

Table of contents

Table of contents.....	I
List of figures.....	IV
List of tables.....	V
Chapter 1 Introduction.....	1
1.1 Autophagy.....	1
1.2 GABARAP family	2
1.3 Apoptosis	7
1.4 Bcl-2	8
1.5 Nix	10
Chapter 2 Aim of this work.....	11
Chapter 3 Scientific publications.....	12
3.1 Nix directly binds to GABARAP: a possible crosstalk between apoptosis and autophagy.....	15
3.2 Comparative modeling of human NSF reveals a possible binding mode of GABARAP and GATE-16.....	27
3.3 Assessment of GABARAP self-association by its diffusion properties	39
3.4 Preparation of a functional GABARAP-lipid conjugate in nanodiscs and its investigation by solution NMR spectroscopy	53

3.5 Bcl-2 directly and selectively binds to GABARAP and down-regulates GABARAP lipidation	65
Summary.....	103
Zusammenfassung.....	105
Abbreviations	108
References.....	111
Appendix.....	111
A.1 Materials.....	116
A.1.1 Chemicals and reagents.....	116
A.1.2 Enzymes and synthetic peptides	117
A.1.3 Antibodies.....	118
A.1.4 Vectors	118
A.1.5 Bacteria strains.....	118
A.1.6 Eukaryotic cells	119
A.1.7 Media.....	120
A.1.8 Software	121
A.2 Methods.....	122
A.2.1 Cloning	123
A.2.2 Protein expression and purification	125
A.2.3 Protein concentration determination	127
A.2.4 Circular dichroism (CD) spectroscopy	128

A.2.5 Dynamic light scattering (DLS).....	129
A.2.6 Photo-induced cross-linking of unmodified proteins (PICUP) experiment.....	129
A.2.7 Paramagnetic spin labelling of GABARAP	130
A.2.8 Ellman reaction.....	130
A.2.9 Lipidation of GABARAP(G116C Δ L117)	131
A.2.10 Reconstitution of GABARAP(G116C Δ L117) into nanodiscs	131
A.2.11 Surface plasmon resonance (SPR) experiment.....	132
A.2.12 Acquisition and data processing of NMR spectra	132
A.2.13 Pull-down analysis.....	134
A.2.14 Coimmunoprecipitation assay	134
A.2.15 Immunocytochemistry.	135
References	137
Acknowledgement.....	138