

## The budding yeast heterochromatic SIR complex resets upon exit from stationary phase

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### Abstract

The budding yeast SIR complex (Silent Information Regulator) is the principal actor in heterochromatin formation, which causes epigenetically regulated gene silencing phenotypes. The maternal chromatin bound SIR complex is disassembled during replication and then, if heterochromatin is to be restored on both daughter strands, the SIR complex has to be reformed on both strands to pre-replication levels. The dynamics of SIR complex maintenance and re-formation during the cell-cycle and in different growth conditions are however not clear. Understanding exchange rates of SIR subunits during the cell cycle and their distribution pattern to daughter chromatids after replication has important implications for how heterochromatic states may be inherited and therefore how epigenetic states are maintained from one cellular generation to the next. We therefore used the tag switch RITE system to measure genome wide turnover rates of the SIR subunit Sir3 before and after exit from stationary phase and show that maternal Sir3 subunits are completely replaced with newly synthesized Sir3 at subtelomeric regions during the first cell cycle after release from stationary phase. We propose that the observed “reset” of the heterochromatic complex is an adaptive mechanism that ensures the activation of subtelomeric stress response genes by transiently destabilizing heterochromatin structure.

## Introduction

Budding yeast heterochromatin is a repressive structure located at the silent mating type loci (HMR and HML), telomeres and rDNA repeats. The essential component of the structure is the non-histone protein complex SIR (Silent Information Regulator), which consists mainly of Sir2, Sir3 and Sir4. Sir4 scaffolds the complex while Sir2 functions as an NAD-dependent H4K16 deacetylase, providing a high-affinity binding site for Sir3 which recruits Sir4 and so on (for review see <sup>1</sup>). In the classical polymerization model, SIR components are first recruited to silencer regions by a combination of silencer-binding factors (ORC –Origin Recognition Complex, Rap1 and Abf1). The SIR complex then spreads from the nucleation site (silencer) through cycles of deacetylation and nucleosome binding, which continue until the SIR complex reaches boundary elements that prevent unwanted spreading to transcriptionally active regions (for review see <sup>2</sup>). For example, one well-characterized boundary element is the threonine tRNA gene in the telomere-proximal region of HMR <sup>3</sup>. Recent studies have shown that the SIR complex can also be recruited to unconventional binding sites, including tRNA genes. SIR binds to these sites mostly during genomic replication. Since these loci are tightly bound by non-histone proteins such as transcription factors which may cause replication fork stalling, it has been proposed that SIR may play a role in releasing stalled forks or preventing fork stalling <sup>4,5</sup>.

It has been shown that over-expressed Sir3p can be incorporated into existing heterochromatin<sup>6</sup>. However, beyond this bulk measurement, the locus-specific dynamics of the chromatin bound SIR complex within and from one cell generation to another have not yet been measured. How heterochromatic SIR complexes exchange their components during the cell cycle and how they are distributed to daughter chromatids after replication has important implications for how heterochromatic states are maintained and whether they may be inherited. The maternal SIR complex has to be disassembled during replication and if heterochromatin is to be restored on both daughter strands, the SIR complex has to be reformed on both strands to pre-replication levels.

Another open question is how chromatin bound complexes that epigenetically determine gene expression states, like the SIR complex, respond to environmental challenges such as nutrient depletion. Indeed, under unfavorable conditions, yeast cells stop growing and enter the stationary phase, which lasts until depleted nutrients are restored. Molecular hallmarks of the stationary phase include transcriptional reprogramming, spatial reorganization of the genome and a 300-fold decrease in protein synthesis rates. While the organization of the SIR complex in stationary phase has been described, the dynamics of the SIR complex during and following exit from the stationary phase are still poorly understood<sup>7</sup>.

These questions have motivated us to investigate the dynamics of the SIR complex during and upon release from the stationary phase. Our strategy was to use the Recombination-Induced Tag Exchange (RITE) method<sup>8,9</sup> to map genome wide Sir3 turnover rates with the goal to better understand the mechanisms of heterochromatin maintenance and find out whether the SIR complex is “inherited” on newly replicated daughter chromatids. We chose to focus on the Sir3 subunit because Sir3 is the limiting factor that determines the extent of SIR complex polymerization and the location of SIR complex boundaries.<sup>10-12</sup>

Our results show that during stationary phase, subtelomeric Sir3 occupancy is reduced 4-fold and Sir3 turnover is undetectable. Sir3 bound to chromatin is then completely replaced with newly synthesized Sir3 subunits at the end of the first cell cycle upon release from stationary phase, suggesting that at least the Sir3 subunit of the SIR complex is not only not inherited but that heterochromatic complexes actually undergo a complete reset after exit from quiescence. Additionally, average Sir3 occupancy at subtelomeric loci decreases rapidly before the first cell division after release from stationary phase and then increases gradually over multiple cell divisions but does not reach pre-stationary phase levels even after twelve doublings. We propose that the observed transient instability of the SIR complex after release from stationary phase is a functional adaptation that allows the cell to rapidly respond to changing growth conditions and activate subtelomeric genes involved in carbon source metabolism and the stress response.

## Results

### Sir3 subunit exchange dynamics during and after release from stationary phase

We used the RITE tag switch system developed by Fred van Leeuwen<sup>9</sup> to construct the Sir3 “tag switch” module. The genomic *Sir3* locus was engineered with a C-terminal tag switch cassette containing loxP sites, and the HA and T7 tags, separated by a transcription termination signal, and the hygromycin resistance gene (**Figure 1A**). The host strain carries the CreEBD78 recombinase, which is activated upon estradiol addition. After Cre-mediated recombination of LoxP sites, the HA tag on Sir3 is switched to the T7 tag. Recombination efficiency is assessed by growth on Hygromycin plates, and is typically ~97% if arrested cells are treated with estradiol for at least 16hrs.

Cells were grown in glucose rich medium (YPD) for 48hrs until they reached the stationary phase. Since it has been shown that after 48hrs the majority of cells in the population have the characteristics of quiescent cells i.e. the ability to retain viability and reproductive capacity in the absence of nutrients, we consider that our experiments record the average behavior of quiescent cells upon exit from stationary phase<sup>13</sup>. Stationary phase cells were incubated with estradiol for 16hrs to induce the Cre mediated tag switch. Anti-HA (old

Sir3) and anti-T7 (new Sir3) chromatin immuno-precipitations were performed in parallel at regular intervals before and after Cre activation. Formaldehyde cross-linked chromatin was sonicated to 300-500bp fragments before immune precipitation and DNA isolated from immune-precipitated chromatin fragments was analyzed with deep-sequencing.

ChIP-seq of old and new Sir3 showed that Sir3 dynamics are similar at all heterochromatic loci, including silent mating type loci and subtelomeric regions (**Figure 1 B-C, E-F**). Namely, the old Sir3 is maintained in stationary phase cells even after the tag switch, although overall Sir3 occupancy is decreased 4 fold compared to the pre-stationary midlog phase (**Supplementary Figure S1 B-C**). After release into fresh media old Sir3 completely disappears at the time of the first cell doubling and is replaced by new Sir3. New Sir3 levels are however still low even after the twelfth doubling: 3 fold lower than old Sir3 levels immediately after release and  $\sim 7$  fold lower than Sir3 levels in mid-log cells<sup>12</sup> (**Figure 1 B-C and Supplementary Figure S1 B-C**). The observed pattern of Sir3 binding dynamics in cell populations after exit from stationary phase suggests that the existing Sir3 is rapidly removed from chromatin when cells resume growth before the first cell division and is gradually replaced with new Sir3 over several cell division cycles. Interestingly, Sir3 replacement at silent mating type loci is faster than at subtelomeric loci and new Sir3 occupancy reaches a plateau after 1-3 doublings, probably as a consequence of the stronger SIR complex nucleation capacity of HML and HMR silencers compared to subtelomeric silencers (**Figure 1 E-F, Supplementary Figure S1 E-F**).

### **Sir3 removal and heterochromatin instability upon release from stationary phase**

The SIR complex appears to be unstable in the first cell cycle after exit from stationary phase, thus making heterochromatin potentially permissive to transcription during that period. The rapid decrease in chromatin occupancy of old Sir3 during the first cell cycle after release coincides with a fast decline in total cellular old Sir3 levels resulting in the complete disappearance of old Sir3 by the time of the first cellular doubling accompanied by a slow and gradual increase in new Sir3 which starts around 90min after release (**Figure 2A**). Since the rapidly declining levels of old Sir3 and the slow synthesis of new Sir3 could compromise heterochromatin function we tested the silencing potential of SIR complexes after exit from stationary phase using the “ $\alpha$ -factor test”, described below (**Figure 2B**).

MATa (Mating Type a) cells will respond to the presence of  $\alpha$ -factor (mating pheromone  $\alpha$ ) by arresting in G1 and forming a “shmoo” if the silent mating type locus HML (containing the genes for mating type  $\alpha$ ) is stably heterochromatinized with the SIR complex. If HML is not fully silenced, cells will behave like pseudo-diploids and will not respond to  $\alpha$ -factor. Log-phase cells should therefore predominantly respond to  $\alpha$ -factor and become

shmoo. On the other hand, we expect that populations exposed to  $\alpha$ -factor immediately upon exit from quiescence will have a higher fraction of cells that form buds. This is exactly what we observe: there are ~two times more cells that divide and don't form shmoo in populations exiting stationary phase than in mid-log populations. If cells are allowed to divide even just once after release and are then exposed to  $\alpha$ -factor they arrest normally and form stable "shmoo" like mid-log cells (**Figure 2B**). This transient Sir3 insufficiency can however be overcome with Sir3 overexpression (**Figure 3**). In a galactose inducible overexpression system, Sir3 occupancy starts increasing immediately upon release of stationary cells into galactose even before the first cell division, suggesting that SIR complex renewal does not directly depend on DNA replication or cell division but is likely driven by the rate of accumulation of newly synthesized Sir3. Overexpression of Sir3 can therefore overcome the rapid removal of old Sir3 that was bound to chromatin in stationary phase and bypass the period of SIR complex instability during the first cell cycle that we observed in the wt strain. It is however important to note that the process of old Sir3 removal occurs independently of Sir3 synthesis as evidenced by the complete disappearance of chromatin bound old Sir3 by the second doubling upon release into dextrose or raffinose in which new Sir3 is not expressed (**Figure 3 F, N**). In other words, the removal of old Sir3 from chromatin is not "driven" by its replacement with new Sir3.

### **Sir2 binding during and after release from stationary phase**

Genome-wide Sir2 binding dynamics during the stationary to growth phase transition are similar to Sir3 dynamics with some quantitative differences as shown in **Figure 4**. Like for Sir3, we observe a decrease in Sir2 occupancy at subtelomeres, silent mating type loci and rDNA in stationary phase, although the decrease is more modest: 50% (silent mating type loci; **Figure 4E-F**) to ~2 fold (subtelomeric regions, **Figure 4C** and rDNA, **Figure 4G**). Also, the return to (subtelomeric regions) or even above pre-stationary phase levels (silent mating type loci and rDNA) is observed immediately after the first cell division after release, while Sir3 has still not reached even stationary phase levels after 12 doublings. Further experiments will be necessary to clarify whether the differences in the stoichiometry of Sir2 and Sir3 with constant levels of Sir2 and a gradual increase in Sir3 over multiple cell generations have an effect on the functionality and stability of heterochromatin.

### **Sir3 and Sir2 binding to tDNA**

Our results have unexpectedly uncovered non-canonical Sir3 binding to tRNA genes (**Figures 1D, S1D, 3G-J**). New, T7 tagged Sir3 appears to bind to all tRNA genes immediately upon release from stationary phase and this high Sir3 occupancy persists at least for 5 subsequent doublings (**Figure 1D**). The source of the gradual increase in Sir3-HA

binding to tRNA genes is likely originating from the fraction of cells (~2.5%) that did not complete the tag switch. A replicate experiment using a different anti-T7 antibody (a monoclonal one versus the polyclonal one in Figure 1) does confirm Sir3-T7 binding to tDNAs upon release (**Figure S1 D**) but with Sir3 enrichment levels that are 8 to 16 fold lower than with the polyclonal antibody used in Figure 1. Unlike their dynamics at subtelomeric loci, new Sir3-T7 and old Sir3-HA in the replicate experiment seem to follow the same binding dynamics with the same level of occupancy: no binding during the stationary phase followed by a “jump” in occupancy after the first doubling and constant binding for at least twelve doublings afterwards. The discrepancies in Sir3-T7 enrichment at tDNAs between the two replicates are puzzling and are possibly a consequence of different affinities of the polyclonal and the monoclonal antibodies for the T7 epitope in the context of different Sir3 configurations found at tDNAs and subtelomeres. The monoclonal and the polyclonal anti-T7 antibodies seem to bind with comparable efficiency to Sir3 when it is present in multiple subunits in the densely packaged configuration of a SIR polymer at subtelomeric and silent mating type loci. The polyclonal anti-T7 is on the other hand more efficient than the monoclonal antibody when Sir3 stoichiometry is low as it is likely to be at tDNAs.

The signal clearly correlates with Sir3 presence in the cell: 1. only Sir3-HA is detected in midlog cells before the tag switch from HA to T7, while Sir3-T7 and Sir3-HA are both detected after release from stationary phase following the tag switch (Figure S1 D, the Sir3-HA signal comes probably from cells that did not recombine the two tags); 2. The Sir3-HA signal from the Sir3 overexpression system is undetectable in the 12<sup>th</sup> doubling after release into dextrose or raffinose media where Sir3 is not expressed while it is still there in the 12<sup>th</sup> doubling after release into galactose when Sir3 is overexpressed (Figure 3G-J). Consequently, the enrichment of tDNA sequences in our Sir3 ChIP-seq datasets cannot be due to non-specific binding of these sequences to antibodies or protein A beads as has been proposed previously<sup>14</sup>, nor is it likely to be a tag artefact since tDNA sequences were isolated with the anti-HA (Figures 1D, S1D, and 3G-J) and the anti-T7 antibodies (Figures 1D, S1D). We cannot, however exclude the possibility that Sir3 binding to tDNAs has no biological significance and is merely a consequence of transient and non-specific “stickiness” of nucleoplasmic Sir3 to tDNA sequences in vivo or even after cell fixation.

Sir2 also binds to tDNAs although the binding pattern and kinetics are somewhat different from Sir3. While Sir3 occupies a footprint from -100bp to 200bp around the start of the tRNA gene throughout the time course, Sir2's footprint spreads progressively from +/-150bp around the tRNA gene start in the first cell cycle to +/-400bp by the 12<sup>th</sup> cycle (compare the top panels of Figures 1D, S1D and 5D). Also, while the position of peak binding

immediately downstream of the tRNA gene start is common to both Sir3 and Sir2, the rate of peak height changes is different for the two proteins. Peak height already reaches a plateau after the first cell cycle for Sir3, while it is still growing (although slowly) after the 12<sup>th</sup> doubling for Sir2 (**Figure 5D**). The timing of the binding signals and the footprint patterns of the two proteins suggest that Sir3 might be binding first and might then recruit Sir2 which then spreads to the nucleosomes immediately adjacent to the tRNA gene.

It is curious that the enrichment signal at tDNAs disappears in stationary phase for both Sir3 tag switch replicates and in the Sir3 overexpression system as well as Sir2 (Figures 1D, S1D, 3G-J and 5D, respectively) even though Sir3 and Sir2 still bind to silent mating type loci and subtelomeric regions although at reduced levels, and may reflect the scarcity of nucleoplasmic Sir3 and possibly Sir2 in stationary cells. The fluctuations in Sir3 occupancy at tDNAs coincide with changes in growth conditions: 1. low level binding in mid-log (Figure S1D); 2. no binding in stationary phase; 3. increased binding upon release from stationary phase that reaches a plateau after the first cell division and stays higher than the previous midlog phase even twelve doublings after release from stationary phase. This suggests that Sir3 binding may be linked to changes in the chromatin configuration and/or gene expression state of tRNA genes.

TFIIIC is a transcription factor responsible for the recruitment of the RNAPolIII transcription machinery and its binding sites are verified heterochromatin boundary and chromatin insulator elements<sup>15</sup>. We therefore mapped the TAP-tagged TFC3 (a subunit of TFIIIC) genome wide binding pattern upon release from stationary phase to find out whether there is a correlation between TFIIIC and Sir3 binding to tDNAs (**Figure 5**).

We have identified three tRNA gene clusters with specific TFIIIC binding dynamics (**Figure 5B-C**). Sir3 and Sir2 binding dynamics correlate with TFIIIC binding in less than 50% of all tRNA genes (124 tRNA genes in cluster 1 out of a total of 273 tRNA genes) (**Figure 5 D-F**). Consequently Sir3 and Sir2 are not likely to bind to tDNAs in response to tRNA gene activation but they may be “recognizing” structural chromatin features common to all tRNA genes independently of their gene expression state.

## Discussion

Our results suggest that yeast heterochromatin is reprogrammed upon exit from stationary phase. We observe a ~4 fold and ~2 fold drop in Sir3 and Sir2 subtelomeric occupancy, respectively, when cells enter the stationary phase that is followed by an even steeper drop of Sir3 occupancy during the first cell cycle after release from stationary phase.

All Sir3 proteins bound to subtelomeric and silent mating type loci are replaced with newly synthesized Sir3 after the first division following release. Surprisingly, the density of new Sir3 subunits increases slowly and does not reach pre-stationary phase levels even after 12 cell divisions. Even though we have not measured Sir2 turnover rates, our Sir2 ChIP-seq time-course experiment clearly shows that Sir2, unlike Sir3, comes back to pre-stationary levels by the first cell division after release.

The biological significance of this kind of heterochromatic “clean slate” upon exit from quiescence and the slow rebuilding of heterochromatin structure is not clear. The slow rise in Sir3 occupancy can be overcome with Sir3 overexpression, bringing up the possibility that the naturally limiting amount of Sir3 has a regulatory function. It opens the question of the function of Sir3 stoichiometry at heterochromatic loci. Are there different higher order conformations of heterochromatin that depend on the amount of Sir3 and does heterochromatin that contains less Sir3 have greater plasticity that would facilitate the cell’s response to environmental changes and stressful growth conditions?

Sir3 appears to be actively kept at low levels in the first two divisions after release as our Western blot results suggest, even though global protein synthesis is greatly increased (for review see<sup>16</sup>). Heterochromatin formation may be impaired to potentially prevent mating during first divisions when the cell is replenishing its protein content or to allow expression of subtelomeric genes or both. Sir3 also becomes hyperphosphorylated in stress conditions, such as nutrient depletion, following the inactivation of the TOR pathway<sup>17</sup>. Sir3 hyperphosphorylation in turn causes the derepression of subtelomeric PAU genes involved in cell wall restructuring<sup>18</sup>. Since TOR activity is necessary for growth, an alternative pathway to Sir3 phosphorylation that insures the expression of subtelomeric genes upon exit from quiescence may be necessary and may involve targeted degradation of Sir3 proteins and/or reduced synthesis of Sir3 proteins.

Our genome-wide wide maps of Sir3 dynamics have also unexpectedly revealed a potentially new function of the Sir complex at tDNA loci. Even though the pervasive binding of Sir3 and Sir2 to tRNA genes may be an experimental artefact with no biological function, the dynamics of Sir3 and Sir2 binding during stationary to growth phase transitions do raise some intriguing possibilities. Sir3 binding may precede TFIIC binding to reorganize the nucleosome configuration that may have been altered in stationary phase and thus prepare tRNA genes for optimal activation. tRNA genes have a specific nucleosome organization that somewhat resembles a yeast RNAPol2 gene promoter (Supplementary Figure S2A). There is a nucleosome free region (NFR) covering the entire tRNA gene (-100bp to 150bp around the tRNA gene start site, datasets used for the analysis were taken from<sup>19,20</sup>) and the nucleosomes



surrounding the NFR on either side are enriched for H3K56ac (a mark of newly synthesized histone H3, dataset from <sup>20</sup>) and the H2A variant Htz (dataset from <sup>21</sup>), both characteristics of high nucleosome turnover rates as previously recorded<sup>22</sup>. The nucleosomal organization of tRNA genes is a dynamic structure as is evident from nucleosome and H3K56ac tDNA profiles from replicating mid-log cells (Figure S2B). Replicated tRNA genes have a wider and shallower NFR that seems to be partially populated with nucleosomes (compare the MNase-seq profiles from bulk and nascent chromatin in the left panel) and an asymmetric H3K56ac distribution with less H3K56ac downstream of the tRNA gene that is more pronounced in early S-phase compared to mid-S-phase. Thus, DNA replication disrupts chromatin organization of tRNA genes which needs to be subsequently restored. This is supported by evidence that shows that concerted activity of DNA polymerase epsilon, the H3K56 acetylase rtt109 and the chromatin remodeler Rsc is needed to create the nucleosome positioning pattern of the tRNA insulator at HMR<sup>23</sup>. tRNA genes are also known “obstacles” for replication forks<sup>24</sup> but not all tRNA genes have the same capacity to slow forks down in optimal growth conditions<sup>25</sup>. It will therefore be interesting to see whether the chromatin structure of tRNA genes is altered in stationary phase and whether the Sir complex functions to reorganize nucleosomes at tRNA genes after exit from quiescence to prevent dangerous fork stalling in the first S-phase after release and/or prime tRNA genes for transcription activation or insulator function.

Our results have revealed the dynamic nature of yeast heterochromatin that changes in response to environmental challenges that cells face in variable growth conditions. Future studies should explore the regulatory mechanisms that ensure heterochromatin plasticity while preserving its functionality. Our study joins the growing body of work that delves into the dynamics of chromatin structure in different organisms and is yet another reminder that chromatin organization is not a static structure that reaches some sort of final stable state that just needs to be maintained once cells have differentiated. It is instead an active element in the cell’s response to its environment that has to be continuously shaped and reshaped by specialized cellular processes in order to ensure the survival and preserve the function of each cell.

## Materials and Methods

### Yeast Strains

The strain used in Figures 1, 2, and S1 is MRL9.1 (S288C: MATa his3d200 leu2d0 lys2d0 met15d0 trp1d63 ura3d0 bar1::HisG HIS3 Pgpd\_CRE\_EBD78 Sir3Histag-LoxP-3xHA-Hygro-LoxP-3xT7) that was constructed by transforming NKI12318 (MATa his3d200 leu2d0 lys2d0 met15d0 trp1d63 ura3d0 bar1::HisG HIS3 Pgpd\_CRE\_EBD78; courtesy of

Fred van Leeuwen) with the RITE-switch (LoxP-3xHA-Hygro-LoxP-3xT7) cassette amplified from the pFvL159 plasmid (Fred van Leeuwen) with primers (

forward:

5'GCCTTTTCGATGGATGAAGAATTCAAAAATATGGACTGCATTCATCACCATCAC  
CATCACGGTGGATCTGGTGGATCT;

reverse:

5'CATAGGCATATCTATGGCGGAAGTGAAAATGAATGTTGGTGGTGATTACGCCA  
AGCTCG) compatible for homologous recombination with the C-terminal end of the Sir3

gene. Cassette incorporation was verified by PCR.

The Sir3 over-expression strain in Figure 3 is THC70 (W303: *MATa HMLa HMRA ade2-1 can1-100 his3-11,15 leu2-3,112 trp1-1 matΔ::TRP1 hmr::rHMRA hmlΔ::kanMX ura3-1::GAL10P-Sir3HA::URA3 bar1Δ::hisG lys2Δ sir3Δ::HIS3*) (courtesy of K.Struhl<sup>6,26</sup>). TAP-tagged Sir2 (YDL042C) and TFC3 (YAL001C, subunit TFIIC) (S288C: *MATa his3Δ1 leu2Δ0 met15Δ0 ura3Δ0 ORF-TAP:HIS3MX6*) strains were both obtained from the yeast TAP-tagged ORF library (Dharmacon).

## Cell culture

### Sir3 tag exchange time course:

All cultures were incubated at 30°C in an incubator shaker at 220 rpm, crosslinked for 20 min with 1% formaldehyde and quenched for 5 min with 125mM Glycine, unless indicated otherwise. Two 10 ml cultures were grown overnight in YPD (2% glucose). One culture contained hygromycin (0,3 mg/mL; the Hyg<sup>+</sup> culture). Hyg<sup>+</sup> and Hyg<sup>-</sup> saturated cultures were then transferred to flasks with 90 ml YPD and hygromycin was added to the Hyg<sup>+</sup> culture and incubated for 24h until glucose was depleted and they entered the stationary phase. A 20 ml aliquot from the Hyg<sup>+</sup> culture was fixed, pelleted and flash frozen in liquid nitrogen and kept at -80°C as the “before switch” stationary phase sample. The rest of the Hyg<sup>+</sup> and Hyg<sup>-</sup> cultures were pelleted and 80 ml of the Hyg<sup>-</sup> supernatant was used to resuspend the Hyg<sup>+</sup> pellet, and the Hyg<sup>+</sup> supernatant and Hyg<sup>-</sup> pellet were discarded. The resuspended 80 ml culture was inoculated with 1 μM estradiol (Sigma) in order to induce tag exchange, and incubated overnight for at least 16h. An aliquot for the “after switch” stationary phase sample was processed as above. The remaining culture was diluted to OD 0.3 with fresh YPD (total volume: 1600-2000 ml) and incubated at 30°C to release the culture from stationary phase. 400 ml aliquots were taken at 0, 30 and 1h 30 min after release and after indicated cell doublings (monitored by OD measurements; the first doubling typically takes place 3.5 hours after release and each subsequent doubling takes 1.5hrs). Aliquots for each time point were processed as above and fresh YPD was added to the rest of the culture in order to keep cell density constant (constant OD) maintain cells in exponential growth.

Small cell aliquots (50ul of from a 1:100000 dilution) before and after tag switch were plated on YPD plates and replica-plated on YPD+hygromycin to estimate recombination efficiency. The average recombination efficiency in our cell culture conditions is 96.9% (from 11 independent experiments).

Sir2-TAP and TFC3-TAP time course:

Cultures were done as above except without the Hyg<sup>+</sup> culture and estradiol addition, and cells were released from stationary phase after a 48h incubation in YPD.

**Western blot**

10 mL aliquots from time points above were mixed with 2 mL 100% TCA and kept on ice for 10 min. Cells were then pelleted and washed twice with 500  $\mu$ L 10% cold TCA. Pellets were resuspended in 300  $\mu$ L 10% cold TCA and bead beaten with Zirconium Sillicate beads (0.5 mm) in a bullet blender (Next Advance) for 3 times x 3 min (intensity 8). Zirconium beads were removed from the cell lysate by centrifugation and the entire cell lysate was washed twice with 200  $\mu$ L 10% cold TCA. The cells lysate was then pelleted and re-suspended in 70  $\mu$ L 2xSDS loading buffer (125 mM Tris pH 6.8, 20% glycerol; 4% SDS, 10%  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol, 0,004% bromophenol blue) preheated at 95°C. Approximately 30  $\mu$ L Tris (1M, pH 8,7) was added to each sample to stabilize the pH. Samples were heated for 10 min at 95°C, pelleted and the soluble protein extract in the supernatant was transferred to new tubes. Protein concentrations were measured by Bradford test kit (Sigma, B6916) and 40  $\mu$ g/sample was loaded on a 7% polyacrylamide SDS-PAGE gel (30:1 acrylamide/bis-acrylamide). Proteins were transferred after electrophoresis to a PDVF membrane (Bio-Rad, 1620177). The membrane was incubated for 1h at room temperature with either anti-HA (Abcam, ab9110 (lot# GR3245707-3)) or anti-T7 (Bethyl A190-117A (lot# A190-117A-7)) antibodies to detect Sir3 and anti- $\alpha$ -tubulin (Sigma T6199 (lot#116M48C2V)) to detect the  $\alpha$ -tubulin loading control. Secondary goat anti-rat-HRP (Santa Cruz Biotechnology G2514), goat anti-rabbit-HRP (Santa Cruz Biotechnology sc-2054) and bovine anti-mouse-HRP (Santa Cruz Biotechnology sc-2375) were added after the corresponding primary antibody and incubated for 1h at room temperature. All antibodies (primary and secondary) were diluted 1/10000 in 5% milk/TBS. The membrane was washed 3x in 1xTBS-10%Tween after each antibody incubation step. The blot was then covered with 500  $\mu$ L Immobilon Forte Western HRP substrate (Millipore WBLUF0500) for 2 min and protein bands were detected on a high-performance chemiluminescent film (Amersham 28906837).

**Microscopy and image analysis**

Cells were grown as above and concentrated by centrifugation. 3ul of the cell pellet was injected under the 0.8% agarose/YPD layer that had been poured into each well of an 8-well glass bottom microscopy plate (BioValley).

We used a wide field inverted microscope for epifluorescence and TIRF acquisition (Nikon) under the HiLo setting, with a 60X water objective with a water dispenser, and a EMCCD Evolve 512 Photometrics camera (512\*512, 16 $\mu$ m pixel size). The time courses on growing cells were performed at 30°C. Pictures in bright field (Exposure time= 300ms and the Hilo angle= 62°) were taken every 10 or 20min for 6.5hrs.

Shmoon and budding cells were counted manually using the Image J software for visualization.

### **Chromatin Sonication**

Cross-linked frozen cell pellets were re-suspended in 500  $\mu$ L cell breaking buffer (20% glycerol, 100 mM Tris pH 7.5, 1xEDTA-free protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche)). Zirconium Sillicate beads (400  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mm) were then added to each aliquot and cells were mechanically disrupted using a bullet blender (Next Advance) for 5 times x 3 min (intensity 8). Zirconium beads were removed from the cell lysate by centrifugation and the entire cell lysate was subject to sonication using the Bioruptor-Pico (Diagenode) for 3x10 cycles of 30 seconds ON/OFF each for a 500bp final median size of chromatin fragments. Cellular debris was then removed by centrifugation and the supernatant was used for ChIP.

### **ChIP**

All steps were done at 4°C unless indicated otherwise. For each aliquot, Buffer L (50 mM Hepes-KOH pH 7.5, 140 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 1% Triton X-100, 0.1% sodium deoxycholate) components were added from concentrated stocks (10-20X) for a total volume of 0.8 ml per aliquot. For anti-Ha and anti-T7 ChIP, each aliquot was rotated for 1 hour with 100  $\mu$ L 50% Sepharose Protein A Fast-Flow bead slurry (IPA400HC, Repligen) previously equilibrated in Buffer L. The beads were pelleted at 3000 X g for 30sec, and approximately 200  $\mu$ l of the supernatant was set aside for the input sample. The remainder (equivalent to 200 ml of cell culture of 0.5 OD) was separated into anti-HA and anti-T7 fractions. 10  $\mu$ L anti-HA (Abcam, ab9110 (lot# GR3245707-3) and 10  $\mu$ L polyclonal anti-T7 (Bethyl A190-117A (lot# A190-117A-7) (Figure 1) or 10  $\mu$ L monoclonal anti-T7 (Cell Signaling Technology, DSE1X (lot#1)) (Supplementary Figure S1) were added to the corresponding aliquots. Immunoprecipitation, washing, protein degradation, and DNA isolation were performed as previously described (Liu et al., 2003).

Purified DNA was treated with RNase A (Qiagen) (5 $\mu$ g per sample 1hr at 37°C) and purified once more with Phenol-Chloroform. Purified fragments were used for NGS library construction (Input, ChIP) and subsequent NGS library construction.

For anti-TAP ChIP, aliquots were incubated directly with 10  $\mu$ L anti-TAP antibodies (Thermo Scientific, CAB10001 (lot# TA261224) overnight with rotation. 50  $\mu$ L of

Dynabeads protein G (Thermo Scientific, 30 mg/mL) were added to each aliquot and incubated for 2h. All the following steps were as above with the following modifications: cross-links were removed after DNA elution, with a 65°C overnight incubation without proteinase K. After RNase A treatment as above, 1mg/ml of proteinase K was added for 2hrs at 65°C. DNA was purified with Phenol-Chloroform and further processed as above.

### **NGS Input and ChIP library construction and Illumina sequencing**

Libraries were constructed as above from the blunt ending step. DNA fragments were blunt ended and phosphorylated with the Epicentre End-it-Repair kit. Adenosine nucleotide overhangs were added using Epicentre exo- Klenow. Illumina Genome sequencing adaptors with in line barcodes (

PE1-NNNNN: PhosNNNNNAGATCGGAAGAGCGGTTCAGCAGGAATGCCGAG

PE2-NNNNN: ACACTCTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCTNNNNNT

, NNNNN indicates the position of the 5bp barcode, (IDT)) were then ligated overnight at 16°C using the Epicentre Fast-Link ligation kit. Ligated fragments were amplified as above using the Phusion enzyme (NEB) for 18 PCR cycles with Illumina PE1

(AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACACTCTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGATCT) and PE2

(CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATAACGAGATCGGTCTCGGCATTCCTGCTGAACCGCTCTTCCGATCT) primers (IDT). Reactions were cleaned between each step using MagNa beads.

Libraries were mixed in equimolar amounts (12 to 21 libraries per pool) and library pools were sequenced on the HiSeq 2000 (2x75bp) (Illumina) at the CNAG, Barcelona, Spain or the NextSeq550 (2x75bp) (Plateforme Transcriptome, IRMB, Montpellier, France).

### **ChIP-seq data analysis**

All analysis was done using in house Perl and R scripts available upon request.

Sequences were aligned to *S. Cerevisiae* genome using BLAT (Kent Informatics, <http://hgdownload.soe.ucsc.edu/admin/>). We kept reads that had at least one uniquely aligned 100% match in the paired end pair. Read count distribution was determined in 1bp windows and then normalized to 1 by dividing each base pair count with the genome-wide average base-pair count. Forward and reverse reads were then averaged and ChIP reads were normalized to their corresponding input reads.

The repetitive regions map was constructed by “BLATing” all the possible 70 bp sequences of the yeast genome and parsing all the unique 70bp sequences. All the base coordinates that were not in those unique sequences were considered repetitive.

### **Author Contributions**

HG performed all the experiments except the microscopy part of the experiment in Figure 2B performed by PV. MRL designed the experiments, analyzed the NGS data and wrote the manuscript with input from HG.

### Acknowledgments

We thank Fred van Leeuwen and Kevin Struhl for yeast strains and plasmids. Thank you to Marta Gut and Julie Blanc from CNAG (Barcelona, Spain) and Véronique Pantesco (IRMB, Montpellier, France) for deep-sequencing services. We thank Virginie Georget (MRI, Biocampus, Montpellier) for her assistance with the microscope set-up. This work was supported by the ERC-Consolidator (NChIP 647618) grant (MRL).

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## Figure Legends

**Figure 1:** **A.** Diagram of the Sir3 tag switch construct used in ChIP-seq experiments (top left). Bottom: Experiment outline. Cells were arrested by glucose depletion before the tag switch, induced with estradiol addition to stationary cells (recombination efficiency :98.1% ). Cells were then released from arrest with addition of fresh media and allowed to grow for one to five doublings (monitored by OD measurements). Cell aliquots were fixed with 1% formaldehyde for 20min at times indicated below the diagrams and anti-HA and anti-T7 (polyclonal) ChIPs were performed on sonicated chromatin. **B.** Heat map of new Sir3 (T7 tag) enrichment over old Sir3 (HA tag) during and after exit from quiescence, at all yeast telomeres (30kbp from chromosomes ends). Time points are aligned by the ARS Consensus Sequence (ACS) located in telomeric silencer regions, which are Sir complex nucleation sites at telomeres. White arrows show tRNA genes where new Sir3 binds after exit from quiescence. Silent mating type loci HML and HMR, on 3L and 3R, respectively, are framed with a white rectangle. Sir3 is enriched in a small 1kb region upstream of the ACS at all telomeres. Repetitive and unmapped regions are shown in grey. The HMLa reads have been eliminated as repetitive sequences during alignment to the reference genome which is MATa. **C-D.** Old (top) and new (middle) Sir3 enrichment around ACS averaged for all 32 telomeres (C) or tRNA genes averaged for all 274 genes (D) at indicated time points during the stationary and the renewed growth phases. The bottom panel shows average enrichment around the ACS (C) or tRNA genes (D) for old and new Sir3 over time. **E-F.** Old (top left) and new (bottom left) Sir3 enrichment at HML (E) and HMR (F) at indicated time points (same color code for E and F) during the stationary and the renewed growth phase. The right panel shows average enrichment over the entire silent mating type locus for old and new Sir3 over time.

**Figure 2:** Heterochromatin is destabilized before the first division following exit from stationary phase. **A.** Western blot of old Sir3-HA (anti-HA antibody) and new Sir3-T7 (anti T7 antibody) from total cell extracts during and after release from stationary phase. The top panel shows the experimental outline and describes the time points shown in the blot (marked by arrows above the blot). \* marks a non-specific band detected with the anti-T7 antibody. The graph below the blot shows the quantification of the bands from the blot. Sir3 band intensities were first normalized to the  $\alpha$ -tubulin loading control and then divided by the normalized Sir3-HA intensity from mid-log cells (bar graph). The line plot inset shows the same normalized Sir3-HA and Sir3-T7 band intensities for all time points after mid-log. **B.**  $\alpha$ -factor heterochromatin stability test. The diagram on top shows the expected response of MATa cells to  $\alpha$ -factor added after release from stationary phase. If the SIR heterochromatic complex is unstable HML $\alpha$  and HMR $\alpha$  will be transcribed along with MATa, thus creating



pseudo-diploid cells that don't respond to  $\alpha$ -factor and consequently do not become shmoo but start budding instead. The bottom panel shows examples of frames from a live cell imaging experiment that follows log phase cells (top), stationary phase cells in the first cell cycle after release (middle) or stationary phase cells that have undergone one cell division after release (bottom) in the presence of 0.2mg/ml  $\alpha$ -factor 0 and 380min after the beginning of the time course. The bar graph on the right shows the fraction of budding cells in all cells (budding and shmoo) for each cell population. The p-values for the null-hypothesis between released stationary phase cells and log-phase cells shown above the bars are calculated from the Z score obtained using Z-test statistics with significance cutoff  $\alpha=0.05$ :

$$Z = \frac{(p1 - p2) - 0}{\sqrt{p(1-p)\left(\frac{1}{n1} + \frac{1}{n2}\right)}}$$

where  $p1$  and  $p2$  are  $n(\text{budding})/n(\text{shmoo} + \text{budding})$  in cells released from stationary phase and log-phase cells respectively,  $n1$  and  $n2$  are  $n(\text{shmoo} + \text{budding})$  in stationary phase and mid-log cells respectively and  $p$  is  $(n(\text{budding})_{\text{stationary}} + n(\text{budding})_{\text{midlog}}) / (n1 + n2)$ .

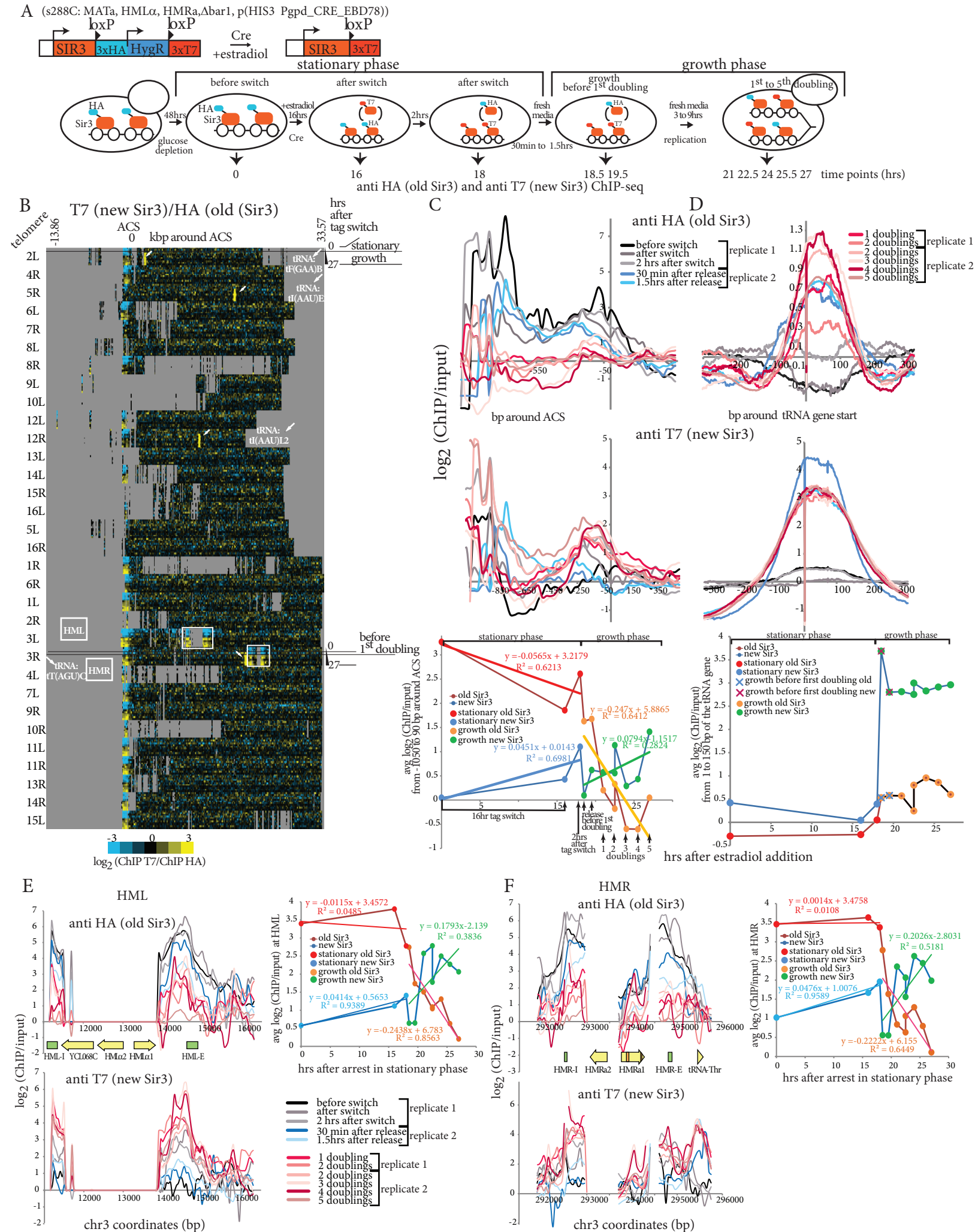
**Figure 3:** **A.** Diagram of the Sir3 gene construct controlled by a Galactose inducible promoter in the Sir3 OE strain (OverExpression) (top left). Bottom: Experiment outline. Cells were arrested by galactose depletion, and released of fresh media with the indicated carbon source (2%) and allowed to grow for 2 and 12 doublings (monitored by OD measurements). Cell aliquots were fixed with 1% formaldehyde for 20min at times indicated below the diagrams and anti-HA ChIPs were performed on sonicated chromatin. **B.** Heat map of Sir3 (HA tag) enrichment over input during and after exit from quiescence, at all yeast telomeres (30kbp from chromosomes ends). Time points are aligned by the ARS Consensus Sequence (ACS) located in telomeric silencer regions, which are Sir complex nucleation sites at telomeres. Silent mating type loci HML (HML is deleted in this strain) and HMR, on 3L and 3R, respectively, are framed with a white rectangle. Repetitive and unmapped regions are shown in grey. **C-E.** Sir3 enrichment around ACS averaged for all 32 telomeres after release into Galactose- over expression of Sir3 (C), Dextrose- inhibition of Sir3 expression (D) or Raffinose- low Sir3 expression (E). **F-G.** Average Sir3 enrichment around the ACS (E) or tRNA genes (F) over time in indicated carbon sources. **H-J.** Average Sir3 enrichment at tRNA genes for all 274 genes after release into Galactose (H), Dextrose (I) or Raffinose (J). **K-M.** Sir3 enrichment at HMR after release into Galactose (K), Dextrose (L) or Raffinose (M). **N** Average Sir3 enrichment over the entire HMR over time .

**Figure 4:** **A.** Diagram of the Sir2-TAP tag construct used in ChIP-seq experiments shown here (top left). Bottom: Experiment outline. Cells were grown for 48hrs until they reached

stationary phase by glucose depletion . Cells were then released from arrest with addition of fresh media and allowed to grow for one to twelve doublings (monitored by OD measurements). Cell aliquots were fixed with 1% formaldehyde for 20min at times indicated below the diagrams and anti-TAP ChIPs were performed on sonicated chromatin. **B.** Heat map of Sir2 (TAP tag) enrichment over input during and after exit from quiescence, at all yeast telomeres (30kbp from chromosomes ends). Time points are aligned by the ARS Consensus Sequence (ACS) located in telomeric silencer regions i.e. Sir complex nucleation sites at telomeres. Silent mating type loci HML and HMR, on 3L and 3R, respectively, are framed with a white rectangle. Sir2 is enriched in a small 1kb region upstream of the ACS at all telomeres. Repetitive and unmapped regions are shown in grey. The HMLa reads have been eliminated as repetitive sequences during alignment to the reference genome which is MATa. **C-D.** Sir2 enrichment around ACS averaged for all 32 telomeres (C) or tRNA genes averaged for all 274 genes (D) at indicated time points during the stationary and the renewed growth phases. The bottom panel shows average enrichment around the ACS (C) or tRNA genes (D) for Sir2 over time. **E-G.** Sir2 enrichment at HML (E), HMR (F) and rDNA (G) (NTS1-2 is the non-transcribed region of the rDNA repeat between the 3' ETS and RDN5) at indicated time points during the stationary and the renewed growth phase. The bottom panel shows average enrichment over the entire silent mating type locus or rDNA for Sir2 over time.

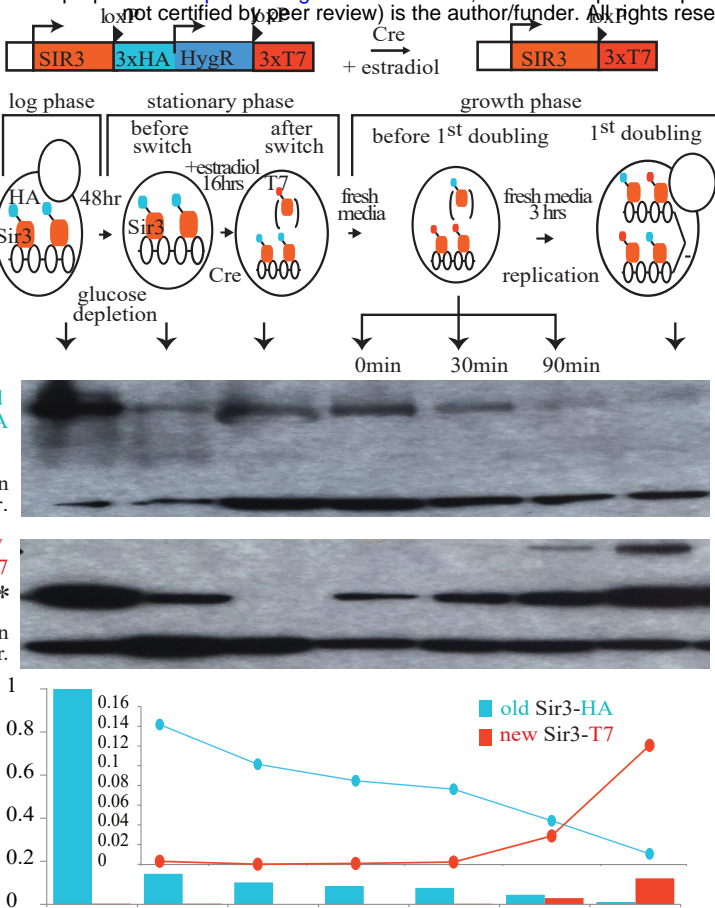
**Figure 5:** TFIIC binding to tRNA genes upon release from stationary phase. **A.** Diagram of the TFC3-TAP tag construct used in ChIP-seq experiments shown here (top). Right: Experiment outline. Cells were grown for 48hrs until they reached stationary phase by glucose depletion. Cells were then released from arrest with addition of fresh media and allowed to grow for one to twelve doublings (monitored by OD measurements). Cell aliquots were fixed with 1% formaldehyde for 20min at times indicated below the diagrams and anti-TAP ChIPs were performed on sonicated chromatin. **B.** Average profiles of TFIIC (TAP tag) enrichment over input at all 274 tRNA genes before, during and after exit from quiescence. **C.** K-means clustering of median TFIIC enrichment at tRNA genes (-50 to +150 bp around the start of the gene) at indicated time points (columns). Cluster 1: tRNA genes with increased TFIIC binding after release; Cluster 2:tRNA genes with reduced TFIIC binding after release; Cluster 3:low binding TFIIC tRNA genes with slow recovery after release. **D-F** box plot distributions of median read density enrichment comparing TFIIC binding to old(HA)/new(T7) Sir3 (D: Figure 1, polyclonal anti-T7; E: Figure S1, monoclonal anti-T7) , over-expressed Sir3 (Galactose inducible, Figure S2) and Sir2 (F, Figure 3) at tRNA genes from clusters shown in C. Sir3 and Sir2 binding is independent of TFIIC binding (and consequently tRNA expression) since binding dynamics of Sir3 and Sir2 before and after stationary phase are the same for all three clusters from C: Sir3 and Sir2 are

depleted from tRNA genes in stationary phase and rebind gradually before the first doubling after release and stay stably bound through at least 12 doublings. The polyclonal anti-T7 antibody (D, Figure 1) appears to have a much higher affinity for the T7 tag than the monoclonal anti-T7 used in Figure S1 (E), at least in the Sir3 configuration bound to tRNA genes since a difference between these two antibodies is not detected at telomeres and silent mating type loci (compare Figures 1 and S1). It is therefore difficult to judge whether binding of old Sir3 detectable even at 12 doublings after release comes from cells that have not undergone tag switch (about 2% of the initial population in stationary phase) or from a fraction of old Sir3 that has “survived” since the stationary phase. Sir3 binding is not a “tag” artefact as untagged “wt Sir3” (custom ant-Sir3 antibody, dataset from<sup>12</sup>) (F) and old-Sir3 HA (E) have similar enrichment distributions in midlog cells.



**Figure 1**

A



B

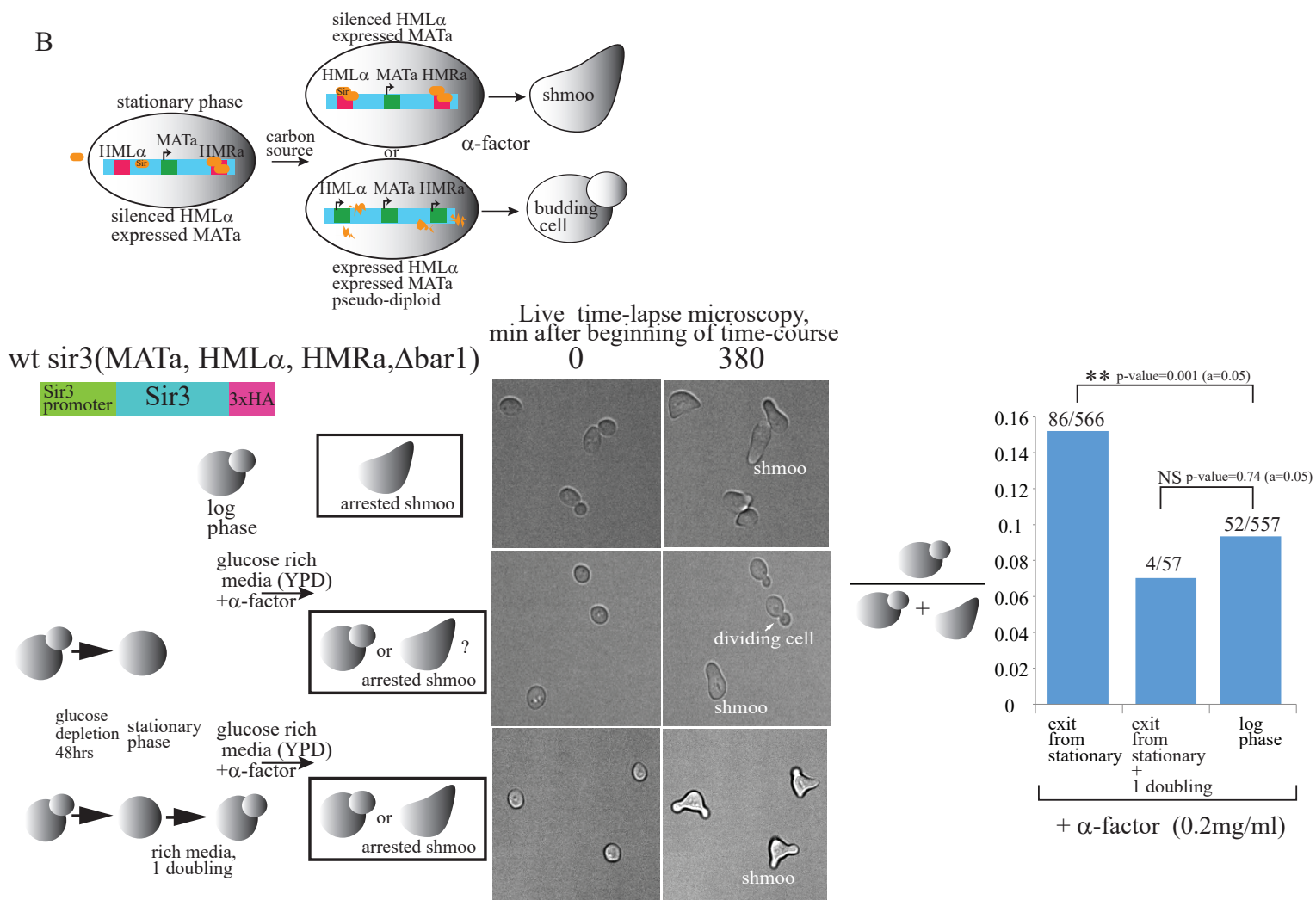


Figure 2

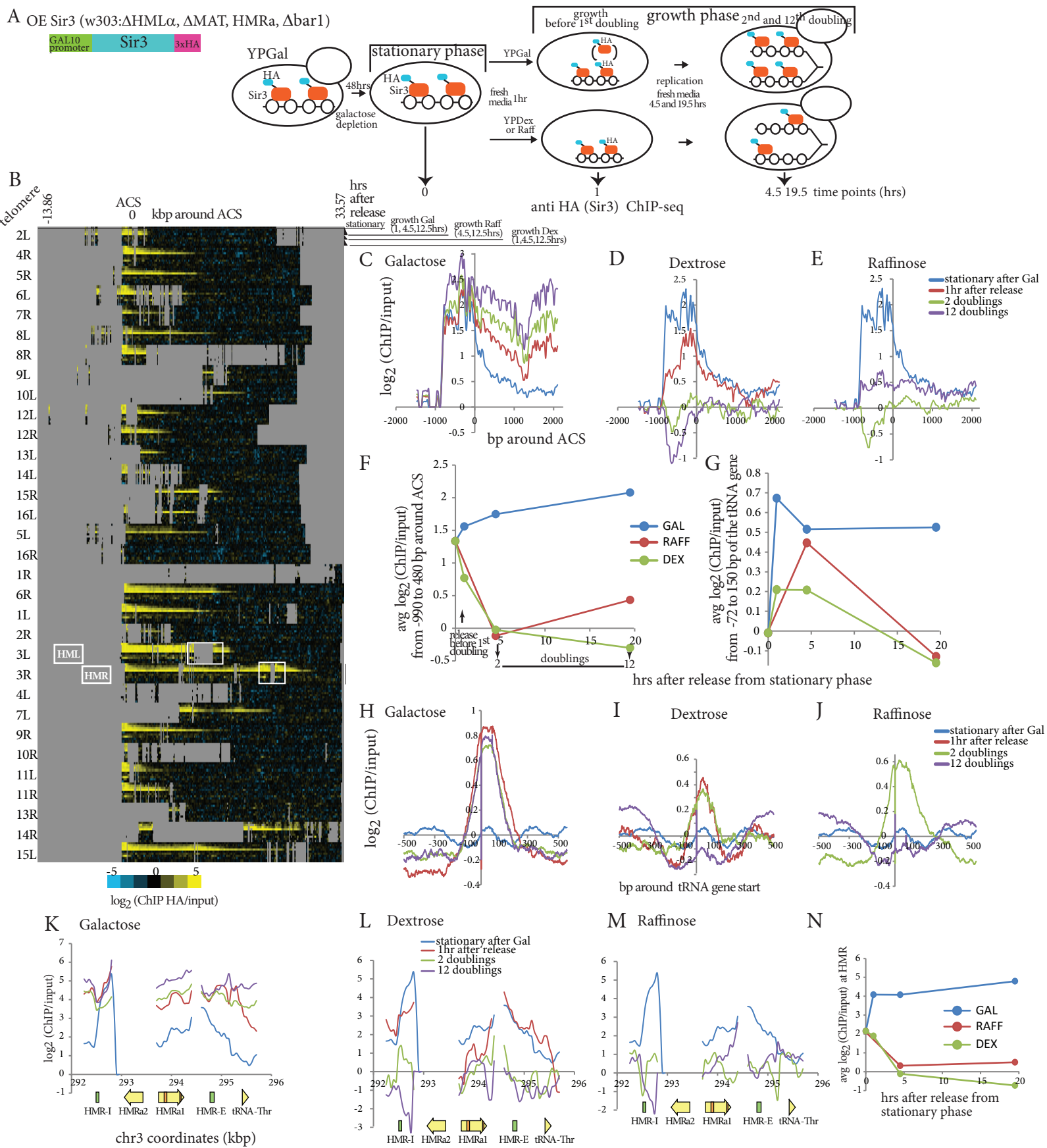


Figure 3

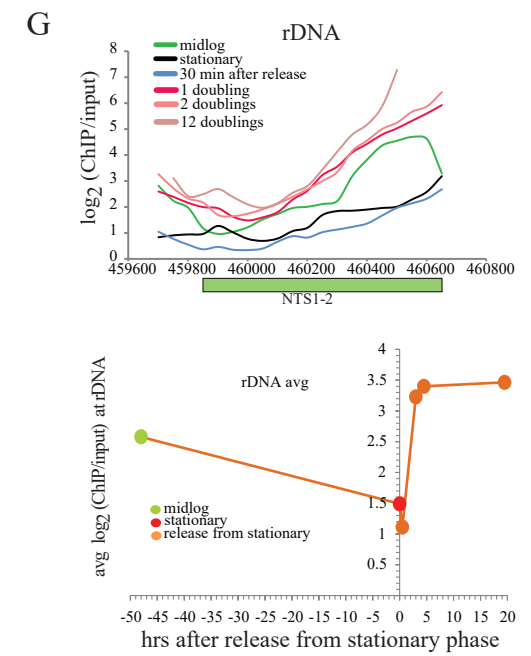
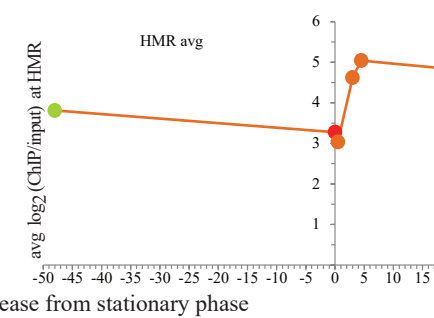
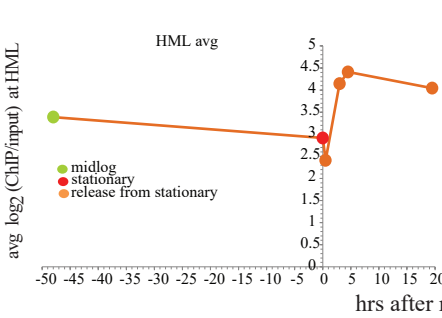
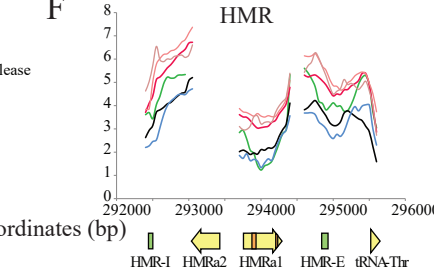
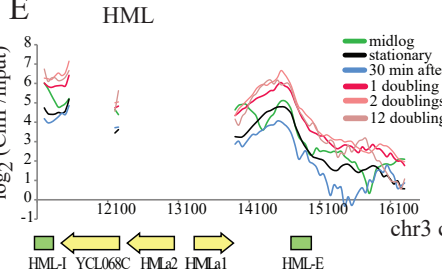
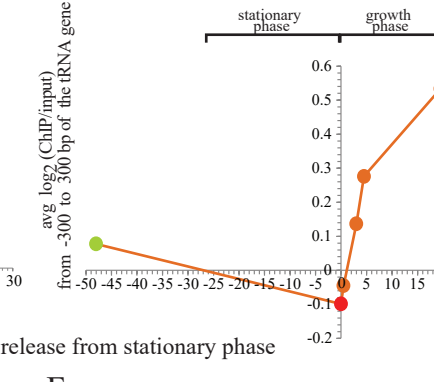
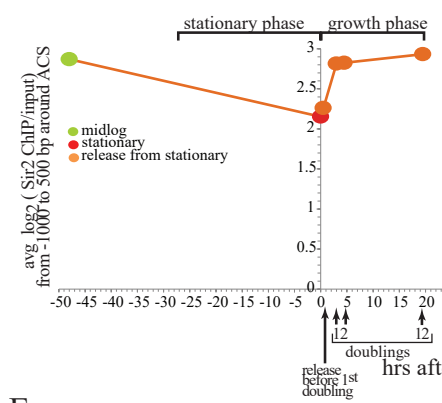
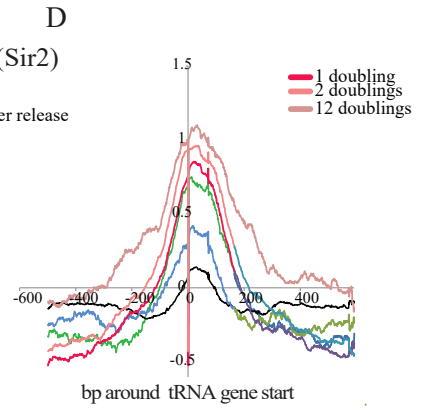
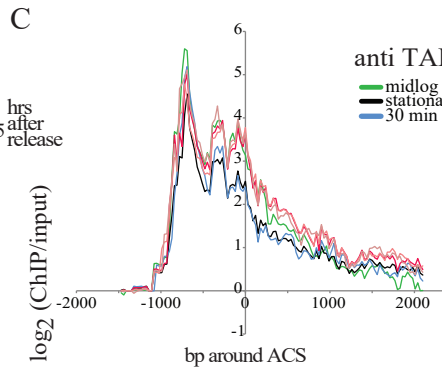
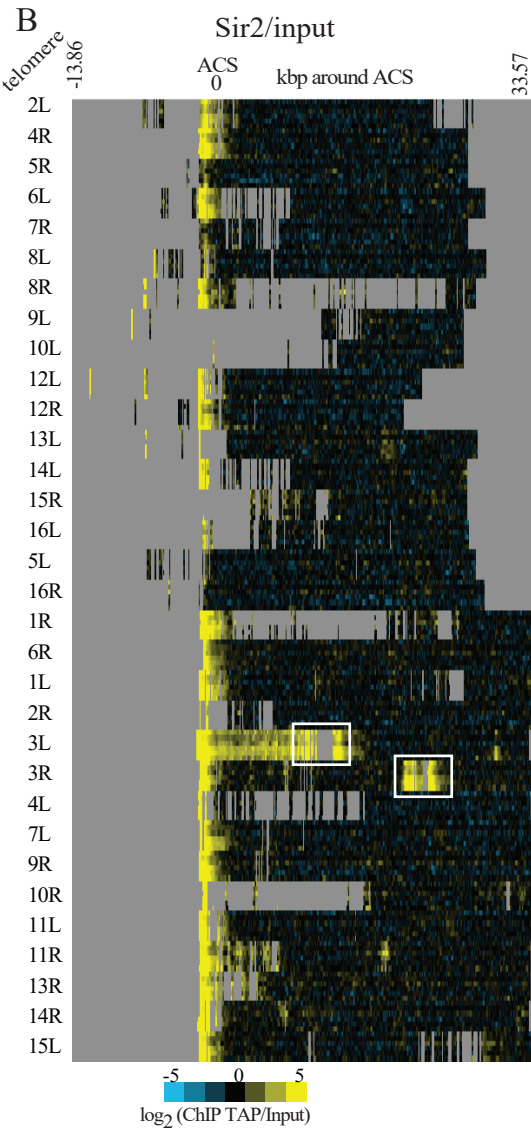
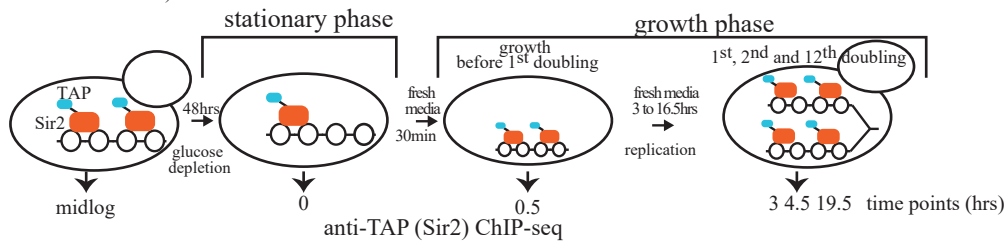


Figure 4

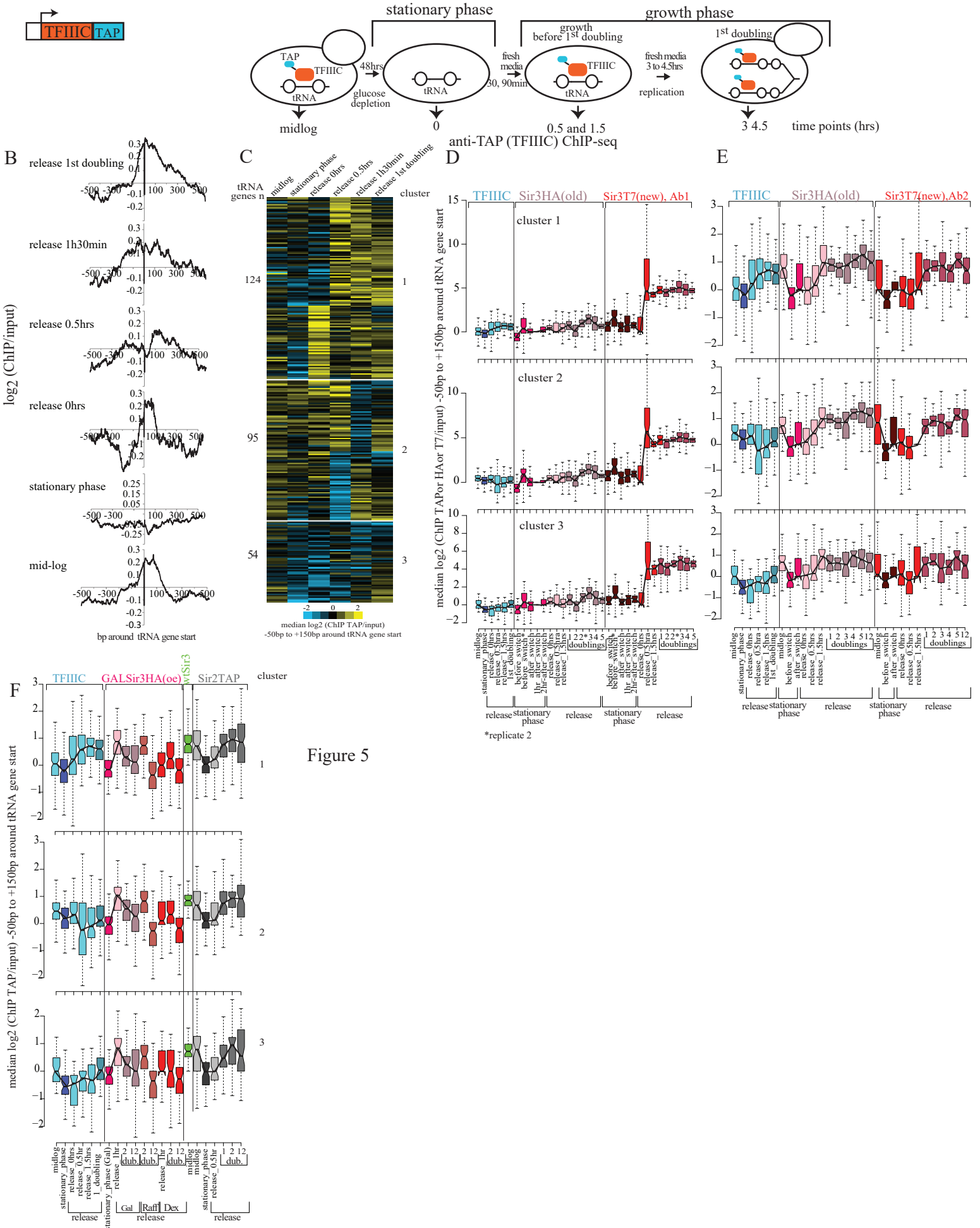


Figure 5

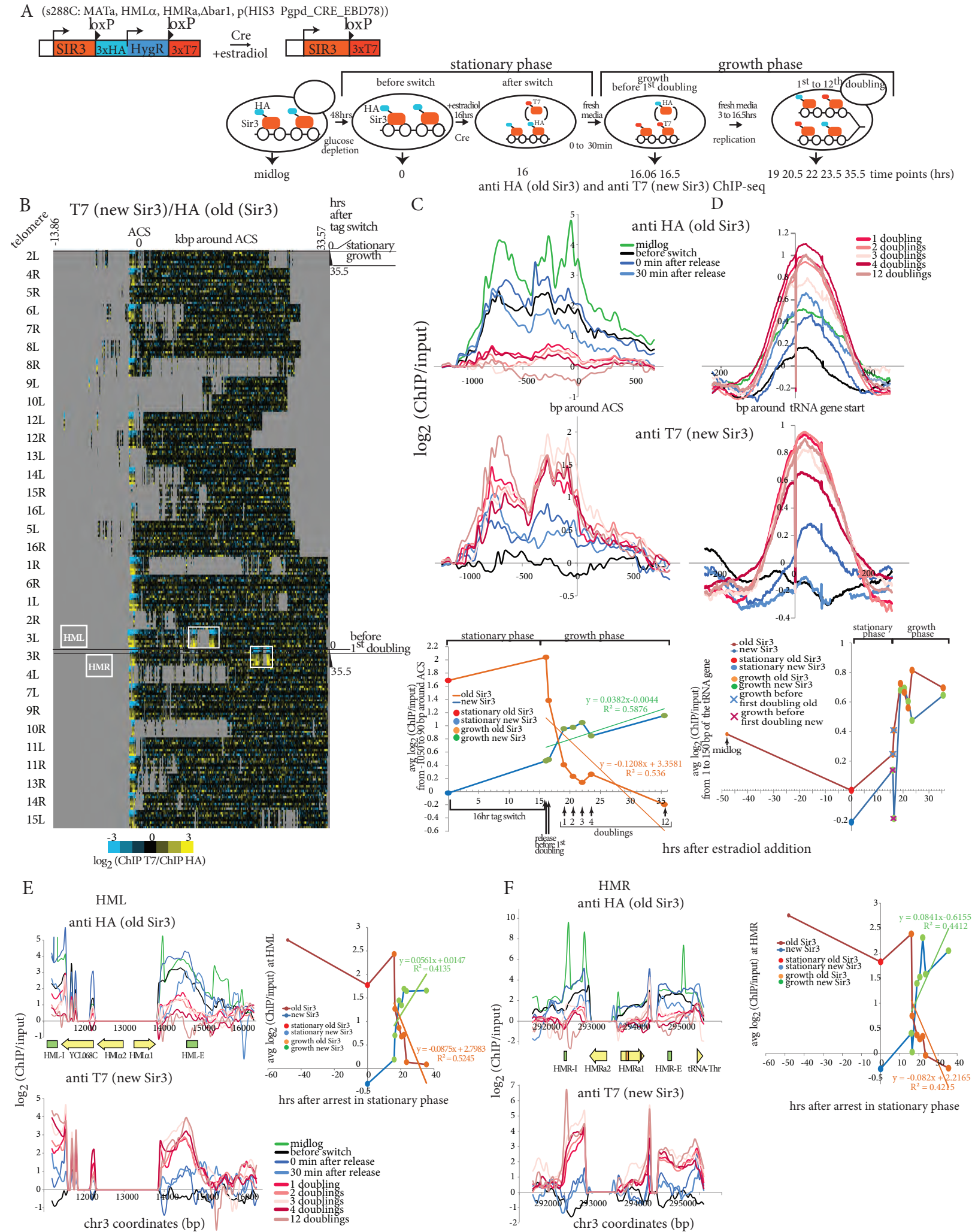


## Supplementary Figure Legends

**Figure S1:** **A.** Diagram of the Sir3 tag switch construct used in ChIP-seq experiments shown here (top left). Bottom: Experiment outline. Cells were arrested by glucose depletion before the tag switch, which is induced with estradiol addition to arrested cells (recombination efficiency :97.5%). Cells were then released from arrest with addition of fresh media and allowed to grow for one to twelve doublings (monitored by OD measurements). Cell aliquots were fixed with 1% formaldehyde for 20min at times indicated below the diagrams and anti-HA and anti-T7 (monoclonal Cell Signaling Technology, DSE1X (lot#1)) ChIPs were performed on sonicated chromatin. **B.** Heat map of new Sir3 (T7 tag) enrichment over old Sir3 (HA tag) during and after exit from quiescence, at all yeast telomeres (30kbp from chromosomes ends). Time points are aligned by the ARS Consensus Sequence (ACS) located in telomeric silencer regions i.e. Sir complex nucleation sites at telomeres. Silent mating type loci HML and HMR, on 3L and 3R, respectively, are framed with a white rectangle. Sir3 is enriched in a small 1kb region upstream of the ACS at all telomeres. Repetitive and unmapped regions are shown in grey. The HML $\alpha$  reads have been eliminated as repetitive sequences during alignment to the reference genome which is MAT $\alpha$ . **C-D.** Old (top) and new (middle) Sir3 enrichment around ACS averaged for all 32 telomeres (C) or tRNA genes averaged for all 274 genes (D) at indicated time points during the stationary and the renewed growth phases. The bottom panel shows average enrichment around the ACS (C) or tRNA genes (D) for old and new Sir3 over time. **E-F.** Old (top left) and new (bottom left) Sir3 enrichment at HML (E) and HMR (F) at indicated time points (same color code for E and F) during the stationary and the renewed growth phase. The right panel shows average enrichment over the entire silent mating type locus for old and new Sir3 over time.

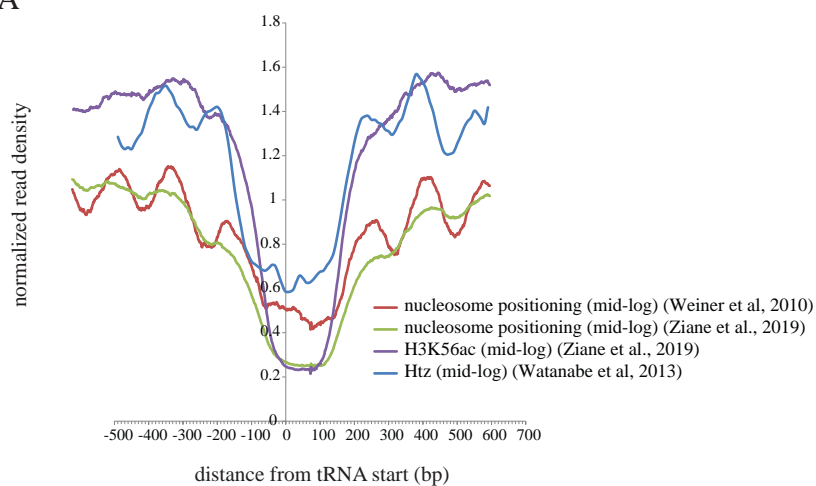
**Supplementary Figure S2: Nucleosome features at tRNA genes.** **A.** Average read density profiles for all tRNA genes from wt cells in mid-log: nucleosome positioning (red<sup>1</sup> and green<sup>2</sup>) from MNase-seq datasets; H3K56ac (purple)<sup>2</sup> and Htz ChIP-seq (blue)<sup>3</sup>. Read densities were normalized to the average genomic read density for each dataset. Watson and Crick reads were treated separately and then averaged together. Datasets for analysis were taken from the articles indicated in the figure legened. **B.** Chromatin dynamics at tRNA genes during genome replication. Read density profiles of early replicating tRNA genes (76 genes with replication timing earlier than 35min after release from G1 arrest as measured in<sup>4</sup>) in early (left) and mid S-phase (right). The datasets were taken from<sup>2</sup>. Read densities were normalized to the average genomic read density for each dataset. Only Watson reads are shown. The solid line represents a 50bp moving window average of the dotted line.

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- 4 Vasseur, P. *et al.* Dynamics of Nucleosome Positioning Maturation following Genomic Replication. *Cell Reports* **16**, 2651-2665, doi:10.1016/j.celrep.2016.07.083 (2016).



**Figure S1**

A



B

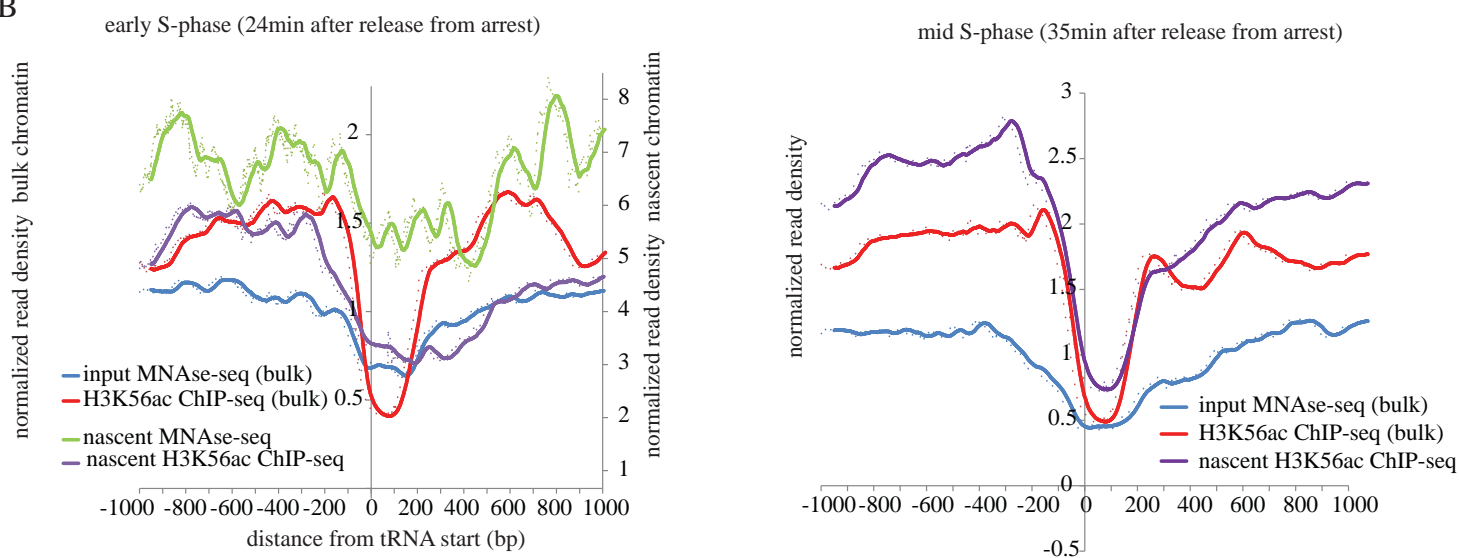


Figure S2