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**Genetic dissection of the redundant and divergent functions of histone chaperone
paralogs in yeast**

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Running title: Fpr3 and Fpr4 have overlapping and divergent functions

34 **Abstract**

35 Gene duplications increase organismal robustness by providing freedom for gene divergence or
36 by increasing gene dosage. The yeast histone chaperones Fpr3 and Fpr4 are paralogs that can assemble
37 nucleosomes *in vitro*, however the genomic locations they target and their functional relationship is
38 poorly understood. We refined the yeast synthetic genetic array (SGA) approach to enable the functional
39 dissection of gene paralogs. Applying this method to Fpr3 and Fpr4 uncovered their redundant and
40 divergent functions: while Fpr3 is uniquely involved in chromosome segregation, Fpr3 and Fpr4 co-
41 operate on some genes and are redundant on others where they impact gene expression and transcriptional
42 processivity. We find that the TRAMP5 RNA exosome is essential in $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ yeast and leverage this
43 information to identify Fpr3/4 target loci. Amongst these are the non-transcribed spacers of ribosomal
44 DNA where either paralog is sufficient to establish chromatin that is both transcriptionally silent and
45 refractory to recombination. These data provide evidence that Fpr3 and Fpr4 have shared chromatin-
46 centric functions, especially at nucleolar rDNA. However, their distinct genetic interaction profiles show
47 they also have evolved separate functions outside of the nucleolus.

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53 Keywords: chromatin/ functional divergence/ FKBP/ genetic interactions/ nucleolus

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56 Introduction

57 Gene duplication events play an important role both in driving protein evolution and in providing a
58 mechanism for ensuring the robustness of biological systems. Since the earliest observations of
59 duplications on chromosomes (Darlington & Moffett, 1930; Bridges, 1936) and redundant genes
60 (Kataoka *et al*, 1984; Basson *et al*, 1986), models implicating gene duplication events as complex drivers
61 of evolution have been proposed (Ohno, 1970; Hughes, 1994; Force *et al*, 1999; Francino, 2005; Innan
62 & Kondrashov, 2010). Evolutionary forces can favor the retention of redundant genes for dosage reasons,
63 for example, identical copies of histone and ribosomal genes are present in most eukaryotes. Alternately,
64 duplicated genes provide an opportunity for functional divergence of gene pairs, or paralogs, over time.

65 *FPR3* and *FPR4* are two *S. cerevisiae* paralogs (Manning-Krieg *et al*, 1994; Shan *et al*, 1994; Benton
66 *et al*, 1994; Dolinski *et al*, 1997) derived from a distant whole genome duplication event (Pemberton,
67 2006; Wolfe & Shields, 1997; Kellis *et al*, 2004). They code for highly similar proteins (58% identical
68 and 72% similar in amino acid residues) with acidic N-terminal nucleoplasmin-like histone chaperone
69 and C-terminal FK506-binding (FKBP) peptidyl-prolyl isomerase domains (Kuzuhara & Horikoshi,
70 2004; Xiao *et al*, 2006; Park *et al*, 2014) (Figure 1 A). Both proteins localize to the nucleus and are
71 enriched in the nucleolus (Manning-Krieg *et al*, 1994; Shan *et al*, 1994; Benton *et al*, 1994; Huh *et al*,
72 2003). Notably, Fpr3 and Fpr4 interact with each other and share some common physical interactors
73 (Krogan *et al*, 2006), including histones (Shan *et al*, 1994; Xiao *et al*, 2006; Nelson *et al*, 2006), and the
74 Nop54 ribosome biogenesis factor (Sydorsky *et al*, 2005). Additionally, both Fpr3 and Fpr4 are multi-
75 copy suppressors of temperature sensitivity and mating defects resulting from the absence of the Tom1
76 E3 ubiquitin ligase (Davey *et al*, 2000; Utsugi *et al*, 1999). Therefore, there is good evidence that Fpr3
77 and Fpr4 operate together and may have redundant functions.

78 There is also evidence that these enzymes are not equivalent. Fpr3 has been identified as a regulator
79 of chromosome dynamics at mitotic and meiotic centromeres. During meiosis, Fpr3 enhances
80 recombination checkpoint delay (Hochwagen *et al*, 2005) and prevents meiotic chromosome synapsis
81 initiation at centromeres (Macqueen & Roeder, 2009). Fpr3 is also required for the degradation of the
82 centromeric histone H3 variant Cse4 (Ohkuni *et al*, 2014). To our knowledge, no reports describe similar
83 data for Fpr4. Taken together, these reports are evidence that Fpr3 and Fpr4 may have functionally
84 diverged.

85 The comparative impact(s) of Fpr3 and Fpr4 in gene expression are also unclear. While Fpr4 can
86 silence expression of a reporter at ribosomal DNA (rDNA) (Kuzuhara & Horikoshi, 2004) and is
87 involved in transcription induction kinetics through the isomerization of prolines on the amino tails of

88 histones H3 and H4 (Nelson *et al*, 2006), the degree to which Fpr3 regulates transcription has not been
89 described.

90 In yeast, the loss-of-function phenotypes and genetic interactions of chromatin regulators usually
91 provide insight to their chromatin-centric functions. For example, the yeast histone chaperone coding
92 genes *ASF1* and *RTT106* display clear chromatin-related genetic interactions in synthetic genetic array
93 (SGA) screens (Costanzo *et al*, 2010, 2016). We noted that the genetic interactomes of *FPR3* and *FPR4*
94 contained few chromatin-related hits (Costanzo *et al*, 2010, 2016; Collins *et al*, 2007; Stirling *et al*, 2011;
95 Milliman *et al*, 2012) and hypothesized that the high similarity of these paralogs renders them semi-
96 redundant, masking their genetic interactions.

97 Here, through a set of comprehensive genetic interaction screens designed for paralogs, we reveal
98 that the functions of Fpr3 and Fpr4 are complex, and include separate, co-operative and redundant
99 functions in chromatin and chromosome biology. Deletion of *Δtrf5*, a key component of the TRAMP5
100 RNA exosome renders cells reliant on Fpr3/4 for viability, transcriptional processivity and silencing.
101 This strongly suggests that Fpr3/4 and TRAMP5 regulate common RNA transcripts through RNA
102 degradation and chromatin-mediated silencing, respectively. Finally, a major chromatin target for these
103 chaperones is found within the nucleolar rDNA where either protein is sufficient to promote both
104 silencing and genomic stability at the non-transcribed spacer regions. Taken together we have developed
105 a broadly applicable modified SGA approach that can parse out the separate and shared functions of gene
106 paralogs. Applying this to Fpr3/4 has revealed that these histone chaperones have a redundant ancestral
107 function in chromatin regulation of rDNA, however, we also provide evidence that they co-operate and
108 are in the process of functionally diverging.

109

110 **Results**

111 **Genetic interactions reveal separate, co-operative, and redundant functions of *FPR3* and *FPR4***

112 Since *Δfpr3* and *Δfpr4* yeast are viable, but double *Δfpr3Δfpr4* mutants display a synthetic sick
113 phenotype (Costanzo *et al*, 2010; Dolinski *et al*, 1997) we reasoned that their partial redundancy may be
114 masking genetic interactions. To address this and determine the biological processes sensitive to these
115 histone chaperones we performed a modified synthetic genetic array (SGA) screen designed to dissect
116 functional redundancy of gene paralogs (Figure 1 B, see materials and methods). To this end we crossed
117 a dual-query *Δfpr3Δfpr4* double mutant strain to the 4784 strain non-essential yeast deletion mutant array
118 (DMA), so that the fitness of all double (*Δfpr3Δxxx* and *Δfpr4Δxxx*) and triple (*Δfpr3Δfpr4Δxxx*) mutant
119 meiotic progeny could be measured. The query strain also harbored an episomal *URA3* plasmid with a
120 functional *FPR4* gene to avoid the slow growth phenotype of *Δfpr3Δfpr4* dual deletion, and its

121 vulnerability to suppressor mutations. This plasmid was maintained until the final step of the screen when
122 counter-selection with 5'FOA created the *fpr4* null status. Using standard selection methods, the spores
123 of this single cross were manipulated to generate three separate SGA screens that identified all synthetic
124 lethal/sick interactions with *Afpr3*, with *Afpr4* and genes whose disruption only exacerbated fitness of
125 yeast lacking both *Afpr3Afpr4*.

126 We identified 456 and 138 genetic interactors that were unique to either *FPR3* or *FPR4*, respectively,
127 revealing that these paralogs are not equivalent (Figure 1 C top). However, 78 genes interacted with both
128 *FPR3* and *FPR4*, implying that there are specific contexts of paralog co-operativity, that is situations
129 where both histone chaperone is required for function. We also uncovered 75 masked interactors, defined
130 as genes whose deletion only impacts the fitness *Afpr3Afpr4* yeast (Figure 1 C bottom). These genes
131 highlight processes when paralog function is redundant. The complete list of these genes and a gene
132 ontology analysis are provided in Appendix file 1 and Appendix file 2 respectively.

133 *FPR3* genetic interactors include members of the large and small mitochondrial ribosomal subunits
134 ($P=3.42 \times 10^{-11}$ and $P=8.38 \times 10^{-7}$ respectively), the mitochondrial pyruvate dehydrogenase complex
135 ($P=6.48 \times 10^{-4}$), the cytochrome bc1 complex ($P=1.49 \times 10^{-3}$) and components of the ESCRT II endosomal
136 sorting complex ($P=8.85 \times 10^{-3}$) (Figure 1 D). We also identified all three components of the Ctk1 kinase
137 complex ($P=1.69 \times 10^{-4}$), and four components of the Swr1 chromatin remodeler ($P=4.45 \times 10^{-3}$) supporting
138 at least some potential chromatin centric roles of Fpr3. Most notably, we uncovered complexes involved
139 in chromosome segregation such as the astral microtubule ($P=2.03 \times 10^{-6}$), kinetochore ($P=2.38 \times 10^{-4}$), and
140 the Mrc1/Csm3/Tof1 complex ($P=1.69 \times 10^{-4}$) as genetic interactors unique to Fpr3, and not Fpr4. These
141 systems-level data support reports which indicate that Fpr3, but not Fpr4, regulates mitotic and meiotic
142 chromosome dynamics, including those associated with centromeres (Hochwagen *et al*, 2005; Macqueen
143 & Roeder, 2009; Ohkuni *et al*, 2014). Although we identified 138 *FPR4* specific genetic interactions,
144 they fall into limited ontologically related categories. Several genes coding for components of the pre-
145 autophagosome and associated with the process of mitochondrial degradation ($P=1.29 \times 10^{-3}$) were the
146 exception, but the relationship between Fpr4 and these processes is not clear. Taken together the number
147 and nature of the genetic interactions from single query screens suggest that Fpr4 cannot fulfil many of
148 Fpr3's biological functions, particularly those in chromosome dynamics, and mitochondrial ribosome
149 biology. However, Fpr3 might be competent to substitute for Fpr4 (see below).

150 Shared genetic interactions would be expected if both paralogs were required for the efficient
151 execution of a biological process. Among genetic interactors common to both *FPR3* and *FPR4* are genes
152 coding for the ESCRT III complex ($P=1.44 \times 10^{-6}$) which functions in endosomal sorting, the
153 Ada2/Gcn5/Ada3 histone acetyltransferase ($P=3.57 \times 10^{-6}$) and the ATP-dependent SWI/SNF chromatin

154 remodeler (Figure 1 D). Shared genetic interactions with the SWI/SNF remodeler were confirmed using
155 spotting assays (data not shown). The proposed co-operation of Fpr3 and Fpr4 is supported by the fact
156 these proteins co-purify (Krogan *et al*, 2006) and, like nucleoplasmin, have the intrinsic propensity to
157 form oligomers (Edlich-Muth *et al*, 2015; Dutta *et al*, 2001; Koztowska *et al*, 2017). Thus, these shared
158 genetic interactions with known chromatin regulatory complexes support published protein complex data
159 and indicate that Fpr3 and Fpr4 likely co-operate through heteromeric complexes in some contexts.

160 75 masked genetic interactions are only detectible in double $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ mutants (Figure 1 C bottom).
161 These genes are essential only when both paralogs are absent, and thus highlight processes in which Fpr3
162 and Fpr4 are redundant. Most notably, these interactors include three non-essential components of the
163 TRAMP5 nuclear RNA exosome (*TRF5*, *AIR1*, and *RRP6*) (Figure 2 A), an RNA surveillance factor
164 that recognizes, polyadenylates and degrades aberrant RNA transcripts (Figure 2 B) (LaCava *et al*, 2005;
165 San Paolo *et al*, 2009; Houseley & Tollervey, 2008; Wery *et al*, 2009). We independently confirmed
166 synthetic sickness of $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ with $\Delta rrp6$ and $\Delta trf5$ using growth curves (Figure 2 C). This
167 demonstrates that Fpr3 and Fpr4 have redundant biological functions likely involving the negative
168 regulation of RNAs.

169 170 **Suppressor genetic interactions of *FPR3* and *FPR4***

171 The SWI/SNF and Ada2/Gcn5/Ada3 complexes are particularly important for the fitness of $\Delta fpr3$
172 and $\Delta fpr4$ yeast (Figure 1 D). In support of a chromatin defect underlying these phenotypes, we found
173 that several genetic suppressors (Figure 3), which alleviate the slow growth phenotype of $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$
174 yeast, are themselves chromatin modifiers including: three NAD⁺ dependent histone deacetylases (P=
175 6.33×10^{-5}), Hos2, Hda1 and Hos3; three of the four components of the HIR replication-independent
176 nucleosome assembly complex (P= 1.29×10^{-5}), Hir1, Hpc2, and Hir3; and Swd3 and Sdc1, two of the
177 eight components of the Set1/COMPASS histone H3K4 methylase complex, (P= 5.87×10^{-3}). We note
178 that the Swd2 subunit of COMPASS is encoded by an essential gene and the $\Delta set1$ knockout is not
179 present in our deletion strain collection. It is particularly notable that we find histone deacetylases
180 enriched among suppressor interactions and histone acetyltransferases among synthetic sick and lethal
181 interactions. The presence of both aggravating and alleviating chromatin-related genetic interactions in
182 our modified SGA screen is consistent with a chromatin-centric mode of action for Fpr3 and Fpr4.

183 184 **Fpr3 and Fpr4 have shared and separate transcriptional targets**

185 The genetic interactions of Fpr3 and Fpr4 with known chromatin modifiers suggest that they regulate
186 transcription. Consistent with this, Fpr4 directly represses transcription from a reporter gene both in an

187 artificial recruitment assay (Park *et al*, 2014) and integrated in the rDNA repeats of yeast (Kuzuhara &
188 Horikoshi, 2004). Fpr4 is also bound to multiple genomic locations (Nelson *et al*, 2006; Kuzuhara &
189 Horikoshi, 2004). To determine the impact of these proteins on transcription genome-wide, we
190 sequenced the ribo-minus fraction of RNAs from wt, *Δfpr3*, *Δfpr4* and *Δfpr3Δfpr4* yeast (Appendix file
191 3, and Figure 4 A). We included a *Δsir2* strain as a control, which in our analysis displays 854
192 differentially expressed genes using a lenient cut-off of 1.3 fold. This number and nature of Sir2-
193 regulated genes is in good agreement with previous reports of Sir2 regulated genes and binding sites
194 (Ellahi *et al*, 2015; Li *et al*, 2013).

195 Single deletion mutants of *Δfpr3* and *Δfpr4* had 524 and 549 differentially expressed genes,
196 respectively (Appendix file 3). Surprisingly, double *Δfpr3Δfpr4* mutants did not exhibit a major additive
197 effect with only 683 differentially regulated genes. In each of the three above experiments,
198 approximately 1/3 of differentially expressed genes were upregulated. These genes represent transcripts
199 repressed by the histone chaperone(s) and include members of the cytosolic large ribosomal subunit
200 ($P=3.40 \times 10^{-11}$ in *Δfpr3* mutants, $P=8.94 \times 10^{-8}$ in *Δfpr4* mutants, and $P=4.41 \times 10^{-12}$ in *Δfpr3Δfpr4*
201 mutants), components of the cytosolic small ribosomal subunit ($P=8.99 \times 10^{-6}$ in *Δfpr3* mutants,
202 $P=5.84 \times 10^{-6}$ in *Δfpr4* mutants, and 2.69×10^{-10} in *Δfpr3Δfpr4* mutants) and components of the fungal-
203 type cell wall ($P=1.47 \times 10^{-4}$ in *Δfpr3* mutants, $P=4.90 \times 10^{-4}$ in *Δfpr4* mutants, and $P=2.56 \times 10^{-3}$ in
204 *Δfpr3Δfpr4* mutants). Some of the most differentially expressed genes (up to 60 fold) include proteins
205 involved in phosphate metabolic processes such as the PHO5 and PHO11/12 acid phosphatases, and the
206 phosphate transporters PHO89, PHO84 and PIC2 ($P=9.77 \times 10^{-7}$ in *Δfpr3* mutants, $P=3.51 \times 10^{-5}$ in *Δfpr4*
207 mutants, and $P=1.77 \times 10^{-4}$ in *Δfpr3Δfpr4* mutants, Appendix file 4).

208 Two-thirds of differentially regulated genes are positively regulated by Fpr3/4. These include fungal
209 type cell wall organization factors ($P=1.36 \times 10^{-5}$ in *Δfpr3* mutants, $P=2.14 \times 10^{-3}$ in *Δfpr4* mutants, and
210 $P=1.62 \times 10^{-3}$ in *Δfpr3Δfpr4* mutants); proteins involved in iron ion homeostasis ($P=1.91 \times 10^{-7}$ in *Δfpr3*
211 mutants, $P=2.53 \times 10^{-5}$ in *Δfpr4* mutants, and $P=9.86 \times 10^{-5}$ in *Δfpr3Δfpr4* mutants); and pheromone
212 response, mating type determination and sex specific proteins ($P=3.26 \times 10^{-8}$ in *Δfpr3* mutants,
213 $P=2.42 \times 10^{-4}$ in *Δfpr4* mutants, and $P=2.20 \times 10^{-5}$ in *Δfpr3Δfpr4* mutants).

214 Since roughly one third of Fpr3 regulated transcripts are also regulated by Fpr4, and vice versa, we
215 conclude that, on these genes, transcriptional regulation requires both Fpr3 and Fpr4. In other words,
216 Fpr3 and Fpr4 co-operate in these contexts. Like the SWI/SNF complex, the impact of the Fpr3 and Fpr4
217 histone chaperones can be positive and negative, depending on the gene.

218

219 **The TRAMP5 RNA exosome masks the impact of Fpr3/4**

220 Considering that the TRAMP5 nuclear RNA exosome is essential in yeast lacking Fpr3 and Fpr4, we
221 wondered whether this RNase could be masking changes in the *Afpr3Afpr4* transcriptome. To test this
222 idea, we sequenced RNA from isogenic *Δtrf5* deficient yeast from our SGA screen, comparing those with
223 a functional Fpr4(*Afpr3Δtrf5*) to those with neither Fpr3/4 protein (*Afpr3Afpr4Δtrf5*). This analysis,
224 designed to reveal Fpr4 regulated RNAs, uncovered a total of 1321 differentially expressed genes (967
225 upregulated and 354 downregulated) (Figure 4 B). The increase in upregulated transcripts in this
226 experiment supports the hypothesis that Fpr4 negatively regulates a breadth of genes, and that these
227 RNAs are also substrates for the TRAMP5 RNA exosome. As expected, upregulated genes coding for
228 protein components of the cytosolic ribosome ($P=3.21 \times 10^{-12}$) (including the cytosolic large ribosomal
229 subunit $P=3.00 \times 10^{-7}$ and the cytosolic small ribosomal subunit $P=9.48 \times 10^{-4}$) and genes associated with
230 rRNA processing ($P=1.14 \times 10^{-8}$) are highly enriched as Fpr4 targets. Also enriched were genes coding
231 for constituents of the fungal-type cell wall ($P=1.87 \times 10^{-4}$) and the electron transport chain (6.12×10^{-8})
232 (Figure 4 C). Taken together the ontologies associated with upregulated transcripts in *Afpr3Afpr4Δtrf5*
233 triple mutants indicate that Fpr3 and Fpr4 negatively regulate discreet subsets of genes, particularly those
234 involved in ribosome biogenesis. That Fpr3/4 and TRAMP5 negatively regulate overlapping transcripts
235 provides a potential explanation for their synthetic lethality.

236

237 **A signature of abortive transcription in *Afpr3Afpr4* yeast**

238 Further interrogation of the transcriptome data reveals evidence for Fpr3 and Fpr4 in transcriptional
239 processivity: approximately 40% of differentially expressed genes in *Afpr3Afpr4Δtrf5* yeast displayed an
240 accumulation of reads towards the 5' end of the annotated transcript. Subsequent bioinformatic analysis
241 of the total transcriptomes of *Afpr3Afpr4Δtrf5* and *Afpr3Δtrf5* mutants revealed that this 5'-biased
242 asymmetry is widespread, and detectable in genes irrespective of their net change in transcription (Figure
243 5 A). Two example genes illustrating this asymmetry signature are presented in Figure 5 B; *SSF1* codes
244 for a constituent of the 66S pre-ribosome and is required for large ribosomal subunit maturation, while
245 *UTP1* codes for a component required for proper endonucleolytic cleavage of 35S rRNA. The paired-
246 end tag coverage associated with both of these genes, but not the *IDP1* gene (Figure 5 C), displays the
247 characteristic 5' asymmetry in *Afpr3Afpr4Δtrf5* yeast. This signature demonstrates Fpr3 and Fpr4
248 negatively regulate transcription from many promoters and suggests that in the absence of these histone
249 chaperones, transcription can initiate, but may not proceed to completion. That these abortive mRNAs
250 are only readily detectable in the absence of Trf5 indicates that RNA exosomes can mask subtle
251 transcriptional defects (Figure 5 D).

252

253 **Fpr3 and Fpr4 inhibit transcription from the non-transcribed spacers of ribosomal DNA**

254 The ribosomal DNA locus in yeast consists of a series of 150-200 tandem repeats of a 9.1kb unit
255 containing the 35S and the 5S rRNAs each separated by two non-transcribed spacer sequences (NTS1
256 and NTS2) (Figure 6 A top) (Johnston *et al*, 1997). Given the nucleolar enrichment of Fpr3 and Fpr4,
257 and the ability of Fpr4 to repress reporter expression from rDNA (Kuzuhara & Horikoshi, 2004), we
258 asked if yeast lacking Fpr3 and Fpr4 also display transcriptional defects at rDNA. While our RNA-seq
259 analysis was performed on ribo-minus RNA, reads from rRNA are readily detected (presumably from
260 incomplete rRNA depletion) and indicated no change in rRNA production, which we have also observed
261 in Northern and qRT-PCR analyses (data not shown). However, disruption of both Fpr3 and Fpr4 has a
262 profound impact on silencing at NTS1 and NTS2 (Figure 6 A). Transcripts from both strands of NTS1
263 and NTS2 accumulate in *Δfpr3Δfpr4Δtrf5* strains. Consistent with previous reports (Kuzuhara &
264 Horikoshi, 2004), we also find that the repression of a URA3 reporter gene integrated at the NTS1 region
265 of rDNA requires Fpr3 and Fpr4 (Figure 6 B). Taken together, these results support a model where Fpr3
266 and Fpr4 establish a transcriptionally silent chromatin structure at rDNA.

267

268 **Fpr3 and Fpr4 contribute to genomic stability at ribosomal DNA**

269 Ribosomal RNAs comprise approximately 80% of the total RNA in yeast; accordingly the ~ 50% of
270 rDNA tandem repeats that are transcribed in a given cell are the most heavily transcribed, and
271 nucleosome-free, genes in the cell (Nomura *et al*, 2004; Warner, 1999; Vogelauer *et al*, 2000).
272 Reciprocally, the adjacent rDNA non-transcribed spacers (NTS) and inactive rDNA repeats are
273 chromatinized and potently silenced. This arrangement is thought to generate a chromatin template that
274 is refractory to recombination between rDNA repeats and the deleterious loss of rDNAs from
275 chromosome 12, which is a major driver of yeast replicative aging (Sinclair & Guarente, 1997). For this
276 reason, failure to generate heterochromatin environments at rDNA, as occurs in *Δsir2* histone deacetylase
277 mutants, decreases genomic stability at this locus (Gottlieb & Esposito, 1989; Kobayashi *et al*, 2004).
278 We reasoned that if Fpr3 or Fpr4 were silencing the NTS regions via a mechanism that involves
279 chromatin structure, that yeast lacking these enzymes should also exhibit genomic instability at this locus.
280 To test this hypothesis, we introduced *Δfpr3Δfpr4* and *Δsir2* deletions into a strain with a reporter gene
281 (URA3) integrated at NTS1 (Van Leeuwen *et al*, 2002; van Leeuwen & Gottschling, 2002). First, URA+
282 status of each strain was confirmed, followed by growth in non-selective media (YPD) for two days to
283 permit reporter loss. Next, *ura-* cells were isolated on 5'FOA and ~96 colonies picked using a colony
284 picking robot. These *ura-* cells could arise in two ways: epigenetic silencing of *URA3* at NTS1, or from

285 URA3 gene loss via recombination (Figure 7 A top). To discriminate between these events, we replica
286 plated these individual isolates to media lacking uracil, where growth would indicate that the *URA3*
287 phenotype was a consequence of epigenetic silencing. Reciprocally, isolates that failed to grow would
288 represent reporter loss events (Figure 7 A). These propagation assays revealed that normally, the rate of
289 epigenetic switching of *URA3* is much higher than reporter loss: 82% of *ura-* isolates still have a *URA3*
290 gene at the end of our propagation assay as exemplified growth in the absence of uracil (Figure 7 B and
291 C), and by PCR of genomic DNA (not shown). As expected, $\Delta sir2$ yeast are unable to establish silent
292 chromatin at NTS1, and can only grow on 5'FOA via loss of the reporter. Finally, we observe that
293 $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ yeast are compromised in their ability to silence *URA3* epigenetically: only 30% of 5'FOA
294 resistant colonies retain the *URA3* gene. Thus, in $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ yeast recombination and *URA3* reporter
295 gene loss are more frequent than epigenetic silencing. This observation supports a model where Fpr3 and
296 Fpr4 build chromatin structures at the NTS regions of rDNA locus. These structures are critical to
297 maintaining genome stability at rDNA.

298 Discussion

299 Gene duplication events play a critical role in protein and organism evolution. However, the high
300 similarity of duplicated genes can lead to complete or partial compensation when one paralog is deleted,
301 as is in the case in conventional genetic interaction analysis. Here we present a dual-query SGA screening
302 approach where one genetic cross can report the separate and redundant genetic interactions of each
303 paralog. Using this approach on two nucleoplasmin-like histone chaperones revealed that they perform
304 separate, cooperative, and redundant chromatin-related functions. Given that approximately 13% of yeast
305 protein coding genes are duplicates (Wolfe & Shields, 1997), this approach may have wide applications
306 to other studies of yeast paralogs.

307 The genetic interactions annotated here support a unique function for Fpr3 in orchestrating
308 centromeric chromatin dynamics during chromosome segregation. This is fully consistent with existing
309 literature (Hochwagen *et al*, 2005; Macqueen & Roeder, 2009; Ghosh & Cannon, 2013; Krogan *et al*,
310 2006; Ohkuni *et al*, 2014). Our comparative analyses provide additional systems-level evidence that this
311 role is not shared with Fpr4 indicating that Fpr3, potentially as homo-oligomers, may regulate chromatin
312 in a way that impacts chromosome segregation (Macqueen & Roeder, 2009; Hochwagen *et al*, 2005).
313 Furthermore, the fact that $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ double mutants display fewer genetic interactions than single gene
314 $\Delta fpr3$ mutants (Appendix file 1) indicates that Fpr4 may be toxic in the absence of Fpr3 (Ohkuni *et al*,
315 2014). This model predicts that, in the absence of Fpr3, the partial engagement or modification of
316 chromatin by Fpr4 is deleterious.

318 SWI/SNF complex members are shared interactors of Fpr3 and Fpr4, appearing as hits in both single
319 mutant screens. These results could be explained by reduced dosage of a histone chaperone. Alternately,
320 these genetic interactions are consistent with a model where Fpr3 and Fpr4 act together to chaperone
321 nucleosomes, facilitating chromatin dynamics as SWI/SNF does. Whether this means that the chaperones
322 operate together in a sequence of events, such as the removal and subsequent redeposition of nucleosomes
323 during transcription or, in concert as a hetero-oligomeric complex, is not yet clear. The fact that Fpr3 and
324 Fpr4 co-purify (Krogan *et al*, 2006) supports the latter model, but does not exclude the former.

325 The repression of several PHO genes in rich media requires both Fpr3 and Fpr4. The PHO5,
326 PHO11/12 acid phosphatases, and the PHO89, PHO84 and PIC2 phosphate transporters are intimately
327 linked to the metabolism of both phosphate and intracellular polyphosphate stores. It is therefore
328 intriguing that both Fpr3 and Fpr4 were recently identified as two of the major polyphosphorylated
329 proteins in yeast along with several proteins in an evolutionarily conserved network of ribosome
330 biogenesis factors (Bentley-DeSousa *et al*, 2018). The precise sites of Fpr3/4 polyphosphorylation and
331 their impact on function is not yet clear. However, the identification of the well-studied *PHO5* gene as
332 an Fpr3 and Fpr4 target provides an ideal system for determining the impact of this new post-translational
333 modification on these histone chaperones.

334 The yeast TRAMP5 complex recognizes and polyadenylates aberrant RNA transcripts in order to
335 target them for degradation by the Rrp6 ribonuclease (Karyn Schmidt and J. Scott Butler, 2013).
336 TRAMP5 targets include both ribosomal protein coding mRNAs and cryptic unstable transcripts
337 generated from intragenic sites on the genome including those within the ribosomal DNA locus (Reis &
338 Campbell, 2007; San Paolo *et al*, 2009; Wery *et al*, 2009; LaCava *et al*, 2005). Here we found that
339 deletion of *Δtrf5* enabled the detection of an unexpected transcriptome signature in *Δfpr3Δfpr4* yeast
340 where there is a bias in RNA-seq reads towards the 5' end of genes. This means that Fpr3/4 redundantly
341 promote the transcriptional elongation process. It is noteworthy that these reads appear to cover the first
342 1-3 nucleosomes of genes because Fpr3/4 have evolved basic surface features to permit nucleosome
343 binding (Leung *et al*, 2017) and that Fpr4 was previously shown to be important for the kinetics of
344 transcriptional induction (Nelson *et al*, 2006). Thus, the nucleosomes immediately downstream of the
345 transcriptional start site are candidates targets of Fpr3/4. This regulation could involve either depositing
346 histones within promoters to inhibit transcriptional initiation or the eviction of nucleosomes from
347 sequences downstream of the promoter in order to remove nucleosome blocks to the polymerase. These
348 models are currently under investigation.

349 Fpr3/4 have the greatest impact on the steady-state levels of mRNAs encoding ribosomal protein
350 genes and rRNA processing machinery. Thus, Fpr3/4 may function as master regulators of ribosome

351 biogenesis by coordinating both ribosomal protein abundance and rRNA processing. Given that many
352 ribosomal and rRNA processing protein genes are driven by common regulators, Fpr3/4 may recognize
353 common DNA sequences or transcription factors to accomplish this function (Fermi *et al*, 2016). It
354 appears that at least some elements of this ribosomal biogenesis function are conserved in the human
355 nuclear FKBP25 protein (Gudavicius *et al*, 2014; Dilworth *et al*, 2017).

356 In addition to regulating the transcription of protein coding genes Fpr3 and Fpr4 restrict transcription
357 from the non-transcribed spacers (NTS) sequences of ribosomal DNA. This is consistent with both their
358 nucleolar enrichment and data indicating that they inhibit transcription of exogenous reporters at NTS2
359 in yeast (Kuzuhara & Horikoshi, 2004) and endogenous 18S rDNA in plants (Li & Luan, 2010). In yeast
360 the NTS loci contain important DNA sequence features including as two terminators for the RNA PolII
361 transcribed RDN35 repeat, a replication fork barrier site, and an autonomous replication site. Two
362 separate observations suggest that Fpr3 and Fpr4 function redundantly to build chromatin at rDNA in
363 order to insulate DNA at these spacers. First, yeast lacking both paralogs accumulate large amounts of
364 aberrant NTS RNA transcripts, and these RNAs are templated by both DNA strands. Second, consistent
365 with a chromatin structure defect underpinning this phenomenon, we find that the rDNA locus in
366 $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ yeast is also hyper-recombinogenic (Figure 6). Thus, Fpr3 and Fpr4 are histone chaperones
367 of particular importance at the 100-200 rRNA repeats where they mediate the stability and silencing of
368 spacers between the most heavily transcribed sequences in the cell. How these chaperones regulate
369 chromatin structure at this locus, and how the structure differs from other targets in the nuclear genome
370 remain open questions.

371 372 373 **Materials & Methods**

374 **Yeast strains and plasmids**

375 Yeast strains used in this study are described in Appendix file 5. Strains in the MAT a non-essential
376 yeast deletion collection (DMA) used for the SGA analysis are all isogenic to BY4741 and were
377 purchased from Thermofisher Dharmacon. The plasmid rescued double genomic deletion $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$
378 SGA query strain (YNS 35) was created in a Y7092 genetic background as follows. The endogenous
379 *FPR4* locus on a Y7092 wt strain was replaced with a nourseothricin resistance (*MX4-NATR*) PCR
380 product deletion module. The resulting single gene $\Delta fpr4$ deletion mutant was subsequently transformed
381 with prs316 *FPR4*: a single copy *URA3* marked shuttle vector carrying an untagged full length copy of
382 the *FPR4* open reading frame with endogenous promoter and terminator (originally described in (Nelson

383 *et al*, 2006)). The endogenous *FPR3* locus on this plasmid rescued $\Delta fpr4$ deletion mutant was
384 subsequently replaced with a *LEU2* PCR product deletion module.

385 Triple deletion mutants: $\Delta rrp6\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ and $\Delta trf5\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ and their corresponding mixed
386 population total haploid meiotic progeny controls used in the validating growth curves were generated
387 from the SGA cross (see below).

388 Single gene deletion mutants of $\Delta fpr3$, $\Delta fpr4$, and $\Delta sir2$ used for the RNA sequencing are all isogenic
389 to BY4741 and were either purchased from open biosystems, or taken from the yeast deletion collection
390 (purchased from Thermofisher Dharmacon). The isogenic double deletion $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ mutant was
391 constructed from the open biosystems $\Delta fpr3$ single gene deletion mutant by replacing the endogenous
392 *FPR4* locus with a nourseothricin resistance (*MX4-NATR*) PCR product deletion module. The
393 $FPR4(\Delta fpr3\Delta trf5)$ and $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4\Delta trf5$ isogenic strains and their corresponding total haploid mixed
394 population controls were generated from the SGA cross (see below).

395 The $\Delta fpr3$ and $\Delta fpr4$ deletion mutant strains used in the rDNA reporter spotting assays were
396 generated from a cross of the MAT α UCC1188 (Van Leeuwen *et al*, 2002) with a MAT α BY4741
397 deletion mutant see Appendix table 5 for details. The UCC1188 background $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ double deletion
398 mutant, UCC1188 background $\Delta sir2$ deletion mutant, and HML α reporter expression mutants were
399 generated by lithium acetate transformation of either UCC1188 or UCC7266 (Van Leeuwen *et al*, 2002)
400 with PCR product deletion modules. The $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ and $\Delta sir2$ deletion mutant strains used in the
401 propagation assays were generated from a transformation of UCC1188 with PCR product deletion
402 modules.

403 404 **Synthetic Genetic Array (SGA) Analysis**

405 SGA analysis was performed using a Singer Instruments ROTOR microbial arraying robot
406 as previously described (Tong & Boone, 2006) with the following modifications. The MAT a/α diploid
407 zygotes resulting from the query strain DMA cross were pinned onto diploid selective YPD +
408 G418/clonNAT plates a total of two times for greater selection against any residual haploids. Sporulation
409 was carried out at room temperature for 14 days. Spores were pinned onto Mat a selective
410 germination media for two rounds of selection as previously described (Tong & Boone, 2006).

411 The resulting MAT a progeny were subsequently replica plated onto four kinds of selective media:
412 control media selective for the total haploid meiotic progeny population (SD media lacking histidine,
413 arginine, lysine and containing canavanine and thialysine both at a final concentration of 50mg/l, and
414 G418 at a final concentration of 200mg/L), media selective for $\Delta xxx\Delta fpr3$ haploid meiotic progeny (SD
415 media lacking histidine, arginine, lysine, leucine, uracil, and containing canavanine and thialysine both

416 at a final concentration of 50mg/l, G418 and clonNAT both at a final concentration of 200mg/L), media
417 selective for $\Delta xxx\Delta fpr4$ haploid meiotic progeny (SD media lacking histidine, arginine, lysine, and
418 containing canavanine and thialysine both at a final concentration of 50mg/l, G418 and clonNAT both at
419 a final concentration of 200mg/L, and 5-fluoroorotic acid at a final concentration of 1000mg/L), and
420 finally media selective for $\Delta xxx\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ haploid meiotic progeny (SD media lacking histidine,
421 arginine, lysine, leucine, and containing canavanine and thialysine both at a final concentration of
422 50mg/l, G418 and clonNAT both at a final concentration of 200mg/L, and 5-fluoroorotic acid at a final
423 concentration of 1000mg/L). Plates were incubated at 30°C for 24 hours and were then expanded into
424 triplicate and incubated for an additional 24 hours at 30°C.

425 Images of each plate were scanned and subsequently processed using the Balony image analysis
426 software package as previously described (Young & Loewen, 2013). In brief, pixel area occupied by
427 each colony was measured to determine colony size. Progeny fitness was then scored as follows. The
428 ratio of each double ($\Delta xxx\Delta fpr3$, $\Delta xxx\Delta fpr4$) and triple ($\Delta xxx\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$) mutant colony size relative to
429 its corresponding total haploid meiotic progeny control colony was determined. Ratio cutoff thresholds
430 were estimated automatically by the software by extrapolating the central linear portion of the ratio
431 distributions and finding the y -intercepts at either ends of the x -axis. Default ratio cutoff thresholds were
432 used (a complete list of all genetic interactions generated from each dataset is presented in Appendix file
433 1).

434

435 **SGA Data Processing**

436 Specific, common and masked synthetic sick/lethal interactors were identified as follows. First,
437 duplicate genes from the list of hits from each dataset were identified and removed. The synthetic
438 sick/lethal hits from each of the three datasets were then compared to each other in order to identify
439 unique and common genes in each list. We thus identified a list of interactors unique to the $xxx fpr3$
440 meiotic progeny and a list of interactors unique the $xxx fpr4$ meiotic progeny. Hits present in both the xxx
441 $fpr3$ meiotic progeny and the $xxx fpr4$ meiotic progeny were identified as common interactors of $FPR3$
442 and $FPR4$. Hits that only appear in the $xxx fpr3 fpr4$ meiotic progeny were identified as masked genetic
443 interactors. Unique, common and masked suppressor interactors were identified the same way.

444 The lists specific, common, and masked synthetic sick/lethal and suppressor genetic interactors were
445 subsequently analyzed using the web based FunSpec bioinformatics tool
446 (<http://funspec.med.utoronto.ca/>, Dec 2017). The analysis was performed using a p-value cutoff score of
447 0.01, and without Bonferroni-correction. A full list of the ontologies uncovered and their corresponding

p values is presented in Appendix file 2. Networks illustrating the specific and common genetic interactions were drawn using the Cytoscape software platform (<http://www.cytoscape.org/>).

Growth Curves

Growth curves to validate the synthetic sickness phenotypes were carried out as follows. Colonies generated from the SGA assay corresponding to each triple mutant of interest and its respective control colony were isolated and validated for correct genotype by PCR. Confirmed strain isolates were then resuspended in fresh YPD media, normalized to an OD₆₀₀ of 0.2 and distributed into triplicate wells of a 24 well cell culture plate. Plates were subsequently grown for 16h at 30°C in a shaking plate reader. Readings of OD₆₀₀ were taken every 30 minutes.

RNA-Seq Library Preparation and Sequencing

Single colony isolates of each strain were grown to mid log phase in 50ml of liquid yeast extract-peptone- dextrose (YPD) media. Samples were then pelleted and washed once with sterile water before being flash frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored for 16 hours at -80°C. Samples were thawed on ice, and RNA was extracted using a phenol freeze based approach as previously described (Schmitt *et al*, 1990). The extracted RNA was subsequently treated with RNase- free DNase I (Thermo Fisher Scientific)

RNA samples were processed and sequenced at the BC Cancer agency Michael Smith Genome Sciences Centre following standard operating protocols. Briefly, total RNA samples were ribo-depleted using the Ribo-Zero Gold rRNA Removal Kit (Yeast) (Illumina) and analyzed on an Agilent 2100 Bioanalyzer using Agilent 6000 RNA Nano Kit (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, California). cDNA was generated using the Superscript Double-Stranded cDNA Synthesis kit (ThermoFisher), 100bp paired-end libraries prepared using the Paired-End Sample Prep Kit (Illumina, San Diego, California).

Processing of Sequencing Data

Sequenced paired-end reads were aligned to the sacCer3 reference genome (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/assembly/GCF_000146045.2/) using the BWA aligner (Li & Durbin, 2010) (version 0.6.1-r104-tpx). We observed that out of 5110 *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* genes annotated in Ensembl v90 only 267 are spliced with and most of spliced genes (251) having one intron. Therefore, we considered genomic alignment of RNA-seq reads as a good approximation for the yeast transcriptome analysis. For every library total of ~1.5-2M reads were sequenced, of which ~75-95% of reads were aligned.

480 To quantify gene expression, we filtered reads that aligned to multiple locations (and therefore can't
481 be placed unambiguously) by applying a BWA mapping quality threshold of 5. We further collapsed
482 fragments that were duplicated (only counting a single copy of a read pair if a number of pairs with the
483 same coordinates was sequenced) as well removed chastity failed reads and considered only reads that
484 were properly paired. Post-processing was performed using the 'pysam' application for python
485 (<https://github.com/pysam-developers/pysam>). The alignment statistics were calculated using the
486 'sambamba' tool v 0.5.5 5 (Tarasov *et al*, 2015).

487 We considered cDNA fragment lengths distributions as well as genome-wide distributions of read
488 coverage (data not shown) in order to ensure that these characteristics are similar for the pairs of data
489 sets in the differential gene expression (DE) analysis. Genome wide pair-ended fragment coverage
490 profiles for both strands were generated as well as read counts for every gene for further DE analysis.

491 The reads-per-kilobase-per-million (RPKM) values were calculated for every gene, and DE analysis
492 was performed using the DEfine algorithm (M.Bilenky et al., unpublished). First, the chi2 p-value was
493 estimated for every gene under the null hypothesis that the gene is not differentially expressed between
494 two data sets. The Benjamini-Hochberg FDR-control procedure was applied (FDR=0.05) to find a p-
495 value threshold. To further reduce noise, we only considered genes with the fold-change (FC) between
496 RPKM values $FC > 1.5$, as well required minimal number of aligned reads > 5 per gene. Only reads aligned
497 to the proper strand were considered in the DE analysis.

498 In addition to the standard DE analysis, where gene expression quantification was done by counting
499 reads falling into the gene boundaries, we considered a model independent approach by calculating read
500 counts in every 175bp long bin genome wide (for both strands), and performed DE analysis between bins
501 (with the same approach we used for genes, see above). After defining the DE bins we overlapped their
502 locations with gene coordinates to determine DE genes. This second approach also provided a list of
503 potential DE expressed intergenic regions. A full list of the DE genes is presented in Appendix file 3.

504 **Ontology analysis of DE genes**

505 Ontologies associated with differentially expressed genes were identified using the web based
506 FunSpec bioinformatics tool (<http://funspec.med.utoronto.ca/>, Dec 2018). The analysis was performed
507 on genes displaying a fold change or 1.3 and up using a p-value cut-off score of 0.001, and with
508 Bonferroni-correction. A full list of the ontologies uncovered and their corresponding p values is
509 presented in Appendix file 4.

510 **Averaged gene read maps**

513 Universal gene coverage profiles were generated as follows; we first crated cDNA fragment coverage
514 profiles genome wide for both strands using all aligned read-pairs. Next, we selected profiles for
515 individual genes and scaled them to 100 units and normalized by the total gene coverage. After that we
516 agglomerated all scaled and normalized gene coverage profiles together. When doing this, the profiles
517 for genes on the negative strand were inverted (in other words we always agglomerate profiles from 5'
518 to 3' of gene).

519 **Spotting assays**

521 The URA3 reporter expression spotting assays were performed in two biological replicates as
522 follows. Freshly grown single colony isolates of each strain were grown in liquid YPD media to mid log
523 phase Cells were subsequently collected, re-suspended in sterile water, and normalized to an $OD_{600}=1$
524 (approximately 3×10^7 cells/ml). The normalized cell suspensions were subjected to 10-fold serial
525 dilutions and 4 μ l of each dilution was spotted onto standard SD- complete media, SD media without
526 uracil, and SD media with 5-FOA at a final concentration of 1000mg/L and uracil at a final concentration
527 of 50mg/L. Plates were incubated at 30°C and growth was analyzed after 48 hours.

528 **rDNA Reporter Propagation Assays**

529 The URA+ status of each reporter containing strain was first confirmed by growth on SD media
530 lacking uracil. Saturated overnights were then prepared from single colony isolates of each confirmed
531 strain in liquid YPD media. Cultures were prepared from the overnights in 50ml YPD media and grown
532 at 30°C to mid log phase. Cells were subsequently collected, washed once, resuspended in sterile
533 deionized water, and normalized to an $OD_{600}=0.5$. Normalized cell suspensions were subsequently
534 diluted 10-fold and 250 μ l of each dilution was plated on 25ml SD 5-FoA plates. Plates were incubated
535 at 30°C for 16 hours. A total of 96 well-isolated colonies were randomly picked from each 5-FoA plate
536 using the Genetix QPix-2 colony picking robot and deposited onto non-selective solid YPD plates. Plates
537 were incubated for 5 days at 30°C. All 96 colonies on each YPD plate were then replica plated onto SD
538 complete control media and SD media lacking uracil and incubated for 5 days at 30°C before being
539 imaged.

540 **Competing Interests**

541 The authors declare they have no conflict of interest.

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- 753

754 **Figure Legends**

755 **Figure 1 –Fpr3 and Fpr4 have separate, co-operative and redundant functions.**

756 A. Domain architectures of Fpr3 and Fpr4. Both proteins have an N-terminal nucleoplasmin-like
757 domain with characteristic patches of acidic and basic residues, and a C-terminal peptidyl prolyl
758 isomerase domain.

759 B. Schematic illustrating modified paralog SGA workflow. Spores from a single cross of the double
760 deletion $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ query to the 4784- strain DMA are manipulated to generate three separate sets of
761 meiotic progeny for interactome analysis.

762 C. On top, Venn diagram illustrating numbers of synthetic sick and synthetic lethal genetic interactors
763 unique to *FPR3* and *FPR4*, and shared among both of them. On bottom, number of masked redundant
764 synthetic sick and synthetic lethal genetic interactions only detectable in double deletion $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$
765 mutants.

766 D. Network illustrating complex related ontologies enriched among unique and shared genetic
767 interactors of *FPR3* and *FPR4*. Asterix denotes genetic interactions with the SWI/SNF component
768 coding genes which were confirmed to be shared among Fpr3 and Fpr4 with spotting assays.

769

770 **Figure 2 – The TRAMP5 nuclear RNA exosome is a masked genetic interactor of *FPR3* and**
771 ***FPR4*.**

772 A. Mean colony size ratios of experimental ($\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4\Delta xxx$) triple mutants relative to control Δxxx
773 total haploid meiotic progeny for select redundant synthetic sick or lethal genetic interactors. Asterix
774 indicates that 2/3 replicates for the $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4\Delta rrp6$ deletion mutant were below the synthetic sick/
775 lethal cut-off threshold.

776 B. Illustration of the TRAMP5 complex (top right) interacting with the nuclear RNA exosome (bottom
777 left). Complex components coded for by redundant genetic interactors of *FPR3* or *FPR4* are colored
778 red. Pink text labels indicate components of complex coded for by essential genes. Illustration is
779 adapted from (Wolin *et al*, 2012).

780 C. Growth curves depicting OD₆₀₀ vs time for select triple deletion mutants and corresponding total
781 haploid meiotic progeny control populations.

782

783 **Figure 3 -Suppressor genetic interactions support chromatin-centric functions for Fpr3 and**
784 **Fpr4.**

785 A. On top, Venn diagram illustrating numbers of suppressor interactors unique to *FPR3* and *FPR4* and
786 shared among both of them. On bottom, number of masked redundant suppressor genetic interactions
787 only detectable in double deletion $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ mutants.

788 B. Plot of fitness ratios for all $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4\Delta xxx$ triple mutants relative to Δxxx total haploid meiotic
789 progeny controls. Green dots indicate all synthetic sick/ lethal genetic interactions, red dots indicate all
790 suppressor genetic interactions. Threshold cut-offs are indicated by red and green dashed horizontal
791 lines. Fitness ratios associated with genes coding for components of chromatin modifiers are labeled
792 and accompanied with schematic illustrations of complex components coded for by the synthetic sick
793 genetic interactors (illustrated in green boxes) and suppressor genetic interactors (illustrated in red
794 boxes). Components coded for by interacting genes are colored. Components coded for by non-
795 interacting genes are black and white. Red text illustrates components coded for by essential genes
796 absent from the non-essential yeast DMA.

797

798 **Figure 4 - Fpr3 and Fpr4 negatively regulate ribosomal protein and rRNA processing genes.**

799 A. Scatter plots indicating the correlation of gene expression between wt and $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ and wt and
800 $\Delta sir2$ deletion mutants.

801 B. Scatter plots indicating the correlation of gene expression between $\Delta fpr3\Delta trf5$ double mutants and
802 $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4\Delta trf5$ triple deletion mutants.

803 C. Gene ontology enrichment analysis for upregulated transcripts in $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4\Delta trf5$ triple deletion
804 mutants. Enriched genes were classified by molecular function, biological process, cellular
805 component, and MIPS functional database classification by FunSpec (<http://funspec.med.utoronto.ca/>).

806

807 **Figure 5 – A signature of abortive transcription is present in $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4$ yeast.**

808 A. Plot of total averaged upregulated, downregulated and unchanged transcripts generated from
809 $\Delta fpr3\Delta trf5$ double mutants (left) and $\Delta fpr3\Delta fpr4\Delta trf5$ triple mutants (right).

810 B. Read maps illustrating two examples of genes showing a signature of abortive transcription: *SSF1*
811 (left), *UTP9* (right).

812 C. Read map illustrating an example of a non-differentially expressed gene without a signature of
813 abortive transcription *IDPI*.

814 D. Model illustrating Fpr4 building chromatin at gene promoters.

815

816 **Figure 6 -Fpr3 and Fpr4 silence the non-transcribed spacers (NTS) of rDNA.**

817 A. Read maps illustrating transcripts generated from both strands of one of the tandem rDNA repeats in
818 *Δfpr3Δtrf5* and *Δfpr3Δfpr4Δtrf5* cells. Transcripts generated from the *NTS2* locus are presented in the
819 zoomed-in panel.

820 B. Ten-fold serial dilution spotting assays of single and double gene deletion mutants in strain
821 backgrounds carrying a *URA3* reporter integrated either within *NTS1* spacer of rDNA or at the *HMRa*
822 locus. Plates were grown on either standard defined complete media or on standard defined media
823 lacking uracil for 2 days at 37°C.

824

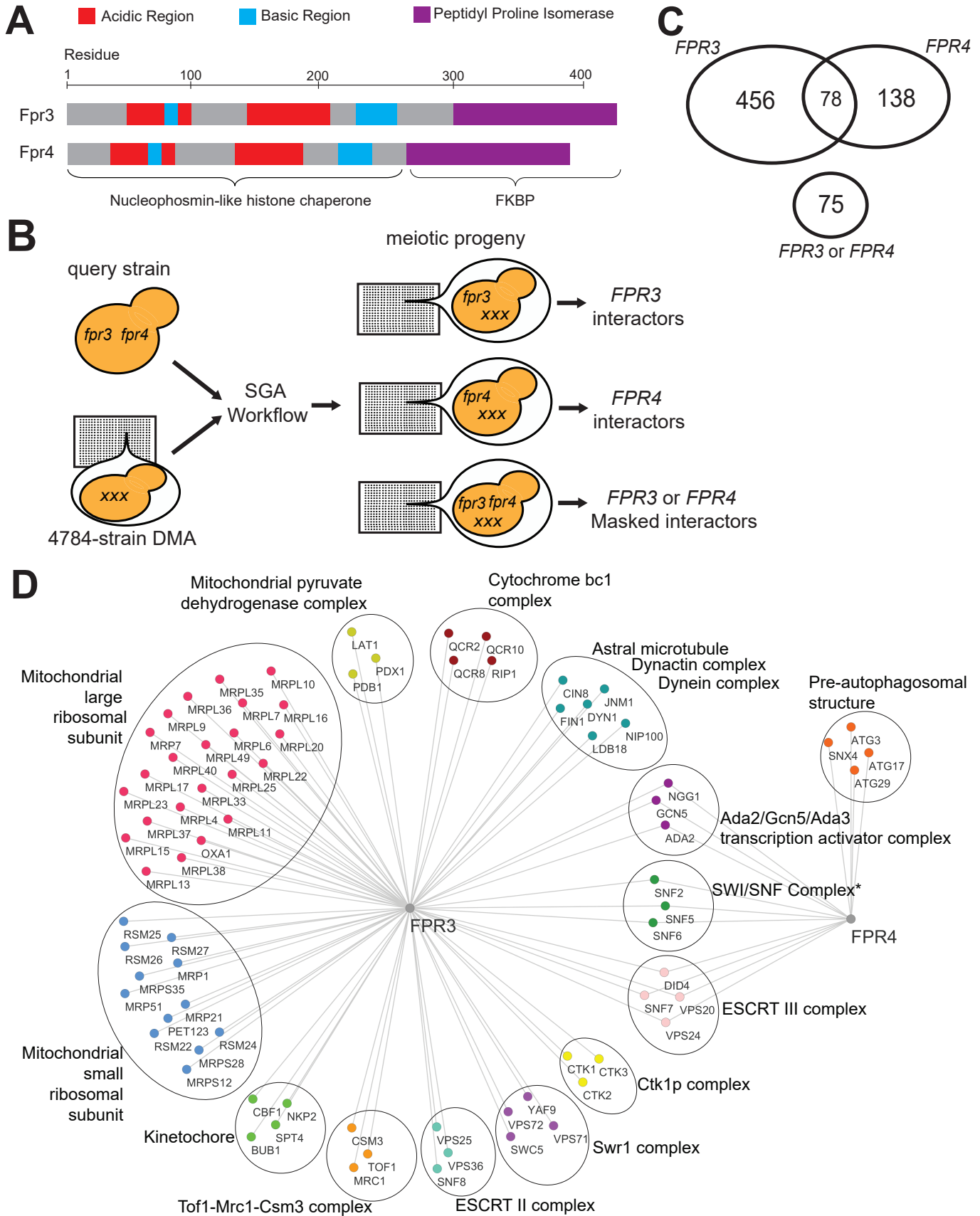
825 **Figure 7 – Fpr3 and Fpr4 are required for genomic stability at the rDNA locus.**

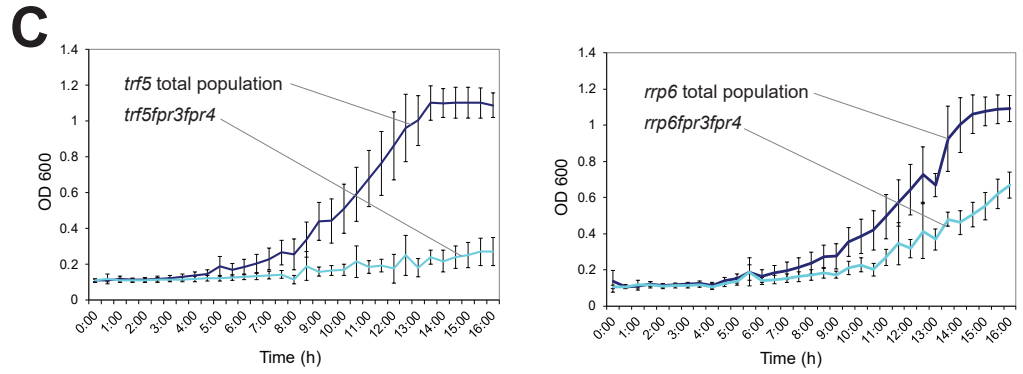
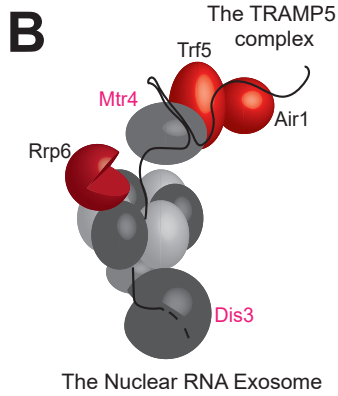
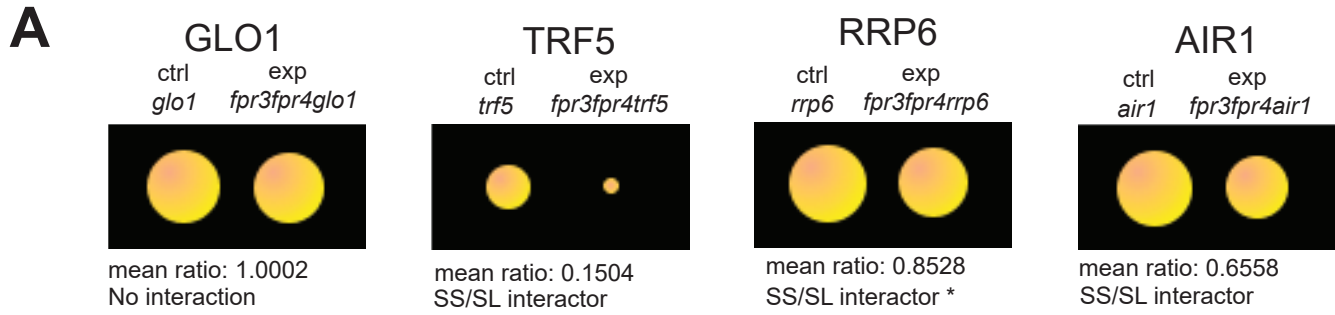
826 A. Diagrams illustrating the propagation experiment carried out to assess frequency of reporter loss. In
827 a given population of cells, under non-selective conditions, *URA3* may be in an accessible
828 euchromatin-like environment and therefore expressed (dark blue cells), in an inaccessible
829 heterochromatin-like environment and therefore silenced (light blue cells), or it may have been
830 permanently lost from the genome via recombination between repeats (orange cells).

831 B. Images of the 96 individuals selected for after propagation on SD-complete control media and on
832 SD- URA experimental media. Those growing on the experimental media represent the fraction of the
833 population in which the reporter was epigenetically silenced. Those that fail to grow indicate
834 permanent loss of the reporter.

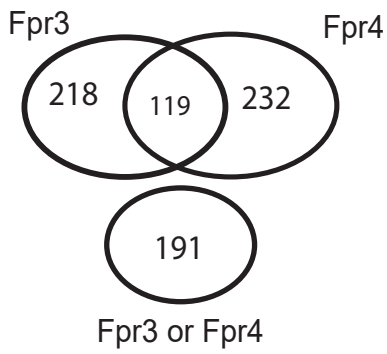
835 C. Percentage of total colonies recovered after strain propagation that have retained or lost the ability
836 to grow on SD-complete media.

837

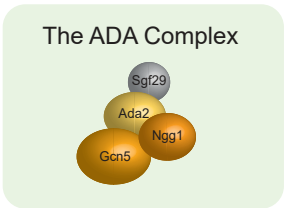
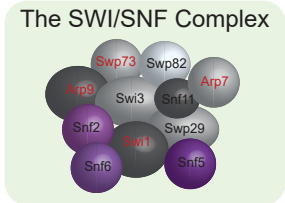




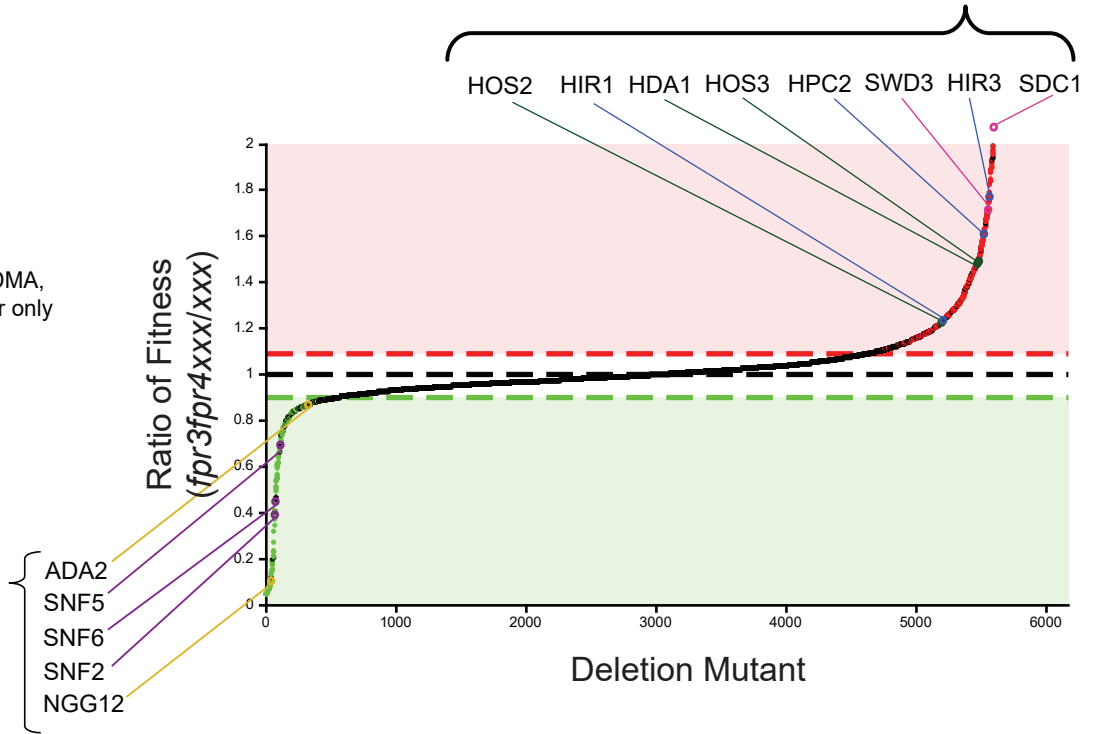
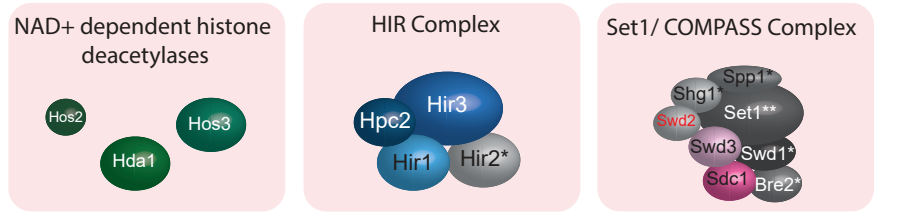
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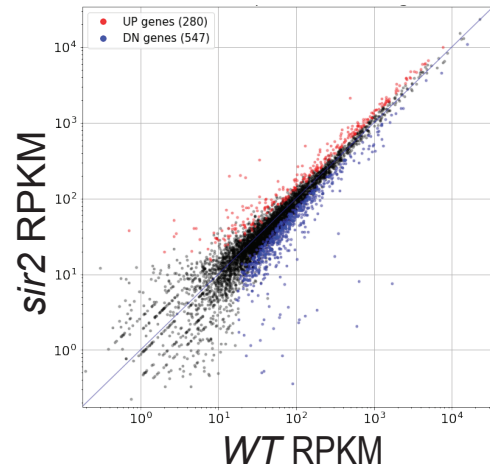
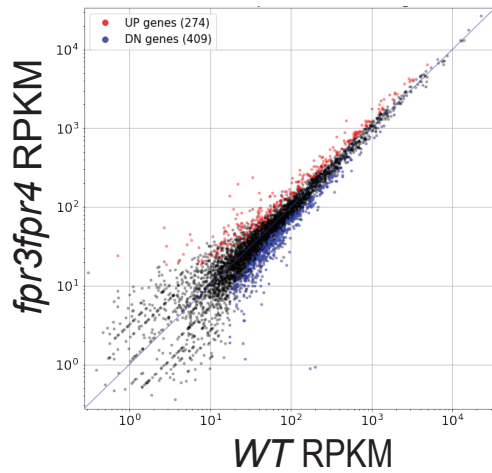
Red text= essential gene,
 **= gene not present in our DMA,
 * gene is a masked interactor only



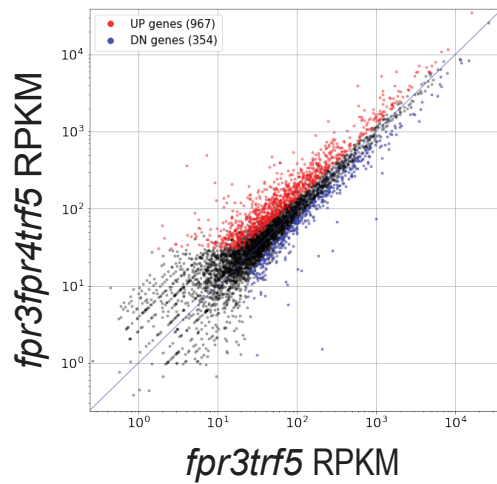
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A



B



C

