

1 **A pipeline for interrogating and engineering single-subunit oligosaccharyltransferases**

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15

16 **Running head:** An oligosaccharyltransferase pipeline

17

18 **Abbreviations:**

19 NLG: *N*-linked protein glycosylation

20 ssOST: single-subunit oligosaccharyltransferases

21 glycoSNAP: glycosylation of secreted *N*-linked acceptor proteins

22 CFPS: cell-free protein synthesis

23 IVG: *in vitro* glycosylation

24 LLOs: lipid-linked oligosaccharides

25 POPC: 1-palmitoyl-2-oleoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine

26

1 **Abstract**

2 Asparagine-linked (*N*-linked) protein glycosylation is one of the most abundant types of post-
3 translational modification, occurring in all domains of life. The central enzyme in *N*-linked
4 glycosylation is the oligosaccharyltransferase (OST), which catalyzes the covalent attachment of
5 preassembled glycans to specific asparagine residues in target proteins. Whereas in higher
6 eukaryotes the OST is comprised of eight different membrane proteins of which the catalytic subunit
7 is STT3, in kinetoplastids and prokaryotes the OST is a monomeric enzyme bearing homology to
8 STT3. Given their relative simplicity, these single-subunit OSTs (ssOSTs) have emerged as
9 important targets for mechanistic dissection of poorly understood aspects of *N*-glycosylation and at
10 the same time hold great potential for the biosynthesis of custom glycoproteins. To take advantage
11 of this utility, this chapter describes a multipronged approach for studying and engineering ssOSTs
12 that integrates *in vivo* screening technology with *in vitro* characterization methods, thereby creating
13 a versatile and readily-adaptable pipeline for virtually any ssOST of interest.

14
15 **Keywords:** asparagine-linked (*N*-linked) protein glycosylation, bacterial glycoengineering, cell-free
16 glycosylation, cell-free protein synthesis, directed evolution, enzyme engineering, nanodisc
17 technology, post-translational modification

18

19 **1. Introduction**

20 Protein glycosylation is the attachment of glycans (mono-, oligo-, or polysaccharide) to specific amino
21 acid residues in proteins, most commonly asparagine (*N*-linked) or serine and threonine (*O*-linked)
22 residues. Roughly three-quarters of eukaryotic proteins and more than half of prokaryotic proteins
23 are glycosylated (Dell, Galadari, Sastre, & Hitchen, 2010). Glycosylation adds an additional
24 information layer to recipient proteins, modulating their folding and stability, receptor binding,
25 enzymatic activity, and/or localization (Varki, 1993). Many glycoproteins reside on the cell surface
26 where they influence myriad biological processes such as development (Haltiwanger & Lowe, 2004),

1 innate and adaptive immunity (Daniels, Hogquist, & Jameson, 2002; Rudd, Elliott, Cresswell,
2 Wilson, & Dwek, 2001), and host-microbe interactions in the gut (Tytgat & de Vos, 2016).
3 Glycosylation also feature prominently in disease. For example, tumor cells commonly express
4 glycans at atypical levels or with altered structural attributes (Lau & Dennis, 2008; Pinho & Reis,
5 2015) while many pathogens make use of glycans during invasion of host tissue (Benz & Schmidt,
6 2002; Valguarnera, Kinsella, & Feldman, 2016). Glycosylation is also vitally important to the
7 development of many protein biologics, and has been harnessed for enhancing therapeutic
8 properties such as half-life extension (Elliott et al., 2003; Flintegaard et al., 2010; Ilyushin et al.,
9 2013; Lindhout et al., 2011), antibody-mediated cytotoxicity (Li et al., 2017; Lin et al., 2015), and
10 immunogenicity (Lipinski et al., 2013; Sadoulet et al., 2007; Wacker et al., 2014). Yet despite the
11 importance of glycosylation, forward progress in the field has lagged due in large part to a lack of
12 tools for rapid and systematic characterization of the enzymes involved in the glycosylation process,
13 in particular the oligosaccharyltransferase (OST). The net result is that glycans and their
14 corresponding glycoconjugates remain one of the most important but least understood class of
15 molecules in all of biology and medicine.

16 Eukaryotic and prokaryotic *N*-linked protein glycosylation (NLG) systems share many
17 mechanistic features (Weerapana & Imperiali, 2006). Both involve enzymatic synthesis of a lipid-
18 linked oligosaccharide (LLO) donor and transfer of the preassembled glycan from the lipid to the
19 sequon of a target protein in a reaction that is catalyzed by an OST. In higher eukaryotes, the OST
20 is comprised of eight different membrane proteins of which the catalytic subunit is STT3 (Yan &
21 Lennarz, 2002), whereas in kinetoplastids (*i.e.*, *Trypanosoma brucei* and *Leishmania major*) and
22 prokaryotes the OST is a monomeric enzyme bearing homology to STT3 (Lizak, Gerber, Numao,
23 Aebi, & Locher, 2011; Matsumoto et al., 2013; Nasab, Schulz, Gamarro, Parodi, & Aebi, 2008).
24 Amongst this latter group, the OST from the bacterium *Campylobacter jejuni*, named PglB
25 (hereafter CjPglB), has been most extensively studied and thus serves as the archetype for single-
26 subunit OSTs (ssOSTs). Naturally, CjPglB is part of a *bona fide* NLG pathway in *C. jejuni* where it

1 catalyzes the *en bloc* transfer of preassembled heptasaccharide glycans from undecaprenol
2 pyrophosphate (Und-PP) to protein substrates that bear the acceptor sequon D/E-X₋₁-N-X₊₁-S/T
3 (where X₋₁ and X₊₁ ≠ P) (for a review, see ref. (Nothaft & Szymanski, 2010)). Shortly after its
4 discovery, the entire *C. jejuni* NLG pathway including CjPglB was functionally reconstituted in
5 *Escherichia coli* (Wacker et al., 2002). Using this recombinant platform, it was demonstrated that
6 PglB can transfer a wide array of structurally diverse oligosaccharides (Feldman et al.; Valderrama-
7 Rincon et al.), highlighting its potential value in glycoengineering applications. However, while
8 specificity towards the glycan donor is relaxed, CjPglB recognizes a more stringent protein acceptor
9 site compared to the N-X-S/T (X ≠ P) sequon recognized by eukaryotic OSTs (Kowarik, Young, et
10 al., 2006). Specifically, CjPglB requires an acidic residue in the -2 position of the sequon, thereby
11 restricting bacterial NLG to a narrow set of polypeptides. To better understand this so-called “minus
12 two rule” and whether it was conserved across Gram-negative bacterial species, we systematically
13 characterized the acceptor site specificities of a diverse collection of more than 20 PglB homologs
14 using an ectopic trans-complementation strategy in the same recombinant *E. coli* platform
15 described above. Our metagenomic screening revealed that the majority of bacterial ssOSTs
16 preferred a negatively charged residue in the -2 position, akin to CjPglB; however, five ssOSTs
17 were identified that recognized a broader range of acceptor sites (Ollis et al., 2015).

18 Directed evolution is emerging as an alternative strategy for shedding additional light on the
19 sequence determinants governing the specificity of bacterial ssOSTs and for identifying unique
20 ssOSTs with desirable substrate (i.e., glycan, protein acceptor) specificity with the potential to
21 overcome some of the limitations of this system. The success of such directed evolution efforts
22 hinges critically on the availability of high-throughput reporter assays that generate a genotype-
23 glycophenotype linkage. To date, a handful of genetic screens for NLG have been described for this
24 purpose, all of which combine glycoengineered *E. coli* carrying the complete protein glycosylation
25 (*pgl*) locus of *C. jejuni* (Wacker et al., 2002) with a functional readout of glycosylation activity.
26 Notable examples include: ELISA-based detection of periplasmic glycoproteins (Ihssen et al., 2012;

1 Pandhal et al., 2013), glycophage display (Celik, Fisher, Guarino, Mansell, & DeLisa, 2010; Durr,
2 Nothaft, Lizak, Glockshuber, & Aebi, 2010), cell surface display of glycoconjugates (Fisher et al.,
3 2011; Mally et al., 2013; Valderrama-Rincon et al., 2012), and glycosylation of secreted *N*-linked
4 acceptor proteins (glycoSNAP) (Ollis, Zhang, Fisher, & DeLisa, 2014). Using this latter system, we
5 successfully isolated CjPglB variants recognizing the minimal N-X-S/T sequon used by eukaryotic
6 OSTs (Ollis et al., 2014). One of the more interesting variants was capable of modifying a native
7 sequon in the eukaryotic protein RNase A, an acceptor protein that had previously been
8 inaccessible to the wild-type CjPglB enzyme.

9 Here, we describe an integrated platform for studying and engineering ssOSTs that
10 combines *in vivo* screening using glycoSNAP with state-of-the-art *in vitro* characterization methods,
11 thereby creating a versatile and readily-adaptable pipeline for virtually any ssOST of interest (**Fig.**
12 **1**). The first step in the pipeline involves *in vivo* screening using glycoSNAP, whereby modified
13 colony blotting on nitrocellulose membranes is used to create a genotype-glycophenotype linkage
14 (**Fig. 2**). While our efforts to date have focused on identifying variants of bacterial ssOSTs that are
15 able to modify non-canonical acceptor sequences, the assay could easily be extended to screen
16 libraries of bacterial or non-bacterial ssOSTs (Matsumoto et al., 2013; Nasab et al., 2008) for
17 variants that overcome other system limitations such as low efficiency with certain non-native
18 glycan substrates (Ihssen et al., 2015). After screening, the identified ssOST candidates are
19 subjected to further activity interrogation using an *in vitro* glycosylation (IVG) assay. The advantage
20 of IVG is that it provides a platform where the glycosylation components can be easily decoupled
21 and carefully investigated, in contrast to the more difficult to control NLG pathways in living cells. To
22 facilitate rapid activity screening, candidate ssOSTs are prepared using a novel cell-free protein
23 synthesis (CFPS)-nanodisc system that we recently developed (Schoborg et al., 2017). This latter
24 system is capable of producing multiple active ssOSTs within a day, enabling facile and high-
25 throughput activity screening of ssOSTs. Alternatively, ssOST candidates can be prepared using an
26 economical alternative involving extraction of crude membrane extracts from *E. coli* cells expressing

1 the ssOST of interest (Jervis et al., 2010). Finally, we provide optimized protocols for purification of
2 active ssOSTs in high yield. Purified ssOSTs are valuable reagents for studying enzyme activity
3 and mechanism under the most well-defined conditions. In addition, the purified enzyme is a
4 prerequisite for structural interrogation using methods such as in-solution protein NMR (Huang,
5 Mohanty, & Banerjee, 2010) and X-ray crystallography (Lizak et al., 2011; Matsumoto et al., 2013).
6 Taken together, our comprehensive protocols provide a robust and modular pipeline for developing
7 a suite of flexible, single-subunit *N*-glycosylation biocatalysts and growing the glycoengineering
8 armament.

9

10 **2. Materials**

11 **2.1 Media**

- 12 1. Luria-Bertani (LB) broth: 1.0% (w/v) tryptone, 0.5% (w/v) yeast extract, 0.5% (w/v) NaCl,
13 autoclave sterile.
- 14 2. LB agar: add 1.5% (w/v) agar to LB prepared as above. Aliquot 30 mL of LB agar per
15 150 mm petri dish into a plastic conical tube. Add appropriate antibiotics and sterile 0.2%
16 (w/v) D-glucose. Mix and pour into petri dishes. For induction plates, omit glucose and
17 add sterile 0.2% (w/v) L-arabinose and 0.1 mM isopropyl- β -D-thiogalactopyranoside
18 (IPTG).
- 19 3. Terrific broth (TB): 1.2% (w/v) tryptone, 2.4% (w/v) yeast extract, 0.4% (v/v) glycerol, 10%
20 (v/v) phosphate buffer (0.17 M KH_2PO_4 , 0.72 M K_2HPO_4), autoclave sterile. Autoclave
21 phosphate buffer separately from other components and add to the broth prior use.
- 22 4. 2xYTPG broth: 1.6% (w/v) tryptone, 1.0% (w/v) yeast extract, 0.5% (w/v) NaCl, 1.8%
23 (w/v) glucose, 0.7% (w/v) K_2HPO_4 , 0.3% (w/v) KH_2PO_4 , adjust pH to 7.3 with 5 N KOH
24 and autoclave sterile. Autoclave 40% (w/v) glucose stock separately and add to the
25 broth prior use.

26 **2.2 Media supplements**

- 1 1. Transformation and storage solution (1×TSS): supplement LB broth with 10% (w/v)
2 polyethylene glycol (PEG)-8000, 5% (v/v) dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO), and 20 mM MgSO₄;
3 adjust pH to 6.5 with HCl, and autoclave sterile.
- 4 2. Antibiotics: Ampicillin (Amp) is used at 100 µg/mL. To make a 1,000× stock, mix 1 g in
5 10 mL nanopure water. Chloramphenicol (Cam) is used at 20 µg/mL. To make a 1,000×
6 stock, dissolve 0.2 g in 10 mL ethanol. Trimethoprim (Tp) is used at 100 µg/mL. To make
7 a 500× stock, dissolve 0.5 g in 10 mL DMSO. Kanamycin (Km) is used at 50 mg/mL. To
8 make a 1,000× stock, dissolve 0.5 g in 10 mL nanopure water. All antibiotic stock is filter
9 sterile.
- 10 3. Inducers/repressors: 20% (w/v) L-arabinose stock, 20% (w/v) D-glucose, and 0.1 M
11 Isopropyl β-D-1-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) stock. All inducer/repressor stocks are
12 made in nanopure water and filter sterilize.

13

14 **2.3 Bacterial strains and plasmids**

Strain or Plasmid	Description	Ref
<i>E. coli strains:</i>		
CLM24	W3110 Δ <i>waaL</i> – used for NLG studies and efficient secretion of YebF-acceptor sequon chimeras. It is also used for purification, extraction, and crude membrane extract preparation of ssOST and LLOs.	(Feldman et al., 2005)
BL21 Star (DE3)	Used for expression and purification of acceptor protein targets. <i>E. coli</i> extract from this strain is used for high-yield cell-free protein synthesis of ssOSTs	
<i>Plasmids:</i>		
pMAF10	wild-type <i>C. jejuni</i> PgIB	(Feldman

		et al., 2005)
pSN18	wild-type <i>C. jejuni</i> PglB with 10x-His tag for purification	(Kowarik, Numao, et al., 2006)
pMW07-pglΔB	<i>C. jejuni</i> <i>pgl</i> locus with <i>CjPglB</i> deletion	(Ollis et al., 2014)
pET28a(+)-scFv13- R4 (N34L, N77L) ^{DQNAAT-6xHis}	gene encoding single-chain Fv (scFv) antibody fragment with engineered glycosylation tag (GlycTag) at C-terminus for IVG studies and 6x-His tag for purification	(Ollis et al., 2015)
pTrc-YebF ^{4xAQNAT} and pTrc-YebF ^{1xAQNAT- 3xAQNAV}	gene encoding secreted YebF acceptor protein with engineered GlycTag at C-terminus for IVG studies using glycoSNAP assay	(Ollis et al., 2014)
pJL1-CjOST	wild-type <i>C. jejuni</i> PglB in CFPS-compatible plasmid	(Schoborg et al., 2017)

1

2 **2.4 GlycoSNAP assay**

- 3 1. Table-top centrifuge.
- 4 2. 0.45 μm, 142 mm Whatman cellulose nitrate filter membranes (VWR).
- 5 3. Nitrocellulose hybridization and transfer membranes (GE).
- 6 4. Sterile 1× phosphate buffered saline (PBS): 137 mM NaCl, 2.7 mM KCl, 10 mM
7 Na₂HPO₄, and 1.8 mM KH₂PO₄ in nanopure water, autoclave sterile.
- 8 5. 30°C and 37°C stationary incubators.
- 9 6. Metal tweezers.
- 10 7. Flat-bottomed dish to fit membrane.

- 1 8. 20% (w/v) trichloroacetic acid (TCA) in nanopure water.
- 2 Caution! Always wear gloves when handling TCA since it can cause severe burns. Using
- 3 nitrile gloves and handling TCA in fume hood are recommended.
- 4 9. Laemmli sample buffer: (for a 2× stock), mix 4 mL of 10% (w/v) sodium dodecyl sulfate
- 5 (SDS), 2 mL of glycerol, 1.2 mL of 1 M Tris–HCl, pH 6.8, and 2.8 mL of nanopure water.
- 6 Add 0.5 mg of bromophenol blue. Add β-mercaptoethanol to a final concentration of 5%
- 7 (v/v).

8 **2.5 Preparation of ssOSTs by CFPS**

9 **2.5.1 S30 extract preparation**

- 10 1. Avestin EmulsiFlex B15 (volumes < 15 mL) or C3 (>15 mL) high-pressure homogenizer.
- 11 2. High-speed centrifuge and rotor capable of spinning at 30,000xg.
- 12 3. 1× S30 extract buffer: 10 mM TrisOAc, 14 mM Mg(OAc)₂, 60 mM KOAc, pH 8.2, filter
- 13 sterile.
- 14 4. Sterile 50 mL falcon tube, 15 mL disposable conical tubes, and 1.5 mL microcentrifuge
- 15 tube.
- 16 5. Aluminum foil.
- 17 6. Liquid nitrogen and dewar.

18 **2.5.2. Producing ssOST in CFPS supplemented with POPC-nanodiscs**

- 19 1. S30 extract
- 20 2. Stock solutions: All stock solution is dissolved in nanopure water and filter sterile. The
- 21 aliquots of the stocks are flash-frozen and stored at -80°C. Keep working stocks at -20°C
- 22 for several months.
- 23 a. 15× salt solution (SS): 180 mM Mg(Glu)₂, 150 mM NH₄(Glu), and 1.950 M K(Glu)₂.
- 24 b. 15× master mix (MM) stock: 18 mM adenosine triphosphate (ATP), 12.75 mM
- 25 guanosine triphosphate (GTP), 12.75 mM uridine triphosphate (UTP), 12.75 mM

- 1 cytidine triphosphate (CTP), 0.51 mg/mL folinic acid, and 2.559 mg/mL *E. coli* tRNA
- 2 (Roche).
- 3 c. 15× reagent mix (RM) stock: 50 mM amino acids mix, 1 M phosphoenolpyruvate
- 4 (PEP, Roche), 100 mM nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD), 50 mM coenzyme-
- 5 A (CoA), 1 M oxalic acid, 250 mM putrescine, 250 mM spermidine, and 1 M HEPES.
- 6 3. Purified 1-palmitoyl-2-oleoyl-sn-glycero-3-phosphocholine (POPC) nanodiscs at 15
- 7 mg/mL stock concentration, prepared according to the standard protocol (Bayburt,
- 8 Grinkova , & Sligar, 2002).
- 9 4. Nuclease-free water.
- 10 5. Sterile 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube.

11 **2.6 Protein purification and crude membrane extracts containing ssOST or LLOs**

- 12 1. Buffer A Resuspend buffer: 50 mM HEPES, 250 mM NaCl, pH 7.5, filter sterile with 0.2
- 13 µm bottle-top filter.
- 14 2. Pierce™ Protease Inhibitor Tablets, EDTA-free.
- 15 3. RNase-Free DNase I from EpiCentre.
- 16 4. Avestin EmulsiFlex C5 homogenizer.
- 17 5. Buffer B: buffer A supplied with 10% (v/v) Glycerol and 1% (w/v) n-Dodecyl β-D-
- 18 maltoside (DDM), at pH 7.5 and filter sterile.
- 19 6. Centrifuge and ultracentrifuge with rotor capable of spinning at 100,000xg.
- 20 7. Potter-Elvehjem tissue homogenizer.
- 21 8. Ni-NTA affinity resin.
- 22 9. Gravity column for affinity purification.
- 23 10. Nickel affinity purification buffers:

For preparing ssOST:

Buffer C: 1 M Imidazole in buffer B.

For preparing scFv13-R4:

Buffer P: 1 M Imidazole in buffer A.

Buffer D: 20 mM Imidazole in buffer B. Buffer Q: 10 mM Imidazole in buffer A.
Buffer E: 60 mM Imidazole in buffer B. Buffer R: 60 mM Imidazole in buffer A.
Buffer F: 250 mM Imidazole in buffer B. Buffer S: 250 mM Imidazole in buffer A.

1

2 11. ÄKTA fast protein purification (FPLC) system with SuperDex-200 size exclusion
3 chromatography column.

4 12. Size exclusion buffers using with ÄKTA system:

For preparing ssOST:

Buffer G: 50 mM HEPES, 100 mM
NaCl, 5% (v/v) glycerol, 0.01% (w/v)
DDM, pH 7.5, filter sterile and degas for
5 min.

For preparing scFv13-R4:

Buffer T: 50 mM HEPES, 100 mM NaCl,
1 mM EDTA, pH 7.5, filter sterile and
degas for 5 min.

5 13. 3K MWCO protein concentrator column.

6 14. BioRad Bradford protein concentration assay.

7 15. BioRad RC DC™ (reducing agent and detergent compatible) protein concentration
8 assay.

9 **2.7 Extraction of LLOs**

10 1. Lyophilizer.

11 2. 30 mL PTFE-conical tube.

12 3. Extracting solution: 10:20:3 (v/v/v) chloroform:methanol:water. Measure and mix all
13 solvent in glassware since chloroform will dissolve plastic. Store the solution in a capped
14 bottle at all time to prevent concentration change due to evaporation of chloroform and
15 methanol.

16 Caution! Always wear gloves and use fume hood when handling the extracting solution
17 since chloroform is toxic.

18 4. Clean metal spatula.

- 1 5. 15 mL clean glass vial.
- 2 6. Vacuum concentrator machine that withstand organic solvent.

3 **2.8 IVG reaction**

- 4 1. Sterile 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tube.
- 5 2. 10× IVG buffer stock: 100 mM HEPES, 100 mM MnCl₂, 1% (w/v) DDM, pH 7.5 in
6 nanopure water and filter sterile.
- 7 3. Sterile nanopure water.
- 8 4. 30°C stationary water bath.

9 **2.9 Lectin blot and Western blot analysis of glycosylation products**

- 10 1. Standard apparatus for SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting analysis.
- 11 2. Immobilon-P PVDF 0.45µm membrane.
- 12 3. Tris-buffered saline (TBS): dissolve 80.0 g of NaCl, 20.0 g of KCl, and 30.0 g of Tris
13 base in 800 mL of nanopure water, bring volume to 1 L and autoclave.
- 14 4. Tris-buffered saline, 0.05 % Tween-20 (TBST): Add 100 mL of 10× TBS to 900 mL of
15 nanopure water. Add 500 µL Tween-20.
- 16 5. Albumin from bovine serum (BSA): 5% (w/v) in TBST for blocking solution, 3% (w/v) in
17 TBST for lectin blotting. When using lectin, BSA/TBST is a preferred blocking solution
18 than milk/TBST to prevent interaction between lectin and milk oligosaccharides.
- 19 6. Non-fat dry milk Nestle[®]: 5% (w/v) in TBST for blocking solution for all other antibodies.
- 20 7. Anti-6xHis Tag[®] antibody peroxidase conjugate (His-HRP, from Abcam): 0.5 µg/mL in 5%
21 milk/TBST.
- 22 8. Soybean agglutinin peroxidase conjugate (SBA-HRP): 0.5 µg/mL in 1% BSA/TBST (or
23 other lectin or antibody specific for the glycan of choice).
- 24 9. Rabbit serum containing anti-*C.jejuni* heptasaccharide glycan antibody (HR6P-Rabbit)
25 [Note 1]: 0.5 µg/mL in 5% milk/TBST.

- 1 10. Goat Anti-Rabbit IgG H&L peroxidase conjugate (Rabbit-HRP, from Abcam): 0.05 µg/mL
- 2 in 5% milk/TBST.
- 3 11. BioRad Clarity™ Western ECL Substrate.
- 4 12. % Coomassie Brilliant Blue membrane stain solution: dissolve 0.1 g of Coomassie Blue
- 5 R250 in 50 mL of methanol (MeOH), 7 mL of acetic acid, and 43 mL of nanopure water.
- 6 Stain can be saved and reused multiple times.
- 7 13. Destain solution: 50 % MeOH in nanopure water. Discard destain following hazardous
- 8 waste protocols.
- 9 14. BioRad ChemiDoc™ XRS+ System.

10

11 **3. Methods**

12 **3.1 GlycoSNAP assay**

13 Days 0-1 Transformation of glycomcompetent *E. coli* for library screening

- 14 1. Inoculate 5 mL LB supplemented with 0.2 % D-glucose and antibiotics as needed
- 15 with a single colony of the strain to be transformed. Grow overnight at 37 °C.
- 16 2. Subculture 1:100 from the overnight culture into a fresh 5-mL volume of the same
- 17 medium. Grow until culture density (OD_{600}) reaches 0.4–0.5.
- 18 3. Harvest 5 × 1 mL into Eppendorf tubes [Note 2]. Chill on ice for 5 min. Pellet cells at
- 19 4°C in a tabletop centrifuge. Discard supernatant. Resuspend cell pellets in 100 µL
- 20 of ice-cold 1× TSS.
- 21 4. Add 50-200 ng of library plasmid miniprep to the prepared cells. Incubate on ice for
- 22 30 min. Heat shock 90s at 42 °C. Immediately add 500 µL of LB to rescue cells.
- 23 Incubate for 1 h at 37 °C with aeration. Pour LB agar plates as needed in preparation
- 24 for the next step.

1 5. Plate at least 100 μ L of cells and spread evenly using a spreader or sterile beads. A
2 plating with optimal cell density for screening should yield about 2,500 colonies on a
3 150-mm plate. Incubate plates at 37°C overnight.

4 Days 2-3 GlycoSNAP Assay

- 5 6. Trim one cellulose nitrate filter circle and one piece of nitrocellulose membrane to fit
6 a 150-mm plate (one set for each transformation plate to be screened). Cut two
7 notches on both filter and membrane to assist in later alignment.
- 8 7. Pre-wet the nitrocellulose membrane in 1 \times PBS, keeping the matte side up, and
9 place onto a fresh induction plate. Cover with lid to prevent drying in between steps.
- 10 8. Replicate colonies from transformation plate by gently placing the cut filter
11 membrane directly onto the plate to avoid air bubbles. The side in contact with the
12 colonies should be the side that was not in contact with the nitrocellulose when
13 stacked to cut.
- 14 9. Using sterilized metal tweezers, carefully peel up the colony-containing membrane
15 and place colony-side-up onto the nitrocellulose membrane on the induction plate.
16 Ideally, match notches on the filter and nitrocellulose membrane.
- 17 10. Incubate plates right-side-up at 30°C overnight (16-18 h).
- 18 11. The next day, use tweezers to remove the colony-containing membrane and transfer
19 it onto a fresh LB agar plate. Save at 4°C. Transfer the nitrocellulose membrane into
20 a dish of 1 \times TBS. Shake at room temperature about 10 min to rinse [Note 3].
- 21 12. Block membrane for 1 h in 5% BSA/TBST blocking solution.
- 22 13. Incubate for 1 h with SBA-HRP solution. 30 mL of solution is sufficient to cover the
23 ~140-mm membrane circle.
- 24 14. Wash 4 \times with TBST, incubating each wash at least 10 min with shaking.
- 25 15. Develop blot.

1 16. If desired, the blot can be stripped with standard Western blot stripping buffer and
2 reprobed using antibodies specific for the secreted target (anti-His for the C-terminal
3 6xHis tag fused to the YebF construct) and/or the membrane can be stained with a
4 general protein stain such as Coomassie blue.

5 Days 3-5 Confirmation of positive hits

6 17. Pick individual colonies identified as positive hits and restreak on LB agar plates
7 containing the appropriate antibiotics. Incubate at 37°C overnight.

8 18. Inoculate a single colony into 5 mL of LB supplemented with 0.2% D-glucose and
9 appropriate antibiotics for each hit to be tested and grow overnight at 37°C. A control
10 such as a strain expressing the wild-type *C. jejuni pgl* locus and YebF DQNAT
11 should be included for comparison.

12 19. The next day, subculture the overnight cultures 1:100 in 5 mL of LB supplemented
13 with the appropriate antibiotics and grow at 37°C to an OD₆₀₀ ~ 0.6. Induce with 100
14 µM IPTG and 0.2 % L-arabinose. Incubate at 30°C overnight.

15 20. The next day, harvest 1 mL of each culture and pellet cells 5 min at 4°C. Determine
16 protein concentration in the supernatants using a Bradford assay. Harvest volumes
17 with equal protein concentrations and precipitate protein by addition of an equal
18 volume of ice-cold 20% TCA. Vortex and incubate on ice for at least 15 min. Pellet
19 precipitated protein by centrifuging at 10,000×g, 5 min, at 4°C. Discard supernatant.
20 Centrifuge briefly a second time and remove any residual acid. Resuspend pellets in
21 25 µL of 1 M Tris–HCl, pH 7.5 then add 25 µL of 2× Laemmli sample buffer. Boil 5-
22 10 min.

23 21. Detect glycosylation state by standard SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting (see section
24 3.5).

25 22. Plasmids from true positive hits can be isolated and sequenced to identify mutations
26 conferring activity.

1 **3.2 Preparation of ssOST by CFPS**

2 **3.2.1 S30 extract preparation**

3 Days 0-2

- 4 1. Grow *E. coli* strain BL21 Star (DE3) in a shake flask or fermenter to OD₆₀₀ ~3 in
5 2×YTPG media. Add 1 mM IPTG at OD₆₀₀ 0.6-0.8 to induce expression of T7 RNA
6 polymerase.
- 7 2. Harvest cells by centrifugation at 5000xg for 15 min at 4°C. Wash cells 3x in 25 mL
8 of S30 buffer (vortex to resuspend) and pellet by centrifugation at 5000xg for 10 min
9 at 4°C. After the last resuspension, pellet cells at 8000×g for 10 min at 4°C and flash-
10 freeze on liquid nitrogen. Pellet can be stored at -80°C or used directly.

11 Day 3 preparing extract

12 *Keep the extract on ice at all times unless noted otherwise. Work seamlessly. All*
13 *equipment in contact with lysate should be pre-equilibrated to 4°C.*

- 14 3. Remove cell pellet from -80°C and add 1 mL of S30 buffer per 1 g of wet cell mass.
15 Dislodge pellet from the wall of the bottle. Vortex to resuspend to homogeneity.
- 16 4. Disrupt cells using Avestin EmulsiFlex-B15 (lysis volumes <15 mL) or C3 (>15 mL)
17 high-pressure homogenizer at 20,000-25,000 psi. Pass the cells only once. Cell
18 lysis is the key step in extract preparation and could be alternatively performed
19 using sonication (Kwon & Jewett, 2015).
- 20 5. Centrifuge lysate at 30,000×g for 30 min at 4°C to remove cell debris.
- 21 6. Immediately pipette the supernatant into new centrifuge tubes and centrifuge again
22 at the same setting.
- 23 7. Immediately pipette supernatant into 1.5-mL microcentrifuge tubes.
- 24 8. Pre-incubation: wrap the microcentrifuge tubes in aluminum foil and incubate at
25 37°C in a shaker (~120-250 rpm) for 60 min.

- 1 9. Clarification: centrifuge at 15,000×g for 15 min at 4°C. Immediately pipette the
- 2 supernatant into 15 mL disposable conical tubes and place on ice.
- 3 10. Immediately make 50 µL aliquot and 1-2 mL volume stocks of the cell extract.
- 4 Flash freeze in liquid nitrogen and store at -80°C.
- 5 11. Perform a Bradford assay to measure total protein concentration (usually ~40 g/L).
- 6 S30 extract performance is maintained for approximately 3 freeze-thaw cycles.

7 **3.2.2 Producing ssOST in CFPS supplied with POPC-nanodiscs**

- 8 1. Calculate the appropriate volumes of each reagent according to total number of
- 9 reactions. Ensure that all components are at the concentrations listed.
- 10 2. Thaw all the reagents on ice. Set up microcentrifuge tubes on ice, one for each cell-
- 11 free reaction and one for reaction premix.
- 12 3. CFPS reaction is performed with a modified, reducing PANOX-SP system (Jewett &
- 13 Swartz, 2004):

CFPS components	Volume per 1 reaction (µL)
15x SS	1
15x MM	1
15x RM	1
pJL1 plasmid encoding ssOST	200 ng
S30 extract	4
15 mg/mL POPC nanodiscs	1
Nuclease-free water	Bring final volume to 15 µL

- 14 a. To make a premix, combine the appropriate amounts of 15×SS, 15×MM,
- 15 15×RM, plasmid and nuclease-free water in reaction premix tube. Vortex and
- 16 quickly spin down the tube [Note 4].

- 1 b. Then add the appropriate amounts of POPC nanodiscs and S30 extract.
- 2 c. Gently pipette the mixture up and down to thoroughly mix all components, but
- 3 make sure to minimize bubble formation.
- 4 4. Aliquot 15 μ L premix into individual microcentrifuge tube.
- 5 5. Briefly centrifuge CFPS-reaction tubes to ensure all liquid is held at the bottom of the
- 6 tube.
- 7 6. Incubate reaction at 30°C for 6 h in a stationary water bath. The CFPS reaction
- 8 containing ssOST in nanodisc can be loaded directly into IVG reaction for rapid
- 9 glycosylation screening.

10 **3.3 Preparation of purified and crude membrane extract glycosylation components**

11 **3.3.1 Preparation of crude membrane extract or purified ssOST enzyme**

12 Days 0-1

- 13 1. Grow *E. coli* strain CLM24 carrying pSN18 plasmid in 50 mL LB supplied with
- 14 ampicillin and 0.2% D-glucose overnight at 37°C.
- 15 2. Subculture 1:20 from the overnight culture into a fresh 1.0 L TB supplied with
- 16 ampicillin. Grow with shaking at 220 rpm until OD₆₀₀ reaches 0.4–0.5.
- 17 3. Adjust incubation temperature to 16°C and leave the culture with shaking for an hour.
- 18 4. Induce protein expression with 0.02% L-arabinose. Incubate at 16°C overnight.

19 Day 2 prepare membrane extract containing active CjOST

- 20 5. The next day, harvest cell by centrifugation at 8,000 \times g for 10 min at 4°C. Wash cell
- 21 pellet by resuspending with 200 mL buffer A and centrifuge again at the same setting.
- 22 Discard supernatant. Collect pellet and determine wet cell mass. Pellet can be saved
- 23 in -80°C fridge for a month or used directly.
- 24 6. Resuspend cell pellet using 10 mL buffer A per 1 g wet cell mass. Add EDTA-free
- 25 protease inhibitor to prevent protein degradation. Add DNase to reduce sample
- 26 viscosity. Use standard manufacturer's protocol.

- 1 7. Pre-equilibrate Avestin homogenizer with ice-cold buffer A. Disrupt cells using
- 2 Avestin C5 EmulsiFlex homogenizer at 17,000 psi for 3 passes.
- 3 8. Centrifuge lysate at 30,000×g for 30 min at 4°C to remove cell debris.
- 4 9. Collect and ultracentrifuge supernatant at 100,000×g for 2 h at 4°C to isolate
- 5 membrane fraction.
- 6 10. Collect pellet containing membrane fraction and *Cj*OST. Resuspend pellet in 20 mL
- 7 buffer B using Potter-Elvehjem tissue homogenizer. Make sure to fully resuspend the
- 8 pellet [Note 5]. Transfer homogenized sample into sterile 50 mL conical tube. Add
- 9 protease inhibitor cocktail into sample and incubate with shaking (120 rpm) at room
- 10 temperature for an hour. The DDM detergent in buffer B will extract and solubilize
- 11 *Cj*OST from bacterial membrane.
- 12 11. Ultracentrifuge sample at 100,000×g for an hour at 4°C. The supernatant now
- 13 contains detergent-solubilized *Cj*OST enzyme.
- 14 Alternatively: To prepare crude membrane extract containing active *Cj*OST,
- 15 centrifuge sample at 20,000×g for an hour at 4°C. Collect and immediately add
- 16 protease inhibitor into supernatant after centrifugation. The crude membrane extract
- 17 is active at 4°C for one week. We have demonstrated the use of this method to
- 18 prepare several active ssOSTs that can modify targeted protein acceptor. In addition,
- 19 crude membrane extract containing active LLOs can be prepared in a similar method
- 20 [Note 6].
- 21 12. Add 0.4 mL buffer C into supernatant to adjust imidazole concentration to 20 mM.
- 22 13. Equilibrate 0.5 mL Ni-NTA resin by washing with ice-cold buffer D at 5 times bed
- 23 volume. Add pre-equilibrated Ni-NTA resin into supernatant, incubate with rolling
- 24 overnight at 4°C.
- 25 Day 3 purification by affinity and size exclusion chromatography (SEC)

- 1 *Keep sample on ice at all times unless noted otherwise. All equipment in contact with*
2 *sample should be pre-equilibrated to 4°C.*
- 3 14. Load sample into clean gravity column at the flowrate of 0.5 mL/min.
- 4 15. Wash resin with 5 bed volumes of buffer D, followed by 5 bed volumes of buffer E.
- 5 Then elude protein with 7 bed volumes of buffer F. Keep all the fractions for analysis
6 by Coomassie blue.
- 7 16. Pre-equilibrate SuperDex-200 SEC column connecting ÄKTA-FPLC system with ice-
8 cold buffer G. Load eluent fraction into sample loop. Inject sample through SEC
9 column. Collect and combine fractions with size corresponding to CjOST (84 kDa)
10 together.
- 11 17. Concentrate protein to 1-2 mg/mL final concentration using 3K MWCO protein
12 concentrator column. Add glycerol to the sample at 20% (v/v) concentration. Aliquot
13 and store CjOST at -80°C for 4-5 months.
- 14 18. Determine protein concentration and sample purity with RC/DC assay and
15 Coomassie blue protein stain, respectively.
- 16 **3.3.2 Purification of acceptor protein scFv13-R4(N34L, N77L)^{DQNA^T-6xHis}**
- 17 1-8 These steps are essentially the same as protocol described in section 3.2.1 above,
18 with a few exceptions. *E. coli* strain BL21 Star (DE3) carrying pET28a(+)-scFv13-
19 R4(N34L, N77L)^{DQNA^T-6xHis} plasmid is used. The inducer for pET-based vector is IPTG
20 at 0.1 mM final concentration. Kanamycin antibiotic is used at 100 ug/mL.
- 21 9. Adjust the imidazole concentration in the supernatant to 10 mM Imidazole with buffer
22 P.
- 23 10. Equilibrate 0.25 mL Ni-NTA resin by washing with ice-cold buffer Q at 5 times bed
24 volume. Add pre-equilibrated Ni-NTA resin into supernatant, incubate with rolling at
25 room temperature for an hour.

1 *Keep sample on ice at all times unless noted otherwise. All equipment in contact with*
2 *sample should be pre-equilibrated to 4°C.*

3 11. Load sample into clean gravity column at the flowrate of 0.5 mL/min.

4 12. Wash resin with 5 bed volumes of buffer Q, followed by 5 bed volumes of buffer R.

5 Then elude protein with 7 bed volumes of buffer S. Keep all the fractions for analysis
6 by Coomassie blue.

7 13. Pre-equilibrate SuperDex-200-SEC column connecting ÄKTA-FPLC system with ice-
8 cold buffer T. Load eluent fraction into sample loop. Inject sample through SEC
9 column. Collect and combine fractions with size corresponding to scFv13-R4 (29 kDa)
10 together.

11 14. Concentrate protein to 1-2 mg/mL final concentration using 3K MWCO protein
12 concentrator column. Add glycerol to the sample at 10% (v/v) concentration. Aliquot
13 and store scFv13-R4 at -80°C for 6 months.

14 15. Determine protein concentration and sample purity with Bradford assay and
15 Coomassie blue protein stain, respectively.

16 **3.3.3 Extraction of LLOs bearing *C. jejuni* glycan** (adapted from (Guarino & DeLisa,
17 2012))

18 Days 0-2

19 1-5 These steps are essentially the same as protocol described in section 3.2.1, with a
20 few exceptions. *E. coli* strain CLM24 carrying pMW07-pglΔB plasmid is used. The
21 inducer for this plasmid is L-arabinose at 0.2% final concentration. Chloramphenicol
22 antibiotic is used at 20 ug/mL.

23 6. Use clean spatula to scrap cell pellet and transfer to clean 50 mL conical tubes.

24 Freeze-dry cell pellets to complete dryness at -70°C with lyophilizer (usually takes ~2
25 days).

26 Day 4

- 1 7. Weigh and combine lyophilisate into a sterile 30 mL PTFE-conical tube. Use clean
- 2 spatula to break dried pellet into small fractures.
- 3 8. Add 20 mL 10:20:3 (v/v/v) chloroform:methanol:water extracting solution into the
- 4 tube and incubate with shaking for 30 min at room temperature.
- 5 9. Centrifuge the mixture at 4000×g for 15 min at 4°C.
- 6 10. Transfer organic fraction (bottom layer) to a clean 15 mL glass vial. Remove
- 7 chloroform and methanol with vacuum concentrator at room temperature (usually
- 8 take ~4-5 h).
- 9 11. Place the vial into freeze-dry unit to remove residue water at -70°C overnight.

10 Day 5

- 11 12. Lyophilisate now contains active lipid-linked oligosaccharide (CjLLOs). Weigh
- 12 lyophilisate mass. Dried LLOs can be stored at -80°C for 6 months.
- 13 13. Resuspend lyophilisate at 1.0 mL 1× IVG buffer per 1.0 mg lyophilisate dried weight.
- 14 The resuspension should look yellowish. Transfer the mixture to a sterile
- 15 microcentrifuge tube, spin down briefly, aliquot and store soluble fraction containing
- 16 active CjLLOs in -20°C for up to 2 months.

17 **3.4 IVG setup**

18 Day 1

- 19 1. In a sterile 1.5-mL microcentrifuge tube, add following reagents:
- 20 a. 3 µg purified antibody fragment scFv13-R4. Alternatively, N-terminal TAMRA-
- 21 labelled peptide at 8.5 µM can be used as an acceptor substrate [Note 7].
- 22 b. 2 µg purified CjOST or 25 µL crude membrane extract containing active CjOST or
- 23 25 µL CFPS-nanodisc reaction containing active CjOST.
- 24 c. 5 µg extracted CjLLOs.
- 25 d. 5 µL 10× IVG buffer.
- 26 e. Bring final volume to 50 µL with sterile nanopure water.

1 2. In addition, it is necessary to set up control reactions to prevent fault-positive result.

2 A typical reaction set is as follow:

IVG components	Sample	Control		
Protein/peptide acceptor	+	+	+	-
CjOST	+	+	-	+
CjLLOs	+	-	+	+

3
4 3. Incubate the reaction tube in stationary water bath at 30°C for 16 h.

5 Day 2

6 4. Centrifuge reaction tube at 10,000×g for 15 min at 4°C.
7 5. Collect soluble fraction. Reaction is stopped by adding Laemmli sample buffer. Keep
8 sample at -20°C for analysis by SDS-PAGE followed by immunoblotting.

9 **3.5 Detection of glycoprotein from *in vivo* and *in vitro* glycosylation assay.**

10 1. Load sample containing 50 µg total protein from *in vivo* experiment (see section 3.1)
11 or 0.5 µg acceptor protein from IVG (see section 3.4) into SDS-polyacrylamide gels.
12 Run protein electrophoresis at 200 V for 45 min [Note 8].

13 Alternatively: To detect fluorophore labelled-glycopeptide, load 10 µL sample into
14 tris-tricine polyacrylamide gel. The electrophoretic condition is at 30 V initial voltage
15 for 1 h and then 190 V for 3 h. The peptide can be visualized in-gel using any
16 fluorescence imager.

17 2. Transfer protein sample onto two PVDF membrane. After transfer, wash membranes
18 briefly with 10 mL 1× TBS buffer.

19 3. Incubate membranes with milk/TBST blocking solution for an hour at room
20 temperature. BSA/TBST blocking solution is used instead for lectin blotting.

21 4. Wash membrane 4× with TBST, incubating each wash at least 10 min with shaking.

- 1 5. Immunoblot one membrane with anti-His antibodies and one with glycan-specific
2 lectin (SBA-HRP) or antibodies (hR6P) for an hour at room temperature. Then wash
3 membrane 4× with TBST, incubating each wash at least 10 min with shaking. The
4 anti-His and lectin SBA-HRP immunoblotting membranes are ready to develop.
- 5 6. Incubate hR6P immunoblotting membrane with anti-rabbit-HRP secondary antibody
6 for an hour at room temperature. Then wash membrane 4× with TBST, incubating
7 each wash at least 10 min with shaking. The anti-glycan immunoblotting membrane
8 is ready to develop.
- 9 7. To develop immunoblotting membrane, apply 1.0 mL of Western ECL substrate per
10 membrane (9 x 7 cm). Incubate 5 min with shaking at room temperature. Use
11 ChemiDoc™ XRS+ System to scan chemiluminescent signal.

12

13 **4. Conclusion**

14 Bacterial ssOSTs are highly modular enzymes, but we have only scratched the surface on
15 exploiting their full biocatalytic potential, including identification of mutant activities. The protocols
16 described here provide a robust framework for (1) understanding naturally occurring ssOSTs found
17 in the genomes of kinetoplastid and prokaryotic organisms and (2) identifying entirely novel ssOSTs
18 with desired glycophenotypes such as specificity for target acceptor sequons and/or glycan
19 structures. The development and application of CFPS-nanodiscs and IVG assays provides a
20 complementary set of techniques for synthesizing ssOSTs and subsequently evaluating their
21 activity, all within a couple of days and with minimal technical difficulty. Finally, the optimized
22 protocol for high-yield preparation of purified ssOST enzymes will facilitate thorough biochemical
23 and structural analysis. Overall, our pipeline is expected to extend the glycoengineering toolkit for
24 the facile discovery of novel glycosylation biocatalysts with customized functions.

25

26

1 5. Notes

- 2 1. Rabbit serum containing *C.jejuni* heptasaccharide glycan-specific antibody (hR6P) is
3 made in-house and generously provided from Prof. Markus Aebi at ETH-Zürich,
4 Switzerland.
- 5 2. Usually at least two transformations were done for each set to allow for plating of
6 different cell densities or to ensure at least one plate with even spreading (the best
7 one or both can be chosen to proceed with the assay).
- 8 3. This rinsing step was found to be important for cleaner blots so do not skip. For all
9 blotting steps, it is important that the shaking evenly covers the membrane with the
10 buffers. Insufficient shaking will result in uneven signal that will make it difficult to
11 pick positive hits.
- 12 4. If different targeted ssOSTs will be produced in CFPS-nanodisc reaction, omit
13 plasmid in premix and add each plasmid into individual reaction later.
- 14 5. Solubilization is a critical step in extracting active ssOST from the *E. coli* membrane.
15 It is important to completely homogenize the sample and allow sufficient incubation
16 time with DDM detergent to maximize extracting efficiency.
- 17 6. Similarly, crude membrane extract LLOs can be prepared the same way. Prepare 1 L
18 TB culture with *E. coli* strain CLM24 carrying pMW07-pglΔB plasmid. After protein
19 expression and cell harvesting, disrupt cell with Emulsiflex C5 homogenizer.
20 Ultracentrifuge supernatant to isolate membrane fraction. Following solubilization
21 membrane fraction with DDM detergent, centrifuge resuspend at 20,000×g for an
22 hour at 4°C. Collect supernatant containing active LLOs. The crude membrane
23 extract is active at 4°C for one week.
- 24 7. We use commercial N-terminal-TAMRA-GDQNATAF peptide substrate in our assay.
25 In-house synthesized peptide with similar sequence can also be used as a
26 glycosylation acceptor molecule.

1 8. The glycosylated protein will migrate slower in the SDS-PAGE gel due to the
2 additional mass of the attached glycan, and on the anti-His immunoblot it will appear
3 as a band slightly higher than the unmodified protein (if glycosylation efficiency is
4 less than 100%, two bands will be apparent). The glycosylated form can be
5 confirmed by appearance of a corresponding band on the glycan blot.

6

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13

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16

17 8. Figure captions

18 **Figure 1. An integrated pipeline for studying and engineering ssOSTs. (a)** Glycocompetent *E.*
19 *coli* strain carrying YebF acceptor protein and glycan biosynthesis pathway (e.g., *pgl* locus) is
20 transformed with a combinatorial library of ssOST variants. The library is screened using the
21 glycoSNAP assay, a high-throughput screening methodology using modified colony blotting to
22 generate a genotype-glycophenotype linkage. **(b)** The isolated variants are then subjected to *in vitro*
23 production and characterization methods with a goal of developing detailed structure-activity
24 relationships (SARs) for each ssOST. Functional analysis under tightly controlled conditions is
25 performed using IVG with purified protein acceptor, extracted LLOs as the glycan donor, and one of
26 the following: crude membrane extract containing active ssOST enzyme, purified ssOST enzyme,

1 or CFPS-derived ssOST supplemented with POPC-nanodiscs. Protein glycosylation is confirmed by
2 SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting with glycan-specific antibody or lectin. The entire process takes
3 only about two weeks and yields a set of ssOST variants with desired traits.

4
5 **Figure 2. The glycoSNAP screening methodology.** Glycocompetent *E. coli* strain carrying YebF
6 acceptor protein and glycan biosynthesis locus is transformed with a combinatorial library of ssOST
7 variants and plated on agar plate(s). Filter membrane is used to replicate colonies onto induction
8 plate(s) containing inducers for the expression of YebF and NLG pathway enzymes. The
9 glycosylated YebF is secreted out of the cells, after which it is immobilized on overlaid nitrocellulose
10 membranes and detected by subjecting the nitrocellulose membrane to immunoblotting with glycan-
11 specific antibody or lectin. Glycosylation competent (+) and incompetent (-) clones are verified by
12 Western blotting of liquid culture supernatants using anti-His antibodies to detect the acceptor
13 protein and anti-glycan antibodies (or lectins) to detect the oligosaccharide.

14
15 **Figure 3. Cell-free production and characterization of ssOSTs. (a)** Schematic of IVG for *in vitro*
16 modification of purified acceptor peptides/proteins in the presence of extracted LLOs and ssOSTs
17 that are provided by one of the following methods: crude membrane extraction or purification from
18 cells expressing ssOST enzyme, or CFPS-based expression in the presence of POPC-nanodiscs.
19 **(b)** Immunoblot analysis of IVG products generated by incubating the following: (1) LLOs, (2)
20 POPC-nanodiscs containing bacterial PglB homologs from *C. jejuni* (CjPglB), *C. coli* (CcPglB), *C.*
21 *lari* (ClPglB) and *Desulfovibrio gigas* (DgPglB), and (3) the acceptor protein scFv13-R4 containing a
22 C-terminal glycosylation tag (GlycTag) encoding either a canonical (scFv13-R4^{DQ^NAT}) or non-
23 canonical (scFv13-R4^{AQ^NAT}) sequon. **(c)** Similar analysis as in (b) using bacterial PglB homologs
24 prepared in crude membrane extracts (top panels). Additional homologs included PglB from *C.*
25 *upsaliensis* (CuPglB), *D. desulfuricans* (DdPglB), and *D. vulgaris* (DvPglB). IVG of TAMRA-labeled
26 peptides by extracted LLOs and crude membrane extracts containing bacterial PglB homologs

1 (bottom panels). IVG-derived products were resolved by tricine/SDS-PAGE, and fluorescence
2 signals were acquired with an image analyzer. **(d)** Similar analysis as in (b) using purified CjPglB. In
3 all blots, negative control reactions lacking LLOs (- LLOs) and/or ssOSTs (- OST) were included.
4 Arrows denote aglycosylated (g0) and singly glycosylated (g1) forms of the scFv13-R4^{DQNAT} protein
5 or TAMRA peptides. Blots were probed with antibody against the C-terminal 6xHis tag (anti-His) on
6 the acceptor protein or anti-glycan serum reactive with *C. jejuni* heptasaccharide (anti-glycan).
7

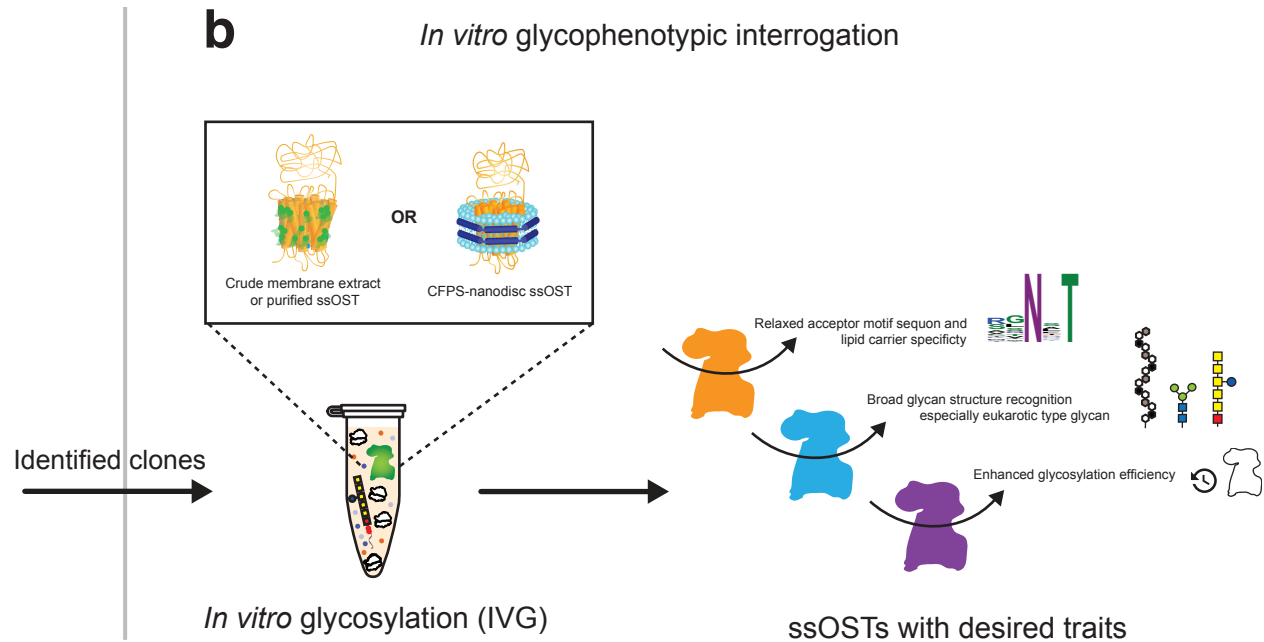
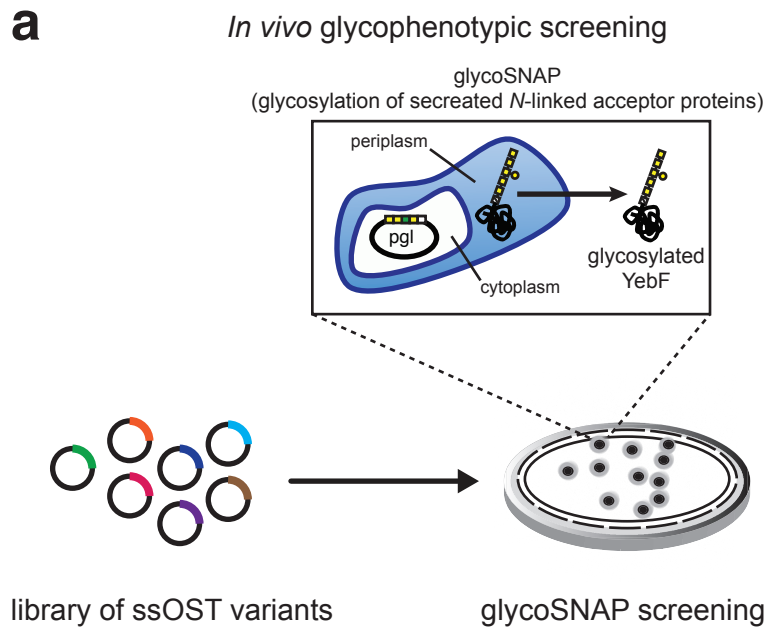


Figure 1

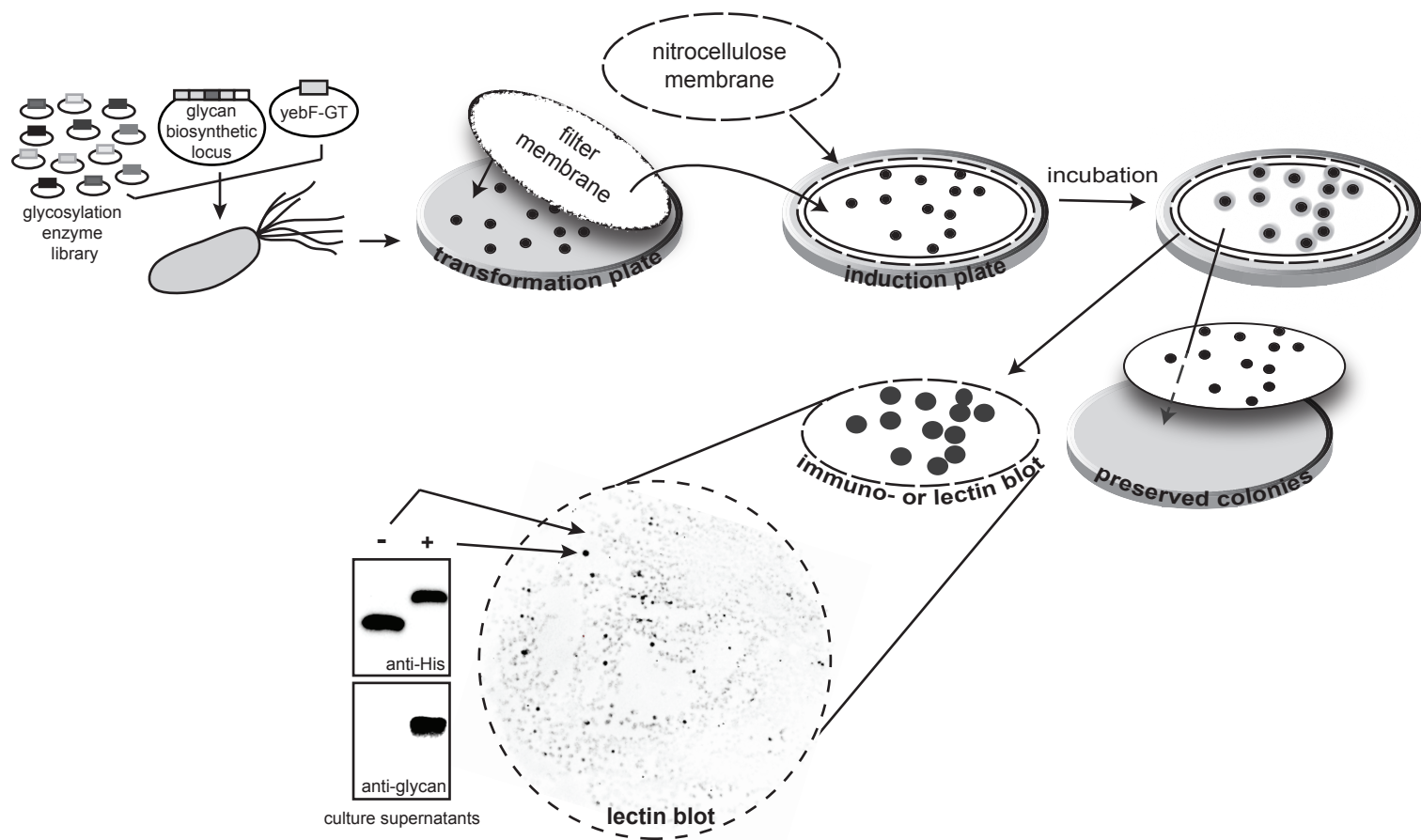


Figure 2

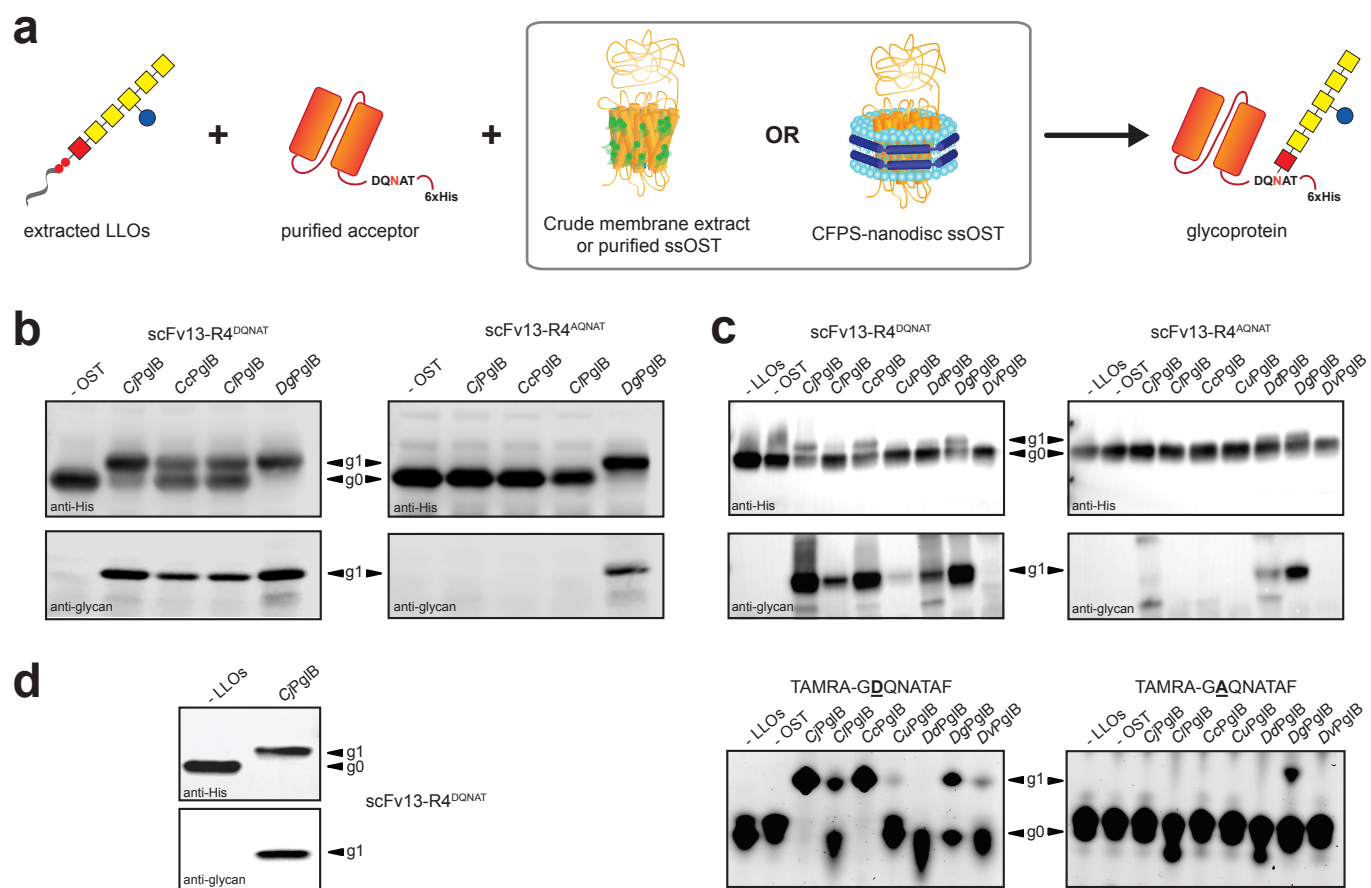


Figure 3