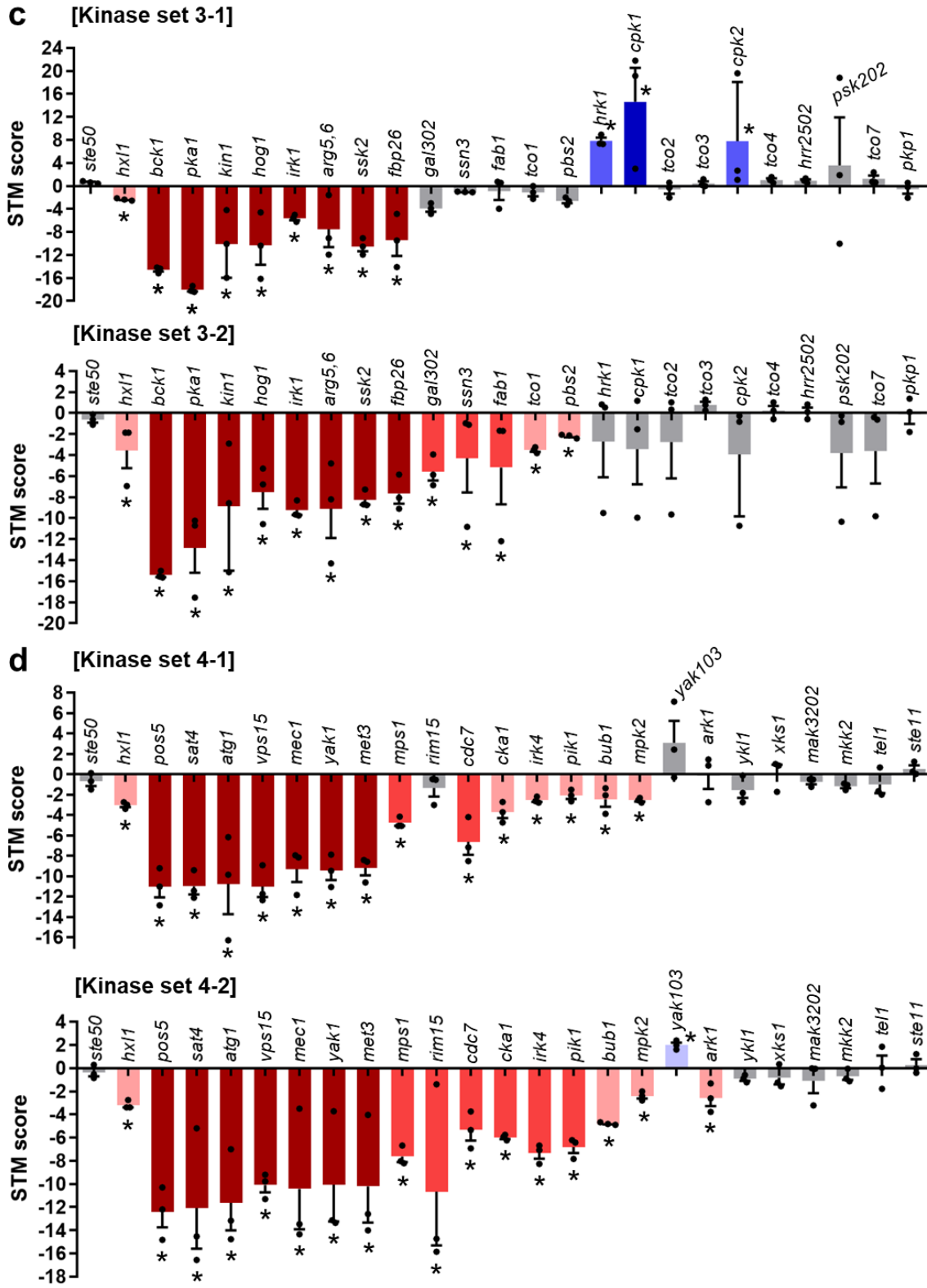
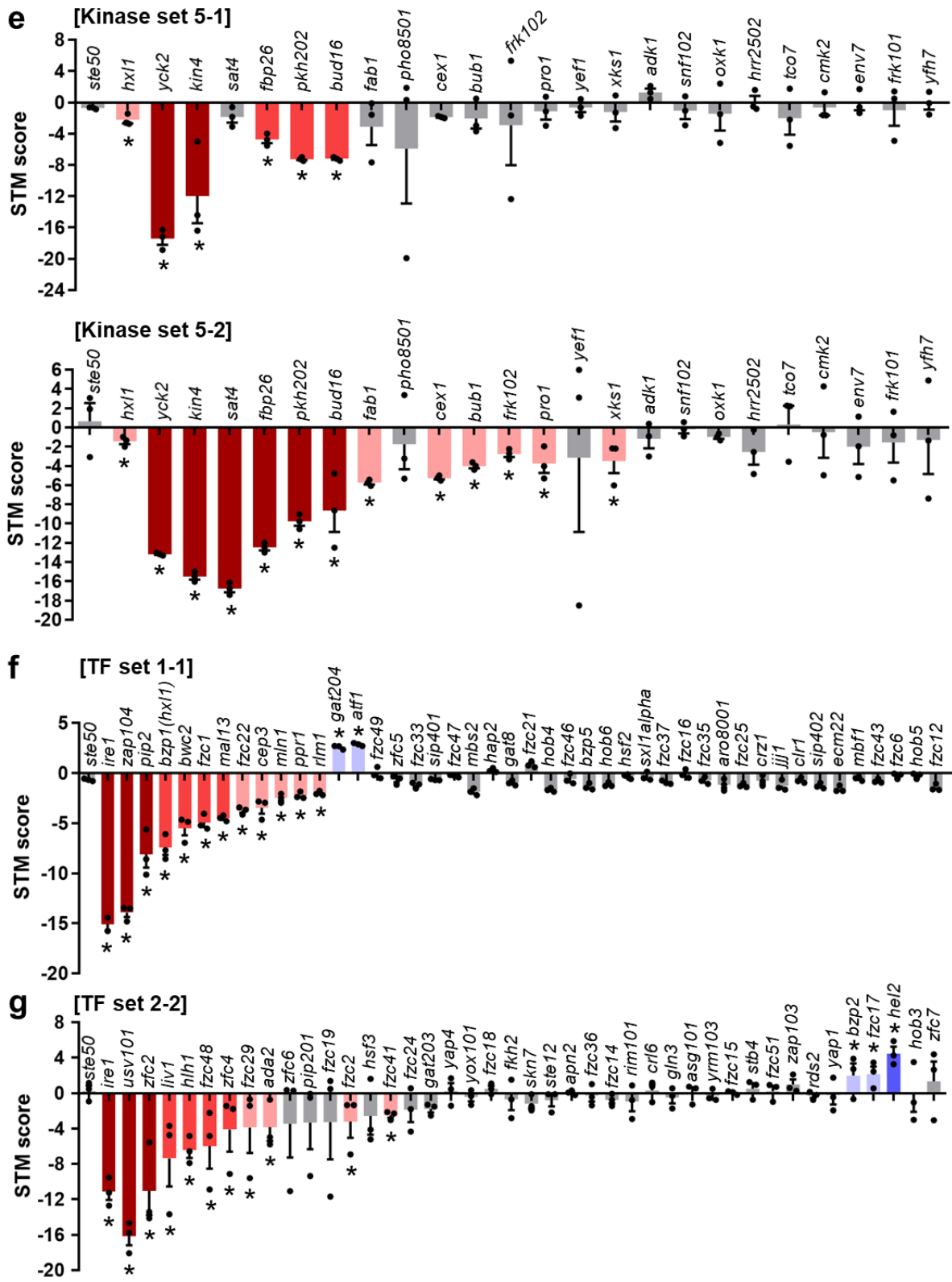


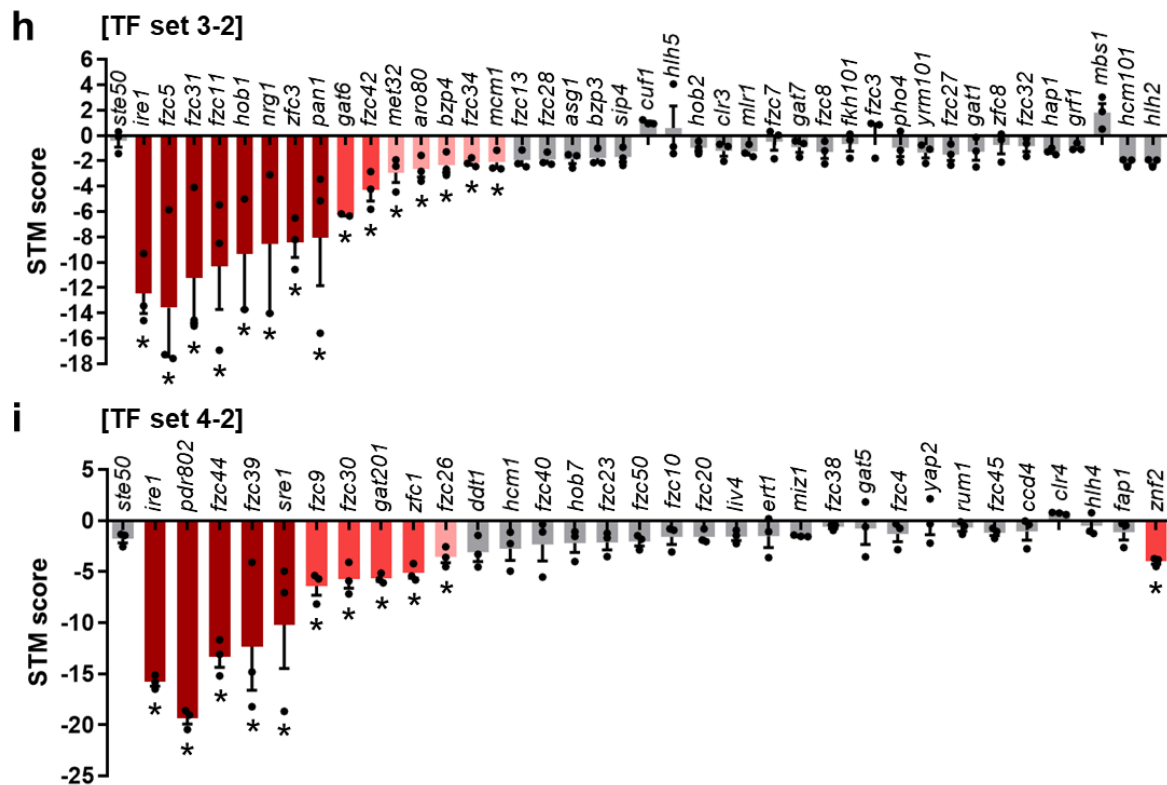
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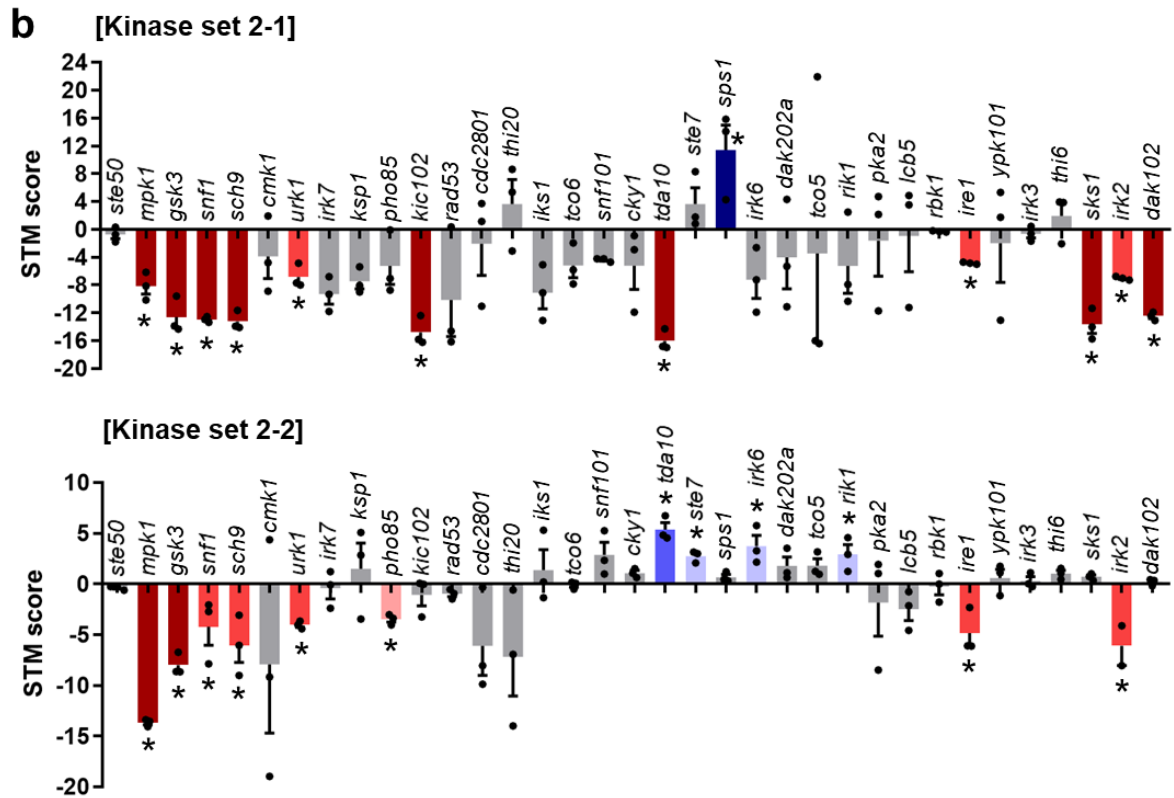
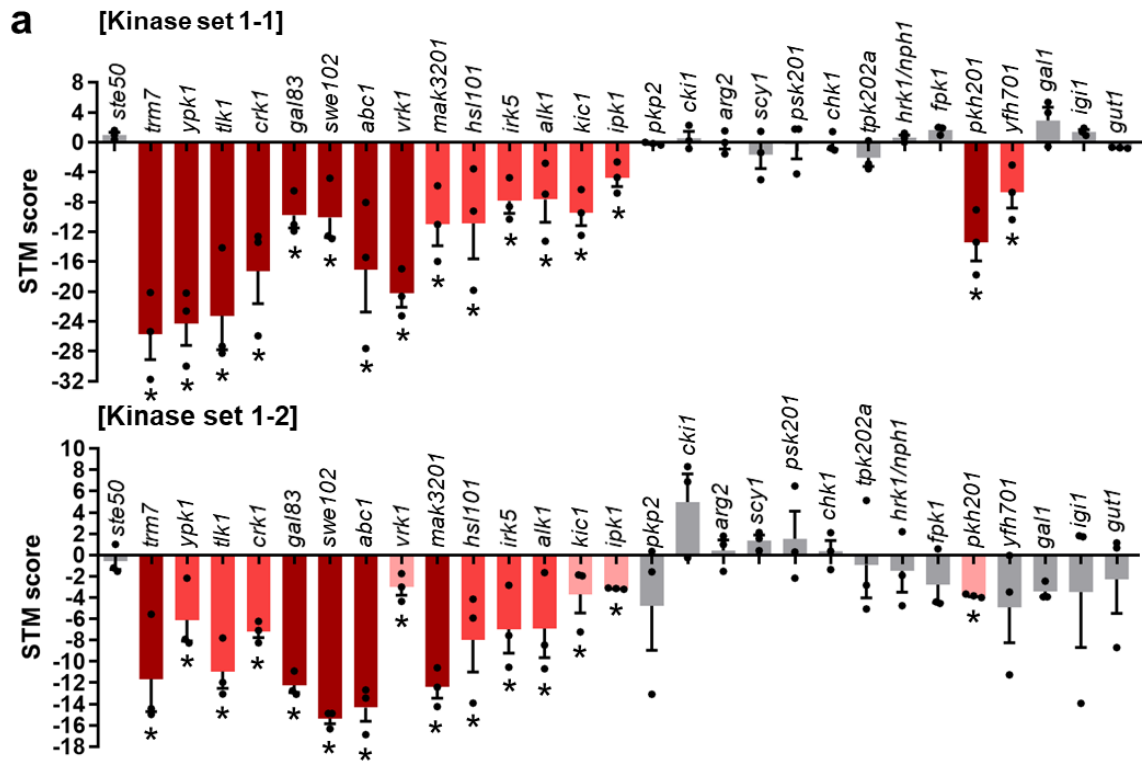
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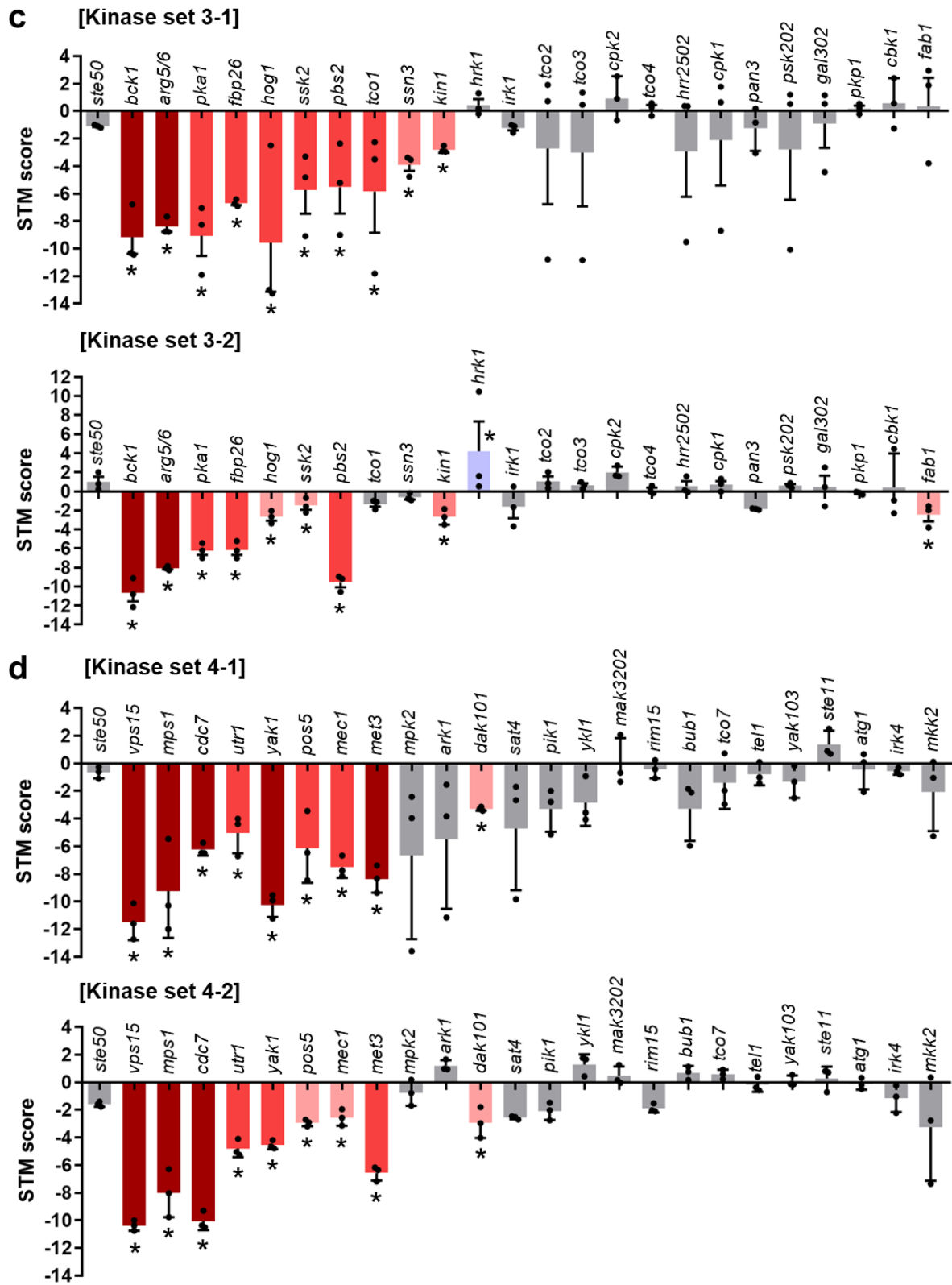
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Supplementary Figure 1. Brain-STM scores in a murine model infected through intranasal instillation of kinase and TF mutant libraries. Brain STM scores were obtained from brain samples recovered from A/J mice that were intranasally infected with TF and kinase mutant libraries in our previous reports^{1,2}. The STM scores of kinase (a-e) and TF (f-i) mutants of *C. neoformans* were measured by using quantitative PCR analysis with a common primer and signature-tag specific primer pairs as previously described^{1,2}. Three mice were analysed in each set (n=3). Data are presented as mean values \pm standard error of the mean (SEM). The STM cutoff was >2.0 (high) or <-2.0 (low) and $P < 0.05$ (*) by one-way ANOVA analysis with Bonferroni's correction was considered to be statistically significant. Degrees of statistically significant increase and decrease in STM scores were indicated with different colour codes: pink (<-2), reddish (<-4), red (<-8), light blue (>2), and blue (>4). In this nasal instillation model, some of the mouse brain samples did not result in sufficient amount of *C. neoformans* cells to perform brain STM analysis. In that case, STM scores obtained from one or two mouse brain samples was used.

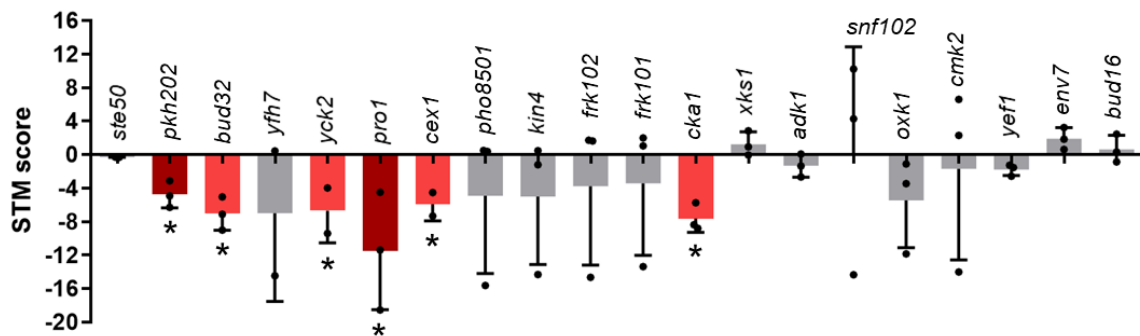


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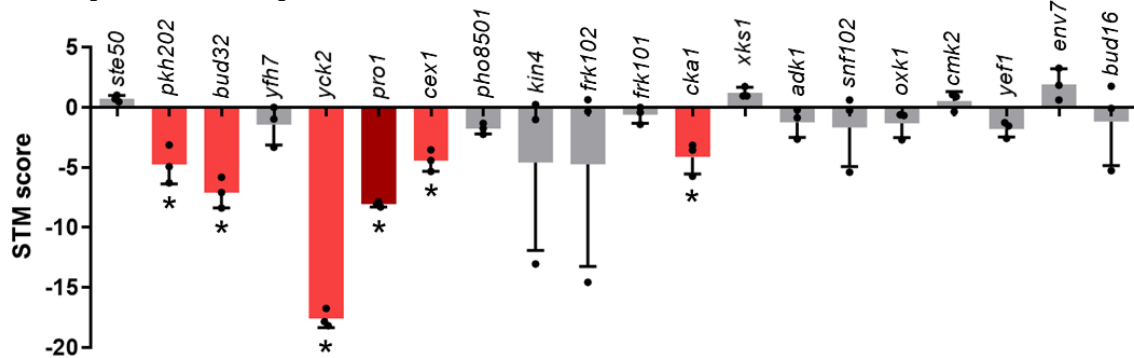


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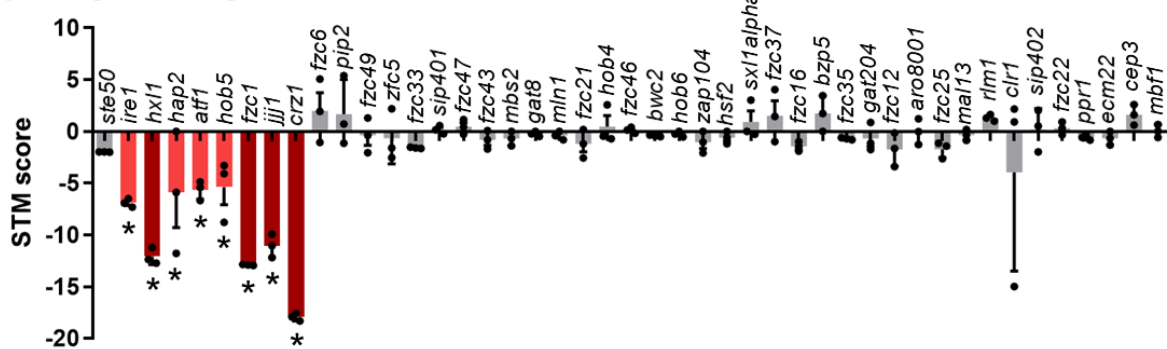
e [Kinase set 5-1]



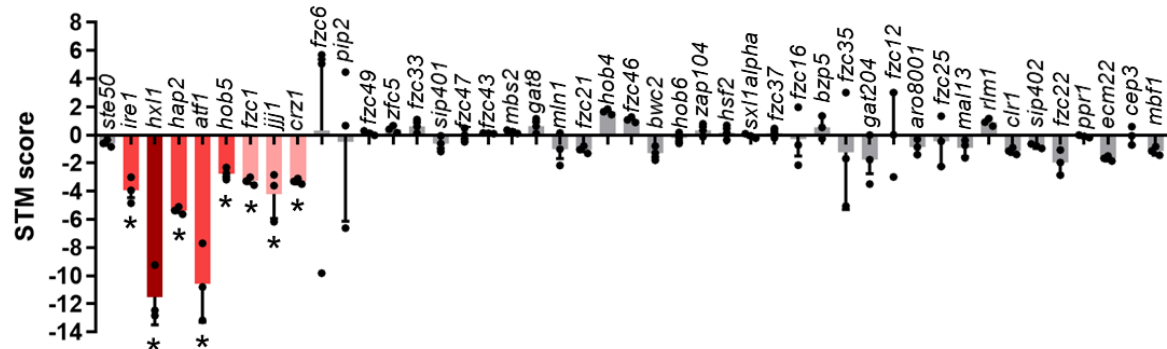
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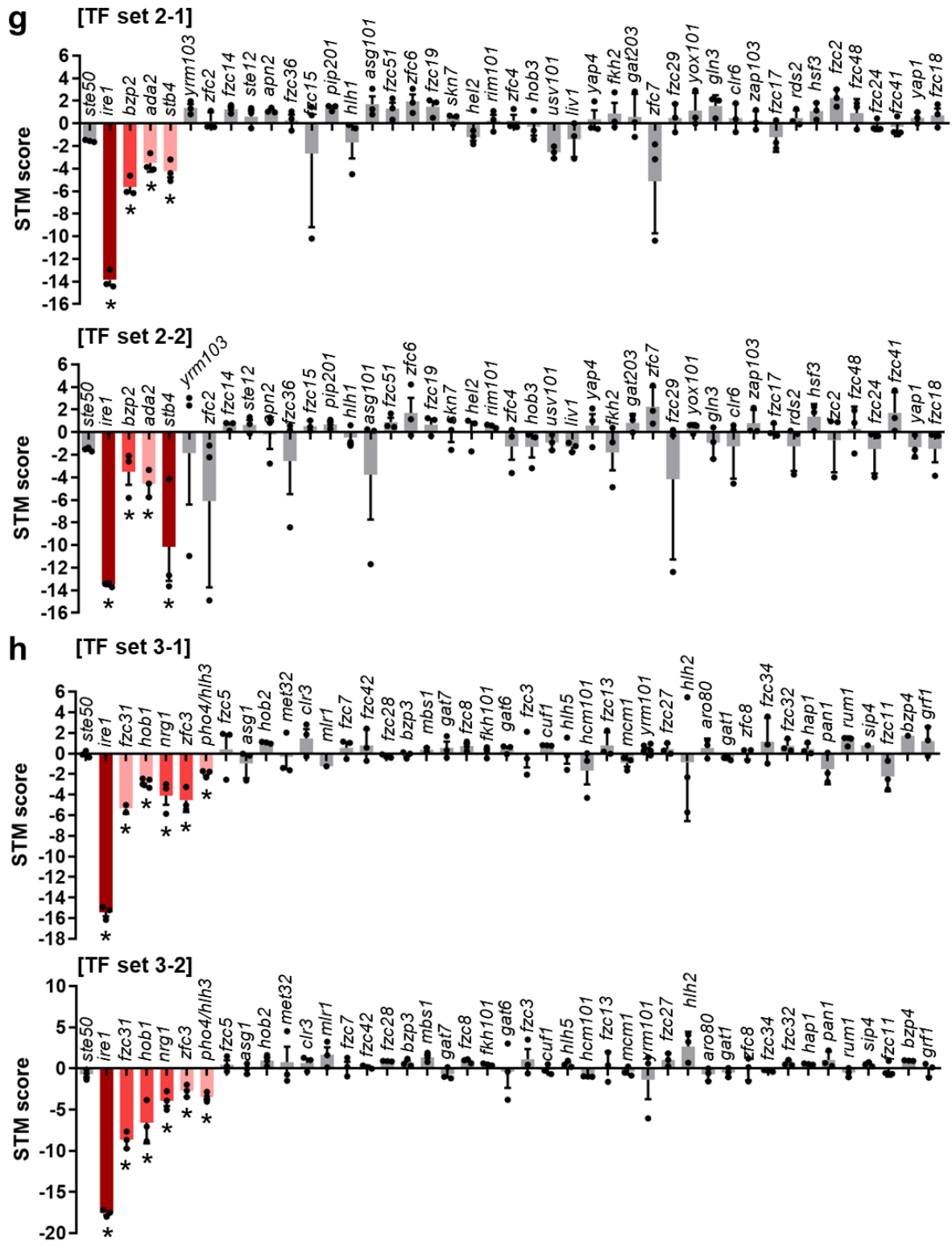
f [TF set 1-1]



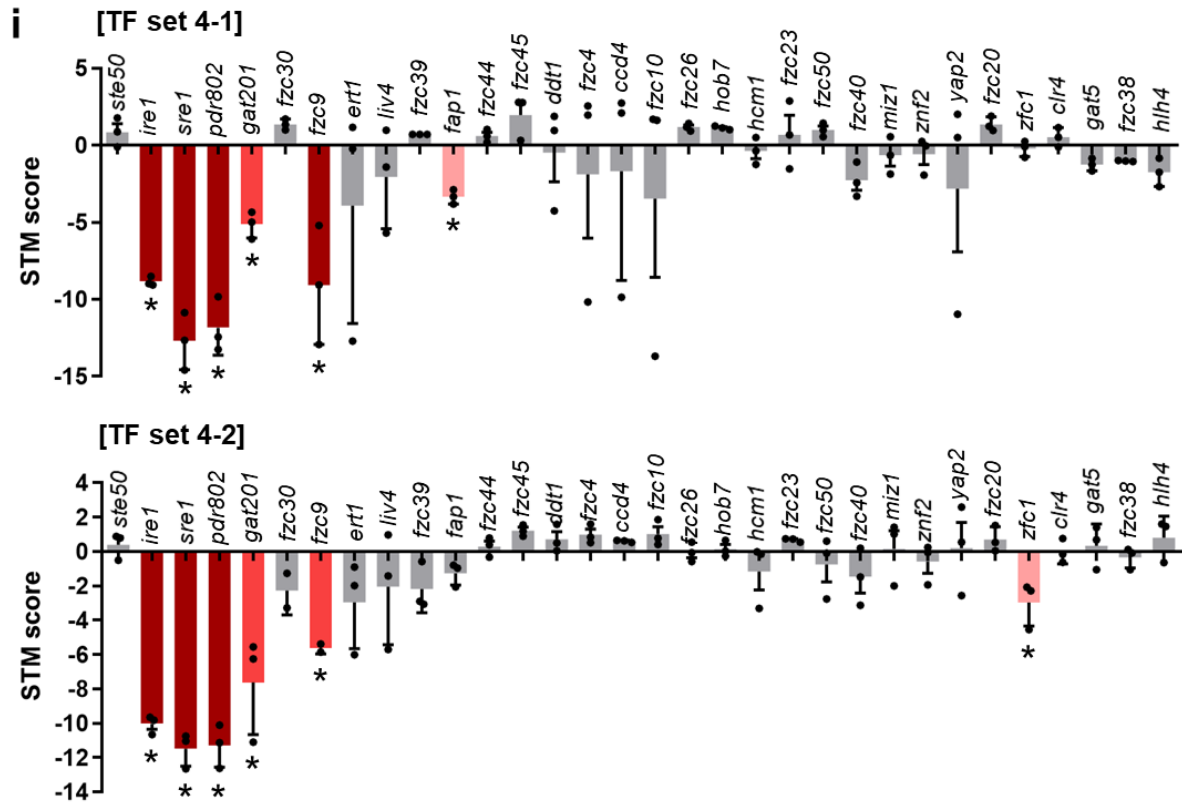
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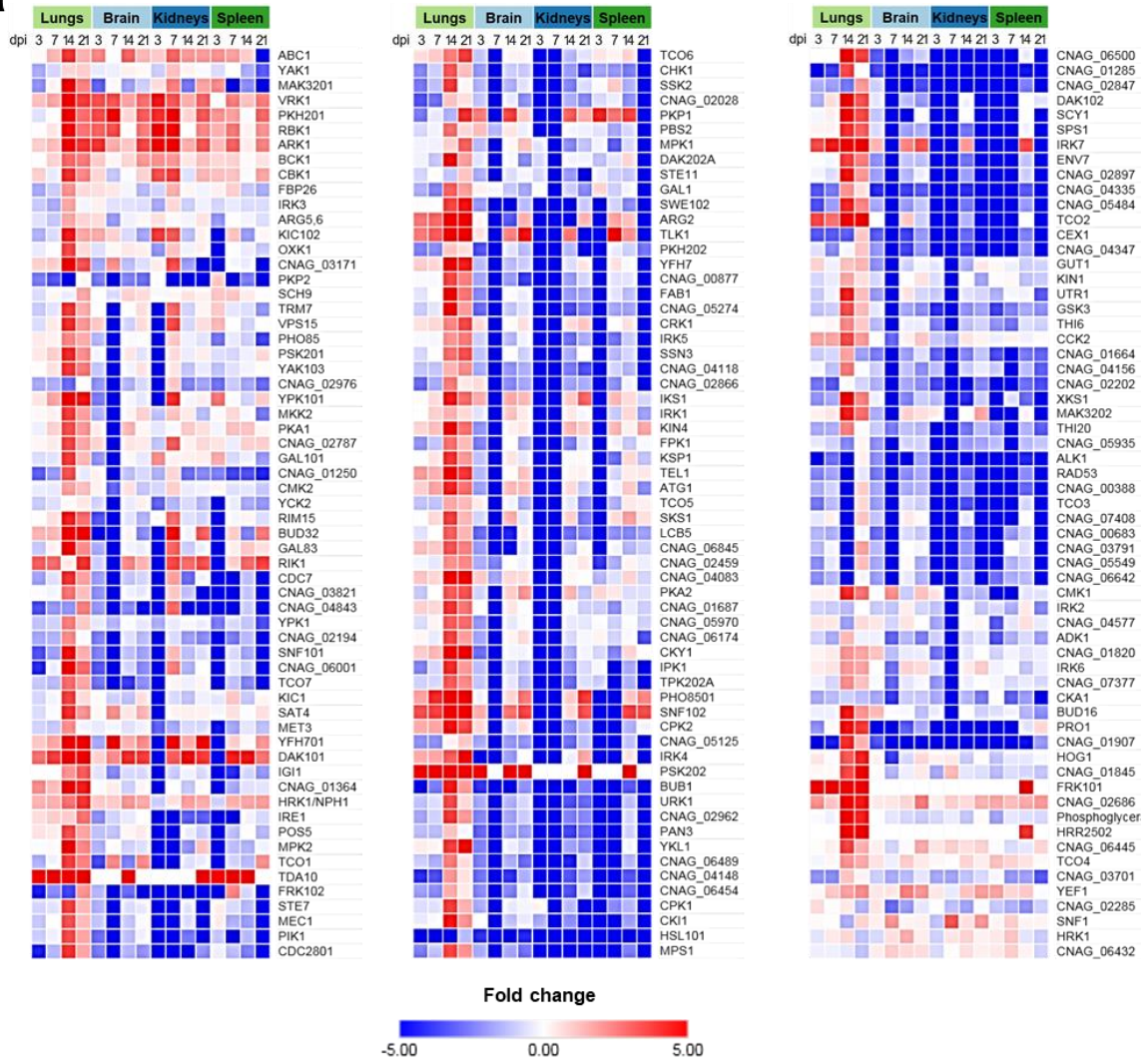


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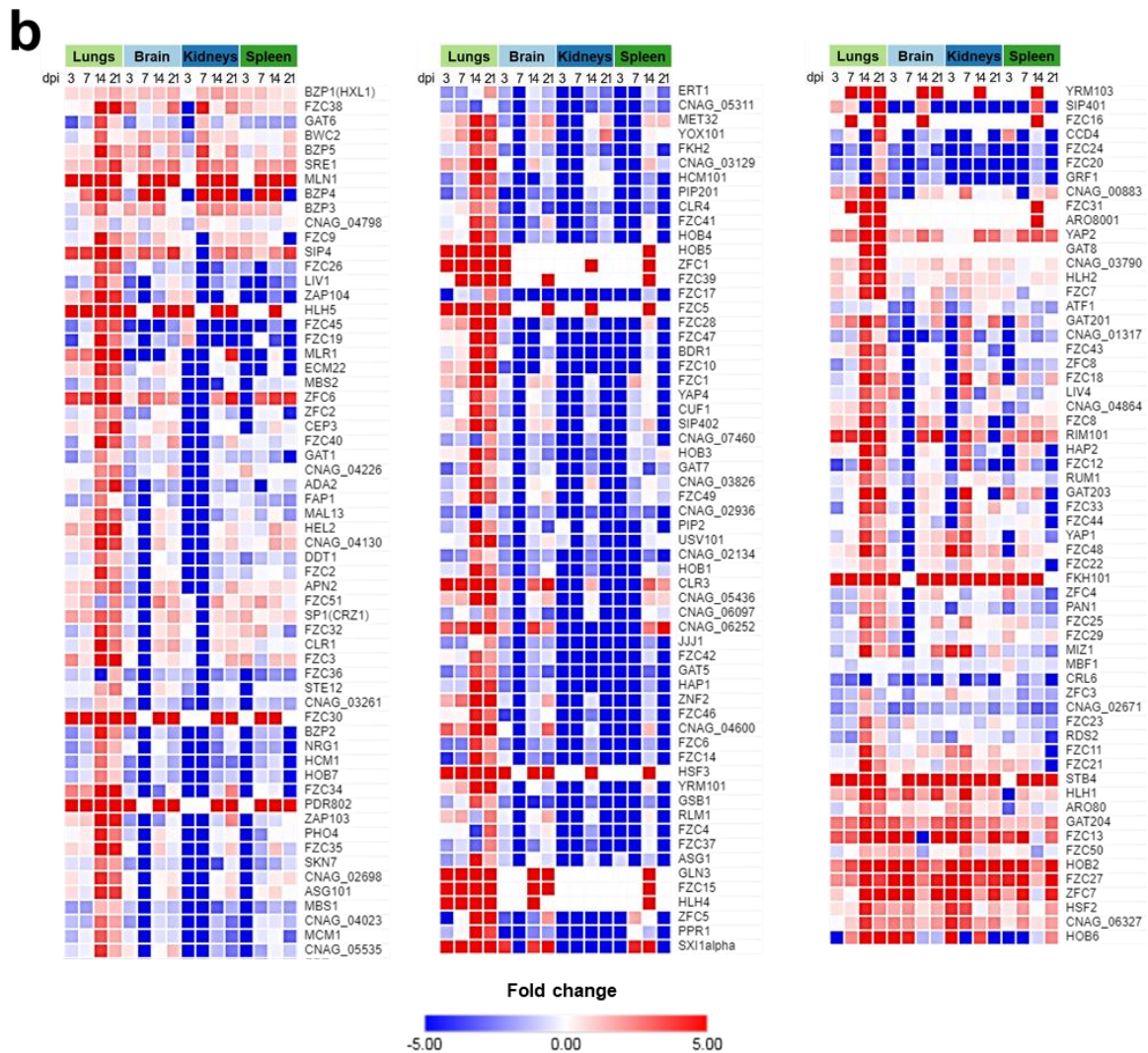


Supplementary Figure 2. Brain-STM scores in a murine model infected through intravenous injection of kinase and TF mutant libraries. Brain STM scores were obtained from brain samples recovered from A/J mice that were intravenously infected in this study with TF and kinase mutant libraries^{1,2}. STM scores of kinase (a-e) and TF (f-i) mutants of *C. neoformans*, which are listed in Supplementary Table 3, were measured by using quantitative PCR analysis with a common primer and signature-tag specific primer pairs as previously described^{1,2}. Dash 1 and dash 2 of each set indicate data for two-independent mutant strains for each gene (Supplementary Table 3). Three mice were analysed in each set (n=3). Data are presented as mean values \pm SEM. The STM cutoff was >2.0 (high) or <-2.0 (low) and $P<0.05$ (*) by one-way ANOVA analysis with Bonferroni's correction was considered to be statistically significant. Degrees of statistically significant increase and decrease in STM scores were indicated with different color codes: pink (<-2), reddish (<-4), red (<-8), light blue (>2), and blue (>4).

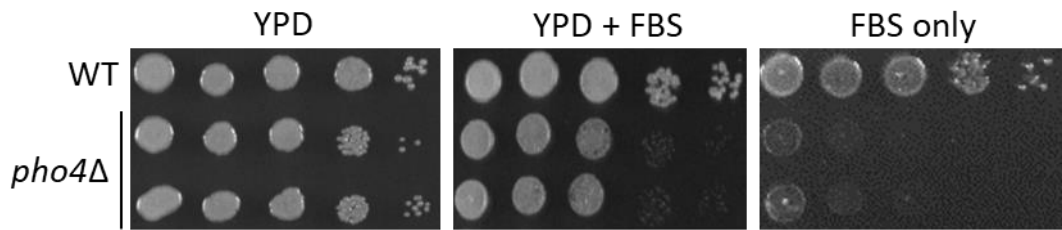
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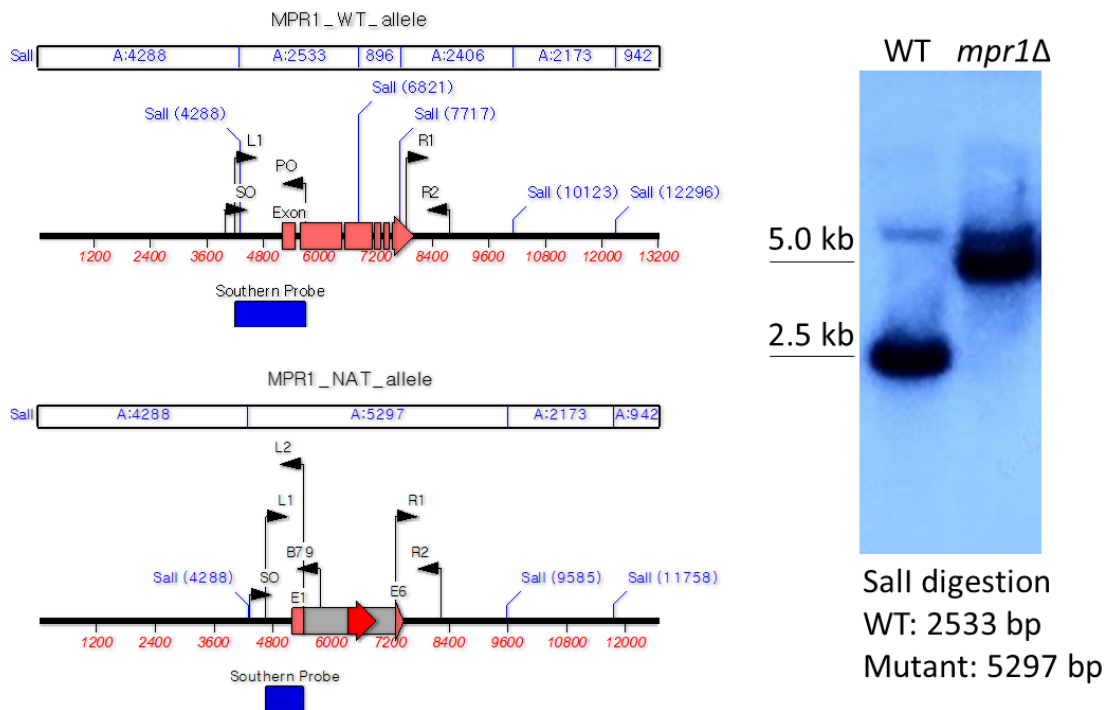
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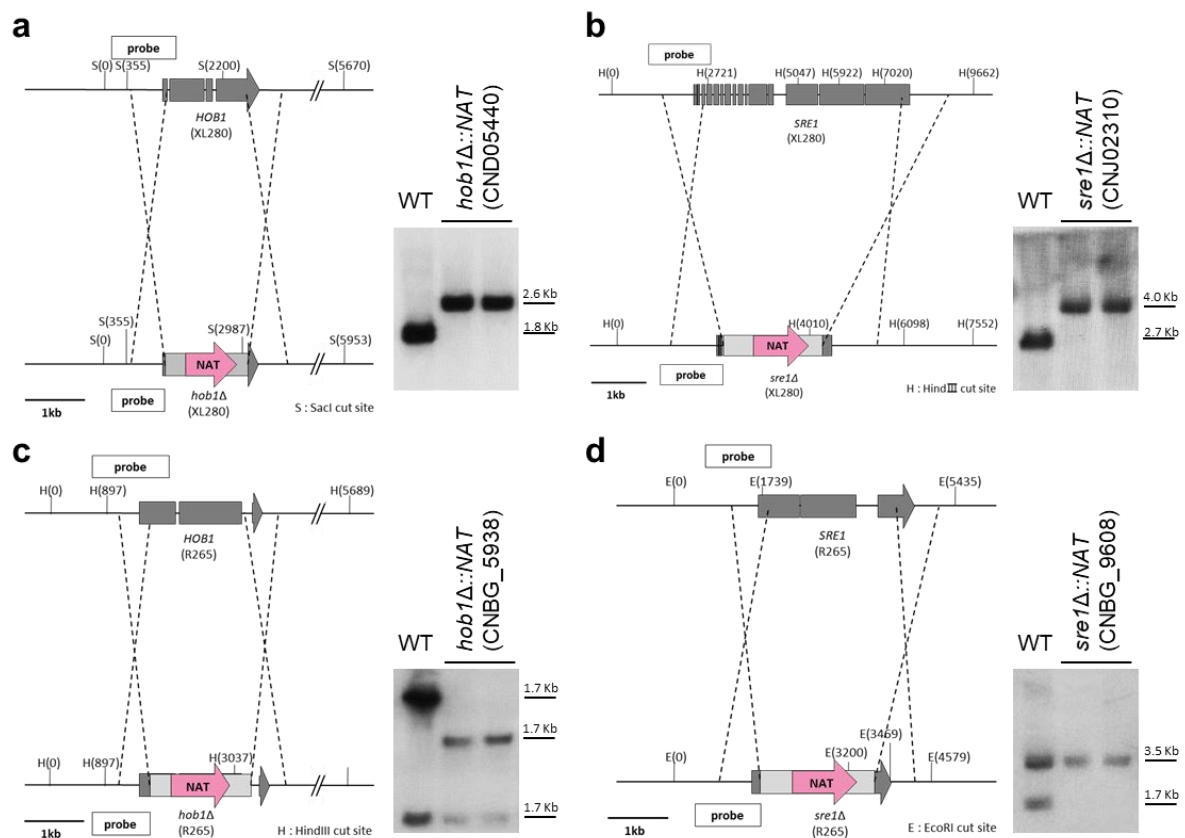
Supplementary Figure 3. In vivo gene expression patterns of kinases and TFs in *C. neoformans*. NanoString™-nCounter® based in vivo gene expression analysis of 183 kinases (a) and 180 TFs (b) was performed using total RNA extracted from the infected tissues (lungs, brain, spleen, and kidneys) recovered after 3, 7, 14, and 21 dpi from a murine cryptococcosis model by intranasal instillation and gene-specific nCounter codesets (Supplementary Data 1). Fold-change heatmap was clustered using one minus Pearson correlation with average linkage by Morpheus. Each in vivo gene expression level was normalised by that of 8 house-keeping genes in the same tissue sample. Three A/J mice per dpi cohort were used (total 12 mice).



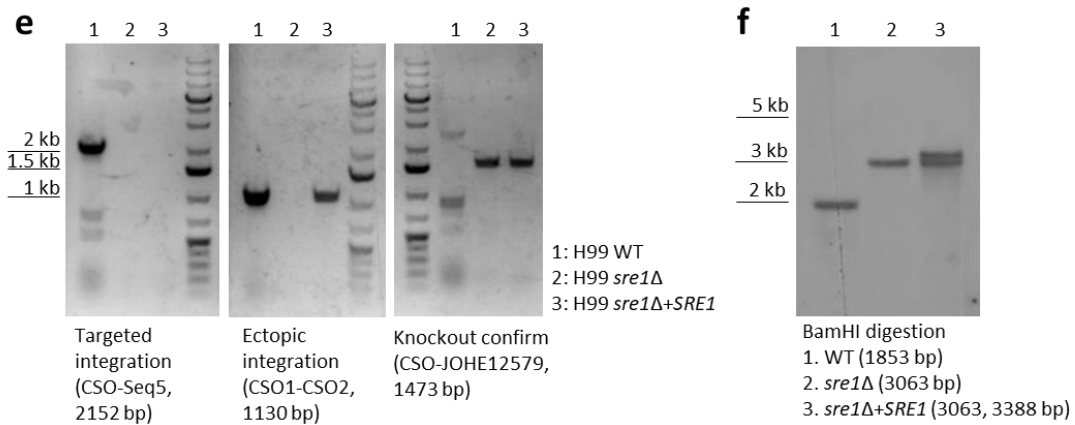
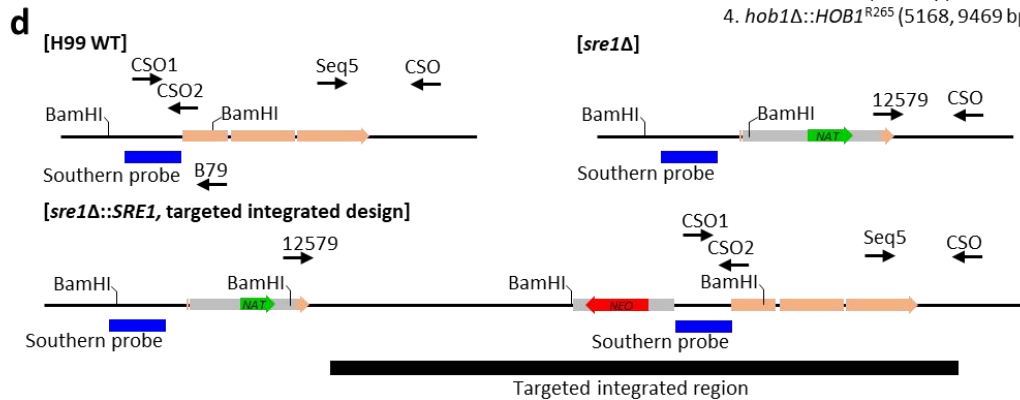
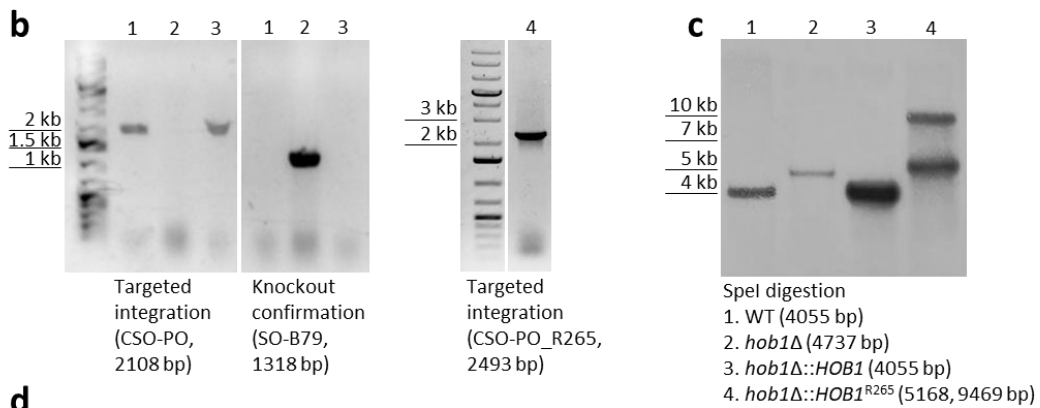
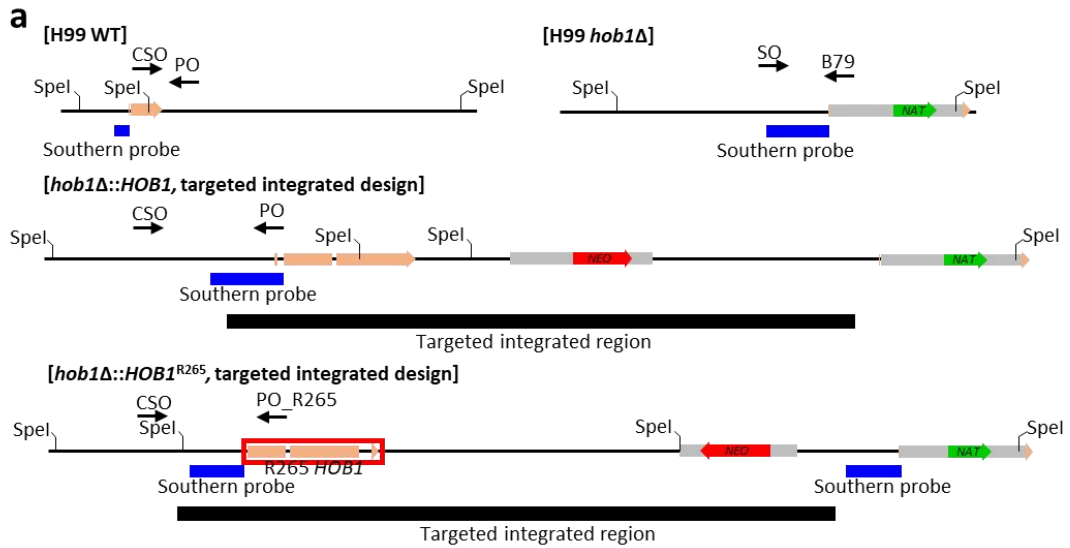
Supplementary Figure 4. Serum sensitivity assay of *pho4Δ* mutants. *Cryptococcus neoformans* WT (H99) and *pho4Δ* mutants (YSB2329 and YSB2330) were cultured overnight in yeast extract-peptone-dextrose (YPD) medium and spotted onto YPD, YPD+FBS (YPD with 50% fetal bovine serum), or FBS only (FBS plate, final 6.25% FBS). For the FBS supplementation, FBS was added into autoclaved 2× YPD agar or 10% agar. Plates were photographed for 3 days. This spot assay was repeated twice, and one representative image was shown here.



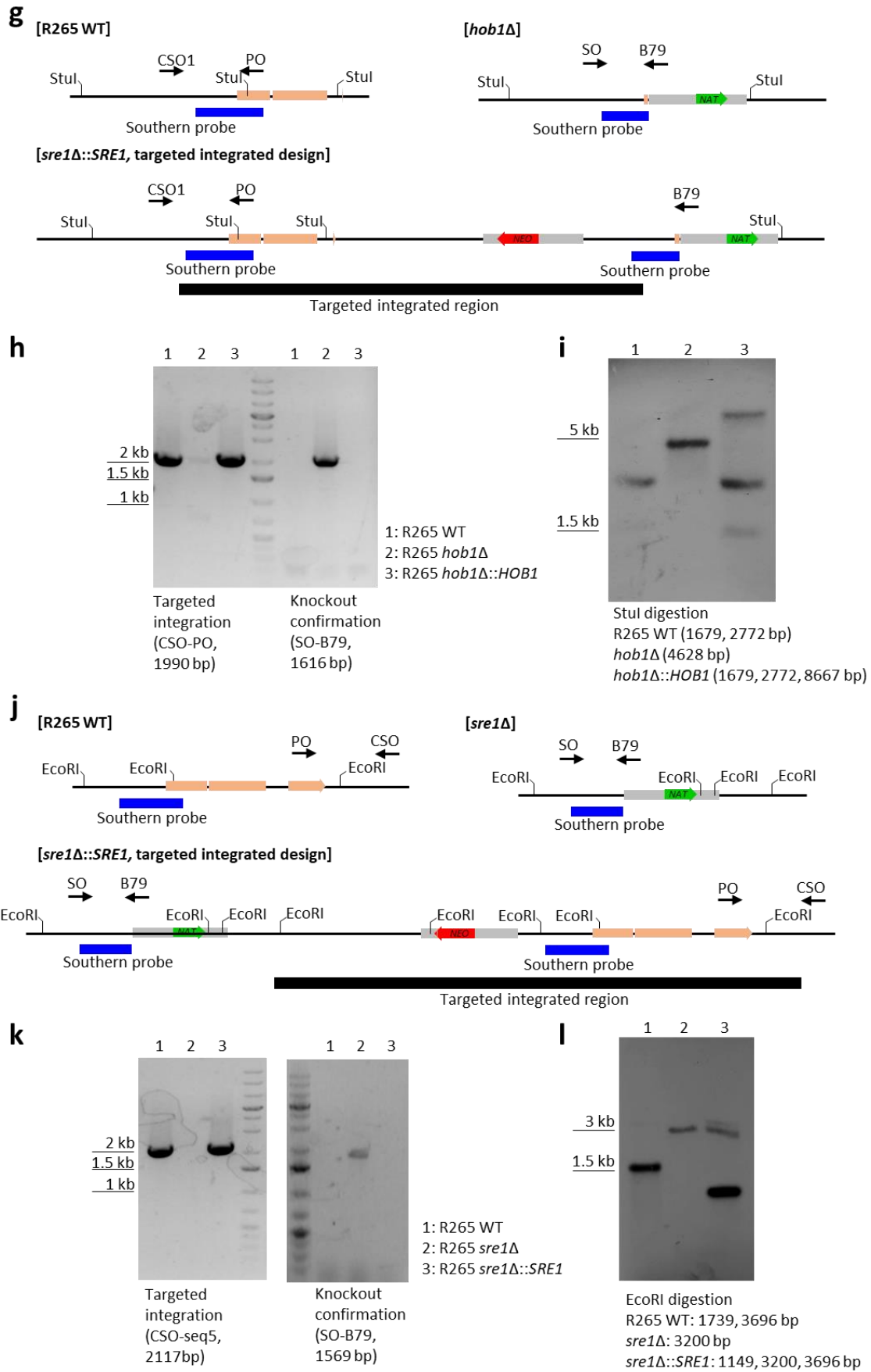
Supplementary Figure 5. Construction of the *mpr1Δ* mutant in *C. neoformans*. The diagram illustrates *MPR1* gene disruption strategy by showing primer binding and enzyme cut sites in WT and *mpr1Δ* mutant strains. Primers used for amplification of the 5'- and 3'-flanking regions, overlap PCR for *NAT*-split marker, diagnostic PCR for mutant screening, and Southern blot probe are listed in Supplementary Table 4. SalI digested genomic DNA of WT and *mpr1Δ* (YSB5492) was used for Southern blot analysis. The Southern blot analysis was repeated twice and one representative image was shown here. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



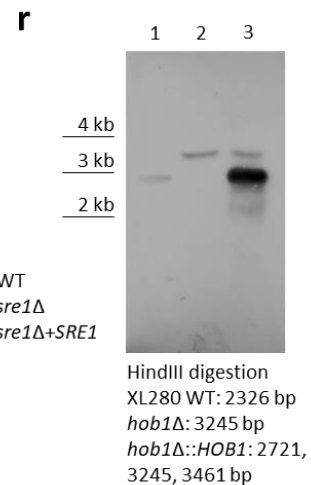
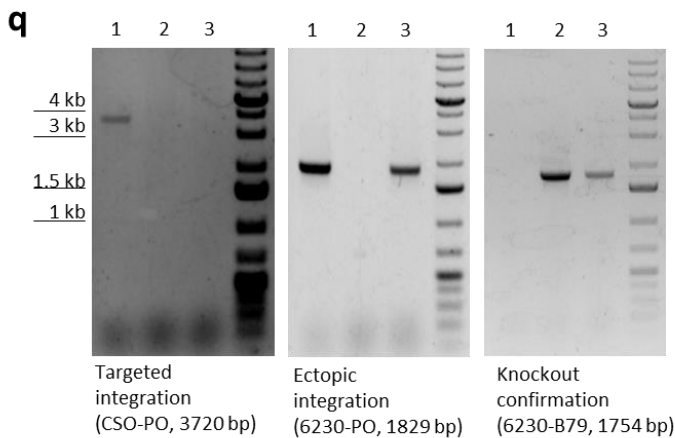
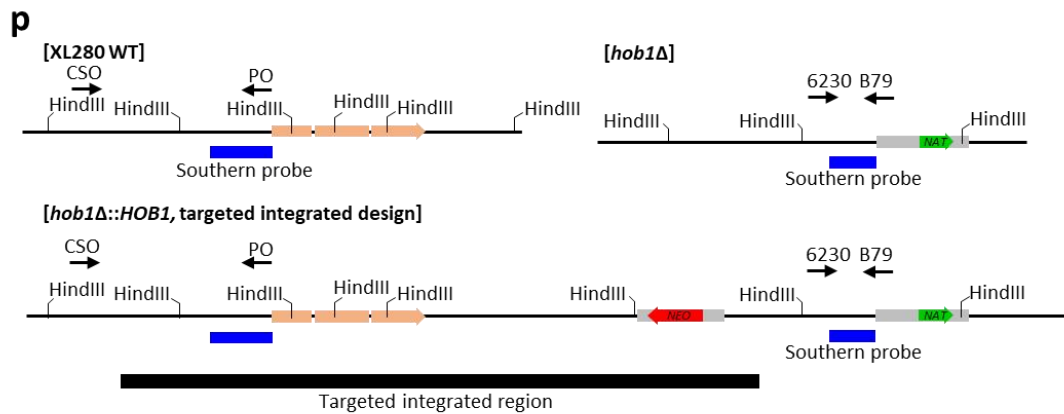
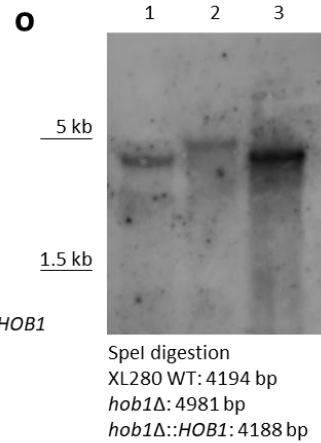
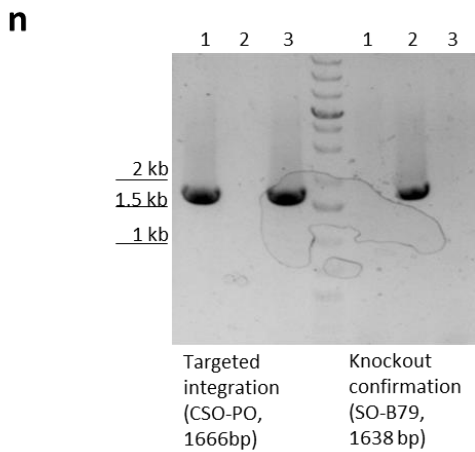
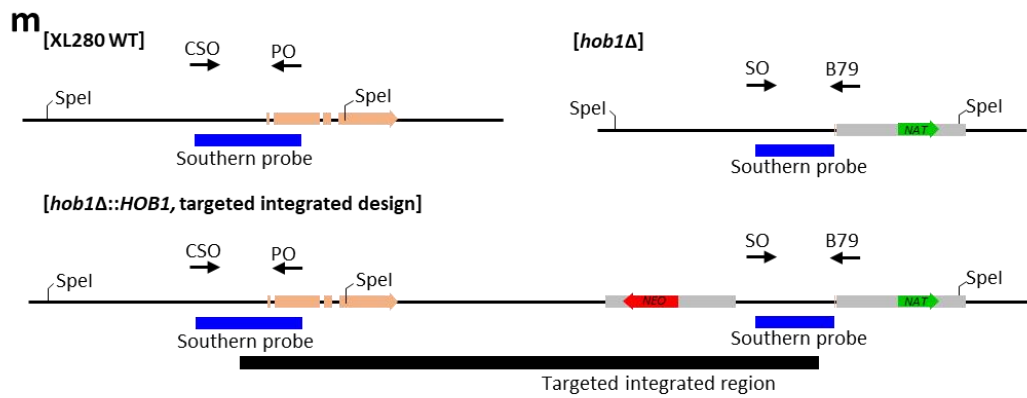
Supplementary Figure 6. Disruption of *HOB1* and *SRE1* genes in XL280 and R265 strain backgrounds. (a) Diagram for disruption of the *HOB1* gene in XL280 strain by overlap-PCR with *NAT^r*-split marker. The correct gene disruption was verified by Southern blot analysis using genomic DNA digested with *SacI* restriction enzyme. (b) Diagram for disruption of the *SRE1* gene in XL280 strain by overlap-PCR with *NAT^r*-split marker. The correct gene disruption was verified by Southern blot analysis using genomic DNA digested with *HindIII* restriction enzyme. (c) Diagram for disruption of the *HOB1* gene in R265 strain by overlap-PCR with *NAT^r*-split marker. The correct gene disruption was verified by Southern blot analysis using genomic DNA digested with *HindIII* restriction enzyme. (d) Diagram for disruption of the *SRE1* gene in R265 strain by overlap-PCR with *NAT^r*-split marker. The correct gene disruption was verified by Southern blot analysis using genomic DNA digested with *EcoRI* restriction enzyme. Each gene disruption cassette was introduced into each strain by biolistic transformation. All Southern blot analyses (a-d) were repeated twice and each representative image was shown here. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



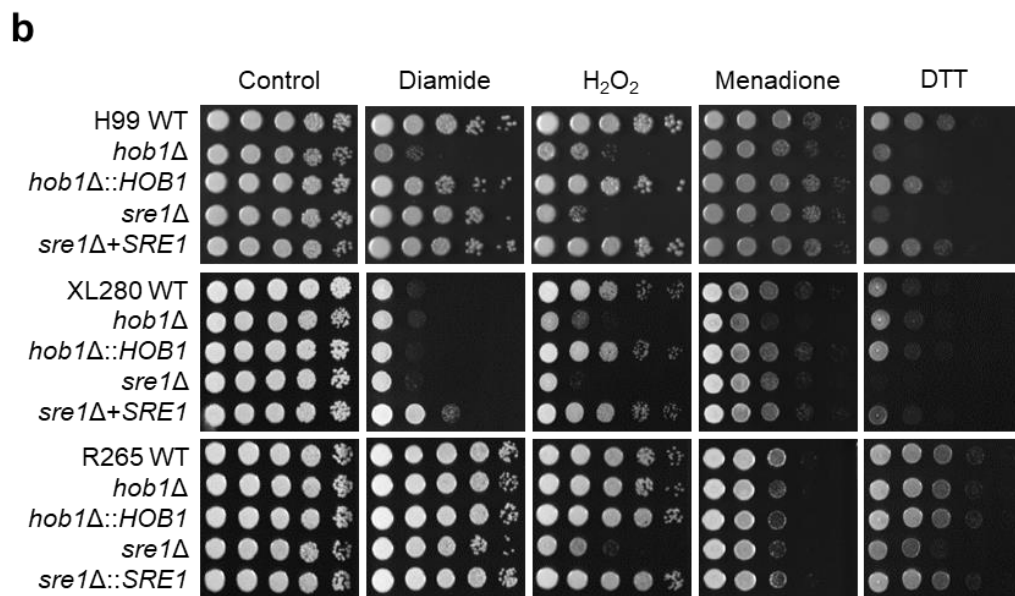
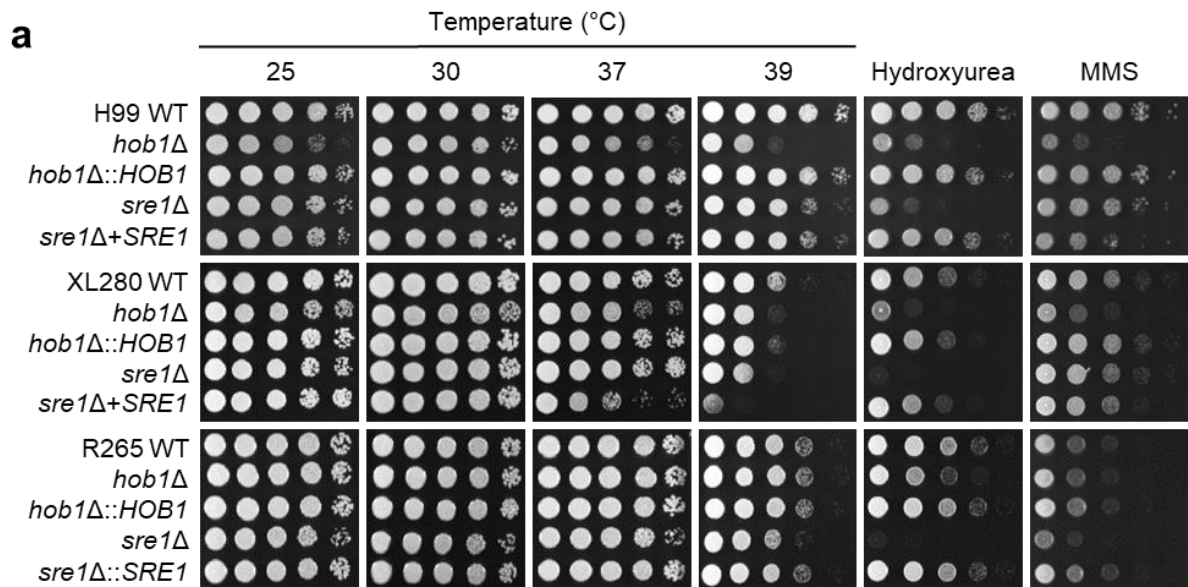
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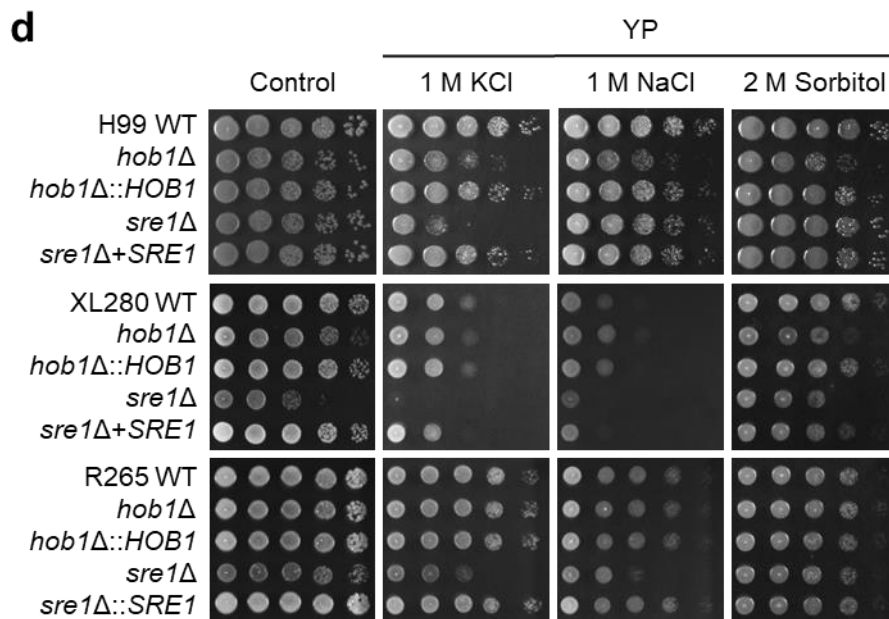
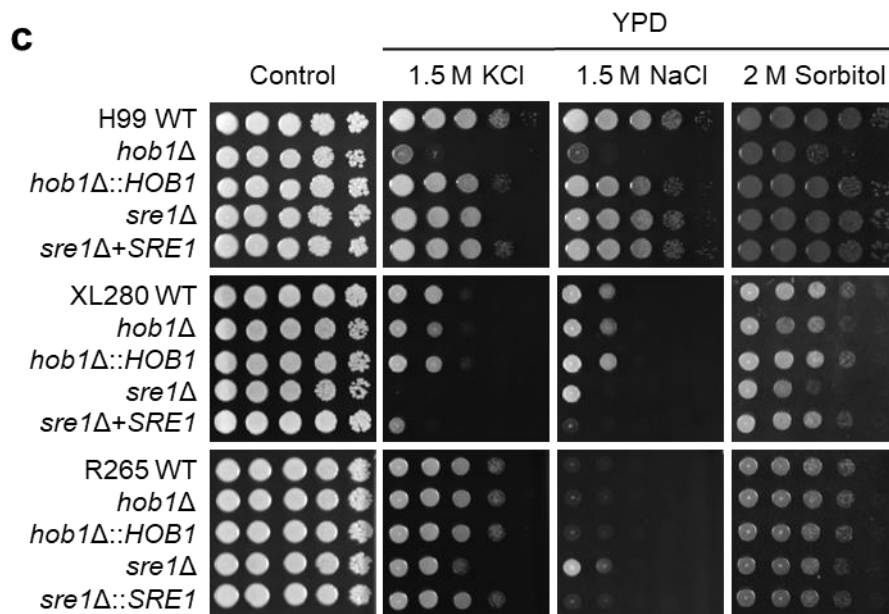
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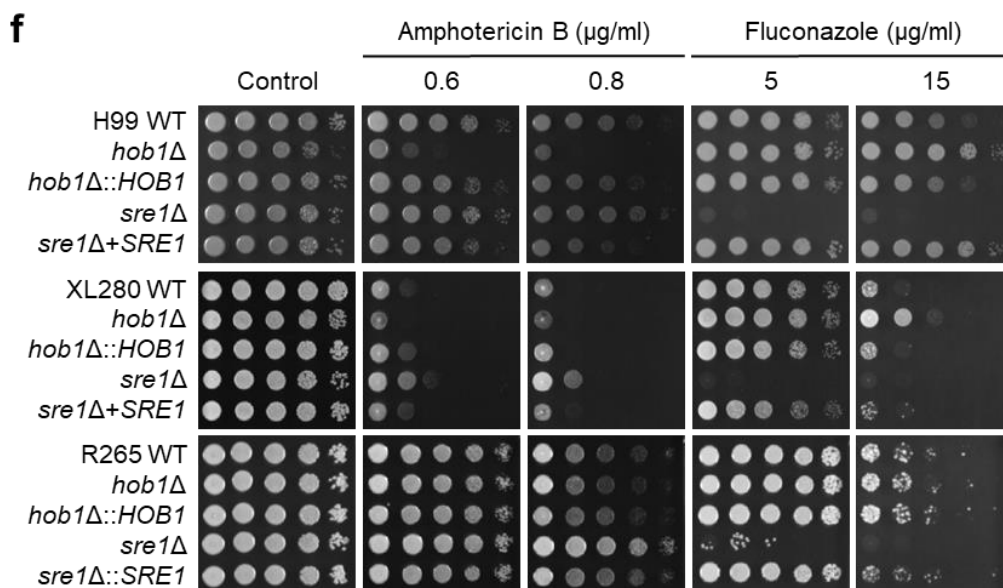
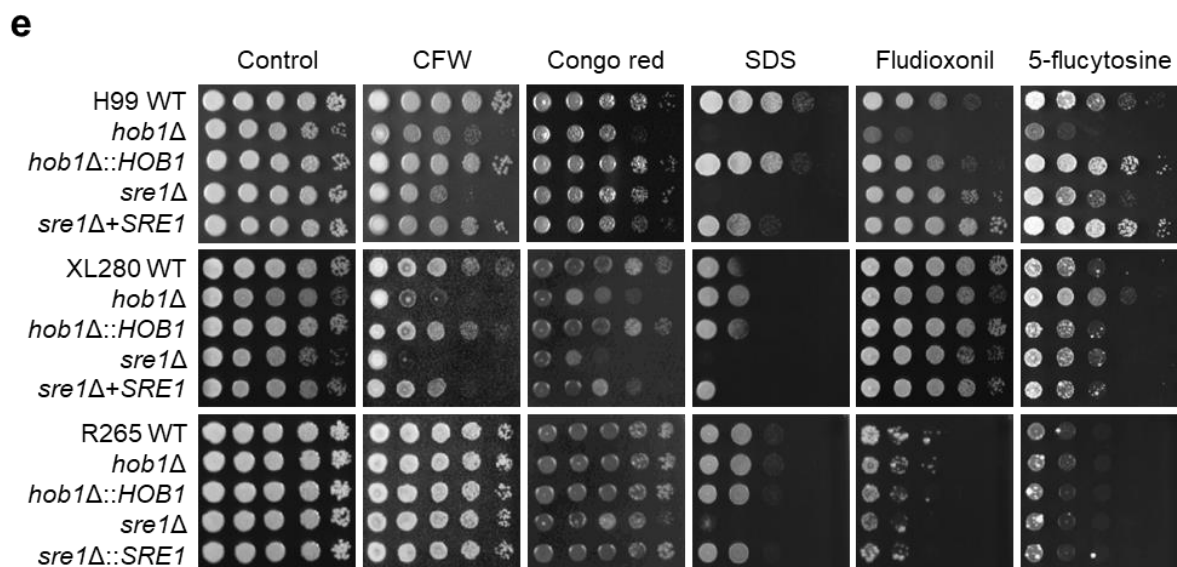
Supplementary Figure 7. Genetic complementation of *hob1* Δ and *sre1* Δ mutants constructed in H99, R265, and XL280 strain backgrounds. Knockout and complementation of *HOB1* and *SRE1* were confirmed by diagnostic PCR and Southern blot analysis. Specific primers for diagnostic PCR and Southern probes are listed in Supplementary Table 4. **(a-f)** *HOB1* and *SRE1* complementation in H99 *hob1* Δ and *sre1* Δ mutants. Schematic diagram of **(a)** *HOB1* and **(d)** *SRE1* in H99 WT, knockout mutant, and complemented strains. Targeted integration of *HOB1* was confirmed by **(b)** diagnostic PCR and **(c)** Southern blot analysis with SpeI digestion. Ectopic integration of *SRE1* was confirmed by **(e)** diagnostic PCR and **(f)** Southern blot analysis with BamHI digestion. **(g-l)** *HOB1* and *SRE1* complementation in R265 *hob1* Δ and *sre1* Δ mutants. Schematic diagram of **(g)** *HOB1* and **(j)** *SRE1* in R265 WT, knockout mutant, and complemented strains. Targeted integration of *HOB1* was confirmed by **(h)** diagnostic PCR and **(i)** Southern blot analysis with StuI digestion. Targeted integration of *SRE1* was confirmed by **(k)** diagnostic PCR and **(l)** Southern blot analysis with EcoRI digestion. **(m-r)** *HOB1* and *SRE1* complementation in XL280 *hob1* Δ and *sre1* Δ mutants. Schematic diagram of **(m)** *HOB1* and **(p)** *SRE1* in XL280 WT, knockout mutant, and complemented strains. Targeted integration of *HOB1* was confirmed by **(n)** diagnostic PCR and **(o)** Southern blot analysis with SpeI digestion. Ectopic integration of *SRE1* was confirmed by **(q)** diagnostic PCR and **(r)** Southern blot analysis with HindIII digestion. All diagnostic PCR (**b, e, h, k, n, q**) and Southern blot (**c, f, i, l, o, r**) analyses were repeated twice and each representative image was shown here. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



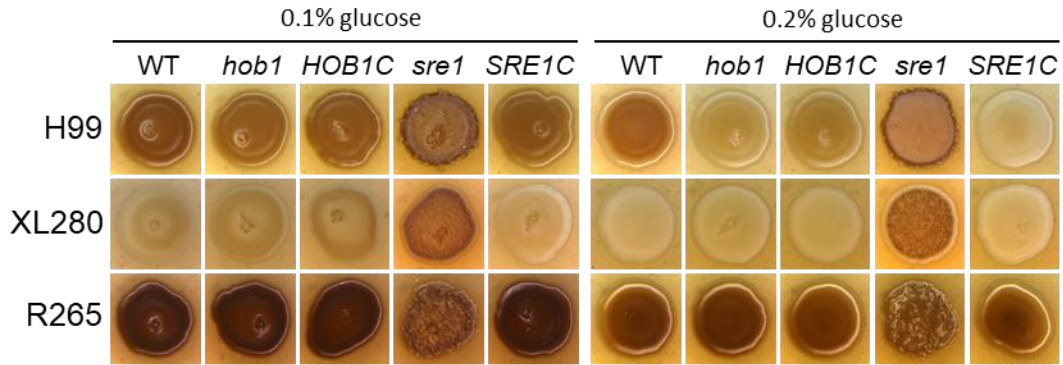
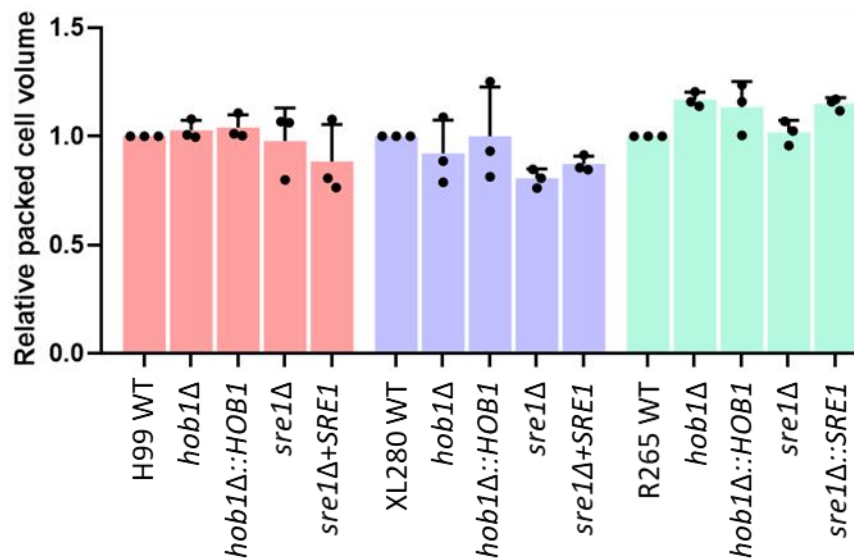
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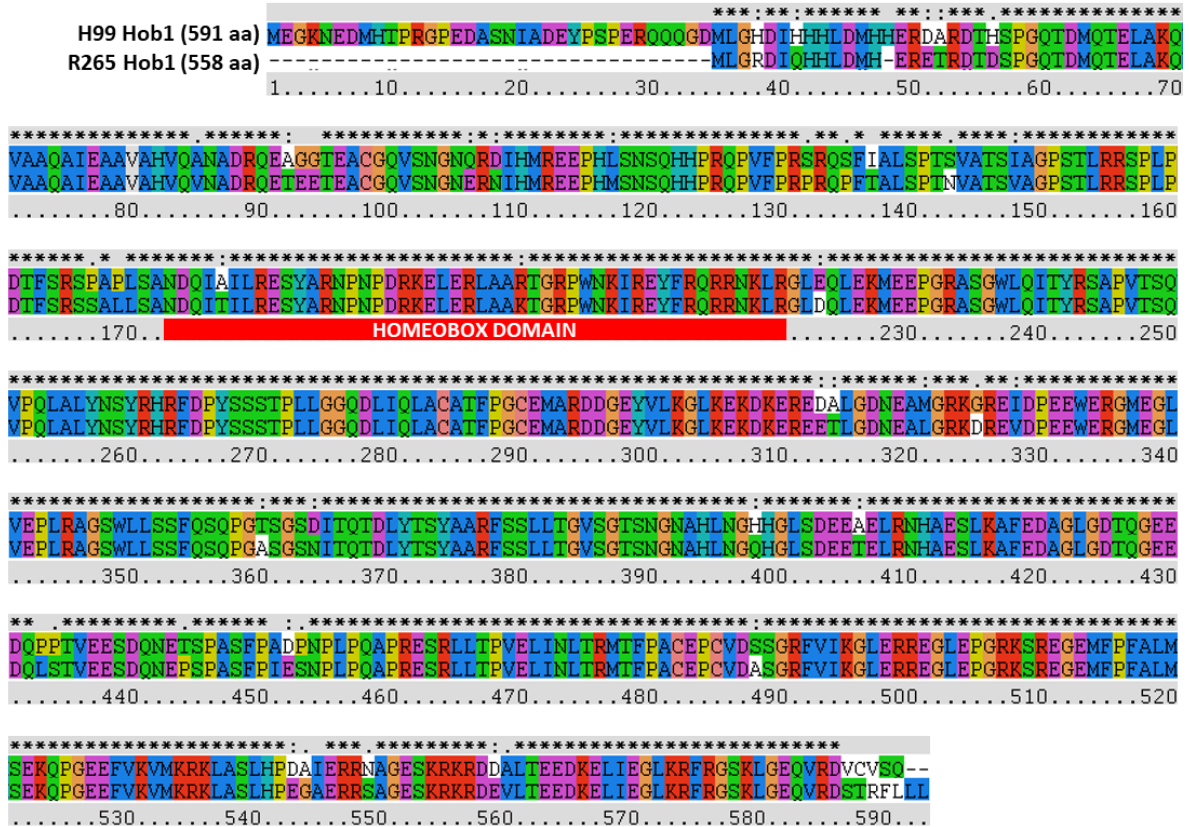
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g**h**

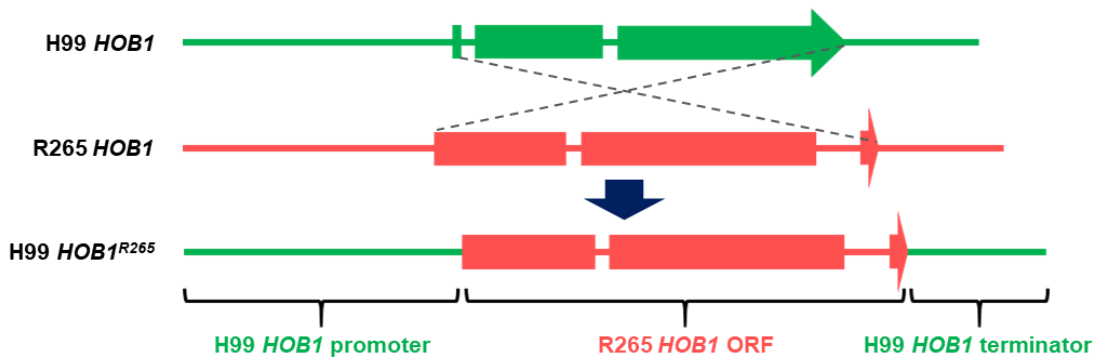
Supplementary Figure 8. Functional analysis of Hob1 and Sre1 in pathogenic *Cryptococcus* species complex. (a-f) The spot assay for qualitatively monitoring chemical susceptibility and thermotolerance was performed using the following WT, *hob1* Δ or *sre1* Δ mutants, and gene complemented strains: H99 strain background [*hob1* Δ (YSB2308), *hob1* Δ ::*HOB1* (YSB7467), *sre1* Δ (YSB2464), *sre1* Δ +*SRE1* (YSB4847)]; XL280 strain background [*hob1* Δ (YSB3690), *hob1* Δ ::*HOB1* (YSB4576), *sre1* Δ (YSB3940), *sre1* Δ ::*SRE1* (YSB4904)]; R265 strain background [*hob1* Δ (YSB3273), *hob1* Δ ::*HOB1* (YSB4642), *sre1* Δ (YSB3315), *sre1* Δ ::*SRE1* (YSB4727)]. Each strain was cultured in YPD broth at 30°C overnight, serially 10-fold diluted (1 to 10⁴), and spotted on YPD or YP agar containing the indicated concentration of the following chemical agents (a-f): 1-1.5 M NaCl or KCl, 2M sorbitol, 30 mM hydroxyurea, 0.03% methy methanesulfonate (MMS), 2.0 mM diamide, 3.5 mM hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂), 0.02 mM menadione, 15 mM dithiothreitol (DTT), 5 mg ml⁻¹ calcofluor white (CFW), 1% Congo red, 0.015% sodium dodecyl sulphate (SDS), 2 μ g ml⁻¹ fludioxonil, 600 μ g ml⁻¹ 5-flucytosine, amphotericin B (0.6 and 0.8 μ g ml⁻¹), and fluconazole (5 and 15 μ g ml⁻¹). Each plate was incubated at 30°C and photographed after 2-5 days. To determine thermotolerance, cells were spotted on YPD medium and further incubated at 25°C, 30°C, 37°C, 39°C for 2 days and photographed. These spot assays were repeated more than three times, and one representative image was shown here. (g) Melanin assay with *hob1* Δ and *sre1* Δ mutants (*hob1* and *sre1*) and complemented strains (*HOB1C* and *SRE1C*)

in the pathogenic *Cryptococcus* complex. Each strain was spotted on Niger seed medium containing glucose, incubated at 30°C, and photographed for 4 days. This melanin assay was repeated more than three times, and one representative image was shown here. **(h)** Capsule production with *hob1*Δ and *sre1*Δ mutants in the pathogenic *Cryptococcus* complex. The relative packed cell volume was measured by calculating the ratio of the length of packed cell volume phase to the length of the total volume phase. Three independent experiments were performed (n=3). Data are presented as mean values ± SEM.

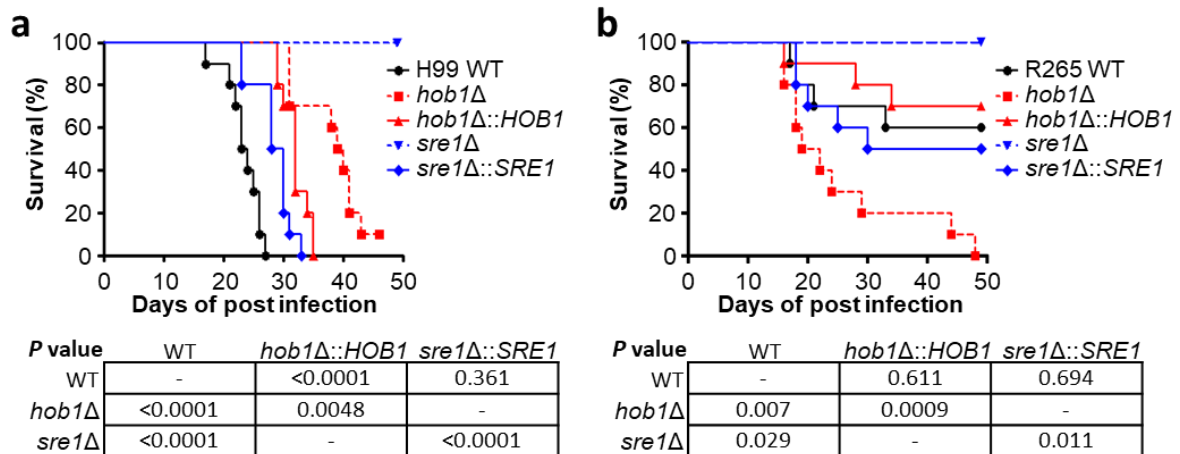
a



b



Supplementary Figure 9. Hob1 in *C. neoformans* and *C. deuteroformans*. (a) Amino acid alignment by using Cluster X. The sequence and domain information were obtained from UniProtKB (<https://www.uniprot.org/>) (b) Schematic diagram for *HOB1* gene swapping between *C. neoformans* H99 and *C. deuteroformans* R265 strains.



Supplementary Figure 10. Roles of Hob1 and Sre1 in virulence of *C. neoformans* and *C. deuterogattii*. C57BL/6 mice were infected with (a) *C. neoformans* WT (H99), *hob1*Δ, *hob1*Δ::*HOB1*, *sre1*Δ, and *sre1*Δ::*SRE1* strains constructed in H99 strain background, or (b) *C. deuterogattii* WT (R265), *hob1*Δ, *hob1*Δ::*HOB1*, *sre1*Δ, and *sre1*Δ::*SRE1* strains constructed in R265 background by intranasal instillation. Survival was monitored for 48 dpi and statistical significance was determined using the Mantel-Cox test by comparing a pair of indicated groups (ten mice per group, n=10).

Supplementary References

- 1 Lee, K. T. *et al.* Systematic functional analysis of kinases in the fungal pathogen *Cryptococcus neoformans*. *Nat Commun* **7**, 12766 (2016).
- 2 Jung, K. W. *et al.* Systematic functional profiling of transcription factor networks in *Cryptococcus neoformans*. *Nat Comms* **6**, 6757 (2015).