Hsp110 is required for spindle length control

Taras Makhnevych,1 Philip Wong,4 Oxana Pogoutse,2,3 Franco J. Vizeacoumar,2,3 Jack F. Greenblatt,2,3 Andrew Emili,2,3 and Walid A. Houry1

1Department of Biochemistry, 2Department of Molecular Genetics, and 3Banting and Best Department of Medical Research, Donnelly Centre for Cellular and Biomolecular Research, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M5S 1A8, Canada
4Institute of Bioinformatics and Systems Biology, Helmholtz Center Munich, German Research Center for Environmental Health, D-85764 Neuherberg, Germany

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ystematic affinity purification combined with mass spectrometry analysis of N- and C-tagged cytoplasmic Hsp70/Hsp110 chaperones was used to identify new roles of Hsp70/Hsp110 in the cell. This allowed the mapping of a chaperone–protein network consisting of 1,227 unique interactions between the 9 chaperones and 473 proteins and highlighted roles for Hsp70/Hsp110 in 14 broad biological processes. Using this information, we uncovered an essential role for Hsp110 in spindle assembly and, more specifically, in modulating the activity of the widely conserved kinesin-5 motor Cin8. The role of Hsp110 Sse1 as a nucleotide exchange factor for the Hsp70 chaperones Ssa1/Ssa2 was found to be required for maintaining the proper distribution of kinesin-5 motors within the spindle, which was subsequently required for bipolar spindle assembly in S phase. These data suggest a model whereby the Hsp70–Hsp110 chaperone complex antagonizes Cin8 plus-end motility and prevents premature spindle elongation in S phase.

Introduction

The Hsp70 family of chaperones is a multifunctional group of highly related stress proteins with diverse cellular roles. Saccharomyces cerevisiae (baker’s yeast) has 14 different Hsp70s, with 9 of these localized to the cytoplasm/nucleus (Kampinga and Craig, 2010): Ssa1, Ssa2, Ssa3, Ssa4, Ssb1, Ssb2, Ssz1, Sse1, and Sse2. The overall structure of these proteins is highly conserved and typically consists of an N-terminal ATPase domain, a central substrate-binding domain (SBD), and a C-terminal variable domain (Fig. S1 A).

Ssa1, Ssa2, Ssa3, and Ssa4 encode four closely related proteins that define the Ssa subclass of Hsp70 chaperones in yeast (Fig. S1 B). The majority of Ssa proteins are found in the cytoplasm, although both Ssa1 and Ssa2 have also been detected in the nucleus and are associated with the cell wall (López-Ribot and Chaffin, 1996; van den Bosch and Lowndes, 2004). Ssb1 and Ssb2 define the Ssb subclass of yeast Hsp70 chaperones (Fig. S1 B). Both Ssb1 and Ssb2 have been found to be localized to the ribosome as part of the ribosome-associated complex (Pfund et al., 1998), which also includes Ssh1 or Ssh2, Ssz1, and Zuo1 (an Hsp40). For Ssz1, neither the ATPase nor the peptide-binding activities appear to be necessary for its function (Huang et al., 2005). It has been suggested that Ssz1 does not function in binding unfolded polypeptides but rather acts to enhance the ATPase-stimulating activity of Zuo1 on Ssb1 and Ssb2 (Huang et al., 2005). Sse1 and Sse2 define the Hsp110 subclass of the Hsp70 chaperones in yeast. They have an Hsp110 insertion sequence within the SBD (Fig. S1 A). The Sse/Hsp110 subclass is only found in eukaryotic cells. These chaperones are not thought to actively assist in protein folding; rather, they are thought to bind unfolded polypeptides and to hold them in a folding-competent state (Easton et al., 2000). More recently, based on biochemical and structural data, Sse1 and Sse2 have been proposed to act as nucleotide exchange factors (NEFs) for the Ssa and Ssb chaperones (Polier et al., 2008; Schuermann et al., 2008). Nevertheless, the actual cellular function of the Sse/Hsp110 proteins has remained elusive.

In an effort to reveal novel functions of the Hsp70s/Hsp110s in the cell, we performed a systematic pull-down of all the nine cytoplasmic Hsp70/Hsp110 proteins in yeast using strains in which these proteins were endogenously N- or C-terminally tandem affinity purification (TAP) tagged. This allowed us to identify novel pathways and complexes affected by these chaperones. In-depth analysis of the protein–protein interactions of these chaperones confirmed the functional roles and identified new biological activities. The mapping of the wide chaperone–protein network of Hsp70/Hsp110 chaperones reinforces the central role of these proteins in eukaryotic cells.

Abbreviations used in this paper: aMT, astral MT; HJU, hydroxyurea; iMT, interpo lar MT; IKT, interkinetochore MT; MT, microtubule; NEF, nucleotide exchange factor; SBD, substrate-binding domain; SPB, spindle pole body; TAP, tandem affinity purification; TEV, tobacco etch virus; WT, wild type;YPD, yeast peptone dextrose.

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Figure 1. The TAP tag–based Hsp70/Hsp110 interaction network. The main figure shows the hits obtained from the TAP tag pull-down of the nine Hsp70s/Hsp110s. The hits are grouped according to Gene Ontology categories (also shown in the bottom graph; The Gene Ontology Consortium, 2000) and are organized into complexes as defined by Pu et al. (2009; bottom right inset). The overlap in the hits between N- and C-tagged chaperones is shown in the bottom left. Data are from experiments completed once. Complexes identified are shown in the top right inset. FACT, facilitates chromatin transcription; NER, nucleotide excision repair; snoRNP, small nucleolar ribonucleoprotein; SCF, Skp, Cullin, F-box–containing complex.
interaction map showed that many of Hsp70/Hsp110 chaperones copurified with proteins involved in spindle organization. We were able to demonstrate that the nucleotide exchange activity of Sse1 on Ssa1/Ssa2 is required for proper spindle assembly. More specifically, the Hsp70/Hsp110 chaperone system was found to antagonize kinesin-5 motor Cin8 plus-end motility to prevent premature spindle elongation in S phase.

Results

Overview of the Hsp70/Hsp110 interactors

Our previous analysis of the global physical interaction network of the yeast chaperones was based on using yeast strains in which all the chaperones were C-terminally TAP tagged (Gong et al., 2009). The analysis provided insights into the general principles that govern chaperone–chaperone and chaperone–substrate interactions. In this study, we performed a more detailed physical interaction mapping of the cytoplasmic Hsp70/Hsp110 chaperones. To this end, the nine cytoplasmic Hsp70/Hsp110 chaperones were endogenously TAP tagged at the N and C termini, and the tag was used to pull down the chaperones; protein interactors were then identified using mass spectrometry (see Materials and methods). Western blot analysis of cells grown at 30°C shows that Ssa1 and Ssa2 are most abundant followed by Ssb1, Ssb2, Sse1, and Ssa4 (Fig. S1 C), which is consistent with the published literature, indicating that the tags did not affect the expression levels of the chaperones. Mass spectrometry analysis allowed us to obtain a physical interaction map consisting of 1,227 interactions between the 9 chaperones and 473 proteins (Fig. 1 and Table S2) and highlighted roles for Hsp70/Hsp110 chaperones in 14 broad biological processes and 30 well-represented protein complexes (Fig. 1). 591 of these interactions were observed in previous published work (Table S3) including our own large-scale proteomic study (Gong et al., 2009). Out of the 473 interacting proteins, only 26 can be classified as transmembrane proteins (see Materials and methods); hence, most of the interactors are soluble proteins under the conditions of our experiments, as would be expected for these chaperones.

657 out of the 1,227 interactions were detected using N-tagged chaperones (Fig. 1 and Table S2). A significantly smaller proportion of the interactions, 570, was detected using C-tagged chaperones (z test for proportions: P < 0.001). 158 hits overlapped between the N- and C-tagged chaperones (Fig. 1 [left inset] and Table S4). 61% (96 out of 158) of these are supported by other published experiments (Table S3). Proteins interacting with both N- and C-terminally TAP-tagged chaperones have a significantly greater proportion supported by published literature (Table S3) than all captured proteins in our dataset (z test for proportions: P < 0.05). Ssa1 and Ssb1, Ssa1 and Ssb2, and Ssa1 and Ssz1 have the largest number of overlapping interactors (Fig. S2 A), suggesting cooperativity between Ssa1 and each of Ssb1, Ssb2, and Ssz1 chaperones. Chaperone–chaperone TAP tag interactions were also detected between the different chaperones using both N- and C-TAP interactions (Fig. S2 B). However, N-tagged chaperones were generally more efficient in binding other chaperones (Fig. S2 B) or other proteins (Table S2) than their C-tagged variants, possibly highlighting the importance of an unblocked C terminus for proper chaperone–chaperone and chaperone–substrate interactions. For example, the C terminus in all Ssa chaperones ends with the highly conserved EEVD residues, which mediate interaction with cochaperones and co-factors (Schweifler et al., 2000; Wegele et al., 2003).

In analyzing the physical interaction data, we noted that the interactors of Sse1/2 were, on average, larger proteins than those of the total cytoplasmic Hsp70s. This observation held true whether we used the total hits obtained from the N- or C-tagged chaperones or only the hits that overlapped between N- and C-terminally TAP-tagged chaperones (Mann–Whitney test, P < 0.04). Data are from experiments completed once.
MT-based movement. This is consistent with previous observations indicating that the Hsp70/Hsp110 chaperones might be components of the SPB and kinetochore in yeast and mammalian cells (Lechner and Carbon, 1991; Oka et al., 1998; Wigge et al., 1998). Several of these interacting proteins are particularly large, e.g., Cin8 (1,000 residues), Dyn1 (4,092 residues), and Kip1 (1,111 residues). However, the molecular mechanism of Hsp70/Hsp110 function in MT organization has not been characterized.

To determine the physiological consequences underlying the physical interactions we observed, the morphology of the mitotic spindle was examined in strains deleted of each of the nine different Hsp70/Hsp110 chaperones. The spindle was visualized using confocal microscopy by expressing GFP-Tub1 from a plasmid in 150 to 300 cells that were grown in appropriate synthetic media to early log phase. Only cells deleted of SSE1 exhibited significant cell cycle transition defects (Fig. S3 A). C-tagged chaperones (Fig. 2). Furthermore, the trend was also observed in the data from our large-scale proteomic study (Fig. 2; Gong et al., 2009). This intriguing finding prompted us to further analyze specific Sse hits.

Role of Hsp110/Sse1 in spindle assembly

One observation made from the comprehensive analysis of the obtained network (Fig. 1) is that Hsp70/Hsp110 copurified with different components of the spindle pole body (SPB; Kar1, Mps3, Spc72, Spc97, and Spc110), kinetochore (Ame1, Bub1, Chl4, Mps1, Ndc10, Ndc80, and Ska1), and microtubule (MT) motors (Cin8, Dyn1, Kar3, Kip1, and Smy1) as well as the large subunit of the dynactin complex (Nip100), proteins with spindle midzone organization roles (Asel and Sl15), and the establishment of mitotic spindle orientation (Dma1) in addition to tubulin (Tub2; Fig. 3 A), strongly suggesting a role for these chaperones in spindle organization/assembly and MT-based movement. This is consistent with previous observations indicating that the Hsp70/Hsp110 chaperones might be components of the SPB and kinetochore in yeast and mammalian cells (Lechner and Carbon, 1991; Oka et al., 1998; Wigge et al., 1998). Several of these interacting proteins are particularly large, e.g., Cin8 (1,000 residues), Dyn1 (4,092 residues), and Kip1 (1,111 residues). However, the molecular mechanism of Hsp70/Hsp110 function in MT organization has not been characterized.

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Furthermore, an increased number of $sse1\Delta$ cells was found to have spindle length between 1.5 and 4 $\mu$m (Figs. 3 [B and C] and S3 B). Consistent with these results, FACS analysis demonstrated that the majority of these $sse1\Delta$ cells accumulated with G2 DNA content (Fig. 3 D). In addition, using time-lapse microscopy, the spindle stability was found to be dramatically decreased in ~5% of the $sse1\Delta$ cells, as several rounds of spindle collapse were observed, and the cells were unable to elongate spindles to >4 $\mu$m (Fig. 3 E and Video 1).

To further investigate the cell cycle delay exhibited by $sse1\Delta$ mutant cells, we monitored levels of Pds1, an inhibitor of the anaphase activator Esp1 (Peters, 2002) and mitotic cyclin Clb2 during the cell cycle progression. Upon release from $\alpha$-factor–induced G1 arrest, levels of Pds1 increased at a similar rate in both wild-type (WT) and $sse1\Delta$ cells, suggesting that the progression to S phase is not affected by $SSE1$ deletion (Fig. 3 F). However, the levels of Pds1 remained elevated for a significantly longer time in $sse1\Delta$ compared with WT cells. Similarly to Pds1, Clb2 degradation was also significantly delayed. This indicates that $SSE1$ deletion results in a delay in the metaphase-to-anaphase transition (Fig. 3 F). This result is further supported by previous published experiments showing a genetic interaction between $PDS1$ and $SSE1$ (Fig. 3 G; Sarin et al., 2004; Costanzo et al., 2010) and indicates that the proper timing of anaphase initiation becomes critical in the absence of Sse1. Consistently, deletion of $SSE1$ when combined with gene mutants encoding different kinetochore, SPB, and anaphase-promoting complex components produced synthetic fitness defects (Fig. 3 G). We also confirmed the reported genetic interaction between $SSE1$ and the spindle assembly checkpoint $MAD2$ (Fig. 3 H; Daniel et al., 2006), indicating that spindle assembly is compromised in the $sse1\Delta$ mutant. These data strongly suggest a role for Sse1 in cell cycle progression.

Deletion of $SSE1$ results in spindle elongation in S phase

To more directly investigate the role of Sse1 in spindle organization, the consequences of $SSE1$ deletion on spindle assembly in S phase were investigated. When DNA replication was stalled using the DNA synthesis inhibitor hydroxyurea (HU), both WT and $sse1\Delta$ cells arrested in S phase with a large bud, an undivided nucleus positioned at the mother bud neck, and a short bipolar spindle (Allen et al., 1994). Spindle length was measured in HU-arrested cells containing Spc42-RFP, an SPB marker, or by expressing GFP-TUB1 from a plasmid to visualize the spindle (Saunders et al., 1997b). The data indicate that the mean spindle length in $sse1\Delta$ cells is longer compared with that in WT cells (Fig. 4 A). More specifically, only 32% of the spindles in WT cells was $\leq$1.5 $\mu$m, whereas 62% of the spindles in $sse1\Delta$ was $\geq$1.5 $\mu$m (Fig. 4 A). Importantly, $sse1\Delta$ cells are not HU sensitive, and there is no genetic interaction between DNA damage checkpoint genes and $sse1\Delta$ mutation (Sarin et al., 2004; Costanzo et al., 2010). Spindle assembly in S phase is orchestrated by the kinesin-5 motors Cin8 and Kip1, with Cin8 playing a major role (Hildebrandt and Hoyt, 2000). Therefore, we tested whether the increased elongation of the spindle in $sse1\Delta$ cells also depends on the kinesin-5 motors’ activity. Interestingly, the spindle length of the double knockout strain, $sse1\Delta$cin8A, was shorter than that of the WT or $sse1\Delta$ strains but similar to that of cin8A strain (Fig. 4 A). Hence, the spindles in $sse1\Delta$ cells undergo Cin8-dependent premature elongation in S phase.

The assembled preanaphase bipolar spindle in yeast is a metastable structure. A force generated by plus-end–directed kinesin-5 motors Cin8 and, to a lesser extent, Kip1 pushes the spindle poles apart, and that force is counterbalanced by a force that pulls them inward, generated by minus-end–directed kinesin-14 motor Kar3 (Saunders and Hoyt, 1992; Hoyt et al., 1993; Saunders et al., 1997b). Hence, the length of...
the yeast mitotic spindle is a product of the balancing forces of the different types of kinesin motors. To understand the nature of lengthening of the spindle in *sse1Δ* in S phase, we tested how the deletion of these kinesin motors affects the growth of *sse1Δ* cells. Combining *sse1Δ* and *cin8Δ* deletions resulted in alleviating genetic interactions, whereas combining *sse1Δ* and *kar3Δ* exhibited aggravating genetic interactions. (Fig. 4 B). Furthermore, overexpression of *Kar3* was more toxic in WT compared with *sse1Δ* cells (Fig. 4 C). The simplest explanation for these results is that *SSE1* deletion results in the up-regulation or modulation of *Cin8* activity, and, consequently, *Kar3* is required in *sse1Δ* cells to counterbalance the over active *Cin8*.

It was previously shown that *Cin8* level is cell cycle regulated and peaks in S phase (Hildebrandt and Hoyt, 2001). To rule out the possibility that the stability of *Cin8* is affected upon *SSE1* deletion, WT and *sse1Δ* cells carrying GAL1 promoter-driven *CIN8-3myc* were arrested in G1 by α-factor and then released into galactose medium containing HU (Krishnan et al., 2004). After 120 min, cells were transferred to glucose medium containing HU and cycloheximide to turn off the GAL promoter and prevent further translation, and the fate of *Cin8-3myc* was monitored. In both WT and *sse1Δ* cells, *Cin8-3myc* levels decreased at similar rates, indicating that the stability of *Cin8* is not affected in the *sse1Δ* strain (Fig. 4 D).

**Sse1 is required for proper distribution of Cin8 and Kip1 within the spindle**

Functional analysis of kinesin motors revealed that they are spatially regulated during the cell cycle (Tytell and Sorger, 2006; Gardner et al., 2008; Khmelinskii et al., 2009). To determine whether *Sse1* affects the localization of *Cin8*, *Kip1*, and *Kar3*, the cellular localization of the GFP-tagged motors was examined in *sse1Δ* cells. *Cin8-GFP* and *Kip1-GFP* fluorescence had a bilobed pattern in large budded, HU-arrested WT cells (Figs. 5 A and S4 A), which is consistent with the predominant localization of *Ndc80-GFP* near the SPB. Bar, 5 µm.

In both WT and *sse1Δ* cells, *Cin8-3myc* levels decreased at similar rates, indicating that the stability of *Cin8* is not affected in the *sse1Δ* strain (Fig. 4 D).
imaging showed frequent redistribution of Cin8-GFP to the spindle midzone and to the nucleoplasm in S-phase–arrested sse1Δ cells (Fig. 5 B). Elevated midzone levels of Cin8-GFP correlated with increased distribution of spindle length, as shown in Fig. 5 C, and, consequently, the mean SD of the spindle length of six sse1Δ cells measured over 8 min was twice as high as that of WT (0.24 vs. 0.12 µm). In contrast, no significant difference between WT and sse1Δ cells was observed for the localization of Kar3-GFP (colocalizes with the SPB; Fig. S4 B) or the spindle midzone–organizing protein Ase1-GFP (Fig. S4 C). Based on these results, we propose that elongated spindles in sse1Δ cells could be the result of the abnormal redistribution of the spindle motors Cin8 and Kip1 to the midzone area, which, subsequently, results in increased motor sliding between oppositely oriented interpolar MTs (iMTs).

Cin8 and Kip1 have been shown to cross-link kMT and control kinetochore position (Tytell and Sorger, 2006; Gardner et al., 2008); therefore, changes in motor localization pattern could also affect kinetochore position. Kinetochore are multi-protein structures that assemble on centromeric DNA and that mediate MT–chromosome interaction. We assayed the localization of the structural kinetochore protein Ndc80-GFP and a kinetochore–associating XMAP215 orthologue, Stu2-3GFP, which was shown to promote spindle integrity when DNA replication is stalled (Ma et al., 2007). Interestingly, we observed tighter clustering of Ndc80-GFP near each SPB (Fig. 5 D) and Stu2-3GFP within each half spindle (Fig. S4 D) in the majority of sse1Δ cells, indicating premature shortening of the kMT. Interestingly, it has been reported that Cin8 overexpression produces a similar phenotype (Gardner et al., 2008). Furthermore, in 30% of sse1Δ cells, Ndc80-GFP fluorescence was asymmetrically distributed within the spindle, indicating an unregulated premature chromosome segregation (Fig. 5 D).

**Sse1 does not affect kinetochore-MT attachment**

The data so far could be interpreted as either indicating that Sse1 has a direct effect on kinetochore–MT attachment, which is a key factor in spindle length control (Hildebrandt and Hoyt, 2000), or that Sse1 regulates the redistribution of kinesin-5 motors from the kMT to the spindle midzone, which then causes increased motor sliding between oppositely oriented iMTs. The conserved kinetochore-associated Ndc80 complex plays an essential role in forming stable kinetochore–MT attachments (He et al., 2001; Janke et al., 2002). Hence, Cin8-GFP distribution in the temperature-sensitive kinetochore ndc80-1 mutant strain expressing endogenous Spc42-RFP was assessed in S phase. We found that the pattern of Cin8-GFP distribution in ndc80-1 cells at the semi-permissive temperature is very similar to that in sse1Δ cells (Fig. 6 A).

In both strains, the majority of cells showed Cin8-GFP asymmetrically distributed along the spindle in S-phase–arrested cells (Fig. 6 A). Furthermore, in S-phase–arrested cells, the spindle length in the ndc80-1 mutant was longer than that in WT and similar to that in sse1Δ mutants (Fig. 6 B; also refer to Fig. 4 A). The length of the spindle was further increased in the sse1Δ ndc80-1 double mutant (Fig. 6 B), suggesting that sse1Δ and ndc80-1 mutations affect parallel pathways in the spindle length control. Consistently, we observed genetic interaction between sse1Δ and ndc80-1 mutants at 30°C (Fig. 6 C). Importantly, the observed genetic interaction did not result in increased HU sensitivity of either single or double mutants (Fig. 6 C), indicating that increased spindle length in these mutants cannot be explained as resulting from transition into mitosis.

One interpretation of the observations made in Fig. 6 (A–C) is that Sse1 is required for kinetochore–MT interactions
To establish whether Sse1 is working as a chaperone or as a proper spindle assembly in S phase, chaperones Ssa1 and Ssa2 is required for the NEF activity of Sse1 on the Hsp70 chaperones, either empty vector, pSSE1, or pSSE1-K69Q, or pSSE1-G233D plasmids were spotted onto YPD and incubated at 30°C for 2 d. (B) Logarithmically growing sse1Δ cells expressing Spc42-RFP as an SPB marker and harboring either empty vector, pSSE1, pSSE1-K69Q, or pSSE1-G233D plasmids were arrested in S phase with 100 mM HU for 2.5 h at 30°C. Spindle length was measured using Spc42-RFP fluorescence. The data shown are from a single representative experiment out of three repeats. (C) 10× serial dilutions of log-phase sse1Δ cells harboring either empty vector, pSSE1, pFES1, or pSNL1ΔN plasmids were spotted onto YPD and incubated at 30°C for 2 d.

in S phase. To investigate this possibility, the localization of GFP-marked centromere of chromosome IV (Cen4-GFP) and mCherry-tagged Tub1 (Khmelinskii et al., 2007; Liu et al., 2008) was determined in WT, sse1Δ, and ndc80-1 cells. We did not observe significant differences in chromosome–MT association between WT and sse1Δ, indicating that Sse1 does not affect centromere–MT interactions (Fig. 6 D). In contrast, in the positive control ndc80-1 mutant, we observed that the number of detached kinetochores increased by ~2.8 times. Thus, we conclude that kinetochore–MT attachment is not perturbed in sse1Δ cells.

Collectively, these results suggest that the prematurely elongated spindles in S-phase–arrested sse1Δ cells are likely the result of the redistribution of kinesin-5 motors from the kMT to the spindle midzone, which then results in increased motor sliding between oppositely oriented iMTs and leads to spindle lengthening.

The NEF activity of Sse1 on the Hsp70 chaperones Ssa1 and Ssa2 is required for proper spindle assembly in S phase

To establish whether Sse1 is working as a chaperone or as an NEF for the Hsp70s (Polier et al., 2008; Schuermann et al., 2008) during spindle assembly, we used SSE1 alleles harboring point mutations that either abolish ATP hydrolysis (pSSE1-K69Q) or ATP binding (pSSE1-G233D; Shaner et al., 2004) and assayed them for their ability to complement sse1Δmad2Δ slow-growth phenotype (Fig. 3 H). It is established that ATP binding but not hydrolysis is required for the interaction of Sse1 with the Hsp70 chaperones and, hence, for its NEF activity on these chaperones (Shaner et al., 2005; Andréasson et al., 2008). The ATPase-deficient mutant Sse1(K69Q) restored growth of the sse1Δmad2Δ strain to WT levels, whereas the ATP-binding–deficient mutant Sse1(G233D) was not able to enhance the growth rate of this strain (Fig. 7 A). Consistently, the expression of WT Sse1 and ATPase-deficient mutant Sse1(K69Q) restored the spindle length in the sse1Δ strain to WT levels for S-phase cells, whereas the ATP-binding–deficient mutant Sse1(G233D) had a spindle length similar to that of vector control (Fig. 7 B). This indicates that Sse1 is not acting as a classical ATP-dependent chaperone during spindle assembly but rather as an NEF for the Hsp70 chaperones.

Three other proteins are known to act as NEFs for the Hsp70s in yeast, namely Fes1, Snl1, and Sll1 (Young, 2010). Fes1 is cytoplasmic (Kabani et al., 2002), and Snl1 has a N-terminal transmembrane segment of ~20 amino acids that localizes the protein to the nuclear and ER membranes with the remaining bulk of the protein localized to the cytoplasm (Ho et al., 1998), whereas Sll1 is in the lumen of the ER (Tyson and Stirling, 2000). To determine whether other Hsp70 NEFs also affect spindle organization, Fes1 and the soluble catalytic domain of Snl1 (Snl1ΔN) were assayed for their ability to complement the sse1Δmad2Δ slow-growth phenotype. As shown in Fig. 7 C, only the overexpression of Snl1ΔN was able to rescue sse1Δmad2Δ growth phenotype, although it was previously reported that the overexpression of both Fes1 or Snl1ΔN can complement sse1Δ-related phenotypes (Sondermann et al., 2002; Sadlish et al., 2008). As native full-length Snl1 is membrane associated (Ho et al., 1998), the data suggest that only Sse1, through its NEF activity, has a specific role in spindle length control and not the other NEFs.

Next, we wanted to determine which Hsp70 chaperone is acting with Sse1 to affect Cin8 activity in S phase. Out of the nine cytoplasmic Hsp70 chaperones, only Ssa1-4 have a significant nuclear localization in addition to their cytoplasmic localization (unpublished data). Furthermore, as shown in Fig. S1 C, the expression levels of the Ssa chaperones vary significantly under nonstress conditions. Typically, Ssa3 and Ssa4 are of low abundance and are only induced during stress, whereas Ssa1 and Ssa2 are highly expressed under normal growth conditions. Hence, Ssa1 and Ssa2 are the most likely Hsp70 chaperones to be involved in spindle assembly in S phase. Experimentally, recombinant GST-Cin8 was incubated with yeast cell extracts obtained from two different strains each producing Ssa1-GFP or Ssa2-GFP expressed from their native loci. GST-Cin8 was found to directly bind Sse1-Ssa1/2 (Fig. 8 A). The ability of GST-Cin8 to bind Tub1 indicates that the recombinant protein is functional. Similar experiments were performed with the other Hsp70 chaperones, but no significant binding to Cin8 was observed. Hence, the effect of Sse1 on Cin8 could be mediated by the effect of Sse1 on Ssa1/Ssa2.
It is reasonable to assume that appropriate levels of Sse1 are needed to ensure that the ATP-dependent functional cycle of the Ssa1/2 chaperones proceeds at an optimal rate. The interplay between Sse1 and Ssa1/2 chaperones is highlighted by the observation that ssa1Δ sse1Δ cells grow better than ssa1Δ single knockouts and that the overexpression of Ssa1 is more toxic in sse1Δ compared to WT (Fig. 8 B). This is consistent with the conclusion that polypeptide release from the Hsp70 chaperones is reduced in the absence of Sse1, which then affects proper protein refolding activity of these chaperones (Yam et al., 2005).

Overexpression of Sse1 is expected to perturb this functional cycle; indeed, it is already known that high levels of Sse1 inhibit cell growth (Shaner et al., 2004). Overexpression of Sse1 from a copper sulfate–inducible promoter (pYSSE1) resulted in threefold increase in Sse1 levels (Fig. 8 C). In these cells, the length of the spindle in S phase was significantly shorter than that in WT cells (Fig. 8 D). As the ADP-bound state of Ssa1/2 is the high-affinity substrate-binding state and as Sse1 promotes the release of ADP from these chaperones (Yam et al., 2005), high levels of Sse1 might prevent Ssa1/2 from properly interacting with their substrates, such as Cin8. Hence, in the cell, the overexpression of Sse1 might be functionally similar to a deletion of Ssa1/2. Consistent with this argument, although no effect on the spindle length was observed for either SSA1 or SSA2 single deletion (not depicted) highlighting the functional redundancy between these highly homologous chaperones (97% identity; Fig. S1 B), however, the spindle length for the double mutant ssa1Δ ssa2Δ was significantly shorter than that for WT and similar to that of the Sse1-overexpressing strain (Fig. 8 D). Hence, the effect of overexpressing Sse1 on the spindle length in S-phase cells is similar to that of deleting SSA1 and SSA2 and opposite to what we observed in sse1Δ cells, which have longer spindles (Figs. 3 C and 4 A).

Image analysis of cells expressing endogenous Cin8-GFP or Ndc80-GFP (aforementioned kinetochore marker) demonstrated that the overexpression of Sse1 results in significant mislocalization of Cin8 from spindle MTs (in 55% of cells, n = 60) but not Ndc80 from kinetochores (n = 50; Fig. 8 E). This is consistent with the conclusion that Sse1 does not affect kinetochore–MT attachments but rather affects the distribution of Cin8 within the spindle MT. The displacement of Cin8 from the spindle could explain the shortening of the spindle upon Sse1 overexpression.

In summary, the data presented in this section show that Sse1 NEF activity and the ATP-dependent functional cycle of the Sse1–Ssa1/2 chaperone complex modulate Cin8 distribution within spindle MTs and, consequently, proper spindle assembly.

**Sse1-Ssa1/2 chaperone system partially suppresses Cin8 plus-end–directed motility**

The aforementioned data suggest that Sse1 regulates the activity of Cin8 within the spindle by affecting the distribution of the...
Indeed, we found that aMTs were significantly shorter in sse1Δ compared with WT cells (Fig. 9, B and C). Importantly, shortening of aMT, as with lengthening of the spindle, was Cin8 dependent, as we observed increased aMT length in the sse1Δ cin8Δ strain to the same extent as observed in cin8Δ (Fig. 9, B and C). Together, this indicates that deletion of SSE1 results in hyperactive Cin8ΔNLS and leads to shortening of aMT. It should be noted that Cin8ΔNLS is, hence, not aggregated in sse1Δ cells but rather hyperactivated, as it leads to shortening of aMTs.

Gardner et al. (2008) proposed that Cin8 distribution on aMTs mirrors its distribution on kMTs. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that a similar effect of Sse1 on full-length Cin8 occurs at spindle MTs in the nucleus. Hence, the simplest model that explains our results is that Sse1–Ssa1/2 chaperone system interferes with Cin8 plus-end–directed movement. In S phase, for example, Sse1–Ssa1/2-dependent partial inhibition of plus-end–directed motility of Cin8 motor would ensure that the cell has enough time to complete DNA synthesis. On the other hand, SSE1 deletion would perturb normal chaperone function and, hence, would induce redistribution of Cin8 to the spindle midzone, where it would stimulate antiparallel iMT sliding, resulting in premature shortening of kMTs and induction of chromosome congression (Fig. 9 D).
Discussion

Using an unbiased proteomic approach allowed us to identify a yet-uncharacterized role of the Sse1–Ssa1/2 chaperone system in spindle assembly by regulating kinesin-5 motors. The presented experiments indicate that proper distribution of Cin8 on the MTs requires a functional Sse1–Ssa1/2 chaperone complex in which Sse1 serves as an NEF for Ssa1/2. The proper targeting of Cin8 to Ssa1/2 seems to be dependent on Sse1.

Fig. 9 D shows a model of the regulation of Cin8 motility on MTs by Sse1–Ssa1/2 based on our experiments. The left illustration shows the effect of the chaperones on Cin8 motility on aMTs. The chaperone system antagonizes plus-end–directed Cin8 movement. On the other hand, SSE1 deletion results in an increased plus-end–directed motility of Cin8 motors, which leads to accumulation of Cin8 near aMT plus ends and causes aMT shortening. The middle and right illustrations show that Cin8 is recruited to both kMTs and iMTs within the spindle in S phase. The Sse1–Ssa1/2 chaperones antagonize Cin8 plus-end–directed movement by binding to Cin8 (and maybe tubulin). This favors more accumulation of Cin8 near minus ends of kMTs before anaphase. SSE1 deletion compromises the proper function of Ssa1/Ssa2 chaperones, leading to an increased plus-end–directed motility of Cin8. As Cin8 motors move toward the plus end of kMTs, this results in the uncontrolled kMT disassembly. At the same time, this induces Cin8 redistribution to iMTs at the spindle midzone. Increased binding of Cin8 at the midzone stimulates sliding of iMTs and causes premature spindle elongation in S-phase–arrested cells. This would also explain the observed shifts of Cin8-GFP observed in sse1Δ spindles (Fig. 5, A and B).

Increased Cin8 activity in the sse1Δ spindles would also put larger stresses on properly oriented sister kinetochore arms, especially later in mitosis, potentially leading to chromosome detachment and cell cycle delays/regression errors (Fig. 3, D, F, and H). The sudden release of high tension after kinetochore detachment could also explain the increased variability in spindle length in sse1Δ spindles (Fig. 5, B and C). The variability in spindle length upon Cin8 overexpression has been previously noted (Saunders et al., 1997a; Gardner et al., 2008). The idea that detachment is occasionally occurring in sse1Δ spindles is supported by the observation that the ndc80-1 mutant at the semipermissive temperature, where occasional detachment is expected, phenocopies sse1Δ spindles (Fig. 6 A). The release of tension in the ndc80-1 mutant would then lead to longer spindles, as observed (Fig. 6 B). Creating a double mutant of sse1Δndc80-1 would create even more attachment defects and even greater tension on the fewer remaining proper attachments, so that spindle will be even longer as observed (Fig. 6 B; also see genetic interactions of Fig. 6 C). Because the detachments are likely occasional, they would not yield significantly different Cen4 marker separation than observed in WT, especially if the marker fails to separate in normal mitosis (Fig. 6 D).

Although the ability of Cin8 to switch directionality has recently been demonstrated (Gerson-Gurwitz et al., 2011; Roostalu et al., 2011), however, whether this is physiologically relevant remains to be established.

It would be interesting to consider the physiological role of such regulation of the spindle by chaperones. As heat shock proteins, including Ssa1/2 and Sse1, are induced under stress (Albanèse et al., 2006), it is plausible to suggest that the plus-end–directed motility of Cin8 would be inhibited under such unfavorable growth conditions. This could ultimately result in shortening of the spindle as a result of decreased motor concentration at the midzone (i.e., MT plus ends). Indeed, when the spindle length was measured in HU-treated WT cells at 37°C, we observed spindle shortening compared with normal growth conditions (Fig. S5 A). Furthermore, in agreement with our model, the spindle shortening induced by heat shock was not evident upon deletion of SSE1 (Fig. S5 B). This suggests that the Hsp110–Hsp70 system is being used by the cell to actively adopt favorable spindle length based on environmental cues. This identified cellular role of Hsp110 in spindle length control might explain the recent observation that colorectal cancer cells showing microsatellite instability are sensitized to chemotherapy, as they express a mutant Hsp110 lacking the SBD, which compromises the normal cellular function and apoptotic activity of WT Hsp110 in a dominant-negative manner (Dorard et al., 2011).

Materials and methods

Yeast strains and plasmids

Yeast strains used in this study were derived from BY4741 (MATα) or BY4743 (MATa/α; Brachmann et al., 1998) and are listed in Table S1.

Construction of tagged strains

All C terminally–tagged yeast strains are from the TAP fusion library (Krogan et al., 2006) and are derivatives of a single parental strain: BY4741 MAIo, ura3Δ1, leu2Δ1, his3Δ1, met15Δ0. Terminally tagging was performed as described in Puig et al. (2001). In brief, PCR fragments containing TAP cassette were generated from N-TAP plasmid pBS1761. Yeast strain AE146 (W303 background; his3-11, leu2-3, trp1-1, ura3-1, ade2-1, can1-100) was transformed with PCR fragments, and then transformants were selected on Trp- plates with 2% galactose. Correct targeted integration of the TAP cassette was verified by site-specific PCR and Western blotting. To put N-TAP–tagged proteins under the control of their native promoters, the GAL promoter and TRP selection marker sequences were subsequently removed by recombination. Cells were transformed with a URA3-marked plasmid expressing Cre recombinate, and colonies that grew on Ura- plates with 2% galactose were picked. These colonies were then grown in rich medium and tested for the loss of both the TRP and URA markers. Finally, colonies lacking TRP and URA markers were rechecked for the presence of TAP tag by Western blotting.

Proteomic analysis

TAP–tagged proteins were purified as previously described (Krogan et al., 2002). Cells were collected from 6 liters of cultures grown to late log phase in yeast extract peptone dextrose. Cell pellets [7–10 g] were frozen in liquid nitrogen and lysed by grinding with dry ice in a coffee grinder (model 203-70; Krups). An equal volume of YEB (250 mM KCl, 100 mM Hepes-KOH, pH 7.9, 1 mM EDTA, and 2.5 mM DTT) was added, and, after centrifugation in a rotor (70 Ti; Beckman Coulter) at 4°C for 2 h at 34,000 rpm, the supernatant was dialyzed against IPP buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.9, 0.1% Triton X-100, 0.5 mM DTT, 0.2 mM EDTA, and 20% glycerol containing 100, 125, 150, or 200 mM NaCl). After dialysis, the extract was again centrifuged in a rotor (70 Ti) at 4°C for 30 min at 34,000 rpm, and the supernatant was mixed for 3 h with 200 µl IgG- Sepharose (GE Healthcare) equilibrated with IPP buffer. After binding, the IgG-Sepharose was washed with 1 ml of IPP buffer followed by 400 µl of tobacco etch virus (TEV) protease cleavage buffer [50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.9, 1 mM DTT, and 0.1% Triton X-100 containing 200, 150, 125, or 100 mM NaCl]. The beads were then incubated overnight at 4°C with 100 U of TEV protease (Life Technologies) in 200 µl of TEV cleavage buffer.
The eluate was combined with a 200-μl wash with TEV cleavage buffer. To this sample was added 200 μl of CoA-binding buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.9, 10 mM β-mercaptoethanol, 0.1 mM CaCl₂, and 0.1% Triton X-100 containing 100, 125, 150, or 200 mM NaCl) and 200 μl of CoA beads (GE Healthcare) equilibrated with the same buffer. After binding for 1–2 h at 4°C, the CoA beads were washed with 200 μl of CoA-binding buffer and 200 μl of CoA wash buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.9, 10 mM β-mercaptoethanol, 0.1 mM CaCl₂, and 0.1% Triton X-100 containing 100 mM NaCl). The purified protein complexes were eluted from the CoA beads with 5X 100 μl of CoA elution buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.9, 10 mM β-mercaptoethanol, 3 mM EGTA, and 100 mM NH₄HCO₃), and the eluted proteins were lyophilized.

Purified proteins were separated on 10% SDS-PAGE gels and visualized by silver staining. Visible bands were cut and identified by tryptic digestion and peptide mass fingerprinting using matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization–time of flight mass spectrometry. In parallel, another aliquot of each purified protein preparation was digested in solution, and the peptides were separated and sequenced by data-dependent liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry.

Plasmids and strains

The following plasmids contain inserts synthesized using the Expand High Fidelity PCR system (Roche). pGEX-6P-1-CIN8 was constructed by amplifying CIN8 ORF with BamH1 and Not1 linkers and cloned into corresponding sites of pGEX-6P-1 vector (GE Healthcare). pYSSE1 was constructed by amplifying the SSE1 ORF with linkers containing sites for BamHI and PstI and then cloned into corresponding sites in pGEX-8X (Takara Bio Inc.). pAG425GAL-SSE1 plasmid was constructed using SSA1 ORF obtained from the Yeast FLEXGene collection (Hu et al., 2007). The ORF was then subcloned into Gateway(R) donor vector pDONR201 and then subcloned into pAG425GAL expression vector following a published protocol (Alberti et al., 2007). pGFP-TUB1 and pRFP-TUB1 were obtained from C. Boone (University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada). Integrating plasmid pDPS1-18myc (Shirayama et al., 1998) and pGAL-CIN8-myc (Krishnan et al., 2004) were obtained from U. Surana (Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Singapore). pRS425-GPD-ES1 and pRS425-GPD-SNL1 were gifts from B. Majewski and A. Mogk (Heidelberg University, Heidelberg, Germany). p415TEF, p415TEFSS1, p415TEFSS1-K69Q, and p415TEFSS1-G233D were gifts from K. Morano (The University of Texas, Austin, TX). pGAL-KAK3-PA was obtained from B. Andrews (University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada; Sopko et al., 2006). The strains TM139, TM195, TM202, and TM204 (Table S1) were obtained from S. Biggins (Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, WA), T. Surana (Cancer Research UK, London, England, UK), T. Hufkatter (Cornell University, Ithaca, NY), and Y. Wang (Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL), respectively.

Procedures for cell cycle arrest

Yeast strains were typically grown at 26°C unless otherwise indicated in yeast peptone dextrose (YPD) or in synthetic media supplemented with appropriate nutrients and 2% glucose. To induce cell cycle arrest, cells were typically grown in YPD to early log phase and treated with 5 µg/ml 3-aminotriazole (3-AT) or 100 mM HU for 2 h to arrest in G1 phase or 100 mM HU for 2.5 h to arrest in S phase. Cell cycle arrest was confirmed visually by microscopy or by FACS analysis.

Induction of SSE1 and SSA1 overexpression

For the induction of GAL1-controlled expression of SSA1, cells were grown to mid-logarithmic phase in synthetic media–Leu media containing 2% glucose, washed extensively with water, transferred to synthetic media–Leu media containing 2% glycerol, and then incubated for 3 h. For the induction of SSE1 in strains containing the pCUP1-SSE1 plasmid, cells were grown to mid-logarithmic phase in selective medium and then induced for 4 h by the addition of copper sulfate to a final concentration of 0.5 mM.

Western blot analysis

Cells derived from 2-ml cultures grown in appropriate media were harvested by centrifugation, washed with water, and sonicated for 20–30 s in SDS-PAGE sample buffer. Samples were then incubated at 75°C for 10 min, and proteins were separated by SDS-PAGE. Proteins were transferred to nitrocellulose membranes, which were then blocked with 5% skim milk and 0.1% Tween 20 in PBS. TAP-tagged Hsp70 chaperones were detected using a monoclonal anti-TAP antibody. Specific polyclonal anti-Myc and anti-GFP antibodies and mouse monoclonal anti-GST and antitubulin (H-300) antibodies were purchased from Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Inc. Anti-Sse1 rabbit pAbs were obtained from J. Bradsky (University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA). Bound primary antibodies were detected using HRP-conjugated appropriate secondary antibodies and the ECL system (GE Healthcare).

Flow cytometry and fluorescence imaging

DNA distribution by flow cytometry was determined as described in Mackenzie et al. (2006). In brief, yeast strains were grown to early log phase, fixed in 70% ethanol, and treated with 10 mg/ml RNaseA in 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, for 3 h at 37°C. After resuspension in 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 2 mg/ml proteinase K was added, and cells were further incubated for 60 min at 30°C. DNA was stained with 1 mM SYTOX green (Invitrogen) in 50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, sonicated at low intensity, and scanned in a guava easyCyte FACS (EMD Millipore) using FlowJo software (FlowJo, LLC).

Fluorescence imaging was performed using early log–phase cell cultures [OD₆₅₀ ~0.35]. Cells were pelleted, and a 1.5-µl suspension was spotted onto a glass slide for image analysis. Images were captured using a spinning-disk confocal system (WaveFX, Quantum Technologies Inc.) with an ultra-cooled 512 back-illuminated EM charge-coupled device camera or a microscope [E-600FN; Nikon] with an ORCA II camera (Hamamatsu Photonics). Magnification used was 63x. GFP was excited using a 488-nm laser, and its emission was collected using a 505-nm long-pass filter. The z-axis images were converted into a single composite image using the brightest pixel at every position in each of the image planes. This maximum pixel projection technique produced a 2D representation of the GFP fusion proteins within the cell from the 3D dataset. spindle length was measured using either GFP-Tub1-labeled spindle MTs or the distance between the SPB marker Spc42-RFP. aMT lengths were assessed by measuring the lengths of GFP-Tub1-labeled aMTs, which both the plus and the minus ends were clearly visible within one focal plane.

Binding assays

Escherichia coli cells transformed with pGST-CIN8 or pGST alone were grown to midlog phase and induced with 0.5 mM IPTG for 4 h. Cells were lysed, and GST fusions were purified on glutathione-Sepharose beads according to the manufacturer’s instructions (GE Healthcare) using 40 mM Hepes-KOH, pH 7.4, 150 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl₂, and 5% vol/vol glycerol as a lysis buffer and 40 mM Hepes-KOH, pH 7.4, 500 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl₂, and 0.1% Tween 20 as a wash buffer supplemented with protease inhibitors (Roche). 5 ml of yeast cultures, each endogenously expressing Ssa1-GFP or Ssa2-GFP (Huh et al., 2003), was grown to saturation. Cells were harvested by centrifugation and resuspended in lysis buffer supplemented with protease inhibitors followed by an addition of glass beads. The samples were then agitated using a vortex mixer in four rounds of 1.5 min each followed by 1.5 min on ice. The lysates were then cleared by centrifugation at 14,000 rpm at 4°C. Ssa chaperone lysates containing 1 mg of protein were incubated with ~10 µg GST-Cin8 or GST alone preloaded onto glutathione-Sepharose beads for 45 min at 4°C. Beads were collected by centrifugation, and, after extensive washing, bound proteins were eluted with SDS-PAGE sample buffer. Eluted proteins were separated on SDS-PAGE gels and transferred to nitrocellulose for immunodetection.

Online supplemental material

Fig. S1 shows the cytoplasmic yeast Hsp70/10/Hsp110s. Fig. S2 shows the Hsp70/Hsp110 chaperone–chaperone interaction network. Fig. S3 shows spindle morphology in different chaperone knockout strains. Fig. S4 shows the effect of SSE1 deletion on Kip1, Kar3, Ase1, and Sve2 localization. Fig. S5 shows the effect of heat shock on spindle length. Video 1 shows time-lapse microscopy of the spindle. Table S1 shows strains used in this study. Table S2 shows interactions identified in this study. Table S3 shows interactions previously reported in published literature. Table S4 shows hits obtained using both N- and C-TAP–tagged chaperones. Online supplemental material is available at http://www.jcb.org/cgi/content/full/jcb.201111025/DC1.

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