

1 Discordant expression profile between RNA and protein for the genes involved in immune
2 response network in adenovirus type 2 infected cells

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20 **Abstract**

21 Alternation of cellular genes expressions during Adenovirus type 2 (Ad2) infection in IMR-90
22 cells was studied using paired-end sequencing and stable isotope labeling of amino acids in
23 cell culture mass spectrometric analysis (SILAC-MS). At transcriptional level, cellular genes
24 involved in different pathways revealed distinct expression profiles. At early phase, the genes
25 involved in regulation of cellular immune response, cellular signaling and cell growth control
26 were among the most deregulated. Later follows, in an orderly fashion, genes involved in cell
27 cycle control, DNA replication and further on genes engaged in RNA processing and protein
28 translation. Comparison of cellular gene expression at transcriptional and posttranscriptional
29 levels revealed low correlation. Here we highlight the genes which expose opposite
30 expression profiles with an emphasis on key factors that play important roles in cellular
31 immune pathways including NF κ B, JAK/STAT, caspases and MAVS. Transcription of many
32 of these genes was transiently induced early, but became down-regulated in the late phase. In
33 contrast, their expressions at protein level were up-regulated early and so sustained until late
34 phase of infection. Suppression at the transcriptional level and enhancement at the protein
35 level of immune response genes most likely illustrate counteractions between Ad2 and its host
36 cell.

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39 **Importance**

40 Our paper comprises a state of the art quality transcriptomics data set unravelling the
41 alterations in gene expression that take place during different phases of an adenovirus
42 infection. The information allows us to draw conclusion about the cellular pathways that are
43 perturbed by the virus. The data set also provides an important resource for scientists in
44 general for future studies on mechanisms behind host/virus interactions in efforts to design
45 tools for combatting virus infections.

46 Moreover, our paper includes novel proteomics information unravelling an unexpected role of
47 post transcriptional events in cellular gene expression, demonstrating that the current picture
48 of the adenovirus replication cycle is simplified.

49

50 Introduction

51 Human adenovirus (Ad) infection leads to alternations of host cell gene expression
52 and biosynthetic processes. It is a stepwise, but efficient mode of turning host transcriptional,
53 translation and metabolism to facilitate the replication of adenovirus. Most interactions
54 between host cell and virus take place during the early phase. Adenovirus-mediated regulation
55 of cellular gene expression emphasizes two major aspects: interference with host defense
56 mechanisms and induction of its host cell to enter S-phase of the cell cycle. It has also been
57 shown that cells are reprogrammed epigenetically as a result of adenovirus early-region
58 function at different times after infection (1). Adenovirus expresses several regulatory
59 proteins from early regions 1A (E1A), E1B, E3, and E4. E1A is the first viral gene expressed
60 and plays essential roles in regulation of viral and cellular genes expression (2). E1A proteins
61 are crucial for the induction of the S phase of the cell cycle, cell proliferation and cell
62 transformation through its ability to target different cellular transcriptional regulators, such as
63 pRb, p300/CBP, CtBP, p400/TRRAP (3-10). E1A proteins also interfere with host immune
64 response by blocking type I IFN-inducible gene expression (11), as well as by preventing the
65 peptide presentation to the immunoproteasome by interacting with MECL1 (12). E1B
66 encodes two major proteins, the E1B-55K and E1B-19K proteins. E1B-55K is a multi-
67 functional protein and plays a major role in counteracting the cellular proapoptotic program.
68 Association of E1B-55k and E4 orf6 proteins with several cellular proteins, Cullin 5, TCEBs
69 and RBX1 forms a virus-specific E3 ubiquitin ligase which then targets specific cellular
70 proteins for degradation (13). The E1B-55K protein serves as the substrate-recognition
71 subunit via distinct sequences and targets the p53 protein, thereby promoting degradation of
72 p53 (14, 15). The E1B-19K protein is a viral Bcl-2 homologue that acts as a broad inhibitor of
73 mitochondria-dependent apoptosis (16, 17). It interferes directly with the activity of p53 when
74 translocated into the mitochondria (18). Proteins generated from the E3 region also play a

75 very important role in countering host antiviral defenses (19). E3-gp19K prevents the
76 exposure of viral peptides on the cell surface by blocking the transport of the class I major
77 histocompatibility complex (MHC I) molecule to the cell surface and the loading of peptides
78 by tapasin (20-22). The E3-10.4K and 14.5K (RID α/β) complex inhibits tumor necrosis factor
79 alpha (TNF α) and Fas ligand-induced apoptosis through internalization and degradation of the
80 death domain containing receptors (23). In addition, the E3-10.4K/14.5K complex blocks the
81 activation of NF κ B by preventing it from entering the nucleus and inhibiting the activity of
82 the kinase complex IKK (24). Proteins encoded by the E4 region are involved in
83 transcriptional regulation. E4 orf6/7 stabilizes the binding of E2F to the duplicated E2F
84 binding sites in the E2 promoter (25, 26). E4 orf3 associates with E1B 55K in the nuclear
85 promyelocytic leukemia protein oncogenic domains (POD) and reorganizes PODs during
86 infection, thus likely involved in the regulation of transcription factor availability and activity
87 (27). The E4 orf4 protein interacts with protein phosphatase 2A, leading to the inhibition of
88 E1A-dependent transactivation of the junB promoter (28).

89 When adenovirus DNA replication commences, the infection cycle proceeds into the
90 late phase and viral transcription changes from the early to the late pattern. E1A expression
91 switches from a preference for the 289R transcriptional activator to the shorter E1A-243R
92 protein (29). The E1A-243R protein functions mainly as a transcriptional repressor through its
93 binding of p300/CBP (30). The L4-100 kDa protein, expressed from the major late
94 transcription unit is necessary for efficient initiation of viral late mRNA translation (31-33).
95 Furthermore, the E1B-55 kDa and E4 orf4 protein complex is involved in regulation of
96 mRNA export from nucleus, resulting in a block of cellular mRNAs export and selective
97 export of viral mRNAs (34, 35). As a consequence a dramatic down-regulation of cellular
98 gene expression occurs late in infection (36).

99 Most studies of the adenovirus infection have been performed in HeLa cells, in which
100 adenovirus replication is very efficient and the infectious cycle is completed after 20-24
101 hours. Particularly, the early phase is very short, lasting for less than 6 hours. Thus, there is a
102 narrow time window for a detailed examination of the changes of cellular gene expression.
103 Furthermore, being transformed cells, HeLa cells grow rapidly and are difficult to synchronize.
104 Thus, genes involved in the control of cell cycle and growth might escape detection.
105 Therefore, human primary cells, like human lung fibroblasts (IMR-90) or foreskin cells
106 (HFFs) have been used for a series of studies (36-40). In these cells adenovirus DNA
107 replication starts 24 hours post infection (hpi). Based on cellular transcription profiles, an
108 adenovirus type 2 (Ad2) infection of IMR-90 cells can be divided into four periods (36). The
109 first period (1-12 hpi) extends from the attachment of Ad2 to the cell surface to the beginning
110 of adenoviral early gene expression. During this time, the cellular gene expression changes
111 are mainly triggered by the virus entry process, including attachment of the virus to cell
112 surface receptors, and intracellular transport of the virus along microtubules. The majority of
113 the genes deregulated during the first phase have functions linked to inhibition of cell growth
114 and immune response. The second period covers the time from the expression of the
115 immediate early E1A gene to the time when Ad2 DNA replication starts (12-24 hpi). During
116 this period, there is a linear increase in the number of differentially expressed cellular genes
117 involved primarily in cell cycle regulation and cell proliferation. The third period ranges from
118 the beginning of DNA replication to the time when the cytopathic effect (CPE) starts (24-36
119 hpi). By this time, the virus has gained control of the cellular metabolic machinery, resulting
120 in an efficient replication of the viral genome and expression of the capsid proteins.
121 Additional changes in cellular gene expression are modest during this phase. The final period
122 starts when CPE is apparent (after 36 hpi). The number of down-regulated genes increases

123 dramatically and include many genes involved in intra- and extracellular structure, leading to
124 an efficient burst of progeny.

125 The transcriptomics and proteomics of host cell during human adenovirus infection
126 have been extensively studied (39-43). Early studies of cellular genes expression in
127 adenovirus subtype C infected quiescent fibroblasts using microarray showed that genes
128 involved in the control of cell cycle, proliferation, and growth were most highly up-regulated,
129 while genes implicate in immune response were most significant among down-regulated
130 genes during the early phase of infection (36, 40). With the development of high throughput
131 sequencing technologies, the transcriptome can be explored on a genome-wide scale at single
132 base pair resolution. A large number of differentially expressed cellular genes have been
133 identified, and they are classified into similar gene ontology categories as identified by
134 microarray (42). Binding sites for E2F, ATF/CREB and AP2 are prevalent in the up-regulated
135 genes while SRF and NFkB are most dominant among down-regulated genes at two time
136 points (12 and 24 hpi) as described in a previous study (42). Meanwhile, several proteomics
137 approaches have been applied. Improve shotgun/bottom-up liquid chromatography-tandem
138 mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS)-based protein detection and quantitative techniques such as
139 Stable Isotope Labelling of Amino acids in Cell culture (SILAC) have greatly facilitated
140 protein identification (44, 45). These technologies have been used in studies of protein
141 expression in an adenovirus-infected cells. Lam et al have analyzed the nucleolar proteome in
142 Ad5-infected Hela cells (46) while Evans et al have examined the posttranscriptional stability
143 of cellular protein in Ad5-infected Hela cells (41). Recently, a comparative proteome analysis
144 of wild type and E1B-55K was performed to investigate the role of Ad5 E1B-55K in targeting
145 cellular proteins with antiviral activity for proteasomal degradation (47). Furthermore, using a
146 combined immunoaffinity purification and LC-MS protocol, a set of 92 E1B-associated
147 proteins were identified in Ad5-infected HFFs and it was shown that these proteins are

148 enriched for function in the ubiquitin-proteasome system, RNA metabolism and cell cycle
149 (48). Previously, we have presented a comparison of the cellular transcriptome and proteome
150 of Ad2-infected IMR-90 cell at 24 and 36 hpi (39). More than 700 proteins were identified to
151 be differentially expressed. Surprisingly, there was a very low correlation between the RNA
152 and protein expression profiles. Here, we present a more comprehensive study of the cellular
153 transcription profiles at four critical stages of an adenovirus infection in normal cell using
154 paired-end sequencing. As a step further, RNA expression profiles were compared with
155 protein expression profiles with a focus on genes involved in the cellular immune response.

156

157 Materials and methods

158 Cell culture and virus infection

159 Human primary lung fibroblast IMR-90 cells (American Type Culture Collection,
160 ATCC) were initially cultured in Eagle's minimum essential medium (EMEM) (ATCC)
161 supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FCS), 100 U/ml penicillin and 100 µg/ml
162 streptomycin at 37 °C and 5% CO₂. Cells were maintained in the plates for two days before
163 infection. By fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) analysis, more than 95% of the cells
164 were characterized in G0/G1 phase. Synchronized cells were then infected with human
165 adenovirus type 2 at a multiplicity of infection (MOI) of 100 fluorescence-forming units
166 (FFU) in serum-free medium. Mock-infected cells were used as a control. One hour later, the
167 medium was replaced with complete EMEM medium supplemented with 10% FBS. Infected
168 cells were harvested and collected at 6, 12, 24, and 36 hours post infection (hpi).

169 Total RNA extraction, RNA library construction and sequencing

170 Total RNA from infected IMR-90 cells were extracted with TRIzol[®] (Invitrogen),
171 according to the manufacturer's instructions. The quality of total RNA was evaluated with a
172 NanoDrop 1000 spectrophotometer and an Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer. After treatment with
173 Ribo-Zero[™] rRNA removal reagent, total RNA was used to construct cDNA library for
174 transcriptome sequencing following the ScriptSeq[™] v2 RNA-Seq library preparation kit
175 according to the manufacturer's protocol (Epicentre). The cDNA libraries were sequenced on
176 a HiSeq 2000 sequencing platform (Illumina).

177 Genome alignment and gene expression profile

178 Data cleaning was performed by removing low quality, contaminant and adapter
179 reads from the raw reads. TopHat2 and Cufflinks were used to align the filtered reads to
180 human Ensembl genome (<http://www.ensembl.org/index.html>, GRCh38) and to profile gene

181 expression following the protocol (49), respectively. FPKM (fragments per kilobase of exon
182 per million fragments mapped) method was employed to normalize gene expression. To
183 strengthen the reliability of our results, lowly expressed genes (< 10 FPKM in all libraries)
184 were filtered out.

185 Identification of differentially expressed genes in Ad2-infected cells

186 To identify genes deregulated in early and late phases of Ad2 infection, we
187 performed correlation analysis between samples based on normalized gene expression values
188 using the CORREL function provided by Excel. To identify differentially expressed genes in
189 the cells infected by Ad2, several statistical values were used. First, a fold change of a
190 particular gene in Ad2-infected cells was calculated following the rule: fold change (Ad2-
191 infected/mock) =y/x, while y and x represent the normalized expression values in Ad2-
192 infected and mock cells, respectively. A cut-off of more than 2-fold increase or decrease was
193 used. Second, a p-value that represents the significance for differential expression was
194 calculated based on Poisson distribution (50). A cut-off for p-values (< 0.05) was used for
195 differentially expressed genes. Last, an R package called NOISeq was used to calculate the
196 probability of differential expression of a gene in a comparison (51). Only those genes with
197 probability > 0.7 were kept for further analysis.

198 Gene Ontology and KEGG pathway enrichment

199 To determine the biological processes and KEGG pathways affected by human adenovirus
200 type 2, differentially expressed genes were analyzed by DAVID Bioinformatics Resources 6.7
201 (<http://david.abcc.ncifcrf.gov/>) (52).

202 **SILAC-MS experiment and protein identification**

203 The IMR-90 cells culture and protein labelling were performed as described before (36).
204 Briefly, after growing in cell culture medium containing with heavy or light amino acids for at

205 least six passages, cells were mock infected or infected with Ad2 at MOI of 100 FFU per cell
206 in serum-free medium (53). A biological replicate with swapped labeling was also performed.
207 After harvest, cells were lysed and mock- and Ad2-infected lysates of different labeling were
208 combined in a 1:1 protein ratio. Proteins were fractionated using SDS-PAGE. Following in-
209 gel tryptic digestion (54), peptides were extracted and analyzed using nano liquid
210 chromatography coupled on-line to a QExactive Orbitrap Plus Mass spectrometer
211 (ThermoFisher Scientific, Bremen, Germany). Acquired data (raw-files) were imported into
212 MaxQuant software (version:1.4.5.7) (55), and searched against a FASTA-file containing
213 both cellular and Ad2 proteins downloaded from UniProt 2017-02. The ratio of the
214 chromatographic areas of heavy and light peptides matching to specific proteins was used for
215 determining the protein expression levels.

216

217 **Results and discussion**

218 **Host cell transcriptional profiles during the course of an adenovirus infection**

219 Alternation of cellular transcription in adenovirus infected cells has been studied
220 before using RNA sequencing (36). However, this study included only two time points (12
221 and 24 hpi) in lung fibroblast using constrained 76 bp long sequencing reads. Therefore, a
222 more detailed study of transcription at different phases of infection using a up-graded
223 sequencing technique is recalled. Furthermore, the correlation between transcription and
224 protein expression need to be addressed. To this end, we have applied paired-end sequencing
225 technology to examine the cellular RNA expression profile at 6, 12, 24 and 36 hours post
226 infection (hpi) of IMR-90 cells. These time points represent different stages of Ad2 infection
227 and all of our early studies on cellular various RNA expression including micro RNA
228 (miRNA), long non-coding (lncRNA) and protein were performed under the same condition
229 (36-38). Thus, we could correlated the expression profile between them. About 30 million 255
230 bp long sequence reads per sample were generated and 53-58% of them accounted for mRNA.
231 From them 6,860 cellular genes were identified to be transcribed to a significant level with a
232 minimum of 10 FPKM (fragments per kilobase of exon per million fragments mapped) (Table
233 1). Among them, 3556 genes were changed more than or equal to 2-fold with p-values<0.05
234 in infected cells as compared to non-infected cell. This selection of differentially expressed
235 genes is strict. Very limited changes in RNA expression occurs during the early phases. Only
236 74 and 223 genes showed significant differential expression at 6 and 12 hpi, respectively.
237 Most expression changes took place at 24 hpi when infection proceeded into the late phase,
238 2239 and 3060 genes were differentially expressed at 24 and 36 hpi, respectively. Fewer
239 differentially expressed genes were detected in this study as compared to our early study, in
240 which 1267 and 3683 cellular genes were selected as differentially expressed at 12 and 24 hpi.

241 However, the former study was less stringent and included gene covered with more than 1
242 reads (42).

243 Based on the kinetics of changes of gene expression at different stages of infection,
244 3451 out of 3556 genes fell into 20 major different expression clusters (Figure 1). The
245 complete list of genes in each cluster is included in supplementary Table S1. At 6 hpi, more
246 than 87% of the differentially expressed genes were up-regulated (cluster 1+2+3+4).
247 Expression of nearly all of these genes reached their highest level at 6 hpi, except two which
248 reached their highest levels at 12 hpi. Then about 80% of them became down-regulated during
249 the late phase of infection (clusters 1 and cluster 2). The rest either remained up-regulated
250 (cluster 4), or were gradually reduced to the basal level in the late phase (cluster 3). Only 9
251 genes (cluster 5) were down-regulated at 6 hpi and their expression remained suppressed until
252 the late phase.

253 At 12 hpi, 122 and 78 genes, became up- and down-regulated in addition to the
254 differentially expressed genes at 6 hpi. Among the up-regulated genes, about 1/3 increased
255 until 36 hpi (Cluster 6), 1/3 remained at a similar level through the rest of the infection
256 (cluster 7), and the remaining 1/3 was only transiently up-regulated at 12 hpi (Cluster 9) and
257 became down-regulated at 24 hpi (cluster 11) or at 36 hpi (cluster 10). Except one gene, all
258 down-regulated genes at 12 hpi remained suppressed until the late phase (cluster 12).

259 The most dramatic changes in gene expression took place between 12 to 24 hpi then
260 the infection proceeded from the early to the late phase. Thus, expression of 1585 and 447
261 (2032 in total) additional genes were up- and down-regulated at 24 hpi. Based on the
262 expression changes at 36 hpi, the up-regulated genes at 24 hpi fell into four profiles (Cluster
263 13+14+15+16). Expression of 59% of these genes increased until 36 hpi (Cluster 13), whereas
264 25% decreased but remained higher (>2-fold) than in non-infected cells (Cluster 14) and 15%
265 declined to less than 2-fold change at 36 hpi (Cluster 15). Only 6 genes became down-

266 regulated at 36 hpi (Cluster 16). Among 447 down-regulated genes, 75% decreased
267 continually until 36 hpi (Cluster 17), while 25% remained at a similar level (Cluster 18).
268 Change in cellular gene expression was modest between 24 to 36 hpi as compared to that
269 between 12 to 24 hpi. In comparison to non-infected cells, expression of 737 (Cluster 19) and
270 408 genes (Cluster 20) became up- or down-regulated at 36 hpi in addition to the genes that
271 were differentially expressed at 12 or 24 hpi.

272 **Biological functions of genes in different expression clusters**

273 The biological consequences of the gene expression changes were analyzed using
274 DAVID (The Database for Annotation, Visualization and Integrated Discovery) and are
275 shown in Figure 1 (left hand panel), and more detailed results are included in supplementary
276 Table S1. The most significant functions of the genes that were transiently up-regulated at 6
277 hpi (clusters 1-3) were cellular proliferation, antiviral response and cellular signaling. A
278 significant group of genes was cytokines involved stress/immune response and cell growth
279 control. Genes implicated in apoptosis and cell cycle control were also noteworthy. Among
280 transcription factors, up-regulation of ATF3 was the most significant since it reached 6-fold
281 compared to the non-infected control. Expression of ATF3 has been shown to be induced by a
282 variety of signals and is involved in cellular stress response. Only 9 genes were present in
283 cluster 5 and therefore no significant functional categories could be identified by DAVID.
284 However, four (PTPN12, MAP4K3, ERRF1 and LBH) out of the 9 genes, are involved in
285 cellular signaling and growth control.

286 During the period between 6 and 12 hpi, adenovirus early genes begin to be expressed,
287 redirecting cellular gene expression. The up-regulated cellular genes are involved in DNA
288 replication (Clusters 6 and 7), including Minichromosome Maintenance Complex
289 Components (MCM) 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and components of the post-replicative DNA mismatch

290 repair system (MMR) alpha (MSH2-MSH6 heterodimer). In addition, genes implicate in
291 transcription and pre-RNA processing were prominent in cluster 6. Genes implicated in cell
292 cycle were significant in Cluster 7, including CDC25A, CCNE2, CCNE1 and CDK2, the key
293 regulators for the progression from G1 to the S phase. Although no significant function was
294 identified for clusters 8 to 11, several genes, such as JunB, GADD45B and PAPPA function
295 in control of cell growth and proliferation were included in this cluster. The most significant
296 function for the down-regulated genes was actin cytoskeleton organization.

297 There was a dramatic increase in the number of differentially expressed genes between
298 12-24 hpi. Cellular genes which function in protein translation became significant among up-
299 regulated genes. These genes covered both cytoplasmic and mitochondrial ribosomal proteins
300 (RPLs/RPSs and MRPLs/MRPSs), eukaryotic translation initiation factors (EIFs), and
301 eukaryotic translation elongation factors (EEFs). Although genes involved in DNA replication
302 and cell cycle were still significant, similar to those at 12 hpi, the number of genes in these
303 categories increased dramatically. For instance, genes involved in DNA metabolism/DNA
304 replication increased from 18 to 124, whereas genes implicated in cell cycle increased from
305 19 to 153. Most of these genes were included in clusters 13, 14 and 15. The genes involved in
306 DNA replication included DNA polymerases, replication factor C (RFC) and histones from all
307 five families. The large number of genes involved in the cell cycle included many key
308 regulators, such as E2Fs, cyclins, cyclin dependent kinases and cell division cycle (cdc)
309 genes. In addition, genes participating in RNA processing became significant, comprising
310 RNA helicases, the splicing factors, U2 small nuclear RNA auxiliary factors, U3 small
311 nucleolar ribonucleoprotein, U6 small nuclear RNA associated, pre-mRNA processing factors
312 (PRPFs), heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoproteins (HNRNPs) and small nuclear
313 ribonucleoproteins (SNRNPs). Furthermore, the THO complexes 3, required for efficient
314 export of polyadenylated RNA, were up-regulated, as were the cleavage and polyadenylation

315 specificity factors (CPSFs), playing a key role in the 3' end cleavage of pre-mRNAs and
316 polyadenylation. Several important components of the exosome complex involved in the
317 degradation and processing of a wide variety of RNA species were also up-regulated.

318 The number of down-regulated genes between 12 and 24 hpi also increased (clusters
319 17 and 18). The most significant function of these clusters were cellular signaling, such as
320 TGFBR1, TGFBR2, BMPR2, ACVR1 and SMAD3 involved in TGF β signaling, as well as
321 growth factors, like EGFR, DGFRA, HBEGF, PDGFC, PLAT, TXNIP, ZFAND5, ARID5B,
322 BCAR1, PDGFRA, PDGFC, VEGFC, NRP1 and PDGFRB. Cytoskeleton organization was
323 significant for genes in cluster 17, whereas genes implicated in cell adhesion were significant
324 in cluster 18.

325 Previous experiments have shown that the replication of Ad2 DNA reaches a
326 maximum rate during the period from 24 to 36 hpi (36). However, cellular gene expression
327 was still maintained at a high level. The most significant function of the up-regulated genes
328 (cluster 19) was protein translation similar to that at 24 hpi, but with an increased number of
329 genes. Genes involved in the generation of precursor metabolites and energy, as well as
330 oxidation reduction became significant. In addition, several genes identified in different
331 diseases were also significant. The major function for the down-regulated genes (cluster 20)
332 was cellular macromolecule catabolic processes such as ubiquitination and subsequent
333 proteasomal degradation of target proteins. Another significant function was small GTPase
334 mediated signal transduction, involved in vesicle transport.

335 **Consensus transcription factor binding sites in the promoter region of genes in the** 336 **different clusters**

337 Genes sharing a similar transcription profile are likely to be regulated by the common
338 transcription factors (TF) or TFs from the same family. To this end, the genes in the 20

339 different clusters were subjected to analysis for the presence of consensus TF binding sites in
340 their promoter regions (-300 to +100) using Transfind (56). The top ten of the over-
341 represented TF binding sites are listed in the order of significance and are included in the
342 supplementary Table S2. NF κ B and c-Rel binding sites were most significant for the genes in
343 cluster 1. Interesting genes among them were BIRC3, IKBA, IL8, CCL20, GROA (CXCL1),
344 TNAP3 and TNF15. These genes are known to be involved in immune response or apoptosis.
345 No significant enrichment of TF binding sites was identified for the genes in clusters 2, 3, 4,
346 5. For the genes in clusters 6 and 7, only the E2F binding site was significant. Genes with E2F
347 binding sites became more significant in clusters 13, 14 and 19. In addition, the binding sites
348 for GABP, NRF1, and ATF/CREB family were significant among genes in clusters 13, 14
349 and 15. GABP regulates genes that are involved in cell cycle control, protein synthesis, and
350 cellular metabolism. NRF1 activates the expression of key metabolic genes regulating cellular
351 growth. The ATF/CREB family has diverse functions in controlling cell proliferation and
352 apoptosis. In contrast, the TF binding sites among the down-regulated genes were less
353 significant. Only the MZF1 and AP2 binding sites were scored but their significance was low
354 and they were only present on 8 or 7 genes, respectively. MZF1 can function as a
355 tumor/growth suppressor and controls cell proliferation and tumorigenesis (57). At 36 hpi,
356 different sets of TF binding sites became significant for up-regulated genes (cluster 19),
357 including SP1, STRA13 and NF-Y in addition to GABP while the binding sites for E2F
358 became less significant. This correlated very well with the expression profile of E2Fs.
359 Expression of all E2Fs increased at 12 and 24 hpi, and then decreased at 36 hpi. The TF
360 binding sites for the down-regulated genes were less significant and STRA13 and USF were
361 on the top of the list. STRA13 is a transcriptional repressor. Correspondingly, its expression
362 increased 4 and 8 times at 24 and 36 hpi, respectively. STRA13 is involved in DNA damage
363 repair and genome maintenance. Surprisingly, the STRA13 binding site was significant for

364 both up- and down-regulated genes at 36 hpi. Its transcriptional repression is probably
365 mediated by recruitment of other regulatory factors and, depending on the cofactors, STRA13
366 plays divergent roles. USF that binds to a symmetrical DNA sequence (E-boxes; 5-CACGTG-
367 3) is involved in the transcriptional activation of various genes implicated in physiological
368 processes, such as stress response, immune response, cell cycle control and tumor growth.

369 **Inconsistency between changes in RNA and protein expression highlighted in genes**
370 **involved the cellular immune signaling pathway**

371 About 35% of genes that were expressed at the RNA level here were detected at the
372 protein level at 24 and 36 hpi as shown in our previous study using high throughput SILAC-
373 MS technology (Zhao et al 2017). Among 2648 and 2394 proteins that were detected at 24
374 and 36 hpi, expression of 659 and 645 protein were changed ≥ 1.6 -fold as compared to the
375 uninfected control. The correlation between changes in RNA and protein expression was
376 surprisingly low ($r=0.3$). The functions of the discordantly expressed proteins were analyzed
377 using the web-based tool DAVID, a functional enrichment analysis by intergrating a wide-
378 range heterogeneous data content. However, this tool is less specific for analysis data of
379 virus-induced changes in gene expression because of under representative of genes related to
380 virus infection. In addition, our previous analysis included only proteins that had minimum
381 fold-change of 1.6 and proteins with a slow kinetic of synthesis or degradation might have
382 escaped detection. Nonetheless, we noted that several genes which showed opposite profiles
383 for RNA and protein expression were involved in immune response. Here, we have extended
384 our comparison between RNA and protein expression on genes involved in cellular immune
385 pathways including new SILAC-MS data for 6 and 12 hpi (manuscript submitted for
386 publication). Significantly, many key regulators in cellular immune pathways, NF κ B, STAT,
387 apoptosis and MAV displayed inconsistent expression profiles between RNA and protein
388 expression as listed Table 2 and their expression profiles are shown in Figure 2.

389 As presented above, NF κ B and c-Rel binding sites were the most significant in the
390 promoter region of genes that were transiently up-regulated during the early phase. Indeed,
391 expression of several key factors of the NF κ B pathway were significantly changed at both the
392 RNA and protein levels (Figure 2A). The transcription of all NF κ B family members was
393 detectable, and NF κ B1 was the most highly expressed. Except REL, all showed very similar
394 expression profiles. Specifically, they were moderately induced during the early phase, but
395 decreased rapidly and became down-regulated after 24 hpi. Among them, expression of
396 RELA, NF κ B1 and NF κ B2 was also detectable at the protein level. Coupled with the
397 increased RNA level at 6 hpi, these proteins were all up-regulated. Unexpectedly the NF κ B2
398 and RELA protein levels remained constant until the late phase of infection in spite of the
399 reduction in transcription. The members of NF κ B inhibitor family (I κ B) displayed diverse
400 transcription profiles. NFKBIA (I κ B α) and NFKBIZ (I κ B ζ) were the most highly expressed
401 and showed similar expression profiles, transiently up-regulated at 6 hpi but decreased at 12
402 hpi and were reduced more than 8-fold at 36 hpi. NF κ BIB (I κ B β) showed an opposite
403 expression pattern, low in uninfected cells and at 6 hpi, but increased after 12 hpi and became
404 up-regulated more than 16-fold at 36 hpi. Thus, it appears that NFKBIB replaced NFKBIA to
405 be the most highly expressed I κ B in the late phase. None of these gene products was detected
406 at the protein level. The expression changes of the inhibitors of NF κ B kinases (IKKs) subunit,
407 IKBKB, and its regulatory subunit IKBKG, as well as IKK-related kinases, IKBKE and
408 TBK1, appeared to be coordinated. They were delayed as compared to the expression of
409 NF κ Bs and I κ Bs and significant down-regulation of transcription occurred at 24 or 36 hpi. A
410 surprising finding was that the expression of IKBKB and TBK1 was up-regulated at the
411 proteins level. The IKBKB protein was up-regulated already at 6 hpi and remained stable until
412 the late phase while the up-regulation of the TBK1 protein was significant after 24 hpi. The

413 results thus indicate that the positive regulators of the NF κ B pathway are activated at both the
414 RNA and protein levels during the early phase of infection as result of the host immediate
415 response to the infection. Following the progression of the infection, these proteins remained
416 up-regulated until 36 hpi although their transcription was suppressed. However, the fact that
417 the downstream target genes of the NF κ B pathway were down-regulated during the late phase
418 indicates that these proteins have lost their functions as transcriptional activators. The
419 dramatic up-regulation of NFKIB may contribute to the inhibition of the NF κ B activity. Other
420 post-translational control mechanisms, such as the blocking of the nuclear transport, loss of its
421 coactivator such as CBP/P300, p400 and TRAPP due to interaction with the Ad2 E1A protein,
422 may contribute to the block of the NF κ B activity (58, 59). Other yet unidentified mechanism
423 might also cause the inactivation of the NF κ B pathway.

424 The Janus kinase-signal transducer and activator of transcription (JAK/STAT) signaling
425 is another important pathway regulating the innate immune response. Transcription of all
426 STATs (STAT1, STAT2, STAT3, STAT5A/B and STAT6) was unchanged up to 12 hpi, but
427 were then down-regulated after 24 hpi. Four STAT proteins (STAT1, STAT2, STAT3 and
428 STAT6) were detected and they were up-regulated during the early phase and remained stable
429 or decreased slightly in the late phase. JAKs are important activators of STAT and catalyse
430 the phosphorylation of the STAT proteins. The three JAK kinases, JAK1, JAK2 and TYK2,
431 displayed different expression profiles. JAK1 was the most highly transcribed and only
432 slightly increased at 6 hpi. Then, it decreased to the basic level and remained constant until
433 the late phase. Transcription of both JAK2 and TYK2 increased at 12 hpi. JAK2 decreased
434 during the late phase while TYK2 remained constant. Only JAK1 protein was detected and it
435 decreased slightly during the early phase, but became up-regulated at 24 hpi. The activity of
436 the STAT proteins is also controlled by several negative regulators, including protein tyrosine
437 phosphatase (PTPN), suppressor of cytokine signaling (SOCS) and protein inhibitor of

438 activated STAT (PIAS). Several PTPNs were detected at both RNA and protein levels with
439 inconsistent expression profiles. Either their RNAs were down-regulated, while their protein
440 levels remained constant (PTPN1) or increased (PTPN12). In other cases the RNA remained
441 stable, while the protein level was increased (PTPN11). Furthermore, several Importins and
442 Ran, required for nuclear translocation of STATs, were up-regulated at both at the RNA and
443 protein levels during the infection. Suppression of STAT transcription and promotion of
444 STAT translation during Ad2 infection might reflect an aspect of the battle between the virus
445 and its host. Through several distinct routes the infected cells recognize different viral
446 components and active the expression of IFN β which leads the stimulation of the JAK/STAT
447 pathway. In turn, viruses have developed strategies to circumvent the IFN β response (60).
448 Expression of most, if not all, of the downstream targets of the STAT pathway were
449 suppressed, indicating that the STAT pathway is blocked (data not shown). Apparently, the
450 inhibition of the STAT pathway occurs both transcriptional and post-translationally. The
451 activity of STATs has been shown to be modulated by various posttranslational modifications
452 (61, 62). Upon infection, adenovirus uses several strategies to block the STAT pathway. The
453 viral E1A plays a significant role in the inactivation of the STAT pathway by binding to
454 STATs, or their coactivator CBP/p300.(11, 63-65). Meanwhile, the E1B-55k protein represses
455 expression of IFN-inducible genes which leads to the inhibition of the STAT signaling
456 pathway (66). In addition, E3-14.7K protein interacts with STAT1 which results in the
457 inhibition of STAT1 phosphorylation and nuclear translocation (67). Furthermore,
458 phosphorylated STAT1 has been shown to be sequestered at viral replication centers in the
459 nuclues (68).

460 Apoptosis pathways are extensively regulated during Ad2 infection. Our RNA
461 sequencing results showed that transcription of more than 60% of genes that are directly
462 involved in apoptosis were down-regulated, whereas only 20% were up-regulated in the late

463 phase (data not shown). Transcription of most TNF family ligands was undetectable or at a
464 very low level except for TNFSF15 and TNFSF4 (Table 2). Both of them decreased after 12
465 hpi, although TNFSF15 was transiently induced more than 6-fold at 6 hpi. Numerous TNF
466 receptor superfamily members were expressed at the transcriptional level with diverse
467 expression profiles. TNFRSF11B and TNFRSF12A were the most highly expressed receptors.
468 After being slightly increased at 6 hpi, their RNA levels decreased at 12 hpi and were then
469 more than 25- and 6-fold lower at 36 hpi as compared to the non-infected control.
470 Unfortunately, none of the TNF receptor superfamily members was detected at the protein
471 level.

472 Caspases (CASPs) and the Bcl2 families are key player in apoptosis. At the
473 transcriptional level, CASPs showed different expression profiles. Among them, CASP1, 3
474 and 4 are most highly expressed with similar expression profiles, slightly increased at 6 hpi
475 and then down-regulated. All of these CASPs were detected at the protein level and were up-
476 regulated, opposite to their RNA expression profile. Expressions of most Bcl2 family
477 members were low at the RNA level except for those listed in the Table 2. Transcriptions of
478 most anti-apoptotic BCLs (BCI2A1, BCL2L1, BCL2L13 and MCL1) were down-regulated
479 after a slight increase at 6 hpi. Among them, only BCL2L13 protein was detected which
480 showed 40% increased expression during the late phase. Among pro-apoptotic genes,
481 transcription of BID, BAD and BAX was up-regulated gradually towards the late phase or
482 remained stable. At the protein level, BID and BAX were up-regulated from the early to the
483 late phase, although the RNA level for BAX decreased in the late phase. BAD protein
484 displayed an expression pattern opposite to its RNA.

485 Although most genes that are directly involved in apoptosis were down-regulated at the
486 transcriptional level, several important pro-apoptotic players were up-regulated at the protein
487 level (CASP3, BAX and BID). The fact that apoptosis is efficiently inhibited during an

488 adenovirus infection indicated that the functions of these proteins must be inactivated. To
489 counteract the host defensive apoptotic pathways, adenoviruses have established very efficient
490 mechanisms by encoding their own anti-apoptotic proteins in the E1B and E3 regions.
491 Obviously, the regulation of apoptosis is very multifaceted and a comprehensive view of how
492 apoptosis is blocked during an Ad2 infection remains to be unraveled.

493 Inconsistent expression profiles between RNA and protein for the genes involved in
494 MAVS was shown in our previous study (39). We show here that expression of MAVS is
495 stable at both RNA and protein levels during the early phase, whereas difference were seen in
496 the late phase. In addition, we have studied the expression of three MAVS regulatory proteins,
497 PSMA7, PCBP2 and TBK1. The expression profiles of the negative regulators PSMA7 and
498 PCBP2 were similar at both the RNA and protein levels, and increased slowly during
499 infection. The positive regulator, TBK1 showed an opposite profile; its RNA was down-
500 regulated at 36 hpi whereas its protein level increased after 24 hpi. In spite of the up-
501 regulation of MAVS and its positive regulator, expression of its target genes (type I interferon
502 genes) was very low or undetectable, suggesting that this antiviral pathway is inactivated
503 during the late phase.

504 Furthermore, different expression profiles were also observed for galectins LGALS.
505 LGALS3 and 8 (Gal3 and 8) were the most highly expressed among LGALSs and their RNAs
506 were down-regulated after 24 hpi. However, their proteins remained constant from early to
507 late phase. Galectins have been shown to involve in innate immune processes (69).
508 Colocalization of LGALS3 with incoming Ad5 has been observed and its role in Ad5
509 transport was suggested (70). Stable expression of LGALS3 has been reported previously in
510 Ad5-infected cells, while it is down-regulated in Ad3-infected cells (71).

511 Apparently, there are features common to genes which participate in important
512 immune pathways, being suppressed at the transcriptional level while being enhanced or

513 stable at the protein level during the late phase. Thus, we hypothesize that the transcriptional
514 regulation of these genes is mediated mainly by Ad2, while protein translation machinery is
515 not yet completely under the control of the virus. The increased protein expression could be
516 caused by increased translation and/or decreased protein degradation. The facts that most of
517 downstream genes of immune pathways are down-regulated at RNA level in the late phase
518 even though their key regulators are stable or up-regulated at the protein level. Apparently,
519 adenovirus-mediated post-translational mechanisms play a very important role. As discussed
520 above, inhibition of STAT pathway represent the best example how adenovirus has evolved
521 redundant strategies to counteract cellular immune response. By regulating protein
522 modification, blocking of protein-protein interactions, inhibiting of the protein transport to its
523 destination, or direct interacting, adenovirus controls host cell antiviral pathways. Last but not
524 least, non-coding RNAs (ncRNAs) have been shown to be important regulators of various
525 biological processes. Alternations of cellular miRNA and lncRNA expression during Ad2
526 infection have been studied using RNA-seq (37, 38). Significant changes in their expression
527 take place after 24 hpi. The strong correlation of ncRNA expression changes with infection
528 progression indicates that ncRNA play important roles during infection. Specially, majority of
529 differentially expressed miRNAs were down-regulated in the late phase. One major
530 mechanisms of miRNA in gene regulation is the suppression of translation through partial
531 complementary to 3' UTRs of mRNA. Thus, down-regulation of miRNAs could lead to stable
532 or increase translation of special sets of proteins. In contrast, most of differentially expressed
533 cellular lncRNAs were up-regulated in the late phase. Several lncRNAs that are predicted to
534 target immune response genes were down-regulated in the late phase. In addition, a large
535 share of differentially expressed lncRNA are associated with RNA-binding proteins (RBPs),
536 being involved in posttranscriptional RNA processing and translation regulation. However,

537 how they are regulated, and how they are involved in the regulation of cellular gene
538 expression during adenovirus infection needs to be further addressed.

539

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721

722

723 Figure legends

724 Figure 1. Based on the kinetics of transcription changes, the differentially expressed genes were
725 grouped into 20 clusters (C1-C20). The numbers of genes in each cluster and the number of
726 differentially expressed genes identified at each time point were indicated on the right hand side (Note
727 that the numbers of genes at 12, 24 and 36 hpi are different to the Table 1 because many genes were
728 identified as differentially expressed at more than one time point, but included only in one cluster).
729 The biological functions of genes in each cluster were analyzed using DAVID (left). Red, green and
730 white arrow bars represent RNAs that were up-, down-regulated or unchanged in Ad2-infected cells in
731 comparison to RNA in uninfected control.

732 Figure 2. Schematic representation of key components of NF κ B (A), STAT (B), apoptosis (C) and
733 MAVS (D) pathways. The involvement of Ad2 proteins is also indicated. Graphs display the
734 expression profiles (fold change between Ad2 and mock) of genes that detected at both protein (dash
735 line) and RNA (solid line) levels at 4 time points. The same color is used for the corresponding protein
736 and RNA.

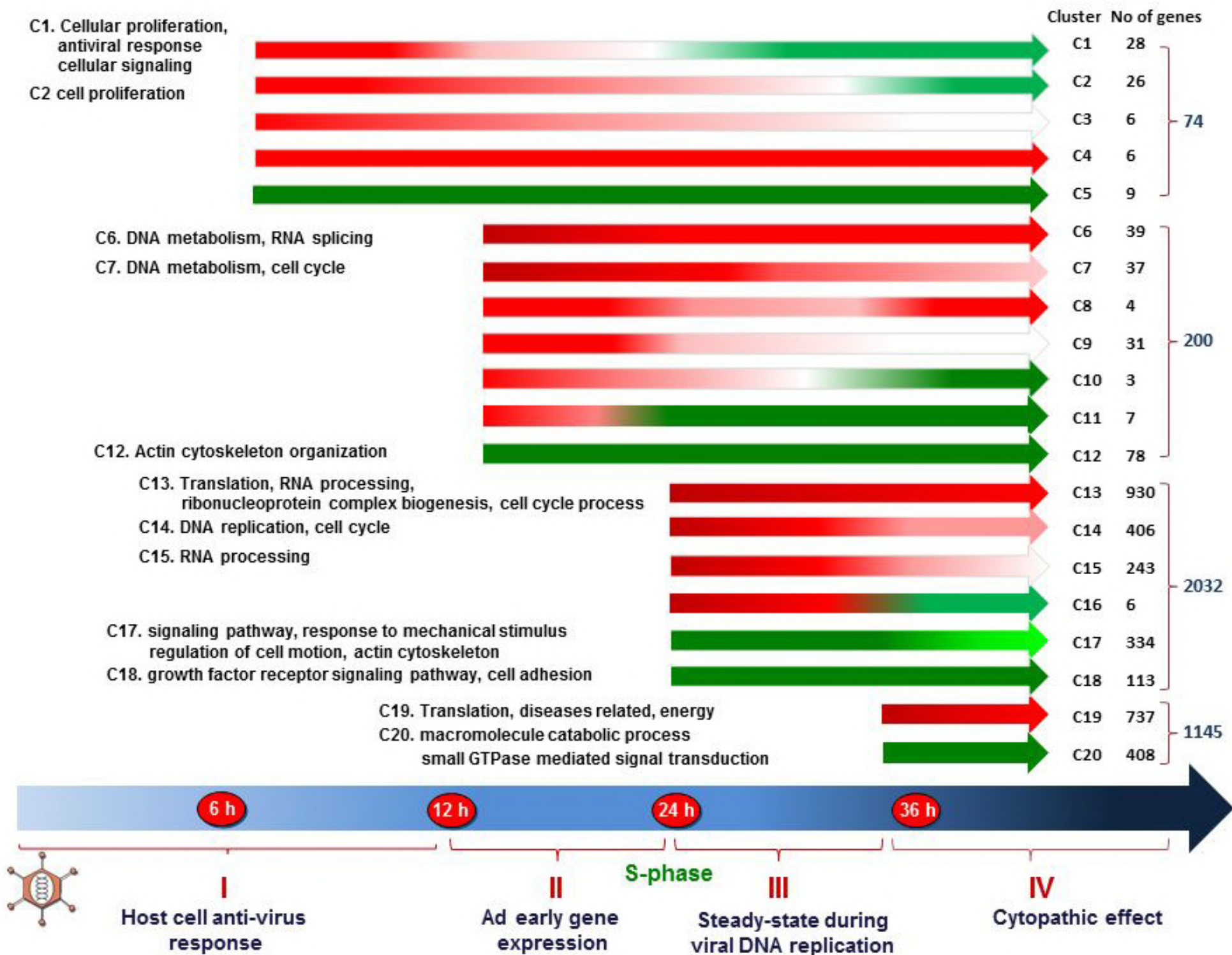
Table 1. In total 12,927 cellular mRNAs were detected in five time points together. Among them 9,738 mRNAs were common between all time points. Expression of 6,860 mRNAs reached to a significant level with a minimum of 10 FPKM. Among them 3556 genes expressions were changed ≥ 2 -fold in infected cells as compared to non-infected cells. Numbers of mRNAs at each time point are listed here.

Selection	Mock	Ad2-6 hpi	Ad2-12 hpi	Ad2-24 hpi	Ad2-36 hpi
≥ 1 FPKM	11064	11163	11837	11426	11191
≥ 10 FPKM	5001	4846	5184	4692	4371
≥ 2-Fold change		74 ^a	223	2239	3060
Up-regulated		65 ^b	138	1694	2142
Down-regulated		9 ^c	85	545	918

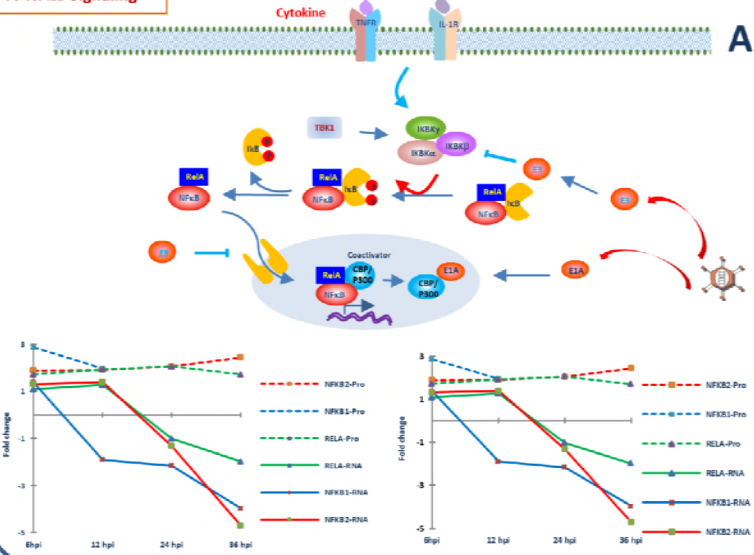
^aNumber of genes expression with or decrease in Ad2-infected as compared to uninfected cells as measured by sequence reads.

^bNumber of genes expression with more than 2-fold increase in Ad2-infected as compared to uninfected cells.

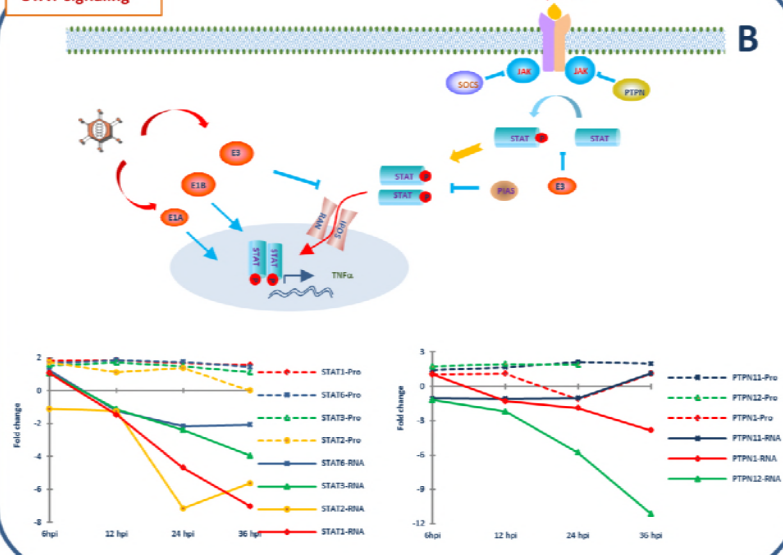
^cNumber of genes expression with more than 2-fold decrease in Ad2-infected as compared to uninfected cells.



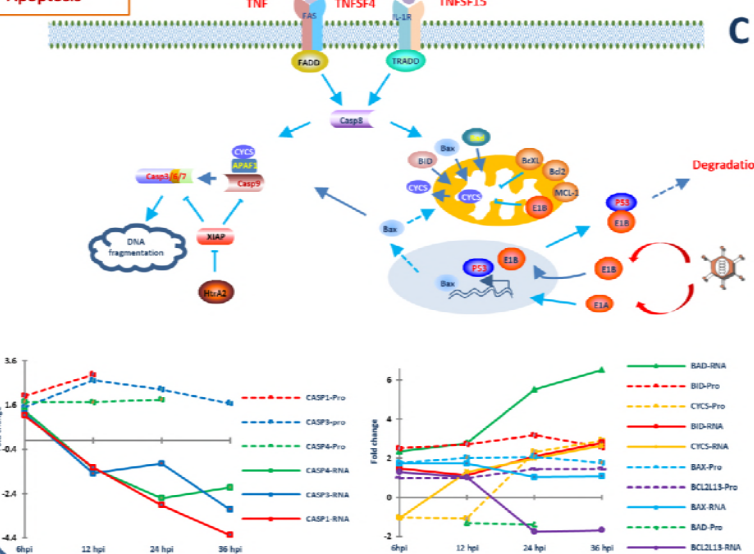
A NfκB Signaling



B STAT signaling



C Apoptosis



D MAVS signaling

