

13 **Abstract**

14 Circadian timekeeping in mammalian cells involves daily cycles of CRYPTOCHROME-dependent
15 transcriptional feedback repression. Ablation of CRY in mice leads to reduced growth and numerous
16 other phenotypes for reasons that are not well understood. Here, we find that cells adapt to CRY
17 deficiency by extensive remodelling of the proteome, phosphoproteome and ionome, with twice the
18 number of circadian-regulated proteins and phosphopeptides as well as increased rhythmic ion
19 transport compared to wild-type cells. CRY-deficient cells also have increased protein synthesis and
20 reduced proteasomal degradation, as well as an altered energetic state. These adaptations render cells
21 more sensitive to stress, and may provide an explanation for the wide-ranging phenotypes of CRY-
22 deficient mice. We suggest that daily rhythms in cellular protein abundance are damped by CRY-
23 mediated repression to facilitate daily cycles of proteome renewal whilst maintaining protein
24 homeostasis.

25

26 **Introduction**

27 From transcriptional activation and RNA processing, to protein synthesis, folding and degradation,
28 multiple mechanisms operate at every stage of gene expression to ensure that each cellular protein is
29 maintained in a concentration range appropriate for its biological function [1–3]. Proteome
30 homeostasis is essential for cell viability and the correct temporal regulation of protein activity is
31 critical to every biological process – too much or too little at the wrong time underlies most
32 pathological states [4,5].

33

34 In mammals, cellular physiology is temporally orchestrated around daily cycles that regulate much
35 of the proteome and most cellular functions to a circadian rhythm [6]. For example, global protein
36 synthesis rates and ribosome biogenesis typically increase in anticipation of increased periods of
37 animal activity (night-time in nocturnal mice, daytime in humans) [7,8]. Daily rhythms in proteome
38 composition are observed *in vivo* and in cultured cells, under constant conditions, controlled by a
39 cell-autonomous circadian clock [9,10]. In this way, circadian rhythms organise cell biology to
40 anticipate and accommodate the predictable daily demands of day and night. Circadian dysregulation
41 is strongly associated with pathological states [6], highlighting its importance for organismal health.
42 Daily timekeeping is synchronised *in vivo* by systemic cues such as insulin and glucocorticoid
43 signalling, which align internal cellular timing with environmental cycles [11]. On any given day, the
44 circadian cycle is expressed by more cells of the human body than the cell division cycle, yet its
45 mechanistic basis is poorly resolved [12].

46

47 Circadian rhythms in tissues and cultured cells are usually accompanied by daily oscillations in the
48 abundance of many mRNAs [13]. These oscillations are mediated by daily cycles of transcriptional
49 feedback repression of a core clock genetic circuit comprising the *Period1/2* and *Cryptochrome1/2*
50 genes, and fine-tuned by various auxiliary but non-essential transcriptional feedback mechanisms
51 [13,14]. Within this model, the transcription of *Period* and *Cryptochrome* genes is stimulated by a

52 complex containing the activating transcription factors (BMAL1 and CLOCK or NPAS2). The
53 stability, interactions and nucleocytoplasmic shuttling of the encoded PER and CRY proteins is
54 regulated post-translationally until, many hours later, they repress the activity of BMAL1-containing
55 complexes. This transcriptional-translational feedback loop (TTFL) is proposed as the basis of
56 circadian timekeeping in mammalian cells [15]. Genes whose transcription are regulated by core
57 TTFL factors are thought to drive circadian rhythms in the encoded proteins to control myriad cellular
58 functions [13,14].

59
60 Within the TTFL model of circadian rhythm generation, CRY proteins are the essential repressors of
61 CLOCK/BMAL1 activity [16,17], and have long been considered indispensable for circadian
62 rhythms *in vivo* and cells *ex vivo* [18–22]. In contrast, PER proteins play critical signalling and
63 scaffolding roles, required for the nuclear import and targeting of CRY to BMAL1-containing
64 complexes [17]. Recently however, we found that CRY-deficient cells, tissues and mice retain the
65 capacity for circadian timing, in the absence of canonical TTFL function [23]. Similarly, circadian
66 oscillations were retained in cells and tissue slices lacking BMAL1 [24]. Whilst we cannot exclude
67 the presence of some unknown transcriptional feedback-driven oscillation, many previous
68 observations argue against this [12,17,19,21,22,25–28]. Recent evidence supports the hypothesis that
69 a conserved post-translational cytosolic oscillator (PTO, or “cytoscillator”) may be responsible for
70 generating the oscillation from which circadian transcriptional cycles derive [12,29,30]. Thus, while
71 the TTFL is crucial for rhythmic robustness and co-ordinating outputs, it is not required for generation
72 of rhythms.

73
74 The complex phenotype of mice lacking CRY proteins has been interpreted to mean that circadian
75 timekeeping is crucial for organismal physiology. The emerging observations that circadian rhythms
76 are retained in CRY or BMAL1-deficient cells questions the basis of their respective knockout mouse
77 phenotypes. We have therefore investigated the molecular consequences of CRY deficiency in cells

78 using an unbiased whole cell proteomic strategy. Our findings reveal a crucial role for CRY in the
79 maintenance of protein homeostasis and suggest that the chronic stress-like state of CRY-deficient
80 cells underlies the complex and numerous consequences of CRY deletion in mouse tissues and *in*
81 *vivo*.

82 **Results**

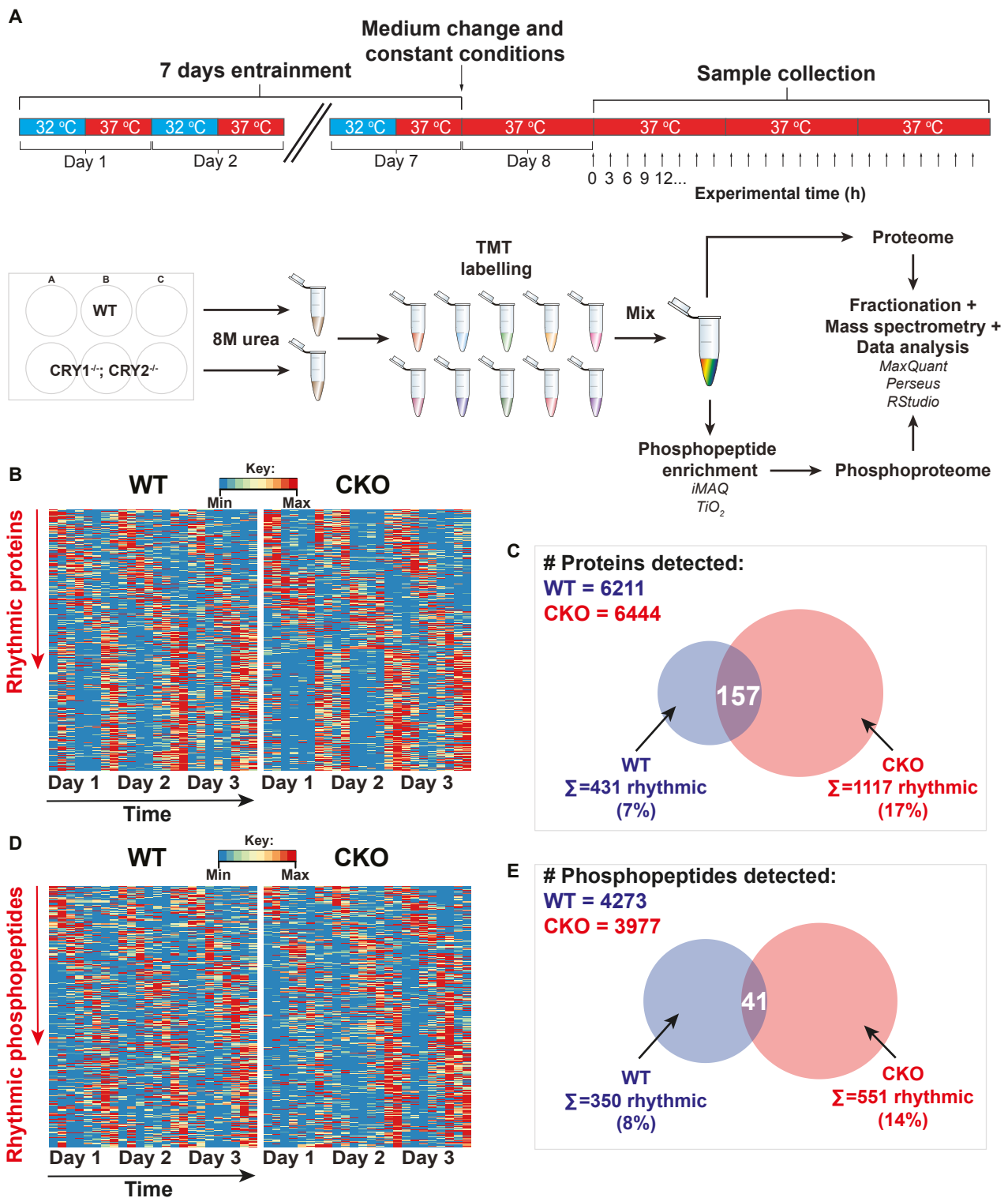
83 **Cell-autonomous rhythms in the proteome and phosphoproteome persist in the absence of CRY**

84 To test the proteomic and phosphoproteomic consequences of CRY deletion, we used confluent
85 primary mouse fibroblasts, a classic model of cellular circadian timekeeping where contact inhibition
86 prevents any interference from the cell division cycle [9]. Wild-type (WT) and CRY1^{-/-}; CRY2^{-/-}
87 (CKO) mouse fibroblasts in cell culture were synchronised using daily temperature cycles and
88 sampled under constant conditions (Figure 1A). Quantitative proteomics detected over 6000 proteins
89 and around 4000 phosphopeptides in both cell types. As expected [19,21,31] CRY1 was selectively
90 detected in WT cells and displayed a rhythmic abundance profile with delayed phase relative to a
91 PER2 luciferase reporter (PER2::LUC) recorded from parallel replicate cultures (Figure S1A).
92 Examples of rhythmic and arrhythmic proteins and phosphopeptides are shown in Figure S1B/C.
93 Based on estimates of intrinsic noise of gene expression [32–36], we chose a threshold of 10% relative
94 amplitude to define biological significance. However, there was no relative amplitude threshold
95 chosen for rhythmic phosphopeptides due to the lack of similar studies.

96

97 In WT cells, 7% of detected proteins and 8% of detected phosphopeptides showed significant
98 circadian abundance rhythms. Unexpectedly, 17% of detected proteins and 14% of phosphopeptides
99 in CKO cells were rhythmically abundant (Figure 1B-E). There was a modest but significant
100 difference in the median relative amplitude of protein rhythms in CKO cells compared with WT
101 (Figure S1D). Amongst the minority of proteins that were rhythmically abundant in both genotypes
102 (Figure 1C), there was a strong positive correlation between their relative amplitudes (Figure S1E),
103 which were overall higher in CKO cells compared with WT (Figure 2A).

104



105

106 **Figure 1: Cell-autonomous rhythms in the proteome and phosphoproteome persist in the**
 107 **absence of CRY. A)** An overview of the proteomics experimental workflow. Samples were taken
 108 every 3 hours for 3 days in constant conditions, starting 24 h after medium change (“Experimental
 109 time 0 h”). **B)** Heatmaps showing min-max normalized plots for all the rhythmic proteins in WT (left)
 110 and CKO (right). For each genotype separately, rows represent proteins (sorted by phase), and each

111 column is a time point from the timecourse experiment. **C)** Venn diagram showing the numbers of
112 rhythmic proteins in WT cells and CKO cells with relative amplitude $\geq 10\%$, with the overlap
113 annotated. **D)** Heatmaps showing min-max normalized plots for all the rhythmic phosphopeptides in
114 WT (left) and CKO (right). For each genotype separately, rows represent phosphopeptides (sorted by
115 phase), and each column is a time point from the time-course experiment. **E)** Venn diagram showing
116 the numbers of rhythmic phosphopeptides in WT cells and CKO cells, with the overlap annotated.

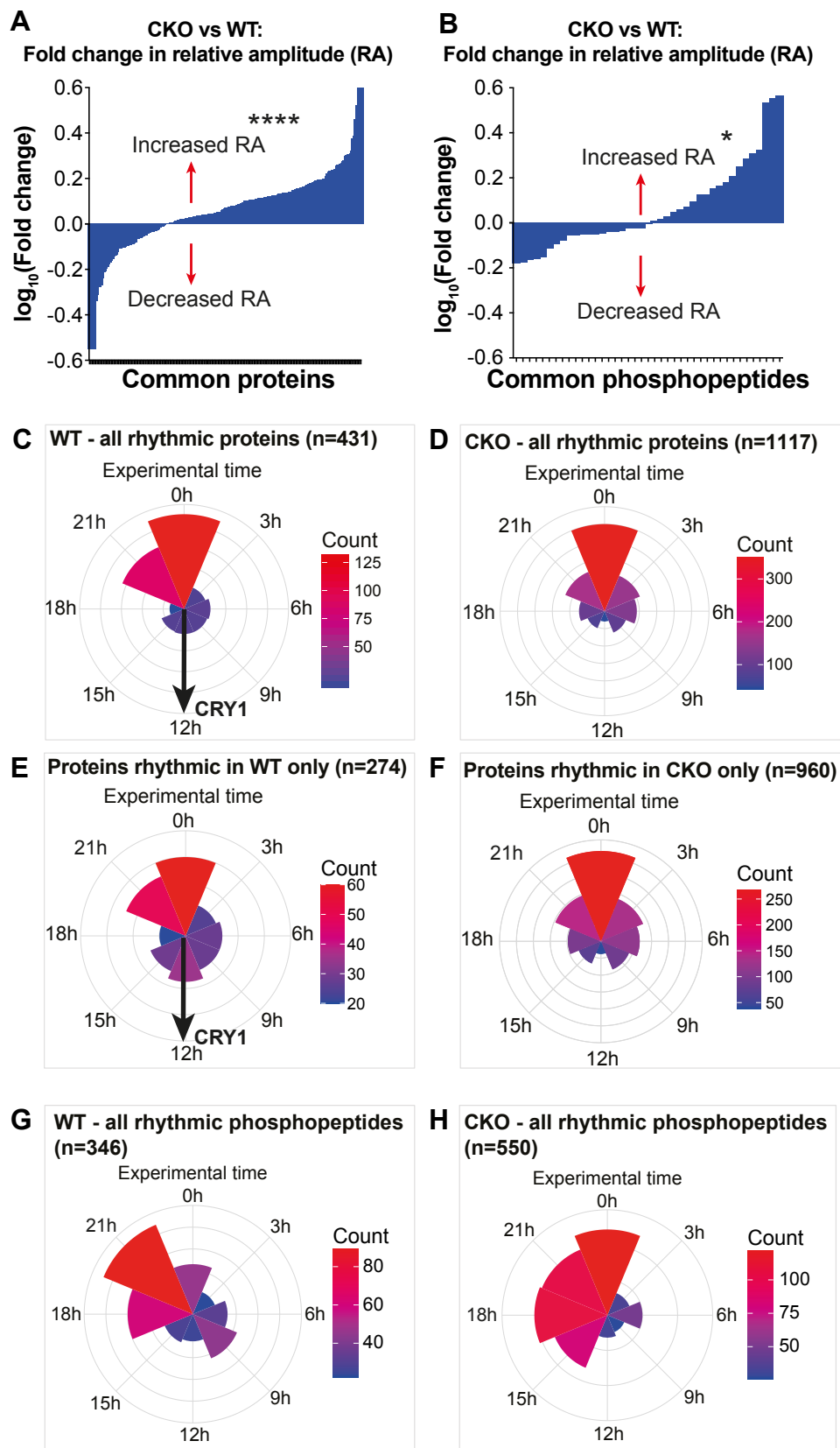
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118 As with proteins, we found that CKO rhythmic phosphopeptides were significantly increased in
119 relative amplitude and abundance compared with WT (Figure 2B). To gain more insight into the
120 mechanism driving these phosphorylation rhythms we used the PHOSIDA database [37,38] to infer
121 kinase activity using the rhythmic phosphopeptide sequences. Kinases typically associated with
122 circadian period determination were not over-represented in WT or CKO rhythmic datasets compared
123 to background however, nor in the set of phosphopeptides that were rhythmic in both genotypes
124 (Figure S2 A-C).

125

126 The phase distribution of rhythmic proteins in both genotypes was clustered at experimental time 0 h
127 (Figure 2C), when PER2::LUC activity in wild type cells was maximal (Figure S1A). This phase
128 clustering was also true for proteins that were only rhythmic in CKO cells (Figure 2D), and for most
129 proteins that were only rhythmic in WT cells (Figure 2E). A subset of proteins that were rhythmic in
130 WT only, including CRY1, were clustered around experimental time 12 h (Figure 2E). This cluster
131 was not present in proteins that were rhythmic in CKO only (Figure 2F). In WT cells, we observed
132 clustering of protein phosphorylation to an earlier phase compared to rhythmically abundant proteins
133 and PER2::LUC (Figure 2G). In comparison, there was a broader distribution of phase among
134 rhythmic phosphopeptides in CKO cells (Figure 2H).

135



136

137 **Figure 2: CRY regulates relative amplitude and phase of the rhythmic proteome and**
138 **phosphoproteome. A) Fold-change in relative amplitude (RA) was calculated for each of the proteins**
139 **found to be rhythmic in both genotypes by RAIN analysis (i.e. no RA cut-off). The mean fold change**

140 (log) in RA was an increase of 14% in CKO cells compared to WT cells (One sample t-test, $p < 0.0001$).

141 **B)** Fold-change in relative amplitude (RA) was calculated for each of the phosphopeptides found to
142 be rhythmic in both genotypes by RAIN. On average, the RA was increased in CKO cells compared
143 to WT cells by 6% (One sample t-test, $p < 0.05$). **C, D)** Circular histograms showing the number of
144 proteins at each rhythmic phase. Phase is defined and estimated by RAIN, as the time of the first
145 predicted peak in a 24-hour period. Concentric circles represent the counts scale, with the outermost
146 circle marking the upper end of the counts. The distributions of rhythmic proteins in CKO cells was
147 significantly different to WT cells (left, $p < 0.001$, Watson's two-sample test). **E), F)** This was also
148 the case for the proteins rhythmic in only one genotype (right, $p < 0.001$, Watson's two-sample test).

149 **G, H)** Circular histograms showing the number of phosphopeptides at each rhythmic phase. The
150 distributions of rhythmic phosphopeptides in CKO cells was significantly different to WT cells
151 ($p < 0.001$, Watson's two-sample test).

152

153 These observations demonstrate that cell-autonomous rhythmicity of protein abundance and
154 phosphorylation occurs independently of CRY, and hence the canonical TTFL. Instead, the primary
155 role of CRY appears to be two-fold. First, CRY suppresses the amplitude of protein and
156 phosphopeptide abundance rhythms. The greater amplitude in the absence of CRY reveals more than
157 twice the number of rhythmic proteins detected in WT cells. Second, CRY regulates the phase of
158 rhythmicity for a sub-population of proteins and phosphopeptides.

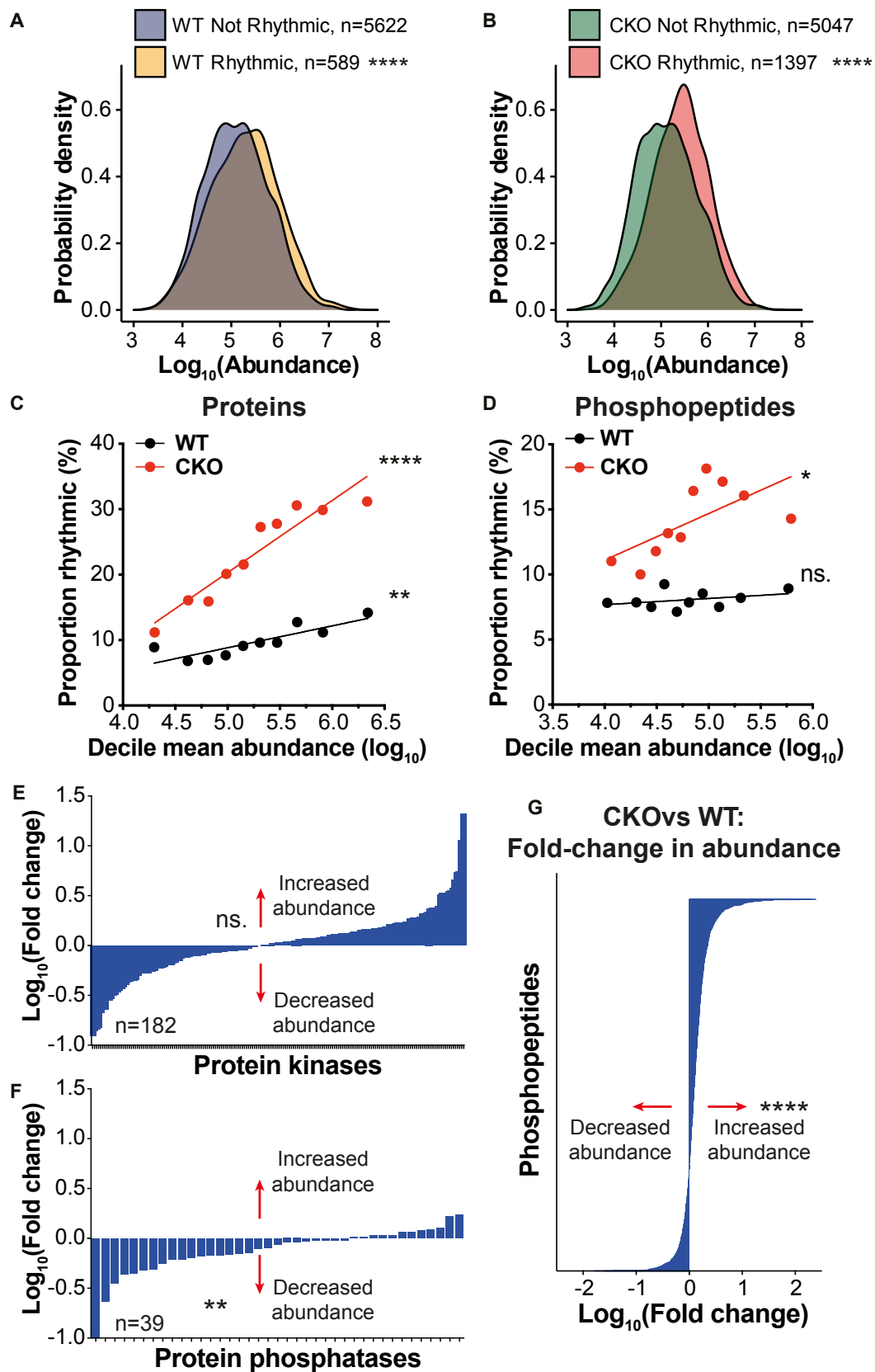
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160 **CRY suppresses the cell-autonomous rhythmic proteome and phosphoproteome**

161 To gain insight into which aspects of cell physiology are most impacted by CRY deletion, we
162 searched for patterns and commonalities among the set of dysregulated proteins. Although it has been
163 suggested that proteins with shorter half-life have been correlated with circadian regulation [39], our
164 analysis showed little or no obvious relationship in either WT or CKO cells. If anything, rhythmic
165 proteins had longer half-lives than non-rhythmic proteins (Figure S3A, B). In contrast, rhythmic

166 proteins showed significantly higher average expression than non-rhythmic proteins (Figure 3A, B)
167 as previously suggested [40,41]. This relationship was true for both genotypes, but stronger in CKO
168 cells. Although part of this correlation may be due to preferential and more accurate detection of
169 oscillating high abundance proteins, this explanation cannot account for the different relationships in
170 WT and CKO cells (Figure 3C). We found similar relationships in the phosphoproteome (Figure 3D).
171 Thus, the TTFL-independent circadian rhythm seen in CKO acts preferentially towards more
172 abundant proteins and phosphopeptides.

173



174

175 **Figure 3. CRY suppresses the cell-autonomous rhythmic proteome and phosphoproteome. A),**

176 **B) Probability density graphs compare the distribution of protein abundances. In both genotypes,**

177 **rhythmic proteins were more abundant than non-rhythmic (WT $p < 0.0001$, CKO $p < 0.0001$, t-test with**

178 log-transformed data). **C)** For each genotype, all proteins were divided into 10 deciles of equal
179 number, ranked by abundance. The mean abundance of each decile was plotted against the proportion
180 of the decile that was rhythmic. Linear regression lines are shown for each genotype, and the slopes
181 were significantly non-zero (F test, WT $p=0.0016$, CKO $p<0.0001$). The slopes were also
182 significantly different to each other (F test, $p=0.0001$). **D)** The same analysis in C) was carried out
183 for phosphopeptides. The slopes was significantly non-zero in CKO but not WT (F test, WT $p=0.3$,
184 CKO $p=0.04$). The slopes were also significantly different to each other (F test, $p<0.0001$). **E), F)**
185 Fold-change in abundance was calculated for protein kinases (E) and protein phosphatases (F)
186 detected in the proteomics dataset. There was a significant downregulation of phosphatase abundance
187 in CKO cells compared to WT (One sample t test, $p=0.002$, $n=39$), but no overall change in kinase
188 abundance (One sample t test, $p=0.7$, $n=182$). **G)** Fold-change in abundance was calculated for each
189 phosphopeptide. There was a significant upregulation of phosphorylation in CKO cells compared to
190 WT (One sample t test, $p<0.0001$, $n=2803$).

191
192 Overall, we observed that a remarkable 82% of the detected proteome in CKO cells were altered in
193 abundance (Figure S3C, Abundance up + down), suggesting that global protein synthesis and
194 degradation rates may be dysregulated. We therefore asked whether CRY deletion might unmask
195 rhythmicity in proteins that normally exhibit similar rhythms of synthesis and degradation, thus
196 appearing arrhythmic in WT cells. In our dataset there was a significant association between changes
197 in abundance and changes in rhythmicity (Figure S3C). Our observations indicate that the cell-
198 autonomous circadian clock regulates around 29% of the proteome (Figure S3C, green + blue +
199 brown), with the TTFL primarily acting to suppress rhythms in the abundance of most of these
200 proteins (Figure S3C, green). Similarly, we asked whether CRY deletion may impact upon the
201 abundance of protein kinases and phosphatases, which act in dynamic equilibrium to determine the
202 phosphorylation level of each phosphopeptide. In our proteomics dataset, there was no significant
203 overall change in abundance of protein kinases (Figure 3E), but there was an overall decrease in

204 abundance of protein phosphatases (Figure 3F). Consistent with this, in our phosphoproteomics
205 dataset we saw that overall there was an increase in phosphorylation (Figure 3G). We also found a
206 strong link between changes in abundance and rhythmicity of phosphopeptides between the two
207 genotypes (Figure S3D). This suggests that CRY represses global protein phosphorylation as well as
208 rhythms in phosphorylation.

209

210 Bringing all these observations together, we suggest that CRY deletion may uncouple the synthesis
211 and degradation of many proteins as well as the phosphorylation and dephosphorylation of many
212 phosphosites. These two factors reveal more than twice the number of rhythmic proteins and
213 phosphopeptides detected in WT cells, and results in a significant change in steady-state abundance
214 of most of the proteome and phosphoproteome.

215

216 **CRYPTOCHROME regulates proteasome activity and translation rate**

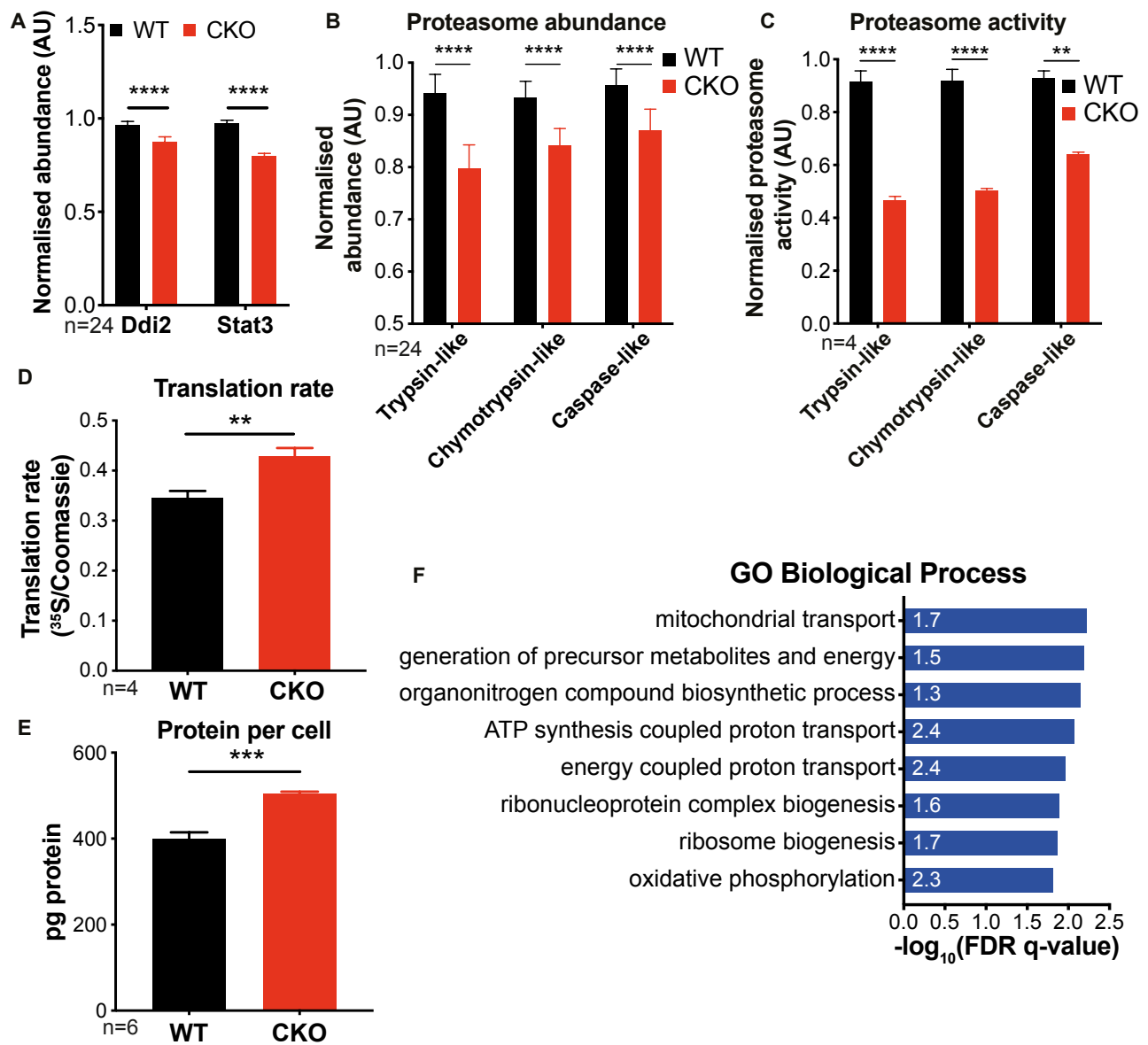
217 We explored potential mechanisms for these widespread proteome changes by searching our dataset
218 for key factors regulating protein synthesis and degradation. STAT3 and DDI2 are key regulators of
219 proteasome abundance and activity [42]. We found their average expression levels were reduced in
220 CKO cells (Figure 4A), accompanied by a striking reduction in the abundance of catalytic
221 proteasomal subunits (Figure 4B, S4A) which we validated by western blot and enzymatic assays of
222 proteasome activity (Figure 4C, S4B-C).

223

224 We also observed a significant increase in cytosolic protein synthesis rate by ³⁵S-methionine
225 incorporation (Figure 4D, S4D-E). We considered that the combined effect of reduced proteasomal
226 activity and increased translation rate would affect the overall steady state levels of cellular protein.

227 We found this to be the case, with significantly higher overall protein per CKO cell compared with
228 WT (Figure 4E).

229



230

231 **Figure 4. CRYPTOCHROME regulates proteasome activity and translation rate.** A) The
 232 average abundance of proteins encoded by *Ddi2* and *Stat3* was calculated and max normalised for
 233 presentation. The average was calculated from all 24 time points of the proteomics experiment. Both
 234 proteins were down-regulated in CKO cells Mean±SD, multiple t tests with Holm-Sidak correction.
 235 **B)** The average abundance of catalytic proteasome subunits was calculated and max normalised for
 236 presentation. Trypsin-like ($\beta 2$), chymotrypsin-like ($\beta 3$) and caspase-like ($\beta 1$) subunits are shown.
 237 The average was calculated from all 24 time points of the proteomics experiment. Mean±SD, 2-way
 238 ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparisons. **C)** Proteasome activity measured using the
 239 ProteasomeGlo Assay (Promega). Mean±SEM, 2-way ANOVA with Sidak's multiple comparisons.
 240 **N=6. D)** Translation rate was measured using ³⁵S-methionine labelling and imaging with phosphor

241 screens (images shown in Figure S4). The quantification values were normalised to the total protein
242 concentration as measured using Coomassie stain. Mean±SEM, Student's t test with Welch correction.
243 N=3. **E)** Total protein mass per cell in confluent WT and CKO cultures. Cells were grown in two 12-
244 well plates; one was used for cell counting and the other was used for lysis in RIPA buffer prior to
245 protein quantification by BCA assay. Mean±SEM, Student's t test with Welch correction. **F)** The top
246 results by FDR q-value, of ranked gene ontology analysis with all proteins ranked by decreasing fold
247 change in abundance between CKO and WT cells. Fold-enrichment is annotated on each bar.

248

249 mRNA translation is one of the most energetically demanding of cellular processes, consuming up to
250 75% of the cellular ATP [1,43,44]. CKO cells showed increased abundance of proteins associated
251 with ribosome biogenesis and energy generation which included many subunits of glycolytic and
252 mitochondrial electron transport chain complexes as well as the F₀/F₁-ATP synthase (Figure 4F, S4F-
253 H). Increased expression of proteins related to energy production may reflect an adaptation of CKO
254 cells to accommodate the increased energetic demands of protein synthesis. Therefore cultured CKO
255 cells have more protein, increased translation and decreased proteasomal degradation than WT cells,
256 as well as an altered energetic state. Altogether, our data suggest that CKO cells likely maintain a
257 different set point for protein homeostasis, as occurs in many pathological states [4,5].

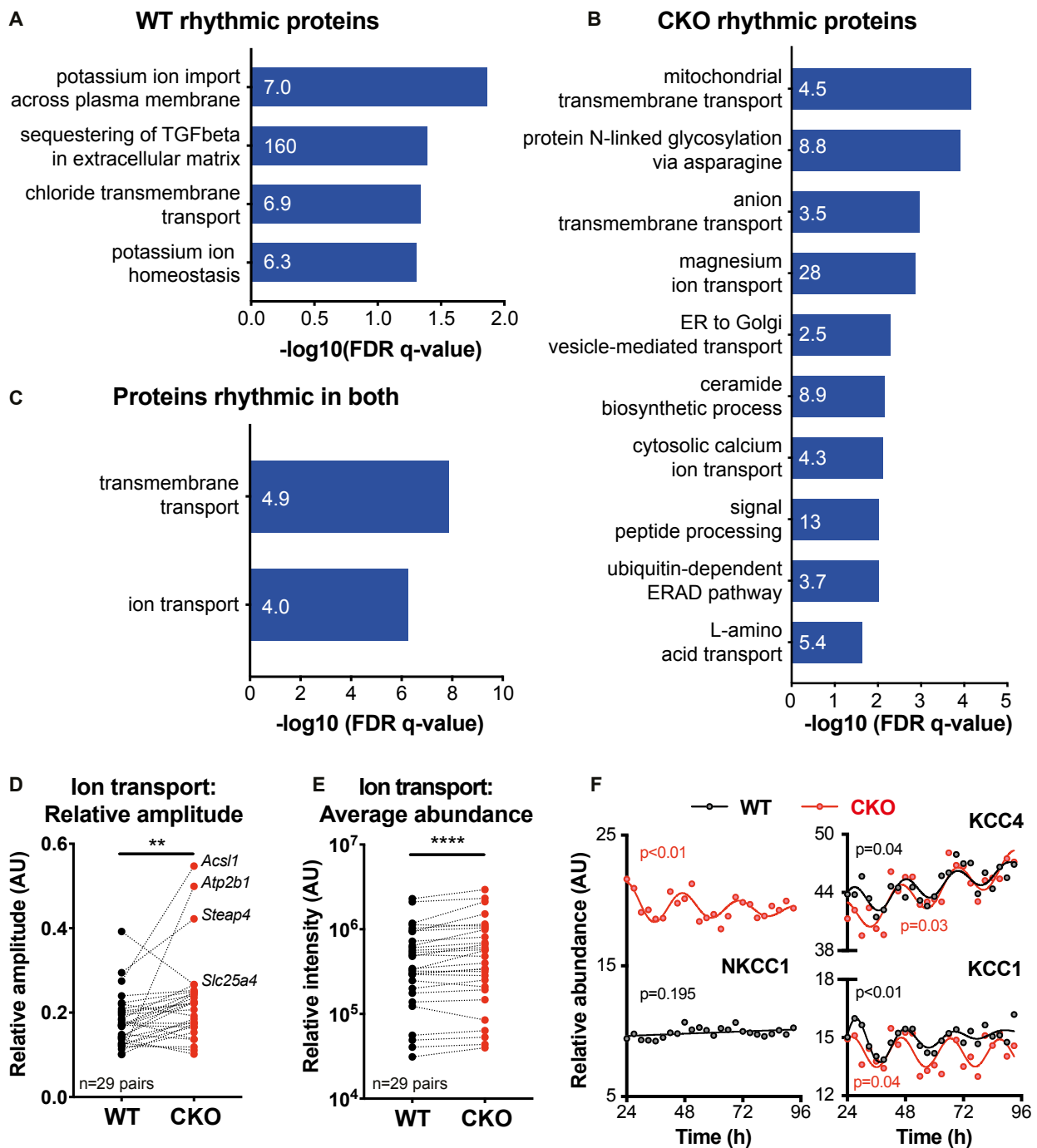
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259 **Rhythmic regulation of ion transport and protein content is TTF1-independent and amplified** 260 **by CRY deletion**

261 We explored cellular processes that may be rhythmically regulated in CKO cells using gene ontology
262 (GO) analysis. Of the rhythmically abundant proteins, ranked GO analysis revealed a consistent
263 enrichment for processes associated with ion transport, both in wild type and CKO cells when
264 analysed separately or combined (Figure 5A-C). In our proteomics dataset we also found altered
265 expression levels and increased relative amplitudes of many ion transporters in CKO compared with

266 WT cells (Figure 5D-E). This included several members of the SLC12A family of electroneutral
 267 transporters (Figure 5F).

268



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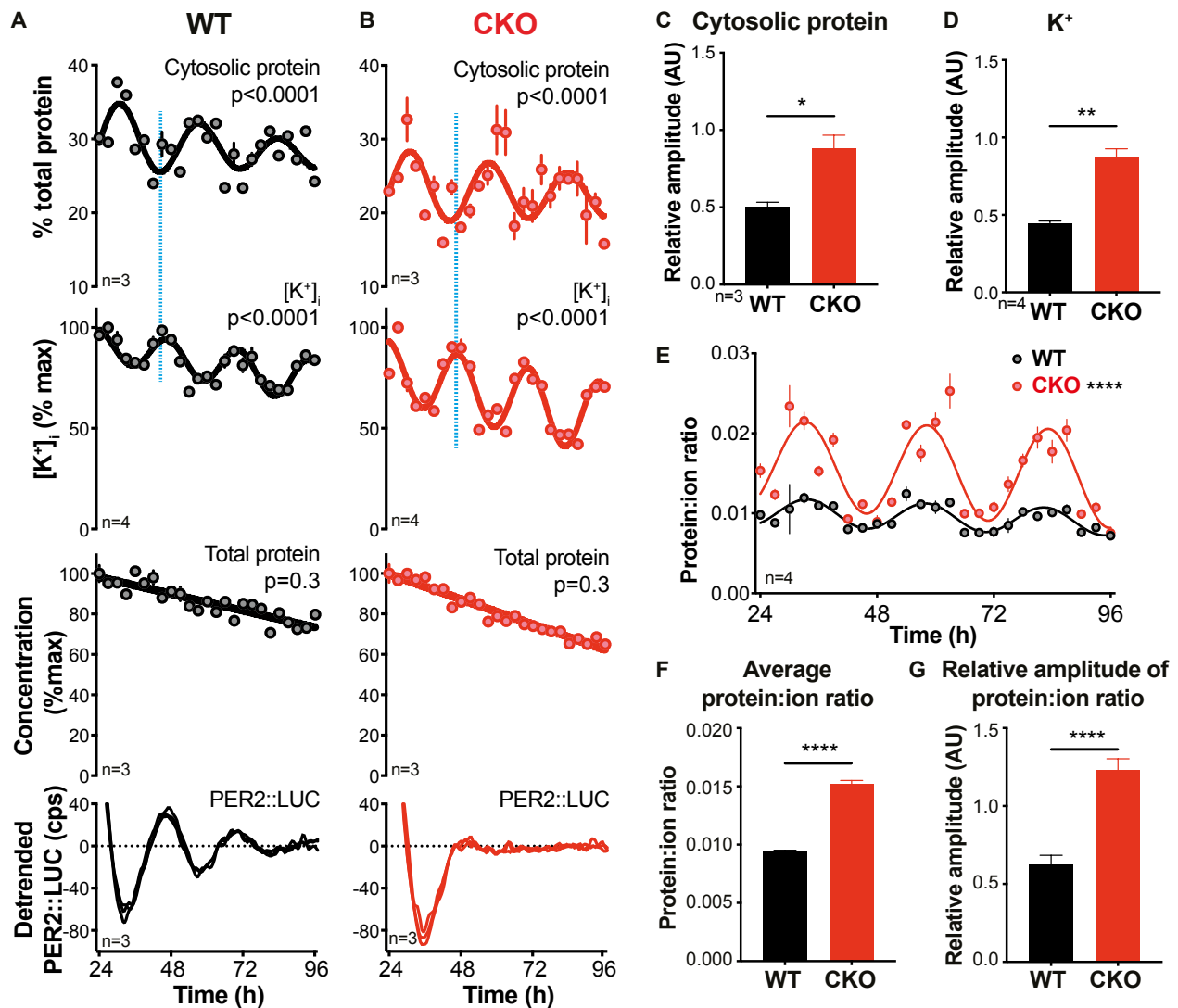
270 **Figure 5. Rhythmic regulation of ion transport in WT and CKO cells.** A) Gene ontology analysis
 271 for rhythmic proteins was carried out using Gene ontology enrichment analysis and visualisation
 272 (GOrilla) [45,46]. Significantly rhythmic WT proteins were compared against background (all
 273 proteins identified in the experiment), and the top non-overlapping GO Biological Process terms

274 shown, sorted according to FDR q-value. Fold enrichment is annotated on each bar. The same GO
275 analysis was carried out comparing proteins rhythmic in both genotypes to the background **(B)** as
276 well as all proteins that were rhythmic in CKO cells **(C)**. **(D), E)** 29 proteins were annotated as “Ion
277 transport” by the GO analysis from the proteomics experiment – relative amplitude and average
278 abundance was calculated for each of these proteins, in both WT and CKO. On average, both relative
279 amplitude and average abundance was increased in CKO cells compared to WT (Paired t test). **(F)**
280 Examples of key ion transporters are shown, as detected in the proteomics experiment. P values show
281 the results of an F test comparing fits of damped cosine against straight line. All proteins except WT
282 NKCC1 had RAIN p-values <0.05.

283

284 To validate these findings, we measured the ion content of cells across the circadian cycle. Consistent
285 with previous investigations (Stangherlin *et al.*, submitted), in WT cells, K⁺ and digitonin-extracted
286 cytosolic protein concentrations exhibited anti-phasic circadian rhythms (Figure 6A), with no
287 significant daily variation in total cellular protein. The same was observed in CKO cells (Figure 6B),
288 but with higher relative amplitude (Figure 6C, D), and without observable rhythms in
289 bioluminescence of the clock protein reporter, PER2::LUC (Figure 6A,B, bottom panel). In light of
290 the enrichment we observed among CKO but not WT rhythmic proteins for Mg²⁺ and Ca²⁺ transport
291 (Figure 5B), we also found it pertinent that these ions showed significant circadian variation in CKO,
292 but not WT cells, whereas Mn²⁺ was rhythmic in neither (Figure S5). To understand the contribution
293 of colloidal and ionic solutes to cytoplasmic osmolarity in our experiment we calculated the
294 protein:ion ratio at each timepoint. We used K⁺ levels as a proxy for ion content because it is the most
295 abundant intracellular osmolyte. Protein:ion ratio was rhythmic, with CKO cells showing a higher
296 average protein:ion ratio as well as a greater relative amplitude (Figure 6E-G). Considering our
297 previous observations, the higher amplitude cytosolic protein rhythms in CKO cells likely drive the
298 higher amplitude K⁺ rhythms, because changing K⁺ levels function through SLC12A transporter

299 activity to buffer cellular osmotic potential in response to changes in cytosolic macromolecular
 300 content (Stangherlin *et al.*, submitted).
 301



302
 303 **Figure 6. CRY suppresses rhythms of ion transport and osmotic balance. A), B)** From one time-
 304 course experiment, ions, cytosolic proteins and total protein were extracted in parallel samples. The
 305 presented experiment is representative of 3 separate time-course experiments that were carried out
 306 (N=3). Blue lines indicate the anti-phasic oscillations in cytosolic protein and potassium
 307 concentration. Mean \pm SEM, p-values from RAIN, red lines are fits by a damped cosine or a straight
 308 line. Parallel PER2::LUC recordings were also performed and plotted as a phase marker. **C), D)**
 309 Relative amplitudes of cytosolic protein and potassium concentrations oscillations in A) and B) were
 310 greater in CKO compared to WT (Student's t test with Welch correction, mean \pm SEM). **E)** Protein:ion

311 ratio was calculated from the cytosolic protein and potassium concentrations in A) and B). For each
312 time point, the average cytosolic protein concentration was divided by the potassium concentration
313 of each biological replicate. Mean±SD. P-values were calculated by RAIN and annotated using
314 asterisks in the legend. **F), G)** Average protein:ion ratio and relative amplitude was greater in CKO
315 compared to WT (Student's t test with Welch correction, mean±SEM).

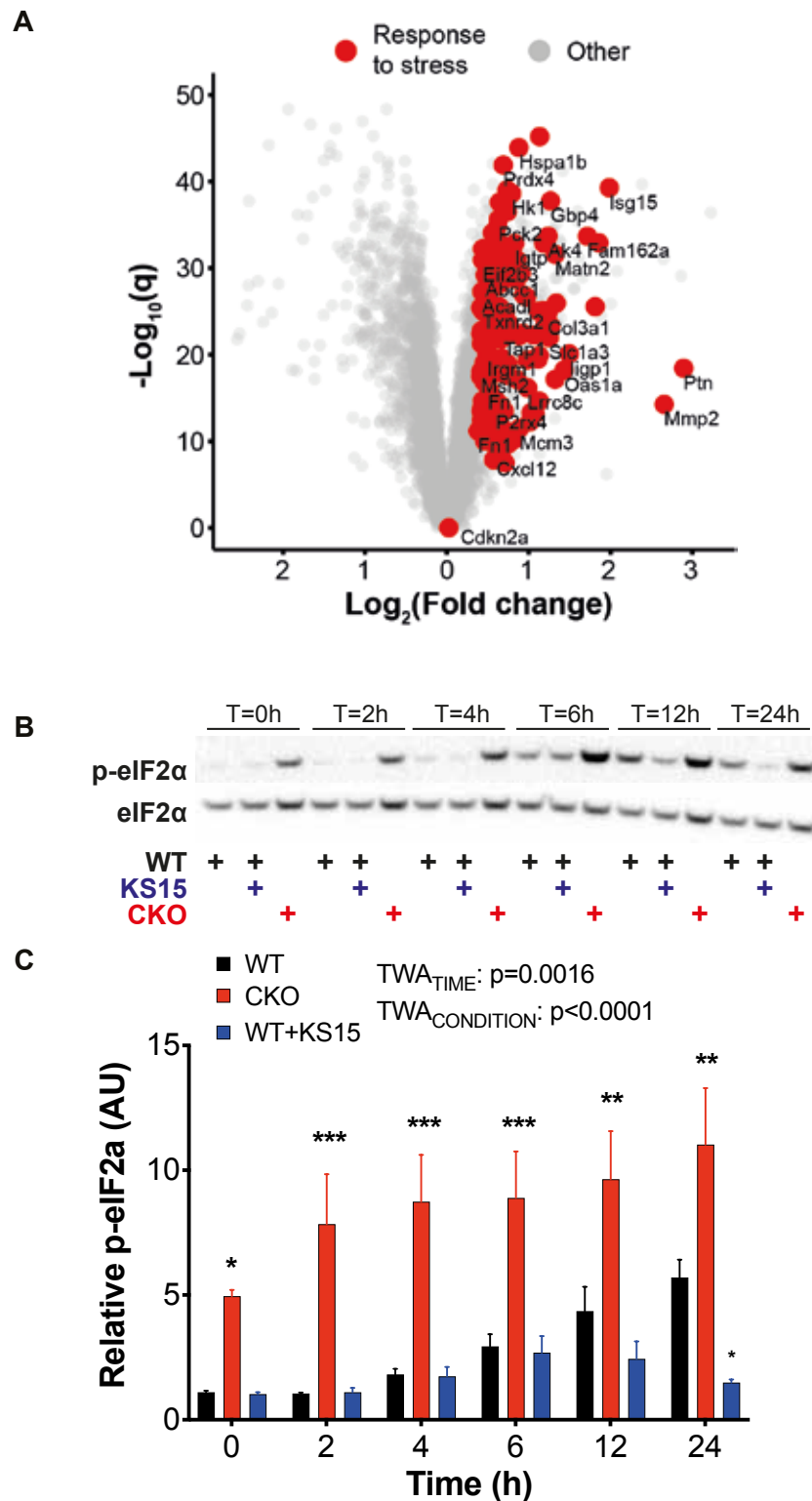
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317 Our findings show that the rhythmic regulation of ion transport and cytosolic protein concentration
318 may be of such fundamental importance to cell physiology that it is driven independently of CRY
319 and therefore of canonical TTFL activity. Indeed, an important role of CRY may be to suppress daily
320 changes in cytosolic macromolecular content and thus to efficiently maintain osmotic homeostasis.
321 The loss of this function may be an important way in which protein homeostasis is altered in CKO
322 cells compared to WT, since osmotic homeostasis is critical to cellular function and viability [47].

323

324 **CRY-deficient cells are more sensitive to proteotoxic stress**

325 The viability of CKO cells suggests that they can maintain protein homeostasis overall, despite the
326 altered set point of protein homeostasis. Using ranked GO analysis of overall protein fold-changes
327 compared with WT, we found that the expression of proteins involved in “response to stress” was
328 increased in CKO cells (Figure 7A, S6A), suggesting that the proteostasis network in CKO cells is in
329 an activated state [48–50].

330



331

332 **Figure 7. Increased stress in CKO cells.** A) Volcano plot showing the fold change in average
 333 expression of all proteins in CKO cells compared to WT (q = Benjamini-Hochberg corrected p -value).
 334 Proteins annotated as “Response to stress” from GO analysis are highlighted in red, showing that
 335 these are upregulated in CKO cells. B) Cells treated with 500 nM tunicamycin (TUN) were lysed in
 336 RIPA buffer at time points from 2-24 hours. WT cells treated with 50 μ M KS15 (CRY inhibitor)

337 were used as a control (see text). A representative western blot is shown, with probes against
338 phosphorylated (above) and total (below) eIF2 α . C) Quantification of the western blots in B),
339 including all replicates. Mean \pm SEM, n=4. 2-way ANOVA p-values are reported. Asterisks indicate
340 results of Holm-Sidak's multiple comparisons test vs. WT for each timepoint. WT cells also showed
341 a linear trend by 1-way ANOVA (p<0.0001).

342

343 We therefore hypothesised that CKO cells may be more susceptible to perturbations that would elicit
344 a proteotoxic stress response. To test this, we probed WT and CKO cells for phosphorylation of eIF2 α ,
345 a well-characterised marker of the integrated stress response (ISR). As a control we treated cells with
346 tunicamycin, which induces the ISR *via* inhibition of secretory pathway protein glycosylation [51,52].
347 We also treated cells with the CRY-inhibitor KS15 [53,54] to distinguish the acute effects of CRY
348 inactivation from the long-term effects of its genetic deletion on cellular proteostasis. We found that
349 CKO cells had higher basal levels of phosphorylated eIF2 α compared with wild type or KS15 treated
350 cells, as well as a significantly increased eIF2 α phosphorylation following tunicamycin treatment
351 (Figure 7B, C). Phosphorylation inactivates eIF2 α in most cases to suppress translation [48], but we
352 observed a net increase in protein synthesis in CKO cells (Figure 4D, S4D-E). Therefore the overall
353 increase in translation rate must be higher than the suppression mediated by eIF2 α phosphorylation.

354

355 From these observations we suggest that the altered set point of protein homeostasis in CKO renders
356 them more susceptible to proteotoxic stress. Indeed, we found that even medium changes were
357 sufficient to induce an increased stress response compared with WT cells (Figure S6B).

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363 **Physiological consequences of CRY-deletion**

364 Given our observations we considered how the general change of protein homeostasis in CKO cells
365 might impact more broadly upon cellular and organismal physiology. Protein synthesis comprises the
366 most expensive portion of a cell's energy budget [1], and since we observed a net increased translation
367 rate in CKO cells we hypothesised that they may display increased energy consumption. Consistent
368 with this, we found that CKO cells had higher rates of glycolysis compared to WT cells (Figure 8A,
369 B).

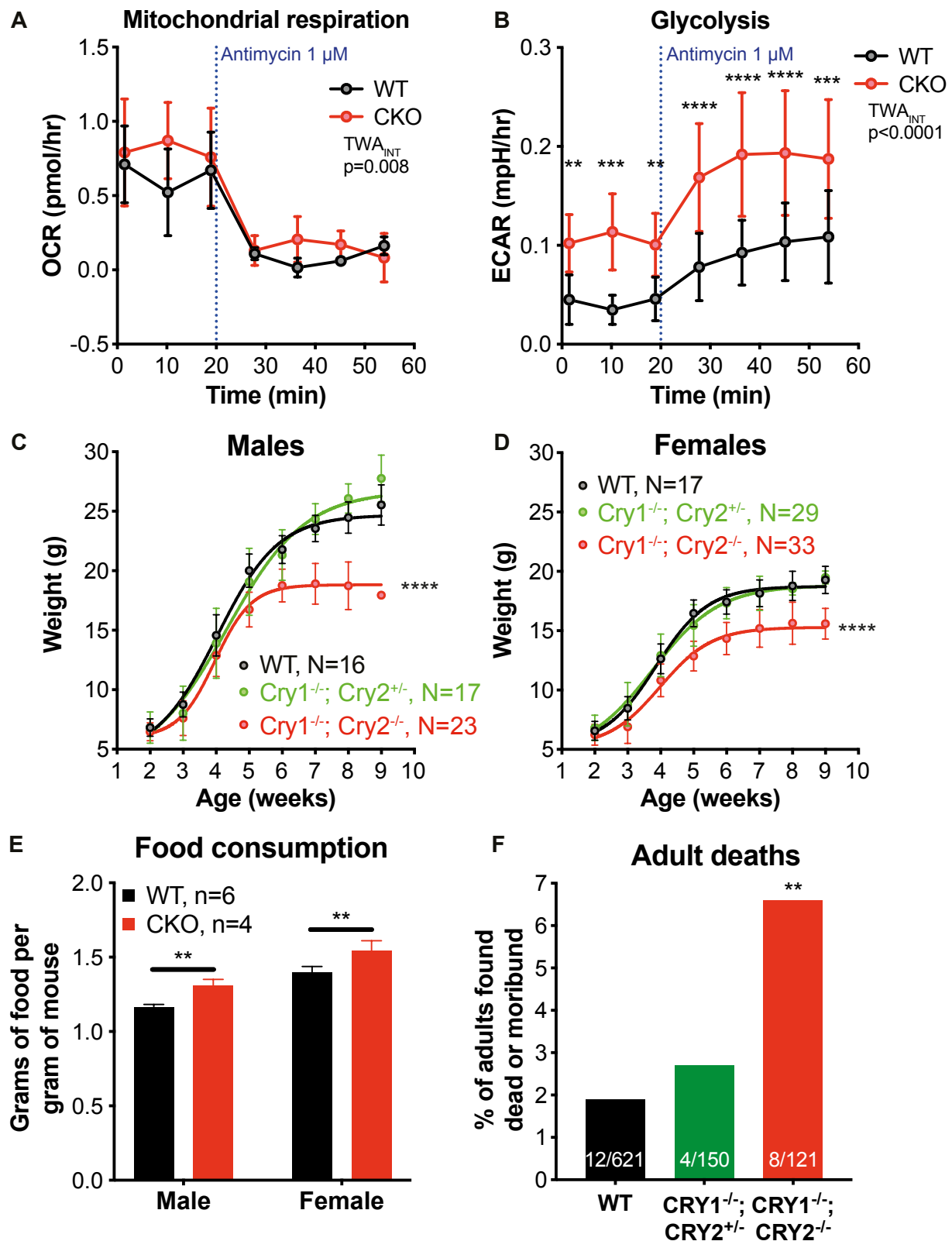
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371 Moreover, we also found features of increased energy usage in CKO mice. Both male and female
372 CKO mice displayed a reduced growth rate, despite increased food consumption (Figure 8C-E),
373 rescued by a single copy of *Cry2* in *Cry1*^{-/-}; *Cry2*^{+/-} mice. This suggests that the increased energy
374 usage of cells that lack CRY may be a general cellular defect that affects the physiology of the animal.

375

376 Taking this further, we considered that the increased energy usage and susceptibility to proteotoxic
377 stress might lead to a general impairment of health in CKO mice. In a retrospective analysis of mouse
378 husbandry records we found a >3-fold increase in the death rate of weaned CKO mice compared with
379 isogenic WT controls, which was rescued in *Cry1*^{-/-}; *Cry2*^{+/-} mice (Figure 8F). Post-mortem and
380 histopathology examinations were performed on 4 mice that underwent spontaneous death, and the
381 most common finding was mild extramedullary haematopoiesis (EMH), a sign of systemic
382 inflammation [55,56] (Table 1). This is consistent with previous observations of a pro-inflammatory
383 state in CKO mice [57–60]. Taking into account all our observations, we suggest that the increased
384 cellular energy usage coupled with impaired proteostasis may be a major contributor to the pleiotropic
385 physiological defects in CKO mice.

386



387

388 **Figure 8. Metabolic and pathological consequences of CRY deletion.** A), B) Seahorse assays were
 389 performed with WT and CKO cells in culture to measure oxygen consumption rate (OCR, A), which
 390 is a measure of mitochondrial respiration, as well as extracellular acidification rate (ECAR, B). The
 391 vertical blue line indicates that after 20 minutes of measurement, antimycin was added to halt

392 mitochondrial respiration. Mean±SEM, 2-way ANOVA with Holm-Sidak multiple comparisons test
393 denoted by asterisks, N=3. **C), D)** Growth curves of male and female mice were weighed weekly.
394 Mice were of the following genotypes: WT, CRY1^{-/-}; CRY2^{+/-} and CRY1^{-/-}; CRY2^{-/-} (CKO). F test
395 was used to test the null hypothesis that one curve fits all sets. P values annotated as asterisks. **E)**
396 Food consumption measured over 1 week, normalised for mouse weight. Food consumption was
397 monitored by weighing food daily. Mean±SD, 2-way ANOVA. **F)** Death rates among the 3 genotypes
398 mentioned above, expressed as a percentage of the number of mice. The absolute numbers of deaths
399 and total population size are annotated on the bars. Only mice that had been weaned were included,
400 and unnatural causes of death (e.g. cage flooding, fighting) were excluded. Asterisk indicates
401 significance from Chi-squared test for trend, p=0.007. Comparing WT and CKO, Fisher's exact test
402 p=0.009. Comparing WT and Het, Fisher's exact test p=0.5.

403

Mouse ID	Sex	Age at death (weeks)	Report findings
1	M	3	EMH , neutrophilic inflammation in lungs
2	F	0.3	EMH , low liver glycogen, bilateral hydronephrosis
3	F	8	EMH , bilateral hydronephrosis
4	F	20	EMH , severe lower urinary tract inflammation

404

405 **Table 1: Histopathology of CRY-deficient mice.** 4 histopathological examinations were carried out
406 on mice that were moribund and culled as a result. All mice were confirmed CRY1^{-/-}; CRY2^{-/-} by
407 genotyping. Extra-medullary haematopoiesis (EMH) was found in all cases.

408

409 **Discussion**

410 We have shown that the absence of CRY does not abolish circadian organisation of the cellular
411 proteome and phosphoproteome. Moreover, in CRY-deficient (CKO) cells we found a remarkable
412 proteome dysregulation, leading to an altered set point of protein homeostasis that renders cells more
413 susceptible to proteotoxic stress. This may be a general cellular feature that contributes to the
414 pathophysiological state of CKO mice. These findings have significant implications for the role of
415 the canonical TTFL and opens up several important avenues for future study.

416

417 There is accumulating evidence showing that the cell-intrinsic capacity to sustain ~24h rhythms does
418 not require the canonical TTFL, and is generated post-translationally [12,24–28,61,62]. Instead the
419 major contribution of CRY-mediated transcriptional-translational feedback to daily timing is to
420 confer robustness upon the oscillation; indeed, CRY-deficiency simply appears to be epistatic to the
421 daily organisation of behaviour and physiology *in vivo* under most conditions [23]. Our findings add
422 to this growing body of literature, showing that circadian regulation at the proteome level persists in
423 the absence of CRY-mediated feedback repression.

424

425 When analysing the effects of ablating clock genes, it is important to consider both altered rhythmicity
426 of proteins and altered overall levels of proteins [63]. The abundance of any protein is a function of
427 a dynamic equilibrium between synthesis and degradation. Global rates of protein synthesis are
428 circadian regulated *in vitro* and *in vivo* [7,8,64–66], whereas total cellular protein levels are not
429 (Figure 6; Stangherlin *et al.*, submitted) [23]. Therefore one or more pathways for protein degradation
430 should normally be circadian regulated, for which some supporting evidence exists [67–69]. Since
431 most rhythmically abundant mRNAs do not encode rhythmically abundant protein [10,24,70–74] this
432 indicates that for most proteins, their relative rates of synthesis and degradation are either constant or
433 have sufficiently similar rhythms that their concentrations do not change over 24h.

434

435 In our study, a key observation was that roughly twice as many proteins and phosphopeptides were
436 rhythmic in CKO cells compared with WT, but only a small minority of rhythmic species were
437 common to both genotypes. We also found that significant changes in the overall abundance of a
438 given protein or phosphopeptide was associated with a change in rhythmicity. The parsimonious
439 interpretation of our findings is that CRY normally functions to suppress rhythms in the abundance
440 of a substantial proportion (19%) of cellular proteins by coupling rhythms of synthesis and
441 degradation (Figure S3C). Removing CRY unmasks the rhythm for these proteins. In most cases
442 (16%) this leads to a change in the abundance of that protein, due to the new equilibrium that results
443 from a change in the average rate of protein synthesis relative to degradation. A smaller proportion
444 of cellular proteins (6%) upon which CRY normally confers rhythmic abundance lose that rhythm
445 when CRY is absent, with most (5%) reaching a new equilibrium concentration for the same reason.
446 The resultant change in abundance of >20% rhythmically regulated proteins in CKO cells may result
447 in an adaptation that leads to a change in the composition of most of the rest of the proteome (57%)
448 to maintain cellular homeostasis (Figure S3C). Such profound remodelling of the proteome is likely
449 to arise as an indirect consequence of CRY-deficiency as opposed to the direct regulation of most
450 cellular proteins by CRY.

451

452 For decades it has been argued that the adaptive advantage of cellular circadian clocks is to anticipate
453 the differential demands of day and night, by turning on genes to accommodate predicted demand.
454 Protein synthesis is the most energetically expensive process that most cells undertake however, and
455 multiple mechanisms exist to inactivate and sequester proteins that are not required [1,75]. Intuitively
456 then, it makes sense that cells would expend energy to ensure a constant abundance of most proteins
457 – to be mobilised as and when needed. However costly though, damaged proteins do need to be
458 degraded and replaced to avoid deleterious consequences such as aggregation. We therefore
459 hypothesise that a fundamental advantage offered by the canonical TTFL is the temporal

460 consolidation of proteome renewal, matching synthesis and degradation rates to keep protein
461 concentrations constant and maintain protein homeostasis overall.

462

463 In addition to regulating circadian rhythms, CRYs have also been reported to play a role in
464 magnetoreception [76,77], autoimmunity [57], cell cycle progression [78], and DNA damage
465 signalling [79], as well as regulation of membrane potential [80], phototransduction [80], synaptic
466 plasticity [81], GPCR signalling [82]. CRYs are therefore seemingly multifunctional. However,
467 CRYs have also been found to have functions in fundamental cellular process that may underlie many
468 of these reports. For example, CRYs regulate the transcription of many genes directly [21,31] and
469 indirectly through interactions with various nuclear receptors [83]. CRY proteins are also
470 promiscuous E3 ligase adaptors which target >100 cellular proteins for ubiquitination by the
471 SCF^{FBXL3} complex to be degraded by the proteasome. These targets include CRL4^{COP1} [84], c-MYC
472 [85], TLK2 [86], FOXO1 [87] and E2F family members. Finally, CRYs may also mediate a more
473 general repression of BMAL1-stimulated translation [23,64,88]. Adding to this, we found that
474 proteasome activity was reduced in CKO cells whilst translation rate was increased, indicating a
475 general function of CRY in protein homeostasis regulation.

476

477 It is likely that these factors all contribute to the changes in protein abundance for 82% of the
478 proteome, that we observed in CKO cells (Figure S3C). Our observations of increased energy
479 production and ion transport may reflect adaptations to the remodelled proteome in these cells. This
480 adapted state in CKO cells renders them more sensitive to proteotoxic stress. We found that compared
481 to WT, CKO cells have increased protein abundance and reduced K⁺ levels overall, as well as higher
482 amplitude rhythms of cytosolic protein and K⁺. Changes in soluble protein concentration require
483 stoichiometrically larger changes in ion concentration to maintain osmotic homeostasis [89]. We
484 therefore suggest that CKO cells may have an impaired ability to buffer changes in intracellular
485 osmolarity, which may contribute to the sensitivity to stress [47,90].

486 The increased energy consumption of CKO cells, associated with impaired regulation of protein
487 homeostasis and increased sensitivity to proteotoxic stress may have systemic consequences for the
488 animals. We suggest that this broad range of consequences of CRY deletion may contribute to the
489 pronounced pathophysiology previously reported in CKO mice. For example, other studies have also
490 reported impaired body growth in CKO mice, along with dysregulated growth hormone release
491 [91,92]. Furthermore, CKO mice have an altered response to high fat diet, characterised by increased
492 insulin secretion and lipid storage in adipocytes [93]. Female CKO mice have impaired fertility, and
493 this is thought to be age-dependent [94]. Finally, CKO mice have increased susceptibility to cancer,
494 in multiple models for carcinogenesis [95–98]. It is likely that a combination of the loss of specific
495 functions of CRY, and a general protein homeostasis function of the TTFL are responsible for these
496 CKO mutant phenotypes, since many are not shared with other behaviourally arrhythmic circadian
497 mutant mice [63,99,100]. Of course, further work will be required to assess how successfully the
498 interpretation we propose accounts for the circadian function of CRYPTOCHROME *in vivo*, and that
499 of transcriptional-translational feedback loops more generally.

500

501 In this investigation, we have not addressed the nature of the post-translational mechanism postulated
502 to generate circadian rhythms in mammalian cells, which is discussed elsewhere [12,23]. We note,
503 however, that oscillations of protein synthesis stimulate facilitatory metabolism and compensatory
504 ion transport to maintain osmotic and protein homeostasis during the metabolic cycle of yeast cells
505 [101]. The many mechanistic features shared between mammalian circadian rhythms and yeast
506 respiratory oscillations may indicate a common ancestral origin [30].

507

508 In our kinase inference analysis, we were surprised not to find evidence supportive of circadian
509 phosphorylation by casein kinase 1 or any of the other kinases implicated in the post-translational
510 circadian regulation. Indeed, the very poor overlap in rhythmically phosphorylated proteins between
511 the two genotypes, and between rhythmic phosphorylation and rhythmic protein in either genotype,

512 suggests that the circadian functions of this post-translational modification are likely to be context-
513 dependent. As with the proteome, however, we did notice a highly significant association between
514 change in rhythmicity and change in phosphopeptide abundance. If a similar interpretation to that
515 which we propose for the proteome were true, it would imply that as much as 20% of protein
516 phosphorylation is subject to cell-autonomous circadian regulation (Figure S3D), but in most cases it
517 is matched by a dephosphorylation rhythm of similar phase and amplitude. Given the consolidation
518 of phosphorylation rhythms around a temporal window that anticipates the active phase (Figure 2G),
519 we speculate that the circadian regulation of dynamic steady state phosphorylation might confer more
520 sensitive and rapid transduction of a given extracellular stimulus when received around the rest-to-
521 active transition compared with 12 hours later. Future work will be required to test this hypothesis
522 experimentally.

523

524 In conclusion, we have shown that CRY-dependent feedback mechanisms are not required for cell-
525 autonomous circadian rhythms of protein abundance or phosphorylation in mammalian cells.
526 Moreover, when CRY is present, it functions to suppress more abundance rhythms than it facilitates.
527 Loss of CRY also creates an overall imbalance of the proteome, with reduced proteasome activity,
528 increased protein synthesis and protein levels. Cells adapt to this genetic insult through increased
529 energy expenditure, and by altering osmotic balance and proteome composition to achieve a different
530 set point for protein homeostasis, that renders them more sensitive to proteotoxic stress. This state
531 may in turn have physiological consequences for the whole animal. We propose that the principal
532 utility of CRY-mediated feedback repression is to couple global protein synthesis and degradation
533 rates, ensuring the temporal consolidation of proteome renewal without commensurate change in
534 protein abundance.

535

536

537

538 **Methods**

539 **Mammalian cell culture**

540 All animal work was licensed by the Home Office under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act
541 1986, with Local Ethical Review by the Medical Research Council and the University of Cambridge,
542 UK. Fibroblasts homozygous for PER2::LUCIFERASE [102] were extracted from adult mouse lung
543 tissue and then serial passage was used as described previously to induce spontaneous
544 immortalisation [30,103]. Fibroblasts were cultured in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle Medium (DMEM),
545 supplemented with 100 units/ml penicillin, 100 µg/ml streptomycin (Gibco) and 10% FetalClone III
546 serum (HyClone, Thermo Fisher). All cells were confirmed to be free of Mycoplasma. Unless stated
547 otherwise, confluent cell cultures up to a maximum of 30 passages were used during experiments to
548 abolish any effects of cell division, since these cells display contact inhibition.

549

550 **General statistics**

551 P values are annotated in figures with asterisks, where the number of asterisks indicates the
552 significance: Ns = not significant; * = $p \leq 0.05$; ** = $p \leq 0.01$, *** = $p \leq 0.001$; **** = $p \leq 0.0001$.
553 Technical replicates are denoted as “n” in the figures or figure legends (e.g. n=3), and biological
554 replicates are denoted as “N”. Statistical tests were carried out using Prism Graphpad 8 (San Diego,
555 Ca) or R v3.6.3.

556

557 **Longitudinal bioluminescent reporter experiments**

558 Data from longitudinal bioluminescence recordings were analysed using Prism Graphpad 8 (San
559 Diego, Ca). A 24-hour moving average was used to detrend data, and so circa-24 hour rhythms can
560 more easily be observed and measured. Detrending in this way removes changes in baseline that occur
561 on a timescale greater than a day; 24-hour rhythms cannot be introduced by this method. Then a
562 circadian damped cosine wave was fitted by least-squares regression to determine period, phase and
563 amplitude. The formula is as follows:

564
$$y = (mx + c) + a e^{-kx} \cos \left(\frac{2\pi x - r}{p} \right)$$

565

566 Where m is the baseline gradient, c is the displacement in the y axis, k is the damping rate, a is the
567 amplitude, r is the phase and p is the period. The first 24 hours of each recording were omitted because
568 this represents the transient effects of medium change on clock gene expression. Rhythmicity of
569 bioluminescence recordings was assessed by comparing the fit of this equation to the null hypothesis
570 of a straight line using the Extra sum-of-squares F test in Prism Graphpad 8 (San Diego, CA). If
571 fitting to the damped cosine was preferred ($p \leq 0.05$) then the recording was deemed “rhythmic”.

572

573 **Timecourse experiments: general structure**

574 Cells were plated at a near-confluent density (roughly 27,000 cells per cm^2) and cultured in DMEM
575 with 10% FetalClone III serum for one week in a temperature-controlled incubator that was
576 programmed to oscillate between 32°C and 37°C, with transitions every 12 hours. The cells received
577 a medium change at the transition between 37°C and 32°C after 4 days. After another 3 days the cells
578 received another medium change at the same transition time into medium containing either 10% or
579 1% serum, and the incubator was programmed to remain at 37°C constantly. At this time, a subset of
580 cells received medium containing 1 mM luciferin, and these were placed into an ALLIGATOR for
581 bioluminescent recording. After 24 hours, sampling began, with 3 hour intervals, and continuing for
582 3 days. The time point of the first sample is known as “Experimental time 0”, and all time points are
583 reported relative to this. The nature of the sampling varied according to the specific experiment, and
584 details are presented in separate sections.

585

586 **Proteomics and phosphoproteomics**

587 ***Sample preparation***

588 A timecourse was carried out as described above. At each timepoint cells were washed twice in ice
589 cold PBS and then lysed at room temperature in 100 μL lysis buffer (8 M urea, 20 mM Tris, pH 8)

590 for 20 minutes. The lysis buffer was prepared the day before sampling began, and frozen in 1 mL
591 aliquots. At each timepoint, one aliquot was defrosted at room temperature (23°C) whilst shaking at
592 700 rpm for 5 minutes. After lysis the cells were scraped and technical replicates were combined
593 before flash freezing in liquid nitrogen and storage at -80°C.

594

595 After defrosting the samples were sonicated for 2 minutes and the protein concentration was measured
596 using a BCA assay (Pierce). 12 pooled samples were created by combining a portion of each
597 experimental sample such that each sample/pool contained an equal amount of protein. All samples
598 were then flash frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -80°C.

599

600 ***Enzymatic Digestion***

601 Each sample (256 µg) was reduced with 5 mM DTT at 56°C for 30 minutes and then alkylated with
602 10 mM iodoacetamide in the dark at room temperature for 30 minutes. They were then digested with
603 mass spectrometry grade Lys-C (Promega) at a protein:Lys-C ratio of 100:1 (w/w) for 4 hours at
604 25°C. Next, the samples were diluted to 1.5 M urea using 20 mM HEPES (pH 8.5) and digested at
605 30°C overnight with trypsin (Promega) at a ratio of 70:1 (w/w). Digestion was quenched by the
606 addition of trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) to a final concentration of 1%. Any precipitates were removed
607 by centrifugation at 13000g for 15 minutes. The supernatants were desalted using homemade C18
608 stage tips containing 3M Empore extraction disks (Sigma) and 5 mg of Poros R3 resin (Applied
609 Biosystems). Bound peptides were eluted with 30-80% acetonitrile (MeCN) in 0.1% TFA and
610 lyophilized.

611

612 ***TMT (Tandem mass tag) peptide labelling***

613 The lyophilized peptides from each sample were resuspended in 100 µl of 2.5% MeCN, 250 mM
614 triethylammonium bicarbonate. According to manufacturer's instructions, 0.8 mg of each TMT
615 10plex reagent (Thermo) was reconstituted in 41 µl of anhydrous MeCN. The peptides from each

616 time point and pooled sample were labelled with a distinct TMT tag for 75 minutes at room
617 temperature. The labelling reaction was quenched by incubation with 8 μ l 5% hydroxylamine for 30
618 min. For each set of 10-plex TMT reagent, the labelled peptides from 8 time point samples + 2 pools
619 were combined into a single sample and partially dried to remove MeCN in a SpeedVac (Thermo
620 Scientific). After this, the sample was desalted as before and the eluted peptides were lyophilized.

621

622 ***Basic pH Reverse-Phase HPLC fractionation***

623 The TMT labelled peptides were subjected to off-line High Performance Liquid Chromatography
624 (HPLC) fractionation, using an XBridge BEH130 C18, 3.5 μ m, 4.6 mm x 250 mm column with an
625 XBridge BEH C18 3.5 μ m Van Guard cartridge (Waters), connected to an Ultimate 3000
626 Nano/Capillary LC System (Dionex). Peptide mixtures were resolubilized in solvent A (5% MeCN,
627 95% 10 mM ammonium bicarbonate, pH 8) and separated with a gradient of 1-90% solvent B (90%
628 MeCN, 10% 10 mM ammonium bicarbonate, pH 8) over 60 minutes at a flow rate of 500 μ l/min. A
629 total of 60 fractions were collected. They were combined into 20 fractions and lyophilized and
630 desalted as before. 5% of the total eluate from each fraction was taken out for proteome LC-MS/MS
631 analysis and the rest was used for phosphopeptide enrichment.

632

633 ***Enrichment of phosphopeptides***

634 All 20 fractions of peptide mixture were enriched first using PHOS-Select iron affinity gel, an Iron
635 (III) Immobilised Metal Chelate Affinity Chromatography (IMAC) resin (Sigma). Desalted peptides
636 were resuspended in 30% MeCN, 0.25 M acetic acid (loading solution) and 30 μ l of IMAC beads,
637 previously equilibrated with the loading solution, was added. After 60 minutes incubation at room
638 temperature, beads were transferred to a homemade C8 (3M Empore) stage tip and washed 3 times
639 with loading solution. Phosphopeptides were eluted sequentially with 0.4 M NH_3 , 30% MeCN, 0.4
640 M NH_3 and 20 μ l of 50% MeCN, 0.1% TFA.

641

642 The flow-through from the C8 stage tips was collected and combined into 10 fractions, and used for
643 titanium dioxide (TiO₂) phosphopeptide enrichment. For this, the total volume of flow-through was
644 made up to 50% MeCN, 2 M lactic acid (loading buffer) and incubated with 1-2 mg TiO₂ beads
645 (Titansphere, GL Sciences, Japan) at room temperature for 1 hour. The beads were transferred into
646 C8 stage tips, washed in the tip twice with the loading buffer and once with 50% MeCN, 0.1% TFA.
647 Phosphopeptides were then eluted sequentially with 50 mM K₂HPO₄ (pH 10) followed by 50%
648 MeCN, 50 mM K₂HPO₄ (pH 10) and 50% MeCN, 0.1% TFA.

649
650 The first 10 fractions of IMAC and the 10 fractions of TiO₂ enriched phosphopeptides were combined,
651 and the other 10 fractions from IMAC enrichment were combined into 5 fractions, thus making a
652 total of 15 fractions for phosphoproteomics analysis. Phosphopeptide solution from these fractions
653 were acidified, partially dried, and desalted with a C18 Stage tip that contained 1.5 µl of Poros R3
654 resin. These were then partially dried again and thus ready for mass spectrometry analysis.

655

656 *LC MS/MS*

657 The fractionated peptides were analysed by LC-MS/MS using a fully automated Ultimate 3000 RSLC
658 nano System (Thermo) fitted with a 100 µm x 2 cm PepMap100 C18 nano trap column and a 75 µm
659 × 25 cm reverse phase C18 nano column (Acclaim PepMap, Thermo). Samples were separated using
660 a binary gradient consisting of buffer A (2% MeCN, 0.1% formic acid) and buffer B (80% MeCN,
661 0.1% formic acid), and eluted at 300 nL/min with an acetonitrile gradient. The outlet of the nano
662 column was directly interfaced via a nanospray ion source to a Q Exactive Plus mass spectrometer
663 (Thermo). The mass spectrometer was operated in standard data-dependent mode, performing a MS
664 full-scan in the m/z range of 350-1600, with a resolution of 70000. This was followed by MS2
665 acquisitions of the 15 most intense ions with a resolution of 35000 and Normalised Collision Energy
666 (NCE) of 33%. MS target values of 3e6 and MS2 target values of 1e5 were used. The isolation
667 window of precursor ion was set at 0.7 Da and sequenced peptides were excluded for 40 seconds.

668

669 ***Spectral processing and peptide and protein identification***

670 The acquired raw files from LC-MS/MS were processed using MaxQuant (Cox and Mann) with the
671 integrated Andromeda search engine (v1.6.3.3). MS/MS spectra were quantified with reporter ion
672 MS2 from TMT 10plex experiments and searched against the *Mus musculus* UniProt Fasta database
673 (Dec 2016). Carbamidomethylation of cysteines was set as fixed modification, while methionine
674 oxidation, N-terminal acetylation and phosphorylation (STY) (for phosphoproteomics group only)
675 were set as variable modifications. Protein quantification requirements were set at 1 unique and razor
676 peptide. In the identification tab, second peptides and match between runs were not selected. Other
677 parameters in MaxQuant were set to default values.

678

679 The MaxQuant output file was then processed with Perseus (v1.6.2.3). Reporter ion intensities were
680 uploaded to Perseus. The data was filtered: identifications from the reverse database were removed,
681 only identified by site, potential contaminants were removed and we only considered proteins with
682 ≥ 1 unique and razor peptide. Then all columns with an intensity “less or equal to zero” were converted
683 to “NAN” and exported as a .txt file.

684

685 The MaxQuant output file with phosphor (STY) sites table was also processed with Perseus software
686 (v1.6.2.3). The data was filtered: identifications from the reverse database were removed, only
687 identified by site, potential contaminants were removed and we only considered phosphopeptides
688 with localization probability ≥ 0.75 . Then all columns with intensity “less or equal to zero” were
689 converted to “NAN” and exported as a .txt file.

690

691 ***Bioinformatics***

692 All data handling was done using R v3.6.3. Since the sample for timepoint 12 was missing for CRY1⁻
693 ⁻; CRY2⁻, abundance values were inferred for each protein by taking the mean of the two

694 neighbouring timepoints. WT and CKO datasets were analysed either combined or independently.
695 The combined analysis was used to directly compare protein and phosphopeptide abundances
696 between genotypes, since the internal reference scaling normalisation accounts for batch effects. The
697 independent method was used for all other analysis that did not require comparison of abundance,
698 thus allowing the detection of proteins that were present in one genotype but not the other.

699
700 Proteins and phosphopeptides were only accepted for further analysis if present in all timepoints and
701 pooled samples. Hence in the combined analysis, proteins/phosphopeptides had to be present in all
702 timepoints for both genotypes, as well as all pooled samples. In the independent analysis,
703 proteins/phosphopeptides had to be present in all timepoints and pools for one genotype only. Sample
704 loading normalisation was carried out by taking the sum of all intensities for each time point and
705 normalising to the mean of these, since an equal amount of protein was used for each TMT labelling
706 reaction. This was followed by internal reference scaling (IRS) to allow for comparisons between
707 TMT experiments [104]: for each TMT 10plex set the mean abundance for each protein in both pools
708 was calculated. Then the mean of these means was calculated and used to normalise the values for
709 each protein for all the samples.

710
711 Rhythmicity was tested using the RAIN (Rhythmicity Analysis Incorporating Non-parametric
712 methods) algorithm [105], and multiple testing was corrected for using the adaptive Benjamini-
713 Hochberg method. Proteins with a corrected $p \leq 0.05$ were deemed significant. Relative amplitude of
714 rhythmic proteins was calculated by detrending the data using a 24-hour moving average and dividing
715 the resultant range by the average normalised protein abundance. To include only proteins with a
716 biologically relevant level of oscillation, only those with relative amplitude $\geq 10\%$ were taken for
717 further analysis (see text for details). Phosphoproteomics data were handled in the same way, except
718 that normalised phosphopeptide abundances were adjusted according to the changes in abundance of

719 the corresponding protein from the normalised total proteome data, and no threshold for relative
720 amplitude was used.

721

722 Gene ontology analysis was performed using the GOrilla online tool [45,46]. Analysis was performed
723 either as a single ranked list of gene names, or as a target dataset compared to background (all proteins
724 detected in the experiment). Kinase recognition motifs were screened using a custom script written
725 in Python v2.7, which used the PHOSIDA database [37,38].

726

727 **Western blotting**

728 For Western blots, proteins were run on NuPAGE™ Novex™ 4-12% Bis-Tris Protein Gels (Thermo
729 Fisher) before transferring to nitrocellulose membranes. For transfer, the iBlot system (Thermo Fisher)
730 was used. Membranes were blocked using 5% milk powder (Marvel) or 0.125% BSA (Sigma) and
731 0.125% milk powder (Marvel) in TBS containing 0.1% Tween-20 (TBST) for 30 minutes at room
732 temperature then incubated with primary antibody at 4°C overnight. HRP-conjugated secondary
733 antibodies (Thermo Fisher) diluted 1:10000 in blocking buffer were incubated with the blots for 1
734 hour at room temperature. Chemiluminescence was detected in a Biorad chemidoc using Immobilon
735 reagent (Millipore). Protein loading was checked by staining gels with Colloidal Coomassie Blue
736 Stain (Severn Biotech). Densitometric analysis was carried out using Image Lab 4.1 (Biorad
737 Laboratories 2012).

738

739 **Measurement of cellular protein content**

740 At specified time points, confluent monolayers of cells were washed twice with ice-cold PBS. Cells
741 were then incubated with 200 µL digitonin lysis buffer (50 mM Tris pH 7.4, 0.01% digitonin, 5 mM
742 EDTA, 150 mM NaCl, 1 U/mL Benzonase, protease and phosphatase inhibitors) on ice for 15 minutes
743 before lysates were collected. For total protein extraction, cells were instead incubated with 200 µL
744 RIPA buffer (50 mM Tris pH 7.4, 1% SDS, 5 mM EDTA, 150 mM NaCl, 1 U/mL Benzonase,

745 protease and phosphatase inhibitors), on ice for 15 minutes. Cells lysed with RIPA buffer were then
746 scraped and collected and all samples were flash frozen in liquid nitrogen. After thawing, RIPA
747 lysates were sonicated at high power for 10 seconds at 4°C to shear genomic DNA. RIPA lysates and
748 digitonin lysates were clarified by centrifugation at 21,000 g for 15 minutes at 4°C.

749

750 Intrinsic tryptophan fluorescence was used to measure protein concentrations. 10 µL of each sample
751 was transferred into a UV-transparent 384 well plate (Corning 4681) in quadruplicate. After brief
752 centrifugation of the plate, quantification was carried out using a Tecan Spark 10M microplate reader,
753 with excitation at 280 nm and emission at 350 nm. Standards were made using bovine serum albumin
754 (Fisher Scientific), dissolved using the same lysis buffer as the lysates being measured. Standard
755 curves were fitted to a quadratic curve using Prism Graphpad 8 (San Diego, Ca), and protein
756 concentrations were interpolated.

757

758 **Measurement of intracellular ion content by Inductively Coupled Plasma - Mass Spectrometry** 759 **(ICP-MS)**

760 Confluent monolayers of cells were washed on ice with iso-osmotic buffer A (300 mM sucrose, 10
761 mM Tris base, 1 mM EDTA, pH 7.4 adjusted with phosphoric acid, 330-340 mOsm adjusted with
762 sucrose/HPLC water), followed by iso-osmotic buffer B (300 mM sucrose, 10 mM Tris base, 1 mM
763 EDTA, pH 7.4 adjusted with acetic acid, 330-340 mOsm adjusted with sucrose/HPLC water). Iso-
764 osmotic buffer A contains phosphoric acid which displaces lipid bound ions. Iso-osmotic buffer B
765 contains acetic acid which removes traces of phosphates. Cells were then incubated for 30 minutes at
766 room temperature in 200 µL ICP-MS cell lysis buffer (65% nitric acid, 0.1 mg/mL (100 ppb) cerium).
767 Lysates were then collected and stored at -80°C. All samples were thawed simultaneously and diluted
768 using HPLC water to a final concentration of 5% nitric acid. Diluted samples were analysed by
769 Inductively Coupled Plasma - Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) using the NexION 350D ICP-MS
770 (PerkinElmer Inc.) as described previously [8].

771

772 **Proteasome activity assays**

773 20,000 cells per well were plated in a 96-well plate using standard culture medium, and on the
774 following day the medium was changed. 10 μ M epoxomicin in the medium was used as negative
775 control. 3 hours later, the ProteasomeGlo Cell-Based Assay (Promega) was used to measure
776 proteasome catalytic activity. Chymotrypsin-like, trypsin-like and caspase-like activities were
777 measured separately using the relevant substrates from Promega (Suc-LLVY-Glo, Z-LRR-Glo, Z-
778 nLPnLD-Glo respectively). Assay reagents were prepared according to the manufacturer's
779 instructions. The 96-well plate was equilibrated to room temperature, and a volume of assay reagent
780 equal to the volume of medium was added to each well before shaking at 700 rpm for 2 minutes. The
781 plate was incubated at room temperature for a further 10 minutes, and then luminescence was
782 measured using the Tecan Spark 10M microplate reader, recording counts for 1 second. The
783 luminescence readings from the epoxomicin controls represent background protease activity, and so
784 this was subtracted from all other recordings.

785

786 **Measurement of translation rate**

787 WT and CKO mouse lung fibroblasts were grown to confluence in 48-well plates, and medium was
788 changed 24h before the experiment to either low (1%) or high (10%) serum. The cells were pulsed
789 with 0.1 mCi/ml ³⁵S-L-methionine/³⁵S-L-cysteine mix (EasyTag™ EXPRESS35S Protein Labeling
790 Mix, Perkin Elmer) in cysteine/methionine-free DMEM for 15 min at 37°C, with or without serum
791 supplement. Afterwards, cells were washed with ice-cold PBS and lysed in digitonin-based buffer
792 (with protease inhibitor tablet, added freshly) on ice. Lysates were reduced with LDS buffer and run
793 on 4-12% Bis-Tris SDS-PAGE using MES buffer. Gels were then dried at 80°C and exposed
794 overnight to a phosphorimager screen. Images were acquired with Typhoon FLA700 gel scanner, and
795 quantified using Fiji.

796

797 For the puromycin pulse experiment, cells were seeded (in the presence of 1 mM luciferin) in
798 fibronectin-coated dishes at high density one day before starting the experiment. Separate 6-well
799 plates were used for each time point. 30 minutes before the start of the experiment, cells were
800 synchronised by a dexamethasone pulse (10 nM), after which cells were exchanged into Air medium
801 (DMEM without glucose, L-glutamine, phenol red, sodium pyruvate and sodium bicarbonate (Sigma).
802 The following were added: 0.35 g/L sodium bicarbonate (Sigma), 5 g/L glucose (Sigma), 20 mM
803 MOPS (VWR), penicillin/streptomycin solution (as above), Glutamax (Thermo Fisher), B27
804 (Thermo Fisher), 1 mM potassium luciferin solution (Biosyth), 1% FetalClone III serum. The medium
805 was adjusted to pH 7.6 at room temperature, and osmolality adjusted to 350-360 mOsm/kg using
806 sodium chloride). At the indicated time points, 10 µg/mL puromycin was added while keeping cells
807 warm on a hot plate, after which the plate was incubated in tissue culture incubator for exactly 10
808 minutes. Timepoint 0 represents cells just before the dexamethasone pulse. Cells were then washed
809 with ice-cold PBS, after which they were lysed in lysis buffer (50 mM tris, pH 7.5, 1% Triton X-
810 100, 0.1% SDS, 1.5 mM MgCl₂, 100 mM NaCl, cOmplete protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche)) and
811 flash frozen. For Western blot analysis, samples were spun down, diluted in Laemmli sample buffer,
812 ran on 4-20% gradient gels, and blots were probed for ATF4 and tubulin.

813

814 **Metabolic profiling of cells in culture**

815 To characterise the metabolic profile of cells in culture metabolic assays from Seahorse Biosciences
816 were used [106,107] to measure extracellular acidification rate (ECAR) and oxygen consumption rate
817 (OCR) according to manufacturer's instructions (Agilent). 18,000 cells per well were plated in a 24-
818 well cell culture microplate (Agilent) and incubated at 37°C overnight to adhere the cells. Empty
819 wells in positions recommended by the manufacturer were used to assess background. Cells were
820 then changed into warm "Seahorse medium" (DMEM without phenol red or bicarbonate, 4.5 g/L
821 glucose, 1 mM pyruvate, 4 mM glutamine), and incubated for 30 minutes in a CO₂-free incubator at
822 37°C for equilibration. An Agilent Seahorse XFe24 Analyser was then used to measure OCR and

823 ECAR, with injection of antimycin diluted in Seahorse medium at a working concentration of 1 μ M
824 after the assay as a negative control.

825

826 **Antibodies**

Antibody name/target	Host species	Catalogue number	Manufacturer
Anti-mouse-HRP	Goat	A4416	Sigma
Anti-rabbit-HRP	Goat	A6154	Sigma
Anti-rat-HRP	Goat	629520	Thermo
Tubulin YL1-2	Rat		in-house
Proteasome 20S alpha 1-7	Mouse	ab22674	Abcam
EIF2a	Mouse	AhO0802	Thermo
P-EIF2a	Rabbit	ab32157	Abcam
ATF4 (CREB-2)	Mouse	sc-390063	Santa-Cruz Biotechnology
Histone H3	Rabbit	ab1791	Abcam

827

828

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840

841 **Contributions**

842 DCSW, ES and JON designed the study, analysed the data and wrote the manuscript; DCSW, ES,
843 AS, AZ and MP performed cell experiments; SPC and JD performed mass spectrometry analyses;
844 DCSW, NMR, ADB and JON performed mouse studies; MR performed tissue collection and
845 husbandry. All authors commented on the manuscript.

846

847 **Conflicts of interest**

848 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

849

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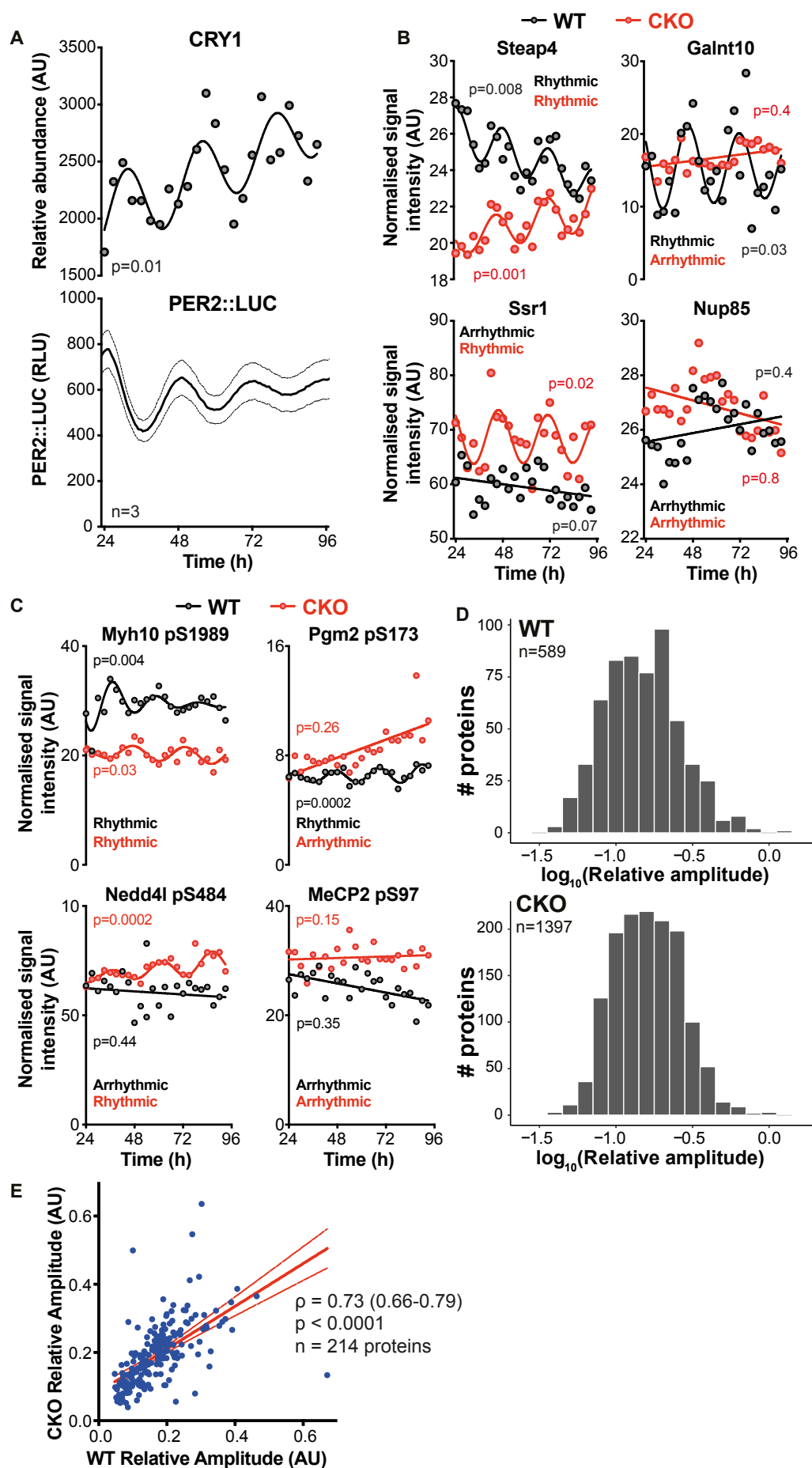
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Supplementary figures



1140

1141 **Figure S1. Benchmarking and comparing relative amplitudes of the rhythmic proteome**

1142 **A)** The relative abundance of CRY1 detected in the WT dataset is plotted. It was preferentially fit by
1143 a damped cosine wave over a straight line (Extra sum-of-squares F test, $p=0.01$). Below: Longitudinal
1144 bioluminescence recording of WT PER2::LUC fibroblasts, performed simultaneously with the
1145 proteomics experiment as a phase marker. Mean \pm SEM.

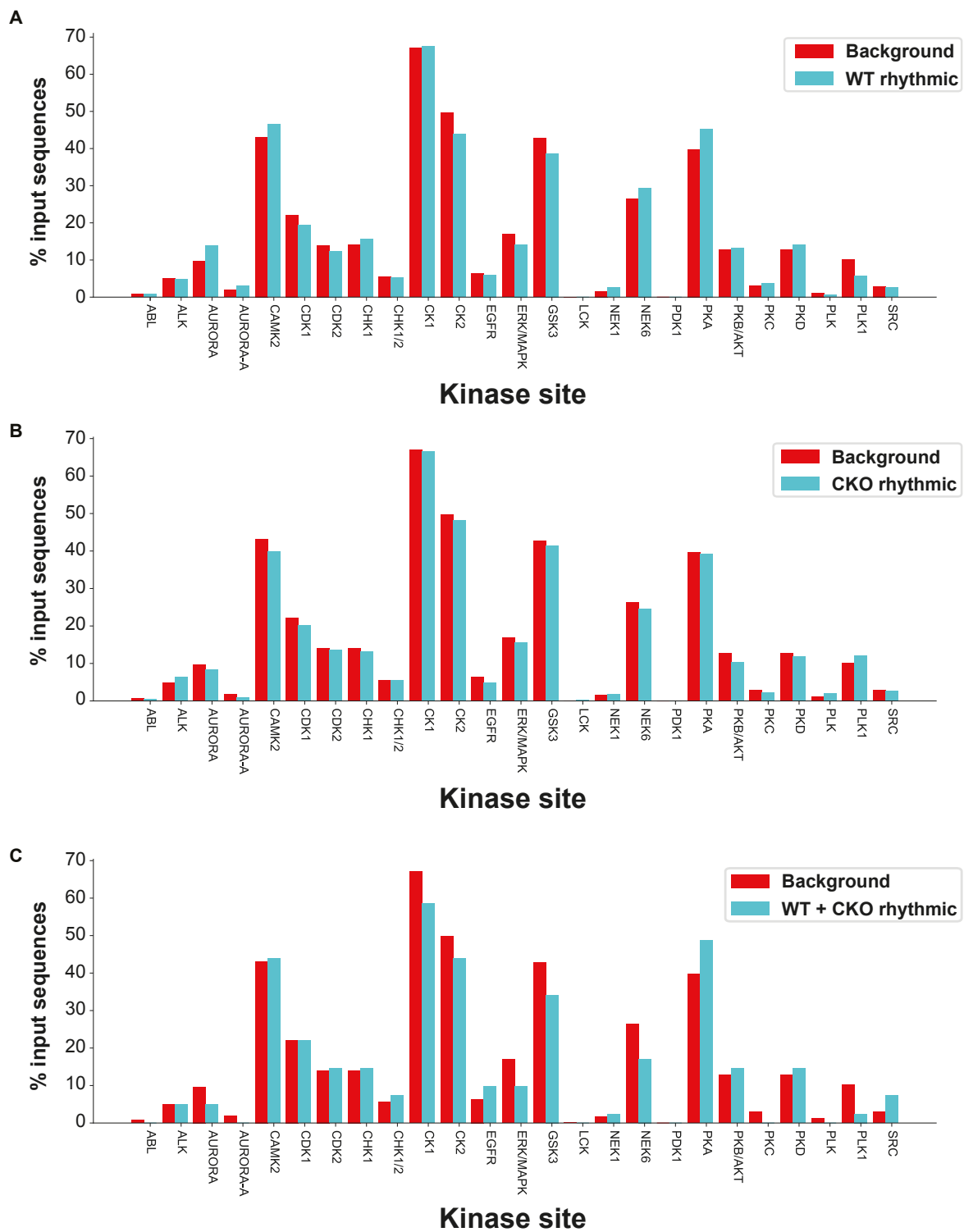
1146 **B)** Examples of proteins detected by mass spectrometry are shown, labelled by gene name. Examples
1147 are included of proteins that are rhythmic in both genotypes, rhythmic in only one genotype, or not
1148 rhythmic in either. P-values shown are from a comparison of fit (F test, damped cosine against straight
1149 line). Annotation as rhythmic/arrhythmic are from the RAIN output.

1150 **C)** Examples of phosphopeptides detected by mass spectrometry are shown, labelled by gene name
1151 and phosphosite. Examples are included of phosphopeptides that are rhythmic in both genotypes,
1152 rhythmic in only one genotype, or not rhythmic in either. Annotation as in B).

1153 **D)** Histograms showing the frequency distributions of relative amplitudes of proteins in WT and CKO
1154 cells. The median relative amplitude was significantly higher in CKO cells compared to WT ($p=0.008$,
1155 Kolmogorov-Smirnov test), although the difference was small (WT median = 0.15, CKO median =
1156 0.16).

1157 **E)** The relative amplitudes of all proteins rhythmic (without the 10% threshold applied) in both WT
1158 and CKO cells were plotted, showing a positive correlation between the genotypes. Spearman
1159 correlation coefficient (ρ) = 0.73 (95% confidence interval 0.66-0.79), $p < 0.0001$, $n = 214$ proteins.
1160 In red, the linear regression line is plotted with 95% confidence interval.

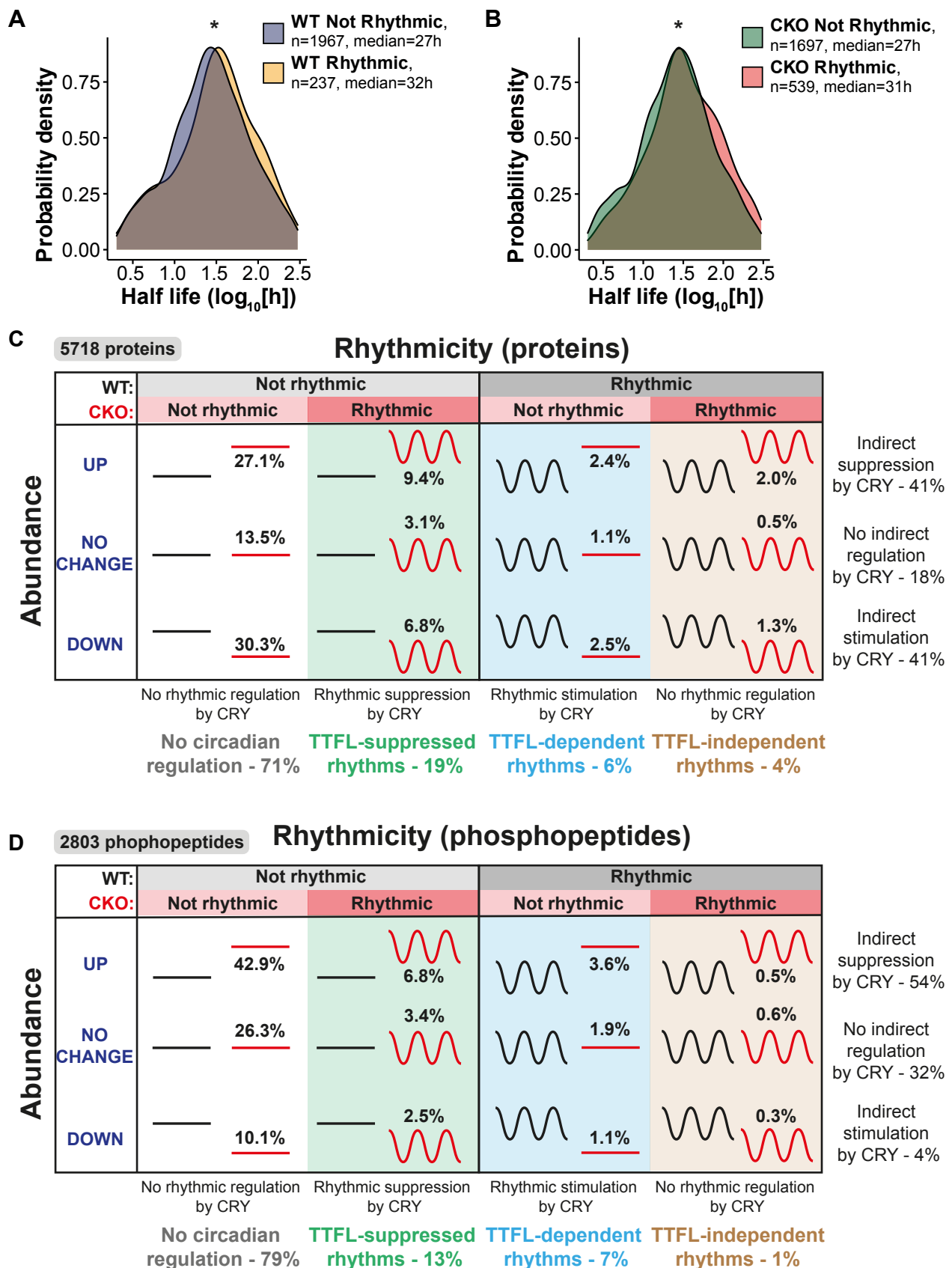
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1163 **Figure S2. Kinase inference from phosphopeptides in WT and CKO cells**

1164 **A), B, C)** Using the phosphoproteomics dataset, phosphopeptide sequences were analysed, with the
 1165 number of kinase binding motifs counted for a panel of 25 kinases present in the PHOSIDA database
 1166 [37,38]. Phosphopeptides that were rhythmic (in WT, in CKO, or in both genotypes respectively)
 1167 were compared to the background of phosphopeptides present in all samples and pools.



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1169 **Figure S3. CRY suppresses the proteome and phosphoproteome**

1170 **A), B)** Probability density graphs compare the distribution of protein half-life between rhythmic and

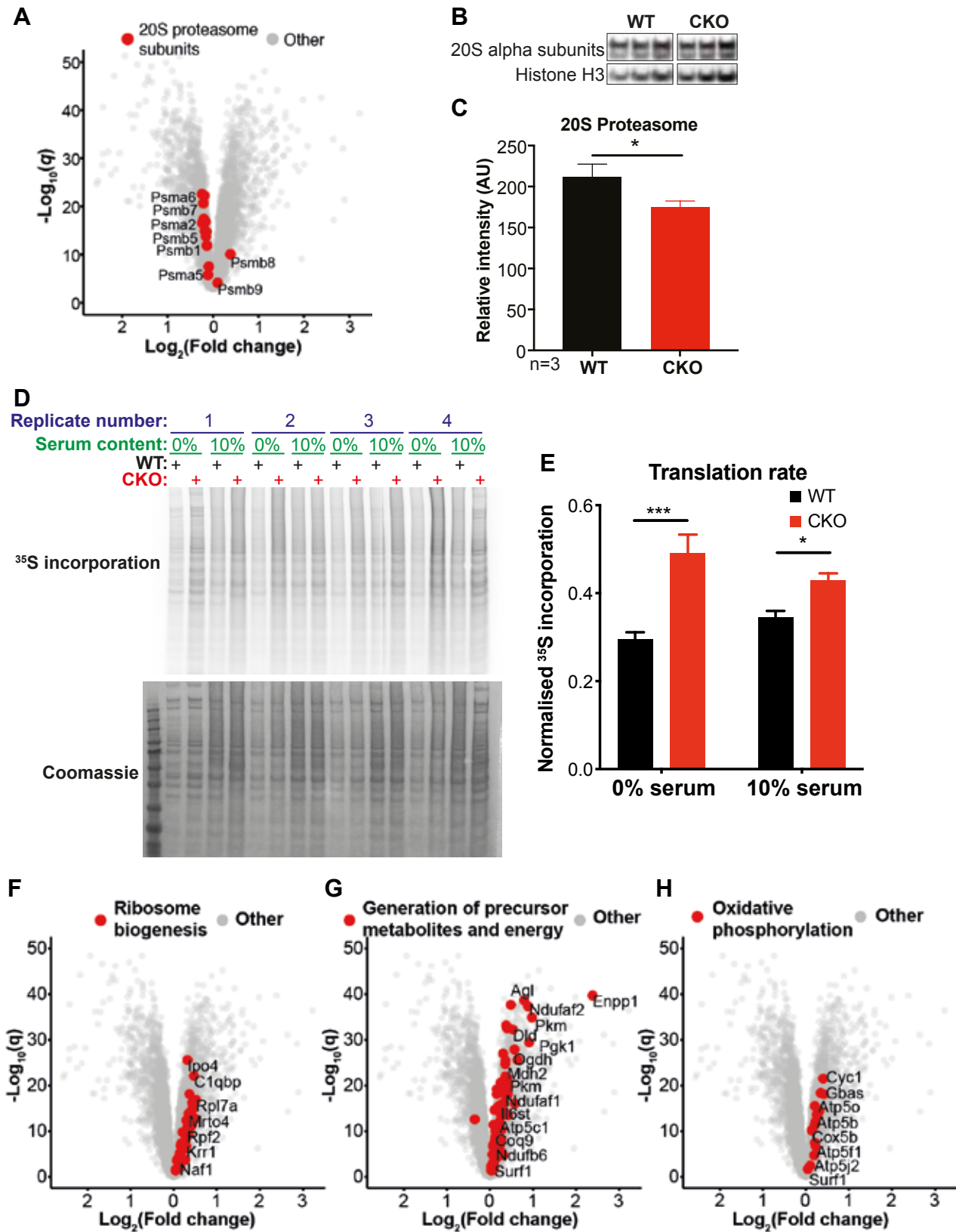
1171 non-rhythmic proteins. Half-life was calculated using data from McShane et al. [108]. In both

1172 genotypes, the difference in half-life was statistically significant (WT $p=0.04$, CKO $p=0.01$, boot-
1173 strapped Kolmogorov-Smirnov test), but many proteins in our dataset were not present in the
1174 published dataset. Medians (med): WT rhythmic = 32h, WT non-rhythmic = 27h, CKO rhythmic =
1175 31h, CKO non-rhythmic = 27h.

1176 **C)** Table summarising the numbers of proteins detected in both genotypes with significantly
1177 increased or decreased abundance (corrected $p<0.05$ vs. $p\geq 0.05$) and significant change in
1178 rhythmicity (RAIN $p<0.05$ vs. $p\geq 0.05$) between WT and CKO cells. Rhythms in the abundance of
1179 more proteins are suppressed by CRY than are dependent on CRY, and the abundance of most
1180 detected proteins changes as a consequence of CRY deletion. There was a significant association
1181 between change in abundance and change in rhythmicity (Fisher's exact test, $p=0.04$).

1182 **D)** Table summarising the numbers of phosphopeptides detected in both genotypes with significantly
1183 increased or decreased abundance (corrected $p<0.05$ vs. $p\geq 0.05$) and significant change in
1184 rhythmicity (RAIN $p<0.05$ vs. $p\geq 0.05$) between WT and CKO cells. More rhythms in protein
1185 phosphorylation are suppressed by CRY than are facilitated by CRY, and most detected protein
1186 phosphorylation changes as a consequence of CRY deletion. There was a significant association
1187 between change in abundance and change in rhythmicity (Fisher's exact test, $p=0.009$).

1188



1189

1190 **Figure S4. CKO cells have fewer 20S proteasomes, increased translation rate, and upregulated**

1191 **energy generation protein expression**

1192 **A)** Volcano plot showing the fold change in average expression of all proteins in CKO cells compared
1193 to WT (q = Benjamini-Hochberg corrected p-value). 20S proteasome subunits are highlighted in red,
1194 showing that most of these subunits are downregulated in CKO cells.

1195 **B)** Representative Western blot using an antibody that recognises all 7 α subunits of the 20S
1196 proteasome, with anti-histone H3 as loading control.

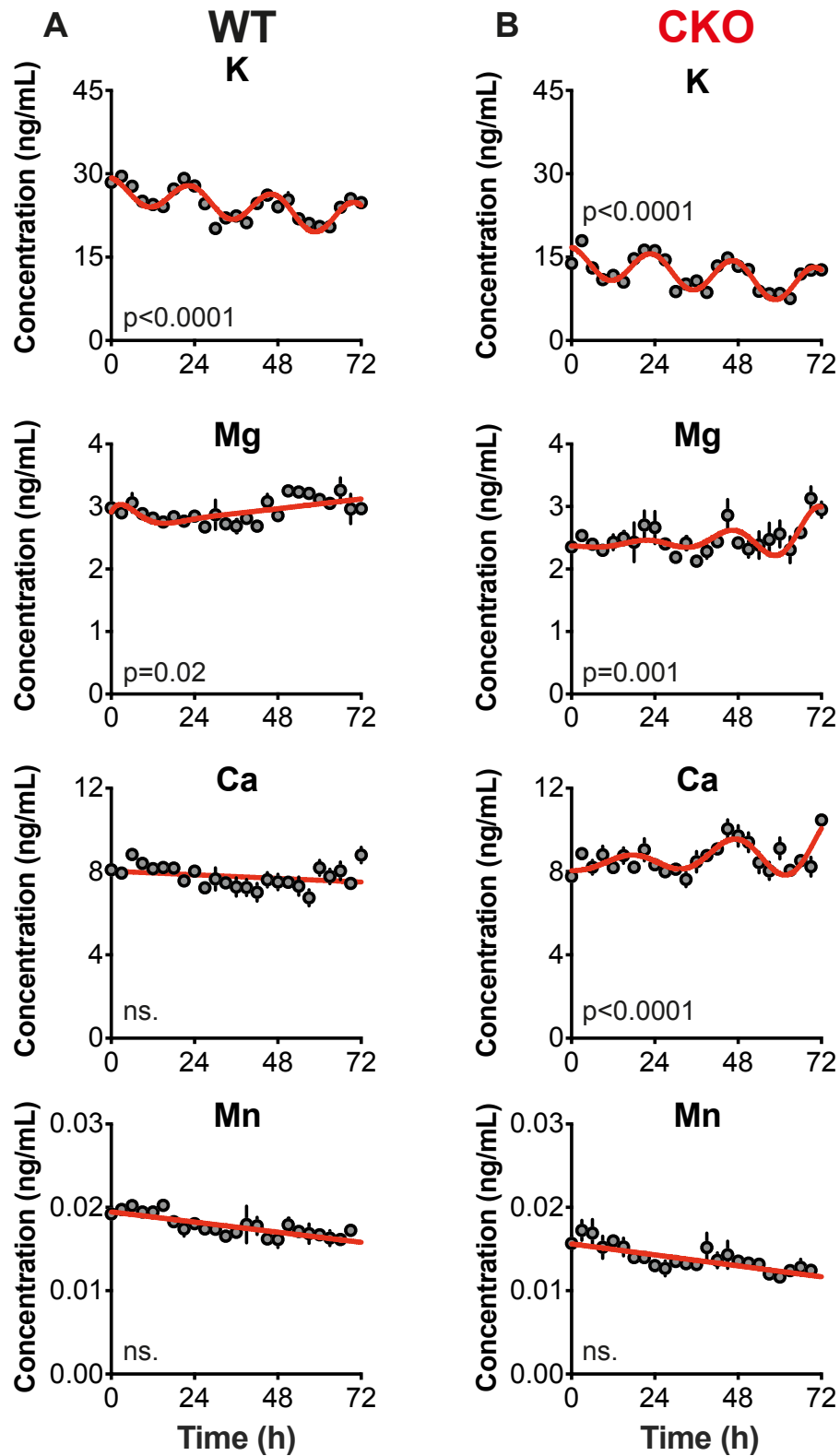
1197 **C)** Quantification of the blots in B), using all replicates. Mean \pm SEM, Student's t test with Welch
1198 correction.

1199 **D)** ^{35}S -methionine incorporation was used to measure translation rate in cultured WT and CKO cells.
1200 This was carried out at 0% and 10% serum. 4 replicates are shown, run on the same gel. An image of
1201 the phosphor screen is shown above, with the corresponding Coomassie stain below. The condition
1202 with 10% serum is shown in Figure 2 as this represents normal culture conditions.

1203 **E)** Quantification of D). 2-way ANOVA showed interaction between the effects of serum and
1204 genotype ($p=0.045$). Holm-Sidak multiple comparisons results are shown as asterisks. $N=3$.

1205 **F), G), H)** Volcano plots illustrate the upregulation of proteins classed in the GO terms: ribosome
1206 biogenesis, generation of precursor metabolites and energy, oxidative phosphorylation. Proteins that
1207 are classified under each GO term are highlighted in red, whilst all other proteins are shown in grey.
1208 Gene names of the proteins are labelled, within the constraints of space.

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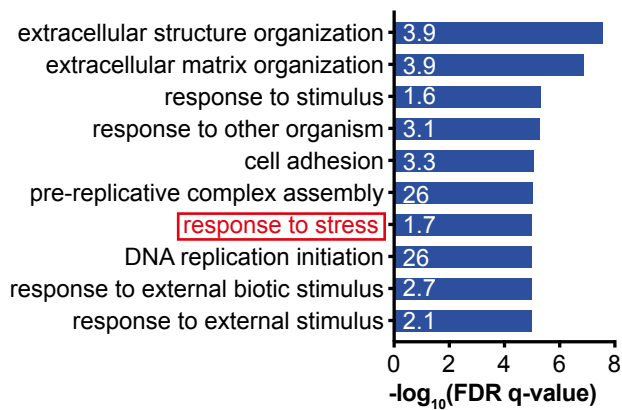
1211 **Figure S5. ICP-MS measurement of cellular ion content in CKO and WT cells**

1212 **A), B)** Examples of ions detected from both WT and CKO cells by ICP-MS are shown. Mean \pm SEM,

1213 F test for comparison of fit between damped cosine and straight line, N=3. The preferred fit is shown

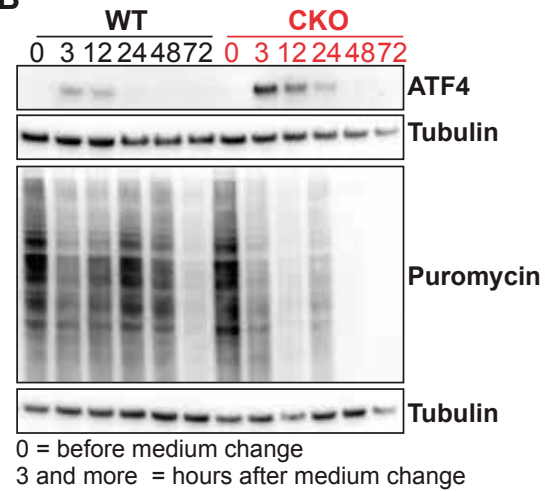
1214 in red.

A **GO Biological Process**
CKO vs WT ranked by fold change



1215

B



1216 **Figure S6. Increased stress response in CKO cells**

1217 **A)** Ranked gene ontology for Biological Process was analysed using a list of all the detected proteins
1218 in the proteomics experiment, ranked according to fold change in average expression in CKO cells
1219 relative to WT. The top GO terms by FDR q-value are shown, with fold-enrichment annotated.

1220 **B)** Western blot showing an increased stress response in response to a medium change in CKO cells
1221 compared to WT. Cultured cells had the medium changed at time 0 hours into “air medium” (see
1222 Methods), and at each time point indicated a puromycin pulse was applied before lysing the cells to
1223 measure translation rate. ATF4 is a marker of the integrated stress response, and Tubulin is the
1224 loading control.

1225