Appendix to *Systematic discovery of linear binding motifs targeting an ancient protein interaction surface on MAP kinases*

András Zeke, Tomas Bastys, Anita Alexa, Ágnes Garai, Bálint Mészáros, Klára Kirsch, Zsuzsanna Dosztányi, Olga V. Kalinina and Attila Reményi

1 **Appendix Figures S1-11**

- Figure S1. Additional dot-blot experiments (not shown on Figure 3)
- Figure S2. Summary on the definitions of different D-motif classes
- Figure S3. In vitro protein-peptide binding affinity assays
- Figure S4. Further bimolecular fragment complementation (BiFC) experiments
- Figure S5. Major functions of JNK1 and other MAPKs based on docking motif distribution
- Figure S6. Comparisons of best 100 hits for JIP1, NFAT4 and greater MEF2A type motifs
- Figure S7. Mechanisms of docking motif emergence
- Figure S8. In vitro kinase assays on AAKG2 and DCX
- Figure S9. Evolutionary sequence conservation of D-motifs and phosphorylation target motifs
- Figure S10. Independent emergence of multiple D-motifs in a single protein
- Figure S11. Role of the D-motif in GAB1 in the context of the EGF/Ras → ERK signaling cascade

2 **Appendix Table S1. FoldX templates used per motif subtypes**

3 **Appendix References**
A

Full panel (71 constructs) - Phosphorylation by ERK2

Full panel (71 constructs) - Phosphorylation by JNK1

Full panel (71 constructs) - Phosphorylation by p38α
### Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gene</th>
<th>Control</th>
<th>AAKG2</th>
<th>APBA1</th>
<th>APBA2</th>
<th>ATF2</th>
<th>ATF7</th>
<th>APC2</th>
<th>BMPR2</th>
<th>CAC1C</th>
<th>JIP3</th>
<th>CCNE1</th>
<th>CCNT2</th>
<th>CCNT2*</th>
<th>DOCK5</th>
<th>DOCK7</th>
<th>MADD</th>
<th>MEF2A</th>
<th>MDC1</th>
<th>MCL1*</th>
<th>ZGPAT</th>
<th>KLF4m</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Phosphorylation by ERK2

- Sample partial panel (48 constructs)
- Phosphorylation by ERK2

### Phosphorylation by p38α

- Sample partial panel (48 constructs)
- Phosphorylation by p38α
Figure S1. Additional dot-blot experiments (not shown on Figure 3)

(A) Results of dot-blot experiments (71 constructs). The cutoff (red dashed line) is set to the level of well-established non-cognate controls (NFAT4 in case of JNK1, and MEF2A in the case of ERK2 and p38α).

(B) Summary of the 48 construct experiment for ERK2 and p38α, which complements the 48 construct experiment with JNK1 shown on Figure 3. Data shown on Panel A,B or on C was generated by using different stocks of proteins and different western-blot signal detection techniques (chemiluminescence or fluorescence). *: dual class motifs (e.g. NFAT4 and MEF2A); +: second motif in protein (non-overlapping with the first); m: murine (non-human) motif sequence. Error bars refer to SD based on triplicates.
Figure S2. Summary on the definitions of different D-motif classes

Positively charged and hydrophobic core amino acids are colored blue and red, respectively, while special amino acids at intervening (x) positions are colored in purple (i.e. proline or glycine in the DCC or in the HePTP classes, respectively).

+: These proteins had more than one, non-overlapping MAPK-binding elements tested (names with/without “+” refer to different sequences).

*: The sequence of these constructs satisfies at least two different, overlapping consensus motifs (thus they are featured under more than one motif class/subclass). For the sake of simplicity, not all combinations are shown.

~: This novel isoform is found in NCBI and other databases but not in UniProt.

m: This sequence refers to the murine instead of the human protein. MAPK docking was suggested in mouse Klf4 earlier but this was not confirmed here (Kim et al, 2012).
Figure S3. Protein-peptide binding affinity assays

Titration curves for each competitive titration against fluorescently labeled known positive control peptides.
Figure S4. Further bimolecular fragment complementation (BiFC) experiments

Results of BiFC experiments (in pairs of wild-type and D-motif mutant proteins) are shown for RHDF1 (iRhom1), MKP5 (DUSP10), KSR2, DCX, APBA2 (Mint2) and FAM122A proteins. Each construct was tested against all three MAPKs. Histograms refer to fluorescence readings on a plate-reader from 4 to 6 independent wells. To prove that interacting protein as well as MAPK concentrations were comparable for each wild type/mutant pair, expression levels were monitored with western blots on cell lysates. Interacting proteins, ERK2 and JNK1 levels were tested with anti-FLAG blots, while p38α was detected with anti-p38α. A reduction in fluorescence shows if the mutated or deleted motif plays a role in MAPK recruitment or not. We only considered intensity changes where the fluorescence obtained for the wild-type construct was well above the baseline so that to separate relevant effects from the background. All fluorescence differences (versus the wild-type protein) indicated on Figure 4B were found to be significant (p<0.05) with a two-tailed Student's test (not indicated separately on the histograms). In the case of KSR2, the full-length protein could not be expressed to detectable levels, therefore experiments were performed on the “KSR2-unique” insert only (the sequence is indicated in Appendix Fig S7C). In the case of DCX, all experiments were performed on a specific splice isoform of the human protein (corresponding to the main DCX isoform in mice) that contains a canonical NFAT4-type motif.
Figure S5. Major functions of JNK1 and other MAPKs based on docking motif distribution

(A) Dedicated JNK-interacting proteins are frequently found in neurons of the central nervous system. Many of these proteins play critical roles in the differentiation of neuroblasts (right) as well as in the maintenance of mature synapses (left) (Yau et al., 2014; Heydet et al., 2013; Lu et al., 2001; Lamba et al., 2008; Kim et al., 1997; Bogoyevitch et al., 2012; Gdalyahu et al., 2004; Watabe-Uchida et al., 2006; Simon-Areces et al., 2011; Deller et al., 2003; Dajas-Bailador et al., 2008; Okamoto & Südhof, 1997; Whisenant et al., 2010; Chen et al., 2014; Podkowa et al., 2010; Cai et al., 2007; Sun et al., 2013; Bayer et al., 2005). Blue letters denote the already-known JNK docking partners, while those containing newly-identified D-motifs are written in red. Names in black letters refer to predictions only - based on the presence of high-ranking JIP1 or NFAT4-type docking motifs in them.

(B) JNK plays a pathological role in type II diabetes. The three insets show three critical steps in insulin action - all targets of important anti-diabetic drugs. Each of these regulatory pathways signal through key proteins containing JIP1-type docking motifs. These critical points are either known or predicted to be negatively regulated by JNK itself. This phenomenon is true to the regulation of insulin secretion (left) controlled by MADD (also known as IG20, a susceptibility gene for type II diabetes), the core insulin signaling pathway (middle) containing IRS1 (a well-known JNK substrate) and the pathway regulating insulin sensitivity (right), passing through PGC1A (PPAR-γ receptor coactivator 1α, known to be regulated by MAPK phosphorylation-dependent ubiquinylation) (Li et al., 2014; Lee et al., 2003; Finck & Kelly, 2006; Olson et al., 2008).

(C) The starvation-activated AMPK pathway connects to p38 and/or ERK1/2 signaling in specialized tissues. The regulatory and enzymatic processes elicited by AMP release are shown on the pathway diagram (dotted lines). The key enzyme, AMP-activated protein kinase (AMPK) is phosphorylating a variety of metabolic enzymes and transcription factors (Mihaylova & Shaw, 2011). Kinase suppressor of RAS (KSR) proteins are also substrates of AMPK. The broadly expressed KSR1 is responsible for the control of growth factor pathways (Shen et al., 2013). The other paralog, KSR2, is expressed predominantly in the brain and ample evidence suggests that it controls energy expenditure and feeding behavior (Costanzo-Garvey et al., 2009). Lastly, excess AMP is partly eliminated by various adenosine monophosphate deaminase (AMPD) enzymes, depending on the tissue studied (Rybakowska et al., 2014). p38α (magenta) was found to interact with the cardiac-specific AMPK subunit γ2 (AAKG2) and with docking motifs discovered in AMP deaminase 1 and 3 enzymes. ERK2 (green) also interacts with AAKG2 but was also found to bind to KSR2. Since most of these proteins have a restricted expression pattern, the interactions likely do not exist in most cells, only in a few dedicated tissue types (written on the lines).
Chromatin regulation, transcription & translation

Cytoskeletal regulation & vesicular transport

Primarily interacting with

JNK
p38
ERK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Family</th>
<th>Function</th>
<th>Protein with JIP1-like element</th>
<th>Protein with NFAT4-like element</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formin</td>
<td>Actin filament assembly</td>
<td>FMNL1</td>
<td>FMN1, FHOD3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smoothelin</td>
<td>Actin binding</td>
<td>SMTL2</td>
<td>SMTN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HECT-WW</td>
<td>E3 ubiquitin ligase</td>
<td>HECW1</td>
<td>HECW2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATF/CREB</td>
<td>Transcription factor</td>
<td>ATF7</td>
<td>ATF7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NFAT4 class
greater MEF2A class

JNK1 binders
AKAP6, CCSE1, FMN1
RIPK2, TSH3, HSF4
AAKG2, INO80, KLF3

p38α binders
5
14
13
19
18
**Figure S6. Comparisons of best 100 hits for JIP1, NFAT4 and greater MEF2A type motifs**

(A) Comparison of functional super-grouping of hits among the best JIP1, NFAT4 or greater MEF2A type motifs. Within the JIP1-type motif bearing proteins (JNK1 partners), cytoskeletal and associated functions dominate, while those with a greater MEF2A-type motif (p38α and ERK2 interactors) mostly tend to be implicated in the regulation of gene expression. Those with an NFAT4-type motif (mostly JNK1 interactors) show a distribution in-between the former two. Note that the number of proteins involved in protein phosphorylation or ubiquitylation are similar across all three classes. The percentages refer to the number of different proteins among the best 100 motif hits.

(B) A few selected examples of protein families in which one member carries a JIP1-type motif, but another closely related member has an NFAT4-type motif instead. (The latter ones are typically found in a different position than the JIP1 motif, thus likely evolved independently in all cases.) We only considered examples in which both motifs are either high-ranking predictions or were experimentally validated at least on a fragment level.

(C) Experimental proof for the suggested overlap between JNK1 and p38α partners. The definition of NFAT4 (JNK-binding) and greater MEF2A (primarily p38α-binding) are similar, resulting in a sizable set of “dual-class” motifs. Dot-blot experiments show that these dual-class peptides often bind both MAPKs with comparable affinities. The upper numbers in this diagram represent motifs (of either NFAT4 or greater MEF2A types) that were tested as positive in the dot-blot arrays. The lower row of numbers - on the other hand - shows the exact numbers that selectively interacted with JNK1 (blue), p38α (yellow) or with both (green). For each case, a few characteristic examples are also written below.
A

Smoothelin-like protein 2 (SMTL2)

Homo sapiens  Q2TAL5  FSAPDPPRPRRVSLLRPLHQVPTA1TRVSD
Pan troglodytes  Q8CI12  FSAPDAPRPRRVSLLRPLHQVPTAVTRVSE
Mus musculus  Q8CI12  SSQAEPQPRPRRVSLLRPLHQVPTAVTRVSE
Rattus norvegicus  D3ZUC1  SSAQESPRPRRVSLLRPLHQVPTAVTRVSE
Canis familiaris  E2RKS0  FPAPAEPPRPRRVSLLGLPHQVPTA1TRMPE
Loxodontia africana  G3T669  FLAPESPPRPRRVSLLQLPHQVPTAVTRVSE
Sarcophilus harrisii  G3VFS8  --APEPEFESIPSAELCMHQVPTA1TRGSE
Omithorhyncus anatinius  F7FL87  --FAQSPPTEAHLPSITLRRPHQVPTAVTRP
Galus gallus  E1C4C6  YMDSSPSEAHAPMTQLMPHLQVPTAVRISE
Anas platyrhynchos  R0JS45  RMDSSPSEAHAPMTQLMPHLQVTRAVIS-
Chelonia mydas  M7BT97  QMSNAPSEAHAPMTQLMPHLQVPTAVRISE
Latimeria chalumnae  H3BH15  HASNAPQ EQAPS VSRLPQQVPTAVRVAE

Gradual point mutations until motif appears

B

Bcl2-like mitochondrial gatekeepers

KSR (Raf-related) scaffold proteins
D-motif

**PDE4 family of cAMP phosphodiesterases**

- **PDE4A** isoform #7
- **PDE4B** isoform #1
- **PDE4B** isoform #11
- **PDE4D** isoform #11

**D-motif**

H. sapiens (human)

**D-motif**

H. sapiens (human)  Danio rerio (zebrafish)  Crassostrea gigas (pacific oyster)  Tribolium castaneum (flour beetle)  Strigonium maritimum (centipede)  MKP5 (DUSP10) phosphatase

- **MKP5** (DUSP10) phosphatase
  - Homo sapiens (human)  Q9Y6W6
  - Danio rerio (zebrafish)  F1QIT6
  - Crassostrea gigas (pacific oyster)  Q1KW9
  - Tribolium castaneum (flour beetle)  D6W7T6
  - Strigonium maritimum (centipede)  T1ITQ4

- **CCSER1** microtubule-binding protein
  - Homo sapiens (human)  Q9C0I3
  - Mus musculus (mouse)  Q8C0C4
  - Danio rerio (zebrafish)  B0UJT1
  - Ictalurus punctatus (catfish)  W5USF8

- **ELK transcription factors**
  - Homo sapiens ELK1  P19419
  - Homo sapiens ELK3  P41970
  - Homo sapiens ELK4  P28324

  Strongylocentrotus purpuratus (sea urchin)  Q95UJ1

  Crassostrea gigas (pacific oyster)  K1R3J9
  Caenorhabditis briggsae (roundworm)  A8X360

- **TAB1** signalling adaptor
  - Homo sapiens (human)  Q15750
  - Danio rerio (zebrafish)  Q6NUU7
  - Branchiostoma floridae (lancelet)  C32725
  - Crassostrea gigas (pacific oyster)  K1QD5

  MEF2A-like (atypical, N-terminally extended)
  DCC-like (atypical, N-terminally extended)
**G**

DNA binding domain

Transactivator region (disordered)

D-motif transfer?

AMP sensor domain

AAKG2

**H**

WDR62 & MABP1

Loss of superfluous structure

Fold remnant = new linear motif

WD40 repeat domain

Supernumerary structural element

WD40 repeat (remnant)

E = extended (β-sheet)

T = turn or α-helix

**WDR62_HUMAN** - WD40_R1

---TARKSALSALAFSPDGKTYIVTGENHRRAPVIRKQVEEKNO-VAEML---

WDR62_HUMAN - D-motif

---GELASLQELQAIT---TATPSLDSEGQEPALRSWMNGEABANLRRFESSAC---
**Figure S7. Mechanisms of docking motif emergence**

(A) The majority of docking motifs analyzed in the current study seems to have evolved by random mutations (genetic drift) stumbling upon a suitable consensus sequence. This is exemplified by a known JNK-interactor (smoothelin-like 2, SMTL2) (Gordon et al, 2013). Comparison of vertebrate SMTL2 sequences shows great diversity in various animals, with the sequence gradually approximating a JIP1-type consensus in non-eutherian mammals. Eutherian (placental) mammals, on the other hand, show a consistently conserved JIP1-type motif locked in place.

(B) A structural alignment between the mitochondrial gatekeeper protein Mcl1 and its closest relative, Bcl2. The analysis suggests that the enlarged N-terminus of Mcl1 (together with its newly-identified JIP1-type docking motif) has no counterpart in Bcl2 (or any other related gene). This disordered segment might have arisen from non-coding DNA sequences by a translational start point shift.

(C) Comparison of mammalian Kinase suppressor of Ras (KSR) proteins 1 and 2. In contrast to KSR1, KSR2 possesses a unique insert in its N-terminal linker segment between the coiled-coil containing sterile alpha motif domain (CC-SAM) and the phospholipid-binding C1 domain. Comparison of vertebrate sequences with the chordate Branchistoma floridae KSR (where only a single KSR gene is found, as it has not undergone the whole genome duplication characteristic of vertebrates) suggests that the KSR2-specific insert is secondary and likely arose by splicing site shifts. While both the 5' and the 3' splice sites correspond to each other in KSR1 and KSR2, this exon of KSR1 is minuscule, encoding only a single amino acid. The KSR2-specific insert, on the other hand, contains a functional D-motif.

(D) Alternative splicing in the PDE4 family of phosphodietherases can endow each PDE4 enzyme with a unique N-terminus with special regulatory motifs. Furthermore, this inventory of alternative exons is conserved across different PDE4 paralogs. Thus, the D-motif-containing PDE4B isoform #1 corresponds to the isoform #7 of PDE4A and isoform #11 of PDE4D. The same alternative N-termini are also found in distantly-related vertebrates as in zebradino (Danio rerio).

(E) Alignments between vertebrate MKP5 (DUSP10) phosphatases and their relatives in certain protostomes reveal that the D-motif of MKP5 is an ancient heritage. However, the D-motif found in seashells or insects satisfies the NFAT4 consensus, instead of a JIP1-type which is characteristic of vertebrates. Similar docking motif transmutations are sometimes also seen in vertebrates: the cytoskeleton-associated serine-rich coiled-coil protein 1 (CCSER1) possesses an NFAT4-type motif in mammals, while the same segment aligns to a JIP1-type motif in certain bony fishes (e.g. Danio rerio).

(F) Further examples for potential D-motif transmutations. The ELK family of transcription factors shows a JIP1-type motif in vertebrates, but their protostome relatives tend to contain a Far1-type docking motif at the same place. This phenomenon is also evolutionarily consistent. The sea urchin ELK protein (a deuterostome, thus closer to human than to Caenorhabditis) also satisfies a JIP1-type consensus, rather than a Far1-type. The TNF-receptor complex associated Tab1 adaptor hints at similar subtle evolutionary changes. The vertebrate Tab1 motif is grossly equivalent to a greater MEF2A-type motif, with an extra N-terminal extension. The same extension is also found in invertebrate Tab1 proteins, but there the D-motif core is more consistent with a DCC-type arrangement.

(G) Alignment between D-motif containing MEF2 factors (MEF2A or MEF2C) and the unique N-terminus of AAKG2 reveals an unexpected fit extending to broad regions flanking the D-motifs. Tentatively, the D-motif of AAKG2 might have arisen through an illegitimate recombination with a MEF2 gene or pseudogene. Linear motifs may also arise from a (disrupted) folded domain. In the MABP1/WDR62 family of JNK interacting proteins the D-motif containing segment on their C-termini might have arisen from duplicated, supernumerary WD40 repeats (unable to fold into the closed solenoid WD40 “wheel”) (Cohen-Katsenelson et al, 2011; Bogoyevitch et al, 2012; Koyano et al, 1999). This is more obvious in WDR62, where the surroundings of the docking motif clearly correspond to a partial WD40 repeat, and even aligns with it in a structural sense (i.e. the extended hydrophobic part of the D-motif aligns with a beta-sheet, while the presumably helical N-terminus aligns with a turn/loop, etc.). In the more divergent paralog MABP1, the sequence has more radically changed and almost no conservation tendencies can be seen outside the D-motif itself.
Figure S8. In vitro kinase assays on AAKG2 and DCX

(A) Time profiles of in vitro phosphorylation assays (with $^{32}$P-labelled ATP) using purified AAKG2 proteins as substrate (WT: wild-type, ΔD: AAKG2 lacking the D-motif, WT+D-peptide: mixture of wild-type AAKG2 with the competitor D-peptide of MK2 which selectively interferes with docking) and activated p38α as the enzyme.

(B) Time profiles of in vitro phosphorylation assays (with $^{32}$P-labelled ATP) using DCX as substrate (WT: wild-type, ΔD: DCX lacking the D-motif, WT+D-peptide: mixture of wild-type DCX with the competitor D-peptide of JIP1 which selectively interferes with docking) and activated JNK1 as the enzyme. Results of three parallel experiments (N=3) are shown on the graph on the right. Error bars show standard deviations from the mean.
Figure S9. Evolutionary sequence conservation of D-motifs and phosphorylation target motifs

The plots show the evolutionary conservation of the human motifs among vertebrate homologs based on eggNOG vertebrate alignments. The panel on the right shows the upper-right hand side corner of the complete plot on the left. Notice that most proteins lie close to the diagonal indicating that their D-motif and their most conserved putative phosphorylation target motif display similar evolutionary conservation. D-motif or phosphosite conservation score: normalized average motif depth in vertebrate alignments of eggNOG. R: Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient.
**A**

Ancestral (metazoan) D-motif

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Protein</th>
<th>Accession</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BMPR2</td>
<td>sp</td>
<td>O35607</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sp</td>
<td>Q13873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sp</td>
<td>Q13873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sp</td>
<td>F1R413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sp</td>
<td>W5MVP1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sp</td>
<td>F6Q787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sp</td>
<td>M7AHB0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sp</td>
<td>R4GD98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sp</td>
<td>U3IKP1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sp</td>
<td>G3TEP1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>sp</td>
<td>Q13873</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**B**

Ancestral (metazoan) module

Human

ATF2 28 5DORPFLCTAGGCGGQPEDNLHAVHKEMLTQKPARNSDVGAVQDPTFLKXICE 80

ATF7 25 5DORPFCNPGCGQRPEHDNLHAVHKEMLTQKPARN5V1ADQDPTFLKXICE 62

CREB5 11 5EQRPPCSAAGGCGQPEDNLHAVHKEMLTQKPARNSDVGAVQDPTFLKXICE 70

Zn-finger domain

DNA binding &
Leucine zipper

Transactivator region

**D-motif (JIP1-type)**

**Target sites**

**Paralog-specific de novo (vertebrate) module?**

**Elephantid proteins**

**BMPR2**

Protein kinase domain

**D-motif (JIP1-type)**

**Novel vertebrate D-motif**
Figure S10. Independent emergence of multiple D-motifs in a single protein

(A) The human bone morphogenic protein receptor 2 (BMPR2) possesses two very similar, JIP1-type motifs on its disordered C-terminus (Podkowa et al., 2010). Despite the sequence similarity, both have distinct origins. The upstream motif is detected in most multicellular animals including insects. At the same time, the downstream motif appears to be a relatively recent addition found only in vertebrates.

(B) All proteins belonging to the ATF2 family of transcription factors carry a similar, NFAT4-like docking motif on their N-terminus (partially overlapping with a Zn-finger). This element is known to control phosphorylation of a downstream transactivation motif essential for ATF2 activity (Livingstone et al., 1995). In vertebrates, out of the three closely related paralogs (ATF2, ATF7 and CREB5), two (ATF2 and ATF7) have an additional, JIP1-type docking motif to recruit JNK to a different region of the protein (Chen et al., 2014).
**A**

- **Cell membrane**
  - Phosphatidylinositol (3,4,5)P
  - Gab1
  - ERK1/2
  - P'tase

- **Cytoplasm**
  - Gab1
  - S551E
  - S551A

**B**

**P-values (versus WT):**
- ΔD-01:  $p=0.01468$ (*)
- ΔD-02:  $p=0.18684$ (NS)
- ΔC:  $p=0.00000$ (***)
- S551E:  $p=0.00076$ (***)
- S551A:  $p=0.10524$ (NS)

**P-values (versus WT):**
- ΔD-01:  $p=0.00000$ (***)
- ΔD-02:  $p=0.06724$ (NS)
- ΔC:  $p=0.00000$ (***)
- S551E:  $p=0.24604$ (NS)
- S551A:  $p=0.12852$ (NS)
**Figure S11. Role of a GAB1 D-motif in the context of the EGF/Ras → ERK signaling cascade**

(A) GAB1 contains an N-terminal PH domain and a C-terminally located intra-molecular switch controlling the PH domain's capacity to bind to the cell membrane. This autoinhibition can be relieved by phosphorylation on Ser551.

(B) Subcellular localization of CFP-GAB1 constructs expressed in HEK293T cells in serum-containing medium (10% FBS, left) or under serum-free conditions after 10 minutes of EGF stimulation (right). Fraction of all fluorescence within a 2μM range from the cell membrane versus the total fluorescence of the cell are shown on the plot (N=50 cells from all wells). Sample images of cells (obtained through confocal laser scanning microscopy, in 40x magnification) are shown below. The isolated PH domain is predominantly at the cell membrane, as is, to a lesser extent, the Gab1-S551E mutant. In contrast Gab1-S551A does not show elevated perimembrane localization. More importantly, GAB1 docking mutants have a tendency to be located in the cytoplasm under both conditions. (ΔD-01: L534E mutant, where the pivotal φA hydrophopic contact is ablated in the Far1-type 527-RKVPAPEL-536 D-motif; ΔD-02: R527 and K528 were mutated to alanine to interfere with electrostatic interactions in the CD groove; ΔC: 1-318 GAB1 construct containing an unmasked PH domain; S551E: Ser551 was replaced by phosphorylation mimicking glutamate residue; S551A: Ser551 was replaced to alanine.) P-values are from Mann-Whitney U-test (*: p< 0.05; ***: p< 0.001; NS: not significant).

(C) Time course of ERK1/2 phosphorylation in EGF-stimulated, GAB1-transfected HEK293T cells. The marked enhancement of ERK1/2 signaling in the GAB1 docking mutants versus the wild-type GAB1 can be explained by the existence of negative cross-feeding circuits driven by ERK1/2-dependent phosphorylation of GAB1 (such as membrane-bound GAB1 recruiting RasGAP1 to inhibit Ras) (Montagner *et al.*, 2005). Note that GAB1 is phosphorylated on multiple sites by ERK1/2, not only affecting its localization, but its signaling properties as well (Lehr *et al.*, 2004). WB-Western blot; WB-pERK: phosphoERK; WB-ERK: total ERK; WB-FLAG was used to show equal amount of GAB1 expression levels as the transiently expressed CFP-GAB1 construct was FLAG-tagged.
Table S1: FoldX templates used per motif subtypes

Motif classes and subclasses, consensus motif definitions and the structural templates (with Protein Data Bank identifiers) are shown in a tabulated format.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of motif class (or subtype)</th>
<th>Consensus sequence*</th>
<th>Remarks#</th>
<th>PDB ID of the structural template#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JIP1 class</td>
<td>θ-φL-x₁-x₂-φₐ-x₃-φB</td>
<td></td>
<td>1UKH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>φ₀ = P</td>
<td>(JNK1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>φₐ = L ₅</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x₁, x₂ = [^P]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFAT4 class</td>
<td>θ-φL-x₁-x₂-φₐ-x₃-x₄-φB</td>
<td></td>
<td>2XS0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>φ₀ = [LIM] ₅</td>
<td>(JNK1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>φₐ = L ₅</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x₁, x₂ = [^P]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>greater MEF2A class</td>
<td>MEF2A type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>θ{-0}-φL-x₁-x₂-φₐ-x₃-x₄-φB</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1LEWₐ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(p38α)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>MKK6 type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>θ{-0}-φL-x₁-x₂-φₐ-x₃-x₄-φB</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2Y8Oₐ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(p38α)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>other types</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>θ{-1-2}-x{2-4}-φL-x₅-φₐ-x₆-φB</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>greater DCC class</td>
<td>DCC type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>θ{-1-2}-x{2-4}-φL-x₅-φₐ-x₆-φB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>φ₀ = [PLIV]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x₅ = P ₅</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Far1 type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>θ{-1-2}-x{2-4}-φL-x₅-φₐ-x₆-φB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>φ₀ = [PLIV]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x₆ = P ₅</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Greater HePTP class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ste7 type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>φ₀-φL-x₁-θ{-0}-x₃-φₐ-x₄-φB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x₁ = [^P]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HePTP type</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>φ₀-φL-x₁-x₂-θ{-0}-x₃-x₄-φₐ-x₅-φB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x₁, x₂ = [^P]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>x₃ = [G]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* By default, θ: [RK], φ₀: [LIV], φₐ: [LIVMP], φₐ: [LIV], φₐ: [LIVMF]; x can be any amino acid unless defined otherwise in the following column. Numbers in brackets indicate intervening region length. (Initial searches used more liberal amino acid definitions per core positions, also allowing Pro in the φₐ position)

# For x, numbering is from left to right in the consensus; ^ means exclusion of an amino acid like proline for example [^P]. For some consensus patterns further amino acid requirements were specified based on known structures of MAPK–docking motif complexes (e.g. x₂ = [^P] in the NFAT4 motif class indicates that the second intervening region position from the start of the motif, from left to right, may not be a helical conformation breaking proline.)

The additional constraints were introduced only after the conclusion of experimental testing & evolutionary conservation analyses.
Name of the MAPK in the structural model is shown in brackets.

The N-terminal regions with all θ positions (which were flexible in the crystal structures) were not used for FoldX-based scoring.

The human ERK2-DCC complex was used for energy estimations in all greater DCC class motifs. The yeast FUS3-Far1 model (PDB ID: 2B9J) only served as a theoretical basis to establish subtype splitting between DCC and Far1 types. (The proline-rich segment between φ₀ and φ₈ has nearly identical conformation in models 3O71 and 2B9J. It differs only in the exact placement of proline amino acids. Thus homology modeling based on the yeast 2B9J complex was unnecessary.)

The FUS3-Msg5 complex served as a model for this class (instead of the incomplete FUS3-Ste7 complex that was crystallized with an N-terminally truncated peptide [PDB ID: 2B9H]). The yeast FUS3 MAPK was subsequently exchanged for human ERK2 and the resulting theoretic structure was optimized with PepFlexDock.

The artificial disulfide bridge (formed as a crystallization artifact in this complex) was removed. Afterwards, the peptide chain was remodeled with FlexPepDock.
Appendix References


