

1 A multi-tiered map of EMT defines major 2 transition points and identifies vulnerabilities

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37 **Summary**

38 Epithelial to mesenchymal transition (EMT) is a complex cellular program proceeding through a
39 hybrid E/M state linked to cancer-associated stemness, migration and chemoresistance. Deeper
40 molecular understanding of this dynamic physiological landscape is needed to define events which
41 regulate the transition and entry into and exit from the E/M state. Here, we quantified >60,000
42 molecules across ten time points and twelve omic layers in human mammary epithelial cells
43 undergoing TGF β -induced EMT. Deep proteomic profiles of whole cells, nuclei, extracellular vesicles,
44 secretome, membrane and phosphoproteome defined state-specific signatures and major transition
45 points. Parallel metabolomics showed metabolic reprogramming preceded changes in other layers,
46 while single-cell RNA sequencing identified transcription factors controlling entry into E/M.
47 Covariance analysis exposed unexpected discordance between the molecular layers. Integrative
48 causal modeling revealed co-dependencies governing entry into E/M that were verified
49 experimentally using combinatorial inhibition. Overall, this dataset provides an unprecedented
50 resource on TGF β signaling, EMT and cancer.

51

52 **Short title**

53 Multi-level time-resolved deconstruction of EMT program

54

55 **Keywords**

56 TGF β signaling, Epithelial to Mesenchymal Transition, EMT, Multi-omics, Mass Spectrometry,
57 Proteomics, Single Cell RNA Sequencing, Multiplexed, Cancer

58 **Introduction**

59 Epithelial to mesenchymal transition (EMT) regulates cell plasticity during embryonic development,
60 wound healing, fibrosis and cancer, where polarized epithelial (E) cells dedifferentiate, transition
61 through intermediate hybrid states (E/M) and acquire mesenchymal (M) properties (Nieto et al.,
62 2016). In cancer, cells in E/M state possess several clinically important attributes of circulating tumor
63 cells (CTCs) and are responsible for EMT-associated stemness, chemoresistance, immune evasion
64 and metastasis (Dongre and Weinberg, 2019). Complete molecular characterization of E/M states,
65 and the mechanisms driving plasticity between E→E/M→M transitions will enable development of
66 refined mechanistic models and discovery of new therapeutic strategies.

67 Approximately 150 genes are currently described as hallmarks of EMT (MSigDB database) that were
68 identified from studies measuring the expression of 'endpoint' markers (e.g. CDH1, MUC1, VIM, FN1)
69 to track the process (Sha et al., 2019). Although EMT is frequently studied as a transcriptionally-
70 driven program (Yang et al., 2020), the poor correlation between genomic alterations or mRNA levels
71 and proteins in tumors (Liu et al., 2016) highlights the need for multi-level analysis. Furthermore,
72 EMT is likely an *emergent phenomenon*, where the shifts in cell physiology and phenotype are
73 orchestrated by intra- and extra-cellular signaling (Sigston and Williams, 2017), extensive receptor-
74 ligand crosstalk, protein relocation (Hung and Link, 2011) and metabolic adaptations (Thomson
75 et al., 2019) that requires an integrated multi-omic approach. However, most attempts made to
76 model EMT primarily invoked gene-regulatory networks (GRNs) controlled by key transcription
77 factors (TFs) and miRNAs. These models are usually based on a restricted number of factors and thus
78 do not capture the multi-layered architecture of signaling during EMT (Hong et al., 2015; Zhang et al.,
79 2014). To date, no EMT-focused studies have simultaneously measured metabolite and gene
80 expression changes at different functional levels (e.g. mRNA, total protein, nucleus, secretome, etc.).
81 Consequentially, several aspects of EMT remain unclear. This includes dependencies between
82 molecular layers, secreted molecules, and specific signatures at various stages of EMT, kinetics and
83 scope of metabolic reprogramming, dynamics of subcellular protein localizations and ligand-
84 receptor mediated intercellular crosstalk. To bridge these gaps, we employed multiple high-
85 throughput platforms including microarray, scRNAseq and precision mass spectrometry (MS) to
86 quantify molecules spanning 12 distinct layers of biological information. Our ability to integrate this
87 information allowed us to define signatures of E/M states and identify molecular regulators of key
88 transition points.

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93 RESULTS

94 A comprehensive resource on TGF β -induced EMT

95 The human mammary epithelial cell line MCF10A is widely used to study TGF β (transforming growth
96 factor β) induced EMT. To generate temporal expression maps of evolving EMT landscape, cells were
97 treated with TGF β (TGF- β 1; 10 ng/mL) over 12 days (0, 4 hrs, 1–6, 8 & 12 days), spanning multiple
98 'omics' layers and employing complementary technologies (**Fig. 1A-B**, **Fig. S1A-C**). After stringent
99 quality control (see **STAR Methods**), we report nanoLC-MS/MS-based quantifications (**Fig. 1C**,
100 **Table S1**) of 6,540 whole cell (*WC*), 4,198 nuclear (*Nuc*), 2,223 plasma membrane (*Mem*), 1,209
101 extracellular vesicle (*EV*) and 1,133 secreted (*Sec*) proteins. Using a serial enrichment workflow (see
102 **STAR Methods**) we also quantified the total phosphoproteome (*Phos*; 8,741 high-confidence sites on
103 2,254 proteins; including 6,975 Ser, 962 Thr and 140 Tyr residues), N-glycoproteome (*Glyco*; 549
104 proteins), acetylome (*Acet*; 349 sites on 165 proteins) and peptidome (*Pep*; 547 peptides from 202
105 proteins). For proteomics, samples for ten time point were multiplexed using isobaric tandem mass
106 tags (TMT-10), enabling higher throughput and robust comparisons. In addition to proteins, we
107 tracked cellular metabolism in the same samples by nanoLC-MS/MS-based untargeted
108 metabolomics, quantifying 4,259 HMDB-indexed endogenous small molecules (*Metabol*).
109 Furthermore, we measured 23,787 gene transcripts (mRNA) and 2,578 microRNAs (miRNA) using
110 microarrays. To assess cellular heterogeneity, we employed scRNAseq to quantify transcriptomes of
111 1,913 individual cells (>200 cells per time point) undergoing EMT. In total, this study provides
112 temporal quantifications of >60,000 proteins, phosphosites, mRNAs, miRNAs, and metabolites
113 combined, in addition to 9,785 mRNAs in scRNAseq dataset (**Fig. 1C**).

114 Subcellular enrichments were performed using previously established MS-compatible protocols (see
115 **STAR Methods**), yielding high purity as determined through keyword matching against a cellular
116 compartment annotation database (**Fig. S1D**). Quantitative reproducibility across the 3 biological
117 replicates was excellent (**Fig. S1E**). The expression profiles in **Fig. 1D** provide a snapshot of
118 concurrent changes of a given gene over various layers during EMT. We reproduced expected
119 expression behavior for many established markers of EMT, including an increase of M markers VIM,
120 CDH2 and concomitant decrease of E markers SCRIB, MUC1.

121 Using strict criteria for differential expression (Benjamini-Hochberg adj. *p*-value < 0.05; $r^2 \geq 0.6$ &
122 $|\log_{2}FC| \geq 1$) we identified >10,000 significantly regulated molecules (**Table S2**). We found that
123 molecular abundances were highly variable across layers and time points (**Fig. S1F**) and all layers
124 contributed significantly to the overall variation in the system (**Fig. 1E**). While each layer showed
125 substantive alterations, the magnitudes (**Fig. S1G**), response profiles (**Fig. 1F**) and fraction of
126 differentially expressed molecules (**Fig. 1G**) of each omic data set during the time course varied
127 significantly. These findings provide direct evidence for global reorganization of cell physiology
128 during EMT. For example, *Phos* and *Sec* showed the highest fractional change (36% & 40%,
129 respectively) (**Fig. 1G**), suggesting extensive intra- and extra-cellular signaling during EMT (Scheel
130 et al., 2011). As such, this study is the largest experimental description of EMT till date and adds new

131 depth to our current understanding of TGF β signaling and EMT (**Fig. 1H, I**).

132

133 **Integrative multi-tiered topology of EMT reveals key transition points and identifies**
134 **molecular drivers**

135 Although E \rightarrow M progression is considered a continuum, the existence of E, hybrid E/M, and M states
136 have been reported for MCF10A cells (Zhang et al., 2014), and cancer tissues (Liu et al., 2019;
137 Pastushenko et al., 2018). Using a phylogenetic clustering approach (Hughes and Friedman, 2009)
138 we estimated 'distances' between time steps to understand the transition kinetics (**Fig. 2A**). We
139 observed that up to 24 hours cells maintained their parental E type, while day 2 marked a swift exit
140 from E, and entry into E/M which continued through Day 5, after which cells gradually entered the
141 M state. Cells in day 2 to 5 can be further sub-divided into E/M-1 (Day 2/3, late E) and E/M-2 (Day
142 4/5, early M) states. These cellular reconfigurations agreed with principal component analysis of
143 individual layers, such as *Mem*, *Phos* and *WC* (**Fig. S2A**).

144 Our observations suggest a distinct and complementary role for each molecular layer in shaping the
145 transition (**Fig 2B**, **Fig 1E-G**, **Fig S1F, G**). Although, the topology was generally correlated (**Fig. 2C**),
146 pairwise coefficients of determination (adj. R^2) revealed an unexpectedly low concordance between
147 total proteins and other proteomic layers (mean R^2 ranging from 0.015 for *Acet* to 0.299 for *Glyco*)
148 (**Fig. 2D, Upper panel**). The discordance was even stronger between mRNA and various proteomic
149 layers (mean R^2 ranging from 0.011 for *Pep* to just 0.109 for *WC*) (**Fig. 2D, Lower panel**), which
150 increased further with EMT progression. Collectively, these observations illustrate that at a systems
151 level mRNA quantity is a poor proxy of protein abundance. Even total protein quantity is an
152 unreliable predictor of post-translational modifications or subcellular trafficking, which ultimately
153 determines signaling output.

154 Next, we modeled the regulatory patterns of molecules using a 3-step computational workflow. First,
155 we used a regression strategy for time-course measurements (Conesa et al., 2006) to remove residual
156 noise (time dimension) and non-reliable (replicates) components. Second, an unsupervised machine
157 learning approach (self-organizing maps, SOMs) (Wirth et al., 2012) was applied on the retained
158 molecules to generate time-point specific SOM portraits (**Fig. 2E**, **Fig. S2B-D**, see **STAR Methods** for
159 details). SOMs are a powerful integration tool for diverse global datasets to extract underlying
160 patterns of co-regulation (Tamayo et al., 1999). Third, we performed pathway enrichments of these
161 SOMs to elucidate the overarching functional themes at each time-step of EMT (**Fig. 2F**).

162 SOMs traced the temporal unfolding of the transition and provided molecular fingerprints of each
163 time-step. Molecules ranking high (top 1% i.e., rank ≤ 250 & $\log_{2}FC \geq 1$) with SOMs for control to day
164 1 (430 unique molecules) primarily included proteins characteristic of an E state (**Fig. 2E**, **Table S3**),
165 such as, ACTG1 (*Mem*; establishes cell junctions and shape) and EPHB2 (*Glyco*; regulates
166 angiogenesis, contact dependent adhesion and migration; tumor suppressor). SOMs for days 6-12
167 (252 unique molecules) contained known M markers, e.g., CALD1, CDH2, FLNA, FN1, FSTL1, LGALS1,

168 NT5E, TAGLN, TPM1, TPM2, TPM4 and VIM. This group also included molecules with established
169 roles in cancer and EMT, including miR-5189 (*miR*; targets ARF6 which internalizes CDH1), CALR
170 (*Acet*; Lys 62; calcium homeostasis, promotes metastasis, imparts resistance to anoikis), ALCAM
171 (*Nuc*; prognostic marker in multiple cancers linked to nuclear translocation of β -catenin and
172 stemness), ARHGAP33 (*Sec*; regulates intracellular trafficking), RAPGEF5 (*Sec*; promotes nuclear
173 translocation of β -catenin) and SOCS3 (*Phos*; Thr 3/13; E3 ligase, E3 ligase inhibiting TGF β signaling).
174 As suggested in **Fig 2A**, the first major shift, E \rightarrow E/M, occurred at day 2 and was likely driven by
175 molecules peaking at its corresponding SOM (95 molecules) such as miR-675-5p/H19 (*miR*; induces
176 HIF1 α , SNAIL activity), LTBP1 (*Sec*; master regulator of integrin-dependent TGF β activation) and
177 CD44 (*Sec*; signal transduction). Notably, many of the molecules identified in the SOM analysis, to our
178 knowledge, have not been previously linked to TGF β signaling or EMT, presumably because they do
179 not show clear changes in *mRNA* or *WC* but in 'other' molecular layers, such as *EV* or *Sec* (**Fig. S2E**).
180 This contrasts with most MSigDB hallmarks of EMT for which we captured clear transcriptional
181 profiles (**Fig. S2F**).

182 Gene-set enrichment analysis using active subnetworks which yields more robust inferences than
183 traditional approaches (Ulgen et al., 2019), identified 237 significant pathways (**Fig. 2F, Table S3**),
184 discretized across sequential steps of EMT. For example, 'Beta oxidation of hexanoyl-CoA to butanoyl-
185 CoA' declined as cells leave E and enter E/M, indicating reprogramming of mitochondrial fatty acid
186 β -oxidation, consistent with a metastatic phenotype (Ma et al., 2018). Conversely, 'RHO GTPases
187 mediated activation of ROCKs/PAKs/IQGAPs' increased as cells leave E/M and enter M, suggestive of
188 their key role at this stage of EMT (Ungefroren et al., 2018). The E/M specifically were associated
189 with migration-associated pathways such as 'anchoring fibril formation', 'ECM proteoglycans' and
190 'laminin interactions', consistent with their shared property with CTCs.

191 Overall, we catalogued complex kinetics of thousands of molecules spanning multiple molecular
192 layers during EMT. Importantly, we identify critical transition points during EMT and predict
193 signatures specific to each stage, e.g., E/M, with potential clinical value.

194

195 **Metabolomics reveals kinetics and predicts novel enzyme-metabolite associations**

196 TGF β regulates Warburg effect in cancer cells, but may also regulate other metabolic pathways with
197 implications for cancer management (Hua et al., 2019). Active subnetwork analysis of *WC* and *Phos*
198 datasets identified 13 enriched KEGG metabolic pathways during TGF β -induced EMT (**Fig. S3A**).
199 Notably, significant enrichment (p -value ≤ 0.05) for any pathway was only observed after day 2 and
200 included processes such as steroid hormone biosynthesis (SHB), sphingolipid metabolism and (SLM)
201 glycosaminoglycan degradation (GMGD). To evaluate these gene-centric inferences of metabolic
202 phenotypes, we directly profiled intra-cellular small molecules by applying an optimized untargeted
203 metabolomics workflow to the same set of samples. Using stringent criteria (see **STAR Methods**), we
204 quantified $>4,000$ putative HMDB-compounds covering a wide range of chemical classes (**Fig. 3A**).

205 Using phylogenetic clustering (**Fig. 3B**) and SOM analysis (**Fig. 3C**) driven solely by the *Metabol*
206 dataset, we observed the E→E/M transition as early as 4 hours, followed by another transition after
207 day 1. This indicates rapid modulation of cellular metabolism by TGFβ, preceding changes in most
208 other layers. The E/M→M transition occurred around day 5, in line with the integrative analysis.

209 To glean further insights, we performed integrative network analysis of metabolite SOMs with
210 differential molecules in *WC* and *Phos* using MetaboAnalyst (Chong et al., 2019) (**Fig. 3D**). This
211 analysis reiterated several enriched pathways predicted with protein expression alone, e.g., SHB,
212 SLM, GMGD, glycerophospholipid metabolism (GPLM) and lysine degradation (LD) (**Fig. S3A**).
213 However, integration of metabolite and protein data within the framework of metabolite SOMs
214 revealed pathway activities representative of key transition steps of EMT driven primarily by
215 corresponding metabolite signatures (**Fig. S3B-D**). Indeed, we observed that arachidonic acid
216 metabolism (AAM), GPLM and LD pathways were activated within 4 hours of TGFβ stimulation,
217 which was not captured by gene-set analysis. Consistent with observations in **Fig 2F**, processes such
218 as fatty acid metabolism, SHB and SLM appear after day 2, as cells prepare for a metastatic phenotype
219 (Koundouros and Poulogiannis, 2020).

220 Pairwise-correlation based integration of metabolite profiles with proteomics measurements from
221 the same samples could enable mechanistic predictions and aid discovery of novel players. To
222 explore this, we chose AAM as an example. Arachidonic acid is an omega-6 fatty acid stored as
223 membrane phosphoglycerolipid. Its cytosolic release enables stoichiometric chain reactions and
224 results in >100 functionally diverse compounds (Hanna and Hafez, 2018) impacting processes such
225 as redox state, proliferation, apoptosis and chemotaxis (Tallima and El Ridi, 2018). We computed
226 Pearson's correlations between abundance of KEGG-annotated enzymes, in *WC* and *Phos*, and
227 metabolites of AAM pathway, in *Metabol*, quantified at SOM for 4 hours to day 1 (**Fig. 3E, F**). Overall,
228 we found that metabolites mapping to AAM either rapidly increased and then stabilized (Cytochrome
229 P450, CYP450, branch) or showed a delayed but consistent increase over the time course
230 (Cyclooxygenase, COX, and Lipoxygenase, LOX, branches) (**Fig. 3G**), suggesting fine-tuned regulation
231 of the different branches. Encouragingly, our enzyme-metabolite association map identified
232 PLA2G4A, the rate-limiting phospholipase of AAM pathway (Hanna and Hafez, 2018), among the top
233 candidates (**Fig. 3F**). Interestingly, correlation and expression profiles of PLA2G15, another
234 phospholipase, (**Fig. 3E-G**) indicated a potential enzyme-mediated switch from CYP450 to COX/LOX
235 branches during E→E/M.

236 Overall, these observations reveal the kinetics of metabolic reprogramming during TGFβ induced
237 EMT. We found metabolites and protein signatures coordinating processes such as AAM, GPLM and
238 LD during key stages of the transition. We also demonstrate how our enzyme-metabolite correlation
239 map could be used as a resource to predict novel enzymes for observed metabolic changes.

240

241 **scRNAseq analysis reveals heterogeneous responses to TGF β and novel**
242 **transcriptional regulators of EMT**

243 scRNAseq studies in murine epithelial Py2T cells treated with TGF β (Krishnaswamy et al., 2018),
244 MCF10A cells undergoing confluence-dependent EMT (McFaline-Figueroa et al., 2019) and LPS-
245 induced EMT in alveolar epithelial cells (Riemondy et al., 2019), provided valuable insights into EMT.
246 However, a temporal analysis of TGF β -induced EMT to understand the transition states has not been
247 reported.

248 After quality control, we retained 1,913 single cells with a combined depth of 9,785 genes (**Fig. S4A**,
249 **Table S1**). As anticipated, many of the top expressing genes (TGFB1, TPT1, KRT6A, TMSB10, MT2A)
250 are key players in EMT (**Fig. S4B**). Interestingly, similar to many primary human tumors (Puram et
251 al., 2018), we did not observe an explicit loss of several classical E markers at the transcript level
252 (**Fig. 4A**, **Fig. S4C**), suggesting post-transcriptional regulation, a strategy which could be
253 energetically economical for tumor cells (Lambert et al., 2017).

254 To understand the stages of cell differentiation, we took advantage of the multiple time points in our
255 dataset (as opposed to a 'pseudo-time'), and identified 20 cell clusters in 3 disjoint partitions, using
256 Monocle3 (**Fig. 4B**, **Fig. S4D**). Partition P2 (12 clusters) represents the primary EMT axis while P1/P3
257 predominantly expressed genes related to cell cycle (**Fig. S4E**) and were ignored for further analysis.
258 We observed that C3 responded strongly to TGF β (**Fig. 4C**), C4/6 resisted EMT, C5/C8 are the
259 'transition' states and C13/14 represented terminal M cells (in terms of hallmark M markers; **Fig. 4C**,
260 **right panel**). Examining clusters C9/18/19 which were composed of cells from nearly all time points,
261 suggests presence of stable M-type cells in MCF10A populations and appears to be at transcriptional
262 impasse for TGF β signaling. Notably, using scRNAseq, we could observe an E \rightarrow E/M transition, but
263 the E/M \rightarrow M transition, as revealed by integrative analysis, was not clear.

264 To explore the underlying gene expression program, we used hierarchical clustering to group the
265 individual clusters into 6 subtypes (**Fig. 4C**) and employed SCENIC (Aibar et al., 2017) to infer TFs
266 and GRNs underlying these subtypes (**Fig. D-F**; **Table S5**). For each subtype, we identified several
267 unique (**Fig. 4E**) or highly active TFs (**Fig. 4F**), including both established and novel players. Several
268 TFs implicated in EMT (TWIST2, FOXK2, ZEB1, ID2, MSX1, ING4) were over-represented in S4-S6,
269 which corresponds to later stages of EMT. In contrast, direct evidence of mechanistic links of TFs
270 enriched in early stages of EMT (i.e., S3, S4) are lacking, indicating gaps in current EMT models. Using
271 human TF-binding arrays (see **STAR Methods**, **Fig. 4G**) we confirmed elevated activity of three S3
272 TFs, GLIS2, SP1 and ZNF266 upon TGF β induction (**Fig. 4H**). In addition to providing experimental
273 evidence to our predictions, the TF-binding array also revealed several other TFs potentially playing
274 important roles at the early stages of EMT (**Fig. 4I**).

275 Overall, we provide a high-resolution temporal map of gene expression programs of individual cells
276 as they respond to TGF β signaling and undergo EMT. More generally, our data suggests that most
277 transcriptional changes occur at early time points (also **Fig. 2D, Lower panel**), followed by further
278 adaptations driven predominantly by post-transcriptional mechanisms.

279

280 **Spatial regulation of proteins and inter-cellular communication during EMT**

281 Regulation of protein distribution is a crucial signaling mechanism (Ferrell, 1998), but remains
282 insufficiently understood in EMT. The average Pearson's correlation between proteins quantified in
283 multiple cellular compartments (CCs) ranged between $r = 0.12$ to 0.58 indicating fine-tuned
284 regulation of protein distributions (**Fig. 5A**). We found 3,965 proteins localizing to ≥ 2 CCs (**Fig. S5A**),
285 which we categorized into 2 classes as follows: Class I proteins (1,424) displayed a correlated trend
286 ($r \geq 0.4$) consistently across all CC pairs suggesting regulation primarily at or before the translation
287 step (**Fig. 5B, C; Table S5**). Class II proteins (1,205) displayed anti-correlated trend ($r \leq -0.4$)
288 between any two CCs, implying active post-translational control of their asymmetric distributions
289 (**Fig. 5D, E; Table S5**).

290 The Bromodomain and ExtraTerminal (BET) cofactors, BRD2 and BRD4, were identified as Class II
291 proteins (**Fig. 5F**). Using TF-binding arrays, we verified enhanced global recruitment of BRD4, but
292 not two other cofactors, p300 and LSD1, (**Fig. 5G**) indicating its specific role during EMT. Indeed,
293 treatment with a selective BET inhibitor JQ-1 suppressed EMT (**Fig. 5H**). Another notable Class II
294 protein was SCRIB (**Fig. 5I**), which regulates apical-basal polarity and directional migration by acting
295 as a molecular scaffold through protein-protein interactions (PPIs) (Bonello and Peifer, 2019). Using
296 an *in vivo* proximity ligation (BioID) screen of SCRIB ((**Fig. S5B**, see **STAR Methods**), we identified
297 multiple novel interactors (**Table S6**) of which many have known roles in EMT (**Fig. 5J**). Using
298 immunoprecipitation, we verified interactions of SCRIB with SNAP23 and ARHGEF7 (**Fig. 5K**).

299 Subtypes within a cell population can differ in their capacity to send and receive signals, with
300 implications for metastasis and drug resistance (Kim et al., 2018; Tabassum and Polyak, 2015). To
301 map the inter-cellular communication between subgroups of cells during TGF β -induced EMT, we
302 integrated proteomics and scRNASeq data to perform a systems-wide survey of ligand-receptor (L-
303 R) pair mediated crosstalk (**Fig. 5L**). First, using a database of $>2,500$ curated binary L-R interactions
304 (Ramilowski et al., 2015), we searched for pairs of L and R in our *Sec* and *Mem/Glyco* datasets,
305 respectively, assuming that co-directional expression changes in L and/or R of a pair (FDR adj. *p*-
306 *value* < 0.05 and combined L-R $|\log 2\text{FC}| \geq 1$) can indicate biological role. Currently, at least two L-R
307 pairs are implicated in TGF β -induced EMT (Heldin et al., 2012). Our analysis detected 67 upregulated
308 and 12 downregulated L-R pairs at any given time point following TGF β treatment (**Fig. 5M, Table**
309 **S7**). Notably, none of these pairs have been directly implicated in TGF β signaling or EMT, although
310 individually many of the identified L or R occur frequently in the context of EMT and/or cancer. For
311 instance, LAMC2 with its 7 receptors (CD151, COL17A1, ITGA2, ITGA3, ITGA6, ITGB1, ITGB4) exhibit
312 significant alteration during EMT. LAMC2 is overexpressed in cancers (Garg et al., 2014) and its
313 silencing can reverse EMT (Pei et al., 2019). The cognate receptors, CD151, ITGA3, ITGA6 and ITGB1
314 synergize with TGF β signaling to promote metastatic behavior (Pellinen et al., 2018; Sadej et al.,
315 2010; Shirakihara et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2017).

316 Next, by systematically comparing the expression patterns of L & R (identified above) among the 16

317 clusters (identified in our scRNAseq dataset), we obtained cell-cell communication networks (sender
318 → receiver) (**Fig. 5N**, **Fig. S5C**, **Table S7**). For example, C13 cells, which appeared at day 3 and
319 showed highest M genes expression (**Fig. 4C**), produced the receptor CD44 to its cognate ligand
320 MMP7 expressed by C17 (**Fig. S5D**). Together, this suggests that communication between cell
321 subgroups (C17:MMP7 → C13:CD44) may exist during EMT which might have potential ramifications
322 for tumor growth. Interestingly, our analysis suggests a global switch in cell surface proximal
323 signaling cascades at day 2, corresponding to E→E/M transition, and likely modulating processes
324 characteristic of E/M cells, e.g., migration (e.g., FN1-ITGB6) and stemness (e.g., TIMP2-ITGA3).

325 As independent corroboration, several identified L-R pairs showed strong correlation (**Fig. 5O**) in
326 human breast invasive carcinoma samples (Cancer Genome Atlas Network, 2012; Cerami et al.,
327 2012). Notably, a slightly stronger correlation between the L-R pairs was observed with CPTAC
328 proteomics data than with TCGA mRNA datasets.

329 Our study provides a comprehensive analysis of TGFβ-triggered subcellular trafficking as cells
330 undergo EMT. Such translocations, potentially driven by differential PPI, could mediate the tight
331 coordination between functional modules (e.g., SCRIB complex) and EMT phenotypes such as
332 cytoskeletal rearrangement. We also uncovered novel cell-cell communication pathways via L-R
333 interactions in driving EMT, representing an untapped clinical opportunity.

334

335 **Modeling phosphoproteome dynamics during EMT reveals kinase susceptibilities**

336 Phosphoregulatory mechanisms are a key aspect of TGFβ signaling and EMT. We confidently
337 quantified 8,741 phosphosites (p-sites; 6,975 Ser, 962 Thr and 140 Tyr residues) (**Fig. S6A-C**) over a
338 dynamic range of 10^6 orders of magnitude (**Fig. S6D**), and phospho-STY frequencies (**Fig. S6E**) in
339 line with previous reports (D’Souza et al., 2014) mapping to 2,254 proteins (**Fig. S6F**). Of all p-sites,
340 3,138 (35.8%) were differentially regulated in at least one time point (**Fig. S6G**). At protein level,
341 different patterns of regulation were noted; some proteins, such as DEK, VIM and MISP, were
342 regulated at ~90% of detected sites, some proteins, such as CAV1, CAMK2 and GOLGA1, showed a
343 ~50% mixture of regulated and unregulated sites, while others such as AHNAK, PML and BCLAF1
344 showed ~2% differential sites (**Fig. 6A**). Interestingly, the fraction of regulated p-sites in several
345 proteins, e.g., VIM, increased with EMT progression (**Fig. 6B**).

346 We observed that in ~50%, p-sites dynamics were not explained ($r \leq 0.4$) by a corresponding change
347 at the protein level (**Fig. 6C, D**). Interestingly, for ~26%, a directionally opposite change between
348 phosphorylation and the corresponding protein abundance was noted ($r \leq -0.1$), suggesting effects
349 on protein stability. Phospho-regulated proteins were enriched for ‘nucleus’, ‘cytoskeleton’ and ‘focal
350 adhesion’ annotations (**Fig. 6E**) reflecting the importance of CC remodeling during EMT.

351 We also computed correlations between nuclear localization profiles (*Nuc*) and phosphorylation
352 kinetics (*Phos*) of individual proteins (**Fig. 6F, G**). For instance, phosphorylation of MICAL3 at T684
353 and S685 regulates CSCs by promoting symmetric division (Tominaga et al., 2019). The pattern of

354 phosphorylation of MICAL3 at residues T684, S685 and S687 (**Fig. 6D**, MICAL3) which are located at
355 the consensus NLS motif suggests a role in regulating nuclear translocation of MICAL3 at E→E/M
356 transition. Indeed, the bipartite NLS motif of MICAL3 interacts with Importin- α and the p-sites T684,
357 S685, S687 are directly adjacent to the binding interface (**Fig. 6H**).

358 To analyze stage-specific kinase activities we generated a ternary model which distinguishes active
359 kinases into 3 broad stages (i.e., E, E/M, and M) of EMT (**Fig. 6I**). An example that illustrates the utility
360 of this model are AKT isoforms that have distinct and opposing roles during cancer development
361 (Hinz and Jücker, 2019). We predict AKT1 is strongly associated with the E-stage, which is consistent
362 with its role in maintaining the E phenotype (Li et al., 2016). In fact, depletion of AKT1 in MCF10A
363 cells promoted TGF β -induced E→E/M transition (Iliopoulos et al., 2009). Our model further predicts
364 key roles for AKT2 and AKT3 at E/M→M transition. Indeed, AKT2 and AKT3 were associated with
365 tumor invasiveness, stemness and sensitivity to drug treatment (Chin et al., 2014), key characteristics
366 of the E/M populations (Dongre and Weinberg, 2019). Among several other kinases (**Fig. 6J**, **Fig.**
367 **S6H**), our ternary model predicted key roles for PRKCA and AURKB at the junction of E→E/M and
368 E/M→M transitions. PRKCA is reportedly a hub and therapeutic target for EMT-induced breast CSCs
369 (Tam et al., 2013). Similarly, inhibition of AURKB was found to reverse EMT and reduce breast cancer
370 metastasis *in vivo* (Zhang et al., 2020).

371 Overall, we reveal the rich intricacies of the phosphoregulome during EMT, identified functional p-
372 sites, predict novel kinase susceptibilities, and provide a mechanistic framework to enhance
373 understanding of the signaling mechanisms during EMT.

374

375 **Integrative systems causal model of EMT identifies mechanistic vulnerabilities**

376 Systems biology approaches that combine multiple molecular types (proteins, mRNAs, miRNAs,
377 metabolites) into a framework of established knowledge allow for a rich assessment of a biological
378 context (Hawe et al., 2019). Using experimentally validated functional priors (compiled from
379 ENCODE, PhosphoSitePlus, SignaLink 2.0, SIGNOR 2.0, HINT, miRTarBase and MetaBridge), we
380 combined causal inference and PCSF (Prize Collecting Steiner Forest) (Akhmedov et al., 2017) to
381 construct hierarchical mechanistic models of the EMT program (**Fig. 7A**, see **STAR Methods**). The
382 final ‘EMT network’ comprised of 3,255 edges connecting 2,217 molecules, including 723
383 kinase/phosphatase–substrate, 1,407 TF-target, 746 miRNA-target and 31 metabolite–gene
384 interactions.

385 One of the potential applications of the EMT network is to discover signaling paths from TGFBR1/2
386 to any gene(s) of interest within the network. As a demonstration, we queried several EMT-
387 associated genes (FN1, MMP7, CD44, SCRIB, TWISTNB, ZEB1, SNAI2) and recovered previously
388 known and unknown paths to them putatively active at multiple stages of EMT (**Fig. S7A**). Next, to
389 identify key factors driving EMT, we performed ‘controllability’ analysis (Vinayagam et al., 2016) to
390 identify controllers (nodes) exerting a significant influence on EMT network topology. Not

391 surprisingly, a few of them are established key regulators of metastasis (**Fig. 7B**). Unlike controllers,
392 however, the non-controller nodes were poorly represented in EMT literature (**Fig. 7C**), again
393 highlighting gaps, and potentially identifying new regulatory processes. Survival analysis against a
394 large publicly available dataset of primary breast cancers with long-term patient outcomes (Cancer
395 Genome Atlas Network, 2012) showed a significant association between tumors with altered
396 expression of these controllers and shortened overall survival (**Fig. 7D**).

397 We queried the EMT network to identify signaling contexts in which these controllers are active at
398 various key stages of EMT, which could also provide clues into mechanistic vulnerabilities (**Fig. 7E**).
399 As cells are stimulated with TGF β , the TFs SMAD2 and SMAD3 are activated, as expected. Another
400 early responder was RHO GTPase RAC1, an effector of both KRAS (Wu et al., 2014) and TGF β signaling
401 (Ungefroren et al., 2018), suggesting potential crosstalk. The downstream effector of RAC1, MAPK14
402 (p38 MAPK), was also regulated early in EMT, suggesting cooperation between RAC1 and MAPK
403 pathways (Santibáñez et al., 2010). Our model suggests SMAD3 regulates two other TF hubs, CEBPB
404 (CCAAT/enhancer-binding protein β) and FOXA1. Loss of CEBPB reportedly switches TGF β signaling
405 from growth-inhibiting to EMT-inducing (Johansson et al., 2013), while FOXA1 is reportedly a key TF
406 during EMT (Wang et al., 2013). We observed that STAT3 is suppressed at later stages of EMT. A
407 recent study in KRAS-driven lung and pancreatic cancer found that STAT3 is required for maintaining
408 the E state and is lost during acquisition of M phenotypes (D'Amico et al., 2018).

409 The EMT network directly predicts novel avenues for blocking EMT. To assess this, we performed a
410 morphometry-based screening where we treated MCF10A cells with TGF β in combination with drugs
411 which were predicted to inhibit several of the controllers active at E \rightarrow E/M transition (**Fig. 7F**, see
412 **STAR Methods**). Our analysis using a custom-built (Ochs et al., 2019) and publicly accessible image
413 analysis software GENIMASEG (**Fig. 7F**) showed significant efficacy of LB100+Barasertib,
414 LB100+PP1 and Sonidegib+Autocamtide in reverting the elongated phenotype of EMT-induced cells
415 (**Fig. 7G**), thus providing direct experimental evidence to our predictions. Using a biomimetic 3D
416 mammary duct-on-a-chip platform (Kutys et al., 2020), we further observed that combinatorically
417 inhibiting SMO and CAMK-II (Sonidegib+Autocamtide) inhibits invasion driven by the PI3K variant,
418 PIK3C α ^{H1047R}, which is associated with chemo-refractoriness in a subset of triple negative BrCa
419 patients (Janku et al., 2013).

420 Overall, our EMT network recapitulates known signaling pathways, uncovers novel routes of
421 information flow to known regulators of EMT, identifies new signaling players and pathways, makes
422 substantial and provocative novel predictions and reveals cohesive time-resolved regulatory
423 patterns and mechanistic links between both controllers and non-controllers.

424

425 **DISCUSSION**

426 EMT and cancer are *emergent systems* (Sigston and Williams, 2017) wherein progression through
427 various stages is regulated by intricate networks of intra- and extra-cellular signaling within and

428 between cells. The key to understanding such complex biological phenomena are establishing
429 experimental workflows that integrate multiple tiers of biological information (Karczewski and
430 Snyder, 2018).

431 Discussions on EMT are often guided by the Waddington metaphor of a ball (=cell) rolling over a
432 phenotypic landscape, which is dynamically shaped by multiple parameters: topologies of signaling
433 networks, molecular stochasticity, extraneous cooperating and opposing forces (e.g., EMT inducing
434 and/or inhibitory ligands, interaction with other cells) (Li and Balazsi, 2018). By integrating several
435 molecular layers, SOMs and ‘neighbor joining’ approaches revealed the kinetics of cell-fate
436 transitions and major phenotypic switch points driven by TGF β . Several studies have indicated
437 molecular and phenotypic granularity in EMT continuum and suggested existence of discrete
438 metastable E/M (Sha et al., 2019). Many current EMT markers are biased toward the later stages of
439 EMT, when the process is approaching completion (Song et al., 2019). Consequently, the molecular
440 nature of E/M is still poorly understood. Our time-course integrative SOM allowed us to trace the
441 temporal unfolding and uncover the molecular nature of the E \rightarrow M transition.

442 While previous omics studies have measured either one or two molecular layers to describe EMT,
443 our multi-tiered datasets enabled the discovery of several new aspects of EMT which were not
444 captured by previous approaches. For example, the correlation between *mRNA* and proteins were
445 weak. Strikingly, correlations between the various *proteomics layers* were also found to be quite poor,
446 indicating that systems behavior cannot readily be extrapolated by any single layer (e.g., mRNA or
447 total proteome), but instead needs an integrated analysis of several molecular layers. We show that
448 TGF β -induced EMT is only partially driven by transcription, where several E genes are repressed
449 only post-transcriptionally, while transcripts of M genes are upregulated but mostly during earlier
450 time points. At later stages, post-translational mechanisms become more prominent in driving the
451 process, suggesting that the regulatory control of EMT may be more flexible than previously
452 appreciated. Similarly, our results also predict the mechanistic importance of protein subcellular
453 localization during EMT. A comparison of proteins detected in *EV*, *Sec*, *Glyco*, *Mem* and *Nuc* indicated
454 extensive regulation of protein localizations. Further, previous studies on EMT have largely focused
455 on cell-autonomous signaling, whereas multiple inter-cellular signaling mechanisms are evident
456 from our integrative analysis. Indeed, we found both *EV* and *Sec* to be extensively regulated during
457 EMT. Once considered as cellular ‘garbage bins’, their active participation in signaling and crosstalk
458 is increasingly recognized (H. Rashed et al., 2017). Our results demonstrating limited qualitative
459 overlap between *EV* and *Sec* hint at a potentially overlooked mechanistic distinction and provides
460 opportunities for new biological insights. We utilized our *Mem*, *Glyco* and *Sec* datasets to provide a
461 repertoire of 79 putative new L-R pairs with potential roles during EMT, which should be validated
462 in future studies. By combining these results with the scRNAseq profiles, we were able to define an
463 extensive network of inter-cellular communications.

464 In conclusion, we have established a comprehensive multi-tiered molecular landscape of TGF β -
465 induced EMT. This study aims to provide a valuable resource which is accessible through an

466 interactive website (<https://www.bu.edu/dbin/cnsb/emtapp/>) (**Fig. S7**) and will strongly
467 complement hypothesis-driven research with direct implications for epithelial cancers.

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644

645

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653 **Gopal Karemire:** Software

654 **Michael Uretz John Oliphant:** Investigation

655 **Weiwei Lin:** Investigation

656 **Qian Liu:** Formal analysis

657 **Sadhna Phanse:** Software

658 **Dzmitry Padhorny:** Software

659 **Sergei Kotelnikov:** Software

660 **Carl White:** Software

661 **Guillaume P. Andrieu:** Investigation

662 **Christopher S. Chen:** Investigation

663 **Pingzhao Hu:** Formal analysis

664 **Gerald Denis:** Investigation

665 **Dima Kozakov:** Software

666 **Brian Raught:** Investigation

667 **Trevor Siggers:** Investigation

668 **Stefan Wuchty:** Software, Formal analysis

669 **Senthil Muthuswamy:** Conceptualization, Investigation

670 **Andrew Emili:** Conceptualization, Supervision, Writing – Original draft, Resources, Funding
671 acquisition, Formal analysis

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675 Core Facility at Boston University School of Medicine for acquisition of mRNA, miRNA and scRNAseq
676 data.

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679 Projects in Cancer Systems Biology. The CNSB has generous ongoing support from Boston University.

680 **Competing interests**

681 The authors declare no competing financial interest.

682 Main figure legends

683 Figure 1. A multi-dimensional resource on TGF β -induced EMT

684 (A) MCF10A cells exposed to TGF β for indicated time points were used to study the molecular
685 landscapes during EMT.

686 (B) Samples from 3 biological replicates were aliquoted and multiple technologies were
687 employed to quantify various molecular layers.

688 (C) An overview of numbers of molecules quantified in various layers.

689 (D) Expression snapshots of some well-known EMT markers. Heatmaps show log2FC values
690 (relative to Control, adj. *p*-value < 0.05).

691 (E) Variance explained by each layer over 4 principal components.

692 (F) Ridge plot showing differential molecules, as % of total quantified, for each layer.

693 (G) Pie chart showing the overall fraction (in %) of differential molecules (yellow portion)
694 relative to all molecules quantified in each layer.

695 (H) Overlap between established EMT databases (MSigDB, www.gsea-msigdb.org; dbEMT2.0,
696 <http://dbemt.bioinfo-minzhao.org>) and differential proteins and miRNAs (adj. *p*-value < 0.05;
697 $r^2 \geq 0.6$ & $|\log 2FC| \geq 1$) from this study.

698 (I) Differential molecules (proteins, miRNAs, metabolites) were used to assess the number of
699 coherent functional modules, i.e., known interactions between molecules, by employing the
700 Prize-Collecting Steiner Forest algorithm on a network compiled from PathwayCommons,
701 miRTarBase and STITCH.

702 Figure 2. The topological architecture of EMT

703 (A) Phylogenetic neighbor-joining tree reveals similarities (=distances) between time points.

704 (B) Combined pseudo-eigenvalues space of all datasets, indicating the contribution of each
705 dataset to the eigenvalue (variance).

706 (C) Matrix correlations between each pair of datasets.

707 (D) Line plots show the distribution of adjusted coefficient of determination (R^2) values between
708 layers as a function of time points.

709 (E) *Left panel.* SOM portraits. Color gradient refers to over- or under-expression of metagenes in
710 each time-point compared to the mean expression level of the metagene in the pool of all time
711 points: red = high, yellow/green = intermediate levels and blue = low (see **STAR Methods** for
712 details). *Middle panel.* Representative examples that appeared among the highest-ranking
713 features (top 1%) in each time-point. *Right panel.* Barplot shows the number of features that
714 were contributed by each layer among the highest-ranking features (top 1%) in time-point.

715 (F) Heatmap depicts sample-wise pathway scores, which were derived from enrichment analysis
716 of active subnetworks using the highest-ranking molecules (top 1%) for each SOM.

717 Figure 3. Dynamics of TGF β -induced metabolic adaptations

718 (A) Barplot showing the 'class' distribution of quantified metabolite features in HMBD. Also
719 shown are the relative proportions of differentially expressed features for each class (*p*-value
720 ≤ 0.01 , absolute $\log 2FC \geq 1$).

721 (B) Neighbor-joining tree for the *Metabol* dataset.
722 (C) SOM analysis of the *Metabol* dataset.
723 (D) Top 10% of metabolite features of each SOM were grouped based on clusters in 'B' and used
724 for "Network analysis" using MetaboAnalyst (<https://www.metaboanalyst.ca>).
725 (E) Identified metabolites of AAM pathway in SOM for 4 hours to day 1 were taken and Pearson's
726 correlation computed with known metabolic enzymes (KEGG) quantified in the *Phos* & *WC*
727 datasets.
728 (F) The plot shows enzymes ranked according to their Pearson's correlation with metabolites of
729 AAM pathway, as detected in this study.
730 (G) Schematics of information flow from TGF β signaling to AAM pathway, mediated by known
731 enzymes. Heatmaps and line plots display 'standardized' expression values.

732 **Figure 4. scRNAseq analysis reveals cellular dynamics and novel TFs for EMT**

733 (A) Violin plots showing expression of well-known EMT hallmarks in each time point.
734 (B) UMAP of scRNAseq by Monocle3. Dots represent single cells and are colored by inferred
735 clusters, while trajectories depict cells during EMT.
736 (C) Heatmap showing the number of cells (in log2 scale) in each cluster of partition P2. Mean
737 expression of some well-known E and M markers in each cluster are also shown.
738 (D) The plot shows all TFs ranked according to their SCENIC score. TF names are shown for the
739 5 TFs with the highest scores and some well-known EMT associated TFs.
740 (E) Tree displays unique TFs identified by SCENIC for each subtype. TFs highlighted in 'bold' are
741 known players in EMT. The genes in the outer circle are representative examples used by
742 SCENIC to infer TF activity.
743 (F) Barplot shows the inferred activities of top 15 TFs based on SCENIC scores in each subtype.
744 (G) Schematics of the human TF-binding array workflow (see **STAR Methods** for details).
745 (H) & (I) Density plots of ∂B -scores of indicated TFs. Two-sided Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was
746 performed to evaluate the significance of distribution differences between Control and TGF β
747 treated conditions.

748 **Figure 5. Spatial regulation of proteins and intercellular communication**

749 (A) The schematic summarizes Pearson's coefficients between overlapping proteins of the
750 indicated layers. Each pie chart depicts the fraction of differential proteins (orange slice) with
751 respect to all proteins quantified in the layer.
752 (B) The plot displays top 25 Class I proteins. Each pair is represented by a different shape.
753 (C) Expression profiles of top 3 Class I proteins. Each colored line represents a molecular layer.
754 (D) The plot displays top 25 Class II proteins. Each pair is represented by a different shape.
755 (E) Expression profiles of top 3 Class II proteins. Each colored line represents a molecular layer.
756 (F) Expression profiles of BRD2 and BRD4 in various layers. Legend as in E.
757 (G) Density plots of ∂B -scores of indicated co-factors. Two-sided Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was
758 performed to evaluate the significance of difference in distributions.
759 (H) Phase-contrast images after 6 days of TGF β treatment in presence or absence of active JQ-1
760 (100 nM) or its inactive analogue.
761 (I) Expression profile of SCRIB in various layers. Legend as in E.

762 (J) PPI network of SCRIB interactors identified using BioID.
763 (K) Immunoblots showing interactions of a few SCRIB partners identified using BioID.
764 (L) Schematics of analysis pipeline for discovering active L-R pairs (see **STAR Methods**).
765 (M) Heatmap showing combined log2FCs of L-R pairs in the *Sec* and *Mem/Glyco* datasets.
766 (N) Network plot showing L-R interactions detected between different P2 cell clusters.
767 (O) Scatter plot of correlations between indicated gene-pairs in Breast invasive carcinoma
768 samples. Regression line is shown in red.

769 **Figure 6. Phosphoproteome dynamics during EMT**

770 (A) Fraction of detected p-sites on a protein that are regulated during EMT.
771 (B) Detected p-sites on VIM and their expression during EMT. The gray lines indicate all p-sites
772 that are catalogued in PhosphoSitePlus database.
773 (C) Distribution of Pearson's correlation between expression of proteins and p-sites detected on
774 them.
775 (D) Schematic showing two examples each where expression of proteins and p-sites showed
776 either low (≤ -0.1 ; CDS2, CBX1) or high (≥ 0.4 ; MISP, MICAL3) correlation.
777 (E) Gene ontology enrichment of genes with at least a single regulated p-site at any time point.
778 (F) Distribution of Pearson's correlation between expression of proteins detected in *Nuc* layer
779 and the p-sites detected on them in the *Phos* layer. A few EMT hallmarks are highlighted.
780 (G) Heatmaps of expression profiles of indicated molecules in *Nuc* and *Phos* layers.
781 (H) Structural model of MICAL3 p-sites, NLS and Importin- α .
782 (I) Ternary plot of kinase activity scores binned into 3 broad stages of EMT, i.e., E, ICS, and M.
783 (J) and (K) *Top*. Expression of PRKCA or AURKB as detected in various layers. *Bottom*. Pathway
784 enrichment of all differential substrates of PRKCA or AURKB detected in our dataset.

785 **Figure 7. Integrative systems causal model of EMT**

786 (A) Schematics of causal modeling workflow. Non-redundant genes with most significant
787 expression profiles (Hotelling's T^2 statistic) were used. CausalPath-estimated logical
788 networks were used to augment a custom-built confidence-weighted scaffold interactome
789 which was then used to solve the Steiner Forest problem using the OmicsIntegrator software.
790 Only differential molecules (relative to Control, FDR adj.*p*-value ≤ 0.05 , $|\log_2\text{FC}| \geq 1$) were
791 considered as 'prizes'.
792 (B) Overlap between EMT databases and 'controllers' identified in this study.
793 (C) Overlap between EMT databases and 'non-controllers' identified in this study.
794 (D) Kaplan-Meier plots comparing prognostic performance of MSigDB hallmarks and
795 'controllers' identified in this study.
796 (E) A simplified schematic showing the hierarchical relationships between several bottleneck
797 genes at different stages of EMT, as indicated.
798 (F) Workflow for morphometric screening of drug combinations.
799 (G) Barplot of results of above experiment indicates varying degrees of synergy or antagonism
800 between inhibitors, in influencing EMT-associated changes in cell shape (eccentricity). Error
801 bars indicate spread of datapoints across all quantified cells in each condition.

802 (H) 3D ducts were seeded with stable MCF10A^{PIK3CA-H1047R} cells and treated with Sonidegib and
803 Autocamtide for 3 days. Area of invading cells and average distance traveled away from the
804 ducts as compared to DMSO treated controls were quantified using ImageJ (n=6 devices).

805 **Supplementary figure legends**

806 **Figure S1. Related to Figure 1. A multi-dimensional resource on TGF β -induced EMT**

807 (A) TGF β treatments were staggered, at defined time periods, such that all plates were harvested
808 at the same time. Cells were serum starved for 16 hours before harvesting.
809 (B) Phase-contrast images of MCF10A cells at different time points. Scale bar = 100 μ m.
810 (C) For maximizing efficiency while maintaining compatibility with technology-specific
811 protocols, after harvesting cells were collected in 4 aliquots per replicate, as shown.
812 Conditioned media were also collected.
813 (D) Upper panel – barplot showing percentage of quantified proteins with annotation in the
814 ‘Cellular Component’ category. Lower panel – boxplot showing intensity values (log2) of
815 proteins (=markers) commonly used to assess sub-cellular fractionation purity. Box edges
816 correspond to 25th and 75th percentiles, whiskers include extreme data points.
817 (E) Cumulative distribution (%) of Pearson’s coefficients across the samples (= time points).
818 Significant overlap between the 3 biological replicates, shown as 3 colors, indicates high
819 reproducibility.
820 (F) Heatmaps of molecular expression profiles of indicated layers. The mean of all quantified
821 molecules across the 3 replicates was used.
822 (G) Violin plots showing the spread of log2FCs of molecules at each time point (relative to
823 Control) for each layer.

824 **Figure S2. Related to Figure 2. The topological architecture of EMT**

825 (A) PCA of the various molecular layers. Time points are shown with different shapes and
826 colors. Points with similar shape/color indicate biological replicates.
827 (B) The population map presents the number of genes mapped to each individual metagene.
828 (C) The plot summarizes co-variance structure of datasets at the metagene level.
829 (D) The plot shows correlation of expression patterns of individual genes and the metagenes in
830 which they are contained.
831 (E) Temporal expression profiles of a few example genes identified in SOM analysis. Each colored
832 line represents a molecular layer, as shown.
833 (F) Temporal expression profiles of a few example genes enlisted as ‘EMT hallmarks’ in MSigDB
834 database. Each colored line represents a molecular layer, as shown.

835 **Figure S3. Related to Figure 3. Dynamics of TGF β -induced metabolic adaptations**

836 (A) The heatmap displays the results of active subnetwork analysis using differential molecules
837 in WC and Phos datasets.
838 (B) – (D) Metabolite-metabolite interaction networks, using MetaboAnalyst, for indicated
839 clusters. High connectivity indicates co-regulation of functionally related metabolites.

840 **Figure S4. Related to Figure 4. scRNAseq analysis reveals cellular dynamics and novel TFs for**
841 **EMT**

842 (A) An outline of the QC pipeline employed for scRNAseq data analysis.
843 (B) The plot shows top 25 most expressed genes. Each row corresponds to a gene and each bar
844 corresponds to the expression of the gene in single cells.
845 (C) Expression of indicated genes in *mRNA* layer.
846 (D) Developmental trajectories of MCF10A cells in response to TGF β , inferred by Monocle3.
847 Clusters are indicated by colors.
848 (E) Heatmap showing aggregate expression of groups of genes (=Modules) with similar
849 expression pattern across the *partitions*, by Monocle3. Modules 9/12 were highly expressed
850 in P1/P3 and were enriched for 'Cell cycle' related GO annotations.

851 **Figure S5. Related to Figure 5. Spatial regulation of proteins and intercellular communication**

852 (A) The plot shows number of common genes (intersection size, *y* axis) between layers as
853 indicated. Only differential genes in each layer ('Set size', FDR ≤ 0.05 ; adj. *p*-value ≤ 0.05 ; $r^2 \geq$
854 0.6 & $|\log 2\text{FC}|$, relative to Control, of ≥ 1) were considered for the analysis.
855 (B) Schematics of the BioID experiment performed to discover novel SCRIB partners induced by
856 TGF β signaling.
857 (C) Circos plot showing L-R interactions between the P2 clusters.
858 (D) UMAP plots of scRNAseq data highlighting the co-expression patterns of MMP7 and CD44.

859 **Figure S6. Related to Figure 6. Phosphoproteome dynamics during EMT**

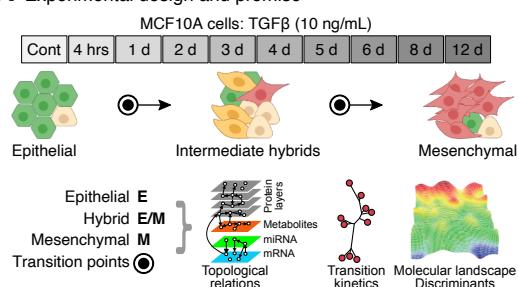
860 (A) An outline of QC pipeline for *Phos* data analysis.
861 (B) Enrichment efficiency for TiO₂ workflow employed for the study.
862 (C) About 74% of all detected p-sites were reliably localized (=Class I) by MaxQuant.
863 (D) Quantifications of p-sites were achieved with a dynamic range of 10⁶ orders of magnitude.
864 (E) Proportions of number of phosphate moieties in each detected p-site.
865 (F) Number of phosphoproteins regulated over the time course.
866 (G) Magnitudes of log2FC values for p-sites over the time course.
867 (H) The plot shows all kinases ranked according to their KSEA enrichment. Mean of |z-score|
868 values over all time points were taken.

869 **Figure S7. Related to Figure 7. Integrative systems causal model of EMT**

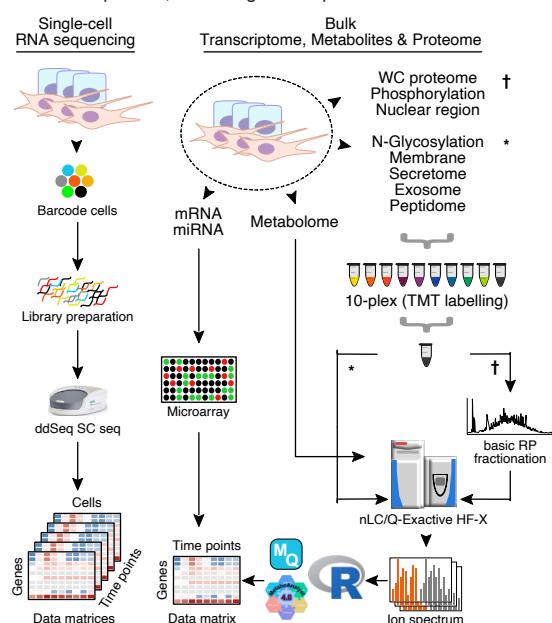
870 (A) A subgraph showing the signaling context of well-known EMT players 'queried' on the EMT
871 network.
872 (B) A snapshot of the companion website which can be interactively and freely accessed at
873 <https://www.bu.edu/dbin/cnsb/emtapp/>.

Figure 1

A Experimental design and premise



B Data acquisition, technologies and platforms



C Datasets (this study, 10 time points)

Proteomics	Peptides	Genes	PTM sites *
		(signif. up/dn) **	(signif. up/dn) **
Whole cell proteome (WC)	552,716	6,540 (403/470)	--
Nuclear region (Nuc)	286,162	4,198 (298/259)	--
Membrane (Mem)	35,870	2,223 (149/131)	--
Peptidome (Pep)	735	202 (31/31)	--
Secretome (Sec)	27,136	1,133 (247/200)	--
Extracellular vesicles (EV)	20,438	1,209 (149/123)	--
Glycosylated proteins (Glyco)	6696	590 (17/26)	--
Phosphorylation (Phos)	149,469	2,254	8,741 (1,536/1,602)
Total unique proteins	--	7,632	--

Transcriptomics

Single cell	Matrix	Total RNA	Genes (signif. up/dn)
Number of cells ***	1,913	mRNA	23,787 (2,441/1,993)
mRNA	9,785	miRNA	2,574 (178/118)

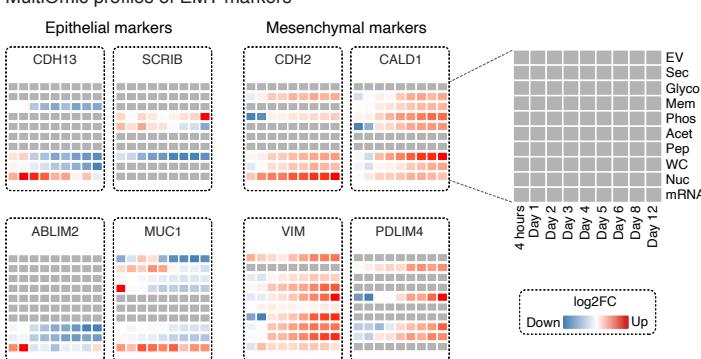
Metabolomics

Features (MS1 peaks)	HMDB indexed	KEGG indexed
27,759	4,259 (610/468)	545 (65/59)

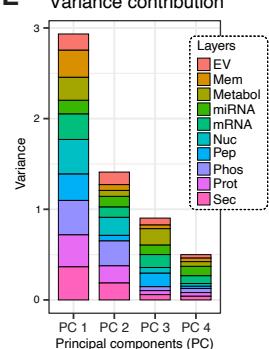
* Unique PTM sites remaining after QC steps; ** relative to 'Control', absolute log2FC ≥ 1 , FDR ≤ 0.05 , $r^2 \geq 0.6$;

*** Number of cells & genes remaining after QC steps **** Level 2 identifications (Salek et al., 2013)

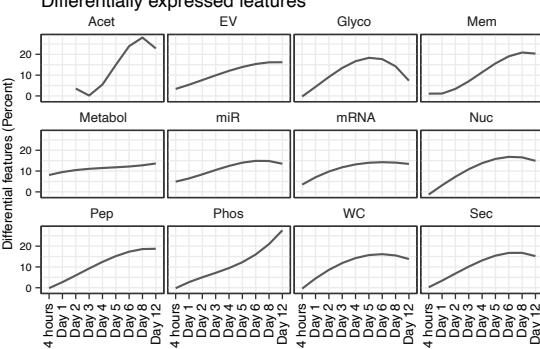
D MultiOmic profiles of EMT markers



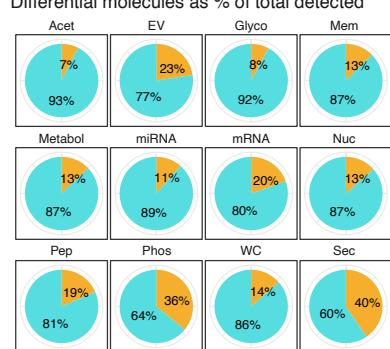
E Variance contribution



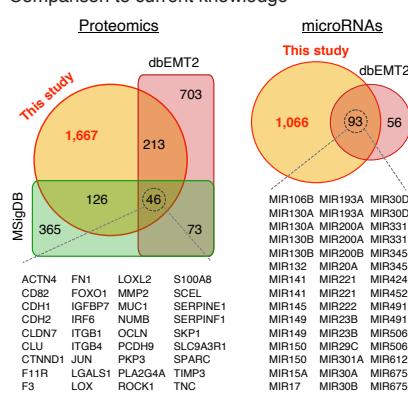
F Differentially expressed features



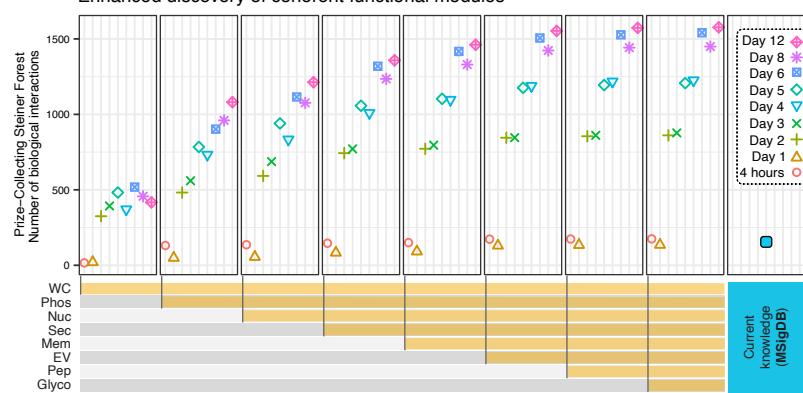
G Differential molecules as % of total detected



H Comparison to current knowledge



I Enhanced discovery of coherent functional modules



Current knowledge (MSigDB)

Figure 2

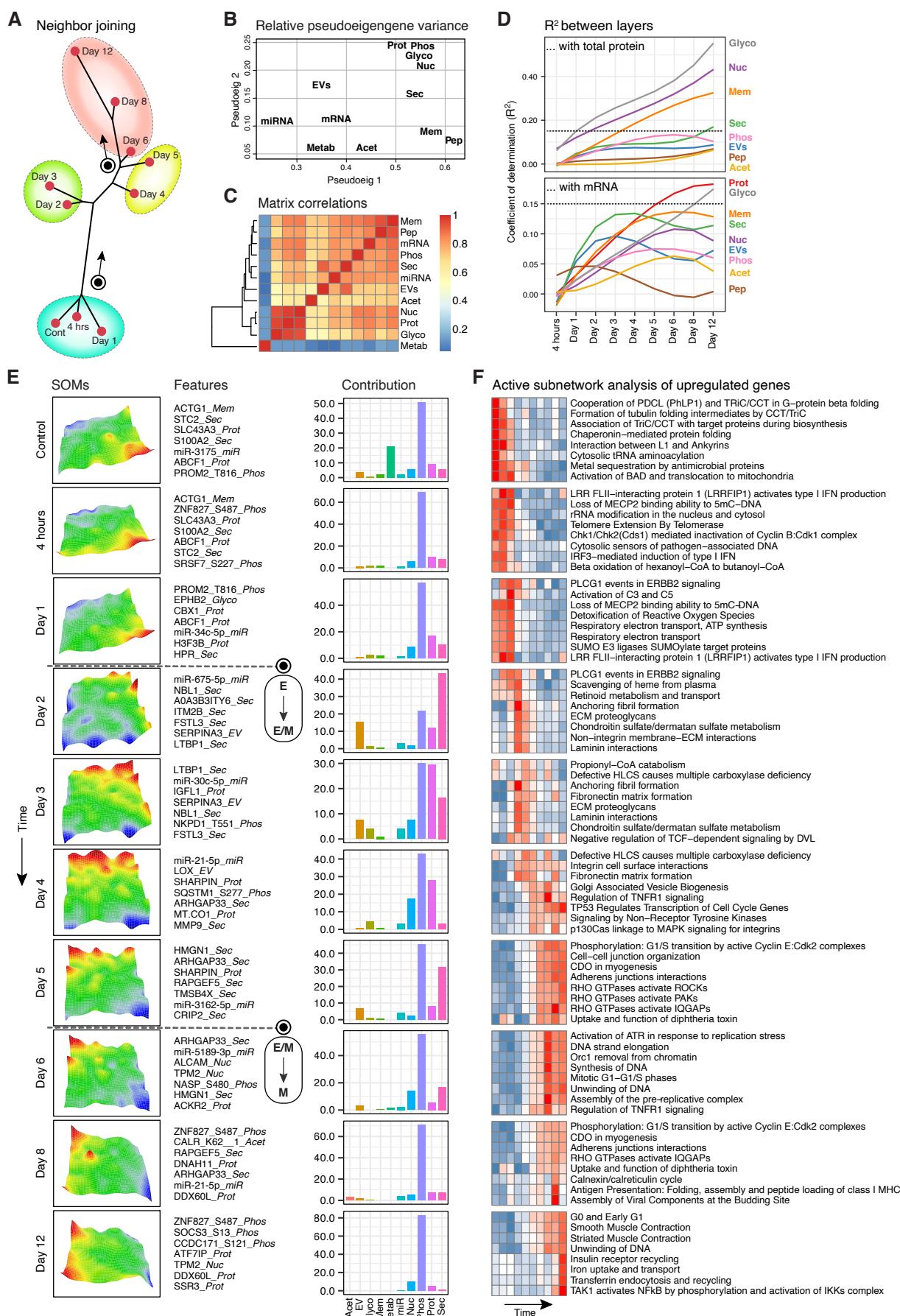


Figure 3

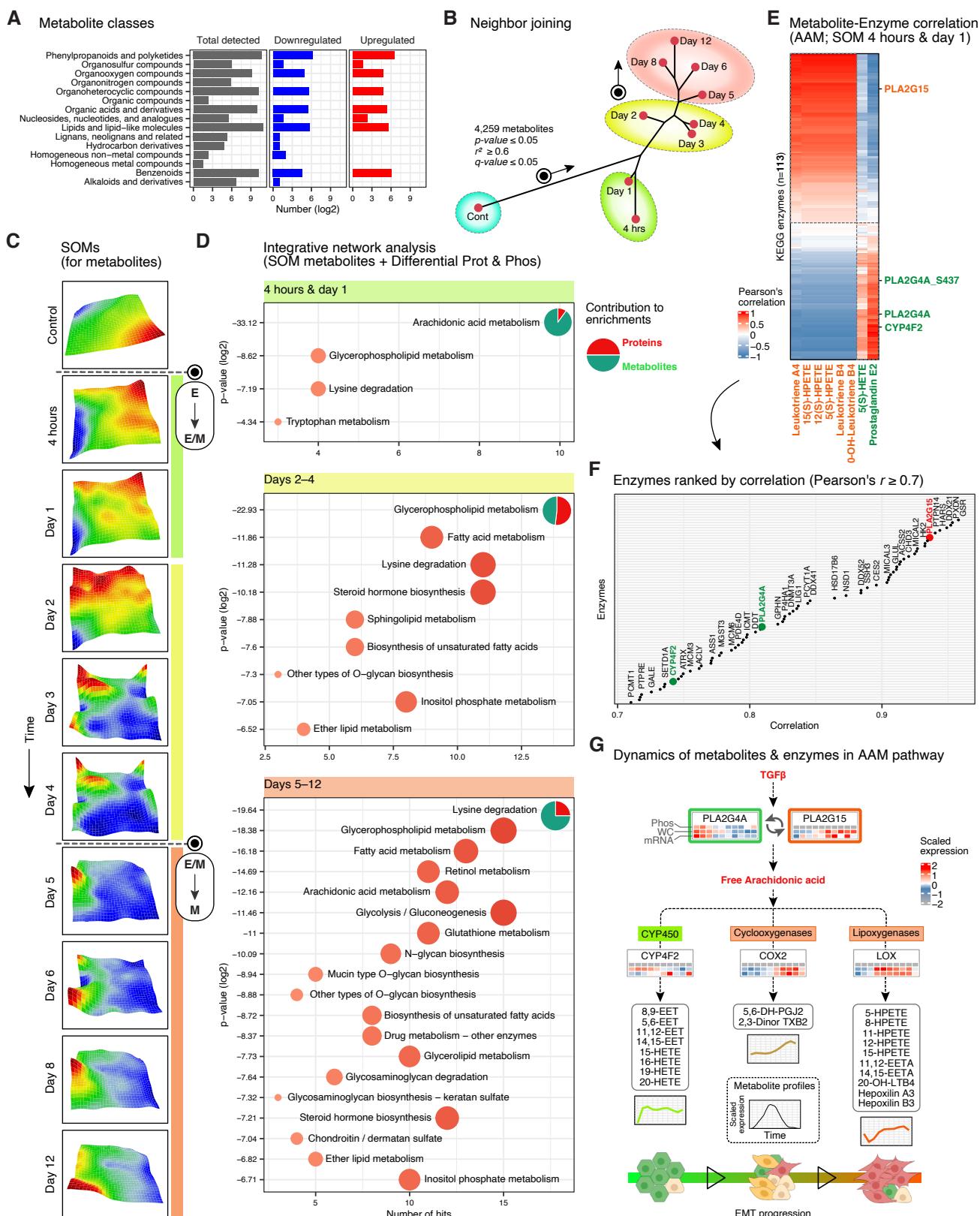


Figure 4

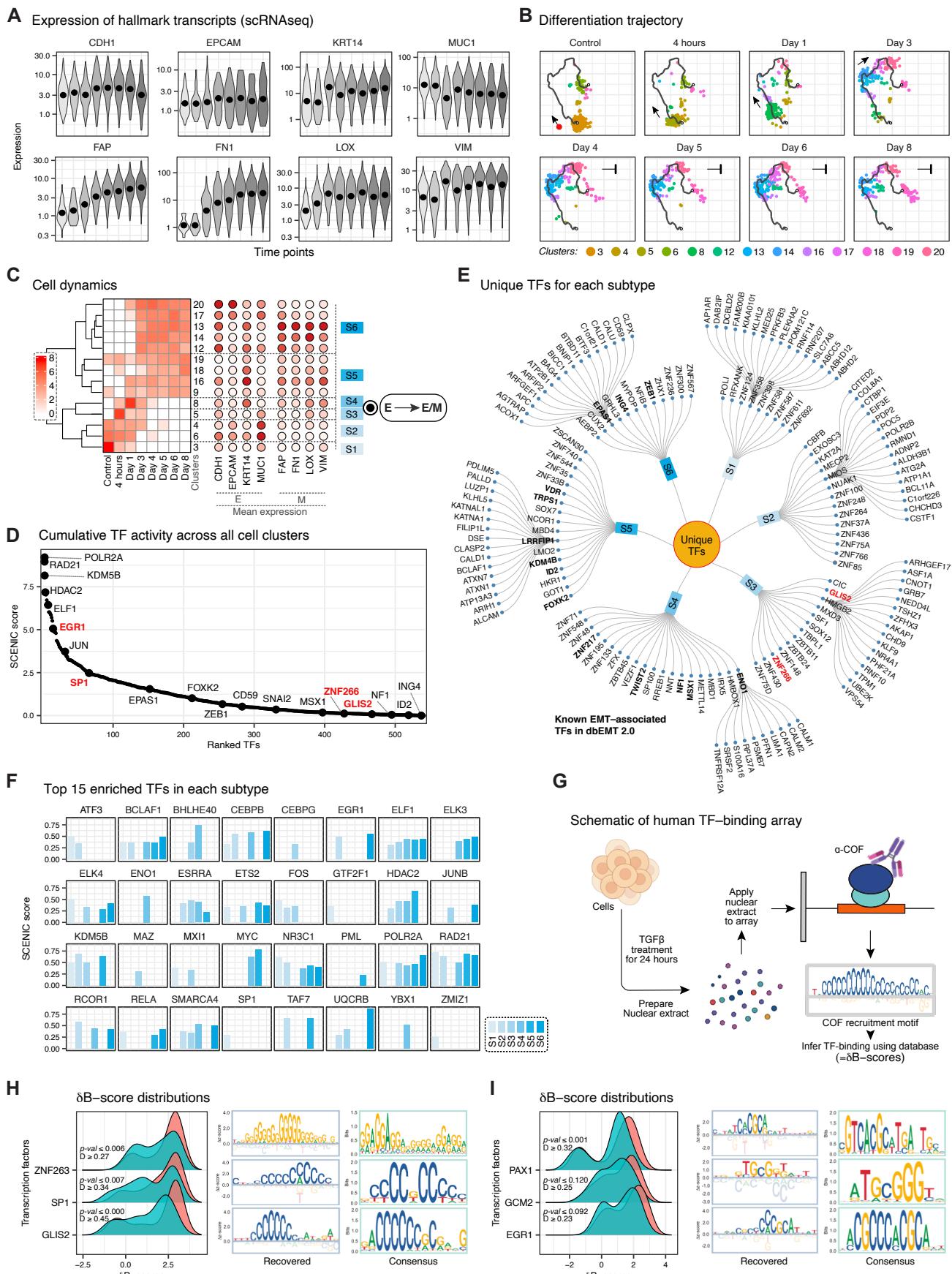


Figure 5

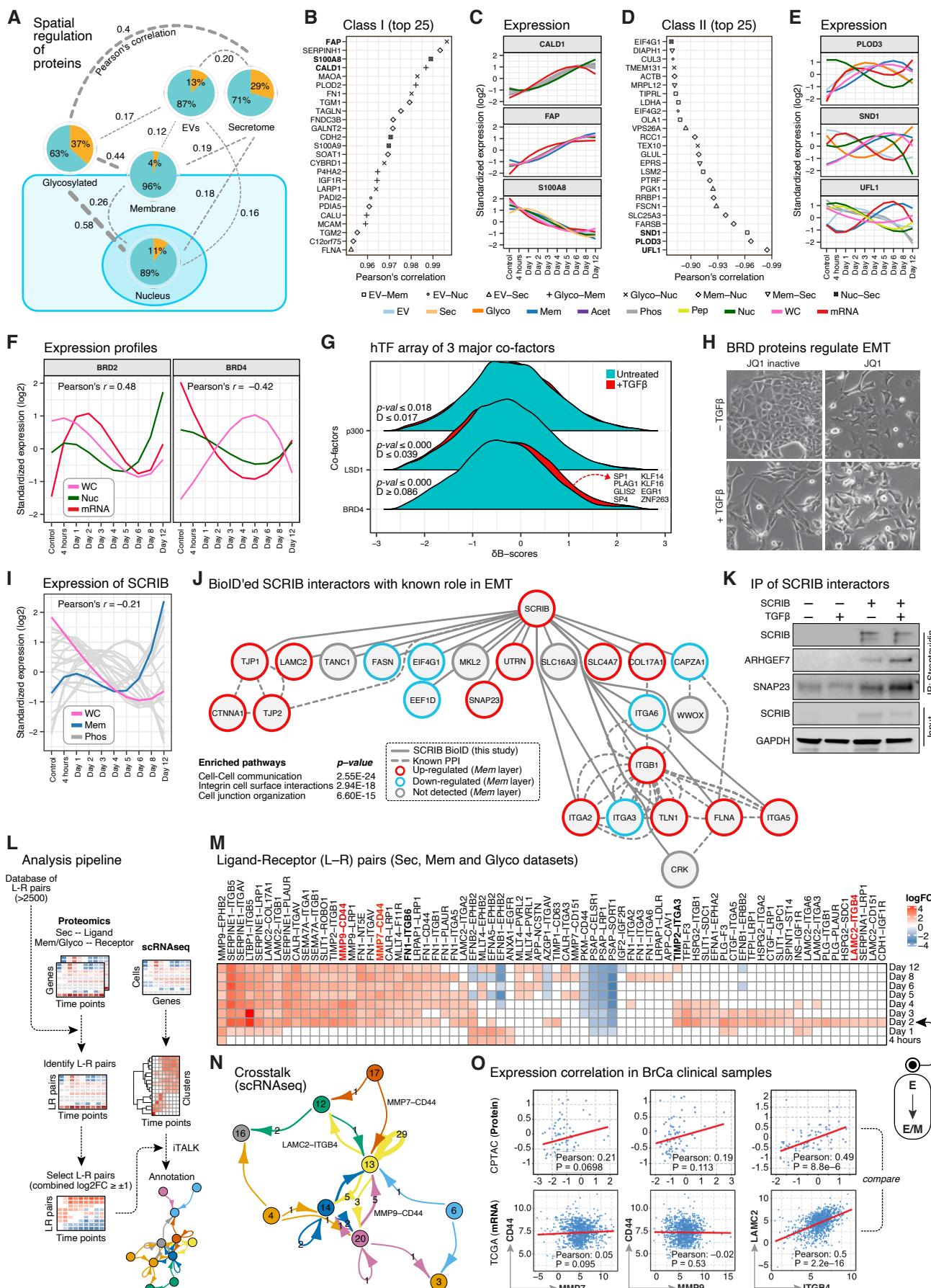


Figure 6

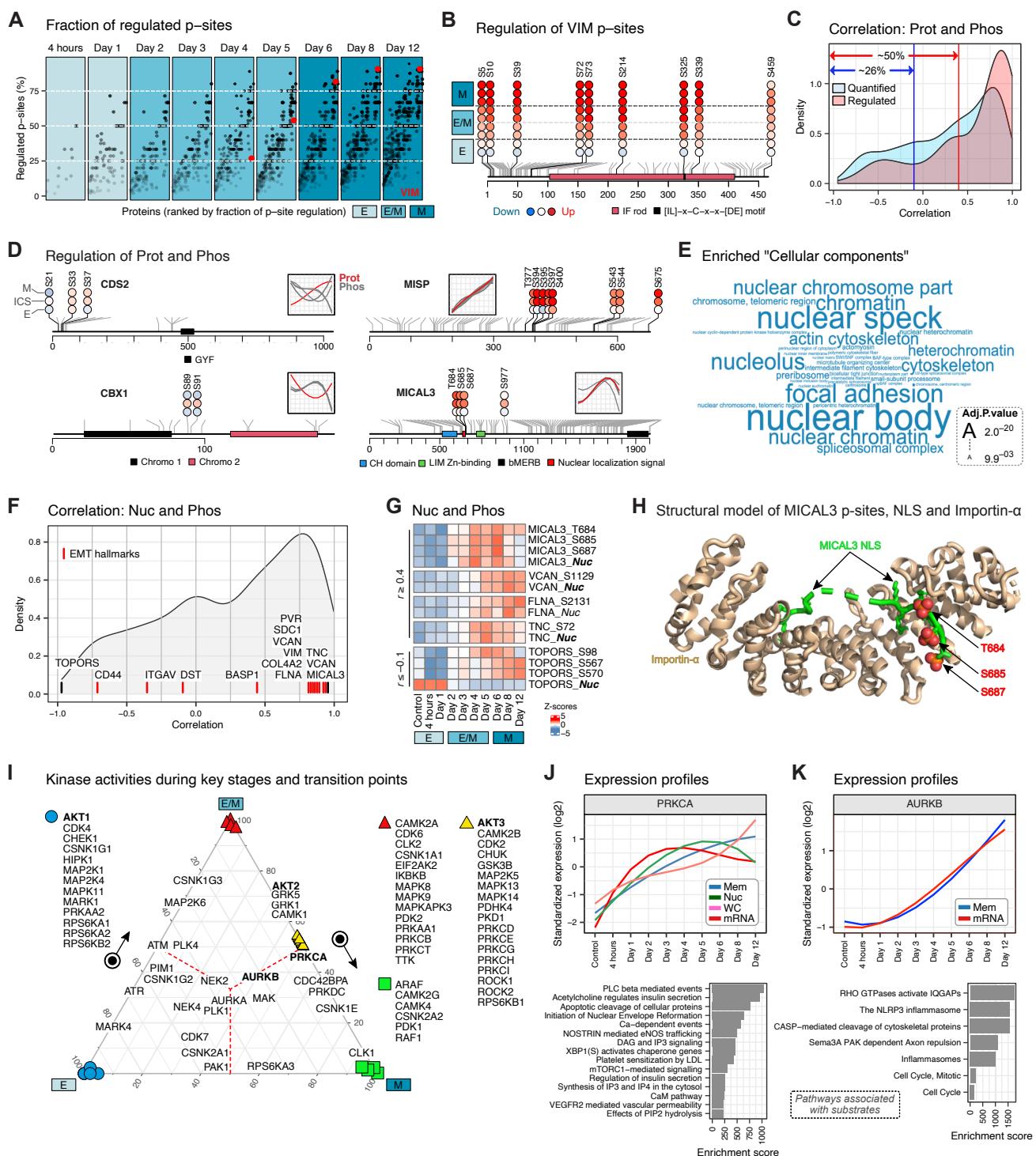
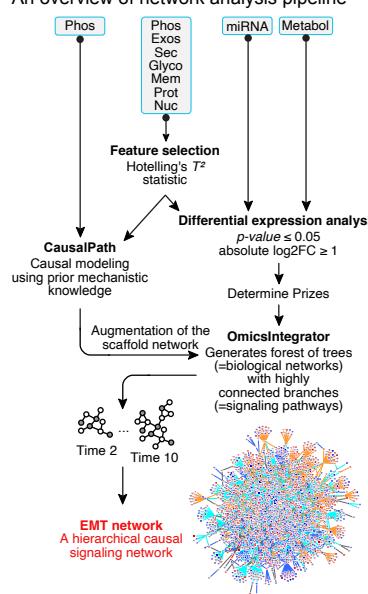
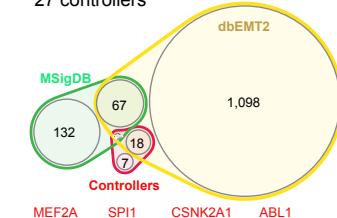


Figure 7

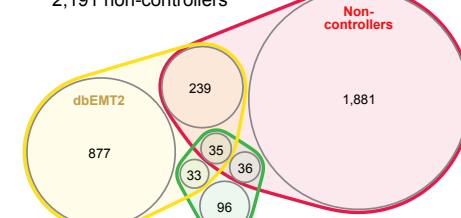
A An overview of network analysis pipeline



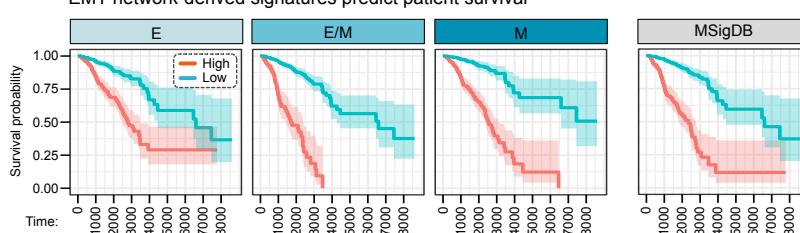
B Overlap with 27 controllers



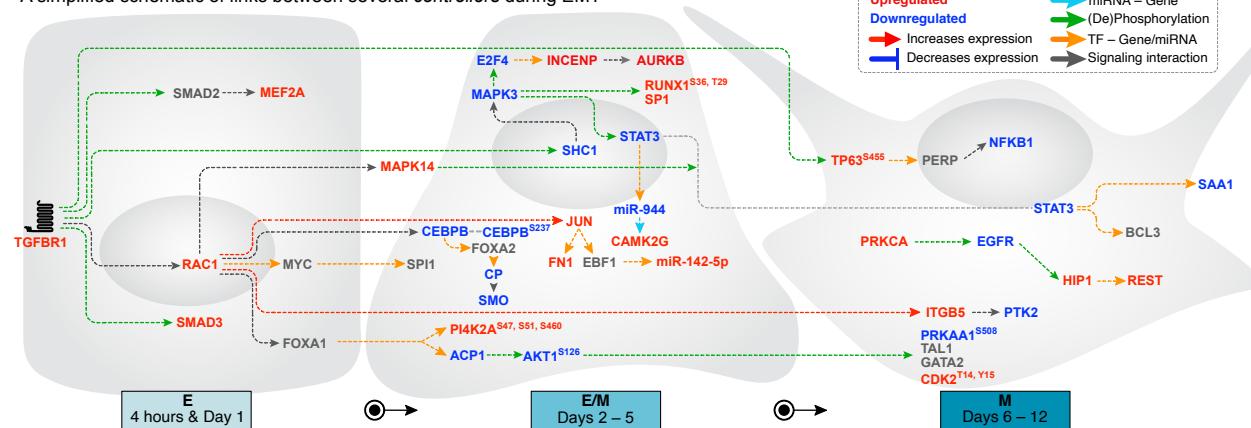
C Overlap with 2,191 non-controllers



D EMT network-derived signatures predict patient survival



E A simplified schematic of links between several controllers during EMT



E 4 hours & Day 1

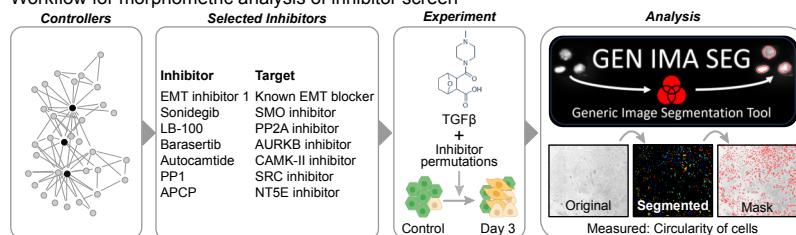
○ →

E/M Days 2 – 5

○ →

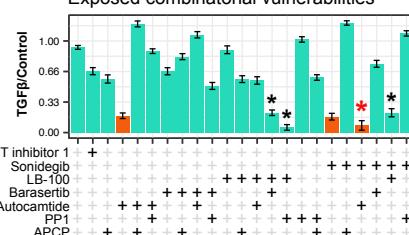
M Days 6 – 12

F Workflow for morphometric analysis of inhibitor screen



G

Exposed combinatorial vulnerabilities



H 3D biomimetic mammary duct-on-a-chip platform

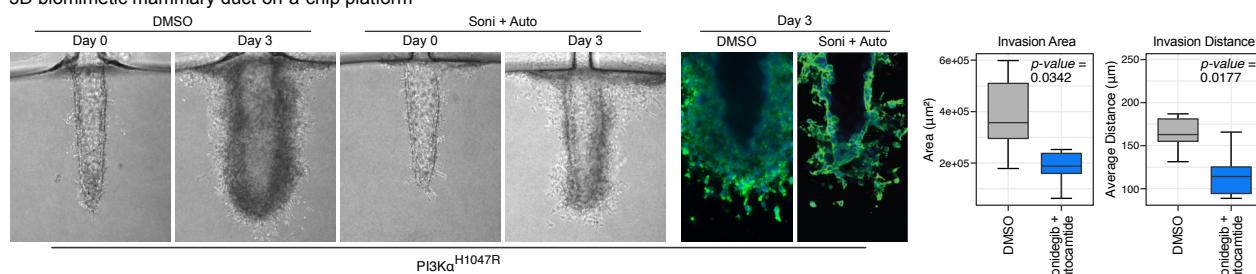
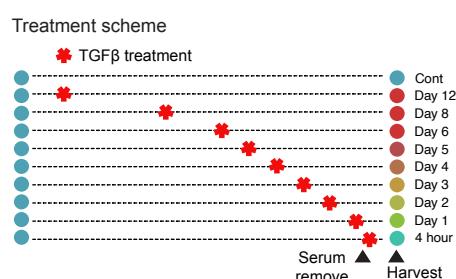
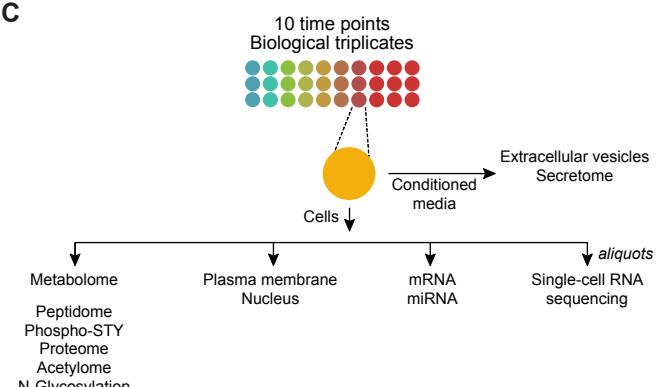


Figure S1. Related to Figure 1

A

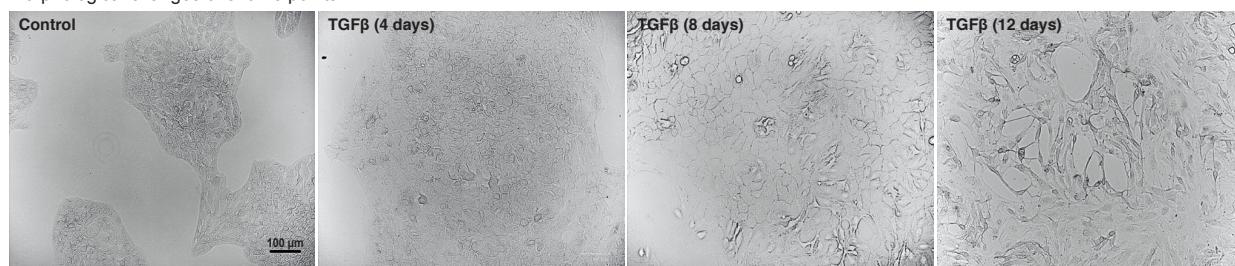


C



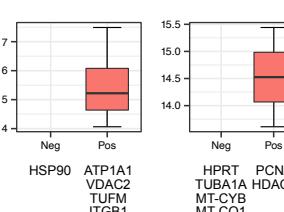
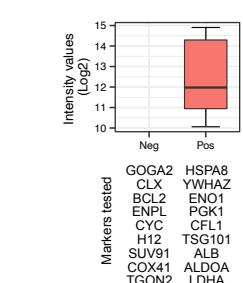
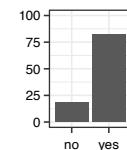
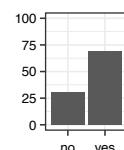
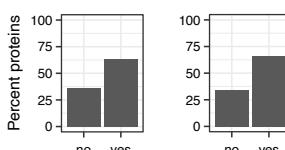
B

Morphological changes over time points



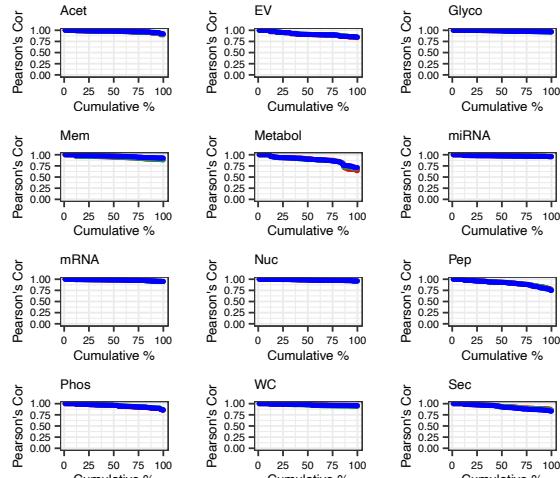
D

Enrichment performance



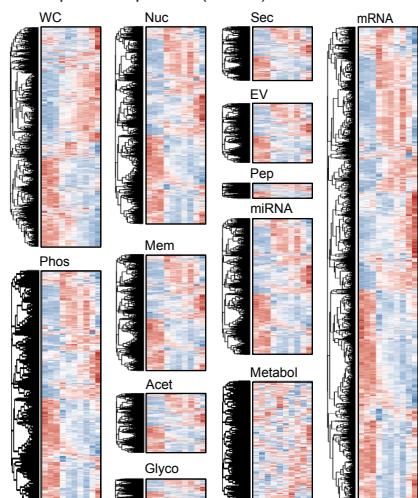
E

Quantitative accuracy across replicates



F

Expression profiles (scaled)



G

Magnitudes of differential expression

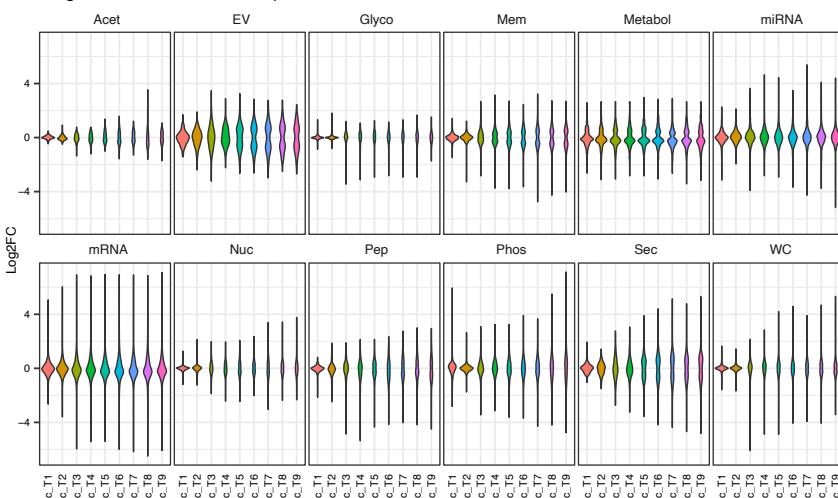
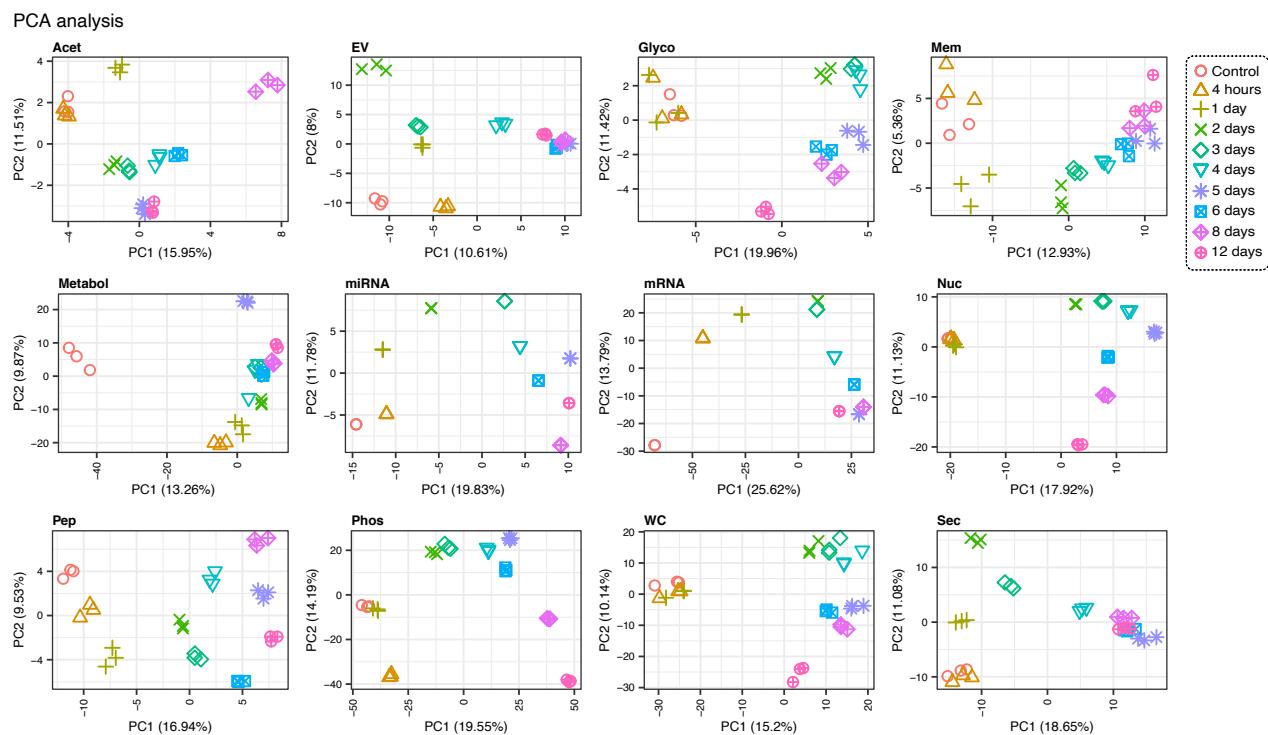


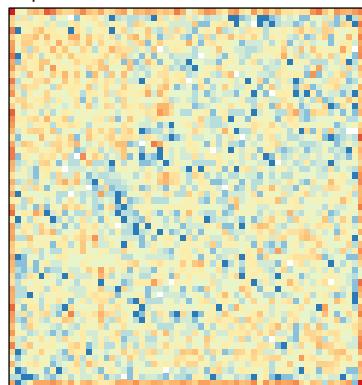
Figure S2. Related to Figure 2

A

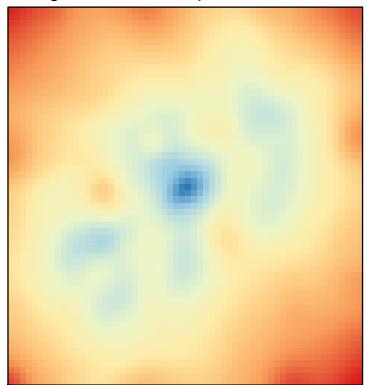


B

Population

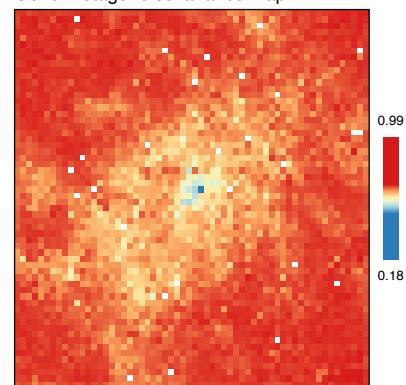


Metagene variance map

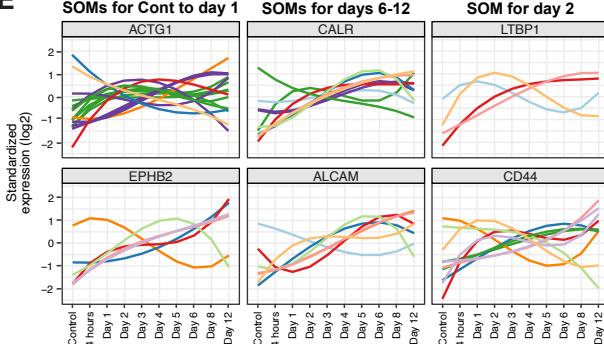


D

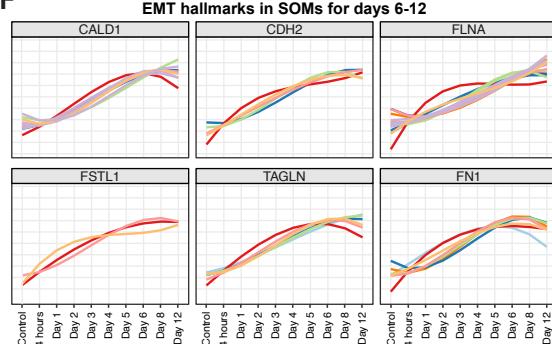
Gene-Metagene covariance map



E



F



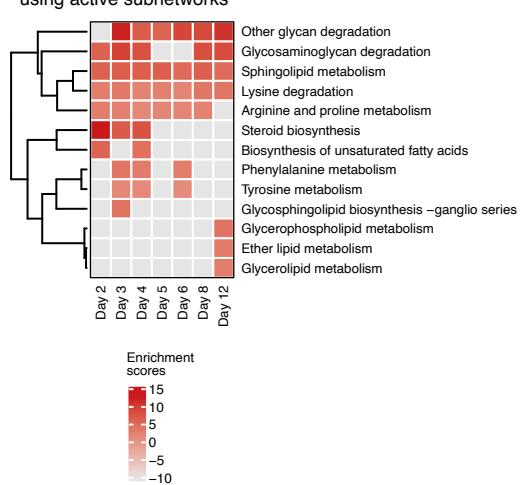
Key

- Acet
- Exo
- Glc
- Mem
- mRNA
- Nuc
- Pep
- Phos
- Prot
- Sec

Figure S3. Related to Figure 3

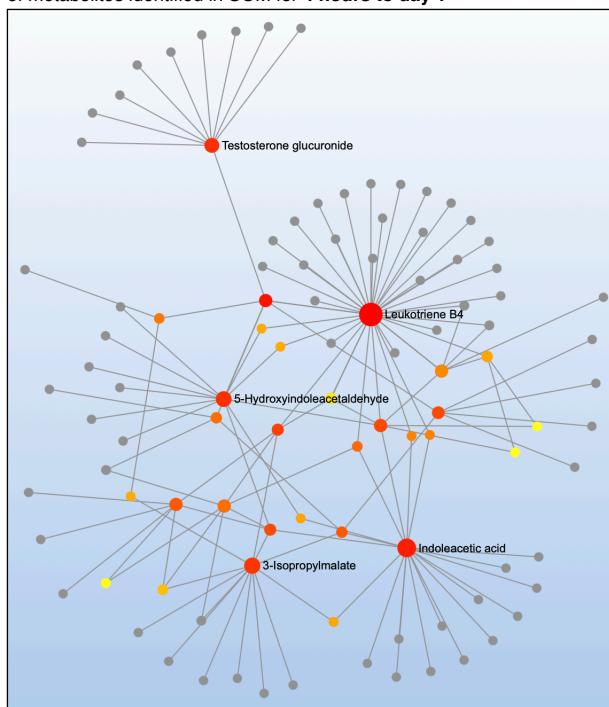
A

GeneSet enrichment of metabolic pathways using active subnetworks



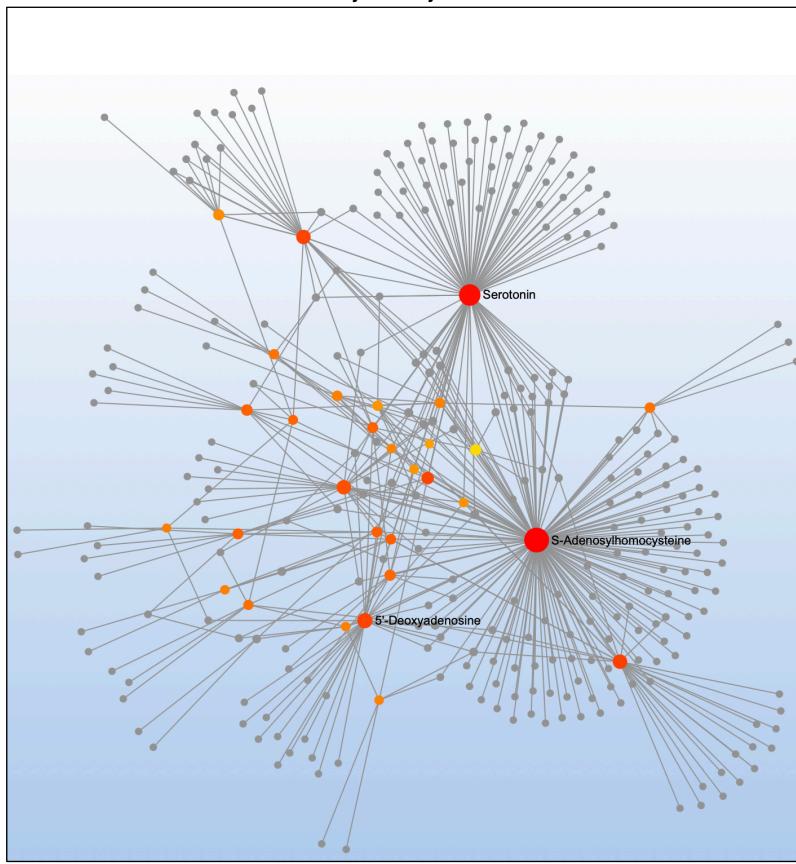
B

Metabolite-metabolite interaction network of metabolites identified in SOM for **4 hours to day 1**



C

Metabolite-metabolite interaction network of metabolites identified in SOM for **day 2 to day 4**



D

Metabolite-metabolite interaction network of metabolites identified in SOM for **day 5 to day 12**

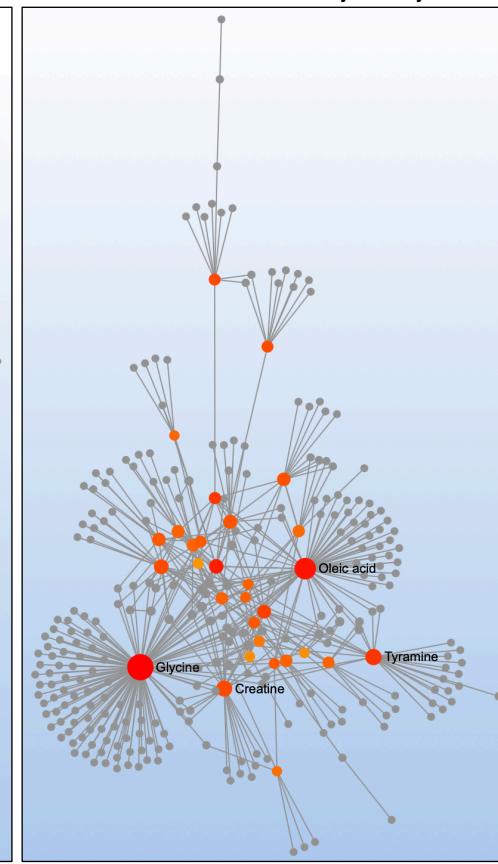
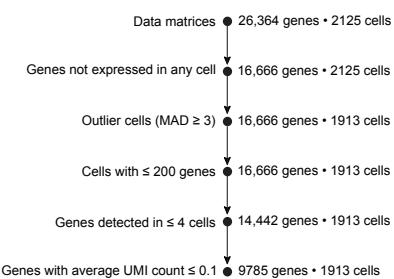
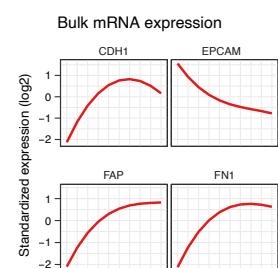


Figure S4. Related to Figure 4

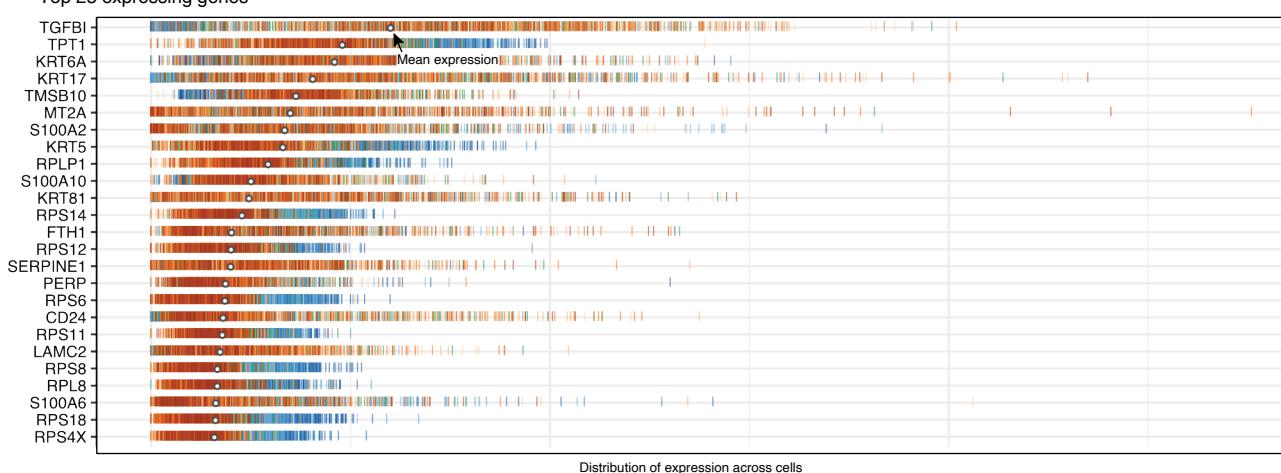
A scRNAseq QC pipeline



C

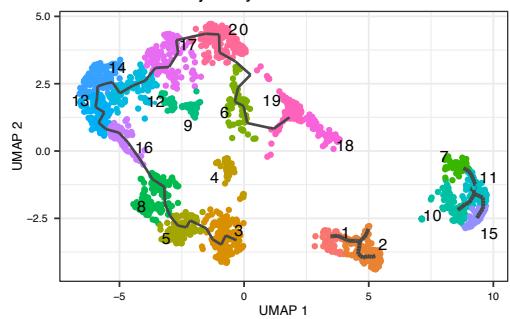


B Top 25 expressing genes

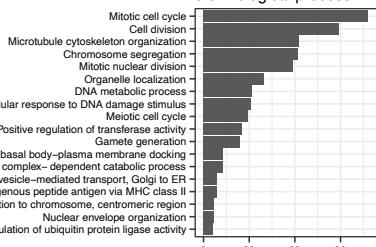


Distribution of expression across cells

D Differentiation trajectory



GO Biological process



E Module and pathway enrichment of the partitions

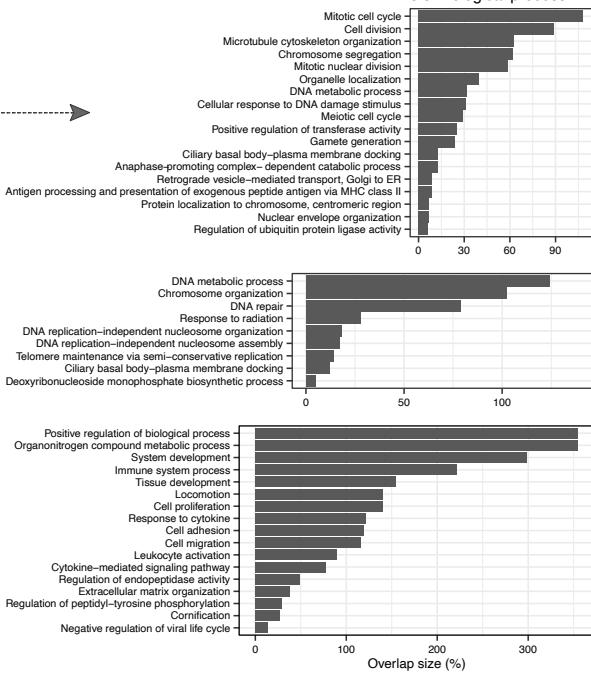
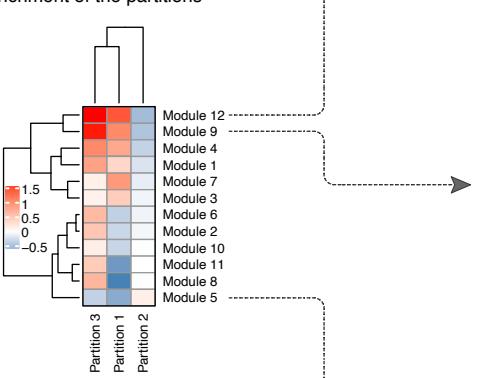


Figure S5. Related to Figure 5

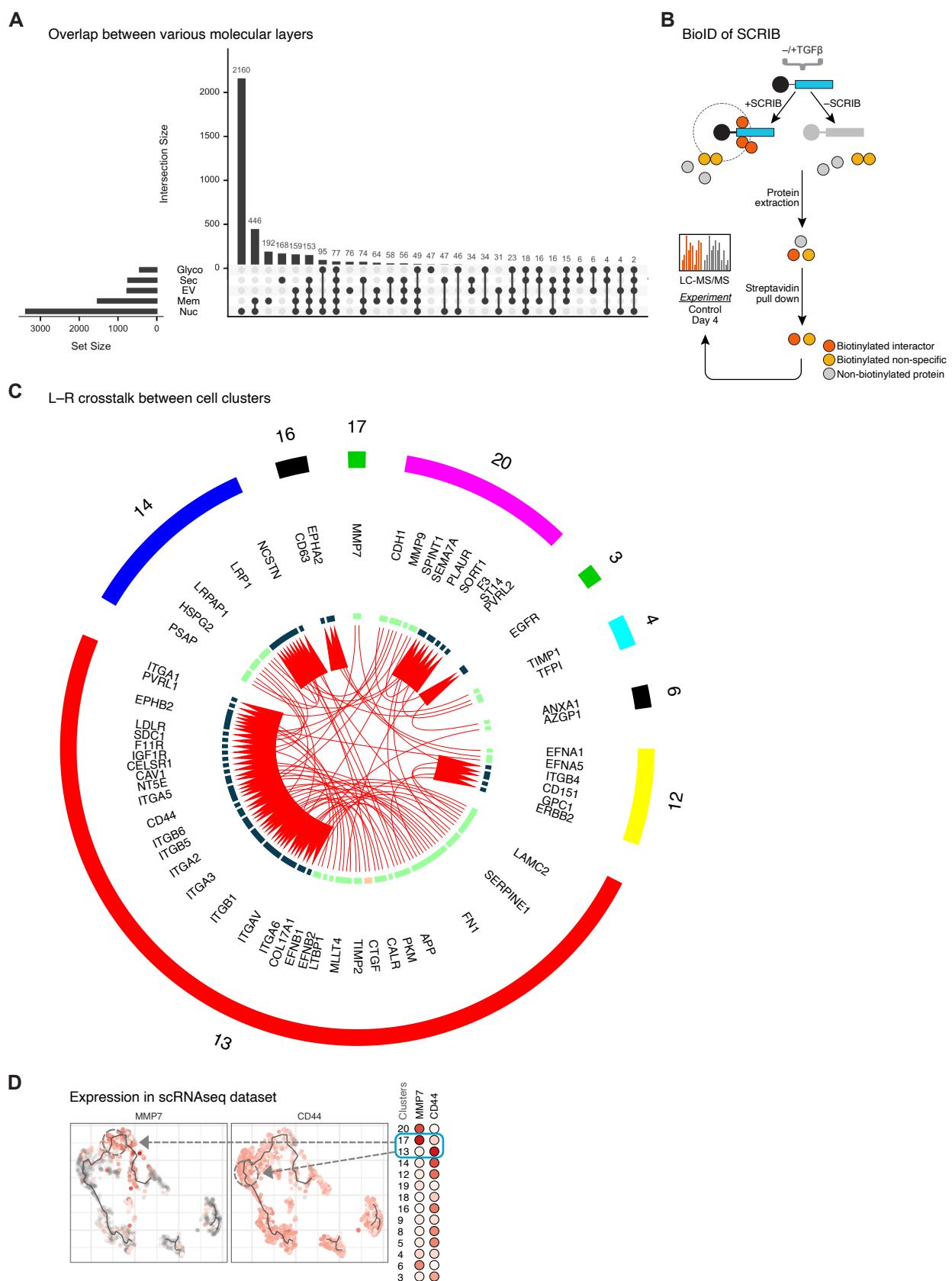


Figure S6. Related to Figure 6

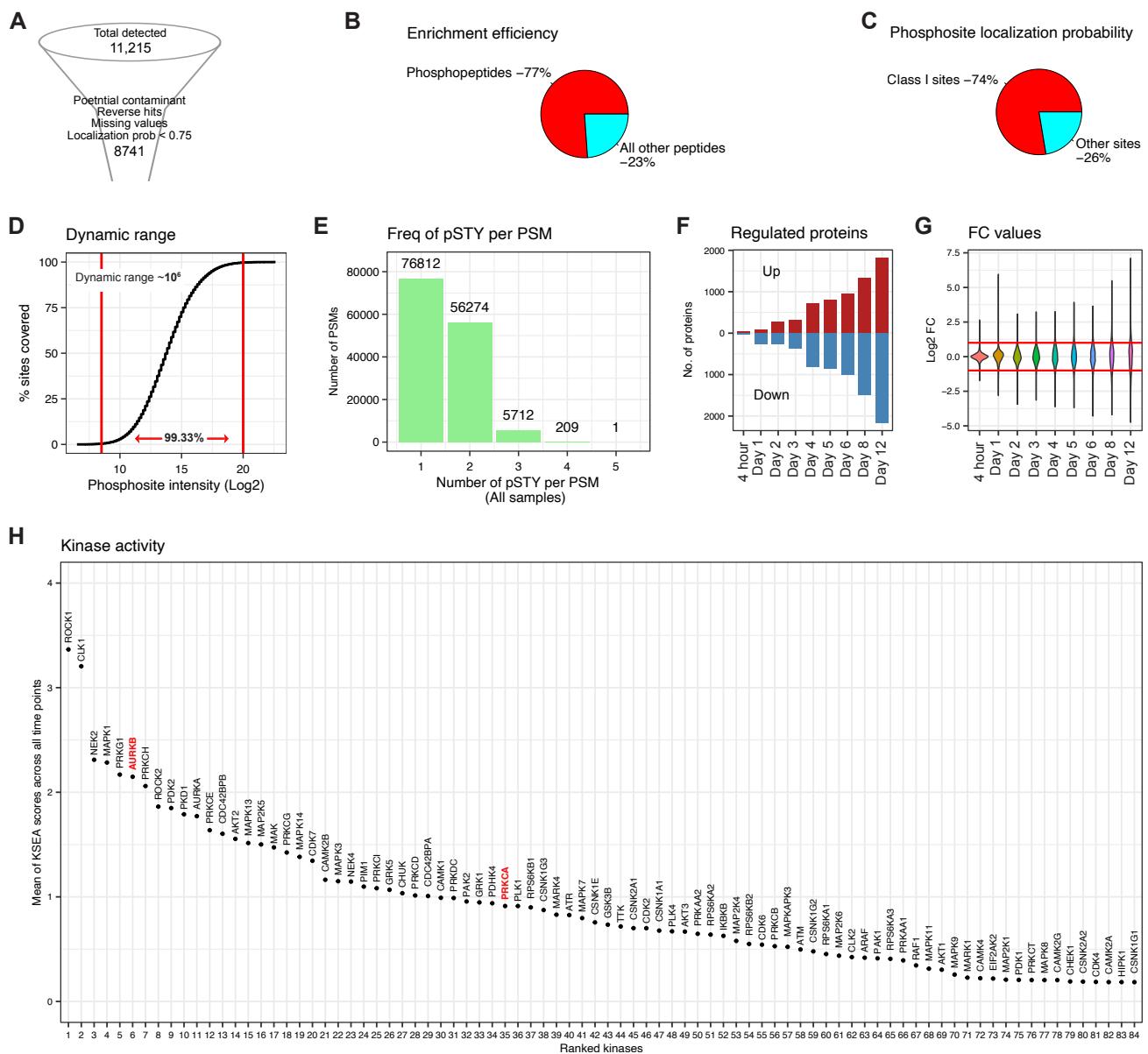
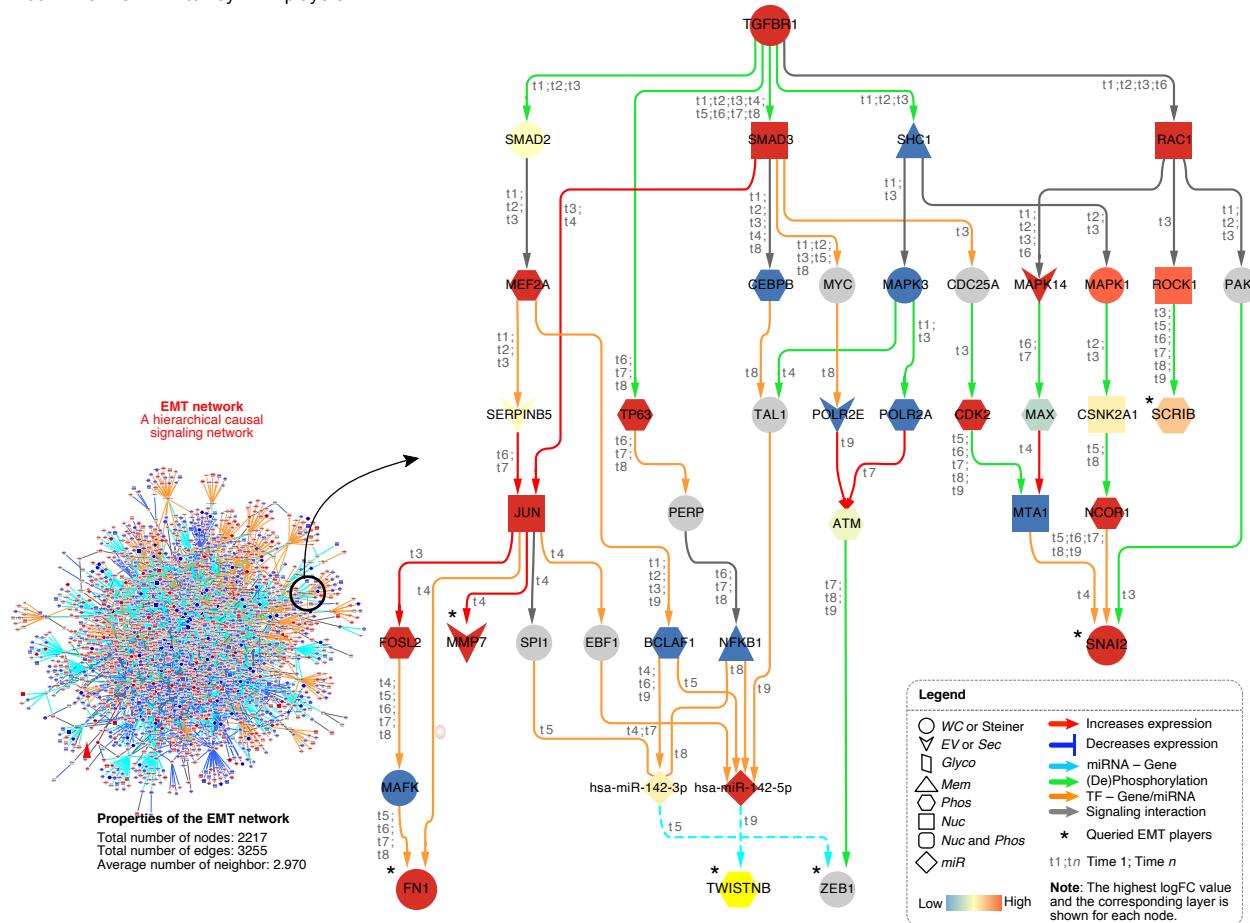


Figure S7. Related to Figure 7

A PathLinks: TGFBR1 to key EMT players



B EMT Website

TGF β induced EMT

Emili Lab  Boston University
Center for Network Systems Biology

Search Gene

Enter Gene symbol

Browse Data

About Gene Table Network Analysis

A multi-tiered map of EMT defines major transition points and identifies vulnerabilities

Epithelial to mesenchymal transition (EMT) is a complex cellular program proceeding through a hybrid E/M state linked to cancer-associated stemness, migration and chemoresistance. Deeper molecular understanding of this dynamic physiological landscape is needed to define events which regulate the transition and entry into and exit from the E/M state. Here, we quantified >60,000 molecules across ten time points and twelve omic layers in human mammary epithelial cells undergoing TGF β -induced EMT. Deep proteomic profiles of whole cells, nuclei, extracellular vesicles, secretome, membrane and phosphoproteome defined state-specific signatures and major transition points. Parallel metabolomics showed metabolic reprogramming preceded changes in other layers, while single-cell RNA sequencing identified transcription factors controlling entry into E/M. Covariance analysis exposed unexpected discordance between the molecular layers. Integrative causal modeling revealed co-dependencies governing entry into E/M that were verified experimentally using combinatorial inhibition. Overall, this dataset provides an unprecedented resource on TGF β signaling, EMT and cancer.

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Website designed and developed by: Carl White & Sadhna Phanse | E-mail questions or comments to: srphanse@bu.edu

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