SILAC for Quantitative Proteomic Analysis

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Proteomics: the study of all proteins, their interactions, and activities









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Proteomics considers the state of the system



This allows accurate reflection of structure and function

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Proteomics assays can achieve multiple goals

1 Purification



Chromatography-based techniques

May be best to combine, depending on what your research question is.

Proteomics has three overarching approaches



Bottom- up proteomics starts with proteolysis, and it works to analyze peptides. Top- down focuses on MS of full proteins, and this is used for PTM analysis



Use Metabolic Labeling by introducing different isotopes by mediums



Chemical Labeling by introducing isotope tags in vitro



Enzymatic Labeling by proteolytic catalysis



Label free strategies compares samples independent in MS analysis.

Isotopes have the same charge despite different masses



Mass Spectrometry represents the relative number of ions corresponding to a mass- to- charge ratio



This ratio directly correlates to molecular weight.

Phase one of simple SILAC



Two cultures are grown in mediums with light or heavy amino acids to allow for MS to discern the difference

Isotopes incorporation



It would be wise to choose an amino acid essential to culture survival as well as have a large enough mass differential between control and experimental mediums

Phase two of simple SILAC



Perturbing in the heavy medium allows analysis of proteome in environment of your choice

MS Scans and XICs for analysis



Mass difference between heavy and light peptides corresponds with respective amino acid isotopes.

Spike- in SILAC



"Spike" the experimental samples with a separate, SILAC labeled sample

1.0

Use of model organisms



The entire proteome of a model organism must be entirely turned over to be used as SILAC standard. This can be achieved within a couple of generations.

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Advantages and disadvantages of SILAC





Highly accurate data





Only available in systems allowing full protein turn over



Waiting for complete turnover over generations takes time

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How can YOU apply SILAC to YOUR Aims?



Spike- In SILAC can be used to quantify protein expression in your model organisms. Singlecell cultures will generally use the classical SILAC approach.

Summary







 Today, we reviewed what proteomics is and how we can assay the proteome

- We focused on the SILAC labeling method and how it uses isotopes to label protein interactions. Possible experimental design with this methodology was explored.
- We explored SILAC and its applications for your research projects, considering the possibilities of examining individual cultures and up to more complex systems like organisms

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RESEARCH ARTICLE



Proteomic profiling of metformin effects in 3T3-L1 adipocytes by SILAC-based quantification

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Scientist profiles









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What is Metformin?









Metformin uses



How did the authors profile metformin-treated 3T3-LI adipocytes?



Adipocyte labeling and culutring

3T3-L1 Adipocytes



Protein fractionation and digestion



Western blot confirming AMPK phosphorylation



Western blotting

LC/MS/MS and analysis



Volcano plots reveal proteins enriched after Metformin treatment



● FDR < 0.01 & abs(FC) > 1.5 ● FDR < 0.01 & abs(FC) > 2 ● FDR < 0.01 & abs(FC) > 3 ● n.s.

Volcano plots reveal proteins enriched after Metformin treatment

● FDR < 0.01 & abs(FC) > 1.5 ● FDR < 0.01 & abs(FC) > 2 ● FDR < 0.01 & abs(FC) > 3 ● n.s.



Volcano plots reveal proteins enriched after Metformin treatment

● FDR < 0.01 & abs(FC) > 1.5 ● FDR < 0.01 & abs(FC) > 2 ● FDR < 0.01 & abs(FC) > 3 ● n.s.



Which types of proteins are increased or decreased after Metformin treatment?



Increased protein levels

- Negative regulation of appetite
- One carbon folate metabolism
- Protein folding and protein processing in ER

Decreased protein levels

- Glycolysis/TCA cycle
- Lipid metabolism
- PPAR gamma pathway

Biological processes altered by Metformin



Conclusion







- Metformin is an important and widely used drug for Type II Diabetes and other diseases
- SILAC can be used to analyze the proteomic effects of Metformin
- Metformin is shown to increase and decrease many protein levels and affects numerous biological pathways



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