

Chemical inhibition of the Pho85 cyclin-dependent kinase reveals a role in the environmental stress response

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In addition to its well-established role in responding to phosphate starvation, the cyclin-dependent kinase Pho85 has been implicated in a number of other physiological responses of the budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, including synthesis of glycogen. To comprehensively characterize the range of Pho85-dependent gene expression, we used a chemical genetic approach that enabled us to control Pho85 kinase activity with a cell-permeable inhibitor and whole genome transcript profiling. We found significant phenotypic differences between the rapid loss of activity caused by inhibition and the deletion of the genomic copy of *PHO85*. We demonstrate that Pho85 controls the expression of not only previously identified glycogen synthetic genes, but also a significant regulon of genes involved in the cellular response to environmental stress. In addition, we show that the effects of this inhibitor are both rapid and reversible, making it well suited to the study of the behavior of dynamic signaling pathways.

The protein kinase is an evolutionarily well conserved, ubiquitous, and widely implemented enzymatic activity. Many signaling pathways within cells, from bacteria to mammals, use a protein kinase for some aspect of their function (1). Protein kinases are well adapted to participate in diverse processes by virtue of the fact that they can modify their target proteins rapidly and in a reversible manner, thereby altering the function of the targets. Frequently, functional changes in the kinase are brought about by using additional specificity factors.

The cyclin-dependent kinase (CDK) is a prototypical class of kinase that exemplifies how kinase activity can be specified to multiple and divergent processes (2). CDK monomers depend on association with a cyclin subunit for stimulation of catalytic activity as well as generation of substrate specificity (2). The CDK Cdc28, of the budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, illustrates this paradigm clearly. *CDC28* itself is expressed at a constant level throughout the cell cycle (3), yet it is also essential for orderly progression through multiple steps of the cell cycle that differ broadly in their molecular mechanisms. The timely activation of the kinase, as well as the conferment of substrate specificity relevant to each specific phase, is accomplished by a family of cyclin partners that are synthesized when their activities are required and degraded when their phase is completed (3).

We study the diversity of CDK-cyclin partners, functions, and substrates by using the nonessential yeast CDK Pho85, which is involved in processing information about the nutritive environment of the cell (4–7). Pho85 associates with a family of 10 cyclins known as Pcls, which direct the CDK to different functions (7–9). The best studied of the functions of Pho85 is the response to phosphate starvation conferred by the cyclin Pho80 (10). The Pho80/Pho85 kinase complex regulates the starvation response by controlling the localization and activity of the transcription factor Pho4 (11), which activates transcription of genes such as *PHO5* (12, 13). More recent studies have identified Gsy2 as a direct target of Pcl8/Pho85 and Pcl10/Pho85 (9) and Sic1 as a direct target of Pcl1/Pho85 (14). Yet, we still do not know which of the Pho85 cyclins or target proteins are respon-

sible for the molecular functions that account for most of the *pho85*Δ phenotypes. The known phenotypes of the *pho85*Δ strain include: the constitutive expression of the secreted acid phosphatase *PHO5*, slow growth, poor growth on nonfermentable carbon sources, a G₁ delay, and morphogenetic defects (6, 15, 16). Also, deletion of *PHO85* results in hyperaccumulation of glycogen (17, 18), as well as constitutive expression of the glycogen synthase *GSY2* (19) and UDP-glucose pyrophosphorylase *UGPI* (20).

The importance of protein kinases has spurred the development of numerous tools for their study. One recent development has been the creation of sensitized, yet functional, alleles of kinases that can be inhibited by small, cell-permeable drugs (21, 22). This system is particularly useful because the hydrophobic residue that is mutated to sensitize the kinase is so highly conserved throughout the family that the technique can be applied to virtually any protein kinase (23, 24). We have chosen this tool to study Pho85 so that the rapid loss-of-function phenotype may be compared with the genetic deletion phenotype. In the latter case, the gene product has been absent for many generations, which may lead to adaptation. We coupled this inhibitor technology with microarray analysis of global gene expression to comprehensively identify the transcriptional consequences of any previously unidentified constitutive functions of Pho85.

Materials and Methods

Plasmid and Strain Construction. The F82G mutation was introduced into a *PHO85*-containing plasmid by site-directed mutagenesis using standard techniques (25). For integration into yeast, the *PHO85* promoter and gene [for both the mutagenized and wild-type (WT) versions] were subcloned into pRS304 (26). The integration was performed by cutting the resulting plasmids (WT, EB1379; F82G, EB1378) in the *TRP1* locus with *MfeI* and transforming the linear fragment into yeast (EY0821 or EY0822) by standard techniques (27). For the bacterial expression vector, the *PHO85* coding sequence was cloned into pQE-60 (Qiagen, Valencia, CA) containing the *lacIQ* gene (EB1164) as an *NcoI* fragment. The yeast strains EY0821 and EY0822 were manipulated by standard mating and sporulation techniques to obtain a strain that was K699 *MATa pho85*Δ::*LEU2 pho3*Δ *ADE2* and

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Abbreviations: CDK, cyclin-dependent kinase; WT, wild type; GFP, green fluorescent protein; 1-Na PP1, 4-amino-1-tert-butyl-3-(1'-naphthyl)pyrazolo[3,4-d]pyrimidine; ESR, environmental stress response.

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either did (EY0821) or did not (EY0822) contain *PHO4-GFP* (green fluorescent protein) integrated at the *PHO4* genomic locus. The *pho3Δ* allele was generated by unmarking a *LEU2*-marked disruption (generated with EB0888) at the genomic locus of *PHO3*, using a *LEU2* disruption vector containing the *URA3* gene flanked by hisG repeats (EB1005). The integrated *PHO4-GFP* allele was generated by standard pop-in, pop-out techniques (27). Repair of *ADE2* and deletion of *PHO4* (for EY0837) were performed by using a PCR-based gene replacement system (28).

Inhibitor Synthesis and Dilution. The inhibitors used in this study were synthesized and handled as described (29).

Liquid Phosphatase Assay. Yeast were diluted from a saturated yeast extract/peptone/dextrose (YEED) culture and grown overnight at 30°C in YEED to an OD₆₀₀ of 0.3 to 0.8. Each culture was then split and treated with a 1,000× 4-amino-1-*tert*-butyl-3-(1'-naphthyl)pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidine (1-Na PP1) solution or DMSO alone. The zero time point was assayed before treatment. Assays were performed essentially as described (13).

Microscopy. All images were captured by using a BX60 microscope (Olympus) and a Sensys charge-coupled device camera (Photometrics, Tucson, AZ) using identical exposure settings and were normalized to the same intensity range using IP LAB SPECTRUM (Scanalytics, Fairfax, VA). The yeast were grown with shaking in synthetic complete media, supplemented with dextrose (SD/complete), to midlog phase at 30°C. For static microscopy, the cultures were treated with 1,000× 1-Na PP1 or an equivalent volume of DMSO and shaken at 30°C for 15 min. For the perfusion chamber experiment, the yeast were adhered for 5 min in media to a coverslip [coated in 10 μg/ml Con A (Sigma) for 5 min, washed three times with water, and allowed to dry] in the perfusion chamber (Warner Instruments, Hamden, CT, RC-21B). The medium in the chamber was then switched to medium supplemented with 10 μM 1-Na PP1, and images were captured every 5 min until no further change in GFP localization was observed. The medium was then switched back to medium without 1-Na PP1, and images were captured every 5 min until no further change in GFP localization was observed.

Protein Purification. The purification of the recombinant kinase complexes and Pho4 were performed as described (10, 30). The concentrations of protein solutions were determined by using calculated extinction coefficients and measured absorbance at 280 nm in 6 M guanidine hydrochloride (31, 32).

Kinase Assays. Kinase assays were performed essentially as described (30). For the determination of k_{cat} and K_M , cold ATP was included at 900 μM and [γ -³²P] ATP at 86 nM. The kinases were diluted to a final concentration of 100 pM, and Pho4 was titrated from 3 μM to 100 nM. The *in vitro* inhibition experiments to determine the IC₅₀ used [γ -³²P] ATP at a final concentration of 86 nM as the only source of ATP, allowing the measured IC₅₀ to serve as an approximation of the K_I (33). These reactions included the kinase complex at 100 pM (except in the case of Pcl7, where the final concentration was 10 nM), Pho4 at 3 μM, and a titration of 1-Na PP1 from 4 μM to 10 nM. All quantitation was performed with a Storm 860 PhosphorImager (Molecular Dynamics).

Microarray Analysis. Yeast were grown overnight at 30°C in SD/complete media to an OD₆₀₀ of 0.5. For 1-Na PP1 treatments, either 1,000× 1-Na PP1 in DMSO or an equivalent volume of DMSO was added. For the 24-h treatment, the cells were grown to saturation twice before being diluted for growth to an OD₆₀₀ of 0.5, all while in the presence of the appropriate

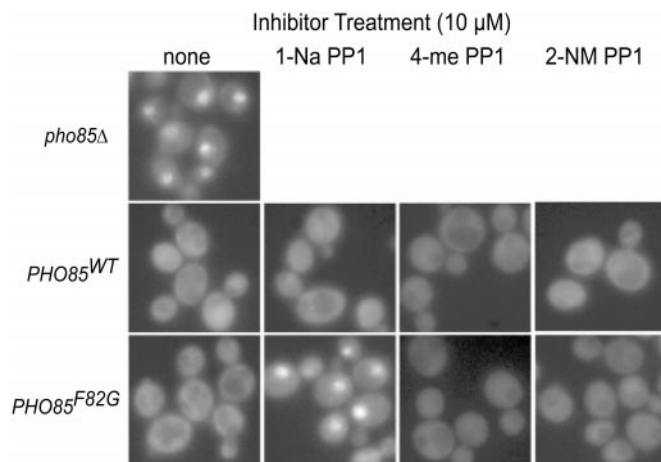


Fig. 1. Selection of inhibitor by measuring Pho4-GFP localization with static microscopy. The strains tested [EY0821 (*pho85Δ*), EY0825 (*PHO85^{WT}*), and EY0823 (*PHO85^{F82G}*)] were analyzed 15 min after treatment with inhibitor. A representative field of cells is shown for each condition. 2-NM PP1, 4-amino-1-*tert*-butyl-3-(2'-naphthylmethyl)pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidine; 4-me PP1, 4-amino-1-*tert*-butyl-3-(1'-naphthyl-4'-methyl)pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidine.

treatment. Cells were harvested by centrifugation, flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen, and stored at -20°C for up to 2 weeks. Total and poly(A) RNA were isolated as described (34), and poly(A) RNA was reverse-transcribed with StrataScript (Stratagene) incorporating amino-allyl dUTP (Sigma) at a ratio of 3:2 with dTTP. The resulting cDNAs were labeled by using monofunctional reactive Cy3 and Cy5 dyes (Amersham Pharmacia) in the presence of sodium bicarbonate. The spot-printed microarrays were fabricated essentially as described (34, 35).

For inhibitor-treated cultures, the DMSO-treated sample (Cy3) was compared directly to the 1-Na PP1-treated sample (Cy5) by hybridization to the same microarray. In the case of other experiments, the Cy5 sample is listed second. The standard deviation from the mean expression ratio of 1 was calculated by using all of the individual gene expression measurements in a given experiment. This value provides an indication of the number and magnitude of changes occurring in that experiment. The analysis and presentation of the data were performed by using several software tools: CLUSTER and TREEVIEW (36), AMAD (<http://www.microarrays.org/software.html>), GENEPIX PRO (Axon Instruments, Union City, CA), and Microsoft EXCEL.

Results

Construction of *PHO85* Allele and Selection of Inhibitor. As stated above, we wanted to use previously developed chemical genetic methods to study Pho85 function (21, 22). We mutated a conserved hydrophobic residue, Phe-82, in the ATP-binding pocket of Pho85 to Gly to render the kinase sensitive to appropriately derivatized inhibitors (29).

Monitoring the subcellular localization of Pho4-GFP fusion protein constitutes a simple and rapid method for assessing the activity of Pho80/Pho85 (11). In conditions of high phosphate, Pho80/Pho85 phosphorylates Pho4, causing Pho4 to be localized to the cytoplasm. Low levels of extracellular phosphate or loss of Pho80/Pho85 activity cause Pho4 to move from the cytoplasm to the nucleus (ref. 11; Fig. 1), where it is required for *PHO5* induction. We found that 1-Na PP1 is effective as an inhibitor of Pho80/Pho85^{F82G} activity, whereas neither 4-amino-1-*tert*-butyl-3-(2'-naphthylmethyl)pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidine (2-NM PP1) nor 4-amino-1-*tert*-butyl-3-(1'-naphthyl-4'-methyl)pyrazolo[3,4-*d*]pyrimidine (4-me PP1) demonstrated any ability to affect the localization of Pho4 (Fig. 1). When added to a strain with a WT

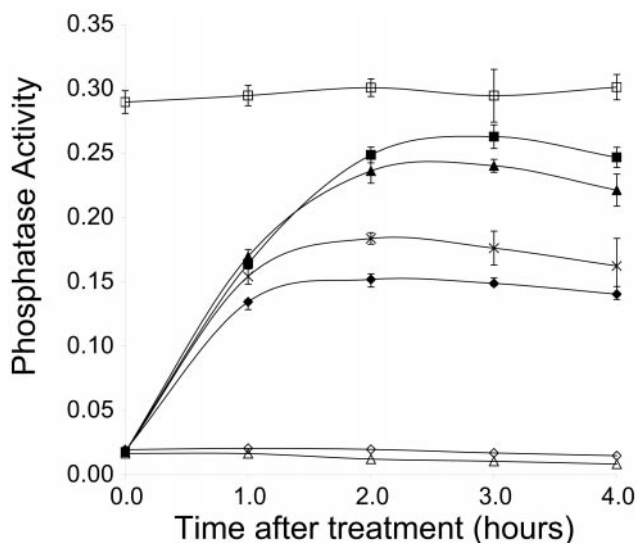


Fig. 2. Analysis of Pho5 activity induced by inhibitor treatment using the liquid phosphatase assay. Units of activity were calculated by dividing the measured OD₄₂₀ by the OD₆₀₀ of the yeast suspension used in the assay and are displayed on the vertical axis. Time after inhibitor addition is shown on the horizontal axis. The strains and treatments shown are: EY0822 (*pho85Δ*) + DMSO (□); EY0824 (*PHO85^{F82G}*) + 10 μM 1-Na PP1 (■), + 5 μM 1-Na PP1 (▲), + 1 μM 1-Na PP1 (crosses), + 0.5 μM 1-Na PP1 (◆), or + DMSO (◇); and EY0826 (*PHO85^{WT}*) + 10 μM 1-Na PP1 (△). Each point shown is the mean of three independent experiments, and the error bars indicate two standard deviations.

version of Pho80/Pho85, none of the inhibitors tested showed any effect on Pho4-GFP localization (Fig. 1).

Determination of Effective Concentration of 1-Na PP1. To determine what concentrations of 1-Na PP1 would be useful for further *in vivo* studies, we titrated the inhibitor and performed liquid phosphatase assays to quantitatively measure Pho5 activity. After 2–3 h, treatment of the *PHO85^{F82G}* strain with 10 μM 1-Na PP1 results in ≈90% of the acid phosphatase activity of the *pho85Δ* strain (Fig. 2). Treatment of the *PHO85^{F82G}* strain with 20 μM 1-Na PP1 does not result in a significant increase in acid phosphatase activity (data not shown), suggesting that the response to the inhibitor is saturated. As expected, the *PHO85^{WT}* strain does not demonstrate any sensitivity to 1-Na PP1 even at a concentration of 10 μM (Fig. 2). An approximately half-maximal response to 1-Na PP1 is observed at 500 nM. These results suggest that the low micromolar range constitutes a useful concentration range for *in vivo* studies with 1-Na PP1.

Determination of the Kinetics of Inhibition *in Vivo*. To learn how soon after treatment we could expect to see transcriptional effects *in vivo*, we monitored the localization of Pho4-GFP in cells immobilized in a perfusion chamber in which we could rapidly alter the extracellular concentration of inhibitor. Upon treatment with 10 μM 1-Na PP1, Pho4-GFP reaches its peak of nuclear localization between 5 and 10 min (Fig. 3). The treatment can be extended for at least 1 h, with no further change in fluorescence distribution (data not shown). Similarly, upon removal of 1-Na PP1 by perfusing the chamber with fresh media without inhibitor, the Pho4-GFP fluorescence signal returns entirely to the cytoplasm with similar kinetics (5 min). These results suggest that changes in transcription may be observed minutes after raising or lowering the extracellular inhibitor concentration.

Analysis of Kinetic Parameters and *in Vitro* Inhibition of Pho85^{F82G}. To determine whether the F82G mutation had significantly altered

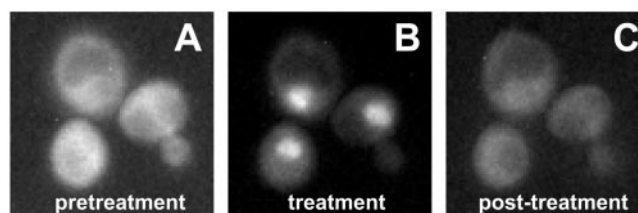


Fig. 3. Perfusion chamber fluorescence microscopy of Pho4-GFP localization in response to treatment with 10 μM 1-Na PP1. A single representative field of cells is shown through the course of the experiment. (A) Pretreatment. (B) After 10 min in 10 μM 1-Na PP1. (C) Five minutes after removal of 1-Na PP1. (Magnification: ×2,000.)

the enzymatic characteristics of the kinase, we determined the kinetic parameters of the WT and mutant alleles, using recombinant proteins expressed in *Escherichia coli* (10, 30). Neither the K_M nor the k_{cat} of the Pho80/Pho85 complex for the substrate Pho4 (308 ± 55 nM, 12.3 ± 1.8 s⁻¹) is significantly altered by mutation of Phe82 (350 ± 33 nM, 13.2 ± 1.6 s⁻¹), indicating that this mutant allele should be capable of faithfully substituting for all *PHO85^{WT}* functions *in vivo*.

We also determined the *in vitro* concentration at which 1-Na PP1 inhibits Pho85^{F82G} to half of its maximal activity (IC₅₀). The IC₅₀ for Pho80/Pho85^{F82G} was ≈360 nM, as estimated by curve-fitting the data for the linear range (100 nM to 1 μM 1-Na PP1) of the experiment (data not shown). This value is approximately the same as determined by the liquid assay, further demonstrating that low micromolar concentrations of 1-Na PP1 have substantial effects on the activity of the sensitized kinase. Only at a concentration of 400 μM did 1-Na PP1 demonstrate any effect on Pho85^{WT} (<20% inhibition; data not shown). The specific cyclin partner is not likely to contribute significantly to the efficacy of the inhibition by 1-Na PP1: the IC₅₀ for the Pcl7/Pho85^{F82G} complex is the same as the IC₅₀ for the Pho80/Pho85^{F82G} complex (data not shown).

Microarray Analyses. Having determined several parameters necessary for the effective use of 1-Na PP1 with this sensitized kinase, we used spotted cDNA microarrays (34, 35) to assess the effects of inhibitor treatment on gene expression. The rapid loss of Pho85 kinase activity may permit the identification of physiological functions of Pho85 that are not revealed in the transcriptional profile of the *pho85Δ* strain.

As a first step, we compared the *PHO85^{WT}* strain to the *PHO85^{F82G}* strain in the absence of any inhibitor treatment. The mutation of Phe-82 to Gly has a negligible effect on the expression profile of the yeast, as demonstrated by a standard deviation of 0.17 from the mean ratio of 1 for this experiment (see Fig. 6, which is published as supporting information on the PNAS web site, www.pnas.org). Only three genes (*HSP12*, *CHA4*, *YIL102C*) of more than 6,000 change expression by more than 2-fold (see Table 1, which is published as supporting information on the PNAS web site).

We performed several inhibitor treatments on various strains to identify genes whose regulation is controlled by Pho85. To maximize the probability of identifying a direct transcriptional effect of loss of Pho85 function, we analyzed samples treated for only 10 min with 1-Na PP1. We hybridized the treated sample to the same array as a sample treated with DMSO alone to control for the effects of the DMSO solvent in the inhibitor solution, revealing only the inhibitor-specific changes. When a *PHO85^{WT}* strain was treated in this manner with 10 μM 1-Na PP1, we observed a standard deviation of 0.50 and a 2-fold change in expression for 295 genes (see Fig. 6), indicating that the inhibitor treatment has some Pho85-independent effects. When the

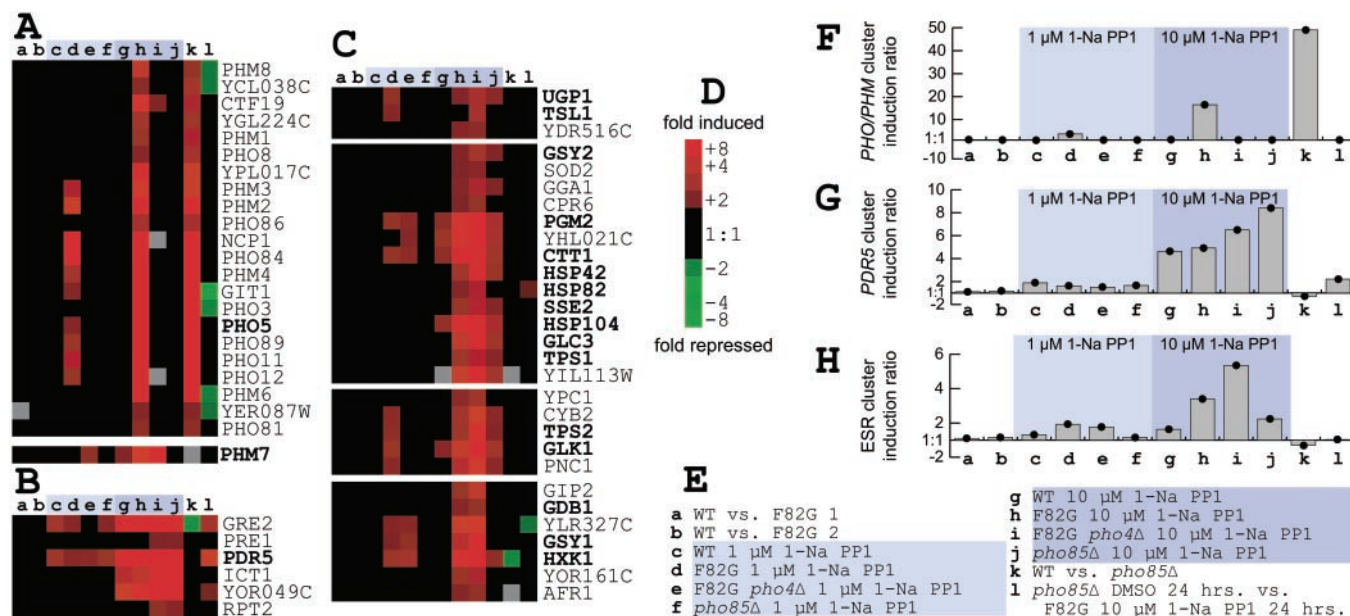


Fig. 4. Summary of microarray results. (A–C) Clusters of genes from larger tree containing all genes with at least one change greater than 2-fold in at least one of the experiments shown (a–l; see legend for E). Genes of interest are indicated in bold. Correlation for each node is indicated below in parentheses. (A) *PHO* and *PHM* genes (0.86) and *PHM7*. The *PHO3* induction observed is likely caused by hybridization of *PHO5* cDNA (87% identity), because *PHO3* is deleted in the strains used for these studies. (B) *PDR5* cluster (0.98). (C) Genes induced by 1-Na PP1 treatment (0.91; individual nodes all greater than 0.96). (D) Color key for clusters. Induction value is shown to the right of the corresponding square. A gray square indicates a missing data point. (E) Legend of the experiments shown. Experimental design is described in *Materials and Methods*. Experiments involving treatments with 1-Na PP1 are indicated by a light blue (1 μ M) or darker blue (10 μ M) shaded box. (F–H) Graphs of average induction ratios for the clusters shown in A–C, respectively. Treatment with 1-Na PP1 is indicated as in E.

PHO85^{F82G} strain is treated with 10 μ M 1-Na PP1, the effects are both more numerous and of a larger magnitude. A 2-fold change in expression is observed for 853 genes, and the standard deviation is 2.2 (see Fig. 6). Of these, 332 genes have a greater than 2-fold induction, and 521 genes have a greater than 2-fold repression. We focused our analysis on genes that are induced rather than repressed, because of potential oversights caused by our inability to detect decreases in expression of RNAs with long half-lives.

A selection of induced genes grouped by cluster analysis (36) is shown in Fig. 4 (the complete data set is available in Table 1). The first category contains essentially every known phosphate-responsive gene (37), with the exception of *PHM5* and *PHM7* (Fig. 4A). This category contains *PHO4*-dependent genes that are induced by treatment of the *PHO85*^{F82G} strain with 1-Na PP1 and by deletion of *PHO85* from the genome, but not by treatment of the *PHO85*^{WT} strain with 1-Na PP1.

The second category includes genes that are induced solely by the presence of the inhibitor and do not depend on the state of *PHO85* (Fig. 4B). The prototypical member of this category is *PDR5*, which encodes a small-molecule efflux pump (38). Other members of this cluster, including *GRE2* and *ICT1*, also have been identified as being coregulated with *PDR5* in a study of *PDR* gene deletions (39). The induction of these genes constitutes a small-molecule response that depends on the concentration of inhibitor used, but is independent of Pho85 activity (Fig. 4B).

We also have identified another large category of genes (Fig. 4C) that are induced by 1-Na PP1 treatment, including genes involved in glycogen synthesis (*UGP1*, *GSY2*, *GSY1*, *GLC3*, *GDB1*, *PGM2*), trehalose synthesis (*TPS1*, *TPS2*, *TSL1*), glycolysis (*GLK1*, *HXX1*), oxidoreductive stress (*CTT1*, *GPX1*, *GTT1*), protein folding (*HSP26*, *HSP42*, *HSP104*, *SSE2*), and protein degradation (*UBC5*, *UBC8*, *LAP4*, *PAI3*, *AUT7*, *APG1*). Although previous work has implicated Pho85 in the transcriptional control of glycogen metabolism (19, 20), this group of

genes represents a substantial expansion of that role. None of these genes depend on the transcription factor Pho4 for their induction. It is also important to note that these genes are not constitutively induced in the *pho85* Δ strain (Fig. 4C). Furthermore, these genes are no longer induced after 24 h in inhibitor, as demonstrated by comparison of a 24-h 10 μ M 1-Na PP1 treatment of the *PHO85*^{F82G} strain with a 24-h DMSO treatment of the *pho85* Δ strain (Fig. 4). These results indicate that the role *PHO85* plays in the induction of these genes is transient and only exposed immediately after loss of kinase activity, or can be substituted for in the case of its prolonged absence. A larger cluster of 258 genes, with a correlation coefficient of 0.91, relates the clusters representing this category; other genes with similar patterns are not shown. Although the genes in Fig. 4C do show significant induction by treatment with both 1 μ M and 10 μ M concentrations of 1-Na PP1 in the presence of the sensitized *PHO85*^{F82G} allele, many also show induction to a lesser, but still significant, degree in both the *PHO85*^{WT} and *pho85* Δ strains when treated with 10 μ M 1-Na PP1. This pattern suggests that these genes largely, but not exclusively, depend on Pho85 activity, and that the inhibitor treatment causes some Pho85-independent effects.

Discussion

We have used a combination of chemical genetics and whole genome expression profiling to comprehensively characterize the rapid loss of function of the nonessential Pho85 kinase in yeast. The allele of *PHO85* we constructed is functional (Figs. 1 and 2) and responds in a dose-dependent fashion to treatment with inhibitor (Fig. 2). Although this general approach has been used previously to study an assortment of kinases (22, 33, 40, 41), we were able to use our molecular understanding of Pho85 function in the *PHO* pathway to gain additional information about the characteristics of the inhibitor and the inhibition. For example, we were able to demonstrate that the effects of 1-Na PP1 on Pho80/Pho85 kinase activity *in vivo*, as measured by

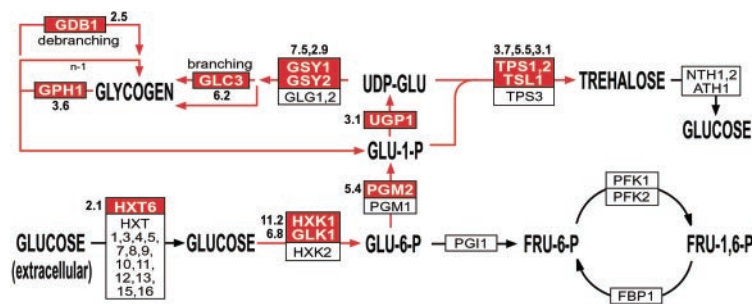


Fig. 5. Induction of genes involved in reserve carbohydrate metabolism by chemical inhibition of Pho85^{F82G}. The genes encoding the enzymes for the metabolic processes are shown in boxes. Genes induced 2-fold or greater by chemical inhibition of Pho85 are shown in red boxes with the maximal inhibitor-induced fold induction shown adjacent to the box. Genes shown in white boxes did not have a greater than 2-fold change in expression level.

Pho4 localization, are complete fewer than 10 min after addition or removal of the inhibitor (Fig. 3). This combination of rapidity and reversibility makes this inhibitor-based methodology well suited to studying the dynamic behavior of signaling pathways in general.

Evaluating the *in vivo* effects of the inhibition by using a quantitative biochemical assay rather than a qualitative assessment of microscopic data permitted us to compare the effectiveness of the inhibition *in vitro* to that observed *in vivo*. Surprisingly, we found the IC₅₀ for both conditions to be approximately the same: 500 nM *in vivo* (Fig. 2) and 360 nM *in vitro*. Previously, inhibitor studies of other kinases had found that a much lower *in vitro* IC₅₀ (in the low nanomolar range) corresponded to an effective *in vivo* concentration that was much higher (in the low micromolar range) (22, 40). This result indicates that the inhibition of Pho85^{F82G} by 1-Na PP1 is not exclusively competitive, as it is unaffected by ATP concentration.

We were able to confirm the effectiveness of the inhibition by identifying all of the genes in the *PHO* regulon (Fig. 4A). We also identified some novel features of *PHM* gene regulation. First, we demonstrated that *PHM1-4*, *PHM6*, and *PHM8* all depend on *PHO4* for their transcriptional induction (Fig. 4A). Previous work had demonstrated only that these genes had putative Pho4 binding sites in their promoter regions (37). Second, *PHM5* is not induced at all in any of the treatment conditions, including our comparison of *PHO85* and *pho85Δ* strains (data not shown). This result stands in contrast to what had been observed previously, but may make some sense in light of the fact that a *phm5Δ* strain has a polyphosphate hyperaccumulation phenotype, not a polyphosphate hypoaccumulation phenotype like that of other *PHM* mutant strains (37). Third, *PHM7* is the only one of the induced *PHM* genes that does not depend on *PHO4* for its induction (Fig. 4A). Most likely, the previously identified imperfect Pho4 consensus binding sites in the regulatory regions of *PHM5* and *PHM7* (37) do not function as Pho4 binding sites *in vivo*.

In this study, we have found a Pho85-dependent gene expression pattern for 250 genes not previously known to be Pho85-dependent. Deletion of *PHO85* is not sufficient to induce this regulon, but treatment of the appropriately sensitized strain with the inhibitor results in a robust induction of several genes (Fig. 4C). Twelve of these genes have a role in reserve carbohydrate metabolism: *GSY1*, *GSY2*, *GLC3*, *GDB1*, *GPH1*, *UGP1*, *GLK1*, *HXK1*, *PGM2*, *TPS1*, *TPS2*, and *TSL1* (Figs. 4C and 5) (42–51). Previous work has shown *GSY2* and *UGP1* to be inducible by deletion of *PHO85* in other strain backgrounds (19, 20). Also, a subset of the genes described above (*GLC3*, *GSY1*, *TSL1*, *TPS2*, *GLK1*, and *PGM2*) appear in a previously reported set of experiments that induce the *PHO* pathway, including phosphate starvation, deletions of *PHO80* and *PHO85*, and constitutive alleles of *PHO4* and *PHO81* (37); however, none of these genes appears to be significantly induced by deletion of *PHO85* in our strain background (Fig. 4C).

One possible interpretation of these changes in gene expression is that Pho85 plays an expanded role in regulating the expression of genes involved in reserve carbohydrate metabolism, in addition to its role in regulating the transcription of *GSY2* and *UGP1*. Transcription of these reserve carbohydrate metabolism genes also is induced by the diauxic shift, when extracellular glucose concentrations become limiting (34). Low glucose concentration also causes transcriptional induction of genes involved in gluconeogenesis and the tricarboxylic acid cycle and a repression of genes involved in glycolysis. We do not observe any significant change in expression of these genes in our experiments with the inhibitor and the sensitized kinase. This result suggests that the chemical inhibition of Pho85 does not cause the yeast to starve for glucose. If they do starve for glucose, they must be rendered incapable of inducing gluconeogenesis and the tricarboxylic acid cycle by the inhibition of Pho85.

A second possible interpretation of the induction of the reserve carbohydrate metabolism genes also takes into account the remaining 240 genes that have similar expression profiles. A number of these genes are involved in responses to cellular stress of various kinds, including antioxidants, redoxins, *HSP* chaperones, and factors involved in protein degradation and vacuolar function. Recently, whole genome expression profiling experiments have defined an environmental stress response (ESR) comprised of genes whose expression is altered as a general response to a transition to suboptimal environmental conditions (52, 53). There are many similarities between the genes induced by chemical inhibition of Pho85 and the ESR genes. Of the 258 genes identified by our study with gene expression profiles similar to those in Fig. 4C, 46% of these also can be found in the 283 genes that are induced as part of the ESR (52). Additionally, 50% of the characterized genes induced when the ESR is activated (52) are activated by chemical inhibition of Pho85 (data not shown). Furthermore, our data shares with the ESR the same strong preference for the induction of particular isozymes; for example, *HXK1* is induced when the ESR is activated, whereas *HXK2* is not. This is true for *HXK1*, *PGM2*, *GPM2*, *GPD1*, *GTT1*, *GPX1*, *CCT1*, and *TRX2* in both ESR-inducing conditions (52) and chemical inhibition of Pho85 (data not shown).

The similarity between these responses, with respect to both the types of genes induced as well as the preference for particular isozymes, suggests that chemical inhibition of Pho85 results in activation of the ESR. Pho85 could be an important component of the signal transduction machinery that regulates the ESR genes in response to adverse changes in the extracellular environment. Alternatively, loss of Pho85 function could result in changes in cellular physiology that induces the ESR indirectly. We cannot, at present, distinguish between these two possibilities. In either case, we do know that the activation of these ESR genes is transient or can be adapted to: after 24 h in the presence of inhibitor, the induction of these genes is no longer observed (Fig. 4C). In our strain, this adaptation correlates with inhibitor-induced accumulation of glycogen in the *PHO85^{F82G}* strain. Logarithmically growing cultures accumulate significant quan-

tities of glycogen if Pho85 has been chemically inhibited for 24 h, but no accumulation is observed after 10 min of chemical inhibition (data not shown). The slow growth phenotype and inability to grow on nonfermentable carbon sources demonstrated by *pho85Δ* strains might be explained by improper regulation of vital metabolic responses altered by activation of the ESR, or the adaptive state, including the accumulation of glycogen, that corrects for the misregulation.

Future work should uncover the Pcl cyclin, the transcription factor or factors, and DNA elements that are responsible for directing Pho85-dependent activation of the ESR. Further anal-

ysis may identify other Pho85-regulated pathways through further study of the role of Pho85 in responding to various environmental conditions.

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