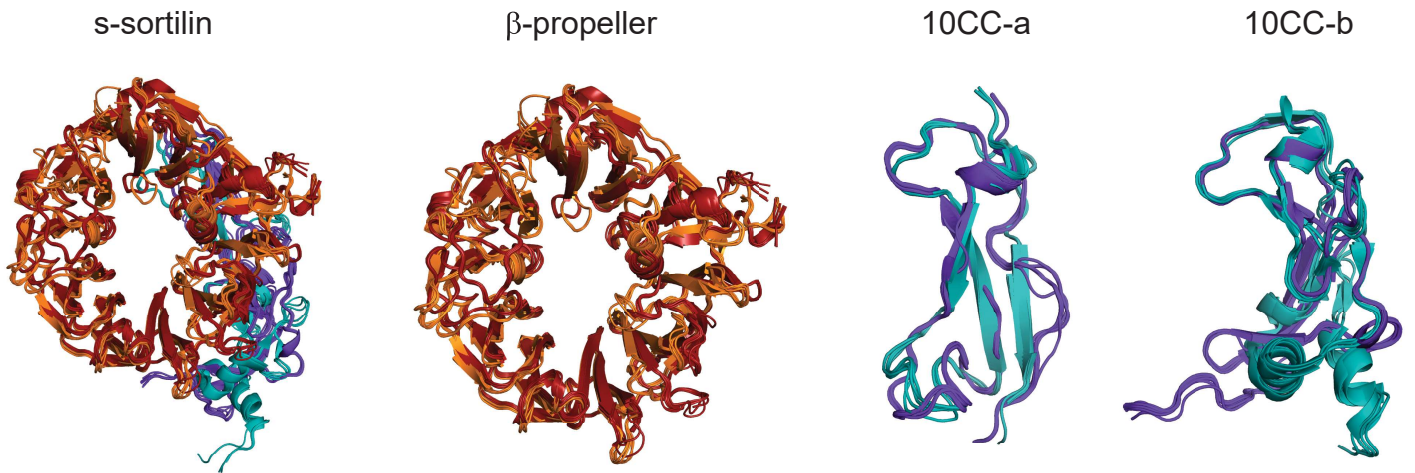


## Supplementary Figure 1

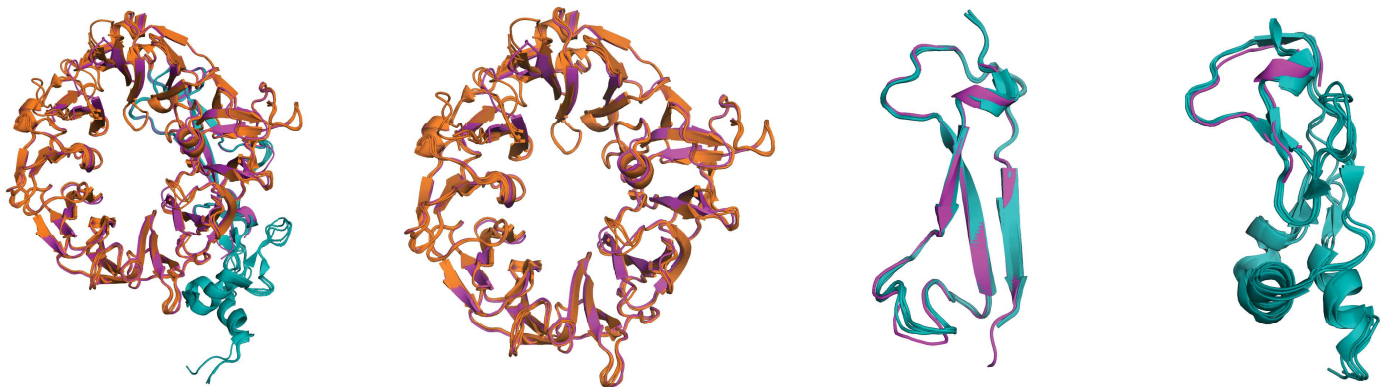
### A All structures



### B Dimers



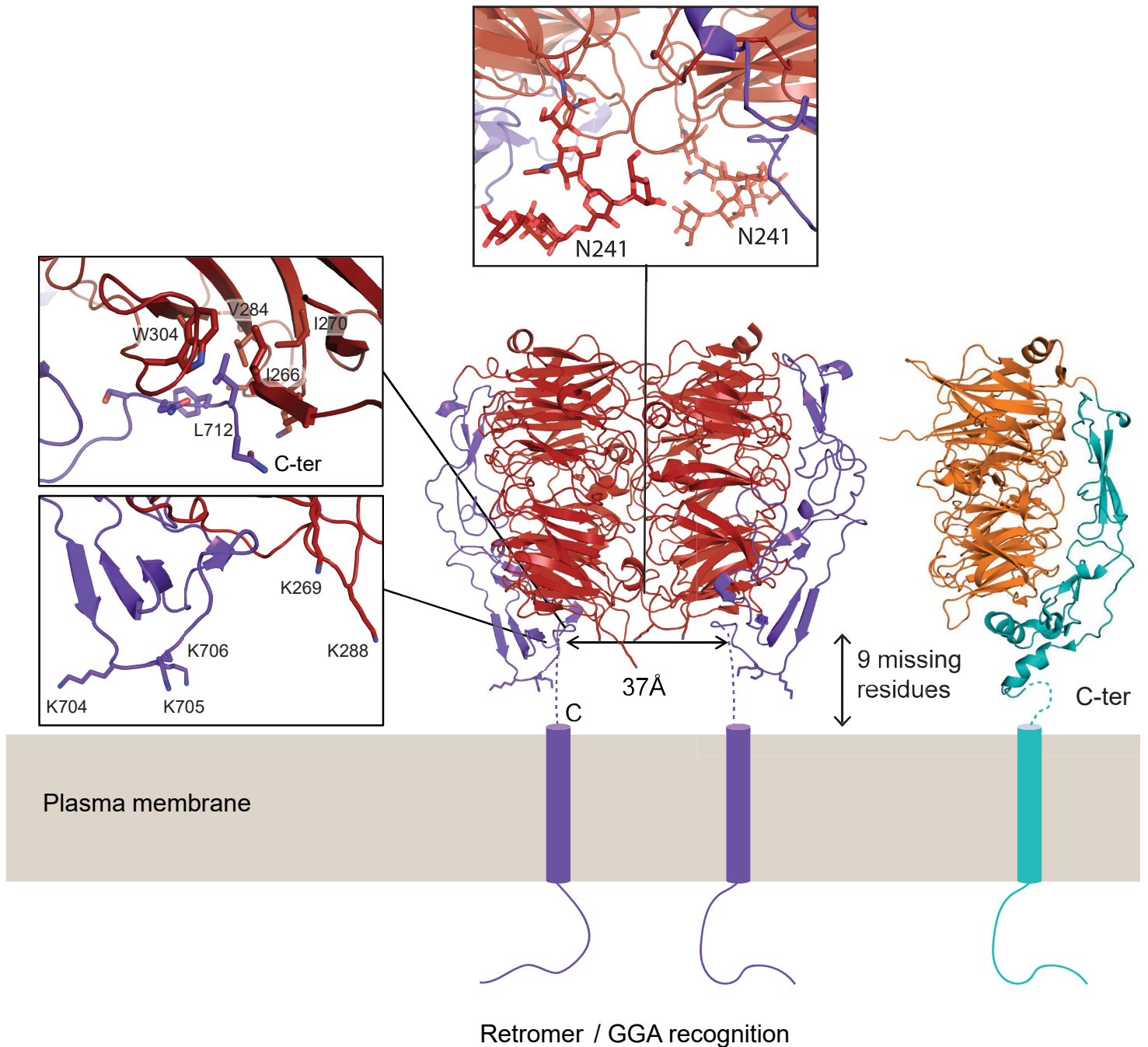
### C Monomers



## Supplementary Figure 1: Two different conformations within the three s-sortilin domains define the sortilin oligomeric state.

A. Superposition based on a single chain of all s-sortilin structures available in cartoon representation reveals that s-sortilin adopts either one of two conformations that correlate with the oligomeric state. In the three right columns the individual domains are shown.  $\beta$ -propeller and 10CC domains from the dimer structures coloured red and purple, respectively;  $\beta$ -propeller and 10CC domains from the monomer structures coloured orange and teal, respectively. B. Superposition of all s-sortilin dimer chains. C. Superposition of all s-sortilin monomer chains. Structure from the s-sortilin mouse monomer is shown in magenta.

## Supplementary Figure 2



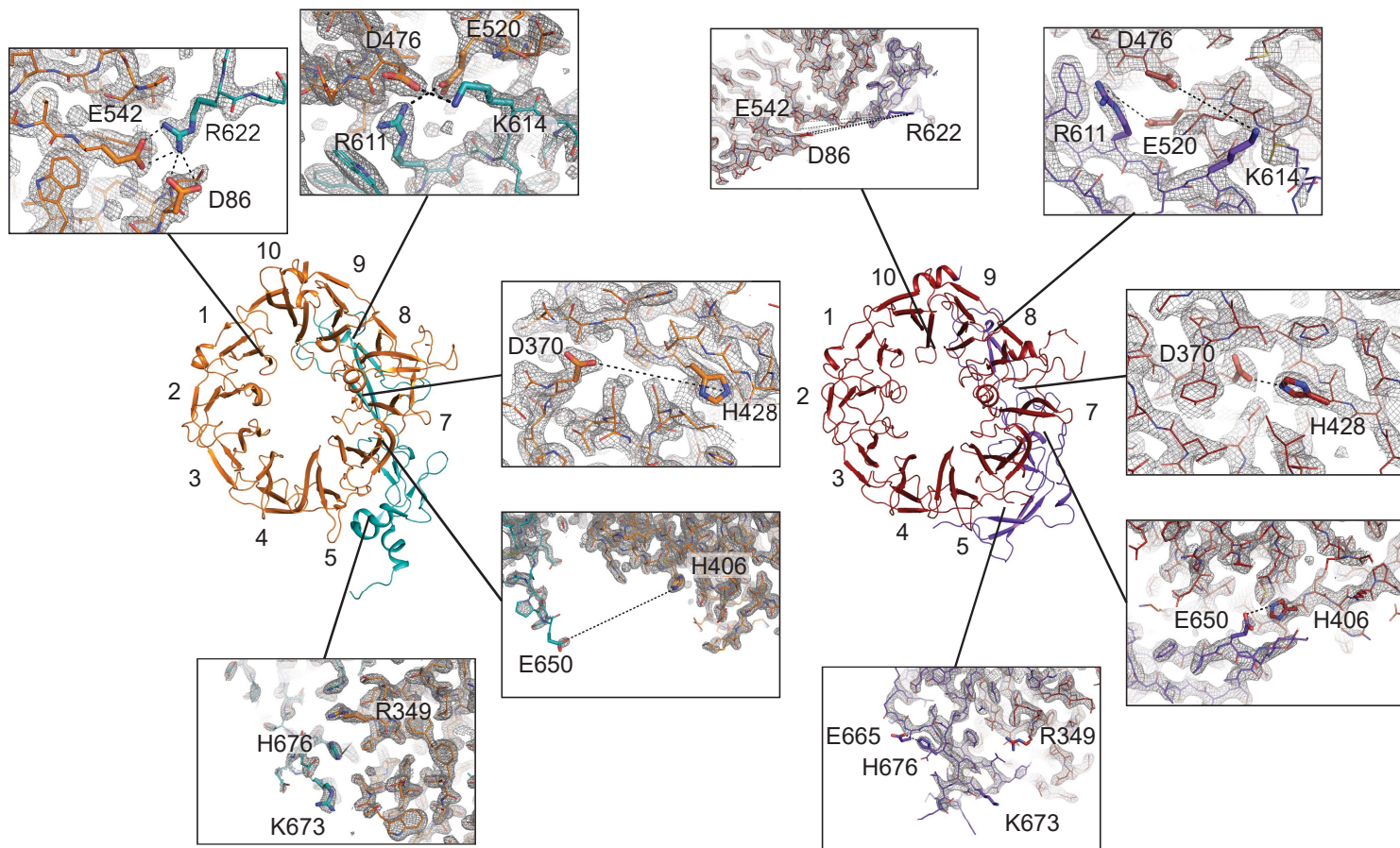
**Supplementary figure 2: model for the orientation of sortilin dimer on the cell surface.**

The 10CC-b domain of s-sortilin interacts extensively with the  $\beta$ -propeller and brings the C-termini in 37 Å proximity in the dimer. Ten lysines are oriented towards the membrane and may stabilize this proposed orientation of the sortilin dimer by providing interactions with negatively charged lipids at the membrane. The glycosylation site N241 is located close-by the membrane and the dimerization interface. The oligomannose glycan on N241 was not resolved in our structures but has been modelled for visualization purposes (top panel). PDB 3F6K was used for representation of the monomer structure since the electron density of part of the 10CC-b domain was lacking in our monomer structure.

### Supplementary figure 3

Monomer

Dimer



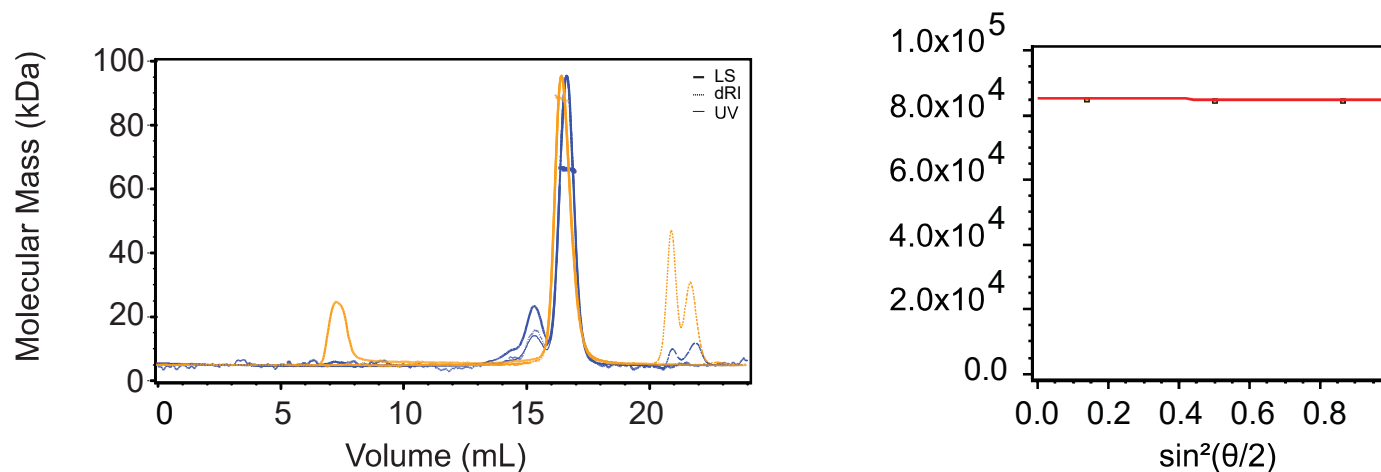
**Supplementary Figure 3: electron density of the different salt bridges between monomer and dimer conformations shown in Fig. 3.**

For monomer sortilin (left), the electron density of pdb 5NMR was used for salt bridges within the  $\beta$ -pro-peller or  $\beta$ -propeller and 10CC-a domains. For salt bridges involving the 10CC-b domain, the electron density and models shown are from pdb 3F6K<sup>19</sup>. The electron density of pdb 5NMT was used for dimer sortilin (right).

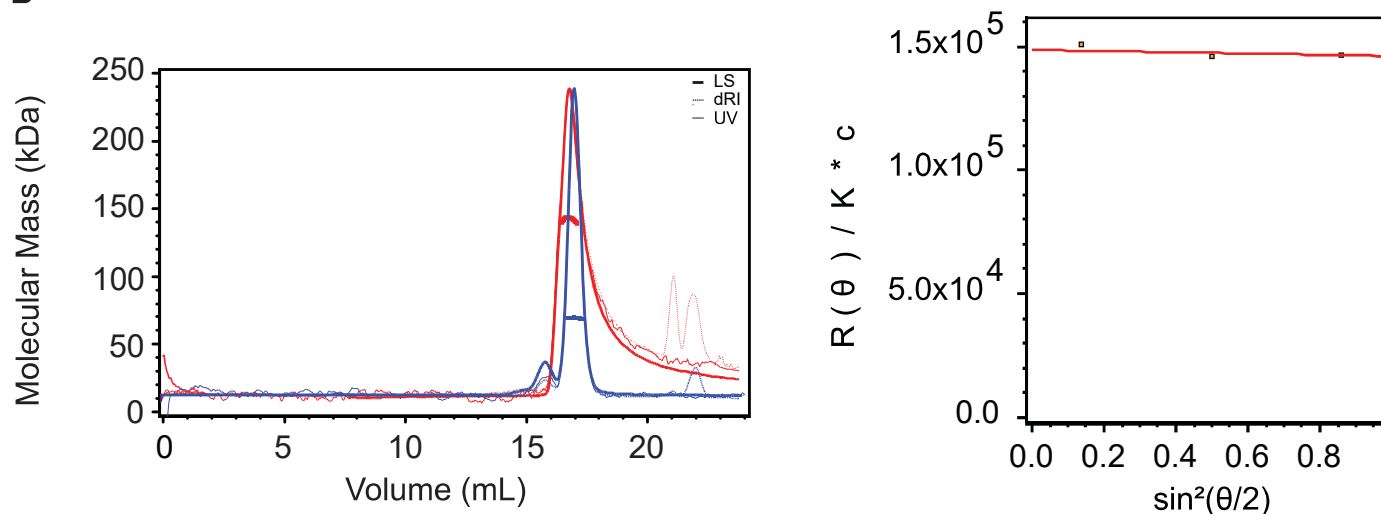


## Supplementary figure 4

**A**



**B**

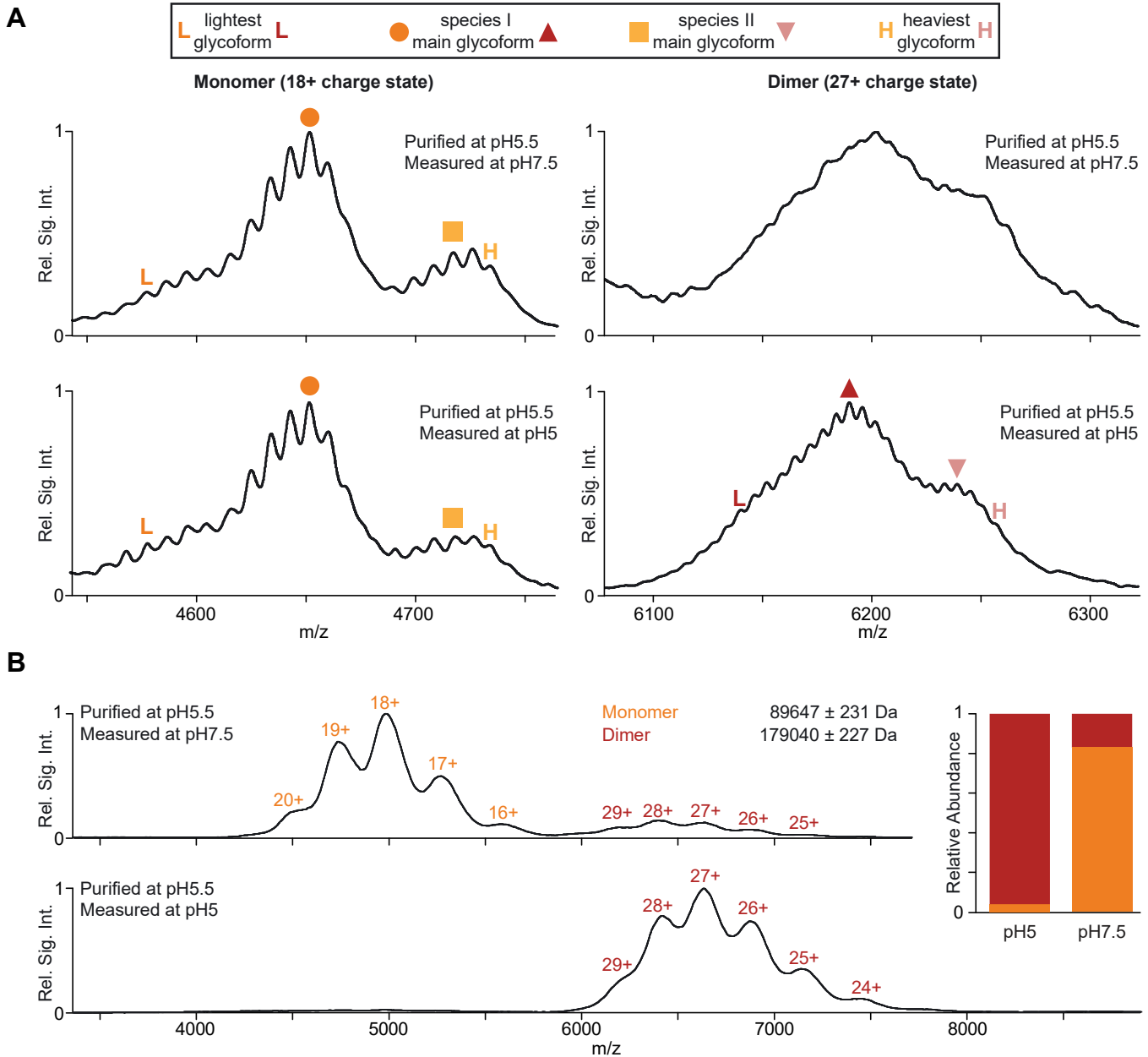


**Supplementary Figure 4: s-sortilin is predominantly a monomer at pH 7.4 and dimer at pH 5.0 in size-exclusion chromatography experiments.**

Size-exclusion chromatography coupled multi angle light scattering of s-sortilin at pH 5.0 and 7.4. A. UV trace (dotted line), differential refractive index trace (thin dotted line) and light scattering from the 90° angle detector (line) and molecular mass distribution (left panel) of s-sortilin (orange) and calibration sample Bovine serum Albumine (BSA, 66.7 kDa, blue) at pH 7.4 indicates a mass of  $87 \pm 2$  kDa for s-sortilin, corresponding to a s-sortilin monomer. Debye plot that shows the Rayleigh ratio for the three measured angles of s-sortilin at the eluted fraction with the highest protein concentration and a linear fit (red line) (right panel). The flow speed was 0.5 mL/min. B. Uv trace and molecular mass distribution of s-sortilin (red) and BSA (blue) at pH 5.0 indicates a mass of  $142 \pm 4$  kDa for s-sortilin, corresponding to predominantly s-sortilin dimer (panels the same as in A). S-sortilin at pH 5.0 interacts with the Superdex 200 column as revealed by the delayed elution and tailing beyond the total column volume. This effect is not observed on the Superose 6 column (Fig. 4a).



## Supplementary Figure 5



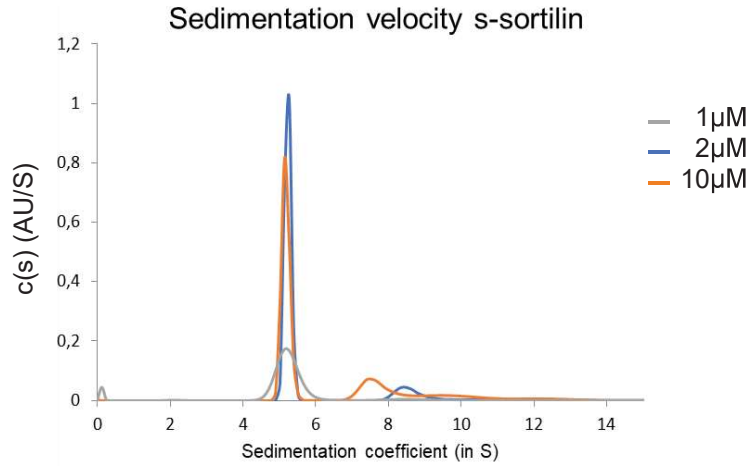
**Supplementary Figure 5: Native mass spectrometry of s-sortilin produced in HEK293-ES and HEK293-E cells.**

A. Expanded views of the mass spectra displayed in Fig. 4c. Shown are the most abundant s-sortilin monomer and dimer charge states of sSortilin produced in HEK293-ES cells. Monomer and dimer abundances were separately normalized. Every charge state shows a bimodal pattern, which may be caused by the presence of two sSortilin species (I and II) with a different number of glycosylated residues. Note that the charge states additionally exhibit a fine structure of peaks with relative mass shifts corresponding to differences in individual monosaccharide units. This confirms the presence of various sSortilin glycoforms. The fine structure is not resolved for the sSortilin dimer at pH 7.5 (top right panel) due to low abundance in the mass spectrum (see figure 4c for relative abundances of monomer versus dimer s-sortilin).

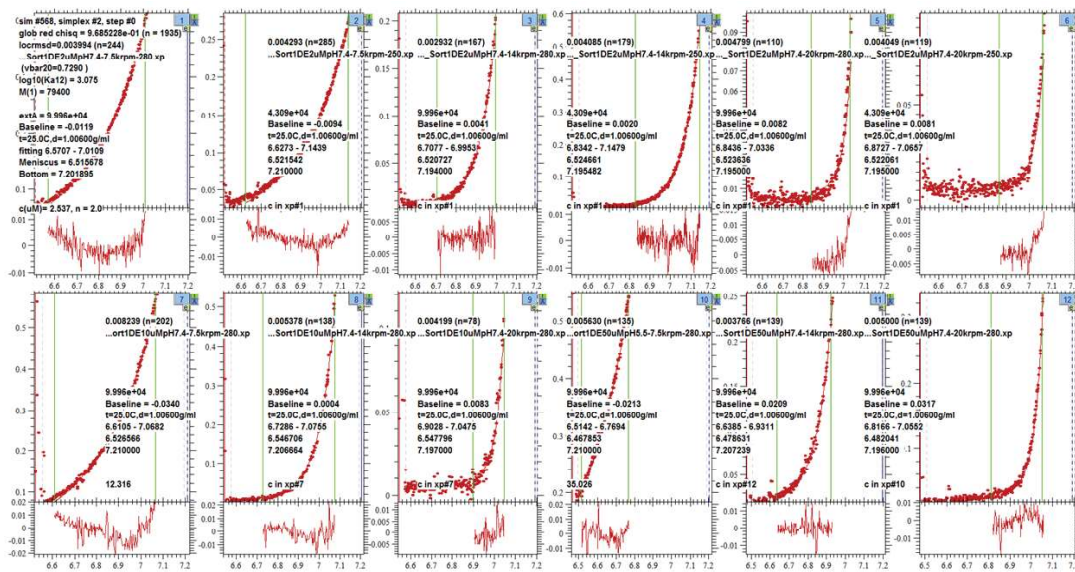
B. Native mass spectra of wt s-sortilin with native glycans (produced in HEK293-E cells), showing the same pH-dependent dimerization behavior as seen for wt s-sortilin with short glycans produced in HEK293-ES cells (Fig. 4c). The calculated masses of  $89.6 \pm 0.2$  kDa for the monomer and  $179.0 \pm 0.2$  kDa for the dimer are similar to s-sortilin A464E produced in HEK293-E cells (Fig. 4d). Compared to wt s-sortilin produced in HEK293-ES cells, less well resolved peaks and higher molecular weights are observed for s-sortilin produced in HEK293-E cells, confirming the presence of longer and more heterogeneous glycan trees.

# Supplementary Figure 6

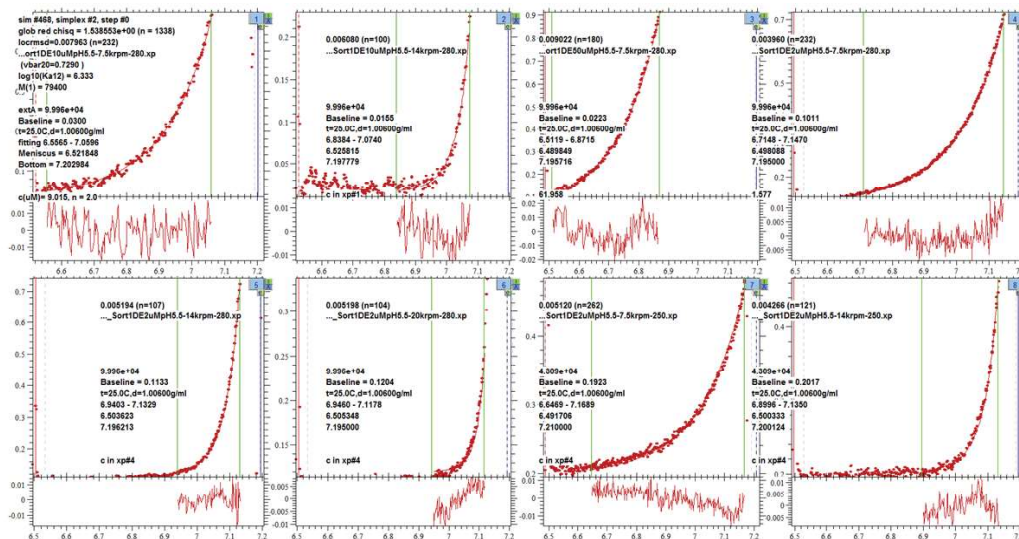
A



B



C



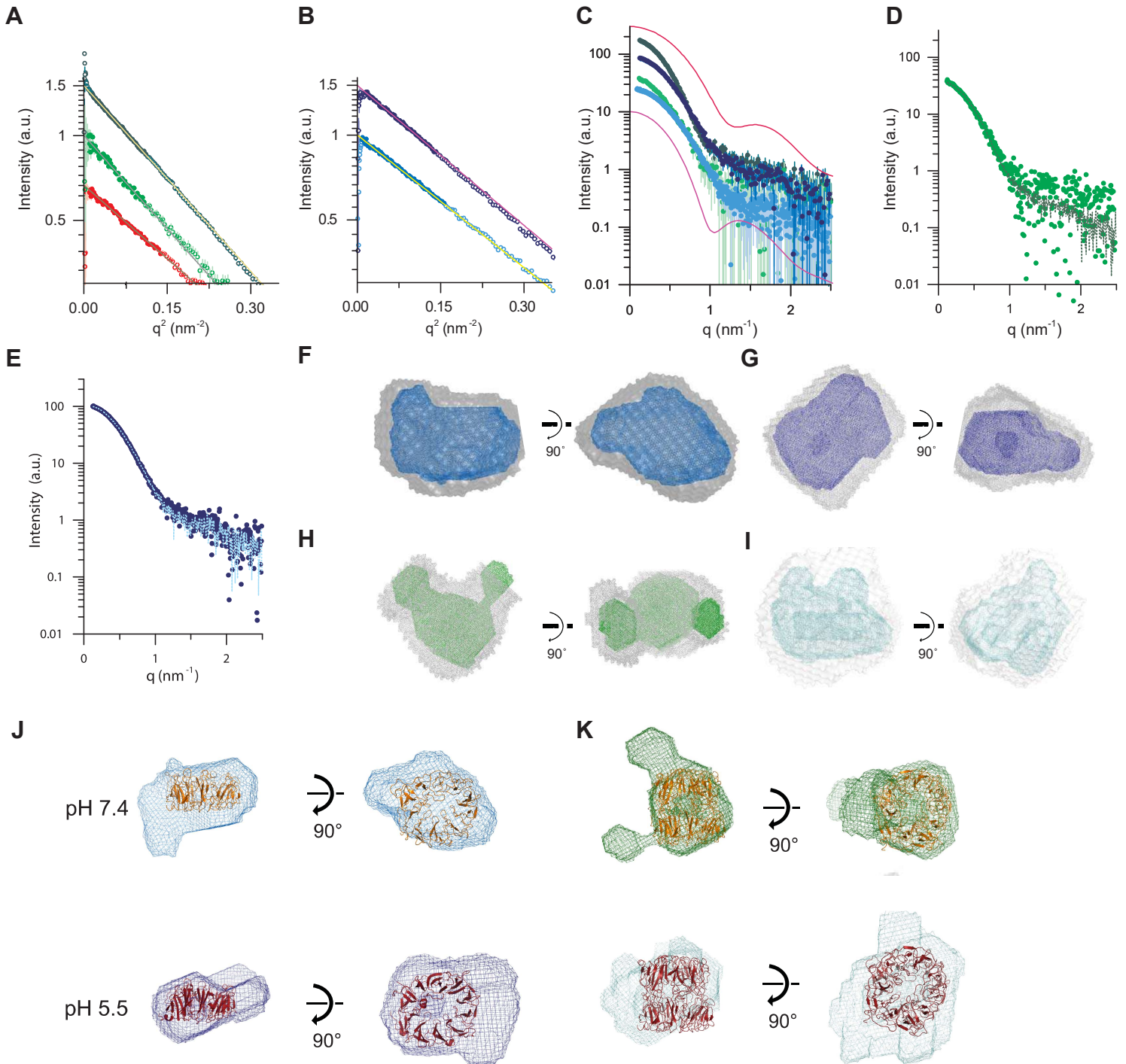
Supplementary Figure 6 : Representative SEDPHAT analysis of AUC data for s-sortilin.

A. Sedimentation velocity traces for native wt s-sortilin at different concentration. B & C. Sedimentation equilibrium of s-sortilin. A global analysis was performed using different concentrations and different rotation speeds, in which s-sortilin was modeled as a monomer-dimer equilibrium with the MW fixed. Rotation speed can be read from the second line in each panel (7.5, 14 or 20 krpm) and concentration in µM from the bottom line (after c) in each panel. In the panels beneath the curves the residuals from the fit are shown. B. wt deglycosylated sSortilin at pH 7.4. C. wt deglycosylated s-sortilin at pH 5.5





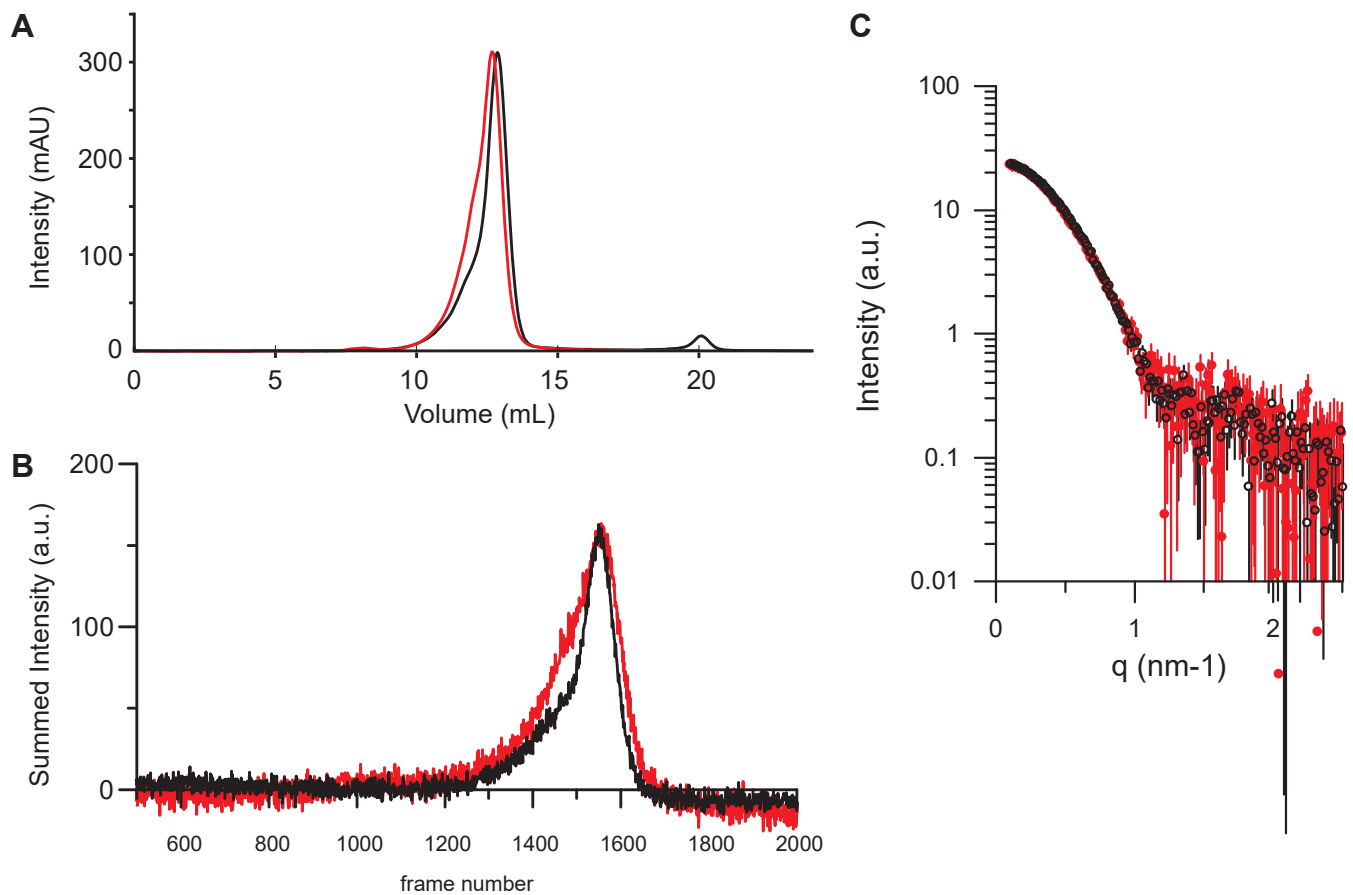
## Supplementary Figure 8



### Supplementary Figure 8: SEC-SAXS analyses.

A,B: Guinier plots of s-sortilin: wt s-sortilin at pH 5.5 (A, dark green), monomeric (A, red) and dimeric states (A, light green) at pH 7.4, s-sortilin A464E at pH 5.5 (B, dark blue) and pH 7.4 (B, light blue). Open symbols represent points not used for fitting. The curves are shifted by an arbitrary offset for better comparison. C: Comparison between the observed scattering curves and the predicted curves for the monomer (red line) and dimer (pink line). The curves are shifted by an arbitrary offset for better comparison. D-E: OLIGOMER fits of dimeric wt s-sortilin at pH 7.4 (D) and s-sortilin A464E at pH 5.5 (E). The A464E pH 5.5 SAXS data can be described as a mixture of 77 % A464E pH 7.4 monomer scattering plus 23 % wt pH 5.5 dimer scattering ( $p = 0.0074$ ). The s-sortilin wt pH 7.4 dimer SAXS data A464E pH 7.4 monomer scattering plus 61 % wt pH 5.5 dimer scattering ( $p = 0.007$ ). F-I. Overlay of individual bead models with the corresponding averaged bead model in grey for monomeric s-sortilin at pH 7.4 (F) and pH 5.5 (G) and dimeric s-sortilin at pH 7.4 (H) and pH 5.5 (I). J-K. Bead models. Bead modeling of s-sortilin A464E at pH 7.4 results in a flat disk with a single protrusion at about 45° angle (J, top panel) which fits with the  $\beta$ -propeller from the s-sortilin crystal structure and CORAL-based rigid body modeling of the C-terminal domains and missing residues ( $\chi^2 = 1.12$ ). Bead modeling of A464 at pH 5.5 results in a hollow disk whose size matches the  $\beta$ -propeller domain, but the protrusion now extends in the plane of the disk (J, bottom panel). Rigid body based modeling as a single conformation or as an ensemble does not give satisfactory solutions. Possibly this data does not represent monomer s-sortilin only and some dimer is present as suggested by the OLIGOMER analysis (see panel E). The dimer data at pH 7.4 (K, top panel) and pH 5.5 (K, bottom panel), correspond well to the  $\beta$ -propeller dimer and the C-terminal domains placed as rigid-bodies ( $\chi^2$  of 0.82 and 0.73 for the pH 7.4 and pH 5.5 data, respectively). Note that OLIGOMER analysis indicates that the pH 7.4 dimer data may also contain monomer s-sortilin.

## Supplementary Figure 9

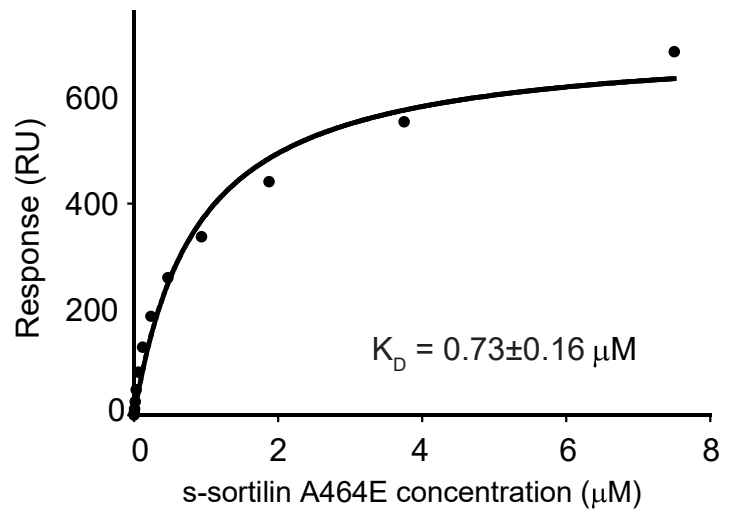
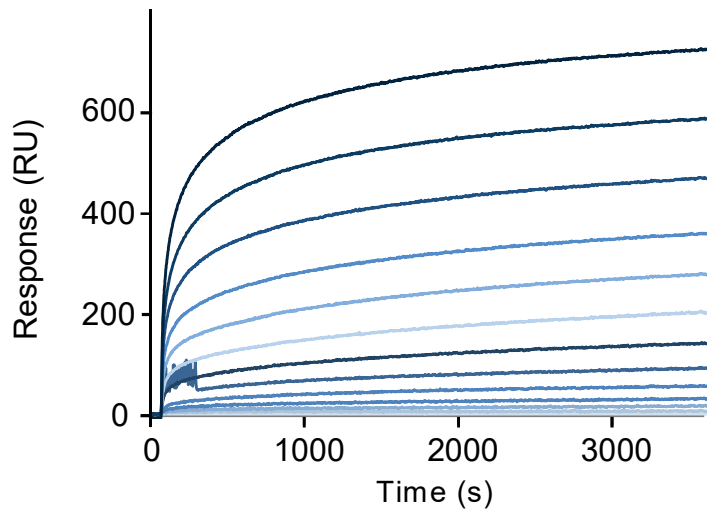


**Supplementary Figure 9: x-ray scattering of SEC-SAXS runs of wt s-sortilin with (black) and without (red) two times excess of neurotensin.**

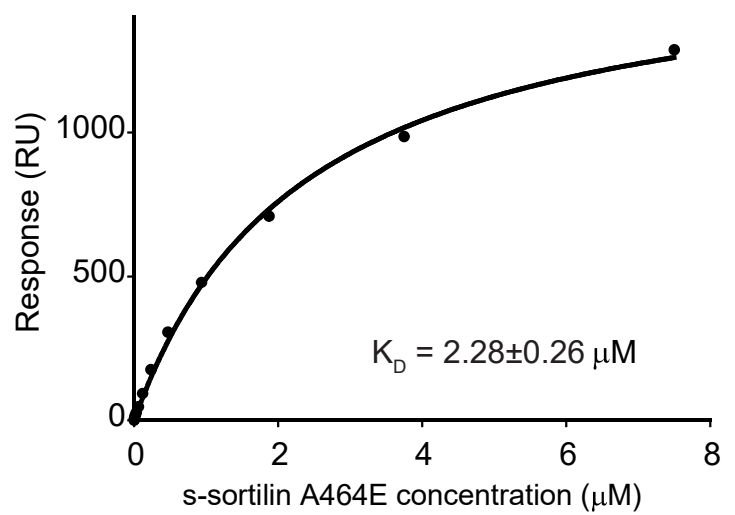
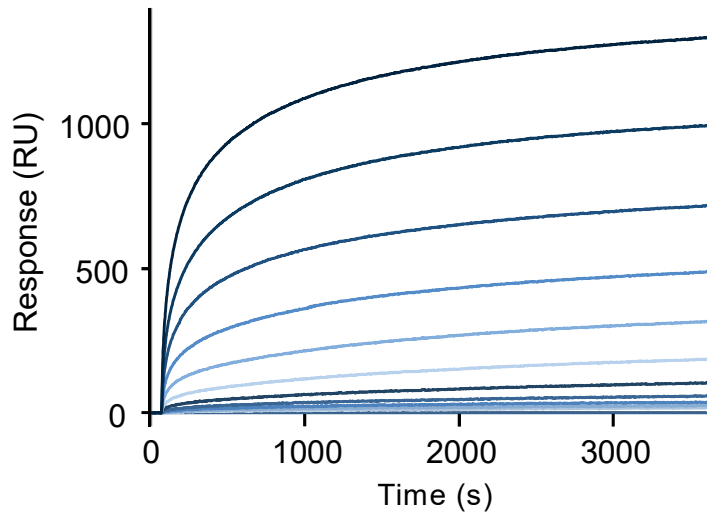
A-B. The UV trace (A) and scattering intensities (B) of wt s-sortilin in presence of neurotensin (black) shows less propensity to dimerize than wt s-sortilin in absence of neurotensin (red): the shoulder on the left of the peak (corresponding to dimer s-sortilin) is much less pronounced when neurotensin is added. C. SAXS curves of monomer s-sortilin in presence (black) or absence (red) of neurotensin indicate that the shape of the monomer does not change depending on neurotensin addition.

## Supplementary Figure 10

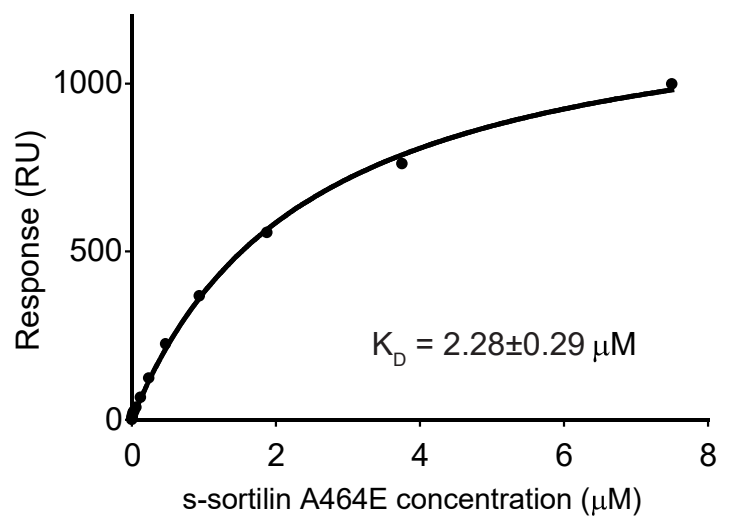
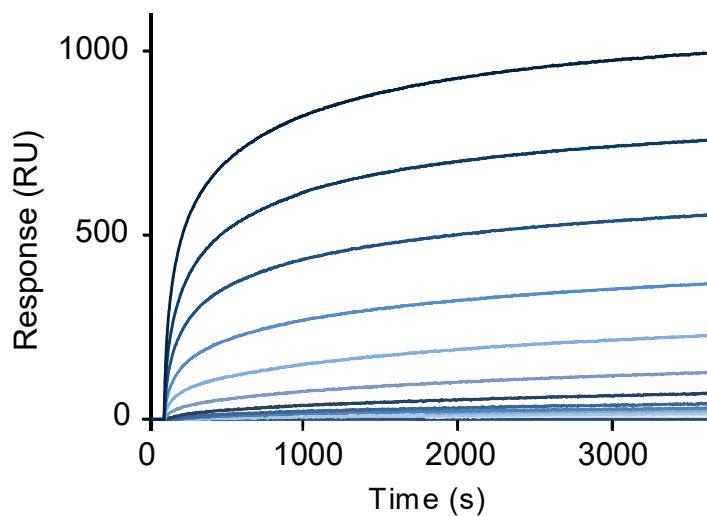
### A Binding of s-sortilin A464E to NGF at pH 5.0



### B Binding of s-sortilin A464E to proNGF at pH 5.0



### C Binding of s-sortilin A464E to proBDNF at pH 5.0

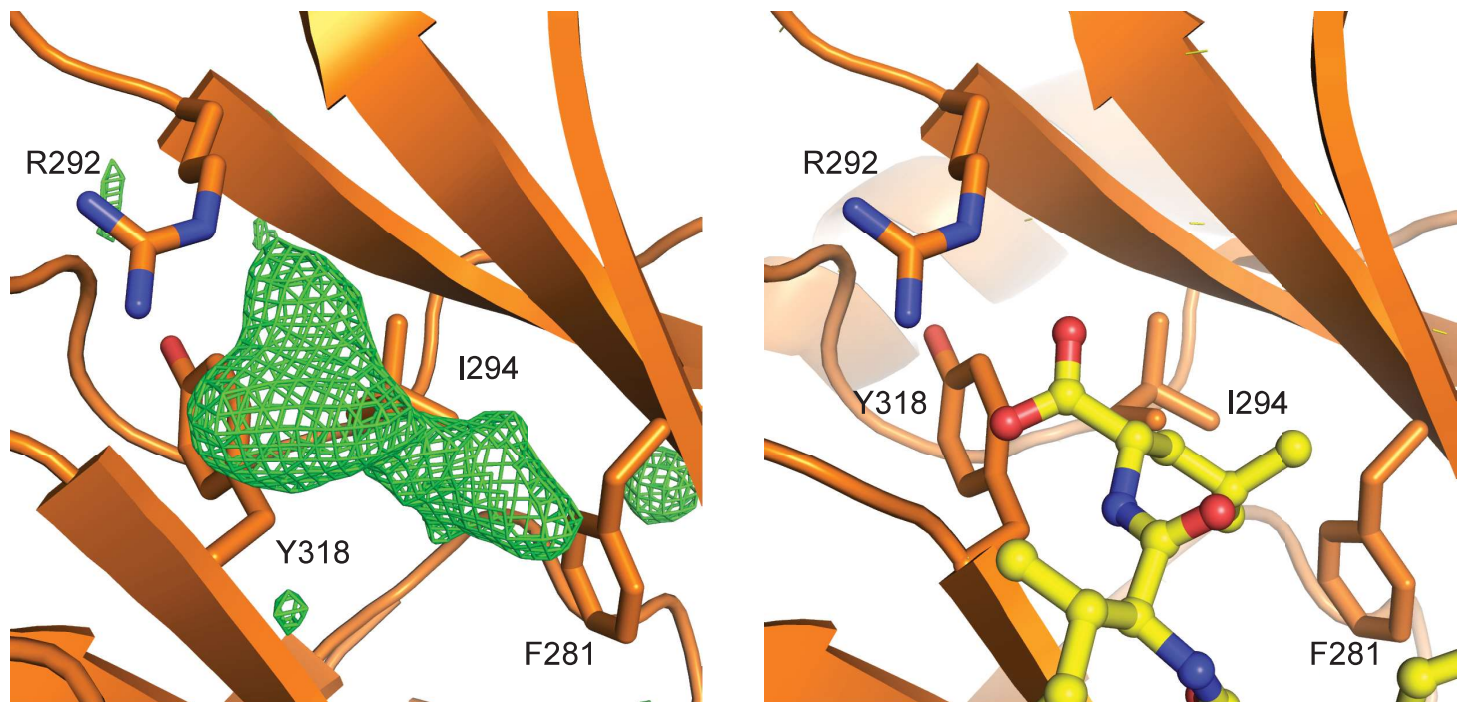


## Supplementary Figure 10: (Pro)neurotrophins bind to s-sortilin A464E at acidic pH.

SPR sensorgrams (left) and equilibrium binding plots (right) of s-sortilin A464E binding to NGF (A), proNGF (B) and proBDNF (C) at pH 5.0.



## Supplementary Figure 11



### Supplementary Figure 11 : Unmodeled electron density present in the unliganded mouse monomer s-sortilin structure at the neurotensin binding site.

The  $F_o - F_c$  electron density map contoured at  $3\sigma$  within  $5\text{ \AA}$  of the binding site is shown for the mouse s-sortilin crystal, with the residues involved in binding neurotensin residue L13 in stick representation (left panel). Same view as in the left panel of neurotensin bound to the human s-sortilin structure <sup>19</sup> (right panel).

**Supplementary Table 1. Identified glycopeptide fragments of sSortilin produced in HEK293-ES**

| Peptide Sequence*             | Glycan position (in peptide) | Glycan Mass (Da) | Glycan position (in protein) | Peptide charge | Observed m/z | Observed Mass (Da) | Calculated Mass (Da) | Mass Deviation (ppm) | N° of PSMs |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------|
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIR.T           | N10                          | 203.079          | 129                          | 3              | 676.026      | 2025.056           | 2025.053             | 1.29                 | 4          |
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIRTE.F         | N10                          | 203.079          | 129                          | 3              | 752.723      | 2255.147           | 2255.143             | 1.68                 | 2          |
| R.SEDYGKNFKDITNLINNTFIR.T     | N16                          | 203.079          | 129                          | 4              | 677.092      | 2704.338           | 2704.334             | 1.39                 | 8          |
| K.DITNLINNTFIR.T              | N7                           | 892.317          | 129                          | 3              | 776.035      | 2325.084           | 2325.085             | -0.15                | 3          |
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIR.T           | N10                          | 892.317          | 129                          | 3              | 905.772      | 2714.293           | 2714.291             | 0.79                 | 4          |
| R.SEDYGKNFKDITNLINNTFIR.T     | N16                          | 892.317          | 129                          | 4              | 849.398      | 3393.562           | 3393.572             | -3.08                | 4          |
| K.DITNLINNTFIR.T              | N7                           | 1054.370         | 129                          | 2              | 1244.576     | 2487.138           | 2487.138             | 0.27                 | 20         |
| K.DITNLINNTFIRTE.F            | N7                           | 1054.370         | 129                          | 3              | 906.750      | 2717.228           | 2717.228             | 0.13                 | 2          |
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIR.T           | N10                          | 1054.370         | 129                          | 3              | 959.788      | 2876.343           | 2876.344             | -0.3                 | 13         |
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIRTE.F         | N10                          | 1054.370         | 129                          | 3              | 1036.486     | 3106.435           | 3106.434             | 0.33                 | 3          |
| R.SEDYGKNFKDITNLINNTFIR.T     | N16                          | 1054.370         | 129                          | 3              | 1186.216     | 3555.625           | 3555.625             | 0.1                  | 20         |
| R.SEDYGKNFKDITNLINNTFIRTE.F   | N16                          | 1054.370         | 129                          | 4              | 947.435      | 3785.711           | 3785.715             | -1.07                | 1          |
| K.LYRSEDYGKNFKDITNLINNTFIR.T  | N19                          | 1054.370         | 129                          | 4              | 997.976      | 3987.874           | 3987.874             | 0.02                 | 2          |
| K.DITNLINNTFIR.T              | N7                           | 1200.428         | 129                          | 3              | 878.740      | 2633.198           | 2633.195             | 1.09                 | 1          |
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIR.T           | N10                          | 1200.428         | 129                          | 3              | 1008.473     | 3022.398           | 3022.402             | -1.37                | 5          |
| R.SEDYGKNFKDITNLINNTFIR.T     | N16                          | 1200.428         | 129                          | 4              | 926.428      | 3701.684           | 3701.683             | 0.27                 | 4          |
| K.DITNLINNTFIR.T              | N7                           | 1216.423         | 129                          | 3              | 884.071      | 2649.193           | 2649.190             | 0.83                 | 31         |
| K.DITNLINNTFIRTE.F            | N7                           | 1216.423         | 129                          | 2              | 1440.650     | 2879.285           | 2879.281             | 1.41                 | 8          |
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIR.T           | N10                          | 1216.423         | 129                          | 3              | 1013.807     | 3038.400           | 3038.397             | 1.25                 | 44         |
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIRTE.F         | N10                          | 1216.423         | 129                          | 3              | 1090.503     | 3268.487           | 3268.487             | 0.06                 | 12         |
| R.SEDYGKNFKDITNLINNTFIR.T     | N16                          | 1216.423         | 129                          | 4              | 930.427      | 3717.681           | 3717.678             | 0.71                 | 78         |
| R.SEDYGKNFKDITNLINNTFIRTE.F   | N16                          | 1216.423         | 129                          | 3              | 1316.930     | 3947.769           | 3947.768             | 0.09                 | 18         |
| K.LYRSEDYGKNFKDITNLINNTFIR.T  | N19                          | 1216.423         | 129                          | 5              | 830.993      | 4149.926           | 4149.926             | -0.05                | 28         |
| K.DITNLINNTFIR.T              | N7                           | 1362.481         | 129                          | 3              | 932.757      | 2795.248           | 2795.248             | 0.08                 | 5          |
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIR.T           | N10                          | 1362.481         | 129                          | 3              | 1062.492     | 3184.455           | 3184.455             | -0.01                | 7          |
| R.SEDYGKNFKDITNLINNTFIR.T     | N16                          | 1362.481         | 129                          | 4              | 966.941      | 3863.736           | 3863.736             | 0.17                 | 8          |
| R.SEDYGKNFKDITNLINNTFIRTE.F   | N16                          | 1362.481         | 129                          | 4              | 1024.462     | 4093.819           | 4093.826             | -1.67                | 1          |
| K.WGPNNIIFFTHVNGSCK.A         | N14                          | 203.079          | 241                          | 2              | 1148.046     | 2294.078           | 2294.079             | -0.29                | 31         |
| K.WGPNNIIFFTHVNGSCK.A         | N14                          | 892.317          | 241                          | 3              | 995.447      | 2983.318           | 2983.317             | 0.47                 | 7          |
| K.WGPNNIIFFTHVNGSCK.A         | N14                          | 1054.370         | 241                          | 3              | 1049.465     | 3145.373           | 3145.370             | 1.12                 | 28         |
| K.WGPNNIIFFTHVNGSCK.A         | N14                          | 1200.428         | 241                          | 3              | 1098.150     | 3291.428           | 3291.428             | 0.13                 | 6          |
| K.WGPNNIIFFTHVNGSCK.A         | N14                          | 1216.423         | 241                          | 3              | 1103.480     | 3307.419           | 3307.423             | -1.18                | 61         |
| K.WGPNNIIFFTHVNGSCKADLGALE.L  | N14                          | 1216.423         | 241                          | 3              | 1326.592     | 3976.755           | 3976.756             | -0.24                | 3          |
| K.WGPNNIIFFTHVNGSCK.A         | N14                          | 1362.481         | 241                          | 3              | 1152.166     | 3453.477           | 3453.480             | -0.94                | 12         |
| K.WGPNNIIFFTHVNGSCKADLGALE.L  | N14                          | 1362.481         | 241                          | 3              | 1375.280     | 4122.818           | 4122.814             | 1.15                 | 4          |
| K.SLDRHLYTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G   | N18                          | 406.159          | 373                          | 4              | 748.361      | 2989.414           | 2989.415             | -0.46                | 1          |
| R.HLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G      | N14                          | 568.212          | 373                          | 3              | 894.415      | 2680.224           | 2680.224             | 0.14                 | 2          |
| K.SLDRHLYTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G   | N18                          | 1054.370         | 373                          | 4              | 910.415      | 3637.629           | 3637.627             | 0.75                 | 2          |
| R.HLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G      | N14                          | 1216.423         | 373                          | 3              | 1110.485     | 3328.432           | 3328.435             | -0.93                | 7          |
| K.SLDRHLYTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G   | N18                          | 1216.423         | 373                          | 4              | 950.928      | 3799.681           | 3799.679             | 0.51                 | 10         |
| R.HLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G      | N14                          | 1378.476         | 373                          | 3              | 1164.503     | 3490.487           | 3490.488             | -0.26                | 11         |
| K.SLDRHLYTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G   | N18                          | 1378.476         | 373                          | 4              | 991.439      | 3961.727           | 3961.732             | -1.26                | 3          |
| R.HLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G      | N14                          | 1540.529         | 373                          | 3              | 1218.521     | 3652.541           | 3652.541             | -0.07                | 9          |
| K.SLDRHLYTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G   | N18                          | 1540.529         | 373                          | 4              | 1031.956     | 4123.793           | 4123.785             | 2.02                 | 10         |
| R.HLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G      | N14                          | 1702.581         | 373                          | 3              | 1272.538     | 3814.592           | 3814.594             | -0.38                | 14         |
| K.SLDRHLYTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G   | N18                          | 1702.581         | 373                          | 4              | 1072.467     | 4285.838           | 4285.838             | 0.1                  | 5          |
| E.TDFTNVTSLR.G                | N5                           | 1864.634         | 373                          | 2              | 1509.614     | 3017.213           | 3017.212             | 0.39                 | 4          |
| R.HLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G      | N14                          | 1864.634         | 373                          | 3              | 1326.556     | 3976.647           | 3976.647             | 0.17                 | 9          |
| K.SLDRHLYTTGGGETDFTNVTSLR.G   | N18                          | 1864.634         | 373                          | 4              | 1112.980     | 4447.892           | 4447.891             | 0.19                 | 5          |
| R.SMNISIWGFTE.S               | N3                           | 1378.476         | 549                          | 2              | 1332.037     | 2662.060           | 2662.061             | -0.39                | 1          |
| R.SMNISIWGFTE.S               | N3                           | 1540.529         | 549                          | 2              | 1413.066     | 2824.118           | 2824.114             | 1.5                  | 1          |
| R.SMNISIWGFTE.S               | N3                           | 1702.581         | 549                          | 2              | 1494.093     | 2986.171           | 2986.167             | 1.39                 | 2          |
| R.SMNISIWGFTE.S               | N3                           | 1864.634         | 549                          | 2              | 1575.119     | 3148.224           | 3148.220             | 1.44                 | 1          |
| E.DFLCDFGYFRPENASECVEQPELK.G  | N13                          | 203.079          | 651                          | 3              | 1051.798     | 3152.372           | 3152.374             | -0.66                | 3          |
| E.DFLCDFGYFRPENASECVEQPE.L    | N13                          | 349.137          | 651                          | 3              | 1020.091     | 3057.252           | 3057.253             | -0.43                | 3          |
| E.DFLCDFGYFRPENASECVEQPE.L    | N13                          | 1200.428         | 651                          | 4              | 978.144      | 3908.547           | 3908.544             | 0.81                 | 7          |
| E.DFLCDFGYFRPENASECVEQPELK.G  | N13                          | 1200.428         | 651                          | 3              | 1384.250     | 4149.729           | 4149.723             | 1.5                  | 4          |
| E.DFLCDFGYFRPENASECVEQPE.L    | N13                          | 1216.423         | 651                          | 4              | 982.142      | 3924.538           | 3924.539             | -0.32                | 14         |
| D.FGYFRPENASECVEQPELK.GHELE.F | N8                           | 1216.423         | 651                          | 4              | 1021.190     | 4080.729           | 4080.730             | -0.36                | 5          |
| E.DFLCDFGYFRPENASECVEQPELK.G  | N13                          | 1216.423         | 651                          | 4              | 1042.436     | 4165.715           | 4165.718             | -0.73                | 11         |
| E.DFLCDFGYFRPENASECVEQPE.L    | N13                          | 1362.481         | 651                          | 4              | 1018.658     | 4070.601           | 4070.597             | 1.06                 | 16         |
| D.FGYFRPENASECVEQPELK.GHELE.F | N8                           | 1362.481         | 651                          | 4              | 1057.704     | 4226.788           | 4226.788             | 0.04                 | 3          |
| E.DFLCDFGYFRPENASECVEQPELK.G  | N13                          | 1362.81          | 651                          | 4              | 1078.951     | 4311.773           | 4311.776             | -0.54                | 9          |
| K.CTSNFLNPTKQNSK.S            | T9                           | 656.228          | 715                          | 3              | 765.679      | 2294.015           | 2294.011             | 1.9                  | 3          |
| K.CTSNFLNPTKQNSK.S            | T9                           | 947.323          | 715                          | 3              | 862.710      | 2585.108           | 2585.106             | 0.83                 | 9          |
| K.KCTSNFLNPTKQNSK.S           | T10                          | 947.323          | 715                          | 4              | 679.308      | 2713.202           | 2713.201             | 0.38                 | 2          |

\* Shown is the analyzed peptide and the residues N- and C-terminal of the protease cleavage site, which are separated by a period.

**Supplementary Table 2. Identified glycopeptide fragments of sSortilin produced in HEK293-E.**

| Peptide Sequence*           | Glycan position (in peptide) | Glycan Mass (Da) | Glycan position (in protein) | Peptide charge | Observed m/z | Observed Mass (Da) | Calculated Mass (Da) | Mass Deviation (ppm) | N° of PSMs |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------|
| R.SEDYGKFNFKDITNLINNTFIR.T  | N16                          | 1216.423         | 129                          | 4              | 930.423      | 3717.665           | 3717.678             | -3.55                | 2          |
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIR.T         | N10                          | 1444.534         | 129                          | 4              | 817.631      | 3266.493           | 3266.508             | -4.33                | 2          |
| R.SEDYGKFNFKDITNLINNTFIR.T  | N16                          | 2059.735         | 129                          | 4              | 1141.250     | 4560.973           | 4560.990             | -3.82                | 2          |
| R.SEDYGKFNFKDITNLINNTFIR.T  | N16                          | 2204.772         | 129                          | 4              | 1177.765     | 4707.029           | 4706.028             | -0.35                | 2          |
| K.DITNLINNTFIR.T            | N7                           | 2350.830         | 129                          | 4              | 946.904      | 3783.585           | 3783.598             | -3.42                | 4          |
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIR.T         | N10                          | 2350.830         | 129                          | 4              | 1044.205     | 4172.792           | 4172.804             | -2.81                | 2          |
| K.NFKDITNLINNTFIR.T         | N10                          | 2553.910         | 129                          | 4              | 1094.974     | 4375.865           | 4375.883             | -4.19                | 2          |
| K.WGPNNIFFTTHVNGSCK.A       | N14                          | 1444.534         | 241                          | 4              | 884.888      | 3535.524           | 3535.534             | -2.8                 | 2          |
| K.WGPNNIFFTTHVNGSCK.A       | N14                          | 1768.640         | 241                          | 4              | 965.914      | 3859.628           | 3859.639             | -2.99                | 2          |
| K.WGPNNIFFTTHVNGSCK.A       | N14                          | 1913.677         | 241                          | 4              | 1002.428     | 4005.684           | 4004.677             | 1.11                 | 3          |
| K.WGPNNIFFTTHVNGSCK.A       | N14                          | 2059.735         | 241                          | 4              | 1038.687     | 4150.719           | 4150.735             | -3.71                | 4          |
| K.WGPNNIFFTTHVNGSCK.A       | N14                          | 2350.830         | 241                          | 4              | 1111.461     | 4441.814           | 4441.830             | -3.63                | 4          |
| E.TDFTNVTSR.G               | N5                           | 1378.476         | 373                          | 3              | 844.690      | 2531.048           | 2531.053             | -1.87                | 2          |
| K.SLDRHLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSR.G | N18                          | 1378.476         | 373                          | 4              | 991.438      | 3961.723           | 3961.732             | -2.31                | 2          |
| E.TDFTNVTSR.G               | N5                           | 1540.529         | 373                          | 3              | 898.707      | 2693.100           | 2693.106             | -2.33                | 2          |
| R.HLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSR.G     | N14                          | 1540.529         | 373                          | 4              | 914.140      | 3652.533           | 3652.541             | -2.26                | 2          |
| R.HLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSR.G     | N14                          | 1702.581         | 373                          | 4              | 954.653      | 3814.583           | 3814.594             | -2.89                | 2          |
| K.SLDRHLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSR.G | N18                          | 1702.581         | 373                          | 4              | 1072.465     | 4285.831           | 4285.838             | -1.61                | 2          |
| R.HLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSR.G     | N14                          | 1864.634         | 373                          | 3              | 1326.551     | 3976.633           | 3976.647             | -3.52                | 16         |
| K.SLDRHLYTTTGGGETDFTNVTSR.G | N18                          | 1864.634         | 373                          | 4              | 1112.977     | 4447.880           | 4447.891             | -2.45                | 2          |
| R.SMNISIWGFTE.S             | N3                           | 1378.476         | 549                          | 3              | 888.359      | 2662.054           | 2662.061             | -2.88                | 2          |
| R.SMNISIWGFTE.S             | N3                           | 1540.529         | 549                          | 3              | 942.376      | 2824.106           | 2824.114             | -2.94                | 3          |
| R.SMNISIWGFTE.S             | N3                           | 1702.581         | 549                          | 3              | 996.393      | 2986.157           | 2986.167             | -3.3                 | 4          |
| R.SMNISIWGFTE.S             | N3                           | 1864.634         | 549                          | 3              | 1050.411     | 3148.211           | 3148.220             | -2.92                | 6          |
| E.DFLCDFGYFRPENASECQEPE.L   | N13                          | 1444.534         | 651                          | 4              | 1039.166     | 4152.635           | 4152.650             | -3.63                | 2          |
| D.FGYFRPENASECQEPE.L        | N8                           | 2059.735         | 651                          | 4              | 1030.408     | 4117.603           | 4117.614             | -2.53                | 2          |
| D.FGYFRPENASECQEPE.L        | N8                           | 2350.830         | 651                          | 4              | 1103.181     | 4408.697           | 4408.709             | -2.85                | 2          |
| E.DFLCDFGYFRPENASECQEPE.L   | N13                          | 2350.830         | 651                          | 4              | 1265.739     | 5058.926           | 5058.946             | -4.09                | 4          |
| E.DFLCDFGYFRPENASECQEPE.L   | N13                          | 2366.825         | 651                          | 4              | 1269.995     | 5075.951           | 5074.941             | 1.36                 | 2          |
| K.CTSNFLNPTKQNSK.S          | T9                           | 656.228          | 715                          | 3              | 765.676      | 2294.007           | 2294.011             | -1.77                | 4          |
| K.KCTSNFLNPTKQNSK.S         | T10                          | 656.228          | 715                          | 4              | 606.532      | 2422.097           | 2422.106             | -3.42                | 3          |
| K.KKCTSNFLNPTKQNSK.S        | T11                          | 656.228          | 715                          | 4              | 638.557      | 2550.198           | 2550.201             | -1.04                | 2          |
| K.CTSNFLNPTKQNSK.S          | T9                           | 947.323          | 715                          | 3              | 862.707      | 2585.098           | 2585.106             | -3.21                | 7          |
| K.KCTSNFLNPTKQNSK.S         | T10                          | 947.323          | 715                          | 4              | 679.306      | 2713.194           | 2713.201             | -2.67                | 9          |
| K.KKCTSNFLNPTKQNSK.S        | T11                          | 947.323          | 715                          | 4              | 711.330      | 2841.290           | 2841.296             | -2.12                | 6          |

\* Shown is the analyzed peptide and the residues N- and C-terminal of the protease cleavage site, which are separated by a period.



**Supplementary Table 3. Small-angle x-ray scattering data collection and analysis.**

|                                                                                    | A464E s-sortilin<br>pH 5.5               | A464E s-sortilin<br>pH 7.4 | wt s-sortilin<br>pH 5.5   | wt s-sortilin<br>pH 7.4   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Data-collection parameters</b>                                                  |                                          |                            |                           |                           |
| Instrument:                                                                        | ESRF BM29                                |                            |                           |                           |
| Beam geometry                                                                      | 0.7 mm x 0.7 mm                          |                            |                           |                           |
| Wavelength (Å)                                                                     | 0.99                                     |                            |                           |                           |
| q-range (Å <sup>-1</sup> )                                                         | 0.005 – 0.49                             |                            |                           |                           |
| Exposure time (sec)                                                                | 1 per frame                              |                            |                           |                           |
| Concentration range (mg/ml)                                                        | 0 - 0.35                                 | 0 - 0.3                    | 0 - 0.62                  | n.a.                      |
| Temperature (K)                                                                    | 293                                      |                            |                           |                           |
| Flux (photons/s)                                                                   | 1.5·10 <sup>12</sup>                     |                            |                           |                           |
| <b>Structural parameters</b>                                                       |                                          |                            |                           |                           |
| Mass (kDa) [from Guinier] <sup>a</sup>                                             | 98 ± 10                                  | 86 ± 9                     | 168 ± 17                  | n.a.                      |
| R <sub>g</sub> (Å) [from Guinier]                                                  | 33.8 ± 0.2                               | 32.6 ± 0.3                 | 38.9 ± 0.1                | 36.9 ± 0.5                |
| q <sub>min</sub> R <sub>g</sub> – q <sub>max</sub> R <sub>g</sub> used for Guinier | 0.43-1.27                                | 0.31 – 1.29                | 0.49 – 1.3                | 0.45-1.29                 |
| I <sub>0</sub> (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) [from P(r)]                                     | n.a.                                     | n.a.                       | n.a.                      | n.a.                      |
| R <sub>g</sub> (Å) [from P(r), GNOM]                                               | 34.2                                     | 32.9                       | 38.2                      | 38.8                      |
| D <sub>max</sub> (Å) [from GNOM]                                                   | 100                                      | 105                        | 110                       | 110                       |
| Porod volume V <sub>p</sub> (Å <sup>3</sup> ) [from p(r)<br>from GNOM]             | 200·10 <sup>3</sup>                      | 187·10 <sup>3</sup>        | 329·10 <sup>3</sup>       | 260·10 <sup>3</sup>       |
| Porod exponent [from Scatter]                                                      | 4.0                                      | 4.0                        | 4.0                       | 4.0                       |
| Porod volume V <sub>p</sub> (Å <sup>3</sup> ) [from Scatter]                       | (217 ± 3)·10 <sup>3</sup>                | (184 ± 3)·10 <sup>3</sup>  | (336 ± 6)·10 <sup>3</sup> | (275 ± 5)·10 <sup>3</sup> |
| Mass (kDa) [from V <sub>p</sub> from Scatter] <sup>b</sup>                         | 127                                      | 108                        | 198                       | 162                       |
| Correlated volume V <sub>c</sub> (Å <sup>2</sup> )                                 | 654                                      | 613                        | 898                       | 755                       |
| Mass (from V <sub>c</sub> )                                                        | 100                                      | 94                         | 170                       | 120                       |
| Predicted R <sub>g</sub> monomer (Å <sup>-1</sup> )<br>[from WAXSiS]               | 27.1                                     |                            |                           |                           |
| Predicted D <sub>max</sub> monomer (Å <sup>-1</sup> )<br>[from Scatter]            | 84                                       |                            |                           |                           |
| Expected mass monomer (kDa)                                                        | 90                                       |                            |                           |                           |
| Predicted R <sub>g</sub> dimer (Å <sup>-1</sup> ) [from<br>WAXSiS]                 | 34.6                                     |                            |                           |                           |
| Predicted D <sub>max</sub> dimer (Å <sup>-1</sup> )<br>[from Scatter]              | 108                                      |                            |                           |                           |
| Expected mass dimer (kDa)                                                          | 180                                      |                            |                           |                           |
| <b>Software employed</b>                                                           |                                          |                            |                           |                           |
| Primary data reduction                                                             | BM29 online data analysis, pyFAI, Primus |                            |                           |                           |
| 1D Data processing                                                                 | Primus, Gnom, Scatter                    |                            |                           |                           |
| Ab initio analysis                                                                 | Dammif                                   |                            |                           |                           |
| Validation and averaging                                                           | Damaver                                  |                            |                           |                           |
| Rigid-body modeling                                                                | Coral                                    |                            |                           |                           |
| Computation of model intensities                                                   | WAXSiS                                   |                            |                           |                           |
| Three-dimensional graphics<br>representations                                      | PyMOL                                    |                            |                           |                           |

<sup>a</sup> Based on the UV absorbance and forward scattering at the top of the SEC-SAXS peak

<sup>b</sup> Assuming 0.59 Da/ Å<sup>3</sup><sup>1</sup>

**Supplementary Table 4. SPR dissociation constants.**

| K <sub>D</sub> in $\mu$ M | wt                    |                   | A464E                 |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                           | pH 7.4                | pH 5.0            | pH 7.4                | pH 5.0                |
| NGF                       | 0.06 $\pm$ 0.01 (n=6) | Aspecific binding | 0.32 $\pm$ 0.04 (n=6) | 0.73 $\pm$ 0.16 (n=6) |
| proNGF                    | 0.28 $\pm$ 0.05 (n=5) | Aspecific binding | 0.81 $\pm$ 0.09 (n=6) | 2.28 $\pm$ 0.26 (n=6) |
| proBDNF                   | 0.31 $\pm$ 0.07 (n=3) | Aspecific binding | 0.40 $\pm$ 0.04 (n=2) | 2.28 $\pm$ 0.29 (n=6) |

**Supplementary Table 5. Sortilin codon-optimized sequence.**

GGATCCCAAGACCGCCTGGACGCCCCACCGCCGCCAGCCCCGCCTCTGCTCCGATGGGCGGACCGGT  
CGGAGTGTCTTGGGGGCTGCGCGCGGCAGCCCCCTGGAGGCCCGTCCCAAGGGCTGGAAGATGGCGGC  
GCGGAGCGCCAGCCGAAGATCAGGACTGTGGCAGATTGCCCGACTTCATTGCCAAGCTCACTAACAAT  
ACTCACCAGCACGTGTTTCGACGACCTGAGCGGTTCCGTGTCTGTTGTCATGGGTTCGGGACAGCACC  
AGTTATCCTGGTCTTACTACCTTTCAAGTTCGCTGGTGATTGTCTCCTTCGGACAGAGCAAGCTGT  
ACCGCTCCGAAGATTACGGGAAGAATTCAAGGATATCACTAATCTTATCAACAACACTTTTATCAGA  
ACCGAATTCGGCATGGCAATCGGGCCCCGAAAACCTCAGGCAAAGTCATTCTTACTGCGGAGGTGTCAGG  
GGGAAGCCGCGGAGGAAGAGTGTTCGTTTCGAGCGACTTCGCCAAAAACTTTGTGCAAACCGACTTGC  
CTTTCCACCCCTTGACGCAAATGATGTACTCGCCGCAGAATTCGGATTACCTTCTCGCGCTGTCGACT  
GAAAATGGGTTGTGGGTGTCCAAGAACTTCGGCGAAAAGTGGGAGGAGATACATAAGGCCGTCTGCTT  
GGCTAAGTGGGGACCGAACAATATCATCTTTTTACTACCCACGTCAACGGTTCCTGCAAAGCGGATC  
TCGGTGCCTCGAATCTGGCGCACGTCCGATCTGGGAAAAACCTTCAAGACCATTGGAGTCAAGATC  
TACTCGTTTGGACTGGGAGGAAGGTTCTGTTCGCGTTCGGTTCATGGCCGACAAAGACACTACTAGACG  
GATTCACGTGTGACCGACAGGGTGACACTTGGTCCATGGCCCAGCTGCCGTTCGGTGGGACAGGAAC  
AGTTCTATTCAATCCTCGCAGCTAACGAGGATATGGTGTTCATGCATGTGGACGAACCGGGCGACACC  
GGCTTTGGAACCATTTTCACCTCGGACGACCGGGGCATCGTGTACTCCAAGAGCCTCGACCGCCATCT  
GTACACTACCACCGGCGGCGAAAACGATTTCACTAACGTGACTAGCCTGCGGGGAGTGTACATCACCT  
CCACTCTCAGCGAGGACAATAGCATCCAGTCCATGATCACGTTTCGATCAGGGAGGAAGATGGGAACAC  
CTGAGGAAGCCAGAGAACTCAAAGTGCACGCGACTGCTAAAAACAAAACGAATGCTCACTGCATAT  
CCACGCATCCTACTCTATCAGCCAGAAGCTCAACGTGCCTATGGCCCCGCTCTCAGAGCCGAACGCCG  
TGGGTATCGTGATCGCGCACGGCTCAGTTCGGGACGCTATCTCCGTGATGGTGCCTGACGTGTACATC  
AGCGACGACGGAGGGTACTCCTGGGCAAAGATGCTGGAAGGACCACACTACTACCCATCCTGGACTC  
GGGGGGGATCATCGTGGCAATCGAGCACTCAAACCGGCCAATCAATGTGATCAAGTTTTTCGACCGATG  
AAGGTCAATGTTGGCAGAGCTACGTGTTTACCCAAGAGCCTATCTACTTCACCGGACTGGCGTCGGAG  
CCGGGTGCACGCTCCATGAATATCTCGATTTGGGGATTACCGGAATCATTATCACCCGCCAGTGGGT  
TTCGTATACCGTTCGATTTCAAAGATATTCTCGAGCGGAACTGTGAAGAGGATGACTACACTACGTGGC  
TGCCCCACAGCACCGACCCCGGCGACTACAAGGATGGATGCATCCTCGGATATAAGGAGCAGTTTTCTG  
CGCTGCGCAAGTCGTGAGTGTGCCAAAATGGGAGGGATTACGTGGTTGCCAAACAACCATCCGTGTG  
CCCTTGTTCCTGGAGATTTCCCTTTCGATTTTCGGCTACTTCCGGCCGGAGAATGCCTCTGAATGCG  
TGGAACAGCCGGAACGAAGGGACACGAGCTGGAATTTTGTCTGTACGGAAAAGAGGAACATCTTACC  
ACCAATGGCTACCGAAAGATCCCAGGCGATAAATGCCAAGGTGGCATGAACCCGGCCCCGGAAGTCAA  
GGACCTGAAGAAGAAGTGCACGAGCAATTTCCCTGAACCCGACTAAGCAGAACTCGAAGTCAAACCTCCG  
TGCCAATCATCCTGGCAATCGTGGGACTCATGCTCGTGACCGTGGTTCGCCGGAGTCTGATCGTGAAA  
AAGTACGTGTGCGGTGGAAGATTCTTGGTGCATCGGTACTCGGTCCCTCCAACAGCATGCTGAGGCTGA  
CGGAGTCGAGGCGCTGGACTCTACTAGCCACGCTAAATCGGGCTACCATGATGACTCCGATGAAGATC  
TCCTGGAAGCGGCCG

**Supplementary Table 6. Sortilin primers.**

| Construct | Direction | Residue # | Sequence                                |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------------|
| wt        | forward   | 1         | AATAATGGATCCCAAGACCGCCTGGACGCCC         |
| wt        | reverse   | 722       | AATAATGCGGCCGCTGACTTCGAGTTCTGCTTAGTCGGG |
| A464E     | forward   | 460       | GGCTCAGTCGGGGACGAGATCTCCGTGATGGTG       |
| A464E     | reverse   | 471       | CACCATCACGGAGATCTCGTCCCCGACTGAGCC       |