

1 **Title page**

2 Chromatin-associated protein complexes link DNA base J  
3 and transcription termination in *Leishmania*

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17

## 18 **Abstract**

19 Unlike most other eukaryotes, *Leishmania* and other trypanosomatid protozoa have largely eschewed  
20 transcriptional control of gene expression, relying instead on post-transcriptional regulation of mRNAs  
21 derived from polycistronic transcription units (PTUs). In these parasites, a novel modified nucleotide base  
22 ( $\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyloxymethyluracil) known as J plays a critical role in ensuring that transcription  
23 termination occurs only at the end of each PTU, rather than at the polyadenylation site of individual  
24 genes. To further understand the biology of J-associated processes, we used tandem affinity purification  
25 (TAP-tagging) and mass spectrometry to reveal proteins that interact with the glucosyltransferase  
26 performing the final step in J synthesis. These studies identified four proteins reminiscent of subunits in  
27 the PTW/PP1 complex that controls transcription termination in higher eukaryotes. Moreover,  
28 bioinformatics analyses identified the DNA-binding subunit of *Leishmania* PTW/PP1 as a novel J-  
29 binding protein, which we dubbed JBP3. Down-regulation of JBP3 expression levels in *Leishmania*  
30 results in a substantial increase in transcriptional read-through at the 3' end of most PTUs. Additional  
31 TAP-tagging experiments showed that JBP3 also associates with two other protein complexes. One  
32 consists of subunits with domains suggestive of a role in chromatin modification/remodeling, while the  
33 other contains subunits with similarity to those found in the PAF1C complex involved in regulation of  
34 transcription in other eukaryotes. Thus, while trypanosomatids utilize protein complexes similar to that  
35 used to control transcription termination in other eukaryotes, JBP3 appears to function as a hub linking  
36 these modules to base J, thereby enabling the parasites' unique reliance on polycistronic transcription and  
37 post-transcriptional regulation of gene expression.

38

## 39 **Introduction**

40 The genus *Leishmania* includes several species of protozoan parasites that cause a spectrum of human  
41 diseases, ranging from cutaneous lesions to disfiguring mucocutaneous and lethal visceral leishmaniasis,  
42 depending primarily on the species involved. *Leishmania* is transmitted through the bite of the sand fly  
43 and belongs to the family Trypanosomatidae, which also includes the vector-borne human pathogens  
44 *Trypanosoma brucei* spp., causative agent of human African trypanosomiasis (African sleeping sickness),  
45 and *Trypanosoma cruzi*, causative agent of Chagas' disease. Reflecting the ancient divergence of these  
46 organisms, the Trypanosomatidae exhibit a myriad of biological differences from "higher" eukaryotes.  
47 One major difference is that each chromosome is organized into a small number of polycistronic  
48 transcription units (PTUs), which consist of tens-to-hundreds of protein-coding genes co-transcribed from  
49 a single initiation site at the 5' end of the PTU to a termination site at the 3' end. Interestingly, unlike the  
50 operons of prokaryotes, genes within each PTU are not confined to a single pathway or function.  
51 Individual genes within the primary transcript are *trans*-spliced by addition of a 39-nucleotide spliced-  
52 leader (SL) mini-exon to provide the 5' cap-4 structure and polyadenylated to form the mature individual  
53 mRNAs. As a result of this unique genomic organization, all genes within a PTU are transcribed at the  
54 same rate (as are genes across different PTUs). Hence, gene expression must be controlled by post  
55 transcriptional processes, such as splicing/polyadenylation rate, RNA stability and translation regulation.

56 A second distinct feature of the Trypanosomatidae (and other Euglenozoa) is that ~1% of the thymidines  
57 in the nuclear genome are glucosylated to form the novel nucleotide  $\beta$ -D-glucopyranosyloxymethyluracil,  
58 usually referred to as J (1, 2). While the majority of J is localized within telomeric repeat sequences (1, 3-  
59 6), chromosome-internal J is found at almost all transcription termination sites (7, 8) and centromeres,  
60 which also correspond to the major replication origin on *Leishmania* chromosomes (9, 10). In some  
61 trypanosomatids (although not *Leishmania*), J is also found in transcriptionally silent regions containing  
62 retrotransposons and/or other repetitive sequences (6). J biosynthesis occurs in two steps, whereby one of  
63 two proteins (JBP1 or JBP2) hydroxylates the methyl group of thymidine to form  
64 hydroxymethyldeoxyuracil (HmdU) that is subsequently further modified by a glucosyltransferase  
65 (HmdUGT) to form J (7, 11). Both JBP1 and JBP2 have an N-terminal oxygenase (Tet\_JBP) catalytic  
66 domain; JBP1 contains a central J-binding domain (12), while JBP2 instead contains SNF2\_N, ATP-  
67 binding and helicase C-terminal domains that are suggestive of a role in chromatin binding and/or re-  
68 modeling (13, 14). Null mutants of *JBP1* have not been isolated (despite multiple attempts) in  
69 *Leishmania*, suggesting that it is an essential gene (and that J is required for viability)(15). In contrast,  
70 *JBP2* null mutants have been isolated and were shown to have less than 40% of wild-type levels of J (8).  
71 Chromosome-internal J was gradually lost during continuous growth of *Leishmania tarentolae* *JBP2* null

72 mutants, with a concomitant increase in read-through transcription at termination sites, suggesting a  
73 critical role for J (and JBP2) in transcription termination. These data led to the model (16) that JBP1 is  
74 responsible for J maintenance after DNA replication by binding to pre-existing J on the parental strand  
75 and modifying the thymidine twelve nucleotides downstream on the newly synthesized strand. JBP2 is  
76 proposed to be largely responsible for *de novo* synthesis of J when JBP1 is not able to fully restore J on  
77 both strands.

78         Despite this knowledge of the enzymes involved in J biosynthesis, we currently know little about  
79 how J mediates transcription termination (and/or repression of initiation) since the machinery underlying  
80 this process has not yet been identified. Here, we have used Tandem Affinity Purification (TAP)-tagging  
81 and tandem mass-spectrometry to identify a PTW/PP1-like protein complex that interacts with HmdUGT.  
82 This complex includes a novel J-binding protein (JBP3) that appears to be essential in *Leishmania*. RNA-  
83 seq analysis following conditional down-regulation of JBP3 expression shows substantially higher levels  
84 of transcriptional read-through at the 3' end of most PTUs, suggesting that it plays an important role in  
85 transcription termination. While this manuscript was being prepared, Kieft et al (17) reported similar  
86 results in *Leishmania* and *T. brucei*. Here, we have extended these findings by demonstrating that JBP3  
87 also interacts with another protein complex likely involved in chromatin modification/remodeling, as well  
88 as a PAFIC-like complex that likely interacts with RNAPII. Therefore, despite the differences in gene  
89 regulation from other eukaryotes, *Leishmania* appears to utilize proteins related to those used for  
90 chromatin remodeling and transcriptional regulation in other eukaryotes to provide the molecular  
91 machinery that links J to termination of RNAPII-mediated transcription.

92

## 93 **Results**

### 94 **Identification of a protein complex containing a novel J-binding protein**

95 To date only three proteins have been shown to be involved in J biosynthesis: JBP1, JBP2 and  
96 HmdUGT (hereafter referred to as GT). To expand the network of proteins important in J biosynthesis  
97 and/or function, we used mass spectrometry to identify proteins that co-purified with a TAP-tagged GT  
98 bait in *L. tarentolae*. Two separate experiments were performed: the first using extracts from WT  
99 parasites constitutively expressing the tagged protein and the second using extracts from the tetracycline  
100 (Tet) induced T7-TR cell line over-expressing the tagged protein integrated at the *ODC* locus  
101 (Supplementary figure S1A). After affinity purification SDS-PAGE and silver staining, confirmed  
102 successful enrichment of the bait protein in the pooled eluates (**Figure 1**). Proteins were identified by  
103 liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) and their ( $\log_2$ -fold) enrichment  
104 calculated by comparison to a control cell line (see Supplementary data file). The combined data from  
105 both replicates revealed seven proteins that were enriched by >150-fold (compared to the control) and  
106 were therefore considered to be part of the TAP-tagged complex. Another two proteins showed >75-fold  
107 enrichment in the first experiment, although they were not detected in the second experiment  
108 (Supplementary table S1). Five subunits of the prefoldin complex were enriched in both experiments,  
109 while the another (PFDN2) was enriched ~50-fold in the first experiment only. We suspect that the  
110 prefoldins act as a chaperone role for one or more proteins of the GT-associated complex, so they are not  
111 considered further here.

112 One of the highly enriched proteins (LtaP15.0230) was annotated in TriTrypDB as a putative  
113 protein phosphatase 1 catalytic subunit, while the other three (LtaP36.0380, LtaP33.1440 and  
114 LtaP32.3990) were all annotated as “Hypothetical protein, conserved”. Affinity purification was  
115 performed on two independently generated cell lines for each construct (the results from one replicate of  
116 each are shown in Supplementary figure S1B and analyzed by LC-MS/MS (Supplementary data file). The  
117 results from these pulldowns (**Table 1**) show the same four proteins identified above were highly  
118 enriched, as was GT, albeit to a lesser degree than other four components (Supplementary Tables S2-S5).  
119 Thus, we conclude that these proteins form a stable complex, but that GT may be more transiently  
120 associated than the other four components.

121 LtaP15.0230 is one of eight isoforms of the catalytic subunit of protein phosphatase 1 (PP1C)  
122 encoded in the *L. tarentolae* genome. Phylogenetic analysis (Supplementary figure S2) indicates that  
123 there are five different clades of PP1C in trypanosomatids and LtaP15.0230 belongs to a clade (e) that  
124 lacks any mammalian paralogue. Interestingly, Salivarian trypanosomes (*T. brucei*, *T. congolense*, and

125 *T. vivax*) also lack PP1Ce, although it is present in Stercorarian trypanosomes (*T. cruzi*, *T. rangeli* and  
126 *T. grayi*) and more distant relatives, *Blechnomonas ayalai*, *Paratrypanosoma confusum* and *Bodo saltans*.  
127 TAP-tagging of PP1Ce resulted in co-purification of seven proteins with >150-fold enrichment  
128 (Supplementary Table S2). These include GT and the other three components of the complex described  
129 above, as well as three proteins (LtaP05.1290, LtaP07.0770 and LtaP29.0170) annotated as protein  
130 phosphatase regulatory subunits (PPP1R7/Sds22, PPP1R11/inhibitor 3, and PPP1R2/inhibitor 2,  
131 respectively). In mammalian systems, a subset of PP1C proteins are present in heterotrimeric, inactive  
132 complexes with PP1R7 and PPP1R11 (18). Therefore, we suggest that PP1Ce forms multiple complexes;  
133 one being the GT-associated complex, a second with PPP1R7 and PPP1R11, and another with PPP1R2.

134 We performed a series of bioinformatic analyses to identify domains and/or motifs that might  
135 provide hints as to the function of the three proteins of GT-associated complex that lack a functional  
136 description. BLASTP and INTERPROSCAN searches showed high confidence matches only to orthologues  
137 in other trypanosomatids with no informative domains identified. However, HHPRED analysis  
138 (Supplementary figure S3A) of LtaP33.1440 revealed a structural match in the central portion (residues  
139 88-105) to the human serine/threonine-protein phosphatase 1 regulatory subunit 10 (PPP1R10), also  
140 known as PNUTS (19-22). The trypanosomatid protein is much smaller (264 vs 940 amino acids) than  
141 mammalian PNUTS and sequence similarity is restricted to the region cited above, which contains the  
142 motif that is essential for phosphatase inhibitor function and interaction with PP1C (Supplementary figure  
143 S3B) (23). We will refer to this protein as PNUTS, in deference to precedent in the field (17). TAP-  
144 tagging of PNUTS showed significant enrichment of the four other components of the GT-associated  
145 protein complex and no other proteins (Supplementary table S3). BLASTP searches of LtaP32.3990  
146 returned matches to orthologues in other trypanosomatids, as well as WD40-domains in proteins from  
147 several other organisms, while HHPRED analysis (Supplementary figure S4) identified at least three  
148 WD40 repeats. Therefore, we will refer to this protein as WD-GT, to distinguish it from numerous other  
149 WD40 repeat-containing proteins in *Leishmania*. TAP-tagged WD-GT pulled down the four other  
150 components of the GT-associated protein complex, as well as a number of chaperone-associated proteins,  
151 including prefoldins, T-complex and heat shock proteins (Supplementary table S3).

152 HHPRED analysis of LtaP36.0380 revealed three separate domains with structural similarity to  
153 different proteins (Supplementary figure S5). The N-terminal domain (residues 2-86) of JBP3 matches a  
154 central portion of the SWI1 subunit of the yeast SWI/SNF chromatin remodeling complex, while the C-  
155 terminal domain of JBP3 (residues 384-485) matches the N-terminal TFIIS domain of PNUTS. Most  
156 importantly, the central domain (residues 137 and 269) matches the DNA-binding domain (DBD) of JBP1  
157 and *in silico* folding of this region showed substantial similarity to the JBP1 DBD and conservation of the

158 signature D-(W/F/Y)-x-x-GGTRY motif present in all trypanosomatid JBP1 proteins (**Figure 2A**). Since  
159 the structural model of the LtaP36.0380 DBD contains a binding pocket large enough to accommodate the  
160 glucose ring of J (**Figure 2B and C**), we have proposed that the protein be named J Binding Protein 3  
161 (JBP3). While this manuscript was in preparation, the J-binding function was experimentally confirmed  
162 by others (17).

163 The molecular characteristics of the four proteins identified in the GT pulldowns – a PP1 catalytic  
164 subunit (PP1Ce), a predicted PP1 regulatory protein (PNUTS), a WD40 repeat protein, and a DNA  
165 binding protein (JBP3) – are highly reminiscent of the components of the mammalian PTW/PP1 complex.  
166 This complex, which contains PP1C, PNUTS, WDR82, and the DNA-binding protein TOX4, has a role in  
167 controlling chromatin structure (22, 24). Importantly, the PTW/PP1 complex was recently been found to  
168 be a negative regulator of RNA polymerase II (Pol II) elongation rate and that dephosphorylation of the  
169 transcription elongation factor Spt5 is necessary for transcription termination at polyadenylation sites in  
170 mammalian cells (25). Thus, our results indicate that GT associates with a PTW/PP1-like complex in  
171 *Leishmania* (which we will refer to as PJW/PP1) wherein JBP3 replaces the DNA-binding function of  
172 TOX4. We propose that this complex provides a direct molecular link between J and transcription  
173 termination in *Leishmania*.

#### 174 **JBP3 is also part of another chromatin remodeling complex**

175 While tandem affinity purification of TAP-tagged JBP3 showed >256-fold enrichment of the  
176 PJW/PP1 complex proteins (PP1Ce, PNUTS, WD-GT, and GT), another four proteins (LtaP35.2400,  
177 LtaP28.2640, LtaP12.0900 and LtaP14.0150) were >3000-fold enriched (Supplementary table S5). To  
178 confirm association of these proteins with JBP3 (and each other), we constructed TAP-tagged versions  
179 and transfected them into *L. tarentolae* T7-TR cell-lines. Cloning of *LtaP12.0900* failed because of errors  
180 in the genome sequence (see below) and transfectants containing the LtaP35.2400 construct did not  
181 express the tagged protein (perhaps because over-expression was deleterious), but the LtaP14.0150 and  
182 LtaP28.2640 transfectants expressed tagged proteins of the expected size (see Supplementary figure S1B),  
183 enabling affinity purification (**Figure 3**). Subsequent mass spectrometric analysis of co-purifying proteins  
184 showed that LtaP14.0150 (Supplementary tables S6) and LtaP28.2640 (Supplementary tables S7) pull-  
185 downs enriched JBP3 and the same JBP3-associated proteins (**Table 2**).

186 The most highly enriched proteins likely form a separate JBP3-containing complex that we have  
187 named J3C (for JBP3-associated Chromatin Complex), because bioinformatic analysis suggests these  
188 proteins are likely associated with chromatin modification and/or remodeling. BLASTP analyses of the  
189 J3C proteins failed to reveal convincing matches to anything other than orthologues in other  
190 trypanosomatids and INTERPROSCAN analysis was uninformative. LtaP35.2400 is annotated as a “SET



191 domain-containing protein, putative” in TriTrypDB and HHPRED analysis revealed that the N-terminal  
192 region (amino acids 70-227) contains structural similarity to SET domain-containing proteins and the  
193 central portion (residues 355-385) shows weaker similarity to C4-type Zinc finger domains from several  
194 unrelated proteins (Supplementary figure S6). SET domains, which are usually involved with binding to  
195 and/or methylation of histones (26), are also present in several other *Leishmania* proteins, so we have  
196 named this protein SET-J3C to distinguish it from the others. HHPRED analysis of LtaP14.0150 showed  
197 structural similarity to Chromatin organization modifier (Chromo) domains (27, 28) from numerous  
198 eukaryotic proteins at its N-terminus (amino acids 1-55) and (weak) similarity to Chromo shadow  
199 domains at the C-terminus (29) (Supplementary figure S7). Therefore, we have dubbed this protein  
200 Chromo-J3C and predict that it may be involved in recognition of methylated lysine residues on histone  
201 tails. LtaP28.2640 is annotated as a “Hypothetical protein, conserved”, but residues 187-227 show  
202 structural similarity to the Chromo shadow domain (Supplementary figure S8), and so we have called it  
203 CS-J3C. The *LtaP12.0900* gene is misassembled in our *L. tarentolae* reference genome, so we used full-  
204 length orthologues from other *Leishmania* genomes for subsequent analyses. However, BLASTP,  
205 INTERPROSCAN and HHPRED analyses were uninformative, so we have called this protein HPC-J3C (for  
206 hypothetical protein conserved in J3C). Phylogenetic analysis showed that HPC-J3C has poor sequence  
207 conservation, even in other trypanosomatids, with orthologues in other genera being shorter than in  
208 *Leishmania*.

### 209 **JBP3 interacts with PAF1C**

210 In addition to the components of the PJW/PP1 and J3C complexes, two other proteins  
211 (LtaP35.2870 and LtaP29.1270) were substantially enriched in both JBP3 TAP-tag experiments  
212 (Supplementary table S5). LtaP35.2870 is annotated as “RNA polymerase-associated protein LEO1,  
213 putative” in TriTrypDB and this homology was confirmed by HHPRED analyses (Supplementary figure  
214 S9). LEO1 is a subunit of the RNAP II-associated factor 1 complex (PAF1C), which facilitates  
215 transcription elongation by regulating chromatin modification (30-32). Mass spectrometric analysis of  
216 proteins that co-purified with TAP-tagged LEO1 (**Figure 4**) identified three proteins (LtaP29.1270,  
217 LtaP36.4090 and LtaP29.2750) that were enriched by >630-fold in both experiments (Supplementary  
218 table S8). The last two are obvious homologues of the PAF1C subunits CDC73 and CTR9, respectively,  
219 and were also substantially enriched in one of the two JBP3 TAP-tag experiments (see Supplementary  
220 table S5). LtaP36.4090 contains the Ras-like fold characteristic of C-terminal domain of CDC73  
221 (Supplementary figure S10) and is annotated as such on TriTrypDB. LtaP29.2750 contains several  
222 tetratricopeptide repeat (TPR) domains implicated in protein-protein interactions and shows considerable  
223 overall similarity to CTR9 (Supplementary figure S11). Functional studies of the *T. brucei* orthologue



224 (Tb927.3.3220) indicated that it is essential for parasite survival and depletion of CTR9 mRNA reduced  
225 the expression of many genes involved in regulation of mRNA levels (33). The third protein  
226 (LtaP29.1270) that was substantially enriched in both replicates of the TAP-tagged LEO1 and JBP3  
227 experiments is not an obvious orthologue of any PAF1C subunit. This protein is annotated as a  
228 “Hypothetical protein, conserved” in TriTrypDB, but HHPRED analysis (Supplementary figure S12)  
229 revealed a central domain (amino acids 232-358) with structural similarity to the PONY/DCUN1 domain  
230 found in DCN(Defective in Cullin Neddylation) proteins that are involved in regulation of ubiquitin  
231 ligation cascades (34). Our results (**Table 3**) suggest that LtaP29.1270, which we will refer to as DCNL  
232 (DCN-like) hereafter, forms an integral part (along with LEO1, CDC73 and CTRL) of a PAF1C-like  
233 (PAF1C-L) complex in *Leishmania*).

234 TAP-tagging of *T. brucei* CTR9 by others (33) revealed the same constellation of PAF1C-L  
235 subunits (LEO1, CDC73 and DCNL), as well an additional protein (Tb927.7.4030). Close examination of  
236 our results revealed that the *Leishmania* orthologue (LtaP14.0860) of Tb927.7.4030 is also enriched in  
237 both LEO1 TAP-tag experiments (**Table 3**). While this protein is, once again, annotated “Hypothetical  
238 protein, conserved” in TriTrypDB, HHPRED analysis revealed an N-terminal (amino acids 2-152)  
239 structural similarity to the Plus-3 domain of human RTF1 (Supplementary figure S13), a component of  
240 human and yeast PAF1C. Thus, LtaP14.0860 (which we have dubbed RTF1L) is likely the functional  
241 equivalent of RTF1 but may be less tightly associated with PFAC1-L, at least in *Leishmania*.

## 242 **Depletion of JBP3 decreases transcription termination at cSSRs**

243 Since the results of our TAP-tag experiments, presented above, suggests that JBP3 is the hub of three  
244 separate protein complexes similar to those associated with chromatin modification/remodeling and  
245 regulation of transcription in other organisms, we postulated that it plays a central role of controlling  
246 transcription termination in *Leishmania*. To test this hypothesis, we used CRISPR/Cas9 (35) to delete  
247 *JBP3* in *L. tarentolae* bearing a Tet-regulated copy of *JBP3-TAP* (see above). We were able to delete both  
248 endogenous copies of *JBP3*, but only when *JBP3-TAP* expression was induced. These data suggest that  
249 *JBP3* is an essential gene in *Leishmania*. To interrogate the effect of JBP3 depletion, we grew two stable  
250 transfectants lacking both endogenous copies of *JBP3* for 8-11 days in the presence or absence of Tet.  
251 While cells grown in the presence of Tet maintained a constant growth rate (with a generation time of ~9  
252 hours) over the length of the experiment, the growth rate in the absence of Tet slowed after day 3, with  
253 the generation time increasing to >20 hours on day 6, before returning to almost the WT rate after day 10  
254 (**Figure 5A**). Interestingly, JBP3-TAP protein levels decreasing markedly during the first day after  
255 removal of Tet, dropping to ~2% of the initial level by day 2 (**Figure 5B**).

256 RNA was isolated from the cells every one or two days and used to generate strand-specific RNA-seq  
257 libraries. Illumina sequencing reads were mapped to the *L. tarentolae* reference genome and normalized  
258 read counts calculated for every gene. Differential expression analysis revealed that *JBP3-TAP* mRNA  
259 levels were ~20-fold lower in the absence of Tet (**Figure 5C**). However, there was a marked increase in  
260 the *JBP3-TAP* mRNA levels in the Day 11 Tet- sample, coincident with resumption of normal growth.  
261 Consequently, this sample was excluded from subsequent analyses, along with the Day 1 Tet- samples  
262 (since JBP3 protein was still ~8% of the initial level, despite the lower amount of *JBP3-TAP* mRNA).  
263 Further analysis (using the DESeq2 module of GENEIOUS) revealed that 17 genes had significant higher  
264 mRNA abundance (>2-fold,  $p < 0.001$ ) in the remaining Tet- samples with low JBP3 protein levels  
265 (Supplementary table S9). Interestingly, 14 of these genes are located adjacent (or close) to transcription  
266 termination sites (TTSs). Indeed, 34 of the 50 most up-regulated genes are located near TTSs, with 24 of  
267 these at convergent strand-switch regions.

268 To further characterize these increases in RNA abundance, we analyzed the read coverage for 5 kb on  
269 either side of all 192 TTSs in the *L. tarentolae* genome. As expected, the median normalized coverage on  
270 the top (coding) strand in Tet+ samples (which express higher levels of JBP3), decreased sharply  
271 downstream of the TTS (Supplementary figure S14A). However, read coverage downstream of the TTS  
272 in the Tet- (days 2-9) samples (which contain ~50-fold less JBP3 protein) was significantly higher,  
273 suggesting that reduction of JBP3 levels resulted in substantial read-through. Importantly, this increase in  
274 read-through transcription did not occur to the same extent at different types of TTS (**Figure 5D**). It was  
275 most pronounced at the 23 non-centromeric cSSRs without RNA genes (**Figure 5E** and Supplementary  
276 figure S14B), where transcript abundance was almost as high downstream of the TTS as it was upstream.  
277 There was also a significant increase in read-through transcription downstream of the TTS between  
278 unidirectionally oriented (head-to-tail) PTUs (**Figure 5F** and Supplementary figure S14C), although it  
279 was more subtle, since transcription reinitiates shortly downstream at the transcription start site (TSS).  
280 Conversely, there was only a small increase in read-through at TTSs adjacent to RNA genes transcribed  
281 by RNAPIII (Supplementary figure S14D), and essentially no read-through at centromeric  
282 (Supplementary figure S14E) or telomeric TTSs (Supplementary figure S14F) TTSs. Analysis of bottom  
283 (non-coding) strand transcripts revealed no significant differences between Tet+ and Tet- samples  
284 (Supplementary figures S14H-N) except at cSSRs, where read-through from the second PTU results in a  
285 substantial increase in antisense transcripts upstream of the TTS (Supplementary figure S14I). Similar  
286 analysis of transcript abundance surrounding TSSs (Supplementary figure S15), revealed no significant  
287 changes due to JBP3 depletion, except for a small increase in top (coding) strand coverage when PTUs  
288 were oriented unidirectionally (Supplementary figure S15C and G), presumably due to read-through from

289 the preceding PTU. Importantly, there was little or no increase in bottom (non-coding) strand coverage  
290 upstream of most TSSs.

291

## 292 Discussion

293 Using the trypanosomatid-specific GT, which carries out the second step of J biosynthesis, as an  
294 entrée to search for the molecular machinery associated with regulation of transcription in *Leishmania*,  
295 we have identified a network of three complexes that contain proteins with conserved building blocks  
296 often used to assemble molecular machinery regulating transcription in other eukaryotes. A novel J-  
297 binding protein (JBP3) lies at the nexus of these complexes (**Figure 6**) and provide new insight into the  
298 molecular mechanism(s) used to mediate transcription termination at the end of the polycistronic  
299 transcription units emblematic of these (and related trypanosomatid) parasites. We have shown that JBP3  
300 plays a central role in controlling termination of RNAPII transcription, since depletion of JBP3 leads to  
301 defects in transcriptional termination at the 3' end of PTUs in *Leishmania* (**Figure 5**), just as it does in  
302 *T. brucei* (17). However, read-through transcription is not seen to the same extent at all TTSs. The  
303 presence of RNAPII-transcribed RNA genes downstream of the TTS appears to effectively block RNAPII,  
304 as we have seen previously for JBP2 null mutants (8), and there is little or no read-through at TTSs  
305 immediately upstream of centromeres and telomeres. This suggests that factors other than JBP3 also play  
306 a role in reducing transcriptional read-through at these loci. Alternatively, it is possible that the higher J  
307 content at centromeres and telomeres may “capture: what little JBP3 remains in the Tet- cells. In contrast  
308 to the recent results from *T. brucei* (17), we find little evidence for antisense transcription at the 5' end of  
309 PTUs in *Leishmania*. Therefore, we suggest that JBP3 (and/or the PJW/PP1 complex) does not need to  
310 control inappropriate transcription at dSSRs between “double” peaks of H2A.Z like those found in  
311 *T. brucei*, since they are absent in *Leishmania* (unpublished data). However, we do find evidence that  
312 depletion of JBP3 in *Leishmania* results in up-regulation of mRNA levels for protein-coding genes at the  
313 3' end of PTUs (Supplementary table S9). It is possible that this phenomenon is due to more efficient  
314 polyadenylation of transcripts due to uncovering of cryptic SL sites downstream of the normal TTS. The  
315 toxic effects of a gradual accumulation of proteins from these mRNAs may also explain the lag between  
316 appearance of defects in transcription termination (day 2) and a decrease in growth rate (day 4).

317 Our initial TAP-tagging experiments showed that GT associates (directly or indirectly) with four  
318 other proteins that resemble components of the metazoan PTW/PP1 complex, which contains PNUTS,  
319 TOX4, WDR82 and PP1C has been implicated in numerous different cellular processes; including control  
320 of chromatin structure during cell cycle progression (22), repair of DNA damage by non-homologous  
321 end-joining (36), maintenance of telomere length (37), and developmental regulation of transcription (38).  
322 The *Leishmania* PJW/PP1 complex shows obvious parallels to the metazoan PTW/PP1 complex by  
323 incorporating analogous (although not necessarily homologous) proteins, with JBP3 substituting for the  
324 DNA binding function of TOX4. There are some interesting differences between *Leishmania* PJW/PP1

325 and the homologous *T. brucei* complex, most notably the absence of PP1C in the latter (hence the  
326 complex is called PJW)(17). This absence is intriguing in the light of a recent publication that showed the  
327 mammalian PTW/PP1 complex dephosphorylates transcription elongation factor Spt5, causing the  
328 RNAPII transcription complex to decelerate within the termination zone downstream of poly(A) sites and  
329 allowing the Xrn2 exonuclease to “track down and dislodge” the polymerase from the DNA template  
330 (25). This suggests that *Leishmania* and American trypanosomes may use PJW to dephosphorylate Spt5  
331 and mediate transcription termination. However, African trypanosomes, which both lack an orthologue of  
332 PP1Ce and do not substitute another PP1C in the PJW complex, cannot use this specific mechanism to  
333 mediate transcription termination. In addition, although *T. brucei* encodes an orthologue of GT, it was not  
334 found to be associated with the PJW complex, pointing to another potential biological difference from  
335 *Leishmania* (or possibly merely reflecting our use of a more rapid and sensitive purification protocol). In  
336 mammalian PTW/PP1c, PNUTS not only contains the phosphatase inhibitor motif, but also contains a  
337 nuclear localization signal (NLS) and provides a “scaffold” for recruiting the other proteins. However,  
338 *Leishmania* PNUTS is much smaller and lacks an obvious NLS, so it is possible that other proteins in the  
339 complex provide these functions. For example, JBP3 contains a domain with structural similarity to the  
340 N-terminal TFIS protein interaction domain found in mammalian PNUTS and WD proteins can act as a  
341 scaffold in other complexes (39, 40).

342 JBP3 is also part of a complex (J3C) that contains a SET domain protein (SET-J3C) and two  
343 other proteins (Chromo-J3C and CS-J3C) containing Chromo and/or Chromo shadow domains typically  
344 involved in recognition of the methylated lysine residues on histone tails, suggesting a role in chromatin  
345 modification and/or remodeling. However, SET-J3C lacks the pre- and post-SET domains normally  
346 associated with histone methyltransferase (HMT) activity and Chromo-J3C and/or CS-J3C could be  
347 functional homologues of the metazoan heterochromatin protein 1 (HP1) and/or fission yeast Swi6, which  
348 contain similar domains and are involved in repression of gene expression by heterochromatin (29). Thus,  
349 it is possible that J3C facilitates tight packing of chromatin at J-containing regions of the genome,  
350 rendering them heterochromatin-like and inaccessible to RNA polymerases. The function of the HPC-J3C  
351 subunit is unknown at this time, although the *T. brucei* orthologue (encoded by *Tb927.1.4250*) localizes to  
352 the nucleus (41), compatible with the hypothesis that it has a role in chromatin modification/remodeling.

353 JBP3 also assembles with third protein complex that provides another potential connection  
354 between J and regulation of transcription. This complex contains proteins with functional domains similar  
355 to those in the PAF1C complex, which associates with the large subunit of RNAP II (30, 42) and plays a  
356 critical role in transcription elongation and termination (43, 44). Four proteins (PAF1, CDC73, LEO1 and  
357 CTR9) are consistently found as components of PAF1C in all other eukaryotes, while RTF1 (45) and the

358 WD40-containing protein Ski8/WDR61 (46) show a less ubiquitous association. The parallels between  
359 the mammalian and trypanosomatid complexes are obvious, since at least homologues of the CDC73,  
360 LEO1 and CTR9 subunits copurify with JBP3 and experiments performed by others in *T. brucei* showed  
361 that CTR9 has a tight association with LEO and CDC73 (33). Our TAP-tag experiments using LEO1  
362 showed enrichment of CDC73 and CTR9, along with a protein containing a Plus-3 domain similar to that  
363 found in RTF1. Interestingly, the Plus-3 domain of RTF1 has been implicated in binding to Spt5 (47),  
364 which is tantalizing in light of a role for the PTW/PP1 complex in dephosphorylating this transcription  
365 factor (25). We (and others) failed to identify a convincing homologue of Ski8/WDR61 (or any other  
366 WD40 protein), but this protein is not tightly associated with mammalian PAF1C either. Surprisingly, the  
367 namesake of the complex, PAF1, is absent from pulldowns of Leo and CTR9 in *L. tarentolae* and  
368 *T. brucei* respectively, even though it (along with CTR9) is essential for assembly of the complex in both  
369 yeast and humans (48). Moreover, extensive bioinformatic analysis of the trypanosomatid genomes failed  
370 to identify a homolog of PAF1, suggesting that the *Leishmania* and *Trypanosoma* PAF1C-L really lacks  
371 PAF1. However, in both organisms, PAF1C-L contains an additional, trypanosomatid-specific,  
372 component (DCNL) that has a putative protein-binding domain with structural similarity to the  
373 PONY/DCUN1 domain found in the eukaryotic DCN protein family. In other eukaryotes, DCN1 is  
374 required for neddylation of cullin in SCF-type E3 ubiquitin ligase complexes that mark cellular proteins  
375 for proteosomal degradation (49). It is interesting to speculate that DCNL may be involved in PAF1C-L  
376 recruitment/function by interaction with N-terminal acetylated residues on histones and/or other  
377 chromatin-associated proteins. Whether DCNL functionally replaces PAF1 will remain an open question  
378 until its molecular function is dissected in more detail. The lack of significant reciprocal enrichment of  
379 JBP3 in the LEO1-TAP pulldowns (this paper) and its absence from the CTR9-TAP pulldowns in *T.*  
380 *brucei* (33) may reflect a more transient association of JBP3 with PAF1C (or interference of the C-  
381 terminal TAP-tags with its interaction).

382 We have previously postulated that J might terminate transcription by directly preventing  
383 progression of polymerase (8). The data presented here create an alternative hypothesis: namely that JBP3  
384 binding to J recruits PJW/PP1 and J3C complexes that combine to stall RNAPII. It is also possible that  
385 the interaction between JBP3 and PAF1C-L further tethers the RNAPII to the termination zone, where the  
386 DCNL subunit promotes its ubiquitination and subsequent degradation by the proteasome (50, 51).

387 Although our findings provide several novel insights into the role of base J in transcription  
388 termination, they also raise several interesting questions. For example, why is GT part of the PJW/PP1  
389 complex? One could envisage that recruitment of the PJW/PP1 complex to regions of the genome  
390 containing J recruits may allow more efficient glucosylation of nearby HOMedU. What histone

391 modification/remodeling is mediated by J3C and what role do they play a role in transcription  
392 termination? The availability of modern genome-wide approaches will no doubt provide the appropriate  
393 tools to answer these questions.

394



## 395 **Materials and methods**

### 396 **Plasmid construction**

397 To create an expression vector that expresses epitope-tagged transgenes in *Leishmania*, the  
398 MHTAP tag (which bears a Myc epitope, six histidines, a protein A domain, and calmodulin binding  
399 peptide) was amplified from the plasmid pLEW-MHTAP (52) with the primers MHTAP-BamHI-S and  
400 MHTAP-NotI-AS (all primers use in this study are described in Supplementary table S10). Following  
401 cleavage with BamHI and NotI, the PCR fragment was inserted into BglIII+NotI-digested pLEXSY-I-  
402 bleCherry3 (Jena Biosciences). The resulting plasmid (pLEXSY-MHTAP) allows the TAP-tagging of  
403 introduced coding regions under the control of a Tet-regulated T7 promoter, and insertion into the *ODC*  
404 locus on chromosome 12 of *L. tarentolae*. We used a combination of published datasets for the location  
405 of the 5' addition of the 39 base pair splice leader sequence in *L. tarentolae* (8) and ribosome profiling  
406 data from *L. donovani* (unpublished data), to identify the correct CDS for bait proteins, which were PCR  
407 amplified and digested with the restriction enzymes indicated in that table.

### 408 **Parasite strains and tissue culture**

409 The *Leishmania tarentolae* Parrot-TarII wild-type (WT) and T7-TR strains (Jena Bioscience)  
410 were grown in SDM-79 medium supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum. Strain T7-TR has  
411 constitutively expressed T7 RNA polymerase and Tet repressor genes integrated into the rDNA locus,  
412 allowing for Tet-induced expression of integrated (or ectopically expressed) genes. Nourseothricin and  
413 hygromycin B were added to the media at 100  $\mu$ M to maintain expression of T7 RNA polymerase and  
414 TetR repressor.

### 415 **Tandem affinity purification of tagged protein complexes**

416 Ten  $\mu$ g of *Swa*I-digested pLEXSY-MHTAP plasmid encoding a TAP-tagged protein was  
417 electroporated into the *L. tarentolae* WT and T7-TR cell-lines as described (53) and transfectants selected  
418 with 100  $\mu$ g/ml bleomycin and maintained in 20  $\mu$ g/ml bleomycin. Proteins associated with the TAP-  
419 tagged “bait” were purified from 500 ml of cells following overnight culture (in the presence of 2  $\mu$ g/ml  
420 tetracycline for T7-TR transfectants) as described (52), except that NP-40 was omitted from the final four  
421 washes of the proteins on the calmodulin beads and from the calmodulin elution buffer. The protocol  
422 went from lysis of cells to purified samples within 6 hours. A sample from each pulldown (5% of the total  
423 eluate) was separated by 4-20% SDS-PAGE and proteins were visualized using SilverQuest Stain  
424 (Thermo Fisher Scientific Life Technologies). Fractions containing a protein with the predicted molecular  
425 weight of the bait (usually fractions 2 and 3) were pooled. The same fractions were pooled from mock  
426 TAP purifications of the control parental line not expressing any bait protein.

## 427 **Western blotting**

428 Proteins from transfected cells were separated by SDS-PAGE on 4-20% gradient gels, transferred  
429 onto nitrocellulose and detected with either mouse anti-6×His (Clontech) at 0.25 µg/ml or rabbit antibody  
430 against calmodulin binding peptide Calmodulin Binding Peptide (GenScript) at 0.1 µg/ml, with rabbit  
431 antibody against *T. brucei* phosphoglycerate kinase serving as a control (54). Primary antibodies were  
432 detected with goat anti-rabbit Ig conjugated with AlexaFluor 680 (50 ng/ml) or goat anti-mouse Ig  
433 conjugated with IRDye 800 (25 ng/ml) and imaged on the LI-COR Odyssey CLX.

## 434 **Proteomic analysis**

435 Pooled protein fractions were denatured with 6 M urea, reduced with 5 mM dithiothreitol,  
436 alkylated with 25mM iodoacetamide, and digested at 37°C for three hours using 1:200 w:w  
437 endoproteinase Lys-C (Thermo Fisher Scientific). The urea was then diluted to 1.5 M and samples further  
438 digested at 37°C overnight with 1:25 w:w trypsin (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Proteinase activity was  
439 stopped with formic acid, and peptides purified using C18 reversed-phase chromatography (Waters),  
440 followed by hydrophilic interaction chromatography (HILIC; Nest Group). Purified peptides were  
441 separated by online nanoscale HPLC (EASY-nLC II; Proxeon) with a C18 reversed-phase column packed  
442 25 cm (Magic C18 AQ 5µm 100A) over an increasing 90 minute gradient of 5-35% Buffer B (100%  
443 acetonitrile, 0.1% formic acid) at a flow rate of 300 nl/min. Eluted peptides were analyzed with an  
444 Orbitrap Elite mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific) operated in data-dependent mode, with the  
445 Top15 most intense ions per MS1 survey scan selected for MS2 fragmentation by rapid collision-induced  
446 dissociation (rCID) (55). MS1 survey scans were performed in the Orbitrap at a resolution of 240,000 at  
447 m/z 400 with charge state rejection enabled, while rCID MS2 was performed in the dual linear ion trap  
448 with a minimum signal of 1000. Dynamic exclusion was set to 15 seconds.

449 Raw output data files were analyzed using Maxquant (v1.5.3.30) (56) to search against a  
450 proteome predicted after resequencing and annotation of the *L. tarentolae* Parrot (LtaP) genome (Sur *et*  
451 *al*, manuscript in preparation). A reverse sequence decoy database was used to impose a strict 1% FDR  
452 cutoff. Label-free quantification was performed using the MaxLFQ algorithm (57) and further data  
453 processing was performed in PERSEUS (v1.5.3.1) (58) and Microsoft EXCEL. To avoid zero-value  
454 denominators, null values in the remaining data were replaced by imputation using background signal  
455 within one experiment using PERSEUS. Non-parasite contaminants, decoys, and single peptide  
456 identifications among all samples in an experiment were removed. Proteins were deemed to be part of a  
457 complex associated with the bait protein if at least two peptides were detected and the protein showed  
458 more than 32-fold ( $\log_2 >5$ ) enrichment (compared to the control not expressing the bait) in both  
459 experiments. In a few cases, proteins enriched in only one replicate, but showing >100-fold enrichment.

460 were also considered as potential subunits of the complex. Proteins with enrichment 1000-fold ( $\log_2 < 10$ )  
461 less than that of the bait protein were assumed to be co-purifying contaminants and (usually) ignored.

### 462 **Bioinformatic analysis of protein function**

463 Structure-based similarity searches for known domains were performed with HHPRED (59).  
464 Domain boundaries for JBP3 DNA binding domain (DBD) were refined by aligning trypanosomatid  
465 sequences that clustered in the same OrthoMCL group as JBP3 with T-Coffee (60). Homology models of  
466 the JBP3-DBD domain using RosettaCM (61) were built with the *L. tarentolae* JBP1 structure (PDB:  
467 2XSE) as a template. The top-scoring model covered residues 111 to 312 of JBP3-DBD with a confidence  
468 score of 0.67.

### 469 **Deletion of JBP3 using SaCas9**

470 JBP3 was deleted using *Staphylococcus aureus* Cas9 (SaCas9)-directed cleavage of sites flanking  
471 the endogenous locus as described (35). Briefly, guide RNAs directed at sites for SaCas9 cleavage were  
472 generated *in vitro* using T7 Megashort from ThermoFisher from PCR-generated templates. The 5' and 3'  
473 gRNA sequences used were GATGTGAAACGCTAAGCAGTCCCGAGT and  
474 AGGAACGAAAGCACACAGCAGAGGAGT, where the PAM sites are underlined. Repair fragments  
475 containing a drug resistance gene were generated as described (62) from pTNeo or pTPuro templates  
476 using primers LtJBP3-up and LtJBP3-down (Supplementary table S10). Heat-denatured guide RNA was  
477 complexed with 20  $\mu\text{g}$  SaCas9 recombinant protein at equimolar ratio and incubated for 15 minutes at  
478 room temperature before mixing with 2  $\mu\text{g}$  of each repair fragment that had been ethanol-precipitated and  
479 resuspend in Tb-BSF (63). *L. tarentolae* WT or T7/TR cells were grown overnight (in the presence of  
480 2  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  tetracycline for the latter), pelleted, washed with PBS, and resuspended in 100  $\mu\text{l}$  Tb-BSF. For  
481 each transfection,  $10^6$  cells were mixed with the SaCas9/guide RNA complexes and repair fragments and  
482 electroporated in an Amaxa Nucleofector using program X-001. After allowing the cells to recover  
483 overnight, they were split into three separate flasks; one of which was grown in 10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  G418, one in  
484 4  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  puromycin, and one with both drugs. Deletion of the endogenous *JBP3* gene(s), was confirmed  
485 by PCR amplification of genomic DNA using primers JBP3-M84P and JBP3-P2147M (Supplementary  
486 table S10) that flank the region being deleted. Clones cell-lines were obtained by limiting dilution of the  
487 transfectants and clones were retested for JBP3 deletion by PCR. While we were able to obtain clones  
488 where both endogenous copies of *JBP3* were deleted with either the resistance gene for puromycin or  
489 neomycin, we were unable to obtain lines where both drug resistance markers had been used.

490 **RNA-seq analysis**

491 RNA was isolated using TRIzol (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and resuspended in 10mM Tris,  
492 pH 7 and RNA quality assessed using the Bioanalyzer 6000 Pico Chip (Agilent). mRNA was isolated  
493 from 1µg total RNA using the NEB Poly(A) mRNA Magnetic Isolation Module (NEB) and prepared  
494 using the Stranded RNA-seq protocol (64), modified for *Leishmania* as described (65). Libraries were  
495 sequenced on an Illumina HiSeq, obtaining Paired End 150-bp reads. Reads were aligned against our in-  
496 house *L. tarentolae* genome with BOWTIE2 (66) using the “very high sensitivity” parameter or the  
497 GENEIOUS assembler (Geneious Prime 11.05, <https://www.geneious.com>) using the “Low  
498 Sensitivity/Fastest” option. Differential expression analysis was performed on the GENEIOUS assemblies  
499 using the DESeq2 module. Strand-specific read coverage was calculated directly from BAM files of the  
500 BOWTIE2 alignments using customized pysam scripts (<https://github.com/pysam-developers/pysam>).

501

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508 **Author contributions**

509 Concept and experimental design were done by B.C.J and P.J.M. Experiments were performed by B.C.J  
510 and J.R.M. Proteomic analysis was done by M.A.G. and J.A.R. Protein modeling and sequence analysis  
511 was done by I.Q.P. Analysis of RNA-seq data was done by A.S and P.J.M. Manuscript was written by  
512 B.C.J., M.P. and P.J.M. M.P. cracked the whip. All authors have reviewed the manuscript.

513 **Conflicts of interest**

514 The authors declare no competing interest.

515

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666

667

668 **Tables**

669 **Table 1. Enrichment of proteins in the PJW/PP1 complex**

Gene ID	Name	HHpred/InterPro domains	Tagged protein				
			HmdUGT	PP1Ce	PNUTS	JBP3	WD-GT
LtaP36.2450	HmdUGT	None found	14.1	7.2	8.2	10.6	9.2
LtaP15.0230	PP1Ce	Serine/threonine-protein phosphatase	7.4	17.1	12.2	10.9	13.9
LtaP33.1440	PNUTS	PPP1R10/PNUTS	(9.8)	12.5	17.7	10.3	13.2
LtaP36.0380	JBP3	SWI1, J-binding & N-terminal TFIIIS	11.1	12.3	10.3	15.9	12.5
LtaP32.3990	WD-GT	WD40 repeats	9.3	14.8	12.7	12.3	16.3

670 Enrichment is expressed as the mean log<sub>2</sub> fold-change compared to control pulldowns.

671 Parentheses indicate that enrichment was observed in only one replicate.

672

673 **Table 2. Enrichment of proteins in the JBP3-associated chromatin remodeling complex**

Gene ID	Name	HHpred/InterPro domains	Tagged protein		
			JBP3	J3C-Chromo	J3C-CS
LtaP36.0380	JBP3	SWI1, J-binding & N-terminal TFIIIS	15.9	7.9	7.8
LtaP35.2400	SET-J3C	SET & C4-type Zn finger	12.8	8.2	9.4
LtaP14.0150	Chromo-J3C	Chromo & chromo shadow	11.7	11.6	8.8
LtaP28.2640	CS-J3C	Chromo shadow	12.5	9.8	11.8
LtaP12.0900	HPC-J3C	None found	12.1	9.8	6.3

674

675 **Table 3. Enrichment of proteins in the PAF1C-L complex**

Gene ID	Name	HHpred/InterPro domains	Tagged protein	
			JBP3	LEO1
LtaP35.2870	LEO1	Leo1-like protein	7.4	16.8
LtaP29.1270	DCNL	PONY/DCUN1 domain	5.4	13.9
LtaP36.4090	CDC73	Cell division control protein 73 (C-terminal)	(5.7)	10.4
LtaP29.2750	CTR9	RNA polymerase-associated protein Ctr9	(6.2)	9.5
LtaP14.0860	RTF1L	Plus-3 domain	0.6	3.8

676 Parentheses indicate that enrichment was observed in only one replicate.

677

## 678 **Figure legends**

### 679 **Figure 1. The PJW/PP1 complex**

680 **A.** Proteins in the peak fractions from TAP purification of HmdUGT and other components of the  
681 PJW/PP1 complex (WD-GT, JBP3, PP1C and PNUTS) were separated by 4-20% SDS-PAGE and silver  
682 stained. Each lane represents 5% of the total fraction. The TAP-tagged “bait” protein is indicated by an  
683 asterisk. The first lane shows the equivalent fraction from a mock purification of control (T7-TR) cells.

684 **B.** Schematic representation of key domains in each of the associated proteins. The PNUTS domain  
685 is involved in interaction with PP1C; the SNF2/SWI6 domain is involved in protein interaction and is  
686 usually found in chromatin binding proteins; the JBP1 DNA binding domain (DBD) is involved in  
687 binding to base J; the N-terminal TIIFS domain is involved in protein interaction; WD40 domains are also  
688 involved in protein-protein interaction; and the PP1C domain shows the region of sequence homology to  
689 the PP1 catalytic subunit.

690

### 691 **Figure 2. Modeling of the JBP3 DNA-binding domain**

692 **A.** Sequence alignment of the putative JBP3 J-binding domain from *T. brucei* EATRO927 strain,  
693 *T. cruzi* Silvio strain, and *L. tarentolae* Parrot strain. Residues that are identical or conservatively replaced  
694 in all three species are shaded black, while those that are identical or conserved in two species are shaded  
695 grey.

696 **B.** The structure of the DNA binding domain from JBP3 (light blue) was modeled using RosettaCM  
697 against the J-binding domain of JBP1 (tan) from PDB entry 2XSE. The interaction between the conserved  
698 aspartic acid residue (Asp<sub>525</sub> in JBP1 and Asp<sub>241</sub> in JBP3-) with the glucose of base J is shown.

699 **C.** Closeup of the of the interaction between conserved aspartate of both proteins and base J.

700

### 701 **Figure 3. The JBP3-associated Chromatin complex**

702 **A.** Proteins that co-purify with TAP-tagged Chromo-J3C and CS-J3C analyzed by SDS-PAGE and  
703 silver staining as described in Fig. 1.

704 **B.** Schematic representation showing the key domains of the four proteins that co-purified with  
705 TAP-tagged JBP3. The SET domain is most often found protein methyltransferases; the Chromo domain  
706 is usually found chromatin binding proteins; the Chromo Shadow is distantly related to the Chromo  
707 domain and frequently found in chromatin binding proteins with the Chromo domains.

708 **Figure 4. The PAF1C like complex**

709 **A.** Proteins that co-purified with TAP-tagged LEO1 were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and silver-  
710 staining as described in Fig. 1.

711 **B.** Schematic representation showing the key domains of five components of the PAF1C-L complex.  
712 LEO1 shows the region of sequence homology with mammalian LEO1; the CUE domain is involved in  
713 ubiquitin binding; CDC73 shows the region of sequence homology with mammalian CDC73; the  
714 CTR9/TPR domain contains tetratricopeptide repeats involved in protein-protein interaction; the  
715 Pony/DCUN1 domain is involved in binding and neddylation of the cullin subunit of E1-type ubiquitin  
716 ligases; and the Plus-3 is implicated in binding to single stranded DNA.

717

718 **Figure 5. Depletion of JBP3 results in read through at transcription termination sites**

719 **A.** Growth analysis. Two independently generated *L. tarentolae* clones lacking endogenous *JBP3*  
720 but containing a Tet-regulated TAP-tagged *JBP3* gene was grown in the presence (blue lines) or absence  
721 (orange lines) of Tet. The numbers on y-axis are corrected for dilution due to sub-culturing. The solid  
722 lines show a clone where the *JBP3* genes were replaced by *pac* (and grown in the presence of puromycin),  
723 while the dotted lines show a clone where with the *JBP3* genes replaced by *neo* (and grown in G418).

724 **B.** The level of TAP-tagged *JBP3* expressed by the T7-TR/*JBP3*-MHTAP/ $\Delta jbp3::neo$  clone grown  
725 in the absence of Tet was monitored by Western blot analysis using antibodies against the calmodulin  
726 binding domain (CBD) of the TAP-tag. Antibodies against phosphoglycerate kinase (PGK) served as a  
727 loading control. The percent *JBP3* levels in comparison to day 0 is shown below the anti-CBD.

728 **C.** *JBP3-TAP* mRNA levels for the T7-TR/*JBP3*-MHTAP/ $\Delta jbp3::neo$  clone grown in the presence  
729 (blue) or absence (orange) of Tet for the number of days indicated. mRNA levels are expressed transcripts  
730 per million (TPM) as determined by RNA-seq analysis using GENEIOUS.

731 **D.** Box-and-whiskers plots showing the median top strand coverage in the 5 kb downstream of all  
732 192 TTSs (All). Separate plots are shown for the 46 TTS at cSSRs (Conv), 30 TTSs between head-to-tail  
733 PTUS (Uni), 39 TTS immediately upstream of one or more RNA genes (RNA), 21 TTS adjacent to a  
734 centromere (Cent) and 56 TTSs at telomeres (Telo).

735 **E.** Median of top strand coverage at each nucleotide position in the 10 kb surrounding the 46 TTS at  
736 cSSRs. The schematic represents the protein-coding genes associated with each strand at an “average”  
737 cTTS. The second PTU at each cSSR is re-oriented so that the genes are represented on the top strand.

738 **F.** Median of top strand coverage at each nucleotide position in the 10 kb surrounding the 30 TTS at  
739 between unidirectional (head-to-tail) PTUs. The schematic represents the protein-coding genes associated  
740 with each strand at an “average” uTTS.

741 **Figure 6. Network of interactions between JBP3-associated protein complexes.** Solid lines denote  
742 proteins enriched in both replicates of the TAP-tag pull-downs and dashed lines indicate proteins enriched  
743 in only one sample. Double headed lines represent reciprocal enrichment with both proteins used as bait,  
744 while lines with a single arrowhead indicate where reciprocal enrichment was not observed (or not  
745 attempted). Grey arrows represent interactions identified by co-purification of proteins with CTR9 in *T.*  
746 *brucei* (33). Subunits within the three distinct JBP3-associated protein complexes are denoted by different  
747 colors, while the individual components are not shown for within three additional protein complexes  
748 represented by boxes.  
749



750 **List of supplementary information**

751 **Supplementary tables**

752 Tables S1-S8. Proteins that co-purify with TAP-tagged bait proteins

753 Table S9. Genes with increased mRNA levels after depletion of JBP3

754 Table S10. Oligonucleotide primers used for construct creation

755

756 **Supplementary figures**

757 Figure S1. Expression of proteins tagged with MHTAP.

758 Figure S2. Phylogenetic tree for PP1C proteins of various species

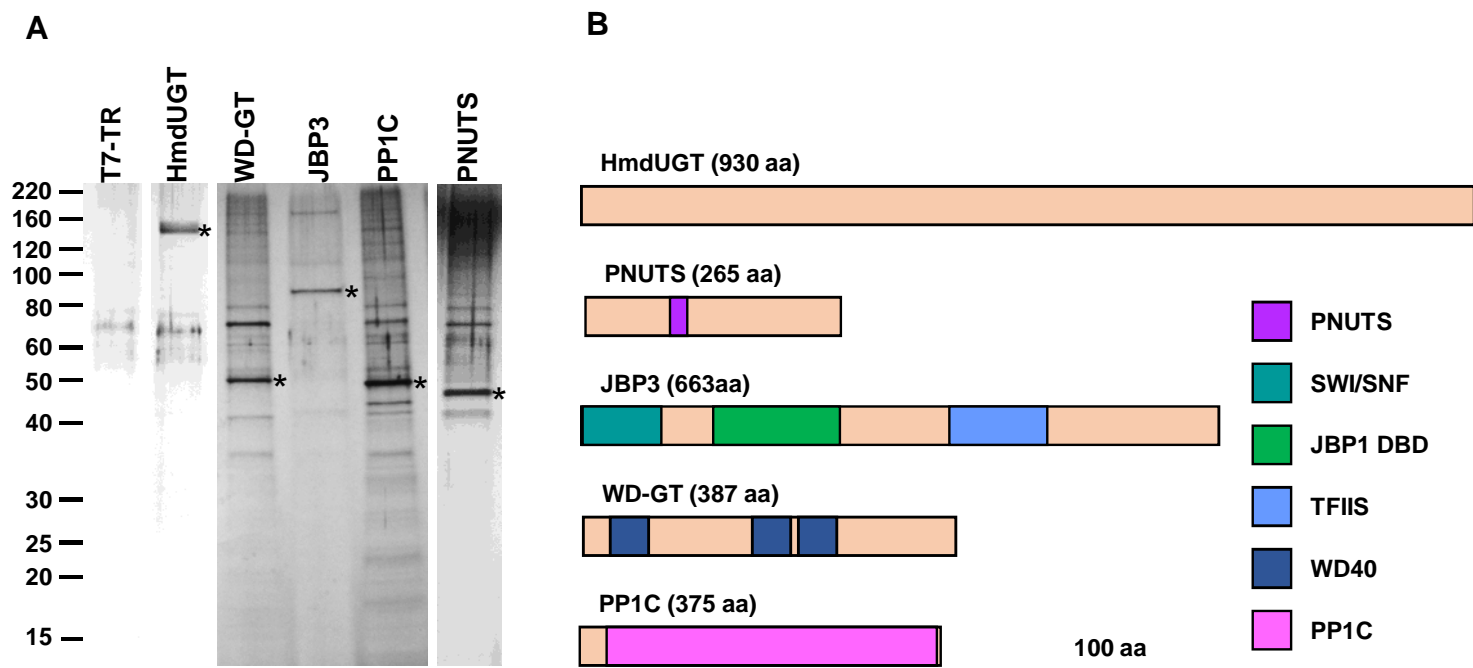
759 Figure S3-S13. Identification of domains present on associated proteins

760 Figure S14. Analysis of transcription termination in JBP3 knockdown parasites

761 Figure S15. Analysis of transcripts upstream of initiation sites in JBP3 knockdown parasites

762 Figure S16. Map of plasmid pLEXSY-MHTAP showing key features and restriction sites.

# Figure 1

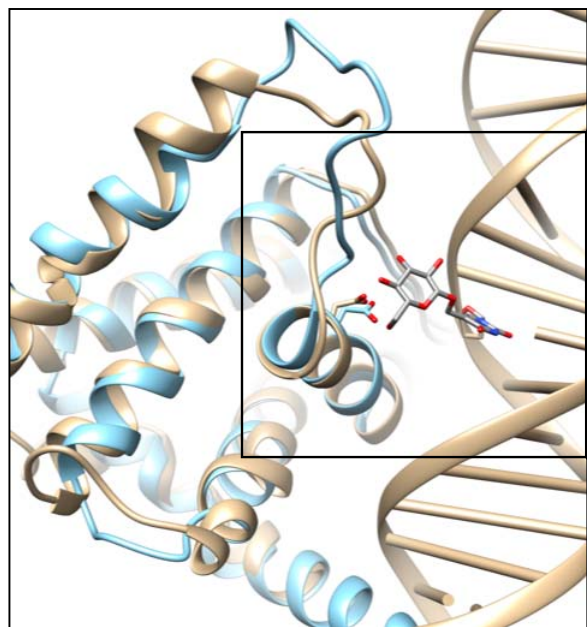


# Figure 2

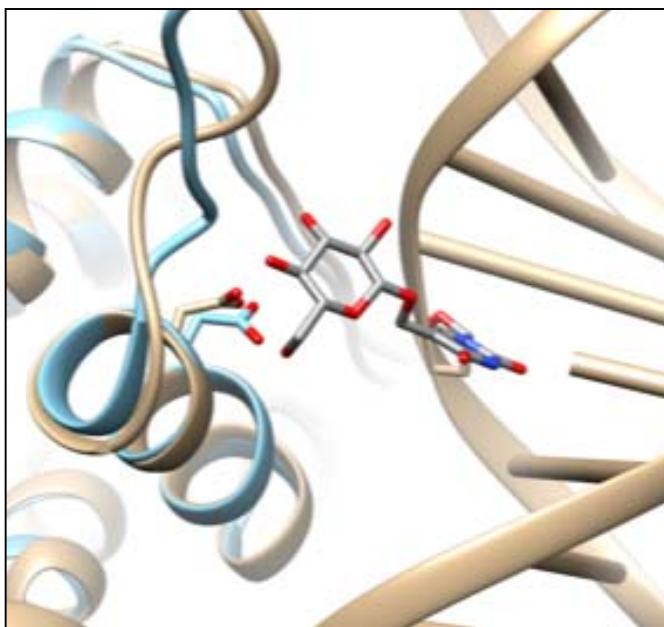
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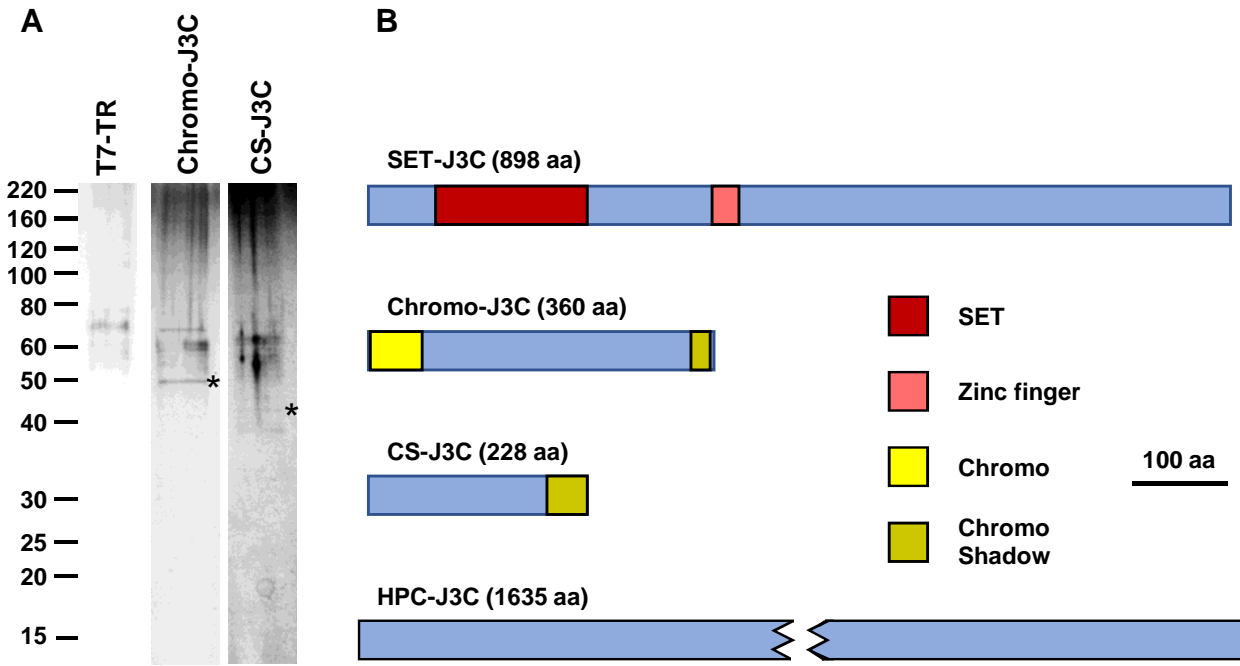
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TcSYLVIO	R	V	I	D	Y	F	R	V	A	V	E	M	F	L	Q	V	R	L	E	Y	E	K	A	V	Q	A	V	K	N	D	R	A	N	I	R	F	I	W	R	N	K	G	E	L	A	I	C	F	A	C	C	D	M	L	K	L	L	Y	D	R	F	R	P	G	L	E	R	P	N	W	D	G	I		
LtaP	R	T	L	D	Y	F	R	A	S	V	E	M	F	Y	T	E	V	R	Q	E	Y	K	R	Q	Y	Q	A	Q	R	G	G	R	A	M	Q	R	E	T	W	K	N	S	G	E	L	A	I	C	F	A	C	C	D	N	V	K	L	L	Y	D	S	L	Q	P	G	P	L	K	P	L	W	D	A	F	
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TcSYLVIO	M	G	Q	F	M	L	F	L	M	A	E	S	R	I	P	A	A	W	L	T	E	Q	T	Y	K	T	K	F	L	D	W	R	K	G	G	T	R	Y	Q	G	E	L	T	S	N	V	R	F	P	S	A	E	E	R	R	T	K	I	E	T	Y	L	R	S	G	E									
LtaP	M	S	Q	L	A	P	M	L	I	Q	S	R	V	P	E	M	L	S	S	Q	T	Y	H	T	K	Y	M	D	W	V	K	G	G	T	R	Y	G	G	E	Q	S	T	A	N	V	R	F	P	S	V	A	D	R	R	V	K	V	E	T	Y	L	R	S	G	A										

B

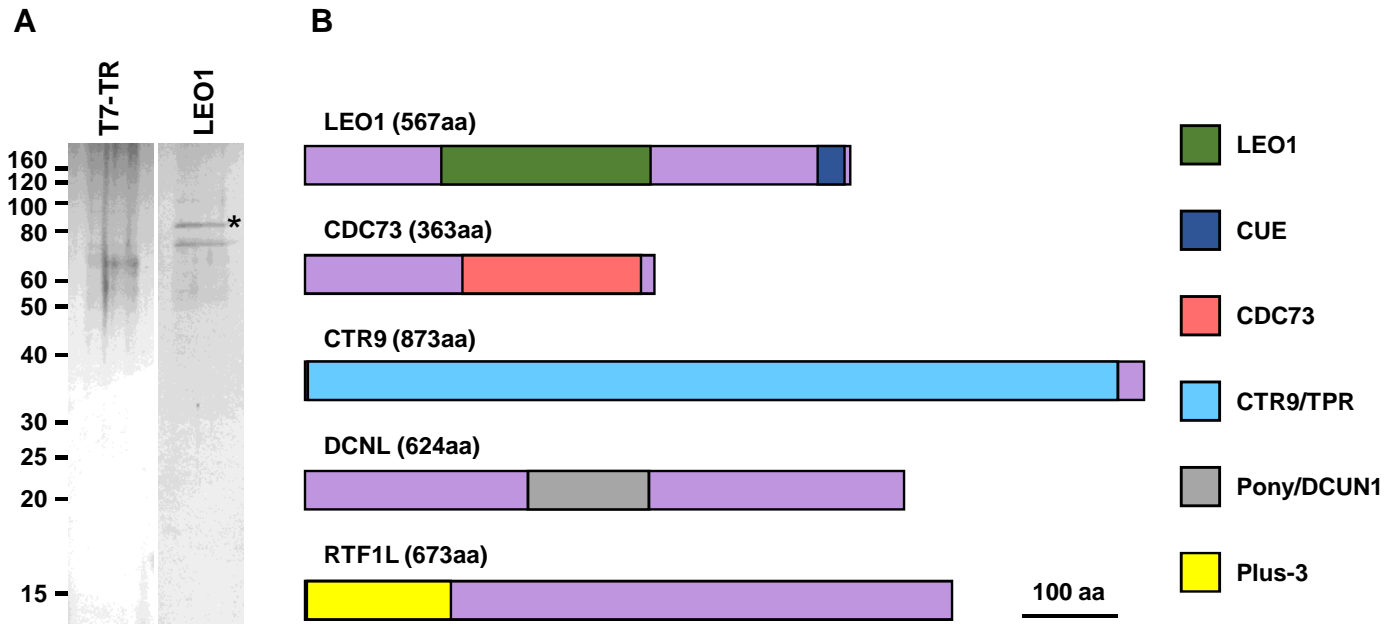


C





# Figure 4



# Figure 5

