- 1 Redefining De Novo Gammaherpesvirus Infection Through High-Dimensional, Single-
- 2 Cell Analysis of Virus and Host
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# **SUMMARY**

Virus infection is frequently characterized using bulk cell populations. How these findings correspond to infection in individual cells remains unclear. Here, we integrate high-dimensional single-cell approaches to quantify viral and host RNA and protein expression signatures using de novo infection with a well-characterized model gammaherpesvirus. While infected cells demonstrated genome-wide transcription, individual cells revealed pronounced variation in gene expression, with only 9 of 80 annotated viral open reading frames uniformly expressed in all cells, and a 1000-fold variation in viral RNA expression between cells. Single-cell analysis further revealed positive and negative gene correlations, many uniquely present in a subset of cells. Beyond variation in viral gene expression, individual cells demonstrated a pronounced, dichotomous signature in host gene expression, revealed by measuring host RNA abundance and post-translational protein modifications. These studies provide a resource for the high-dimensional analysis of virus infection, and a conceptual framework to define virus infection as the sum of virus and host responses at the single-cell level.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- CyTOF and scRNA-seq identify wide variation in gene expression between infected cells.
- Host RNA expression and post-translational modifications stratify virus infection.
- Single cell RNA analysis reveals new relationships in viral gene expression.
- Simultaneous measurement of virus and host defines distinct infection states.

#### INTRODUCTION

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Gammaherpesviruses (yHVs) are a subfamily of the *Herpesviridae* characterized by their ability to establish latency in lymphoid cells and their association with numerous malignancies (Barton et al., 2011; Cesarman, 2014; Zamora, 2011). The γHVs include the human viruses Kaposi's sarcoma-associated herpesvirus (KSHV, or human herpesvirus 8) and Epstein-Barr virus (EBV), and murine gammaherpesvirus 68 (MHV68 or γHV68; ICTV nomenclature, murid herpesvirus 4, MuHV-4), a model system for its human virus counterparts (Barton et al., 2011; Dong et al., 2017; Virgin et al., 1997). MHV68 provides a genetically tractable system, capable of inducing a range of outcomes in vitro and in vivo (Barton et al., 2011; Forrest and Speck, 2008; Suarez and van Dyk, 2008). Like other herpesviruses, the MHV68 lifecycle is characterized by two major stages: latent and lytic infection (Pellett and Roizman, 2013). During latent infection, viral gene expression is limited, with no de novo viral replication (Pellett and Roizman, 2013). While latent γHV infection is associated with lifelong infection and malignancies, the yHVs critically rely on lytic infection for virus replication and transmission between hosts. Lytic infection is characterized by robust viral gene expression and the production of new infectious virions. The conventional view of lytic infection is that of a synchronous cascade of gene expression that results in genome-wide transcription. The paradigm for lytic gene expression was established in bulk cell populations, stratifying viral gene expression into three broad categories: immediate-early (IE), early (E), and late (L) gene expression (Johnson et al., 2010; Pellett and Roizman, 2013; Rochford et al., 2001). IE genes are expressed in the absence of new viral protein synthesis, E genes require new viral protein synthesis but do not require new viral DNA synthesis, and L genes require new viral DNA synthesis (Ahn et al., 2002; Ebrahimi et al., 2003; Johnson et al., 2010; Martinez-Guzman et al., 2003; Pellett and Roizman, 2013). Lytic gene expression can also be

stratified by kinetic class, affording a revised perspective on viral gene expression (Cheng et al., 2012).

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The advent of high-throughput, single-cell based methods has revealed a more complex picture of herpesvirus infection, from latent infection (Messinger et al., 2019; Oko et al., 2019; Shnayder et al., 2018), to lytic infection (Drayman et al., 2019; Oko et al., 2019; Wyler et al., 2019), reactivation from latency (Adang et al., 2006; Oko et al., 2019) and viral tropism (Sen et al., 2014). Recently, we identified unanticipated heterogeneity between infected cells during lytic infection, with wide variance in viral gene expression, from cells with robust viral gene expression to cells with little to no detectable expression of either viral non-coding RNAs or mRNAs (Oko et al., 2019). These studies suggest that lytic infection may be more heterogeneous in individual cells than the perspective revealed by analysis of bulk populations. Though stages of infection are defined based on viral gene expression, lytic infection is also associated with profound alterations in host gene expression. First, many herpesviruses, including KSHV, EBV, MHV68, varicella zoster virus (VZV), and Herpes simplex virus (HSV), induce widespread degradation of host RNAs (i.e. host shutoff) during lytic infection, a phenomenon associated with decreased expression of cellular housekeeping genes in either bulk cell populations (Glaunsinger, 2015; Smiley, 2004; Waterboer et al., 2002) or individual cells (Oko et al., 2019). Viruses have also evolved diverse mechanisms to manipulate host processes (e.g. cell cycle, apoptosis, protein synthesis and signal transduction) (Chang et al., 2016). For example, the ORF36 gene of MHV68 and EBV encodes a viral kinase that phosphorylates H2AX, a proximal marker of the DNA damage response, to facilitate viral replication (Tarakanova et al., 2007). Recent studies have further demonstrated that the EBV and KSHV ORF36 homologs target additional host proteins including SAMHD1 and S6K to impact virus restriction and protein synthesis, respectively (Bhatt et al., 2016; Zhang et al., 2019). These studies emphasize that measuring host processes commonly targeted by

multiple viruses [including host shutoff (Glaunsinger, 2015), DNA damage responses

(Weitzman and Fradet-Turcotte, 2018) and innate signaling (Lee et al., 2015)], may provide an important, complementary strategy to define viral infection.

Here we provide a resource to redefine lytic infection from a single-cell perspective, using cytometry by time-of-flight (CyTOF, or mass cytometry) and single cell RNA-seq to achieve high-dimensional, single-cell analysis of viral and host gene expression. These studies reveal: i) the highly variable nature of viral gene expression between individual cells, with only a small subset of genes expressed across all cells, ii) the utility of measuring host parameters as a discriminator to identify infection state, and iii) new insights into infection and gene expression relationships, previously obscured by bulk cell analysis.

# **RESULTS**

CyTOF analysis identifies a distinct protein expression profile for virally-infected cells.

Recently, we discovered significant variability in viral gene expression between cells during MHV68 infection (Oko et al., 2019). These studies identified a prominent fraction of cells with limited viral gene expression, a phenomenon that could arise due to asynchronous infection, infection with restricted viral gene expression (e.g. latency), or cells resistant to infection. To define the complexity of virus infection in productively infected cells, we established a system to purify cells based on expression of the MHV68 latency-associated nuclear antigen (LANA) protein, a viral gene product expressed during lytic and latent infection (Rochford et al., 2001). NIH 3T12 fibroblasts, a highly permissive cell line for MHV68 lytic infection, were infected with a wild-type MHV68 recombinant expressing a LANA::β-lactamase gene fusion (WT MHV68.LANAβlac), followed by FACS purification (Diebel et al., 2015; Nealy et al., 2010) and high-dimensional single-cell analysis using CyTOF and single cell RNA-sequencing (scRNA-seq).

First, we analyzed virally-infected cells by CyTOF, to obtain a high-dimensional single-cell analysis of protein expression (Kimball et al., 2018). NIH 3T12 fibroblasts were harvested at 16 hours post-infection (hpi), a time at which no cytopathic effect or new progeny virus is released, and sort purified into LANAβlac+ (LANA+) and LANAβlac- (LANA-) fractions (Figure S1A). On average, >94% of cells were LANA+ at this time, indicating active virus infection in the vast majority of cells (Niemeyer et al., 2018). Mock-infected 3T12 cells were purified in parallel. To ensure robust cross-comparison between these populations, each sample was subjected to isotopic palladium-based barcoding, pooled together, stained with a panel of 23 isotopically-labelled antibodies, with samples collected on a Helios mass cytometer (Figure 1A). Mock-infected, LANA+ and LANA- cells had pronounced differences in clustering and protein expression profiles (Figure S1B-D). LANA+ cells robustly expressed the virally-

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encoded regulator of complement activation (vRCA) protein (Kapadia et al., 1999) and phosphorylated histone H2AX (pH2AX), a target of the ORF36 viral kinase (Tarakanova et al., 2007). LANA+ cells further showed increased expression of cell surface proteins (CD9, MHC I) and cell cycle proteins (Ki-67, phosphorylated Rb [Serine 807/S811]), with modest induction of signal transduction pathways (activated beta-catenin, pERK1/2, p-p38, pStat1, pStat3, pAKT and pS6) compared to both LANA- and mock-infected populations (Figure S1C-D). These data indicate that at the population level, LANA+ cells have a distinct protein expression signature relative to mock-infected and LANA- cells.

Next we quantified the diversity of cellular phenotypes between LANA+ and LANAcells. When we applied PhenoGraph, an unsupervised clustering algorithm (Levine et al., 2015), we identified 14 phenotypes across LANA+, LANA-, and mock-infected populations (Figure 1B). The frequency of phenotypic clusters varied widely between LANA+ and LANApopulations (Figure 1C), with 3 clusters exclusively present among LANA+ cells, 5 clusters uniquely present among LANA- cells, and 6 clusters containing both LANA+ and LANA- cells (Figure 1C). Clusters exclusively present among LANA+ cells (clusters 1-3, at the bottom of Figure 1C) were characterized by maximal expression of vRCA and pH2AX, and increased expression of pRB, pERK1/2, pAKT, and pS6 relative to other cell clusters (Figure 1C). Expression of other parameters, including CD9, CD29, CD44, CD63, Ki-67 and IkBα did not strictly correlate with either LANA+ or LANA- cells, indicating that these proteins were not solely regulated as a function of virus infection (Figure 1C). While high expression of vRCA and pH2AX was a strong discriminator between clusters exclusively in LANA+ versus LANAevents, approximately half of LANA+ events expressed low levels of either vRCA or pH2AX. overlapping with LANA- cells (Figure 1C-D). These data indicate that while many cells expressing the LANAβlac fusion protein had increased virus and host protein expression, there was a substantial fraction of LANA+ cells that could not be readily distinguished from LANA-

cells (clusters colored purple, Figure 1D). These data further identify phosphorylation of H2AX (i.e. pH2AX) as a robust marker of virus-induced phenotypic changes at the single-cell level.

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LANA+ cells show heterogeneous protein and post-translational modifications during lytic infection.

To better understand phenotypic heterogeneity among cells with active viral gene expression (i.e. LANA+ cells), we quantified phenotypic diversity among a large number of LANA+ cells, clustering cells based on expression of nine cell surface-expressed proteins (BST2, CD9, CD29, CD44, CD63, Ly6A/E, Ly6C, MHCI, and vRCA). This focused clustering analysis identified 15 phenotypic clusters within LANA+ cells, which were then visually inspected based on vRCA, pH2AX, Ly6C, and BST2 expression (Figure 2A-C). LANA+ cells could be subdivided into cells with high and low viral gene expression, with vRCA and pH2AX expression tightly overlapping. In contrast, Ly6C and BST2 protein expression was variable across vRCA<sup>high</sup> pH2AX<sup>high</sup> and vRCA<sup>low</sup> pH2AX<sup>low</sup> cell fractions, indicating that these proteins did not simply correlate with virus infection (Figure 2B-C). Stratification of LANA+ cells into pH2AX<sup>high</sup> and pH2AX<sup>low</sup> subsets (Figure S2A) demonstrated that pH2AX<sup>high</sup> cells had increased expression of vRCA, MHC class I, and multiple phosphorylation-dependent modifications including pRb, active β-catenin, pERK1/2, pStat1 and pAKT compared to pH2AX<sup>low</sup> cells (Figure 2D). pH2AX<sup>high</sup> cells also had modestly decreased expression of CD9, CD29, Ly6A/E, Ly6C and IkB $\alpha$  relative to pH2AX<sup>low</sup> events (Figure 2D). Consistent with the tight correlation between vRCA and pH2AX expression, LANA+ vRCAhigh cells had increased expression of pH2AX, MHC class I, pRb, active β-catenin, pERK1/2, pStat1 and pAKT compared to vRCA<sup>low</sup> cells and modestly reduced IkBa expression (Figure S2B-E). These studies indicate that vRCA and pH2AX are strong markers of progressive infection among LANA+ events, with phosphorylated Rb a robust secondary marker associated with a

pH2AX<sup>high</sup> vRCA<sup>high</sup> phenotype. These results further indicate that heterogeneous progression through infection can be revealed by monitoring host protein expression at the single-cell level.

MHV68-infected cells with a pH2AX<sup>high</sup> vRCA<sup>high</sup> cell phenotype express high viral mRNA and low host actin RNA.

We next investigated how pH2AX and vRCA expression corresponded with viral and host RNA expression at the single-cell level, using the PrimeFlow methodology to simultaneously measure protein and RNAs (Oko et al., 2019). This analysis focused on two RNAs which we previously reported showed heterogeneous expression during MHV68 infection (Oko et al., 2019): i) ORF18, a viral RNA transcribed with late kinetics and ii) Actb, a host RNA encoding beta-actin that is known to be targeted for degradation by the MHV68 SOX endonuclease (Covarrubias et al., 2009).

As expected, mock-infected cells had no vRCA expression and a low frequency of pH2AX+ events (Figure 3A). In contrast, MHV68-infected 3T12 cultures exhibited multiple populations, including: 1) pH2AX- vRCA- cells (population 1, gray box, Figure 3A bottom panel), 2) pH2AX+ vRCA- cells (population 2, light blue box), 3) pH2AX- vRCA+ cells (population 3, orange box), and 4) pH2AX+ vRCA+ cells (population 4, red box). As these studies did not use purified LANA+ cells, in contrast to the CyTOF studies, the presence of these four populations suggests that these cultures contained a mixture of infected and uninfected cells.

We next queried RNA expression within cells subdivided by pH2AX and vRCA expression, using ORF18 expression as a direct readout of virus infection and Actb degradation as a secondary readout of virus infection. Cells with a pH2AX- vRCA- phenotype (gray box, Figure 3A-B) were present in mock- and MHV68-infected cultures, with the vast majority of cells characterized by an ORF18- Actb+ phenotype and no evidence of infection (Figure 3B-C). In contrast, cells with a pH2AX+ vRCA- phenotype (light blue box, Figure 3A-B)

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contained ~1/3 of cells that were ORF18+ with variable expression of Actb (Figure 3B-C), identifying infection based on viral RNA expression in the absence of a viral protein. Cells with a pH2AX- vRCA+ phenotype (orange box, Figure 3A-B) were dominated by ORF18+ Actb- and ORF18- Actb- cells, demonstrating direct measures of infection by RNA and protein. Lastly, pH2AX+ vRCA+ cells (red box, Figure 3A-B) were predominantly ORF18+ Actb-, identifying viral RNA and viral protein expression in the context of host RNA degradation. These data demonstrate that pH2AX+ vRCA+ cells show progressive infection at the RNA and protein level, whereas cells expressing only vRCA or pH2AX represent intermediate infection phenotypes as measured by viral RNA expression and host RNA degradation.

scRNA-seg reveals wide variation in the frequency and magnitude of viral RNA expression

We next sought to obtain a global perspective on how MHV68 infection affects gene expression using scRNA-seg. 3T12 fibroblasts were infected with an MOI of 0.5 PFU/cell using two viruses with indistinguishable lytic replication [WT MHV68.LANAßlac and a viral cyclindeficient (cycKO) MHV68.LANAßlac (van Dyk et al., 2000)], with LANA+ cells sort purified at 16 hpi (Figure 1A). LANA+ cells were submitted for bulk RNA-seg and scRNA-seg analysis. with a mean of 94,810 reads per cell for scRNA-seg (Figure S3A-C). While there was some concordance between the most abundant host RNAs observed in bulk RNA-seg and scRNAseg, scRNA-seg analysis revealed wide variability among cells, a level of complexity obscured in bulk RNA-seg analysis (Figure S3D). We next focused on scRNA-seg, given its capacity to define intercellular variation and to avoid averaging of signal intensity across a population of cells. Comparison of scRNA-seg data between WT and CycKO infected cells demonstrated a similar distribution of cells and gene expression, with only five genes with average gene expression differences greater than 2-fold (Table S1 and S2), consistent with their comparable lytic replication in vitro (van Dyk et al., 2000). Therefore, subsequent analysis integrated scRNA-seg data from LANA+ cells purified from WT and CycKO infection.

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To understand MHV68 transcription at the single-cell level, we first quantified the diversity and magnitude of viral transcripts. When viral RNAs (enumerated as unique molecular identifiers, UMIs) were mapped to the MHV68 genome, 77 of the 80 annotated MHV68 ORFs were detected. M10b, M10c and M12, three viral RNAs derived from MHV68 repeat structures were the only viral RNAs not detected (Virgin et al., 1997). LANA+ cells expressed a wide range of viral genes (12-66 viral genes) per cell, with a median of 52 viral genes per cell, based on detection of ≥ 1 UMI per viral gene per cell (Figure 4A). Mean UMI per viral gene and percentage of cells expressing viral genes were positively correlated (Spearman r coefficient = 0.9775), with 86.2% of LANA+ cells expressing the ORF73 RNA (Figure 4B). Despite cell purification based on uniform LANA expression, total viral UMIs per cell spanned a >1000-fold range (19-24,718 viral UMIs per cell) (Figure 4C). While the number of viral genes detected per cell was positively correlated with total viral UMIs per cell, LANA+ cells exhibited a bimodal distribution of virus RNA (Virus (Virus (S)) cells (S) viral UMIs/cell) and virus RNA<sup>low</sup> (Virus<sup>low</sup>) cells (<500 viral UMIs/cell) (Figure 4C-D). The distinction between Virus and Virus or cells was not simply explained by how many viral genes were detected per cell, as some cells expressed the same number of viral genes yet showed a >10-fold variance in total viral UMIs (e.g. the range of viral UMIs among cells that express 40 viral genes per cell, Figure 4D).

To better understand viral transcription at the single-cell level, we quantified the percentage of cells expressing each viral gene (Figure 4E) and mean UMI count within positive cells (Figure 4F). The percentage of cells which expressed viral genes varied widely, with 9 viral genes (M3, ORF7, ORF17, ORF38, ORF45, ORF52, ORF58, M9, and ORF66) expressed in the vast majority (98.63-100%) of cells (Figure 4E). These ubiquitous viral RNAs spanned transcriptional categories [IE (ORF38), Early-Late (M3, ORF7), and L genes (ORF17, ORF45, ORF52, ORF58, M9, ORF66)] and kinetic classes [class I (ORF38), class II (M3, ORF45, ORF52, ORF58), class III (ORF17, M9, ORF66) and class IV (ORF7)] (Cheng et al., 2012). In

contrast, many viral genes were only detected in a subset of cells, including ORF50, an IE gene that encodes Rta, a major transcriptional regulator of lytic replication (Figure 4E). The range of expression for individual genes varied widely (Figure 4F). While many viral genes had a mean UMI per viral gene between 1-10 UMIs per cell, the most highly expressed viral gene ORF52 had a mean of >1000 UMIs per cell.

Visualization of genome-wide viral gene expression at the single-cell level

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To investigate the complexity of gene expression across MHV68-infected cells, we next visualized the absolute UMI count for each viral gene across all 1,605 LANA+ cells. Cells were rank-ordered based on total viral UMIs detected per cell, from Virus to Virus cells across a 1000-fold range of viral UMIs per cell, with each row depicting expression for each MHV68 viral gene and each column depicting data from a single cell (Figure 5). This continuum of gene expression revealed multiple patterns of gene expression. First, there were some viral genes (e.g. ORF59 and ORF73βlac, which encodes LANA) which were detected in almost all cells, with only modest differences in expression between cells with the fewest viral UMIs and the greatest viral UMIs (Figure 5). Second, viral genes such as M3 and ORF52 progressively increased in expression, proportional to the increase in viral UMIs (Figure 5). Third, viral genes, including ORF48, ORF54, and ORF57, showed maximal expression in cells with intermediate viral counts (Figure 5). By stratifying cells into either Virus high or Virus or Virus categories (a bifurcation identified in Figure 4C-D), we identified a subset of genes including K3, ORF42 and ORF44 whose expression was sporadic in Virus or cells and uniform in Virus tight cells (Figure 5 and Figure S4). ORF68 was one of the only genes whose expression was slightly higher among Virus<sup>low</sup> cells compared to Virus<sup>high</sup> cells (Figure 5 and Figure S4). Gene expression signatures for Virus on Virus of the cells did not clearly track with any transcriptional or kinetic class, and individual genes within these distinctions demonstrated

significant gene to gene variation (Figure S5A). These data identify the highly variable nature of MHV68 transcription between individual cells during de novo infection.

MHV68-infected cells can be stratified by differential abundance of virus and host RNAs

To clarify the patterns of gene expression that we observed, we used unsupervised K-means clustering to identify related cells. By clustering on viral and cellular RNA expression, we identified 5 clusters among LANA+ cells (Figure 6A). 3-dimensional tSNE-based data visualization further identified that an IE gene (ORF50) had maximal expression in clusters A and B, an early-late (E-L) gene (ORF47) had maximal expression in clusters B and C, and a L gene (M7) had maximal expression in clusters D and E (Figure 6B and Figure S5B). In contrast, host Actb RNA, a target of virus-induced host shutoff mediated by the ORF37 gene, showed maximal expression in clusters A and B, with low expression across clusters C through E (Figure 6B-C). These data suggested that at this timepoint, LANA+ cells had heterogeneous virus-induced host shutoff. Cells with a high percentage of viral UMIs were predominant in clusters C through E, in contrast to cells with a high frequency of host UMIs prevalent in clusters A and B (Figure 6D). Based on these distinctions, we divided cells into virus-based and host-biased groups (Figure 6E-F).

The different proportions of viral and host UMIs between virus- and host-biased cells could result from changes in either how many viral or host genes were expressed, or mean expression per gene. Notably, the number of virus genes expressed (defined by mean UMI per cell ≥ 1) was comparable between virus-biased and host-biased cells (Figure 6G). In contrast, virus-biased cells were characterized by a pronounced decrease in the number of host RNAs expressed, compared to host-biased cells (Figure 6H). When we analyzed gene expression levels, virus-biased cells had increased viral gene expression per cell compared to host-biased cells, with no significant difference in host gene expression among expressed genes (Figure 6I). These data indicate that virus-biased cells have increased viral gene expression, coupled

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with a pronounced reduction in the number of detectable host RNAs. While cell cycle-associated gene signatures were relatively comparable between virus-biased and host-biased cells, host-biased cells expressed a number of interferon-response genes (Figure S6 and Table S3), suggesting a potential role in resistance to infection.

Although stages of virus infection are typically defined by viral parameters only, the observations of: i) Virus high and Virus cells (Figure 4D), and ii) Virus-biased and host-biased cells (Figure 6G), suggested that these two processes may be connected. Indeed, when we analyzed the distribution of cells based on the sum of all host UMIs versus the sum of all viral UMIs, we found three prominent populations (Figure 6J-K): 1) 72.8% of cells had high viral 11.1% of cells had a Virus Host Host phenotype (in orange, Figure 6K), and 3) 14.4% of cells had a Virus<sup>low</sup> Host<sup>high</sup> phenotype (in blue, Figure 6K). The number of Virus<sup>low</sup> Host<sup>high</sup> cells almost completely corresponded with the number of Virus events which we previously identified (Figure 4D), with less than two percent of cells expressing a Virus Wirus phenotype (Figure 6J). By comparing viral gene expression across these 3 populations, we found that an IE gene (ORF50) and E-L gene (ORF47) had peak expression in Virus high Host<sup>high</sup> cells, intermediate expression in Virus<sup>high</sup> Host<sup>low</sup> cells, with limited expression in Virus<sup>low</sup> Host<sup>high</sup> cells (Figure 6L-M). In contrast, a L gene (M7) had high expression exclusively in Virus high Host Host ells (Figure 6N). Virus Host ells had lower expression across many virus genes, with the exception of ORF68 which was modestly higher in Virus<sup>low</sup> Host<sup>high</sup> cells compared to other cells (Figure 6O). Actb, a known target of virus-induced shutoff, retained high expression in both Virus low Host high and Virus Host Host Host Host with a pronounced decrease in Virus high Host low cells (Figure 6P). These data demonstrate that while many LANA+ cells show signs of robust viral RNA expression coupled with reduced host RNAs, subsets of LANA+ cells express high levels of host RNAs with differential viral RNA abundance.

Correlation analysis reveals positive and negative correlations in MHV68 transcription at the single-cell level.

Finally, we sought to investigate the inter-relationships between viral genes, leveraging the unique insights obtained from single-cell data. Initially, we generated a correlation matrix of all viral gene-gene expression relationships querying all LANA+ cells. This correlation matrix identified that the majority of gene-gene pairs had a positive correlation (83.6%, depicted in blue), with fewer negative correlations (16.1%, depicted in red) (Figure S7). We next examined gene-gene relationships in Virus<sup>high</sup> or Virus<sup>low</sup> cells. While the majority of gene-gene relationships in Virus<sup>low</sup> cells were positive correlations, Virus<sup>high</sup> cells revealed an increased frequency of negative correlations (29.1%) among a subset of viral genes (Figure 7A and S7).

We next sought to investigate gene-gene relationships as of function of Virus high or Virus cells. On the one hand, there were some gene pairs whose relationship was preserved between Virus and Virus cells, exemplified by ORF50 and ORF57, and ORF54 and ORF57, both showing positive correlations across Virus and Virus cells (Figure 7B-C). On the other hand, there were other gene pairs whose relationship was distinct between Virus and Virus cells. These included ORF50 and M9, and ORF54 and ORF64, with minimal correlation across total cells, a negative correlation in Virus cells, and minimal correlation among Virus cells (Figure 7B). The complexity of gene-gene expression relationships was clearly demonstrated by plotting gene-by-gene expression levels from total cells (Figure 7C-D). Predicted correlations were exemplified by a positive correlation between host RNAs Actb and Gapdh and a negative correlation between Actb and ORF64 (Figure 7C-D). While positive correlations between ORF50 and ORF57, and ORF57 and ORF54 were consistent across all events, the relationships between ORF50 and M9, ORF64 and ORF54 were more complex (Figure 7D). These data emphasize that gene-gene coexpression relationships can be

- obscured by combining cell subsets, and emphasize the value of single-cell approaches to
- define gene expression inter-relationships within homogeneous cell populations.

# **DISCUSSION**

In this manuscript, we present a strategy to investigate viral infection, simultaneously quantifying viral and host RNA and protein expression in individual cells. This approach provides a conceptual framework to understand how individual cells respond to virus infection at the protein and RNA level, presents new insights into the complexity of virus infection from virus and host perspective, and establishes high-dimensional datasets as a resource for further analysis of virus-host interactions at the single-cell level. By focusing on a well-characterized virus, tightly controlled infection conditions, and cells with uniform viral gene expression, these studies emphasize the knowable complexity of infection in individual cells and the limitations of studying infection in bulk cell populations.

### **Implications**

Our studies illustrate the power of defining virus infection by quantifying viral and host gene expression across individual cells and have significant implications for understanding virus-host interactions. First, our data highlight that gene expression analysis in a population of cells conceals wide variance in virus infection, specifically failing to identify cells with low gene expression and obscuring negative feedback mechanisms. Second, our data emphasize that defining virus infection strictly by viral gene expression ignores the essential contribution of the host cell to this process, and that virus infection stage may be more appropriately considered as the integrated impact of virus on the host. Quantitation of host RNAs and virus-dependent post-translational host modifications were particularly informative in discriminating between infection subtypes, while measures of protein abundance were less impactful. Third, our data suggest that phenotypic variation between cells, or input virions, results in cell subsets with restricted viral gene expression, a potentially novel strategy to identify negative regulators of infection. While the relative contribution of host and virus variation to these diverse outcomes

remains to be addressed, there is an increasing breadth of literature in support of phenotypic variation from both sides (e.g. (Avraham et al., 2015; Chaturvedi et al., 2020; Hansen et al., 2018; Shaffer et al., 2017)). We propose that integrated single-cell analysis of virus and host will be particularly informative to understand how viral and host genes regulate infection, whether influencing viral or host gene expression, and/or altering the relative proportion of permissive or resistant cells. Fourth, these studies provide an opportunity to reassess fundamental concepts in virology, including how variation in virus (e.g. differing ratios in particle:PFU ratio (Van Skike et al., 2018)) or the host cell integrate to impact infection outcome. We anticipate that further studies, combined with further mining of these datasets by the community, will identify new rules governing virus infection that may be pharmacologically targeted.

## Insights into herpesvirus infection

Herpesvirus infection is classically divided into lytic infection, that generates new infectious virions, and latent infection, that facilitates long-term persistence in host cells while avoiding immune detection. Lytic infection is frequently understood as a coordinated cascade of gene expression, characterized by genome-wide transcription (Pellett and Roizman, 2013). High resolution mapping of coding and non-coding viral RNAs (Cheng et al., 2012; O'Grady et al., 2019) and new molecular insights into the regulation of viral RNA transcription and abundance (Hartenian et al., 2020) have further refined models of lytic gene expression. Despite these advances, most studies have analyzed bulk cell populations, obscuring intercellular heterogeneity.

Here, we provide three new datasets, with two complementary high-dimensional single-cell approaches, CyTOF and scRNAseq, to investigate *de novo* γHV infection of cells that are highly permissive for lytic infection. These studies build on our recent analysis of MHV68 gene expression during *de novo* infection, studies that revealed asynchronous or inefficient infection

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among MHV68-exposed cells (Oko et al., 2019). Here, we extended these studies, purifying actively-infected cells (defined by expression of the viral protein LANA, which is expressed during lytic and latent infection) and deeply characterizing RNA and protein expression profiles during *de novo* infection. By monitoring viral and host RNAs and proteins, these studies defined robust markers of productive lytic infection and revealed heterogeneity in progression following *de novo* infection.

These studies initially focused on how MHV68 infection influences cellular responses at the protein level using CyTOF. By comparing cells with or without signs of active infection, we found multiple infection phenotypes. First, LANA+ cells contained a prominent cell fraction that co-expressed high levels of a viral protein, vRCA, and phosphorylation of histone H2AX, a virus-dependent event. vRCAhigh pH2AXhigh cells were only found in LANA+ cells, and were further characterized by increased phosphorylation of host proteins (pRb, active β-catenin, pERK1/2, pStat1 and pAKT) consistent with reports of vHV-induced modulation of the host proteome (Chang et al., 2016). vRCA<sup>high</sup> pH2AX<sup>high</sup> cells also had a prominent RNA phenotype, ORF18<sup>high</sup> (late viral RNA) and Actb<sup>low</sup> (host RNA indicator of virus-induced host shutoff). While vRCA<sup>high</sup> pH2AX<sup>high</sup> ORF18 RNA<sup>high</sup> Actb RNA<sup>low</sup> cells showed the most progressive signs of infection, we readily identified additional cell subsets expressing viral RNA in the absence of viral protein or host-shutoff, potentially reflecting delayed infection or a disconnect between transcription and translation. These studies identify vRCA and pH2AX as strong indicators of robust and progressive virus infection, and indicate that including additional viral and host indicators can distinguish among diverse infection stages.

We next turned to scRNA-seq to gain a broader understanding of virus and host RNA expression during *de novo* infection. Though we anticipated that many LANA+ cells (i.e. vRCA<sup>high</sup> pH2AX<sup>high</sup> cells) would express high viral RNAs and low host RNAs (exemplified by ORF18 and Actb, respectively), the relative homogeneity of LANA+ cells at the RNA level was unknown. One of the most striking outcomes of these studies was the wide range of viral and

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host gene expression observed at the single-cell level, derived from infection with a low MOI, and harvested at a single timepoint. LANA+ cells had a 1000-fold variance in total viral reads per cell, with cells expressing between 12-66 viral genes per cell and widespread variance in both the frequency and expression level of viral RNAs. While this analysis mapped RNAs to 77 of the 80 annotated MHV68 ORFs (Virgin et al., 1997) using a 3' based sequencing platform, it is notable that: i) only one viral gene (ORF52) was detected in 100% of LANA+ cells, with ii) only 9 viral genes (M3, ORF7, ORF17, ORF38, ORF45, ORF52, ORF58, M9, and ORF66) expressed in a high percentage (>98.5%) of LANA+ cells. Though many of these genes were highly expressed on a per cell basis, a high frequency of expression does not solely track with high expression. For example, ORF73 RNA, which encodes for LANA, was detected in 86.2% of cells with an average of 5 UMIs per cell. Lack of detection of ORF73 in LANA+ sort purified cells may seem to be a paradox, as cells were purified based on LANA+ cells. This apparent discordance may either be due to RNA dropout or to cells expressing LANA protein in the absence of ORF73 RNA. For other genes, limited detection likely reflects extremely low expression during lytic infection [e.g. M2, a latency-associated gene that has not historically been detected during lytic infection (Rochford et al., 2001; Virgin et al., 1999)]. These results suggest that lack of detection of some MHV68 genes is likely due to little to no expression during lytic infection and not due to technical issues with scRNA-seq. More broadly, these studies indicate that stratifying gene expression by the IE  $\rightarrow$  E paradigm, or by kinetic class, is insufficient to describe the complexity of viral transcription in individual cells, even in a highly permissive cell type.

An important complementary perspective on virus infection was our capacity to assess how MHV68 infection remodels host RNA expression. Virus-biased cells expressed 1.5 times more viral UMIs than host UMIs, a striking result when considering that there are only 80 annotated viral ORFs (Virgin et al., 1997) compared to ~25,000 host genes (Guenet, 2005). Virus:host RNA skewing was further driven by a dramatic reduction in host gene expression.

consistent with virus-induced host shutoff (Covarrubias et al., 2011). Host shutoff was readily visualized by pronounced reduction in ActB RNA expression in vRCA<sup>high</sup> pH2AX<sup>high</sup> cells, illustrating the value of monitoring host RNAs at the single-cell level as an indicator of virus infection. When we assessed the global relationship between virus and host RNAs, we found additional complexity. While most LANA+ cells (73%) showed a reciprocal relationship expression of high viral RNAs and low host RNAs (i.e. Virus<sup>high</sup> Host<sup>low</sup>), there were substantial cell fractions that were either Host<sup>high</sup>Virus<sup>high</sup> or Virus<sup>low</sup> Host<sup>high</sup>, suggesting delayed or impaired virus-induced host shutoff (a process that requires transcription, translation and nuclease-dependent degradation of RNAs (Covarrubias et al., 2011)).

## Potential relationships of virus infection phenotypes

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The identification of distinct infection phenotypes raises the question of how these subsets are inter-related. Though definitive lineage relationships require seguential tracking of individual infected cells, we postulate that the Virus high Host high phenotype identifies cells with slower progression through lytic infection, preceding Virushigh Hostlow cells. In contrast, we speculate that Virus low Host high cells may represent a distinct biological outcome. Although Virus over cells expressed fewer viral genes, frequently at a lower magnitude, these cells contained viral RNAs from all phases of infection, with 90% of Virus low cells expressing IE (ORF38), E or E-L (M3, ORF7, ORF68) or L (ORF17, ORF45, ORF52, ORF58, M9, ORF66) genes; these genes span kinetic classes, indicating that there is not a specific block in infection (Cheng et al., 2012). Virus low cells did contain a few viral genes (e.g. ORF68) that are modestly increased relative to Virushigh cells; nonetheless, the Viruslow gene signature would be obscured in bulk cell analysis. The molecular basis of the Virus low Host high phenotype remains to be determined but could arise from host or virus variation. Curiously, Virus<sup>low</sup> cells expressed multiple interferon-stimulated genes, but not type I interferons, suggesting a potential cell-intrinsic block to lytic infection. The Virus Host high phenotype may also arise

from virus-intrinsic differences (e.g. variation in particle:PFU differences (Klasse, 2015) or virus-like vesicles (Gong et al., 2017)). Variable outcomes of γHV infection have been reported in multiple contexts. MHV68 infection of endothelial cells results in a significant cell fraction of cells undergoing persistent infection (Suarez and van Dyk, 2008). KSHV infection of fibroblasts results in variable lytic or latent infection (Jang et al., 2016; Krishnan et al., 2004; Matthews et al., 2011), and EBV infection in gastric epithelial cells includes both lytic and latent outcomes (Hill et al., 2013; Ma et al., 2011; Nawandar et al., 2015). Despite the restricted gene expression of Virus<sup>low</sup> cells, expression of multiple viral genes strongly suggests that these cells have the potential to impact biological outcomes and immune regulation.

Virus gene-gene relationships revealed by scRNA-seq

Virus infection involves the coordination of highly complex gene expression patterns, a poorly understand process at the single-cell level. Given this knowledge gap, we leveraged the unique insights of scRNA-seq to quantify genome-wide correlation matrices. Unexpectedly, we found gene pairs which were differentially regulated between Virushigh or Viruslow subsets, including pronounced negative correlations among Virushigh cells. The complexity of these relationships was illustrated by examining correlations between ORF50 and other viral genes. ORF50 encodes the Rta viral transactivator and is known to both induce and repress transcriptional targets (Coleman et al., 2005; Damania et al., 2004; Hair et al., 2007; Pavlova et al., 2005; Wu et al., 2000). Correlation analysis among Virushigh cells corroborated established ORF50 targets (e.g. positive correlation with ORF57, negative correlation with ORF73) and identified new potential relationships (e.g. positive correlation with ORF54 and M8 and negative correlation with ORF64-67). These findings emphasize the importance of defining gene expression relationships in biologically homogeneous populations, something uniquely afforded by single-cell analysis.

Our scRNA-seq analysis quantified viral RNA abundance in LANA+ cells, mapping RNAs to the annotated MHV68 genome using polyA-primed sequencing. This resource illustrates the complexity of viral RNA expression following *de novo* γHV infection and sets the foundation for new insights in gene expression in individual cells, including how virion-packaged RNAs shape expression, the relative contribution of transcription and RNA decay to the transcriptome, and RNA:protein relationships in individual cells (Hartenian and Glaunsinger, 2019; Purushothaman et al., 2015; Ruiz et al., 2019). This approach further emphasizes that not all abundant viral RNAs are equally expressed at the single-cell level, and argue for the importance of single-cell analysis to identify candidate immunogens based on uniform, high expression.

In total, these studies provide a resource to understand the complexity of virus-host interactions within individual cells. This work provides three databases from matched *de novo* gammaherpesvirus infection of a single permissive cell type, from CyTOF to bulk RNA-seq to scRNA-seq, and exemplify the power of these approaches to reveal new insights into virus-host interaction during  $\gamma$ HV infection. We anticipate that these data will serve as an important benchmark for future studies of virus infection, providing a wealth of observations to further revise our understanding of virus-host interactions.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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#### **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The authors declare no competing interests.

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#### FIGURE LEGENDS

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Figure 1. CyTOF analysis identifies a distinct protein expression profile for virallyinfected cells. High-dimensional single-cell protein analysis of MHV68 infection by CyTOF. (A) 3T12 fibroblasts were either mock or MHV68-infected with WT MHV68.LANAβlac (MOI=0.5), with indicated populations FACS purified according to LANA::β-lactamase expression at 16 hours pi. (B) PhenoGraph analysis of mock, LANA- and LANA+ cells subjected to CyTOF analysis and visualized by tSNE-based dimensionality reduction identified 14 cell clusters (colored by cluster ID). (C) Comparison of the frequency (left) and protein expression profile (right) of PhenoGraph-defined clusters in LANA- and LANA+ samples. Clusters (in rows), ranked from those exclusively in LANA- samples (top) to those exclusively in LANA+ samples (bottom); asterisks indicate clusters statistically significantly different between conditions, defined by unpaired t-test corrected for multiple comparisons using the Holm-Sidak method, p<0.05. Data show mean ± SEM with individual symbols indicating individual sample values (n=4 per group). Relative protein expression for each cluster (right panel) is indicated by heatmap intensity, with protein markers divded by functional categories. (D) tSNE plot of LANA- and LANA+ cells colored according to LANA- and LANA+ exclusivity (left), vRCA expression (middle), and pH2AX expression (right panel). Red and blue lines identify events exclusive to LANA+ or LANA- clusters (left panel). Ruler defines range of expression with values calculated using the equation arcsinh (x/5) where x is raw expression value. Live, DNA+ cells (191 lr+ 193 lr+ 195 Pt-) were imported into PhenoGraph with 9,162 events total analyzed (1.018 events from each sample; n=1, mock, n=4 each for LANA+ and LANA- samples), clustered on 9 cell surface proteins (vRCA, BST2, CD9, CD29, CD44, CD63, Ly6A/E, Ly6C, and MHCI). See also Figure S1.

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Figure 2. LANA+ cells show heterogeneous protein and post-translational modifications during lytic infection. CyTOF analysis of LANA+ MHV68-infected cells as in Figure 1. (A) PhenoGraph analysis of 40,000 LANA+ cells (10,000 cells/sample, 4 samples) clustered by 9 cell surface proteins (vRCA, BST2, CD9, CD29, CD44, CD63, Ly6A/E, Ly6C, and MHCI) identified 15 unique cellular clusters colored by cluster ID and displayed on a tSNE plot. (B) LANA+ cells can be stratified into six categories based on expression of pH2AX, vRCA, Ly6C, and BST2, with (C) LANA+ cells colored by expression levels for each protein marker. Ruler defines range of expression with values calculated using the equation arcsinh (x/5) where x is raw expression value. (D) LANA+ cells were divided into pH2AX<sup>Lo</sup> and pH2AX<sup>Hi</sup> events, and compared for raw median expression. Data depict proteins whose expression was statistically significantly different between pH2AX<sup>Lo</sup> and pH2AX<sup>Hi</sup> events. Data depict mean ± SEM with individual symbols indicating values from independent samples (n=4/group). All samples were analyzed for statistical significance using unpaired t tests, corrected for multiple comparisons using the Holm-Sidak method, with statistical significance denoted as \*p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01. \*\*\*p<0.001. See also Figure S2.

Figure 3. MHV68-infected cells with a pH2AX<sup>high</sup> vRCA<sup>high</sup> cell phenotype express high viral mRNA and low host actin RNA. Flow cytometric analysis of protein and RNA expression in 3T12 fibroblasts infected with MHV68 (MOI=0.5, harvested 16 hpi). (A) Analysis of vRCA and pH2AX protein expression in mock and MHV68-infected cultures identified four populations denoted by numbers and color (1=Gray, 2=Blue, 3=Orange, 4=Red). (B) Analysis of viral ORF18 and host Actin (Actb) mRNA expression across four populations of MHV68-infected cultures, stratified by vRCA and pH2AX expression. Border color of biaxial plots corresponds to the parent population stratified by protein expression in panel A. (C)

mean ± SEM from 3 independent experimental samples. Flow cytometric analysis was done on singlets, following gating to remove doublets.

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Figure 4. scRNA-seq reveals wide variation in the frequency and magnitude of viral RNA expression. scRNA-seq analysis of MHV68 viral gene expression in LANA+ 3T12 fibroblasts as in Figure 1A. (A) LANA+ cells show a wide range in how many viral genes are expressed on a per-cell basis. Expression of a viral gene was defined conservatively as any viral gene with ≥1 UMI detected per cell, with data showing the distribution of cells based on number of viral genes expressed per cell. (B) Viral genes vary widely in mean UMI per cell and the frequency of cells expressing an individual viral gene. Mean viral UMI per cell was calculated from positive cells that expressed ≥1 UMI per gene, with five representative genes identified by unique shading. Each dot represents expression for a single viral gene product for all 80 annotated MHV68 open reading frames. (C) The distribution of cells based on total viral UMIs reveals a bimodal distribution of virus low and virus high cells. (D) Total viral UMIs per cell as a function of the number of viral genes detected per cell (as in panel A). Cells demonstrate a bimodal distribution of total viral UMIs with virus high and low cells, with a positive Spearman correlation coefficient, rs, as indicated. (E) Frequency of cells expressing each viral gene, with viral gene expression defined as ≥1 UMI for each viral gene. Dashed line indicates 50% of events. (F) Mean UMI count per viral gene, defined by calculating mean value only from positive cells (≥1 UMI for each viral gene), depicting mean ± SD. Data represent scRNA-seg data from all LANA+ cells (n=1605 cells), nd, genes that were not detected. See also Figure S3 and Table S1.

Figure 5. Visualization of genome-wide viral gene expression at the single-cell level.

scRNA-seq analysis of MHV68 gene expression in LANA+ 3T12 fibroblasts as depicted in

Figure 1A. Comprehensive visualization of viral gene expression on a single cell basis. Each

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row depicts expression pattern for a different viral gene. Each column depicts expression within an individual cell. Cells are rank ordered from the cell with the least (left) to the greatest total viral UMI count (right), with corresponding total viral (filled orange line) and host (black dots) UMIs per cell depicted in the bottom panel. Cells are further bisected into Virus low cells (< 500 viral UMIs per cell) and Virus high cells (> 500 viral UMIs per cell) by a thick vertical black line, from a total of 1605 cells. UMI counts are stratified based on the indicated heatmap scale. See also Figure S4.

Figure 6: MHV68-infected cells can be stratified by differential abundance of virus and host RNAs. scRNA-seg analysis of MHV68-infected LANA+ cells for viral and host RNAs. (A-E) 3D tSNE-based dimensionality reduction was used to visualize gene expression within individual cells. (A) K-means clustering identified 5 unique cell clusters, as labelled. (B) Viral and host RNAs show different patterns of expression, comparing viral immediate early (IE), early-late (E-L) and late (L) genes with host beta actin (Actb). UMI counts visualized in individual cells (symbols) as defined by key. (C) The ratio of host Actb to ORF37 UMIs, calculated for each cell and overlaid onto tSNE-based visualization, varies widely across cells. (D) Percent of viral (left) and host UMIs (right) per cell was calculated for each cell, portrayed by shade of color overlaid onto tSNE visualization. (E) Cells were separated into two groups: virus biased (red) and host biased (black) based on percent viral and host UMIs, and K-means clustering. Host biased cells included clusters A and B with <20% virus UMIs on a per cell basis. (F) Characteristics of virus and host biased cells based on scRNA-seq data. (G-H) Number of (G) viral or (H) host genes with mean UMI expression >1, among either virus (open red symbol) or host biased cells (dashed black line). (I) Violin plots depict the distribution of mean gene expression among expressed genes (mean UMI expression >1), comparing viral genes (left) or host genes (right) in either virus biased (open red symbol) or host biased cells (open black line). Quartiles and median are depicted in each violin plot. Statistical comparisons

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compared viral or host genes and their difference between virus and host biased cells.

\*\*\*\*\*p<0.0001, one way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparisons test. ns, not significant. (J-K)
Biaxial analysis of LANA+ cells (n=1605 cells) comparing total host UMI count (y axis) versus total viral UMI count (x axis) identified three major cell populations, stratified by differential expression of viral or host genes. (K) Identification of cells that are Virus<sup>low</sup> Host<sup>high</sup> (blue), Virus<sup>high</sup> Host<sup>high</sup> (orange), and Virus<sup>high</sup> Host<sup>low</sup> (red). (L-P) Histogram overlays comparing relative expression of (L-O) viral and (P) host genes for the three identified cell populations.

Each gene is denoted by its IE, E, or L class and by its kinetic class defined by (Cheng et al., 2012). See also Figure S5-6, Table S2.

Figure 7. Correlation analysis reveals positive and negative correlations in MHV68 transcription at the single-cell level. The inter-relationship of viral gene expression was interrogated using scRNA-seg data from MHV68-infected LANA+ cells. (A) Correlation matrix of viral genes among Virushigh cells (>500 viral UMIs/cell), depicting Spearman correlation coefficient, rs, for each gene pair according to the indicated heatmap. Positive correlation is indicated by blue, negative correlation indicated by red. Correlation matrix depicts all viral genes except for M10b and M10c (X indicates gene for which there were no values) and M12, M13 and M14 (excluded due to negligible values). (B) A comparison of correlation coefficients between viral gene pairs when analyzing all cells (top), Virus<sup>high</sup> (middle) or Virus<sup>low</sup> (bottom) cells. Data identify discrepant correlations observed in different cell subsets. (C) Examples of host and virus gene pairs with positive correlations, demonstrated by plotting scRNA-seg gene expression values on biaxial plots across all LANA+ cells. (D) Examples of host and virus gene pairs with a lack of correlation or negative correlation. Panels in C-D depict scRNA-seg values for all LANA+ cells (n=1,605 cells), including both Virus and Virus events. Each plot includes the Spearman correlation coefficient for the indicated gene pair defined across all cells. See also Figure S7.

STAR ★ METHODS 711 712 **Contact for Reagent and Resource Sharing** 713 Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to, and will be 714 fulfilled by, the Lead Contact, Linda van Dyk (Linda.vanDyk@cuanschutz.edu). 715 716 **Experimental Model and Subject Details** 717 Viruses 718 All experiments used WT MHV68 (strain WUMS; ATCC VR-1465) (Virgin et al., 1997), using 719 either bacterial artificial chromosome-derived WT MHV68 (Adler et al., 2000) or WT 720 MHV68.LANAβlac, which encodes a fusion between ORF73 and the beta-lactamase gene 721 (Nealy et al., 2010). Certain studies were done using a variant engineered to contain a 722 translational stop in the ORF72 (v-cyclin) gene, on the WT MHV68.LANAßlac background 723 (Niemeyer et al., 2018). MHV68 was grown and titrated by plaque assay on 3T12 fibroblasts. 724 as previously published (Diebel et al., 2015). 725 Cell Culture 726 NIH 3T12 cells (ATCC # CCL-164) were grown in Dulbecco's modified Eagle medium (DMEM. 727 Gibco, Life Technologies) supplemented with 5% fetal bovine serum (Atlanta Biologicals), 1x 728 Penicillin-Streptomycin-L-Glutamine (Gibco, Life Technologies). Cells were passaged using 729 0.05% trypsin (Gibco, Life Technologies) after washing with 1x PBS (Gibco, Life 730 Technologies). Cells were maintained at 37°C in a 5% CO<sub>2</sub> humidified incubator (Forma 731 Scientific). 732 733 **Method Details** 734 RNA sequencing and Analysis 735 3T12 fibroblasts were infected at an MOI=0.5 with a low volume inoculum for one hour, after 736 which inoculum was removed and cells were rinsed. Cells were harvested at 16 hours postinfection (hpi) and stained with β-lactamase substrate as previously reported (Diebel et al., 2015) using the CCF2-AM substrate (Invitrogen, Life Technologies). Cells were subjected to fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS), with cells gated on singlet cells that were positive for the cleaved CCF2-AM substrate. Cleavage of CCF2-AM was defined as positive fluorescence in the violet laser-excited 450nm emission channel obtained in WT MHV68.LANAβlac or cycKO MHV68.LANAβlac-infected cultures, compared to parental WT MHV68 infected cultures with no beta-lactamase fusion gene, used to define background fluorescence. β-lactamase positive cells were sorted using a FACSAria Fusion (BD Biosciences). Cells were spun down at 1,200 RPM (Sorvall RT60003), and resuspended in 1x PBS (Gibco, Life Technologies). Cells were either prepared for CyTOF or RNA-sequencing by the Genomics and Microarray Shared Resource Core at University of Colorado. Bulk RNA-seq libraries were sequenced using Illumina HiSeg4000 platform with single-end reads (1 × 151). with forty million reads per sample collected and resulting sequences filtered and trimmed to remove low-quality bases (Phred score <15), and analyzed using a custom computational pipeline consisting of open-source gSNAP, Cufflinks. Single cell RNA Sequencing (scRNAseg) (1000 cells per sample) was submitted for single cell barcoding and cDNA synthesis on a 10x Genomics Chromium Controller (10x Genomics), with recovered cell number and sequencing depth for scRNA-seg described in Figure S3. cDNA was sequenced using the NovaSEQ 6000 instrument with an S4 Flow Cell (Illumina). Sequence data was analyzed as follows: Cellranger (2.0.2) count module was used for alignment, filtering, barcode counting and UMI counting of the single cell FASTQs. tSNE coordinates were determined by CellRanger.

# PrimeFlow RNA Assay

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3T12 fibroblasts were infected at an MOI=1.0 with a small-volume inoculation. Inoculum was removed and rinsed-off with PBS after one hour and growth medium was replaced. Cells were

harvested 16 hpi and processed for flow cytometry using the PrimeFlow RNA Assay (Thermo Fisher) as described previously (Oko et al., 2019). Briefly, cells were stained with a rabbit antibody against the MHV68 ORF4 protein (vRCA), labeled with a Zenon R-phycoerythrin rabbit IgG label reagent (Life Technologies) per manufacturer's protocol (Oko et al., 2019). Following cell fixation, cells were then subjected to fluorescent barcoding, labeling distinct experimental conditions with either Ghost Dye Violet 450 (Tonbo Biosciences), Ghost Dye Violet 510 (Tonbo Biosciences) or leaving the cells unlabeled. Labelled samples were then combined into a single tube and subjected to probe hybridization for viral and host RNAs or proteins following the manufacturer's protocol. Flow cytometric analysis was done on an LSR II instrument (BD Biosciences). Compensation values were initially based on antibody-stained beads (BD Biosciences) and cross-validated using cell samples stained with individual antibody conjugates, with compensation modified as needed post-collection using FlowJo. PrimeFlow probes and antibodies included: i) a type 6 (AlexaFluor750)-mouse actb probe, ii) a type 4 (AF488)-MHV68 ORF18 probe, iii) PE-labelled anti-vRCA antibody, and iv) AF647conjugated anti-mouse phospho-histone H2AX antibody (clone JBW301, that recognizes phosphorylated serine 139 of H2AX).

# **CyTOF Sample Preparation and Data Acquisition**

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CyTOF antibodies were obtained from Fluidigm (previously DVS Sciences), provided by the University of Colorado CyTOF Antibody Bank, supported by the Flow Cytometry Shared Resource and the Human Immune Monitoring Shared Resource of the University of Colorado Cancer Center. Samples were FACS purified based on LANA:: $\beta$ -lactamase dependent CCF2-AM cleavage, into either LANA $\beta$ Iac+ or LANA $\beta$ Iac- fractions, transferred to 5mL screw cap tubes, spun down, and stained for viability using 5  $\mu$ M Cell-ID Cisplatin (Fluidigm) diluted in 1X PBS (Rockland Immunochemicals) for 5 minutes at RT. Samples were then washed, fixed, and each sample labelled with a series of unique palladium isotopic barcodes (Cell-ID 20-Plex

Palladium (Pd) Barcoding Kit, Fluidigm). After samples were washed and pooled, cells were pre-treated with 2.4G2 Fc receptor blockade (Tonbo) using a 1:100 dilution of antibody. Cells were incubated with a panel of antibodies, diluted in Maxpar Cell Staining Buffer (Fluidigm), to detect cell surface proteins, washed, then incubated with secondary detection antibodies (anti-FITC, anti-PE, anti-APC, anti-Biotin, and goat anti-rabbit isotopically labelled antibodies) (Kimball et al., 2019). Samples were washed, fixed, and permeabilized (eBioscience Foxp3 / Transcription Factor Staining Buffer Set, Thermo Fisher) before incubation with antibodies to intracellular proteins. The sample was washed, fixed with freshly made 1.6% paraformaldehyde diluted in Maxpar PBS (16% paraformaldehyde, Alfa Aesar), incubated in 0.125nM Iridium intercalator diluted in Maxpar PBS (Fluidigm), and stored at 4°C until acquisition. Samples were washed with 3ml of Maxpar Cell Staining Buffer, washed two times with deionized water (Milli-Q®), resuspended in deionized water (Milli-Q) containing 1:9 EQ Four Element Calibration Beads (Fluidigm), filtered through CellTrics 30um disposable filters (Sysmex-Partec), and counted with a BIORAD TC20 automated cell counter. Data was acquired on the Helios mass cytometer (Fluidigm). To ensure an appropriate flow rate though the Helios, the sample volume was adjusted with the EQ Four Element Calibration Beads (Fluidigm)/deionized water (Milli-Q) to dilute the sample to 1 million cells/mL at an acquired event rate of 400,000-500,000 events/hr.

# CyTOF sample normalization/debarcoding

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Data were normalized with bead-based normalization using NormalizerR2013b\_MacOSX and then debarcoded using SingleCellDebarcoderR2013b\_MacOSX, using software downloaded from the Nolan laboratory GitHub page (https://github.com/nolanlab). Normalized and debarcoded data were subjected to traditional Boolean gating in FlowJo, identifying DNA+ events (<sup>191</sup>Iridium (Ir)+ <sup>193</sup> Ir+) that were viable (<sup>195</sup> Platinum(Pt)-), exported for downstream analysis in PhenoGraph.

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CyTOF Data Analysis Normalized and debarcoded live DNA+ events were imported into cytofkit, and subjected to the PhenoGraph algorithm. Clustering was done on either 9 cell surface proteins (Figures 1-2) or all 23 proteins (Figure S1). PhenoGraph was run with the following settings: 1) Merge method: "min" (Figures 1, S1) or "ceiling: 10,000 events" (Fig. 2), 2) Transformation method: "cytofAsinh", 3) Clustering method: "Rphenograph", and 4) Visualization method: "tSNE". All other settings were selected by default. Median marker intensity for mock, LANA-, and LANA+ samples was calculated in FlowJo. Statistical significance was tested in GraphPad Prism using an unpaired t test, with statistical significance as identified. PhenoGraph visualization and analysis PhenoGraph tSNE plots were visualized and customized in the R package "Shiny" (Kimball et al., 2018). In the "Shiny" application cluster color was customized, tSNE plots were colored according to the expression of various cellular markers, and dendrograms were generated. The "cluster cell percentage" .csv file was used for comparing the distribution of events between conditions and determining statistical significance. RT-qPCR RNA was isolated using the RNeasy Micro Kit (Qiagen) following manufacturer's specifications. DNA contamination was removed using Turbo-DNAse (ThermoFisher) according to the manufacturer's specifications. RT-qPCR for Ifnb1 was performed using a primer/probe set (ThermoFisher) and the LightCycler 480 Probes Master (Roche) in 384-well plates on the QuantStudio 7 Flex Instrument (Applied Biosystems, Life Technologies), RNA was reverse transcribed with SuperScript II (Invitrogen) and qPCR was performed using iQ SYBR Green SuperMix (Bio-Rad) in 384-well plates on the QuantStudio 7 Flex instrument

(Applied Biosystems, Life Technologies). qRT-PCR results were analyzed using the Pfaffl method, as described by (Pfaffl, 2001), with standardization relative to 18S.

## **Quantification and Statistical Analysis**

Data from the 10X Genomics Chromium Controller (10x Genomics) were analyzed with CellRanger, including calculation of cell coordinates for 3D tSNE plots, visualized in Plotly. Unbiased K means clustering was carried out using the DoKmeans function in Seurat. SeqGeq was used for biaxial plotting of scRNAseq data. All flow cytometry data analysis was performed using FlowJo V.10.0.8r1 with flow cytometry data shown as dot plots or averaged for bar graphs. Statistical significance was tested using unpaired student's t test or one-way ANOVA analysis with Tukey's multiple comparisons test. Statistical analysis and graphing were performed with GraphPad Prism 7.0d or higher. Gene expression correlation was determined with Spearman's correlation analysis in GraphPad Prism (8.4.2). CyTOF analysis was done using PhenoGraph as described above or in (Kimball et al., 2018). p values less than 0.05 were considered significant.

## **Data and Software Availability**

CyTOF data have been deposited to FlowRepository.org and will be made publicly available upon manuscript acceptance. RNA-Seq data have been deposited to NCBI GEO and will be made publicly available upon manuscript acceptance.

## 861 Key Resources Table

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
Anti-beta-Catenin (clone D13A1) – 165Ho	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3165027A, RRID:
		AB_2811247
Anti-Human/Mouse CD44 (clone IM7) – 171Yb	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3171003B
Anti-IkBa (amino-terminal antigen) (clone	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3164004A, RRID:
L35A5) – 164Dy		AB_2811249
Anti-Ki67 (clone B56) – 161Dy	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3161007B, RRID:
		AB_2811255
Anti-Mouse Ly-6A/E (Sca-1) (clone D7) – 169Tm	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3169015B, RRID:
		AB_2811233
Anti-Mouse Ly-6C (clone HK1.4) – 162Dy	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3162014B
Anti-Mouse MHC Class I (clone 28-14-8) –	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3144016B, RRID:
144Nd		AB_2687831
Anti-Human cleaved PARP (clone F21-852) –	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3143011A
143Nd		
Anti-p-p38 [T180/Y182] (clone D3F9) – 156Gd	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3156002A, RRID:
		AB_2661826
Anti-p4E-BP1 [T37/T46] (clone 236B4) – 149Sm	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3149005A, RRID:
		AB_2847866
Anti-pAkt [S473] (clone D9E) – 152Sm	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3152005A, RRID:
		AB_2811246
Anti-pERK 1/2 [T202/Y204] (clone D1314.4E) –	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3167005A, RRID:
167Er		AB_2661834

Anti-pHistone H2A.X [Ser139] (clone JBW301) -	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3147016A, RRID:
147Sm		AB_2847865
Anti-pRb [S807/811] (clone J112-906) – 150Nd	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3150013A, RRID:
		AB_2811254
Anti-pS6 [S235/S236] (clone N7-548) –172Yb	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3172008A, RRID:
		AB_2811251
Anti-pSHP2 [Y580] (clone D66F10) – 141Pr	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3141002A, RRID:
		AB_2811252
Anti-pStat1 [Y701] (clone 58D6) – 153Eu	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3153003A, RRID:
		AB_2661824
Anti-pStat3 [Y705] (clone 4/P-Stat3) – 158Gd	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3158005A, RRID:
		AB_2661827
Anti-APC (clone APC003) – 176Yb	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3176007B, RRID:
		AB_2811236
Anti-Biotin (clone 1D4-C5) – 170Er	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3170003B, RRID:
		AB_2811234
Anti-FITC (clone FIT-22) – 160Gd	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3160011B, RRID:
		AB_2811235
Anti-PE (clone PE-001) – 145Nd	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3145006B, RRID:
		AB_2687631
APC anti-mouse CD137 (Bst2, PDCA-1) (clone	BioLegend	Cat#: 127015, RRID:
927)		AB_1967101
Biotin anti-mouse/rat CD29 (clone HMβ1-1)	BioLegend	Cat#: 102203, RRID:
		AB_312880

FITC anti-mouse CD9 (clone MZ3)	BioLegend	Cat#: 124807, RRID:
		AB_1279324
Goat Anti-Rabbit (polyclonal) – 175Lu	Fluidigm	Cat#: 3175002G
PE anti-mouse CD63 (clone NVG-2)	BioLegend	Cat#: 143903, RRID:
		AB_11203532
Purified Anti-Mouse CD16/CD32 (clone 2.4G2)	Tonbo	Cat#: 70-0161-U500, RRID:
		AB_2621487
vRCA Ab (goat polyclonal antiserum)	Dr. H.W. Virgin	Laboratory generated
	IV	polyclonal antiserum
Alexa Fluor 647-conjugated anti-phospho	MilliporeSigma	Cat#: 05-636-AF647
Histone H2A.X [S139] (clone JBW301)		
Chemicals, Peptides, and Recombinant Proteins		
Paraformaldehyde (PFA), 16% w/v aqueous	Alfa Aesar by	Cat#: 43368
solution, methanol free	Thermo Fischer	
1x PBS	Gibco, Rockland	Cat#: 10010-023
	Immunochemica	
	Is	
Barcoding Perm Buffer (10X)	Fluidigm	Cat#: 201057
Cell-ID™ 20-Plex Pd Barcoding Set	Fluidigm	Cat#: PN S00114
Cell-ID™ Cisplatin	Fluidigm	Cat#: 201064
Cell-ID™ Intercalator-Ir	Fluidigm	Cat#: 201192B
Water, deionized distilled	Millipore	Cat#: EM3234
DMEM, high glucose	Gibco, Life	Cat#: 11965-118
	Technologies	

eBioscience™ Foxp3 / Transcription Factor	Invitrogen by	Cat#: 00-5523-00
Fixation/Permeabilization Concentrate and	Thermo Fisher	
Diluent		
EQ™ Four Element Calibration Beads	Fluidigm	Cat#: 201078
Fetal Bovine Serum	Atlanta	Cat#: S11550
	Biologicals	
iQ SYBR Green Supermix	Bio-Rad	Cat#: 170-8882
Lightcycler 480 Probes Master	Roche	Ref#: 04707494001
	Molecular	
	Systems	
Maxpar Cell Staining Buffer	Fluidigm	Cat#: 201068
Maxpar Fix I Buffer (5X)	Fluidigm	Cat#: S00115
Maxpar PBS	Fluidigm	Cat#: 201058
Penicillin-Streptomycin-Glutamate (100x)	Gibco, Life	Cat#: 10378016
	Technologies	
Poly(I:C) HMW	Invivogen	Cat#: tlrl-pic
Proteinase K	Promega	Cat#: V3021
Sodium Chloride	ThermoFisher	Cat#: BP-358-212
SuperScript II Reverse Transcriptase	Invitrogen,	Cat#: 18064014
	Thermo Fisher	
Trypsin-EDTA (0.05%), phenol red	Gibco, Thermo	Cat#: 25300-054
	Fisher	
TURBO DNase (2 U/μL)	ThermoFisher	Cat#: AM2238
X-tremeGENE HP DNA transfection reagent	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat#: 6366236001
Critical Commercial Assays	<u> </u>	1

DNeasy Blood and Tissue Kit	Qiagen	Cat#: 69506	
LiveBLAzer FRET-B/G Loading Kit with CCF2-	Life	Cat#: K1032	
AM	Technologies,		
	ThermoFisher		
OneStep RT-PCR Kit	Qiagen	Cat#: 210212	
PrimeFlow™ RNA Assay Kit	ThermoFisher	Cat#: 88-18005-210	
RNeasy Micro Kit	Qiagen	Cat#: 74004	
Zenon™ R-Phycoerythrin Rabbit IgG Labeling	Invitrogen,	Cat#: Z25355	
Kit	ThermoFisher		
Deposited Data			
Raw CyTOF data	This study	FlowRepository.org	
Raw single cell RNAseq data	This study	GEO	
Experimental Models: Cell Lines			
Murine 3T12 fibroblasts (BALB/3T12-3)	ATCC	ATCC CCL-164™	
Experimental Models: Organisms/Strains	Experimental Models: Organisms/Strains		
Murine gammaherpesvirus 68 (Wild-type, WT	L.F. van Dyk	(Virgin et al., 1997)	
MHV68)			
Murine gammaherpesvirus 68 with a LANA::βlac	L.F. van Dyk	(Nealy et al., 2010)	
gene fusion (WT MHV68.blac)			
Murine gammaherpesvirus 68 cyclin-deficient	L.F. van Dyk	(Niemeyer et al., 2018)	
virus with a LANA::βlac gene fusion (CycKO			
MHV68.blac)			
	Î.		
Oligonucleotides			

Mouse Actb probe, Type 6 (AlexaFuor750)	Thermo Fisher	VB6-12823
Mouse 18S primer/probe set	Thermo Fisher	Cat#: Mm03928990_g1
Mouse 18S Quantitect Primer Assay	Qiagen	Cat#: QT00199367
Mouse Ifnb1 primer/probe set	Thermo Fisher	Cat#: Mm00439552_s1
Software and Algorithms		
Adobe Illustrator 24.1.3	Adobe	www.adobe.com/illustrator
Bead Normalization	Github	https://github.com/nolanlab/be
(NormalizerR2013b_MacOSX)		ad-normalization
Cell Ranger	10x Genomics	https://www.10xgenomics.com
Cytofkit v3.8	Bioconductor	http://bioconductor.org/packag
		es/release/bioc/html/cytofkit.ht
		<u>ml</u>
FlowJo v10.4.2 and v10.6.1	FlowJo	https://www.flowjo.com
GraphPad Prism 7.0 and 8.0	GraphPad	https://www.graphpad.com
Matlab	MathWorks	https://www.mathworks.com/pr
		oducts/matlab.html
Microsoft Excel 15.28	Microsoft	www.microsoft.com
Microsoft Office 15.28	Microsoft	www.microsoft.com
R studio v1.1.453	R studio	https://www.rstudio.com/
SeqGeq 1.6.0	FlowJo	https://www.flowjo.com
Seurat	Satija lab	https://www.satijalab.org/seura
		<u>t</u>
Single Cell Debarcoder	Github	https://github.com/nolanlab/sin
(SingleCellDebarcoderR2013b_ MacOSX)		gle-cell-debarcoder
XQuartz v2.7.11	XQuartz	https://www.xquartz.org

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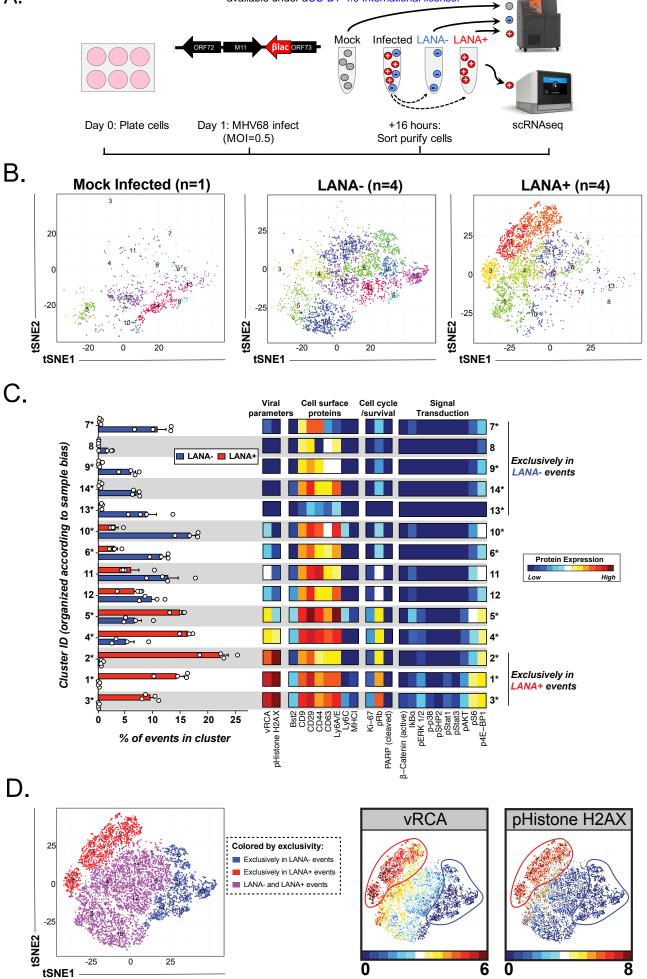
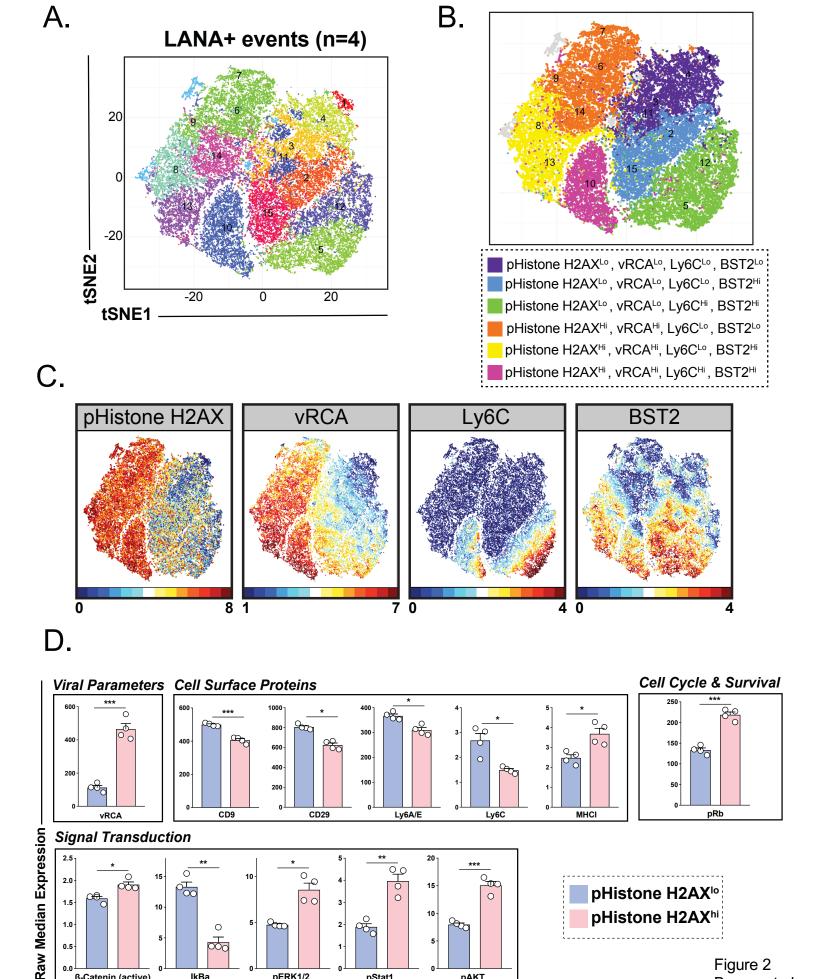


Figure 1 Berger et al



β-Catenin (active)

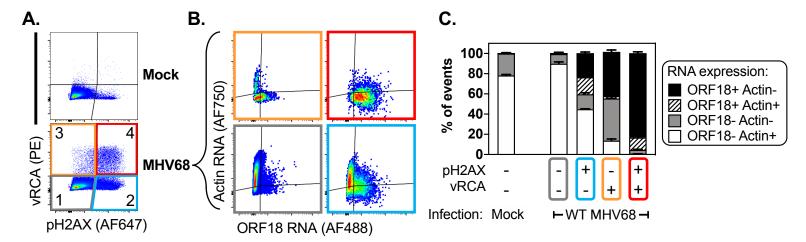
IkBa

pERK1/2

pStat1

pAKT

Figure 2 Berger et al



nd

25 50

% Positive Events

75 100

Figure 4 Berger et al

10<sup>0</sup> 10<sup>1</sup> 10<sup>2</sup> 10<sup>3</sup> 10<sup>4</sup>

Mean UMI ± SD

(in positive cells)

100

10

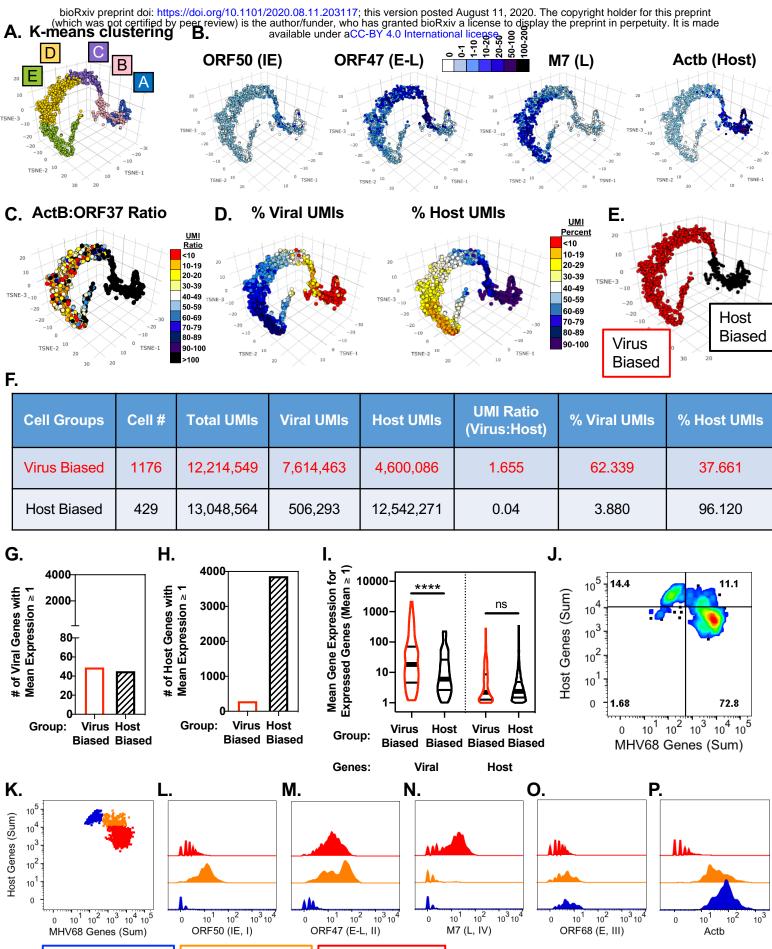
Virus low cells (< 500 vUMIs/cell)

Viral UMIs (in orange)

Virus high cells

(> 500 vUMIs/cell)

Figure 5 Berger et al



Virushigh Hostlow

Virus<sup>low</sup> Host<sup>high</sup>

Virushigh Hosthigh

Figure 6 Berger et al

0 10<sup>1</sup> 10<sup>2</sup> 10<sup>3</sup> Figure 7

Berger et al

ORF64 —

0 10<sup>1</sup>10<sup>2</sup>10<sup>3</sup>10<sup>4</sup>

ORF50

0 10<sup>1</sup> 10<sup>2</sup> 10<sup>3</sup>

ORF64

ORF64

M9 0.03 0.12 0.06 0.35