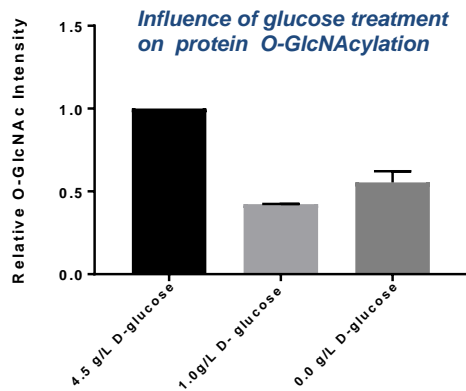




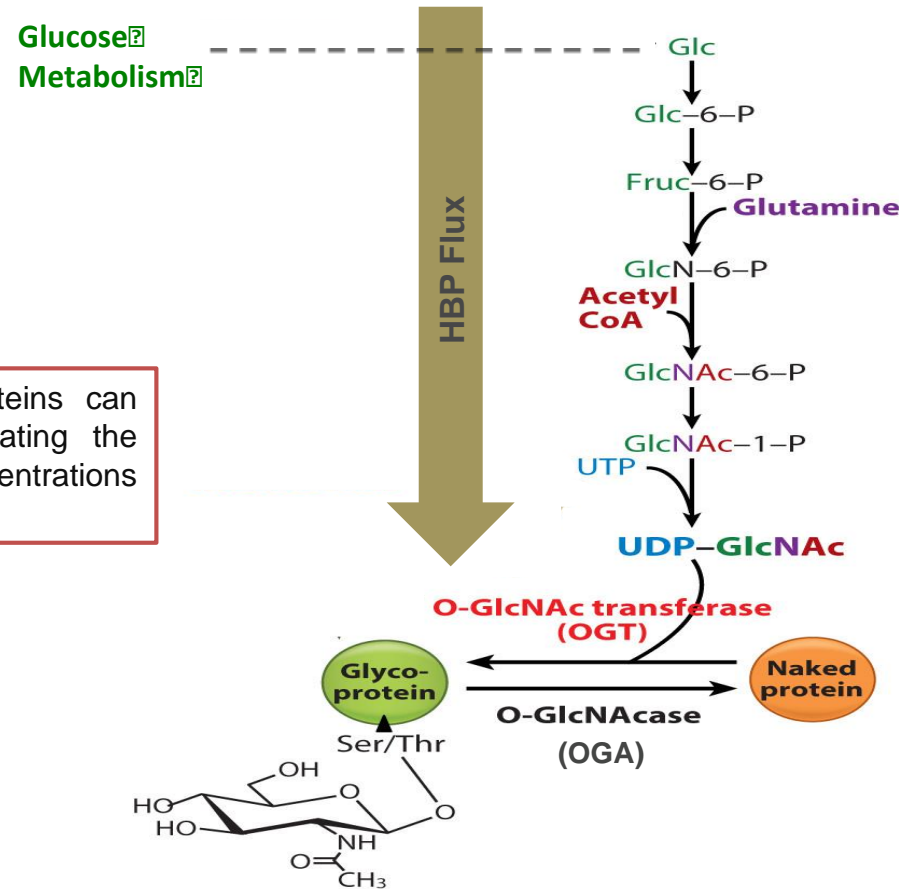
**Influence of O-GlcNAcylation on the repair of DNA  
double-strand breaks induced by heavy ions or X-rays**

# What is O-GlcNAcylation?

- ❖ A dynamic and reversible post-translational modification
- ❖ N-acetyl-glucosamine (GlcNAc) is attached to the oxygen atom of specific serine/threonine residues in proteins.
- ❖ O-GlcNAcylation levels are dependent on the nutrient-responsive hexosamine signaling pathway



O-GlcNAcylation of proteins can be increased by incubating the cells with high concentrations of glucose

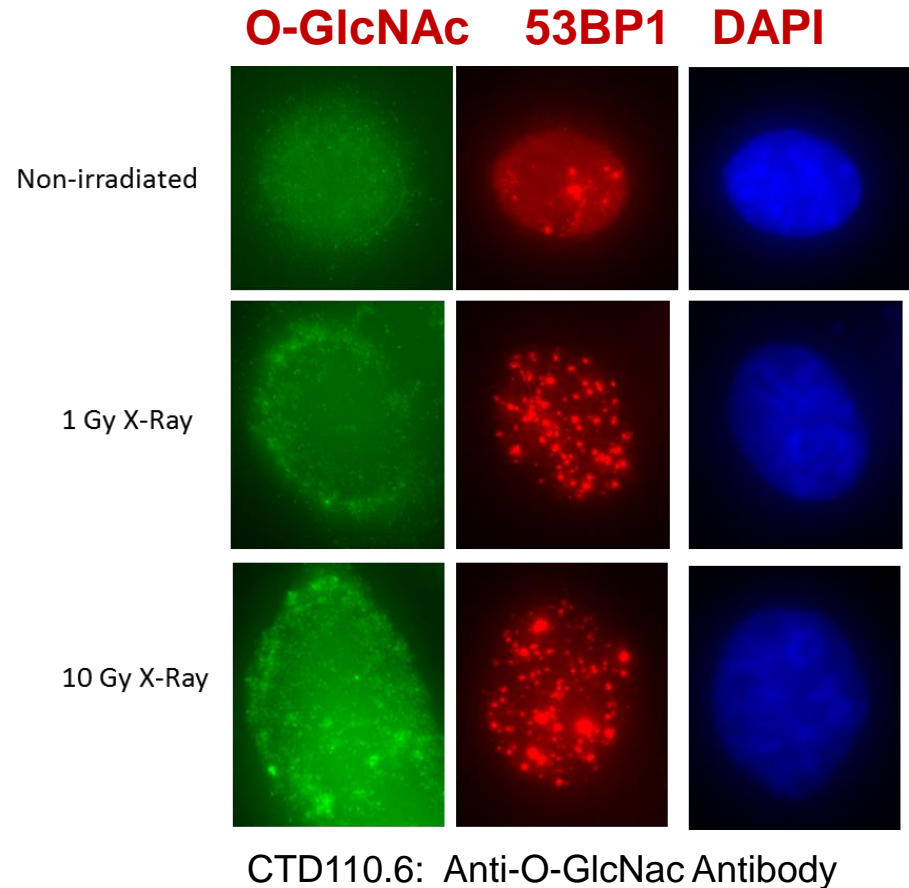
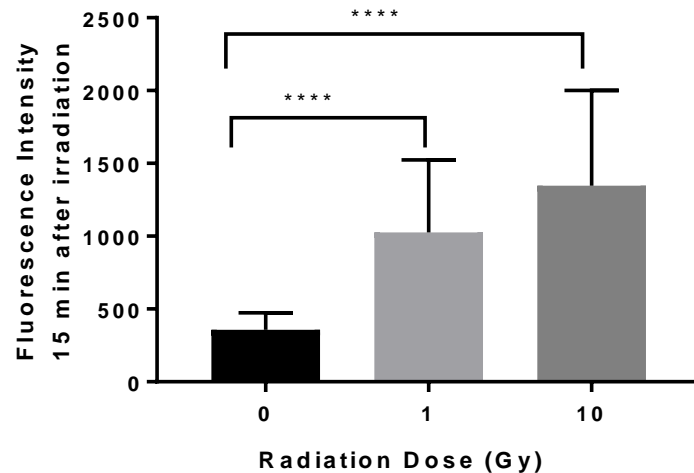


- ❖ DNA damage induces O-GlcNAcylation
- ❖ O-GlcNAcylation plays an important role in the repair of DSBs

Modified from Hart *et al*, 2011

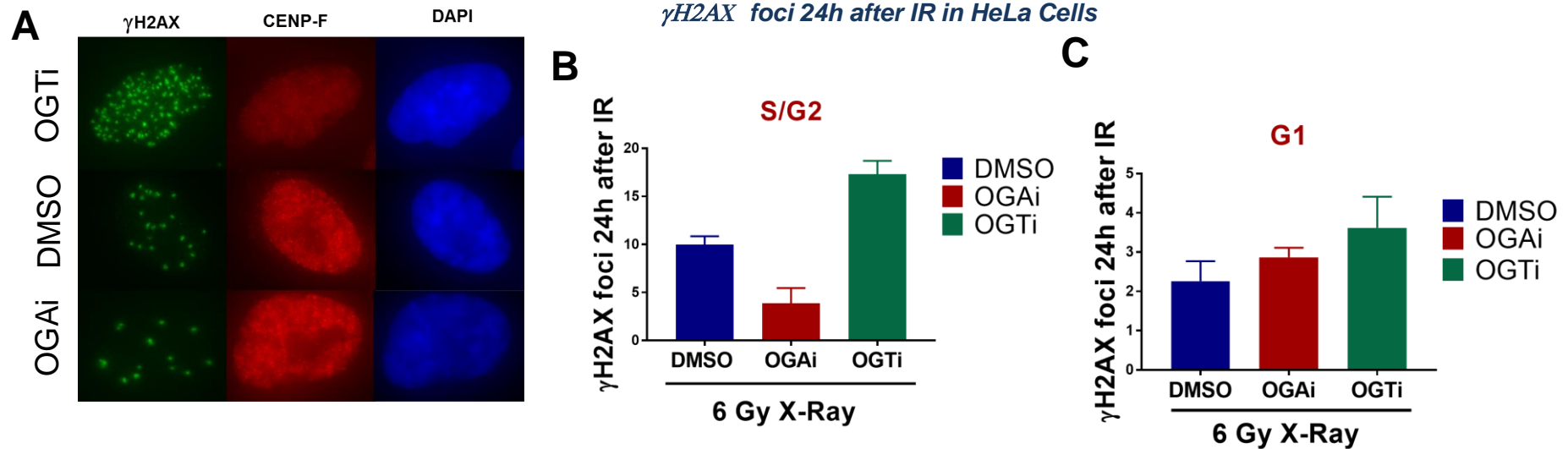
- Does PTM O-GlcNAc influence the repair of X-ray induced DSBs?
- Is the repair modulation by the PTM O-GlcNAc depending on damage complexity?

## O-GlcNAc modification 15 min after IR



The cellular O-GlcNAc levels increase in response to X-irradiation.

# Effects of O-GlcNAcylation on X-irradiation induce $\gamma$ H2AX foci



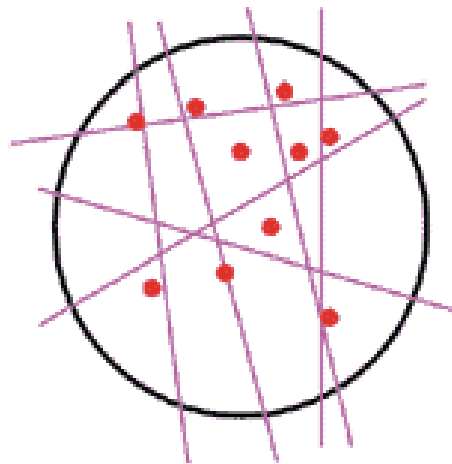
**Figure:** DNA DSBs repair in O-GlcNAc modulated HeLa CCL2 cells after X-Ray radiation.  $\gamma$ H2AX foci were quantified in DMSO (control), OGTi or OGAi treated HeLa cells in G1 and S/G2 phases 24 h after irradiation. Manipulating O-GlcNAcylation did not influence the number of induced  $\gamma$ H2AX foci in G1 and S/G2 phase cells. **A:**  $\gamma$ H2AX foci were imaged 24 h after irradiation in O-GlcNAc modulated HeLa cells. **B-C:** The averaged number of radiation-induced  $\gamma$ H2AX foci per nucleus are shown in G1 and S/G2 phase. At least 50 nuclei were counted for each condition. The data represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM of 2 independent experiments.

- Loss of O-GlcNAcylation impaired DSBs repair capacity.
- Promoting O-GlcNAc modification improved DNA DSBs repair.

- Does PTM O-GlcNAc influence the repair of X-ray induced DSBs?
- Is the repair modulation by the PTM O-GlcNAc depending on damage complexity?

## Ionizing Radiation

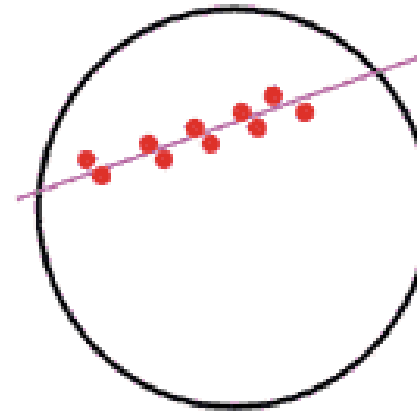
Sparsely IR



Low LET

- X- and  $\gamma$ -rays are sparsely-ionizing radiation.
- Energy is distributed homogenously
- The energy are deposited to the entire irradiated area
- Less complex DNA damage sites

Densely IR



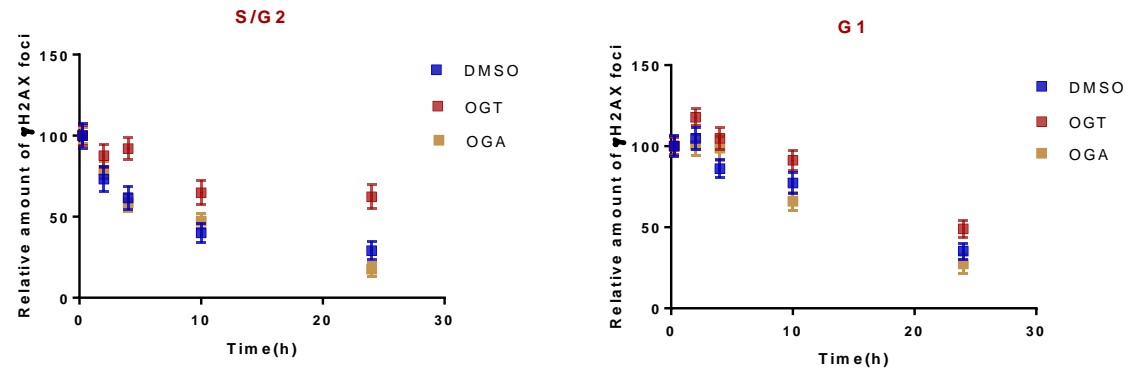
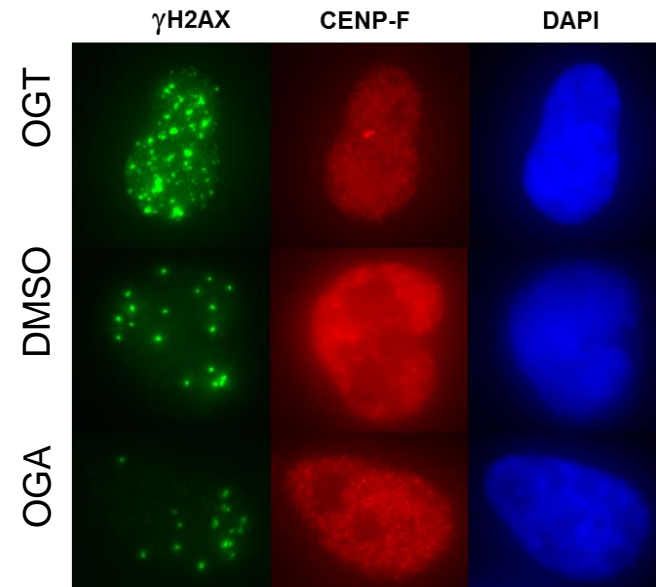
High LET

- Protons,  $\alpha$ -radiation and heavy ions are densely- ionizing radiation.
- Energy is distributed non-homogenously
- The energy is transferred along its paths
- Many complex DNA double strand breaks- leads to cell death

# Effects of O-GlcNAcylation on repair kinetics of DSBs induced by C-ion

HeLa cells were irradiated with C-ion (170 keV/ $\mu\text{m}$ )

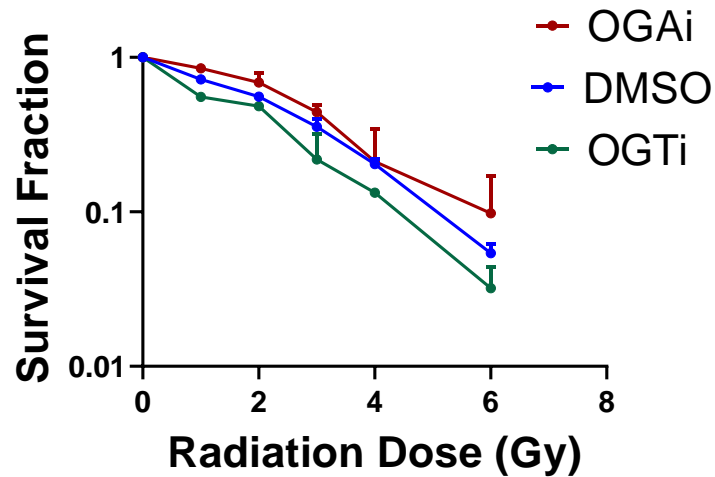
Repair kinetics of DNA DSBs



**Figure:** DNA DSBs repair in O-GlcNAc modulated HeLa CCL2 cells after C-ion irradiation.  $\gamma\text{H2AX}$  foci were quantified in DMSO (control), OGTi or OGAI treated HeLa cells in G1 and S/G2 phases. **A:**  $\gamma\text{H2AX}$  foci were imaged 24 h after irradiation in O-GlcNAc modulated HeLa cells. **B-C:** The relative amount of radiation-induced  $\gamma\text{H2AX}$  foci are shown in G1 and S/G2 phase. At least 50 nuclei were analysed for each condition. The data represent the mean  $\pm$  SEM of 1 experiment.

- Elevated level of O-GlcNAc increased the repair capacity of C-ion induced DNA DSBs.
- Inhibition of O-GlcNAc decreased the capacity to repair C-ion induced DSBs.





**Figure:** Clonogenic survival of HeLa cells after treatment OGAi, OGTi or DMSO. The data represent the mean  $\pm$  SD of 2 independent experiments.

O-GlcNAc inhibition leads to increased radiation sensitivity.

- Cellular O-GlcNAc levels increased after X-irradiation.
- Targeting O-GlcNAcylation modulates DNA damage response.
- Effects of O-GlcNAcylation on the repair of DNA DSBs is identical between X-Rays and C-ion.

## *Future Direction*

Since the O-GlcNAc dependent repair modulation was found mainly in S/G2 cells, we will address, if the observed effects are based on HR (homologous recombination).