

Supplementary information

M⁶A reduction relieves FUS-associated ALS granules

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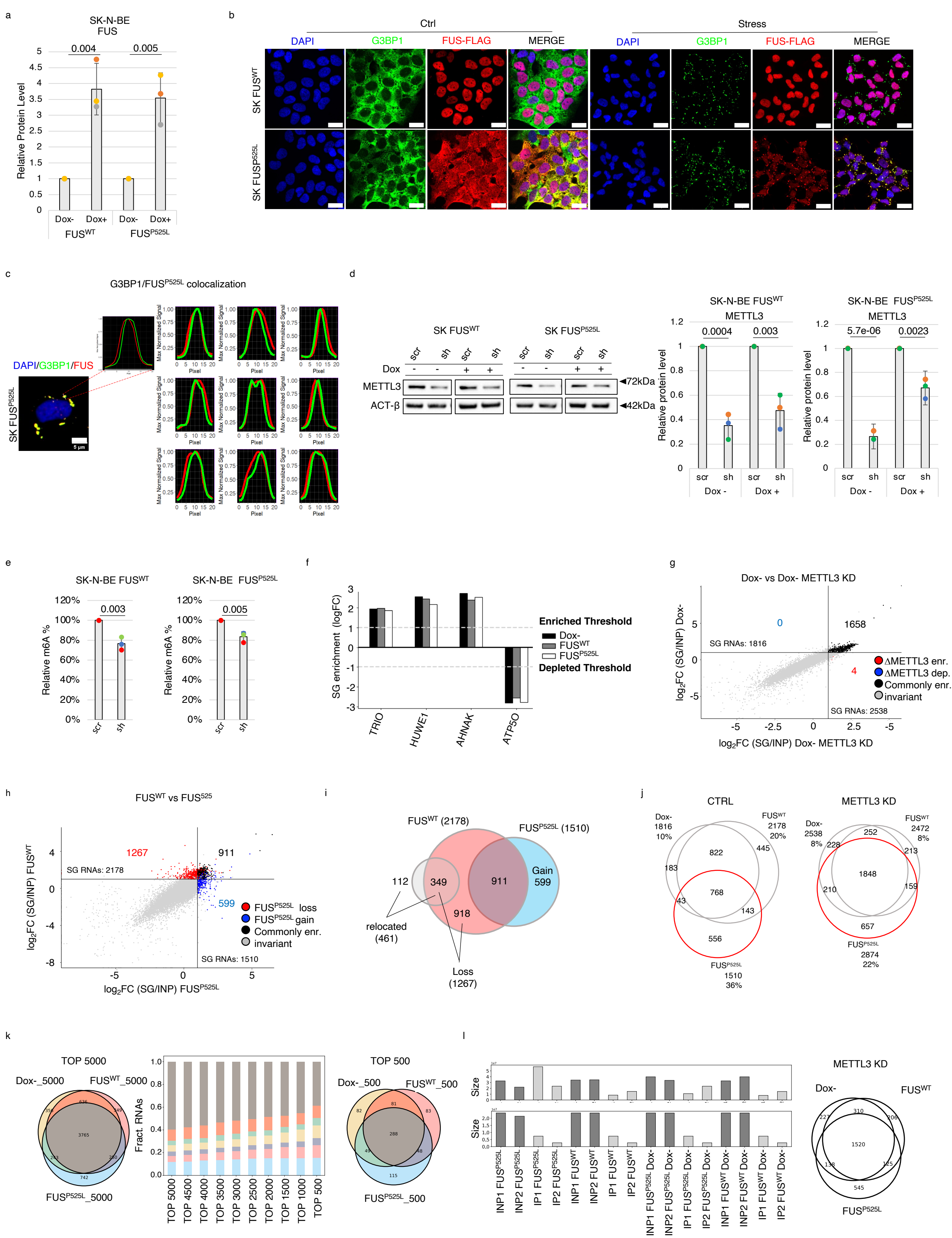
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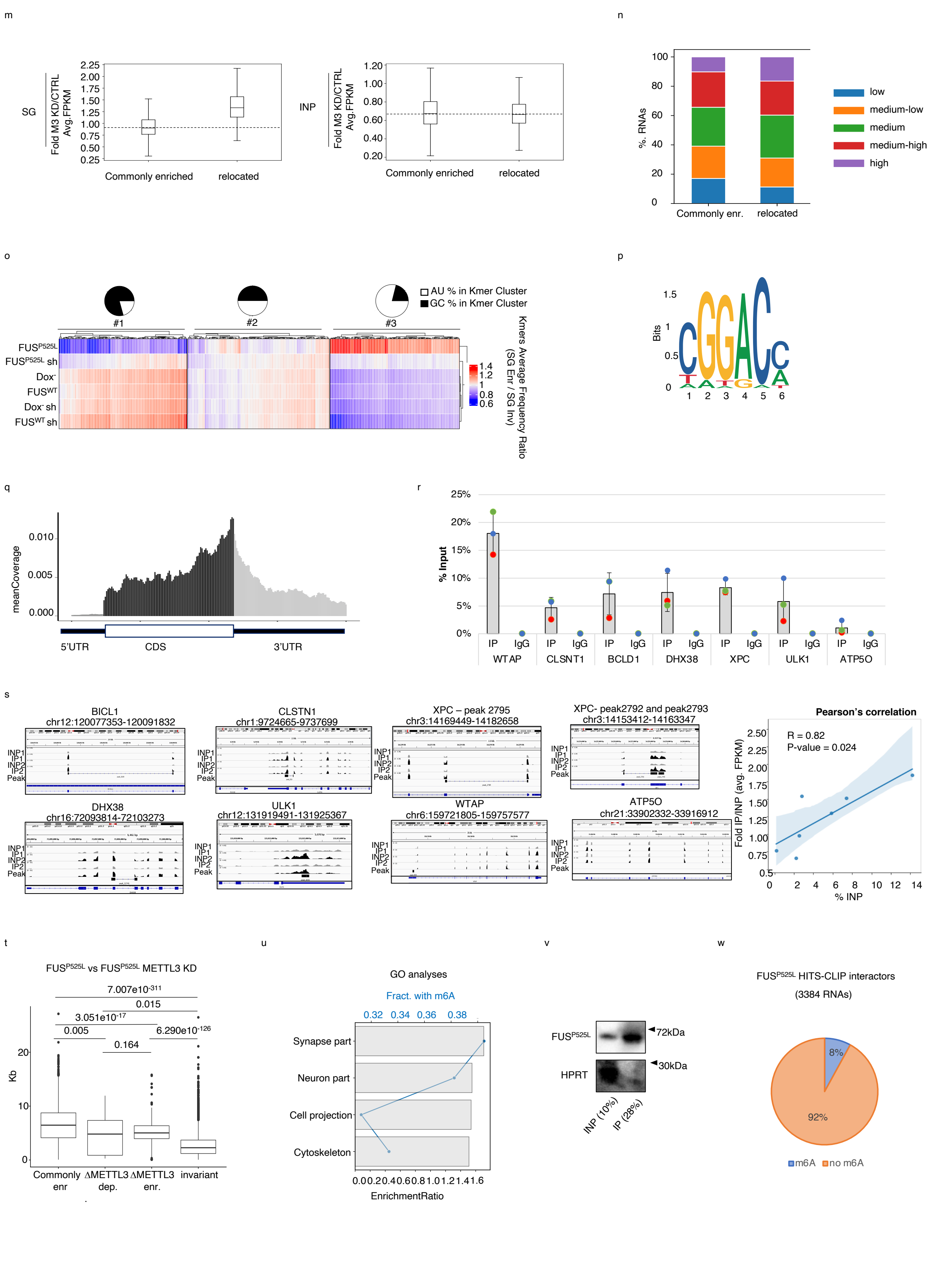
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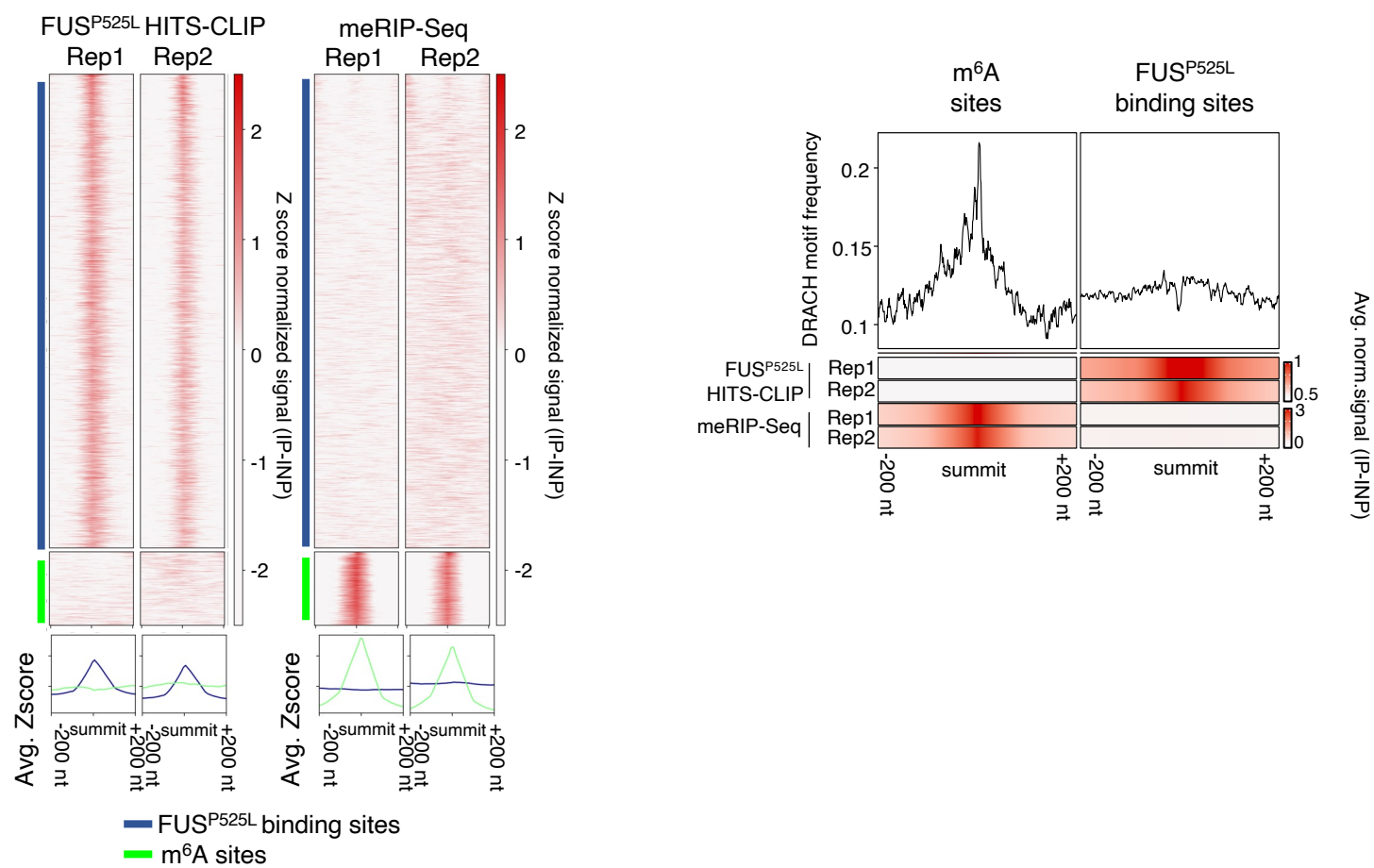
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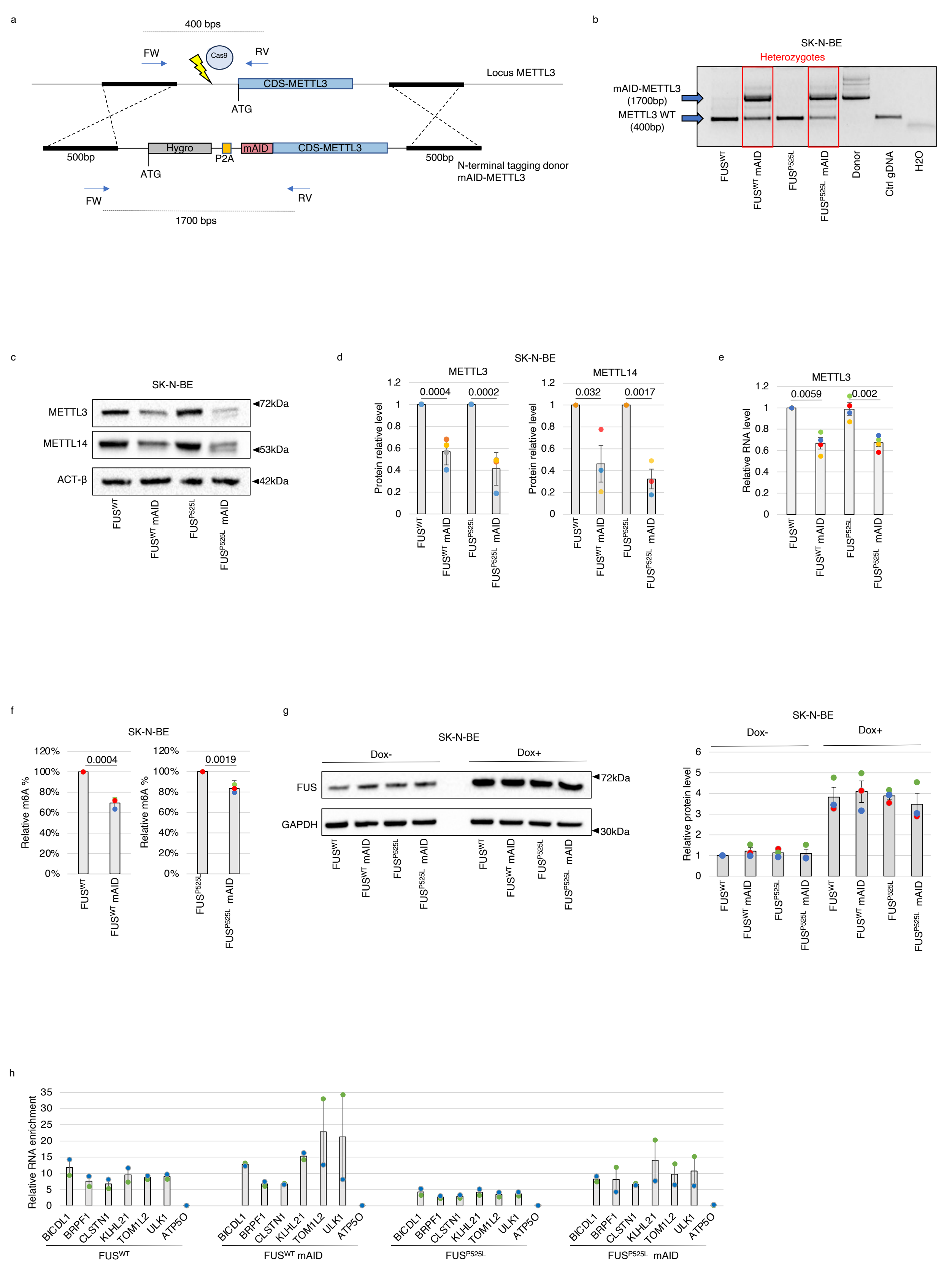
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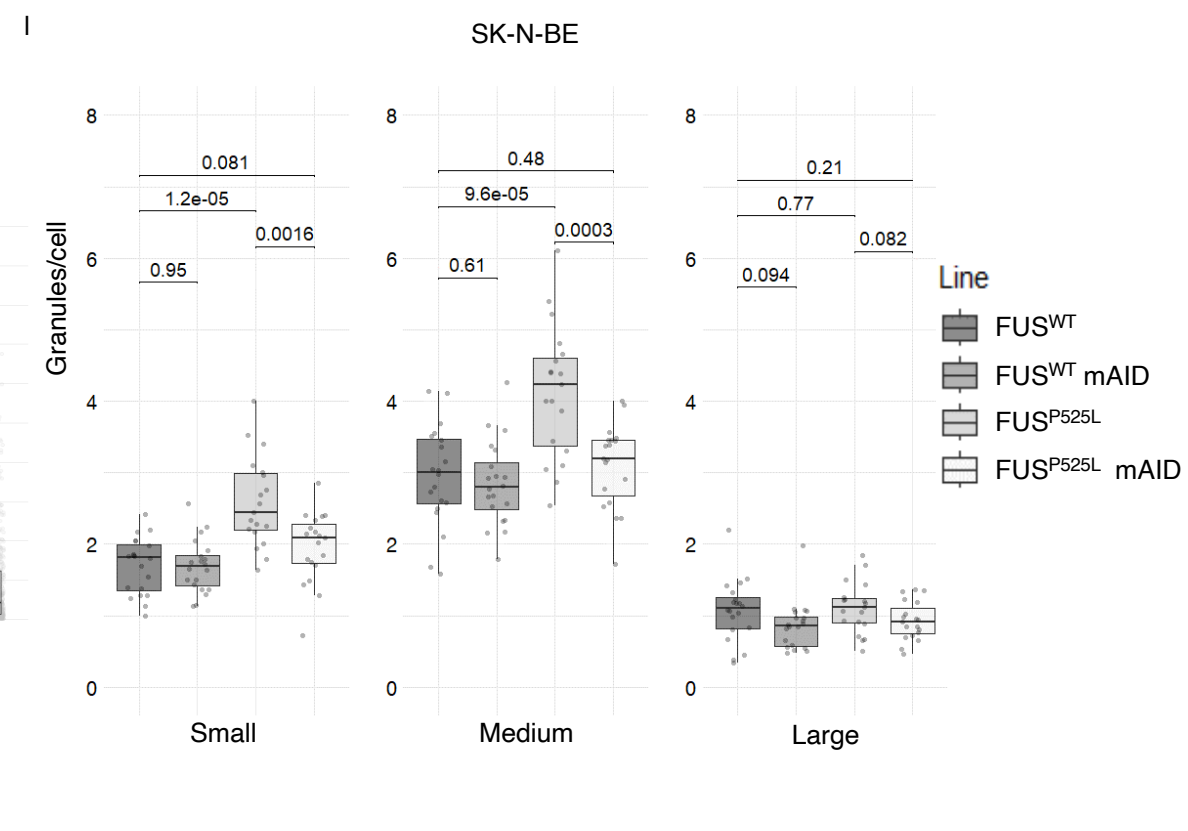
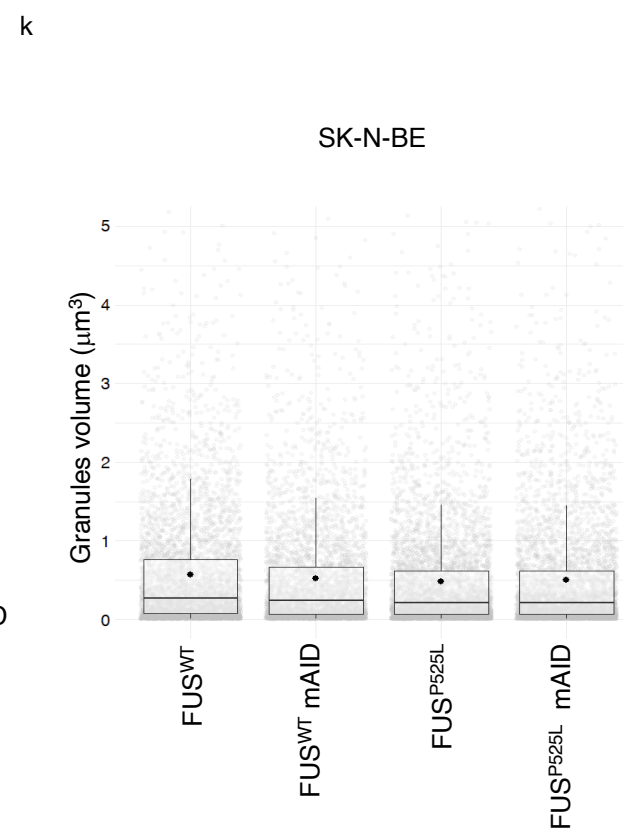
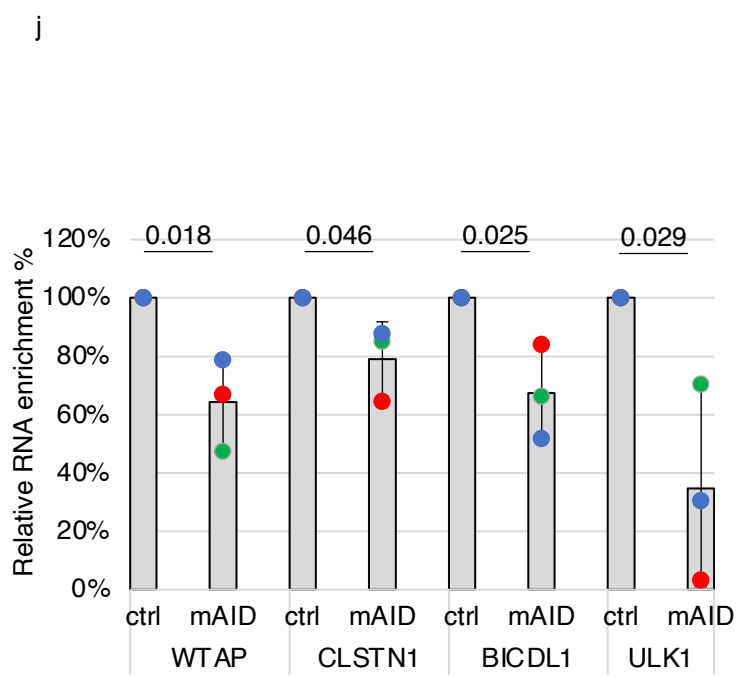
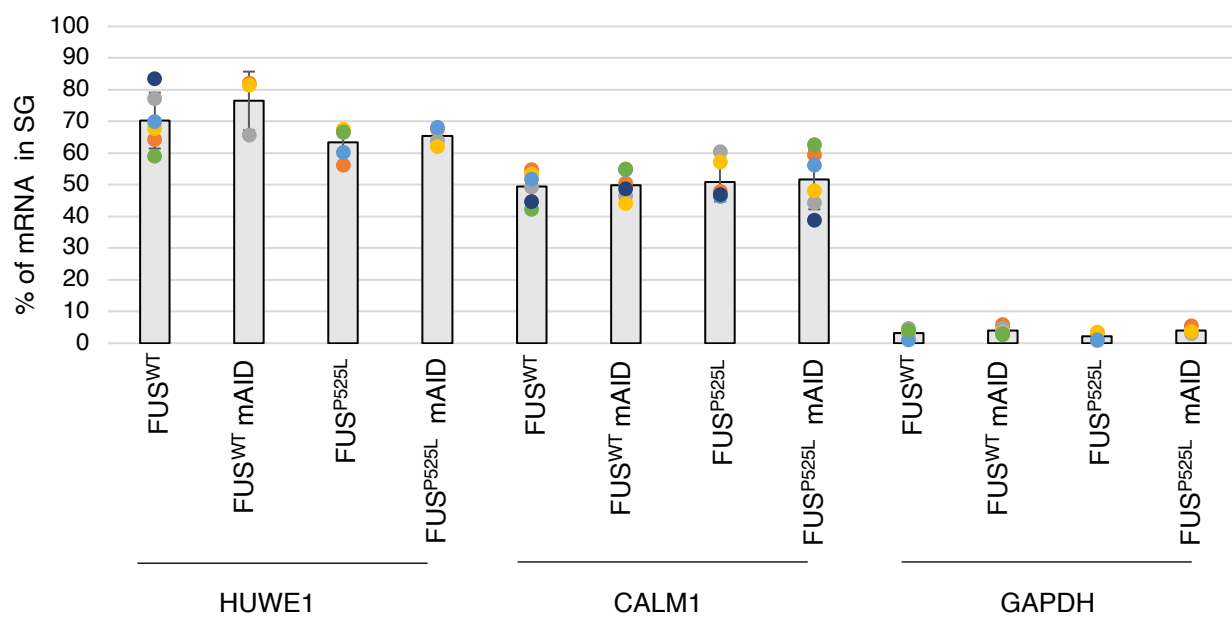
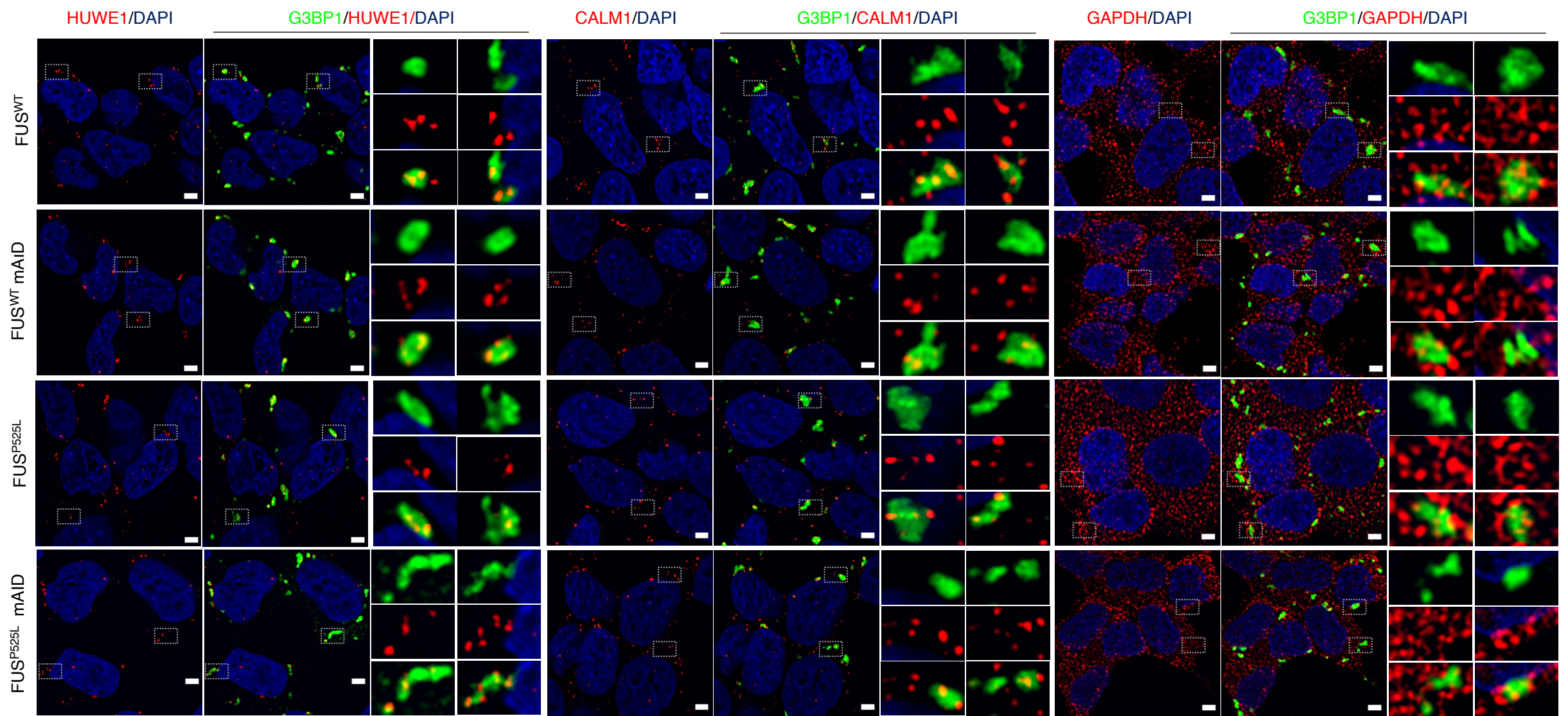


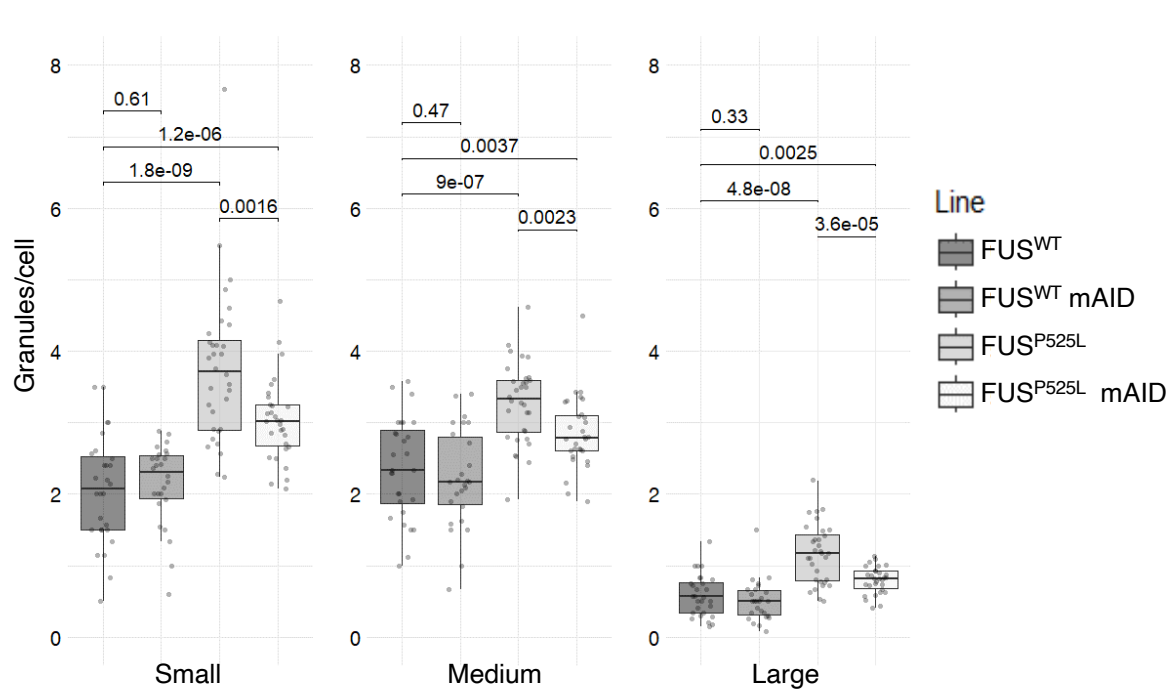
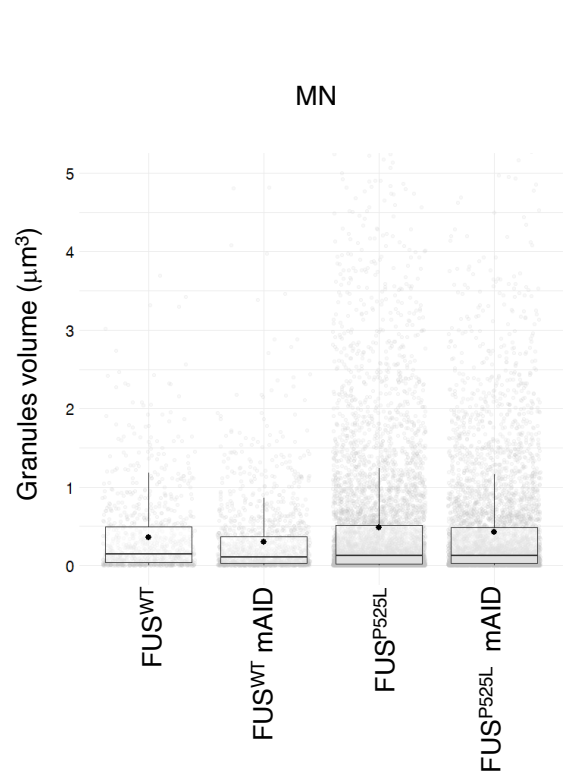
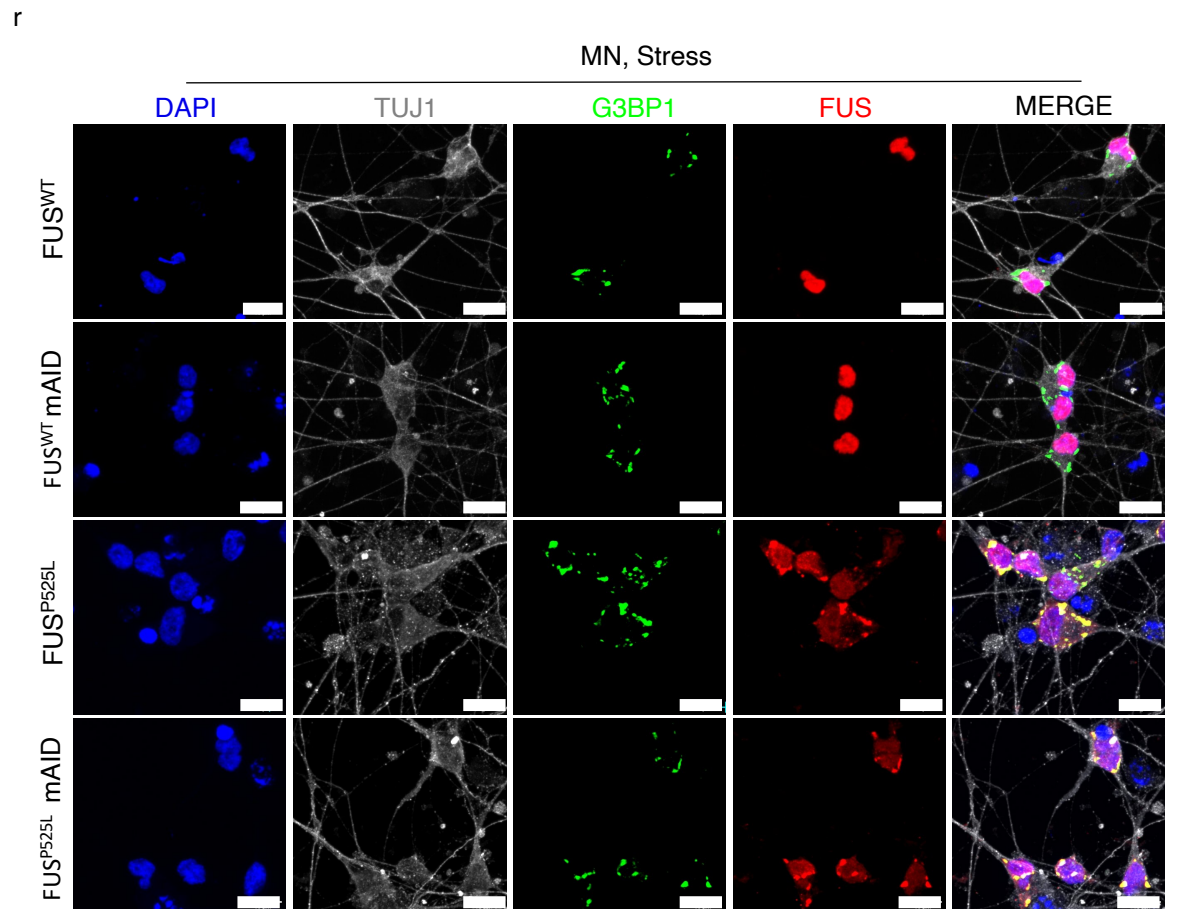
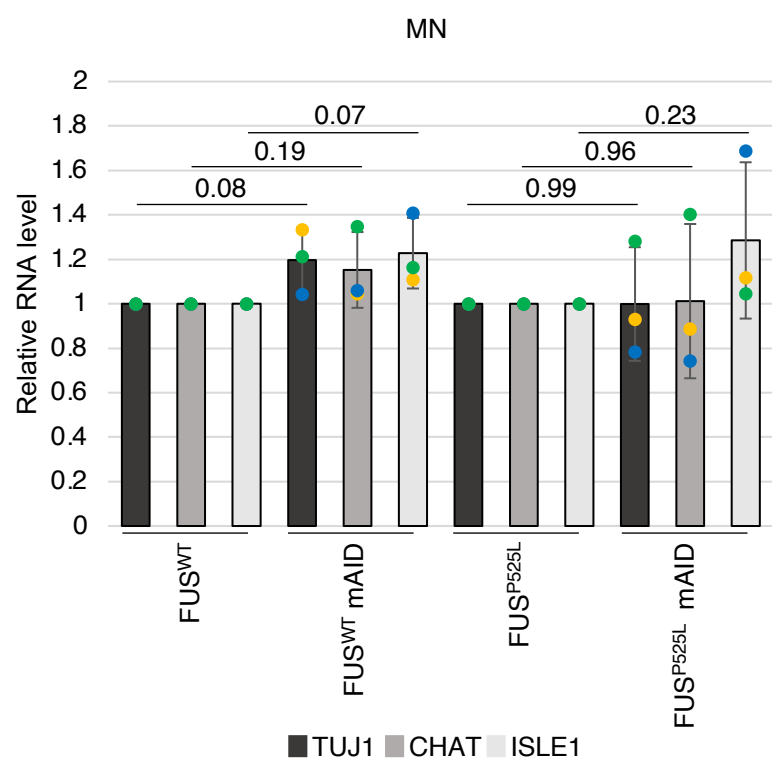
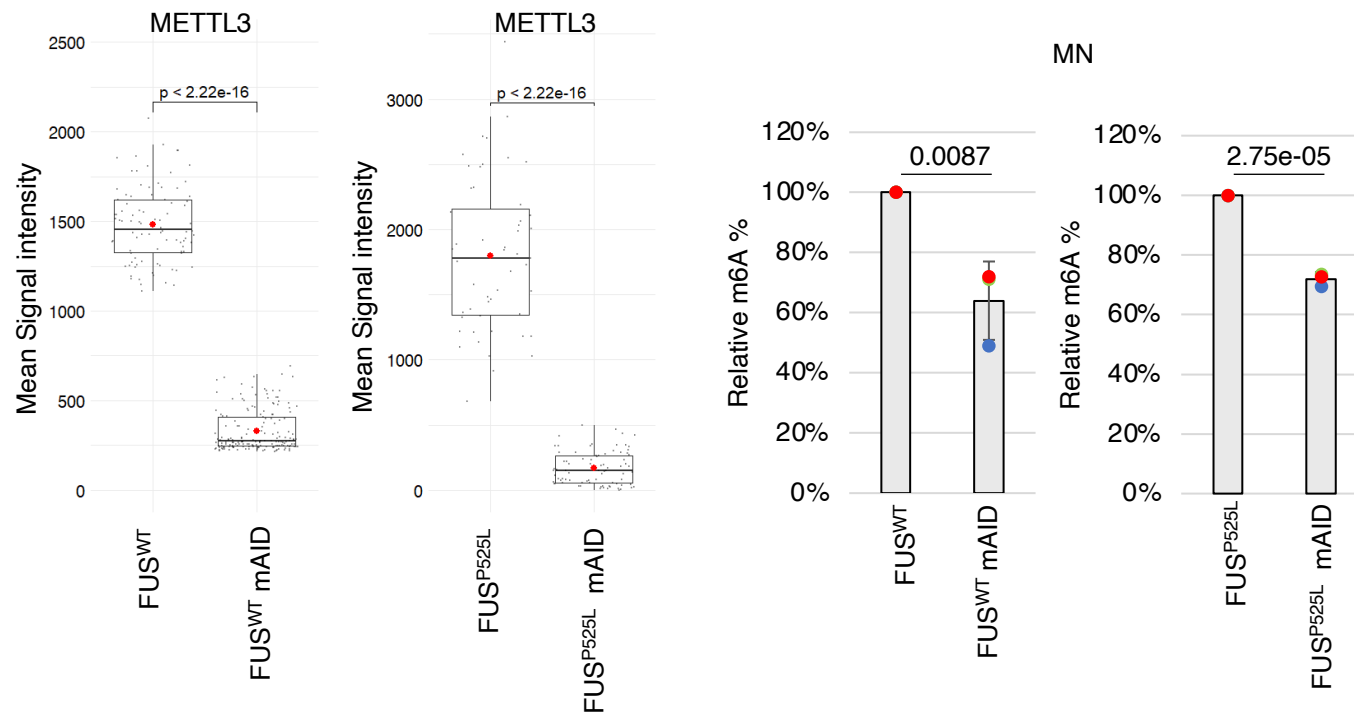
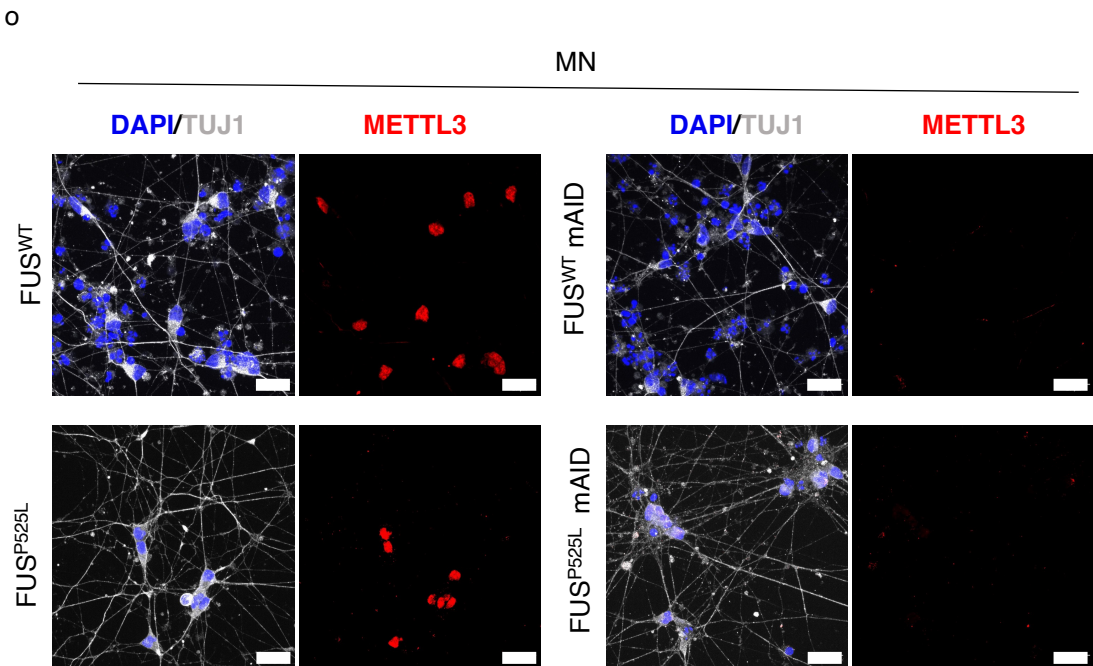
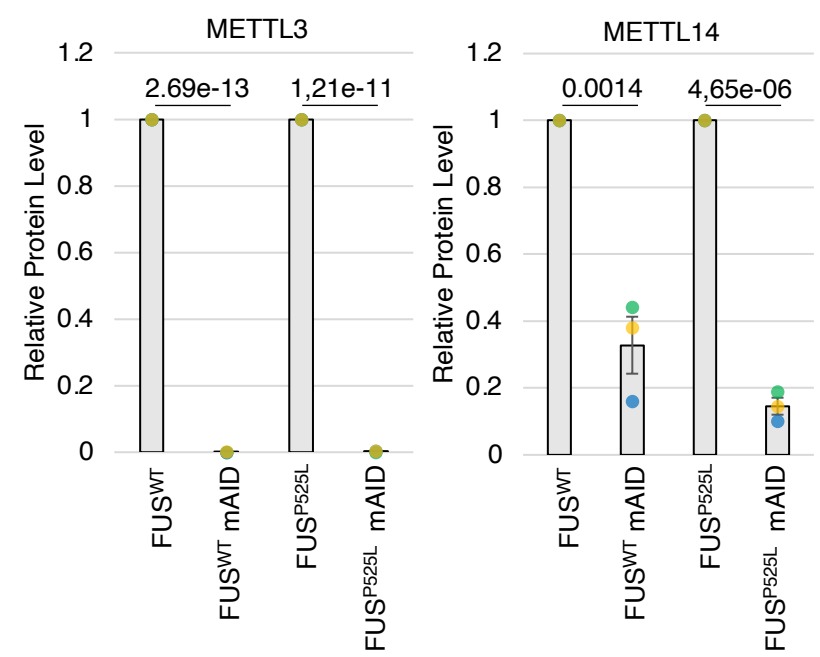
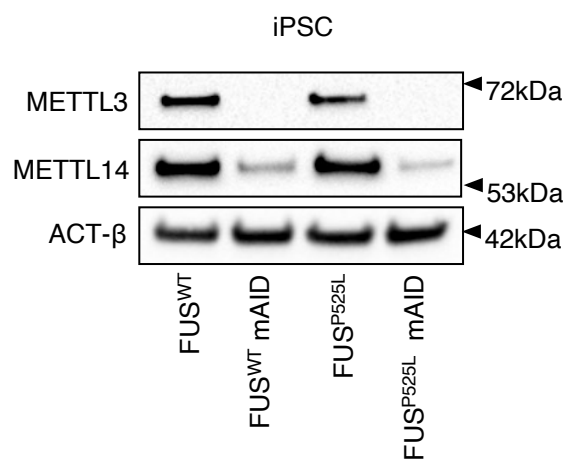
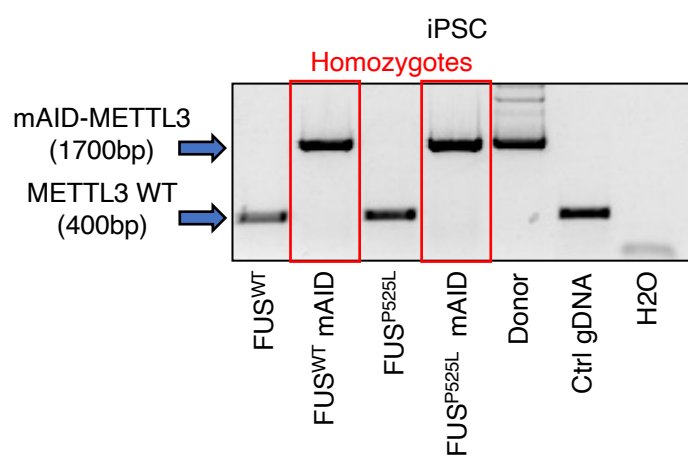


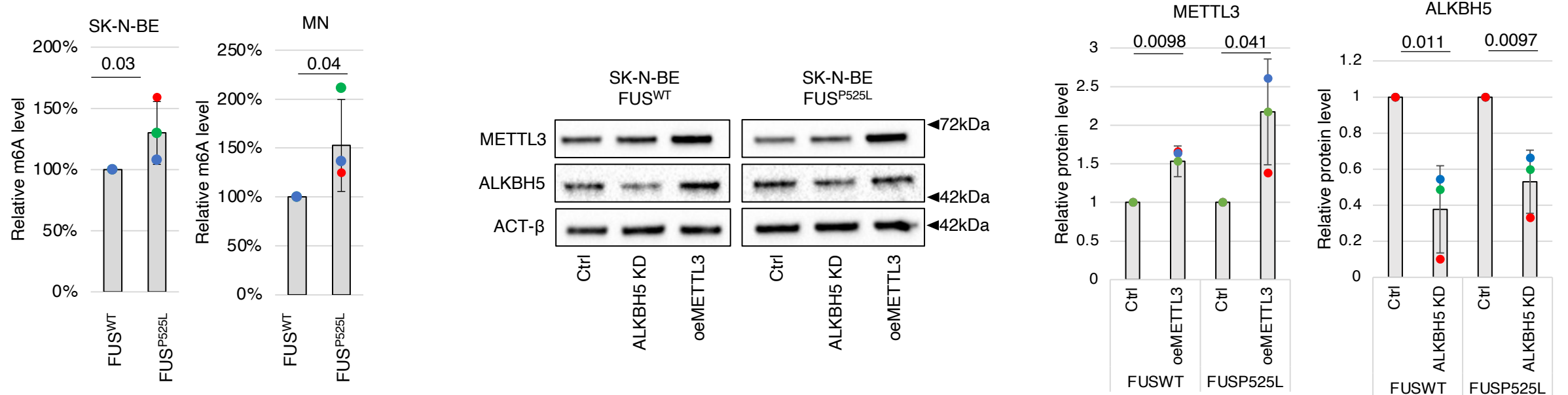


Supplementary Figure 1. METTL3 downregulation restores the physiological RNA composition of stress granules in ALS cellular models. **a** Densitometry analyses showing the relative protein level of FUS in the indicated SK-N-BE cells upon doxycycline induction (Dox+) with respect to the control condition (Dox-). The relative protein quantity in the bars is represented as mean of replicates with standard deviation. Dots represent independent replicates. $n=3$ biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's *t* test. P-values are indicated. **b** Representative images of the indicated SK-N-BE cells either stressed (Stress) or in control (Ctrl) condition. G3BP1 antibody staining is depicted in green, FUS in red. The nuclei are stained with DAPI (blue). The scale bar is $20\mu\text{m}$. **c** Representative image of a SK-N-BE FUS^{P525L} cells in stress condition (left) used for the signal profile analyses of ten granules (right). The nucleus is stained with DAPI (blue). G3BP1 antibody staining, and the corresponding signal is depicted in green, FUS^{P525L} in red. The scale bar is $5\mu\text{m}$. $n=10$. **d** Representative western blots (left) and the corresponding densitometry analyses (right) evaluating the decrease of METTL3 protein upon shRNAs ("sh") transfection in SK-N-BE FUS^{WT} or SK-N-BE FUS^{P525L} cell lines; ACT- β was used as loading control. Relative protein levels were represented as relative quantities with respect to wild-type cells set to 1. The relative protein quantity in the bars is represented as mean of replicates with standard deviation. Dots represent independent replicates. $n=3$ biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's *t* test. P-values are indicated. **e** Relative quantification of m⁶A on RNA upon METTL3 knock-down ("sh") with respect to a control condition ("scr", set as 100%) in either FUS^{WT} or FUS^{P525L} SK-N-BE cells. The relative m⁶A percentage in the bars is represented as mean of replicates with standard deviation. Dots represent independent replicates. $n=3$ biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's *t* test. P-values are indicated. **f** Bar plot depicting SG enrichment ($\log_2\text{FC SG/INP}$) of selected RNAs to confirm proper SG purification in Dox- (black bars), FUS^{WT} (grey bars) and FUS^{P525L} (white bars) conditions: HUWE1, TRIO and AHNAK were used as positive controls while ATP5O as negative one. $n=2$ biologically independent replicates. The $\log_2\text{FC}$ thresholds to define SG enriched RNAs ($\log_2\text{FC}>1$) and depleted ones ($\log_2\text{FC}<-1$) are indicated as dotted grey lines. **g** Scatter plot depicting RNA differential enrichment in SG in FUS^{P525L} vs FUS^{P525L} METTL3-KD condition. Axes describe $\log_2\text{FC}$ of SG RNA enrichment in the indicated conditions. Red dots indicate ΔMETTL3 -enriched RNAs. Blue dots indicate ΔMETTL3 -depleted RNAs. Black dots indicate *commonly enriched* RNAs that are enriched in SG in both conditions. Grey dots indicate *invariant* RNAs. $n=2$ biologically independent replicates. **h** Scatter plot depicting RNA differential enrichment in FUS^{WT} vs FUS^{P525L}. Axes describe $\log_2\text{FC}$ of SG RNA enrichment in the indicated conditions. Red dots indicate FUS^{P525L} loss RNAs. Blue dots indicate FUS^{P525L} gain RNAs. Black dots indicate *commonly enriched* RNAs that are enriched in SG in both conditions. Grey dots indicate *invariant* RNAs. $n=2$ biologically independent replicates. **i** Venn diagram depicting the overlap between ΔMETTL3 -relocated RNAs and SG enriched RNAs in FUS^{WT} and FUS^{P525L} conditions. **j** Venn diagrams depicting the overlap among the SG enriched RNAs in the three analyzed conditions (Dox-, FUS^{WT} and FUS^{P525L}) in control cells (left panel) and upon METTL3 downregulation (METTL3 KD, right panel). **k** Venn diagrams depicting the overlap among the top 5000 (left) and top 500 RNAs (right) ranked by SG enrichment in Dox-, FUS^{WT} and FUS^{P525L} condition upon METTL3 depletion. Bar plot (middle panel) displaying the fraction of RNAs commonly or specifically enriched in SG in each experimental condition. Different numbers of top ranked RNAs were considered. The different fractions are reported using colors coherent with adjacent Venn diagrams. **l** Bar plot depicting the library sizes of RNA-Seq samples before (top) and after the resampling procedure (bottom). Library sizes of FUS^{P525L} samples were used as reference for resampling (left). Venn diagram (right) displaying the overlap between SG enriched RNAs in the three analyzed conditions (Dox-, FUS^{WT} and FUS^{P525L} upon METTL3 depletion) after the resampling procedure. **m** Box plots displaying the fold of METTL3 knockdown ("M3 KD") over control condition ("CTRL") average abundance (FPKM) for the *commonly enriched* and *relocated* group either in SG fraction (left panel) or INP (right panel) samples. Dotted line represents the median fold distribution of the *commonly enriched* group, used as control. $n=2$ biologically independent replicates. **n** Stacked bar plot showing the percentage of *commonly enriched*, ΔMETTL3 -enriched, *invariant* transcripts in each expression-based transcriptome *stratum*. Each *stratum* is depicted with a specific color. $n=2$ biologically independent replicates. **o** Heatmap (bottom) showing k-mers (4-mers) enrichment in SG among different condition. Rows represent each possible k-mer with $k=4$, while columns represent conditions. K-mers enrichment is described as *ratio* between mean k-mer percentage in SG enriched RNAs vs invariant RNAs. The three clusters identified using K-means clustering (n clusters= 3) indicate k-mers depleted (#1), invariant (#2) or enriched (#3) in FUS^{P525L} condition. Color scale describes the magnitude of k-mer enrichment, enrichment values > 1 are represented in red while enrichment values < 1 are represented in blue. Pie charts (top) represents the fraction of GC and AU nucleotides in k-mers clusters. $n=2$ biologically independent replicates. **p** Sequence logo representing the consensus DRACH motif significantly over-represented in the MeRIP-seq peak regions. **q** Metagene plot resulted from MeRIP-seq data displaying m⁶A increased signal intensity near the STOP codon. **r** Bar plot representing the enrichment of selected RNAs resulted methylated according to MeRIP-seq data. WTAP and ATP5O were used as positive and negative controls, respectively; immunoprecipitation with IgG was used as control. $n=3$ biologically independent replicates. **s** IGV screens (left) describing the normalized read coverage of meRIP-Seq INP and IP samples in correspondence of peak regions of the indicated transcripts. Scatterplot (right) depicting the correlation between meRIP-Seq signal and RNA enrichment expressed as percentage of input resulted from qRT-PCR analysis for each transcript. Pearson's correlation coefficient ($R=0.82$) and significance (p -value= 0.024) are reported in the plot. Y-axis reports the ratio of IP over the INP average signal (FPKM) while x-axis reports the % of Input related to qRT-PCR analysis. Fitted regression model is reported as a blue line. Confidence intervals are depicted as blue bands. **t** Box plots displaying RNA length (Kb) of the indicated RNA groups identified by SG differential enrichment analysis among FUS^{P525L} vs FUS^{P525L} METTL3 KD. Statistical significance was evaluated with Mann-Whitney U test. P-values are indicated in the figure. **u** Bar plot depicting the indicated GO over-represented categories in the *relocated* group. Only significant categories ($\text{FDR} < 0.05$) of Cellular Component database were depicted. Blue line describes the fraction of m⁶A -containing RNAs for each category. Category enrichment score and fraction of methylated RNAs are indicated either in the bottom or top X-axes, respectively. Absolute number of genes for each category is indicated. **v** Representative western blot showing FUS^{P525L} IP efficiency. The percentage of input is indicated. $n=2$ biologically independent replicates. **w** Pie chart showing the percentage of m⁶A-containing RNAs among FUS direct interactors. **x** Heatmaps depicting the signal (Z score calculated from the normalized signal (IP-INP)) of either FUS^{P525L} HITS-CLIP (left) or meRIP-seq (right) in correspondence of both FUS^{P525L} binding sites (blue) and m⁶A sites (green). For each experiment we considered a window of $\pm 200\text{nt}$ around the peak summit. The average of the Z scores calculated is summarized in the line plots (bottom). $n=2$ biologically independent replicates. **y** Line plots depicting DRACH motif frequency on either m⁶A sites (left) or FUS^{P525L} binding sites (right). The heatmaps depict the average normalized signal of either FUS^{P525L} HITS-CLIP or meRIP-seq in a window of $\pm 200\text{nt}$ around the peak summit. $n=2$ biologically independent replicates.



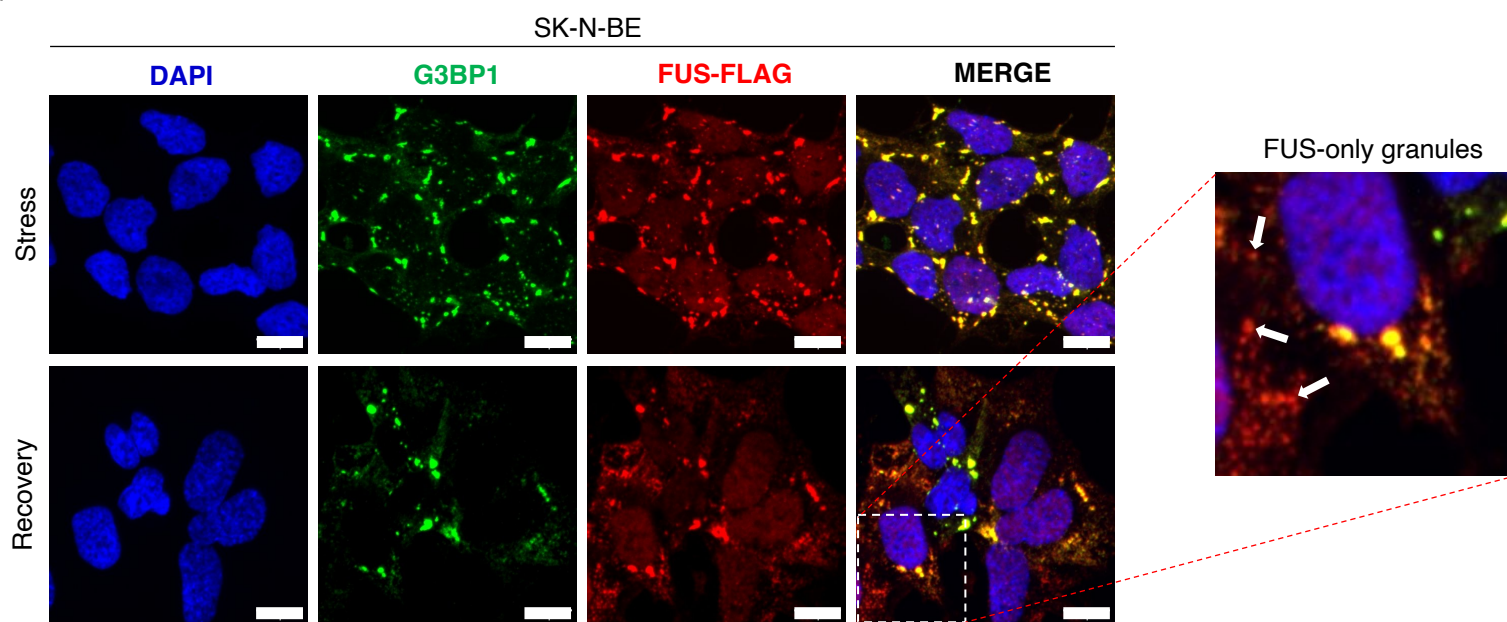




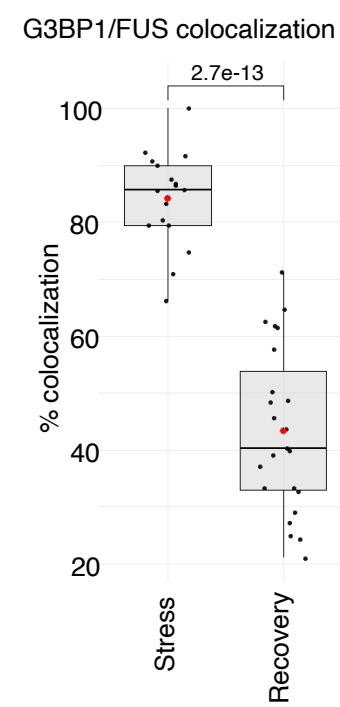


Supplementary Figure 2. METTL3 downregulation reduces the number of SG in ALS cellular models. **a** Schematic representation of the *METTL3* locus and the plasmid donor used for CRISPR/Cas-9 mediated genome editing to insert a degron tag (mAID) at the N-terminus of METTL3. Primers for genotyping are indicated with arrows. The size of the expected amplicon is specified. **b** Genomic analyses of selected SK-N-BE clones after CRISPR/Cas9 mediated genome editing to insert a degron tag (mAID) at the N-terminus of METTL3. Heterozygotes are red squared. Blue arrows indicate the size of the amplicons deriving from either wild type (*METTL3* WT) or edited genome (mAID *METTL3*). The donor DNA and gDNA from unedited cells were used as positive or negative controls, respectively. **c** Representative western blot analysis showing *METTL3* and *METTL14* decrease in the indicated SK-N-BE cells after degron tag insertion (mAID). ACT-β was used as loading control. **d** Relative protein levels of *METTL3* (n=4 biologically independent replicates) and *METTL14* (n=3 biologically independent replicates) in the indicated SK-N-BE upon degron tag (mAID) insertion. Levels were normalized over ACT-β protein level and expressed as relative quantities with respect to wild-type cells set to 1. The relative protein quantity in the bars is represented as mean of replicates with standard deviation. Dots represent biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **e** Bar plot showing *METTL3* relative RNA level decrease in the indicated SK-N-BE cells. Values are normalized against *ATP5O* transcript and expressed as relative quantity with respect to non-edited cells set to a value of 1. The relative RNA quantity in the bars is represented as mean of the fold change with standard deviation. Dots represent each replicate. n=4 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **f** Bar plot showing the m⁶A level decrease in the indicated SK-N-BE cells. Levels are represented as percentage with respect to control cells set as 100%. Each dot represents a single replicate. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **g** Representative western blot analysis (left) and the corresponding densitometry analyses (right) showing stable *FUS* expression in the indicated SK-N-BE cells. GAPDH was used as loading control. Relative protein levels were represented as relative quantities with respect to *FUS*^{WT} Dox- cells set as 1. The relative protein quantity in the bars is represented as mean of replicates with standard deviation. Dots represent independent replicates. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **h** Levels of selected RNAs in a representative stress granules immunoprecipitation in SK-N-BE *FUS*^{WT} or *FUS*^{P525L} cell lines, induced for the expression of *FUS* (Dox+), upon 1hr stress treatment. RNA levels are expressed as percentage of input normalized on an invariant RNA enrichment (*CALM1*). *ATP5O* transcript was used as negative control. The relative RNA enrichment in the bars is represented as mean of the replicates with standard deviation. Dots represent each replicate. n=2 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **i** Representative single focal planes captions of mFISH for *HUWE1*, *CALM1* and *GAPDH* transcripts (red), immunofluorescence for stress granule marker *G3BP1* (green) and DAPI (blue) in the indicated SK-N-BE cells. All scale bars correspond to 3 μm (top). In right panels, digital magnification of *G3BP1* granules highlighted by dashed squares. Bar plots showing the average percentage of the indicated transcripts signals colocalizing with stress granules as mean of replicates with standard deviation (bottom). Dots represent independent replicates. From a minimum of #283 to a maximum of #629 cells were analyzed in each experimental condition. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **j** Bar plots showing the individual enrichment reduction of selected relocated candidates in a m⁶A CLIP experiment in mAID condition with respect to the control condition represented as 100%. WTAP was used as positive control. The relative RNA enrichment in the bars is represented as mean of the replicates with standard deviation. Dots represent each replicate. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **k** Box plots showing granule volumes in the indicated SK-N-BE cells. Black dots represent the average volumes. Gray dots represent the volume of each measured granule. n=3 biologically independent replicates. Seven fields were acquired for each biological replicate. **l** Box plots showing the number of small, medium, or large granules per cell in the indicated SK-N-BE cells. Seven fields were acquired for each biological replicate. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **m** Genomic analyses of selected iPSC clones after CRISPR/Cas9 mediated genome editing to insert a degron tag (mAID) at the N-terminus of *METTL3*. Homozygotes are red squared. Blue arrows indicate the size of the amplicons deriving from either wild type (*METTL3* WT) or edited genome (mAID *METTL3*). The donor DNA and gDNA from unedited cells were used as positive or negative controls, respectively. **n** Representative western blot analysis (left) showing *METTL3* and *METTL14* decrease in the indicated SK-N-BE cells after degron tag insertion (mAID). ACT-β was used as loading control. Relative protein levels (right) of *METTL3* (n=4 biologically independent replicates) and *METTL14* (n=3 biologically independent replicates) in the indicated SK-N-BE upon degron tag (mAID) insertion. Levels were normalized over ACT-β protein level and expressed as relative quantities with respect to wild-type cells set to 1. The relative protein level in the bars is represented as mean of the replicates with standard deviation. Dots represent biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **o** Representative images of *METTL3* immunofluorescence on the indicated MNs (left). *METTL3* antibody staining is depicted in red, TUJ1 in grey. The nuclei are stained with DAPI (blue). The merge of the signals from TUJ1 and DAPI is shown. The scale bar is 10 μm. Box plots illustrating *METTL3* signal intensity analyses (right). Seven fields were acquired. Red dots represent signal average. Each gray dots represents a single cell signal. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. The scale bar is 20 μm. **p** Bar plot showing the m⁶A level decrease in the indicated iPSC derived MN. Levels are represented as percentage with respect to control cells set as 100%. Each dot represents a single replicate. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The relative m⁶A percentage in the bars is represented as mean of replicates with standard deviation. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **q**, Bar plot showing the relative RNA levels of selected MN differentiation markers in the indicated MN. Values are normalized against *GAPDH* transcript and expressed as relative quantity with respect to unedited MN set as 1. The relative RNA quantity in the bars is represented as mean of the fold change with standard deviation. Dots represent each replicate. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **r** Representative images of the indicated stressed MNs. *G3BP1* antibody staining is depicted in green, *FUS* in red, TUJ1 in grey. The nuclei are stained with DAPI (blue). The merge of the signal is shown. The scale bar is 10 μm. **s** Box plots showing granule volumes in the indicated MN. Black dots represent the average volumes. Gray dots represent the volume of each measured granule. n=4 biologically independent replicates. Seven fields were acquired for each biological replicate. **t** Box plots showing number of small, medium, or large granules per cell in the indicated MN. Seven fields were acquired for each biological replicate. n=4 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **u** Bar plot showing the m⁶A level increase both in SK-N-BE and MNs expressing *FUS*^{P525L}. Levels are represented as percentage with respect to control cells set as 100%. Each dot represents a single replicate. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The relative m⁶A percentage in the bars is represented as mean of the replicates with standard deviation. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **v** Representative western blot analysis (left) and the corresponding densitometry analyses (right) showing the levels of either *METTL3* or *ALKBH5* in the indicated SK-N-BE cells after *METTL3* overexpression ("oe*METTL3*") or *ALKBH5* downregulation ("ALKBH5 KD"). ACT-β or ACTN1 were used as loading control. Relative protein levels were represented as relative quantities with respect to control (Ctrl) cells set as 1. The relative protein quantity in the bars is represented as mean of replicates with standard deviation. Dots represent independent replicates. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated.

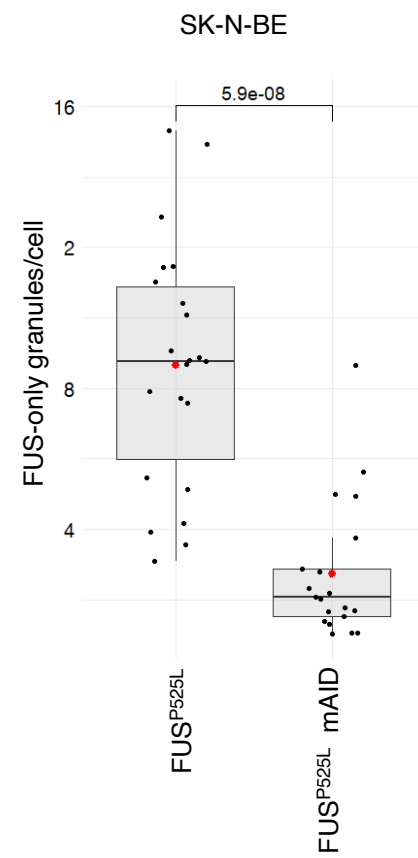
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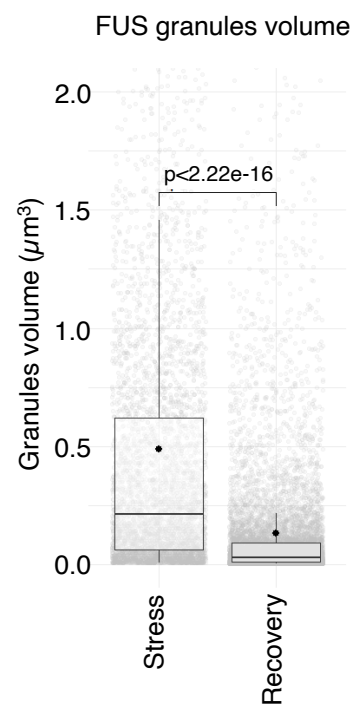
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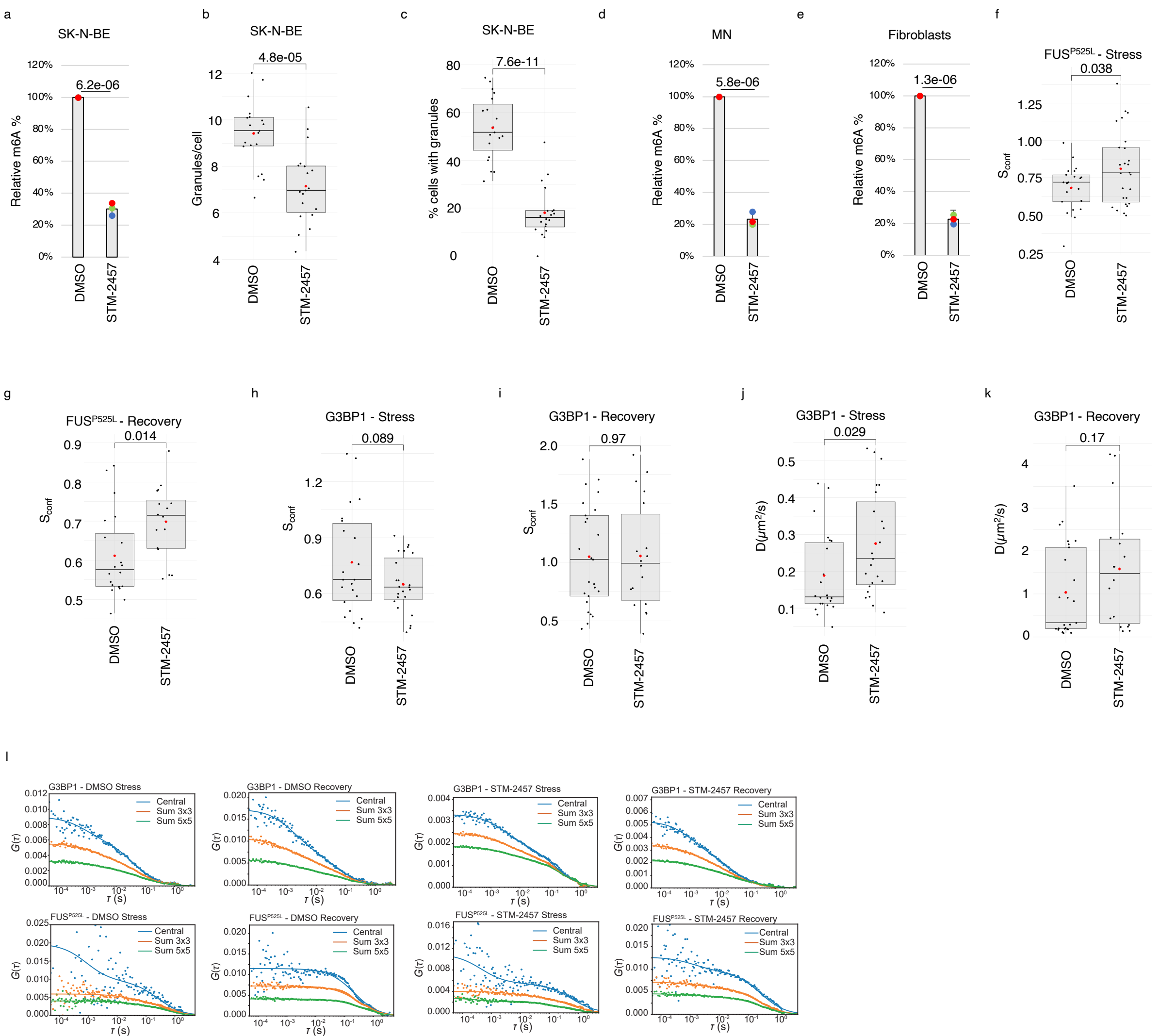
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Supplementary Figure 3. **METTL3 decrease restores SG recovery rate in ALS cellular models.** **a** Representative images of the indicated SK-N-BE cells both in stress and in recovery conditions showing the presence of FUS-only granules indicated by white arrows. G3BP1 antibody staining is depicted in green, FUS in red. The nuclei are stained with DAPI (blue). The merge of the signal is shown. The scale bar is 10 μm . **b** Box plot showing the colocalization analysis of G3BP1 and FUS signals in SK-N-BE FUS^{P525L} cells both in stress and in recovery conditions. Seven fields were acquired for each biological replicate. $n=3$ biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's *t* test. P-values are indicated. **c** Box plots showing the number of FUS-only granules in the indicated FUS^{P525L} SK-N-BE cells. The red dot indicates the average granules number in each sample. Each dot represents the number of granules in a single field. Seven fields were acquired for each biological replicate. $n=4$ biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's *t* test. P-values are indicated. **d** Box plot showing the comparison of granule volumes in stress or in recovery conditions. Black dots represent the average volumes. Gray dots represent the volume of each measured granule. Seven fields were acquired for each biological replicate. $n=3$ (stress), $n=4$ (recovery) biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's *t* test. P-values are indicated.



Supplementary Figure 4. **METTL3 chemical inhibition relieves FUS-containing SG.** **a** Bar plot showing the m⁶A level decrease of SK-N-BE FUS^{P525L} cells treated either with DMSO or STM-2457. Levels are represented as percentage with respect to control cells set as 100%. Each dot represents a single replicate. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **b** Box plots illustrating the number of stress granules per cell in stressed SK-N-BE FUS^{P525L} treated either with DMSO or STM-2457. The red dot indicates the average number of granules in each sample. Each black dot represents the number of granules in a single field. Seven fields were acquired for each biological replicate. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **c** Box plots showing the percentage of unrecovered SK-N-BE FUS^{P525L} cells treated either with DMSO or STM-2457. The red dot indicates the average percentage in each sample. Each black dot represents the percentage in a single field. Seven fields were acquired for each biological replicate. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **d** Bar plot showing the m⁶A level decrease of iPSC-derived MN FUS^{P525L} treated either with DMSO or STM-2457. Levels are represented as percentage with respect to control cells set as 100%. Each dot represents a single replicate. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **e** Bar plot showing the m⁶A level decrease of patient-derived fibroblasts treated either with DMSO or STM-2457. Levels are represented as percentage with respect to control cells set as 100%. Each dot represents a single replicate. n=3 biologically independent replicates. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **f, g, h, i, j, k** Box plots illustrating the S_{conf} or D of FUS^{P525L} or G3BP1 in living SK-N-BE cells treated either with DMSO or STM-2457 under stress or recovery condition. The red dot indicates the average value. Each black dot represents a single measurement. n=2 biologically independent replicates. From 16 to 26 measurements were carried out for each experimental condition. The *ratio* of each sample *versus* its experimental control was tested by two-tailed Student's t test. P-values are indicated. **l** Typical spot-variation FCS measurement of G3BP1-GFP (top) or FUS^{P525L}-RFP (bottom) in stress or recovery condition measured in SK-N-BE cells treated either with STM-2457 or DMSO. The three curves correspond to the three volumes considered with the SPAD array detector. The lines correspond to the fit of the autocorrelation curves.