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Detection and Characterization of *O*-GlcNAc in Embryonic Stem  
Cells

by

Samuel Anthony Myers

DISSERTATION

Submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

in

Chemistry and Chemical Biology

in the

GRADUATE DIVISION

of the

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**Samuel Anthony Myers**

## **Dedication and Acknowledgments**

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*Detection and Characterization of  
O-GlcNAc in Embryonic Stem Cells*

by

Samuel A. Myers

## **Abstract**

The post-translational modification of serines and threonines of intracellular proteins by *N*-acetylglucosamine (*O*-GlcNAc) is becoming increasingly implicated in processes which control embryonic stem cell self-renewal and transcriptional regulation of pluripotency. While *O*-GlcNAc and its requirement for embryonic development were described nearly 30 and 15 years ago, respectively, our molecular understanding of this dependence is severely lacking. Historically, this is due to the lack of strategies to directly detect *O*-GlcNAcylated proteins and unambiguously identify their sites of modification. The work reported here utilizes recent advancements in lectin-based *O*-GlcNAcylated peptide enrichment strategies, coupled with electron transfer dissociation mass spectrometry, to identify and characterize *O*-GlcNAc modified proteins in embryonic stem cells. This work has established that many transcriptional regulatory proteins responsible for stem cell maintenance are *O*-GlcNAc modified. One such example, SOX2, a transcription factor essential for establishing and maintaining pluripotency, possesses a complex modification occupancy pattern where the major form is *O*-GlcNAcylated. This thesis reveals that SOX2 *O*-GlcNAcylation is inhibitory for pluripotency transcriptional networks. Our results suggest a potential crosstalk between *O*-GlcNAc and phosphorylation in regulating SOX2 function, where the *O*-GlcNAc may prevent a nearby phosphorylation. Although *O*-GlcNAc signaling is essential for stem cell self-renewal we show that the connection between *O*-GlcNAc and transcriptional

regulation, especially with respect to pluripotency, is more complex than previously appreciated.

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## **Chapter 1**

*On the analysis of O-GlcNAc and its role in Embryonic Stem Cells*

## **Introduction**

Post-translational modifications (PTMs) expand the capabilities of the proteome far beyond the number of proteins encoded by the genome (1). PTMs, such as phosphorylation, glycosylation, acetylation, etc., can affect a protein's function, localization, stability and biomolecular interactions, depending on the context of the modification's addition or neighboring PTMs. Moreover, the crosstalk between several PTMs occurring at the same or nearby residue of a given protein is emerging as an important aspect of controlling chromatin structure and transcription regulation (2). In this work, we focus on the intracellular glycosylation, O-GlcNAc, and its role in regulating pluripotency transcriptional networks.

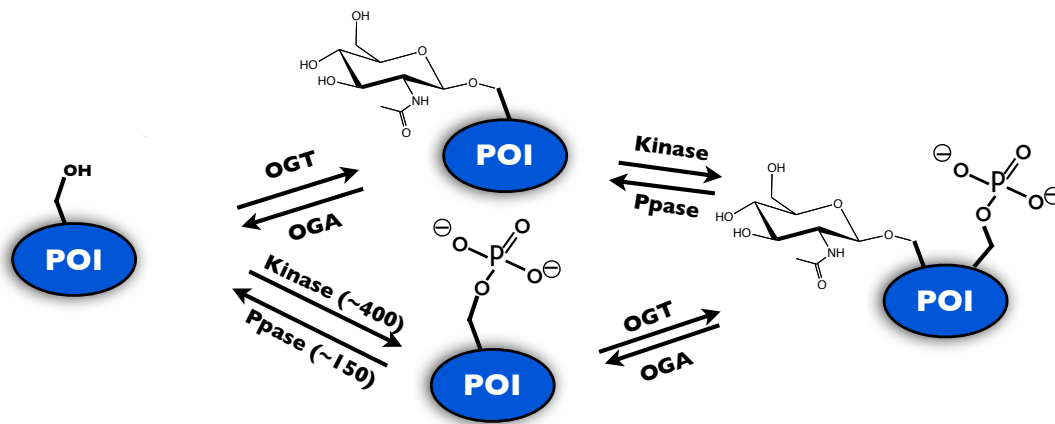
### **O-linked N-acetylglucosamine**

O-linked N-acetylglucosamine (O-GlcNAc), discovered in 1984 (3), is a single  $\beta$ -GlcNAc moiety enzymatically coupled to serine and threonine residues of nuclear and cytosolic proteins. Unlike glycosylation of proteins destined for the membrane or for secretion, O-GlcNAc is a monosaccharide and is not extended to complex oligosaccharide glycans. Also, unlike "classical" glycosylation, O-GlcNAc is a dynamic and regulatory modification involved in nearly every cellular process, from cell cycle (4, 5) and transcription regulation (6-10) to synaptic plasticity (11). Because of its ubiquitous role many pathologies have been linked to aberrant O-GlcNAcylation such as tauopathies (12), insulin resistance and diabetes (13), cancer progression (14) and cardiovascular disease (15, 16).

O-GlcNAc signaling is analogous to S/T phosphorylation in that it is rapidly added and hydrolyzed, site-specifically, in response to various cues to affect the activity, stability, localization, etc., of substrate proteins. There is evidence of crosstalk between O-GlcNAcylation and phosphorylation, since most O-GlcNAc modified proteins are also phosphoproteins. There are also examples of the same S/T residues that can be modified by either O-GlcNAc or phosphate (17-19). The crosstalk is less likely due to a GlcNAc/phosphate switch at certain residues but more to cross-regulation of kinases by O-GlcNAc and *vice versa* (19-22). Kinases are enriched as a class of enzymes modified by O-GlcNAc, (19, 23) whereas the same site being a GlcNAc/phospho site occurs less frequently than expected by chance (19).

Unlike phosphorylation, which is catalyzed by over 500 kinases and hydrolyzed by about 150 phosphatases, O-GlcNAc is controlled by a single transferase and a single hydrolase (Figure 1). The sole enzyme responsible for catalyzing the addition of GlcNAc from uridine diphosphate *N*-acetylglucosamine (UDP-GlcNAc) to intracellular proteins is O-GlcNAc transferase (OGT). O-GlcNAc is considered to be a nutrient sensing modification because the activated sugar donor for OGT is UDP-GlcNAc, which receives metabolic inputs from glutamine, acetyl-CoA, uridine nucleoside, glucose and phosphate metabolism (24). UDP-GlcNAc has the second highest concentration in cells after ATP and OGT-mediated glycosylation is the most affected by depletion of UDP-GlcNAc levels (25, 26). However, the role of OGT itself as a nutrient sensor is poorly

**Figure 1** Diagram of O-GlcNAcylation/phosphorylation relationships. A protein of interest (POI) can exist unmodified (left most oval), O-GlcNAcylated (top, middle oval), phosphorylated (bottom, middle oval), or co-modified (right most oval). Chemical structures of O-GlcNAc and O-phosphate are shown. OGT, O-GlcNAc transferase; OGA, O-GlcNAc hydrolase; Ppase, phosphatase.



understood as cellular O-GlcNAcylation can increase with glucose deprivation and the biochemical activity of OGT is not affected by UDP-GlcNAc concentrations (27, 28).

*Ogt* is expressed in nearly every tissue in the body, where the highest expression is in neural tissues and embryonic stem cells (29). OGT is spliced into two distinct forms, a nucleocytoplasmic and mitochondrial version (30). The two splice variants are distinguished by the number of tetratricopeptide repeats (TPRs) each contains, with the nucleocytoplasmic variant having 11.5 and the mitochondrial version having nine. TPR domains are characterized as protein-protein interaction domains (31). Evidence suggests the TPR domains define specific sets of targets that allow OGT to bind and catalyze GlcNAc transfer (32-36). However, the mechanism for protein substrate recognition for OGT is not well understood. Unlike kinases, which can recognize protein primary sequence, OGT has little to no discernible motif or consensus sequence (19, 23). OGT also possesses a phosphoinositide-binding domain allowing the nucleocytoplasmic variant to localize to the membrane during phosphoinositide-dependent signaling (37).

The reverse reaction, or the removal of O-GlcNAc, is catalyzed by OGA (a.k.a. MGEA5/NCOAT/O-GlcNAcase). This glycoside hydrolase has two splice variants and has been shown to have histone acetyltransferase activity (38). The validity of the HAT activity has yet to be rigorously established, as the human

OGA lacks key residues for transferase function (39). While the only atomic resolution data is from bacterial homologs, several inhibitors have been developed for metazoan OGAs, each with distinct cellular phenotypes (40).

### **Analysis of O-GlcNAc**

Although O-GlcNAcylation was discovered nearly 30 years ago, the functions of this modification remain poorly understood. O-GlcNAc site mapping is crucial for allowing the biochemical studies that address the functional role of protein O-GlcNAcylation. The lack of knowledge of the exact sites where this ubiquitous modification occurs is due mainly to the lack of techniques to readily identify sites of O-GlcNAc modification unambiguously.

Electrospray tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) has proven to be an invaluable resource for the direct detection and site-determination of many PTMs. For example, metal-affinity and antibody-based enrichment strategies, paired with liquid chromatography MS/MS (LC-MS/MS) using collision-induced/activated dissociation (CID/CAD) have enabled the assignment of thousands of phosphorylation and ubiquitinylation sites (19, 41). These studies have contributed greatly to our understanding of signaling pathways in a wide range of organisms and tissues. In contrast, O-GlcNAc enrichment has proven challenging and conventional MS/MS is not amenable to O-GlcNAc peptide analysis.



Several antibodies against O-GlcNAc have been developed though their specificity remains questionable. Western blotting the same sample with more than one of the anti-O-GlcNAc antibodies often shows different banding patterns (42, 43). While several of these antibodies have been used to identify potential O-GlcNAc modified proteins, there have been no reports that unambiguously identify a site of O-GlcNAcylation when coupled with MS/MS. The lack of high-quality antibodies is thought to be due to the immune system being pre-disposed against making strong antibodies against glycoproteins, which are very abundant in blood (44, 45).

O-GlcNAc modified proteins were originally discovered via galactosyltransferase (GalT) and tritium-labeled GlcNAc (3). GalT specifically transfers galactose (Gal) to terminal GlcNAc moieties. This method has had several adaptations over the years. In 2003, Khidekel and colleagues developed a mutant GalT (mGalT), which could transfer a ketone-containing Gal, allowing new chemistries to be exploited for detection (46), and eventually enrichment (47). This method has been particularly useful for determination of O-GlcNAc stoichiometry by coupling high molecular weight polyethylene glycol adducts (2-10 kDa) to the keto-Gal prior to Western blotting for the protein of interest (48, 49). Subsequently, mGalT chemoenzymatic labeling was combined with azide/alkyne 1-3 cycloaddition (a.k.a. “click”) chemistry as an additional method to couple a biotinyl groups to GlcNAc-containing molecules (50). When employed with a photo-cleavable, biotinylated linker, O-GlcNAc modified peptides can be

enriched and identified by MS/MS. While this method has allowed the identification of over 100 O-GlcNAc sites, several drawbacks, including technical challenges and the need to remove biologically-informative protein phosphorylation, prevent its widespread utilization.

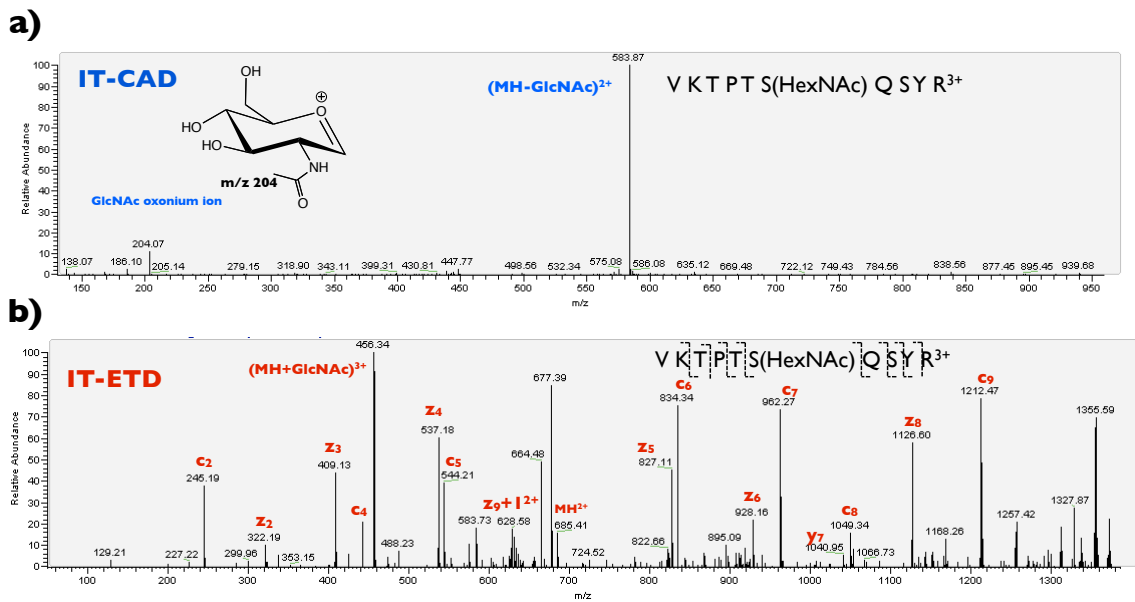
Wheat germ agglutinin (WGA) is a lectin able to bind a variety of carbohydrates including  $\beta$ -GlcNAc. WGA functions as a homodimer with four sugar binding sites and achieves high affinity by binding glycoproteins with multiple GlcNAc moieties. WGA has a much lower affinity for free GlcNAc or single GlcNAcylated species. While the affinity for free GlcNAc is less than desired (~10 mM) for traditional bind and elute enrichment strategies, its use in lectin affinity chromatography has proven to be useful for enriching O-GlcNAc modified peptides (51). Termed lectin weak affinity chromatography (LWAC), this method has allowed for the enrichment and identification of thousands of native O-GlcNAcylation sites from a variety of tissues and cell lines (19, 23, 52, 53).

While advancements in enrichment have made identifying O-GlcNAc modified proteins possible, a major hurdle in O-GlcNAc site assignment by mass spectrometry has been conventional peptide fragmentation modes. During ergodic MS-based peptide sequencing, as in CID/CAD in an ion trap, vibrational energy deposited into an unmodified peptide equilibrates to the weakest bond and causes unimolecular dissociation of the amide bond. In O-linked glycopeptides, the glycosidic bond is significantly more labile than the peptide

backbone, leading almost exclusively to the elimination of the sugar moiety and very little peptide fragmentation (Figure 2a) (54-59). Beam-type collisional activation, like that performed by a time-of-flight (TOF) mass spectrometers or in higher-energy collisional dissociation (HCD), provides secondary collisions which will allow peptide backbone fragmentation but retain very little evidence of O-GlcNAc site occupancy (60-63).

Electron capture and electron transfer dissociation (ECD and ETD, respectively) are radical-based, unimolecular dissociation methods that are independent of bond energies. That is, capture of a thermal electron (ECD) or an electron from a radical, anionic molecule (ETD) by the cationic peptide analyte, undergoes a chemical rearrangement that dissociates the N-C $\alpha$  bond of the peptide backbone, irrespective of bond energies. This allows peptide fragmentation while retaining the labile O-glycosidic bond, thus allowing simultaneous identification and site-assignment of O-GlcNAcylated peptides (Figure 2b). The recent development of ETD for use on commercial mass spectrometers (64) have made high-throughput and unambiguous O-GlcNAc site assignment possible. As a result, identification of O-GlcNAc sites has jumped from less than 80 in 2008 to over 2000 sites in 2012 (19, 66). This information will allow researchers to elucidate specific O-GlcNAc function.

**Figure 2** MS/MS spectra of an O-GlcNAc modified peptide. a) Ion trap CAD of an O-GlcNAc modified peptide from the protein ZFP281. The GlcNAc oxonium ion and the peptide minus the sugar loss are the predominant peaks. b) ETD mass spectrum of the same precursor as in a). Both c- and z-ion series allow peptide sequencing as well as site-assignment.



## **Embryonic Stem Cells**

Embryonic stem cells (ESCs) derive from the inner cell mass of a developing embryo and eventually give rise to every cell of an adult organism. Understanding the regulation of this capacity to alter major changes in cellular identity will shed light on both the very early stages of development and put us closer to understanding how these undifferentiated cells might be used for therapeutic purposes.

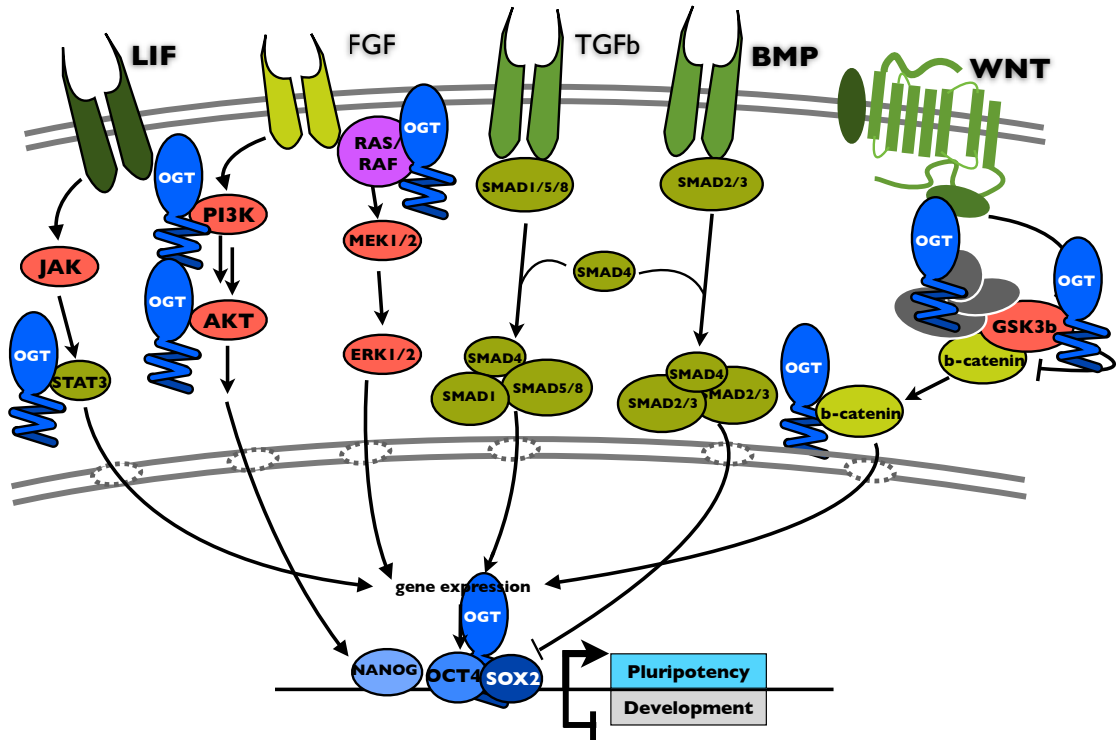
ESCs are defined by the ability to divide in an undifferentiated state in culture indefinitely. ESCs maintain a balance between remaining undifferentiated and having the ability to assume the specific transcriptional repertoire of a specialized cell. This pluripotent and self-renewing state is maintained most notably by three transcription factors: OCT4, SOX2 and NANOG. These transcription factors interact with themselves and one another, creating a core transcription factor network, allowing ESCs to maintain their stem cell characteristics, or stemness (66). These core transcription factors have also been shown to be involved in modulating chromatin structure to maintain these stem cell qualities (67-71).

O-GlcNAc signaling is essential for mouse embryo and embryonic stem cell viability (29, 72-74). OGT is involved in chromatin structure regulation, as many histone-modifying proteins either interact with OGT or are O-GlcNAc modified (7, 43, 52, 75, 76). Several of these histone modifiers are also known to

interact through the ESC transcription factor network to maintain stemness (68, 77, 78). O-GlcNAc signaling is also potentially important for promoting pluripotency and self-renewal as several studies in other cell types have shown that nodes in relevant kinase pathways are either modified by O-GlcNAc or interact with OGT (Figure 3) (19, 37, 52, 73, 79-81).

While the necessity of O-GlcNAc in ESCs has been well established, the mechanisms by which O-GlcNAc regulates self-renewal and pluripotency remain poorly understood. Therefore, studies which unambiguously identify sites of O-GlcNAc on important ESC proteins are required to understand the mechanisms by which O-GlcNAc regulates the pluripotency transcriptional network.

**Figure 3** Kinase pathways implicated in mouse pluripotency and self-renewal and their interaction with O-GlcNAc/OGT. Leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF) and Bone morphogenic protein (BMP) are the main kinase pathways responsible for embryonic stem cell maintenance. WNT signalling plays an important but poorly understood role. Fibroblast growth factor (FGF) and Transforming growth factor beta (TGFb) play roles in differentiation. OGT resides in the diagram where reports of physical association or/and O-GlcNAc modification takes place.



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## **Chapter 2**

*Electron transfer dissociation (ETD): The mass spectrometric breakthrough essential for O-GlcNAc protein site assignments – A study of the O-GlcNAcylated protein Host Cell Factor C1*

**Electron transfer dissociation (ETD): The mass spectrometric breakthrough essential for *O*-GlcNAc protein site assignments – A study of the *O*-GlcNAcylated protein Host Cell Factor C1**

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**Abstract** The development of electron-based, unimolecular dissociation mass spectrometric methods, i.e. electron capture and electron transfer dissociation (ECD and ETD, respectively), has greatly increased the speed and reliability of labile post-translational modification (PTM) site assignment. The field of intracellular O-GlcNAc signaling has especially advanced with the advent of ETD mass spectrometry. Only within the last several years have proteomic-scale experiments utilizing ETD allowed the assignment of hundreds of O-GlcNAc sites within cells and subcellular structures. Our ability to identify and unambiguously assign the site of O-GlcNAc modifications using ETD is rapidly increasing our understanding of this regulatory glycosylation and its potential interaction with other PTMs. Here, we discuss the advantages of using ETD, complimented with collisional-activation mass spectrometry (CID/CAD/HCD), in a study of O-GlcNAc modified peptides of the extensively O-GlcNAcylated protein Host Cell Factor C1 (HCF-1). HCF-1 is a transcriptional co-regulator, forms a stable complex with O-GlcNAc transferase and is involved in control of cell cycle progression. ETD, along with higher energy collisional dissociation (HCD) mass spectrometry, was employed to assign the PTMs of the HCF-1 protein isolated from HEK293T cells. These include nineteen sites of O-GlcNAcylation, two sites of phosphorylation and two sites bearing dimethylarginine, and showcase the residue-specific, PTM complexity of this regulator of cell proliferation.

## Introduction

While the post-translational modification (PTM) of nuclear and cytosolic proteins by *O*-linked *N*-acetylglucosamine of serine and threonine residues (*O*-GlcNAc) was discovered almost three decades ago, our knowledge of its biological functions has lagged far behind that of serine and threonine phosphorylation [1-4]. Development of robust phosphopeptide enrichment strategies and electrospray tandem mass spectrometry using collision-induced dissociation (CID/CAD) have enabled the accelerated assignment of thousands of phosphorylation sites [5]. In contrast, *O*-GlcNAc enrichment combined with conventional mass spectrometric methods have not proven to be as effective for high throughput site identification. While methods for *O*-GlcNAc peptide enrichment have improved, the major hurdle to identifying residues modified by *O*-GlcNAc with mass spectrometry has been the lability of the *O*-glycosidic bond upon collisional activation [6].

However, with the discovery of electron capture dissociation (ECD) by gas-phase polyprotonated peptide species and recognition that this internal energy deposition process was non-ergodic, it became clear that peptide backbone bond cleavage(s) occurred rapidly without vibronic energy randomization to side chain residues or to any covalently linked modifications. It was quickly shown by McLafferty and colleagues that  $\gamma$ -carboxyglutamic acid could be observed intact, shifted appropriately in peptide sequence ion series [7].

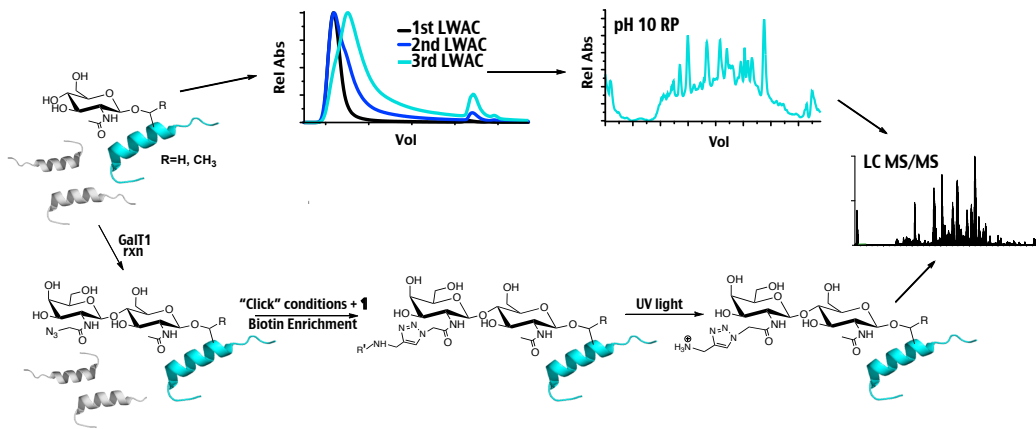


Zubarev and colleagues then established that O-linked hexosamine modified peptides from mucin derived synthetic glycopeptides were stable in the sequence ion series as well [8]. ECD was soon followed by the development of the electron transfer process using energetically suitable anion-radical electron donor species [9, 10]. This new technology was then implemented on the LTQ-Orbitrap platform by Coon and co-workers, setting the stage for highly sensitive, rapid electron-transfer dissociation (ETD) analysis of complex mixtures [11]. Studies from our laboratory then showed that 58 O-GlcNAc modified peptides could be assigned by interpretation of ETD spectra recorded during in a single 60-minute capillary UPLC analysis coupled with an LTQ Orbitrap XL [12].

With a reliable mass spectrometry strategy for high sensitivity O-GlcNAc peptide site assignment in hand, there is the additional need for methodologies that will enable the enrichment of cytosolic and nuclear components bearing this sub-stoichiometric PTM. Two primary strategies are presently being developed and utilized to enrich for O-GlcNAc at the peptide level: one based on enzymatic and chemical derivitization of O-GlcNAc peptides, where the most recent iteration utilizes a cleavable, biotinylated reagent [13, 14]. The other enriches native O-GlcNAc modified peptides using lectin weak affinity chromatography (LWAC), specifically wheat germ agglutinin (Figure 1, [12, 15, 16]).

Overall, these recent studies have established that a wide variety of proteins, involved in regulating most cellular processes, are modified by

**Figure 1** Schematic of two widely used strategies for enrichment of O-GlcNAc modified peptides. The unmodified (grey peptides) and O-GlcNAc modified peptides (blue) can be enriched using single or multiple rounds of LWAC, fractionated by high pH reverse phase and analyzed using LC MS/MS (upper arm of diagram). Alternatively, O-GlcNAc modified peptides can be labeled with an azide containing galactosamine, conjugated to a photocleavable-biotin alkynyl linker (Reagent 1), enriched via biotin and cleaved off solid support with UV light (lower arm of diagram). The aminotriazole-GalNAc-O-GlcNAc peptides are then analyzed by LC MS/MS.



O-GlcNAc. Thus far the most extensive studies have focused on assignment of O-GlcNAc sites in cerebrocortical brain tissue and the murine synapse. Alfaro and co-workers reported the identification of sites on 195 proteins from cerebrocortical tissue using the chemical/enzymatic photocleavable O-GlcNAc enrichment strategy [13]. This study also described evidence of O-GlcNAc on extracellular domains of membrane proteins. Recent studies from our laboratory have extended earlier work on the postsynaptic density pseudo-organelle [12] to synaptosomes and have reported over 1700 O-GlcNAc sites together with 16,500 phosphorylation sites from the *same* biological sample [17]. This study revealed 439 peptides containing multiple sites of O-GlcNAcylation. Both O-GlcNAc and phosphorylation sites were found to cluster preferentially on unstructured or disordered regions, but were found not to co-cluster on the same residues. Kinases were the class of proteins modified most extensively, suggesting cross talk at the level of regulation of enzyme activity [18, 19].

In addition to the assignment of O-GlcNAc sites at the proteomic scale now possible with ETD mass spectrometry, ETD has also greatly facilitated protein-specific studies of single O-GlcNAcylation events. Housley *et al.* employed ETD to identify sites of O-GlcNAcylation on the nutrient-responsive transcription factor FOXO1, and provided insight to how the sole, mammalian O-GlcNAc transferase (OGT) targets its substrates [20]. More recently, Rexach and colleagues were able to identify the O-GlcNAc sites on the transcription factor CREB from analysis of a chymotryptic peptide and were able to show a single O-GlcNAcylation site can influence

neurite outgrowth and development of long-term memory in mice [21]. These types of site-specific O-GlcNAc studies will continue to contribute to our knowledge of the function(s) of protein O-GlcNAcylation.

One of the most remarkable and heavily O-GlcNAc modified proteins is Host Cell Factor C1 (HCF-1). HCF-1 is a large, chromatin associated scaffolding protein that plays an important role in cell proliferation [22-24]. HCF-1 has been repeatedly described as O-GlcNAcylated [12, 15, 16, 25, 26] and to form a stable complex with OGT [12, 15, 25-27, 28 ]. Interestingly, it was recently shown that OGT promotes the proteolytic maturation of HCF-1, which is critical for normal HCF-1 function [29, 30]. However, the complex relationship between OGT and HCF-1 is not well understood. O-GlcNAc modification is necessary for HCF-1 maturation, but might also be involved in regulating HCF-1 function after its proteolytic cleavage. Therefore, to understand the role of the O-GlcNAc modification of HCF-1, one must be able to identify the precise sites of modification so that biochemical and cell biological studies can take place. Here, we describe mass spectrometric methods used to identify the sites of O-GlcNAcylation and other PTM's on HCF-1 and illustrate ways to increase confidence in both glycopeptide identification and site assignment.

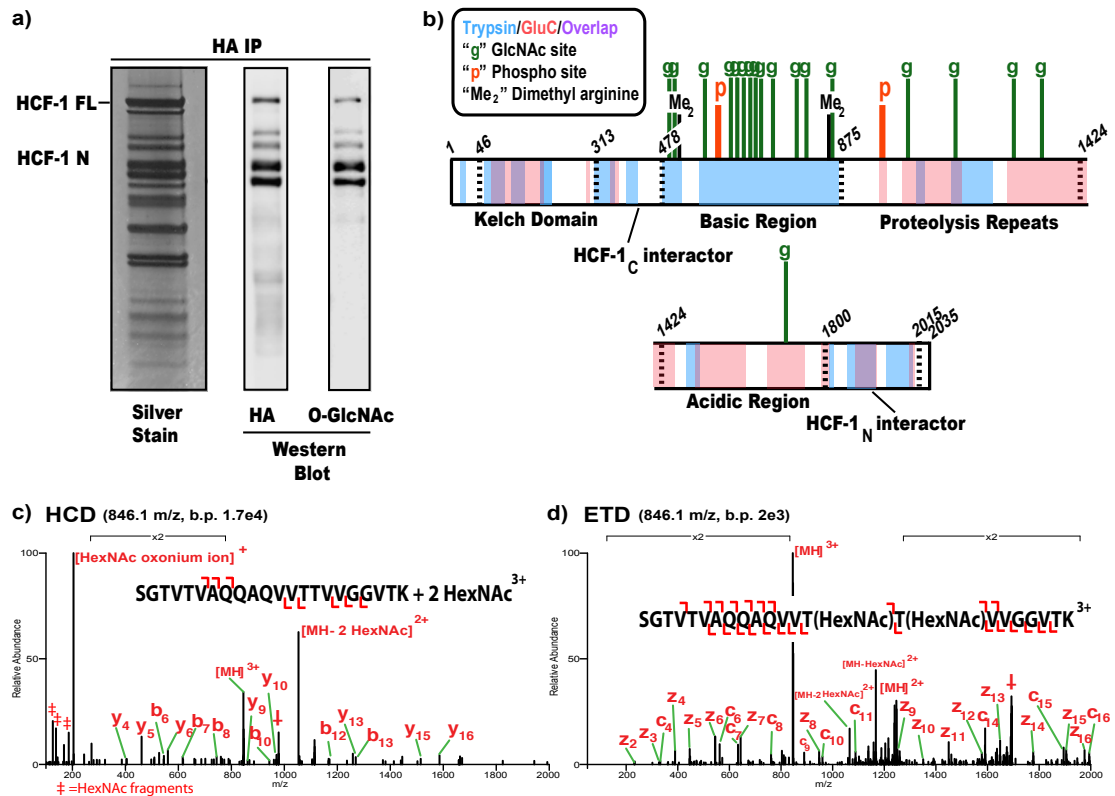
## Results

HCF-1 purification yielded several polypeptides that were readily visible with silver stain and Coomassie blue. Immunodetection of *O*-GlcNAc using the RL2 antibody confirmed that HCF-1 is strongly *O*-GlcNAcylated (Figure 2a).

HCF-1 was then subjected to proteolytic digestion using both GluC and trypsin. Both peptide digests were analyzed using capillary UPLC coupled to an ESI LTQ Velos Orbitrap mass spectrometer using both HCD and ETD. The results from this combined mass spectral characterization of the trypsin and GluC digests provided nearly complete coverage of the HCF-1 protein sequence. GluC was important in providing peptides that covered the latter C-terminal portion of the protein (Figure 2b).

The same doubly *O*-GlcNAcylated tryptic peptide was analyzed using HCD and ETD energy deposition (Figure 2c and 2d). Collisional activation of this *O*-linked glycopeptide caused a prominent loss of GlcNAc due to the lability of the *O*-glycosidic bond(s) (Figure 2c). The ETD spectrum provided both *c*- and *z*-ions series that permitted both sequence determination of the peptide and the site assignments for both *O*-GlcNAc moieties through appropriate mass shifts (203.08 Da) of product sequence ions (Figure 2d). Note that the supplemental activation required to promote efficient product ion dissociation can cause sugar

**Figure 2** Purification and characterization of HCF-1. a) HA tagged HCF-1 was purified from HEK293T cells. Eluates were silver stained or western blotted against HA and O-GlcNAc. b) Functional domains of HCF-1 are labeled (below diagram) where the landmark residue for the domains are numbered (above). Blue regions are trypsin-derived peptides, red are GluC derived and purple was covered by both enzymes. Green “g” signifies an O-GlcNAc site, while orange “p” phosphorylation and black, “Me<sub>2</sub>”, arginine dimethylation. b) HCD and c) ETD MS/MS spectra for a doubly O-GlcNAc modified HCF-1 tryptic peptide. “b.p” designates base peak intensity.

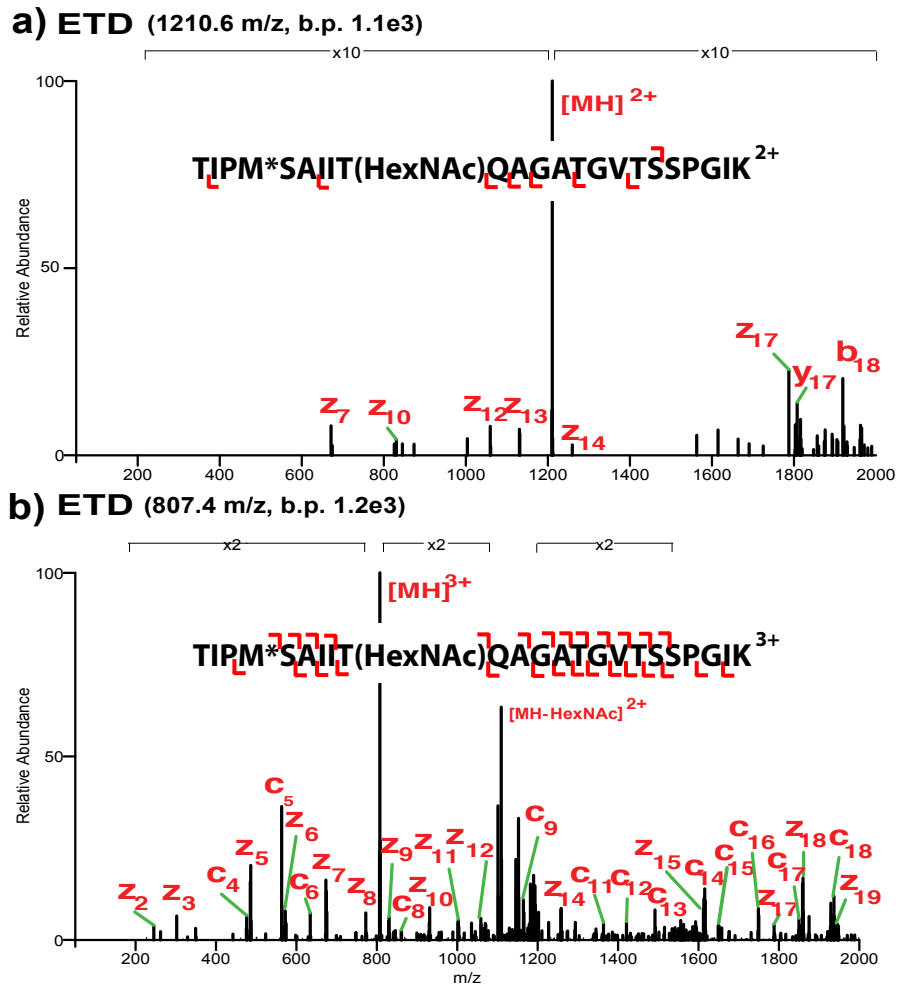


losses [34]. This example illustrates how HCD, while not providing site assignment, can be used to complement ETD in O-GlcNAc peptide analysis.

The efficiency of the electron transfer process for glycopeptides follows similar trends as has been described for unmodified peptides, where the greater the charge density, i.e. lower  $m/z$ , the more extensive the product ion series is obtained [35]. This phenomenon is especially relevant for glycopeptides, since the GlcNAc moiety itself adds a large, uncharged mass that acts to reduce the overall peptide charge density. This point is especially important since several commercially available bioinformatic, proteomic-searching software strategies do not adjust scoring algorithms accordingly. Without appropriate product ion scoring, some peptides remain unidentified leading to lower protein coverage than is actually present in the dataset. Protein Prospector and pFind are examples of software that adjust scoring based on charge state for ETD spectra [36-38]. The difference in ETD efficiency and resulting spectrum quality from the same doubly and triply charged ion is presented in Figure 3.

While the loss of the GlcNAc prevents reliable site assignment, there is utility in collisionally activating O-glycopeptides in beam-type collision instruments, especially HCD [26]. The sugar loss is detected as a singly charged GlcNAc oxonium ion at 204.087  $m/z$  and often as GlcNAc fragments at 138.056, 144.066, 168.066 and 186.077  $m/z$ . When measured with high mass accuracy, as done by the Orbitrap measuring HCD product ions, no amino acid composition can be mistaken for an elemental composition of 204.087 $m/z$ . The detection of

**Figure 3** ETD MS/MS spectra for the HCF-1 glycopeptide containing modification site T779 comparing ETD efficacies for the a) doubly charged and the b) triply charged precursors.

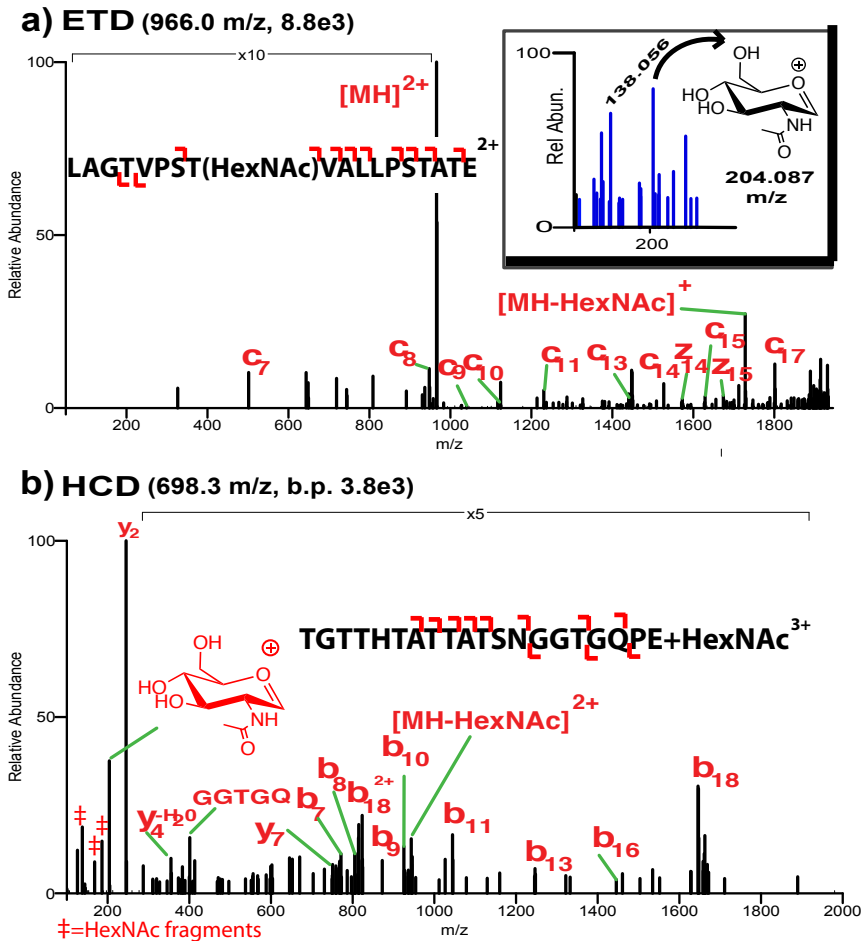




GlcNAc diagnostic ions becomes useful when poor quality ETD spectra suggest an O-GlcNAc modified peptide. Identifying the GlcNAc ion and its fragments in HCD spectra from the same precursor of a suspect ETD O-GlcNAc modified peptide assignment provides certainty for the identification of an O-linked glycopeptide (Figure 4a). Though there is a possibility of co-eluting/co-fragmented O-glycopeptides that can contribute to the HexNAc oxonium ion presence, an appropriate precursor isolation window can minimize such “contaminating ions.” This, again, illustrates the utility of ETD product ions retaining the HexNAc mass addition. While there are exceptions to every rule, the absence of a GlcNAc oxonium ion in collisional activation suggests a false, algorithm based, O-linked glycopeptide identification. Finally, another advantage of using HCD activation, that is, over ion trap collisional activation, is beam-type collisions in the HCD cell allow for secondary collisions, which can provide peptide sequence information (Figure 4b).

Nineteen sites of O-GlcNAcylation on HCF-1 were identified in this study, several of which were located in the *N*-terminal region (Table 1). Four of these O-GlcNAc sites reside in the proteolytic processing domain (PPD) of HCF-1, two of which were found in the conserved cleavage sequence [29, 30]. Two S/T phosphorylation sites, as well as two dimethylarginine sites (one of which was also identified at singly methylated) were identified in the PPD or basic region of HCF-1 [29, 30].

**Figure 4** a) GluC derived O-GlcNAcylated HCF-1 peptide lacking extensive z-ions but containing c-ions allowing assignment of the modified residue. The insert, a zoom of the HCD spectrum from the same precursor, shows a prominent GlcNAc oxonium ion, providing further evidence of an O-linked hexosamine modified peptide. b) HCD spectrum of a GluC-derived glycopeptide. Sufficient b- and y-ions allow for peptide identification though no site-occupancy data is available. Prominent GlcNAc oxonium ion, and its fragments, provide evidence of O-GlcNAc modification.



## Discussion

HCF-1 is one of the most highly *O*-GlcNAcylated proteins found in cells. In this study we have identified 19 sites of *O*-GlcNAcylation on HCF-1 purified from HEK293T cells, six of which are novel sites (Table 1). Nearly 30 additional HCF-1 *O*-GlcNAc sites have previously been reported from different cell or tissue types in studies enriching for *O*-GlcNAcylated peptides that were not detected in this study (Table 2). Combining the *O*-GlcNAc sites from this and other studies, including coverage of the C-terminal portion of HCF-1 using GluC digestion described here, we show that nearly all of the *O*-GlcNAc sites are located in the *N*-terminal half of the mature HCF-1 protein (Figure 2b). These *O*-GlcNAc region-specific assignments are consistent with previously published literature showing that OGT forms a stable complex with the *N*-terminal portion of HCF-1, including the PPD [28-30]. It has been proposed that *O*-GlcNAcylation of HCF-1 provides a signal required for its proteolytic maturation. Of note, OGT remains associated with HCF-1 polypeptides suggesting that these complexes may have other functions distinct from proteolytic maturation of HCF-1, such as modulation of epigenetic enzymes. HCF-1 is well known to associate with transcription regulatory proteins such as the Sin3a-HDAC complex (several components of which are *O*-GlcNAc modified) and Set/1Ash2 methyltransferase complex [6, 15, 28, 39, 40]. Thus, OGT may be recruited to HCF-1 to promote maturation, and allow the OGT-HCF-1 complex to modify transcriptional regulators.

Evidence that the OGT-HCF-1 complex recruits other transcriptional regulatory proteins is further implied by the methylation and dimethylation of arginine residues on HCF-1 (Table 1). CARM1, also known as protein arginine methyltransferase 4 (PRMT4), is known to mono- and asymmetrically dimethylate arginine residues on proteins involved in transcriptional regulation and mRNA stability [41-43]. Moreover, CARM1 interacts with, and is modified by, OGT [44]. While this study does not establish that CARM1 is responsible for HCF-1 arginine methylation, is it not unreasonable to suggest CARM1 may associate with the OGT-HCF-1 complex, and influence transcription.

The identification of phosphorylation within the heavily O-GlcNAcylated area of the basic region of HCF-1 lends evidence to a possible interaction between O-GlcNAc and phosphorylation. Both of the phosphorylated residues of HCF-1 are proline-directed, where a proline residue directly follows a phosphorylated serine or threonine. In fact, one phosphopeptide identified in this study contains the GSK3 $\beta$  phosphorylation motif, SXXXS, where the latter serine is phosphorylated. Inhibition of GSK3 $\beta$  with LiCl causes a decrease in O-GlcNAcylation of HCF-1 in COS7 cells [25]. Perhaps HCF-1 phosphorylation by GSK3 $\beta$  promotes OGT recruitment and O-GlcNAcylation, forming the mature OGT-HCF-1 complex as a mechanism to fine tune transcription through a wide reaching regulatory complex. It remains to be determined how these O-GlcNAcylation states of HCF-1, as well as the other post-translationally modified states, affect transcription and cell proliferation.

## Conclusions

Electron-based unimolecular dissociation mass spectrometric methods, i.e. ECD and ETD, have revolutionized O-GlcNAc analytical biochemistry. Glycopeptides previously unidentifiable are now readily identifiable on a chromatographic time-scale from purified proteins, or enriched peptides mixtures. ETD mass spectrometry provided this study the means to characterize the extent of O-GlcNAc site occupancy of HCF-1, a heavily modified protein involved in many aspects of transcriptional regulation and cell proliferation. This emerging technology will continue to allow us to further our fledgling understanding of O-GlcNAc biology and its interaction with other PTM systems, namely phosphorylation and arginine methylation.

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## Materials and Methods

### Purification and preparation of HCF-1

HEK293T (293T) cells were maintained in DMEM with 5 % FBS. The cells were plated at 70 % confluency (10 X 10 cm dishes) and transfected with 7  $\mu$ g of pGCN-HA-HCF-1 FL using Polyethylenimine (2 mg/ml) in serum free media. Next day, the transfected cells were plated into 15X15cm dishes. Three days post-transfection, cells were harvested for HCF-1 purification. Total cell extracts were prepared using the lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.3; 5 mM EDTA; 300 mM NaCl; 10 mM NAF; 1% NP-40; 1 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF); 1 mM dithiothreitol; protease inhibitors cocktail (Sigma), and 5  $\mu$ M PUGNAC (TRC)). Following centrifugation at 15000 rpm/30 min, the supernatant was incubated overnight at 4 °C with 200  $\mu$ l of anti-HA-agarose beads (Sigma) (100  $\mu$ l packed beads for 10 ml extract). The beads were washed several times with the lysis buffer and then transferred into a 800  $\mu$ l chromatography columns (Biorad) for elution. Bound proteins were eluted with 200  $\mu$ g/ml of HA peptide (sigma). The purified proteins were precipitated with cold TCA (30%), washed with cold acetone and resuspended in SDS-PAGE sample buffer for western blotting and Coomassie staining. Anti-HCF-1 antibodies, a generous gift from Winship Herr's laboratory, and the anti-O-GlcNAc antibody RL-2 (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) were used as previously described [29]. Following gel destaining, HCF-1 bands were cut from the gel, reduced with 2 mM TCEP (Thermo) for 60 minutes at 56°C, alkylated with iodoacetamide (Sigma) for 30 minutes at room temperature

in the dark and digested in-gel with 1:100 trypsin or GluC (Roche). Peptides were extracted with 5% formic acid and 50% acetonitrile, concentrated using C18 Ziptips (Millipore) and vacuum centrifugation followed by LC-MS/MS analysis.

### **LC MS/MS analysis**

Chromatography was performed on a Nanoacquity HPLC (Waters) at 600 nl/min with a BEH130 C18 75  $\mu$ M ID x150mm column (Waters). A 120-minute gradient from 2% solvent A (0.1% formic acid) to 35% solvent B (0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile) was used. Mass spectrometry was performed on an LTQ-Orbitrap Velos equipped with ETD (Thermo). Data dependent analysis selected the three most highly abundant, multiply charged ions within a 3 Da isolation window for subsequent HCD and ETD. Precursor scans and HCD product ions were measured in the Orbitrap at a resolution 30,000 and 7,500, respectively. For ions measured in the Orbitrap, one microscan of 250 ms injection time was used. ETD product ions were measured in the ion trap with one microscan, allowing 100 ms for ion injection time. Normalized activation energy and activation time for HCD was set to 30 and 30 msec, respectively. ETD activation time was charge state dependent, where doubly charged precursors reacted for 100 ms, triply charged for 66.6 msec, and so on. Automatic gain control for precursor ions was set at  $1e6$ ,  $5e4$  MS/MS scans and  $1e6$  for the ETD reagent, fluoranthene. Supplemental activation was enabled for ETD. Dynamic exclusion was set for 45 seconds.

## **Data analysis**

Raw data was converted to peaklists using in-house software called PAVA [31]. HCD and ETD peaklists were searched separately using Protein Prospector v 5.10.0. against the Swissprot database with a concatenated, decoy database (21 March, 2012) where 36,775 entries were searched. Only human and mouse genomes were searched. Precursor mass tolerance was set to 10 ppm, where fragment ion error was allowed at 20 ppm and 0.6 Da for HCD and ETD, respectively. Cysteine residues were assumed to be carbamidomethylated, variable modifications considered were *N*-terminal acetylation, *N*-terminal pyroglutamine conversion and methionine oxidation. Trypsin was allowed one missed cleavage, while GluC was allowed up to two. Proteins identified from this analysis were searched again allowing for HexNAc (neutral loss for HCD data) and phosphorylation of serine and threonines, acetylation, methylation and carbamidomethylation of lysines though only the former two for arginine residues. SLIP scoring was reported for all modification site localization [32] unless the modification site was ambiguous (a false localization rate of less than 5%), then manual interpretation was employed [33].

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**Table 1** Modified HCF-1 peptides identified in this study. Residue numbering refers to Uniprot accession number P51610. Within the peptide sequence, bold black residues indicate unambiguous site assignment of HexNAc moiety, unless another modification is specified. Red residues indicate the site is ambiguous between one of the colored sites. The blue and green indicate a mixture of the two, singly HexNAc modified positional isomers is seen. \* indicates oxidation, and ‡ indicates lysine carbamidomethylation. Modified sites previously identified from studies reporting mass spectrometric statistics or annotated spectra are referenced, and correspond with the text. Otherwise, the identification is labeled “novel”. Peptides identified by ETD and/or HCD are designated as “ETD ID” and “HCD ID,” respectively. “Site info” refers to whether or not the dissociation method provided information on the site localization of the modification. Protein Prospector outputs for modified peptides are available for ETD ([http://prospector.ucsf.edu/prospector/cgi-bin/mssearch.cgi?report\\_title=MS-Viewer&search\\_key=gjvopep7rv&search\\_name=msviewer](http://prospector.ucsf.edu/prospector/cgi-bin/mssearch.cgi?report_title=MS-Viewer&search_key=gjvopep7rv&search_name=msviewer)) and HCD ([http://prospector.ucsf.edu/prospector/cgi-bin/mssearch.cgi?report\\_title=MS-Viewer&search\\_key=vkwayutqbu&search\\_name=msviewer](http://prospector.ucsf.edu/prospector/cgi-bin/mssearch.cgi?report_title=MS-Viewer&search_key=vkwayutqbu&search_name=msviewer)) at their respective links.

m/z	z	ppm	Peptide sequence	PTM site of HCF-1 (P51610)	Prev. Id. or Novel	ETD ID/site info	HCD ID/site info
830.096	3	1.3	VGPQATIGTPLVLM*RPASQAGK	T490 & T495 mix	15, 17	yes/yes	yes/no
846.211	4	5.3	TQGVPAVLKVTGPQATTGTPLVLM*RPASQAGK	T490	17, 19	yes/yes	no/N.A.
931.767	4	3.3	IPSSAPTVLSPVAGTIIVKTM*AVTPGTTLLPATVK	S569	Novel	yes/yes	yes/no
701.124	4	3.5	TAAQVGTSSVSSATNSTRPIIVHK	S620	15, 17, 25	yes/yes	yes/no
701.124	4	4.1	TAAQVGTSSVSSATNSTRPIIVHK	S622	13, 15, 17, 25	yes/yes	yes/no
701.124	4	3.5	TAAQVGTSSVSSATNSTRPIIVHK	S623	13, 15, 17, 25	yes/yes	yes/no
701.124	4	2.9	TAAQVGTSSVSSATNSTRPIIVHK	T625	25	yes/yes	yes/no
751.895	4	4.3	TAAQVGTSSVSSATNSTRPIIVHK	S620, ambiguous 2nd site.	15, 17	yes/yes	no/N.A.
778.428	3	5.8	SGTVVAQQAVVTTVGGVTK	T651	13, 15, 17, 25	yes/yes	no/N.A.
846.120	3	4.2	2/13/14	T651 & T652	13, 15, 17, 25	yes/yes	no/N.A.
1135.277	3	4.8	VM*SVVQTKPVQTSVAVTQASTGPVTQIIQTK	S685	13, 17	yes/yes	yes/no
984.136	5	-1.0	LVSADGKPTIIITTTQASGAGTK#PTILGISSVSPSTTK#PGTTTIHK	T726	19	yes/yes	no/N.A.
807.428	3	4.2	TIPM*SAIITQAGATVTSPPGIK	T779	13, 15, 17, 25	yes/yes	yes/no
731.730	3	2.9	SPITIIITKVM*TSGTGAPAK	T801	13, 15, 16, 17, 25	yes/yes	no/N.A.
742.452	3	1.5	LVIPVTVSAVKPAVTTLVVK	T861	15, 17	yes/yes	yes/no
1211.590	3	0.3	TGTTNFAITTVANLGGHPQPTQVQVFCDRQE	T1030 or T1031	Novel (either)	yes/yes	no/N.A.
482.590	3	1.7	RACAAGTPAVIR	T1143	Novel	no/N.A.	no/N.A.
925.970	2	0.01	SLQGGSPSTTVTVALE	T1273	Novel	yes/yes	no/N.A.
698.319	3	##	TGTTHTATTATSNNGGTGQPE	T1335	Novel	yes/yes	yes/no
966.018	2	3.5	LAGTVPSVAVKPAVTTLVVK	T1743	Novel	yes/yes	no/N.A.
767.453	4	1.5	TVPM*GGV(R(Me <sub>2</sub> ))LVTPVTVSAVKPAVTTLVVK	Dimethyl@R855;HexNAC@T861	Novel	yes/yes	no/N.A.
767.077	3	3.4	VTGPQATTGTPLVLM*(Me)PASQAGK	Methyl@504	Novel	yes/yes	yes/yes
771.748	3	2.1	VTGPQATTGTPLVLM*(Me <sub>2</sub> )PASQAGK	Dimethyl@504	Novel	yes/yes	yes/yes
716.685	4	5.1	TVPM*GGV(R(Me <sub>2</sub> ))LVTPVTVSAVKPAVTTLVVK	Dimethyl@855	Novel	yes/yes	no/N.A.
756.352	2	3.4	VASSPVM*VSNPATR	Phospho-S598	19	yes/yes	yes/yes
977.983	2	##	AQPVHDLPLVSIASPTTE	Phospho-S984	Novel	yes/yes	no/N.A.

**Table 2** O-GlcNAcylation sites identified on HCF-1 not identified in this study.

Unambiguous sites of O-GlcNAc modification are reported from studies that report mass spectrometric statistics or annotated spectra, along with appropriate references. A) Alfaro *et al.*, 2012, B) Myers *et al.*, 2011, C) Trinidad *et al.*, 2012, D) Wang *et al.*, 2010 (Ref. 14 in text), E) Wang *et al.*, 2010 (Ref. 19 in text) and F) Zhao *et al.* 2011

O-GlcNAc HCF-1 Site	Ref.
T405	F
T480	B
T496	C
T515	B, C
S562	E
S563	C
S563 & T579	B
T579	B
T587 & T588	C
T588	C
S628	F
T640	F
T658	F
S685	E
T694	E
T739	E
T784	C
S806	C, E
T808	B, C, E
T831	C
T870	B
T1139	B
T1148	B, D
S1150	E
T1239	E
T1241	A
T1246	B

### **Chapter 3**

*Polycomb Repressive Complex 2 is Necessary for the Normal Site Specific O-GlcNAc Distribution in Mouse Embryonic Stem Cells*

**Polycomb Repressive Complex 2 is Necessary for the Normal Site Specific  
O-GlcNAc Distribution in Mouse Embryonic Stem Cells**

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## **Abstract**

The monosaccharide addition of an *N*-acetylglucosamine to serine and threonine residues (*O*-GlcNAc) of nuclear and cytosolic proteins is emerging as a general regulator of many cellular processes including signal transduction, cell division and transcription. The sole mouse *O*-GlcNAc transferase (OGT) is essential for embryonic development. To better understand the role of OGT in mouse development we mapped sites of *O*-GlcNAcylation of nuclear proteins in mouse embryonic stem cells. Here, we unambiguously identify over 60 nuclear proteins as *O*-GlcNAcylated, several of which are crucial for mouse embryonic stem cell maintenance. Furthermore, we extend the connection between OGT and Polycomb Group (PcG) genes from flies to mammals, showing Polycomb Repressive Complex 2 is necessary to maintain normal levels of OGT and for the correct cellular distribution of *O*-GlcNAc. Together these results provide insight into how OGT may regulate transcription in early development, possibly by modifying proteins important to maintain the embryonic stem cell transcriptional repertoire.

## Introduction

O-GlcNAc is an enzyme-mediated modification to serine and threonine residues on cytosolic and nuclear proteins by a single *N*-acetylglucosamine (1). Unlike membrane-bound and secreted protein glycosylation, such as *N*-linked glycans, mucin-type *O*-glycosylation or GPI anchors, *O*-GlcNAcylation is a reversible and dynamic post-translational modification (PTM). Although *O*-GlcNAcylation has been implicated in nearly every cellular process, from nutrient sensing and insulin signaling (2) to synaptic plasticity (3), our knowledge of the exact functions of this widely distributed monosaccharide PTM is still in its infancy.

*O*-GlcNAcylation is akin to phosphorylation - it is coupled to and hydrolyzed from specific sites on proteins to modulate their function. Hence, cycling of *O*-GlcNAc may affect the activity, stability, subcellular localization, and biomolecular interactions of modified proteins. Some of the activities of *O*-GlcNAcylation may occur as a result of crosstalk between *O*-GlcNAcylation and other PTMs – a phenomenon documented for protein phosphorylation (4, 5) and ubiquitination (6). The crosstalk with phosphorylation is particularly interesting since there is only one conserved, mammalian *O*-GlcNAc transferase (OGT), with its extensive tetratricopeptide repeat (TPR) protein-protein interaction domain, that must cooperate and/or compete with hundreds of protein kinases that recognize their substrates individually (7-9).



OGT is essential for mouse development, as *Ogt* mutant embryos die shortly after implantation (10). OGT interacts with and may modify OCT4, a transcription factor that is essential for post-implantation development (11-14). Studies in *Drosophila melanogaster* provide additional mechanistic insight into the developmental role for OGT. Mutants of the fly *Ogt* homologue, *super sex combs* (*sxc*), exhibit phenotypes similar to the loss of Polycomb group (PcG) proteins (15-17). PcG proteins assemble into two Polycomb Repressive Complexes (PRC1 and PRC2) that are necessary for developmentally regulated transcriptional silencing of many genes crucial for early embryonic patterning (18). Two lines of evidence link fly OGT to PcG proteins. First, there is significant overlap in genomic occupancy between O-GlcNAc and subunits of PRC2 and PRC1. It is likely that O-GlcNAcylation regulates a function other than PRC recruitment to target genes since PRC binding to the majority of its targets is unaffected in *sxc* mutants (16). Second, a *Drosophila* PRC1 protein, Polyhomeotic (Ph), interacts with wheat germ agglutinin (WGA), a feature of O-GlcNAcylated proteins (16). O-GlcNAcylation of the mammalian Ph homolog, PHL3 and a second mammalian PcG protein homologue, YY1, extends the relationship between OGT and PcG to mammals (19-21).

Mouse embryonic stem cells (mESCs) provide a mammalian model system for deciphering the role of OGT in early development. ESCs are pluripotent and can differentiate into each cell type in the adult and developing embryo. In addition, they can be cultured in the pluripotent state indefinitely (22).

While OGT mutant ESC lines cannot be derived (10, 23), PRC2 mutant ESCs are viable and exhibit inappropriate expression of genes that are important in later developmental stages (24). Thus PRC2 mutant ESC lines provide a system to study the interaction between OGT and PcG function.

To explore the role for O-GlcNAc modification in ESCs, we employed an unbiased strategy for enrichment of native O-GlcNAcylated nuclear peptides and used high-resolution electron transfer dissociation tandem mass spectrometry (ETD MS/MS) to map their sites of modification. Here, we report the unambiguous identification of O-GlcNAc modification sites on over 60 proteins, many of which have documented roles in ESC pluripotency or self-renewal. In addition, we discover that PRC2 is necessary for maintaining normal levels of OGT in ESCs. The decrease in OGT abundance in PRC2 mutant ESCs is accompanied by an alteration in the amounts and distribution of O-GlcNAcylation in the ESC nuclear O-GlcNAcylated proteome. Together these results suggest that normal OGT activity in ESCs is influenced by PRC2, providing a functional connection between the two pathways.

## Results

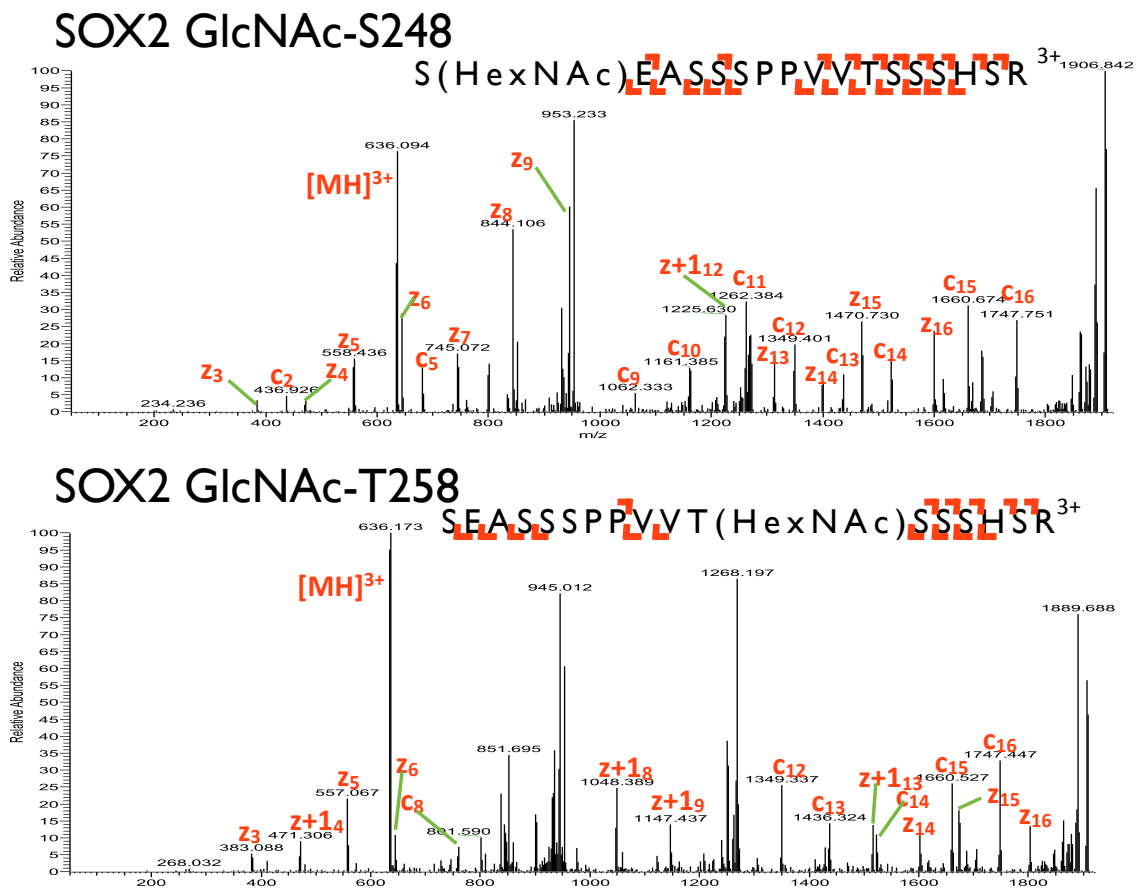
### Identification of O-GlcNAc Modified Peptides in Mouse ESC Nuclei

A combination of lectin weak affinity chromatography (LWAC) and ETD MS/MS (19, 25, 26) was used to identify native O-GlcNAc modified peptides from mouse ESC nuclear proteins. One hundred forty-two O-GlcNAc sites were detected on 62 proteins (Appendix I and Table 1). While proteins implicated in virtually every nuclear function were found to be O-GlcNAc modified, the majority are involved in transcriptional regulation. For example, two transcription factors essential for ESC self-renewal, SOX2 (Figure 1) and ZFP281 (Appendix I), were modified. BPTF, which is a subunit of the histone remodeling complex NURF and is necessary for pluripotency (27, 28), was also O-GlcNAc modified. Sin3a, an essential transcriptional regulator in ESCs (29), and several of its interacting proteins were O-GlcNAcylated. For some of these targets, such as SOX2 and the Sin3a interaction protein Host Cell Factor C1 (HCF-1), O-GlcNAcylation was previously reported, although no specific modification sites were determined (30, 31). ETD MS/MS enabled the unambiguous site assignments for these proteins.

### PRC2 is Required for Normal OGT Stability and O-GlcNAc Distribution

The link between OGT and PcG proteins in *D. melanogaster* prompted us to investigate whether PRC2-null ESCs exhibited any alterations in O-

**Figure 1** ETD MS/MS spectra of the two positional isomers of the O-GlcNAcylated SOX2 peptide. Adequate c- and z-series ions allow the unambiguous site assignment of the *N*-acetylhexosamine (HexNAc) mass modification to serine 248 (upper panel) and threonine 258 (lower panel). Charged reduced species and common neutral losses (55) are not labeled.



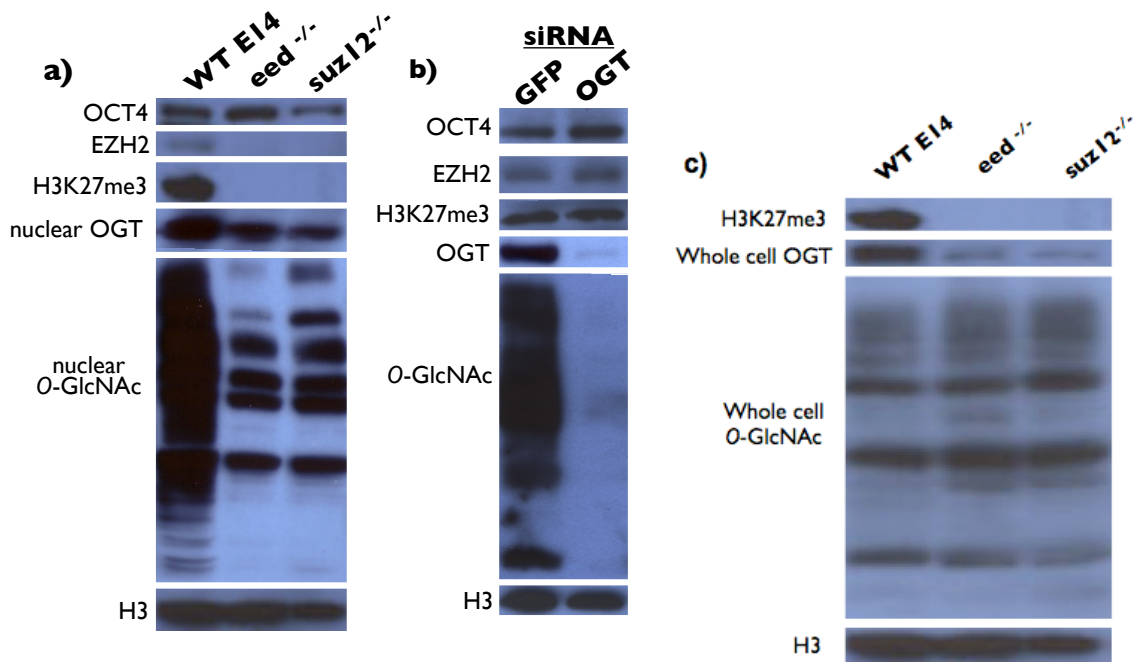
GlcNAcylation patterns. Mouse ESC lines with mutations in *eed* or *suz12*, two core components of PRC2, were analyzed for levels of OCT4, a pluripotency marker, as well as OGT and O-GlcNAcylated proteins (Figure 2). These PRC2 mutant ESCs exhibited levels of OCT4 similar to those in wild type ESCs, indicating that they are largely undifferentiated. There was a marked drop in nuclear and whole cell OGT (Figure 2a). Consistent with a decrease in OGT levels, there was a large decrease in abundance of O-GlcNAcylated nuclear proteins in PRC2 ESCs (Figure 2a) while whole cell O-GlcNAc patterns were altered compared to wild type (Figure 2c).

We next asked whether changes in OGT levels affect PRC2 activity in ESCs. Upon knockdown of OGT in wild type ESCs, no disruption of PRC2 activity was seen, as measured by EZH2 and H3K27me3 levels (Figure 2b).

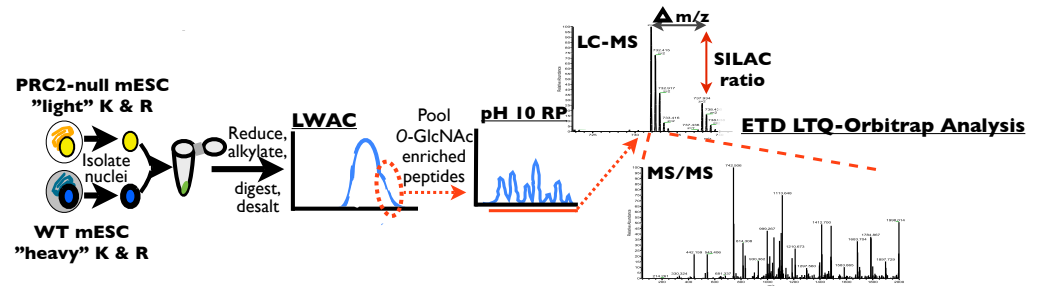
### **PRC2 Mutants Exhibit Altered O-GlcNAcylation Patterns**

Western blot analysis of PRC2-null ESCs revealed changes in O-GlcNAcylation of nuclear proteins when compared to wild type cells. To identify specifically what O-GlcNAcylation changes were occurring in the absence of PRC2, we employed stable isotopic labeling of amino acids in culture (SILAC) (32) along with LWAC ETD MS/MS to measure the relative abundance of O-GlcNAcylated peptides between wild type and *eed*<sup>-/-</sup> nuclear proteins (Figure 3). We found 56 of the 80 O-GlcNAc modified peptides exhibited alterations in

**Figure 2** Western blot analysis of the relationship between PRC2 and OGT. a) Disruption of PRC2 by mutations in either two of the three core components, *eed* or *suз12*, abrogates complex formation and methyltransferase activity as seen by EZH2 levels (third core component) and H3K27me3 levels, respectively. However, pluripotency marker, OCT4, is unaffected. OGT and general O-GlcNAc levels are altered by PRC2 disruption. b) siRNA knockdown of OGT does not significantly affect levels of OCT4, EZH2 or H3K27me3. c) Whole cell lysate analysis of H3K27me3, OGT, O-GlcNAc and H3 in ESC mutants for *eed* or *suз12*.



**Figure 3** SILAC LWAC LC-MS/MS workflow. Non-quantitative samples were prepared similarly except a single cell type was used.



SILAC ratios greater than 25% between wild type and *eed<sup>-/-</sup>* mutant ESCs (Table 2). While proteins implicated in a wide set of biological functions were differentially modified in *eed<sup>-/-</sup>* ESCs compared to wild type ESCs, only O-GlcNAc modified peptides from nuclear pore complex (NPC) proteins were consistently less abundant in *eed<sup>-/-</sup>* ESCs (Table 2).

In contrast to NPC proteins, the glycopeptides identified from other proteins exhibited variable differences between wild type and *eed<sup>-/-</sup>* ESCs (Table 2). For example, the four different peptides derived from EMSY, a protein that interacts with BRCA2 and several chromatin-modifying proteins (33), varied greatly in their SILAC ratios. Two O-GlcNAcylated peptides exhibited decreased abundance in *eed<sup>-/-</sup>* mutant ESCs: the I518-K530 peptide O-GlcNAcylated on S520 (gS520) exhibited a decrease of approximately 95% and the gS200-containing T194-K204 peptide showed a decrease of roughly 50%. One glycopeptide, T498-K509 containing either gT499 or gS500, was equivalent between cell types. The fourth glycopeptide, I225-K241, exhibited 30-40% increase in relative abundance in *eed<sup>-/-</sup>* mutant cells if modified at T228. Thus, the loss of EED affects some sites of modification and not others, suggesting that the O-GlcNAcylation of different regions within the same protein can be regulated independently.

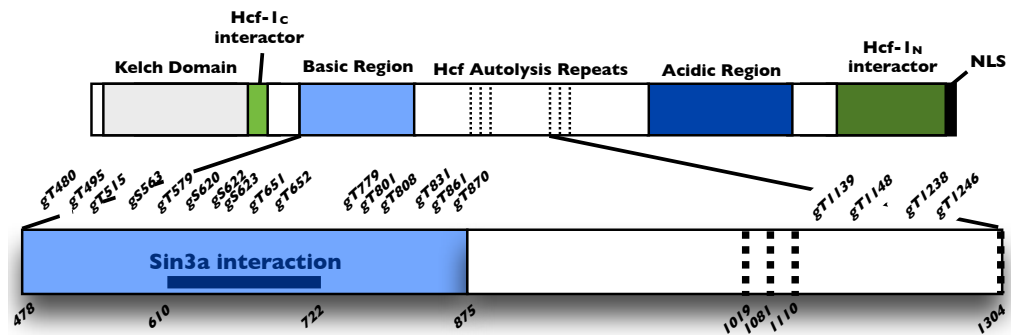
In some instances the same peptide exhibited variable SILAC ratios depending on which sites were modified. For example, the gT1710 containing T1710-K1727 BPTF peptide was equally abundant between cell lines, while the



same peptide doubly modified at two other residues, gT1713 and gT1716, was 80% less abundant in the *eed<sup>-/-</sup>* ESCs. Similarly, a second BPTF glycopeptide, S1750-K1761, showed variable differences depending on which modification sites were used: the gS1750 positional isomer was nearly 50% less abundant in *eed<sup>-/-</sup>* mutant cells, while the isomer modified at two other sites, gT1755 and gT1760, was approximately 80% less abundant. These data suggest that the O-GlcNAc modification of the same peptide can be regulated independently, with different positional isomers having different requirements for EED.

In other instances a decrease in abundance of one O-GlcNAcylated positional isomer of a peptide was accompanied by an increase in another, as is illustrated by HCF-1, which contains 20 sites of O-GlcNAcylation (Figure 4). In *eed<sup>-/-</sup>* ESCs, the triply modified T612-K637 glycopeptide containing gS620/gS622/gS623 was almost 70% lower and the doubly modified peptide ~25% lower, whereas the singly modified gS623 containing peptide was 75% higher. These data indicate that for this HCF-1 peptide the extent of glycosylation is hampered when PRC2 function is disrupted.

**Figure 4** Diagram for landmarks of HCF-1. Zoom in of the basic region and region of alternative proteolysis shows the extent and location of O-GlcNAc sites identified in this study. Numbers indicate landmark residues (bottom) or O-GlcNAc sites (top, “g” for glycosylation). Adapted from ref. 44.



## **Discussion**

Although the existence of O-GlcNAcylation of nucleocytoplasmic serine and threonine residues has been known for almost three decades, the technologies to precisely identify these modification sites have only been recently developed (19, 34), opening up many new lines of investigation into the function of this PTM. Our analysis of ESC nuclear O-GlcNAcylation revealed modifications of more than 60 proteins, involved in virtually every nuclear process, though predominantly in transcriptional regulation. In addition we find that PRC2 is necessary for normal levels of OGT itself. The decrease in OGT levels in PRC2 mutant ESCs is consistent with an altered distribution of O-GlcNAcylation of nuclear proteins relative to wild type ESCs. Together these results show that proper PRC2 function is necessary for normal OGT abundance and O-GlcNAc distribution.

### **SOX2 and ZFP281 May Participate in Phosphorylation/O-GlcNAcylation Crosstalk**

SOX2, OCT4 and Nanog form the core transcription factor network for pluripotency in ESCs (35). These transcription factors interact with themselves and a variety of other transcriptional regulatory proteins to up-regulate genes involved in pluripotency and down-regulate developmental genes. SOX2 and OCT4 co-occupy and co-regulate many genes and form one arm of the self-

renewal transcription factor network (36). While there is some overlap with known SOX2/OCT4 targets, Nanog regulates a largely unique set of genes and appears to function in a separate pathway (37). ZFP281 interacts with Nanog and is also necessary for self-renewal (38, 39). Here, we have identified two sites of O-GlcNAcylation, gS248 and gT258, in the transactivation domain of SOX2, and three O-GlcNAcylation sites on ZFP281: gS691, gS889 and gT888. These results suggest that OGT may regulate both the SOX2/OCT4 and Nanog/ZFP281 pathways. Therefore, altered function of these pluripotency transcription factors may contribute to the lack of viability observed for OGT mutant ESCs.

The molecular mechanisms by which O-GlcNAcylation regulates transcription factor function are not fully understood. One well-documented mechanism for control of transcription factor activity is phosphorylation (40, 41), and crosstalk between these two PTMs is emerging as a potential means of regulation (5). Our findings suggest the potential for crosstalk between O-GlcNAcylation and phosphorylation in the modulation of SOX2 and ZFP281 function. In human ESCs, the residue homologous to S248 of SOX2, which is O-GlcNAcylated in mouse ESCs, is phosphorylated (42). Since S248 cannot be simultaneously phosphorylated and O-GlcNAcylated, this may represent an O-GlcNAcylation-phosphorylation switch involved in the regulation of SOX2 activity. In this study, ZFP281 O-GlcNAc modified at gT888 is concurrently phosphorylated at T886, while no phosphorylation is detected when ZFP281 is O-GlcNAcylated at S889. This result suggests that at least two populations of

modification states for ZFP281 exist within ESCs, suggesting combinatorial control by these two PTMs. Quantitative assessments of the extent of each combination of modifications and mutational analysis of PTM sites will be necessary to fully understand whether O-GlcNAcylation/phosphorylation crosstalk plays a role in the control of pluripotency and self-renewal by SOX2 and ZFP281.

### **O-GlcNAcylation of Multiple Proteins Associated with Sin3a**

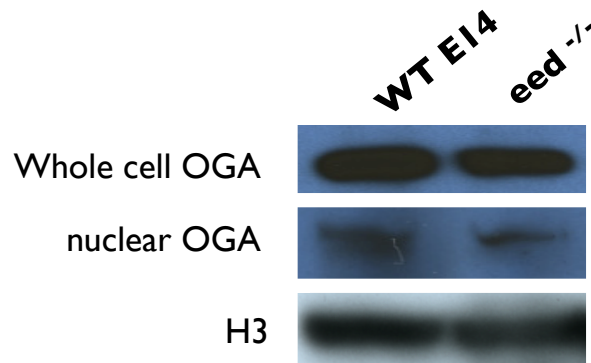
Sin3a is essential for ESC viability (29) and is a core component of several transcriptional co-repressor complexes, including the Sin3-HDAC and NCoR/Sin3a complexes (43). We identified several proteins implicated in Sin3a-mediated repression as O-GlcNAcylated in ESCs, including RBBP7, SAP130, SAP30bp, SOX2, HCF-1, NCoR1, NCoR2 and Cnot2. There is evidence of a stable interaction between OGT and a subset of these targets, as OGT can be co-purified with Sin3a and HCF-1 (44). Moreover, Sin3a has been shown to recruit OGT to promoters to repress transcription (45). Our finding that several other Sin3a partners are also O-GlcNAc modified suggests that the role for this PTM in the regulation of Sin3a co-repressor complexes may be more extensive than previously appreciated. Mutational analysis will be necessary to determine the significance of O-GlcNAcylation of Sin3a and its interacting proteins for Sin3a-mediated transcriptional repression.

## Loss of PRC2 Leads to Dysregulation of OGT and O-GlcNAcylation

We have shown that PRC2 mutant ESCs exhibit a notable decrease in OGT levels, while ESCs depleted for OGT exhibited normal PRC2 function. These data indicate that OGT functions downstream of PRC2 in ESCs, as is also observed in *Drosophila* (16). The decrease in OGT protein levels in PRC2 mutant ESCs is not a consequence of decreased *Ogt* transcription, as OGT mRNA levels are not significantly altered in *eed*<sup>-/-</sup> or *suz12* mutant ESCs (46, 47). It is also unlikely that PRC2 directly regulates OGT stability, since neither Suz12 nor EED form stable complexes with OGT as measured by co-immunoprecipitation (48, 49). However, it is possible that the expression of factors that affect the stability of OGT depends on PRC2.

Western blot analysis of *eed* mutant ESCs showed the drop in OGT levels coincided with decreased nuclear O-GlcNAcylation levels. The decrease in O-GlcNAcylation is not a consequence of up regulation of the sole O-GlcNAc hydrolase (50) (Figure 5). Our SILAC analyses revealed that not all of the O-GlcNAc sites were equally affected by this decrease in OGT levels. In fact, there were complex patterns of alterations in OGT target site usage in *eed*<sup>-/-</sup> mutant ESCs. For the NPC proteins, modified peptides were not as abundant in the *eed* mutant ESCs as in wild type ESCs, consistent with an overall decrease in O-GlcNAcylation. For other proteins, such as EMSY and HCF-1, some modified peptides were more abundant, some were less abundant, and some were

**Figure 5** Analysis of whole cell and nuclear lysates for the O-GlcNAc hydrolase OGA/NCOAT/MGEA5 (OGA) in wild type and *eed<sup>-/-</sup>* mutant ESCs



unchanged in the mutant ESCs compared to wild type. For BPTF, the same peptide exhibited two patterns of O-GlcNAcylation, and loss of *eed* affected the two positional isomers differently. Finally, one HCF-1 peptide revealed evidence for an alteration in OGT processivity, as a decrease in abundance of triply and doubly modified glycopeptides was accompanied by an increase in abundance of the singly modified peptide (Table 2).

Our finding that certain O-GlcNAc sites are influenced by PRC2 while others are unaffected, along with previous studies showing the vast majority of the OGT substrates identified here are not directly, transcriptionally regulated by PRC2 (24, 51), leads us to believe that the connection between PRC2 and O-GlcNAc distribution is likely indirect. We speculate that the change in O-GlcNAcylation patterns in PRC2-null ESCs is due to transcriptional changes in proteins that influence OGT target site selection. PRC2-null ESCs show defects in transcriptional repression of proteins involved in lineage-specific differentiation (24). The aberrant transcription of these genes in PRC2-null ESCs may provide a different set of cofactors that regulate OGT specificity, resulting in inappropriate increases and decreases of O-GlcNAcylation at a subset of target sites. A change in the expression of cofactors that regulate OGT target site selection may also explain the decrease in OGT levels, if these factors also affect OGT stability or turnover. Protein-protein interaction studies aimed at identification of the subproteome that interacts with OGT in ESCs will help dissect the mechanism by which PRC2 influences OGT and O-GlcNAcylation.



This study unambiguously identifies 142 O-GlcNAc modification sites on 62 proteins. Most of these sites are novel (Table 3) We show that OGT modifies transcription factors and components of transcriptional regulatory complexes that are essential to maintain the ESC-specific expression profile and, therefore, are central to stem cell maintenance. In addition, this work extends the relationship between OGT and Polycomb from *Drosophila* to mammalian systems. These data provide evidence towards the nature of the relationship between PRC2 and OGT wherein OGT levels and O-GlcNAcylation patterns are influenced by PRC2 activity. Together these results indicate that O-GlcNAc is directly involved in the transcriptional regulation during early embryonic development.

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## Materials and Methods

**Sample Preparation:** Wild type E14 ESCs were grown without feeders under standard conditions. For SILAC experiments wild type ESCs were grown in  $^{13}\text{C}_6$  arginine and  $^{13}\text{C}_6$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}_2$  lysine supplemented with 200mM proline (Invitrogen) to avoid arginine to proline conversion. *suz12<sup>-/-</sup>* (52) and *eed<sup>-/-</sup>* (53) ESC lines were grown on  $\gamma$ -irradiated mouse embryonic fibroblast feeder cells until the final passage where the feeders were depleted twice by preferential adherence to gelatinized culture dishes.

Cells were harvested, washed twice with cold PBS and combined 1:1 after counting with a haemocytometer. Combined cells were resuspended in nuclear prep buffer I (320 mM sucrose, 10 mM Tris pH 8.0, 3 mM  $\text{CaCl}_2$ , 2 mM  $\text{Mg}(\text{OAc})_2$ , 0.1 mM EDTA, 0.1%, TritonX-100, 20  $\mu\text{M}$  Thiamet G [Caymen Chemicals], Roche protease inhibitors and 1X Invitrogen phosphatase inhibitors) and dounce homogenized on ice until >95% of nuclei stained by Trypan blue. Two volumes of nuclear prep buffer II (2.0M Sucrose, Tris pH 8.0, 5mM  $\text{Mg}(\text{OAc})_2$ , 5mM DTT, 20 $\mu\text{M}$  Thiamet G [Caymen Chemicals], Roche protease inhibitors and Invitrogen phosphatase inhibitors) were added to the nuclei suspension. Nuclei were pelleted by ultracentrifugation at 37,000 rpm at 4°C for 45 minutes. Pelleted nuclei were washed with cold PBS and stored at -80°C.

Nuclei, containing ~3 mg of protein, were resuspended in 6 M guanidine hydrochloride, 25mM ammonium bicarbonate, 20  $\mu\text{M}$  Thiamet G [Caymen Chemicals], Roche protease inhibitors and Invitrogen phosphatase inhibitors),

sonicated and cleared by centrifugation. Soluble proteins were reduced using 2 mM tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine (TCEP, Thermo) for one hour at 55°C, alkylated using 10 mM iodoacetamide (IAM, Sigma) before digestion for 18 hours using modified trypsin at 37°C (Promega: Part# 9PIV5113). After digestion, the sample was acidified with formic acid and desalted using a C18 Sep-Pak (Waters), before drying down by vacuum centrifugation.

**O-GlcNAcylated Peptide Chromatography-LWAC & high pH RP:** O-GlcNAc modified peptides were enriched as previously described (19). The O-GlcNAc enriched fractions of the chromatograph were pooled, desalted and dried. The O-GlcNAc enriched pool was resuspended in 2 mM NH<sub>4</sub>OH pH 10 and 5% acetonitrile and separated on a Phenomenex Gemini® 3µm C18 reverse-phase column. The gradient of buffer A (2 mM NH<sub>4</sub>OH and 5% acetonitrile) to buffer B (2 mM NH<sub>4</sub>OH and 50% acetonitrile) increased from 0 to 100% over six mL at 50µL/min. Twenty-four 250µL fractions were dried by vacuum centrifugation and resuspended in 0.1% formic acid for subsequent MS analysis.

**LC-MS/MS** LC-MS/MS of O-GlcNAcylated peptides was performed as previously described (19).

**Data Analysis** Fragment mass spectra were converted into peaklists using the in-house software PAVA. CAD and ETD data were searched separately using ProteinProspector version 5.6.0 against the UniProt database with a

concatenated database. Only mouse and human genomes were used for the database searching. Precursor tolerance was set to 20 ppm, whereas fragment mass error tolerance was set to 0.6 Da. Cysteine residues were assumed to be carbamidomethylated while N-terminus acetylation, methionine oxidation, loss of N-terminal methionine and glutamate conversion to pyroglutamate were variable modifications. For ETD data, HexNAc modifications to serine and threonine residues and phosphorylation to serine/threonine/tyrosine was allowed as variable mass modifications. The same modifications were allowed for CAD data except the neutral loss of 203 Da (HexNAc) or 80 Da (phosphate) were considered. For SILAC experiments, the data was searched with arginine +6 Da and lysine +8 Da either as constant modifications or constantly absent. SILAC ratios were determined at a resolution of 30,000. All SILAC ratios and spectra of modified peptides were examined manually to assess spectral quality and site-assignment accuracy.

**siRNA Knockdown** siRNAs were created by *in vitro* cleavage of an *Ogt* double stranded RNA (54). A PCR product for *in vitro* transcription of *Ogt* RNA was generated using primers recommended by <http://cluster-12.mpi-cbg.de/cgi-bin/riddle/search>.

**Western Blot Analysis** Antibodies were purchased from Abcam (OCT4 ab19857, EZH2 ab3748, H3 ab1791), Millipore (H3K27me3 07-499), ProteinTech (OGA 14711-1-AP), Sigma (OGT SAB2101676 & O-GlcNAc CTD 110.6) and

BioRad (secondary antibodies 172-1019 & 172-1011) and used at recommended concentrations.

**Appendix I** ETD MS/MS spectra of the O-GlcNAcylated peptides identified in this study. Peptide sequence and site assignment of the *N*-acetylhexosamine (HexNAc) mass modification are assigned based on Protein Prospector results. Charged reduced species and common neutral losses (55) are not labeled. The data can be accessed at [http://msf.ucsf.edu/personal\\_pages/myers/Myers\\_2011\\_Figure\\_S1.pdf](http://msf.ucsf.edu/personal_pages/myers/Myers_2011_Figure_S1.pdf)



**Table 1** All O-GlcNAc modified peptides identified in this study. The gene name and accession number is given. Black denotes the unambiguous assignment of the O-GlcNAc moiety (mass addition of a HexNAc). Red denotes the exact site is not assigned but can be localized to one of the red colored residues. Green and blue indicate a mixture of positional isomers, wherein the corresponding colors in the annotated mass spectrum (Appendix I) identify both positional isomers as O-GlcNAcylated.

		O-GlcNAc Peptides <b>Bold=confirmed</b> Red="ambiguous possibility", Blue/Green= mix, *=carbamidomethylation, Ac=acetylation		
Gene Name	Acc #			Modified Residue
Agfg1	Q8K2K6	SSSADFGTF <b>TS(HexNAc)</b> QSHQTASTVSK		T301 or S302
Atf7ip	Q7TT18	NSSTTAAPL <b>GT(HexNAc)</b> TLAVQAVPTAHSIVQATR		T902 or T903
Bnc2	Q2TBA4	AT <b>S(HexNAc)</b> GAATPVIASK		S437
Bptf	A2A654	QTV <b>S(HexNAc)</b> <b>S(HexNAc)</b> TENC*AR		S1742 & S1743
Bptf	A2A654	<b>S(HexNAc)</b> TVTTTTTIVTK		S1750
Bptf	A2A654	<b>ST(HexNAc)</b> VTTTTTIVTK		T1751
Bptf	A2A654	ST <b>V(HexNAc)</b> <b>TT(HexNAc)</b> TTTIVTK		T1754 & T1756
Bptf	A2A654	ST <b>VTT(HexNAc)</b> <b>T(HexNAc)</b> TTVTK		T1755 & T1756
Bptf	A2A654	ST <b>VTT(HexNAc)</b> TT <b>V(HexNAc)</b> K(heavy)		T1755 & T1760
Bptf	A2A654	<b>T(HexNAc)</b> VITEVTTMTSTVATESK		T1710 or T1713
Bptf (frag)	A2A653	IVAVNVPAT <b>(HexNAc)</b> QGGMVQVQQK		T225
C1orf88	Q9D9W1	VP <b>TST(HexNAc)</b> KGYAIGAR		T82 or S83 or T84
Cdk12	Q14AX6	<b>TS(HexNAc)</b> TLSSQTNSQPPVQVSMK		T588-T590
Cdk13	Q69ZA1	TENQHVPT <b>TS(HexNAc)</b> SSLTDPHAGVK		T1286 or S1287
Cnot2	Q8C5L3	SLSQGTQLPSHV <b>TP(HexNAc)</b> TGVPTMSLHTPPSPSR		T113
Cnot2	Q8C5L3	SLSQGTQLPSHV <b>PTTGVPT(HexNAc)</b> JMSLHTPPSPSR		T118
Dido1	Q8C9B9	ILSSLKPG <b>S(HexNAc)</b> STVTAP <b>T(HexNAc)</b> <b>TAAITTTASPVTAATSK</b>		T1280 and T1287 or T1288 mix
Ebp	P70245	Ac- <b>T(HexNAc)</b> TNTVPLHPYWPR		T2
Egr1	P08046	AMVET <b>S(HexNAc)</b> YPSQTTR		S117
Elf2	Q9JHC9	S <b>PTT(HexNAc)</b> <b>T(HexNAc)</b> APVSAAAAPR		T375 & T376
Emsy	Q8BMB0	I <b>S(HexNAc)</b> SNIVSGTITK		S520
Emsy	Q8BMB0	IT <b>FT(HexNAc)</b> KPSTQTNTTTQK		T228
Emsy	Q8BMB0	IT <b>FTKPS(HexNAc)</b> TQTTNTTTQK		S231
Emsy	Q8BMB0	IT <b>FTKPS(T(HexNAc))TNTTTQK</b>		T234 or T235
Emsy	Q8BMB0	L <b>V(HexNAc)</b> TPTGTQATYTRPTVSPSLGR		T465
Emsy	Q8BMB0	TITVP <b>S(HexNAc)</b> GSPK		S200
Emsy	Q8BMB0	<b>T(HexNAc)</b> <b>SGSIITVVPK</b>		T499 and S500 mix
Emsy	Q8BMB0	VIIV <b>T(HexNAc)</b> <b>T(HexNAc)</b> SPSSTFVFNILSK		T246 & T247
Ep400	Q8CHI8	LASPVAPG <b>TLT(HexNAc)</b> TSGGSAQAQVVTQQR		T2594 or T2595
Ep400	Q8CHI8	LASPVAPG <b>TLTSGGS(HexNAc)</b> APAQVVTQQR		S2599
Gata2b	Q5JP02	<b>S(HexNAc)</b> ISQSISGQK		S585
HcfC1	B1AUX1	AP <b>V(HexNAc)</b> VTSLPASVR		T515

		IPPS <b>S(HexNAc)</b> APTVLSVPAGTTIVK <b>T(HexNAc)</b> VAVTPGTTTLPATV	
HcfC1	B1AUX1	K	S563 & T579
HcfC1	B1AUX1	IT <b>(HexNAc)</b> VAPGALER	T1148
HcfC1	B1AUX1	LVTPV <b>T(HexNAc)</b> VSAVKPAV <b>T(HexNAc)</b> TLVVK	T861 & T870
HcfC1	B1AUX1	LVTPV <b>T(HexNAc)</b> VSAVKPAVTLLVVK	T861
HcfC1	B1AUX1	QPETYHT <b>(HexNAc)</b> YTTNTPTTTR	T1238
HcfC1	B1AUX1	QPETYHTYTTNTPT <b>T(HexNAc)</b> TR	T1246
HcfC1	B1AUX1	RT <b>T(HexNAc)</b> NTPTVVR	T1139
HcfC1	B1AUX1	SGTVTVAAQQAQV <b>V(T(HexNAc)T(HexNAc))</b> VGGVTK	T651 & T652
HcfC1	B1AUX1	SPITII <b>T(HexNAc)</b> KVMTSGTGAPAK	T801
HcfC1	B1AUX1	<b>T(HexNAc)</b> QGVPAVLK	T480
HcfC1	B1AUX1	<b>T(HexNAc)</b> VAVTPGTTTLPATVK	T579
HcfC1	B1AUX1	TAAAQVG <b>T(S(HexNAc)VS(HexNAc)S(HexNAc))</b> AANTSTRPIITVH	S620 & S622 & S623
HcfC1	B1AUX1	K	S620 & S623
HcfC1	B1AUX1	TAAAQVG <b>T(S(HexNAc)VS(HexNAc)S(HexNAc))</b> AANTSTRPIITVHK	S620 & S623
HcfC1	B1AUX1	TIPMSAI <b>I(T(HexNAc)QAGATGVTSSPGIK)</b>	T779
HcfC1	Q61191	VMTSG <b>T(HexNAc)</b> GAPAK	T808
HcfC1	B1AUX1	VTGPQ <b>A(T(HexNAc)TGTLPLVTRPASQAGK)</b>	T495
Hprt1	A8MSU4	VIGDDLSTLTG <b>K(S(HexNAc)R)</b>	S129
Jmjd1c	Q69ZK6	HSVPQSLPQSNYFT <b>L(S(HexNAc)NSVVNEPPR)</b>	S911
Jmjd1c	Q69ZK6	NSPSPWLHQ <b>TPV(TS(HexNAc)ADGIGLLSHIPVRPSSAEPHRPHK)</b>	T728 or T731 or S732
Jmjd1c	Q69ZK6	SV <b>V(S(HexNAc)QAVAQAK)</b>	S1250
Kdm3b	Q6ZPY7	VEHSPFSSFVSQAS <b>G(S(HexNAc)SSSATS</b> SVTSK	S460 or S461
Kiaa1310	A2RSY1	<b>SSSEGGGT(HexNAc)ASTTPSVASSSATPNAIHTLQSR)</b>	Between S699-T707
Kiaa1310	A2RSY1	V <b>P(T(HexNAc)TITLTLR)</b>	T858
Kiaa1551	Q5DTW7	IST <b>T(HexNAc)VVGSANPTNEVHVK(heavy)</b>	T491
Kiaa1551	Q5DTW7	NNQLP <b>TY(T(HexNAc)QLSQSK)</b>	T40
Kiaa1551	Q5DTW7	QYSYILP <b>A(T(HexNAc)T(HexNAc)SLQVK)</b>	T232 & T233
Kiaa1551	Q5DTW7	QYSYILP <b>A(T(HexNAc)TSLQVK)</b>	T232 and T233 mix
Kiaa1551	Q5DTW7	YENQH <b>VQNAQPVS(HexNAc)K)</b>	S291
Lman1	Q9D0F3	RGAG <b>T(HexNAc)PGQPQVSVQQLD</b> TVVK	T385
Mafk	O60675	V <b>AT(T(HexNAc)SVITIVK)</b>	T133 or T143
Med15	Q924H2	C* <b>M(TS(HexNAc)RLLQLPDK)</b>	T761 or S762
Myb	P06876	TPAIK <b>R(S(HexNAc)ILESSPR)</b>	S454
NCoR1	Q60974	RTPV <b>S(HexNAc)YQNTISR)</b>	S1496
NCoR1	Q60974	SVQC* <b>VC*T(HexNAc)S(HexNAc)SALPSGK)</b>	T1899 & S1900
NCoR2	Q9WU42	GSPV <b>TT(HexNAc)REPTPR)</b>	T1531 or T1532
Nfrkb	Q6PIJ4	IQTV <b>PASHLQQGT(HexNAc)ASGSSK)</b>	T1270
Nfrkb	Q6PIJ4	QVPV <b>NTTVVSTS(HexNAc)QSGKLPTR)</b>	S1172
Nup53	Q8R4R6	<b>S(HexNAc)ISGPSVGMEMR)</b>	S53
Nup53	Q8R4R6	AST <b>S(HexNAc)DYQVISDR)</b>	S297
Nup98	Q68G59	LP <b>I(S(HexNAc)ASHSSK)</b>	S426
Nup153	Q80WR0	FGIP <b>S(HexNAc)SSGLSQTLTSTGNFK)</b>	S898 or S899
Nup153	Q80WR0	QQEPV <b>T(S(HexNAc)TSLVFGK)</b>	S1102
Nup153	Q80WR0	<b>S(HexNAc)VSVTPFTYK)</b>	S1046
Nup153	Q80WR0	SGFN <b>FGTLD(T(HexNAc)K)</b>	T1044
Nup153	Q80WR0	K	T627 & T628
Nup153	Q80WR0	VDSPALQ <b>PT(T(HexNAc)T(HexNAc)SSIVYTRPAISTFSSSGIEYGESL)</b>	
Nup188	Q6ZQH8	AQR <b>P(S(HexNAc)TTTTTTTTTALATPAGC*SSK)</b>	S1522
Nup214	Q80U93	AAPG <b>S(HexNAc)GTSTFSFAPPSK)</b>	S513
Nup214	Q80U93	FTAV <b>S(HexNAc)SAPVHSSTSTPSVLPFSSSPKPTASGPLSHPTLPAS)</b>	
Nup214	Q80U93	SSSM <b>PLK)</b>	S589 or S590
Nup214	Q80U93	GGGFFS <b>GLGGKPS(HexNAc)QDAANKNPFSSAGGGFGSTAAPNTSNL)</b>	
Nup214	Q80U93	FGNS <b>GAK)</b>	S1889 or 1899



**Table 2** All O-GlcNAc modified peptides identified in the SILAC analyses, along with PRC2/WT ratios, as described in the text. Standard deviations are reported if the particular glycopeptide was identified between biological replicates.

<b>Gene Name</b>	<b>O-GlcNAc Modified Peptides Identified from SILAC Analyses</b>	<b>eed<sup>-/-</sup>/WT SILAC ratios</b>	<b>s. d. N=3</b>
Agfg1	SSSADFGTFSTS(HexNAc)QSHQTASTVSK	0.67	
Atrx	IC(Carbamidomethyl)GS(HexNAc)GLNS(Phospho)DM(Oxidation)MEN NKEEGASTSEK	0.29	
Bnc2	ATS(HexNAc)GAATPVIASTK	0.27	
Bptf	QTVVS(HexNAc)S(HexNAc)TENC(Carbamidomethyl)AR	1.0	0.1
Bptf	S(HexNAc)TVTTTTTVTK	0.52	0.03
Bptf	STVTTT(HexNAc)TTTTVT(HexNAc)K	0.12	
Bptf	T(HexNAc)VITEVTTMTSTVATESK	1.00	
Bptf	TVIT(HexNAc)EVT(HexNAc)TMTSTVATESK	0.27	0.02
Bptf (fragment)	IVAVNVPAT(HexNAc)QGGMVQVQQK	0.91	
C1orf88 homolog	VPTST(HexNAc)KGYAIGAR	0.92	0.08
Cdk12	TS(HexNAc)TLSSQTNSQPPVQVSMK	2.42	
Cnot2	SLSQGTQLPSHVTPPTT(HexNAc)GVPTMSLHTPPSPSR	1.12	
Dido1	ILSSLKPGST(HexNAc)STVTAPTT(HexNAc)AAITTTASPVTAATSK	1.12	
Egr1	AMVETS(HexNAc)YPSQTTR	2.03	
Emsy	IIS(HexNAc)SNIVSGTTK	0.06	
Emsy	ITFT(HexNAc)KPSTQTTNTTQK	1.37	0.09
Emsy	TITVPVS(HexNAc)GSPK	0.45	
Emsy	TTS(HexNAc)GSIITVVPK	1.1	0.3
Ep400	LASPVAPGTLTSSGGS(HexNAc)APAQVVHTQQR	0.59	
HcfC1	APVT(HexNAc)VTSLPASVR	1.72	
HcfC1	IPPSSAPTVLSVPAGT(HexNAc)TIVKTVAVT(HexNAc)PGTTTLPATVK	0.47	
HcfC1	IT(HexNAc)VAPGALER	0.97	0.06
HcfC1	LVTPVT(HexNAc)VSAVKPAVTTLVVK	6.93	
HcfC1	QPETYHT(HexNAc)YTTNTPTTTR	1.2	0.3
HcfC1	QPETYHTYTTNTPTTT(HexNAc)R	6.67	
HcfC1	SGTVTVAAQQAQVVT(HexNAc)T(HexNAc)VVGGVTK	0.78	
HcfC1	SPIITIT(HexNAc)KVMTSGTGAPAK	1.0	0.1
HcfC1	T(HexNAc)VAVTPGTTTLPATVK	1.44	0.08
HcfC1	TAAAQVGTS(HexNAc)VS(HexNAc)S(HexNAc)AANTSTRPIITVHK	0.33	
HcfC1	TAAAQVGTS(HexNAc)VSS(HexNAc)AANTSTRPIITVHK	0.76	0.09
HcfC1	TAAAQVGTSVSS(HexNAc)AANTSTRPIITVHK	1.77	
HcfC1	TIPMSAIIT(HexNAc)QAGATGVTSSPGIK	0.9	0.3
HcfC1	VMTSGT(HexNAc)GAPAK	0.77	
HcfC1	VTGPQAT(HexNAc)TGTPLVMTMRPASQAGK	0.70	
Jmjd1	NSPSPWLHQPTPVT(HexNAc)SADGIGLLSHIPVRPSSAEPHRPHK	0.47	
Kiaa1310	VPT(HexNAc)TITLTLR	13.87	
Kiaa1551	ISTT(HexNAc)VVGSANPTNEVHVK	0.41	
Kiaa1551	NNQLPTYT(HexNAc)QSLQSK	0.59	
Kiaa1551	YENQHVQNAQPVS(HexNAc)K	0.4	0.3
Lman1	RGAGT(HexNAc)PGQPGQVVSQQLDVTVK	4.9	0.2

MafK	VATT(HexNAc)SVITIVK	1.13	
Myb	TPAIKRS(HexNAc)ILESSPR	6.45	
NCoR2	GSPVTT(HexNAc)REPTPR	0.85	0.03
Nfrkb	IQTVPASHLQQGT(HexNAc)ASGSSK	0.38	
Nfrkb	QVPVNTTVVSTS(HexNAc)QSGKLPTR	0.46	
Nup53	ASTS(HexNAc)DYQVISDR	0.45	
Nup53	S(HexNAc)ISGPSVGVMEMR	0.50	
Nup153	FGIPSSSSGLS(HexNAc)QTLTSTGNFK	0.28	
Nup153	QQEPVTS(HexNAc)TSLVFGK	0.41	
Nup153	S(HexNAc)VSVTPFTYK	0.40	
Nup214	AAPGS(HexNAc)GTSTFSFAPPSK	0.45	
Nup214	HGAPGPSHT(HexNAc)VAAPQAAAAALRR	0.28	
Nup214	SSASVTGEPPLYPTGS(HexNAc)DSSR	0.72	
Nup214	VGQAEDSTKPVS(HexNAc)K	0.67	
Phc3	SAGQT(HexNAc)QSLTIC(Carbamidomethyl)HNK	5.10	
Phf21a	FTPTTLPTS(HexNAc)QNSIHPVR	1.31	
Pogz	RPGVT(HexNAc)GENSNEVAK	0.34	
Qser1	DSTQVS(HexNAc)NGVLPQK	0.96	
Qser1	TS(HexNAc)QGTVPALAFER	0.65	
RanBP2	SVFTT(HexNAc)AASELANK	0.8	0.6
Rbm14	AQPSVS(HexNAc)LGAPYR	0.29	0.03
Rprd2	EKPVEKPAVS(HexNAc)T(HexNAc)GVPTK	0.6	0.1
Sap30bp	KGT(HexNAc)TTNATATSTSTASTAVADAQK	1.41	0.03
	AQSPVITT(HexNAc)T(HexNAc)AAHAADSTLSRPTLSIQHPPSAAISIQRPA		
Sap130	QSR	0.82	
Sap130	IT(HexNAc)LPSHPALGTPK	0.21	
Sin3a	VS(HexNAc)KPSQLQAHTPASQQTPPLPPYASPR	0.69	
Snbo1	FIQT(HexNAc)TANTRPSVSAPAVR	0.45	
Sp2	S(HexNAc)STTTTPVQSGANVVK	0.37	
Spen	TDRPSLEKPEPIHLSVST(HexNAc)PVTQGGTVK	1.03	0.06
Taf4a	QVS(HexNAc)QAQTTVQPTTLQR	0.33	
Taf6	TT(HexNAc)LTITQPRPTLTLSQLAPQPGPR	2.23	
Tet1	VSIT(HexNAc)GSADVK	0.83	
Tle4	T(HexNAc)DAPTPGSNSTPGLRPVPGKPPGVDPLASSLR	1.2	0.7
Trim33	QHSNPGHAGFPVVS(HexNAc)AHNPINPTSPTTATMANANR	0.91	
Yeats2	QEPGEAPHVSTT(HexNAc)GAASQSAFPQYVTVK	0.65	0.02
Zfhx3	NKNFQHPLVS(HexNAc)TANLIGPGHSFYGK	2.85	
Zfp281	STNAGFTLGHGFQFVS(HexNAc)LSSPLHNHTLFPEK	0.46	
Zfp281	VKT(Phospho)PT(HexNAc)SQSYR	0.47	0.02
Zfp281	VKTPTS(HexNAc)QSYR	0.6	0.2
Zfr	AGYS(HexNAc)QGATQYTAQQAR	0.38	

**Table 3** O-GlcNAcylated peptides identified from this study that overlap with those reported by Wang *et al.* 2010 (ref. 4) and Chalkley *et al.* 2009 (ref. 19).

Red indicates differences in site assignments between studies.

<b>Gene Name</b>	<b>Modification Position in Human, unless noted (UniProt)</b>	<b>UniProt ID (Wang <i>et al.</i>)</b>	<b>Modified Peptide Sequence from Wang <i>et al.</i> 2010 overlapping with this study</b>	<b>Also reported in Chalkley <i>et al.</i> 2009</b>
HcfC1	T495	P51610	VTGPQAT(HexNAc)TGTPLVTMPASQAGK	
HcfC1	S563	P51610	IPSS(HexNAc)APTVLSVPAGTTIVK	
HcfC1	T779	P51610	TIPM-oxSAIIT(HexNAc)QAGATGVTSSPGIK	
HcfC1	T800	P51610	SPITIIIT(HexNAc)K	
HcfC1	T808	P51610	VMTSGT(HexNAc)GAPAK	
HcfC1	T861	P51610	LVTPVT(HexNAc)VSAVKPAVTTLVK	
Emsy	S236	Q7Z589	TITVPVS(HexNAc)GSPK	
Emsy	T501	Q7Z589	LVT(HexNAc)TPTGTQATYTRPTVSPSigr	
Emsy	(T534/T535)	Q7Z589	(TT)(HexNAc)SGSIITVVPK	X
Emsy	S557	Q7Z589	IIS(HexNAc)NIVSGTTK	
Nup153	S908	P49790	FGVS(HexNAc)SSSSGPSQTLTSTGNFK	
Nup153	S909	P49790	FGVSS(HexNAc)SSSSGPSQTLTSTGNFK	
Bptf	S1749 & T1753	Q12830	S(HexNAc)TVTT(HexNAc)TTTTVTK	
Rbm14	S244	Q96PK6	AQPSVS(HexNAc)LGAAYR	
Rbm14	S280	Q96PK6	AQPSVS(HexNAc)LGAPYR	
Nfrkb	T1273	Q6P4R8	IQTVPASHLQQGT(HexNAc)ASGSSK	
Zfr	S195	Q96KR1	AGYS(HexNAc)QGATQYTQAQQTR	
Qser1	(T104/S105)	Q2KHR3	(TS)(HexNAc)QGTVPALAFER	
Kiaa1310	T860	Q9P2N6	VPTT(HexNAc)ITLTLR	
NCoR1	S1487	O75376	TPVS(HexNAc)YQNTMSR	X
NCoR2	(T1569/T1570)	Q9Y618	GSPV(TT)(HexNAc)REPTPR	
Taf4a	S528	O00268	QVS(HexNAc)QAQTTVQPSATLQR	
Zfp281	S891	Q9Y2X9	TPTS(HexNAc)QSYR	

## **Chapter 4**

*O-GlcNAcylation inhibits the epigenetic priming activity of SOX2 during reprogramming*

**O-GlcNAcylation inhibits the epigenetic priming activity of SOX2 during reprogramming**

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## **Abstract**

The transcription factor SOX2 is central in establishing and maintaining pluripotent cells during development and somatic cell reprogramming. In embryonic stem cells, SOX2 is modified by the addition of O-linked N-acetylglucosamine (O-GlcNAc), a post-translational modification (PTM) that is emerging as a key player in the establishment and maintenance of pluripotency. The mechanisms by which this PTM regulates pluripotency are poorly understood. Here, we show that SOX2 is O-GlcNAc modified during somatic cell reprogramming. We find that a SOX2 mutation that eliminates O-GlcNAcylation results in increased reprogramming efficiency. The mutation did not change gene expression or SOX2 occupancy at early stages of reprogramming, but did result in epigenetic alterations at SOX2 targets, which may prime them for subsequent activation later in reprogramming. These results suggest that O-GlcNAcylation regulates epigenetic priming activity of SOX2, providing insight into the molecular role of this PTM.

## Introduction

Reprogramming terminally differentiated cells to induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) typically requires the ectopic expression of the transcription factors Pou5f1 (Oct4), Sox2, Klf4 and c-Myc (OSKM) (Takahashi and Yamanaka, 2006). Although this process is inefficient and stochastic, there are key cellular events that must occur for successful induction of pluripotency (Hanna et al., 2009). These events include a mesenchymal-epithelial transition (MET) (Li et al., 2010; Samavarchi-Tehrani et al., 2010), global changes in chromatin structure (Koche et al., 2011), activation of a deterministic subset of pluripotency genes (Buganim et al., 2012) and, ultimately, the activation of Nanog and the full pluripotency transcription network (Golipour et al., 2012; Silva et al., 2009).

Early during reprogramming O, S, and K are able to access their DNA target sites in chromatin prior to the time of transcriptional activation (Soufi et al., 2012). SOX2 also exhibits this pioneer transcription factor activity during neuronal or B-cell differentiation (Bergsland et al., 2011; Liber et al., 2010). When SOX2 acts as a pioneer factor, the chromatin at its target site exhibits histone modification patterns generally associated with transcriptionally active genes, priming the target for subsequent activation. Despite the potential importance of this epigenetic priming activity of SOX2 during somatic cell reprogramming, its regulation is poorly understood.

In embryonic stem cells (ESCs) SOX2 is modified by O-linked *N*-acetylglucosamine (O-GlcNAc) (Myers et al., 2011). O-GlcNAc is a dynamic and regulatory glycosylation of serine (S) or threonine (T) residues of nuclear, cytosolic and mitochondrial proteins (Torres and Hart, 1984). O-GlcNAc signaling is essential for establishing and maintaining pluripotent cells as deletion of the sole O-GlcNAc transferase (OGT) results in the loss of embryo and ESC viability (O'Donnell et al., 2004; Shafi et al., 2000). Although O-GlcNAc is emerging as central in regulating transcription, self-renewal and pluripotency, the specific role for transcription factor O-GlcNAcylation during reprogramming is not understood.

In this study we show that SOX2 is O-GlcNAc modified during early reprogramming, primarily at serine 248 (S248). Replacing wild type SOX2 (SOX2<sup>WT</sup>) with S248A mutant SOX2 (SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>), which cannot be O-GlcNAcylated at this residue, increases somatic cell reprogramming efficiency. We show that at early stages of reprogramming SOX2<sup>WT</sup> and SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> exhibit comparable association with promoter and enhancer sequences of genes important for reprogramming. Despite exhibiting occupancy comparable to SOX2<sup>WT</sup>, SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> increases histone H3 lysine 4 dimethylation (H3K4me2) and DNA accessibility at these promoters and enhancers. These epigenetic alterations are not accompanied by detectable increases in expression early or later in reprogramming. Thus, association of SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> with its targets correlates with epigenetic alterations early during reprogramming and increased reprogramming efficiency. Together, these results suggest that O-GlcNAcylation

inhibits the epigenetic priming activity of SOX2 during somatic cell reprogramming, providing a mechanism by which this post-translational modification (PTM) functions to regulate gene expression.

## Results

### SOX2, not OCT4, is O-GlcNAcylated in ESCs

SOX2 and OCT4 have been reported to be O-GlcNAc modified in ESCs (Jang et al., 2012; Myers et al., 2011). While our previous work analyzing the murine ESC nuclear O-GlcNAcylated proteome identified the modification of SOX2 (Myers et al., 2011), we were unable to detect OCT4 O-GlcNAcylation. This discrepancy prompted us to examine OCT4 directly employing ZHBTc4 F-Oct4 cells, the same tagged OCT4 ESC line used by Jang et al. (Jang et al., 2012). No OCT4 O-GlcNAcylation was detected by Western blotting (Figure 1A). Liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) analysis of purified FLAG-tagged OCT4 failed to detect O-GlcNAc modification of the site reported by Jang et al., T228, or of any other OCT4 peptide (Figure 1 and 2). In addition, the mass spectrum reported in Jang et al. identifying OCT4-T228 as O-GlcNAc modified exhibited many problems: 1) discrepancies with well-established fragmentation patterns for O-linked glycopeptides (Carr et al., 1993; Chalkley and Burlingame, 2001; Darula et al., 2010; Jebanathirajah et al., 2003; Medzihradszky et al., 1990; Medzihradszky et al., 1996; Myers et al., 2013; Seipert et al., 2009; Zhao et al., 2011); 2) misleading labeling of peaks; 3) prominent peaks are not assigned; 4) peptide sequence is incorrect; 5) peptide data is inconsistent with experimental methods reported; 6) data is uninterpretable because charge state and mass of the glycopeptide are not reported; and 7) contrary to standard procedures employed by the proteomics community, in which predicted peptide masses from the entire genome are used

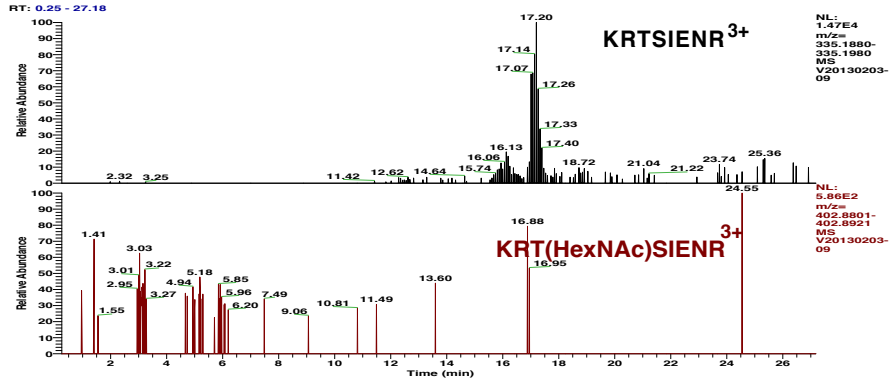


**Figure 2** O-GlcNAcylation of OCT4 at T228 is undetectable. Analysis of OCT4 O-GlcNAcylation in ESCs. OCT4 was FLAG-affinity purified from ZHBTc4 F-Oct4 ESCs (the same cell line employed in (Jang et al., 2012)), which express FLAG-tagged OCT4. Peptides containing T228, the residue reported to be O-GlcNAcylated ((Jang et al., 2012)), were analyzed by LC-MS/MS. **A**, XICs (10 ppm) for predicted m/z of an unmodified tryptic peptide containing T228 (top, black panel) and the proposed O-GlcNAc modified peptide (bottom, red panel). XICs show the signal for the unmodified peptide, but no signal for the O-GlcNAc modified version. **B**, XICs (10 ppm) for m/z of predicted O-GlcNAc modified LysC-derived peptides containing T228 is not detectable (two charge states, with and without Met oxidation). **C**, Zoom of MS1 scans from Figure 2B where potential signal exists. No signal with the appropriate charge state was detected for any LysC derived peptide indicating all signal in B is background. Analysis of mass spectrum in (Jang et al., 2012) is incorrect and misleading. **D**, Several lines of evidence indicate the incorrect assignment of the mass spectrum reported in (Jang et al., 2012). 1) The MS/MS method employed by Jang et al uses ion trap collisional activation. Due to the lability of the glycosidic bond, this method leads to a prominent peak corresponding to the peptide minus the mass of the glycosylation (HexNAc). There is no such HexNAc-loss peak in the (Jang et al., 2012) spectrum. 2) Many of the assigned peaks are labeled in a misleading manner. Black arrows, which because of their size and labeling look like peaks, point to noise of the mass spectrum. In Panel **E**, Supplemental figure 1B is re-colored to show the differences. 3) Several prominent peaks are not assigned.

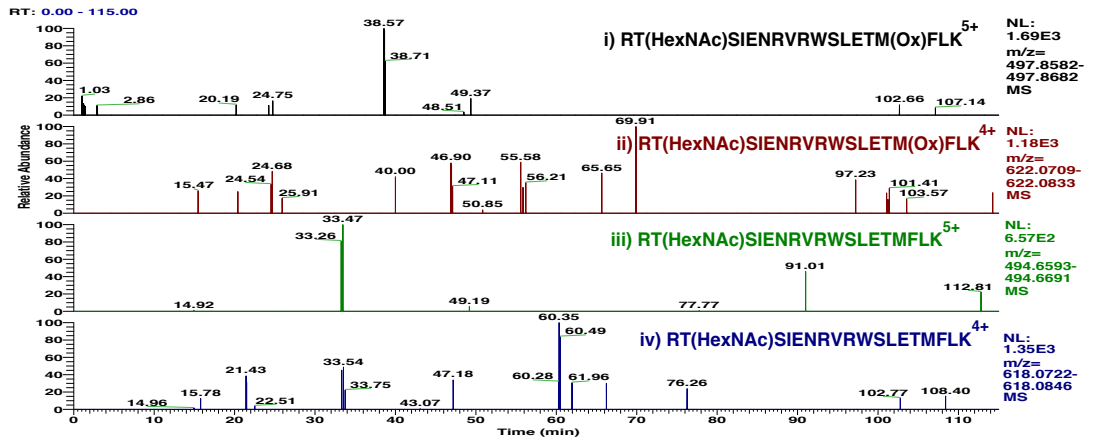
The masses for these peaks are not labeled, making the spectrum uninterpretable. 4) The peptide sequence is wrong. The GluC-derived peptide for mouse, rat, human, macaque, and cow, should be ICKSETLVQARKRKRTSIE. The sequence reported in Jang *et al.* is missing the first Ile, this type of non-specific cleavage with Glu-C has never been reported. 5) The Cys in the sequence is not reported as modified (alkylated by iodoacetamide), though the methods report the data was searched with it modified. 6) Finally, the charge state and the mass of the “glyco”peptide are not reported. Failing to report these parameters makes the data uninterpretable. 7) In contrast to the accepted procedures employed by the proteomics community the data was only searched against the OCT4 protein sequence instead of the entire proteome. This leads to high false positive rates and incorrect false discovery rate calculations. **F**, Figure 1B, lower panel, synthetic glycopeptide, for comparison to re-colored Jang *et al.* mass spectrum. The lack of alignment between peaks indicate that the Jang *et al.* spectrum is not attributed to the correct peptide.



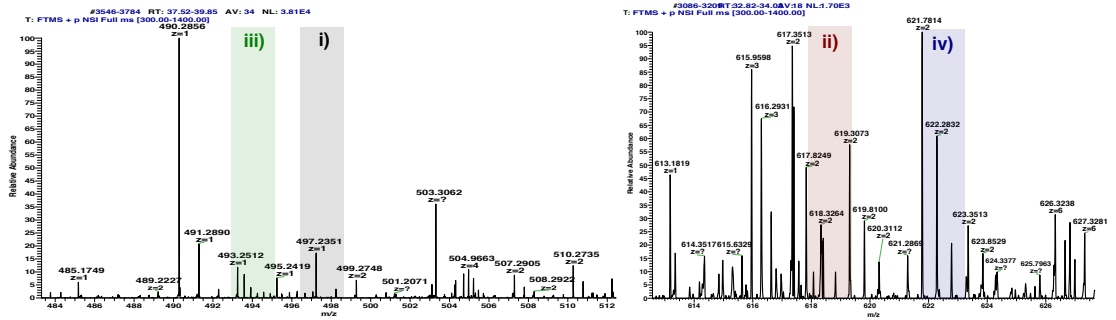
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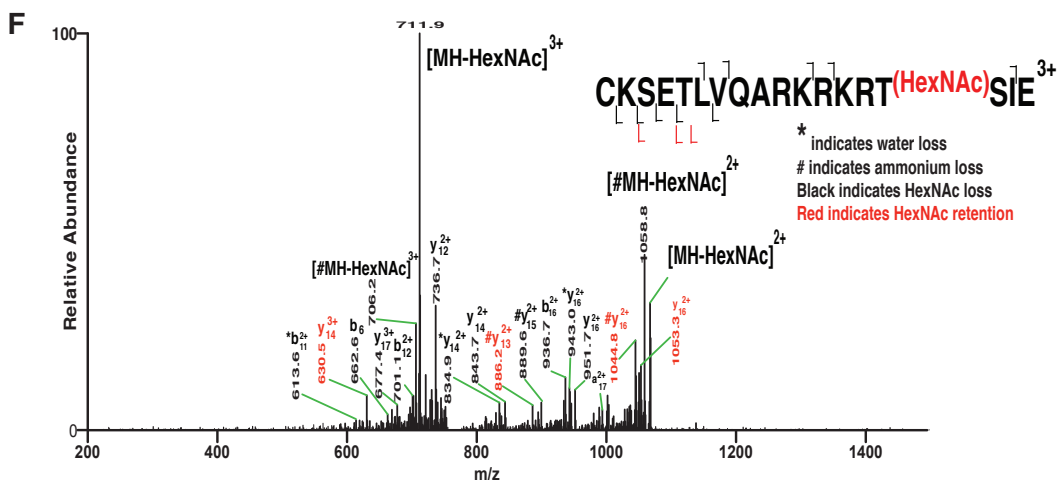
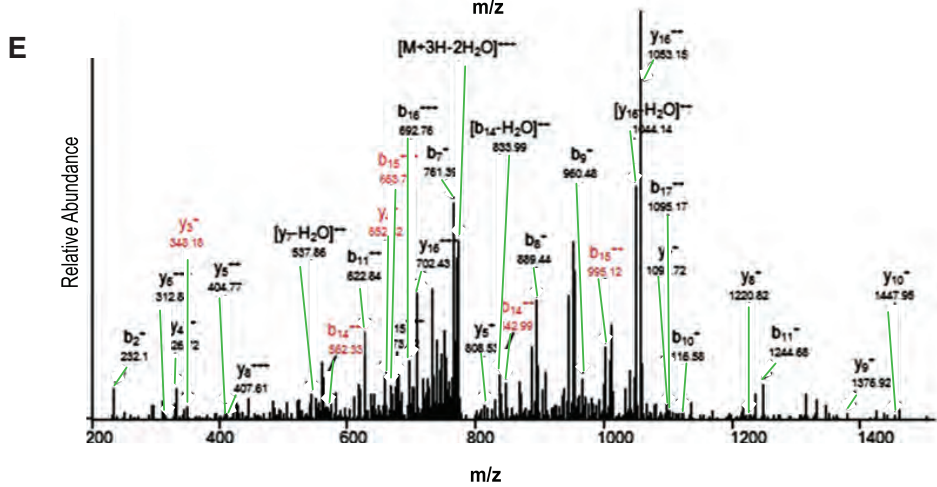
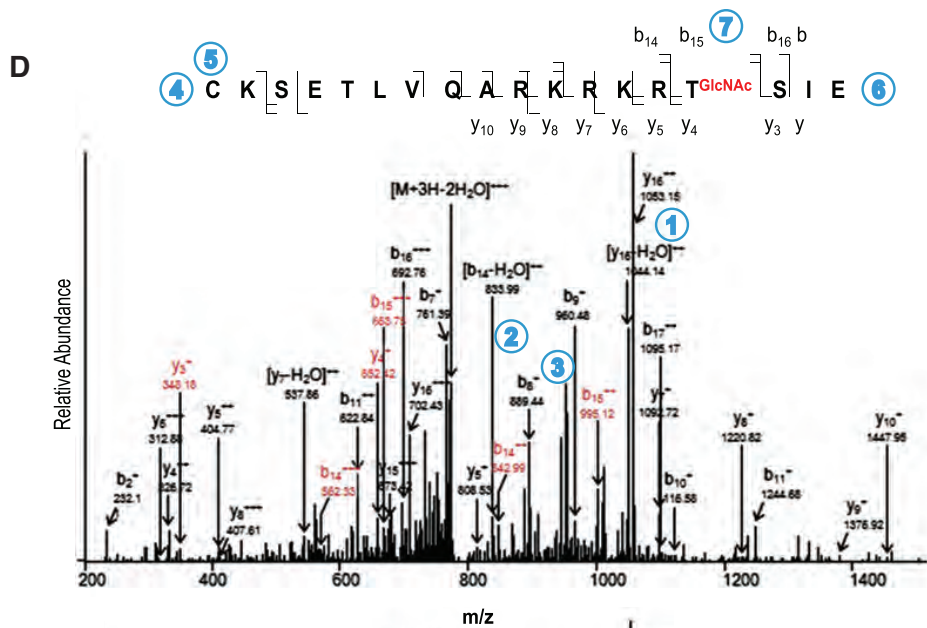


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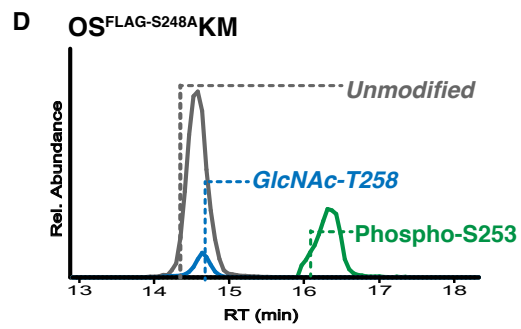
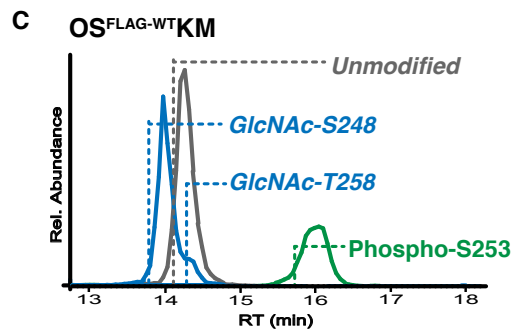
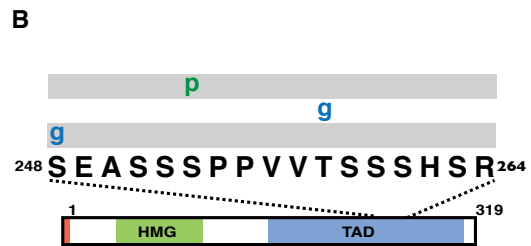
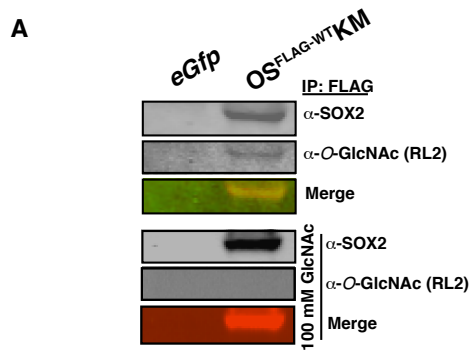


to search MS data (which minimizes false assignments), Jang *et al.* only queried the OCT4 protein sequence (Figure 2D). Comparison of the spectrum in Jang 1. to a synthetic glycopeptide of the reported amino acid sequence shows that the original spectrum was misinterpreted (Figure 1B and Figure 2D-F). Our results indicate that OCT4 is not appreciably O-GlcNAcylated in ESCs, suggesting that this PTM is unlikely to regulate OCT4 function in pluripotency and self-renewal.

### **SOX2 is O-GlcNAc modified predominantly at S248 during early reprogramming**

Because we could reliably and unambiguously identify SOX2 as O-GlcNAc modified in ESCs (Myers *et al.*, 2011), we asked whether SOX2 was glycosylated during somatic cell reprogramming. Wild type mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs) were infected with retroviruses containing OS<sup>FLAG-WTKM</sup>, in which Sox2 contains a triple FLAG tag (3xF-Sox2<sup>WT</sup>), or enhanced Green fluorescent protein (*eGfp*). FLAG immunoprecipitations from MEFs six days after infection were analyzed for O-GlcNAcylation. Western blotting against SOX2 and O-GlcNAc showed a signal specific to the OS<sup>FLAG-WTKM</sup> infected MEFs (Figure 3A). The anti-O-GlcNAc, but not the anti-SOX2 signal, was lost when GlcNAc was added as a competitor. These results indicate that SOX2 is O-GlcNAc modified during early reprogramming.

**Figure 3** Characterization of SOX2 O-GlcNAcylation during somatic cell reprogramming **A**, Two color Western blot against SOX2 (top), O-GlcNAc (middle) and the merged signal (bottom) from anti-FLAG immunoprecipitated material from OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM infected MEFs (top three panels). 3xF-SOX2 from the same purification was Western blotted with the same primary antibodies plus 100 mM GlcNAc (bottom three panels). **B**, Diagram of 3xF-SOX2 showing the TAD peptide PTMs detected in this study. Amino acid numbering from the Uniprot accession number P48432. *N*-terminal FLAG tag signified by the red. Sites of phosphorylation (p) and/or O-GlcNAcylation (g) are indicated on lines representing each PTM form identified. HMG, high-mobility group DNA binding domain; TAD, transactivation domain. **C**, XICs for 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> TAD peptide. Dotted lines show time of identification for the unmodified (gray), phosphorylated (red), and O-GlcNAcylated (blue) peptides indicated. **D**, XICs for 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> TAD peptides as in **C**. ETD spectra can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/iPSC-3xF-SOX2-ETD>. HCD spectra can be viewed at <http://tinyurl.com/iPSC-3xF-SOX2-HCD>.

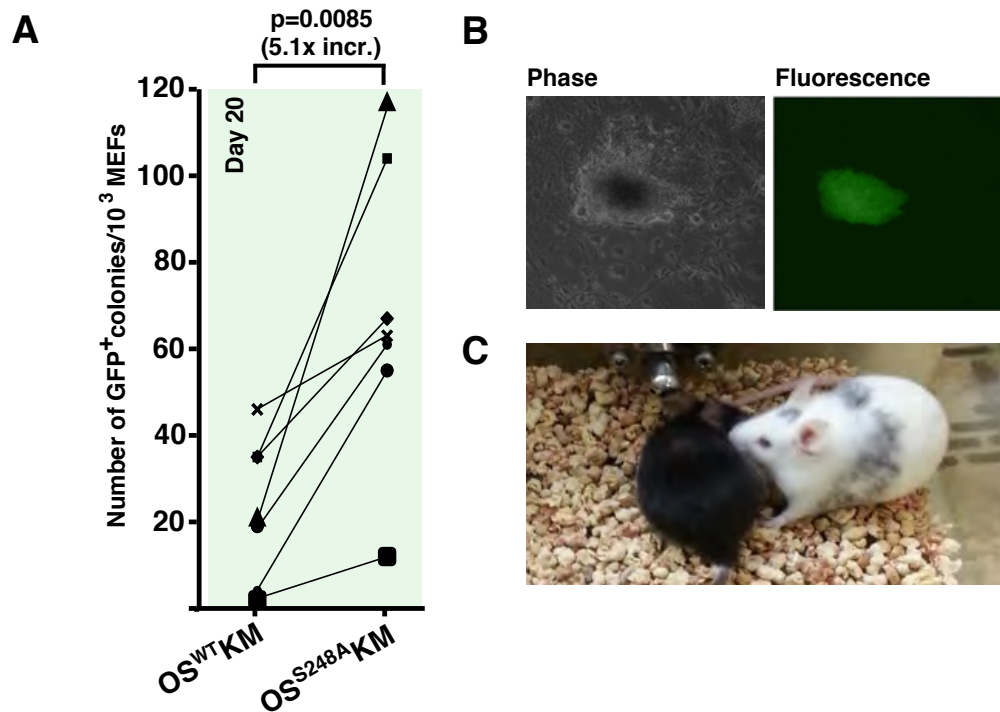


LC-MS/MS of material isolated from OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM-infected MEFs was used to identify sites of modification. Two O-GlcNAcylation sites (S248 and T258) and one phosphorylation site (S253) were found in a peptide from the transactivation domain (TAD) of SOX2 (Figure 3B, Table 1). Extracted ion chromatograms (XICs) showed chromatographic separation of O-GlcNAc positional isomer peptides, with the GlcNAc-S248 isomer correlating with the largest peak (Figure 3C). We next mutated S248 to alanine (S248A) and analyzed the mutant 3xF-SOX2 (3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>) from MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM for six days. 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> showed a dramatic decrease in the abundance of the O-GlcNAcylated TAD peptide, indicating that S248 is the major site of O-GlcNAcylation during early reprogramming (Figure 3D, Table 1).

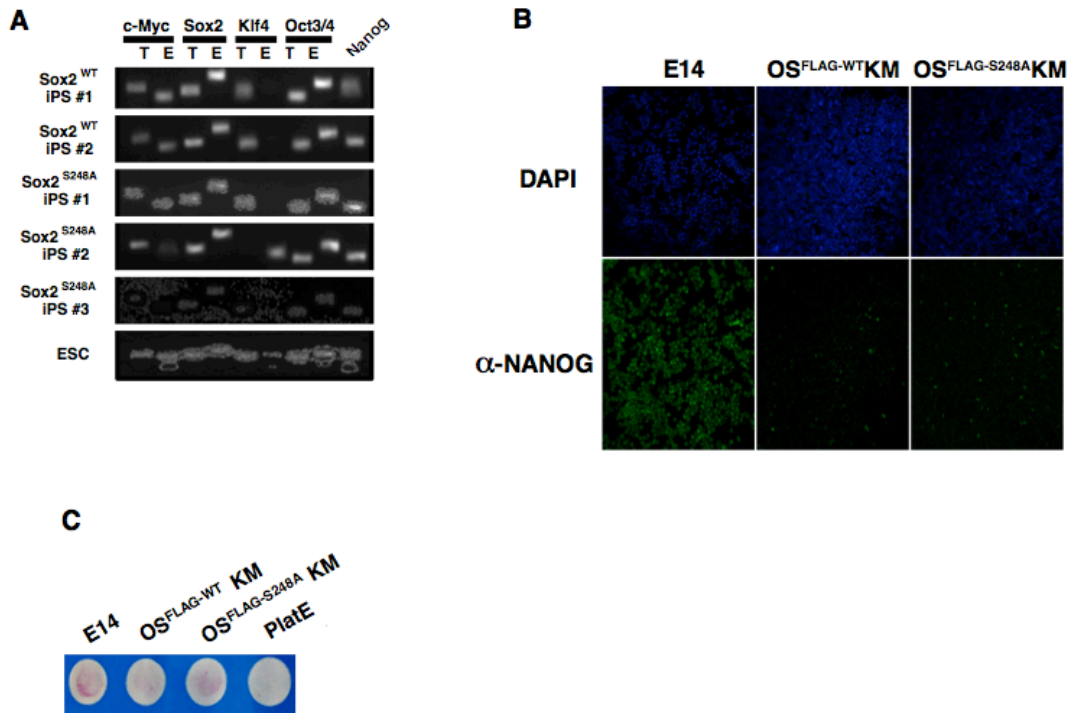
### **Mutation of SOX2 S248 to alanine increases somatic cell reprogramming**

To test whether O-GlcNAcylation of S248 affects SOX2 function, we asked whether this residue is necessary for SOX2 to induce pluripotency. We compared retroviral reprogramming efficiency of Sox2<sup>WT</sup> with Sox2<sup>S248A</sup> (OS<sup>WT</sup>KM and OS<sup>S248A</sup>KM, respectively). MEFs carrying *Gfp* driven by *Nanog* regulatory sequences (Okita et al., 2007; Takahashi and Yamanaka, 2006) were used for visual detection of iPSCs. MEFs reprogrammed with OS<sup>S248A</sup>KM showed a five-fold increase ( $p=0.0085$ ) in number of GFP<sup>+</sup> colonies 20 days after infection relative to OS<sup>WT</sup>KM (Figure 4A). OS<sup>S248A</sup>KM-derived GFP<sup>+</sup> iPSC colonies exhibited standard colony morphology (Figure 4B) and activation of endogenous pluripotency transcription factor expression (Figure 5A). These iPSCs produced

**Figure 4** SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> increases somatic cell reprogramming efficiency. **A**, Number of GFP<sup>+</sup> colonies from 1000 *Nanog-Gfp* MEFs that were infected with *dsRed*, OS<sup>WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>S248A</sup>KM and cultured on SNL feeders for 20 days after infection. **B**, Example of an OS<sup>S248A</sup>KM derived colony in both phase and fluorescence microscopy. **C**, Chimaeric mouse derived from iPSCs obtained from infecting *Nanog-Gfp* MEFs with OS<sup>S248A</sup>KM and his offspring, showing germline transmission.



**Figure 5** Analysis of retroviral and endogenous transcripts in iPSC lines. Two OS<sup>WT</sup>KM and three OS<sup>S248A</sup>KM iPSC lines were analyzed for the expression of exogenous and endogenous OSKM and Nanog transcripts. RT-PCR analysis of total (T) and endogenous (E) transcripts are shown compared to WT ESCs. Characterization of OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM and OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM reprogramming. **B**, iPSCs 20 days after infection with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM were trypsinized, cytopun and immunofluorescent stained against NANOG. E14 ESCs were used as a control. **C**, iPSCs 16 days after infection with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM were trypsinized, cytopun and stained for alkaline phosphatase. E14 ESCs and PlatE cells were used as controls. A larger number of NANOG and alkaline phosphatase positive cells in OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM shows that the addition of FLAG tag does not impair SOX2 function.



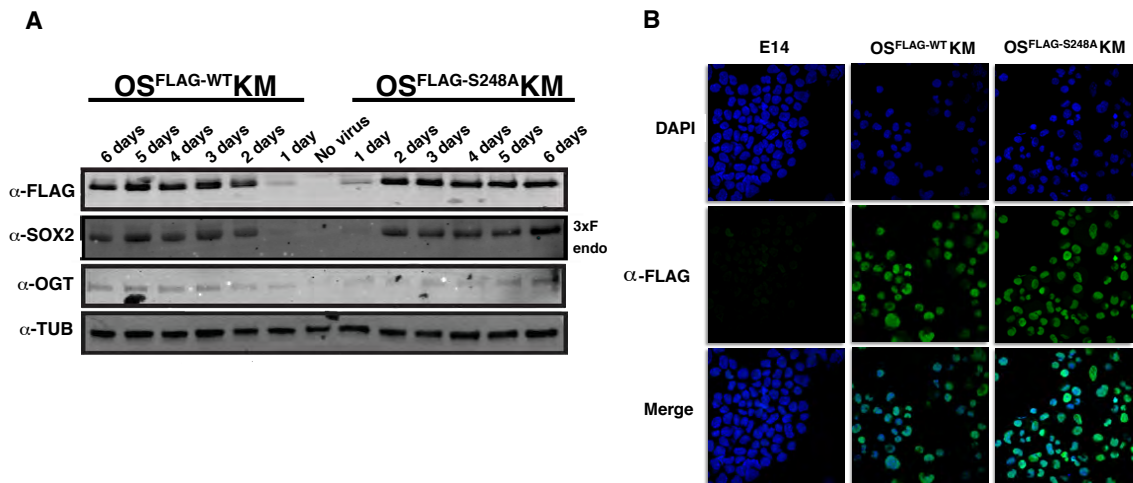


adult chimaeras that were capable of germline transmission (Figure 3C), consistent with pluripotency. Thus the S248A mutation promotes reprogramming without affecting the developmental potential of the resulting iPSCs.

### **The S248A mutation does not affect SOX2 localization or steady state levels**

To gain insight as to how SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> increases reprogramming efficiency, we compared the properties of SOX2<sup>WT</sup> and SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>. We used 3xF-Sox2<sup>WT</sup> or 3xF-Sox2<sup>S248A</sup> in the OSKM cocktails to distinguish ectopic SOX2 from endogenous SOX2. The FLAG tag did not impair SOX2 function as 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> also exhibited increased reprogramming activity in wild type MEFs (Figure 5B-C). For the first six days of reprogramming, MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WTKM</sup> or OS<sup>FLAG-S248AKM</sup> showed similar levels of 3xF-SOX2 and no detectable expression of endogenous SOX2 (Figure 6A). Additionally, OS<sup>FLAG-WTKM</sup> and OS<sup>FLAG-S248AKM</sup> infected MEFs showed comparable increases in OGT levels over the first six days of reprogramming (Figure 6A), indicating that differences in OGT levels do not account for the altered O-GlcNAcylation of SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>. Immunostaining at day six of reprogramming revealed no difference in subcellular localization between 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> and 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> (Figure 6B). Together, these data demonstrate the increase in reprogramming efficiency mediated by the S248A mutation is not due to changes in SOX2 subcellular localization or steady state levels.

**Figure 6** Characterization of 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> steady state levels and subcellular localization. **A**, Western blots against FLAG, SOX2, OGT and Tubulin from MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM over a six day time course. **B**, Immunofluorescence against FLAG in mouse ESCs (control) or MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM for six days.



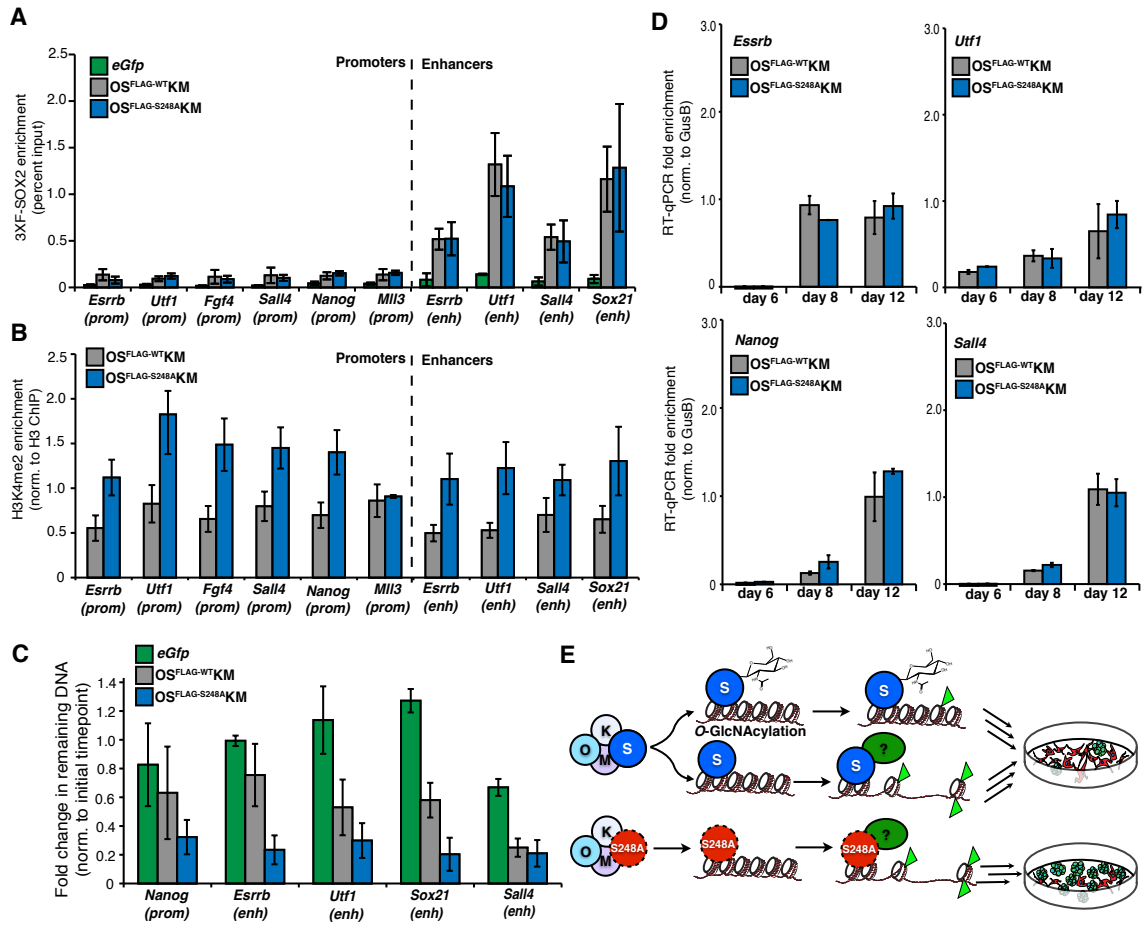
### **The S248A mutation does not affect SOX2 binding to targets**

Since the S248A mutation did not change abundance or intracellular distribution of SOX2, we next asked whether this mutation affected association of SOX2 with its target sequences. We compared MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WTKM</sup>, OS<sup>FLAG-S248AKM</sup>, or *eGfp* viruses six days after infection using FLAG chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP) followed by quantitative PCR (qPCR). Promoters or enhancers of target genes that are bound and regulated by SOX2 in ESCs and that play an important role in reprogramming were selected for ChIP-qPCR (Figure 7A). At *Esrrb*, *Utf1*, *Sox21*, and *Sall4* enhancers OS<sup>FLAG-WTKM</sup> and OS<sup>FLAG-S248AKM</sup> infected MEFs exhibited increased enrichment of 3xFLAG-SOX2 compared to MEFs infected with *eGfp*, and there was no difference between WT and S248A 3xFLAG-SOX2. The promoters of *Esrrb*, *Utf1*, *Fgf4*, *Sox21*, *Sall4*, and *Nanog* exhibited the same pattern, but overall enrichment was 10-fold lower than with the enhancer ChIPs. The promoter of *Mll3*, a gene important for reprogramming but that does not have a SOX2 binding site in ESCs, shows a similar, low enrichment for 3xFLAG-SOX2. These data suggest that enhancer binding is greater than promoter binding during early reprogramming and that the S248A mutation does not alter the association of SOX2 with target sequences.

### **The S248A mutation affects chromatin at SOX2 targets**

Early in reprogramming OSKM mediates alterations in H3K4me2 patterns (Koche et al., 2011). To ask whether the S248A mutation affects H3K4me2 patterns, we performed ChIP-qPCR against H3K4me2. MEFs infected with

**Figure 7** Characterization of 3xFLAG-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> activity during somatic cell reprogramming. **A**, MEFs infected with *eGfp*, OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM for six days were analyzed by  $\alpha$ -FLAG ChIP-qPCR at promoters or enhancers of genes indicated (n=4  $\pm$  S.E.M.). **B**, ChIP-qPCR against H3K4me2 from MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM for six days. H3K4me2 signals were normalized to  $\alpha$ -H3 ChIP-qPCR (n=4  $\pm$  S.E.M.). **C**, Fold change in DNA remaining after DNase 1 treatment from *eGfp*, OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM infected MEF nuclei six days after infection (n=3  $\pm$  S.E.M.). **D**, Relative expression of pluripotency genes from MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM for six, eight and 12 days post OSKM infection (n=3  $\pm$  S.E.M.) **E**, O-GlcNAcylation regulates SOX2 epigenetic priming activity. During reprogramming with wild type OSKM, SOX2 (upper panel, blue circle) exists in two populations, O-GlcNAcylated (indicated by sugar molecule) or unmodified at S248. Unmodified SOX2 associates with additional factors (dark green oval) that mediate alterations in chromatin structure, indicated by changes in nucleosome (grey cylinders) density and modifications (green triangles). This epigenetic priming promotes iPSC formation. During reprogramming with mutant OSKM, SOX2<sup>S48A</sup> (lower panel, red circle) is not O-GlcNAcylated and can mediate epigenetic priming in a greater number of cells and/or at a great number of loci, facilitating iPSC production.



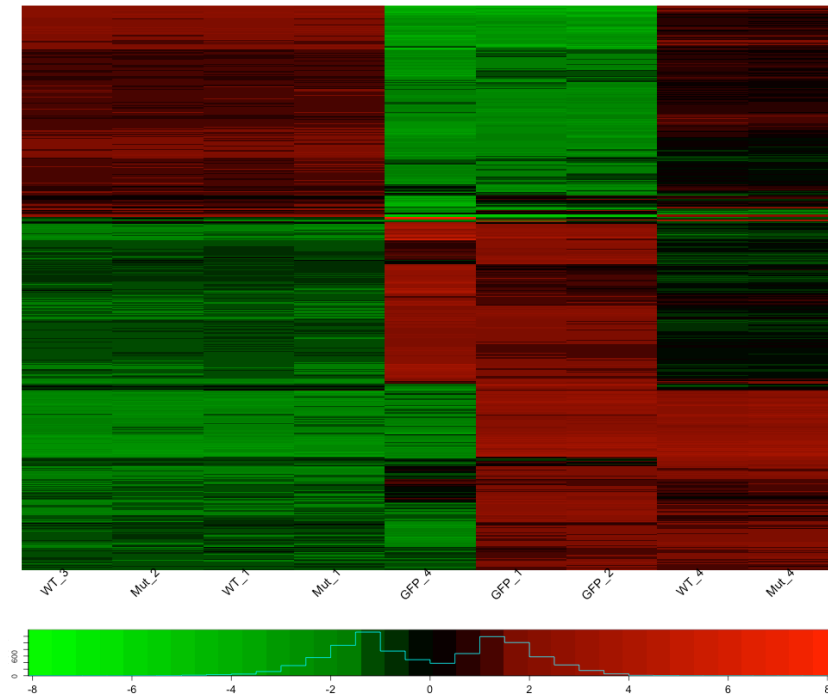
OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM showed increased H3K4me2 compared to OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM at the majority of targets. The sole exception was the *Mll3* promoter, at which H3K4me2 was unchanged between WT and S248A (Figure 7B). Since *Mll3* is not bound by SOX2 in ESCs, the higher H3K4me2 at *Esrrb*, *Utf1*, *Sox21*, *Fgf4*, *Sall4*, and *Nanog* during reprogramming with S248A suggests that this mutant alters the activity or abundance of histone-modifying enzymes at SOX2 targets associated with pluripotency.

In addition to enrichment for H3K4me2, SOX2 can also induce DNase 1 hypersensitivity at regulatory regions of active genes or genes poised for transcription at later developmental stages (Liber et al., 2010). We therefore tested DNase 1 sensitivity in MEFs infected for six days with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM, OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM, or *eGfp* viruses using qPCR to determine the amount of DNA that remained after DNase 1 digestion (Figure 7C). In general both OSKM cocktails showed increased DNase I sensitivity over eGFP. *Nanog*, *Esrrb*, *Utf1*, and *Sox21* showed increased sensitivity with OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM relative to OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM, while *Sall4* exhibited comparable DNase 1 sensitivity in both OSKM cocktails. These results indicate that 3xS-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> binding increases DNA accessibility at a subset SOX2 targets early during reprogramming.

### **The S248A mutation does not alter pluripotency gene expression at early stages of reprogramming**

The increased H3K4me2 and DNA accessibility at SOX2 binding sites six days after OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM infection suggested the possibility that the mutant may exhibit greater expression of *Esrrb*, *Utf1*, *Sox21*, *Sall4*, and *Nanog* than wild type at this time point. However, RNA-seq of three biological replicates showed no significant alterations in gene expression between OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM at this time point (Figure 8). To examine whether the mutation affected pluripotency gene expression at later stages of reprogramming, we measured transcript levels at six, eight, and 12 days after OSKM infection. We detected comparable levels of transcripts from *Esrrb*, *Utf1*, *Sall4*, and *Nanog* in MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM and OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM (Figure 7D). Together, these results suggest that the S248A mutation affects the ability of SOX2 to alter chromatin structure early during reprogramming without immediately affecting gene expression. This increased epigenetic priming of pluripotency genes may underlie the increased reprogramming efficiency of SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>.

**Figure 8** Gene expression analysis of MEFs infected with *eGfp*, OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM for six days. Heat maps show gene expression patterns of MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM are similar to each other but greatly different from *eGfp*.





## Discussion

Analysis of the ESC nuclear O-GlcNAcylated proteome revealed that many OGT targets are transcription factors and chromatin regulatory proteins with roles in self-renewal (Myers et al., 2011), providing a connection between this PTM and the pluripotency transcription program. In addition blocking O-GlcNAcylation disrupts reprogramming (Jang et al., 2012). However, our understanding of how O-GlcNAc regulates its targets, particularly during reprogramming and self-renewal, is in its infancy. Here, we provide evidence that O-GlcNAcylation inhibits the epigenetic priming activity of SOX2 during early somatic cell reprogramming.

MS analysis of SOX2 demonstrated abundant O-GlcNAcylation of S248 during reprogramming. Substituting SOXS248A for SOX2WT in the OSKM cocktail lead to an increase in the efficiency of iPSC generation, suggesting O-GlcNAc inhibits SOX2 activity. The S248A mutation did not affect steady state levels or nucleo-cytoplasmic distribution of ectopic SOX2, indicating that the increase in reprogramming efficiency is not a consequence of altering amounts or distribution of SOX2. Increasing OGT levels promotes reprogramming (Jang et al., 2012). OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM and OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM showed equal increases in OGT abundance during early reprogramming, indicating that the improved reprogramming efficiency with OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM is not connected to alterations in OGT levels. ChIP-qPCR in MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM showed the S248A mutation did not affect the association of SOX2 with target

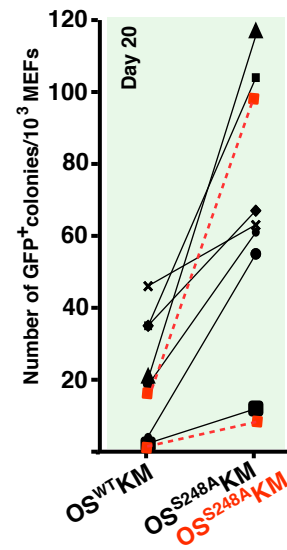
sequences, indicating that this mutation does not affect DNA or chromatin binding. Together these results suggest that the S248A mutation affects a SOX2 activity that lies downstream of its association with target regulatory sequences.

In some instances SOX2 functions as a pioneer transcription factor or promotes epigenetic priming, both examples of activities that alter chromatin modifications or DNA accessibility to regulate gene expression at a later stage. For example, in ESCs, SOX2 directs active histone marks and DNase 1 hypersensitivity at a B-cell specific locus for subsequent activation upon differentiation into B-cells (Liber et al., 2010). SOX2 acts a pioneer transcription factor during human somatic cell reprogramming (Soufi et al., 2012), when early binding of SOX2 to cis-regulatory elements promotes subsequent activation of genes important for successful reprogramming. Our data suggest that SOX2 epigenetic priming during reprogramming is altered by the S248A mutation, as H3K4me2 at pluripotency gene promoters and enhancers, as well as DNase 1 sensitivity at enhancers, was increased with SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> relative to SOX2<sup>WT</sup>. These epigenetic alterations were not accompanied by detectable changes in gene expression. These results suggest that the S248A mutation inhibits the ability of SOX2 to establish a permissive transcriptional state for subsequent activation of genes required for efficient reprogramming. While S248 is phosphorylated in some cell types (Swaney et al., 2009), we failed to detect S248 phosphorylation during reprogramming. Furthermore, a phosphomimetic S248D mutation also increased reprogramming activity (Figure 9), suggesting

**Figure 9** SOX2<sup>S248D</sup> also increases somatic cell reprogramming efficiency.

Number of GFP<sup>+</sup> colonies from 1000 *Nanog-Gfp* MEFs that were infected with *dsRed*, OS<sup>WT</sup>KM, OS<sup>S248A</sup>KM or the phosphomimetic OS<sup>S248D</sup>KM and cultured on SNL feeders for 20 days after infection.

**A**



that loss of O-GlcNAcylation and not phosphorylation underlies the S248 mutant phenotype. Thus, our results imply that this O-GlcNAcylation regulates SOX2 epigenetic priming activity (Figure 7E).

The increased H3K4me2 during S248A reprogramming suggests that this mutation alters the abundance or activity of histone-modifying enzymes recruited by SOX2. S248 lies in the TAD, a region by which SOX2 associates with other transcription factors and chromatin regulators (Ambrosetti et al., 2000; Nowling et al., 2000), supporting a hypothesis that O-GlcNAcylation may regulate SOX2-centered protein-protein interactions. Additionally, the increased DNase 1 sensitivity exhibited at a subset of targets during early stages of reprogramming with SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> suggests the possibility that O-GlcNAcylation may influence association between SOX2 and nucleosome-remodeling complexes, such as SWI-SNF or CHD7, which associate with SOX2 in ESCs and neural stem cells, respectively (Engelen et al., 2011; Ho et al., 2009).

While both SOX2 and OCT4 have been reported to be O-GlcNAc modified in ESCs (Jang et al., 2012; Myers et al., 2011), we focused our efforts on SOX2 due to the lack of reliable data for OCT4 O-GlcNAcylation. Our lab has been able to unbiasedly detect SOX2 O-GlcNAcylation in mouse (Myers et al., 2011) and human ESCs (data not shown). However, we have yet to detect any evidence for the O-GlcNAcylation of OCT4

in ESCs. Moreover, the mass spectrum in Jang et al. claiming to have identified T228 as O-GlcNAc modified is chemically incorrect, exhibits experimental inconsistencies, and is labeled in a misleading fashion. O-GlcNAc modified peptide analysis with conventional mass spectrometry (Chalkley and Burlingame, 2003; Chalkley et al., 2009; Myers et al., 2013; Zhao et al., 2011) is challenging and there is poor predictive power of an OGT motif/consensus sequence (Trinidad et al., 2012). Our results highlight the importance of using appropriate MS methods for O-GlcNAc site assignment. Furthermore, they indicate that SOX2 and not OCT4 is the OGT target that ties O-GlcNAcylation to the pluripotency transcription factor network.

Manipulation of OGT levels and identification of OGT targets suggest that O-GlcNAcylation promotes pluripotency, self-renewal, and reprogramming (Jang et al., 2012; O'Donnell et al., 2004; Shafi et al., 2000; Yang et al., 2012)(Ding et al., 2012; Esch et al., 2013; Myers et al., 2011; Pardo et al., 2010; van den Berg et al., 2010). This work suggests that O-GlcNAcylation inhibits rather than promotes SOX2 function, illustrating that the connection between O-GlcNAcylation and pluripotency is more complex than previously appreciated. Thus, continued study of the relationship between O-GlcNAc and pluripotency is important to understand the function of this underappreciated PTM.

Finally, the SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> mutation provides a minor alteration to the reprogramming protocol that increases efficiency of iPSC generation to levels

comparable with either Glis1 addition or p53/p21 pathway inhibition (Kawamura et al., 2009; Maekawa et al., 2011; Marion et al., 2009; Sato et al., 2004).

Exploring whether combining the S248A mutation with these other perturbations results in further enhanced reprogramming efficiency may impact the ease with which these biomedically important cells can be produced.

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## **Materials and Methods**

### **Cell Culture**

Mouse embryonic stem cells (ESCs) were routinely passaged by standard methods in ESC media (KO-DMEM, 10% FBS, 2 mM glutamine, 1X non-essential amino acids, 1x penicillin/streptomycin, 0.1 mM  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol and recombinant leukemia inhibitory factor). PlatE cells were cultured in ESC media without LIF and supplemented with 1  $\mu$ g/uL puromycin (Invitrogen) and 10  $\mu$ g/mL blasticidin S (Invitrogen). Mouse embryonic fibroblasts (MEFs) were cultured in ESC media without LIF for less than five passages.

### **Plasmids**

pMXs-mouse *Sox2* wild-type or *S248A*, along with pMXs-*Oct4*, *Klf4* and *c-Myc* were used (Okita et al., 2007; Takahashi and Yamanaka, 2006). The pMXs-3xF-*Sox2* was created by cloning *Sox2* into pCMV-3xFLAG 7.1 (Sigma) and then subcloning 3xF-*Sox2* via InFusion cloning (Clontech) into pMXs. The *S248A* mutation was created with Quikchange site directed mutagenesis (Stratagene) (Primers, Table S2).

### **Antibodies and alkaline phosphatase**

Antibodies were purchased from Abcam (SOX2 ab75179, TUBULIN GTU-88 ab11316, O-GlcNAc ab2739, OCT4 ab19857), Reprocell (NANOG, RCAB002P-F) and SIGMA (OGT DM-17 and FLAG A8592). Secondary antibodies were purchased from BioRad (172-1019 & 172-1011). Anti-FLAG magnetic beads

were purchased from SIGMA (M8823). Alkaline phosphatase activity staining was performed according to manufactures instructions (Stemgent).

### **Reprogramming Experiments**

MEFs were derived from wild-type CD1 mice or the *Nanog-GFP-IRES-Puro<sup>r</sup>* mice (Okita et al., 2007) and cultured in MEF media (KO-DMEM, 10% FBS, 2 mM glutamine, 1X non-essential amino acids, 1X penicillin/streptomycin, and 0.1 mM  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol). pMXs vectors containing *Oct4*, *c-Myc*, *Klf4*, *eGfp*, *dsRed*, or wild-type or S248A *Sox2*, with or without FLAG, were transfected with Fugene 6 (Promega, E2691) into PlatE cells. Twenty-four hours after transfection, the media was changed. The next day, the retroviral supernatant was collected from transfected PlatE cells, filtered through 0.4  $\mu$ m filters and combined with each other at equal ratios. Polybrene (Millipore, TR-1003-G) was added to a final concentration of 4  $\mu$ g/ml. The virus-containing media was added to *Nanog-Gfp* or wild-type MEFs that were passaged less than five times. Media was replaced the next day and every other until six days after infection. At day six, MEFs were trypsinized and either prepared for experiments or 1000 cells were plated onto gamma-irradiated SNL feeders. These 1000 MEFs were cultured in MEF media supplemented with recombinant leukemia inhibitory factor (ESC media) until GFP<sup>+</sup> colonies were counted at day 20 (*Nanog-Gfp* MEFs) or cytopun onto glass slides and stained for NANOG, FLAG or alkaline phosphatase (CD1 MEFs).



Microinjection of iPSCs to generate chimera mice was conducted at Cornell University Stem Cell and transgenic core facility. iPSCs were grown on mouse embryonic fibroblasts (produced at the Cornell stem cell core) and mitotically inactivated by irradiation (3000 Rads). To produce donor embryos, wild-type albino mice of the strain <http://jaxmice.jax.org/strain/000058.html> were mated, embryos were flushed from the uterus at day 3.5, and the iPSCs were injected into the blastocyst of each embryo (15-30 cells per embryo). Injected embryos were then transferred to 2.5-day pseudo pregnant recipient animals and pup chimaerism was determined by coat color. Chimeras were mated to age-matched wild-type animals of the same albino strain used for embryo donors. iPSC contribution to the germline was determined by coat color of the resultant pups.

### **3xFLAG-SOX2 Purification**

Two 10 cm<sup>2</sup> dishes of CD1 MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM for six days were harvested by trypsinization, washed once with cold PBS and frozen in liquid N<sub>2</sub>. Whole cell pellets were lysed in RIPA buffer without SDS, containing 500nM Thiamet G (Caymen Chemicals), 1X HALT protease and phosphatase inhibitors (Pierce), 2 mM TCEP (Sigma) and 20 mM *N*-ethylmaleimide (Sigma) and sonicated (with a probe sonicator on methanol ice for three rounds of pulses, 3 secs on, 2 off, 10 seconds total, at 35%). Anti-FLAG-based purifications were performed with anti-FLAG M2 Dynabeads (Sigma). Whole cell lysates were incubated with M2 beads at room temperature for 75 minutes, washed once with lysis buffer and three times with 25mM

ammonium bicarbonate with 150mM NaCl. Proteins were eluted with 100 mM glycine pH 4. Western blot and SDS-PAGE analysis was used to assess purification efficiency. OCT4 was purified in the same manner but from four 10 cm<sup>2</sup> dishes of ZHBTc4 F-Oct4 cells grown on  $\gamma$ -irradiated feeder cells.

### **Mass spectrometric analysis**

Silver stained SDS-PAGE gel bands were excised and digested in-gel with sequence grade trypsin (Roche). After 5% formic acid/50% acetonitrile extraction, peptides were dried by vacuum centrifugation, gel particulates were removed via C18 ZipTips (Millipore), dried, resuspended in 0.1% formic acid and analyzed by LC MS/MS. Chromatography was performed on a Nanoacquity HPLC (Waters) at 400 nL/min with a BEH130 C18 75  $\mu$ m ID x150mm column (Waters). A 90-minute gradient from 98% solvent A (0.1% formic acid) to 22% solvent B (0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile) was used. Peptides were analyzed by an LTQ-Orbitrap Velos mass spectrometer (Thermo). After the survey scan of m/z 400-1,600 was measured in the Orbitrap at 30,000 resolution, the top three multiply charged ions were selected for both HCD and ETD. Automatic gain control for MS/MS was set to 2000. Normalized collision energy for HCD was set at 35 while the ETD activation time was charge state dependent, based on 100 ms for doubly charge precursors. Supplemental activation was implemented for ETD reactions. Dynamic exclusion of precursor selection was set for 25 seconds.

### **Data analysis**

Fragment mass spectra were converted into peaklists using the in-house software PAVA. HCD and ETD data were searched separately using ProteinProspector version 5.10.0 against the UniProt database with a concatenated database. Only mouse and human genomes were used for the database searching. Precursor tolerance was set to 10 ppm, whereas fragment mass error tolerance was set to 0.6 Da for ETD and 20 ppm for HCD. *N*-terminal acetylation, methionine oxidation, loss of *N*-terminal methionine and glutamate conversion to pyroglutamate were allowed as variable modifications. For ETD data, HexNAc modifications to serine and threonine residues and phosphorylation to serine/threonine/tyrosine was allowed as variable mass modifications. For HCD, phosphorylation was searched the same way though HexNAc was considered as a neutral loss. Methylation (mono, di- and tri-) of K and R, monomethylation of D, E and H (artifact from MeOH fixing PAGE gels), acetylation of K and R, and ADP-ribosylation to C, E, K, N, S, and R were searched separately. SLIP scoring was used to distinguish possible positional isomers of HexNAc and/or phosphopeptides (Baker et al., 2011) and were verified manually (Medzihradzky, 2005). Relative abundances of each modified or unmodified peptide were calculated using the ICIS area calculated from XICs in Xcalibur (Thermo) at a 10 ppm mass tolerance.

### **RNA extraction and RT-PCR and RT-qPCR**

Total RNA from CD1 MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WTKM</sup>, OS<sup>FLAG-S248AKM</sup> or *eGfp* after 6, 8 and 12 days were extracted using Trizol reagent (Invitrogen, Carlsbad,

CA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. 1 µg of total RNA was used for cDNA synthesis with oligo(dT)<sub>18</sub> primers using Tetro cDNA synthesis kit (Bioline, BIO-65042) and the resulting cDNA was diluted to 20ng/µl. Expression levels of *Nanog*, *Esrrb*, *Sall4* and *Utf1* were analyzed using real-time, quantitative PCR carried out using CFX Connect™ Real-time PCR detection system (Biorad) and SensiFast™ SYBR Lo-ROX PCR master mix (Bioline, BIO-94020). Expression data were normalized to the mean Cq of housekeeping gene Glucuronidase, beta(*Gusb*) to control the variability in expression levels and the relative quantification in gene expression was determined using the 2<sup>-(ΔCq)</sup> method (ΔCq= Cq(gene)-Cq(*Gusb*)) (Livak and Schmittgen 2001). The primer sequences used are provided in Table S2.

Total RNA from iPSCs reprogrammed with OS<sup>FLAG-WTKM</sup> (SOX2<sup>WT</sup>) or OS<sup>FLAG-S248AKM</sup> (SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>) or ESC control was extracted using Trizol reagent (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. 1 µg of total RNA was used for cDNA synthesis with random oligo(dT)<sub>18</sub> primers using Tetro cDNA synthesis kit (Bioline, BIO-65042) and the resulting cDNA was diluted to 20ng/µl. RT-PCR reactions were optimized to 95°C for 1 min, 28 amplification cycles at 95°C for 15 s, 58°C for 15 s, 72°C for 15 s, and a final extension of 5 min at 72°C using 2x MyFi PCR master mix (Bioline, BIO-25049). Amplified products were resolved on 2% agarose gels and visualized by ethidium bromide staining. The primer sequences used are provided in Table S2.

### **RNA-seq library preparation**

Sample library preparation was performed according to standard protocols from the SABRE Functional Genomics Core (<http://www.arrays.ucsf.edu>). Total RNA quality was assessed by spectrophotometer (NanoDrop, Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., Waltham, MA) and the Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer (Agilent Technologies, Palo Alto, CA). Cytoplasmic and mitochondrial ribosomal RNA was removed from the samples using Epicentre Ribo-Zero Gold (Human/Mouse/Rat) kit (Epicentre® Biotechnologies, Madison, WI). 2.3) and RNA sequencing libraries were generated using the TruSeq RNA sample prep kits with multiplexing primers, according to the manufacturer's protocol (Illumina, San Diego, CA). Fragment size distribution was assessed using the Bioanalyzer 2100 and the DNA high-sensitivity chip. Library concentrations were measured using KAPA Library Quantification Kits (Kapa Biosystems, Inc., Woburn, MA) and equal amounts of indexed libraries were pooled and sequenced on the Illumina HiSeq 2500.

### **RNA-seq analysis**

We obtained 172,287,640 single-end, 50 base pair reads across the 6 samples (n=2 per group) from 2 lanes of the HiSeq 2500. Sequence alignment and splice junction mapping were performed using Bowtie2 (Langmead and Salzberg, 2012) and TopHat (Trapnell et al., 2009) respectively, using the latest version of the mouse genome (mm10) provided by UCSC (Waterston et al., 2002). The subset of transcriptomic mappings were tabulated on a per-gene basis and subsequently served as raw input for DESeq (Anders and Huber, 2010). DESeq

normalizes by size factor (reads per sample) as well as by library complexity and then utilizes an exact test type statistic (employing a negative binomial model of dispersion, consistent with the type of variance seen in RNAseq datasets) to assess differential expression.

### **Chromatin Immunoprecipitation (ChIP)**

1x10<sup>7</sup> CD1-MEFs infected with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM, OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM or *eGfp* after six days were crosslinked with 1% formaldehyde for 10 min at 37°C. After quenching with 125 mM glycine for 5 min, the cells were washed twice with ice cold 1xPBS. Cell pellets were resuspended in 1ml lysis buffer 1 (50 mM HEPES·KOH (pH 7.6), 140 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 10 % (v/v) Glycerol, 0.5 % NP-40, 0.25 % Triton X-100, 1X complete protease inhibitor cocktail (PIC) (Roche, 11697498001) for 10 min at 4 °C, followed by spin at 1,350 x g for 5 min at 4°C. The supernatant was discarded and the pellet was resuspended in 1ml of lysis buffer 2 (10 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 200 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 0.5 mM EGTA, 1X PIC) for 10 min in at 4 °C, followed by spin at 1,350 x g for 5 min at 4 °C. Finally, the cell pellet was resuspended in 700 µl of lysis buffer 3 (10 mM Tris·HCl pH 8.0, 100 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 0.5 mM EGTA, 0.1% Sodium deoxycholate, 0.5% N-Lauroylsarcosine, 1X PIC) and sonicated to desired length using Bioruptor (Diagenode) for 30 min [10 minutes x 3 times (each cycle consists of 30s on, 30s off) at high settings]. Lysates were clarified by centrifugation at 10,000 rpm in a microcentrifuge for 10min at 4 °C. The supernatant was transferred to a new tube and stored at -80 °C or used immediately for ChIP. 30 µl of Dynabeads Protein G

(Invitrogen, 10004D) were blocked with 5mg/ml BSA in 1X PBS followed by overnight coupling with 5 µg of FLAG antibody (Sigma, F1804) or 5 µg H3 antibody (abcam 1791) or 5ug of H3K4me2 antibody (abcam 7766). Antibody beads were added to 20µg of sonicated chromatin diluted three fold in ChIP dilution buffer +1% Triton X-100 (20 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM EDTA, 1X PIC) and immunoprecipitated overnight at 4 °C. As 3xF-SOX2 was used in the reprogramming cocktail, FLAG antibody was used to isolate 3xF-SOX2 bound chromatin fragments, and ChIP against histone H3 on the same set of chromatin samples was performed as an internal control for FLAG and H3K4me2 ChIP. 10% of the undiluted chromatin from each sample is saved as input DNA. The beads were removed by placing the tubes in a magnetic separation rack and carefully remove the unbound chromatin. The beads were washed with 1ml of each of the following buffers at 4 °C, twice with ChIP dilution buffer, once with ChIP dilution buffer + 500 mM NaCl, four times with RIPA buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0), 0.25 M LiCl, 1 mM EDTA, 0.5% NP-40, 0.5% Sodium deoxycholate) and two washes in 1x TE (10 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0), 1 mM EDTA). DNA was eluted from the beads twice in 100µl of ChIP elution buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 100 mM NaCl, 20 mM EDTA, 1% SDS) by incubating at 65 °C for 15 min. The eluted DNA and the input samples were then reverse crosslinked at 65 °C for overnight, followed by RNase A (0.2 mg/ml) digestion at 37 °C for 2 h and Proteinase K (0.2 µg/µl) (NEB, P8102S) digestion at 55 °C for 1 h. The ChIP and input DNA was recovered by phenol-chloroform extraction and ethanol precipitation. Enrichment of SOX2, or H3K4me2 and H3 bound DNA was

assayed by ChIP-quantitative PCR (ChIP-qPCR) using CFX Connect™ Real-time PCR detection system (Biorad) and SensiFast™ SYBR Lo-ROX PCR master mix (Bioline, BIO-94020). Fold enrichment of immunoprecipitated DNA over input were calculated using  $2^{-(\Delta Cq)}$  method ( $\Delta Cq = Cq(IP) - Cq(Input)$ ) (Livak and Schmittgen, 2001). Primer pairs used in FLAG-SOX2 and H3K4me2 ChIPs were designed using published SOX2 and H3K4me2 ChIP-seq data sets (GSE 35496 (Lodato et al., 2013) GSM 640755 (Koche et al., 2011)). Sequences of the primers used in ChIP-qPCR are listed in Table S2.

### **DNase qPCR**

After six days of infection,  $3 \times 10^6$  *eGfp*, OS<sup>WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>248A</sup>KM MEFs from the same preparation used for the final three ChIP samples were washed once in PBS and transferred to cold dounce homogenizers with cold swelling buffer (10 mM TRIS, pH 8, 85 mM KCl, 0.5% NP-40, 1X HALT and 500 nM Thiamet G). Cells were dounced and nuclei were examined for Trypan blue exclusion. Three volumes of DNase buffer (15 mM TRIS, pH 7.5, 300 mM sucrose, 15 mM NaCl, 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.1 mM EDTA, 1X HALT and 500 nM Thiamet G) was added to transfer the nuclei to 1.5 mL tubes. The nuclei were pelleted at 1000 rpm for 5 minutes at 4°C and resuspended in 200  $\mu$ L DNase buffer with 5 U DNase I (Invitrogen). Tubes were incubated for 2 or 16 minutes at 37°C. The reaction was stopped by addition of EDTA to 10 mM and SDS to 1%. Nuclei were treated with RNase A (0.2 mg/ml) for one hour at 37°C followed by Proteinase K (Bioline) for 2 hours at 55°C. DNA was phenol:chloroform extracted, ethanol precipitated and



further cleaned up with Qiagen PCR clean up columns. qPCR Cq values were measured the same as with ChIP. Melting curves were checked and only primer set yielding a single PCR product were used for analysis. Primer sets used are listed in Table S2. Fold changes was calculated using  $2^{-(\Delta Cq)}$  method ( $\Delta Cq = Cq(16 \text{ min time point}) - Cq(\text{two min time point})$ ).

### **OCT4 glycopeptide synthesis and analysis**

The glycopeptide sequence reported in (Jang et al., 2012). was synthesized to 70% purity by Pierce Biotechnology. The lyophilized peptide was resuspended in LC grade water. The peptide was diluted to 500 attomols/ $\mu\text{l}$  with 0.1% formic acid and five  $\mu\text{l}$  was analyzed by LC MS/MS. The precursor m/z was measured in the Orbitrap while CAD was performed and measured in the ion trap. The data was interpreted manually.

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**Table 1** SOX2 TAD peptides from MEFs six days after infection with OS<sup>FLAG-WT</sup>KM or OS<sup>FLAG-S248A</sup>KM. Unmodified and all unambiguous positional isomers of O-GlcNAc modified or phosphorylated TAD peptides are reported. Scoring and expectation values are reported for all peptides. Direct HCD link: [http://prospector2.ucsf.edu/prospector/cgi-bin/mssearch.cgi?report\\_title=MS-Viewer&search\\_key=g85xarndhe&search\\_name=msviewer](http://prospector2.ucsf.edu/prospector/cgi-bin/mssearch.cgi?report_title=MS-Viewer&search_key=g85xarndhe&search_name=msviewer) . Direct ETD link: [http://prospector2.ucsf.edu/prospector/cgi-bin/mssearch.cgi?report\\_title=MS-Viewer&search\\_key=pabb5khwbl&search\\_name=msviewer](http://prospector2.ucsf.edu/prospector/cgi-bin/mssearch.cgi?report_title=MS-Viewer&search_key=pabb5khwbl&search_name=msviewer)

Gene	m/z	z	ppm	SOX2 TAD Peptide	Score	Expect
SOX2	567.9413	3	3.2	SEASSPPVVTSSSHSR	59.1	3.4e-11
SOX2	594.5953	3	0.66	SEASSS(Phospho)PPVVTSSSHSR	53.7	4.2e-11
SOX2	635.6326	3	0.022	S(HexNAc)EASSPPVVTSSSHSR	51.5	3.9e-11
SOX2	635.6338	3	1.9	SEASSPPVVT(HexNAc)SSSHSR	47.0	1.5e-9
S248A	562.6106	3	4.9	AEASSPPVVTSSSHSR	50.6	1.2e-9
S248A	589.2652	3	3.3	AEASSS(Phospho)PPVVTSSSHSR	51.8	1.8e-9
S248A	630.3024	3	4.9	AEASSPPVVT(HexNAc)SSSHSR	50.0	4.8e-9

**Table 2** Primers used in this study

Gene	Primer	5'-3' Primer Sequence	Notes	Gene	Primer	5'-3' Primer Sequence	Notes
<b>ChIP primers</b>				<b>RT-PCR primers to detect viral and endogenous transcripts</b>			
Esrrb	F	TTGGGCCTCGAGTTCCTGTA	H3K4me2 ChIP	cMyc- total	F	CAGAGGAGGAACGAGCTGAAGCGC	Total (Viral +Endo)
	R	CCCAGTCACCCCTCTCAGGTA			R	TTATGCACCAGAGTTTCGAAGCTGTCG	
Esrrb	F	CGGCTGGTATCACCTGATTT	FLAG- SOX2 ChIP ,	cMyc- endo	F	TGACCTAACTCGAGGAGGAGCTGGA ATC	Endogenous
	R	TGATCCTTTGGAGTGGAGGA			R	AAGTTTGAGGCAGTTAAATTATGGCTGAAGC	
Utf1	F	GGTCCTTAGAGCGTGTGTGG	H3K4me2 ChIP	Sox2- total	F	GGTTACCTCTTCTCCCACTCCAG	Total (Viral +Endo)
	R	CATCCCTGAGCCAGGTAGAG			R	TCACATGTGCACAGGGGCGAG	
Utf1	F	GGCTTAGGTGCAGGTAGAGG	FLAG- SOX2 ChIP	Sox2- endo	F	TAGAGCTAGACTCCGGGCGATGA	Endogenous
	R	GATGGGCCAGAAATTTGTAA			R	TTGCCTTAAACAAGACCAGAAA	
Fgf4	F	TTGCGTCCCTATTGCTCTC	H3K4me2 ChIP	Klf4-total	F	GTGCAGCTTGCAGCAGTAAC	Total (Viral +Endo)
	R	AGCAGCGTCCCTGTGGTC			R	GGAAGACGAGGATGAAGCTG	
Nanog	F	AGGATGCCCCCTAAGCTTTC	FLAG- SOX2 ChIP	Klf4- endo	F	GATGGGAGCGGAGTTGTCCTA	Endogenous
	R	TGAATTCACAGTTAATCCCACCT			R	AAGGAAGGCGTTCCAGATTT	
Sall4	F	GTAGCTGCTGAGGCTGCTC	H3K4me2 ChIP	Oct4- total	F	CAAATCGGAGACCCTGGTG	Total (Viral +Endo)
	R	GCAAGTCACCAGGGCTCTT			R	CCTTCTCTAGCCCAAGCTGA	
Sall4	F	GAATCCCATTCCAGAATCGGC	FLAG- SOX2 ChIP	Oct4- endo	F	TCTTTCCACCAGCCCCGGGCTC	Endogenous
	R	CAATGCGCGCACCATGTCCG			R	TGCGGGCGGACATGGGAGATCC	
Sox21	F	GAGGAGAGGGGAGAGCAGAA	H3K4me2 ChIP	<b>RT-PCR primers to detect viral transcripts</b>			
	R	CCGGGACCCTGAAACTTCTC		pMX- AS3200	R	TTATCGTCGACCACTGTGCTGCTG	used w/ all For primers
Sox21	F	TCTGCCTTGTAGATTGCATTCTAAT GC	FLAG- SOX2 ChIP		<b>RT-qPCR primers for gene expression</b>		
	R	GGAATGAATAGCGGTGCAATGTGT		Esrrb-RT	F	ATCAATCACGGAGTCTGGATCT	
MII3	F	TGGCTCTCCTTGTACCCCTA	H3K4me2 ChIP		R	TTCGGTTCAGCAGCATGGTT	
	R	ACCCATCCAGAGGAACAGGA		Utf1-RT	F	GTGGAGCAAGAGGCCGAG	
MII5	F	GTGCGGGGAGGGAGTAAATC	H3K4me2 ChIP		R	CAGAGTGTCCGGTCTCGTAA	
	R	GCCAGCGATTGCATAAGGTG		Nanog- RT	F	CCAGTCCCAAAACAAAAGCTC	
<b>Mutagenesis</b>					R	ATCTGCTGGAGGCTGAGGTA	
Sox2S248Af	F	ggtcGCtccgagggccagctcca		Sall4-RT	F	GAACCCGGTGTCTCCAGTGAA	
Sox2S248Ar	R	cggaGGCgaccacagagcccatggag			R	GAACTCGGCACAGCATTGT	
				Gusb-RT	F	CCTTGGCTTTGTGAACCTTG	
					R	GAACCTCCAGTAGAACAGTCA	

## **Chapter 5**

*O-GlcNAc regulates SOX2 activity in embryonic stem cells by altering protein-SOX2 interactions*

***O-GlcNAc regulates SOX2 activity in embryonic stem cells by altering protein-SOX2 interactions***

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## Abstract

SOX2 is a versatile transcription factor that maintains embryonic stem cell (ESC) pluripotency and self-renewal, and is important for proper lineage specification and adult stem cell maintenance. This versatility is likely due to post-translational modifications (PTMs) as SOX2 has been reported to be modified by numerous chemical moieties in a variety of cell types. One such PTM is O-GlcNAc, the dynamic and regulatory glycosylation of intracellular proteins. Global O-GlcNAc is essential for ESC self-renewal though the function of SOX2 O-GlcNAcylation in ESC is not understood. Here, we show that SOX2 is highly abundant as O-GlcNAc modified in the transactivation domain at serine 248. Replacement of wild-type SOX2 with an O-GlcNAc deficient mutant SOX2 (SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>) increases the pluripotency transcriptional network while down-regulating the differentiation network in ESCs. Removal of self-renewing signals induces changes in SOX2 O-GlcNAc stoichiometry, while OCT4 depletion triggers a stronger differentiation transcriptional response in SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> ESCs compared to WT. Analysis of SOX2-interacting proteins from ESCs revealed that the WT and mutant SOX2 interact with distinct subsets of transcriptional regulatory complexes. Thus, SOX2 O-GlcNAcylation controls the transcriptional landscape of a cell by modulating SOX2 activity and recruiting different regulatory complexes.



## Introduction

SOX2 (sex determining region Y-box 2) is a transcription factor that is necessary for embryonic stem cell (ESC) self-renewal and is expressed in progenitor and adult stem cells (1, 2). Precise control of SOX2 is critical for embryonic stem cell (ESC) maintenance, since increased or decreased expression of SOX2 interferes with self-renewal and pluripotency (1, 3). Post-translational modification (PTM) of SOX2 may play a role in its regulation, as SOX2 has been reported to be phosphorylated, ubiquitinated, SUMOylated, acetylated, methylated, and PARPylated (4-12).

We have previously identified SOX2 as modified by O-linked N-acetylglucosamine (O-GlcNAc) in ESCs (13). O-GlcNAc is the dynamic and regulatory glycosylation of nucleocytosolic proteins and is catalyzed by a single O-GlcNAc transferase (OGT) and a single hydrolase (OGA). O-GlcNAc signaling is essential for embryo viability (14-16) and ESC self-renewal (17). While OGT and OGA are critical for the establishment and maintenance of pluripotency and self-renewal, the protein- and site-specific functions of O-GlcNAcylation in ESCs have yet to be explored in any substantial way.

Here, we show that SOX2 exists in several post-translationally modified states in ESCs and breast cancer cells. In depth characterization of SOX2 in ESCs reveals SOX2 is highly abundant as O-GlcNAc modified at serine 248. Replacement of wild-type SOX2 (SOX2<sup>WT</sup>) with an O-GlcNAc deficient mutant

SOX2 (SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>) in ESCs causes an increase in pluripotency gene expression, a down-regulation of genes involved in differentiation and morphological changes consistent with a more naive pluripotent state (18, 19). SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> shows only minor changes in its genomic distribution compared to SOX2<sup>WT</sup> whereas there is an increase in SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> occupancy at distal regulatory regions for genes differentially expressed between the WT and mutant ESCs. This change in gene expression can be attributed to the differential recruitment of transcriptional regulatory complexes between WT and mutant SOX2. While the self-renewal pathway is upregulated in unperturbed SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> mutant ESCs, we show that OCT4 depletion can simultaneously activate differentiation genes to a greater extent when compared to SOX2<sup>WT</sup> ESCs. This study reveals a new mechanism by which SOX2 is post-translationally regulated, and provides new insight as to how O-GlcNAc modulates pluripotency and transcription factor function.

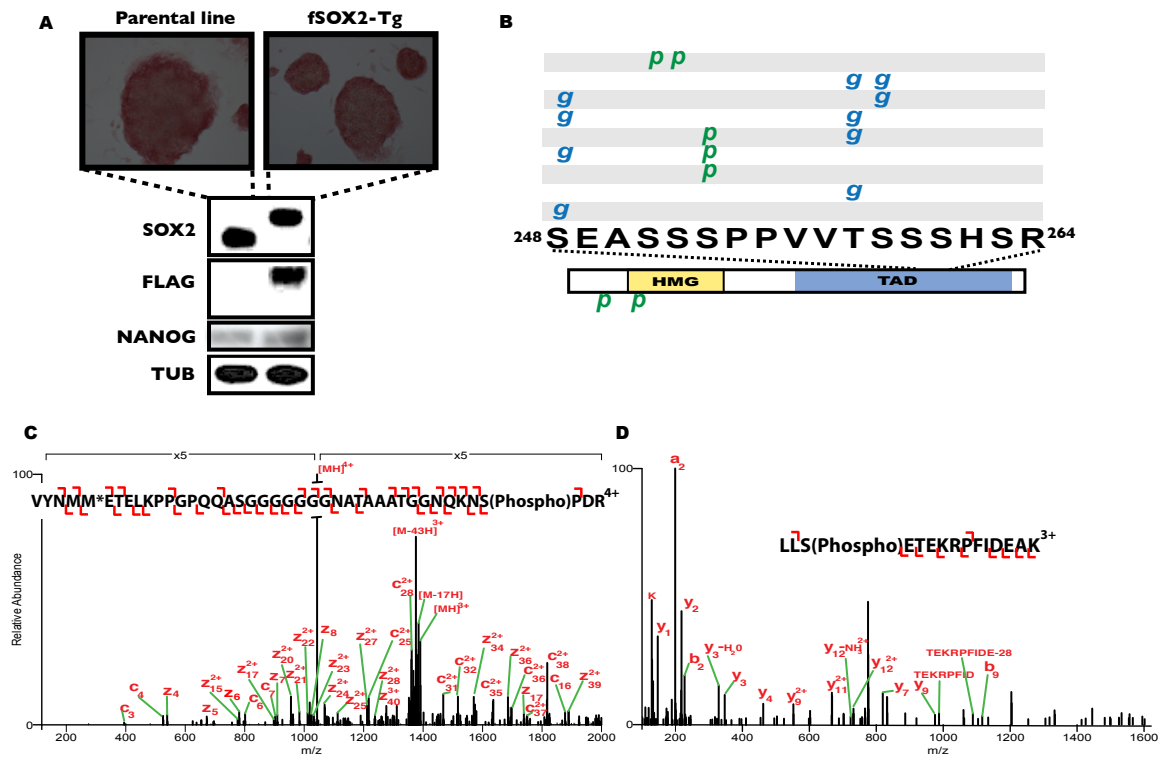
## Results

### **GlcNAc-S248 is, among many, the predominant SOX2 PTM form**

SOX2 has been reported to be heavily post-translationally modified in a variety of cell types (4-13). To characterize the SOX2 PTMs, we created a murine ESC line that expresses a triply FLAG tagged SOX2 (*3xF-Sox2*) from a cDNA transgene as the sole source of *Sox2* (Figure 1A). These mESCs, denoted as fSOX2-Tg, facilitated SOX2 purification unbiased by the presence of PTMs. fSOX2-Tg cells exhibit normal ESC colony morphology and alkaline phosphatase (AP) staining, and have SOX2 and NANOG protein levels comparable to the parental control line (1), indicating the tagged, transgenic SOX2 exhibits normal function (Figure 1A).

We characterized purified SOX2 using liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS), employing both higher energy collisional dissociation (HCD) and electron transfer dissociation (ETD). We identified a complex PTM pattern in the transactivation domain (TAD) of 3xF-SOX2, with multiple O-GlcNAcylation sites (S248, T258, and S259) in single or pairwise combinations, and two phosphorylation sites (S252 and S253) occurring singly or in combination and present with and without O-GlcNAcylation (Figure 1B). We also identified two phosphorylation sites (S39 and S85) in the high mobility group (HMG) DNA binding domain of SOX2 (Figure 1 C-D). We focused our analyses on the TAD of SOX2 because several reports have identified various PTMs in this

**Figure 1** SOX2 possesses a diverse set of PTMs in ESCs. **A**, fSOX2-Tg cells were created by introducing the 3xFLAG-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> into the parental, Tet-off Sox2 TS22C mESC line (1). AP staining and colony morphology of fSOX2-Tg cells compared to parental line. Western blots against SOX2, FLAG, NANOG and TUBULIN. **B**, Diagram of SOX2 and the PTMs identified from ESCs. Each line (above) represents a TAD PTM form identified. g, O-GlcNAc; p, phosphorylation; HMG, high-mobility group DNA binding domain; TAD, transactivation domain. **C**, ETD mass spectrum of SOX2 phospho-S39. \* indicates oxidation. **D**, HCD mass spectrum of SOX2 phospho-S85.

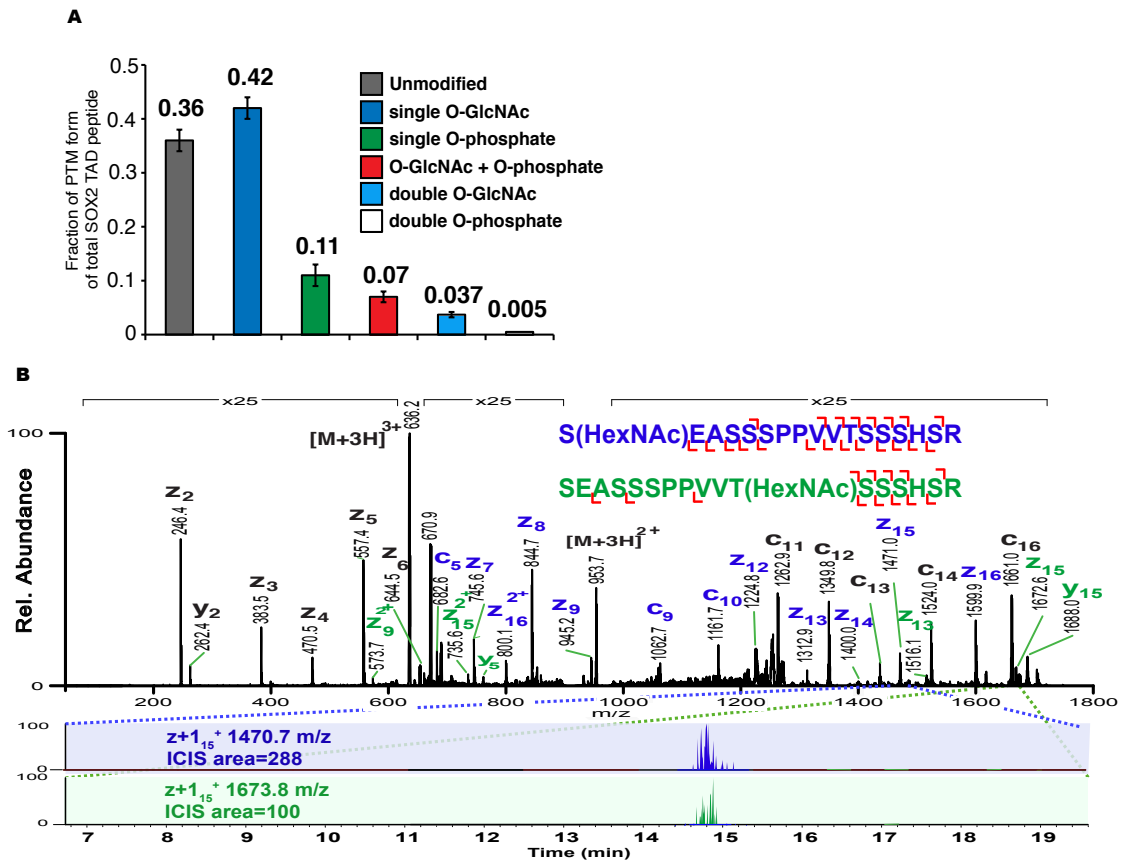


region in ESCs (4, 13, 20) or in other heterologous cell types (8, 12). We did not detect acetylation, methylation or PARPylation of SOX2 (5, 6, 10, 11). We also were unable to detect any evidence of SUMOylation by LC-MS/MS or Western blotting (8, 12) (not shown).

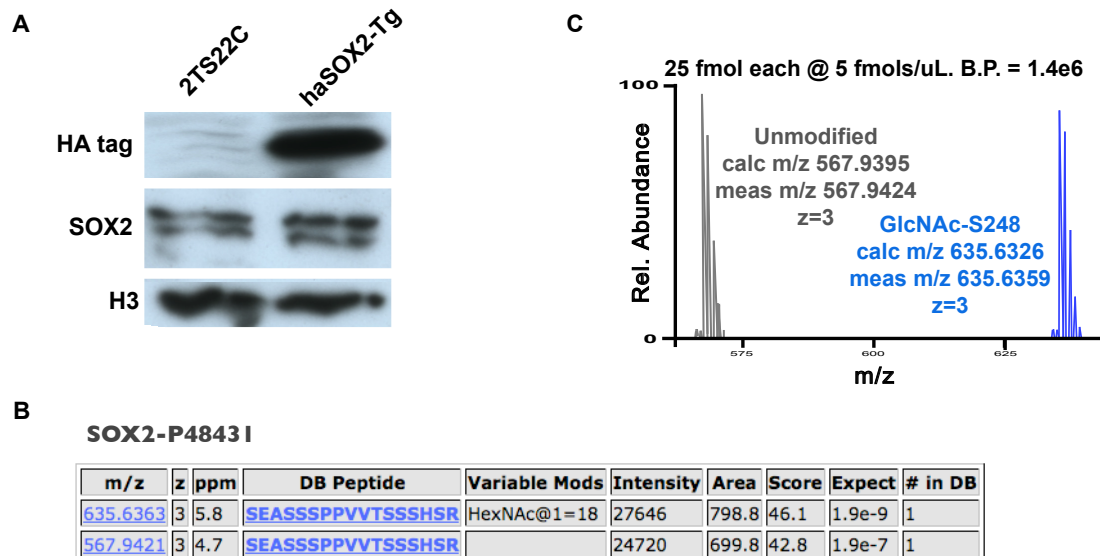
To determine the stoichiometries of the TAD PTM states of SOX2, we compared extracted ion chromatograms (XICs) from the LC-MS measurements. The singly *O*-GlcNAcylated form was the predominant PTM form ( $42 \pm 2$  %) of the total SOX2 TAD peptide (Figure 2A). The next most abundant form was the unmodified peptide ( $36 \pm 2$  %), followed by the singly phosphorylated peptides ( $11 \pm 2$  %) and the peptides containing a single *O*-GlcNAcylation and single phosphorylation ( $7 \pm 1$  %). Finally, the doubly *O*-GlcNAcylated ( $3.7 \pm 0.5$ %) and the doubly phosphorylated ( $0.5 \pm 0.2$ %) peptides were the least abundant. This high stoichiometry of the singly *O*-GlcNAcylated species was also observed in an independently-derived HA tagged-SOX2 ESC line (haSOX2-Tg), indicating that abundant *O*-GlcNAcylation of the SOX2 TAD peptide occurs across ESC lines (Figure 3A-B). Singly *O*-GlcNAcylated and unmodified synthetic TAD peptides chromatographically separated and had comparable ionization efficiencies (Figure 3C), indicating that accurate stoichiometry of the singly *O*-GlcNAcylated SOX2 peptides can be determined by LC-MS.

The SOX2 TAD peptide population contained three residues identified as *O*-GlcNAc modified, S248, T258, or S259. To determine at which site *O*-GlcNAc

**Figure 2** Stoichiometry determination of SOX2 GlcNAc-S248 in ESCs. **A**, Fractions of total TAD peptide PTM forms detected and quantified from 3xF-SOX2, n=4 +/- S.E.M. **B**, Summed ETD mass spectra for targeted analysis of the singly O-GlcNAcylated, triply charged TAD peptide. Mass spectra containing the charged reduced species were summed. XICs of the  $z+1_{15}^+$  product ions for the positional isomers (below) show the GlcNAc-S248 position approximately three times more abundant than the other two positional isomers combined.



**Figure 3** High O-GlcNAc stoichiometry is consistent across independently derived ESC lines. **A**, Characterization of haSOX2-Tg cells. Western blots against HA tag, SOX2 and TUBULIN. **B**, Peptide identifications and corresponding precursor intensities of the GlcNAc-S248 and unmodified SOX2 TAD peptide purified from haSOX2-Tg cells. Intensities of XICs show a similar stoichiometry to Figure 2A. **C**, Example of equal amounts of synthetic unmodified and GlcNAc-S248 SOX2 TAD peptides analyzed by LC-MS. Summed MS1 scans show that the modified and unmodified electrospray with equal efficiencies.



is the most abundant, we performed targeted ETD of the singly O-GlcNAc modified SOX2 TAD peptide (Figure 2B). XICs of the  $z^{+1}_{15}^{+}$  product ion, which distinguishes positional isomers, allowed us to estimate that GlcNAc-S248 is approximately three times more abundant than combined total of O-GlcNAcylation at either T258 or S259. *In vitro* glycosylation of recombinant mouse SOX2 by recombinant human OGT (99% identical to mouse OGT) resulted in TAD peptide O-GlcNAc modified exclusively at S248 (data not shown). Together, these data indicate that SOX2 is a direct substrate of OGT and that S248 is the major site of SOX2 O-GlcNAcylation in ESCs.

### **SOX2 PTMs respond to extracellular cues and are altered in breast cancer cells**

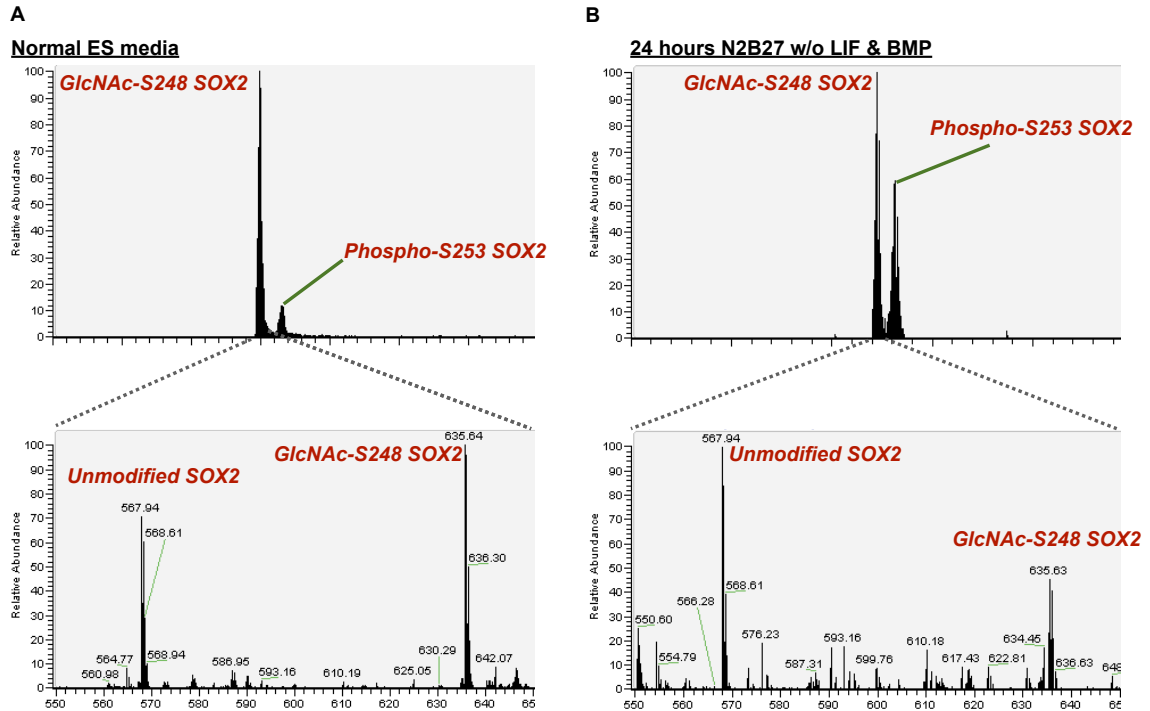
Although *Sox2* is expressed during initial differentiation stages and in progenitor/multipotent stem cells, these cells receive different extracellular cues and possess a different transcriptional landscape compared to ESCs (2, 21, 22). To test whether SOX2 PTMs are responsive to cytokines, we transferred fSOX2-Tg cells to chemically defined growth media lacking the self-renewal cues leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF) and bone-morphogenic protein (BMP), and analyzed the PTM profile of the TAD peptide. 3xF-SOX2 purified from fSOX2-Tg cells cultured in N2B27 without LIF or BMP for 48 hours showed decreases in the abundance of the O-GlcNAc modified species while simultaneously showing increases in the unmodified and singly phosphorylated versions (Figure 4).



These results reveal that SOX2 PTMs respond to extracellular cues, and suggesting a mode of regulation of SOX2 during differentiation (23).

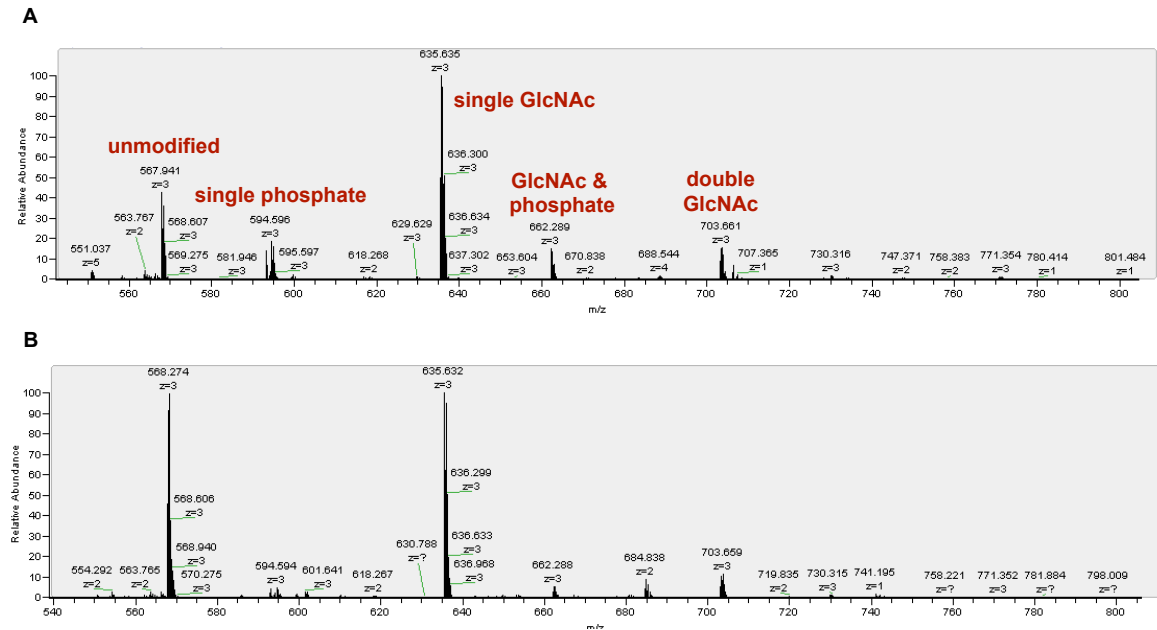
Sox2 expression is also associated with the dedifferentiation phenotype of cancer cells and cancer stem cells, and is often associated with poor prognosis of various tumors (24-26). We, therefore, asked whether SOX2 is O-GlcNAc modified in breast cancer cell lines. Analysis of 3xF-SOX2 purified from transiently transfected MCF7 or MDA-MB-453 breast cancer cells showed that SOX2 was indeed O-GlcNAc modified and/or phosphorylated within the TAD peptide (Figure 5). Comparison of XICs of the SOX2 TAD between the two breast cancer cell lines showed no notable differences in the relative abundances of any modified species (not shown). However, comparison of the SOX2 TAD PTM profiles from 3xF-SOX2 purified from either breast cancer cell line to the tagged mESCs showed differences in the relative abundances between PTM forms (Figure 5). SOX2 expressed in breast cancer cells showed higher relative levels of the singly O-GlcNAcylated, singly phosphorylated and the co-modified singly O-GlcNAc/singly phosphorylated TAD peptides when compared to fSOX2-Tg cells (Figure 5). These data indicate SOX2 is O-GlcNAc modified in breast cancer cells, suggesting that SOX2 is differentially regulated in cancer cells and ESCs.

**Figure 4** Removal of self-renewing cytokines alters SOX2 TAD PTM profile. **A**, XICs comparing the ratios between the singly O-GlcNAcylated and the singly phosphorylated SOX2 TAD peptides (top) or the singly O-GlcNAcylated and the unmodified TAD peptides from fSOX2-Tg cells grown in standard culture conditions. **B**, XICs comparing the ratios between the singly O-GlcNAcylated and the singly phosphorylated SOX2 TAD peptides (top) or the singly O-GlcNAcylated and the unmodified TAD peptides from fSOX2-Tg cells grown in N2B27 media for 48 hours.



**Figure 5** SOX2 TAD PTM patterns differ between ESCs and breast cancer cells.

**A**, Summed MS1 scans over the elution window of the five most abundant SOX2 TAD post-translationally modified peptide forms. Analysis of the SOX2 TAD peptides purified from breast cancer cells (top) or from fSOX2-Tg cells (bottom) shows differences in PTM profiles.



### **An O-GlcNAc-deficient SOX2, SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>, can replace WT in ESCs**

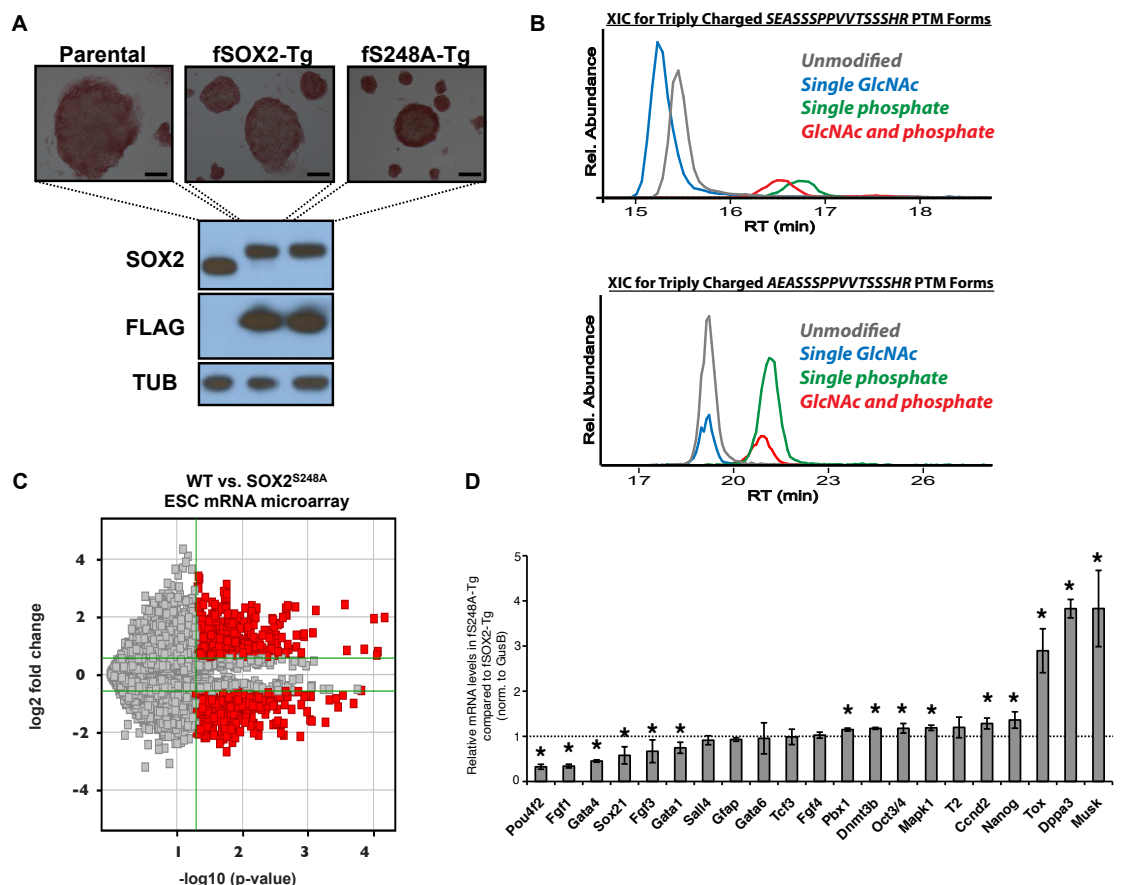
Since the SOX2 TAD possesses a diverse set of PTMs, where GlcNAc-S248 is the most abundant, we investigated if this residue affected SOX2 function. We generated an S248 to alanine mutant SOX2 ESC line (fS248A-Tg cells) using the same strategy as that used to create fSOX2-Tg line. fS248A-Tg cells possess ESC-like morphology and stain positive for AP activity (Figure 6A) indicating that SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> can replace WT in ESCs.

Mass spectrometric analysis showed the S248A mutation resulted in the loss of the bulk of TAD O-GlcNAcylation (Figure 6B), confirming that S248 is the major O-GlcNAc site in ESCs. The S248A mutation did not affect subcellular localization of SOX2 (Figure 7A). Knockdown of OGT, which causes loss of cellular O-GlcNAc and major changes in ESC colony morphology, did not affect the steady state levels of SOX2 (Figure 7B). The loss of the major O-GlcNAcylated SOX2 species in fS248A-Tg cells also showed a dramatic increase of S253 phosphorylation (Figure 6B). These data suggest there is a crosstalk between GlcNAc-S248 and phospho-S253 and that the subcellular distribution and steady state levels of SOX2 are not affected by PTM changes in this region.

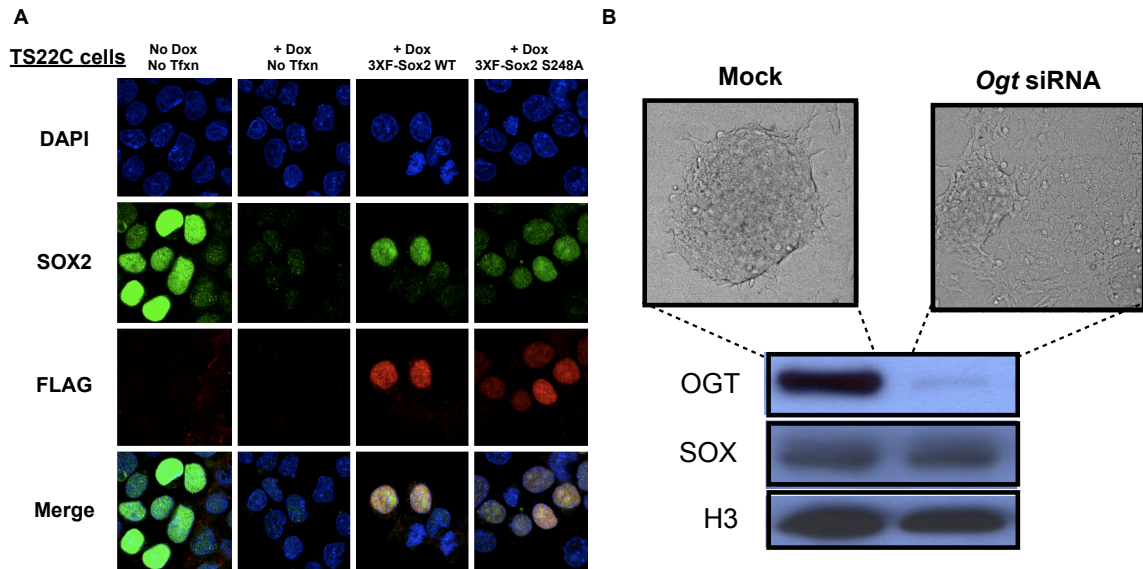
### **SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> alters ESC gene expression**

While both transgenic SOX2 ESC lines exhibited standard colony morphology and stained positive for AP activity, the fS248A-Tg cells consistently stained darker and formed more circular colonies than the WT or parental

**Figure 6** SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> mutant ESCs show altered gene expression. **A**, fS248A-Tg ESCs, where 3xFLAG-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> is the sole source of SOX2, compared to parental and fSOX2-Tg ESCs. AP staining and Western blots against SOX, FLAG and TUBULIN show comparable proteins levels though fS248A-Tg cells have higher AP staining and more circular colony morphology. **B**, XICs, within 10 ppm, of the TAD PTM peptides from fSOX2-Tg cells (top) compared with XICs of the analogous TAD PTM peptides from fS248A-Tg cells. **C**, Volcano plot showing genes differentially expressed between fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells as assessed by microarray. **D**, RT-qPCR validation of select genes differentially expressed (\* indicates  $p < 0.05$ ) between fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells ( $n=3$ , +/- S.E.M.).



**Figure 7** O-GlcNAcylation does not affect subcellular localization or steady state protein levels of SOX2. **A**, Immunofluorescence (IF) staining against SOX2 in TS22C cells transiently transfected with no plasmid, 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> or 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> and treated with doxycycline. **B**, Knockdown of OGT does not affect SOX2 protein levels. E14 ESCs were depleted of OGT by siRNA for three days. Western blotting against OGT, SOX2 and TUBULIN shows comparable levels of SOX2 compared to mock (*Gfp*).



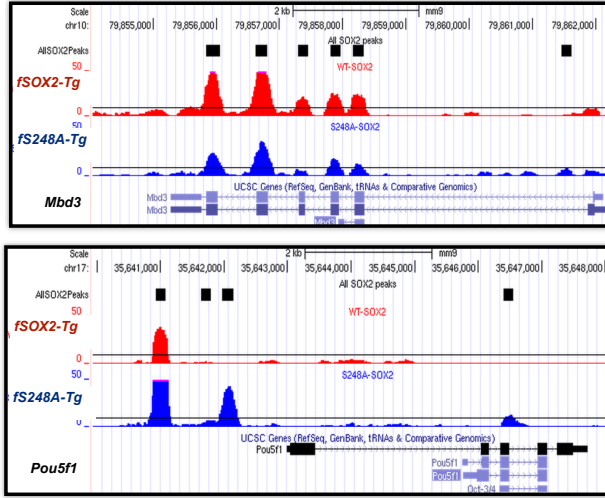
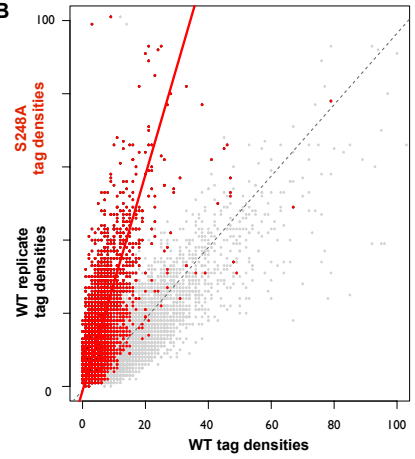
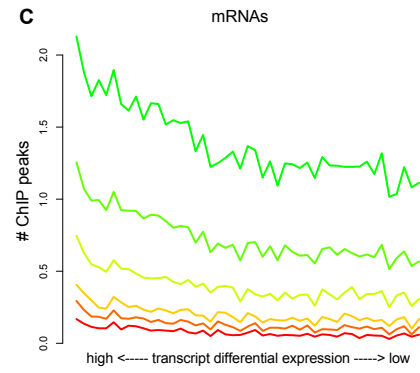
counterparts (Figure 6A). This suggested that the fS248A-Tg were more undifferentiated than WT cells (18, 19). We, therefore, used microarrays to compare gene expression between fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells. There were significant changes in gene expression, with 320 genes up-regulated and 344 genes down-regulated (Figure 6C), several of which were validated by RT-qPCR (Figure 6D). Several of the genes with increased expression in fS248A-Tg cells are associated with pluripotency and self-renewal (*Dppa3*, *Nanog*, *Pou5f1/Oct3/4*), while many of the down-regulated genes are associated with differentiation (*Pou4f2*, *Fgf1*, *Fgf3*, *Gata4*, *Gata1*). These data indicate that the S248A mutation affects SOX2 activity in ESCs and that this mutation alters the balance between self-renewal and differentiation gene expression.

### **SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> exhibits altered genomic occupancy but not distribution**

To examine whether the changes in gene expression associated with S248A were accompanied by changes in SOX2 genomic occupancy or distribution, we performed anti-FLAG chromatin immunoprecipitation followed by deep sequencing (ChIP-seq) to compare SOX2 genomic distribution in fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg ESCs. The S248A mutation altered SOX2 occupancy in two ways. First, while the majority of SOX2 bound loci were common between WT and S248A SOX2, several new sites emerged, while some sites no longer exhibited SOX2 association (Figure 8A). Second, for the commonly bound SOX2 sites, we were able to ChIP four to five-fold more DNA from fS248A-Tg cells compared to fSOX2-Tg cells (Figure 8B). This increase in SOX2 occupancy

**Figure 8** fS248A-Tg ESCs show minor changes in SOX2 distribution but large increases in DNA occupancy at distal regulatory regions. **A**, Browser tracks of rare events showing changes in genomic SOX2 distribution between fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells. New 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> binding site in exon of *Mbd3* (top panel). Bottom panel shows new binding site of 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> at the promoter of *Pou5f1*. **B**, Number of sequencing reads per SOX2 bound locus between fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells. fS248A-Tg cells show four to five times more DNA immunoprecipitated for the same regions bound in fSOX2-Tg cells. **C**, Correlation between number of SOX2 binding events and genes differentially expressed between fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells within varying distances from the transcription start site (TSS). Genes more differentially expressed between fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells have a higher number of SOX2 binding events as the distance from the TSS is increased.



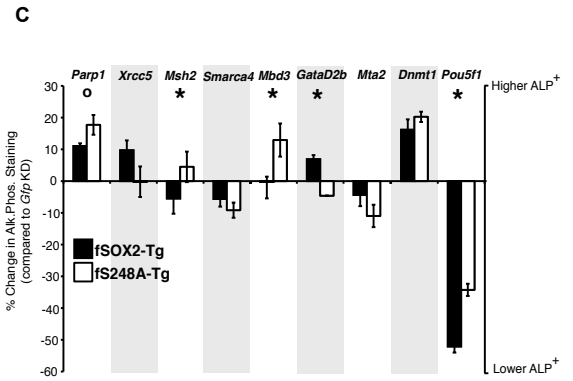
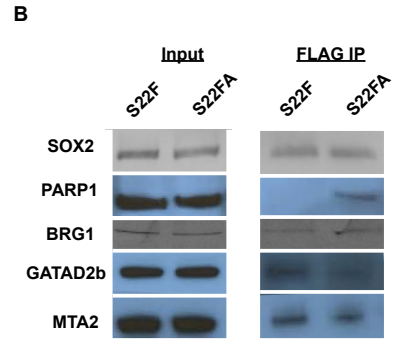
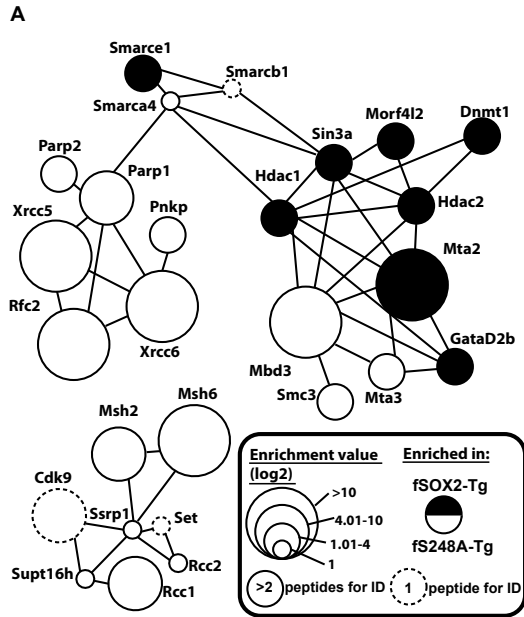
**A****B****C**

correlated with differential gene expression between fS248A-Tg and fSOX2-Tg cells. Genes more differentially expressed between fS248A-Tg and fSOX2-Tg cells showed more SOX2 binding within 100 kbp window of the gene with altered expression, though this correlation decreased as the distance from the transcriptional start site decreased (Figure 8C). Together, these results suggest changes in the gene expression are due to increased SOX2 occupancy at distal regulatory regions.

### **The S248A mutation alters protein-protein interactions**

The TAD of SOX2 is responsible for interacting with transcriptional regulatory machinery, and truncations of this region have different effects on transcriptional activation (27-29). We tested whether PTMs of the SOX2 TAD affect the protein-protein interactions of SOX2. We performed co-IP against FLAG from nuclear extracts of either fS248A-Tg or fSOX2-Tg cells and used quantitative mass spectrometry to identify proteins that were enriched with either 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> or 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>. We identified 73 and 50 proteins (>2 peptides for ID) that were enriched at least two fold with 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> and 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup>, respectively (Figure 9A). Western blotting corroborated the mass spectrometric data, exhibiting differential interactions between 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> or 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> and the queried protein (Figure 9B). Many of the proteins enriched by either 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> or 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> cells are in transcriptional regulatory complexes and are known to co-purify with SOX2 (Figure 9A) (30-33). In general, known protein complexes were enriched as a unit with either 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> or with 3xF-

**Figure 9** SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> interacts with a different subset of proteins than SOX2<sup>WT</sup>. **A**, Interaction diagram of a subset of proteins that differentially interact with 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> and 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>. Proteins (circles) are grouped and connected by lines according to String. Size and color of circle indicates the enrichment score and with which SOX2 the protein interacts, respectively. Dotted lines indicate the protein was identified and quantitated with a single peptide. **B**, Western blots against a subset of differentially interacting proteins corroborate the MS data. **C**, Depletion of proteins differentially interacting with SOX2 show cell-line specific contributions to self-renewal. Proteins identified to differentially interact with 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> or 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> were depleted with siRNAs and assayed for AP staining three days after transfection. Loss or gain of AP activity was measured as described in Methods. \*, ( $p < 0.05$ , T-test) differences in changes of AP staining between fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells when the gene of interest is depleted compared to *Gfp*. ° indicates  $p < 0.1$ .



SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>. For example, several components of the PARP-XRCC and the DNA mismatch repair (MMR) system were enriched by 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>, whereas components of the NuRD complex were significantly enriched in 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup>. We were able, however, to identify subunits that behaved discordantly. MBD3 and MTA3, both of which can be part of the NuRD complex were enriched in SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> rather than SOX2<sup>WT</sup>. Similarly, some subunits of the SWI/SNF complex, a nucleosome remodeling complex known to associate with SOX2 (34), associated more with 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> while others with 3F-SOX2<sup>WT</sup>. Together, these results demonstrate that the S248A mutation alters the protein-protein interactions of SOX2, suggesting O-GlcNAc regulates the transcriptional activity of SOX2 by recruiting different chromatin modifying complexes.

### **Differential SOX2 interactors have different contributions towards maintaining self-renewal in fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells**

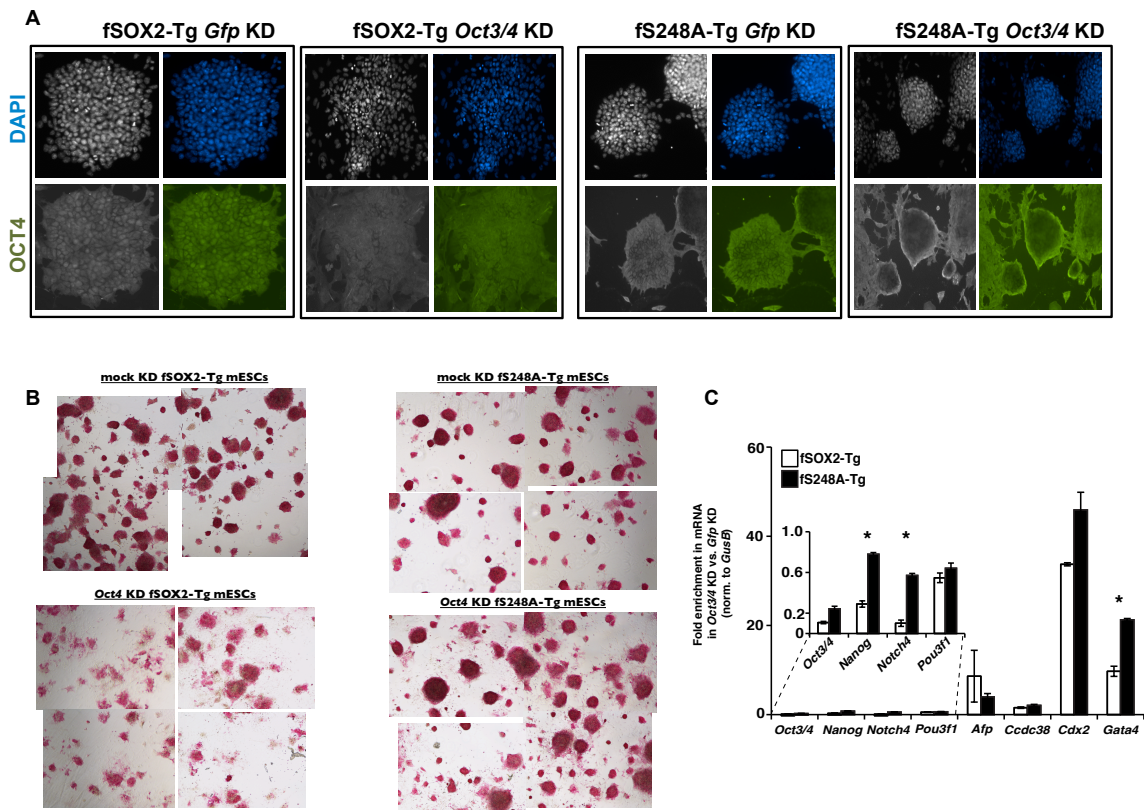
Because S248A and WT SOX2 co-purified with different transcriptional complexes, we asked whether these SOX2-form-specific interactions had different functional consequences in fSOX2-Tg or fS248A-Tg cells. We used siRNA pools to knock down mRNA levels of proteins enriched with either 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> (*GataD2b*, *Mta2*, *Dnmt1*, *Pou5f1/Oct3/4*) or 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> (*Parp1*, *Xrcc5*, *Smarca4*, *Mbd3*) and analyzed AP activity. Quantitation of AP staining between fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells showed that knockdown of *Msh2*, *Mbd3*, *GataD2b* and *Pou5f1/Oct4* showed significant differences ( $p < 0.05$ ) in the percent change in AP activity when compared to *Gfp* knockdown (**Figure 9C**).

*Parp1* and *Xrcc5* also showed differences in changes of AP activity between fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells though they were less statistically significant ( $p < 0.1$ ). *Smarca4*, *Mta2* and *Dnmt1* knockdown showed no difference in AP activity between the two cell lines. Qualitative assessment of ESC colony morphology also supported these findings (Appendix II). These data suggest that the protein complex-specific contributions towards the maintenance of pluripotency and self-renewal is regulated by certain SOX2 PTM states.

### **SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> alters transcriptional and/or cellular landscape**

The altered gene expression profile of fS248A-Tg cells (Figure 6D), and the resistance to *Pou5f1/Oct4* knockdown (Figure 9C) suggested that this mutation may promote self-renewal at the expense of differentiation. Therefore, we further examined the effects of OCT4 depletion, which promotes ESC differentiation (35). siRNA-mediated knockdown of OCT4 showed a smaller decrease in AP activity staining (Figure 9C) and almost no change in colony morphology when compared to comparable knockdown in fSOX2-Tg cells (Figure 10A-B). We next measured the mRNA levels of the pluripotency marker *Nanog*, along with several genes associated with OCT4 depletion-mediated differentiation (*Notch4*, *Pou3f1*, *Afp*, *Ccdc38*, *Cdx2*, and *Gata4*). As expected, OCT4 depletion had a smaller effect on the repression of *Nanog* transcription in fS248A-Tg cells than in fSOX2-Tg cells. Both cell lines showed activation of differentiation genes three days after OCT4 depletion. However, the transcripts for *Notch4* and *Gata4*, and to a lesser extent *Cdx2*, were activated to a greater

**Figure 10** fS248A-Tg cells are more refractory to self-renewal loss while simultaneously activating differentiation genes. **A**, fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg were depleted of OCT4 with siRNAs for three days and IF stained against OCT4. Images show efficient depletion of OCT4 in both fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells. **B**, Colony morphology and AP staining of fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells three days after OCT4 depletion. Four fields of view were acquired. **C**, RT-qPCR measurements of genes expressed during OCT4-knockdown mediated trophectoderm differentiation comparing fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells.



extent in fS248A-Tg cells than in the fSOX2-Tg line (Figure 10C). Together, these results indicate that colony morphology and AP activity is uncoupled from the transcriptional state of ESCs. These results also demonstrate that SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> can simultaneously promote self-renewal and differentiation transcriptional networks, which suggests that O-GlcNAc inhibits SOX2 activity independent of cellular identity.



## Discussion

SOX2 is a versatile transcription factor in that it is essential to establish and maintain stem cell self-renewal and is also important for lineage specification. The broad developmental potential of SOX2 is, in part, regulated by its extensive PTMs. However, the post-translationally modified states of SOX2, and how they regulate certain transcriptional networks, are not understood.

Here, we unbiasedly characterized the PTMs of SOX2 in ESCs. We found that SOX2 primarily exists as modified by *O*-GlcNAc, a regulatory glycosylation that is poorly understood. We used ETD MS to directly measure the stoichiometries of the *O*-GlcNAcylation and the nearby phosphorylation that occur within the TAD. Over one-third of SOX2 molecules in ESCs are glycosylated at S248. Mutational analysis of the predominant *O*-GlcNAc site showed that substitution of SOX2<sup>WT</sup> with an *O*-GlcNAc deficient version (SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>) increased the ability of SOX2 to up-regulate the pluripotency transcriptional network and down-regulate genes associated with differentiation. These alterations in gene expression was accompanied by increased association of SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> with distal regulatory elements but not at promoter regions. These results suggest that *O*-GlcNAc inhibits the long-range regulatory activities of SOX2.

The TAD is the region of SOX2 responsible for its interaction with other transcription factors and transcriptional machinery. We reasoned that because

the TAD possessed a diverse set of PTMs, changes in these modifications might regulate the transcriptional activity of SOX2. We purified 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> and 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> from ESCs and identified proteins that were enriched with WT or mutant. We identified several transcriptional regulatory complexes that were specifically enriched with either SOX2<sup>WT</sup> or SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>. SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> specifically interacts with two complexes involved in DNA damage, the PARP/XRCC and the MMR complex. SOX2, along with OCT4, have been previously shown to interact with another DNA damage complex that activates *Nanog* transcription (36). Our data suggests that the PARP/XRCC and the MMR complex may regulate ESC self-renewal, in addition to genome integrity. Further studies will be needed to determine which protein of the respective complexes directly interacts with SOX2, and to which PTM form the complex is recruited (Figure 2A).

We identified the nucleosome remodeling/deacetylase (NuRD) complex enriched with SOX2<sup>WT</sup>. The NuRD complex is a chromatin modifying complex known to interact with pluripotency transcription factors (37), inhibit pluripotency gene expression in ESCs (38, 39), and suppress somatic cell reprogramming (40, 41). The capacity of SOX2<sup>WT</sup> to recruit the NuRD complex may account for the transcriptional suppressive effects of SOX2<sup>WT</sup> in both ESC and in somatic cell reprogramming (see previous chapter). The specific enrichment of the NuRD complex with SOX2<sup>WT</sup> also implies that a subunit of the complex may be able to specifically recognize GlcNAc-S248. There are currently no known O-GlcNAc binding domains, besides the O-GlcNAc hydrolase. Future work will be

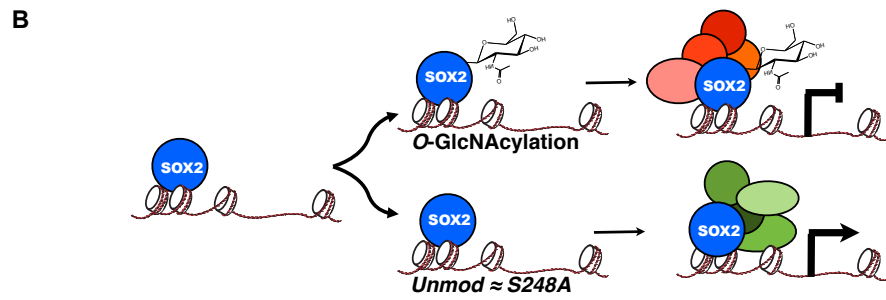
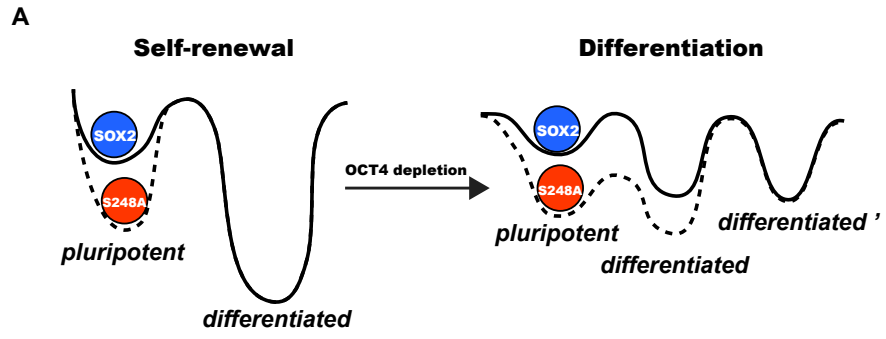
necessary to dissect the mechanism by which the NuRD complex is recruited to SOX2<sup>WT</sup> but not SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>.

O-GlcNAc signaling is essential for embryo and ESC viability (14-17). However, O-GlcNAc site identification, as well as investigation into the function of these glycosylation events in ESCs, is in its infancy. This study shows that despite the necessity for global O-GlcNAc in ESC self-renewal, key pillars of pluripotency are inhibited by O-GlcNAc. The O-GlcNAcylation of SOX2 may serve to inhibit the transcription factor in an unperturbed state while allowing for rapid activation upon proper developmental cues (Figure 4) or abrupt changes in DNA binding partners (42) (Figure 10C). The ability of SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> to simultaneously promote pluripotency and trophectoderm transcriptional networks during OCT4 depletion (Figure 10C) suggests that the PTM state of SOX2 alters the “energy potential landscape” of ESCs both during self-renewing conditions and during differentiation (Figure 11A). Whether this propensity for differentiation is specific for OCT4 depletion, extends to the commitment of specific lineages (neural or primitive ectoderm lineages) or is a general phenomenon remains to be determined.

This work provides a new insights into the regulation of SOX2 through the O-GlcNAcylation of the TAD and the differential recruitment of transcriptional regulatory complexes (Figure 11B). The ability of SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> to induce a more naive pluripotent state in ESCs while possessing the ability to promote

differentiation illustrates that TAD PTMs have a profound affect on controlling transcriptional networks. Finally, this study demonstrates the role of O-GlcNAc in pluripotency and and transcriptional regulation is more complex than previously appreciated.

**Figure 11** The S248A mutation alters the “energy landscape” of cellular identity and alters interactions with transcriptional regulatory machinery. **A**, SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> changes in the energy landscape, as in chemical reactions, of the cell state and differentiation. Under self-renewing conditions (left) SOX2<sup>WT</sup> (blue circle) keeps cells in a potential well of a certain depth (solid line), keeping the bulk of cells in the pluripotent state and out of a differentiated state. SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> (red circle) deepens the pluripotency well, preventing spurious differentiation under self-renewing conditions (dashed line). Under differentiation conditions, as in loss of OCT4, the energy landscape changes increasing the potential of towards various differentiation states. SOX2<sup>S248A</sup> can simultaneously deepen the pluripotency well while lowering the “kinetics” of differentiation. **B**, SOX2 O-GlcNAcylation regulates transcription by altering protein-protein interactions. SOX2 exists in two major PTM states, unmodified (bottom) and O-GlcNAc modified (top). The unmodified state, simulated by S248A, recruits transcriptional activating complexes (green circles), while the O-GlcNAc modified SOX2 recruits transcriptionally repressive complexes (red circles).



## **Materials and Methods**

### **Cell Culture**

Mouse embryonic stem cells (ESCs) were routinely passaged by standard methods in ESC media (KO-DMEM, 10% FBS, 2 mM glutamine, 1X non-essential amino acids, 1x penicillin/streptomycin, 0.1 mM  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol and recombinant leukemia inhibitory factor). Tagged SOX2 cell lines were cultured in ESC media with 1ug/mL doxycycline hyclate (Sigma). MCF7 and MDA-MB-453 breast cancer cells were cultured using standard protocols. Transient transfections were done with Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen) according to manufactures instructions.

### **Cell Line Derivation**

2TS22C mouse ESCs (accession number AES0125), the parental cell line for derivation of tagged SOX2 lines (1), were obtained through Riken BioResource Center. To create the fSOX2-Tg ESC line, 4 ug of the plasmid CAG-3xF-Sox2 was transfected with Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen) into a 6-well plate containing 2TS22C cells. 2TS22C mouse ESCs express SOX2 under control of a tetracycline-repressible system. Twenty-four hours after transfection 1 ug/mL doxycycline was added to silence expression of the TetO SOX2. Forty-eight hours after transfection, 7 ug/mL puromycin was added, to select for the integration and expression of CAG-3xF-Sox2. After about two weeks, colonies exhibiting the typical ESC morphology were expanded and tested via western

blot, morphology and alkaline phosphatase staining (Clontech). The same strategy was used to generate the fS248A-Tg and haSOX2-Tg ESC lines

### **Plasmids**

CAG-3xF-Sox2 was constructed by inserting mouse Sox2 cDNA into pCMV-3xFLAG 7.1 (Sigma) and then subcloning 3xF-Sox2 via InFusion cloning (Clontech) into CAG-HA-Sox2-IP (Addgene plasmid 13459), replacing the HA tag with the triply FLAG tagged. S248A mutations in CAG-3xF-Sox2 were performed with Quickchange site directed mutagenesis (Stratagene) (primers available upon request).

### **Antibodies and alkaline phosphatase**

Antibodies were purchased from Abcam (NANOG ab70482, SOX2 ab75179, TUBULIN GTU-88 ab11316, Histone H3 ab1791, HA tag ab13834), Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank (SUMO-1 21C7 and SUMO-2 8A2), Reprocell (for IF, NANOG, RCAB002P-F), SIGMA (OGT DM-17 and FLAG A8592) Bethyl (BRG1 A300-813A, PARP1 A301-375A, GATAD2B 301-281A) and Abmax (MTA2 500-10034). Secondary antibodies were purchased from BioRad (172-1019 & 172-1011). Anti-FLAG magnetic beads were purchased from SIGMA (M8823). Alkaline phosphatase activity staining was performed according to manufactures instructions (Stemgent).

### **SOX2 Purification for PTM characterization**



fSOX2-Tg cells were expanded to one to three 15 cm<sup>2</sup> dishes depending on the experiment. Cells were harvested by trypsinization, washed once with cold PBS and frozen in liquid N<sub>2</sub>. Whole cell pellets were lysed in RIPA buffer without SDS, containing 500 nM Thiamet G (Caymen Chemicals), 1X HALT protease and phosphatase inhibitors (Pierce), 2 mM TCEP (Sigma) and 20 mM *N*-ethylmaleimide (Sigma) and sonicated (with a probe sonicator on methanol ice for three rounds of pulses, 3 secs on, 2 off, 10 seconds total, at 35%). Anti-FLAG-based purifications were performed with anti-FLAG M2 Dynabeads (Sigma). Whole cell lysates were incubated with M2 beads at room temperature for 75 minutes, washed once with lysis buffer and three times with 25mM ammonium bicarbonate (ABC) with 150 mM NaCl. Proteins were eluted with 100 mM glycine pH 4. Western blot and SDS-PAGE analysis was used to assess purification efficiency. For HA-SOX2 purification, anti-HA antibodies were coupled to aldehyde-coated magnetic beads (BioClone) via reductive amination in 20 mM bicine pH 7.8 and purified as above.

### **Mass spectrometric analysis**

Silver or Coomassie stained SDS-PAGE gel bands were excised and digested in-gel with sequence grade trypsin (Roche). After 5% formic acid/50% acetonitrile extraction, peptides were dried by vacuum centrifugation, gel particulates were removed via C18 Zip Tips (Millipore), dried, resuspended in 0.1% formic acid and analyzed by LC MS/MS. Chromatography was performed on a Nanoacquity HPLC (Waters) at 400 nl/min with a BEH130 C18 75 μm ID x150mm column

(Waters). A 90- or 120-minute gradient from 98% solvent A (0.1% formic acid) to 22% solvent B (0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile) was used. Peptides were analyzed by an LTQ-Orbitrap Velos mass spectrometer (Thermo). After the survey scan of  $m/z$  400-1,600 was measured in the Orbitrap at 30,000 resolution, the top three multiply charged ions were selected for both HCD and ETD. Automatic gain control for MS/MS was set to 2000. Normalized collision energy for HCD was set at 35 while the ETD activation time was charge state dependent, based on 100 ms for doubly charge precursors. Supplemental activation was implemented for ETD reactions. Dynamic exclusion of precursor selection was set for 25 seconds.

### **Data analysis**

Fragment mass spectra were converted into peaklists using the in-house software PAVA. HCD and ETD data were searched separately using ProteinProspector version 5.10.0 against the UniProt database with a concatenated database. Only mouse and human genomes were used for the database searching. Precursor tolerance was set to 10 ppm, whereas fragment mass error tolerance was set to 0.6 Da for ETD and 20 ppm for HCD. *N*-terminal acetylation, methionine oxidation, loss of *N*-terminal methionine and glutamate conversion to pyroglutamate were allowed as variable modifications. For ETD data, HexNAc modifications to serine and threonine residues and phosphorylation to serine/threonine/tyrosine was allowed as variable mass modifications. For HCD, phosphorylation was searched the same way though

HexNAc was considered as a neutral loss. Methylation (mono, di- and tri-) of K and R, monomethylation of D, E and H (artifact from MeOH fixing PAGE gels), acetylation of K and R, and ADP-ribosylation to C, E, K, N, S, and R were searched separately. SLIP scoring was used to distinguish possible positional isomers of HexNAc and/or phosphopeptides (43). Relative abundances of each modified or unmodified peptide were calculated using the ICIS area calculated from XICs in Xcalibur (Thermo) at a 10 ppm mass tolerance.

### **Targeted ETD analysis**

For targeted analysis, the mass spectrometer was set to constantly perform ETD (66.6 ms reaction time) on any precursor ions of 635.6 m/z within an isolation window of 3 Da. Product ions were measured in the ion trap. All spectra containing the charged reduced species ( $M^+ + 3H^{2+} = 935.7$  m/z) within 500 ppm were summed together and used to estimate product ion peak area. ICIS calculated areas of product ion XICs in Xcalibur were used for relative quantitation.

### **Synthetic (glyco)peptide synthesis and analysis**

Materials obtained commercially were reagent grade and were used without further purification.  $^1H$  NMR and  $^{13}C$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian 400 spectrometer at 400 and 100 MHz, respectively. LC MS was used to confirm mass and purity of >95%. Fmoc-Ser( $\beta$ -D-GlcNAc(Ac)<sub>3</sub>)OH) was synthesized as previously described (44), Fmoc-Ser( $\beta$ -D-GlcNAc(Ac)<sub>3</sub>)OH) containing peptide

was synthesized by solid state peptide synthesis (Pierce), and the O-acetyl groups were removed from the O-GlcNAc containing peptide as previously described (45).

FMOC-Ser( $\beta$ -D-GlcNAc(Ac)<sub>3</sub>)OH. White powder; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  1.70 (s, 3H), 1.88 (s, 3H), 1.94 (s, 3H), 1.97 (s, 3H), 3.63-3.76 (m, 3H), 3.80-3.93 (m, 2H), 4.14-4.26 (m, 6H), 4.68 (d, 1H, J = 8Hz), 4.78 (t, 1H, J = 12Hz), 5.06 (t, 1H, J = 8Hz), 7.24-7.41 (m, 5H), 7.70 (d, 2H, J = 8Hz), 7.86 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO, 100 MHz)  $\delta$  21.01, 21.08, 21.17, 21.72, 23.26, 47.26, 53.72, 54.75, 62.42, 62.44, 66.52, 69.13, 71.51, 73.18, 100.92, 120.71, 120.77, 125.89, 125.94, 127.71, 127.75, 128.31, 141.36, 141.38, 144.48, 156.59, 169.92, 170.20, 170.31, 170.72, 171.85; LCMS molecular ion predicted for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>37</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>13</sub> = 657.23, found 657.21.

Unmodified and O-GlcNAc modified SOX2 peptides were dissolved in 0.1% formic acid and measured individually, and then combined at a 1:1 ratio. LC-MS measurements were conducted on an LTQ-FT-ICR mass spectrometer (Thermo) at a resolution of 30,000. 25 fmols of each peptide were combined and measured.

### **Analysis of 3xF-SOX2 interactors**

Six to ten 10 cm<sup>2</sup> plates worth of haSOX2-Tg, fSOX2-Tg or fS248A-Tg cells were harvested for nuclear extract preparations. Nuclear extracts were as previously

described with minor modifications (46). Buffers A, C and D were supplemented with 2  $\mu$ M Thiamet G, 2  $\mu$ M PUGNAc (Tocris) and 1X HALT protease, and phosphatase inhibitors and instead of dialysis of extracts, two volumes of buffer D were used to dilute salt concentration. Seven  $\mu$ L of M2 beads per 10cm<sup>2</sup> plate were used per co-IP and samples were nutated at 4°C for two hours. Beads were washed once with Buffer D plus inhibitors, then twice with 50 mM ABC with 150 mM NaCl. Each wash was only as long as it took to transfer the beads to a new, cold tube and place on the magnetic rack. Beads were then resuspended in 50  $\mu$ L 100 mM ABC with 500 ng trypsin and shaken at 37C for one hour. Supernatant was transferred to a new tube, the beads were washed once with 50  $\mu$ L ABC and combined to digest overnight. Digestions were desalted with one or two Zip Tips, depending on size of experiment, and dried via vacuum centrifugation. IP-WB experiments were performed similarly except proteins were eluted with 2X SDS-PAGE loading buffer without reducing agent.

Chromatography was performed on a Nanoacquity HPLC (Waters) at 400 nl/min with an EASY-spray C18, 3  $\mu$ m particle size, 75  $\mu$ m ID x15 cm column and source (Thermo). A 90-minute gradient from 98% solvent A (0.1% formic acid) to 30% solvent B (0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile) was used. Peptides were analyzed on a Q-Exactive Plus mass spectrometer (Thermo). After the survey scan of m/z 400-1,600 was measured in the Orbitrap at 60,000 resolution, the top ten multiply charged ions were selected for HCD and measured at 17,500

resolution. Normalized collision energy for HCD was set at 35, and the dynamic exclusion of precursor selection was set for 25 seconds.

XIC for all peptides identified in at least one sample were extracted using Skyline (47) and the MS1 filter settings. The intensity for each peptide was normalized to the median intensity of all SOX2 peptides in the respective run, excluding the TAD peptide and any PTM forms. The normalized peptide intensities were compared by  $\log_2$  transforming the ratio of the normalized peptides from the fSOX2-Tg samples to the normalized peptides from the fS248A-Tg samples (**Figure peptide distb**). The median protein intensity from all (at least two) peptides was used to determine the enrichment score, which is the absolute value of the  $\log_2$  value. An arbitrary enrichment score cutoff of 1 (two-fold enrichment) was used as the minimum enrichment. The distribution of median protein enrichment scores was used to determine proteins enriched by their respective SOX2 forms greater than two standard deviations.

### **Microarray and RT-qPCR analysis**

Total RNA was extracted with Trizol (Invitrogen) according to manufactures instructions. Arraystar (<http://www.arraystar.com>) prepped and hybridized the samples, and performed the data analysis.

For RT-qPCR, 1  $\mu\text{g}$  total RNA was reverse transcribed to cDNA with iScript (Biorad), diluted 1:20 or 1:50, depending on the abundance of the transcript, and 4  $\mu\text{L}$  was used. Quantitative PCR was performed on a CFX Connect™ Real-time

PCR detection system (Biorad) with SensiFast™ SYBR Lo-ROX PCR master mix (Bioline, BIO-94020). Fold enrichment was determined by  $2^{-(\Delta Cq)}$  method ( $\Delta Cq = Cq(\text{gene}) - Cq(\text{GusB})$ ).

### ***In vitro* SOX2-OGT reaction**

The recombinant OGT expression plasmid was a generous gift from Suzanne Walker. OGT was expressed as previously described (48). Mouse Sox2 was cloned into pPRO EX Hta (Invitrogen) and expressed the same way as OGT. Both poly-His tagged proteins were purified by Ni-NTA agarose resin (Qiagen), eluted and buffer exchanged into 50 mM TRIS, pH 7.8, 300 mM NaCl. GlcNAc or UDP-GlcNAc was added to 10 mM and reactions were carried out at room temperature overnight. Reactions were run on and excised from an SDS-PAGE gel and analyzed by MS.

### **siRNA knockdown**

siRNAs were created by as previously described (49). Five thousand cells per 6-well were plated the night prior to transfection. PCR products for the *in vitro* transcription were chosen from the Riddle database. Primers available upon request.

### **ChIP-seq**

ChIP was performed as previously described (50).

### **Quantitation of AP staining**

Cells were stained for AP activity three days post transfection of siRNA pools. Images were taken on a Nikon Eclipse Ti microscope. Automatic colony identification and calculation of “mean brightness” of each individual colony in a field of view was performed using the NIS-Elements Br software was used. Two images from opposing quadrants of the well were used for mean brightness measurements per biological replicate. The percent change was calculated using the difference in mean brightness between the knockdown of the gene of interest and the *Gfp* knockdown cells, and was normalized to the mean brightness of *Gfp* treated cells.



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## **Chapter 6**

*Characterization of O-GlcNAcylation of the C-terminal domain of RPB1*

## Introduction

Human RNA polymerase II (pol II) possesses a unique C-terminal domain (CTD) that consists of 52 imperfect repeats of the amino acid sequence  $Y_1S_2P_3T_4S_5P_6S_7$  (Figure 1). This heptad repeat is well-characterized to exist in an unmodified form (pol IIA), or phosphorylated (pol IIO) at serines 2, 5 and 7. The current model of the transcription cycle proposes that pol II forms a preinitiation complex (PIC) in its unmodified form, where its CTD, lacks any post-translational modifications. The CTD is then phosphorylated during initiation and again during elongation. These phosphorylation events of the CTD do not affect enzymatic activity of RPB1 but rather alter the recruitment of various post-transcriptional mRNA processing factors during elongation. While the phosphorylation of a single heptad repeat has been characterized, the phosphorylation patterns of CTD purified from cells has not been characterized.

In 1993, Kelly, Dahmus and Hart showed that pol IIA contained a population that was O-GlcNAcylated, calling into question the theory that pol IIA is truly unmodified (1). Recent studies have showed that O-GlcNAc cycling is necessary for *in vitro* transcription, and that inhibition of OGA inhibited formation (2). Edman degradation of the O-GlcNAc modified pol IIA species suggested that  $T_4$  and  $S_5$  were glycosylated (1). Serines are labile during Edman degradation (3) and may have underrepresented serine 5 O-GlcNAcylation. Moreover, mutational analysis (S/T to A) of the CTD and subsequent enzymatic reaction with UDP-GlcNAc and recombinant OGT (rOGT) suggested that  $S_5$  and  $S_7$ , but not  $T_4$ , are



the major O-GlcNAcylated residues. However, no direct evidence of CTD O-GlcNAcylation (pol II $\gamma$ ) has been reported.

## Results

We performed LC-MS/MS of a glutathione S-transferase fused to a CTD containing the human repeats 27-52 (GST-CTD) treated with rOGT and UDP-GlcNAc. We chose the 27-52 repeats because this half of the CTD yields tryptic peptides amenable for MS/MS (Figure 1). Collisional activation (HCD) of GST-CTD tryptic peptides provided evidence of a HexNAc modification on the 33<sup>rd</sup> and the 43<sup>rd</sup> repeat of the CTD. Electron transfer dissociation (ETD) MS/MS identified O-GlcNAcylation of serine 5 in CTD repeat 33 and S2 of repeat 43 (Figure 2). This indicates that serine 5 is a direct target of OGT. In contrast, we did not observe any O-GlcNAcylation of T4 *in vitro*. These data suggest that the previously observed block to TFIIH-dependent phosphorylation of the serine 5 residue of the CTD (2, 4) is likely due to O-GlcNAcylation of serine 5.

We next asked whether we could identify CTD O-GlcNAc sites on pol II purified from cells. To detect pol II $\gamma$  from cells we first immunoprecipitated pol II, O-GlcNAc (with the RL2 antibody), or TBP from chromatin preps. We then reversed the formaldehyde crosslinks and performed a second IP on the de-crosslinked material using an anti-O-GlcNAc antibody (110.6). These “ChIP-IPs” were then analyzed by western blots probing for RNA pol II (Figure 3).

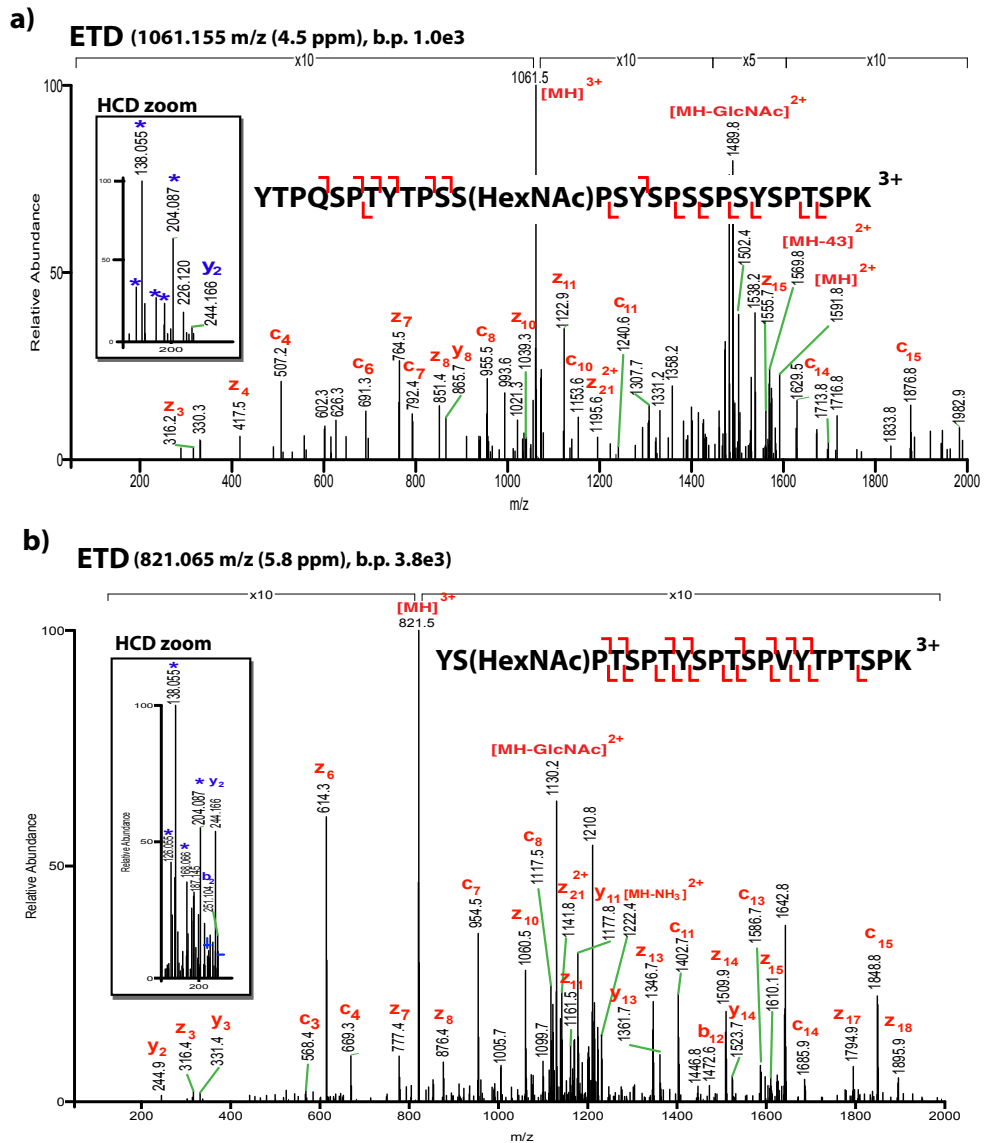
**Figure 1** Heptad peptide repeats of the human pol II CTD. Adapted from (9).

<b>1</b>	YSPTSPA	<b>19</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>37</b>	YSPTSPE
<b>2</b>	YEPRSPGG	<b>20</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>38</b>	YSPTSPK
<b>3</b>	YTPQSPS	<b>21</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>39</b>	YSPTSPK
<b>4</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>22</b>	YSPTSPN	<b>40</b>	YSPTSPK
<b>5</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>23</b>	YSPTSPN	<b>41</b>	YSPTSPT
<b>6</b>	YSPTSPN	<b>24</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>42</b>	YSPTTPK
<b>7</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>25</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>43</b>	YSPTSPT
<b>8</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>26</b>	YSPTSPN	<b>44</b>	YSPTSPV
<b>9</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>27</b>	YSPTSPN	<b>45</b>	YTPTSPK
<b>10</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>28</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>46</b>	YSPTSPT
<b>11</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>29</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>47</b>	YSPTSPK
<b>12</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>30</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>48</b>	YSPTSPT
<b>13</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>31</b>	YSPSSPS	<b>49</b>	YSPTSPKGST
<b>14</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>32</b>	YTPQSPT	<b>50</b>	YSPTSPG
<b>15</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>33</b>	YTPSSPS	<b>51</b>	YSPTSPT
<b>16</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>34</b>	YSPSSPS	<b>52</b>	YSLTSPAISPDDSDEEN
<b>17</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>35</b>	YSPTSPK		
<b>18</b>	YSPTSPS	<b>36</b>	YTPTSPS		

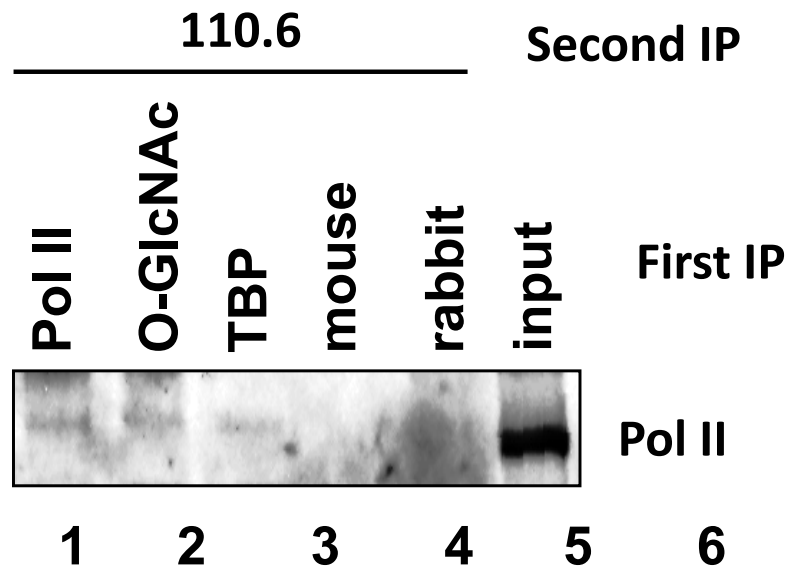
**Y<sub>1</sub>S<sub>2</sub>P<sub>3</sub>T<sub>4</sub>S<sub>5</sub>P<sub>6</sub>S<sub>7</sub>**

Consensus sequence

**Figure 2** Identification of CTD O-GlcNAcylation. ETD mass spectrum of the GST-CTD repeat 33 modified by *N*-acetylglucosamine (HexNAc) at the serine 5 position. b) ETD mass spectrum of the GST-CTD repeat 43 modified by *N*-acetylglucosamine (HexNAc) at the serine 2 position. Inset labeled “HCD zoom” indicates the detection of the HexNAc oxonium ion and fragments thereof (denoted by \*) by higher energy collisional dissociation (HCD) from the same precursor. b.p., base peak.



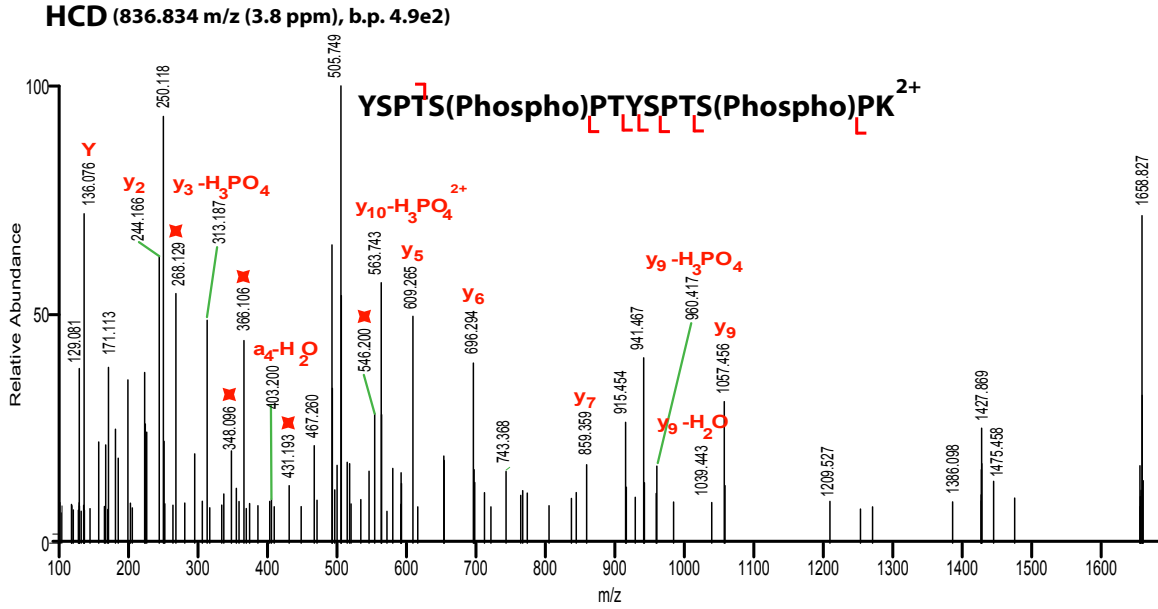
**Figure 3** Detection of pol II $\gamma$  in cells. Western blot for pol II following double immunoprecipitation for a variable first factor and O-GlcNAc as the second factor shows an O-GlcNAcylated Pol II species at TBP-bound regions.



Lane 1 shows that pol II $\gamma$  was detected after a second IP with the anti-O-GlcNAc antibody, indicating that pol II $\gamma$  exists on chromatin in vivo. Lane 2 shows that 110.6 can specifically recover O-GlcNAc-modified pol II, as does TBP in lane 3. TBP IPs of chromatin are specifically pulling out promoters since TBP is a promoter-specific factor and part of the PIC. The reversal of crosslinking of the TBP IP followed by the O-GlcNAc IP and detection of pol II in that IP indicates that pol II $\gamma$  is present on promoters in vivo.

To identify sites of O-GlcNAcylation on the CTD, we analyzed RPB1 purified from cells by LC-MS/MS. RPB1 was immunoprecipitated from HEK293 cells stably expressing a FLAG-tagged RPB1, digested with trypsin and analyzed by LC-MS/MS. We were able to detect four phospho-CTD peptides, suggesting an appreciable stoichiometry of CTD phosphorylation (Table 1). Figure 4 shows the identification of a doubly phosphorylated CTD peptide where both serine 5 residues (according to the heptad numbering) were modified. We also identified a GlyGly modified CTD peptide, suggesting ubiquitinylation of the CTD. RPB1 ubiquitinylation has been reported previously and can have roles for both degradation and for pol II subunit composition (5-7). We were unable to detect the O-GlcNAc modification on CTD peptides. This could be due to the low stoichiometry of the modification or that O-GlcNAcylation that occurs in cells resides on the half of the CTD that does not yield tryptic peptides with appropriate charge density to be identified by MS/MS.

**Figure 4** HCD mass spectrum of a doubly phosphorylated CTD peptide from RPB1 purified from cells. b.p., base peak. Modified residues are S1913 and S1920 and correspond to S5 in the heptad repeat. Stars indicate internal fragment ions.



## Conclusions

Here, we showed that OGT can biochemically O-GlcNAcylate the CTD of RPB1 at serine 5 of CTD repeat 33 and at serine 2 of repeat 43. The identification of S5 O-GlcNAcylation is consistent with previous reports that used Edman degradation (4). S2 O-GlcNAcylation has not been reported previously. Mutational analysis of CTD O-GlcNAcylation did not propose S2 as a potential site of modification (2). This suggests that all heptad repeats in the CTD may not be equal and that OGT recognition of the CTD may be complex. Together, this data also suggest crosstalk between phosphorylation and O-GlcNAcylation to regulate transcription initiation.

ChIP-IP of RPB1 indicates that the CTD is O-GlcNAc modified in cells. However, we were unable to detect O-GlcNAc modifications by LC MS/MS. This is most likely due to the substoichiometric levels of pol II $\gamma$  in cells. Further effort will be dedicated to enriching the pol II $\gamma$  fraction to identify the O-GlcNAcylation state of the CTD.

The existence of pol II $\gamma$  as part of the PIC is both unexpected and outside the paradigms of transcriptional regulation. The presence of additional enzymatic processes in the PIC and their regulation by the nutrient state of the cell foreshadows a complex regulatory environment where nutrients play a direct role in transcriptional output by directly affecting the levels of RNA polymerase II and possibly the number of functional PICs, PIC stability, or initiation frequency and



length. Pol II $\gamma$  establishes a direct link between the promoter and its contents to the cellular physiological state, a link previously shown to be the purview only of DNA binding specific activators and repressors.

## **Experimental methods**

### **ChIP-IP**

Hela S3 cells were grown in DMEM/10% FBS/pen-strep to approximately 70 to 80% confluency and were crosslinked with 1% formaldehyde for 10 minutes. The reaction was quenched with 125 mM glycine for 10 mins. Cells were harvested and  $1 \times 10^7$  cells were resuspended in 1 ml lysis buffer (50 mM Tris pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM EDTA, 10% glycerol, 1% Triton X-100, and Complete mini EDTA-free protease inhibitor cocktail tablet [Roche]). Cells were sonicated with a Misonic Sonicator (20 seconds on, 40 seconds off) for a total of 1 minute and then rotated for 30 minutes with DNase I, 3 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> and 3 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature. Lysate was incubated overnight with initial antibodies and then protein G beads for 2 hrs. The crosslinks were reversed in BC100 buffer (20 mM Tris pH 7.9, 100 mM KCl, 20% glycerol, 0.2 mM EDTA) overnight at 68°C. Supernatant was incubated with 110.6 (anti-O-GlcNAc), 110.6 with 0.5 M GlcNAc, or IgG mouse control overnight then with IgM beads for 2 hrs. Proteins were eluted from beads with sample buffer and run on a 4-12% gradient gel. Proteins were transferred to PVDF membrane and probed with 8WG16 (anti-pol II).

### **LC-MS/MS and data analysis**

OGT labeling of GST-CTD was done as described (2). GST-CTD fusion containing CTD repeats 27-52 were digested with 1:50 trypsin:substrate ratio at 37°C for three hours. Peptides were desalted and analyzed as previously

described (8) except the 90-minute LC gradient only reached 20% acetonitrile. Data was searched using Protein Prospector v 5.10.0. against the SwissProt database (21 March, 2012), where all 535248 entries, including the user added protein, GST-CTD amino acid sequence, was searched. Manual inspection for 204.087 m/z detection in HCD spectra was used to identify HexNAc modified peptides. In these instances, data was interpreted manually.

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**Table 1** Modified CTD peptides identified from RPB1 purified from cells

<b>Gene</b>	<b>m/z</b>	<b>z</b>	<b>ppm</b>	<b>DB Peptide</b>	<b>Variable Mods</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Expect</b>
Polr2a	796.8541	2	8.1	YSPTSPTYSPK	Phospho@5=10	36	1.10E-12
Polr2a	770.394	2	7.6	YSPTSPKYSPTSPK		39.8	1.70E-12
Polr2a	836.8365	2	6.8	YSPTSPTYSPK	Phospho@5=7;Phospho@12=7	24.4	1.80E-12
Polr2a	796.8541	2	8.1	YSPTSPTYSPK	Phospho@7 9 11	35.4	6.40E-12
Polr2a	827.4133	2	4.5	YSPTSPKYSPTSPK	GlyGly@7	16.2	7.90E-08

## **Chapter 7**

### *Characterization of TET2 post-translational modifications*

## **Abstract**

The TET proteins are emerging as important epigenetic regulators through the metabolism of methylated DNA. Hydroxylation of 5-methylcytosine by TETs is associated with activation of genes previously silenced by DNA methylation. In mammalian nuclei, TET proteins form stable complexes with OGT, which is also known to have functional roles in transcriptional regulation. While the OGT-TET complexes have been characterized, the O-GlcNAcylation state of TET proteins remains unclear. Here, we show that TET2 is heavily O-GlcNAcylated, possessing more than 50 O-GlcNAc sites. This work will allow functional studies for individual O-GlcNAc sites to be carried out.



## Introduction

The Ten-eleven translocation family of enzymes (TET1/2/3) are dioxygenases that hydroxylate 5-methylcytosine (5mC) to 5-hydroxymethylcytosine (5hmC). Both 5mC and 5hmC are DNA modifications that epigenetically regulate gene transcription in mammals. TET1/2/3 have been shown to physically interact with OGT and influence substrate O-GlcNAcylation (1, 2).

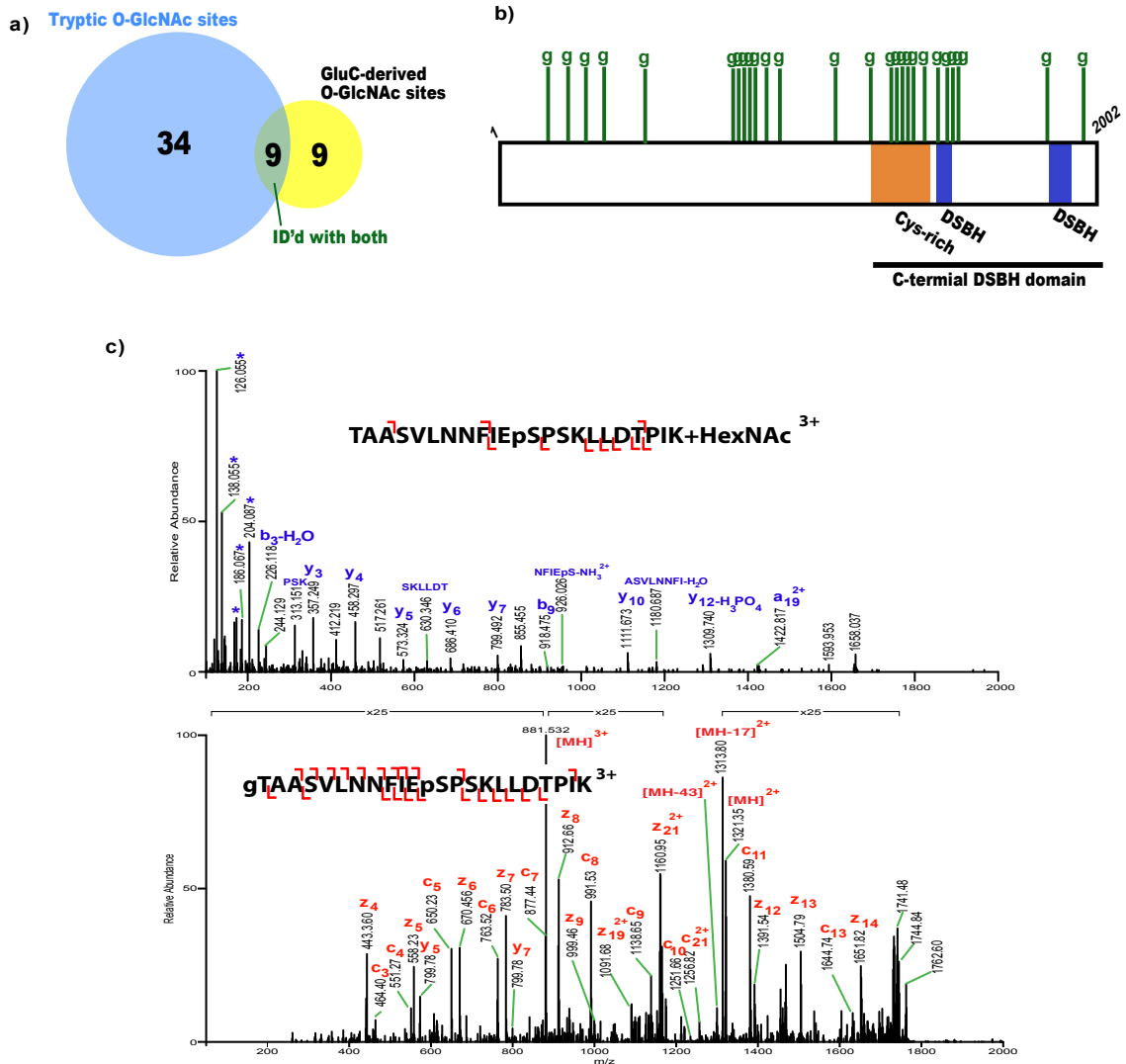
Recent studies have shown that the TET proteins act as scaffolding proteins to recruit OGT to chromatin. Once recruited, OGT glycosylates different sets of substrates depending on the presence or absence of TETs. While the function of the TET-OGT complex has been extensively studied, confusion remains about the O-GlcNAcylation state of the TET proteins. In mouse embryonic stem cells, both expressed TET proteins (TET1/2) are O-GlcNAc modified, though only on TET1 has an O-GlcNAc site been identified (3, 4). In HEK293 cells, where all three TET proteins are expressed, one study failed to detect TET2/3 O-GlcNAcylation (1), whereas another study identified all three TET proteins as O-GlcNAc modified (5), though no sites of O-GlcNAcylation were reported. Therefore, we sought to identify sites of O-GlcNAcylation on TET2 purified from HEK293 cells using liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry.

## Results and Discussion

TET2 was purified from HEK293 cells and subjected to proteolytic digestion using either trypsin or GluC. Both digests were analyzed by UPLC coupled to an ESI LTQ Orbitrap Velos mass spectrometer using both HCD and ETD. We identified 52 O-GlcNAc sites between the two digestion methods (Figure 1a). We also identified three dimethylarginine sites, six phosphorylation sites and two lysine acetylation sites (Table 1). The majority of the TET2 O-GlcNAcylation was localized to two regions, between amino acids 460-890 and 1015-1677 (Figure 1b). One co-modified peptide containing a single O-GlcNAc and a single phosphate was detected (Figure 1c).

Although OGT is known to form a stable complex with TET2 in several cell types, its O-GlcNAcylation status is poorly understood. Here, we show that TET2 is heavily glycosylated, consistent with its stable interaction with OGT. Of the two regions possessing the majority of TET2 O-GlcNAcylation, one is the double-strand  $\beta$ -helix domain (DSBH) and is responsible for the interaction between OGT and TET2 (6). This data suggests two non-mutually exclusive outcomes. First, the extensive O-GlcNAcylation of TET2 may be a result of forming a stable complex with OGT. Second, the O-GlcNAcylation of TET2 may functionally alter the activity of TET2 or alter the biomolecular interactions of TET2 with DNA or other proteins.

**Figure 1** Identification of TET2 O-GlcNAcylation. a) Overlap of O-GlcNAc sites on TET2 identified using trypsin or GluC. b) Diagram of TET2. Green “g” indicate approximately where O-GlcNAc sites were identified though not all sites are diagramed. Protein domains are indicated. Numbering according to Uniprot accession number Q6N021. DSBH, double-stranded  $\beta$ -helix. c) HCD (top) and ETD (bottom) mass spectra of a TET2 peptide co-modified by O-GlcNAc and phosphate.



This study shows unambiguously that TET2 expressed in HEK293 cells is O-GlcNAc modified, and that TET2 is heavily glycosylated. The site-specific assignment of O-GlcNAc sites on TET2 will allow functional characterization of the modification to determine whether catalytic activity or protein association of TET2 is affected by OGT. This work will enable further studies to understand the function of the TET-OGT complex and its role in transcriptional regulation.

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## **Materials and Methods**

### **Purification and preparation of TET2**

HEK293T (293T) cells were maintained in DMEM with 5 % FBS. The cells were plated at 70 % confluency (10 X 10 cm dishes) and transfected with 7 µg of pGCN-HA-HCF-1 FL using Polyethylenimine (2 mg/ml) in serum free media. Next day, the transfected cells were plated into 15X15cm dishes. Three days post-transfection, cells were harvested for HCF-1 purification. Total cell extracts were prepared using the lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.3; 5 mM EDTA; 300 mM NaCl; 10 mM NAF; 1% NP-40; 1 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF); 1 mM dithiothreitol; protease inhibitors cocktail (Sigma), and 5 µM PUGNAC (TRC)). Following centrifugation at 15000 rpm/30 min, the supernatant was incubated overnight at 4 °C with 200 µl of anti-HA-agarose beads (Sigma) (100 µl packed beads for 10 ml extract). The beads were washed several times with the lysis buffer and then transferred into a 800 µl chromatography columns (Biorad) for elution. Bound proteins were eluted with 200 µg/ml of HA peptide (sigma). The purified proteins were precipitated with cold TCA (30%), washed with cold acetone and resuspended in SDS-PAGE sample buffer for western blotting and Coomassie staining. Anti-HCF-1 antibodies, a generous gift from Winship Herr's laboratory, and the anti-O-GlcNAc antibody RL-2 (Santa Cruz Biotechnology) were used as previously described [29]. Following gel destaining, HCF-1 bands were cut from the gel, reduced with 2 mM TCEP (Thermo) for 30 minutes at 56°C, alkylated with iodoacetamide (Sigma) for 10 minutes at room temperature

in the dark and digested in-gel with 1:100 trypsin or GluC (Roche). Peptides were extracted with 5% formic acid and 50% acetonitrile, concentrated using C18 Ziptips (Millipore) and vacuum centrifugation followed by LC-MS/MS analysis.

### **LC MS/MS analysis**

Chromatography was performed on a Nanoacquity HPLC (Waters) at 600 nl/min with a BEH130 C18 75  $\mu$ M ID x150mm column (Waters). A 120-minute gradient from 2% solvent A (0.1% formic acid) to 35% solvent B (0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile) was used. Mass spectrometry was performed on an LTQ-Orbitrap Velos equipped with ETD (Thermo). Data dependent analysis selected the three most highly abundant, multiply charged ions within a 3 Da isolation window for subsequent HCD and ETD. Precursor scans and HCD product ions were measured in the Orbitrap at a resolution 30,000 and 7,500, respectively. For ions measured in the Orbitrap, one microscan of 250 ms injection time was used. ETD product ions were measured in the ion trap with one microscan, allowing 100 ms for ion injection time. Normalized activation energy and activation time for HCD was set to 30 and 30 msec, respectively. ETD activation time was charge state dependent, where doubly charged precursors reacted for 100 ms, triply charged for 66.6 msec, and so on. Automatic gain control for precursor ions was set at  $1e6$ ,  $5e4$  MS/MS scans and  $1e6$  for the ETD reagent, fluoranthene. Supplemental activation was enabled for ETD. Dynamic exclusion was set for 45 seconds.



## Data analysis

Raw data was converted to peaklists using in-house software called PAVA [7]. HCD and ETD peaklists were searched separately using Protein Prospector v 5.10.0. against the Swissprot database with a concatenated, decoy database (21 March, 2012) where 36,775 entries were searched. Only human and mouse genomes were searched. Precursor mass tolerance was set to 10 ppm, where fragment ion error was allowed at 20 ppm and 0.6 Da for HCD and ETD, respectively. Cysteine residues were assumed to be carbamidomethylated, variable modifications considered were *N*-terminal acetylation, *N*-terminal pyroglutamine conversion and methionine oxidation. Trypsin was allowed one missed cleavage, while GluC was allowed up to two. Proteins identified from this analysis were searched again allowing for HexNAc (neutral loss for HCD data) and phosphorylation of serine and threonines, acetylation, methylation and carbamidomethylation of lysines though only the former two for arginine residues. SLIP scoring was reported for all modification site localization [8] unless the modification site was ambiguous (a false localization rate of less than 5%), then manual interpretation was employed [9].

**Table 1** Modified peptides Protein Prospector output for TET2 peptides identified using trypsin and ETD. Bold indicates the residue was identified by hand. Strikethrough indicates that residue was ruled out.

m/z	z	ppm	DB Peptide	Variable Mods	Protein Mods	RT	Score	Expect
830.3967	3	5.7	CFGEQK SQQASV LQVKG	HexNAc@9=30	HexNAc@899=30	42.132	36.9	1.10E-07
775.8845	2	4.1	ESVSSVAQENAVK	HexNAc@5=9	HexNAc@153=9	27.4	38.394	4.30E-04
1153.2903	4	6.7	ESVSSVAQENAVK DFSTFSTHNGSGPENPELQLNEQEK	HexNAc@2=7	HexNAc@153=9	59.28	19.4	2.10E-04
583.8274	2	5.1	FIKSLAER	HexNAc@4	HexNAc@1970	36.649	23.3	4.40E-05
1080.2626	2	8.4	TEGKPEAPPQASQAPSTHVCSPSPMLSERPQNCVNR	Oxidation@25;HexNAc@10 16 17	Oxidation@475;HexNAc@460 466 467	20.4	20.4	7.80E-05
678.3285	3	5.2	IQVCSNTHLUSENK	HexNAc@4=6	HexNAc@833=6	41.57	38.2	2.70E-06
746.02	3	2.5	IQVCSNTHLUSENK	HexNAc@4=12;HexNAc@6 9 13	HexNAc@833=6	37.811	30	7.70E-06
738.5575	5	5.1	IQVCSNTHLUSENKEOITHPLEFAGNK	HexNAc@19=8;HexNAc@113	HexNAc@948=8;HexNAc@533 842	42.935	23.9	3.90E-05
779.1729	4	4.2	IQVCSNTHLUSENKEOITHPLEFAGNK	HexNAc@4=15;HexNAc@6&8 19 13&19	HexNAc@933=15;HexNAc@835&848 835&849 838&848 8	42.699	37.8	5.40E-08
872.1726	4	2.4	IQVCSNTHLUSENKEOITHPLEFAGNK	HexNAc@4 6 9 13	HexNAc@933 835 838 842	43.112	40.1	5.80E-07
922.9462	4	6.4	IQVCSNTHLUSENKEOITHPLEFAGNK	HexNAc@9&13 8&19 13&19	HexNAc@938&842 838&848 842&848	42.855	36.4	3.60E-07
973.7173	3	7.3	IQVCSNTHLUSENKEOITHPLEFAGNK	HexNAc@4=9;HexNAc@6=6;HexNAc@9 13 19 20	HexNAc@933=9;HexNAc@835=6;HexNAc@838 842 848 8	42.655	25.8	8.80E-05
1162.5649	3	5.7	IQVCSNTHLUSENKEOITHPLEFAGNK	HexNAc@4=7	HexNAc@933=7	43.184	16.5	4.80E-04
768.7104	3	6	KVTKQENPASCNDVQK	HexNAc@11=32	HexNAc@1015=32	27.077	32.3	3.50E-06
826.4027	3	4.5	KVTKQENPASCNDVQK	HexNAc@3;HexNAc@11	HexNAc@1007;HexNAc@1015	27.524	18.2	3.90E-05
793.7346	3	4.1	LAANLNTCSQKPEQLQK	Oxidation@4	Oxidation@310	46.188	40.6	9.90E-05
713.1311	4	6.8	LSIPPHHTLYQRFNGSGFTSK	HexNAc@8=15;Dimethyl@13	HexNAc@1677=15;Dimethyl@1682	53.171	44.3	2.40E-09
763.9018	4	7.5	LSIPPHHTLYQRFNGSGFTSK	HexNAc@8=10;Dimethyl@13;HexNAc@22=11	HexNAc@1677=10;Dimethyl@1682;HexNAc@1691=11	52.564	29.1	1.80E-06
697.6337	4	7.3	NDIQTAGTIVPLCSK	Oxidation@9	Oxidation@6	44.983	41	4.10E-07
884.1581	3	6.8	NEASLPSIQYQPNLSNQMITSK	HexNAc@6=7;Oxidation@19	HexNAc@882=7;Oxidation@600	57.036	37.2	7.70E-09
894.7572	4	5.3	NEASLPSIQYQPNLSNQMITSK	HexNAc@19 21 22	HexNAc@150 151 153	43.526	37.8	5.90E-07
834.1581	4	5.3	NEASLPSIQYQPNLSNQMITSK	HexNAc@19=20;Oxidation@8	HexNAc@150 151 153	35.523	16.8	4.40E-05
697.7954	2	5.1	NEPVSQTHKSSACK	HexNAc@7=21;HexNAc@8=34	HexNAc@624=21;HexNAc@625=34	25.262	19.9	3.40E-05
603.227	3	6.1	NEPVSQTHKSSACK	Oxidation@8;HexNAc@10=12	Oxidation@23;HexNAc@823=12	25.092	27.7	1.90E-07
670.9827	3	5.1	NEPVSQTHKSSACK	HexNAc@9=17	HexNAc@920=9;Oxidation@823;HexNAc@825=14	35.182	4.2	8.60E-08
674.0822	3	7.1	NEPVSQTHKSSACK	HexNAc@9=17;HexNAc@10=14	HexNAc@730=12;HexNAc@735 736	32.803	25	8.40E-06
966.133	3	6.1	QAAQIQPSQSHLPNQOQQK	HexNAc@7=21;HexNAc@8=34	HexNAc@624=21;HexNAc@625=34	30.344	30.9	1.80E-06
861.334	2	8.2	QATQKTTQLEHK	HexNAc@7 8	HexNAc@624 625	30.567	21.9	4.40E-06
889.935	2	6.1	QATQKTTQLEHK	HexNAc@11=7;Oxidation@18	HexNAc@1015	30.886	29.2	5.00E-06
606.606	3	3.5	QENPASCNDVQK	HexNAc@11=7;Oxidation@18	HexNAc@970=7;Oxidation@977	29.414	16.1	0.0012
784.104	4	4.7	QEQQQQYQPTFESHSQVHRPK	HexNAc@11=7;Oxidation@18	HexNAc@970=7;Oxidation@977	29.414	16.1	0.0012
785.3914	4	5.1	QHLNQASQETEPSNSHLLQKPKK	HexNAc@10 14 16	HexNAc@708 710 714 716	38.243	35.1	2.00E-07
919.0314	5	5.2	QPPQQQQRQQQQPHHQTSTVNSVSAQSTNPMR	Oxidation@37;HexNAc@21 23 26 28 30 32	Oxidation@157 0;HexNAc@1554 1556 1559 1561 1563 15	38.966	32.7	4.00E-07
959.6485	5	6.3	QPPQQQQRQQQQPHHQTSTVNSVSAQSTNPMR	HexNAc@21=9;Oxidation@37;HexNAc@28 30 32	HexNAc@1574=9;Oxidation@157 0;HexNAc@1561 1563 15	38.412	25.7	9.30E-06
300.2558	2	5	QSSVTK	HexNAc@215	HexNAc@384 385	32.783	15.2	0.0028
960.4526	3	5.4	QTAAELDSHTPALEQQTTTSEK	HexNAc@2=8;HexNAc@18 19 20	HexNAc@1069=8;HexNAc@1085 1086 1087	41.718	32.2	2.00E-07
1028.14	3	-0.5	QTAAELDSHTPALEQQTTTSEK	HexNAc@28&31 9 28&32 112&9&82.1 38&9&21	HexNAc@1069&1070&1086 1069&1070&1086 1069&1070&1086 1069&1070&1086	41.238	17.4	4.40E-05
693.3397	5	-0.7	QTAAELDSHTPALEQQTTTSEK PTKR	HexNAc@2=7;HexNAc@18 19	HexNAc@1069=7;HexNAc@1085 1086	39.16	34.5	6.00E-07
815.6573	4	4.6	QTAAELDSHTPALEQQTTTSEK PTKR	HexNAc@9 18 19 20	HexNAc@1076 1085 1086 1087	37	37	3.00E-07
932.0043	2	6.5	QKVENSGVTVLIR	Oxidation@96;HexNAc@7=26	Oxidation@1058;HexNAc@1059=26	43.666	31.7	1.00E-07
855.8953	3	6.3	QYTGNSHWGGLRQYATQK	HexNAc@3=25;Oxidation@8	HexNAc@606=25;Oxidation@111	38.445	30.3	5.00E-08
820.0856	3	3.2	RNEASLPSIQYQPNLSNQMITSK	HexNAc@3=28;Oxidation@8;Dimethyl@14	HexNAc@606=28;Oxidation@111;Dimethyl@6 7	39.82	24.8	1.30E-05
946.3414	3	6.3	RIMASVLIWFESPK	HexNAc@5=19	HexNAc@585=13;Oxidation@600	52.739	29	6.40E-07
646.3414	3	6.2	RVSEPLSLGLQIK	HexNAc@2=14	HexNAc@1096=19	48.06	42.2	3.80E-07
947.7941	3	7.7	SLAETMSVITDSTVITSPYAFR	Oxidation@7;HexNAc@16	Oxidation@197 6;HexNAc@1970 1975	48.664	45.8	1.70E-08
819.7264	6	4.4	SQMYQENMQGQSGTVQHQHQKPKSHQV HFSKTD LIPK	Oxidation@93;Oxidation@87;HexNAc@33 35	Oxidation@633;Oxidation@638;HexNAc@663 665	43.331	19.4	2.80E-08
706.3635	2	9.5	SQASVLSQYK	HexNAc@1=33	HexNAc@890=33	40.073	23.2	2.90E-05
890.957	2	5.8	TAASVLIWFESPK	HexNAc@1=25	HexNAc@1096=25	53.253	31.9	2.30E-07
854.4674	3	6.5	TAASVLIWFESPK LDTPK	HexNAc@14	HexNAc@1096=25	61.224	21.1	1.70E-05
881.1246	3	8.3	TAASVLIWFESPK LDTPK	HexNAc@1=8;Phospho@12 14	HexNAc@1096=8;Phospho@1107 1109	66.35	42.3	1.40E-09
881.2217	4	7.4	TAASVLIWFESPK LDTPK LDTPK	HexNAc@1=7;Phospho@12 14	HexNAc@1096=7;Phospho@1107 1109	71.748	47.6	1.90E-10
1174.624	3	5.2	TAASVLIWFESPK LDTPK LDTPK	HexNAc@18Phospho@14 HexNAc@18Phospho@19 HexNAc@18Phospho@19 HexNAc@18Phospho@19	HexNAc@1096&Phospho@1091 HexNAc@1096&Phospho@1091 HexNAc@1096&Phospho@1091 HexNAc@1096&Phospho@1091	69.486	18.2	3.00E-05
692.3434	3	7.5	TLSQYPPDQSHAVQK	HexNAc@11=43	HexNAc@239=43	52.493	36.9	2.00E-07
439.89	3	6.6	TRPMSHLK	Oxidation@94;HexNAc@15	Oxidation@908;HexNAc@505 509	24.723	17.9	0.0035
558.9801	3	5.8	TVSEPLSLGLQIK	HexNAc@1=14	HexNAc@97=14	59.043	43.6	3.40E-07
939.508	2	7.1	TVSEPLSLGLQIK	HexNAc@1=11;HexNAc@3=7	HexNAc@97=11;HexNAc@99=7	58.501	19.6	6.00E-04
610.5953	3	3.6	VEEFGHQYK	HexNAc@12	HexNAc@92	35.676	43.3	3.00E-09
754.3915	2	5.6	VENSGPVTLIR	Oxidation@1058;HexNAc@4=24	Oxidation@1058;HexNAc@1059=24	44.379	28	1.70E-06
684.8207	2	4.6	VSPDFTQSR	HexNAc@10=24	HexNAc@79=24	38.32	25.2	9.30E-05
716.0118	3	5.9	VTKQENPASCNDVQK	HexNAc@10=24	HexNAc@1015=24	27.989	27.9	5.90E-06
783.7054	3	6	VTKQENPASCNDVQK	HexNAc@2;HexNAc@10	HexNAc@1007;HexNAc@1015	30.411	22.3	1.40E-04

**Table 2** Modified peptides Protein Prospector output for TET2 peptides identified using GluC and ETD. Bold indicates the residue was identified by hand. Strikethrough indicates that residue was ruled out.

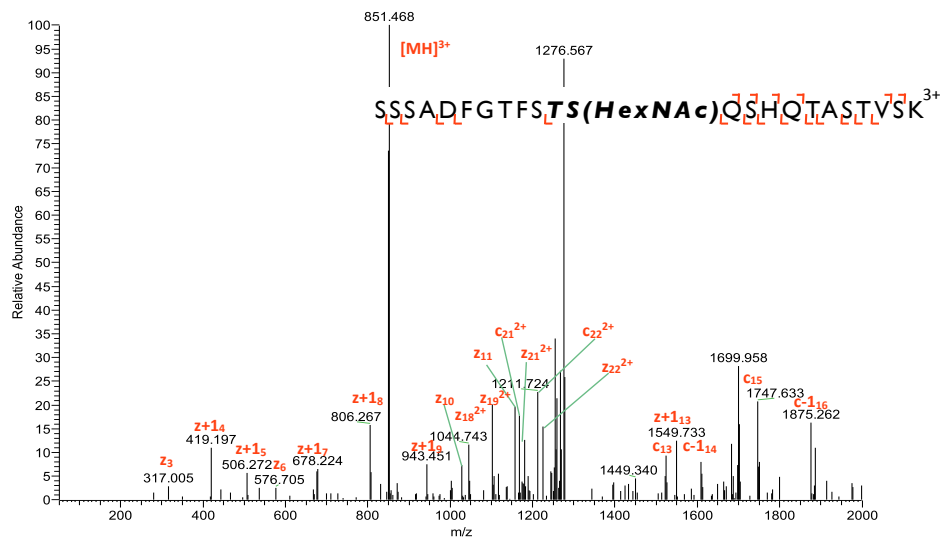


## Mouse Embryonic Stem Cell O-GlcNAc ETD Mass Spectra

The gene name and the modified residues are given for *Mus musculus*. Bold signifies ambiguous site assignment though modification can be localized to one of the bolded residues. Green and blue identifies mixtures of modification sites where the colors correspond to the residue being modified. Asterisks identify carbamidomethylated cysteine residues. Charged reduced species and common neutral losses are not labeled (Falth *et al.* (2008) *Anal Chem* 80 (21) 8089-8094).

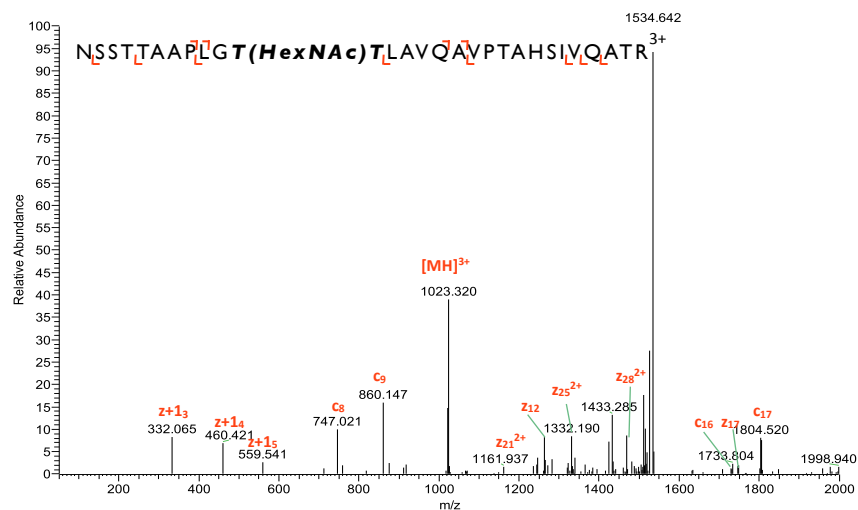
**Agf1 GlcNAc-T301 or S302**

T20100618-14 #2046 RT: 22.46 AV: 1 NL: 5.60E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 851.39@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



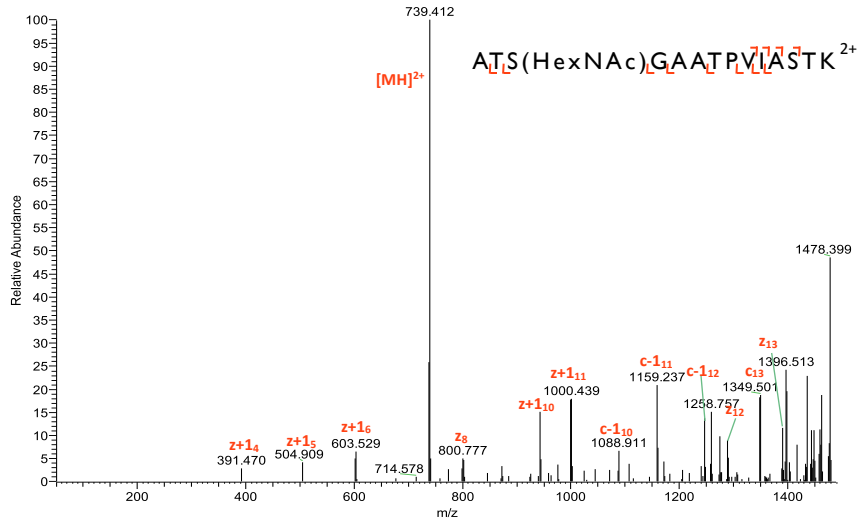
**Atf7ip GlcNAc-T902 or T903**

T20100409-24 #3856 RT: 38.48 AV: 1 NL: 1.87E3  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 1023.22@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



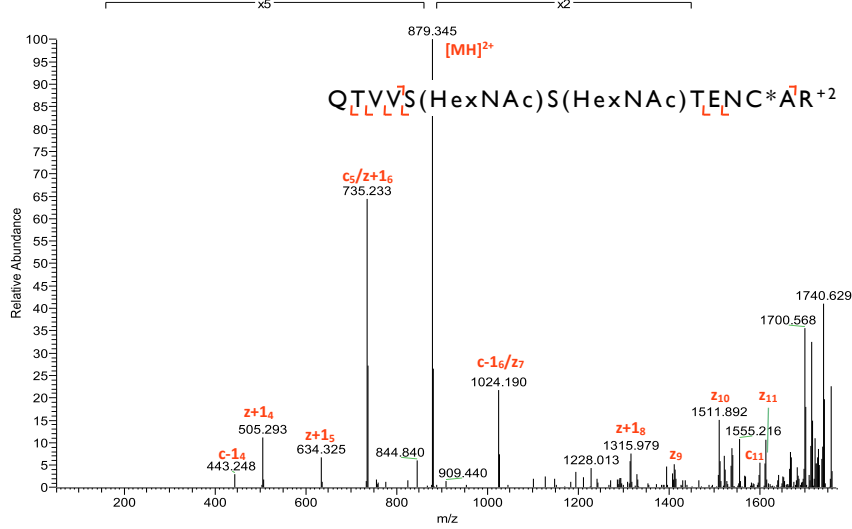
**Bnc2 GlcNAc-S515**

T20100618-12 #1511 RT: 17.91 AV: 1 NL: 6.57E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 739.39@etd200.00 [50.00-1490.00]



**Bptf GlcNAc-S1742 & S1743**

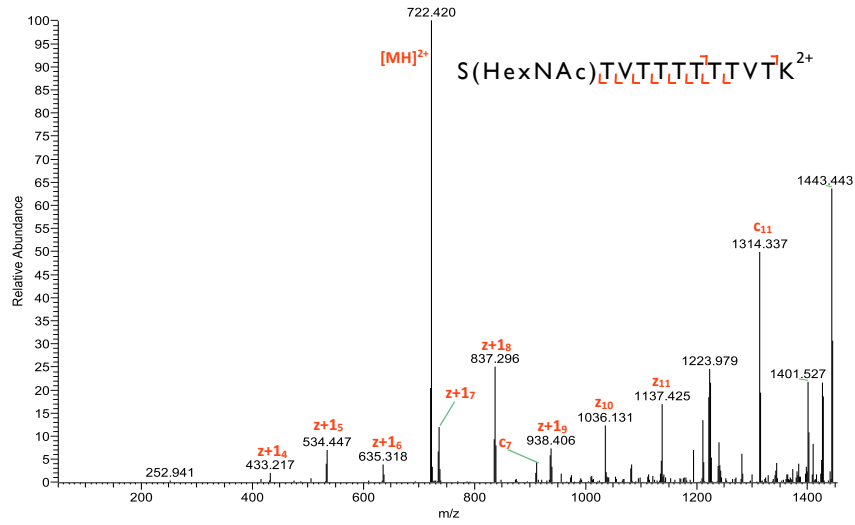
T20101031-16 #1382 RT: 15.99 AV: 1 NL: 1.70E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 879.40@etd200.00 [50.00-1770.00]





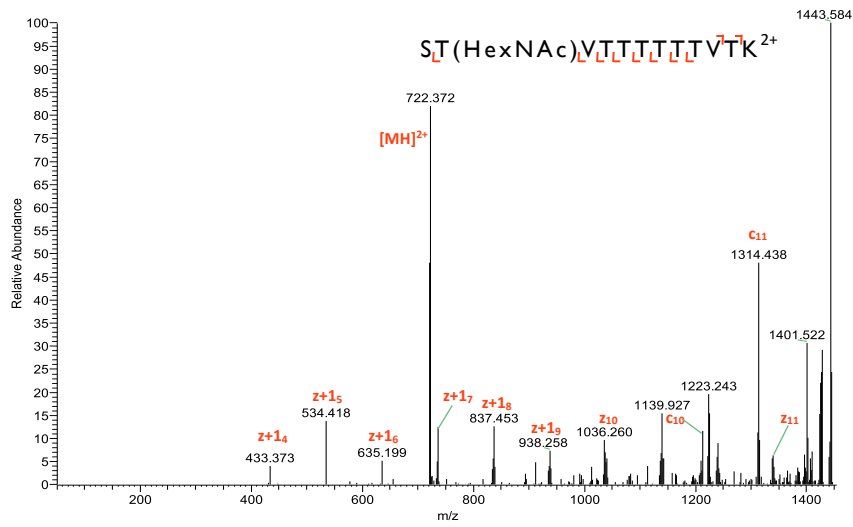
**Bptf GlcNAc-SI750**

T9100414 #986 RT: 14.59 AV: 1 NL: 1.81E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 722.38@etd200.00 [50.00-1455.00]



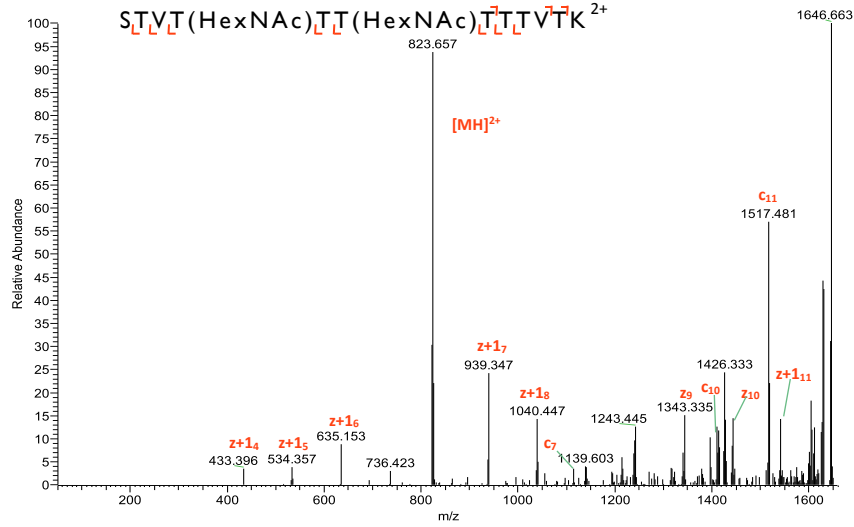
**Bptf GlcNAc-TI751**

T20100409-13 #1151 RT: 13.28 AV: 1 NL: 1.24E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 722.38@etd200.00 [50.00-1455.00]



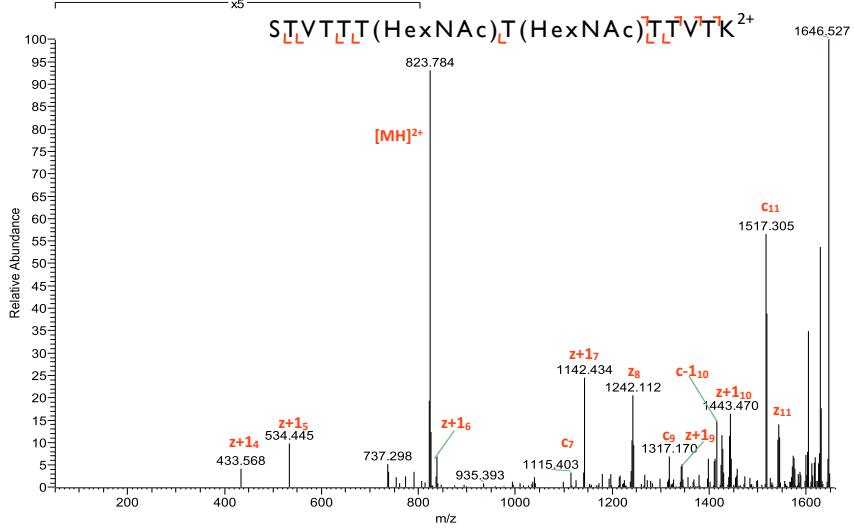
**Bptf GlcNAc-TI753 & TI55**

T20100409-13 #1139 RT: 13.17 AV: 1 NL: 1.22E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 823.92@etd200.00 [50.00-1660.00]



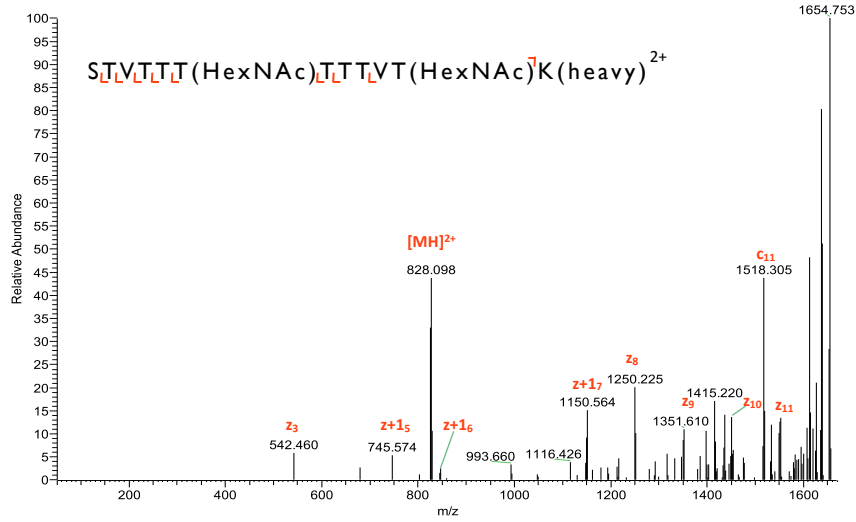
**Bptf GlcNAc-TI755 & TI56**

T20100409-12 #1081 RT: 12.53 AV: 1 NL: 1.36E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 823.92@etd200.00 [50.00-1660.00]



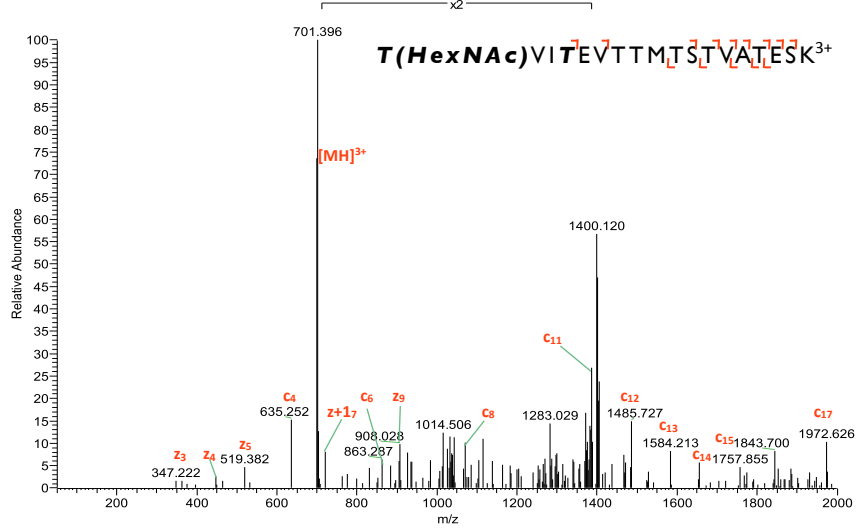
**Bptf GlcNAc-T1755 & T1760**

T20100618-09 #994 RT: 12.62 AV: 1 NL: 3.85E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 827.92@etd200.00 [50.00-1670.00]



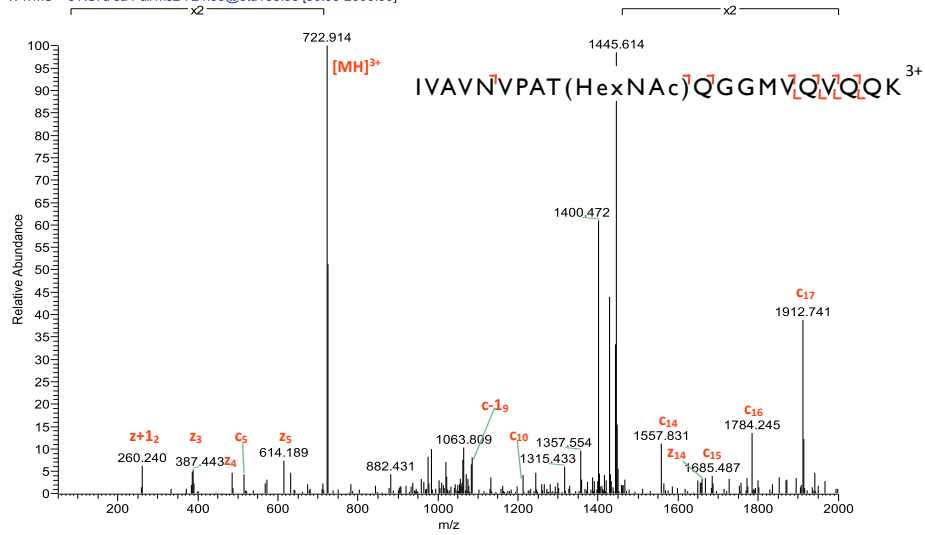
**Bptf GlcNAc-T1710 or T1713**

T20100618-14 #3538 RT: 35.22 AV: 1 NL: 5.76E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 701.69@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



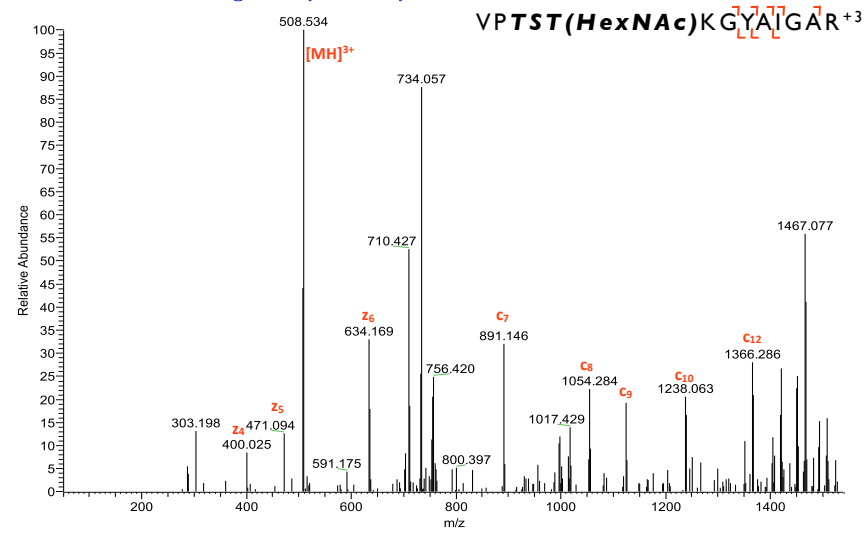
**Bptf (fragment) GlcNAc-T225**

T20100618-19 #2882 RT: 29.78 AV: 1 NL: 1.31E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 724.39@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



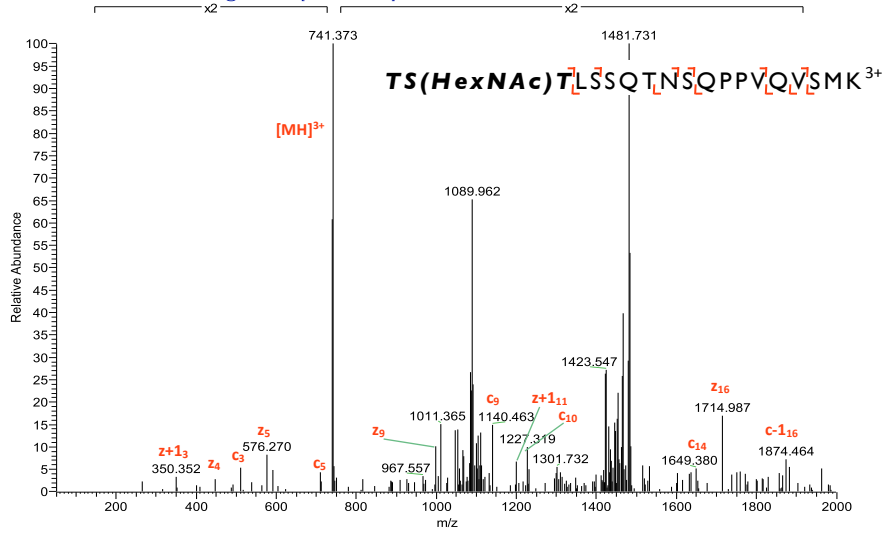
**Clorf88 GlcNAc-T82 or S83 or T84**

T20101031-24 #2220 RT: 27.32 AV: 1 NL: 4.94E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 508.61@etd133.33 [50.00-1540.00]



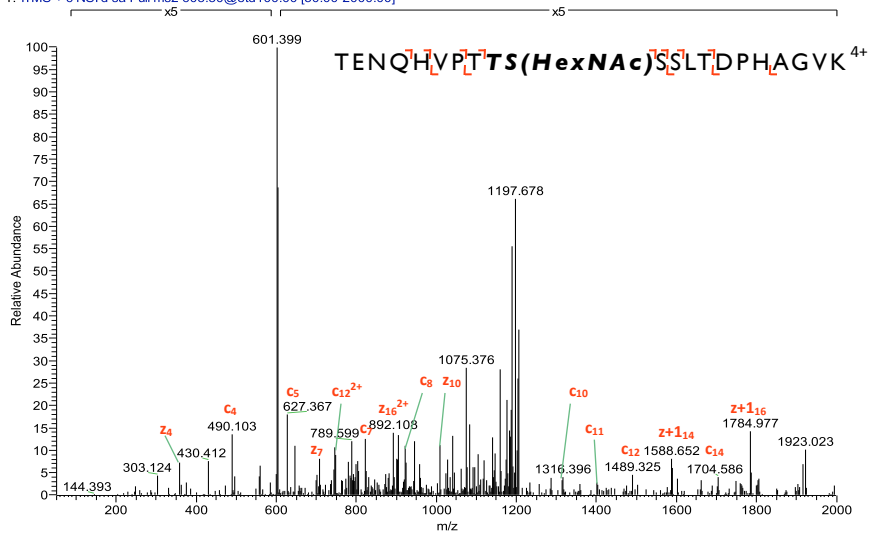
Cdk12 GlcNAc-T588-T590

T20100618-15 #2322 RT: 25.25 AV: 1 NL: 8.17E2  
T: FTMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 742.03@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



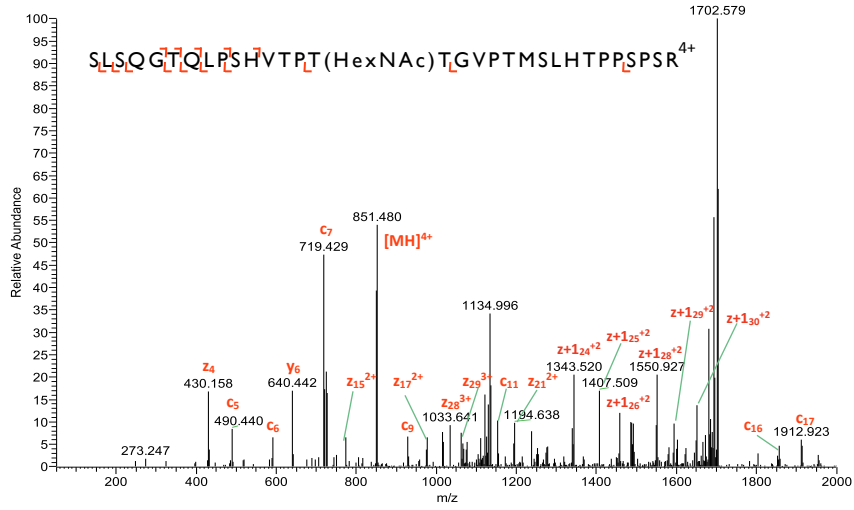
Cdk13 GlcNAc-residue T1286 or S1287

T20100409-13 #1825 RT: 19.02 AV: 1 NL: 7.20E3  
T: FTMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 603.30@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



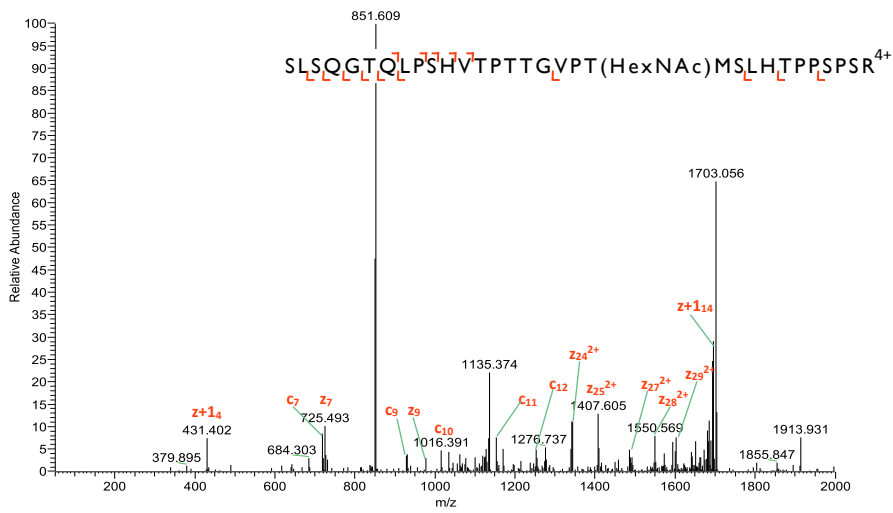
### Cnot2 GlcNAc-T1 I3

T20100409-23 #3308 RT: 33.06 AV: 1 NL: 2.91E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 851.44@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



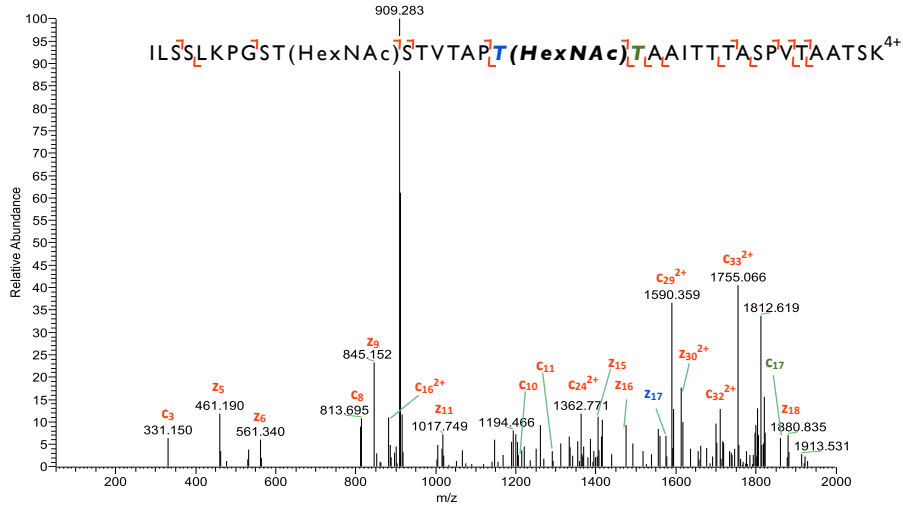
### Cnot2 GlcNAc-T1 I8

T20100409-24 #3240 RT: 33.18 AV: 1 NL: 2.01E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 851.43@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



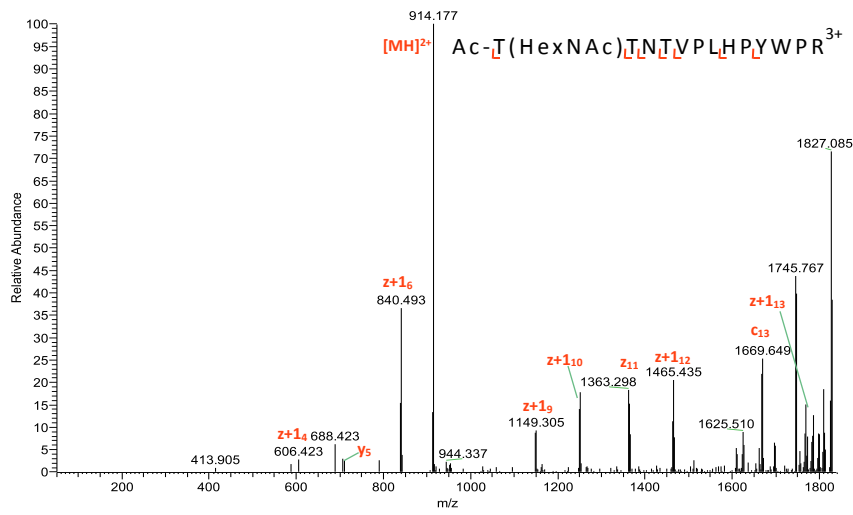
### Didol GlcNAc- Mixture of T1280 and T1287 or T1288

T20100409-27 #3240 RT: 34.05 AV: 1 NL: 4.22E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 910.99@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



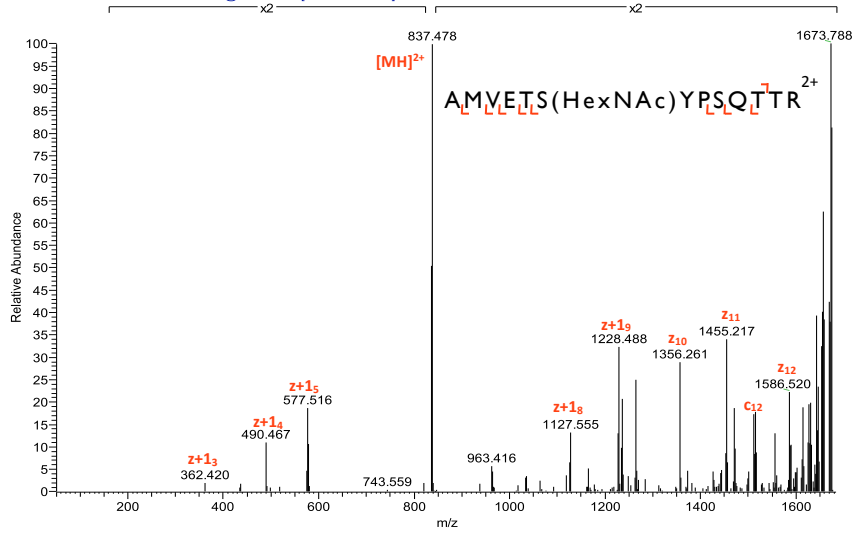
### Ebp GlcNAc-T2

T20100409-24 #3664 RT: 36.84 AV: 1 NL: 1.81E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 914.46@etd200.00 [50.00-1840.00]



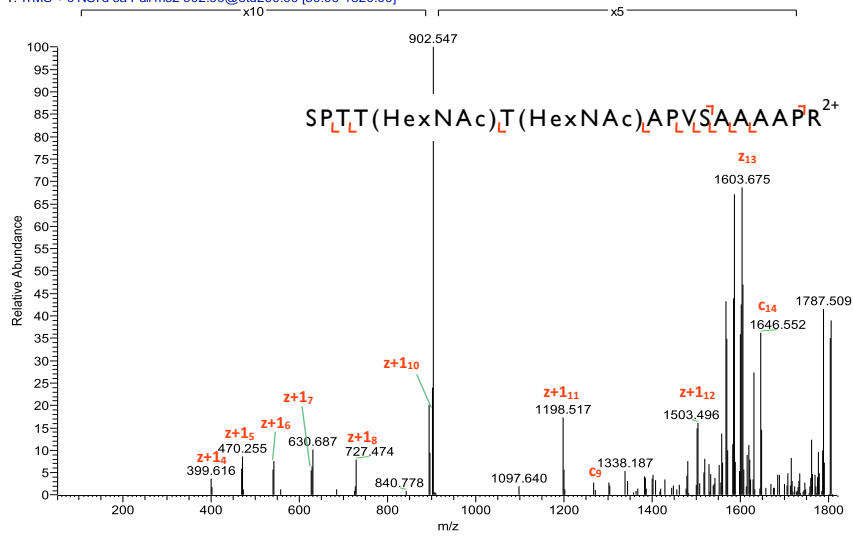
Egr1 GlcNAc-S117

T20100618-10 #1724 RT: 19.20 AV: 1 NL: 1.92E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 837.39@etd200.00 [50.00-1685.00]



Elf2 GlcNAc-T376 & T376

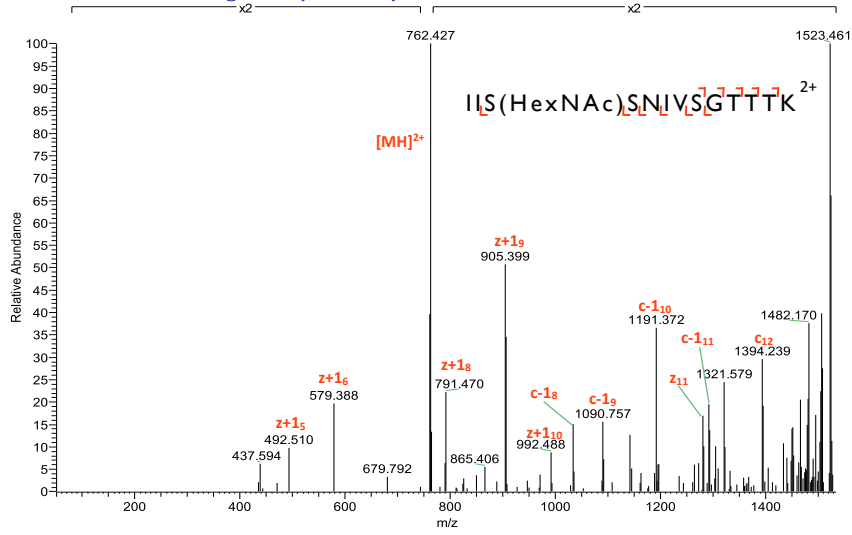
T20100409-15 #1602 RT: 17.49 AV: 1 NL: 2.25E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 902.96@etd200.00 [50.00-1820.00]





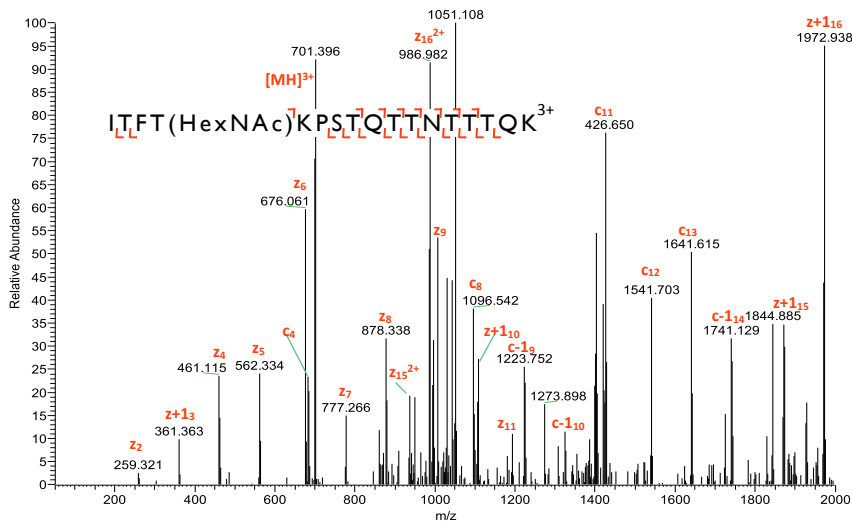
### Emsy GlcNAc-S520

T20100618-18 #2067 RT: 23.01 AV: 1 NL: 8.08E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 762.41@etd200.00 [50.00-1535.00]



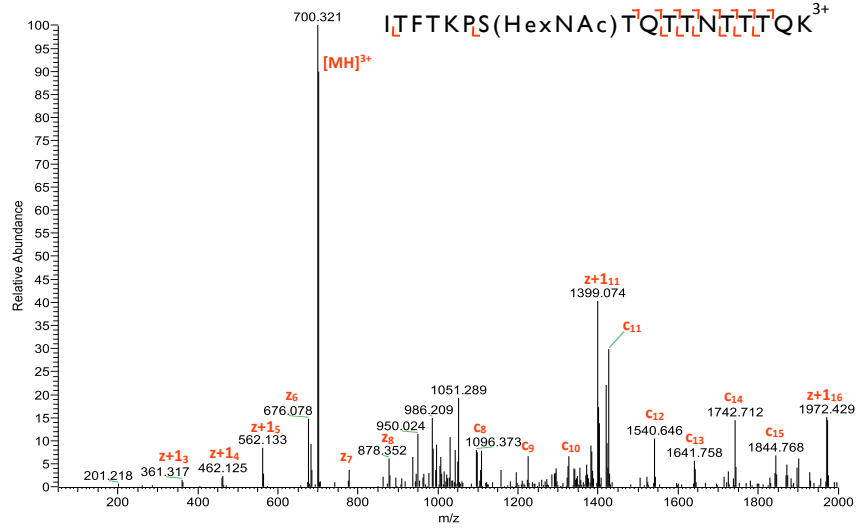
### Emsy GlcNAc-T228

T20100618-19 #1578 RT: 18.91 AV: 1 NL: 5.78E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 701.36@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



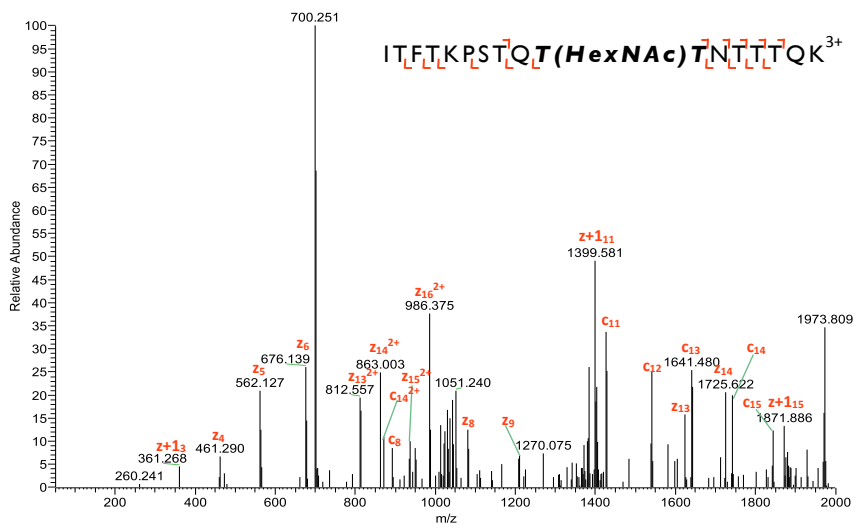
### Emsy GlcNAc-S231

T20100409-23 #1710 RT: 19.35 AV: 1 NL: 1.26E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 701.36@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



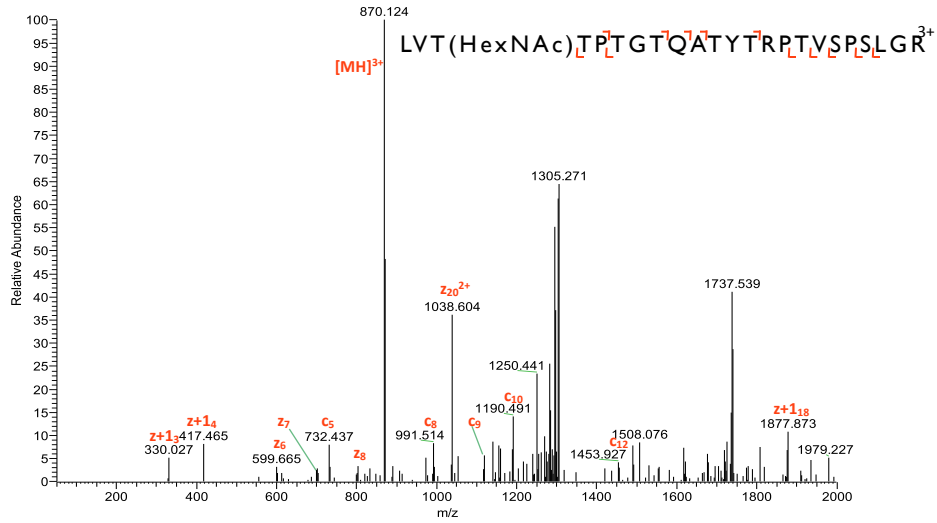
### Emsy GlcNAc-T234 or T235

T20100618-20 #1543 RT: 18.59 AV: 1 NL: 3.85E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 701.36@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



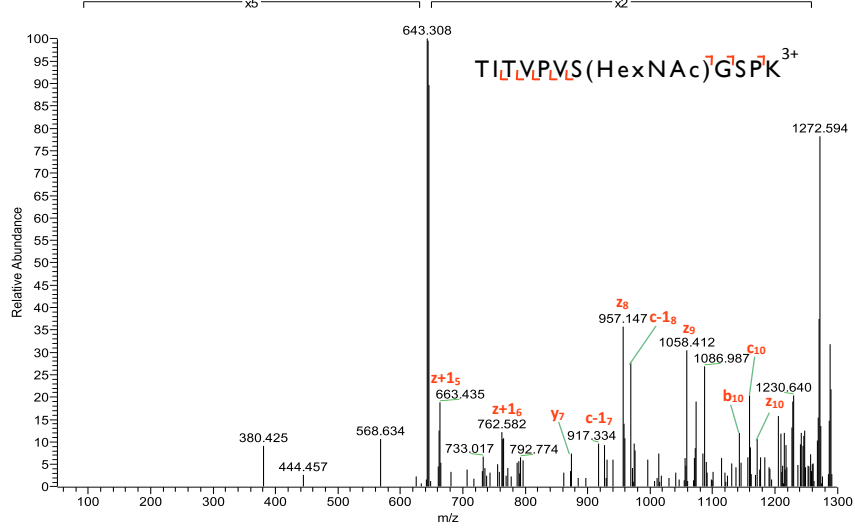
**Emsy GlcNAc-T465**

T20100409-26 #2604 RT: 28.09 AV: 1 NL: 4.98E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 870.13@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



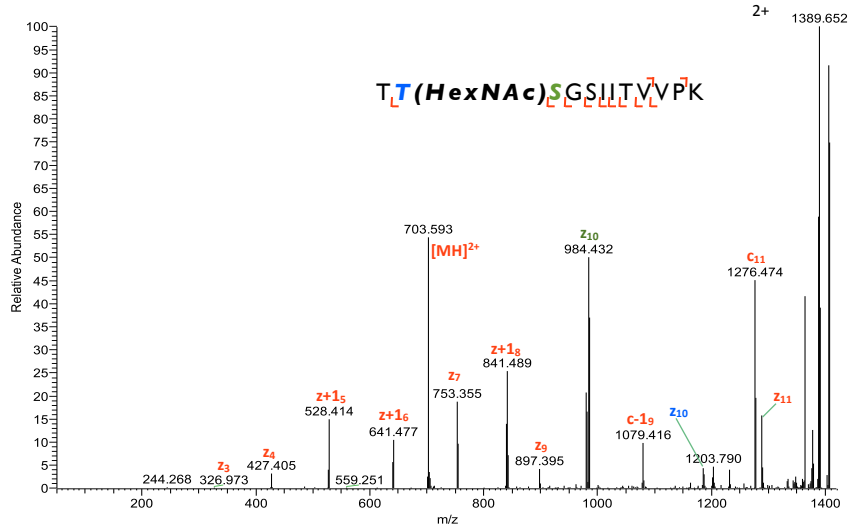
**Emsy GlcNAc-S200**

T20100409-18 #2094 RT: 22.23 AV: 1 NL: 4.88E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 644.86@etd200.00 [50.00-1300.00]



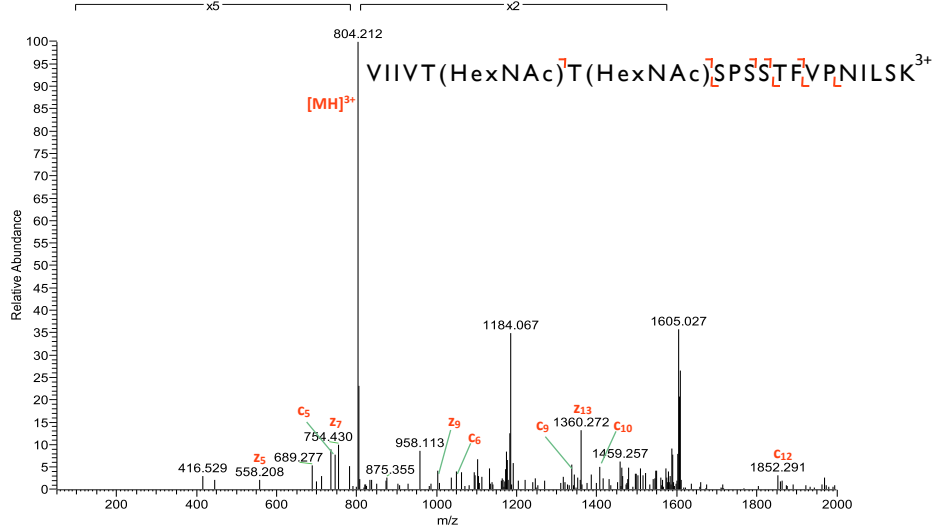
Emsy GlcNAc-Mixture of T499 and S500

T9081017 #1317 RT: 30.69 AV: 1 NL: 1.04E3  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 703.39@etd200.00 [50.00-1420.00]



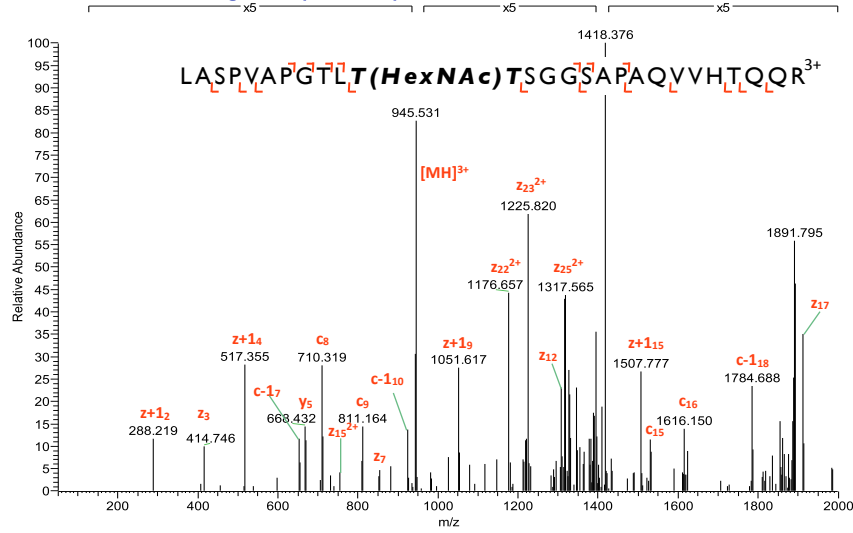
Emsy GlcNAc-T246 & T247

T20100409-26 #4440 RT: 44.08 AV: 1 NL: 9.11E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 804.11@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



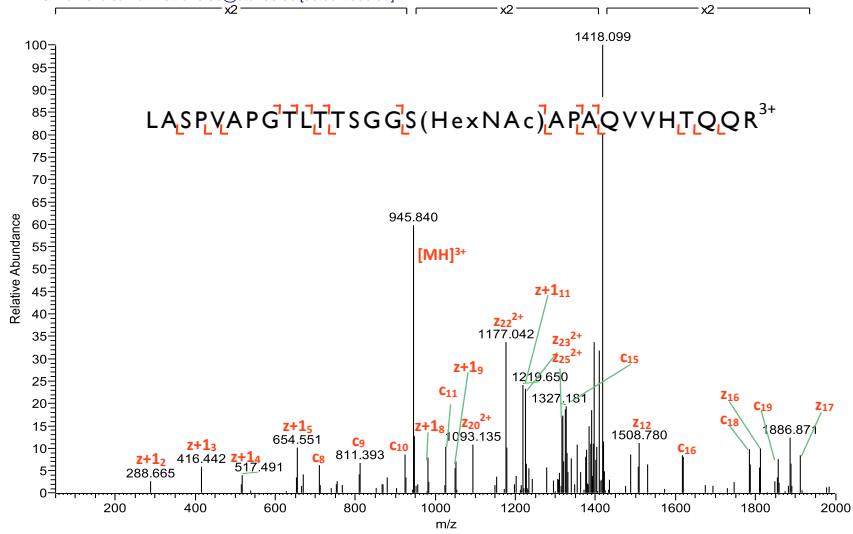
Ep400 GlcNAc-T2594 or T2595

T20100409-22 #2823 RT: 28.85 AV: 1 NL: 1.38E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 945.83@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



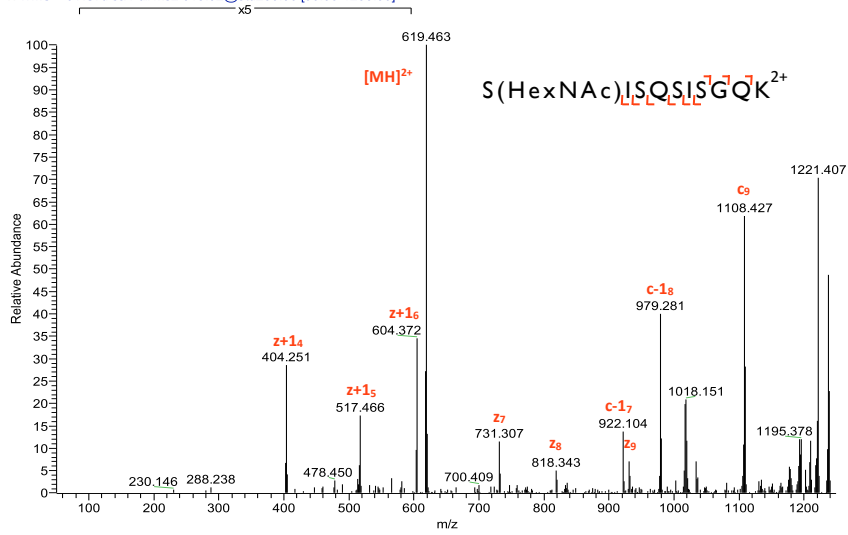
Ep400 GlcNAc-S2599

T20100618-18 #2742 RT: 28.58 AV: 1 NL: 1.64E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 945.83@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



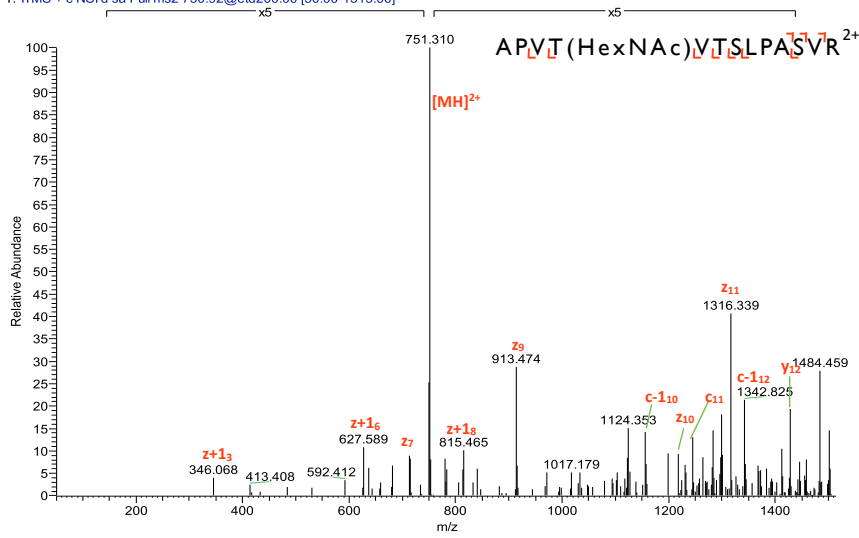
### Gata2b GlcNAc-S585

T20100409-14 #1093 RT: 12.94 AV: 1 NL: 2.00E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 619.32@etd200.00 [50.00-1250.00]



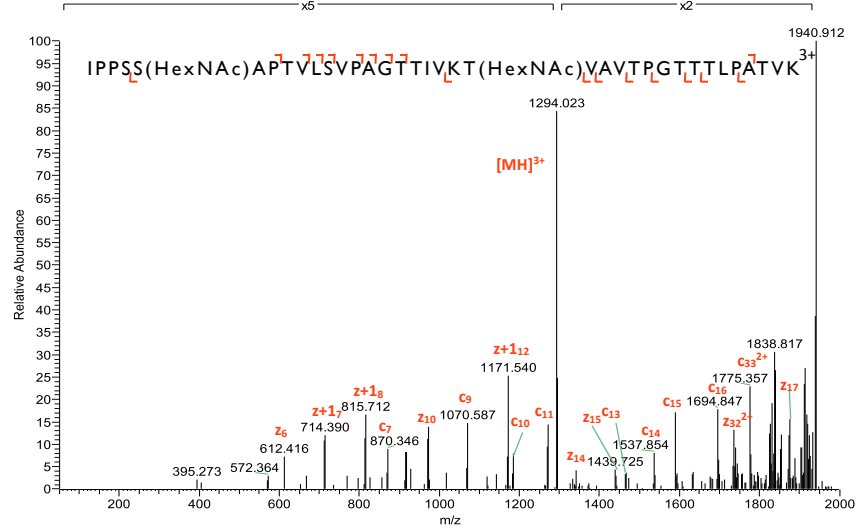
### HcfCI GlcNAc-T515

T20100409-20 #2753 RT: 28.08 AV: 1 NL: 1.78E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 750.92@etd200.00 [50.00-1515.00]



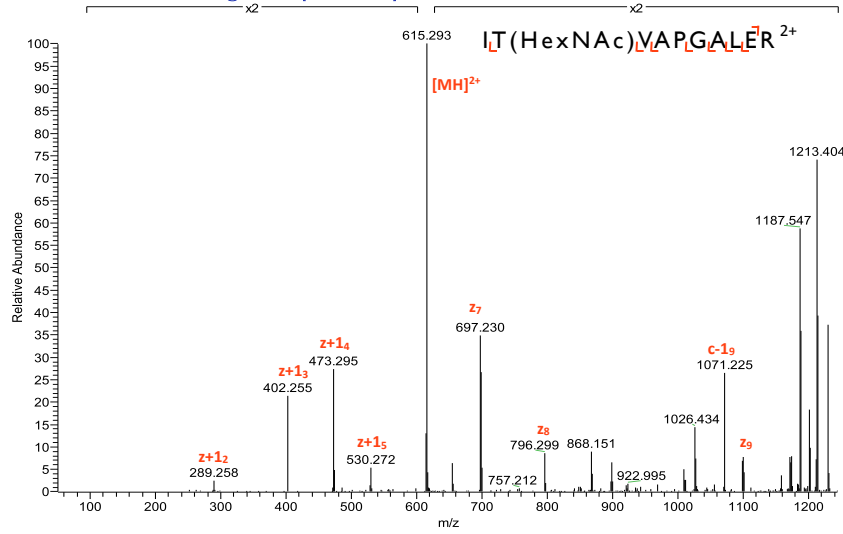
### HcfCI GlcNAc-S563 & T579

T20100409-27 #4075 RT: 41.47 AV: 1 NL: 1.67E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 1294.40@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]

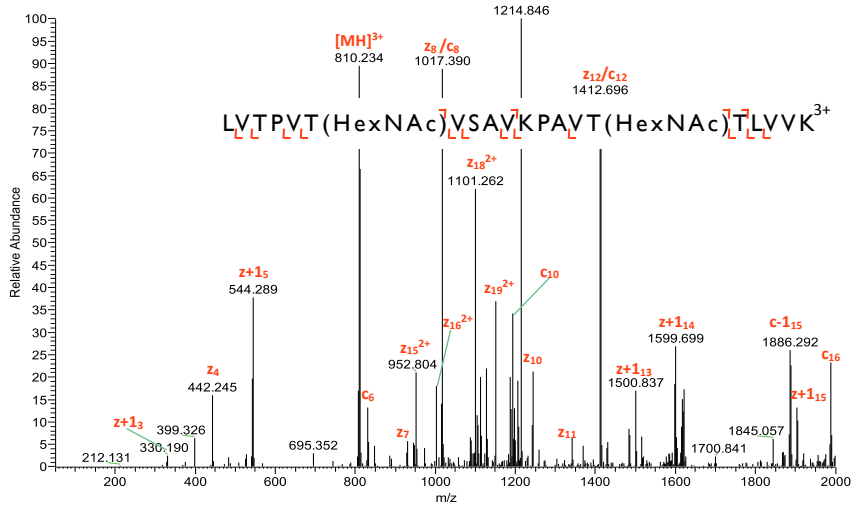


### HcfCI GlcNAc-T1148

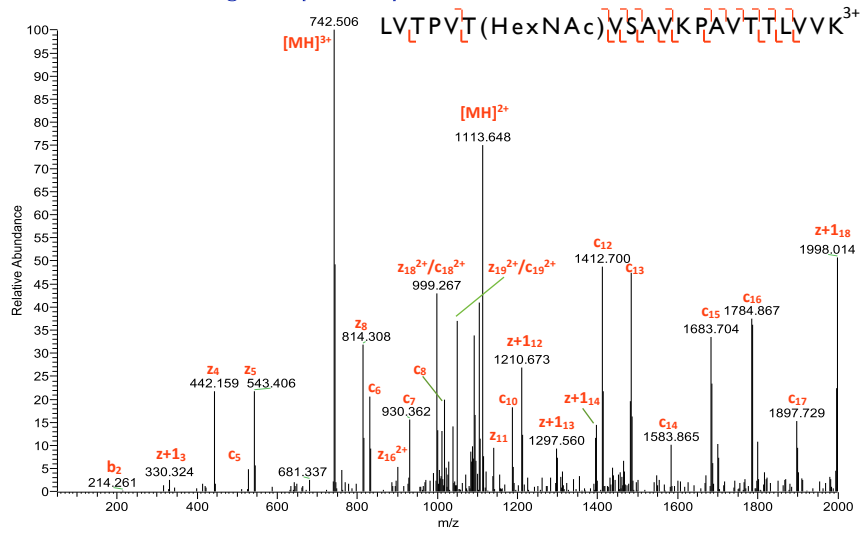
T9100416 #2221 RT: 25.69 AV: 1 NL: 1.24E4  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 615.34@etd200.00 [50.00-1245.00]



HcfCI GlcNAc-T86I & T870  
 T20100409-27 #3475 RT: 36.14 AV: 1 NL: 1.64E3  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 810.48@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



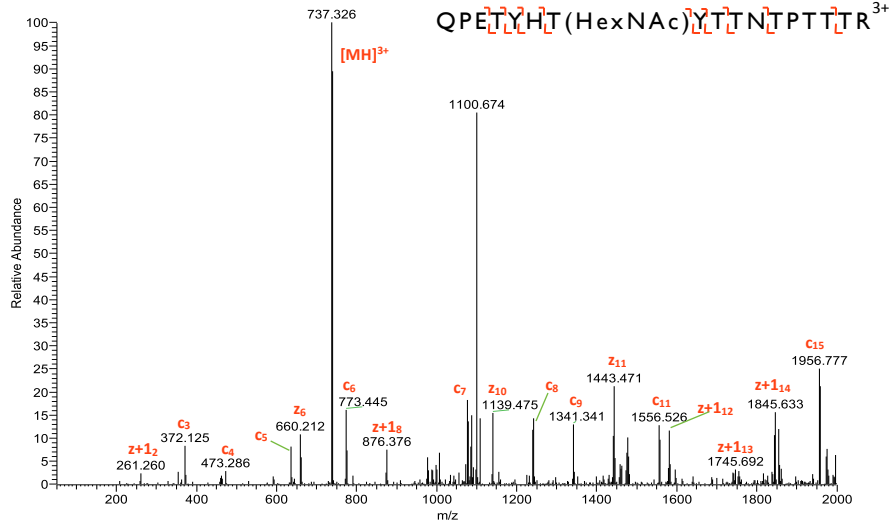
HcfCI GlcNAc-T86I  
 T20100409-28 #3323 RT: 37.86 AV: 1 NL: 8.03E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 742.79@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]





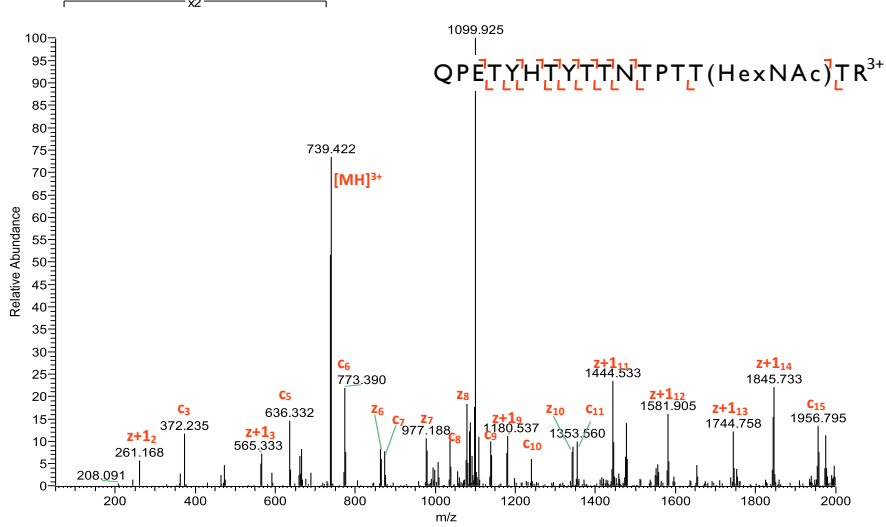
HcfCI GlcNAc-TI238

T20100409-14 #1485 RT: 16.33 AV: 1 NL: 2.66E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 739.35@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



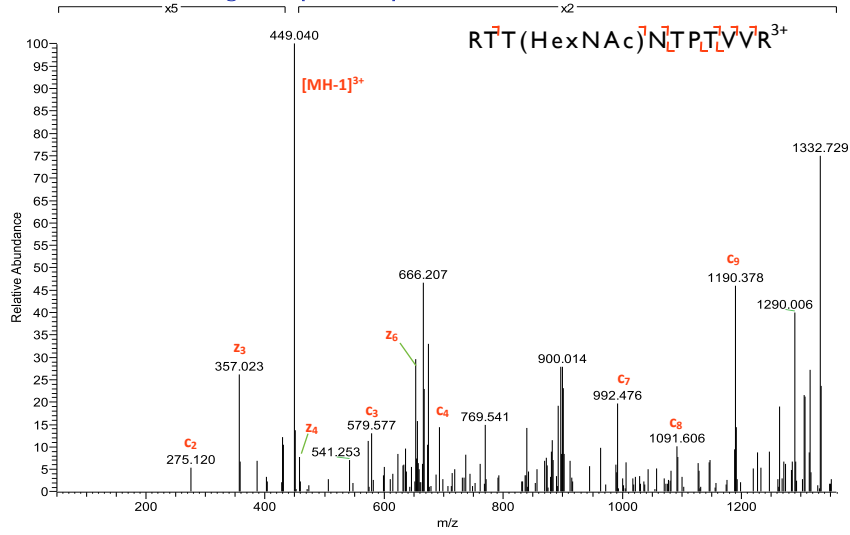
HcfCI GlcNAc-TI246

T20100409-15 #1600 RT: 17.47 AV: 1 NL: 4.35E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 739.35@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



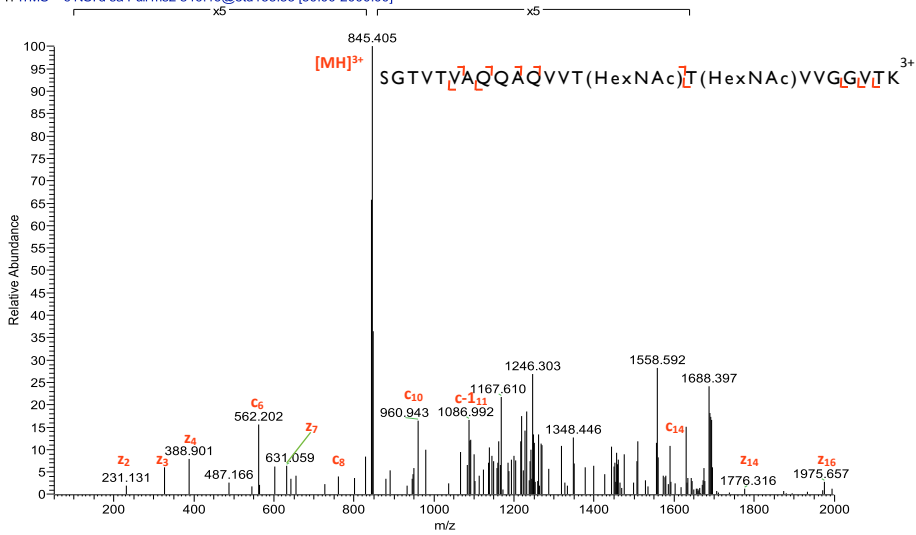
### HcfCI GlcNAc-T1139

T20100409-18 #876 RT: 11.46 AV: 1 NL: 5.40E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 449.91@etd133.33 [50.00-1360.00]



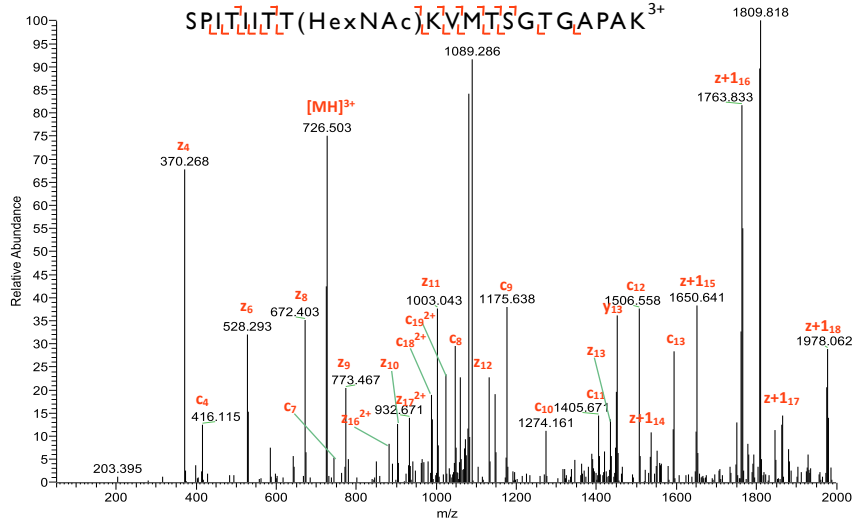
### HcfCI GlcNAc-T651 & T652

T20100409-20 #2847 RT: 28.91 AV: 1 NL: 9.73E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 846.46@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



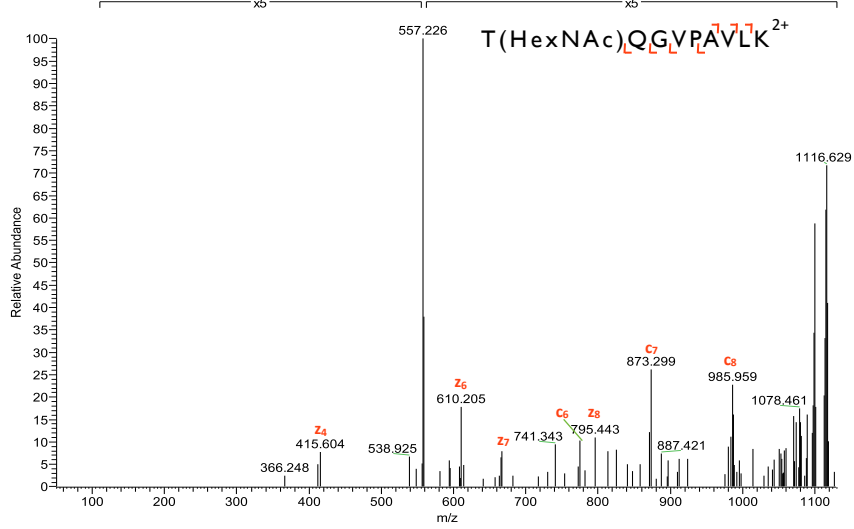
### HcfCI GlcNAc-T801

T20100618-24 #2866 RT: 32.10 AV: 1 NL: 7.20E2  
T: FTMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 726.73@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



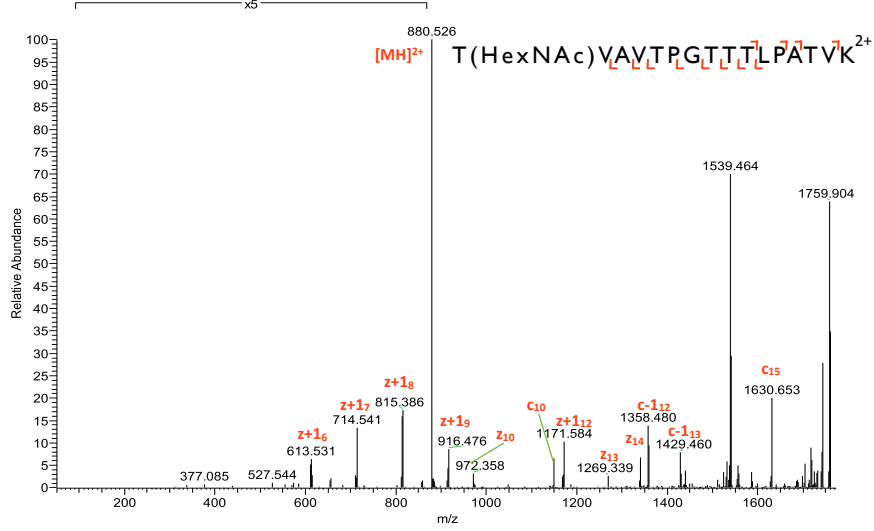
### HcfCI GlcNAc-T480

T9070411 #1344 RT: 22.70 AV: 1 NL: 5.64E2  
T: FTMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 558.32@etd200.00 [50.00-1130.00]



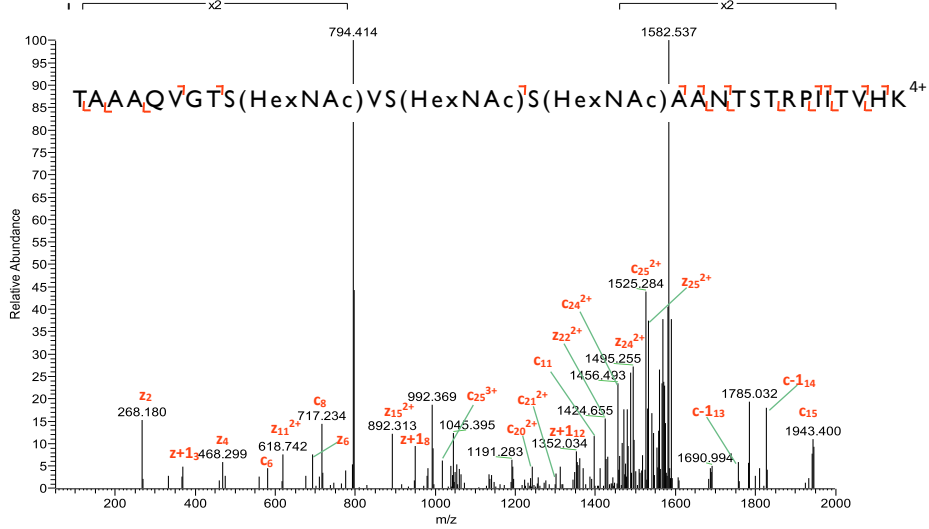
### HcfCI GlcNAc-T579

T20100409-20 #2798 RT: 28.48 AV: 1 NL: 1.32E4  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 880.49@etd100.00 [50.00-1775.00]



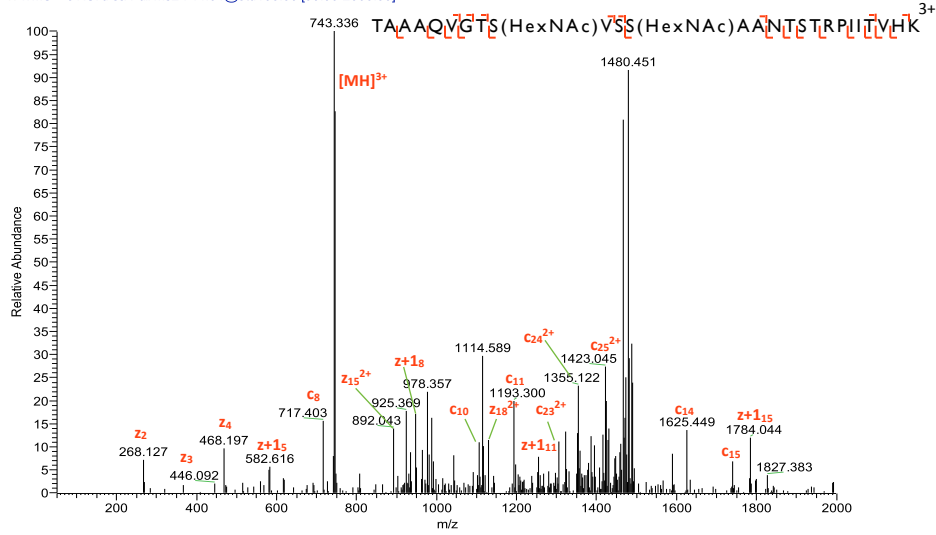
### HcfCI GlcNAc-S620 & S622 & S623

T20100618-19 #2035 RT: 22.83 AV: 1 NL: 7.72E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 795.66@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



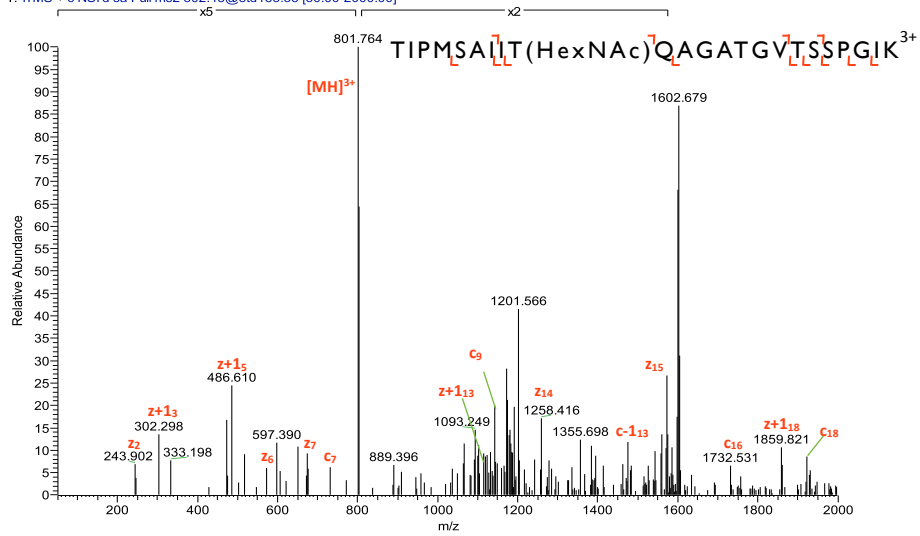
### HcfCI GlcNAc-S620 & S623

T20100409-25 #2370 RT: 25.90 AV: 1 NL: 8.47E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 744.64@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



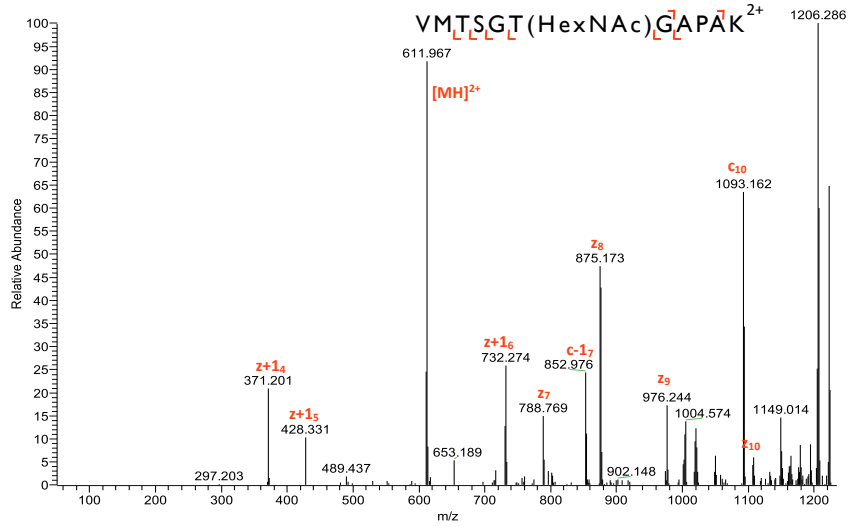
### HcfCI GlcNAc-T779

T20100409-23 #3880 RT: 38.04 AV: 1 NL: 5.53E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 802.43@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



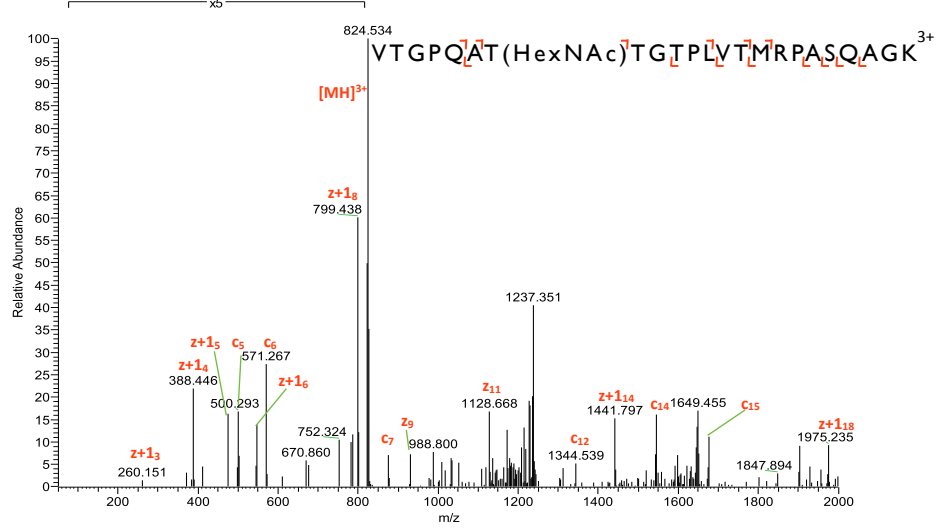
### HcfCI GlcNAc-T808

T20101031-17 #1110 RT: 13.96 AV: 1 NL: 1.13E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 611.80@etd200.00 [50.00-1235.00]



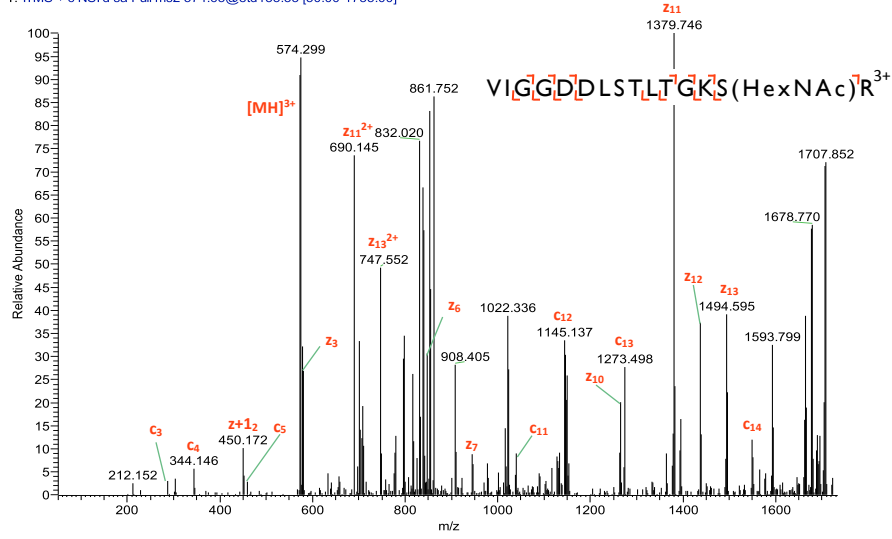
### HcfCI GlcNAc-T495

T20100409-25 #2517 RT: 27.24 AV: 1 NL: 7.63E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 825.10@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



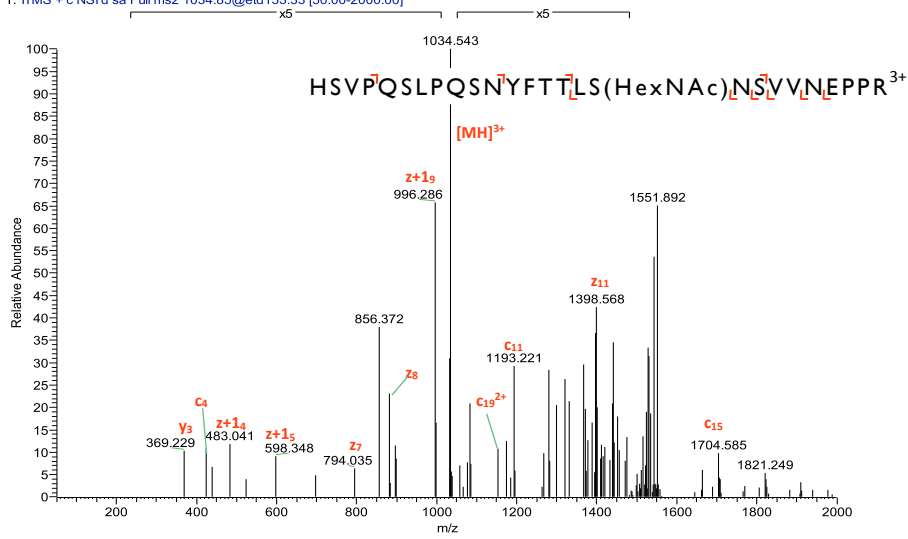
### Hprt1 GlcNAc-S129

T20100409-13 #2296 RT: 22.94 AV: 1 NL: 3.11E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 574.63@etd133.33 [50.00-1735.00]



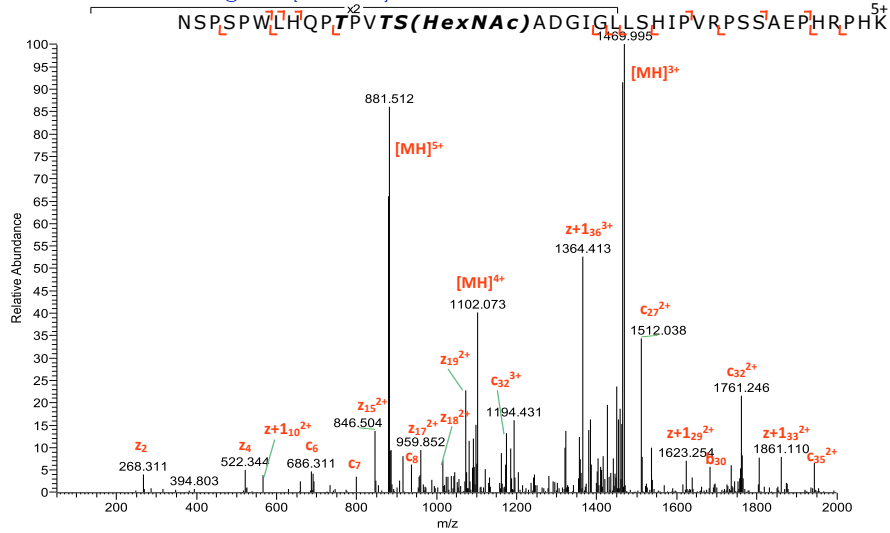
### Imid1c GlcNAc-S911

T20100409-22 #4088 RT: 39.73 AV: 1 NL: 7.67E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 1034.85@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



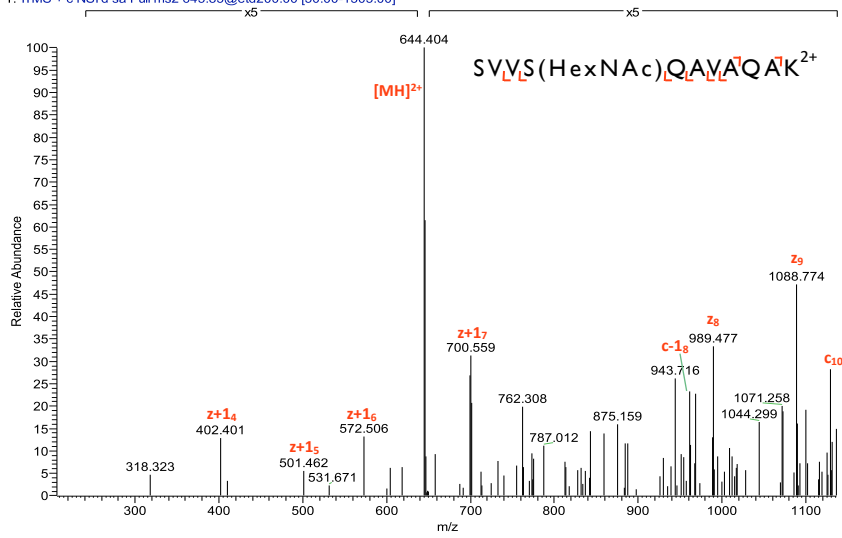
**Imjdlc GlcNAc-T728 or T731 or S732**

T20100409-26 #4195 RT: 41.93 AV: 1 NL: 2.37E3  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 881.86@etd80.00 [50.00-2000.00]



**Imjdlc GlcNAc-S1250**

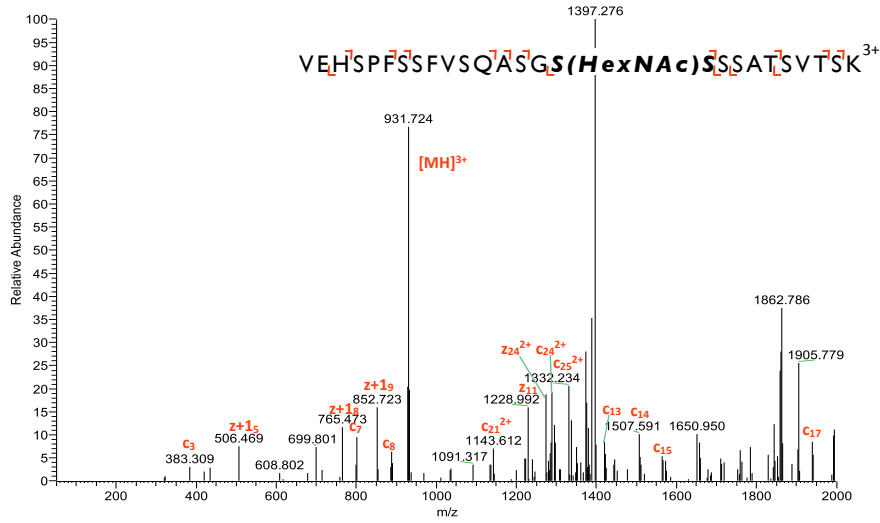
T20100409-17 #1969 RT: 21.12 AV: 1 NL: 6.63E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 645.85@etd200.00 [50.00-1305.00]





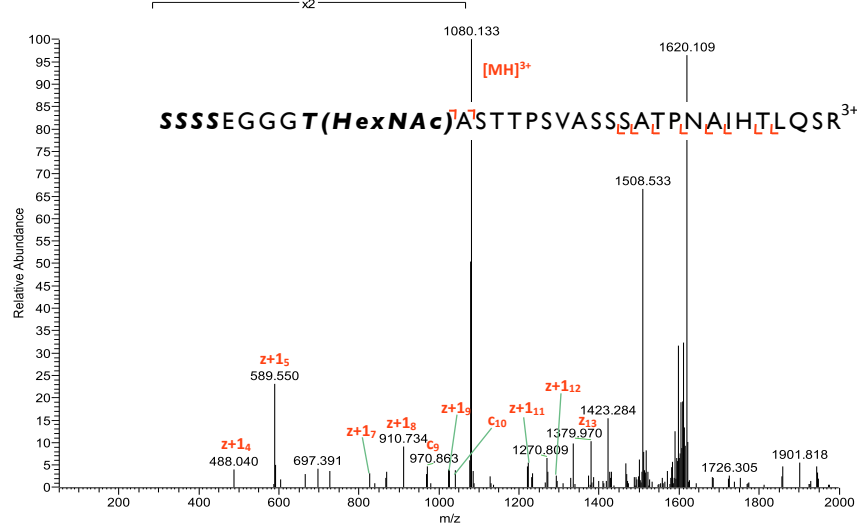
Kdm3b GlcNAc-S460 or S461

T20100618-19 #3120 RT: 31.65 AV: 1 NL: 4.83E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 931.44@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



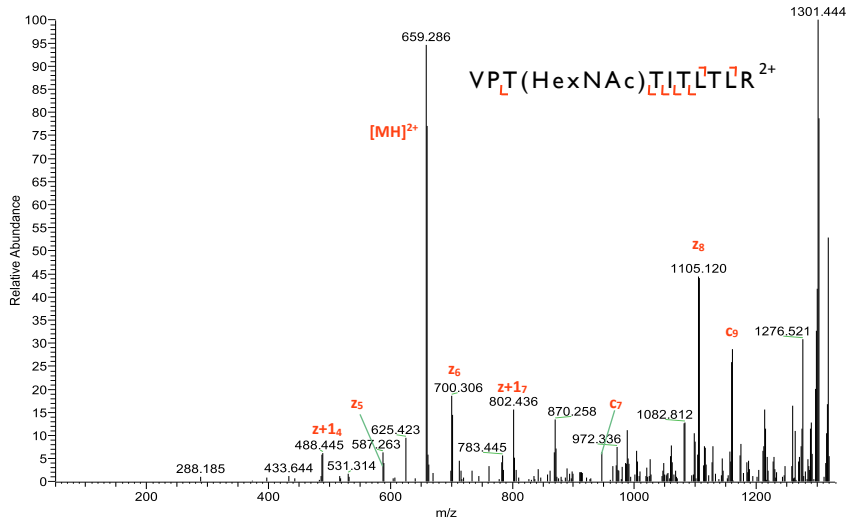
Kia I310 Between GlcNAc-S699-T707

T20100409-18 #2638 RT: 26.92 AV: 1 NL: 7.90E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 1079.85@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



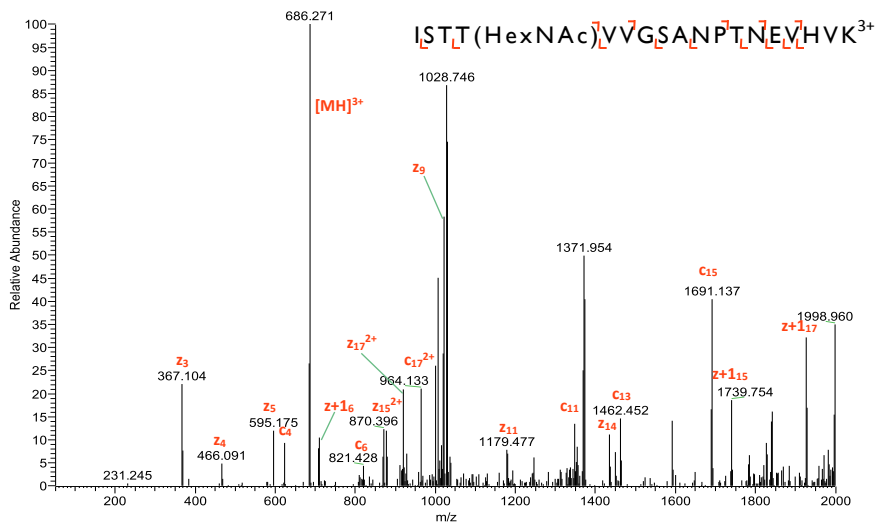
**Kia1310 GlcNAc-T858**

T20100409-23 #3345 RT: 33.38 AV: 1 NL: 6.71E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 659.39@etd200.00 [50.00-1330.00]



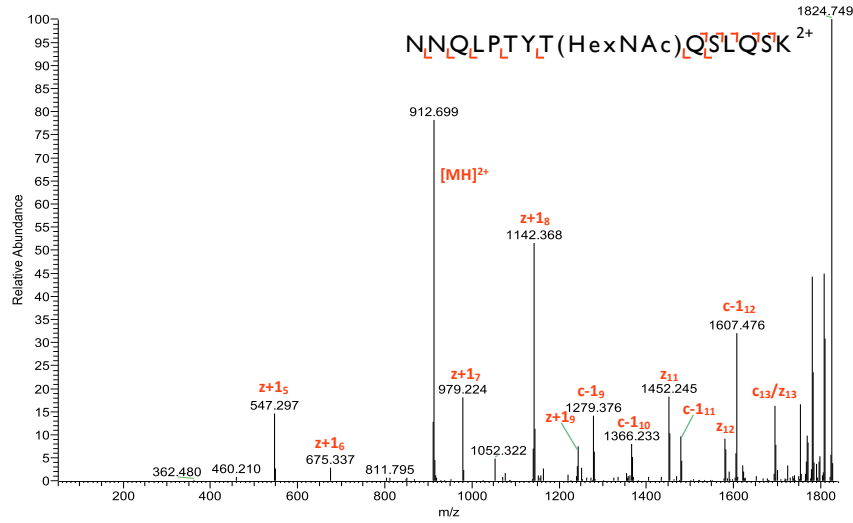
**Kia1551 GlcNAc-T491**

T20100618-14 #2301 RT: 24.69 AV: 1 NL: 1.23E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 686.36@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



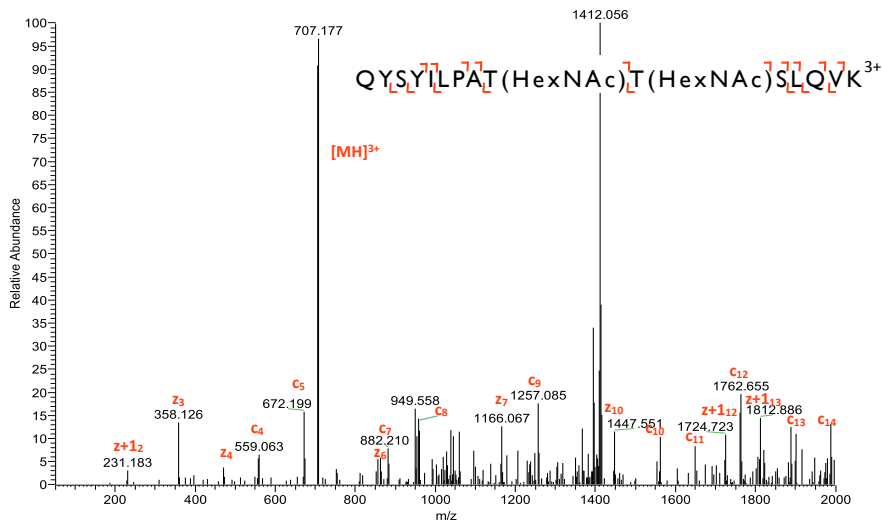
### Kia I551 GlcNAc-T40

T20100409-19 #2356 RT: 24.56 AV: 1 NL: 1.72E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 912.96@etd200.00 [50.00-1840.00]



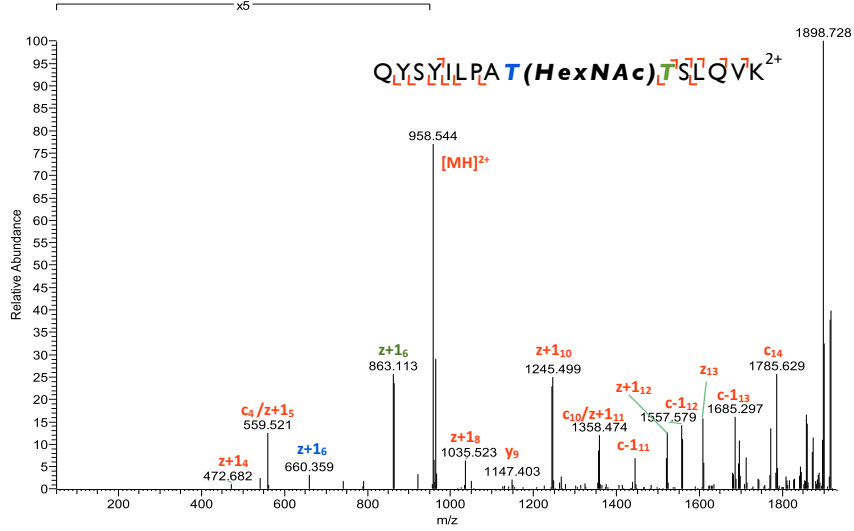
### Kia I551 GlcNAc-T232 & T233

T20100618-19 #3519 RT: 34.86 AV: 1 NL: 5.97E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 707.04@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



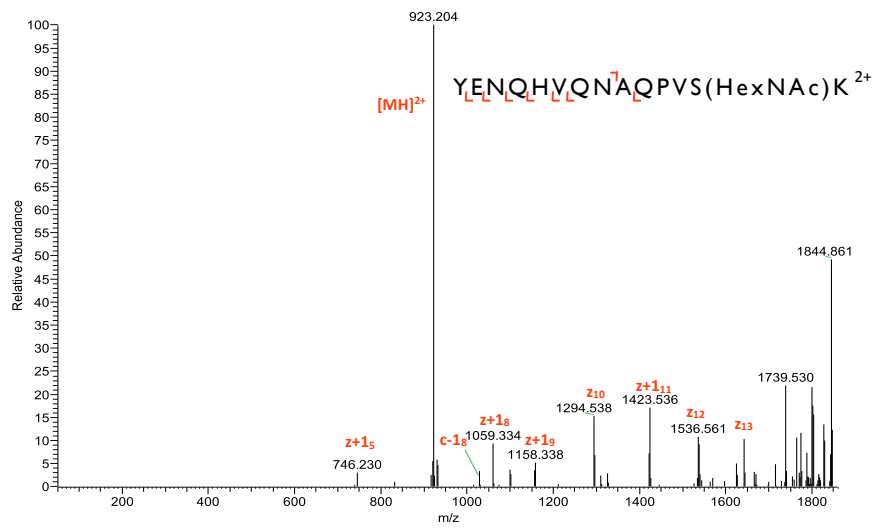
### Kia1551 Mixture of GlcNAc-T232 and T233

T20100409-23 #3861 RT: 37.88 AV: 1 NL: 2.14E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 958.51@etd200.00 [50.00-1930.00]



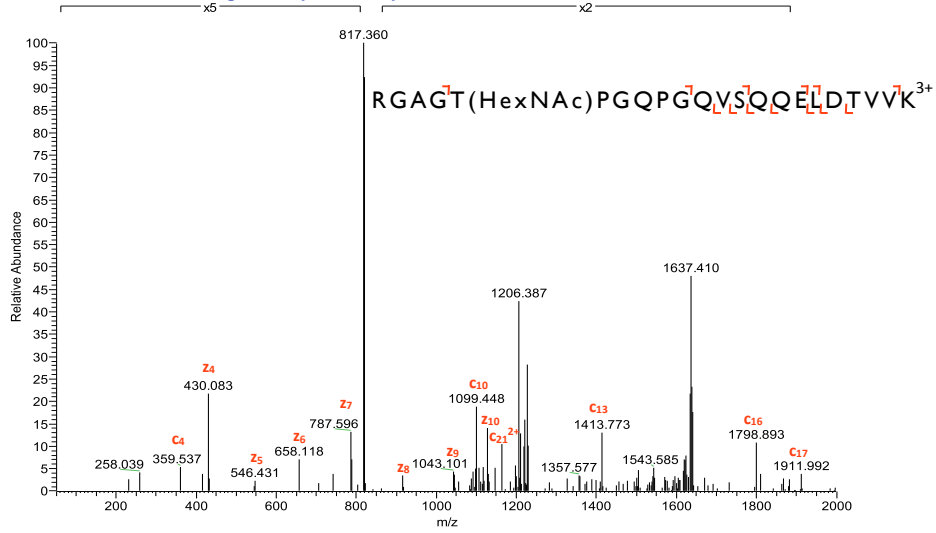
### Kia1551 GlcNAc-S291

T20100409-12 #931 RT: 11.19 AV: 1 NL: 7.34E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 922.95@etd200.00 [50.00-1860.00]



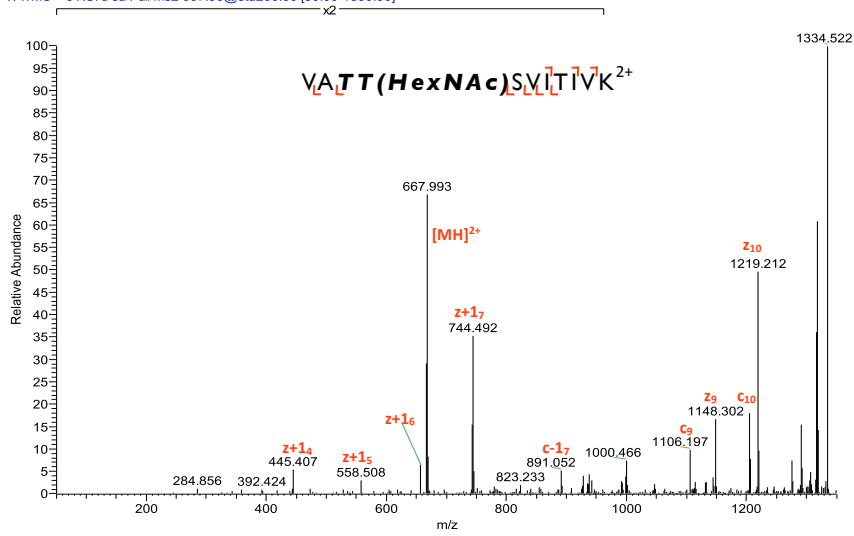
LmanI G1cNAc-T385

T20100409-15 #2815 RT: 27.65 AV: 1 NL: 1.99E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 819.42@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



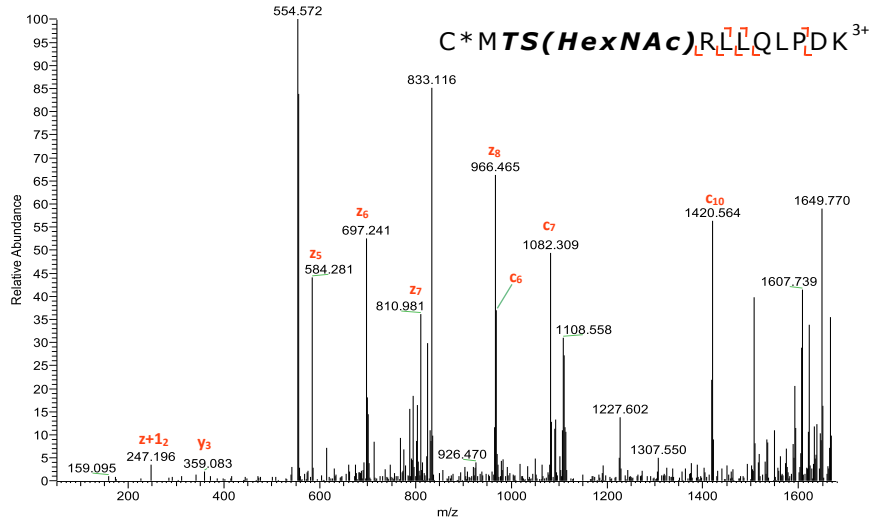
Mafk G1cNAc-T133 or T143

T20100618-18 #2938 RT: 30.15 AV: 1 NL: 4.09E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 667.90@etd200.00 [50.00-1350.00]



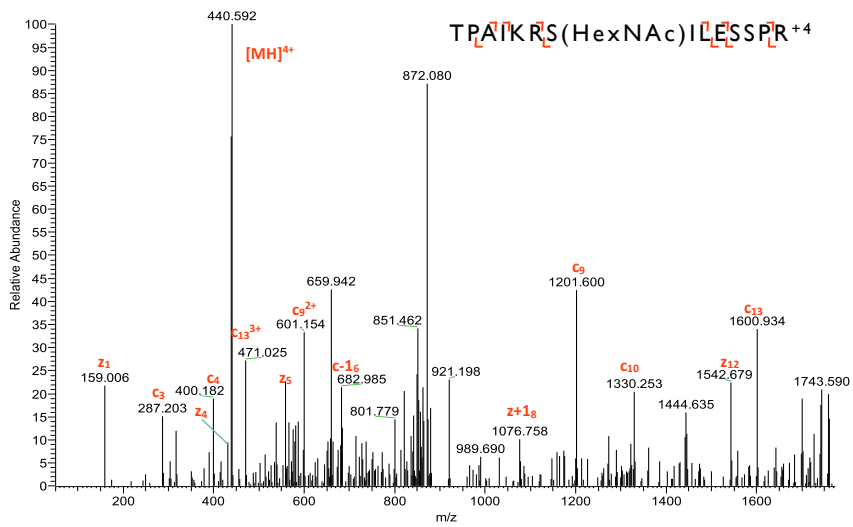
Med15 GlcNAc-T761 or S762

T20100409-25 #3828 RT: 38.74 AV: 1 NL: 1.18E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 555.61@etd133.33 [50.00-1680.00]



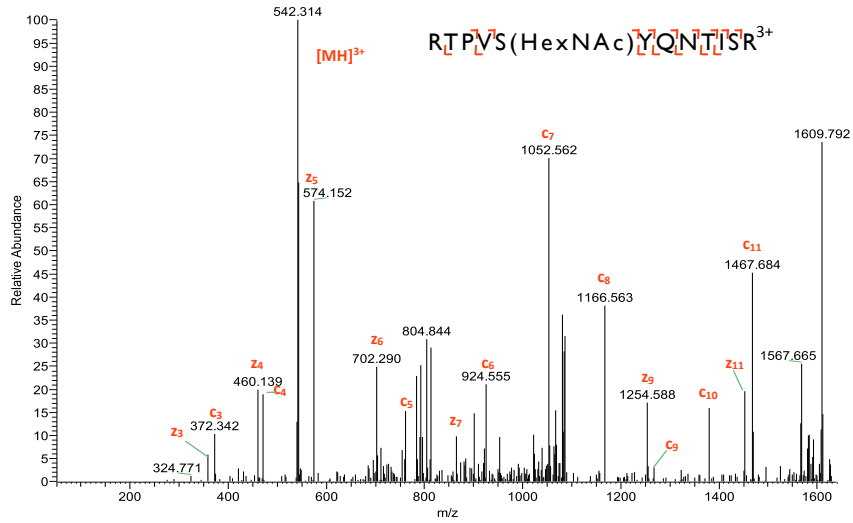
Myb GlcNAc-S454

T20101031-22 #2052 RT: 24.26 AV: 1 NL: 4.05E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 440.51@etd100.00 [50.00-1775.00]



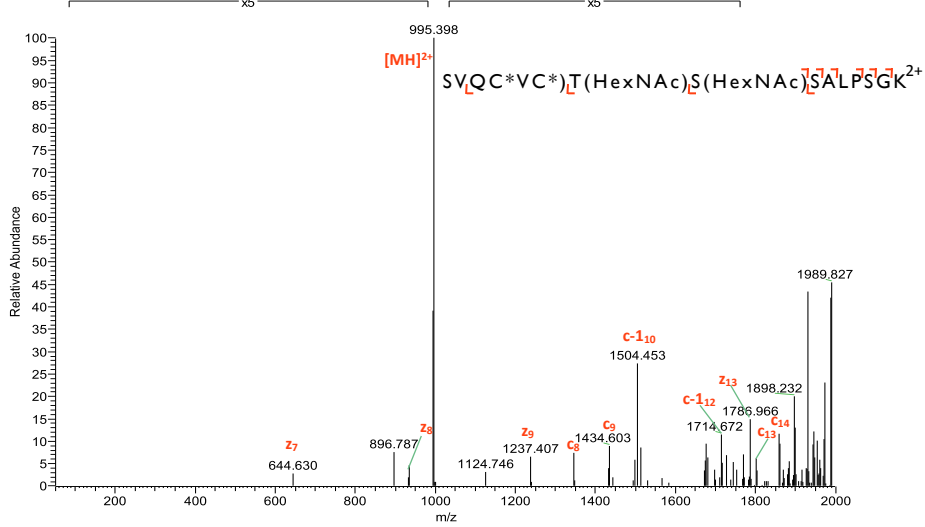
**NCoRI GlcNAc-SI496**

T20100409-21 #1502 RT: 17.42 AV: 1 NL: 8.42E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 542.28@etd133.33 [50.00-1640.00]

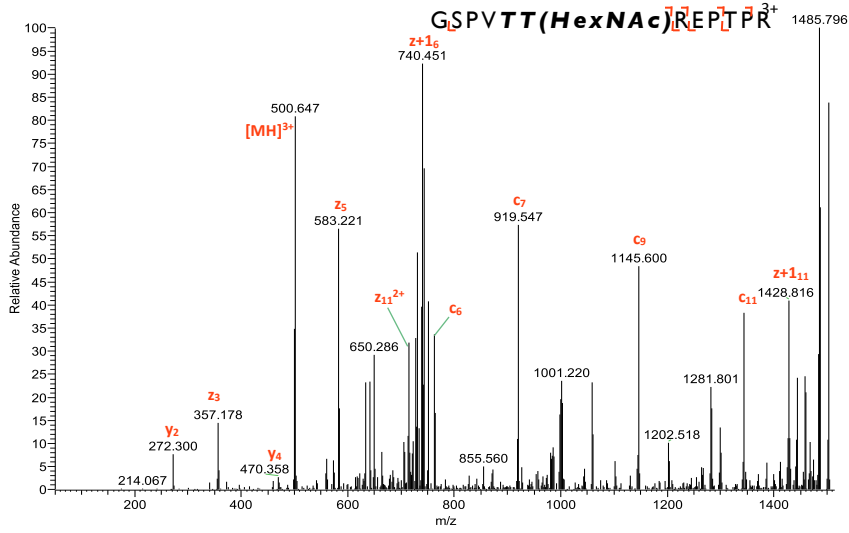


**NCoRI GlcNAc-TI899 & SI900**

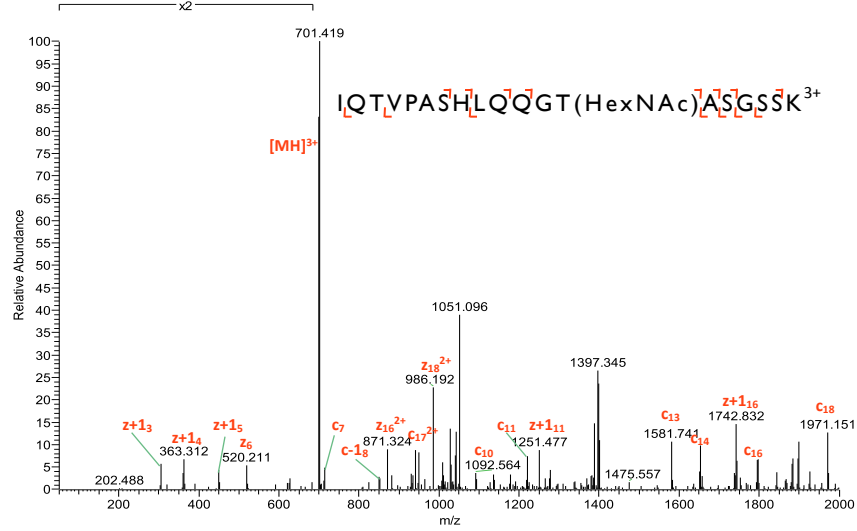
T20100409-11 #2188 RT: 22.10 AV: 1 NL: 1.18E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 995.44@etd200.00 [50.00-2000.00]



NCoR2 GlcNAc-TI531 or TI532  
 T20100409-13 #1160 RT: 13.35 AV: 1 NL: 3.85E3  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 500.93@etd133.33 [50.00-1515.00]



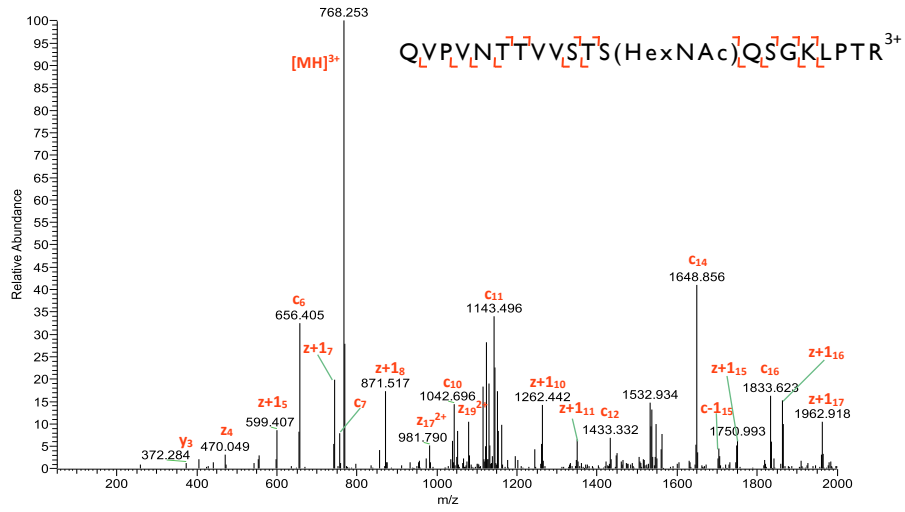
Nfrkb GlcNAc-TI270  
 T20100409-19 #1525 RT: 17.44 AV: 1 NL: 1.63E3  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 700.69@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]





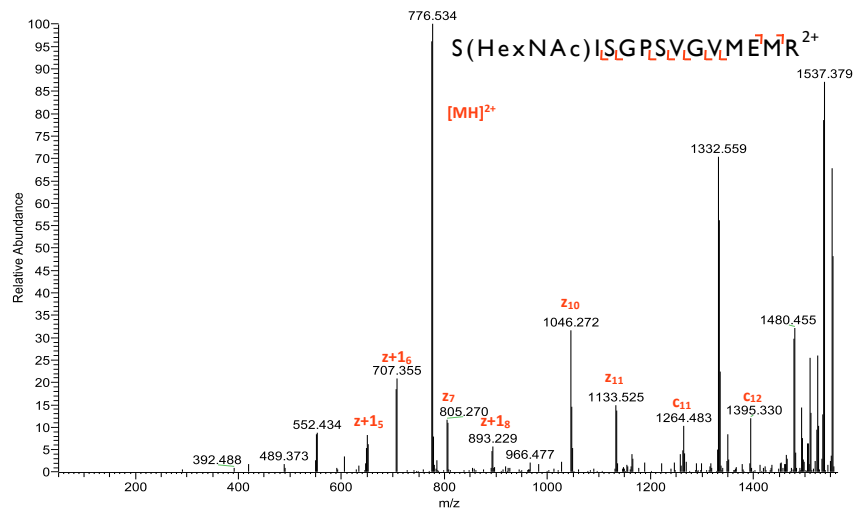
Nfrkb GlcNAc-S1172

T20100409-23 #2340 RT: 24.89 AV: 1 NL: 1.55E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 768.42@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



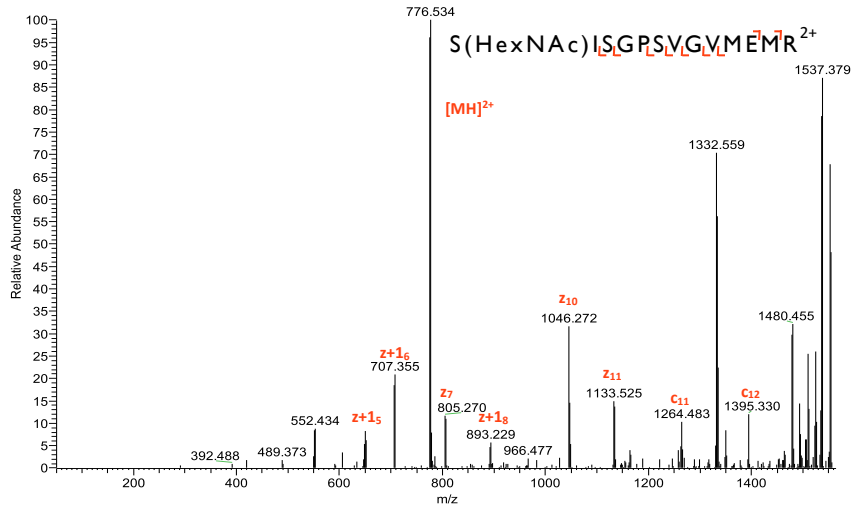
Nup53 GlcNAc-S53

T20100618-15 #3027 RT: 31.30 AV: 1 NL: 1.39E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 776.87@etd200.00 [50.00-1565.00]



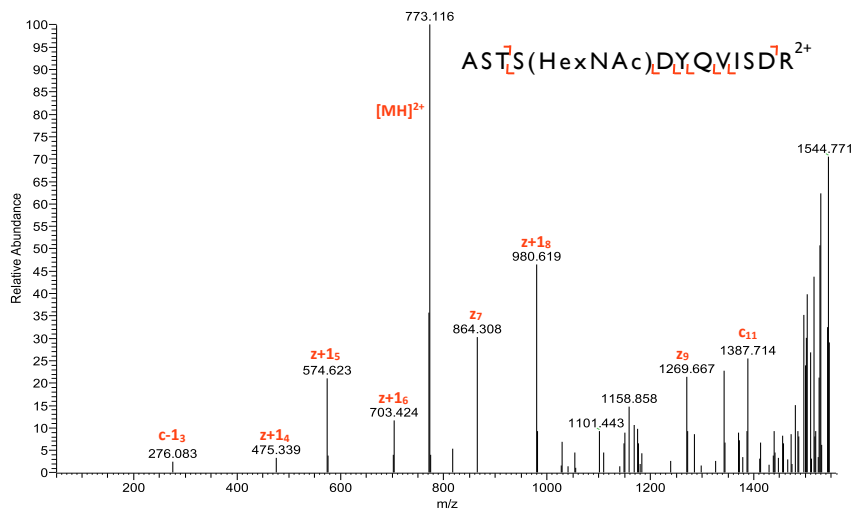
### Nup53 GlcNAc-S53

T20100618-15 #3027 RT: 31.30 AV: 1 NL: 1.39E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 776.87@etd200.00 [50.00-1565.00]



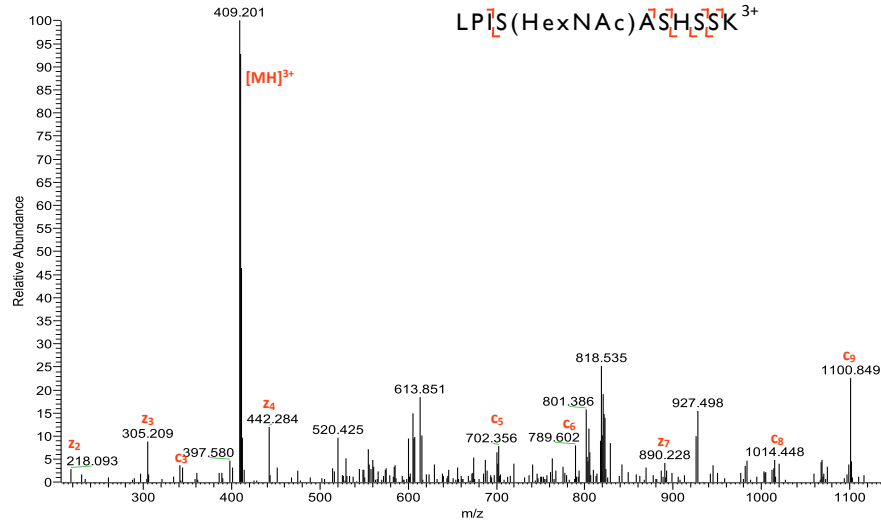
### Nup53 GlcNAc-S297

T20100618-07 #1963 RT: 20.66 AV: 1 NL: 4.10E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 772.86@etd200.00 [50.00-1560.00]



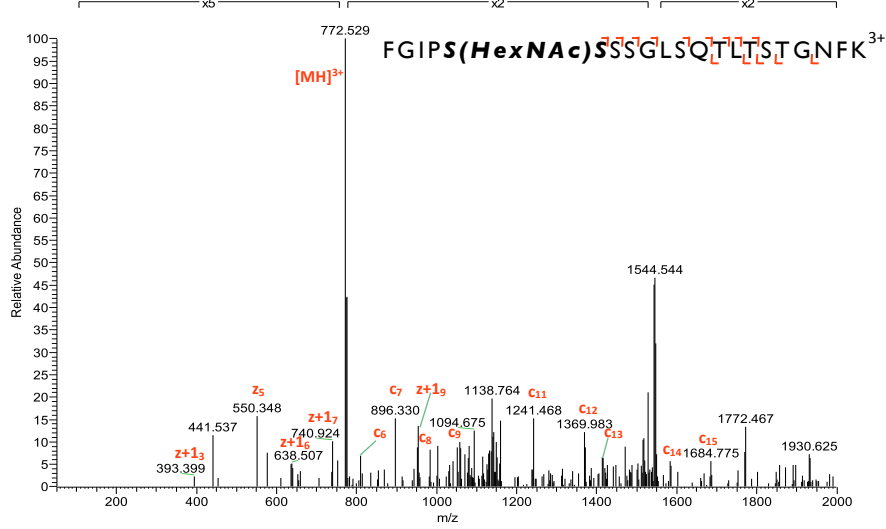
Nup98 GlcNAc-residue number

T20100409-17 #938 RT: 12.09 AV: 1 NL: 5.03E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 410.55@etd133.33 [50.00-1245.00]



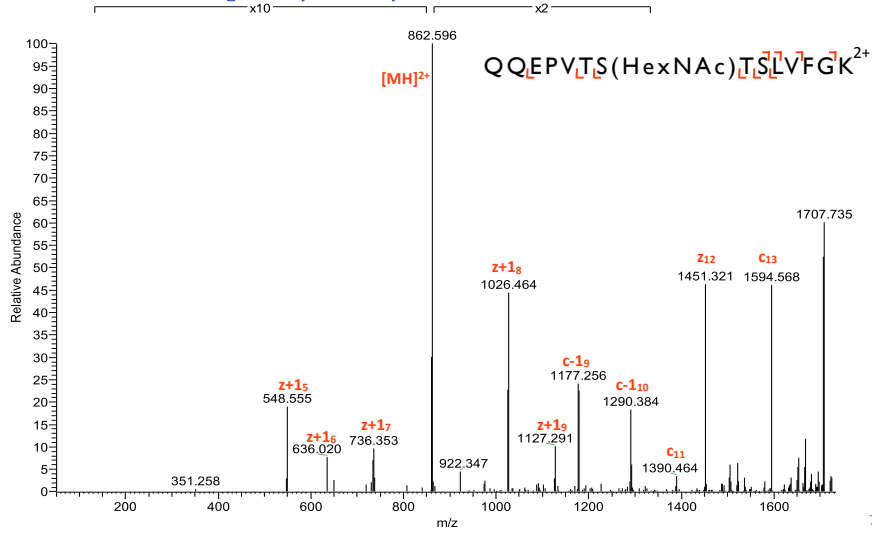
Nup153 GlcNAc-S898 or S899

T20100409-24 #3930 RT: 39.13 AV: 1 NL: 9.07E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 774.05@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



NupI53 GlcNAc-SI102

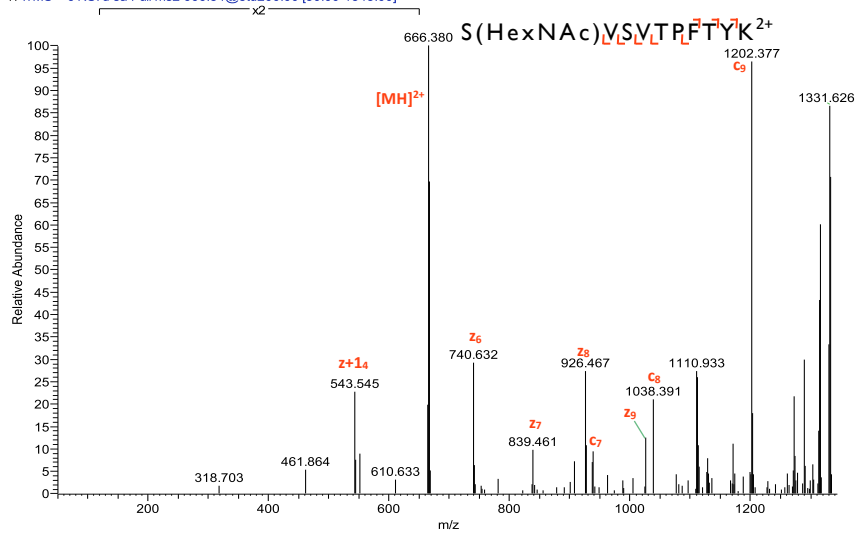
T2010409-17 #3078 RT: 30.73 AV: 1 NL: 3.38E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 862.44@etd200.00 [50.00-1735.00]



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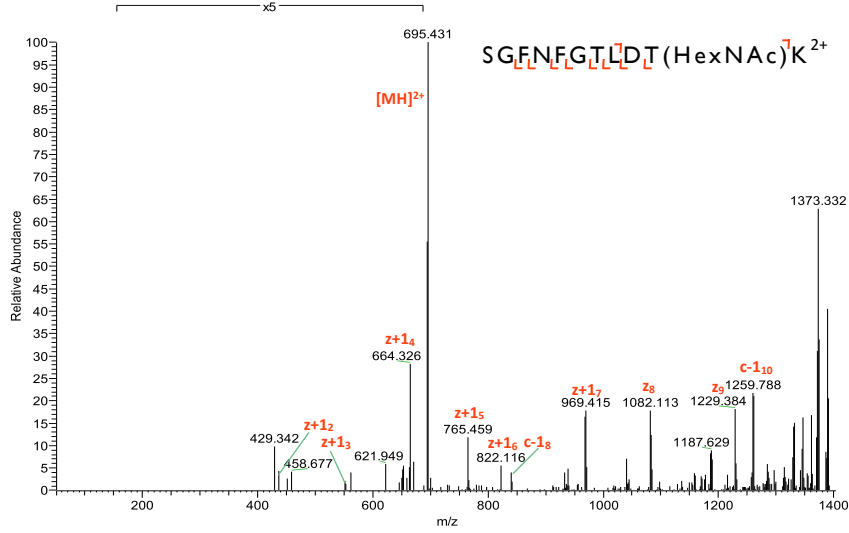
NupI53 GlcNAc-SI046

T9070413 #1859 RT: 27.19 AV: 1 NL: 2.83E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 666.84@etd200.00 [50.00-1345.00]



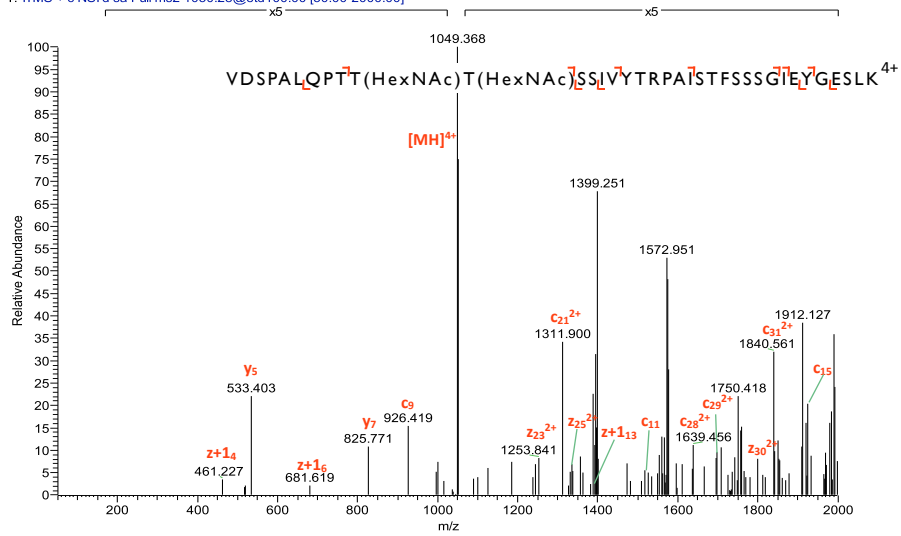
### Nup153 GlcNAc-T1044

T20100409-18 #3389 RT: 33.45 AV: 1 NL: 1.23E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 695.33@etd100.00 [50.00-1405.00]



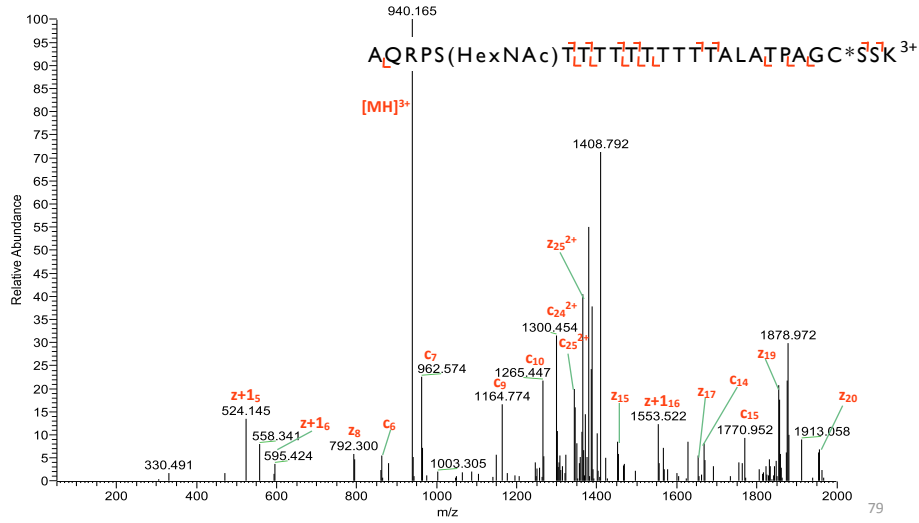
### Nup153 GlcNAc-T627 & T628

T20100409-21 #4839 RT: 46.55 AV: 1 NL: 9.68E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 1050.28@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



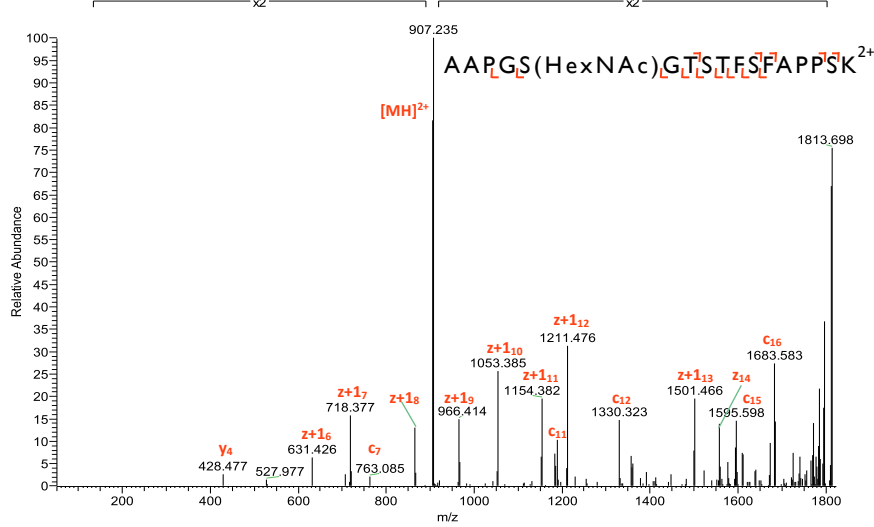
**Nup188 GlcNAc-S1522**

T20100409-17 #1974 RT: 21.16 AV: 1 NL: 3.95E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 939.79@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



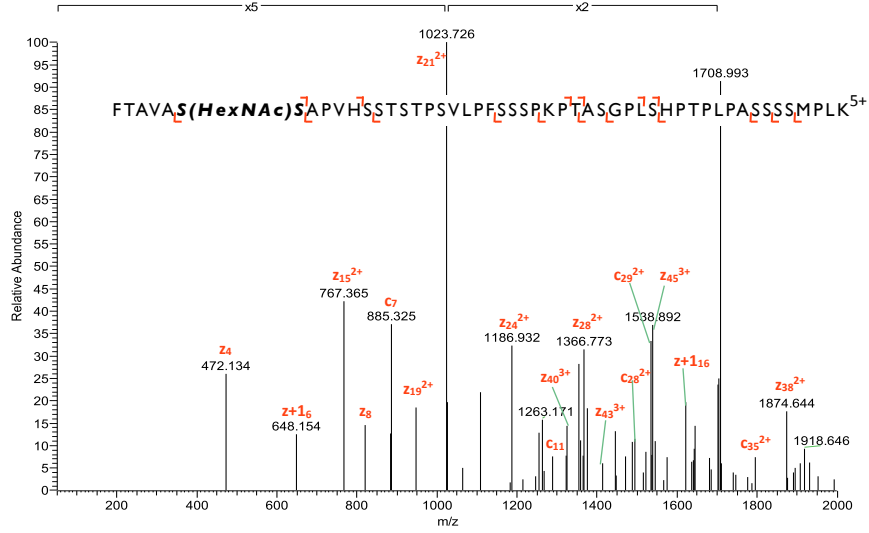
**Nup214 GlcNAc-S513**

T20100409-21 #2939 RT: 30.00 AV: 1 NL: 1.77E3  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 906.94@etd200.00 [50.00-1825.00]



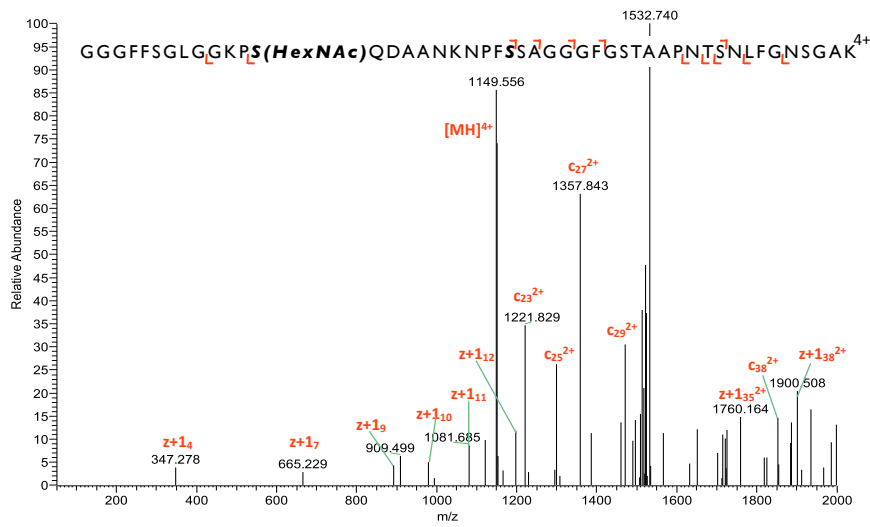
Nup214 GlcNAc-S589 or S590

T20100409-28 #3542 RT: 39.88 AV: 1 NL: 2.87E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 1025.33@etd80.00 [50.00-2000.00]



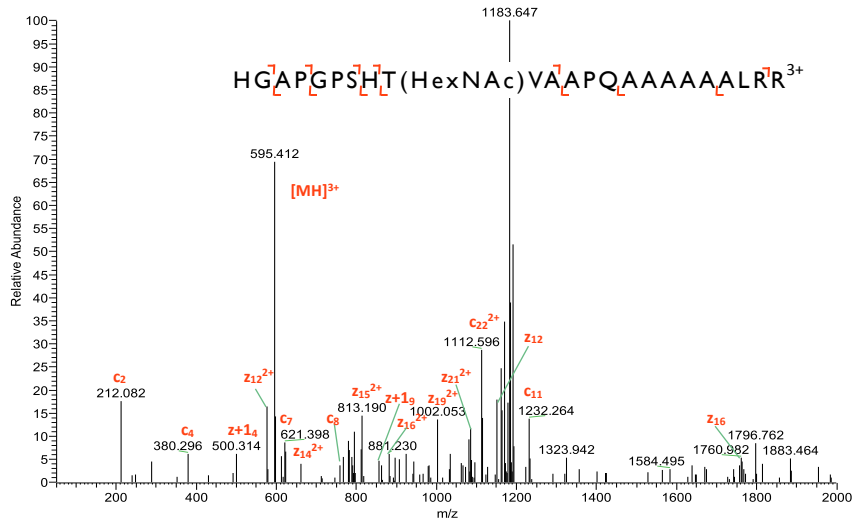
Nup214 GlcNAc-S1889 or S1899

T20100409-29 #4275 RT: 45.33 AV: 1 NL: 1.34E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 1150.05@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



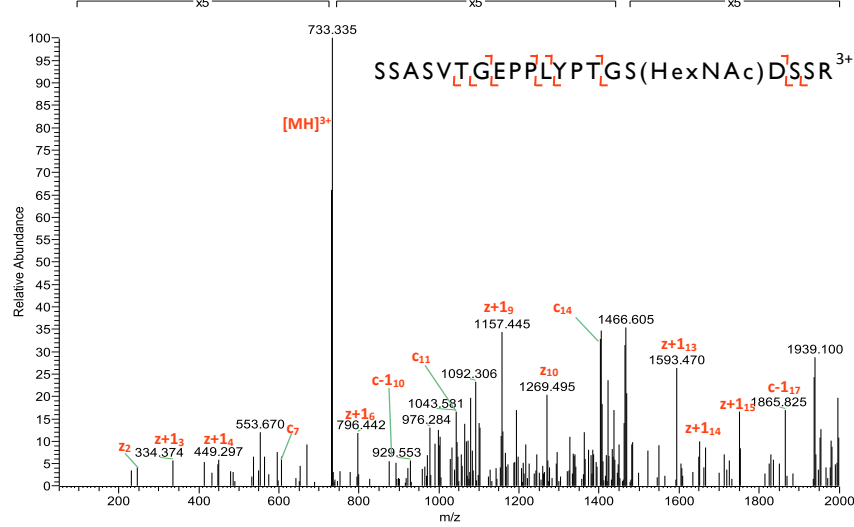
### Nup214 GlcNAc-T1091

T20101031-22 #1961 RT: 23.41 AV: 1 NL: 3.86E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 596.32@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



### Nup214 GlcNAc-S504

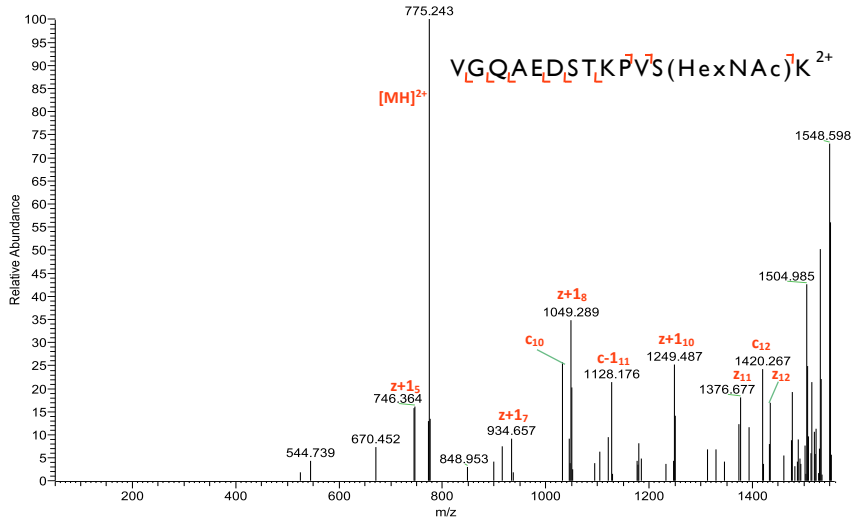
T20100409-12 #2649 RT: 26.01 AV: 1 NL: 1.40E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 733.68@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]





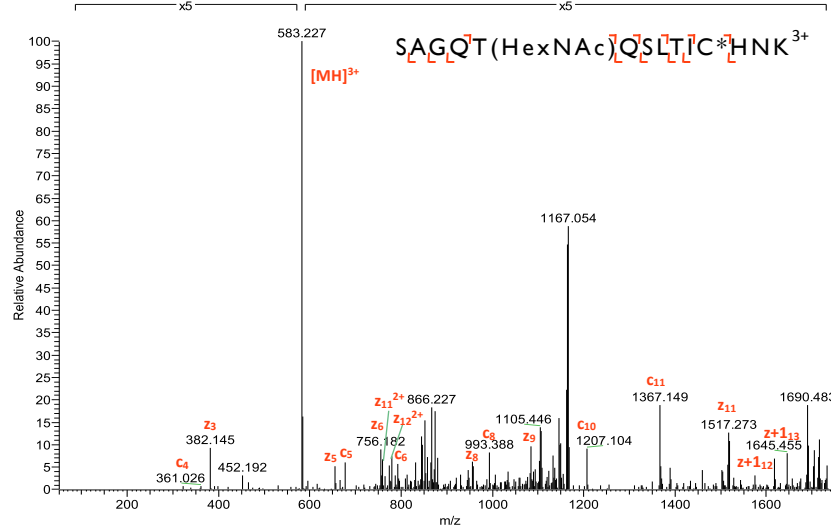
### Nup214 GlcNAc-S1362

T20100409-09 #612 RT: 8.00 AV: 1 NL: 1.64E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 774.89@etd200.00 [50.00-1560.00]



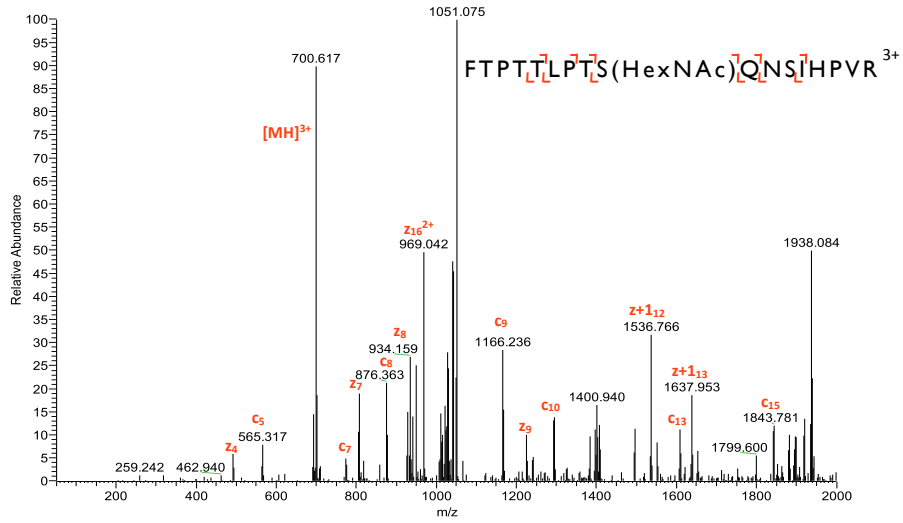
### Phc3 GlcNAc-T238

T20101031-18 #1516 RT: 17.81 AV: 1 NL: 7.03E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 583.28@etd133.33 [50.00-1760.00]



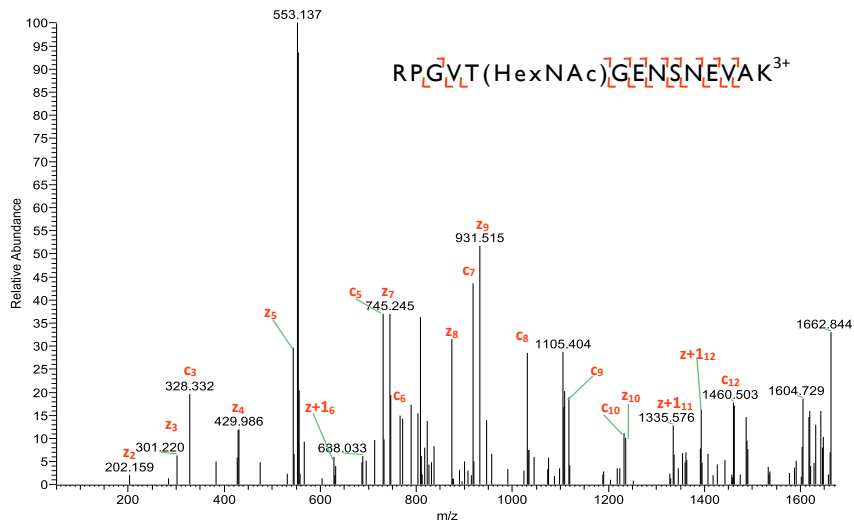
Phf21a GlcNAc-S286

T20100618-19 #2511 RT: 26.82 AV: 1 NL: 4.06E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 700.70@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



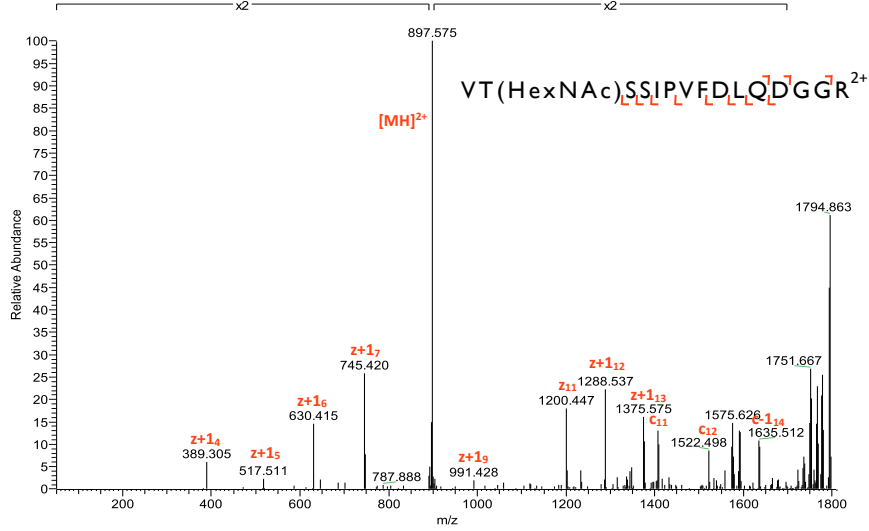
Pogz GlcNAc-T310

T20100618-06 #863 RT: 11.13 AV: 1 NL: 2.17E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 554.28@etd133.33 [50.00-1675.00]



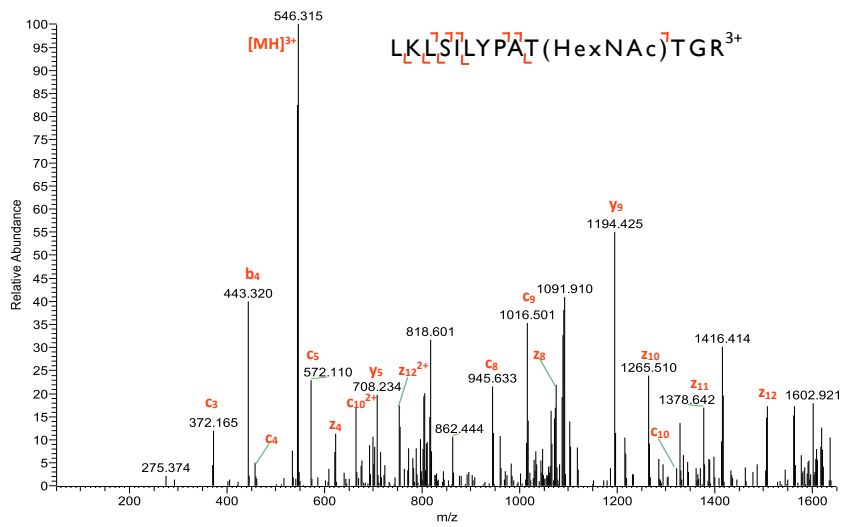
**Pogz GlcNAc-T358**

T20100409-18 #3938 RT: 38.27 AV: 1 NL: 2.82E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 897.95@etd200.00 [50.00-1810.00]



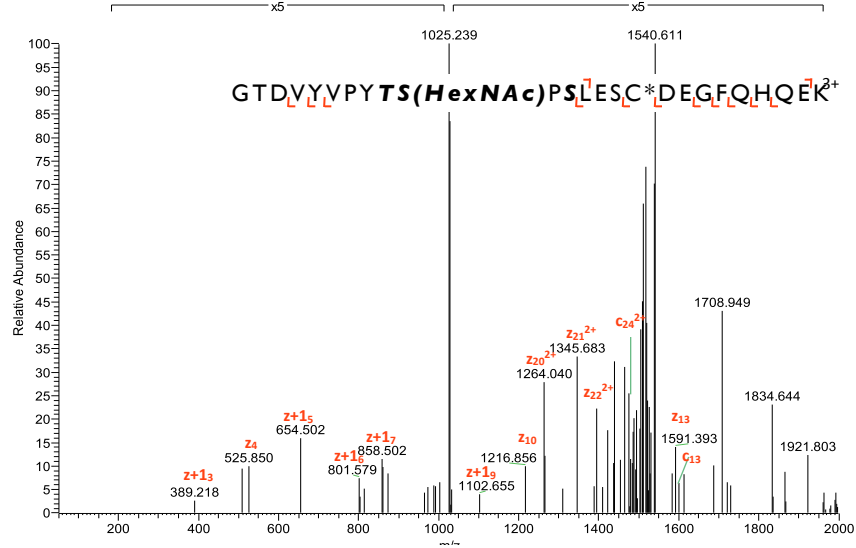
**Prdx6 GlcNAc-T152**

T20100409-18 #3023 RT: 30.22 AV: 1 NL: 1.48E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 545.98@etd133.33 [50.00-1650.00]



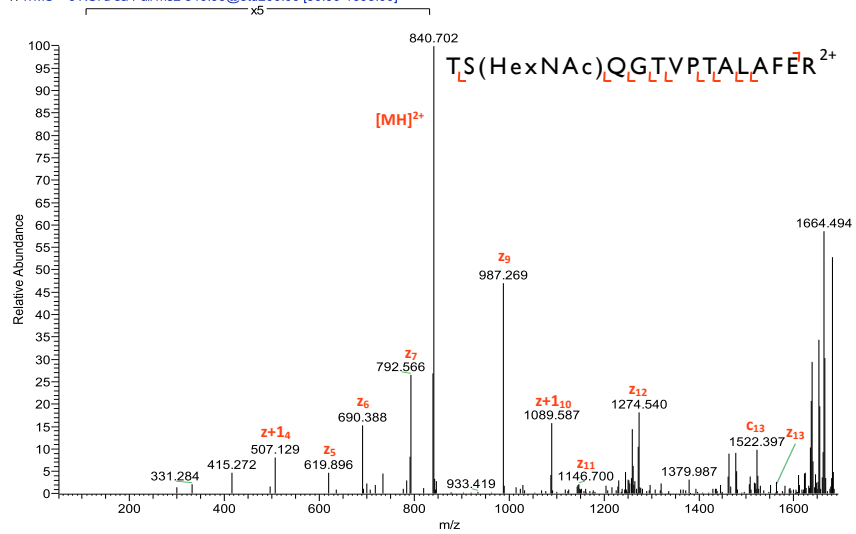
QserI G1cNAc-T1077 or S1078 or S1080

T20100409-12 #3566 RT: 34.21 AV: 1 NL: 6.60E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 1026.78@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



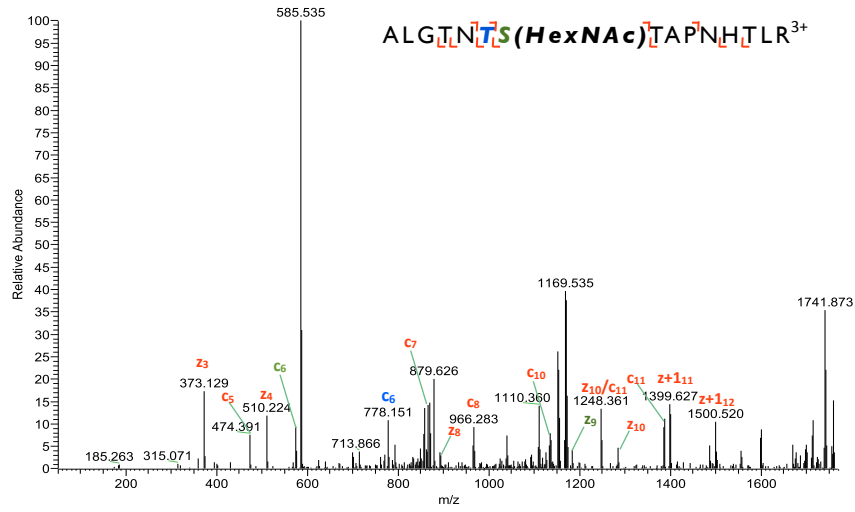
QserI G1cNAc-S105

T20100409-17 #3243 RT: 32.18 AV: 1 NL: 1.92E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 840.93@etd200.00 [50.00-1695.00]



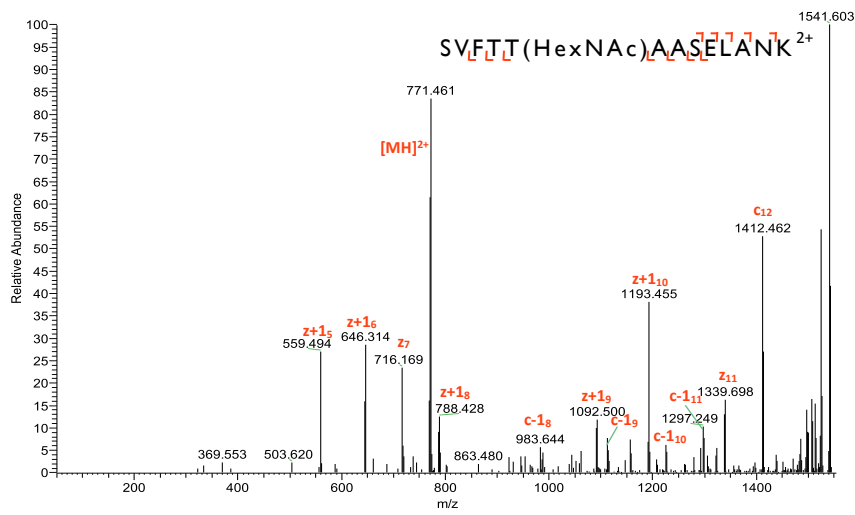
RanBP2 Mixture of GlcNAc-TI306 and S1307

T20100409-18 #1429 RT: 16.50 AV: 1 NL: 1.84E3  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 586.30@etd133.33 [50.00-1770.00]



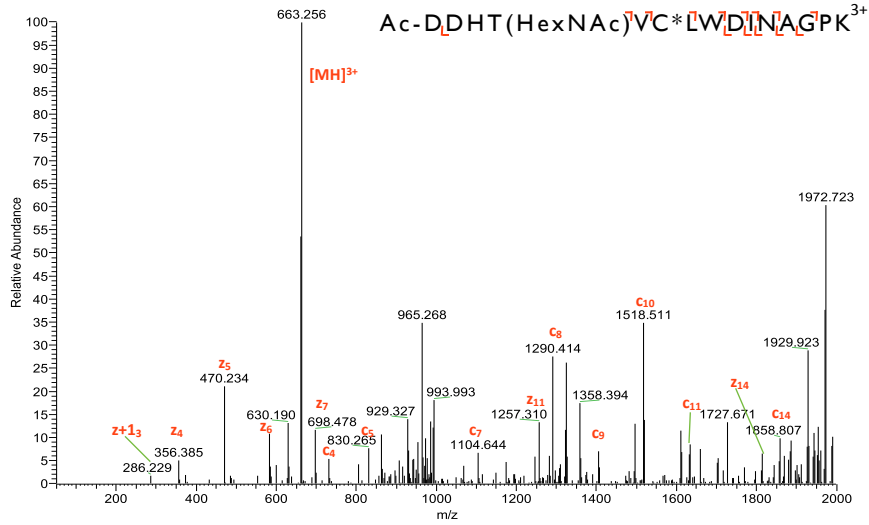
RanBP2 GlcNAc-TI138

T20100409-16 #2994 RT: 29.50 AV: 1 NL: 2.33E3  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 771.39@etd200.00 [50.00-1555.00]



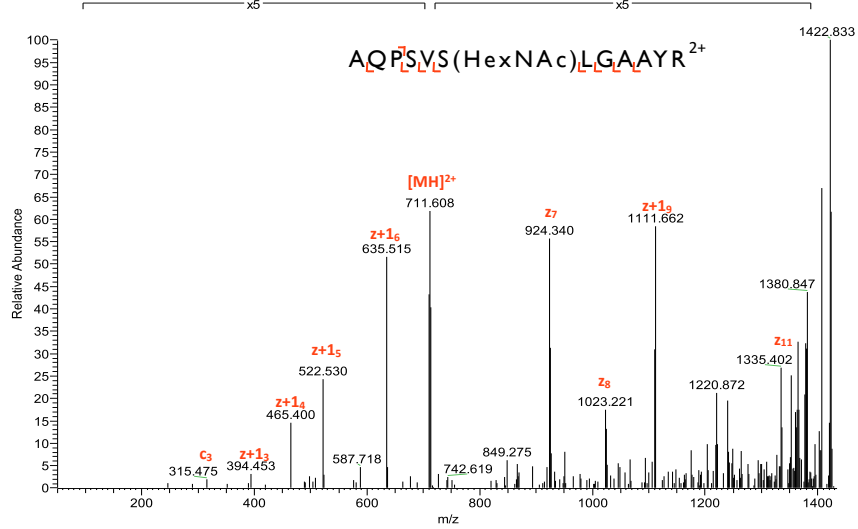
Rbbp7 GlcNAc-T4

T20100409-12 #3916 RT: 37.30 AV: 1 NL: 9.88E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 662.97@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



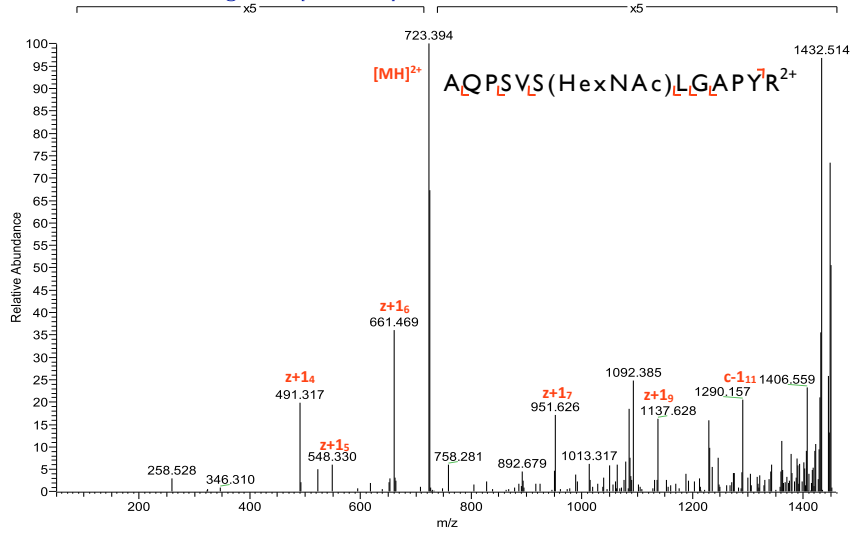
Rbm14 GlcNAc-S244

T9070407 #1643 RT: 23.31 AV: 1 NL: 1.37E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 711.86@etd200.00 [50.00-1435.00]



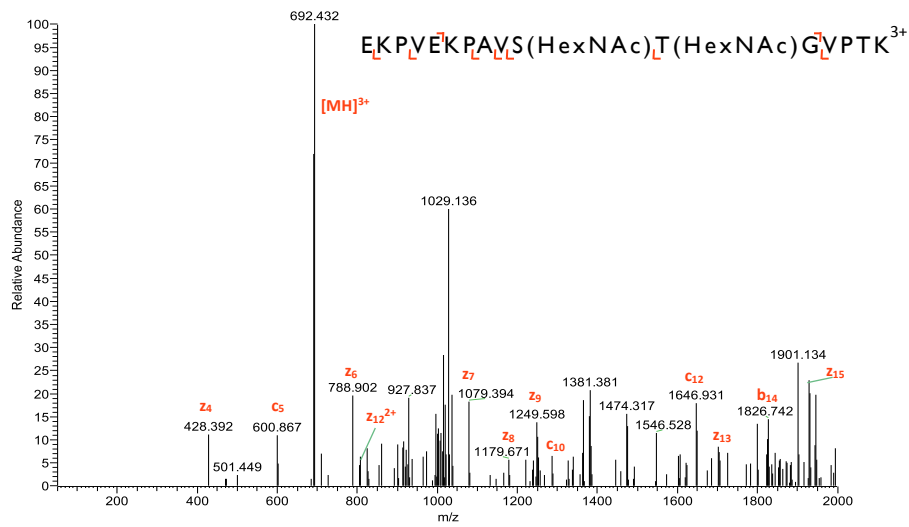
### Rbm14 GlcNAc-S280

T20100409-20 #2462 RT: 25.55 AV: 1 NL: 2.77E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 724.87@etd200.00 [50.00-1460.00]



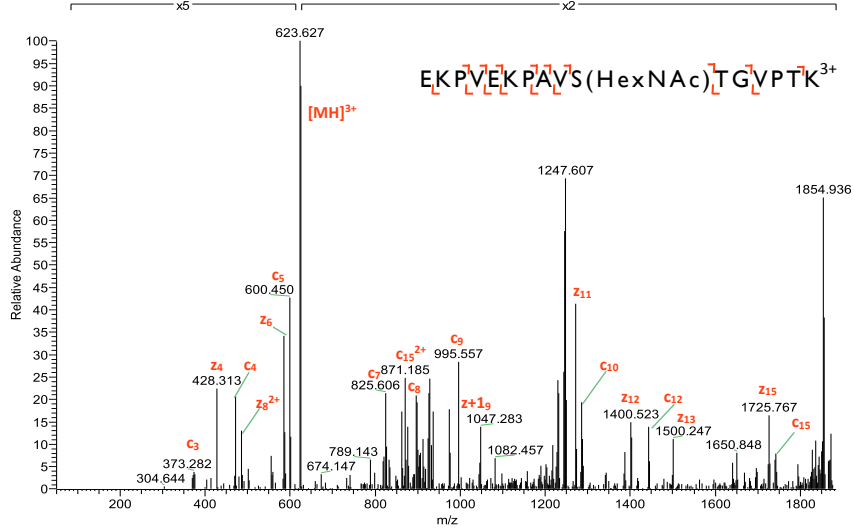
### Rprd2 GlcNAc-S103 & T104

T9081311 #1258 RT: 18.66 AV: 1 NL: 1.94E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 692.04@etd200.00 [50.00-2000.00]



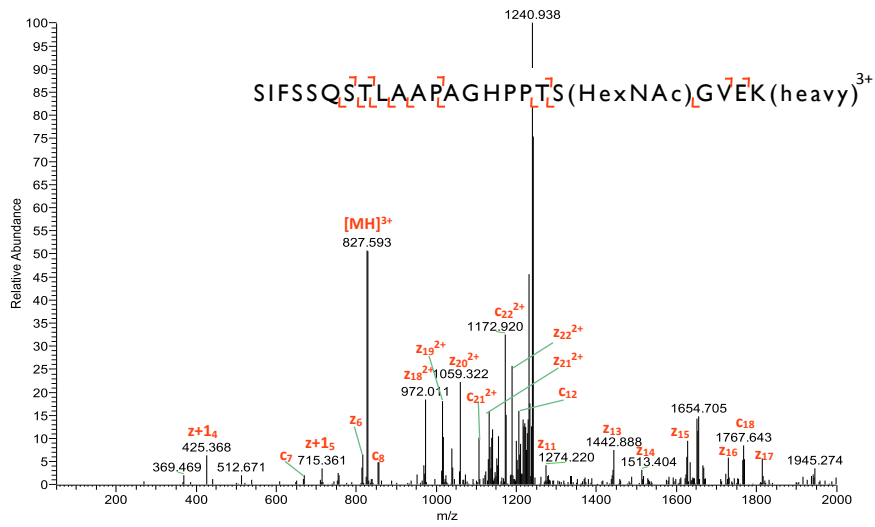
Rprd2 GlcNAc-S103

T20100409-15 #1471 RT: 16.39 AV: 1 NL: 2.97E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 624.35@etd133.33 [50.00-1885.00]



Rprd2 GlcNAc-S1110

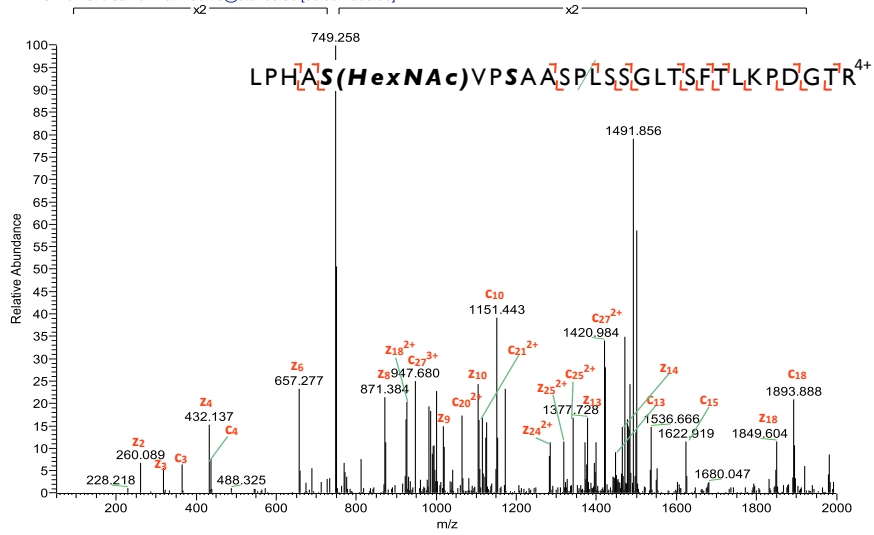
T20100618-17 #2803 RT: 28.98 AV: 1 NL: 1.76E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 827.75@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]





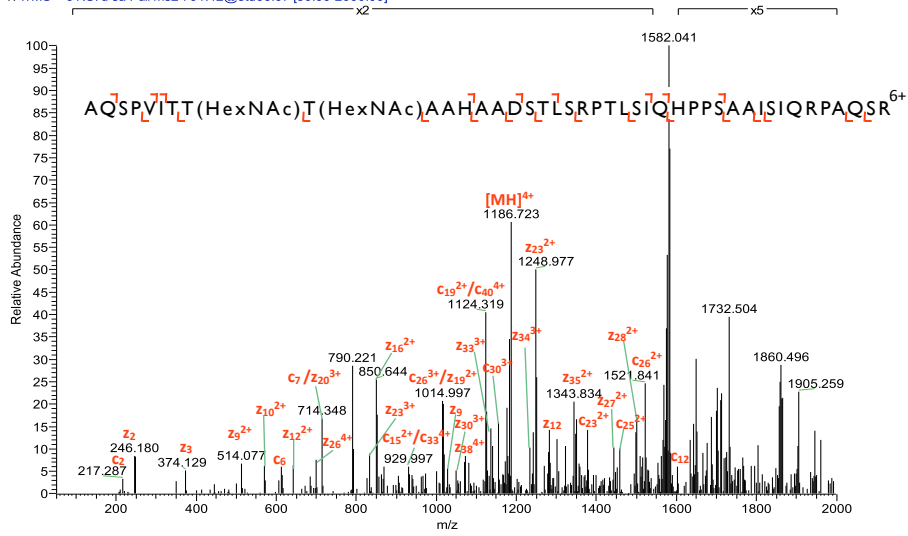
SaI4 GlcNAc-S299 or S302

T20100616-06 #3975 RT: 39.47 AV: 1 NL: 3.60E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 750.40@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



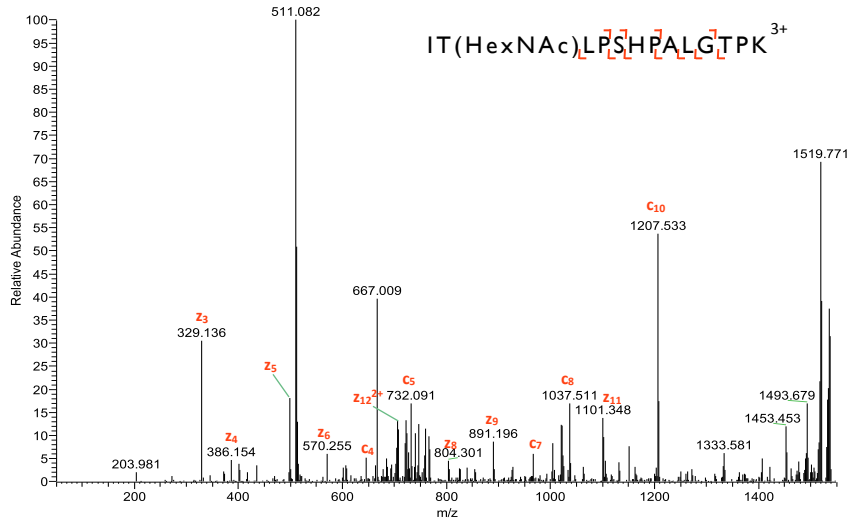
SapI30 GlcNAc-T284 & T285

T20100618-24 #2936 RT: 32.70 AV: 1 NL: 4.10E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 791.42@etd66.67 [50.00-2000.00]



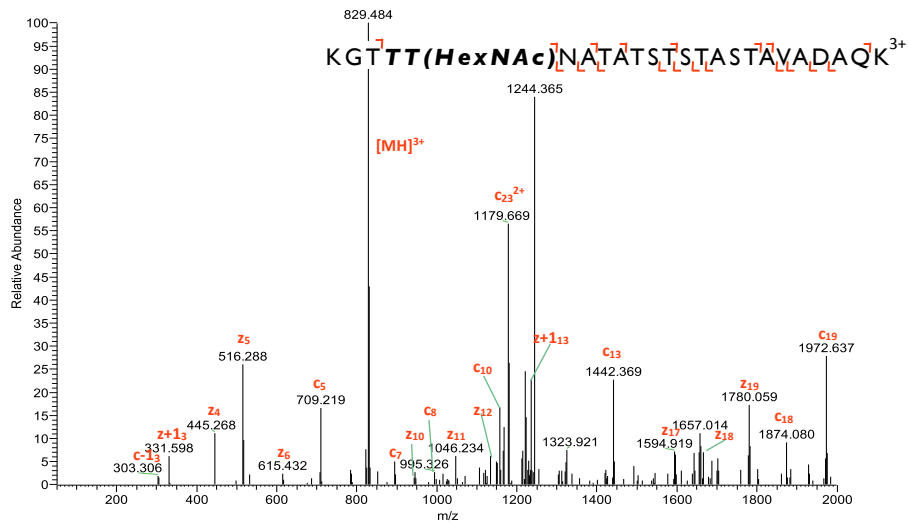
SapI30 GlcNAc-T320

T20100618-20 #2556 RT: 27.12 AV: 1 NL: 4.61E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 512.29@etd133.33 [50.00-1550.00]



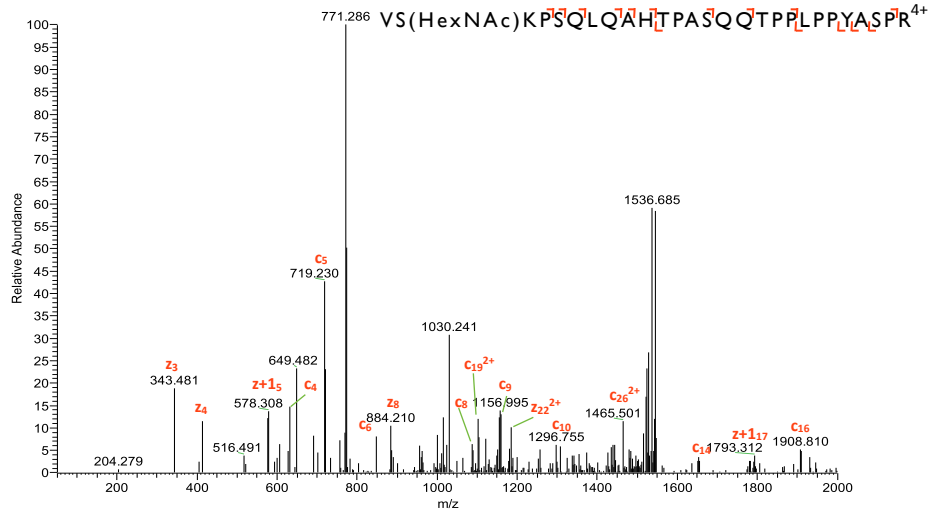
Sap30bp GlcNAc-T232 or T233

T20100618-12 #1481 RT: 17.65 AV: 1 NL: 6.65E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 830.08@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



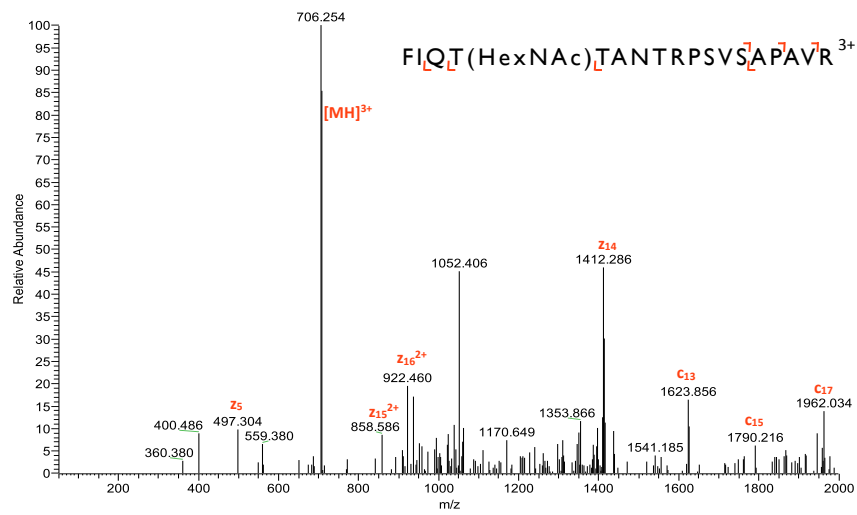
Sin3a GlcNAc-S251

T20100409-25 #2584 RT: 27.84 AV: 1 NL: 1.05E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 772.65@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



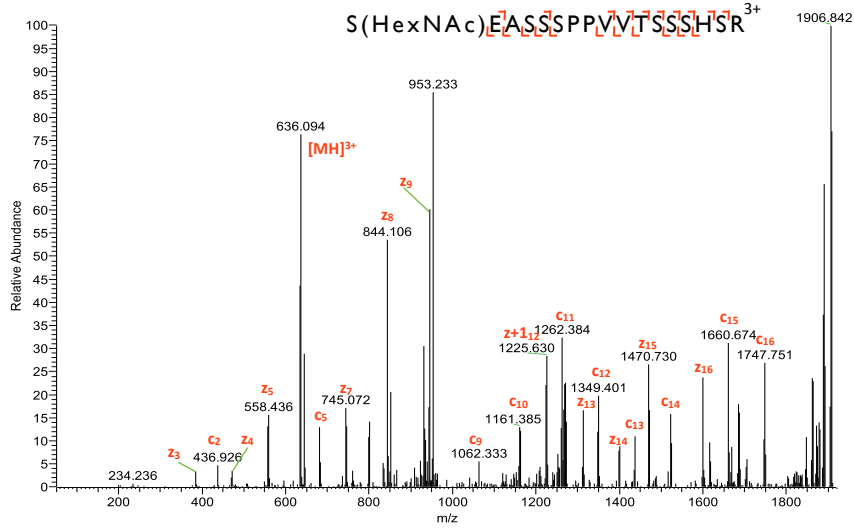
Snbol GlcNAc-T124

T20100409-25 #2171 RT: 24.05 AV: 1 NL: 7.52E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 707.38@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



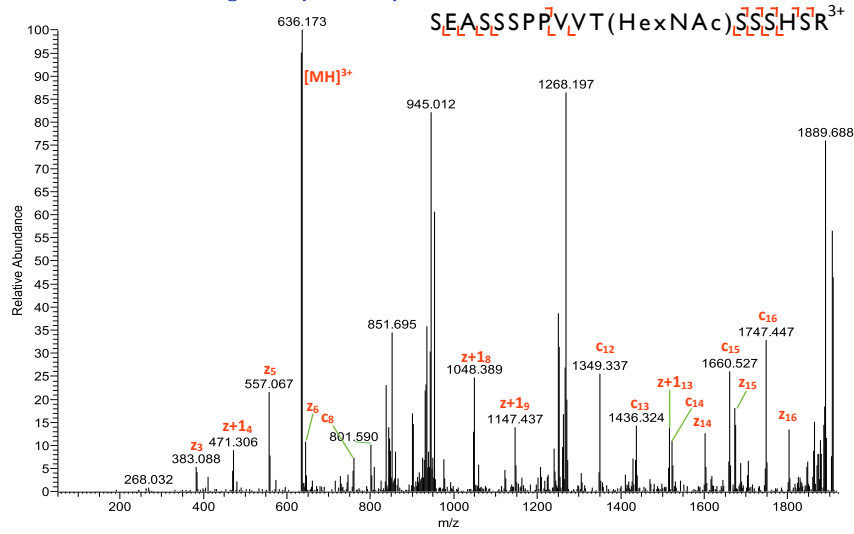
Sox2 GlcNAc-S248

T20100409-11 #1061 RT: 12.52 AV: 1 NL: 1.80E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 635.97@etd133.33 [50.00-1920.00]



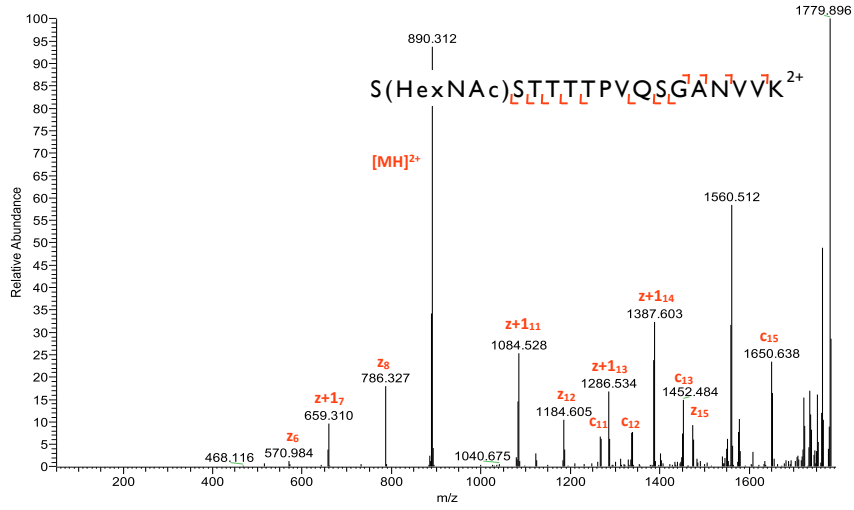
Sox2 GlcNAc-T258

T9100410 #1032 RT: 13.80 AV: 1 NL: 1.99E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 635.63@etd133.33 [50.00-1920.00]



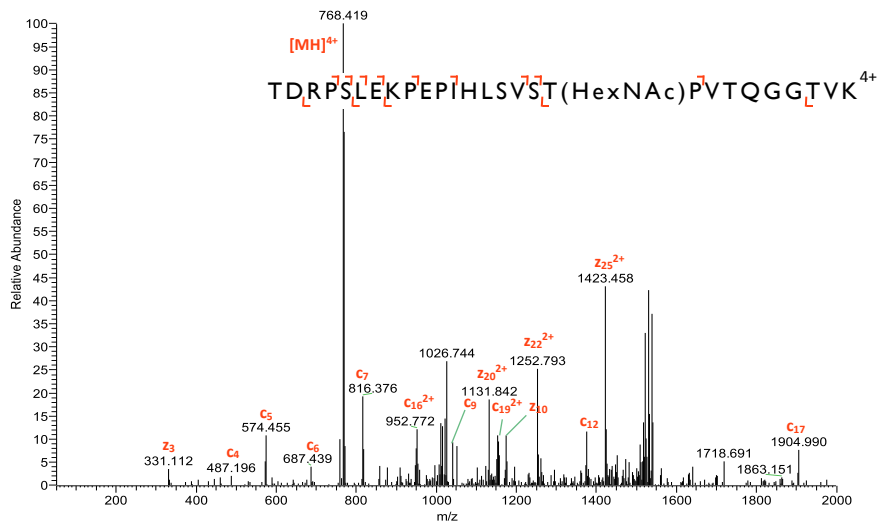
### Sp2 GlcNAc-S186

T20100409-15 #1800 RT: 19.19 AV: 1 NL: 1.62E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 890.96@etd200.00 [50.00-1795.00]



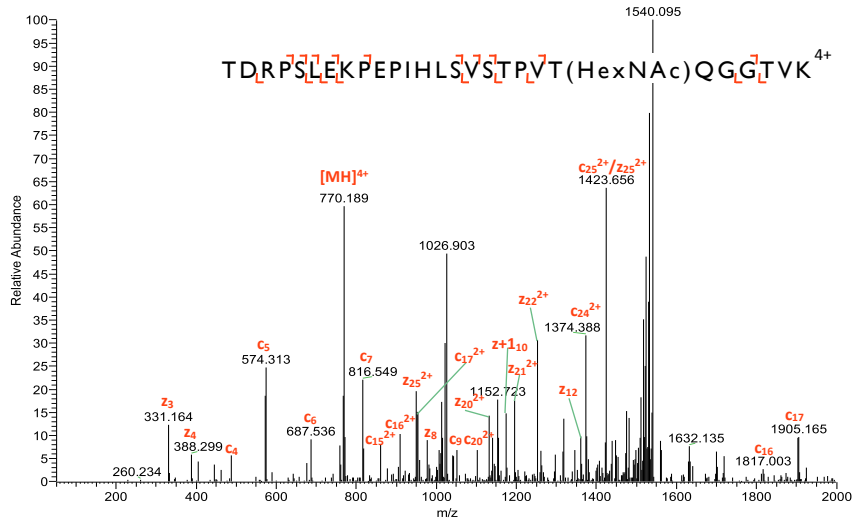
### Spn GlcNAc-T2896

T20100409-19 #3046 RT: 30.59 AV: 1 NL: 2.19E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 770.17@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



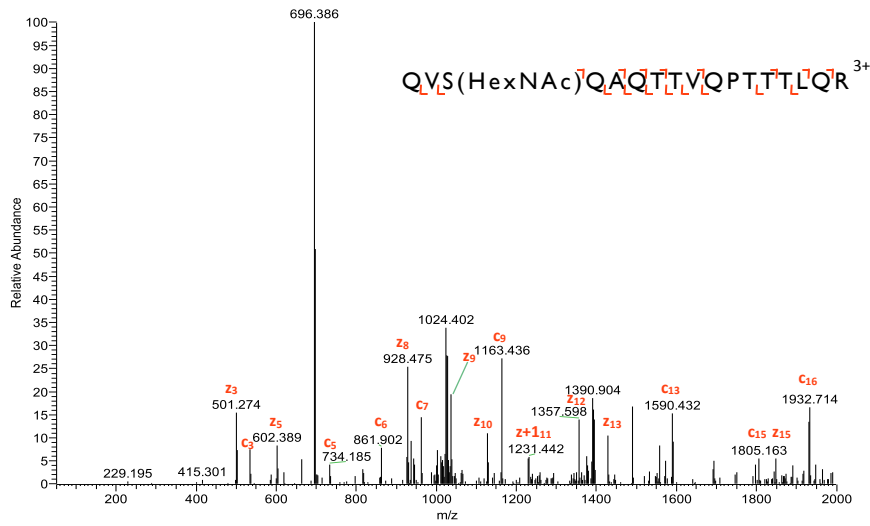
Spn GlcNAc-T2899

T20100618-17 #2924 RT: 29.94 AV: 1 NL: 2.15E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 770.16@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



Taf4a GlcNAc-S123

T20100618-14 #1860 RT: 20.81 AV: 1 NL: 1.09E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 697.70@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



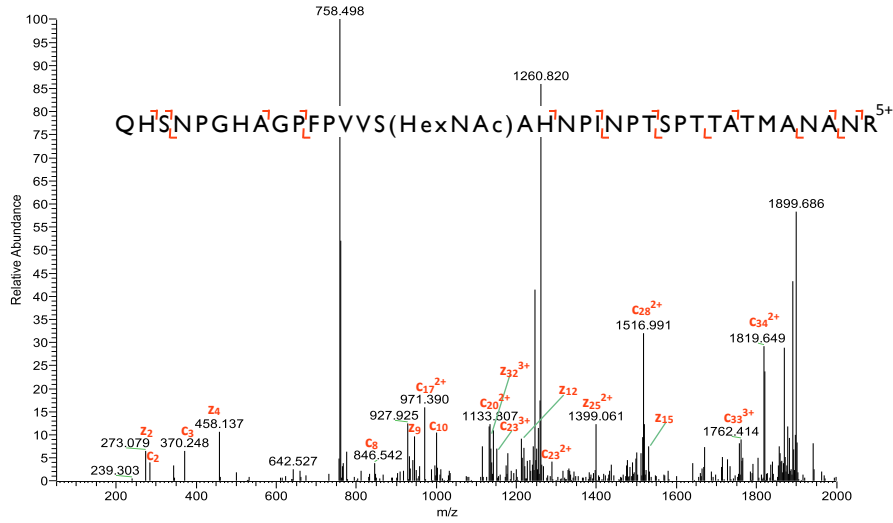






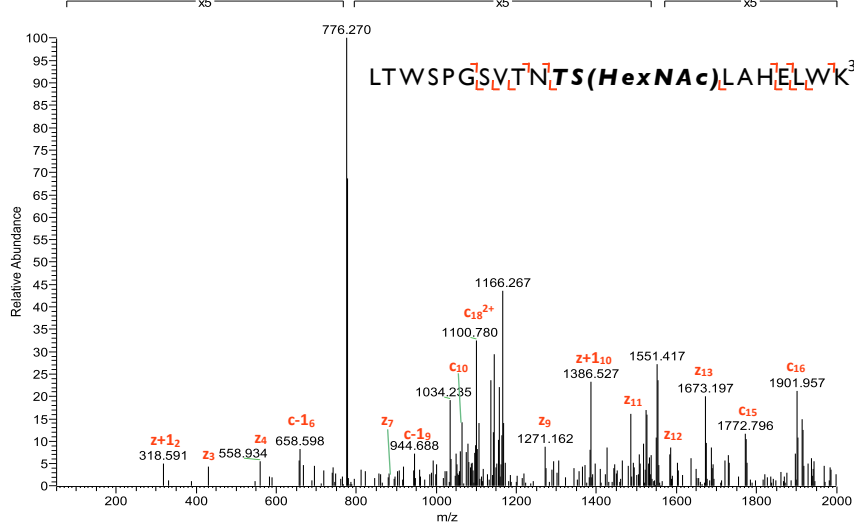
**Trim33 GlcNAc-S350**

T20100618-23 #2704 RT: 29.76 AV: 1 NL: 1.39E3  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 759.97@etd80.00 [50.00-2000.00]



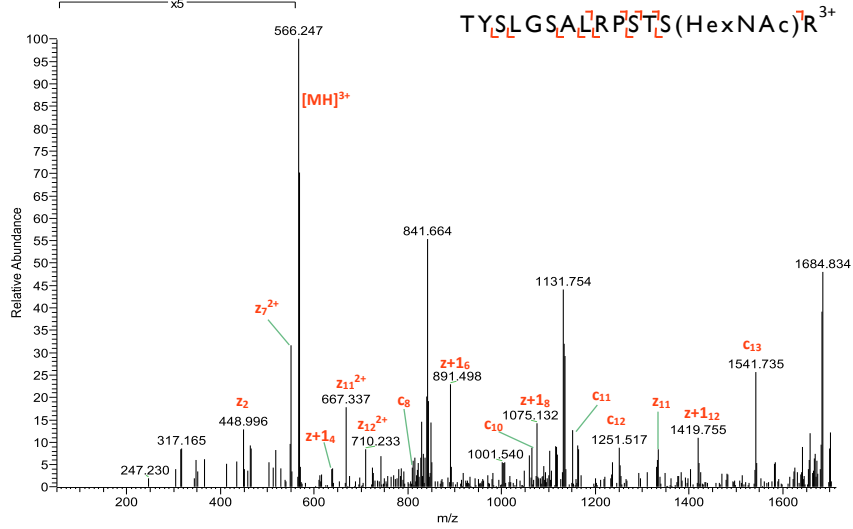
**Tnrc6a GlcNAc-TI646 or SI647**

T20100409-24 #4539 RT: 44.59 AV: 1 NL: 1.82E3  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 777.73@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



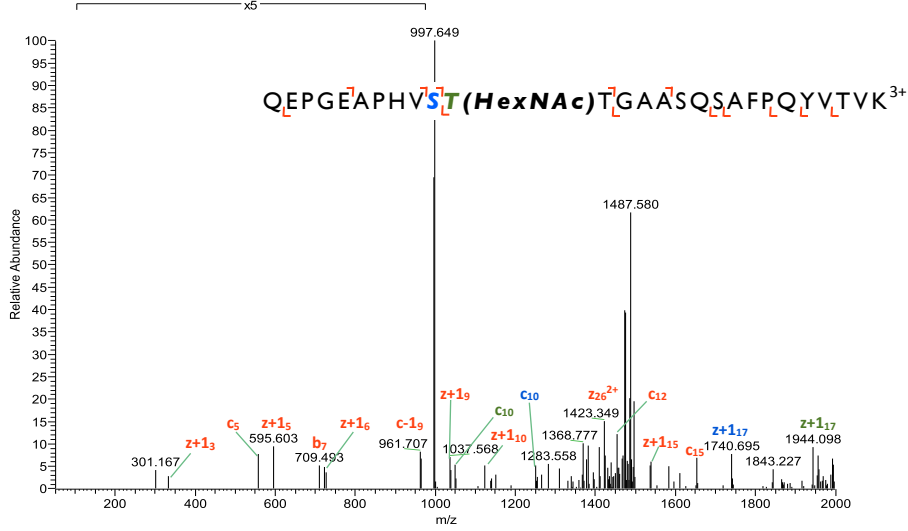
Vim GlcNAc-S49

T20100409-25 #2365 RT: 25.85 AV: 1 NL: 8.43E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 567.30@etd133.33 [50.00-1715.00]



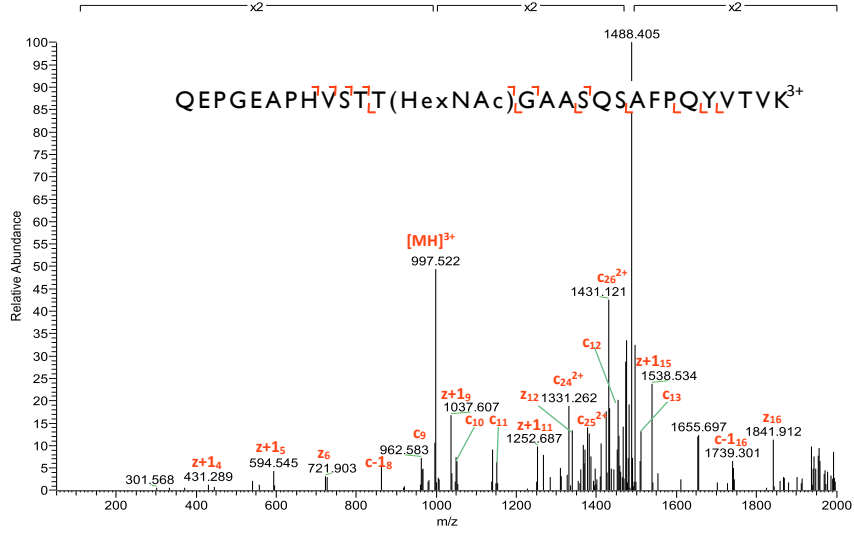
Yeats2 GlcNAc-Mixture of S600 and T601

T20100409-18 #3179 RT: 31.61 AV: 1 NL: 6.43E2  
 T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 997.82@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



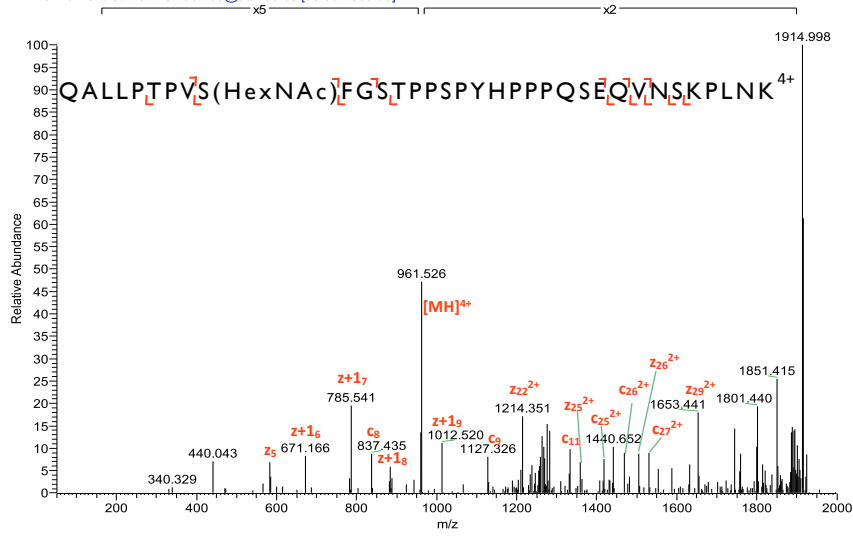
Yeats2 GlcNAc-T602

T20100618-16 #3051 RT: 30.68 AV: 1 NL: 1.46E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 997.82@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



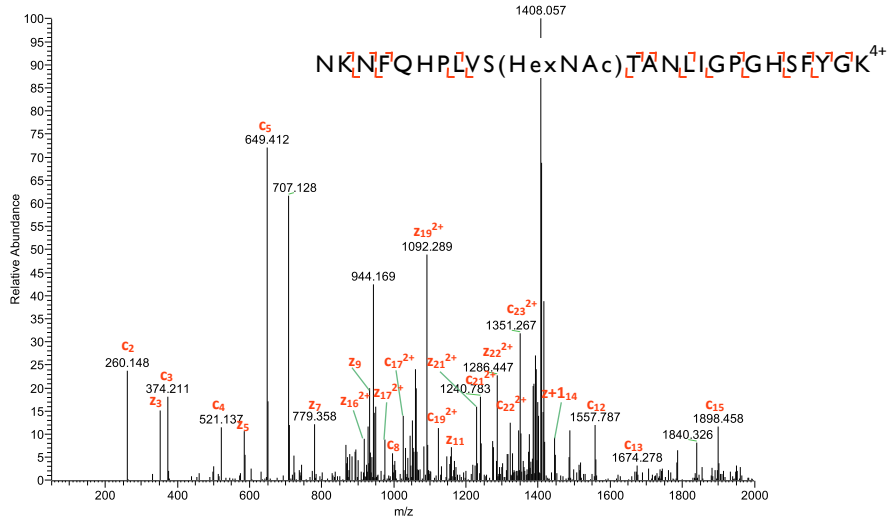
YlpmI GlcNAc-S636

T20100409-24 #3760 RT: 37.65 AV: 1 NL: 2.06E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 962.00@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



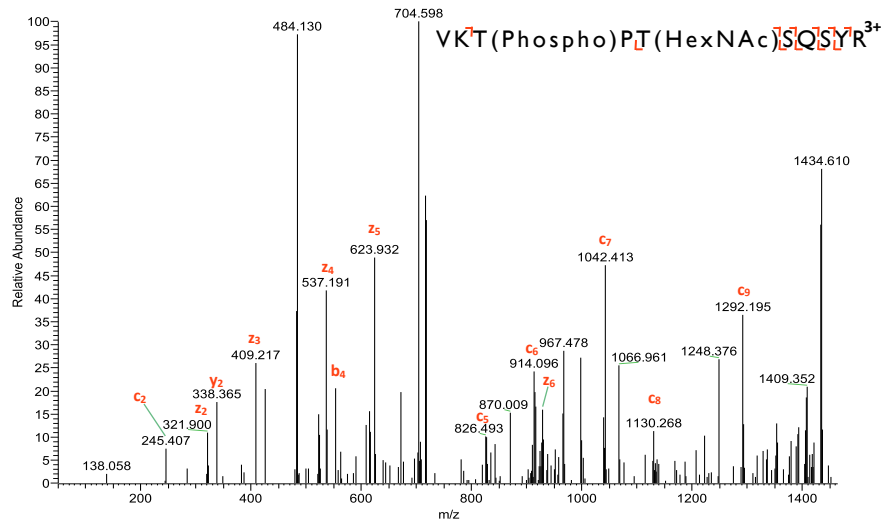
Zfx3 GlcNAc-S352

T20100618-26 #2999 RT: 32.40 AV: 1 NL: 1.07E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 708.37@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



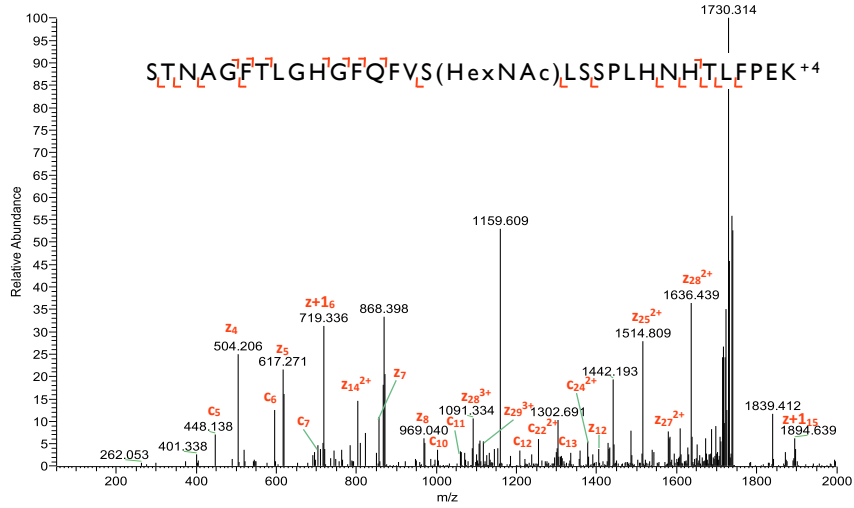
Zfp281 GlcNAc-T888

T3100412 #809 RT: 12.50 AV: 1 NL: 3.24E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 483.89@etd133.33 [50.00-1465.00]



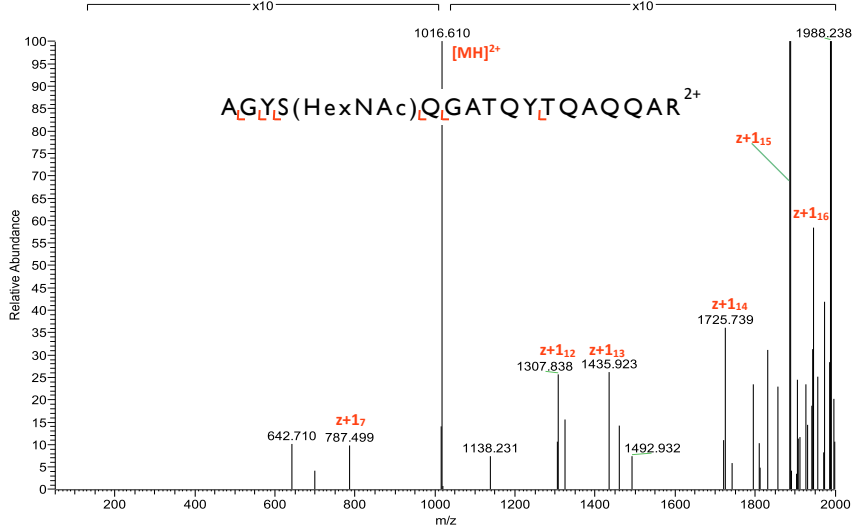
### Zfp281 GlcNAc-S691

T20101031-21 #4175 RT: 40.93 AV: 1 NL: 4.68E3  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 869.44@etd100.00 [50.00-2000.00]



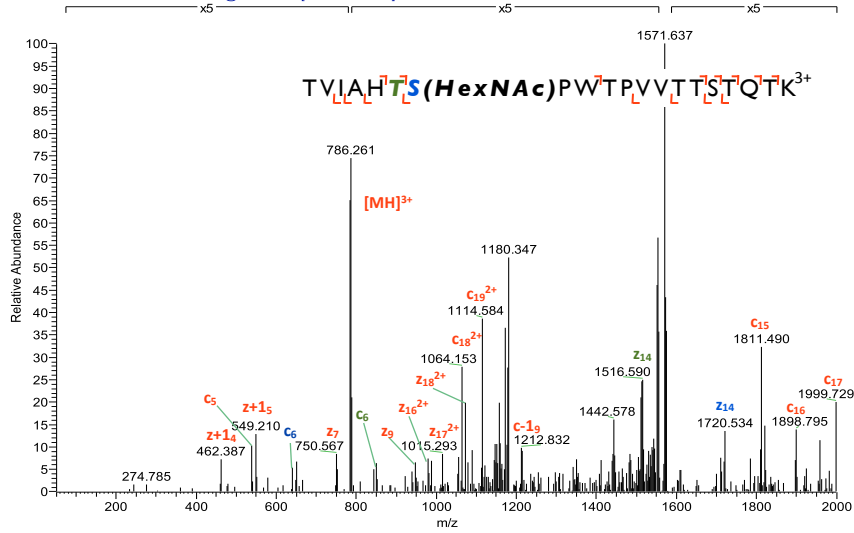
### Zfr GlcNAc-S195

T20100409-16 #1584 RT: 17.50 AV: 1 NL: 6.34E2  
T: ITMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 1016.98@etd200.00 [50.00-2000.00]



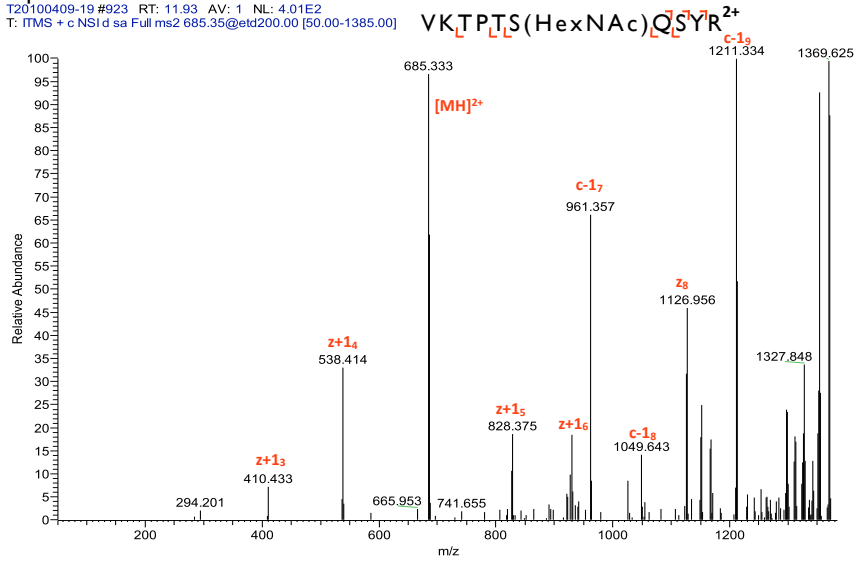
Znf318 Mixture of GlcNAc-T1185 and S1186

T20100409-23 #2953 RT: 30.08 AV: 1 NL: 3.27E3  
 T: FTMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 787.08@etd133.33 [50.00-2000.00]



Zfp281 GlcNAc-T889

T20100409-19 #923 RT: 11.93 AV: 1 NL: 4.01E2  
 T: FTMS + c NSI d sa Full ms2 685.35@etd200.00 [50.00-1385.00]

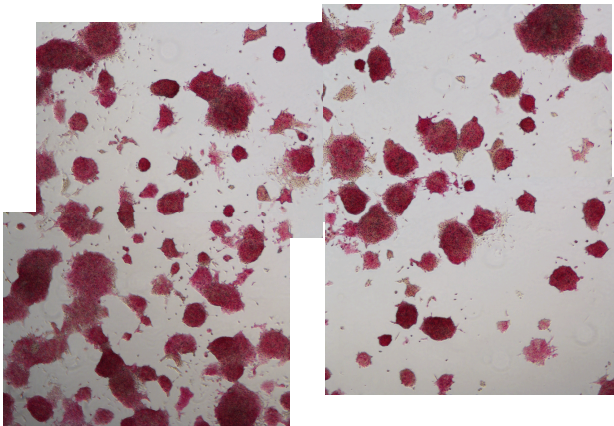


**Appendix II** Alkaline phosphatase staining and colony morphology of fSOX2-Tg and fS248A-Tg cells

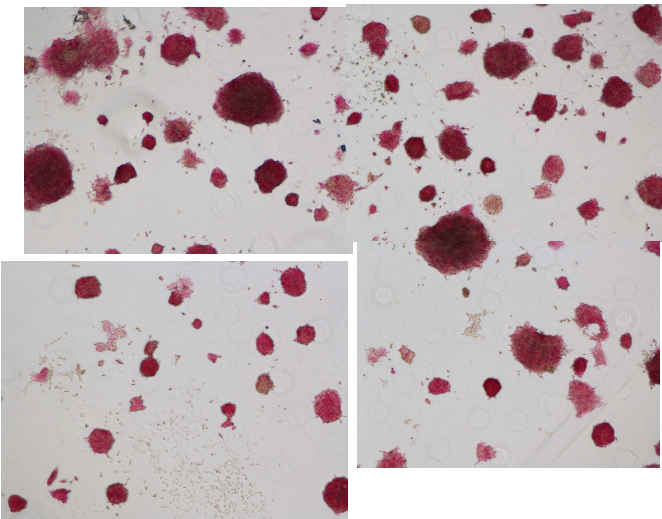
## Alkaline Phosphatase Images of Differential SOX2 Interactor Knockdowns

Images of alkaline phosphatase staining for fSOX2-Tg or fS248A-Tg cells with the knockdowns of *Gfp* or genes that were identified to differentially interact with 3xF-SOX2<sup>WT</sup> or 3xF-SOX2<sup>S248A</sup>. See Chapter 5 Figure9C for quantiation. Each figure is four concatenated fields of view at 4x.

fSOX2-Tg mock

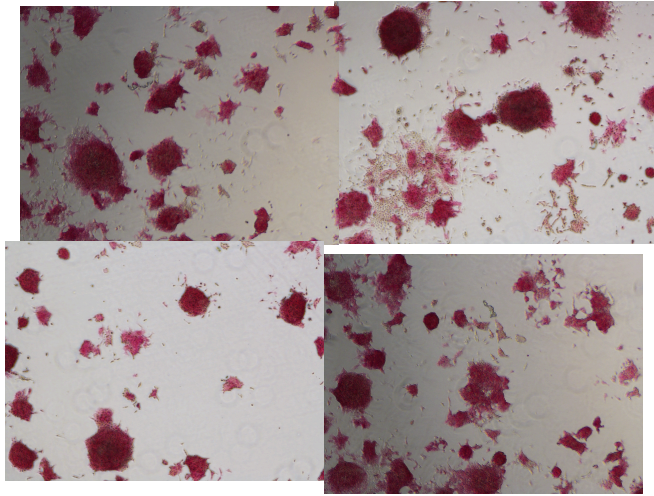


fSOX2-Tg Dnmt I

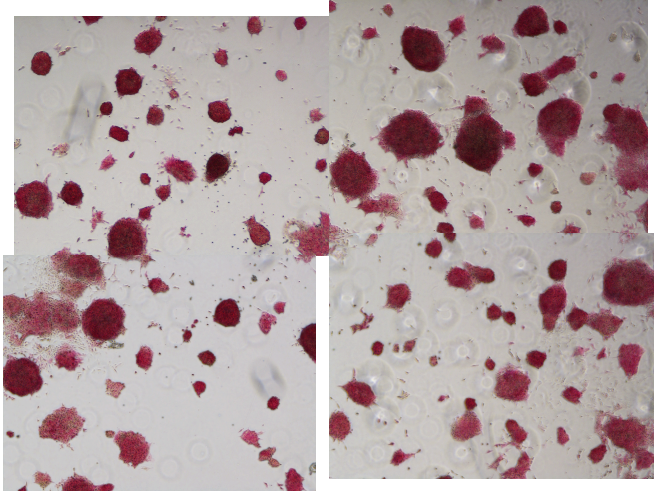




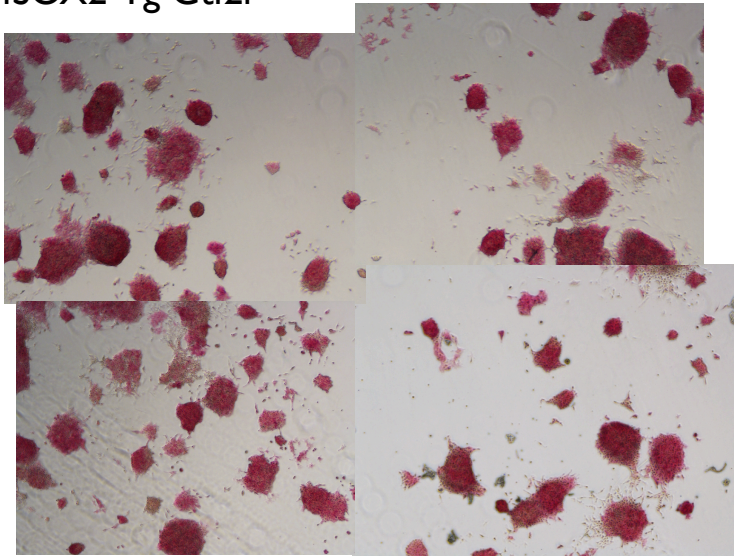
fSOX2-Tg Brg1



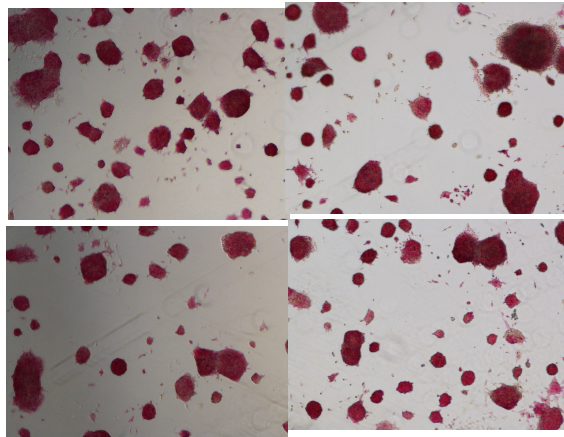
fSOX2-Tg GataD2beta



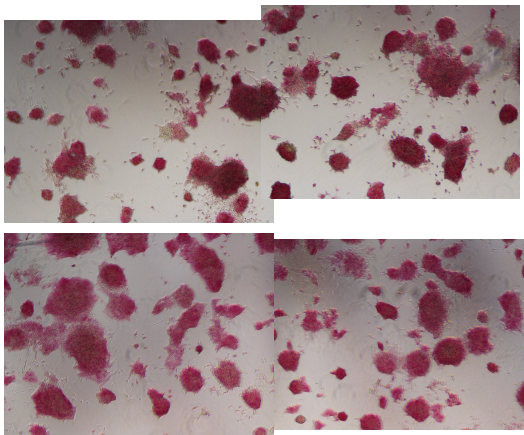
fSOX2-Tg Gtf2i



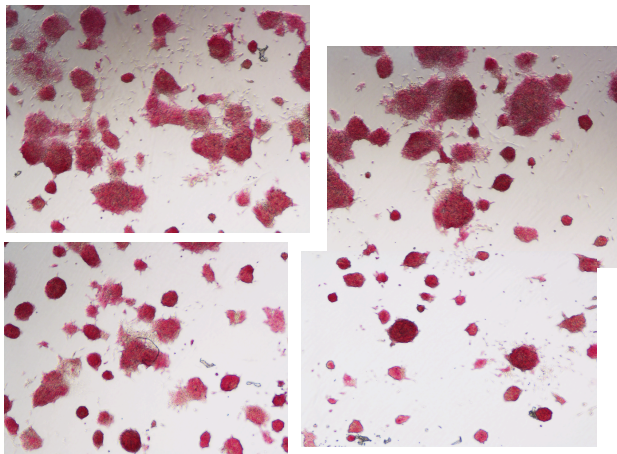
fSOX2-Tg Mbd3



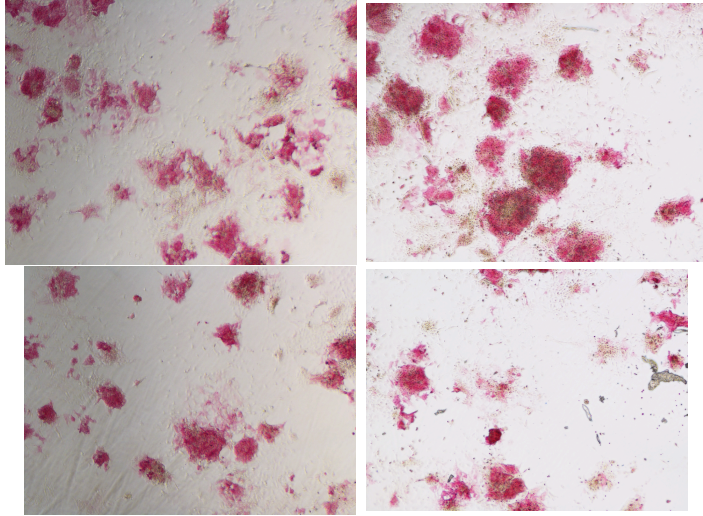
fSOX2-Tg Msh2



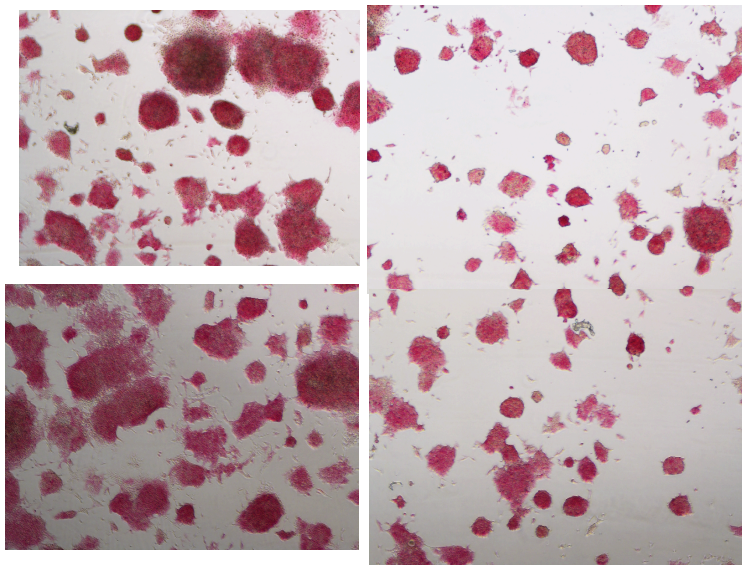
fSOX2-Tg Mta2



fSOX2-Tg Oct4

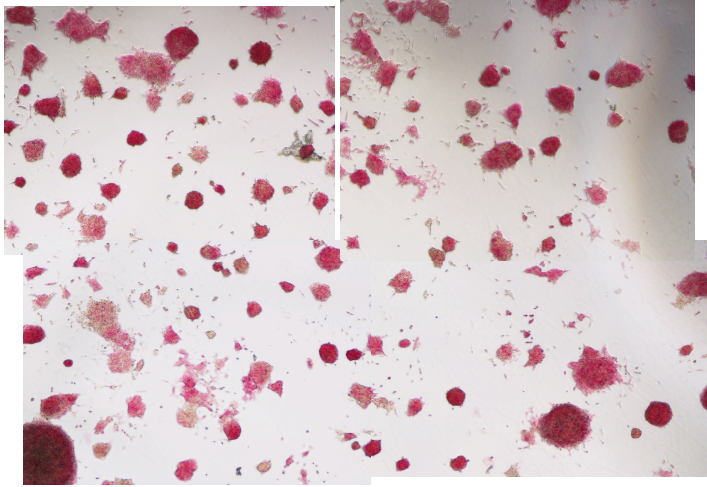


fSOX2-Tg Parp1

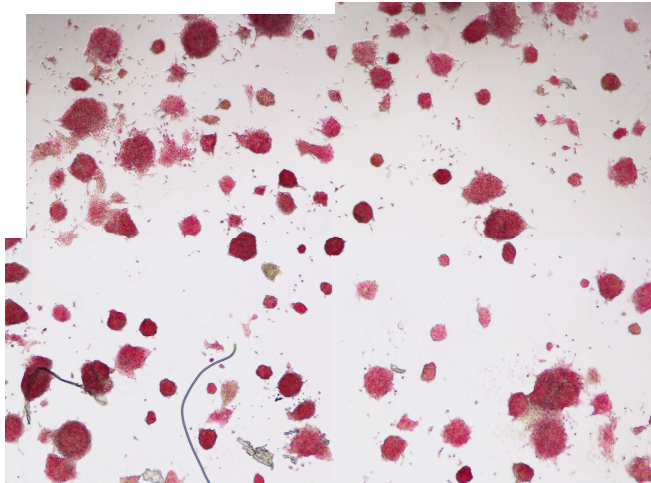




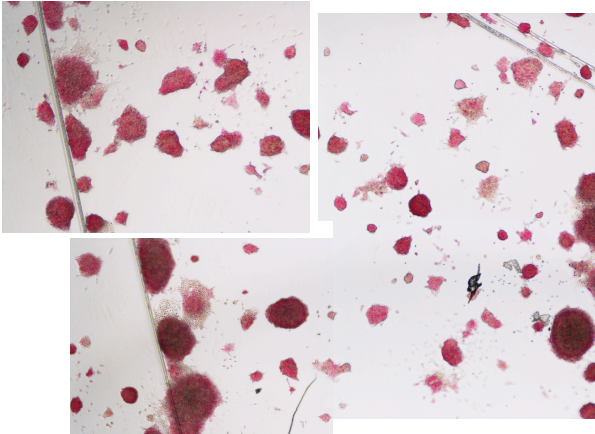
fSOX2-Tg Stk38



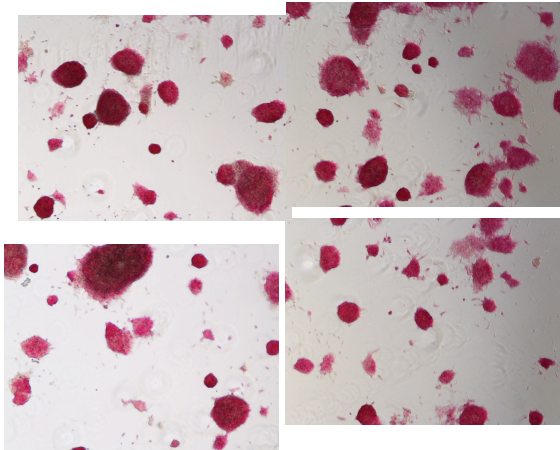
fSOX2-Tg Wdr76



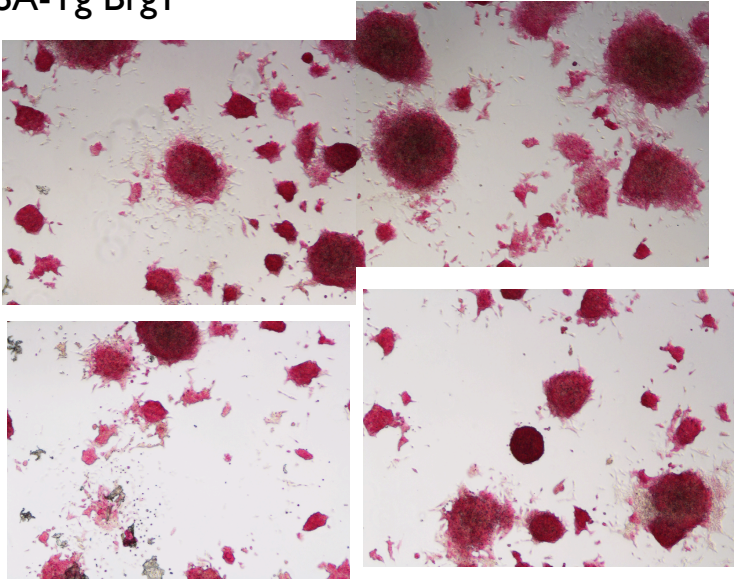
fSOX2-Tg Xrcc5



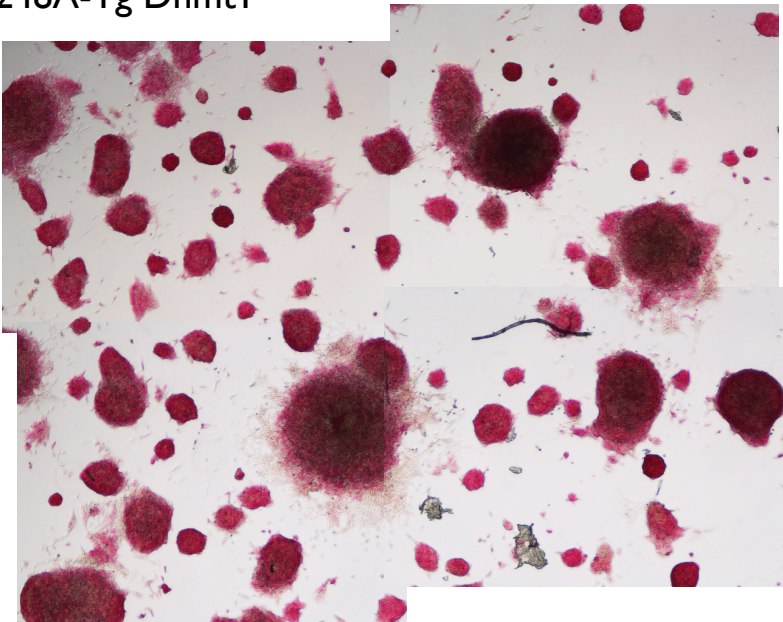
fS248A-Tg mock



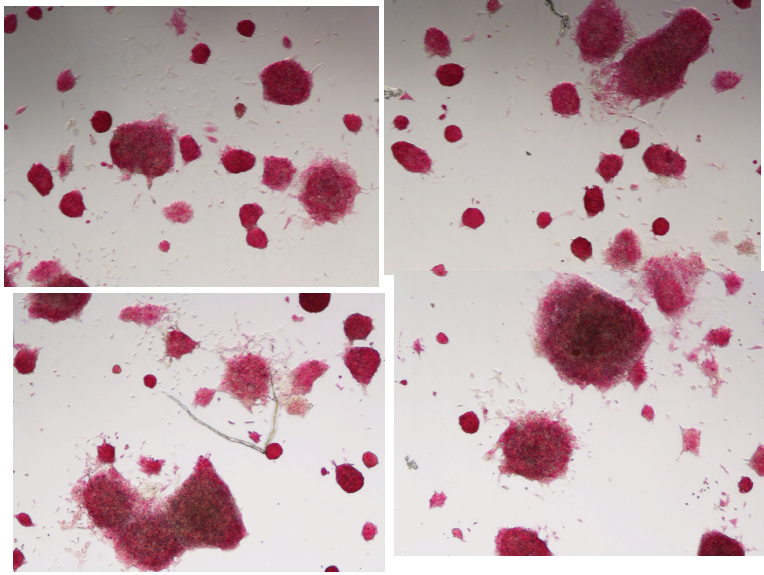
fS248A-Tg Brg1



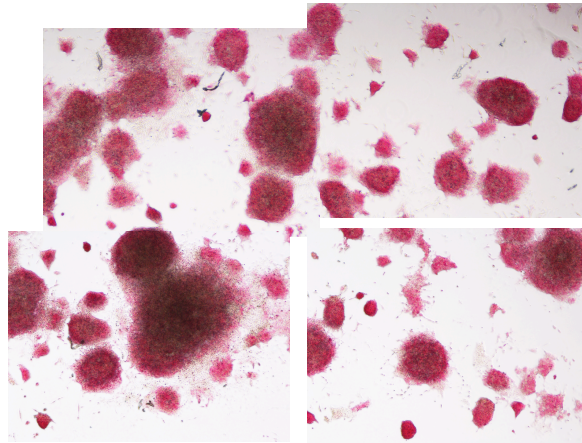
fS248A-Tg Dnmt1



fS248A-Tg GataD2beta

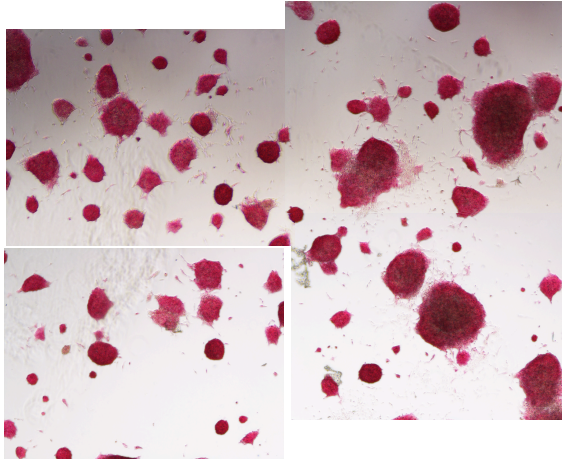


fS248A-Tg Gtf2i

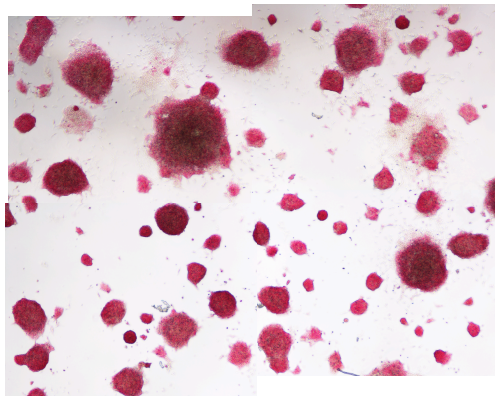




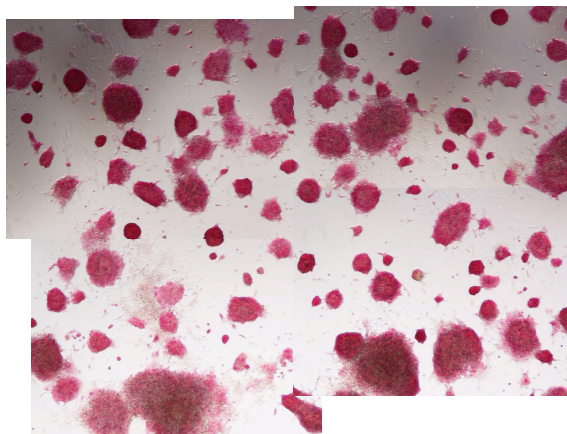
fS248A-Tg Mbd3



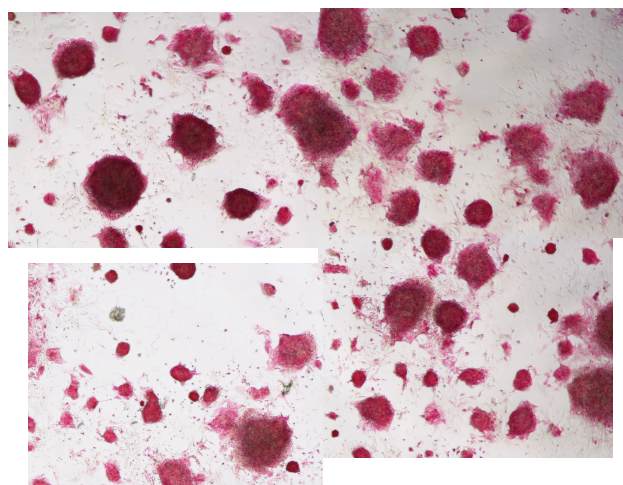
fS248A-Tg Msh2



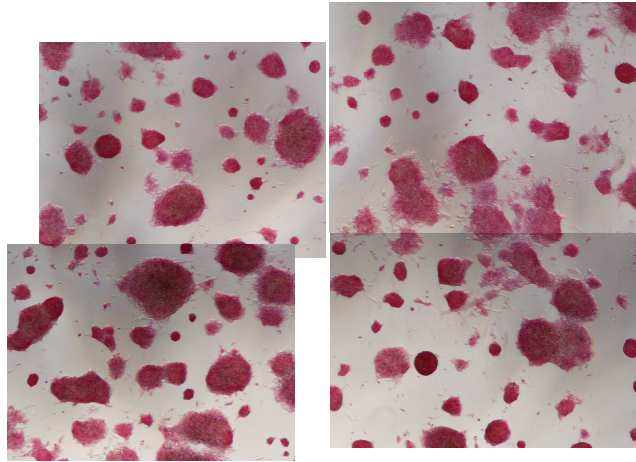
fS248A-Tg Mta2



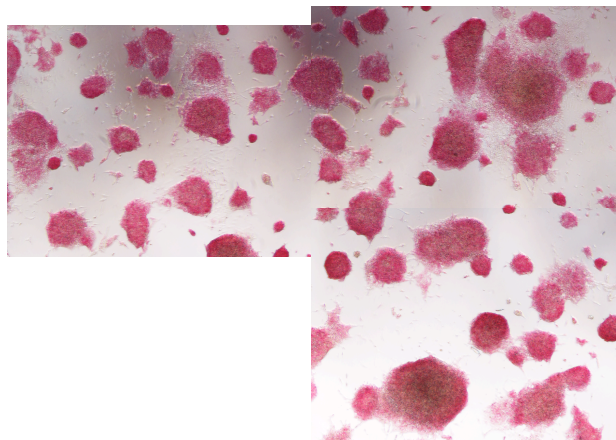
fS248A-Tg Oct4



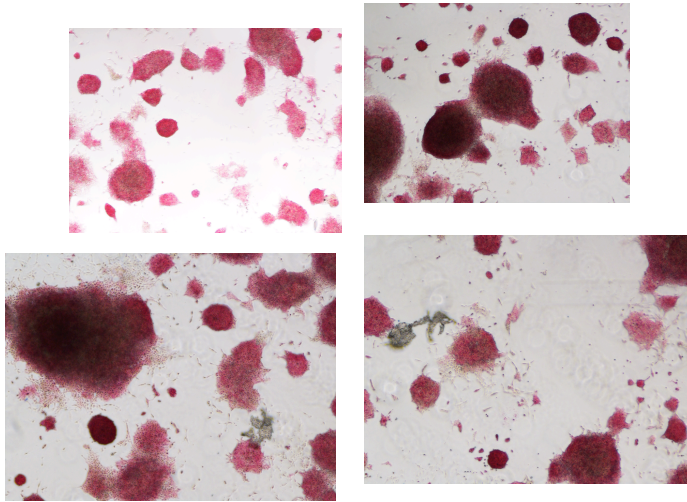
fS248A-Tg Parp I



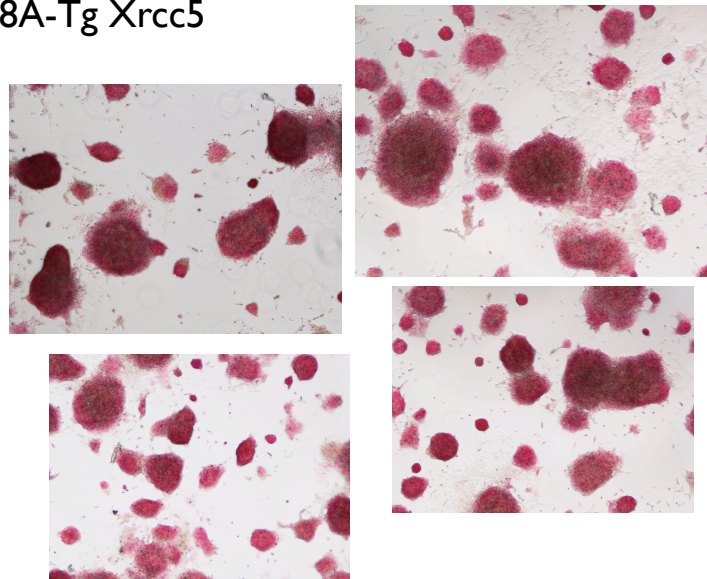
fS248A-Tg Stk38



fS248A-Tg Wdr76



fS248A-Tg Xrcc5



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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Kim', written over a horizontal line.

4 July 2014

Date