

1 **Differential signaling networks of Bcr-Abl p210 and p190 kinases in**
2 **leukemia cells defined by functional proteomics**

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4 Running title: **Differential signaling of Bcr-Abl p210 and p190**

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19

20 **Abstract**

21 The two major isoforms of the oncogenic Bcr-Abl tyrosine kinase, p210 and p190,
22 are expressed upon the Philadelphia chromosome translocation. p210 is the
23 hallmark of chronic myelogenous leukemia, whereas p190 occurs in the majority
24 of B-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia. Differences in protein interactions and
25 activated signaling pathways that may be associated with the different diseases
26 driven by p210 and p190 are unknown. We have performed a quantitative
27 comparative proteomics study of p210 and p190. Strong differences in the
28 interactome and tyrosine phosphoproteome were found and validated. Whereas
29 the AP2 adaptor complex that regulates clathrin-mediated endocytosis interacts
30 preferentially with p190, the phosphatase Sts1 is enriched with p210. Stronger
31 activation of the Stat5 transcription factor and the Erk1/2 kinases is observed
32 with p210, whereas Lyn kinase is activated by p190. Our findings provide a more
33 coherent understanding of Bcr-Abl signaling, mechanisms of leukemic
34 transformation, resulting disease pathobiology and responses to kinase inhibitors.
35

36 **Introduction**

37 The Bcr-Abl kinase and its inhibitors (imatinib and successors) are a paradigm
38 for targeted cancer therapy¹. Bcr-Abl is a constitutively active tyrosine kinase,
39 expressed by the Philadelphia (Ph) chromosome. It is formed upon the t(9;22)
40 reciprocal translocation that fuses the breakpoint cluster region (BCR) gene with
41 the Abelson tyrosine kinase (ABL1)². Depending on the translocation breakpoint
42 in BCR, different Bcr-Abl protein isoforms are expressed, which all contain exons
43 2-11 of the ABL1 gene, but differ in the length of their BCR component³. The
44 most common Bcr-Abl isoforms are p210 and p190 (alternatively named: p185).
45 p190 is 501 amino acids, i.e. ~25%, shorter than p210 because it lacks a DH-PH
46 domain unit; otherwise p210 and p190 have an identical sequence and domain
47 organization (Fig. 1a)⁴.

48 The expression of p210 is the molecular hallmark of chronic myelogenous
49 leukemia (CML)³. The Ph-chromosome is also present in 20-30% of adult B-cell
50 acute lymphoblastic leukemias (B-ALL), where approximately 1/4 of these
51 patients express p210 and approximately 3/4 express p190 Bcr-Abl³. Treating
52 CML patients with the Bcr-Abl tyrosine kinase inhibitor (TKI) imatinib leads to
53 durable remissions in most patients and the survival of those patients is not
54 different from that of the general population⁵. In contrast, in Ph-positive B-ALL,
55 relapse and TKI resistance are frequent, and overall survival is still dramatically
56 low, despite the increased remission rates and survival that can be achieved with
57 Bcr-Abl TKIs^{6,7}.

58 p210 is the sole oncogenic driver that is sufficient to establish and maintain CML.
59 In contrast, in Ph-positive B-ALL, additional mutations are frequently observed⁸.
60 Various mouse models that express Bcr-Abl in hematopoietic stem cells or
61 progenitor cells were developed and recapitulate many features of human CML
62 and B-ALL^{9,10}. Only a few studies have compared the *in vivo* leukemogenic
63 activity of p190 and p210 directly. Under specific experimental conditions, the
64 expression of p190 lead to a disease with a shorter latency and more B-ALL,
65 whereas p210 mice developed CML-like leukemias^{11,9,12,13}. This may argue that
66 the specific intrinsic differences in the p190 and p210 proteins contribute to the
67 two different disease pathologies, in addition to the described different cell-of-
68 origin of the observed p210 and p190-driven leukemias¹². Differences in activity
69 and signaling between p210 and p190 have long been hypothesized but never
70 studied in a comprehensive and quantitative manner. Early studies on selected
71 signaling molecules indicated that qualitatively the same pathways are activated
72 by p210 and p190¹⁴, whereas kinase assays tended towards a mildly higher
73 kinase activity for p190^{11,15,16}. The p210 interaction network has been mapped by
74 affinity purification mass spectrometry experiments with p210 interactors as baits
75 using non-quantitative proteomics^{17,18}. To date, very little is known regarding
76 specific protein interaction partners and substrates of p190, and most importantly,
77 the two Bcr-Abl isoforms have not been compared directly in a uniform cellular
78 background.
79 Being aware of the large amount, but heterogeneous data regarding Bcr-Abl
80 interacting proteins and activated downstream pathways, we performed a first

81 comparative, quantitative and systematic proteomics study to chart the common
82 and differential interactome and tyrosine phosphoproteome of p210 and p190
83 Bcr-Abl. We show that the differences in interactome and phosphoproteome of
84 p210 and p190 are surprisingly large despite similar kinase activation. Our study
85 provides the first consolidated view on oncogene-intrinsic signaling differences of
86 p210 and p190 in a defined cellular background.

87

88 **Materials and Methods**

89 *Interactome sample preparation*

90 The optimized final protocol used 80-100 mg total cell lysate per cell line,
91 corresponding to approx. $7-10 \times 10^8$ BaF3 cells. Cell lysis and purification was
92 performed in TAP buffer (50 mM TRIS pH 7.5, 100 mM NaCl, 5% glycerol,
93 0.2% (w/v) NP-40 Alternative) containing protease and phosphatase inhibitors¹⁹.
94 Normal mouse IgG antibody (Thermo Scientific, catalog no. 10400C) and the
95 monoclonal Abl antibody (clone 24-21)²⁰ were covalently coupled to NHS-
96 activated sepharose (GE Healthcare, catalogue no. 17-0906-01). The lysates
97 were pre-cleared for 1 h at 4°C with the IgG-NHS resin and the supernatant then
98 transferred to the Abl-NHS resin for another 3 h at 4°C. Elution fractions
99 containing Bcr-Abl were pooled prior to mixing of the three individual
100 immunoprecipitates of BaF3 parental, p210 and p185 with equal volumes and
101 subsequently lyophilized.

102

103 *Phosphoproteome sample preparation*

104 Cell lysis was accomplished in Urea buffer (8 M Urea, 50 mM Hepes, pH 7.6)
105 using 2 mL buffer for 1×10^8 cells. 10 mg of total cell lysate of each sample (light,
106 medium and heavy labeled) were mixed to have a final amount of 30 mg SILAC
107 sample for peptide preparation. Phosphotyrosine peptides were enriched using a
108 mixture of two phosphotyrosine antibodies: The pY1000 antibody that is part of
109 the PTMScan[®] Phospho-Tyrosine Rabbit mAb (P-Tyr-1000) Kit (Cell Signaling
110 Technologies, catalogue number 8803), in addition to 50 μ L NHS-coupled 4G10
111 antibody. For the pY eluates, a second step of phosphopeptide enrichment was
112 performed on TiO₂ tips as described²¹ prior MS analysis.

113

114 *Data Analysis and MS raw data*

115 A detailed description of the mass spectrometry data analysis to identify
116 differential hits is given in Supplementary Information. Detailed lists of all
117 interactors and phosphosites are provided in Supplementary Tables S4-S8 and
118 an annotated Excel file with complete data. In addition, the mass spectrometry
119 proteomics data have been deposited to the ProteomeXchange Consortium via
120 the PRIDE partner repository with the dataset identifier PXD005149²².

121

122 A detailed description of the methods used in this study is given in the
123 Supplementary Methods.

124

125 **Results**

126 **Bcr-Abl interactome analysis**

127 To identify and quantify the protein interaction network of p210 and p190 Bcr-Abl,
128 we used a quantitative proteomics workflow based on SILAC (stable isotope
129 labeling with amino acids in cell culture; Fig. 1b). Murine BaF3 cells that express
130 Abl endogenously were retrovirally transduced with the human Bcr-Abl p210 and
131 p190 cDNAs²³ and purification of Bcr-Abl complexes was achieved by
132 immunoprecipitation (IP) experiments using an immobilized anti-Abl antibody
133 with 80-100 mg of total protein lysate in biological duplicates. Parental
134 (untransduced) BaF3 cells were used as a control to distinguish (endogenous)
135 Abl from Bcr-Abl interactors (Fig. 1b, Supplementary Table S1). We achieved the
136 quantification of >1800 proteins and a strong enrichment of Bcr-Abl p210 and
137 p190 complexes over the parental control (Fig. 2a, Supplementary Fig. S1a,b).
138 Furthermore, we identified most of the previously suggested p210 core
139 interactors¹⁷, which we found to be enriched with Bcr-Abl compared to the
140 parental control (Supplementary Fig. S1a, b).

141 To subsequently identify common Bcr-Abl interactors and proteins that
142 preferentially or exclusively interact with either p210 or p190, we first identified
143 proteins that are enriched in either p210 or p190 Bcr-Abl samples compared to
144 the parental control (Fig. 2b). This strategy removed Abl interacting and
145 contaminating proteins from further analysis. To compensate for the differential
146 expression levels in the three different cell lines, we normalized the protein ratios
147 for the input amounts, where ~4000 proteins of the expressed total proteome
148 could be quantified (Fig. 2b). The resulting 147 proteins included 56 proteins that
149 were common to both Bcr-Abl isoforms (defined as common Bcr-Abl interactors;

150 Supplementary Table S4), 30 proteins that were only found in the p210 samples
151 and 59 proteins in the p190 samples (Fig. 2b). The excellent sequence coverage
152 from the Bcr-Abl region common to p210 and p190 allowed a precise
153 quantification of and subsequent correction for the Bcr-Abl bait amount in the
154 large-scale IP samples (Supplementary Fig. S1c, d). For the comparison of the
155 p210 and p190 interactors, this correction step is essential, because higher
156 amounts of Bcr-Abl bait protein in one of the samples would lead to an
157 overestimation of the amount of interactor. In both biological replicates p210 was
158 ~1.4-fold enriched over p190 based on the mass spectrometry quantification (Fig.
159 2b, Supplementary Fig. S1c, d). After these normalization steps, we
160 concentrated on those proteins that were at least 2-fold enriched, with 13
161 proteins for p210 and 34 proteins for p190 (Fig. 2c, Supplementary Table S5).

162

163 **Common Bcr-Abl interactors**

164 Among the 56 common Bcr-Abl interactors (Fig. 3, Supplementary Table S4),
165 network analysis using the STRING database (<http://string-db.org/>) showed
166 previously annotated experimentally determined interactions between the
167 majority of these proteins. Only 15 molecules remain without previously mapped
168 interactions (Supplementary Fig. S2a). Two major clusters were identified with
169 one sub-network covering many cytosolic signaling components from tyrosine
170 kinase and Ras-MAPK signaling pathways. These proteins include prototypic
171 signaling adaptors (Grb2, Shc1, Dok1, Gab2), E3 ubiquitin ligases (Cbl, Cblb),
172 phosphatases (Inpp11/Ship2 and Ptpn11/Shp2), kinases (Map4k1, Lrrk1),

173 GTPase effector proteins (including the Ras GEFs Sos1/2) and cytoskeleton
174 remodeling proteins (e.g., the Abi1-Wasf2-Cyfp2 complex), which is also
175 reflected in the KEGG pathway and GO term enrichment (Supplementary Fig. S2,
176 Fig. 3). The three most significantly enriched domains using the SMART
177 database were the SH2, SH3 and PH domains.

178 The very tightly interconnected second sub-network contained the tetrameric
179 adaptor protein complex 2 (AP2), of which all four subunits were identified, with
180 various associated proteins that play a key role in regulating clathrin-mediated
181 endocytosis of receptor proteins and other membrane trafficking processes (Fig.
182 3). In addition to these two clusters, a small group of proteins with no previously
183 experimentally mapped connections is included in the network of common Bcr-
184 Abl interactors, such as the kinase co-chaperone Cdc37 and two members of the
185 14-3-3 proteins (Ywhag and Ywhah) (Fig. 3).

186 Notably, there is a large overlap of the mapped common Bcr-Abl interactors with
187 the previously identified p210 Bcr-Abl interactors using non-quantitative
188 proteomics by affinity purification mass spectrometry of known Bcr-Abl
189 interacting adaptor proteins in either the human K562 cell line¹⁷ or BaF3 cells¹⁸.
190 Due to the use of SILAC, we achieve accurate quantitation and unbiased
191 analyses.

192

193 **Preferential and exclusive interactors of p210 and p190**

194 The proteins that were differentially quantified between the two Bcr-Abl isoforms
195 partly belong to the group of common Bcr-Abl interactors (preferential

196 interactors), whereas another fraction of proteins is exclusive to one of the Bcr-
197 Abl isoforms and not part of the common Bcr-Abl interactome. With regard to
198 p190 Bcr-Abl, 17 of the 34 identified proteins are also part of the common
199 interactors including most of the AP2 complex members and the Nck2 (SH3/SH2
200 adaptor)-Rasa1 (Ras GAP)-Lyn (Src family tyrosine kinase) complex. The
201 remaining 17 proteins are only found in p190 and include additional members of
202 the endocytosis machinery, such as the clathrin light and heavy chains (Cltc/a/b/c)
203 (Fig. 3, Supplementary Fig. S2 and Table S5).

204 Conversely, 3 of the 13 proteins that differentially bind to p210, are also part of
205 the common Bcr-Abl interactors (Ubash3b/Sts1, Bcr and Shank3; Fig. 3,
206 Supplementary Table S5). In contrast to p190, the differential proteins for p210
207 have no annotated experimental evidence for interaction with each other.
208 Remarkably, the non-canonical tyrosine phosphatase Ubash3b/Sts1 shows a
209 mean 6.5-fold enriched interaction with p210 Bcr-Abl (Fig. 2c).

210

211 **Interactome target validation**

212 Validation of the interactome data was conducted by immunoblot analysis of the
213 SILAC samples used for the MS analysis as an independent analytical method.
214 Furthermore, anti-Abl immunoprecipitations were conducted for a set of human
215 p210 and p190 expressing cell lines that were derived from CML and B-ALL
216 patients (Supplementary Table S3, Supplementary Figure S3). In addition, an
217 independent set of BaF3 p210 and p190 cells was created and used as a further
218 control.

219 We first focused on the tyrosine phosphatase Sts1 that was found as a common
220 Bcr-Abl interactor and greatly enriched with p210 Bcr-Abl. The enrichment was
221 confirmed in the immunoblot analysis of the SILAC samples (Fig. 2d) and the
222 independent BaF3 set (Supplementary Fig. S3). For the human cell lines a less
223 pronounced preference of Sts1 for p210 was observed (Supplementary Fig. S3).
224 The interpretation of such experiments is severely challenged by the different
225 Bcr-Abl and interactor expression levels in the human cell lines (Supplementary
226 Fig. S3c), as well as the different cellular proteome background of the cells.
227 Validation of proteins that were enriched with p190 included Ap2a1/2, which is a
228 subunit of the tetrameric AP2 complex, and the protein tyrosine kinase Lyn.
229 Immunoblot analysis of the SILAC samples confirmed the findings by mass
230 spectrometry (Fig. 2d). The validation of Lyn in the human cell lines was
231 complicated by limited antibody sensitivity and differential antibody binding to
232 human and mouse Lyn, but with a possible trend towards p190 (Supplementary
233 Fig. S3). Nonetheless, this data is nicely in line with several Lyn tyrosine sites
234 that are stronger phosphorylated in p190 cells.
235 Among the common interactors of p210 and p190, we validated the Inpp11/Ship2
236 interaction. Although the Ship2 antibody surprisingly did not recognize the mouse
237 form of the protein, the human cells showed uniform interactions of Ship2 with
238 p210 or p190 (Supplementary Fig. S3).
239 In conclusion, we found and validated intriguingly strong differences in the
240 protein interaction network of p210 and p190. Interestingly, our dataset shows a
241 number of proteins preferentially interacting with p190, even though the longer

242 isoform p210 contains the additional DH-PH domains. Our data thus suggests
243 that the DH-PH domain does not act as a protein-interaction scaffold.
244 Alternatively, a different degree of kinase activation could result in rewiring of the
245 cellular signaling network and thus change Bcr-Abl interaction partners.

246

247 **Analysis of phosphorylation sites and activity of p210 and p190 Bcr-Abl**

248 To test our hypothesis of possible quantitative differences in p210 and p190
249 activation, we studied the kinase activation state of Bcr-Abl by mapping
250 phosphorylation sites by mass spectrometry, immunoblotting for major activating
251 phosphorylation sites, and *in vitro* kinase activity assays.

252 We could quantify 17 tyrosine phosphorylation sites of Bcr-Abl by mass
253 spectrometry (Fig. 4a). As expected, the five tyrosine phosphorylation sites
254 (Y554, Y644, Y844, Y852 and Y910) that are unique to the p210 sequence were
255 found strongly enriched in the p210 sample. In contrast, Y177 was
256 phosphorylated to almost identical levels in p210 and p190, in line with our
257 interactome data showing equal amounts of Grb2, which binds Y177 via its SH2
258 domain (Fig. 4a). For the remaining Bcr-Abl phosphorylation sites, including
259 Y412 in the activation loop and Y245, both commonly used Bcr-Abl activation
260 markers²⁴, insignificant differences were observed (Fig. 4a). In parallel, we
261 monitored the phosphorylation state of Y412 and Y245 by immunoblotting using
262 the total cell lysates of the SILAC samples and the human cell lines. Whereas
263 the BaF3 cells show a slight increase of pY245 in the p210 cells, there is no
264 major difference for pY412 between the isoforms (Fig. 4b,c). The human cell

265 lines, albeit quite heterogeneous, revealed a higher tendency of both
266 phosphorylation sites towards p210 (Fig. 4b,c). Similar results were obtained
267 when equal amounts of Bcr-Abl after immunoprecipitation were loaded to
268 facilitate normalization (Supplementary Fig. S4).

269 We next compared the Bcr-Abl *in vitro* kinase activity after anti-Abl
270 immunoprecipitation from BaF3 and our panel of eight human cell lines. We
271 observed only minor differences without a consistent trend towards higher *in vitro*
272 kinase activity of one of the two Bcr-Abl isoforms (Fig. 4d). We additionally
273 probed global p210 and p190 kinase activity using the PamChip PTK assay
274 (PamGene). We observed only minor differences between the samples with only
275 7 of the 142 peptides phosphorylated stronger by the p210 lysate
276 (Supplementary Fig. S5) in contrast to a previous study in which we compared
277 Nup214-Abl and p210 activity in BaF3 cells²⁵.

278 Collectively, our data suggest that p210 and p190 do not differ significantly in
279 kinase autophosphorylation or *in vitro* kinase activity. These results argue
280 against quantitative differences in kinase activation may account for the
281 observed differences in the p210 vs. p190 interactome and phosphoproteome.

282

283 **Bcr-Abl phosphoproteome analysis**

284 In addition to the phosphotyrosine sites of Bcr-Abl, we mapped the cellular
285 tyrosine phosphoproteome and quantified 817 phosphotyrosine sites in 573
286 protein groups (Fig. 5a, Supplementary Fig. S6). Unsupervised hierarchical
287 clustering of the quantified phosphopeptides revealed six clusters with cluster 1

288 comprising all the sites that remained unchanged among the three cell lines (Fig.
289 5a). Clusters 2, 3 and 4 depict the phosphopeptides that are up-regulated in the
290 Bcr-Abl cell lines compared to the parental cell line. Here in particular, clusters 2
291 and 3 (with 302 phosphopeptides corresponding to 37% of all quantified pY
292 peptides) stood out due to the high intensity of phosphorylation as compared to
293 the BaF3 parental cells, thus representing the Bcr-Abl pY signature (Fig. 5a).
294 Among those peptides, 45 sites map to 27 of the Bcr-Abl interacting proteins
295 identified in the interactome study, which makes it the cluster with the largest
296 accumulation of Bcr-Abl interactors (Supplementary Fig. S7). In-depth analysis of
297 the phosphosites within this cluster revealed many known and amply
298 characterized substrates of Bcr-Abl such as Abi1, Cbl, Gab2, Pik3r1, Pxn
299 (paxillin) and Stat5²⁶ that is also reflected in the GO term enrichment analysis of
300 these proteins containing CML and other tyrosine kinase signaling pathways
301 (Supplementary Fig. S7). In addition, phosphomotif analysis showed enrichment
302 of the Abl phosphorylation site consensus in cluster 2 and 3 (67 out of 273
303 unique peptides) with a proline in position +3 following the phosphorylated
304 tyrosine (Supplementary Fig. S7). Altogether, our dataset indicated that the
305 mapped tyrosine phosphoproteome is dominated by Bcr-Abl kinase signaling
306 and included many known substrates and phosphorylated interactors (Fig. 3).

307

308 **Differential phosphorylation sites of p210 and p190**

309 The analysis of differential p210 and p190 phosphorylation events resulted in
310 106 pY sites in 78 proteins to be more highly phosphorylated in p190, 110 pY

311 sites in 92 proteins to be more highly phosphorylated in p210 (Fig. 5b and
312 Supplementary Table S6 and S7).

313 Among the sites up-regulated in p210, 6 phosphorylation sites of the
314 transcription factor Stat5a and Stat5b were mapped, including the main site
315 responsible for Stat5a activation (Y694 in Stat5a, Fig. 6, Supplementary Table
316 S7)²⁷. In addition, the activation loops of the tyrosine kinase Fes (Y713) and the
317 Ser/Thr-kinases Erk1 (Y205) and Erk2 (Y185) and sites of the Src family kinases
318 Fyn (Y185) and Lck (Y192), were found to be more highly phosphorylated (Fig.
319 6). This indicated a higher activation of these kinases in the p210 expressing
320 cells. The high number of kinases that are phosphorylated in the p210 sample is
321 also reflected in the GO term and KEGG pathway enrichment analysis
322 (Supplementary Fig. S7).

323 Among the 106 pY sites up-regulated in p190, 6 phosphosites of the Src family
324 tyrosine kinase Lyn (two of which shared with Blk), including its activation loop
325 (Y397) were found to be more strongly phosphorylated than in p210 (Fig. 6). This
326 is nicely in line with the stronger interaction of Lyn with p190 than p210 (Fig. 2c).
327 In addition the non-receptor tyrosine phosphatases Shp2 (Ptpn11) and Flk1
328 (Ptpn18) showed higher phosphorylation in p190 cells, which may indicate a
329 stronger activation of these enzymes in p190 cells. Furthermore, we found the
330 adapter proteins Dok1 and Pag1 to be more highly phosphorylated in p190, and
331 they, together with Ptpn11 and Ptpn18 were shown to play a central role in the
332 negative feedback regulation of Src family kinases (Fig. 6)²⁸.

333 Noteworthy, among the 552 pY sites that remain unchanged between the two
334 Bcr-Abl isoforms, we found many central signaling molecules mediating pY
335 signaling (Supplementary Table S8). These included adaptor proteins (CrkL,
336 Shc1, Gab2, Nck1/2, Abi1/2, Dok1/2/3, Sh2d3/5, Skap2, several 14-3-3
337 isoforms), E3 ubiquitin ligases (Cbl, Cblb), lipid and protein phosphatases
338 (Inpp11/5d, Ptpn6, Ptpnc, Ptpnj), several PI3-kinase subunits and the transcription
339 factor Stat6. In addition, a large number of activating pY sites on cytoplasmic
340 tyrosine kinases (Btk, Tec, Jak2, Csk, Tnk2, Syk) as well as serine/threonine
341 kinases (Cdk1/17, Mapk14/11/12 = p38 $\alpha/\beta/\gamma$, Sgk2/3, Map4k1, Pkc δ) were
342 found (Fig. 6 and Supplementary Table S8). This shows the large deregulation of
343 cellular signaling by Bcr-Abl and its link to core proliferative and anti-apoptotic
344 pathways that sustain leukemogenesis. Collectively, our analysis identified many
345 differentially regulated phosphosites with annotated functional importance along
346 with a large number of functionally uncharacterized sites in important signaling
347 proteins.

348

349 **Phosphoproteome site validation**

350 Validation of the phosphoproteomic dataset was conducted by immunoblot
351 analysis of the SILAC samples in addition to the set of human p210 and p190
352 Bcr-Abl expressing cell lines (Supplementary Table S3). Among the 6 up-
353 regulated Stat5a/b phosphorylation sites in p210, we concentrated on
354 Y694/Y695 in Stat5a/b, since it is the major activating site. We could confirm the
355 MS results in BaF3 and human CML cell lines (Fig. 5c, d). In line with the

356 analysis of the total BaF3 Stat5 protein amount by MS, we also observed
357 elevated Stat5 expression levels in p210 expressing cells. Nonetheless, pStat5
358 levels were increased also after correction for the elevated total protein levels
359 showing increased Stat5 phosphorylation stoichiometry in p210 cells (Fig. 5c, d).
360 Another member of the Stat transcription factors, Stat3, also showed elevated
361 phosphorylation on the main activating site (Y704) in p210 in line with the MS
362 results (Supplementary Fig. S8). In contrast, we found Stat6 to be equally
363 phosphorylated on its main activating site (Y641; Fig. 6)

364 Src family kinases were found phosphorylated in both Bcr-Abl cell lines with Lyn
365 being activated in p190 cells, and Fyn and Lck phosphorylation being higher in
366 p210 cells. Due to the high sequence homology within this kinase family,
367 antibodies for the activation loop of Src kinases cannot distinguish the different
368 kinases of this family. Nonetheless, we attempted to monitor pSrc levels in our
369 cell lines and found higher general pSrc levels in BaF3 p190 cells compared to
370 the human cell lines, in which we observed a trend towards higher pSrc levels in
371 the p210 Bcr-Abl cells (Supplementary Figure S8). A clear interpretation of this
372 data is difficult, as the human cell lines have strongly different Src kinase
373 expression patterns and levels. Therefore, reliable normalization of the pSrc
374 signal is impossible. Interestingly, tyrosine kinase prediction based on the
375 analysis of the PamChip PTK assay indicated overall stronger activation of Src
376 kinases in p210 cells (Supplementary Fig S5). In contrast, we used an antibody
377 that is specific for the C-terminal inhibitory phosphorylation site of Lyn (Y507)
378 because we found several proteins of the Src negative-feedback circuit

379 phosphorylated in p190. Immunoblot analysis showed higher levels of pY507
380 phosphorylation in Bcr-Abl expressing BaF3 cells as compared to the parental
381 cells but did not appear to differ between the two isoforms (Supplementary Fig.
382 S8). The same was found for the human cell lines, where high levels of Lyn
383 pY507 correlate with a high expression level.

384 Kinase activity profiling on the PamChip STK assay (PamGene) revealed a much
385 higher activity of Ser/Thr kinases in the lysate of p210 with more than 20% of the
386 peptides being more phosphorylated as compared to the p190 lysate. The
387 prediction of putative upstream kinases from these data suggested the
388 involvement of Sgk2, Akt and Dclk2 (Supplementary Fig. S5).

389 In summary, we found strongly activated Stat5 in p210, Dok1 in p190, and Src
390 kinase members appear to be differentially activated by p210 and p190. In line
391 with the observations of an isoform-dependent interactome, also the
392 phosphoproteome varies significantly with the Bcr-Abl isoform and suggests
393 important differential signaling nodes with possible therapeutic implications
394 (Fig. 7).

395

396 **Discussion**

397 We observed many differences in both the interactome and the
398 phosphoproteome between the two Bcr-Abl isoforms (Fig. 3 and 6). Because
399 p190 can be considered as an internal deletion mutant of p210, lacking 501
400 amino acids that encode for a DH-PH domain unit, significant gains in the p210
401 interactome were expected rather than the observed balanced number of

402 interactors, excluding a scaffolding function of the DH-PH domain. This
403 observation raises questions regarding the molecular mechanism. Our initial
404 hypothesis on a different degree of kinase activity deregulation could be
405 excluded. Even in BaF3 cells, i.e. in the same proteomic 'background',
406 differences in kinase activation were insignificant. In line with this, the human cell
407 lines also showed no consistent differences of p210 and p190 Bcr-Abl kinase
408 activation. It is also unlikely to assume that the different length of the Bcr portion
409 of p190 and p210 may change substrate specificity because the substrate
410 binding groove in the kinase domain primarily determines the kinase substrate
411 specificity, which is identical in p210 and p190. A second attractive hypothesis
412 includes a possible differential subcellular localization that is caused by the
413 different overall structure and domain composition of the two isoforms. As a
414 result, p210 would encounter another subset of the proteome than p190 and
415 would consequently differentially activate signaling pathways due to different
416 interacting proteins, including kinases and phosphatases, ultimately resulting in
417 pronounced differences in the phosphoproteome. In line with this hypothesis,
418 deletion of the F-actin binding domain in p210 and p190 was found to have
419 different effects on the leukemogenicity of Bcr-Abl^{29,30,31}. In addition, the
420 presence of the largely uncharacterized PH domain in p210 may play an
421 important role in differential subcellular localization. PH domains are classical
422 phosphoinositide-binding domains and mediate targeting of PH-domain
423 containing proteins to membranes. If the p210 PH domain is important for Bcr-
424 Abl localization, however, needs to be clarified by future studies. Similarly, we

425 found that the AP2 adaptor protein complex and associated proteins strongly and
426 preferentially interact with p190 (Fig. 7). The tetrameric AP2 complex mediates
427 the internalization of membrane receptors by regulating the assembly of clathrin-
428 coated pits resulting in endocytosis. The functional consequences of the
429 'hijacking' of the AP2 complex on Bcr-Abl localization or receptor trafficking in
430 p190 cells warrant in-depth future analysis. Among the strongest differential
431 interactors of p210, we found the non-canonical tyrosine phosphatase Sts-1,
432 which was described as a negative regulator of the Zap-70 tyrosine kinases in T-
433 cell receptor signaling³². It is tempting to speculate that its strong interaction with
434 p210 might be a mechanism to negatively regulate Bcr-Abl (Fig. 7).

435 Among the strongest up-regulated phosphorylation events in p210 was Stat5 on
436 6 tyrosine phosphorylation sites, including the major site that activates Stat5
437 dimerization, nuclear translocation and transcriptional activation (Fig. 7).
438 Importantly, Stat5 is an essential Achilles heel in CML, as it is absolutely
439 required for disease initiation, as well as disease maintenance and Stat5
440 upregulation mediates TKI resistance^{33,34}. Interestingly, the strong activation of
441 Stat5 by p210 but not p190 is mirrored by our previous data on the requirement
442 of the upstream JAK2 kinase for initial lymphoid transformation by p190 (or v-Abl)
443 but not myeloid transformation by p210¹³. These findings have important obvious
444 implications for the ongoing studies of Jak2 TKIs in Ph-positive leukemias.

445 Another critical class of downstream signaling mediators of Bcr-Abl are the Src
446 kinases. We found that the Src family kinase Lyn and its interactor Hcls1
447 (hematopoietic cell-specific Lyn substrate 1) show stronger interactions with

448 p190 than p210 and that Lyn further shows stronger phosphorylation in p190
449 cells at 6 sites, including the activation loop (Fig. 7). Lyn, along with Hck and Fgr,
450 was shown to be required for B-lymphoid, but not myeloid transformation³⁵. Lyn
451 upregulation was shown to mediate imatinib resistance³⁶, and lymphoid, but not
452 myeloid blast crisis CML cells are strongly dependent on Lyn expression and
453 activity³⁷. Similarly, the Fes tyrosine kinase that we found activated by p210 was
454 previously shown to drive myeloid differentiation in K562 cells³⁸.
455 Collectively, these examples show that the mapped differential activation of
456 tyrosine kinase and phosphatase pathways may indeed be tightly associated or
457 causal to drive either myeloid or B-lymphoid transformation by p210 or p190.
458 Finally, these kinases are readily druggable targets that may help patients to
459 better cope with TKI resistance and offer more effective treatment options,
460 particularly for Ph-positive B-ALL patients.

461

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467 Core Facility for help with antibody production and all members of the Hantschel
468 lab for continuous support and discussions. OH wishes to dedicate this paper to
469 the memory of Dr. John Goldman.

470

471 **Competing Interests**

472 The authors declare that they have no financial and non-financial competing
473 interests.

474

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586

587

588

589

590 **Figure legends**

591 **Figure 1. Bcr-Abl domain organization and workflow of the proteomics**

592 **experiments.**

593 (a) The Abl tyrosine kinase and the two isoforms of the fusion protein Bcr-Abl,
594 p210 and p190, are shown with their sizes and domain arrangement. The p210
595 isoform is 501 amino acids longer than p190 as it contains the DH-PH tandem
596 domains. Domain abbreviations: CC: coiled-coil, DH: Dbl-homology, PH:
597 Pleckstrin-homolgy, SH3/SH2: Src-homology 3/2, FABD: F-actin binding domain.

598 (b) SILAC labeling was employed to allow quantitative comparison of three BaF3
599 cell lines (Supplementary Table S1). BaF3 parental cells express Abl
600 endogenously. BaF3 p210 and BaF3 p190 cells express human Bcr-Abl p210
601 and p190. An immuno-affinity purification strategy was used to enrich for Bcr-Abl
602 complexes for the interactome analysis and sample mixing was performed just
603 prior peptide preparation. For analysis of the tyrosine phosphoproteome cell
604 lysates were mixed prior enrichment of the pY peptides using the pY1000 and
605 4G10 antibodies and an additional TiO₂ purification step. For both experiments,
606 the analysis of the total proteome served for different normalization steps.

607

608 **Figure 2. Analysis of the Bcr-Abl p210 and p190 interactome.**

609 (a) Quality control anti-Abl immunoblot after immuno-affinity purification of the
610 Bcr-Abl complexes for a representative experiment. For the lysate samples 50 µg
611 of total protein was loaded and an equivalent volume was used for the unbound
612 fraction. The ratio of the two Bcr-Abl isoforms p210:p190 was 1.4:1 in the eluate,

613 which was in accordance with the quantification by mass spectrometry
614 (Supplementary Fig. S1). For the elution fraction, 0.7% of the total SILAC eluate
615 was loaded and quantification of bands enabled the calculation of the IP
616 efficiency/Bcr-Abl complex recovery of 29% of the input amount.

617 (b) Schematic representation of filtering criteria to select the differential Bcr-Abl
618 interactors. Quantified proteins (1888 and 3767 proteins, respectively) were
619 normalized to their input amounts (4066 and 3989 proteins quantified,
620 respectively) and only those proteins with significant enrichment (according to
621 Significance B) over the parental control were selected. This reduced number of
622 proteins were further normalized for the Bcr-Abl IP amounts and finally selected
623 if differentially enriched by at least 2-fold. A detailed description of the data
624 analysis workflow is described in the Supplementary Methods.

625 (c) Scatter plot representation depicting the final list of 147 Bcr-Abl interactors
626 (58 common, 59 p190 enriched, 30 p210 enriched; see panel (b)) with the
627 respective log₂ ratios in both experiments (Bcr-Abl (BA) IP1 and IP2) showing an
628 overall good correlation ($R=0,72$). Those proteins considered differential are
629 colored in red (p210) and blue (p190). Selected proteins are highlighted with
630 bigger dot size and gene name labels.

631 (d) Validation of differential Bcr-Abl interactors by immunoblotting. Elution
632 fractions of both replicates were analyzed corresponding to 0.7% of the total
633 SILAC elution fraction. We chose to validate the interactome hits Ubash3B/Sts-1
634 (enriched in p210) and AP2a1/2 and Lyn (both enriched in p190). The quantified

635 signal after correction for the Bcr-Abl IP amounts is shown on the right side.
636 Individual values are plotted together with the mean +/- SD.

637

638 **Figure 3. Network of Bcr-Abl interacting proteins.**

639 Common and differential interactors of Bcr-Abl p210 and p190 are shown and
640 summarized in Supplementary Tables S4 and S5. Connections for the differential
641 interactors are color-coded according to their log2 ratios (from 'light red' for a
642 weak p210 enrichment, to 'dark red' for a strong p210 enrichment; 'light blue' for
643 a weak p190 enrichment to 'dark blue' for a strong p190 enrichment). Boxes
644 around the individual proteins are color-coded according to the function and a
645 red frame indicates that the protein was also found phosphorylated in the
646 phosphoproteome analysis. Note that certain proteins enriched with either of the
647 two Bcr-Abl isoforms can also interact with the other isoform and thus have a
648 connection to both proteins.

649

650 **Figure 4. Bcr-Abl p210 and p190 phosphorylation sites and kinase activity.**

651 (a) Several Bcr-Abl pY sites were quantified in our phosphoproteome dataset.
652 The domain organization and location of the pY sites are shown and the sites are
653 plotted together with their respective log2 ratio between p210/p190. Dots
654 represent mean values +/- SD. 5 out of the 17 sites could only be quantified in
655 one experiment. Residues are numbered according to the Bcr and Abl 1b protein
656 numbering.

657 (b) Immunoblot analysis of the two autophosphorylation sites that are important
658 for Abl catalytic activity: pY245 and pY412. Equal amounts of total cell lysates of
659 the indicated BaF3 and human p210 and p190 expressing cell lines were loaded,
660 immunoblotted with the indicated antibodies and quantified (see (c)). Note that
661 only Bcr-Abl is phosphorylated on Y245 and Y412, while Abl is not or only very
662 weakly phosphorylated on these sites.

663 (c) Quantified pY245 and pY412 immunoblot signals (from panel (b)) after
664 normalization to the total Bcr-Abl protein in BaF3 (left two graphs) or human cell
665 lines (right two graphs) from two replicates. Individual values are plotted together
666 with the mean \pm SD.

667 (d) Bcr-Abl was immunoprecipitated from the indicated BaF3 and human p210
668 and p190 cell lines and a radioactive *in vitro* kinase activity was performed
669 measuring phosphotransfer to an optimal Abl substrate peptide. Each kinase
670 assay was run in triplicate for each immunoprecipitate and the resulting
671 averaged activity value was normalized to the Bcr-Abl amount determined by
672 immunoblot analysis. The bar graph shows the mean \pm SD from three biological
673 replicates.

674

675 **Figure 5. Bcr-Abl pY phosphoproteome.**

676 (a) Heatmap representation of the 817 quantified phosphosites and their
677 respective ratios in the comparison of the three samples: BaF3 parental, BaF3
678 p210 and BaF3 p190. The two biological replicates are plotted next to each other.
679 The six clusters identified by unsupervised hierarchical clustering are highlighted.

680 (b) Scatter plot for the normalized log₂ ratios between the p210 and p190 Bcr-
681 Abl samples (without correction for the total protein levels) in both biological
682 replicates (pY1 and pY2). Each dot is representative of a phosphopeptide. Those
683 pY sites considered as differential are colored in red (p210) and blue (p190).
684 Selected phosphorylation sites are labeled.

685 (c, d) Immunoblot validation of Stat5 pY694 using the BaF3 and human cell line
686 panel. The quantified signals of two technical replicates were normalized to the
687 total Stat5 protein and individual values are plotted together with the mean +/-
688 SD.

689

690 **Figure 6. Selected phosphorylation events of p210 and p190 Bcr-Abl.**

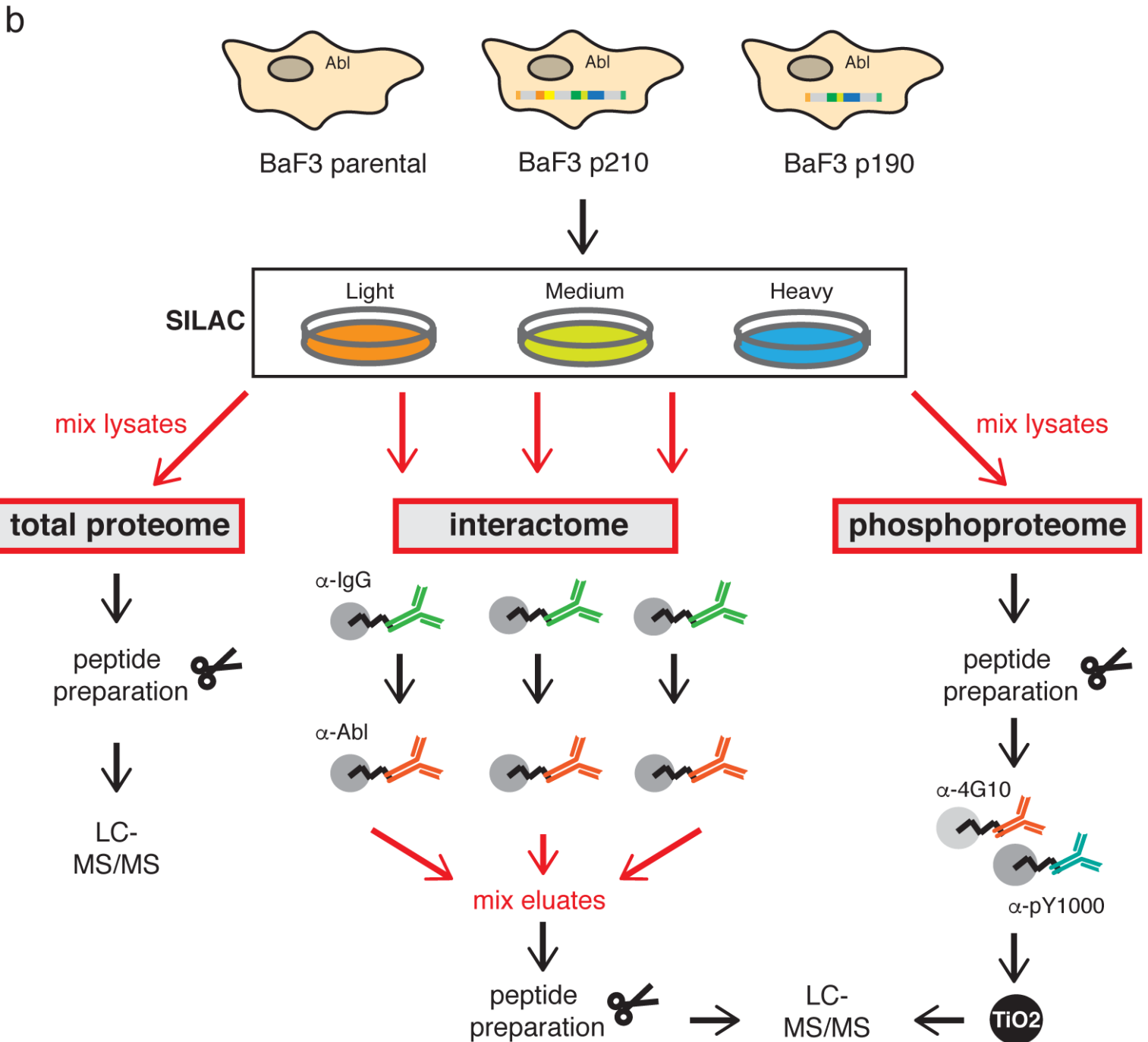
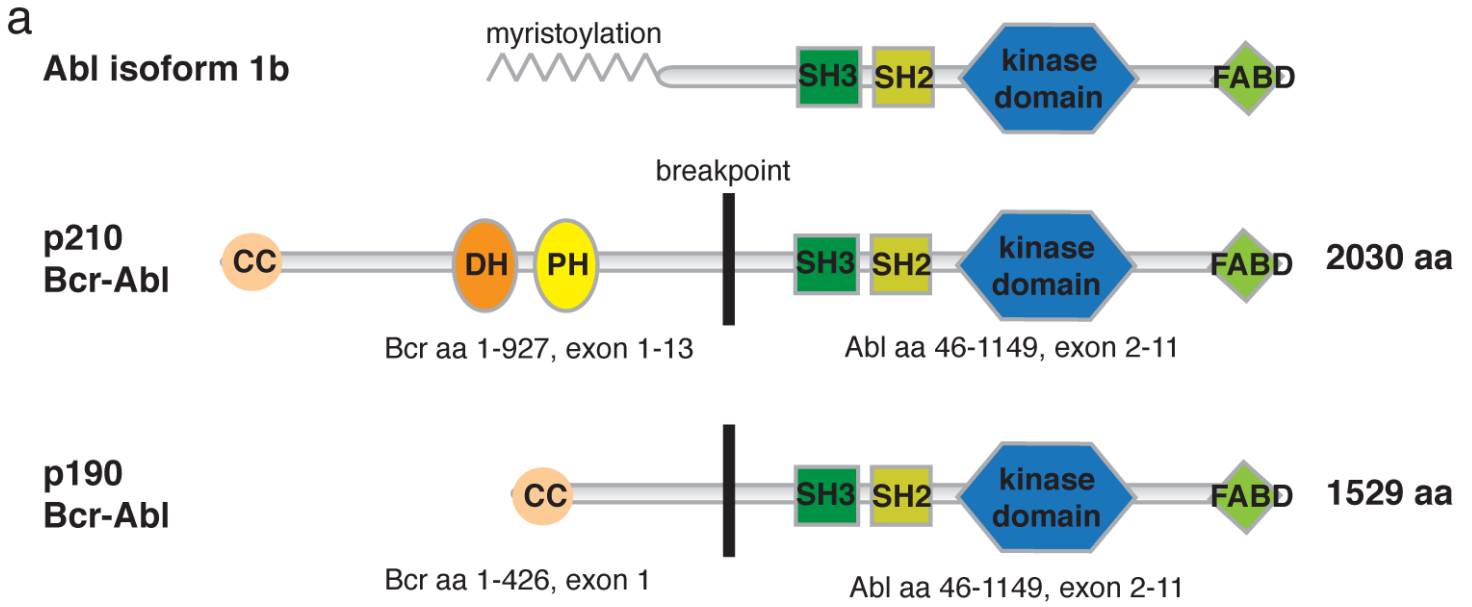
691 A selection of differential and common Bcr-Abl phosphorylation sites that were
692 found in the pY dataset is shown. The complete dataset is shown in
693 Supplementary Table S6, S7 and S8. Boxes around the individual proteins are
694 color-coded according to their function and a red frame indicates that a protein
695 was also found in the interactome analysis.

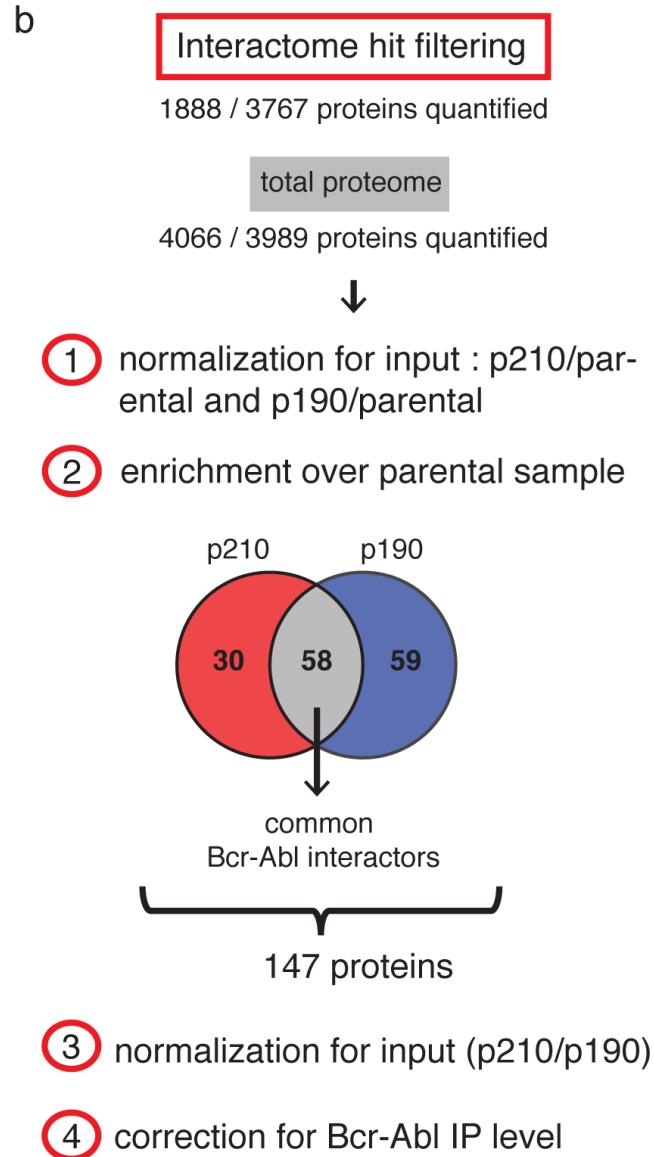
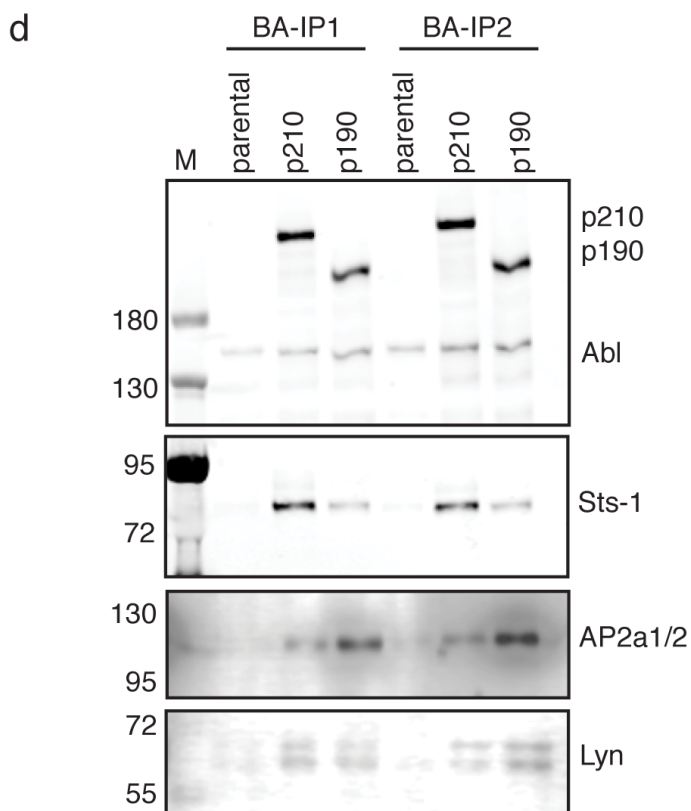
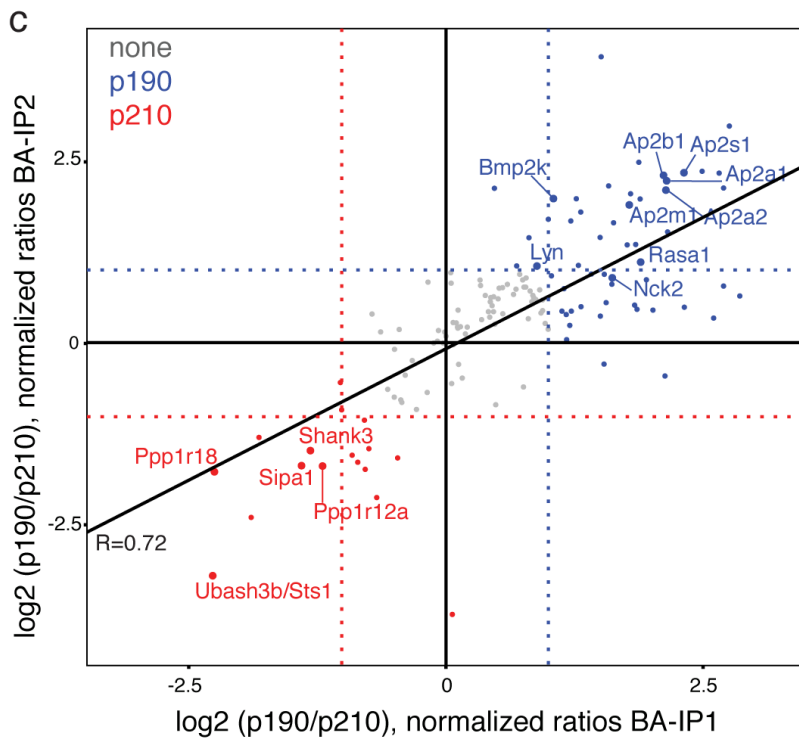
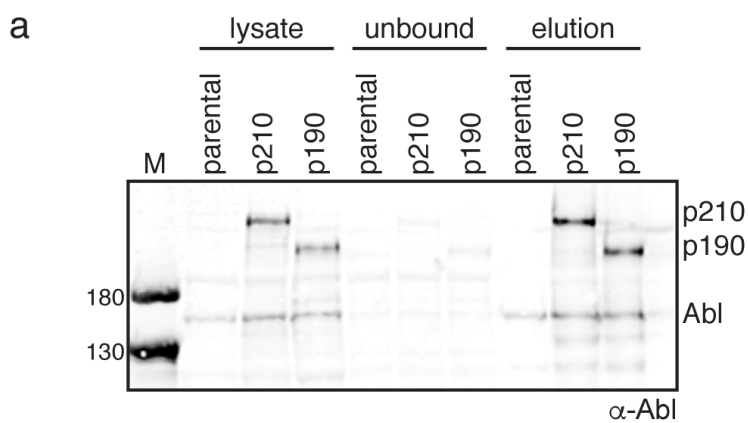
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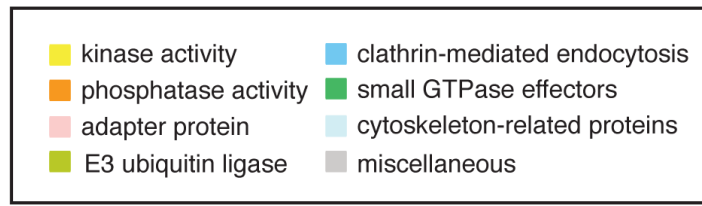
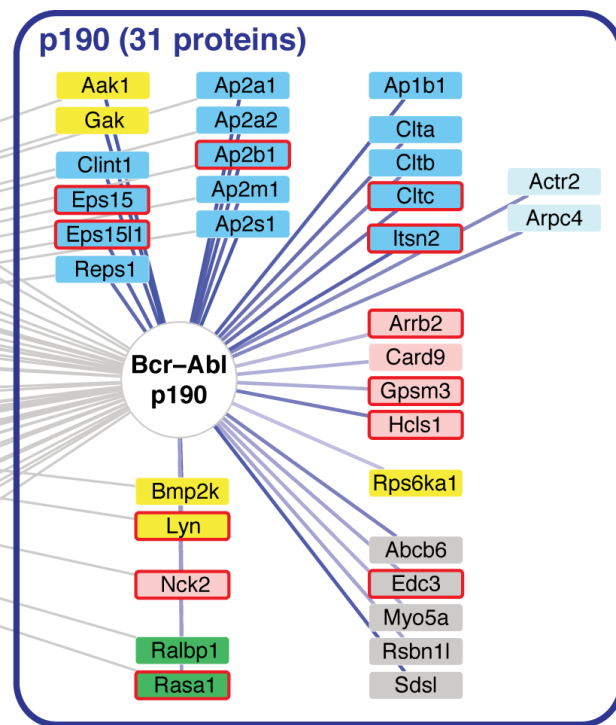
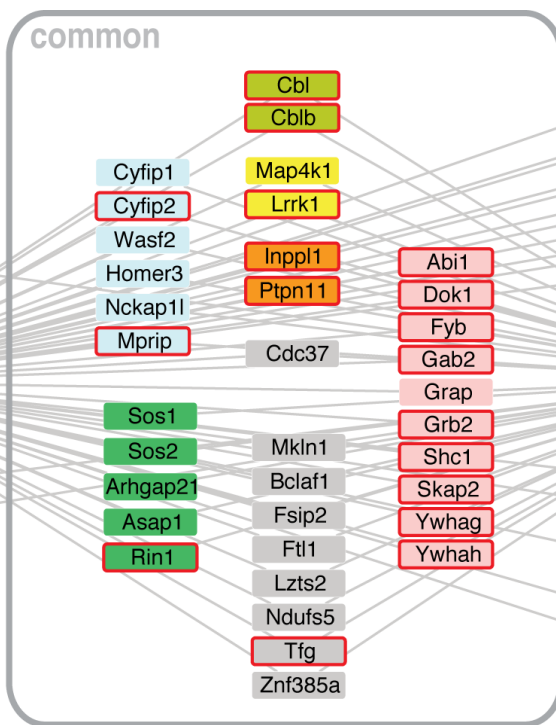
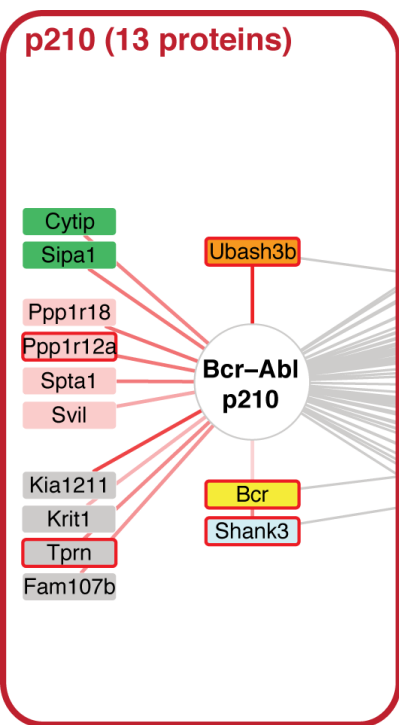
697 **Figure 7. Model of differential signaling networks of p210 and p190 Bcr-Abl.**

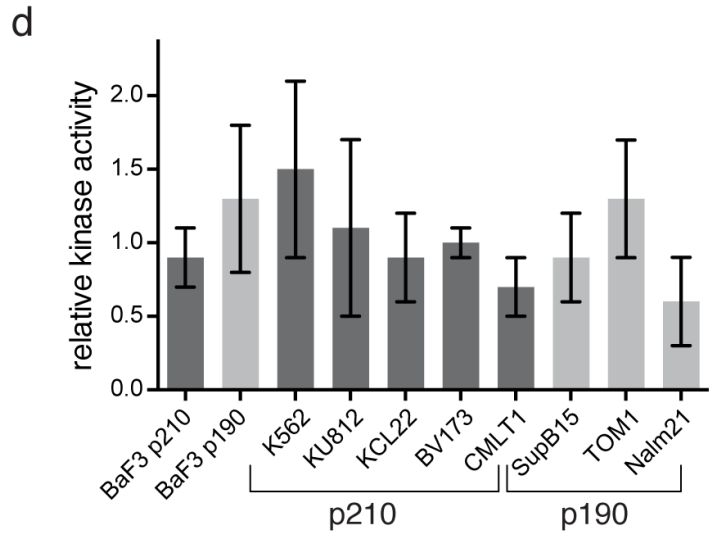
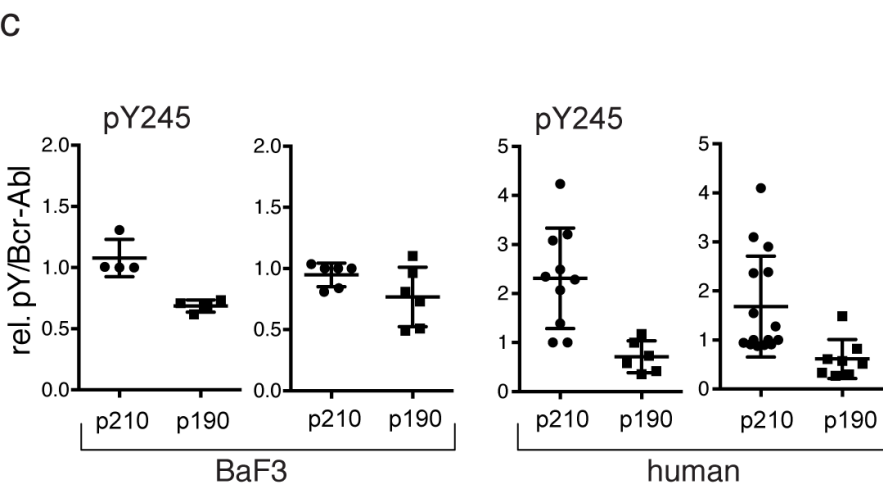
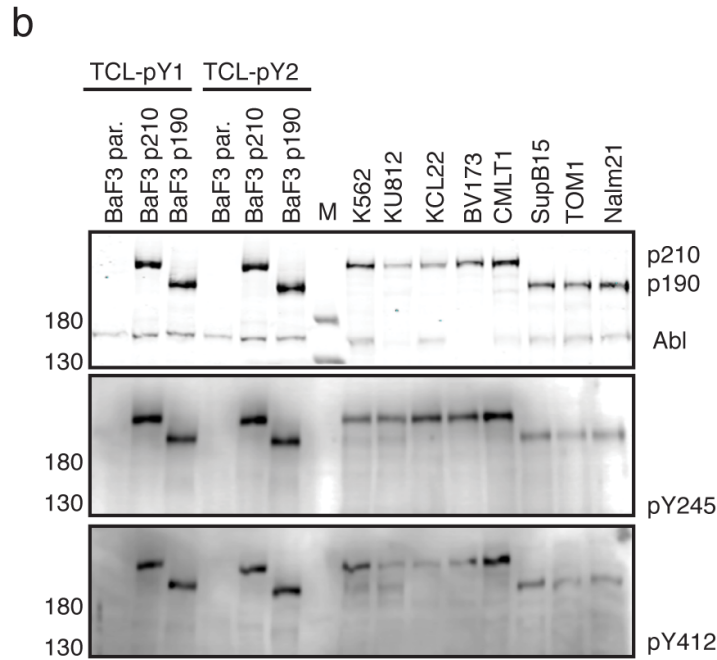
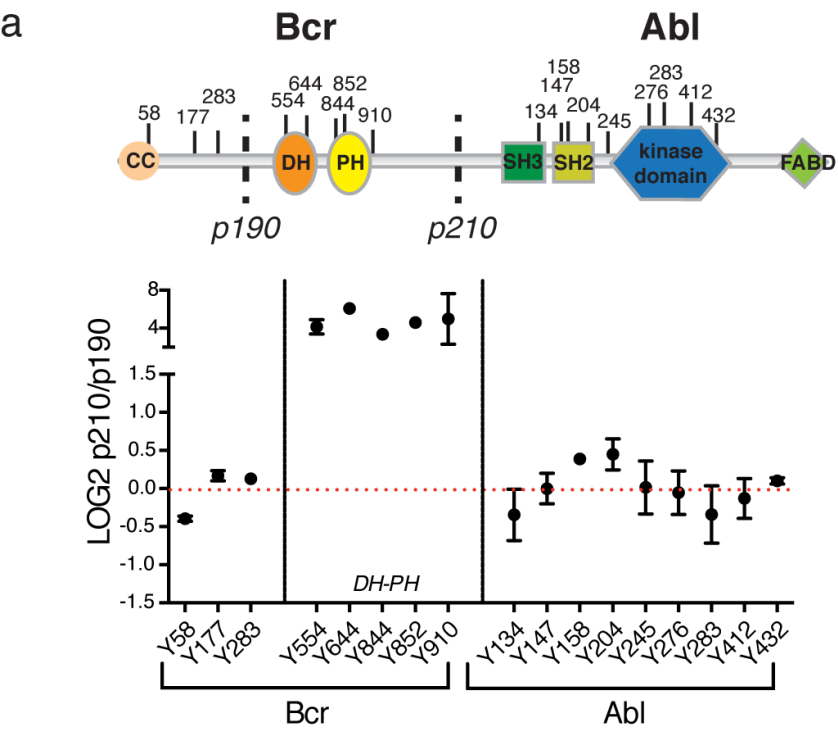
698 The main differences in Bcr-Abl interactors and phosphorylated proteins between
699 p210 and p190 that we found, validated and discussed in this paper is
700 summarized in this figure. As examples for common interactors/pY sites, the
701 Ship2 phosphatase and the interaction of the Grb2/Sos complex with pY177 is
702 shown. p210 shows stronger association with the Sts-1 phosphatase and higher

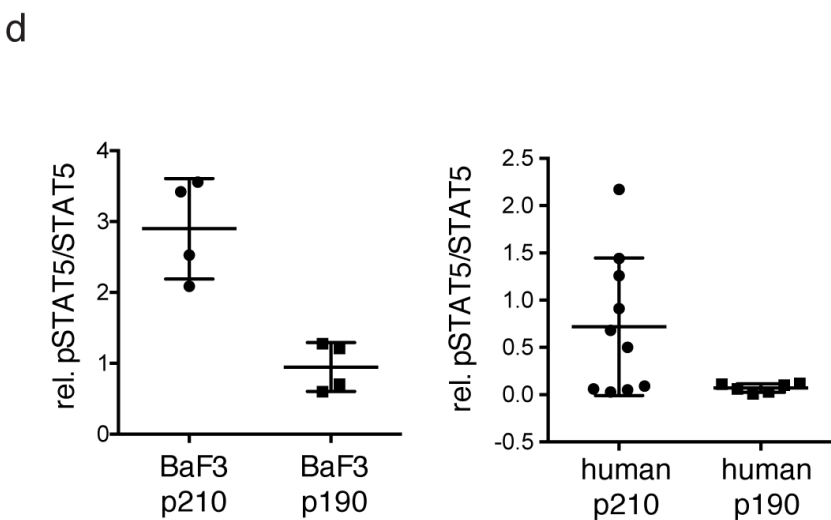
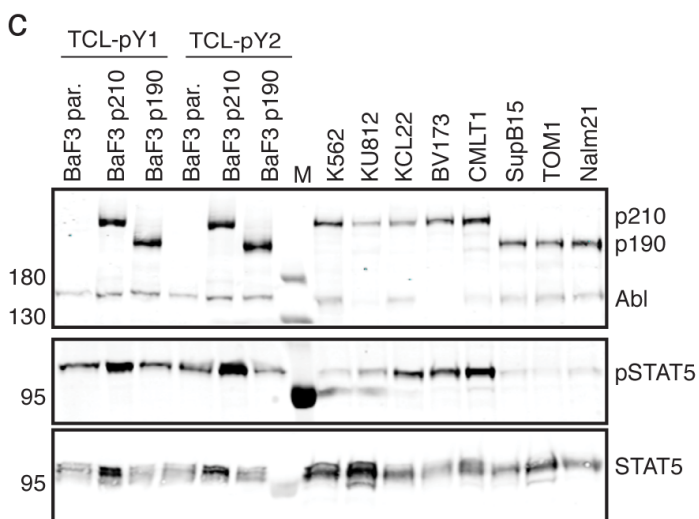
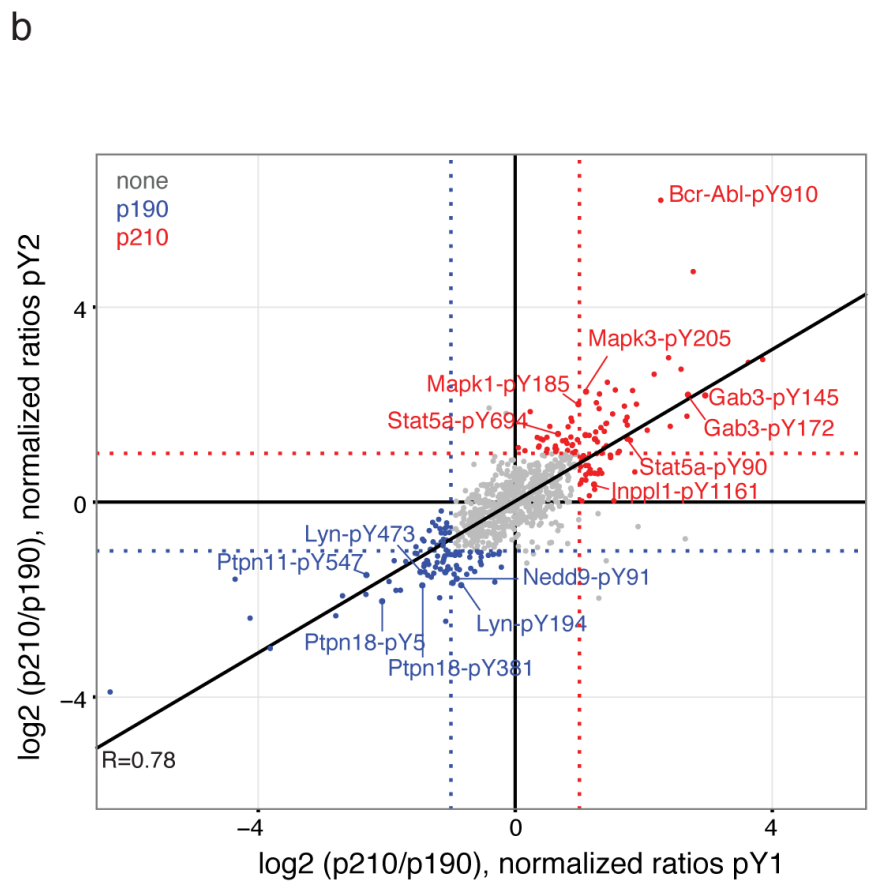
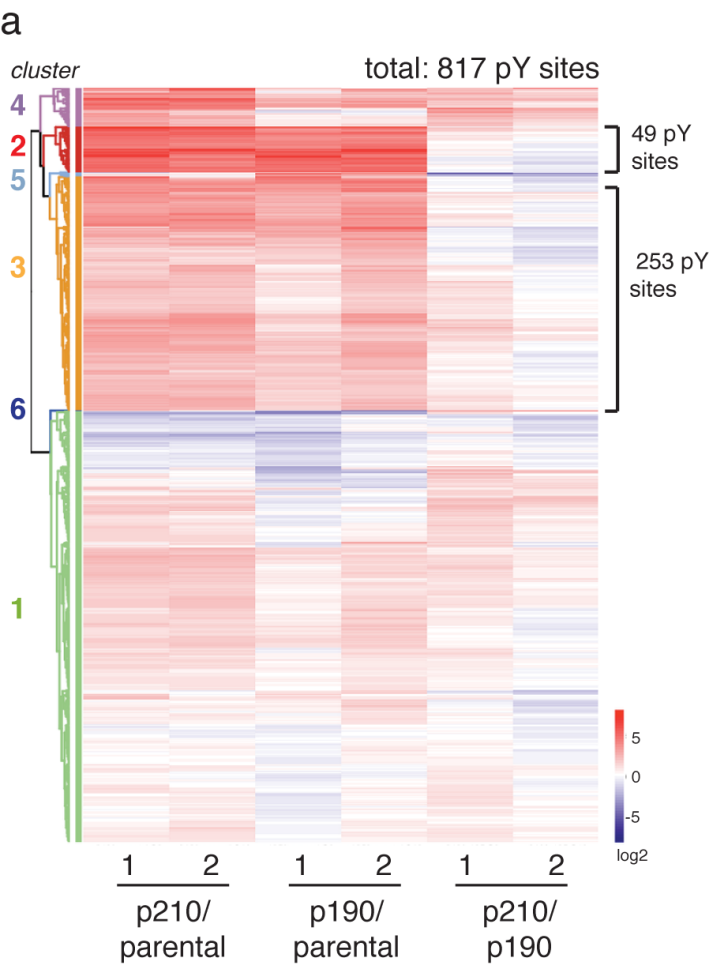
703 activation of the Stat5 transcription factor, as well as the Erk1/2 and Fyn/Lck
704 kinases. p190 shows stronger association with the AP2 complex and clathrin,
705 and higher activation of the Dok1 adaptor and the Lyn kinase.











p210 (110 total sites)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Csk pY64 | Abi1 pY23 |
| Fes pY713 | Arpp19 pY59 |
| Fyn pY185 | Bank1 pY629 pY671 |
| Lck pY192 | Cacybp pY200 |
| Mapk1 pY185 | Cd2ap pY88 |
| Mapk3 pY205 | Cdc23 pY353 |
| Nek7 pY289 | Crk pY108 |
| Prkcd pY64 | Ctndd1 pY96 |
| Ptk2b pY580 | Dapp1 pY139 |
| | Fam120A pY429 |
| | Gab2 pY603 |
| Nfatc2 pY348 | Gab3 pY542 pY569 |
| Stat5a pY90 pY682 pY694 | Pag1 pY386 |
| Stat5b pY90 pY699 | Pik3ap1 pY570 |
| Stat5a/b pY668 | Shank3 pY930 |
| Stat3 pY704 | Inpp1l pY1161 |
| Tbl1x pY459 | Rbck1 pY328 |

common (552 total sites)

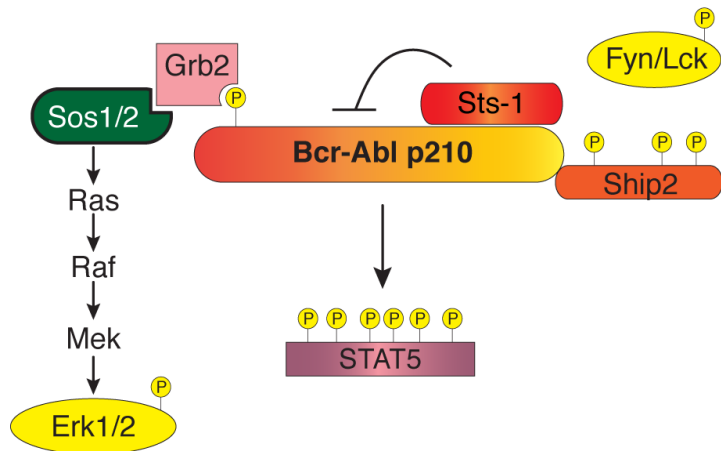
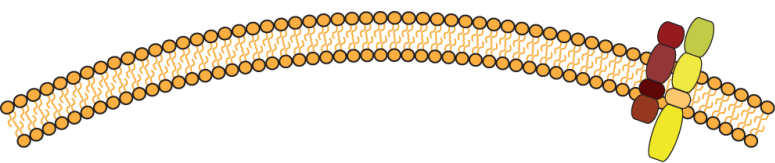
| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Bcr pY178 | Pik3ap1 pY694 | Abi1 pY143 pY208 |
| Cdk1 pY15 pY19 | Pik3cd pY523 pY935 | Abi2 pY393 |
| Cdk17 pY203 | Pik3r1 pY452 pY452 pY467 pY556 pY580 pY657 pY679 | Crkl pY92 pY105 pY251 |
| Csnk1g1 pY69 | | Dok1 pY361 pY408 |
| Csnk2a1 pY255 | | Dok2 pY142 pY304 pY402 |
| Map4k1 pY567 | Pik3r2 pY458 pY571 pY599 | Dok3 pY343 |
| Mapk11 pY182 | | Gab2 pY263 pY290 pY321 pY632 |
| Mapk12 pY185 | Pip5k2 pY733 | Grb2 pY209 |
| Mapk14 pY182 | | Hcls1 pY103 pY153 pY175 pY198 pY222 pY323 |
| Prkcd pY311 pY332 | Plcg2 pY371 pY753 pY759 pY1217 pY1245 | Memo1 pY210 |
| Rock2 pY722 | | Nck1 pY105 pY339 |
| Btk pY40 pY223 pY344 pY361 pY551 | Inpp5d pY559 pY1021 | Nck2 pY110 pY342 |
| Csk pY18 pY184 | Inpp1l pY887 pY987 pY1136 | Sh2d3c pY490 |
| Fes pY456 | | Sh2d5 pY177 |
| Fyn;Lck pY420;394 | Ptpn11 pY62 pY546 pY584 | Shc1 pY423 |
| Jak2 pY570 | Ptpn6 pY536 pY564 | Skap2 pY75 pY151 pY197 pY260 pY324 pY333 |
| Sgk223 pY196 | Ptpnc pY670 | |
| Syk pY202 pY317 pY346 | Ptpnj pY972 | Rasa1 pY451 |
| Tec pY518 | Ubash3a pY9 | |
| Tnk2 pY874 | Ubash3b pY8 | |
| Stat6 pY641 | | |
| Cbl pY672 | Ap2b1 pY737 | Was pY214 |
| Cblb pY664 pY763 | Cltc pY430 pY634 pY1477 | Wasl pY293 |
| Cblb;Cbl pY363;369 | Eps15 pY242 | Ywhae pY9 pY214 |
| Trim25 pY277 | Eps15l1 pY291 | Ywhag pY216 |
| | | Ywhah pY216 |

p190 (106 total sites)

| | |
|---|---|
| Igf1r pY1167 | Bub1b pY397 |
| Jak3 pY781 | Dyrk1a pY321 |
| Lyn, Blk pY193 pY194 | Dyrk2 pY380 |
| Lyn pY306 pY316 pY397 pY473 | Gsk3b pY216 |
| Peak1 pY528 pY638 pY879 | Pik3ca pY246 |
| Tnk2 pY40 pY842 pY875 | Dok1 pY295 pY314 pY336 pY376 pY397 pY450 |
| Ptpn18 pY5 pY381 | Dock11 pY57 |
| Ptpn11 pY551 | Fyb pY559 |
| Ptpna pY825 | Itsn2 pY554 |
| Ptpre pY695 | Nck2 pY50 |
| Pstpip1 pY344 | Nedd9 pY91 pY165 pY176 pY240 pY260 pY316 pY344 |
| Ppp1cb pY306 | Pag1 pY183 pY314 |
| Mtmr10 pY704 | Pecam1 pY679 pY702 |
| Cbl pY698 | Ppp1r12a pY496 |
| Dzip3 pY1080 | Skap2 pY237 |
| Fam195b pY41 | |
| Nfya pY265 | |
| F2r pY425 | |
| Fcer1g pY76 | Eps8l2 pY681 |
| Mpz1l pY264 | |

- kinase activity
- phosphatase activity
- adapter protein
- E3 ubiquitin ligase
- clathrin-mediated endocytosis
- small GTPase effectors
- cytoskeleton-related proteins
- transcription regulation
- miscellaneous

p210



p190

