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Identifying potentially O-GlcNAcylated proteins using metabolic labeling, bioorthogonal enrichment, and Western blotting

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Abstract

O-GlcNAcylation is a widespread posttranslational modification of intracellular proteins. Phenotypic and genetic experiments have established key roles for O-GlcNAc in development, mammalian cell survival, and several human diseases. However, the underlying mechanisms by which this modification alters biological pathways are still being discovered. An important part of this discovery process is the discovery of O-GlcNAcylated proteins, where chemical approaches have been particularly powerful. Here we describe how to combine one of these approaches, metabolic chemical reporters (MCRs), with bioorthogonal chemistry and Western blotting to identify potentially O-GlcNAcylated proteins.

1. Introduction

O-Linked β -*N*-acetylglucosamine glycosylation (O-GlcNAcylation) is the addition of the monosaccharide *N*-acetylglucosamine (GlcNAc) onto serine or threonine residues (Bond & Hanover, 2015; Yang & Qian, 2017). Since its discovery, O-GlcNAc has been shown to be an abundant post-transcriptional modification (PTM) and an integral part of cell survival. Unlike other forms of glycosylation which contains multiple saccharide subunits, O-GlcNAcylation is not further elaborated by additional carbohydrates. Additionally, this type of glycosylation is unique because it occurs on intracellular proteins and is dynamic because it is added by the enzyme O-GlcNAc transferase (OGT) and subsequently removed by O-GlcNAcase (OGA) (Vocadlo, 2012). Currently, multiple hundreds of proteins, ranging from transcription factors to central metabolic enzymes, have been identified as being potentially O-GlcNAc modified, suggesting that this modification affects multiple biological pathways. O-GlcNAc is required for development in both mice and *Drosophila* and conditional deletion of OGT in mouse embryonic fibroblasts is lethal (O'Donnell, Zachara, Hart, & Marth, 2004; Shafi et al., 2000; Sinclair et al., 2009; Wang, Jensen, Rexach, Vinters, & Hsieh-Wilson, 2016). Furthermore, global up-regulation or down-regulation of O-GlcNAcylation are associated with several diseases, including cancer and neurodegenerative diseases, respectively. O-GlcNAcylation has also been shown to affect other PTMs, especially phosphorylation, through both direct competition for serine/threonines or more remote

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effects (Hart, Slawson, Ramirez-Correa, & Lagerlof, 2011; Hu, Shimoji, & Hart, 2010). Despite the clear importance of O-GlcNAcylation in basic cellular biology and human health, characterization of specific modification events that control key proteins is still quite rare and a significant roadblock to understanding the presumably multitude of functions for O-GlcNAcylation.

One of the first steps toward the characterization of any PTM is the development of tools that allow for its visualization and enrichment. Toward this goal, several different antibody and lectin approaches have been created (Comer, Vosseller, Wells, Accavitti, & Hart, 2001; Snow, Senior, & Gerace, 1987; Teo et al., 2010; Zachara, Vosseller, & Hart, 2011). While many O-GlcNAcylated proteins have been identified using these techniques they are not without limitations. For example, pan-anti-O-GlcNAc antibodies have been shown to have preference for certain underlying peptide sequences and do not recognize the entire repertoire of O-GlcNAcylated proteins. In contrast, the GlcNAc-recognizing lectin wheatgerm agglutinin (WGA) can recognize other GlcNAc-containing glycans and has relatively low affinity. Because of these issues different chemical approaches have been created for the enrichment and characterization of potentially O-GlcNAcylated proteins (Banerjee, Hart, & Cho, 2013). One such powerful technique, which we will not discuss in detail here, involves the chemoenzymatic attachment of visualization or affinity tags onto O-GlcNAc modifications. (Clark et al., 2008; Thompson, Griffin, & Hsieh-Wilson, 2018) This method was pioneered by the Hsieh-Wilson lab and involves three main steps. Cell or tissue lysate is generated, and any O-GlcNAc modifications present in the lysate are then enzymatically elaborated through the action of a mutant galactosyltransferase GalT(Y289L) (Ramakrishnan & Qasba, 2002). Specifically, this enzyme will use the azide-containing uridine-diphosphate (UDP) sugar donor UDP-GalNAz to generate a corresponding disaccharide GalNAz(β 1-4)GlcNAc on any endogenous O-GlcNAc modifications. Bioorthogonal chemistries can then be used to react the azide with various tags, as described in greater detail below. This system is commercially available as the Click-IT O-GlcNAc Enzymatic Labeling System from Thermo Fisher Scientific; however, it is expensive and requires multiple handling steps that could prove challenging for non-experts.

A complementary chemical approach involves the development of monosaccharide analogs that directly bear bioorthogonal reactive groups like azides or alkynes (Chuh, Batt, & Pratt, 2016; Chuh & Pratt, 2015; Grammel & Hang, 2013). These analogs, which we have termed metabolic chemical reporters (MCRs), are “fed” to living cells or organisms. If they are similar enough to naturally occurring carbohydrates, MCRs will be biosynthetically converted to the corresponding donor sugars and then utilized by glycosyltransferases, resulting in their direct incorporation into glycoproteins. Again, bioorthogonal reactions can then be used for the installation of different tags. The first MCR aimed at O-GlcNAcylation was an azide-modified analog, Ac₄GlcNAz (Fig. 1A), developed by the Bertozzi lab (Vocadlo, Hang, Kim, Hanover, & Bertozzi, 2003). In most monosaccharide MCRs, *O*-acetate protecting groups are used to facilitate passive diffusion across the cell membrane and are subsequently removed by intracellular lipases to yield the free sugar. Using in vitro biochemistry and cell labeling, the Bertozzi lab demonstrated that GlcNAz can transit each step of the biosynthetic pathway, yielding UDP-GlcNAz, and that both OGT and OGA would readily tolerate the azide substitution. Ac₄GlcNAz was originally thought to be

largely selective for O-GlcNAcylation, but we and others have demonstrated that it can be also be incorporated into cell-surface glycans. In retrospect this result is not surprising, as GlcNAc is found in the branches of both N-linked and mucin O-linked glycans of cell surface and secreted proteins. Additionally, different monosaccharides can be interconverted by the metabolic machinery of living cells. In fact this interconversion was exploited by the Bertozzi lab to label O-GlcNAcylated proteins upon treatment with the 4-epimer of Ac₄GlcNAz, Ac₄GalNAz (Fig. 1A) (Boyce et al., 2011). Notably, our lab demonstrated that subtle changes to the MCR structure could bias the types of glycosylation that were labeled. For example, we showed that Ac₄GlcNAIk (Fig. 1A) has preference for O-GlcNAcylation and N-linked glycosylation with little labeling of mucin O-linked glycans (Zaro, Yang, Hang, & Pratt, 2011). Using this observation as a starting point, we were then able to create two azido-MCRs, Ac₃6AzGlcNAc and Ac₄2AzGlc (Fig. 1A), with high selectivity for O-GlcNAcylation over other types of glycosylation (Chuh, Zaro, Piller, Piller, & Pratt, 2014; Zaro, Batt, Chuh, Navarro, & Pratt, 2017). Gratifyingly, the selectivity of Ac₄2AzGlc was independently confirmed by the Vocadlo lab (Shen et al., 2017) and our approach was subsequently used by the Wang lab to create yet another O-GlcNAcylation selective MCR Ac₃4dGlcNAz (Fig. 1A) (Li et al., 2016).

In addition to the selectivity of a given MCR for one type of glycosylation over another, another important consideration is the bioorthogonal reaction. The copper(I)-catalyzed azide-alkyne cycloaddition (CuAAC) is typically the reaction of choice for cell lysates as the corresponding strain-promoted reaction displays relatively high levels of background reactivity under these conditions. However, the orientation of the CuAAC reaction is also important (Speers & Cravatt, 2004). The use of alkyne-tags to match azido-MCRs results notably higher background labeling of proteins than the reverse orientation, presumably due to the excess copper-activated alkyne-tag. This can be clearly seen in Fig. 2 by comparing cell lysates that were not treated with MCR but reacted with either azido- or alkyne-TAMARA fluorescent tags. In fact, this signal-to-noise difference prompted our synthesis of Ac₃6AlkGlcNAc (Fig. 1A), which displays the best O-GlcNAcylation selectivity and signal-to-noise of any MCR to date (Chuh et al., 2017). Another often overlooked variable is the choice of buffer during cell lysis and subsequent CuAAC reaction. Although the reason is not completely clear, certain buffers can interfere with the CuAAC reaction. One of the best buffers for this reaction is HEPES, which is our buffer of choice when using an alkyne-MCR and azide-tag. However, the increased reactivity in the reaction when using HEPES causes even higher background in the opposite CuAAC orientation. Therefore, a less reactive buffer, like triethanolamine (TEA), is often a better choice.

Unbiased approaches to identifying O-GlcNAcylated proteins typically combine one of the enrichment techniques described above with proteomic mass spectrometry. In the case of MCRs, this usually involves the bioorthogonal installation of a biotin-tag, followed by enrichment with streptavidin beads. After washing, the labeled proteins can then be subjected to on-bead trypsinolysis and the released peptides identified using a proteomic workflow. This method has been extremely powerful; however, it requires either access to an advanced mass spectrometer or utilization of a fee-for-service proteomics facility. Additionally, low abundance proteins may be missed by this type of analysis because they are masked by more prevalent proteins. Therefore, biotin-enrichment followed by SDS-

PAGE and Western blotting is an important technique for both hypothesis driven assessment of protein O-GlcNAcylation and confirmation of proteomics data. Unfortunately, the biotin-streptavidin interaction is so strong that the elution of the enriched proteins can be quite difficult. To overcome this issue, a variety of cleavable tags have been developed (Fig. 1B). In general, these tags contain biotin on one end and either an azide or alkyne at the other. In between these groups is a chemical functionality that is stable to the CuAAC reaction and protein enrichment but can be cleaved through a handful of reactions ranging from simple acid to ultraviolet light. This “cleavage” reaction results in the mild release of the enriched proteins that can then be readily applied to SDS-PAGE and visualized using Western blotting.

The following protocol describes the combination of MCRs with the azo-bond containing cleavable linker that can be cleaved by reduction with sodium dithionite ($\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$). We have found that this linker performs the best in the CuAAC reaction, enabling the robust enrichment of potentially O-GlcNAcylated proteins followed by a simple cleavage reaction to retrieve these proteins from streptavidin beads.

2. Materials

All solutions and buffers should be prepared with 18M Ω H₂O at 25°C. Reagents should be stored at room temperature unless otherwise noted. Dispose of hazardous waste appropriately.

3. Materials for metabolic incorporation of chemical reporters

1. 200mM of Ac₃6AzGlcNAc (Click Chemistry Tools, 74.47mg/mL), Ac₃6AlkGlcNAc (71.07mg/mL), Ac₄GlcNAz (Click Chemistry Tools, 86.08mg/mL), or Ac₄GlcNAIk (Click Chemistry Tools, 84.5mg/mL) in DMSO. Store at -20°C.
2. 1 × solution of DPBS (Thermo Scientific): Combine 9.6 g of DPBS powder with 1L of H₂O and autoclave.
3. Cell line of interest, corresponding media, and tissue culture flask or plate.
4. H1299 or NIH3T3 can be used as an established control cell-line for MCR labeling and enrichment.

4. Buffers for azide-containing MCRs

1. 4% SDS buffer: 4% SDS, 150mM NaCl, 50mM TEA, pH 7.4. Add 20 g SDS, 4.38 g NaCl, and 3.73 g TEA to 400mL of H₂O. Mix and adjust pH to 7.4. Add additional H₂O to a final volume of 500mL. Readjust pH to 7.4 if needed.
2. 1.25% SDS buffer: 1.25% SDS, 150mM NaCl, 50mM TEA pH 7.4. Add 6.25 g SDS, 4.38 g NaCl, and 3.73 g TEA to 400mL of H₂O. Mix and adjust pH to 7.4. Add additional H₂O to a final volume of 500mL. Readjust pH to 7.4 if needed.

3. 0% SDS buffer: 150mM NaCl, 50mM TEA pH 7.4. Add 4.38 g NaCl, and 3.73 g TEA to 400mL of H₂O. Mix and adjust pH to 7.4. Add additional H₂O to a final volume of 500mL. Readjust pH to 7.4 if needed.

5. Buffers for alkyne-containing MCRs

1. 4% SDS buffer: 4% SDS, 150mM NaCl, 50mM HEPES pH 7.4. Add 20 g SDS, 4.38 g NaCl, and 5.96 g HEPES to 400mL of H₂O. Mix and adjust pH to 7.4. Add additional H₂O to a final volume of 500mL. Readjust pH to 7.4 if needed.
2. 1.25% SDS buffer: 1.25% SDS, 150mM NaCl, 50mM HEPES pH 7.4. Add 20 g SDS, 4.38 g NaCl, and 5.96 g HEPES to 400mL of H₂O. Mix and adjust pH to 7.4. Add additional H₂O to a final volume of 500mL. Readjust pH 7.4 if needed.
3. 0% SDS buffer: 150mM NaCl, 50mM HEPES pH 7.4. Add 20 g SDS, 4.38 g NaCl, and 5.96 g HEPES to 400mL of H₂O. Mix and adjust pH to 7.4. Add additional H₂O to a final volume of 500mL. Readjust pH to 7.4 if needed.

6. Materials for CuAAC, biotin enrichment, elution, and preparation of samples

1. 5mM stock of azido-diazo-biotin (Click Chemistry Tools, 3.56mg/mL) or alk-diazo-biotin (Click Chemistry Tools, 3.98mg/mL) in DMSO. Can be stored in -20°C for short term storage (~6 month) or -80°C for long term storage.
2. 50mM TCEP (Thermo Fisher Scientific, 14.34mg/mL) freshly prepared in H₂O and used for up to 6h.
3. 10mM TBTA (Alfa Aesar, 5.31mg/mL) in DMSO. Can be stored in -20°C for short term storage (~6 month) or -80°C for long term storage.
4. 50mM CuSO₄·5H₂O (Sigma, 12.47mg/mL) freshly prepared in water and used for up to 6h.
5. High Capacity NeutrAvidin Agarose (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Stored at 4°C.
6. 1% SDS in DPBS: Add 10 g SDS and 9.6 g DPBS powder to 900mL of H₂O. Mix and adjust pH to 7.4. Add additional H₂O to a final volume of 1L. Readjust pH to 7.4 if needed.
7. 0.2% SDS, 150mM NaCl, 50mM TEA, pH 7.4: Add 1 g SDS, 4.38 g NaCl, and 5.96 g TEA to 400mL of H₂O. Mix and adjust pH to 7.4. Add an additional H₂O to a final volume of 500mL. Readjust pH to 7.4 if needed.
8. Sodium dithionite (Na₂S₂O₄) solution: freshly prepared 25mM Na₂S₂O₄ (Sigma Aldrich, 4.36mg/mL) in 1% SDS in DPBS and used for up to 2h. Solid sodium dithionite should be discarded and replaced after 3 months.
9. 2 × SDS-free loading buffer (20% glycerol, 0.2% bromophenol blue, pH 6.8). As needed, add 14μL of β-mercaptoethanol (BME) to a 1mL aliquot. Store the loading buffer containing BME at -20°C.

7. Metabolic incorporation of chemical reporters and preparation of cell lysates

1. Replace media on cells at ~80% confluency with fresh media containing 200 μ M MCRs or DMSO vehicle. H1299 and NIH 3T3 require one 150mm dish to produce enough protein for a 1mg enrichment, the cell line of interest might require more or less.
2. After 16h, cells are collected using trypsin and DPBS for adherent cells or by pelleting in original media for suspension cells. Centrifuge at 4°C for 2 min at $2500 \times g$.
3. Remove media by aspiration, resuspend each pellets with 1mL of DPBS, and then transfer then into new microcentrifuge tubes. Centrifuge at 4°C for 2 min at $2500 \times g$. Remove DPBS by aspiration. Repeat wash, centrifugation, and aspiration one time. *At this time cells can be frozen (-20°C) and stored.*
4. Add 200 μ L of 4% SDS buffer containing 5mg/mL cOmplete™, Mini, EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail (Sigma Aldrich).
5. Sonicate using a tip sonicator for 10s on.
6. Pellet any debris by centrifugation at $10,000 \times g$ for 10min at 15°C.
7. Transfer the soluble fractions into new microcentrifuge tubes.
8. Conduct BCA assay (Thermo Scientific) by preparing Working Reagent (WR) by mixing 50 parts (1mL) of Reagent A with 1 part (20 μ L) of Reagent B. The amount of reagent needed is number of samples plus six (for standards). Aliquot 1mL of the WR into separate 1.5mL microcentrifuge tube. To separate tubes add 0, 1, 2, 4, and 8 μ L (0, 2, 4, 8, and 16 μ g, respectively) of albumin standard (provided with kit) to the WR. The microcentrifuge tubes are then placed in a heating block at 60°C for 30 min. Upon completion, read each sample using a UV spectrophotometer set to 562nm using the 0 μ g as a blank.
9. Dilute each sample to 4 μ g/ μ L in 4% SDS buffer containing 5mg/mL cOmplete™, Mini, EDTA-free Protease Inhibitor Cocktail (Sigma Aldrich).
10. Prepare inputs by taking 20 μ L of each sample and diluting it with 20 μ L 2 \times SDS-free loading buffer. This scale can be adjusted as needed.

8. CuAAC (1mg of total protein)

Typically, enriching from 1mg of total protein will be sufficient to detect potentially O-GlcNAcylated proteins. However, this will depend on MCR used, cell line, and incubation period. If desired, scale according.

1. Dilute each sample by taking 250 μ L of each sample (4 μ g/ μ L in 4% SDS) and adding 130 μ L of 1.25% SDS buffer followed by 550 μ L 0% SDS buffer resulting in a final concentration of 1mg/mL in 1.25% SDS buffer in a 15mL centrifuge tube.

2. Add 70 μ L CuAAC cocktail per sample of protein.
 - CuAAC cocktail is prepared as a master mix. First multiply the mg of total protein by 1.1. The amount of each reagent needed is this number times 20 μ L of azido/alk-azo-biotin tag, 20 μ L of TCEP, 10 μ L of TBTA, and 20 μ L of CuSO₄·5H₂O. Vortex in between the additional of each reagent.
3. Incubate the CuAAC cocktail with proteins for 1h at room temperature in the dark.
4. Add 10 μ L of 0.5 M EDTA to each sample.
5. Precipitate proteins using MeOH/CHCl₃ as follows:
 - i. Add 3000 μ L of MeOH, vortex.
 - ii. Add 750 μ L of CHCl₃, vortex.
 - iii. Add 2000 μ L volume of H₂O, vortex.
 - iv. Centrifuge 6000 \times g for 5 min at 15°C and discard upper layer carefully.
 - v. Add 2250 μ L volume of MeOH, vortex.
 - vi. Centrifuge 6000 \times g for 10 min at 15°C and carefully decant supernatant.
 - At this time the supernatant can be removed and fresh MeOH (1mL) can be added and stored at -20°C. When resuming, centrifuge at 6000 \times g for 10min at 15°C and decant supernatant once again.
6. Air-dry pellets for 5 min.

9. Enrichment and elution (1mg scale)

Scale according to the amount of proteins used above. If background is observed during Western blotting, increase the number of 1% SDS in DPBS washes to 10.

1. Resuspend each protein pellet with bath sonication in 100 μ L of 4% SDS Buffer (TEA).
2. Add 1900 μ L of 0% SDS Buffer (TEA) to each sample.
3. Add 50 μ L of high-capacity Neutravidin beads (Thermo Fisher Scientific) into a fresh 2mL dolphin nose tube.
4. Add 1mL of 0.2% SDS to each dolphin nose tube containing the beads, vortex, and centrifuge at 2500 \times g for 2 min at 15°C.
5. Remove supernatant by aspiration and repeat steps 4 and 5 twice.
6. Add resuspended proteins to their respective beads and incubate with full rotation for 1.5 h at room temperature.

7. Collected beads by centrifugation at $2500 \times g$ for 2 min at 15°C . Remove supernatant by aspiration.
8. Add 1mL of 1% SDS in PBS to the beads, vortex, and centrifuge $2500 \times g$ for 2 min at 15°C .
9. Remove supernatant by aspiration and repeat steps 8 and 9 six times.
10. Incubate beads with 50 μL of $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$ buffer for 30 min with gentle rocking.
11. Collect beads using centrifugation: $2500 \times g$ for 2 min at 15°C .
12. Transfer supernatant into fresh microcentrifuge tubes.
13. Repeat steps 10–12 and pool corresponding supernatants together.
14. Precipitate proteins in the supernatant by adding 500 μL MeOH to each sample, vortexing, and incubating the samples for 2–24 h at -20°C .

10. SDS-PAGE and Western blot (do not scale)

1. Pellet proteins by centrifugation for 10 mins at $10,000 \times g$ at 4°C .
2. Air-Dry pellets for 5 mins.
3. Resuspend enriched proteins in 15 μL 4% SDS (TEA) buffer with bath sonication.
4. Add 15 μL of 2 \times SDS-free loading buffer (with BME) and boil for 5 mins.
5. Load 20 μL for each input, and load complete sample from enrichment.
6. Perform SDS-Page and Western blotting.

Controls

1. Postive controls of known O-GlcNAcylated proteins.
 - Anti-CREB (Cell Signaling Technology 9104S)
 - Anti-Nup62 BD (Biosciences 610497)
 - Anti-NEDD4 (EMD Millipore 07-049)
 - Anti-PK (Abcam ab118499)
2. Negative control
 - Anti-Actin (Sigma A2066-.2ML)

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Abbreviations

Ac₃6AlkGlcNAc	1,3,4-tri- <i>O</i> -acetyl-2-deoxy-2- <i>N</i> -acetyl-6-deoxy-alkynyl-glucopyranose
Ac₃6AzGlcNAc	1,3,4-tri- <i>O</i> -acetyl-2-deoxy-2- <i>N</i> -acetyl-6-deoxy-azido-glucopyranose
Ac₄GalNAz	1,3,4,6-tetra- <i>O</i> -acetyl- <i>N</i> -azidoacetyl-galactoseamine
Ac₄GlcNAz	1,3,4,6-tetra- <i>O</i> -acetyl- <i>N</i> -azidoacetylglucosamine
Ac₄GlcNAk	1,3,4,6-tetra- <i>O</i> -acetyl- <i>N</i> -4-pentynylglucosamine
Ac₄ManNAz	1,3,4,6-tetra- <i>O</i> -acetyl- <i>N</i> -azidoacetylmannoseamine
Azido-diazo-biotin	1 <i>H</i> -thieno[3,4- <i>d</i>]imidazole-4-pentanamide, <i>N</i> -[13-[4-[(1 <i>E</i>)-2-[5-(2-azidoethyl)-2-hydroxyphenyl]diazanyl]phenyl]-13-oxo-3,6,9-trioxa-12-azatridec-1-yl]hexahydro-2-oxo-, (3 <i>aS</i> ,4 <i>S</i> ,6 <i>aR</i>)-, (cas # 1339202-33-3)
Alk-diazo-biotin	1 <i>H</i> -thieno[3,4- <i>d</i>]imidazole-4-pentanamide, hexahydro- <i>N</i> -[1-[4-[2-[2-hydroxy-5-[2-[[1-oxo-3-(2-propyn-1-yloxy)propyl]amino]ethyl]phenyl]diazanyl]phenyl]-1-oxo-5,8,11-trioxa-2-azatridec-13-yl]-2-oxo-, (3 <i>aS</i> ,4 <i>S</i> ,6 <i>aR</i>)-, (cas # 1884349-58-9)
BCA	bicinchoninic acid assay
BME	β-mercaptoethanol
CHCl₃	chloroform
CREB	cAMP response element binding
DMSO	dimethyl sulfoxide
DPBS	Dulbecco's phosphate-buffered saline, no calcium, no magnesium
EDTA	ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
HEPES	(4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid)
H₂O	water
MeOH	methanol
NaCl	sodium chloride
NEDD4	E3 ubiquitin-protein ligase
Nup62	nucleoporin 62

PK	pyruvate kinase
SDS	sodium dodecyl sulfate
SDS-PAGE	sodium dodecyl sulfate—polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis
TBTA	tris[(1-benzyl-1- <i>H</i> -1,2,3-triazol-4-yl)methyl]amine
TEA	triethanolamine
TECP	tris(2-carboxyethyl)phosphine hydrochloride

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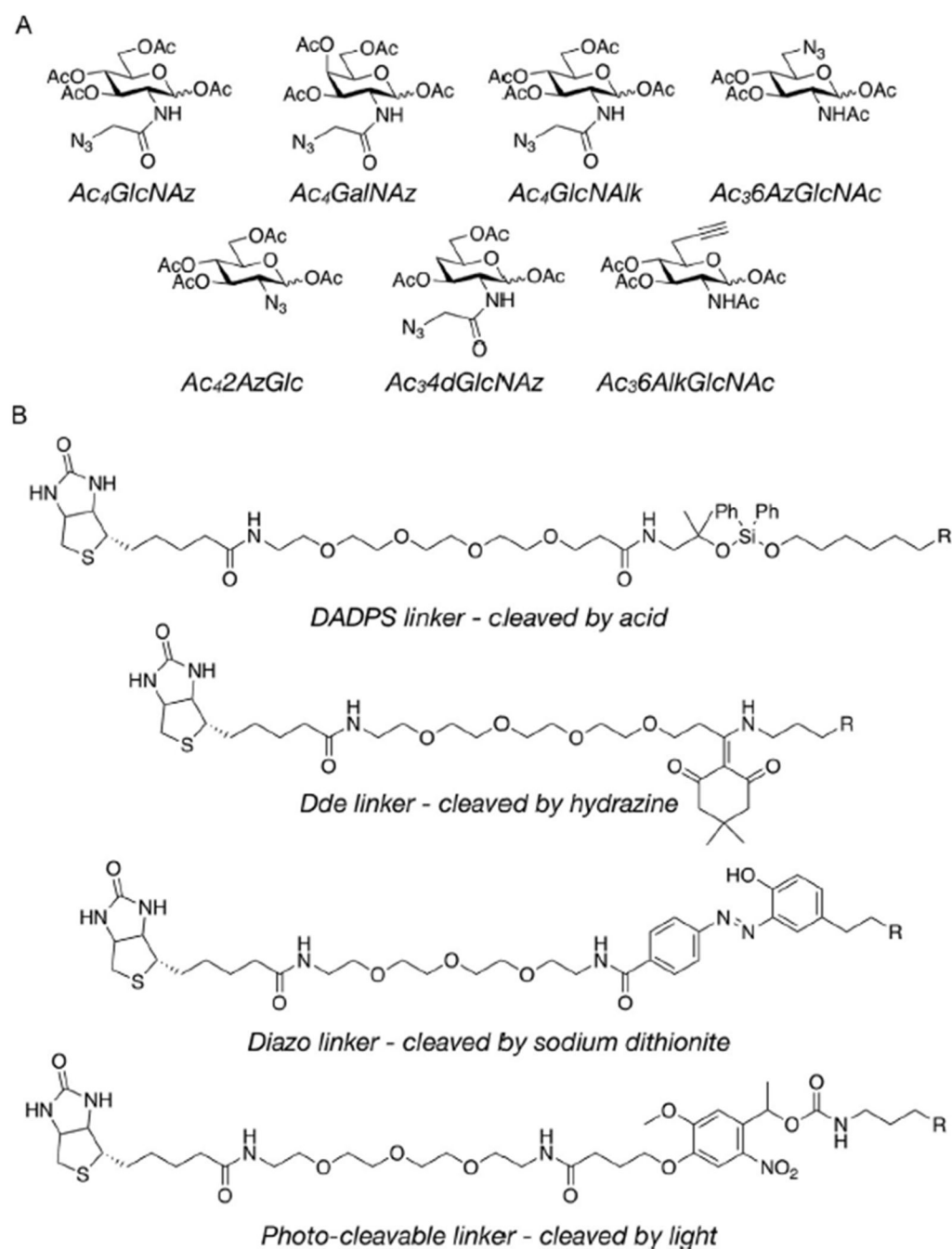


Fig. 1. Identifying O-GlcNAcylated proteins using metabolic chemical reporters (MCRs). (A) Overview of different MCRs that can label O-GlcNAcylated proteins but with different efficiencies and selectivities. (B) Commercially available cleavable-linkers that can be used in combination with MCRs for the enrichment and subsequent elution of labeled proteins. R = azide or alkyne.

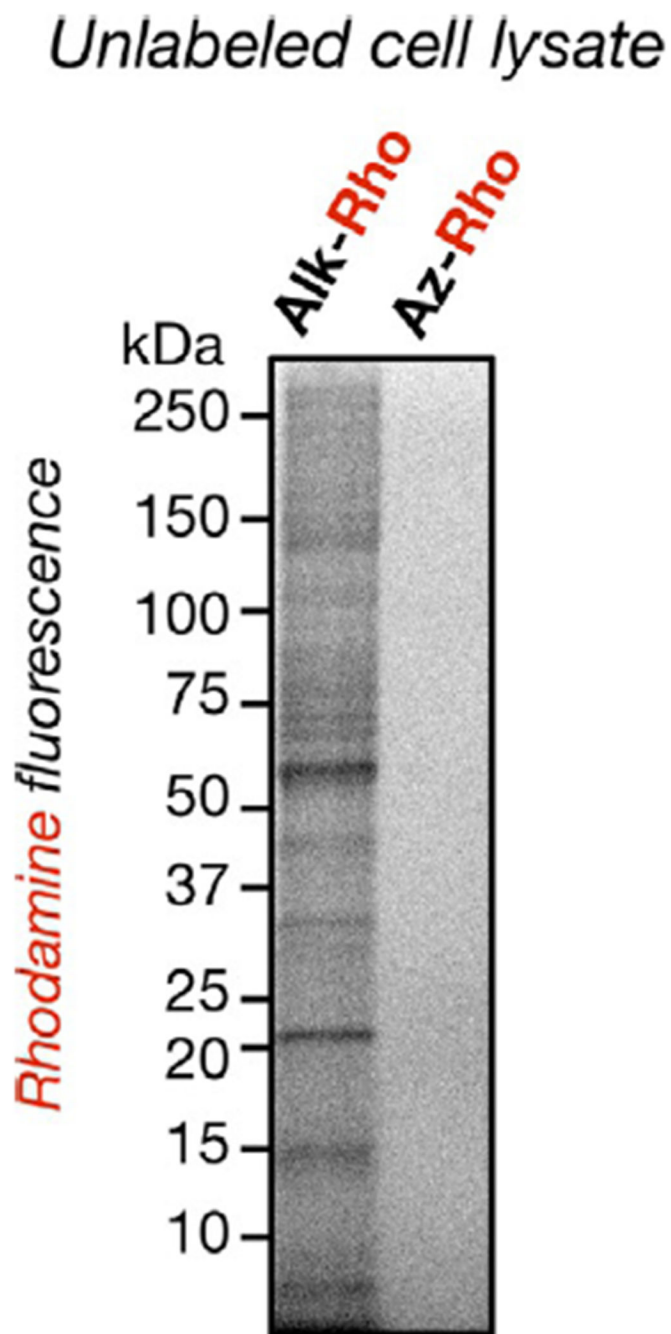


Fig. 2. Alkyne-bearing MCRs and azide-tag display better signal-to-noise compared to the reverse orientation. Unlabeled NIH3T3 cell lysates were subjected to CuAAC conditions with either azido- or alkyne-rhodamine before SDS-PAGE and analysis by in-gel fluorescence.