

# Proteome analysis of lysine 2-hydroxyisobutyrylation in the peripheral blood of systemic lupus erythematosus patients

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## Research

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## Abstract

Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is a complex autoimmune disease that affects multiple organs, the pathogenic mechanism is related to many factors, but the specific pathogenic mechanism has not been clarified yet. Protein lysine modifications play important roles in gene regulation, transcription, metabolism and other biological processes. The lysine 2-hydroxyisobutyrylation (K<sub>hib</sub>) histone mark has recently been discovered as a novel protein modification. In this study, patients in the active SLE group were examined (N=8), while the control group was healthy (N=20). Utilizing antibody-based affinity enrichment and nano-HPLC/MS/MS analyses of K<sub>hib</sub> peptides, we identified 156 upregulated proteins (fold change > 1.5), 124 downregulated proteins (fold change < 1/1.5), including 220 K<sub>hib</sub> sites that were upregulated and 187 K<sub>hib</sub> sites that were downregulated. Our data demonstrate that proteins with K<sub>hib</sub> sites were localized in the cytoplasm. Functional enrichment analysis revealed that proteins with K<sub>hib</sub> sites are broadly involved in a wide range of biological processes, cellular components and molecular functions. The 03010 Ribosome pathways may exert important influence on the SLE pathogenic mechanism, according to a KEGG analysis. The functional analysis of K<sub>hib</sub> is of value for important future investigations of SLE pathogenesis.

## Introduction

Systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) is a complex autoimmune disease produced by many factors, such as heredity, medications, and the environment, and clinical manifestations of the disease involve many organs and the adaptive immune system (Regunathan-Shenk and Radhakrishnan 2018). Posttranslational modifications (PTMs) promote the formation of covalent bonds between chemical groups/peptides and target proteins and constitute a mechanism that ultimately results in changes in protein structure and function (Marcelli et al. 2018). Lysine 2-hydroxyisobutyrylation (K<sub>hib</sub>) is a newly identified PTM found in animal and yeast cells. Previous research suggested that histone K<sub>hib</sub> is involved in male cell differentiation and plays a critical role in the regulation of chromatin functions in animals (Yu et al. 2017). The removal of the K<sub>hib</sub> group from H4K8 is mediated by the histone lysine deacetylases Rpd3p and Hos3p *in vivo*. In addition, eliminating modifications at this site by alanine substitution alters transcription in carbon transport/metabolism genes and results in a reduced chronological life span (CLS). Furthermore, consistent with the glucose-responsive H4K8hib regulation, proteomic analysis of K<sub>hib</sub> revealed a large set of proteins involved in glycolysis/gluconeogenesis (Huang et al. 2017). Dong reported comprehensive identification of K<sub>hib</sub> in *Proteus mirabilis*, with K<sub>hib</sub> sites involved in metabolic pathways, such as the pentose phosphate pathway, and in purine metabolism and glycolysis/gluconeogenesis. The modification of carbon sources can affect the occurrence of K<sub>hib</sub>. Furthermore, they observed that K<sub>hib</sub> on K343 had a negative regulatory effect on enolase (ENO) activity, and K<sub>hib</sub> may change the binding formation of ENO and its substrate, 2-phospho-D-glycerate (2PG), to prevent the substrate from coming close to the active sites of the enzyme (Dong et al. 2018). He's study revealed that EP300-catalyzed K<sub>hib</sub> and further indicated that EP300 has the intrinsic ability to select short-chain acyl-CoA-dependent protein substrates by regulating cellular glucose metabolism (He et al.). Meng and coworkers provided the first systematic analysis of K<sub>hib</sub> modifications in developing rice (*Oryza sativa*) seeds, and functional annotation analyses indicated that proteins modified by K<sub>hib</sub> are preferentially targeted in glycolysis/gluconeogenesis, TCA cycle metabolism, starch biosynthesis, lipid metabolism, protein biosynthesis and other biological processes. Research has revealed that K<sub>hib</sub> sites are conserved in the histone proteins H3 and H4 in humans, mice and *Physcomitrella patens* and are novel sites in the histone proteins H1, H2A and H2B in *Physcomitrella patens*.

Here, we identified that 156 upregulated proteins (fold change > 1.5), 124 downregulated proteins (fold change < 1/1.5), including 220 K<sub>hib</sub> sites that were upregulated and 187 K<sub>hib</sub> sites that were downregulated. In addition, functional enrichment analysis revealed that proteins modified by K<sub>hib</sub> were broadly involved in a wide range of biological processes, cellular components and molecular functions. Our research on the K<sub>hib</sub> modifications of the histones in SLE will facilitate the understanding of the pathogenic mechanism of SLE.

## Materials And Methods

With informed consent and under the direction of a protocol approved by the Guangxi Key Laboratory of Metabolic Diseases Research Ethics Committee, we collected 3.5 ml peripheral blood (PBMC) samples from the normal control group, which consisted of 20 healthy people and 8 SLE patients; the information regarding these patients is displayed in Table 1. PBMCs were isolated by density gradient centrifugation using Ficoll-Hypaque and sonicated three times on ice using a high-intensity ultrasonic processor (Scientz) in lysis buffer (8 M urea and 1% protease inhibitor cocktail). (Note: For PTM experiments, the inhibitors were also added to the lysis buffer, e.g., 50 mM NAM and 3 μM TSA for acetylation). The remaining debris was removed by centrifugation at 12,000 × g and 4 °C for 10 min. Finally, the supernatant was collected after centrifugation and the protein concentration was determined by a BCA kit according to the manufacturer's instructions.

| NO | Gender | Age | WBC  | RBC  | HGB | PLT | MPV  | Urea | Cr  | UA  | IgG   | IgA  | IgM  | C3   | C4   | CRP   | ANA      |
|----|--------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|------|------|-----|-----|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|----------|
| P1 | man    | 48  | 5.82 | 4.55 | 124 | 136 | 11.2 | 6.2  | 73  | 228 | 16.92 | 4.30 | 1.28 | 0.26 | 0.01 | <5.0  | 1:10000+ |
| P2 | women  | 55  | 11.2 | 3.42 | 108 | 166 | 8.6  | 9.9  | 139 | 217 | 5.48  | 1.52 | 0.17 | 1.08 | 0.24 | 8.77  | 1:3200+  |
| P3 | women  | 17  | 7.64 | 4.92 | 135 | 371 | 11.0 | 2.5  | 60  | 336 | 11.38 | 1.51 | 0.89 | 1.18 | 0.12 | 42.34 | 1:3200+  |
| P4 | man    | 80  | 6.83 | 2.44 | 79  | 269 | 7.1  | 22.3 | 729 | 216 | 19.1  | 0.83 | 0.40 | 0.90 | 0.13 | <5.0  | 1:1000+  |
| P5 | women  | 60  | 6.37 | 3.05 | 88  | 124 | 11.0 | 10.2 | 63  | 231 | 11.11 | 1.90 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.01 | -     | -        |
| P6 | women  | 57  | 8.92 | 3.52 | 102 | 301 | -    | -    | -   | -   | 17.64 | 3.86 | 0.86 | 0.59 | 0.09 | 13.38 | 1:10000+ |
| P7 | women  | 28  | 9.14 | 3.58 | 109 | 117 | 8.4  | 11.9 | 146 | 494 | -     | -    | -    | -    | -    | <5.0  | 1:100+   |
| P8 | women  | 25  | 6.49 | 2.13 | 61  | 115 | 7.7  | 24.8 | 436 | 257 | -     | -    | -    | -    | -    | <5.0  | 1:1000+  |

Table 1. Detailed information for all identified  $K_{hib}$  of SLE patients.

## Trypsin Digestion

The protein solution was reduced with 5 mM dithiothreitol (56 °C for 30 min) and alkylated with 11 mM iodoacetamide (room temperature in darkness, 15 min). The protein sample was then diluted by adding 100 mM TEAB to a urea concentration that was less than 2 M. Finally, trypsin was added at a 1:50 trypsin-to-protein mass ratio for the first digestion, which was completed overnight, and a 1:100 trypsin-to-protein mass ratio for a second digestion, which lasted 4 h.

## Antibody-based Ptm Enrichment:

To enrich the  $K_{hib}$ -modified peptides, tryptic peptides dissolved in NETN buffer (100 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 50 mM Tris-HCl, and 0.5% NP-40 at pH 8.0) were incubated with prewashed antibody beads at 4 °C overnight with gentle shaking. Then, the beads were washed four times with NETN buffer and twice with H<sub>2</sub>O. The bound peptides were eluted from the beads with 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid. Finally, the eluted fractions were combined and vacuum dried. For the LC-MS/MS analysis, the resulting peptides were desalted with C18 Zip Tips (Millipore) according to the manufacturer's instructions.

## Lc-ms/ms Analysis

Trypsin hydropeptides were dissolved in 0.1% formic acid and analyzed in a reversed-phase column. They were run through an Easy-NLC 1000 system with a constant flow rate set at 400 nL/min. The mobile phase A aqueous solution was prepared with 0.1% formic acid and 2% acetonitrile. The mobile phase B aqueous solution was prepared with 0.1% formic acid and 90% acetonitrile aqueous solution. The following liquid gradient setting was used: 8%-22% B phase, 0 ~ 38 min; 322%-35% B phase, 8 ~ 52 min; 35%-80% B phase, 52–56 min; 80% B phase, 56 ~ 60 min. The flow rate was maintained at 800 nL/min.

The peptides were isolated by an ultra-high-performance liquid phase system and subsequently ionized in an NSI source at an ion source voltage of 2.0 kV. The ionized peptides were analyzed by Q Exactive TM Plus mass spectrometry (MS/MS). The high-resolution Orbitrap was used to detect and analyze the peptide parent ions and their secondary ion fragments. The peptide ions were first scanned by first-order mass spectrometry at a scanning range of 350–1800 m/z and a resolution of 70,000. The secondary mass spectrometry scanning was performed at a scanning range of 100 m/z and a resolution of 17,500. Data were collected using a data-dependent scan (DDA) program. The mass spectrometer had a set automatic gain control (AGC) parameter of 5e4 with a signal threshold of 5,000 ions/s, a maximum injection time of 200 ms and a dynamic exclusion time of 30 s for the tandem mass spectrum scanning. The aim was to improve the efficiency of the mass spectrometry and avoid repeated scanning of the parent ions.

## Database Search

The secondary mass spectrometry data were determined by Maxquant (v1.5.2.8). The SwissProt Human database (20,130 sequences) was used. Considering the problem of the false positive rate (FDR), an inverse library was added during retrieval. In addition, to eliminate the influence of

contaminant proteins affecting the identification results, a common contamination database was added to the analysis. Trypsin/P was set as the enzyme digestion mode. The number of missing cut positions was set to 4. The minimum length of each peptide should be restricted to 7 amino acid residues. The maximum number of modifications for a peptide was set at 5. The tolerance of the quality error for the primary parent ion of the first search was set to 20 PPM, that of the primary parent ion for the main search was set to 5 PPM and that of the secondary fragment ion was set to 0.02 Da. Carbamidomethyl on Cysteine was specified as a fixed modification, and the  $K_{hib}$  modification and oxidation on Met were specified as variable modifications. The FDR was adjusted to < 1%, and the minimum score for the modified peptides was set to > 40.

## Bioinformatics Methods

- 1) We used WoLFPSORT, subcellular localization predication software, to predict the subcellular localization. WoLFPSORT is an updated version of PSORT/PSORT II that is used for the prediction of eukaryotic sequences.
- 2) The Gene Ontology (GO) annotation proteome was derived from the UniProt-GOA database ([www. http://www.ebi.ac.uk/GOA/](http://www.ebi.ac.uk/GOA/)). Through the UniProt-GOA database (), the proteomics level is reported as GO analysis comments. First, the system converts the protein ID into the UniProt ID that is detected by UniProt-GOA, and then, the UniProt ID is used to match the GO ID to be analyzed, and finally, the annotation information of the corresponding protein is retrieved in the database according to the GO ID. InterProScan can be used to predict the GO function of a protein that is not retrieved from the UniProt-GOA database. The retrieved protein information was classified into three categories: cell composition, molecular function and physiological process. For each category, two-tailed Fisher's exact test was employed to test the enrichment of the differentially modified proteins against all the identified proteins. GO data with corrected p-values < 0.05 are considered significant.
- 3) The KEGG pathway annotation tools were used. First, KEGG online KAAS service tools were used to annotate the KEGG database description. Then, the annotation results from the KEGG pathway database were mapped using the KEGG online service tool, KEGG mapper. The KEGG database was used to identify enriched pathways by a two-tailed Fisher's exact test, which is used to determine the enrichment of the differentially modified proteins against all the identified proteins. The pathway with a corrected p-value < 0.05 was considered significant. These pathways were classified into hierarchical categories according to the KEGG website.
- 4) The functional descriptions of the identified protein domains were annotated by InterProScan (a sequence analysis application) based on the protein sequence alignment method, and the InterPro domain database was used. InterPro (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/interpro/>) is a database that integrates diverse information about protein families, domains and functional sites, and it is made freely available to the public via web-based interfaces and services. The diagnostic models, known as signatures, are central to the database and can be used to search protein sequences to determine their potential function. InterPro has utility in the large-scale analysis of whole genomes and meta-genomes, as well as in characterization of individual protein sequences. For each category of proteins, InterPro database (a resource that provides functional analysis of protein sequences by classifying them into families and predicting the presence of domains and important sites) was searched, and a two-tailed Fisher's exact test was employed to determine the enrichment of the differentially modified proteins against all identified proteins. Protein domains with corrected p-values < 0.05 were considered significant.

The mass spectrometry proteomics data have been deposited to the ProteomeXchange Consortium via the PRIDE(Perez-Riverol et al. 2019) partner repository with the dataset identifier PXD015351.

## Results

### $K_{hib}$ protein detection and identification

Utilizing antibody-based affinity enrichment and nano-HPLC/MS/MS analyses of the  $K_{hib}$  peptides. Based on the criteria, p value < 0.05, we identified that 156 upregulated proteins(fold change > 1.5),124 downregulated proteins(fold change < 1/1.5), including 220  $K_{hib}$  sites that were upregulated and 187  $K_{hib}$  sites that were downregulated. The proteins with higher fold change and multiple upregulated modifications were hemoglobin subunit gamma-2 (P69892), 40S ribosomal protein S9 (P46781), and 60S ribosomal protein L6 (Q02878). The proteins with higher fold change and multiple downregulated modifications were GRIP1-associated protein 1 (Q4V328), heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein A/B (Q99729), and heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoproteins A2/B1 (P22626), the differentially expressed protein summary in Table2. The  $K_{hib}$  modification sites with > 7 of proteins were Spectrin alpha chain, nonerythrocytic 1 (Q13183), Talin-1 (Q9Y490), Spectrin beta chain, erythrocytic (P11277) (Fig. 1a). Of the 897 2-hydroxyisobutylated proteins, most contain 1 ~ 2 modification sites, some have 3 ~ 7 modification sites, and a few contain 8 or more modification sites. Most peptides vary in length from 8 to 20 amino acids, consistent with trypsin digestion(Fig. 1b). To investigate the presence of  $K_{hib}$  in SLE, western blotting with  $K_{hib}$  antibody was carried out in the total protein, we can saw a large number of protein bands, then a wide protein mass range was observed, revealing that  $K_{hib}$  is highly abundant with the protein (Fig. 2a). To identify  $K_{hib}$  sites in SLE,we randomly selected H3K79<sub>hib</sub> site and H3K14<sub>hib</sub> loci for western blotting analysis, and detected the expression of H3K79<sub>hib</sub> site and H3K14<sub>hib</sub> antibodies in SLE with H3 as a reference(Fig. 2b).

Table 2  
The proteins  $K_{hib}$  modifications with higher fold change upregulated and downregulated.

| Protein accession | Protein description                                | Gene name | SLE/NC Ratio | Up/Down |
|-------------------|--|-----------|--------------|---------|
| P69892            | Hemoglobin subunit gamma-2                         | HBG2      | 7.226        | Up      |
| P69892            | Hemoglobin subunit gamma-2                         | HBG2      | 6.69         | Up      |
| P46781            | 40S ribosomal protein S9                           | RPS9      | 6.044        | Up      |
| P69892            | Hemoglobin subunit gamma-2                         | HBG2      | 4.994        | Up      |
| Q02878            | 60S ribosomal protein L6                           | RPL6      | 3.702        | Up      |
| P61254            | 60S ribosomal protein L26                          | RPL26     | 3.215        | Up      |
| P16949            | Stathmin   | STMN1     | 3.145        | Up      |
| P08865            | 40S ribosomal protein SA                           | RPSA      | 2.751        | Up      |
| P62249            | 40S ribosomal protein S16                          | RPS16     | 2.748        | Up      |
| Q16851            | UTP-glucose-1-phosphate uridylyltransferase        | UGP2      | 2.688        | Up      |
| Q4V328            | GRIP1-associated protein 1                         | GRIPAP1   | 0.666        | Down    |
| Q99729            | Heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein A/B        | HNRNPAB   | 0.665        | Down    |
| P22626            | Heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoproteins A2/B1     | HNRNPA2B1 | 0.664        | Down    |
| Q14978            | Nucleolar and coiled-body phosphoprotein 1         | NOLC1     | 0.662        | Down    |
| Q01813            | ATP-dependent 6-phosphofructokinase, platelet type | PFKP      | 0.662        | Down    |
| P52272            | Heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein M          | HNRNPM    | 0.662        | Down    |
| P02671            | Fibrinogen alpha chain                             | FGA       | 0.662        | Down    |
| P01009            | Alpha-1-antitrypsin                                | SERPINA1  | 0.662        | Down    |
| P62753            | 40S ribosomal protein S6                           | RPS6      | 0.661        | Down    |
| P11277            | Spectrin beta chain, erythrocytic                  | SPTB      | 0.661        | Down    |
| P01011            | Alpha-1-antichymotrypsin                           | SERPINA3  | 0.661        | Down    |
| O60925            | Prefoldin subunit 1                                | PFDN1     | 0.661        | Down    |

## Subcellular localization information and GO classifications of proteins with $K_{hib}$

According to the subcellular localization analysis, the largest percentage of proteins with  $K_{hib}$  was in the cytoplasm, and proteins with higher fold change modifications were localized in the cytoplasm. For the upregulated proteins with  $K_{hib}$  shown in Fig. 3(a), 49% were located in the cytoplasm 49%, 19% in the nucleus, and 10% in the mitochondria. Among the downregulated proteins in Fig. 3(b), 42% were located in the cytosol, 30% in the nucleus, and 14% in the extracellular fraction. The GO classification indicated that the identified proteins with  $K_{hib}$  fell into three categorizations (the cellular component, molecular function, and biological process). Of the upregulated proteins in the cellular component category, as shown in Fig. 4(a), 20% were in the cell, 19% were in the organelle, 15% were in the extracellular region, and 13% were in the membrane. Among the downregulated proteins shown in Fig. 4(b), 20% were in the cell, 20% were in the organelles; 14% were in the membrane and 14% were in the membrane-enclosed lumen. Based on their molecular function, of the upregulated proteins shown Fig. 4(c) and the downregulated proteins shown Fig. 3(d), 51% and 55%, respectively, were in the largest category: binding. Based on their biological process, of the upregulated proteins shown in Fig. 4(e), 13% were involved in cellular processes, 12% were involved in biological regulation, and 11% were involved in single-organism processes. The percentages of the downregulated proteins were involved in the following biological processes: cellular processes, 14%; biological regulation, 12%; metabolic processes, 11%; and single-organism processes, 11% Fig. 4(f).

## Functional Enrichment Of Proteins With $K_{hib}$

Functional enrichment analysis revealed that the proteins with  $K_{hib}$  were broadly involved in biological processes. Figure 4 shows the functional enrichment description based on the GO analysis (cellular component, molecular function, biological process), the Fisher exact test p-value was determined after the logarithmic transformation. The longer the bar in the graph, the more significant the enrichment of differentially expressed

proteins in this classification or function. Based on the upregulated proteins with the red bar of Fig. 5(a), the proteins were enriched for the adherens junctions, anchoring junctions, and cell-substrate junctions in the cellular components category. The proteins were enriched for the domain-specific binding, structural constituent of ribosome, and structural molecule activity in the molecular function categories. As determined by the biological process categories, the proteins localized at the endoplasmic reticulum, for actin cytoskeleton reorganization, and for the regulation of the viral life cycle were enriched. Based on the downregulated proteins, signified by the blue bar in Fig. 5(b), for the cellular component category, the proteins were enriched in the cytosolic ribosomes, ribosomal subunits, and the cytosol; for the molecular function category, these proteins were enriched in the structural constituents of ribosomes for structural molecule activity and DNA binding; and for the biological process category, these proteins were enriched for ribosomal large subunit biogenesis, viral gene expression, and protein localization to the endoplasmic reticulum.

The KEGG pathways mainly include metabolism, genetic information, environmental information, cellular processes, rat diseases, and drug development. Of the 9 different signaling pathways revealed by the KEGG pathway enrichment analysis, the hsa03010 Ribosome pathway was the most relevant, as shown in Fig. 6. The multiple modifications with an fold change > 2.0 for the proteins with the upregulated proteins of the hsa03010 Ribosome pathway analysis were 40S ribosomal protein S9(P46781), 60S ribosomal protein L6(Q02878), 60S ribosomal protein L26(P61254), 40S ribosomal protein SA(P08865), 40S ribosomal protein S16(P62249), 40S ribosomal protein S3a(P61247). The 40S ribosomal protein S9(P46781)  $K_{hib}$  modification sites locus was predicted by STRING (Fig. 7), the 40S ribosomal protein S9(P46781) had 6  $K_{hib}$  modification sites with K121,K139,K93,K52,K91 and K180 .

The protein domain functional descriptions identified for  $K_{hib}$  were annotated by InterProScan (Fig. 8). Upregulated proteins with  $K_{hib}$  were significantly enriched for the Calponin homology domain, the Nucleotide-binding alpha-beta plait domain and FERM, and the N-terminal. The downregulated proteins with  $K_{hib}$  were enriched for Globin-like, Globin/Protoglobin, Globin domains and so on.

## Discussion

Since the discovery of phosphorylation, many new PTMs have been identified over the years, such as crotonylation, propionylation, malonylation, butyrylation, succinylation, glutarylation,  $\beta$ -hydroxybutyrylation and 2-hydroxyisobutyrylation(Wu et al. 2018). PTMs have been found in different pathologic conditions in SLE(Lu et al. 2016; Zavala-Cerna et al. 2014). Lu's studies showed that FOXO3a was a downregulated molecule in SLE patients, while FOXO3 was upregulated by glucocorticoids (GCs), which relied on the suppression of p13K/AKT-mediated FOXO3a phosphorylation. In one of their other studies, FOXO3a plays an important role in the GC-mediated inhibition of NF- $\kappa$ B activity, which might involve FOXO3a interaction with NF- $\kappa$ B p65 protein(Lu et al. 2016). The study reported that 2 - 1, an altered isoform, showed lower levels of phosphorylation in SLE patients, which may be related to the pathogenesis of SLE; it also demonstrated that higher concentrations of phosphoproteins are found in the cell membrane and nucleus and that 50 nucleic acid metabolic pathways are modified during the pathogenesis of SLE, specifically the MAPK signaling pathway, which leads to abnormal intracellular signaling(Routsias and Tzioufas 2010). Zieve(Zieve and Khusial 2003) studied the methylation of Smd1 protein (sDMA) in SLE patients. H2B and H4 of nucleosomes were shown to undergo apoptosis-induced acetylation in mice with lupus and patients with SLE(van Bavel et al. 2009).  $K_{hib}$  is one of the newly discovered PTM types that influences protein properties, including biological processes, such as cellular localization, protein interaction, structure stability, and enzymatic activity. Dai identified  $K_{hib}$  on histones in HeLa cells and mouse embryonic fibroblast cells, which were the first to be reported in the world, and the research shows that histone Kac and Kcr is involved during male germ cell differentiation in distinct genomic distributions.

Currently, there are no reports of  $K_{hib}$  PTMs in SLE. In our study, we identified 156 upregulated proteins(fold change > 1.5),124 downregulated proteins(fold change < 1/1.5), which included 220  $K_{hib}$  sites that were upregulated and 187  $K_{hib}$  sites that were downregulated. Hemoglobin subunit gamma-2 (P69892) is an upregulated protein with higher fold and multiple change modifications that has 3  $K_{hib}$  sites and a subcellular localization in the cytoplasm. The 40S ribosomal protein S9(P46781) has 3  $K_{hib}$  sites and subcellular localization in the cytoplasm. As both an upregulated and downregulated protein, the 40S ribosomal protein S9(P46781) regulates ribosomal function and the protein production mechanism in the hsa03010 ribosome pathway.

Ribosomes are remarkable ribonucleoprotein complexes that are responsible for protein synthesis in all forms of life(Noller et al. 2017). Our results showed that proteins with  $K_{hib}$  were enriched in the hsa03010 ribosome, and research on venous thromboembolism (VTE) showed that module genes were mainly enriched in the pathways of the hsa03010 ribosome(Zhou et al. 2015). It has been reported that the number or activity of ribosomes could be increased upon exposure to cytokines released at the site of inflammation(Yewdell et al. 1996). The immune response of the human body is related to cell necrosis. Cell apoptosis and necrosis can induce an immune response. Therefore, appropriate treatment of inflammation is conducive to the occurrence and development of autoimmune diseases. SLE is an autoimmune multisystem injury disease in which thrombosis is a likely symptom, and its mechanism in the endothelium is caused by the activation of a variety of immune inflammatory factors where there is cellular damage and vasculitis. Inflammation is an important factor in SLE pathogenesis. Vasculitis prevalence in patients with SLE is reported to be between 11% and 36%(Barile-Fabris et al. 2014). The presence of antibodies against vascular inflammation, which causes cell destruction, has been documented in SLE(Cieslik et al. 2008; Guilpain and Mouthon 2008). SLE patients with inflammatory cytokines IL-1, IL-6 IL-8 and IL-18 and a high concentration of TNF- $\alpha$  and its related disease activity, which causes blood coagulation in patients, except in the fibrinolytic system, form thrombosis that is enhanced by the immunity-induced inflammation(Sabry et al. 2006). Interferon (IFN)- $\alpha$  and type III IFNs (IFN- $\lambda$ ) have

also recently been associated with SLE. The levels of circulating IFN- $\lambda$ 1 and IFN- $\alpha$  define subsets of patients with SLE with different characteristics(Oke et al. 2017). The increased release of factors in the inflammatory network during the pathogenesis of SLE is an important factor involved in the pathogenesis of SLE immunological thrombosis, which can promote the occurrence and exacerbation of the clinical symptoms of SLE.

In conclusion, bioinformatics analysis based on a proteome analysis of K<sub>hib</sub> in the peripheral blood of patients with SLE indicated that K<sub>hib</sub>-modified proteins were distributed in various cellular compartments and were involved in a broad spectrum of processes. In addition, proteins with K<sub>hib</sub> were enriched in the hsa03010 ribosome, and ribosomal proteins can regulate inflammatory cytokines to affect the pathogenesis of SLE. Our results provide novel insights into the functions of proteins with K<sub>hib</sub> in SLE. However, the clinical applicability of K<sub>hib</sub>-modified ribosomal proteins should be verified in the future.

## Declarations

### Ethics approval and consent to participate

It is verbal agreement. Guangxi Key Laboratory of Metabolic Diseases Research Ethics Committee

### Consent for publication

All presentations of case reports must have consent for publication.

### Availability of data and material

The datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are available in the PRIDE repository. PXD015351, Username: [reviewer73483@ebi.ac.uk](mailto:reviewer73483@ebi.ac.uk), Password: 2qd6MgH1.

### Competing interests

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

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### Endnotes

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## Figures

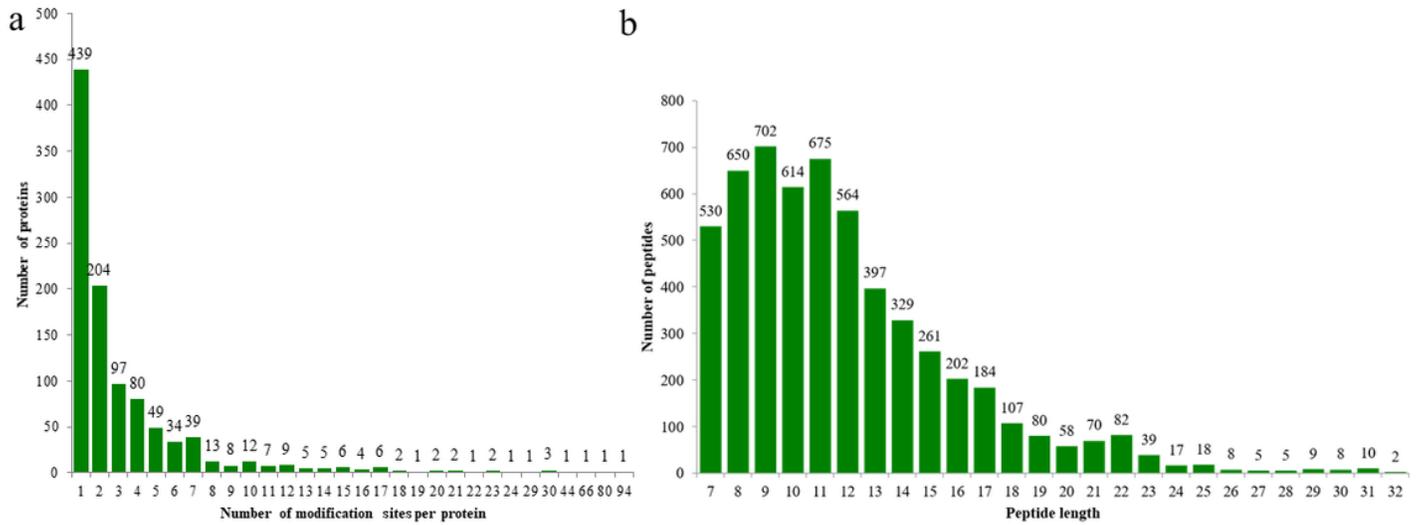
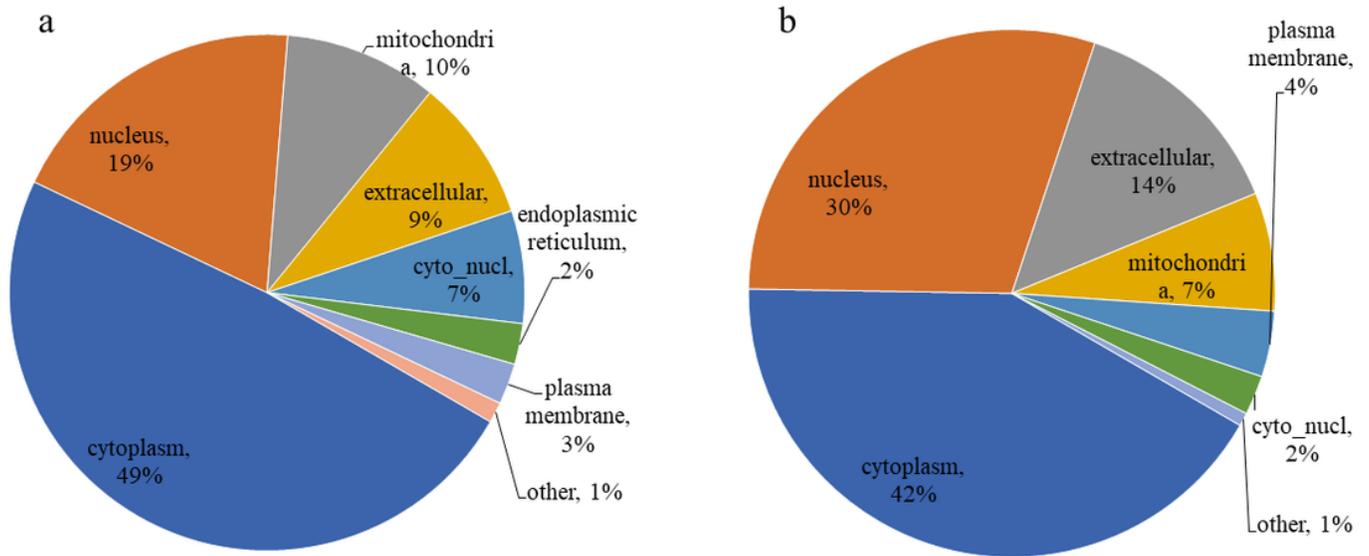
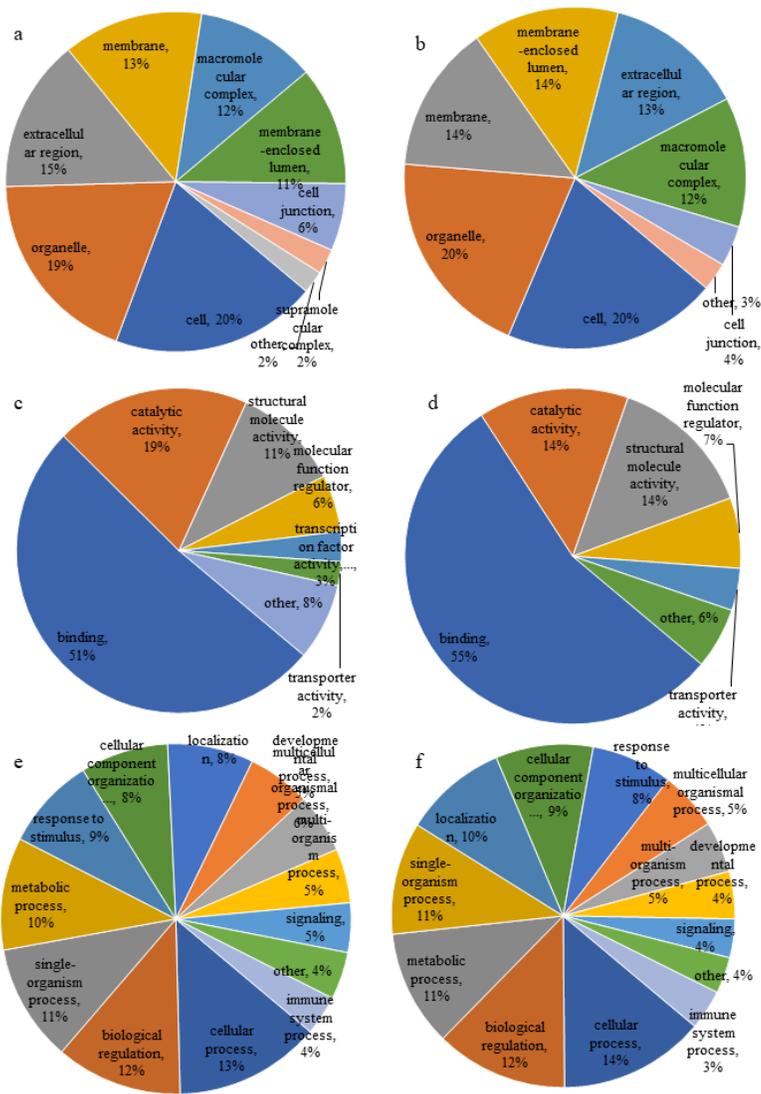


Figure 1

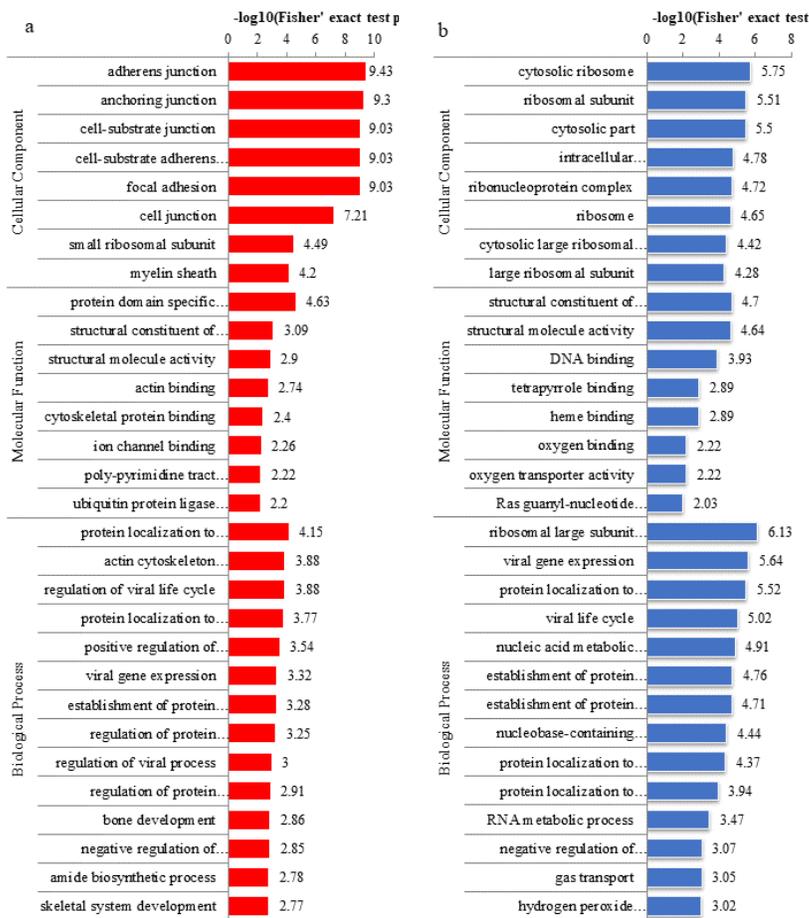
Comparatively analysis of whole proteome and lysine crotonylation between SLE and NC. (a) Distribution of lysine crotonylation in one protein. (b) Distribution of lysine crotonylation peptides based on their length.





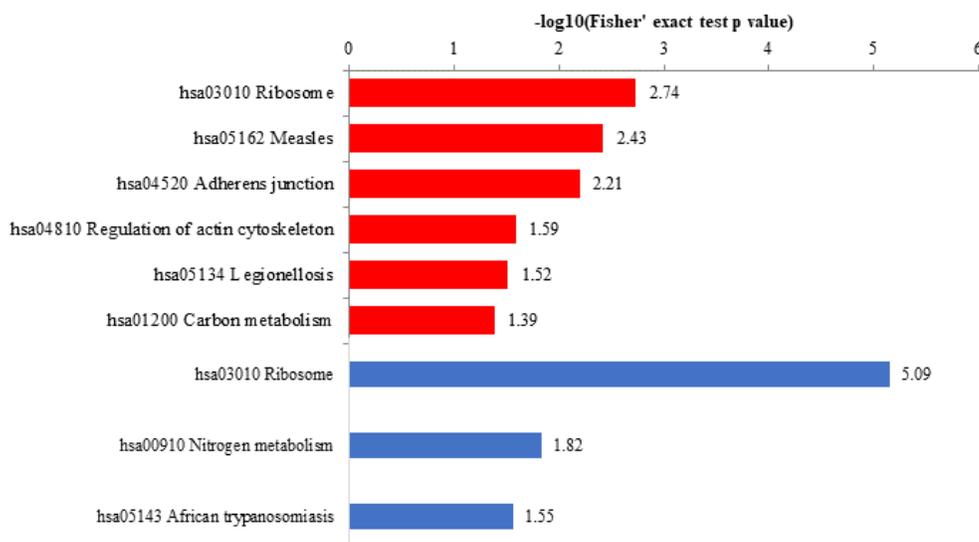
**Figure 3**

Functional classification of lysine 2-hydroxyisobutyrylation in subcellular. (a) Subcellular localization of upregulated Khib proteins (b) Subcellular localization of downregulated Khib proteins.



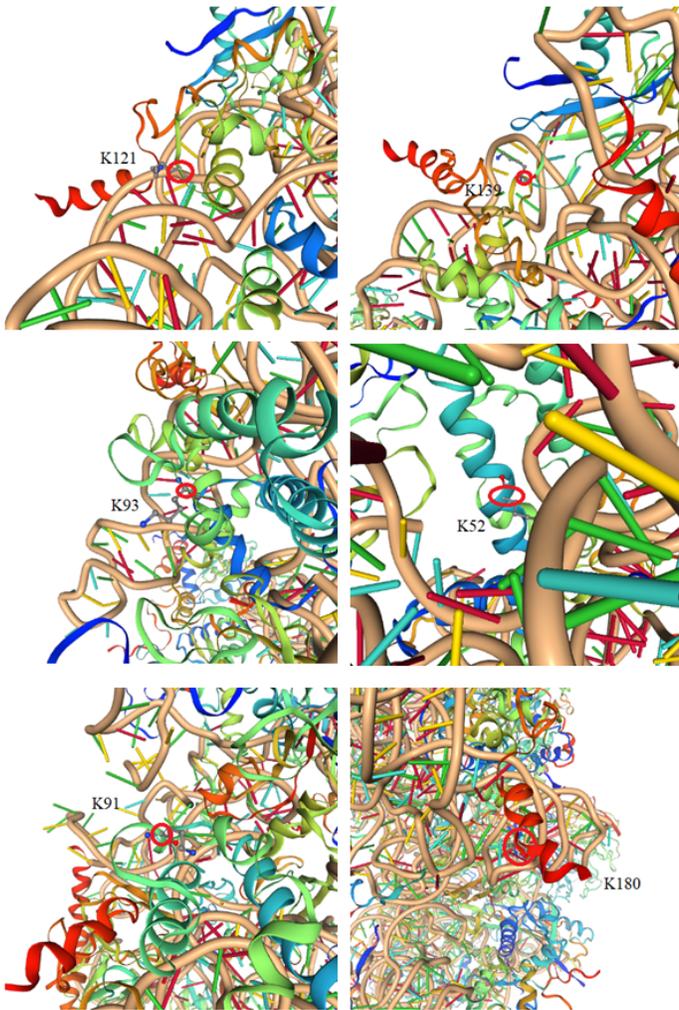
**Figure 4**

Functional classification of lysine 2-hydroxyisobutyrylation in GO. (a) GO analysis for upregulated Khib proteins in cellular component. (b) GO analysis for downregulated Khib proteins in cellular component. (c) GO analysis for upregulated Khib proteins in molecular function. (d) GO analysis for downregulated Khib proteins in molecular function. (e) GO analysis for upregulated Khib proteins in biological processes. (f) GO analysis for downregulated Khib proteins in biological processes.



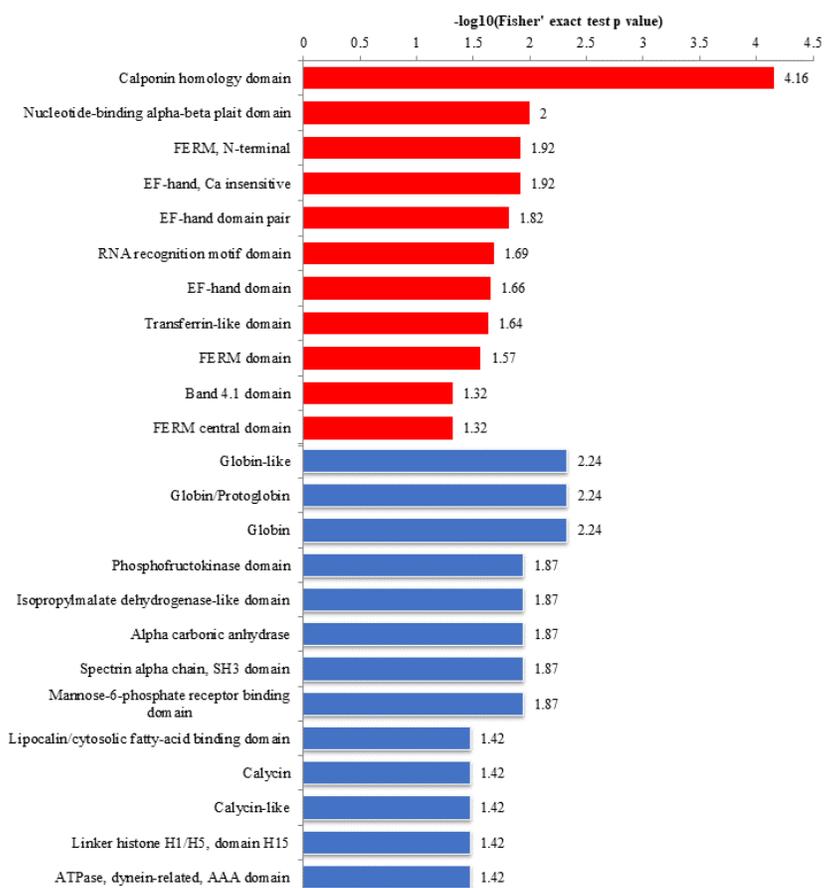
**Figure 5**

Functional enrichment analysis of lysine 2-hydroxyisobutyrylation in GO. And Upregulated Khib proteins (red bar), downregulated Khib proteins(blue).



**Figure 6**

Functional enrichment analysis of lysine 2-hydroxyisobutyrylation in KEGG. And Upregulated Khib proteins (red bar), downregulated Khib proteins(blue).



**Figure 7**

The 40S ribosomal protein S9(P46781) Khib modification sites (K121,K139,K93,K52,K91,K180).

Figure 8 not available with this version of the manuscript.

**Figure 8**

Functional enrichment analysis of lysine 2-hydroxyisobutyrylation in protein domain. And Upregulated Khib proteins (red bar), downregulated Khib proteins(blue).

## Supplementary Files

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