

# Heat shock and oxygen radicals stimulate ubiquitin-dependent degradation mainly of newly synthesized proteins

Balasubrahmanyam Medicherla and Alfred L. Goldberg

Department of Cell Biology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA 02115

**A**ccumulation of misfolded oxidant-damaged proteins is characteristic of many diseases and aging. To understand how cells handle postsynthetically damaged proteins, we studied in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* the effects on overall protein degradation of shifting from 30 to 38°C, exposure to reactive oxygen species generators (paraquat or cadmium), or lack of superoxide dismutases. Degradation rates of long-lived proteins (i.e., most cell proteins) were not affected by these insults, even when there was widespread oxidative damage to proteins. However, exposure to 38°C, paraquat, cadmium, or deletion of *SOD1* enhanced two- to threefold the

degradation of newly synthesized proteins. By 1 h after synthesis, their degradation was not affected by these treatments. Degradation of these damaged cytosolic proteins requires the ubiquitin–proteasome pathway, including the E2s *UBC4/UBC5*, proteasomal subunit *RPN10*, and the *CDC48-Ufd1-NPL4* complex. In yeast lacking these components, the nondegraded polypeptides accumulate as aggregates. Thus, many cytosolic proteins proceed through a prolonged “fragile period” during which they are sensitive to degradation induced by superoxide radicals or increased temperatures.

## Introduction

A critical function of intracellular protein degradation is to serve as a quality control system that destroys misfolded proteins, which may arise through mutations, errors in gene expression, postsynthetic damage, and failures to fold correctly or to form multimeric complexes (Goldberg, 2003). The efficient elimination of such potentially toxic proteins is of clear selective advantage, and failure to do so can lead to the pathogenesis of various neurodegenerative diseases (Sherman and Goldberg, 2001). It has been proposed that in mammals, a large fraction of newly synthesized proteins are defective (Yewdell et al., 1996; Qian et al., 2006). However, it is unclear how often errors in gene expression occur or proteins fail to fold correctly or to form proper multimeric complexes. Protein conformations are labile structures, especially at 37°C, and are easily damaged by various agents found in cells (Goldberg, 2003), especially oxygen radicals, which are continually generated by intermediary metabolism (Davies, 1987). In addition, increases in environmental

temperature can damage protein structures. In response to the accumulation of unfolded proteins, which occurs upon exposure to increased temperatures or various damaging agents (Lindquist, 1986), cells induce the heat-shock response that enhances survival under such stressful conditions (Goff and Goldberg, 1985; Ananthan et al., 1986). As part of this adaptive response, cells express molecular chaperones (Hartl and Hayer-Hartl, 2002), ubiquitin, and certain ubiquitination enzymes (Finley et al., 1987; Seufert and Jentsch, 1990), which collaborate to prevent the buildup of the misfolded aggregated proteins (Sherman and Goldberg, 2001).

Most studies of the degradation of misfolded proteins have focused on mutated proteins or ones that incorporated amino acid analogues in place of normal residues (Goldberg, 2003). Such proteins fail to fold correctly and, in eukaryotes, are degraded by the ubiquitin–proteasome pathway. This process requires Hsp70 and Hsp40 for the recognition of proteins for ubiquitin conjugation (Lee et al., 1996; Murata et al., 2001).

Correspondence to Alfred L. Goldberg: [alfred\\_goldberg@hms.harvard.edu](mailto:alfred_goldberg@hms.harvard.edu)

Abbreviations used in this paper: DNPH, DNP-hydrazine; ERAD, ER-associated degradation; Met, methionine; ROS, reactive oxygen species; UFD, ubiquitin fusion degradation; WT, wild type.

The online version of this paper contains supplemental material.

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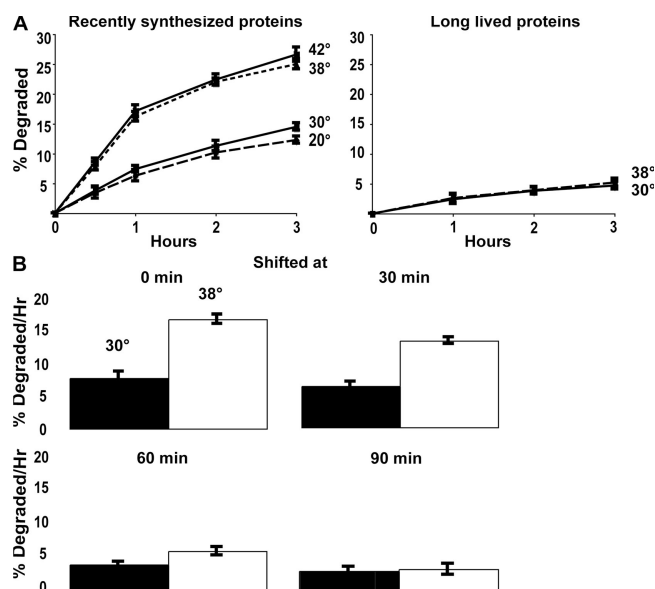
The present studies investigated the breakdown of proteins in yeast that are damaged postsynthetically by heat shock (i.e., thermal damage) or reactive oxygen species (ROS) generated by exposure to paraquat or cadmium ions or endogenously by intermediary metabolism. Several studies have demonstrated that exposure of mammalian cells to oxygen radicals or hydrogen peroxide enhances overall proteolysis (Fagan et al., 1986; Davies and Goldberg, 1987; Matthews et al., 1989), although the nature of the proteins affected was not investigated. Also, most of these studies concluded that the oxidant-damaged proteins are digested independently of ATP or ubiquitin (Fagan et al., 1986; Davies and Goldberg, 1987; Matthews et al., 1989), probably by the 20S proteasome (Grune et al., 1996; Shringarpure et al., 2003), as has also been suggested to occur for many misfolded proteins (Qian et al., 2006). Such a mechanism is in sharp contrast to the ubiquitin-dependent degradation of unfolded proteins containing amino acid analogues (Seufert and Jentsch, 1990). Also, certain studies argued that ubiquitination is critical for the degradation of oxidant-damaged proteins (Dudek et al., 2005).

In this study, we investigated the involvement of the ubiquitin–proteasome pathway in breakdown of thermally or ROS-damaged proteins and tested whether any classes of cell proteins are particularly sensitive to this process. We show in this paper that the degradation of most cell proteins is surprisingly resistant to such insults but that a fraction of recently synthesized proteins is particularly sensitive to oxidative and thermal damage, which leads to their rapid ubiquitin-dependent degradation by a process distinct from the degradation of misfolded proteins in the secretory pathway (ER-associated degradation [ERAD]; Kostova and Wolf, 2003). Surprisingly, newly synthesized proteins are sensitive to thermally and ROS-induced degradation for 30–60 min after synthesis, presumably until they have assumed their final conformations in stable multimeric complexes.

## Results

### Increased temperature stimulates the degradation of recently synthesized proteins but not the bulk of cell proteins

Although it is well established that heat shock by causing an accumulation of misfolded proteins trigger the production of components of the ubiquitin–proteasome pathway and “molecular chaperones” (Ananthan et al., 1986; Sherman and Goldberg, 2001), the effects of increased temperatures on the degradation of cell proteins have not been systematically studied. To learn how increased temperatures influence the degradation of different classes of cell proteins, we studied the effects of shifting *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* from the standard growth temperature, 30°C, to 38°C, a temperature shift that induces the heat-shock response (Lee et al., 1996). Yeast growing exponentially were labeled for 5 min with <sup>35</sup>S-methionine (Met) at 30°C. After washing twice in “chase” medium, which contained cycloheximide and high concentrations of nonradioactive Met, to prevent reincorporation of the <sup>35</sup>S-Met and the synthesis of heat-shock proteins, cells were resuspended in chase media preadjusted to 20, 30, 38, or 42°C. Rates of proteolysis were then measured by



**Figure 1. Shifting cells from 30 to 38°C stimulates the degradation of recently synthesized proteins, but not of long-lived proteins, and by 60 min after synthesis, proteins no longer show their response to temperature shift.** (A) Proteins were labeled with <sup>35</sup>S-Met for 5 min at 30°C to label recently synthesized proteins or 90 min to label long-lived proteins. After washing twice with chase media containing cycloheximide, the cells were shifted to the indicated temperatures and rates of degradation were measured. The data shown in this and the subsequent experiments represent the means  $\pm$  SD obtained from three experiments. (B) Cell proteins were labeled with <sup>35</sup>S-Met for 5 min, washed, resuspended in chase media, and shifted to 38°C immediately or 30, 60, or 90 min later. The amounts of protein degradation after 1 h were measured. Degradation rates after 2 or 3 h showed similar differences as after 1 h (not depicted).

following the conversion of radiolabeled cell proteins to trichloroacetic acid–soluble form (Fig. 1 A). The shift to 38°C initially caused a two- to threefold faster rate of degradation of the labeled proteins than in cells maintained at 30°C.

However, this rate of proteolysis was enhanced only briefly (Fig. 1 A). By an hour after synthesis, when the overall rate of proteolysis had slowed considerably (because of the loss of most rapidly degraded proteins), the rates of degradation at the two temperatures became indistinguishable (Fig. 1 A). These findings imply that some newly synthesized proteins are specifically sensitive to thermal damage by the same temperature shift (30 to 38°C) that is commonly used to induce the heat-shock response in yeast. Surprisingly, shifting to 42°C caused no further increase in proteolysis over that seen at 38°C, and in the cells at 20°C, overall rates of degradation were indistinguishable from those at 30°C, both in the first hour and at later times (Fig. 1 A). Shift to 38 or 42°C accelerated the degradation of  $\sim$ 13% of cell proteins that would otherwise be long lived so that they behaved like short-lived components.

These similar slopes after 1 h imply that the increased temperature did not significantly affect the degradation of the bulk of cell proteins, which are long-lived components that are degraded at a rate of  $\sim$ 1–2%/h (Fig. 1 A). In fact, their degradation appears quite independent of temperature, being very similar between 20 and 42°C, unlike the rates of the great majority of biochemical reactions.

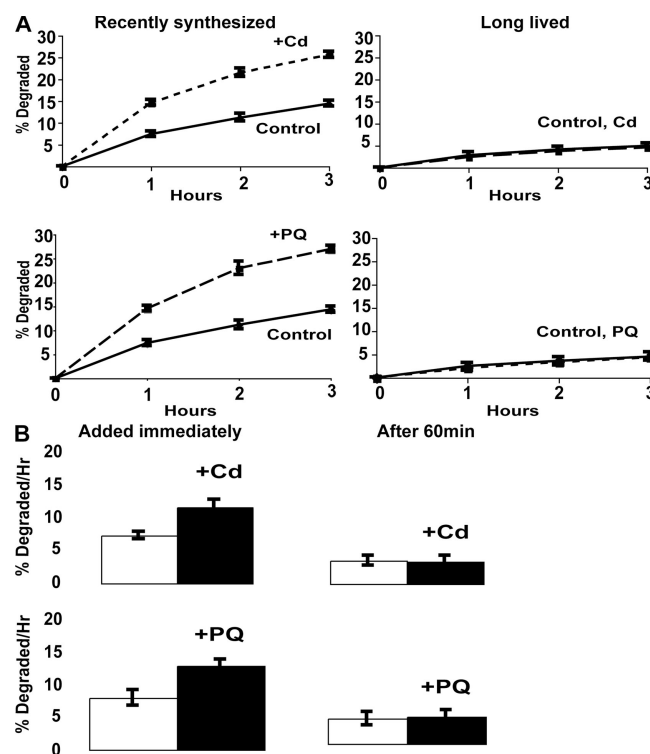
To confirm this conclusion, yeast were grown at 30°C and exposed to  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 90 min to label primarily long-lived cell components. After washing, the cells were resuspended at 30 or 38°C. As expected, overall rates of degradation of these proteins, which comprise the bulk of cell proteins, were much slower and did not increase upon shift to 38°C (Fig. 1 A). Because the shift to 38°C (or 42°C) does not alter the breakdown of long-lived components, the increased temperature specifically accelerates the degradation of ~10–13% of newly synthesized proteins that at 30°C would have become long-lived components.

### Proteins are susceptible to heat-induced degradation for 30–60 min after synthesis

To determine how long after synthesis cell proteins are sensitive to thermally induced degradation, we compared the effects on proteolysis of shifting yeast from 30 to 38°C immediately after the 5-min pulse of  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met or 30, 60, or 90 min later (Fig. 1 B). The cells shifted at 30 min showed a smaller increase in proteolysis than those shifted immediately after synthesis, and 60 min after synthesis the effect of temperature upshift was much smaller and not statistically significant. By 90 min, the shift to 38°C failed to increase degradation. Thus, during the hour after synthesis proteins appeared to become insensitive to thermal damage, as reflected in their resistance to heat-induced degradation. Because it is unlikely that the folding of many proteins would require 30–60 min, this “fragile period” presumably represents the time necessary for postsynthetic modifications, proper multimer formation, and localization, which together contribute to thermal resistance. Presumably, as proteins achieve stable multimeric structures and their final folded conformations, they become more resistant to thermal denaturation.

### ROS stimulate the degradation of recently synthesized proteins

A variety of experiments using free radical generators or hydrogen peroxide (ROS) have indicated that oxidant damage to cell proteins can enhance their degradation (Fagan et al., 1986; Davies, 1987; Davies and Goldberg, 1987). To study the effects of oxygen radicals on the breakdown of recently synthesized and long-lived yeast proteins, we used paraquat, a superoxide generator (Lee et al., 2004), as well as cadmium, which can replace the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  in proteins and seems to generate oxygen radicals as a consequence of the released  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  (Thevenod and Friedmann, 1999; Vido et al., 2001). Exposure of yeast to  $\text{Cd}^{++}$  causes induction of enzymes that defend against ROS, molecular chaperones, ubiquitination enzymes, and Cdc48p (Vido et al., 2001). During exponential growth, *wild-type* (WT) yeast were exposed to 80  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  paraquat or 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  cadmium. After 90 min, these cells and untreated controls were labeled with  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 5 min, and then we compared the rates of protein degradation. At these low concentrations, neither cadmium nor paraquat reduced cell growth or protein synthesis during these experiments, but the proteins synthesized in their presence were initially degraded two- to threefold faster than controls (Fig. 2 A). As found after a shift to 38°C, the oxidant-induced acceleration of degradation was only clearly demonstrated during the first 60 min



**Figure 2. Exposure to paraquat or cadmium stimulates the degradation of recently synthesized but not long-lived proteins, and 60 min after synthesis, proteins no longer show this response to paraquat and cadmium.** (A) During exponential growth at 30°C, yeast were exposed to 80  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  paraquat or 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  cadmium for 90 min, and then  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met was added for 5 min at 30°C to label recently synthesized proteins or for 90 min to label long-lived proteins. After washing and resuspension in chase medium, rates of protein degradation were measured as in Fig. 1 A. (B) Proteins were labeled with  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 5 min, washed, and then paraquat and cadmium were added immediately or 60 min after synthesis. The amounts of degradation after 1 h were measured. Degradation rates after 2 and 3 h showed similar differences as after 1 h (not depicted).

after synthesis. After this time, the proteins synthesized in the presence of cadmium or paraquat were degraded at similar rates to those in control cells (Fig. 2 A). These findings suggest that the degradation of the long-lived cell proteins is not affected by oxidative damage.

To verify this conclusion, growing yeast were exposed to paraquat or cadmium for 90 min. These cells and untreated controls were incubated with  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 90 min to label primarily long-lived cell components, and after washing, the rates of protein degradation were compared. As expected, overall rates of degradation of these proteins were much slower (1–2%/h) and did not increase upon exposure to paraquat or cadmium (Fig. 2 A). Thus, the degradation of most cell proteins is quite resistant to these types of oxidative damage. It is also noteworthy that the magnitudes of the increases in degradation after exposure to paraquat, cadmium, 38°C, or 42°C (Figs. 1 A and 2 A) were similar. These findings suggest that after these insults, the maximal capacity of the degradative system had been reached. Accordingly, exposure of cells to these oxidants at 38°C did not further enhance proteolysis (unpublished data).

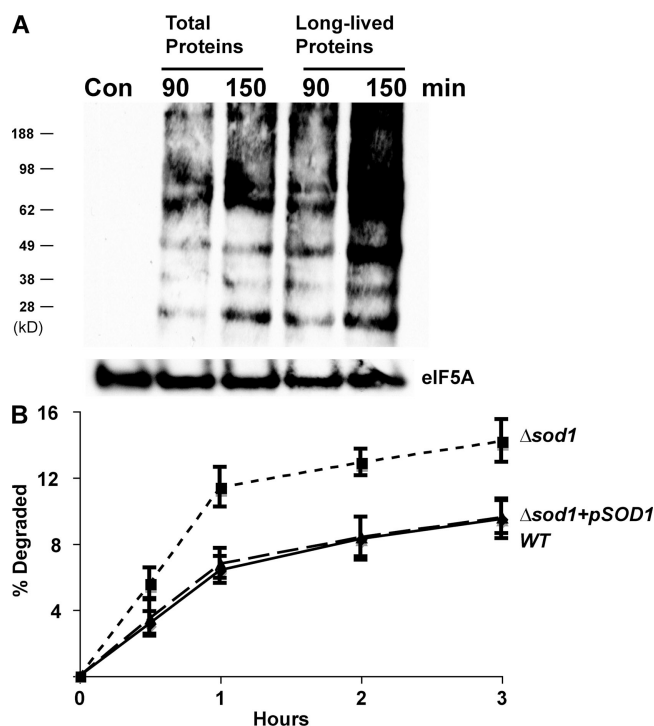
To confirm that the oxygen radicals stimulate only the degradation of newly synthesized proteins, we labeled cell proteins

for 5 min during growth at 30°C, exposed a portion of the culture to paraquat or cadmium immediately or 60 min later, and then measured rates of degradation (Fig. 2 B). Addition of these ROS generators stimulated the breakdown of recently synthesized proteins. However, when the cadmium or paraquat was added 60 min later, the rates of proteolysis did not change (Fig. 2 B). The stimulation of proteolysis by this protocol was smaller than in Fig. 2 A, where the exposure to the oxidants was for 90 min, which should allow greater uptake of the oxidants. Because cycloheximide was present after the proteins were labeled, this resistance of proteolysis to the stimulation by ROS (Fig. 2) or heat shock (Fig. 1) after 1 h cannot be caused by the induction of proteins that protect against the oxidant or thermal damage. Instead, it probably reflects some maturational change in the newly synthesized proteins during this hour. Most likely, these insults can enhance degradation of newly synthesized proteins for only 1 h because, with time, cell proteins succeed in forming more stable multimeric complexes that are more resistant to ROS or thermal damage.

These findings raise two possibilities: either long-lived proteins are not chemically damaged by ROS or chemical damage occurs but does not trigger their unfolding and degradation, as it does to the recently synthesized proteins. To examine these alternatives, we assayed whether the long-lived proteins undergo oxidative damage using OxyBlot, which detects the presence of carbonyl groups in proteins (Sturtz et al., 2001). Exposure to paraquat for 90 min dramatically increased the presence of carbonyls in cell proteins and did so similarly, or even to a great extent, after treatment of the yeast with cycloheximide for 2 h to prevent the synthesis of new proteins and allow the degradation of short-lived polypeptides. Thus, the remaining long-lived cell proteins are certainly damaged by the oxygen-free radicals, although this modification fails to trigger rapid proteolysis (Fig. 3 A). The apparently greater appearance of protein carbonyls after cycloheximide treatment in Fig. 3 A is probably because some antioxidant enzymes are short-lived proteins (e.g., Sod1p).

#### Superoxide dismutase protects newly synthesized proteins against degradation

Prior studies on the effects of ROS on protein degradation used exogenous agents that cause free radical generation. However, oxygen radicals are also continually generated by cell metabolism. Cells have multiple enzyme systems to inactivate such radicals including the cytosolic Cu-Zn-containing superoxide dismutase 1 (Sod1p) and the mitochondrial Mn-containing superoxide dismutase 2 (Sod2p; Sturtz et al., 2001). Mutant strains lacking these enzymes,  $\Delta$ sod1 and  $\Delta$ sod2, accumulate oxidant-damaged proteins (Sturtz et al., 2001). To evaluate whether these enzymes help protect cell proteins against ROS-induced degradation and whether superoxide radicals can stimulate proteolysis, we compared rates of degradation in WT yeast and strains lacking either of these dismutases. After a 5-min pulse of  $^{35}$ S-Met, newly synthesized proteins were degraded at least twice as rapidly in the  $\Delta$ sod1 strain as in the WT (Fig. 3 B), but by 1 h after synthesis, the rates of proteolysis resembled those in the WT. Thus, Sod1p appears to be important in protecting newly synthesized



**Figure 3. Although long-lived proteins are not degraded more rapidly after exposure to paraquat, they are oxidatively damaged, and a lack of SOD1 also enhances the degradation of recently synthesized proteins.** (A) Yeast were grown exponentially, and a portion of cells were treated with cycloheximide for 2 h to allow the degradation of short-lived proteins (the times studied in Fig. 2 A). Both the control and treated cells were then exposed to paraquat for 90 or 150 min. The presence of carbonylated proteins in equal amounts of cell proteins was assayed after derivatization with DNP-hydrazine (DNPH) and then Western blotting with an anti-DNP-hydrazone antibody. A control lane without the treatments with DNPH and paraquat is included to show the specificity of the antibody. Equal loading of lanes was shown with an eIF5A antibody. (B) WT,  $\Delta$ sod1 mutant, and the  $\Delta$ sod1 mutant expressing SOD1 from a plasmid were labeled with  $^{35}$ S-Met for 5 min at 30°C. Rates of protein degradation were measured at 30°C as in Fig. 1 A.

proteins from degradation induced by endogenously generated superoxide radicals.

Unlike the  $\Delta$ sod1 strain, the  $\Delta$ sod2 mutant showed very similar rates of degradation to those in isogenic WT cells (Fig. S1 A, available at <http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200803022/DC1>). Thus, the mitochondrial Sod2p is not important in the protection of newly synthesized proteins, presumably because these proteins are restricted to the cytosolic compartment. Upon addition of paraquat or cadmium to the  $\Delta$ sod1 strain, there was a further increase in proteolysis, and its capacity to degrade damaged proteins exceeded those in the paraquat- or cadmium-treated WT (Fig. S1 B).

#### Thermal and ROS-induced degradation involves the ubiquitin-proteasome system

Although early studies indicated a requirement for ATP for the degradation of oxidant-damaged proteins (Goldberg and Boches, 1982), subsequent studies, primarily in mature red cells, indicated that oxidant-damaged proteins could be degraded by an energy- and ubiquitin-independent process (Fagan et al., 1986; Davies and Goldberg, 1987; Matthews et al., 1989). This process was



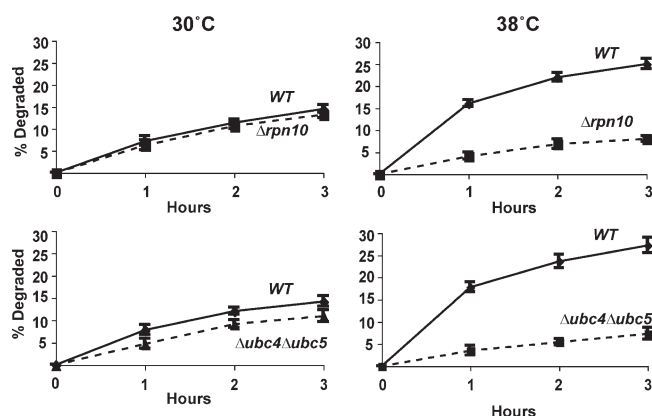


Figure 4. Shift to 38°C stimulates the degradation of recently synthesized proteins in WT but not in  $\Delta rpn10$  and  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$  strains. Cells were labeled with  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 5 min at 30°C and shifted to 38°C or maintained at 30°C. Rates of degradation were measured as in Fig. 1 A.

reported to involve degradation of the damaged proteins by 20S proteasomes (Grune et al., 1996; Shringarpure et al., 2003). To learn if the rapid elimination of these oxidant- and heat-damaged proteins requires the ubiquitin–proteasome pathway (like the degradation of misfolded proteins containing amino acid analogues), we tested whether degradation of these post-synthetically damaged proteins requires the ubiquitin-conjugating enzymes (E2s) *UBC4* and *UBC5* (Seufert and Jentsch, 1990) and also *RPN10*, a cytosolic ubiquitin binding protein that also functions as a subunit of the 26S proteasome's 19S regulatory subcomplex (Glickman et al., 1998).

Involvement of these components seemed likely because both  $\Delta rpn10$  and  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$  strains have been reported to show growth defects at 38°C and, in the presence of amino acid analogues (Seufert and Jentsch, 1990; Cagney et al., 2001; Elsasser et al., 2004),  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$  mutant is also sensitive to cadmium (Jungmann et al., 1993). However, at the concentrations of paraquat and cadmium used here or after exposure to 38°C, these mutants grew at similar rates to the WT for several hours. Nevertheless, these mutants were defective in their capacity to degrade the oxidant- and heat-damaged proteins. After a 5-min pulse of  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met, degradation of short-lived and long-lived components at 30°C were not different in the WT and  $\Delta rpn10$  strains, although degradation in the first hour was consistently slightly lower in the  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$  double mutant, as was noted previously (Seufert and Jentsch, 1990). However, upon shift to 38°C (Fig. 4) or upon treatment with paraquat or cadmium (Fig. 5 A), both mutants failed to increase degradation of recently synthesized proteins (Figs. 4 and 5 A), which is in sharp contrast to WT cells.

Thus, the selective degradation of oxidant- and thermally damaged proteins appears to involve the same components of the ubiquitin–proteasome pathway required for breakdown of proteins misfolded because of the incorporation of amino acid analogues (Seufert and Jentsch, 1990). Additional experiments using the autophagy-deficient mutant  $\Delta atg8$  showed that autophagy is not involved in the degradation of heat damaged proteins (Fig. S2, available at <http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200803022/DC1>). This mutant showed a small reduction in break-

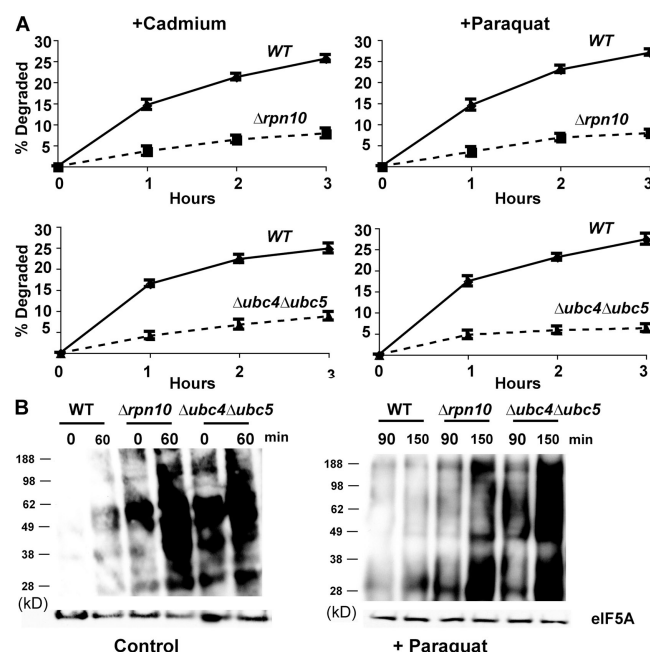
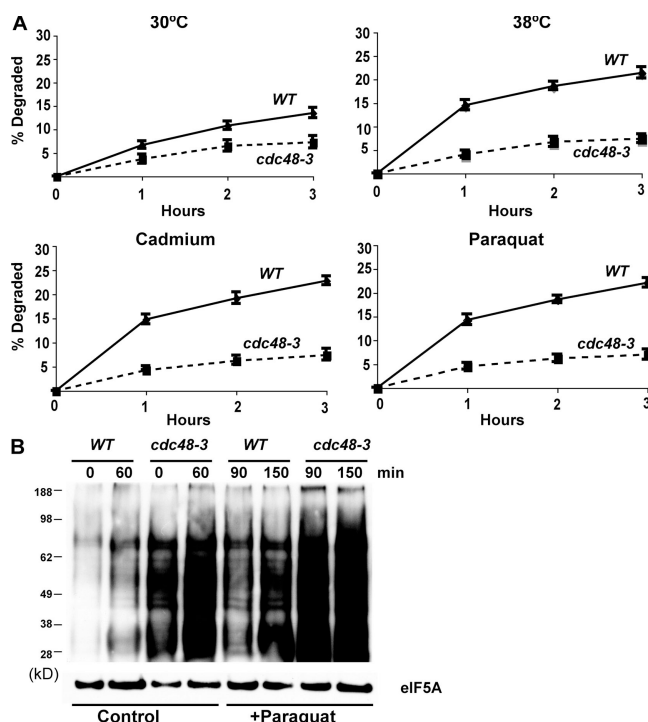


Figure 5. Paraquat and cadmium fail to stimulate the degradation of recently synthesized proteins in  $\Delta rpn10$  and  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$  strains and these strains contain higher amounts of oxidant-damaged proteins than WT during growth and after exposure to paraquat. (A) WT and mutants were grown exponentially at 30°C and treated with paraquat or cadmium for 90 min. Then cell proteins were labeled with  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 5 min, and rates of degradation measured as in Fig. 2 A. (B) WT and mutants were grown exponentially, and a portion was exposed to paraquat for 90 min. The presence of carbonylated proteins in equal amounts of cell extracts was assayed by OxyBlot as in Fig. 3 A. To visualize oxidant damage in the control cells, approximately three times more protein was loaded than in cells treated with paraquat.

down of long-lived proteins which is catalyzed by vacuolar proteases (Lee et al., 1996). Further strong evidence that *RPN10*, *UBC4*, and *UBC5* are important in the elimination of oxidant-damaged proteins came from analyzing extracts of these mutant cells by OxyBlot (Fig. 5 B). As predicted, the  $\Delta rpn10$  and  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$  cells during normal growth showed a higher content of protein carbonyl groups than WT cells, which increased markedly after exposure to paraquat for 1.5 or 2.5 h. These findings confirm that the ubiquitin–proteasome system is important in degradation of proteins damaged by endogenously generated as well as chemically induced ROS (Fig. 5 B).

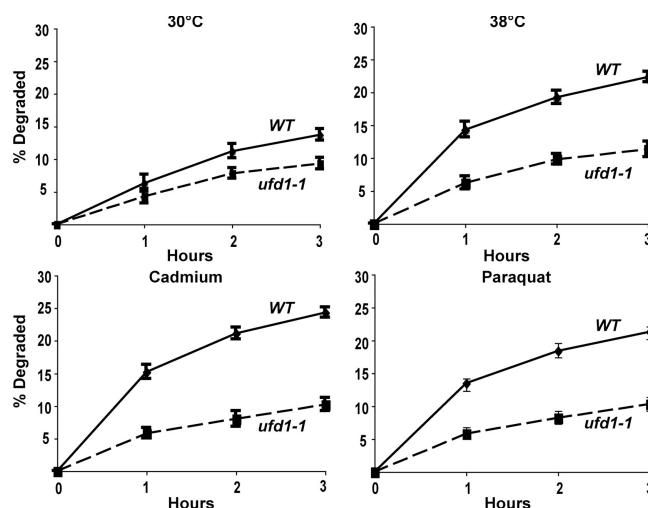
#### The *CDC48* ATPase and its partners ubiquitin fusion degradation (*UFD1* and *NPL4*, but not *UBC7* or *UFD4*, are essential for degradation of damaged proteins

*CDC48*, a member of the AAA family of hexameric ATPases (the homologue of mammalian p97), and its associated partners *UFD1* and *NPL4*, have been previously implicated in the degradation of misfolded secretory and resident proteins by the ERAD pathway (Ye et al., 2001), as well as certain cytosolic ubiquitin fusion proteins by the UFD pathway (Ghislain et al., 1996). Interestingly, the expression of *CDC48* is enhanced by cadmium (Vido et al., 2001). To test if it also functions in this breakdown



**Figure 6.** Shifting cells to 38°C and exposure to paraquat or cadmium fail to stimulate the degradation of recently synthesized proteins in the *cdc48-3* mutant, and the *cdc48-3* strain contains higher amounts of oxidant-damaged proteins than WT during growth and after exposure to paraquat. (A) WT and *cdc48-3* strains were labeled with  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 5 min at 30°C, and rates of degradation at 30 or 38°C were measured as in Fig. 1 A. To measure the degradation of oxidant-damaged proteins, WT and *cdc48-3* strains were exposed to paraquat or cadmium for 90 min, followed by labeling with  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 5 min, and rates of degradation were measured as in Fig. 2 A. (B) WT and the *cdc48-3* mutant were grown exponentially, and a portion was exposed to paraquat for 90 min. The presence of carbonylated proteins in equal amounts of cell proteins was assayed by OxyBlot as in Fig. 3 A.

of oxidant- and thermally damaged cytosolic proteins, we studied their degradation in WT and *cdc48-3*, *ufd1-1*, and *npl4-1* strains upon shift to 38°C and exposure to paraquat or cadmium. At 30°C, rates of degradation of pulse-labeled proteins were slower in the *cdc48-3* (Fig. 6 A), *ufd1-1* (Fig. 7), and *npl4-1* mutants (Fig. 8) and, upon shift to 38°C or exposure to cadmium and paraquat, a very large defect in the degradation of recently synthesized proteins was evident (Fig. 6 A, Fig. 7, and Fig. 8). However, the degradation of long-lived proteins in these mutants occurred at approximately similar rates as in the WT. Further evidence for an important role of *CDC48* and its cofactors in elimination of oxidant-damaged proteins was obtained by OxyBlot analysis on the *cdc48-3* mutant. During normal growth, this mutant contained a greater content of oxidant-damaged proteins than did the WT and, after exposure to paraquat for 90 min, the content of protein carbonyls was also much greater than in WT yeast (Fig. 6 B). The mutants of *CDC48* or its associated partners *UFD1* and *NPL4* all showed similar defects in proteolysis, which further supports the conclusions that together they play an important role in the clearance of heat- and ROS-damaged proteins in a process also involving *RPN10*, *UBC4*, and *UBC5*.



**Figure 7.** Shifting cells to 38°C and exposure to paraquat or cadmium fail to stimulate the degradation of recently synthesized proteins in the *ufd1-1* mutant. WT and *ufd1-1* strains were labeled with  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 5 min at 30°C, and rates of degradation were measured at 30 or 38°C as in Fig. 1 A. To measure the degradation of oxidant-damaged proteins, WT and *ufd1-1* strains were exposed to paraquat or cadmium for 90 min, followed by labeling with  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 5 min, and rates of degradation were measured as in Fig. 2 A.

The E2 *UBC7* plays an important role together with *CDC48*, *UFD1*, and *NPL4* in the ubiquitination of misfolded ER resident proteins in the ERAD pathway (Hiller et al., 1996). To verify that the degradation of proteins damaged by heat and oxidative conditions involves proteins in the cytosol and is distinct from ERAD (as was suggested by its requirement for *UBC4* and *UBC5*), we measured rates of degradation in the  $\Delta ubc7$  mutant upon shift to 38°C or exposure to paraquat or cadmium. A similar rapid increase in proteolysis was observed under these conditions in  $\Delta ubc7$  mutant as in WT cells (Fig. 9 A). Similar experiments tested whether the degradation of damaged cytosolic proteins is catalyzed by the UFD pathway. In  $\Delta ufd4$  mutants that lack the E3 ligase essential for the degradation of UFD substrates (Johnson et al., 1995), exposure to 38°C or to paraquat or cadmium caused a similar increase in breakdown of newly synthesized proteins to that in the WT (Fig. 9 B). Thus, this degradative process is distinct from the ERAD and UFD pathways, although all three require the same ATPase complex.

#### If degradation of damaged proteins is prevented, they accumulate as aggregates

A prominent feature of denatured or unfolded proteins is their tendency to aggregate and, in vivo, many mutated, recombinant, and analogue-containing proteins that fail to fold in the cytosol form intracellular inclusions (Prouty et al., 1975), a predominant feature of various inherited and neurodegenerative diseases (Kopito, 2000). We therefore examined whether the oxidant- or heat-damaged proteins, if they fail to be degraded in the  $\Delta rpn10$ ,  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$ , or *cdc48-3* strains, tend to aggregate and accumulate in particulate fractions. We analyzed the subcellular distribution of  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met-labeled proteins in WT cells and these degradation-impaired mutants. After shift to 38°C or exposure

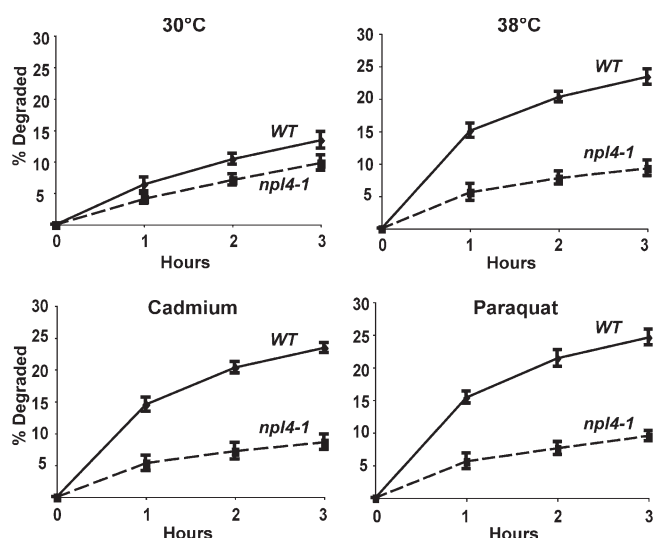


Figure 8. **NPL4** is required for increased degradation at 38°C and after exposure to paraquat or cadmium. WT and *npl4-1* strains were labeled with <sup>35</sup>S-Met for 5 min at 30°C, and rates of degradation at 30 or 38°C and upon exposure to paraquat or cadmium were measured as in Fig. 6 A.

to the ROS generators, yeast were collected at different times and lysed, and the rapidly sedimenting material was isolated by differential centrifugation. In the  $\Delta$ *rp10*,  $\Delta$ *ubc4* $\Delta$ *ubc5*, and *cdc48-3* strains, after shift to 38°C there was a gradual accumulation of radiolabeled proteins in the ultracentrifugal pellets isolated at 275,000 *g* with time but not in those obtained at low speeds (9,300 *g*; Fig. 10 A and Fig. S3, available at <http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200803022/DC1>). After 2–3 h, the <sup>35</sup>S-Met-labeled protein in the 275,000 *g* pellets accounted for approximately half of the radioactive protein that would have been degraded in the WT to acid-soluble material (Fig. 10 A).

Very similar evidence for aggregation of the nondegraded oxidant-damaged proteins was obtained by differential centrifugation after exposing these strains to paraquat (Fig. 10 A). In contrast no such accumulation of recently synthesized proteins in their particulate fraction was seen at 30°C or without paraquat (Fig. 10 B). This tendency of the nondegraded proteins to form aggregates supports the conclusion that these proteins are in fact misfolded after thermal or oxidant damage. Further direct support for this conclusion was obtained by analyzing the proteins in these pellets for free-radical damage by OxyBlot. As expected, there were much higher amounts of protein carbonyls in the ultracentrifugal pellets from the  $\Delta$ *rp10* and  $\Delta$ *ubc4* $\Delta$ *ubc5* strains than from the WT (Fig. 10 C).

To confirm that the proteins accumulating in this fraction are in fact damaged components that would have been degraded in the WT, we analyzed whether these protein aggregates were formed upon damage of long-lived proteins. The WT and the  $\Delta$ *rp10* and  $\Delta$ *ubc4* $\Delta$ *ubc5* strains were labeled and, 3 h later, were shifted to 38°C or treated with paraquat when these treatments fail to enhance degradation. In contrast to the findings with recently synthesized components (Fig. 10 A), administering these insults 3 h later did not cause an accumulation of long-lived proteins in the ultracentrifugal pellets. This lack of aggregation

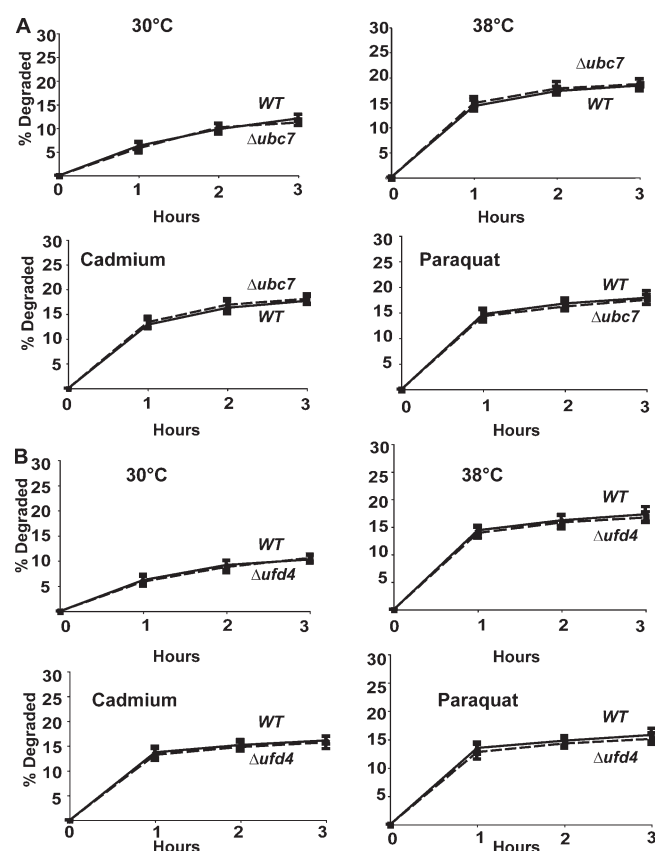


Figure 9. **UBC7** and **UFD4** are not required for increased degradation at 38°C and after exposure to paraquat or cadmium. (A) WT and  $\Delta$ *ubc7* strains were labeled with <sup>35</sup>S-Met for 5 min at 30°C, and rates of degradation at 38°C and upon exposure to paraquat or cadmium were measured as in Fig. 6 A. (B) WT and  $\Delta$ *ufd4* strains were labeled with <sup>35</sup>S-Met for 5 min at 30°C, and rates of degradation at 38°C and upon exposure to paraquat or cadmium were measured as in Fig. 6 A.

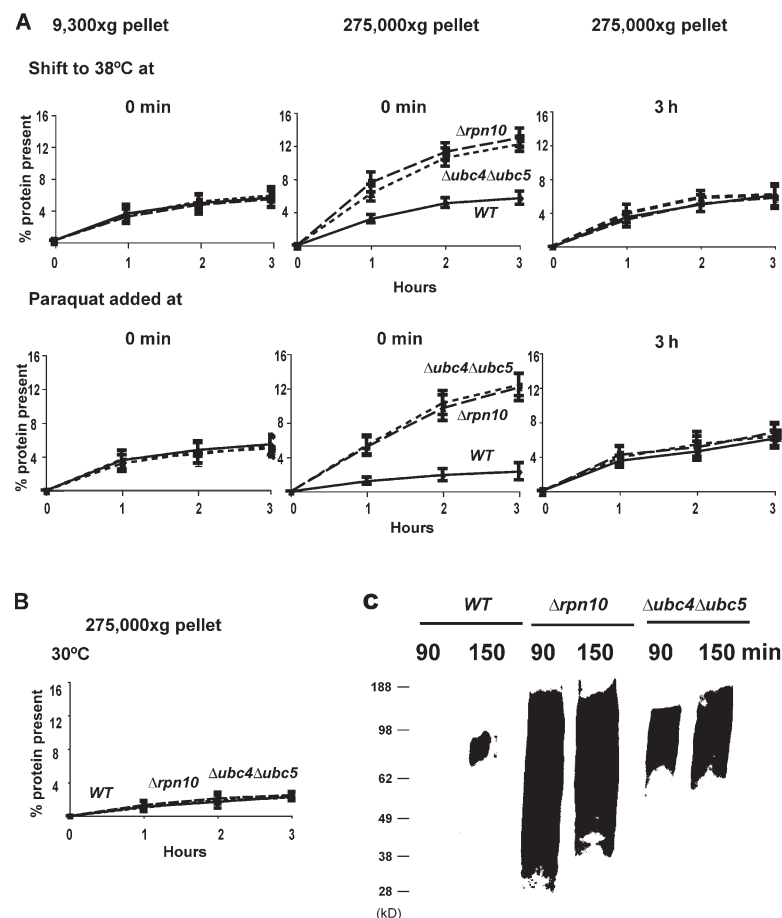
supports the earlier observations (Figs. 1 B and 2 B) that by this time these treatments did not trigger unfolding and accelerated degradation of long-lived proteins. Together, these observations indicate that for up to 1 h after synthesis, cell proteins are particularly susceptible to denaturation induced by heat-shock or ROS, which leads to their degradation by the ubiquitin pathway. Although ROS do react with long-lived proteins, the modified proteins do not appear to undergo widespread denaturation and aggregation.

## Discussion

### Postsynthetic damage mainly enhances degradation of newly synthesized proteins

Although it has long been appreciated that cells selectively degrade unfolded proteins (Goldberg and Dice, 1974), the effects of different types of postsynthetic damage on the breakdown of different classes of cell proteins have not been studied previously. The present study focused on the effects of increased or decreased temperatures and oxygen radicals because these insults are encountered in natural environments and in disease. Probably the most surprising of the present findings is that the degradation of the great majority of yeast proteins, the long-lived

Figure 10. After shift to 38°C or exposure to paraquat to cause oxidant damage, recently synthesized proteins not degraded in  $\Delta rpn10$  and  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$  mutants selectively accumulate in the particulate fraction, unlike recently synthesized proteins in WT or mutant strains at 30°C without oxidant present. (A) WT,  $\Delta rpn10$ , and  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$  strains were labeled with  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 5 min, washed, and shifted to 38°C or treated with paraquat at 30°C. At the indicated times, lysates were prepared, and equal amounts of lysate proteins were subjected to differential centrifugation. The amounts of labeled protein present in pellets obtained by centrifuging for 20 min at 9,300 g and by ultracentrifugation at 275,000 g for 60 min were measured. To determine the amounts of labeled long-lived proteins that accumulate in these fractions, cells were shifted to 38°C or exposed to paraquat 3 h after labeling. (B) WT,  $\Delta rpn10$ , and  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$  strains were labeled with  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met for 5 min at 30°C. The amounts of radiolabeled protein present in 275,000 g pellet were measured as described in Fig. 10 A. (C) Yeast were grown exponentially and treated with paraquat as in Fig. 10 A. Cell lysates were subjected to centrifugation and the presence of carbonylated proteins in the 275,000 g pellet assayed by OxyBlot as in Fig. 3 A.



cell constituents, which are degraded at a rate of 1–2%/h, is not affected significantly by temperature shifts or ROS. Our various pulse-chase experiments demonstrated that only a fraction of newly synthesized proteins are degraded at increased rates upon shift from 30 to 38°C (Fig. 1 A). By 1 h, the degree of stimulation decreased and was no longer statistically significant, and this effect was completely lost by 90 min (Fig. 1 B). Thus, after heat shock or during exposure to free radicals, a larger fraction of the proteins labeled in a 5-min pulse behave like the inherently short-lived components. In yeast growing at 20 or 30°C, such rapidly degraded components comprise 3–4% of newly synthesized proteins, but the short-lived fraction reached 13% (Fig. 1 A) after shift to 38 or 42°C, and 10–13% of the proteins synthesized in the presence of cadmium or paraquat at 30°C (Fig. 2 A). These treatments accelerated the degradation of ~10% of proteins that would otherwise be long lived so that they behaved like short-lived components.

Various in vitro studies suggest that the times for model polypeptides to fold into their characteristic tertiary structures is seconds (or less) to minutes depending on its structural complexity. Many newly synthesized polypeptides undergo covalent modifications and assemble into larger structures including multimeric enzymes, multisubunit complexes, and organelles (Balch et al., 2008). However, there is no information available about the times required for such proteins to assume their mature quaternary structures. These times must vary widely and depend

on whether the protein is a component of larger structures, contains cofactors, or is localized in a specific compartment. Because the formation of multimeric complexes may require many different interactions with other subunits and chaperones, these processes should take much more time than polypeptide folding. During this maturational period, these incomplete complexes are likely to be fragile unstable structures and, consequently, their assembly may easily go awry with increased temperature or ROS damage. Although it was initially surprising that some proteins proceed through a fragile period as long as 30–60 min, such a prolonged maturation seems quite reasonable for multimeric proteins undergoing complex multistep assembly processes. It is noteworthy that heat shock and ROS stimulate the degradation of only ~10% of newly synthesized proteins. This fraction includes many different polypeptides because SDS-PAGE of  $^{35}\text{S}$ -Met-labeled newly synthesized proteins shows many discrete bands that decreased after shift to 38°C (unpublished data). Identification of this subset of cell proteins will be important to determine whether in fact they tend to be components of large multimeric structures and whether those proteins most susceptible to thermal damage are also the ones most susceptible to ROS.

A corollary of the present findings is that heat shock and oxidative damage do not stimulate proteolysis by causing denaturation of cell proteins generally but, instead, these damaging agents prevent some newly synthesized proteins from assuming



their final conformations, leading to their denaturation and rapid degradation. Recently synthesized polypeptides may exist as molten globules (Uversky, 2002) or partially formed complexes in transient associations with chaperones, but they should lack the stabilizing effects of complementary subunits and bound cofactors. These arguments also suggest that the temperature upshift and oxygen radicals are likely to selectively enhance the degradation of proteins that are components of highly complex multimeric structures.

Enhanced degradation of newly synthesized proteins was seen upon increasing the temperature from 30 to 38°C, which is a temperature range often used to elicit the heat-shock response in yeast. This finding fits with previous assertions that this stress response occurs in response to an accumulation of misfolded proteins in the cytosol or nucleus. It seems likely that the heat-shock response in fact evolved to adapt to those temperatures that most disrupt the maturation of newly synthesized proteins. It was also surprising both that a further increase in temperature to 42°C or decrease to 20°C caused no further change in the rates of degradation of the newly synthesized proteins and that rates of degradation of the bulk of cell proteins are remarkably independent of temperature. Unlike short-lived proteins, long-lived proteins in growing yeast are degraded not by the ubiquitin–proteasome pathway but by the vacuolar (autophagic) system (Lee et al., 1996), which showed no change between 20 and 42°C (Fig. 1 A). In contrast, increasing temperatures by 22°C would be expected to stimulate typical chemical reactions six- to ninefold.

#### Protein damage and degradation induced by superoxide radicals

To examine the effects of ROS, we used paraquat and cadmium, because prior studies in yeast or mammalian cells had shown that these free radical generators cause oxidative damage to polypeptide chains. In addition, cadmium ions are known to cause induction of heat-shock proteins, the ubiquitin-activating enzyme E1, and the proteasome subunit *PRE1*, as well as *CDC48* and *SOD1*, which we show are essential for the degradation of the damaged newly synthesized proteins (Vido et al., 2001). Although paraquat or cadmium stimulated the degradation of newly synthesized proteins, by 1 h after synthesis, their degradation could no longer be stimulated by these ROS generators.

Endogenous production of superoxide radicals by metabolism also can damage recently synthesized proteins and, as shown in this paper, cause their rapid degradation. The mutant strains lacking *SOD1* showed a very similar large increase in their degradation as was induced with paraquat or cadmium (Fig. 3 B). In other words, *SOD1*, by removing damaging superoxide radicals, seems to enhance the chances that newly synthesized proteins can assume their final conformations. Thus, *SOD1*, by eliminating this highly reactive species, functions together with the ubiquitin–proteasome pathway to prevent the accumulation of oxidant-damaged polypeptides and to help cells withstand the consequences of increased levels of ROS, as occurs in mammals with neurodegenerative disease and inflammation, as well as during normal aging.

Most likely, these modifications by themselves are not recognized by the degradative system but, instead, these modifica-

tions lead to unfolding or irreversible denaturation of the newly synthesized polypeptides. Accordingly, a large fraction of the thermally and oxidant-damaged proteins that were not degraded in the  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$ ,  $\Delta rp n10$ , and *cdc48-3* mutants accumulated as aggregates in rapidly sedimenting fractions (Fig. 10, A and C; and Fig. S3). These observations also suggest that the oxidant-damaged proteins are recognized by their ability to cause unfolding of newly synthesized proteins. Resistance of the long-lived proteins to ROS-induced degradation is not because they fail to react with the ROS. On the contrary, under conditions where no newly synthesized proteins were present (after exposure to cycloheximide for 2 h), exposure to paraquat caused as much or even more oxidant damage to cell proteins (appearance of carbonyl groups) as in control cells (Fig. 3 A). However, after such oxidant damage, the chemically modified long-lived proteins seem not to denature because in the degradation-deficient mutants, these proteins did not accumulate in the particulate fraction, which is in contrast to the oxidant-damaged newly synthesized proteins which tend to aggregate when not degraded.

#### Degradation of the damaged proteins requires the ubiquitin–proteasome pathway

A variety of studies on cultured cells, erythrocytes, and cell extracts have shown that oxidant-damaged proteins can be degraded under certain conditions independently of ATP and ubiquitin (Fagan et al., 1986; Davies and Goldberg, 1987; Matthews et al., 1989). This process, like the degradation of some misfolded newly synthesized proteins (Qian et al., 2006), has been attributed to 20S proteasomes (Grune et al., 1996; Shringarpure et al., 2003). Other works, however, have indicated a requirement for ATP (Goldberg and Boches, 1982) and ubiquitin conjugation (Dudek et al., 2005) in the degradation of oxidant-damaged proteins. However, the present findings on intact cells indicate that the degradation of oxidant- and heat-damaged proteins in yeast requires multiple components of the ubiquitin–proteasome pathway and does not occur via autophagy (Fig. S2). Specifically, the increased proteolysis upon exposure to 38°C or ROS requires the E2s *UBC4* and *UBC5*, the ubiquitin binding protein *RPN10* (Fig. 4; and Fig. 5, A and B), which exists in the cytosol and also functions in the 26S proteasome as a binding site for ubiquitin chains (Glickman et al., 1998), and a functional *CDC48–UFD1–NPL4* complex (Fig. 6, A and B; Fig. 7; and Fig. 8). Each of these components is important in the degradation of other types of abnormal proteins. Mutants of  $\Delta ubc4\Delta ubc5$  (Seufert and Jentsch, 1990) and  $\Delta rp n10$  (unpublished data) show similar defects in the breakdown of misfolded proteins containing amino acid analogues. *CDC48* and its cofactors *UFD1–NPL4* are essential in the ERAD pathway for extracting misfolded proteins from the ER (Ye et al., 2001) and in the degradation of certain ubiquitin fusions by the UFD pathway. However, the process described in this paper is distinct from ERAD because it requires a different pair of E2s and not *UBC7* (Fig. 9 A; Hiller et al., 1996), and it differs from the UFD pathway because it occurs in mutants lacking the ubiquitin ligase *UFD4* (Fig. 9 B; Johnson et al., 1995).

Various in vitro experiments have shown that oxidant damage and unfolding enable polypeptides to enter and be degraded

by 20S proteasome (Shringarpure et al., 2003) and also to be substrates for ATP-dependent degradation by 26S proteasomes without ubiquitination (Cascio et al., 2002). However, the efficient clearance of these damaged polypeptides in vivo requires ubiquitination. Though the responsible ubiquitin ligases in yeast are unknown, it seems likely that this process requires molecular chaperones for the recognition of partially folded polypeptides (like the mammalian E3 CHIP; Murata et al., 2001). In fact, we previously showed that the increased proteolysis at 37°C requires molecular chaperones of the Hsp40 family (YDJ1; Lee et al., 1996). It is also noteworthy that the magnitude of the increase in proteolysis was similar after these various insults. These findings suggest that the cell's maximal capacity for proteolysis was reached. In fact, no further increase in degradation was observed when cells were exposed to both paraquat and 38°C simultaneously. In these pulse-chase experiments, we routinely treated the cells with cycloheximide to prevent reutilization of amino acids released by proteolysis, but it also prevents cellular adaptations (e.g., the heat-shock response) that may enhance the cell's capacity to eliminate heat- or oxidant-damaged proteins.

Because molecular chaperones, the heat-shock response, and the ubiquitin-proteasome pathway are highly conserved across eukaryotes, it seems very likely that the present findings apply also to mammalian cells. In humans, the accumulation of carbonyl groups in proteins is commonly used as a criterion of oxidative stress. The failure of such modifications to trigger the degradation of most cell proteins may also explain the accumulation of these damaged proteins in aging or during oxidative stress. The tendency of the damaged short-lived proteins, if not degraded, to aggregate appears reminiscent of the aggregates of ubiquitinated proteins characteristic of many neurodegenerative diseases. Although such structures are generally assumed to result from damage to mature proteins, they may also result from damage and failure to degrade newly synthesized proteins.

## Materials and methods

### Yeast strains and plasmids

Molecular biological and genetic manipulations of yeast were performed using standard methods (Guthrie and Fink, 2001). *S. cerevisiae* strains SUB61 (MATa *lys2-801, leu2-3, 2-112, ura3-52, his3-Δ200, trp1-1*), SUB453 (MATa, *lys2-801, ura3-52, trp1-1, ubc4::HIS3, ubc5::LEU2*), and SY417 (MATa, *lys2-801, his3-Δ200, trp1-1, ura3-52, rpn10::LEU2*) were generous gifts of D. Finley (Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA). Strains BY4741 (MATa, *his3Δ1, leu2Δ0, met15Δ0, ura3Δ0*), BY4741Δ*sod1* (MATa, *his3Δ1, leu2Δ0, met15Δ0, ura3Δ0, sod1::kanMX4*), BY4741Δ*sod2* (MATa, *his3Δ1, leu2Δ0, met15Δ0, ura3Δ0, sod2::kanMX4*), BY4741Δ*ufd4* (MATa, *his3Δ1, leu2Δ0, met15Δ0, ura3Δ0, ufd4::kanMX4*), BY4741Δ*ubc7* (MATa, *his3Δ1, leu2Δ0, met15Δ0, ura3Δ0, ubc7::kanMX4*), and BY4741Δ*atg8* (MATa, *his3Δ1, leu2Δ0, met15Δ0, ura3Δ0, atg8::kanMX4*) were obtained from the yeast genome deletion library of Research Genetics. Strains YYH46 (MATa, *ura3-52, leu2Δ1, trp1Δ63*) and YYH1 (MATa, *ura3-52, leu2Δ1, trp1Δ63, npl4-1*) are described in Hitchcock et al. (2001). Strains YPC1505 (MATa, *ura3Δ0, leu2Δ0, his3Δ1, trp1Δ63*) and YPC1614 (MATa, *ura3Δ0, leu2Δ0, his3Δ1, trp1Δ63, cdc48-3*) are described in Ye et al. (2001). Strains YYH3 (MATa, *his4-519, ura3-52, ade1-100, leu2-3, 112*) and YYH4 (MATa, *his4-519, ura3-52, ade1-100, leu2-3, 112, ufd1-1*) are described in Johnson et al. (1995). Strains YYH46, YYH1, YPC1505, YPC1614, YYH3, and YYH4 were provided by T. Rapoport (Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA). Centromeric plasmid expressing

*SOD1* (pLS101; Sturtz et al. 2001) was provided by V. Culotta (Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD).

### Measurements of total protein degradation

Yeast cells were grown exponentially to OD<sub>600</sub> 0.8–1 at 30°C in SD medium supplemented with all amino acids (Sigma-Aldrich). 10 ml of cells were collected by centrifugation and resuspended in 2 ml of the same media, but without methionine, for 50 min. Then the cells were incubated with 50 μCi/ml <sup>35</sup>S-Met for 5 min to label recently synthesized proteins or 90 min to label long-lived proteins. After two washes with ice-cold chase media at 4°C, cells were resuspended in 2 ml chase media with a high concentration of Met (6 mg/ml) and cycloheximide (0.5 mg/ml) to prevent reutilization of <sup>35</sup>S-Met. At different time intervals, equal aliquots (450 μl) of cells were taken and mixed with 50 μl of 100% TCA to a final concentration of 10%. After incubation at 4°C overnight, the samples were centrifuged at 14,000 rpm for 10 min at 4°C, and the radioactivity in both the TCA-soluble and -insoluble fractions was measured by suspending the pellets in 4 ml of scintillation fluid (PerkinElmer). The rate of protein degradation is expressed as the percentage of initially incorporated radioactivity converted into acid-soluble fragments each time. The TCA-soluble cpm at time zero was subtracted from each subsequent measurement. To measure the effects of temperature shift, cells were shifted to 38, 42, or 20°C during the chase period with chase media pre-adjusted to the respective temperatures. To measure the effect of 80 μg/ml paraquat or 50 μg/ml cadmium, cells were exposed to these agents for 90 min before the labeling with <sup>35</sup>S-Met, except in Fig. 2 B where these agents were added after the pulse of <sup>35</sup>S-Met. TCA-soluble and -precipitable cpm for typical experiments (Figs. 1 and 2) are shown in Tables S1 and S2 (available at <http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200803022/DC1>).

### Detection of carbonyl groups in proteins

To detect the presence of carbonyl groups in proteins, yeast cells were grown exponentially at 30°C in YPD media. 20 ml of cells were then exposed to 80 μg/ml paraquat for 90 min. Cells were collected by centrifugation and lysed with glass beads in the presence of ice-cold sorbitol buffer (700 mM sorbitol, 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, and 1 mM PMSF) at 4°C. Cell debris was removed by centrifugation at 2,000 g for 5 min at 4°C. Equal amounts of cell proteins were derivatized to yield 2,4-DNP-hydrazones by incubation with 2,4-DNPH for 15 min at room temperature. By using the OxyBlot detection kit (Millipore), proteins were separated by SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, and the derivatized carbonyl groups were detected with an anti-DNP-hydrazone-specific antibody (Millipore).

### Measurement of radiolabeled proteins in the ultracentrifugal pellets

Yeast cells were grown exponentially at 30°C, and 20 ml of cells were labeled with <sup>35</sup>S-Met for 5 min, washed, and resuspended in chase media containing cycloheximide and high concentrations of Met (as described in Measurements of total protein degradation). Cells were shifted to 38°C or exposed to paraquat, and aliquots were collected at the indicated time points. Lysates were prepared by breaking the cells with glass beads in the presence of ice-cold sorbitol buffer at 4°C. Cell debris was removed by centrifugation at 2,000 g for 5 min. Lysates containing equal amounts of proteins were subjected to differential centrifugation. The amount of radiolabeled proteins present in the pellets was obtained by centrifuging for 20 min at 9,300 g, and after ultracentrifugation at 275,000 g for 60 min, they were measured by suspending the pellets in scintillation fluid. The accumulation of the <sup>35</sup>S-Met in these fractions was expressed relative to the total amount of the radiolabeled protein at time zero. The presence of carbonyl groups in the 275,000 g pellet was detected by OxyBlot analysis.

### Online supplemental material

Fig. S1 A shows that SOD2 is not involved in the degradation of recently synthesized proteins. Fig. S1 B shows that exposure of Δ*sod1* mutant to cadmium or paraquat further enhances the degradation of recently synthesized proteins. Fig. S2 shows that ATG8, which is essential for autophagy is not required for the increased degradation of short-lived proteins at 38°C. Fig. S3 shows that in *cdc48-3* mutants, upon a shift to 38°C or exposure to paraquat or cadmium, recently synthesized proteins that are not degraded accumulate in the high-speed ultracentrifugal pellet. Table S1 shows the TCA-soluble and -insoluble counts for a typical pulse-chase experiment at 30 or 38°C or upon exposure to paraquat or cadmium. Online supplemental material is available at <http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200803022/DC1>.

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