The Lrs4-Csm1 monopolin complex associates with kinetochores during anaphase and is required for accurate chromosome segregation
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Introduction

During mitosis, each pair of sister chromatids must be accurately attached to the mitotic spindle during metaphase and segregated during anaphase, such that the resultant daughter cells inherit a copy of each chromosome. To ensure proper chromosomes segregation, the kinetochores of each pair of sister chromatids attach to microtubules emanating from opposite poles of the cell, in a process known as bi-orientation. In S. cerevisiae, chromosomes remain attached to microtubules for the duration of the cell cycle, save for a brief disassociation during DNA synthesis. Despite the static nature of much of the complex, regulatory proteins dynamically localize to kinetochores. For example, during metaphase components of the spindle assembly checkpoint associate with unattached kinetochores hindering chromosome segregation until all chromatid pairs have made the proper attachments (reviewed in ref. 2). In higher eukaryotes, kinetochore proteins have been identified that selectively associate with kinetochores during anaphase to facilitate the loading of the centromere-specific histone H3 variant Cenp-A. We show here that the Lrs4-Csm1 complex associates with kinetochores during mitosis. This kinetochore localization is observed during anaphase and depends on the on the Mitotic Exit Network, a signaling cascade essential for the completion of mitosis. Furthermore, we find that Lrs4 and Csm1 are important for chromosome segregation fidelity. Our results reveal a previously unanticipated function for Lrs4-Csm1 in mitotic chromosome segregation.

Lrs4 and Csm1, components of the monopolin complex, localize to the rDNA where they regulate rDNA maintenance and segregation. During meiosis, the complex also associates with kinetochores to bring about sister kinetochore co-orientation, an essential aspect of meiosis I chromosome segregation. We show here that the Lrs4-Csm1 complex associates with kinetochores during meiosis. This kinetochore localization is observed during anaphase and depends on the Mitotic Exit Network, a signaling cascade essential for the completion of mitosis. Furthermore, we find that Lrs4 and Csm1 are important for chromosome segregation fidelity. Our results reveal a previously unanticipated function for Lrs4-Csm1 in mitotic chromosome segregation.

Lrs4 and Csm1 reside in the nucleolus where they form a complex called the RENT (Regulator of nucleolar silencing and telophase exit) complex, which binds to the replication fork barrier site (RFB) within the non-transcribed region NTS1 in the ribosomal DNA repeats. This complex promotes rDNA segregation, mediates transcriptional silencing and prevents unequal sister chromatid exchange within the repetitive rDNA array. Lrs4 and Csm1 also bind to and recruit condensins to the rDNA, where they participate in rDNA segregation, as well as Heh1 and Nur1, nuclear envelope proteins, which are required to maintain rDNA repeat stability. By linking RENT complex components anchored at NTS1 regions of the rDNA to both condensin complexes and nuclear envelope proteins, Lrs4 and Csm1 “clamp” sister chromatids in frame, restricting their movement and thereby preventing recombination events that would result in expansions or contractions of the rDNA array.

During the meiotic divisions, Lrs4 and Csm1 play a key role in chromosome segregation. Meiosis is a specialized cell division where one round of DNA synthesis is followed by two rounds of chromosome segregation. To coordinate the first round of chromosome segregation, each pair of sister chromatids remains attached at their kinetochores and are segregated towards the same pole while the homologous pair of sister chromatids is segregated towards opposite poles. This process requires that the kinetochores of a pair of sister chromatids orient themselves towards the same pole (co-orientation). In the second round of chromosomal division, the kinetochores of each pair of sister

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chromatids bi-orient and are segregated away from each other. During meiosis I, Lrs4 and Csm1 are components of the quadri-partite monopolin complex that links sister chromatids. In addition to Lrs4 and Csm1, the complex contains the meiosis-specific Mam1 protein and the protein kinase Hrr25. In essence, the monopolin complex fuses or clamps adjacent kinetochores in a cohesin-independent mechanism, thereby ensuring that only one microtubule attaches to each unique pair of sister chromatids (reviewed in ref. 16). In the absence of the monopolin complex during meiosis I, the kinetochores of a sister chromatid pair become active and are capable of making attachments towards opposite poles, resulting in the mis-segregation of chromosomes and inviable spores.11-13

Here we investigate a potential role for Lrs4 and Csm1 at kinetochores during mitosis. We find that the two proteins localize to kinetochores during anaphase. This association is precipitated by a signaling pathway known as the Mitotic Exit Network (MEN). The MEN triggers exit from mitosis by promoting the release of the protein phosphatase Cdc14 from the nucleolus. It also promotes the dissociation of Lrs4 and Csm1 from the rDNA and their dispersal throughout the nucleus. Consistent with a role of Lrs4 and Csm1 at kinetochores, we find that cells lacking either protein exhibit increased plasmid loss rates. Our results indicate that the Lrs4-Csm1 complex is important for ensuring accurate chromosome segregation.

**Results**

The monopolin complex colocalizes with Ndc80 during anaphase. Our previous studies showed that during mitosis, Lrs4 and Csm1 become released from the nucleolus during anaphase. To determine whether, as in meiosis, the mitotic monopolin complex localizes to kinetochores after its release from the nucleolus, we analyzed Lrs4 localization on chromosome spreads prepared from cells progressing through the cell cycle in a synchronous manner. Because the location of Lrs4 and Csm1 are interdependent, we focused our localization studies on Lrs4. To identify kinetochores, cells carrying an epitope-tagged version of Lrs4 (Lrs4-6HA) also carried a GFP-tagged version of the kinetochore component Ndc80-GFP (Fig. 1B). Interestingly, Lrs4 was also found to co-localize with Ndc80-GFP (Fig. 1B and C). This localization was only detected during anaphase, when a fraction of Lrs4 is released from the nucleolus (Figs. 1B). Co-localization with kinetochore subunits during anaphase does not necessarily demonstrate that a protein associates with kinetochores, as spindle pole bodies (the yeast equivalents of centrosomes) and centromeres are closely associated during anaphase. However, we will demonstrate below that the co-localization of Lrs4 with Ndc80 indeed reflects kinetochore association of Lrs4 during anaphase.

Lrs4 and Csm1 are the only members of the RENT complex that localize to kinetochores. Lrs4 and Csm1 are not the only nucleolar proteins whose localization changes during anaphase.
The RENT complex that contains Cdc14 and its inhibitor Cfi1/Net1; Sir2, a protein required for gene silencing; Tof2, a protein required for rDNA silencing and condensation; and the replication fork-binding protein Fob1, disassembles during anaphase, releasing Cdc14, Lrs4-Csm1 and Sir2 from the nucleolus.20-22 The condensin complex, which interacts with the Lrs4-Csm1 portion of the RENT complex, associates with chromosomes in early mitosis and becomes enriched in the nucleolus during early anaphase.6,9,23 During late anaphase, similar to the RENT complex, the condensin complex is released from the rDNA by the Mitotic Exit Network24 and becomes enriched at kinetochores.18,25,26 To test whether other RENT complex components associate with kinetochores during anaphase, we examined the localization of the RENT complex components Tof2, Sir2 and Fob1 in chromosome spreads of anaphase cells. Although Lrs4 co-localized with the kinetochore component Ndc80 in over half of anaphase cells, fewer than 20% of anaphase cells showed co-localization of Fob1, Sir2 and Tof2 with Ndc80 (Fig. 2). Despite evidence from fission yeast of Cdc14-homolog Clp1p localization to kinetochores during mitosis,27 we have not observed Cdc14-3HA localization at the DNA by the Mitotic Exit Network24 and becomes enriched at kinetochores.18,25,26

The Mitotic Exit Network is required for Lrs4 association with kinetochores. The Mitotic Exit Network (MEN) promotes exit from mitosis by releasing the protein phosphatase Cdc14 from the nucleolus during anaphase (reviewed in ref. 28). The MEN but not Cdc14 is also required for the release of Lrs4 and Csm1 from the nucleolus.7 As expected, the MEN was also needed for Lrs4-Csm1 to associate with kinetochores but CDC14 was not (Fig. 3). Whereas 80% of anaphase-arrested cells in cdc14-3 mutants showed co-localization between Lrs4-6HA and Spc42-GFP, only 20% showed co-localization in anaphase-arrested cdc15-2 MEN mutant cells (Fig. 3). Thus, the MEN is required for Lrs4-Csm1 release from the nucleolus and association with kinetochores.

Lrs4 and Csm1 localize to kinetochores during anaphase. During anaphase, kinetochores are closely associated with spindle pole bodies (SPBs).39 Using light microscopy, it is therefore not possible to distinguish a kinetochore-localized from an SPB-localized protein. To assess whether Lrs4 and Csm1 bind spindle poles or kinetochores, we analyzed Lrs4 localization in relation to Spc42-marked spindle pole bodies in cells that lack NDC10, a gene that encodes a central kinetochore component. Cells carrying a temperature-sensitive ndc10-1 allele progress through mitosis but cannot segregate chromosomes because kinetochore structures are absent.29 To capture cells in anaphase, when Lrs4 is fully released from the nucleolus, we conducted this analysis in cdc14-3 mutants. In ndc10-1 cdc14-3 double mutants, which arrest as single-lobed cells with anaphase-like spindles, Lrs4 no longer co-localized with Spc42 (Fig. 4A). The residual co-localization observed in the ndc10-1 cdc14-3 mutant is likely due to...
Mitotic chromosome segregation? To address this question, we associate with kinetochores during anaphase, play a role in Lrs4 and Csm1, which perhaps via the MIND complex.

However, our data and that of others, strongly suggest that the monopolin complex subunits are poorly detected at kinetochores as judged by indirect in situ immunofluorescence. We were unable to detect Lrs4-6HA or Csm1-9MYC from 12% of cells that displayed elongated spindles and divided nuclei. We were not able to determine the role of the Lrs4-Csm1 complex in mitotic chromosome segregation. Cells lacking LRS4 or CSM1 did not exhibit a significant delay in Pds1 degradation or anaphase entry (Fig. 6A and B).

The SAC appeared to be functional too. Loss of spindle assembly checkpoint function manifests itself as increased sensitivity to the microtubule-depolymerizing drug benomyl. By this criterion, the SAC is functional in cells deleted for LRS4 or CSM1 (Fig. 6C). Furthermore, unlike cells defective in the sister-kinetochore bi-orientation factor Ipl1, lrs4Δ and csm1Δ single and double mutants reformed mitotic spindles and bi-oriented sister kinetochores normally following transient microtubule depolymerization with nocodazole (Fig. 6D and E).

Finally, we tested whether LRS4 and CSM1 were required to maintain kinetochores close to the spindle pole body in late anaphase, when chromosome segregation has been completed and cells exit from mitosis. In anaphase, the close proximity between centromeres and SPBs can be visualized by marking a centromere (in our case CENIV) and a SPB component (in our case Spc42) with GFP. When the two are closely associated, the GFP dots appear as one. Hence, an anaphase cell contains two GFP dots will lead to 3 or 4 dots being visible in cells. We detected no difference in centromere straying between anaphase-double GFP dots, and double mutants reformed mitotic spindles and bi-oriented sister kinetochores normally following transient microtubule depolymerization with nocodazole (Fig. 6F). This increase in plasmid loss was comparable to that observed in cells carrying deletions of genes encoding non-essential kinetochore components. For example, cells lacking MCM21, encoding a non-essential member of the kinetochore COMA sub-complex showed plasmid loss rates within this range. Loss rates of plasmids carrying a replication origin (ARS) but not a centromere were not increased in lrs4Δ and csm1Δ single and double mutant (Fig. 5B) indicating that it is kinetochore defects that bring about the CEN plasmid segregation defect observed in the mutants. We conclude that LRS4 and CSM1 are required for faithful chromosome segregation.

Spindle integrity is not compromised in cells lacking LRS4 or CSM1. We were not able to determine whether the Lrs4-Csm1 complex in mitotic chromosome segregation. Cells lacking LRS4 or CSM1 did not exhibit signs of spindle structure or kinetochore attachment defects. Even subtle defects in either process lead to activation of the spindle assembly checkpoint (SAC), which causes a cell cycle delay in metaphase and stabilization of the anaphase inhibitor Pds1 (reviewed in ref. 2). Cells lacking LRS4 or CSM1 did not exhibit a significant delay in Pds1 degradation or anaphase entry (Fig. 6A and B).

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Discussion

Lrs4 and Csm1 are essential for rDNA segregation and maintenance. Our localization studies further raise the possibility that the protein complex has additional functions during anaphase. We considered several possibilities. The first was that Lrs4 and Csm1 control Cdc14 localization. This hypothesis was precipitated by the observation that Lrs4 and Csm1 are released from the nucleolus concomitantly with Cdc14 and that the release of all three proteins depends on the Mitotic Exit Network. Our data argue against this idea. Cdc14 release from the nucleolus is not affected by deletion of LRS4 or CSM1 (Brito IL, unpublished observations) nor are the proteins involved in restraining Cdc14 activity (Suppl. Fig. 1B).

The second possibility we investigated was that Lrs4 and Csm1 function in chromosome segregation because both proteins associate with kinetochores during anaphase. The localization of Lrs4 and Csm1 to kinetochores after their release from the nucleolus may reflect their natural affinity for kinetochore components but lack functional importance. However, we provide evidence to suggest otherwise; lrs4Δ and csm1Δ single and double mutants show elevated rates of centromeric plasmid loss that is comparable to that observed in cells deleted for another non-essential kinetochore component.

We do not yet know how Lrs4-Csm1 associates with kinetochores. A recent structural analysis of the complex showed that the proteins form a V-shaped structure with globular domains on each end. These could directly bind kinetochrome components. Dsn1 could be the Lrs4-Csm1 binding partner at kinetochores. Csm1 has been shown to bind Dsn1 in vitro and we detect the two proteins in complexes when precipitated from cell extracts. The function of Lrs4 and Csm1 at kinetochores remains elusive. Dynamic localization of kinetochore components during anaphase has rarely been observed. Fission yeast Scm3 and human hMis18 both localize to kinetochores during anaphase to promote the incorporation of specialized centromeric histone, CENP-A. Lrs4 and Csm1 are not involved in loading the budding yeast homolog of CENP-A onto DNA (Brito IL, unpublished observations). Nevertheless, their co-regulation with condensin, which provides structural rigidity to centromeres during mitosis in mammals, suggests that condensins and monopins create centromeric rigidity.

Studies of Lrs4-Csm1 in mitosis shed light on the logic of meiosis. It is generally believed that meiosis is a modulation of the mitotic division with meiosis-specific factors bringing about the meiosis-specific changes to cell cycle progression (reviewed in ref. 16). Our analysis of Lrs4 and Csm1 regulation sheds light on how this is accomplished. Our findings demonstrate that aspects of sister kinetochore co-orientation, the Cdc5-dependent release of Lrs4 and Csm1 from the nucleolus and their association with kinetochores, occur during both mitosis and meiosis but they take place at different times of cell division. In meiosis, Cdc5 promotes the association of the monopolin complex with kinetochores during prophase I; during mitosis, this does not occur until anaphase. It thus appears that establishing meiosis I-specific sister kinetochore co-orientation requires the transposition of Cdc5-dependent mitotic anaphase events, the release of Lrs4-Csm1, to meiotic prophase. Interestingly, changes in chromosome morphogenesis that occur during prophase I also resemble those that take place during late stages of mitosis. Furthermore, Cdc5-dependent cohesin removal that is restricted to metaphase and anaphase in mitosis occurs during prophase I in meiosis. These findings raise the intriguing possibility that some aspects of meiosis I-specific chromosome events are the result of transposing Cdc5-dependent mitotic anaphase events to meiotic prophase I. We speculate that the lynchpin to understanding the meiotic chromosome segregation pattern is to determine the basis for the differential regulation of Cdc5 in the two types of division.

![Figure 5. Lrs4 and Csm1 are required for the faithful segregation of CEN plasmids.](image-url)
Figure 6. For figure legend, see page 3617.
Figure 6 (See opposite page). Spindle integrity is not defective in cells lacking LR54 or CRM1. (A and B) Wild-type (A17064), lr4Δ (A17061) and csm1Δ (A17063) cells were arrested in G1, using α-factor pheromone (5 μg/ml) and released into medium lacking the pheromone at 25°C. Samples were taken at the indicated times to determine the percent of cells in metaphase (diamonds; A) and anaphase (squares; A) and Pds1-9MYC levels (B). Pgk1 was used as a loading control in (B). (C) Wild-type (A2587), lr4Δ (A13986), csm1Δ (A8623) and lr4Δ csm1Δ (A18120) cells were spotted using 10-fold serial dilutions on YPD plates (YPE + 2% glucose) and YPD plates containing 5 μg/ml benomyl. (D and E) Wild-type (A5244; diamonds), ipi1-321 (A16485; squares), lr4Δ (A15911; triangles), csm1Δ (A24385; exes) and lr4Δ csm1Δ (A24386; circles) cells all carrying GFP dots at CENIV were arrested in G1, using α-factor pheromone (5 μg/ml) and released into medium containing 15 μg/ml nocodazole. After 80 minutes, cells were washed with YEPD containing 1% DMSO and released into YEPD medium containing 1% DMSO. Samples were taken at the indicated times to determine the percentage of cells in metaphase and anaphase (D) and the percent of anaphase cells in which both GFP dots segregated to the same pole (dark grey bars). (E) 200 cells were counted per time-point in (D) and per strain in (E). (F) cdc15-2 (A23341), cdc14-3 (A16736) and cdc14-3 lr4Δ (A23340) cells carrying and Spc42-GFP fusion and CENIV GFP dots were arrested in G1, using α-factor (5 μg/ml) and released into medium lacking the pheromone at 37°C. At 240 minutes, the percent of cells with two (indicative of each CENIV region being tightly associated with SPB), three (indicative of only one CENIV region being tightly associated with SPB) or four (indicative of neither CENIV region being tightly associated with SPB) GFP foci was determined in anaphase cells 200 cells were counted per strain.

Materials and Methods

Strains and growth conditions. All strains were derivatives of W303 and are described in Supplemental Table 1. Proteins were tagged using the PCR-based method described in Longtine et al.40 GFP dots were constructed by integrating an array of bacterial TET operator sites 2 kb from the centromere on CENIV.41 Conditions for growth and release are as described in Amon.42 α-factor was re-added to all cultures 90 min after release from the G1 arrest to prevent cells from entering the next cell cycle. Growth conditions for differential experiments are described in the Figure legends.

Localization techniques. Indirect in situ immunofluorescence was carried out as described in Visintin et al.30, for tubulin, HA- and MYC-tagged proteins. CEN GFP dot visualization was performed as described in Monje-Casas et al.34. Two hundred cells were scored for each time-point. Chromosomes were spread as described in Nairz and Klein.43 HA-tagged proteins were detected with a mouse α-HA.11 antibody (Covance) at a 1:500 dilution. MYC-tagged proteins were detected with a mouse anti-MYC 9E10 antibody (Babco) at a 1:1,000 dilution and extracts were incubated with rotation for 2 hours at 4°C. Samples were washed five times with NP40 buffer, boiled in SDS-based sample buffer and analyzed by western blot analysis.

Western blot analysis. Immunoblots were all performed as described in Cohen-Fix et al.44 Lrs4-6HA was detected with a mouse α-HA.11 antibody (Covance) at a 1:500 dilution, followed by a horseradish peroxidase (HRP)-conjugated anti-mouse TrueBlot reagent (eBioScience) at 1:1,000 dilution. For cell cycle analysis of Pgk1 and Pds1-13MYC, cells were harvested and incubated in 5% trichloroacetic acid (TCA) and lysed as described in Moll et al.45 The MYC-tagged proteins were detected with a mouse anti-MYC 9E10 antibody (Babco) at a 1:1,000 dilution. Pgk1 was detected with a mouse anti-Pgk1 antibody (Molecular Probes) at a 1:20,000 dilution. The secondary antibody used for the MYC-tagged proteins and the Pgk1 was a goat anti-mouse antibody conjugated to horseradish peroxidase (HRP; Jackson ImmunoResearch) at a 1:2,000 dilution.

Plasmid loss experiments. Standard fluctuation analysis46 was used to determine the percentage of cells that lose a plasmid per generation. Cells carrying either the YCPlac33 (CEN4, ARS1, URA3) or YRp17 (ARS1, URA3, TRP1) were grown in Ura medium overnight. To begin the experiment, cells were counted using a Coulter Counter and then plated on YPD plates or plates containing 5-FOA to monitor plating efficiency and the percentage of the starting population that contained the plasmid, respectively. After 24 hours in YPD medium, cells were re-counted and plated on YPD plates and plates containing 5-FOA. Viability was similar in all cultures and all cultures were grown for the same number of generations. Plating efficiency and the percentage of cells at the start of the experiment that had lost the plasmid were taken into account. Three or more replicates of each strain were grown on three or more separate occasions.

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Note

Supplementary materials can be found at: www.landebioscience.com/supplement/BritoCC9-17-sup.pdf
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