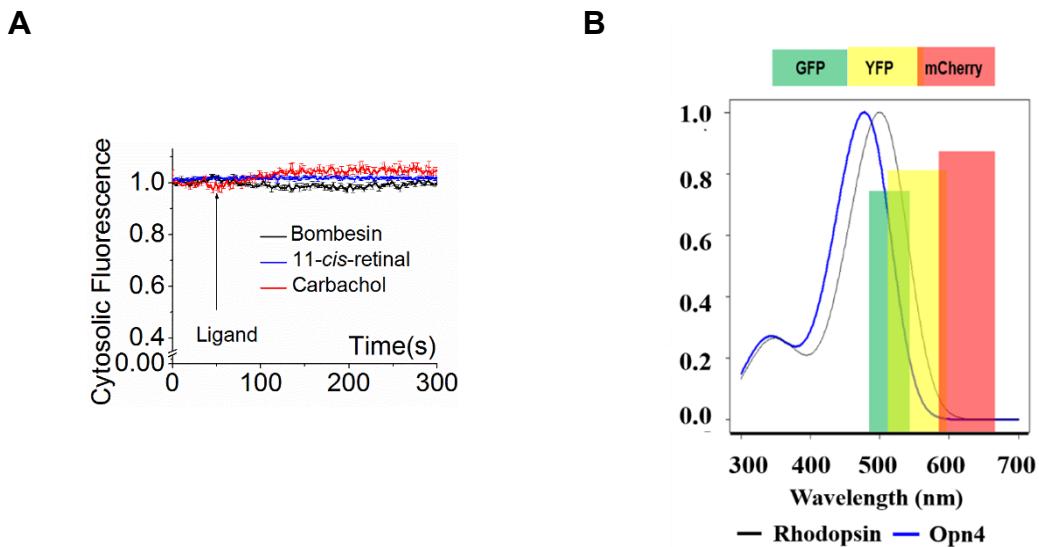


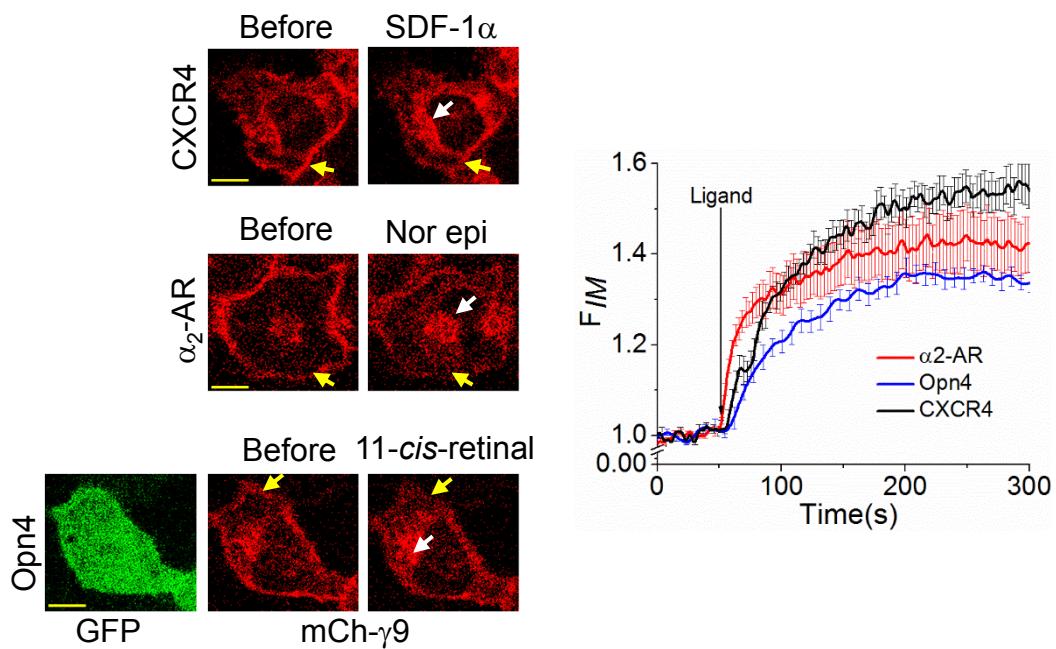
## Supplemental materials

Figure S1



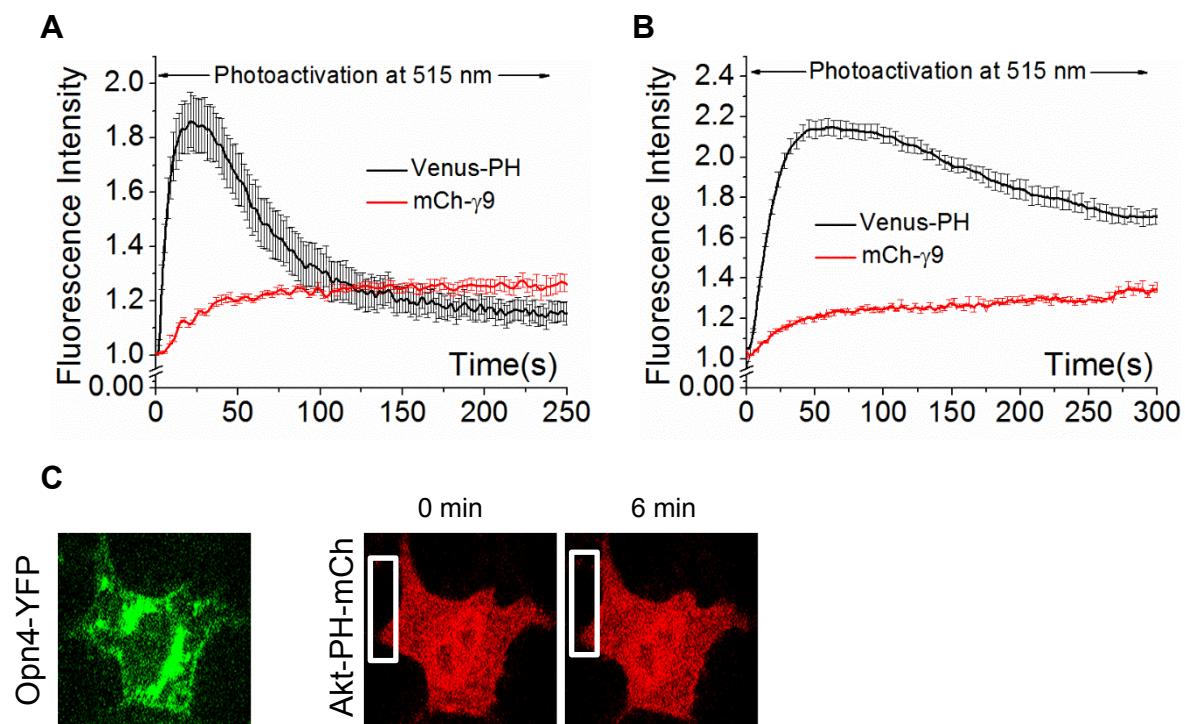
**Fig. S1: (A) Without expressing corresponding receptors, the cognate ligands do not induce PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis in HeLa cells.** Cytosolic mCherry-PH fluorescence in HeLa cells after addition of Opn4, M3, and GRP receptors agonists without transfecting their respective receptors. Average curves plotted using n=10 cells from  $\geq 3$  independent experiments. Error bars: SEM. **(B) Broad absorption profile of Opn4 allow activation by blue (445nm), green (488nm), and yellow (515nm) light.** Simulated absorption spectrum of Opn4, showing that wavelengths below  $\sim 590$ nm can activate it.

**Figure S2**



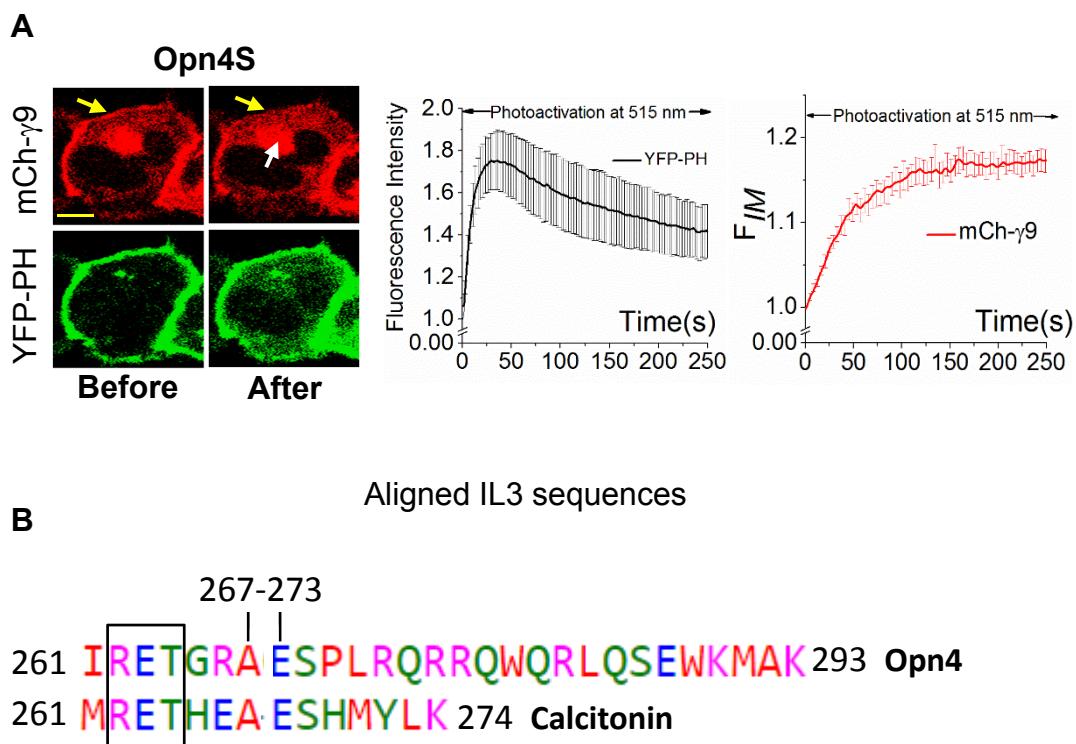
**Fig. S2: Opn4 induces comparable mCherry- $\gamma_9$  translocation to G<sub>i</sub>-coupled CXCR4 and  $\alpha_2$ -AR.** mCherry- $\gamma_9$  translocation in HeLa cells after addition of 50ng/ mL SDF-1 $\alpha$  (top), 100 $\mu$ M norepinephrine (middle) to activate their respective receptors (CXCR4,  $\alpha_2$ -AR) endogenously expressed, 50 $\mu$ M 11-cis-retinal added, imaged for mCherry and YFP to phoactivate bi-cistronic Opn4 GFP (bottom) transiently transfected in HeLa. Yellow arrows (PM), white arrows (IMs). Scale bar 10 $\mu$ m. Average curves plotted using n=10 cells from  $\geq 3$  independent experiments. Error bars: SEM.

**Figure S3**



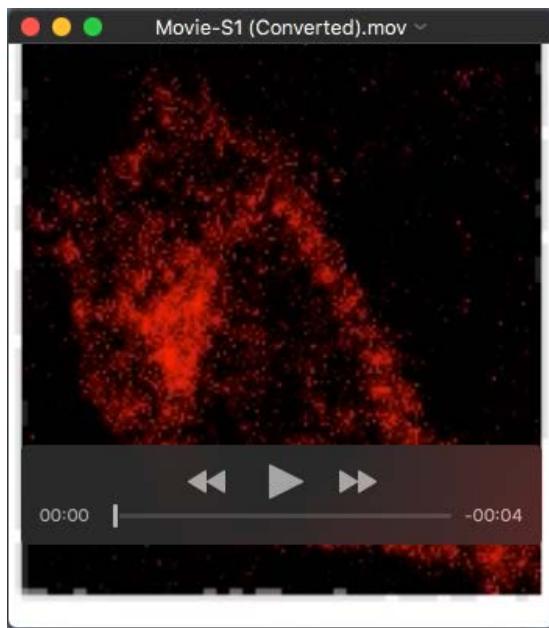
**Fig. S3: (A,B) Control cells show PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis and  $\gamma_9$  translocation upon Opn4 activation.** PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis and  $\gamma_9$  translocation in HeLa cells treated with vehicle solvent used to dissolve A. PTx and B. YM-254890 after activation of Opn4. Average curves plotted using n=8 cells from  $\geq 3$  independent experiments. Error bars: SEM. (C) PIP3 generation in RAW264.7 in the presence of 50  $\mu$ M gallein after photoactivating Opn4-YFP supplemented with 11-cis-retinal.

**Figure S4**



**Fig. S4:** (A) Similar to Opn4, Opn4S also induced PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis and G $\gamma$ <sub>9</sub> translocation. PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis and G $\gamma$ <sub>9</sub> translocation in HeLa cells after activation of Opn4S. Yellow arrows (PM), white arrows (IMs). (B) IL3 Sequence alignments of Opn4 with G $q$  receptor IL3 regions that are clustered together in phylogenetic analysis. Sequence alignment for Opn4 and G $q$ -coupled calcitonin receptors. Mutations in B-box resulted in a non-functional receptor. Average curves plotted using n≥10 cells from ≥3 independent experiments. Error bars: SEM.

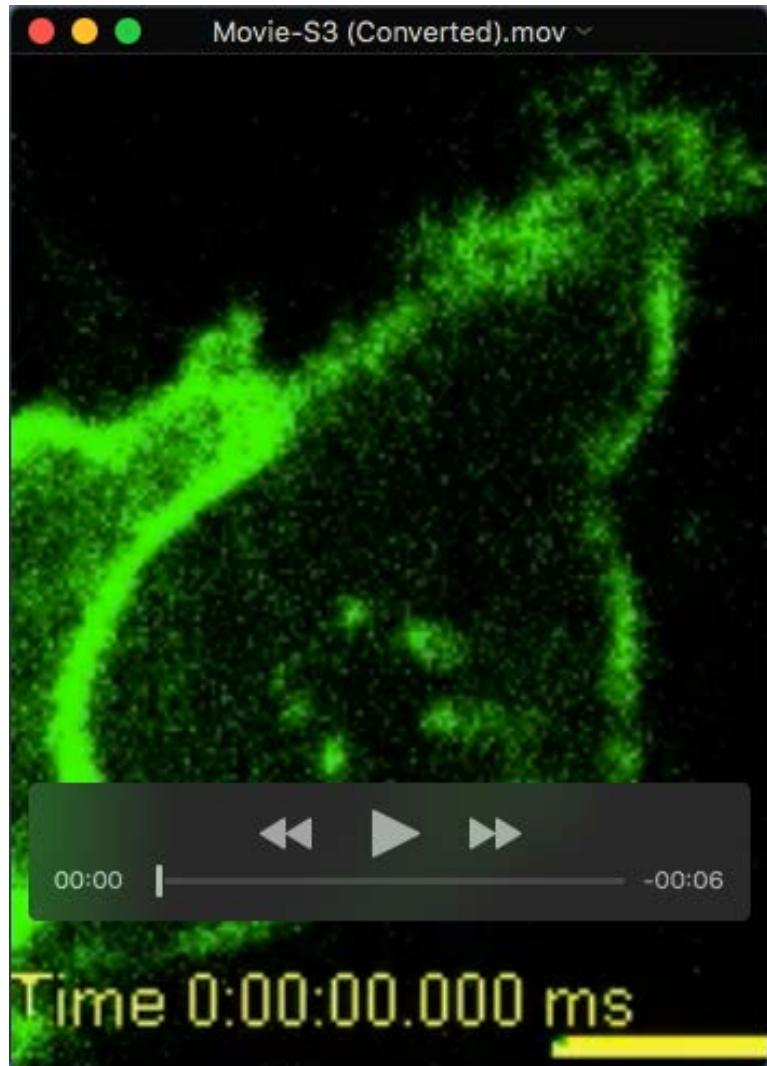
## Supplementary Movies



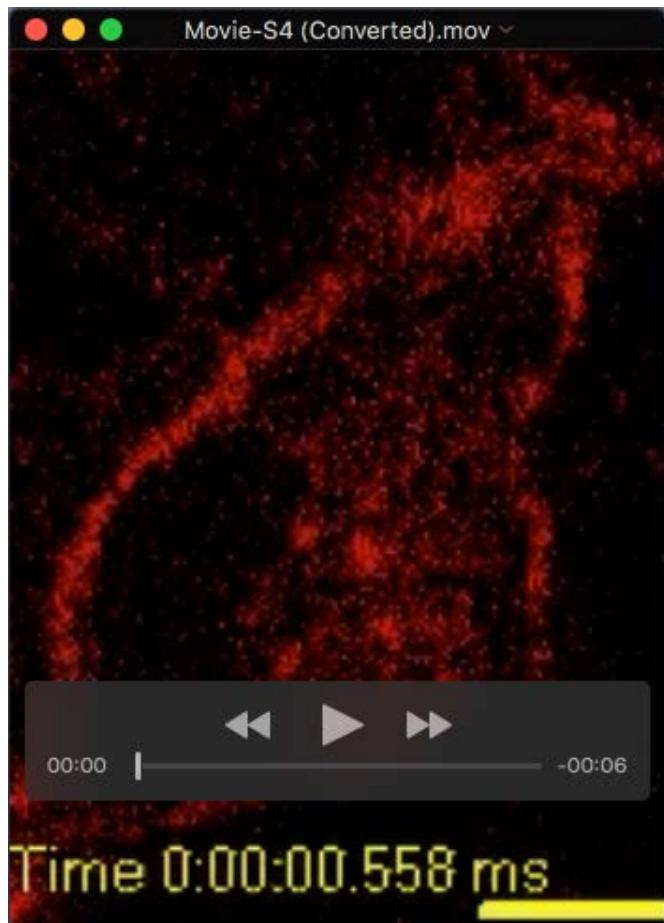
**Movie-S1.** A HeLa cell expressing Opn4 and PIP<sub>2</sub> sensor (Venus-PH) shows profound PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis upon addition of 50  $\mu$ M 11-*cis*-retinal. Scale bar 10 mm.



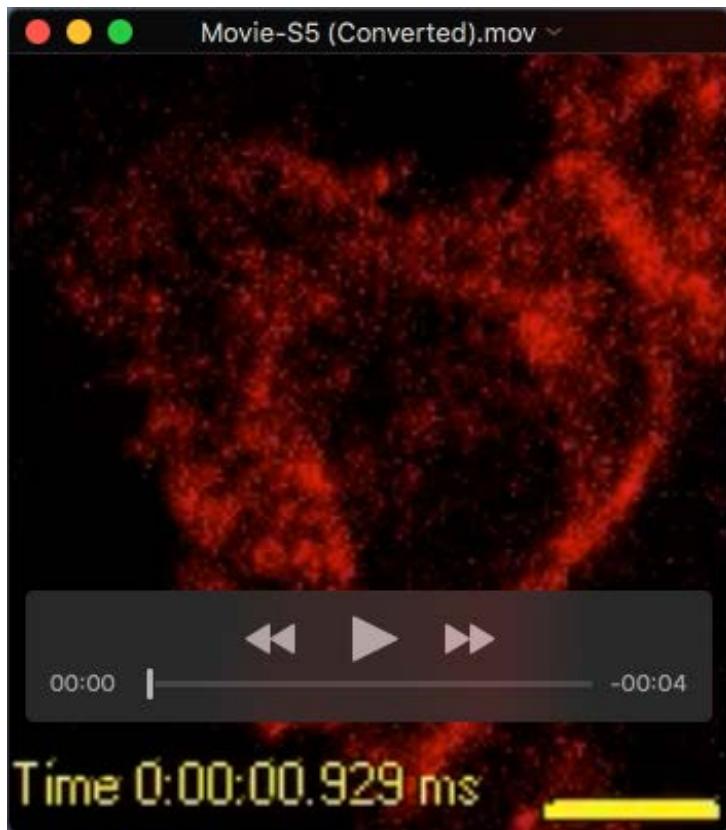
**Movie-S2.** A HeLa cell expressing Opn4 and mCh-  $\gamma_9$  shows  $\gamma_9$  translocation upon addition of 50  $\mu$ M 11-*cis*-retinal while photoactivation at 515 nm. Scale bar 10 mm.



**Movie-S3.** A HeLa cell expressing GRPR and PIP<sub>2</sub> sensor (Venus-PH) shows profound PIP<sub>2</sub> hydrolysis upon addition of 1  $\mu$ M bombesin. Scale bar 10 mm.



**Movie-S4.** A HeLa cell expressing GRPR and mCherry- $\gamma_9$  does not exhibit  $\gamma_9$  translocation upon addition of 1  $\mu\text{M}$  bombesin. Scale bar 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .



**Movie-S5.** A HeLa cell endogenously expressing  $\alpha_2$ -AR and mCherry- $\gamma_9$  shows  $\gamma_9$  translocation upon addition of 100  $\mu\text{M}$  nor-epinephrine. Scale bar 10 mm.