

# **Expanded View Figures**

### Figure EV1. CtUba4 FL, AD, and RHD are dimers in solutions.

- A Tabular summary of static light-scattering (SLS) experiments. Calculated molecular weight (MW) of the indicated proteins or protein complexes is compared to experimentally determined MWs. \*For the Uba4–Urm1 complex, the MW is calculated for a 1:1 protein ratio. Selected graphs from SLS measurements are presented (right). Profiles of refractive index (RI, red), right-angle light scattering (RALS, green), and low-angle light scattering (LALS, black) are shown. MW: molecular weight; FL: full length; WT: wild type, AU: arbitrary units.
- B Close-up view of the CtUba4 RHD active loop (purple) with ball-and-stick representation of amino acids. The second RHD molecule (grey, transparent) is shown to visualize the dimer interface. Hydrogen bonds are indicated as dashed lines.
- C Structural comparison of the RHD active loop localization in relation to the dimeric interface of the domain in CtUba4 (cyan) and Bos taurus thiosulfate sulfurtransferase (BtTST; pink; PDB ID 1RHD).

#### Figure EV2. Structural details of apo Uba4.

- A Close-up view of the CtUba4 P-loop-like region and the nucleotide-binding site. Amino acids required for ATP binding are shown as ball-and-stick model colored according to atom type. The ATP molecule (green) was modeled based on the structural similarity to the ATP-bound *Ec*MoeB-MoaD (PDB ID: 1JWA).
- B Close-up of the CtUba4 linker (aa 286–321) showing the refined  $2F_{\sigma}$ - $F_{c}$  electron-density map contoured at 1.0 $\sigma$ . Coordination of the zinc site is highlighted.
- C Cartoon representation of CtUba4 and the respective structural model of ScUba4 highlighting selected mutated amino acid residues shown as black ball-and-stick model.
- D Interaction analysis of WT and mutated CtUba4 with GST-CtUrm1 by GST pull-down in the absence and presence of 1 mM ATP. Input samples (left) and samples after GST pull-down (right) are resolved by SDS–PAGE and visualized with Coomassie stain.



Figure EV2.

# Figure EV3. Structural analyses of the Uba4–Urm1 complex.

- A Refined  $2F_0$ - $F_c$  electron-density maps contoured at 1.0 $\sigma$  for apo CtUba4 (left) and CtUrm1-bound CtUba4 (middle). Densities of ADs (grey), RHD (cyan), and Urm1 (salmon) are labeled. Cartoon model with transparent surface representation of the Uba4<sub>C202K</sub>-Urm1 complex structure highlighting the detailed B-factor distribution (right).
- B Close-up of the active site of Uba4 linked to the C-terminus of Urm1 (bottom left) showing refined densities of the Urm1 C-terminus (red), the crossover loop of Uba4 (brown), and Lys202 (green) at  $1\sigma$  (top left). Comparison between refined  $2F_o$ - $F_c$  maps of individual regions with  $F_o$ - $F_c$  omit maps after omitting the respective parts of the model.



Figure EV3.



### Figure EV4. Structural comparison of the Uba4–Urm1 complex.

Comparison of the crystal structures of apo and Urm1-bound CtUba4 (top) with the prokaryotic molybdenum-cofactor-biosynthesis protein MoeB bound to its substrate MoaD (PDB ID: 1JWA) and the eukaryotic SUMO E1 enzyme bound to its chemically modified substrate SUMO-AVSN (PDB ID: 3KYD). E1-like adenylation domains are shown as surface. The remaining domains or interacting proteins and bound UBL or SCP are shown as cartoon representation. The crossover loop containing the active cysteine (green) is highlighted. The H1/H2 helix that undergoes remodeling upon Urm1 modification is shown in red. The ATP molecule (red) is shown as ball-and-stick model.

# Figure EV5. Functional analysis of the Uba4 active-site cysteine.

- A Analysis of covalent adduct formation between CtUba4 WT or C202K and carboxylated (–OH) or thiocarboxylated (–SH) CtUrm1 in the presence or absence of tert-Butyl hydroperoxide (TBH). HA: Hydroxylamine; DTT: 1,4-Dithiothreitol; TCEP: Tris(2-carboxyethyl) phosphine; ATP: Adenosine triphosphate.
- B tRNA thiolation status of different ScUba4 mutant yeast strains analyzed by APM-gel-retardation assay and Northern blot. APM: ([N-Acryloyl-amino]phenyl)mercuric chloride. All residue numbering follows the CtUba4 sequence, but the respective ScUba4 numbering is added in subscript.
- C Analysis of covalent adduct formation between WT or mutated CtUba4 and carboxylated (-OH) or thiocarboxylated (-SH) CtUrm1 in the presence of ATP and TBH, respectively.
- D Analysis of covalent adduct formation between WT or mutated CtUba4 and CtUrm1-COSH in the presence of TBH.
- E Left: Viability analysis of *ScUba4* mutant yeast in response to rapamycin. Right: Analysis of tRNA thiolation status in *ScUba4* mutant yeast strains by APM-gelretardation assay and Northern blotting. Addition of APM to the gel retards the migration of thiolated tRNAs and allows their visualization. APM: ([*N*-Acryloyl-amino] phenyl)mercuric chloride. All residue numbering follows the *CtUba4* sequence, but the respective *ScUba4* numbering is added in subscript.
- F Schematic overview of various possible conjugation reaction routes of active-site substitutions upon Urm1-COSH oxidation. Main reaction path is indicated by a solid line and side reaction by a dashed line, respectively.



Figure EV5.