1 Adaptor linked K63 di-Ubiquitin activates Nedd4/Rsp5 E3 ligase

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- 7 Key words: K63 di-ubiquitin, Need4/Rsp5, E3 ligase, adaptor, ubiquitination
- 8 Running title: The K63 di-Ubiquitination of Need4/Rsp5 adaptors

9 Abstract

10 Nedd4/Rsp5 family E3 ligases mediate numerous cellular processes, many of which require the 11 E3 ligase to interact with PY-motif containing adaptor proteins. Several Arrestin-Related Trafficking adaptors(ARTs) of Rsp5 were self-ubiquitinated for activation, but the regulation 12 mechanism remains elusive. Remarkably, we demonstrate that Art1, Art4, and Art5 undergo K63-13 14 linked di-ubiquitination by Rsp5. This modification enhances the PM recruitment of Rsp5 by Art1 or Art5 upon substrate induction, required for cargo protein ubiquitination. In agreement with these 15 observations, we find that di-ubiquitin strengthens the interaction between the Pombe orthologs of 16 17 Rsp5 and Art1, Pub1 and Any1. Further, we discover that the HECT domain exosite protects the K63-linked di-ubiquitin on the adaptors from cleavage by the deubiquitination enzyme Ubp2. 18 Strikingly, loss of this protection results in the loss of K63-linked di-ubiquitin from the adaptors 19 and diverts the adaptors for K48-linked poly-ubiquitination and proteasome-mediated degradation. 20 21 Together, our study uncovers a novel ubiquitination modification implemented by Rsp5 adaptor 22 proteins, underscoring the regulatory mechanism of how adaptor proteins control the recruitment 23 and activity of Rsp5 for the turnover of membrane proteins.

24 Introduction

25 The Nedd4/Rsp5 family E3 ligases are responsible for membrane protein ubiquitination, required 26 for endocytosis and lysosome-dependent protein degradation. Tryptophan-tryptophan (WW) 27 domains of Nedd4 family E3 ligases bind to substrate proteins via interaction with PY motifs containing a consensus sequence P/L-P-x-Y (Rotin & Kumar, 2009; Schild et al, 1996). Other 28 29 substrates lack PY motifs and instead rely on interactions with adaptor proteins that recruit the Nedd4 E3 ligase to them, exemplified by a family of arrestin-related trafficking adaptors (ARTs) 30 that bridge the association between substrates and Rsp5 for ubiquitination(Lin et al, 2008). 31 32 Additionally, Rsp5 adaptors include a diverse group of transmembrane (TM) proteins to mediate 33 degradation of membrane proteins localized at the PM, Golgi, endosome and vacuole membrane (Alvaro et al, 2014; Becuwe et al, 2012; Hatakeyama et al, 2010; Hettema et al, 2004; Hovsepian 34 et al, 2018; Leon et al, 2008; Li et al, 2015; MacDonald et al, 2012; Nikko & Pelham, 2009; 35 O'Donnell et al, 2013; Sardana et al, 2018; Zhu et al, 2020) 36

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Many of the Nedd4/Rsp5 adaptor proteins undergo self-ubiquitination. The ART proteins Art1, 38 39 Art4 and Art8 require specific ubiquitination by Rsp5 to reach full activity (Becuwe *et al.*, 2012; 40 Hovsepian et al, 2017; Lin et al., 2008). Ubiquitination of Nedd4 adaptor protein Commissureless is required to downregulate the Robo receptor at the cell surface of axons, essential for midline 41 42 crossing (Ing et al, 2007; Myat et al, 2002). The N-lobe region of the Nedd4/Rsp5 family E3 43 ligase HECT domain contains an exosite which binds ubiquitin and has been shown to orient the 44 ubiquitin chain to promote conjugation of the next ubiquitin molecule of the growing polyubiquitin 45 chain(Kim et al, 2011; Maspero et al, 2011). It was proposed that ubiquitinated Rsp5 adaptors are 46 more active when locked onto Rsp5 but less active when unlocked by Ubp2 (MacDonald et al,

47 2020). However, the mechanism of how Nedd4/Rsp5 adaptor ubiquitination helps enhance E348 ligase function remains unclear.

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In this study, we decoded the activation mechanism of how adaptor protein ubiquitination 50 enhances E3 ligase function and how this ubiquitination itself is regulated by the deubiquitination 51 52 (DUB) enzyme Ubp2. Remarkably, we discovered that the Rsp5 adaptors Art1, Art4, and Art5 are conjugated with K63-linked di-Ub at specific ubiquitination sites. Ubiquitination of Art5 and Art1 53 54 enhances Rsp5 recruitment to the plasma membrane thereby promoting substrate ubiquitination. 55 Our analysis of the binding affinity of di-Ub or isolated PY motifs to Rsp5 targeted domains 56 uncovered that K63-linked di-Ub conjugation to the adaptor protein Any1 sharply enhances its 57 binding to E3 ligase Pub1. Strikingly, we found that deletion of UBP2 rescues the deubiquitination of adaptor proteins Art5 and Art1 in the *rsp5*-exosite mutant. Our data reveals the interplay 58 59 between Ubp2 and "Rsp5 exosite engagement" to modulate adaptor protein ubiquitination and 60 catalyze the switch from K63-linked di-Ub to K48-linked ubiquitin chains. Taken together, these 61 results serve as a portal for future studies of Nedd4/Rsp5 adaptor proteins in general.

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63 **Results**

64 Rsp5 adaptor protein Art5 undergoes K63-linked di-ubiquitination

In yeast, 14 α -arrestin domain containing proteins have been identified: Art1-Art10(Lin *et al.*, 2008; Nikko & Pelham, 2009), Bul1-Bul3 (Yashiroda *et al*, 1996) and Spo23 (Aubry & Klein, 2013). These proteins have clear arrestin sequence signatures and contain multiple PY motifs that specifically interact with the WW domains in Rsp5 (Baile *et al*, 2019), and can recruit Rsp5 to specific intracellular locations. This interaction not only results in ubiquitination of cargo proteins, but also ubiquitination of ARTs themselves. In fact, several α -arrestin domain containing proteins have been shown to be ubiquitinated by Rsp5, including Bul1, Bul2, Art1, Art4, Art5, Art6 and
Art8. Among these, Art5 contains an α-arrestin domain and three C-terminal PY motifs (figure
1A). It has been shown that Art5 is the only ART protein required for the inositol-induced
endocytosis and degradation of the plasma membrane (PM) inositol transporter Itr1 (Nikko &
Pelham, 2009).

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77 We found that at steady state, endogenous Art5 migrates in two major bands by SDS-PAGE, 78 corresponding to the ubiquitinated and non-ubiquitinated species (Lane 2 in the Fig. 1B). Mass 79 spectrometry has previously indicated that ubiquitin is mainly conjugated on the K-364 residue of 80 the Art5 α -arrestin domain (Swaney *et al*, 2013). We confirmed that Art5 ubiquitination was nearly completely ablated by mutating K364(Fig. 1B, lane 3), and is completely abolished in the $art5^{\Delta PY}$ 81 mutant in which all three PY motifs were mutated (lane 4), demonstrating that Art5 ubiquitination 82 83 depends on its interaction with Rsp5 via PY motifs. There is a minor portion (albeit weak) of PY 84 motifs dependent Art5 higher molecular weight species (lane 2), probably due to other lysines. Strikingly, the molecular weight difference (~20KDa) between the non-ubiquitinated and 85 ubiquitinated forms of Art5 appears to be more than one single ubiquitin (~9KDa), suggesting 86 87 more than one ubiquitin molecule is conjugated to the Art5 protein. To test this hypothesis, we fused the C-terminus of $art5^{\Delta PY}$ with 1, 2, 3 or 4 ubiquitin molecules to create $art5^{\Delta PY}$ -1xUb, 88 $art5^{\Delta PY}$ -2xUb, $art5^{\Delta PY}$ -3xUb and $art5^{\Delta PY}$ -4xUb, respectively. Remarkably, the ubiquitinated 89 90 Art5^{WT} runs in line with *art5*^{ΔPY}-2xUb, indicating that Art5 is di-ubiquitinated mainly at the K-364 residue (Lane 4, 5 and 6 of Fig. 1B). 91

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We next asked what is the linkage in the di-ubiquitin that is conjugated to Art5. Rsp5 mainly 93 94 catalyzed K63-linked ubiquitin chain synthesis in vivo and in vitro (Lauwers et al, 2009; Saeki et 95 al, 2009). We therefore decided to examine whether the di-ubiquitin moiety on Art5 is K63-linked. We analyzed the migration of Art5^{WT}, $art5^{K364R}$, and $art5^{\Delta PY}$ proteins in yeast strains expressing 96 Ub-WT and Ub-K63R. Notably, as seen in Figure 1C, we found that the size of the di-ubiquitinated 97 98 Art5 band (lane 2 and 3) is reduced to the mono-ubiquitinated band (lane 9 and 10), in line with $art5^{\Delta PY}$ -1xUb. As expected, this mono-Ub was conjugated to K364 residue. We noticed the loss of 99 100 Art5 protein in the Ub-K63R mutant in a K364 and PY motif dependent manner (lane 9, figure 1c), which will be discussed later. In addition, the mono-ubiquitinated band of Art5 in the yeast 101 102 Ub-K63R mutant is K364 residue dependent, confirming that the mono-ubiquitin is conjugated mainly at the K364 residue. These data are consistent with the alignment with $art5^{\Delta PY}$ -2xUb? (Fig. 103 1C), indicating that endogenous Art5 is di-ubiquitinated. Together, our result demonstrate that 104 105 Art5 protein is di-Ubiquitinated at residue K364 in a K63 linkage by Rsp5.

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Besides Art5, we next addressed if other ART proteins also undergo K63-linked di-ubiquitination. 107 108 To test this idea, we employed the same approach to analyze another ART family member, Art1. 109 Art1 was found to mediate downregulation of plasma membrane nutrient transporters such as Can1, Mup1, Fur4, and Lyp1. Art1 contains an N-terminal arrestin fold with PY motifs near its C-110 111 terminus (Fig. S1A), which bind to Rsp5's WW domains. The K486 residue is required for Art1 112 ubiquitination (Lin et al., 2008). As anticipated, the ubiquitinated form of Art1 shows the same mobility shift in comparison with $art1^{\Delta PY}$ -2xUb (Fig. S1B). To test if Art1 is ubiquitinated in a 113 K63 linkage, we expressed the Art1^{WT}, $art1^{K486R}$ and $art1^{\Delta PY}$ in a yeast strain expressing only Ub-114

115 K63R. The ubiquitinated band of Art1 migrates with $art1^{\Delta PY}$ -2xUb in the Ub-WT strain, while

116 Art1 is mono-ubiquitinated at K486 in the yeast strain bearing Ub-K63R (Fig. S1C).

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118 In addition to Art5 and Art1, another α -arrestin domain containing protein, Art4, also interacts with Rsp5 via PY motifs and can be ubiquitinated at a cluster of lysines (K235, K245, K264 and 119 120 K267) in the N-terminal arrestin domain (Becuwe et al., 2012), as shown in Figure S1E. To examine the Art4 ubiquitination status, we expressed the Art4^{WT}, $art4^{4KR}$ and $art4^{\Delta PY}$ proteins in 121 122 the yeast strains expressing Ub-WT and Ub-K63R. Due to Art4 phosphorylation when cells were grown in lactate medium, Art4 protein lysates were treated with phosphatase after being shifted to 123 glucose containing culture medium. The ubiquitinated form of Art4^{WT} migrates with the $art4^{\Delta PY}$ -124 2xUb (Fig. S1F). In contrast, Art4^{WT} was only mono-ubiquitinated in Ub-K63R condition. Taken 125 together, our results demonstrated that α -arrestin domain containing adaptor proteins Art1, Art4 126 and Art5 are di-ubiquitinated and the di-ubiquitin is K63 linked (Fig. 1D, S1D and S1G). 127

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129 Ubiquitination of Art5 is required for cargo protein Itr1 ubiquitination

As shown in the figure 1B, Art5 ubiquitination depends on the interaction with Rsp5 and is 130 131 abrogated in the Art5 K364R mutant. We therefore sought to investigate how Art5 ubiquitination affects efficient inositol-dependent endocytosis and protein degradation of Itr1. To determine 132 whether Art5 ubiquitination is important for Art5 function, we expressed Art5^{WT} and *art5*^{K364R} in 133 134 an art5 Δ mutant bearing a chromosomal Itr1-GFP. Itr1-GFP degradation occurs after treatment 135 with inositol in a dose-dependent manner. Thus, higher inositol concentrations applied for the same 136 amount of time results in more Itr1-GFP degradation in the WT cells (Fig. 2A, lane 5-8; Fig. 2C) 137 and protein sorting into the vacuole lumen (Fig. 2B, middle panels), and this endocytosis and

degradation is Art5 dependent(Fig.2A, lane 1-4; Fig. 2C) (Nikko and Pelham, 2009). Cells
expressing *art5*^{K364R} caused a severe decrease in the rate of Itr1-GFP degradation (Fig. 2A, lane 912; Fig. 2C) and protein endocytosis (Fig. 2B, right) at higher inositol concentrations compared
with Art5-WT. Thus, Art5 ubiquitination is essential to promote efficient Itr1 endocytosis and
protein degradation upon inositol-treatment.

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We hypothesize that the Itr1 sorting defect in *art5*^{K364R} is due to defective Itr1 ubiquitination. To 144 test it, we expressed Itr1-GFP in a *doa4*∆ mutant bearing a Myc-Ub expression vector to stabilize 145 ubiquitinated membrane proteins after multivesicular body sorting into the vacuole. After inositol 146 treatment, Itr1-GFP was immunoprecipitated from cell lysates prepared from yeast expressing 147 Art5^{WT} and *art5*^{K364R}. The ubiquitinated pool of Itr1-GFP can be detected in the Art5^{WT} condition, 148 whereas this ubiquitination was attenuated in art5K364R condition (Fig. 2D). We next asked if the 149 ubiquitination defect of Itr1 is due to the loss of protein-protein interaction between art5K364R and 150 Itr1. To test this, Itr1-GFP was immunoprecipitated from yeast strains expressing Art5^{WT} or 151 art5K364R (Fig. 2E). art5K364R can be co-immunoprecipitated by Itr1-GFP comparable to Art5WT, 152 153 indicating that the decrease of Itrt1 ubiquitination upon inositol stimulation is not due to the loss 154 of interaction between adaptor protein Art5 and cargo protein Itr1.

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The importance of ubiquitination of the ART proteins in cargo protein sorting is further supported by our previous findings that the *art1*^{K486R} allele results in a canavanine hypersensitivity phenotype (Lin et al., 2008). Here, we set out to test the endocytosis and protein degradation of Mup1-GFP in Art1^{WT} and *art1*^{K486R} after treatment with increased methionine concentrations. Consistent with previous results, the *art1*^{K486R} allele leads to a sorting defect of Mup1-GFP (Fig. S2A, S2B and

S2C). Similarly, we sought to test if the Mup1-GFP can bind to both Art1^{WT} and *art1*^{K486R}. To do 161 so, we examined the protein interaction between Mup1 and Art1 using co-IP analysis. Indeed, we 162 163 can observe the interaction between Mup1 and overexpressed Art1 (Fig. S2D). In agreement with previous finding that the acidic patch in the Mup1 N-terminal tail is required for binding with Art1 164 (Guiney et al, 2016), we showed that the Q49R Mup1 mutant did not interact with Art1 (Fig. S2E). 165 Further, both Art1^{WT} and *art1*^{K486R} can bind to Mup1, as evidenced by the Co-IP of *art1*^{K486R} with 166 Mup1 when Art1 ubiquitination is impaired (Fig. S2F). Thus, our results demonstrate that the 167 sorting defect of Mup1-GFP in the presence of *art1*^{K486R} is not due to the loss of protein interaction 168 between the adaptor protein Art1 and cargo protein Mup1. 169

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Since TORC1 kinase regulates the Art1-dependent ubiquitin-mediated cargo protein endocytosis 171 by modulating Art1 phosphorylation via Npr1 kinase (MacGurn et al, 2011), we decided to test if 172 the non-ubiquitinated pool of Art1 loses the Npr1 dependence for phosphorylation thereby 173 affecting cargo protein sorting. First, we expressed Art1^{WT} or $art1^{K486R}$ in WT and $npr1\Delta$ mutant 174 strains. We observed that both the di-ubiquitinated Art1 or the non-ubiquitinated Art1 pools 175 176 migrated slightly faster in the *npr1* Δ mutant, consistent with dephosphorylation (Fig. S2G). Next, 177 we treated the cells with either rapamycin or cycloheximide to monitor the change in phosphorylation status for ubiquitinated or non-ubiquitinated Art1. As shown in the figure S2H, 178 179 the activated Npr1 kinase triggered by rapamycin treatment leads to phosphorylation of both Art1^{WT} and *art1^{K486R}*; whereas the dephosphorylation of these two proteins is observed following 180 181 cycloheximide treatment. The Npr1 kinase-dependent phosphorylation is therefore the intrinsic 182 feature of Art1, regardless of the ubiquitination status of Art1.

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Since ARTs ubiquitination enhances function, we next sought to test if C-terminal fusion with 184 ubiquitin molecules could rescue the cargo sorting defect of $art I^{K486R}$ or $art I^{\Delta PY}$. Since toxic 185 186 arginine analog canavanine is transported by PM transporter Can1 in yeast and Can1 endocytosis prevents subsequent cell death (Grenson et al, 1966), canavanine hypersensitivity occurs when 187 Can1 cannot be endocytosed (such as in an $art1\Delta$ mutant), which provides a readout of Art1 188 function. Thus, we examined the canavanine sensitivity of the art1 Δ mutant expressing Art1^{WT}, 189 $art1^{K486R}$ or $art1^{\Delta PY}$ fused with C-terminal 1x, 2x or 3xUb. The C-terminal fusions with ubiquitin 190 molecules did not enhance the functionality of Art1^{WT}, *art1^{K486R}* or *art1^{ΔPY}* (Fig. S2I, S2J). Besides 191 192 Art1, we tested if Itr1-GFP sorting can be restored by art5K364R with C-terminal 1xUb or 2xUb and found the 1x or 2xUb fusions do not enhance the Itr1 sorting (Fig. 2F). Together, our data indicate 193 that di-ubiquitin needs to be conjugated at specific residues for proper functionality. 194

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196 PM recruitment of Rsp5 is enhanced by Art5 and Art1 protein ubiquitination

The art5K364R mutant partially blocks the ubiquitination and cargo sorting of Itr1 after inositol 197 198 treatment (Figure 2A and 2D), but still interacts with Itr1. We therefore hypothesize that the defective ubiquitination of art5^{K364R} may impair Rsp5 recruitment to the PM. To test this idea, we 199 200 examined the localization of Art5-GFP in yeast cells before and after inositol treatment. As seen in figure 3A, the Art5^{WT}-GFP localized at cytosol, nucleus and occasional cytosolic puncta (Sec7-201 negative, Figure 3A). Strikingly, the Art5^{WT}-GFP is re-localized to PM puncta and patch structures 202 after 1 hour of inositol (20µg/ml) treatment. This result is in line with our previous finding that 203 Art5 is partially translocated to peripheral puncta after shift from minimal media to YPD (Lin et 204 al., 2008), probably because the inositol concentration in YPD is not high enough to drive 205 significant Art5 re-localization and Itr1 endocytosis. In comparison to Art5^{WT}, the art5^{K364R}-GFP 206

and $art5^{\Delta PY}$ mainly remain in the cytosol even after inositol treatment (Figure 3B-D). We conclude that ubiquitination of Art5 is important for protein re-localization to the PM upon inositol treatment. We next asked if Rsp5 can be re-localized to the PM in an Art5-dependent manner after adding inositol to the growth media. As expected, Rsp5 was observed to be recruited to PM patches after inositol treatment in WT cells. However, Rsp5 PM recruitment after inositol treatment was substantially reduced in cells expressing either $art5^{K364R}$ or $art5^{\Delta PY}$ (Figure 3E and 3F).

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214 In addition to Art5, we also examined the PM localization of Art1 upon methionine treatment. Our previous results showed that Art1 is localized to Golgi, PM and cytosol, whereas the art1K486R 215 216 mutant is mainly localized to the cytosol(Baile et al., 2019; Lin et al., 2008). Art1 is recruited to the PM during cargo downregulation upon cycloheximide treatment or shift from synthetic 217 medium to rich medium (Lin et al., 2008). As seen in the figure S3A, Art1 is efficiently recruited 218 to the PM in YPD or in methionine media. In contrast to Art1^{WT}, the recruitment of art1^{K486R} to 219 the PM is largely attenuated and no PM recruitment is seen with $art1^{\Delta PY}$ (Figure S3B, S3C). We 220 next tested whether Art1 facilitates PM recruitment of Rsp5. As expected, methionine treatment 221 induces Rsp5 PM recruitment in cells expressing WT Art1, but this recruitment is much reduced 222 in cells expressing art1^{K486R} (Figure S3E, S3F). Taken together, our results support the model that 223 specific ubiquitination of adaptor proteins is required for proper recruitment of Rsp5 to target 224 225 membranes and subsequent ubiquitin-mediated endocytosis of cargo proteins.

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227 Substrate dependent PM recruitment of adaptor protein Art5 and Art1

Next, we sought to examine if cargo proteins are required for adaptor protein recruitment to their functional locations. To do so, we examined the Art5-GFP PM recruitment in *ITR1-WT* and *itr1* Δ

mutants upon inositol treatment for 1 hour. Strikingly, we found that the PM recruitment of Art5-230 231 GFP is abolished in the *itr1* Δ mutant (Figure 3G, 3H). Similarly, we observed that the PM 232 recruitment of Art1 is attenuated in the mup $I\Delta$ mutant with methionine induction for 1 hour (figure 233 S3G and S3H). We further tested whether Art1 can be recruited to the PM in cells expressing 234 *mup1*-Q49R mutant upon methionine treatment. Previous data showed that Mup1 mutant Q49R 235 is unable to be endocytosed with methionine treatment (Guiney et al., 2016) and the mup1-Q49R 236 mutation abolishes the protein-protein interaction between Mup1 and Art1 (Figure S2E). We 237 expected that PM recruitment of Art1 will be impaired in this mutant due to the loss of the 238 interaction between Art1 and Mup1-Q49R. Indeed, PM recruitment of Art1 is abrogated in the mupl-Q49R condition (Figure S3G and S3H), suggesting that the Mupl-Art1 interaction is 239 required for methionine-induced Art1 PM re-localization. Collectively, our data demonstrate that 240 241 the substrate proteins (Itr1 and Mup1) are required for adaptor protein (Art5 and Art1) recruitment 242 to target membranes (Fig. 3I).

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244 K63-linked di-ubiquitination enhances the interaction between adaptor proteins and Rsp5

We found that the Rsp5 adaptor proteins (Art5, Art1, and Art4) undergo K63-linked di-245 246 ubiquitination and this modification is required for efficient recruitment of Rsp5 to target membranes and cargo protein degradation. We hypothesized that adaptor di-ubiquitination 247 248 enhances protein-protein interactions between di-ubiquitinated adaptors and Rsp5 and thus 249 promotes the recruitment of the E3 ligase. To test this hypothesis, we set out to examine the binding 250 between mono-Ub or K63-linked di-Ub and the HECT domain of Rsp5, as well as the binding 251 between PY motifs and WW domains. To do so, we first generated K63-linked ubiquitin chains 252 using K63-chain specific E2 enzymes Mms2/Ubc13 (Hofmann & Pickart, 1999; Sato et al, 2008;

Spence et al, 1995). Then, we performed a binding assay between glutathione-S-transferase (GST) 253 254 fusion proteins to Rsp5 HECT domain or GST only and the K63-linked ubiquitin chains. The 255 mono-Ub and K63-linked di-ubiquitin chains bind to GST-HECT domain (lane 7), but not to GST 256 (Figure 4A). The binding between mono-Ub and HECT domain depends on the exosite/ubiquitin 257 interface (Y516 and F618) (French et al, 2009; Kim et al., 2011); we found that the binding 258 between K63-linked di-Ub and HECT domain is disrupted by the exosite mutants Y516A, F618A, 259 or the Y516A/F618A double mutant (lane 8, 9 and 10 of Figure 4A), suggesting that the K63-260 linked di-Ub also interacts with the HECT domain via the exosite.

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262 Each Need4 family E3 ligase contains a HECT domain. It was shown that HECT domains of various Nedd4 family HECT E3 ligases (Maspero et al., 2011), as well as the Rsp5 HECT domain 263 (Kim et al., 2011), are able to interact with mono-Ubiquitin. Since we have shown that adaptor 264 proteins are di-ubiquitinated in a K63-linkage, we next decided to examine the interaction between 265 266 HECT domains and mono-Ub and K63-linked di-Ub. The dissociation constant (Kd) for the 267 interaction between HECT and mono-ubiquitin was quantified by isothermal titration calorimetry 268 (ITC) assay to be approximately 201μ M (Figure 4B). We also employed the Rsp5 HECT exosite 269 mutant (F618A) as a negative control. In agreement with the *in-vitro* GST-binding assay result in figure 4A, no binding was detected between mono-ubiquitin and HECT domain mutant (F618A, 270 271 shown in the figure 4B). Ubiquitin is often recognized through a hydrophobic surface containing 272 Ile44, which is bound by most Ubiquitin Binding Domains (UBDs) (Dikic et al, 2009; Shih et al, 273 2000; Sloper-Mould et al, 2001). We therefore included the ubiquitin binding mutant (I44A) 274 serving as a negative control here. As expected, the I44A mutation of ubiquitin abolishes the 275 binding between mono-ubiquitin and the HECT domain (Figure 4B). Our results suggest that the

276 HECT domain exosite and the I44-containing ubiquitin hydrophobic surface are required to bridge 277 the protein-protein interaction between the HECT domain and ubiquitin. In contrast to the mono-278 ubiquitin results, K63-linked di-Ub enhances the binding affinity Kd=33µM, nearly 6-fold relative to the mono-Ub (Figure 4C). In line with the *in-vitro* GST binding result, we examined the binding 279 between K63-linked di-Ub and the HECT domain mutant (F618A) by ITC and found that the 280 281 protein-protein interaction is abolished. Head-to-tail M1-linked di-Ub was proposed to mimic the 282 K63 ubiquitin linkage (Komander et al, 2009; Zhu et al, 2017). As expected, our ITC analysis 283 showed that M1 linked di-Ub binds to HECT with Kd=36µM, comparable with the K63-linked di-284 Ub (Fig. 4D). In line with this result, our in-vitro binding assay showed that the binding between 285 GST-2xUb and HECT domain is stronger than GST-Ub (Fig. 4E). In comparison, K48-linked di-Ub shows a much lower affinity than K63-di-Ub, Kd=145µM (Fig. 4F). Together, our results 286 demonstrate that HECT domain specifically binds to linear form K63 di-Ub and the exosite site is 287 required for ubiquitin binding. 288

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We next wondered if both the proximal and distal end ubiquitin of the K63-linked di-Ub, or just 290 291 the distal end Ub, contribute the binding to the HECT domain. Since Ile44 of ubiquitin is essential 292 for binding of ubiquitin to HECT domain (Fig.4B), we fused a distal end Ub (I44A) mutant to a proximal Ub (WT) and generated the distal end I44A mutant of K63 di-Ub (Ub^{I44A}-Ub^{WT}). The 293 294 Ile44 residue of the proximal end ubiquitin is essential for ubiquitin binding by Ubc13/Mms2 and 295 critical for K63-linked di-Ub catalysis, the Ile44 mutant of the proximal end ubiquitin of the K63 di-Ub cannot be made (Tsui et al, 2005). We found that the K63-linked Ub^{I44A}-Ub^{WT} binds to 296 297 HECT with an Kd=120µM, lower binding affinity than the K63 di-Ub (Fig. 4G). Thus, our result suggests that both distal and proximal ubiquitins contribute to the HECT domain binding, probablycooperatively.

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We next sought to determine if K63-linked di-Ub enhances the binding between adaptor and 301 302 HECT type E3 ligase. In spite of the fact that KR mutants of Art5 and Art1 lead to attenuated 303 Rsp5 PM recruitment and cargo proteins (Itr1 and Mup1), we still observed the interaction between Art1-K486R or Art5-K364R with Rsp5 using Co-IP (Fig. 4H, 4I), probably due to the interaction 304 305 between the PY motifs and WW domains. Indeed, as shown in the figure (Fig. 4J, 4K), Art1 and 306 Art5 PY motif containing peptides interact with purified WW domains from Rsp5 (Kd= 3.6μ M 307 for Art1 PY motifs and Kd=3.1µM for Art5 PY motifs), but not with PY motif mutants. Since the sole interaction between PY motifs and WW domains does not suffice the full activation of Rsp5 308 309 function (Fig. 2A and S2A), the interaction between di-Ub and HECT may enhance the binding affinity between Need4/Rsp5 E3 ligases and their adaptors. We next sought to test the binding 310 311 between full length adaptors and Rsp5. We found that we could not express Art1 or Art5 at high 312 levels in E. coli, then tried to express the Art1 orthologue from S. pombe, Any1, in E. coli. We 313 found the S. pombe Rsp5 ortholog Pub1 interacts with Any1 with a binding affinity Kd~2.1µM 314 (Fig. 4L), in a similar range as the binding affinity between PY motifs and WW domains shown earlier (Fig. 4J, 4K). Remarkably, Anyl conjugated with K63 di-Ub enhances the binding with 315 316 Publ over 10-fold in comparison with non-conjugated Any1 (Figure 4M), suggesting that di-Ub 317 conjugation onto Any1 probably leads to a structural conformation change of Any1 and therefore 318 enhances the binding with Pub1. This result is in agreement with our previous result that di-319 ubiquitination of Art5 and Art1 are required for efficient Rsp5 recruitment to the plasma membrane 320 and for cargo protein sorting. Taken together, the di-ubiquitination of adaptor proteins enhances

the binding affinity with the E3 ligase, leading to E3 ligase recruitment and cargo proteinubiquitination and sorting.

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324 Deubiquitination of K63 di-Ub of adaptor protein Art5 by Ubp2

325 Given that the exosite of Rsp5 is essential for binding with the di-Ub on adaptor proteins, we next 326 examined the ubiquitination status for the adaptor proteins Art1 and Art5. The di-ubiquitinated form of Art5 is diminished in the rsp5-F618A mutant (Fig. 5A, lane 2). Similarly, the di-327 328 ubiquitinated pool of Art1 is substantially attenuated in either the Y516A or F618A exosite mutant 329 (Fig. S4A). Maspero and coworkers reported that exosite mutants do not alter the binding affinity 330 between E3 and E2 enzymes, the transthiolation process from E2 to E3, or the self-ubiquitination 331 activity of Nedd4 (Maspero *et al.*, 2011). We therefore speculated that a deubiquitination enzyme (DUB) is involved in the trimming process of the K63-linked di-Ub. To test this hypothesis, we 332 performed a multicopy gene suppression screen with all budding yeast DUBs. As shown in Figure 333 334 S4B, overexpressing Ubp2 by a TDH3 promoter leads to a reduction of the di-ubiquitinated portion of Art1. Further, we overexpressed the catalytic dead mutant C745V of Ubp2 and found that the 335 336 deubiquitination of Art1 is restored (Fig. S4C). This result infers that Ubp2 may function as a DUB 337 to trim the di-ubiquitinated form of Rsp5 adaptor proteins.

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To investigate the role of Ubp2 in the modification of Rsp5 adaptor proteins, we examined the adaptor protein Art5 in a double mutant of *rsp5*-exosite (F618A) and *ubp2* Δ . Strikingly, the diubiquitinated Art5 and Art1 are nearly fully restored in the *rsp5*-F618A/*ubp2* Δ strain (Fig. 5A,lane 4) and (Fig. S4D, lane 4), indicating that Ubp2 trims the di-ubiquitin on adaptors Art5 and Art1 when they are disengaged from the Rsp5 exosite. To test if Ubp2 is playing a catalytic or structural role in this process, we complemented the *rsp5*-F618A/*ubp2* Δ with either a wild-type or a catalytic mutant *ubp2*-C745V. We found that the Ubp2-WT (Fig. S4E lane 2) fully reverses the rescue of Art1 trimming seen in the lane 1, whereas the *ubp2*-C745V does not (Fig. S4E lane 3). Together, these results suggest that the exosite can protect the di-ubiquitin moiety on adaptors from the cleavage by Ubp2.

349

350 We next wondered if the loss of Art5 (Fig. 5A, lane 2) is mediated by proteasome function. To 351 answer this question, we treated the rsp5-F618A mutant with proteasome inhibitor MG132. We 352 found that the full length Art5 protein is restored 2.8 fold with temporary inhibition of proteasome 353 function (Fig. 5B), suggesting that Art5 probably undergoes K48-linked polyubiquitination 354 because K48-linked ubiquitin chains are is preferred by the proteasome. As seen in figure 5B, either the PY motif or the K364R mutant rescues the loss of Art5, indicating that Rsp5 is the E3 355 356 ligase responsible for Art5 degradation and the same site K364 is used for this ubiquitination 357 process. To directly determine the involvement of K63 versus K48 linkage in the Art5 degradation, we examined the effect of overexpressing myc-ubiquitin with wild-type, K63R and K48R 358 359 mutations on Art5 ubiquitination. We found that expressing myc-ubiquitin K63R does not affect 360 Art5 hyperubiquitination in the rsp5-exosite mutant background, whereas the K48R ubiquitin mutant substantially reduced Art5 ubiquitination (Fig. 5C). This result suggests that the Art5 361 362 ubiquitination in the *rsp5*-exosite mutant is mediated by a K48-linked polyubiquitin chain.

363

We then sought to uncover the mechanism by which the Art5 degradation is triggered. We observed that Art5 protein is also degraded in the *Ub*-K63R mutant (Fig. 1C). We wondered if $ubp2\Delta$ can rescue Art5 degradation in the *Ub*-K63R mutant. To test this, we deleted Ubp2 in the

Ub-K63R mutant and found that $ubp2\Delta$ does not reverse the loss of Art5 protein (Fig. 5D). Our 367 results suggest that the loss of K63-di-Ub on Art5, instead of Ubp2, in either the Ub-K63R mutant 368 369 or *rsp5*-exosite mutant, leads to Art5 degradation. Remarkably, in these two conditions, the Art5 degradation can be rescued in art5-K364R and art5- Δ PY mutant (Fig. 5B and 5D). These data 370 suggest that Rsp5 can mediate both K63 and K48-linked ubiquitination and the K364 residue of 371 372 Art5 can be conjugated with both K63-linked di-Ub and K48-linked polyubiquitin chain. 373 Collectively, our results support a working model that the K63-linked di-Ub on Art5 is fully 374 engaged into the Rsp5 exosite so that Ubp2 cannot cleave it efficiently, whereas the K63-linked 375 di-Ub is disengaged in an *rsp5*-exosite mutant therefore exposed to Ubp2 for cleavage. Upon the 376 cleavage of K63-linked di-Ub, a K48-linked polyubiquitin chain is conjugated at the same residue 377 Art5-K364 thereby leading to the proteasome-dependent degradation of Art5 (Fig. 5E-5H).

378

Since PM recruitment of Rsp5 is enhanced by Art5 or Art1 protein ubiquitination (Fig. 3E, S3E) 379 and Ubp2 can deubiquitinate these adaptor proteins (Fig. 5A and S4D), we therefore asked if the 380 381 adaptor ubiquitination process is reversible and Ubp2 is involved in this process or not. To monitor 382 the pre-existing adaptor proteins, we decided to employ the *tet*-Off system to fix the pool of adaptor 383 proteins by treating the cells with doxycycline. As seen in the figure S4F and S4G, pre-existing Art5 or Art1 undergoes ubiquitination upon inositol or methionine treatment for 1 hour in both 384 385 WT and $ubp2\Delta$ conditions, whereas the adaptor proteins shifted back to less ubiquitinated status 386 after removing the stimulation in the WT condition, but not in the $ubp2\Delta$ mutant. Together, our 387 data demonstrate a model for adaptor protein recycling mediated by Ubp2 (Fig. S4H). First, 388 stimulation enhances adaptor ubiquitination. Second, the ubiquitinated pool of adaptor proteins 389 can be de-ubiquitinated by Ubp2 when stimulation is terminated.

390

391 Discussion

392 In this study, we identified the first K63-linked di-Ub modification that modulates the function of 393 Rsp5 and adaptor proteins. Our data demonstrates that two biological functions are implicated with 394 this K63-linked di-Ub modification. First, K63-linked di-Ub activates Rsp5 function. K63-linked 395 di-Ub enables the full engagement of adaptors onto the Rsp5 exosite and sharply enhances the 396 binding affinity with Rsp5, which facilitates Rsp5 recruitment and accelerates substrate protein 397 ubiquitination. Second, K63-linked di-Ub prevents the adaptors from being conjugated with K48-398 linked polyubiquitin. K63-linked di-Ub on adaptors engaged with the Rsp5 exosite are not 399 accessible to Ubp2. Once released from Rsp5 exosite, the exposed K63-linked di-Ub is subjected to cleavage by Ubp2 and K48-linked polyubiquitin subsequently can be conjugated onto the 400 401 adaptor protein, which signals proteasome-dependent protein degradation. Further, we monitored 402 the ubiquitination status of adaptor proteins Art1 and Art5. Using *tet*-Off system, we have shown 403 that adaptor proteins undergo ubiquitination upon stimulation and Ubp2 is required for 404 deubiquitination of adaptor proteins once the stimulation is removed. As hypothesized by our 405 earlier review (MacGurn et al, 2012), our current data supports the model that ubiquitinated 406 adaptor proteins were deubiquitinated by Ubp2 once released from Rsp5 exosite so that the adaptor proteins can be recycled for the next round of ubiquitination event. 407

408

409 K63-linked di-Ub is engaged into Rsp5 E3 ligase for activation

While we showed that Rsp5 adaptors Art1, Art4 and Art5 undergo K63-linked di-Ub modification,
we also demonstrate that this conjugation sharply enhances the binding with the E3 ligase and
activates the E3 ligase function for substrate ubiquitination (Fig. 2D). We reason that the

413 interaction between the di-Ub chain and the HECT domain locks the E3 ligase and adaptor into an active/functional conformation. For adaptor-independent ubiquitination, the Nedd4/Rsp5 ligase 414 415 exosite is also required for efficient ubiquitin conjugation, demonstrating that the "Ub-exosite 416 binding" is required to localize and orient the distal end ubiquitin chain to promote conjugation 417 (Kim et al., 2011; Maspero et al., 2011). In terms of the Rsp5 adaptor- mediated function, we 418 propose that the binding between "di-Ub and exosite" not only enhances the binding affinity 419 between the E3 ligase and adaptor (Fig. 4L-4M), but also leads to more productive Rsp5 recruitment to properly orient and present the substrate for ubiquitination at target membranes (Fig. 420 421 3B).

422

While we presented the evidence of E3 ligase activation by ubiquitinated adaptors, we also showed 423 424 that K63 di-Ub generates a 6-fold tighter binding to the HECT domain than mono-Ub. We reason 425 that the K63 di-Ub provides alternative options to bind a single site, but also fits with a model in 426 which there are multiple ubiquitin binding sites. It was found that three N-lobe mutations (Y516A, 427 F618A, and V621A/V622A) completely abolished ubiquitin binding and three extra mutations 428 (N513A, Y521A, and R651A) caused a reduction in binding (French et al., 2009). Kim and 429 coworkers found that the L8-I44-V70 hydrophobic patch of mono-Ub sits on Rsp5 in three legs, 430 like a tripod (Kim et al., 2011). Likewise, two separated UIMs in Rap80 bind to extended K63-431 linked ubiquitin chain favorably (Sato et al, 2009; Sims & Cohen, 2009). Indeed, we have shown 432 the results that K63-linked di-Ub with a mutation (I44A) at the distal end ubiquitin leads to lower 433 binding with Rsp5 (Figure 4G). We propose that multiple ubiquitin binding sites are probably 434 present at the Rsp5 exosite to accommodate the two hydrophobic patches of the distal and proximal 435 ubiquitins, which needs be addressed in the future by structural analysis.

436

437 The linkage specificity and length control for the K63-linked di-Ub

438 We have been intrigued by the question of how the K63 linkage of di-Ub was achieved and 439 preferred, instead of K48. It is known that yeast Rsp5 and human Nedd4 mainly assemble K63linked ubiquitin chains (Kim & Huibregtse, 2009; Maspero et al., 2011). The K48-linked di-Ub 440 441 binds the HECT domain, but not as tight as K63-linked di-Ub (Fig. 4F). Interestingly, both the M1-linked and K63-linked di-Ubiquitins adopt an equivalent open conformation (Komander et al., 442 443 2009) and exhibit similar binding affinity to the HECT domain (Fig. 4D), indicating that the HECT domain exosite has a strong preference for the linear and extended form of di-Ub. In contrast, the 444 445 K48-linked polyubiquitin chain adopts a significantly distinct and compact structure (Eddins *et al*, 446 2007), which may not be favorable for the HECT domain exosite.

447

Why is the K63-linked di-Ub chain limited to a dimer? On the one hand, this probably correlates 448 449 with the physiological reversible function of adaptors. The K63-linked 3x or longer ubiquitin 450 chains likely generate stronger binding with the HECT domain than di-Ub (Fig. 4E). We reason 451 that the di-Ub binds well with the HECT domain, but still can be disengaged from the HECT 452 domain under physiological conditions so that Rsp5 can be disassociated and recycled. On the other hand, the K63-linked di-Ub is probably just enough to be masked by the HECT domain 453 454 exosite cavity whereas longer chains will be trimmed by Ubp2. Future structural studies could 455 address the accessible region for the di-Ub isopeptide bond cleavage by Ubp2 when di-Ub is 456 engaged into the HECT domain. Further, a K63-linked polyubiquitin chain also can serve as a 457 targeting signal for proteasomal degradation (Ohtake et al, 2018; Saeki et al., 2009). We noticed 458 that hyperubiquitinated forms (>2xUb) of ART proteins are not stables since the linear form of 3xUb leads to adaptor protein degradation (Lanes #7 of the figures 1C, S2C and S2F). Indeed,
K63-linked polyubiquitin on Rsp5 adaptor proteins contributes to proteasomal degradation of the
adaptors (Ho *et al*, 2017).

- 462
- 463

464 Ubp2 mediates the recycling of Rsp5 E3 ligases from adaptors after ubiquitination

McDonald and coworkers proposed that several Rsp5 adaptors compete for Rsp5 and a Ubp2 deficiency increased both the adaptor activity and the ability to compete for Rsp5 (MacDonald *et al.*, 2020). Indeed, the PPxY motif containing Rsp5 adaptors share the E3 ligase Rsp5 and an adaptor should disassociate from Rsp5 to allow other adaptors to engage with Rsp5 to ubiquitinate different substrate proteins. In agreement with this working model, Nedd4-mediated downregulation of the sodium channel ENaC is impaired when Nedd4 is sequestered by overexpression of another Nedd4 E3 adaptor, Ndfip2 (Konstas *et al*, 2002).

472

Besides cleavage of K63 di-Ub in the rsp5-exosite mutant, Ubp2 allows the recycling of Rsp5 473 from its adaptor proteins. Since K63 di-Ub greatly enhances the binding affinity between adaptors 474 475 and E3 ligase (shown in figure 4), Ubp2 likely helps the Nedd4/Rsp5 E3 ligase to catalyze distinct 476 ubiquitination events by cleaving the di-Ub off the adaptors and recycling Rsp5. The multitasking 477 of Rsp5 via various adaptors leads us to hypothesize that activated Rsp5 can be released from 478 engaged adaptor proteins. We showed that the adaptor proteins Art1 and Art5 undergo di-479 Ubiquitination upon environmental stimulation and Ubp2 is required to reverse this ubiquitination. 480 Once the ubiquitination is done, the engaged K63 di-Ub is exposed for cleavage by Ubp2.

481 Thereafter, Ubp2 acts on ubiquitinated adaptor proteins to release the adaptor proteins and Rsp5.

482 The mechanism by which Ubp2 executes this reaction needs to be addressed in the future.

483

In summary, we propose that Rsp5 ubiquitinates adaptors to trigger their engagement with the Rsp5 exosite, which enables the tight binding between adaptors and Rsp5 thereby activating Rsp5 function. Ubp2 acts as an antagonist for K63 di-Ub to modulate the interaction between K63-di-Ub and the Rsp5 exosite in a reversible manner to maintain cellular homeostasis of Rsp5. Future work needs to address the atomic structure of the ART family of adaptor proteins in complex with Rsp5 in order to understand how di-Ub is attached to the adaptor and how the di-ubiquitinated adaptors engage with the HECT E3 ligases, stabilizing an activated conformation of the E3 ligase.

491 Material and Methods

492 Yeast strains, cloning, mutagenesis and cell growth conditions

493 The ART1, ART4, ART5, ITR1, MUP1 and YUH1 genes were cloned from Saccharomyces cerevisiae yeast strain SEY6210. Pub1 (residue 287-767) and Any1 (residue 17-361) were PCR 494 amplified from Schizosaccharomyces pombe yeast strain PR109 and subcloned into pET28a with 495 496 an N-terminal 6xHis-SUMO tag. When necessary, the gene deletions and taggings were made using gene replacement technique with longtine-based PCR cassettes (Longtine et al., 1998). All 497 yeast strains and plasmids are described in Tables S1 and S2. For fluorescent microscopy 498 499 experiments, cells were grown overnight to mid-log phase (OD600~0.5) in synthetic media at 30°C. 500 For inositol or methionine stimulation experiments, cells were grown in synthetic media to log phase (OD600~0.8) then treated with exogenous inositol and methionine at different 501 concentrations. Ub-WT, Ub-K63R, Ub-K48R, Ub-D77, Mms2 and Ubc13 were PCR amplified 502 503 from yeast strain SEY6210 genomic DNA and cloned into pET21a, pET28a-6xHIS and pGEX6p-504 1 respectively. 1x, 2x, and 3x and 4x Ub head-to-tail fusions of Art1, Art4, Art5 expression and pGEX6p-1 vectors were made by Gibson assembly. E1 enzyme expression vector pET21a-Uba1 505 (human) and K48 ubiquitin linkage specific E2 enzyme E2-25K expression vector pGEX-6p-1-506 507 E2-25K are from our lab stock. YUH1 was subcloned into pGEX6p-1 expression vector with an N-terminal GST tag. PY motifs containing regions for Art1 (661-710) and Art5 (520-586) were 508 509 PCR amplified and cloned into pGEX-6p-1 vectors. Rsp5 HECT domain (444-809) and WW1-510 HECT domain (224-809) were fused with N-terminal SUMO tag and cloned into pET28a vector. 511

512 **Protein Purification**

All pET21a, pET28a, pGEX6p-1 constructs were transformed into *Escherichia coli* strain Rosetta 513 (DE3) cells. Single colonies were then cultured in Luria-Bertani (LB) medium containing either 514 515 100µg/ml Ampicillin or 50 µg/ml kanamycin to a density between 0.6 and 0.8 OD600 at 37°C. Cultures were induced with 0.2 mM isopropyl-B-D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) at 18°C for 16 516 hours. E.coli cells were collected by centrifugation at 3,500 rpm for 15 min at 4°C. For non-tagged 517 518 ubiquitin purification, cells were disrupted by sonication in the lysis buffer (50mM NH4Ac 519 (pH4.5rt), 2mM DTT, 1mM EDTA, 1mM PMSF). For 6xHIS-SUMO tagged proteins, cells were 520 sonicated in the lysis buffer (20 mM Tris (pH 7.5), 150 mM NaCl, 2mM DTT, 1mM EDTA, 1mM 521 PMSF). For GST fusion proteins, cells were disrupted in the lysis buffer (200mM NaCl, 25mM 522 Tris.HCl pH8rt, 2mM EDTA, 2mM DTT, 1mM PMSF).

523

The lysate for Ub (WT, K63R, K48R, I44A, D77 or D77/I44A) was adjusted to pH4.5 then spun 524 525 down at 46,000xg for 45 min at 4°C. The supernatant was heated at 70°C for 5 min then spun down 526 again with the same condition. The supernatant was loaded onto SP Sepharose Fast Flow resin pre-equilibrated with the same lysis buffer (pH4.5). The Ub was eluted with 50mM ammonium 527 acetate (pH4.5 room temperature) buffer containing 2mM DTT using a linear gradient of 0-528 529 500mM NaCl. The eluted Ub mutants were fractionated by Superdex 200-exclusion column then dialyzed against size-exclusion buffer (20 mM Tris (pH 7.5), 150 mM NaCl, 2mM DTT). Each 530 531 mutant was concentrated to 15mg/ml and stored at -80 °C.

532

For 6xHIS-SUMO-tagged (HECT, Pub1(287-767), Any1(17-361) and WW1-HECT) and GSTtagged proteins (Ubc13, E2-25K, Yuh1, PY motifs of Art1 or Art5 and M1 linked Ub-Ub), the
sonicated lysates were centrifuged 46,000xg for 45 min at 4°C. The supernatant was bound with

TALON cobalt resin or Glutathione Sepharose 4 Fast Flow and the resins were digested by SUMOspecific Ulp1 or GST-specific PreScission proteases to release the proteins of interest. The eluted
proteins were fractionated by Superdex 200 using size-exclusion buffer (20 mM Tris (pH 7.5), 150
mM NaCl, 2mM DTT). Ubc13, E2-25K and Yuh1 were concentrated to 750µM with 20% glycerol
and the other proteins were concentrated to 1mM and stored at -80°C.

541

For 6xHis-tagged Uba1 and Mms2 purification, the *E.coli* cells were sonicated in lysis buffer 20 mM Tris (pH 7.5), 150 mM NaCl, 2mM DTT, *c*OmpleteTM protease inhibitor). The cell lysate (per 1 liter) was cleared by centrifugation at 46,000xg, 45min, 4°C. The supernatant was incubated with cobalt-chelate TALON resin for 30min before column wash with lysis buffer supplemented with 25mM imidazole and the protein of interest was eluted with 300mM imidazole and dialyzed against 50mM Tris-HCl (pH7.6) containing 2mM DTT and 0.1mM EDTA. The protein is concentrated to 100 μ M with 20% of glycerol and stored at -80°C.

549

For GST-tagged protein (GST-1xUb, GST-2xUb and GST-3xUb) purification, the sonicated cell lysate was spun down at 46,000xg, 45min, 4°C. The supernatant per 1 liter of cells was incubate with 2ml of Glutathione Sepharose 4 Fast Flow resin and washed with 5 column volumes of wash buffer (20mM Tris pH8rt, 200mM NaCl, 1mM DTT). The GST-tagged proteins were eluted by 2 column volumes of elution buffer (100mM Tris pH8.5, 20mM Glutathione) then dialyzed against size-exclusion buffer (20 mM Tris (pH 7.5), 150 mM NaCl, 2mM DTT). Each protein was concentrated to 30mg/ml and stored at -80oC.

557

For synthesis of K63 or K48 di-Ub proteins, 5xPBDM buffer was prepared: 250 mM Tris-HCl 558 559 (50%, pH 8.0, or pH7.6), 25 mM MgCl₂, 50 mM creatine phosphate (Sigma P7396), 3 U/mL of 560 inorganic pyrophosphatase (Sigma I1891), and 3 U/mL of creatine phosphokinase (Sigma C3755). 561 K63 linked di-Ub is synthesized by incubating purified human E1 (0.1μ M), yeast E2 (Ubc13 and Mms2, 8µM of each), two ubiquitin mutants (K63R and D77, 5mg/ml of each), ATP (2.5mM), 562 563 1 mM DTT and 1xPBDM buffer (pH7.6). For K48 linked di-Ub synthesis, purified human E1 (0.1µM), E2-25K (20µM), two ubiquitin mutants (K48R and D77, 7.5mg/ml of each), ATP 564 565 (2.5mM), 1 mM DTT and 1xPBDM buffer (pH8.0) were mixed. The reaction mixtures of either K63 or K48 di-Ub were incubated at 37°C for overnight then the reaction was chilled on ice for 566 567 10min to stop the reaction. 0.2 volume of 2M ammonium acetate was added to the reaction to decrease the pH to less than 4.0. The mixture were loaded to SP Sepharose Fast Flow. The K63 568 di-Ub or K48 di-Ub mixtures were loaded onto Superdex 75 size-exclusion column using gel 569 filtration buffer (20mM Tris-HCl (pH7.5), 2mM DTT, 150mM NaCl) and the fractions of diUb 570 571 were pooled and concentrated.

572

573 Synthesis and Purification of Any1-diUb

To remove the D77 of the proximal Ub and unlock the carboxyl-terminal Gly-Gly of K63diUb for further conjugation, purified K63 linked di-Ub (30mg/ml) is exchanged into hydrolysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.6, 1 mM EDTA, and 1mM DTT) and treated with purified Yuh1 (final concentration of 16µg/ml) for 60minutes at 37°C. After cooling down the reaction at room temperature, 4mM DTT to the mixture is supplemented with DTT to 5mM (final concentration). The reaction mixture was then applied to a 5 ml Q column equilibrated with Q buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.6, 1 mM EDTA, 5 mM DTT). After 2 bed volumes of wash, the unbound K63 di581 Ub (D77 removed) is collected and concentrated. Di-ubiquitination of Any1 was carried out by 582 incubating purified Any1 proteins with human E1(0.1 μ M), human E2(UbcH5C, 0.3 μ M) and 583 Pub1 (0.3 μ M), K63 diUb (D77 removed, 10 μ M), ATP (2.5mM), 1 mM DTT and 1xPBDM 584 buffer (pH7.6) for 30min at room temperature. The reaction mixture was chilled on ice before 585 loading onto Superdex 200 size-exclusion column using gel filtration buffer (150 mM NaCl, 20 586 mM HEPES pH 7.5), and fractions of Any1-diUb were pooled and concentrated.

587

588 GST pull down assay

For pull-down experiments, 2 μM of GST fusion proteins were immobilized onto 100μL of glutathione bead slurry in the 1ml of pull down buffer (50mM Na-HEPES pH7.5, 150mM NaCl, 1mM EDTA, 1mM EGTA, 10% Glycerol, 1% Triton X-100). 500ng of Rsp5 HECT protein was added to the mixture and incubated at 4°C for 2 hours. After 4 washes with pull down buffer, specifically bound proteins were eluted by SDS-sample buffer and resolved on SDS-PAGE (11%) and detection was obtained by Coomassie-staining.

595

596 Isothermal Titration Calorimetry assay

Isothermal Titration Calorimetry (ITC) experiments were carried out on an Affinity-ITC calorimeter (TA instruments) at 25°C. Titration buffer contained 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 7.5), 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM DTT. For a typical experiment, each titration point was performed by injecting a 2 μ L aliquot of protein sample (50–1000 μ M) into the cell containing 300 μ L of another reactant (5–300 μ M) at a time interval of 200 s to ensure that the titration peak returned to the baseline. The titration data was analyzed with NanoAnalyze v3.12.0 (TA instruments) using an independent binding model.

604

605 Fluorescence microscopy assay

For fluorescence microscopy, cells expressing GFP, pHluorin or mCherry proteins were visualized
using a DeltaVision Elite system (GE), equipped with a Photometrics CoolSnap HQ2/sCMOS
Camera, a 100×objective, and a DeltaVision Elite Standard Filter Set ('FITC' for GFP/pHluorin
fusion protein and 'mCherry' for mCherry fusion proteins). Image acquisition and deconvolution
were performed using Softworx.

611

612 Whole cell lysate extraction and western blotting

Whole cell extracts were prepared by incubating 6 ODs of cells in 10% Trichloroacetic acid on ice 613 614 for 1 hour. Extracts were fully resuspended with ice-cold acetone twice by sonication, then vacuum-dried. Dry pellets were mechanically lysed (3x 5min) with 100 µL glass beads and 100 615 µL Urea-Cracking buffer (50 mM Tris.HCl pH 7.5, 8 M urea, 2% SDS, 1 mM EDTA). 100µl 616 617 protein 2x sample buffer (150 mM Tris.HCl pH 6.8, 7 M urea, 10% SDS, 24% glycerol, 618 bromophenol blue) supplemented with 10% 2-mercaptoethanol was added and samples were 619 vortexed for 5 min. The protein samples were resolved on SDS-PAGE gels and then transferred to 620 nitrocellulose blotting membranes (GE Healthcare Life Sciences).

621

The flowing antibodies and dilutions were used in this study: Rabbit polyclonal anti-G6PDH
(1:30,000; SAB2100871; Sigma), Rabbit polyclonal anti-GFP (1:10,000; TP401; Torrypines),
Mouse monoclonal anti-GFP (1:1,000; B-2, sc-9996; Santa Cruz), Mouse monoclonal anti-Myc
(1:5,000, sc-40, Santa Cruz), IRDye® 800CW Goat anti-Mouse (1:10,000; 926-32210; LI-COR),
IRDye® 800CW Goat anti-Rabbit (1:10,000; 926-32211; LI-COR), IRDye® 680LT Goat anti-

Rabbit (1:10,000; 926-68021; LI-COR) and IRDye® 680LT Goat anti-Mouse(1:10,000; 925-68070; LI-COR).

629

630 Immunoprecipitation (IP) assay

100 ODs of cells were collected and washed with water at 4°C. To examine the interaction between 631 632 Art1 and Mup1-GFP, between Art5 and Itr1-GFP, or between ARTs protein and Rsp5. Yeast cells were washed with ice-cold water 3 times. The cells were lysed in 500 μ l of IP buffer (20 mM 633 634 Tris.HCl, pH 7.5, 0.5 mM EDTA, pH 8.0, 0.5 mM EGTA, 0.5 mM NaF, 150 mM NaCl, 10% glycerol, 1 mM PMSF, 10 mM N-ethylmaleimide (NEM), and cOmplete Protease Inhibitor). Cell 635 636 extracts were prepared by glass-bead beating with 0.5-mm zirconia beads for five cycles of 30 637 seconds vortexing with 1 minute breaks on ice. Membrane proteins were solubilized by adding 500 µl of 1% Triton X-100 in IP buffer. The lysates were incubated at 4°C for 30 min with rotation 638 then spun at 500xg for 5 min at 4°C. The supernatant was clarified by centrifugation at 16000xg 639 640 for 10 min. To detect the interaction between ARTs and Mup1 or Itr1-GFP proteins, the cleared lysate was incubated with 50µl of GFP-nanotrap resin for 2 hours at 4°C. To examine the 641 642 interaction between Rsp5 and ARTs, the cleared lysate was bound with 50µl of FLAG-M2 resin 643 (Sigma, A2220) at 4°C for 2 hour. After incubation, the resin was washed 5 times with 0.1% Triton X-100 in IP buffer and the bound protein was eluted by 50 μ l of 2x sample buffer. 644

645

To examine the ubiquitination of Itr1, Cells were grown to early log phase in synthetic media. Yeast strain ($doa4\Delta pep4\Delta art5\Delta$, Itr1-GFP) cells co-expressing Myc-Ub expression vector (Zhu et al., 2017) and Art5^{WT} or $art5^{K364R}$ were grown to mid-log phase in synthetic medium at 30°C. Cells were pretreated with 0.1µM CuCl2 for 4 hours to induce the Myc-Ub expression prior to inositol

(20µg/ml) treatment. 100ODs of Cells were incubated with 10% TCA buffer and the extracts were 650 washed with cold acetone. Dry pellets were mechanically lysed (3x 5min) with 100 µL glass beads 651 652 and 100 µL Urea-Cracking buffer (50 mM Tris.HCl pH 7.5, 8 M urea, 2% SDS, 1 mM EDTA, 653 200mM NEM). The cell lysates were mixed with 1ml of IP buffer (50 mM HEPES-KOH, pH 6.8, 150 mM KOAc, 2mM MgOAc, 1mM CaCl₂, 20mM NEM and 15% glycerol) with cOmplete[™] 654 655 protease inhibitor (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO). The Cell lysates were clarified by spinning at 16,000xg for 10 min at 4°C. The resulting lysate was then incubated with 50 μ L GFP-nanotrap 656 resin for 4 hours at 4°C. The resin was washed 5 times with 0.1% Triton X-100 in IP buffer. Bound 657 protein was eluted by 50 µl of 2x sample buffer. Whole cell lysate and the IP reaction was resolved 658 659 on 10% SDS-PAGE gels and the blots were probed with both GFP and Myc antibodies.

660

661 Quantification of westernblot band intensity

662 Westernblot in figures were quantified using Image-J software. The significance for protein 663 densities were determined two-tail *t*-test, α =0.05 (Bonferroni correction), n=3. n.s. indicates not 664 significant; *, *P* < 0.05; **, *P* < 0.01; ***, *P* < 0.001.

665

666 Quantification of microscopy images

Images of GFP-Rsp5, Art5-GFP and Art1-mNG were taken by fluorescence microscopy. The fluorescence signal of the target proteins at PM were selected and measured by Image-J. The corrected total fluorescence of each selection = Selected density — (Selected area X Mean fluorescence of background readings). The ratio of GFP-Rsp5, Art5-GFP and Art1-mNG recruitment to PM or vacuole = (The corrected fluorescence density of the target proteins localized

- at PM) / (The corrected fluorescence density). The ratios of GFP-Rsp5, Art5-GFP and Art1-mNG
- 673 recruitment were measured from n=20 cells.
- 674

675 Acknowledgements

- 676 We are grateful to Dr. Jason A. MacGurn, Dr. Matthew G. Baile, and Dr. Sho Suzuki for critical
- 677 reading of the manuscript. We also thank other members of the Emr lab for helpful discussions.
- 678 This work was supported by a Cornell University Research Grant (CU563704) to Scott D. Emr.

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680 Main figure titles

- 681 Figure 1. Art5 undergoes K63-linked di-ubiquitination.
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- Figure 5. Deubiquitination of K63 di-Ub of adaptor protein Art5 by Ubp2

686 Figure legends

Figure 1. Art5 undergoes K63-linked di-ubiquitination. (A) Schematic representation of the 687 688 domain architecture of Art5. (B) A di-ubiquitin is conjugated at K364 residue of Art5. Western blot analysis of Art5, $art5^{K364R}$, $art5^{\Delta PY}$, $art5^{\Delta PY}$ -1xUb, $art5^{\Delta PY}$ -2xUb, $art5^{\Delta PY}$ -3xUb and $art5^{\Delta PY}$ -689 4xUb in the wild-type strain. (C) Art5 is di-ubiquitinated in a K63 linkage at the residue K364. 690 Western blot analysis of Art5, $art5^{K364R}$, $art5^{\Delta PY}$ in both the *Ub-WT* and *Ub-K63R* mutant strains. 691 (D) Model depicting the K63-linked di-ubiquitination of Art5 at the K364. The whole cell lysate 692 693 protein samples were resolved on 7% SDS-PAGE gels and the blot was probed with FLAG and GAPDH antibodies. 694

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Figure 2. Ubiquitinated Art5 promotes cargo protein Itr1 ubiquitination. (A) Immunoblot analysis 696 of Itr1-GFP endocytosis induced with indicated concentration of inositol for 60 minutes. (B) 697 Fluorescence microscopy of $art5\Delta$, $Art5^{WT}$ or $art5^{K364R}$ cells expressing Itr1-GFP and vacuole 698 699 membrane marker Vph1-mCherry with or without inducing endocytosis by treating with serial dilution of inositol. (C) Band densities of blots in (A) were quantified and expressed as the mean% 700 Itr1-GFP degradation. p < 0.001, n=3. (D) $doa4\Delta pep 4\Delta art5\Delta$ cells expressing Itr1-GFP and Art5^{WT} 701 or art5K364R were grown to mid-log phase in synthetic medium at 30°C. Cells were pretreated with 702 0.1µM CuCl2 for 4 hours to induce the Myc-Ub expression before treated with 20µg/ml of inositol. 703 704 Cells were collected before and after 15 minutes of inositol treatment. Itr1-GFP was 705 immunoprecipitated by GFP-Trap nanobody resin. Whole cell lysate and the IP reaction was 706 resolved on 10% SDS-PAGE gels and the blots were probed with both GFP and Myc antibodies. 707 The empty strain ($doa4\Delta pep4\Delta art5\Delta$) is used as a negative control here. The whole cell lysate

proteins in the left gels represent the loading control and the co-immunoprecipitated protein samples were resolved in right gels. (E) IP of Itr1-GFP and blotting for $Art5^{WT}$ or $art5^{K364R}$.

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Figure 3. Rsp5 PM recruitment is enhanced by Art5 ubiquitination. (A-C) Fluorescence microscopy of Art5-GFP PY motif and K364R mutants in minimal media and after treating with inositol for 60min. (D) Quantification of PM localization of the indicated Art5 PY motif and K364R mutants. (E) Localization of GFP-Rsp5 in the presence of *ART5-WT*, PY motif or K364R mutants before and after inositol treatment for 60min. (F) Quantification of PM localization of Rsp5 in the experiment (E). (G-H) Fluorescence microscopy and quantification analysis of Art5-GFP in the WT and *itr1* Δ mutant condition, before and after inositol treatment. Scale bar = 2 μ m.

Figure 4. K63-linked di-ubiquitination enhances the interaction between adaptor proteins and Rsp5. 719 720 (A) GST pull down assay between HECT-WT or F618A mutant and K63 linked Ubiquitin ladder. 721 (B) Example ITC titration curves showing the binding of Mono-Ub-WT or I44A mutant to Rsp5 HECT domain. (C) ITC-based measurements of the bindings between K63 di-Ub and Rsp5 HECT 722 723 domain. (D) The representative ITC curves of showing the binding of M1 linked di-Ub and Rsp5 724 HECT domain. (E) GST pull down assay between GST only, GST-1xUb, 2xUb or 3xUb and Rsp5 HECT domains. (F) Measurement of affinity between K48 di-Ub and Rsp5 HECT domain by ITC. 725 726 (G) ITC-based measurements showing that the K63 di-Ub with a distal end ubiquitin mutant (I44A) 727 partially disrupts the binding affinity with Rsp5 HECT domain. (H-I) IP of Art1 and Art5, WT, 728 KR and PY-motif mutants with Rsp5-HECT domain. (J-K) ITC analysis of Art1 or Art5 PY motifs 729 containing domain and Rsp5 WW1-HECT domain. (L) Analysis of binding affinity between Any1

(Art1 orthologue in Pombe) and the Pub1 (Rsp5 orthologue in Pombe). (M) ITC results obtained
by titration of Any1 conjugated with K63 di-Ub into a solution of Pub1.

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733 Figure 5. Deubiquitination of Art5 di-Ub by Ubp2. (A) Immunoblot analysis of Art5-3HA in the 734 indicated yeast strains: RSP5(WT), rsp5-F618A, ubp 2Δ and rsp5-F618A/ubp 2Δ . (B) Yeast strain rsp5-F618A expressing Art5-3HA, art5K364R-3HA and art5^{ΔPY}-3HA were mock treated with 735 736 DMSO and the cells bearing Art5-3HA were treated with MG132 (25µg/ml) for 60min. (C) 737 Ubiquitin blot of rsp5-F618A yeast cells carrying Art5-3HA, as well as WT, K63R or K48R myc-738 ubiquitin expression vector. Cells were treated with MG132 (25µg/ml) for 60 min. Samples were 739 immunoprecipirated using anti-HA antibody and analyzed by immunoblot. (D) Yeast mutants Ub-*K63R* and *Ub-K63R/ubp2*Δ expressing Art5-3HA, *art5*^{K364R}-3HA and *art5*^{ΔPY}-3HA. (E-H) models 740 depicting that Ubp2 and Rsp5 modulates the K63 di-Ub and K48 polyubiquitination of Art5 741 742 together: (E) K63 di-Ub of Art5 is protected from Ubp2 cleavage when engaged into exosite in 743 RSP5/UBP2 condition. (F) Art5 remains engaged in exosite as K63 di-Ub in $ubp2\Delta$ mutant. (G) 744 Art5 is not engaged in the exosite but kept as K63 di-Ub in rsp5-F618A/ubp2 Δ condition. (H) K63 745 di-Ub of Art5 is cleaved by Ubp2 and K48 polyubiquitin chain is instead conjugated at the K364 746 of Art5 by Rsp5 before proteasomal degradation.

747 Supplemental figure titles

- 748 Figure S1. Art1 and Art4 undergoes K63-linked di-ubiquitination.
- 749 Figure S2. Ubiquitinated Art1 is required for efficient Mup1 ubiquitination.
- Figure S3. The Art1 di-ubiquitination facilitates Rsp5 PM recruitment upon methionine treatment.
- Figure S4. Deubiquitination of adaptor protein Art1 and Art5 by Ubp2

752 Figure S1. Art1 and Art4 undergoes K63-linked di-ubiquitination. (A) Scheme of the Art1 domains. (B) Immunoblot analysis of Art1, $art1^{K486R}$, $art1^{\Delta PY}$, $art1^{\Delta PY}$ -1xUb, $art1^{\Delta PY}$ -2xUb and $art1^{\Delta PY}$ -753 3xUb in the wild-type strain. (C) Immunoblot analysis of Art5. $art5^{K364R}$. $art5^{\Delta PY}$ in both the Ub-754 WT and Ub-K63R mutant strains. (D) Art1 is di-ubiquitinated in a K63 linkage at the residue K486. 755 (E) Art4 domain architecture. (F) Immunoblot analysis of Art4, $art4^{K364R}$, $art4^{\Delta PY}$, as well as in 756 $art4^{\Delta PY}$ -1xUb, $art4^{\Delta PY}$ -2xUb and $art4^{\Delta PY}$ -3xUb in both the *Ub-WT* and *Ub-K63R* mutant strains. 757 758 (G) Art4 is di-ubiquitinated in a K63 linkage. The whole cell lysate protein samples were resolved 759 on 7% SDS-PAGE gels and the blot was probed with FLAG and GAPDH antibodies.

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Figure S2. Ubiquitinated Art1 is required for efficient Mup1 ubiquitination. (A) Mup1 degradation 761 in the yeast mutant $art I\Delta$ expressing empty vector, tetO7-Art1^{WT} or tetO7-Art1^{K486R}. (B) 762 Fluorescence microscopy of Mup1-GFP and Vph1-mCherry with or without methionine treatment. 763 764 (C) Quantification of full length Mup1-GFP of the blots in (A). (D) IP of Mup1-GFP and Art1. (E) IP of Mup1-GFP and Art1^{WT} and *art1^{Q49R}*. (F) IP of Mup1-GFP and Art1^{WT} and *art1^{K486}*. (G) 765 Western blot analysis of Art1^{WT} and $art1^{K486}$ in both WT and $npr1\Delta$ mutant. (H) Western blot 766 analysis of Art1^{WT} and *art1^{K486}* in WT cells with rapamycin (1µg/ml) or cycloheximide (50µg/ml) 767 treatment for 1 hour. (I) Cell growth assay of $art l\Delta$ mutant expressing $art l^{\Delta PY}$, $art l^{K486R}$, Art1-768 1xUb, Art1-2xUb, Art1-3xUb, art1K486R-1xUb, art1K486R-2xUb or art1K486R-3xUb grown at 30°C 769 770 for 3 days on synthetic media containing canavanine. (J) Cell growth assay of $art1\Delta$ mutant expressing $artl^{\Delta PY}$ -1xUb, $artl^{\Delta PY}$ -2xUb or $artl^{\Delta PY}$ -3xUb grown in synthetic media with 771 772 canavanine at 30°C for 3 days.

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Figure S3. The Art1 di-ubiquitination facilitates Rsp5 PM recruitment upon methionine treatment.

775 (A-C) Fluorescence microscopy of Art1-mNeonGreen (mNG) WT, K486R and PY motif mutants

treated with methionine or shifted from minimal media to rich media for 1hr. (D) Quantification

of Art1 recruited to PM (%) in the experiment of (A-C), (E) Localization of GFP-Rsp5 in the presence of Art1^{WT}, $art1^{\Delta PY}$ or $art1^{K486R}$. (F) Quantification of PM recruitment of Rsp5 in the

experiment (E). (G) GFP-Rsp5 PM recruitment in the yeast cells expressing MUP1, $mupl\Delta$ or

780 *mup1*-Q49R mutant. (H) Quantification of the Rsp5 PM recruitment in the experiment (G).

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782 Figure S4. Deubiquitination of adaptor protein Art1 and Art5 by Ubp2. (A) Western blot analysis of Art1^{WT} and *art1^{K486R}* mutant in the indicated yeast strains: RSP5(WT), *rsp5*-Y516A and *rsp5*-783 784 F618A. (B) Western blot analysis of Art1-HTF with overexpression of yeast DUBs proteins 785 individually. (C) Western blot analysis of Art1-HTF in the $ubp2\Delta$ mutant bearing an empty vector, 786 or with overexpression of UBP2 or *ubp2*(C745V) mutant. (D) Western blot analysis of Art1-HTF in yeast strains: RSP5(WT), rsp5-F618A, $ubp2\Delta$ and rsp5-F618A/ $ubp2\Delta$. (E) Western blot of 787 Art1-HTF in $ubp2\Delta$ and rsp5-F618A/ubp2 Δ yeast strains bearing an empty vector, UBP2 or 788 ubp2(C745V) mutant. (F) Western blot analysis of tetO7-Art5-HTF in WT and $ubp2\Delta$ mutant with 789 790 mock treatment or inositol treatment (1hr). After inositol treatment, cells were washed and grown in fresh media for 3 hours. (G) Western blot analysis of tetO7-Art1-HTF in WT and $ubp2\Delta$ mutant 791 792 with or without methionine treatment (1hr). The methionine treated cells were then washed and 793 grown in fresh media for 3hours. (H) Cartoon model depicting the Art1 is ubiquitinated by E3 794 ligase upon environmental cue then deubiquitinated by Ubp2. Non-ubiquitinated form of Art1 is 795 ubiquitinated at K486 residue and engaged by Rsp5 for activation. This activated form of Art1 is 796 then deubiquitinated by Ubp2 and Non-ubiquitinated form of Art1 is dis-engaged from Rsp5.

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