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Top-Down Proteomics on a Chromatographic Time Scale Using Linear Ion Trap Fourier Transform Hybrid Mass Spectrometers

Bryan A. Parks[†], Lihua Jiang[†], Paul M. Thomas[†], Craig D. Wenger[†], Michael J. Roth[†], Michael T. Boyne II[†], Patricia V. Burke[‡], Kurt E. Kwast[‡], and Neil L. Kelleher^{*,†}

Department of Chemistry and Department of Molecular & Integrative Physiology and the Institute for Genomic Biology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois 61801

Abstract

Proteomics has grown significantly with the aid of new technologies that consistently are becoming more streamlined. While processing of proteins from a whole cell lysate is typically done in a bottom-up fashion utilizing MS/MS of peptides from enzymatically digested proteins, top-down proteomics is becoming a viable alternative that until recently has been limited largely to offline analysis by tandem mass spectrometry. Here we describe a method for high-resolution tandem mass spectrometry of intact proteins on a chromatographic time scale. In a single liquid chromatography–tandem mass spectrometry (LC–MS/MS) run, we have identified 22 yeast proteins with molecular weights from 14 to 35 kDa. Using anion exchange chromatography to fractionate a whole cell lysate before online LC–MS/MS, we have detected 231 metabolically labeled (¹⁴N/¹⁵N) protein pairs from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. Thirty-nine additional proteins were identified and characterized from LC–MS/MS of selected anion exchange fractions. Automated localization of multiple acetylations on Histone H4 was also accomplished on an LC time scale from a complex protein mixture. To our knowledge, this is the first demonstration of top-down proteomics (i.e., many identifications) on linear ion trap Fourier transform (LTQ FT) systems using high-resolution MS/MS data obtained on a chromatographic time scale.

Proteomics has found a wide number of applications in fields from food science¹ to the medical industry.² Since its beginnings, mass spectrometry-based proteomics has been carried out in a bottom-up fashion. These experiments begin with two-dimensional gel electrophoresis (2DE) where proteins are separated on the basis of their isoelectric point and molecular weight, respectively.³ Protein spots are then excised to perform digests typically using trypsin. While a proven technology, 2DE is labor intensive and has been shown to preferentially visualize the most abundant proteins in a whole cell lysate while leaving proteins with low copy number and extremes in hydrophobicity or pI unresolved.^{4,5} Because of these difficulties, many proteomic efforts have looked to column-based separations to alleviate mixture complexity before MS analysis. Substantial strides have been made for bottom-up using the multidimensional protein identification technology (MuDPIT) approach.⁶ In this technique, ion-exchange and reversed-phase resins are packed within the confines of an electrospray tip for a two-dimensional online analysis of peptide mixtures. With the use of this front-end separation, well over 1000 proteins from *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* can be identified.^{6,7} While bottom-up analyses tend to be easier to implement, the ability to identify diverse modifications

* Corresponding author. E-mail: kelleher@scs.uiuc.edu.

[†]Department of Chemistry.

[‡]Department of Molecular & Integrative Physiology.

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and their combinations can be difficult within a whole cell lysate. By fragmenting intact protein ions in the gas phase, top-down proteomics seeks to eliminate this weakness.

Top-down proteomics interrogates protein structure through measurement of an intact mass followed by direct ion dissociation in the gas phase.⁸ Studies using this approach have several advantages over peptide-driven studies, including high sequence coverage for the protein,⁹ the ability to study post-translational modifications (PTMs) as they occur in combination, and the ability to discern between gene products with a high degree of sequence identity.^{10,11} Although top-down studies are primarily performed offline, steps have been taken to minimize user intervention required for data acquisition while reducing the volume of uninformative spectra. For example, Forbes et al. were able to identify 80 proteins with 100% sequence coverage using semiautomated data acquisition of direct infusion samples.⁹ Patrie and co-workers were able to identify 101 proteins from the methane producing archaeon *Methanosarcina acetivorans* by conducting octopole collisionally activated dissociation (OCAD) on precursor species before sending fragment ions to the cell for high-resolution mass measurement.¹² In the area of relative quantitation, it is possible to measure changes in PTMs by looking at the native form of a protein rather than after digestion. Du et al. have also introduced correction factors that allow (¹⁴N/¹⁵N) expression ratios to be calculated from protein mass spectra with low S/N (signal-to-noise).^{13,14}

New advances in MS hardware are providing opportunities for accelerated progress, including a few on-line examples of protein detection^{4,15,16} or targeted top-down analysis.^{17–20} By combining electron-transfer dissociation (ETD) with the venerable approach of charge stripping fragment ions to mostly singly charged species,²¹ the Hunt lab was able to show proof-of-concept for top-down characterization utilizing a benchtop ion trap mass spectrometer.²² While very promising, this technique is currently limited to low resolution instrumentation and has been demonstrated using proteins isolated from purified *Escherichia coli* ribosomes.²³ Emphasizing work with FTICR for protein profiling, Sharma et. al. have been able to identify 81 intact proteins from *Shewanella oneidensis* using databases from bottom-up work previously performed.²⁴ From 714 protein forms, 81 identifications were inferred in this experiment using the “intact mass tag” concept.²⁵ Other groups have combined the benefits of top-down and bottom-up strategies to accomplish large numbers of identifications in bacterial systems like *S. oneidensis* strain MR-1.²⁶ With improving instrumentation and software widely available,^{27–29} the long-standing challenge for top-down of presenting the mass spectrometer with compatible samples at appropriate rates now comes into focus. This “front end” problem is less of an issue with bottom-up techniques because one or a few peptides from a diversity of proteins often make their way through existing work flows.³⁰ While there is no single separation able to accommodate all proteins regardless of their hydrophobic character, Whitelegge and co-workers have implemented several solutions specifically geared toward intact membrane proteins.¹⁵

In this paper, we advance approaches for top-down proteomic analysis in both profiling and MS/MS modes from a whole cell lysate of *S. cerevisiae* using offline weak anion exchange chromatography (WAX) and online liquid chromatography–tandem mass spectrometry (LC–MS/MS). Mass spectrometric analyses were carried out using a linear ion trap Fourier transform (LTQ FT) mass spectrometer operating at 7 and 12 T. To maintain analysis speed, collisionally induced dissociation (CID) was used to produce fragment ions in the linear ion trap before transmission to the ICR cell. This method allows for a survey of protein expression from a metabolic labeling experiment where the incorporation of nitrogen isotopes (¹⁴N vs ¹⁵N) allows for the determination of protein expression ratios.^{13,31} Using this method, we have been able to identify proteins with molecular weights up to 35 kDa without the user intervention typical of top-down experiments. In addition, we also show the ability to localize PTMs using this online platform.

METHODS

Cell Preparation and Lysis

¹⁵N-labeled aerobic and ¹⁴N-labeled anaerobic cultures of *S. cerevisiae* strain JM43 (*MATaleu2-3,112 his4-580 trp1-289 ura3-52 [ρ+]*) were grown in a New Brunswick BioFlo III fermentor in minimal growth media as described previously¹³ using air or 2.5% CO₂ in O₂-free nitrogen as the sparge gas, respectively. Efficient ¹⁵N-labeling of aerobically expressed proteins was achieved using (¹⁵NH₄)₂SO₄ (Sigma, St. Louis, MO) and ¹⁵N-labeled histidine, leucine, and tryptophan (Spectra Stable Isotopes, Columbia, MD) after ten generations of growth.¹³ During harvesting, the cells were quick-chilled to ~4 °C by passage through several feet of coiled copper tubing immersed in a salt-water ice bath, pelleted by centrifugation (5000g for 15 min at 4 °C), washed once with ice-cold Milli-Q water, flash-frozen in liquid N₂, and stored at -80 °C. The flash frozen cells (~0.35 g) were lysed using glass beads after treatment with protease and phosphatase inhibitors. All samples were lysed in the presence of 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8). DTT was added to a final concentration of 100 mM after dilutions were prepared for protein assays using the bicinchoninic acid (BCA) method. DTT, urea and Tris-HCl were purchased from Fisher Scientific (Hanover Park, IL).

First Dimension Separation

Chromatography was performed offline using a 250 mm × 4.6 mm WAX column (Agilent, Palo Alto, CA) to separate 15 mg of total protein from a yeast whole cell lysate. For the purposes of relative quantitation, the ¹⁴N- and ¹⁵N-enriched lysates were mixed at a ratio of 1:1 prior to chromatography. A 95 min gradient run at 600 μL/min was used to elute proteins into a 96 well plate starting with an initial mobile phase of 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8). Ionic strength was increased linearly throughout the run using NaCl to a final concentration of 750 mM. Forty-five 1.2 mL fractions were stored at 4 °C for no more than 2 days before online analysis using a standard 7 T LTQ FT or a 12 T LTQ FT Ultra. Samples for the 12 T instrument were infused using a TriVersa nanomate from Advion Biosystems (Ithaca, NY) operating in a mode where fractions were collected in addition to infusion of the LC effluent directly into the mass spectrometer. Those for the 7 T instrument were infused using the ionmax source provided.

Y-PER Lysate from Yeast Cells

For the data of Figures 5 and 6, approximately 0.35 g of yeast cells were lysed using the protein extraction reagent Y-PER from Pierce (Rockford, MA). Three parallel Y-PER reactions were performed with the cell pellet at room temperature for 2 h using 1 mL of reagent to maximize the protein yield for LC-MS/MS analysis. After each reaction, the supernatant was removed and stored for subsequent purification. After all reactions were complete, the extraction reagent was removed from the combined supernatant using C4 SPE (solid-phase extraction) columns from J. T. Baker (Phillipsburg, NJ). After SPE, protein solutions were lyophilized and stored at -80 °C until needed for analysis. Lyophilized samples were resuspended in 50 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8) to a total volume of 500 μL. One hundred microliters of the sample was used for the LC-MS/MS run.

Online LC-MS

Unless otherwise stated, all solvents were purchased from Fisher Scientific (Hanover Park, IL). All RPLC separations were accomplished using a Jupiter C5 column from Phenomenex (Torrence, CA), with an inner diameter of 1 mm and length of 150 mm. Initial conditions for the 95 min run were set at 95/5 (v/v) DDI water (solvent A) and 90/10 (v/v) acetonitrile and 2-propanol. Ion pairing reagents were 0.2% formic acid and 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid in both mobile phases. The column was kept at a temperature of 55 °C to enhance mass transfer during the separation. To minimize adduction of salts and ion-pairing reagents, a setting of 29 V was

used for mild ion activation in the ESI source. The chromatographic gradient held initial conditions for 10 min followed by a ramp to 30% B over 10 min; 100% B was reached at 80 min and held for an additional 10 min before re-equilibrating to initial conditions.

The LTQ FT method consisted of four scan events. The initial event performed a full scan in the ion trap (profile mode). The second segment was used for a broadband high-resolution scan in the ICR cell. The final two events of the experiment were allotted for data dependent MS/MS scans. An isolation width of 7 m/z was used. The resolution setting for the last three scan events were kept at 100K. Tandem mass spectrometry settings used a normalized collision energy (NCE) value of 41% with a duration of 400 ms. The q -factor for all experiments was set at 0.5, and four microscans were used per each full scan taken in all modes. Charge state rejection was used to exclude precursors with 1, 2, or 3 charges. Dynamic exclusion was used for a duration of 1 min per precursor to avoid redundant fragmentation datasets.

Data Analysis

All data files (*.raw) were processed to group MS/MS data from different precursors of the same protein into one experiment for simultaneous analysis using an algorithm produced in house (cRAWler). Within this program, molecular weights of precursor and product ions were also determined using a highly modified THRASH algorithm.²⁸ A compilation of this information (*.puf) was saved for batch digest searching using ProSightPC. Files that warranted manual interrogation were searched using ProSight PTM v1.0²⁹ after making the necessary intact protein mass file (*.prl) and associated MS/MS fragment file (*.pkl). In the manual route, Xtract (Thermo) was used to calculate monoisotopic masses of the protein and all fragment ions. The details for data analysis are briefly summarized in Figure 1. Initial searches (absolute mass) were performed searching the entire database. Identifications that could not be assigned unambiguously were validated using single protein mode to account for errors in determination of a protein's monoisotopic mass. Identification cutoffs were set at an expectation value ("P-score") of less than 0.001 for all identifications.²⁷ Fragment ions for all MS/MS scans were required to have a S/N ratio of 5:1 or greater to be considered in database searching. The mass tolerance for fragment ions was ± 5 ppm.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Online MS/MS Using an LTQ FT at 7 T

Metabolic labeling using ^{15}N has been established for relative quantitation in many bottom-up^{31,32} and a few top-down studies as well.^{13,20} The coelution of the "heavy" and "light" forms of the same protein from an HPLC column makes relative quantitation straightforward. For our experiments, $^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N}$ metabolic labeling produced the mass spectrum shown in Figure 2a,b of an 8.6 kDa protein pair as it elutes from the column in an LC-MS/MS experiment. Note in Figure 2b the shift toward higher m/z for the ^{15}N -containing member of the pair. This mass difference is 104 Da which is within 1 Da of the 105 nitrogen atoms in the molecule.¹³ Figure 2c,d illustrates the single scan MS/MS spectra from CID fragment ions and the corresponding graphical fragment map. With a total of 55 ions matched and 13 complementary ion pairs, the expectation score of 1×10^{-73} signifies an extremely confident identification of yeast ubiquitin. Results of this type illustrate a reduced amount of user intervention needed for offline top-down proteomics work. While the ability to gain MS/MS-based identifications on a protein in an automated fashion is a main goal, a secondary goal is to use this platform for protein profiling. When the samples are mixed in a 1:1 ratio, a whole cell lysate was separated using weak anion exchange chromatography followed by LC-MS/MS.

Two-Dimensional Separation of Metabolically Labeled Proteins

From online analyses of 30 anion exchange fractions by LC–MS/MS, 231 unique protein pairs and 300 different protein forms were detected. Protein molecular weight ranges spanned 7.7–44.6 kDa. Thirty-nine protein identifications resulted from data-dependent CID and are shown in Table 1. When the labeled lysates are mixed in a 1:1 ratio, it is possible that the mass spectrometer may fragment the ^{15}N -enriched species of a protein pair producing spectra that were not able to be automatically searched at the time of this study. Adaptation of our algorithms will enable identification of ^{15}N -labeled protein forms. During automated experiments, precursors are selected based upon relative intensity during the ion trap full scan. Because of this, the instrument often fragmented two charge states from the same protein before seeking other candidates. As a solution to this problem during future experiments, knowledge of protein mass during acquisition³³ will form exclusion lists of highly abundant known proteins to increase the number of identifications from automated LC–MS/MS experiments.

Protein and PTM Relative Expression

In an offline manner, metabolic labeling on the protein level has been proven with detection of four “non 1:1” ratios out of fifty such measurements from yeast grown in aerobic versus anaerobic conditions.¹³ Of the 231 pairs observed from online studies, only ~1% had ratios deviating from 1:1, with the most extreme difference shown as a 10 kDa protein singlet in Figure 3a. The fragmentation data of Figure 3b (produced after isolation of the most intense charge state) identified acyl-CoA binding protein with 11 out of 16 possible fragment ions matching for a P-score of 3×10^{-6} . This protein is up-regulated under anaerobic growth at least 200-fold.

Protein Pair Complexity at Higher Molecular Weight

Figure 4 shows the full scan mass spectra taken in the ion trap for three proteins with molecular weights of 35.4, 17.3, and 44.6 kDa. A hydrophobic 44 kDa protein pair is clearly visible and would be missed if full scan ion trap spectra were not taken. Although it is difficult to attain high-resolution spectra of larger proteins in an LC–MS/MS experiment, the use of ion trap data from hybrid instruments can yield information useful for offline sample analysis so that protein pairs with molecular weights beyond 35 kDa can be measured. With simultaneous fraction collection during the online run, we project that offline analysis of large proteins at high resolution will be viable with automated data acquisition.

Online Top-Down Proteomics

To test platform stability and the ability to perform MS/MS on an LC time scale, a complex mixture obtained from Y-PER extraction was subjected to LC–MS/MS without additional fractionation. Table 2 shows 22 identified proteins from a single automated 12 T run. Molecular weights for the proteins identified range from 14 to 35 kDa. While 19 of the identifications were made with a standard absolute mass search in ProSight PC, 3 out of the 22 required manual validation of the protein’s intact mass and were verified in single protein mode with fragmentation data from their associated files. In this experiment, 46 additional protein forms were observed but not fragmented with molecular weights ranging from 17 to 40 kDa. As protein hydrophobicity increases (i.e., those with late RPLC elution times), it becomes difficult to obtain rich fragmentation data on an LC time scale that uniquely identifies the parent protein. Figure 5b–d reflect this fact with lower quality expectation scores that are still able to automatically identify several proteins late into the LC run.

Online Experiments with Highly Modified Proteins

Figure 6 shows the spectra of a protein with a combined intact mass of 11 314.40 Da and 41 fragment ions, which was unambiguously identified with an expectation score of 8×10^{-43} as

histone H4 (Hhf1p). Putative mono-, di- and triacetylated species can be seen in the broadband mass spectrum (Figure 6a) at 11 272.38, 11 314.40, and 11 356.44 Da, respectively. However, only the diacetylated species was selected to be fragmented during the run. Histone H4 was identified with localization of two modification sites. Specifically, the diacetylated form of this protein was fragmented to localize the modifications to the N-terminus and Lys16. For the selected precursor, an identification has been made in addition to PTM localization in a single LC-MS/MS scan. Full characterization of all modifications of this protein (i.e., mono and triacetylated species) can be carried out in targeted offline analysis.

Top-Down Experiments with Respect to Database Size and Mass Accuracy

Current literature has shown that top-down experiments can be carried out using low resolution instruments.^{23,34} Using the scoring algorithm published previously,²⁷ we consider all possible expectation values for 50 observed fragment ions at the mass tolerances of ± 5 Da, ± 1 Da, and ± 5 ppm (Supporting Information Figure 1). For the *S. cerevisiae* database using typical mass accuracy values for searching ion trap data, Supporting Information Figure 1a shows that greater than 17 out of 50 total fragment ions need to match for confident identification of a protein with the same scoring cutoff of 0.001 used in this paper. With a 5 ppm mass tolerance for fragment ions, seven or more fragment ions are needed before a protein form can be uniquely identified. At a mass accuracy of 5 Da, greater than 32 matching fragment ions are needed to identify a protein. With the use of collisional dissociation with subsequent charge reduction of the fragment ions to their singularly charged forms,³⁵ a fragment tolerance of 10 Da was allowed. Considering human top-down databases with greater than one million protein forms, very similar numbers as yeast are obtained because expectation values scale only linearly with database size (Supporting Information Figure 1b). At present, it seems that ion trap mass spectrometers detect more fragment ions on a chromatographic time scale while Fourier transform instruments yield better confidence in matches from fewer matching fragment ions. In either case, it is clear that implementation of top-down in higher eukarya benefits from having the correct protein form in the database. Thus, the strategy of “shotgun annotation” implemented in the ProSight database architecture provides the basis for maximizing the number of fragment ions that match during a search. Technological improvements in FTMS³⁶ will increase the number of fragment ions detected in high resolution top-down experiments in the coming years owing to more efficient ion transfer between the ion trap and the analyzer. At present, it is reasonable to say that low- and high-resolution instruments (and hybrids of both) will have significant impact for top-down LC-MS/MS experiments needed to assay interesting proteins that are expressed at low copy numbers.

CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, 22 proteins were identified from a single LC-MS/MS run using online top-down proteomics on a yeast whole-cell lysate. When this experiment was extended to metabolically labeled proteins mixed at a ratio of 1:1, 231 protein pairs were readily detectable of which 38 proteins were unambiguously identified from high-resolution MS/MS data. The diacetylated form of histone H4 was also fully characterized in an automated LC-MS/MS experiment. Future prospects for this platform at molecular weights higher than 35 kDa have also been shown by utilizing ion trap full scan mass spectra. Until now, top-down proteomics with high-resolution MS/MS fragmentation has been limited mainly to offline data acquisition. We have demonstrated proof-of-concept for high throughput top-down proteomics with identifications made from the measurement of high-resolution MS/MS fragment ions in an online fashion. In later stages of this work, efforts will be made to reduce the duty cycle of the experiment by using other fragmentation techniques or tandem MSⁿ schemes.^{19,29} With this work and contributors from other laboratories, diverse types of mass analysis, including orbitraps,³⁶

time-of-flight, and benchtop ion traps, will all be combined to increase the throughput for routine top-down interrogation of complex protein mixtures.

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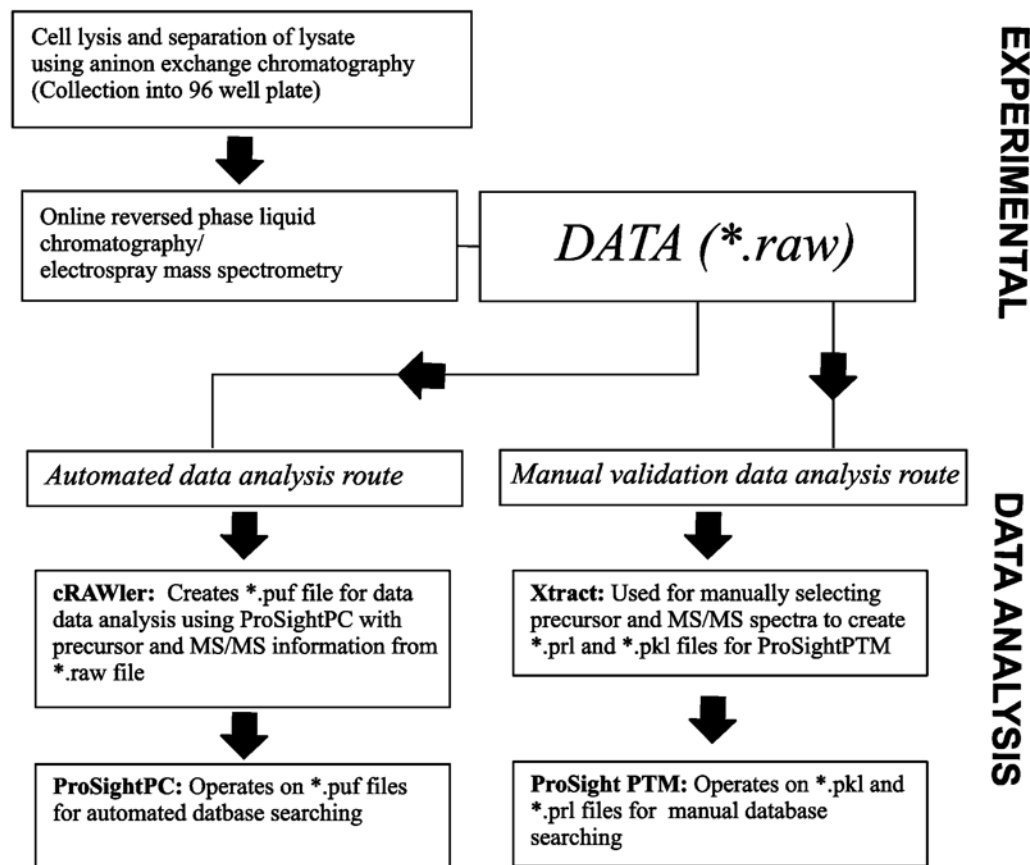


Figure 1. Workflow for LC–MS data summarizing steps taken for automated (bottom left) and manual (bottom right) data processing of LC–MS/MS data.

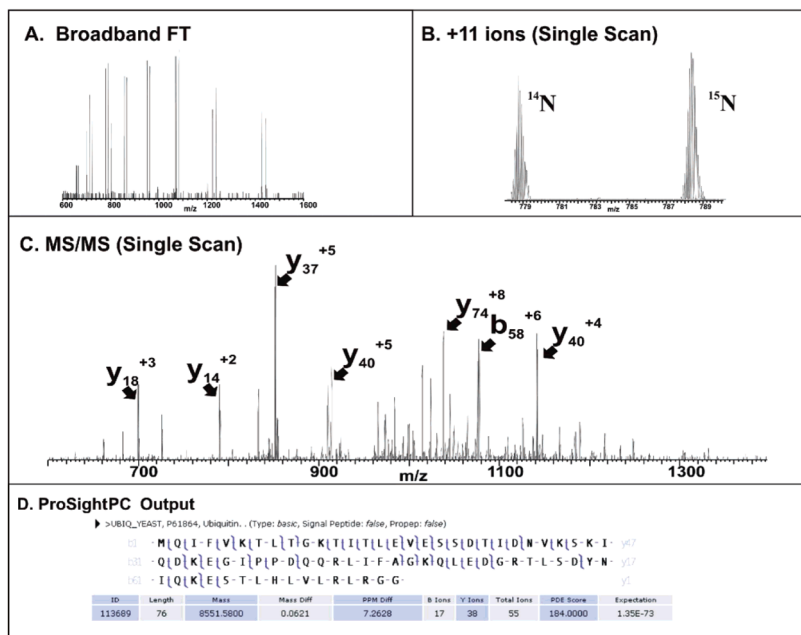


Figure 2. (A) Broadband FT mass spectrum and (B) 11+ protein charge state pair acquired at 7 T. (C) Single scan CID MS/MS data and (D) graphical fragment map showing fully automated identification of yeast ubiquitin.

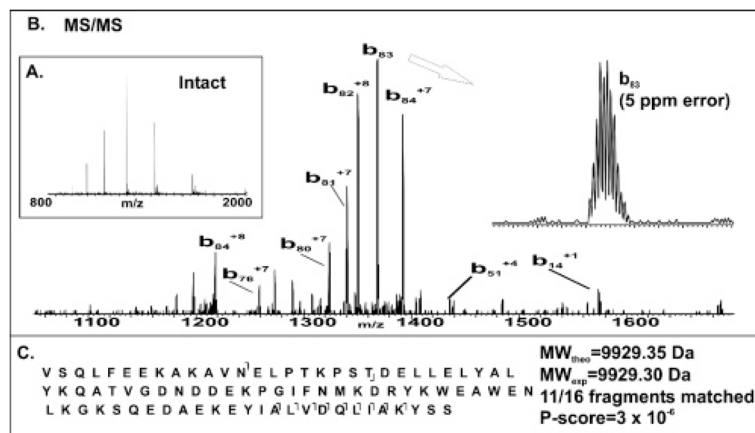


Figure 3. Identification of Acb1p (Acyl-CoA binding protein; YGR037C) where expression of the ¹⁵N-labeled component was undetectable. (A) Intact FT mass spectrum and (B) fragmentation data are also shown (7 T). (C) The graphical fragmentation map and database search results.

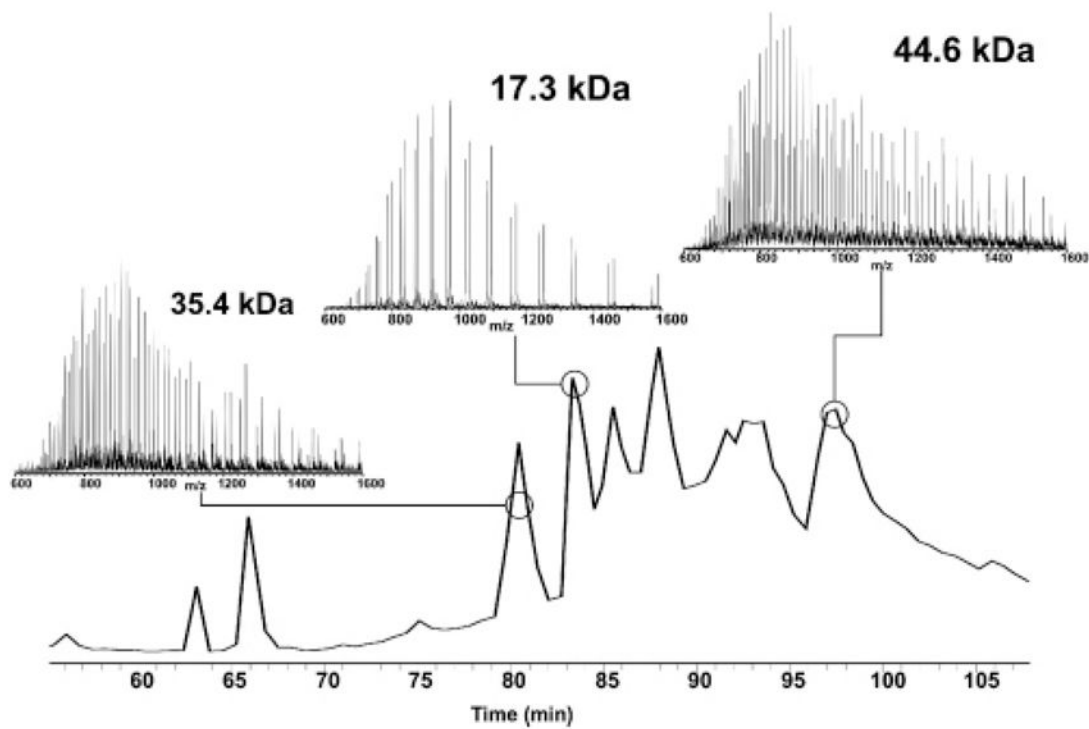


Figure 4. TIC from full scan ion trap spectra obtained on a 7 T LTQ FT. Although not identified, high MW protein pairs are shown up to 44.6 kDa. Molecular weights were calculated via manual deconvolution.

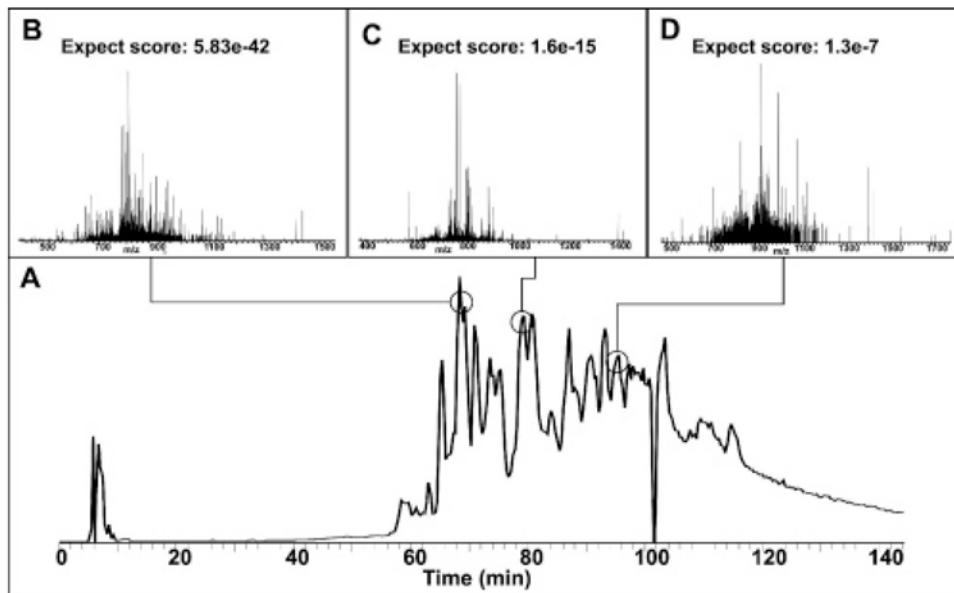


Figure 5. TIC and representative identifications from top-down mass spectral analysis of a Y-PER extract on a 12 T LTQ FT. Notice that even late in the run confident identifications could still be made (D). The anomaly at 100 min comes from loss of spray current.

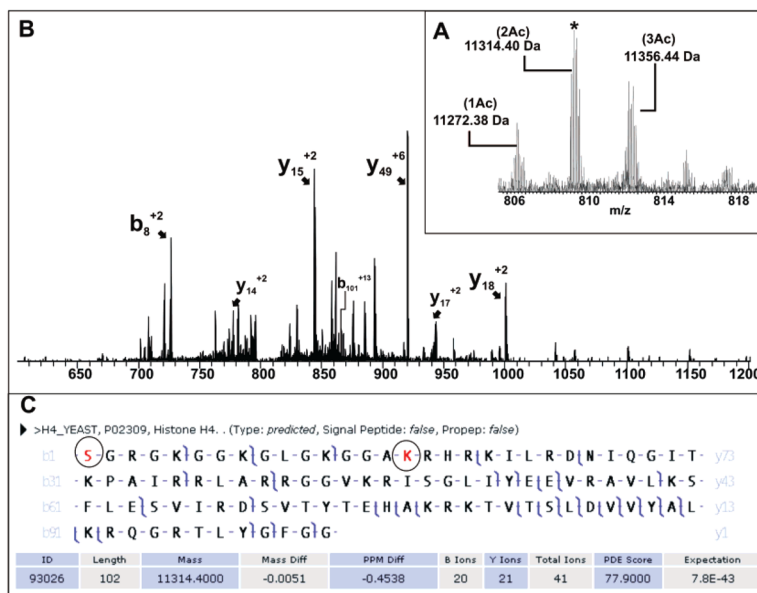


Figure 6. Yeast histone H4 analyzed by single-scan LC-MS/MS using an LTQ FT operating at 12 T. The diacetylated species at 809 m/z was isolated (A,*) and fragmented to give the MS/MS spectrum (B), with acetylation localized to the N-terminus and Lys16 (C).

Table 1
 Thirty-Eight Protein Identifications from a Two-Dimensional Separation of Metabolically Labeled Lysates (¹⁴N-Anaerobic, ¹⁵N-Aerobic) Run on a 7 T LTQ FT^a

Accession	ORF	Standard name	product description	Intact mass (Da)	Expect score	ratios
P22943	YFL014W	HSP12	heat shock protein 12	11 693.1	2 × 10 ⁻²⁰	1.00
P22803	YGR209C	TRX2	thioredoxin 2	11 204.0	2 × 10 ⁻¹⁸	0.89
P22217	YLR043C	TRX1	thioredoxin 1	11 235.0	4 × 10 ⁻¹⁵	0.90
P38804	YHR087W	-	YHR087	12 000.0	8 × 10 ⁻⁹	0.93
P61864	YLL039C	UBI4	Ubiquitin	8 552.5	4 × 10 ⁻²⁷	0.95
P01094	YMR174C	PAI3	inhibitor of proteinase Pep4p	7 744.8	3 × 10 ⁻¹⁰	0.94
P01095	YNL015W	PBI2	proteinase inhibitor B	8 590.1	9 × 10 ⁻⁸	0.95
P31787	YGR037C	ACB1	Acyl-CoA binding protein	9 929.3	3 × 10 ⁻⁶	>200:1
Q3E754	YJL136C	RPS21B	ribosomal protein S21B	9 760.2	6 × 10 ⁻⁹	0.90
P48606	YOR265W	RBL2	tubulin folding cofactor A	12 379.9	3 × 10 ⁻⁸	0.99
Q12306	YDR510W	SMT3	SUMO protein	11 597.0	3 × 10 ⁻⁷	0.99
Q04401	YDR511W	ACN9	acetate nonutilizing protein 9	15 783.0	5 × 10 ⁻⁶	0.98
Q03048	YLL050C	COF1	Cofilin	15 901.0	1 × 10 ⁻¹²	0.98
P14832	YDR155C	CPR1	Cyclophilin	17 391.3	2 × 10 ⁻⁷	0.89
P40202	YMR038C	CCS1	copper chaperone	15 713.0	7 × 10 ⁻⁵	0.90
P00942	YDR050C	TPH1	triosphosphate isomerase	26 794.0	8 × 10 ⁻⁷	0.92
P07170	YDR226W	ADK1	adenylate kinase	24 254.0	3 × 10 ⁻¹⁰	0.99
P25373	YCL035C	GRX1	Glutaredoxin	12 380.0	8 × 10 ⁻¹⁰	0.99
P53141	YGL106W	MLC1	myosin Myo2p light chain	16 444.0	2 × 10 ⁻¹⁸	0.99
P33331	YER009W	NTF2	nuclear transporter factor	14 453.7	5 × 10 ⁻⁹	0.99
P38706	YDR471W	RPL27B	60S ribosomal protein L27B	15 505.7	9 × 10 ⁻⁹	0.99
P04649	YDL075	RPL31A	ribosomal protein L31A	12 953.3	7 × 10 ⁻⁷	0.95
P40525	YIL052C	RPL34B	ribosomal protein L34B	13 641.3	4 × 10 ⁻¹⁹	0.92
P26781	YDR025W	RPS11A	ribosomal protein S11A	17 749.0	1 × 10 ⁻⁹	0.93
P53143	YGL102C	-	hypothetical 16 kDa protein	16 176.0	3 × 10 ⁻⁵	0.96
Q12344	YPL249C	GYP5	GTPase activating protein	11 135.8	8 × 10 ⁻⁹	0.98
P39741	YDL191W	RPL35A	60S ribosomal protein L35A	13 909.0	1 × 10 ⁻⁷²	0.97
P02406	YGL103W	RPL28	60S ribosomal protein L28	16 577.0	3 × 10 ⁻³³	0.95
P26782	YER074W	RPS24A	60S ribosomal protein S24A	15 329.0	6 × 10 ⁻¹⁶	0.95
P47913	YOR312C	RPL20B	60S ribosomal protein L20B	20 713.0	2 × 10 ⁻¹⁰	0.99
P02407	YML024W	RPS17A	40S ribosomal protein S17A	15 788.0	3 × 10 ⁻⁷	0.99
P40213	YDL083C	RPS16B	40S ribosomal protein S16B	15 847.2	1 × 10 ⁻¹⁴	0.99
Q01855	YOL040C	RPS15	40S ribosomal protein S15	15 902.5	5 × 10 ⁻⁷	0.99
P05756	YDR064W	RPS13	40S ribosomal protein S13 (S27A)	17 029.3	2 × 10 ⁻⁶	0.97
Q08745	YOR293W	RPS10A	40S ribosomal protein S10A	12 739.1	1 × 10 ⁻¹¹	0.92
P29453	YLL045C	RPL8B	60S ribosomal protein L8B	28 111.5	1 × 10 ⁻⁹	0.93
P39990	YEL026W	SNU13	U3 SnoRNP Protein	13 569.4	2 × 10 ⁻¹⁷	0.96
P05318	YDL081C	RPP1A	acidic ribosomal protein P1A	10 908.1	4 × 10 ⁻⁹	0.96

^aThe ¹⁴N/¹⁵N ratio for Acb1p (acyl-CoA binding protein) could not be accurately determined due to low expression of the ¹⁵N enriched form.

The average ratio for all protein pairs identified was 0.96.

Table 2
List of 22 Identifications from a 12T LTQ FT LC-MS/MS Experiment of Soluble Yeast Proteins

accession	ORF	standard name	protein description	PTM location	Expect score	intact mass (Da)	fragments matched
P38706	YDR471W	RPL27B	60S ribosomal protein L27B	None	2×10^{-38}	15 505.3	34
P00359	YGR192C	TDH3	glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase	None	3×10^{-9}	35 740.3	6
P36105	YKL006W	RPL14A	60S ribosomal protein L14A	acetylation, S1	6×10^{-9}	15 168.6	7
P53030	YPL220W	RPL1A	60S ribosomal protein L1	acetylation, S1	3×10^{-5}	24 487.0	14
P07279	YOL120C	RP28A	60S ribosomal protein L18A (RP28)	None	9×10^{-11}	20 562.0	41
P05755	YBR189W	RPS9B	40S ribosomal protein S9B	None	7×10^{-8}	22 296.3	20
P24000	YGR148C	RPL24B	60S ribosomal protein L24B	acetylation, M1	9×10^{-7}	17 547.6	11
P05743	YLR344W	RPL26A	60S ribosomal protein L26A	None	2×10^{-27}	14 234.0	29
Q01855	YOL040C	RPS15	40S ribosomal protein S15	acetylation, S1	2×10^{-15}	15 992.5	19
P26782	YER074W	RPS24A	40S ribosomal protein S24	acetylation, S1	2×10^{-33}	15 329.4	34
O14455	YPL249C-A	RPL36B	60S ribosomal protein L36B	none, Met-off	3×10^{-26}	11 135.2	25
P04449	YGL031C	RPL24A	60S ribosomal protein L24A	None	7×10^{-6}	17 612.9	10
Q3E7Y0	YMR242C	RPL20A	60S ribosomal protein L20A	acetylation, P1	1×10^{-4}	21 133.3	10
P05739	YLR448W	RPL6B	60S ribosomal protein L6B	None	1×10^{-8}	19 843.1	12
P05754	YBL072C	RPS8A	40S ribosomal protein S8A	absolute mass	5×10^{-4}	22 344.9	10
P05740	YKL180W	RPL17A	60S ribosomal protein L17A	None	1×10^{-12}	20 549.2	19
P32827	YGR118W	RPS23A	40S ribosomal protein S23A	None	3×10^{-24}	15 896.8	26
Q02326	YML073C	RPL6A	60S ribosomal protein L6A	acetylation, S1	4×10^{-9}	19 960.1	13
P05737	YGL076C	RPL7A	60S ribosomal protein L7A	None	1×10^{-7}	27 636.2	11
P04456	YOL127W	RPL25	60S ribosomal protein L25	None	3×10^{-7}	15 757.0	12
Q6B1U3	YBR010W	HHT1	histone H3	None	2×10^{-6}	15 356.6	8
P38701	YHL015W	RPS20	40S ribosomal protein S20	acetylation, S1	1×10^{-6}	13 907.2	9