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Sample Preparation and 3D-SIM fixed-cell imaging of FTH1 and Filipin in NPC1 and NPC2 mutants

 Forked from [Evaluation of pUb kinetics using 3D-SIM](#)

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Abstract

Protocol for the evaluation of pUb kinetics using 3D-SIM



Seeding of HeLa cells

- 1 Wash HeLa TMEM192-3xHA control and NPC1, NPC2 mutants with 1xPBS
- 2 Add Trypsin to cells for 5 min and incubate at 37°C to dissociate cells from plastic well
- 3 Resuspend cells in 1 mL DMEM media
- 4 Count cells
- 5 Seed appropriate number of cells onto 18x18mm Marienfeld Precision cover glasses thickness No. 1.5H (tol. $\pm 5 \mu\text{m}$).
- 6 Top up glass bottom dish with either 1 mL DMEM and place cells back into incubator
- 7 The next day exchange growth medium

Staining

- 8 Aspirate DMEM and fix cells in warm paraformaldehyde 3% Glutaraldehyde 0.35% in 0.1M Sodium Cacodylate, pH 7.4Aspirate PFA solution and wash wells 3x with PBST (1x PBS, 0.02% Tween 20).
PFA is toxic and discard in the appropriate waste streams.
- 9 Stain cholesterol with Filipin (0.05mg/ml in PBS / 10% FBS) for 2h at RT.
Wash cells after staining with PBST for 2 min.
- 10 Permeabilize the cells by adding 0.2% Triton X-100 in PBS.
- 11 Remove the detergent solution by aspiration. Wash wells 3x with PBST (1x PBS, 0.02% Tween 20). Drain well.
- 12 Block cells for 10 min with 3% BSA – 1x PBS.

- 13 Remove BSA solution by aspiration. Wash wells 3x with PBST (1x PBS, 0.02% Tween 20). Drain well.
- 14 Incubate with primary antibodies in 3% BSA - 1x PBS over night at 4°C with gentle shaking.
 - a. anti-FTH1 (rabbit)
- 15 Wash wells 3x with PBST (1x PBS, 0.02% Tween 20). Drain well.
- 16 Incubate with secondary antibodies in 3% BSA - 1x PBS for 45 min – 1h.
 - a. Goat anti-rabbit AlexaFluor 568
- 17 Wash wells 3x with PBST (1x PBS, 0.02% Tween 20). Drain well.
- 18 Wash coverslips with 1x PBS and mount in Vectashield (Vector Laboratories, H-1000-10) on glass slides. Exchange PBST with 1x PBS and keep cells at 4°C until imaging. Image within the next few days.

Fixed-cell 3D-SIM microscopy

- 19 Image cells on DeltaVision OMX v4 using an Olympus 60x / 1.42 Plan Apo oil objective (Olympus, Japan). Record 405, 488 and 568 channels using a front-illuminated sCMOS (PCO Photonics, USA) in 512x512px image size mode, 1x binning, 125 nm z-stepping and with 15 raw images taken per z-plane (5 phase-shifts, 3 angles).
- 20 Reconstruct raw images using CUDA-accelerated 3D-SIM reconstruction code (<https://github.com/scopetools/cudasirecon>) based on Gustafsson et al. (2008[FK1]). The Optimal optical transfer function (OTF) was determined via an in-house build software, developed by Talley Lambert from the NIC / CBMF (GitHub: <https://github.com/tlambert03/otfsearch>, all channels were registered to the 528nm output channel, Wiener filter: 0.002, background: 90).

3D-redrendering in ChimeraX

- 21 Open .dv composite image stacks in Fiji. Separate channels and save them as separate .tiff stacks for import into ChimeraX
- 22 Open ChimeraX and open one of the two image stacks into a new project.



- 23 While not moving the scene, drag the second tiff stack into ChimeraX. The two channels should thus keep their previous alignment.
- 24 Go Tools > Volume Data > Volume Viewer.
Change the representation of both channels to surface or mesh (or what fits your visualization needs best).
Adjust color and levels of the image on the histogram.
- 25 In the Volume Viewer tab, use the "Hide Dust" function to remove unspecific background specs / spots from the render. Repeat for both channels.
- 26 Move the render into an adequate position and export the image.
- 27 Import the resulting image into illustrator for making your figure.