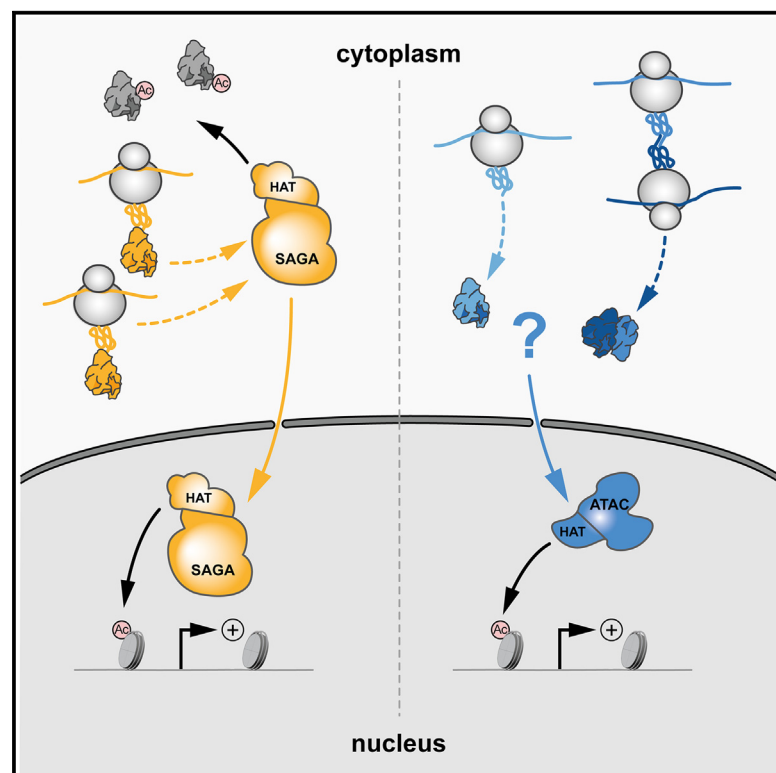


ATAC and SAGA co-activator complexes utilize co-translational assembly, but their cellular localization properties and functions are distinct

Graphical abstract



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In brief

Yayli et al. find that modules of human ATAC (ADA-two-A-containing) and SAGA (Spt-Ada-Gcn5-acetyltransferase) transcriptional co-activator complexes assemble co-translationally in the cytoplasm. They describe that fully assembled SAGA has cytoplasmic acetylation functions. In contrast, the ATAC co-activator complex cannot be detected in the cytoplasm, only in the nucleus.

Highlights

- Core modules of ATAC and SAGA complexes assemble co-translationally in the cytoplasm
- SAGA complex containing all of its subunits forms in the cytoplasm
- SAGA complex acetylates non-histone proteins in the cytoplasm
- ATAC complex can only be identified in the nucleus but not in the cytoplasm



Article

ATAC and SAGA co-activator complexes utilize co-translational assembly, but their cellular localization properties and functions are distinct

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2023.113099>

SUMMARY

To understand the function of multisubunit complexes, it is of key importance to uncover the precise mechanisms that guide their assembly. Nascent proteins can find and bind their interaction partners during their translation, leading to co-translational assembly. Here, we demonstrate that the core modules of ATAC (ADA-two-A-containing) and SAGA (Spt-Ada-Gcn5-acetyltransferase), two lysine acetyl transferase-containing transcription co-activator complexes, assemble co-translationally in the cytoplasm of mammalian cells. In addition, a SAGA complex containing all of its modules forms in the cytoplasm and acetylates non-histone proteins. In contrast, ATAC complex subunits cannot be detected in the cytoplasm of mammalian cells. However, an endogenous ATAC complex containing two functional modules forms and functions in the nucleus. Thus, the two related co-activators, ATAC and SAGA, assemble using co-translational pathways, but their subcellular localization, cytoplasmic abundance, and functions are distinct.

INTRODUCTION

Transcriptional control by RNA polymerase II (Pol II) involves the cooperation of chromatin regulatory complexes, which remodel and/or modify nucleosomes. Chromatin-modifying complexes can deposit and remove post-translational modifications (PTMs) of histones, such as acetylation and methylation, in a dynamic manner. Chromatin regulatory complexes are often large, multisubunit complexes, which share subunits between complexes of distinct function.^{1,2} Two prominent examples are the transcriptional co-activator complexes ATAC (ADA-two-A-containing) and SAGA (Spt-Ada-Gcn5-acetyltransferase), which can acetylate histones at distinct residues.³

The metazoan ATAC co-activator complex contains 10 well-characterized subunits, out of which four subunits form the histone acetyltransferase (HAT) module.^{3,4} The HAT module of human (h) ATAC contains the HAT enzyme KAT2A (also called GCN5) or KAT2B (also called PCAF) and the structural subunits SGF29, TADA3, and TADA2A.⁵ The six additional subunits of ATAC are YEATS2 and NC2β (also called DR1), which form a histone fold (HF) pair; ZZZ3; CSRP2BP (also called CSR2B, ATAC2, or KAT14); WDR5 (a WD40 repeat-containing protein); and MBIP

(Figure 1A).^{6–8} At present, the structural organization of ATAC is not known. ATAC complexes have been detected in metazoans but are absent in yeast.

SAGA is an evolutionary conserved, 2 MDa multifunctional co-activator complex with modular organization.⁹ hSAGA contains 18–20 subunits, which are organized in functional modules, such as HAT, histone H2Bub1 deubiquitinase (DUB), activator-binding (AM), splicing (SM), and core modules (Figure 1B).^{3,4,9–13} In mammals, three subunits of the ATAC HAT module, KAT2A/KAT2B, TADA3, and SGF29, are shared with the SAGA HAT module. The fourth and distinctive subunit of these related HAT modules is either TADA2A for the ATAC-specific HAT module or TADA2B for the SAGA-specific HAT subunit.^{9,14,15} Vertebrate ATAC and SAGA complexes harbor either KAT2A or KAT2B, which are mutually exclusive in their respective HAT modules.⁸ The DUB module of SAGA is built up by USP22 (the DUB enzyme) in association with ATXN7, ATXN7L3, and ENY2, while the transcription factor/activator-interacting module of SAGA is contained within TRRAP. ATXN7 has two other paralogous proteins, ATXN7L1 and L2, which incorporate into the DUB module in a mutually exclusive way.¹⁶ The structural core module of the conserved SAGA complex is built by a histone



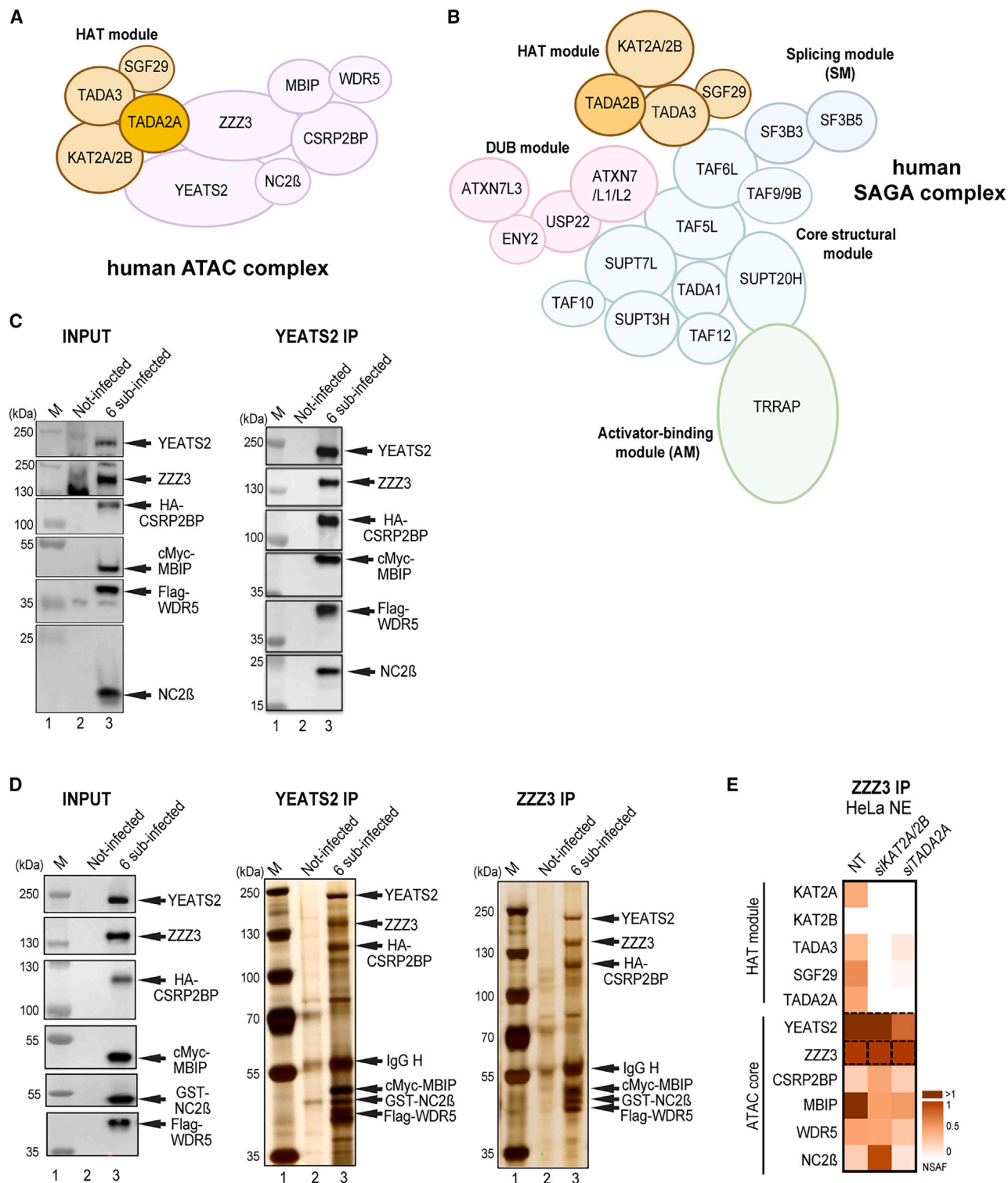


Figure 1. Schematic illustration of ATAC and SAGA complexes and pathways of co-TA assembly of protein partners

(A) Illustration of the human ATAC complex with its four-subunit HAT module.

(B) Illustration of the human SAGA complex. The functional modules of SAGA, such as the HAT, the deubiquitinating (DUB), the core, the splicing (SM), and the activator-binding (AM) modules are indicated.

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octamer-like structure harboring four HF domain (HFD)-containing subunit pairs, such as TATA binding protein (TBP)-associated factor (TAF) 6L/TAF9 (or TAF9B), SUPT7L/TAF10, TADA1/TAF12, and SUPT3H (which contains two intramolecular HFDs), and by two non-HFD proteins, TAF5L (a WD40 repeat-containing protein) and SUPT20H^{4,11–13} (Figure 1B). The SM is composed of SF3B3 and SF3B5.

Eukaryotic SAGA complexes preferentially acetylate histone H3 at lysine 9 and lysine 14 (H3K9 and H3K14) in the nucleus.^{5,17,18} In contrast, substrate specificities of the metazoan ATAC complexes are less well understood, but it has been suggested that ATAC acetylates both histone H3 and H4.^{7,8,19–22} Importantly, besides histone proteins, KAT2A/KAT2B also acetylate non-histone targets, such as p53, E2F1, c-MYC, PLK4, or PALB2.^{23–34}

In spite of the related HAT activities of ATAC and SAGA, differences in subunit composition between the two distinct complexes suggested that they play different regulatory roles in transcription regulation and/or cellular homeostasis.^{8,29,32,35–39} Also, it has been shown that by regulating transcription through HAT-independent pathways, ATAC and SAGA are differentially required for self-renewal of mouse embryonic stem cells (mESCs).⁴⁰

While the structure of the SAGA complex has been extensively studied,^{11–13,41–44} little is known about the 3D structural organization of the ATAC complex. Moreover, the biogenesis of the subunits of these complexes, their assembly pathways, and their transport from the cytoplasm to the nucleus are, at present, not well understood.

Co-translational (co-TA) assembly is a mechanism where two partner proteins can interact and assemble while at least one of them is being actively translated.^{45–49} Converging results from several species suggest that co-TA of multisubunit complexes is a general mechanism in eukaryotes.^{45–47,50–53} Depending on the position of the interaction domains (N- or C-terminal) of the subunits involved, simultaneous or sequential co-TA pathways have been described^{47,54} (Figure S1A). Recently, it has been demonstrated that different interaction partner pairs of nuclear multisubunit transcription complexes, such as hTFIID, yeast, and hSAGA, interact co-translationally.^{45,47,55}

Here, we show that co-TA is driving the assembly of ATAC and SAGA co-activators in the cytoplasm of mammalian cells. We demonstrate that a fully assembled SAGA complex can be detected in cytoplasmic extracts and that cytoplasmic SAGA acetylates non-histone proteins. In contrast, ATAC subunits could not be detected in the cytoplasm. Altogether, our study reveals that ATAC and SAGA are using co-TA pathways to assemble but that their subcellular localization, cytoplasmic residency time, and function are distinct.

RESULTS

The ATAC complex is composed of two modules: A six-subunit core and a four-subunit HAT module

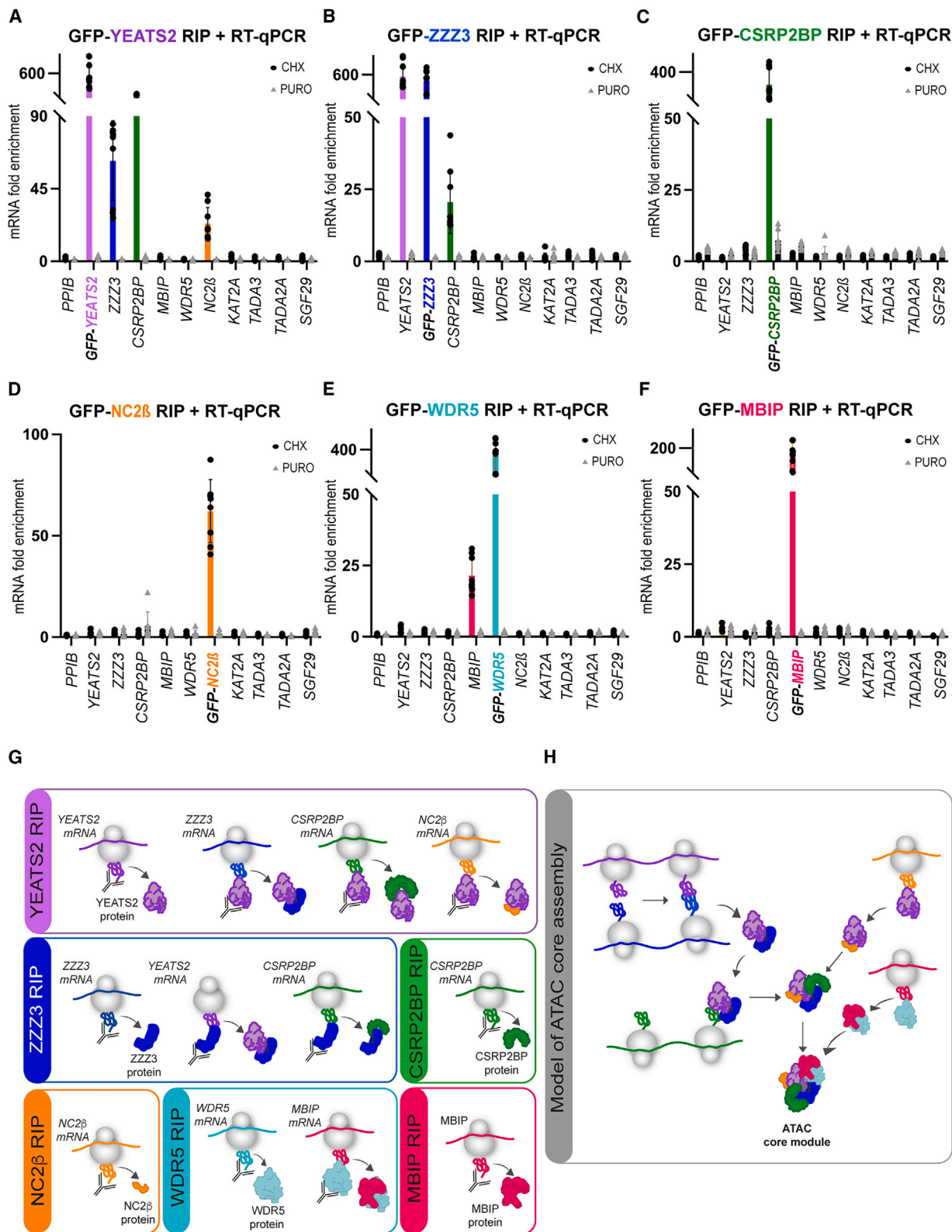
As it has been already demonstrated that the HAT module of ATAC can form independently from the rest of the complex,⁵ we set out to analyze whether the six remaining subunits of ATAC would form an independent core module. To this end, we co-expressed the six subunits of the ATAC core in SF9 insect cells using the baculovirus system. Whole-cell extracts were prepared for immunoprecipitation (IP) with anti-YEATS2 and anti-ZZZ3 antibodies. Indeed, immunoblot and silver staining of SDS-PAGE gels of the immunopurified and peptide-eluted samples show that the recombinant hATAC core module, composed of its 6 additional subunits, is able to form (Figures 1C and 1D). Next, we analyzed whether the endogenous ATAC core module could form independently from its HAT module in HeLa cells. To this end, we carried out small interfering RNA (siRNA)-mediated knockdown (KD) of KAT2A/KAT2B or TADA2A HAT module subunits in HeLa cells, followed by anti-ZZZ3 IPs on nuclear extract prepared from either non-treated or siRNA-treated cells (*siKAT2A/KAT2B* or *siTADA2A*). IP-purified complexes were subjected to mass spectrometry (MS) analyses. The MS data indicated that the KD of KAT2A/KAT2B or TADA2A subunits resulted in the loss of the whole HAT module incorporation and that the six-subunit ATAC core module could still form (Figure 1E). Taken together, these experiments indicate that ATAC is composed of two functional modules: the core and the HAT modules.

The ATAC core module uses co-TA assembly mechanisms

To understand whether the six-subunit-containing ATAC core module employs a co-TA assembly pathway, we created stable doxycycline (DOX)-inducible HeLa cell lines expressing YEATS2, ZZZ3, CSRP2BP, MBIP, WDR5, or NC2 β subunits with an N-terminal GFP tag. For those proteins for which we had western blot-grade antibodies against endogenous ATAC subunits (i.e., YEATS2, ZZZ3, and WDR5), we showed that the DOX-induced GFP-tagged subunits were weakly overexpressed when compared with the corresponding endogenous subunits (Figure S1B). DOX-induced cells were treated with either cycloheximide (CHX) or puromycin (PURO). CHX freezes the nascent polypeptide chain, resulting in engaged ribosomes on the translated mRNA and thus stabilizing co-TA events, which can be detected by IP of the nascent protein in the polysome fraction. Conversely, PURO blocks translation by releasing the nascent peptides from the ribosome.^{56,57} Thus, PURO-treated samples

(C and D) Insect SF9 cells were either not infected (Not-infected) or co-infected with vectors expressing the six subunits of the recombinant ATAC complex (6 sub-infected): YEATS2, ZZZ3, HA-CSRP2BP, cMyc-MBIP, FLAG-WDR5, and NC2 β (in C) or with YEATS2, ZZZ3, HA-CSRP2BP, cMyc-MBIP, FLAG-WDR5, and GST-NC2 β (in D). 48 h post-infection, whole-cell extracts were made (INPUT), and anti-YEATS2 or anti-ZZZ3 IPs were carried out. The INPUT (in C and D), IPed, and peptide-eluted complexes were either tested by western blot analyses with the indicated antibodies (in C) or by silver staining of the 10% SDS-PAGE gels (in D). Molecular weight markers (Ms) are indicated in kDa. N = 2.

(E) HeLa cells were transfected with either *siKAT2A/KAT2B* (*siKAT2A/2B*), or *siTADA2A* siRNAs, or not (NT). 48 h post-transfection, NEs were prepared and an anti-ZZZ3 IP carried out. IPed endogenous ATAC subunits were analyzed by mass spectrometry. Three technical replicates (n = 3) were carried out, and normalized spectral abundance factor (NSAF) values were calculated (see also Table S3). NSAF values were normalized to the bait of the IP (ZZZ3). The normalized NSAF values are represented as heatmaps with the indicated scales. ATAC complex subunits and modules are indicated on the left.



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serve as negative controls. From cells expressing the different GFP-tagged proteins, polysome extracts were prepared, and RNA IPs (RIPs) were carried out using anti-GFP nanobody conjugated beads. In all cases, GFP-fused proteins were IPed successfully, indicating the accessibility of the GFP moiety (Figure S1C). As expected, the enrichment of all bait mRNAs were detected in RIPs of CHX-treated, but not of PURO-treated, extracts (Figures 2A–2F). In addition, CHX omission from the RIPs did not influence the results (Figure S1D), indicating that CHX does not induce artifactual co-TA interactions. Moreover, the unrelated negative control *PPIB* mRNA was not detected in the RIPs (Figures 2A–2F).

In the GFP-YEATS2 RIP, endogenous mRNAs coding for ZZZ3 and CSRP2BP, as well as for NC2 β , its HFD partner, were enriched (Figure 2A), suggesting that the YEATS2 protein co-translationally assembles with several ATAC subunits, namely ZZZ3, CSRP2BP, and NC2 β (Figure 2A). Interestingly, the GFP-ZZZ3 RIP enriched endogenous mRNAs coding for YEATS2 and CSRP2BP (Figure 2B). The fact that endogenous mRNAs coding for either ZZZ3 or YEATS2 could be detected in GFP-YEATS2 or in GFP-ZZZ3 RIPs, respectively (Figures 2A and 2B), indicates that the nascent proteins associate during their synthesis using the simultaneous assembly pathway. In contrast, the GFP-CSRP2BP or the GFP-NC2 β RIP did not enrich any YEATS2, ZZZ3, or other ATAC-subunit-encoding mRNAs (Figures 2C and 2D), suggesting that nascent NC2 β and/or CSRP2BP are interacting with a preassembled and fully synthesized YEATS2/ZZZ3 complex during their translation (Figures 2G and 2H). The GFP-WDR5 RIP showed enrichment of endogenous *MBIP* mRNA, while the reciprocal GFP-MBIP RIP did not show enrichment of *WDR5* or any other ATAC subunit mRNAs (Figures 2E and 2F). This indicates that fully synthesized WDR5 binds to nascent MBIP protein. Taken together, these results show that in the cytoplasm, the six core subunits of the ATAC complex use a dedicated and interconnected co-TA assembly pathway to form the core module in the cytoplasm (Figure 2H).

YEATS2 protein co-localizes with ZZZ3 and NC2 β mRNAs, and WDR5 protein co-localizes with MBIP mRNAs

To further localize and quantify co-TA events with an imaging approach, we combined immunofluorescence (IF) against several endogenous ATAC subunits with single-molecule inexpensive RNA fluorescence *in situ* hybridization (smiFISH) using HeLa cells.^{47,55,58} First, we applied this strategy to detect YEATS2 nascent protein and estimate the fraction of actively translated

YEATS2 mRNAs. To this end, we used an IF-validated YEATS2 antibody recognizing an N-terminal antigen and combined it with YEATS2 mRNA smiFISH (Figures S2A–S2C). We used the *Catenin beta-1* (*CTNNB1*) as a negative mRNA control in smiFISH. Next, we quantified the number of YEATS2 mRNA molecules co-localizing with YEATS2 protein spots in confocal microscopy images. On average, ~65%–70% of YEATS2 cytoplasmic mRNAs co-localized with YEATS2 IF spots (Figures S2A–S2C). As expected, CHX did not significantly influence the frequency of the detected co-localizations (Figures S2B and S2C). The co-localized fraction decreased to background levels upon PURO treatment, proving a dependence on mRNA/ribosome/nascent chain integrity. These experiments show that we can detect nascent protein translation on mRNAs, and we estimate that roughly two-thirds of YEATS2 mRNAs are actively translated in cells. This could potentially also mean that the below defined frequencies of co-TA events are somewhat underestimated.

We then used an analogous approach to test the spatial proximity of endogenous YEATS2 protein with ZZZ3 or NC2 β mRNAs and of endogenous WDR5 protein with *MBIP* mRNA. In agreement with the GFP-YEATS2 and the GFP-WDR5 RIP results (Figures 2A and 2E), the IF-coupled smiFISH experiment showed a significant co-localization of endogenous cytoplasmic YEATS2 protein with ZZZ3 or NC2 β mRNAs (Figures 3A–3D) and of endogenous WDR5 protein with *MBIP* mRNA in the cytoplasm (Figures 3E–3G). Importantly, these co-localizations were PURO sensitive (Figures 3D and 3G), demonstrating that these events were dependent on active translation of the partner protein by the ribosome (compare CHX with PURO in Figures 3D and 3G). In addition, a significant portion of the detected co-localizations were maintained also in absence of CHX when compared with PURO treatment (Figure S2D). The co-localization of YEATS2 or WDR5 protein with an unrelated highly expressed transcript, *CTNNB1* mRNA, was not enriched (Figures 3C, 3D, 3F, 3G, and S3A–S3E). Thus, the imaging experiments together demonstrate the physical proximity of endogenous YEATS2 proteins with either ZZZ3 and/or NC2 β mRNAs and of endogenous WDR5 proteins with *MBIP* mRNAs in the cytoplasm, further supporting the observations that the endogenous ATAC core module assembles in co-TA manner.

Simultaneously co-translated ZZZ3 or YEATS2 mRNAs co-localize in the cytoplasm

The above RIP- and IF-coupled experiments suggested that the YEATS2/ZZZ3 building block of ATAC was co-translationally assembled during the synthesis of both proteins (Figures 2A

Figure 2. co-TA assembly of the ATAC core module

(A–F) HeLa FRT cells expressing N-terminally GFP-tagged ATAC subunits (indicated in A–F with distinct colors) were treated either with cycloheximide (CHX) or puromycin (PURO). Polysome extracts were prepared, anti-GFP-coupled RNA IP (RIP) was carried out, and colPed RNAs were analyzed by qRT-PCR. (A) GFP-YEATS2 RIP colPed its own *YEATS2* mRNA (pink bar) and endogenous *ZZZ3* (blue bar), *CSRP2BP* (green), and *NC2 β* (orange) mRNAs. (B) GFP-ZZZ3 RIP colPed its own *ZZZ3* mRNA (blue bar) and endogenous *YEATS2* (pink bar), as well as *CSRP2BP* (green bar) mRNAs. (C) GFP-CSRP2BP RIP colPed its own *CSRP2BP* mRNA (green bar). (D) GFP-NC2 β RIP colPed its own *NC2 β* mRNA (orange bar). (E) GFP-WDR5 RIP colPed its own *WDR5* mRNA (turquoise bar) and endogenous *MBIP* mRNA (magenta bar). (F) GFP-MBIP RIP colPed its own *MBIP* mRNA (magenta bar). In (A)–(F), results of CHX-treated cells are shown with black dots and results of PURO-treated cells with gray triangles. Rabbit immunoglobulin G (IgG) was used for mock RIPs. mRNA fold enrichment is expressed as a fold change with respect to the mock RIP by using the formula $\Delta\Delta C_p^{[anti-GFP\ RIP/mock\ RIP]}$. Error bars \pm SD are from three biological replicates (N = 3). Each black dot or gray triangle represents three technical replicates (n = 3). The unrelated *PPIB* mRNA was used as a negative control in all qRT-PCR experiments.

(G) Drawings representing the results obtained in (A)–(F).

(H) Proposed ATAC core assembly model.

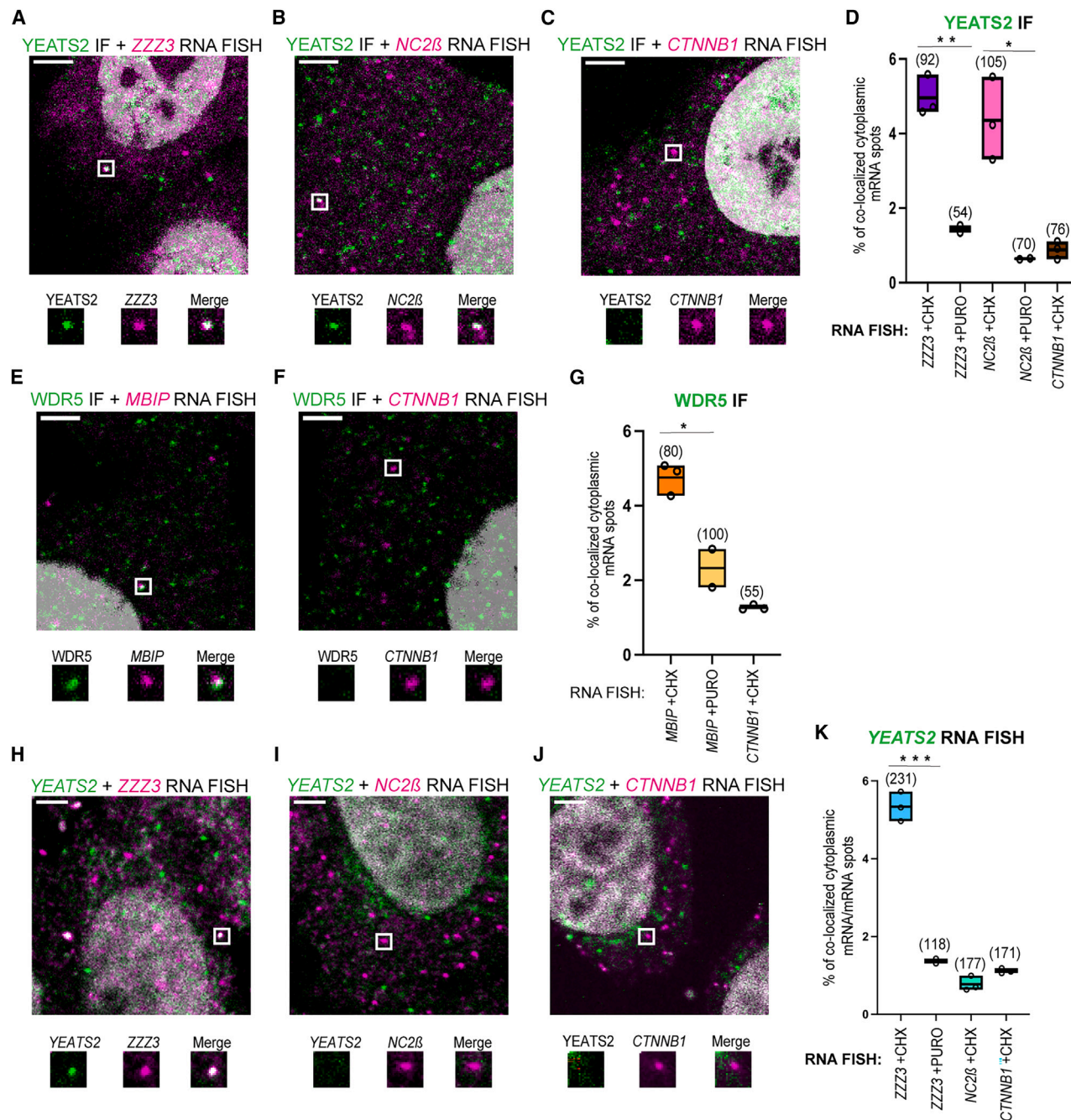


Figure 3. Co-localization of endogenous ATAC subunits with mRNAs coding for their corresponding interacting partner and mRNAs coding for simultaneous co-TA partners

Confocal microscopy imaging was used to detect endogenous ATAC subunits with mRNAs of their interacting partners by combining single-molecule RNA FISH (smiFISH) and immunofluorescence (IF). Representative multicolor confocal images for IF-coupled smiFISH images of fixed HeLa cells. Each image is a single multichannel confocal optical slice. Co-localized spots are indicated with white rectangles, and zoomed-in regions are shown under every image. Scale bar: 3 μ m. (A–C) ZZZ3, NC2B, or CTNNB1 smiFISH mRNA signal is shown in magenta; IF signal for YEATS2 protein is in green. (D and G) Boxplots showing the percentage of cytoplasmic RNA spots co-localized with protein spots in IF-smiFISH experiments. (E and F) MBIP or CTNNB1 smiFISH mRNA signal is shown in magenta; IF signal for WDR5 protein is shown in green. (H–J) Dual-color smiFISH images in HeLa cells. Cy3-smiFISH signal for ZZZ3, NC2B, and CTNNB1 mRNAs is shown in magenta; ATTO488-smiFISH signal for YEATS2 mRNA is shown in green.

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and 2B). Thus, we tested whether *YEATS2* and *ZZZ3* mRNAs would also co-localize by performing dual-color smiFISH in HeLa cells (Figures 3H–3K and S3F–S3H). These experiments showed a significant co-localization of *YEATS2* and *ZZZ3* mRNAs in the cytoplasm (Figure 3H). These events were PURO sensitive (Figure 3K), indicating that the spatial proximity of *YEATS2* and *ZZZ3* mRNAs is dependent on active translation. In contrast, *NC2β* or *CTNNB1* mRNA did not significantly co-localize with *YEATS2* mRNA (Figures 3I–3K). As additional controls, we employed distinct secondary probes sequences to exclude potential cross-hybridization events, and we omitted CHX treatment, confirming the detection of the co-localized mRNAs, albeit with lower frequency (Figure S2E). These experiments together show that simultaneously co-translated mRNAs, such as *ZZZ3* or *YEATS2*, co-localize in the cytoplasm of human cells and suggest that such mRNAs may be targeted by a translation-dependent mechanism to the same cytoplasmic location for ensuring the efficient co-TA assembly of the *YEATS2/ZZZ3* building block of the ATAC core module.

SAGA core module utilizes co-TA assembly pathway

We have previously shown that subunits of the SAGA DUB module employ a co-TA mechanism for assembly.⁴⁷ To test whether co-TA mechanisms are also used to build the structural core of the SAGA complex, DOX-inducible HeLa cells expressing TAF5L, TAF9, and TAF12 with an N-terminal GFP tag were generated, DOX induced, and treated with either CHX or PURO. From the treated cells, polysome extracts were prepared and RIPs carried out using anti-GFP nanobody conjugated beads. In all cases, GFP-fused SAGA subunits were IPed successfully (Figure S1E). The enrichment of endogenous mRNAs coding for core SAGA subunits were analyzed by qRT-PCR (Figures 4A–4C). In all RIPs, we observed enrichment of the bait mRNAs, confirming that the RIPs immunopurified the nascent polypeptides of the targeted subunit, as expected. These experiments demonstrated that GFP-TAF9 RIP colPed the *TAF6L* mRNA (Figure 4A), the GFP-TAF12 RIP colPed the *TADA1* mRNA (Figure 4B), and the GFP-TAF5L RIP enriched the *SUPT20H* mRNA (Figure 4C), while there were no detectable enrichments in the PURO-treated control samples (Figures 4A–4C). The TAF9 and TAF12 subunits are shared with the general transcription factor TFIID complex. In good agreement with the SAGA results, we also observed in the GFP-TAF9 or GFP-TAF12 RIPs enrichment of the mRNAs of their corresponding TFIID interaction partners *TAF6* and *TAF4*, respectively (Figures 4A and 4B). These experiments together show that the HFD-containing SAGA core subunit pairs TAF6L/TAF9 and TADA1/TAF12¹³ interact co-translationally. Moreover, we confirmed that in TFIID, the TAF6/TAF9 and TAF4/TAF12 HFD-containing pairs interact co-translationally.^{47,55} The fact that the GFP-TAF5L RIP showed enrichment of endogenous *SUPT20H* mRNA (Figure 4C) is also in good agreement with the structural observation showing that the N-terminal domains of hTAF5L and hSUPT20H are interacting.¹³ Taken together, the

SAGA RIP experiments demonstrate that both HFD-containing and non-HFD-interacting pairs constituting the SAGA core module assemble co-translationally in the cytoplasm of human cells.

Endogenous TAF12 protein co-localizes with TADA1 mRNA in the cytoplasm

In order to test co-localization of endogenous TAF12 proteins with *TADA1* (forming a SAGA-specific HFD pair) or with *TAF4* mRNA (forming a TFIID-specific HFD pair), we performed IF coupled to smiFISH in human HeLa cells (as described above). In agreement with the TAF12 RIP results (Figure 4B), the smiFISH-coupled IF experiment showed significant co-localization of TAF12 proteins with *TADA1* (Figures 4E and 4H) and with *TAF4* mRNAs (Figures 4F, 4H, and S4) in the cytoplasm of HeLa cells. Importantly, these co-localizations were PURO sensitive (Figure 4H). No significant co-localization between *CTNNB1* mRNA and TAF12 protein (Figures 4G and 4H) was observed, which stresses the specificity of the observed interactions. These imaging experiments together demonstrate the physical proximity of TAF12 protein with either *TADA1* (SAGA assembly) or *TAF4* (TFIID assembly) mRNA in the cytoplasm and support the observations that the endogenous SAGA (and TFIID) core modules assemble in a co-TA manner.

Fully assembled SAGA complexes are present both in the cytoplasm and the nuclei of mammalian cells, while the full ATAC complex can only be detected in the nucleus

To better understand the biogenesis of the human holo-ATAC and -SAGA complexes, we performed IP-coupled quantitative MS-based identification (IP-MS) of the endogenous cytoplasmic and nuclear assemblies. To this end, we prepared cytoplasmic extracts (CEs) and nuclear extracts (NEs) from human HeLa cells, human HEK293T cells, and mESCs. The correct separation of these cell extracts has been verified with appropriate protein markers (Figure S5A). It has been described that fully assembled RNA Pol II complexes can be isolated from both CEs and NEs.^{59,60} To validate our protocol, we immunopurified RPB1 (largest Pol subunit)-containing complexes from HeLa NEs and CEs, followed by MS analysis. In good agreement with published data, we IPed the RNA Pol II complex from both CEs and NEs (Figure S5B), validating our approach.

Next, we performed IP-MS experiments from HeLa, HEK293T, or mESC NEs using antibodies against (1) common ATAC and SAGA subunits (anti-TADA3 and anti-KAT2A) (Figure 5A), (2) ATAC-specific subunits (anti-TADA2A, anti-YEATS2, and anti-ZZZ3) (Figure 5B), or (3) SAGA-specific subunits (anti-TADA2B, anti-SUPT20H, and anti-ATXN7L3) (Figure 5C). In IPs using NEs from different human and mouse cells, all endogenous subunits of the ATAC and SAGA complexes were detected (Figures 5A–5C), which is in agreement with previous publications.^{3,8,35} We noted that the stoichiometry of the DUB module in the NE isolated SAGA complexes was weaker than that of the SAGA core module,

(K) Boxplots showing the percentage of cytoplasmic *YEATS2* RNA spots co-localized with the indicated RNA target spots in dual-color smiFISH experiments. Each black circle represents one biological replicate. N = 3 for the cells treated with CHX, and N = 2 for the cells treated with PURO. For each condition, the number of cells analyzed is indicated in brackets above each boxplot. Unpaired two-tailed t tests were performed for statistical analyses between two different experimental condition (CHX and PURO). *p ≤ 0.05, **p ≤ 0.01, ***p ≤ 0.001.

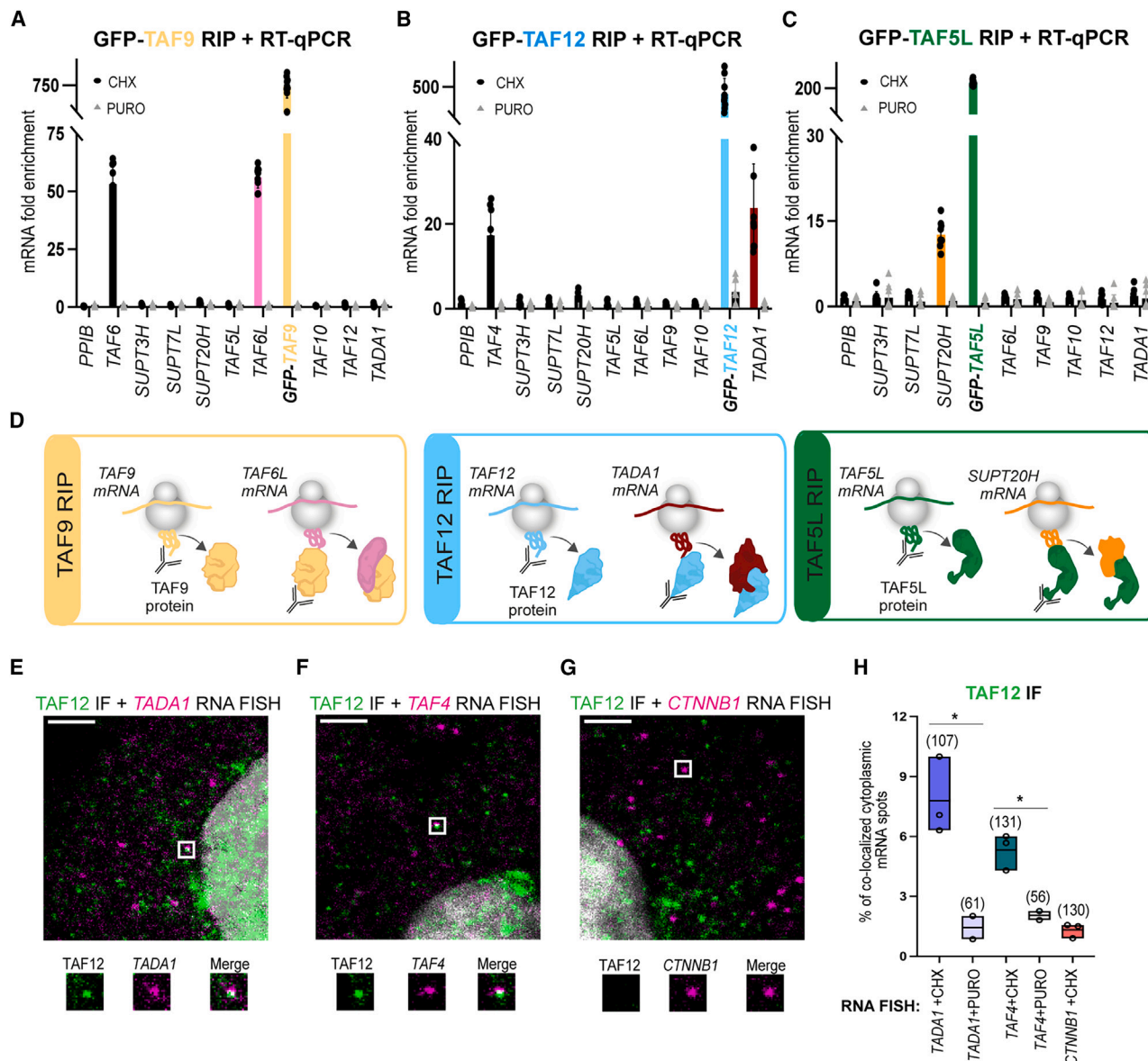


Figure 4. co-TA assembly of SAGA core subunits and co-localization of endogenous TAF12 protein with TADA1 mRNA in cytoplasm

(A–C) HeLa FRT cells expressing N-terminally GFP-tagged SAGA subunits (indicated in A–C with distinct colors) were treated either with CHX or PURO. Polysome extracts were prepared, anti-GFP-coupled RIP was carried out, and colPed RNAs were analyzed by qRT-PCR. (A) GFP-TAF9 RIP colPed its own TAF9 mRNA (yellow bar) and endogenous TAF6 (black bar), as well as TAF6L (pink bar) mRNAs. (B) GFP-TAF12 RIP colPed its own TAF12 mRNA (blue bar) and endogenous TAF4 (black bar), as well as TADA1 (dark red bar) mRNAs. (C) GFP-TAF5L RIP colPed its own TAF5L mRNA (green bar) and endogenous SUPT20H mRNA (orange bar). In (A)–(C), results of CHX-treated cells are represented with black dots, and results of PURO-treated cells are represented by gray triangles. Rabbit IgG was used as mock IP for RIP. mRNA fold enrichment is expressed as a fold change with respect to the mock RIP by using the formula $\Delta\Delta C_p^{[anti-GFP\ RIP/mock\ RIP]}$. Error bars \pm SD are from three biological replicates (N = 3). Each black dot or gray triangle represents three technical replicates (n = 3). The unrelated PPIB mRNA was used as a negative control in the qRT-PCR experiments.

(D) Drawings representing the results obtained in (A)–(C).

(E–G) Confocal microscopy imaging was used to detect endogenous TAF12 protein with its interacting partner mRNAs, TADA1 or TAF4, by smiFISH and IF. smiFISH signal for TADA1, TAF4, and CTNNB1 mRNAs is shown in magenta; IF signal for TAF12 protein is shown in green. Each image is a single multichannel confocal optical slice. Co-localized spots are indicated with white rectangles, and zoomed-in regions are shown under every panel. Scale bar: 3 μ m.

(H) Boxplot showing the percentage of cytoplasmic RNA spots co-localized with protein spots in IF-smiFISH experiments. Each black circle represents one biological replicate. N = 3 for the cells treated with CHX, and N = 2 for the cells treated with PURO. For each condition, the number of cells analyzed is indicated in brackets above each boxplot. Unpaired two-tailed t test was performed for statistical analyses between two different experimental condition (CHX and PURO).

*p \leq 0.05, **p \leq 0.01, ***p \leq 0.001.

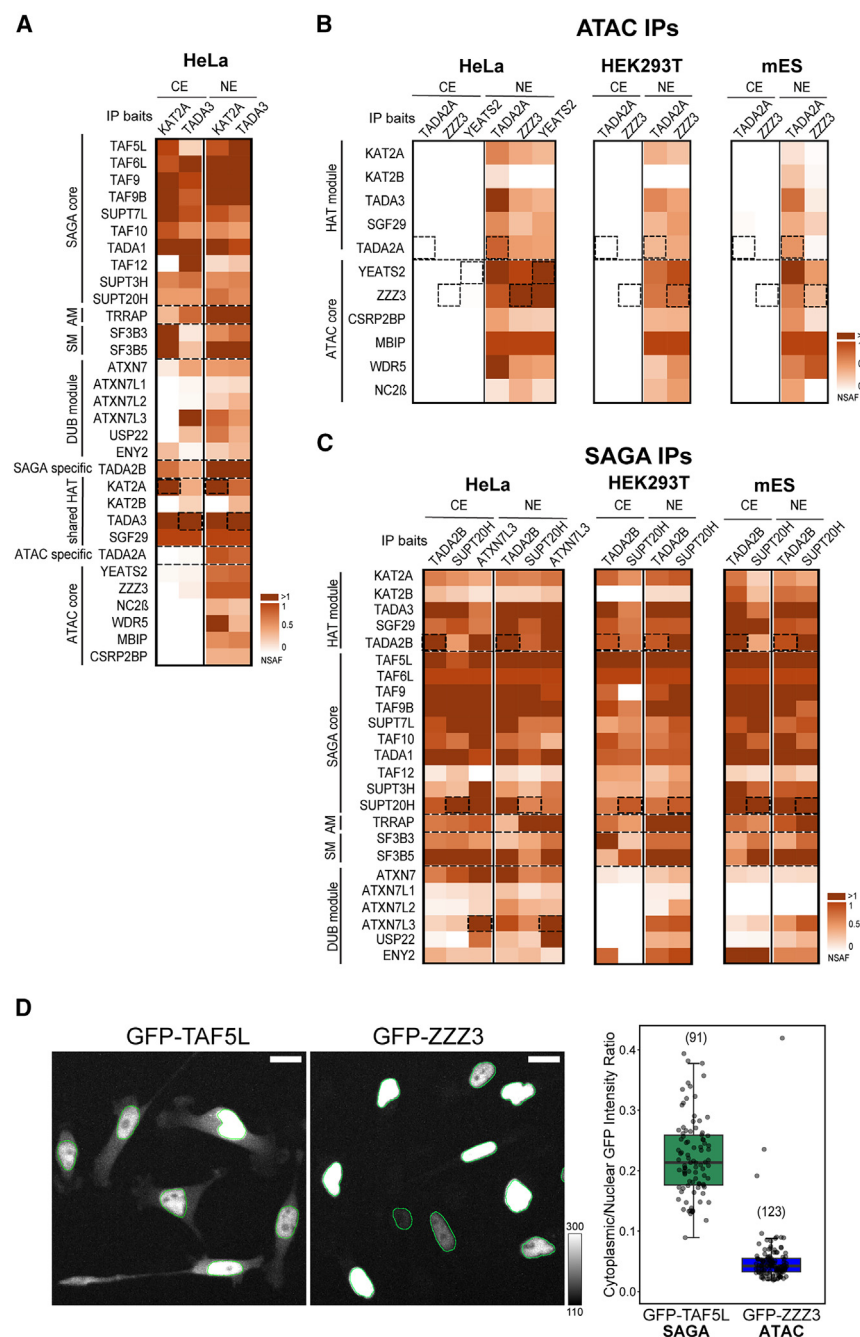


Figure 5. Human SAGA complex can be isolated from both nuclear and cytoplasmic compartments, while human ATAC is only detectable in the nucleus

(A) Mass spectrometry analyses of KAT2A and TADA3 IPs carried out using either NEs or CEs (as indicated) prepared from human HeLa cells. NSAF values were calculated and normalized to SGF29 values.

(B) Mass spectrometry analyses of TADA2A, YEATS2, and ZZZ3 IPs carried out using NEs and CEs (as indicated) prepared from human HeLa cells (left) and of TADA2A and ZZZ3 IPs carried out using NEs and CEs prepared from either human HEK293T cells (middle) or mESCs (right). NSAF values were calculated and normalized to MBIP values in all NE IPs.

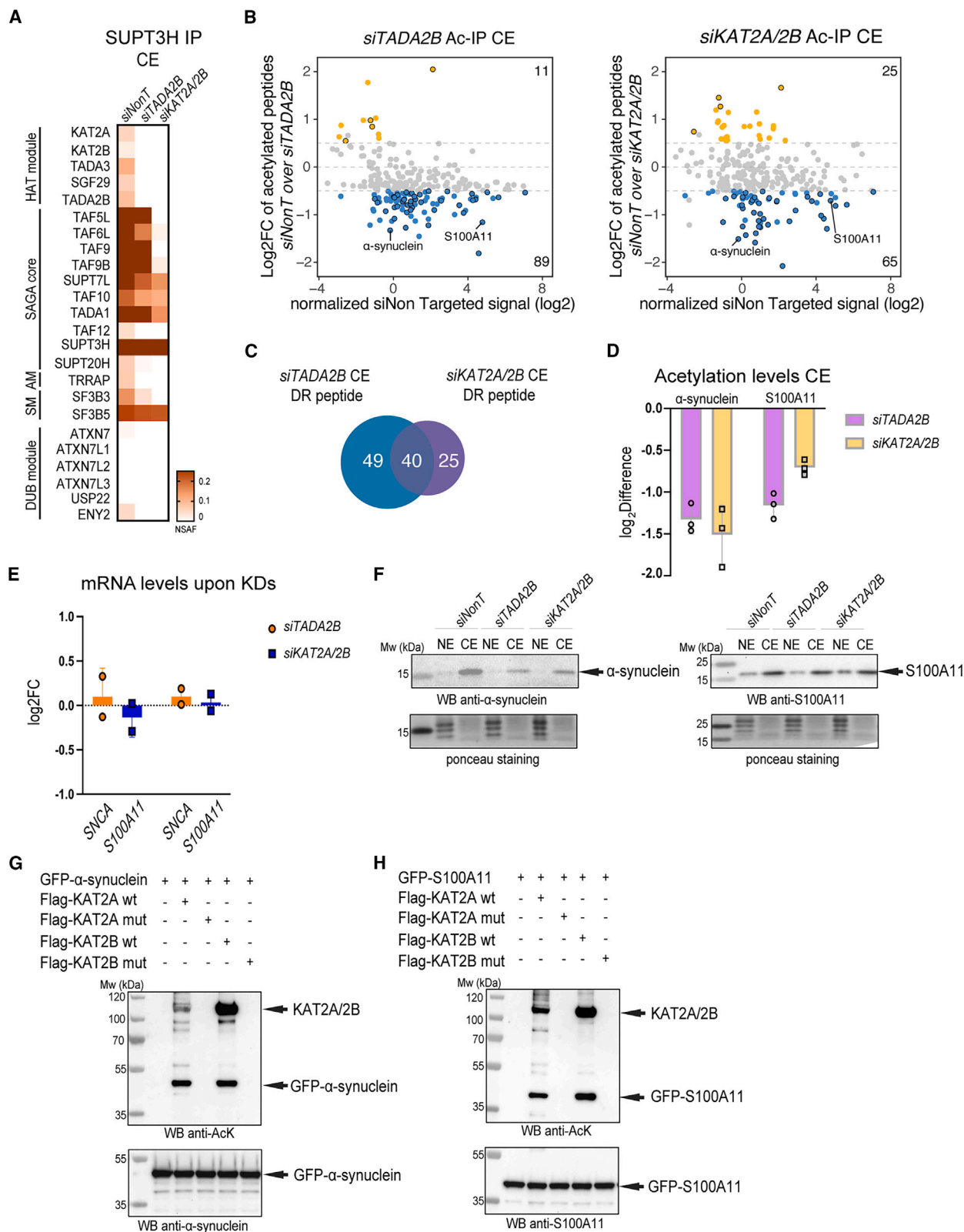
(C) Mass spectrometry analysis of TADA2B, SUPT20H, and ATXN7L3 IPs carried out using NEs and CEs (as indicated) prepared from either HeLa cells (left) or of TADA2B and SUPT20H IPs carried out using NEs and CEs prepared from either HEK293T cells (middle) or mESCs (right). NSAF values were calculated and normalized to TAF6L values in all IPs. In (A)–(C), three technical replicates were carried out per IP ($n = 3$; see also Table S4). NSAF values were calculated and normalized to SGF29 (A), MBIP (B), and TAF6L (C). Normalized NSAF results are represented as heatmaps with indicated scales. Dotted boxes indicate the bait protein for a given IP. The known modules of the SAGA complex, such as the HAT module, DUB module, core module, structural module, SM, and AM are indicated. ATAC HAT and core modules are indicated. In (A), the shared HAT subunits are highlighted and the specific HAT subunits indicated. Dotted lines separate functional modules of ATAC and SAGA complexes.

(D) Live-cell measurement of subcellular distribution in GFP-TAF5L (SAGA subunit) and GFP-ZZZ3 (ATAC subunit) HeLa FRT cells. Cells were induced to express the respective GFP-fusion protein for 8 h before imaging ($N = 3$). Two representative GFP Z maximum intensity projections are shown for each cell line with overlaid nuclear outlines in green. The mean GFP cytoplasmic/nuclear intensity ratio for each cell (shown as a dot) is plotted on the right.

unless SAGA was purified by an antibody raised against a DUB module subunit (ATXN7L3; Figure 5C). This is in agreement with suggestions that DUB-free SAGA complexes exist and function in metazoan cells.^{35,61} Moreover, these anti-SAGA subunit IPs from the NEs identified all the paralogs described in the SAGA complex: KAT2A/KAT2B, TAF9/TAF9B, and ATXN7/ATXN7L1/ATXN7L2 (Figures 5B and 5C).³

Surprisingly, IP-MS experiments from HeLa CEs using antibodies against shared subunits of ATAC and SAGA complexes (anti-TADA3 and anti-KAT2A) did not detect any ATAC complex

subunit from the CE, while a fully assembled SAGA complex with its functional modules was readily identified (Figure 5A). Strikingly, but in agreement with the anti-TADA3 and anti-KAT2A IPs, immunoprecipitations from CEs using the ATAC-specific antibodies (anti-TADA2A, anti-ZZZ3, and anti-YEATS2), used successfully on NEs, did not identify any subunits of the ATAC complex from HeLa, HEK293T, and mESC CEs (Figure 5B). On the contrary, IP-MS analyses from HeLa, HEK293T, or mESC CEs using SAGA-subunit specific antibodies (anti-TADA2B or anti-SUPT20H) identified SAGA complexes containing all, or almost all, subunits, (Figure 5C). Thus, we obtained evidence from three mammalian cell lines that SAGA can assemble in the



(legend on next page)

cytoplasm to form individual modules or partial complexes or even completely assembled SAGA holo-complexes. These SAGA assemblies in the cytoplasm are stable, as they are resistant to the high stringency (500 mM KCl) washing conditions during the IP. In contrast to SAGA, individual ATAC subunits or complexes cannot be detected in mammalian CEs using IP-coupled MS detection.

To verify the opposing cytoplasmic behavior of the two related HAT complexes with a different approach, we performed imaging experiments on live cells. To this end, we used the DOX-inducible HeLa cell lines in which either GFP-TAF5L, a SAGA-specific subunit, or GFP-ZZZ3, an ATAC-specific subunit, was expressed. After induction, the GFP signal was visualized and measured in both the nuclear and cytoplasmic compartments. While the GFP-TAF5L signal was readily detected in both compartments, the GFP-ZZZ3 signal was almost exclusively restricted to the nuclei (Figure 5D). For GFP-TAF5L, the mean cytoplasmic signal was ~22% of its nuclear counterpart, while for GFP-ZZZ3, it was undistinguishable from background fluorescence (less than 5%). This imaging experiment further strengthened the above biochemical observations, indicating that ATAC and SAGA do not behave the same way in the cytoplasm of mammalian cells.

The observed striking differences between the subcellular localization of the two related co-activator HAT complexes indicate that neo-synthesized ATAC subunits and/or its building blocks do not accumulate in the cytoplasm and that their cytoplasmic residency time in this compartment is extremely limited and/or restricted (see also discussion). In contrast, SAGA can fully, or almost fully, assemble in the cytoplasm, where it may carry out a SAGA-specific function differently from ATAC.

The SAGA complex acetylates non-histone proteins in the cytoplasm

As a fully assembled SAGA complex could be detected in the cytoplasm of mammalian cells, we examined whether SAGA

would have a function as an acetyltransferase in the cytoplasm of human cells. To this end, we performed acetylome analysis in HeLa cells in which we knocked down either the SAGA HAT module-specific subunit TADA2B or the HAT enzymes KAT2A and KAT2B, common to SAGA and ATAC. HeLa cells were transfected with *non-targeting* (*siNonT*), *siTADA2B*, and *siKAT2A/KAT2B* siRNAs. 72 h after transfection, subcellular fractionation was performed to obtain nuclear and cytoplasmic protein extracts (Figure S6A). qRT-PCR indicated that KD of the mRNAs of the targeted subunits (*TADA2B* and *KAT2A/KAT2B*) was efficient (Figure S6B). In addition, western blot analyses indicated successful separation of CEs from NEs (Figure S6C). To verify the loss of the HAT module from the SAGA complex in the cytoplasm, we performed anti-SUPT3H (a SAGA-core specific subunit) immunoprecipitation from CEs transfected with *siNonT*, *siTADA2B*, and *siKAT2A/KAT2B*. These experiments showed that the KD of *TADA2B* or *KAT2A/KAT2B* subunits resulted in SUPT3H-containing partial SAGA assemblies lacking *KAT2A/KAT2B* and the entire HAT module (Figure 6A).

Next, the CEs and NEs were digested with trypsin, and acetylated peptides were enriched using an antibody raised against acetylated-lysine for quantitative MS analyses (Figure S6A). Principal-component analysis (PCA) carried out on MS identified peptides originating from either CE or NE fractions prepared from *siNonT*-, *siTADA2B*-, and *siKAT2A/KAT2B*-treated cells, further validated the successful separation of the CEs from NEs (Figure S6D). In acetylated-lysine IP fractions from mock treated CEs (*siNonT*), 257 acetylated peptides were identified (Table S6). To find potential targets of the SAGA acetyltransferase module in the cytoplasm, we examined the datasets for the loss of acetylated peptides when comparing acetylation in control *siNonT* CEs with either the *siTADA2B* extracts or the corresponding *siKAT2A/KAT2B* extracts. The resulting MA plots indicated that in both KD CE extracts, the acetylation of 89 and 65 peptides was significantly downregulated, with a log2fold change above -0.5 and below a

Figure 6. The SAGA complex acetylates non-histone proteins in the cytoplasm

(A) HeLa cells were transfected with *siNon-targeting* (*siNonT*), *siTADA2B*, and *siKAT2A/2B* siRNAs for 48 h. CEs were prepared, and anti-SUPT3H IP-coupled mass spectrometry analysis was carried out. NSAF values were calculated ($n = 3$; see Table S5 for proteins found in each IP). NSAF values were normalized to the bait SUPT3H, and the results are represented as heatmaps with the indicated scales. The different modules of the SAGA complex are indicated.

(B) Acetylated-lysine IPs were carried out from *siNonT*-, *siTADA2B*-, or *siKAT2A/2B*-treated CEs and analyzed by mass spectrometry ($n = 3$; see also Table S6 for acetylated proteins found in each IP carried out from CE extracts and their corresponding acetylated lysine residues). Left, MA plot represents log₂fold change (FC) of *siTADA2B* over *siNonT* (y axis) versus *siNonT* normalized signal intensity in log₂ (x axis). Right, MA plot represents log₂FC of *siKAT2A/2B* over *siNonT* (y axis) versus *siNonT* normalized signal intensity in log₂ (x axis). Peptides that have upregulated acetylation levels are indicated with orange dots. Peptides that have downregulated acetylation levels are indicated with blue dots. Peptides that have upregulated or downregulated acetylation levels in both KD (*TADA2B* and *KAT2A/KAT2B*) conditions are indicated with black circles in each category.

(C) Venn diagram shows number of peptides that had significantly downregulated (DR) acetylation levels under either *siTADA2B* (blue) or *siKAT2A/2B* (purple) KD conditions.

(D) Log₂ difference of acetylation levels of α -synuclein or S100A11 in both KD condition. Error bars \pm SD ($n = 3$).

(E and F) *In vitro* acetylation (AT) assay. KAT2A WT, KAT2B WT, and their corresponding catalytic dead mutants (mutants) were purified from baculovirus-infected Sf9 cells and GFP- α -synuclein and GFP-S100A11 from transfected HeLa cells. (E) qRT-PCR analysis of mRNA levels of *SNCA* and *S100A11* upon *siTADA2B*- or *siKAT2A/2B*-mediated KDs. Error bars \pm SD ($N = 2$). Log₂FC was calculated with the $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ method. *GAPDH* mRNA was used as an internal control. (F) Western blot analyses of α -synuclein or S100A11 protein levels in both NEs and CEs upon control and *siTADA2B* or *siKAT2A/2B* KDs. The left membrane was incubated with anti- α -synuclein antibodies and the right membrane with anti-S100A11 antibodies. Arrows indicate the corresponding proteins. Ponceau S staining was used as a loading control.

(G) *In vitro* AT of GFP- α -synuclein by KAT2A and KAT2B acetyltransferases. The order of protein addition in the reaction mixtures is depicted on the top. The top membrane shows western blot (WB) analysis using an anti-acetylated lysine antibody and the bottom membrane using an anti- α -synuclein antibody.

(H) *In vitro* AT of GFP-S100A11 by KAT2A and KAT2B acetyltransferases. The order of protein addition in the reaction mixtures is depicted on the top. The top membrane was immunoblotted with anti-acetylated lysine antibody and the bottom membrane with anti-S100A11 antibody.

In (F)–(H), arrows indicate the corresponding proteins, and molecular weight (Mw) markers are indicated in kDa.

5% false discovery rate (FDR), respectively (Figure 6B; Table S6). There is an overlap (40 peptides) between the downregulated acetylated peptides, of which the acetylation is either TADA2B and KAT2A/KAT2B dependent (highlighted in the MA plot with black circles, Figures 6B and 6C; Table S6). These experiments together suggest that the SAGA complex displays acetyltransferase activity in the cytoplasm.

To further analyze the KAT2A/KAT2B-dependent acetylation of cytoplasmic proteins, we chose α -synuclein (SNCA) and S100A11 (highlighted in the MA plot in Figure 6B), as the acetylation levels of both SNCA and S100A11 significantly decreased in *siTADA2B* and *siKAT2A/KAT2B* (*siKAT2A/2B*) CE KD extracts (Figure 6D; Table S6). The detected acetylated lysine residues of both SNCA (K21ac) and S100A11 (K3ac) have been described before.^{62–65} The detected decrease in acetylation is not due to a loss of SNCA and S100A11 mRNAs, as their expression did not change significantly upon either KAT2A/KAT2B or TADA2B KD (Figure 6E). On the other hand, in the cytoplasm, SNCA protein levels decreased (Figure 6F, left) in both KD conditions, while S100A11 protein levels remained unchanged under the KD conditions used (Figure 6F, right). This observation may suggest that acetylation of SNCA by the SAGA complex in the cytoplasm could be important for protein stability (see also discussion). Next, we set up an *in vitro* acetyltransferase (AT) assay to test the direct acetylation of SNCA and S100A11 proteins by either KAT2A or KAT2B *in vitro* (Figures 6G and 6H). Our *in vitro* AT assay indicated that both wild-type (WT) KAT2A and KAT2B, but not their catalytic mutants (mutants), could acetylate purified GFP-SNCA and GFP-S100A11 (Figures 6G and 6H). In conclusion, our results suggest that KAT2A/KAT2B-containing SAGA complex(es) can acetylate non-histone proteins in the cytoplasm, and thus SAGA may regulate the function of these proteins at the post-translational level.

DISCUSSION

Proteins assemble into multisubunit complexes in order to perform their specific key tasks in many cellular processes. Therefore, a well-ordered regulated assembly of protein subunits into their corresponding complexes is essential for cell viability. The existence of distinct mechanisms of protein complex assembly pathways have been suggested. The first mechanism would consist of fully synthesized proteins finding and binding their partners randomly in the cytoplasm of eukaryotic cells. Alternatively, protein folding and interactions can be controlled and guided by chaperones as shown for TFIID.⁶⁶ However, how fully synthesized proteins find their binding partners to build up multiprotein complexes in the crowded cytoplasmic environment is not well understood. Post-translational assembly of complexes may have several disadvantages, such as aggregation or non-specific binding to unrelated proteins. Another, more recently discovered, mechanism is that neo-synthesized proteins interact with their partners while still being translated by the ribosomes, a process that has been called co-TA assembly. This pathway by which proteins interact during their translation phase is adding potential benefits to multiprotein complex assembly by reducing the risk of forming non-specific interactions with other unrelated factors in the cytoplasm and/or aggregation of subunits, which are not properly folded without their

specific partner(s). An increasing body of evidence indicates that co-TA is a widespread and evolutionary conserved phenomenon, as it has been observed in bacteria, yeast, and mammalian cells.^{45–47,50–53,67}

In our present study, we demonstrate that two mammalian multisubunit co-activator complexes form their structural core via either simultaneous or sequential co-TA assembly. Our multiple combined analyses demonstrate that two ATAC subunits, YEATS2 and ZZZ3, assemble using the simultaneous co-TA assembly pathway as (1) a significant fraction of their respective mRNAs co-localize (Figures 3H and 3K), (2) the YEATS2 RIP identifies ZZZ3 mRNA, and vice versa (Figures 2A and 2B), and (3) the YEATS2 proteins are in close physical proximity to the ZZZ3 mRNAs (Figure 3A). Nevertheless, our experimental setups cannot exclude the possibility that fully synthesized YEATS2 would bind nascent ZZZ3, and vice versa. A key question of the simultaneous co-TA is how are the mRNAs targeted to same location in the cytoplasm? While our experiments do not directly answer this question, we found that the co-localization of YEATS2 and ZZZ3 mRNAs is translation dependent (PURO sensitive) (Figures 3H and 3K), suggesting that the mRNAs and the corresponding nascent proteins find each other in the cytoplasm during translation. This suggestion raises the interesting possibility that when the corresponding N-terminal interaction domains are synthesized, the ribosomes pause, or slow down considerably, their translation to allow the time for the neo-synthesized interaction domain to find its partner. Co-TA often involves the N-terminal domains of the interacting partners.^{48,68} When proteins interact through the simultaneous assembly pathway, they use domains situated at the N-terminal region of both interacting partners. As these N-terminal domains are synthesized first by the ribosomes, they can find and bind each other during their synthesis. Thus, our results further suggest that the interacting regions of YEATS2 and ZZZ3 are in their N-terminal regions, but the identification of the precise nature of these interaction domains would require additional experiments.⁴ Furthermore, our results suggest that the formation of a YEATS2/ZZZ3 dimer could be the first step, or one of the first steps, in the assembly pathway of the ATAC complex (Figure 2H), which would be followed by the binding of the YEATS2/ZZZ3 dimer with neo-synthesized CSRP2BP (ATAC2). From our RIP results, it seems that the C-terminal HFD of fully synthesized YEATS2 would bind to the N-terminal HFD of nascent NC2 β and that fully synthesized WDR5 would bind to nascent MBIP. Once all these building blocks are synthesized, they would assemble to form the six-subunit-containing ATAC core module (Figure 2H). Independently, whether the proteins are co-translated by the sequential or the simultaneous pathway, our IF-coupled smFISH experiments are in good agreement with both mechanisms, showing the physical proximity of the interacting protein and the mRNA of their partners. As no detailed structural data exist concerning the ATAC complex, the co-TA assembly partners described in this study highlight binary interactions within the ATAC core module, some of them using their N- or C-terminal interaction domains, which can be elucidated by high-resolution structures of ATAC. In conclusion, our results suggest that the structural six subunit core of the hATAC complex is using a hierarchical co-TA assembly pathway.

The well-defined core structure of the hSAGA complex is in concordance with our co-TA results concerning the assembly of the hSAGA core module.¹³ Subunits shared between multisubunit complexes have also been called moonlighting proteins.^{48,69} The SAGA core shares three TAFs with TFIID: TAF9, TAF10, and TAF12. Here, we show that the co-translational dimerization of the HFD pairs, TAF9 with TAF6L and TAF12 with TADA1, in SAGA are similar to the co-TA observed for their related HFD-containing pairs, TAF9-TAF6 and TAF12-TAF4, in TFIID (Kamenova et al.⁴⁷ and this study). Note, however, that while TAF10 associates with TAF8 or TAF3 in a co-TA manner in TFIID,^{47,55} in the SAGA core, the HFD partners, TAF10 and SUPT7L, do not use co-TA to assemble.⁴⁷ Due to its C-terminal HFD, TAF10 has to be fully synthesized to find its nascent protein partners, which have their interacting HFDs at their N-terminal end (i.e., TAF8 and TAF3). As the HFD of SUPT7L is not on its N-terminal end, it seems that these two proteins have to be fully synthesized to interact in a post-translational manner. Similarly, moonlighting subunits of the yeast nuclear pore complex do not necessarily assemble co-translationally with all their partners, suggesting that co-TA may be used as a regulatory step when different outcomes are possible for moonlighting proteins.⁵³

In spite of the observation that both the ATAC and SAGA complexes use co-TA assembly in the cytoplasm, the intracellular localization of holo-ATAC and holo-SAGA complexes are very different. While holo-ATAC can only be detected in the nuclei of mammalian cells, holo-SAGA can be detected in both the cytoplasm and the nucleus. The unexpected presence of a cytoplasmic holo-SAGA complex may relate to its function in the cytoplasm. The previously identified numerous acetylated cytoplasmic proteins indicate the importance of acetylation in the regulation of cytoplasmic processes.^{64,70} Our acetylome analysis represents an unprecedented effort to define specific cytoplasmic acetylation by the SAGA complex. Consequently, we revealed that SAGA is important for the acetylation of non-histone proteins in the cytoplasm. Moreover, it has been previously shown that nuclear lysine acetyl transferases, such as KAT2A, KAT2B, or KAT3B, can acetylate cytoplasmic non-histone proteins.^{33,71–74} Here, we demonstrate that the KAT2A or KAT2B incorporated in the hSAGA complex, besides their known nuclear targets (see also [introduction](#)), can acetylate cytoplasmic non-histone proteins ([Figure 6](#)). Indeed, by comparing the acetylated cytoplasmic peptides with two published acetylome datasets, analyzing global cellular acetylomes, we observed an about 55%–56% overlap.^{64,75} In addition, when analyzing the cytoplasmic SAGA-dependent acetylome data, we identified cytoplasmic substrates that were already described to be acetylated by KAT2A (GCN5) and/or KAT2B (PCAF).^{17,32,76–78} These observations together further substantiate our results. It is well known that acetylation of non-histone proteins contributes to their stability, activity, and/or subcellular localization.^{79–81} Further studies will be needed to define the role of SAGA-dependent cytoplasmic regulation in cellular homeostasis and diseases.

In spite of the fact that the ATAC core and probably the HAT module assemble in the cytoplasm, we detected the holo-ATAC complex only in the nucleus ([Figure 5](#)). It is conceivable that in contrast to the SAGA complex, ATAC-specific HAT activ-

ity or other, yet unknown activities are not tolerated in the cytoplasm of mammalian cells. Thus, active cellular mechanisms may exist that ensure that ATAC-dependent activities do not function in the cytoplasm. Such cellular mechanisms can be dual: (1) on one side, making sure that ATAC or its individual modules are dynamically and very rapidly imported in the nucleus immediately after assembly, as recently described for yeast nuclear import system,⁸² and (2) on the other side, specific ATAC subunit/module degrading activities (i.e., polyubiquitylation-driven proteasome activities) may exist to avoid accumulation of ATAC in the cytoplasm. In agreement, importin proteins (α and β) may play a key role in the rapid import of the ATAC complex or in its functional modules to the nucleus.⁸³

Overall, our study contributes to the general understanding of the basis of subcellular building and distribution of large multiprotein complexes. In this context, our data unveil the co-TA assembly pathways of the mammalian transcriptional co-activator complexes, ATAC and SAGA, and their differential subcellular distributions. In addition, our findings argue for a strong functional link between the biogenesis of holo-complexes and their distinct function in subcellular compartments. While the mammalian SAGA complex forms as a holo-complex in the cytoplasm, where it has an acetyl transferase activity toward non-histone targets, the ATAC complex does not seem to have a cytoplasmic function. The ATAC core module assembles co-translationally in the cytoplasm, interacts with its specific ADA2A-containing HAT module, and rapidly becomes imported to the nucleus. Alternatively, the two different modules of ATAC, the core and the HAT, assemble in the cytoplasm and are imported into the nucleus individually, where they then assemble. It is also conceivable that the cells have developed an active mechanism to avoid cytoplasmic accumulation of ATAC and its KAT function. Further, detailed studies will be needed to uncover the specific cellular processes regulating the rapid dynamic nuclear import and the potential targeted cytoplasmic depletion of ATAC subunits/modules.

Limitations of the study

Our strategy to detect proteins of which the acetylation levels are decreased, using RNA interference techniques to knock down SAGA complex subunits, may limit interpretations as a consequence of indirect effects of the compromised AT activity. Unfortunately, no efficient SAGA-specific cell-penetrable KAT2 inhibitors exist. Thus, in addition to endogenous cytoplasmic acetyl IP-coupled acetylome determinations and *in vitro* KAT assays with purified KAT2A/2B, endogenous functional SAGA complex purification and *in vitro* KAT reconstitution with several purified recombinant cytoplasmic targets would be necessary to further elucidate the direct physiological role of SAGA in the cytoplasmic compartment.

On the other hand, we did not detect an either fully or partially assembled ATAC complex in the cytoplasm. At present, we cannot exclude that complex assembly may take place in the cytoplasm followed by very fast nuclear import and/or active cytoplasmic degradation processes that would prevent ATAC detection in this compartment. The current sensitivity limits in our experiments do not allow us to distinguish between these possibilities. Further studies will help to validate the cytoplasmic

role of SAGA in cellular homeostasis and define the site of ATAC holo-complex formation.

STAR★METHODS

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental information can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.celrep.2023.113099>.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful to the IGBMC Proteomics and Photonic Microscopy platforms and cell culture facility for their assistance and instrumentation. We thank the members of the Tora lab for helpful discussions and comments and S. Bour for help with the drawings. This work was financially supported by Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR) ANR-19-CE11-0003-02, ANR-20-CE12-0017-03, and ANR-22-CE11-0013-01_ACT; the Fondation pour la Recherche Médicale (EQU-2021-03012631); NIH MIRA (R35GM139564); and NSF (award number: 1933344) grants. The work from the lab of L.T. and H.T.M.T. was financed by the ANR-PRCI-19-CE12-0029-01 grant. A.B. has been supported by the Fondation ARC pour la Recherche sur le Cancer

(ARCP0ST-DOC2021080004113). The research of P.K.M.S. and H.T.M.T. is financially supported by grants from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, German Research Foundation) with the project IDs 192904750-SFB 992 and TI688/1-1. This work, as part of the ITI 2021–2028 program of the University of Strasbourg, was also supported by IdEx Unistra (ANR-10-IDEX-0002) and by SFRI-STRAT'US project (ANR 20-SFRI-0012) and EUR IMCBio (ANR-17-EURE-0023) under the framework of the French Investments for the Future Program.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

G.Y. and L.T. conceived and designed the research. G.Y., P.K.M.S., E.S., M.D., K.E., A.B., and B.M. conducted experiments. G.Y., A.B., B.M., L.N., S.D.V., and L.T. analyzed and interpreted the results. H.T.M.T. and L.T. supervised the study. G.Y. and L.T. wrote the first draft, and G.Y., A.B., P.K.M.S., S.D.V., H.T.M.T., and L.T. finalized the manuscript.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.

Received: January 3, 2023

Revised: June 19, 2023

Accepted: August 22, 2023

Published: September 8, 2023

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STAR★METHODS

KEY RESOURCES TABLE

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
mouse monoclonal anti-GST tag	In-house	15TF21D10
mouse IgG	Jackson ImmunoResearch	015-000-003; RRID: AB_2337188
rabbit IgG	Jackson ImmunoResearch	011-000-003; RRID: AB_2337118
rabbit polyclonal anti-GFP tag	Abcam	ab290; RRID: AB_303395
rabbit polyclonal anti-YEATS2	In-house	2783; Nagy et al. ⁸
rabbit polyclonal anti-YEATS2	Abcam	ab254895
rabbit polyclonal anti-ZZZ3	In-house	2616; Nagy et al. ⁸
rabbit polyclonal anti-CSRP2BP (ATAC2)	In-house	2734; Nagy et al. ⁸
rabbit polyclonal anti-MBIP	In-house	2786; Nagy et al. ⁸
rabbit polyclonal anti-WDR5	Abcam	ab22512; RRID: AB_2215559
mouse monoclonal anti-WDR5	Abcam	2C2-ab56919; RRID: AB_946146
rabbit polyclonal anti-NC2b	In-house	Malecova et al. ⁸⁴
mouse monoclonal anti-TADA2A	In-house	2AD2A1; Nagy et al. ⁸
mouse monoclonal anti-KAT2A	In-house	2GC2C11; Brand et al. ⁸⁵
rabbit polyclonal anti-TADA3	In-house	2678; Nagy et al. ⁸
rabbit polyclonal anti-TADA2B	In house	3122; Fischer et al. ⁸⁶
rabbit polyclonal anti-SUPT3H	In house	3118; Bardot et al. ⁸⁷
rabbit polyclonal anti-SUPT20H	In house	3006; Krebs et al. ³⁷
rabbit polyclonal anti-ATXN7L3	In-house	2325; Zhao et al. ⁸⁸
mouse monoclonal anti-alpha tubulin	Sigma Aldrich	T9026; RRID: AB_477593
rabbit polyclonal anti-GAPDH	Sigma Aldrich	MAB374; RRID: AB_2107445
rabbit polyclonal anti-histone H3	Abcam	ab1791; RRID: AB_302613
rabbit polyclonal anti-acetylated lysine	Cell Signaling Technology	9441; RRID: AB_331805
rabbit polyclonal anti-alpha synculein	Cell Signaling Technology	2642; RRID: AB_2192679
mouse monoclonal anti-S100A11	Invitrogen	PA5-110338; RRID: AB_2855749
mouse monoclonal anti-RPB1	In-house	1PG7G5; Lebedeva et al. ⁸⁹
Alexa Fluor (AF) 488-labelled goat anti-mouse mAb	Life Technologies	Cat# A11001; RRID: AB_2534069
Peroxidase AffiniPure Goat Anti-Rabbit IgG (H + L)	Jackson ImmunoResearch	Cat# 111-035-144; RRID: AB_2307391
Peroxidase AffiniPure F(ab') ₂ Fragment Goat Anti-Mouse IgG, Fcγ fragment specific	Jackson ImmunoResearch	Cat# 115-036-071; RRID: AB_2338524
rabbit polyclonal anti-GFP tag	Sigma Aldrich	G1544; RRID: AB_439690
mouse monoclonal anti-Vinculin	Santa Cruz	sc-73614; RRID: AB_1131294
mouse monoclonal anti-Tubulin	Calbiochem	CP06; RRID: AB_2617116
mouse monoclonal anti-Flag M2	Sigma Aldrich	F1804; RRID: AB_262044
Chemicals, Peptides, and Recombinant Proteins		
GFP-Trap® Agarose	Chromotek	gta
Vectashield	Vector Laboratories	H-1000
FLAG peptides	PI230	Fournier et al. ³²
Critical Commercial Assays		
PTMScan Acetyl-lysine Motif [Ac-K] kit	Cell Signaling	Cat# 13416S
NucleoSpin RNA XS, RNA extraction kit	Macherey-Nagel	Cat# 740902.50
SuperScript IV Reverse Transcriptase, cDNA synthesis kit	Thermo Fischer Scientific	Cat# 18090010

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REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
NuPAGE™ 4 to 12%, Bis-Tris, 1.0–1.5 mm, Mini Protein Gels	Thermo Fischer Scientific	Cat# NP0321BOX
Pierce™ ECL Western Blotting Substrate	Thermo Fischer Scientific	Cat# 32209
Lipofectamine RNAiMax	Invitrogen	Cat# 13778150
Deposited Data		
Mass spectrometry proteomics SAGA complex IPs	This paper	PRIDE: PXD038695
Mass spectrometry proteomics ATAC complex IPs	This paper	PRIDE: PXD038695
Mass spectrometry proteomics anti-acetylated lysine IP	This paper	PRIDE: PXD038695
Experimental Models: Cell Lines		
Human HeLa cells (W.S)	IGBMC	https://www.igbmc.fr/services-scientifiques/culture-de-cellules#c2202
Human HEK293T	IGBMC	https://www.igbmc.fr/services-scientifiques/culture-de-cellules#c2202
Mouse: ES E14tg2a.4 cells (129P2 genetic background)	BayGenomics	Fischer et al. ⁸⁶
Sf9 insect cells	IGBMC	https://www.igbmc.fr/en/plateformes-technologiques/translate-to-english-baculovirus
HeLa Flp-In/T-REx-GFP-YEATS2 Dox inducible cell line	This study	N/A
HeLa Flp-In/T-REx-GFP-ZZZ3 Dox inducible cell line	This study	N/A
HeLa Flp-In/T-REx-GFP-ATAC2 Dox inducible cell line	This study	N/A
HeLa Flp-In/T-REx-GFP-MBIP Dox inducible cell line	This study	N/A
HeLa Flp-In/T-REx-GFP-WDR5 Dox inducible cell line	This study	N/A
HeLa Flp-In/T-REx-GFP-NC2b Dox inducible cell line	This study	N/A
HeLa Flp-In/T-REx-GFP-TAF5L Dox inducible cell line	This study	N/A
HeLa Flp-In/T-REx-GFP-TAF9 Dox inducible cell line	This study	N/A
HeLa Flp-In/T-REx-GFP-TAF12 Dox inducible cell line	This study	N/A
Oligonucleotides		
For primer sequences see Table S1	This paper	N/A
For smiFISH probes see Table S2	This paper	N/A
ON-TARGETplus human siTADA2A	Dharmacon	L-017516-00-0050
ON-TARGETplus human siTADA2B	Dharmacon	L-024154-00-0050
ON-TARGETplus human siKAT2A	Dharmacon	L-009722-02-0050
ON-TARGETplus human siKAT2B	Dharmacon	L-005055-00-0050
ON-TARGETplus human siNon-targeting	Dharmacon	D-001810-10-50
Recombinant DNA		
Plasmid: EGFP-alpha synuclein-WT	Addgene	plasmid ID: 40822
Plasmid: GFP-S100A11	Addgene	plasmid ID: 107201
cDNA: human YEATS2 (1–1422)	the Kazusa DNA research institute (No KIAA1197)	N/A

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Continued

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
cDNA: human ZZZ3 (1–903)	Origene	Cat# SC107046
cDNA: human MBIP (1–344)	Yokohama City University	N/A
cDNA: Human NC2b (1–176)	T. Oelgeschläger	N/A
pFastBac baculovirus expression vector: HA-CSRP2BP (ATAC2)	This paper	Nagy et al. ⁸ ; Vilhais-Neto et al. ⁹⁰
pFastBac baculovirus expression vector: Flag-hWDR5	This paper	Nagy et al. ⁸ ; Vilhais-Neto et al. ⁹⁰
pFastBac baculovirus expression vector: c-Myc-hMBIP	This paper	N/A
pFastBac baculovirus expression vector: hYEATS2	This paper	N/A
pFastBac baculovirus expression vector: ZZZ3	This paper	N/A
pFastBac baculovirus expression vector: NC2b	This paper	N/A
pFastBac baculovirus expression vector: KAT2A	This paper	Fournier et al. ³²
pFastBac baculovirus expression vector: KAT2B	This paper	Fournier et al. ³²
pFastBac baculovirus expression vector: KAT2A/2B dead mutants	This paper	Fournier et al. ³²

Software and Algorithms

Fiji	Schindelin et al., 2012	https://imagej.net/software/fiji/downloads
Image lab	Biorad	https://www.bio-rad.com/en-us/product/image-lab-software?ID=KRE6P5E8Z
Prism	Graphpad	https://www.graphpad.com/features
Adobe Illustrator	Adobe	https://www.adobe.com
Proteome Discoverer 2.4	Thermo Fisher Scientific	https://www.thermofisher.com/us/en/home/industrial/mass-spectrometry/liquid-chromatography-mass-spectrometry-lc-ms/lc-ms-software/multi-omics-data-analysis/proteome-discoverer-software.html
MetaMorph software	Molecular Devices	https://www.moleculardevices.com/products/cellular-imaging-systems/acquisition-and-analysis-software/metamorph-microscopy
Chromagnon	Matsuda et al., 2018	https://github.com/macronucleus/Chromagnon
CellProfiler	Broad Institute	https://cellprofiler.org/

RESOURCE AVAILABILITY

Lead contact

Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the lead contact, László Tora (laszlo@igbmc.fr).

Materials availability

Plasmids and cell lines generated in this study are available upon request without restrictions, with MTA completion when necessary.

Data and code availability

- LC-MS/MS data have been deposited to the PRIDE repository with the identifier PXD038695 and is publicly available as of the date of publication.
- This paper does not report original code.
- Any additional information required to reanalyze the data reported in this paper is available from the lead contact (László Tora, laszlo@igbmc.fr) upon request.

EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND STUDY PARTICIPANT DETAILS

Human cell lines

Human HeLa cells (W.S) were obtained from the IGBMC cell culture facility and cultured in DMEM (1 g/L glucose) supplemented with 5% fetal calf serum (Dutscher, S1810) and Gentamicin 40 μ g/mL (KALYS, Cat #G0124-25). Human HEK293T cells were obtained from the IGBMC cell culture facility and cultured in DMEM (1 g/L glucose) supplemented with w/GLUTAMAX-I (Life Technologies Cat #21885-108), 10% fetal calf serum (Dutscher, S1810), 1mM Sodium Pyruvate, Gentamicin 40 μ g/mL (KALYS, Cat #G0124-25).

Mouse embryonic stem (mES) cells

Mouse ES E14 cells were cultured on plates coated with 0.1% gelatin solution in 1 \times PBS (Dutcher, Cat #P06-20410) using DMEM medium supplemented with 15% fetal calf serum ES-tested (ThermoFisher Scientific, Cat #10270-106), 2 mM L-glutamine (ThermoFisher Scientific, Cat #25030-024), 0.1% β -mercaptoethanol (ThermoFisher Scientific, Cat #31350-010), 100 U/ml penicillin and 100 μ g/mL streptomycin (ThermoFisher Scientific, Cat #15140-122), 0.1 mM non-essential amino acids (ThermoFisher Scientific, Cat #11140-035) and 1500 U/ml leukemia in-hibitory factor (home-made). For medium described as FCS+LIF+2i medium, 3 μ M CHIR99021 (Axon Med-chem, Cat #1386) and 1 μ M PD0325901 (Axon Medchem, Cat #1408) were added freshly to the medium. Cells were grown at 37°C in a humidified, 5% CO₂ incubator.

METHOD DETAILS

Construction of baculovirus expression vectors

To construct baculovirus expression vectors, cDNAs encoding the following proteins were purchased: human YEATS2 (1–1422) was provided by the Kazusa DNA research institute (No KIAA1197), human ZZZ3 (1–903) was obtained from Origene (No SC107046), human MBIP (1–344) was purchased from Yokohama City University. Human NC2 β (1–176) cDNA was a kind gift from T. Oelgeschläger. Baculovirus expression vectors pVL1393-HA-CSRP2BP (ATAC2) and pVL1392-Flag-hWDR5 were previously described.^{8,90} Different cDNAs were PCR amplified with attB recombination sites for further cloning using the GATEWAY technology and appropriate primers. Amplification was performed with Phusion High-Fidelity DNA polymerase (F503, ThermoFisher scientific). PCR products were inserted into pDONOR vector using BP recombination, followed by LR recombination into modified pFastBac baculovirus expression vectors (pFCs), where target gene expression is under the control of the polyhedrin promoter. Baculovirus pFC vectors expressing different ATAC subunits with N-terminal epitope tags were generated: hemagglutinin (HA)-hCSRP2BP (ATAC2), c-Myc-hMBIP; Flag-hWDR5 and GST-NC2 β . The hYEATS2, hZZZ3 expression vectors carried no epitope tags. NC2 β was either non-tagged or GST tagged. Baculovirus expression vectors expressing KAT2A, KAT2B and their HAT enzymatically dead mutants have been described previously.³²

Generation of GFP-fused cell lines

The ORFs for the human TAF5L, TAF9 and WDR5 proteins and for the mouse TAF12 were obtained by PCR using the appropriate cDNA clone and gene-specific primers flanked by attB sites followed by BP-mediated GATEWAY recombination into pDONR221 according to instructions by the manufacturer (Invitrogen). The cDNAs of human proteins YEATS2, ZZZ3, CSRP2BP, MBIP, and NC2 β were obtained in GATEWAY pENTRY vectors. The ORFs were transferred to the pCDNA5-FRT-TO-N-GFP destination clone by LR-mediated GATEWAY recombination according the manufacturer (Invitrogen). All obtained constructs were verified across the whole ORF by DNA sequencing.

HeLa Flp-In/T-REx cells, which contain a single FRT site and express the Tet repressor,⁹¹ were grown in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM), 4.5 g/L glucose (Gibco), supplemented with 10% v/v fetal bovine serum (Gibco). The GFP-fusion destination vectors were co-transfected with a pOG44 plasmid that encodes the Flp recombinase into HeLa Flp-In/T-REx cells using polyethyleneimine (PEI) transfection to generate stable Dox-inducible expression cell lines. Recombined cells were selected with 5 μ g/mL blasticidin S (InvivoGen) and 250 μ g/mL hygromycin B (Roche Diagnostics) 48 h after PEI transfection. Doxycycline-dependent expression of the GFP fusion proteins were verified by Western blot analyses using the corresponding antibodies (see below), which confirmed the expected sizes of the different fusion proteins (Figures S1B–C and S1E).

EGFP- α -synuclein-WT (Addgene plasmid ID: 40822) and GFP-S100A11 (Addgene plasmid ID: 107201) encoding plasmids were obtained from Addgene.

Recombinant protein production from insect cells

Recombinant baculoviruses were generated as described and used for protein complex production.⁹² Sf9 insect cells were infected with baculovirus vectors co-expressing YEATS2, ZZZ3, HA-CSRP2BP, cMyc-MBIP, Flag-WDR5 and NC2 β , or GST-NC2 β , harvested 48 h post infection by centrifugation and stored at –80°C until further use. Pellets of infected Sf9 cells were resuspended in lysis buffer [400 mM KCl, 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.9, 10% glycerol, 0.2 mM EDTA, 0.5 mM DTT, containing 1 \times protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche)]. Extracts were prepared by three rounds of freeze–thawing in liquid nitrogen and clearing by centrifugation. The supernatant fractions were stored at –80°C. Protein expression was tested by Western blot analysis (Figures 1C and 1D).

Nuclear and cytoplasmic extract preparation

Cells were harvested and washed twice with 1× PBS. Cell pellets were resuspended in 4 times packed cell volume (PCV) of hypotonic buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.9, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM DTT and 1× EDTA free protein inhibitor cocktail), left cell suspension 30 min on ice to swell, then dounced 10 times using a B dounce pestle homogenizer to break cytoplasmic membrane. After a 10 min centrifugation at 1,000–1,800 g, 4°C, supernatant was removed and kept as cytoplasmic extract and the pellet resuspended in a high salt buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.9, 25% glycerol, 500 mM NaCl, 0.5 mM EDTA, 1 mM DTT and 1× protein inhibitor cocktail). To break the nuclear membranes, suspension was homogenized by douncing 20 times using a B dounce, then incubated 30 min at 4°C and centrifugation at 10,000 g for 20 min at 4°C. The supernatant was dialyzed overnight at 4°C against an isotonic salt buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.9, 20% glycerol, 5 mM MgCl₂, 100 mM KCl, 1 mM DTT and 1× protein inhibitor cocktail). The dialyzed fraction was kept as nuclear extract.

Whole cell protein extract preparation

The required number of cells were trypsinized, transferred to 1.5 mL Eppendorf tubes, centrifuged at 100 g at 4°C for 5 min, and washed once with 1 mL 1× PBS. Pellets were resuspended in one PCV extraction buffer (400 mM KCl, 20 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 20% glycerol, 2 mM DTT and 1× EDTA free protease inhibitor cocktail). After three rounds of times freeze-thawing in liquid nitrogen, tubes were centrifuged at 14,000 g at 4°C for 10 min. The supernatant fractions, called whole cell extracts (WCEs), were stored at –80°C.

Preparation of polysome-containing extracts

Polysome-containing extracts were prepared from HeLa-FRT-N-GFP cells harvested at ~90% confluence by adapting a method described in.⁴⁷ 15 cm plates were treated with cycloheximide (100 µg/mL final) for 15 min or puromycin (50 µg/mL final) for 30 min at 37°C incubator just before start harvesting. Subsequently, plates were placed on ice, washed twice with ice-cold 1× PBS and scraped in 2 mL lysis buffer (20 mM HEPES KOH pH 7.5, 150 mM KCl, 10 mM MgCl₂ and 0.1% NP-40 (v/v)), supplemented with complete EDTA-free protease inhibitor cocktail (Roche), 0.5 mM DTT, 40 U/ml RNasin (Promega), and cycloheximide or puromycin with indicated final concentration. Extracts were prepared by homogenizing cells by 10 strokes of a B-type dounce and centrifugation at 17,000 × g. Supernatant kept as a polysome-containing extract and was used as input for RNA immunoprecipitation (RIP).

RNA immunoprecipitation (RIP)

Polysome-containing extracts were used to start immunoprecipitations, after saving 10% total RNA for input measurement. For all GFP IPs, 25 µL of GFP-Trap Agarose slurry (ChromoTek) were equilibrated by washing three times in lysis buffer (described above), resuspended in 1 mL of polysome-containing extract, and incubated for 1 h at 4°C with end-over-end mixing. After incubation, beads were washed four times with high salt-containing wash buffer (25 mM HEPES-KOH pH 7.5, 350 mM KCl, 10 mM MgCl₂ and 0.02% NP-40). RNAs were purified according to the manufacturer's instructions of the Macherey-Nagel total RNA purification XS kit directly from beads, including the optional on-column DNase digestion step, and eluted in the same 20 µL of RNase-free water.

cDNA preparation and RT-qPCR

For cDNA synthesis, 5 µL of purified RIP-RNA and 5 µL of 1:10 diluted input RNA samples were used. cDNA was synthesised using random hexamers and SuperScript IV (ThermoFischer Scientific) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Quantitative PCR was performed with primers on a Roche LightCycler 480 instrument with 45 cycles. Enrichment relative to input RNA was calculated using the formula $100 \times 2^{[(Cp(\text{Input}) - 3,322) - Cp(\text{IP})]}$ and expressed as “% input RNA”. Enrichment values were expressed as “mRNA fold enrichment” relative to the mock IP using the formula $\Delta\Delta Cp [\text{IP}/\text{mock}]$. All experiments were performed with a minimum of three biological and three technical replicates and values are represented as mean ± SD. Figures panels were prepared with taking in account all these data points using Prism. RT-qPCR primer sequences are available in [Table S1](#).

Western blot assays

Samples were loaded and separated using 4–12% gradient SDS-PAGE gels (Invitrogen). The proteins were transferred to a nitrocellulose membrane (GE Healthcare Life Sciences) following standard procedures at 100 V 1 h. Membranes were blocked in 3% non-fat dry milk for at least 30 min at room temperature. The membranes then incubated overnight at 4°C with primary antibodies listed in [Key resources table](#). After washing with 1×PBS containing 0.1% Tween 20, the membranes were incubated with secondary anti-rabbit or anti-mouse antibodies conjugated to HRP conjugated secondary antibodies listed in [Key resources table](#). The membranes were developed using the Pierce ECL Western Blotting Substrate (ThermoFisher Scientific, Cat#32109) and the ChemiDoc Touch Imaging System (Bio-Rad).

Recombinant protein purification for acetylation (AT) assay

HeLa cells transfected with either EGFP-α-synuclein-WT or GFP-S100A11 encoding plasmids (see above). 48 h after transfection, cells were harvested and protein extraction was performed (see WCE described above). 100 µL of WCEs were incubated with 20 µL of GFP-Trap Agarose slurry (ChromoTek) for 1 h at 4°C with end-over-end mixing. Following incubation, beads were washed

twice with IP100 buffer [25 mM Tris-HCl 7.9, 5 mM MgCl₂, 10% glycerol, 0.1% NP40, 100 mM KCl, 2 mM DTT, and 1× EDTA free protein inhibitor cocktail (Roche)]. Proteins on the beads were eluted with 0.1 M glycine-HCl pH 2.8, then neutralized with 1.5 M Tris-HCl pH 8.8. Eluted proteins were used as substrates for AT assay.

Recombinant Flag tagged KAT2A, KAT2A mut, KAT2B or KAT2B mut proteins were produced as described above and purified from baculovirus-infected insect cells by anti-FLAG-M2 IP followed by elution with FLAG peptides (PI230 produced by IGBMC).³²

Acetylation assay (AT assay)

α-synuclein and S100A11 recombinant proteins were incubated in the presence of recombinant KAT2A, KAT2A mut, KAT2B or KAT2B mut, separately. The reaction mixture (25 μL) containing 1× HAT buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.9, 7% glycerol, 0.1 mM EDTA, 50 mM KCl, 1 mM DTT), 100 mM sodium butyrate, 0.3 mM Acetyl-CoA, 1× EDTA free protein inhibitor cocktail (Roche) at final concentration was incubated for 1 h at 30°C. The reaction was stopped by adding Laemmli buffer with 10 mM DTT and boiled for 5–10 min. Proteins from the reactions were separated on a 4–12% SDS-PAGE and tested by Western blot analyses.

Single molecule inexpensive RNA FISH (smiFISH)

smiFISH primary probes were designed with the R script Oligostan.⁵⁸ The source code for Oligostan was downloaded at https://bitbucket.org/muellerflorian/fish_quant. Input parameters for Oligostan were applied as minimum length (default value: 26 nucleotides), maximum length (default value: 32 nucleotides), score around ΔG37°C value (default value: 90%), minimal distance between probes (default value: 2 nucleotides). GC composition was set in the range of 0.4–0.6. A minimum of 24 probes, which passed the specified filters, were selected. The specificity of all the designed probes was verified by the NIH nucleotide BLAST platform. Primary probes and secondary probes (Cy3 or ATTO488 conjugated FLAPs) were synthesised and purchased from Integrated DNA Technologies (IDT). Primary probes were ordered at a final concentration of 100 μM dissolved in Tris-EDTA pH 8.0 (TE) buffer. smiFISH probe sequences are available in Table S2. An equimolar mixture of all the primary probes for a particular RNA was prepared with a final concentration 0.833 μM of individual probes. The secondary probes are resuspended in TE buffer at a final concentration of 100 μM. A total of 10 μL of FLAP hybridization reaction was prepared with 2 μL (for single color smiFISH) of diluted (0.833 μM) primary probe set, 1 μL of secondary probe, 1 μL of 10× NEB3 and 6 μL of water. The reaction mix was then incubated in a thermocycler under the following conditions: 3 min at 85 °C, 3 min at 65 °C, 5 min at 25 °C. Two microliters of these FLAP hybridised probes are necessary for each smiFISH reaction. The volumes of the reactions were scaled up according to the number of smiFISH reactions carried out. smiFISH was carried out as follows as per published protocol in.^{47,58}

Immunofluorescence (IF) coupled to single molecule inexpensive RNA FISH (smiFISH)

To visualise proteins and mRNA together, we first performed IF followed by smiFISH as described in.⁴⁷ Briefly, cells plated on glass cover slips were treated with 100 μg/mL final concentration of cycloheximide for 15 min or puromycin (50 μg/mL final) for 30 min at 37 °C, fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde for 10 min at room temperature (RT), blocked and permeabilised with blocking buffer (BPS) [1% BSA, 0.3% Triton X-100, 2 mM Vanadyl ribonucleoside complexes (VRC), 1× PBS] for 10 min at 4 °C. After performing three times washing with 1× PBS, cells were incubated for 2 h at RT with anti-TAF12 antibody (#22TA2A1) diluted 1:1000. After PBS washes, cells were incubated (RT, 1 h) with secondary antibody solution Alexa Fluor (AF) 488-labelled goat anti-mouse mAb (Life Technologies #A11001) diluted 1:3000. Following immunofluorescence described above, cells were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde for 10 min at RT. Cells were washed with 1× PBS and incubated with wash buffer (10% Formamide in 2× SSC) for 10 min at RT. 50 μL Mix 1 (5 μL of 20× SSC, 1.7 μL of 20 μg/μL *E. coli* tRNA, 15 μL of 100% formamide, 2 μL of FLAP hybridised probes, required amount of water) and 50 μL Mix 2 (1 μL of 20 mg/mL RNase-free BSA, 1 μL of 200 mM VRC, 27 μL of 40% dextran sulfate, 21 μL of water) was prepared. Mix 1 was added to Mix 2 after proper vortexing. The total 100 μL of Mix1 + Mix2 is sufficient for two coverslips. Each coverslip was then incubated on a spot of 50 μL of the Mix in a 15 cm Petri dish with a proper hydration chamber (3.5 cm Petri dish containing 2 mL of 15% formamide/1× SSC solution) overnight at 37 °C. Following overnight incubation, coverslips were washed twice with wash buffer at 37 °C for 30 min each and with 1× PBS twice for 10 min each. Coverslips are mounted with 5 μL of Vectashield (Vector Laboratories, H-1000) containing DAPI and sealed with nail polish.

Microscopy image acquisition

Confocal imaging of cells processed for IF-smiFISH was performed on Leica SP8-UV microscope. A 63× oil immersion objective (NA 1.4) was used and images were taken by using the hybrid detector photon-counting mode. For excitation of DAPI, AF488 (IF) and Cy3 (smiFISH), 405 nm, 488 nm and 561 nm laser lines were used, respectively. The laser power for all acquisitions and laser lines was set to 10%. 8-bit images were acquired with a xy pixel size of 0.081 μm and a z step size of 0.3 μm (~30–40 optical slices). Image processing was performed using the Fiji/ImageJ software.⁹³ All images were processed the same way. For IF-smiFISH, one cell of an image was cropped and one representative z-slice per cell was chosen for display.

Cells processed for dual color smiFISH were imaged using spinning disk confocal microscopy on an inverted Leica DMI8 equipped with a CSU-W1 confocal scanner unit (Yokogawa), with a 1.4 NA 63× oil-objective (HCX PL APO lambda blue) and an ORCA-Flash4.0 camera (Hamamatsu). DAPI, AF488 (IF) and Cy3 (smiFISH) were excited using a 405 nm (20% laser power), 488 nm (70%) and 561 nm (70%) laser lines, respectively. 3D image acquisition was managed using MetaMorph software (Molecular Devices). 2048 × 2048 pixels images (16-bit) were acquired with a xy pixel size of 0.103 μm and a z step size of 0.3 μm (~30–40 optical slices). Multichannel

acquisition was performed at each z-plane. Multicolor fluorescent beads (TetraSpeck Fluorescent Microspheres, Invitrogen, T14792) were imaged alongside the samples. Chromatic shift registration was performed with Chromagon⁹⁴ using the fluorescent beads hyperstack as reference.

Image analysis of IF-smiFISH and dual color smiFISH data

Nuclei were segmented starting from maximum intensity projections of DAPI channel images and by applying a Gaussian blur filter followed by Otsu-algorithm thresholding and analyze particles commands in Fiji. The resulting nuclei contours were saved as ROI selections. The total population of RNA smiFISH spots was detected by using TrackMate Fiji plugin using DoG detector.⁹⁵ Object diameter and quality threshold were determined for each image separately. The coordinates of total FISH spots were saved as ROI selections. To measure the total number of cytoplasmic FISH spots for each image, nuclear RNA FISH spots selections were removed from the total using the combine (OR) and subtract (XOR) commands in ROI Manager tool in Fiji using the nuclei selections as reference. Cytoplasmic RNA spots co-localized either with protein spots (IF-smiFISH) or RNA spots from a different target mRNA (dual-color smiFISH) were detected and counted manually, in a cell by cell and plane by plane basis for every image on multichannel z stack images. The position of each positive co-localization event was recorded in ROI manager. The resulting number of co-localized cytoplasmic RNA spots was normalized as a fraction of the total cytoplasmic RNA spots per image and expressed in percentage. Statistical comparison between different experimental conditions was performed with unpaired two tailed t test in Graphpad Prism.

Imaging of GFP-fusion cell lines

For imaging of the GFP-fusion cell lines shown in Figure 5D, GFP-TAF5L and GFP-ZZZ3 HeLa FRT cells were plated on glass-bottom microslide chambers (Ibidi, 80827), with 3×10^4 cells/well in 0.3 mL complete medium. The day after, expression of the GFP-fusion genes was induced by addition of 1 μ g/mL doxycycline for 8 h. Cell nuclei were stained with 0.25 μ g/mL Hoechst 33342 (Invitrogen, H3570) for 30 min before imaging. Cells were imaged with a 20 \times objective on the spinning disk confocal Leica DMI8 microscope described above with a z step size of 2 μ m (8 total optical slices). Hoechst and GFP were excited using a 405 nm (20% laser power) and 488 nm (30%) laser lines, respectively.

For GFP intensity ratio measurements, sum intensity projections (SIPs) were generated in Fiji and background fluorescence was subtracted using the rolling ball algorithm with a 200 px radius. Segmentation and fluorescence measurements were performed in CellProfiler using a dedicated pipeline.⁹⁶ In brief, nuclei were segmented using the Minimum Cross-Entropy method on the Gaussian filtered Hoechst staining SIP image. Original nuclei objects were shrunk by 4 px to avoid measuring cytoplasmic regions. To measure the cytoplasmic signal, a 3 px-wide ring object was built around each original nucleus object. Cells with a mean nuclear GFP intensity below the lower decile were considered non induced and excluded from the analysis. Mean cytoplasmic and nuclear GFP fluorescence intensities were measured and their ratio plotted for each cell.

Immunoprecipitation experiments

Protein-G or Protein-A beads were washed twice with 1 \times PBS and twice with IP100 buffer [25 mM Tris-HCl 7.9, 5 mM MgCl₂, 10% glycerol, 0.1% NP40, 100 mM KCl, 2 mM DTT, and 1 \times EDTA free protein inhibitor cocktail (Roche)]. For mass spectrometry analysis, starting input protein extracts were either HeLa cytoplasmic extracts (CEs) (6–12 mg), HEK293T CEs (6–12 mg), mES CEs (3 mg) or HeLa nuclear extracts (NEs) (2–4 mg), HEK293T NEs (2–4 mg), mES NEs (1 mg), for co-IP experiments, starting input protein extracts Baculovirus-infected Sf9 WCEs (2–5 mg). Protein inputs were then precleared by the addition of 1/10 volume of 100% protein A or G beads for 1 h at 4°C with overhead agitation. During this time beads were coupled to the corresponding antibodies. Approximately, 0.2 mg of indicated antibody per mL of protein A or G bead was bound. Beads were incubated with the antibodies for 1 h at room temperature with agitation, unbound antibody was removed by washing the beads twice with IP500 buffer (25 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.9, 5 mM MgCl₂, 10% glycerol, 0.1% NP40, 500 mM KCl, 2 mM DTT, and 1 \times EDTA free protein inhibitor cocktail) and twice with IP100 buffer before addition of the precleared protein extracts, and further incubated overnight at 4°C with end-to-end shaking. The following day the beads were collected, and subjected to two rounds of washing for 5 min each with ten volumes of IP500 buffer, followed by 2 \times IP100 buffer washes. Proteins (IP-ed in Figures 1E, 5A–C, and 6A) were eluted with 0.1 M glycine-HCl pH 2.8, then neutralized with 1.5 M Tris-HCl pH 8.8. Eluted proteins were analyzed by mass spectrometry. Proteins in Figures 1E and 1D were eluted with 2 mg/mL peptides corresponding to the epitopes against which the corresponding antibodies were raised.

LC MS/MS mass spectrometry analyses

Protein mixtures were precipitated with TCA (Sigma Aldrich, Cat# T0699) overnight at 4°C. Samples were then centrifuged at 14,000 g for 30 min at 4°C. Pellets were washed twice with 1 mL cold acetone and centrifuged at 14,000 g for 10 min at 4°C. Washed pellet were then urea-denatured with 8 M urea (Sigma Aldrich, Cat# U0631) in Tris-HCl 0.1 mM, reduced with 5 mM TCEP for 30 min, and then alkylated with 10 mM iodoacetamide (Sigma Aldrich, Cat# I1149) for 30 min in the dark. Both reduction and alkylation were performed at room temperature and under agitation (850 rpm). Double digestion was performed with endoproteinase Lys-C (Wako, Cat# 125–05061) at a ratio 1/100 (enzyme/proteins) in 8 M urea for 4 h, followed by an overnight modified trypsin digestion (Promega, CAT# V5113) at a ratio 1/100 (enzyme/proteins) in 2 M urea for 12 h. Samples were analyzed using an Ultimate 3000 nano-RSLC (Thermo Fisher Scientific) coupled in line with an LTQ-Orbitrap ELITE mass spectrometer via a nano-electrospray ionization source (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Peptide mixtures were loaded on a C18 Acclaim PepMap100 trap-column (75 μ m ID \times 2 cm, 3 μ m, 100 Å,

Thermo Fisher Scientific) for 3.5 min at 5 μ L/min with 2% ACN (Sigma Aldrich, Cat# 1207802), 0.1% formic acid (Sigma Aldrich, Cat# 94318) in water and then separated on a C18 Accucore nano-column (75 μ m ID \times 50 cm, 2.6 μ m, 150Å, Thermo Fisher Scientific) with a 90 min linear gradient from 5% to 35% buffer B (A: 0.1% FA in water/B: 99% ACN, 0.1% FA in water), then a 20 min linear gradient from 35% to 80% buffer B, followed with 5 min at 99% B and 5 min of regeneration at 5% B. The total duration was set to 120 min at a flow rate of 200 nL/min. The oven temperature was kept constant at 38°C. The mass spectrometer was operated in positive ionization mode, in data-dependent mode with survey scans from m/z 350 to 1500 acquired in the Orbitrap at a resolution of 120,000 at m/z 400. The 20 most intense peaks (TOP20) from survey scans were selected for further fragmentation in the Linear Ion Trap with an isolation window of 2.0 Da and were fragmented by CID with normalized collision energy of 35%. Unassigned and single charged states were rejected. The Ion Target Value for the survey scans (in the Orbitrap) and the MS2 mode (in the Linear Ion Trap) were set to 1E6 and 5E3, respectively, and the maximum injection time was set to 100 ms for both scan modes. Dynamic exclusion was used. Exclusion duration was set to 20 s, repeat count was set to 1, and exclusion mass width was \pm 10 ppm.

Peptides were filtered with a false discovery rate (FDR) at 1%, rank 1 and proteins were identified with 1 unique peptide. Normalized spectral abundance factors (NSAF) were calculated for each protein as described earlier.^{97,98} To obtain spectral abundance factors (SAF), spectral counts identifying a protein were divided by the protein length represented by the number of amino acids. Then to calculate NSAF values, the SAF values of each protein were divided by the sum of SAF values of all detected proteins.

siRNA mediated knock down (KD)

24h after seeding 2 \times 10⁵ HeLa cells on 6-well plates, cells in OptiMEM (Gibco) medium at \sim 60% confluency were transfected with 100–150 pmol ON-TARGETplus human siRNAs, *siTADA2A* (Dharmacon L-017516-00-0050), *siTADA2B* (Dharmacon L-024154-00-0050), *siKAT2A* (Dharmacon L-009722-02-0050), *siKAT2B* (Dharmacon L-005055-00-0050) and *siNon-targeting* (Dharmacon D-001810-10-50). Following 5–6 h incubation in the presence of siRNA, medium was changed with DMEM (1 g/L glucose, 5% FCS, gentamycin). In order to have high transfection efficiency Lipofectamine RNAiMax was used (Invitrogen #13778150) and 24 h after first the transfection, cells were transfected with the same amount of siRNA a second time. 24 h after the second transfection, cells were harvested and processed for either for RNA or protein (nuclear and cytoplasmic) extractions.

Acetylome analysis by mass spectrometry

Protein extracts (5 mg NE or 10 mg CE) were precipitated with TCA, the pellet was washed twice with cold acetone and dried, dissolved in 8M urea, 5 mM TCEP and alkylated with 10 mM iodoacetamide. The tryptic peptides were obtained with a two-step digestion with endoproteinase Lys-C (4h, 37°C) and trypsin (16h, 37°C after a 4-time dilution in Tris-HCl pH 8.5), they were desalted on C18 Macro SpinColumn (Harvard Apparatus #74–4101) before drying and weighting: around 2.5 mg and 5 mg tryptic peptides were obtained from NE and CE respectively. The acetyl-K peptide enrichment was carried out with PTMScan Acetyl-lysine Motif [Ac-K] kit (Cell Signaling #13416S) according to the manufacturer's protocol.

Eluted fractions were analyzed in triplicate using an Ultimate 3000 nano-coupled in line with an Orbitrap ELITE (Thermo Scientific, San Jose California). Briefly, peptides were separated on a C18 nano-column with a 90 min linear gradient of acetonitrile and analyzed with a Top20 DDA method. Data were processed by database searching against Homo Sapiens Uniprot Proteome database (www.uniprot.org) using Proteome Discoverer 2.4 software (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Precursor and fragment mass tolerance were set at 7 ppm and 0.6 Da respectively. Trypsin was set as enzyme, and up to 2 missed cleavages were allowed. Oxidation (M, +15.9949), Acetyl (K, +42.0367) were set as variable modification and Carbamidomethylation (C, +57.0215) as fixed modification. Proteins and peptides were filtered with False Discovery Rate <1% (high confidence). Lastly quantitative values were obtained from Extracted Ion Chromatogram (XIC) and exported in Perseus 1.6.15.0 to produce heatmap and Volcano plot.⁹⁹

QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Statistical analyses were performed using unpaired two tailed t-tests between two different experimental condition (CHX and PURO) in IF-smiFISH confocal microscopy image quantification. Details for individual experiments including number of biological (labeled with N) and technical (labeled with n) replicates and statistical tests performed can be found in the figure legends. All statistical tests were performed using Prism. Comparisons were considered statistically significant with an * p value below 0.05.