Two separate roles for the transcription coactivator SAGA and a set of
genes redundantly regulated by TFIID and SAGA

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Gene deletions in subunits of yeast coactivator SAGA reveal a general role in transcription linked to SAGA-regulated chromatin modifications. However, rapid SAGA depletion showed only a modest gene-specific role at 13% of expressed genes. These genes, termed "TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes", are generally more sensitive to rapid TFIID depletion than rapid SAGA depletion. Simultaneous depletion of both coactivators has a severe effect on transcription from this gene set, showing the overlapping role of both factors. The remaining 87% of expressed genes we term "TFIID-dependent" are highly sensitive to TFIID depletion and insensitive to rapid SAGA depletion. These two gene categories overlap, but have significant differences, with the previously defined "SAGA-dominated" and "TFIID-dominated" genes. Combined with earlier results, our findings suggest that the TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes can use either the TFIID or SAGA pathway for TBP-DNA loading. We also find that the gene-specific SAGA function is required for maintenance of transcription rather than activation.

Efficient in vitro transcription by RNA Pol II is initiated with six basal transcription factors (TATA binding protein (TBP), TFIIA, TFIIB, TFIIE, TFIIF, TFIIH), Pol II enzyme and TATA-containing promoter DNA. However, all cellular transcription, much of which initiates at non-TATA-containing promoters, additionally requires one or more coactivator complexes such as Mediator, TFIID, SAGA, NuA4 and Swi/Snf, that either directly contacts the basal transcription machinery and/or modifies chromatin (Allen and Taatjes, 2015; Doyon and Côté, 2004; Hahn and Young, 2011; Hantsche and Cramer, 2017; Nogales et al., 2017b; Rando and Winston, 2012; Sainsbury et al., 2015). Often recruited by transcription activators, coactivators play roles in processes such as promoter recognition, assembly of the basal factors into a functional preinitiation complex (PIC), catalysis of covalent chromatin modifications, nucleosome positioning, and stimulation of early steps in the transition from initiation to elongation. Although we know much about the structure, enzymatic functions, and protein-protein interactions for many of the above coactivators, relatively little is known about mechanisms that determine their genome-wide specificity and the molecular mechanisms of how they promote induction and maintenance of activated transcription.

The yeast coactivators SAGA and TFIID share 5 subunits (Grant et al., 1998) but are otherwise

unrelated. SAGA contains four known activities: activator binding, histone H3-acetylation,

histone H2B de ubiquitylation and relatively weak TBP binding (Han et al., 2014; Helmlinger et

al., 2011; K. K. Lee et al., 2011; Liu et al., 2019; Setiaputra et al., 2015). Because of its dual

functions in activator and TBP binding, it was proposed that SAGA assists TBP recruitment and

DNA binding, although details of this mechanism are unclear. TFIID is a large dynamic complex,

comprised of TBP and 13-14 Taf subunits, that functions in activator binding, promoter

recognition and PIC formation (Bieniossek et al., 2013; Hahn and Young, 2011; Nogales et al.,

2017a). Prior studies showed that TFIID can bind one or more short downstream metazoan

promoter elements and that it undergoes large conformational changes while positioning TBP

on DNA (Kolesnikova et al., 2018; Louder et al., 2016). CryoEM structures of human TFIID and

TFIIA-TFIID-DNA revealed that this complex seems incompatible with PIC formation (Patel et al.,

2018). Several Tafs in the DNA complex are in position to clash with TFIIF and Pol II in the PIC

and the DNA bend in the TFIIA-TFIID-DNA complex is different from that in the closed state PIC.

From this it was proposed that TFIID functions as a TBP-loading factor and that the Tafs must

either dissociate or undergo major rearrangement before PIC assembly. In this view, the final

state of TBP in functional PICs is the same, no matter which pathway was used for TBP

recruitment.

The genome-wide specificity of SAGA and TFIID have been the subject of much investigation.

Early work showed that at least some yeast genes can be activated and transcribed after

depletion or inactivation of TFIID Tafs (Kuras et al., 2000; Li et al., 2000; Moqtaderi et al., 1996;

Walker et al., 1996). Pioneering genome-wide studies later suggested that both TFIID and SAGA

contribute to steady state mRNA expression of most genes, but that expression at nearly all

yeast promoters is dominated by the dependence on either TFIID or SAGA (Huisinga and Pugh,

2004). From this study, the TFIID-dominated class represented ~ 90% of Pol II-transcribed

genes, many of which lacked a consensus TATA element, while the SAGA-dominated genes are

enriched for TATA-containing and stress-inducible genes. Formaldehyde crosslinking methods

showed that promoters from the TFIID-dominated class generally have high levels of TFIID-

subunit crosslinking while lower levels of crosslinking is often observed at the SAGA-dominated

genes (Kuras et al., 2000; Li et al., 2000; Rhee and Pugh, 2012).

Several subsequent findings challenged these initial models. First, mutations affecting genome-

wide transcription are now known to alter mRNA stability, making prior steady state mRNA

measurements used in earlier studies of TFIID and SAGA specificity problematic (Haimovich et

al., 2013; Munchel et al., 2011; Sun et al., 2012). Second, mapping SAGA-dependent chromatin

modifications showed that SAGA modifies chromatin at nearly all expressed genes, rather than

only at the SAGA-dominated subset (Bonnet et al., 2014). Third, formaldehyde-independent

mapping of SAGA and TFIID using the ChEC-seq approach identified TFIID and SAGA binding at

both gene classes (Baptista et al., 2017; Donczew et al., submitted.; Grünberg et al., 2016).

Finally, native Pol II ChIP and/or analysis of newly-synthesized mRNA found that the majority of

genes showed decreased transcription upon deletion or depletion of SAGA or TFIID subunits

(Baptista et al., 2017; Warfield et al., 2017). However, the proposal that TFIID is generally

required for transcription was recently disputed based on anchor-away depletion of the TFIID

subunit Taf1, with transcription assayed by Pol II ChIP (Petrenko et al., 2019). Analysis of the

top 10% of transcribed genes showed that many of these genes, enriched in the "SAGA-

dominated" class, were only modestly sensitive to Taf1 depletion.

Here we have investigated the discrepancies in TFIID and SAGA specificity raised by these prior

studies using 4-thioU RNA-seq to measure genome-wide transcription defects upon depletion

of SAGA and/or TFIID. This method, which measures newly synthesized RNA, has greater

sensitivity and lower background than approaches used in earlier studies and allows reliable

quantitation for ≥83% of yeast genes upon factor depletion. Using this approach, we find that

SAGA has two separable functions in gene expression: (1) a general function important for

transcription of nearly all genes that was revealed by deletions in genes encoding key SAGA

subunits and (2) a gene-specific role revealed by rapid depletion of SAGA function, where only

13% of genes are modestly affected. Surprisingly, this gene set is, on average, more sensitive to

rapid TFIID depletion. These and other results suggest that TFIID and SAGA function is

substantially redundant at this set of co-regulated genes, we term "TFIID/SAGA-redundant"

rather than "SAGA-dominated" or "Taf-independent" as previously proposed. The other 87% of

yeast genes, we term "TFIID-dependent" are very sensitive to rapid TFIID depletion but show

little or no change upon rapid SAGA depletion. Finally, at the coactivator-redundant genes, we

find that SAGA plays a significant role in maintenance of ongoing transcription rather than

activation per se.

Results

SAGA has two separate roles in transcription

To investigate the basis for conflicting reports on the genome-wide roles of SAGA and TFIID, we

used 4-thioU RNA-seq to quantitate transcriptional changes that are caused by various SAGA

depletion strategies. Yeast were grown in synthetic or rich glucose media and RNAs labeled for

5 min, followed by purification of the labeled RNA and quantitation by sequencing. This method

has much higher sensitivity and lower background compared with Pol II ChIP and allows

reproducible quantitation of newly-synthesized mRNA from ≥83% of Pol II-transcribed genes as

detailed in Materials and methods. Experiments, except where noted, were performed in

triplicate and there was low variation across the set of analyzed genes (**Fig S1A,B**).

We first examined genome-wide transcription changes caused by deletions in the SAGA

subunits: *spt3Δ*, *spt7Δ*, or *spt20Δ* or by rapid depletion of several SAGA subunits using the

auxin-degron system (Nishimura et al., 2009). The degron strains were designed to allow

simultaneous depletion of two SAGA subunits, either Spt3 + Spt7 or Spt3 + Spt20. Spt3 can bind

TBP while Spt7 and Spt20 are important for the integrity of SAGA (Han et al., 2014; K. K. Lee et

al., 2011; Liu et al., 2019; Sterner et al., 1999). The degron-depletion approach was also applied

to the individual TFIID subunits Taf1, Taf7 and Taf13 that are located in different TFIID lobes

(Patel et al., 2018; Warfield et al., 2017) . Protein degradation was induced by adding the auxin

3-IAA for 30 min, after which time, ≤10% of protein remained (**Fig S2A, B**). **Fig 1A** shows a

striking difference in genome-wide transcription defects when comparing rapid inactivation of

SAGA, a strain containing an *SPT3* deletion, or rapid inactivation of Taf13 (also **Table S1, S2**). For

example, the *spt3∆* strain showed strong genome-wide transcription defects for nearly all

genes while degron-induced inactivation of Spt3 + Spt20 caused only modest defects at a small

subset of genes. The strong decrease in genome-wide transcription in *SPT* deletion strains is in

good agreement with prior results obtained using dynamic transcriptome analysis (DTA) and 4-

thioU-labeled RNA (Baptista et al., 2017). Rapid depletion of Taf13, a key TBP-interacting

subunit located in TFIID lobe A, caused strong genome-wide transcription defects at most genes

as previously observed using native Pol II ChIP (Warfield et al., 2017).

To determine whether subsets of genes are differentially affected by any of these depletion

strategies, the log$_2$ change in transcription values from the SAGA deletion strains and TFIID-

degron strains were clustered by k-means algorithm with the results shown in **Fig 1B** and **Table**

S3. Grouping into two clusters showed two sets of genes that respond differently to TFIID or

SAGA depletion. The clustering was very robust as we obtained >95% overlap in gene categories

when we clustered using results from the SAGA-degron strains instead of the *SPT* deletion

strains. The largest cluster, we term "TFIID-dependent genes" (see reasoning below), contains

87% of analyzed genes (4245 genes) and is most sensitive to TFIID depletion. These genes show

a ~4.5-fold average decrease in transcription upon depletion of ether Taf13, Taf7 or Taf1 (**Fig**

1B, orange boxes, lanes 7-10). Results for the Taf13-degron are very similar when cells are

grown in either synthetic complete (SC) or rich (YPD) glucose media with excellent correlations

between Taf1, 7 and 13 depletions (**Fig S1C**). This large gene set was also sensitive to gene

deletions in SAGA subunits with genome-wide transcription decreased by an average of ~2.7-

fold in the *spt3∆* strain with lesser but significant defects observed in the *spt7∆* and *spt20∆*

strains (**Fig 1B**, orange boxes, lanes 4-6). However, expression of nearly all genes in the "TFIID-

dependent" set showed little or no change upon rapid SAGA subunit depletion using the

Spt3+20 and Spt3+7 degron strains (**Fig 1B,** orange boxes, lanes 1-3).

The smaller gene set, that we term "TFIID/SAGA-redundant", contains 13% of analyzed genes

(655 genes) and these genes are more sensitive to deletions in SAGA subunits compared to

rapid TFIID depletion. Expression changes for these genes resulting from *SPT* deletions ranged

from ~3-4-fold (**Fig 1B**, blue boxes, lanes 4-6). In surprising contrast to the *SPT* deletion strains,

the TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes showed only modest transcription defects upon rapid SAGA

depletion (**Fig 1B**, blue boxes, lanes 1-3). The strongest average defect was caused by the

Spt3+Spt20 degron, with an average transcription change of ~1.6-fold. Combined, our results

show that there is a fundamental difference between cell growth for many generations in the

absence of SAGA vs rapid depletion of SAGA function. Surprisingly, quantitation of transcription

defects caused by rapid TFIID depletion vs rapid SAGA depletion showed that the TFIID/SAGA-

redundant genes are, on average, more sensitive to rapid depletion of TFIID (**Fig 1B**, blue boxes,

lanes 7-10). For example, we observed a ~2-fold average decrease in transcription in the Taf13-

degron vs ~1.6-fold decrease in the Spt3+20 degron.

The results above show that transcription of the TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes is not dominated

by either coactivator and suggests that TFIID and SAGA function is at least partially redundant

at this set of genes. To quantitate the extent of TFIID and SAGA redundancy at all genes, we

rapidly depleted both TFIID and SAGA using Taf13 + Spt3 and Taf13 + Spt7 double degron

strains. We found that simultaneous TFIID and SAGA depletion causes a severe defect in the

TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes with an average decrease of ~ 5.7-fold (**Fig 2A**, blue boxes, lanes

4-5); **Fig 2B** left panel, **Table S4**). For nearly all these genes, the transcription defect is greater

than simply the sum of the defects observed in the Taf13-degron and Spt3+20-degron (**Fig 2C**),

showing that there is substantial redundancy in the ability of TFIID and SAGA to promote

transcription of these genes. In contrast, the TFIID-dependent genes show, on average, no

additional defects in the double degron strains compared with the Taf13-degron (**Fig 2A**,

orange boxes, lanes 3-5); **Fig 2B** right panel, **Table S4**).

Differences between "TFIID/SAGA-redundant" genes and "SAGA-dominated" genes

Our "TFIID-dependent" and "TFIID/SAGA-redundant" gene sets overlap with the categories

previously defined: "TFIID-dominated" and "SAGA-dominated" (Huisinga and Pugh, 2004),

however, there are significant differences. Our TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes (655 genes)

contain 2/3 of the "SAGA-dominated" gene set (273 genes) plus an additional 311 genes that

were originally characterized as "TFIID-dominated" (**Fig S3A**). Therefore, our coactivator-

redundant gene set is over 50% different from the "SAGA-dominated" gene set. There are

corresponding differences in the "TFIID-dependent" vs "TFIID-dominated" gene set. We suspect

that these differences are mainly due to technical issues such as measurement of newly-

synthesized vs steady state mRNA and the greater sensitivity and depth of the 4-thioU RNA-seq

data compared with the microarray data used in the original analysis. These new results differ

from our prior Pol II ChIP experiments that did not detect gene-specific Taf requirements

(Warfield et al., 2017). However, it was recently suggested that this may be due to background

issues with Pol II ChIP data (e.g., stalled or paused Pols) and that Pol II ChIP is best used for

quantitation of changes in highly expressed genes (Petrenko et al., 2019). This explanation is

consistent with our new findings.

Importantly, our reclassification of many genes affects the interpretation of published studies

examining coactivator function and specificity that relied on the "SAGA-dominated" and "TFIID-

dominated" gene lists. For example, our prior collaborative study measured gene expression

defects upon rapid depletion of SAGA subunit Spt7 by anchor away (Baptista et al., 2017).

These results showed that expression of genes in both the "SAGA-dominated" and "TFIID-

dominated" gene categories are sensitive to rapid SAGA inactivation, in apparent contrast to

the SAGA-degron results reported here. However, comparing the specific genes tested in this

earlier work with our revised gene categories shows that 4/6 of the "TFIID-dominated" genes

assayed by Spt7 anchor away are in fact in the new TFIID/SAGA-redundant gene class and are

expected to be sensitive to rapid SAGA depletion. Therefore, the Spt7 anchor away results from

the earlier study are largely consistent with our current findings.

Features of the TFIID-dependent and TFIID/SAGA-redundant gene classes

When genes are sorted by transcription levels, determined by the amount of 4-thioU

incorporated in 5 min, the ratio of TFIID/SAGA to TFIID genes is relatively similar across most

genes, except for the most highly expressed (**Fig 3A, Fig S3B**). The bottom four expression

quintiles have a relatively constant ratio of ~10%, but the fraction of genes in the TFIID/SAGA

category increases to ~30% in the top quintile and ~44% in the top 10% of expressed genes. The

fraction of these genes increases even more dramatically when examining only the most highly

expressed genes. Yeast Pol II transcription is dominated by a small number of very highly

transcribed genes: the top 2% of expressed genes accounts for ~22% of total transcription (**Fig**

3B; Fig S3C; Table S1). As an example of the coactivator bias in the exceptionally highly

transcribed genes, of the top 50 expressed genes (expression >195 in Fig 3B), 47 (94%) are in

the coactivator-redundant category (**Table S3**).

Since genes in the TFIID/SAGA-redundant gene class are enriched in highly expressed genes, we

asked whether the sensitivity of individual genes in this set to rapid TFIID or SAGA depletion

varies with expression. For example, are highly expressed genes more sensitive to rapid SAGA

depletion vs TFIID depletion? **Fig 3C** shows a plot of the difference in sensitivity of genes to

rapid Taf13 and Spt3+7 depletion vs gene expression rank. From this plot, it is apparent that

most (68%) of the coactivator-redundant genes are more sensitive to Taf13-depletion

compared with rapid SAGA depletion (mean difference -0.49). This ratio changes slightly when

considering only the top 100 expressed genes where 49% show stronger TFIID vs SAGA-

dependence (mean difference -0.07). Combined, our analysis shows that the relative ratio of

TFIID vs SAGA-dependence of this gene set is not a barrier to very high levels of transcription.

It was previously noted that the "SAGA-dominated" genes are enriched for TATA-containing

promoters (Huisinga and Pugh, 2004), and the gene classes "SAGA-dominated" and "TATA-

containing" are often equated in the literature (TATA was defined as TATAWAWR; (Basehoar et

al., 2004)). To investigate this, we used the list of TATA-like elements defined in (Rhee and

Pugh, 2012) obtained from the YeasTSS database (www.yeastss.org), extracted the sequences

of all annotated TATA-elements and reclassified promoters as TATA-containing/TATA-less based

on the 7 nt consensus (TATAWAW). Although TATA-containing promoters are enriched, the

TFIID/SAGA-redundant class is clearly not equivalent to TATA-containing genes (**Fig 3D**) as there

are about equal numbers of genes from both classes that contain TATA and about equal

numbers of TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes that were classified as TATA or TATA-less.

The 136 ribosomal protein (RP) genes have sometimes been analyzed as a distinct category of

highly expressed and especially TFIID-dependent genes. From analysis of our new data, we did

not find that these genes are obviously distinct from many other genes based on TFIID or SAGA-

dependence. Although 95% of the RP genes belong to the TFIID-dependent category they show

comparable transcription defects as the rest of the TFIID-dependent genes. However, RP genes

are clearly more highly expressed than the average gene, with 83% of the RP genes in

expression quintile 5 (**Fig S4**). K-means clustering, based on TFIID and SAGA-dependence, with

up to 6 clusters, did not segregate the RP genes into a distinct category. Alternative methods

we applied (hierarchical and spectral clustering) also did not separate RP genes into a distinct

category. This analysis shows that RP genes have TFIID and SAGA-dependence similar to many

other genes. There can be good biological reasons to examine properties of RP genes as a

separate category since they are regulated coordinately in response to several signaling

pathways and this regulation is key for proper cellular growth and stress response. However,

they do not seem exceptional in regard to TFIID and SAGA-dependence.

SAGA-regulated chromatin modifications change little during rapid SAGA inactivation

We next investigated the basis for the difference in gene expression changes caused by the

SAGA deletion vs degron strains. SAGA was proposed to function through direct protein-protein

interactions to assist with TBP recruitment and PIC formation as well as through chromatin

changes mediated by Gcn5 and Ubp8 (Koutelou et al., 2010; Laprade et al., 2007; Mohibullah

and Hahn, 2008; Rodriguez-Navarro, 2009; Sermwittayawong and Tan, 2006). One possibility is

that transcription defects caused by rapid depletion are primarily mediated by disruption of key

protein-protein interactions, while the long-term effects of the *SPT* deletions are mediated in

part through changes in chromatin modifications.

To test this model, we measured SAGA-regulated chromatin changes (Daniel et al., 2004; Henry

et al., 2003; Morris et al., 2007) at times up to 2 hours after auxin addition to the Spt3+7 and

Spt3+20 degron strains. Western blot analyses of whole cell extracts showed that the *spt3Δ,*

spt20∆ and *spt7∆* strains all had lower levels of the SAGA-regulated marks H3K18-acetyl and

H2B-Ub, ranging from 12-38% of normal (**Fig 4A**). Higher levels of H2B-Ub are observed upon

deletion of SAGA subunit Ubp8, the H2B deubiquitinase, but the lower levels of H2B-Ub

observed in the *SPT* deletion strains are unexpected. However, these strains all show lower

levels of genome-wide transcription and the deposition of the H2B-Ub mark is transcription-

dependent (Weake and Workman, 2008), providing a likely explanation for the lower levels.

Consistent with the suggestion that defects in SAGA-regulated chromatin modifications lead to

widespread transcription changes, it was reported that a strain with deletions in both *UPB8* and

GCN5 has widespread defects in genome-wide transcription (Baptista et al., 2017). Importantly,

neither chromatin mark consistently changes more than ~10% after up to two hours post auxin

addition to the Spt3 + 20 and Spt3 + 7 double degron strains (**Fig 4B**). From these combined

results, we suggest that defects in SAGA-regulated chromatin modifications caused by the *SPT*

deletions are a major contributor to the genome-wide decrease in transcription observed at

nearly all genes. Since these chromatin modifications change little after 30 min of Auxin

treatment in the SAGA-degron strains, we propose that transcription changes caused by degron

depletion of SAGA (30 min) are most likely due to disrupting direct protein-protein interactions

between SAGA and other factors.

Rapid SAGA depletion primarily affects maintenance of ongoing transcription rather than

gene activation by Gcn4

Prior work showed that SAGA subunit deletion strains are defective in transcription activation

at some genes (Bhaumik and Green, 2001; Dudley et al., 1999; Mohibullah and Hahn, 2008). To

extend this work, we asked whether rapid SAGA depletion led to defects in activation of

transcription and/or in maintenance of activated and ongoing transcription. Strains were grown

in synthetic glucose media and RNA labeled for 5 min with 4-thioU followed by RT qPCR analysis

of newly-synthesized mRNA. Transcription was first measured in either the *spt3∆* or *spt7∆*

strains before or after addition of sulfometuron methyl (SM), which induces amino acid

starvation and induction of Gcn4-dependent genes (**Fig 5A; Fig S5**). Transcription was measured

at three TFIID-dependent genes (*ACT1, RPS5, SSH1*) that are not Gcn4 targets and three

TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes that are direct Gcn4 targets (*ARG3, HIS4, ARG5*). Compared with a

wild type strain, the SAGA deletion strains had lower expression levels at all three TFIID-

dependent genes and these genes showed little or no SM induction as expected. At the three

Gcn4 target genes, uninduced transcription was decreased compared with WT and the

response to SM was dependent on the *SPT* deletion. Although the levels of both uninduced and

activated transcription were reduced in the *spt7Δ* strain, the three Gcn4-dependent genes

showed some activation (light grey vs dark grey bars), while activation was eliminated in the

spt3Δ strain (light orange vs dark orange bars).

To determine the consequence of rapid SAGA depletion before transcription was induced, cells

containing the Spt3 + Spt7 double degrons were first treated with IAA for 30 min to deplete

these proteins and then induced with SM for 60 min. This treatment still allowed for normal

fold-activation upon subsequent SM addition (**Fig 5B** (light orange vs dark orange bars)). In

contrast, IAA added to already SM-induced cells reduced Gcn4-dependent transcription

between 1.7 and 2.6-fold (light vs dark grey bars). Combined, our results show that, for Gcn4-

dependent gene activation, SAGA is most important for maintenance of ongoing transcription

rather than necessary for gene activation per se.

TFIID and SAGA map to both TFIID-dependent and coactivator-redundant genes

As discussed above, there has been disagreement in prior work as to the location and amount

of TFIID binding to different gene classes. Formaldehyde-based crosslinking showed that Tafs

are generally depleted at the "SAGA-dominated" genes compared with the "TFIID-dominated

genes", while MNase-based ChEC showed similar binding to both gene classes. We revisited this

question using our revised gene lists, a modified ChEC-seq method, and higher stringency

criteria to map genome-wide binding of these two coactivators (Donczew et al., submitted.;

Tourigny et al., 2018). We found widespread promoter binding and ≥86% overlap in genes

bound by both these factors when comparing ChEC signals from Taf7 and Spt7-MNase fusions

(**Fig 6A**).

Further analysis of this data showed little or no preference for binding of these factors to either

promoter class (**Fig 6B**). Taf13, Taf7, Taf1, and Spt7 MNase fusions all gave similar ratios of

binding to each promoter type. The exception is the Spt3-MNase fusion that detected binding

at fewer TFIID-dependent promoters compared with the other MNase fusions. However, since

Spt3 is not known to be in any complex other than SAGA, we think it likely that this difference is

due to different DNA accessibility and/or the architecture of SAGA and other factors at the two

promoter types. Taken together, the widespread mapping of TFIID and SAGA at both promoter

types is consistent with SAGA and TFIID acting at nearly all genes.

Discussion

Here we have investigated the genome-wide and gene-specific roles for the coactivators SAGA

and TFIID. Several prior studies suggested that, while TFIID and SAGA make genome-wide

contributions, transcription at nearly all genes is dominated by one or the other factor and that

many highly-expressed genes show only modest TFIID-dependence (Huisinga and Pugh, 2004;

Petrenko et al., 2019). This view seemingly conflicts with other studies where TFIID and SAGA

were found to have major genome-wide roles at most genes (Baptista et al., 2017; Bonnet et

al., 2014; Warfield et al., 2017). Our new results bring together many of these findings and

provide a new mechanistic explanation for many of the genes that show significant Taf-

independent expression: TFIID and SAGA function is substantially redundant at these genes,

with WT expression levels promoted by both coactivators.

Rapid subunit depletion revealed two classes of genes with different dependencies on TFIID and

SAGA. The first class, termed TFIID-dependent genes, contains 87% of analyzed genes and

shows strong transcription dependence on TFIID but little or no change in response to rapid

depletion of SAGA. The second class, termed TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes (coactivator-

redundant), contains 13% of analyzed genes and shows modest transcription decreases in

response to rapid depletion of either TFIID or SAGA. Importantly, simultaneous depletion of

TFIID and SAGA leads to a severe transcription defect at the TFIID/SAGA genes. This latter result

is consistent with prior observations that the combination of SAGA and TFIID subunit mutations

results in greater transcription defects compared with either single mutation (Huisinga and

Pugh, 2004; T. I. Lee et al., 2000). Together, our results demonstrate that TFIID and SAGA have

partially redundant function at the TFIID/SAGA genes and, as described more fully below, we

envision that these genes can use either the TFIID or SAGA pathways to promote TBP binding

(**Fig 7**).

We also found that expression of nearly all genes is dependent on another function of SAGA

that is revealed in cells that have grown many generations without SAGA. Our results link this

genome-wide role to SAGA-regulated chromatin modifications - marks that are slow to change

upon rapid SAGA subunit depletion. Indirect effects, such as decreased expression of general

regulatory factors and components of the basal Pol II machinery, etc., likely also contribute to

lower genome-wide expression in the deletion strains. The two roles of SAGA seem additive,

which readily explains why the TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes are more sensitive to *SPT*

deletions compared to the TFIID-dependent genes. We propose that the coactivator-redundant

genes require both SAGA functions while the TFIID-dependent genes are primarily dependent

only on the SAGA-regulated chromatin modifications.

Yeast cellular transcription is dominated by a small number of exceptionally highly expressed

genes and it was proposed that highly expressed genes are biased for Taf-independent

expression (Petrenko et al., 2019). We do find that the TFIID/SAGA genes, while spread

throughout the range of expressed genes, are enriched in the top 10% of genes. However,

analysis of the ratio of SAGA-dependence/Taf-dependence shows that, within this entire gene

class, there is no obvious relationship between coactivator sensitivity and gene expression. In

fact, this analysis shows that most genes in the coactivator-redundant gene class show more

dependence on TFIID compared with SAGA.

Results from mapping the genome-wide locations of TFIID using a modified ChEC-seq method

are consistent with our findings that TFIID functions at both the TFIID-dependent and

TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes. We observe no bias in promoter type bound by TFIID or in the

ChEC-seq DNA cleavage patterns when comparing the two gene sets. Likewise, SAGA maps to

genes in both categories, consistent with its broad function at essentially all genes. In contrast,

prior studies have observed a bias in Taf-promoter binding using formaldehyde crosslinking. At

this time, the reason for this discrepancy is unknown, although we previously speculated that

the observed bias in proximity of TFIID to nucleosomes at TFIID-dependent genes (Rhee and

Pugh, 2012) may play a role in Taf-DNA crosslinking efficiency (Warfield et al., 2017).

From the above results, it is clear that the TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes are dependent on both

coactivators rather than expression being dominated by SAGA as proposed earlier; when one

coactivator is eliminated, the other can at least partially compensate. What is the mechanistic

basis for this behavior? Prior work suggests that both factors have overlapping functions in TBP

recruitment: TFIID clearly functions in TBP recruitment and SAGA has been proposed to have

this same function based on its TBP-binding and genetic interactions with TBP. Based on earlier

studies, we propose that the TFIID-dependent genes require Tafs for promoter recognition and

TBP-DNA loading. Most of these genes do not have a consensus TATA and therefore require

TFIID to properly position TBP at the site of PIC formation. We envision that the coactivator-

redundant genes can either load TBP using this same TFIID pathway or alternatively recruit TBP

more directly, taking advantage of: (1) specific TBP-TATA interactions and (2) direct TBP

interactions with other TBP-compatible DNA binding motifs. This model explains the surprising

viability of strains with TBP mutations that are defective in TATA-DNA binding (Kamenova et al.,

2014). These TBP mutants are predicted to be defective in the SAGA-mediated TBP loading

pathway but still function in the TFIID-dependent pathway. We note that these two gene

categories do not perfectly correlate with the presence or absence of TATA. It has been shown,

however, that the TATA consensus sequence does not perfectly correlate with function and

that sequences surrounding TATA are also important (Donczew and Hahn, 2018; Sprouse et al.,

2008)

The mechanistic role of SAGA in TBP recruitment and DNA loading is unclear as it has not been

demonstrated that SAGA directly assists TBP-DNA loading in an in vitro system. In any case,

based on the recent modeling of human TFIID-DNA and PICs (Patel et al., 2018), we propose

that the final state of the TBP-containing PIC is the same irrespective of the pathway used to

initiate TBP binding. In future studies, it will be very informative to isolate and compare

functional PICs formed using either pathway to test this prediction. Typically, only a small

fraction of PICs assembled in vitro are active, so this experiment has not yet been possible. A

transcription-dependent shift in Taf positioning has been recently observed and perhaps this

represents rearrangement of Tafs necessary for transcription initiation (Joo et al., 2017).

Finally, we found that rapid depletion of SAGA, primarily decreases ongoing and already

activated transcription at the TFIID/SAGA-redundant genes. In contrast, rapid depletion does

not affect activation per se at three Gcn4-dependent genes. This result is surprising, since it was

shown earlier that *SPT* deletion strains have defects in gene activation (Bhaumik and Green,

2001; Dudley et al., 1999). However, we now know that these strains are defective in both

functions of SAGA, unlike our rapid depletion experiments. Gene activation requires both a

permissive chromatin environment and efficient recruitment of TBP and other PIC components.

The activation process seems largely unaffected after rapid SAGA depletion, based on near-

normal ratios of induced/uninduced transcription of Gcn4-dependent genes. However, we did

find that rapid SAGA depletion reduced levels of ongoing and activated transcription at the

coactivator-redundant genes. Ongoing transcription, especially at highly expressed genes, likely

involves both transcription bursts and efficient transcription reinitiation. It is possible that SAGA

affects one or both of these processes and it will be of interest to probe for defects in these

steps in cells after rapid SAGA depletion.

Materials and methods

Strain Construction

S. cerevisiae and *S. pombe* strains were constructed using standard yeast methods. Proteins

were chromosomally tagged by high efficiency yeast transformation and homologous

recombination of PCR-amplified DNA. Plasmid pFA6a-3V5-IAA7-KanMX6 (Chan et al., 2018) was

used as the template for generating the IAA7 degron tags. This C-terminal tag contains three

copies of the V5 epitope tag followed by the IAA7 degron (32 kDa total).

Yeast Cell Growth

S. cerevisiae strains were grown in rich media (YPD) or synthetic media (glucose complete -Ile -

Val) as indicated and *S. pombe* strains were grown in YE media (0.5% yeast extract, 3% glucose).

S. cerevisiae strains at an A600 of ~ 1.0 were treated with 500 µM 3-IAA (or with DMSO) for 30

minutes, and with 0.5 µg/ml SM (or DMSO) for 60 minutes as described in the text and figure

legends, prior to RNA labeling.

RNA Labeling and mRNA purification for RT-qPCR

Newly synthesized RNAs were labeled as previously described (Bonnet et al., 2014). 10 ml *S.*

cerevisiae or 20 ml *S. pombe* cells were labeled with 5 mM 4-thiouracil (Sigma-Aldrich) for 5

minutes, the cells were pelleted at 3000 xg for 2 minutes, flash-frozen in liquid N_2, and then

stored at -80 deg C until further use. *S. cerevisiae* and *S. pombe* cells were mixed in an 8:1 ratio

and total RNA was extracted using the RiboPure yeast kit (Ambion, Life Technologies) using the

following volumes: 480 µl lysis buffer, 48 µl 10% SDS, 480 µl phenol:$CHCl_3$:IAA (25:24:1) per *S.*

cerevisiae pellet + 50 µl *S. pombe* (from a single *S. pombe* pellet resuspended in 850 µl lysis

buffer). Cells were lysed using 1.25 ml zirconia beads in a Mini Beadbeater-96 (BioSpec

Products) for 3 min followed by 1 min rest on ice. This bead beading cycle was repeated twice

for a total of 3 times. Lysates were spun for 5 min at 16K xg, then the following volumes

combined in a 5 ml tube: 400 µl supernatant, 1400 µl binding buffer, 940 µl 100% ethanol.

Samples were processed through the Ambion filter cartridges until all sample was loaded, then

washed with 700 µl Wash Solution 1, and twice with 500 µl Wash Solution 2/3. After a final spin

to remove residual ethanol, RNA was eluted with 25 µl 95°C preheated Elution Solution. The

elution step was repeated, and eluates combined. RNA was then treated with DNaseI using 6 µl

DNaseI buffer and 4 µl DNaseI for 30 min at 37 deg C, then treated with Inactivation Reagent

for 5 min at RT. RNA was then biotinylated essentially as described (Duffy et al., 2015; Duffy and

Simon, 2016) using 40 µl (~40 µg) total RNA and 4 µg MTSEA biotin-XX (Biotium) in the

following reaction: 40 µl total 4-thioU-labeled RNA, 20 mM HEPES, 1 mM EDTA, 4 µg MTSEA

biotin-XX (80 µl 50 µg/ml diluted stock) in a 400 µl final volume. Biotinylation reactions

occurred for 30 min at RT with rotation and under foil. Unreacted MTS-biotin was removed by

phenol/CHCl$_3$/IAA extraction. RNA was precipitated with isopropanol and resuspended in 100 µl

nuclease-free H$_2$O. Biotinylated RNA was purified also as described (Duffy and Simon, 2016)

using 80 µl MyOne Streptavidin C1 Dynabeads (Invitrogen) + 100 µl biotinylated RNA for 15 min

at RT with rotation and under foil.   Prior to use, MyOne Streptavidin beads were washed in a

single batch with 3X 3 ml H$_2$O, 3X 3 ml High Salt Wash Buffer (100 mM Tris, 7.4, 10 mM EDTA, 1

M NaCl, 0.05% Tween-20), blocked in 4 ml High Salt Wash Buffer containing 40 ng/µl glycogen

for 1 hour at RT, then resuspended to the original volume in High Salt Wash Buffer. After

incubation with biotinylated RNA, the beads were washed 3X 0.8 ml High Salt Wash Buffer,

then eluted into 25 µl streptavidin elution buffer (100 mM DTT, 20 mM HEPES 7.4, 1 mM EDTA,

100 mM NaCl, 0.05% Tween-20) at RT with shaking, then the elution step repeated and

combined for a total of 50 µl. At this point, 10% input RNA (4 µl) was diluted into 50 µl

streptavidin elution buffer and processed the same as the labeled RNA samples to determine

the extent of recovery. 50 µl each input and purified RNA was adjusted to 100 µl with nuclease-

free water and purified on RNeasy columns (Qiagen) using the modified protocol as described

(Duffy and Simon, 2016). To each 100 µl sample, 350 µl RLT (supplemented with 10 µl 1%   ME

per 1 ml RLT) and 250 µl 100% ethanol was added, mixed well, and applied to columns.

Columns were washed with 500 µl RPE (supplemented 35 µl 1%   ME per 500 µl RPE), followed

by a final 5 min spin at max speed. RNAs were eluted into 14 µl nuclease-free water.

cDNA Synthesis and Quantitative PCR of newly-synthesized RNA

Two microliters RNA was used to generate cDNA using Transcriptor (Roche), random hexamer

primer, and the manufacturer's instructions. cDNA was used either undiluted, 1/20, or 1/100

for quantitative PCR (qPCR) depending on the gene analyzed. Gene-specific qPCR was

performed in triplicate using primers near the 5' end of the gene. qPCRs were assembled in 5 μl

reaction mixtures in a 384-well plate using 2X Power SYBR green master mix (Thermo Fisher

Scientific) and reactions were run on the QuantStudio5 Real-Time System (Thermo Fisher

Scientific). Relative amounts of DNA were calculated using a standard curve generated from 10-

fold serial dilutions of purified genomic DNA ranging from 10 ng to 0.001 ng. Relative amounts

of *S. cerevisiae* transcript were normalized to *S. pombe* tubulin transcripts. All values are

expressed relative to that of either wild type +SM or the Spt3/7-deg +SM strain, which were set

to 1.0. Each experiment was performed in two biological replicates (cultures collected on

separate days) and three technical replicates (independent measurements of the same qPCR

sample). Values for technical replicates were averaged which gave a single value for each

biological replicate. The final result is a mean of biological replicates.

Preparation of 4ThioU RNA Libraries for NGS

Newly synthesized RNA isolated via 4-thioU labeling and purification was prepared for

sequencing using the Ovation SoLo or Ovation Universal RNA-seq System kits (Tecan) according

to the manufacturer's instructions and 1 ng (SoLo) or 50 ng (Universal) input RNA. Libraries

were sequenced on the Illumina HiSeq2500 platform using 25 bp paired-ends at the Fred

Hutchinson Genomics Shared Resources facility.

ChEC-seq experiments and library preparation

ChEC-seq experiments were performed in four replicates as described (Donczew et al.,

submitted.). Libraries were prepared as described (Donczew et al., submitted) and sequenced

on the Illumina HiSeq2500 platform using 25 bp paired-ends at the Fred Hutchinson Genomics

Shared Resources facility.

Western Blot Analysis

1 ml cell culture was collected and pelleted from strains after treatment with 3IAA or DMSO,

washed with 500 µl water, then resuspended in 75 µl yeast whole cell extract buffer. After

heating for 5 min at 95 deg, samples were centrifuged for 5 min at max speed, whole cell

extracts were separated by SDS-PAGE and analyzed by Western blot using mouse monoclonal

or rabbit polyclonal antibodies. Protein signals were visualized by using the Odyssey CLx

scanner and quantified using Odyssey Image Studio software (Li-Cor) by generating a standard

curve using a titration from WT extract. Each protein analyzed was normalized to the amount of

the TFIIF subunit Tfg2. H2B-Ub was probed with antibody 5546 (Cell Signaling Technology) and

H3K18-Ac with antibody 07-354 from EMD Millipore.

Analysis of RNA-Seq Data

The majority of the data analysis tasks except sequence alignment and reads counting

(described below) was performed through interactive work in the Jupyter Notebook

(https://jupyter.org) using Python programming language (https://www.python.org) and short

Bash scripts. All figures were generated using Matplotlib and Seaborn libraries for Python

((Hunter, 2007); https://matplotlib.org; https://seaborn.pydata.org). All code snippets and

whole notebooks are available upon request.

Paired-end sequencing reads were aligned to *S. cerevisiae* reference genome (sacCer3) and *S.*

pombe reference genome (ASM294v2.20) with Bowtie2 (Langmead and Salzberg, 2012) using

optional arguments "-I 10 -X 700 --local --very-sensitive-local --no-unal --no-mixed --no-

discordant". The resulting SAM files for S. cerevisiae data were used as an input for HTseq-

count (Anders et al., 2015) with default settings. The GFF file with *S. cerevisiae* genomic

features was downloaded from the Ensembl website (assembly R64-1-1). Signal per gene was

normalized by the number of all *S. pombe* reads mapped for the sample and multiplied by

10000 (arbitrarily chosen number). Genes classified as dubious, pseudogenes or transposable

elements were excluded leaving 5797 genes for the downstream analysis. As a next filtering

step, we excluded all the genes that had no measurable signal in at least one out of all 48

samples (additional 12 samples for simultaneous depletion of SAGA and TFIID were not used for

this filtering step). The remaining 5158 genes were sorted by the average expression level

based on combined results of all WT and DMSO samples (22 samples total). For this analysis

signal per gene was further normalized by the gene length. Results from all relevant samples

were averaged and genes were ranked (**Table S1**). We used this information to filter out 258

genes with the lowest expression after comparing average coefficient of variation for each

sample depending on the number of highly expressed genes left in the analysis. Our final

dataset contains 4900 genes which give reproducible results and represent a substantial part of

the yeast genome. The results of biological replicate experiments for each sample were

averaged (**Table S2**). All experiments were done in triplicate except YPD Taf-degron and wild-

type BY4705 samples (labeled SHY772) that were done in duplicate. Replicate experiments

showed low variation for the majority of genes which is visualized in **Fig S1** using coefficient of

variation. Corresponding samples were compared to calculate $\log_2$ change in expression per

gene (IAA to DMSO samples for degron experiments and deletion mutant to WT strain for SAGA

deletion experiments – strain BY4705 (Brachmann et al., 1998) was used as a background for

SPT20 and *SPT7* deletion strains, SHY565 (BY4705 with Rpb3-3xFlag::KanMX) was used to

construct the *SPT3* deletion strain) and degron strains are derivatives of SHY1037 (Warfield et

al., 2017)) (**Table S3**).

Analysis of ChEC-seq Data

ChEC-seq data was analyzed as described (Donczew et al., submitted). Briefly, for each replicate

peaks were called using the HOMER suite of tools (Heinz et al., 2010) (http://homer.ucsd.edu).

Peaks identified by this method were assigned to promoters and for the final list only

promoters bound in at least three replicates were included.

Data availability

RNA-seq data (GSE133004) and ChEC-seq data (Donczew et al., submitted; GSE133114) has

been submitted to GEO and will be available upon peer-reviewed publication.

Author contributions

LW and RD performed RNA-seq, RD and AE performed computational analysis and RD, LW and

SH designed the study, analyzed the data, and wrote the manuscript.

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Table and figure legends

Figure 1. Two distinct classes of yeast genes based on SAGA and TFIID dependence. (**A**) Scatter plots comparing normalized signal per gene in corresponding samples. Log_{10} scale is used for X and Y axes. Mean values from replicate experiments are plotted. All presented experiments were done in SC media. (**B**) Box plot showing the log_2 change per gene in depletion experiments. Genes are divided into two classes according to results of the k-means clustering analysis of SAGA deletion and TFIID degron experiments. Two clusters were found to give the best separation using silhouette analysis and log_2 change values from relevant experiments were used as an input for k-means algorithm (KMeans function from Python sklearn.cluster library with default settings).

Figure 2. Simultaneous depletion of SAGA and TFIID severely affects transcription from almost all genes. (**A**) Box plot comparing results of depletion of SAGA or TFIID with simultaneous depletion of both coactivators. Genes are grouped into two categories from Fig 1. All presented experiments were done in SC media. (**B**) Scatter plots comparing results of Taf13-deg and Taf13+Spt3-deg experiments for TFIID/SAGA genes and TFIID genes. Pearson correlation coefficient is shown. (**C**) Scatter plot of gene expression rank vs the difference between the results of Spt3+Taf13-degron experiment and the sum of effects of independent depletions of SAGA and TFIID (Spt3+20-deg and Taf13-deg experiments). Only TFIID/SAGA genes are plotted (655 genes).

Figure 3. The sensitivity of individual genes to TFIID/SAGA depletions is not affected by expression level. (**A**) Bar plot comparing number of genes in two defined classes in expression quintiles (left panel) and among top 10% highly transcribed genes (right panel). (**B**) Scatter plot of average expression vs the gene expression rank. (**C**) Scatter plot comparing gene expression rank with the difference in sensitivity of genes to rapid Taf13 and Spt3+7 depletion. Only TFIID/SAGA genes are plotted (655 genes). (**D**) Number of TFIID and TFIID/SAGA genes among TATA-less and TATA-containing categories. Consensus TATA was defined as TATAWAW and the TATA-element positions from Pugh and colleagues (Rhee and Pugh, 2012) were used.

Figure 4. Histone modifications in *SPT* deletion and degron strains. Western blot of the SAGA-dependent marks H3K18-acetyl and H2B-Ub in (**A**) *SPT* deletions and (**B**) *SPT*-degron strains. Variable amounts of wild-type samples without 3-IAA treatment were loaded to allow quantitation of histone modifications. In panel A, volumes extract loaded: 6, 3, 1.5, 0.75 µl (WT); 12, 6 µl (*spt∆* strains); 6, 2 µl (*ubp8∆*). Histone marks in each sample were normalized to the TFIIF subunit Tfg2. (**C**) Western blot showing degron depletion in *SPT* double degron strains after treatment with 3-IAA for times indicated in panel B. Blots were probed with α-H3K18-Ac, α-H2B-Ub, and α-Tfg2 polyclonal antibodies (**A, B**) or α-V5 monoclonal antibodies (**C**).

Figure 5. Effects of *SPT* deletions or degron-depletion in SM-induced cells. RT-qPCR analysis of 4-thio Uracil labeled RNA purified from indicated *SPT* deletion strains in the presence or absence of SM (**A**) or from *SPT*-degron strains induced with SM either before or after treatment with 3-IAA (**B**). Samples were normalized by spike-in of labeled *S. pombe* cells before RNA isolation, and RT qPCR values from each *S. cerevisiae* gene were normalized to the value of the *S. pombe* tubulin gene. Each experiment was performed in two biological and three technical replicates. Error bars represent the standard error of the mean for two biological replicates (values obtained after averaging results for three technical replicates).

Figure 6. TFIID and SAGA show widespread binding to both gene classes. (**A**) Venn-diagram showing extensive overlap between Taf7 and Spt7 bound promoters (Donczew et al., submitted). (**B**) Number of promoters bound by the indicated subunit of TFIID or SAGA with genes separated into TFIID/SAGA-redundant and TFIID-dependent gene categories.

Figure 7. Model for roles of TFIID and SAGA and two different gene classes. Of the ~83% of yeast protein-coding genes analyzed in this study, the number of genes in each class is shown. Expression of genes in the TFIID set is strongly TFIID-dependent with little or no change after rapid SAGA depletion. TFIID and SAGA both contribute to expression of the TFIID/SAGA genes where these factors have substantial overlapping function as revealed by rapid depletion

experiments. Prior work suggests that these effects are due to the TBP-promoter DNA loading

functions of TFIID and SAGA. Expression of nearly all genes is dependent on a separate function

of SAGA, revealed by deletions in SAGA subunit genes, that is linked to chromatin modifications

that change slowly after rapid SAGA depletion.

Figure S1 (related to Figs 1 and 2). (**A**) Average coefficients of variation (CV) for selected

experiments vs the percentage of genes analyzed (after filtering out 639 genes which did not

have RNA-seq signal in at least one experiment). CV values were calculated for each gene based

on normalized read counts. (**B**) Gene-specific coefficients of variation (CV) for all 4-thioU RNA-

seq experiments. All samples were done in triplicate except the YPD-grown cultures: Taf-degron

and wild-type BY4705 samples (labeled SHY772) that were done in duplicate. CV values were

calculated for each gene based on normalized read counts for replicate experiments. (**C**)

Correlation matrix of Pearson correlation coefficient values between log_2 changes in

transcription in all SAGA and TFIID depletion experiments.

Figure S2 (related to Figs 1 and 2). (**A**) Degron depletion in single or double degron strains.

Western blot showing degron efficiency in cells grown in synthetic complete media. Experiment

was done in biological triplicates (A, B, and C cultures – top panel) or biological duplicates (one

replicate shown, panel B). Variable amounts of the untreated samples were loaded to allow

quantitation of degron efficiency. Blots were probed with α-V5 monoclonal (Spt20, Spt3, Spt7,

Taf13, Taf1, Taf7-degrons) or α-Tfg2 polyclonal antibodies. (**B**) Western analysis of TFIID

subunits in Taf-degron strains grown in YPD.

Figure S3 (related to Fig 3). (A) Barplot comparing previously proposed categories (Huisinga and

Pugh, 2004) with categories defined in this study. (**B**) Scatter plots of log_2 change in

transcription in the indicated experiments vs the gene rank based on average expression

values. Dots are color-coded based on gene category. (**C**) Boxplot representation of average

expression per gene in expression quintiles based on 4thioU RNA labeling.

Figure S4 (related to Fig 3). Number of RP genes within each expression quintile.

Figure S5 (related to Fig 5). Degron efficiency in synthetic complete media with or without SM

induction and Auxin addition. (**A**) Western analysis of the Spt3 + Spt7-degron strain without SM

and with or without 3-IAA. (**B**) Western analysis of the Spt3 + Spt7-degron strain treated with

SM either before or after 3-IAA addition. Blot was probed with α-V5 antibody (degron-tagged

proteins) and α-Tfg2 as control.

Table S1. Normalized signal for all genes (5158) which had detectable transcription in all 48

RNA-seq samples collected in this study (excluding degron experiments simultaneously

depleting SAGA and TFIID subunits). Expression is the average signal for all DMSO and WT

samples. This value was further normalized by the gene length to give normalized expression

which was used to sort the genes from the highest to the lowest expression.

Table S2. Average normalized signal for replicate experiments for the final set of 4900 genes

analyzed in this study and average expression per gene (based on DMSO and WT experiments).

Rows are sorted by the average expression.

Table S3. Average $\log_2$ changes in transcription in the degron and deletion strains, results of k-

means clustering and average expression per gene (based on DMSO and WT experiments).

Rows are sorted by the average expression.

Table S4. Average $\log_2$ changes in transcription from degron experiments simultaneously

depleting SAGA and TFIID components. Data for other strains, results of k-means clustering and

average expression per gene are the same as shown in table S3. Rows are sorted by the average

expression.

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