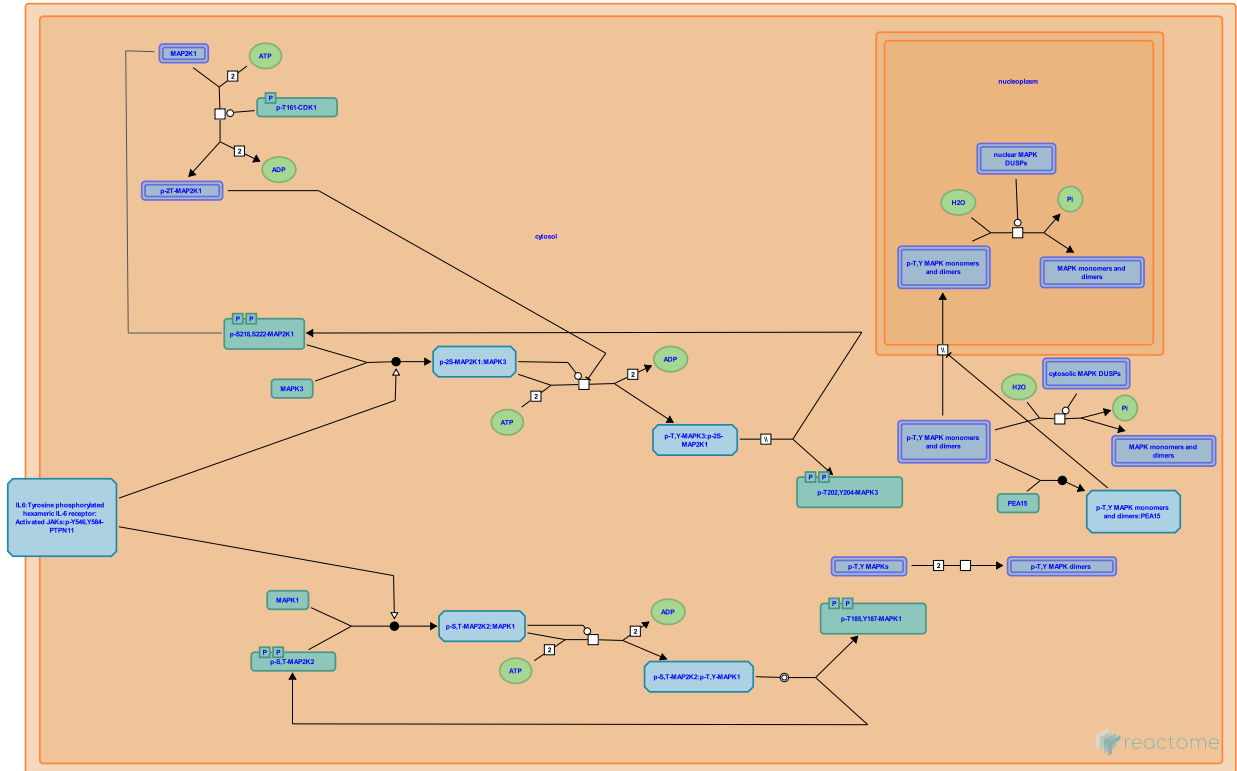


RAF-independent MAPK1/3 activation



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This is just an excerpt of a full-length report for this pathway. To access the complete report, please download it at the [Reactome Textbook](https://reactome.org/textbook/).

07/05/2024

Introduction

Reactome is open-source, open access, manually curated and peer-reviewed pathway database. Pathway annotations are authored by expert biologists, in collaboration with Reactome editorial staff and cross-referenced to many bioinformatics databases. A system of evidence tracking ensures that all assertions are backed up by the primary literature. Reactome is used by clinicians, geneticists, genomics researchers, and molecular biologists to interpret the results of high-throughput experimental studies, by bioinformaticians seeking to develop novel algorithms for mining knowledge from genomic studies, and by systems biologists building predictive models of normal and disease variant pathways.

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- Fabregat, A., Korninger, F., Viteri, G., Sidiropoulos, K., Marin-Garcia, P., Ping, P. et al. (2018). Reactome graph database: Efficient access to complex pathway data. *PLoS computational biology*, 14, e1005968. [↗](#)

Reactome database release: 88

This document contains 3 pathways and 5 reactions ([see Table of Contents](#))

Ley, SC., Sriskantharajah, S., Gantke, T. (2011). Regulation and function of TPL-2, an I κ B kinase-regulated MAP kinase kinase kinase. *Cell Res.*, 21, 131-45. [↗](#)

Editions

2007-11-08

Reviewed

Greene, LA.

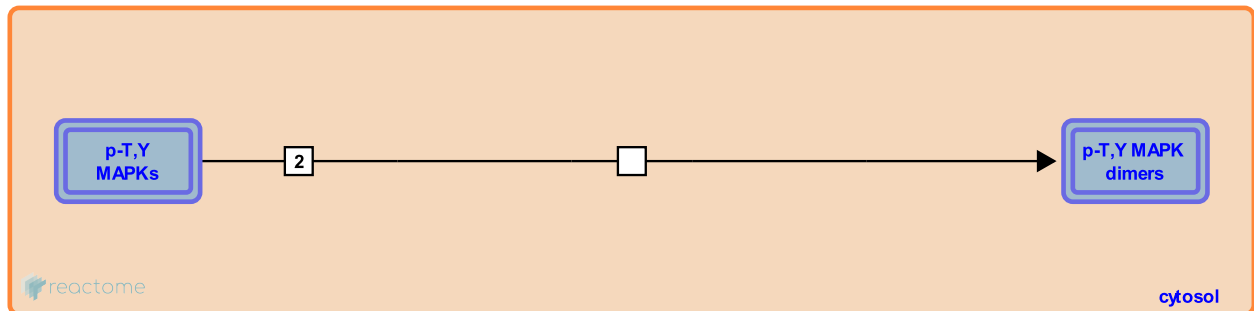
p-T,Y MAPKs dimerize ↗

Location: [RAF-independent MAPK1/3 activation](#)

Stable identifier: R-HSA-5674385

Type: transition

Compartments: cytosol



Phosphorylated MAPK monomers can dimerize - generally into MAPK1 and MAPK3 homodimers, as the heterodimer is unstable- but the physiological significance of dimerization is unclear (Khokhlatchev et al, 1998; reviewed Roskoski, 2012b). MAPKs have both cytosolic and nuclear targets and dimerization may be particularly important for MAPK-dependent phosphorylation of cytosolic targets. Phosphorylation of cytosolic MAPK targets appears to happen predominantly in the context of larger scaffolding complexes, and since the scaffolds and cytosolic MAPK substrates contact the same hydrophobic surface of MAPK, dimerization is necessary to allow assembly of a functional complex (Casar et al, 2008; Lidke et al, 2010; reviewed in Casar et al, 2009). Consistent with this, disrupting either MAPK dimerization or the MAPK interaction with the scaffolding protein abrogated proliferation and transformation (Casar et al, 2008). Note that, for simplicity in this diagram, dimerization is shown as happening between free cytosolic monomers of activated MAPK rather than in the context of the scaffolding complex.

Although predominantly cytoplasmic in resting cells, a proportion of activated MAPK translocates to the nucleus upon stimulation where it activates nuclear targets. Despite early studies to the suggesting that dimerization was required for nuclear translocation, a few recent papers have challenged this notion (Lenormand et al, 1993; Chen et al, 1992; Khokhlatchev et al, 1998; Casar et al, 2008; Lidke et al, 2010; Burack and Shaw, 2005; reviewed in Roskoski, 2012b).

Followed by: [Phosphorylated MAPKs translocate into the nucleus](#), [PEA15 binds MAPK monomers and dimers](#), [Cytosolic DUSPs dephosphorylate MAPKs](#)

Literature references

Roskoski, R Jr. (2012). ERK1/2 MAP kinases: structure, function, and regulation. *Pharmacol. Res.*, 66, 105-43. ↗

Sarnecki, C., Blenis, J., Chen, RH. (1992). Nuclear localization and regulation of erk- and rsk-encoded protein kinases. *Mol. Cell. Biol.*, 12, 915-27. ↗

Brunet, A., Pouyssegur, J., Pagès, G., L'Allemain, G., Sardet, C., Lenormand, P. (1993). Growth factors induce nuclear translocation of MAP kinases (p42mapk and p44mapk) but not of their activator MAP kinase kinase (p45mapkk) in fibroblasts. *J. Cell Biol.*, 122, 1079-88. ↗

Crespo, P., Pinto, A., Casar, B. (2008). Essential role of ERK dimers in the activation of cytoplasmic but not nuclear substrates by ERK-scaffold complexes. *Mol. Cell*, 31, 708-21. ↗

Burack, WR., Shaw, AS. (2005). Live Cell Imaging of ERK and MEK: simple binding equilibrium explains the regulated nucleocytoplasmic distribution of ERK. *J. Biol. Chem.*, 280, 3832-7. ↗

Editions

2015-02-11	Authored	Rothfels, K.
2015-02-12	Edited	Rothfels, K.
2015-04-29	Reviewed	Roskoski, R Jr.

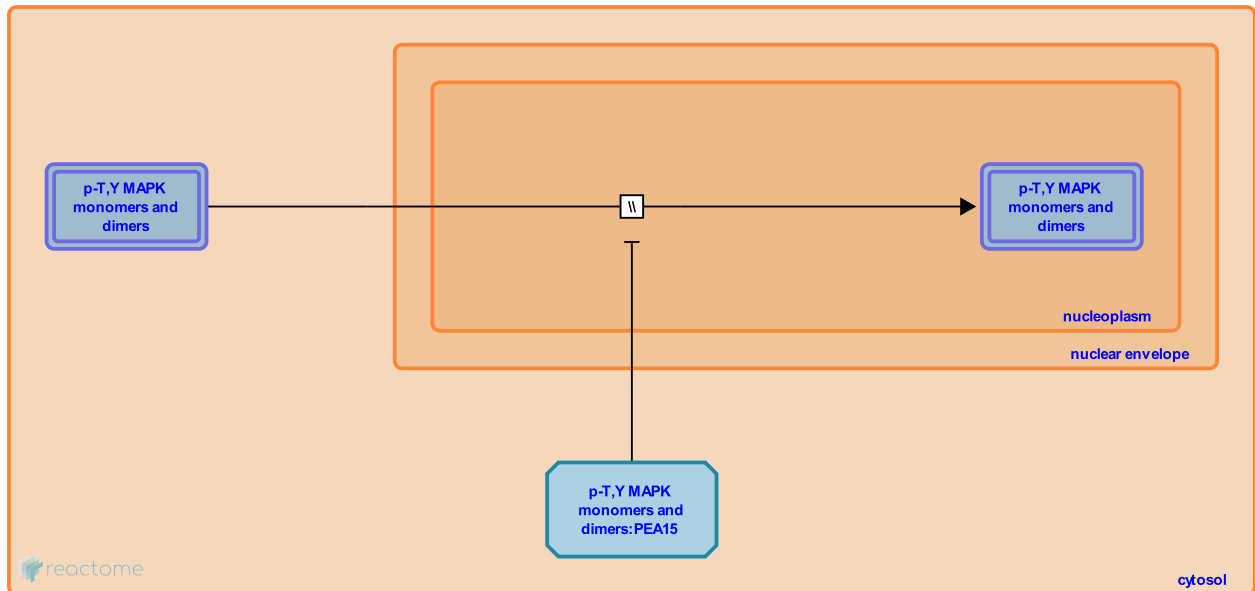
Phosphorylated MAPKs translocate into the nucleus ↗

Location: [RAF-independent MAPK1/3 activation](#)

Stable identifier: R-HSA-5674387

Type: omitted

Compartments: nucleoplasm



After phosphorylation by MAP2Ks, a proportion of activated MAPK translocates into the nucleus where it activates nuclear targets (reviewed in Roskoski, 2012b). MAPKs, which lack a nuclear localization signal (NLS), may 'piggyback' into the nucleus in complex with other nuclear-targeted proteins or may translocate by virtue of interaction with components of the nuclear pore complex (Brunet et al, 1999; Adachi et al, 1999; Matsubayashi et al, 2001; Whitehurst et al, 2002; Khokhlatchev et al, 1998; reviewed in Roskoski, 2012b). Although dimerization of MAPKs was thought to be critical for nuclear translocation, a number of studies have now challenged the physiological relevance of MAPK dimerization and this remains an area of uncertainty (Lenormand et al, 1993; Chen et al, 1992; Casar et al, 2008; Lidke et al, 2010; Burack and Shaw, 2005; reviewed in Casar et al, 2009; Roskoski, 2012b)

Preceded by: [p-T,Y MAPKs dimerize](#)

Followed by: [Nuclear DUSPs dephosphorylate MAPKs](#)

Literature references

- Brunet, A., Dowd, S., Pouyssegur, J., Keyse, S., Roux, D., Lenormand, P. (1999). Nuclear translocation of p42/p44 mitogen-activated protein kinase is required for growth factor-induced gene expression and cell cycle entry. *EMBO J.*, 18, 664-74. ↗
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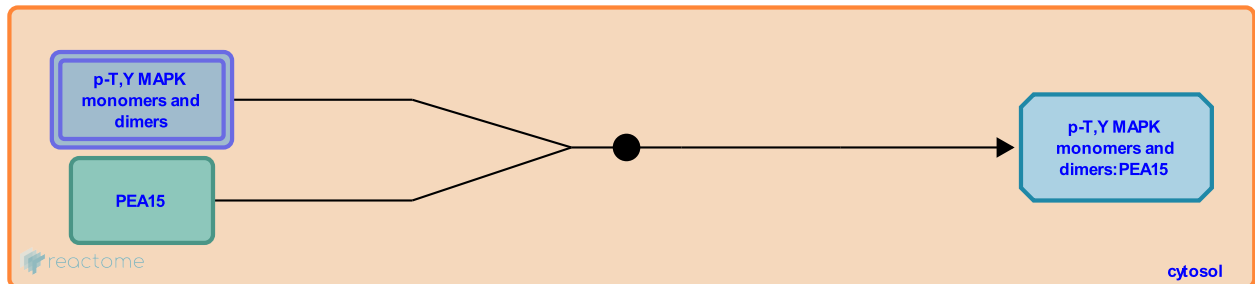
PEA15 binds MAPK monomers and dimers [↗](#)

Location: [RAF-independent MAPK1/3 activation](#)

Stable identifier: R-HSA-5675206

Type: binding

Compartments: cytosol



PEA15 is a cytoplasmic anchor that binds directly to activated MAPKs prevents their translocation into the nucleus (Formstecher et al, 2001; Whitehurst et al, 2004; Hill et al, 2002; Chou et al, 2003). PEA15 also protects phosphorylated MAPKs in the cytoplasm from inactivating dephosphorylation (Mace et al, 2013). In this way, binding of PEA15 promotes phosphorylation of cytoplasmic MAPK targets at the expense of nuclear ones.

Preceded by: [p-T,Y MAPKs dimerize](#)

Literature references

- Ginsberg, MH., Uberall, F., Brunet, A., Ramos, JW., Pouyssegur, J., Glading, A. et al. (2003). PEA-15 binding to ERK1/2 MAPKs is required for its modulation of integrin activation. *J. Biol. Chem.*, 278, 52587-97. [↗](#)
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- Cobb, MH., Moore, MS., Robinson, FL., Whitehurst, AW. (2004). The death effector domain protein PEA-15 prevents nuclear entry of ERK2 by inhibiting required interactions. *J. Biol. Chem.*, 279, 12840-7. [↗](#)
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Editions

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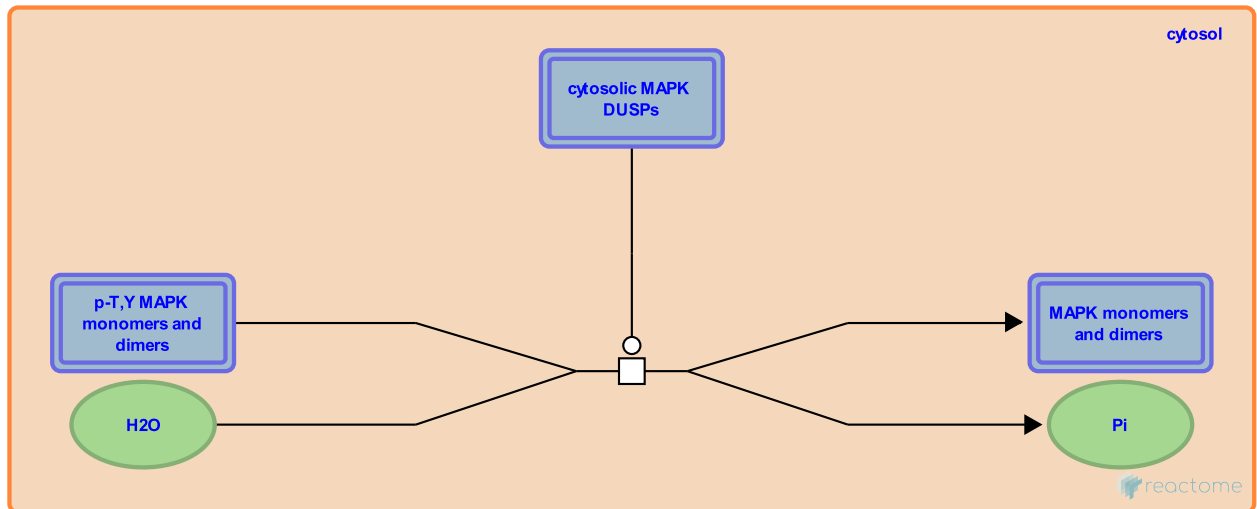
Cytosolic DUSPs dephosphorylate MAPKs ↗

Location: [RAF-independent MAPK1/3 activation](#)

Stable identifier: R-HSA-5675376

Type: transition

Compartments: cytosol



MAPKs are inactivated by dephosphorylation of the activation loop T and Y residues by dual-specificity MAPK phosphatases (DUSPs) (reviewed in Roskoski, 2012b). Cytosolic MAPKs are dephosphorylated by the MAPK-specific class II DUSPs 6,7 and 9, but may also be dephosphorylated by cytosolic forms of class III DUSPs 8, 10 and 16, which preferentially dephosphorylate p38 and JNK MAP kinases (reviewed in Bermudez et al, 2010; Kandoh and Nishida, 2007).

Preceded by: [p-T,Y MAPKs dimerize](#)

Literature references

Kondoh, K., Nishida, E. (2007). Regulation of MAP kinases by MAP kinase phosphatases. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta*, 1773, 1227-37. ↗

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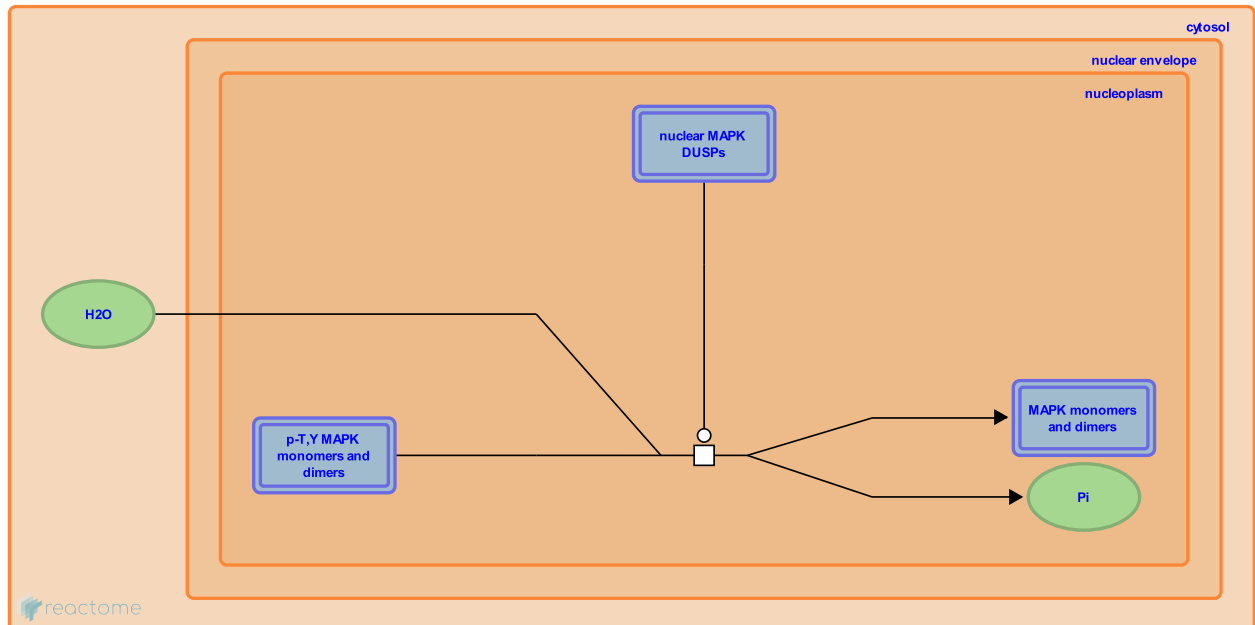
Nuclear DUSPs dephosphorylate MAPKs ↗

Location: [RAF-independent MAPK1/3 activation](#)

Stable identifier: R-HSA-5675373

Type: transition

Compartments: nucleoplasm



MAPKs are inactivated by dephosphorylation of the activation loop T and Y residues by dual-specificity MAPK phosphatases (DUSPs) (reviewed in Roskoski, 2012b). Class 1 DUSPs, including DUSP 1, 2, 4 and 5 are nuclear and are generally activated by the same extracellular stimuli that promote MAPK signaling, establishing a negative feedback loop. DUSP5 is specific for MAPK3 and 1, while the other class 1 enzymes have broad specificity. Nuclear MAPKs may also be inactivated by nuclear forms of class III DUSPs, including DUSP8, 10 and 16, although the preferred substrate of these enzymes are the p38 and JNK MAP kinases (reviewed in Bermudez et al, 2010; Kondoh and Nishida, 2007).

Preceded by: [Phosphorylated MAPKs translocate into the nucleus](#)

Literature references

Kondoh, K., Nishida, E. (2007). Regulation of MAP kinases by MAP kinase phosphatases. *Biochim. Biophys. Acta*, 1773, 1227-37. ↗

Gimond, C., Pagès, G., Bermudez, O. (2010). The dual-specificity MAP kinase phosphatases: critical roles in development and cancer. *Am. J. Physiol., Cell Physiol.*, 299, C189-202. ↗

Roskoski, R Jr. (2012). ERK1/2 MAP kinases: structure, function, and regulation. *Pharmacol. Res.*, 66, 105-43. ↗

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