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IDENTIFICATION AND QUANTIFICATION OF PROTEIN CARBONYLATION BY MASS SPECTROMETRY

A dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Virginia Commonwealth University.

by

Qingyuan Liu

Director: Prof. Scott Gronert

Department of Chemistry

Virginia Commonwealth University

Richmond, Virginia

January 2012

Abstract

IDENTIFICATION AND QUANTIFICATION OF PROTEIN CARBONYLATION BY MASS SPECTROMETRY

By Qingyuan Liu, Ph.D.

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Virginia Commonwealth University, 2012

Director: Professor Scott Gronert, Department of Chemistry

Accumulated evidence indicates oxidative stress plays important roles in disease and aging. Under oxidative stress, lipid peroxidation (LPO) leads to reactive carbonyl species (RCS) that can modify a wide range of biomolecules including protein, DNA and carbohydrate. In this dissertation, we investigate the modification of two model proteins, human serum albumin (HSA) and aconitase (ACO), by the LPO-relevant α , β -unsaturated aldehydes, acrolein (ACR) and 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal (HNE). The investigation is focused on the characterization and quantification ACR and HNE addition to the model proteins. A correlation between HNE modification and ACO activity is also determined. These results provide insights into the impact of oxidative stress at the molecular level and are relevant to aging and disease states. We finally investigate protein carbonylation in ischemic mouse heart mitochondia, and develop a quantitative method for detecting carbonylated protein in this system. The research is based on liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry (LC/MS), Western Blots, and enzymatic assay.

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List of Abbreviations

ROS	reactive oxygen species
RNS	reactive nitrogen species
RCS	reactive carbonyl species
GSH	glutathione
CAT	catalase
SOD	superoxide dismutase
GPX	glutathione peroxidase
LPO	lipid peroxidation
LOOH	lipid hydroperoxide
MeSOX	methionine sulfoxide
PUFA	polyunsaturated fatty acid
MDA	malondialdehyde
ONE	4-oxo-2-nonenal
HNE	4-hydroxy-2-nonenal
MCO	metal catalyzed oxidation
ACR	acrolein
ELISA	enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
PTMs	post-translational modifications
HPLC	high performance liquid chromatography
CE	capillary electrophoresis
FDP-lysine	N ^ε -(3-formyl-3,4-dehydropiperidino)lysine
MP-lysine	N ^ε -(3-methylpyridinium)lysine
dG	deoxyguanosine
HMPA	S-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-N-acetylcysteine
HSA	human serum albumin
NEM	N-ethylmaleimide
DTT	1,4-dithio-DL-threitol
PBS	phosphate buffered saline
TFA	trifluoroacetic acid
ETD	electron-transfer dissociation
CID	collision-induced dissociation
IAM	iodoacetamide
SASA	solvent accessible surface area
HPODE	hydroperoxy-octadecadienoic acid
LOX	lipoxygenase
HPL	hydroperoxide lyase
HNA	4-hydroxynon-2-enoic acid
HPNE	4-hydroperoxy-2E-nonenal

DHN	1,4-dihydroxy-2-nonene
GST	glutathione-S-transferase
HAA	4-hydroxynonanal
BCA	bicinchoninic acid assay
iTRAQ	isobaric tag for relative and absolute quantitation
PQD	pulsed-Q dissociation
MS/MS	tandem mass spectrometry
HCD	higher-energy C-trap dissociation
PIC	phenylisocyanate
IRP	iron-regulatory protein
IRE	iron-responsive elements
ACO	aconitase
m-aconitase	mitochondrial aconitase
c-aconitase	cytoplasmic aconitase
SDS-PAGE	sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis
PVDF	polyvinylidene difluoride
HRP	horseradish peroxidase
TBST	tris-buffered saline with tween 20
BSA	bovine serum albumin
ECL	enhanced chemiluminescence
HEPES	4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid
NADPH	nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate
OBP	bathophenanthroline disulfonic acid disodium salt
ETC	electron-transport chain
mtDNA	mitochondrial DNA
ATP	adenosine-5'-triphosphate
NADH	nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide
ADP	adenosine diphosphate
SSM	sub-sarcolemmal mitochondria
IFM	inter-fibrillar mitochondria
MES	2-(N-morpholino) ethanesulfonic acid
DNPH	2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine

Chapter 1: Introduction

Introduction

Oxidative stress and disease

Evidence of oxidative stress playing important roles in disease and aging has accumulated over many years. Oxidative stress is caused by an imbalance between the production of pro-oxidants and the anti-oxidant defense capacity of an organism.¹ This imbalance is induced by one of three factors: 1) increased pro-oxidant generation, 2) decreased anti-oxidant protection, or 3) failure to repair oxidative damage.²

Chemically, a substance that can accept electrons is an oxidant and one that can donate electrons is a reductant. In biological environments, they are identified as pro-oxidant and anti-oxidant.³ Generally the pro-oxidants are referred to as reactive oxygen species (ROS) and reactive nitrogen species (RNS). The ROS and RNS are generally oxidizing molecules and can be classified into two types of compounds, free radicals and nonradicals. The free radicals include compounds such as hydroxyl radical, superoxide ion radical, oxygen, peroxyl radical and nitric oxide radical.⁴ These compounds contain at least one unpaired electron. The unpaired electron makes these compounds highly reactive with a strong affinity to donate or obtain another electron to attain stability.⁵ The nonradicals include compounds such as hydrogen peroxide, organic peroxide, peroxynitrite, ozone, singlet oxygen, hypochlorous acid and aldehydes.⁴ Most of the ROS have a short life span, and often the half-life depends on the environment of the medium. In some cases, a relatively long life span for the ROS might imply a stronger toxicity because it provides adequate time to reach a biological target and cause damage far from the site

of production.⁶

Generation of ROS and RNS can occur in response to diverse stimuli, which can come from both exogenous and endogenous sources.⁷ Exogenous sources mainly include exposure to ionizing and nonionizing irradiation such as ultrasound, UV and γ irradiation,^{8, 9} exposure to xenobiotics and chemicals such as toxins, pesticides and alcohol,^{10, 11} or exposure to pollutants such as cigarette smoke, car exhaust and industrial contaminants.¹² Drugs, food, bacteria and viruses are also major exogenous sources of ROS and RNS.¹³⁻¹⁶ Endogenous sources mainly include mitochondrial respiration,¹⁷ direct and indirect ROS producing enzymes such as NO synthase and xanthin oxidase,¹⁸ metabolism,¹⁹ and diseases such as metal disorders and ischemic processes.²⁰ Generation of ROS and RNS from endogenous sources causes chronic problems because it is a constant process during the life of the cell.^{21, 22}

Anti-oxidants are substances that prevent or repair oxidative damage. In general, anti-oxidants include exogenous small molecule anti-oxidants such as ascorbic acid (vitamin C) and tocopherol (vitamin E),²³ endogenous small molecule anti-oxidants such as glutathione (GSH),²⁴ small protein anti-oxidants such as thioredoxins and glutaredoxins,²⁵ and enzymes such as catalase (CAT), superoxide dismutase (SOD) and glutathione peroxidase (GPX).²⁶ These different anti-oxidants all act to reduce oxidative damage *in vivo*, but their mechanisms of action are highly diverse. Based on their mode of biochemical action, anti-oxidants are divided into preventive and chain-breaking anti-oxidants.²⁷⁻²⁹ The preventive anti-oxidants prevent the generation of radical chain reactions by scavenging ROS directly or binding transition metals

3

needed to produce ROS. The chain-breaking anti-oxidants interrupt the reproduction of radical chain reactions by forming a stable product.^{30, 31} The pro-oxidant/anti-oxidant balance maintains physiological homeostasis and determines the degree of oxidant stress. Any disruption of the balance will lead to cell death or to the acceleration of ageing and age related diseases (Figure 1-1).³²



Figure 1-1. Oxidative stress and ROS caused interference to the balance in biological system.³²

ROS and RNS react with various cellular components including proteins, DNA, lipids and carbohydrates. The reactions cause reversible or irreversible damage to these biological targets,

and thereby can lead to many cellular functional changes.^{3, 33} The effects of oxidative stress depend on the levels of these damages. Severe oxidative stress can even cause cell apoptosis and necrosis. Oxidative stress induced modifications have been involved in many diseases, such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, heart failure, lung disease, atherosclerosis, chronic fatigue syndrom, and aging.^{34, 35}

Direct determination of ROS/RNS concentration is difficult because they in general are too reactive and have too short lifetimes to be measured *in vivo*. However, the reactions of ROS/RNS with biomolecules typically generate specific products which are more stable than the reactive oxidants, i.e., aldehydes derived from oxidized lipids and carbonylated amino acids are more stable than the reactive species that cause these modifications. Thus the ROS/RNS measurement can be approximated by the determination of levels of their oxidation products.^{36, 37} On this basis, some biological molecules (biomarkers) will become available for determining general oxidative stress and oxidant levels.

Protein oxidation

Proteins are major targets for oxidative stress. Oxidative damage to proteins is caused either directly by ROS or indirectly by the reaction of "secondary" products from oxidative stress, such as aldehydes from lipid peroxidation.³⁸⁻⁴¹ Oxidative damage to proteins can occur at protein side chains and the protein backbone. It leads to oxidation of the chains, protein cross-linking, and oxidation of the backbone resulting in protein fragmentation.^{33, 42-44} Protein fragmentation caused

by backbone cleavage is rarely used as a marker of protein oxidation *in vivo* because of the function of proteases in protein hydrolysis. In contrast, the oxidation of amino acid side chains produces stable products that can be used as potential markers of oxidative damage, and disease progression.^{37, 41, 44-46}

Protein oxidation caused by oxidative stress also can be divided into reversible and irreversible modifications (Figure 1-2).^{47, 48} Reversible modifications usually occur at sulfide-containing amino acid residues, such as cysteine and methionine. Cysteine can be oxidized to a disulfide and methionine can be oxidized to methionine sulfoxide (MeSOX). Oxidized cysteine and methionine can be converted back to unmodified formation by disulfide and MeSOX reductase containing in biological systems.^{33, 41, 42, 49, 50} Irreversible modifications can occur at the protein backbone or on various amino acid residues, leading to protein-protein cross-linking, protein fragmentation or the addition of oxidation sites on side chains, such as carbonyls. Irreversible modifications cannot be repaired and can lead to protein proteolytic degradation or aggregation, thus causing permanent loss of protein function.^{42, 44, 51} Reversible modifications such as methionine oxidation can be used as a "built-in" ROS resistance system to prevent more damaging irreversible modifications that cannot be repaired.⁵²



Figure 1-2. Intramolecular pathway of reversible and irreversible oxidized protein.⁴⁷

Lipid peroxidation (LPO) and LPO-derived aldehydes

The peroxidation of lipids is commonly described as a ROS activated deterioration of unsaturated fatty acids, phospholipids, glycolipids, and cholesterol. The process can be an enzymatic or non-enzymatic reaction and involves the polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFA).⁵³ Lipid peroxidation (LPO) generally goes through a free radical chain mechanism.⁵⁴ This chain reaction for lipids involves three steps: initiation, propagation and termination, as shown in Scheme 1-1.⁵³⁻⁵⁵ In the initiation step, the lipid carbon-centered radical (L·) is formed by abstraction of a hydrogen atom from a bis allylic carbon in the PUFA, which is activated for attack by ROS. Next, the bis allylic carbon radical reacts with oxygen rapidly to form a lipid peroxyl radical (LOO·), which abstracts a bis allylic hydrogen atom from a neighboring PUFA to give a lipid hydroperoxide (LOOH) when an anti-oxidant does not mediate the process. At the

same time, a new carbon-centered radical is formed, and the propagation steps repeat. The propagation cycle can be terminated by reactions of the free radicals to form non-radical, stable products. Various free radical scavengers are able to cause chain termination.⁵⁵ Monounsaturated and saturated fatty acids are much less likely to participate in LPO because peroxyl radicals have difficulty abstracting a singly allylic hydrogen.



Scheme 1-1. General LPO process proceeding by a free radical chain mechanism.⁵⁵

In the presence of transition metal ions, LOOH from the radical chain reaction can undergo decomposition and finally induces the generation of various secondary peroxidation products,^{38, 56, 58} such as malondialdehyde (MDA),^{38, 56, 57} 4-oxo-2-nonenal (ONE),^{38, 59} 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal (HNE),^{38, 56, 57} 2-octenal,⁶⁰⁻⁶² 2-hydroxyalkanal⁶³ and so on (Scheme 1-2).⁵⁶ These bifunctional aldehydes are reactive, relatively stable, and diffusible. They can act locally or diffuse from the site of origin and cause oxidative damage remotely.



Scheme 1-2. Common aldehydes generated from LPO under oxidative stress.⁵⁶

LPO has been considered as a major process in the production of oxidative damage from ROS.⁴⁰ Some hypotheses have been proposed to explain the connection between membrane LPO and cellular dysfunction that characterizes the process of aging and disease.⁶⁴ One of these hypotheses is that LPO changes the fluidity of membranes, which interrupts essential functions, such as signal transduction or the selectivity of membrane permeability (Figure 1-3).^{40, 65-67} The other hypotheses involve the modifications of DNA and protein by LPO products. ^{43, 68-70}





Protein carbonylation and LPO-derived protein modification

Proteins can become modified by a large variety of reactive oxygen species under oxidative

stress, which can alter protein structure and function and finally cause cellular deterioration. Table 1-1 lists the common oxidations of amino acid residues of protein.⁴² Among these modifications, protein carbonylation has attracted much attention due to its irreversible and unrepairable nature.⁷² Many studies have shown that protein carbonylation plays a significant role in the development of various diseases and the aging of cells and tissues. Diseases involving increased protein carbonyl levels include neurodegenerative diseases, such as Parkinson's disease and Alzheimer's disease, cardiovascular diseases, such as atherosclerosis, chronic kidney, lung disease, cancer, cataractogenesis, diabetes, and aging process.^{46, 72-74}

Amino acid residues	Oxidation products
Cysteine	disulfides, cysteic acid
Methionine	methionine sulfoxide, methionine sulfone
Tryptophan	2-, 4-, 5-, 6-, and 7-hydroxytryptophan, nitrotryptophan,
	kynurenine, 3-hydroxykynurinine, formylkynurinine
Phenylalanine	2,3-dihydroxyphenylalanine, 2-, 3-, and
	4-hydroxyphenylalanine
Tyrosine	<i>3,4</i> -dihydroxyphenylalanine, tyrosine-tyrosine cross-linkages,
	cross-linked nitrotyrosine
Histidine	2-oxohistidine, asparagine, aspartic acid
Arginine	Glutamic semialdehyde
Lysine	α-aminoadipic semialdehyde
Proline	2-pyrrolidone, 4- and 5-hydroxyproline pyroglutamic acid,
	glutamic semialdehyde
Threonine	2-amino-3-ketobutyric acid
Glutamyl	oxalic acid, pyruvic acid

 Table 1-1. Common oxidations of amino acid residues of protein.⁴²

Protein carbonyl derivatives can be generated by four oxidative pathways:^{42, 58, 72, 75} The first pathway is direct oxidation of arginine, lysine, proline and threonine side chains by metal catalyzed oxidation (MCO) involving hydroxyl radicals. This leads to glutamic semialdehyde from arginine and proline, 2-aminoadipic semialdehyde from lysine, and 2-amino-3-ketobutyric acid from threonine.^{6, 42, 76} The second pathway is direct oxidation of the protein backbone, which can generate reactive protein carbonyl derivatives from cleavage of the protein backbone by either an α -amidation pathway leading to an α -ketoacyl derivatives, or a diamide pathway leading to an isocyanate (Scheme 1-3).⁴² The third pathway is involves glycation and glycoxidation reactions of the primary amino group of lysine residues with reactive carbonyl derivatives (ketoamines, ketoaldehydes, deoxyosones) generated from carbohydrates or their secondary oxidation products (advanced glycation end products).⁶⁵ Finally, protein carbonylation also can be induced by adduction of reactive carbonyl derivatives generated during the peroxidation of PUFA. These LPO derived aldehydes include di-aldehydes such as MDA, which can react with lysine residues and form a Schiff-base product, α , β -unsaturated aldehydes such as acrolein (ACR) and HNE, which can react with amino acids that have nucleophilic side chains (i.e., cysteine, histidine and lysine), and keto-aldehydes such as ONE, which also react with nucleophilic amino acid side chains by Michael addition.^{61, 77} The third and fourth pathways generate protein carbonyl derivatives from reactive carbonyl species (RCO). RCO are considered to be a major source of chemical modifications of proteins from oxidative stress. LPO-derived protein carbonyls play a key role in the development of Alzheimer's disease and diabetes.⁷⁸



Scheme 1-3. General pathways of protein backbone cleavage under oxidative stress.⁴²

Compared to ROS, LPO-derived RCO are more stable and diffusible. They can diffuse in or out of cells and attack targets far from the site of generation. LPO-derived protein carbonyls are more stable than ROS and more difficult to degrade by enzymes. Quantification of protein carbonyls can be used as a measure of the extent of oxidative damage. Various sensitive biochemical and immunological methods including Western blot, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA) and mass spectrometry have been developed for the identification and quantification of carbonylated proteins in cells, tissues and body fluids.^{73, 79, 80} LPO-derived protein carbonylation is becoming one of the best characteristic biomarkers of several diseases and aging under oxidative stress and damage.

Protein carbonylation during disease development and aging is not random. Some proteins are more susceptive to be modified. However, the carbonylated proteins differ in different species.⁷⁵ The molecular cause for the evident selectivity of some proteins for carbonylation is not clear,

but some studies have suggested proteins binding with transition metals are more susceptible to undergo carbonylation by MCO,^{43, 81} probably because protein-bound transition metals are sources of MCO which could modify nearby amino acid residues in proteins.⁸² In addition, some proteins are more sensitive to be carbonylated, mainly because they are located close to the sites of producing ROS.

Protein carbonylation is irreversible and unrepairable. It has been argued that protein carbonylation can cause protein misfolding, resulting in cell dysfunction and hence disease.⁷⁵ Misfolded proteins not only lose their normal function, but also form toxic species, including oligomers or aggregates. Generally mild carbonylation reduces or eliminates protein function and increases the rate of protein proteolytic degradation by proteasome.⁸³ Heavily carbonylated and cross-linked proteins tend to aggregate in cells and eventually induce apoptosis.^{84, 85}

Mass spectrometry based proteomics

In general, proteomics can directly determine the protein level of the large scale of gene and cellular function.⁸⁶⁻⁹¹ Various approaches have been developed in this area, including biochemical methods, immunological methods, mass spectrometric methods and any combination of these methods.⁹²⁻⁹⁴ Compared to other available methods, mass spectrometry has been one of the most successful methods to analyze protein primary sequence, post-translational modifications (PTMs) and protein-protein interactions, especially for the analysis of low abundance and complex protein samples. Mass spectrometry provides more details about the

kinetics and mechanism of PTMs, as well as the stoichiometry and sites of modification.⁹⁵⁻¹⁰⁰ In addition, mass spectrometry can be combined with various separation technologies, such as high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) and capillary electrophoresis (CE), to provide necessary purification and improved sensitivity.¹⁰¹⁻¹⁰³

Most recently, mass spectrometry based analysis approaches have been successfully applied to identify and quantify protein modification in both *in vitro* and *in vivo* experiments.^{104, 105} Finally, data analysis software and bioinformatics tools have been developed to rapidly process the large number of peptide MS/MS spectra for characterization of the peptide fragmentations which are used to identify specific sites of modifications.¹⁰⁶⁻¹⁰⁹

The long-term goal of the project

Although protein carbonylation has been identified as an important factor in disease and aging processes, there is limited information available about the specific sites of carbonylation in the effected proteins. This knowledge gap hampers our ability to understand the mechanisms underlying the molecular changes that occur with oxidative stress. The key question is whether site selectivity can offer information about the nature of the disease state or the origin of the oxidative stress that caused the protein modification. This question only can be answered by gathering more data and establishing whether or not correlations exist between carbonylation patterns and disease states or environmental conditions.

Our central hypothesis is that protein carbonylation does not occur randomly on reactive residues in a protein, but is localized at sites with vulnerable structural motifs and more inportantly, dependent on the nature of the oxidant. The research aims are to identify the sites of protein carbonylation both *in vitro* and *in vivo* by mass spectrometry. The data will test our hypothesis and provide critical information about the structural impacts of protein carbonylation and give insights into the functional ramifications of carbonylation. In the future, the modifications identified in this study could serve as biomarkers for disease states and aging processes. Finally, new analysis approaches aimed at improving the sensitivity and efficiency of identifying carbonylation sites will be developed. Chapter 2: Identification of Acrolein Modified Human Serum Albumin

Background

Acrolein (2-propenal, ACR) was first isolated from the distillation of glycerin in the presence of a dehydration agent by Redtenbacher in 1893.^{110, 111} Acrolein is a highly toxic, irritating and reactive molecule having two reactive centers consisting of a carbon-carbon double bond and an aldehyde group (Figure 2-1). In industry, acrolein has been an important intermediate in producing acrylic acid and plastic.¹¹¹ Human exposure to acrolein can be grouped into exogenous and endogenous. Acrolein is mainly introduced to the environment from incomplete combustion of materials (such as petroleum, wood, coal and plastic material), automobile exhaust, tobacco smoke and cooking emission (from fried vegetable oil and animal fat).^{77, 111 112}The main endogenous sources of acrolein are LPO of PUFAs, cleavage of dehydrated carbohydrates, enzyme-mediated degradation of amino acids (such as methionine and threonine) and polyamines (such as spermine and spermidine), metabolism of some allyl compounds, and the widely used anticancer drug cyclophosphamide.^{77, 111, 113}

Figure 2-1. The structure of acrolein

Acrolein is one of the most electrophilic simple α , β -unsaturated aldehyde.¹¹⁴ It is capable of modifying nucleophilic side chains of cysteines, histidines, lysines and arginines in proteins by Michael addition (Scheme 2-1).¹¹¹ A protein-ACR adduct can also be formed through a Schiff

base between the ε -amino group of the lysine residue and the aldehdye group of acrolein.¹¹⁵ The bi-functionality of acrolein gives the possibilities of intra- and intermolecular crosslinks through both Michael addition and Schiff base formation.¹¹⁶ Furthermore, a bis-adduct,

N^ε-(3-formyl-3,4-dehydropiperidino)lysine (FDP-lysine) can be formed on reaction with lysine residues by two, sequential Michael additions, followed by an aldol condensation and dehydration.¹¹⁵ Recently, a novel adduct, N^ε-(3-methylpyridinium)lysine (MP-Lys) has been detected immunochemically using the oxidized B chain of insulin as a model peptide.^{58, 117} Similar to adduction of the guanidine group of arginine, acrolein can react with deoxyguanosine (dG) in DNA.^{118, 119} It has been established that the relative reactivity of amino acid residues towards electrophilic aldehydes is Cys>>His>Lys. Histidine and lysine are considered as relatively weak nucleophiles and unlikely to be an immediate target for the soft acrolein electrophile.¹²⁰



Scheme 2-1. Adduction of acrolein to amino acid residues in proteins.¹¹¹

Exposure to acrolein is highly toxic. The respiratory system is the most common target organ. Exposure can cause pulmonary edema, respiratory irritation and distress.¹¹² Most of the cytotoxic effects of acrolein are involved in its high reactivity towards proteins. Irreversible acrolein adduction disrupts protein function and induces inhibition of protease activity and cell growth, disruption of metabolism and cell signaling, and modulation of cell apoptosis and necrosis.¹²¹⁻¹²³ Considering the relative reactivity of residues towards this electrophile, the toxic effects of histidine and lysine modifications are more likely under high dose intoxication or during the late stage of the chronic diseases when modifications on cysteine become saturated.¹²⁰

Acrolein can pass through membranes by passive diffusion. The major pathway for metabolism of acrolein is conjugation with glutathione (GSH) in the liver, followed by cleavage of the
glycine and γ -glutamic acid residues in the presence of enzymes.¹¹¹ After enzyme induced N-acetylation and reduction, *S*-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-*N*-acetylcysteine (HPMA) is generated as the main metabolite of acrolein, and is found in urine.^{124, 125}

Human serum albumin (HSA) was chosen as a model protein in this project. HSA is a 66 kDa carrier protein that is important in physiological transport of many compounds, including free fatty acids, steroids, metals and metabolites.¹²⁶⁻¹²⁸ HSA is an attractive choice for biomarker studies because it is present in high concentration in serum, is known to form complexes and adducts with a variety of species, including acrolein and 4-hydroxy-2-nonenal (HNE), is a known target of oxidative stress, and is readily available.^{77, 129, 130}

Experimental Procedures

Chemicals

Essentially fatty acid and globulin free HSA (Product A3782), (+) Biotin-hydrazide, iodoacetamide (IAM), N-ethylmaleimide (NEM), 1,4-dithio-DL-threitol (DTT), trifluoroacetic acid (TFA), sodium cyanoborohydride (NaBH₃CN) and 10×phosphate buffered saline (PBS) concentrate were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO). Ammonium bicarbonate was obtained from J.T. Baker (Phillipsburg, NJ) and acrolein was obtained from Cayman Chemical (Ann Arbor, MI). Sequencing grade modified trypsin was from Promega (Madison, WI).

Experiments

HSA modification

HSA at 15 μ M in 1× PBS buffer (pH 7.4) was incubated with acrolein at various final ACR:HSA molar ratios (1:4, 1:2, 1:1, 2:1, 5:1, 10:1). All reactions were carried out at 25°C with gentle shaking. The reaction time was 100 min for all experiments.

1. Method A: acrolein adducts were labeled by incubation with Biotin-hydrazide at room temperature for 2 h. Labeled modifications were stabilized by adding NaBH₃CN to 15 mM and incubating for 60 min at 0°C. Reaction mixture was repeated washes employing centrifugal filter devices (VWR, West Chestrt, PA) to remove reagents and to exchange to 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer (pH 8.0) for enzymatic digestion; the molecular weight cut-off for the centrifugal filter devices used was 30 kDa. 2. Method B/C: acrolein adducts were directly stabilized by adding NaBH₄ to 5 mM and incubating for 60 min at room temperature. Same centrifugal filter devices were employed to remove reagents and to exchange to 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer (pH 8.0) for enzymatic digestion.

Enzymatic digestion

1. Method A: Modified HSA samples in 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer were first reduced by incubating with 30 mM DTT for 20 min at 50°C and then alkylated by incubating with 55 mM IAM for 30 min at room temperature in the dark. Excess DTT and IAM were removed using the centrifugal filter devices (three washes were performed using 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer). Sequencing grade trypsin (substrate to enzyme weight ratio 40:1) was added and the mixture incubated for 16 h at 37°C. Digestion was terminated by adding 1% formic acid (final pH = $2 \sim 3$).

2. Method B: Same procedure was performed, but no reagent was added to alkylate.

3. Method C: Same procedure was performed, but NEM was used to alkylate instead of IAM.

µLC-MS/MS analysis

Adduct identification was performed using a Thermo (San Jose, CA) LTQ XL linear ion trap mass spectrometer, equipped with electron-transfer dissociation (ETD). The LTQ XL was interfaced with a Thermo Surveyor capillary HPLC system. Peptides were separated on a reversed-phase, C18 column (150 μ m × 10 cm, 5 μ m particles, 300 Å pores; Column Technology, Fremont, CA) at a flow rate of about 1 μ l min–1 using 0.1% formic acid in water as mobile phase A and 0.1% formic acid in methanol as mobile phase B. Approximately 2 μ g peptides were injected and a Michrom (Auburn, CA) CapTrap trapping column was used for rapid sample injection. The gradient started from 2% B, then increased to 15% B over 5 min, then increased to 80% B over 70 min, and finally increased to 95% B over 15 min. The eluted peptides were introduced into the LTQ XL with a nanospray source operating at a spray voltage of 2.1 kV, a capillary voltage of 21 V, and a capillary temperature of 200°C. A full scan in the m/z range 300-2000 was performed to obtain precursor ions, followed by four data-dependent tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) scans (collision-induced dissociation, CID) for the three most abundant precursor ions in the full scan. Dynamic exclusion was used, that is, if the same precursor ion was picked for fragmentation twice within a 30 s window, it was excluded from further analysis for 180 s.

Database searching and data processing

Peptide sequences and modifications were identified using the BioWorks version 3.3.1, SP1 implementation of Sequest (Thermo). No scan grouping was performed in preparing peak lists for database searching. The protein sequence database used consisted of the NCBI RefSeq version of the complete human proteome and the UniProt sequence for porcine trypsin (Accession Number P00761); reversed versions of all sequences were also included to permit false discovery rate estimation. Sequences were downloaded on November 20, 2010, and the final database contained 68040 entries. Only fully-tryptic peptides were considered and up to three missed cleavage sites were allowed. Precursor ion tolerances were ± 2 Da for linear ion trap measurements. According to method A, Fixed mass shifts were applied for IAM alkylated cysteines (+57 Da) while differential amino acid mass shifts were incorporated for NaBH₃CN-reduced Biotin labeled Michael adducts at histidine and lysine (+298 Da) and at cysteine (+241 Da when the fixed mass shift at cysteine is considered), reduced Schiff base adducts at lysine (+40 Da), and oxidized methionines (+16 Da). According to method B, differential amino acid mass shifts were incorporated for NaBH₄-reduced Michael adducts at cysteine, histidine and lysine (+58 Da), reduced Schiff base adducts at lysine (+40 Da), and oxidized methionines (+16 Da). According to method C, Fixed mass shifts were applied for NEM alkylated cysteines (+125 Da) while differential amino acid mass shifts were incorporated for NaBH₄-reduced Michael adducts at histidine and lysine (+58 Da) and at cysteine (-67 Da when the fixed mass shift at cysteine is considered), reduced Schiff base adducts at lysine (+40 Da), and oxidized methionines (+16 Da). In addition, MS/MS spectra for modified peptides were manually examined and any found to be inconsistent with the proposed identification were rejected.

Results

The major mode of action of acrolein with proteins is Michael addition to the nucleophilic amino acid side chains of cysteine, histidine, lysine, and arginine to give stable adducts.¹¹¹ Acrolein can also form a Schiff base with lysine and propano adducts with the guanidine group of arginine.¹³¹ Furthermore, a bis-adduct, FDP-lysine, can be formed on reaction with lysine residues by two Michael additions, followed by an aldol condensation and dehydration.¹¹⁵ All of the Michael additions lead to products bearing an aldehyde functional group whereas the Schiff base contains an imine instead. Modifications on arginine and FDP-lysine have been reported by immunochemistry.¹¹⁵ HSA is a 66 kDa protein with 35 cysteines, 16 histidines, and 59 lysines in its secreted form. There are 17 disulfide bridges, which leaves a single free cysteine in the protein.¹²⁶ If the nucleophilic residue does not have reasonable surface accessibility or is located in an environment that is too sterically crowded to accept the added acrolein, some modifications would be highly unlikely.

Sample preparations

In this project, the mass shift of stabilized acrolein adducts by Michael addition is 58 and the mass shift of cysteine carboxyamidomethylation by IAM is 57. This 1 unit mass difference in the two shifts is not easily discriminated by the LTQ and can lead to incorrect modification assignments by the Sequest search. Therefore, three different sample preparation methods were applied. In method A, (+) biotin-hydrazide was used to label adducts of Michael addition

(Scheme 2-2).¹³² After stabilization by NaBH₃CN, the mass shift became 298. In method B, no labeling reagent was used after the initial modification, and no carboxyamidomethylation step was applied before the trypsin digestion. In method C, no labeling reagent was used after initial incubation. NEM was applied as the alkylating agent instead of IAM after treatment by DTT. The mass shift of NEM alkylation at cysteines is 125.



Scheme 2-2. Acrolein adducts labeled by (+) biotin-hydrazide.

Modification Sites

Our goal was to identify the key modification sites when HSA is treated with acrolein. Starting with an HSA concentration of 15 μ M, ACR:HSA ratios from 1:4 to 10:1 were surveyed and data are reported for the 1:1 and 10:1 ratios (Table 2-1). All site identifications are supported by CID data.

Naturally, as the amount of acrolein was increased, it was possible to identify more modification sites. At a 1:1 ratio, a total of seven modification sites were identified in the three different sample preparations, but there were variations in the modification sites in the different preparations. In method A, five lysine residues (K^{51} , K^{162} , K^{262} , K^{351} and K^{545}) were identified as

Michael additions (the residue numbers are for the secreted protein; to convert to nascent protein numbering, add 24). In method B, one modified cysteine and histidine residue were found (C^{34} and H^{338}) as well as three lysine residues (K^{233} , K^{525} and K^{545}). In method C, one cysteine residue was found (C^{34}) as well as three lysine and histidine residues (K^{233} , K^{378} , K^{545} , H^{146} , H^{288} and H^{388}). At a 10:1 ratio, thirteen lysines and six histidines were modified in method A; one cysteine, fifteen lysines and three histidines were found modified in method B; one cysteine, eight lysines and three histidines were found in method C. The majority of the variability is due to the fact that we are operating at near detection thresholds. The different labeling procedures (A, B and C) introduce differences in the ionizability of the peptides and the quality of their CID spectra. Each of these can shift the detection threshold and affect the probability for detection. This effect is confirmed by the fact that modifications detected in a single preparation method at the 1:1 ratio are detected in multiple preparations at the 10:1 ratio in all but one case.

Modification Site ^a	Type ^b	1:1 ^c	10:1 ^c
Cys ³⁴	MA	B/C ^d	B/C
His ⁶⁷	MA	not detected	Α
His ¹⁴⁶	MA	С	A/B/C
His ²⁴²	MA	not detected	Α
His ²⁴⁷	MA	not detected	Α
His ²⁸⁸	MA	С	A/B/C
His ³³⁸	MA	B/C	A/B/C
Lys ¹²	MA	not detected	В
Lys ⁵¹	MA	Α	Α
Lys ⁷³	MA	not detected	В

Table 2-1. Modification site identifications from different sample preparations. Manual MS/MS spectrum validation was required in all cases.

Lys ¹³⁷	MA	not detected	B/C
Lys ¹⁵⁹	MA	not detected	В
Lys ¹⁶²	MA	Α	A/B
Lys ¹⁷⁴	MA	not detected	A/B
Lys ²⁰⁵	MA	not detected	С
Lys ²²⁵	MA	not detected	В
Lys ²³³	MA	B/C	A/B/C
Lys ²⁶²	MA	Α	A/B/C
Lys ³⁵¹	MA	Α	A/B
Lys ³⁷⁸	MA	С	A/B/C
Lys ⁴¹⁴	MA	not detected	A/B/C
Lys ⁵¹⁹	MA	not detected	Α
Lys ⁵²⁵	MA	В	A/B/C
Lys ⁵²⁵	SB	not detected	В
Lys ⁵⁴⁵	MA	A/B/C	A/B/C
Lys ⁵⁴⁵	SB	not detected	B/C
Lys ⁵⁴⁵	FDP-Lys	not detected	B/C
Lys ⁵⁷⁴	MA	not detected	A/B

^a Secreted protein numbering; add 24 for nascent protein.

^b MA indicates Michael adduct formation; SB indicates Schiff base formation; FDP-Lys indicates FDP-Lys product generation.

^c Applied ACR:HSA ratio.

^d Sample preparation method: A represented biotin labeling method; B represented method with no carboxyamidomethylation; C represented NEM alkylating method.

Finally, the sequence coverage from the tryptic digestion is around 80%. Five histidines and

sixteen lysines are not in the covered sequence. It is possible that modifications at these residues

occurred, but were not detected with our LC-MS conditions. Very short or long peptides are the

most challenging to detect with the LTQ.

Discussion

Sample preparation methods

In this project, three different sample preparation methods were applied, but the identified modification sites from them were not entirely same. At a 1:1 molar ratio of ACR:HSA, no cysteine and histidine modifications were detected with method A, and only one modified lysine (K⁵⁴⁵) was detected in all the methods. At a 1:1 ratio, methods B and C shared the most modification sites (C^{34} , H^{338} , K^{233} and K^{545}). At a 10:1 ratio, six modified histidines along with twelve modified lysines were identified with method A, but the cysteine modification still was not observed. There again is more consistency between methods B and C at the 10:1 molar ratio. Thirteen modifications are in common between these methods. Overall more sites are detected by multiple methods at the higher molar ratio, which probably is because the modification levels were more generally above the detection threshold. The identifications from repeats of the same sample preparation method are relatively reproducible, which implies that different sample preparations do impact the ability of a modification to be identified. The total number of modifications identified with method A was 18, with method B was 22, and with method C was 14. The greatest sensitivity was with the method with no cysteine blocking, method B.

Modification Sites

It has been accepted that Cys³⁴ is the most reactive site in HSA because Cys³⁴ is the only free cysteine and sulfur is known to be highly nucleophilic in Michael additions.^{77, 129, 133} In this

project, there is evidence for acrolein addition at Cys³⁴ in HSA at both concentrations. For sample preparation method A, no adduct of Cys³⁴ was identified even when the concentration of acrolein was increased. It may due to limited detectability caused by the poor ionizability of the corresponding peptide after biotin labeling or due to the poor quality of its CID spectrum.

Only six modified histidines were identified and three of them were detected in all the sample preparation methods at a 10:1 molar ratio. Generally, the detection of modifications on histidines from the repeats on the same sample preparation were very reproducible even at a low acrolein concentration, which may imply that histidine modification occurs readily and gives peptides with robust detection characteristics. Using detection at the 1:1 molar ratio as a criterion, His¹⁴⁶, His²⁸⁸, and His³³⁸ are viewed as the most reactive histidines towards acrolein.

Comparing the lysine and histidine modifications, more modification sites at lysines were identified. However, some lysine modifications had low reproducibility, especially at a lower concentration of acrolein. This suggests that lysine modifications are less favorable and are present at lower concentrations. Of all the identified lysine modifications, Lys⁵⁴⁵ was the only one found at a low concentration of acrolein in all three sample preparations. Schiff base formation adducts and FDP-lysine products at Lys⁵⁴⁵ were also detected when the concentration was increased. Therefore, Lys⁵⁴⁵ is likely one of the most reactive lysines towards acrolein. Other lysines active at the 1:1 molar ratio are Lys¹⁶², Lys²³³, Lys²⁶², Lys³⁷⁸, and Lys⁵²⁵.

It has been reported that acrolein also could form a propano adduct with the guanidine group of arginine.¹¹⁵ However, no arginine adducts with acrolein were found in this project.

Correlation between Local Environment and Modification

The effect of local protein environments on acrolein modifications can be evaluated by examining the crystal structure of HSA.¹³⁴ At a low concentration of acrolein, it was observed that some modification sites were on the surface of HSA, such as Lys⁵¹, Lys¹⁶², Lys²³³, Lys²⁶², Lys³⁵¹ and Lys³⁷⁸ (Figure 2-2); some were near the surface or seams on the surface, but the side chains were recessed in grooves of the protein, such as Cys³⁴, His¹⁴⁶, His²⁸⁸, His³³⁸, Lys⁵²⁵ and Lys⁵⁴⁵, (Figure 2-3). Meanwhile, some residues are on the very surface of HSA, such as His¹²⁸, gave no evidence of modification even at higher concentrations. This phenomenon also can be quantified using a simple calculation of the solvent accessible surface area (SASA) associated with the residues.^{135, 136} It provides some insight into the local environments of the modified residues. The plots of side chain and backbone SASAs for the histidines and lysines in HSA were generated using the GETAREA program (Figure 2-4).¹³⁷ Although this small data set is not sufficient for confirming an absolute pattern, general tendencies can be suggested. Checking the SASA plots of histidines and lysines, the general properties of the more reactive sites, such as His³³⁸ and Lys⁵⁴⁵ seem to be moderate accessibility on the side chain and relatively low accessibility on the backbone. This phenomenon is more obvious in the histidine modifications. Moreover, some highly exposed sites were not generally reactive. His¹²⁸ is a good negative control for this measurement. It has a relatively high SASA value for its side chain (95.2 \AA^2) and backbone (25.6 Å^2), but no modification of this site was detected even at higher concentrations of acrolein. Overall, the data suggest that factors aside from surface accessibility are important in determining the modification site, but that these preferences lead to limited selectivity.



Figure 2-2. Crystal structures showing modified sites $(K^{51}, K^{162}, K^{233}, K^{262}, K^{351} \text{ and } K^{378})$ on the very surface of protein.



Figure 2-3. Crystal structures showing modified sites (C^{34} , H^{146} , H^{288} , H^{338} , K^{525} and K^{545}) recessed in the pocket of protein.

Histidines in HSA



Backbone Side-Chain <u>351</u> 378 SASA

Lysines in HSA

Figure 2-4. SASA in $Å^2$ for histidines and lysines of HSA. Red bars are the backbones and blue bars are the side chains. Green arrows indicate sites that were identified as modified at a 1:1 molar ratio of ACR:HSA. Orange arrow indicates a negative control.

Future Direction

This project has identified histidines and lysines in HSA that are most reactive towards acrolein. The data suggest that surface accessibility is an important component in determining reactivity, but other factors are also affecting the reactivity. To explore this system is greater detail, a more quantitative approach, such as that used in the next chapter is needed. Nonetheless, the present results provide a baseline for comparison to the system explored in the next chapter, HNE reacting with HAS.

Conclusions

The addition of a prototypical α , β -unsaturated aldehyde, acrolein, to HSA exhibits modest selectivity in this study. Modification sites were identified at the ACR:HSA molar ratios of 1:1 and 10:1 using a linear ion trap mass spectrometer.

Identified modifications were not entirely the same from three sample preparation methods, which suggests that different sample preparations impact the detectability of modified peptides by mass spectrometry. By examining the modification sites in the crystal structure of HSA, it appears that surface accessibility is important, particularly with lysine modifications. However this is not the only factor and many lysines with high surface accessibility were not modified. There is more limited data with histidine, but it appears that surface accessibility is less important. Finally, developing a quantification approach is necessary for analyzing reaction kinetics and accurately identifying the relative reactivity of the residues.

Chapter 3: The Reactivity of Human Serum Albumin Towards

trans-4-Hydroxy-2-nonenal

Background

Since HNE (Figure 3-1) was recognized as a major product formed during CCl₄-induced lipid peroxidation in the rat liver microsome,¹³⁸ it has been identified as the most cytotoxic aldehyde. This initiated a large number of investigations about generation, quantitation and biological activity.

Figure 3-1. The lipid peroxidation product (E)-HNE.

HNE is the end-product of peroxidation of ω -6 polyunsaturated fatty acids, particularly arachidonic acid and linoleic acid, the most common ones in biomembranes.^{139, 140} These peroxidation mechanisms have not been fully understood, although numerous pathways have been proposed, which include enzymatic and non-enzymatic pathways.^{140, 141} Two distinct non-enzymatic pathways were proposed by Schneider, C. et al. in 2001, based on an oxidation study of 9*S* and 13*S*-hydroperoxy-octadecadienoic acid (HPODE). However, the pathway though 13S-HPODE has recently been disproved by the same group. The 9S-HPODE mediated pathway starts from a free radical intermediate formed at the bis-allyl position of linoleic acid, which is captured by molecular oxygen to generate 9-HPODE. The cleavage of 9-HPODE through a Hock rearrangement provides 3*Z*-nonenal - further oxidation and reduction gives HNE (Scheme 3-1). An example of an enzymatic pathway has been given for the fatty acid peroxidation in plants.^{141,} ¹⁴² Linoleic acid is first oxidized by plant lipoxygenase (LOX), then cleaved by hydroperoxide lyase (HPL) to give 3Z-nonenal, which can be easily converted to 4-HNE through an non-enzymatic pathway (Scheme 3-2).¹⁴¹ Recently, a peroxyl radical initiated dimerization or polymerization pathway has attracted attention. In essence, the peroxide bridges in the dimer or oligomer are prone to breakage to release aldhedyes, including the 4-HNE precursor, 4-hydroperoxy-2*E*-nonenal (4-HPNE).¹⁴¹ Other hypotheses have also been reported, but further validations are required.



Scheme 3-1. Proposed 9S-HPODE mediated mechanism of HNE formation from ω -6 polyunsaturated fatty acids.¹⁴⁰



Scheme 3-2. Proposed enzymatic pathway of HNE formation from Linoleic acid.¹⁴¹

Studies have shown that basal levels of HNE (< 1 μ M) are present in cells.^{143, 144}. HNE could behave as a signaling molecule at these basal levels. However, HNE concentration could become higher (< 15 μ M) under oxidative stress, causing unwanted modification of biological molecules and inducing a disease process. Some HNE concentrations may even reach the range of 100 μ M in regions near or in oxidizing membranes because they are strongly lipophilic, which could yield acute and unspecific cytotoxic effects and finally lead to cell death (Figure 3-2).^{77, 145, 146}



Figure 3-2. Toxicity of various aldehydes on growth arrested human fibroblasts.⁷⁷ 1: pentanal/hexanal; 2: 2-octenal; 3: 2-nonenal; 4: 2,4-nonadienal; 5: 2,4-decadienal; 6: 4-hydroxynonenal

Physiologically relevant concentrations of HNE could be detoxified by various enzymes in different cells and organs. These pathways include oxidation of HNE to 4-hydroxynon-2-enoic acid (HNA) by aldehyde dehydrogenase,¹⁴⁷ reduction of HNE to 1,4-dihydroxy-2-nonene (DHN) by aldehyde reductase,^{148, 149} glutathione-S-transferase (GST) mediated addition of HNE with GSH to give a GS-HNE conjugate,¹⁵⁰ or reduction of HNE to 4-hydroxynonanal (HAA) by alkenal oxidoreductase.^{146, 151}

Biological effects of HNE involve the capacity of HNE to act as an α , β -unsaturated aldehyde and react with a wide range of cellular nucleophiles, including DNA bases and proteins.^{54, 77, 146} The protein-HNE adducts are mainly formed by Michael addition of the sulfhydryl of cysteine, the imidazole moiety of histidine, or the ε -amino group of lysine residues. The Michael adducts can

undergo cyclization to form a hemiacetal structure (Scheme 3-3A).¹⁵² A protein-HNE adduct can also be formed through a Schiff base between the ε-amino group of a lysine residue and the aldehdye group of HNE, which can be followed by dehydration and cyclization to give a 2-pentylpyrrole moiety. Furthermore, the bi-functionality of HNE gives the possibility of intra and intermolecular crosslinks through both Michael addition and Schiff base formation (Scheme 3-3B).¹⁵² Modifications by HNE are known to have wide-ranging biological effects including the attenuation of enzyme activity, apoptosis, and neurotoxicity.^{143, 153} The presence of HNE modifications correlates with many disease states including Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, and atherosclerosis.^{154, 155} In addition, an increase in HNE protein modifications has been observed with aging.¹⁵⁶ Finally, HNE has been implicated in signaling pathways, but details of its impact in this role are just emerging.¹⁵⁷ Overall, HNE has been viewed as a prime, potential biomarker for diseases or processes that induce oxidative stress, and several mass spectrometric studies of HNE protein modifications have been investigated.^{152, 158-163}



Scheme 3-3. (A) Reaction of HNE with the nucleophilic amino acid residues via Michael addition. (B) Proposed mechanism of protein crosslink by HNE addition.¹⁵²

For these modifications to become useful biomarkers, an important step is a careful characterization of the chemical processes involved, which includes an understanding of the selectivity and kinetics of the protein modification reactions. In 2006, Aldini and Liebler presented separate studies aimed at characterizing the reaction of HNE with HSA.^{164, 165} HSA is a natural choice for model studies because it is present in high concentration in serum, is known to form complexes and adducts with a variety of species, including HNE, is a known target of oxidative stress, and is readily available.^{126, 128, 129} In the studies by Aldini and Liebler, the site selectivity and kinetics of the HNE additions were evaluated using mass spectrometric methods.

Different approaches were taken by the two groups, but generally the data were in accord; however, there were some noteworthy exceptions. Specifically, Aldini identified additional highly active modification sites not seen in the Liebler study. Furthermore, both groups assumed that the reactions were kinetically controlled and based their analyses on that assumption. However, it is possible that some processes reach equilibrium under the reaction conditions and this would have a significant impact on the interpretation of kinetic data.

Since most studies suggest that HNE signaling is the result of addition reactions rather than the result of allosteric interactions,¹⁶⁶ a better understanding of HNE adduction chemistry is clearly desirable. In the present work, we revisit the reaction of HNE with HSA and track the process as a function of time using an iTRAQ-labeling strategy.¹⁶⁷⁻¹⁶⁹ We find that the kinetics are more complicated than may have been appreciated in previous work and have evidence that some processes may be controlled by thermodynamics rather than kinetics under conditions typically used for *in vitro* studies.

The iTRAQTM (Isobaric Tag for Relative and Absolute Quantitation) system (Figure 3-3) is a multiplexed set of reagents for quantitative protein analysis. iTRAQ reagent has an NHS ester derivative to modify primary amino groups of proteolytic peptides in a digest mixture and link a mass balance group and a reporter group via an amide bond simultaneously.¹⁶⁷ When iTRAQ-tagged peptides are subjected to tandem mass spectrometry, the mass balance group is released as a neutral fragment, and reporter ions are used to quantify individual peptides in the digest mixture.^{167, 169} In the iTRAQ labeling approach, peptides derived from proteins subjected

to different conditions are tagged with a set of isobaric labeling reagents, one for each condition studied. The labeling reagents are identical, except for the distribution of isotopes in the tag. This difference leads to fragment ions (immonium) with unique masses that correlate with the conditions. The beauty of the approach is that peptides from each of the conditions will have the same mass and should co-elute together, but once selected and fragmented will give characteristic peaks that are suitable for relative quantitation. One drawback of the approach is that the characteristic ions appear at low mass (114-117 in our case).

Isobaric Tag Total mass = **145** Reporter Group mass 114-117 (Retains Charge) Amine specific peptide reactive group (NHS) Balance Group Mass **31-28** (Neutral loss)

Figure 3-3. Structure of iTRAQTM reagents.¹⁶⁷

Experimental Procedures

Chemicals

Essentially fatty acid and globulin free HSA (Product A3782), IAM, DTT and 10× PBS concentrate were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO). Ammonium bicarbonate was obtained from J.T. Baker (Phillipsburg, NJ) and HNE was obtained from Cayman Chemical (Ann Arbor, MI). Sequencing grade modified trypsin was from Promega (Madison, WI). bicinchoninic acid assay (BCA) Protein Assay kits were purchased from Pierce (Rockford, IL) and iTRAQ reagent kits were obtained from Applied Biosystems (Foster City, CA).

Experiments

HSA modification

HSA at 15 μ M in 1× PBS buffer (pH 7.4) was incubated with HNE at various final HNE:HSA molar ratios (1:4, 1:2, 1:1, 2:1, 5:1, 10:1, 50:1, 100:1). All reactions were carried out at 37°C with gentle shaking. The reaction time was 3 h for all experiments except those in which the reaction time was intentionally varied. Modified proteins were stabilized by adding NaBH₄ to 5 mM and incubating for 60 min at room temperature. Repeated washes employing centrifugal filter devices (VWR, West Chester, PA) were used to remove reagents and to exchange to 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer (pH 8.0) for enzymatic digestion; the molecular weight cut-off for the centrifugal filter devices used was 30 kDa.

Enzymatic digestion

Modified HSA samples in 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer were first reduced by incubating with 30 mM DTT for 20 min at 50°C and then alkylated by incubating with 55 mM IAM for 30 min at room temperature in the dark. Excess DTT and IAM were removed using the centrifugal filter devices (three washes were performed using 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer). Sequencing grade trypsin (substrate to enzyme weight ratio 40:1) was added and the mixture incubated for 24 h at 37°C. Digestion was terminated by adding 1% formic acid (final $pH = 2\sim3$).

iTRAQ reagent labeling

1. Effect of varying HNE:HSA molar ratio

After digestion with trypsin, the concentrations of the HNE-modified peptide mixtures were measured using the BCA protein assay (error has been reported to be less than 5%). Peptide mixtures prepared under four conditions (50 µg each) were placed in four different microcentrifuge tubes (two control samples, *i.e.*, no HNE in prep, plus samples from 50:1 and 100:1, HNE:HSA experiments). Peptide mixtures were then dried using a centrifugal evaporator and reconstituted in 25 µl iTRAQ dissolution buffer. The iTRAQ reagents (114-117) were dissolved in 70 µl ethanol separately. Each iTRAQ reagent aliquot was added to one of the peptide mixtures in the following sequence: 114 to a control sample; 115 to 50:1 ratio sample; 116 to 100:1 ratio sample; and 117 to a control sample. After incubation for 3 h at room temperature, all four peptide mixtures were combined and then purified using a Waters (Milford, MA) Oasis MCX solid phase extraction cartridge. The final sample was dried using a centrifugal evaporator and then resuspended in HPLC equilibration mobile phase for µLC-MS/MS analysis.

2. Effect of varying reaction time

HSA was incubated with HNE at a HNE:HSA molar ratio of 100:1. The reactions were quenched by adding NaBH₄ at 1, 3, and 24 h. After digestion, peptide mixtures from different time frames (containing 50 μ g total peptides) were labeled separately using the four iTRAQ reagents: 114 for the 0 h sample (control); 115 for the 1 h sample; 116 for the 3 h sample; and 117 for the 24 h sample. Labeling and subsequent processing were performed as described for the varying molar ratio experiment.

µLC-MS/MS analysis

1. HNE adduct identification

Adduct identification was performed using a Thermo (San Jose, CA) LTQ XL linear ion trap mass spectrometer, equipped with ETD, and a Thermo LTQ Orbitrap Velos mass spectrometer. The LTQ XL was interfaced with a Thermo Surveyor capillary HPLC system. Peptides were separated on a reversed-phase, C_{18} column (150 µm × 10 cm, 5 µm particles, 300 Å pores; Column Technology, Fremont, CA) at a flow rate of ~1 µl min⁻¹ using 0.1% formic acid in water as mobile phase A and 0.1% formic acid in methanol as mobile phase B. Approximately 2 µg peptides were injected and a Michrom (Auburn, CA) CapTrap trapping column was used for rapid sample injection. The gradient started from 2% B, then increased to 15% B over 5 min,

then increased to 80% B over 70 min, and finally increased to 95% B over 15 min. The eluted peptides were introduced into the LTQ XL with a nanospray source operating at a spray voltage of 2.1 kV, a capillary voltage of 21 V, and a capillary temperature of 200°C. A full scan in the m/z range 300-2000 was performed to obtain precursor ions, followed by six data-dependent MS/MS scans (consisting of CID and ETD scans) for the three most abundant precursor ions in the full scan. Dynamic exclusion was used, that is, if the same precursor ion was picked for fragmentation twice within a 30 s window, it was excluded from further analysis for 180 s. For the Thermo LTQ Orbitrap Velos system, separations were performed on a Waters nanoACQUITY reversed-phase, C_{18} column (100 μ m × 10 cm; 1.7 μ m particles). Elution was achieved using a gradient of 0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile (B) versus 0.1% formic acid in water (A) at a flow rate of 0.4 μ L min⁻¹. Approximately 2 μ g peptides were injected, with the loading and equilibration mobile phase being 1% B. The linear gradient ran to 35% B over the first 30 min and then to 85% B over the next 5 min. The nanospray ion source was operated at 3.5 kV.

2. iTRAQ reagent-labeled peptide quantification

For iTRAQ reagent-labeled samples, the linear ion trap-based system was operated largely as described above for HNE adduct identification except that pulsed-Q dissociation (PQD) replaced CID and ETD. The top four most abundant ions in each precursor ion scan were subjected to PQD fragmentation. Settings for PQD were normalized collision energy at 36%, activation Q at 0.7, and activation time at 0.1 ms. A targeted mass list was used and, therefore, dynamic

exclusion was not enabled. Similarly, for the Orbitrap-based system, most operating parameters remained the same as those used for HNE adduct identification except that higher-energy C-trap dissociation (HCD)¹⁷⁰ replaced CID. For HCD, the normalized collision energy was 40 and the activation time was 0.1 ms; the top eight most abundant ions in each precursor ion scan were subjected to HCD fragmentation. Dynamic exclusion was not enabled and the same targeted mass list was used. The chromatographic gradient was also lengthened; after loading at 1% B there was an initial increase to 15% B over 25 min, followed by an increase to 25% B over 35 min, followed by an increase to 35% B over 40 min, followed by an increase to 85% B over 20 min.

Database searching and data processing

Peptide sequences and modifications were identified using the BioWorks version 3.3.1, SP1 implementation of Sequest (Thermo). No scan grouping was performed in preparing peak lists for database searching. The protein sequence database used consisted of the NCBI RefSeq version of the complete human proteome and the UniProt sequence for porcine trypsin (Accession Number P00761); reversed versions of all sequences were also included to permit false discovery rate estimation. Sequences were downloaded on November 20, 2010, and the final database contained 68040 entries. Only fully-tryptic peptides were considered and up to two missed cleavage sites were allowed. Precursor ion tolerances were ± 2 Da for linear ion trap measurments and ± 15 ppm for Orbitrap measurements. Fixed mass shifts were applied for alkylated cysteines (± 57 Da) while differential amino acid mass shifts were incorporated for

NaBH₄-reduced Michael adducts at histidine and lysine (+158 Da) and at cysteine (+101 Da when the fixed mass shift at cysteine is considered), NaBH₄-reduced Schiff base adducts at lysine (+140 Da), and oxidized methionines (+16 Da). In searches with the iTRAQ labels present, fixed mass shifts of +144 Da were used for the peptide N-terminus and non-carbonylated lysine residues, which resulted in the differential mass shifts associated with HNE modification at lysine being changed to +14 Da (Michael adducts) and -4 Da (Schiff base adducts). Addition of the iTRAQ tag at tyrosine (+144 Da differential modification) was also considered, but was found not to be common. Mass shifts were added to Sequest parameters files at high-precision (see Appendix Table A1 for non-iTRAQ and Table A2 for iTRAQ experiments) for compatibility with highly accurate Orbitrap precursor ion measurements and a maximum of three variable modifications were permitted for each peptide. Sequest output was refined using the Trans-Proteomic Pipeline (version 4.4; Institute for Systems Biology, Seattle, WA) software package. Specifically, PeptideProphet was used,¹⁷¹ in semi-supervised mode,¹⁷² to improve identification confidence. A PeptideProphet score threshold of 0.9 was applied. In addition, MS/MS spectra for modified peptides were manually examined and any found to be inconsistent with the proposed identification were rejected. Intensity measurements for iTRAQ reporter ions (114-117) were processed using Microsoft Access. MS/MS spectra for which all four reporter ion intensities were zero were first rejected and then reporter ion counts for all MS/MS spectra supporting each peptide were combined by averaging. Depletion plots were scaled to 100% for the control to allow comparison on the same axes while accumulation plots were not altered. Reporter ion counts should only be used to obtain relative abundance information for the same

peptide under different conditions and should not be compared between peptides, even between modified and corresponding unmodified peptides.

Results

As noted in the background, the major mode of action of HNE with proteins is Michael addition to the nucleophilic amino acid side chains of cysteine, histidine, and lysine to give stable adducts. HNE can also form a Schiff base with lysine. All of the Michael additions lead to products bearing an aldehyde functional group whereas the Schiff base contains an imine instead. The relevant reaction products, along with the final NaBH₄-reduced products that were analyzed, are given in Scheme 3-4. HSA is a 66 kDa protein with 35 cysteines, 16 histidines, and 59 lysines in its secreted form. There are 17 disulfide bridges, which leaves a single free cysteine in the protein.¹²⁶ The net result is the possibility of 135 different single addition modifications by HNE; however, some would be highly unlikely if the nucleophilic residue does not have reasonable surface accessibility or is located in an environment that is too sterically crowded to accept the added HNE group.



Michael addition at cysteine

Reduced Michael addition at cysteine



Scheme 3-4. Reaction products for the Michael addition of HNE to cysteine, histidine and lysine residues, and for Schiff base formation with lysine. Initial products are shown in the left column while the results of NaBH₄ reduction are shown in the right column. Hemiacetal structures are given for the non-reduced Michael adducts.

Modification Sites

Our first goal was to identify the key modification sites when HSA is treated with HNE. Starting with an HSA concentration of 15 μ M, HNE:HSA ratios from 1:4 to 100:1 were surveyed and data are reported for the 1:1 and 10:1 ratios (Table 3-1). The exposure of HSA to HNE

experiment was repeated five times at the 1:1 and 10:1 ratios. These ratios result in HNE concentrations far in excess of those found in plasma, but they could be representative of HNE levels found transiently in membranes under oxidative stress conditions. Four repeats were analyzed using the linear ion trap system while one was investigated using the Orbitrap system. In all cases, three replicate LC-MS/MS runs were recorded for each preparation. Modifications found using the linear ion trap instrument and validated by manual inspection of the MS/MS spectra were regarded as medium confidence; those confirmed with complementary data from the Orbitrap system were regarded as high confidence. These data are also presented in terms of modified peptide (rather than modification site as found in Table 3-1) as Appendix Table A3, for counts of LC-MS/MS runs in which the modified peptides was detected. Most site identifications were supported by CID data, but numerous acceptable ETD detections were also obtained.

For peptides modified with non-reduced HNE Michael adducts, CID, but not ECD, fragmentation patterns are dominated by the neutral loss of HNE.¹⁵⁹ Neutral loss peaks provide good evidence that the modification of interest is present, but suppression of other fragment ions can prevent peptide identification. Alternatively, reduction of HNE Michael adducts with NaBH₄ results in MS/MS data that are not dominated by neutral loss peaks.¹⁷³ Further advantages of reduction include (a) avoiding the close mass coincidence between non-reduced Michael adducts (156.1150) and arginine residues (156.1011) and (b) removing the possibility of the aldehyde reacting during later sample processing steps. Without the neutral loss, HNE-modified peptides did not seem to exhibit a characteristic fragmentation pattern.
Using the Sequest/Trans-Proteomic Pipeline approach, the initial survey data were also searched for non-reduced Michael adducts and Schiff bases. For Michael adducts, the monoisotopic mass shift was +156 while for Schiff bases it was +138. Orbitrap and linear ion trap data were analyzed. No convincing identifications of either type were obtained, indicating that the reduction and stabilization reaction had gone to completion or that the unstable, non-reduced adducts were in some way lost during sample processing. While the strong neutral losses expected for the non-reduced Michael adducts make modified peptide identification more difficult, it seems reasonable to assume that if numerous non-reduced adducts were present, at least some would generate MS/MS data of sufficient quality to pass the scoring threshold.

Naturally, as the amount of HNE was increased, it was possible to identify more modification sites. At a 1:1 ratio, only three sites were identified at high confidence: His⁶⁷, Lys¹⁹⁹, and Lys⁵²⁵ (the residue numbers are for the secreted protein; to convert to nascent protein numbering add 24). His⁶⁷ and Lys¹⁹⁹ were Michael adducts while Lys⁵²⁵ was a Schiff base. At 10:1, there are 15 high confidence modifications at 13 different residues (Table 3-1). In general, the identifications were very reproducible, but it is clear that in some cases the peptides were at a concentration that was close to the threshold for our identification criteria. In Liebler's work, ten modifications were identified with an HNE:HSA ratio of over 600:1.¹⁶⁵ Our full set (medium and high confidence) includes all of their set with the exception of Lys⁵¹ and His¹⁰⁵. Michael addition at Lys⁵¹ was only detected in one out of ten experiments in Liebler's study while the presence of an alternative Michael addition site at Lys¹⁰⁶ makes confident detection of addition at His¹⁰⁵

challenging; however, modification at His¹⁰⁵ can be confidently detected in experiments where iTRAQ labels are present and quantitative data were obtained for this site (see below). Aldini detected eleven modifications at their highest ratio (5:1).¹⁶⁴ In our studies, at a ratio of 10:1, we detected the majority of them at high confidence with the exceptions being Michael additions at His²⁴² and His⁵¹⁰, which we detected at medium confidence, and Schiff base formations at Lys¹⁹⁵ and Lys¹⁹⁹, which we did not detect. Identification of His²⁴² is challenging because the underlying tryptic peptide contains a second addition site at His²⁴⁷, requiring very high quality MS/MS spectra for certainty in modification localization. Aldini's identification of Schiff base formation at Lys¹⁹⁵ required a careful manual search for new peaks in the HNE-treated sample's chromatogram (searches were conducted in chromatograms covering a series of mass ranges). With our global approach for identifying modifications, the observation of this modification site, which appeared to be a minor one, was much less likely.

It is not surprising that our approach apparently detected more modifications than the one used by Aldini, 15/34 (high/medium confidence) vs. 11, because we used a somewhat higher concentration (10:1 vs. 5:1) and a longer reaction time (3 h vs. 2 h). In addition, they relied to some extent on manual matching in the chromatograms so there was a possibility that some modification combinations were not considered, the full sensitivity of their instrument was not realized, or peaks were obscured in some way. On the other hand, their approach has advantages in some situations and led to identifications that we did not detect. It is more surprising that we identified significantly more sites than Liebler despite using methodologies that were fairly similar. It is unclear why so few modifications were identified in their study given the high concentrations employed, but nonetheless, there is reasonable consistency across the three studies of HNE/HSA reactivity in terms of the preferred sites of modification.

It is interesting to note that at a 1:1 ratio, the HNE addition appears to be relatively selective. Only two of the 59 lysines and one of the sixteen histidines are identified at high confidence as modified (considering both high and medium confidence identifications, there are four histidine and eight lysine modification sites at this concentration). It might be tempting to conclude that the reactions with histidine are less selective because a higher percentage of them are modified, but the larger number of modification sites is also driven by the fact that the reaction is more favorable (see below) and, therefore, at a given ratio, more of the HNE is naturally adducted to histidines.

Finally, there is evidence for HNE addition at the single free cysteine in HSA (Cys³⁴) at both concentrations. Although it has been accepted that Cys³⁴ is the most reactive Michael addition site,^{129, 133} the MS/MS data for this site are not as consistent as those for other modifications. This does not appear to be the result of a low level of modification, but instead is probably due to cysteinylation at Cys³⁴, a common post-translational modification that is often found in HSA preparations.¹⁷⁴ However, for all sites, poor detectability could be due to the ionizability of the corresponding peptide as well as the quality of its CID fragmentation pattern. Therefore, some care needs to be exercised in analyzing data from these types of experiments because effects other than concentration can have a major impact on the ability to identify modifications. As a

result, more direct concentration measures, such as those from an iTRAQ-labeling scheme are

needed for ranking reactivities.¹⁶⁹

Table 3-1. High (bolded) and medium (italicized) confidence modification site identifications. Medium confidence hits based on low mass accuracy precursor ion measurements (linear ion trap) while high confidence hits included high mass accuracy precursor ion measurements (Orbitrap). Manual MS/MS spectrum validation was required in all cases.

Modification Site ^a	Type ^b	1:1 ^c	10:1 ^c
Cys ³⁴	MA	9/1/0	9/3/3
His ⁶⁷	MA	12/0/3	12/5/3
<i>His</i> ¹²⁸	MA	0/2/0	2/3/0
His ¹⁴⁶	MA	12/11/0	12/12/3
His ²⁴²	MA	8/7/0	11/11/0
His ²⁴⁷	MA	not detected	11/10/0
His ²⁸⁸	MA	10/0/0	12/1/3
His ³³⁸	MA	4/6/0	12/11/3
His ³⁶⁷	MA	not detected	9/0/0
<i>His</i> ⁵¹⁰	MA	1/8/0	12/11/0
Lys ⁷³	MA	not detected	3/0/0
Lys^{106}	SB	not detected	0/1/0
<i>Lys</i> ¹³⁷	MA	not detected	1/0/0
Lys ¹⁵⁹	MA	not detected	0/2/1
Lys ¹⁶²	MA	not detected	12/2/2
Lys^{162}	SB	not detected	10/1/0
Lys ¹⁹⁹	MA	6/0/2	11/0/3
Lys ²¹²	MA	not detected	12/0/1
Lys^{233}	MA	not detected	9/4/0
Lys^{240}	MA	8/0/0	3/0/0
Lys^{262}	MA	not detected	5/3/0
Lys^{351}	MA	10/0/0	9/0/0
Lys^{351}	SB	not detected	3/1/0
Lys^{359}	MA	not detected	1/3/0
<i>Lys</i> ³⁷⁸	MA	not detected	5/1/0
Lys ⁴⁰²	MA	not detected	4/0/2
Lys ⁴¹⁴	MA	not detected	11/1/3
Lys ⁴¹⁴	SB	8/0/0	12/1/3
Lys^{475}	MA	not detected	1/0/0

<i>Lys</i> ⁵¹⁹	MA	not detected	1/0/0
Lys ⁵²⁵	MA	not detected	0/1/3
Lys ⁵²⁵	SB	3/0/3	8/3/3
Lys ⁵⁴⁵	MA	4/7/0	11/11/3
Lys ⁵⁴⁵	SB	not detected	4/7/0

^a Secreted protein numbering; add 24 for nascent protein

^b MA indicates Michael adduct formation; SB indicates Schiff base formation

^c Applied HNE:HSA ratio. Values are counts of LC-MS/MS runs in which the modified site was identified using linear ion trap CID scans (maximum = 12)/linear ion trap ETD scans (maximum = 12)/linear ion trap CID scans associated with high mass accuracy Orbitrap precursor ion mass measurements (maximum = 3)

Relative Modification Levels Based on iTRAQ Labeling

In a quadrupole ion trap, such as that found in the LTQ XL instrument used in this work, it is very difficult to simultaneously trap low-mass iTRAQ reporter ions and the b- and y-ions needed for peptide identification because the mass window is fundamentally limited. However, in the LTQ XL, PQD can be used in place of CID to significantly widen the window and to simultaneously trap high- and low-mass ions (the approach shifts the q_z value during the activation and fragmentation timeframes).¹⁷⁵ Although PQD allows implementation of the iTRAQ approach with ion trap instrumentation, the intensities of the label ions are rather low and extensive signal averaging is needed to obtain reproducible results (based on our results, single PQD scans for both peptide identification and reporter ion intensity measurements were more effective than collecting, for each precursor ion, a CID scan for identification and a PQD scan for reporter ion measurements). Consequently, the most efficient approach in these systems is to use a targeted mass list of anticipated peptides (modified and unmodified) rather than dynamically determining masses for fragmentation. By targeting masses and not employing a dynamic

exclusion protocol, many more MS/MS spectra containing iTRAQ reporter ions can be recorded and averaged during a chromatographic run. The mass list approach was also used with the LTQ Orbitrap Velos instrument, both to allow comparisons to be made and to improve accuracy by collecting as many measurements as possible. A list of the 21 modified peptides targeted in these studies is given in Table 3-2; 20 modifications at 18 residues were considered (two variants are present for one modification to take account of the possibility of methionine oxidation). In addition, unmodified versions of the listed modified peptides and peptides resulting from cleavage with trypsin of unmodified versions of the listed modified peptides were also targeted (a full list of all targeted peptides with m/z values used is given as Appendix Table A4). Since it was not practical to monitor all possible modification sites in HSA in this way (there are hundreds of potential peptide masses), sites that had been identified previously by other workers as well as sites identified in the present study whose spectra suggested significant modification levels were included.

Modified Peptide ^a	Modification Site ^b	Type ^c
ALVLIAFAQYLQQC#PFEDHVK	Cys ³⁴	MA
SLH@TLFGDK	His ⁶⁷	MA
NECFLQH@K	His ¹⁰⁵	MA
VH@TECCHGDLLECADDR	His ²⁴²	MA
VHTECCH@GDLLECADDR	His ²⁴⁷	MA
SH@CIAEVENDEM*PADLPSLAADFVESK	His ²⁸⁸	MA
SH@CIAEVENDEMPADLPSLAADFVESK	His ²⁸⁸	MA
CCAAADPH@ECYAK	His ³⁶⁷	MA
EFNAETFTFH@ADICTLSEK	His ⁵¹⁰	MA
LVNEVTEFAK^TCVAD	Lys ⁵¹	MA

Table 3-2. List of modified peptides included in the targeted mass list.

YK^AAFTECCQAADK	Lys ¹⁶²	MA
LK^CASLQK	Lys ¹⁹⁹	MA
AFK^AWAVAR	Lys ²¹²	MA
AEFAEVSK^LVTDLTK	Lys ²³³	MA
ADLAK^YICENQDSISSK	Lys ²⁶²	MA
LAK^TYETTLEK	Lys ³⁵¹	MA
VFDEFK^PLVEEPQNLIK	Lys ³⁷⁸	MA
K^VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	Lys^{414}	MA
K~VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	Lys^{414}	SB
K^QTALVELVK	Lys ⁵²⁵	MA
K~QTALVELVK	Lys ⁵²⁵	SB

^a Unmodified versions of the listed modified peptides and peptides resulting from cleavage with trypsin of unmodified versions of the listed modified peptides were also targeted; C# indicates HNE Michael addition at Cys followed by reduction; H@ indicates HNE Michael addition at His followed by reduction; K^ indicates HNE Michael addition at Lys followed by reduction; K~ indicates Schiff base formation with HNE at Lys followed by reduction; M* indicates oxidation at Met

^b Secreted protein numbering; add 24 for nascent protein

^c MA indicates Michael addition; SB indicates Schiff base formation

Effect of HNE Concentration on the Level and Distribution of Modifications

Using 3 h incubations at 37°C, we report pilot data here on two HNE:HSA ratios: 50:1 and 100:1. Linear ion trap data alone were collected for this comparison (more extensive data, including Orbitrap measurements, are provided in the next section). These ratios provide sufficient conversion at 3 h to limit the inherent uncertainty in using PQD to assess iTRAQ labels. The data are the result of three separate LC-MS/MS replicate runs on a single sample preparation. Using duplicate (no HNE present) controls allows the consistency between iTRAQ counts to be evaluated: the log₁₀-transformed average 114:117 ratio (masses of the duplicate, control iTRAQ labels) was 0.0068, but the log₁₀-transformed standard deviation was 0.33 (single standard deviation 114:117 ratio range is from 0.47 to 2.18). As noted above, a highly targeted

peptide list (Table 3-2) was used in the analysis to maximize the iTRAQ detection count obtained for each peptide. Although 20 modifications were targeted, useful data were obtained for only 15 of them. Furthermore, of the 15 identified modifications, detections counts for Cys³⁴, Lys¹⁹⁹, and Lys²⁶² were very low (see Appendix Table A5). Results for the histidines and lysines are presented in Figure 3-4. In panels (a) and (c), depletion plots are shown for the unmodified histidines and lysines, respectively, scaled to 100% for the control samples. In panels (b) and (d) are the corresponding accumulation plots (average reporter ion intensities for each modified peptide are displayed; no scaling has been performed). The measurements supporting Figure 3-4 are listed in tabular form in Appendix Table A5.









(c) Depletion of unmodified peptides

(d) Accumulation of modified peptides containing the indicated lysine modification site containing the indicated modified lysine residue



Figure 3-4. Effect of varying HNE: HSA ratio on reaction progress measured using iTRAQ reporter ion intensity (linear ion trap/PQD) for targeted histidine and lysine sites. The targeted mass list was used. Depletion plots are average reporter ion intensities scaled to 100% for the control while average reporter ion intensities are given unaltered in the accumulation plots. Relative abundance measurements were not obtained for His²⁴², His²⁴⁷, His²⁸⁸, Lys⁵¹, and Lys²¹². MA indicates Michael addition while SB indicates Schiff base formation. When more than one unmodified peptide for a particular modification site was available, the most frequently-detected unmodified peptide was used.

In Figures 3-4a and 3-4c, one sees a reasonable dose/response relationship for the unmodified histidines and lysines—as the HNE concentration increases, there is a consistent drop in the intensity of the parent peptides. Looking at Figures 3-4a and 3-4c, the data indicate that His⁶⁷ and His⁵¹⁰ are the most reactive of the histidines and that Lys¹⁹⁹ and Lys⁵²⁵ are the most reactive lysines under these conditions. In Figures 3-4b and 3-4d, the accumulation plots present a somewhat different picture in terms of relative reactivity. First, it is clear that the peptides have very different ionization/detection properties, which leads to much greater variations in the response in the accumulation plots than is seen in the depletion plots (those are normalized relative to the control response). The variation in response suggests that much care must be taken

in evaluating relative reactivity on the basis of the detectability of products (*i.e.*, methods that use titrations to identify relative detection thresholds and then equate them with relative reactivity). Since intensities alone provide no guide, we are left with curve shape—the most reactive sites would be expected to show a greater increase in reporter ion intensity between the 0 and 50:1 points than between the 50:1 and 100:1 points because they would approach saturation (i.e., 100% conversion to product). For the histidines, His⁶⁷ remains a candidate for the most reactive site (reporter ion intensity at 50:1 is about the same as that at 100:1), in agreement with the depletion plots, but His⁵¹⁰ now appears to be least reactive (the increase in intensity between 0 and 50:1 is similar to that between 50:1 and 100:1), though the differences are modest. In the accumulation plots for the lysine series, Lys¹⁹⁹ stands out, but the jump between the 0 and 50:1 points is only a little larger than that between the 50:1 and 100:1 points; furthermore, the peptide supporting this modification was only detected once (see Appendix Table A5). Lys⁵²⁵ appears to still be relatively reactive, but the signal is split between the formation of a Michael adduct and a Schiff base, complicating interpretation. Looking for the least reactive targeted lysines, the accumulation plots suggest Lys²⁶² and Lys²³³ (most relative intensity is found for the 100:1 HNE: HSA ratio data points), which is broadly in agreement with the depletion plots. In general, the availability of only curve shape for the accumulation plots makes then particularly hard to interpret; we have only relative abundances and no knowledge of how close the reaction is to completion. Furthermore, the accumulation plots contain high degrees of uncertainty because signals are often low for the modified peptides (especially for Lys³⁷⁸), particularly at low conversions (intensities appear to be systematically low for the HNE-modified peptides,

probably because they offer alternative fragmentation pathways). In contrast, the depletion plots are much easier to compare since the degree of modification (i.e., depletion) must be zero if no HNE has been added. Therefore, the depletion plots would seem to be the best measure of relative reactivity. A critical point with respect to the data in Figure 4 is the impact of whether or not the systems are reaching equilibrium in this time frame. This issue is addressed with a more comprehensive analysis in the following section.

Effect of Incubation Time on the Level and Distribution of HNE Modifications

Incubation times of 1, 3, and 24 h were used with an HNE:HSA ratio of 100:1. The linear ion trap- and Orbitrap-based instruments were used with the same list of targeted peptides (Table 3-2) to maximize the number of MS/MS spectra collected for each peptide, thus enhancing the signal-to-noise ratio in the iTRAQ data. The data presented are the result of three complete repeat preparations, for each of which three replicate LC-MS/MS runs performed on each instrumental platform. We anticipated that the longest timeframe would lead to extensive modification and potentially an equilibrium mixture.

Data for targeted histidines are shown in Figure 3-5. All targeted histidines were detected except His²⁴⁷, which is difficult to confidently identify because it is located on the same tryptic peptide as His²⁴². Modified and unmodified peptides for the His²⁸⁸ site were detected both with and without an oxidized methionine; the non-oxidized form was detected more frequently and was used in constructing these plots. Figures 3-5a and 3-5b illustrate the depletion of parent peptides

and the accumulation of modified peptides, respectively, for the linear ion trap while Figures 3-5c and 3-5d provide the same information for the Orbitrap. The same unmodified peptides were used in constructing depletion plots for both instrumental platforms (see Appendix Table A6). Looking first at the depletion plots, there is good agreement between the methods on the least reactive targeted histidines (His¹⁰⁵ and His³⁶⁷). This result is in good agreement with the HNE:HSA ratio versus unmodified peptide depletion comparison given in Figure 1a. His⁶⁷ and His⁵¹⁰, which were most reactive in the concentration study, are again among the most reactive sites. However, the two additional detections, His^{242/7} and His²⁸⁸, appear most reactive, although His^{242/7}, by both methods, shows a greater degree of depletion at 1 h than 3 h. Moving to the modified peptide accumulation plots, His¹⁰⁵ and His³⁶⁷ are again confirmed as being among the least reactive targeted histidines (not approaching saturation). Again, in agreement with the depletion plots, His⁶⁷, His²⁸⁸, and His⁵¹⁰ are confirmed as being the most reactive targeted histidines (saturated by 24 hours). His²⁴² displays a more confusing picture, but this is probably caused by the low number of identifications obtained. This is due, as mentioned above, to two modification sites (His²⁴² and His²⁴⁷) being present on the same tryptic peptide (very high quality MS/MS spectra are required to unambiguously identify one particular site when another site on the same peptide must also be considered). Taking all Figure 3-5 plots together, it appears that the modification reaction is moving towards completion, but a reaction time of greater than 24 h is required.

(a) Linear ion trap measurement of the depletion of unmodified peptides containing the indicated histidine modification site



(c) Orbitrap measurement of the depletion of unmodified peptides containing the indicated histidine modification site (b) Linear ion trap measurement of the accumulation of modified peptides containing the indicated modified histidine residue



(d) Orbitrap measurement of the accumulation of modified peptides containing the indicated modified histidine residue



Figure 3-5. Effect of varying reaction duration, at a fixed HNE:HSA ratio of 100:1, on reaction progress measured using iTRAQ reporter ion intensity for targeted histidine sites. Linear ion trap/PQD and Orbitrap/HCD data are presented. The targeted mass list was used. Depletion plots are average reporter ion intensities scaled to 100% for the control while average reporter ion intensities are given unaltered in the accumulation plots. Relative abundance measurements were not obtained for targeted site His²⁴⁷, although this site shares the same unmodified peptide with His²⁴². MA indicates Michael addition while SB indicates Schiff base formation. When more than one unmodified peptide for a particular modification site was available, the most frequently-detected unmodified peptide was used.

The data for the lysines are presented in Figure 3-6. Eleven of twelve targeted modifications were identified using the Orbitrap, with the exception being Lys⁵¹; with the linear ion trap, Lys⁵¹ and Lys²¹² were missed. Figures 3-6a and 3-6b show the depletion of parent peptides and the accumulation of modified peptides, respectively, for the linear ion trap while Figures 3-6c and 3-6d provide the same information for the Orbitrap. The same unmodified peptides were used in constructing depletion plots for both instrumental platforms (see Appendix Table A7); furthermore, the same unmodified peptides were used in constructing Figures 3-4, 3-5, and 3-6. The lysines present a different picture to the histidines. Not only are the extents of depletion lower, but the plots indicate that lysine modifications become saturated and level off at what appear to be equilibrium levels. The curve shapes for the lysine depletion plots are clearly different to those observed for the histidine depletion plots. A group of three sites, Lys²³³, Lys²⁶², and Lys³⁷⁸, show very little depletion by both instrumental methods and appear to represent the set of least reactive targeted lysines (Lys²¹², although only detected on the Orbitrap platform, could also be added to this group). The most reactive targeted lysine is clearly Lys¹⁹⁹ while the second most reactive is Lys⁵²⁵. The accumulation plots again provide a roughly complementary picture, but they tend to suggest that there is a slow accumulation in some modification sites in the 3-24 h time frame that is not reflected in the depletion plots. This is most evident for Lys^{233} and it is unclear why there is a substantial increase in modified peptide signal here despite the small drop in parent peptide intensity for this site; however, it is important to note that what looks like a large change at the level of reporter ion intensity may only represent a small change in concentration. In any case, the drift up in the 3-24 h range for the all of the other peptides

suggests a rate that is well below that indicated for the first three hours and suggests the process is slowing, presumably to an equilibrium level. Interestingly, the Schiff base products show reduced relative abundance at longer reaction times, possibly indicating that the Michael adduct is the thermodynamically favored product.

These experiments were not designed to provide quantitative kinetic data—the iTRAQ system employed provides too few data points and the uncertainties are significant. However, it is possible to extract crude rate constants from the data in Figures 3-5 and 3-6. In this analysis, a pseudo first-order approach was used, focusing on the first three hours of reaction. PQD and HCD measurements were averaged at equal weight when calculating rate constants. For the slowest targeted histidines, His¹⁰⁵ and His³⁶⁷, rate constants of 0.027 ± 0.004 and $0.025 \pm$ $0.001 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, respectively, were obtained. For the pair of histidines that showed intermediate reactivity, His^{67} and His^{510} , the respective rate constants calculated were 0.088 ± 0.009 and 0.083 $\pm 0.004 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ (the listed uncertainties only consider the precision of the kinetic plots-including other experimental factors, uncertainties in the 10-20% range are expected). For the most reactive histidines, $His^{242/7}$ and His^{288} , the errors were much larger in the kinetic plots and the rate constants for both sites are probably best expressed as $0.2 \pm 0.1 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$. Errors were perhaps more significant because very low intensity reporter ions were being masked by noise in the mass spectrum. This approach is not possible with the lysines because they are approaching equilibrium and we do not have enough data points at early times. Nonetheless, the plots suggest that the most reactive lysine, Lys^{199} , has a rate constant comparable to $His^{242/7}$ and His^{288} .

(a) Linear ion trap measurement of the depletion of unmodified peptides containing the indicated lysine modification site



(c) Orbitrap measurement of the depletion of unmodified peptides containing the indicated lysine modification site (b) Linear ion trap measurement of the accumulation of modified peptides containing the indicated modified lysine residue



(d) Orbitrap measurement of the accumulation of modified peptides containing the indicated modified lysine residue



Figure 3-6. Effect of varying reaction duration, at a fixed HNE:HSA ratio of 100:1, on reaction progress measured using iTRAQ reporter ion intensity for targeted lysine sites. Linear ion trap/PQD and Orbitrap/HCD data are presented. The targeted mass list was used. Depletion plots are average reporter ion intensities scaled to 100% for the control while average reporter ion intensities are given unaltered in the accumulation plots. Relative abundance measurements were not obtained for Lys⁵¹ by either instrumental approach and were obtained for Lys²¹² only using the Orbitrap approach. MA indicates Michael addition while SB indicates Schiff base formation. When more than one unmodified peptide for a particular modification site was available, the most frequently-detected unmodified peptide was used.

Discussion

Comparison to Previous Work

Our strategy for the initial identification of HNE-modified sites was similar to Liebler's, with some differences being found in the computational details (for modified peptide identification Liebler used Sequest and P-Mod while we used Sequest and Trans-Proteomic Pipeline software). However, we were able to add high mass accuracy precursor ion measurements, obtained using an Orbitrap mass spectrometer, significantly improving identification confidence. Moreover, Liebler used a very high HNE:HSA ratio, 640:1, while we report the use of two much lower ratios, 1:1 and 10:1.

Aldini's approach resulted in a similar list of identified modified peptides, but it was distinct and comprehensive. Briefly, a tryptic digest of untreated HSA was analyzed using an LC-MS/MS with Sequest searching approach to build a list of detectable unmodified peptides. Reductions in selected ion chromatogram peak areas for HNE-exposed HSA versus control HSA, for each peptide, were then used to locate putative modification sites. These sites were then confirmed by collecting MS/MS data for the expected modified peptides. Chymotrypsin and chymotrypsin/trypsin hybrid digests were added in some cases to aid in distinguishing between two sites located on the same tryptic peptide. Furthermore, a search was made for additional peaks found in the HNE-exposed but not in the control total ion chromatogram that could indicate modified peptides for which the associated unmodified peptides had not been detected. However, this resulted in the identification of only one additional site, Lys¹⁹⁵, Figure 3-7 shows

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the divided and shared modification sites obtains from Aldini's, Liebler's, and our experiments at respectively highest HNE concentrations.



Figure 3-7. Divided and shared modification sites from Aldini's, Liebler's, and our experiments. A (red): Aldini's approach; L (yellow): Liebler's approach; G (blue): our approach.

Aldini also used depletion of unmodified peptides, again measured by precursor ion selected ion chromatogram peak area, to rank site reactivity. MS/MS data was not employed. At an HNE:HSA ratio of 1:4, only the tryptic peptide containing site Cys³⁴ showed significant depletion, making Cys³⁴ the most reactive site. At an HNE:HSA ratio of 1:2, His¹⁴⁶ and Lys¹⁹⁹ were added, with comparisons of the degree of depletion used to identify Lys¹⁹⁹ as second most reactive site. MS/MS data was required to determine whether the depletion at site Lys¹⁹⁹ was due to the Michael adduct or to Schiff base formation. No attempt to monitor reaction progression

over time or to rank the remaining sites was reported. Using selected ion chromatograms of precursor ions can be problematic when interfering species are encountered. Moving to the monitoring of characteristic MS/MS transitions would significantly improve confidence. Furthermore, excellent reproducibility is essential when comparing separate LC-MS/MS runs; methods, such as iTRAQ, where the peak areas to be compared are taken from the same spectrum are more robust.

In contrast, Liebler's strategy for ranking site reactivities is more similar to our iTRAQ approach than Aldini's. Liebler employed a self-developed system where phenylisocyanate (PIC) was used as a peptide N-terminus tag. Time point samples are labeled with ¹²C₆-PIC and are compared with a duplicate of the final time point labeled with ${}^{13}C_6$ -PIC. Time point and standard samples are mixed and then subjected to LC-MS/MS analysis. Using ¹³C-labeling ensures that light and heavy versions of each labeled peptide will co-elute and will therefore experience the same ionization environment. Liebler's approach uses a targeted mass list to ensure that both the light and heavy tagged peptides are selected for fragmentation, and then uses selected ion chromatogram peak areas for three characteristic fragment ions for each peptide as a measure of relative abundance. However, Liebler only monitored modified peptides; the depletion of unmodified peptides was not considered. Assigning the 24 h time point as a standard made it easy to regard this time point as representing the reaction going to completion, whereas our study indicates that this is not always the case. Finally, Liebler's method required targeting two masses for MS/MS spectra to provide relative quantification fro each peptide, so all other things being

equal, twice as many sites can be monitored with and iTRAQ approach where a single MS/MS spectrum provides the needed relative quantification.

As noted above, the present data share many of the same features as those obtained by Aldini in terms of modification sites. Comparisons focused on the relative reactivity of the sites are more difficult to make because the most reactive sites reported in the study by Aldini were difficult sites to quantify with our methods as well as with Aldini's methods. Aldini reports the following order of reactivity: $Cys^{34} > Lys^{199} > His^{146}$. In the case of Cys^{34} and His^{146} , they were not able to identify the modification products in tryptic digests, but had to rely on trypsin/chymotrypsin combination digests to identify them. Their conclusion was based on a combination of depletion data, comparisons of selected-ion chromatograms, and titrations identifying initial adducts at low HNE:HSA ratios. More recently, Aldini determined a rate constant of $30 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for the reaction of Cys³⁴ with HNE,¹³³ a value about two orders of magnitude greater than our approximate value for the most reactive histidines, suggesting that the free cysteine is exceptionally reactive. While we were able to identify adducts at Cys³⁴, His¹⁴⁶, and Lys¹⁹⁹ at high confidence in our initial survey, there were problems with each of these sites. His¹⁴⁶ was not included in the targeted mass list because this modification was observed in control runs where no HNE had been added and was not detected in initial Orbitrap test runs performed without a mass list; however, the chief peptide supporting His¹⁴⁶, RH@PYFYAPELLFFAK, is supported by convincing MS/MS spectra, with peak intensities conforming to the 'proline effect'.¹⁷⁶ Cys³⁴ and Lys¹⁹⁹ were added to the mass list, but for both residues relatively small numbers of acceptable MS/MS spectra

were obtained. Lys¹⁹⁹ has been included in the accumulation and depletion plots, but Cys³⁴ was not due to the probable presence of extensive cysteinylation at this site in HSA as mentioned above. Although Aldini did not rank the reactivity of their other modification sites, the limited quantitative data that they provide is consistent with the more extensive results shown here in Figures 3-(4-6).

Comparisons with Liebler's data are more difficult because the detected sites are somewhat different than those presented here. First, at an HNE:HSA ratio of 10:1, we find 15/34 (high/medium confidence) modifications whereas Liebler reports only ten at an HNE:HSA ratio of 640:1. The differences in the kinetic data are also significant. Liebler obtained the following order of reactivity for the histidines: $His^{242} > His^{67} \sim His^{510} > His^{367} > His^{247}$. Their rate constants vary by a factor of 600, from 0.0005 for His^{247} to 0.3 $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ for His^{242} (Sigma HSA numbers); in contrast, using the depletion of unmodified peptides, we see a much smaller variation in rate (from 0.02 for His¹⁰⁵ to circa 0.2 $M^{-1}s^{-1}$ for His^{242/7} and His²⁸⁸). Due to the requirement for very high quality MS/MS spectra to confidently identify isobaric modifications on the same peptide and the consequent low numbers of detections for His²⁴² and His²⁴⁷, we can only realistically use the depletion of the unmodified peptide to provide a combined rate for His²⁴² and His²⁴⁷. Our results indicate the following ranking that is broadly in agreement with Liebler: $His^{242/7} \sim His^{288}$ > His⁶⁷ ~ His⁵¹⁰ > His¹⁰⁵ ~ His³⁶⁷. Liebler identified but did not provide kinetic data for His¹⁰⁵ and did not detect His²⁸⁸. Overall, the major difference in the kinetic data centers on the rate constant of the less reactive histidines, which were found to be much slower in the Liebler study.

The origin of this difference is probably rooted in the methodologies that were used. In the Liebler study, the intensity of the HNE addition product was tracked as a function of time with the assumption that at 24 h there would be 100% modification at each site. The danger in this approach is that if the modification does not go to completion for some reason, such as equilibrium formation, or if the kinetics is more complex than expected, the approach can be skewed by the use of an errant reference point (i.e., assumption of 100% conversion at longest reaction time). In addition, if the modification site undergoes any secondary reactions, it is not included as a productive reaction and would lead to underestimation of the reaction rate. In our approach, we have based our kinetics on the disappearance of the unmodified peptide. In this case, the reference point (*i.e.*, 0% conversion in the control) is well defined. However, it is possible to overestimate the rate of a particular reaction if there are hidden pathways depleting the signal for the unmodified peptide. As a result, the present data should be viewed as upper-limits on the rates. In any case, neither our accumulation of modified peptide nor depletion of unmodified peptide data are consistent with His²⁴² having exceptional reactivity among the histidines. Liebler gives kinetic data for only one lysine, Lys²³³, which like in our results, they identify as being a relatively less reactive site. Overall, the present data are broadly consistent with those from Liebler, but suggest that other histidines compete much more effectively with His²⁴² than the previous data indicated.

Reactivity of Amino Acids

As noted above, it has been established that Cys³⁴ is the most reactive site in HSA. This is not surprising in that it is the only free cysteine and sulfur is known to be highly nucleophilic in Michael additions.⁷⁷ Comparison of the lysines and histidines is more complicated because the lysines do not react to completion and are under a mix of kinetic and thermodynamic control with our reaction conditions. Nonetheless, some general conclusions can be drawn from the data at 1 h because the reactions, for the most part, have not reached equilibrium or completion at this point. If we look at the three most reactive lysines that were characterized, averaging the linear ion trap and Orbitrap data at equal weight, we see approximately 95% (Lys¹⁹⁹), 65% (Lys⁵²⁵), and 27% (Lys³⁵¹) depletion at 1 h. For the four most reactive histidines, again combining linear ion trap and Orbitrap data, we see approximately 85% (His^{242/7}), 85% (His²⁸⁸), 49% (His⁶⁷), and 46% (His⁵¹⁰) depletion at 1 h. These data indicate that histidines and lysines exhibit roughly the same kinetic reactivity with HNE and that local, specific interactions are mainly responsible for the variation in their rates of addition. However with lysine, some sites are thermodynamically unfavorable and therefore will not be competitive because their reactions do not proceed to completion despite having reasonable intrinsic addition rates (*i.e.*, they must also have fairly high off-rates). The next question is what local environmental factors control the reactivity of the histidines and lysines.

Relative Histidine Reactivity

The targeted histidines divide clearly into a fast set (His⁶⁷, His^{242/7}, His²⁸⁸, and His⁵¹⁰) and a slower set (His¹⁰⁵ and His³⁶⁷). His⁴⁶⁴ is a site at which no evidence of modification was found, making it suitable as a negative control for environmental factors that affect HNE reactivity. In examining the crystal structure of HSA,¹³⁴ one finds that in general the most active sites have good, but not exceptional, surface accessibility. This can be quantified by a simple calculation of the SASA associated with the residue.^{135, 136} Although not a perfect measure of the environment, it provides some insight. Using the GETAREA program,¹³⁷ a plot of side chain and backbone SASAs for the histidines in HSA can be generated (Figure 3-7a). Although there is not an absolute pattern in this small data set, the general tendency is for moderate accessibility on the side chain and low relative accessibility on the backbone. This corresponds with sites that are near the surface, but recessed in pockets or seams on the protein surface. The obvious exception is His²⁴². In fact, His²⁴² matches the characteristics of the negative control, His⁴⁶⁴. Liebler and co-workers noted the unusual location of His²⁴² and suggested its reactivity was linked to it being buried in a hydrophobic pocket with its imidazole having very low basicity. We cannot clearly separate the reactivity of His²⁴² and His²⁴⁷ in our data so definite conclusions cannot be made. Of all the modification sites we have identified (His and Lys), none has exhibited a side chain SASA as low as His²⁴² (see below), so high reactivity here would be unique for the protein.







(a)

Figure 3-8. SASA in $Å^2$ for the (a) histidines and (b) lysines of HSA. Grey bars are the backbones and black bars are the side chains. Arrows indicate sites that were identified as being particularly reactive. In panel (b), the data is too extensive to include residue numbers, but highly reactive sites are labeled.

Relative Lysine Reactivity

The lysines are more interesting in that we have identified larger variations in rate/equilibrium constants and a larger data set is available. A similar pattern emerges in the plot of SASAs (Figure 3-7b). The most stable lysine adducts that we identified are Lys¹⁶², Lys¹⁹⁹, Lys³⁵¹, Lys⁴¹⁴, and Lys⁵²⁵. These residues follow the same general pattern as the histidines—one sees well to moderate accessibility on the side chains and very low accessibility on the backbone in the more reactive sites. Lys⁴¹⁴ appears to be an exception, but it is in a groove and will have reasonable accessibility in some side-chain conformations. In fact, Lys⁴¹⁴ is known to play a role in fatty acid binding (see below); in a crystal structure with myristic acid,¹⁷⁷ its SASA rises to 31.6 Å², a value consistent with other reactive lysines. It is interesting to note that of the 12 lysines that the GETAREA algorithm defines as exposed on the basis of their SASA values (side chain SASA > 82 Å² for lysine), only two were found to be modified in this study, Lys²⁶² (a low reactivity site) and Lys³⁵¹, suggesting that high accessibility poorly correlates with the probability of HNE modification.

Overall Reactivity Patterns

Comparisons of relative site reactivity were made from experiments where HNE was used at

1.5 mM, a concentration almost certainly higher than any occurring naturally. It must be remembered that extensive protein modification could have occurred at long reaction times and caused changes in protein conformation that exposed normally unavailable residues to the solution. Furthermore, undetected modifications, which would enhance depletion of the corresponding unmodified peptide, could exist. Since rates were estimated from unmodified peptide depletion data, undiscovered pathways would result in an overestimation of the rate. However, for some of the lysines, alternative depletion pathways caused by modification of nearby residues might be detectable. Since modification at lysine prevents cleavage by trypsin, there is often more than one unmodified peptide that can be used to determine the rate (*i.e.*, either of the peptides flanking the missed cleavage point in the modified peptide). If the calculated rate was significantly different between these unmodified peptides, it would imply that another depletion pathway existed for the more rapidly depleted unmodified peptide. Comparative data is available for Lys²³³, Lys²⁶², Lys³⁵¹, Lys⁴¹⁴ and Lys⁵²⁵. All except the unmodified peptides for Lys⁴¹⁴ are similar, which given the supporting peptides, implies that there may be some reactivity at Lys⁴¹³.

We have a relatively small sample set, but it is possible to draw some general conclusion about the factors that control the relative reactivity of histidine and lysine residues of HSA with HNE. As noted above, some degree of surface accessibility is necessary, but highly exposed sites are generally unreactive. The presence of nearby hydrophobic grooves or patches is a common theme in the more reactive residues identified in this study. This is not completely surprising

given the fact that HNE does have a moderately hydrophobic tail and could benefit from hydrophobic interactions. Liebler noted this in his study and suggested a strong link between the hydrophobicity of the environment and reactivity.¹⁶⁵ It is well known that HSA has multiple binding sites for fatty acids and crystal structures are available for complexes.^{177, 178} These binding sites provide a guide for locations that offer favorable hydrophobic interactions linked to a salt bridge interaction with a basic site. Interestingly, two of the strong lysine HNE binding sites, Lys⁴¹⁴ and Lys⁵²⁵, correspond directly with myristate binding sites (the carboxylate of a myristate binds to the ammoniums of these lysine residues).¹⁷⁷ In addition, two other strong HNE binding sites, Lys¹⁶² and His²⁸⁸, are located adjacent to the hydrophobic pockets occupied by myristic acid. There certainly is not a one-to-one correspondence between the HNE and myristate binding sites (and one should not be expected given the differences in structure/binding), but the overlap that we have observed is at least suggestive and indicates that hydrophobicity might be playing a significant role in the HNE binding preferences. Liebler also suggested that the pK_a of a histidine played an important role in its relative reactivity.¹⁶⁵ This conclusion was driven by their identification of His²⁴² as the most reactive histidine and an estimate of its imidazolium's pKa that indicated that it was unusually acidic. As shown above, although we see evidence of high reactivity in the peptide containing His²⁴² and His²⁴⁷, the consensus of our data is not consistent with His²⁴² being exceptionally reactive among the histidines (His²⁸⁸ is similar); therefore, the low, predicted pK_a does not appear to be a strong predictor of HNE reactivity.

Comparison to acrolein induced modifications

The overall modification sites in HSA induced by both aldehydes (acrolein and HNE) do not entirely overlap. Cys³⁴ was detected as modified when both aldehydes were incubated with HSA. More modified histidines were identified from HNE treated HSA at a 1:1 molar ratio of aldehyde to HSA than with the acrolein treated HSA. All of the identified histidine modifications (His¹⁴⁶, His²⁸⁸ and His³³⁸) found in the acrolein treatment was also found in the HNE treatment. However the His¹²⁸ and His⁵¹⁰ modifications found with HNE were not detected with acrolein treatment even at higher concentrations. The results are more diverse for lysine modifications. More modified lysines were identified with acrolein treated HSA than with HNE at the lower concentration of aldehydes. Only three lysine modifications (Lys³⁵¹, Lys⁵²⁵ and Lys⁵⁴⁵) of the eight from the acrolein treatment were identified with HNE. The Lys⁵¹ modification was detected in acrolein treated HSA but not in HNE treatment; Lys¹⁹⁹ and Lys²⁴⁰ were found to be modified by HNE but not by acrolein, even at a 10:1 molar ratio of aldehyde to HSA. A major, general difference is that acrolein tends to target lysines with greater surface accessibility than HNE. This is most likely a result of HNE being more hydrophobic and preferring sites near hydrophobic patches on the protein.

Conclusions

The addition of a prototypical α,β -unsaturated aldehyde, HNE, to HSA exhibits relatively high selectivity with only three of the potential 135 single addition modifications being identified at high confidence at an HNE:HSA ratio of 1:1. Even at high HNE:HSA ratios (100:1), our data suggests that only ten sites reach modification levels of 50% or more (assuming that most of the depletion of the unmodified peptide containing His²⁴² and His²⁴⁷ is due to the generation of His²⁴²). Our data indicate that aside from the highly reactive Cys³⁴, the next most kinetically reactive sites are Lys¹⁹⁹, His^{242/7}, and His²⁸⁸. Although this reaction system has been studied in the past, it has not previously been recognized that the lysine modifications are under thermodynamic rather than kinetic control under typical *in vitro* experimental conditions and do not go to completion even with HNE:HSA ratios as high as 100:1. This result suggests that lysine modifications by HNE will only have biological relevance when local HNE concentrations are anomalously high or if secondary reactions make the additions irreversible. In contrast, the monitored histidine reactions in the study appeared to be going to completion under our conditions. Finally, the work demonstrates that care must be taken in the quantification of HNE modified residues by mass spectrometry because the modification can greatly alter the ionization/detection efficiency of the peptide. In this respect, the iTRAQ approach, with monitoring of both the modified and unmodified peptides, offers a powerful tool for quantifying the reaction progressions.

Chapter 4: trans-4-Hydroxy-2-nonenal Induced Aconitase Carbonylation

and Its Impact to Enzyme Activity

Background

Aconitase (ACO) is a Krebs cycle (tricarboxylic acid cycle) dehydratase, which catalyzes the stereospecific conversion of citrate to isocitrate via the intermediate formation of cis-aconitate (Scheme 4-1).¹⁷⁹ It was first reported by Carl Martius in 1937.¹⁸⁰ Aconitase is present in both mitochondria and the cytosol of cells.^{181, 182} Mitochondrial aconitase (m-aconitase) and cytoplasmic aconitase (c-aconitase) are associated, however obviously different enzymes. They have about 30% amino acids sequence similarity. M-aconitase is abundant in heart, but c-aconitase is abundant in liver. Both types of aconitase contain an ion-sulfur cluster. The cubic iron-sulfur cluster is essential for their catalytic activities in the active state. C-aconitase can be converted to an iron-regulatory protein (IRP) by disassembling its iron-sulfur cluster when the iron is insufficient. IRP binds to iron-responsive elements (IRE) on either the 5' or the 3' untranslated region of various mRNAs that encode proteins related to iron storage and transport.^{179, 183-185} The two forms of the protein coexist *in vivo* depending on the iron level of cells. M-aconitase is similar to the c-aconitase form as an enzyme, containing an iron-sulfur cluster as well, but it does not act as an IRP.



(2R, 3S)-Isocitrate

Scheme 4-1. Conversion of citrate to isocitrate via the intermediate formation of cis-aconitate by aconitase in a Krebs cycle.¹⁷⁹

The porcine heart m-aconitase precursor consists of 781 amino acids (the first 27 residues is a mitochondrial targeting sequence) and an iron-sulfur cluster which plays the critical role in the enzymatic reaction.¹⁸⁶⁻¹⁸⁸ In the active state of aconitase, the iron and inorganic sulfur are organized as a cubic $[4Fe-4S]^{2+}$ cluster.¹⁸⁹ An aconitase can be inactivated by oxygen damage resulting in the loss of the forth iron (Fe_a) from a specific site in the cluster and reform a new, stable $[3Fe-4S]^+$ cluster.¹⁹⁰⁻¹⁹² But inactivated aconitase can be rapidly reactivated by addition of Fe²⁺ and a reducing agent such as DTT, resulting in the formation of the $[4Fe-4S]^{2+}$ cluster.^{193, 194} Each of three iron atoms in the iron-sulfur cluster forms a coordinate bond with one cysteine sulfur (C³⁵⁸, C⁴²¹ and C⁴²⁴) of the protein backbone (Figure 4-1).^{182, 186, 195} The Fe_a is ligated to inorganic sulfur and bound to hydroxyl from solvent.^{187, 196}



Figure 4-1. The formation of cysteine ligand with iron-sulfur cluster and transformation from $[3Fe-4S]^+$ to $[4Fe-4S]^{2+}$.¹⁹⁵

During the tricarboxylic acid cycle, the Fe_{α} in the $[4Fe-4S]^{2+}$ cluster directly participates in the binding of the substrate to the enzyme by coordinating to hydroxide and the C β carboxyl of citrate (Figure 4-2).^{195, 197} The coordination number of Fe_{α} increases to six from the substrate-free state. The intermediate product, cis-aconitate, binds with Fe_{α} in two ways, a citrate mode and an isocitrate mode. The two binding conformations transform by a 180° rotation around a perpendicular axis of the cis-aconitate double bond. The isocitrate coordinates with Fe_{α} by the hydroxyl and the C α carboxyl.^{192, 198-200}





Although the fourth Fe could be considered as the critical active site of participating in substrate binding and catalysis, the cluster function is also controlled by the constraints imposed by the protein structure through the amino acid ligands and the amino acid residues surrounding the cluster.²⁰⁰ The crystal structure has revealed that the active site region of aconitase involves the iron-sulfur cluster as well as 21 key amino acids side chains from all four domains of the protein (Figure 4-3).^{182, 201} Active site residues are considered as such if they are in contact with the cluster or bound substrate, or are involved in hydrogen bonding with residues that directly bind with substrate.¹⁸² The active site residues can be sorted into seven groups: cluster ligand cysteines (Cys³⁵⁸, Cys⁴²¹ and Cys⁴²⁴); asparagines hydrogen bonding with inorganic or cysteine sulfur (Asn²⁵⁸ and Asn⁴⁴⁶); histidines with aspartic acid or glutamic acid pairs (His¹⁰¹/Asp¹⁰⁰, His¹⁴⁷/Asp¹⁶⁵ and His¹⁶⁷/Glu²⁶²); arginines in contact with substrate carboxyl groups (Arg⁴⁴⁷, Arg⁴⁵², Arg⁵⁸⁰ and Arg⁶⁴⁴); the catalytic base serine (Ser⁶⁴²); serines and glutamine hydrogen bonding with substrate (Gln⁷², Ser¹⁶⁶ and Ser⁶⁴³); isoleucine (Ile⁴²⁵), which has a significant hydrophobic contact with the cluster; and an aspartic acid (Asp⁵⁶⁸), which is hydrogen bonded to active site residues Arg⁴⁵² and Arg⁶⁴⁴.¹⁸² Overall, the active site region is a mixed combination of residues which forms hydrogen-bonding network with the iron-sulfur cluster, substrate, water molecules and other residues etc..^{182, 200} The involvement of 21 residues may provide a partial explanation of why aconitase is a large protein.¹⁸² Mutational studies of some of the active site residues have proved that these residues are essential for the catalytic activity of aconitase.²⁰² The mutation of ligand cysteines to serines caused complete loss of activity. The mutations of Ser^{642} to alanine and Arg^{580} to lysine showed a 10⁵ fold decrease in activity. The mutation of

His¹⁰¹ to asparagine and Asp¹⁰⁰ to serine caused enzymatic activity to drop 3 orders of magnitude.^{182, 202}



Figure 4-3. The active site region in mitochondrial aconitase. The side chains of 14 key active residues, iron-sulfur cluster and bound isocitrate are shown with labels.²⁰¹

It was reported that m-aconitase is sensitive to reactive oxygen and nitrogen species.²⁰³ Superoxide anion (O_2^{-}), hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and peroxynitrite (ONOO⁻) have been shown to inactivate mitochondrial aconitase through disturbing the [4Fe-4S]²⁺ cluster.^{196, 204-207} During this reaction, iron (II) is released from the cluster resulting in an inactive [3Fe-4S]¹⁺ form. The oxidation of m-aconitase plays an important role in mitochondrial oxidative damage, which is related to several diseases and aging.²⁰⁸⁻²¹⁰ However, there is not much details related to modulating aconitase activity through the oxidative modifications of amino acids.

As a reactive carbonyl species, HNE may modulate m-aconitase activity by modifying amino acids in the active site of the enzyme. In this project, we investigate the reaction of HNE with
m-aconitase *in vitro*. The reaction also was tracked as a function of time using an iTRAQ labeling strategy.

Experimental Procedures

Chemicals

Mitochondrial aconitase from porcine heart (Product A5384), IAM, DTT, urea, 10×PBS and 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazineethanesulfonic acid (HEPES) concentrate were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO). HNE and enzymatic assay kits were obtained from Cayman Chemical (Ann Arbor, MI). Sequencing grade modified trypsin was from Promega (Madison, WI) and chymotrypsin was from Roche Diagnostics (Indianapolis, IN). Laemmli sample buffer was from Bio-Rad (Hercules, CA). Anti-HNE monoclonal antibody was purchased from Japan Institute for the Control of Aging (Haruoka, Japan). Enhanced chemiluminescence (ECL) kits were obtained from GE Healthcare (Pittsburgh, PA). BCA Protein Assay kits and Imperial protein stain were purchased from Thermo Fisher Scientific (Rockford, IL) and iTRAQ reagent kits were obtained from Applied Biosystems (Foster City, CA).

Experiments

Aconitase modification

Aconitase at 12 μ M in 1× PBS buffer (pH 7.4) was incubated with HNE at various final HNE:ACO molar ratios (1:1, 2:1, 10:1, 50:1, 100:1). All reactions were carried out at 37°C with gentle shaking. The reaction time was 2 h for all experiments except those in which the reaction time was intentionally varied. Excess HNE were consumed by reacting with 10 times DTT at room temperature for 30 min. Modified proteins were denatured by adding 6 M urea and stabilized by adding NaBH₄ to a final concentration of 5 mM and incubating for 60 min at room temperature. Repeated washes employing centrifugal filter devices (Millipore, Billerica, MA) were used to remove reagents and concentrate the sample for sodium dodecyl sulfate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) separation; the molecular weight cut-off for the centrifugal filter devices used was 50 kDa.

SDS-PAGE and in-gel enzymatic digestion

Modified protein was heated at 95°C for 5 min after mixing with the same volume of 2×Laemmli sample buffer. Aliquota of the mixture were loaded into each well and then separated by a homemade 4% stacking gel and 8% running gel. The final gel was stained using Imperial protein stain. The molecular weight of the different proteins in the sample was indicated by a protein ladder. The gel band containing aconitase was carefully cut out and washed. Prior to digestion, proteins in the sliced gel band were reduced with DTT and alkylated with IAM. The tryptic and chymotryptic digestion was carried out overnight at 37°C. Digestion products were extracted from the gel using 0.1% formic acid/5% acetonitrile and 0.1% formic acid/50% acetonitrile followed by centrifugal evaporation.

Western Blot

A similar amount of nonreducing, modified aconitase (40 μ g) from various HNE to ACO molar ratios (0:1, 1:1, 5:1 and 10:1) was loaded on an 8% SDS-PAGE gel, and then transferred to a polyvinylidene difluoride (PVDF) membrane. The membrane was blocked for 1 h at room

temperature with 5% milk in tris-buffered saline with tween 20 (TBST) and incubated with anti-HNE in 5% bovine serum albumin (BSA) (1:1000) overnight at 4°C. The blocked membrane was then washed with TBST and incubated with horseradish peroxidase (HRP) conjugated anti-mouse in 5% BSA (1:5000) for 1 h at room temperature. Following washing with TBST, the signal was developed with ECL detection reagents.

iTRAQ reagent labeling

Aconitase was incubated with HNE at a HNE:ACO molar ratio of 10:1 at 37°C. The reactions were quenched by adding DTT, urea and NaBH₄ in turn at 0, 1, 2, and 6 h. After SDS-PAGE separation and in-gel tryptic digestion, the concentrations of the HNE-modified peptide mixtures were measured using the BCA protein assay. Peptide mixtures were desalted using C18 MicroSpin columns (The Nest Group, Southboro, MA) and dried using a centrifugal evaporator. Solid peptide mixtures (containing 25 ug total peptides) were then reconstituted in 25 ul iTRAQ dissolution buffer. Four iTRAQ reagents (114-117) were dissolved in 70 µl ethanol separately. Each iTRAQ reagent aliquot was added to one of the peptide mixtures in the following sequence: 114 for the 0 h sample (control); 115 for the 1 h sample; 116 for the 2 h sample; and 117 for the 6 h sample. After incubation for 2 h at room temperature with gentle shaking, all four peptide mixtures were combined and then purified using a Waters (Milford, MA) Oasis MCX solid phase extraction cartridge. The final sample was dried using a centrifugal evaporator and then re-suspended in HPLC equilibration mobile phase for µLC-MS/MS analysis.

Enzymatic assay

Aconitase at 12 μ M in 1× HEPES buffer (pH 7.4) was incubated with HNE at various final HNE:ACO molar ratios (1:0, 1:1, 10:1, 50:1) for 2 h or at a HNE:ACO molar ratio of 10:1 with various reaction time frames (0 h, 1 h, 2 h, 6 h). All reactions were carried out at 37°C with gentle shaking. Modified proteins were precipitated and washed with 80% (NH₄)₂SO₄ on ice. The concentrations of the HNE-modified proteins from different molar ratios or time frames were determined using the BCA protein assay. Aconitase activity assay was performed following the manufacture's protocol. Modified aconitase from different preparations were activated by incubating with activation solution (50 mM cysteine hydrochloride and 1 mM ferrous ammonium sulfate in 1× Tris-Cl buffer) for 1 h on ice. Activated samples, nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADP⁺), isocitric dehydrogenase and citrate were added into wells of an assay plate in the order, followed by incubation at room temperature for 30 min. All the samples were assayed in triplicate in the presence and absence of inhibitor. The absorbance was monitored once every other minute at 340 nm for 30 min by a plate reader.

<u>µLC-MS/MS analysis</u>

1. HNE adduct identification

Adduct identification was performed using a Thermo (San Jose, CA) LTQ XL linear ion trap mass spectrometer, equipped with ETD, and by a Thermo LTQ Orbitrap Velos mass spectrometer. The LTQ XL was interfaced with a Thermo Surveyor capillary HPLC system. Peptides were separated on a reversed-phase, C18 column (150 µm × 10 cm, 5 µm particles, 300 Å pores; Column Technology, Fremont, CA) at a flow rate of $\sim 1 \,\mu l \, min^{-1}$ using 0.1% formic acid in water as mobile phase A and 0.1% formic acid in methanol as mobile phase B. Approximately 2 µg of peptides were injected and a Michrom (Auburn, CA) CapTrap trapping column was used for rapid sample injection. The gradient started from 2% B, then increased to 15% B over 5 min, then increased to 80% B over 70 min, and finally increased to 95% B over 15 min. The eluted peptides were introduced into the LTQ XL with a nanospray source operating at a spray voltage of 2.1 kV, a capillary voltage of 21 V, and a capillary temperature of 200°C. A full scan in the m/z range 300-2000 was performed to obtain precursor ions, followed by four data-dependent CID MS/MS scans for the four most abundant precursor ions in the full scan. Dynamic exclusion was used, that is, if the same precursor ion was picked for fragmentation twice within a 30 s window, it was excluded from further analysis for 180 s. For the Thermo LTQ Orbitrap Velos system, separations were performed on a Waters nanoACQUITY reversed-phase, C18 column (100 μ m × 10 cm; 1.7 μ m particles). Elution was achieved using a gradient of 0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile (B) versus 0.1% formic acid in water (A) at a flow rate of 0.4 µL min-1. Approximately 2 µg peptides were injected, with the loading and equilibration mobile phase being 1% B. The linear gradient ran to 15% B after loading at 1% B over 25 min, followed by an increase to 25% B over 35 min, followed by an increase to 35% B over 40 min, and followed by an increase to 85% B over 20 min. The nanospray ion source was operated at 3.5 kV.

2. iTRAQ reagent-labeled peptide quantification

Analysis of iTRAQ reagent-labeled samples was performed only by a Thermo LTQ Orbitrap Velos mass spectrometer. For the Orbitrap-based system, most operating parameters remained the same as those used for HNE adduct identification except that HCD replaced CID.¹⁷⁰ For HCD, the normalized collision energy was 40 and the activation time was 0.1 ms; the top eight most abundant ions in each precursor ion scan were subjected to HCD fragmentation. A targeted mass list was used and, therefore, dynamic exclusion was not enabled.

Database searching and data processing

Peptide sequences and modifications were identified using the BioWorks version 3.3.1, SP1 implementation of Sequest (Thermo). No scan grouping was performed in preparing peak lists for database searching. The protein sequence database used consisted of the NCBI RefSeq version of the complete porcine proteome and reversed versions of all sequences. Reversed sequences permit false discovery rate estimation. Sequences were downloaded on October 1, 2009, and the final database contained 43958 entries. Only fully-tryptic peptides were considered and up to three missed cleavage sites were allowed. Precursor ion tolerances were ±2 Da for linear ion trap measurments and ±15 ppm for Orbitrap measurements. Fixed mass shifts were applied for alkylated cysteines (+57 Da) while differential amino acid mass shifts were incorporated for NaBH₄-reduced Michael adducts at histidine and lysine (+158 Da) and at cysteine (+101 Da when the fixed mass shift at cysteine is considered), NaBH₄-reduced Schiff base adducts at lysine (+140 Da), and oxidized methionines (+16 Da). Mass shifts were added to Sequest parameters files at high-precision (see Appendix Table A1 for non-iTRAQ and Table A2 for iTRAQ experiments) for compatibility with highly accurate Orbitrap precursor ion measurements and a maximum of four variable modifications were permitted for each peptide. In searches with the iTRAQ labels present, fixed mass shifts of +144.104 Da were used for the peptide N-terminus and non-carbonylated lysine residues, which resulted in the differential mass shifts associated with HNE modification at lysine being changed to +14.027 Da (Michael adducts) and -3.984 Da (Schiff base adducts). MS/MS spectra for modified peptides were manually examined and any found to be inconsistent with the proposed identification were rejected.

Intensity measurements for iTRAQ reporter ions (114-117) were processed using Microsoft Access. MS/MS spectra for which all four reporter ion intensities were zero were first rejected. Reporter ion counts for all MS/MS spectra supporting each identified peptide were combined by averaging and then normalized by dividing the combined intensity of relative reporter ion from the targeted internal standard peptide (WVVIGDENYGEGSSR). Depletion plots were scaled to 100% for the control to allow comparison on the same axes while accumulation plots were not altered. Accumulation plots were simply the normalized raw intensity or the logarithm of it.

Results

HNE is a reactive carbonyl species and a byproduct from lipid peroxidation. The major mode of reaction of HNE with proteins is Michael addition to the nucleophilic amino acid side chains of cysteine, histidine and lysine to give stable adducts. HNE can also form a Schiff base with lysine's side chain.^{77, 146} All of the Michael additions lead to products bearing an aldehyde functional group whereas the Schiff base contains an imine instead. The m-aconitase is an 82 kDa protein with 12 cysteines, 25 histidines and 53 lysines. There are no disulfide bridges, but side chains of three cysteines are coordinated with the iron-sulfur cluster as ligands.^{186, 187} Some mutation studies of active site residues in m-aconitase have confirmed that changes in the active site can reduce or eliminate the catalytic activity of the enzyme.^{182, 202} HNE may modulate m-aconitase activity by modifications of amino acids in the active site of the enzyme.

Western Blotting

To confirm the modification of the protein, monoclonal anti-HNE was used to detect HNE modifications in samples of aconitase treated with HNE. The anti-HNE is particularly sensitive to modified histidines in proteins. Both reduced and unreduced samples were analyzed (i.e., treated or not treated with NaBH₄ after HNE modification). HNE-modified proteins were detected only from an unreduced sample. This is not surprising because the antibody is designed for the unreduced form of the HNE modification. An increased modification level was observed at the higher molar ratios of HNE to aconitase (Figure 4-4). The band position of aconitase only

could be determined roughly because the anti-aconitase antibody used to identify it was only weakly responsive in this study. The other present bands having steady blotting with the increased HNE concentrations are mostly caused by the unspecific binding of antibody.



Figure 4-4. Western blot of HNE modifications. A: reduced modifications with increasing molar ratios of HNE to aconitase (control, 1:1, 5:1 and 10:1); B: non-reduced modifications with increasing molar ratios of HNE to aconitase (control, 1:1, 5:1 and 10:1).

Modification Sites

The first aim of the project was to identify the key modification sites when m-aconitase was treated with HNE. Starting with an aconitase concentration of 12 μ M, HNE:ACO ratios from 1:1 to 50:1 were surveyed and data are report in Table 4-1. The experiment was repeated four times at each of the different ratios. Three repeats were analyzed using the linear ion trap system while one was investigated using the Orbitrap system. Results from trypsin and chymotrypsin digestions were combined together. Only one LC-MS/MS run was recorded for each sample

preparation due to the limited amount of sample from the in-gel digestion. Modifications detected using the liner ion trap instrument and validated by manual inspection of the MS/MS spectra were regarded as medium confidence; those confirmed with complementary data from the orbitrap system were regarded as high confidence. These data are also presented in terms of modified peptide (rather than modification site as found in Table 4-1) as Appendix Table A8. Site identifications were supported only by CID data. ETD was not used in this study.

It was possible to identify more modification sites when the amount of HNE was increased. At a 1:1 ratio of HNE to aconitase, five sites were identified: Cys³⁵⁸, Cys⁴²¹, Cys⁵⁶⁵, His¹³ and His⁹⁸ (the residue numbers are for the secreted protein; to convert to nascent protein numbering add 27). Only Cys^{358} and Cys^{565} were identified at high confidence. As the molar ratio increased to 2:1, eight modifications were detected. Four of them are at high confidence. At a ratio of 10:1, there are 22 identified modifications and 14 of them are at high confidence. When the molar ratio was raised to 50:1, more modified histidine and lysine residues were detected, but the four cysteine modifications found at lower ratios became less apparent and gave less confident identifications. In general, the identifications were very reproducible, but the concentration dependence indicates that in some cases, the peptides were at a concentration that was close to the threshold for our identification criteria. The combined sequence coverage is around 78% for the LTQ analysis and 68% for the Orbitrap analysis. It is possible that some peptide fragments having modification sites were not detected. Schiff base formation of lysine adducts were found only on Lys³⁸⁴ and Lys⁵⁶⁴. However, they were not investigated further.

Three of the five modifications that were identified at the lowest HNE concentrations were cysteines. Two of these, Cys³⁵⁸ and Cys⁴²¹ are in the active site and involved in the iron-sulfur cluster. This result matches previous research that showed that cysteine is the most reactive Michael addition site in proteins, but it is noteworthy that the iron-sulfur cluster is available for modification by HNE. As the amount of HNE increases, first more histidines appear as modified, then more lysines. It might be tempting to conclude that the reactions with histidine are less selective because a higher percentage of them are modified, but the larger number of modification sites is also driven by the fact that the reaction is more favorable and more of the HNE is naturally adducted to histidines at a given ratio. However, effects other than concentration also can have a major impact on the ability to identify modifications. Some care needs to be employed in analyzing data from these types of experiments. Therefore, a more direct quantification method, such as iTRAQ reagent labeling is needed for ranking reactivities.

It is also interesting to note that the solubility of the incubated sample declined as the amount of HNE or incubation time increased. Furthermore, some of the identified modification sites at the low molar ratios were not detected at higher ratios. The quantity of corresponding MS/MS spectra also dropped. This is possibly explained by cross linking between HNE-modified residues and lysine side chains by Schiff base formation, leading to peptides that could not be identified by our SEQUEST approach. This cross-linking is also expected to reduce solubility and potentially inhibit digestion by trypsin and chymotrypsin.

Modification Site ^a	Enzyme ^b	1:1 ^c	2:1 ^c	10:1 ^c	50:1 [°]
Cys ⁹⁹	Т	0	1*	1*	2
Cys ³⁰⁵	С	0	1	2	0
Cys ³⁵⁸	Т	3*	3*	3*	3*
Cys ⁴²¹	Т	2	1	3*	1
Cys ⁴²⁴	Т	0	0	3*	1*
Cys ⁵⁶⁵	Т	3*	3*	3*	3*
His ⁹	Т	0	0	0	1
His ¹³	Т	1	1	3*	3*
His ⁴⁶	Т	0	0	3*	3*
His ⁴⁶	С	0	0	3*	3*
His ⁹⁸	Т	1	1	2	3*
His ¹⁰¹	Т	0	0	3*	3*
His ¹⁴⁷	С	0	0	0	1
His ³²¹	С	0	0	2*	3*
His ³⁷⁹	Т	0	0	0*	0*
His ⁴⁶⁰	Т	0	1*	3*	3*
His ⁴⁶⁰	С	0	0	3	3*
His ⁵¹⁹	Т	0	0	3	3*
His ⁵⁶⁹	Т	0	0	2	2*
His ⁶⁶⁸	Т	0	0	1*	2*
His ⁷¹⁷	Т	0	0	1	1
His ⁷²⁹	Т	0	0	0	1*
Lys ²³	Т	0	0	1	2
Lys ¹¹⁷	Т	0	0	3*	3*
Lys ²¹⁸	Т	0	0	1	2
Lys ⁴⁹⁰	Т	0	0	0	3
Lys ⁴⁹⁶	Т	0	0	2	3
Lys ⁶⁷⁴	Т	0	0	0	1*

Table 4-1. List of identified modification sites based on linear ion trap data (represented by number) and Orbitrap data (represented by *). Bolded with underscore sites represent active site residues. Manual MS/MS spectrum validation was required in all cases.

^a Secreted protein numbering; add 24 for nascent protein

^b T indicates Trypsin digestion; C indicates Chymotrypsin digestion

^c Applied HNE:ACO molar ratio. Values are counts of LC-MS/MS runs in which the modified site was identified using linear ion trap CID scans (maximum=3) and linear ion trap CID scans associated with high mass accuracy Orbitrap precursor ion mass measurements (*)

Relative Modification Levels Based on iTRAQ labeling

In a quadrupole ion trap, such as that found in the LTQ XL instrument used to identify modification sites, it is very difficult to simultaneously trap low mass iTRAQ reporter ions and the b- and y-ions needed for peptide identification because the mass window is fundamentally limited. Although PQD technology¹⁷⁵ has partially alleviated this limitation, in this project, the signal of iTRAQ reporter ions from PQD analysis was still low. Thus, the LTQ Orbitrap Velos instrument was applied to improve accuracy. A targeted mass list of anticipated peptides (modified and unmodified) was used. A list of the 12 modified peptides targeted in these studies is given in Table 4-2; 17 modifications at 12 residues were considered. In addition, unmodified versions of these peptides were also targeted (a full list of all targeted peptides with m/z values used is given as Appendix Table A9). In some cases, more than one unmodified version was needed because the modified peptides contained a missed cleavage - a version with and without the missed cleavage was included in the list. A peptide with no HNE addition sites was put in the list as an internal standard (WVVIGDENYGEGSSR) for normalizing the intensity of reporter ions. Since the methods in this project may impact the stability of imines formed between HNE and lysine, Schiff base formation of lysine adducts was not included in the iTRAQ analysis (actually, the detected Schiff base formation was very limited). By targeting masses and not employing a dynamic exclusion protocol, many more MS/MS spectra containing iTRAQ reporter ions can be recorded and averaged during a chromatographic run. However, it was not practical to monitor all the potential HNE modifications in m-aconitase in this way (there are too many

potential peptides masses). Only the sites identified at significant modification levels were

included. Most of the modification sites from Table 4-1 were included.

Modified Peptide ^a	Modification Site ^b			
VAVPSTIHC@DHLIEAOLGGEK	Cys ⁹⁹			
VAVPSTIH^C@DHLIEAQLGGEK	Cys ⁹⁹ /His ⁹⁸			
VAVPSTIHC@DH^LIEAQLGGEK	Cys ⁹⁹ / His ¹⁰¹			
VAVPSTIH^C@DH^LIEAQLGGEK	Cys ⁹⁹ / His ⁹⁸ / His ¹⁰¹			
VAVPSTIH^C*DHLIEAQLGGEK	His ⁹⁸			
VAVPSTIHC*DH^LIEAQLGGEK	His ¹⁰¹			
VAVPSTIH^C*DH^LIEAQLGGEK	His ⁹⁸ / His ¹⁰¹			
VGLIGSC@TNSSYEDMGR	Cys ³⁵⁸			
VGLIGSC@TNSSYEDM#GR	Cys ³⁵⁸			
DVGGIVLANAC@GPC*IGQWDR	Cys ⁴²¹			
DVGGIVLANAC*GPC@IGQWDR	Cys ⁴²⁴			
DVGGIVLANAC@GPC@IGQWDR	Cys ⁴²¹ / Cys ⁴²⁴			
C@TTDHISAAGPWLK	Cys ⁵⁶⁵			
C@TTDH^ISAAGPWLK	Cys ⁵⁶⁵ / His ⁵⁶⁹			
C*TTDH^ISAAGPWLK	His ⁵⁶⁹			
VAMSH^FEPHEYIR	His ⁹			
VAM#SH^FEPHEYIR	His ⁹			
VAMSHFEPH^EYIR	His ¹³			
VAM#SHFEPH^EYIR	His ¹³			
VAMSH^FEPH^EYIR	His ⁹ / His ¹³			
VAM#SH^FEPH^EYIR	His ⁹ / His ¹³			
IVYGH^LDDPANQEIER	His ⁴⁶			
NDANPETH^AFVTSPEIVTALAIAGTLK	His ⁴⁶⁰			
AEFDPGQDTYQH^PPK	His ⁵¹⁹			
AK~DINQEVYNFLATAGAK	Lys ¹¹⁷			
FNPETDFLTGK~DGK	Lys ⁴⁹⁰			
FK~LEAPDADELPR	Lys ⁴⁹⁶			
K~QGLLPLTFADPADYNK	Lys ⁶⁷⁴			
^a Unmodified versions of the listed modified peptides were included in the				
list. If the modified peptide contains a missed cleavage, an additional				
peptide (without the missed cleavage) was also included. A peptide				

Table 4-2. List of modified peptides included in the targeted mass list.

(WVVIGDENYGEGSSR) without HNE modification sites was also included as an internal standard; C* indicates carboxyamidomethylation at Cys; C@ indicates HNE Michael addition at Cys followed by reduction; H^ indicates HNE Michael addition at His followed by reduction; K~ indicates HNE Michael addition at Lys followed by reduction; M# indicates oxidation at Met

^b Secreted protein numbering; add 27 for nascent protein

Effect of Incubation Time on the Level and Distribution of HNE Modifications

Incubation times of 1, 2, and 6 h were used with an HNE:ACO ratio of 10:1. The Orbitrap-based instruments was employed with the list of targeted peptides (Table 4-2) to maximize the number of MS/MS collected for each peptide, thus enhancing the signal-to-noise ratio in the iTRAQ data. The data presented are the result of three replicated LC-MS/MS runs from a single preparation. In this study, higher HNE concentrations and longer incubation times cannot be applied due to the poor solubility of aconitase under these experimental conditions. One unmodified peptide was chosen as an internal standard (WVVIGDENYGEGSSR) to correct for declining overall signal intensity caused by possible protein precipitation during long incubations. The measurements are listed in tabular form in Appendix Table A10.

Data for targeted cysteines are shown in Figure 4-5. All the targeted cysteines were detected except Cys⁴²⁴, which is difficult to confidently identify because it is located on the same tryptic peptide as Cys⁴²¹. Very high quality MS/MS are required to unambiguously identify one particular site when another site on the same peptide must also be considered. In this case, strong evidence was only found for Cys⁴²¹. Tryptic peptides having both Cys⁴²¹ and Cys⁴²⁴ modified were not found. In the listed sites, Cys⁹⁹/His^(98/101) and Cys⁵⁶⁵/His⁵⁶⁹ also share the same tryptic

peptides. In these cases, all the possible modifications share the same unmodified parent peptide and cannot be distinguished in plots of parent peptide depletion rates. Modified and unmodified peptides for the Cys³⁵⁸ site were both detected, with and without an oxidized methionine; the oxidized and non-oxidized forms had a similar contribution in constructing these plots. Figures 4-5a and 4-5b illustrate the depletion of parent peptides and the accumulation of modified peptides from Orbitrap measurements. Generally, the depletion plots are easier to compare because the starting and end points are well defined - 100% intensity at time zero and 0% intensity at reaction completion. In contrast, we have no information about the expected absolute intensity at 100% conversion (standards are not available). As a result, it is not possible to relate the intensity of the modified peptides to relative concentrations. In addition, the modified peptides often give low signal intensities due to low concentrations in some cases and potentially poor ionization properties in others. Unfortunately, three of the four identified cysteine modifications are on peptides with more than one potential site. The simple case is Cys³⁵⁸, which exhibits about 20% depletion at 6 hours in its parent peptide. Much of the reaction appears to be complete in the 1st hour and this is confirmed in the accumulation plot. The modifications at Cys⁴²¹ and Cys⁴²⁴ share the same peptide. Because both are part of the iron-sulfur cluster, distinguishing between them is not as critical. They exhibit over 60% depletion at 6 hours. The cysteines that share peptides with histidine modifications are more difficult to analyze. However, some insight can be gained by examining the kinetic profiles. For the peptides containing Cys⁹⁹ and Cys⁵⁶⁵, most of the observed depletion occurs in the first 2 hours. This is mirrored in the accumulation plots for the two modifications. In contrast, the accumulation plots for the

corresponding histidine modifications are more linear and substantial accumulation occurs between 2 hours and 6 hours (Figure 4-6b). The match of kinetic profiles (accumulation vs. depletion) for the cysteines strongly suggests that the majority of the depletion in the parent peptide is due to cysteine modification. It is likely that the histidines represent only a small fraction of the depletion at early times and play a greater role late in the kinetic studies. As a result, it is reasonable to assume that the depletion of the parent peptides of Cys⁹⁹ and Cys⁵⁶⁵ is mainly caused by cysteine modifications at the 6 h time point.





(b) Accumulation of modified peptides containing the indicated modified cysteine residue

Figure 4-5. Effect of varying reaction duration, at a fixed HNE:ACO ratio of 10:1, on reaction progress measured using iTRAQ reporter ion intensity for targeted cysteine sites. The targeted mass list was used with Orbitrap/HCD measurement. Depletion plots are scaled to 100% for the control while normalized absolute intensities are given in the accumulation plots. Relative abundance measurements were not obtained for targeted site Cys⁴²⁴, although this site shares the same unmodified peptide with Cys⁴²¹.

Data for the histidines are presented in Figure 4-6. Seven of eight targeted modification sites were identified using the Orbitrap, with the exception being His¹⁰¹, which is located on the same tryptic peptide as His⁹⁸. Two tryptic peptides containing two sites His^(9/13) and His^(98/101) were also detected. Modified and unmodified peptides for sites His^(9/13) were both detected, with and without an oxidized methionine - the oxidized and non-oxidized forms had the similar contributions in constructing these plots. Figure 4-6a and 4-6b illustrate the depletion of parent peptides and the accumulation of modified peptides from Orbitrap measurements. As discussed above, it is likely that much of the depletion seen in peptides sharing a cysteine and histidine is

due to the cysteine. As a result, His⁴⁶⁰ stands out as an exceptionally reactive histidine. Only modest depletion is seen for the other histidines and the accumulation plots indicate that many of the histidines are far from reaching complete reaction at 6 hours; they still retain nearly peak reaction velocities.





(b) Accumulation of modified peptides containing the indicated modified histidine residue

Figure 4-6. Effect of varying reaction duration, at a fixed HNE:ACO ratio of 10:1, on reaction progress measured using iTRAQ reporter ion intensity for targeted histidine sites. The targeted mass list was used with Orbitrap/HCD measurement. Depletion plots are scaled to 100% for the control while normalized absolute intensities are given in the accumulation plots. Relative abundance measurements were not obtained for targeted site His¹⁰¹.

Data for the listed lysines are presented in Figure 4-7. Three of the four targeted lysines were detected - the exception is Lys⁴⁹⁰. Figures 4-7a and 4-7b illustrate the depletion of the parent peptides and the accumulation of the modified peptides from Orbitrap measurements. In the depletion plots for the listed lysine series, the depletion for all parent peptides is very limited. The changes seen in the plot are at the uncertainty of the measurement and not meaningful. It indicates that the lysine reaction towards HNE is inefficient. In the accumulation plots, significant background modification is seen at time zero. This may represent a small concentration of the modification present in the starting aconitase or be background noise in the iTRAQ ion region of the spectrum. In either case, the plots in Figure 4-7 indicate that lysine

modifications are not significant under these conditions and only reach concentrations suitable for detection, but not quantification.



(a) Depletion of unmodified peptides containing the indicated lysine modification site



(b) Accumulation of modified peptides containing the indicated modified lysine residue

Figure 4-7. Effect of varying reaction duration, at a fixed HNE:ACO ratio of 10:1, on reaction progress measured using iTRAQ reporter ion intensity for targeted lysine sites. The targeted

mass list was used with Orbitrap/HCD measurement. Depletion plots are scaled to 100% for the control while normalized absolute intensities are given in the accumulation plots. Relative abundance measurements were not obtained for targeted site His⁴⁹⁰.

Enzymatic Assay

Aconitase activity was determined using an established assay. This method is based on measuring the rate of NADPH generation at a wavelength of 340 nm (Scheme 4-2).^{211, 212}



Scheme 4-2. Generation of NADPH in aconitase enzymatic assay.²¹¹

The activity of two preparations of modified aconitase was measured: One set was prepared from various molar ratios of HNE to aconitase (0:1, 1:1, 10:1 and 50:1) with a 2 h incubation (Figure 4-8); another set was prepared from various incubation time frames (0h, 1h, 2h and 6h) at a molar ratio of 10:1 (Figure 4-9). Sample preparations were done in triplicate and the activity of each sample was measured three times. The average absorbance value from each sample was plotted as a function of time and the linear portion of the assay's calibration curve was used in the analysis. Relative activity was obtained after correcting for blank activity and normalizing against the rate of the aconitase positive control (activity of positive control was considered as 100%).



Figure 4-8. Enzymatic assay of HNE modified m-aconitase. Samples were prepared at different molar ratios (0:1, 1:1, 10:1 and 50:1) with 2 h incubation.



Figure 4-9. Enzymatic assay of HNE modified m-aconitase. Samples were prepared from different incubation time frames (0 h, 1 h, 2 h and 6 h) at a molar ratio of 10:1.

The relative activity of the 0 to 1 molar ratio or the 0 h incubation time was around 100% as expected. It shows that the process of sample preparation does not cause enzyme activity to be lost. In both assay experiments, with the elevation of HNE amount or incubation time, aconitase activity dropped. In the molar ratios experiments, catalytic activity was at 70%, 45% and 40% of

original sample when the molar ratios were 1:1, 10:1 and 50:1 with a 2 h incubation. In the incubation time experiments, enzyme activity remained around 50%, 45% and 35% when the time frames were 1 h, 2 h, and 6 h at a 10:1 molar ratio. The two experiments overlapped at the 10:1 molar ratio with a 2 h incubation, and results from the overlap measurements were quite consistent. The activity decline of modified aconitase in both sets did not drop off at a consistent rate and it appears that the modification stalled at long reaction times or high concentrations. At a 50:1 molar ratio or 6 h incubation, 35% - 40% of activity still remained. Higher molar ratios or longer incubation times cannot be examined due to the poor solubility caused by presumably cross-linking.

Discussion

Method Development

Porcine heart aconitase purchased from Sigma-Aldrich was used in this project. At the beginning, the project suffered from low coverage and poor signal in the tandem mass spectrometry, which limited our ability to detect modifications. Some experiments were attempted to improve the results. Various enzymes (Trypsin, GluC, Chymotrypsin and AspN) were combined. HNE was substituted by a more active carbonyl reagent, acrolein. A chelating reagent, bathophenanthroline disulfonic acid disodium salt (OBP), was added before enzymatic digestion to try to break ligation between the cysteines and the cluster. The coverage and number of detected modification could not be dramatically improved with these approaches.

Analysis of the commercial sample using SDS-PAGE separation and mass spectrometry revealed the purity of aconitase is much lower than reported (Figure 4-10). The purchased sample is a mixture of various proteins. Porcine serum albumin in a large portion was added to stabilize aconitase. The low purity of aconitase made the identification of modification sites difficult by the method described in the previous HSA project. In this project, SDS-PAGE separation and in-gel digestion were applied after modification instead of gel-free digestion.



Figure 4-10. 10% SDS-PAGE running of Sigma-Aldrich aconitase and rat heart mitochondria.

During the incubation of HNE with aconitase, the solution was observed to become cloudy with increased incubation time. This phenomenon was more obvious at higher molar ratios of HNE and finally caused smeared gel bands and poor tandem mass spectra. It was assumed to be due to intra and intermolecular cross-links involving Michael additions and Schiff base formations. To limit this problem, excess DTT was added after incubation of HNE with aconitase to consume the remaining HNE. Urea was then used to denature the modified proteins before adding reductant. This method was applied to possibly break down any imines involved in cross-linking. Analysis of samples with this approach showed a clearer gel band from the SDS-PAGE and improved tandem mass spectrum quantity at a 50:1 molar ratio (Figure 4-11). The drawback of this method is that the added DTT may compete for adducted HNE or impact the ligated cysteines. Additionally, it probably would be difficult to detect Schiff base formation under the conditions. However, product analyses from the two methods at a 10:1 molar ratio showed

similar modifications. This implies that the added DTT did not impact the modifications significantly at room temperature and pH 7.4.



Figure 4-11. 10% SDS-PAGE running of modified aconitase (HNE:ACO=50:1) with or without adding DTT and urea before reduction. A: treated with DTT and urea; B: without DTT and urea added.

Correlation between HNE Modifications and Enzyme Activity

Superoxide anion (O_2^{-}), hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) and peroxynitrite (ONOO⁻) have been shown to inactivate mitochondrial aconitase through disturbing the [4Fe-4S]²⁺ cluster.^{196, 204-207} Aconitase activity may also be modulated by modifications of amino acids. Peroxynitrite (ONOO⁻) has been reported to modulate m-aconitase activity through modifications of cysteines and tyrosines.^{204, 205} In this project, some of the identified HNE modifications are in the active site region of aconitase. Cys³⁵⁸, Cys⁴²¹ and Cys⁴²⁴ contribute ligands to the iron-sulfur cluster. The replacement of any of these cysteines with serine causes enzymatic activity to be lost. It has been shown that Cys⁵⁶⁵ is the most reactive cysteine in aconitase towards electrophiles and can bind to various alkylation reagents, causing a decrease in aconitase activity.^{181, 213} Although this cysteine is not in the active site, modification of this residue could inhibit substrate entry to the cluster. His¹⁰¹ and His¹⁴⁷ are also active sites in aconitase because they directly or indirectly provide protons when paired with Asp¹⁰⁰ and Asp¹⁶⁵ in hydrogen bonds with the substrate.¹⁸² The mutation of His¹⁰¹/Asp¹⁰⁰ and His¹⁴⁷/Asp¹⁶⁵ pairs to Asn/Ser pairs shows varying-levels of decrease in aconitase activity.²⁰² Our enzymatic assay results show reduced catalytic activities when the amount of HNE or incubation time increases. Before performing the assay, an effort was made to rebuild the $[4Fe-4S]^{2+}$ cluster by providing the necessary components for the cluster. Assuming that the conditions used were favorable for cluster formation (near 100% activity was seen in the control samples subjected to the same procedures), it appears that protein modifications by the HNE must be the cause of the reduced aconitase activity. This could be a direct result of modification at active site residues or a result of poor folding due to cross-linking. The iTRAQ data provides evidence for the former.

In this project, iTRAQ reagent labeling quantification was employed to measure the relative reactivity of targeted sites. There is evidence that critical residues are modified. The high degree of modification at the cysteines in the iron-sulfur cluster suggests that HNE would have a large impact on aconitase activity. The depletion plots for the unmodified peptides containing these cysteines are quite similar in profile to the aconitase activity plots. Each drops rapidly in the first 2 hours to about 40-50% of the control value and then begins to level off in the 2-6 hour period.

This correlation strongly suggests that HNE modification of a cysteine in the iron-sulfur cluster leads to the elimination of aconitase activity.

The enzyme activity assay as well as the cysteine modification analysis (iTRAQ) suggests that the HNE alteration of the protein does not go to completion. In each case, about 30% - 40% of the protein appears to resist alteration despite higher HNE concentrations or longer incubation times. This indicates that some portion of the protein is protected from reaction in the incubation process. There is not enough information from these studies to pinpoint the cause. A possible explanation is that some HNE modifications do not reduce function, but do alter the structure or solubility of aconitase in a way that inhibits reaction of HNE with active site residues. In such a scenario, the aconitase could retain activity and avoid critical cysteine modifications despite extended reaction times or greater HNE concentrations.

Reactivity of Amino Acids

As noted above, there are twelve cysteines, but no disulfide bridges in aconitase. Three cysteines, Cys^{358} , Cys^{421} and Cys^{424} , coordinate with the iron-sulfur cluster as ligands.¹⁸⁹ In reactions with electrophiles, Cys^{565} has been reported as the most reactive site in the enzyme.²¹³ All detectable cysteines, except Cys^{358} , share the same tryptic peptides with other amino acids, which makes it hard to rank the reactivity of the cysteines using the iTRAQ quantification. If we assume that the cysteines are more reactive than the histidines in the peptides that contain both, the data in Figure 5a suggest the following order of reactivity: $Cys^{421/424} > Cys^{99} > Cys^{565} > Cys^{358}$. The high level

of modification in the peptide containing Cys^{421/424} may be a result of it having two reactive cysteines. It is somewhat surprising that Cys⁹⁹ reacts faster than Cys⁵⁶⁵, which had been identified in previous studies as being the most reactive with electrophiles. It is true that the peptide with Cys⁹⁹ has contributions in its modification from His^{98/101}, but as discussed earlier, these are expected to be small. In any case, the data suggest that all of these cysteines, Cys⁹⁹, Cys^{421/424}, and Cys⁵⁶⁵ have high reactivity. In the histidines, it is more difficult to identify an order of reactivity because His^{98/101} and His⁵⁶⁹ have their reactivity masked by the more reactive cysteines in the peptides that contain them. Excluding these, we are left with His⁴⁶⁰ > His⁴⁶ ~ His^{9/13} > His⁵¹⁹. Of these, His⁴⁶⁰ separates itself out as being significantly more reactive than the others. Based on their very limited reactivity, nothing can be stated about the relative lysine reactivity.

A simple calculation of the SASA associated with the residues can be done.^{135, 136} It provides some insight into the environments of the reactive residues. Plots of side chain and backbone SASAs for the cysteines and histidines in aconitase can be generated using the GETAREA program¹³⁷ (Figure 4-12). Lysines are excluded because we have no useful reactivity data for them. From the SASAs plots of cysteines and histidines, there seems to be no relationship between the SASA and reactivity other than the need for marginal surface accessibility.

Cysteines in aconitase



Histidines in aconitase



Figure 4-12. SASA in $Å^2$ for cysteines and histidines in aconitase. Red bars are the backbones and blue bars are the side chains. Green arrows indicate sites that were on the target list.

What the majority of the most reactive residues have in common is that they are physically close to the active site of the enzyme.²⁰⁰ All the cysteines from the iron-sulfur cluster are reactive with HNE, as well as a number of histidines that are in close proximity to the active site. In addition to the cysteines of the iron-sulfur cluster, many other reactive sites are near the cluster. His¹⁰¹ and His¹⁴⁷ are within 10 Å of the cluster and Cys⁹⁹, His⁹⁸, His⁴⁶⁰, and His⁵⁶⁹ are all within about 20 Å of the cluster. This is an intriguing finding and suggests that features of the active site might direct HNE modification to residues in the vicinity. This would make aconitase very sensitive to HNE modification and potentially, active site residues might be catalyzing the HNE modification. This type of targeted modification was not seen in HSA and indicates that the local environment can play a strong role in directing HNE modification.

Conclusions

The addition of a reactive α , β -unsaturated aldehyde, HNE, to aconitase exhibits relatively high selectivity. The modification sites were determined at high confidence with various molar ratios of HNE to ACO (1:1, 2:1, 5:1 and 10:1) using mass spectrometry. In addition to the iron-sulfur cluster, other amino acids play a critical role in the enzymatic reaction and are considered as active site residues. Enzymatic assays of aconitase modified with HNE at various incubation times and molar ratios show decreased enzyme reactivity. iTRAQ quantification was applied to measure the relative reactivity of targeted amino acids towards HNE. The results suggest that cysteines have relatively high modification levels. The quantitation results for ligated cysteines (C^{358} , C^{421} and C^{424}) and an active site histidine (His¹⁰¹) are consistent with the enzymatic assay results, which quantitatively indicated that the decreased aconitase activity correlates with the extent of modification of active sites. Finally, the crystal structure of aconitase and plots of SASAs indicate that surface accessibility does not correlate with reactivity in aconitase. Instead, reactivity seems to be targeted at residues near the active site.

Chapter 5: Determine The Level and Nature of Protein Carbonylation in

Oxidatively Stressed Mouse Heart Mitochondria

Background

Mitochondria are a major source of ROS and target for oxidative damage. Mitochondria are involved in the production of ROS through one-electron carriers in the electron-transport chain (ETC), and mitochondria are also very susceptible to oxidative stress as evidenced by significant reports of LPO, protein oxidation and mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) mutations. Mitochondria play a critical role in various apoptosis events since oxidative stress induced by ROS can cause apoptosis.²¹⁴ However, exact mechanisms of increased ROS formation in mitochondria and their induction of apoptotic signals are not deeply understood.²¹⁵

The ETC is a powerful source of ROS during normal metabolism.^{216, 217} These ROS primarily are superoxide radical (O₂⁻) and hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂). The latter is either as a product of SOD or spontaneous disproportionation of superoxide radical.^{214, 218} It is calculated that 1-4% of the oxygen entering the ETC is incompletely reduced to ROS.^{214, 219, 220} The ETC is composed of five multimeric complexes (Figure 5-1),^{215, 221} which are NADH dehydrogenase, succinate dehydrogenase, ubiquinol cytochrome c reductase, cytochrome c oxidase, and adenosine-5'-triphosphate (ATP) synthase. Electron transport between complex I (nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NADH) dehydrogenase) to complex IV (cytochrome c oxidase) is coupled to extrusion of protons from complex I, III (ubiquinol cytochrome c reductase) and IV into the intermembrane space, generating an electrochemical potential across the mitochondrial inner membrane.²¹⁵ In this process, complex II (succinate dehydrogenase) only acts to transfer additional electrons into the quinone pool (Q) from succinate. Protons finally flow to complex V
(ATP synthase), which organizes the energy to synthesize ATP from adenosine diphosphate (ADP).²²² Complex I and complex III are two major ROS-producing regions in the ETC under normal conditions.²¹⁴ The rate of ROS generation from mitochondria is increased in various pathologic conditions including hypoxia, ischemia, aging, and chemical inhibition of ETC.^{216, 223-228}



Figure 5-1. Component of ETC in mitochondria.²¹⁵

Mitochondrial components are exposed to high concentrations of ROS because they are major producers of ROS, and may therefore be particularly susceptible to attack by ROS. Damage by oxidative stress to mitochondrial components includes LPO, protein oxidation and mtDNA mutations.^{214, 229} LPO might be particularly harmful in mitochondria, especially because there are some highly unsaturated lipids in the inner mitochondrial membrane.²³⁰ As a result of oxidative stress, protein oxidation may occur either directly or as a consequence of LPO. MtDNA is also highly susceptible to oxidative stress because it is located in the matrix and close to the major source of ROS. The damage to mtDNA is greater and lasts longer than that to nuclear DNA.²¹⁴

Mitochondrial functional damage mostly impacts cells that have a high-energy demand, such as neurons and cardiac myocytes, because mitochondria play a critical role in cellular energy production by ETC dependent synthesis of ATP.^{215, 231} It has been suggested that ROS contribute to myocardial injury during ischemia and reperfusion.^{217, 232, 233} The rate of ROS generation from mitochondria is increased under ischemia and reperfusion conditions.^{228, 232-235} Some research has been done to support that ischemic damage to ETC increases the generation of ROS from mitochondria, which was measured by H_2O_2 release from ischemic damaged sub-sarcolemmal mitochondria (SSM) and inter-fibrillar mitochondria (IFM). The results show that ischemic damage to the ETC increases the generation of H_2O_2 from both complex I and complex III, and could be a potential mechanism of cardiac injury.²²⁸

Although ischemic damage has been described to increase ROS by inhibiting ETC, there are not many details about how important proteins in mitochondria are impacted in this process. In this project, we are working with Dr. Edward J. Lesnefsky's group in the Department of Biochemistry at Virginia Commonwealth University. They provide the mouse heart mitochondrial samples. Our aim is to determine which mitochondrial proteins are oxidatively modified to give protein carbonyls during ischemic events in mouse hearts. Furthermore we will try to investigate the specific modification sites in these proteins.

Experimental Procedures

Materials

Isolated mouse heart mitochondria were provided by Dr. Lesnefsky's lab. They were prepared using standard techniques.^{228, 236} (+) Biotin-hydrazide, SDS, 2-(N-morpholino) ethanesulfonic acid (MES), NaBH₃CN, IAM, DTT, and 10×PBS concentrate were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO). Sequencing grade modified trypsin was from Promega (Madison, WI). HNE was obtained from Cayman Chemical (Ann Arbor, MI). Streptavidin magnetic beads were purchased from Invitrogen (Carlsbad, CA). Laemmli sample buffer was from Bio-Rad (Hercules, CA). The anti-HNE monoclonal antibody was purchased from Japan Institute for the Control of Aging (Haruoka, Japan). Enhanced chemiluminescence kits were obtained from GE Healthcare (Pittsburgh, PA) and oxyblot[™] protein oxidation detection kits were obtained from Millipore (Billerica, MA). BCA Protein Assay kits, Imperial protein stain, streptavidin poly-HRP, and streptavidin resin were purchased from Thermo Scientific (Rockford, IL). iTRAQ reagent kits were obtained from Applied Biosystems (Foster City, CA).

Experiments

Biotinylation of protein carbonyls

The fresh isolated ischemic mouse mitochondria sample and control were incubated with 5 mM biotin-hydrazide for 60 min at room temperature separately. The mitochondrial membrane was broken by adding 2% SDS at room temperature. The insoluble materials were discarded with

centrifugation at 12800 g and the supernatant was collected. The collected supernatant was diluted using labeling buffer (50 mM MES buffer, pH 5.5) to a final concentration of 1 mg/ml. Biotin hydrazide stock solution (50 mM in DMSO) was then added to a final concentration of 5 mM. The mixture was incubated for 2 h at room temperature with gentle shaking. The hydrazone formed during labeling was stabilized by adding NaBH₃CN to 15 mM and incubating for 60 min in an ice bath. Repeated washes employing centrifugal filter devices (Millipore, Billerica, MA) were used to remove reagents and to exchange to 200 ml 1×PBS buffer (pH 7.4) for enrichment; the molecular weight cut-off for the centrifugal filter devices used was 3 kDa. The protein concentration was determined using the BCA protein assay.

Purification of biotinylated proteins

After labeling, biotinylated proteins were enriched using streptavidin conjugated magnetic beads and streptavidin resins separately. The purification procedure was done according to the manufacturer's protocol with slight adjustment. Briefly, the same amount biotin labeled sample and control were measured and incubated with pre-washed streptavidin magnetic beads or streptavidin resins for 60 min at room temperature. The incubation was carried out on a rotary machine using gentle rotation. For streptavidin magnetic beads, protein-coated beads were collected with a magnet for 3 min, and the supernatant was then removed completely. Coated beads were washed three times using 1×PBS buffer with 0.01% Tween 20 and 0.1% SDS (pH 7.4) to avoid unspecific binding. For the streptavidin resin, the protein-attached slurry was separated with centrifugation at 4000 g for 2 min, and the supernatant was carefully removed by pipette. The slurry was washed three times using 1×PBS buffer with 0.01% Tween 20 and 0.1% SDS (pH 7.4). Finally, the beads and slurry were collected for trypsin digestion.

Enzymatic digestion

1. Protein digestion after releasing from beads

The collected coated beads from the enrichment were resuspended in100 μ l 1% SDS in 1×PBS buffer and incubated at 95 °C for 5 min. The beads were separated with a magnetic separator for 3 min and the supernatant containing enriched proteins was carefully collected. This step was repeated three times to completely collect the released proteins. The released proteins in the supernatant were reduced with DTT and alkylated with IAM. Repeated washes employing centrifugal filter devices (3 kDa molecular weight cut-off) were used to remove excess reagents and to exchange to a 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer (pH 8.5) for digestion. The tryptic digestion was carried out overnight at 37°C. Digestion products were purified using a Waters (Milford, MA) Oasis MCX solid phase extraction cartridge. The final sample was dried using a centrifugal evaporator and then re-suspended in an HPLC equilibration mobile phase for μ LC-MS/MS analysis.

2. Protein digestion on beads or resins

The collected protein bound beads and resins were resuspended and washed with 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer (pH 8.5) twice. Samples were subsequently reduced with DTT and alkylated with IAM. The streptavidin beads and resins were separated by magnetic separator

or subjected to centrifugation again, and then were washed with 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer (pH 8.5) twice. The supernatant was removed and discarded during this process. The samples were treated with 0.5 μ g trypsin. The reaction was carried out at 37 °C for 2 h with gentle shaking. The tryptic digestion was repeated twice and the final incubation time was 16 h. After every trypsin treatment, beads and resins were isolated and supernatants containing tryptic peptides were collected for mass spectrometry analysis and iTRAQ labeling.

iTRAQ reagent labeling

Enriched peptide mixtures were desalted using C18 MicroSpin columns (The Nest Group, Southboro, MA) and dried using a centrifugal evaporator. Solid peptide mixtures of both sample and control were then reconstituted in 25 ul of iTRAQ dissolution buffer. Two iTRAQ reagents were dissolved in 70 µl of ethanol separately. Each iTRAQ reagent aliquot was added to one of the peptide mixtures in the following sequence: mass 114 for the enriched control using streptavidin magnetic beads; mass 116 for the enriched ischemic sample using streptavidin magnetic beads, mass 115 for the enriched control using streptavidin resin, and mass 117 for the enriched ischemic sample using streptavidin resin. After incubation for 2 h at room temperature with gentle shaking, the iTRAQ labeled sample and control were combined and then purified using a Waters (Milford, MA) Oasis MCX solid phase extraction cartridge. The final products from both enrichment methods were dried using a centrifugal evaporator and then re-suspended in the HPLC equilibration mobile phase for µLC-MS/MS analysis.

Western Blot

1. Detection of mitochondria carbonylation in vitro

Fresh isolated mitochondria at a concentration of 1 mg/ml were treated with HNE at various concentrations (25 μ M, 50 μ M, 100 μ M and 200 μ M). All reactions were incubated at 37 °C for 3 h. Modified mitochondria (100 μ g) were mixed with a Laemmli sample buffer. After heating at 95 °C for 5 min, the protein mixtures were separated on a 12% SDS-PAGE gel, and then transferred onto a PVDF membrane by electroblot. The membrane was blocked for 1 h at room temperature with a 5% fatty acid-free milk in TBST and incubated with anti-HNE diluted to 1:500 in 5% BSA overnight at 4°C. Blocked membrane was then washed with TBST and incubated with HRP conjugated anti-mouse antibody in 5% BSA (1:5000 dilution) for 1 h at room temperature. Following washing with TBST, the membrane was developed with ECL detection reagents.

2. Immunobloting of mitochondria carbonylation using streptavidin-conjugated HRP Equal amounts of biotinylated control and ischemic mitochondria samples (10 μ g) were loaded on a 4-20% gradient polyacrylamide gel, and then transferred onto a PVDF membrane. The PVDF membrane was blocked overnight at 4 °C with 4% fatty acid-free BSA in PBST (pH 7.2). Blots were then incubated with streptavidin poly-HRP diluted to 0.02 μ g/ml in 4% BSA at room temperature for 1 h. Following rinsing with PBST, the membrane was developed with ECL detection reagents.

3. Identification of mitochondria carbonylation using Oxyblot

The procedure for the Oxyblot detection was taken directly from the manufacturer's protocol. Briefly, fresh, isolated control and ischemic mitochondria samples ($10 \mu g$) were denatured by adding 12% SDS to a final concentration of 6% SDS, and then were derivatized by adding 10 µl of a 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazine (DNPH) solution. The derivatization reaction was carried out at room temperature for 15 min. Samples were neutralized and reduced by adding 7.5 µl of neutralization solution and 1 µl of 2-mercaptoethanol. Mixtures were loated on 4-20% gradient polyacrylamide gel, and then transferred onto a PVDF membrane by electroblot. The membrane was blocked for 1 h at room temperature with 5% fatty acid-free BSA in PBST and incubated with anti-DNP diluted to 1:150 in 1% BSA/PBST at room temperature for 1 h. The blocked membrane was then washed with PBST and incubated with HRP conjugated anti-goat antibody in 1% BSA (1:2000 dilution) for 1 h at room temperature. Following washing with PBST, the membrane was developed with ECL detection reagents.

µLC-MS/MS analysis

1. Mitochondria carbonylation identification

Carbonylation identification was performed using a Thermo (San Jose, CA) LTQ XL linear ion trap mass spectrometer equipped with ETD. The LTQ XL was interfaced with a Thermo Surveyor capillary HPLC system. Peptides were separated on a reversed-phase, C18 column (150 μ m × 10 cm, 5 μ m particles, 300 Å pores; Column Technology, Fremont, CA) at a flow rate of ~1 μ l min⁻¹ using 0.1% formic acid in water as mobile phase A and 0.1% formic acid in methanol as mobile phase B. Approximately 2 μ g peptides were injected and a Michrom (Auburn, CA) CapTrap trapping column was used for rapid sample injection. The gradient started from 2% B, then increased to 15% B over 5 min, then increased to 80% B over 70 min, and finally increased to 95% B over 15 min. The eluted peptides were introduced into the LTQ XL with a nanospray source operating at a spray voltage of 2.1 kV, a capillary voltage of 21 V, and a capillary temperature of 200°C. A full scan in the m/z range 300-2000 was performed to obtain precursor ions, followed by four data-dependent CID MS/MS scans for the four most abundant precursor ions in the full scan. Dynamic exclusion was used-if the same precursor ion was picked for fragmentation twice within a 30 s window, it was excluded from further analysis for 180 s.

2. iTRAQ reagent-labeled on-beads digests

Analysis of iTRAQ reagent-labeled samples was performed only by a Thermo LTQ Orbitrap Velos mass spectrometer. Separations were performed on a Waters nanoACQUITY reversed-phase, C18 column (100 μ m × 10 cm; 1.7 μ m particles). Elution was achieved using a gradient of 0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile (B) versus 0.1% formic acid in water (A) at a flow rate of 0.4 μ L min⁻¹. Approximately 2 μ g peptides were injected, with the loading and equilibration mobile phase being 1% B. The linear gradient ran to 15% B after loading at 1% B over 25 min, followed by an increase to 25% B over 35 min, followed by an increase to 35% B over 40 min, and followed by an increase to 85% B over 20 min. The nanospray ion source was operated at 3.5 kV. A full scan in the m/z range 400-7500 was performed to obtain precursor ions, followed by eight data-dependent HCD MS/MS scans for the eight most abundant

precursor ions in the full scan. Dynamic exclusion was used. For HCD, the normalized collision energy was 40 and the activation time was 0.1 ms.

Database searching and data processing

Peptide sequences and modifications were identified using the BioWorks version 3.3.1, SP1 implementation of Sequest (Thermo). No scan grouping was performed in preparing peak lists for database searching. The protein sequence database used consisted of the NCBI RefSeq version of the complete mouse proteome and reversed versions of all sequences. Reversed sequences permit a false discovery rate estimation. Sequences were downloaded on June 27, 2011, and the final database contained 70499 entries. Only fully-tryptic peptides were considered and up to three missed cleavage sites were allowed. Precursor ion tolerances were ±2 Da for linear ion trap measurments and ± 15 ppm for Orbitrap measurements. Fixed mass shifts were applied for alkylated cysteines (+57 Da) while differential amino acid mass shifts were incorporated for biotin hydrazide labeled carbonylation at lysines (+241 Da), at arginines (+199 Da), at proleins (+258 Da), at threonines (+240 Da), and oxidized methionines (+16 Da). A maximum of four variable modifications were permitted for each peptide. In searches with the iTRAQ labels present, fixed mass shifts of +144.102 Da were used for the peptide N-terminus and non-carbonylated lysine residues while differential amino acid mass shifts were incorporated for cysteines carboxyamidomethylation (+57.0513 Da) and methionines oxidation (+15.9994). Sequest output was refined using the Trans-Proteomic Pipeline (version 4.4; Institute for Systems Biology, Seattle, WA) software package. Specifically, PeptideProphet¹⁷¹ was used, in

semi-supervised mode¹⁷², to improve identification confidence. A PeptideProphet score threshold of 0.9 was applied. Intensity measurements for iTRAQ reporter ions (114-117) were processed using Microsoft Access.

Results

In this project, fresh mitochondria samples were prepared by Dr. Lesnefsky's laboratory. Briefly, a mouse heart ischemia model was set up by submerging isolated hearts in saline within an Eppendorff tube. The tube was then incubated in a water bath at 37 °C for 30 min with shaking. Simultaneously, control hearts were kept in the same buffer on ice for the same period of time. Finally, mitochondria were isolated from both ischemic and control hearts following a standard procedure.^{228, 236}

DNPH derivatization was applied for protein carbonylation detection in this project. DNPH is often used to qualitatively identify carbonyl groups associated with aldehydes and ketones. DNPH can react with carbonyl groups of oxidized amino acid residues in proteins (Scheme 5-1). The formed hydrazone derivatives can be used to detect carbonyl functionality in the protein by a color change or by a western blot analysis with anti-DNP.^{237, 238}



Scheme 5-1. Protein carbonylations labeling by DNPH.

In addition, (+) biotin-hydrazide was used to label the carbonylated proteins.¹³² Biotinylated proteins were then purified using streptavidin-conjugated beads and resins. The interaction

between streptavidin and biotin is a non-covalent and highly specific biological binding. The binding between streptavidin and biotin is very tight, rapid and unaffected by pH or organic solvent.^{239, 240} The streptavidin-biotin interaction can only be broken under harsh conditions, which can often denature the proteins involved in the interaction. However, it has been reported recently a mild incubation at elevated temperatures in water can break the interaction.²⁴¹ Streptavidin is also widely applied in western blots; an immunoblotting can detect protein biotinylation when conjugated with reporter molecules.^{242, 243}

Western Blotting

In vitro modification with HNE

An *in vitro* experiment was designed to examine the possibility of mitochondrial protein modification by HNE. A monoclonal anti-HNE antibody was used to detect the HNE modifications. The anti-HNE is particularly sensitive to modified histidines in proteins. An increased modification level was observed at higher molar ratios of HNE to mitochondria (Figure 5-2). A band from the corresponding electrophoresis gel was cut out to perform in-gel trypsin digestion. One of the blotted proteins was identified as being aconitase by mass spectrometry analysis (see Figure 5-2). The western blot results indicate that HNE entered the mitochondria and modified a variety of proteins. Relatively high HNE concentrations were needed to observe wide spread modifications.



Figure 5-2. Western blot of mitochondria modifications by HNE *in vitro*. HNE was at increasing concentrations (0, 25, 50, 100 and 200 μ M). One band was identified as aconitase by mass spectrometry analysis.

Carbonylated proteins from ischemia model

Streptavidin conjugated poly-HRP was employed to detect biotinylated carbonylations in ischemia model mitochondria samples. The detection is based on the specific interaction between streptavidin and biotin.^{242, 243} Blotting detected multiple protein biotinylations from both biotin-hydrazide treated control (negative control 2, NC2)) and the ischemia sample (Figure 5-3). The modified proteins from both samples appeared at the same general positions on the gel. There is slightly higher intensity in the ischemia model sample. The high background in NC2 suggests either significant modification in the control or significant non-specific binding in the western blot. No blotting from the buffer treated control (negative control 1, NC1) was found.



Figure 5-3. Streptavidin conjugated poly-HRP identification of biotin-hydrazide treated control (NC2), ischemic mitochondria (IM), and buffer treated control (NC1) in Western blot. Protein molecular weight was decided by protein marker roughly.

Oxyblot was also used to detect the carbonylated proteins in ischemic mitochondria. It is based on DNPH induced derivatization of carbonylated proteins.^{237, 238} Anti-DNP antibodies were used to detect the derivatization. Western blot results show specific, positive blotting from the ischemia model mitochondria sample. Limited signals of derivatization were found in the DNPH treated control (negative control 2, NC2) and none in the blank solution control (negative control 1, NC1) were observed (Figure 5-4). A band from the corresponding gel electrophoresis analysis was cut out to perform in-gel trypsin digestion. Mass spectrometry analysis of this band at around 95 kDa showed the band contained aconitase.



Figure 5-4. Oxyblot of DNPH treated control (NC2), ischemic mitochondria (IM), and buffer treated control (NC1). One blotting was identified as aconitase by mass spectrometry analysis.

The differences between Figure 5-3 and 5-4 suggest that the biotin-streptavidin strategy provides a greater amount of non-specific binding. The fact that patterns observed in this western blot are not reproduced in the Oxy blot is evidence of the non-specific binding. Careful comparison of the two methods shows that many of the bands with higher intensity in the Oxyblot of the ischemic model also give higher intensity in the biotin-streptavidin western blot, though somewhat obscured by the high degree of non-specific binding.

Carbonylation Identification

Our goal was to identify the carbonylated proteins from ischemia mitochondria. Fresh, isolated mouse mitochondria were treated with increasing amounts of HNE. Western blotting identified HNE modifications in the samples. The amount of apparent modification increased with

increasing amounts of HNE. Some blotted bands from the corresponding gel electrophoresis were subjected to in-gel trypsin digestion. The digests were analyzed by mass spectrometey and proteins were identified, such as aconitase and cytochrome c etc.. However, no peptides bearing HNE modifications were identified by mass spectrometry, even when the amount of HNE attained 200 µM. This concentration is higher than physiological HNE concentrations. Therefore, enrichment or other purification methods of the carbonylated proteins in the ischemia mitochondria sample was considered in this project. Streptavidin conjugated magnetic beads were primarily applied for the enrichment of potential protein carbonylation in this study. After releasing proteins from the beads and digestion, a very limited number of proteins were detected by mass spectrometry from both the control and the ischemia model mitochondria sample, and each protein was identified by only one peptide (Table 5-1). Also, no peptides bearing carbonylation sites were found. Comparing the search data from the control and the ischemia model mitochondria, the identified proteins were similar and it is hard to make any conclusions about which proteins were actually carbonylated. The limited detections probably were due to the very tight streptavidin-biotin binding, and as a result, carbonylated proteins were not efficiently released. Those that were identified were likely from non-specific binding on the beads. Next, the trypsin digestion was completed without releasing the proteins from the beads.²⁴⁴ Around three hundred proteins were identified by mass spectrometry from both the control and the ischemia model mitochondria sample (Table 5-1). Obviously no carbonylation sites will be detected in this protocol because the biotin-bearing peptide remains on the bead. Comparing search data from the control and the ischemia model mitochondria, the number of

identified proteins from the ischemia model was a little higher than the amount from control. However, the number of MS/MS spectra for specific proteins were quite similar and it is hard to identify a pattern of modification. Non-specific binding to the streptavidin conjugated beads, especially for the hydrophobic proteins in mitochondria, might be a problem in this experiment. To gain more information, a quantitative approach was taken.

	Control Mitochondria	Ischemic Mitochondria
Digestion after Releasing	7*	7
On-Beads Digestion	288	254

Table 5-1. Protein identification from control and ischemic mitochondria samples with two digestion pathways. *: number of detected proteins.

Relative Carbonylation Levels Based on iTRAQ Labeling

In this project, the iTRAQ reagent labeling was used to measure the relative carbonylation levels of control and ischemia model mitochondria samples. The iTRAQ reagent-labeled samples were analyzed on a Thermo LTQ Orbitrap mass spectrometer. Peptide sequences were identified using tBioWorks, and the sequest output was refined using the Trans-Proteomic Pipeline software package. The ratios of iTRAQ reporter ions from the ischemia model and control mitochondria proteins were calculated and corrected by the ratio for trypsin peptides in the two samples. Because the same amount of trypsin was used in both digestions and no trypsin will be lost during the experiment, it can serve as an internal standard. Two batches of ischemia model mitchondria samples were quantified separately by applying the iTRAQ reagent after

streptavidin beads or resins. In the first preparation, all of the proteins enriched on the streptavidin magnetic beads showed significantly higher intensities for the iTRAQ ions in the ischemia model, as expected for a higher level of carbonylation. Table 5-2 lists the proteins that have the highest (>5) calculated ratios of ischemia model; control mitochondria proteins. In the Table 5-2, NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 alpha subcomplex, 13 shows the highest ratio (8.32). Next are ATP synthase subunit B1 and cytochrome c oxidase subunit IV isoform 1. For ischemia model proteins purified on streptavidin resins, even more proteins show significant increases in carbonylation compared to the control sample (Table 5-3). Among these proteins, NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 alpha subcomplex, 13 also shows the highest ratio (21.43) and it is higher than the one from the streptavidin magnetic beads. The sample from the resin enrichment let to more proteins with quantifiable intensities and generally double the ratios of the ischemia model to control. This variation in ratios may reflect a difference in the levels of non-specific and specific binding on the two avidin products. In any case, both approach highlighted a similar set of proteins as having exceptional carbonylation levels in the ischemia model. It is interesting to note that most of these proteins are in the ETC. However, in the second batch, none of the protein modification levels were found to be significantly increased in the ischemia model. This is a surprising result and suggests problems in the preparation of the ischemia model mitochondria. For ischemia model proteins purified on streptavidin magnetic beads, only one protein, NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) flavoprotein 2, showed a slightly higher amount of carbonylation compared to the control sample. For the streptavidin resin enriched ischemic sample, several proteins, NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) Fe-S protein 1,

NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) Fe-S protein 7, isovaleryl-CoA dehydrogenase and enoyl-CoA delta isomerase, showed higher amounts of carbonylation compared to the control sample.

Proteins	iTRAQ intensity Ratios (Ischemic/Control)
NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 alpha subcomplex, 13	8.32
ATP synthase, H+ transporting, mitochondrial F0 complex, subunit B1	7.53
cytochrome c oxidase subunit IV isoform 1	7.04
ubiquinol-cytochrome c reductase, complex III subunit VII	6.32
NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 alpha subcomplex, 4	6.26
adenosine A3 receptor	6.00

Table 5-2. Streptavidin magnetic beads purified proteins showing the significantly increased amount of carbonylation from first preparation.

Proteins	iTRAQ intensity Ratios (Ischemic/Control)
NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 alpha subcomplex, 13	21.43
cytochrome c oxidase subunit IV isoform 1	20.67
ubiquinol-cytochrome c reductase, complex III subunit X	19.04
ATP synthase, H+ transporting, mitochondrial F0 complex, subunit B1	16.00
NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 beta subcomplex, 7	14.75
adenosine A3 receptor	14.45

ubiquinol-cytochrome c reductase binding protein	14.37
NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 alpha subcomplex, 8	13.98
NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 alpha subcomplex, 4	13.13
solute carrier family 4, sodium bicarbonate transporter-like, member 11	12.45
ATP synthase, H+ transporting mitochondrial F1 complex, beta subunit	12.19
ATP synthase, H+ transporting, mitochondrial F0 complex, subunit F2	11.48
cytochrome c oxidase, subunit VIb polypeptide 1	10.68
ATP synthase, H+ transporting, mitochondrial F1 complex, epsilon subunit	10.38
cytochrome c oxidase, subunit VIIa 2	10.01
cytochrome c oxidase subunit VIIb	8.54
succinate dehydrogenase complex, subunit C, integral membrane protein	8.27
acyl-CoA thioesterase 2	7.85
NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) Fe-S protein 8	7.59
NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 alpha subcomplex, 6 (B14)	7.03
NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 beta subcomplex, 10	6.91
heat shock protein 1 (chaperonin)	6.62
hydroxyacyl-Coenzyme A dehydrogenase/3-ketoacyl-Coenzyme A thiolase/enoyl-Coenzyme A hydratase (trifunctional protein), beta subunit	6.59
NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) 1 alpha subcomplex, 12	6.53
ATP synthase, H+ transporting, mitochondrial F0 complex, subunit d	6.45

NADH dehydrogenase (ubiquinone) Fe-S protein 3	6.22
aldehyde dehydrogenase 4 family, member A1	6.07

Table 5-3. Streptavidin resins purified proteins showing the significantly increased amount of carbonylation from first preparation.

Discussion

Method development

In the first part of this project, mitochondria were modified with HNE at various molar ratios. HNE modifications were detected in Western blot using a monoclonal anti-HNE antibody. The level of modification increased with increasing HNE concentration. However, no modification sites were identified by mass spectrometry from in-gel digestion of the corresponding gel band, even at the highest HNE concentration (200 μ M). No enrichment was used in these experiments and the absence of identified modifications is probably due to the low modification level, which does not allow modified peptides to compete with background signal from unmodified peptides. An enrichment process is necessary for purifying modified peptides in order to reduce the background and improve the probability of detecting the modifications.

The frequently used strategies for isolating carbonylated proteins include Girard's reagent,²⁴⁵ hydrazine-functionalized isotope-coded affinity tags,^{246, 247} aldehyde reactive probes and solid-phase hydrazides.²⁴⁸ In this project, we chose an aldehyde-reactive biotinylated derivative, biotin hydrazide, to tag the carbonylated proteins.¹³² Streptavidin conjugated magnetic beads and resins were used to isolate biotinylated proteins. The general procedure for streptavidin beads and resins is to incubate the biotinylated proteins with the beads, and then release attached proteins after washing.^{239, 240} The released proteins are then digested and the digested peptides are analyzed to identify modifications. During our experiment, we found that the bound proteins were very hard to release due to the strong interaction between the biotin tag and the

streptavidin. This is potentially more problematic in our system because the biotin-streptavidin conjugation point may be protected by the protein bearing the biotin tag. Therefore, we did the digestion on the beads. By choosing on-bead digestion, the proteins on the streptavidin are directly digested under relatively mild conditions. The digested peptides are easier to collect, and extra steps for sample purification before and after digestion are not necessary.²⁴⁴ The shortcoming of the on-bead digestion is that it precludes the identification of specific modification sites.

We also applied iTRAQ reagents to quantify the streptavidin binding of control proteins and ischemia model mitochondria proteins. The quantitation by iTRAQ can eliminate the impact of non-specific binding caused by the very hydrophobic proteins in mitochondria. The total intensity ratio of the iTRAQ reporter ions from control and treated samples may give a measure of the enrichment provided by the streptavidin treatment and presumably the amount of carbonylation in each protein.

Western Blotting

In this project, Oxyblot was also used to detect the carbonylated proteins in ischemia model mitochondria. Oxy blotting results showed only one specific positive blotting from the ischemic mitochondria sample compared to negative controls. Although the blotted band appeared to contain aconitase, a more certain determination would require two-dimensional gel electrophoresis.^{249, 250}

Streptavidin conjugated poly-HRP was employed to detect biotinylated carbonylations in western blotting too.^{242, 243} The Oxy blotting technique suffers from severe limitations when applied to tissue extracts from mammalian sources. Compared to Oxy blotting, streptavidin conjugated HRP displays the specificity of streptavidin detection chemistries and is insensitive to immunoglobulin contamination of samples.²⁴² However, in this project, this method seems to have a relatively high background binding to the control sample. It is unclear if this was a result of non-specific binding or widespread oxidation in the control samples.

iTRAQ Reagent Quantitation for Relative Carbonylation Levels

For identifying the possible protein modifications, iTRAQ quantitation was used to measure the amount of biotin band binding in the control and treated samples. In one sample, large increases in carbonylation levels were seen in several proteins. Many of them are associated with the ETC. The two approaches of streptavidin enrichment gave similar general patterns, but the resin gave higher ratios. This may be related to the relative levels of non-specific binding. A second batch showed little difference in carbonylation levels between the ischemia model and control. This may be an issue in mitochondria preparation. Considering the two enrichment methods together, it seems the NADH dehydrogenase family proteins has the highest probability for modification, but more experiments are necessary. Overall, the quantification results from both sample purification methods are similar, but are dissimilar for different batches of ischemia michondria samples. More experiments for different ischemia sample preparations are demanded.

Nevertheless, the iTRAQ reagent based quantification method has been developed and can provide the comparison between treated and control samples.

Future Direction

The ultimate purpose of this project is to identify the specific modified sites from the ischemia model mouse heart mitochondria. Currently, we only could measure the relative protein carbonylation levels using iTRAQ reagent quantitation. In the future, we will try traditional two-dimensional gel electrophoresis to identify the carbonylated protein sites. We also will try different isolation methods, like Girard's P Reagent and SPH, for purifying the carbonylated proteins. Finally, we still could try the different experiment procedures, such as digestion before employing enrichment to capture the carbonylated peptides instead of proteins.

Conclusions

In this project, protein carbonylation in the ischemia model mouse heart mitochondria was investigated. Oxyblot was applied to identify the carbonylated proteins. Only one band suggested obvious modification and was identified as containing aconitase. Biotin hydrazide derivatives and streptavidin conjugated magnetic beads and resins were used to purify the protein carbonylations. No specific modified sites were detected with mass spectrometry after releasing proteins from the beads and digestion. iTRAQ reagent induced quantitation was employed to measure the levels of proteins in the control and ischemic samples binding to the beads and resins. Several proteins have elevated ratios in the ischemia model sample. However, more experiments are needed to validate this result.

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Appendices-I: Calculation

Modification Description	Modification Composition	Monoisotopic Mass Shift	Туре
Oxidation at Met	+0	+15.994915	Differential
lodoacetamide Alkylation at Cys	+C ₂ H ₃ NO	+57.021464	Fixed or Differential
Michael Addition of HNE at Cys, Reduced	+C₀H ₁₈ O₂ –[acetamide cap]	+101.109216	Differential
Michael Addition of HNE at His, Reduced	$+C_9H_{18}O_2$	+158.130680	Differential
Michael Addition of HNE at Lys, Reduced	+C ₉ H ₁₈ O ₂	+158.130680	Differential
Schiff Base Formation with HNE at Lys, Reduced	+C ₉ H ₁₆ O	+140.120115	Differential
Michael Addition of HNE at Cys, Not Reduced	+C ₉ H ₁₆ O ₂ -[acetamide cap]	+99.093566	Differential
Michael Addition of HNE at His, Not Reduced	$+C_{9}H_{16}O_{2}$	+156.115030	Differential
Michael Addition of HNE at Lys, Not Reduced	+C ₉ H ₁₆ O ₂	+156.115030	Differential
Schiff Base Formation with HNE at Lys, Not Reduced	+C ₉ H ₁₄ O	+138.104465	Differential

Table A1. Precise modification mass shifts considered in non-iTRAQ experiments; note that while oxidation at Met and iodoacetamide alkylation at Cys were always included, reduced and non-reduced HNE modifications were considered in separate Sequest searches.

Modification Description	Modification Composition	Monoisotopic Mass Shift	Туре
Oxidation at Met	+0	+15.994915	Differential
Iodoacetamide Alkylation at		57 021464	Fixed or
Cys	+0213110	+57.021404	Differential
iTRAQ Label at Lys	$+{}^{12}C_{5}{}^{13}C_{2}{}^{1}H_{12}{}^{14}N_{2}{}^{18}O/$ $+{}^{12}C_{4}{}^{13}C_{3}{}^{1}H_{12}{}^{14}N^{15}N^{16}O$	+144.103991 [†]	Fixed
iTRAQ Label at Peptide N-terminus	$+{}^{12}C_{5}{}^{13}C_{2}{}^{1}H_{12}{}^{14}N_{2}{}^{18}O/$ + ${}^{12}C_{4}{}^{13}C_{3}{}^{1}H_{12}{}^{14}N{}^{15}N{}^{16}O$	+144.103991 [†]	Fixed

iTRAQ Label at Tyr [‡]	$+{}^{12}C_5{}^{13}C_2{}^{1}H_{12}{}^{14}N_2{}^{18}O/$ + ${}^{12}C_4{}^{13}C_3{}^{1}H_{12}{}^{14}N^{15}N^{16}O$	+144.103991 [†]	Differential
Michael Addition of HNE at Cys, Reduced	+C ₉ H ₁₈ O ₂ -[acetamide cap]	+101.109216	Differential
Michael Addition of HNE at His, Reduced	+C ₉ H ₁₈ O ₂	+158.130680	Differential
Michael Addition of HNE at Lys, Reduced	+C ₉ H ₁₈ O ₂ –[iTRAQ label]	+14.026689	Differential
Schiff Base Formation with HNE at Lys, Reduced	+C₀H ₁₆ O –[iTRAQ label]	-3.983876	Differential

Table A2. Precise modification mass shifts considered in iTRAQ experiments; [†] iTRAQ label mass shift value was the average for the four tags (separation between heavy pair and light pair is circa 0.004 Da, too small to resolve with available instrumentation); [‡] iTRAQ label addition at tyrosine only tested with Orbitrap data and found to be uncommon.

Modified Peptide (with flanking residues)	Modification	Counts of LC–MS/MS		
	Site or Sites	runs in which the		
	(MA indicates	modified peptid	e was	
	Michael	identified using	LTQ XL	
	addition; SB	CID scans (max	imum =	
	indicates Schiff	12)/LTQ XL ETD	scans	
	base formation)	(maximum = 12)	/LTQ	
		Orbitrap Velos	CID scans	
		associated with	high	
		mass accuracy	Orbitrap	
		precursor ion m	ass	
		measurements		
		(maximum = 3)		
		1.1 HNE to	10.1	
		HSA Batio	HNE to	
		novinatio	HSA	
			Batio	
	$C_{\rm MO} = 0.24 (\rm MA)$	not dotacted	0/0/1	
K.DLGEENFKALVLIAFAQTLQQU#FFEDHVK.L	CyS-034 (IVIA)	not detected	0/0/1	
K.ALVLIAFAQYLQQC#PFEDHVK.L	Cys-034 (MA)	9/1/0	9/3/3	
K.SLH@TLFGDK.L	His-067 (MA)	12/0/3	12/5/3	
K.SLHTLFGDK^LCTVATLR.E	Lys-073 (MA)	not detected	3/0/0	
R.NECFLQHK~DDNPNLPR.L	Lys-106 (SB)	not detected	0/1/0	
R.LVRPEVDVMCTAFH@DNEETFLK.K	His-128 (MA)	0/2/0	2/3/0	

K.K^YLYEIAR.R	Lys-137 (MA)	not detected	1/0/0
R.RH@PYFYAPELLFFAK.R	His-146 (MA)	12/11/0	12/12/3
R.RH@PYFYAPELLFFAKR.Y	His-146 (MA)	not detected	1/0/0
R.RH@PYFYAPELLFFAK^R.Y	His-146 (MA) &	not detected	0/2/1
	Lys-159 (MA)		
R.YK^AAFTECCQAADK.A	Lys-162 (MA)	not detected	12/2/2
R.YK~AAFTECCQAADK.A	Lys-162 (SB)	not detected	10/1/0
R.LK^CASLQK.F	Lys-199 (MA)	6/0/2	11/0/3
R.AFK^AWAVAR.L	Lys-212 (MA)	not detected	12/0/1
K.AEFAEVSK^LVTDLTK.V	Lys-233 (MA)	not detected	9/4/0
K.LVTDLTK^VH@TECCHGDLLECADDR.A	Lys-240 (MA) &	8/0/0	3/0/0
	His-242 (MA)		
K.VH@TECCHGDLLECADDR.A	His-242 (MA)	0/7/0	0/7/0
K.VH@TECCH@GDLLECADDR.A	His-242 (MA) &	not detected	9/4/0
	His-247 (MA)		
K.VH@TECCH@GDLLECADDRADLAK.Y	His-242 (MA) &	not detected	3/7/0
	His-247 (MA)		
R.ADLAK^YICENQDSISSK.L	Lys-262 (MA)	not detected	5/3/0
K.SH@CIAEVENDEMPADLPSLAADFVESK.D	His-288 (MA)	10/0/0	12/1/3
K.SH@CIAEVENDEM*PADLPSLAADFVESK.D	His-288 (MA)	1/0/0	11/1/1
R.RH@PDYSVVLLLR.L	His-338 (MA)	4/0/0	12/3/3
R.H@PDYSVVLLLR.L	His-338 (MA)	not detected	2/0/0
R.H@PDYSVVLLLRLAKTYETTLEK.C	His-338 (MA)	0/6/0	1/9/0
R.LAK^TYETTLEK.C	Lys-351 (MA)	10/0/0	9/0/0
R.LAK~TYETTLEK.C	Lys-351 (SB)	not detected	3/1/0
K.TYETTLEK^CCAAADPHECYAK.V	Lys-359 (MA)	not detected	1/3/0
K.CCAAADPH@ECYAK.V	His-367 (MA)	not detected	9/0/0
K.VFDEFK^PLVEEPQNLIK.Q	Lys-378 (MA)	not detected	5/1/0
K.QNCELFEQLGEYK^FQNALLVR.Y	Lys-402 (MA)	not detected	4/0/2
K.K^VPQVSTPTLVEVSR.N	Lys-414 (MA)	not detected	11/1/3
K.K~VPQVSTPTLVEVSR.N	Lys-414 (SB)	8/0/0	12/1/3
R.VTK^CCTESLVNR.R	Lys-475 (MA)	not detected	1/0/0
K.EFNAETFTFH@ADICTLSEK.E	His-510 (MA)	1/8/0	12/11/0
K.EFNAETFTFHADICTLSEK^ER.Q	Lys-519 (MA)	not detected	1/0/0
K.K^QTALVELVK.H	Lys-525 (MA)	not detected	0/1/3
K.K~QTALVELVK.H	Lys-525 (SB)	3/0/3	8/3/3
K.EQLK^AVMDDFAAFVEK.C	Lys-545 (MA)	4/7/0	11/11/3
K.EQLK~AVMDDFAAFVEK.C	Lys-545 (SB)	not detected	4/7/0

 Table A3. Counts of LC–MS/MS runs in which the indicated modified peptide was identified.

The PeptideProphet score threshold was 0.9. Five independent preparations were made for each HNE:HSA ratio. For each ratio, four preparations were analyzed using a Thermo LTQ XL linear ion trap mass spectrometer and one preparation was analyzed using a Thermo LTQ Orbitrap Velos instrument. In all cases, three replicate LC–MS/MS runs were recorded for each preparation. For the LTQ XL runs, one collision-induced dissocation (CID) and one electron-transfer dissociation (ETD) MS/MS were recorded for each precursor ion selected for fragmentation; resulting CID and ETD spectrum counts are presented separately. For the LTQ Orbitrap Velos runs, only CID MS/MS were recorded. C# indicates HNE Michael addition at Cys followed by reduction; H@ indicates HNE Michael addition at His followed by reduction; K^ indicates HNE Michael addition at Lys followed by reduction; M* indicates oxidation at Met.

Modification Site or	Peptide	Mass List Constituents			
Modification Site(s)					
Associated with					
Unmodified Peptide					
(MA indicates		[M+H]⁺	[M+2H] ²⁺	[M+3H] ³⁺	
Michael addition; SB					
indicates Schiff					
base formation)					
Cys-034 (MA)	ALVLIAFAQYLQQC#PFEDHVK	2879.60	1440.31	960.54	
Cys-034-associated	ALVLIAFAQYLQQCPFEDHVK	2778.49	1389.75	926.84	
His-067 (MA)	SLH@TLFGDK	1463.88	732.44	488.63	
His-067-associated	SLHTLFGDK	1305.74	653.38	435.92	
His-105 (MA)	NECFLQH@K	1521.84	761.42	507.95	
His-105-associated	NECFLQHK	1363.71	682.36	455.24	
Lys-162 (MA)	YK^AAFTECCQAADK	2109.06	1055.04	703.69	
Lys-162-associated	YKAAFTECCQAADK	2095.04	1048.02	699.02	
Lys-162-associated	AAFTECCQAADK	1659.78	830.39	553.93	
Lys-199 (MA)	LK^CASLQK	1393.87	697.44	465.30	
Lys-199-associated	LKCASLQK	1379.85	690.43	460.62	
Lys-199-associated	CASLQK	994.56	497.79	332.19	
Lys-212 (MA)	AFK^AWAVAR	1321.81	661.41	441.28	
Lys-212-associated	AFKAWAVAR	1307.79	654.40	436.60	
Lys-212-associated	AWAVAR	817.48	409.25	273.17	
Lys-233 (MA)	AEFAEVSK^LVTDLTK	2097.23	1049.12	699.75	
Lys-233-associated	AEFAEVSKLVTDLTK	2083.21	1042.11	695.07	
Lys-233-associated	AEFAEVSK	1168.65	584.83	390.22	
Lys-233-associated	LVTDLTK	1077.68	539.34	359.90	

His-242 (MA)	VH@TECCHGDLLECADDR	2389.07	1195.04	797.03
His-247 (MA)	VHTECCH@GDLLECADDR	2389.07	1195.04	797.03
His-242-associated &	VHTECCHGDLLECADDR	2230.94	1115.97	744.32
His-247-associated				
Lys-262 (MA)	ADLAK^YICENQDSISSK	2388.26	1194.63	796.76
Lys-262-associated	ADLAKYICENQDSISSK	2374.23	1187.62	792.08
Lys-262-associated	ADLAK	805.51	403.26	269.17
Lys-262-associated	YICENQDSISSK	1731.85	866.43	577.96
His-288 (MA)	SH@CIAEVENDEM*PADLPSLAADFVE	3436.68	1718.84	1146.23
	SK			
His-288 (MA)	SH@CIAEVENDEMPADLPSLAADFVES	3420.68	1710.85	1140.90
	К			
His-288-associated	SHCIAEVENDEM*PADLPSLAADFVESK	3278.55	1639.78	1093.52
His-288-associated	SHCIAEVENDEMPADLPSLAADFVESK	3262.55	1631.78	1088.19
Lys-351 (MA)	LAK^TYETTLEK	1743.04	872.03	581.69
Lys-351-associated	LAKTYETTLEK	1729.02	865.01	577.01
Lys-351-associated	TYETTLEK	1272.70	636.85	424.90
His-367 (MA)	CCAAADPH@ECYAK	1998.94	999.97	666.98
His-367-associated	CCAAADPHECYAK	1840.81	920.91	614.27
Lys-378 (MA)	VFDEFK^PLVEEPQNLIK	2491.43	1246.22	831.15
Lys-378-associated	VFDEFKPLVEEPQNLIK	2477.41	1239.21	826.47
Lys-378-associated	VFDEFK	1072.60	536.80	358.20
Lys-378-associated	PLVEEPQNLIK	1567.93	784.47	523.32
Lys-414 (MA)	K^VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	1942.17	971.59	648.06
Lys-414 (SB)	K~VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	1924.16	962.59	642.06
Lys-414-associated	KVPQVSTPTLVEVSR	1928.15	964.58	643.39
Lys-414-associated	VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	1655.95	828.48	552.65
His-510 (MA)	EFNAETFTFH@ADICTLSEK	2706.36	1353.68	902.79
His-510-associated	EFNAETFTFHADICTLSEK	2548.23	1274.62	850.08
Lys-525 (MA)	K^QTALVELVK	1575.04	788.02	525.68
Lys-525 (SB)	K~QTALVELVK	1557.03	779.02	519.68
Lys-525-associated	KQTALVELVK	1561.01	781.01	521.01
Lys-525-associated	QTALVELVK	1288.81	644.91	430.28

Table A4. List of targeted peptides and associated monoisotopic mass-to-charge ratios that were used as a targeted mass list for chosing parent ions for fragmentation. Mass-to-charge ratios in blue are outside the analyzed range (300-2000). Targeted peptides are grouped by modification site. C# indicates HNE Michael addition at Cys followed by reduction; H@ indicates HNE Michael addition at His followed by reduction; K^ indicates HNE Michael addition at Lys followed by reduction; K~ indicates Schiff base formation with HNE at Lys followed by

reduction; M* indicates oxidation at Met. Seventeen sites were targeted and both Schiff base formation and Michael addition were considered at two of these sites (Lys-414 and Lys-525).

Modification	Peptide	Detection	Averaged iTRAQ PQD		
		Count	Reporte	r Ion Inte	ensity
			No	50:1	100:1
			HNE	HNE:	HNE:
			Added	HSA	HSA
Cys-034-associated	ALVLIAFAQYLQQCPFEDHVK	412	103	29	22
Cys-034 (MA)	ALVLIAFAQYLQQC#PFEDHVK	2	10	0	58
His-067-associated	SLHTLFGDK	795	15986	4323	2574
His-105-associated	NECFLQHK	345	8095	4837	3617
His-242-associated	VHTECCHGDLLECADDR	239	184	73	54
&					
His-247-associated					
His-288-associated	SHCIAEVENDEMPADLPSLAADFV	433	198	40	19
	ESK				
His-367-associated	CCAAADPHECYAK	642	979	608	322
His-510-associated	EFNAETFTFHADICTLSEK	748	493	166	55
His-067 (MA)	SLH@TLFGDK	916	31	1963	1642
His-105 (MA)	NECFLQH@K	89	42	1681	2103
His-367 (MA)	CCAAADPH@ECYAK	326	9	351	465
His-510 (MA)	EFNAETFTFH@ADICTLSEK	126	13	239	397
Lys-162-associated	AAFTECCQAADK	527	1556	1053	679
Lys-199-associated	CASLQK	21	127	14	6
Lys-233-associated	AEFAEVSK	1018	2281	1729	1490
Lys-233-associated	LVTDLTK	313	6523	4854	4218
Lys-262-associated	ADLAK	6	542	337	353
Lys-262-associated	YICENQDSISSK	1195	886	678	527
Lys-351-associated	TYETTLEK	212	3714	1754	966
Lys-378-associated	VFDEFKPLVEEPQNLIK	895	718	610	389
Lys-414-associated	KVPQVSTPTLVEVSR	778	976	727	437
Lys-414-associated	VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	575	99	148	110
Lys-525-associated	KQTALVELVK	174	2206	480	151
Lys-525-associated	QTALVELVK	794	1789	430	259
Lys-162 (MA)	YK^AAFTECCQAADK	44	15	466	543
Lys-199 (MA)	LK^CASLQK	1	0	3965	5647
Lys-233 (MA)	AEFAEVSK^LVTDLTK	79	12	225	568
Lys-262 (MA)	ADLAK^YICENQDSISSK	2	0	16	96

Lys-351 (MA)	LAK^TYETTLEK	43	44	1880	2210
Lys-378 (MA)	VFDEFK^PLVEEPQNLIK	43	34	43	48
Lys-414 (MA)	K^VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	248	7	66	56
Lys-414 (SB)	K~VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	118	28	134	127
Lys-525 (MA)	K^QTALVELVK	135	15	823	740
Lys-525 (SB)	K~QTALVELVK	12	83	1917	793

Table A5. Change in relative abundance for HNE-modified and corresponding unmodified HSA peptides in response to HNE-exposure at stated HNE:HSA molar ratios. Averaged iTRAQ reporter ion intensities are given here; since the control was duplicated, the average of the two reporter ion signal averages is given here. iTRAQ reporter ion intensities were obtained using pulsed-Q dissociation (PQD) in a linear ion trap mass spectrometer. This dataset is the result of a single repeat preparation subjected to three replicate LC–MS/MS runs. Incubation time with HNE was 3 h. The mass list described in Table A4 was used and only mass list peptides are included in this table. Bolded entries were used in constructing Figure 3-4 while italicized entries were not used. For a peptide identification to be accepted, a PeptideProphet score of 0.9 or greater was required. MS/MS where all four iTRAQ reporter ion intensities were zero were discarded. C# indicates HNE Michael addition at Cys followed by reduction; H@ indicates HNE Michael addition at Lys followed by reduction; K~ indicates Schiff base formation with HNE at Lys followed by reduction.

Modification	Peptide	Detection	Average	Averaged iTRAQ PQD Reporter			
		Count	Ion Inte	Ion Intensity			
			100:1	100:1	100:1	100:1	
			HNE:	HNE:	HNE:	HNE:	
			HSA	HSA	HSA	HSA	
			for 0 h	for 1 h	for 3 h	for 24	
						h	
Cys-034-associated	ALVLIAFAQYLQQCPFEDHV	342	212	121	122	100	
	K						
Cys-034 (MA)	ALVLIAFAQYLQQC#PFEDH	70	2	24	17	38	
	VK						
His-067-associated	SLHTLFGDK	953	38165	20958	10653	4260	
His-105-associated	NECFLQHK	437	5574	4126	3355	1806	
His-242-associated	VHTECCHGDLLECADDR	353	1289	319	548	346	
&							
His-247-associated							

His-288-associated	SHCIAEVENDEM*PADLPSL	857	88	311	58	47
	AADFVESK					
His-288-associated	SHCIAEVENDEMPADLPSL	866	1135	244	186	135
	AADFVESK					
His-367-associated	CCAAADPHECYAK	966	861	738	508	259
His-510-associated	EFNAETFTFHADICTLSEK	2204	1787	1226	571	348
His-067 (MA)	SLH@TLFGDK	3622	78	7515	11990	10650
His-105 (MA)	NECFLQH@K	260	269	8992	9506	15905
His-242 (MA)	VH@TECCHGDLLECADDR	8	168	2451	4349	3510
His-288 (MA)	SH@CIAEVENDEM*PADLPS	834	7	89	302	242
	LAADFVESK					
His-288 (MA)	SH@CIAEVENDEMPADLPS	2751	4	79	279	223
	LAADFVESK					
His-367 (MA)	CCAAADPH@ECYAK	1401	39	999	2063	5379
His-510 (MA)	EFNAETFTFH@ADICTLSEK	1722	29	3947	7110	6686
Lys-162-associated	AAFTECCQAADK	1052	3085	3044	2769	1962
Lys-199-associated	CASLQK	29	251	24	17	36
Lys-233-associated	AEFAEVSK	1404	4820	5431	5262	4765
Lys-233-associated	AEFAEVSKLVTDLTK	1	93	591	364	439
Lys-233-associated	LVTDLTK	499	17374	22540	24120	21831
Lys-262-associated	ADLAK	5	109	97	84	105
Lys-262-associated	YICENQDSISSK	1803	2797	3167	2985	2982
Lys-351-associated	TYETTLEK	344	5530	4297	3405	2725
Lys-378-associated	VFDEFKPLVEEPQNLIK	6292	5231	6216	6091	5124
Lys-414-associated	KVPQVSTPTLVEVSR	1293	8162	7017	6430	5426
Lys-414-associated	VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	1052	209	487	330	215
Lys-525-associated	KQTALVELVK	270	7350	2056	2005	1670
Lys-525-associated	QTALVELVK	1020	7644	3075	3230	3415
Lys-162 (MA)	YK^AAFTECCQAADK	210	155	5208	7024	4866
Lys-199 (MA)	LK^CASLQK	33	1720	26535	39406	32742
Lys-212 (MA)	AFK^AWAVAR	48	941	1771	2392	5858
Lys-233 (MA)	AEFAEVSK^LVTDLTK	355	73	961	2437	8534
Lys-262 (MA)	ADLAK^YICENQDSISSK	120	62	817	1777	4669
Lys-351 (MA)	LAK^TYETTLEK	222	295	17008	28787	32302
Lys-378 (MA)	VFDEFK^PLVEEPQNLIK	357	1000	1783	2071	3483
Lys-414 (MA)	K^VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	501	53	393	363	529
Lys-414 (SB)	K~VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	145	199	879	539	289
Lys-525 (MA)	K^QTALVELVK	345	128	2947	6102	8845
Lys-525 (SB)	K~QTALVELVK	1	0	0	141	556

Table A6. Change in relative abundance for HNE-modified and corresponding unmodified HSA peptides in response to HNE-exposure time at a 100:1 HNE:HSA molar ratio. Averaged iTRAQ reporter ion intensities are given here. iTRAQ reporter ion intensities were obtained using pulsed-Q dissociation (PQD) in a linear ion trap mass spectrometer. This dataset is the result of a three repeat preparations subjected to three replicate LC–MS/MS runs each. The same set of three repeat preparations was analyzed using the LTQ Orbitrap Velos system (see Table A7). The mass list described in Table A4 was used and only mass list peptides are included in this table. Bolded entries were used in constructing Figures 3-5 and 3-6 while italicized entries were not used. For a peptide identification to be accepted, a PeptideProphet score of 0.9 or greater was required. MS/MS where all four iTRAQ reporter ion intensities were zero were discarded. C# indicates HNE Michael addition at Cys followed by reduction; H@ indicates HNE Michael addition at Lys followed by reduction; K^ indicates HNE Michael addition at Lys followed by reduction; M* indicates oxidation at Met.

Modification	Peptide	Detection	Average	d iTRAQ	HCD Rep	orter Ion
		Count	Intensity	/		
			100:1	100:1	100:1	100:1
			HNE:H	HNE:H	HNE:H	HNE:H
			SA for	SA for	SA for	SA for
			0h	1 h	3 h	24 h
Cys-034-associated	ALVLIAFAQYLQQCPFEDH	587	78,624	32,756	33,334	30,214
	VK					
Cys-034 (MA)	ALVLIAFAQYLQQC#PFED	42	33	5,327	6,193	8,584
	HVK					
His-067-associated	SLHTLFGDK	415	13,952,	6,539,4	3,337,2	1,158,34
			918	86	88	2
His-105-associated	NECFLQHK	136	5,832,9	4,849,9	4,391,3	2,830,56
			64	06	49	3
His-242-associated	VHTECCHGDLLECADDR	165	3,822,6	320,141	888,666	562,688
&			06			
His-247-associated						
His-288-associated	SHCIAEVENDEM*PADLPS	427	21,440	3,763	2,908	2,669
	LAADFVESK					
His-288-associated	SHCIAEVENDEMPADLPS	447	136,119	12,148	13,123	7,753
	LAADFVESK					
His-367-associated	CCAAADPHECYAK	242	1,956,9	1,843,1	1,439,0	795,689
			60	65	56	

His-510-associated	EFNAETFTFHADICTLSEK	3968	200,464	98,380	44,679	27,313
His-067 (MA)	SLH@TLFGDK	1726	13,109	2,156,9	3,519,6	3,131,64
				87	15	2
His-105 (MA)	NECFLQH@K	144	4,630	3,374,6	4,273,3	10,184,1
				03	92	20
His-242 (MA)	VH@TECCHGDLLECADD	1	0	644,631	2,910,2	7,530,89
	R				21	6
His-288 (MA)	SH@CIAEVENDEM*PADLP	432	94	989	6,542	5,691
	SLAADFVESK					
His-288 (MA)	SH@CIAEVENDEMPADLP	517	89	1,456	22,830	15,411
	SLAADFVESK					
His-367 (MA)	CCAAADPH@ECYAK	300	16,192	1,406,2	3,027,3	8,318,95
				53	19	5
His-510 (MA)	EFNAETFTFH@ADICTLSE	1709	489	429,024	762,804	720,107
	К					
Lys-162-associated	AAFTECCQAADK	326	27,423,	22,733,	20,503,	13,714,2
			946	690	814	38
Lys-199-associated	CASLQK	3	12,243,	80,833	770,411	1,208,51
			954			4
Lys-212-associated	AWAVAR	18	2,489,8	2,801,7	2,890,1	2,396,50
			80	77	15	1
Lys-233-associated	AEFAEVSK	1405	8,509,2	8,504,3	8,576,0	7,285,14
			80	45	27	5
Lys-233-associated	LVTDLTK	83	33,314,	34,218,	37,033,	31,241,0
			060	062	153	85
Lys-262-associated	ADLAK	33	060 169,516	062 187,289	153 204,700	85 204,112
<i>Lys-262-associated</i> Lys-262-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK	33 433	060 169,516 12,043,	062 187,289 11,924,	153 204,700 11,293,	85 204,112 10,678,9
Lys-262-associated Lys-262-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK	33 433	060 169,516 12,043 , 353	062 187,289 11,924, 154	153 204,700 11,293, 278	85 204,112 10,678,9 32
<i>Lys-262-associated</i> Lys-262-associated <i>Lys-351-associated</i>	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK LAKTYETTLEK	33 433 3	060 169,516 12,043, 353 304,390	062 187,289 11,924, 154 176,579	153 204,700 11,293, 278 176,468	85 204,112 10,678,9 32 98,190
Lys-262-associated Lys-262-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-351-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK LAKTYETTLEK TYETTLEK	33 433 3 318	060 169,516 12,043, 353 304,390 31,796,	062 187,289 11,924, 154 176,579 21,735,	153 204,700 11,293, 278 176,468 17,967,	85 204,112 10,678,9 32 98,190 12,827,9
<i>Lys-262-associated</i> Lys-262-associated <i>Lys-351-associated</i> Lys-351-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK LAKTYETTLEK TYETTLEK	33 433 3 318	060 169,516 12,043, 353 304,390 31,796, 143	062 187,289 11,924, 154 176,579 21,735, 695	153 204,700 11,293, 278 176,468 17,967, 937	85 204,112 10,678,9 32 98,190 12,827,9 25
Lys-262-associated Lys-262-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-378-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK LAKTYETTLEK TYETTLEK VFDEFKPLVEEPQNLIK	33 433 3 318 3490	060 169,516 12,043, 353 304,390 31,796, 143 1,155,9	062 187,289 11,924, 154 176,579 21,735, 695 1,208,7	153 204,700 11,293, 278 176,468 17,967, 937 1,181,8	85 204,112 10,678,9 32 98,190 12,827,9 25 1,022,52
Lys-262-associated Lys-262-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-378-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK LAKTYETTLEK TYETTLEK VFDEFKPLVEEPQNLIK	33 433 3 318 3490	060 169,516 12,043, 353 304,390 31,796, 143 1,155,9 07	062 187,289 11,924, 154 176,579 21,735, 695 1,208,7 14	153 204,700 11,293, 278 176,468 17,967, 937 1,181,8 20	85 204,112 10,678,9 32 98,190 12,827,9 25 1,022,52 5
Lys-262-associated Lys-262-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-378-associated Lys-414-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK LAKTYETTLEK TYETTLEK VFDEFKPLVEEPQNLIK KVPQVSTPTLVEVSR	33 433 3 318 3490 2689	060 169,516 12,043, 353 304,390 31,796, 143 1,155,9 07 927,400	062 187,289 11,924, 154 176,579 21,735, 695 1,208,7 14 585,347	153 204,700 11,293, 278 176,468 17,967, 937 1,181,8 20 594,473	85 204,112 10,678,9 32 98,190 12,827,9 25 1,022,52 5 546,458
Lys-262-associated Lys-262-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-378-associated Lys-414-associated Lys-414-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK LAKTYETTLEK TYETTLEK VFDEFKPLVEEPQNLIK KVPQVSTPTLVEVSR	33 433 3 318 3490 2689 335	060 169,516 12,043, 353 304,390 31,796, 143 1,155,9 07 927,400 1,889,1	062 187,289 11,924, 154 176,579 21,735, 695 1,208,7 14 585,347 2,012,3	153 204,700 11,293, 278 176,468 17,967, 937 1,181,8 20 594,473 2,697,3	85 204,112 10,678,9 32 98,190 12,827,9 25 1,022,52 5 546,458 3,472,85
Lys-262-associated Lys-262-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-378-associated Lys-414-associated Lys-414-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK LAKTYETTLEK TYETTLEK VFDEFKPLVEEPQNLIK KVPQVSTPTLVEVSR VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	33 433 3 318 3490 2689 335	060 169,516 12,043, 353 304,390 31,796, 143 1,155,9 07 927,400 1,889,1 70	062 187,289 11,924, 154 176,579 21,735, 695 1,208,7 14 585,347 2,012,3 82	153 204,700 11,293, 278 176,468 17,967, 937 1,181,8 20 594,473 2,697,3 08	85 204,112 10,678,9 32 98,190 12,827,9 25 1,022,52 5 546,458 3,472,85 5
Lys-262-associated Lys-262-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-378-associated Lys-414-associated Lys-414-associated Lys-525-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK LAKTYETTLEK TYETTLEK VFDEFKPLVEEPQNLIK KVPQVSTPTLVEVSR VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	33 433 3 318 3490 2689 335 105	060 169,516 12,043, 353 304,390 31,796, 143 1,155,9 07 927,400 1,889,1 70 11,562,	062 187,289 11,924, 154 176,579 21,735, 695 1,208,7 14 585,347 2,012,3 82 2,307,6	153 204,700 11,293, 278 176,468 17,967, 937 1,181,8 20 594,473 2,697,3 08 2,613,5	85 204,112 10,678,9 32 98,190 12,827,9 25 1,022,52 5 546,458 3,472,85 5 1,917,80
Lys-262-associated Lys-262-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-378-associated Lys-414-associated Lys-414-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK LAKTYETTLEK TYETTLEK VFDEFKPLVEEPQNLIK KVPQVSTPTLVEVSR VPQVSTPTLVEVSR KQTALVELVK	33 433 3 318 3490 2689 335 105	060 169,516 12,043, 353 304,390 31,796, 143 1,155,9 07 927,400 1,889,1 70 11,562, 546	062 187,289 11,924, 154 176,579 21,735, 695 1,208,7 14 585,347 2,012,3 82 2,307,6 65	153 204,700 11,293, 278 176,468 17,967, 937 1,181,8 20 594,473 2,697,3 08 2,613,5 92	85 204,112 10,678,9 32 98,190 12,827,9 25 1,022,52 5 546,458 3,472,85 5 5 1,917,80 2
Lys-262-associated Lys-262-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-351-associated Lys-378-associated Lys-414-associated Lys-414-associated Lys-525-associated	ADLAK YICENQDSISSK LAKTYETTLEK TYETTLEK VFDEFKPLVEEPQNLIK KVPQVSTPTLVEVSR VPQVSTPTLVEVSR KQTALVELVK	33 433 3 318 3490 2689 335 105 337	060 169,516 12,043, 353 304,390 31,796, 143 1,155,9 07 927,400 1,889,1 70 11,562, 546 33,508,	062 187,289 11,924, 154 176,579 21,735, 695 1,208,7 14 585,347 2,012,3 82 2,307,6 65 10,231,	153 204,700 11,293, 278 176,468 17,967, 937 1,181,8 20 594,473 2,697,3 08 2,613,5 92 12,479,	85 204,112 10,678,9 32 98,190 12,827,9 25 1,022,52 5 546,458 3,472,85 5 1,917,80 2 12,615,5

Lys-162 (MA)	YK^AAFTECCQAADK	109	5,108	1,294,6	1,862,6	1,353,26
				83	66	7
Lys-199 (MA)	LK^CASLQK	82	148,821	4,099,2	6,318,5	4,813,05
				55	18	5
Lys-212 (MA)	AFK^AWAVAR	183	15,885	328,737	750,455	2,543,72
						4
Lys-233 (MA)	AEFAEVSK^LVTDLTK	259	213	166,208	442,734	1,710,77
						5
Lys-262 (MA)	ADLAK^YICENQDSISSK	221	3,918	108,763	200,239	483,669
Lys-351 (MA)	LAK^TYETTLEK	358	9,234	2,853,5	4,711,1	5,505,77
				76	45	7
Lys-378 (MA)	VFDEFK^PLVEEPQNLIK	222	315,488	476,860	591,517	970,454
Lys-414 (MA)	K^VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	168	53,292	194,219	214,435	329,460
Lys-414 (SB)	K~VPQVSTPTLVEVSR	139	102,784	383,309	269,070	142,050
Lys-525 (MA)	K^QTALVELVK	269	13,297	811,364	1,779,8	2,629,18
					72	3
Lys-525 (SB)	K~QTALVELVK	150	1,202	4,346,2	3,215,1	753,301
				72	59	

Table A7. Change in relative abundance for HNE-modified and corresponding unmodified HSA peptides in response to HNE-exposure time at a 100:1 HNE:HSA molar ratio. Averaged iTRAQ reporter ion intensities are given here. iTRAQ reporter ion intensities were obtained using higher-energy C-trap dissociation (HCD) in an Orbitrap mass spectrometer. This dataset is the result of a three repeat preparations subjected to three replicate LC–MS/MS runs each. The same set of three repeat preparations was analyzed using the LTQ XL system (see Table A6). The mass list described in Table A4 was used and only mass list peptides are included in this table. Bolded entries were used in constructing Figures 3-5 and 3-6 while italicized entries were not used. For a peptide identification to be accepted, a PeptideProphet score of 0.9 or greater was required. MS/MS where all four iTRAQ reporter ion intensities were zero were discarded. C# indicates HNE Michael addition at Cys followed by reduction; H@ indicates HNE Michael addition at His followed by reduction; K^ indicates HNE Michael addition at Lys followed by reduction; K~ indicates oxidation at Met.

Modified Peptide (with flanking residues)	Modification Site or Sites (T indicates trypsin digestion; C indicates chymotrypsin digestion)	Counts of LC–MS/MS runs in which the modified peptide was identified using LTQ XL CID scans (maximum = 3) and LTQ Orbitrap Velos CID scans associated with high mass accuracy Orbitrap precursor ion mass measurements (*)1:1 HNE to ACO Ratio2:1 HNE LO:110:1 SO:1 TO:1 SO:1 CO CO Ratio				
K.VAM(#)SH^FEPHEYIR.Y	His-009 (T)	not detected	not detected	not detected	1	
K.VAM(#)SHFEPH^EYIR.Y	His-013 (T)	1	1	3*	3*	
K.VAM(#)SH^FEPH^EYIR.Y	His-009 & His-013 (T)	not detected	not detected	not detected	1	
R.YDLLEK~NIDIVR.K	Lys-023 (T)	not detected	not detected	1	2	
K.IVYGH^LDDPANQEIER.G	His-046 (T)	not detected	not detected	3*	3*	
Y.GH^LDDPANQEIERGKTY.L	His-046 (C)	not detected	not detected	3*	3*	
K.VAVPSTIH^C*DHLIEAQLGGEK.D	His-098 (T)	1	1	2	1	
K.VAVPSTIHC@DHLIEAQLGGEK.D	Cys-099 (T)	not detected	1*	1*	1	
K.VAVPSTIHC*DH^LIEAQLGGEK.D	His-101 (T)	not detected	not detected	3	1*	
K.VAVPSTIH^C@DHLIEAQLGGEK.D	His-098 & Cys-099 (T)	not detected	not detected	not detected	1	
K.VAVPSTIH^C*DH^LIEAQLGGEK.D	His-098 & His-101 (T)	not detected	not detected	1	3*	
K.VAVPSTIHC@DH^LIEAQLGGEK.D	Cys-099 & His-101 (T)	not detected	not detected	not detected*	1	
K.VAVPSTIH^C@DH^LIEAQLGGEK.D	His-098 & Cys-099 & His-101 (T)	not detected	not detected	not detected	2	
R.AK~DINQEVYNFLATAGAK.Y	Lys-117 (T)	not detected	not detected	3*	3*	

W.RPGSGIIH^QIILENY.A	His-147 (C)	not	not	not	1
		detected	detected	detected	
K.LTGSLSGWTSPK~DVILK.V	Lys-218 (T)	not	not	1	2
		detected	detected		
F.KDHLVPDPGC@HY.D	Cys-305 (C)	not	1	2	0
		detected			
Y.DQVIEINLSELKPH^INGPF.T	His-321 (C)	not	0	2*	3*
		detected			
R.VGLIGSC@TNSSYEDM(#)GR.S	Cys-358 (T)	3*	3*	3*	3*
K.QALAH^GLK.C	His-379 (T)	not	not	not	not
		detected	detected	detected*	detected*
R.DVGGIVLANAC@GPC*IGQWDR.K	Cys-421 (T)	2	1	1	not
					detected
R.DVGGIVLANAC*GPC@IGQWDR.K	Cys-424 (T)	not	not	1	not
		detected	detected		detected*
R.DVGGIVLANAC@GPC@IGQWDR.K	Cys-421 &	not	not	3*	1*
	Cys-424 (T)	detected	detected		
R.NDANPETH^AFVTSPEIVTALAIAGTLK.F	His-460 (T)	not	1*	3*	3*
		detected			
F.TGRNDANPETH^AF.V	His-460 (C)	not	not	3	3*
		detected	detected		
K.FNPETDFLTGK~DGK.K	Lys-490 (T)	not	not	not	3
		detected	detected	detected	
K.FK~LEAPDADELPR.A	Lys-496 (T)	not	not	2	3
		detected	detected		
R.AEFDPGQDTYQH^PPK.D	His-519 (T)	not	not	3	3*
		detected	detected		
K.C@TTDHISAAGPWLK.F	Cys-565 (T)	3*	3*	3*	3*
K.C*TTDH^ISAAGPWLK.F	His-569 (T)	not	not	2	2
		detected	detected		
K.C@TTDH^ISAAGPWLK.F	Cys-565 &	not	not	2	2*
	His-569 (T)	detected	detected		
R.IH^ETNLK.K	His-668 (T)	not	not	1*	2*
		detected	detected		
K.K~QGLLPLTFADPADYNK.I	Lys-674 (T)	not	not	not	1*
		detected	detected	detected	
K.H^PNGTQETILLNHTFNETQIEWFR.A	His-717 (T)	not	not	1	not
		detected	detected		detected
K.HPNGTQETILLNH^TFNETQIEWFR.A	His-729 (T)	not	not	not	not
		detected	detected	detected	detected*

K.H^PNGTQETILLNH^TFNETQIEWFR.A	His-717 &	not	not	not	1
	His-729 (T)	detected	detected	detected	

Table A8. Counts of LC–MS/MS runs in which the indicated modified peptide was identified. Four independent preparations were made for each HNE:ACO ratio. For each ratio, three preparations were analyzed using a Thermo LTQ XL linear ion trap mass spectrometer and one preparation was analyzed using a Thermo LTQ Orbitrap Velos instrument. In all cases, only one LC–MS/MS run was recorded for each preparation. For the LTQ XL and the LTQ Orbitrap Velos runs, only collision-induced dissocation (CID) MS/MS were recorded for each precursor ion selected for fragmentation. C* indicates carboxyamidomethylation at Cys; C@ indicates HNE Michael addition at Cys followed by reduction; H^ indicates HNE Michael addition at His followed by reduction; K~ indicates HNE Michael addition at Lys followed by reduction; M# indicates oxidation at Met.

Modification Site or	Peptide	Mass List Constituents				
Modification Site(s)						
Associated with						
Unmodified Peptide						
		[M+H]⁺	[M+2H] ²⁺	[M+3H] ³⁺		
His-009	VAMSH^FEPHEYIR	1918.00	959.50	640.01		
His-009	VAM#SH^FEPHEYIR	1934.00	967.50	645.34		
His-013	VAMSHFEPH^EYIR	1918.00	959.50	640.01		
His-013	VAM#SHFEPH^EYIR	1934.00	967.50	645.34		
His-009 & His-013	VAMSH^FEPH^EYIR	2076.13	1038.57	692.72		
His-009 & His-013	VAM#SH^FEPH^EYIR	2092.13	1046.57	698.05		
His-009-associated &	VAMSHFEPHEYIR	1759.87	880.44	587.30		
His-013-associated						
His-009-associated &	VAM#SHFEPHEYIR	1775.87	888.44	592.63		
His-013-associated						
His-046	IVYGH^LDDPANQEIER	2171.15	1086.08	724.39		
His-046-associated	IVYGHLDDPANQEIER	2013.02	1007.01	671.68		
His-098	VAVPSTIH^C*DHLIEAQLGGEK	2720.49	1360.75	907.50		
Cys-099	VAVPSTIHC@DHLIEAQLGGEK	2663.47	1332.24	888.49		
His-101	VAVPSTIHC*DH^LIEAQLGGEK	2720.49	1360.75	907.50		
His-098 & Cys-099	VAVPSTIH^C@DHLIEAQLGGEK	2821.60	1411.30	941.20		
His-098 & His-101	VAVPSTIH^C*DH^LIEAQLGGEK	2878.62	1439.81	960.21		
Cys-099 & His-101	VAVPSTIHC@DH^LIEAQLGGEK	2821.60	1411.30	941.20		

His-098 & Cys-099 &	VAVPSTIH^C@DH^LIEAQLGGEK	2979.73	1490.37	993.91
His-101				
(His-098 & Cys-099 &	VAVPSTIHC*DHLIEAQLGGEK	2562.36	1281.68	854.79
His-101)-associated				
Lys-117	AK~DINQEVYNFLATAGAK	2399.34	1200.17	800.45
Lys-117-associated	AKDINQEVYNFLATAGAK	2385.31	1193.16	795.78
Lys-117-associated	DINQEVYNFLATAGAK	2042.08	1021.54	681.37
Cys-358	VGLIGSC@TNSSYEDMGR	2091.02	1046.01	697.68
Cys-358	VGLIGSC@TNSSYEDM#GR	2107.02	1054.01	703.01
Cys-358-associated	VGLIGSC*TNSSYEDMGR	1989.91	995.46	663.98
Cys-358-associated	VGLIGSC*TNSSYEDM#GR	2005.91	1003.46	669.31
Cys-421	DVGGIVLANAC@GPC*IGQWDR	2403.23	1202.12	801.75
Cys-424	DVGGIVLANAC*GPC@IGQWDR	2403.23	1202.12	801.75
Cys-421 & Cys-424	DVGGIVLANAC@GPC@IGQWDR	2504.34	1252.67	835.45
Cys-421-associated &	DVGGIVLANAC*GPC*IGQWDR	2302.12	1151.56	768.04
Cys-424-associated				
His-460	NDANPETH^AFVTSPEIVTALAIAGTLK	3226.78	1613.89	1076.27
His-460-associated	NDANPETHAFVTSPEIVTALAIAGTLK	3068.65	1534.83	1023.56
Lys-490	FNPETDFLTGK~DGK	2015.09	1008.05	672.37
Lys-490-associated	FNPETDFLTGKDGK	2001.07	1001.04	667.69
Lys-490-associated	FNPETDFLTGK	1556.82	778.91	519.61
Lys-496	FK~LEAPDADELPR	1803.00	902.00	601.67
Lys-496-associated	FKLEAPDADELPR	1788.97	894.99	597.00
Lys-496-associated	LEAPDADELPR	1369.71	685.36	457.24
His-519	AEFDPGQDTYQH^PPK	2176.12	1088.56	726.04
His-519-associated	AEFDPGQDTYQHPPK	2017.99	1009.50	673.33
Cys-565	C@TTDHISAAGPWLK	1946.07	973.54	649.36
His-569	C*TTDH^ISAAGPWLK	2003.09	1002.05	668.37
Cys-565 & His-569	C@TTDH^ISAAGPWLK	2104.20	1052.60	702.07
Cys-565-associated &	C*TTDHISAAGPWLK	1844.96	922.98	615.66
His-569-associated				
Lys-674	K~QGLLPLTFADPADYNK	2337.33	1169.17	779.78
Lys-674-associated	KQGLLPLTFADPADYNK	2323.30	1162.15	775.11
Lys-674-associated	QGLLPLTFADPADYNK	2051.10	1026.06	684.37
Internal Standard	WVVIGDENYGEGSSR	1811.87	906.44	604.63

Table A9. List of targeted peptides and associated monoisotopic mass-to-charge ratios that were used as a targeted mass list for chosing parent ions for fragmentation. Mass-to-charge ratios in blue are outside the analyzed range (300-2000). Targeted peptides are grouped by modification site. C* indicates carboxyamidomethylation at Cys; C@ indicates HNE Michael addition at Cys

followed by reduction; H[^] indicates HNE Michael addition at His followed by reduction; K[~] indicates HNE Michael addition at Lys followed by reduction; M# indicates oxidation at Met. Seventeen modifications at twelve residues were targeted.

Modification	Peptide	Detection	Averaged iTRAQ HCD Reporter Ion			
		Count	Intensity	1		
			10:1	10:1	10:1	10:1
			HNE:A	HNE:A	HNE:A	HNE:A
			CO for	CO for	CO for	CO for
			0h	1 h	2 h	6 h
Internal Standard	WVVIGDENYGEGSSR	551	6,053,1	4,809,6	4,558,0	4,050,52
			61	68	96	0
Cys-099	VAVPSTIHC@DHLIEAQLG	121	2,551	229,961	222,621	168,247
	GEK					
Cys-358	VGLIGSC@TNSSYEDMG	156	5,135	429,106	470,003	518,706
	R					
Cys-358	VGLIGSC@TNSSYEDM#G	65	17,928	253,054	282,361	349,781
	R					
Cys-421	DVGGIVLANAC@GPC*IG	1	0	23,485	26,098	28,031
	QWDR					
Cys-565	C@TTDHISAAGPWLK	92	15,842	575,998	580,750	599,727
Cys-565 & His-569	C@TTDH^ISAAGPWLK	145	2,757	123,904	252,470	517,238
(Cys-099 & His-098 &	VAVPSTIHC*DHLIEAQLGG	87	1,237,6	609,098	527,023	385,229
His-101)-associated	EK		39			
Cys-358-associated	VGLIGSC*TNSSYEDMGR	80	2,909,9	1,878,8	1,712,8	1,444,20
			94	45	91	3
Cys-358-associated	VGLIGSC*TNSSYEDM#G	60	2,748,4	1,883,4	1,828,8	1,605,90
	R		82	93	87	5
Cys-421-associated &	DVGGIVLANAC*GPC*IGQ	159	329,860	160,120	116,568	80,479
Cys-424-associated	WDR					
Cys-421-associated &	DVGGIVLANAC*GPC*IGQ	2	6,804	5,449	0	0
Cys-424-associated	WDRK					
Cys-565-associated &	C*TTDHISAAGPWLK	42	1,370,0	782,015	660,115	540,467
His-569-associated			57			
His-009	VAMSH^FEPHEYIR	1	0	324,755	519,955	828,189
His-009	VAM#SH^FEPHEYIR	2	298,354	430,856	508,790	828,993
His-013	VAMSHFEPH^EYIR	1	10,971	122,396	156,688	240,192
His-013	VAM#SHFEPH^EYIR	13	95,116	171,191	232,407	371,270
His-009 & His-013	VAMSH^FEPH^EYIR	11	21,608	43,299	73,096	191,010

His-009 & His-013	VAM#SH^FEPH^EYIR	13	15,945	27,321	46,278	126,248
His-046	IVYGH^LDDPANQEIER	107	17,499	437,198	838,855	1,926,07
						0
His-098	VAVPSTIH^C*DHLIEAQLG	1	0	101,458	126,504	186,825
	GEK					
His-098 & His-101	VAVPSTIH^C*DH^LIEAQL	1	3,942	12,086	28,348	114,005
	GGEK					
His-460	NDANPETH^AFVTSPEIVT	111	236	1,029	2,372	5,178
	ALAIAGTLK					
His-519	AEFDPGQDTYQH^PPK	40	39,327	560,843	947,504	1,898,11
						9
His-519	AEFDPGQDTYQH^PPKDS	1	20,404	27,054	62,686	60,425
	SGQR					
His-569	C*TTDH^ISAAGPWLK	40	17,885	229,398	363,520	585,296
His-009-associated &	VAMSHFEPHEYIR	38	2,577,3	1,828,0	1,586,1	1,415,13
His-013-associated			48	28	02	2
His-009-associated &	VAM#SHFEPHEYIR	99	1,279,8	919,430	816,214	636,920
His-013-associated			80			
His-046-associated	IVYGHLDDPANQEIER	1639	906,002	654,302	597,641	486,893
His-460-associated	NDANPETHAFVTSPEIVTA	701	9,080	5,798	4,569	3,856
	LAIAGTLK					
His-519-associated	AEFDPGQDTYQHPPK	212	2,213,6	1,613,4	1,523,5	1,252,20
			58	71	37	5
His-519-associated	AEFDPGQDTYQHPPKDS	2	19,736	14,520	6,822	8,022
	SGQR					
Lys-117	AK~DINQEVYNFLATAGAK	16	19,730	18,468	19,772	20,138
Lys-496	FK~LEAPDADELPR	27	442,284	327,440	322,685	310,301
Lys-674	K~QGLLPLTFADPADYNK	5	19,626	23,054	27,547	29,413
Lys-117-associated	AKDINQEVYNFLATAGAK	271	294,401	219,102	188,939	172,933
Lys-117-associated	DINQEVYNFLATAGAK	1077	288,322	222,843	221,252	192,174
Lys-490-associated	FNPETDFLTGKDGK	19	3,096,6	2,299,7	2,093,2	1,889,29
			22	55	06	2
Lys-490-associated	FNPETDFLTGK	444	22,326,	17,711,	17,319,	15,758,7
			359	126	620	37
Lys-496-associated	FKLEAPDADELPR	678	994,196	754,689	690,847	642,682
Lys-496-associated	LEAPDADELPR	71	14,709,	11,753,	11,930,	11,084,5
			109	477	606	31
Lys-674-associated	KQGLLPLTFADPADYNK	112	393,637	326,304	300,272	257,119
Lys-674-associated	QGLLPLTFADPADYNK	692	570,630	428,138	417,142	370,419

Table A10. Change in relative abundance for HNE-modified and corresponding unmodified ACO peptides in response to HNE-exposure time at a 10:1 HNE:ACO molar ratio. Averaged iTRAQ reporter ion intensities are given here. iTRAQ reporter ion intensities were obtained using higher-energy C-trap dissociation (HCD) in an Orbitrap mass spectrometer. This dataset is the result of only one preparation subjected to three replicate LC–MS/MS runs. The mass list described in Table A9 was used and only mass list peptides are included in this table. All entries were used in constructing Figures 4-5, 4-6 and 4-7. For a peptide identification to be accepted, a PeptideProphet score of 0.9 or greater was required. MS/MS where all four iTRAQ reporter ion intensities were zero were discarded. C* indicates carboxyamidomethylation at Cys; C@ indicates HNE Michael addition at Cys followed by reduction; H^ indicates HNE Michael addition at Lys followed by reduction; M# indicates oxidation at Met.

Appendices-II: Spectra


























































			GO	zoom 124-133		zoom 112-122	hide H ₂ O/NH ₃		+ 2+ 3+	y 💙 + 💙 2+ 💙 3+	x - + - 2+ - 3+		2 + 2 2+ 3+	ы ыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыыы<th>a - + - 2+ - 3+</th><th></th><th>Tops: OM O -</th><th></th><th>$\sim 1 \sim 2$</th><th></th><th>AVG MONO</th><th>0</th><th>ым царания MassType:</th><th></th><th>ImageSize:</th><th>0.950 1.00</th><th>MassTol: Y-zoom:</th><th>X-range: 400 _ 1800</th>	a - + - 2+ - 3+		Tops: OM O -		$\sim 1 \sim 2$		AVG MONO	0	ым царания MassType:		ImageSize:	0.950 1.00	MassTol: Y-zoom:	X-range: 400 _ 1800
		zoomed in precursor plot: T=theoretical m/z . A=acquired m/z	1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 1044 1045 1046 1047 1048 1049 1050 1051 1052			~		scan 8478; 1044.9 mz; 1.1e+006		click image to zoom in; click top corners to zoom out [precursort]	400 600 800 1000 1200 1400 1600 1300		911 - 96 - 58 - 58 - 58 - 58 - 58 - 58 - 58 - 58	-+++ 	+ 5+++ b19 021- + b24 b25	+ +++ ;+++ 	- y1	12+	•					y1	016 1+	**	scan 8480: 1.0e+004	SHCIAEVENDEMPADIPSIAADEVESK, MH+ 3132.6875, m/z 1044.9007 10HNE-1HSA-37Trypsin5-LTQ4.8480.8480.3.dta
		2986.5820	2899.5500	2770.5074	2671.4390	2524.3706	2409.3436	2338.3065	2267.2694	2154.1853	2067.1533	1970.1005	1857.0165	1741.9895	1670.9524	1573.8997	1442.8592	1313.8166	1198.7896	1084.7467	955.7041	856.6357	727.5931	656.5560	543.4719	383.3116	88.0399	ь+
H(2)		1493.7949	1450.2789	1385.7576	1336.2234	1262.6892	1205.1757	1169.6572	1134.1386	1077.5966	1034.0806	985.5542	929.0122	871.4987	835.9801	787.4537	721.9335	657.4122	599.8987	542.8773	478.3560	428.8218	364.3005	328.7819	272.2399	192.1597	44.5238	b ²⁺
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دم + -N Ч × n Ъ zoom zoom hide Ions: Axis: O AVG MassType: • Sm MassTol: Y-zoom: X-range: о н Label: • ImageSize: 0.950 400 - 2000 □ + ٢ □ + < + + + 124-133 112-122 H_2O/NH_3 ٢ ٢ ß 0 0 O Lg 1.00 2 + 2 + 22 + 22 + 22 + 24 + ۲ × N MONO □ 3+ ٢ 0 ω + **ω** + ω + ω + Ψ 1043 ŧ scan 7925; 1050.3 mz; 1.4e+006 scan 7926; 4.4e+003 click image to zoom in; click top corners to zoom out 1044 zoomed in precursor plot; T=theoretical m/z, A=acquired m/z c34 1045 600 1046c5+ NDEMPADLFSLAADFVESK, MH+ 3148.8346, m/z 1050.2830 10HNE-1HSA-37Trypsin5-LTQ4.7926.7926.3.dta 800 1047 c6+ 1048 c74 1000 1049**M17++**z10 1050 1200 1051 c10+ 1052 1400 1053 21455++ 2671 1054 M+++ 1600 1055 c<u>₹</u>36+ [precursor±] 1056 1800 1057 c15+ 1058 2000 3019.7556 1510.3817 2932.7236 1466.8657 2803.6810 1402.3444 2704.6126 1352.8102 2557.5442 1279.2760 2442.5172 1221.7625 2371.4801 1186.2440 2300.4430 1150.7254 2187.3589 1094.1834 2100.3269 1050.6674 17 P 2003.2741 1890.1901 1704.1260 1330.8431 L459.8857 .215.8162 .101.7733 775.163 607.0732 972.7307 873.6623 744.6197 673.5825 560.4985 400.3382 105.0664 · •+ H(2):+295.27 C(3):+160.16 M(12):+147.19 1002.1410 945.5989 888.0855 852.5669 804.0405 730.4468 665.9255 608.4120 551.3905 486.8692 437.3350 372.8137 337.2952 280.7532 200.6730 53.0371 c²⁺ 26 18 25 24 V 23 22 21 20 19 16 15 13 11 27 14 12 10 # 9 ч œ 6 U Ð ₿ × ß Ħ ъ U ₽ Þ ы S ы Þ ы × Ħ z E 20 4 Ħ Þ н ი H ß N 5 11 12 13 17 18 19 21 24 27 10 14 15 16 22 23 26 # 1050.5233 1147.5761 1375.6871 1446.7242 1690.9645 1935.0340 2049.0770 1025.0424 2178.1196 1089.5637 2406.2306 1203.6192 2477.2677 1239.1378 2750.5120 1375.7599 3045.7838 **1523.3958** 1260.6602 1543.7770 1820.0071 2277.1880 1139.0979 2590.3517 1295.6798 131.0946 446.2377 593.3061 708.3330 779.3701 850.4072 218.1267 347.1693 963.4913 N₊ 297.1570 630.8340 968.0209 109.5672 174.0885 223.6227 354.6704 390.1890 425.7075 482.2496 574.2920 688.3475 910.5075 723.8660 525.7656 772.3924 845.9862 66.0512 N2+ 1015.9332 149.4178 321.8357 482.9133 515.2642 564.3267 607.3409 645.6832 683.6975 826.4278 198.4406 236.7829 260.4619 284.1410 350.8463 383.1973 420.8919 459.2343 726.7117 759.7345 802.7487 864.1225 917.5092 116.3950 44.3701 73.3808 N₃₊










































































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		1493.6890	1450.1730	1385.6517	1336.1175	1262.5833	1205.0698	1169.5513	1134.0327	1077.4907	1033.9747	985.4483	928.9063	871.3928	835.8742	787.3478	721.8276	657.3063	599.7928	542.7714	478.2501	428.7159	364.1946	328.6760	272.1340	192.1186	44.5238	b ²⁺
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	49.7097	78.7203	121.7345	154.7573	203.7802	242.1225	265.8015	289.4805	327.1752	356.1859	388.5368	426.2315	464.5738	488.2529	520.6038	564.2839	607.2981	645.6405	683.6548	726.6690	759.6918	802.7060	826.3850	864.0797	917.4233	1015.8198		y ³⁺















