

An experimental design to extract more information from MS-based histone studies

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Keywords

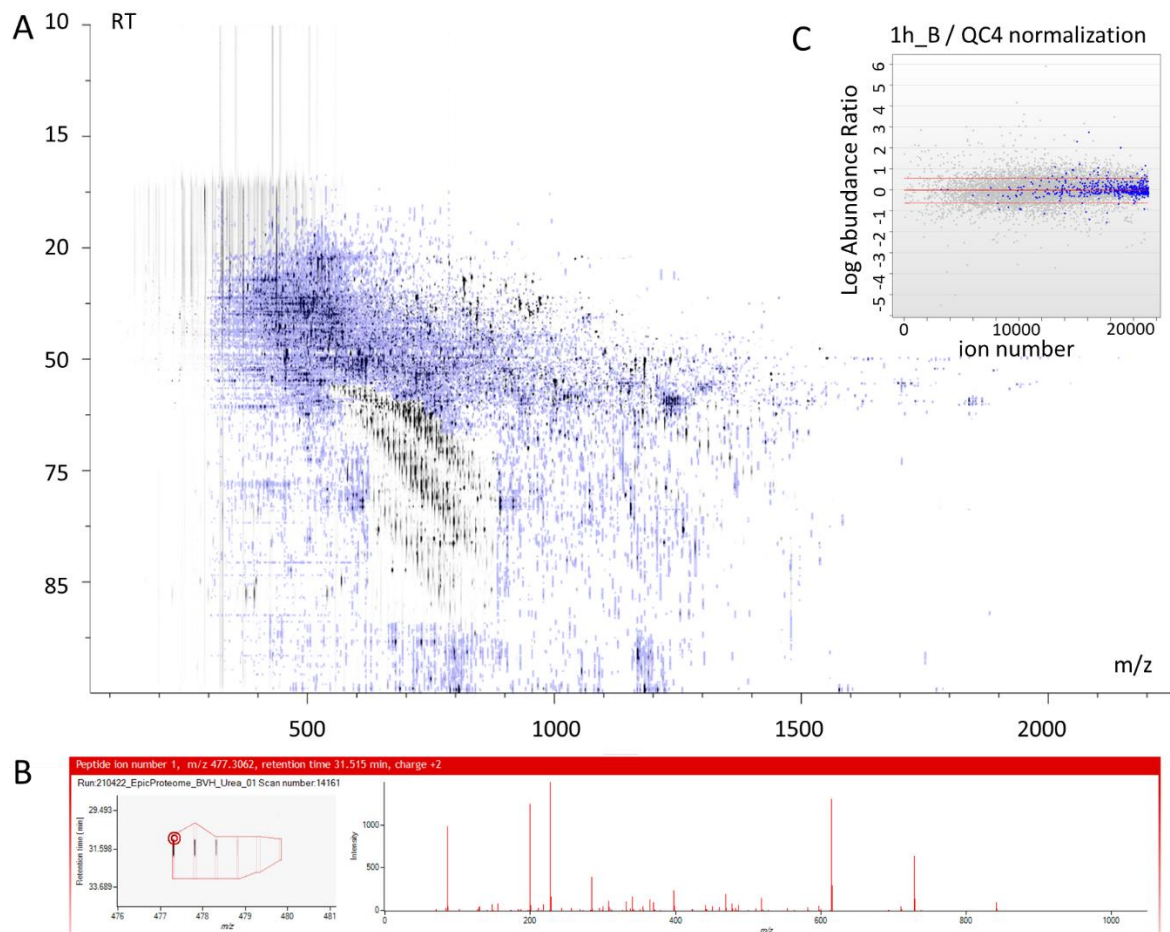
histone post-translational modifications; LC-MS/MS; proteomics; identification; HDAC

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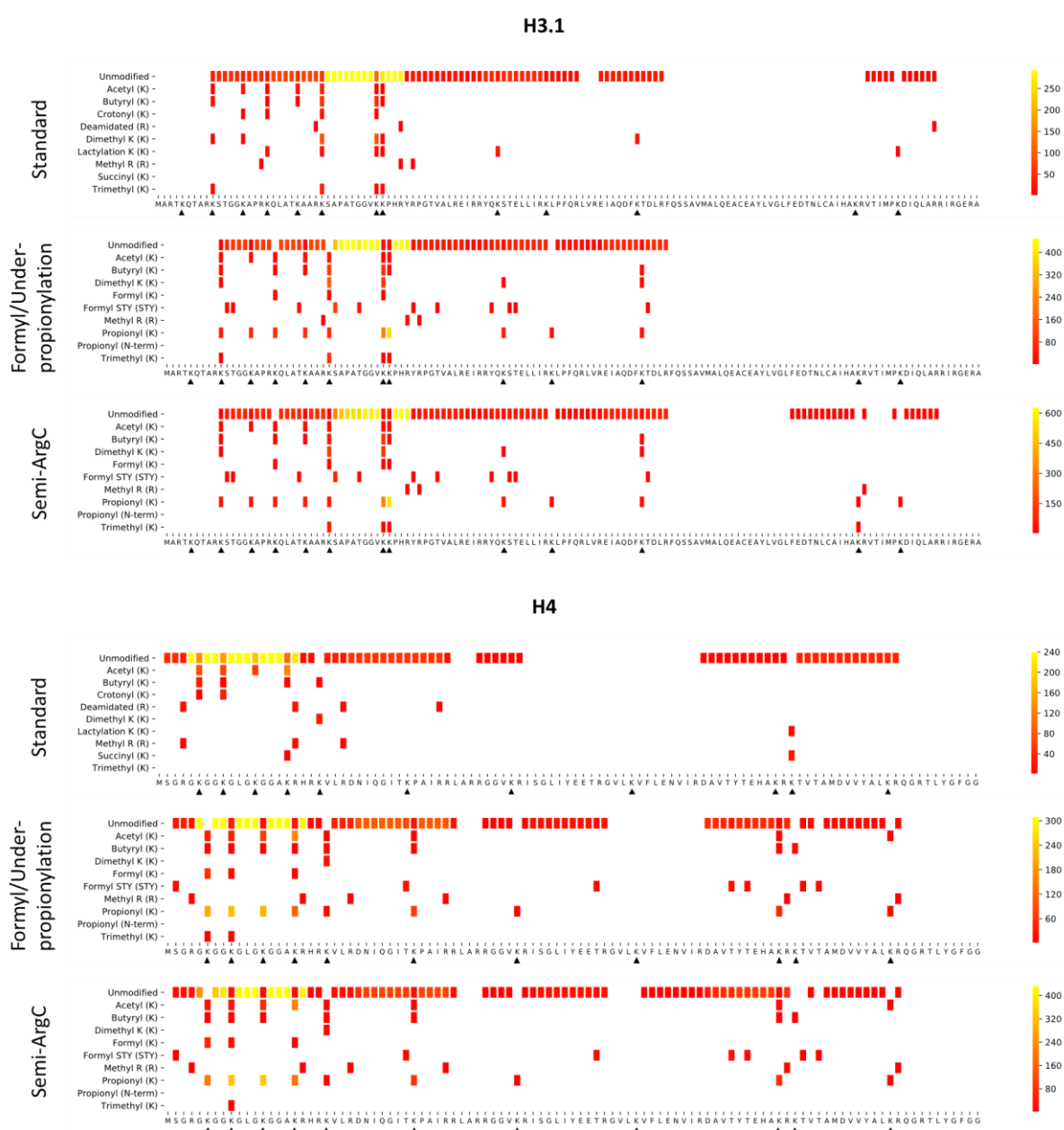
FIGURES

Supplementary Figure 1



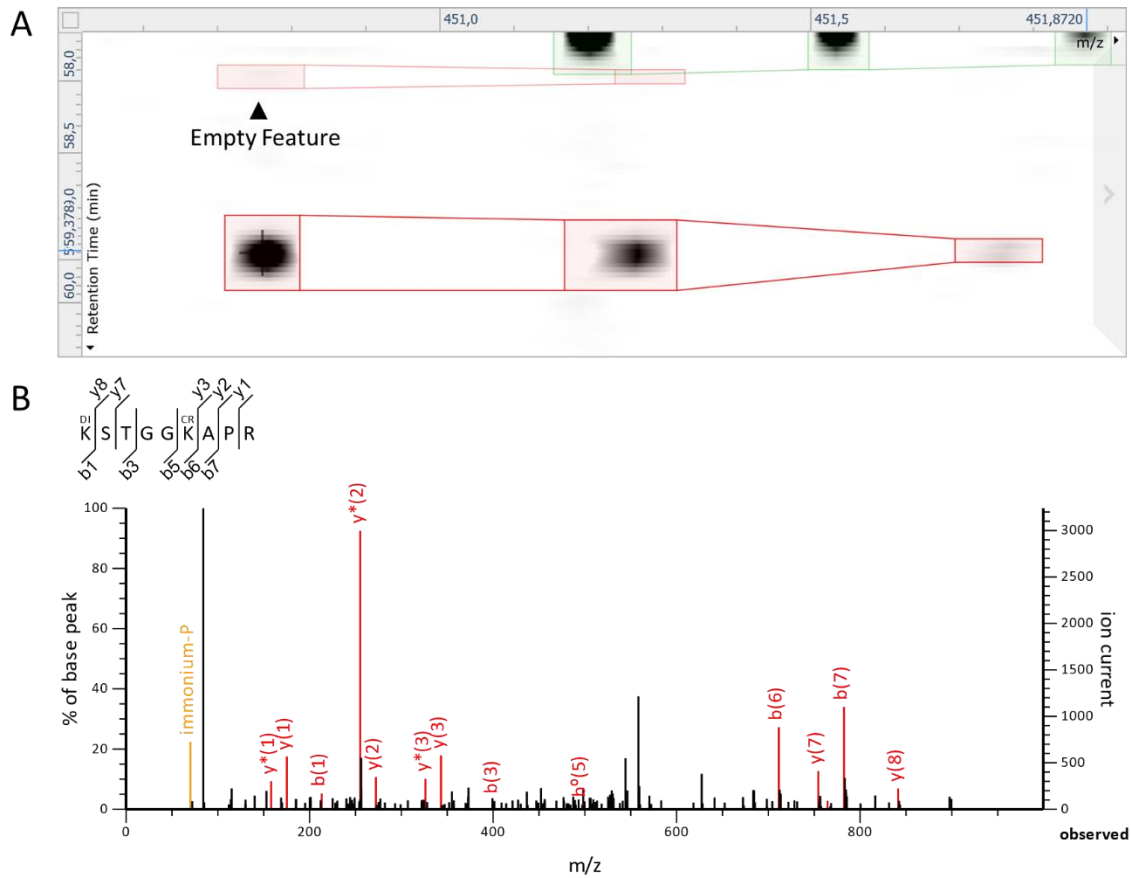
Supplementary Figure 1: Filtering, PSM matching and normalisation done in Protegenesis QIP 4.2. **A.** After alignment and feature detection, ions were filtered based on charge state (2+ to 10+ are retained) and the profile of polyethyleneglycol (PEG) was excised from the run manually (white area between m/z 550-900 and RT 50-90). All retained ions (21293) are highlighted in blue. Time axis equally spaces MS1 scans of the DDA run, resulting in a compressed time line when the cycle time increases due to higher number of targeted precursors. The complete project can be consulted on ProteomeXChange by downloading Protegenesis QIP for free and opening the *180329_HDAC_HDDDA_for_HDMSE_180201MD_PEG_Removed.ProtegenesisQIPArchive* file (no license required). **B.** A feature (left) is defined as an ion with a restricted retention time window and at least one isotopic peak to determine the charge. The circle (left) depicts the point where the MSMS spectrum (right) was taken. **C.** Normalization of all ion intensities was done using histone peptides (blue dots) against one of the quality control samples (QC4), which is a mixture of all samples in the experiment.

Supplementary Figure 2



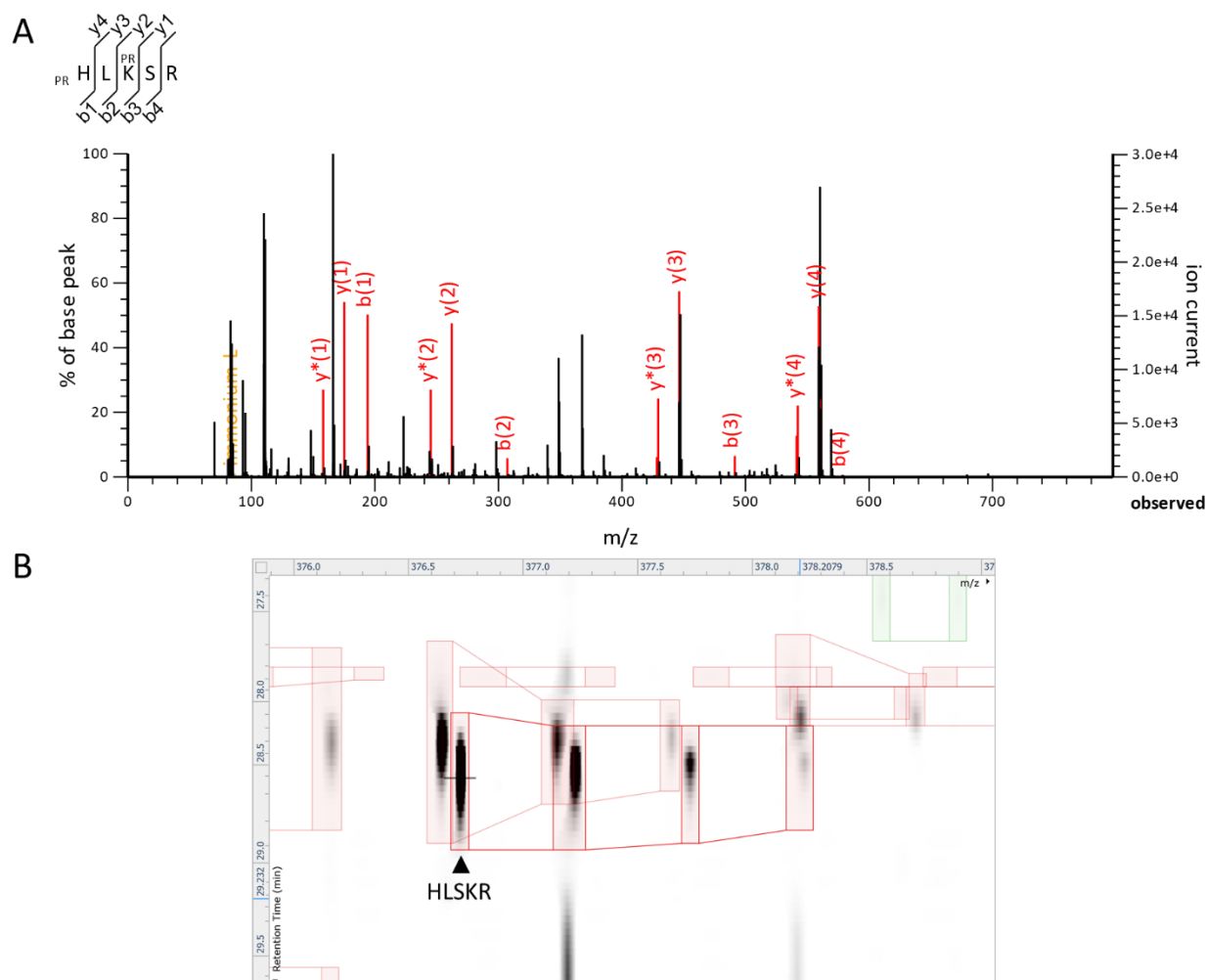
Supplementary Figure 2: Coverage of H3.1 and H4. The coverage plots were created with an in-house script (available at https://github.com/swillems/coverage_plots, accessed on 17/08/2021), which requires the MGF files and the protein database (*.FASTA) used to search the MGF files to map the identified peptides and PTM against the protein backbone. The displayed modifications depend on the search parameters used in Mascot Daemon. The scale to the right of each plot indicates the spectral count (relative to each histone from red to yellow) of each modification/amino acid residue. Black arrow heads indicate the lysine (K) residues.

Supplementary Figure 3



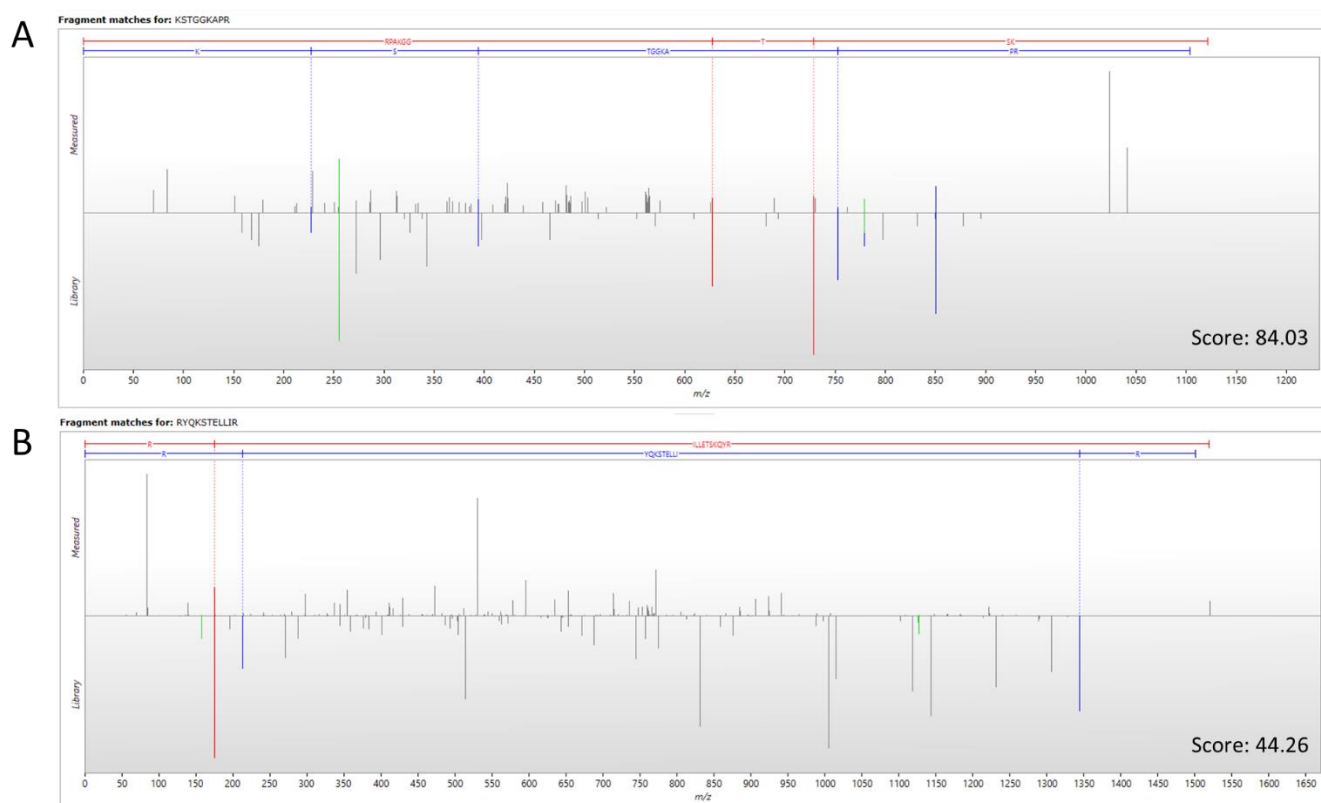
Supplementary Figure 3: Two annotations not matching the expected precursor ion intensity pattern following the standard search. **A.** For the unmodified peptide H3(64-69; KLPFQR), a total of 11 PSMs were found, 10 of which were eluting at 59,5 minutes. Only one was annotated at 58 minutes, which is the one embedded in the targeted acetylated population. Indeed, this annotation was linked back to a feature which was wrongly created by the ProgenesisQIP software on noise signal. **B.** On the other hand, only one PSM was found for H3(9-18) K9Me2/K14Cr. This peptide could have been decrotonylated by HDAC, since it was recently suggested that HDACs are deacylases, with a wide range of acylations as substrates. However, the spectrum below shows that no diagnostic ion of dimethyl or crotonyl was found in the low mass region and that several larger peaks were not explained (Hseiky *et al.*, 2021). Also, a crotonylation on H3K14 is not reported by UniProt. Therefore, a wrong annotation is more likely the reason for this anomaly.

Supplementary Figure 4



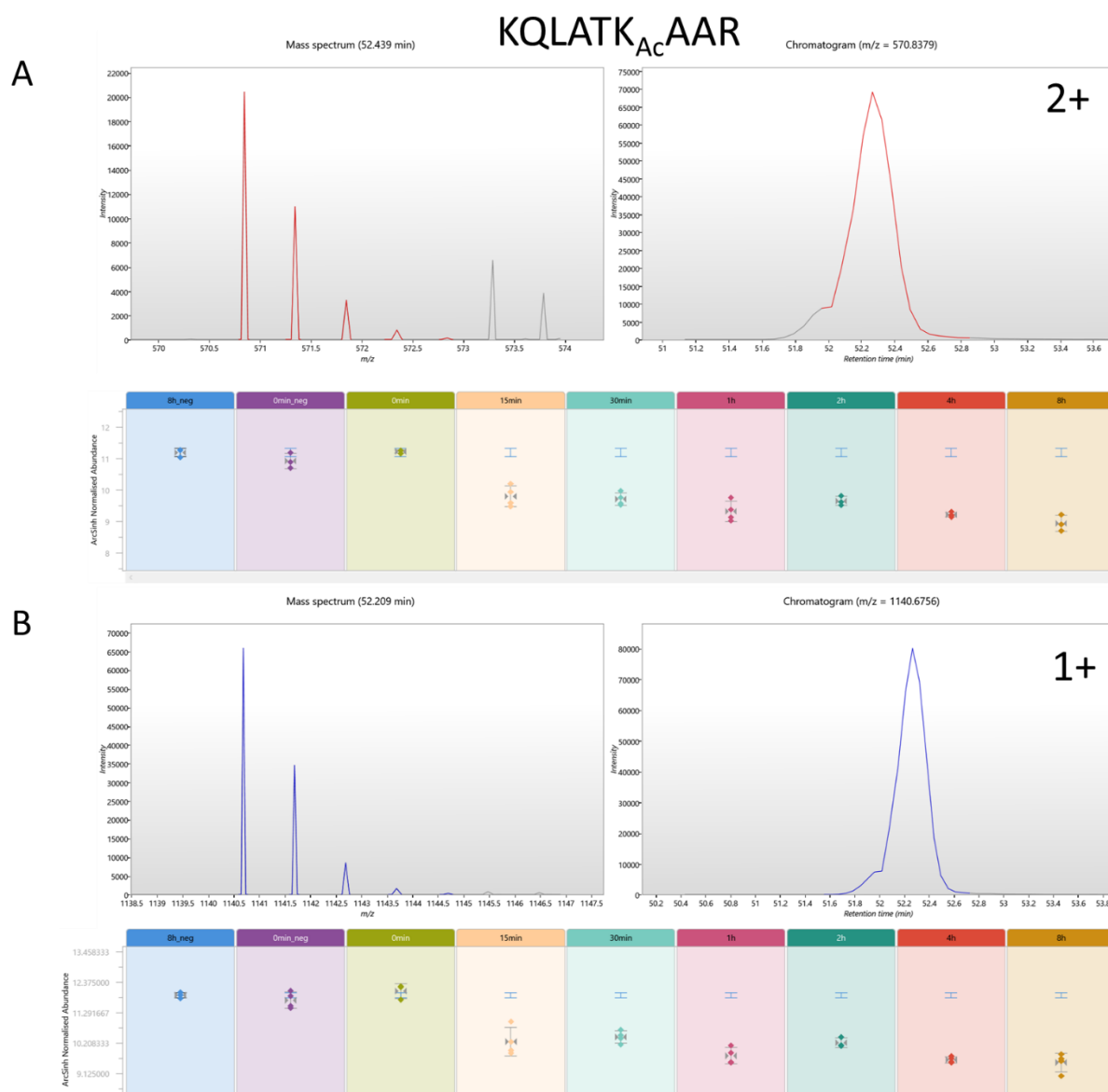
Supplementary Figure 4: One annotation not matching the expected precursor ion intensity pattern following the sample preparation search. A. The Mascot PSM of the HLKSR peptide from H2AZ, displaying full coverage of the short sequence (red fragments), but with several very high unannotated fragments (black) present. This is indicative of a high abundant co-selected precursor that has created a chimeric spectrum. **B.** Closer inspection of the precursor in Progenesis QIP showed the co-eluting of a near-isobaric precursor that very plausibly accounts for the unannotated high intensity fragments in the spectrum.

Supplementary Figure 5



Supplementary Figure 5: Mouse Spectral Library matching. A. The fragments matches of the measured (top) spectrum of a precursor ion displaying the profile of an acetylated peptide (**Figure 3C**) and the library (bottom) spectrum of the peptide H3 (K9-18; KSTGGKAPR) K9Me3/S2Ph/K14Ac with a score of 84/100. **B.** The unmodified H3 (53-63; RYQKSTELLIR) was also matched to a precursor from the acetylated ion population (**Figure 3C**) with a score of 44/100. However, the latter has little evidence for being correct. This surfaces the issue of a lack of score thresholding to make spectral library matching a valuable alternative as a search strategy in its current form.

Supplementary Figure 6



Supplementary Figure 6: The proportion of +1 precursor ions. Screenshot from the Progenesis QIP 4.2 project showing the precursor and elution profile of the H3 (K18-24) acetylated peptide in +2 (**A**) and +1 (**B**) charge state. The expression profiles are identical, confirming that the charge state deconvolution applied by Progenesis QIP correctly transferred the identification from the +2 to the +1 precursor ion. Both signals are equally intense, making the +1 precursor ion a perfect backup in case a co-eluting near-isobaric precursor would interfere with the +2 precursor ion (e.g. Supplementary Figure 3). Here, the shoulder at both 1+ and 2+ represents the K_{Ac}QLATKAAR form, which can only be distinguished in hSWATH acquisition (De Clerck *et al.*, 2019).

TABLES

Supplementary Table 1

Supplementary Table 1: 27 Additional precursor ions identified in the Semi-ArgC search.

Using the N-terminal propionylation and C-terminal amino acid, they can be subclassified into preprocessed or aspecifically cleaved (whether or not because of underpropionylation) or in-source decay fragments.

Sequence	Modifications	Cleavage type
G.KGGKGLGKGGAKR.H	K5 Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Ac	Lack of N-terminal propionylation indicates in-source decay fragmentation
G.KGGKGLGKGGAKR.H	K5 Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Ac	
G.KGGKGLGKGGAKR.H	K5 Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	
G.KGLGKGGAKR.H	K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	
G.GKGLGKGGAKR.H	K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Ac	
G.GKGLGKGGAKR.H	K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	
G.GKGLGKGGAKR.H	K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	
K.GGKGLGKGGAKR.H	K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Ac	
K.GGKGLGKGGAKR.H	K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Ac	
K.GGKGLGKGGAKR.H	K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	
K.GGKGLGKGGAKR.H	K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	
G.KGGKGLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K5 Fo K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	N-terminal propionylation indicates aspecific cleavage during digestion.
G.KGGKGLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K5 Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Ac	
G.KGGKGLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K5 Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	
K.GGKGLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Ac	
K.GGKGLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	
G.GKGLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K8 Fo K12 Prop K16 Ac	
G.GKGLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K8 Fo K12 Prop K16 Prop	
G.GKGLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K8 Prop K12 Ac K16 Ac	
G.GKGLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Ac	
G.KGLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K8 Fo K12 Prop K16 Prop	
G.KGLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	
K.GLGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	
G.LGKGGAKR.H	(N-term) Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	
R.GKGGKGLGK.G	(N-term) Prop K5 Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop	Cleavage type at the C-terminus cannot be classified.
R.GKGGKGLGK.G	(N-term) Prop K5 Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop	
R.GKGGKGLGKGGAK.R	(N-term) Prop K5 Prop K8 Prop K12 Prop K16 Prop	

REFERENCES

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Hseiky, A. *et al.* (2021) 'Small Mass but Strong Information: Diagnostic Ions Provide Crucial Clues to Correctly Identify Histone Lysine Modifications', *Proteomes*. MDPI AG, 9(2), p. 18. doi: 10.3390/proteomes9020018.