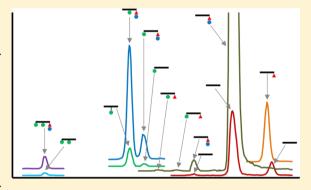
A Tandem Mass Spectrometry Sequence Database Search Method for Identification of O-Fucosylated Proteins by Mass Spectrometry

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: Thrombospondin type 1 repeats (TSRs), small adhesive protein domains with a wide range of functions, are usually modified with O-linked fucose, which may be extended to Ofucose- β 1,3-glucose. Collision-induced dissociation (CID) spectra of O-fucosylated peptides cannot be sequenced by standard tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) sequence database search engines because O-linked glycans are highly labile in the gas phase and are effectively absent from the CID peptide fragment spectra, resulting in a large mass error. Electron transfer dissociation (ETD) preserves O-linked glycans on peptide fragments, but only a subset of tryptic peptides with low m/z can be reliably sequenced from ETD spectra compared to CID. Accordingly, studies to date that have used MS to identify O-fucosylated TSRs have required manual interpretation of



CID mass spectra even when ETD was also employed. In order to facilitate high-throughput, automatic identification of Ofucosylated peptides from CID spectra, we re-engineered the MS/MS sequence database search engine Comet and the MS data analysis suite Trans-Proteomic Pipeline to enable automated sequencing of peptides exhibiting the neutral losses characteristic of labile O-linked glycans. We used our approach to reanalyze published proteomics data from Plasmodium parasites and identified multiple glycoforms of TSR-containing proteins.

KEYWORDS: O-fucosylation, C-mannosylation, thrombospondin type 1 repeat, Plasmodium

■ INTRODUCTION

Thrombospondin type 1 repeats (TSRs) are small (~60 amino acid residues) adhesive protein domains with a wide range of functions. TSRs are often modified with two unique glycans, Olinked fucose (O-Fuc) and C-linked mannose (C-Man). The motif CX₂₋₃(S/T)CX₂G is recognized by the O-fucosyltransferase POFUT2² and can be modified with O-Fuc at the serine/ threonine (Ser/Thr or S/T) residue. This fucose can be further extended to a fucose- β 1,3-glucose disaccharide (O-Fuc-Glc) by the β 1,3-glucosyltransferase B3GLCT.^{4,5} TSRs also often contain WXXW and WXXC motifs that can be modified with a C-linked mannose (C-Man) at the tryptophan (Trp or W) residues.^{6,7} In *C. elegans*, where the first *C*-mannosyltransferase was discovered,8 the enzyme Dpy19 only C-mannosylates the first Trp of the WXXW motif. However, it has recently been shown that humans possess multiple homologues of Dpy19, and that Dpy19L1 preferentially modifies the first Trp of WXXW while Dpy19L3 preferentially modifies the Trp of WXXC. In TSRs, all of these motifs often appear in tandem as $[WXX]_{1-3}CXX(S/T)CXXG$, and this short sequence may be

modified with multiple combinations of C-Man, O-Fuc, and O-Fuc-Glc within the same organism, and even on the same protein.³ The role of these TSR glycosylations is not fully characterized, and appears to vary by protein. In experiments where POFUT2 or Dpy19 have been deleted, certain TSRcontaining proteins exhibit stability and trafficking defects, while other TSR-containing proteins show no discernible defect from loss of glycosylation.

Given the heterogeneity of site occupancy and function observed to date for glycosylated TSRs, it is desirable to be able to detect and quantify TSR glycosylation in vivo. Mass spectrometry (MS) is typically the method of choice for highthroughput detection of protein post-translational modifications (PTMs) because a moiety covalently bound to a peptide can be directly detected as a mass shift, and the residue to which said

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modification is attached can usually be directly inferred from the MS² fragment spectra. However, detection of O-fucosylation of TSRs by MS is hindered by the fact that these O-linked glycans are highly labile in the gas phase³ and are present at very low abundance or absent from the collision induced dissociation (CID) and higher-energy collision (HCD) MS² peptide fragment spectra that are typically used to sequence peptides in shotgun proteomics experiments. When the majority of fragment ions lack the glycan due to neutral loss, typical MS/MS sequence database search programs are incapable of identifying the peptide at all because of the large discrepancy between the precursor parent mass (with the glycan intact) and the masses of the deglycosylated fragments in the MS² spectrum. It has been demonstrated that a subset of peptides modified with O-Fuc may be sequenced by MS/MS sequence database search engines if they were fragmented with electron transfer dissociation (ETD), which leaves the O-linked glycan intact. 11,12 However, ETD tends to only produce quality fragment spectra at lower m/z, and many of the tryptic peptides that are readily sequenced from CID and HCD spectra cannot be sequenced using ETD.¹³ For these reasons, the most common approach to identifying Ofucosylation of TSRs has been to manually interpret CID and HCD mass spectra of peptides bearing the predicted glycosylation motifs, elucidating the sequence of the peptide by the unmodified fragment ions, and inferring the identity of the O-linked glycan by the mass of the neutral loss.^{3,14}

In order to facilitate automatic identification of O-Fuc and O-Fuc-Glc from typical CID and HCD shotgun proteomics experiments, we re-engineered several open-source software tools for proteomics data analysis in order to enable automated sequencing and annotation of peptides exhibiting the neutral losses characteristic of gas-phase-labile PTMs. To demonstrate the utility of our approach, we reanalyzed published proteomics data that had previously been manually interpreted to identify O-fucosylation of TSRs in the *Plasmodium* parasites *P. falciparum* and *P. vivax*. Our method validated these results with dozens of automatically identified and annotated corroborating spectra. We were also able to use our approach to identify the first evidence for TSR glycosylation in *P. yoelii*.

■ EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

Sample Preparation

A segment of *P. falciparum* circumsporozoite protein (CSP; PF3D7 0304600) bearing the TSR domain was expressed in HEK293 cells and purified as described elsewhere. 15 One hundred μ g of purified protein was resuspended in 100 μ L of 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate (ABC) and 5 mM tris(2carboxyethyl)phosphine (TCEP; (ThermoFisher Bond-Breaker Neutral pH solution) and incubated 15 min at 50 °C, then added to a Microcon YM-3 3 kDa molecular weight cutoff filter (Amicon Bioseparations) that had been washed with ABC. After reducing the buffer volume by centrifugation, 100 μ L of 10 mM iodoacetamide (IAM) in 50 mM ABC was added to the filter and incubated 20 min at room temperature (RT) in darkness. The IAM was removed by centrifugation, the filter was washed once with 100 μ L of 50 mM ABC, and 2 μ g of trypsin (Promega, sequencing grade) in 50 μ L of 50 mM ABC was added to the filter, mixed by vortexing 1 min at 600 rpm in a thermomixer, and incubated overnight at 37 °C. The digested peptides were collected by centrifugation, dried in vacuum concentrator, and reconstituted in 50% (v/v) methanol/0.1% (v/v) formic acid (FA) to a nominal peptide concentration of 1 pmol/ μ L.

Recombinant P. falciparum thrombospondin-related anonymous protein (TRAP; PF3D7 1335900) was expressed in HEK293 cells and purified as described elsewhere. 16 Six μ g of PfTRAP was digested with trypsin using an S-Trap Micro (Protifi) following the manufacturer's instruction. Briefly, to a 6 μ L aliquot of a 1 μ g/ μ L solution of purified protein in HEPES/ NaCl buffer, 0.6 μ L of 0.5 M TCEP was added (final concentration 45 mm) and incubated 5 min at 95 °C. The solution was cooled and 0.6 µL of 1 M IAM was added and incubated 20 min at RT in darkness. Lysis buffer (5% (w/v) sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) in 50 mM ABC) was added to achieve a final volume of 25 μ L, followed by 2.5 μ L of 12% (v/v) phosphoric acid, then 165 μ L of S-Trap buffer (100 mM ABC in 90% (v/v) methanol). The colloidal protein precipitate that formed was collected on the S-Trap by centrifugation and washed three times with S-Trap buffer, after which 2 μ g of trypsin in 20 μ L of 50 mM ABC was placed on the trap. The trap was incubated 1 h at 47 °C and the peptides were collected by centrifugation, followed by three additional 40 µL washes of 50 mM ABC, 0.2% (v/v) FA, and 50% (v/v) acetonitrile (ACN). All elution steps were combined, dried in a vacuum concentrator, and reconstituted in 5% (v/v) ACN/1% (v/v) trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) to a nominal peptide concentration of $0.2 \mu g/\mu L$.

Mass Spectrometry

Mass spectrometry (MS) was performed on an LTQ-Velos Pro Orbitrap Elite (ThermoFisher). The PfCSP tryptic digest was infused directly at 500 nL/min through an empty Picofrit column (New Objective) with a 75 μ m internal diameter (ID) and a 15 µm ID fritted tip. Mass spectra, including collisioninduced dissociation (CID) and higher-energy dissociation (HCD) MSⁿ were collected in the Orbitrap with a nominal resolution of 240 000 at 400 m/z. Spectra were acquired through the direct acquisition function in the instrument tune window. Ten spectra were collected for each combination of normalized collision energy (CE) and MSⁿ and signal-averaged in XCalibur to produce the spectra presented here. The PfTRAP tryptic digest was analyzed by nanoflow liquid chromatography (LC)-MS using an Agilent 1100 with electronically controlled splitflow coupled to the MS. Injections of nominally 0.16 or 0.2 μ g of peptides were loaded onto a 150 μm ID fused silica trap column made in-house with a 10 mm bed of C18 (Dr. Maisch ReproSil Pur C18 AQ, 120 Å, 3 μ m) and washed with LC load buffer (2% (v/v) ACN/0.2% (v/v) TFA) prior to separation on a column packed in-house with a 20 cm bed of the same stationary phase in a Picofrit column with a 75 μ m ID and a 10 μ m ID fritted tip. Mobile phase A was 0.1% (v/v) FA in H_2O and mobile phase B was 0.1% (v/v) FA in ACN. The separation gradient was as follows, all at 300 nL/min: 5% B to 35% B in 60 min, 35% B to 80% B in 10 min, 5 min at 80% B, 80% B to 5% B in 1 min, and 29 min at 5% B to re-equilibrate the column. For the collision energy (CE) scanning experiment, MS¹ scans were collected in the Orbitrap from $400-1500 \ m/z$ at a resolution of 30 000. A data-dependent acquisition (DDA) method was employed to select the eight most abundant precursors for CID with a normalized CE of 35%. CID spectra were collected in the Orbitrap at a resolution of 15 000. Monoisotopic precursor selection was enabled. Singly charged precursors and those with unassigned charge states were excluded from selection. An inclusion list was employed to preferentially select 1248.01 m/zand 1329.03 m/z at CEs of 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and 35%. Dynamic exclusion was not enabled. For the experiment

targeting the multiple glycoforms of the glycosite-containing peptide, the MS method was modified such that the MS¹ scans were collected over $1000-1500\ m/z$ and only doubly charged precursors were selected for fragmentation. The inclusion list is provided in Table S1.

Software

The tandem mass spectrometry sequence database search engine Comet ¹⁷ was re-engineered to support the analysis of precursor mass offsets by the implementation of the "mass_offsets" parameter. Within the Comet code, this functionality is a simple extension to the precursor mass check function where each user defined mass offset value is subtracted from the experimental precursor mass such that peptides that are smaller than the experimental precursor mass by the mass offset value can still be matched to the spectrum. Multiple mass offsets can be specified within a single search. This function was first implemented in Comet version 2015.02 rev.0.

The peptide spectrum matches (PSMs) produced by Comet were analyzed using the Trans-Proteomics Pipeline (TPP) version 5.1.0 Syzygy. In this version, the TPP spectrum level validation tool PeptideProphet was modified to accommodate PSMs obtained with the mass offsets parameter enabled in Comet. Specifically, PeptideProphet has a mass difference model that accounts for mass differences between the measured mass of the precursor ion and the theoretical mass of the matched peptide. This model aims to increase the probability of PSMs that have a small mass difference between the measured and theoretical masses and decrease the probability of PSMs that have a large mass difference, with the actual parameters of the model learned from the data set using the EM algorithm. Considering the mass offsets parameter in Comet, where the PSMs can now have a possible number of large mass offsets and still be correct, this model had to be adjusted. Given that the mass error of PSMs coming from searched peptides at a nonzero mass offset are expected to be off by the mass of the lost modification for every PSM and for every possible mass offset, the mass difference model in PeptideProphet finds the correct mass difference by considering the mass differences between the measured precursor mass and the matched peptide mass with the appropriate mass offset to correct for the neutral loss of the labile modification. After considering all possible mass offsets, the mass difference that is closest to zero is used as the corrected mass difference for consideration in the mass difference model.

Additionally, the spectrum viewing tool Lorikeet (http://uwpr.github.io/Lorikeet/), which is incorporated into the TPP, was updated to automatically annotate features specific to C-mannosylated peptides. Upon recognizing modification of Trp residues with a mass of 162.05 (hexose), the viewer now provides the option of annotating neutral loss of 120.04 (from cross-ring cleavage of C-Man) from the precursor and putatively hexosylated fragments.

Peak List Generation

The MS data and associated database and analysis files generated for this work are available at www.peptidatlas.org¹⁹ using the identifier PASS01201. The MS data from previously reported analyses of salivary gland sporozoites^{20–22} were obtained from PeptideAtlas using the identifiers PASS00095 and PASS00729 (*P. falciparum* salivary gland sporozoites), PASS00098 (*P. yoelii* salivary gland sporozoites), and PASS00976 (*P. vivax* salivary gland sporozoites). Mass spectrometer output files were converted to mzML format using msConvert version 3.0.6002 from the ProteoWizard

toolkit²³ and searched with Comet version 2017.01 rev.1. 17 The precursor mass tolerance was set to ± 10 ppm. For the recombinant PfTRAP LC-MS data, for which the MS² were collected at high resolution in the Orbitrap, the fragment ions bins were set to a tolerance of 0.02 m/z, the monoisotopic mass offset was 0.0, and the theoretical fragment ions setting was set at 0 ("use flanking peaks"). For the sporozoite global proteome data, for which the MS² were collected at low resolution in the LTQ, the bin tolerance was set to 1.0005 m/z, the monoisotopic mass offset was set to 0.4 m/z, and the theoretical fragment ions setting was 1 ("M peak only"). Semitryptic peptides and up to 2 missed cleavages were allowed. The search parameters included a static modification of +57.021464 Da at Cys for formation of Scarboxamidomethyl-Cys by IAM and potential modifications of +15.994915 Da at Met and Trp for oxidation, +31.989829 Da at Trp for dioxidation, and +162.052824 Da at Trp for Cmannosylation. The mass offset parameter was set to allow mass offsets of 0, +146.057909, and +308.1107321 Da for no neutral loss and neutral loss of deoxyhexose or hexosyldeoxyhexose, respectively. The recombinant PfTRAP spectra were searched against a database comprising P. falciparum TRAP (PF3D7 1335900) and the common Repository of Adventitious Proteins (v.2012.01.01, The Global Proteome Machine, www.thegpm.org/cRAP, 116 entries). The sporozoite data were searched against P. falciparum 3D7²⁴ (PlasmoDB v.35, www. plasmodb.org, 25 5548 entries), P. yoelii yoelii 17X²⁶ (PlasmoDB v.35, 6092 entries), or P. vivax P01²⁷ (PlasmoDB v.31) appended with sequence polymorphisms observed in other field isolates²² (6670 entries), as appropriate for the sample. Each of these Plasmodium databases was appended with the mosquito protein database *Anopheles stephensi* Indian AsteI2.3²⁸ (VectorBase, www.vectorbase.org,²⁹ 11 789 entries), and the cRAP proteins. For each database, decoy proteins with the residues between tryptic residues randomly shuffled were generated using a tool included in the TPP and interleaved among the target entries. The MS² spectra were analyzed using the TPP version 5.1.0 Syzygy. PSMs were assigned scores in PeptideProphet³⁰ using the following options: nonparametric model (NONPARAM), use Expect value as the only contributor to the f-score (EXPECTSCORE), accurate mass binning of high-accuracy precursor mass (ACCMASS PPM), report results with minimum probability of zero (ZERO), identify decoy entries in the database and use decoys to build models (DECOY = DECOY). For the recombinant *Pf* TRAP data, only very highquality PSMs were counted (those identified with a PeptideProphet probability of 1.0 and an Expect score less than 10^{-5}). For the reanalysis of sporozoite proteome data sets, the DECOYPROBS flag was used to assign possible nonzero probabilities to decoy entries, enabling determination of the decoy-estimated false discovery rate (FDR) among peptides identified with mass shifts. Only PSMs identified with a PeptideProphet probability corresponding to a model-estimated FDR less than 1.0% were taken for further analysis.

■ RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Behavior of *O*-Fucose and *C*-Mannose in Collision-Induced Dissociation

The TSR-containing proteins circumsporozoite protein (CSP) and thrombospondin-related anonymous protein (TRAP) are major surface proteins of salivary gland sporozoites, the form of the *Plasmodium* parasite that is transmitted from the mosquito vector to the vertebrate host. Expressing CSP and TRAP in

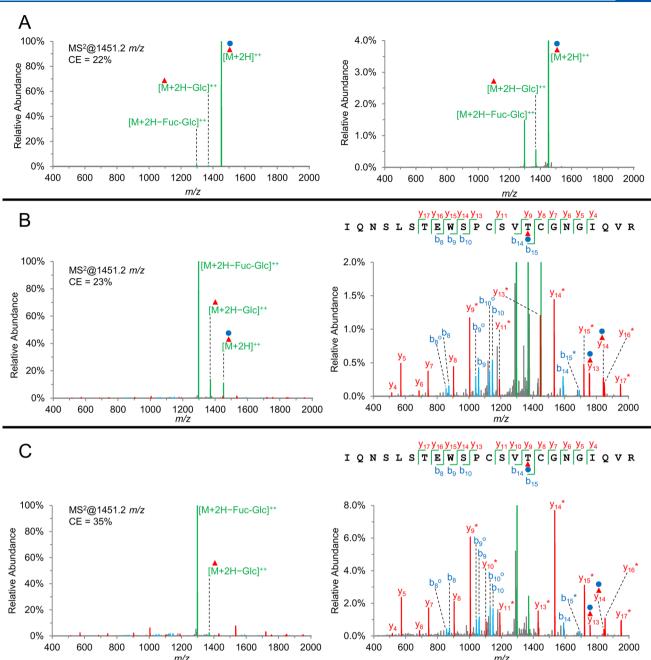
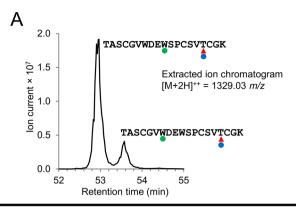
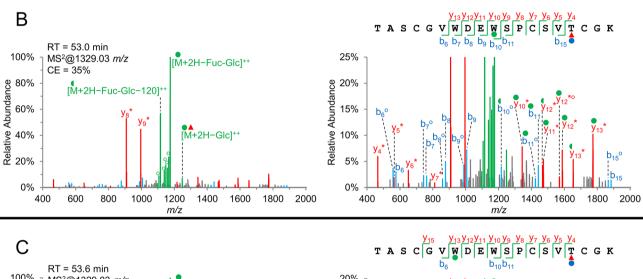


Figure 1. Collision-induced dissociation of an O-fucosylated peptide. A tryptic digest of recombinant *P. falciparum* circumsporozoite protein (CSP) was directly infused and analyzed by NSI-MS/MS. The precursor parent ion with $[M + 2H]^{2+} = 1451.17 \ m/z$, corresponding to the mass of the potentially glycosylated peptide plus a hexose and a deoxyhexose, was fragmented by collision-induced dissociation (CID) at multiple normalized collision energies (CE). (A) At CE = 22%, the precursor ion was mostly intact, but small doubly charged peaks (detail at right) were detectable at 1370.14 m/z and 1297.11 m/z, corresponding to neutral loss of hexose (i.e., glucose) and hexose plus deoxyhexose (i.e., glucosylfucose), respectively. (B) Just a slight increase in collision energy to CE = 23% was sufficient to fragment most of the parent precursor ion. The dominant species was the 1297.11 m/z peak resulting from neutral loss of the O-linked disaccharide. Peptide fragment ions could be detected at very low levels (detail at right). Red triangles are O-Fuc, blue circles are Glc bound to O-Fuc by a β-1,3 linkage, neutral loss of water from fragment ions is indicated with "*". Most fragment ions were missing the O-linked glycan. However, y₁₃ and y₁₄ peaks retaining the O-Fuc-Glc were detected, positively localizing the O-linked glycan to the expected Thr residue. The y₁₃ and y₁₄ fragments produced the highest abundance fragment ion peaks in CID spectrum of the unglycosylated peptide (Figure S1), a common feature of y-ions with N-terminal Pro residues. (C) At CE = 35% the parent precursor was completely fragmented and the relative abundance of the peptide fragment ions had increased approximately 4-fold, but the spectrum was still dominated by the intact peptide stripped of the glycan.

HEK293 cells has been shown to modify the TSRs of these proteins with C-Man and O-Fuc-Glc. 15,31,32 We analyzed recombinant *P. falciparum* CSP and TRAP by tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) and nanoflow liquid chromatography (nanoLC)-MS/MS in order to characterize the behavior of O-

Fuc and C-Man in CID. The recombinant PfCSP was digested with trypsin and infused for direct analysis by nanospray ionization (NSI)-MS/MS. On the basis of signal intensity of the parent ions, \sim 92% of glycosite-bearing peptide was modified with a mass equal to hexose plus deoxyhexose ([M + 2H]²⁺ =





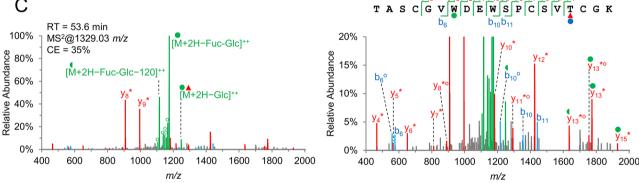


Figure 2. Collision-induced dissociation of a C-mannosylated and O-fucosylated peptide. A tryptic digest of recombinant P. falciparum thrombospondin-related anonymous protein (TRAP) was analyzed by LC-MS/MS. A targeted method was used that isolated the 1329.03 m/z precursor ion matching the mass of the potentially glycosylated peptide plus two hexoses and a deoxyhexose. (A) Two isobaric glycoforms of the peptide, each a positional isomer of the singly C-mannosylated peptide, exhibited distinct LC retention times. (B,C) Representative MS² spectra identifying the isoforms. Green circles are C-Man, green half-circles are C-Man with neutral loss of 120.04 Da due to cross-ring cleavage, red triangles are O-Fuc, blue circles are Glc bound to O-Fuc by a β -1,3 linkage. Neutral loss of water from fragment ions is indicated with "o", and neutral loss of O-Fuc-Glc is indicated with "*". At the normalized collision energy employed (CE = 35%), the parent precursor ion was completely fragmented, but the dominant peak matched that of the peptide after neutral loss of a hexose and a deoxyhexose, i.e., O-Fuc-Glc. No fragment ions retained the O-linked glycan, but the attachment site is known to be the C-terminal Thr residue in the conserved TSR motif. The remaining hexose withstood CID and could be localized to either one of the two Trp residues, consistent with C-Man. This identification and localization were further corroborated by neutral loss of 120.04 Da from cross-ring cleavage of C-Man.

1451.17 m/z), while less than 2% was modified with a deoxyhexose and ~7% was unmodified. The 1451.17 m/z peak was isolated and the CID normalized collision energy (CE) was incrementally increased (Figure 1). At the CEs required for fragmentation of the peptide backbone, the peptide underwent neutral losses producing a dominant doubly charged ion matching the mass of the unmodified peptide ([M + 2H]²⁺ = 1297.11 m/z) as well as lower-intensity doubly charged species matching the mass of the peptide modified with a single

deoxyhexose (i.e., fucose, $[M + 2H]^{2+} = 1370.14 \ m/z$). MS², MS³ and MS⁴ of these species confirmed the sequential loss of Glc and Fuc as well as the sequence of the peptide (Figure S1). Taken together, these spectra demonstrate that the peptide was modified with an O-linked hexosyldeoxyhexose, i.e., O-Fuc-Glc. Upon fragmentation at a CE typical of peptide sequencing (i.e., 35%), the precursor and fragment b- and y-ions were predominantly stripped of the labile glycan, resulting in an MS² spectrum effectively identifying the unmodified peptide.



1

Analyze PSMs with PeptideProphet



Identify peptides that exhibit neutral loss



Visualize annotated PSMs with Lorikeet

Use the new "mass_offsets" parameter to search for potential neutral loss of 146.06 Da (O-Fuc) and 308.11 Da (O-Fuc-Glc) from the deconvoluted precursor mass.

Allow PSMs matching decoy proteins to be assigned probabilities so that the decoy-estimated FDR can be calculated.

For each PSM, PeptideProphet reports the difference between the neutral mass of the precursor ion and the neutral mass of the identified peptide (the "massdiff" column). After removing PSMs with FDR >1.0%, sort the results by "massdiff" to find peptides exhibiting a neutral loss of 146.1 or 308.1. Use decoys to estimate the FDR among PSMs with putative neutral loss.

Within the PeptideProphet results viewer, each PSM has a hyperlink to view the automatically annotated spectrum in a modified version of Lorikeet. If the peptide is identified with hexosylated tryptophan, the option will be presented to annotate peaks corresponding to neutral loss of 120 Da from cross-ring cleavage of C-Man.

Figure 3. Summary of the data analysis workflow used to identify putatively O-fucosylated peptides via an automated sequence database search engine.

Table 1. Glycopeptides Identified from LC-MS/MS Analysis of Recombinant PfTRAPa

modified peptide ^b	O-linked glycan ^c	$[M+2H]^{2+} m/z^d$	retention time e (min)	proportion in sample f (%)	PSMs ^g
$TASCGVW_{Man}DEW_{Man}SPCSVTCGK$	Fuc-Glc	1410.06	50.5	1.27	9
$TASCGVWDEW_{Man}SPCSVTCGK\\$	Fuc-Glc	1329.03	54.7	11.3	19
$TASCGVW_{Man}DEWSPCSVTCGK\\$	Fuc-Glc	1329.03	55.4	2.39	11
$TASCGVWDEW_{Man}SPCSVTCGK\\$	Fuc	1248.01	56.1	0.09	3
${\it TASCGVW}_{{\it Man}}{\it DEWSPCSVTCGK}$	Fuc	1248.01	57.0	0.08	1
TASCGVWDEWSPCSVTCGK	Fuc-Glc	1248.01	57.8, 59.7	78.8	120
TASCGVWDEWSPCSVTCGK	Fuc	1166.98	61.4	4.91	20
TASCGVWDEWSPCSVTCGK	None	1093.95	61.6	1.18	111

[&]quot;A tryptic digest of recombinant *P. falciparum* TRAP expressed in mammalian cells was analyzed by LC–MS/MS, and the MS² spectra were searched for evidence of O-linked fucose or glucosylfucose by our automated database searching method. ^bThe peptide from the TSR domain of *P. falciparum* TRAP containing potential glycosylation sites. The localization of C-Man was directly detected from the MS² fragment spectra. Any O-Fuc or O-Fuc-Glc is presumed to have been attached at the C-terminal Thr residue. ^cThe identity of the O-linked glycan as inferred by the neutral loss of 146.06 Da (O-Fuc) or 308.11 Da (O-Fuc-Glc) from the parent mass upon MS² fragmentation. ^dThe m/z of the doubly charged peptide parent ion. ^eThe retention time of the peptide (see Figure 4). ^fThe relative proportion of the peptide in the sample based on chromatographic peak height (see Figure 4). ^gThe number of high-quality peptide spectrum matches (PSMs) identifying the peptide (see Table S2). Note that the total number of PSMs identifying the unglycosylated peptide (1093.95 m/z) was artificially high due to neutral loss of the O-linked glycan from the highly abundant O-fucosylated, unmannosylated species prior to MS² fragmentation.

However, two fragment ions retaining the glycan were detectable, enabling positive localization of the O-Fuc-Glc to the Thr residue of the conserved O-fucosylation motif.

Recombinant PfTRAP was digested with trypsin and analyzed by nanoLC-MS/MS employing a data-dependent analysis (DDA) approach. An inclusion list was used to target the parent ion of the glycosite-bearing peptide modified with a mass equal to two hexoses and a deoxyhexose ([M + 2H]²⁺ = 1329.03 m/z). The precursor ion was fragmented at incrementally increasing CEs as above (Figure S2). As with the recombinant PfCSP, CID resulted in neutral loss of the Olinked glycan, revealing that the peptide was modified with an Olinked hexosyldeoxyhexose, i.e., O-Fuc-Glc, as well as a hexose at a single Trp residue, i.e., C-Man (Figure 2). Unlike O-linked glycans, C-Man withstands CID and was readily localized from the dominant b- and y-ions. Furthermore, C-Man can undergo cross-ring cleavage resulting in a neutral loss of 120.04 Da

 $(C_4H_8O_4)$ and producing diagnostic precursor and fragment ion peaks.³ Notably, two isobaric 1329.03 m/z species were present that had distinct LC retention times (Figure 2A), and had the C-Man attached at the first or the second Trp residue of the WXXW motif (Figure 2B,C).

Identification of O-Fucosylated Proteins by Automated Sequence Database Searching

Automated MS/MS sequence database search tools routinely identify protein PTMs by allowing for variable modification of peptide residues with fixed masses. However, standard automatic search approaches are unable to identify Oglycosylated peptides such as those described above because the most intense fragment ions lack the glycan and thus do not match the predicted fragmentation spectra. Nonetheless, based on the observation that the MS² spectra of such peptides can confidently identify the sequence of the unmodified peptide, we reasoned that these peptides could be identified by a sequence

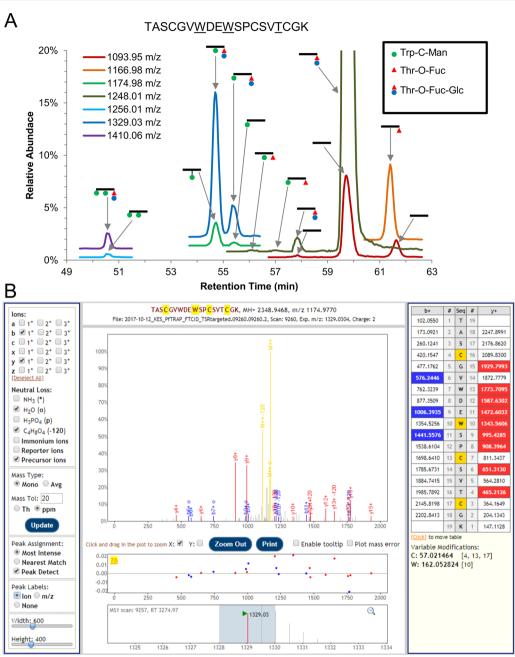


Figure 4. Automated identification of multiple glycoforms of recombinant P_f TRAP. A tryptic digest of recombinant P_f falciparum TRAP was analyzed by LC-MS/MS. A targeted method was used that preferentially selected masses corresponding to the potentially glycosylated peptide modified with the various combinations of two, one, or no C-Man modifications and an O-Fuc-Glc, O-Fuc, or no O-linked glycan. The glycoforms were identified using our automated database searching approach (See summary of results in Table 1). (A) Extracted ion chromatograms of the targeted m/z values (all are $[M+2H]^{2+}$). Traces are offset for clarity. The peptide sequence is shown with the potential C-mannosylation and O-fucosylation sites underlined. Peaks are labeled with the identified glycoform according to the inset legend. For the major species, evidence of neutral loss of the O-linked glycan due to in-source collision-induced dissociation prior to MS^2 fragmentation could be seen as lower-intensity, coeluting peaks. (B) A representative MS^2 spectrum that has been automatically annotated by a version of the spectrum visualization tool Lorikeet that was re-engineered to improve annotation of C-mannosylation and O-fucosylation and is included with the Trans-Proteomics Pipeline, the free and open-source proteomics data analysis suite used to perform the analyses described here. The difference between the observed experimental precursor mass of 1329.0304 m/z and matched peptide mass of 1174.9770 m/z indicates that the PSM was obtained by the database searching program Comet allowing neutral loss of 308.11 Da (loss of O-Fuc-Glc) in the MS^2 . The dominant peak (yellow M++) at 1174.98 m/z is the peptide that has lost O-Fuc-Glc but retains C-Man. Neutral loss of 120.04 Da from cross-ring cleavage of C-Man is indicated as "-120", and neutral loss of water is indicated as "o". The fragment spectra positively localized the C-mannose to the C-terminal Trp.

database search engine if the neutral loss of the glycan could be accounted for. To this end, we modified the open-source MS/MS sequence database search tool Comet¹⁷ by adding a new "mass offsets" parameter that allows the user to specify neutral

loss masses to be variably subtracted from precursor masses of fragment spectra. For example, in the case of the O-glucosylfucosylated Pf CSP peptide described above, the parent ion had a mass of 2900.32 Da ($[M + 2H]^{2+} = 1451.17 \ m/z$). By

directing Comet to variably subtract 308.11 Da (equal to neutral loss of O-Fuc-Glc) from the precursor mass, the new predicted precursor mass of the peptide would be 2592.21 Da ([M + 2H]²⁺ = 1297.11 m/z), matching the mass of the peptide identified by the unmodified peptide fragment ions in the MS² spectrum for this species. We re-engineered the TPP to accommodate PSMs identified using the new "mass_offset" parameter, and we further re-engineered the automated spectral annotation tool Lorikeet to automatically annotate neutral loss of 120 Da from cross-ring cleavage of C-man, a PTM often found in close proximity to O-Fuc on TSRs. The data analysis workflow is summarized in Figure 3.

To demonstrate this modified search approach, the recombinant PfTRAP tryptic digest was again analyzed by a DDA method, this time employing an inclusion list that targeted the glycosite-containing peptide at multiple masses corresponding to modification with the various combinations of two, one, or no C-Man and an O-Fuc-Glc, O-Fuc, or no O-linked glycan. MS² spectra were searched using Comet with allowed mass offsets of 0, 146.06, and 308.11 Da (no offset, loss of O-Fuc, and loss of O-Fuc-Glc, respectively), as well as variable modification of +162.05 @ Trp for C-Man. The results of the Comet search were analyzed with the TPP and peptide spectra matched with a mass offset were identified by sorting according to the "massdiff" field in the TPP's PepXML Viewer. This value was calculated for each PSM as the difference between the predicted mass of the identified peptide and the observed mass of the precursor ion (Table S2). The glycosite-containing peptide was detected with multiple combinations of glycans (Table 1). It was imperative to cross reference these results with the extracted ion chromatograms of the identified species, as loss of glycans due to in-source fragmentation gave rise to spurious identifications (Figure 4). For example, each of the two positional isoforms of the singly Cmannosylated peptide ([M + 2H]²⁺ = 1174.98 m/z) coeluted with its higher-abundance, higher-mass counterpart ([M + 2H]²⁺ = 1329.03 m/z), which was identified with a single C-Man as well as a mass offset of 308.11 Da (O-Fuc-Glc). This observation is consistent with the 1174.98 m/z species at that retention time arising from neutral loss of the labile O-linked glycan due to in-source CID prior to MS². Once properly accounted for, this in-source CID actually provided an additional line of evidence for differentiating between C-linked and O-linked glycans that are isobaric and otherwise indistinguishable by MS. Oxidation of tryptophan (likely introduced artificially during sample preparation) produced additional isobaric peptide species. For example, the peptide with a single oxidized Trp and an O-Fuc-Glc had the same mass as the peptide modified with two C-Man modifications, but these species were easily distinguished by MS² and retention times (Table S2, Figure S3). The one case of indistinguishable isobaric species was observed with the most abundant glycoform, i.e., the peptide modified with a glucosylfucose. This glycoform was identified from the dominant LC peak at 59.7 min, the intensity of which was more than 7-fold greater than any other species. The glycopeptide was identified from multiple high-quality spectra, as was the coeluting peptide that had lost the disaccharide due to in-source fragmentation. Interestingly, another coeluting pair of peptides with identical respective masses was identified at 57.8 min. The MS² spectra for these isobars were indistinguishable from their more abundant, later-eluting counterparts (Figure S4). The source of this peak splitting is unclear, as no other combination of expected glycans or oxidation states would give rise to the

observed combination of precursor mass, MS² spectra, and coeluting peak pairs. If the dual peaks arose due to a chromatographic artifact or even conformational isomer of the same peptide, similar peak pairs would not likely be detectable for the other glycoforms identified in the sample - the minor peak intensity was only 2% of the dominant peak intensity, so additional minor peaks arising from the other, less-abundant species would likely be below the detection limit. While the major glycoforms were identified from multiple high-quality PSMs, there was one incorrect identification from a sparse, lowintensity PSM that was nonetheless assigned a high score. This PSM identified the doubly mannosylated peptide with neutral loss of O-Fuc, but manual inspection of the MS² spectrum revealed that it was actually an isobaric glycoform, the singly mannosylated peptide with neutral loss of O-Fuc-Glc. This correct identity could be determined from the mass of the dominant neutral loss precursor peak as well as the fact that multiple other MS^2 from the same m/z and retention time correctly identified the singly mannosylated glycoform (Figure S5). The above examples demonstrate that, as with any MS/MS sequence database search tool, the resulting list of PSMs generated using our approach should always be confirmed by manual inspection of the data, especially when considering isobaric glycoforms. However, even the many isobaric glycoforms considered above could be confidently distinguished given sufficiently high-quality spectra and chromatography.

Because our database searching strategy is amenable to standard instrumental approaches (i.e., untargeted DDA employing CID or HCD) and does not require identification of low-mass oxonium ions or alternative fragmentation techniques, ^{33,34} existing mass spectrometry data sets can be researched for evidence of O-fucosylation, even if the MS² data were collected at low resolution (e.g., using an ion trap). To demonstrate this, we reanalyzed mass spectra from previously published proteomic analyses of P. falciparum, P. vivax, and P. yoelii salivary gland sporozoites. Proteomic analyses of salivary gland sporozoites have recently shown that the TSR domains of CSP and TRAP are glycosylated in vivo in the human-infective Plasmodium species P. falciparum²¹ and P. vivax.²² Subsequent to those studies, it was demonstrated that the O-linked deoxyhexose observed in P. falciparum sporozoites is, in fact, O-Fuc, and the identity of the O-fucosyltransferase was confirmed as POFUT2.10 It has also been confirmed that P. falciparum possesses a version of the Dpy19 C-mannosyltransferase capable of modifying the TSR domain of PfTRAP with C-Man.³⁵ Because of the confounding effect of labile Olinked glycans on MS/MS sequence database searching, the evidence for in vivo O-fucosylation of Plasmodium parasites in the studies mentioned above was obtained by manually interpreting tandem mass spectra of peptides matching the predicted mass of glycosylated peptides. Here, we have reanalyzed those data sets with our new automated database searching approach and validated those original findings with dozens of high-quality PSMs. Furthermore, this reanalysis provides the first reported evidence of TSR glycosylation in the rodent-infective malaria parasite P. yoelii.

All data sets were acquired on an LTQ-Orbitrap with high resolution MS¹ and low resolution MS². The *P. falciparum* data, which includes a global proteome analysis²0 and a biotinylated surface-enriched sample,²1 were part of the original evidence presented for O-fucosylation of TSRs in plasmodium,²1 and the *P. vivax* data set subsequently demonstrated TSR glycosylation in that species as well.²2 In those analyses, select MS² spectra

from parent ions matching predicted masses were manually annotated to provide evidence of O-fucosylation and C-mannosylation. Reanalyzing the mass spectral data with our automated database searching approach confirmed the original findings and provided extensive additional evidence for these modifications from the same data sets (Figure 5, Table 2, Table

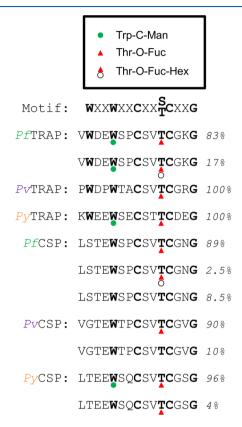


Figure 5. In vivo glycosylation of Plasmodium TSR domains identified from reanalysis of published data. Summarized here is the site occupancy of C-mannosylation and O-fucosylation of thrombospondin type 1 repeat (TSR) domains in circumsporozoite protein (CSP) and thrombospondin-related anonymous protein (TRAP) in Plasmodium salivary gland sporozoites as determined by automated database searching of previously published proteomics data. Detected glycans are indicated with triangles and circles as described in the legend. The hexose of the Fuc-Hex disaccharide is indicated as a generic hexose because neither the identity of the sugar nor its glycosyltransferase has been identified in Plasmodium. The approximate relative proportion of glycoforms in the analyzed samples is given as estimated by LC peak height (see Figure S6-S13). Glycosylation of CSP and TRAP has been reported in salivary gland sporozoites of P. falciparum (Pf)²¹ and P. vivax (Pv). 22 Our reanalysis of published data from P. yoelii (Py) salivary gland sporozoites²⁰ has provided the first evidence of TSR glycosylation in that species.

S3, Figure S6—S14). Reanalyzing the *P. yoelii* data resulted in the first reported evidence of glycosylation of TSRs in that species (Figure 4, Figure S12—14, Table S3). CSP and TRAP in *P. yoelii* were O-fucosylated at the peptides bearing the conserved glycosites in the TSR domain. Both CSP and TRAP were only detected with O-Fuc; no evidence was observed for the glycosite-bearing peptides from either protein in unmodified form or modified with a Fuc-Hex disaccharide (Figure S12, Figure S13). Both proteins were also C-mannosylated in the *P. yoelii* sample. As in *P. falciparum*, 100% of the TRAP observed in the *P. yoelii* sample was C-mannosylated, and always at the

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second Trp residue of the WXXW motif, in marked contrast to the recombinant Pf TRAP expressed in mammalian cells, which exhibited all four possible C-Man site occupancy combinations (Table 1), and P. vivax, in which C-Man was not observed at all on TRAP. The presence or absence and site localization of C-Man could be made unambiguously from intact C-Man on fragment ions. The majority of CSP was C-mannosylated (~96% based on LC peak height), a modification not observed on CSP in P. falciparum or P. vivax. This observation confirms that, at least in P. voelii, vo

For all of the Plasmodium salivary gland sporozoite data sets analyzed, the FDR calculated by PeptideProphet generally agreed with the decoy-estimated FDR; at a probability corresponding to a model-estimated FDR of 1% (which should equal a decoy-estimated FDR of approximately 0.5% after excluding the known decoys, assuming half of the incorrect answers are decoys), the decoy-estimated FDRs for the data sets ranged from 0.26% to 0.56%. Among the PSMs identified above this cutoff with a putative neutral loss of 146.06 or 308.11, none were decoy proteins. However, other real protein entries were identified that were likely false positives (Table 2, Table S3). The most common of these, appearing in four of the five data sets, were semitryptic fragments of a 39-residue human keratin peptide found in the contaminant database. The N-terminus of the fully tryptic peptide began with the sequence GSY. The mass of Gly-Ser is 144.05 Da and the mass of Gly-Ser-Tyr is 307.11. Combined with a mass error of two or one protons, respectively, arising from the incorrect isotope peak being identified as the monoisotopic peak of the precursor peptide ion, these mass errors were within the matching tolerance of the allowed neutral losses of 146.06 and 308.11 Da corresponding to O-Fuc and O-Fuc-Glc, respectively (Figure S15). Considering only fully tryptic peptides eliminated these false positives and nearly all others (Table 2), and further considering only the highest quality PSM (those with PeptideProphet probabilities above 0.99 and Expect scores below 10⁻⁵) eliminated the remaining spurious fully tryptic peptides. The above observations underscore the importance of manual validation of results obtained from this database searching approach. In the case of the samples analyzed here, the vast majority of PSMs identified with putative neutral loss of an O-linked glycan were peptides containing the expected glycosylation sites, and manual inspection of the MS² spectra confirmed the quality of the matches.

Taken together, these data demonstrate a marked variety in glycan site occupancy on conserved TSR domains within and across Plasmodium species, inviting the question of what roles these glycans play in TSR proteins and whether these roles are protein- and species-specific. Importantly, these data also begin to suggest a recognition motif for the Plasmodium Cmannosyltransferase. Further work will be required to confirm this motif and whether the recognition sequence is conserved across Plasmodium species. Also of interest is the variable detection of an additional hexose (presumably glucose) modifying O-Fuc. In the data sets analyzed here, the large majority of CSP and TRAP in salivary gland sporozoites of all species was O-fucosylated, but the disaccharide was only seen in P. falciparum and only on a small percentage of the CSP and TRAP present (Figure 5). Further work will be required to determine whether the failure to detect the disaccharide in the P. vivax and P. yoelii data sets is due to instrumental detection limit or the true absence of the glycan. In other organisms this

Table 2. Evidence for in Vivo Glycosylation of CSP and TRAP^a

$sample^{b}$	total PSMs ^c	CSP PSMs ^d	TRAP PSMs ^e	decoy PSMs ^f	nondecoy false positives ^g	fully tryptic nondecoy false positives ^h
P. vivax VK210 ²²	352	259	83	0	10	1
P. vivax VK247 ²²	250	171	33	0	46	0
P. falciparum global proteome ²⁰	57	54	0	0	3	1
P. falciparum surface-enriched ²¹	12	0	4	0	8	1
P. yoelii ²⁰	26	18	7	0	1	0

"Previously published proteomics data from analyses of *Plasmodium* salivary gland sporozoites were re-analyzed using our automated database searching approach for identification of neutral loss of O-linked fucose or glucosylfucose. Peptide spectrum matches (PSMs) in this table were identified with evidence for neutral loss of -146.06 (equal to deoxyhexose, i.e., fucose) or -308.11 (equal to hexosyldeoxyhexose, i.e., glucosylfucose). ^bSources of data are cited. VK210 and VK247 refer to different *P. vivax* haplotypes. No evidence for O-fucosylation of TRAP was observed in the *P. falciparum* global proteome data set because the precursor ion, though highly abundant, was never selected for fragmentation because the instrument software was unable to assign a charge state to the isotope envelope, and the ion was accordingly excluded from monoisotopic precursor selection. A gel fraction containing TRAP from a surface-enriched *P. falciparum* sample was analyzed for spectral evidence of O-fucosylation of TRAP. ^cTotal number of peptide spectrum matches (PSMs) identified with a neutral loss putatively corresponding to an O-linked glycan. ^dTotal number of PSMs identifying the glycosite-containing peptide of CSP with evidence for O-fucosylation. ^cTotal number of PSMs identified from decoy proteins. ^gThe number PSMs identifying likely incorrect nondecoy proteins. ^hThe number PSMs identifying fully tryptic peptides mapping to likely incorrect nondecoy proteins.

glycan extension is performed by β -1,3-glucosyltransferase (B3GLCT). Although there is a P. falciparum gene with some sequence homology to B3GLCT²⁰ (parasite-infected erythrocyte surface protein (PIESP1); PF3D7 0310400), this function has not been verified, and the biological importance of this modification for the parasite is unknown. Finally, it is important to note that the glycosite occupancy observed for Plasmodium proteins in vivo differed considerably from that observed for the recombinant proteins expressed in mammalian cells (compare Table 1 with Figure 5). The TSR domains of both Pf CSP³⁶ and Pf TRAP³⁷ are part of subunit malaria vaccine candidates.³⁸ Since glycosylation effectively changes antibody recognition epitopes, 39 it is important to be able to match the glycosylation patterns of the recombinant protein subunit to those observed in vivo. 15,31,32,40 The methods we have described here enable simple analysis of TSR glycosylation using standard proteomics techniques and open-source analysis software.

In conclusion, the open-source MS/MS sequence database search tool Comet was re-engineered to enable automatic detection of gas-phase labile O-linked mono- and disaccharides. The analysis tools of the TPP were re-engineered to accommodate the new information obtained from this search strategy, enabling assignment of probabilities and FDRs to identified glycosylated peptides as well as visualization of the MS² spectra, including neutral losses from cross-ring cleavage of C-Man. We used this search strategy to reanalyze published proteomics data sets, confirming manually annotated spectra that had identified O-fucosylated peptides in P. falciparum and P. vivax, as well as identifying previously unreported glycosylation in P. yoelii. While the workflow described here was developed in order to identify a very specific type of glycosylation (i.e., O-fucosylation of TSRs), the new "mass offsets" parameter in Comet can be set by the user to search for any predicted neutral loss. Combined with the support of the TPP analysis suite, this workflow can in theory be used to detect peptides exhibiting neutral loss of any moiety that behaves in a similar fashion to O-Fuc, e.g., O-GlcNAc. These tools will enable researchers to identify these and other gas-phase labile PTMs using standard proteomics techniques, as well as to reanalyze existing data sets for evidence of glycosylation that was not previously searched for.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/acs.jproteome.8b00638.

Figures S1-S15 (PDF) Tables S1-S3 (XLSX)

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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ABBREVIATIONS

TSR, thrombospondin type 1 repeat; POFUT2, protein *O*-fucosyltransferase 2; B3GLCT, β -1,3-glucosyltransferase.

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

A tandem mass spectrometry sequence database search method for identification of O-fucosylated proteins by mass spectrometry.

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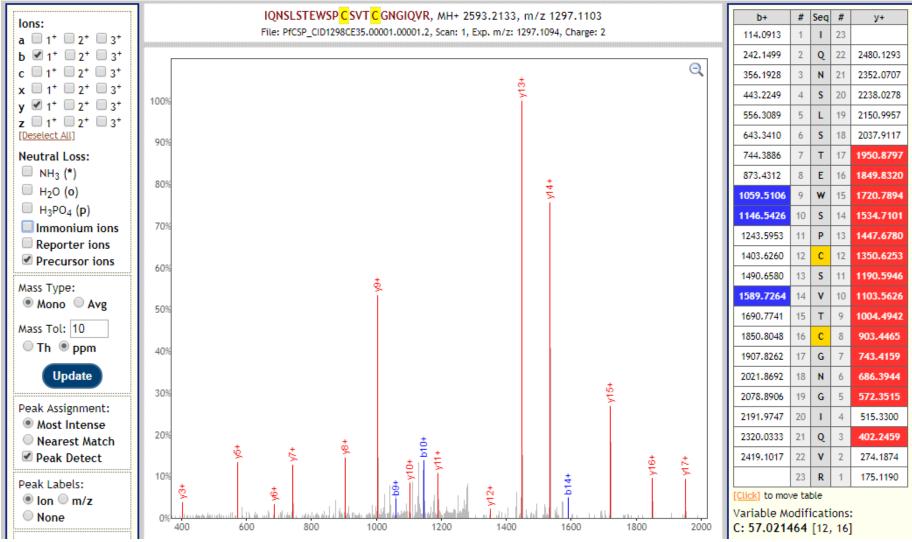
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Figure S1. MSⁿ **confirming the identity of fragment spectra arising from neutral loss of O-linked glycans.** A tryptic digest of recombinant *P. falciparum* circumsporozoite protein (CSP) TSR domain was infused into an LTQ-Orbitrap Elite by nanospray. Precursor ions for the unmodified or O-glucosylfucosylated peptide were isolated and fragmented. All spectra are collision-induced dissociation (CID) collected at high resolution in the Orbitrap. CE = normalized collision energy. Annotated fragment spectra were visualized using a development version of Lorikeet as implemented in the Trans-Proteomic Pipeline.



S1a. CID of the unmodified peptide, $[M+2H]^{++} = 1297 \, \text{m/z}$, CE = 35 %. Note that the dominant peaks are y_{13} and y_{14} , the y-ion peaks containing the Pro residue. The y_{13} and y_{14} peaks are the only species visible in the spectra in Figure 1 still bearing the O-linked disaccharide.

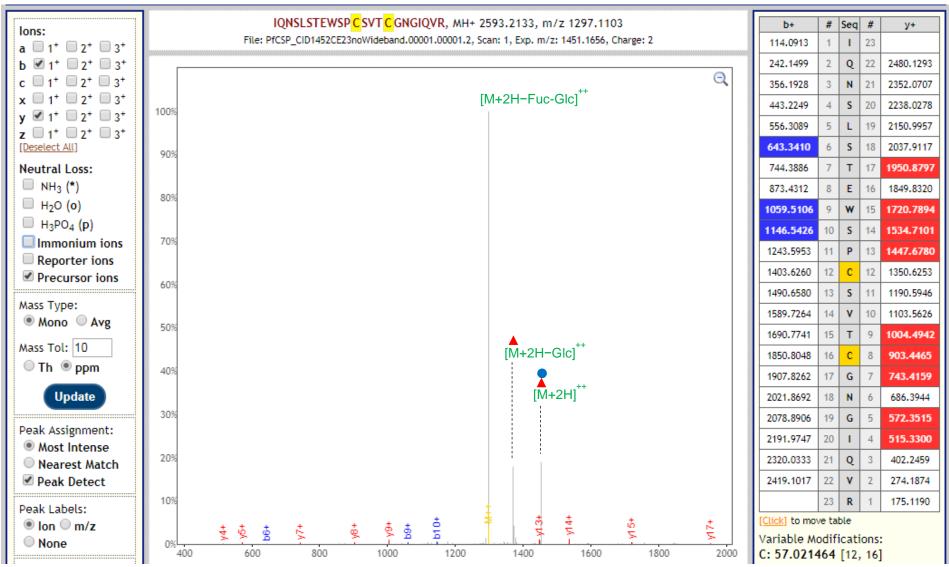


Figure S1b. CID of the peptide modified with O-Fuc-Glc, $[M+2H]^{++} = 1451.17 \ m/z$, CE = 23 %. At this CE, some of the precursor is still intact ($[M+2H]^{++}$, red triangle = O-Fuc, blue circle = β1,3-Glc). Neutral loss of Glc can be seen as a peak at 1370.14 m/z ($[M+2H-Glc]^{++}$, red triangle = O-Fuc). The dominant peak at 1297.11 m/z is the precursor with neutral loss of the O-Fuc-Glc disaccharide ($[M+2H-Fuc-Glc]^{++}$). Peptide fragments are present at low abundance, identifying the sequence of the unmodified peptide.

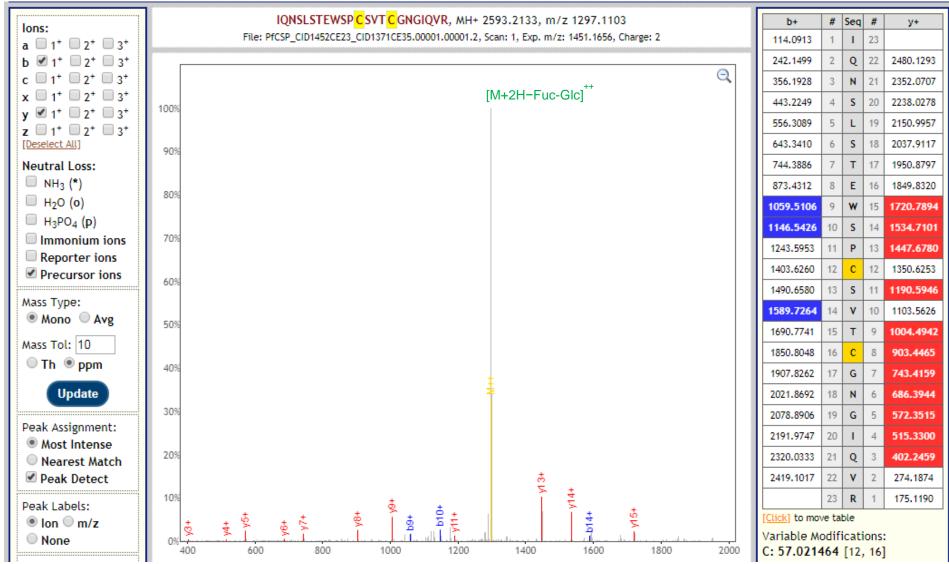


Figure S1c. MS^3 (CE = 35 %) of the 1370.14 m/z fragment seen in Figure S1b produces a dominant peak at 1297.11 m/z matching the mass of the unmodified peptide. Many unmodified peptide fragment peaks confirm the sequence of the peptide. This spectrum confirms that the 1370.14 m/z peak seen in Figure S1b arises from neutral loss of Glc from the O-Fuc-Glc dissacharide.

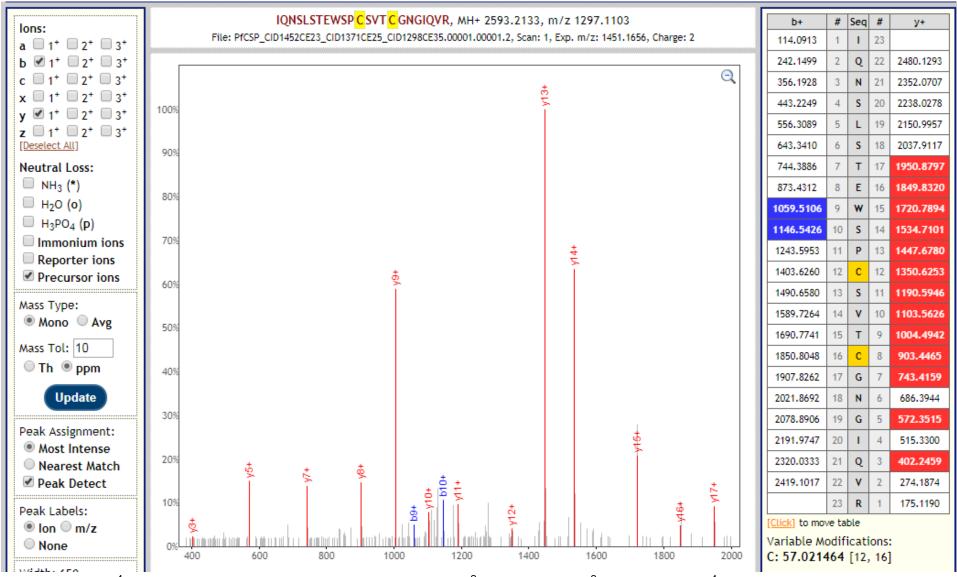


Figure S1d. MS⁴ of the 1298.11 *m/z* peak seen in Figure S1c (MS² CE = 23 %, MS³ CE = 25 %, MS⁴ CE = 35 %). This peak arises from neutral loss of O-Fuc after neutral loss of Glc from the O-Fuc-Glc disaccharide. Fragment ions confirm the sequence of peptide. This spectrum further confirms that the 1370.14 *m/z* peak seen in Figure S1b arises from neutral loss of Glc from the O-Fuc-Glc disaccharide.

Figure S2. Neutral loss of O-linked and C-linked glycans at increasing collision energies.

A tryptic digest of recombinant *P. falciparum* thrombospondin related anonymous protein (TRAP) was analyzed by LC-MS/MS with an LTQ-Orbitrap Elite. Precursor ions for the TSR peptide modified with C-Man and O-Fuc-Glc were isolated and fragmented at sequentially increasing normalized collision energies (CE). All spectra are collision-induced dissociation (CID) collected at high resolution in the Orbitrap. Annotated fragment spectra were visualized using a development version of Lorikeet as implemented in the Trans-Proteomic Pipeline.

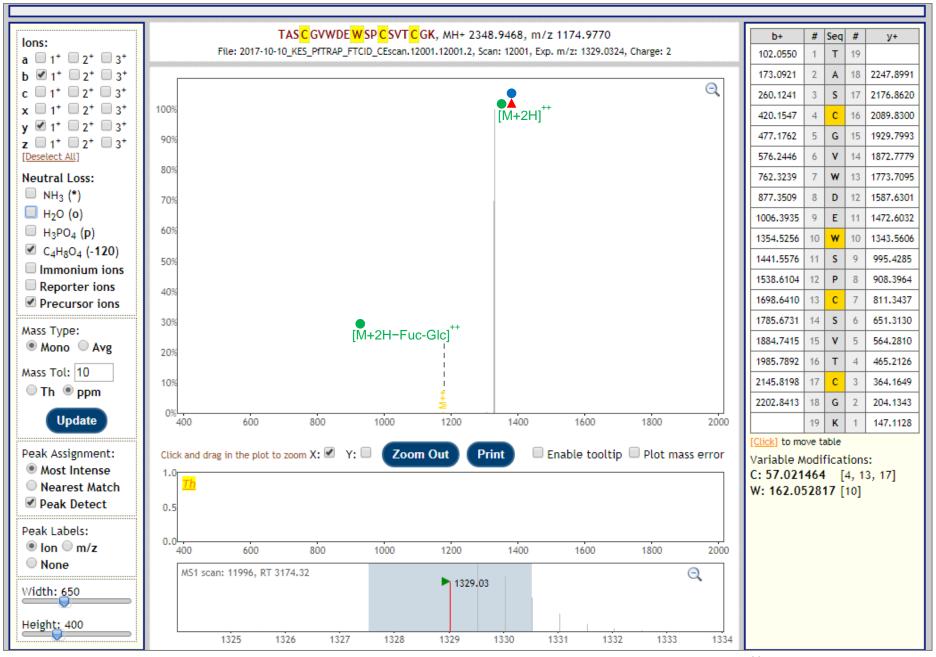


Figure S2a. CID at 1329.03 m/z, CE = 20 %. The precursor peak is largely unreacted ([M+2H]⁺⁺, green circle = C-Man, red triangle = O-Fuc, blue circle = β 1,3-Glc), though a small peak (~0.3% relative abundance) matches the mass of the peptide after neutral loss of the O-linked disaccharide (1174.98 m/z, yellow, automatically annotated by Lorikeet as the precursor peak M++).

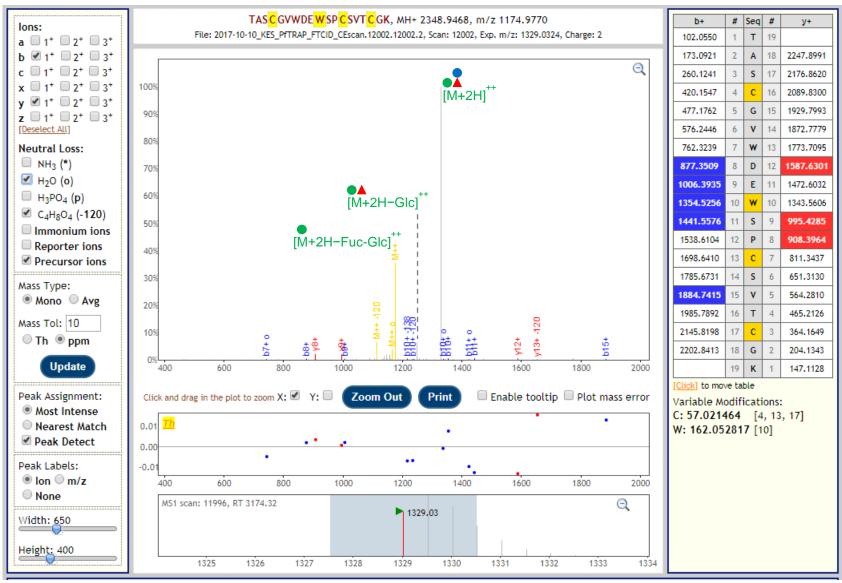


Figure S2b. CID at 1329.03 m/z, CE = 25 %. The dominant peak is still unreacted precursor ([M+2H]⁺⁺, green circle = C-Man, red triangle = O-Fuc, blue circle = β1,3-Glc). A smaller peak at 1248.01 m/z matches the mass of the precursor after neutral loss of Glc from the O-Fuc-Glc disaccharide ([M+2H-Glc]⁺⁺). A third peak at 1174.98 m/z (yellow, automatically annotated by Lorikeet as the precursor peak M++) matches the mass of the peptide precursor ion after neutral loss of the O-Fuc-Glc disaccharide ([M+2H-Fuc-Glc]⁺⁺). Note that peptide fragment ions appearing at this CE identify the sequence of the peptide with C-Man intact, positively localizing the glycan to the C-terminal Trp residue. Neutral loss of 120.04 Da from cross-ring cleavage is seen on the precursor and fragment peaks.

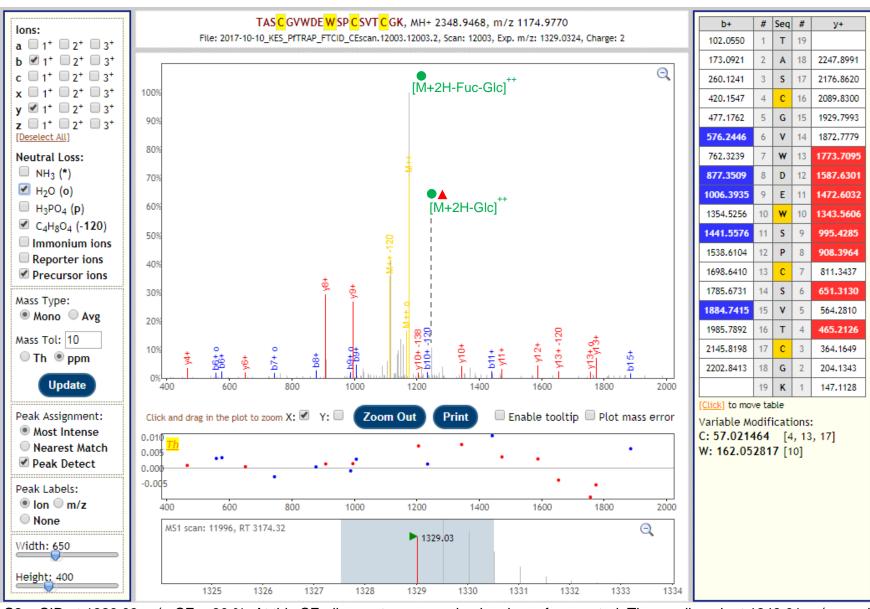


Figure S2c. CID at 1329.03 m/z, CE = 30 %. At this CE all parent precursor ion has been fragmented. The small peak at 1248.01 m/z remains, the mass of the precursor after neutral loss of Glc from the O-Fuc-Glc disaccharide ([M+2H-Glc]⁺⁺). The dominant peak is now 1174.98 m/z (yellow M++), the peptide precursor ion after neutral loss of the O-Fuc-Glc disaccharide ([M+2H-Fuc-Glc]⁺⁺). Further peptide fragment ions confidently identify the sequence of the peptide with C-Man intact.

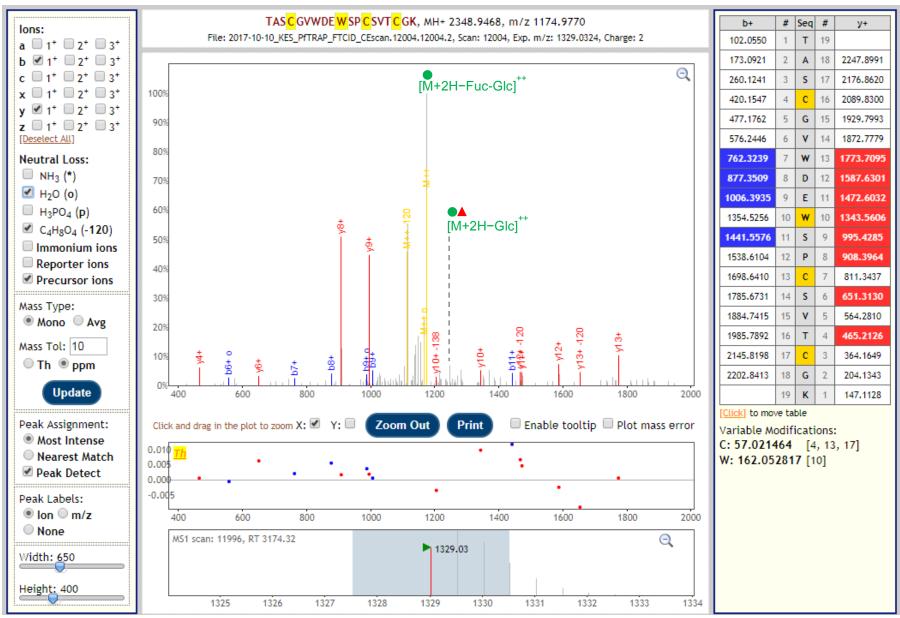


Figure S2d. CID at 1329.03 *m*/z, CE = 35 %. This is the CE typically used in shotgun proteomics methods. The C-mannosylated peptide precursor lacking the O-linked glycan remains the dominant peak, but peptide fragment ions are abundant enough to confidently sequence the peptide. Unlike the recombinant *Pf*CSP spectra in Figure 1 and supplemental Figure S1b, no peptide fragment ions with the O-linked glycan intact are visible at any CE. This is likely a signal-to-noise issue; the spectra in Figure 1 and Figure S1 were acquired by direct infusion of the peptide, allowing signal and ion fill time to be maximized, whereas these spectra were acquired on-the-fly by LC-MS/MS.

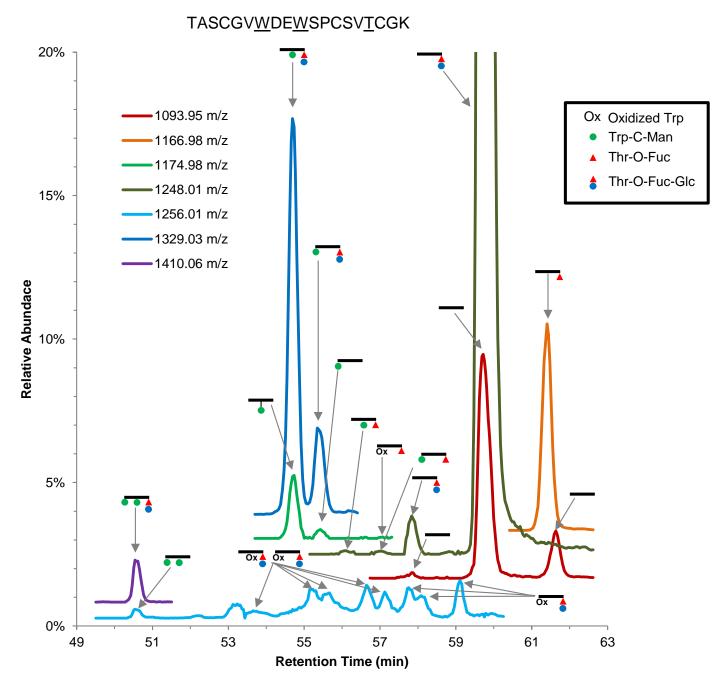


Figure S3. Glycoforms identified by automated sequence database search of data from LC-MS/MS analysis of recombinant *P. falciparum* TRAP. The variably C-mannosylated or oxidized Trp residues and the variably O-fucosylated Thr are underlined. Traces are offset for clarity. Peaks indicated with arrows were positively identified by PSMs. Both positional isoforms of the oxidized peptide were identified at several co-eluting retention times. See table S2.

Figure S4. Indistinguishable isobaric glycopeptides from recombinant *P. falciparum* TRAP.

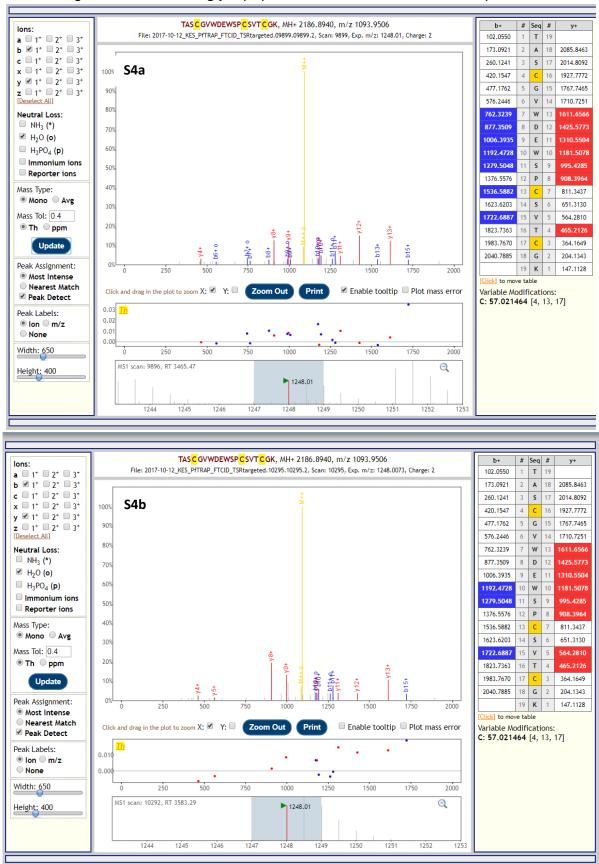


Figure S4a,b. Representative MS^2 of the two 1248.01 m/z peaks eluting at **a)** 57.8 min and **b)** 58.9 min. The MS^2 from both species appear to identify the same species, i.e. the peptide modified with a gas-phase-labile moiety having a mass matching that of O-Fuc-Glc. The dominant species of the MS^2 spectra, 1093.95 m/z, matches the mass of the unmodified peptide. Additional PSMs are listed in Table S2.

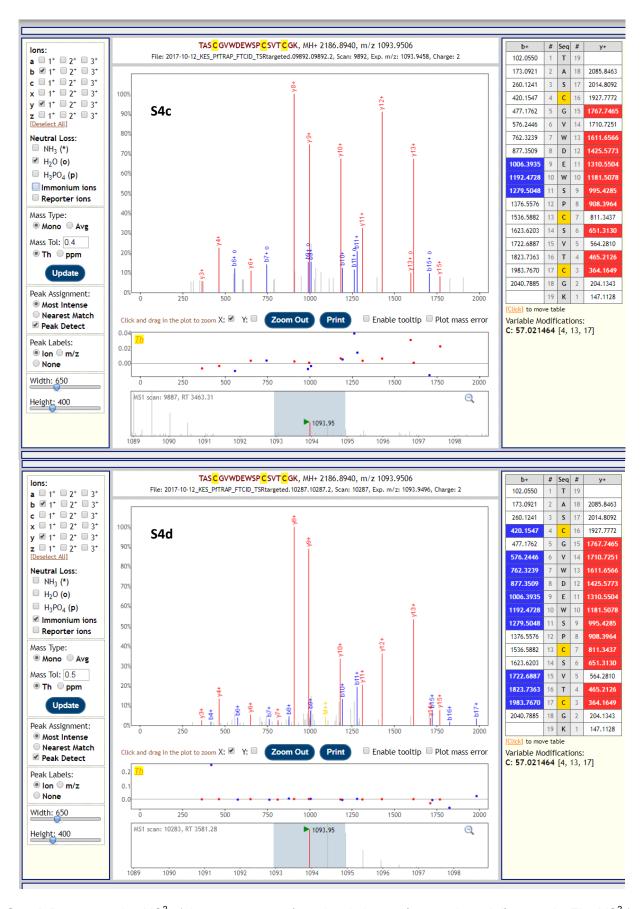


Figure S4c,d. Representative MS² of the two 1093.5 *m/z* peaks eluting at **c)** 57.8 min and **d)** 58.9 min. The MS² from both species appear to identify the unmodified peptide. Both species co-elute with the 1248.01 m/z species identified in Fig. S4a and b, consistent with loss of the gas-phase-labile O-Fuc-Glc from in-source fragmentation. Additional PSMs are listed in Table S2.

S5. Misidentification of a glycoform in LC-MS/MS of recombinant P. falciparum TRAP

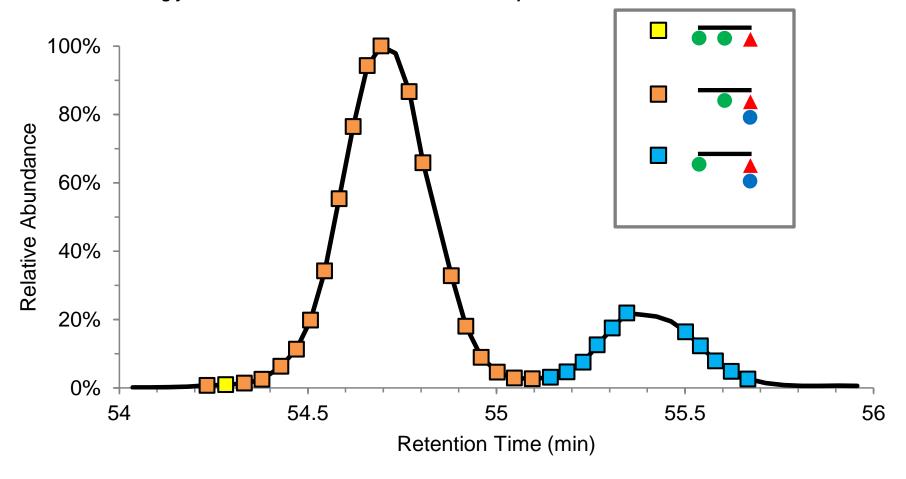


Figure S5a. Extracted Ion Chromatogram (XIC) of the precursor ion matching multiple isobaric glycoforms. The XIC of 1329.03 m/z (black line) is overlaid with squares showing points where MS² resulted in high-quality peptide spectrum matches (PSMs) identifying glycoforms of the recombinant PfTRAP TSR peptide TASCGVWDEWSPCSVTCGK modified with combinations of C-linked mannose at tryptophan (green circle), O-linked fucose at the C-terminal threonine (red triangle) and β 1,3-linked glucose (blue circle) added to the fucose. See Table S2.

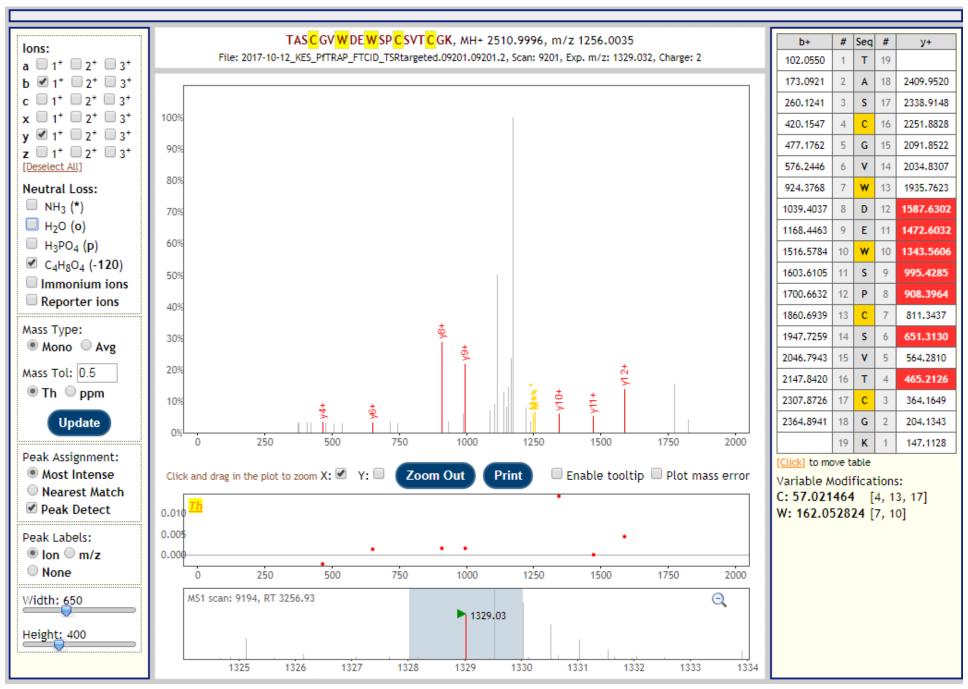


Figure S5b A single PSM (the yellow square in Figure S5a) was incorrectly identified as the glycoform of the peptide featuring double mannosylation and an O-Fuc, with the MS² annotated as shown here.

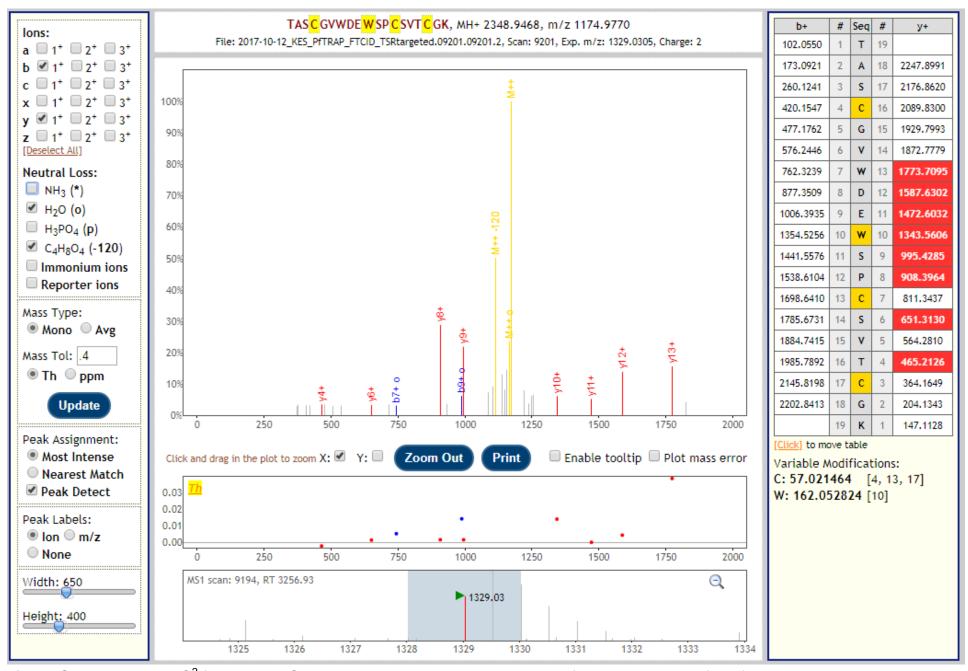


Figure S5c The same MS^2 from Figure S5b, re-annotated with the correct glycoform. While most of the fragment ions are the same as for the incorrect annotation (except y_{13}), the precursor fragment exhibiting neutral loss of O-Fuc-Glc (the yellow M++ peak) as well as cross-ring cleavage of C-man (yellow M++-120 peak) confirm that this is the correct annotation.

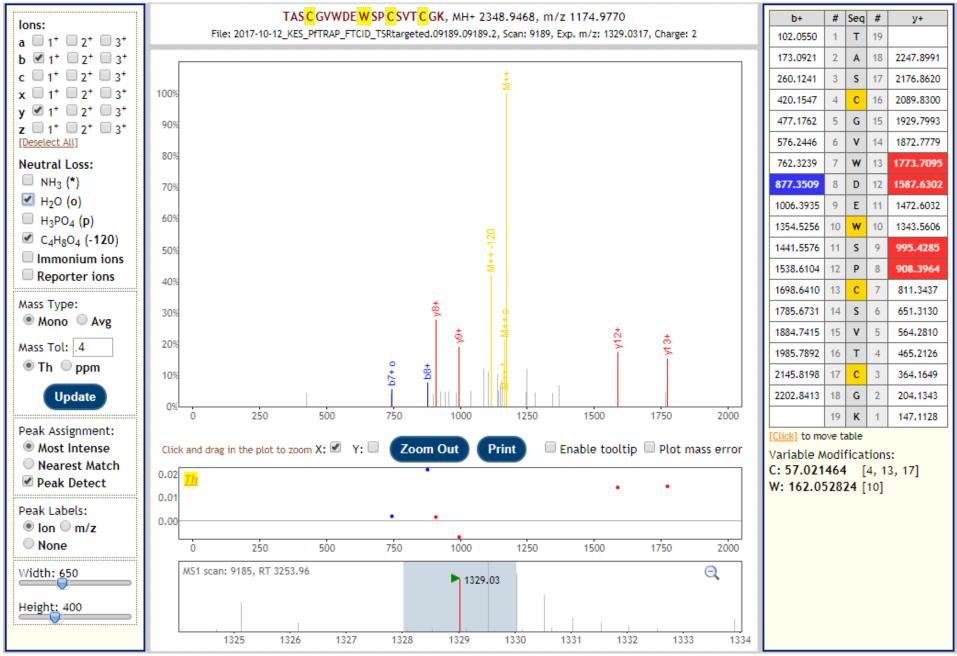


Figure S5d. The MS² for the same parent ion that immediately precedes the incorrect PSM, though sparse, identifies the correct glycoform.

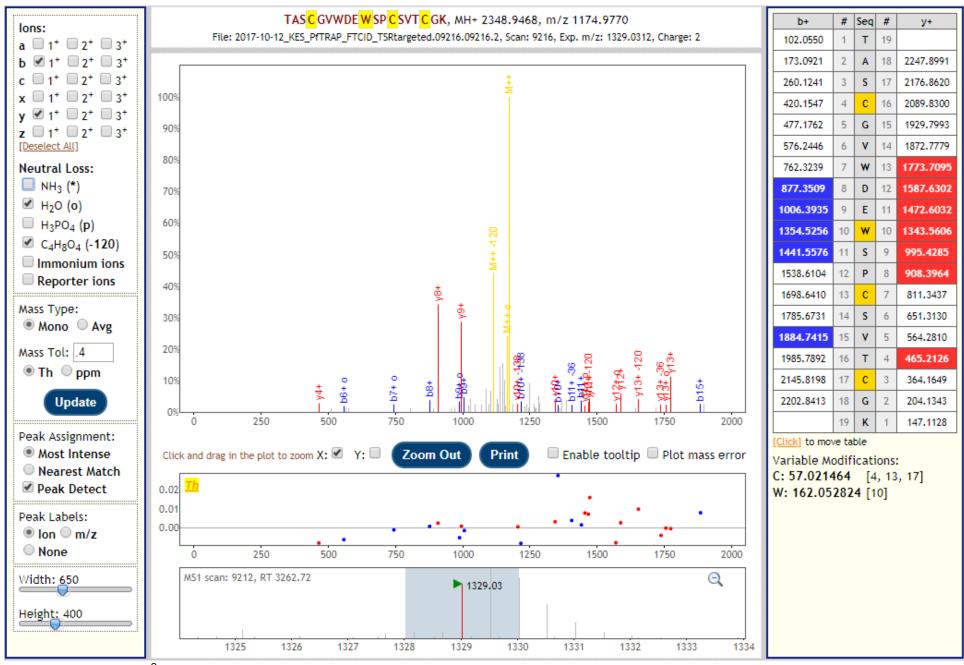


Figure S5e. The MS² for the same parent ion immediately following the incorrect PSM identifies the correct glycoform, as do the remaining PSMs for the parent ion in the same chromatographic peak.

IQNSLSTEWSPCSVTCGNGIQVR

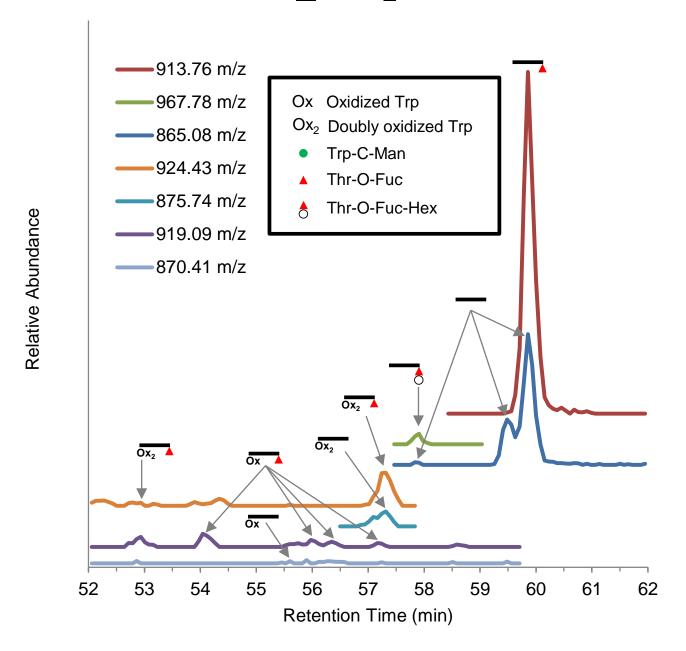
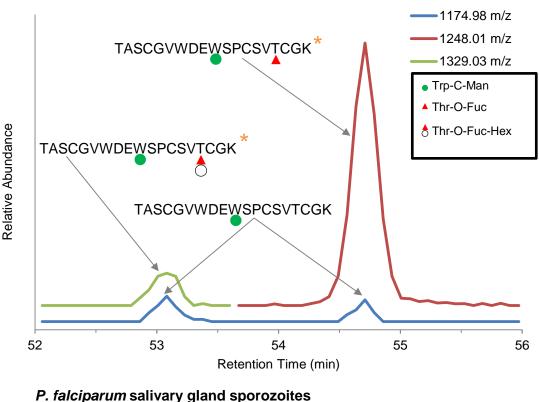


Figure S6. Representative XIC of glycosylated CSP from *P. falciparum* salivary gland sporozoites. The variably oxidized Trp and the variably O-fucosylated Thr are underlined. Traces are offset for clarity. Peaks indicated with arrows were positively identified by PSMs. The Hex of the O-Fuc-Hex disaccharide is indicated as a generic hexose because the identity of the glycan has not been confirmed.

P. falciparum salivary gland sporozoites Whole proteome



P. falciparum salivary gland sporozoites Surface-enriched

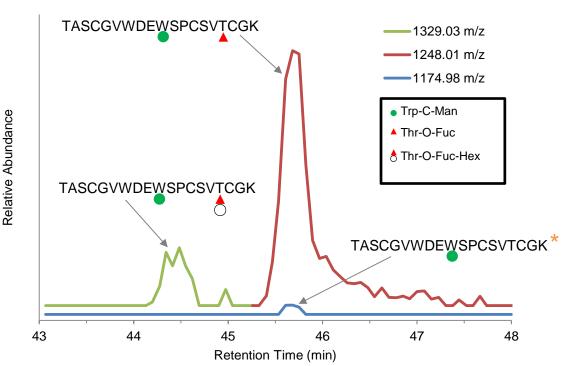


Figure S7. Representative XIC of glycosylated TRAP from *P. falciparum* salivary gland sporozoites. Traces are offset for clarity. Peaks marked with an orange asterisk (*) were not identified by PSMs because the precursor was not selected for MS², but their retention time and mass correspond with the indicted glycoform. The Hex of the O-Fuc-Hex disaccharide is indicated as a generic hexose because the identity of the glycan has not been confirmed.

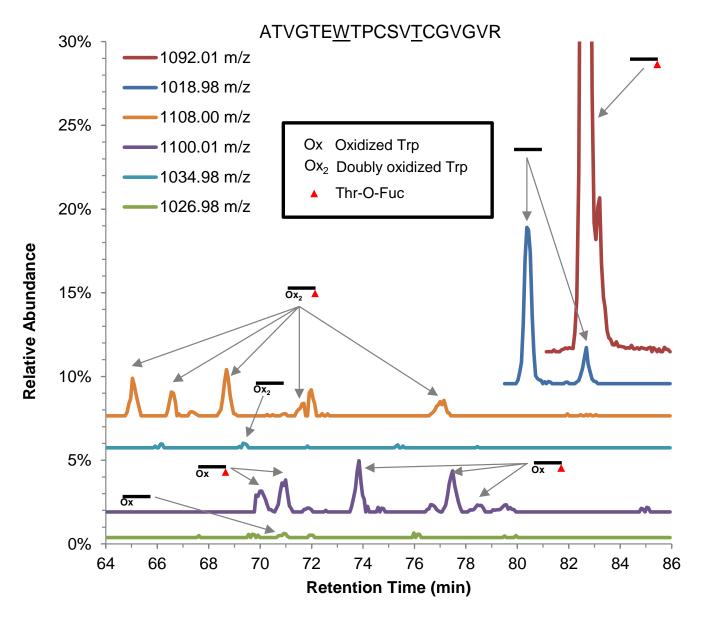


Figure S8. Representative XIC of glycosylated CSP from *P. vivax* VK210 salivary gland sporozoites. The variably oxidized Trp and the variably O-fucosylated Thr are underlined. Traces are offset for clarity. Peaks indicated with arrows were positively identified by PSMs.

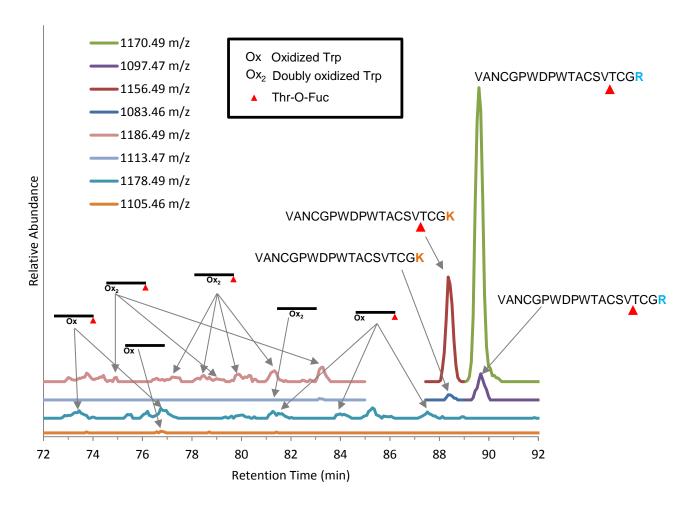


Figure S9. Representative XIC of glycosylated TRAP from *P. vivax* VK210 salivary gland sporozoites. The variably oxidized Trp residues and the variably O-fucosylated Thr are underlined. Traces are offset for clarity. Peaks indicated with arrows were positively identified by PSMs. Note that this sample contained a mixture of two field isolates, each of which carried a different version of the TRAP gene with either a Lys or Arg at the C-terminus of the glycopeptide.

ATVGTEWTPCSVTCGVGVR

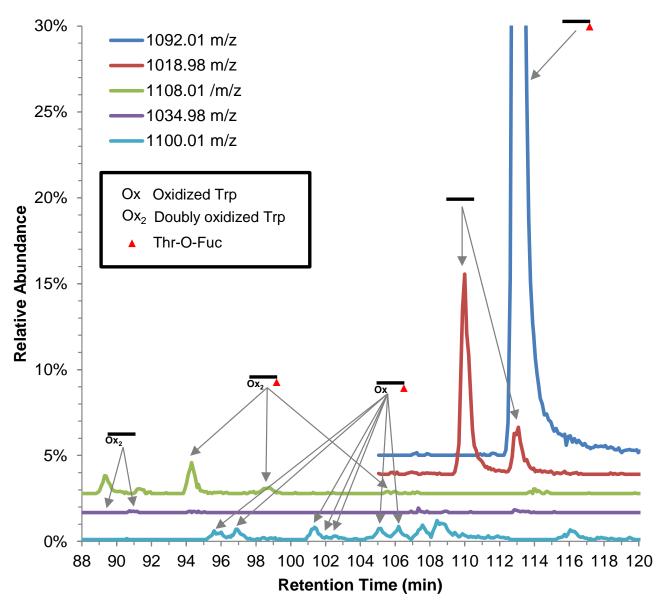


Figure S10. Representative XIC of glycosylated CSP from *P. vivax* VK247 salivary gland sporozoites. The variably oxidized Trp and the variably O-fucosylated Thr are underlined. Traces are offset for clarity. Peaks indicated with arrows were positively identified by PSMs.

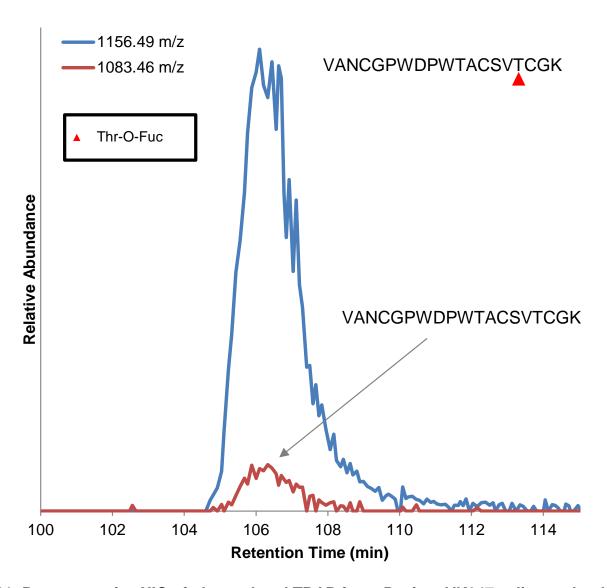


Figure S11. Representative XIC of glycosylated TRAP from *P. vivax* VK247 salivary gland sporozoites.

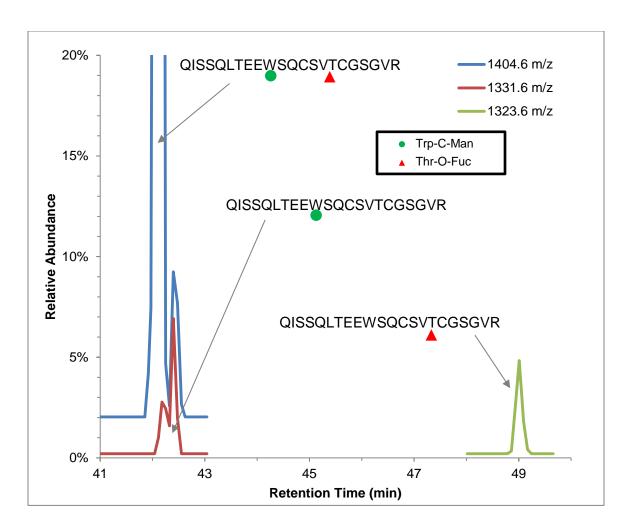


Figure S12. Representative XIC of glycosylated CSP from *P. yoelii* salivary gland sporozoites. Traces are offset for clarity. The reason for the doublet shape of the 1404.6 m/z and co-eluting 1331.6 m/z peaks is unknown, and may reflect spray instability or closely eluting isobaric species. Only the indicated glycopeptides were identified from MS² of these masses collected during the elution window of the peaks.

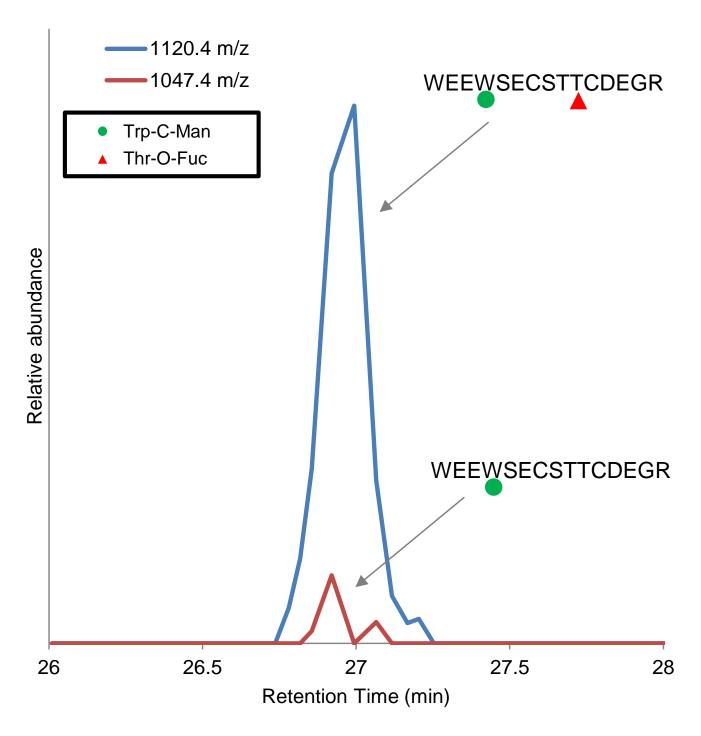


Figure S13. Representative XIC of glycosylated TRAP from *P. yoelii* salivary gland sporozoites.

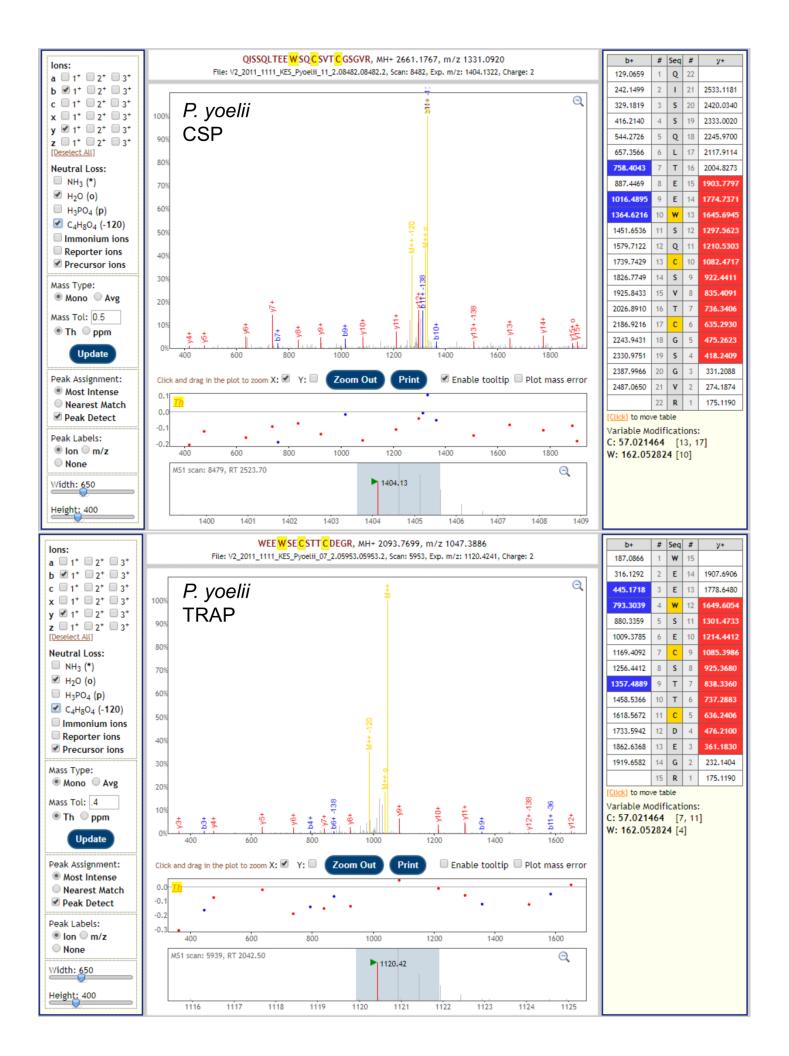
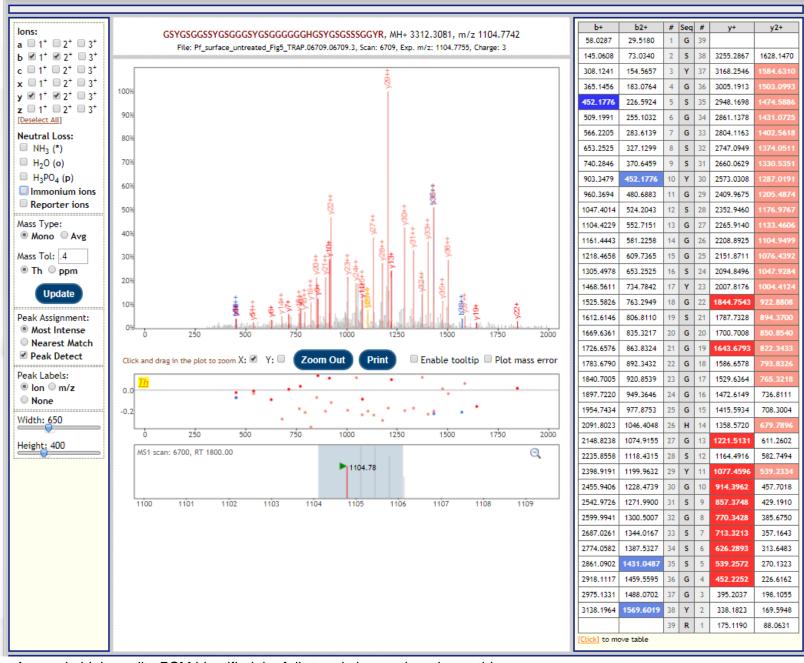
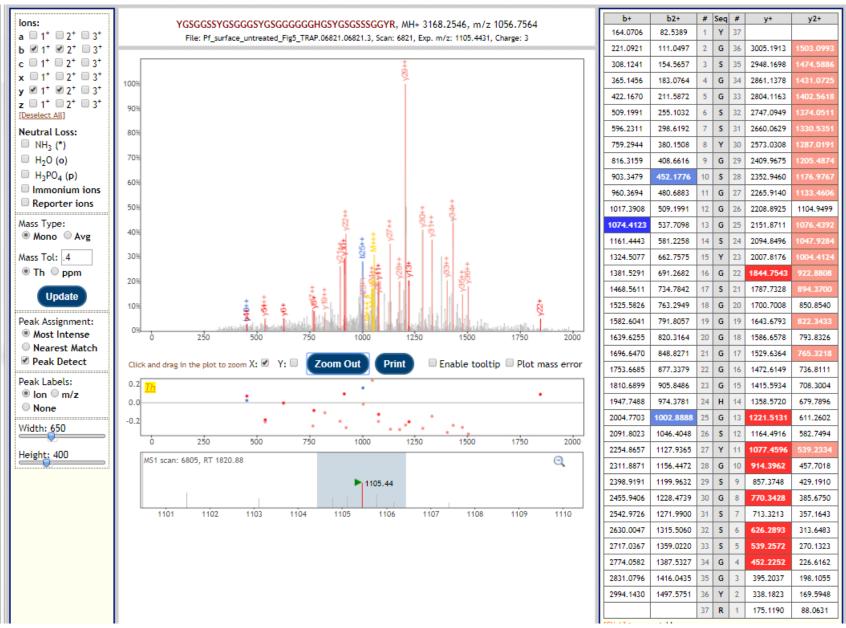


Figure S14. Automated identification of TSR glycosylation in *P. yoelii* salivary gland sporozoites. A previously published proteomic analysis of salivary gland sporozoites of the rodent-infective *Plasmodium* species *P. yoelii* (Lindner and Swearingen *et al.* 2013 PMID:23325771) was reanalyzed with the mass offset approach described here, providing the first reported evidence of Ofucosylation and C-mannosylation of TSR domains in that species. Sample MS² spectra for the CSP peptide (top) and the TRAP peptide (bottom) are shown as automatically annotated by the Lorikeet spectrum viewer incorporated into the TPP. Both examples show a mass difference of -146.06 Da between the observed precursor *m/z* and that of the matched peptide, corresponding to neutral loss of O-Fuc. The C-mannosylated peptide precursor after neutral loss of O-Fuc is the dominant peak in both spectra (yellow peak annotated M++. In the CSP spectrum, this peak is isobaric with the b11-120 Da peak). Neutral loss of 120.04 Da from the M++ peak due to cross-ring cleavage of C-Man is also indicated.

Figure S15. Example false positive peptides showing neutral loss of O-linked glycans.





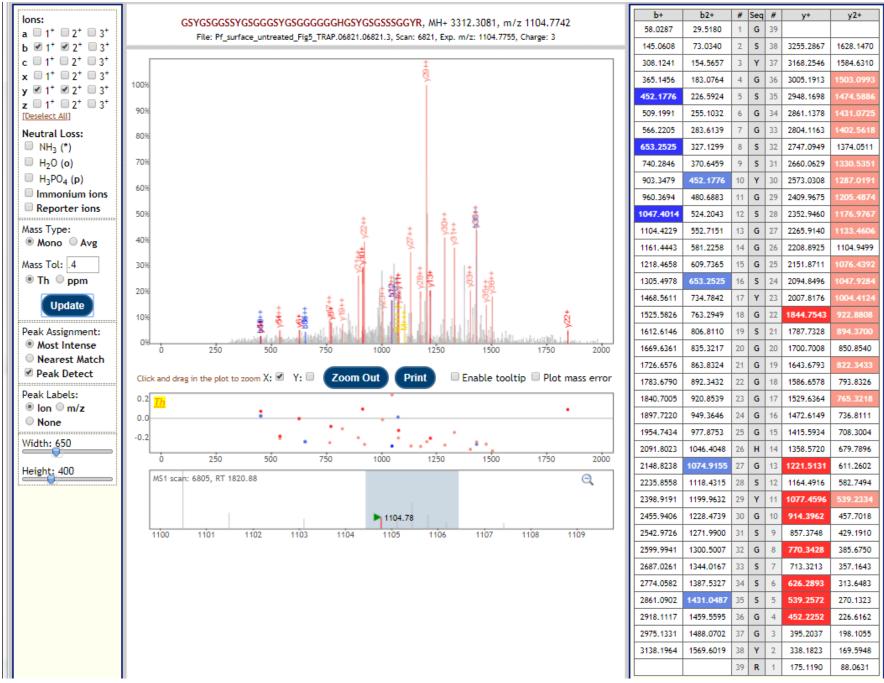
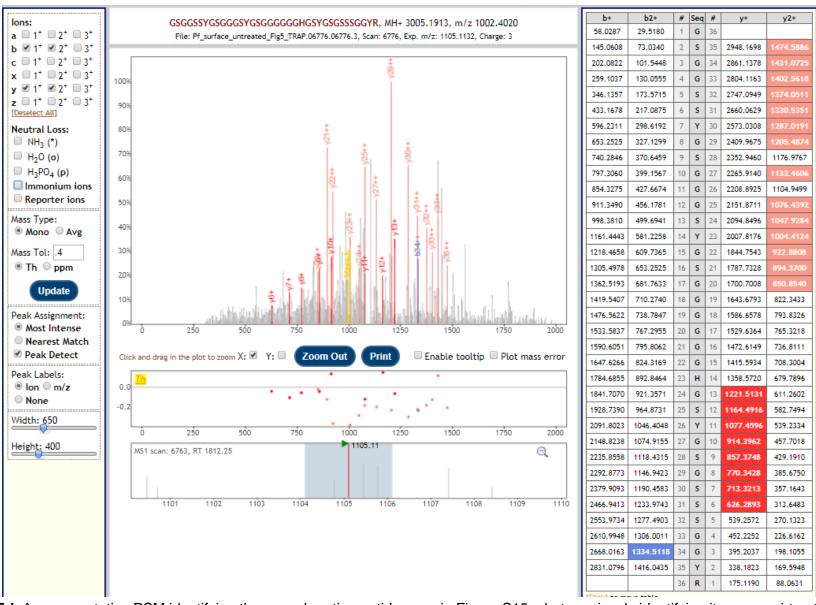


Figure S15c. The more likely correct annotation of the peptide from Figure S15b, matched to the fully tryptic peptide with no neutral loss.



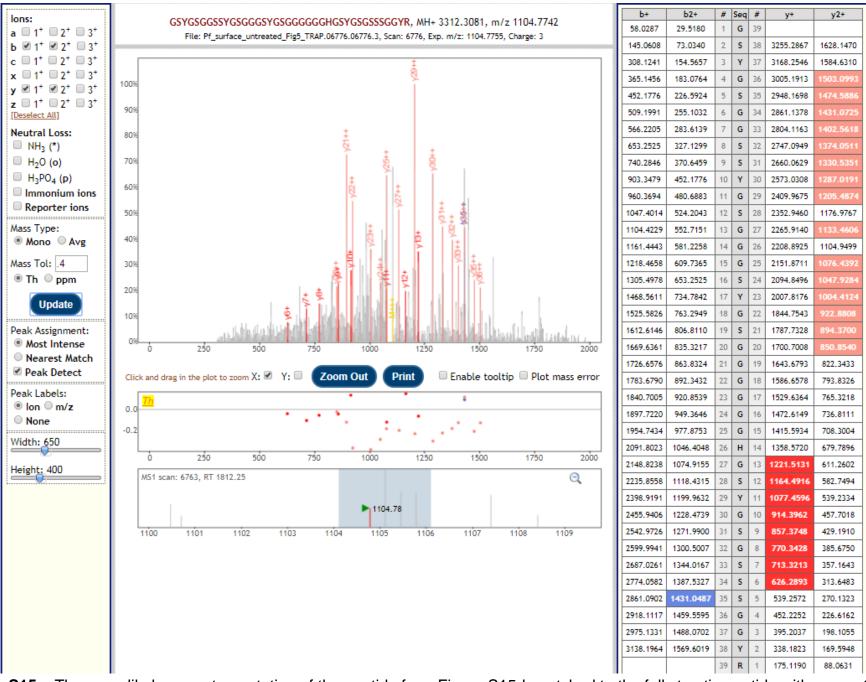


Figure S15e. The more likely correct annotation of the peptide from Figure S15d, matched to the fully tryptic peptide with no neutral loss