

An Integrated Phosphoproteomics Work Flow Reveals Extensive Network Regulation in Early Lysophosphatidic Acid Signaling*

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Lysophosphatidic acid (LPA) induces a variety of cellular signaling pathways through the activation of its cognate G protein-coupled receptors. To investigate early LPA responses and assess the contribution of epidermal growth factor (EGF) receptor transactivation in LPA signaling, we performed phosphoproteomics analyses of both total cell lysate and protein kinase-enriched fractions as complementary strategies to monitor phosphorylation changes in A498 kidney carcinoma cells. Our integrated work flow enabled the identification and quantification of more than 5,300 phosphorylation sites of which 224 were consistently regulated by LPA. In addition to induced phosphorylation events, we also obtained evidence for early dephosphorylation reactions due to rapid phosphatase regulation upon LPA treatment. Phosphorylation changes induced by direct heparin-binding EGF-like growth factor-mediated EGF receptor activation were typically weaker and only detected on a subset of LPA-regulated sites, indicating signal integration among EGF receptor transactivation and other LPA-triggered pathways. Our results reveal rapid phosphoregulation of many proteins not yet implicated in G protein-coupled receptor signaling and point to various additional mechanisms by which LPA might regulate cell survival and migration as well as gene transcription on the molecular level. Moreover, our phosphoproteomics analysis of both total lysate and kinase-enriched fractions provided highly complementary parts of the LPA-regulated signaling network and thus represents a useful and generic strategy toward comprehensive signaling studies on a system-wide level. *Molecular & Cellular Proteomics* 9:1047–1062, 2010.

Lysophosphatidic acid (LPA)¹ is a simple bioactive lipid that activates G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs) and elicits a variety of biological responses, such as cell proliferation, migration, and survival (1, 2). In addition to important physiological functions in, for example, vascular biology and wound healing, LPA signaling has also been implicated in pathophysiological processes, such as the onset and progression of human cancers (3, 4). The lipid mediator LPA is primarily generated upon extracellular hydrolysis of larger lysophospholipids by the secreted enzyme autotaxin, a lysophospholipase D that is up-regulated in several cancers and was initially identified as an autocrine motility factor for tumor cells (5). To date, seven high affinity receptors for LPA (LPA_{1–5}, GPR 87, and P2Y5) are known with distinct but overlapping expression patterns. The well characterized LPA receptors LPA_{1–3}, which belong to the endothelial differentiation gene family of lysophospholipid-recognizing GPCRs, activate multiple signaling pathways through heterotrimeric G proteins from the G_i, G_q, and G_{12/13} families (2, 6). Activation of G_i inhibits adenylyl cyclase-mediated production of cyclic AMP and has been implicated in the activation of the ERK and phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase signaling (1, 2). LPA also triggers G_q-dependent signals through phospholipase C-mediated generation of the second messengers diacylglycerol and inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate, which induce protein kinase C

¹ The abbreviations used are: LPA, lysophosphatidic acid; GPCR, G protein-coupled receptor; EGF, epidermal growth factor; HB-EGF, heparin-binding EGF-like growth factor; ERK, extracellular-signal regulated kinase; PKD, protein kinase D; EGFR, epidermal growth factor receptor; MAPK, mitogen-activated protein kinase; ADAM, a disintegrin and metalloproteinase; SILAC, stable isotope labeling by amino acids in cell culture; LDS, lithium dodecyl sulfate; Bis-Tris, 2-[bis(2-hydroxyethyl)amino]-2-(hydroxymethyl)propane-1,3-diol; SCX, strong cation exchange; nano-LC, nanoscale capillary LC; LTQ, linear trap quadrupole; IPI, International Protein Index; GO, gene ontology; DAVID, Database for Annotation, Visualization and Integrated Discovery; STRING, Search Tool for the Retrieval of Interacting Genes/Proteins; AAK1, AP2-associated protein kinase 1; FAK, focal adhesion kinase; MAP, mitogen-activated protein; GAP, GTPase-activating protein; GRLF1, glucocorticoid receptor DNA-binding factor 1; ARHGAP29, Rho GTPase-activating protein 29; GEF, guanine nucleotide exchange factor; PEA15, phosphoprotein enriched in astrocytes 15; PDCD4, programmed cell death protein 4; HDAC, histone deacetylase; BMPR2, bone morphogenic protein receptor 2; DHCR7, 7-dehydrocholesterol reductase.

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activity and elevate cytosolic calcium levels (2, 7). Moreover, LPA induces rapid cytoskeletal rearrangements, such as stress fiber formation via $G_{12/13}$ -mediated activation of the small GTPase Rho (7–9). Early LPA signaling can cooperatively regulate downstream effectors as for example demonstrated for the convergence of G_i , G_q , and $G_{12/13}$ -triggered pathways on protein kinase D (PKD) (7, 10).

In many cell types, LPA stimulation leads to the rapid transactivation of the epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR) receptor tyrosine kinase, which relays mitogenic downstream signaling through ERK MAPK- and Akt/protein kinase B-dependent pathways (4, 7, 11–13). This GPCR-EGFR cross-talk is mediated by ADAMs, which proteolytically cleave transmembrane precursors to generate mature EGFR ligands, such as heparin-binding EGF-like growth factor (HB-EGF) or amphiregulin (13–17). The GPCR-induced mechanisms underlying cellular metalloproteinase regulation are still incompletely understood. Potential control elements include G_i and G_q (18, 19), Src family and phosphatidylinositol 3-kinases (20, 21), and Rac and Ras GTPase effector pathways.

Taken together, extensive previous research unveiled LPA as a rapid inducer of multiple pathways that form interdependent networks and utilize protein kinases and phosphorylation-based signaling to drive key biological processes, such as cell proliferation, survival, and migration. However, as previous studies have not analyzed LPA-triggered kinase signaling in an unbiased manner, it is unclear to what extent our current knowledge is still incomplete.

Notably, recent developments in mass spectrometry-based proteomics have set the stage for global approaches toward GPCR-mediated signaling to address these issues. In particular, stable isotope labeling by amino acids in cell culture (SILAC) (22), optimized phosphopeptide fractionation and enrichment protocols (23, 24), high resolution MS on ion trap/orbitrap hybrid instruments (25), and breakthroughs in MS data processing (26) can now be integrated in efficient phosphoproteomics work flows to quantify thousands of phosphorylation events in a cellular system. Furthermore, new enrichment techniques based on affinity purification with immobilized inhibitors provide a valuable tool to selectively increase the analytical sensitivity for protein kinases, which are often underrepresented in total cell lysate analysis because of their low cellular abundance (27–29). The detection of regulated phosphorylation events on protein kinases can be particularly informative as these enzymes are located at critical nodes of signaling cascades and networks.

Here, we applied SILAC-based, quantitative phosphoproteomics in a differential analysis of phosphorylation events triggered by either LPA or HB-EGF stimulation. To assess the overall contribution of EGFR transactivation to early phosphorylation changes upon LPA treatment, human A498 kidney carcinoma cells were used as a cancer-relevant cell line in which LPA rapidly elicits EGFR-dependent signaling by

ADAM-mediated processing of pro-HB-EGF ligand precursors (13). Our quantitative analysis revealed numerous new phosphorylation events that are likely associated with either known biological responses or point to previously unrecognized signaling elements in the context of LPA-triggered GPCR signaling. In this study, we further demonstrate that parallel phosphoproteomics of total cell lysate and kinase-enriched fractions provides highly complementary sets of data and therefore represents a general strategy to assess phosphorylation-based signaling networks in a comprehensive manner.

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

Cell Culture and Cell Lysis—A498 cells were cultured in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (Invitrogen) supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (Invitrogen), glutamine, non-essential amino acids, and sodium pyruvate. For SILAC, cells were grown for 8 days in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium containing either normal L-arginine (Arg0) at 42 mg/liter and L-lysine (Lys0) at 71 mg/liter or equimolar amounts of L-[U- $^{13}C_6$, $^{14}N_4$]arginine (Arg6) and L-[2H_4]lysine (Lys4) or L-[U- $^{13}C_6$, $^{15}N_4$]arginine (Arg10) and L-[U- $^{13}C_6$, $^{15}N_2$]lysine (Lys8) (from Sigma Isotec or Cambridge Isotope Laboratories). Cells were serum-starved for 2 days prior to growth factor stimulation. In the first experiment, Arg0/Lys0-labeled cells were left untreated, Arg6/Lys4-labeled cells were stimulated with 0.5 ng/ml HB-EGF (Sigma-Aldrich) for 3 min, and Arg10/Lys8-labeled cells were treated with 10 μ M LPA (Sigma-Aldrich or Biomol) for 3 min. In the second experiment, Arg0/Lys0-labeled cells were stimulated with LPA, Arg6/Lys4-labeled cells were left untreated, and Arg10/Lys8-labeled cells were stimulated with HB-EGF. For each condition, labeled cells from 35 dishes (15-cm diameter) were lysed with ice-cold lysis buffer containing 50 mM HEPES-NaOH, pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 0.5% Triton X-100, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM EGTA, 10 μ g/ml aprotinin, 10 μ g/ml leupeptin, 1 mM PMSF, 10 mM NaF, 2.5 mM Na_3VO_4 , 50 ng/ml calyculin A, 1% phosphatase inhibitor mixture 1 (Sigma), and 1% phosphatase inhibitor mixture 2 (Sigma) for 5 min on ice. Lysates were precleared by centrifugation at $16,500 \times g$ at 4 $^{\circ}C$ for 30 min and subsequently filtered through a 0.45- μ m PVDF membrane. Protein concentrations were determined by the BCA assay (Pierce), and lysates were pooled at equal protein amounts. Stimulation was controlled by immunoblot analysis with phosphopeptide-specific antibody recognizing Tyr(P) 1173 of the EGF receptor (Cell Signaling Technology, Inc.). Aliquots of 15 mg of pooled total cell lysate were lyophilized and stored at $-80^{\circ}C$, whereas the large remainders were subjected to kinase affinity enrichment.

Kinase Affinity Resins and Enrichment—The kinase inhibitors VI16832, AX14596, and SU6668 were prepared as described elsewhere (27, 30, 31). VI16741 was synthesized as VI16832 except that 8-ethyl-2-methanesulfonyl-8H-pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one was used as starting material instead of 8-bicyclo-[2.2.1]hept-2-yl-2-methanesulfonyl-8H-pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidin-7-one. Commercially available inhibitors were bisindolylmaleimide X (Alexis Biochemicals), purvalanol B (Tocris), and dasatinib (LC Laboratories). For immobilization, 2 volumes of 5 mM bisindolylmaleimide X, 10 mM AX14596, 1.5 mM VI16832, 5 mM VI16741, or 5 mM dasatinib were coupled to 1 volume of drained epoxy-activated Sepharose 6B beads (GE Healthcare) according to a reported protocol (30). To generate purvalanol B and SU6668 resins, 2 volumes of 10 mM inhibitor solutions prepared in 50% *N,N*-dimethylformamide, 50% EtOH were mixed with 1 volume of drained EAH-Sepharose 4B (GE Healthcare) and then subjected to carbodiimide-catalyzed immobilization according to described procedures (28). The combined total protein extract (270 and 405 mg of protein in experiments 1 and 2, respectively) was adjusted

to 1 M NaCl and incubated for 3 h at 4 °C on a rotating wheel with 2.5 ml of inhibitor resin mixture consisting of 500 μ l of V116832 beads, 500 μ l of purvalanol B beads, 300 μ l of SU6668 beads, 300 μ l of bisindolylmaleimide X beads, 300 μ l of dasatinib beads, 300 μ l of AX14596 beads, and 300 μ l of V116741 beads. Afterward, the mixed resin beads were washed twice with 50 ml of buffer containing 50 mM HEPES-NaOH, pH 7.5, 1 M NaCl, 0.25% Triton X-100, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM EGTA, 10 mM NaF, and 0.1 mM Na₃VO₄; once with 50 ml of a similar buffer containing 150 mM instead of 1 M NaCl; and once with 50 ml of 50 mM HEPES-NaOH, 10 mM NaF, 0.1 mM Na₃VO₄. Bound proteins were eluted five times at 60 °C with 3 ml of 0.5% SDS, 5 mM DTT. Elution fractions were lyophilized and stored at -80 °C until further processing.

MS Sample Preparation and Phosphopeptide Enrichment—Kinase-enriched fractions were dissolved in water, combined, and precipitated (28). 70% of the protein precipitate was resolved by gel electrophoresis followed by in-gel digestion, whereas the remaining 30% was digested in solution. For in-gel digestion, pellets were dissolved in 1.5 \times LDS buffer and separated by LDS-PAGE using NuPAGE Novex 4–12% Bis-Tris gels (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's instructions. The gels were stained with the Colloidal Blue Staining kit (Invitrogen) and cut into 14 slices. The slices were subjected to in-gel digestion with trypsin as described elsewhere (32). After the final concentration step, 10% of the resulting peptide fractions were adjusted to 2% TFA and desalted on doubly packed, homemade C₁₈ StageTips (33). The remainders were pooled for peptide fractions from adjacent slices, and phosphopeptides were enriched from the resulting seven fractions. For trypsin digestion in solution, 30% of the kinase-enriched precipitates were dissolved in 7 M urea, 2 M thiourea, 50 mM HEPES-NaOH, pH 7.5; reduced, alkylated, and sequentially digested with Lys-C (Wako) and modified trypsin (sequencing grade; Promega) at an enzyme/substrate ratio of 1:100 as described (24) prior to phosphopeptide enrichment.

For phosphoproteome analysis in total cell extracts, 5 mg of lysate per treatment condition were pooled, lyophilized, dissolved in water, and then precipitated (28). Precipitated proteins were proteolytically digested as described above at an enzyme/substrate ratio of 1:200. Peptides were diluted to a final volume of 10 ml in 30% ACN, 0.2% TFA and separated by strong cation chromatography with a 1-ml Resource S column (GE Healthcare) on an ÄKTA Explorer System as described (24). Bound peptides were eluted with a gradient from 100% buffer A (5 mM KH₂PO₄, 30% ACN, 0.01% TFA) to 30% buffer B (5 mM KH₂PO₄, 30% ACN, 0.01% TFA, 350 mM KCl) followed by phosphopeptide enrichment from the column flow-through and the SCX elution fractions.

For phosphopeptide purification, 5 mg of TiO₂ beads (GL Sciences Inc.) were washed once with elution buffer (NH₃ water in 20% ACN, pH 10.5) and equilibrated with washing buffer (50% ACN, 0.1% TFA). TiO₂ beads were loaded with dihydroxybenzoic acid by incubation with loading buffer (6 g/liter dihydroxybenzoic acid in 15% ACN). Peptide samples were adjusted to a final concentration of 30% ACN, 2 M urea, 0.5 M thiourea and incubated with TiO₂ beads for 60 min at room temperature on a rotating wheel. Subsequently, beads were washed three times with washing buffer, and bound phosphopeptides were eluted for 10 min at room temperature with elution buffer containing 20% ACN followed by a second elution step with buffer containing 40% ACN. In the case of the in-solution digested, kinase-enriched fraction and the SCX flow-through of the total lysate sample, supernatants were repeatedly applied to fresh TiO₂ beads to obtain four distinct elution fractions from consecutive TiO₂ resin incubations. All eluates were filtered through homemade C₈ StageTips. The eluates were concentrated in a vacuum concentrator (Eppendorf). Before MS analysis, samples were adjusted to 1% ACN and 0.05% TFA.

MS Analysis—Tryptic peptides were separated by on-line reverse phase nanoscale capillary LC (nano-LC; Agilent 1100) coupled to ESI-MS/MS. Using the nano-LC system, samples were injected onto a 15-cm reverse phase, fused silica capillary column (inner diameter, 75 μ m; packed in-house with 3- μ m ReproSil-Pur C₁₈-AQ medium; Dr. Maisch GmbH) kept at 31 °C. The nano-LC system was connected to an LTQ-Orbitrap mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific) equipped with a nano-electrospray ion source (Proxeon Biosystems). Loaded peptides were eluted with 140-min gradients ranging from 5 to 40% ACN in 0.5% acetic acid with a flow rate of 250 nl/min. Data-dependent acquisition was performed on the LTQ-Orbitrap using the Xcalibur 2.0 software in the positive ion mode as described (27). Briefly, the instrument was recalibrated in real time by co-injection of an internal standard from ambient air into the C-trap ("lock mass option") (25). Survey spectra were acquired in the orbitrap with a resolution of 60,000 at *m/z* 400. Up to five of the most intense multiply charged ions were sequentially isolated, fragmented, and analyzed in the LTQ part of the instrument. To improve phosphopeptide analysis, multistage activation was enabled, and the neutral loss species at 97.97, 48.99, or 32.66 *m/z* below the precursor ion were activated for 30 ms during fragmentation (pseudo-MS³) (34). All raw data files from this study have been uploaded to the Tranche file-sharing system (<https://proteomecommons.org/>, hash 4n6ku2WUUVMeWBPJnvijjMR0KcaGW00F6QGasC2CPSVf1-JA3AfuX1cSrOVd3DYNZojDi8erLQsKLR6GLFTzalZYPuIAAAAAA-98g=).

MS Data Processing—Raw MS data were processed using the in-house software MaxQuant (version 1.0.12.16) (26). MaxQuant-generated peak lists were searched with the Mascot search engine (version 2.2.04; Matrix Science, London, UK) against an in-house curated International Protein Index (IPI) human protein database (version 3.37 containing 69,141 entries) and 175 commonly observed contaminants (such as human keratins, porcine trypsin, and endoprotease Lys-C) to which reversed versions of all sequences had been added. The maximum mass deviations allowed for MS and MS² peaks were 5 ppm and 0.5 Da, respectively. Carbamidomethylcysteine was set as fixed modification, and oxidized methionine, phosphorylation on serine, threonine, or tyrosine and protein *N*-acetylation were searched as variable modifications. In addition, the SILAC labels Lys4, Lys8, Arg6, and Arg10 were searched as modifications. Full tryptic specificity was required, and up to three missed cleavages were allowed. Searches against a concatenated target/decoy database allowed us to filter peptide and protein identifications for a false discovery rate of less than 1% (35).

Identified peptides were automatically quantified, and phosphorylation sites assigned by post-translational modification score-based localization in MaxQuant (24, 26). For phosphorylation site analysis, only class I sites with a localization probability of at least 0.75 and a localization probability score difference of 5 or higher were considered (24). For identified class I sites, annotated phosphopeptide spectra have been uploaded to the Tranche file-sharing system (<https://proteomecommons.org/>, hash: m2s2DEyBC5mrrGzsYh-50blbEC94X2Sglfnb0Y7gCoBqhmnmv0QH9tFv0EjRvh0YnYyEhkT-U3o7sT7oKmEE8SaOKudUQAAAAA8ixg=). All phosphopeptide ratios were normalized for unequal protein amounts and log₂-transformed. In the case of singly and multiply phosphorylated peptides harboring the same site, ratios were separately calculated for singly, doubly, and multiply phosphorylated species to detect possible priming phosphorylation events. To identify significantly regulated phosphopeptides on the basis of biological reproducibility, the ratios of the individual peptide ratios determined in the two experiments were calculated. Gaussian regression analysis on the histogram plot of the log₂-transformed ratios of ratios was performed using Sigmaplot (version 10.0; Systat Software Inc.). The obtained values

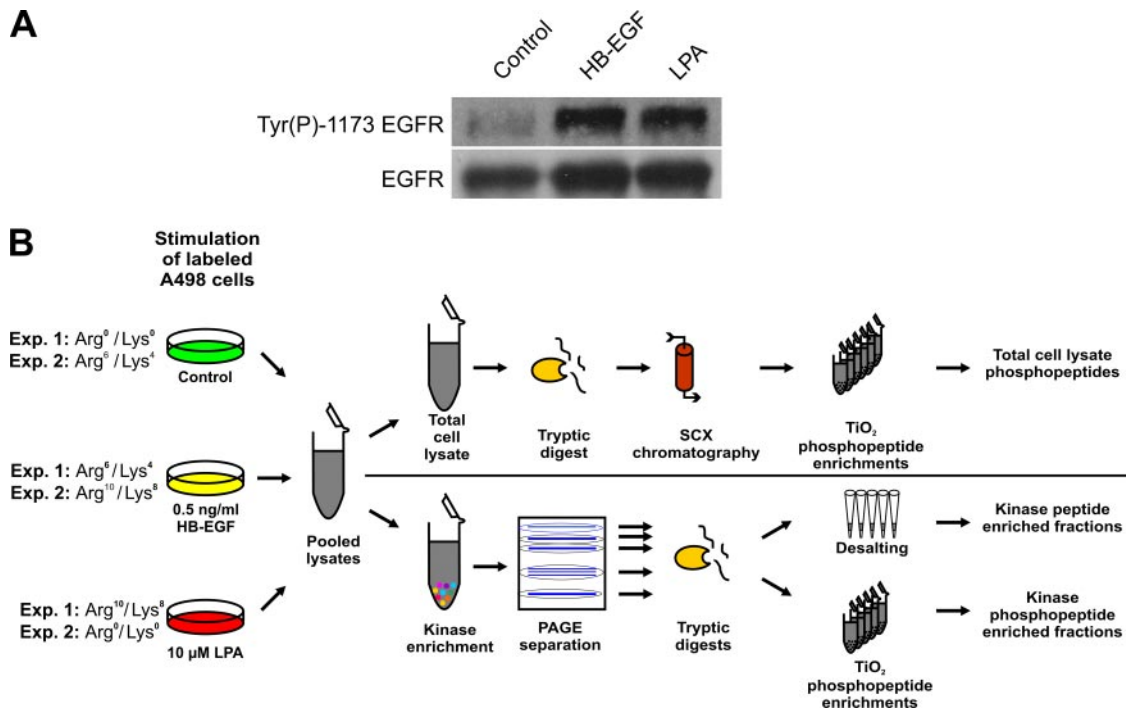


FIG. 1. Stimulation conditions and experimental design. *A*, LPA- and HB-EGF-induced tyrosine phosphorylation of the EGFR in SILAC-encoded A498 cells. Immunoblot analysis of total cell extracts with antibody recognizing Tyr(P)¹¹⁷³ in the EGFR revealed similar stimulation upon treatment with either 0.5 ng/ml HB-EGF or 10 μ M LPA. EGFR levels were similar as verified by immunoblotting with anti-EGFR antibody. *B*, schematic illustration of the integrated proteomics work flow for quantitative phosphorylation analysis of total lysates and kinase-enriched fractions. pY, phosphotyrosine.

for the mean and S.D. across the whole quantitative data set were used to determine thresholds for significant regulation of at least $\pm 2.5 \sigma$. Furthermore, only phosphosites conforming to this criterion and showing consistent regulation in biological replicates were considered as regulated for further analysis.

Gene Ontology (GO) and STRING Network Analyses—Significantly overrepresented GO terms were identified with the DAVID gene functional classification tool (36). To identify significant enrichment of GO terms, the Expression Analysis Systematic Explorer (EASE) score threshold in DAVID was set to $p \leq 0.05$. Kinase-enriched fractions were analyzed for overrepresented GO molecular function terms using the complete human proteome as the background data set. To analyze regulated phosphoproteins from total cell lysate experiments for enrichment of GO biological process terms, all identified phosphoproteins were used as reference data.

All proteins with confidently identified LPA-regulated phosphorylation sites were uploaded to the STRING protein-protein interaction database (37). The interaction network was generated on the basis of experimental and database knowledge with seven external interactors and visualized with Cytoscape (38).

RESULTS

Integrated Work Flow for Comprehensive Signaling Analysis—The GPCR ligand LPA rapidly triggers phosphorylation-dependent signaling in many mammalian cell types. In addition to capturing these changes in A498 kidney cancer cells on a proteome-wide level, our goal was to compare EGFR transactivation in the context of GPCR signaling with a similar activation of the EGFR by exogenous ligand. Therefore, we initially monitored time- and dose-dependent EGFR auto-

phosphorylation at Tyr(P)¹¹⁷³ upon addition of HB-EGF to define which concentration induced EGFR activation similar to that observed upon LPA-induced processing of endogenous HB-EGF precursors (supplemental Fig. 1). These test experiments revealed that 10 μ M LPA or 0.5 ng/ml HB-EGF induced comparable EGFR Tyr(P)¹¹⁷³ phosphorylation, which peaked after 3 min of stimulation. Thus, these treatment conditions were deemed as suitable for further SILAC-based proteomics analyses (Fig. 1A). To enable quantitative comparisons, populations of A498 cells were differentially labeled with three combinations of isotopic lysine and arginine variants (Lys0/Arg0, Lys4/Arg6, and Lys8/Arg10) as indicated in Fig. 1B. After five cell doublings in SILAC media to ensure near complete incorporation into cellular proteomes, A498 cells were stimulated with growth factors and lysed, and equal protein amounts of total cell extract were pooled. Furthermore, we performed two independent experiments with different labeling schemes to assess the reproducibility and reliability of SILAC-based quantifications in biological replicates.

Total cellular protein extracts were digested with trypsin, and the resulting peptide mixture was resolved by SCX chromatography into eight fractions followed by phosphopeptide enrichment with TiO₂ beads. As the TiO₂ resin only captured a fraction of the phosphopeptides present in the initial flow-through of the SCX column, the supernatant was consecu-

TABLE I
Comparison of biological replicate analyses

Experiment	Uniquely modified phosphopeptides	Phosphorylated proteins	Phosphorylated protein kinases
Only in experiment 1	1,947	242	25
Overlap	1,967	1,081	168
Only in experiment 2	3,902	746	26

TABLE II
Comparison of results from kinase-enriched fractions and total cell lysates

Fraction	Uniquely modified phosphopeptides	Phosphorylated proteins	Phosphorylated protein kinases
Only in kinase enrichment	1,898	273	73
Overlap	516	445	107
Only in total cell lysate	5,402	1,351	39

tively applied to further phosphopeptide enrichment steps to capture remaining phosphopeptide species. All phosphopeptide fractions were analyzed by LC-MS on an LTQ-Orbitrap mass spectrometer.

In addition, we enriched for protein kinases to enable their analysis with considerably higher sensitivity than achievable from total cell extracts. Protein kinases are often difficult to detect in total phosphoproteomes because of their relatively low expression compared with their more abundant substrates. However, as kinases represent the key elements of phosphorylation-based signal transmission, knowledge about their site-specific phosphorylations can provide important insights into the architecture of signaling networks and their regulation by external stimuli. We therefore incubated total cell extract with a mixture of seven kinase inhibitor resins with distinct binding characteristics to enable the affinity purification of a maximum number of kinases from A498 cells. After extensive washing, 70% of the kinase-enriched fraction was resolved by gel electrophoresis prior to in-gel digestions with trypsin followed by phosphopeptide enrichment. We further prepared total peptide fractions from gel slices to monitor whether protein changes occur in kinase-enriched fractions upon growth factor treatment. The remaining 30% of the inhibitor resin eluate was digested in solution and subjected to consecutive enrichments with TiO₂ beads as a complementary strategy for phosphopeptide fractionation. All resulting peptide fractions were analyzed on an LTQ-Orbitrap mass spectrometer. An overview of our phosphoproteomics strategy for the parallel analysis of both total cell lysate and kinase-enriched fractions is shown in Fig. 1B. All raw MS data from two independent experiments were collectively processed using the MaxQuant software package, which automatically performed peptide to protein assignment, SILAC-based quantification of proteins and phosphorylation events, and phosphorylation site localization in identified phosphopeptides (26).

Qualitative and Quantitative Phosphoproteomics Analysis of A498 Cells—The combined analysis of kinase-enriched and total lysate fractions led to the identification of 3,914 and

5,869 distinct phosphopeptides (supplemental Table 1) in the first and second biological replicate experiments, respectively (Table I), with an overlap of 1,967 phosphopeptides detected in both experiments. In total, the identified phosphopeptides were derived from 2,115 distinct proteins (supplemental Table 2), and 5,332 class I phosphorylation sites (supplemental Table 3) could be assigned with high confidence ($p \geq 0.75$).

Moreover, of the 2,414 distinct phosphopeptides detected upon kinase enrichment, only 516 were found among the 5,918 phosphopeptides identified from total cell lysates (Table II). Thus, the two phosphoproteomics strategies yield highly complementary data sets, and this was also evident on the level of identified protein kinases. Notably, 73 of the 219 distinct protein kinases identified with phosphopeptides were only found upon prefractionation. The estimated kinome coverage of the inhibitor resin mixture was about 70% based on our data that 107 of the 146 phosphorylated protein kinases identified from total cell lysates were also found in the affinity-purified fractions. Moreover, our analysis of total peptide fractions upon kinase enrichment revealed an additional 43 kinases identified exclusively with non-phosphorylated peptides. In total, as many as 262 distinct protein kinases according to nomenclature by Manning *et al.* (39) were detected; this to the best of our knowledge, represents the highest number of these key enzymes identified from a single biological source to date. The overall relative abundances of Ser(P), Thr(P), and Tyr(P) were 88.9, 10.3, and 0.8% in total lysate and 69.2, 22.1, and 8.7% in kinase-enriched fractions, consistent with a higher prevalence of Tyr(P) on protein kinases reported earlier (27). We further used GO analysis to identify significantly overrepresented molecular functions in the identified phosphoproteins. As expected, protein kinase activity was highly overrepresented upon kinase prefractionation (supplemental Fig. 2 and Table 4).

Quantification was possible for about 97% of the more than 29,000 uniquely modified peptides (supplemental Table 1) identified in this study. Overall, identified peptides harbored 5,155 or 5,169 distinct class I ($p \geq 0.75$) phosphorylation sites

for which quantitative data could be obtained upon either LPA or HB-EGF treatment, respectively. For statistical analysis, measured ratios were \log_2 -transformed and normalized on all measured peptide ratios. To determine the interexperimental variance and define threshold values for significantly regulated sites, corresponding normalized phosphopeptide ratios from both experiments were divided by each other to calculate “ratios of ratios.” After binning and plotting a histogram chart, the mean and σ of the ratio distribution were determined by Gaussian fourth order regression (Fig. 2, A and B). Based on this analysis, we applied stringent filter criteria to our data set and considered only sites for further analysis if they were consistently up- or down-regulated by more than 2.5 times σ in both experiments (Fig. 2C and supplemental Table 5).

As cells were stimulated with either LPA or HB-EGF for only 3 min before lysis, protein changes were highly unlikely to occur within this short treatment period. Therefore, we only analyzed phosphopeptide-enriched fractions from total lysate. However, as it cannot be formally excluded that rapidly induced post-translational modifications might affect inhibitor binding of some kinases, we also analyzed total peptide fractions upon kinase enrichment in addition to phosphopeptide fractions. Notably, none of the identified phosphoproteins exhibited stimulation-dependent binding. Consequently, the ratios of regulated phosphorylations were highly similar with or without normalization for protein abundance (Fig. 2D). Because of this high concordance, we did not normalize these phosphorylation changes for protein levels. This further ensured consistency of phosphorylation data from kinase-enriched fractions with our results from total lysate phosphoproteome analysis, which we considered as important for further bioinformatics processing of merged data sets.

In total, about 5% of all quantified phosphorylation sites were significantly and reproducibly regulated upon growth factor treatment. LPA stimulation led to significant and reproducible changes at 224 confidently assigned phosphorylation sites (supplemental Table 6) of which 150 were up-regulated and 74 were down-regulated. By comparison, with only 23 phosphorylation sites up-regulated and 21 down-regulated, HB-EGF treatment resulted in a considerably smaller number of phosphorylation changes (Fig. 4 and supplemental Table 6). Notably, 43 of all regulated sites have not been identified previously according to the phosphorylation site database PhosphoSitePlus®. Selected phosphorylation sites are compiled in Table III.

LPA-triggered Dephosphorylation Events—Although the majority of phosphorylations were induced upon treatment, we found down-regulation for a considerable number of sites. This raises the question whether these signaling events could be due to rapid, growth factor-induced dephosphorylation. In the case of a dephosphorylation event, the relative abundance of the non-phosphorylated counterpart of a phosphopeptide would increase to an extent determined by the

change in phosphorylation site stoichiometry. Remarkably, we could identify a small number of dephosphorylation events based on such observations, for example for a peptide derived from the protein-tyrosine kinase Abl. The peptide ⁵⁷⁴GQGESDPLDHEPAVpSPLLPR⁵⁹³, which encompasses Ser(P)⁵⁸⁸, was reduced upon LPA stimulation by a factor of 2.5, whereas a more than 3-fold up-regulation was observed for its unphosphorylated counterpart (Fig. 3A). Similarly, dephosphorylation events were also detected on a multiply phosphorylated peptide of the AP2-associated protein kinase 1 (AAK1) encompassing Ser(P)⁶⁷⁶ and Ser(P)⁶⁷⁸ as evident from a decrease of phosphorylated species accompanied by a 4-fold increase of the non-phosphorylated counterpart. To our knowledge, these results provide the first experimental evidence of early dephosphorylation events in LPA signaling.

Alternative to dephosphorylation, the phosphorylation site ratio determined from a singly phosphorylated peptide species can decrease in the case of an induced secondary phosphorylation mapping to the same peptide as illustrated by a set of peptides harboring the adjacent phosphorylation sites Ser(P)²⁰⁵ and Ser(P)²⁰⁸ from the serine/threonine PKD1 (Fig. 3B). In response to LPA, both the unphosphorylated and the Ser²⁰⁵ phosphorylated peptide species were down-regulated by about 2-fold, whereas the corresponding singly and doubly phosphorylated Ser(P)²⁰⁸-containing peptides exhibited reciprocal ratios. These results demonstrate LPA-induced phosphorylation on Ser²⁰⁸ of PKD1 and further suggest that phosphorylation on Ser²⁰⁵ did neither change nor prime phosphoryl transfer on the adjacent serine residue. Notably, phosphorylation on Ser²⁰⁵ and Ser²⁰⁸ has been implicated in the molecular association of PKD1 with 14-3-3 β in response to oxidative stress (40) and might therefore have regulatory functions in the context of LPA-triggered signaling.

Comparison of Phosphorylation Changes upon LPA and HB-EGF Treatment—In our experiments, we used an HB-EGF concentration titrated to induce similar EGFR phosphorylation on Tyr(P)¹¹⁷³ as triggered by the LPA-induced transactivation process. This was also evident from the MS-based quantification of EGFR Tyr(P)¹¹¹⁰, which was identified in one of the two replicate experiments and quantified with ratios of 2.5 and 1.9 upon HB-EGF and LPA incubation, respectively. HB-EGF induced fewer phosphorylation changes than LPA as expected because of the LPA-selective activation of Rho GTPase and other GPCR-triggered signaling pathways. Furthermore, nearly all HB-EGF-regulated phosphorylation sites exhibited regulation in the same direction upon LPA in concordance with the EGFR transactivation component of LPA signaling. The only exceptions were found for Ser(P)⁵⁴⁸ of PKD1, which was 4.6-fold induced by LPA in contrast to a 5.7-fold down-regulation upon HB-EGF treatment, and for the Ser(P) residues 4476, 4485, and 4489 on plectin-1, which were found to be significantly reduced by HB-EGF but not by LPA treatment. In contrast, the majority of all other HB-EGF-

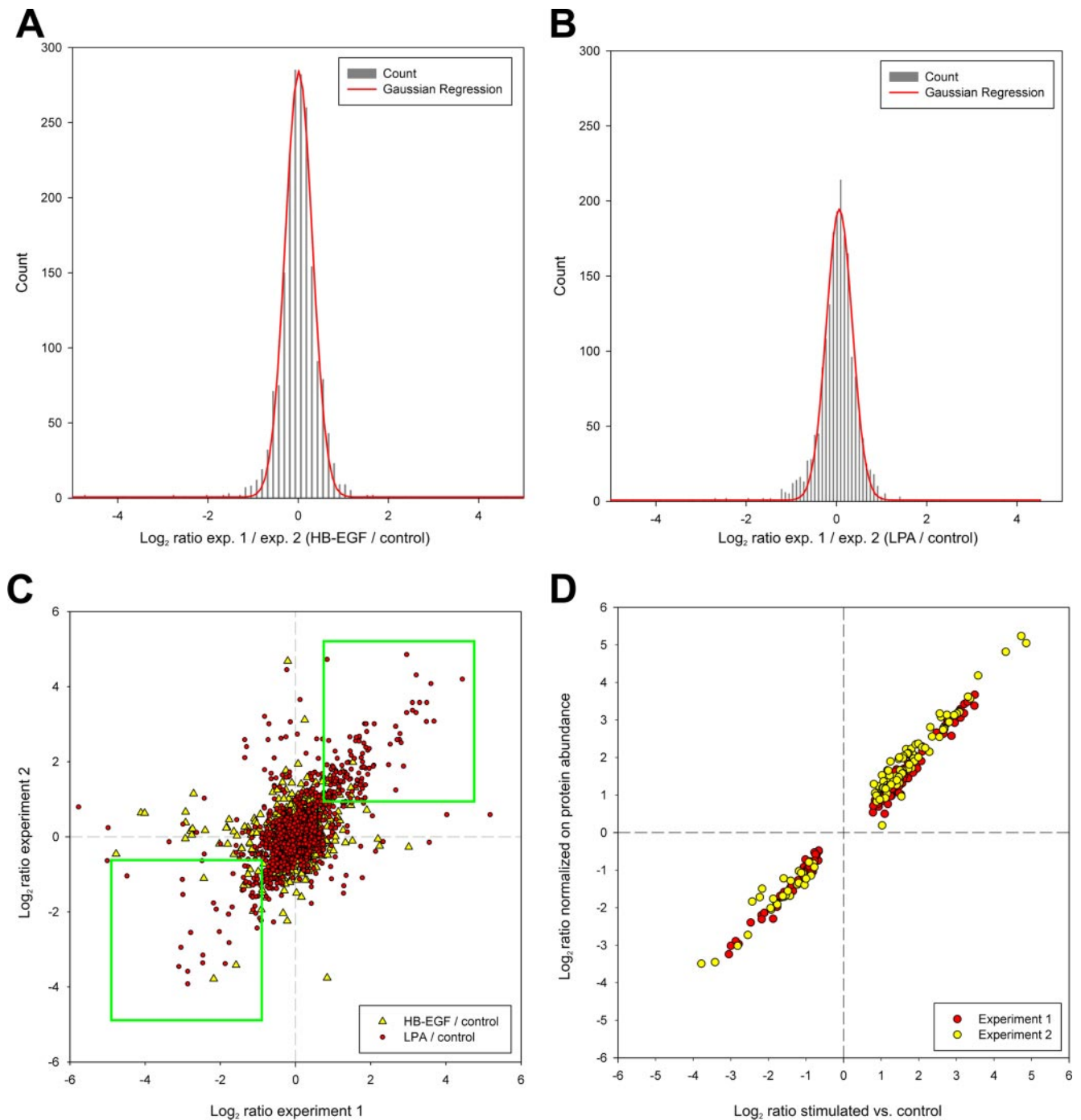


FIG. 2. **Statistical and comparative analyses of quantitative MS data.** Quantified phosphopeptides were binned according to their log_2 values of the ratio of their HB-EGF (A) or LPA (B) versus control ratios obtained in biological replicates. Gaussian regression analysis was applied to calculate the mean and S.D. for the log_2 -transformed ratios of ratios. C, correlation of phosphorylation site ratios upon HB-EGF or LPA treatment shown in a scatter plot comparison of biological replicates. Consistently up- and down-regulated sites enclosed by either of the two rectangles were considered for further analysis. D, regulated phosphosite ratios determined from kinase-enriched fractions were similar with or without normalization for protein abundance as visualized by a scatter plot.

regulated sites showed more pronounced changes upon LPA treatment despite similar EGFR activation (Fig. 4).

Bioinformatics Analysis of LPA-induced Phosphoproteome Changes—Next, we performed a GO analysis to identify sig-

nificantly overrepresented biological process categories in the subset of LPA-regulated phosphoproteins using all identified proteins with phosphorylation sites as the background data set (supplemental Table 7). We found LPA-regulated phos-

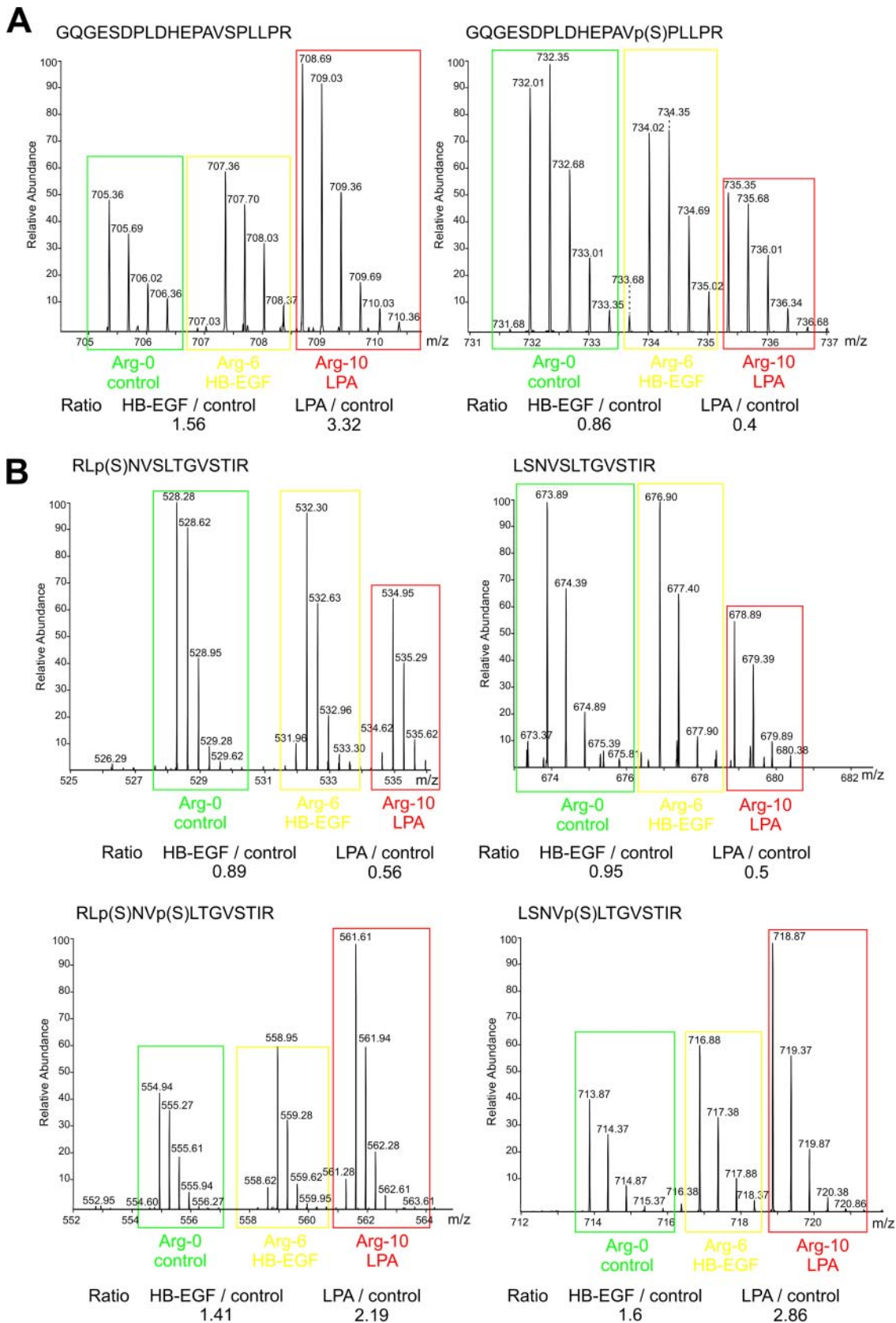
TABLE III
Selected LPA-regulated phosphorylation sites

Remarks were deduced from GO and Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) annotations or directly from the literature where indicated. Ratios only measured in one experiment are indicated by asterisks.

Protein	IPI	Position	Sequence window	Mean Ratio HB-EGF/Control	Mean Ratio LPA/Control	Remarks
Receptors						
Bone morphogenetic protein receptor type-2	IPI00783156	757	LPKRPT <u>S</u> LPNTK	1.32	2.60	
Epidermal growth factor receptor	IPI00018274	1166	KGSHQI <u>S</u> LNDPDY	1.13	1.86	
Epidermal growth factor receptor	IPI00018274	1110	SVQNPV <u>Y</u> HNQPLN	3.12*	1.95*	Autophosphorylation site
Ephrin type-B receptor 2	IPI00252979	586	KLQHYT <u>S</u> GHMTPG	2.83	10.33	
Hepatocyte growth factor receptor	IPI00029273	977	YDARVH <u>T</u> PHLDRL	0.63	0.44	
Non-receptor kinases / phosphatases						
Proto-oncogene tyrosine-protein kinase ABL1	IPI00221171	16	GDQRRP <u>S</u> LPALHF	0.96	2.14	Novel site
Proto-oncogene tyrosine-protein kinase ABL1	IPI00221171	588	DHEPAV <u>S</u> PLLPRK	0.86	0.40	
Tyrosine-protein kinase ABL2	IPI00329488	820	RTVSTS <u>S</u> QPEENV	1.14	2.50	
Focal adhesion kinase 1	IPI00413961	386	EKQGMRT <u>H</u> AVSVS	1.40	2.64	Activation loop
Focal adhesion kinase 1	IPI00413961	577	MEDSTY <u>Y</u> KASKGK	1.40	2.08	
Serine/threonine-protein kinase D3	IPI00015538	731	RIIEK <u>S</u> FRRSVV	2.08	13.55	Activation loop
Serine/threonine-protein kinase D3	IPI00015538	735	EKSFR <u>S</u> VVGTPA	2.31	6.77	Activation loop
Protein tyrosine kinase 2 beta	IPI00029702	579	YIEDED <u>Y</u> KASVT	3.39	15.03	Activation loop
Protein tyrosine kinase 2 beta	IPI00029702	580	IEDED <u>Y</u> KASVTR	2.22	8.75	Activation loop
Protein tyrosine kinase 2 beta	IPI00029702	583	EDYYK <u>S</u> VTRLPI	2.45	9.58	Activation loop
Ribosomal protein S6 kinase alpha-1	IPI00017305	573	ENGLLM <u>T</u> PCYTAN	1.25	3.03	Activation loop
Tyrosine-protein kinase Tec	IPI00000878	519	YVLDDQ <u>Y</u> TSSSGA	1.63	6.99	Phosphorylation activates enzyme (62)
Proto-oncogene tyrosine-protein kinase Yes	IPI00013981	425	LIEDNE <u>Y</u> TARQGA	1.21	1.84	Activation loop
Cyclin-dependent kinase-like 5	IPI00746301	407	NIPHLL <u>S</u> PKEAKS	1.58	2.91	
Tyrosine-protein phosphatase non-receptor type 12	IPI00289082	435	KLERNL <u>S</u> FEIKKV	2.02	2.89	Protein tyrosine phosphatase
Tyrosine-protein phosphatase non-receptor type 12	IPI00018914	578	RPRPAT <u>S</u> TPDLAS	0.82	0.49	Protein tyrosine phosphatase
Cell cycle / Apoptosis						
Serine/threonine-protein kinase Chk1	IPI00023664	280	KRPRVT <u>S</u> GGVSES	1.52	2.09	Involved in G2/M transition
Astrocytic phosphoprotein PEA-15	IPI00643342	116	DIIRQP <u>S</u> EEIHK	1.17	2.03	Site stabilizes anti-apoptotic effect (42-43)
STE20-like serine/threonine-protein kinase	IPI00247439	340	PASKRA <u>S</u> SDLSIA	1.10	2.17	Implicated in the regulation of apoptosis (63)
Serine/threonine-protein kinase 17B	IPI00014934	10	RRFDCR <u>S</u> ISGLLT	1.58	5.89	Implicated in the regulation of apoptosis
Endo- / Exocytosis						
AP2-associated protein kinase 1	IPI00479760	620	QKVGSL <u>T</u> PPSSPK	1.54	2.86	Endocytosis
AP2-associated protein kinase 1	IPI00479760	623	GSLTP <u>S</u> SPKTQR	1.23	3.50	Endocytosis
AP2-associated protein kinase 1	IPI00479760	624	SLTP <u>S</u> SPKTQRA	1.51	2.80	Endocytosis
AP2-associated protein kinase 1	IPI00479760	637	GHRRL <u>S</u> DVTHSA	0.68	0.43	Endocytosis
AP2-associated protein kinase 1	IPI00479760	676	SATTT <u>P</u> SGSPRTS	0.49	0.17	Endocytosis
AP2-associated protein kinase 1	IPI00479760	731	PEKLG <u>S</u> AESLIP	0.92	0.33	Endocytosis
AP-2 complex subunit beta-1	IPI00784366	4	<u> </u> MTD <u>S</u> KYFTTN	2.73	8.40	Endocytosis
GTPase-activating protein and VPS9 domain-containing protein 1	IPI00292753	929	RLVRSR <u>S</u> SDIVSS	1.23	1.90	Endocytosis
Dynamin-1	IPI00413140	774	VPAGRR <u>S</u> PTSSPT	1.38	2.55	Endocytosis, downstream of EGFR (20)
Dynamin-1	IPI00413140	776	AGRRSP <u>T</u> SSPTPQ	1.47	2.47	Endocytosis, downstream of EGFR
Exocyst complex component 1	IPI00215762	486	MGNMSA <u>S</u> DLVDAD	0.55	0.58	Exocytosis, CDC42 interactor (64)
Kinesin-like protein KIF21A	IPI00425409	855	TRKLSS <u>S</u> DAPAQD	0.58	3.74	Intracellular transport
Intersectin-1	IPI00304740	904	ATGSSP <u>S</u> PVLGGQ	0.29	0.46	Endocytosis, Rho signalling

TABLE III—continued

G protein signaling						
Guanine nucleotide-binding protein subunit alpha-12	IPI00328744	40	REARRR <u>S</u> RDIDAL	0.88*	3.13*	Heterotrimeric G protein α subunit
Glucocorticoid receptor DNA-binding factor 1	IPI00334715	589	DRNQKN <u>S</u> LDSPNI	1.68	2.75	Rho GAP, represses glucocorticoid receptor
A-kinase anchor protein 13	IPI00065931	1899	IFANRR <u>S</u> QQSVSL	1.62	3.55	Rho GEF, couples $G_{\alpha 12/13}$ to Rho, anchors PKA
Rho GTPase-activating protein 29	IPI00152011	499	GFGPAN <u>S</u> LEDVVR	0.96	2.61	Ras/Rho GAP, Rho/CDC42 regulation
Rho GTPase-activating protein 29	IPI00152011	552	GSSES <u>R</u> SLDSESI	1.26	2.44	Ras/Rho GAP, Rho/CDC42 regulation
Cdc42 effector protein 4	IPI00015894	174	GAAGPH <u>S</u> PDPLLD	0.53	3.71	Effector of CDC42, pseudopodium formation
Development and differentiation-enhancing factor 1	IPI00376976	1044	AIQKQA <u>S</u> EDSNDL	1.08	2.54	Regulation of Ras/Arf GTPase activity
Ras-related protein Rab-13	IPI00016373	178	KSGGRR <u>S</u> GNGNKP	1.34	3.25	GTPase activity
TBC1 domain family member 4	IPI00220901	588	MRGRL <u>S</u> VDSEFER	1.22	2.80	Ras/Rab GTPase activity
Neurofibromin	IPI00299512	2543	LLGTRK <u>S</u> FDHLIS	1.49	3.56	Ras GTPase activator
Neurofibromin	IPI00299512	2515	PTVGQT <u>S</u> PRARKS	0.67	0.27	Ras GTPase activator
Rab GTPase-binding effector protein 1	IPI00293009	407	GLRRAQ <u>S</u> TDLSLGT	0.74	0.40	Rab effector, GTPase activator activity
Protein SOLO	IPI00748767	961	HLGEEA <u>S</u> PRGYRR	1.02	0.52	Rho GEF activity, GTPase regulator activity
MICAL-like protein 1	IPI00174962	484	PAPRAP <u>S</u> ASPLAL	0.34	0.09	Rab 13 interactor
Transcription / translation / degradation						
Programmed cell death protein 4	IPI00290110	457	GRKRFV <u>S</u> EGDGGR	1.60	1.83	Site de-represses AP-1 elements (45)
Transcription elongation factor B polypeptide 3	IPI00018404	137	KKHRKL <u>S</u> ELERPH	1.44	3.64	Elongation factor
Nuclear factor 1 X-type	IPI00218260	265	VTLGRR <u>S</u> ITSPPS	1.57	3.25	Transcription factor
Histone deacetylase 7	IPI00418482	486	PLSRAQ <u>S</u> SPAAPA	1.45	1.97	Histone deacetylation, site triggers nuclear export
Histone deacetylase 7	IPI00418482	444	RLRQIP <u>S</u> AEDLET	0.81*	3.42*	Histone deacetylation
Gem-associated protein 5	IPI00291783	757	TPVKLE <u>S</u> IDGNEE	1.30	3.69	EIF4H interactor (65)
Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4H	IPI00014263	21	FGGGR <u>S</u> RGSSAGG	1.21	2.22	Translation initiation factor
Ubiquitin conjugation factor E4 B	IPI00005715	103	SQSLR <u>S</u> QSMDDID	1.14	1.90	Protein degradation
Ubiquitin-associated protein 2-like	IPI00514856	454	APPP <u>S</u> PLPSKS	0.81	0.49	Protein degradation
Ubiquitin-associated protein 2-like	IPI00514856	609	PSSIS <u>S</u> SPQKDLT	0.93	0.48	Protein degradation
DNA damage response						
Interferon-inducible double stranded RNA-dependent protein kinase activator A	IPI00021167	18	PLERED <u>S</u> GTFSLG	1.76	4.66	Protein activates interferon-inducible double stranded RNA-dependent protein kinase
Adhesion / motility						
CD44 antigen	IPI00305064	697	VEDRKP <u>S</u> GLNGEA	1.31	3.03	Site regulates motility (58)
Platelet F11 receptor	IPI00001754	284	VIYSQP <u>S</u> ARSEGE	2.47	5.69	Cell adhesion
Tight junction protein ZO-1	IPI00216219	1366	SYFDRR <u>S</u> FENKPP	1.39	2.86	Adherens junction
Plakophilin-3	IPI00335634	88	QSSSPV <u>S</u> YGSSAKT	1.65	2.20	Cell adhesion
Plakophilin-3	IPI00026952	314	TLQRLS <u>S</u> GFDDID	2.62	18.39	Cell adhesion
Liprin-beta-1	IPI00179172	532	NLDRKR <u>S</u> ASAPTL	1.87	3.67	Cell adhesion
Myristoylated alanine-rich C-kinase substrate	IPI00219301	120	AEPGSP <u>S</u> IAEAGEA	0.85	2.23	Phosphorylation inhibits F-actin binding
Other Proteins						
ADAM 9	IPI00288894	791	SSTAAK <u>S</u> FDLTD	0.81*	0.53*	Involved in ligand shedding
ADAM 17	IPI00440932	752	PSRQP <u>S</u> VPRHVS	2.05*	3.72*	Involved in ligand shedding
C-X-C chemokine receptor type 4	IPI00216445	328	TSVSRG <u>S</u> SSLKILS	0.76*	3.43*	Receptor for stromal derived factor-1
7-dehydrocholesterol reductase	IPI00294501	14	NIPKAK <u>S</u> LDGVTN	1.25	7.70	Cholesterol synthesis, activated by phosphorylation (54)
Oxysterol-binding protein-related protein 11	IPI00032970	189	ISQRRP <u>S</u> QNAISF	1.10	1.95	Sterol transport/sensing (66)
1-phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate phosphodiesterase	IPI00010400	537	SLEPQK <u>S</u> LDGDEGL	2.68	14.32	Phospholipase



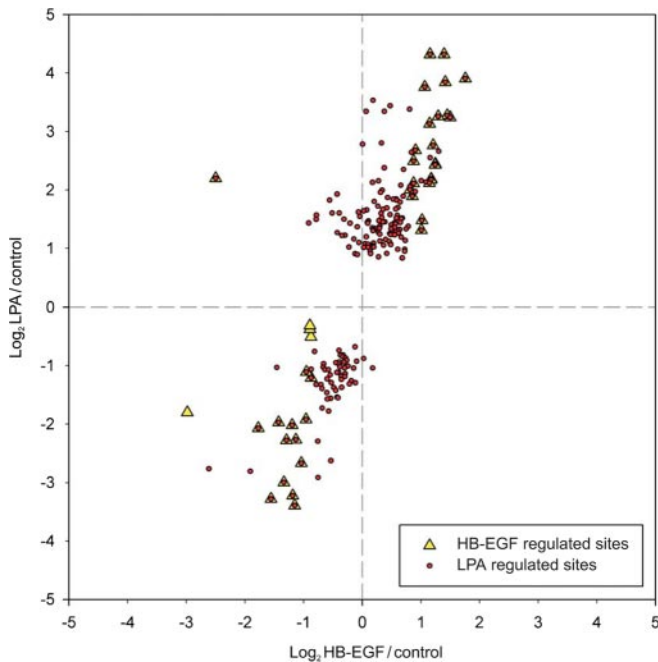


FIG. 4. **Differential phosphorylation changes upon treatment with LPA and HB-EGF.** A scatter plot analysis of phosphorylation sites significantly and reproducibly changed upon LPA (●) or HB-EGF (▲) treatment in both experiments is shown. Values on the *x* axis (*y* axis) correspond to \log_2 -transformed average phosphorylation ratios determined upon HB-EGF (LPA) stimulation of A498 cells.

phoproteins enriched for proteins annotated to biological processes, such as cell proliferation, cell motility, and cell adhesion with highest enrichment found in the latter category (Fig. 5). To further analyze the functional relationships among LPA signaling components, we queried the STRING database to assemble a protein-protein interaction network based on the regulated phosphoproteins identified in this study (Fig. 6). We solely considered associations backed up by experimental data and allowed for a few external interactors to enhance network connectivity. Network analysis revealed multiple interactions between central kinase mediators of LPA signaling, such as the EGFR, focal adhesion kinase (FAK), and ERK MAP kinases, and LPA-regulated phosphoproteins implicated in migration and adhesion, such as CD44, paxillin, the myristoylated alanine-rich protein kinase C substrate MARCKS, F11 receptor, and the protein-tyrosine phosphatase PTPN12. Tyrosine phosphorylations of FAK and paxillin are well characterized signaling events upon LPA-induced activation of the small GTPase Rho, and the protein network further illustrates various interactions among regulators and effectors of Rho

GTPases, such as the GTPase-activating proteins (GAPs) glucocorticoid receptor DNA-binding factor 1 (GRLF1) and Rho GTPase-activating protein 29 (ARHGAP29) as well as the guanine nucleotide exchange factor (GEF) protein kinase A anchor protein 13. Additionally, LPA regulated site-specific phosphorylations on the GEF SOLO and the Cdc42 effector protein 4 (41). The heterotrimeric G protein subunit $G\alpha_{12}$ couples LPA_{1/2} receptors to Rho GTPase activation, and we could identify an LPA-induced phosphorylation site in one experiment. Collectively, our results indicate that LPA-triggered kinase activities modulate Rho GTPase signaling on multiple levels and suggest complex mechanisms of signal integration instead of linear signal transduction processes. The network analysis of LPA-modulated phosphoproteins further revealed that the RhoGTPase GAPs GRLF1 and ARHGAP29 are connected to the endocytosis regulators intersectin 1 (ITSN1) and dynamin 1 (DNM1). In addition to modulation of Rho GTPase signaling, our quantitative MS analysis identified LPA regulation of components involved in signaling through Ras, Rab, and Arf small GTPases, such as development and differentiation enhancing factor 1, neurofibromin, TBC1 domain family member 4, and others.

A major signaling response to LPA involves the phosphorylation and activation of the protein kinase Akt/protein kinase B (14). Although Akt does not bind to our kinase enrichment resin and was therefore not detected in our MS analyses, we added this known mediator in LPA signaling to gain better insights into cellular network regulation. Notably, this provided additional links involving the known Akt substrates phosphoprotein enriched in astrocytes 15 (PEA15) and the protein kinase Chk1 for which we detected LPA-induced phosphorylation on their known Akt substrate sites. Phosphorylation of PEA15 on Ser¹¹⁶ is known to exert site-specific, antiapoptotic effects by protein stabilization (42, 43), and thus our identification of this site in LPA signaling points to a mechanism potentially involved in the antiapoptotic actions of the GPCR ligand. Chk1 is a serine/threonine kinase involved in the control of S phase and G₂/M phase checkpoint during the cell cycle and is activated upon various types of DNA damage. Interestingly, Akt prevents this activation by phosphorylating Chk1 on Ser²⁸⁰, the site that we found up-regulated upon LPA in our present study (44). This indicates a potential mechanism by which LPA-induced GPCR signaling could modulate the DNA damage response.

Remarkably, our data indicate potential mechanisms for rapid regulation of transcriptional activity upon LPA treatment.

FIG. 3. **MS spectra from SILAC-based quantitative analysis.** A, MS spectra of peptides derived from the tyrosine kinase Abl. The peptide with the amino acid sequence GQGSDPLDHEPAVSPLLPR was quantified in its non-phosphorylated and singly phosphorylated form harboring Ser(P)⁵⁸⁸. B, MS spectra of a set of peptides derived from the serine/threonine kinase PKD1. Peptides harboring the phosphorylation sites on Ser²⁰⁵ and Ser²⁰⁸ were quantified as non-, singly, or doubly phosphorylated forms with either phosphorylation detected in distinct singly modified peptide variants. A and B, isotopic variants originated from the differentially labeled and stimulated cells as indicated. Ratios obtained by SILAC-based quantification are shown. *p*(S), phosphoserine.

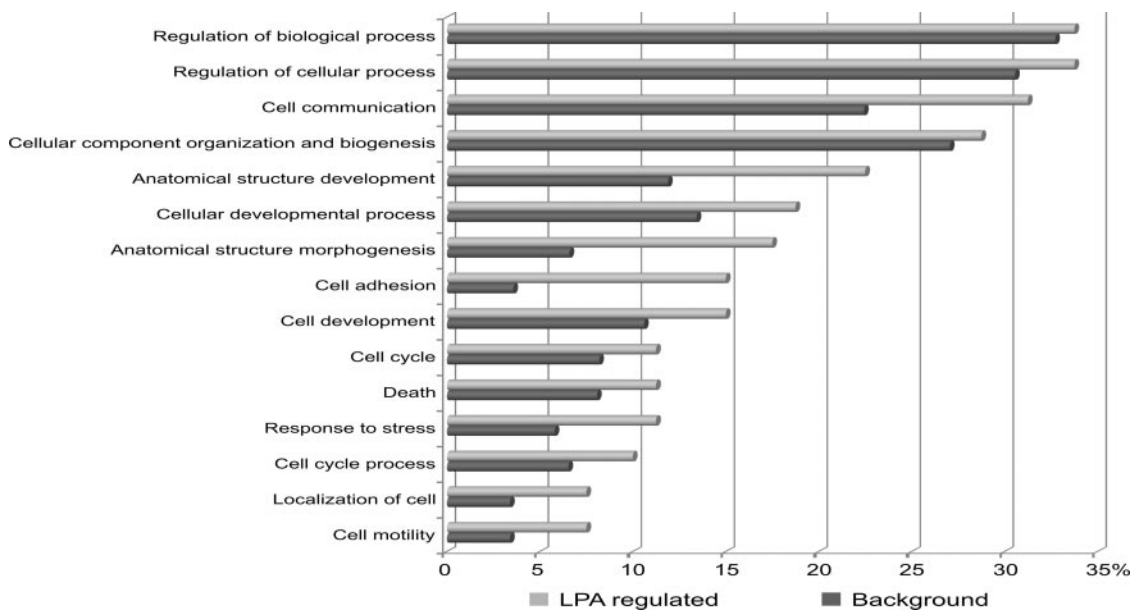


FIG. 5. **Overrepresented GO biological process categories.** LPA-regulated phosphoproteins from total cell lysate were compared with all phosphoproteins identified in the total cell lysate. Significantly overrepresented GO biological process terms ($p < 0.05$) are shown. Percentage values indicate the fractions of proteins annotated to the listed GO biological terms found in all LPA-regulated or all identified phosphoproteins with annotated GO biological process terms.

For instance, the tumor suppressor protein programmed cell death protein 4 (PDCD4) was phosphorylated at Ser⁴⁵⁷, a known Akt substrate site that regulates the repression of c-Jun-dependent transactivation of AP-1-responsive elements by PDCD4 (45). In addition, LPA induced phosphorylation on histone deacetylase 7 (HDAC7), likely through the upstream regulator PKD2, which has previously been characterized as cellular HDAC7 kinase and was activated in response to LPA as evident from increased activation loop phosphorylation (46). Notably, HDAC7 shuttles between the cytoplasm and the nucleus. Nuclear HDAC7 is recruited by the transcription factor MEF2D to its target gene promoters where it represses gene transcription. PKD-mediated phosphorylation leads to the accumulation of HDAC7 in the cytoplasm, thereby derepressing MEF2D/HDAC7-regulated genes (46–49). We observed LPA-induced HDAC7 phosphorylation on Ser⁴⁸⁶, which has been functionally implicated in T cell receptor-mediated transcriptional regulation. By extension, our identification of Ser⁴⁸⁶ as an LPA-regulated phosphorylation site could indicate a similar role of HDAC7 in GPCR-mediated gene regulation. In addition to PKD2, also the closely related kinase PKD1 was linked to HDAC7 regulation, and both PKD1 and PKD2 are activated by LPA according to our data. Literature data suggest that PKD1 can be activated by bone morphogenic protein receptor 2 (BMPR2) (50) and that the serine/threonine kinase receptor BMPR2 undergoes autophosphorylation at Ser⁷⁵⁷ upon activation. Surprisingly, we found this particular phosphorylation site to be up-regulated by a factor of 2.6 upon LPA stimulation, pointing to a previously unknown cross-talk mechanism in-

volving a transmembrane receptor with serine/threonine kinase activity as a potential mediator of transcriptional regulation through PKD and HDAC7. In addition, LPA rapidly induced phosphorylation of several other factors involved in protein biosynthesis, such as the transcription factor nuclear factor 1 X-type and the transcription elongation factor 3 as well as eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4H and Gem-associated protein 5 involved in protein translation.

The protein-protein interaction network of LPA-regulated phosphoproteins illustrates a remarkable gain in connectivity by the combined analysis of both kinase-enriched and total lysate fraction (Fig. 6). Data about regulated phosphoproteins were highly complementary, and only the protein kinases PKD1, calcium/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase type II δ , and calcium/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase kinase 1 were identified by either analytical strategy, whereas the majority of protein kinases identified in the LPA signaling response were contributed by the analysis of kinase inhibitor-resin-purified fractions.

Most protein kinases with LPA-induced phosphorylations are involved in either MAPK (TRAF2 and NCK-interacting kinase, TAO kinases 1/2, ERK1/2, and ribosomal protein S6 kinase α 1/3), calcium-dependent (calcium/calmodulin-dependent protein kinases type II and PKDs), or tyrosine kinase signaling (Src, Yes, FAK, PYK2, and ABL1/2). It is noteworthy that several receptor tyrosine kinases such as Met, EGFR, and EPHB2 were phosphorylated at serine residues. These site-specific phosphorylations could influence their cellular activities and signaling capacities by, for example, modulating receptor trafficking and localization in conjunction

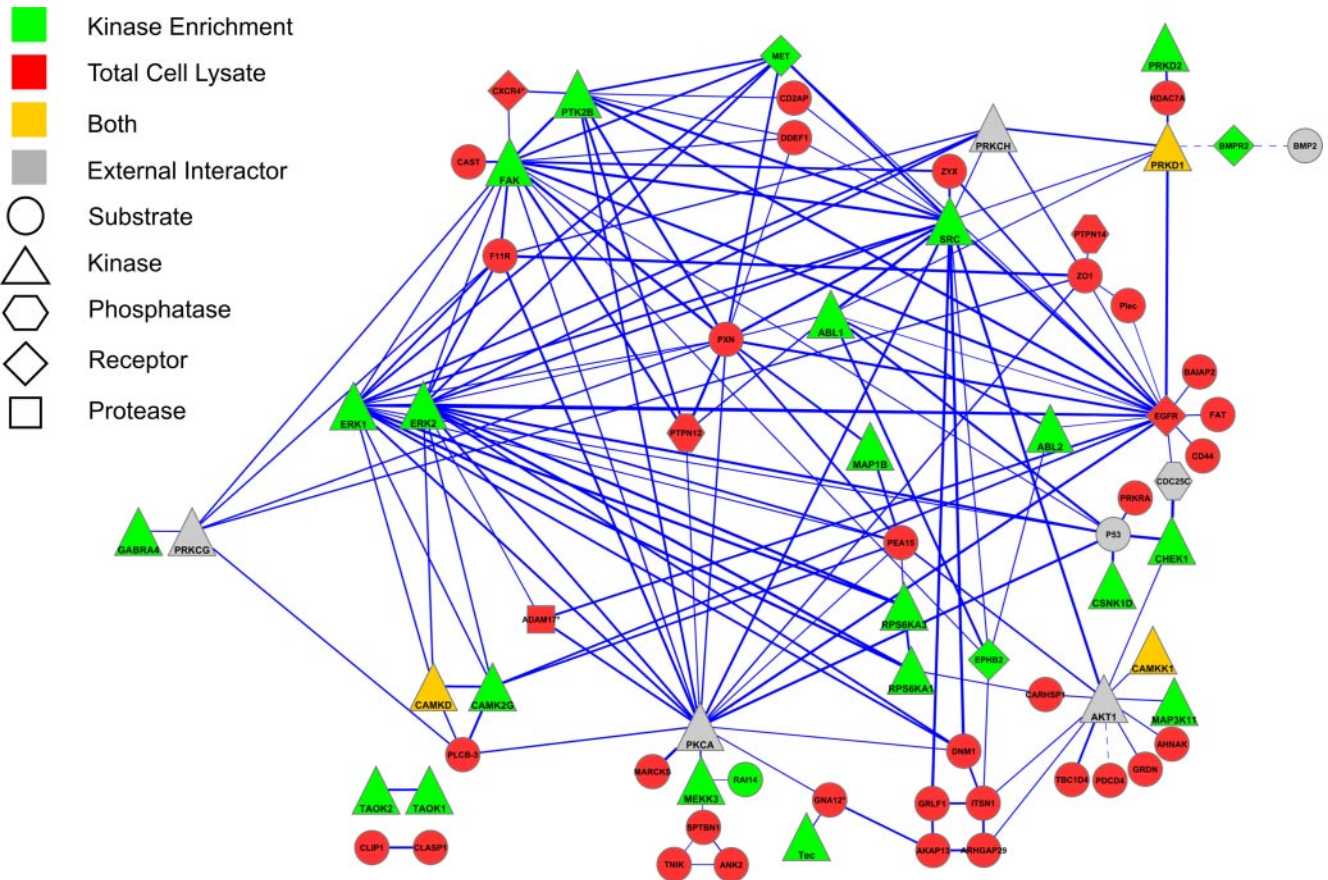


FIG. 6. Network of LPA-regulated phosphoproteins. Known physical and functional interactions among proteins with LPA-regulated phosphorylation sites were visualized using the STRING program. The *thickness* of the *edges* provides a measure for the confidence of the reported interactions according to the combination of experimental and database evidence. *Dashed edges* indicate interactions that have been manually added to the STRING-generated network based on literature evidence. Gene names are displayed in the network that correspond to the following proteins: *ABL1*, proto-oncogene tyrosine-protein kinase ABL1; *ABL2*, tyrosine-protein kinase ABL2; *AHNAK*, neuroblast differentiation-associated protein AHNAK; *AKAP13*, protein kinase A anchor protein 13; *ANK2*, Ankyrin-2; *BAIAP2*, brain-specific angiogenesis inhibitor 1-associated protein 2; *BMP*, bone morphogenetic protein 1; *CAMKK1*, calcium/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase kinase 1; *CARHSP1*, calcium-regulated heat stable protein 1; *CAST*, calcium-binding protein CAST; *CAMKD*, calcium/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase II δ ; *CAMK2G*, calcium/calmodulin-dependent protein kinase type II γ chain; *CDC25C*, M phase inducer phosphatase 3; *CD2AP*, CD2-associated protein; *CD44*, CD44 antigen; *CHEK1*, serine/threonine-protein kinase Chk1; *CLASP1*, CLIP-associated protein 1; *CLIP1*, CAP-Gly domain-containing linker protein 1; *CSNK1D*, casein kinase I isoform δ ; *CXCR4*, CXC chemokine receptor type 4; *DDEF1*, 130-kDa phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate-dependent ARF1 GTPase-activating protein; *DNM1*, dynamin-1; *EPHB2*, ephrin type-B receptor 2; *ERK1*, mitogen-activated protein kinase 3; *ERK2*, mitogen-activated protein kinase 1; *FAT*, protocadherin FAT-1; *F11R*, junctional adhesion molecule A; *GABRA4*, γ -aminobutyric acid receptor subunit α -4; *GNA12*, guanine nucleotide-binding protein subunit α -12; *GRDN*, girardin; *ITSN1*, intersectin-1; *MAP1B*, microtubule-associated protein 1B; *MARCKS*, myristoylated alanine-rich protein kinase C substrate; *MET*, hepatocyte growth factor receptor; *MEKK3*, mitogen-activated protein kinase kinase kinase 3; *PEA*, astrocytic phosphoprotein PEA15; *PLC3B*, 1-phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate phosphodiesterase β -3; *PLEC*, plectin-1; *PRKD1*, serine/threonine-protein kinase D1; *PRKCG*, protein kinase C γ type; *PRKCH*, protein kinase C η type; *PRKRA*, interferon-inducible double-stranded RNA-dependent protein kinase activator A; *TK2B*, protein-tyrosine kinase 2 β ; *PTPN12*, protein-tyrosine phosphatase non-receptor type 12; *PTPN14*, protein-tyrosine phosphatase non-receptor type 14; *PXN*, paxillin; *RAI14*, ankyrin; *RPS6KA1/3*, ribosomal protein S6 kinase α -1/3; *SPTBN1*, spectrin β chain, brain 1; *SRC*, proto-oncogene tyrosine-protein kinase Src; *TAOK1/2*, serine/threonine-protein kinase TAO-1/2; *TBC1D4*, TBC1 domain family member 4; *TEC*, tyrosine-protein kinase TEC; *TNIK*, TRAF2 and NCK-interacting protein kinase; *ZO1*, tight junction protein ZO-1; *ZYX*, zyxin.

with LPA-induced phosphorylations on several other factors implicated in endocytosis, such as AAK1, AP2 complex subunit β 1, GTPase-activating protein and VPS9 domains 1, and dynamin 1.

Kinase Activation Loop Phosphorylations—Several LPA-induced phosphorylation events on protein kinases located to

the conserved activation loop domain. As activation loop phosphorylation stabilizes the catalytically active conformation, these signaling events are of particular interest as they can provide a readout for cellular kinase activity. We found up-regulated activation loop phosphorylations on 11 distinct protein kinases (ERK1/2, FAK, PYK2, ribosomal protein S6

kinase $\alpha 1$, PKD1/2/3, Yes/Src, and Tec), indicating rapid induction of their catalytic activities upon LPA stimulation. Interestingly, the tyrosine kinase Tec plays an important role in diverse biological processes, such as antigen receptor signaling, actin reorganization, and cell adhesion (51). Tec might be of particular interest for further studies. Although Tec activation has been reported upon expression of either $G\alpha_{12/13}$ subunits or Src family kinases (52), our results provide the first evidence of Tec activation in the context of endogenous LPA signaling.

DISCUSSION

In our phosphoproteomics study, we analyzed early signaling events upon stimulation with the GPCR ligand LPA in comparison with HB-EGF treatment. HB-EGF was added at a concentration that induced EGFR tyrosine phosphorylation similar to that of the LPA-induced transactivation of the EGFR in A498 cells. Because of this experimental design, we could investigate how system-level effects, involving the EGFR and other components in LPA signaling, might affect downstream signal generation. Notably, nearly all HB-EGF-triggered phosphorylation events were more strongly induced by LPA. For example, LPA resulted in an about 2-fold stronger induction of activation loop phosphorylation in the MAP kinases ERK1 and ERK2, indicating synergism between EGFR transactivation and other branches of mitogenic LPA signaling. Although the underlying mechanisms are presently unclear, they could involve signal integration similar to the enhancement of EGF-triggered mitogenic signaling by insulin (53). Alternatively, LPA-induced phosphorylation changes might directly affect the signaling capacity of the EGFR, for example by modulation of its catalytic activity through site-specific serine/threonine phosphorylations on the receptor itself or by influencing its subcellular distribution through cross-talk to the endocytotic machinery. Interestingly, we found that LPA, but not HB-EGF, induced rapid phosphorylation events on several proteins with known functions in endocytosis, such as the serine/threonine kinase AAK1, dynamin 1, intersectin, GAPVD1, and AP2B1. Although the functional roles of these modifications remain to be determined, our study underlines the utility of quantitative phosphoproteomics to identify potential mechanisms of signal integration in growth factor signaling. Interestingly, we also detected strong LPA-induced phosphorylation on 7-dehydrocholesterol reductase (DHCR7), a metabolic enzyme involved in cholesterol biosynthesis. DHCR7 activity is positively regulated by phosphorylation (54), and depletion of cellular cholesterol increases ADAM17-mediated ligand shedding (55). Therefore, phosphorylation of DHCR7 may control a negative feedback loop that down-regulates ligand shedding in addition to effects on EGFR internalization due to increased membrane cholesterol levels (56).

The parallel phosphoproteomics analysis of total lysate and kinase-enriched fractions provided highly complementary in-

formation on phosphoproteins and their regulation as evident from the respective numbers of quantified phosphorylation sites. Overall, we quantified more than 10 times as many phosphopeptides as in a previous study on LPA signaling (57). Moreover, the merged information of kinases and kinase substrates proved to be essential for the generation of an LPA-regulated phosphoprotein network. The network connectivity was dramatically reduced in the case from kinase enrichment experiments were omitted. Therefore, our integrated phosphoproteomics approach is particularly useful for signal transduction analysis on the systems level as evident, for example, for protein kinases and other LPA-regulated phosphoproteins with roles in cell migration and adhesion. Network visualization with the STRING program revealed multiple associations of regulated phosphoproteins identified from total cell lysate, such as F11R, paxillin, and the protein-tyrosine phosphatase PTPN12, with protein kinases identified in the enrichment experiments, such as FAK, PYK2, Src, ERK MAP kinases, and others. In addition, LPA, but not HB-EGF, induced an about 3-fold up-regulation of Ser(P)⁶⁹⁷ and Ser(P)⁷⁰⁴ on the type I transmembrane glycoprotein CD44. Phosphorylation of Ser⁶⁹⁷ has been functionally linked to cell motility upon phorbol ester treatment (58). Furthermore, CD44 co-localizes and co-immunoprecipitates with the EGFR (59), which has also been implicated in LPA-triggered A498 cell migration and invasion (13). These lines of evidence point to a potential cooperation of CD44 and EGFR in LPA-induced migration, which might further involve a modulation of pro-HB-EGF processing by CD44 (60, 61). Collectively, this evidence together with our phosphoproteomics data and previous knowledge highlights the role of multifactorial signal processing within complex networks to modulate cell behavior such as a migratory response upon LPA stimulation. Such knowledge might be particularly relevant in the context of pathophysiological processes, such as cancer cell migration and invasion, and help to define cooperating signal factors for multitargeted therapeutic intervention to account for compensatory mechanisms in disease-relevant signaling networks.

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