

Mass spectrometric assays monitoring the deubiquitinase activity of the SARS-CoV-2 papain-like protease inform on the basis of substrate selectivity and have utility for substrate identification

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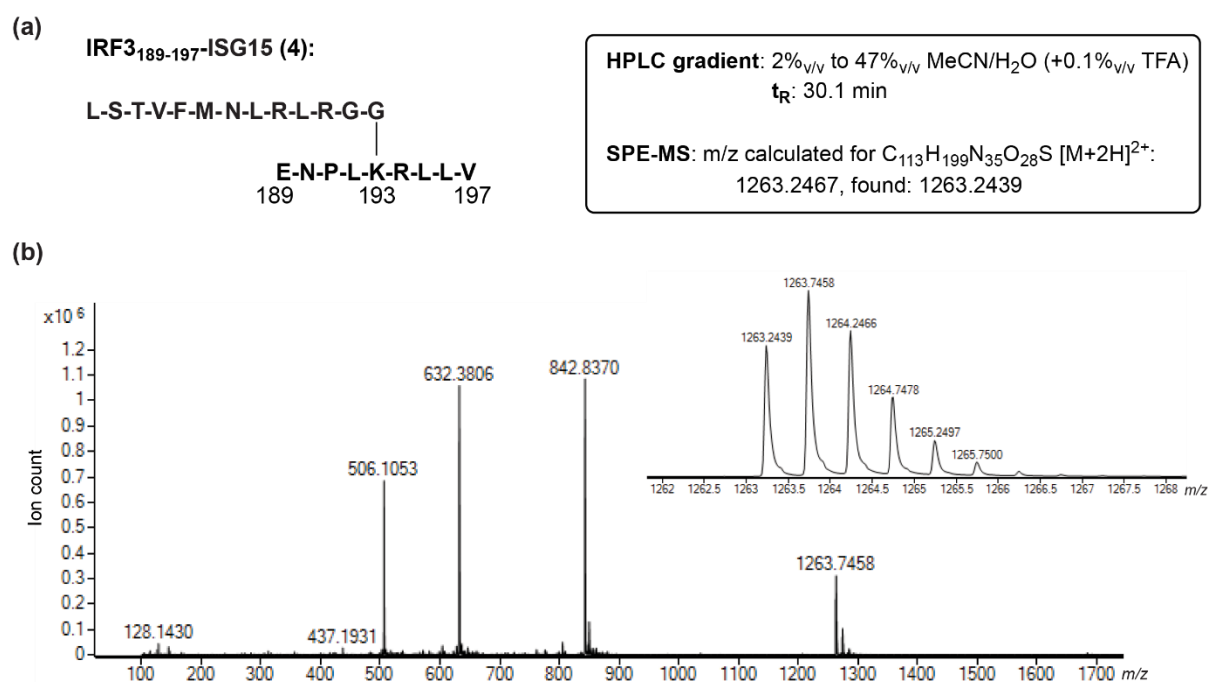
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1. Supporting figures

Supporting Figure S1. The N^ε-lysine-branched oligopeptides used in this study (continues on the following 22 pages). Sequences of N^ε-lysine-branched oligopeptides used in this work as potential SARS-CoV-2 PL^{PRO} substrates; peptide sequences based on the coding sequences of human proteins post-translationally modified with ubiquitin or ubiquitin-like modifiers. Peptides were synthesized with C-terminal amides by solid phase peptide synthesis (SPPS) and purified by HPLC as described in the Experimental section; the peptide purity (>90%) was determined using HPLC. The anticipated peptide masses were confirmed using solid phase extraction coupled to mass spectrometry (SPE-MS) in LCMS-grade water; SPE-MS conditions are given in the Experimental section.

(I) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-ISG15 oligopeptide **4**; **(b)** mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **4** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1263.75$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **4**, note that **4** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the Na⁺H⁺ ion; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 842.84$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **4**, $m/z = 632.38$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **4**, and $m/z = 506.11$ corresponds to the +5 charge state of **4**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



(II) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the ISG15-derived N-terminally *N*-acetylated inert standard peptide Ac-LSTVFMNLRGG-NH₂ (**5**); (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **5** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 752.93$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **5**, note that **5** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundant, as the H⁺Na⁺ ion; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 1504.84$ corresponds to the +1 charge state of **5**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.

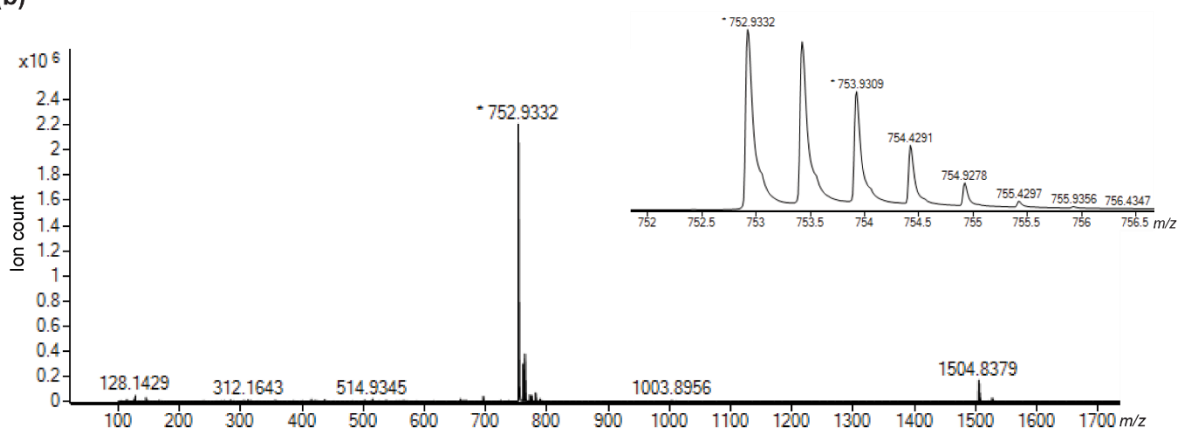
(a) **N-terminally *N*-acetylated
ISG15-derived internal standard (**5**):**

Ac-L-S-T-V-F-M-N-L-R-L-R-G-G

HPLC gradient: 2%_{v/v} to 47%_{v/v} MeCN/H₂O (+0.1%_{v/v} TFA)
t_R: 26.0 min

SPE-MS: m/z calculated for C₆₆H₁₁₅N₂₁O₁₇ [M+2H]²⁺:
752.9245, found: 752.9332

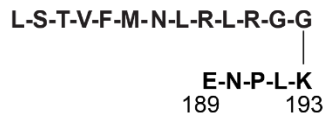
(b)



(III) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₃-ISG15 oligopeptide **6**; **(b)** mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **6** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1023.08$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **6**, note that **6** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the Na⁺H⁺ and as 2Na⁺ ions; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 682.39$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **6**, and $m/z = 512.05$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **6**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.

(a)

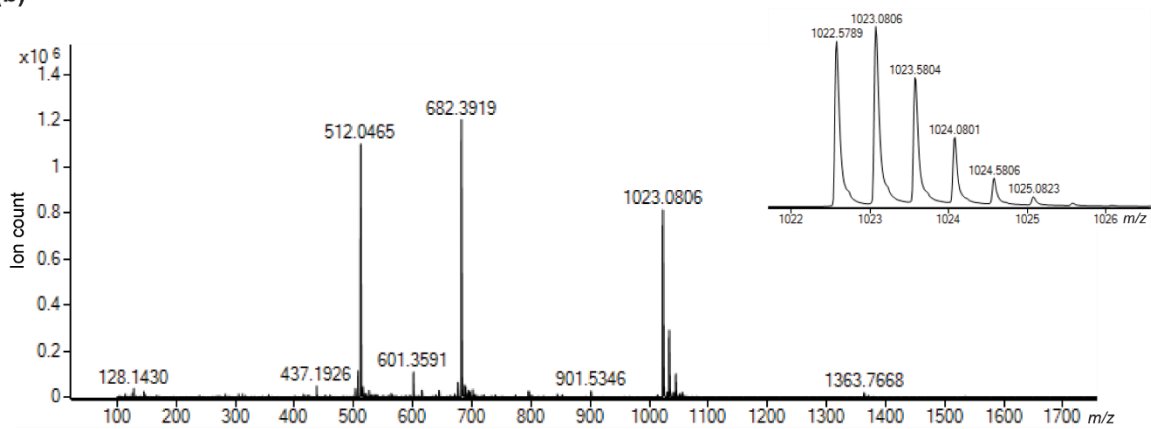
IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₃-ISG15 (**6**):



HPLC gradient: 2%_{v/v} to 47%_{v/v} MeCN/H₂O (+0.1%_{v/v} TFA)
 t_R : 26.0 min

SPE-MS: m/z calculated for C₉₀H₁₅₆N₂₈O₂₄S [M+2H]²⁺:
 1022.5779, found: 1022.5789

(b)



(IV) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₉₂₋₁₉₃-ISG15 oligopeptide **7**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **7** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 852.51$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **7**, note that **7** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the Na⁺H⁺ ion; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 1704.01$ corresponds to the +1 charge state of **7**, $m/z = 568.68$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **7**, and $m/z = 426.76$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **7**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.

(a)

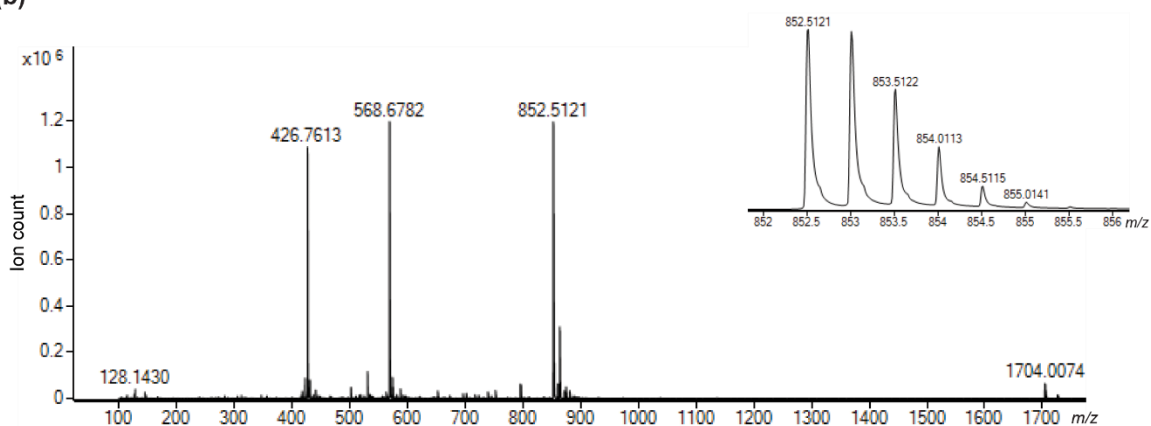
IRF3₁₉₂₋₁₉₃-ISG15 (7):

L-S-T-V-F-M-N-L-R-L-R-G-G
|
L-K
192 193

HPLC gradient: 2%_{v/v} to 47%_{v/v} MeCN/H₂O (+0.1%_{v/v} TFA)
t_R: 25.6 min

SPE-MS: m/z calculated for C₇₆H₁₃₆N₂₄O₁₈S [M+2H]²⁺:
 852.5087, found: 852.5121

(b)



(V) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K_{193} -branched IRF3₁₈₅₋₂₀₀-ISG15 oligopeptide **8**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **8** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1055.27$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **8**, note that **8** ionizes in the +3 charge state as the $3H^+$ ion and, less abundantly, as the $2H^+Na^+$ and $2Na^+H^+$ ions; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +3$ peak. $m/z = 1582.40$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **8**, $m/z = 791.71$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **8**, and $m/z = 633.57$ corresponds to the +5 charge state of **8**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.

(a)

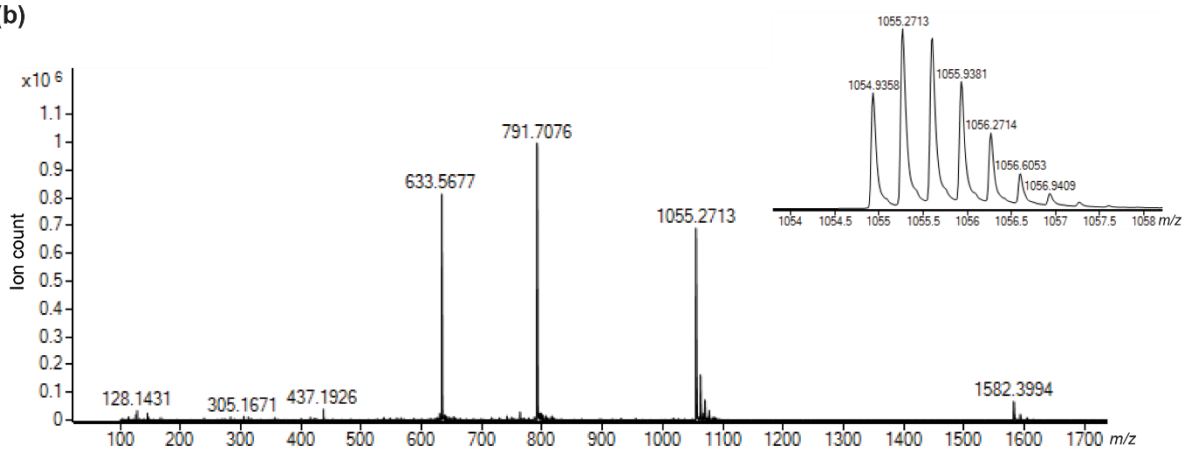
IRF3₁₈₅₋₂₀₀-ISG15 (**8**):

L-S-T-V-F-M-N-L-R-L-R-G-G
 |
 L-G-P-S-E-N-P-L-K-R-L-L-V-P-G-E
 185 193 200

HPLC gradient: 2%_{v/v} to 47%_{v/v} MeCN/H₂O (+0.1%_{v/v} TFA)
 t_R : 31.2 min

SPE-MS: m/z calculated for $C_{141}H_{243}N_{42}O_{38}S [M+3H]^{3+}$:
 1054.9360, found: 1054.9358

(b)

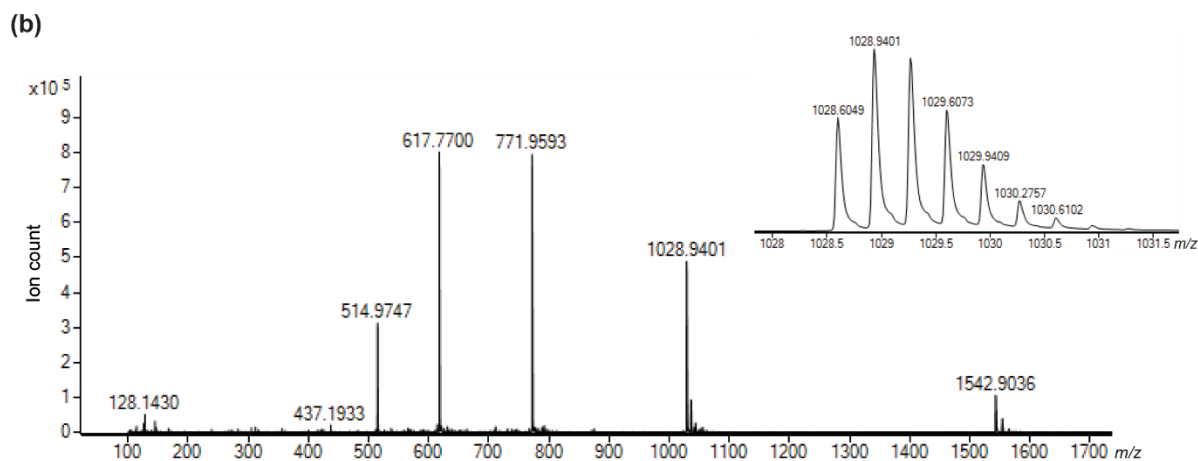


(VI) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-ISG15₁₋₁₈ oligopeptide **9**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **9** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1028.94$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **9**, note that **9** ionizes in the +3 charge state as the 3H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the 2H⁺Na⁺ ion; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +3$ peak. $m/z = 1542.90$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **9**, $m/z = 771.96$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **9**, $m/z = 617.77$ corresponds to the +5 charge state of **9**, and $m/z = 514.97$ corresponds to the +6 charge state of **9**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.

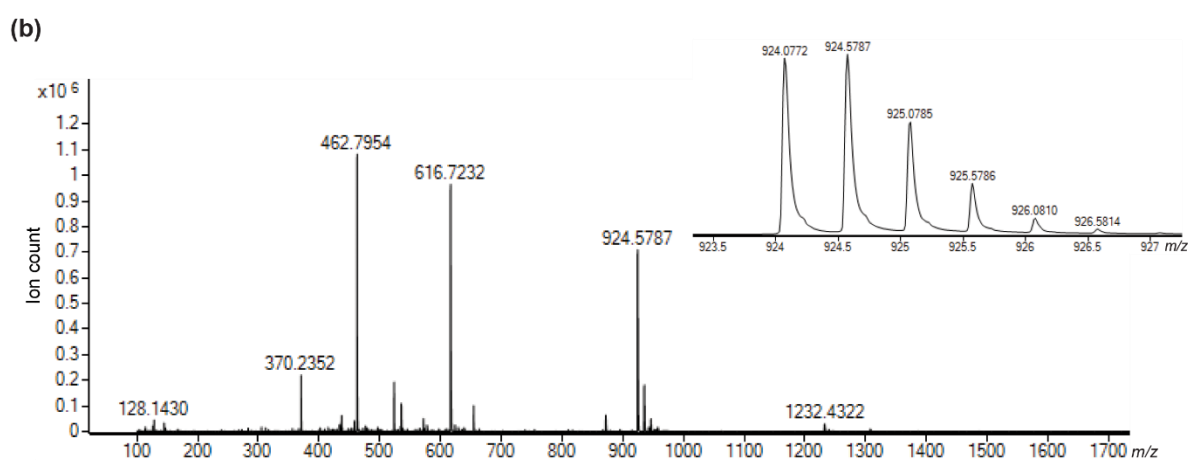
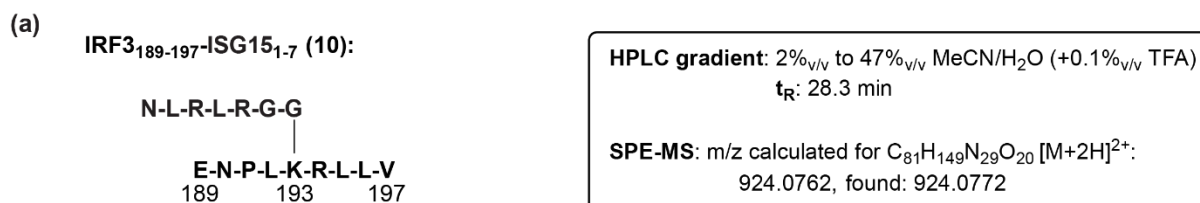
(a) **IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-ISG15₁₋₁₈ (9):**
Y-G-L-K-P-L-S-T-V-F-M-N-L-R-L-R-G-G
|
E-N-P-L-K-R-L-L-V
189 193 197

HPLC gradient: 2%_{v/v} to 47%_{v/v} MeCN/H₂O (+0.1%_{v/v} TFA)
t_R: 34.0 min

SPE-MS: m/z calculated for C₁₄₁H₂₄₂N₄₁O₃₄S [M+3H]³⁺:
 1028.6057, found: 1028.6049



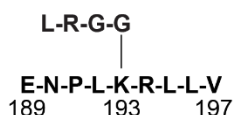
(VII) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-ISG15₁₋₇ oligopeptide **10**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **10** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 924.58$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **10**, note that **10** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the H⁺Na⁺ ion; the enlarged region shows the $m/z + 2$ peak. $m/z = 616.72$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **10**, and $m/z = 462.80$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **10**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



(VIII) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-ISG15₁₋₄ oligopeptide **11**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **11** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 732.47$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **11**, note that **11** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the H⁺Na⁺ ion; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 1463.91$ corresponds to the +1 charge state of **11**, $m/z = 488.65$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **11**, and $m/z = 366.74$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **11**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.

(a)

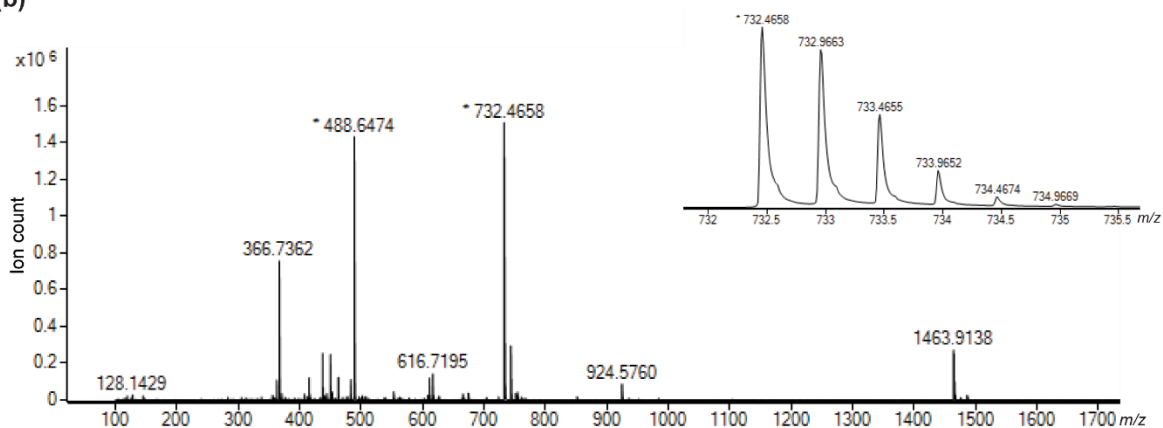
IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-ISG15 (**11**):



HPLC gradient: 2%_{v/v} to 47%_{v/v} MeCN/H₂O (+0.1%_{v/v} TFA)
 t_R: 28.0 min

SPE-MS: m/z calculated for C₆₅H₁₂₀N₂₂O₁₆ [M+2H]²⁺:
 732.4621, found: 732.4658

(b)



(IX) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₃-derived N-terminally *N*-acetylated inert standard peptide Ac-ENPLKRLLV-NH₂ (**12**); (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **12** (2.0 μM) in water. *m/z* = 1122.70 corresponds to the +1 charge state of **12**, note that **12** ionizes in the +1 charge state as the H⁺ ion and, less abundant, as the Na⁺ ion; the enlarged region shows the *m/z* +1 peak. *m/z* = 561.86 corresponds to the +2 charge state of **12**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, *m/z* values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.

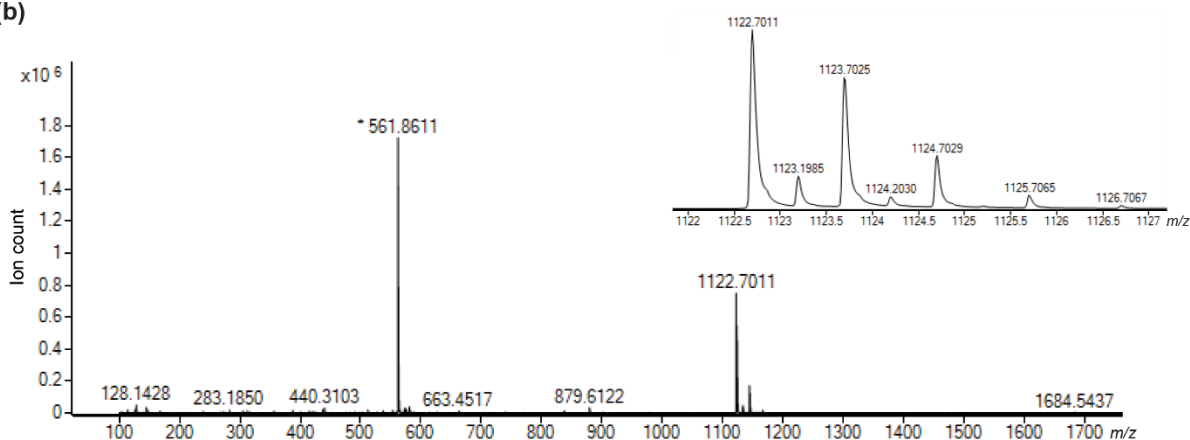
(a) **N-terminally *N*-acetylated
IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-derived internal standard (**12**):**

Ac-E-N-P-L-K-R-L-L-V
189 193 197

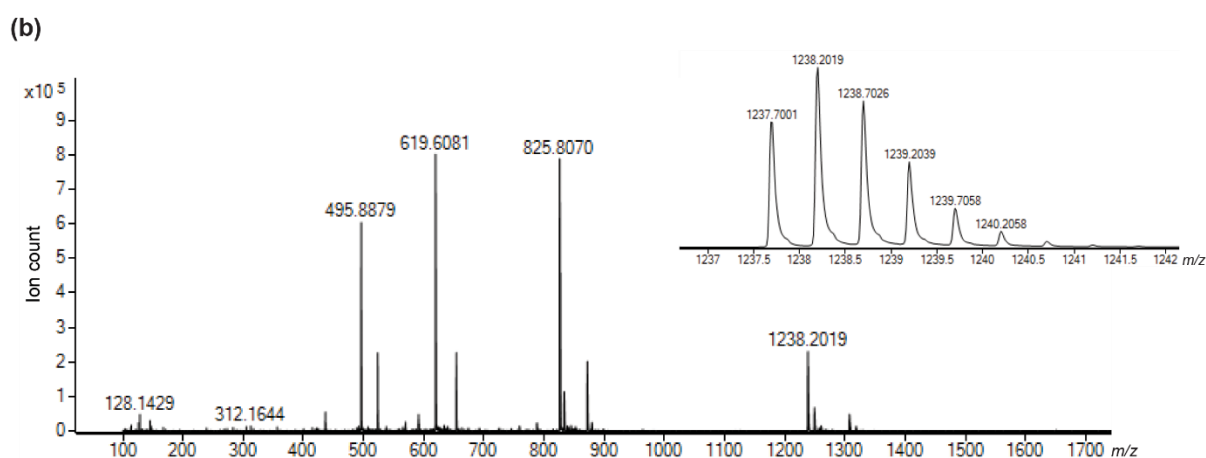
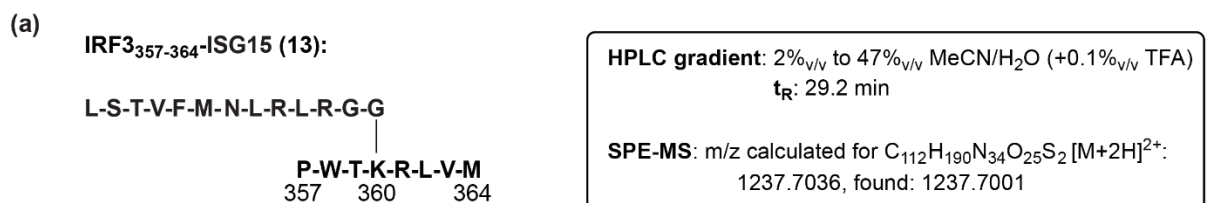
HPLC gradient: 2%_{v/v} to 47%_{v/v} MeCN/H₂O (+0.1%_{v/v} TFA)
t_R: 26.3 min

SPE-MS: *m/z* calculated for C₅₁H₉₂N₁₅O₁₃ [M+H]⁺:
1122.6994, found: 1122.7011

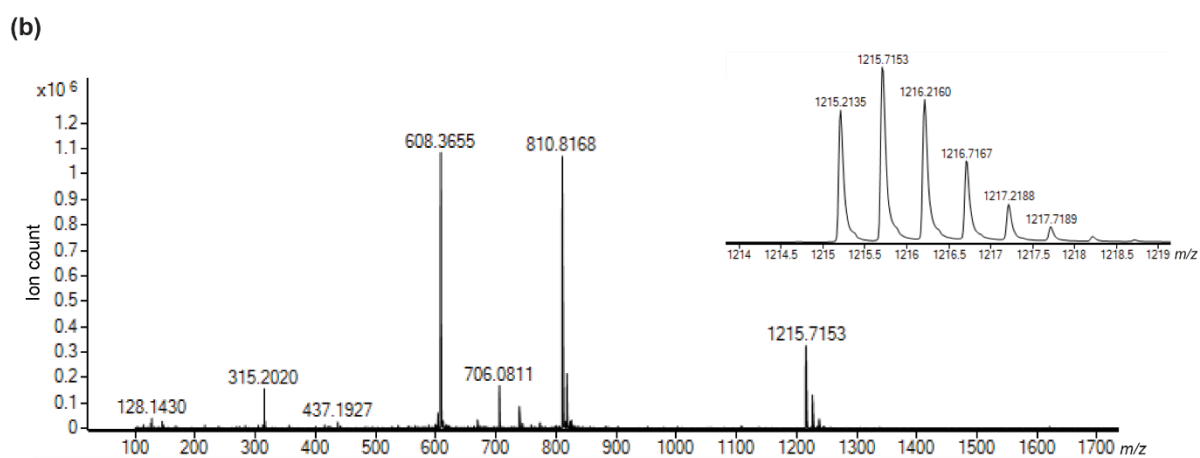
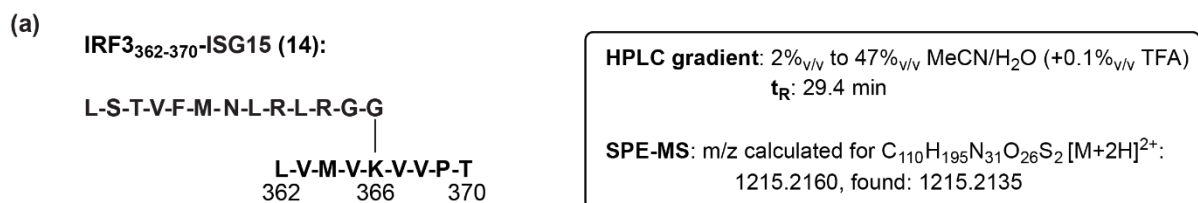
(b)



(X) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₃₆₀-branched IRF₃₅₇₋₃₆₄-ISG15 oligopeptide **13**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **13** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1238.20$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **13**, note that **13** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the H⁺Na⁺ ion; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 825.81$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **13**, $m/z = 619.61$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **13**, and $m/z = 495.89$ corresponds to the +5 charge state of **13**. The peptide is estimated to be >75% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



(XI) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₃₆₆-branched IRF3₃₆₂₋₃₇₀-ISG15 oligopeptide **14**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **14** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1215.72$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **14**, note that **14** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the H⁺Na⁺ and 2Na⁺ ions; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 810.82$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **14**, and $m/z = 608.37$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **14**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



(XII) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-Ub oligopeptide **15**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **15** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1257.26$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **15**, note that **15** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the Na⁺H⁺ and 2Na⁺ ions; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 838.51$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **15**, $m/z = 629.14$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **15**, and $m/z = 503.51$ corresponds to the +5 charge state of **15**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.

(a)

IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-Ub (**15**):

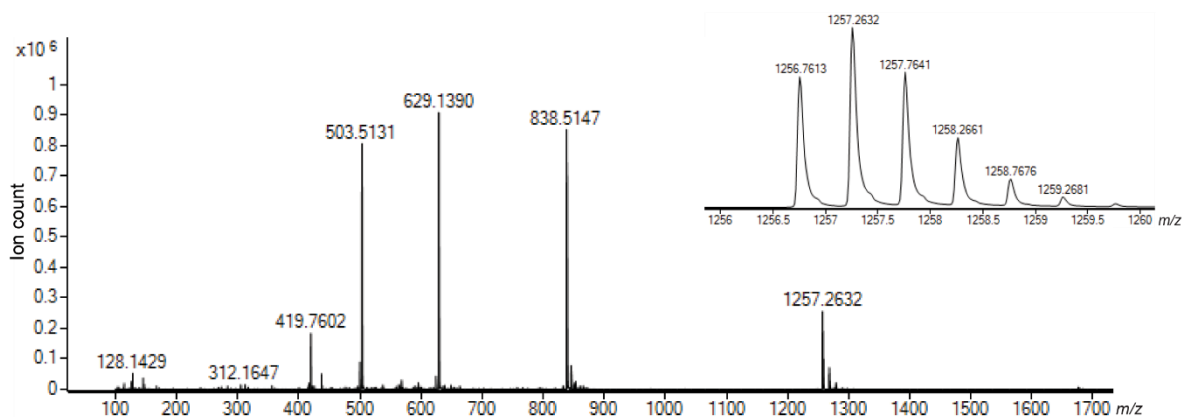
E-S-T-L-H-L-V-L-R-L-R-G-G

E-N-P-L-K-R-L-L-V
189 193 197

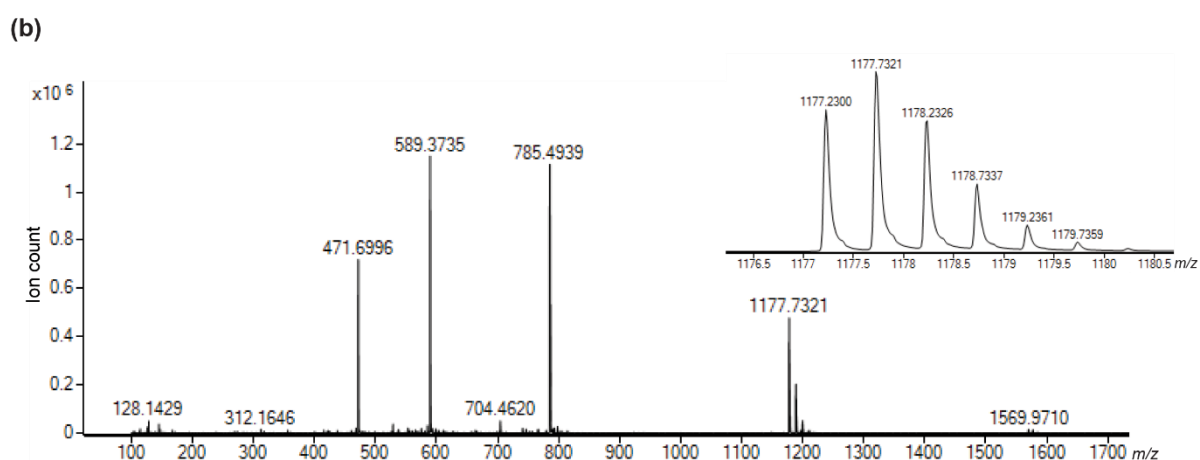
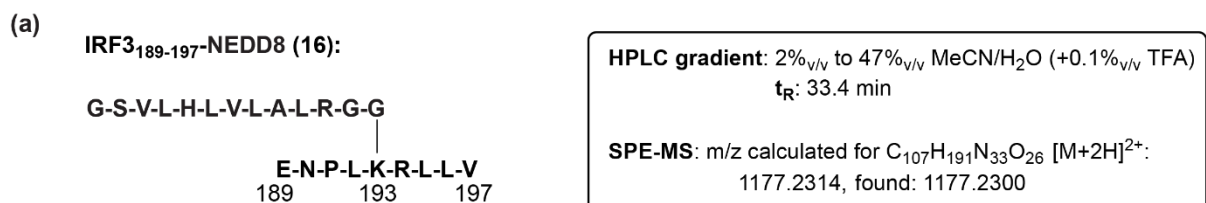
HPLC gradient: 2%_{v/v} to 47%_{v/v} MeCN/H₂O (+0.1%_{v/v} TFA)
t_R: 29.3 min

SPE-MS: m/z calculated for C₁₁₂H₂₀₀N₃₆O₂₉ [M+2H]²⁺:
1256.7636, found: 1256.7613

(b)



(XIII) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-NEDD8 oligopeptide **16**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **16** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1177.73$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **16**, note that **16** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the Na⁺H⁺ and 2Na⁺ ions; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 785.49$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **16**, $m/z = 589.37$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **16**, and $m/z = 471.70$ corresponds to the +5 charge state of **16**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



(XIV) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-URM1 oligopeptide **17**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **17** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1218.69$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **17**, note that **17** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the Na⁺H⁺ and 2Na⁺ ions; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 812.80$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **17**, and $m/z = 609.85$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **17**. The peptide is estimated to be >85% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.

(a)

IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-URM1 (**17**):

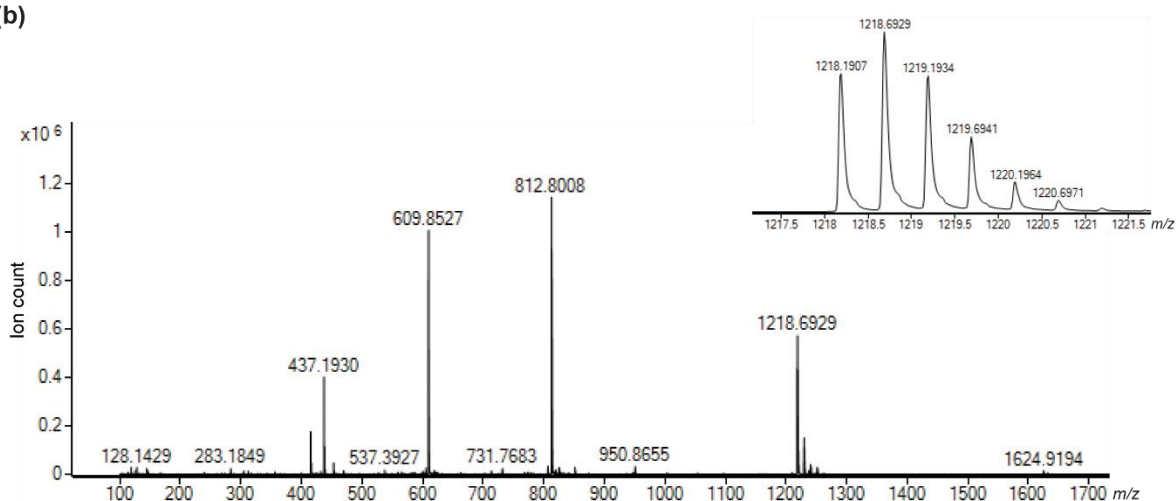
Q-D-S-V-L-F-I-S-T-L-H-G-G

E-N-P-L-K-R-L-L-V
189 193 197

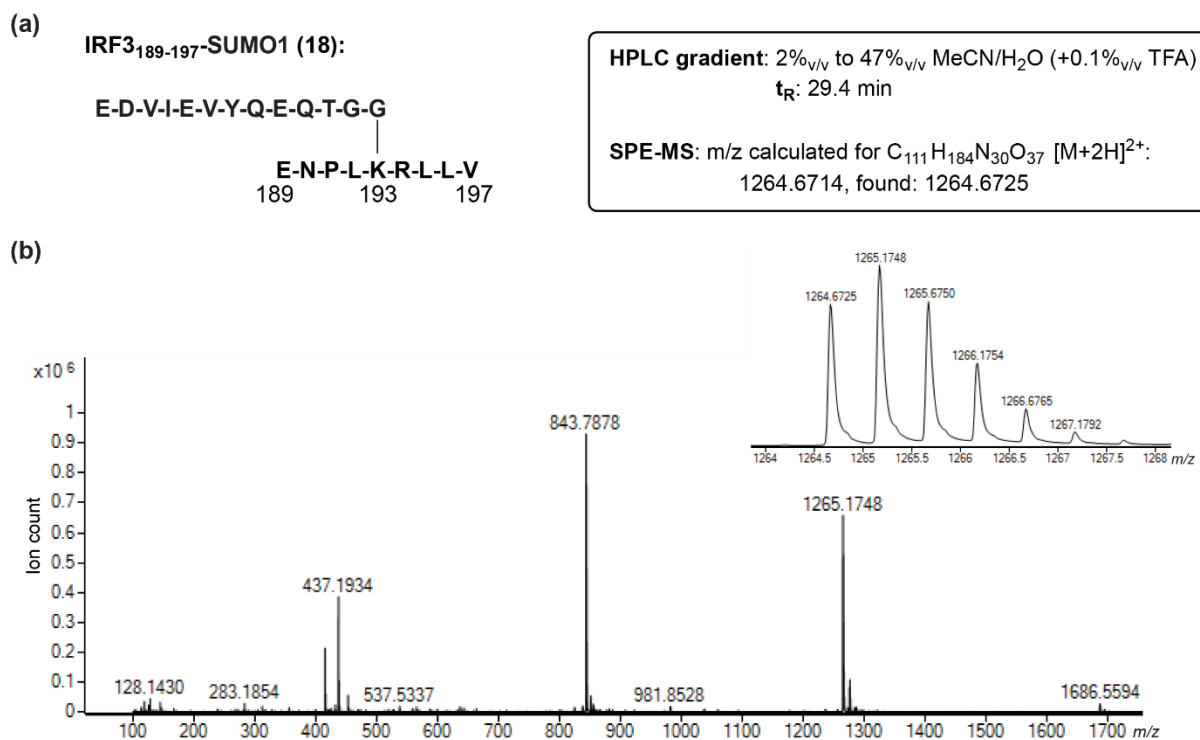
HPLC gradient: 2%_{v/v} to 47%_{v/v} MeCN/H₂O (+0.1%_{v/v} TFA)
 t_R : 30.2 min

SPE-MS: m/z calculated for C₁₁₀H₁₈₅N₃₁O₃₁ [M+2H]²⁺:
1218.1921, found: 1218.1907

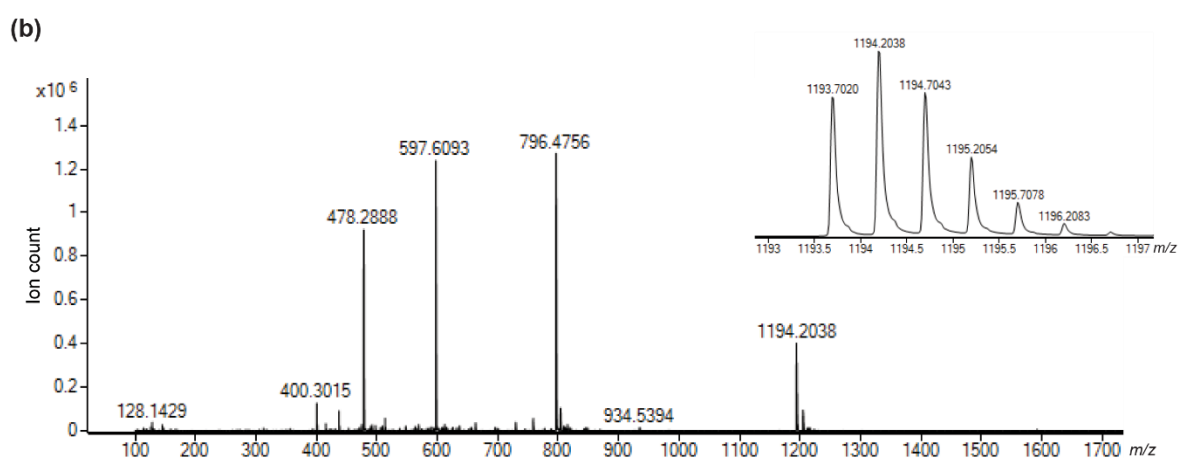
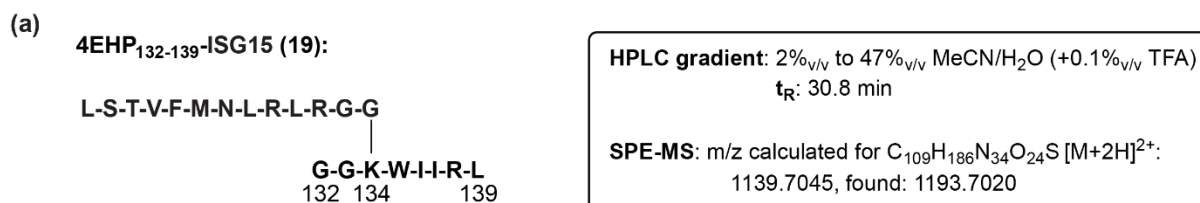
(b)



(XV) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-SUMO1 oligopeptide **18**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **18** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1265.17$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **18**, note that **18** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the Na⁺H⁺ ion; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 843.79$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **18**. The peptide is estimated to be >85% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



(XVI) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₃₄-branched 4EHP₁₃₂₋₁₃₉-ISG15 oligopeptide **19**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **19** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1194.20$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **19**, note that **19** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the H⁺Na⁺ ion; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 796.48$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **19**, $m/z = 597.61$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **19**, and $m/z = 478.29$ corresponds to the +5 charge state of **19**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



(XVII) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₂₂₂-branched 4EHP₂₁₈₋₂₂₇-ISG15 oligopeptide **20**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **20** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1281.71$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **20**, note that **20** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the H⁺Na⁺ and 2Na⁺ ions; the enlarged region shows the $m/z + 2$ peak. $m/z = 854.81$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **20**, $m/z = 641.36$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **20**, and $m/z = 513.29$ corresponds to the +5 charge state of **20**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.

(a)

4EHP₂₁₈₋₂₂₇-ISG15 (**20**):

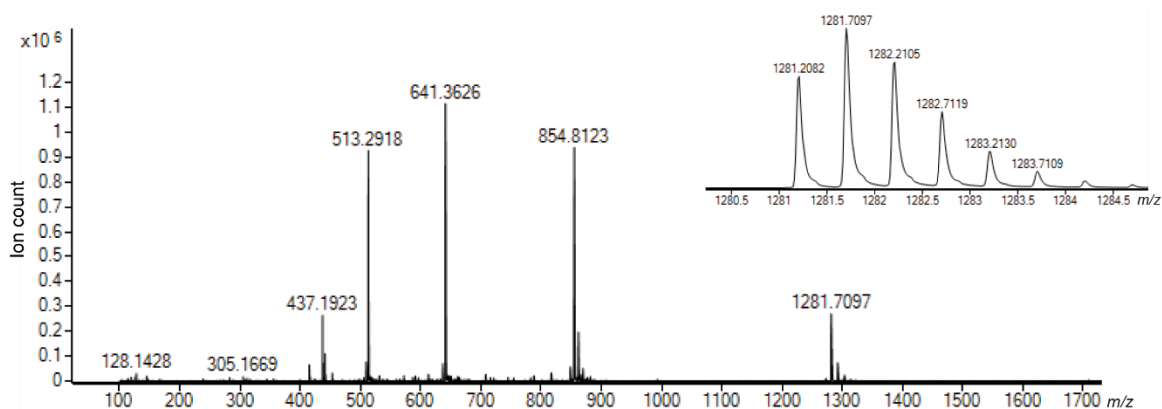
L-S-T-V-F-M-N-L-R-L-R-G-G

T-D-S-I-K-M-P-G-R-L
218 222 227

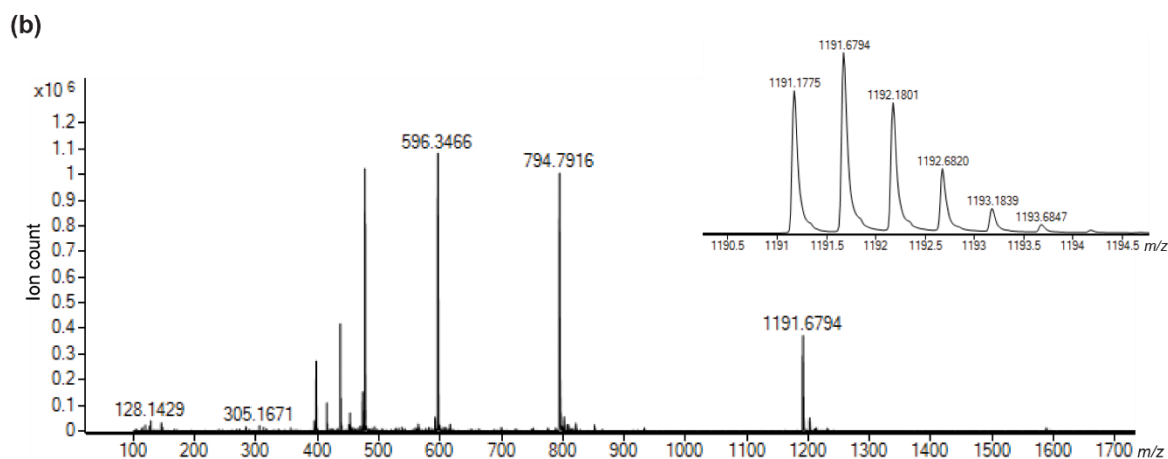
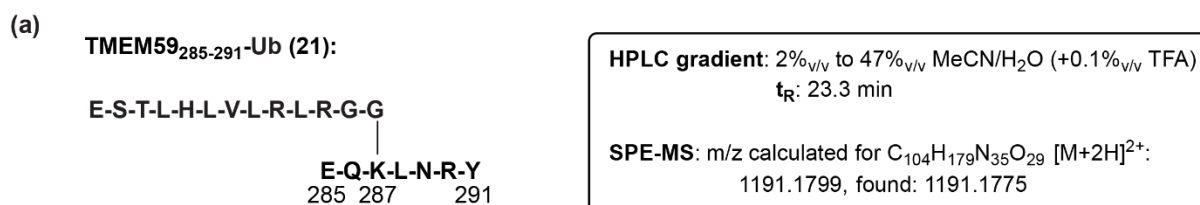
HPLC gradient: 2%_{v/v} to 47%_{v/v} MeCN/H₂O (+0.1%_{v/v} TFA)
 t_R : 26.7 min

SPE-MS: m/z calculated for C₁₁₁H₁₉₅N₃₅O₃₀S₂ [M+2H]²⁺:
1281.2120, found: 1281.2082

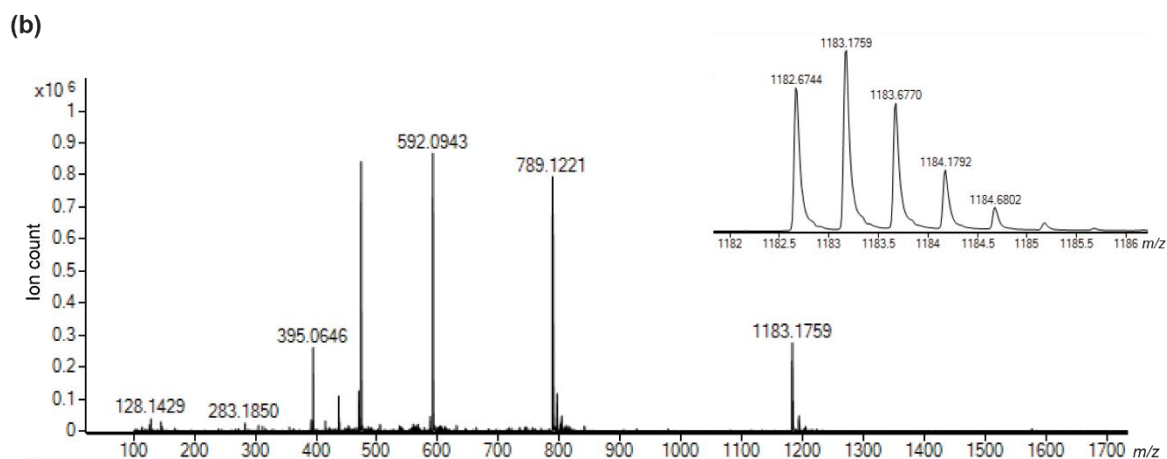
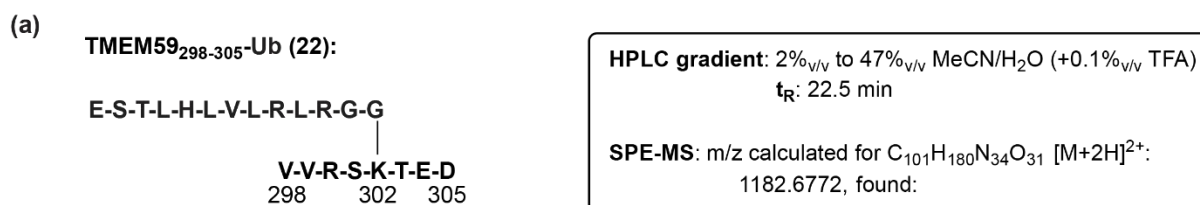
(b)



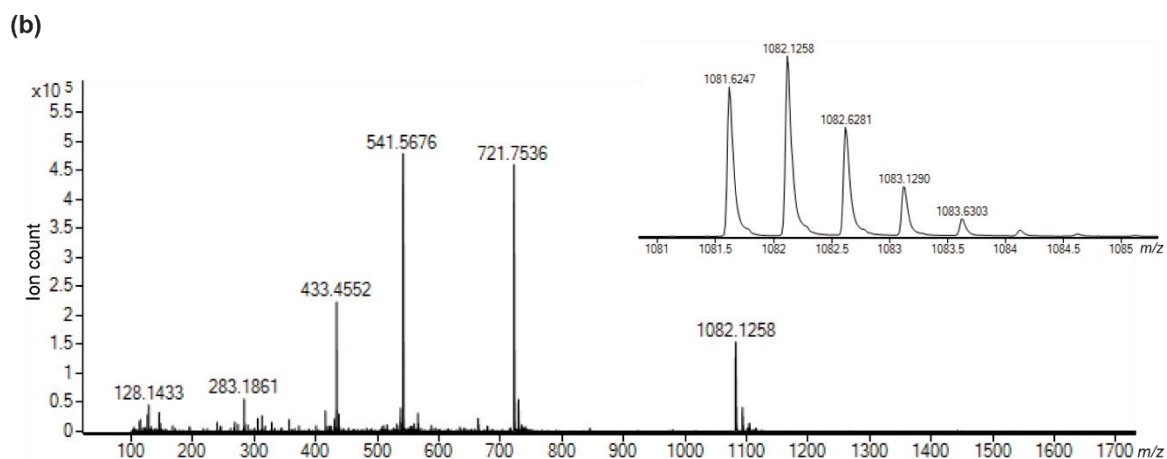
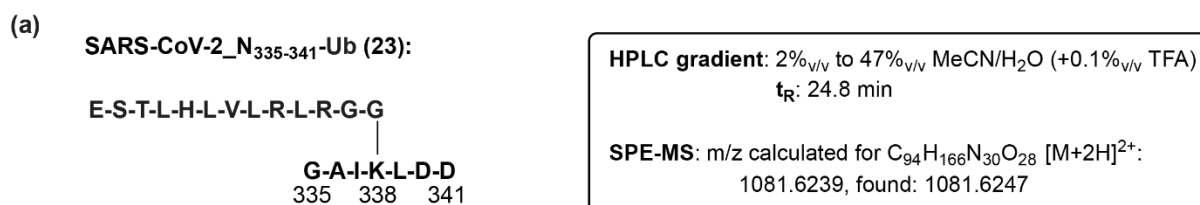
(XVIII) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₂₈₇-branched TMEM59₂₈₅₋₂₉₁-Ub oligopeptide **21**; **(b)** mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **21** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1191.68$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **21**, note that **21** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the $2H^+$ ion and, less abundantly, as the H^+Na^+ ion; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 794.79$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **21**, $m/z = 596.35$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **21**, $m/z = 477.28$ corresponds to the +5 charge state of **21**, and $m/z = 397.90$ corresponds to the +6 charge state of **21**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



(XIX) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₃₀₂-branched TMEM59₂₉₈₋₃₀₅-Ub oligopeptide **22**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **22** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1183.18$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **22**, note that **22** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the H⁺Na⁺ and 2Na⁺ ions; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 789.12$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **22**, $m/z = 592.09$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **22**, $m/z = 473.88$ corresponds to the +5 charge state of **22**, and $m/z = 395.06$ corresponds to the +6 charge state of **22**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



(XX) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₃₃₈-branched SARS-CoV-2_N₃₃₅₋₃₄₁-Ub oligopeptide **23**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **23** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1082.13$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **23**, note that **23** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the H⁺Na⁺ and 2Na⁺ ions; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 721.75$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **23**, $m/z = 541.57$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **23**, and $m/z = 433.46$ corresponds to the +5 charge state of **23**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



(XXI) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the Ub-derived N-terminally *N*-acetylated inert standard peptide Ac-ESTLHLVLRRLRGG-NH₂ (**24**); (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **24** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 746.44$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **24**, note that **24** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundant, as the H⁺Na⁺ ion; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 1491.87$ corresponds to the +1 charge state of **24**, and $m/z = 497.97$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **24**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.

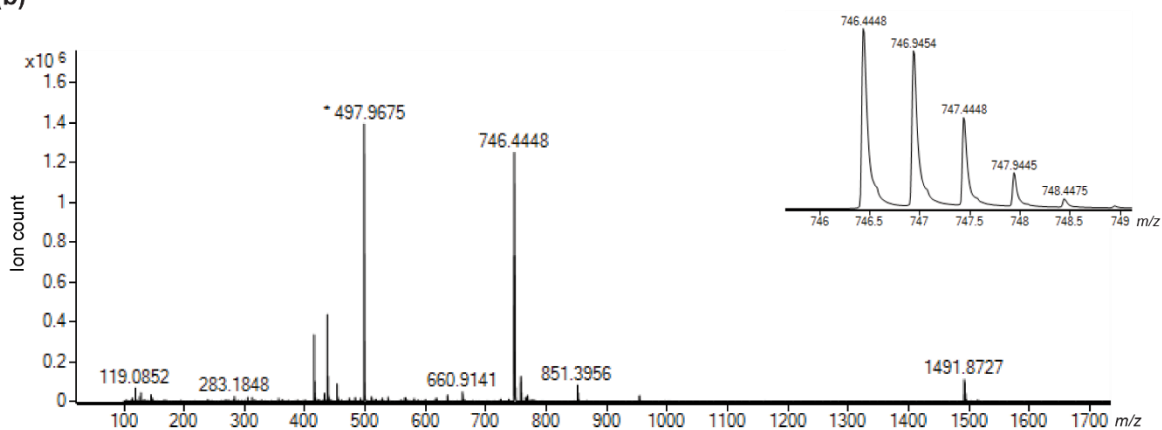
(a) **N-terminally *N*-acetylated
Ub-derived internal standard (**24**):**

Ac-E-S-T-L-H-L-V-L-R-L-R-G-G

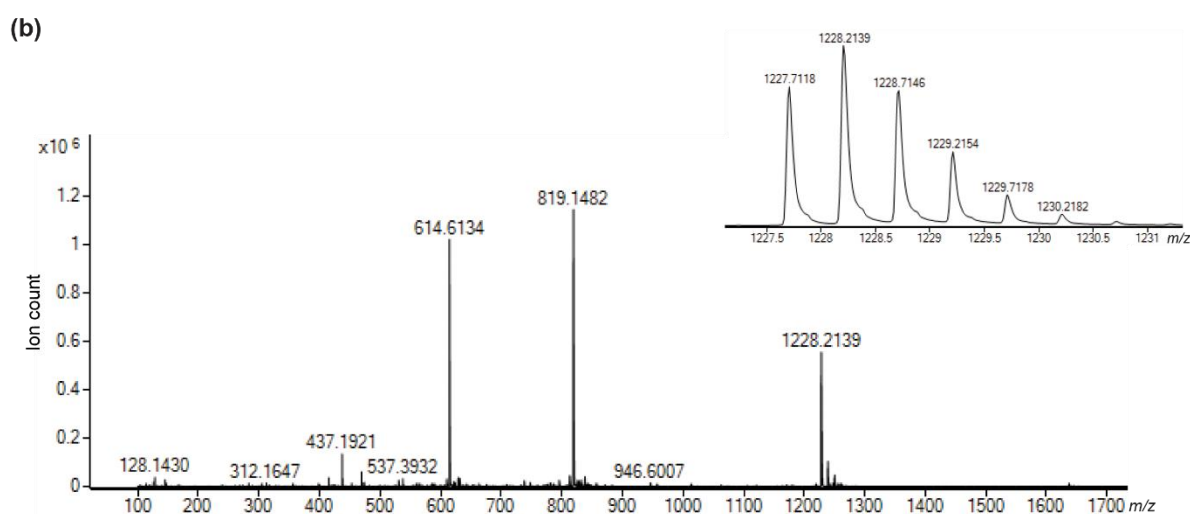
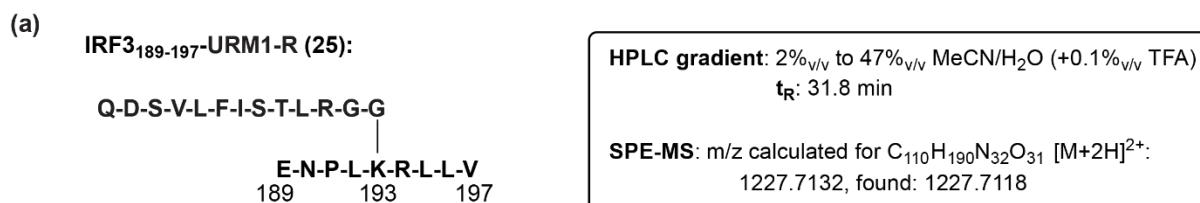
HPLC gradient: 2%_{v/v} to 47%_{v/v} MeCN/H₂O (+0.1%_{v/v} TFA)
t_R: 26.3 min

SPE-MS: m/z calculated for C₆₅H₁₁₆N₂₂O₁₈ [M+2H]²⁺:
746.4414, found: 746.4448

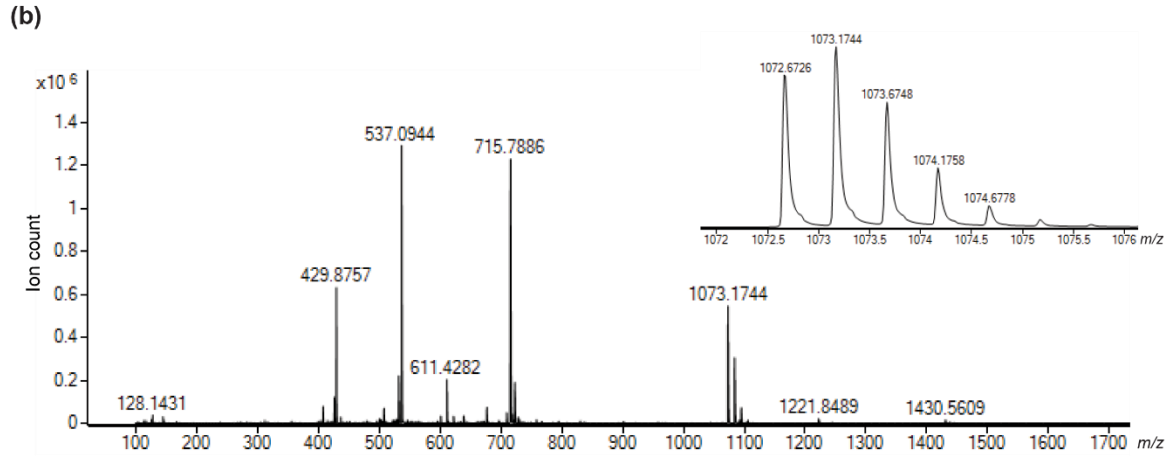
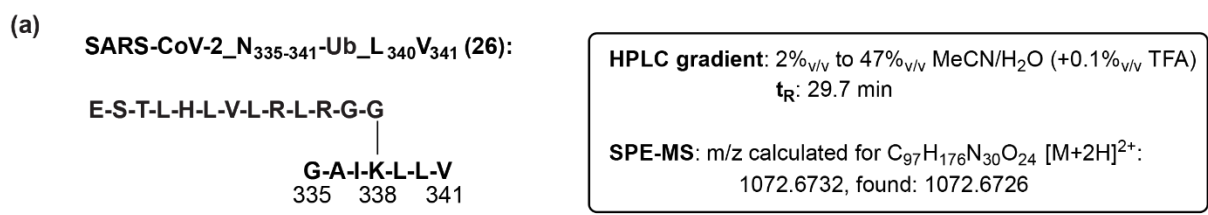
(b)



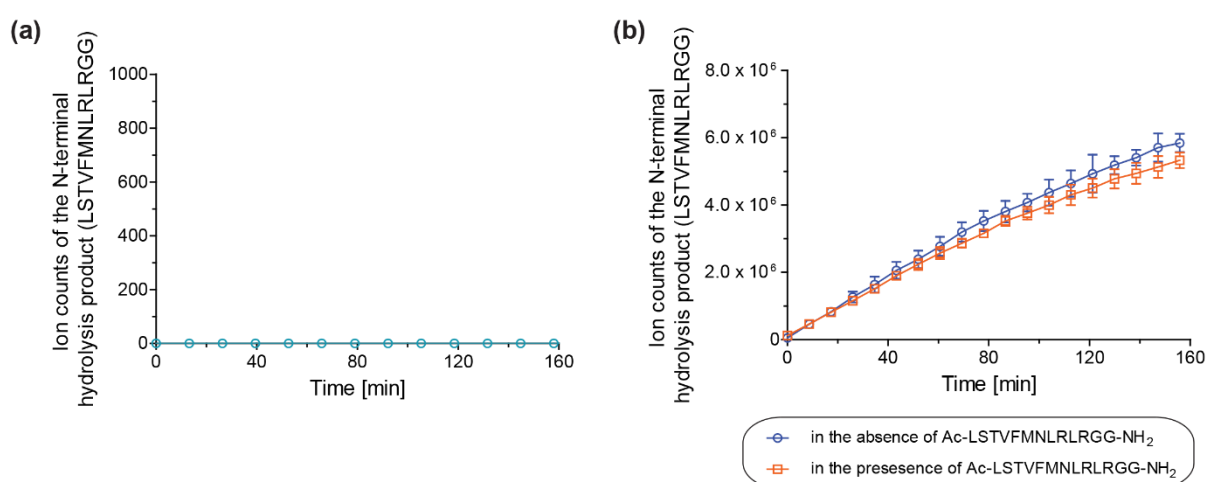
(XXII) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-URM1-R oligopeptide **25**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **25** (2.0 μM) in water. $m/z = 1228.21$ corresponds to the +2 charge state of **25**, note that **25** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the Na⁺H⁺ and 2Na⁺ ions; the enlarged region shows the $m/z +2$ peak. $m/z = 819.15$ corresponds to the +3 charge state of **25**, and $m/z = 614.61$ corresponds to the +4 charge state of **25**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



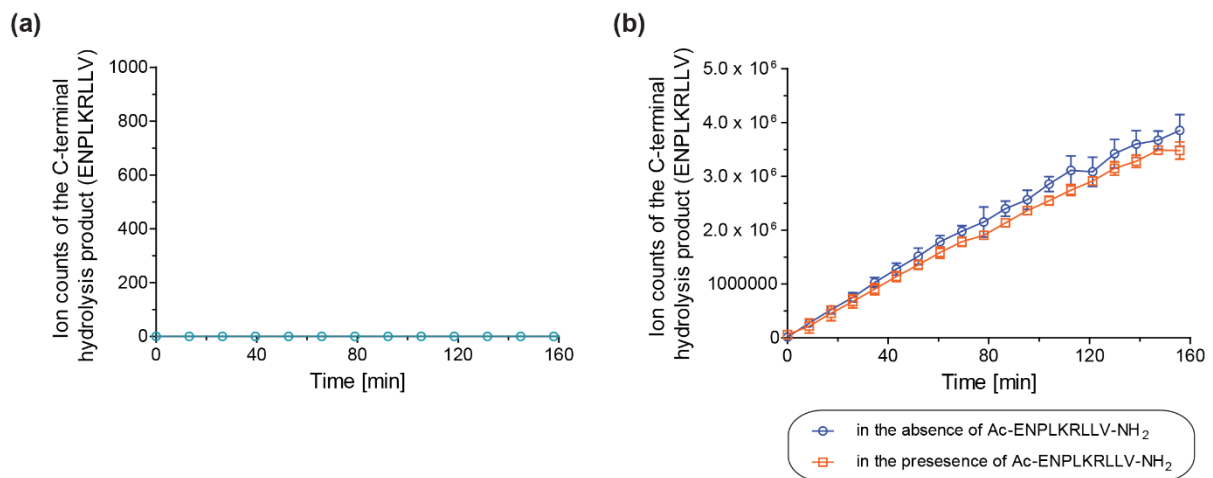
(XXIII) (a) Sequence and purification characteristics of the K₃₃₈-branched SARS-CoV-2_N₃₃₅₋₃₄₁-Ub_L₃₄₀V₃₄₁ oligopeptide **26**; (b) mass spectrum (SPE-MS) of **26** (2.0 μM) in water. m/z = 1073.17 corresponds to the +2 charge state of **26**, note that **26** ionizes in the +2 charge state as the 2H⁺ ion and, less abundantly, as the H⁺Na⁺ and 2Na⁺ ions; the enlarged region shows the m/z +2 peak. m/z = 715.79 corresponds to the +3 charge state of **26**, m/z = 537.09 corresponds to the +4 charge state of **26**, and m/z = 429.88 corresponds to the +5 charge state of **26**. The peptide is estimated to be >90% pure based on HPLC analysis. Note, m/z values referred to are for the most abundant isotope.



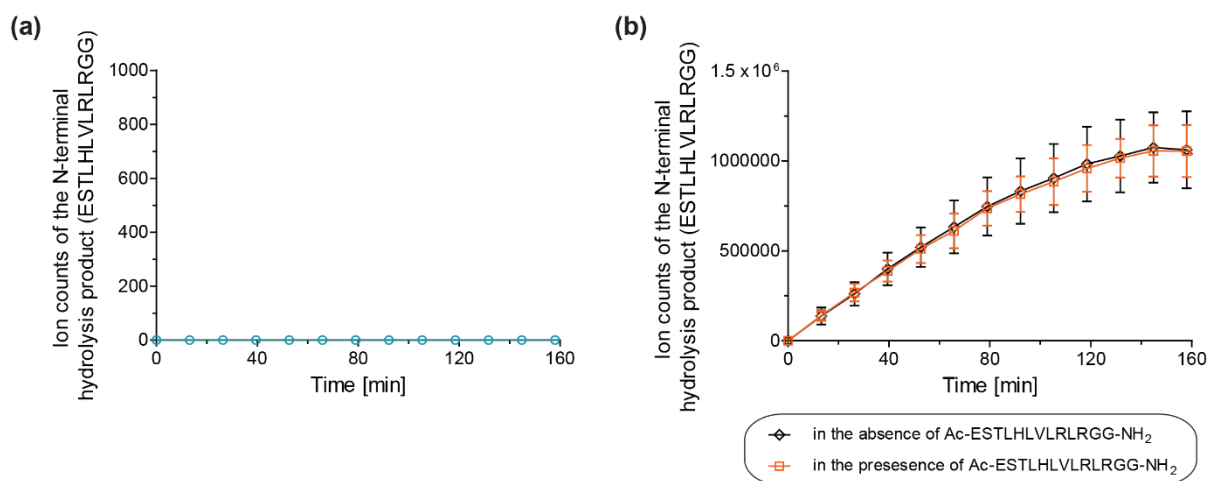
Supporting Figure S2. The N-terminally *N*-acetylated ISG15-derived oligopeptide **5 does not affect SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} catalysis and can be used as an internal standard.** (a) The interferon stimulated gene 15 (ISG15)-derived N-terminally *N*-acetylated N-terminal product peptide (*i.e.*, Ac-LSTVFMNLRRLRGG-NH₂, **5**; Supporting Figure S1) is not a substrate of isolated recombinant SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro}; formation of the corresponding *N*-deacetylated product (teal circles) was not observed by SPE-MS under assay conditions (SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} (0.2 μM) and **5** (2.0 μM) in 50 mM Tris, pH 8.0 at ambient temperature). Results are a mean of independent triplicates (n = 3; mean ± standard deviation, SD); (b) SPE-MS analysis reveals that isolated recombinant SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} catalyzes the formation of the ISG15-derived LSTVFMNLRRLRGG oligopeptide from the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-ISG15 oligopeptide **4** in similar rates in the absence (blue circles) and presence (orange boxes) of **5** (conditions: SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} (0.2 μM), **4** (2.0 μM), in the presence or absence of **5** (0.2 μM) in 50 mM Tris, pH 8.0 at ambient temperature); thus, the presence of the N-terminally *N*-acetylated N-terminal oligopeptide **5** in an assay mixture does not affect PL^{pro} catalysis. Results are a mean of independent triplicates (n = 3; mean ± SD).



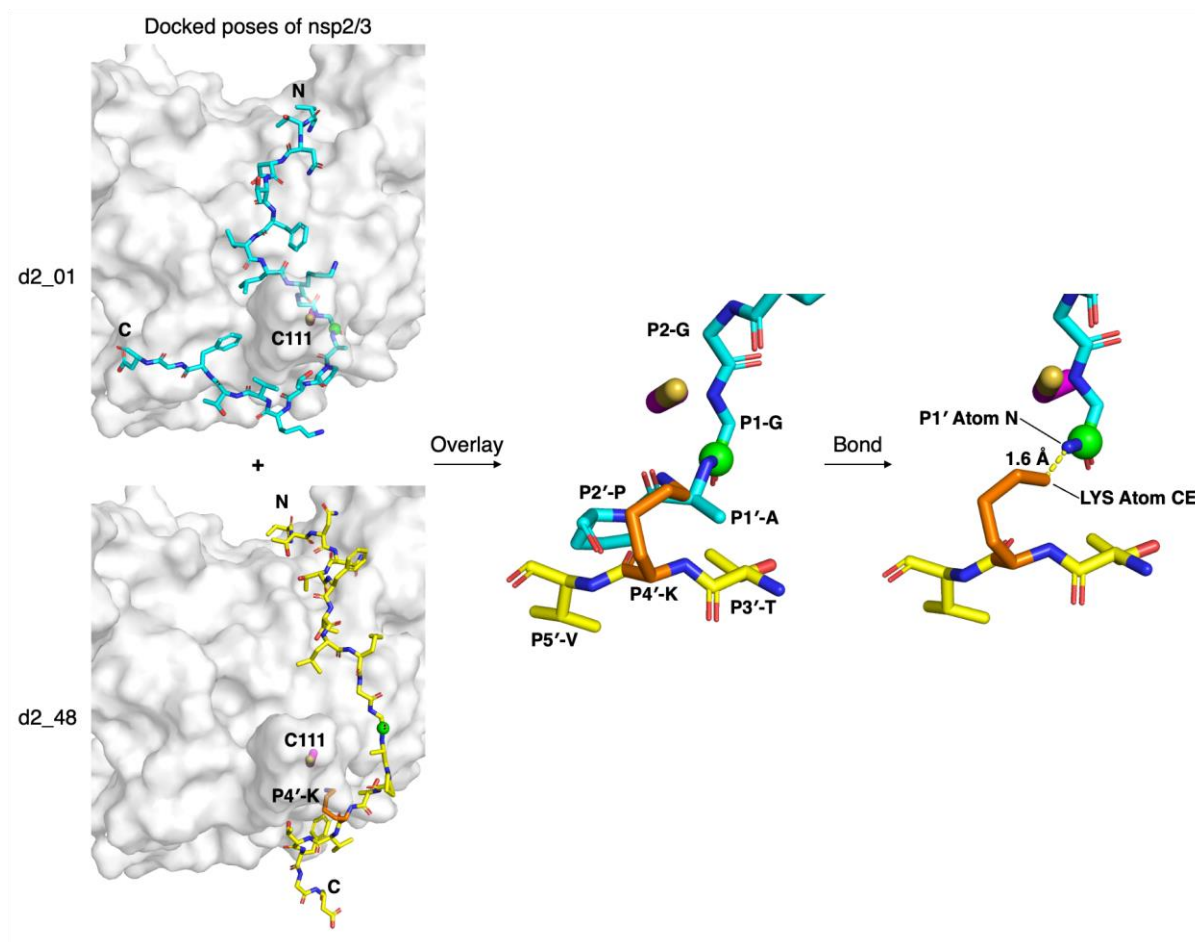
Supporting Figure S3. The N-terminally *N*-acetylated IRF3-derived oligopeptide **12 does not affect SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} catalysis and can be used as an internal standard.** (a) The interferon regulatory factor 3 (IRF3)-derived N-terminally *N*-acetylated C-terminal product peptide (*i.e.*, Ac-ENPLKRLLV-NH₂, **12**; Supporting Figure S1) is not a substrate of isolated recombinant SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro}; formation of the corresponding *N*-deacylated product (teal circles) was not observed by SPE-MS under assay conditions (SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} (0.2 μM) and **12** (2.0 μM) in 50 mM Tris, pH 8.0 at ambient temperature). Results are a mean of independent triplicates (n = 3; mean ± SD); (b) SPE-MS analysis reveals that isolated recombinant SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} catalyzes the formation of the ISG15-derived ENPLKRLLV oligopeptide from the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-ISG15 oligopeptide **4** in similar rates in the absence (blue circles) and presence (orange boxes) of **12** (conditions: SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} (0.2 μM), **4** (2.0 μM), in the presence or absence of **12** (0.2 μM) in 50 mM Tris, pH 8.0 at ambient temperature); thus, the presence of the N-terminally *N*-acetylated C-terminal oligopeptide **12** in an assay mixture does not affect PL^{pro} catalysis. Results are a mean of independent triplicates (n = 3; mean ± SD).



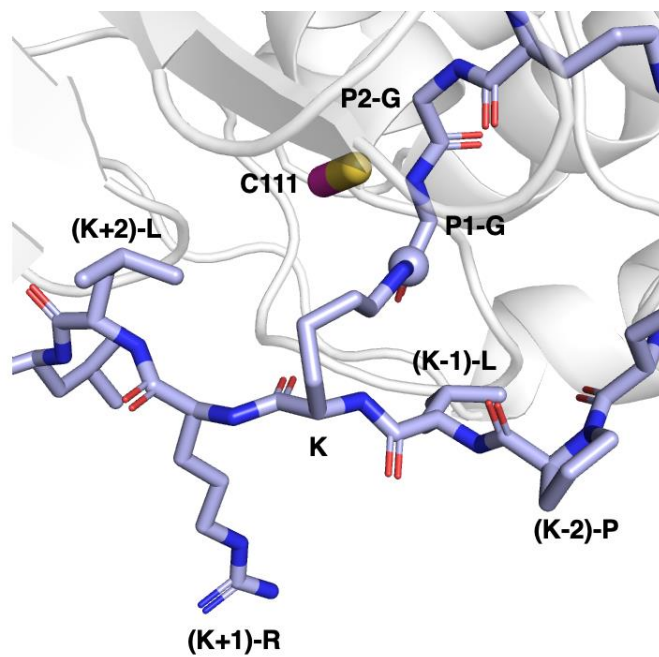
Supporting Figure S4. The N-terminally *N*-acetylated Ub-derived oligopeptide **24 does not affect SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} catalysis and can be used as an internal standard.** (a) The ubiquitin (Ub)-derived N-terminally *N*-acetylated N-terminal product peptide (*i.e.*, Ac-ESTLHLVLRLRGG-NH₂, **24**; Supporting Figure S1) is not a substrate of isolated recombinant SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro}; formation of the corresponding *N*-deacylated product (teal circles) was not observed by SPE-MS under assay conditions (SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} (0.2 μM) and **24** (2.0 μM) in 50 mM Tris, pH 8.0 at ambient temperature). Results are a mean of independent triplicates (n = 3; mean ± SD); (b) SPE-MS analysis reveals that isolated recombinant SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} catalyzes the formation of the Ub-derived ESTLHLVLRLRGG oligopeptide from the K₁₉₃-branched IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-Ub oligopeptide **15** in similar rates in the absence (black diamonds) and presence (orange boxes) of **24** (conditions: SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} (0.2 μM), **15** (2.0 μM), in the presence or absence of **24** (0.2 μM) in 50 mM Tris, pH 8.0 at ambient temperature); thus, the presence of the N-terminally *N*-acetylated N-terminal oligopeptide **24** in an assay mixture does not affect PL^{pro} catalysis. Results are a mean of independent triplicates (n = 3; mean ± SD).



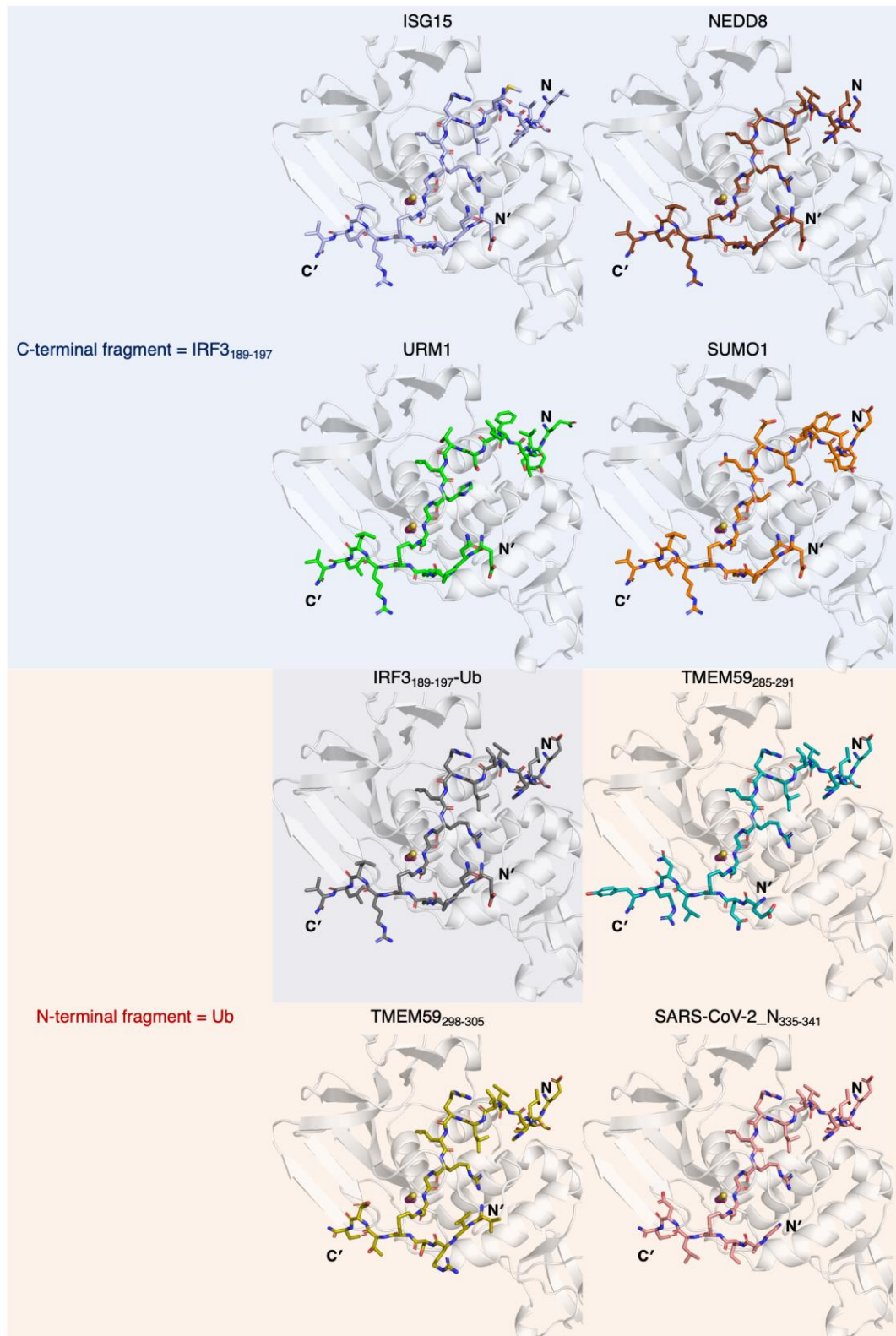
Supporting Figure S5. AutoDock CrankPep (ADCP)¹-predicted conformations of the pp1a/1ab-derived nsp2/3₈₀₈₋₈₂₇ oligopeptide 2 (VTNNTFTLKGG|APT^{scissile}KVTFGD, the scissile amide bond is indicated with '|')² in complex with SARS-CoV-2 PL^{pro} (PDB ID: 6WX4³). The 1st and 48th ranked poses are in cyan and yellow, respectively. The N- and C-termini of 2 are labelled, the P1 scissile amide carbon atom is a green sphere, and the P4' lysine of the 48th ranked pose is in orange; the PL^{pro} active site C111 is in magenta. These poses provided a basis for modelling the branched peptide sequences.



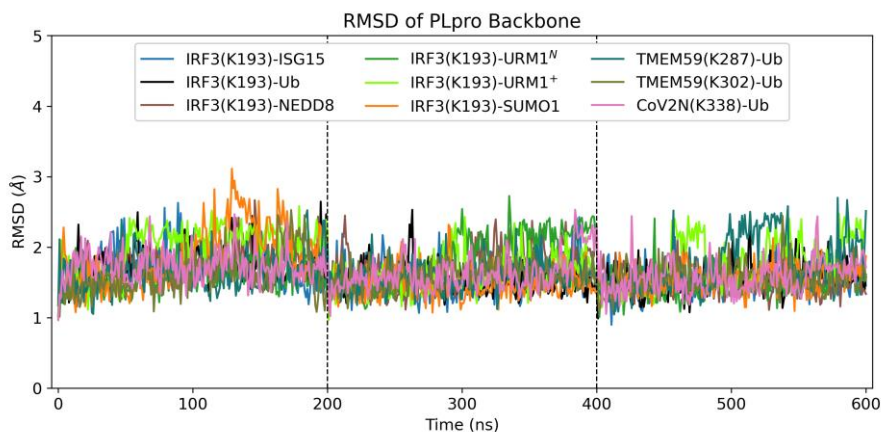
Supporting Figure S6. View of the modelled active site of the PL^{pro}:IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-ISG15 (4) complex. The *N*^ε-lysine amide linkage was constructed as described in the Experimental section.



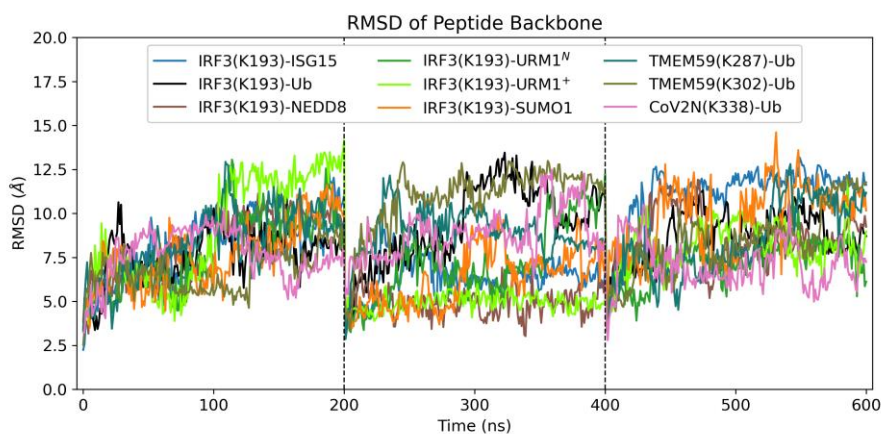
Supporting Figure S7. View of the modelled PL^{pro} complexes with the *N*^ε-lysine-branched oligopeptides IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-(ISG15/Ub/NEDD8/URM1/SUMO1) and (TMEM59₂₈₅₋₂₉₁/TMEM59₂₉₈₋₃₀₅/SARS-CoV-2_N₃₃₅₋₃₄₁)-Ub. The N-terminus of the UBL-derived fragment and the N- and C-termini of the S' binding fragment are labelled N, N', and C', respectively. The P1 scissile amide carbon atoms are shown as a sphere, and C111 is in magenta. For molecular dynamics (MD) simulations of the URM1 derived peptide, both the neutral (^N) and positive charged (⁺) states of the P3 histidine imidazole group were considered.



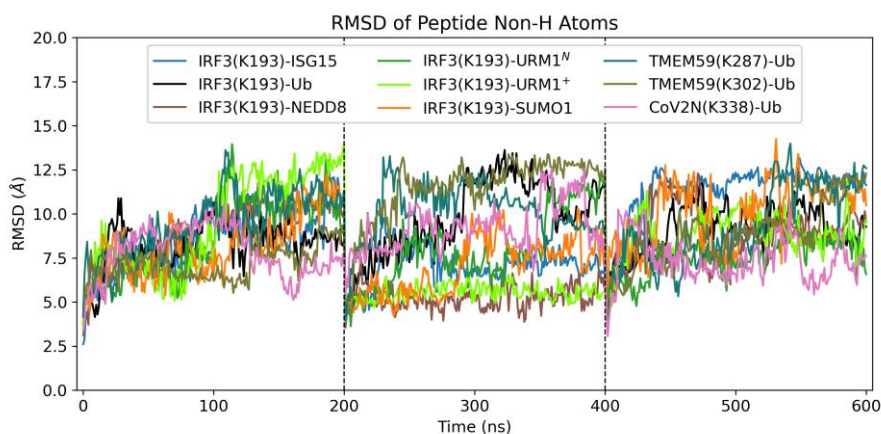
Supporting Figure S8. Root mean square deviation (RMSD) of PL^{pro} backbone atoms (N, C^α, C) in the combined 3 × 200 ns MD trajectories (fitted based on the PL^{pro} backbone), relative to the PL^{pro} crystal structure (PDB ID: 6WX4³).



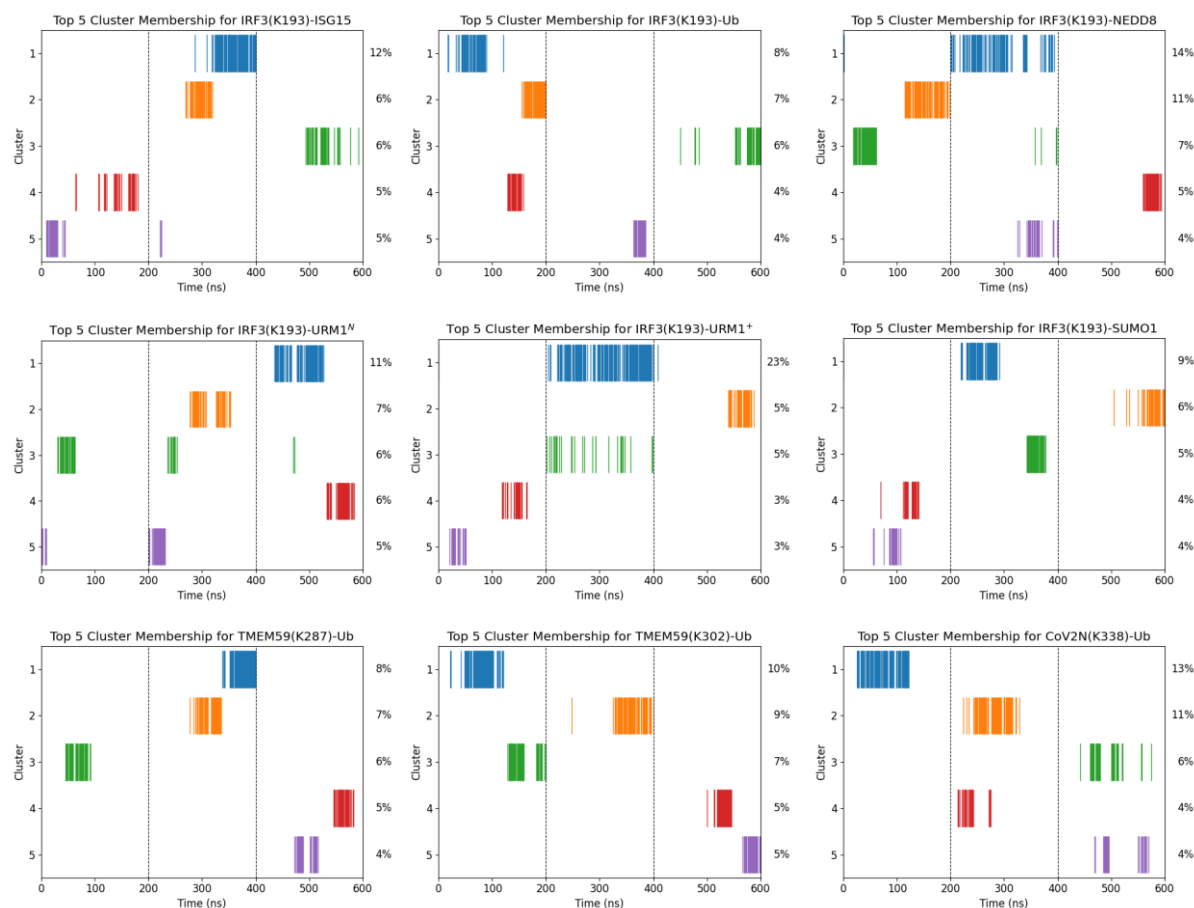
Supporting Figure S9. RMSD of peptide backbone atoms (N, C^α, C in both fragments) in the combined 3 × 200 ns MD trajectories (fitted based on the PL^{pro} backbone), relative to the starting peptide poses.



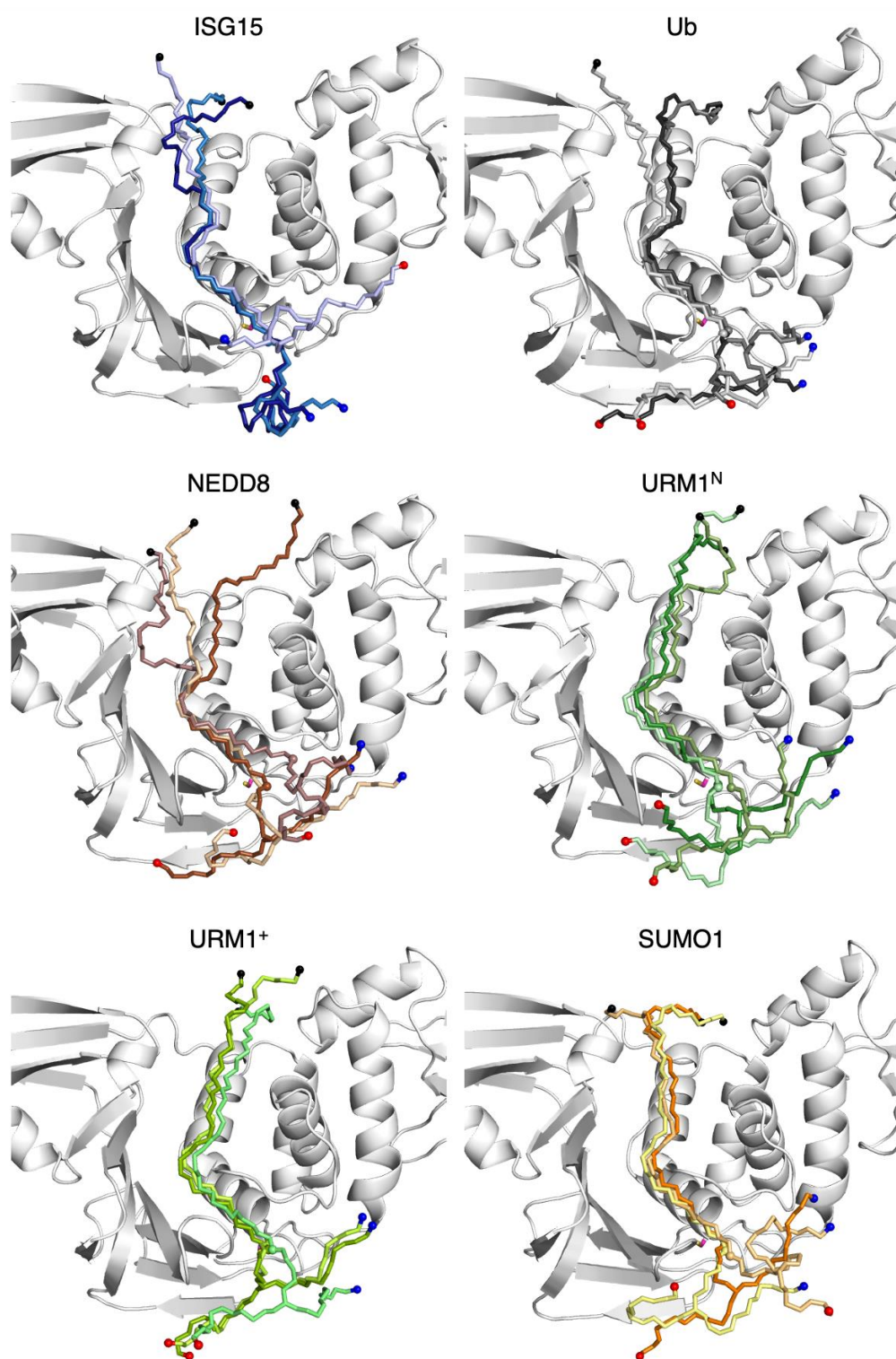
Supporting Figure S10. RMSD of peptide non-hydrogen atoms in the combined 3 × 200 ns MD trajectories (fitted based on the PL^{pro} backbone), relative to the starting peptide poses.



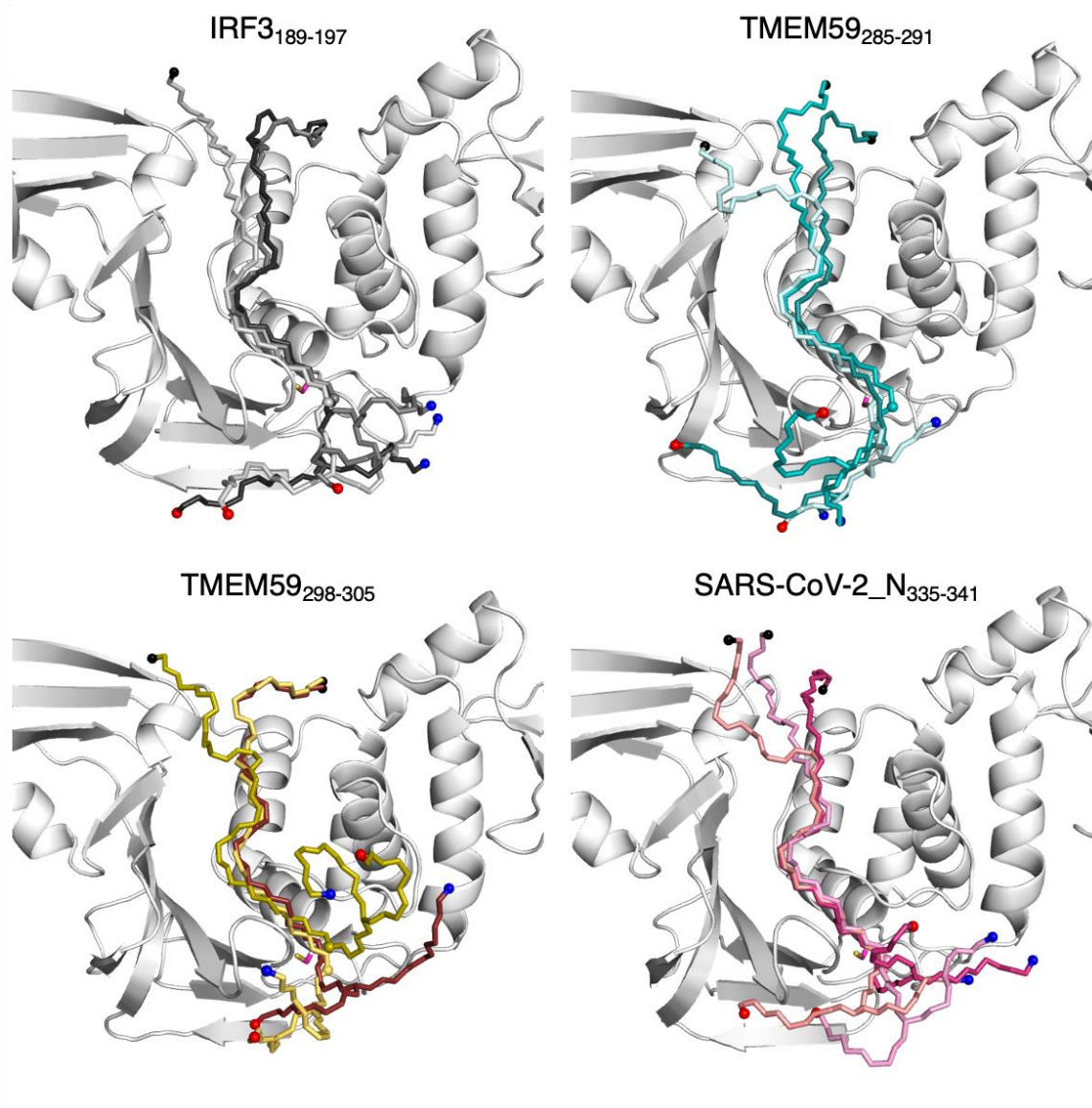
Supporting Figure S11. Cluster membership of frames extracted every ns from the combined 3×200 ns MD (fitted using PL^{PRO} backbone) of each PL^{PRO}:oligopeptide complex, with clustering performed using a 3 Å RMSD cut-off on the peptide backbone atoms using gmx cluster (gromos algorithm)^{4,5}. Only the 5 clusters with the highest occupancy percentages are shown. Out of 601 frames, the number of (multimembered) clusters obtained for peptides IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-(ISG15/Ub/NEDD8/URM1^N/URM1⁺/SUMO1) and (TMEM59₂₈₅₋₂₉₁/TMEM59₂₉₈₋₃₀₅/SARS-CoV-2_N₃₃₅₋₃₄₁)-Ub are 128 (57), 181 (78), 106 (58), 150 (63), 160 (63), 159 (74), 138 (76), 104 (61), and 123 (62), respectively.



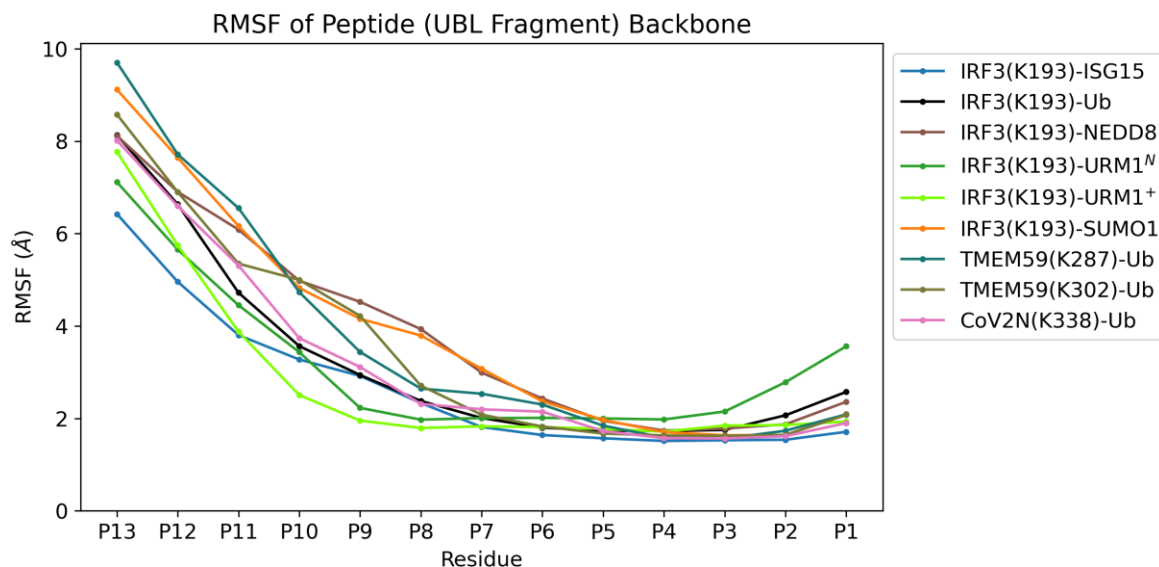
Supporting Figure S12. View of representative oligopeptide conformers from the PL^{pro}:IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-UBL (*i.e.*, 4, 15, 16, 17, and 18) complexes of the three most populated clusters, obtained from the combined 3 × 200 ns MD of each of the PL^{pro} complexes. The PL^{pro} structure is from the most populated cluster, C111 is in magenta. The peptide backbones are shown in uniform colors with darker colors corresponding to more populated clusters (P1 scissile amide carbon atoms are shown as a sphere), with the N-terminus of the UBL fragment, and the N- and C-termini of the IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇ fragment shown as black, blue, and red spheres, respectively.



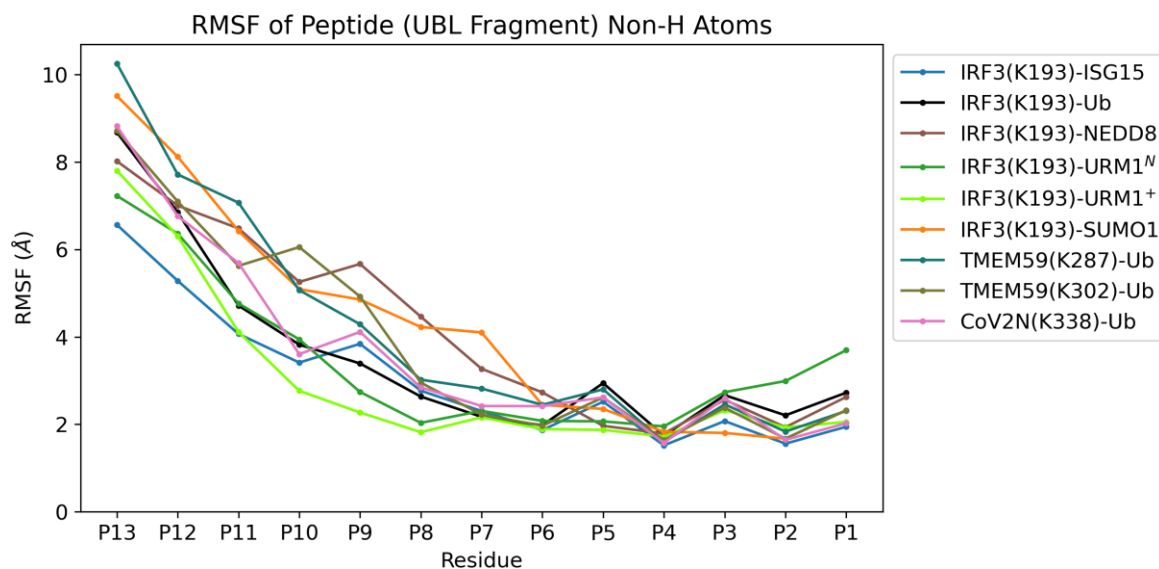
Supporting Figure S13. View of representative oligopeptide conformers from the PL^{pro}:oligopeptide-Ub (*i.e.*, **15**, **21**, **22**, and **23**) complexes of the three most populated clusters, obtained from the combined 3×200 ns MD of each of the PL^{pro} complexes. The PL^{pro} structure is from the most populated cluster, C111 is in magenta. The peptide backbones are shown in uniform colors with darker colors corresponding to more populated clusters (P1 scissile amide carbon atoms are shown as a sphere), with the N-terminus of the UBL fragment, and the N- and C-termini of the IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇ fragment shown as black, blue, and red spheres, respectively.



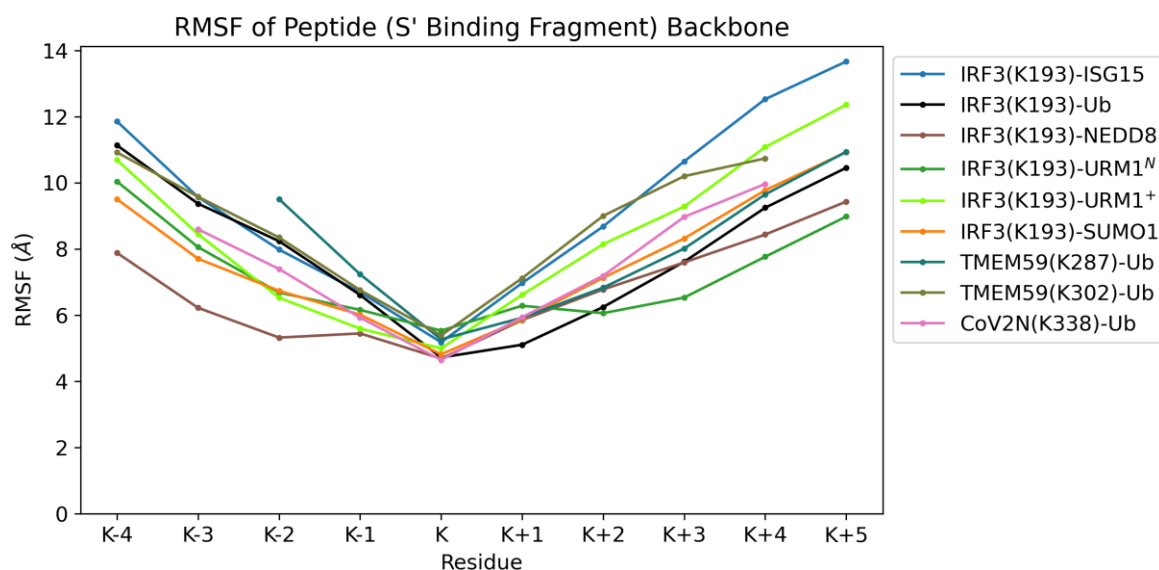
Supporting Figure S14. Root mean square fluctuation (RMSF) for each residue backbone atoms in the UBL fragment, in the combined 3×200 ns MD (fitted based on the PL^{pro} backbone).



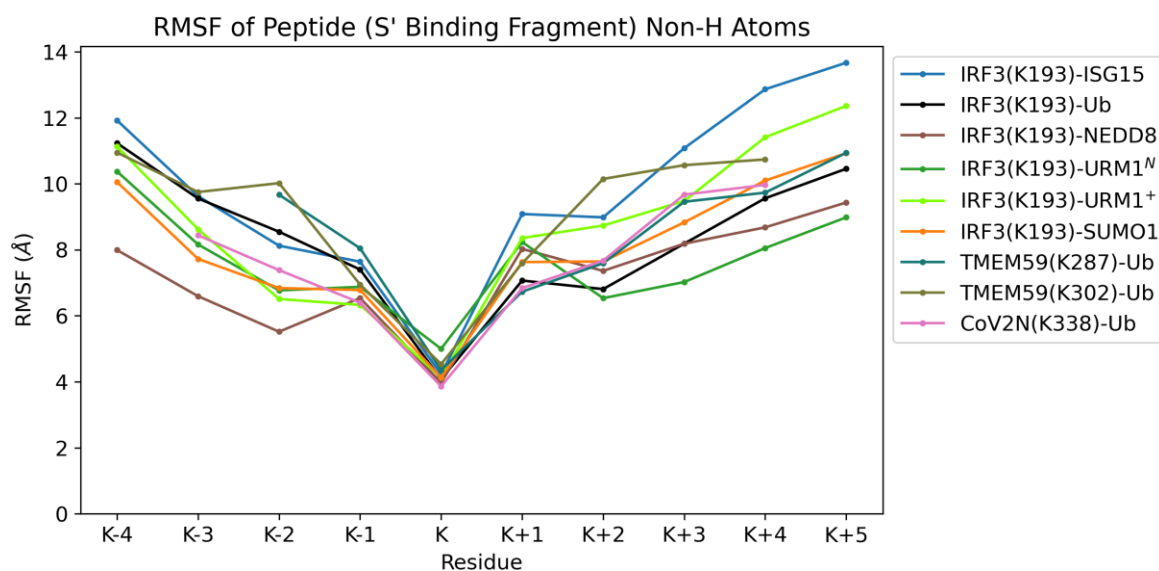
Supporting Figure S15. RMSF of peptide non-hydrogen atoms in the UBL fragment, in the combined 3×200 ns MD (fitted based on the PL^{pro} backbone).



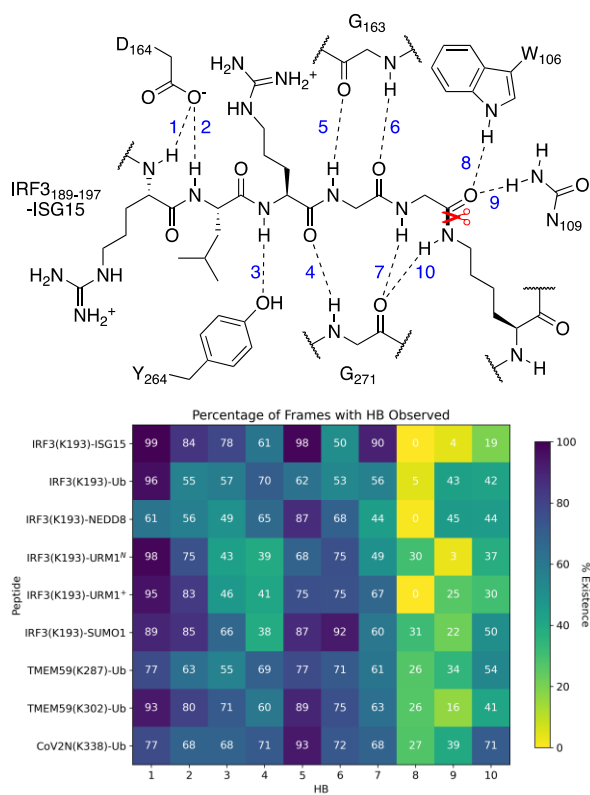
Supporting Figure S16. RMSF for each residue backbone atoms of the oligopeptide fragment binding to the PL^{pro} S' sites, in the combined 3 × 200 ns MD (fitted based on the PL^{pro} backbone). Note that the C-terminal NH₂ group is treated as a separate residue.



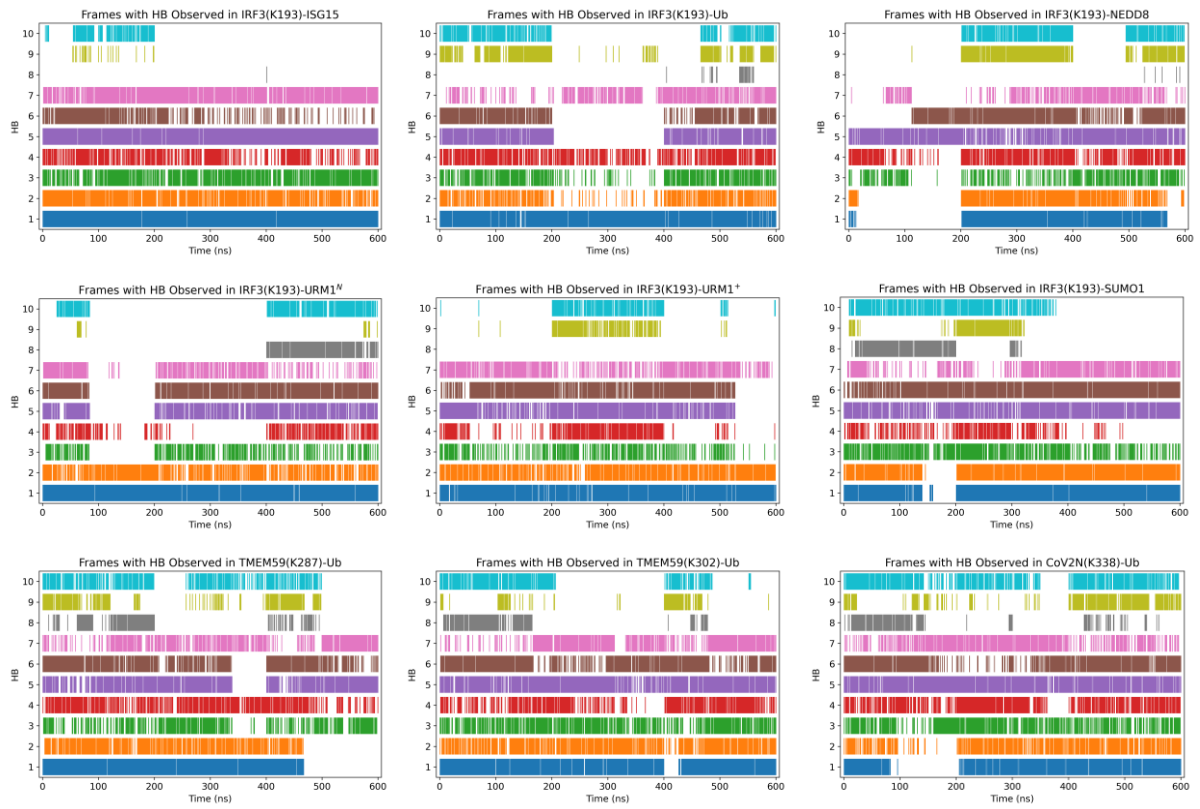
Supporting Figure S17. RMSF of peptide non-hydrogen atoms of the oligopeptide fragment binding to the PL^{pro} S' sites, in the combined 3 × 200 ns MD (fitted based on the PL^{pro} backbone). Note that the C-terminal NH₂ group is treated as a separate residue.



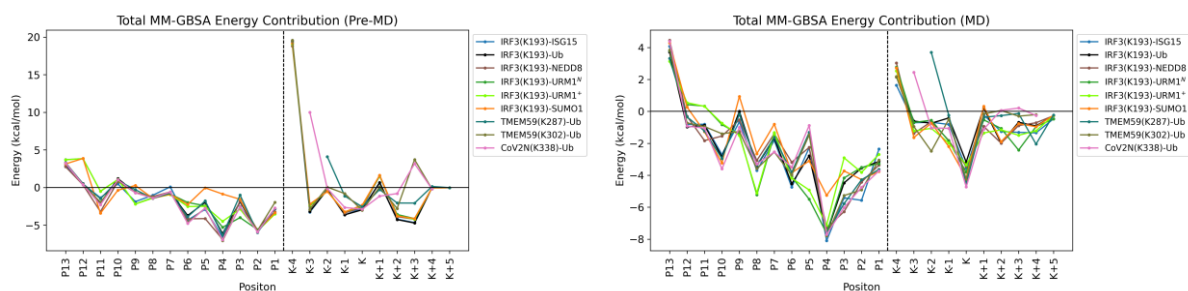
Supporting Figure S18. Conserved hydrogen bonding interactions in the P5-P1' region and their percentage occurrences (occurrence $\geq 25\%$ for at least five out of nine peptides), observed in 3×200 ns MD. Frames were analyzed every ns.



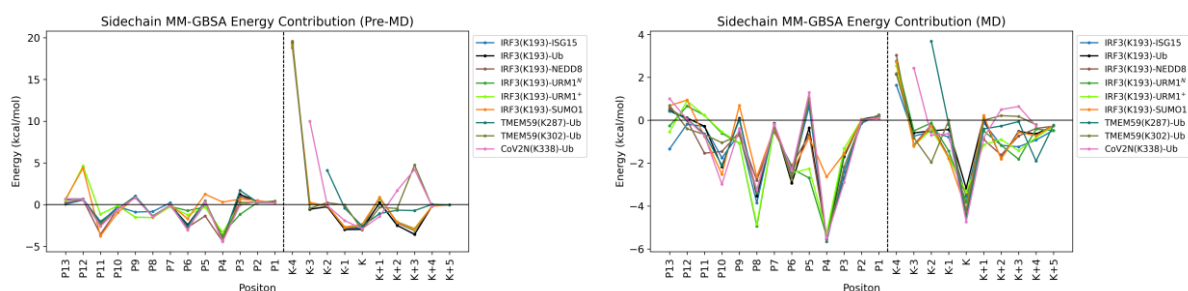
Supporting Figure S19. Event plots showing the occurrence of the conserved hydrogen bonding interactions in 3×200 ns MD.



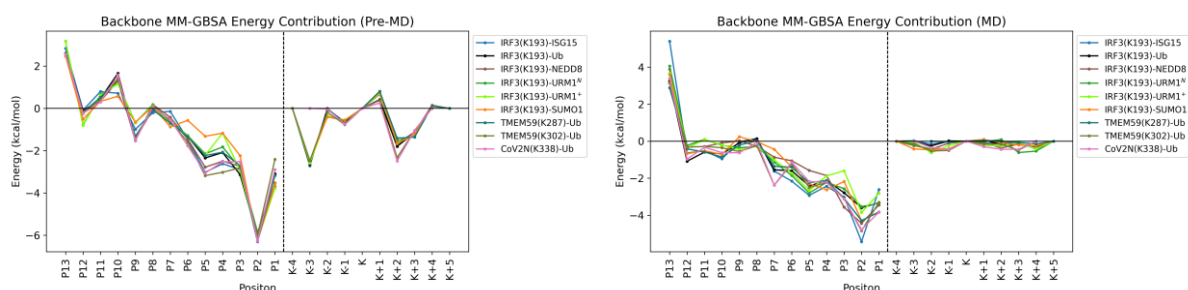
Supporting Figure S20. Contribution of each peptide residue to the PL^{PRO}:oligopeptide molecular mechanics/generalized Born surface area (MM/GBSA) binding energy, from complex structures prior to MD and obtained from MD with frames being analyzed every 5 ns.



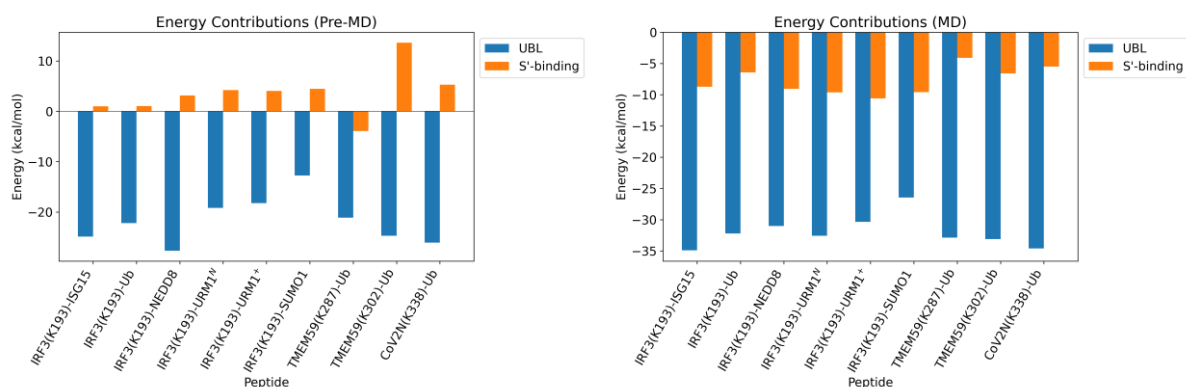
Supporting Figure S21. Contribution of the sidechain of every peptide residue to the PL^{PRO}:oligopeptide MM/GBSA binding energy, from complex structures prior to MD and obtained from MD with frames being analyzed every 5 ns.



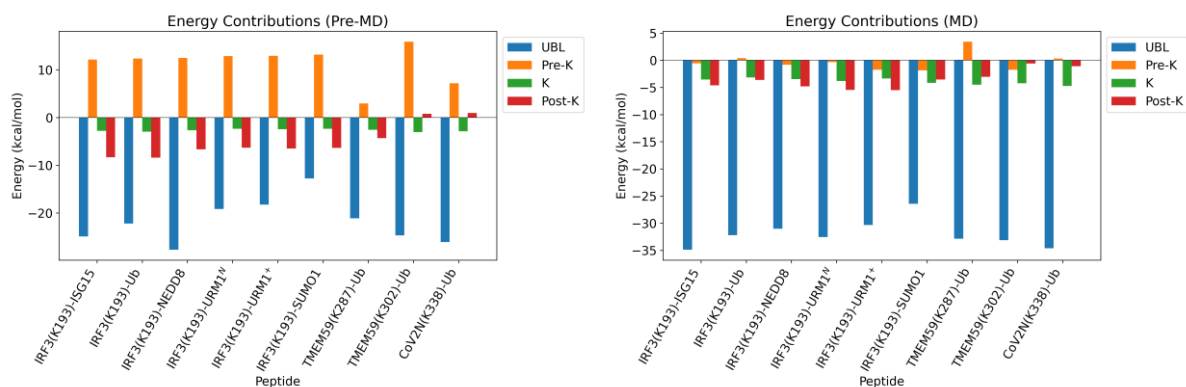
Supporting Figure S22. Contribution of the backbone of every peptide residue to the PL^{PRO}:oligopeptide MM/GBSA binding energy, from complex structures prior to MD and obtained from MD with frames being analyzed every 5 ns.



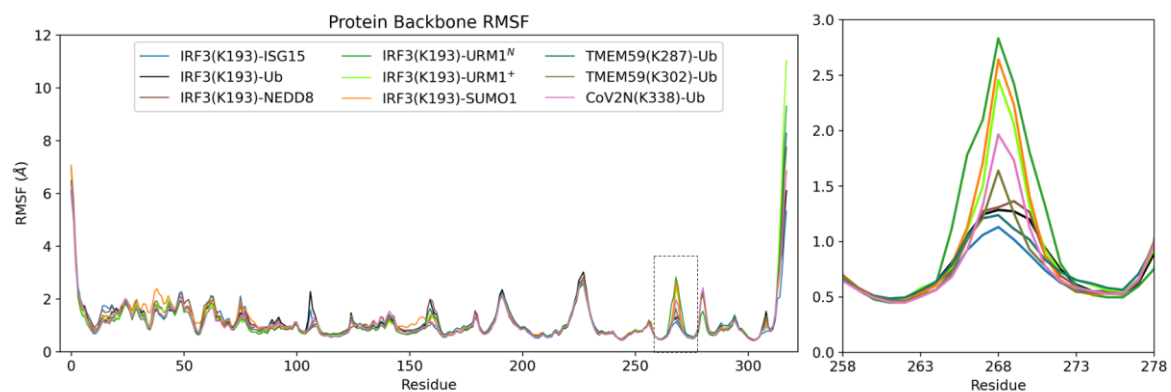
Supporting Figure S23. Contribution of the UBL-derived peptide fragment and the peptide fragment binding to the *S'* sites to the PL^{Pro}:oligopeptide MM/GBSA binding energy, from complex structures prior to MD and obtained from MD with frames being analyzed every 5 ns.



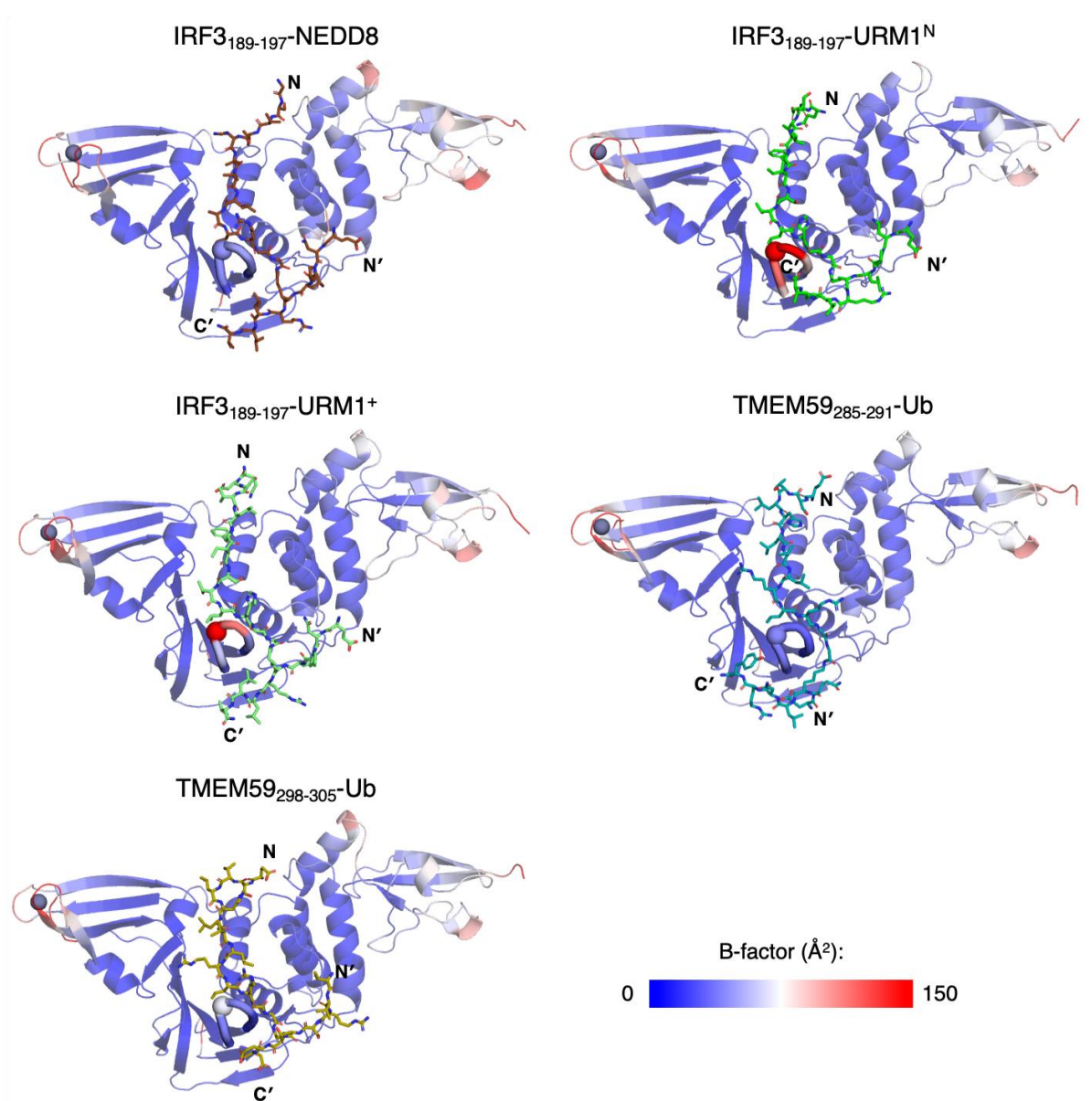
Supporting Figure S24. Contribution of the UBL-derived peptide fragment and the peptide fragment binding to the *S'* sites (split into the individual contributions by the *N^ε*-branched lysine residue, and by the residues N- and C-terminal of this *N^ε*-branched lysine residue) to the PL^{Pro}:oligopeptide MM/GBSA binding energy, from complex structures prior to MD and obtained from MD with frames being analyzed every 5 ns.



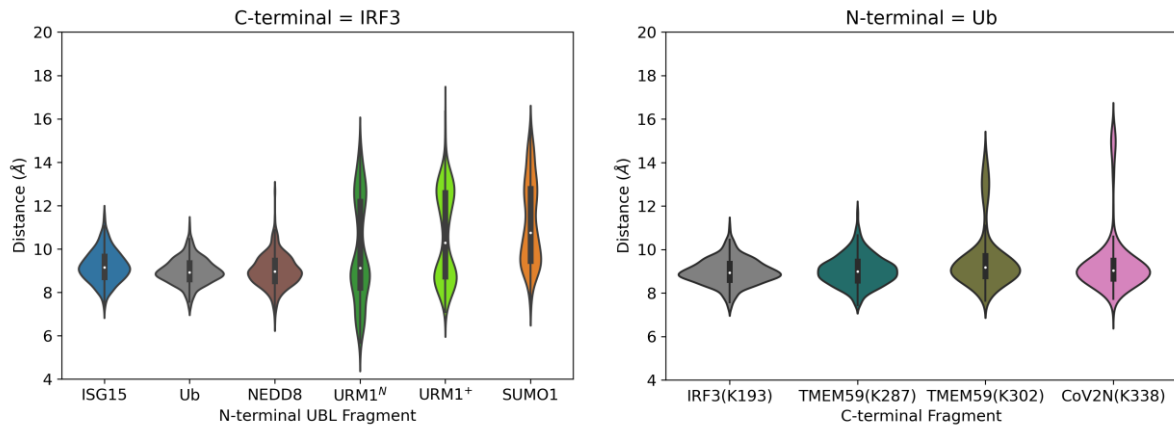
Supporting Figure S25. RMSF of the backbone atoms of PL^{pro} residues in the PL^{pro}:oligopeptide complexes in the combined 3 × 200 ns MD (left), and (right) focusing around the Y268-containing BL2 region.



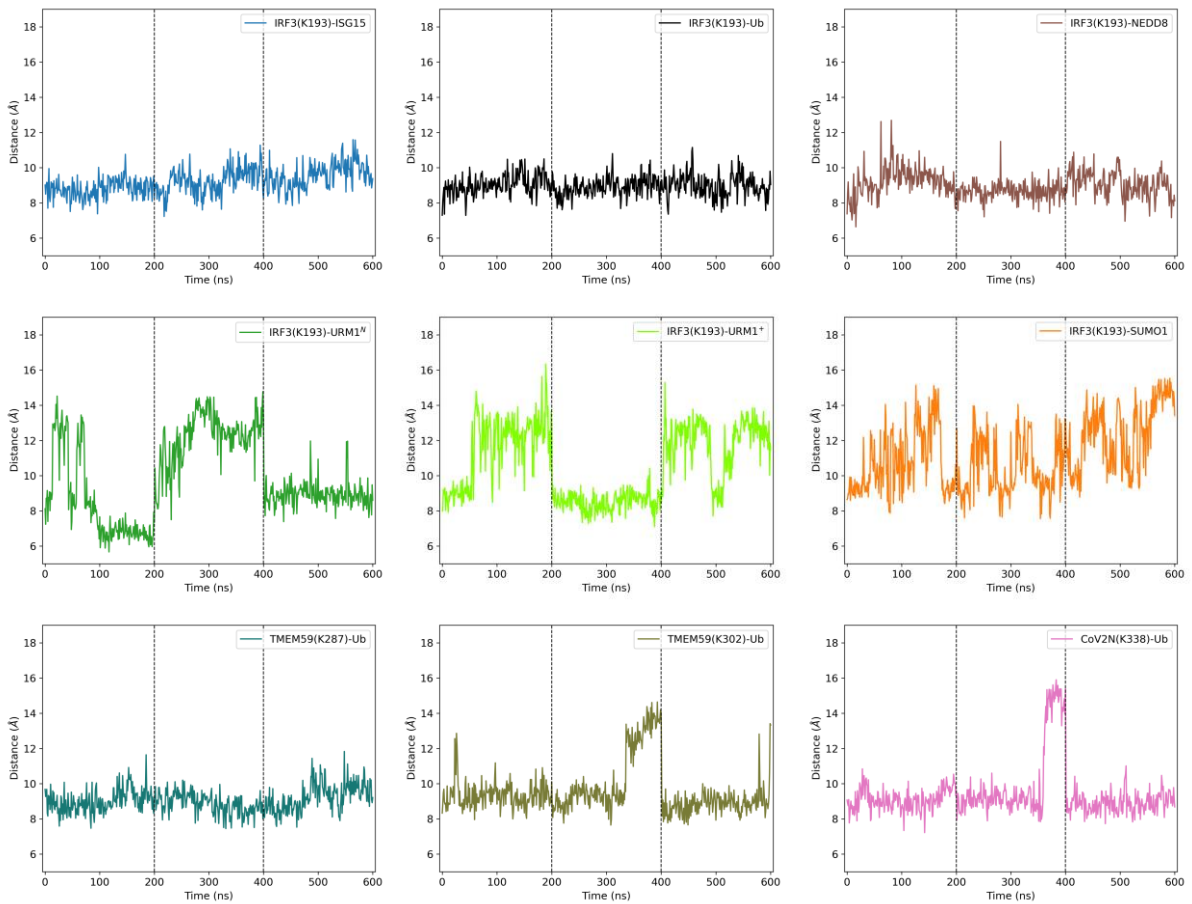
Supporting Figure S26. Views of the PL^{PRO}:oligopeptide complexes representative of the most populated cluster (Supporting Figure S11) with PL^{PRO} residues colored based on MD-derived backbone B-factors, when complexed with IRF3₁₈₉₋₁₉₇-(NEDD8/URM1^N/URM1⁺) and (TMEM59₂₈₅₋₂₉₁/TMEM59₂₉₈₋₃₀₅)-Ub. BL2 (Gly266-Gly271) is shown as a thickened loop, with Y268 C^α shown as a sphere. The N-terminus of the UBL-derived fragment and the N- and C-termini of the S' binding fragment are labelled N, N', and C', respectively.



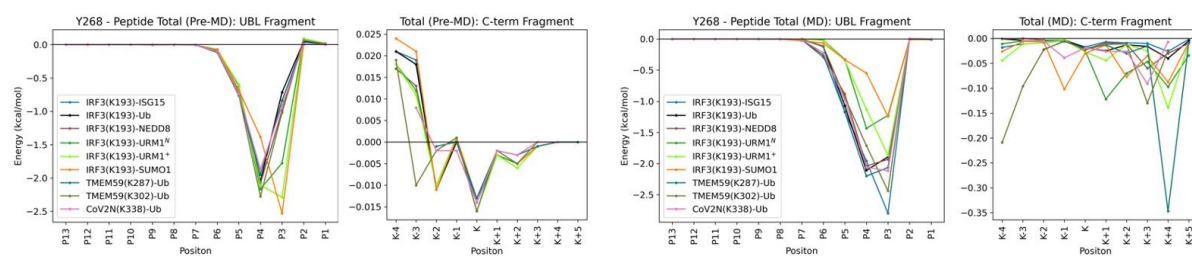
Supporting Figure S27. The distribution of the PL^{pro} P248–Y268 C^α–C^α distance over combined 3 × 200 ns MD for each PL^{pro}:oligopeptide complex.



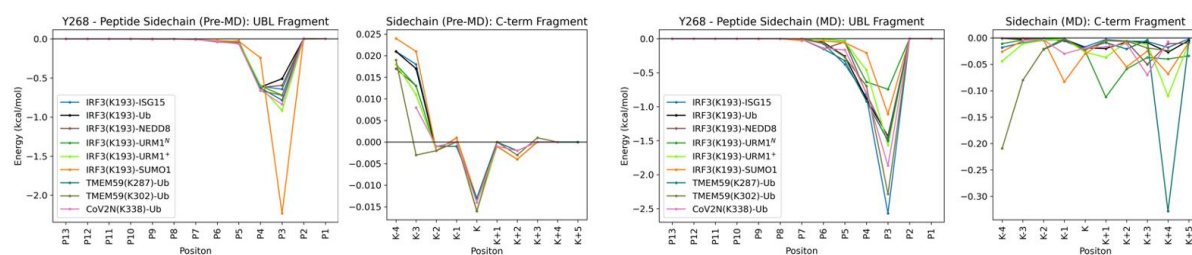
Supporting Figure S28. The evolution of the PL^{pro} P248–Y268 C^α–C^α distance over combined 3 × 200 ns MD for each PL^{pro}:oligopeptide complex.



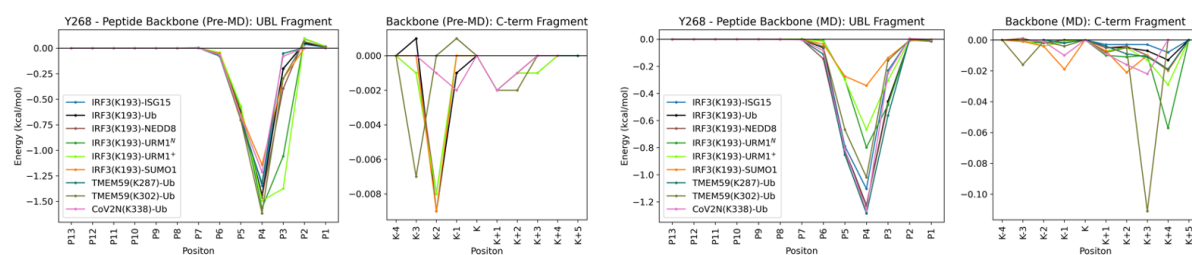
Supporting Figure S29. Pairwise contribution between Y268 and every peptide residue to the PL^{Pro}:oligopeptide MM/GBSA binding energy, from complex structures prior to MD and obtained from MD with frames being analyzed every 5 ns.



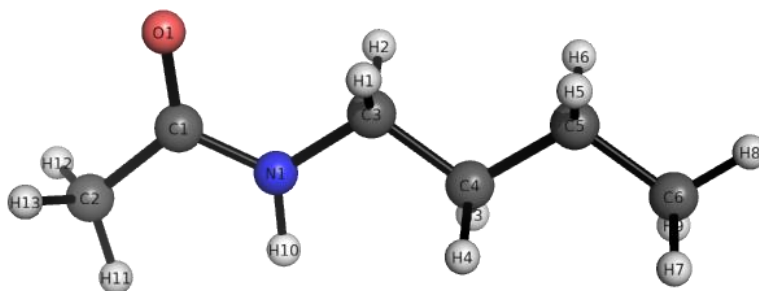
Supporting Figure S30. Pairwise contribution between Y268 and the sidechain of every peptide residue to the PL^{Pro}:oligopeptide MM/GBSA binding energy, from complex structures prior to MD and obtained from MD with frames being analyzed every 5 ns.



Supporting Figure S31. Pairwise contribution between Y268 and the backbone of every peptide residue to the PL^{Pro}:oligopeptide MM/GBSA binding energy, from complex structures prior to MD and obtained from MD with frames being analyzed every 5 ns.



Supporting Figure S32. The structure of *N*-butyl acetamide was used as a model for parametrizing the *N^ε*-branched lysine residue (LYC). The mol2 file displays the determined AMBER atom types⁶ and RESP charges^{7,8}.



```
@<TRIPOS>MOLECULE
LYC
  21  20  1  0  0
SMALL
resp
```

```
@<TRIPOS>ATOM
  1 C1    2.2290  0.0980 -0.0000 C    1 LYC   0.811218
  2 O1    2.4440  1.3200  0.0000 O    1 LYC  -0.641673
  3 N1    0.9840 -0.4010 -0.0000 N    1 LYC  -0.509681
  4 C2    3.3530 -0.9010  0.0000 CT   1 LYC  -0.601831
  5 C3   -0.1910  0.4500 -0.0000 CT   1 LYC  -0.136733
  6 C4   -1.4590 -0.3840 -0.0000 CT   1 LYC   0.002717
  7 H1   -0.1660  1.1040 -0.8810 H1   1 LYC   0.104686
  8 H2   -0.1660  1.1040  0.8810 H1   1 LYC   0.104686
  9 C5   -2.7140  0.4790  0.0000 CT   1 LYC   0.121031
 10 H3   -1.4630 -1.0390  0.8820 HC   1 LYC   0.025164
 11 H4   -1.4630 -1.0390 -0.8820 HC   1 LYC   0.025164
 12 C6   -3.9900 -0.3510  0.0000 CT   1 LYC  -0.239027
 13 H5   -2.7000  1.1380 -0.8790 HC   1 LYC  -0.004123
 14 H6   -2.7000  1.1380  0.8790 HC   1 LYC  -0.004123
 15 H7   -4.0400 -0.9960 -0.8850 HC   1 LYC   0.055081
 16 H8   -4.8810  0.2860  0.0000 HC   1 LYC   0.055081
 17 H9   -4.0400 -0.9960  0.8850 HC   1 LYC   0.055081
 18 H10   0.8530 -1.4030 -0.0000 H    1 LYC   0.288578
 19 H11   3.0070 -1.9380  0.0000 HC   1 LYC   0.162901
 20 H12   3.9780 -0.7320  0.8830 HC   1 LYC   0.162901
 21 H13   3.9780 -0.7320 -0.8830 HC   1 LYC   0.162901
```

```
@<TRIPOS>BOND
```

```
  1  1  2  2
  2  1  3  1
  3  1  4  1
  4  3  5  1
  5  3 18  1
  6  4 19  1
  7  4 20  1
  8  4 21  1
  9  5  6  1
 10  5  7  1
 11  5  8  1
 12  6  9  1
 13  6 10  1
 14  6 11  1
 15  9 12  1
 16  9 13  1
 17  9 14  1
 18 12 15  1
 19 12 16  1
 20 12 17  1
```

```
@<TRIPOS>SUBSTRUCTURE
```

```
  1 LYC   1 TEMP   0 **** 0 ROOT
```

Supporting Figure S33. The added N^{ϵ} -branched lysine residue (LYC) in GROMACS topology⁴. Standard charges from a neutral lysine residue (LYN) in the AMBER99FFSB-ILDN forcefield⁹ were retained for atoms in the backbone and sidechain up to CG/HG1/HG2. Remaining atom charges were assigned based on RESP calculations, with residual charge correction applied on the NZ atom. No new atom types or bonded parameters were added. Two amide improper dihedrals (centered at GLY_C and LYC_NZ) involving this bond were added to the topology.

```
[ LYC ]
[ atoms ]
  N N      -0.41570  1
  H H      0.27190  2
  CA CT    -0.07206  3
  HA H1     0.09940  4
  CB CT    -0.04845  5
  HB1 HC    0.03400  6
  HB2 HC    0.03400  7
  CG CT     0.06612  8
  HG1 HC    0.01041  9
  HG2 HC    0.01041 10
  CD CT     0.00272 11
  HD1 HC    0.02516 12
  HD2 HC    0.02516 13
  CE CT    -0.13673 14
  HE1 H1     0.10469 15
  HE2 H1     0.10469 16
  NZ N      -0.43370 17
  HZ1 H      0.28858 18
  C C       0.59730 19
  O O      -0.56790 20
[ bonds ]
  N H
  N CA
  CA HA
  CA CB
  CA C
  CB HB1
  CB HB2
  CB CG
  CG HG1
  CG HG2
  CG CD
  CD HD1
  CD HD2
  CD CE
  CE HE1
  CE HE2
  CE NZ
  NZ HZ1
  C O
  -C N
[ impropers ]
-C CA N H
CA +N C O
```

2. Supporting tables

Supporting Table S1. Hydrogen bonding interactions between PL^{PRO} and N^ε-lysine-branched oligopeptides in the modelled PL^{PRO}:oligopeptide complexes that were consistently observed (occurrence $\geq 25\%$ out of 600 frames analyzed every ns) over the combined 3×200 ns MD for each peptide, other than those already identified to be conserved in the core P5-P1' region (Supporting Figure S18). Hydrogen bonding interactions involving equivalent carboxylate oxygens (in aspartate and glutamate sidechains) are combined, while salt bridges involving carboxylate oxygens and arginine sidechain guanidino groups are combined and halved to avoid double counting. Peptide residues are italicized, while PL^{PRO} residues are not. Hydrogen bonding interactions in the core P5-P1' region that are not shown in Supporting Figure S18 are in black. Outside this region, N-terminal hydrogen bonding interactions are in blue and C-terminal hydrogen bonding interactions are in red.

	Donor	Acceptor	%		Donor	Acceptor	%		Donor	Acceptor	%
ISG15	<i>LYC5N^κ</i>	<i>ASN109O^{β1}</i>	67	IRF3-Ub	<i>LEU4N</i>	<i>GLN174O^{ε1}</i>	48	NEDD8	<i>GLU203N</i>	<i>GLY1O</i>	34
	<i>VAL4N</i>	<i>GLN174O^{ε1}</i>	55		<i>ARG9N^η</i>	<i>ASP164O^δ</i>	41		<i>ASN2N^{β2}</i>	<i>GLY160O</i>	31
	<i>ARG11N^η</i>	<i>TYR268O</i>	40		<i>ARG9N^ε</i>	<i>ASP164O^δ</i>	32		<i>ASN109N^{β2}</i>	<i>PRO3O</i>	29
	<i>GLN174N^{ε2}</i>	<i>VAL4O</i>	39		<i>THR3N</i>	<i>GLN174O^{ε1}</i>	25				
					<i>THR75O¹</i>	<i>GLU1O^ε</i>	25				
URM1 ^N	<i>PHE6N</i>	<i>TYR171Oⁿ</i>	72	URM1*	<i>PHE6N</i>	<i>TYR171Oⁿ</i>	72	SUMO1	<i>GLN8N^{ε2}</i>	<i>LEU162O</i>	66
	<i>ARG166Nⁿ</i>	<i>THR9O¹</i>	61		<i>SER8O^γ</i>	<i>GLU167O^ε</i>	71		<i>ARG166Nⁿ</i>	<i>GLU9O^ε</i>	64
	<i>SER8O^γ</i>	<i>GLU167O^ε</i>	60		<i>ARG166Nⁿ</i>	<i>THR9O¹</i>	54		<i>ILE4N</i>	<i>GLN174O^{ε1}</i>	47
	<i>ASN109N^{β2}</i>	<i>PRO3O</i>	40		<i>GLN174N^{ε2}</i>	<i>VAL4O</i>	51		<i>LYS157N^κ</i>	<i>GLN8O^{ε1}</i>	32
	<i>GLN174N^{ε2}</i>	<i>VAL4O</i>	38		<i>GLY271N</i>	<i>GLY13O</i>	43		<i>ASN109N^{β2}</i>	<i>PRO3O</i>	29
	<i>LYC5N</i>	<i>ASN109O^{β1}</i>	37		<i>ASN109N^{β2}</i>	<i>PRO3O</i>	28		<i>VAL3N</i>	<i>GLN174O^{ε1}</i>	25
	<i>THR9O¹</i>	<i>ASP164O^δ</i>	30		<i>LYC5N^κ</i>	<i>ASN109O^{β1}</i>	27		<i>GLN10N^{ε2}</i>	<i>ASP164O^δ</i>	25
	<i>GLY271N</i>	<i>GLY13O</i>	27								
	<i>THR75N</i>	<i>ASP2O^δ</i>	26								
TMEM59(K287)	<i>LEU4N</i>	<i>GLN174O^{ε1}</i>	34	TMEM59(K302)	<i>ARG166Nⁿ</i>	<i>VAL7O</i>	47	CoV2N	<i>ARG166Nⁿ</i>	<i>VAL7O</i>	54
	<i>GLN174N^{ε2}</i>	<i>LEU4O</i>	30		<i>ARG11N^η</i>	<i>TYR268O</i>	38				
					<i>LEU4N</i>	<i>GLN174O^{ε1}</i>	30				
					<i>LEU6N</i>	<i>SER170O^γ</i>	28				
					<i>LEU162N</i>	<i>ARG3O</i>	26				

Supporting Table S2. Assignment of ionic and protonation states of titratable residues of PL^{pro} (PDB ID: 6WX4³) analyzed in this study. The setup is identical to that previously reported.² Neutral histidine residues that are *N*^δ-protonated and *N*^ε-protonated are referred to as “HID” and “HIE”, respectively, according to the AMBER force field nomenclature.⁹ Doubly protonated, positively charged histidine residues are referred to as “HIP”. The N- and C-termini of PL^{pro} were capped as *N*-acetyl and *N*-methyl amides, respectively. In the peptides, the N-termini were uncapped, while the C-terminus of the PL^{pro} S' site binding fragment was capped with an NH₂ group. Peptide residues in the S' binding fragment are labelled with a prime symbol ('), and for ease of setup and subsequent analysis, are numbered according to their positions relative to the *N*^ε-branched lysine, with the lysine always being residue 5' regardless of the length of the S' binding fragment.

<i>Residue</i>	LYS (+1)	ARG (+1)	ASP (-1)	GLU (-1)	CYM(-1)	HID (0)	HIE (0)	HIP (+1)	NT (+1)	ZN(+2)	TOTAL
PL ^{pro}	6	3	12	1	111	89	47	17		1	
	43	65	22	51	189	175	50	272			
	45	82	37	67	192	275	73				
	53	138	40	70	224		255				
	91	140	61	124	226						
	92	166	62	143							
	94	183	76	161							
	105		108	167							
	126		134	203							
	157		164	214							
	182		179	238							
	190		286	252							
	200		302	263							
	217			280							
	218			295							
	228			307							
	232										
	254										
	274										
	279										
	292										
	297										
	306										
	315										
Charge	+24	+7	-13	-16	-5	0	0	+2	0	+2	+1
<i>Peptides</i>											
ISG15		9, 11, 6'		1'					1, 1'		
Charge		+3		-1					+2		+4
IRF3 ₁₈₉₋₁₉₇ -Ub		9, 11, 6'		1, 1'			5		1, 1'		
Charge		+3		-2					+2		+3
NEDD8		11, 6'		1'			5		1, 1'		
Charge		+2		-1					+2		+3
URM1 ^N		6'	2	1'			11		1, 1'		
Charge		+1	-1	-1					+2		+1
URM1 ⁺		6'	2	1'				11	1, 1'		
Charge		+1	-1	-1				+1	+2		+2
SUMO1		6'	2	1, 5, 9, 1'					1, 1'		
Charge		+1	-1	-4					+2		-2
TMEM59 ₂₈₅₋₂₉₁		9, 11, 8'		1, 3'			5		1, 1'		
Charge		+3		-2					+2		+3
TMEM59 ₂₉₈₋₃₀₅		9, 11, 3'	8'	1, 7'			5		1, 1'		
Charge		+3	-1	-2					+2		+2
CoV2N ₃₃₅₋₃₄₁		9, 11	7', 8'	1			5		1, 1'		
Charge		+2	-2	-1					+2		+1

3. References

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