Systematic characterization of site-specific proline hydroxylation using hydrophilic interaction chromatography and mass spectrometry

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Abstract

To improve understanding of the role of site-specific proline hydroxylation in controlling protein function, we have developed a robust workflow for the identification of proline hydroxylation sites in proteins using a combination of hydrophilic interaction chromatography (HILIC) enrichment and high-resolution nano-Liquid Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS). Using this approach, together with refining and filtering parameters during data analysis, by combining the results from cell lines being treated with either the prolyl hydroxylase inhibitor Roxadustat (FG-4592, FG) or the proteasome inhibitor MG-132 (MG), or DMSO, a total of 4,993 and 3,247 proline hydroxylation sites were identified in HEK293 and RCC4 samples, respectively. A subset of 1,954 and 1,253 high confident proline hydroxylation sites (non-collagen) from HEK293 and RCC4 samples were inhibited by FG-4592 treatment. A set of features characteristic of proline hydroxylated peptides were identified in both datasets, which differ from either unmodified peptides, or oxidised peptides. Peptides containing hydroxyproline were enriched in the more hydrophilic HILIC fractions and showed characteristic differences in charge and mass distribution, as compared with unmodified or oxidised peptides. Furthermore, we discovered that the intensity of the

diagnostic hydroxyproline immonium ion was greatly influenced by parameters including the MS collision energy setting, parent peptide concentration and the sequence of adjacent amino acids neighbouring the modified proline. We show using synthetic peptides that a combination of retention time in LC and optimised MS parameter settings allows reliable identification of proline hydroxylation sites in peptides, even when multiple prolines residues are present. By matching all the proline hydroxylated, non-collagen proteins to the Pfam database, the most common protein family domains identified in both HEK293 and RCC4 datasets were RNA recognition motif (RRM_1), WD40 repeat (WD40), and protein kinase domain (Pkinase). Sequence analysis of the hydroxylated peptides showed enrichment for the motif GxPGxx, including the Gxx repeats found in collagen proteins, as well as the protein kinase domain GTP motif. Glycine (G), serine (S) and glutamic acid (E) residues were found frequently in the sequence window from the hydroxylated peptides. Reactome pathway analysis for the proteins of these newly identified proline hydroxylation sites (FG inhibited), showed enrichment for proteins involved in metabolism of RNA, mRNA splicing and cell cycle regulation, potentially mediated by prolyl hydroxylase enzymes (PHDs).

Introduction

Site-specific hydroxylation of proline residues is an important enzymatic protein post-translational modification (PTM), which is mediated by PHDs. For example, PHDs are essential for controlling HIF-α protein levels via their proline hydroxylation activity, in the presence of iron, 2-oxoglutarate and molecular oxygen [1-3]. HIFs are key transcription factors that regulate the acute and adaptive responses to changes in oxygen availability through a variety of target genes involved in metabolism, proliferation, cell motility and cell death [4-7].

Proline hydroxylation in HIF-α leads to an increased affinity with the VHL E3-ligase complex, K48-ubiquitination and proteasomal degradation [8-10]. Until recently, HIF-α family was regarded as the only verified target for the PHD family of enzymes. Cummins et al [11] suggested that PHDs could also regulate the kinase activity of IKK enzymes, based upon functional assays in cells, but did not provide a formal demonstration mapping sites of proline hydroxylation in the IKK complex. More recently, several studies have reported other potential protein targets for PHDs [11-15], based upon either biochemical, and/or in-cell functional analyses, including mutations and, in some cases, also mass spectrometry-based proteomics analysis [16,17].

The use of MS-based proteomics analysis is widely established for the identification and characterisation of multiple PTMs, including phosphorylation [18-20], methylation [21], ubiquitination [22], glycosylation [23,24], and others [25-28]. The benefit of using MS is that many modification sites can be identified and quantified in a robust and unbiased way [26]. However, so far it has proven difficult to reliably identify sites of proline modification in proteins outside the collagen family using MS methods, leading to controversy in the field regarding whether there are any intracellular targets for PHD-mediated hydroxylation beyond the HIF family of proteins. For example, the recent study by Cockman et al [29] added to this controversy by reporting that purified PHD enzymes failed to recapitulate efficient proline hydroxylation *in vitro* at sites previously identified on proteins isolated from cells, using a mass spectrometry analysis platform. They proposed, therefore, that HIF-α may be the only physiologically relevant target for PHDs. An alternative interpretation for the difference seen between proline hydroxylation of proteins isolated from cell extracts, as opposed to *in vitro* hydroxylation assays, is that technical limitations with the *in vitro* assays may be responsible for the failure to detect hydroxylation of non-HIF target proteins.

The controversy surrounding whether there exist in cells additional *bona fide* PHD target proteins has highlighted several technical problems that complicate the identification of sites of enzymatic proline hydroxylation by MS. These include (i) the lack of proven strategies for enriching proline-hydroxylated peptides during sample preparation for MS, and (ii) the risk of misidentification of hydroxylated proline, due to potential confusion with oxidation of Methionine (M), which can occur as a non-enzymatic, chemical modification of peptides during sample preparation. Other reported technical issues include possible confusion of hydroxylated proline with Leucine/Isoleucine (L/I) residues, (which have similar mass), the frequent absence of diagnostic fragment ions and other problems associated with low-quality MS spectra.

In previous studies using an MS-based proteomics workflow to identify proline hydroxylation sites, antibodies that recognise hydroxyproline were used to enrich either whole proteins, or peptides, prior to MS analysis [30,31], similar to antibody-based strategies commonly used to enrich other types of protein modifications for MS-based analysis. However, both the unreliability of currently available anti-hydroxyproline antibodies and the relatively low abundance of proline hydroxylated peptides at steady state, has in practice limited the success of this approach.

In this study, we report the development of a robust approach for the enrichment and reliable identification of proline hydroxylation sites in proteins using an MS workflow. This includes a sample enrichment step using HILIC, taking advantage of the difference in hydrophilicity that results from the addition of the hydroxyl group to proline. HILIC is known to be capable of separating polar compounds [32], such as peptides [33,34] and carbohydrates [35], and has been reported previously to allow enrichment of hydroxylated peptides [36]. We show that by combining HILIC enrichment with optimised MS instrument parameters and data analysis procedures, sites of proline hydroxylation can be reliably identified and subsequently verified by the analysis of synthetic peptides. Using this approach, we report the identification of 4,993 proline hydroxylation sites in HEK293 cell extracts and 3,247 sites in RCC4 cell extracts, along with analysis of common motifs found at sites of modification and classes of target proteins harbouring hydroxylated proteins. This study demonstrates that intracellular proteins outside of the HIF family can indeed be targets for site-specific proline hydroxylation and provides a robust methodology for future investigations into the wider role of PHDs in regulating cell functions.

Results

The hydroxylation of proline, which adds a hydroxyl (OH) group to the gamma carbon atom, significantly alters its chemical properties (Figure 1A). The pKa value in free proline (Pro or P) is 10.8, while for hydroxylated Proline (HyPro or P-OH) it is 9.68 [37]. Hence, following proline hydroxylation, the resulting modified peptides will be more hydrophilic in acidic solution, which can be utilized for liquid chromatography (LC)-based separation. Thus, we have used HILIC fractionation to enrich hydroxylated peptides prior to MS analysis.

First, we tested the performance of HILIC in separating synthetic peptides of identical length and sequence that were either unmodified, hydroxylated on histidine, or hydroxylated on proline. As shown in Figure 1B, proline hydroxylation increased peptide retention time on the HILIC column and thus proline hydroxylated peptides can be separated by HILIC from their corresponding unmodified form, while peptides with hydroxylation at different amino acids can also be separated.

The HILIC fractionation method was then applied to the analysis of tryptic peptide samples generated from extracts of both RCC4 and HEK293 cell lines. Extracts were compared from cells treated with either the prolyl hydroxylase inhibitor FG-4592, or with the proteasome inhibitor MG-132, to prevent degradation of proline hydroxylated proteins, with DMSO treated cell extracts used as a control. The chromatography profile, (Figure 1C, shadow green), demonstrates the reproducibility of HILIC fractionation. Also, no desalting step was required after HILIC fractionation. Thus, 32 peptide fractions could be collected, dried, and directly used for LC-MS/MS analysis.

Using this HILIC enrichment strategy, by combining the results from the DMSO, FG-4592 and MG-132 datasets, a total of 3,588 and 5491 distinct proline hydroxylation sites (Table S1) were initially identified from the RCC4 and HEK293 samples, respectively. Next, by considering several unique features of HyPro, we established specific steps during data analysis, distinct from methods typically used for other PTM analyses, to enhance accurate identification of HyPro sites.

HILIC fractionation distinguished proline hydroxylated peptides from oxidised peptides

MS analysis software usually identifies post-translational peptide modifications through the detection of the mass shift of a peptide and its corresponding fragment ions as a result of the modification. However, the hydroxylation of a proline equates to a mass shift of 15.994915 Da, which is the same to the mass shift seen for the oxidation

of several other amino acids. For example, the oxidation of methionine residues is especially pertinent as it represents the amino acid on which chemical oxidation occurs most frequently. Indeed, methionine oxidation can either happen endogenously in cells, as a protection mechanism from oxidative damage on other reactive residues critical to the function of the protein [38,39], or it can occur exogenously, during sample preparation for MS analysis [40]. Hence, one of the most controversial issues around the identification of proline hydroxylation sites is the possibility of confusing chemical oxidation on methionine, or other amino acid residues, for proline hydroxylation [29].

As shown above using synthetic peptides, HILIC chromatography has the potential to separate the peaks of proline hydroxylated peptides from others. We therefore compared the percentage/distribution of peptides identified as either unmodified, methionine oxidised, or proline hydroxylated, across 32 HILIC fractions derived from both HEK293 (Figure 2) and RCC4 (Figure S1) cell extracts. From the initial results of HEK293 samples, most unmodified peptides were identified in fractions F1-F20 (Figure 2A), with oxidised peptides showing a similar pattern, but more enriched in fractions F4-F14. In contrast, hydroxylated peptides were enriched in HILIC fractions F13-F19, consistent with their increased hydrophilicity, with the addition of a hydroxyl group causing increased retention time on HILIC. A similar HILIC fraction distribution pattern was also seen with the samples from RCC4 cell extracts (Figure S1A).

Furthermore, the data also showed that the hydroxylated peptides have characteristic features that differ from either unmodified, or oxidised peptides. For example, we observed clear differences in both charge states (Figure 2B and Figure S1B) and mass distributions (Figure 2C and Figure S1C) of peptides containing hydroxylated proline residues. Thus, the most frequent charge state for both unmodified and oxidised peptide ions was 2+ with less peptide ions identified at higher charge states. In contrast, the most frequent charge state for peptide ions containing hydroxylated proline was 3+, with fewer peptide ions identified with a charge of either 2+, or 4+. The mass range for most of the unmodified and oxidised peptides was 800-2,220 Da, while for hydroxylated peptides it was 1,900-3100 Da.

A possible explanation for this observed variation in peptide mass value is that proline hydroxylation increases the frequency of missed cleavages when digesting proteins to peptides using trypsin, resulting in longer peptide sequences with on average a higher charge state and higher mass. Consistent with this hypothesis, a higher fraction (~65%) of the hydroxylated peptides from HEK293 samples were detected with at least one

missed cleavage (Figure 2D), compared with the fraction of either unmodified peptides (56%), or oxidised peptides (53%). The same phenomenon was observed for RCC4 samples (Figure S1D), where 52% of the proline hydroxylated peptides were detected with missed cleavages, which was higher than the level of peptides for either unmodified peptides (48%) or oxidised peptides (38%).

In summary, HILIC fractionation is shown to provide a convenient approach for enriching hydroxylated peptides and separating these from both unmodified and oxidised forms of the same peptide sequences.

Detection of HyPro diagnostic ion

The unique immonium ion (m/z of 86.0659), which is generated from the fragmentation of HyPro in MS, is known to distinguish HyPro from other amino acids in peptides, or PTMs (Figure S2). The immonium ion can be diagnostic for the presence of a hydroxylated proline. However, we were intrigued to see that even for synthetic peptides that are known to include a HyPro residue, this immonium ion was not always detectable in the MS2 fragmentation spectra (Figure 3). We therefore investigated whether the instrument settings used for MS analysis might affect the generation and detection of the immonium ion, following fragmentation of different peptide sequences. To test this, we compared MS2 spectra obtained from the hydroxylated synthetic peptides LDLEMLAP(564)YIPMDDD; (derived from protein HIF-1α [2]), WHLSSLAP(1717)PYVK; (derived from protein CEP192 [16]) and LAPITSDP(408)TEATAVGAVEASFK (derived from protein PKM2 [13]).

The intensity of related fragment ions was compared with each of these peptides (Figure 3). For all three peptides, (with 1 pmol of each analysed), the intensity of the diagnostic HyPro immonium ion (relative percentage to base peak MS2 intensity), increased following an increase in the collision energy (NCE) setting in the MS instrument used to generate fragment ions from peptides (Figure 3A, 3B and 3C), while a common NCE setting for HCD is ~ 30 in an Orbitrap Tribrid MS platform.

Importantly, these results reveal that a higher than usual collision energy must be used during MS analysis to increase the probability of detecting the diagnostic HyPro immonium ion. We propose that this, along with other MS analysis parameters (see below), may have contributed to some of the recent controversy in the field surrounding the ability to confirm the identification of PHD-dependent HyPro residues in non-HIF family protein targets.

Using a higher energy NCE setting increases the probability of generating the diagnostic HyPro immonium ion, while the low/medium energy settings generated more useful b/y ions that can used for peptide matching. However, even with equal loading and identical MS fragment settings, HyPro residues located within the context of different surrounding amino acid sequences showed variable intensity of the diagnostic HyPro immonium ion. Thus, for both the hydroxylated CEP192 peptide and PKM2 peptide, we readily observe ~15-20% intensity of the HyPro immonium ion in MS2 spectra, while under identical MS analysis conditions the HIF peptide only generated ~3% of the immonium ion at its maximum. We conclude that different peptides present different ionisation and transmission features in MS, depending on their amino acid composition and sequence, which in turn affects the ability to detect sites with HyPro modification.

Our studies have also identified other factors during MS analysis that can contribute to the efficiency of detecting the diagnostic HyPro immonium ion, including the concentration of the target peptide in the samples injected into the MS. If the target peptide amount is relatively low, even with optimal NCE settings, the number of diagnostic immonium ions transferred to the MS detector might fall below the detection limit. To test this hypothesis, different amounts of prolyl hydroxylated synthetic peptides were loaded and analysed by MS, using the target acquisition mode PRM: 10 fmol, 50 fmol, 100 fmol, 200 fmol, 400 fmol, 800 fmol and 1,000 fmol (Figure 3). As expected, both the MS2 base peak intensity and the diagnostic ion intensity, dropped as the loading amount on LC-MS decreased. Even with the more sensitive PRM mode, no diagnostic HyPro immonium ion was detected from the HIF-1α peptide at 10 fmol (Figure 3A).

In summary, we have demonstrated that the intensity of the diagnostic HyPro immonium ion is sensitive to multiple factors involved in MS analysis, including collision energy settings in the MS instrument, amino acid sequence surrounding the HyPro site in peptides and the quantity of the target modified peptide in the sample under analysis.

Proline hydroxylation sites profiling of HEK293 and RCC4 cell lines

To further improve our workflow and reduce the chance of misidentification of HyPro, the MS data were filtered by the detection of the diagnostic HyPro immonium ion. For other potential HyPro sites, where the presence of the diagnostic immonium ion could not be confirmed, we recommend that a score cut-off and site localisation control

should be used for identification. Accordingly, a score cut-off of 40 for hydroxylated peptides and a localisation probability cut-off of more than 0.5 for hydroxylated peptides was performed.

HEK293 (4 bio-replicates) and RCC4 (3 bio-replicates) cell lines were plated 24 h before being stimulated with FG-4592 (50 μM, 24 h), or MG-132 (20 μM, 3 h before harvesting), or DMSO (24 h) as a control. Cells were harvested, lysed, and further prepared for HILIC enrichment and LC-MS/MS analysis.

Implementation of the above parameters resulted in the identification of 4,768 and 3,063 proline hydroxylation sites without the associated diagnostic ions, and 4,993 and 3,247 sites in total (together with the sites with diagnostic ions) from HEK293 and RCC4 samples, respectively (Table S2), which are considered as high confidence identifications.

Within the high confidence dataset, we successfully identified known proline hydroxylation sites in both cell lines, including the multiple proline sites of collagen proteins COL2A1 and COL4A1 and P62 of the ribosomal protein RPS2. Also, previously reported potential PHD-dependent hydroxylated proline residues were identified in either HEK293, or RCC4 datasets, such as P294 of NDRG3[41] , P319 of PPP2R2A[42], and P307/P322 of ACTB[43].

By following the diagnostic ion filter, 225 and 184 HyPro sites were confirmed from all the HEK293 and RCC4 samples, respectively (Table S2). Interestingly, more proline hydroxylation sites were found from collagen proteins in the RCC4 dataset (116 of 184), as compared with the HEK293 dataset (53 of 225). The hydroxylated peptide sequence in the collagen proteins shared the collagen-like sequence motif GxPGxx with Gxx repeats (Figure 4A and 5A). These data are not surprising, since HyPro is known to be a common PTM found in collagen proteins and critical for helix stability [44,45]. No consistent sequence motifs were identified in the remaining 68 (HEK293) and 172 (RCC4) sites from non-collagen proteins (Figure 4A and 5A), which may indicate that these proteins include multiple distinct target classes, rather than all belonging to the same class of targets.

Furthermore, to show the representation of the sequence conservation of amino acids in all the proline hydroxylated peptides sequence window, sequence logo analysis was performed (Figure 4B and 5B). A high frequency of the amino acids L, P, G, S and E in the hydroxylated peptides was immediately apparent in HEK293 dataset. The RCC4 dataset showed a similar pattern but without L. This indicates that different cell lines

show unique profiles of proteins with hydroxylated peptides and is an argument against these identifications arising via non-specific chemical oxidation during sample preparation, since an identical sample preparation procedure was used for both cell extracts.

We noted that there was a high frequency of a methionine residue appearing either at the first, second, or even third positions after the HyPro site (Figure S3). Bearing in mind concerns that HyPro identification by MS could be confused with oxidation of methionine (see above), since both involve a mass shift of +16 Da, as a conservative approach these peptides were filtered out and a set of 3,521 and 2,728 filtered Hypro sites (Table S3), was generated for sequence analysis for HEK293 and RCC4 dataset, respectively.

Next, we matched the proline hydroxylated proteins against the Pfam database (https://pfam-legacy.xfam.org/[46]), to investigate protein families and the potential presence of any overrepresented sequence motif. After the removal of all the collagen proteins, the most common terms identified in both samples included the RNA recognition motif (RRM_1), WD40 repeat, conserved site (WD40) and protein kinase domain (Pkinase). Besides, the DEAD/DEAH box helicase domain (DEAD) and Helicase, C-terminal (Helicase_C) were also observed in the HEK293 dataset, while the Calponin homology domain (CH) and LIM domain (LIM) were more enriched in RCC4 dataset. As shown in Figures 4C and 5C, there was no evidence for the over-representation of a single, simple motif in any of the protein families, but we noted that the amino acid frequency differed for different protein families. In the HEK293 dataset, the amino acids G, S, D and E were frequently located in proximity to the hydroxylated P residue for the hydroxylated peptides from RRM_1, while more L and A residues were in the hydroxylated peptides from WD40. For the Helicase_C domain, E was noticed frequently in the hydroxylated peptides. In RCC4 dataset, multiple P, G and S amino acids were included in the sequence for the LIM domain, akin to collagen proteins, where proline hydroxylated peptides typically have multiple P and G. Also, a GTP motif was present in the proline hydroxylated peptides for the Pkinase domain. A previous study[17] has also reported the proline embedded in the L/xGxP consensus sequences of the kinase domains (DYRK1A and DYRK1B) as the target of hydroxylation by PHD1. This is a highly conserved motif, present in most of the kinases comprising the CMGC family.

Reactome pathway analysis of FG-4592 dependent dataset

Next, we compared the HyPro sites identified using our workflow in extracts prepared from both HEK293 and RCC4 cell lines that had been treated with either (i) the prolyl hydroxylase inhibitor FG-4592, or (ii) the proteasome inhibitor MG-132, with DMSO treatment as the negative control. To perform the Reactome pathway analysis, the HyPro sites list (Table S4), was filtered by the following conditions: (i) HyPro sites were only identified in extracts from either DMSO, or MG-132 treated cells, but not in extracts from cells treated with FG-4592; (ii) HyPro sites from all collagen proteins were removed. By comparing with the data from extracts of cells that had been treated with the PHD inhibitor FG-4592, we reasoned that this should help to identify the functions and pathway involvement of the proteins with proline hydroxylation mediated by PHDs. All the subsequent pathway analyses were performed using g:Profiler[47].

Interestingly, the data from HEK293 cell extracts revealed a statistical enrichment for proline hydroxylated proteins belonging to two main categories: (i) metabolism of RNA, i.e., processing of capped intron-containing Pre-mRNA and mRNA splicing; (ii) cell cycle regulatory pathways, i.e., cell cycle (mitotic), S Phase, M Phase, Mitotic Anaphase, Mitotic G1 phase and G1/S transition (Table S5 and Figure 6A). The equivalent data from the RCC4 cell line revealed proteins enriched in not only similar pathways, (Table S5 and Figure 6B), such as metabolism of RNA and cell cycle (mitotic), but also included enrichment of proteins involved in signalling by Rho GTPases, Axon guidance and L1 family of cell adhesion molecules (L1CAMs) interactions[48]. By comparing the HEK293 and RCC4 datasets, the most highly enriched pathways in common to both cell lines are cellular response to heat stress/stress/stimuli, metabolism of RNA and cell cycle (mitotic).

In total, 1,412 identical proline hydroxylation sites were identified in both the HEK293 and RCC4 datasets, (Figure 6C, generated on http://barc.wi.mit.edu/tools/venn/). After filtering to remove sites which were not inhibited by FG-4592 treatment, 167 proline hydroxylation sites were identified in both cell lines as strong candidates for being PHD targets (Table S4). By analysing Reactome pathway for the proteins in which these sites were located (Table S5 and Figure 6D), metabolism of RNA and cell cycle regulatory pathways were enriched again. This is consistent with, a previous study [16] that has also shown that the proline hydroxylation of the centrosomal protein (Cep) 192, mediated by PHD1, could be directly linked to the control of cell cycle progression.

Since RCC4 cells have a mutant VHL gene, where HIF-1α and HIF-2α cannot be targeted for proteasomal degradation, the use of this cell line provides a model for

analysis of VHL-independent mechanisms related to cell cycle progression. Thus, to determine whether PHD enzymes played a role in cell cycle progression, independent of VHL and HIF-α stabilisation, each of the three PHD isoforms were independently depleted by siRNA and fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) analysis was performed. Interestingly, following depletion of PHD1 in RCC4 cells, the G1-phase and S-phase populations decreased, while the G2/M populations significantly increased (Figure 6E). In contrast, the knockdown of PHD2 and PHD3 resulted in no significant change in the respective levels of the different cell cycle populations in RCC4 cells. Similarly, 24-hour treatment with PHD inhibitor FG-4592 to RCC4 cells resulted in a significant reduction in the G1-phase population and an increase in cells in the G2/M-phase (Figure 6F), consistent with the PHD1 knockdown data.

Validation of proline hydroxylation sites using synthetic peptides

The above data, obtained using our workflow combining HILIC enrichment with MS analysis, provide robust identification of HyPro sites in proteins detected in HEK293 and RCC4 cell extracts, which are candidate targets for PHD enzymes. Nonetheless, we are aware that even using HILIC fractionation enrichment and score/probability cut-off, the possibility cannot be completely excluded that there are some false identifications of proline hydroxylation sites, arising due to oxidation *in vitro*, rather than PHD-mediated hydroxylation *in cellulo*. Therefore, we have also included an extra step to validate the identification of hydroxylated peptides using this workflow. Specifically, we have used synthetic peptides to characterise cognate MS spectra for HyPro-containing peptide sequences, focussing on the following criteria:

1. Comparison of the LC retention time of the experimentally measured peptides and corresponding synthetic peptides.
2. Investigation of MS1 and MS2 ion features, including manual analysis of the spectra to confirm the results obtained from software, determining the fragment b/y ions with high quality, and noting the ions neighbouring the hydroxylation sites.
3. Identification of the diagnostic HyPro immonium ion.

This approach is illustrated for the peptide sequence KPLLSPIPELPEVP(600)EM(602)TP(604)SIP(607)SIRR from the protein Repo-Man (CDCA2), which was first discovered as a chromatin-associated regulator of protein phosphatase one (PP1) [49] and identified here as a potential PHD target from the HEK293 dataset (Table S1 and Table S4). In this peptide, multiple prolines

(P600/P604/P607) were reported to be hydroxylated, but none of their localisation probability were high enough (>90%) to confirm the actual HyPro site. After manually inspecting the MS/MS spectra, the data indicated that within this peptide sequence amino acid residues M602, P604 or P607 could be either oxidised, or hydroxylated, each causing a +16 Da mass shift. Some of the fragment ions in the MS/MS spectra were missing that would have allowed us to distinguish between hydroxylation of either P604, or P607 residues, or oxidation at M602. This can be a common situation when analysing peptides isolated from cell or tissue extracts, especially when investigating low-abundance peptides/proteins.

To distinguish between these possibilities, we first investigated how either the hydroxylation of P, or the oxidation of M, would alter peptide behaviour in RPLC-MS analysis. This was achieved by comparing a set of synthetic peptides that were either hydroxylated, oxidised, or unmodified and determining their respective retention times (Figure 7A). This analysis revealed that the peptides hydroxylated at either P604, or P607, had retention times that peaked at 76.54 minutes and 77.37 minutes, respectively. By contrast, the retention time of the unmodified peptide was 80.26 minutes, while that of the methionine oxidised peptide was 74.30 minutes. This confirms that the retention time measured by RPLC provides a discerning feature for HyPro modified peptides and can be used to validate protein hydroxylation sites and reduce the chance of misidentification of methionine oxidation as a potential HyPro site.

To validate the MS1 and MS2 ion features of the prolyl-hydroxylated peptide, we next performed an IP-MS experiment in HeLa cells transiently transfected with a Repo-Man expression construct. For this analysis, the cells were arrested in Prometaphase by treatment with nocodazole. Cell extracts were prepared and the corresponding synthetic peptides with heavy isotope labelled lysine, (K, +8Da) spiked into each sample before LC-MS/MS analysis, to facilitate identification and quantification of the proline hydroxylated Repo-Man peptide. By checking the retention time of synthetic peptides, again, the oxidation at M602 (75.55 min), and hydroxylation at either P604 (77.89 min), or P607 (79.29 min), could be distinguished, though each had a mass shift of +16 Da (Figure 7B).

Additionally, the Repo-Man peptides hydroxylated at either P604, or P607, could be further modified by oxidation also at M602, causing a mass shift +32 Da (Figure 7C). By manually checking the experimental LC profile and MS/MS spectra (Figure 6C and 7D, generated via Universal Spectrum Explorer[50]), it was clear that a Repo-Man peptide

could be detected with a mass shift of 32 Da, indicating that both hydroxylation at P604 and oxidation at M602 could occur at the same time. The site of modification was confirmed from the MS/MS spectra via comparison with the spectra from the synthetic peptides, based upon similarity in the respective MS2 fragmentation patterns (Figure 7D).

We note that we did not detect the diagnostic immonium ion from either proline hydroxylation site in these MS2 spectra, neither for the endogenous Repo-Man peptides from HeLa cells, nor for synthetic hydroxylated Repo-Man peptides. As we mentioned before, the detection of HyPro immonium ion depends on the collision energy and the quantity of target peptides. Using the common NCE setting (27 on a Q Exactive MS platform), we confirmed that again, the diagnostic immonium ion of the synthetic proline hydroxylated peptides derived from Repo-Man was barely detectable (Figure 7E). As the NCE setting increased, higher intensity of the HyPro diagnostic immonium ion was observed. While in contrast with HyPro, there was no impact of varying energy settings for detection of the immonium ions from L/I (Figure 7F).

Nonetheless, the comparison of the retention times of the respective spiked-in heavy isotope-labelled synthetic peptides with hydroxylation at either P604 (72.54 min, with M602 oxidation), or hydroxylation at P607 (73.57 min, with M602 oxidation), showed that these could be clearly distinguished. This further confirms that in the HeLa samples, hydroxylation is present at P604 of Repo-Man.

Discussion

In this study, we have successfully established a robust and reproducible workflow for the reliable identification of sites of proline hydroxylation in proteins using mass spectrometry. Our workflow includes a sample preparation step to enrich proline hydroxylated peptides prior to LC-MS/MS analysis. Enrichment is achieved using HILIC fractionation, which exploits the change in hydrophilicity of peptides resulting from addition of a hydroxyl group on proline.

In addition to HILIC fractionation, we have identified several parameters involved in the MS protocol and subsequent data analysis that affect the ability to detect specific proline hydroxylation sites and distinguish these from alternative forms of amino acid oxidation. For example, tryptic peptides modified with HyPro typically show differences in peptide mass and charge state, as compared with unmodified or peptides with oxidised methionine.

Also, it was previously reported to be difficult to distinguish peptides with either HyPro ($C_6H_{13}NO_2$), or Leu/Ile ($C_5H_9NO_3$), because their corresponding residue mass difference is only 0.03639 Da (Figure S2). Therefore, it is important to use modern MS instruments for proline hydroxylation identification, as these are now capable of high mass resolution at both MS1 and MS2 levels. For example, using the Orbitrap Fusion MS, the MS1 and MS2 resolution values were 70,000 and 15,000, respectively. This corresponds to 10 ppm and 20 ppm as the mass tolerance parameter in data searching software and provides sufficient mass resolution to distinguish whether a peptide contains either HyPro, or Leu/Ile.

Of particular interest, we have found that the generation of the diagnostic HyPro immonium ion in MS2 spectra is very sensitive to the energy setting used for peptide fragmentation and is also sensitive to the amino acid sequence of the peptide and its concentration in the analysis sample. In contrast, other immonium ions, e.g., for Leu/Ile, do not show this sensitivity to collision energy and are detected with similar efficiency over a broad range of energy settings. We propose that these observations can explain, at least in part, why the diagnostic HyPro immonium ion was only detected for 4.5% of the HyPro sites we mapped here from HEK293 cell extracts and 5.6% for RCC4 in the hydroxylation profiling experiment. This discovery regarding the sensitivity of MS analysis parameters for generation and detection of diagnostic HyPro immonium ions may be a significant contributory factor that can explain, at least in part, some of the recent controversies surrounding the identification of proline hydroxylated PHD target

proteins. As shown in this study, the use of synthetic peptides, combined with optimised analysis procedures, provides a reliable strategy for identifying cellular proteins modified by proline hydroxylation.

Thus, we recommend that for HyPro site mapping and for the purpose of validating specific target sites, a workflow is used that combines higher NCE energy settings in MS (combined with optimisation using synthetic peptides), using a highly sensitive MS scan mode (such as SIM, PRM for target analysis), to increase the detection limit and using HILIC enrichment to increase the concentration of HyPro modified peptides in samples being analysed.

Having established and validated the analysis strategy for detecting peptides modified with proline hydroxylation, we proceeded to characterise HyPro sites in extracts of both the HEK293 and RCC4 human cell lines. Several data analysis filters were applied to compare the sites e.g., removing peptides mapped to collagen proteins, removing peptides containing methionine residues close to the HyPro site and removing peptides where the proline hydroxylation sites were still observed after treating cells with PHD inhibitors. Using these filtered peptides, sequence motif analyses showed that proline hydroxylation sites were enriched in the RNA recognition motif (RRM_1), protein kinase domain (Pkinase) and WD40 repeat, conserved site (WD40). Interestingly, Reactome Pathway analysis showed that the proteins identified as targets of proline hydroxylation in both the HEK293 and RCC4 cell lines were enriched for factors involved in cell cycle regulation and RNA processing. This is consistent with our previous studies indicating that the regulation of cell cycle progression can be controlled by mechanisms involving PHD-mediated proline hydroxylation, including HyPro modification of the centrosomal protein CEP192[16]. As shown in this study, we also detected hydroxylation of the mitotic regulator Repo-Man, which is a chromatin-associated subunit of a protein phosphatase one complex. It will be also interesting in future to explore the possible mechanistic role of PHD-mediated hydroxylation of proteins involved in the splicing of pre-mRNAs and other RNA processing reactions in mammalian cells.

Although the HILIC fractionation method was successfully applied for proline hydroxylation enrichment, the enrichment efficiency was not as high as with methods for other PTMs enrichment methods, such as TiO_2 for phosphorylation. HILIC fractionation will also enrich peptides with phosphorylation and glycosylation [51], which might complicate the MS analysis of hydroxylated peptides. So, the removal of other

modifications might be needed to get better HILIC results of proline hydroxylation, such as using PNGase F to remove the N-glycans from proteins. The other issue worth noting is the high abundance of hydroxylated peptides from collagen proteins. Since MS is a concentration-sensitive analysis tool, high abundance ions from the collagen proteins generally inhibit the ionisation of other low abundant ions and can result in the unreliable identification of the hydroxylation sites of other medium/low abundant proteins. To mitigate this problem, extra steps to remove collagen proteins/peptide during sample preparation might be considered. Furthermore, as mentioned before, the hydroxylated peptides tend to have more missed cleavages than other peptides while using trypsin digestion. The fact that no endogenous HIF-1α or HIF-2α proline hydroxylation was detected in either of the cell lines studied in this analysis could be due to the low abundance of these proteins in the cells, and/or to the use of trypsin as a protease for protein sample preparation. In fact, the strategy of using multiple proteases other than trypsin has previously been used to increase the identification depth in proteomics studies[52,53]. Thus, a combination of different enzymes including trypsin will be interesting to test in future for LC-MS based identification of proline hydroxylation.

Materials and Methods

Cell cultures

HEK293, RCC4 and HeLa cells were cultured in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (Gibco, # 41966-029), supplemented with 10% Fetal bovine Serum (Gibco # A3169801), 100 U/ml penicillin and streptomycin and 2 mM L-Glutamine. Cell lines were maintained at 37°C with 5% CO2 in humidified incubator.

HEK293 or RCC4 cells were plated in 10-cm plates and cultured for 24 h. DMSO or FG-4592 (Selleck # S1007, 50 µM) was then added into the media for the following 24 h incubation. MG-132 (Calbiochem, 20 µM) was added for 3 h.

DNA transfection of Repo-Man in HeLa cells and synchronization

HeLa cells (2e6) were plated in a 10-cm plate for 24 h before transfection. Cells were transfected with 5 µg of plasmid DNA (EGFP, Repo-Man[49]) using JetPRIME reagent (Ratio 1:2) (Polyplus). After 4 h of transfection, media containing Thymidine 2 mM (Sigma) was added for 24 h. After the incubation, cells were washed out with PBS and incubated with growth media for 2 h, following 16 h incubation with media containing

nocodazole 100 ng/ml. Then, mitotic cells were harvested by shaking off and subjected to immunoprecipitation (IP).

Lysates of HEK293 and RCC4 cells

HEK293 or RCC4 cells were harvested in PBS and the lysed in 500 µL of lysis buffer (50 mM Tris pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 1% NP40, 0.5% Sodium deoxycholate and 0.1% SDS) containing protease inhibitors (Roche, Complete Mini EDTA-Free) and phosphatase inhibitors (PhosSTOP, Roche). The lysates were incubated on ice for 20 min and cleared by centrifugation at 4°C for 15 min at 13000 g. The supernatant was transferred to a new tube for further analysis.

Immunoprecipitation of Repo-Man in HeLa cells

Prometaphase arrested HeLa cells were resuspended in 200 µL of lysis buffer (50 mM Tris pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 1% NP40, 0.5% Sodium deoxycholate and 0.1% SDS) containing protease inhibitors (Roche, Complete Mini EDTA-Free) and phosphatase inhibitors (PhosSTOP, Roche). The lysates were incubated on ice for 20 min and cleared by centrifugation at 4°C for 15 min at 13000 g. The supernatant was then diluted by adding 300 µL of dilution buffer (50 mM Tris pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl). A total of 500 µL diluted lysates was transferred to a new tube containing pre-washed GFP-Trap magnetic agarose beads (ChromoTek gtma) and incubated at 4°C for 2 h. After incubation, the beads were washed twice with washing buffer (50 mM Tris pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl and 0.05% NP40) and once with PBS, then transferred to a clean tube in the last wash. The beads were resuspended in LDS sample buffer (Invitrogen). After heating the beads at 70°C for 10 min, the eluted proteins were transferred to a new tube for MS analysis.

Sample preparation for proteomics analysis

All protein samples were sonicated for 10 cycles (30s on/off) using the Bioruptor® Pico, and then centrifugated at 20,000g for 15 min. After adding 10 mM TCEP (final concentration, Sigma-Alrich), the supernatant proteins were denatured at 95°C for 10 min and then alkylated with 40 mM IAA (final concentration, Sigma-Alrich) in dark at room temperature for 30 min. The protein concentration was measured using EZQ™ Protein Quantitation Kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific) by following the manual. The proteins from each sample were further processed using SP3 protocol as described[54]. In brief, protein samples were mixed with SP3 beads (1: 10, protein: beads). For the HILIC fractionation samples from HEK293 and RCC4 cell lysates, the starting material of proteins was 500 ug. For IP-MS samples, 100 ug of beads were added into the sample

regardless of the protein amount. The proteins samples were then incubated and cleaned with SP3 beads, then digested with lysC/trypsin mixture (1: 50, enzyme: protein, Promega) at 37°C overnight. For IP-MS samples, 50 µL of 2% DMSO (in H_2O) was used to elute the peptides. The peptide samples were directly used for LC-MS analysis. For the HILIC fractionation samples, after the overnight digestion using lysC/trypsin mixture, PNGase F (1000U for 1 mg proteins/peptides) was added into the samples for another incubation at 37°C for 4 h. 200 µL of 0.1% TFA (in H_2O) was used to elute the peptides from SP3 beads. The peptide concentration was measured using Pierce™ Quantitative Fluorometric Peptide Assay (Thermo Fisher Scientific) by following the manual.

HILIC fractionation

The 200 µL of peptide samples were added with 200 µL of 0.1% TFA (in ACN) and mixed well to have a clear solution. 3 more times of 0.1% TFA (in ACN) were added to reach a final concentration of 80% ACN with 0.1% TFA. It's crucial to have a clear solution before HILIC fractionation. Centrifugation might be needed to remove possible insoluble content. HILIC was performed using a Dionex RSLCnano HPLC (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Peptides were injected onto a 4.6 mm ID × 15 cm TSKgel Amide-80 column (3 um pore size), using a 90-min multistep gradient with a constant flow rate of 0.4 mL/min: 0-20 min, 80%B; 20-30 min, 80%-70%B, 30-60 min, 70%-60%B, 60-65 min, 60%-0%B, 65-70 min, 0%B (flow rate at 0.2 mL/min). The mobile phases were 0.1% TFA in H_2O for solvent A and 0.1% TFA in ACN for solvent B. Fractionations were collected by every 126 s, starting from 3 min to 70 min. All the peptide fractions were then dried using SpeedVac concentrator (45°C or lower temperature, Thermo Fisher Scientific). The samples could be stored in -20°C or resuspended in 0.1% FA and directly used for LC-MS analysis.

LC-MS/MS analysis

All the HILIC fractionation and IP samples were analysed by using a Q Exactive Plus mass spectrometer platform (Thermo Fisher Scientific), equipped with a Dionex Ultra-high-pressure liquid-chromatography system (RSLCnano). RPLC was performed using a Dionex RSLCnano HPLC (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Peptides were injected onto a 75 µm × 2 cm PepMap-C18 pre-column and resolved on a 75 µm × 50 cm RP- C18 EASY-Spray temperature-controlled integrated column-emitter (Thermo Fisher Scientific), using a 2-hour multistep gradient with a constant flow rate of 300 nl/min. The mobile phases were H_2O incorporating 0.1% FA (solvent A) and 80% ACN

incorporating 0.1% FA (solvent B). The gradient for HILIC enriched samples was: 0-6 min, 1%B; 6-10 min, 1%-8%B; 10-80 min, 8%-28%B; 80-95 min, 28%-38%B. The gradient for IP-MS samples was: 0-6 min, 5%B; 6-91 min, 5%-38%B. The MS data were acquired under the control of Xcalibur software in a data-dependent acquisition mode (DDA) using top N mode. The survey scan was acquired in the orbitrap covering the m/z range from 375 to 1,600 with a mass resolution of 70,000 and an automatic gain control (AGC) target of 3e6 ions with 20 ms maximum injection time. For HILIC peptide fractions, the top 20 most intense ions were selected for fragmentation using HCD with 27% NCE collision energy and an isolation window of 1.6 Da with a dynamic exclusion of 60 s. The MS2 scan was acquired in the orbitrap with a mass resolution of 17,500 with the m/z range starts from either 80 or 100. The AGC target was set to 1e5 with a maximum injection time of 60 ms. For IP-MS samples, the target PRM mode was applied for fragmentation, with a AGC target of 2e5 and a maximum injection time of 120 ms.

All the synthetic peptides were analysed using an Orbitrap Fusion Tribrid mass spectrometer platform and RSLCnano system. The gradient was: 0-6 min, 5%B; 6-31 min, 5%-38%B; 31-35 min, 38-95%B; 35-40 min, 95%. The MS data were acquired under the control of Xcalibur software in a target PRM. The survey scan was acquired in the orbitrap covering the m/z range from 375 to 1,575 with a mass resolution of 60,000 and an automatic gain control (AGC) target of 4e5 ions with 50 ms maximum injection time. The target ions were selected for fragmentation using HCD with 30% NCE collision energy and an isolation window of 1.6 Da with a dynamic exclusion of 60 s. The MS2 scan was acquired in the orbitrap with a mass resolution of 30,000 with the m/z range starts from 80. The AGC target was set to 5e4 with a maximum injection time of 54 ms. The PRM inclusion list was shown in Table S6.

MS Data analysis

The MS data were analysed together using MaxQuant[55,56] (v. 2.3.1.0). The FDR threshold was set to 1% for each of the respective Peptide Spectrum Match (PSM) and Protein levels. The data was searched with the following parameters: quantification type was set to LFQ, stable modification of carbamidomethyl (C), variable modifications, oxidation (M), acetylation (protein N terminus), and hydroxylation (P), with maximum of 2 missed tryptic cleavages threshold. First, proteins and peptides were searched against the homo sapiens database from UniProt (SwissProt April 2023) without adding hydroxylation (P) as a variable modification. Then a fasta file was

generated based on the identified protein list and used to identify the hydroxylation (P) peptides and sites. The result tables generated from MaxQuant were processed and filtered using Perseus[57] (v. 1.6.15.0).

siRNA transfections of PHD isoforms

RCC4 cells were transfected with 20 µM siRNA of each PHD isoform using Interferin (Peqlab). A random scrambled sequence was used as the control. The siRNA sequences used were previously presented in [58].

Flow cytometric analysis of cell cycle distributions

Adherent RCC4 cells were harvested, pooled, and washed once in PBS prior to being fixed in ice-cold 70% (v/v) ethanol/distilled water. Afterward, the cells were twice washed in PBS and resuspended in Guava Cell Cycle Reagent (Luminex Corp.; #4500-0220) for 30 minutes at room temperature. The cell cycle distribution with a Guava easyCyte HT machine and software. Cells with DNA content between 2N and 4N were allocated into phases G1-, S-, or G2/M of the cell cycle. The cell profiles were gated according to the control in each independent experiment and the number of cells in each phase are expressed as a percentage of the total number of cells counted.

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Figure Captions

Figure 1: A) The schematic diagram of proline hydroxylation. B) HILIC chromatography showing the retention time difference of the synthetic peptides (HLSSLAPP, with no modification, or hydroxylation at the histidine/proline). C) HILIC chromatography profile of peptides fractionation from RCC4 samples (3 replicates, overlay).

Figure 2: HEK293 dataset, A) The hydrophilicity difference of peptides with hydroxylation (P), oxidation(M) and unmodified peptides across HILIC fractions from all experiments with different treatment. The hydrophilicity increases from the Fraction

1 to Fraction 32. B) The charge distribution of peptides with hydroxylation (P), oxidation (M) and unmodified peptides. C) The mass distribution of peptides with hydroxylation (P), oxidation (M) and unmodified peptides. D) The missed cleavage difference of peptides with hydroxylation (P), oxidation (M) and unmodified peptides.

Figure 3: A) The intensity behaviour of HyPro diagnostic ion (m/z at 86.060) under different loading amount (left) and NCE settings (right), using the synthetic peptide HIF-P564, LDLEMLAPYIPMDDD (m/z at 833.9018). B) The intensity behaviour of HyPro diagnostic ion (m/z at 86.060) under different loading amount (left) and NCE settings (right), using the synthetic peptide CEP192-1717, WHLSSLAPPYVK (m/z at 707.38). C) The intensity behaviour of HyPro diagnostic ion (m/z at 86.060) under different loading amount (left) and NCE settings (right), using the synthetic peptide PKM2-P408, LAPITSDPTEATAVGAVEASFK (m/z at 707.38). All ions were extracted under ±10ppm mass tolerance.

Figure 4: A) Sequence Logo for peptide window with hydroxylated proline site from collagen proteins (with diagnostic ion) and from other proteins (with diagnostic ion). B) Sequence Logo for peptide window with hydroxylated proline site from all the proteins. C) Sequence Logo for proline hydroxylated peptides from proteins included in different protein families (RRM_1 domain, pkinase domain, Helicase_C domain, WD40 domain and DEAD domain)

Figure 5: A) Sequence Logo for peptide window with hydroxylated proline site from collagen proteins (with diagnostic ion) and from other proteins (with diagnostic ion). B) Sequence Logo for peptide window with hydroxylated proline site from all the proteins. C) Sequence Logo for proline hydroxylated peptides from proteins included in different protein families (RRM_1 domain, pkinase domain, CH domain, WD40 domain and LIM domain)

Figure 6: A) Statistical gene enrichment pathway analysis (Reactome) of the proteins only hydroxylated in DMSO/MG treated HEK293 cells but not in FG treatment. B) Statistical gene enrichment pathway analysis (Reactome) of the proteins only hydroxylated in DMSO/MG treated RCC4 cells but not in FG treatment. C) The Venn diagram of the identified proline hydroxylation sites between HEK293 and RCC4

dataset. D) Statistical gene enrichment pathway analysis (Reactome) of the proteins, which not only have the same hydroxylation proline sites from HEK293 and RCC4 dataset (DMSO/MG treated), but also not hydroxylated in any FG treatment. E) RCC4 cells were treated with the indicated siRNAs and the cell cycle profile was determined by flow cytometry. The values presented represent the averages from three independent experiments. The error bars indicate the standard deviations. F) RCC4 cells were treated with the PHD inhibitor Roxadustat (FG-4592) for the indicated times points prior to fixing. After which the cell cycle profile was determined by flow cytometry. The averages from three independent experiments are presented, whilst the error bars indicate the standard deviations. The cell profiles were gated according to the control in each independent experiment and the number of cells in each phase are expressed as a percentage of the total number of cells present. Statistical analysis was performed according to the Student's T test vs the control; *$p < 0.05$.

Figure 7: A) The retention time difference of the synthetic peptides (KPLLSPIPELPEVPEMTPSIPSIRR) with or without oxidation/hydroxylation (+16Da mass shift) at different amino acids using RPLC-MS analysis, individually. B) The retention time difference of the synthetic peptides (KPLLSPIPELPEVPEMTPSIPSIRR, K+8Da) with or without oxidation/hydroxylation (+16Da mass shift) at different amino acids using RPLC-MS analysis, mixed. C) The retention time comparison of the M602 oxidised peptides (KPLLSPIPELPEVPEM(O)TPSIPSIRR) with hydroxylation (+32Da mass shift) at different proline residues, between the spiked-in heavy isotope labelled synthetic peptide and the peptide in the IP sample. D) The MS/MS spectrum of the sequence KPLLSPIPELPEVPEM(O)TP(OH)SIPSIRR from the spiked-in heavy isotope labelled synthetic peptide (scan no. 21243) and the peptide from the IP sample (scan no. 25891). The intensity behaviour of E) HyPro diagnostic ion (m/z at 86.060) and F) L/I immonium ion (m/z at 86.097) under different NCE settings, using the synthetic hydroxylated peptide KPLLSPIPELPEVPEMTP(604)SIPSIRR and KPLLSPIPELPEVPEMTPSIP(607)SIRR (m/z at 704.15). All ions were extracted under ±10ppm mass tolerance.

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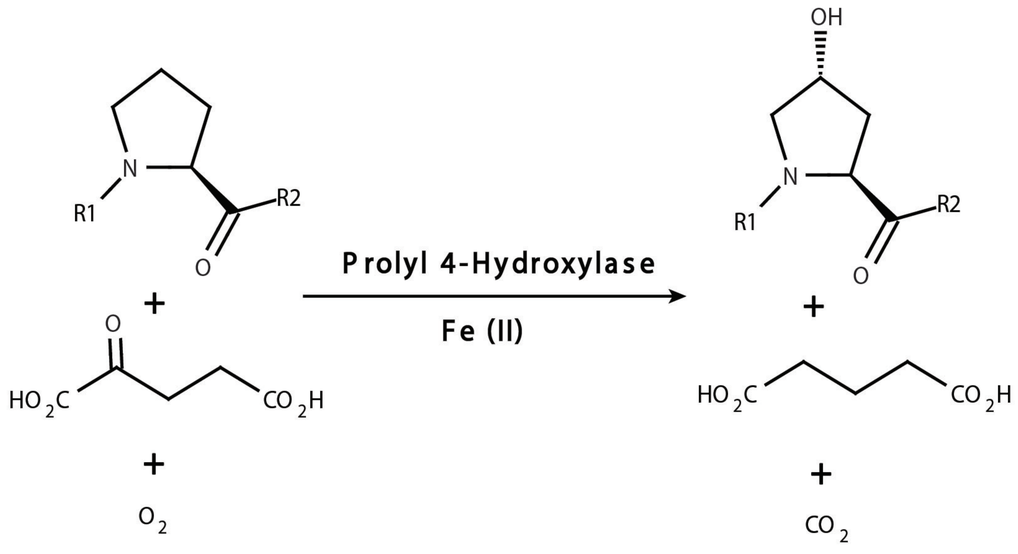
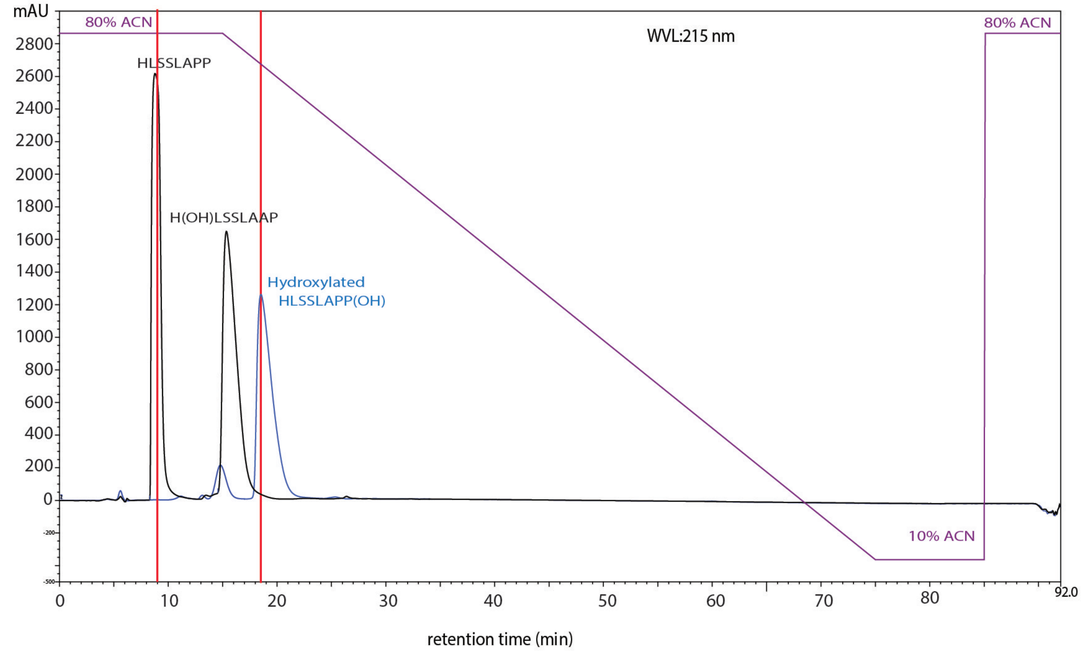
Figure 1

A)


R1
N
R2
O
+
O
HO 2C
CO 2H
+
O 2
Prolyl 4-Hydroxylase
Fe (II)
OH
R1
N
R2
O
+
HO 2C
CO 2H
+
CO 2

B)


mAU
80% ACN
WVL:215 nm
80% ACN
HLSSLAPP
H(OH)LSSLAAP
Hydroxylated
HLSSLAPP(OH)
10% ACN
retention time (min)

C)

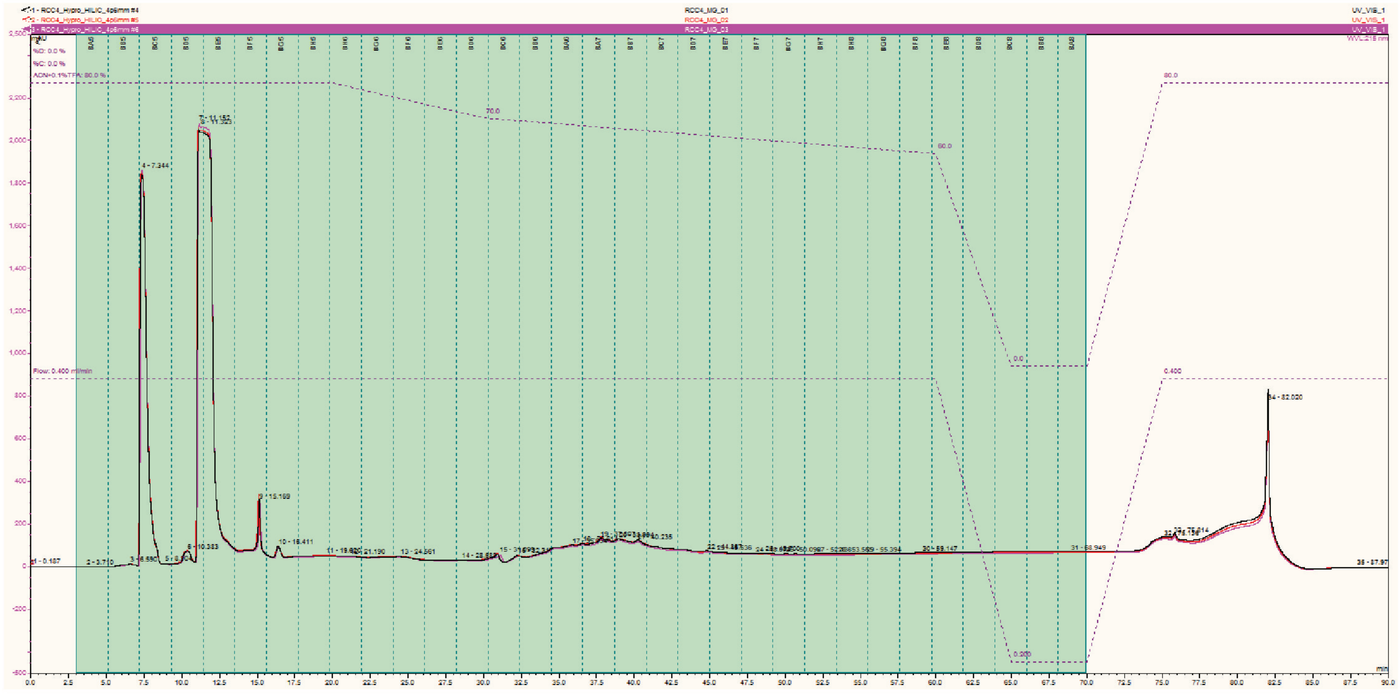
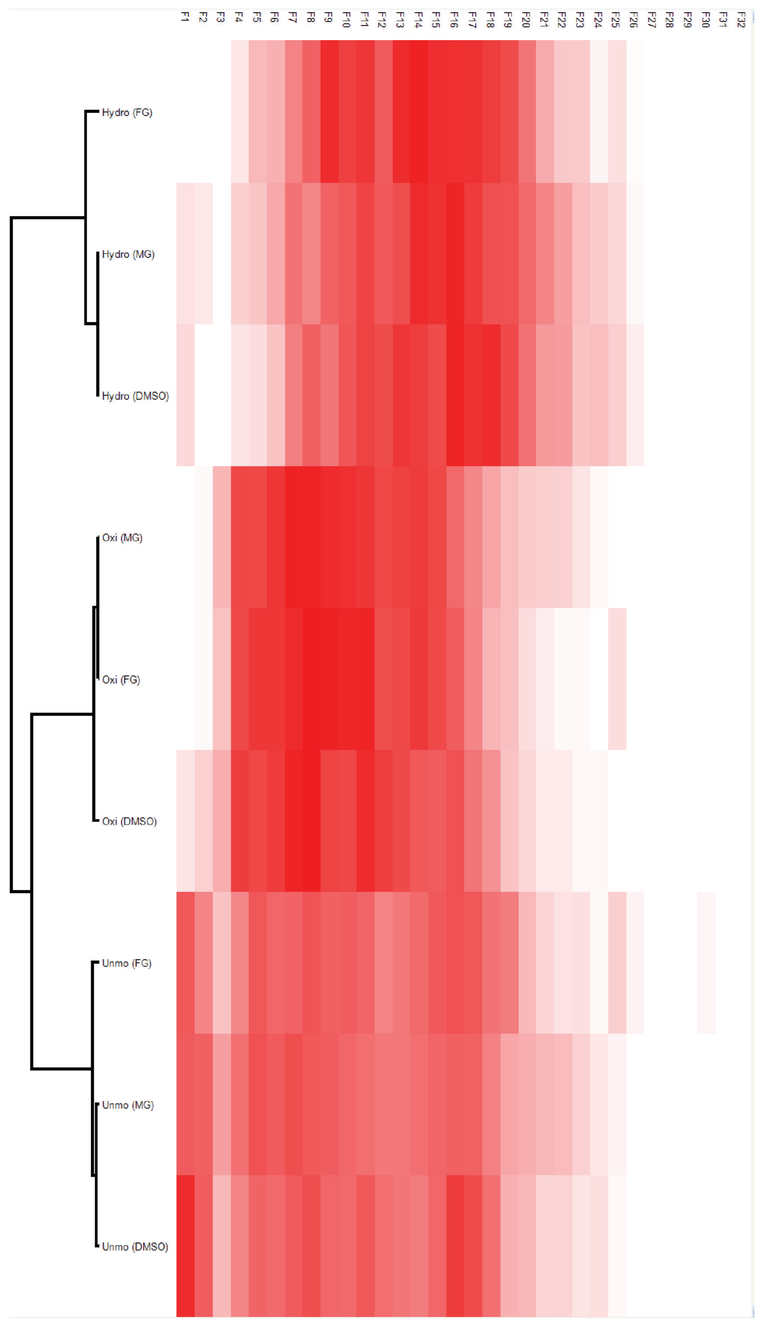
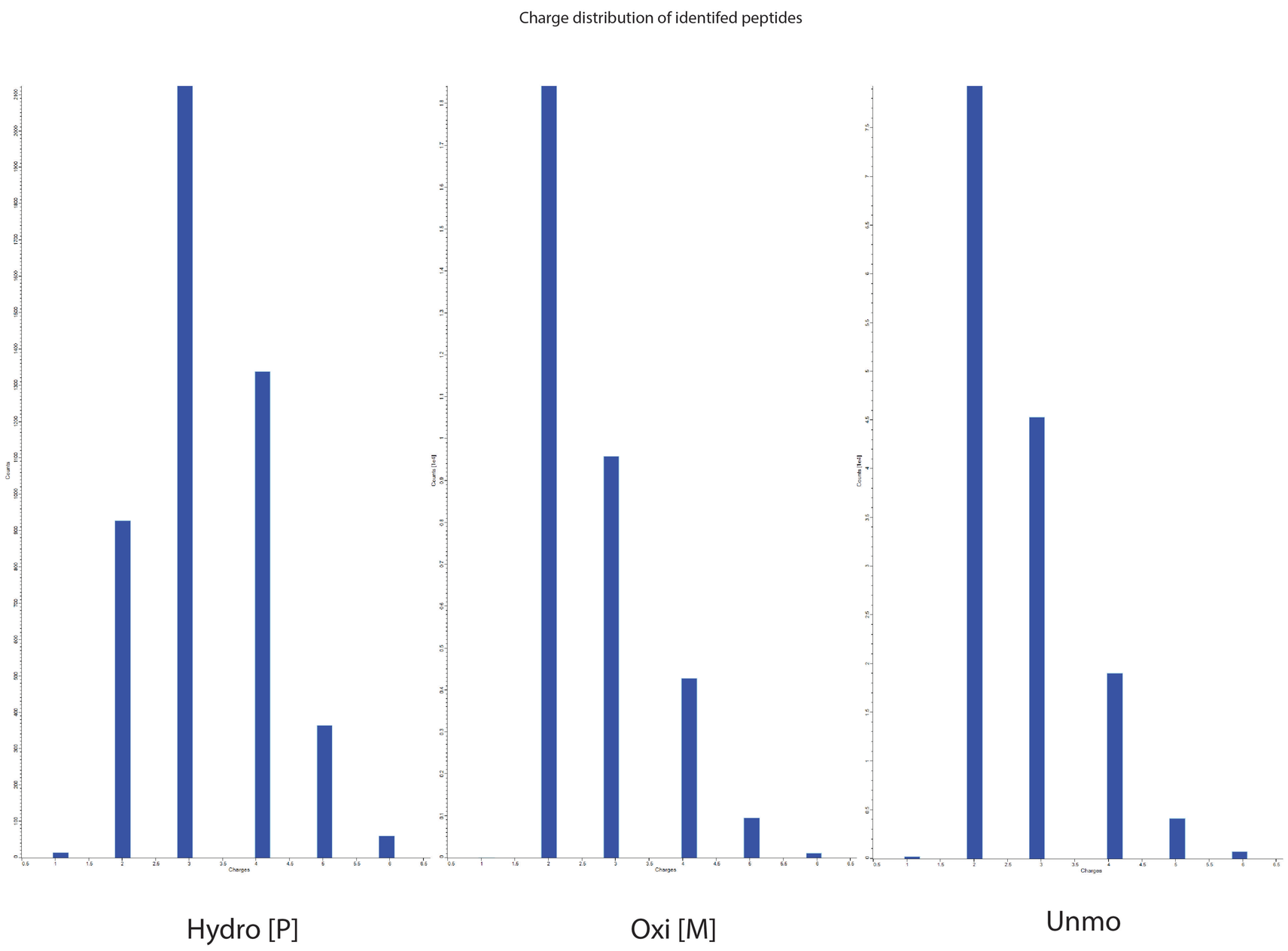


Figure 2

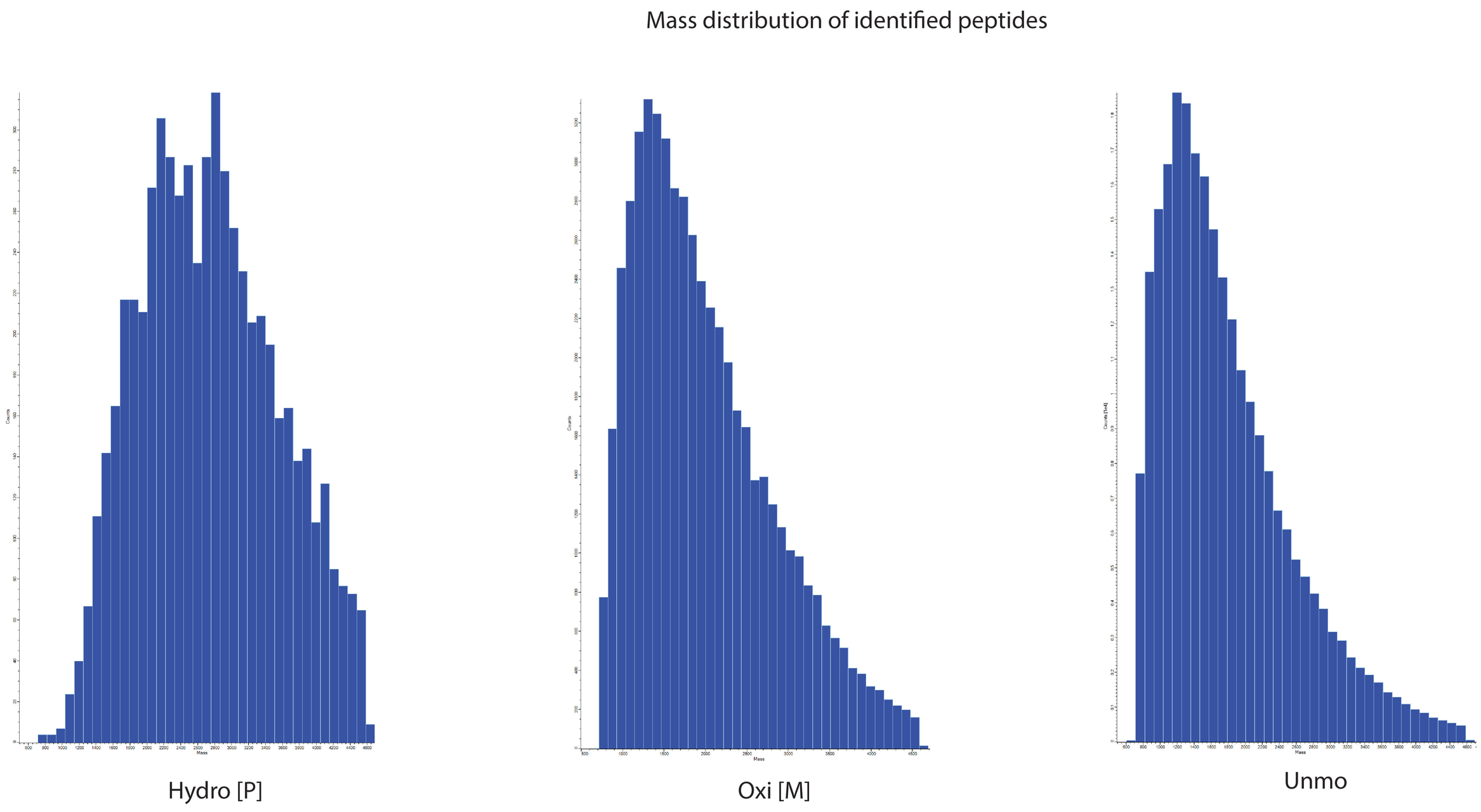
A)



B)



C)



D)

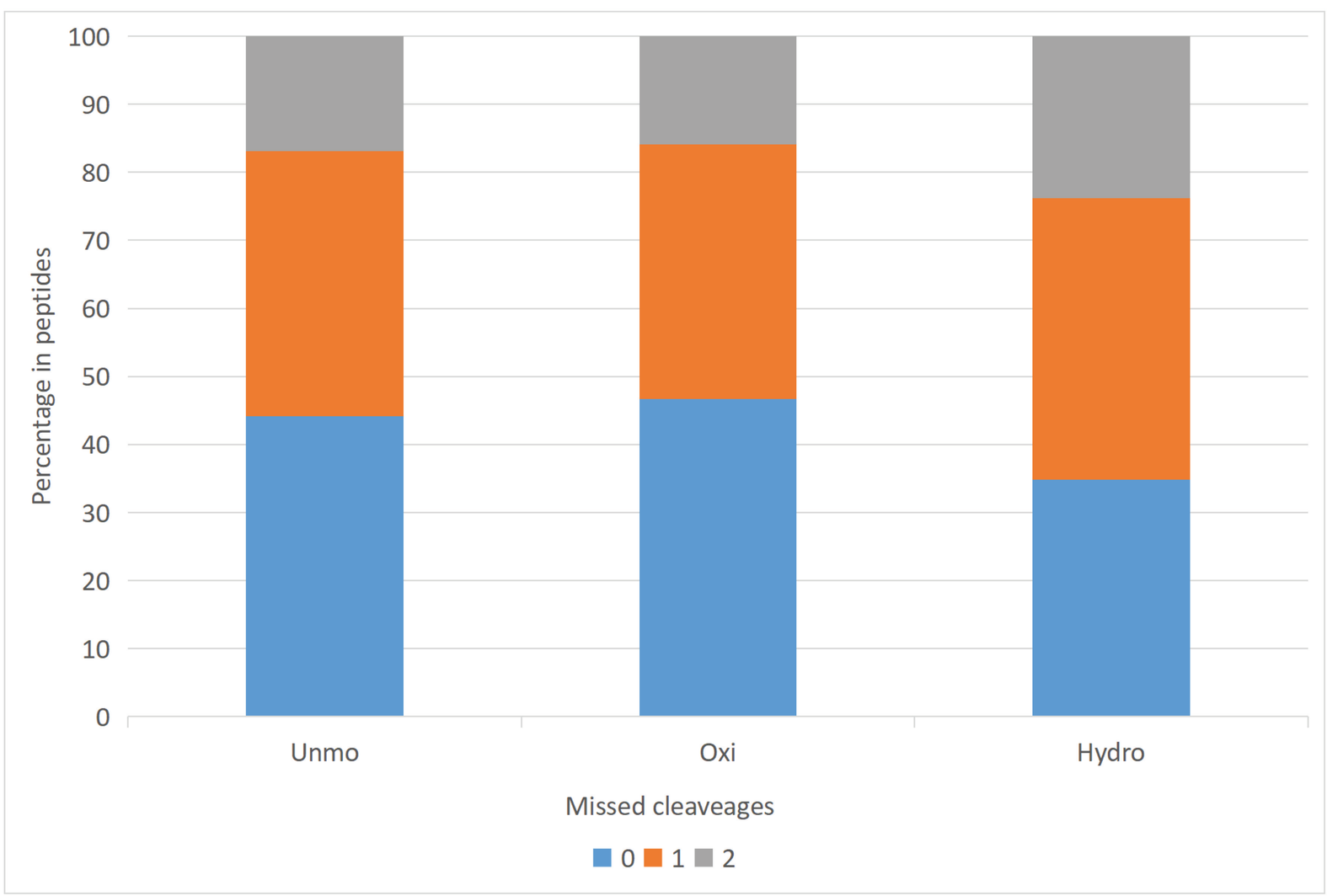
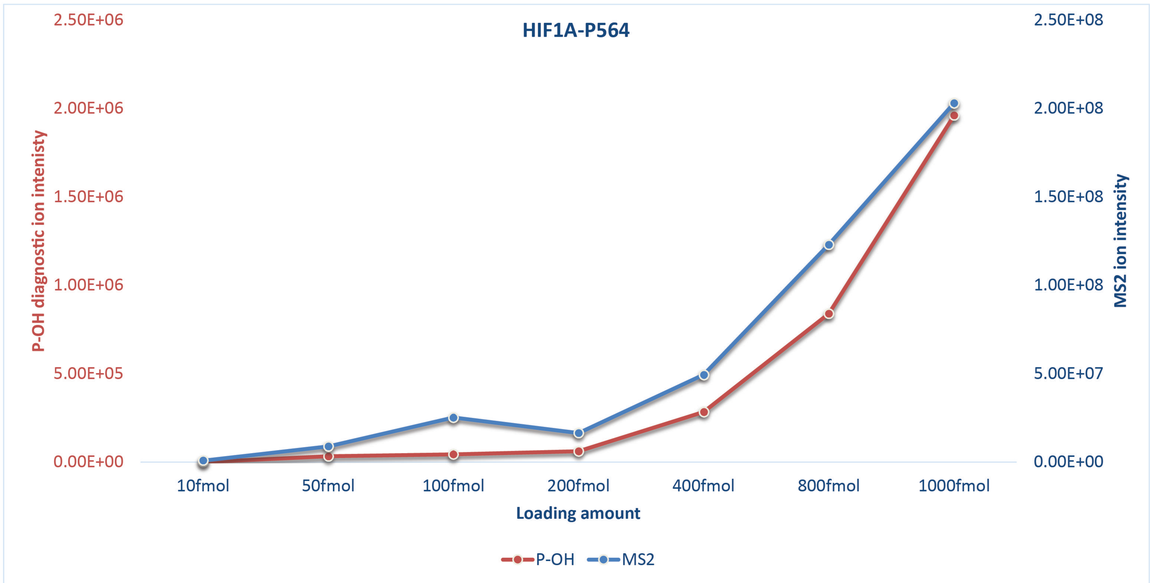
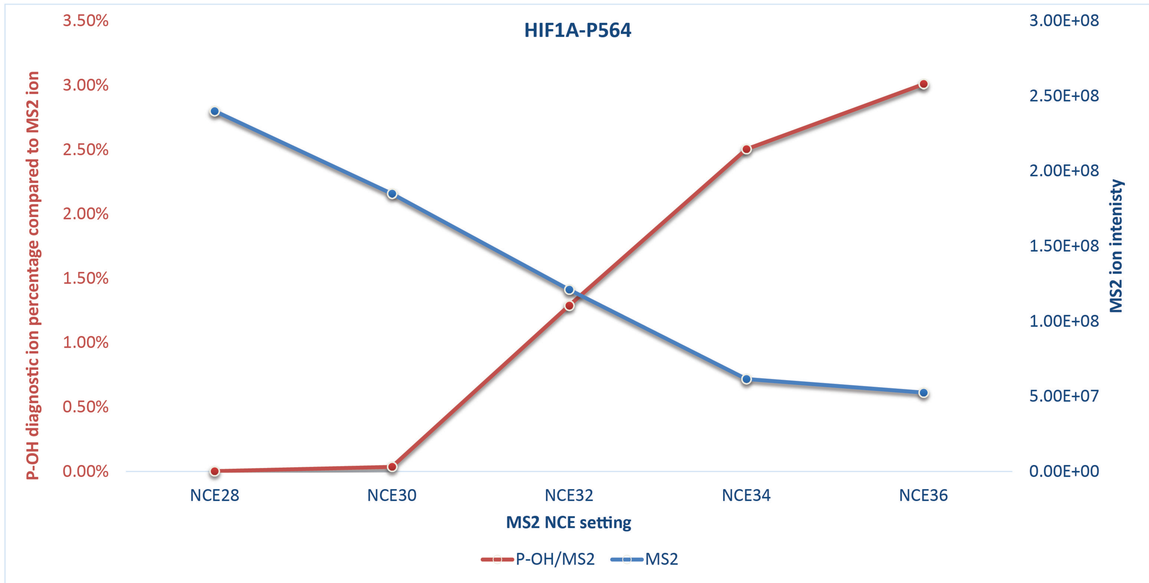


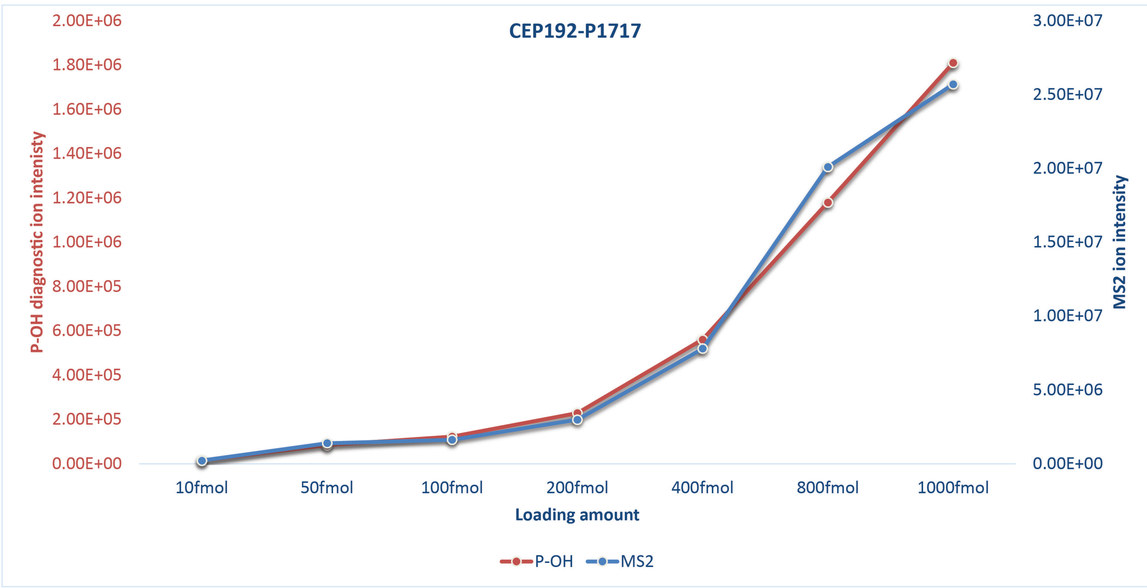
Figure 7

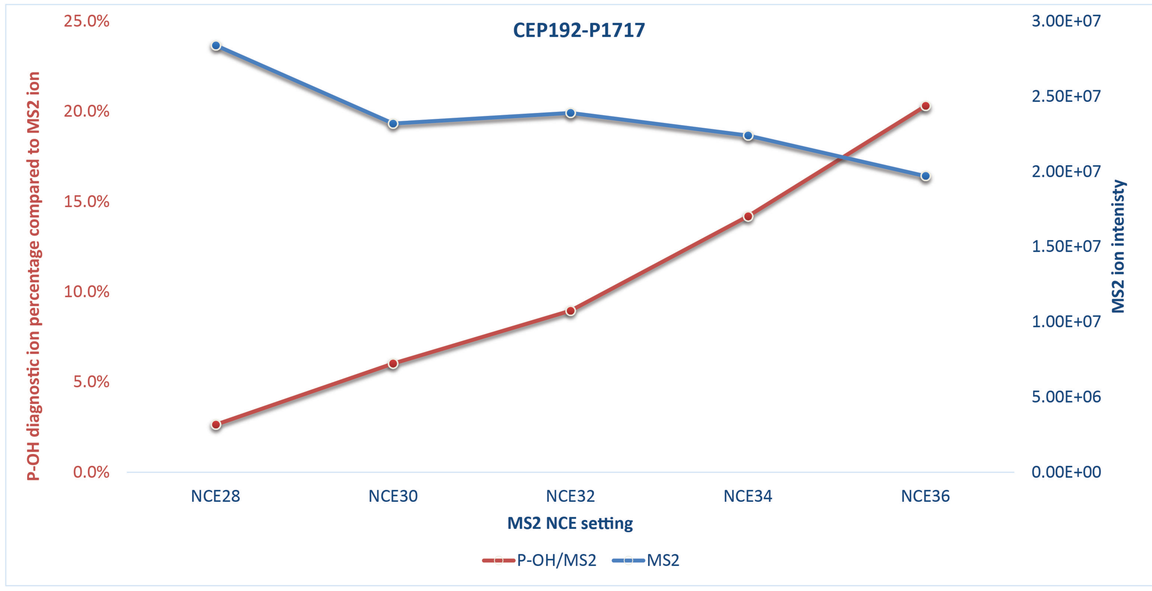
A)


HIF1A-P564
P-OH diagnostic ion intenisty
MS2 ion intensity
2.50E+06
2.00E+06
1.50E+06
1.00E+06
5.00E+05
0.00E+00
2.50E+08
2.00E+08
1.50E+08
1.00E+08
5.00E+07
0.00E+00
10fmol
50fmol
100fmol
200fmol
400fmol
800fmol
1000fmol
Loading amount
P-OH
MS2

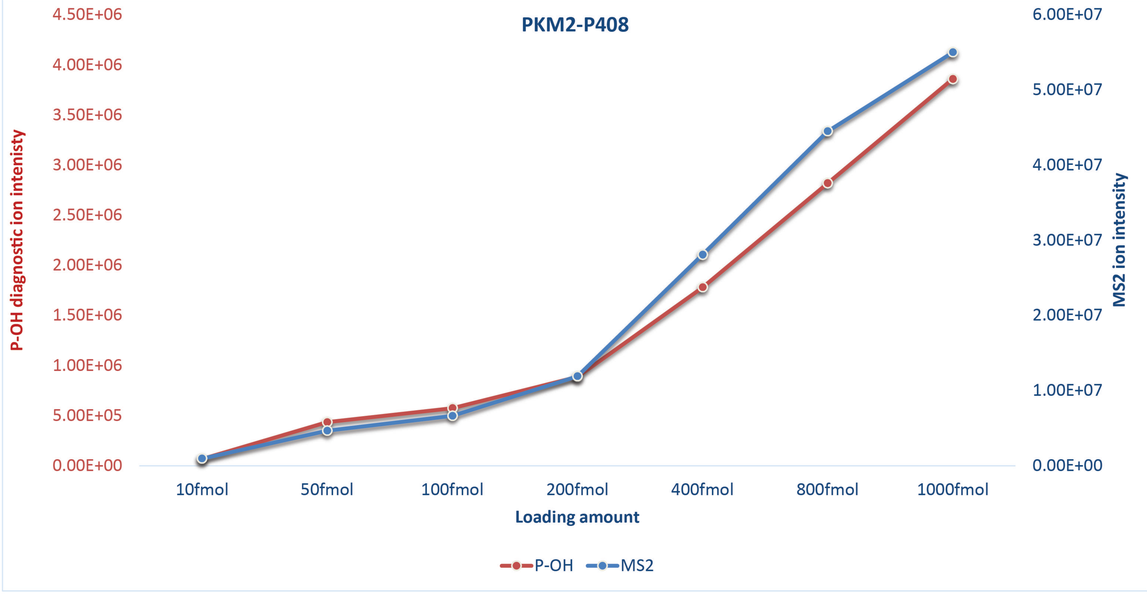

HIF1A-P564
P-OH diagnostic ion percentage compared to MS2 ion
MS2 ion intenisty
3.50%
3.00%
2.50%
2.00%
1.50%
1.00%
0.50%
0.00%
3.00E+08
2.50E+08
2.00E+08
1.50E+08
1.00E+08
5.00E+07
0.00E+00
NCE28
NCE30
NCE32
NCE34
NCE36
MS2 NCE setting
P-OH/MS2
MS2

B)


CEP192-P1717
P-OH diagnostic ion intenisty
MS2 ion intensity
2.00E+06
1.80E+06
1.60E+06
1.40E+06
1.20E+06
1.00E+06
8.00E+05
6.00E+05
4.00E+05
2.00E+05
0.00E+00
3.00E+07
2.50E+07
2.00E+07
1.50E+07
1.00E+07
5.00E+06
0.00E+00
10fmol
50fmol
100fmol
200fmol
400fmol
800fmol
1000fmol
Loading amount
P-OH
MS2


CEP192-P1717
P-OH diagnostic ion percentage compared to MS2 ion
MS2 ion intenisty
25.0%
20.0%
15.0%
10.0%
5.0%
0.0%
3.00E+07
2.50E+07
2.00E+07
1.50E+07
1.00E+07
5.00E+06
0.00E+00
NCE28
NCE30
NCE32
NCE34
NCE36
MS2 NCE setting
P-OH/MS2
MS2

C)


PKM2-P408
P-OH diagnostic ion intenisty
MS2 ion intensity
4.50E+06
4.00E+06
3.50E+06
3.00E+06
2.50E+06
2.00E+06
1.50E+06
1.00E+06
5.00E+05
0.00E+00
6.00E+07
5.00E+07
4.00E+07
3.00E+07
2.00E+07
1.00E+07
0.00E+00
10fmol
50fmol
100fmol
200fmol
400fmol
800fmol
1000fmol
Loading amount
P-OH
MS2

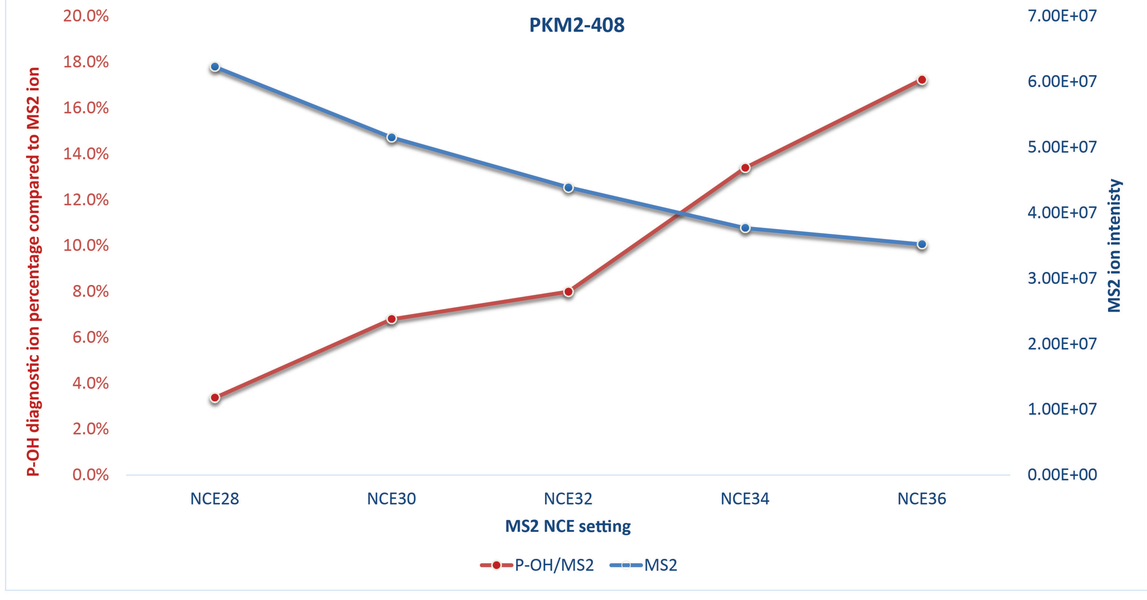
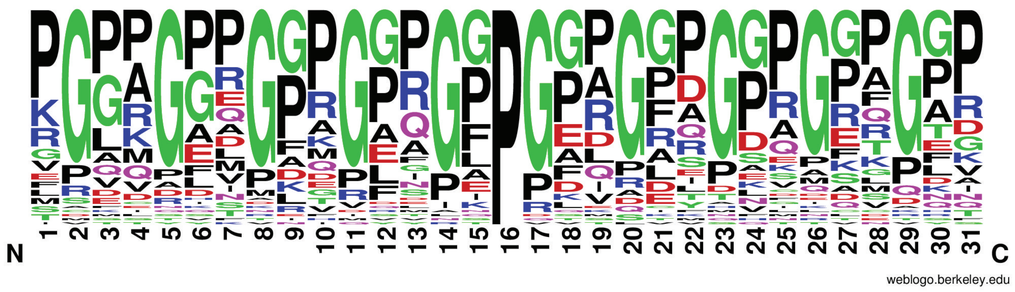

PKM2-408
P-OH diagnostic ion percentage compared to MS2 ion
MS2 ion intenisty
20.0%
18.0%
16.0%
14.0%
12.0%
10.0%
8.0%
6.0%
4.0%
2.0%
0.0%
7.00E+07
6.00E+07
5.00E+07
4.00E+07
3.00E+07
2.00E+07
1.00E+07
0.00E+00
NCE28
NCE30
NCE32
NCE34
NCE36
MS2 NCE setting
P-OH/MS2
MS2

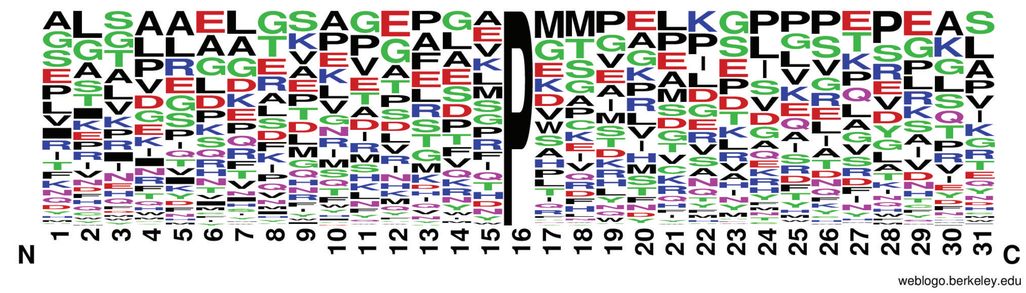
Figure 4

A)

HyPro in collagen proteins (with diagnostic ion)

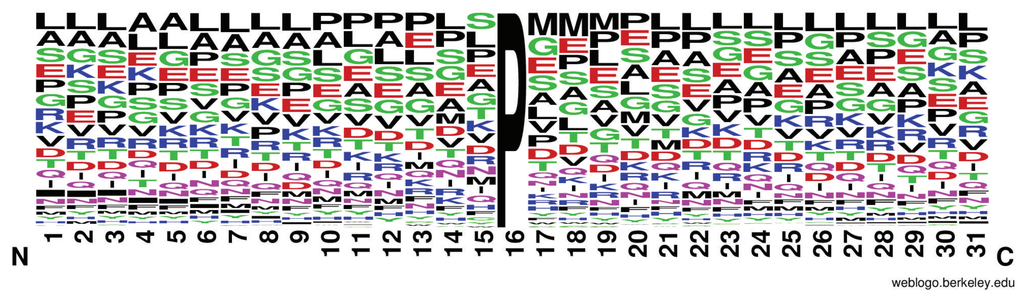


HyPro in other proteins (with diagnostic ion)



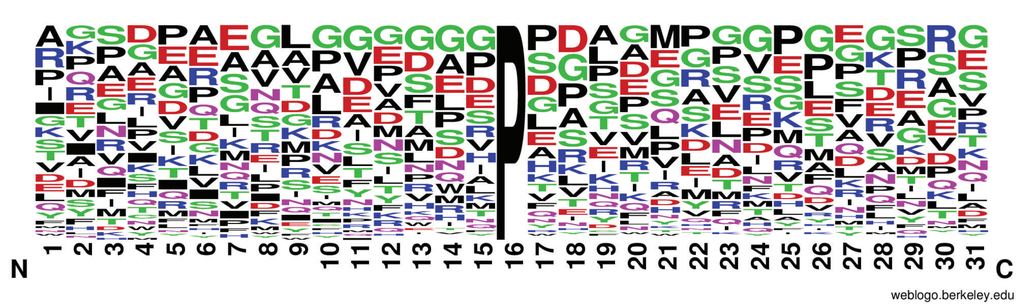
B)

HyPro in all proteins

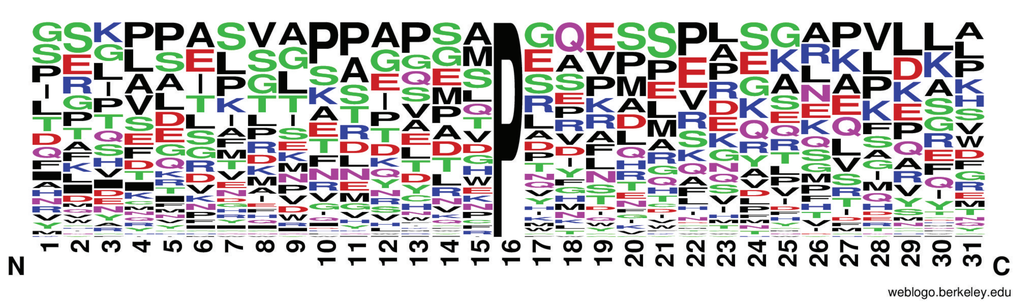


C)

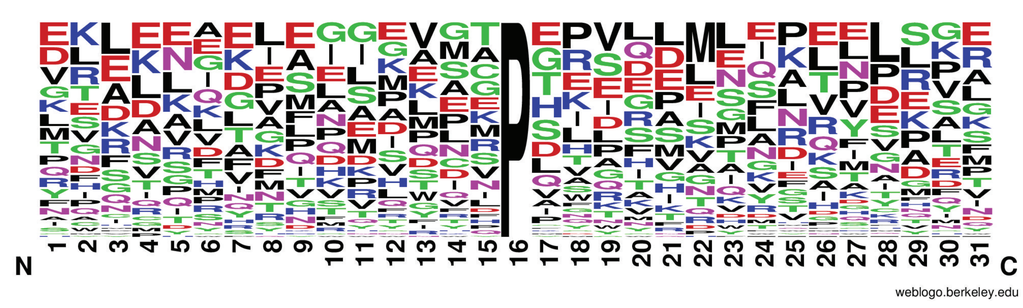
RRM_1



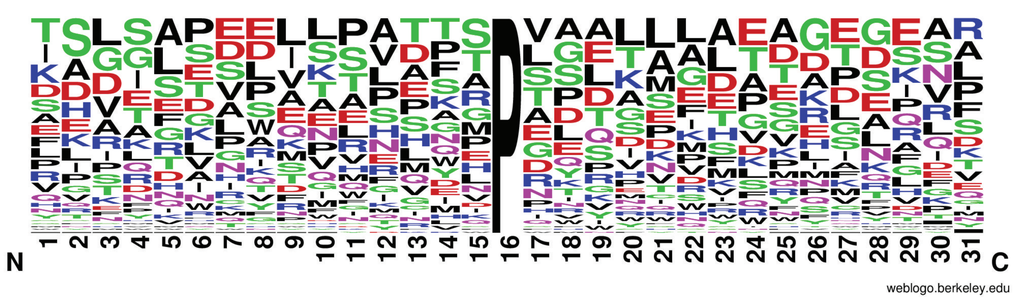
pkinase



Helicase_C



WD40



DEAD

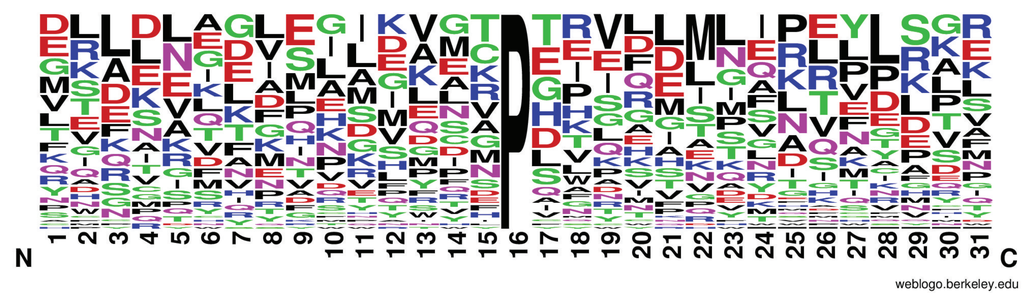
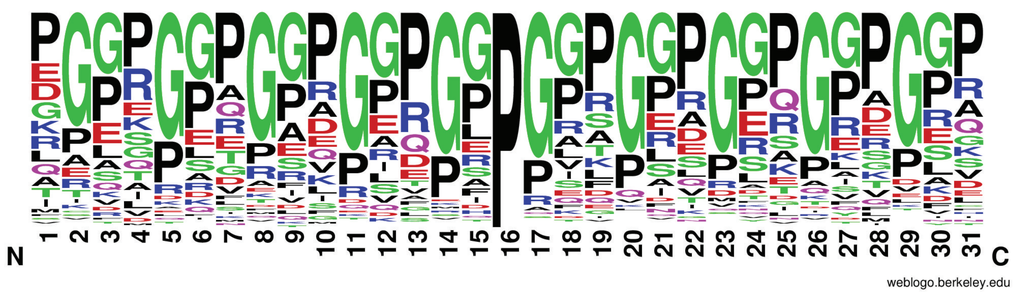


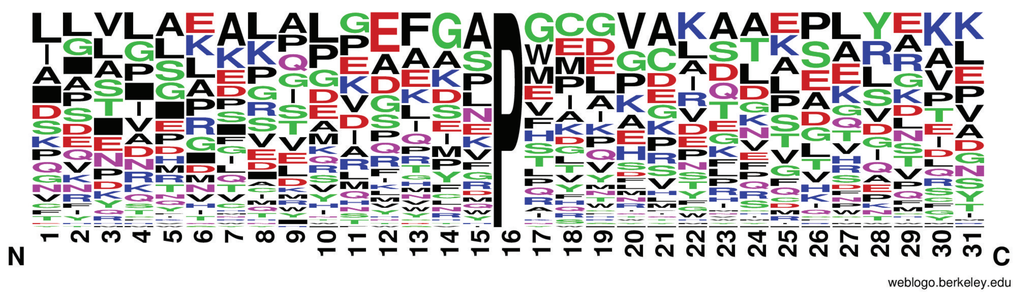
Figure 5

A)

HyPro in collagen proteins (with diagnostic ion)

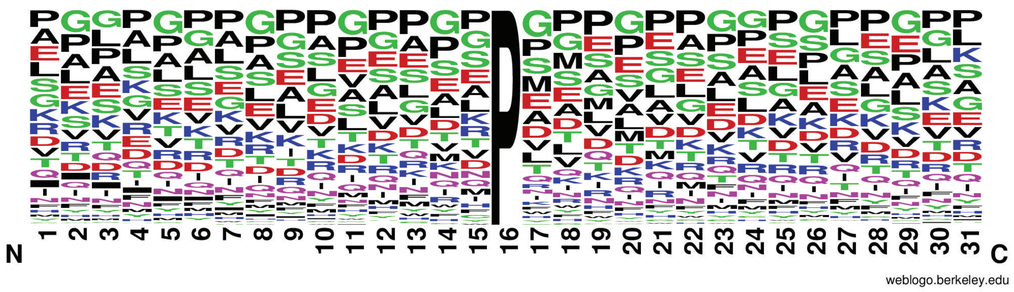


HyPro in other proteins (with diagnostic ion)



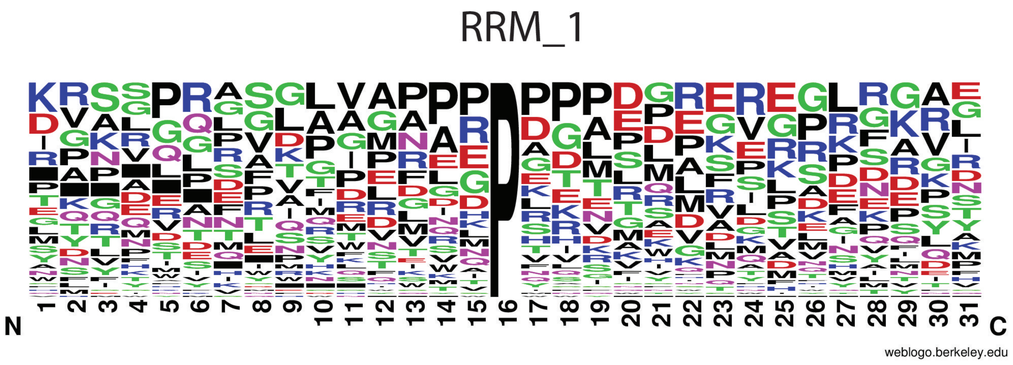
B)

HyPro in all proteins



C)

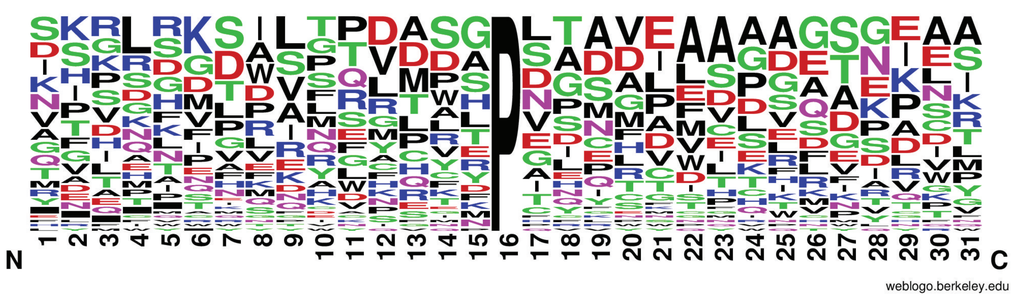
RRM_1



pkinase

CH

WD40



LIM

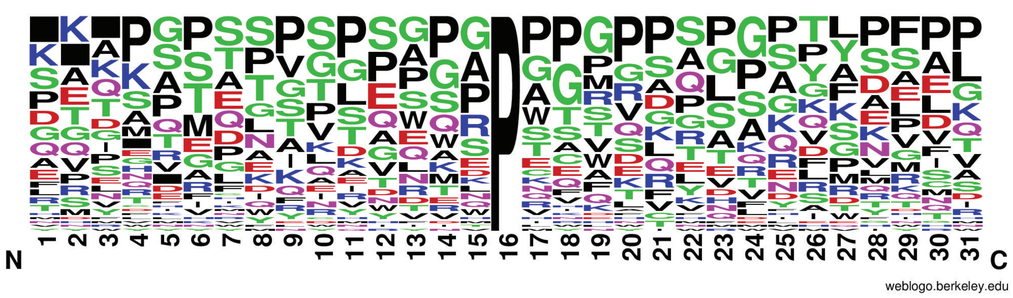
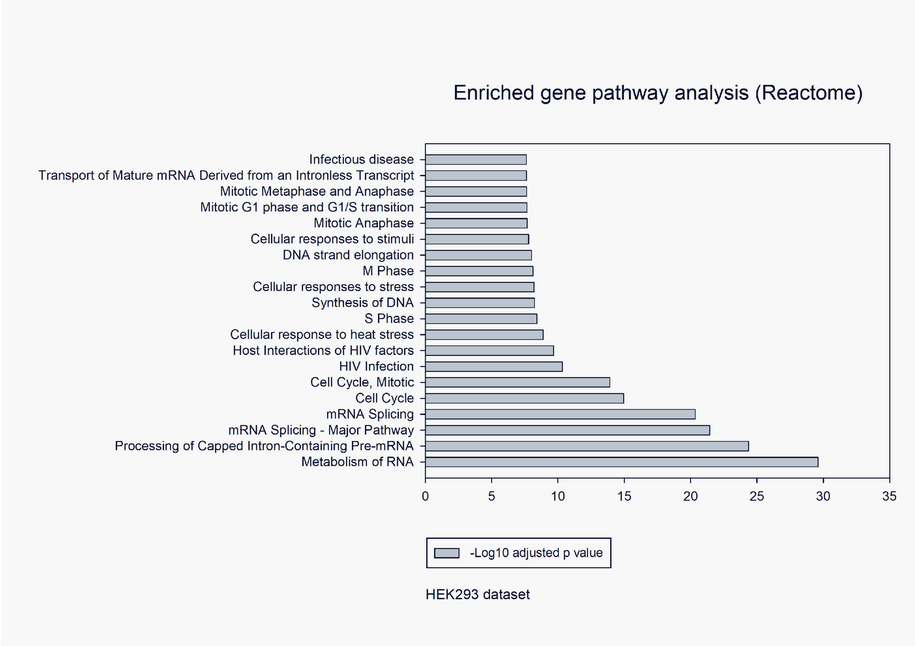


Figure 6

A)



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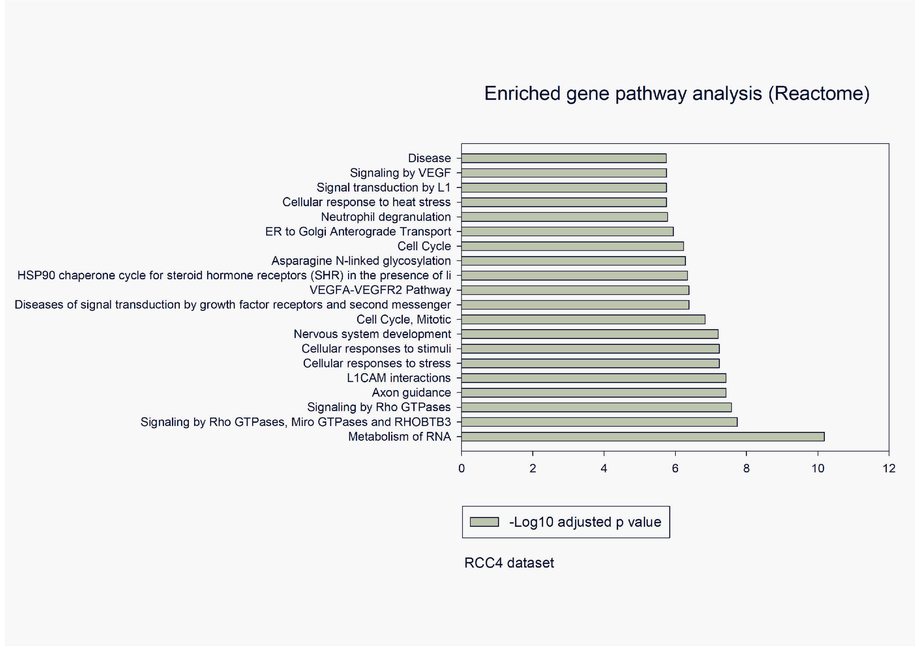
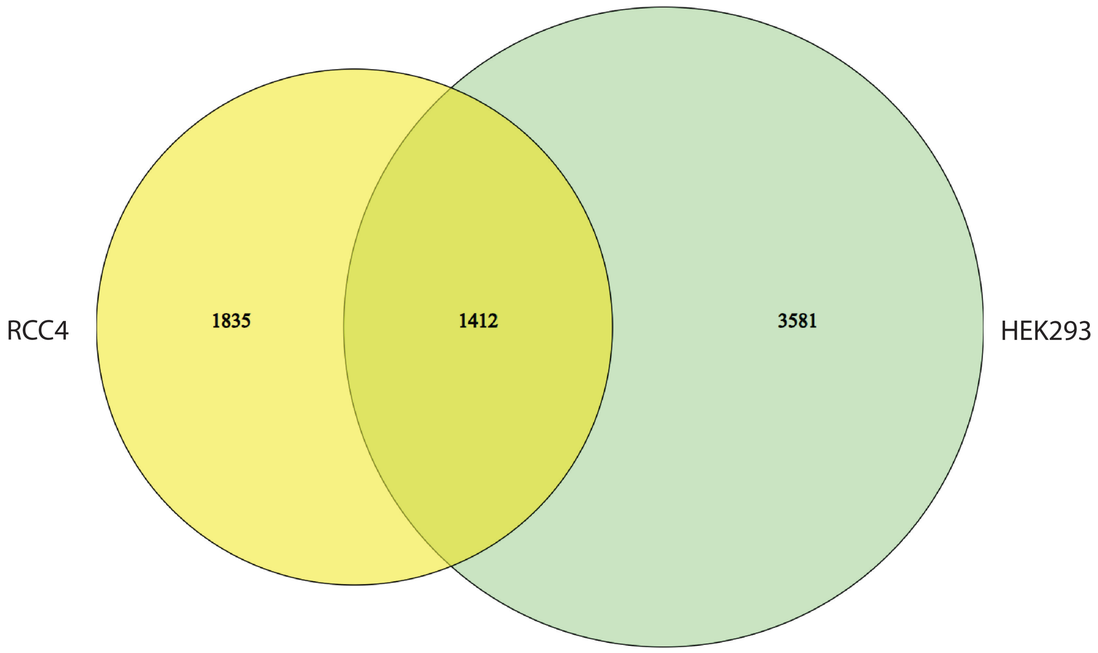
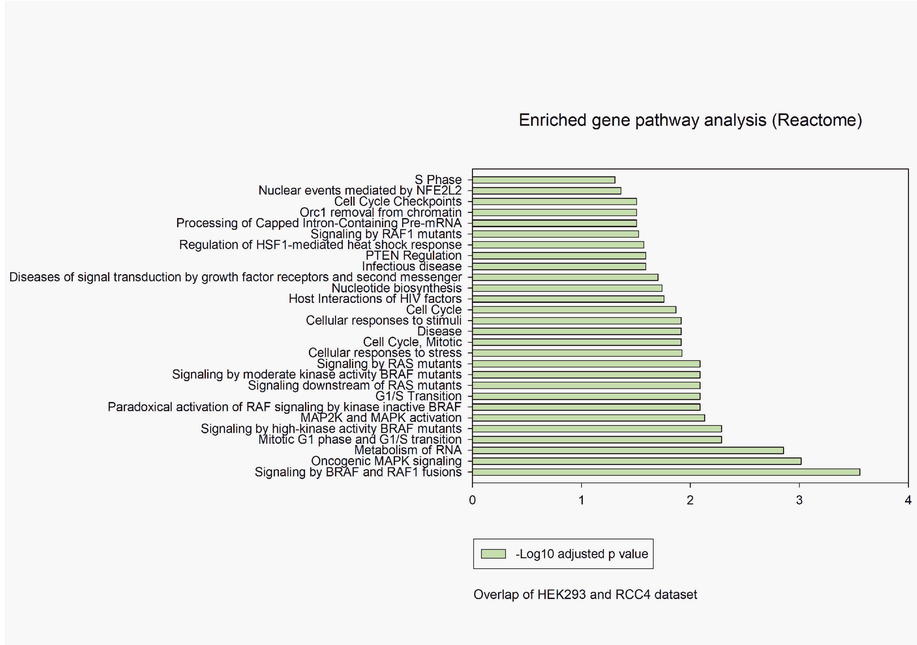


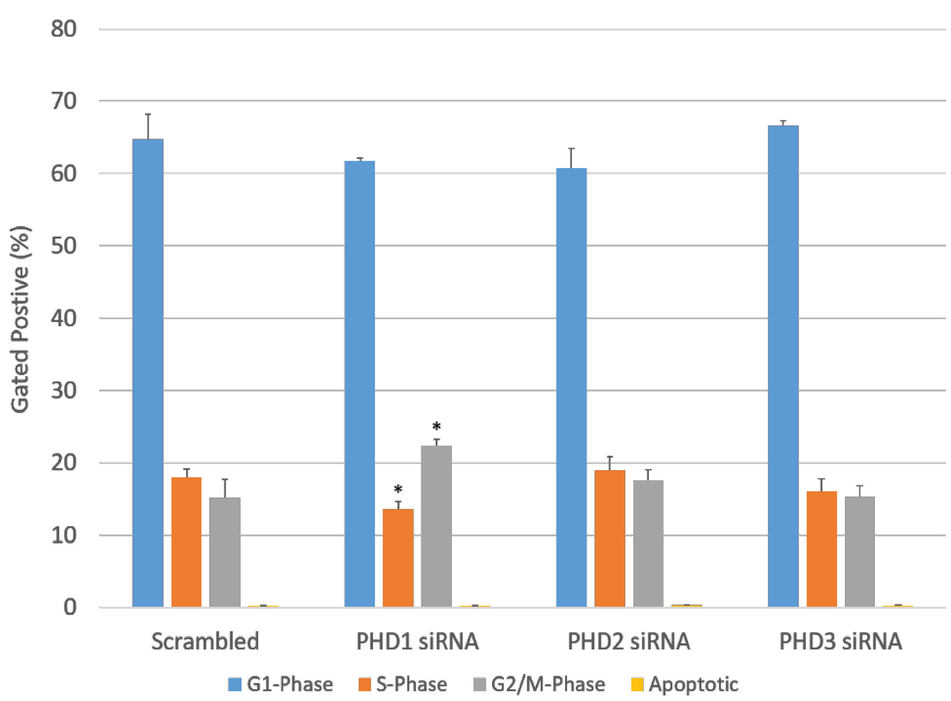
C)



D)



E)



F)

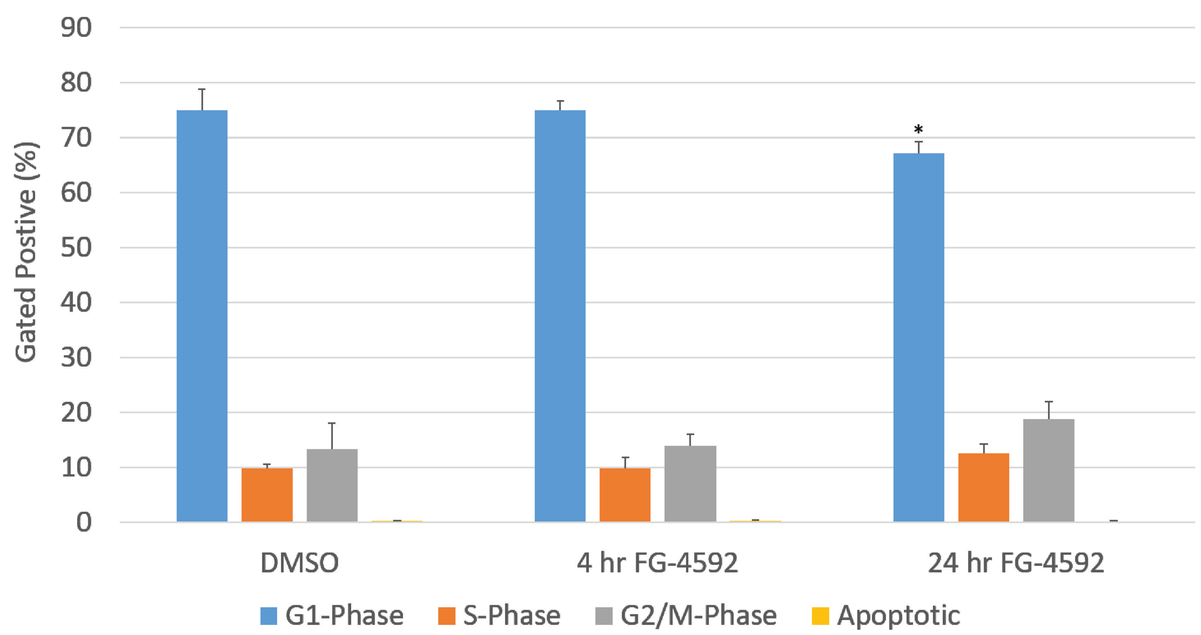
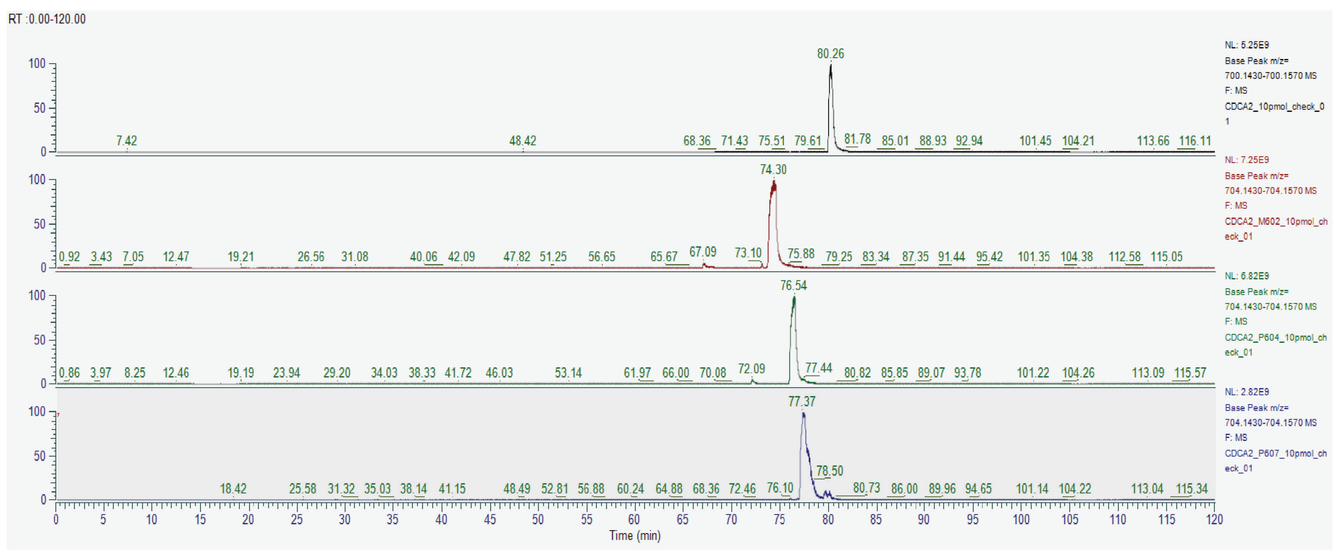


Figure 7

A)



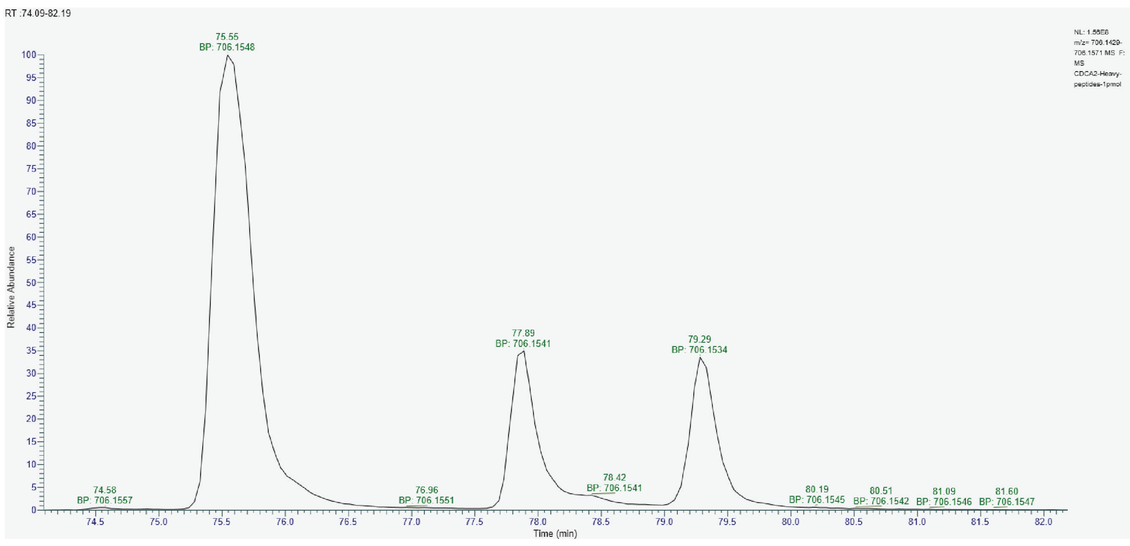
KPLLSPIPELPEVPEMTPSIPSIRR

KPLLSPIPELPEVPEM(602)TPSIPSIRR

KPLLSPIPELPEVPEMTP(604)SIPSIRR

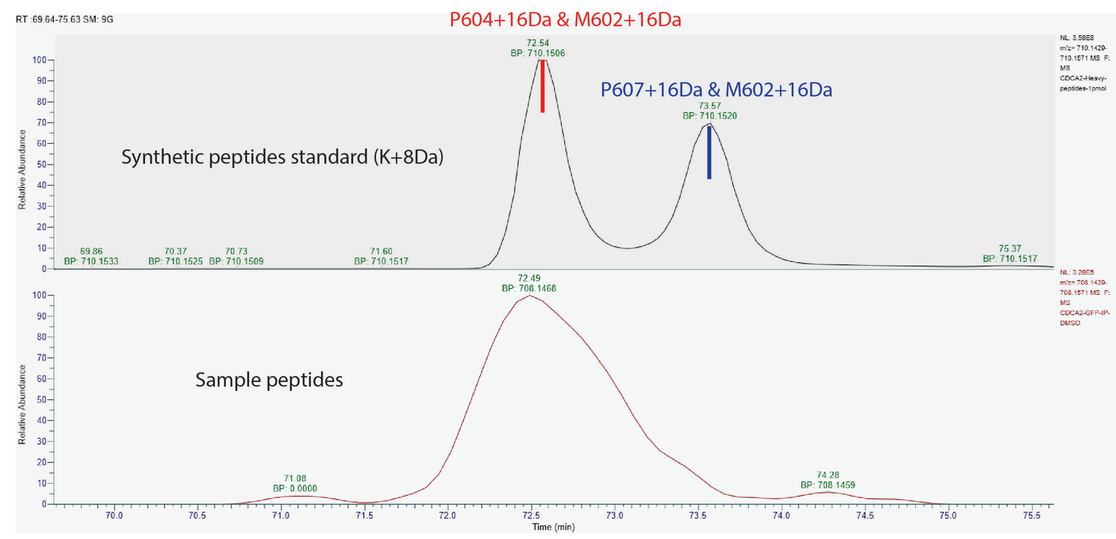
KPLLSPIPELPEVPEMTPSIP(607)SIRR

B)

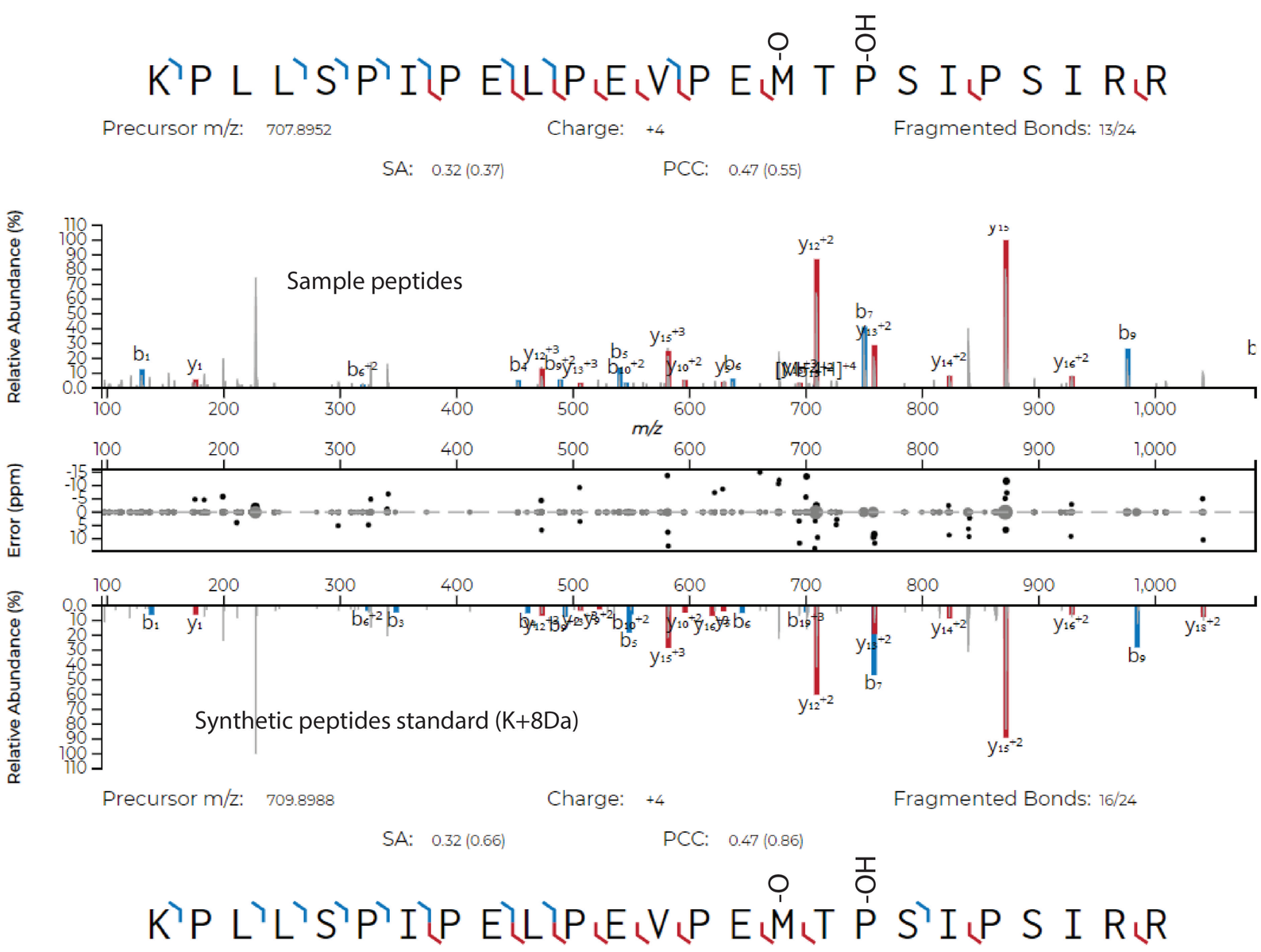


M602+16Da P604+16Da P607+16Da

C)



D)



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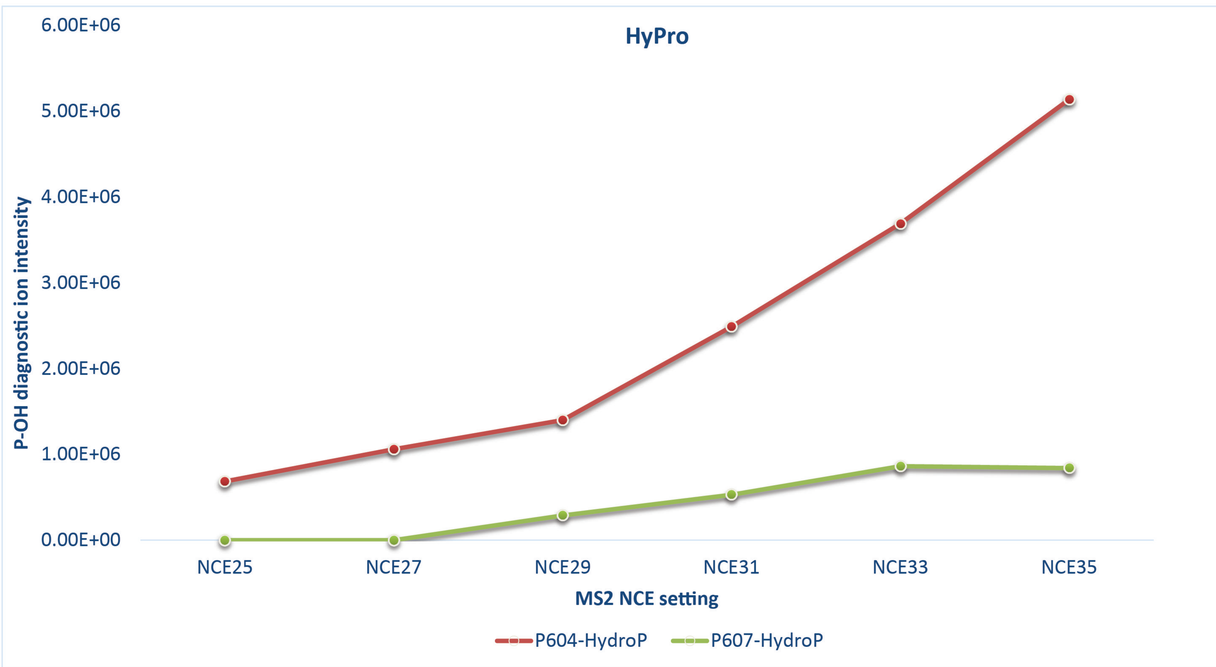
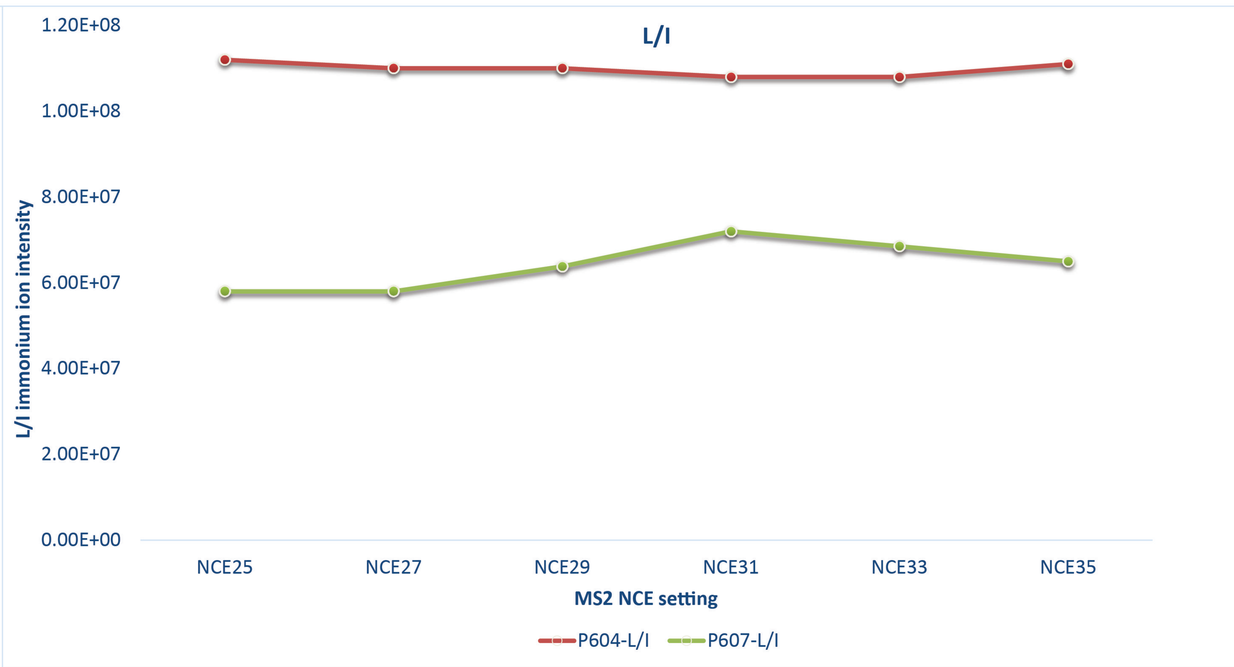
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