

Identifyn Standards for Optical Microscopy Methods™Identifyn® Primary Antibody**Rabbit anti-Human APE1 Polyclonal, IgG***Cat ID# - PA-RP 000009*Identifyn® Secondary Antibody**Identifyn® SRM Alexa Fluor™ 647 Affinity Purified Goat Anti-Rabbit, IgG (H + L)***Cat ID# - SA 000057*

APE1 (AP endonuclease 1), also known as APEX1 or Ref-1, is a pivotal enzyme in the base excision repair (BER) pathway. This pathway, which is of paramount importance in repairing single-strand breaks (SSBs) and other forms of DNA damage, relies heavily on the function of APE1.

APE1 in Base Excision Repair (BER)

Base excision repair (BER) is a significant pathway for correcting small base lesions, such as oxidized or deaminated bases, which can result in single-strand breaks if not repaired properly. APE1 is an essential component of the BER pathway and is specifically involved in the following:

AP Site Recognition and Cleavage: APE1's primary function is to recognize and cleave abasic sites, which are locations in DNA where the base has been removed but the phosphate backbone remains intact. These abasic sites, also known as apurinic/apyrimidinic (AP) sites, can occur due to spontaneous base loss or through the action of DNA glycosylases.

Endonuclease Activity: After recognizing an AP site, APE1 cleaves the DNA backbone, generating a single-strand break with a 3'-hydroxyl (3'-OH) end and a 5'-deoxyribose phosphate (5'-dRP) end. This cleavage creates a suitable entry point for further repair steps in the BER pathway.

APE1 and Single-Strand Break Repair

Once APE1 creates a single-strand break during base excision repair, the following steps occur to complete the repair process:

Gap Filling and Strand Sealing: DNA polymerase β (Pol β) extends the 3'-OH end by adding the appropriate nucleotide(s) to fill the gap. DNA ligase III, often in complex with XRCC1 (X-ray Repair Cross-Complementing Protein 1), seals the break by forming a phosphodiester bond at the 5'-dRP end.

Interaction with Other Proteins: APE1 interacts with multiple proteins involved in SSB and BER, including XRCC1 and DNA ligase III. These interactions help coordinate the repair process and ensure efficiency.

Additional Functions of APE1

Besides its crucial role in DNA repair, APE1 has other essential functions:

Redox Activity: APE1 acts as a redox factor, regulating the activity of various transcription factors by maintaining their redox state. This role is critical for controlling gene expression related to stress response, growth, and survival.

Therapeutic Implications: Given its central role in DNA repair, APE1 is a potential therapeutic target in cancer therapy. Modulating APE1 activity may influence DNA repair capacity and cellular response to DNA damage.

APE1's role in single-strand break repair is crucial within the base excision repair pathway. By recognizing and processing AP sites, APE1 initiates the repair process, successfully restoring DNA integrity. Its additional functions and therapeutic implications make it a protein of considerable interest in basic research and clinical applications.

Method

HeLa cells were grown on μ -Slide 8 Well high Glass Bottom [ibidi chamber](#). DNA damage was induced via treatment with 25 μ M Etoposide-spiked complete growth media for 48 hours, followed by -20 °C methanol fixation and blocked with [Thermo Fisher Fish Serum Blocker cat#37527X3](#). The primary antibody, Rabbit anti-Human APE1 Polyclonal was incubated for 1 hour at room temperature at a dilution of 1:100. Cells were washed 3X in Identifyn®'s proprietary Wash Buffer, and Identifyn®'s 647 secondary antibody was incubated at room temperature for 1 hour at a dilution of 1:200. Cells were washed 5X in Identifyn®'s proprietary Wash Buffer followed by the addition of Identifyn®'s proprietary STORM Buffer to the sample chamber enabling image acquisition.

Microscope

Bruker Vutara VXL Biplane Single Molecule Microscope, using an Olympus 60x/1.30 Silicon Oil objective, was used with the following parameters:

Calibration -

Calibration follows Identifyn®'s Calibration Standard Operating Procedure, which can be found here.

<https://identifyn.com/storm-calibration>

Image Acquisition -

SRX Software - Under the 'Single Molecule Localization' tab, 'Record' is selected and contains the following workflow tabs and parameters.

Configuration Tab - Capture Configuration

Number of Probes: 1

Number of Simultaneous Probes: 1

Number of Reference Probes: 1

Camera: Both Cameras

Color Channel: Both Channels

Probe Capture Mode: Interleaved

Z -Stack Capture Mode: Interleaved

Multiple Location Capture: Not selected

Post Record Reference: Not Selected

Fluidics: Not Selected

Autofocus Drift Correction: On

Microscope Configuration

Biplane Module: 635 nm Dichroic

Objective: Silicon Selected

Stage Insert: Rectangular Selected

Coarse Focus Position: 8-Well Chamber Selected

Dichroic: SuperRes

PSF: (Red, Orange)

Heater: Current: 26

Camera Configuration

Recording Vertical Field of View: 100%

Widefield Camera Exposure Time: 100 ms

Super Resolution Camera Exposure Time: 20 ms

Widefield Camera Binning: 1

Per-Probe Exposure Time: Selected

Probe Configuration

Predefined Probe: First probe: 640 nm (635 nm Dichroic); First reference probe: 640 nm (635 nm Dichroic)

Photoactivation/Imaging Laser: 0% Selected

Exposure Time: 20 ms Selected

Experiment Configuration

Record Workflow: Selected Options

View Mode: Widefield 200 µm

Capture Mode: Live

Stage and Piezo Selection

Examination of the Sample

Cell(s) or Cellular Structure Localization: The red-bordered box identifies the area of the SuperRes view and defines the appropriate cell(s) or cellular structure. The cell(s) or structures are optimally focused.

Piezo Current: 182.6 µm

Probe 1 Laser control 640 nm (635 nm Dichroic)

Widefield 640nm: 0.1X Neutral Density Filter: Selected, @0.2% Laser Input

Reference Probe 1 Laser control 640 nm (635 nm Dichroic): Not Selected

Advanced Tools Option

Widefield camera Exposure Time: 100 ms

Default values are maintained unless otherwise noted.

Widefield Laser: "Widefield 640 nm" was deselected, and "calibrate" under Autofocus was selected.

Autofocus - Calibration Values

Current Position: -0.979

Current Intensity: 4.5

Calibration Value: -5070 nm/unit

Autofocus Mode: Pre-Capture

View Mode

SuperRes: 50 µm is Selected

Capture Mode

Live

Stage and Piezo Selection

Cell(s) or Cellular Structure Localization: Positioning of the target Cell or Subsection of the Target Cell is optimized and focused.

Piezo Record: Begin: 182.6; End: 184.2

Probe 1 Laser control 640 nm (635 nm Dichroic)

SuperRes 640nm: 0.1X Neutral Density Filter: Selected, @ 0.02% Laser Input

Reference Probe 1 Laser control 640 nm (635 nm Dichroic)

Not Selected

Advanced Tools

Widefield Camera Exposure Time: 20 ms

Default values are maintained unless otherwise noted.

Record Workflow - Record Tab: Capture Parameters

Frames: Probe 1: 200

Z Positions: 8

Cycles: 22

Time Points: 1

Pause Between Cycles: Not Selected

Automatic Photoactivation Laser Control: Not Selected

Probe 1 Laser control 640 nm (635 nm Dichroic)

Laser Power: 50

Expert Configuration Options - The Localization Tab

Beyond the values shown, all other parameters were set to default values.

Localization

Cutout Width: 16 px

Max Frame Accumulation: 1 frame

Max Accumulation Offset: 1 px

Fiducial at Max Accumulation: Not selected

Max Particles Per Frame: No Max

Background SLPE Removal: Not Selected

Cutout/Background Removal: Not Selected

Preview Cutout Positions: Selected

Record Workflow - Localization Tab**Data Collection**

The folder is created automatically with the localization file for this image acquisition.

Recording Summary

All parameters were carried over from previous tabs and are kept except:

Probe1: BG Threshold: 15

Region of Interest -

Not selected

Display -

Was deployed to inspect if the BG threshold applied chooses localizations in an expected manner

Record Workflow - View Tab**Region of Interest**

Default values

Visualization Parameters

Point Splatting

Sizing Mode: Constant

Particle size: 25 nm

Color by: Depth

Color Table: Single

Opacity Mode: Depth; Opacity 1: 0.25

Front-to-back Attenuation: Not Selected

Post Acquisition analysis - View Tab**Drift Correction** - Computed with the following parameters:

Method: Particle (direct)

Time Intervals: 8 Intervals

Pixel Size: 50 nm

Smoothing: 8.00

Advanced Particle Filters - Applied to the drift-corrected data with the following parameters

Radial precision: 30

Axial precision: 65

The other parameters were not applied.

Statistical Analysis - Not Applied

Image by P. Raut

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