD2**

Whole cell extracts (WCE) of HEK293T cells transfected with indicated constructs

were subjected to GFP immunoprecipitation followed by immunoblotting with

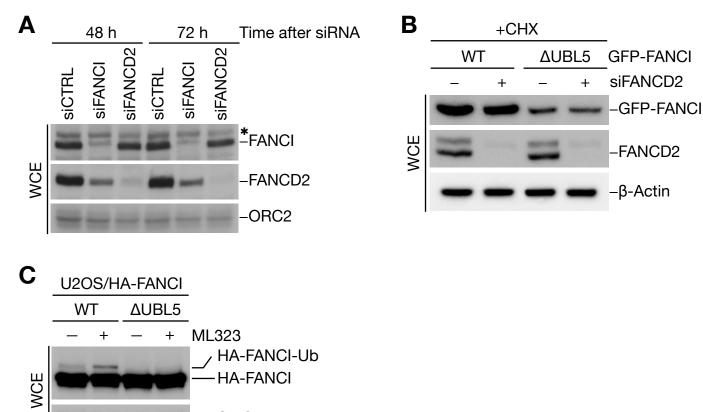
FANCD2 and GFP antibodies.



### Figure S5.

## Loss of UBL5 binding impairs the stability and activation of FANCI, while FANCD2 knockdown does not affect FANCI stability.

- A. Extracts of HeLa cells transfected with non-targeting control (CTRL), FANCI or FANCD2 siRNAs for 48 or 72 h were analyzed by immunoblotting with antibodies to FANCI, FANCD2 or ORC2 (loading control).
- B. HeLa cells transfected with non-targeting control or FANCD2 siRNA and subsequently transfected with GFP-tagged FANCI WT or ΔUBL5 were treated with cycloheximide (CHX) for 3 h. Cell extracts were analyzed by immunoblotting with indicated antibodies.
- C. U2OS cells stably expressing HA-tagged FANCI WT or  $\Delta$ UBL5 were treated or not with 30  $\mu$ M ML323 for 6 h. Cell extracts were analyzed by immunoblotting with HA and SMC1 antibodies.



SMC1

Figure S6.

### UBL5 promotes FANCI stability by facilitating its homodimerization

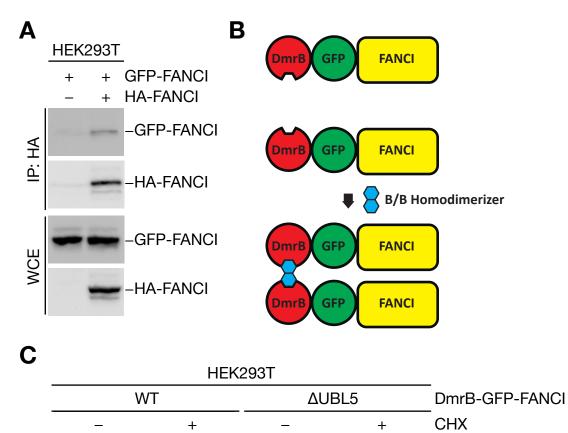
- A. Extracts of HEK293T cells co-transfected with GFP-FANCI and HA-FANCI constructs as indicated were subjected to HA immunoprecipitation followed by immunoblotting with GFP and HA antibodies.
- B. Schematic diagram of enforced homodimerization of FANCI by means of the DmrB system.
- C. HEK293T cells transfected with plasmids encoding DmrB-GFP-FANCI WT or ΔUBL5 were treated with 100 nM AP20187 (B/B Homodimerizer) or left untreated, and then treated with cycloheximide (CHX). Cell extracts were analyzed by immunoblotting with GFP and β-Actin antibodies.

AP20187

-β-Actin

-DmrB-GFP-FANCI

+



+

+

WCE

+

## Supplementary reference

1. Oka, Y. et al. UBL5 is essential for pre-mRNA splicing and sister chromatid cohesion in human cells. EMBO Rep 15, 956-64 (2014).