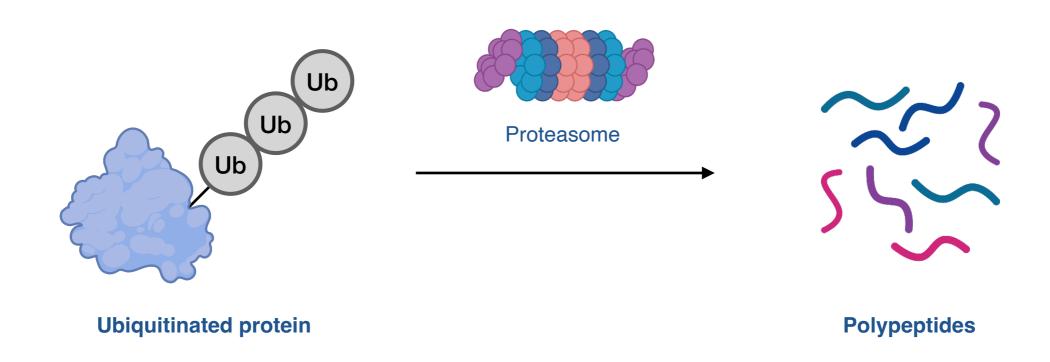
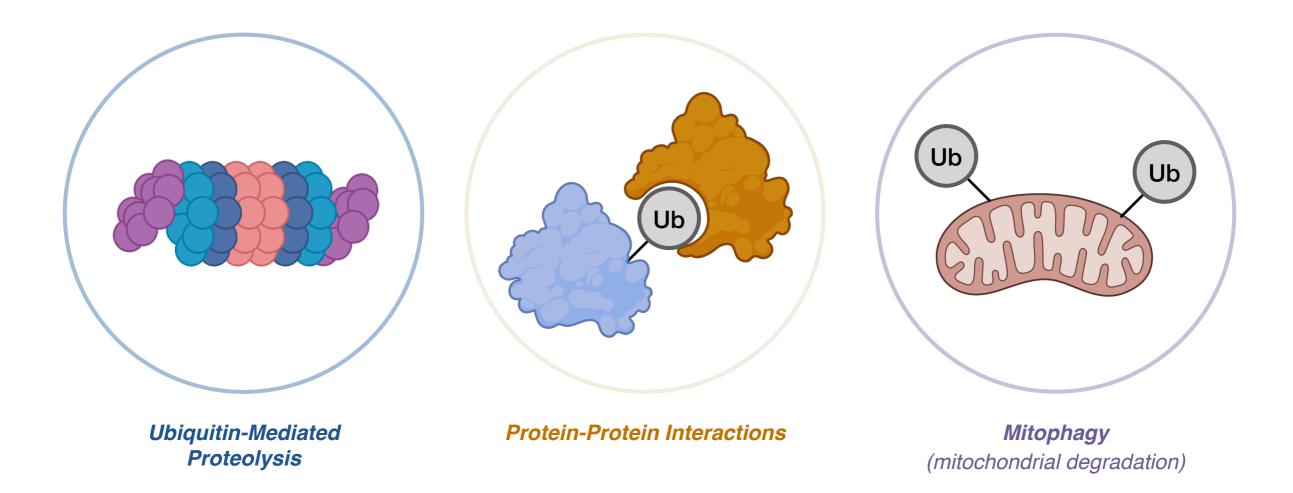


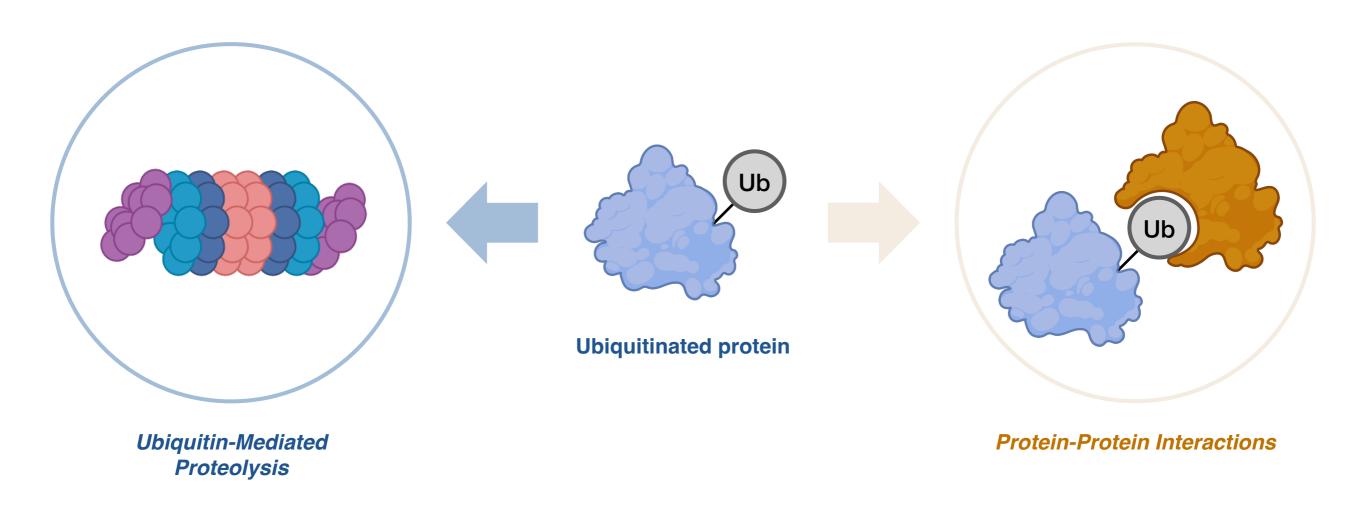
Benito F. Buksh MacMillan Research Group Group Meeting January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023



Ubiquitinated proteins are brought to the proteasome and undergo proteolysis

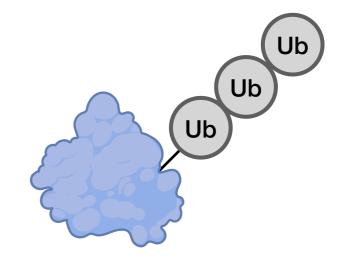


In addition to degradation, protein ubiquitination can trigger additional signals



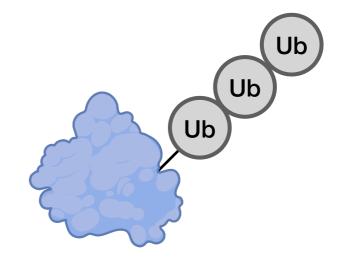
**Question:** When does ubiquitin enable protein-degradation, a protein-interaction, or another process?

- The History of Ubiquitin and How Substrates are Ubiquitinated
- The Ubiquitin Code
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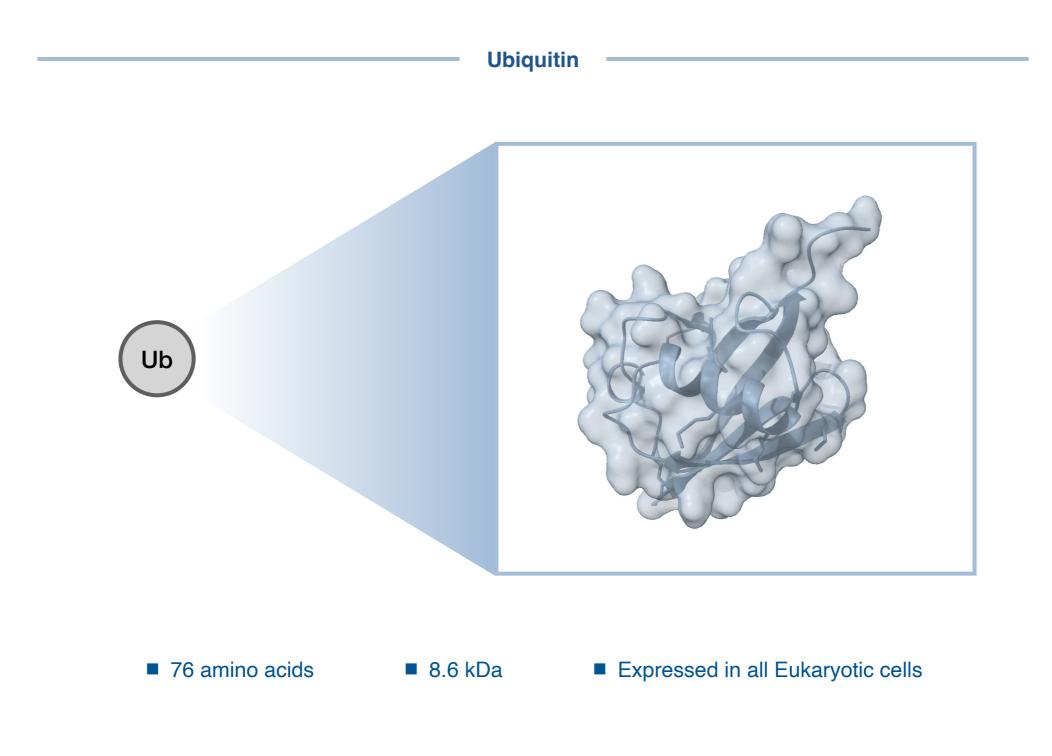


#### The History of Ubiquitin and How Substrates are Ubiquitinated

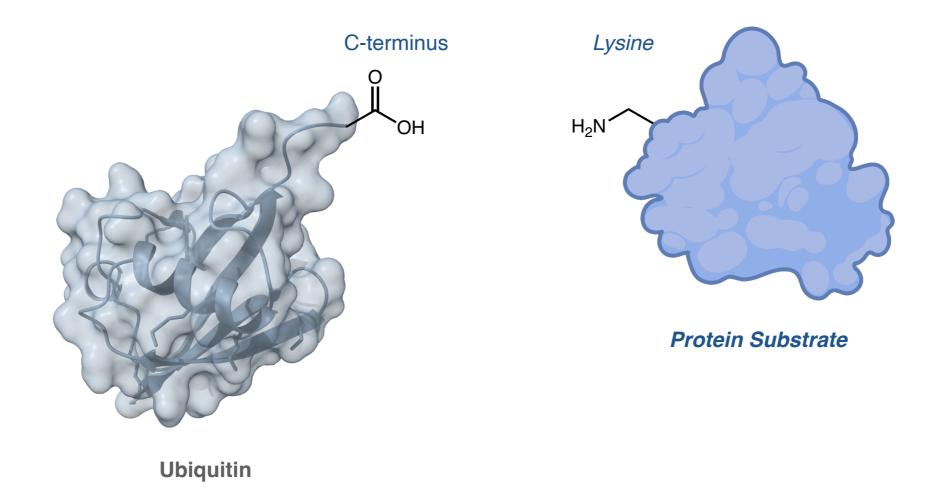
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# What is Ubiquitin?

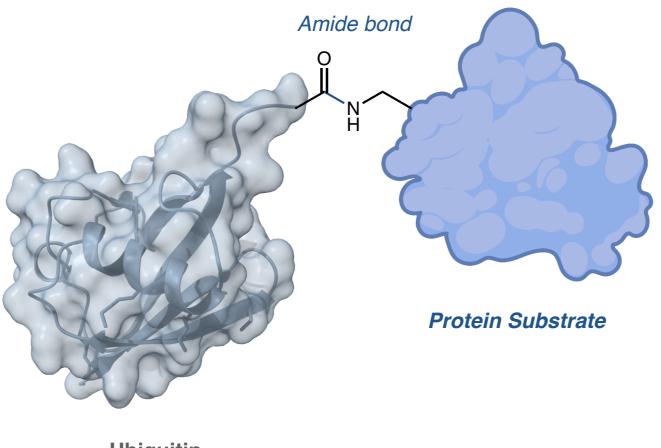


# What is Ubiquitin?



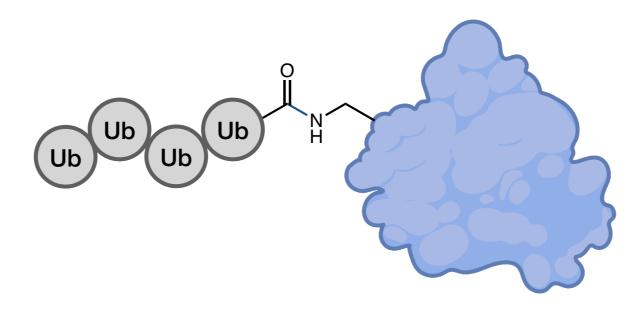
Attachment of ubiquitin occurs at the C-terminus of Ubiquitin and a nucleophilic residue of the substrate

## What is Ubiquitin?



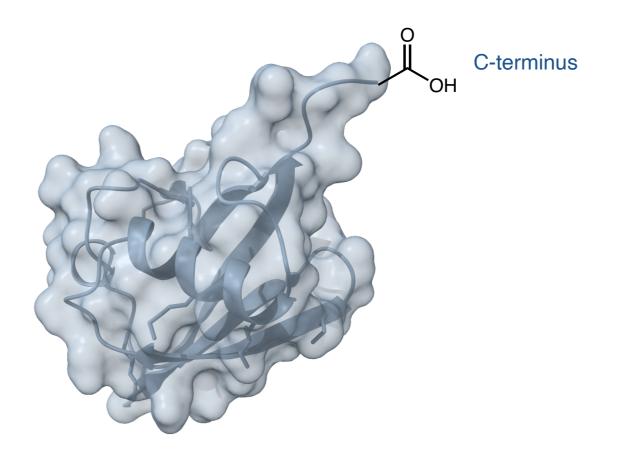
Ubiquitin

Attachment of ubiquitin occurs at the C-terminus of Ubiquitin and a nucleophilic residue of the substrate

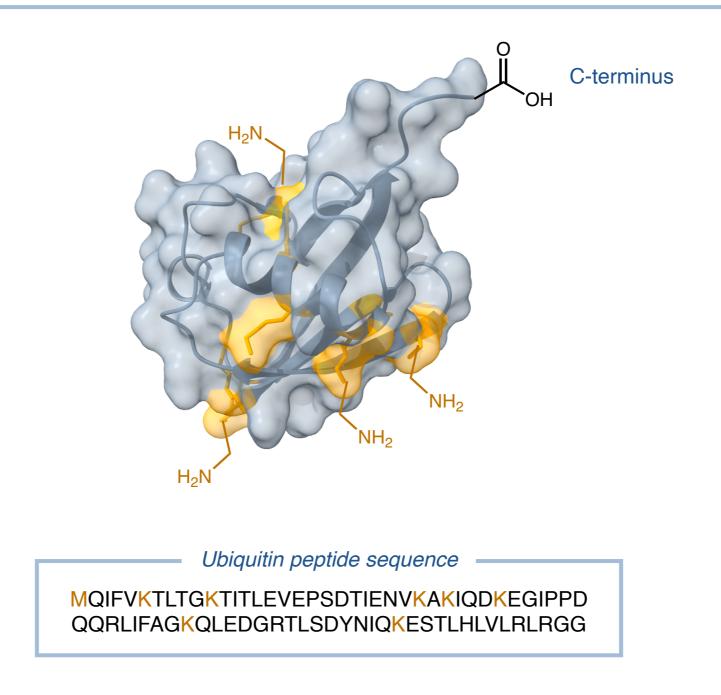


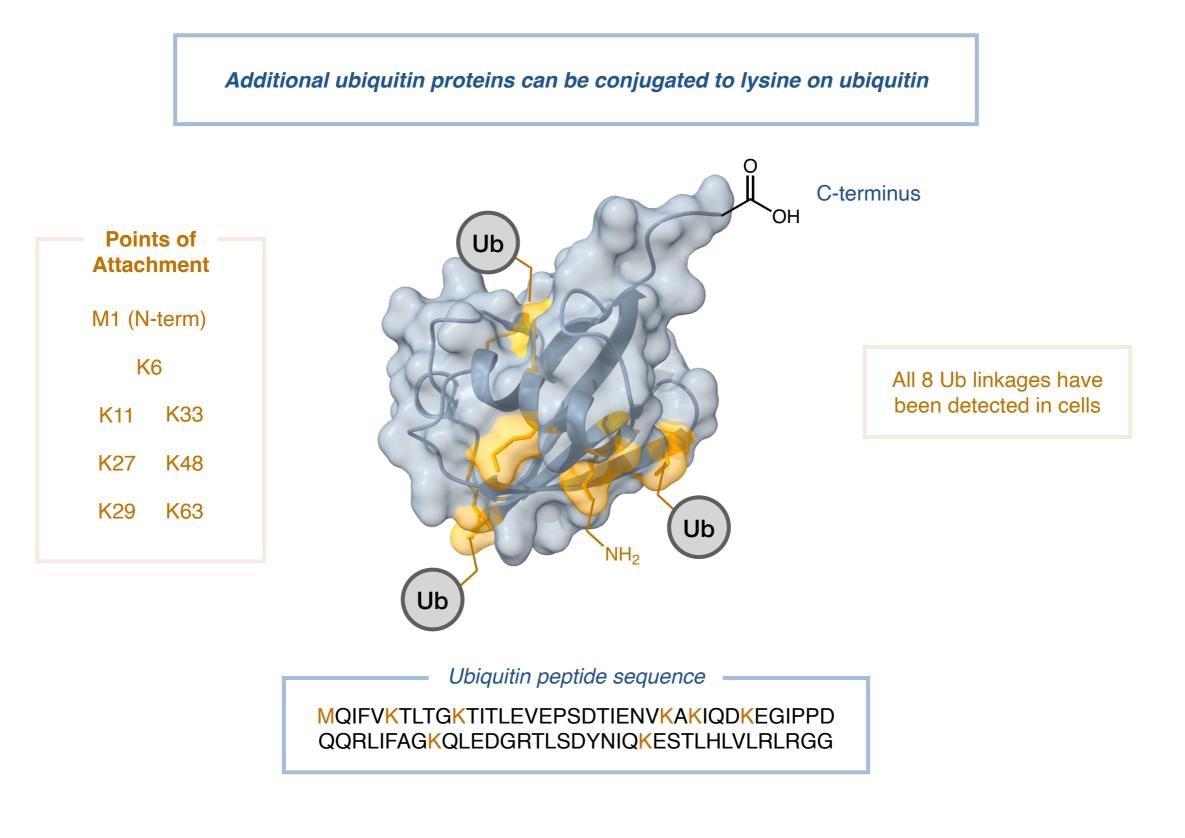
Protein Substrate

Ubiquitin can be conjugated to ubiquitin to form chains



Additional ubiquitin proteins can be conjugated to lysine on ubiquitin







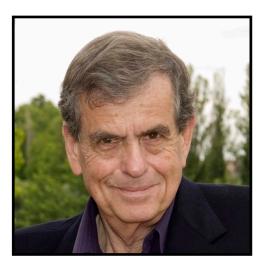
2004 Nobel Prize in Chemistry



Irwin Rose Fox Chase Cancer Center



Avram Hershko Technion - Israel Institute of Technology



Aaron Ciechanover Technion - Israel Institute of Technology

"For the discovery of Ubiquitin-mediated protein degradation"

Advanced Information on the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 6 October 2004 : nobelprize.org

# ATP-dependent conjugation of reticulocyte proteins with the polypeptide required for protein degradation

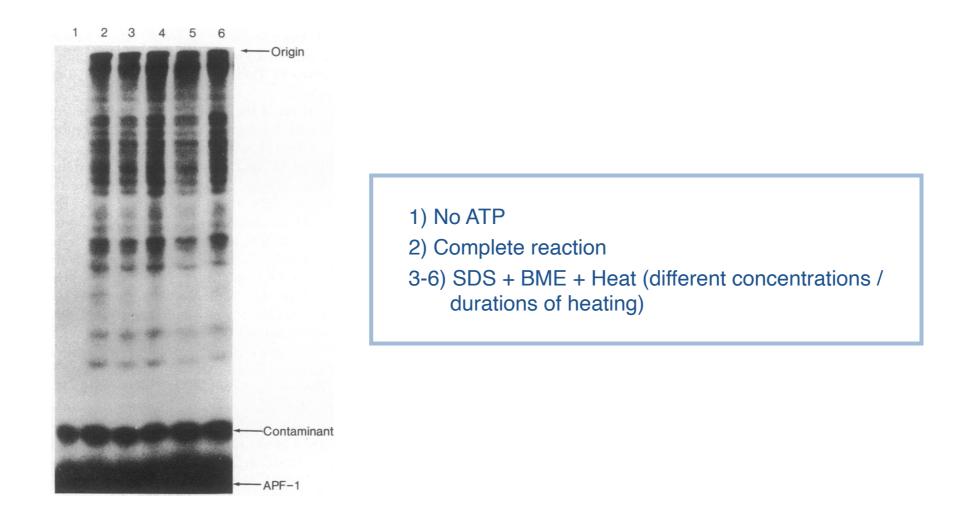
(protein/breakdown/energy requirement/covalent linkage of polypeptides)

AARON CIECHANOVER\*, HANNAH HELLER\*, SARAH ELIAS\*, ARTHUR L. HAAS<sup>†</sup>, AND AVRAM HERSHKO<sup>\*§</sup>

\*Faculty of Medicine, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel; and †The Institute for Cancer Research, Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19111

Communicated by Irwin Rose, December 10, 1979





Observation: Multiple bands by SDS-Page
Observation: Linkage is stable under denaturing conditions

Conclusion: Suggests covalent bond between ubiquitin and multiple different proteins

Ciechanover, A.; Heller, H.; Elias, S.; Haas, A. L.; Rose, I. A. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 1980, 77, 1365.

### Proposed role of ATP in protein breakdown: Conjugation of proteins with multiple chains of the polypeptide of ATP-dependent proteolysis

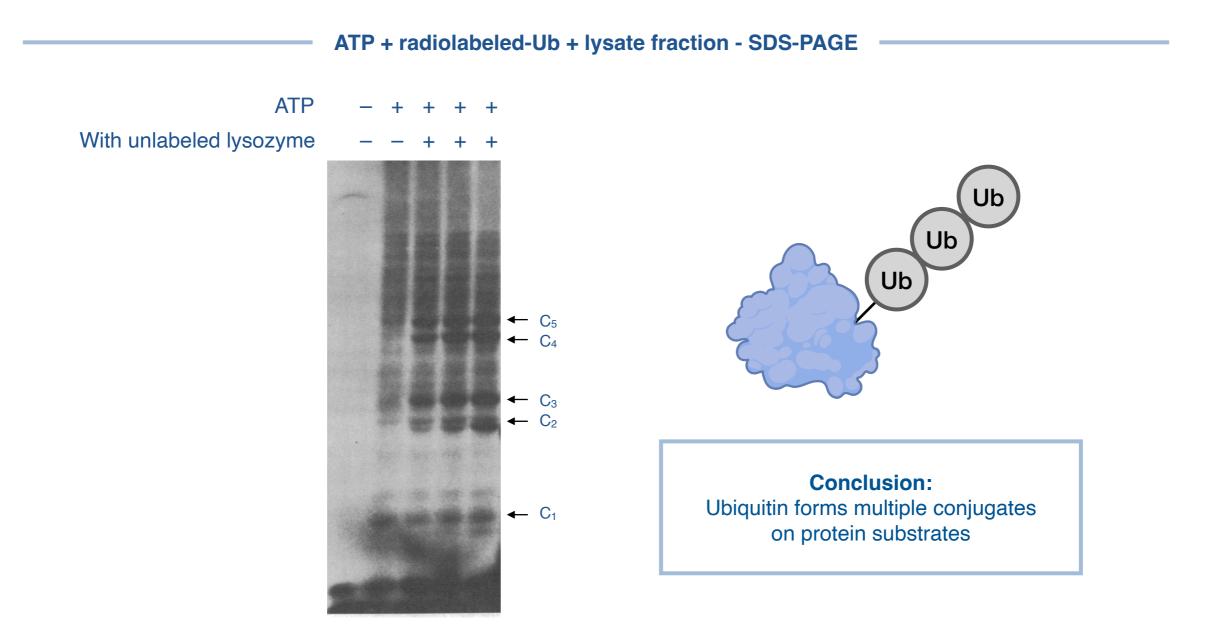
(protein/turnover/energy dependence/isopeptide linkage)

AVRAM HERSHKO\*, AARON CIECHANOVER\*, HANNAH HELLER\*, ARTHUR L. HAAS, AND IRWIN A. ROSE

The Institute for Cancer Research, The Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19111

Contributed by Irwin Rose, December 10, 1979

"A sequence of reactions in which the linkage of [ubiquitin] to the substrate is followed by the proteolytic breakdown of the substrate is proposed."



- The linkage between ubiquitin and the protein substrate is stable to hydroxylamine and alkali (amide bond!)
- Removal of ATP after formation of ubiquitin conjugates caused the regeneration of ubiquitin (deubiquitinases!)

Hershko, A.; Ciechanover, A.; Heller, H.; Haas, H. L.; Rose, I. A. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 1980, 77, 1783.

The Discovery of E1

# Activation of the heat-stable polypeptide of the ATP-dependent proteolytic system

(ubiquitin/adenylate/thiolester/high-energy bond)

AARON CIECHANOVER, HANNAH HELLER, RACHEL KATZ-ETZION, AND AVRAM HERSHKO\*

Faculty of Medicine, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel

Communicated by Irwin Rose, October 17, 1980

"We now describe an enzyme that carries out the activation by ATP of the polypeptide with pyrophosphate displacement."

In the presence of ATP, "E1" catalyzes the following reaction:

 $Ub + ATP \rightleftharpoons Ub \sim AMP + PP_i$  $Ub \sim AMP + E-SH \rightleftharpoons E-S \sim Ub + AMP$ 

The Discovery of E1

# Activation of the heat-stable polypeptide of the ATP-dependent proteolytic system

(ubiquitin/adenylate/thiolester/high-energy bond)

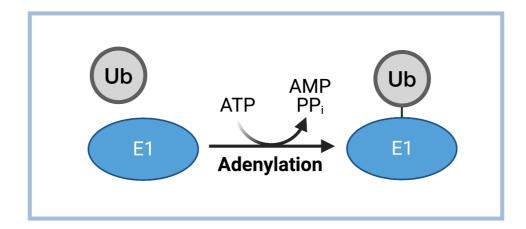
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Faculty of Medicine, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel

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Ciechanover, A.; Heller, H.; Katz-Etzion, R.; Hershko, A. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A. 1981, 78, 761.

#### The Discovery of E2 and E3

### **Components of Ubiquitin-Protein Ligase System**

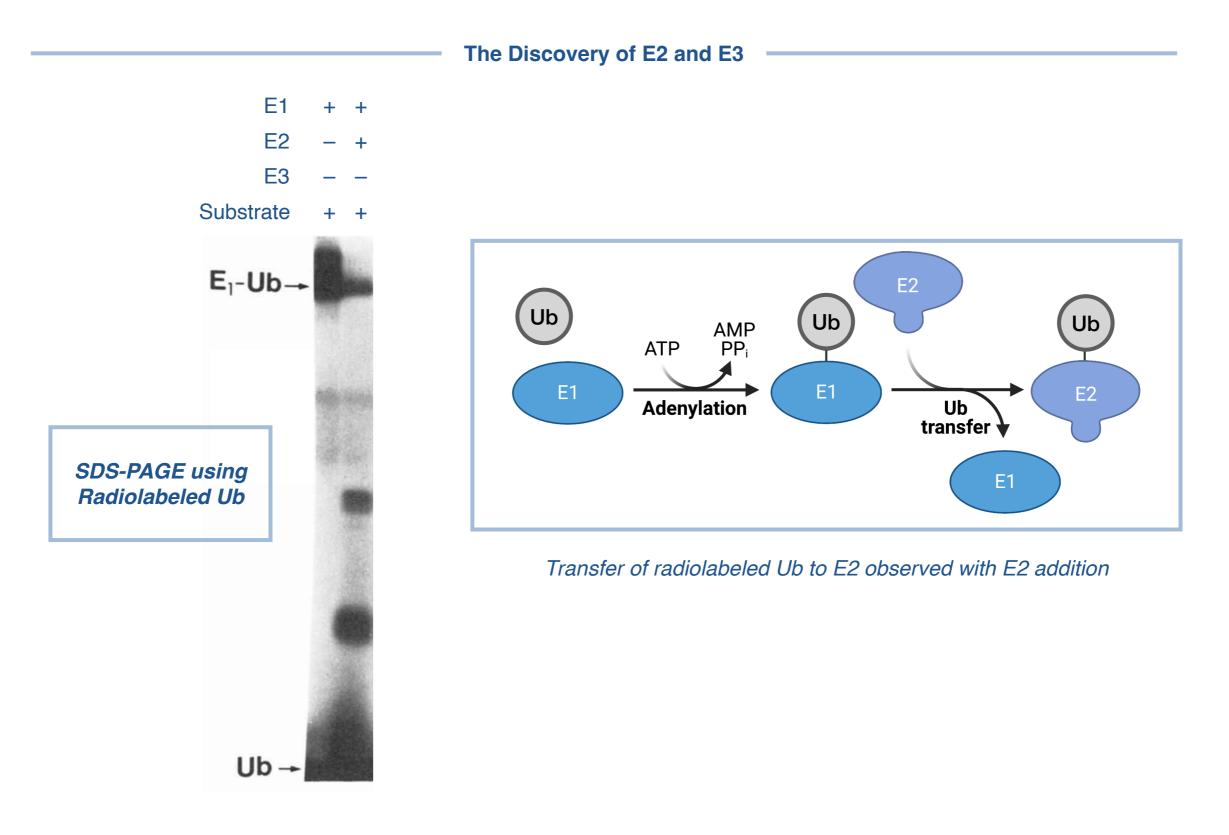
**RESOLUTION, AFFINITY PURIFICATION, AND ROLE IN PROTEIN BREAKDOWN\*** 

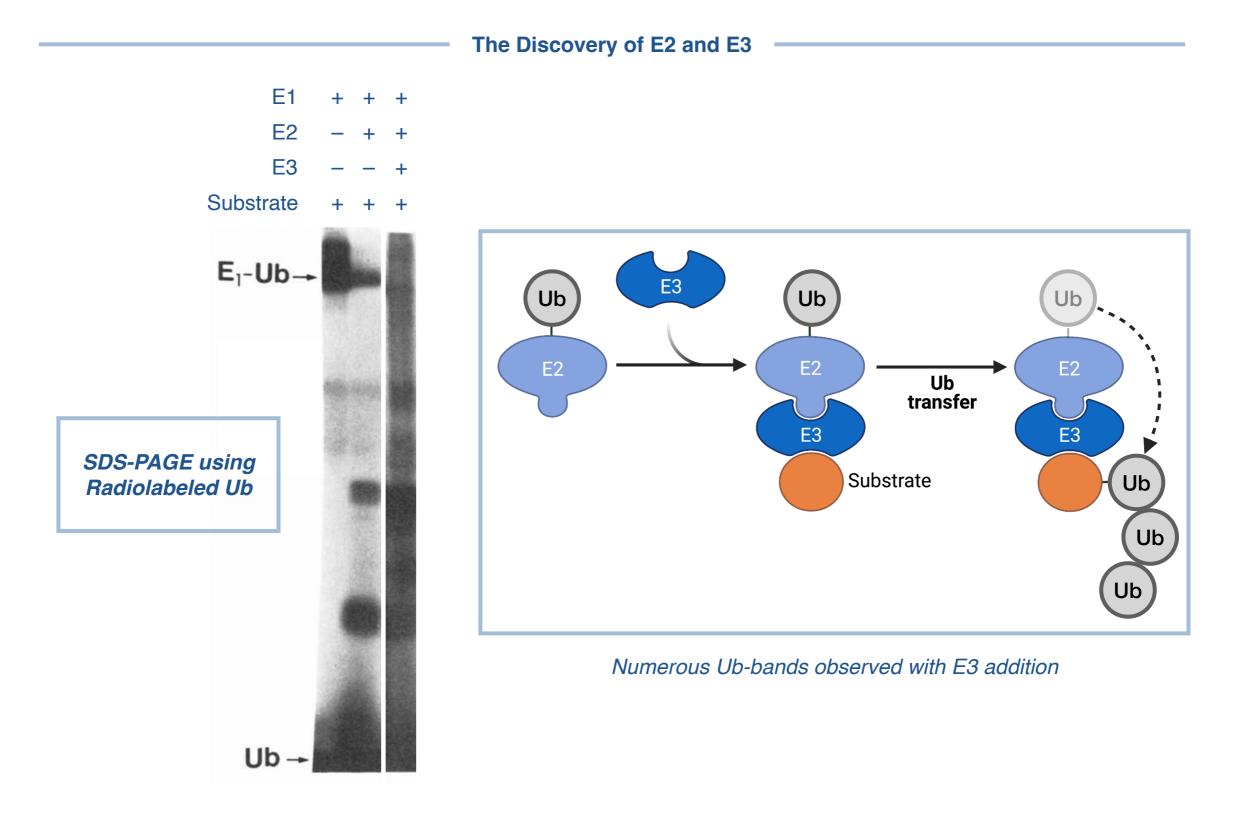
(Received for publication, December 27, 1982)

#### Avram Hershko‡, Hannah Heller, Sarah Elias, and Aaron Ciechanover

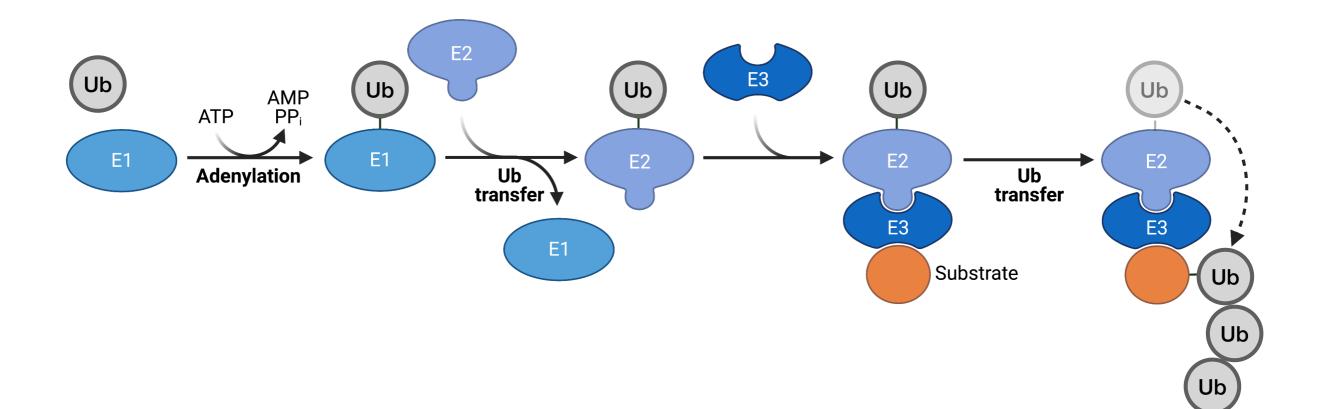
From the Unit of Biochemistry, Faculty of Medicine, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel

By affinity chromatography of a crude reticulocyte extract on ubiquitin-Sepharose, three enzymes required for the conjugation of ubiquitin with proteins have been isolated. One is the ubiquitin-activating enzyme  $(E_1)$ , which is covalently linked to the affinity column in the presence of ATP and can be specifically eluted with AMP and pyrophosphate (Ciechanover, A., Elias, S., Heller, H., and Hershko, A. (1982) J. Biol. Chem. 257, 2537-2542). A second enzyme, designated  $E_2$ , is bound to the ubiquitin column when  $E_1$  and ATP are present, and is eluted with a thiol compound at high concentration. The third enzyme, designated  $E_{3}$ , is adsorbed to the affinity column by noncovalent interactions and can be eluted with high salt or increased pH. The presence of all three enzymes is absolutely required for the conjugation of <sup>125</sup>I-ubiquitin with proteins. All three affinity-purified enzymes are also required for the breakdown of <sup>125</sup>I-albumin to acid-soluble material in the presence of ubiquitin, ATP, and the unadsorbed fraction of the affinity column.

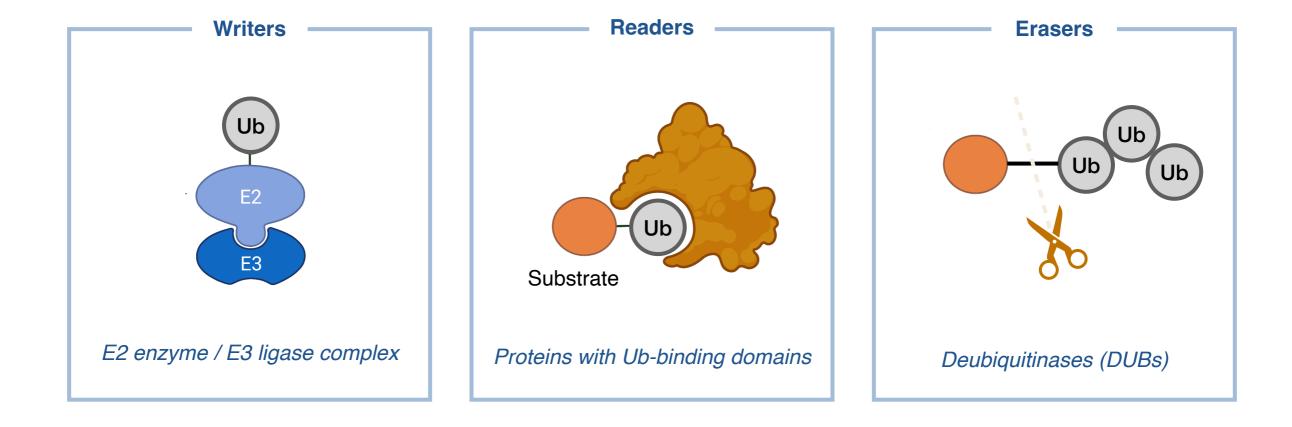




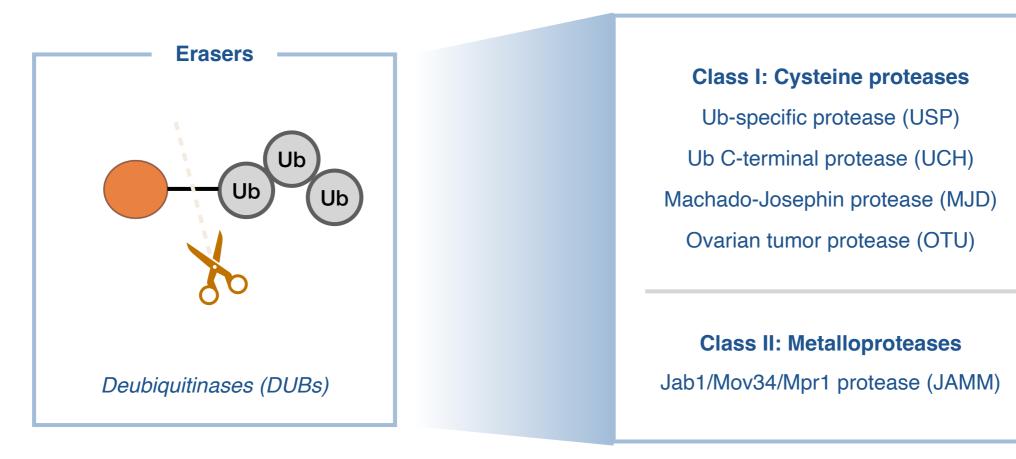
### Full Mechanism of Substrate Ubiquitination



# Deubiquitinases (DUBs)



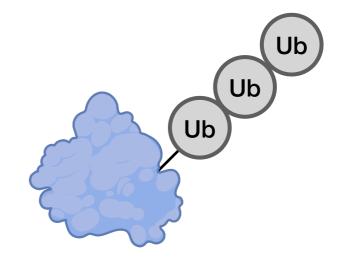
## Deubiquitinases (DUBs)

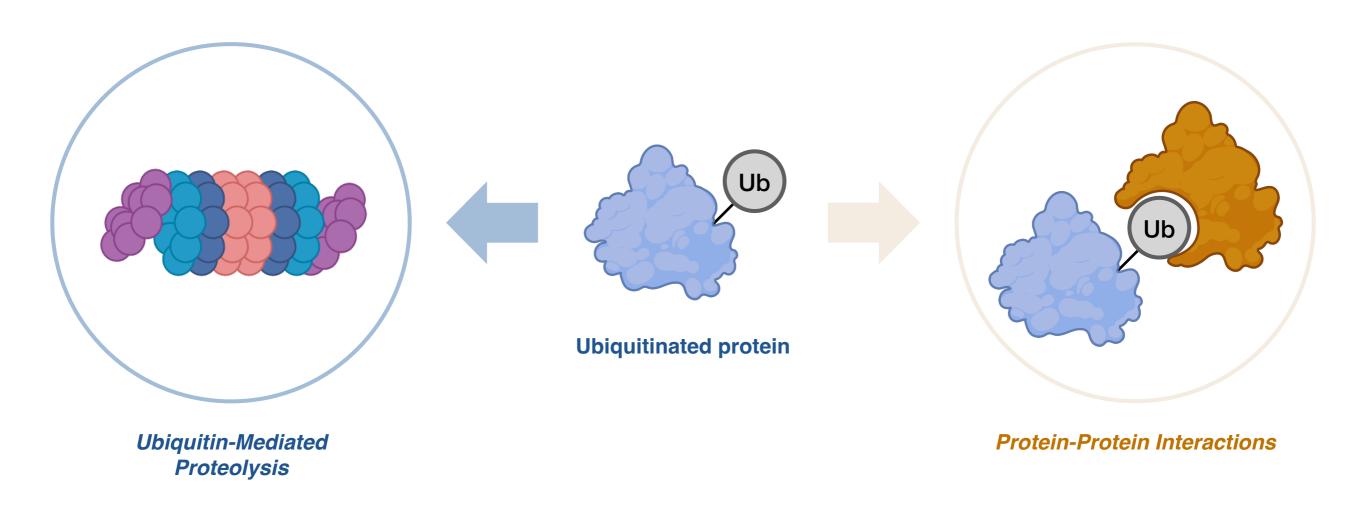


Approximately 100 DUB genes in humans

Deubiquitinases can hydrolyze ubiquitin conjugates from proteins

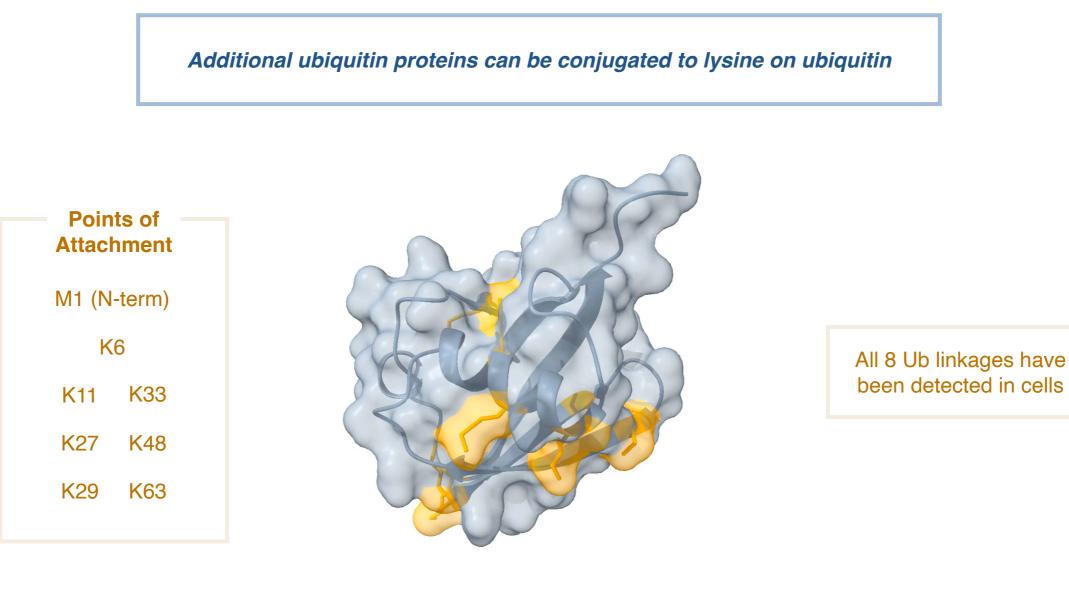
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**Question:** When does ubiquitin enable protein-degradation, a protein-interaction, or another process?

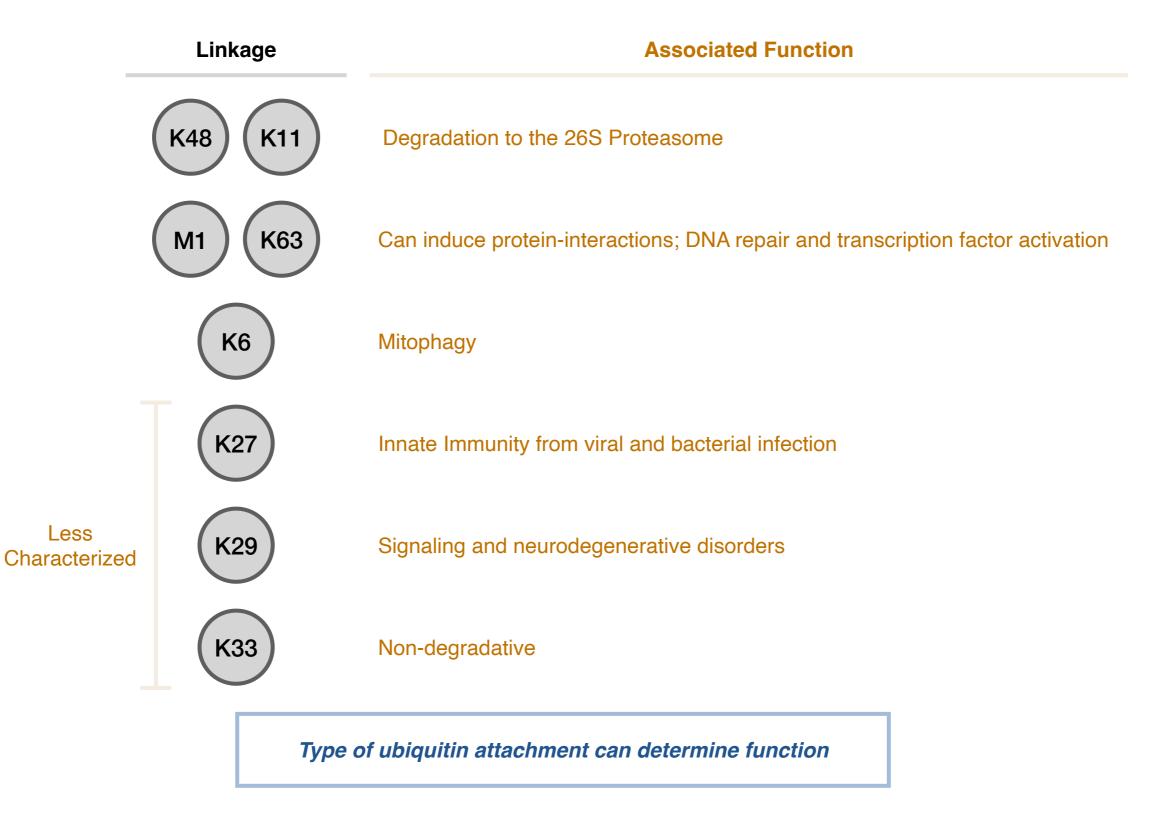
### The Ubiquitin Code: Linkage Type



Ubiquitin peptide sequence

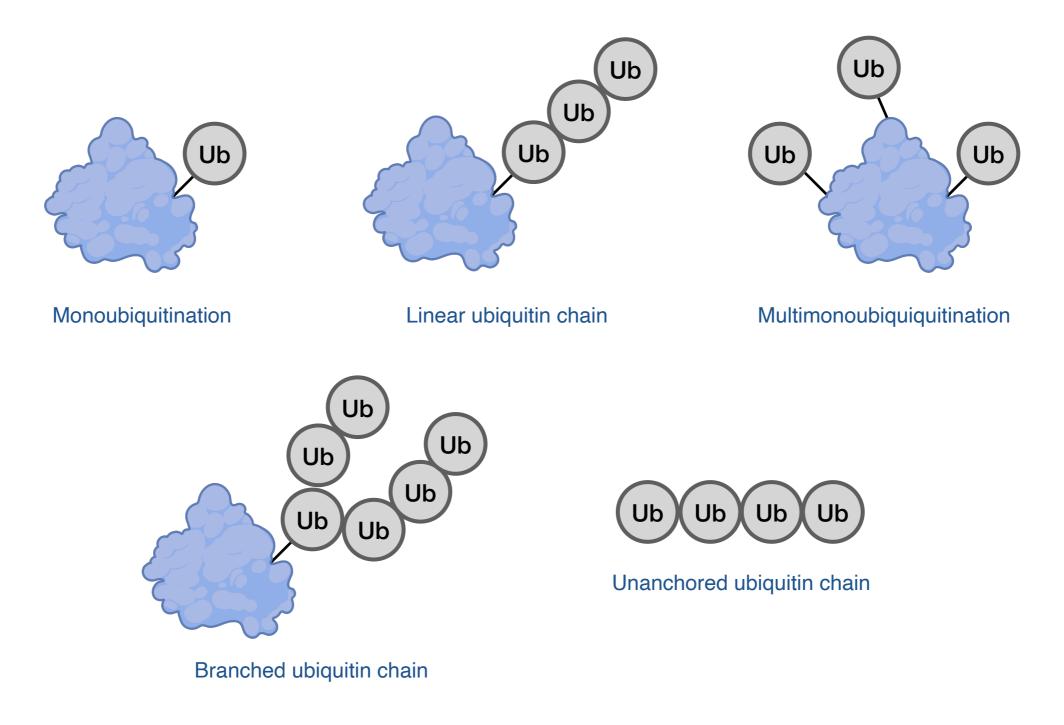
MQIFVKTLTGKTITLEVEPSDTIENVKAKIQDKEGIPPD QQRLIFAGKQLEDGRTLSDYNIQKESTLHLVLRLRGG

# The Ubiquitin Code: Linkage Type



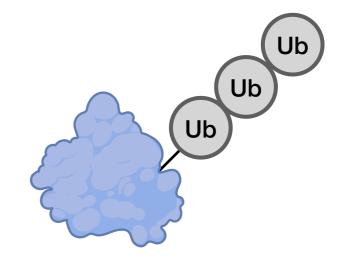
Tracz, M.; Bialek, W. Cell. Mol. Biol. Lett. 2021, 26, 1.

# Types of Ubiquitin Chains



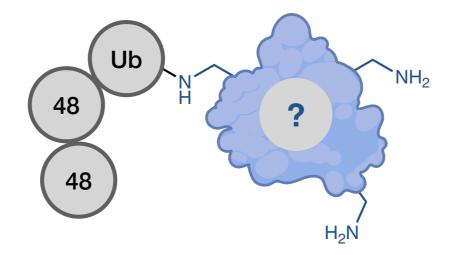
Number of ubiquitins on a protein can also determine function

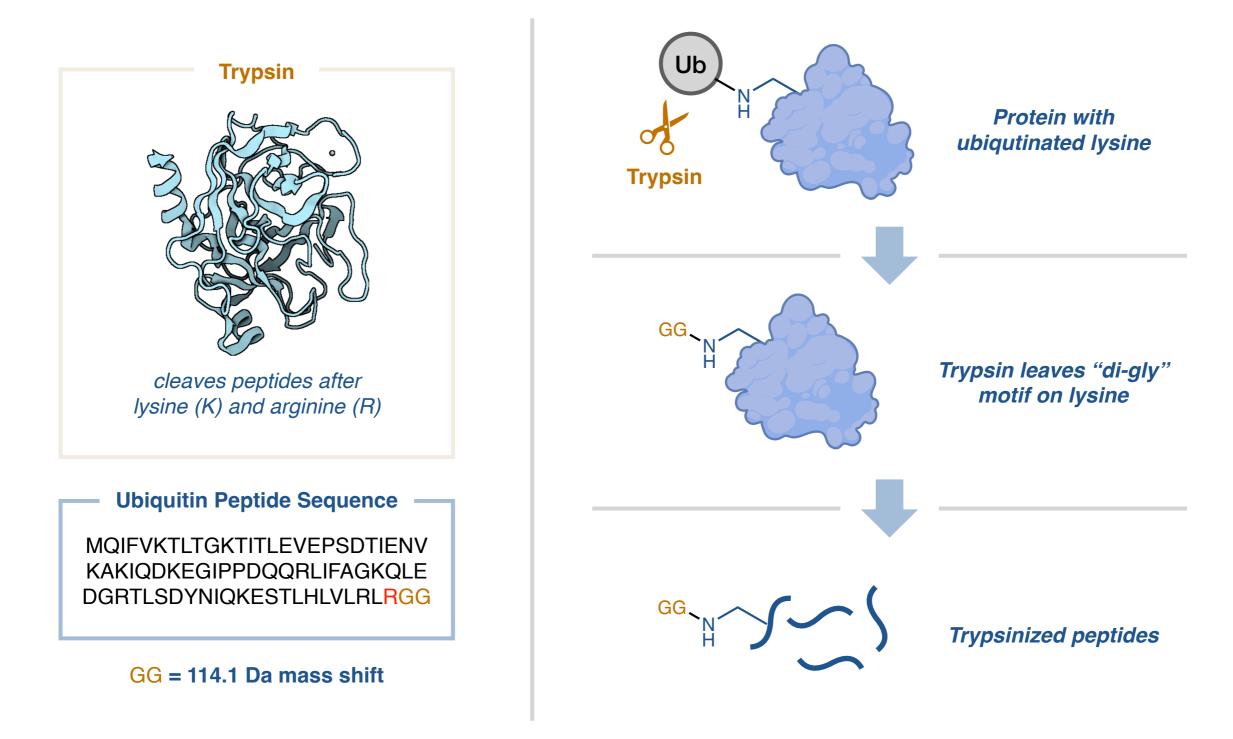
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How can we identify

1) ubiquitinated substrates, 2) the site of ubiquitination, and 3) the type of Ub-chain?

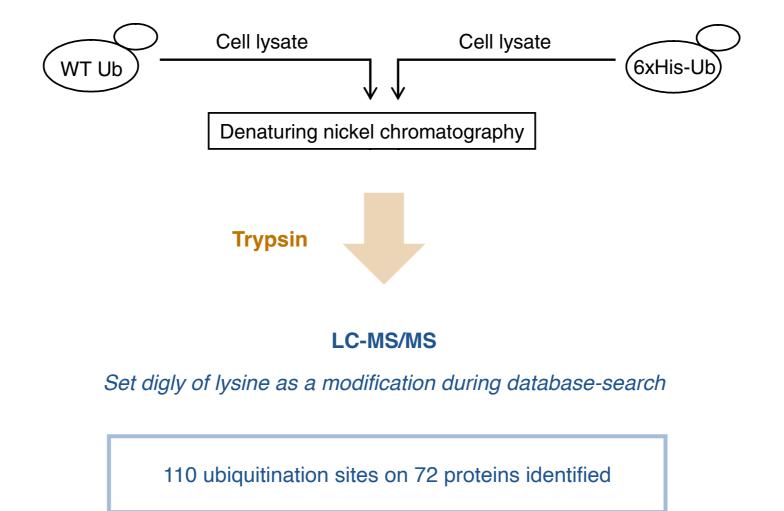




Di-gly modification on lysine is identified via MS/MS

Kliza, K.; Husnjak, K. Front. Mol. Biosci. 2020, 7, 21.

Proteomics-based identification of ubiquitination sites by the Gygi Lab



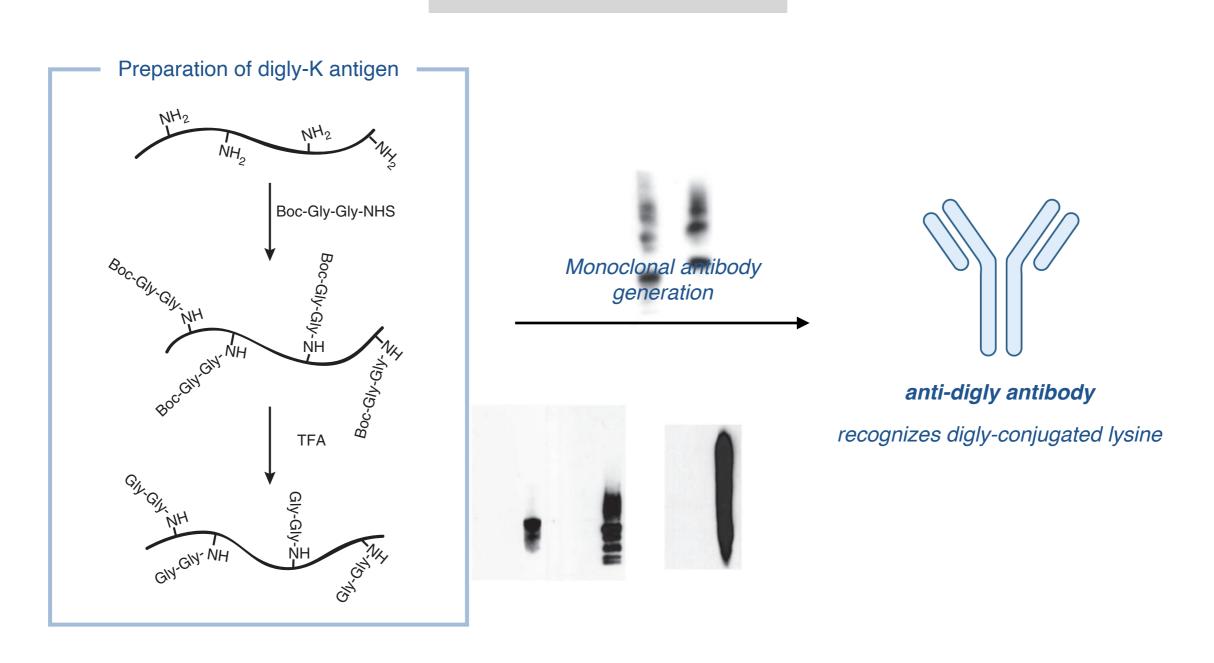
Limitation: Requires expression of His-tag at N-terminus of ubiquitin

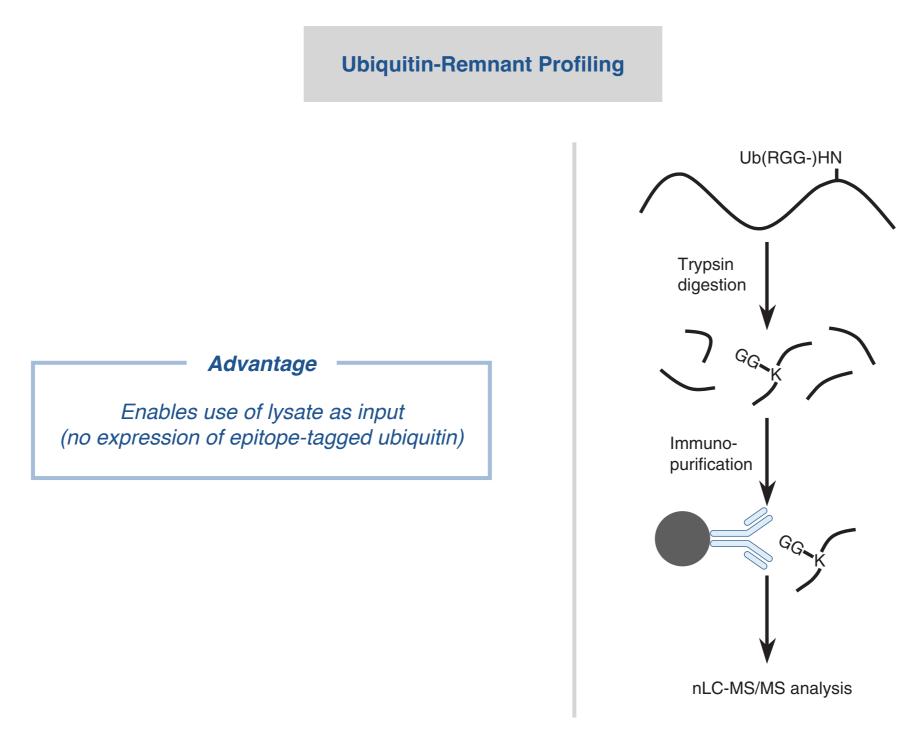
Peng, J. et al. Nat. Biotechnol. 2003, 21, 921.

**Ubiquitin-Remnant Profiling** 

**Problem:** How to identify ubiquitinated peptides without expressing N-terminally tagged ubiquitin?

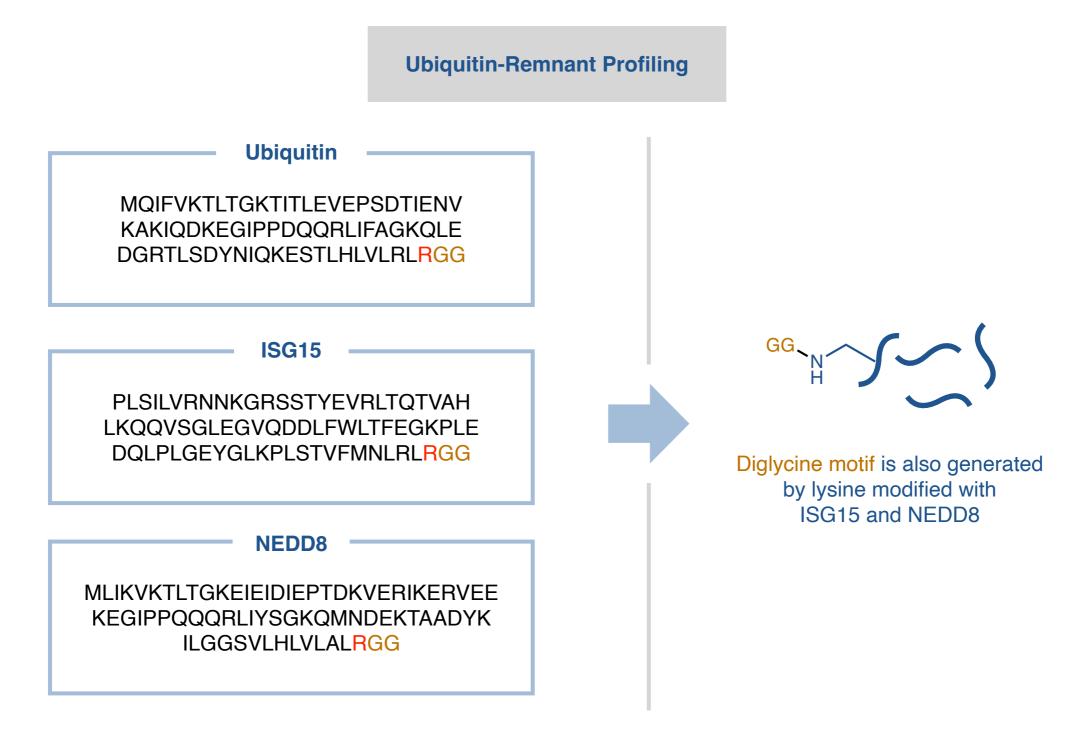
**Ubiquitin-Remnant Profiling** 





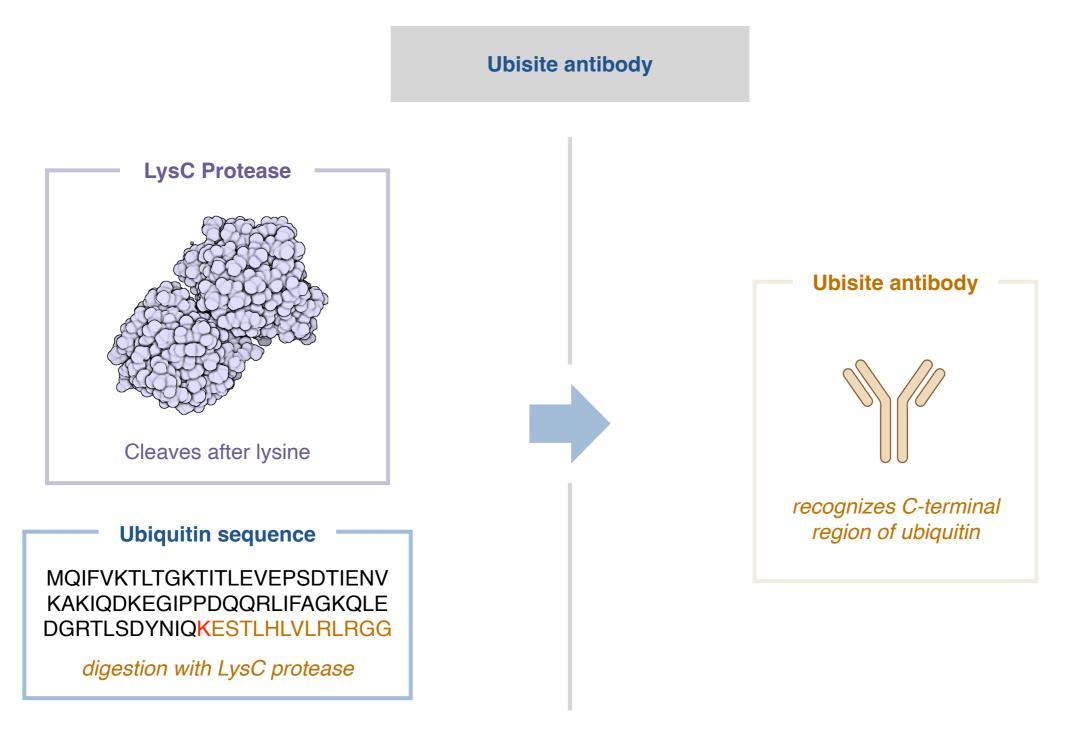
Identified 374 diglycine-modified lysines on 236 ubiquitinated proteins

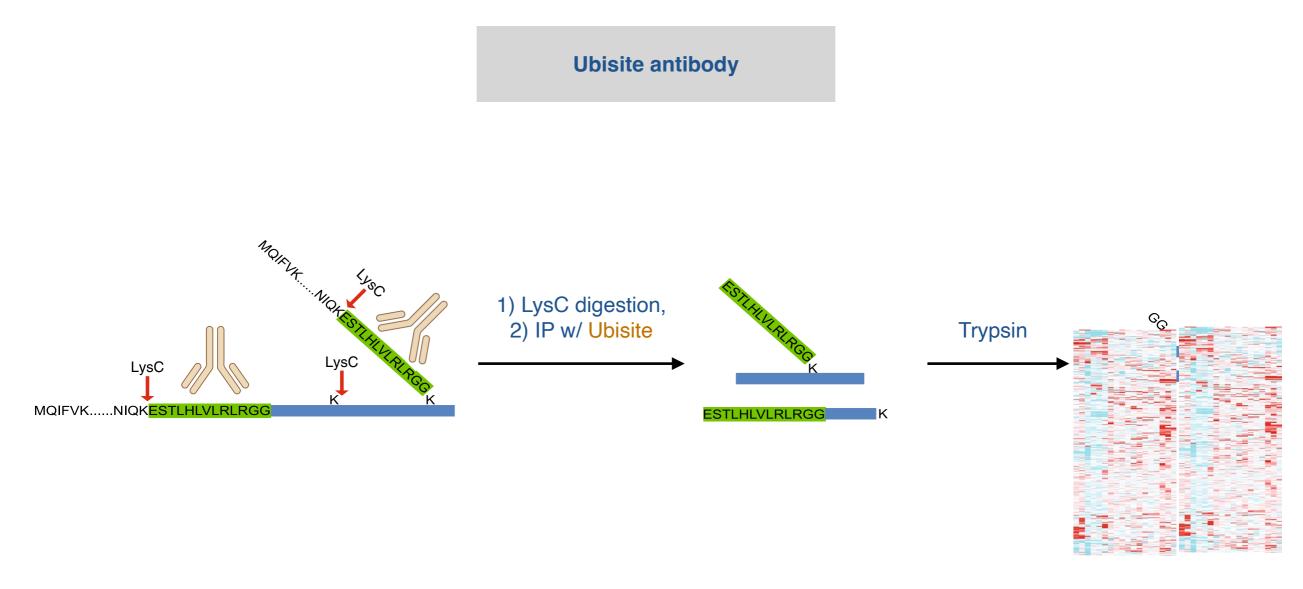
Xu, G.; Paige, J. S.; Jaffrey, S. R. Nat. Biotechnol. 2010, 28, 868.



Limitation: Ubiquitin-like proteins (ISG15 and NEDD8) generate the same remnant

Xu, G.; Paige, J. S.; Jaffrey, S. R. Nat. Biotechnol. 2010, 28, 868.



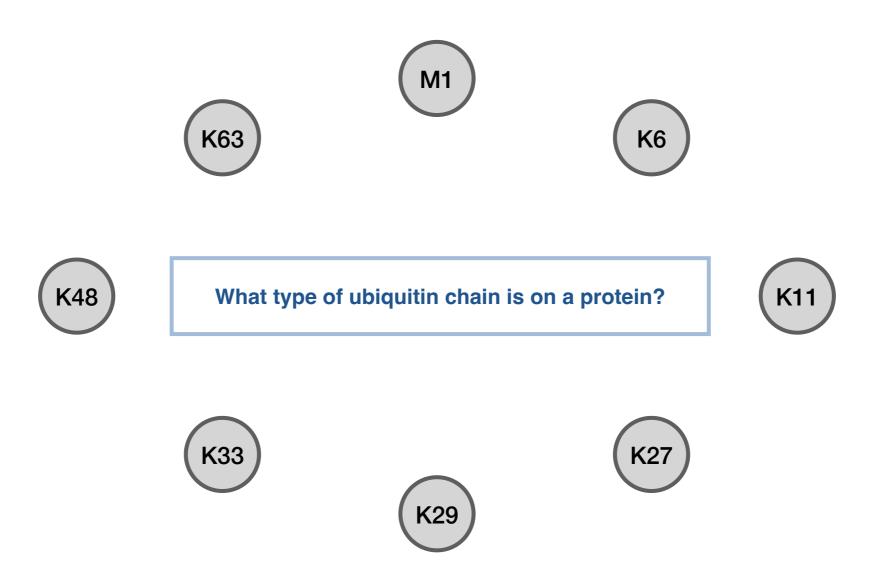


#### Advantage: Enrichment of ubiquitin-specific "di-gly" peptides

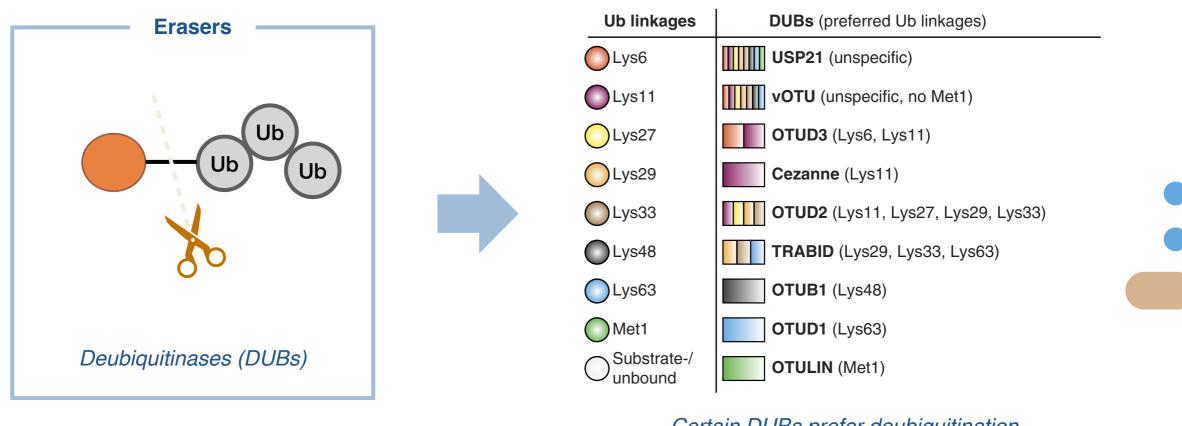
Advantage: Can be used for detection of N-terminal ubiquitination (No N-terminal tag)

**Results:** 63,000 unique ubiquitination sites on 9200 proteins in two human cell lines

Akimov, V. et al. Nat. Struct. Mol. Bio. 2018, 25, 631.



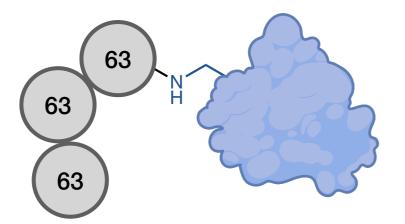
#### Ubicrest



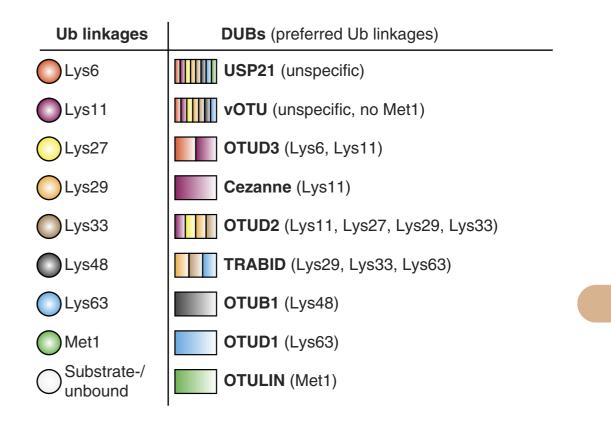
Approximately 100 DUB genes in humans

Certain DUBs prefer deubiquitination of specific Ub linkages



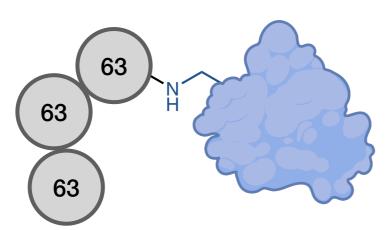


**Example:** K63-Ubiquitinated protein

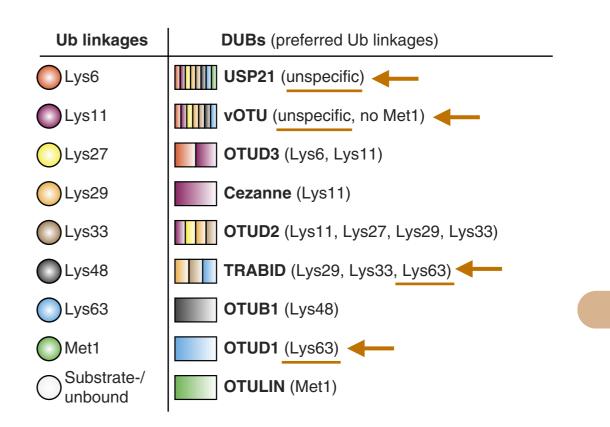


Certain DUBs prefer deubiquitination of specific Ub linkages

Ubicrest

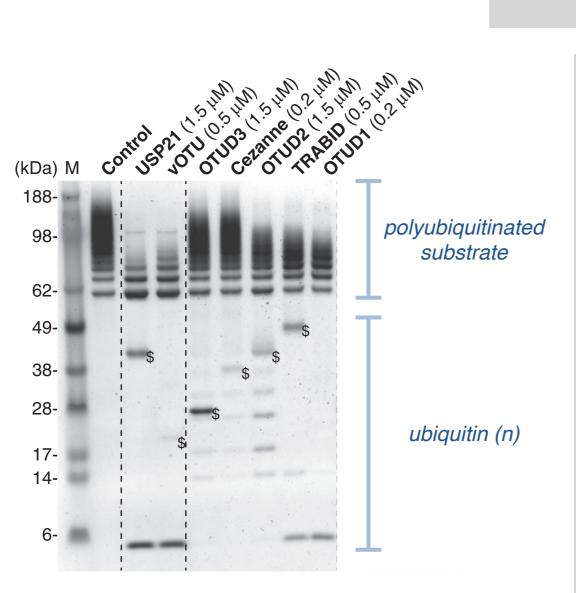


**Example:** K63-Ubiquitinated protein

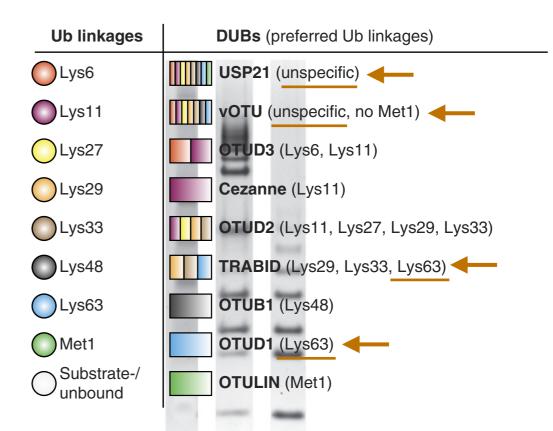


Certain DUBs prefer deubiquitination of specific Ub linkages

**Ubicrest** 



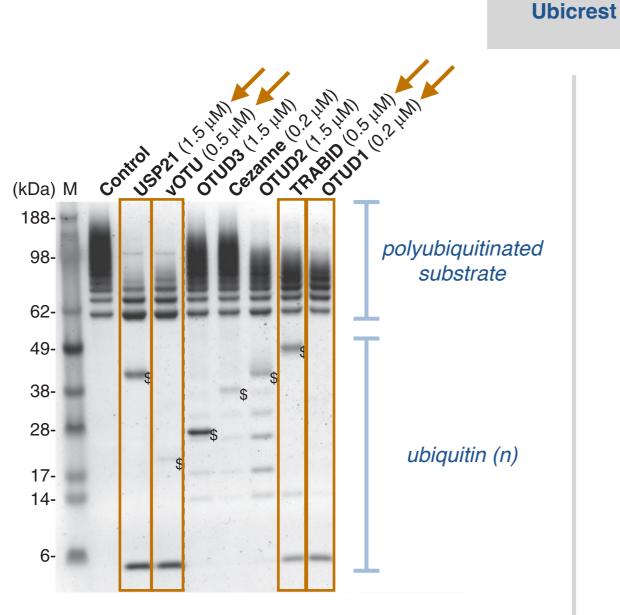
Disappearance of polyubiquitin smear is key result



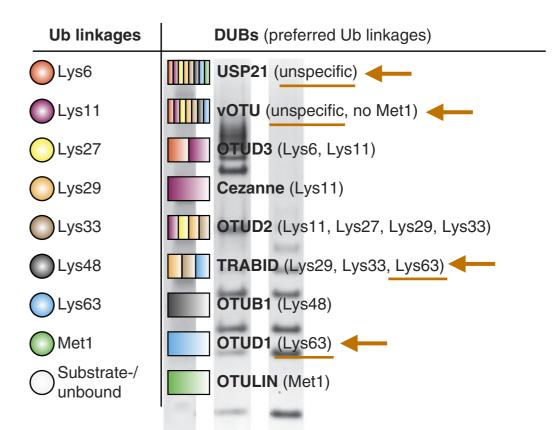
Certain DUBs prefer deubiquitination of specific Ub linkages



Hospenthal, M. K.; Mevissen, T. E. T.; Komander, D. Nat. Protocols 2015, 10, 349.



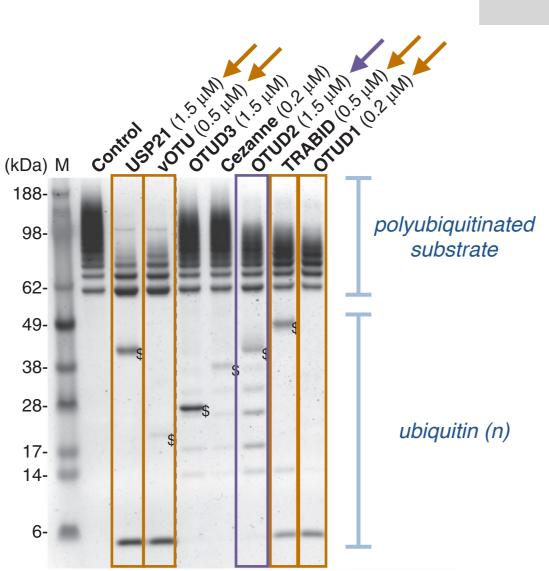
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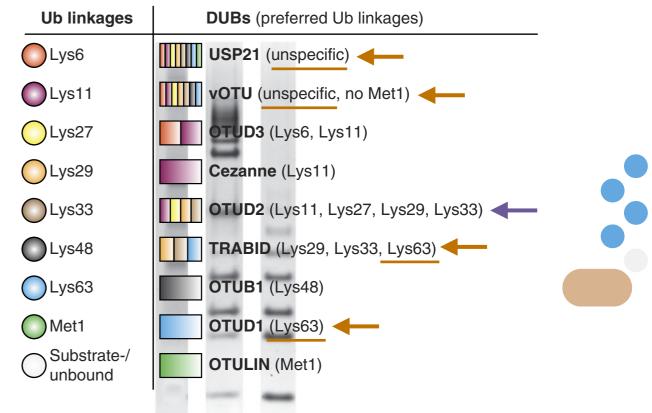
Certain DUBs prefer deubiquitination of specific Ub linkages



Hospenthal, M. K.; Mevissen, T. E. T.; Komander, D. Nat. Protocols 2015, 10, 349.



Ubicrest



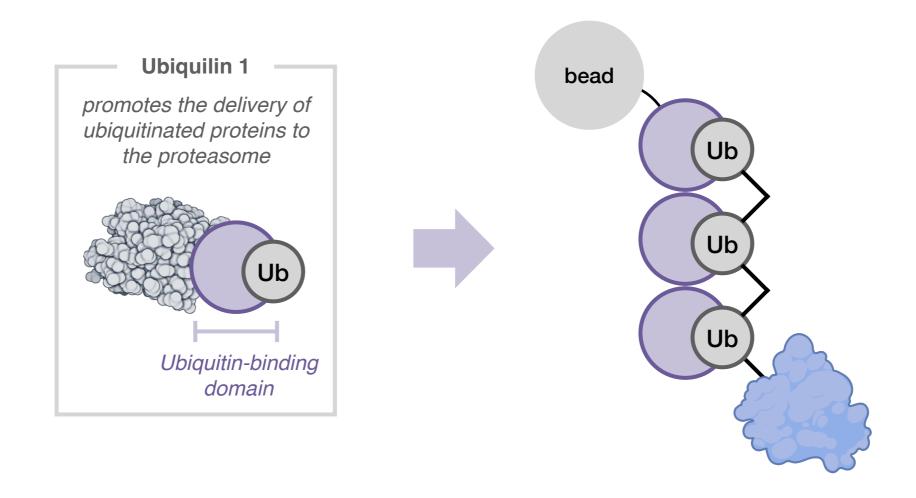
Certain DUBs prefer deubiquitination of specific Ub linkages

Disappearance of polyubiquitin smear is key result Some deubiquitinases can behave nonspecifically to release longer chains



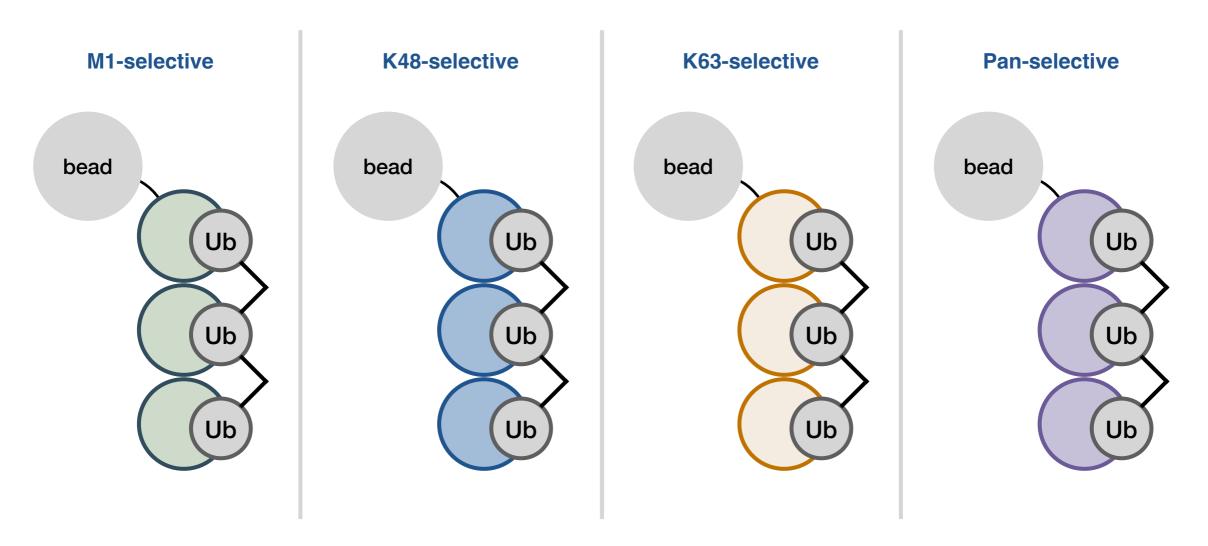
Hospenthal, M. K.; Mevissen, T. E. T.; Komander, D. Nat. Protocols 2015, 10, 349.

**TUBES (Tandem-Repeated Ubiquitin-Binding Entities)** 



Advantages: Protects ubiquitin sites from proteasomal degradation and deubiquitinase cleavage

**TUBES (Tandem-Repeated Ubiquitin-Binding Entities)** 

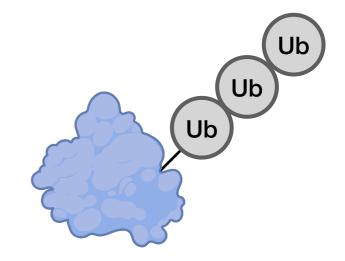


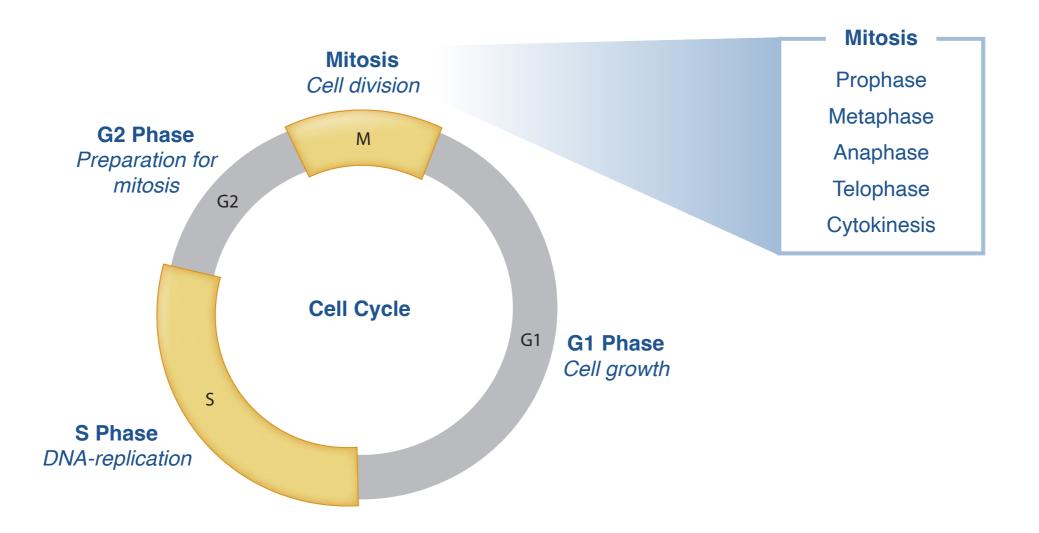
Can be selective for specific ubiquitin conjugates

Commercially available

## The Ubiquitin Code

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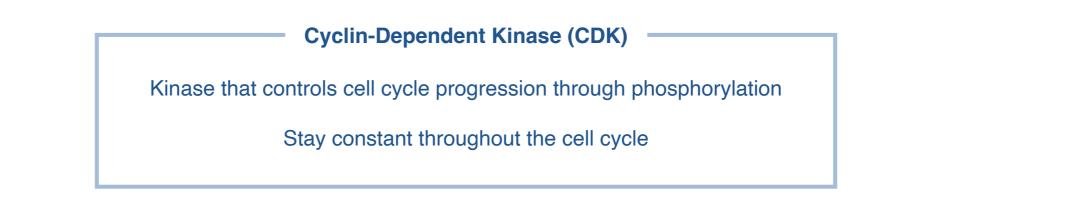




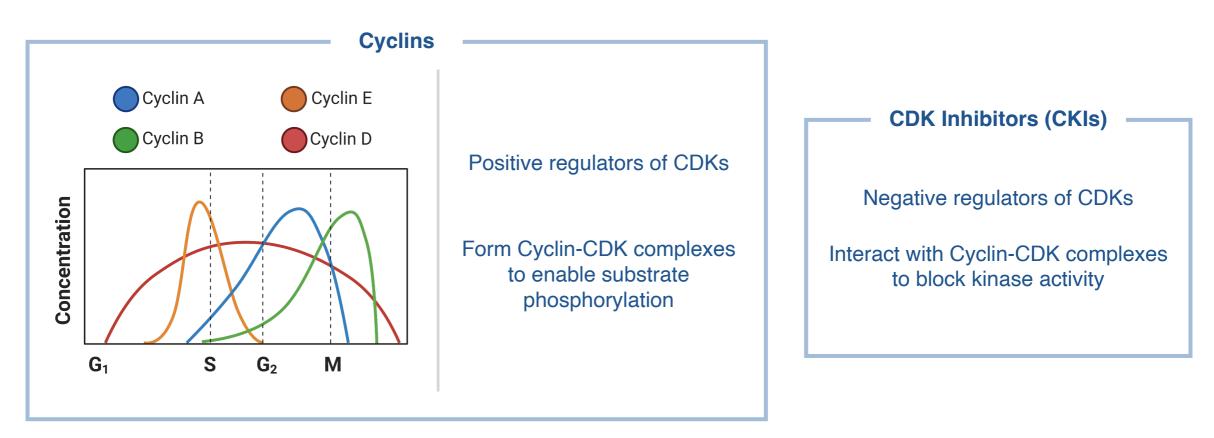
Cell-cycle checkpoints are critical for inhibiting cell growth

Deregulation of this process can lead to cancer

Teixeira, L. K.; Reed, S. I. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 2013, 82, 387.



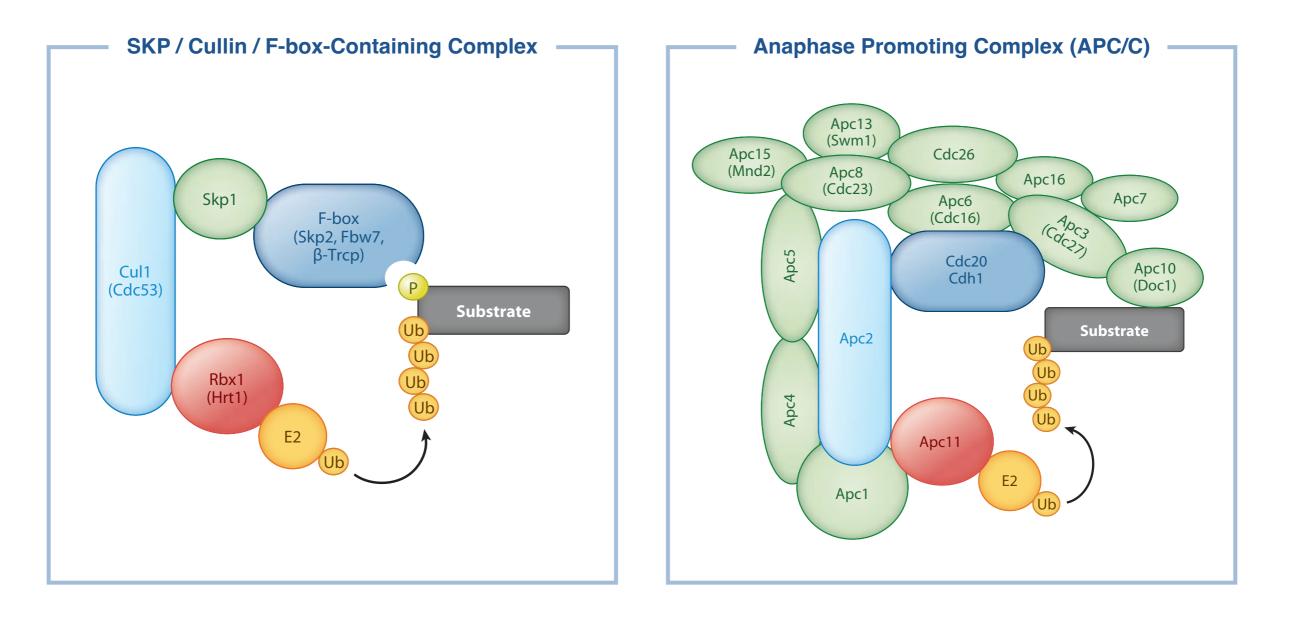
Expressed at specific times during the cell cycle

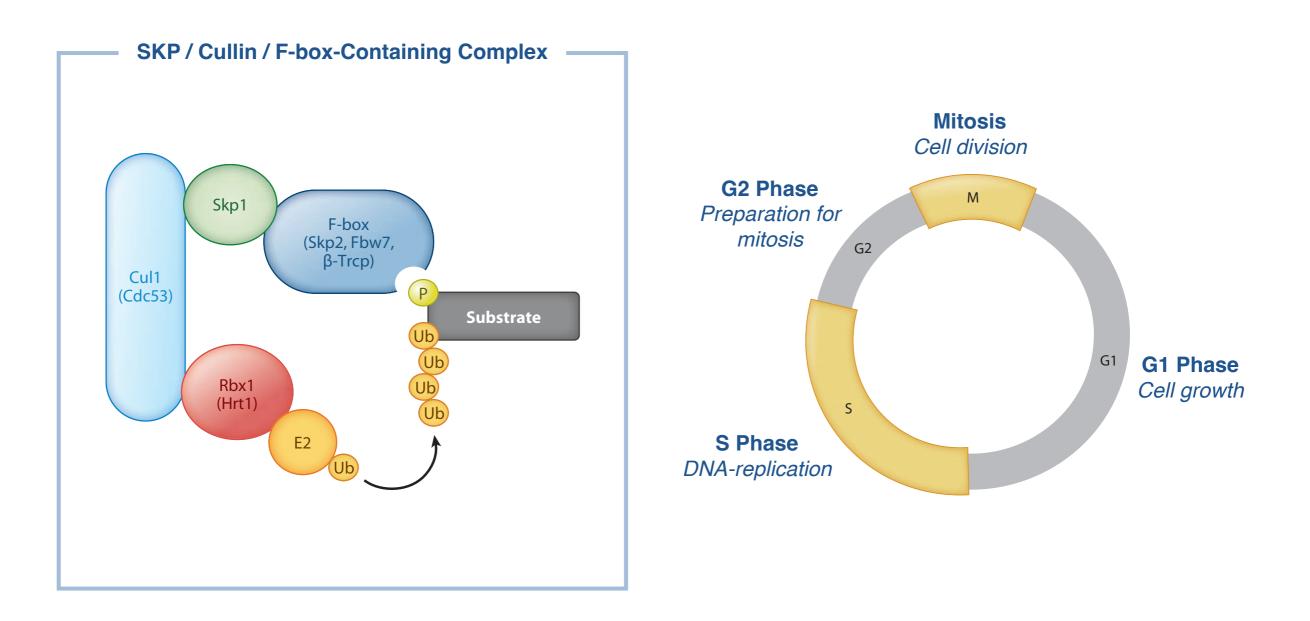


Orchestrated synthesis and degradation of cyclins and CKIs control cell-cycle progression

Teixeira, L. K.; Reed, S. I. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 2013, 82, 387.

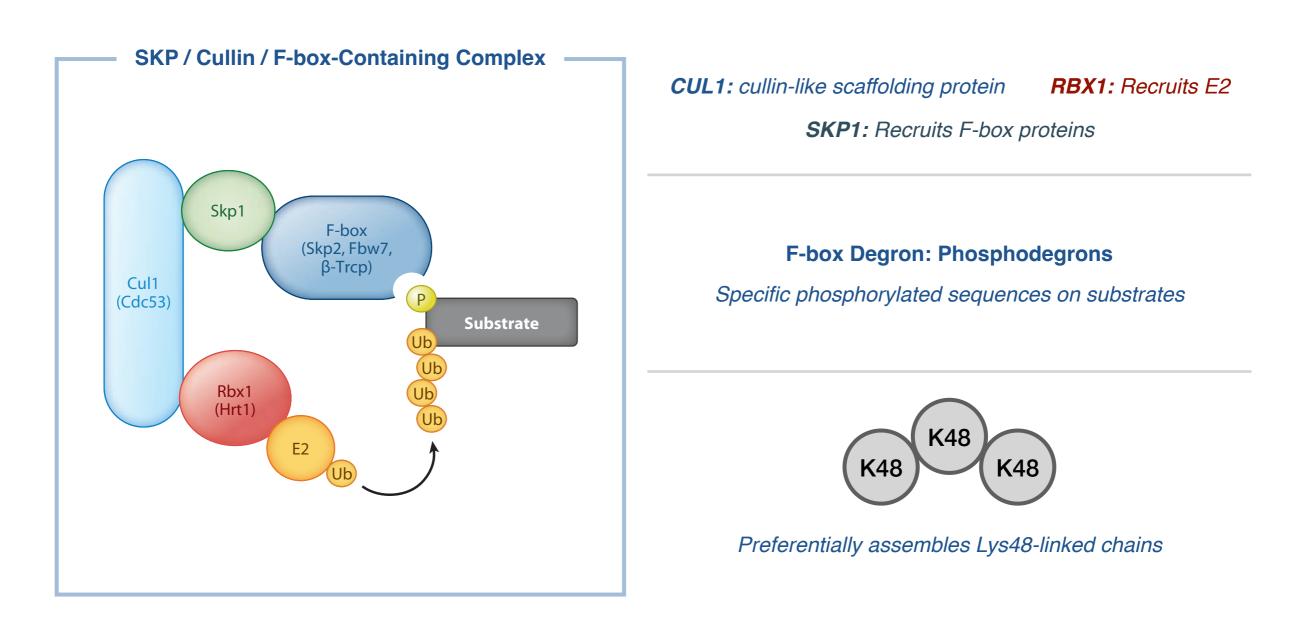
The primary E3 ligase complexes that control degradation of cyclins and CKIs





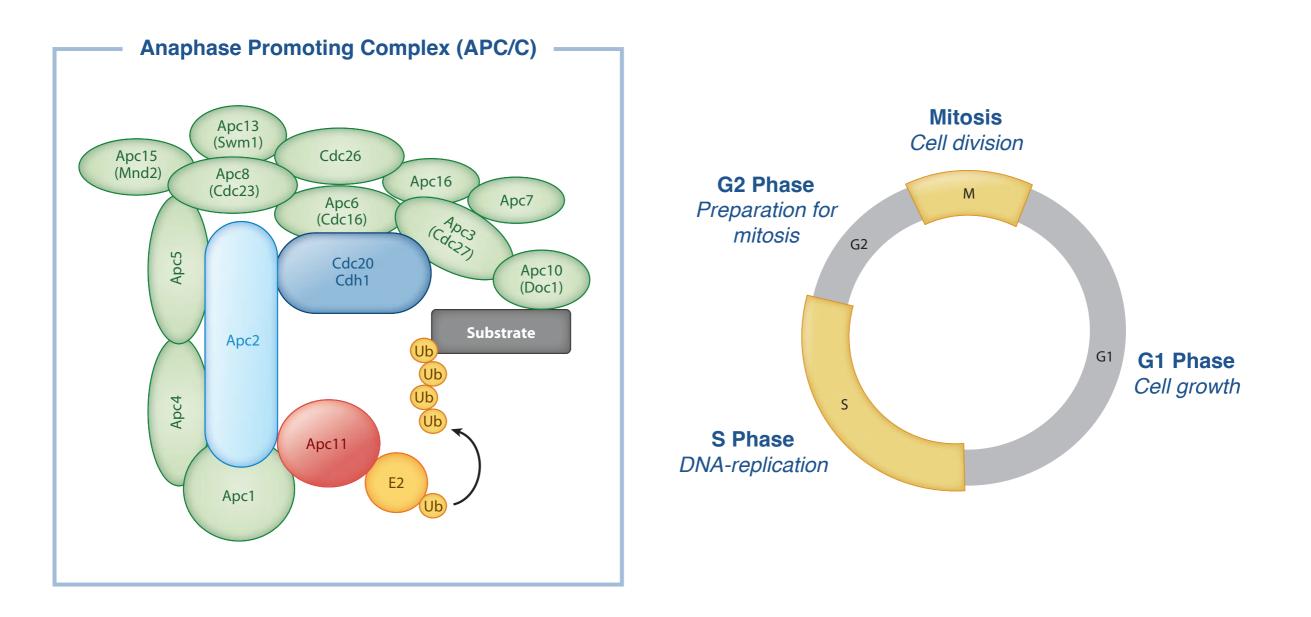
Promotes progression through S and G2 phase

Teixeira, L. K.; Reed, S. I. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 2013, 82, 387.



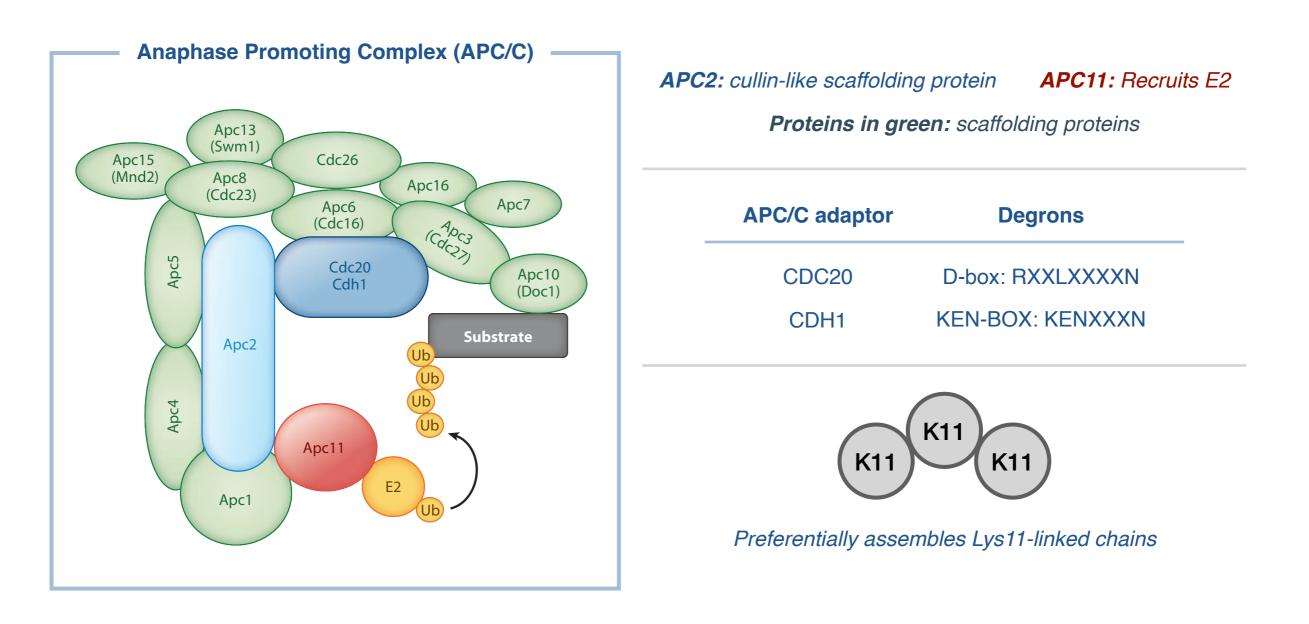
#### **Promotes progression through S and G2 phase**

Teixeira, L. K.; Reed, S. I. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 2013, 82, 387.



#### Promotes progression through Mitosis and G1 phase

Teixeira, L. K.; Reed, S. I. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 2013, 82, 387.

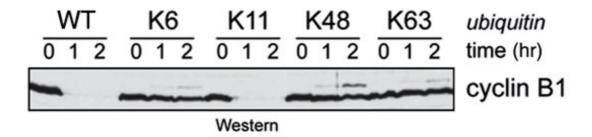


#### Promotes progression through Mitosis and G1 phase

Teixeira, L. K.; Reed, S. I. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 2013, 82, 387.

The APC/C triggers degradation by assembling K11-linked ubiquitin

**Experiment:** Mitotic extracts supplemented with wt or single-lysine Ub and APC/C activated with addition of E2



Ubiquitin with all lysines mutated except for the one listed

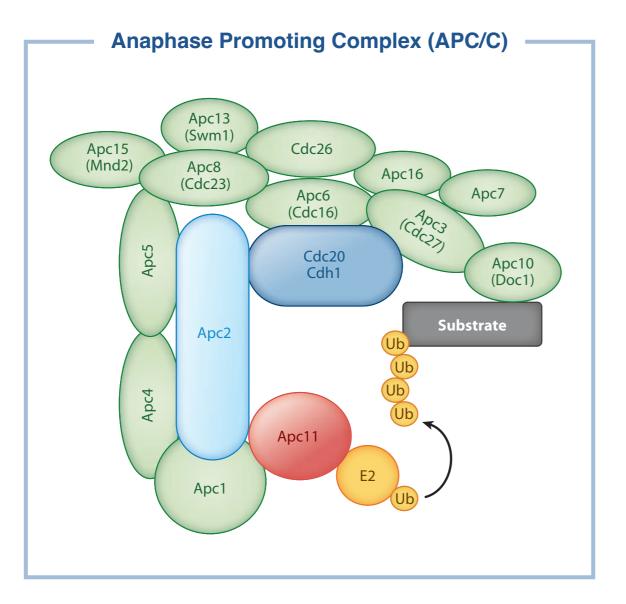
Only wild type and K11 ubiquitin triggers cyclin B1 degradation

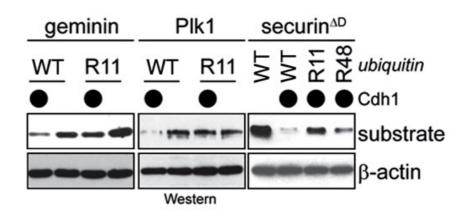
**Conclusion:** APC/C assembles K11-linked chains

Jin, L. et al. Cell 2008, 133, 653.

The APC/C triggers degradation by assembling K11-linked ubiquitin

**Experiment:** Expression of wt or mutant ubiquitin in 293T cells ± CDH1 adaptor expression

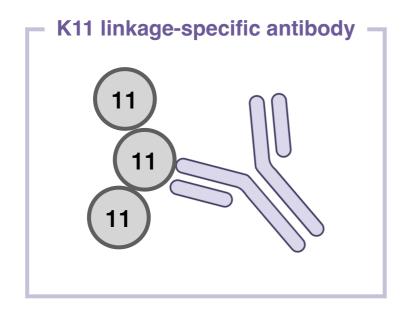




*Conclusion:* APC/C assembles K11-linked chains on multiple substrates in cells

Jin, L. et al. Cell 2008, 133, 653.

Where do K11-Ub chains accumulate during different stages of mitosis?

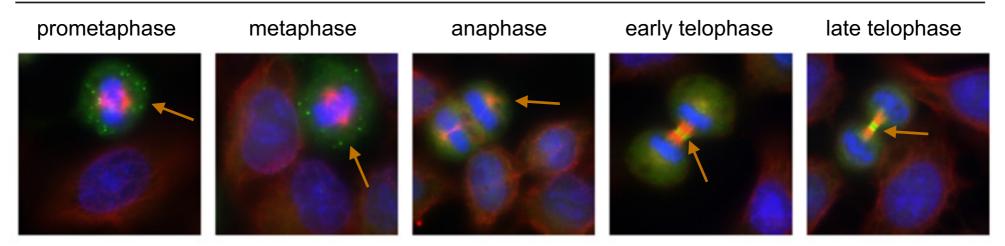


# Genentech

A Member of the Roche Group

Where do K11-Ub chains accumulate during different stages of mitosis?

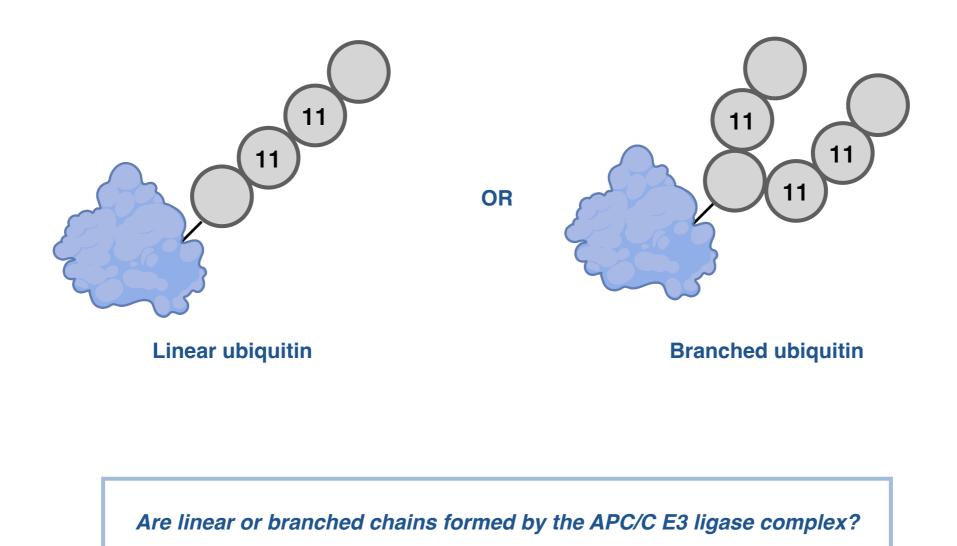
#### K11-chains/α-tubulin/DNA



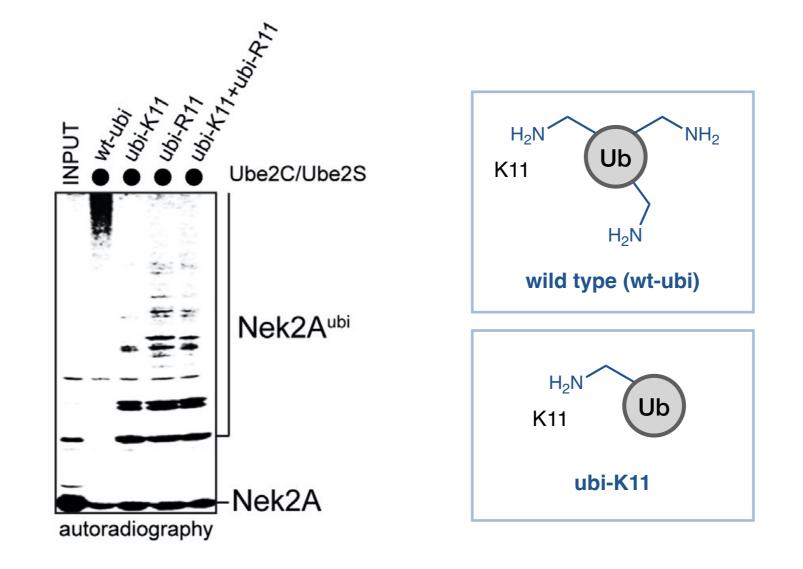
K11 linkages are upregulated in mitosis

K11-linked chains accumulate at spindle midbody from late anaphase on

Matsumoto, M. L. et al. Mol. Cell 2010, 39, 477.



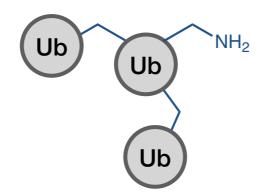
**Experiment:** APC/C-mediated in vitro ubiquitination of Nek2A



*ubi-K11 is not sufficient for polyubiquitination of Nek2A Wild-type ubiquitin required for polyubiquitination of Nek2A* 

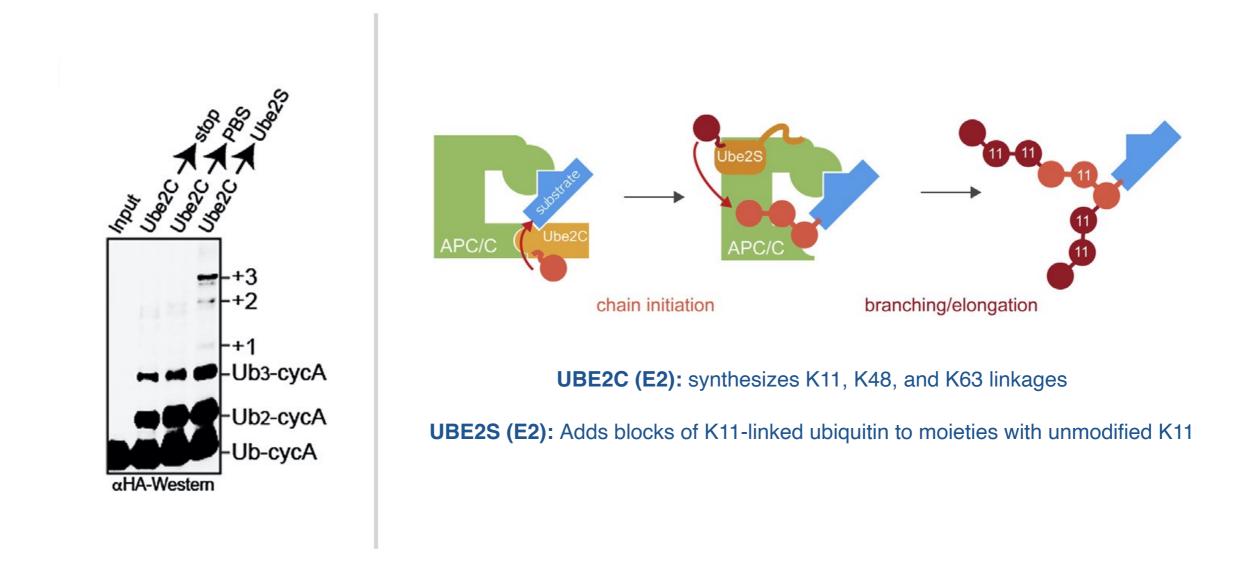
Meyer, H-J.; Rape, M. Cell 2014, 157, 910.

Experiment: APC/C-mediated in vitro ubiquitination of Nek2A

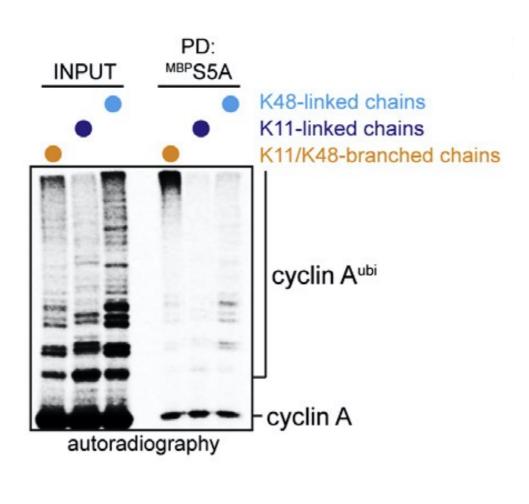


Multiple lysines required for ubiquitination of Nek2A

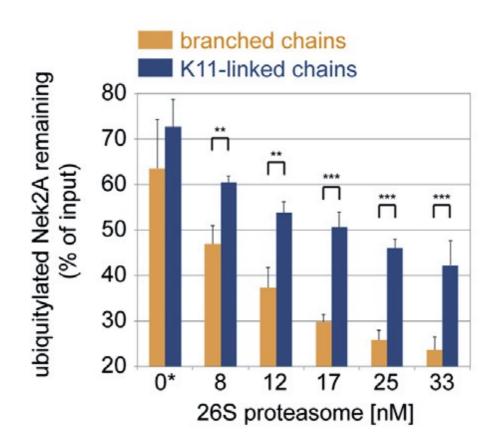
Conclusion: APC/C synthesizes branched conjugates



The E2 ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme UBE2S adds ubiquitin to ubiquitin chains formed by the E2 UBE2C

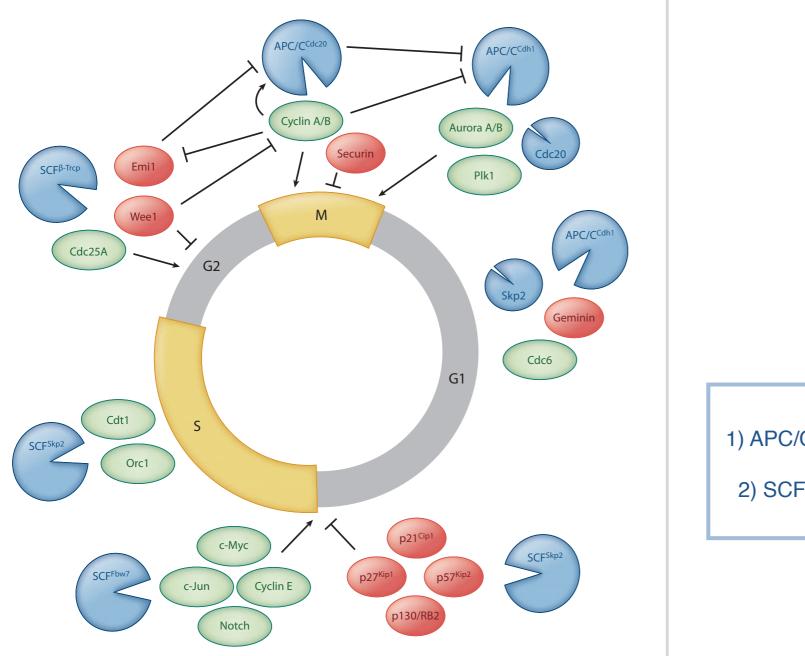


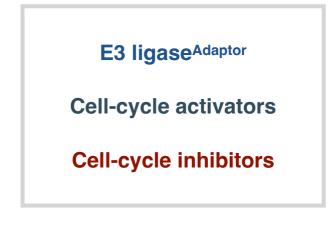
Branched conjugates enhance binding to S5A, which directs ubiquitinated proteins to the proteasome



Conjugation of Nek2A with branched chains enhances proteasomal degradation

Branched conjugates assembled by the APC/C enhance substrate recognition by the proteasome







1) APC/C performs ubiquitination through M and G1

2) SCF performs ubiquitination through S and G2

**Histone Ubiquitination** 

The first protein known to be ubiquitinated: Monoubiquitination of H2A at K119

### Isolation and Characterization of Protein A24, a "Histone-like" Non-Histone Chromosomal Protein\*

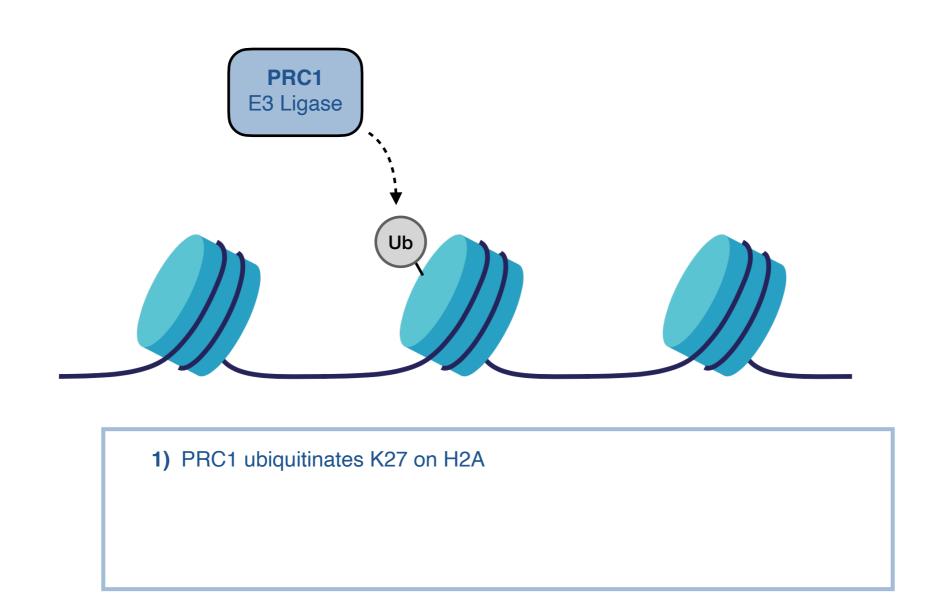
(Received for publication, April 7, 1975)

IRA L. GOLDKNOPF,<sup>‡</sup> CHARLES W. TAYLOR, RONALD M. BAUM, LYNN C. YEOMAN, MARK O. J. OLSON, ARCHIE W. PRESTAYKO, AND HARRIS BUSCH

From the Nuclear Protein Laboratory, Department of Pharmacology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas 77025

"The present results show that A24 is a non-histone chromosomal protein with solubility properties similar to those of histones"

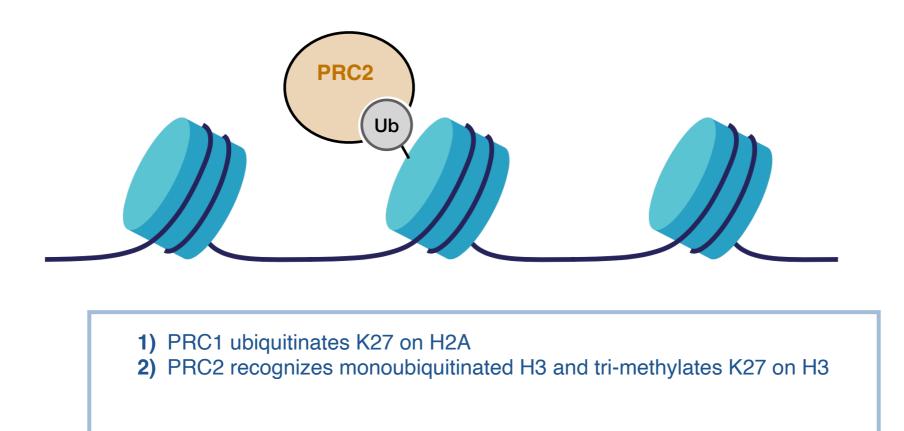
**Ubiquitination of H2A: Transcriptional Repression** 



Monoubiquitination of H2A facilitates transcriptional repression of cell cycle inhibitors to increase proliferation

Wang, H. et al. Nature 2004, 431, 873.

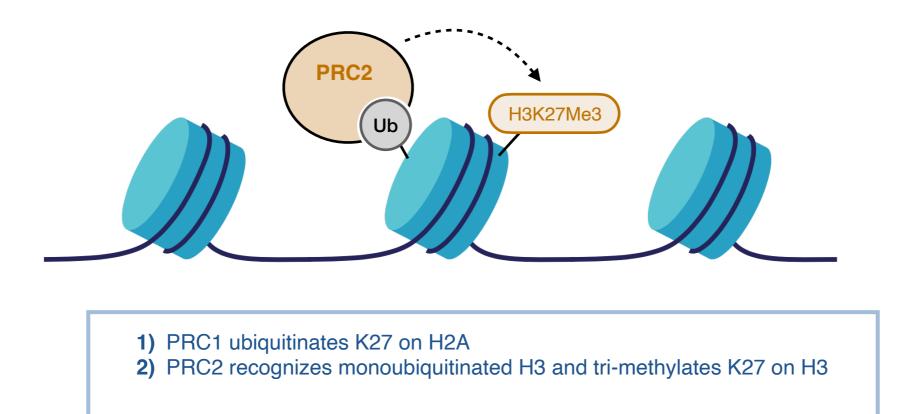
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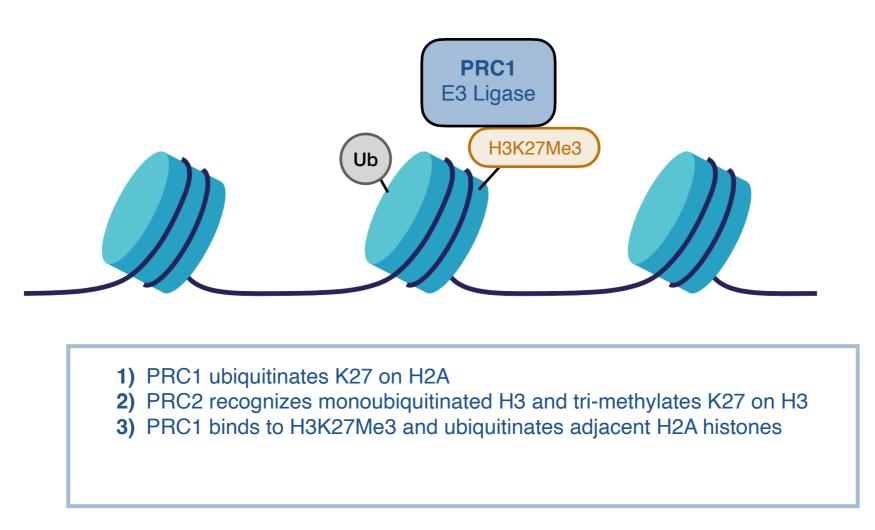
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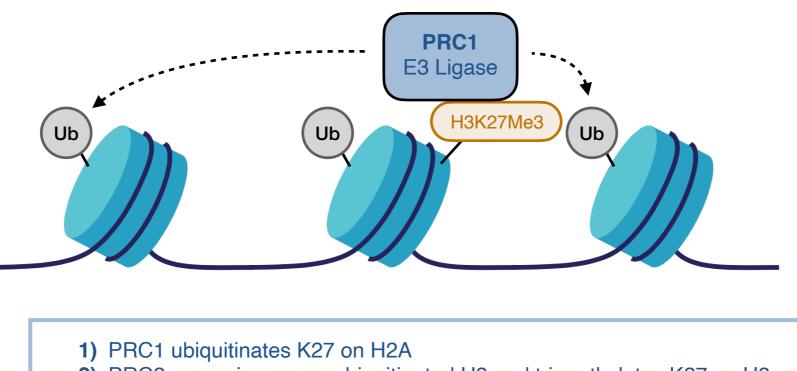
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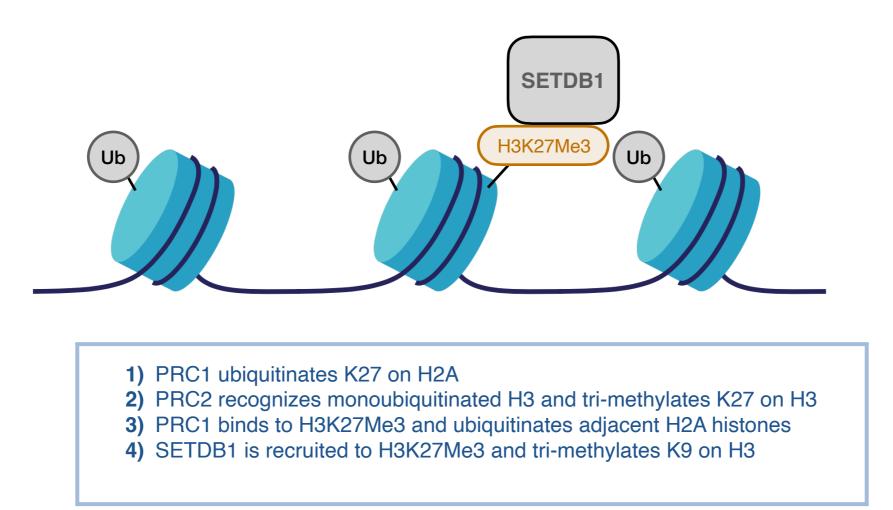
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**Ubiquitination of H2A: Transcriptional Repression** 

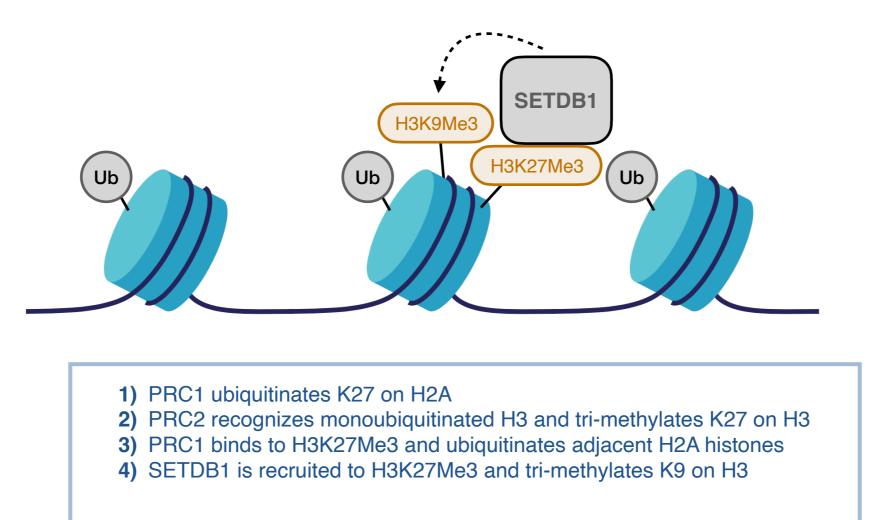


- 2) PRC2 recognizes monoubiquitinated H3 and tri-methylates K27 on H3
- 3) PRC1 binds to H3K27Me3 and ubiquitinates adjacent H2A histones

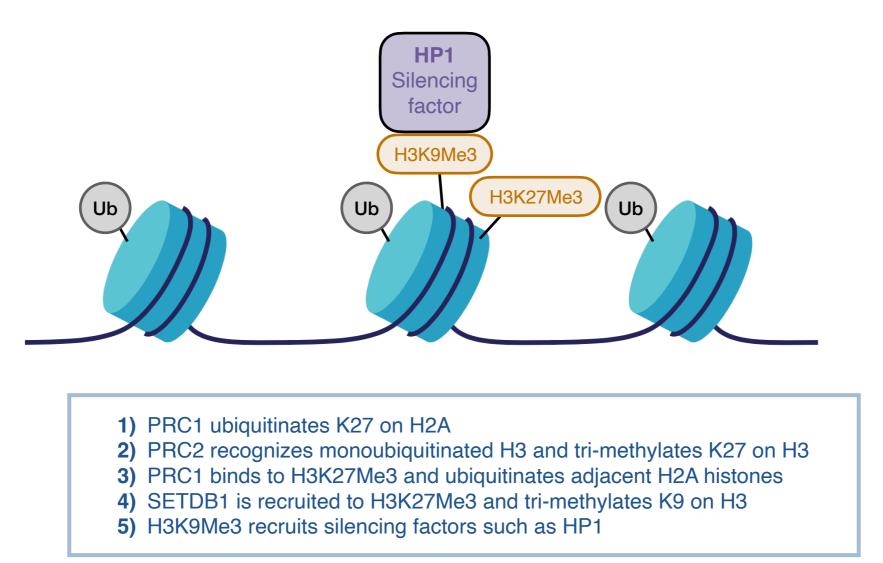
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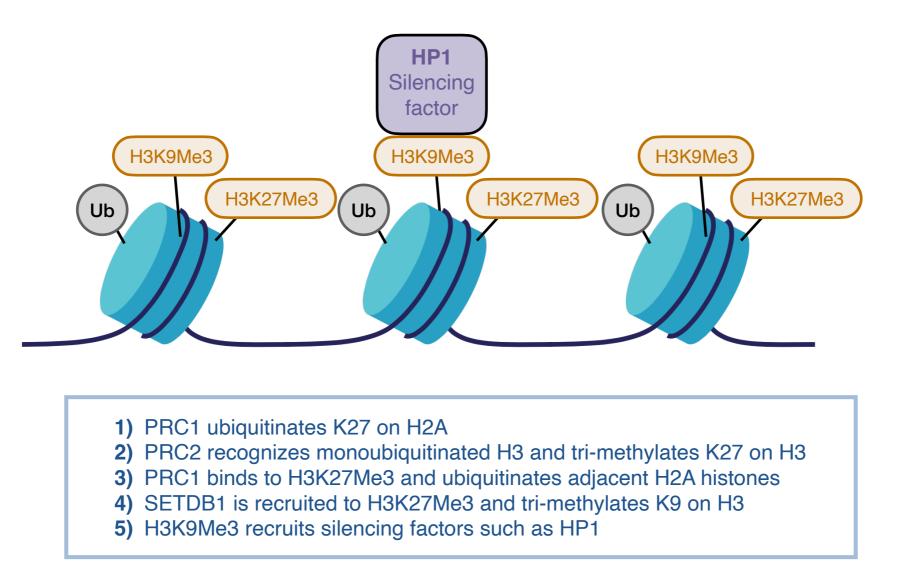
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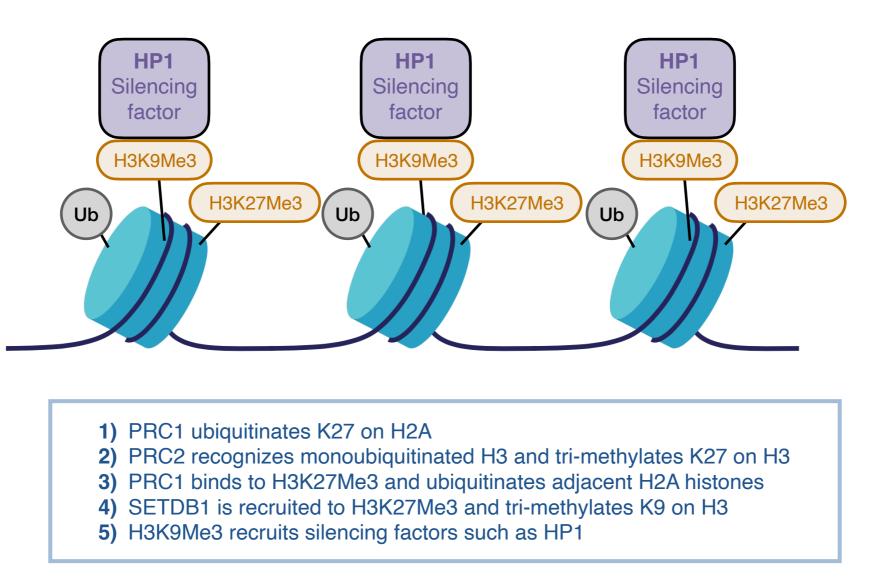
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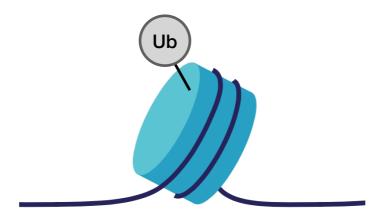
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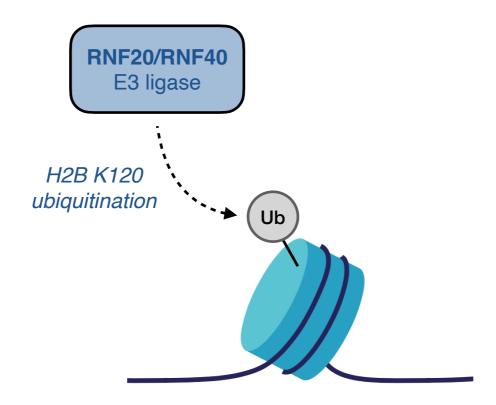


**Ubiquitination of H2B: Transcriptional Elongation** 



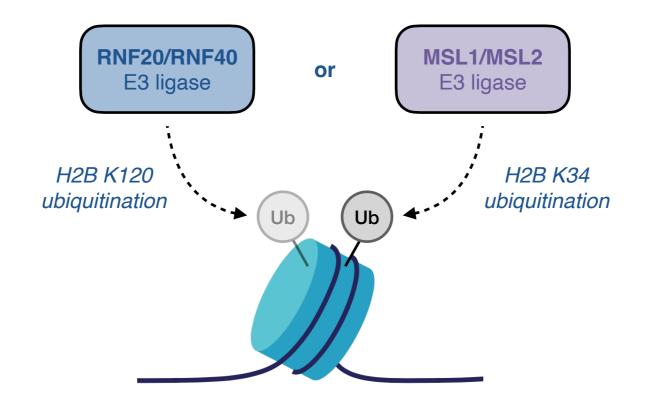
Monoubiquitination of H2B promotes gene expression

**Ubiquitination of H2B: Transcriptional Elongation** 



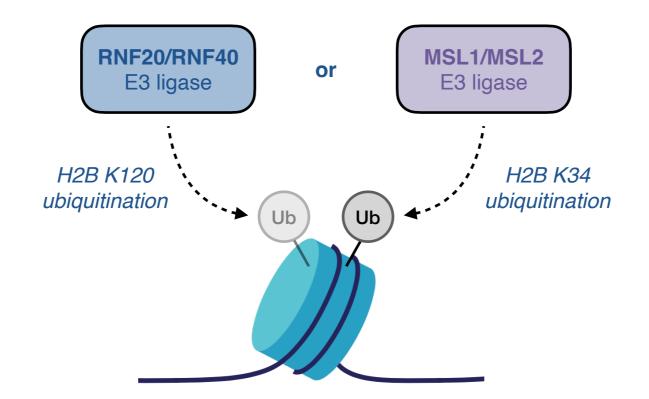
#### Monoubiquitination of H2B promotes gene expression

**Ubiquitination of H2B: Transcriptional Elongation** 



#### Monoubiquitination of H2B promotes gene expression

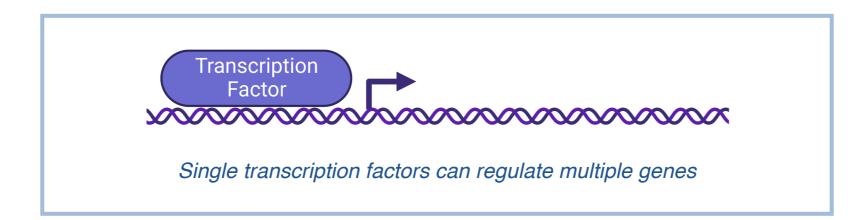
**Ubiquitination of H2B: Transcriptional Elongation** 



Monoubiquitinated H2B can attract over ninety effectors

Monoubiquitination of H2B promotes gene expression

**Ubiquitination of Transcription Factors** 

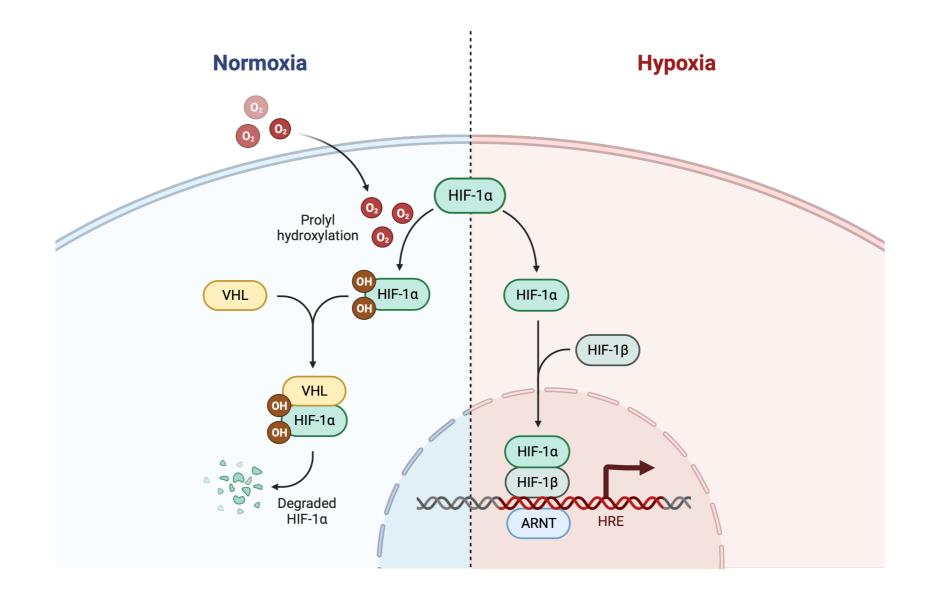


External stimuli can affect ubiquitin-mediated degradation of transcription factors

Stimulus	Substrate	E3 ligase	
Hypoxia	HIF1a	VHL	
Oxidative stress	NRF2	KEAP1	
DNA damage	P53	MDM2	

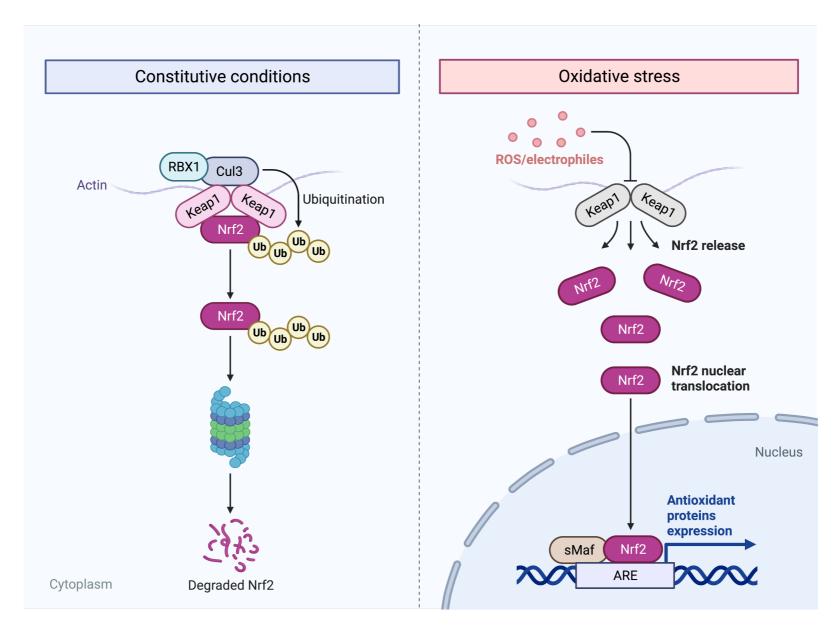
Stimulus induces the inhibition of transcription factor ubiquitiation

**Ubiquitination of Transcription Factors: HIF-1a** 



Hypoxic conditions reduce degradation of HIF1a to promote transcription of genes that increase oxygen delivery

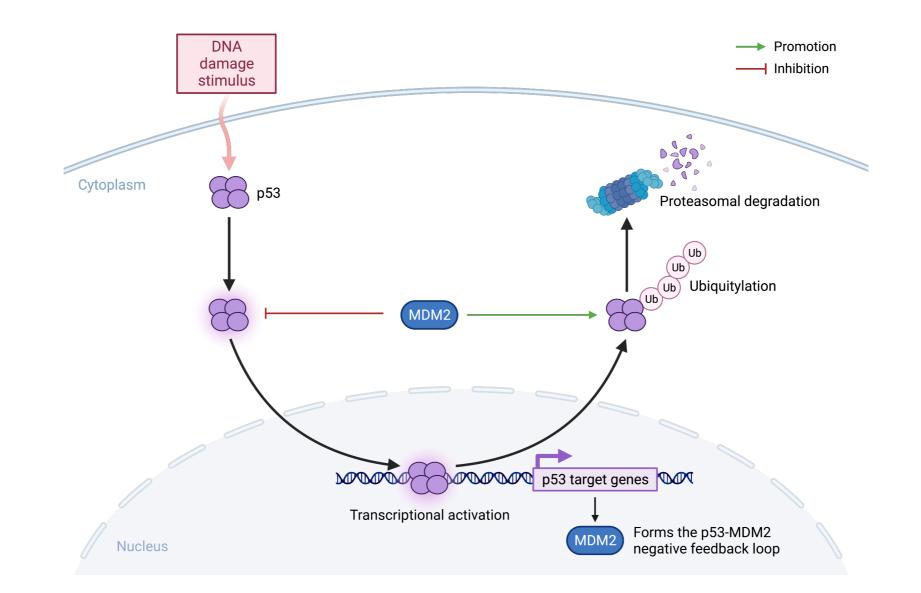
Overexpressed in many cancers to improve tumor vascularization



#### **Ubiquitination of Transcription Factors: NRF2**

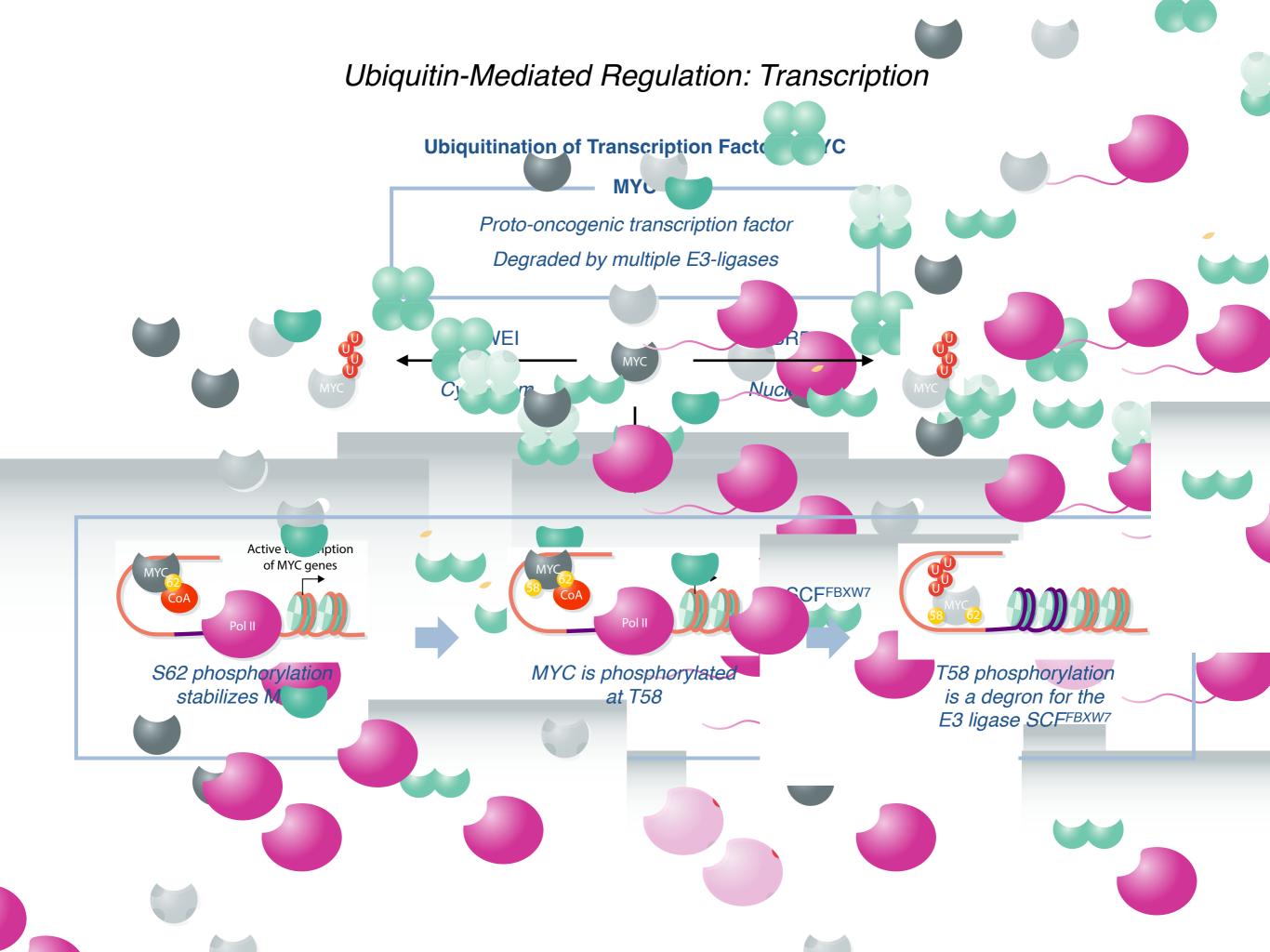
Oxidative stress inhibits NRF2 degradation and leads to antioxidant protein expression

**Ubiquitination of Transcription Factors: p53** 

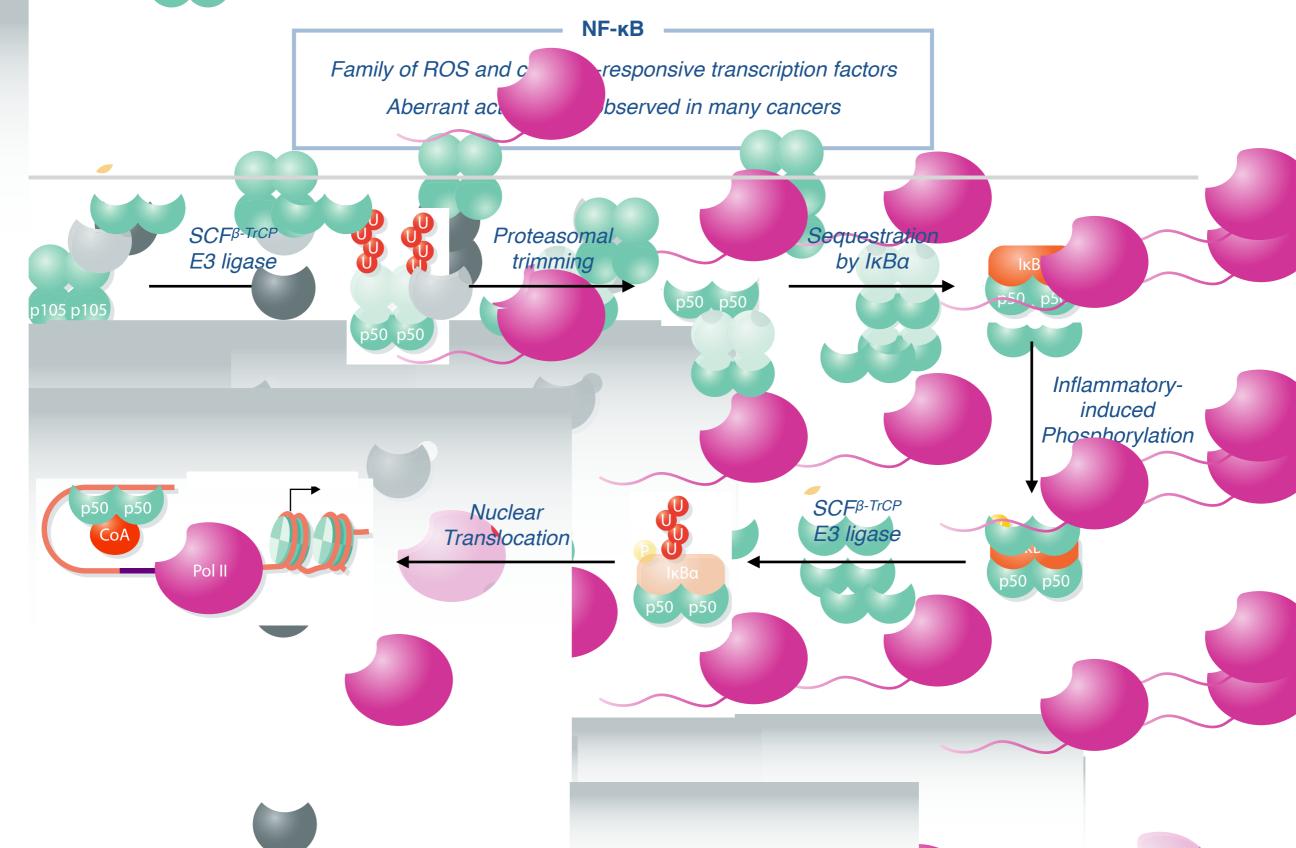


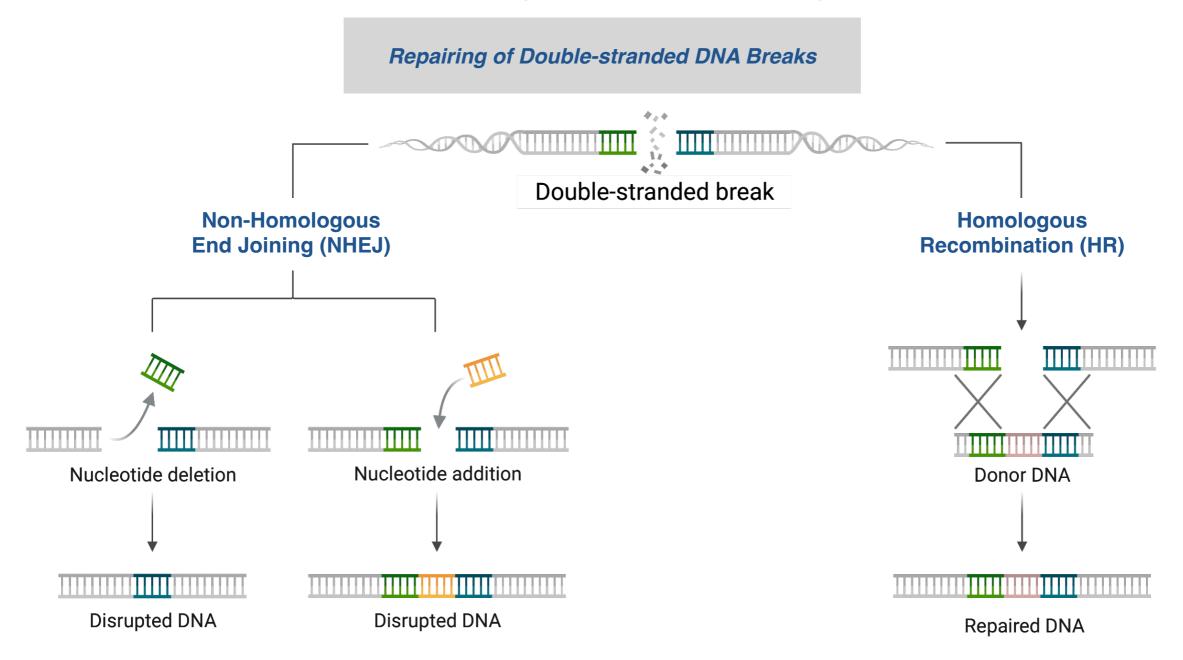
Elevated MDM2 levels suppress P53 and hamper the cell's response to DNA-damage, increasing mutagenesis rates

MDM2 is amplified in a large number of hematological and solid tumors



#### **V** Ubiquitination of Transcription Factors: NF-κB

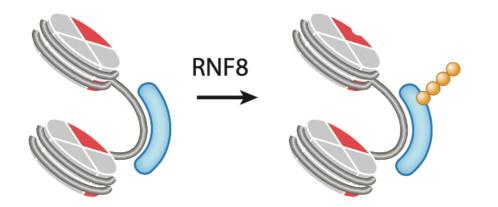




Under Double-stranded breaks, how does the cell non-homologous end joining or homologous recombination?

Oh, E.; Akopian, D.; Rape, M. Annu. Rev. Cell Dev. Biol. 2018, 34, 137.

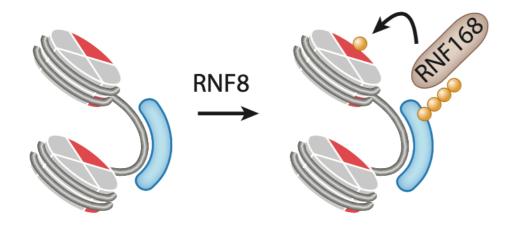
Non-Homologous End Joining (NHEJ)



1) RNF8 decorates H1 linker with K63-linked ubiquitin chains

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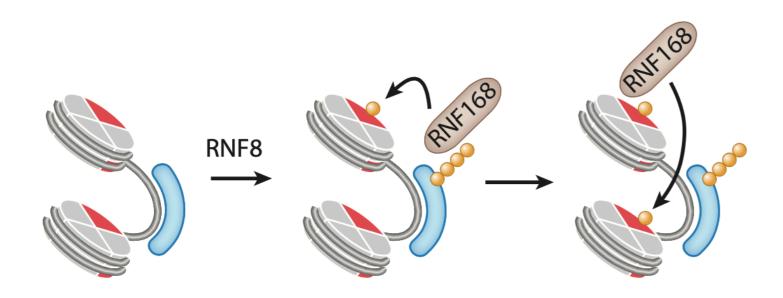
Non-Homologous End Joining (NHEJ)



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2) RNF168 binds to the K63-chains and mono-ubiquitinates K13 and K15 of H2A

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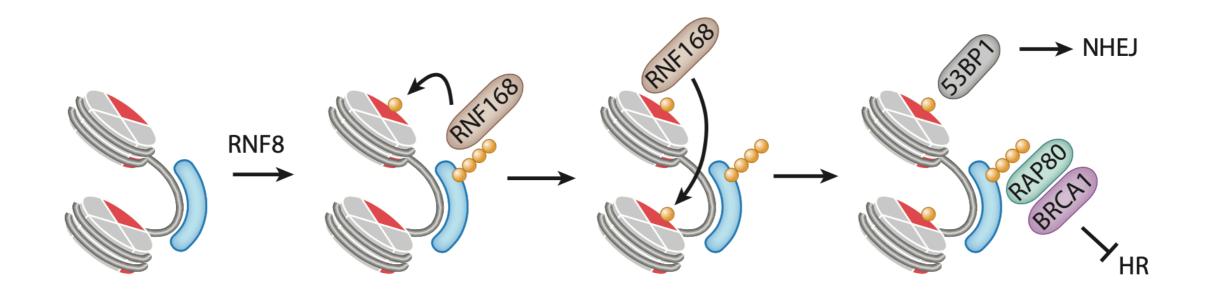
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3) RNF168 itself binds mono-ubiquitinated H2AK15 and spreads this signal to adjacent histones

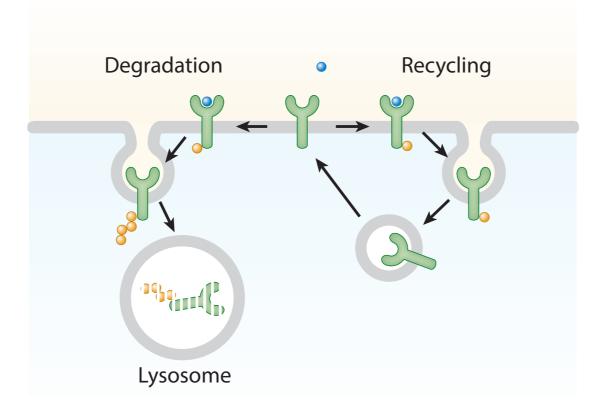
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- 4) 53BP1 attracts proteins that displace HR effectors; RAP80/BRCA1 suppresses BRCA1-mediated HR

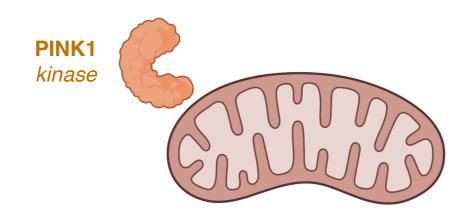
**Trafficking of Cell-Membrane Proteins** 



Ubiquitination trafficks membrane proteins to the lysosome or recycles them back to the cell-membrane

Mitophagy

Elimination of defective mitochondria

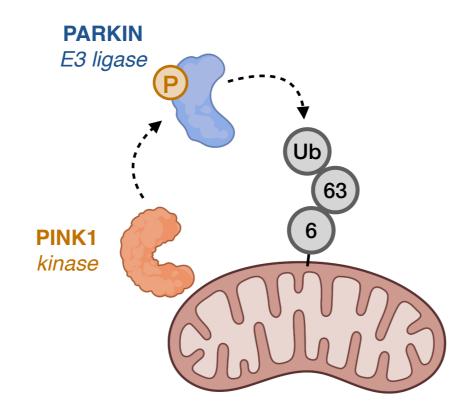


1) PINK1 kinase accumulates on outer membrane of damaged mitochondrion

Koyano, F. et al. Nature 2014, 510, 162.

#### Mitophagy

Elimination of defective mitochondria

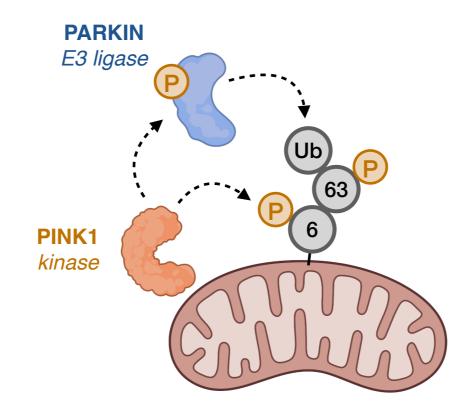


1) PINK1 kinase accumulates on outer membrane of damaged mitochondrion

2) PINK1 phosphorylates the E3 ligase PARKIN; PARKIN ubiquitinates the outer mitochondrial membrane (K6 and K63)

#### Mitophagy

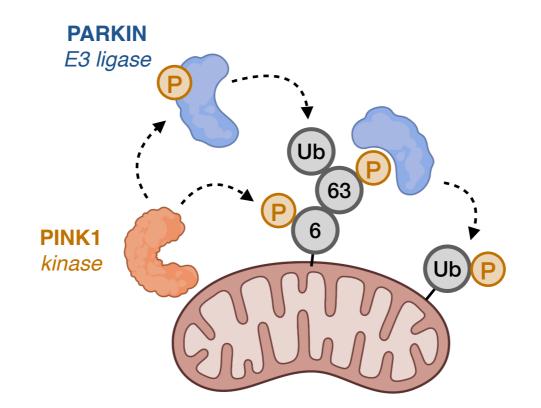
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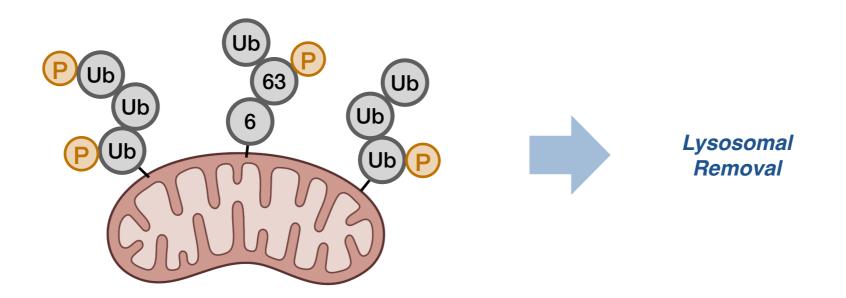
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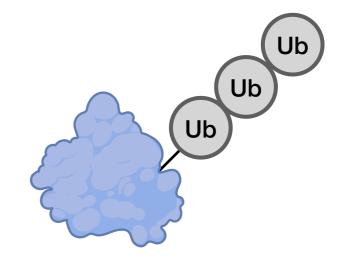
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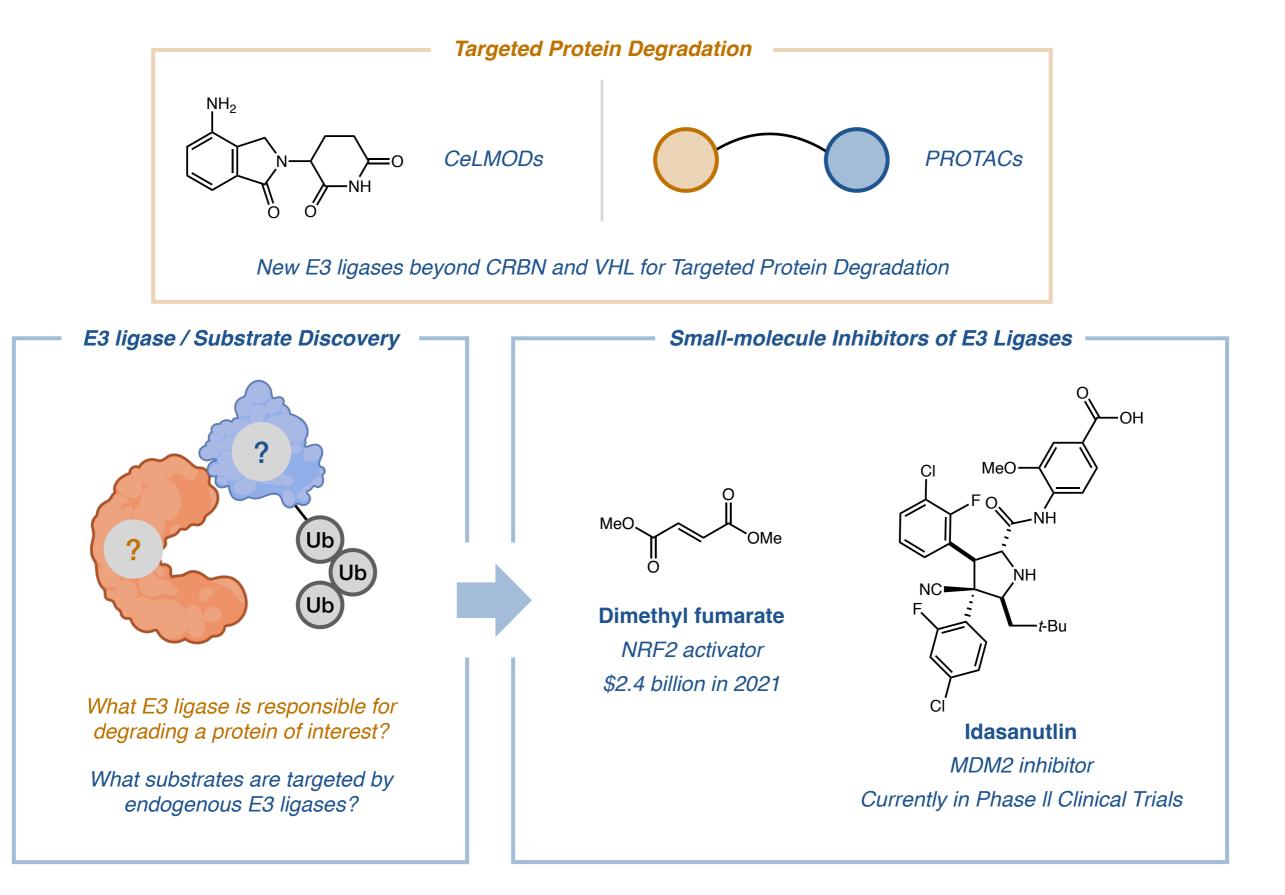
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# The Ubiquitin Code

- The History of Ubiquitin and How Substrates are Ubiquitinated
- The Ubiquitin Code
- Methods to Study Covalent Modifications by Ubiquitin
- How the Cell uses Ubiquitin for Regulation
  - Cell cycle / The APC/C
  - Transcription
  - DNA damage response
  - Protein-localization
- Therapeutic Outlook



#### Therapeutic Outlook



# Questions?

