

Profiling of Parkin-Binding Partners Using Tandem Affinity Purification

Journal Information
Journal ID (nlm-ta): PLoS One
Journal ID (iso-abbrev): PLoS ONE
Journal ID (publisher-id): plos
Journal ID (pmc): plosone
Title: PLoS ONE
ISSN (electronic): 1932-6203
Publisher: Public Library of Science (San Francisco, USA)

Article/Issue Information
Date received: 5 May 2013
Date accepted: 15 September 2013
Publication date (collection): 2013
Publication date (electronic): 11 November 2013
Volume: 8
Issue: 11
Electronic Location Identifier: e78648
Article Id (pmc): 3823883
PubMed ID: 24244333
Publisher ID: PONE-D-13-18533
DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0078648
Funding: The study was supported by the Ministry of Health and Department of Educational Assistance, University and Research of the Autonomous Province of Bolzano and the South Tyrolean Sparkasse Foundation. Part of this study was also funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research through the German National Genome Research Network and the Greifswald Approach to Individualized Medicine as well as by the German Research Foundation through the Cluster of Excellence for Multimodal Computing and Interaction. The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

Categories

Subject: Research Article

Counts

Pages: 17

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Competing Interests: The authors have read the journal's policy and have the following conflicts: Peter P. Pramstaller received honoraria for serving on scientific boards and speaking from Novartis, Boehringer, GlaxoSmithKline, Lundbeck and UCB. Christine Klein is a member of the editorial board of "Neurology" and has served as editor of the "Continuum Issue Neurogenetics 2008" and as faculty at the Annual Meetings of the American Academy of Neurology since 2004. She is a consultant to Centogene and received honoraria for speaking from Boehringer Ingelheim and Orion Pharma. Dr. Klein is the recipient of a career development award from the Hermann and Lilly Schilling Foundation. She is funded by the Volkswagen Foundation, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, the Possehl Foundation and received institutional support from the University of Luebeck for genetics research. This does not alter the authors' adherence to all the PLOS ONE policies on sharing data and materials. Also, the current affiliation of Adrian Alexa, one of the co-authors of the paper, to Illumina, Cambridge Ltd, UK (stated on the first page of the manuscript) does not alter the authors' adherence to all the PLOS ONE policies on sharing data and materials.

Conceived and designed the experiments: CK PPP AAH IP FSD. Performed the experiments: AZ AS IP AR CS. Analyzed the data: HB NTD CXW FSD. Contributed reagents/materials/analysis tools: AA MA. Wrote the paper: IP AZ FSD.

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Abstract

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder affecting approximately 1–2% of the general population over age 60. It is characterized by a rather selective loss of dopaminergic neurons in the substantia nigra and the presence of α -synuclein-enriched Lewy body inclusions. Mutations in the *Parkin* gene (*PARK2*) are the major cause of autosomal recessive early-onset

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parkinsonism. The Parkin protein is an E3 ubiquitin ligase with various cellular functions, including the induction of mitophagy upon mitochondrial depolarization, but the full repertoire of Parkin-binding proteins remains poorly defined. Here we employed tandem affinity purification interaction screens with subsequent mass spectrometry to profile binding partners of Parkin. Using this approach for two different cell types (HEK293T and SH-SY5Y neuronal cells), we identified a total of 203 candidate Parkin-binding proteins. For the candidate proteins and the proteins known to cause heritable forms of parkinsonism, protein-protein interaction data were derived from public databases, and the associated biological processes and pathways were analyzed and compared. Functional similarity between the candidates and the proteins involved in monogenic parkinsonism was investigated, and additional confirmatory evidence was obtained using published genetic interaction data from *Drosophila melanogaster*. Based on the results of the different analyses, a prioritization score was assigned to each candidate Parkin-binding protein. Two of the top ranking candidates were tested by co-immunoprecipitation, and interaction to Parkin was confirmed for one of them. New candidates for involvement in cell death processes, protein folding, the fission/fusion machinery, and the mitophagy pathway were identified, which provide a resource for further elucidating Parkin function.

Introduction

Parkinson's disease (PD) is a progressive neurodegenerative disorder affecting approximately 1–2% of the general population over age 60 [1]. It is characterized clinically by tremor, rigidity, reduced motor activity (bradykinesia), and postural instability [2] and pathologically by loss of dopaminergic neurons in the *substantia nigra pars compacta* and the presence of α -synuclein positive inclusions in the cytoplasm of neurons, termed Lewy bodies [3], [4]. Most cases are idiopathic or late-onset PD (>85% of all cases), whereas <10% of cases are familial forms. The identification and characterization of genes that cause heritable forms of the disease have provided important insights into the pathways involved in dopaminergic neurodegeneration. Mutations in the *Parkin* gene (*PARK2*) represent the most common known cause of early-onset parkinsonism (10 to 20%) [5]. The Parkin protein is an E3 ubiquitin ligase responsible for the transfer of activated ubiquitin molecules to a protein substrate [6]. This ubiquitination process has various functional consequences in addition to the protein degradation by the 26S proteasome, including regulation of receptor trafficking, cell cycle progression, gene transcription, DNA repair, and immune responses [7].

Studies in *Drosophila melanogaster* revealed compelling evidence for a role of Parkin in the maintenance of mitochondrial function [8]. Genetic interaction between *Parkin* and *PINK1*, mutations of which

also cause early-onset parkinsonism, indicated that both genes are acting in a common pathway. Loss of one of these two genes results in mitochondrial pathology and muscle and dopaminergic neuron degeneration. Overexpression of *Parkin* rescues the phenotypes caused by *PINK1* deficiency, but not vice versa, indicating that *Parkin* intervenes downstream of *PINK1* [9], [10]. In addition, genetic interactions between *Parkin* and *PINK1* and genes encoding components of the mitochondrial fission/fusion machinery indicate an involvement of the *PINK1/Parkin* pathway in the regulation of mitochondrial dynamics [11], [12].

Parkin is at steady state essentially cytosolic, and recent work has shown that it selectively and rapidly translocates from the cytosol to depolarized mitochondria with low membrane potential and subsequently induces their autophagic removal in a process called mitophagy [13]-[16].

Increasing our knowledge about the interactions between *Parkin* and other cytoplasmic and mitochondrial proteins will provide further biological insights into *Parkin* function and the intricate relationships between the multiple roles of *Parkin*. The identification of such *Parkin*-binding proteins may have a general role in the pathogenesis of PD and elucidate novel therapeutic targets.

In this study, we report a comprehensive set of novel candidate *Parkin*-binding proteins identified by Tandem Affinity Purification (TAP)/mass spectrometry (MS) interaction screens. Following the established “guilt by association” strategy, where proteins/genes are prioritized if they are found to be related to known disease genes and processes [17]-[19], a set of “seed” proteins known to be related to genetic parkinsonism was used to prioritize the candidate *Parkin*-binding proteins. In particular, this set of proteins provided the basis for the prioritization of candidate proteins based on the known interactions to these proteins. In addition, it was used in an analysis of PD-related pathways and processes and in the prioritization of the candidate *Parkin*-binding proteins based on their functional relationships. The candidate proteins were also compared to complementary experimental data from genetic interaction screens in *Drosophila melanogaster* and genome-wide association studies (GWAS) in humans. Our study identified novel candidate *Parkin*-binding proteins for involvement in cell death processes, protein folding and response to unfolded protein, the fission/fusion machinery, and the mitophagy pathway, and the combined results of the bioinformatics analyses were used to prioritize them into different selection levels.

Results

Protein-protein interaction data for the candidate *Parkin*-binding proteins obtained from the TAP experiments and the proteins known to cause heritable forms of parkinsonism were derived from public databases, and the respective biological processes and pathways were analyzed and compared. Network models were applied to investigate the functional relationships between the candidate *Parkin*-binding proteins and the proteins related to monogenic parkinsonism. In addition, the candidate dataset was compared to results from genetic interaction screens in *Drosophila* and human GWAS. The candidate proteins were prioritized into different selection levels, which were compared to the results of an independent gene prioritization approach.

Finally, two candidates were tested for interaction to Parkin by co-immunoprecipitation.

TAP results and protein datasets

TAP-tagged Parkin containing protein complexes were purified in a two-stage purification process of protein extracts prepared from whole cell lysates and cytosolic and mitochondrial fractions from HEK293T and SH-SY5Y cells and analyzed by MS. The TAP experiments resulted in different protein datasets listed in Table 1 (ParkinTAP datasets). In total, 203 unique peptides were identified as candidate Parkin-binding proteins (Table 1; ParkinTAP candidates); approximately 50% of the candidate proteins were identified in the mitochondrial fractions (Mito dataset) and 50% in the cytosolic fractions (Cyto dataset), with an overlap of 49 proteins between the fractions.

Table 1

Object ID: 10.1371/journal.pone.0078648.t001

Protein datasets.

Label	Description	Size
ParkinTAP datasets	WholeCellsNT-293T HEK293T, Not Treated, Whole Cells	97
	MitoNT-293T HEK293T, Not Treated, Mitochondrial Fraction	65
	CytoNT-293T HEK293T, Not Treated, Cytosolic Fraction	55
	MitoT-293T HEK293T, Treated, Mitochondrial Fraction	18
	CytoT-293T HEK293T, Treated, Cytosolic Fraction	22
	MitoT-SH-SY5Y SH-SY5Y, Treated, Mitochondrial Fraction	54
	CytoT-SH-SY5Y SH-SY5Y, Treated, Cytosolic Fraction	53
Combined datasets	ParkinTAP candidates Union of all ParkinTAP datasets: WholeCellsNT-293T, MitoNT-293T, CytoNT-293T, MitoT-293T, CytoT-293T, MitoT-SH-SY5Y, CytoT-SH-SY5Y	203
	Mito Union of MitoNT-293T, MitoT-293T and MitoT-SH-SY5Y	99
	Cyto Union of CytoNT-293T, CytoT-293T and CytoT-SH-SY5Y	94
External datasets	MonogenicPD Proteins encoded by genes causing monogenic parkinsonism [20]	9
	Pink1TAP PINK1-interacting candidates identified by TAP [21]	17
	ParkinIP Parkin interacting proteins from HNet	77
	MonogenicPDIP Interacting partners of MonogenicPD proteins from HNet	668
	PINK1IP PINK1-interacting proteins from HNet	44
	RelatedPD Union of ParkinIP and MonogenicPD	80
Comparison of datasets	ParkinTAP \cap ParkinIP	Overlap between ParkinTAP candidates and Parkin interactors in HNet 4(3)
	ParkinTAP \cap MonogenicPD	Overlap between ParkinTAP candidates and MonogenicPD 1(0)
	ParkinTAP \cap MonogenicPDIP	Overlap between ParkinTAP candidates and MonogenicPDIP 40(39)
	ParkinTAP \cap Pink1TAP	Overlap between ParkinTAP and Pink1TAP candidates 15(15)
	ParkinIP \cap MonogenicPD	Overlap between Parkin interactors in HNet and in MonogenicPD 6(5)

*. dataset intersection (\cap).

** in brackets: set size excluding Parkin.

In addition, the following datasets were used in the analyses: MonogenicPD, which includes proteins encoded by genes implicated in monogenic forms of parkinsonism [20], Pink1TAP, which provides a list of candidate PINK1-interacting proteins identified in a previous TAP study [21], and ParkinIP, PINK1IP, and MonogenicPDIP, which include proteins known to interact with Parkin, PINK1, and proteins from MonogenicPD, respectively. The dataset RelatedPD includes the ParkinIP and MonogenicPD datasets. The previously reported Pink1TAP dataset mostly overlaps with the ParkinTAP candidates of the present

study, with the exception of PINK1 itself and CDC37 (cell division cycle 37 homolog). The database identifiers of the proteins present in each dataset are provided in Table S1.

Protein-protein interactions

The protein interactions of Parkin and MonogenicPD were investigated based on the human interactome network (HNet). We analyzed the interaction network within the RelatedPD dataset, which includes 80 proteins and 206 binary interactions, out of 307 interactions in total. Six of the nine MonogenicPD proteins are Parkin interactors in HNet (ParkinIP \cap MonogenicPD in Table 1), and only UCHL1, FBXO7, and ATP13A2 from MonogenicPD do not interact directly with Parkin. Nevertheless, UCHL1 and FBXO7 interact with ParkinIP proteins, and therefore the RelatedPD subnetwork consists of a single connected component when ATP13A2, which is responsible for Kufor-Rakeb syndrome, a form of parkinsonism with dementia and juvenile disease onset [22], is excluded.

We investigated also the interactions between the proteins in ParkinTAP, and out of the 203 candidates, 193 are part of a single large connected component, and only 10 do not interact with the other ParkinTAP candidates (Table S2).

For each ParkinTAP candidate, the shortest path network distance (ND) to Parkin and to MonogenicPD proteins was computed in SpNet, which is a subnetwork of HNet, including the ParkinTAP candidates, ParkinIP, MonogenicPD, MonogenicPDIP and all proteins in the interconnecting shortest paths between ParkinTAP and MonogenicPD. In total, it includes 4,009 proteins and 290,496 interactions, where most of the interactions (268,484) are expanded complexes. Table 2 shows the ND to Parkin and the minimum network distance to MonogenicPD proteins for a selection of candidates, the results for all ParkinTAP candidates are available in Table S3 (ND = 1 corresponds to direct interaction, ND = 2 indicates one intermediate in the shortest path). In this network, only three ParkinTAP candidates are known Parkin-binding proteins (DNAJA1, HSPA1A, HSPA8) [23], and 164 candidate proteins interact with Parkin through one intermediate protein (Parkin ND = 2). In total, 40 candidates are MonogenicPDIP, and six of them interact with two different MonogenicPD proteins (MonogenicPD #ND = 2). Most of the interactions to MonogenicPD (28 of 40) include UCHL1, which was not confirmed since first described in 1998 [24], and 25 of these involve a large complex consisting of UCHL1 and 166 additional proteins [25]. Ten ParkinTAP candidates interact with PARK7 (DJ-1), three interact with SNCA, and one interacts with LRRK2 (Table 2; column iMonogenicPD).

Table 2

Object ID: 10.1371/journal.pone.0078648.t002

Summary of results for ParkinTAP candidates passing the first seven selection levels.

Rank	Entrez	Gene ID	HGNC	Symbol	Parkin ND	MonogenicPD ND	MonogenicPD #ND	iMonogenicPD	Not Complex	Pink1	TAP	HNet	Degree	GOCComp	FunSim
MonogenicPD	GOSlimPD	ParkinGS	Pink1GS	CalmodulinIP	Selection Level 1	5071									
PARK2	0	0	1	PARK2	--	76	true	true	--	true	true	--	0	2	3301
				DNAJA1	1	1	2	PARK2,							

UCHL1 -- 551 true -- true true -- true 0 3 3303 HSPA1A 1 1 2 PARK2, SNCA -- true
 926 -- true true true true true 0 4 3312 HSPA8 1 1 2 PARK2, UCHL1 -- true 1292
 true -- true true true true 0 5 5052 PRDX1 2 1 2 UCHL1, PARK7 -- 559 -- true
 -- true 1 6 801 CALM1 2 1 2 UCHL1, SNCA -- 780 --- true true true 1 7 3181
 HNRNPA2B1 2 1 2 UCHL1, PARK7 -- 848 ----- true 1 8 10845 CLPX 2 1 1
 PARK7 -- 161 true true -- true true -- 2 9 10951 CBX1 3 1 1 UCHL1 -- 235 -- true
 -- true true -- 2 10 3329 HSPD1 2 1 1 PARK7 -- true 904 true true true true true
 2 11 60 ACTB 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 1016 true true true true true true 2 12 492 ATP2B3
 3 3 8 0 true -- 2 -- true true --- 3 13 9868 TOMM70A 2 2 5 0 true -- 8 true true true
 --- 3 14 490 ATP2B1 3 2 2 0 true -- 8 -- true true -- true 3 15 23581 CASP14
 3 2 5 0 -- 29 -- true true true -- 3 16 3005 H1FO 2 2 4 0 -- 74 -- true true --
 true 3 17 7818 DAP3 2 2 7 0 -- 125 true true true --- 3 18 5589 PRKCSH 2 2
 5 0 -- 127 true true true true true true 3 19 84790 TUBA1C 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- true
 266 true -- true -- true 3 20 9131 AIFM1 2 2 8 0 -- 333 -- true true true true true
 3 21 10128 LRPPRC 2 1 1 PARK7 -- true 461 true -- true true -- 3 22 213 ALB 2
 1 1 UCHL1 -- 587 true -- true -- true 3 23 10383 TUBB4B 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 599
 true -- true -- true true 3 24 7431 VIM 2 1 1 SNCA -- 635 -- true -- true 3 25
 7277 TUBA4A 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 733 true -- true -- true 3 26 3326 HSP90AB1 2 1
 1 LRRK2 -- true 739 true -- true -- true 3 27 3320 HSP90AA1 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- true
 757 true -- true -- true 3 28 3313 HSPA9 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- true 778 true -- true true
 true true 3 29 4869 NPM1 2 1 1 PARK7 -- 813 true -- true -- true 3 30 203068
 TUBB 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- true 889 true --- true true 3 31 3309 HSPA5 2 1 1 UCHL1
 -- true 921 true -- true -- true 3 32 284110 GSDMA --- 0 --- true true ---
 3 33 9939 RBM8A 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 245 true -- true true -- 4 34 813 CALU 2 1 1
 UCHL1 -- 266 true -- true true true 4 35 5955 RCN2 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 297 --
 -- true true true 4 36 10240 MRPS31 2 1 1 PARK7 -- 365 --- true true -- 4 37
 2597 GAPDH 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 595 --- true true true 4 38 5250 SLC25A3 2 1 1
 UCHL1 -- 597 --- true true true 4 39 498 ATP5A1 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 611 true --
 -- true -- true 4 40 3032 HADHB 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 675 --- true true 4 41 1915
 EEF1A1 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 1079 --- true true true 4 42 4747 NEFL 2 1 1 UCHL1 --
 -- 37 true --- 5 43 84617 TUBB6 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 174 true --- true 5 44
 10165 SLC25A13 2 1 1 PARK7 -- 648 true --- true 5 45 221613 HIST1H2AA
 3 2 1 0 true -- 8 -- true --- 6 46 539 ATP5O 2 2 6 0 -- 63 true true -- true true
 -- 6 47 51081 MRPS7 2 2 6 0 -- 128 -- true -- true -- 6 48 6418 SET 2 2 7 0 --
 169 true true -- true true -- 6 49 4976 OPA1 2 2 6 0 -- 177 true true -- true true true
 6 50 4741 NEFM 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 233 --- true 6 51 11335 CBX3 2 2 5 0 --
 256 -- true -- true true -- 6 52 1975 EIF4B 2 2 8 0 -- 300 -- true --- 6 53 9532
 BAG2 2 2 8 0 -- 351 true true -- true true true 6 54 9092 SART1 2 1 1 PARK7 --
 376 --- 6 55 9551 ATP5J2 2 2 6 0 -- 379 true true --- true 6 56 10627
 MYL12A 2 1 1 PARK7 -- 385 --- true 6 57 509 ATP5C1 2 2 7 0 -- 389 true
 true --- 6 58 6224 RPS20 2 2 7 0 -- 390 -- true -- true -- 6 59 6137 RPL13 2
 2 8 0 -- 436 -- true --- true 6 60 6128 RPL6 2 2 7 0 -- 468 -- true --- true 6 61
 7203 CCT3 2 2 8 0 -- 598 true true -- true true true 6 62 302 ANXA2 2 1 1 UCHL1
 -- 811 --- true 6 63 3185 HNRNPF 2 1 1 UCHL1 -- 928 --- true 6 64
 8363 HIST1H4J --- 0 --- true --- 6 65 7171 TPM4 3 2 3 0 -- 12 -- true
 --- 7 66 4724 NDUFS4 3 2 3 0 -- 44 true -- true --- 7 67 9118 INA 2 2 6 0 --
 82 -- true --- 7 68 3306 HSPA2 2 2 7 0 -- true 95 true -- true true -- 7 69 1153
 CIRBP 2 2 4 0 -- 149 -- true -- true -- 7 70 8531 CSDA 2 2 7 0 -- 167 -- true
 true true -- 7 71 4001 LMNB1 2 2 7 0 -- 206 -- true true true -- 7 72 291 SLC25A4
 2 2 6 0 -- 227 true -- true --- 7 73 811 CALR 2 2 6 0 -- 235 true -- true -- true
 7 74 6182 MRPL12 2 2 5 0 -- 263 true -- true -- true 7 75 27339 PRPF19 2 2 7
 0 -- 275 -- true true -- 7 76 6421 SFPQ 2 2 7 0 -- 307 -- true true true -- 7
 77 7184 HSP90B1 2 2 7 0 -- 316 true -- true -- true 7 78 5984 RFC4 2 2 6 0 --
 324 -- true -- true 7 79 2521 FUS 2 2 6 0 -- 354 -- true true true -- 7 80 4720

NDUFS2 2 2 8 0 -- 410 -- true true true true 7 81 6742 SSBP1 2 2 7 0 -- 531 true - true true true true 7 82 10642 IGF2BP1 2 2 8 0 -- 647 -- true --- 7 83 3305 HSPA1L 2 2 8 0 - true 661 true - true true true true 7 84 708 C1QBP 2 2 7 0 -- 661 -- true true - true 7 85 2547 XRCC6 2 2 8 0 -- 813 -- true true true - 7 86 7531 YWHAE 2 2 8 0 -- 833 true - true -- true 7 87 8607 RUVBL1 2 2 8 0 - - 858 -- true true -- 7 88 4000 LMNA 2 2 8 0 -- 871 true - true true true true 7 89 10856 RUVBL2 2 2 8 0 -- 960 true - true true -- 7 90 7425 VGF --- 0 --- true - true --- 7

Parkin ND: Shortest path network distance to Parkin in SpNet protein-protein interaction network.

MonogenicPD ND: Minimum shortest path network distance to MonogenicPD in SpNet.

MonogenicPD #ND: Number of shortest paths to MonogenicPD with minimum value in SpNet.

iMonogenicPD: Gene symbols of interacting MonogenicPD.

Not Complex: No complex interaction with other ParkinTAP candidates.

Pink1TAP: Pink1TAP candidate.

HNet Degree: Number of protein interactions in iRefIndex.

GOComp: Logical OR of "true" values of six GOComparisons listed in Table S3.

FunSim MonogenicPD: Functional similarity ≥ 0.7 to a MonogenicPD protein.

GOSlimPD: Annotated to GOSlimPD or children term.

ParkinGS: Overlap with Parkin fly genetic screen.

Pink1GS: Overlap with PINK1 fly genetic screen.

CalmodulinIP: Interaction with calmodulin.

The network of the interacting partners of the ParkinTAP candidate protein LRPPRC is visualized in Figure 1A as an example for a candidate protein with many interactions. LRPPRC forms a complex with PARK7 (DJ-1), and the network is relatively dense with multiple complex interactions. It has also been identified as a candidate PINK1 interactor [21].

Figure 1

Object ID: 10.1371/journal.pone.0078648.g001

Direct protein interactions of two ParkinTAP candidates selected as exemplary proteins: LRPPRC (A) and TOMM70A (B).

Proteins are represented as nodes and interactions as edges; the edges are drawn as solid and dashed lines for binary and complex interactions, respectively. Binary interactions to the selected candidates are represented by thicker edges. ParkinTAP ND X are ParkinTAP candidates at network distance X of MonogenicPD, where ParkinTAP ND 1 are direct MonogenicPD interactors. A: LRPPRC. There are many interactors of LRPPRC in iRefIndex, resulting in a dense network of complex interactions. LRPPRC interacts with MonogenicPD PARK7, as well as with 48 other ParkinTAP candidates, and the network includes 14 ParkinIP and 77 MonogenicPDIP. B: TOMM70A. Only eight proteins interact directly with TOMM70A, including one ParkinTAP candidate

(HSP90AA1), two ParkinIP (TOMM20, UBC) and one MonogenicPDIP (VDAC1).

Another example is provided by the network of TOMM70A, which is characterized by only few interactions (Figure 1B). It consists of only eight nodes, including one ParkinTAP candidate as well as one MonogenicPDIP and two ParkinIP proteins. Interaction networks for additional candidate proteins (CLPX, PRKCSH, DAP3 and CALU) are provided in Figures S1A-S1D.

Calmodulin (CALM1) is one of the candidate Parkin-binding proteins, which interacts with two other MonogenicPD proteins (UCHL1, SNCA) in HNet. However, CALM1 is a possible artifact, since Parkin was tagged with a calmodulin binding peptide according to the TAP protocol. Therefore, any ParkinTAP candidate that is a calmodulin interactor (96 from HNet) may also be a possible TAP artifact (Table 2 and Table S3; column CalmodulinIP).

A total of 96 ParkinTAP candidates showed a significant DAPPLE score ($P < 0.01$) indicating a high connectivity between the ParkinTAP and MonogenicPD datasets (Table S3).

Analysis of pathways and GO biological processes related to PD

In order to identify the pathways and processes known to be involved in the pathophysiology of PD and in particular *Parkin*-linked parkinsonism, we performed enrichment analyses for the RelatedPD dataset, consisting of ParkinIP and MonogenicPD. As expected, the most significant pathways according to ConsensusPathDB were “Parkinson's disease” ($P = 1.6 \times 10^{-14}$), “Alpha-synuclein signaling” ($P = 1.1 \times 10^{-08}$), and “Role of parkin in ubiquitin-proteasomal pathway” ($P = 1.5 \times 10^{-07}$) (Table S4).

The most significant GO (gene ontology) biological processes were related to Parkin function in the ubiquitin-proteasome system: “protein modification by small protein conjugation” (LEA $P = 2.4 \times 10^{-19}$) and “protein ubiquitination” (LEA $P = 1.9 \times 10^{-17}$). Additional significant processes were related to apoptosis and to mitochondrial and neuronal processes: “cell death” (LEA $P = 2.4 \times 10^{-14}$), “regulation of cell death” (LEA $P = 1.2 \times 10^{-10}$), “apoptosis” (LEA $P = 6.6 \times 10^{-10}$), “mitochondrion organization” (LEA $P = 1.4 \times 10^{-9}$), “synaptic transmission” (LEA $P = 2.8 \times 10^{-8}$), “neuron death” (LEA $P = 7.7 \times 10^{-8}$), and “dopamine transport” (LEA $P = 7.8 \times 10^{-8}$) (Table S5).

Pathway analysis for ParkinTAP candidates

The most significantly enriched pathways in the dataset of the 203 ParkinTAP candidate proteins were related to gene expression, in particular to RNA processing/splicing and translation: “Ribosome” ($P = 2.3 \times 10^{-15}$) and “Processing of Capped Intron-Containing Pre-mRNA” ($P = 6.0 \times 10^{-15}$). Other enriched pathways relate to protein folding, like “Prefoldin mediated transfer of substrate to CCT/TriC” ($P = 2.0 \times 10^{-10}$) and “Protein folding” ($P = 1.9 \times 10^{-7}$), or to protein processing: “Protein processing in endoplasmic reticulum” ($P = 1.6 \times 10^{-8}$). Pathway enrichment analysis was also performed for the Mito and Cyto datasets

separately. In the Mito dataset, the most significant pathways were related to protein folding and oxidative phosphorylation, whereas in the Cyto dataset the most enriched pathways were related to gene expression. Detailed pathway enrichment results, including the ParkinTAP candidate proteins for each enriched pathway, are provided in Table S6.

Analysis of GO biological processes for ParkinTAP candidates

Of the 203 ParkinTAP candidate proteins, 175 were annotated with a GO biological process. The most well represented biological process categories were related to RNA processing and translation, like “translational elongation” (LEA $P=1.3\times 10^{-21}$) and “nuclear mRNA splicing, via spliceosome” (LEA $P=1.1\times 10^{-19}$). Several processes related to protein folding and complex assembly were also significantly enriched, like “protein folding” (LEA $P=7.9\times 10^{-17}$), “response to unfolded protein” (LEA $P=1.2\times 10^{-7}$), or “cellular protein complex assembly” (LEA $P=8.8\times 10^{-6}$), as well as mitochondrial processes like “mitochondrial transport” (LEA $P=8.2\times 10^{-6}$). The Mito dataset contained significant terms related to mitochondrial function, which were specific to this dataset: “electron transport chain” (LEA $P=7.2\times 10^{-9}$) and “oxidative phosphorylation” (LEA $P=2.7\times 10^{-5}$). Detailed results are provided in Table S7.

Enriched GO processes in ParkinTAP and Related PD

To identify and prioritize biologically relevant ParkinTAP candidates, we compared the GO biological process enrichment results between ParkinTAP and RelatedPD and identified 19 GO terms that were significantly enriched in both datasets (classic score $P\leq 10^{-3}$) (Table 3). Of these, five processes were significantly enriched with both classic and LEA scores ($P\leq 10^{-3}$), and ParkinTAP candidates annotated to these five processes (or their child processes) are identified in Table S3 (columns GOComp; response to unfolded protein, mitochondrion organization, intracellular transport, establishment of localization in cell, cellular protein complex assembly). In addition, three of the 19 processes showed a significant LEA score ($P\leq 10^{-3}$) in ParkinTAP: “protein folding”, “cellular macromolecular complex assembly”, and “cellular metabolic process”. ParkinTAP candidate proteins annotated to protein folding and descendant processes are also identified in Table S3 (column GOComp; protein folding).

Table 3

Object ID: 10.1371/journal.pone.0078648.t003

GO biological processes enriched in ParkinTAP and RelatedPD datasets.

GO ID	GO Term	Classic score ($P\#10^{-3}$)	LEA score ($P\#10^{-3}$)	ParkinTAP LEA score ($P\#10^{-3}$)
1	GO:0071844 cellular component assembly at cellular level	√	2	
2	GO:0071842 cellular component organization at cellular level	√	3	GO:0071840 cellular component organization or biogenesis
3	GO:0071841 cellular component organization or biogenesis at cellular level	√	4	GO:0071841 cellular component organization or biogenesis at cellular level
4	GO:0006986 response to unfolded protein	√	5	GO:0006986 response to unfolded protein
5	GO:0019538 protein metabolic process	√	6	GO:0019538 protein metabolic process
6	GO:0022607 cellular	√	7	GO:0022607 cellular

component assembly √ 8 GO:0044267 cellular protein metabolic process √ 9 GO:0016043 cellular component organization √ 10 GO:0007005 mitochondrion organization √ √ 11 GO:0046907 intracellular transport √ √ 12 GO:0008152 metabolic process √ 13 GO:0051649 establishment of localization in cell √ √ 14 GO:0006457 protein folding √ √ 15 GO:0043623 cellular protein complex assembly √ √ 16 GO:0035966 response to topologically incorrect protein √ 17 GO:0034622 cellular macromolecular complex assembly √ √ 18 GO:0044237 cellular metabolic process √ √ 19 GO:0044085 cellular component biogenesis √

*. ParkinTAP LEA score $P \leq 10^{-3}$, RelatedPD LEA score $p > 10^{-3}$.

In addition, out of the significantly enriched GO terms in RelatedPD, we selected a set of five representative terms (GOSlimPD) (Table 4) and identified a total of 50 ParkinTAP proteins that were annotated to any of these five terms or to their descendants with a more specific annotation (Table 2 and Table S3; column GOSlimPD).

Table 4

Object ID: 10.1371/journal.pone.0078648.t004

Representative GO terms for monogenic parkinsonism (GOSlimPD).

GO ID GO Term GO:0008219 cell death GO:0031396 regulation of protein ubiquitination GO:0006950 response to stress GO:0007005 mitochondrion organization GO:0006914 autophagy

Analysis of functional relationships

To further prioritize ParkinTAP candidates, we assessed the functional similarity between the candidate proteins and the proteins included in MonogenicPD. The FunSimPDsub network (Figure 2) represents the functional relationships between the ParkinTAP and MonogenicPD proteins that showed a functional similarity score ≥ 0.7 . It includes 211 proteins, 157 of them in a single connected component including 149 ParkinTAP candidates. The remaining 54 candidate proteins are not functionally similar (functional similarity score ≥ 0.7) to any other protein in FunSimPDsub. In this network, six significant protein clusters ($P \leq 0.05$) were identified, and GO enrichment analysis was performed for the proteins included in each cluster. Cluster 1 proteins are mainly involved in RNA processing and translation, cluster 2 proteins are involved in transcription, RNA processing and splicing, cluster 3 represents processes related to complex assembly, protein folding, mitochondrion organization, and cytoskeleton-dependent intracellular transport, proteins in cluster 4 are involved in mitochondrial processes, like mitochondrial transport, mitochondrial ATP synthesis, and respiratory electron transport chain, cluster 5 proteins are involved in protein folding, and the over-represented processes in cluster 6, which contains most MonogenicPD proteins, are related to programmed cell death and mitochondrion organization. Detailed enrichment results for the six protein clusters are provided in Table S8.

Figure 2

Object ID: 10.1371/journal.pone.0078648.g002

Functional similarity network FunSimPDsub.

This network includes ParkinTAP candidates and MonogenicPD proteins with a functional similarity score ≥ 0.7 ; six significant clusters were identified ($P \leq 0.05$).

To better investigate which ParkinTAP candidates are functionally related to MonogenicPD proteins, we generated the subnetwork FunSimPD_ND1 consisting of only MonogenicPD proteins and the ParkinTAP candidates that are functionally related to them (functional similarity score ≥ 0.7) (Figure 3). FunSimPD_ND1 includes 38 proteins in a single connected component, which were again grouped into four significant clusters ($P \leq 0.05$) with most MonogenicPD proteins contained in clusters 1 and 3. In cluster 1 of this network, biological processes related to programmed cell death and mitochondrion organization are enriched (Figure 4A), cluster 2 proteins are mostly involved in translation and protein folding, cluster 3 proteins are enriched in processes like programmed cell death, mitochondrion organization, protein folding and proteolysis (Figure 4B), and cluster 4 proteins are mainly involved in mitochondrial ATP synthesis.

Figure 3

Object ID: 10.1371/journal.pone.0078648.g003

Functional similarity network FunSimPD_ND1.

This network consists of ParkinTAP candidates that are functionally related to MonogenicPD proteins (functional similarity score ≥ 0.7); four significant clusters were identified ($P \leq 0.05$).

Figure 4

Object ID: 10.1371/journal.pone.0078648.g004

FunSimPD_ND1 clusters 1 (A) and 3 (B) with the enriched GO processes listed in the inserted tables.

Proteins annotated to enriched processes are marked in the networks with symbols listed in the GO enrichment tables. To remove redundancy, enriched processes that are descendants of listed processes or that map only to MonogenicPD proteins were excluded.

Comparison of ParkinTAP candidates to genetic interaction screens and GWAS data

In order to further assess the biological relevance of the Parkin-interacting proteins identified in our study, we compared our candidate dataset with the results of a recently published genetic screen for modifiers of *Parkin* and *PINK1* mutant phenotypes in *Drosophila* [26]. From this screen, 127 cytological regions were identified that enhanced or suppressed the *Parkin* wing-posture phenotype or caused lethality prior to adult stage. In these cytological regions, 5,420 human orthologues were annotated and an overlap of 94 proteins with our dataset of candidate Parkin-interacting proteins was identified ($P = 6.0 \times 10^{-12}$ relative to the total number of human genes and $P = 1.5 \times 10^{-4}$ relative to the total number of fly genes) (Table 2 and Table S3; column

ParkinGS). The same analysis was performed for the *PINK1* mutant phenotypes, where 97 cytological regions were identified that affected the *PINK1* wing-posture phenotype or reduced fly viability [26]. These regions were mapped to 4,163 human orthologues, which overlap with 76 ParkinTAP candidates ($P=2.4\times 10^{-10}$ and $P=2.2\times 10^{-4}$ relative to human genes or fly genes, respectively) (Table 2 and Table S3; column Pink1GS).

The ParkinTAP candidates were also compared to human GWAS results for PD to look for evidence of potential association signals in or around the genes encoding these candidate proteins. Comparison to the PDGene database [27] resulted in only one gene overlap (*LMNA*) within a distance of 50 kb of the listed genetic variants. A variant within this gene has been associated with PD in a recent GWA meta-analysis ($P=2.4\times 10^{-6}$) [28].

Prioritization of candidate proteins

A set of criteria was defined to assign a prioritization score (selection level) for each candidate protein, which is listed in the last column of Table 2 (for candidates with selection level 0-7) and Table S3 (for all candidates). The selection levels range from lowest priority level 8 to highest priority level 0. By default, the candidate proteins have a selection level 8; if they are annotated to PD-related processes, they are assigned to selection level 7, and if they either interact or are functionally similar to PD-related proteins, the selection level is 6. Candidates with the selection levels 3, 4, and 5 interact or are functionally similar to PD-related proteins, and in addition match candidates from the PINK1TAP screen, or are annotated to PD-related processes, overlap with the Parkin/PINK1 fly genetic screen or do not interact with many proteins (and therefore tend to make unique/specific interactions). If the candidates both, interact and are functionally similar to PD-related proteins, they are prioritized with selection level 2. Candidates that interact with more than one PD-related protein are assigned to top rank selection level 1. Selection level 0 is reserved to candidates that have been reported to interact with Parkin in HNet. The criteria are outlined in the Supporting Information and visualized in an overview graph (Figure S2).

Comparison of ParkinTAP candidates to Endeavour

Using Endeavour [29], an independent gene prioritization was performed. In general, the genes prioritized with Endeavour are also top ranking according to the selection levels described in the previous section. In total, eight genes have an Endeavour prioritization score <0.01 , and seven of these genes also have a selection level ≤ 5 . The Endeavour results and the corresponding selection levels according to our prioritization are provided in Table S9.

Comparison of ParkinTAP candidates to a dataset of Parkin substrates and interactors

A recent study provided a systematic identification of Parkin-dependent ubiquitylation targets and interacting proteins [30]. Eight out of 155 proteins reported to interact with Parkin in this study (weighted and

normalized D-scores ≥ 1.0) match the ParkinTAP candidates listed in Table S3. Parkin is one of the matching proteins, three other matching candidates have a selection level of 3 (TOMM70A, TUBA1C, TUBA4A), the remaining four candidates have selection levels 7 and 8 (SLC25A4, RPS27A, TUBB7P, EEF1A2). One of these matching candidates (RPS27A) was prioritized also by Endeavour. The overlap between the ParkinTAP candidates and the interaction results from this study is statistically significant (Fisher's exact test $P < 1 \times 10^{-3}$). In addition, seven out of 99 Parkin ubiquitylation targets (class 1 results) are also included in the ParkinTAP candidates from our study. Parkin is again one of the matching candidates, two additional matching candidates have selection level 0 (HSPA8, HSPA1A), other four have selection level 3 (TOMM70A, HSP90AB1) or selection levels 6 and 7 (HNRNPF, YWHAE). The overlap is again statistically significant ($P < 1 \times 10^{-3}$).

Co-immunoprecipitation

For validation of candidate Parkin-binding proteins, we performed co-immunoprecipitation experiments from HEK293T cells for the two candidates shown in Figures 1A and 1B (LRPPRC and TOMM70A). Figure 5 shows the results of the co-immunoprecipitation using antibodies raised against the two candidate Parkin-interacting proteins. We observed co-immunoprecipitation with TOMM70A, whereas the interaction with LRPPRC seems to be non-specific as the Western Blot shows a band on the same height also in the negative control (control IgG antibodies).

Figure 5

Object ID: 10.1371/journal.pone.0078648.g005

Co-immunoprecipitation assays for Parkin and candidate binding proteins.

Extracts from untransfected HEK293T cells were subjected to immunoprecipitation with anti-Parkin or control IgG antibodies, followed by Western Blot of input and immunoprecipitation (IP) fractions with antibodies against LRPPRC and TOMM70A. The asterisk indicates a non-specific band.

Discussion

Although the *Parkin* gene was identified 15 years ago [31], the multiple functions of this protein and the precise mechanisms by which it exerts its protective effect remain the subject of intense investigations. An important step in understanding the various functions of Parkin is placing it in a network of biochemical pathways, as the breakdown of these cellular pathways or processes, in which a group of proteins work together, may result in Parkin-associated pathology. To understand such network perturbations, it is necessary to systematically explore the complex interaction network in which the Parkin-binding proteins are interconnected.

In this study we identified 203 candidate Parkin-binding proteins using TAP/MS proteomic screens. The interactions between these proteins were investigated within HNet, and most of them were part of a single

connected component. Whereas only three candidate proteins are known Parkin-binding proteins according to HNet (DNAJA1, HSPA1A, HSPA8) [23], 164 interact with Parkin through one intermediate protein, and 40 interact with one or two other proteins known to be involved in monogenic parkinsonism, which suggests that they might function together in a PD-specific pathway. This is supported by the finding that proteins linked to the same disease have a high propensity to interact with each other and that proteins in a close network-based vicinity to a disease-related protein can therefore be expected to play a role in the same disease-related process [32].

The biological processes enriched in the identified candidate proteins were compared to the processes enriched in the proteins causing monogenic forms of parkinsonism. Several processes, like protein folding, response to unfolded proteins, mitochondrion organization, and cellular protein complex assembly were found to be significantly enriched in both datasets. Also in the pathway analysis, the protein-folding pathway is enriched in the candidate proteins, and protein processing in the endoplasmic reticulum is significantly enriched both in the candidates and in the PD-related proteins.

By analyzing the functional similarity between the candidate proteins and the PD-related proteins, we identified six functional groups related to RNA processing, complex assembly, protein folding, intracellular transport, mitochondrial transport and ATP synthesis, and programmed cell death. These six protein clusters contained 149 candidate Parkin-binding proteins in total. Whereas most of the candidates are functionally similar amongst themselves, in cluster 6 the candidates are all functionally related to the PD-related proteins, with the only exception of YWHAE (Figure 2). A sub-network containing only the candidate proteins that are functionally similar to the PD-related proteins includes 37 proteins in total and 29 candidate Parkin-binding proteins (Figure 3). Twenty-eight candidates fall into four clusters of enriched GO processes that cover the functions of the known PD proteins, including the various known functions of Parkin. Among these processes we have identified several proteins involved in cell death: HSPD1, CASP14, H1F0, DAP3, AIFM1, GSDMA, SET, OPA1, and BAG2. In addition, TOMM70A, DAP3 and OPA1 are involved in mitochondrion organization, and CCT3, CLPX1, HSPD1, PRKCSH and BAG2 are related to protein folding. Of the 29 candidates that are functionally similar to the PD-related proteins, 13 were also identified in a genetic screen as modifiers of *Parkin* and *PINK1* mutant functions in *Drosophila* (three additional candidates were identified only as *Parkin* modifiers) [26], providing further evidence for the biological relevance of the interactions (Table 2).

The diverse functions of the Parkin protein partners reported here are consistent with the functional diversity of the pathogenic processes associated with *Parkin*-linked parkinsonism. Parkin is localized in the endoplasmic reticulum, the Golgi apparatus, the outer nuclear membrane, synaptic vesicles [33], [34], and the outer mitochondrial membrane [35], and there is a large body of evidence showing that Parkin can interfere with a diverse range of cellular processes and pathways. Like other E3 ubiquitin ligases, it is a component of the ubiquitin proteasome system (UPS), a main cellular pathway that promotes removal of damaged or misfolded proteins [36], it is

involved in signal transduction, protein and membrane trafficking and transcriptional regulation [37]–[39], replication and transcription of mitochondrial DNA [35], mitophagy [13], neuroprotection [40], and apoptosis [41].

Parkin expression has been reported to protect cells against multiple forms of stress [42], but although the exact mechanism of this prosurvival function remains elusive, accumulating evidence exists that it involves inhibition of programmed cell death (apoptosis). Two recent studies identified Bax and the mitochondrial pro-apoptotic protein ARTS as Parkin substrates that both might contribute to the anti-apoptotic effect of Parkin [43], [44]. In our study, we identified novel associations between Parkin and several proteins involved in cell death processes. An interaction of Parkin with one of them, OPA1, is supported by the observation that inactivation of OPA1, which promotes mitochondrial fusion, rescues the phenotypes of cell death, muscle degeneration, and mitochondrial abnormalities in *Parkin* and *PINK1* mutants in *Drosophila* [11]. DAP3, another candidate protein involved in cell death, mediates mitochondrial fragmentation, probably reflecting its role in mitochondrial fission [45]. Both proteins might have a role in cell death-associated changes in mitochondrial morphology mediated by Parkin. TOMM70A, which encodes a component of a translocase complex of the outer mitochondrial membrane involved in the import of mitochondrial precursor proteins [46], has been associated recently to Parkin as it is degraded by the UPS after translocation of Parkin to mitochondria [47]. LRPPRC, which was identified already in a proteomic analysis of Parkin interactors [48], might be involved in mitophagic initiation, maturation, trafficking, and lysosomal clearance through its interaction with the MAP1S protein [49]. Other Parkin-binding proteins, like HSPD1 and CLPX, are involved in protein folding and response to unfolded proteins. HSPD1 is one of the most important components of the protein folding system within the mitochondrial matrix [50], and CLPX functions in substrate degradation [51].

In vitro derived TAP results contain false positive interactions and do not represent all binding proteins. Although the two sequential purification steps of the TAP method largely reduce the background resulting from non-specific protein binding compared to a single purification step, these contaminants cannot be completely removed. A limitation of the TAP/MS approach, which preferentially detects interactions within a protein complex [52], is that it is not very powerful for the detection of transient interactions, such as between E3 ubiquitin ligases and their substrates. Therefore, the proteins identified in our study might more likely be Parkin-binding partners than Parkin substrates. In this respect, it is however reassuring that there is a statistically significant overlap between the ParkinTAP candidates from our study and the Parkin interactions and ubiquitylation targets reported in another recent study [30].

Furthermore, the purification step involving the Calmodulin-binding peptide has proven to be problematic when many proteins interact with calmodulin in a calcium-dependent manner [53]. Candidate Parkin-binding proteins that bind also to Calmodulin might therefore be potential TAP artifacts (Table 2 and Table S3; CalmodulinIP). Also, the binding peptides might disturb the function of the tagged proteins. However, similar to untagged Parkin, TAP-tagged Parkin translocated to

depolarized mitochondria and induced their removal, indicating that the tag did not interfere with Parkin-mediated mitophagy (data not shown). Protein interaction data generated by any method need to be confirmed through experimental validation, like co-immunoprecipitation assays. For one of two candidate proteins tested, we were able to confirm a physical interaction with Parkin. However, whereas immunoprecipitation gives validation of the physical interaction of proteins, genetic screens in model organisms like *Drosophila melanogaster* provide additional information about the biological relevance of the interaction of candidate proteins and their putative role in genetic pathways related to PD. The utility of combining protein-interaction screening with genetic-interaction screening to validate protein-protein interaction data was shown in a screen for huntingtin-interacting proteins [54]. In addition, a simple comparative analysis between the candidate Parkin-binding proteins and the results from previously published GWAS was performed. A more extensive analysis will be the focus of future work, in particular by considering SNPs with P-values below the reported significance thresholds and by accounting for multiple genes that may be in the same linkage disequilibrium block as associated variants.

Prioritization of candidate binding proteins based on functional annotations might result in a “knowledge bias” towards well-characterized genes. In our study, this is partially countered by also considering previously reported protein interactions, which should not be affected by the same type of bias. However, a careful interpretation of the interactome results is necessary given the noise in the public data, in particular regarding complexes, where the exact interaction partners within the complex are unknown [55]. The network of protein interactions involving PD-related proteins and the candidate Parkin-binding proteins includes a relative large number of interactions within multi-protein complexes. This effect can be quantified by measuring the network density (ratio between the number of edges and the theoretical maximum number of edges). For example, the network density of the shortest path network SpNet is 3.6%. This relatively high network density reflects the nature of the many processes involved in PD, but it is also a result of the noise in the complex interaction data that is magnified as a result of the matrix expansion described in the Methods section. In this regard there have been some efforts to annotate the reported protein interactions with reliability scores [56]. Once such reliability scores are widely available, they can be used to filter unreliable interactions, which should result in less dense and noisy networks.

In summary, our study has identified novel candidate Parkin-binding proteins with diverse functions that can be associated to the many pathogenic processes of Parkin-linked parkinsonism. The functional diversity of the Parkin-binding proteins and their involvement in cell death processes, protein folding and response to unfolded proteins, the fission/fusion machinery, and the mitophagy pathway further reveals the diversity and complexity of Parkin function and confirms the large impact of Parkin on cellular physiology. Further studies are necessary to generate high quality, comprehensive interaction datasets for other PD proteins, which can be used to identify shared disease pathways and their components. Focusing not just on individual proteins but, on

a network of proteins will prove essential to provide new targets for the development of therapeutic interventions.

Methods

Cell culture

In this study two cell lines were used: Human embryonic kidney cells (HEK293T, ATCC CRL-11268) and Human neuroblastoma cells (SH-SY5Y, ATCC CRL-2266). HEK293T were cultured in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's Medium (DMEM) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum and 1% penicillin-streptomycin (all Lonza). SH-SY5Y, ATCC CRL-2266 were cultured in DMEM-F:12 (Lonza) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum and 1% penicillin-streptomycin. Cells were maintained at 37°C in a saturated atmosphere containing 5% CO₂. To dissipate the mitochondrial membrane potential, cells were treated with the potassium ionophore valinomycin (1 μM, Sigma) or the protonophore *m*-chlorophenylhydrazine (CCCP) (10 μM, Sigma).

Mitochondrial preparation

Mitochondria were isolated from HEK293T and SH-SY5Y cells as previously described [57]. In brief, cells were harvested and homogenized in buffer containing 250 mM sucrose, 10 mM Tris, 1 mM EDTA, pH 7.4 containing protease and phosphatase inhibitors (Roche Diagnostics). In order to remove nuclei and unbroken cells, the homogenate was centrifuged twice at 1,500×g for 10 min. The supernatant containing intact mitochondria was transferred into a new tube and centrifuged at 8,400×g for 10 min. The resulting supernatant ("cytosolic fraction") was centrifuged once again to obtain a purer fraction (8,400×g for 10 min), whereas the mitochondria-enriched pellet ("mitochondrial fraction") was washed once with the buffer described above and centrifuged at 8,400×g for 10 min.

Tandem Affinity Purification

To identify Parkin-interacting proteins, the InterPlay Mammalian Tandem Affinity Purification (TAP) System was used according to the manufacturer's instructions (Agilent Technologies). TAP was performed for whole cell lysates of HEK293T cells as well as for mitochondrial and cytosolic fractions of treated and not treated HEK293T and SH-SY5Y cells. In brief, full-length *Parkin* cDNA was cloned downstream of the multiple cloning site into the pCTAP expression vector, which encodes two different affinity purification tags (a streptavidin and a calmodulin binding peptide). Subsequently, 10⁸ HEK293T and SH-SY5Y cells were transiently transfected with the pCTAP-*Parkin* vector using the CaPO₄ method [58]. Whole cell and mitochondrial pellets were resuspended in lysis buffer supplemented with protease and phosphatase inhibitors, whereas the cytosolic fraction was already dissolved in the buffer used for the mitochondrial preparation. Next, 2 mM EDTA, 10 mM β-mercaptoethanol, and the streptavidin resin were added to the cell lysate and incubated at 4°C while rotating for 2 h. The resin was collected by centrifugation (1,500×g, 5 min), washed twice and incubated with biotin-containing streptavidin elution buffer for

30 min at 4°C to elute the protein complexes. As a second purification step, calmodulin resin and a calcium containing buffer were added to the eluate and the mixture was incubated at 4°C on a rotator for 2 h. The resin was collected by centrifugation (1,500×g, 5 min) and washed twice. Bound protein complexes were eluted using the EDTA-containing calmodulin elution buffer for 30 min at 4°C. The final eluate was concentrated using the ProteoExtract® Protein Precipitation Kit (Merck Millipore), and the precipitate was sent for identification of the unknown proteins to the Taplin Biological Mass Spectrometry Facility (Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA). According to their guidelines, only proteins with two or more peptide matches with the respective protein in the UniProtKB/Swiss-Prot database are confidently identified from the sample.

Bioinformatic analyses

Protein identifiers

Ensembl Biomart 64 [59] was used to map between Entrez Gene ID, HGNC gene symbols and UniProtKB accession numbers. *Drosophila melanogaster* genes were mapped to human orthologous using InParanoid 7.0 [60]. All comparisons between datasets were made using Entrez Gene IDs, except for the comparison to the genetic interaction screen results in *Drosophila*, which was performed with Ensembl Gene ID. In the following, the HGNC gene symbols are used to identify both genes and their encoded proteins, according to the context.

Protein-protein interactions

As a source of known protein-protein interactions, iRefIndex 9.0 was used, which combines protein interaction data from multiple primary resources [55]. There are two types of interactions: binary interactions, which involve two interactors, and complex interactions, which are characterized by more than two interactors and where the pairwise physical contacts are not specified. Both types of interactions were used to build the network models. Protein complexes were expanded using the matrix expansion model, where pairwise interactions are assigned between all interactors within a complex. Data were filtered to exclude predicted interactions, in particular interactions, for which the detection method contained “predicted”, “interologs mapping” or “confirmational text mining”. The resulting network was labeled “HNet”.

From this network, a shortest path network (SpNet) was derived by selecting all proteins and interactions within the shortest paths between the ParkinTAP candidates identified in our study and the MonogenicPD proteins [20], the known Parkin interactors (ParkinIP) and the MonogenicPD interactors (MonogenicPDIP) (see protein datasets in Table 1; the proteins contained in the datasets are included in Table S1). DAPPLE, which uses InWeb, a curated interaction network [61], was used to assess the statistical significance of the connectivity within the ParkinTAP candidates and the MonogenicPD proteins.

Pathway enrichment analysis

Pathway enrichment analysis was performed with ConsensusPathDB-human release 23 [62], which integrates different databases of human biological processes, metabolic and signaling pathways and protein interactions. Pathway enrichment analysis was performed for a given protein dataset by computing a P-value for each pathway according to the hypergeometric test and corrected for multiple testing using the false discovery rate method (FDR). The procedure is described in ConsensusPathDB as “over-representation analysis” on pathway-based protein datasets.

Gene ontology enrichment analysis

Functional annotation was provided by the Gene ontology (GO) project [63]. GO enrichment analysis was performed using topGO [64], a method that takes into account dependencies between GO terms resulting from the GO graph topology. Version 2.6.0 of topGO was used, as provided with Bioconductor version 2.9. The analysis was restricted to GO biological processes, and two different GO enrichment scores were computed. The “classic” score is based on the standard Fisher's exact test and is a P-value corrected for multiple testing by FDR, but it does not take into account the GO graph structure and the children/parent dependencies between GO terms. The “LEA” score is locally adjusted for the dependencies between GO terms, where more generic terms are down-weighted versus descendant (more specific) GO terms. The GO processes are sorted by LEA score ($P \leq 10^{-3}$), and the multiple test corrected classic score is used to confirm the significance of the GO terms selected with LEA.

Functional similarity

Functional similarity between proteins was computed using FunSimMat release 4.2 as previously described [65], [66]. In particular, FunSimMat computes a semantic measure of functional similarity based on the GO annotation obtained from the Gene Ontology Annotation database [67]. The analysis was restricted to biological processes. Each protein was identified by the corresponding Entrez Gene ID, which was mapped to UniProtKB accession numbers. In many cases, multiple UniProtKB accession numbers were mapped to a single initial gene ID (mapping is many to many), and in these cases the functional similarity corresponded to the maximum functional similarity obtained for any of the UniProtKB entries. A functional similarity network (FunSimPD) was generated, where nodes correspond to proteins from ParkinTAP, MonogenicPD and MonogenicPDIP datasets. Proteins were connected by edges, if their functional similarity score was ≥ 0.7 . From FunSimPD two subnetworks were extracted for detailed analysis (FunSimPDsub, FunSimPD_ND1), and distinct groups of functionally related proteins were identified by graph clustering.

GO Slims

QuickGO [68] was used to identify proteins from a given dataset that have been annotated with a GO term or children from a set of specific GO terms (GO Slim).

Network analysis and visualization

Cytoscape 2.8.1 was used for network visualization of protein-protein interactions and functional relationships [69]. Clustering was performed with the Cytoscape plugin ClusterONE, which can identify densely connected overlapping regions within networks [70]. Edges weighted according to functional similarity score were used for clustering the functional similarity networks.

Endeavour gene prioritization

An independent gene prioritization of the candidate Parkin-binding proteins was performed with Endeavour [29], an established prioritization tool. Ensembl gene IDs were provided as input, the MonogenicPD dataset was used for training, and all data sources available in Endeavour were used for prioritization.

Co-immunoprecipitation and Western Blot

HEK293T cells were washed with ice-cold PBS, removed with a scraper, and resuspended in lysis buffer (150 mM NaCl, 50 mM Tris-HCl, 1% Triton X-100, and 0.1% SDS, pH 7.6). After incubation for 30 min at 4°C, insoluble material was removed by centrifugation at 14,000×g for 10 min. Protein concentrations were determined using the Bio-Rad DC Protein assay (Bio-Rad). The sample was precleared by incubation with protein A Agarose beads (Roche Diagnostics) for 30 min at 4°C. The beads were removed by centrifugation and the samples were incubated overnight at 4° with rabbit anti-Parkin (Abcam, ab15954) or control IgG (purified rabbit IgG, Millipore). The antigen-antibody complexes were captured by addition of protein A Agarose for 2 h at 4°C and washed three times with wash buffer (150 mM NaCl, 50 mM Tris-HCl, 1% Igepal, pH 7.6). Proteins were released from the beads by heating at 95°C for 5 min in 4x Sample buffer containing DTT (Life Technologies), followed by SDS-PAGE, blotting onto nitrocellulose membranes, and incubation with anti-TOMM70A (Abcam, ab135602), LRPPRC (Abcam, ab97505), and Parkin (Cell Signaling, #4211) antibodies. Immunoreaction was visualized using the SuperSignal West Dura Chemiluminescence Westernblot Substrate (Thermo Scientific).

Supporting Information

Figure S1

Interaction networks for ParkinTAP candidate proteins CLPX (A), PRKCSH (B), DAP3 (C), and CALU (D). Proteins are represented as nodes and interactions as edges; the edges are drawn as solid and dashed lines for binary and complex interactions, respectively. Interactions to the selected candidate proteins are represented by thicker edges. ParkinTAP ND X are ParkinTAP candidates at network distance X of MonogenicPD, where ParkinTAP ND 1 are direct MonogenicPD interactors.

(TIF)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)

Figure S2

Overview of criteria for the definition of the selection levels. The different datasets are labeled according to the legend of Table S3. "L" stands for selection level.

(TIF)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)

Table S1

Proteins contained in the datasets listed in Table 1 .

(TSV)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)

Table S2

ParkinTAP proteins that do not interact with the other candidate proteins.

(TSV)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)

Table S3

Summary table for all ParkinTAP candidate proteins.

(TSV)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)

Table S4

ConsensusPathDB enrichment results for the RelatedPD dataset.

(TSV)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)

Table S5

GO enrichment results for the RelatedPD dataset.

(TSV)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)

Table S6

ConsensusPathDB enrichment results for ParkinTAP.

(TSV)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)

Table S7**GO enrichment results for ParkinTAP.**

(TSV)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)**Table S8****GO enrichment results for FunSimPDsub clusters.**

(PDF)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)**Table S9****Gene prioritization results for the ParkinTAP candidates using Endeavour, including the corresponding selection levels according to our prioritization.**

(TSV)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)**Text S1****Legend Table S3. Selection level pseudocode.**

(DOCX)

[Click here for additional data file.](#)

Acknowledgements

The authors thank Maria Maddalena Nagler for technical assistance.

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