SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Substrate recognition and cleavage-site selection by a single-subunit protein-only RNase P

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| Amino acid substitution | Forward | Reverse |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| noneª | GGCTCTAGACCATGGCTGGTACTGAT | CGGCTCGAGTGAACTCTGCCTTGTA |
| T113S | CTAATGAATCATCTGTCTCTGCAGTTG CACGACTAG | CTAGTCGTGCAACTGCAGAGACAGAT GATTCATTAG |
| T113N | CTAATGAATCATCTGTCAATGCAGTTG CACGACTAG | CTAGTCGTGCAACTGCATTGACAGAT GATTCATTAG |
| R145N | GTGTATCGGTCCCTAATCTGAGAACTT ATGC | GCATAAGTTCTCAGATTAGGGACCGA TACAC |
| R145D | GTGTATCGGTCCCTGATCTGAGAACTT ATGC | GCATAAGTTCTCAGATCAGGGACCGA TACAC |

Supplementary Table S1. Oligonucleotides used for cloning and site-directed mutagenesis of PRORP3.

^aPrimer pair used for the cloning of the *A. thaliana* wild-type PRORP3 cDNA.

| RNA substrate | Forward | Reverse |
|--|---|---|
| U ₁ -A ₇₂ ^a | TAGGATTTTCCCTTTCTCGGGAGTAGCTCAGTC CAAGTCCCGTCTCCCGATCCAGTCACCGGATGTGC | GACTGAGCTACTCCCGAGAAAGGGAAAATCCTA GCACATCCGGTGACTGGATCGGGAGACGGGACTTG |
| U_{-1} | CTATAGGATTTTCCCTTTTGCGGGAGTAGCTCAGTCG | CGACTGAGCTACTCCCGCAAAAGGGAAAATCCTATAG |
| G ₋₁ , A ₇₃ ^a | TATAGGATTTTCCCTTTGGCGGGAGTAGCTCAGTCG CAAGTCCCGTCTCCCGCACCAGTCACCGGATGTGC | CGACTGAGCTACTCCCGCCAAAGGGAAAATCCTATA GCACATCCGGTGACTGGTGCGGGAGACGGGACTTG |
| A ₋₁ , A ₇₃ ^a | CTATAGGATTTTCCCTTTAGCGGGAGTAGCTCAGTCG CAAGTCCCGTCTCCCGCACCAGTCACCGGATGTGC | CGACTGAGCTACTCCCGCTAAAGGGAAAATCCTATAG GCACATCCGGTGACTGGTGCGGGAGACGGGACTTG |
| A ₇₃ | CAAGTCCCGTCTCCCGCACCAGTCACCGGATGTGC | GCACATCCGGTGACTGGTGCGGGAGACGGGACTTG |
| G ₁₈ →A ₁₈ | GCGGGAGTAGCTCAGTCAGTAGAGCACGACCTTGC | GCAAGGTCGTGCTCTACTGACTGAGCTACTCCCGC |
| G_{19} → A_{19} , C_{56} → U_{56}^{a} | TCGGGGTCGCGGGTTTAAGTCCCGTCTCCCG GGAGTAGCTCAGTCGATAGAGCACGACCTTGC | CGGGAGACGGGACTTAAACCCGCGACCCCGA GCAAGGTCGTGCTCTATCGACTGAGCTACTCC |
| C ₅₆ →U ₅₆ | TCGGGGTCGCGGGTTTAAGTCCCGTCTCCCG | CGGGAGACGGGACTTAAACCCGCGACCCCGA |
| A ₅₇ →C ₅₇ | GGTCGCGGGTTCCAGTCCCGTCTCC | GGAGACGGGACTGGAACCCGCGACC |
| U ₆₅ →C ₆₅ ^b | GGTTCAAGTCCCGCCTCCCGCTCCAGT | ACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGGGACTTGAACC |
| $Aa_{b1}T^{c}$ | TTCCCTTTCGCGGGAGAGCGGGTTCAAGTC | GACTTGAACCCGCTCTCCCGCGAAAGGGAA |
| $Aa_{b4}T^{d}$ | TTCCCTTTCGCGGGAGAGCTGCGGGTTCAAGTC GGAATTGTGAGCGGATAACA | GGTCTGCTTCAGTAAGCCAG GACTTGAACCCGCAGCTCTCCCGCGAAAGGGAA |
| Aa _{b9} T ^d | TTCCCTTTCGCGGGAGCCAGCTCCTGCGGGTTCAAGTC GGAATTGTGAGCGGATAACA | GGTCTGCTTCAGTAAGCCAG GACTTGAACCCGCAGGAGCTGGCTCCCGCGAAAGGG AA |
| AaT | AATTCGAGCTCGCCTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATTTT CCCTTTCGCGGGAGGCGGGTTCAAGTCCCGCCTCCCG CTCCAGTCACCGGATGTGCTTTCCGGTCTGATGAGTCC GTGAGGACGAAACTGGTATG | GATCCATACCAGTTTCGTCCTCACGGACTCATCAGACC GGAAAGCACATCCGGTGACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGGG ACTTGAACCCGCCTCCCGCGAAAGGGAAAATCCTATA GTGAGTCGTATTAGGCGAGCTCG |
| Aa _{-2bp} ^a | GTTCAAGTCCCGTCTCGCTCCAGTCACCG ACTATAGGATTTTCCCTTTCGCGAGTAGCTCAGTCGG | CGGTGACTGGAGCGAGACGGGACTTGAAC CCGACTGAGCTACTCGCGAAAGGGAAAATCCTATAGT |
| Aa _{+2bp} ^a | TCAAGTCCCGTCTCCGGCGCTCCAGTCACC TAGGATTTTCCCTTTCGCGCCCGGAGTAGCTCAGTC | GGTGACTGGAGCGCCGGAGACGGGACTTGA GACTGAGCTACTCCGGCGCGAAAGGGAAAATCCTA |

Supplementary Table S2. Oligonucleotides used for site-directed mutagenesis and (PCR) cloning of RNA-substrate templates.

^aPrimer pairs for 2 rounds of site-directed mutagenesis.

^bUsed to generate the plasmid encoding pre-tRNA^{Gly}-U₆₅ \rightarrow C₆₅, used as a template for further mutagenesis only.

^cPlasmid encoding pre-tRNA^{Giy}-U₆₅ \rightarrow C₆₅ was used as a DNA template in the mutagenesis.

^dPrimer pairs to produce 2 overlapping PCR products from plasmid encoding pre-tRNA^{Gly}-U₆₅ \rightarrow C₆₅.

| RNA substrate | Forward primer | Reverse primer |
|---------------|--|--|
| 7-nt leader | AGGACGAAACGGTACCCGGTACCGTCCCCTTTC GCGGGAGTAGCTCAGTCGGTAGAGCACGACC | CACGGACTCATCAGCCCTTTCGCTCCTATAGTGAGTC GTATTAGGGCGAGCTCGAATTCGTAATCATGG |
| 4-nt leader | AGGACGAAACGGTACCCGGTACCGTCTTTCGCG GGAGTAGCTCAGTCGGTAGAGCACGACC | CACGGACTCATCAGTTTCGCGGCTCCTATAGTGAGT CGTATTAGGGCGAGCTCGAATTCGTAATCATGG |
| 2-nt leader | AGGACGAAACGGTACCCGGTACCGTCCCGCGG GAGTAGCTCAGTCGGTAGAGCACGACC | CACGGACTCATCAGCCGCGGGACTCCTATAGTGAGT CGTATTAGGGCGAGCTCGAATTCGTAATCATGG |
| 1-nt leader | AGGACGAAACGGTACCCGGTACCGTCCGCGGG AGTAGCTCAGTCGGTAGAGCACGACC | CACGGACTCATCAGCGCGGGGAGCTCCTATAGTGAGT CGTATTAGGGCGAGCTCGAATTCGTAATCATGG |

Supplementary Table S3. Oligonucleotides used for "inside-out" PCR mutagenesis of RNA-substrate templates.

| RNA substrate | Forward primer | Reverse primer | |
|--|--|---|--|
| (mature) CCA ^a | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGG | TGGAGCGGGAGACGGGACTT | |
| no trailer ^a | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGG | AGCGGGAGACGGGACTT | |
| 40-nt trailer ^a | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGG | TCCTCACGGACTCATCAG | |
| ΔAc^{b} | TAATACGACTCACTATAGG | TATTGGAGCGGGAGACG | |
| ΔD^{b} | TAATACGACTCACTATAGG | TATTGGAGCGGGAGACG | |
| Aa _{b9} T-U ₅₄ →C ₅₄ ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGGGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGGGACTTGAG CCCGCAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{b9} T-U ₅₅ →C ₅₅ ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGGGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGGGACTTGGA CCCGCAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{b9} T-C ₅₆ →U ₅₆ ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGGGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGGGACTTAAA CCCGCAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{b9} T-A ₅₇ →G ₅₇ ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGGGGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGGGACTCGAA CCCGCAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{b9} T-A ₅₇ →C ₅₇ ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGGGGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGGGACTGGAA CCCGCAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{b9} T-A ₅₇ →U ₅₇ ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGGGGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGGGACTAGAA CCCGCAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{b9} T-A ₅₈ →G ₅₈ ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGGGGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGGGACCTGAA CCCGCAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{b9} T _{CCUUUUA} ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGGGGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGGGTAAAAGG CCCGCAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{+2bp b9} T ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGCCGGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGCCGGAGGCGGGACTTG AACCCGCAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{b9} T _{+2bp} ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGGGGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGCCGGACTTG AACCGGCGCAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{-2bp b9} T _{+2bp} ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGAGGCGCCGGACTTGAAC CGGCGCAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{b9} T _{4loop} ^c | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATT TTCCCTTTCGCGGGGAGCCAGCTCCTG | GACTGGAGCGGGAGGCGGGTTTCCCCG CAGGAGCTGGC | |
| Aa _{+4bp} ^b | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGG | GACTGGAGCGCGCCGGAGA | |
| Aa _{+m3GC} ^b | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGG | GACTGGAGCGAGCCGGAGA | |
| Aa _{+m3AU} ^b | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGG | GACTGGAATAAGCCGGAGA | |
| G_{-1} - C_{73}^{d} | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGG | GACTGGGGCGGGAGA | |
| U ₋₁ -A ₇₃ ^e | CTCGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGG | GACTGGTGCGGGAGA | |
| Aa _{+3AU} ^a | CGAGTAATACGACTCACTATAGGATTTT CCCTTTCAATGCGGGAGTAGC | GACTGGAAATGCGGGAGAC | |

Supplementary Table S4. Oligonucleotides used to prepare RNA-substrate templates by PCR.

^aPlasmid pSBpt3'hh was used as a template.

^bOligonucleotide template listed in Supplementary Table S6.

^cOverlapping primers (no extra template).

 d Pre-tRNA Gly -G₋₁ was used as a template.

 e Pre-tRNA^{Gly}-U₋₁ was used as a template.

| RNA substrate | Oligonucleotide template |
|--|---|
| Aa _{+4bp} & Aa _{+m3GC} | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGATTTTCCCTTTCGCGCGCGGAGTAGCTCAGTCGGTAGAGC ACGACCTTGCCAAGGTCGGGGTCGCGGGTTCAAGTCCCGTCTCCGGCGCGCTCCAGTC |
| Aa _{+m3AU} | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGATTTTCCCTTTCATACGCCGGAGTAGCTCAGTCGGTAGAGCA CGACCTTGCCAAGGTCGGGGGTCGCGGGTTCAAGTCCCGTCTCCGGCGTATTCCAGTC |
| ΔD | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGATTTTCCCTTTCGCGGGAGTAGACCGACC |
| ΔΑC | TAATACGACTCACTATAGGATTTTCCCTTTCGCGGGAGTAGCTCAGTCGGTAGAGCACCTT CGGGGGGTCGCGGGTTCAAGTCCCGTCTCCCGCTCCAATA |

Supplementary Table S5. Oligonucleotide templates used for PCR of RNA-substrate templates.



Supplementary Figure S1. Single-turnover cleavage kinetics of representative substrates. First-order rate constants of cleavage (k_{obs}) obtained at different PRORP3 concentrations were plotted against the enzyme concentration and fit by nonlinear regression to a "Michaelis-Menten-like" enzyme kinetics model to derive the maximal rate constant k_{react} and the single-turnover Michaelis constant $K_{M(sto)}$. Data points represent the mean of at least 3 replicates with SEM (error bars display only if SEM exceeds the size of the data point in the graph). (A) Kinetic analysis of pre-tRNA^{GIV} cleavage by PRORP3 independently performed by the two labs. (B) Kinetic analysis of the cleavage of the stem-loop substrate Aa_{b9}T by PRORP3.



Supplementary Figure S2. Cleavage analysis of pre-tRNA^{Gly} variants with a short 5'-hydroxyl-end leader. (A) Unlabeled pre-tRNA^{Gly} variants with a 5'-hydroxyl-end leader of 1 or 2 nt were cleaved with PRORP3 under presumably enzyme-saturated conditions (80 nM). Aliquots of the reactions were withdrawn at indicated times, and the RNA ³²P-5'end labeled and resolved by denaturing PAGE. The panels show the substrate RNA remaining after the reaction time indicated. (B) Firstorder rate constants of cleavage (k_{obs} ; best-fit values ± standard error) for the two substrates were derived from the data of three experiments each. Individual data points are shown ("substrate remaining" converted to "fraction cleaved"; note: in the three replicate experiments some sampling time points differed).



Supplementary Figure S3. Nucleotide frequencies of the 5'-leader and **3'-trailer sequences of the nucleus-encoded pre-tRNAs of** *A. thaliana*. Nucleotides upstream of the 5' end and downstream of the 3' end of the mature tRNA, including the first base pair of the tRNAs' nucleotides 1 and 72, and the discriminator position 73, were aligned, and a logo derived from the alignment of the 598 sequences. An arrow indicates the canonical RNase P cleavage site.

| Base-paired positions ^a | G-C/C-G bp | A-U/U-A/G-U/U-G bp | G-C/C-G as 1 st or 2 nd upstream bp ^b |
|--|------------|--------------------|---|
| +1 - 72 | 92.0% | 7.0% | |
| -1 - 73 | 1.0% | 22.9% | |
| -2 - 74 -1 - 73 | 0.0% | 8.5% | 1.5% |
| -3 - 75 -2 - 74 -1 - 73 | 0.0% | 3.5% | 0.4% |
| -4 - 76 -3 - 75 -2 - 74 -1 - 73 | 0.0% | 1.8% | 0.0% |

Supplementary Table S6. Base-pair frequencies at the RNase P cleavage site of the nucleus-encoded pre-tRNAs of *A. thaliana*.

^aNumbering according to convention with the exception of positions 74–76, which do not indicate the CCA end of the mature tRNA, but the first 3 nt of the trailer of the pre-tRNA (see also Supplementary Figure S3); nucleotides of the 5' leader carry negative numbers starting from the nucleotide closest to the RNase P cleavage site with -1.

^bExtensions of the acceptor stem with a single G-C base pair at the first or second upstream position; the other base pairs of the extension are either A-U or G-U.