The role of the lissencephaly protein Pac1 during nuclear migration in budding yeast

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During mitosis in Saccharomyces cerevisiae, the mitotic spindle moves into the mother–bud neck via dynein-dependent sliding of cytoplasmic microtubules along the cortex of the bud. Here we show that Pac1, the yeast homologue of the human lissencephaly protein LIS1, plays a key role in this process. First, genetic interactions placed Pac1 in the dynein/dynactin pathway. Second, cells lacking Pac1 failed to display microtubule sliding in the bud, resulting in defective mitotic spindle movement and nuclear segregation. Third, Pac1 localized to the plus ends (distal tips) of cytoplasmic microtubules in the bud. This localization did not depend on the dynein heavy chain Dyn1. Moreover, the Pac1 fluorescence intensity at the microtubule end was enhanced in cells lacking dynactin or the cortical attachment molecule Num1. Fourth, dynein heavy chain Dyn1 also localized to the tips of cytoplasmic microtubules in wild-type cells. Dynein localization required Pac1 and, like Pac1, was enhanced in cells lacking the dynactin component Arp1 or the cortical attachment molecule Num1. Our results suggest that Pac1 targets dynein to microtubule tips, which is necessary for sliding of microtubules along the bud cortex. Dynein must remain inactive until microtubule ends interact with the bud cortex, at which time dynein and Pac1 appear to be offloaded from the microtubule to the cortex.

Introduction

To achieve faithful segregation of duplicated chromosomes, cells coordinate the position of the mitotic spindle with the site of cytokinesis. In many types of cells, the site of cytokinesis is determined by the position of the mitotic spindle. Budding yeast Saccharomyces cerevisiae, however, select the site of cell division at the outset of the cell cycle by choosing the site of bud formation. Cytokinesis occurs at the narrow neck between the mother and bud. During the process of budding, the mitotic spindle must therefore move into the neck. The nuclear envelope does not break down, so this process is often termed “nuclear migration.” This movement of the nucleus depends on the interaction of cytoplasmic microtubules with the cell cortex (Stearns, 1997). The mechanism for this movement may be conserved across phyla, because interactions of microtubules with the plasma membrane appear to mediate spindle-positioning processes in higher organisms (Skop and White, 1998; O’Connell and Wang, 2000).

In yeast, nuclear migration and spindle movement occur predominantly in two steps: (1) movement of the nucleus to a position adjacent to the neck, followed by (2) movement of the nucleus into the neck. The first step of nuclear movement involves cytoplasmic microtubules, the kinesin-related protein Kip3, the cortical protein Kar9, and other proteins (Bim1, Bni1, Bud6, Myo2, and actin) that control Kar9 localization or its interaction with microtubules (Cottingham and Hoyt, 1997; DeZwaan et al., 1997; Miller and Rose, 1998; Lee et al., 1999; Miller et al., 1999; Beach et al., 2000; Yin et al., 2000). Early in the cell cycle, a cortical attachment site composed of Kar9 and associated proteins forms at the emerging bud tip. If a growing cytoplasmic microtubule encounters this site, it can be captured. Subsequent shrinkage of the captured microtubule pulls the nucleus toward the nascent bud and orients the preanaphase spindle along the mother–bud axis.

The second step of nuclear movement moves the mitotic spindle into the neck. Cytoplasmic microtubules from the spindle pole body (SPB)* associate laterally with and slide along the bud cortex, pulling the nucleus and the elongating spindle into the neck (Adames and Cooper, 2000). Microtubule sliding depends on the heavy chain of the microtubule-based motor dynein Dyn1, its regulator dynactin complex (which consists of Arp1, Jnm1, and Nip100), and the cortical
attachment protein Num1 (Adames and Cooper, 2000; Heil-Chapdelaine et al., 2000). The mechanism of microtubule sliding is poorly understood, but a favored hypothesis is that dynein is anchored in the bud cortex and pulls on the microtubules by walking in the minus end direction toward the SPB (Carminati and Stearns, 1997).

Several known genes of the dynein/dynactin pathway (DYN1, JNM1, NIP100, and NUM1) were isolated in a synthetic lethal screen with the kinesin motor gene cin8; they are called pac (perish in the absence of cin8) mutants (Geiser et al., 1997). The screen identified four additional genes (PAC1, PAC10, PAC11, and PAC14/BIK1) hypothesized to perform dynein-related functions, based on phenotypic similarity of the mutants with dyn1 mutant.

In this study, we evaluate the function of Pac1 with respect to dynein-mediated nuclear migration. Movies of living individual pac1Δ cells revealed defects in moving the mitotic spindle into the mother–bud neck and microtubule sliding along the bud cortex. We found that Pac1 recruits dynein Dyn1 to the dynamic plus end of microtubules. Analysis of Pac1 and dynein localization in cells lacking other components of the dynein/dynactin pathway revealed novel aspects of the mechanism for how microtubules slide along the bud cortex and move the nucleus.

**Results**

**Pac1 functions in the dynein pathway for nuclear migration**

The two processes for nuclear migration in yeast described in the Introduction are genetically redundant. Mutants defective in one process are viable. However, mutations of genes involved in the first process are lethal when combined with mutations of genes in the second process (Cottingham and Hoyt, 1997; DeZwaan et al., 1997; Miller and Rose, 1998; Lee et al., 1999). To identify the process in which Pac1 functions, we crossed a pac1Δ strain with strains carrying deletions of genes of the two processes, followed by sporulation and tetrad dissection (Table I). When pac1Δ was crossed with bim1Δ or kar9Δ, all predicted double mutants (19 of pac1Δ bim1Δ and 17 of pac1Δ kar9Δ) were inviable. The double mutants formed microcolonies consisting of large, swollen, and aberrantly shaped cells that terminated growth at ≤200 cells after 3–4 d incubation at 30°C on rich media. The pac1Δ kip3Δ, pac1Δ bud6Δ, and pac1Δ bni1Δ double mutants were viable and formed colonies that were indistinguishable from those of wild type or parental single mutants. However, these double mutants did exhibit a temperature-sensitive growth defect (see Fig. S1, available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1), which was not observed in the parental single mutants, suggesting a weak synthetic interaction of pac1Δ with kip3Δ, bud6Δ, and bni1Δ. No synthetic effect was observed in double mutants of pac1Δ with arp1Δ, dyn1Δ, nip100Δ, jnm1Δ, num1Δ, bik1Δ, or pac11Δ (Table I). These results indicate that Pac1 functions in the dynine-dependent second process.

**Pac1 is required for microtubule sliding along the bud cortex**

Movement of the nucleus, and hence the mitotic spindle, into the mother–bud neck appears to be mediated by pulling forces produced by the dynein motor acting on cytoplasmic microtubules in the bud. These pulling forces appear to be located at the cortex because cytoplasmic microtubules associate laterally (“plaster”) and slide along the bud cortex (Adames and Cooper, 2000). Free cytoplasmic microtubules not attached to an SPB also slide along the cortex (Adames and Cooper, 2000), further suggesting a cortical location for the pulling force.

To test whether Pac1 is required for microtubule plastering and sliding, we examined cytoplasmic microtubule behavior during movement of the mitotic spindle into the neck in wild type and pac1Δ mutants expressing GFP–tubulin (GFP–Tub1). Movies of living cells were viewed by two independent blinded observers, who evaluated cells in which cytoplasmic microtubules were observed during penetration of the spindle into the neck. In 10 of 30 wild-type cells, microtubules slide along the bud cortex (Fig. 1 A; Video 1, available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1). This frequency is consistent with previous published data (Adames and Cooper, 2000). In 27 pac1Δ cells, no cases of microtubule sliding along the bud cortex were observed (Fig. 1 B; Videos 2 and 3, available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1). Instead, microtubules in pac1Δ cells swept laterally in the bud, rotating about the SPB. The distal ends of the microtu-

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<th>Mutant combination</th>
<th>Number of tetrads analyzed</th>
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<tr>
<td>pac1Δ bim1Δ</td>
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bules occasionally encountered the cortex and appeared attached, but only for a short time (11 ± 6 s; n = 11 events in eight cells). These microtubules then bent, grew, or shrunk, but did not slide, as observed for dynein and dynactin mutants (Adames and Cooper, 2000). Microtubule growth and shrinkage rates were similar in pac1 Δ and wild-type mitotic cells. Growth rates were 4.92 μm/min (n = 11) and 4.67 μm/min (n = 13) for pac1 Δ and wild-type cells, respectively; and shrinkage rates were 5.59 μm/min (n = 13) and 4.91 μm/min (n = 16). No qualitative differences were observed in the frequency of microtubule catastrophe and rescue for pac1 Δ versus wild-type cells. Interestingly, cytoplasmic microtubules laterally plastered along the bud cortex in a few pac1 Δ cells. These microtubules did not slide but dissociated from the bud cortex after a short time (10 s; n = 2).

Spindle elongation appeared to contribute to movement of the spindle into the neck in pac1 Δ cells. Upon anaphase onset in pac1 Δ cells, well-aligned short spindles near the neck frequently elongated. The elongation was mainly in the direction of the mother. Ultimately, the spindle encountered the cortex of the mother, and further elongation was associated with the other end of the spindle penetrating the neck. At the end of this elongation, the spindle was asymmetrically positioned, with 83 ± 7% (n = 24) of the spindle length located on the mother side of the neck (Videos 2 and 3). We conclude that Pac1 is required for dynein in the bud to pull the spindle into the neck.

**PAC1–3GFP and DYN1–3GFP are functional fusion genes**

To understand how dynein and Pac1 move the spindle into the neck, we determined their cellular localizations. In previous studies, dynein was found at the SPB and along cytoplasmic microtubules (Shaw et al., 1997), but these studies used truncated and overexpressed tagged versions of dynein heavy chain, so they may not reflect the physiological location of dynein. We designed a tagging vector to integrate three tandem copies of GFP at the 3′ end of the endogenous chromosomal locus of the dynein heavy chain gene **DYN1** and **PAC1**. Multiple copies of GFP were necessary to detect the fusion proteins at endogenous levels. We included a Gly-
AlaGlyAlaGlyAla linker between the tagged gene and the triple GFP moiety. We performed three assays to evaluate the function of DYN1–3GFP and PAC1–3GFP.

First, we assayed nuclear segregation in DYN1–3GFP and PAC1–3GFP strains (YJC2772 and YJC2770). Loss of DYN1 or PAC1 function causes accumulation of cells with two nuclei in the mother (binucleate cells), more so at lower temperatures (Eshel et al., 1993; Li et al., 1993; Geiser et al., 1997). At 12°C, pac1Δ and dyn1Δ strains in mid-log phase had elevated levels of binucleate cells (Fig. 2). In contrast, strains carrying PAC1–3GFP or DYN1–3GFP as their sole source of Pac1 or dynein, respectively, had a level of binucleate cells similar to that of wild type (Fig. 2). Second, in a more stringent test, PAC1–3GFP and DYN1–3GFP rescued the phenotype of synthetic lethality with bim1Δ (Fig. S2, available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1). Tetrad dissection produced viable bim1Δ PAC1–3GFP haploids (7 from 7 tetratypes) and bim1Δ DYN1–3GFP haploids (12 from 10 tetratypes and 1 nonparental ditype). PAC1–3GFP also rescued synthetic lethality with kar9Δ in a similar analysis (unpublished data). Third, in liquid rich media (YPD) at 30°C, PAC1–3GFP (YJC2770) and DYN1–3GFP (YJC2772) strains grew with doubling times identical to that of the parental wild-type strain (YJC2296): 106.6 min (n = 2) for PAC1–3GFP; 106.5 min (n = 3) for DYN1–3GFP; and 106.7 min (n = 3) for parental wild type. These results show that the triple GFP tag did not interfere with Pac1 or Dyn1 function.

Localization of Pac1–3GFP
Pac1–3GFP was found in several locations in wild-type cells from asynchronous log-phase cultures. First, Pac1–3GFP localized as dots in the cytoplasm (Fig. 3). Most cells contained one to two dots; the range was zero to four. The dots moved rapidly (3.9 ± 0.7 μm/min, n = 7) and sometimes formed linear streaks (Fig. 3 A, arrows; Videos 4 and 5, available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1). In budded cells, Pac1–3GFP dots moved toward and away from the bud cortex. Once at the cortex, Pac1–3GFP dots were never observed to be stationary for more than 10 s, which was the interval between image acquisitions in the time-lapse movie.

Pac1–3GFP dots colocalized with the distal ends of cytoplasmic microtubules (Fig. 4). Imaging of live cells expressing CFP–tubulin and Pac1–3GFP revealed that ~49% of cytoplasmic microtubules had a Pac1 dot at their distal end, ~8% had Pac1 along the distal portion of the microtubule,
and ∼43% had no Pac1–3GFP (n = 300 microtubules counted). The microtubules and Pac1–3GFP dots were moving during image collection, on a time scale comparable to the interval between images. Thus, these measurements underestimate the extent of colocalization, perhaps by a significant amount.

Second, Pac1–3GFP was found in the nucleus with a diffuse distribution (Figs. 3 and 4). Nuclear localization was confirmed by costaining with DAPI. Examination of the Pac1 sequence did not reveal any recognizable nuclear localization signal (Fabre and Hurt, 1997), so the mechanism for nuclear targeting remains unclear. Pac1 sometimes appeared at the SPB of unbudded and small-budded cells. This localization is likely due to the presence of short cytoplasmic microtubules, because Pac1 was not observed at the SPB in cases where the distal plus ends of cytoplasmic microtubules were well resolved from the mitotic spindle (Fig. 4).

If Pac1 functions in the bud to assist dynein to move the spindle into the neck, then its localization to distal ends of microtubules may depend on other components of the dynein pathway. To test for such dependence, we examined Pac1–3GFP localization in isogenic mutants carrying deletions of genes in the dynein pathway. The video camera and computer settings for collecting the fluorescence images were the same in all cases, allowing one to compare the intensity of fluorescence between strains. In cells deleted for the cortical attachment molecule Num1, we observed a twofold increase in the intensity of Pac1–3GFP cytoplasmic dots in the bud (P < 0.0001, based on measurements by a blinded observer). Fig. 5 shows the intensities. Videos 6 and 7 (available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1) are representative of wild-type and num1Δ strains, respectively. Pac1 dots in num1Δ cells moved rapidly and sometimes formed streaks across the bud cytoplasm, indicating that they likely correspond to the distal ends of cytoplasmic microtubules. Cytoplasmic microtubules in num1Δ cells are known to have dynamics consistent with these observations (Geiser et al., 1997; Heil-Chapdelaine et al., 2000; Farkasovsky and Kuntzel, 2001). The fluorescence intensity of Pac1–3GFP dots was also increased in the dynactin mutants nip100Δ (P < 0.0001; Fig. 5; Video 8, available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1) and arp1Δ (unpublished data). In contrast, Pac1–3GFP dot intensity was slightly reduced in dyn1Δ cells, but by an insignificant margin compared with wild-type cells (P = 0.015; Fig. 5; Video 9, available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1).

### Localization of Dyn1–3GFP

Dynein Dyn1–3GFP also localized to the distal ends of cytoplasmic microtubules (Fig. 6 B). In wild-type cells, Dyn1–3GFP was observed as dots that moved rapidly in the cytoplasm (Fig. 6 A; Videos 10 and 11, available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1). Dyn1–3GFP dots moved at a rate of 3.8 ± 1.6 μm/min (n = 12) and sometimes formed linear streaks, as seen for Pac1–3GFP. Imaging of live cells expressing CFP–tubulin and Dyn1–3GFP revealed that ∼47% of all observed cytoplasmic microtubules had a Dyn1 dot at their distal end, ∼10% had Dyn1 along the distal portion of the microtubule, and ∼43% had no Dyn1–3GFP (n = 127 microtubules counted). As seen for the case of Pac1–3GFP, the microtubules and Dyn1–3GFP dots were moving on a relatively rapid time scale during image collection. Thus, these measurements represent the lower limit for colocalization of Dyn1–3GFP with microtubule ends. In striking contrast to Pac1–3GFP, some dots of Dyn1–3GFP did not move (>6 min). These stationary dynein dots were found only at the cortex, and only in unbudded cells or the mother of budded cells (Video 11, middle cell).

We asked whether Dyn1 localization to the distal ends of microtubules depends on other components of the dynein
pathway. We examined Dyn1–3GFP localization in isogenic wild-type and mutant cells. We examined Dyn1–3GFP localization in isogenic wild-type and mutant cells. The video camera and microscope settings were the same, allowing one to compare the intensity of fluorescence in the different strains. num1Δ and nip100Δ cells showed increased intensity of Pac1–3GFP dots in the bud. See Videos 6–9 (available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1). (B) Relative fluorescence intensity of motile Pac1–3GFP dots in wild-type and mutant cells. The average corrected fluorescence per dot is plotted; n = 25 dots for wild type, 75 dots for dyn1Δ, 170 dots for num1Δ, 171 dots for nip100Δ. Error bars represent standard error. Strains: PAC1–3GFP, YJC2770; PAC1–3GFP dyn1Δ, YJC2907; PAC1–3GFP num1Δ, YJC2905; PAC1–3GFP nip100Δ, YJC2904.

Discussion
In these studies, we found that Pac1 functions in the dynein/dynactin pathway for nuclear migration in budding yeast. In pac1Δ cells, efficient movement of the mitotic spindle into the bud neck is defective due to lack of microtubule sliding along the bud cortex, as seen in dynein- and dynactin-null mutants. We also found that dynein heavy chain, Dyn1, and Pac1 are targeted to the distal ends of microtubules. Pac1 is necessary for targeting dynein, but not vice versa. Neither dynein nor Pac1 require dynactin or the corti-
cal attachment protein Num1 for targeting to microtubule ends. Rather, the amount of dynein and Pac1 at microtubule ends is increased in the absence of dynactin or Num1. These results suggest a model in which microtubule ends with dynein and Pac1 probe the cortex for attachment sites and then deliver the motor to be activated and used in force production for sliding.

Pac1 functions in nuclear migration

PAC1 was isolated in a synthetic lethal screen with cin8, which encodes a kinesin motor involved in spindle elongation (Geiser et al., 1997). This screen identified many components of the dynein/dynactin pathway. Our genetic analysis here supports the conclusion that Pac1 functions in the dynein pathway for nuclear migration. Many of the genetic interactions exhibited by pac1Δ are similar to those observed with mutants in the dynein/dynactin pathway, including strong synthetic interactions with kar9Δ and bim1Δ, two components of the microtubule capture/shrinkage pathway for nuclear migration. A weak synthetic interaction of pac1Δ with bud6Δ, another component of the microtubule capture/shrinkage pathway, was observed, as expected given the relatively mild defects in nuclear migration and Kar9 localization in bud6Δ cells (Miller et al., 1999). Previous studies also found the dyn1Δ bud6Δ double mutant to be viable with a mild growth defect (Miller et al., 1999), as seen here for the pac1Δ bud6Δ mutant. On the other hand, the weak synthetic interactions that we observed for pac1Δ with bni1Δ and kip3Δ (two more components of the microtubule capture/shrinkage pathway) were unexpected, as dyn1Δ bni1Δ and dyn1Δ kip3Δ double mutants were lethal in previous studies (Cottingham and Hoyt, 1997; DeZwaan et al., 1997; Miller and Rose, 1998; Miller et al., 1999). Perhaps a low level of residual dynein function is sufficient for viability in pac1Δ bni1Δ and pac1Δ kip3Δ cells. Alternatively, differences in genetic backgrounds of the strains used for the respective studies may account for the different level of synthetic interaction.

Mechanism of dynein-mediated microtubule sliding

To move the mitotic spindle into the neck, dynein appears to generate force between cytoplasmic microtubules and the bud cortex. As a motor, dynein presumably moves with respect to the microtubule; therefore, we expect that dynein is anchored at the bud cortex as the microtubule slides. We anticipated that dynein and Pac1 might be localized to the bud cortex before cytoplasmic microtubules plaster and slide along the cortex. Instead, we found that Pac1 and dynein localize to the distal ends of microtubules, which appear to grow and shrink in search of attachment sites on the bud cortex. The lack of stationary Pac1–3GFP and Dyn1–3GFP dots along the bud suggests that anchoring of dynein to the bud cortex may be transient or at a low level.

We hypothesize that microtubule sliding along the bud cortex occurs in the following steps (Fig. 8; Video 16, available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1). First, dynein and Pac1 are targeted to plus ends of microtubules. Second, plus ends of microtubules are captured by cortical attachment sites, which contain Num1 and probably other components. Third, dynein and Pac1 are offloaded from the end of the microtubule to the cortex and anchored there. Fourth, the motor activity of dynein is activated, causing it to walk toward the minus end of the microtubule at the SPB. Because dynein is anchored, the microtubule slides, and the spindle is pulled into the bud neck. One intriguing observation in support of this model is that the levels of Pac1 and Dyn1 are higher at the plus ends of microtubules in cells lacking Num1. This observation suggests that a productive interaction of the microtubule end with the bud cortex is required to offload dynein and Pac1 from the microtubule end.

Pac1 is required to target dynein to microtubule ends. In other systems, Pac1/LIS1 homologues have been found to bind directly to dynein heavy chain (Sasaki et al., 2000; Hoffmann et al., 2001; Tai et al., 2002), so Pac1 may simultaneously bind the microtubule and dynein Dyn1 at microtubule ends. Pac1 can bind the microtubule directly or indi-
bly via a microtubule binding protein. We tested whether 
Pac1 localization depends on Bim1, the yeast EB1 homo-
logue that also localizes to plus ends of microtubules. We 
observed no qualitative differences in the dynamic and in-
tensity of Pac1 dots in bim1Δ versus wild-type cells (unpub-
lished data). Dynein targeted to microtubule ends can also 
bind directly to the microtubule, which may enhance target-
ing. Note that active dynein would move away from the plus 
end, toward the SPB, so something must be inhibiting dy-
nein or counteracting its activity, along with targeting it to 
the plus end. Pac1 may have one or more of these roles.

Our results here with dynactin mutants provide insight 
into the function of dynactin. Dynein and Pac1 accumulate 
at the plus ends of microtubules in cells lacking dynactin. 
Therefore, dynactin is not required for targeting of dynein 
to plus ends. Instead, dynactin appears to function later, in 
microtubule capture or offloading, anchoring, or activating 
dynein at the bud cortex. In studies in other systems, dynac-
tin promotes dynein-based movements along microtubules 
in vitro by increasing the processivity of the motor (King 
and Schroer, 2000). The NH2-terminal CAP-Gly domain of 
the dynactin p150Glu subunit binds microtubules, which 
may tether the cargo to the microtubule during the mecha-
nochemical cycle of dynein, preventing diffusional loss of 
the cargo (King and Schroer, 2000). The presence of the 
conserved CAP-Gly domain in the NH2-terminal region of 
Nip100, the yeast p150Glu homologue, favors this hypothe-
sis (Kahana et al., 1998). Nip100 has been localized at over-
expressed, but not endogenous, levels, so its site of action re-
mains somewhat uncertain.

Comparison of Pac1 with Aspergillus NUDF 
and vertebrate LIS1

Pac1 belongs to the conserved family of LIS1 lissencephaly pro-
teins consisting of members from various organisms, including 
Schizosaccharomyces pombe, Aspergillus nidulans, Drosophila me-
lanogaster, Caenorhabditis elegans, and human (see phylogenetic 
analysis in Fig. S4, available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/ 
full/jcb.200209022/DC1). LIS1 proteins have a predicted 
coiled-coil region in the NH2 terminus and seven tandem 
WD40 repeats in the COOH-terminal two thirds of the mole-
cule (Fig. S5, available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/ 
jcb.200209022/DC1). LIS1 proteins are found at the plus ends 
of cytoplasmic microtubules in several organisms (Han et al., 
2001; Coquelle et al., 2002).

The role of LIS1 proteins in dynein targeting appears to 
differ from organism to organism. In Aspergillus, deletion of 
the LIS1 homologue NUDF did not affect the localization 
of a GFP fusion of NUDA, the dynein heavy chain homo-
logue, to the distal ends of cytoplasmic microtubules at hy-
phal tips (Zhang et al., 2002). In cultured mouse fibroblasts, 
reduction of LIS1 expression appeared to cause redistribu-
tion of dynein heavy chain to regions around the nucleus 
(Sasaki et al., 2000). It is not clear, however, whether this re-
distribution was due to mislocalization of dynein to micro-
tubule ends or a result of enrichment of microtubules near 
the nucleus in these LIS1 heterozygous null cells (Smith et 
al., 2000). We found here, in budding yeast, that pac1Δ mu-
tants show loss of dynein Dyn1 localization to the distal 
ends of cytoplasmic microtubules, which probably leads to 
loss of dynein delivery to cortical attachment sites and an in-
ability to carry out productive microtubule–cortex interac-
tions. These results may reflect differences in the approaches 
used for the respective studies in different organisms. They 
may also reflect a loss or gain of particular LIS1–ligand in-
teractions subsequent to the divergence of these organisms,

Figure 8.  

Proposed mechanism for microtubule sliding along the 
bud cortex. (Step 1) Dynein Dyn1 (red) and Pac1 (yellow) associated 
with the distal plus end of a cytoplasmic microtubule probe the bud 
cortex for attachment sites, which contain Num1 (blue) and probably 
other components. (Step 2) Upon attachment to a cortical site, dynein 
and Pac1 are offloaded from the end of microtubule and anchored to 
the cortex. (Step 3) The motor activity of anchored dynein is 
activated, causing it to walk toward the SPB. The microtubule 
slides, and the spindle is pulled into the bud neck. See Video 16 
available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/ 
DC1) and text for further discussion.
as suggested by the weak sequence similarity between vertebrate and yeast dynein/dynactin components (McMillan and Tatchell, 1994; Geiser et al., 1997; Kahana et al., 1998).

Materials and methods

Strains, genetic manipulation, and transformation

Yeast culture, media, and genetic manipulations were performed by standard methods (Kaiser et al., 1994). Lithium acetate transformation was performed as previously described (Knop et al., 1999). Table II lists the S. cerevisiae strains used in this study. Strain YJC1629 (pac1Δ) was crossed to strains from the deletion consortium (Research Genetics genomic resources; bim1Δ, kar9Δ, arp1Δ, num1Δ, dyn1Δ, nip100Δ, jnm1Δ, bik1Δ, kip3Δ, pac1Δ, bud3Δ, or bni1Δ) to construct heterozygous diploid double mutants. From each cross, two independent heterozygous diploids were sporulated and tetrad dissected. Progeny were examined for germination and colony formation in the microscope. Markers were analyzed by replica plating to selective media.

Construction of PAC1–3GFP and DYN1–3GFP strains

We constructed tagging vectors designed to integrate three tandem copies of GFP at the 3′ end of the PAC1 or DYN1 locus. We first built a plasmid containing three tandemly fused GFP genes and the TRP1 marker. In brief, an engineered BamHI–BglII fragment containing GFP (with S65G and S24T mutations for brighter expression in yeast) without a stop codon was cloned into BamHI- and BglII-digested PBS1479 (Rigaut et al., 1999); a pBluescript-based cloning vector. The resulting plasmid was pBS-1xGFP. We verified the sequence of GFP, excised it with BamHI and BglII, and re-cloned into BamHI- and BglII-digested pBS1479 (Rigaut et al., 1999), a standard methods (Kaiser et al., 1994). Lithium acetate transformation was performed as previously described (Knop et al., 1999). Table II lists the S. cerevisiae strains used in this study. Strain YJC1629 (pac1Δ) was crossed to strains from the deletion consortium (Research Genetics genomic resources; bim1Δ, kar9Δ, arp1Δ, num1Δ, dyn1Δ, nip100Δ, jnm1Δ, bik1Δ, kip3Δ, pac1Δ, bud3Δ, or bni1Δ) to construct heterozygous diploid double mutants. From each cross, two independent heterozygous diploids were sporulated and tetrad dissected. Progeny were examined for germination and colony formation in the microscope. Markers were analyzed by replica plating to selective media.

Table II. Strains used in this study

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Fluorescence microscopy

We used GFP–TUB1 (pAFS92, a gift from A. Straight and A. Murray (University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA; Straight et al., 1997) and GFP–TUB1 (pAFS125C, a gift from D. Beach and K. Bloom, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC) to visualize microtubules. For analysis of microtubule sliding events, cells expressing GFP–TUB1 were observed with a 100× objective on a BX60 Olympus fluorescence microscope, and images were collected with NIH Image software at two frames per second at a single focal plane using an intensified video camera with a digital image processor (ISIT68 and DSP2000; Dage-MTI) (Heil-Chapdelaine et al., 2000). Living cells from an asynchronous culture were observed during mitosis. When the mitotic spindle moved into the neck, we scored the presence of microtubule sliding along the bud cortex for cells in which cytoplasmic microtubules of the bud were in focus across their entire length. For localization studies, mid-log cells were grown in YPD or selective synthetic defined media (Bio101), washed with nonfluorescent media, and visualized directly on an agarose pad containing nonfluorescent media (Heil-Chapdelaine et al., 2000). Movies of Pac1–3GFP or Dyn1–3GFP were made using QED software (QED Imaging Inc.) by collecting five 1-μm slices at 10-s intervals with an intensified video camera (Dage IST68) or an intensified CCD camera (XR-Mega10; Stanford Photonics, Inc.). The fluorescence of Pac1–3GFP and Dyn1–3GFP cytoplasmic dots was measured (NIH image software) and corrected for the background fluorescence from an adjacent region next to each dot.

Cell lysis and immunoblotting

Yeast cultures were grown to mid-log phase in 5 ml YPD or selective media and harvested. Cell pellets were resuspended in 0.5 ml of ice cold lysis buffer (20 mM Tris, pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 1.5% Triton X-100, 1 mM PMSF, plus protease inhibitor cocktail tablet (Roche Applied
The online version of this article (http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.200209022/DC1) includes additional figures showing synthetic interactions of pac1Δ with kip3Δ, bud6Δ, and bni1Δ, complementation of synthetic lethality with bim1Δ by PAC1–3GFP and DYN1–3GFP, immunoblot analysis of Dyn1–3GFP protein in wild-type and pac1Δ lysates, phylelogenetic analysis of Pac1/LIS1 sequences, domain organization of Pac1, movies of microtubule behavior during movement of the spindle into the mother–bud neck, and movies of Pac1–3GFP and Dyn1–3GFP localization in wild-type or mutant backgrounds.

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References


