

Expanded View Figures

Figure EV1. β arr-GPCR photo-crosslinking.

- A 1: Cultured HEK293T cells are supplemented with 250 μM Bpa and transfected with three plasmids. The first plasmid carries the ORF for a GPCR, the second plasmid carries the ORF for one βarr TAG-mutant, and the third plasmid encodes for the tRNA/synthetase pair that incorporates Bpa. 2: The GPCR and the βarr-xxxBpa variant are expressed for 48 h. 3: The GPCR is activated with an agonist for 15 min. 4: The cells are irradiated with UV light (365 nm) for 15 min 5: Samples are lysed, resolved on SDS–PAGE, and the crosslinked arrestin–GPCR complex is detected by immunostaining.
- B Mechanism of photo-activation of Bpa. If the diradical species is in close proximity to the GPCR, crosslinking can occur. In general, Bpa inserts into C-H bonds (Dorman & Prestwich, 1994). A covalent arrestin–GPCR complex is formed.

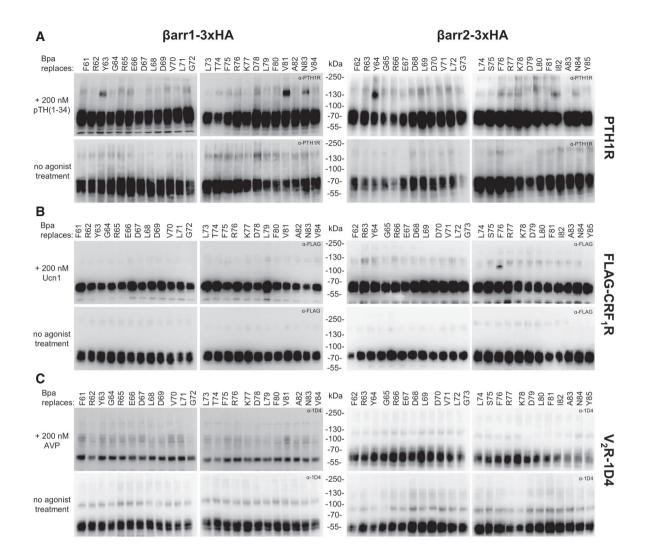


Figure EV2. Photo-crosslinking of Bpa-arrestins with three different GPCRs.

The same samples described in Fig 2 of the main text were immunostained using an antibody detecting the receptor. Overall, crosslinking signals are easier to detect when looking from the side of arrestin with the anti-HA antibody (Fig 2 in the main text).

- A PTH1R was detected with a commercial anti-PTH1R antibody, which is very reliable, although it shows some background at about the same size were the crosslinking band is expected.
- B CRF₁R was equipped with a FLAG tag at the N-terminus, which was inserted right after the natural signal peptide.
- C V_2R was equipped with the 1D4 epitope at its C-terminus.

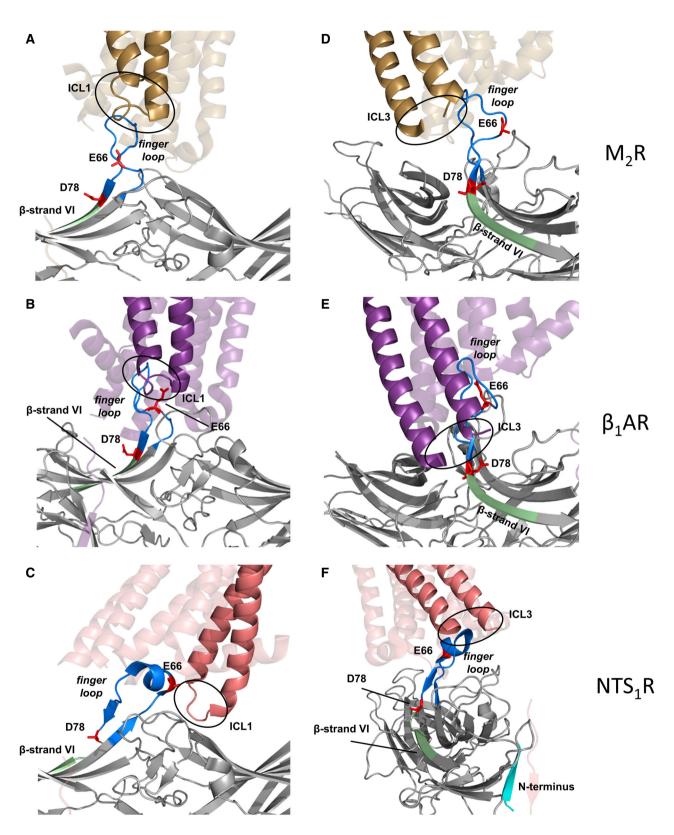


Figure EV3.

Figure EV3. M_2R , β_1AR , and NTS₁R in complex with β arr1.

Ribbon representation of β arr1 in complex with the M₂R (gold), β_1 AR (violet), and NTS₁R (coral) from recent cryo-EM structures (A, D: PDB 6U1N (Staus *et al*, 2020); B, E: PDB 6TKO (Lee *et al*, 2020); C, F: PDB 6PWC (Huang *et al*, 2020)). β arr1 is shown in gray with the *finger loop* in blue and the β -strand VI in pale green as in Fig 1 of the main text. The two main hits of chemical crosslinking with the PTH1R (Fig 5 in the main text), position E66 and D78, are marked in red. β arr1 binds to the M₂R and β_1 AR in a similar pose as arr1 to Rho (not shown here), whereas it is rotated by about 90° when docked to the NTS₁R.

- A–C These panels focus on the position of the ICL1 in the GPCR–arrestin complex. For the sake of clarity, only the region TM1-ICL1-TM2 in the foreground is fully colored, whereas the rest of the GPCRs is transparent. In all three cases, E66 in the *finger loop* points toward ICL1 of the GPCR, which is compatible with the chemical crosslinking results at the PTH1R.
- D–F These panels focus on the position of the ICL3, which is not resolved in any of the structures. For the sake of clarity, only the region TM5-ICL3-TM6 in the foreground is fully colored, whereas the rest of the GPCRs is transparent. The ICL3 of the M_2R and β_1AR is oriented toward β -strand VI, which is compatible with the chemical crosslinking results at the PTH1R, whereas the ICL3 of NTS₁R points toward the arrestin N-terminus (cyan in panel F), away from β -strand VI.