

1 **Title**

2 Omics-Based Interaction Framework – a systems model to reveal molecular drivers of synergy

3

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26 **Abstract**

27 Bioactive molecule library screening strategies may empirically identify effective combination therapies.
28 However, without a systems theory to interrogate synergistic responses, the molecular mechanisms
29 underlying favorable drug-drug interactions remain unclear, precluding rational design of combination
30 therapies. Here, we introduce Omics-Based Interaction Framework (OBIF) to reveal molecular drivers
31 of synergy through integration of statistical and biological interactions in supra-additive biological
32 responses. OBIF performs full factorial analysis of feature expression data from single vs. dual factor
33 exposures to identify molecular clusters that reveal synergy-mediating pathways, functions and
34 regulators. As a practical demonstration, OBIF analyzed a therapeutic dyad of immunostimulatory small
35 molecules that induces synergistic protection against influenza A pneumonia. OBIF analysis of
36 transcriptomic and proteomic data identified biologically relevant, unanticipated cooperation between
37 RelA and cJun that we subsequently confirmed to be required for the synergistic antiviral protection. To
38 demonstrate generalizability, OBIF was applied to data from a diverse array of Omics platforms and
39 experimental conditions, successfully identifying the molecular clusters driving their synergistic
40 responses. Hence, OBIF is a phenotype-driven systems model that supports multiplatform exploration
41 of synergy mechanisms.

42

43 **Keywords**

44 Data integration / Inducible epithelial resistance / Multi-Omics / Pneumonia / Synergy

45

46 **Subject Categories**

47 Genome-Scale and Integrative Biology; Methods & Resources; Microbiology, Virology & Host Pathogen
48 Interaction

49 **Introduction**

50 Superior treatment outcomes are achieved for many disease states when more than one therapeutic
51 agent is administered (Chen *et al*, 2015; Zappasodi *et al*, 2018; Ronzitti *et al*, 2018; Han *et al*, 2019).
52 Indeed, there are many well documented instances when the therapeutic benefit of two agents
53 administered together substantially exceeds the benefit that would be predicted by the additive effects
54 of the agents administered individually. Widespread availability of high throughput technologies has
55 allowed multi-level study of complex biological responses from genome to phenotype (Hasin *et al*, 2017).
56 Yet, there remains lack of consensus regarding the appropriate analysis of statistical and biological
57 interactions found in non-additive (i.e., antagonistic or synergistic) responses (Wei *et al*, 2018).
58 Moreover, previously proposed strategies to analyze non-additive interactions frequently lack sufficient
59 generalizability to study these processes outside of their home Omics platforms (Chen *et al*, 2015).
60 Thus, while synergistic therapeutic combinations may be empirically derived from fortuitous clinical
61 experiences or through screening of bioactive small molecule libraries, the absence of an established
62 means to investigate these favorable drug-drug interactions ultimately precludes understanding of their
63 underlying mechanisms. Consequently, development of a methodology to integrate the statistical and
64 biological components of synergistic interactions in diverse Omics settings can advance the rational
65 design of combination therapies while affording understanding of their molecular mechanisms against
66 diseases.

67

68 Pneumonia is a major worldwide cause of death and frequently requires combination therapies
69 (Troeger *et al*, 2017; Metlay *et al*, 2019). We have previously reported that a therapeutic dyad of
70 immunostimulatory small molecules induces synergistic protection against a broad range of
71 pneumonia-causing pathogens (Duggan *et al*, 2011, Cleaver *et al*, 2014, Kirkpatrick *et al*, 2018; Ware
72 *et al*, 2019). This combination (hereafter, “Pam2-ODN”) is comprised of a Toll-like receptor (TLR) 2/6
73 agonist, Pam2CSK4 (“Pam2”), and a TLR 9 agonist, ODN M362 (“ODN”), that stimulate protective
74 responses from lung epithelial cells (Cleaver *et al*, 2014). This biological response, termed inducible

75 epithelial resistance, promotes survival benefits and microbicidal effects that significantly exceed the
76 additive effects of the individual ligands (Duggan *et al*, 2011; Tuvim *et al*, 2012). Thus, understanding
77 the molecular mechanisms underlying this unanticipated synergy may allow optimized manipulation of
78 epithelial antimicrobial responses and support new generations of host-based therapeutics against
79 infections.

80

81 In the absence of a systems theory to interrogate synergistic mechanisms (Wei *et al*, 2018), we
82 introduce Omics-Based Interaction Framework (OBIF) to identify molecular drivers of synergy through
83 integration of statistical and biological interactions in supra-additive biological responses. Unlike
84 exploratory synergy models (Chen *et al*, 2015), OBIF is a phenotype-driven model (Hasin *et al*, 2017)
85 that performs full factorial analysis (Li *et al*, 2009; Antony, 2014; Das *et al*, 2018) of feature expression
86 data from single vs. dual factor exposures to identify molecular clusters that reveal synergy-mediating
87 pathways, functions and regulators. To demonstrate the utility of OBIF, we applied this strategy to multi-
88 Omics experimental data from epithelial cells exposed to Pam2-ODN to identify biologically relevant,
89 unanticipated cooperative signaling events that we subsequently confirmed to be required for the
90 synergistic pneumonia protection. Then, to demonstrate generalizability, OBIF was applied to datasets
91 from diverse types of Omics platforms and experimental models, successfully identifying molecular
92 clusters driving their synergistic responses.

93

94 **Results**

95 **Synergistic Pam2-ODN-induced epithelial resistance against pneumonia**

96 Our laboratory's interest in synergistic interactions arises from our experience investigating single vs.
97 dual immunostimulatory treatments to prevent pneumonia (Duggan *et al*, 2011; Tuvim *et al*, 2012;
98 Cleaver *et al*, 2014; Kirkpatrick *et al*, 2018; Ware *et al*, 2019). As a demonstrative example, data are
99 presented here from influenza A virus (IAV) challenges of different models following pretreatment with
100 Pam2 alone, ODN alone or the Pam2-ODN combination. When mice are challenged with IAV 24 h after

101 the indicated inhaled treatments, we observed little increase in survival after the individual treatments
102 compared to sham-treated control mice, whereas mice treated with the Pam2-ODN combination
103 demonstrated profound antiviral protection (Figure 1A). Similarly, when isolated mouse lung epithelial
104 (MLE-15) cells were challenged with IAV 4 h after pretreatment with the individual ligands, we observed
105 no significant reductions in the viral burden relative to PBS treated cells. However, cells pretreated with
106 Pam2-ODN showed a substantial reduction in viral nucleoprotein (NP) gene expression as assessed by
107 qPCR relative to host 18s gene (Figure 1B). Comparing the effect of dual ligand treatment (E_{AB}) to the
108 expected response additivity of the individual ligand treatments ($E_A + E_B$) (Foucquier *et al*, 2015)
109 reveals supra-additive effects on both *in vivo* survival benefits and *in vitro* viral clearance (Figure 1C).
110 To better understand the molecular mechanisms driving such unanticipated synergy, we developed
111 OBIF as a phenotype-driven model (Hasin *et al*, 2017) to understand favorable drug-drug interactions
112 mediating synergistic responses and outcomes.

113

114 **Development of a systems synergy model from experimental Omics data**

115 To formally test whether the effect of dual factors (F_{AB} : Pam2-ODN) is greater than the expected linear
116 sum of its individual factors (F_A : Pam2; F_B : ODN), an initial 2-level 2-factor (2^2) factorial design is
117 required (Slinker, 1998; Foucquier *et al*, 2015) (Figure 1D). Our strategy adapts the traditional analysis
118 of variance (ANOVA) approach into a model that links the empirical analysis of synergy (Slinker, 1998;
119 Foucquier *et al*, 2015) with the high-throughput capacity and high-dimensionality of Omics datasets
120 (Coral *et al*, 2017; Bardini *et al*, 2017). As summarized in Figure 1E, OBIF integrates statistical and
121 biological interactions in Omics data matrices from single vs. dual factor exposures, leveraging Omics
122 screening to promote discovery of the molecular drivers of synergy, and facilitating the biological
123 validation of synergy regulators. The analytical pipeline is freely available as an R package at GitHub
124 (www.github.com/evanslaboratory/OBIF). Naturally, the experimental validation components must be
125 tailored to the individual tools and characteristics of the biological responses being studied.

126

127 **Differentially expressed molecules reveal synergy-specific pathways**

128 To investigate the mechanisms underlying Pam2-ODN synergy, we used OBIF to re-analyze previously
129 published (Data Ref: Tuvim *et al*, 2014) lung homogenate transcriptomic data from mice inhalationally
130 treated with single vs. dual ligands (GSE28994). After model fitting for feature expression (Figure
131 EV1), this analysis identifies 3456 features as differentially expressed molecules (DEMs) 2 h after
132 treatment with Pam2, 2941 DEMs after ODN treatment, and 3138 DEMs after treatment with Pam2-
133 ODN (Figure 2A). Despite the fact that 52% (1617/3138) of DEMs were shared by Pam2-ODN and the
134 individual ligands, enrichment analysis using IPA software revealed an overrepresentation of 12
135 canonical cellular immune response and cytokine signaling pathways that were activated by Pam2-
136 ODN but not by either or both single ligands (Figure 2B). Of these, NF- κ B signaling was the most
137 enriched signaling pathway by Pam2-ODN treatment. Although unsupervised hierarchical clustering
138 consistently segregated the treatment groups (Figure 2C), this approach alone did not reveal distinctive
139 gene clusters to explain the synergistic response, likely due to the 52% redundancy of DEMs between
140 groups.

141

142 **Expression profiles summarize biological interactions and disentangle effectors of synergistic
143 functions**

144 Rather than relying on potentially redundant DEM clusters, OBIF classifies dual factor-induced DEMs
145 into eight expression profiles (EPs) that characterize cooperative and competitive biological interactions
146 of individual factors (Table 1). EPs are defined by expression directionality (up- or down-regulation) of
147 individual features and are not biased by the DEM expression analysis. Cooperative EPs have
148 accordant expression directionality induced by F_A and F_B , while competitive EPs have opposite
149 directionalities induced by F_A and F_B . Among the cooperative EPs, concordant profiles result when F_{AB}
150 directionality corresponds with the single factor effects (EPs I and II), and discordant profiles occur
151 when F_{AB} directionality opposes the single factors (III and IV). Alternatively, among the competitive EPs,
152 factor-dominant profiles are defined by F_{AB} directionality correspondence with one factor (F_A dominant,

153 V and VI; F_B dominant, VII and VIII). Principal component analysis (Figure 2D) demonstrates that
154 concordant EPs (I and II) were the most abundant in our dataset, followed by Pam2-dominant profiles
155 (V and VI). This abundance of EPs I and II better emphasizes the cooperative effects of both factors
156 than does conventional DEM clustering alone. In particular, the contribution of ODN to the synergistic
157 combination might otherwise be overlooked by DEM analysis, as it induces enrichment of far fewer
158 signaling pathways (Figure 2B) and has a greater clustering distance from Pam2-ODN samples (Figure
159 2C).

160

161 Notably, enrichment analysis reveals that molecular effectors clustered by EPs correspond with Pam2-
162 ODN-induced functions (Figure 2E), suggesting a biological basis for the synergy. Specifically, we
163 found that features in profiles I and V contributed to host survival functions, immune activity and
164 microbicidal activity. Considered from an organizational perspective, induction of resistance to infection
165 at the organismal level correlated with features in profile I, at the cellular level with profile II, and by
166 leukocytes with profile V.

167

168 **Factorial effects analysis integrates biological and statistical interactions in EPs**

169 Analysis of factorial effects in a data matrix from single vs. dual factor exposures can statistically
170 differentiate whether stochastic feature expression in a combination is correlated with the effect of an
171 individual factor (simple main effect, SME) or their influence on each other (interaction effect) (Li *et al*,
172 2013; Mihret *et al*, 2014; Zhang *et al*, 2017). Based on this principle, OBIF performs full factorial
173 analysis through paired comparisons of calculated β coefficients in each condition to determine
174 statistical relationships (Hassall *et al*, 2018) and discover significant main effects during expression
175 analysis and multi-factor effects (SMEs and interaction effect) from contrast (Mee, 2009) analysis
176 (Figure 3A). Using this approach, main effects determined significant DEMs per condition, while multi-
177 factor effects explained whether Pam2-ODN DEMs and EPs resulted from SMEs and/or an interaction
178 of individual ligands (Figure 3B). This analysis showed that most features in concordant profiles (I and

179 II) are influenced by at least one multi-factor effect, while all features in discordant profiles (III and IV)
180 are influenced by all multi-factor effects simultaneously. Not surprisingly, Pam2-dominant (V and VI)
181 and ODN-dominant (VII and VIII) expression mainly results from their respective SMEs. This analysis
182 also revealed that 67% (2116/3138) of Pam2-ODN DEMs are driven by the interaction effect of Pam2
183 and ODN as interacting DEMs (iDEMs) (Figure 3C). Thus, OBIF reconciled the biological interactions
184 from EPs with the statistical interactions from multi-factor effects of Pam2-ODN.

185

186 **SMEs accurately reproduce the regulatory network of combined exposures**

187 Downstream analyses of SMEs have the capacity to discern the contributing roles of individual factors
188 to a combination treatment (Hassall *et al*, 2018). Hence, Pam2-ODN DEMs with significant SMEs were
189 used for network analysis of upstream regulators that are activated (orange) or inhibited (blue) and up-
190 regulated (red) or down-regulated (green) (Figure 3D). Similar to our previous findings with DEMs
191 (Figure 2B), transcription factors from many pathways were involved, though NF- κ B family members
192 remained central elements of this network. Demonstrating the cross-Omics function of OBIF, a parallel
193 analysis of reverse-phase protein array (RPPA) data from single- or dual-treated human lung epithelial
194 cells identified the top phospho-signaling DEMs (Figure EV2), and cross-validated STAT3, RelA and
195 cJun as transcriptional units involved in the Pam2-ODN signaling network (Figure 3E).

196

197 **iDEMs identify non-additive features and synergy regulators**

198 Non-additivity results from strong interaction effects between two factors in a combination and gives
199 rise to synergistic or antagonistic responses (Slinker *et al*, 1998; Geary *et al*, 2013). iDEMs integrate
200 this principle during feature selection based on significant interaction effects between factors, allowing
201 quantification of synergistic and antagonistic expression in a narrower set of differentially expressed
202 features. OBIF builds on previous definitions of the combination index (CI) (Foucquier *et al*, 2015;
203 Goldstein *et al*, 2017) to fit the values of feature expression:

204
$$CI = | (\text{Log}_2\text{FC } F_{AB}) / (\text{Log}_2\text{FC } F_A + \text{Log}_2\text{FC } F_B) |$$

205 where CI is the absolute ratio of the log₂ fold change of Pam-ODN-induced DEMs (F_{AB}) and the
206 additivity threshold of Pam2 (F_A) and ODN (F_B), allowing identification of both antagonistic (CI < 1) or
207 synergistic (CI > 1) features (Figure 3F). A log₂ transformation of the CI then yields an interaction score
208 (IS) that quantifies the effect size of non-additive expression relative to the additivity threshold, and can
209 be applied to both antagonistic (IS < 0) and synergistic (IS > 0) iDEM_s (Figure 3G). This allows more
210 focused enrichment analysis, in this case supporting NF- κ B/RelA and AP-1/cJun as key transcriptional
211 upstream regulators of Pam2-ODN's interaction effect and synergistic expression (Figure 3H).

212

213 **Experimental validation of molecular regulators of Pam2-ODN synergy**

214 Prompted by the foregoing results, we tested whether RelA and cJun were biologically relevant synergy
215 regulators of Pam2-ODN-induced epithelial resistance. The DNA-binding activity of NF- κ B and AP-1
216 subunits in isolated human bronchial epithelial cells (HBEC-3kt) after stimulation with Pam2-ODN
217 confirmed that RelA and cJun activation was strongly increased after 15 minutes of treatment without
218 significant contribution of other family members (Figure 4A, Figure EV3A). Indeed, RelA and cJun
219 exhibited surprisingly similar activation kinetics after Pam2-ODN treatment, further supporting
220 cooperation or coordination (Figure 4B). Investigating this co-activation of non-redundant transcriptional
221 families, single-cell nuclear translocation of canonical p50/RelA and cFos/cJun dimers in HBEC-3kt was
222 assessed by imaging flow cytometry. We found that all transcriptional subunits exhibited an increased
223 nuclear translocation (similarity score > 2) after 15 minutes of Pam2-ODN treatment relative to the
224 PBS-treated cells (Figure 4C). However, neither Pam2 nor ODN alone induced the same magnitude of
225 nuclear translocation, whether assessed by similarity scores (R_d value) or by the percentage of
226 translocated cells (Figure 4D) relative to PBS treated cells.

227

228 **Discovery of novel NF- κ B and AP-1 cooperation required for antiviral protection**

229 To differentiate transcriptional cooperation from coincidental transcription factor activation after Pam2-
230 ODN treatment, we assessed the Pam2-ODN-induced nuclear co-translocation of NF- κ B and AP-1

231 complexes in the presence or absence of NF- κ B inhibitor IMD-0354 (IMD). As expected, pre-treatment
232 with IMD alone reduced the Rd Value and percentage of translocated cells for RelA and p50 without
233 significantly modifying the percentage of translocation for cJun and cFos. However, NF- κ B inhibition
234 with IMD also unexpectedly reduced the Pam2-ODN-induced similarity score shifts and nuclear
235 translocation of AP-1 subunits, particularly of cFos (Figure 4E). This indicates that NF- κ B inhibition
236 impaired Pam2-ODN-induced AP-1 nuclear translocation, confirming the cooperative regulation of
237 these two non-overlapping signaling pathways. Representative images shown in Figure 4F
238 demonstrate that inhibition with IMD reduced Pam2-ODN-induced heterodimerization and nuclear
239 translocation of NF- κ B and AP-1 complexes. Further, we confirmed that disruption of this transcriptional
240 cooperation was sufficient to impair the inducible viral burden reduction seen with Pam2-ODN (Figure
241 4G).

242

243 **Application of OBIF across multiple platforms and conditions**

244 To demonstrate its generalizability, we used OBIF to analyze synergistic regulators in datasets derived
245 from microarray, RNA-seq, RPPA and mass spectrometry-based metabolomics investigations of
246 diverse factor classes and biological systems that demonstrate synergistic biological outcomes (Data
247 Ref: Tuvim *et al*, 2014; Data Ref: Caetano *et al*, 2018; Data Ref: Singh *et al*, 2019; Data Ref: Han *et al*,
248 2019). As a preliminary step before full factorial analysis of individual features, OBIF performs an
249 interaction analysis between the two factors of interest using a two-way ANOVA model to represent the
250 impact of factorial effects at the whole “-ome” level. This statistical summary shows the effects of
251 individual factors and interactions through interaction plots and statistical significance calculations
252 (Figure 5A). This provides adjusted R^2 and F-statistic p-values of the two-way ANOVA that allow
253 evaluation of improved model fitness (Figure EV4 A) and detection of interaction terms (Figure EV4 B)
254 within a dataset. After confirming adequate model fitness (i.e. adjusted $R^2 > 0.5$, F-test < 0.05), full
255 factorial analysis on scaled data from targeted or non-targeted platforms identifies DEMs (Figure 5B)
256 from individual features with an increased discriminatory power for interaction effects (Figure EV4C).

257 EPs then represent the biological interactions of dual factor DEMs regardless of their factor classes
258 (Figure 5C). Contrast analysis is then applied to more adequately retrieve and classify iDEMs (Figure
259 EV4D) and interaction scores are calculated in a uniform scale whether the original data contained
260 continuous or count-based expression values (Figure 5D). Finally, OBIF visually summarizes the
261 results of full factorial analysis in a Circos plot to easily identify molecular drivers of synergy from the
262 co-expressed features, DEMs, \log_2FC , EPs, multi-factor effects and iDEMs with their interaction score
263 (Figure 5E).

264

265 **Discussion**

266 Synergistic and antagonistic interactions are common in nature and frequently promote efficacy of
267 therapeutic interventions (Chen *et al*, 2015; Ronzitti *et al*, 2018; Wei *et al*, 2018; Zappasodi *et al*, 2018;
268 Han *et al*, 2019). While synergy quantification methods from dose-response data, combinatorial
269 screening of molecule libraries, and other predictive exploration models may suggest potentially
270 synergistic conditions or treatments, they do not provide substantive insights into the molecular
271 mechanisms underlying synergy (Chen *et al*, 2015). Thus, synergy-mediating pathways cannot be
272 strategically targeted in rational drug development.

273

274 Our interest in synergy arose from our observations of the strikingly synergistic interactions of one such
275 empirically derived combination, Pam2-ODN. While we could easily quantify the superiority of
276 protection conferred by the dual treatment, in the absence of a systems theory to interrogate synergistic
277 mechanisms (Chen *et al*, 2015; Wei *et al*, 2018), we were limited in our capacity to use available Omics
278 datasets to deduce the mechanisms mediating the synergy. This is important because, although this
279 lack of mechanistic understanding does not limit the utility of the current combination, it precludes
280 development of next generation interventions that more precisely (perhaps, more efficaciously) target
281 the synergy-driving pathways with fewer off-target (potentially toxic) effects. In contrast to models that
282 predict possible synergy, OBIF was developed with the explicit intent to investigate established

283 synergistic events. As such, it is inherently a phenotype-driven model that performs full factorial
284 analysis on feature expression data from single vs. dual factor exposures to identify molecular clusters
285 that reveal synergy-mediating pathways, functions and regulators.

286

287 Using Pam2-ODN datasets as demonstrative examples, OBIF identified unanticipated transcriptional
288 cooperation between non-redundant transcription factors, RelA and cJun, as a molecular mechanism of
289 inducible synergistic protection against IAV. Thus, by facilitating understanding of combined factor
290 exposures in terms of the individual components, a computational discovery facilitated experimental
291 validation of a discrete, novel mediator of a non-additive biological response. Perhaps as importantly,
292 the computational analyses were accomplished by integration of data from different Omics platforms,
293 different specimen types, and even different host species.

294

295 Unlike most 2^2 designs, OBIF dissects factorial effects of dual factor exposures through full factorial
296 analysis of feature expression data in a single unsupervised step. This allows simultaneous
297 identification of DEMs directly from main effects of single or dual factors, overcoming pairwise
298 comparisons to control and repetitive analysis of each condition. While this simultaneous identification
299 of DEMs can be performed also with a mixed-effect model, we showed how this approach is suboptimal
300 to detect interaction effects at the level of individual features and iDEM selection when compared with
301 full factorial analysis. Additionally, clustering by DEMs, EPs and iDEMs improves the specificity of
302 enrichment analysis to disentangle the signaling pathways, functions and regulators of this synergistic
303 combination and to capture their specific driving features. Further, quantification of multi-factor effects
304 (SMEs and interaction effects) reveals whether particular features, molecular clusters or functions
305 enriched by synergistic combinations are the result of individual factors or their crosstalk.

306

307 These statistical relationships have biological analogues that are integrated by OBIF in the EP
308 definitions. In fact, profiles I and II rescued the underrepresentation of ODN observed in distance-based

309 clustering and enrichment analysis. Further, iDEMs derived from features with significant interaction
310 effects allow focusing discovery on synergy regulators and the calculation of interaction scores allows
311 quantification of their non-additive expression. Thus, unlike most systems models of synergy, OBIF
312 facilitates integrative analyses of biological and statistical interactions that are easily discoverable and
313 interpretable through molecular clusters representing the complex dynamics of synergistic
314 combinations.

315

316 OBIF is available as an open-source R package with a semi-automated pipeline to facilitate its broad
317 application to unscaled original data from various Omics platforms, factor classes and biological
318 systems. We have shown that OBIF can be fitted to perform full factorial analysis and that it adequately
319 identifies DEMs, EPs, iDEMs and their attendant values and scores to promote discovery of molecular
320 drivers of synergy in multiple, diverse datasets.

321

322 In summary, OBIF provides a phenotype-driven systems biology model that allows multiplatform
323 dissection of molecular drivers of synergy. And, we encourage the application of OBIF to provide
324 holistic understanding in research fields where greater-than-additive beneficial combinations remain
325 understudied.

326

327 **Materials and Methods**

328 **Reagents and Tools Table**

Reagent/Resource	Reference or Source	Identifier or Catalog Number
Experimental Models		
C57BL/6J (M. musculus)	Jackson Lab	B6.129P2Gpr37tm1Dgen/J
Immortalized human bronchial epithelial (HBEC-3kt) cells	Dr. John Minna	Authenticated by the MD Anderson Characterized Cell Line Core Facility
Murine lung epithelial (MLE-15) cells	Dr. Jeffrey Whitsett	Authenticated by the MD Anderson Characterized Cell Line Core Facility
Antibodies		

NFkB p50 (E-10) Alexa Fluor® 647	Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.	Cat # sc-8414 AF647
NFkB p65 (F-6) Alexa Fluor® 488	Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.	Cat # sc-8008 AF488
c-Jun (G-4) Alexa Fluor® 594	Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.	Cat # sc-74543 AF594
c-Fos Antibody (D-1) Alexa Fluor® 546	Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc.	Cat # sc-8047 AF546
Oligonucleotides and sequence-based reagents		
Mouse 18s - Forward Primer	Sigma-Aldrich	5'-CTCATCCTTATGACAAAGAAG-3'
Mouse 18s - Reverse Primer	Sigma-Aldrich	5'-AGATCATCATGTGAGTCAGAC-3'
Influenza NP - Forward Primer	Sigma-Aldrich	5'-GTAACCCGTTGAACCCCATT-3'
Influenza NP - Reverse Primer	Sigma-Aldrich	5'-CCATCCAATCGGTAGTAGCG-3'
Chemicals, enzymes and other reagents		
eBioscience™ Foxp3 / Transcription Factor Staining Buffer Set	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat # 00-5523-00
LIVE/DEAD™ Fixable Near-IR Dead Cell Stain Kit	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat # L34975
Power SYBR Green PCR Master Mix	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat # 4368702
UltraComp eBeads™ Compensation Beads	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat # 01-2222-42
RNAlater	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat # R0901-500ML
Accutase solution	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat # A6964-500ML
IMD-0354	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat # I3159-5MG
iScript™ cDNA Synthesis Kit	Bio-Rad	Cat # 1708891BUN
Software		
Rstudio	RStudio, Inc.	Version 1.2.5033
R	www.R-project.org	Version 3.6.3
Prism 8	GraphPad Software, LLC.	Version 8.4.2
Amnis® IDEAS®	Luminex Corporation	Version 6.1
INSPIRE ImageStreamX	Luminex Corporation	System Version
KCJunior	Bio-Tek Instruments, Inc.	System Version
CFX Maestro™ Software	Bio-Rad	Cat # #12004110
Other		
TransAM NFkB Family	Active Motif	Cat # 43296
TransAM AP-1 Family	Active Motif	Cat # 44296

TransAM STAT Family	Active Motif	Cat # 42296
RNeasy Mini Kit	Qiagen	Cat # 74106
QIAshredder	Qiagen	Cat # 79656
CFX Connect Real-Time PCR Detection System	Bio-Rad	Cat # 1855201
uQuant Universal Microplate Spectrophotometer	Bio-Tek Instruments, Inc.	Cat # MQX200
TProfessional TRIO combi PCR Thermocycler	Biometra	Cat # 070-724
NanoDrop™ One Microvolume UV-Vis Spectrophotometer	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Cat # ND-ONE-W
Amnis® ImageStream®XMk II	Luminex Corporation	Serial # ISX325

329

330 **Methods and Protocols**

331 **Experimental Models**

332 *Animals*

333 All mouse experiments were performed with 6-10 week old C57BL/6J mice of a single sex in
334 accordance with the Institutional Animal Care and Use of Committee of The University of Texas MD
335 Anderson Cancer Center, protocol 00000907-RN01.

336

337 *Cell culture*

338 Immortalized human bronchial epithelial (HBEC-3kt) cells were kindly provided by Dr. John Minna.
339 HBEC-3kt cells were cultured in keratinocyte serum-free media (KSFM) supplemented with human
340 epidermal growth factor and bovine pituitary extract. Murine lung epithelial (MLE-15) cells were kindly
341 provided by Dr. Jeffrey Whitsett. The cell lines used were authenticated by the MD Anderson
342 Characterized Cell Line Core Facility. MLE-15 cells were cultured in RPMI supplemented with 10% fetal
343 bovine serum. Cultures were maintained in the presence of penicillin and streptomycin.

344

345 **Exposure to TLR ligands**

346 S-[2,3-bis(palmitoyloxy)-propyl]-(R)-cysteinyl-(lysyl) 3-lysine (Pam2 CSK4) and ODN M362 were
347 reconstituted in endotoxin-free water, then diluted to the desired concentration in sterile PBS. For in
348 vivo experiments, as previously described (Kirkpatrick et al, 2018; Ware et al, 2019), the indicated
349 ligands were placed in an Aerotech II nebulizer driven by 10L/min air supplemented with 5% CO₂ for 20
350 min. The nebulizer was connected by polyethylene tubing to a polyethylene exposure chamber. 24 h
351 prior to infections, 10 ml of Pam2 (4 μ M) and/or ODN (1 μ M) was delivered via nebulization to
352 unrestrained mice for 20 minutes, and then mice were returned to normal housing. For in vitro
353 experiments, Pam2-ODN was added to the culture media 4 h prior to inoculation with virus.

354

355 **Reverse-Phase Protein Array**

356 To simultaneously evaluate the expression of 161 regulatory proteins and phospho-proteins in HBEC-
357 3kt cells after exposure to either PBS, Pam2, ODN or Pam2-ODN, a targeted high-throughput
358 screening proteomic assay was performed by the Reverse Phase Protein Array Core Facility at The
359 University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center (Tibes et al, 2006; Hennessy et al, 2010). The RPPA
360 included 4 biological replicates per treatment condition, and data is available at GitHub
361 (www.github.com/evanslaboratory/OBIF).

362

363 **Infection Models**

364 For in vivo infections, frozen stock (2.8×10^7 50% tissue culture infective doses [TCID₅₀] ml⁻¹) of
365 influenza A H3N2, virus was diluted 1:250 in 0.05% gelatin in Eagle's minimal essential medium and
366 delivered by aerosolization for 20 min to achieve a 90% lethal dose (LD₉₀) to LD₁₀₀ (~100 TCID₅₀ per
367 mouse). Mouse health was followed for 21 d post infection. n = 15 mice per condition. Animals were
368 weighed daily and sacrificed if they met euthanasia criteria, including signs of distress or loss of 20%
369 pre-infection body weight. For in vitro infections, IAV (multiplicity of infection [MOI] of 1.0) was added to
370 cells in submerged monolayer and viral burden was assessed 24 hours post infection.

371

372 **Pathogen burden quantification**

373 To measure transcript levels of IAV nucleoprotein (NP) gene, samples were harvested in RNAlater and
374 RNA was extracted using the RNeasy extraction kit. 500 ng total RNA was reverse transcribed to cDNA
375 by using an iScript cDNA synthesis kit and submitted to quantitative reverse transcription-PCR (RT-
376 PCR) analysis with SYBR green PCR master mix on an Bio-Rad CFX Connect Real-Time PCR
377 Detection System. Host 18S rRNA was similarly probed to determine relative expression of viral
378 transcripts.

379

380 **Omics Dataset Formatting**

381 OBIF's input in R requires an analysis-ready data matrix m with expression values and of dimensions f
382 $\times n$, where f is the number of features as rows and n is the number of samples S as columns. The
383 appropriate sample order in dimensions n of m is:

$$n = S_{(0,0)}^1 + \dots + S_{(0,0)}^i + S_{(1,0)}^1 + \dots + S_{(1,0)}^i + S_{(0,1)}^1 + \dots + S_{(0,1)}^i + S_{(1,1)}^1 + \dots + S_{(1,1)}^i$$

384 The subscripts denote the condition of the samples: exposed to neither factor (0,0), exposed to factor A
385 alone (1,0), exposed to factor B alone (0,1) or exposed to both factors A and B (1,1). The superscripts
386 represent the sample replicates from 1 to i within each of the four conditions.

388

389 To improve detection of interaction effects, OBIF allows sequential transformation of an unscaled
390 original data matrix with background correction, log2-transformation, quantile normalization or a
391 combination of these if needed. Background correction reduces noise to signal ratio at the lower limits
392 of detection and methods vary per platform with code extensions are available at GitHub for microarray
393 data using the lumi package, and for count-based sequencing data using rpm, rpkm, fpkm and tpm
394 thresholds. Log2-transformation of continuous and count-base data is incorporated to provide a
395 Gaussian-like data distribution, and quantile normalization is used to minimize the variance between
396 samples during data scaling (Lo *et al*, 2015; Abrams *et al*, 2019) with OBIF to meet the statistical

397 assumptions needed for two-way ANOVA analysis of interaction terms in a dataset (Slinker, 1998;
398 Foucquier *et al*, 2015).

399

400 **Interaction analysis**

401 To evaluate significant interaction terms between factors at the whole “-ome” level, OBIF performs a
402 multiple linear regression across the expression values in a dataset:

403
$$E_0 \sim 0 + F_A + F_B + F_A \cdot F_B$$

404 where the interaction analysis of the Omics expression levels (E_0) is equivalent to a two-way ANOVA
405 analysis where the intercept is referenced to the control samples (0) and returns a statistical summary
406 of terms for the individual factor A (F_A), factor B (F_B) and their interaction ($F_A \cdot F_B$). Goodness of fit is
407 calculated from the adjusted R^2 values, and overall significance is determined by the p-values of F-
408 statistics of the regression. Unscaled original data and scaled data with OBIF are compared to evaluate
409 improvement in detection of significant interaction terms in a given dataset.

410

411 **Full Factorial Analysis**

412 *Expression Analysis*

413 To perform differential expression analysis for detection of DEMs, OBIF fits a fixed-effects model to the
414 expression data of each feature:

415
$$E_f = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot F_A + \beta_2 \cdot F_B + \beta_3 \cdot F_{AB}$$

416 where the expression level of features (E_f) is a function of the estimated β coefficients for the main
417 effects of individual factor A (F_A) and factor B (F_B) and their combination (F_{AB}). After regression,
418 empirical Bayesian shrinkage of the standard errors is used to stabilize inferences of t-statistics, F-
419 statistics, and log-odds used for differential expression analysis. Q-values are then calculated using the
420 Benjamini and Hochberg method to reduce the false discovery rate (FDR). Alternatively, code
421 extensions for are available at GitHub to perform Bonferroni corrections or calculate Tukey Honest
422 Significant Differences adjustment for multiple testing instead of FDR.

423

424 *Contrast analysis*

425 To analyze the remaining factorial effects in the fitted linear model of feature expression, the
426 coefficients and standard errors will be estimated typical of a two-way ANOVA from a set of contrasts
427 that define the SMEs of each factor and their interaction effect:

428
$$SME \text{ of } F_A = \beta_3 \cdot F_{AB} - \beta_2 \cdot F_B$$

429
$$SME \text{ of } F_B = \beta_3 \cdot F_{AB} - \beta_1 \cdot F_A$$

430
$$Interaction \text{ effect of } F_A \cdot F_B (\beta_4) = \beta_3 \cdot F_{AB} - \beta_2 \cdot F_B - \beta_1 \cdot F_A$$

431 The standard errors calculated use a significance threshold (p-value < 0.05) to determine if DEMs with
432 F_{AB} (Pam2-ODN) are susceptible to SME or interaction effects. Selection of iDEM s is based on DEMs
433 of F_{AB} with a significant interaction effect.

434

435 **Mixed-effects model**

436 To evaluate performance of full factorial analysis with OBIF, detection of interaction effects at the level
437 of individual features is compared to a mixed-effect model (Caetano *et al*, 2018):

438
$$E_{f-Mix} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot F_A + \beta_2 \cdot F_B + \beta_4 \cdot F_A \cdot F_B + (1|S)$$

439 where the expression level of features in a mixed-effect model (E_{f-Mix}) is a function of the estimated β
440 coefficients for the fixed effects of individual factor A (F_A) and factor B (F_B) and their interaction ($F_A \cdot F_B$)
441 with a random effect ($1|S$) for all sample conditions ($S_{(0,0)}$, $S_{(1,0)}$, $S_{(0,1)}$, $S_{(1,1)}$). After regression, empirical
442 Bayesian shrinkage of the standard errors is used to stabilize inferences of t-statistics and F-statistics.
443 The standard errors calculated from the interaction term use a significance threshold (p-value < 0.05) to
444 determine significant interaction effects.

445

446 **Beta-uniform mixture model**

447 Interaction p-values are extracted from the interaction term of mixed-effects model and from the
448 interaction effect contrast of full factorial analysis. Independently, a beta-uniform mixture model is fitted

449 to these sets of p-values (Pounds *et al*, 2003; Ji *et al*, 2005) to compare their discrimination ability using
450 their receiver operating characteristic area under the curve (ROC AUC). Using the beta-uniform mixture
451 models, we calculated the number of true positives (TP), false positive (FP) and false negatives (FN)
452 detections (Pounds *et al*, 2003; Zhang *et al*, 2012) at the threshold level of iDEM selection (interaction
453 p-value = 0.05) to estimate their precision and recall proportion:

454
$$Precision = TP / (TP + FP)$$

455
$$Recall = TP / (TP + FN)$$

456

457 **Unsupervised clustering of features with OBIF**

458 *Hierarchical clustering and heatmaps of DEMs*

459 All DEMs were represented in heatmaps after hierarchically clustering using Ward's minimum variance
460 method with Euclidean distances of \log_2FC values to compute dissimilarity by rows (features) and by
461 columns (samples). Column dendograms were plotted to represent the distance between samples,
462 vertical side bar colors summarize DEMs according to their and horizontal side bars colors represent
463 sample types by factors. Color scale keys indicate the levels of feature expression with upregulation in
464 red and downregulation in green.

465

466 *Principal component analysis of expression profiles*

467 DEMs with F_{AB} (Pam2-ODN) were clustered by principal component analysis based on the mean linear
468 fold change difference to reveal the expression patterns biologically present across all factors FA, FB
469 and FAB. Principal components 1 and 2 were used for plotting DEMs with FAB and the variability
470 between features is marked in each axis. EPs were identified in the clusters for each individual feature
471 according to Table 1.

472

473 **Enrichment analysis**

474 To provide biological interpretation of the full factorial analysis and classification of features, enrichment
475 analysis was integrated in the pipeline to determine candidate effectors and regulators of synergy,
476 biological pathways and functional processes. Sets for DEMs, EPs, DEMs with SMEs and iDEMs are
477 uploaded independently, and enrichment analysis is performed with IPA software (QIAGEN, Hilden,
478 Germany) for core analysis using the expression levels of features. Both gene and chemical Ingenuity
479 Knowledge Base modules are used as enrichment reference, considering only experimentally observed
480 confidence levels for identification of direct and indirect relationships. The thresholds of significance for
481 canonical pathways, upstream analysis, diseases & functions, regulator effects and network analysis
482 are ≥ 2 for activation z-score and $< 5\%$ false discovery rates for all predictions.

483

484 **DNA-binding ELISA**

485 HBEC-3kt were grown to 80-100% confluence in 24-well plates and treated with PBS, Pam2, ODN, or
486 Pam2-ODN for the indicated durations. Measurements of DNA-binding of members of NF- κ B and AP-1
487 transcription factor members from whole cell lysates were made using their respective TransAM Kit
488 according to product directions. For signal detection, samples were read immediately for absorbance at
489 450 nm with reference wavelength at 655 nm on a microplate reader. Experiments were repeated in
490 triplicate and statistical analysis was performed with unpaired student's t test using GraphPad Prism 8.0
491 with a significance threshold of p-value < 0.05 .

492

493 **Detection of Nuclear Translocation**

494 *Transcription factor staining and image acquisition*

495 HBEC-3kt were grown to 80-100% confluence in 100mm dishes and treated for 30 min with PBS,
496 Pam2, ODN or Pam2-ODN with or without pretreatment with NF- κ B inhibitor IMD-0354 at 25 ng/ μ L for
497 16 h. Cells were detached from the plate with a 5 min incubation at 37 °C degrees with 3 ml of
498 Accutase to prevent additional activation of transcriptional activity. Cells were pelleted in individual 15
499 ml tubes at 500 g for 5 min and suspended in 500 μ L of eBioscience FOXP3 fixation/permeabilization

500 buffer for 15 min at room temperature. Cells were stained with a LIVE/DEAD Fixable Near IR Dead Cell
501 Dye and with a 1:1000 dilution of NF- κ B p50 (E-10) Alexa Fluor 647, NF- κ B p65 (F-6) Alexa Fluor 488,
502 c-Jun (G-4) Alexa Fluor 594 and c-Fos (D-1) Alexa Fluor 546 conjugated antibodies for 1 h on ice and
503 protected from light. After incubation, cells were pelleted and washed with 200 μ L of sterile PBS 4
504 times, then resuspended in 100 μ L sterile PBS. After the last wash, cells were pelleted and
505 resuspended in 50 μ L of sterile PBS and nuclear DAPI staining at 0.5 μ g/mL was performed just prior to
506 data acquisition on ImageStreamX MII.

507

508 *Data acquisition with ImageStreamX MKII*

509 HBEC-3kt images were acquired using INSPIRE software on the ImagestreamX Mark II imaging flow
510 cytometer (Amnis Corporation) at 40 \times magnification, with lasers 405 nm (85.00 mW), 488 nm
511 (200.00 mW), and side scatter (782 nm) (1.14 mW). 10,000 images per sample acquired include a
512 brightfield image (Channel 1 and 9), p65 Alexa Fluor 488 (Channel 2), c-Fos Alexa Fluor 546 (Channel
513 3), c-Fos Alexa Fluor 594 (Channel 4), side scatter (Channel 6), DAPI (Channel 7), and p50 Alexa Fluor
514 647 (Channel 3). The laser outputs prevented saturation of pixels in the relevant detection channels as
515 monitored by the corresponding Raw Max Pixel features during acquisition. For image compensation,
516 single color controls were stained with all fluorochromes and 500 events were recorded with each laser
517 for individual controls. Fluorescent images were taken in all channels with brightfield LEDs and scatter
518 lasers turned off to accurately capture fluorescence. Individual single-color control file was then merged
519 to generate a compensation matrix and all sample files were processed with this matrix applied.

520

521 *Nuclear translocation analysis*

522 After compensation for spectral overlap based on single color controls, analysis was performed and
523 individual cell images were created using IDEAS® software version 6.1. Cell populations were
524 hierarchically gated first by single cells, then cells in focus, then negative selected for live cells, and
525 finally as double positive for both DAPI and the transcription factor subunit of interest (Figure EV3B).

526 The spatial relationship between the transcription factors and nuclear images was measured using the
527 'Similarity' feature in the IDEAS software to quantitate the mean similarity score in the cell populations
528 per sample. A similarity score >1 represents nuclear translocation, and the shift in distribution of
529 nuclear translocation between two samples was calculated using the Fisher's Discriminant ratio (Rd
530 value) (Maguire *et al*, 2015).

531

532 **Statistical Analysis**

533 Statistical analyses were performed using Prism 8 (GraphPad, San Diego, CA) and R. Kaplan-Meier
534 curves were used for survival analyses and logrank (Mantel-Cox test) was used for paired group
535 comparisons. Analysis of viral NP expression was performed using a two-way ANOVA with post hoc
536 Tukey analysis for paired comparisons that was adjusted for multiple testing. Analysis of DNA-binding
537 activity *in vitro* was performed using a student's t test for comparisons between 2 groups, or using one-
538 way ANOVA for comparison between multiple groups. Grouped data is shown as means +/- standard
539 error of the mean, with experiments with $n < 5$ showing individual sample values. To verify the
540 statistical assumptions for each test, Gaussian distribution was evaluated with Sapiro-Wilk test, and
541 equal variance between two samples was evaluated with F-tests, or for more than two samples with
542 Barlett's or Levene's test. Simultaneous multiple outlier detection was performed using the robust
543 regression and outlier removal (ROUT) method with a q value of 5% (maximum FDR). Treatment
544 allocation of animals was randomized in the experiments, though assessment could not be blinded. A
545 pre-specified minimum requirement of 3 biological replicates for *in vitro* studies and 10 for *in vivo*
546 studies.

547

548 **Data Availability**

549 The data and code in this study are available in the following databases:

550 • OBIF R Package: GitHub Evanslaboratory/OBIF (www.github.com/evanslaboratory/OBIF)
551 • OBIF R Code: GitHub Evanslaboratory/Extensions (www.github.com/evanslaboratory/Extensions)

552 • Microarray data: Gene Expression Omnibus GSE28994
553 (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE28994>)
554 • RNA-seq data: Gene Expression Omnibus GSE109000
555 (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE109000>)
556 • Reverse-phase protein array data: GitHub Evanslaboratory/Datasource
557 (www.github.com/evanslaboratory/Datasource)
558 • Reverse-phase protein array data: EMBO Molecular Medicine DOI:10.15252/emmm.201809960
559 (<https://www.embopress.org/doi/abs/10.15252/emmm.201809960>)
560 • Metabolomics data: Frontiers in Pharmacology DOI:10.3389/fphar.2019.00754
561 (<https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fphar.2019.00754/full>)
562

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576

577 **Author contributions**

578 Conforming to the ICMJE criteria, all authors gave approval of the final version to be published and
579 contributed to writing or revising the article critically for important intellectual content. Conforming to the
580 CRediT criteria: J.P.G. and S.E.E. were involved in conceptualization of the project, visualization and
581 writing of original draft, review & editing, and funding acquisition; J.P.G. was involved in data curation,
582 formal analysis and methodology by conceiving, implementing and validating the systems model;
583 J.P.G., V.V.K., T.C.R. and S.J.W. were involved in investigation by performing in vitro and in vivo
584 experiments; J.P.G., V.V.K., T.C.R., S.W., S.J.W., J.Z., J.W., Y.W. and S.E.E. were involved in
585 supervision by interpreting results; S.W., R.S., M.S.C., S.J.M., and F.M.J. were involved in providing
586 resources by generating datasets for analysis and validation of the model; J.P.G., J.Z. and J.W. were
587 involved in formal analysis, software and validation by performing bioinformatics analyses; Y.W. and
588 S.E.E. were involved in supervision, project administration and validation of the project.

589

590 **Conflict of interest**

591 S.E.E. is an author on U.S. patent 8,883,174 "Stimulation of Innate Resistance of the Lungs to Infection
592 with Synthetic Ligands" and owns stock in Pulmotect Inc., which holds the commercial options on these
593 patent disclosures. All other authors declare that no conflict of interest exists.

594

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695 **Figure legends**

696

697 **Figure 1. Omics-Based Interaction Framework: phenotype-driven synergy modeling and**
698 **framework overview.**

699 (A) Mouse survival of influenza A challenge following the indicated pretreatments. Dashed line indicates
700 additive effect of single ligand treatments over PBS. n = 15 mice/condition. (B) Virus burden of isolated
701 mouse lung epithelial cells after influenza A challenge following the indicated pretreatments. RQ,
702 relative quantification of viral nucleoprotein (NP) expression to host 18s. n = 6 samples/condition. (C)
703 Plot of response additivity from antiviral responses in panels A (left) and B (right). Synergistic effects
704 are reflected by E_{AB} greater than the expected linear sum ($E_A + E_B$, dashed line) of individual ligand
705 effects, antagonistic effects are observed when $E_{AB} < E_A + E_B$. (D) Generic Omics workflow for
706 phenotype-driven synergy modeling using a 22 experimental design. (E) Overview of OBIF, including (i)
707 Omics screening of features in a data matrix, (ii) discovery of feature clusters of molecular drivers, and
708 (iii) experimental validation of biologically relevant synergy regulators. * P < 0.05 compared to either
709 condition, *** P < 0.0005 compared to either condition.

710

711 **Figure 2. Differentially expressed molecules and expression profiles reveal synergy-mediating**
712 **pathways and functions.**

713 (A) Euler diagram of differentially expressed molecules following single or dual treatment in mouse lung
714 homogenates. (B) Most overrepresented activated canonical pathways after IPA enrichment of DEMs.
715 (C) Heatmap of expression values of DEMs in A with expression profiles shown per feature (rows). (D)
716 Principal component analysis of Pam2-ODN DEMs identified by expression profiles. (E) Top activated
717 (orange) and inhibited (blue) diseases and functions after IPA enrichment of expression profiles. FC,
718 fold change.

719

720 **Figure 3. Full factorial analysis reveals regulatory networks and molecular drivers of synergy.**

721 (A) Scheme of full factorial analysis performed by OBIF from β coefficients. (B) Venn diagram of Pam2-
722 ODN DEMs correlated by expression profiles classes and multi-factor effects. (C) Feature count and
723 percentage of Pam2-ODN iDEM^s and non-iDEM^s in B. (D) Network analysis of activated (orange) or
724 inhibited (blue), and up-regulated (red) or down-regulated (green) upstream regulators of Pam2-ODN
725 after IPA enrichment of SME. (E) Cross-Omics validation of regulators in D. Differentially expressed
726 phospho-signaling molecules were identified with OBIF from a reverse-phase protein array in human
727 lung epithelial cells. (F) Non-additive feature expression assessed by combination index (CI).
728 Representative genes and their CI values are shown. (G) Interaction score (IS) of iDEM^s, reflecting
729 antagonistic (IS < 0) and synergistic (IS > 0) features. (H) Top activated (orange) or inhibited (blue)
730 transcriptional regulators after IPA enrichment of iDEM^s. DEM^s, differentially expressed molecules.
731 iDEM^s, interacting DEM^s. SME, simple-main effects.

732

733 **Figure 4. Regulators identified with OBIF uncovered cooperation between RelA and cJun that is**
734 **required for synergistic antiviral protection.**

735 (A) Transcription factor activity of NF- κ B and AP-1 subunits 15 min after treatment of human lung
736 epithelial cells with Pam2-ODN. n = 3-6 samples/condition. (B) RelA and cJun activity at indicated times
737 after Pam2-ODN treatment. n = 6 samples/condition. (C) Nuclear translocation scores of NF- κ B and
738 AP-1 heterodimers after Pam2-ODN treatment. Shown as normalized frequency of similarity score per
739 condition. (D) NF- κ B and AP-1 subunit nuclear translocation in C (increased, red; decreased, blue) per
740 condition. (E) NF- κ B and AP-1 subunit nuclear translocation with or without NF- κ B inhibition by IMD-
741 0345. (F) Representative imaging flow cytometry images of hetero-dimerization and nuclear
742 translocation of NF- κ B and AP-1 in D and E. (G) Virus burden of mouse lung epithelial cells challenged
743 with influenza A with or without NF- κ B inhibition. n = 4 samples/condition. *, P < 0.05; **, P < 0.005; ***,
744 P < 0.0005 compared to baseline.

745

746 **Figure 5. OBIF reveals molecular drivers of synergy across platforms, factor classes and**
747 **experimental systems.**

748 (A) Interaction analysis of factorial effects at the whole “-ome” level, demonstrating interaction plots,
749 coefficient significance and quality of model fitness per platform. (B) Euler diagram of DEMs identified
750 in A. (C) Principal component analysis of dual factor DEMs in B clustered by EPs. (D) Interaction
751 scores of iDEMs in C. (E) Visual summary of molecular drivers of synergy in B-D plotted including
752 DEMs, EPs and iDEMs. E_F , feature expression; F_A , factor A; F_B , factor B; F_{AB} , factor AB; FC, fold
753 change; DEMs, differentially expressed molecules; EPs, expression profiles; iDEMs, interacting DEMs.

754 **Tables and their legends**

755

Expression Pattern Response		Fold Change			Expression Profiles
In single factor exposure	In dual factor exposure	F_A	F_B	F_{AB}	
Cooperative	Concordant	↑	↑	↑	I ●
		↓	↓	↓	II ○
	Discordant	↓	↓	↑	III ●
		↑	↑	↓	IV ○
Competitive	Factor A-Dominant	↑	↓	↑	V ●
		↓	↑	↓	VI ○
	Factor B-Dominant	↓	↑	↑	VII ○
		↑	↓	↓	VIII ○

756

757 **Table 1. Expression profiles depict biological interactions during dual factor exposure.**

758 **Expanded View Figure legends**

759

760 **Figure EV1. Overview of model fitting of Omics datasets during analysis with OBIF.**

761 (A) Quality control plots assess data distribution of GSE28994 with violin plots (*top*) and detect potential
762 outliers by hierarchical clustering (*bottom*) in both the pre-processed original dataset (*left*) and the
763 analysis-ready dataset (*right*). (B) Interaction analysis of factorial effects at the whole transcriptome
764 level, demonstrating interaction plots, coefficient significance and goodness of fit per platform. (C)
765 Representative volcano plots of full factorial analysis from analysis ready data for each condition after
766 expression analysis (*top*) and Q-Q plots of moderated t-statistics for each multi-factor effect after
767 contrast analysis (*bottom*). (D) Visual summary of OBIF's outputs including DEMs, EPs and iDEMNs
768 (*left*) plotted into 3 rings (*right*): (i) DEMs, where inner links represent shared features between DEMs
769 followed by their log₂FC values; (ii) EPs, where inner sectors represent individual profiles (I to VII)
770 followed by their of significant F_A-SME (green), F_B-SME (orange) or F_A·F_B interaction effect (pink); and
771 (iii) iDEMNs, represented by their synergistic or antagonistic interaction scores. FC, fold change; DEMs,
772 differentially expressed molecules; EPs, expression profiles; iDEMNs, interacting DEMs; SME, simple
773 main effect.

774

775 **Figure EV2. OBIF analysis of RPPA data from HBEC-3kt treated with single or dual ligands.**

776 (A) Interaction analysis of factorial effects at the whole proteome level, demonstrating interaction plots,
777 coefficient significance and quality of model fitness per platform. (B) Euler diagram of DEMs identified
778 in A. (C) Principal component analysis of dual factor DEMs in B clustered by EPs. (D) OBIF summary of
779 molecular drivers of synergy in B-C. (E) Heatmap of expression values of DEMs in B with expression
780 profiles shown per feature (rows). FC, fold change; DEMs, differentially expressed molecules; EPs,
781 expression profiles.

782

783

784 **Figure EV3. STAT family data and gating strategy for imaging flow cytometry.**

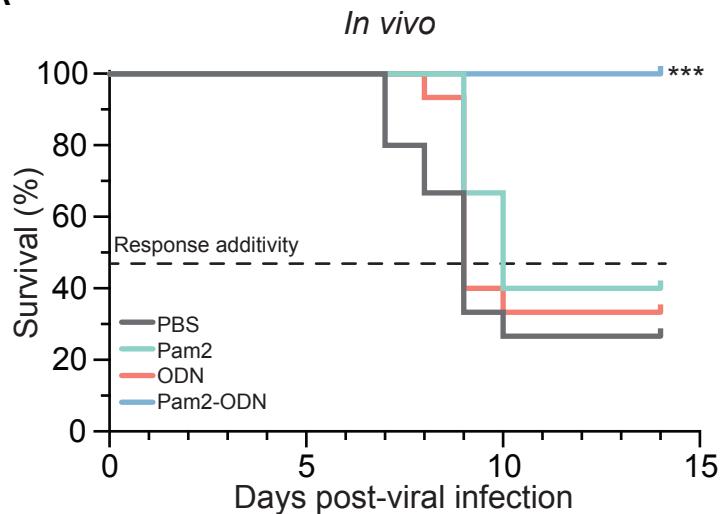
785 (A) Transcription factor activity of STAT subunits 15 min after treatment of human lung epithelial cells
786 with Pam2-ODN. n = 3 samples/condition. (B) Gating strategy used during single cell imaging flow
787 cytometry for simultaneous assessment of all transcriptional subunits.

788

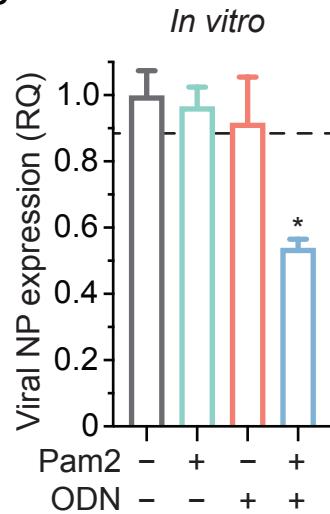
789 **Figure EV4. OBIF improves detection of interaction effects across platforms and factor classes.**

790 (A) Comparative performance of data scaling during interaction analysis at the whole “-ome” level
791 showing overall fitness and significance of two-way ANOVA. (B) Significance level of interaction term
792 between factors detected in A. (C) Comparative performance of statistical methods to detect interaction
793 effects at the individual feature level using a beta-uniform mixture model of interaction p-values. (D)
794 Precision and recall fractions at iDEM selection threshold calculated from C. OBIF, Omics-based
795 interaction framework; ROC, receiver operating characteristic; AUC, area under the curve.

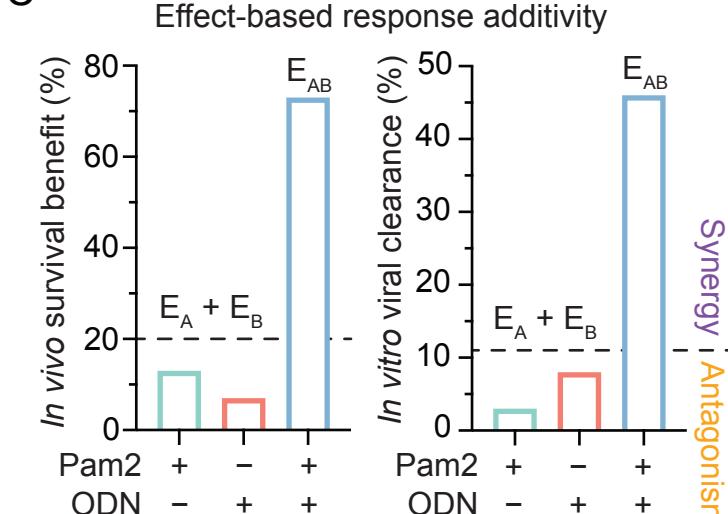
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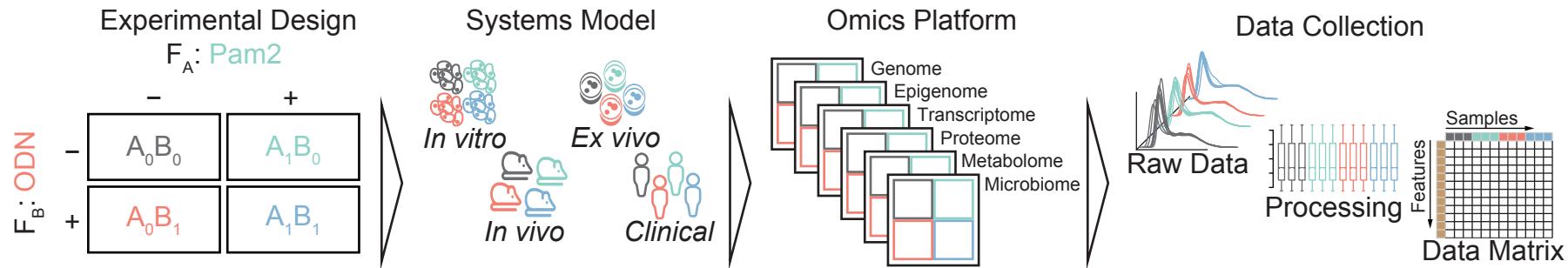
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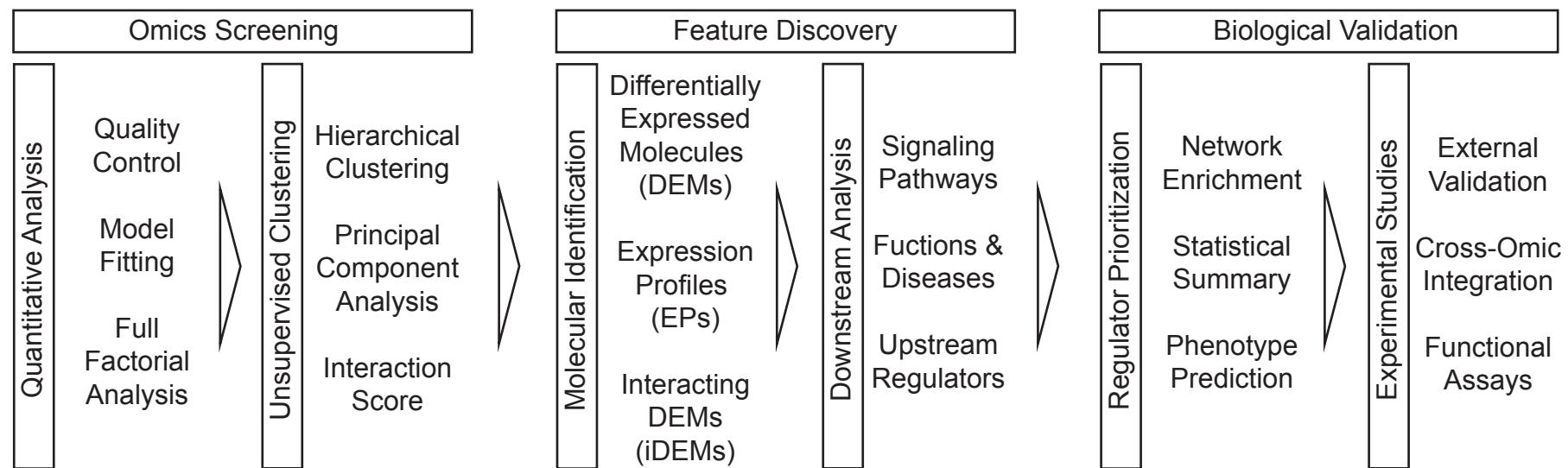
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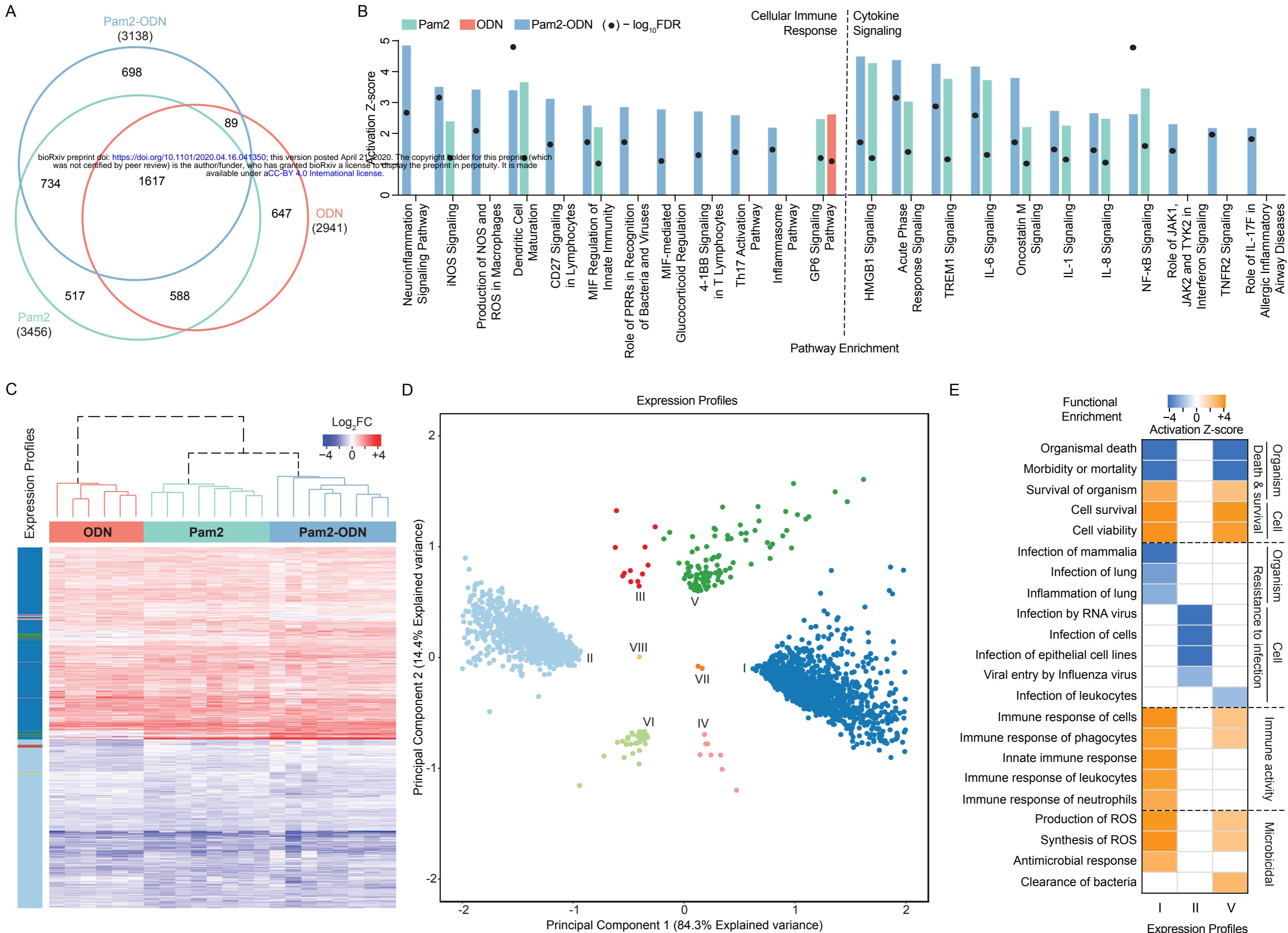


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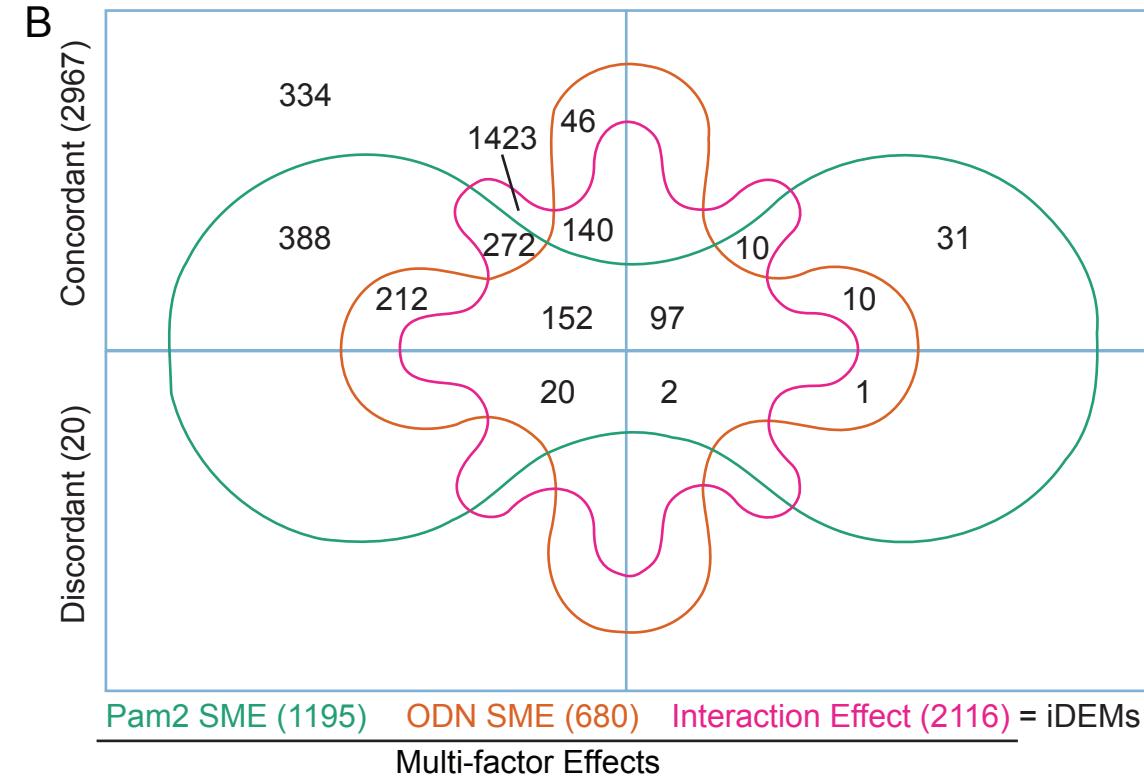
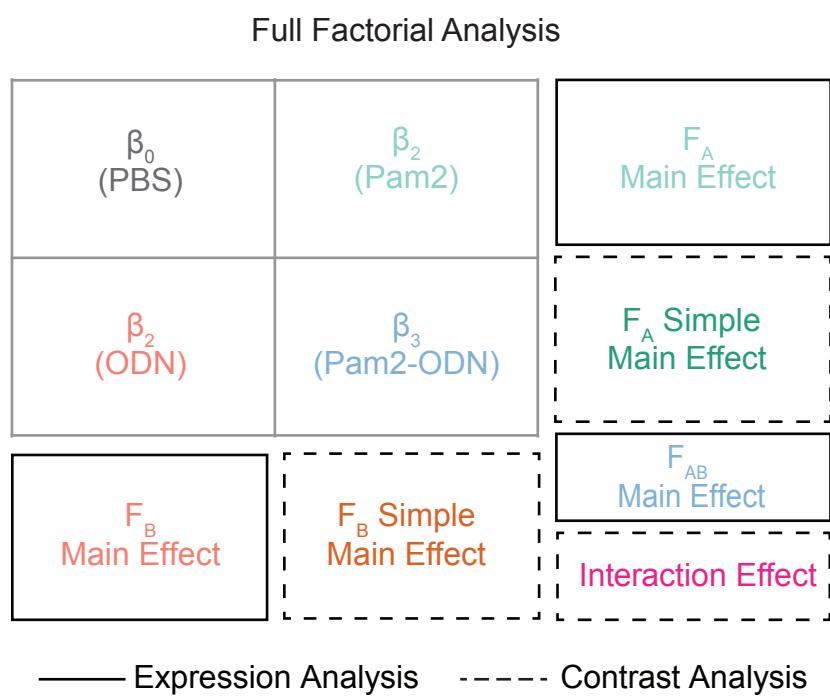


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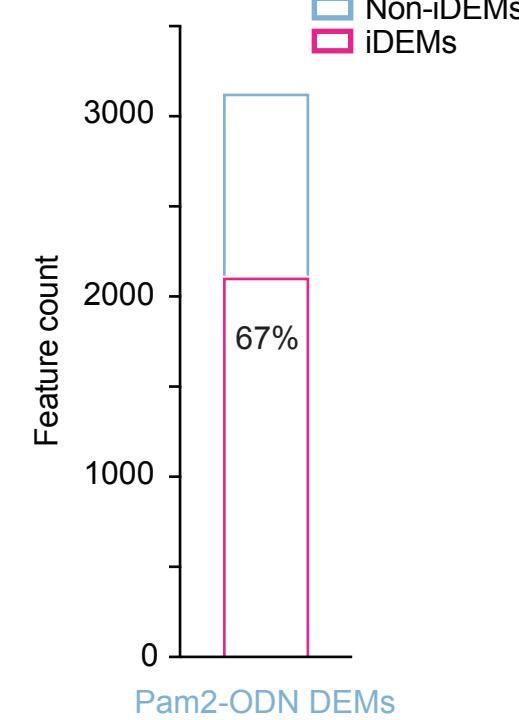




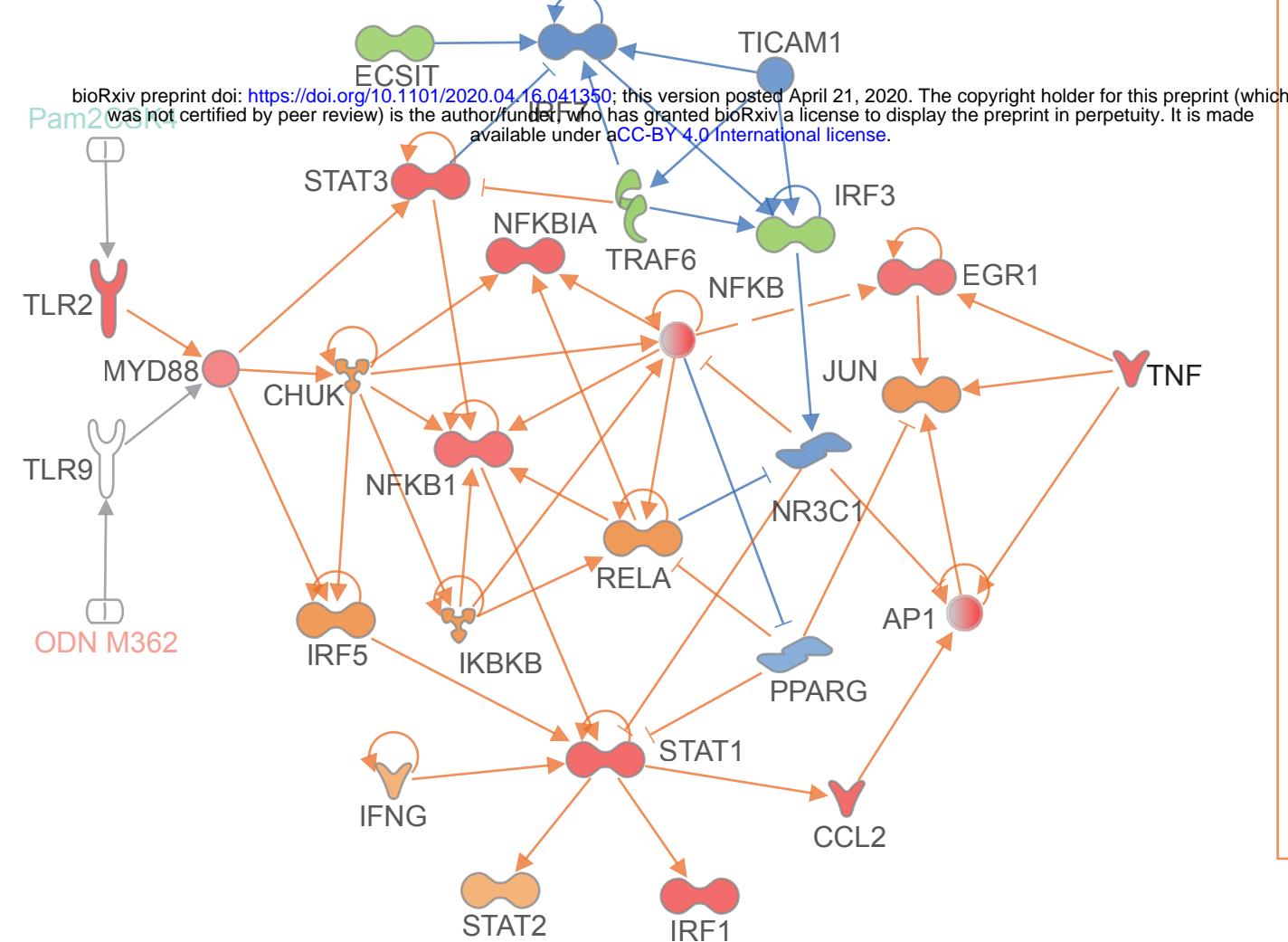
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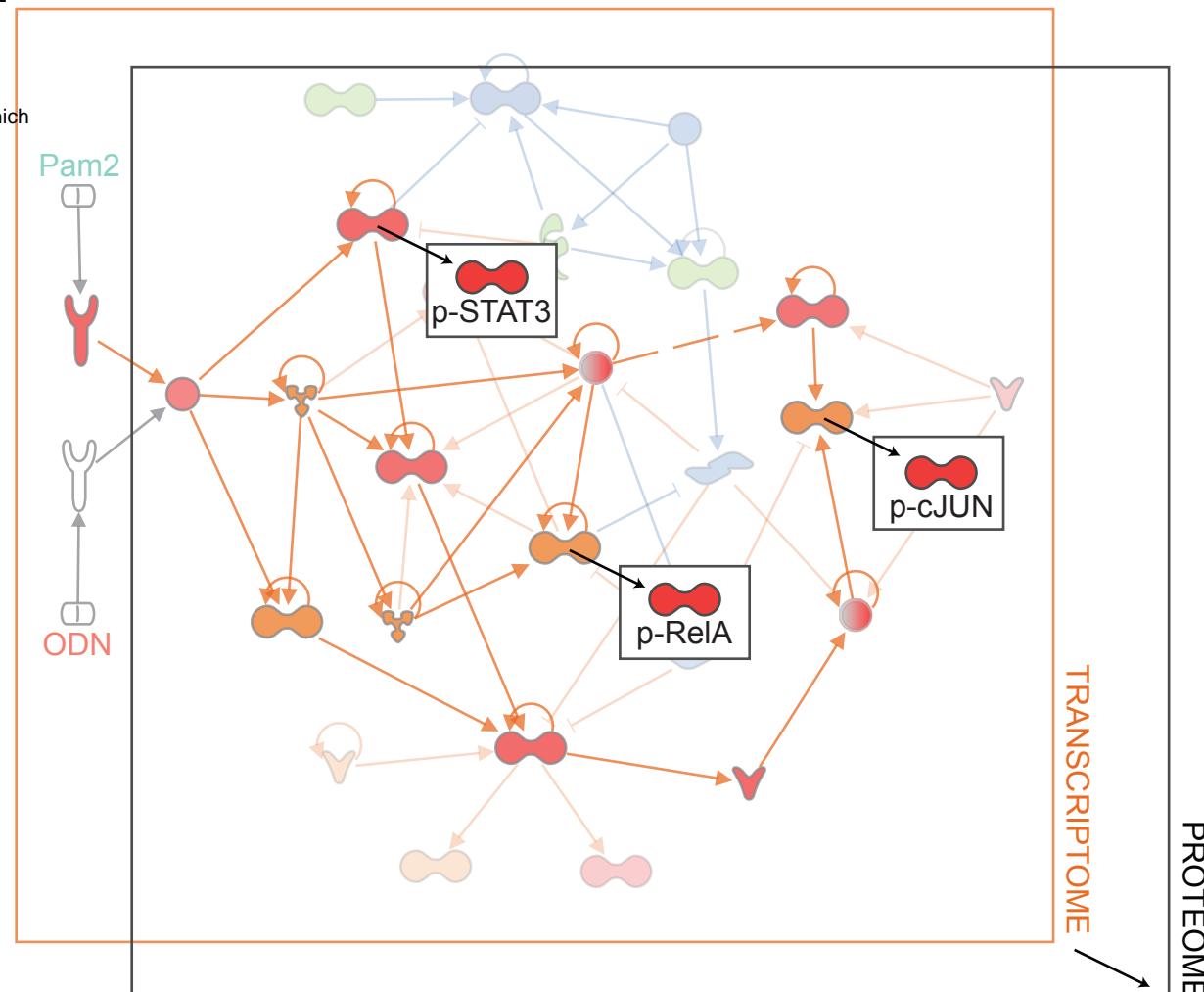
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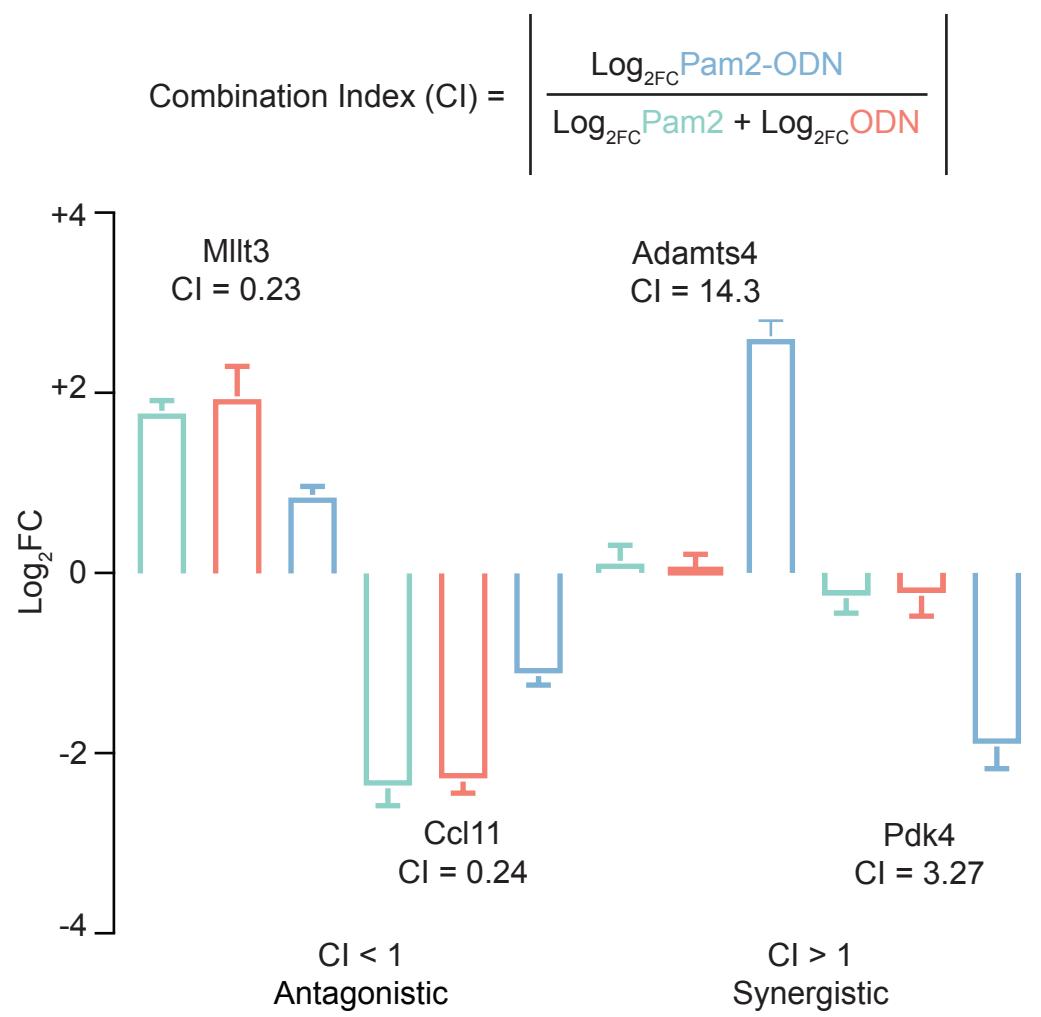
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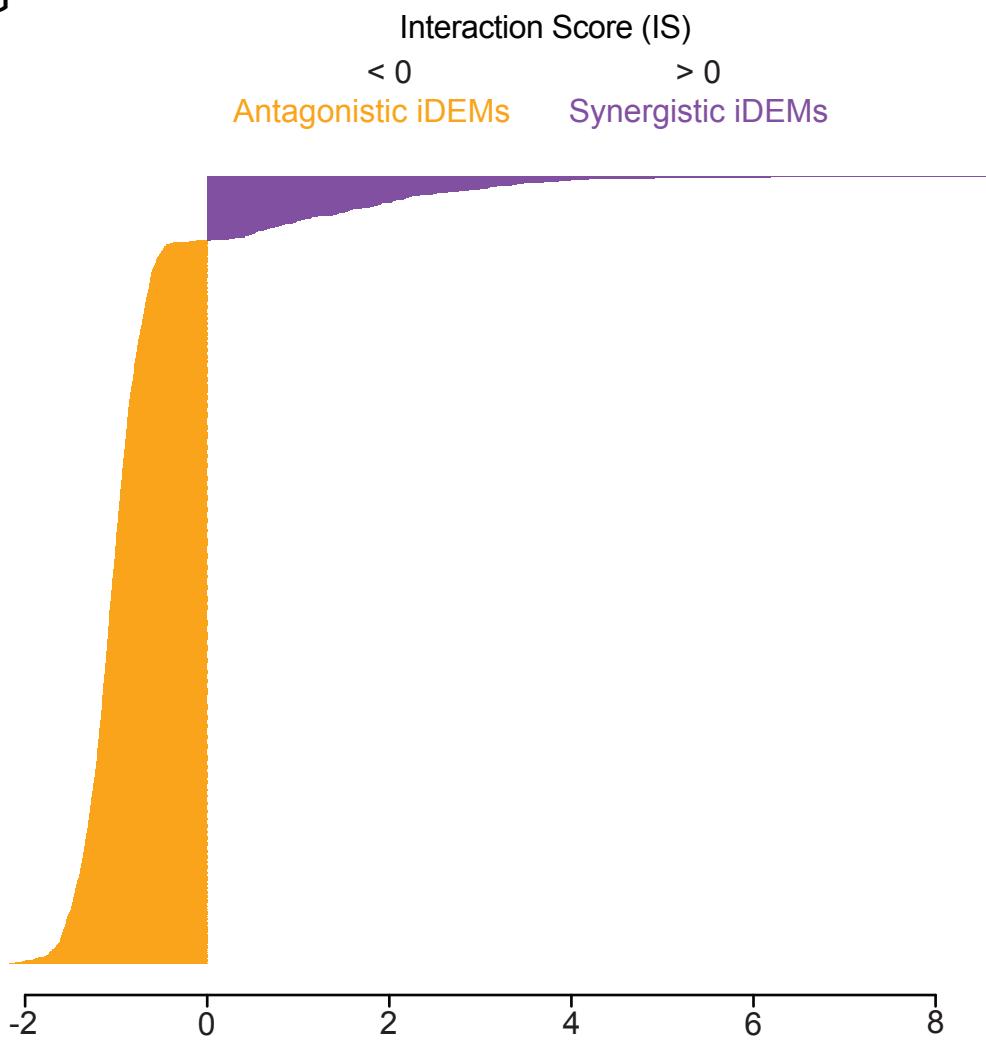
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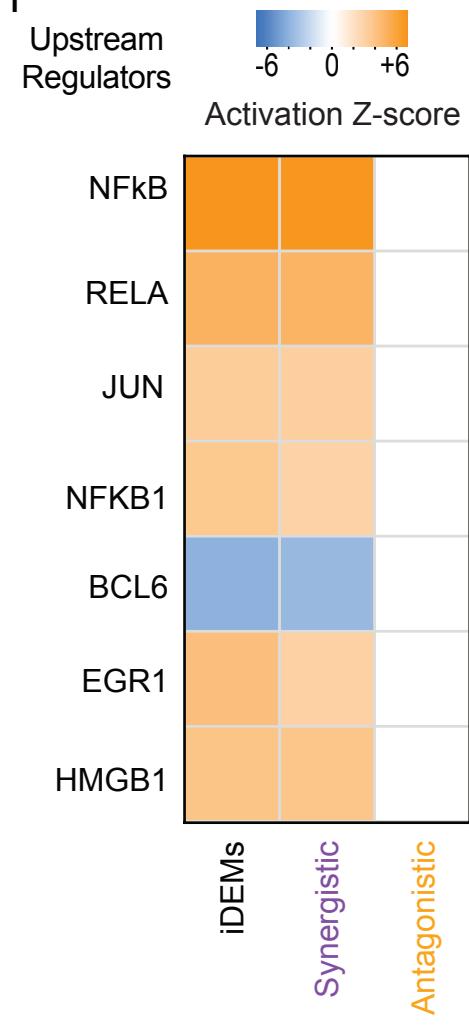
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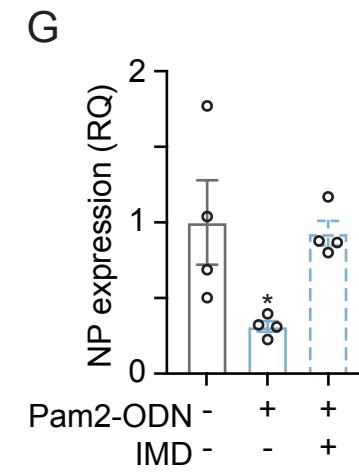
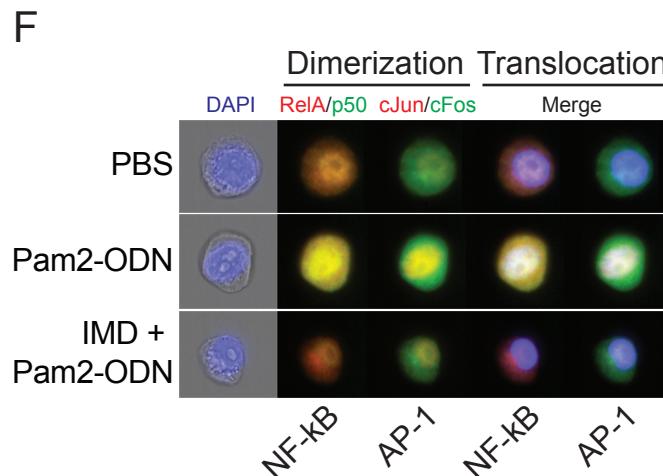
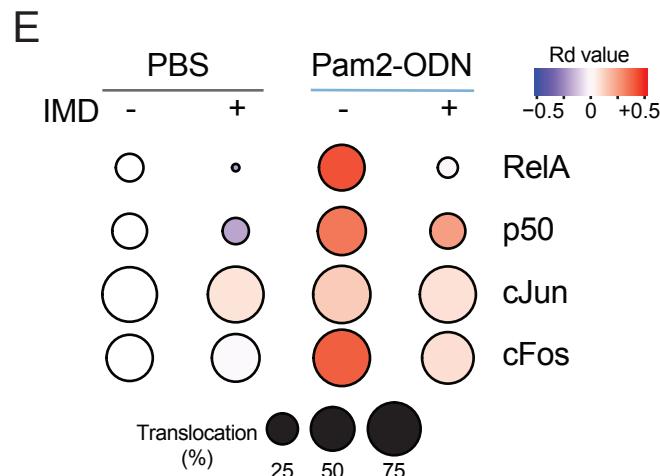
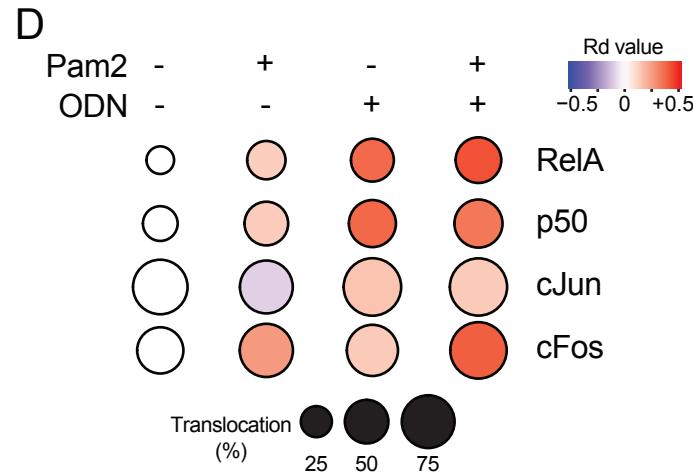
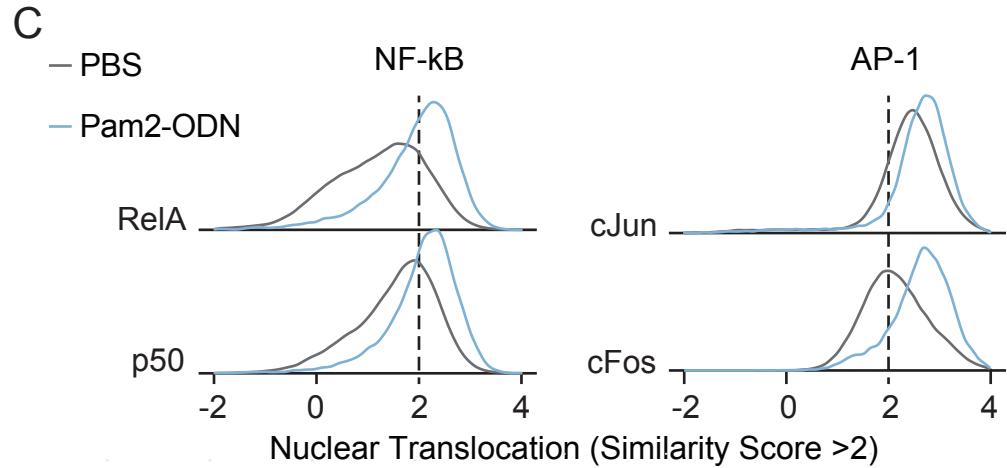
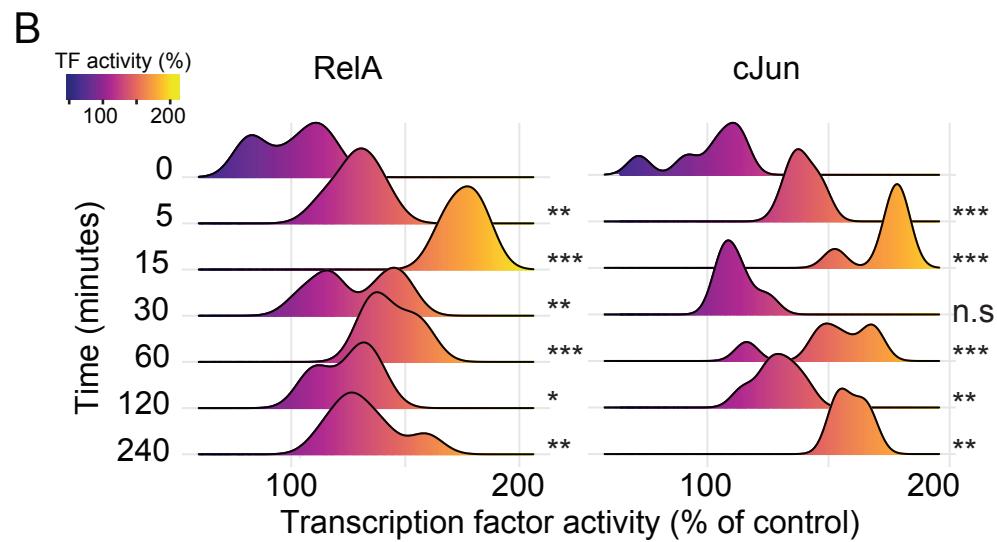
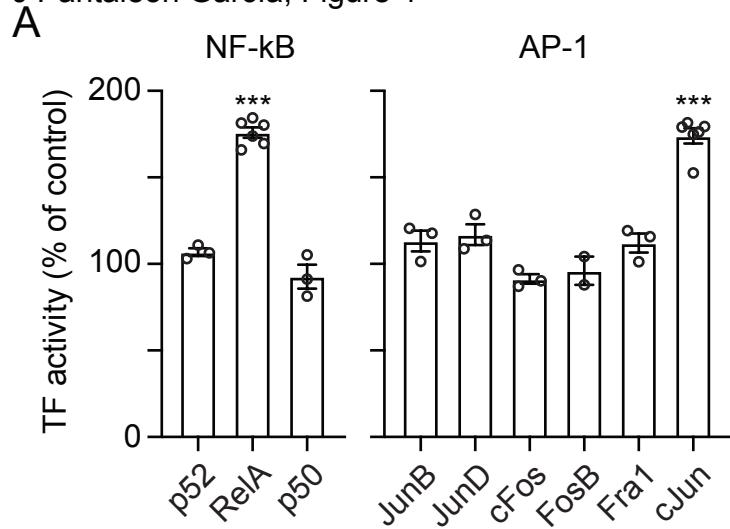


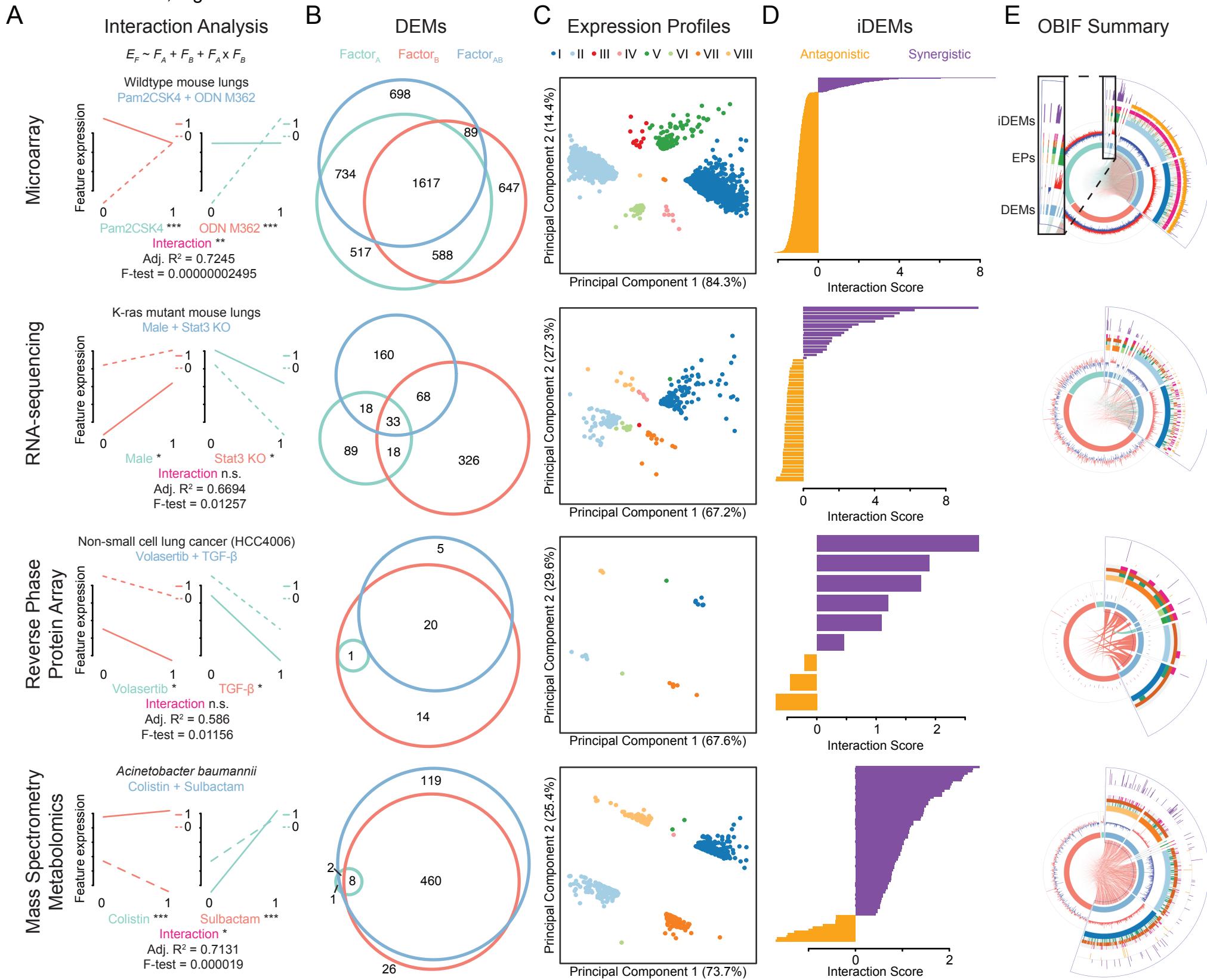
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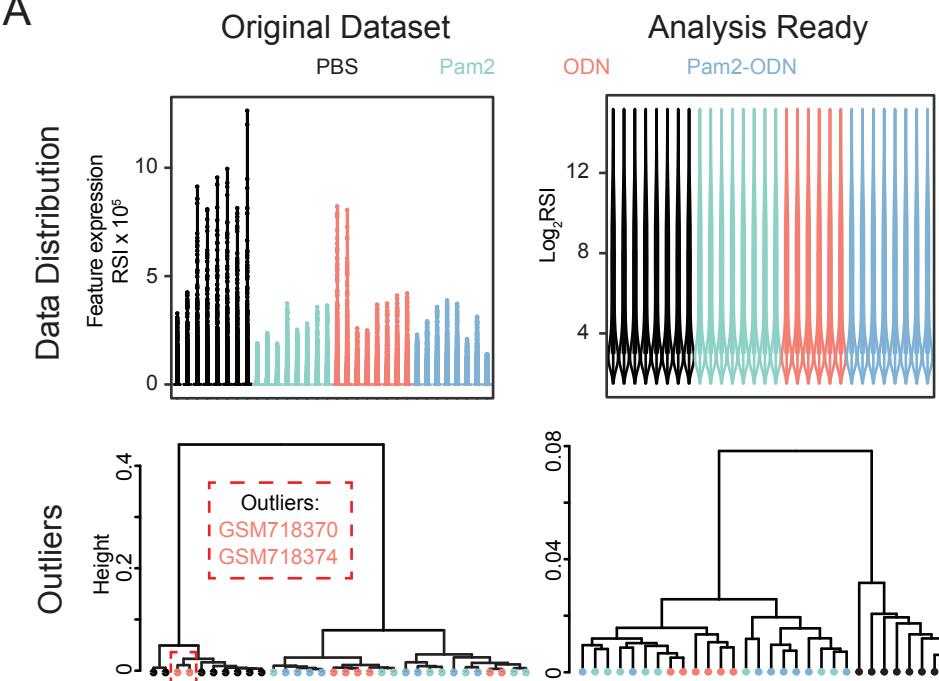
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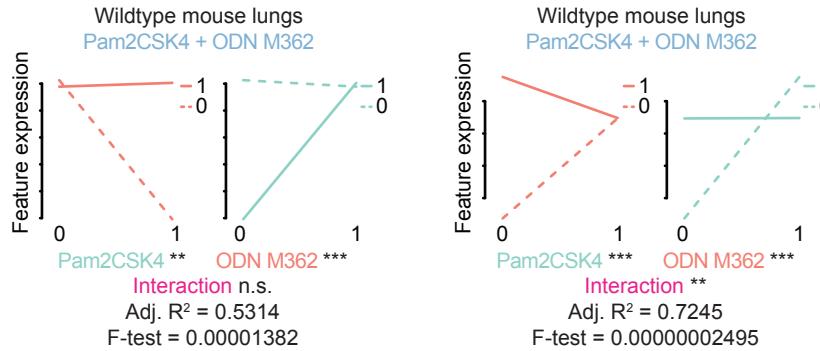




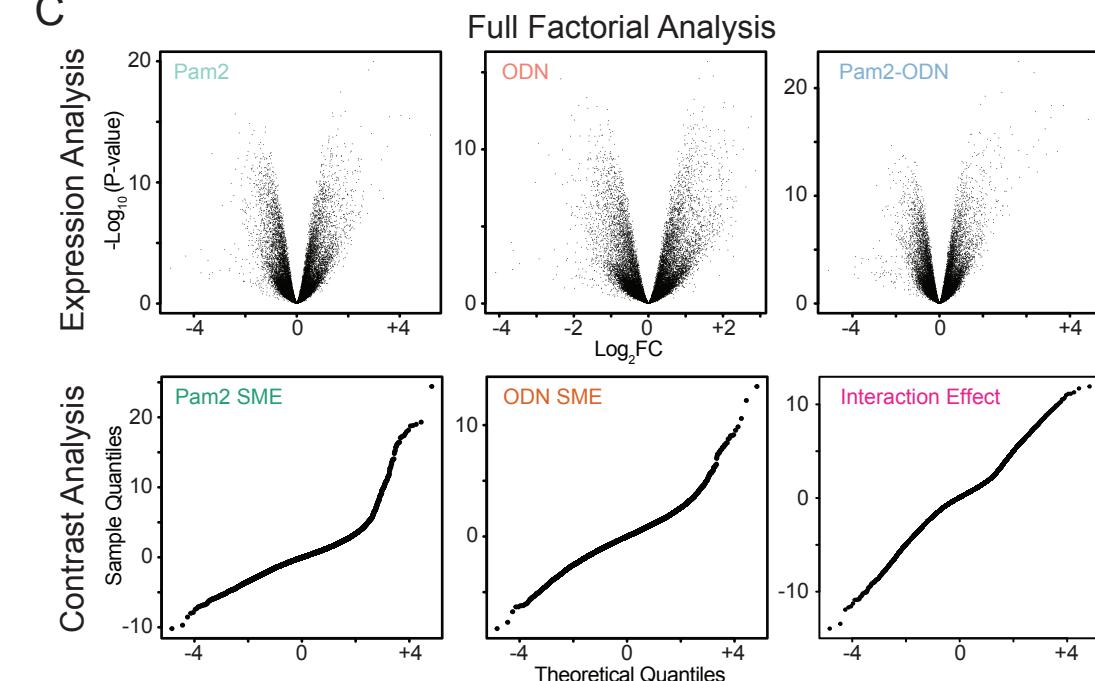
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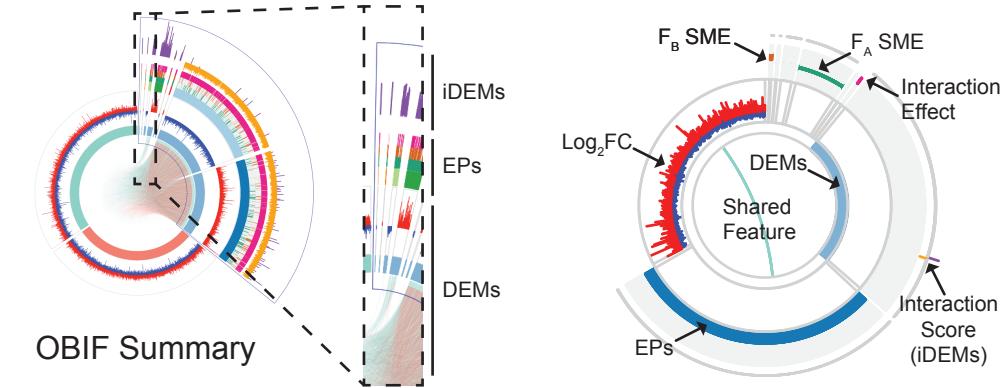
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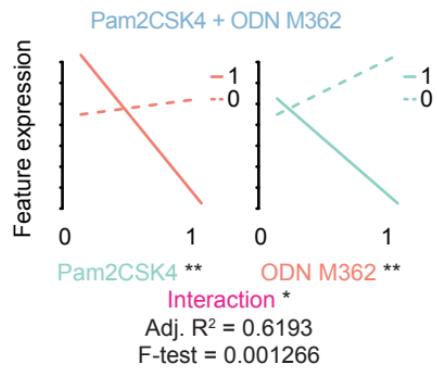


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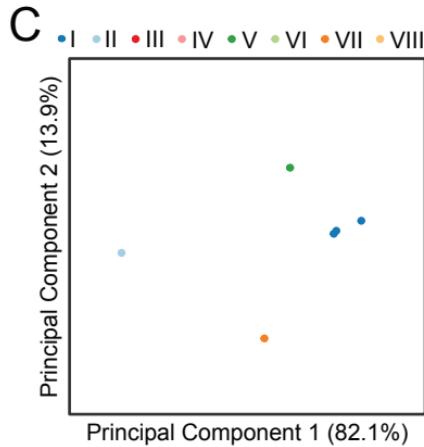
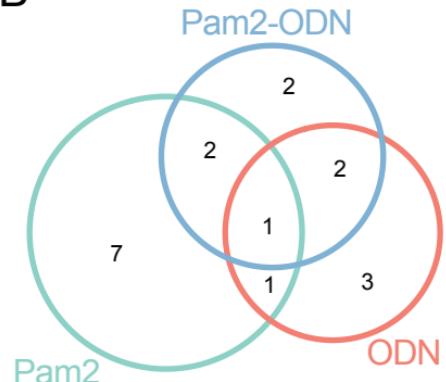


J Pantaleón García, Figure EV2

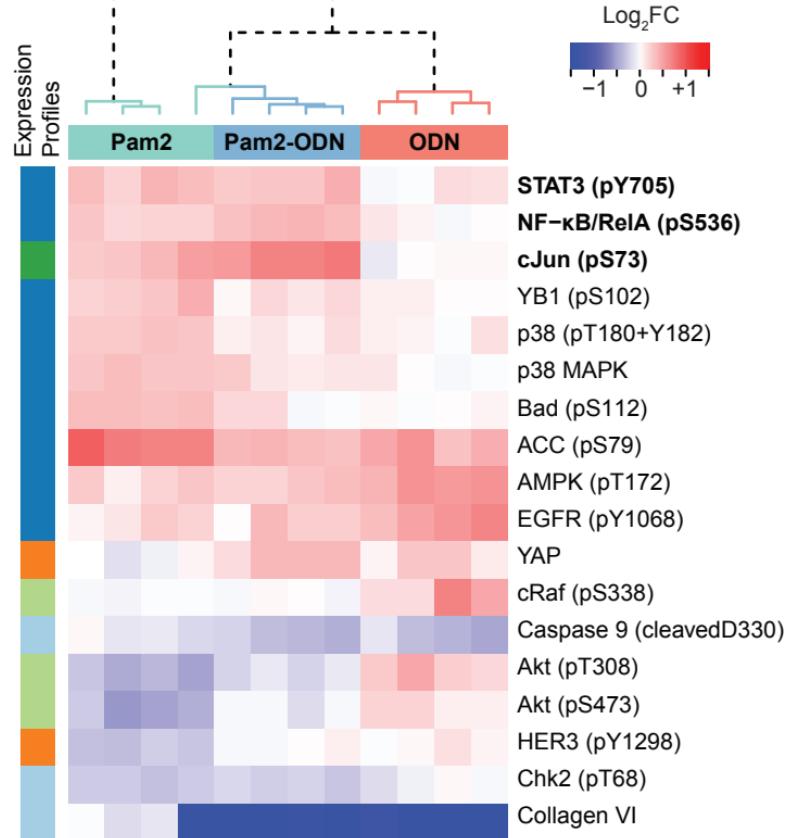
A Interaction Analysis



B



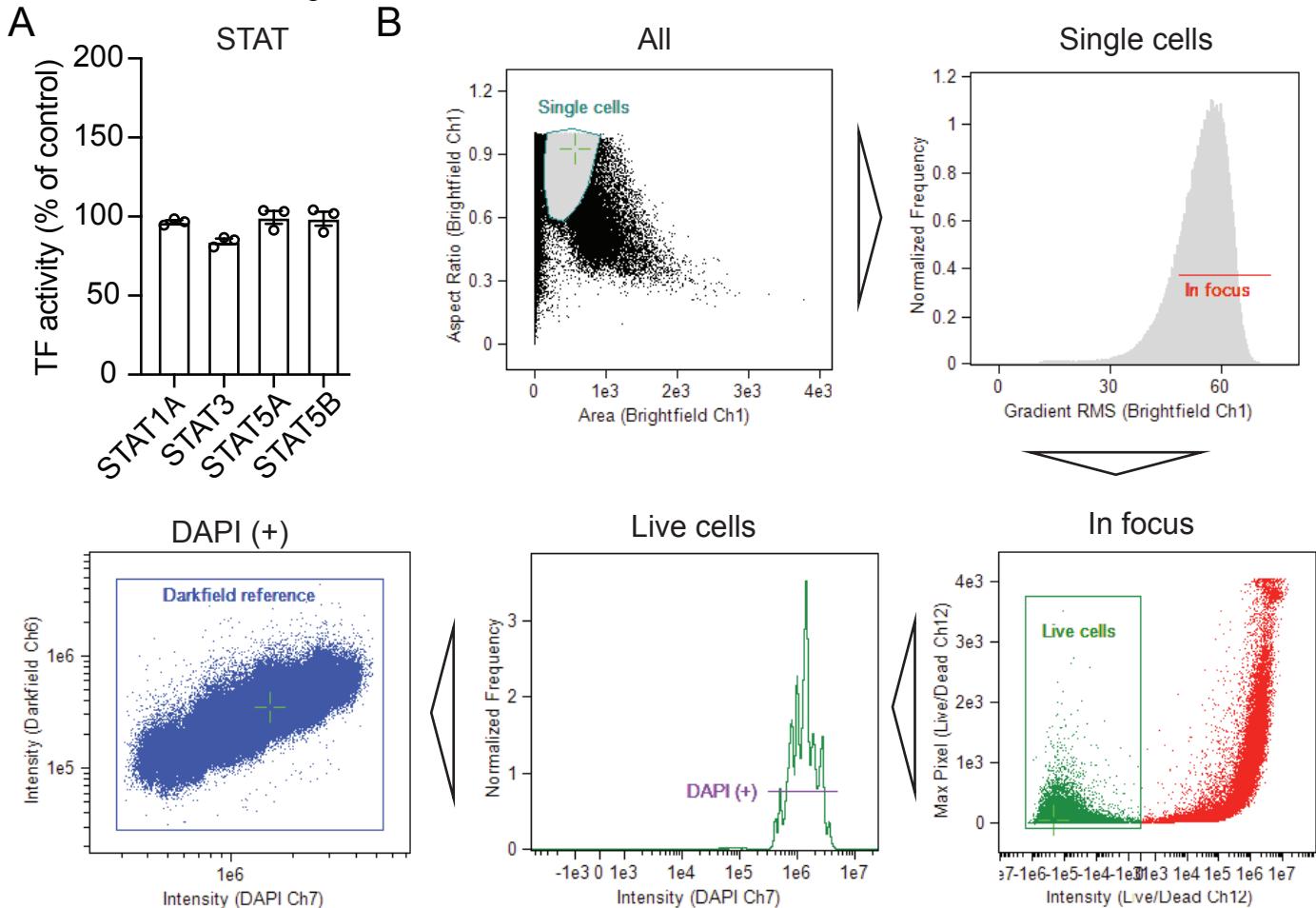
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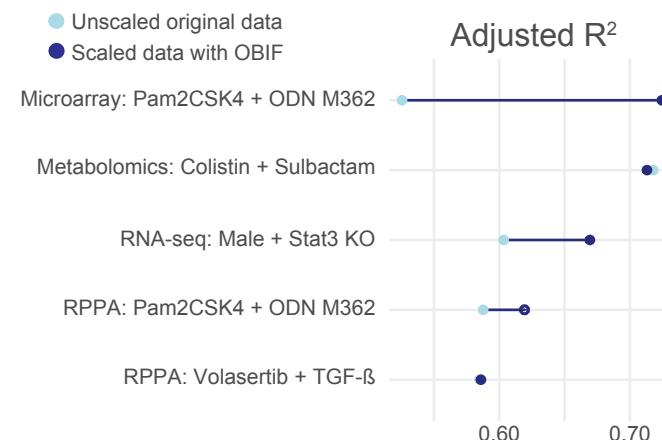
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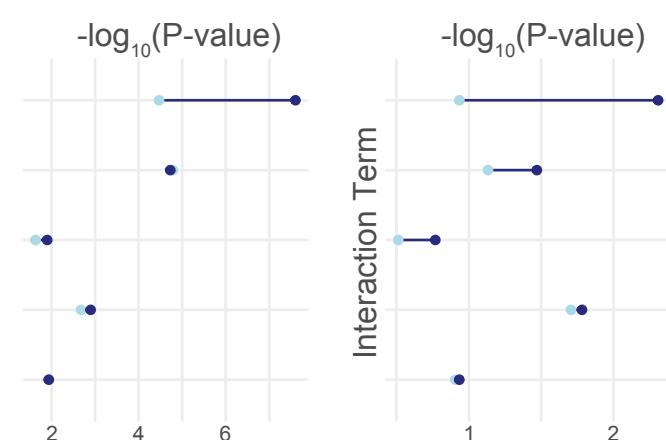
J Pantaleón García, Figure EV3



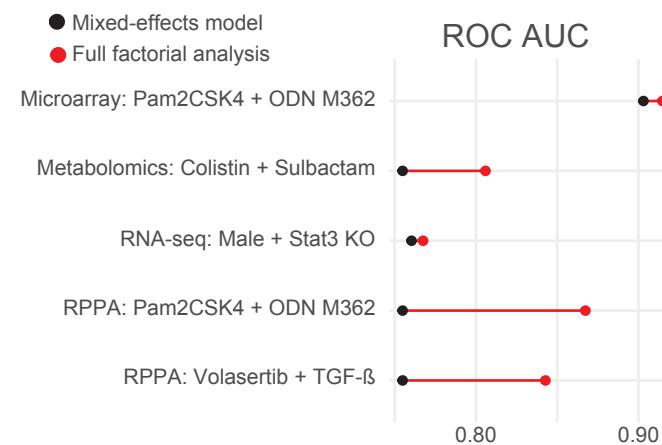
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