Mitotic Spindle Positioning in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* Is Accomplished by Antagonistically Acting Microtubule Motor Proteins

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**Abstract.** Proper positioning of the mitotic spindle is often essential for cell division and differentiation processes. The asymmetric cell division characteristic of budding yeast, *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, requires that the spindle be positioned at the mother–bud neck and oriented along the mother–bud axis. The single dynein motor encoded by the *S. cerevisiae* genome performs an important but nonessential spindle-positioning role. We demonstrate that kinesin-related Kip3p makes a major contribution to spindle positioning in the absence of dynein. The elimination of Kip3p function in *dyn1*Δ cells severely compromised spindle movement to the mother–bud neck. In *dyn1*Δ cells that had completed positioning, elimination of Kip3p function caused spindles to mislocalize to distal positions in mother cell bodies. We also demonstrate that the spindle-localization defects exhibited by *dyn1 kip3* cells are caused, to a large extent, by the actions of kinesin-related Kip2p. Microtubules in *kip2*Δ cells were shorter and more sensitive to benomyl than wild-type, in contrast to the longer and benomyl-resistant microtubules found in *dyn1*Δ and *kip3*Δ cells. Most significantly, the deletion of *KIP2* greatly suppressed the spindle localization defect and slow growth exhibited by *dyn1 kip3* cells. Likewise, induced expression of *KIP2* caused spindles to mislocalize in cells deficient for dynein and Kip3p. Our findings indicate that Kip2p participates in normal spindle positioning but antagonizes a positioning mechanism acting in *dyn1 kip3* cells. The observation that deletion of *KIP2* could also suppress the inviability of *dyn1 kip3*Δ/*kar3*Δ cells suggests that kinesin-related Kar3p also contributes to spindle positioning.

Mitotic spindles commonly segregate chromosomes at specific positions within eukaryotic cells. In a cell type–specific fashion, spindles undergo movements and orient in response to spatial cues originating from cell cortical regions (for reviews see Rhyu and Knoblich, 1995; Gönczy and Hyman, 1996). Spindle-positioning events are often essential for cell propagation or the asymmetric cell divisions required for differentiation. For example, the distinct developmental programs followed by the progeny of the first two cells of the *Caenorhabditis elegans* embryo require that the cleavage planes of these cells occur perpendicular to each other. In these cells, the plane of cell cleavage is determined by spindle position. The perpendicular cleavage arrangement is achieved by a 90° rotation of the spindle poles, in the posterior cell only, in response to a cortical-located structure (Hyman and White, 1987; Hyman, 1989; Waddle et al., 1994). A similar effect has been observed during mammalian brain development. The developmental fate of columnar epithelial progenitor cells is predicted by spindle orientation and the subsequent position of the cleavage plane (Chenn and McConnell, 1995).

The asymmetric cell division characteristic of the budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* makes spindle positioning essential for propagation. In the G1 phase of the cell cycle, the *S. cerevisiae* spindle is located at a position near the middle of the mother cell body. Proper segregation of progeny nuclei requires that the spindle translocate to the neck separating the mother and bud cell bodies and orient along the long mother–bud cell axis before anaphase. Since this process results in the movement of the entire nuclear contents to the neck region, it is often referred to as nuclear migration. In addition to budding yeast mitotic division, nuclear migration events are essential for gamete fusion processes, insect embryonic development, and the growth of the vegetative mycelium of filamentous fungi (Morris et al., 1995). Nuclear migration events have also been correlated with essential mammalian brain development processes (Book and Morest, 1990; Book et al., 1991; Hager et al., 1995). The mechanisms of many of these processes are not well understood, but all appear to rely upon microtubules and cortically derived signals to guide the...
movement of nuclei. In addition, nuclear migration processes in *S. cerevisiae*, *Aspergillus nidulans*, and *Neurospora crassa* share in common the participation of the microtubule-based cytoplasmic dynein motor (Eshel, 1993; Li et al., 1993; Plamann et al., 1994; Xiang et al., 1994).

Spindle positioning in *S. cerevisiae* requires the actions of the cytoplasmic microtubules that extend from the spindle pole bodies out towards the cell cortex (Palmer et al., 1992; Sullivan and Huhfacker, 1992). Interactions of the distal ends of the cytoplasmic microtubules with cortical sites have recently been shown to result in spindle movements (Carminati and Stearns, 1997). In mutants specifically defective for cytoplasmic microtubules, nuclei do not migrate to the mother–bud neck, and spindles undergo anaphase chromosome segregation at inappropriate positions in mother cell bodies. The single dynein heavy chain encoded by the *S. cerevisiae* genome performs an important but non-essential role in spindle positioning (Eshel et al., 1993; Li et al., 1993; Geiser et al., 1997). *DYN1* deletion mutants frequently display mislocalized spindles but nonetheless grow at rates indistinguishable from wild-type at room temperature. At lower incubation temperatures, however, the spindle-positioning defect is greatly exacerbated and cell propagation is inhibited. Collected evidence suggests that dynein is contributing to spindle positioning by acting upon the cytoplasmic microtubules from cortical sites (Yeh et al., 1995).

The observation that dynein is not essential for *S. cerevisiae* spindle positioning indicates that another motor mechanism(s) contributes to this process. In addition to a single dynein heavy chain, the *S. cerevisiae* genome encodes six kinesin-related proteins (KRPs).1 Studies, including those described here, have demonstrated that none of these seven motors is individually essential for *S. cerevisiae* viability; all seven motor gene single deletion mutants are viable (Meluh and Rose, 1990; Hoyt et al., 1992; Lillie and Brown, 1992; Roof et al., 1992; Eshel et al., 1993; Geiser et al., 1997). The *kip3-kan* allele is a complete disruption of the *KIP3* open reading frame (YGL216W) located on chromosome VII and was constructed using the PCR-mediated method described in Wach et al. (1994). Briefly, the kanamycin resistance gene (*kanMX*) from plasmid pFA6-kanMX4 was amplified with flanking ends homologous to 40 bp upstream and 40 bp downstream from the *KIP3* open reading frame. *KanMX* conferred resistance to the antibiotic G418. The PCR product was transformed into strain MAY591, and colonies were selected on rich medium containing 200 mg/liter G418 (Life Technologies, Gaithersburg, MD). PCR primers corresponding to the upstream region of the *KIP3* open reading frame and to an internal segment of either *KIP3* or *kanMX* were used to confirm that the *kanMX* gene had replaced the entire *KIP3* open reading frame in G418-resistant cells.

Rich (YPD) and minimal (SD) media were as described (Sherman et al., 1983). Benomyl (DuPont, Wilmington, DE) was added to solid YPD medium from a 10 mg/ml stock in dimethyl sulfoxide. For G1 synchronization, α-factor (Bachem Bioscience, King of Prussia, PA) was added to 4 μg/ml to log-phase cells in liquid YPD, pH 4.0, and incubated until >80% of cells were unbudded. For arrest in S phase, hydroxyurea (Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO) was added to 0.1 M to log-phase cells in liquid YPD, pH 5.8, and incubated until >70% of cells were large budded.

**DNA Manipulations**

The shuttle vectors pRS316, pRS317, and pRS318 are described in Sikorski and Hieter (1989). *KIP2* was obtained on a phage λ clone (No. 70186) from the American Type Culture Collection (Rockville, MD). pFC50 (*KIP2 LYS2 CEN*) is a 3.0-kb subclone containing *KIP2* bounded by Clal and KpnI. To put *KIP2* under the control of a galactose-inducible promoter, the *KIP2* gene was amplified such that an SpeI site was introduced 6 bp upstream of its open reading frame. The sequence of the 5′ primer is GAACTCATCAGTGTTATTATGG. The resulting PCR product was subcloned into p415GALS (Mumberg et al., 1994) to create pFC56. *KIP3* was obtained as a phage λ clone (No. 70127) from the American Type Culture Collection. pFC51 (*KIP3 LYS2 CEN*) is a 4.8-kb subclone containing *KIP3* bounded by EcoRI and SpeI. pMA1223 (*KAR3 URA3 CEN*) was constructed by subcloning a 3.4-kb BamHI-Clal fragment containing *KAR3* from pMR1350 (a gift from Mark Rose, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ) into pRS316.

Temperature-sensitive alleles of *KIP3* were generated by a mutagenic PCR-based procedure (Staples and Dieckmann, 1993). Primers corresponding to the polylinker region of pRS316 were used to amplify the entire *KIP3* gene, plus 1.4 kb of upstream sequence and 1.0 kb of downstream sequence, under mutagenic PCR conditions. We used taq polymerase (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) according to the manufacturer’s instructions, except that MnCl2 and MgCl2 were added to final concentrations of 0.25 and 4.5 mM, respectively. The PCR products were concentrated using QIAquick spin columns (Qiagen, Chatsworth, CA). pFC51 was digested with Smal to create a gapped construct in which all of the *KIP3* coding sequence was removed except for the last 18 bp at the 3′ end. The gapped pFC51 construct was gel purified and cotransformed with the concentrated PCR products into strain MAY4619 (kip3Δ kar3Δ lys2 ura3 Δ[pMA1223 = KAR3 URA3]). This strain is unable to survive loss of pMA1223 and is therefore rendered sensitive to 5-fluoro-orotic acid (5-FOA; from US Biological, Swampscott, MA). Approximately 6,000 lys4 transformants were selected at 26°C and then replica plated to 5-FOA-containing media at 26 and 35°C. 70% of cells were large budded.

### Materials and Methods

#### Yeast Strains and Media

The *S. cerevisiae* strains used in these experiments are derivatives of S288C and are listed in Table I. The *cinc::LEU2*, *dyn1::HIS3*, *dyn1::*

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1. Abbreviations used in this paper: 5-FOA, 5-fluoro-orotic acid; DAPI, 4,6-diamidino-2-phenylindole; KRP, kinesin-related protein.

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times with water and then resuspended in 0.32 µg/ml DAPI plus 1 mg/ml p-phenylenediamine before viewing. For antitubulin immunofluorescence microscopy, cells were fixed by adding formaldehyde directly to the medium to a final concentration of 3.7%. Microtubules were visualized by the procedure described in Pringle et al. (1991) using the rat anti-α-tubulin antibody YOL1/34 (Harlan Bioproducts for Science, Indianapolis, IN) and rhodamine-conjugated goat anti-rat secondary antibodies (Jackson ImmunoResearch, West Grove, PA). Stained cells were examined with an inverted microscope (model Axiovert 135; Carl Zeiss, Inc., Thornwood, NY) equipped with epifluorescent optics using a 100× objective. Digital images were captured with a cooled, slow scan CCD camera.

For microtubule and spindle length measurements, cells were arrested with hydroxyurea at 26°C and stained for microtubule structures as described above. Images of antitubulin-stained cells were captured electronically, and the cursor-based measuring tool of the NIH Image 1.61 software program, calibrated with a stage micrometer, was used to measure the lengths of cytoplasmic microtubules and spindles. Spindle length was determined by measuring the length of the bright bar of antitubulin staining whose ends were coincident with the edges of the DAPI-stained mass. Cytoplasmic microtubules were defined as the less intensely stained fibers whose ends were coincident with the edges of the DAPI-stained mass.

Results

Genetic Interactions between DYN1 and Other Motor Genes

*S. cerevisiae* cells deleted for the single dynein heavy chain–encoding gene *DYN1* exhibit spindle-positioning defects but grow at wild-type rates at 26°C (Éshel et al., 1993; Li et al., 1993). Previous studies from this laboratory and others revealed that five *S. cerevisiae* KRP genes can also be individually deleted without affecting cell viability (Meluh and Rose, 1990; Hoyt et al., 1992; Lillie and Brown, 1992; Roof et al., 1992). For this study, we created...
a deletion allele of KIP3, the sixth and final KRP gene revealed by the Saccharomyces Genome Sequencing Project. The entire KIP3 open reading frame was replaced with a bacterial kanamycin resistance gene (see Materials and Methods). Yeast cells deleted for KIP3 were viable and did not exhibit any obvious growth defects at incubation temperatures between 11 and 37°C. Mild microtubule-related phenotypes for kip3Δ cells were observed and are described below.

In an attempt to define the motor(s) that overlap in function with dynein, we created double mutants between dyn1Δ and deletion alleles of the six KRP motor genes. For kip1Δ, kip2Δ, and smy1Δ, viable double mutant cells were recovered that grew at rates comparable to the wild-type at 26°C. In contrast, we were unable to recover viable combinations of dyn1Δ with cin8Δ (Saunders et al., 1995) and kar3Δ. dyn1Δ kip3Δ mutant cells were viable, but grew into colonies at very slow rates (see Figs. 2 C and 5). dyn1Δ kip3Δ cultures also contained high numbers of dead cells detected by both microscopy and by a 48% reduced plating efficiency relative to wild-type (plating efficiency = colony forming units/cells counted in microscope). These findings suggest that Cin8p, Kar3p, and Kip3p overlap with dynein for an essential or important function.

In our genetic studies, we noticed an interesting property of the KIP2 deletion allele. kip2Δ single mutant cells exhibited a nuclear migration defect almost as severe as that displayed by dyn1Δ cells (see below). Unexpectedly, the deletion of KIP2 was found to suppress the deleterious effects of the dyn1Δ kip3Δ and dyn1Δ kar3Δ genotypes (Table II). Although dyn1Δ kip3Δ cells exhibited ex-

| Genotype | DYN1 | KIP3 | KAR3 | KIP2 | Growth |
|----------|------|------|------|------|--------|
| Δ        | +    | +    | +    | V    |        |
| +Δ       | +Δ   | +    | +    | V    |        |
| +Δ       | +    | +Δ   | +    | V    |        |
| ΔΔ       | ΔΔ   | +    | +    | V    | (very slow) |
| ΔΔ       | +Δ   | ΔΔ   | +    | I*   |
| ΔΔ       | +Δ   | ΔΔ   | +    | V    |
| ΔΔ       | ΔΔ   | ΔΔ   | +    | I    |
| ΔΔ       | +Δ   | ΔΔ   | +    | V    |
| +ΔΔ      | ΔΔ   | ΔΔ   | +    | V    |
| ΔΔΔ      | ΔΔ   | ΔΔ   | ΔΔ   | V (slightly slow) |
| ΔΔΔ      | ΔΔ   | ΔΔ   | ΔΔ   | I    |

V, viable. Indicates that spores of the indicated genotype were able to grow into a colony. I, inviable. Indicates that spores of the indicated genotype were not able to germinate and/or grow into a colony. +, wild-type allele. Δ, deletion mutant allele.

*For these genotypes, inviability was also indicated by the inability to survive loss of pMA1223 (KAR3 URA3), rendering these cells sensitive to 5-fluoro-orotic acid.

Table II. Growth Properties of Relevant Motor Mutants

Figure 1. KIP2 is responsible for the growth defects of dyn1Δ kip3Δ and dyn1Δ kar3Δ cells. Wild-type (MAY591), dyn1Δ kip3Δ kip2Δ (MAY4560), and dyn1Δ kar3Δ kip2Δ (MAY4761) yeast strains were transformed with the KIP2-containing plasmid pFC50 and with a vector control (pRS317). Transformation plates were incubated at 26°C for 2 d.
tremely poor colony-forming ability, the dyn1Δ kip3Δ kip2Δ triple mutants formed colonies of wild-type size. dyn1Δ kar3Δ double mutants were inviable. Strikingly, dyn1Δ kar3Δ kip2Δ triple mutants were viable, but formed colonies slightly smaller than wild-type. A demonstration of these antagonistic actions of KIP2 is shown in Fig. 1. A vector plasmid and a plasmid expressing KIP2 were both able to transform wild-type cells with high efficiency. In contrast, dyn1Δ kip3Δ kip2Δ cells and dyn1Δ kar3Δ kip2Δ cells were transformed well by the vector plasmid, but not the KIP2 plasmid. In contrast to the dyn1Δ kip3Δ and dyn1Δ kar3Δ combinations, elimination of KIP2 was unable to suppress the growth defect of kip3Δ kar3Δ cells; both kip3Δ kar3Δ and kip3Δ kar3Δ kip2Δ spores were unable to grow into colonies. Table II summarizes the growth properties of all the dyn1Δ, kip3Δ, kar3Δ, and kip2Δ mutant combinations.

The suppression by kip2Δ of combinations of DYN1, KIP3, and KAR3 alleles functionally links the products of these genes. In contrast, the lethality of dyn1Δ cin8Δ could not be suppressed by deletion of KIP2. In addition, cin8Δ kip2Δ mutants, as well as dyn1Δ cin8Δ and dyn1Δ cin8Δ kip2Δ, were found to be inviable. The cause of the lethality of these cin8Δ combinations is not known. We have previously suggested that the lethality of the Cin8p–Dyn1p–deficient combination reflects the contribution of both of these motors to anaphase spindle elongation (Saunders et al., 1995).

In summary, the deleterious effects of dyn1Δ kip3Δ and dyn1Δ kar3Δ, but not kip3Δ kar3Δ, were strongly suppressed by the deletion of KIP2. These findings indicate that the loss of Dyn1p plus either Kip3p or Kar3p can be tolerated, providing that an antagonistically acting function of Kip2p is eliminated. In the remainder of this article, we characterize the spindle positioning and other microtubule phenotypes associated with loss of function of Dyn1p, Kip3p, and Kip2p. The role of Kar3p in spindle positioning has been harder to discern, probably because this motor has more than one mitotic function (see Discussion).

dyn1Δ, kip2Δ, and kip3Δ Cause Spindle-positioning Defects

S. cerevisiae spindle-positioning errors lead to anaphase nuclear division occurring exclusively in the mother cell body. This produces a binucleate mother cell body and an...
anucleate bud (Fig. 2 A). We examined the \textit{dyn1\textDelta}, \textit{kip2\textDelta}, and \textit{kip3\textDelta} single and multiple mutant combinations for the production of binucleate cell bodies at 26 and 12°C (Fig. 2 B). As previously reported (Eshel et al., 1993; Li et al., 1993; Geiser et al., 1997), \textit{dyn1\textDelta} cultures accumulated elevated binucleate cells in a temperature-dependent fashion; very high levels were observed after incubation at 12°C. The \textit{kip2\textDelta} mutant behaved similarly, although to a lesser extent. The \textit{kip3\textDelta} mutant was only slightly elevated for binucleate cell production at 12°C. However, a role for \textit{KIP3} in spindle positioning was indicated by the elevated number of binucleate cells in cultures of the slow-growing \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip3\textDelta} double mutant. This was the only mutant that displayed high levels (>20%) of binucleate cells at 26°C. \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip3\textDelta} double mutant cultures also contained significant numbers of cells with unusual nuclear morphologies (arrow in Fig. 2 A) and anucleate or dead cells. Therefore, the binucleate percentage values determined for this genotype might underrepresent the extent of the defect. The \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip2\textDelta} and \textit{kip2\textDelta kip3\textDelta} double mutants also displayed binucleate cell levels that were greatly elevated over the wild-type, but only at 12°C. Note that the levels exhibited by \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip2\textDelta} and \textit{kip2\textDelta kip3\textDelta} were intermediate to that exhibited by the single mutants. The deletion of \textit{KIP2} also partially relieved the cold-sensitive growth defect caused by \textit{dyn1\textDelta} (Fig. 2 C). The \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip2\textDelta kip3\textDelta} triple mutant was reduced for binucleate cell production at 26°C relative to the \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip3\textDelta} double mutant. This reduction corresponded to the greatly improved growth rate of the triple mutant relative to the double mutant (Fig. 2 C).

We examined the mutants to determine if the cell bodies containing two nuclear DNA masses corresponded to the mother or the bud. The mother cell was distinguished from the bud by the presence of chitin-containing bud scars revealed by calcofluor staining. For the \textit{dyn1\textDelta}, \textit{kip2\textDelta}, and \textit{kip3\textDelta} single mutants grown at 12°C, the binucleate bodies were always mother cells (\textit{n} = 104, 54, and 12 cells, respectively).

**Cytoplasmic Microtubules Are Longer than Wild-Type in \textit{dyn1\textDelta} and \textit{kip3\textDelta} Cells but Shorter in \textit{kip2\textDelta} Cells**

To examine the causes of the spindle-positioning defects exhibited by the single and multiple mutants, microtubules were visualized by antitubulin immunofluorescence microscopy (Figs. 3 and 4). Before fixation with formaldehyde, the DNA synthesis inhibitor hydroxyurea was added to the cultures to synchronize cells at the preanaphase short spindle stage of the mitotic cycle (Pringle and Hartwell, 1981). Using this technique, stained wild-type spindles appeared as a bright bar of nuclear microtubules with whisker-like cytoplasmic microtubules attached to the ends of the bars (the spindle poles). Striking differences were observed in the length and number of cytoplasmic microtubules in the various mutant genotypes. \textit{dyn1\textDelta} and \textit{kip2\textDelta} cells exhibited longer cytoplasmic microtubules than wild-type. The slow-growing \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip3\textDelta} double mutant exhibited extremely elongated cytoplasmic microtubules that were on average fourfold longer than the wild-type. In contrast, cytoplasmic microtubules in \textit{kip2\textDelta} cells were shorter than wild-type. The \textit{kip2\textDelta} culture also exhibited much higher numbers of cells for which we could not visualize a single cytoplasmic microtubule that survived fixation (Fig. 4 A). Combining the short microtubule \textit{kip2\textDelta} with either \textit{dyn1\textDelta} or \textit{kip3\textDelta} caused cytoplasmic microtubule phenotypes resembling those caused by \textit{kip2\textDelta} alone (shortened and reduced in number). By both criteria, however, these doubles were less severely affected than the \textit{kip2\textDelta} single mutant, consistent with an intermediate phenotype. The elimination of \textit{KIP2} in \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip3\textDelta} cells, to create the triple mutant, suppressed the extremely long cytoplasmic microtubule phenotype of this double mutant, resulting in cytoplasmic microtubules intermediate in length between wild-type and \textit{kip2\textDelta}. In these experiments, we also detected small but reproducible differences in spindle lengths (pole-to-pole distance; Fig. 4 B). In particular, spindles were longer than wild-type in all strains deleted for \textit{KIP3}. We note that while formaldehyde fixation may not preserve all yeast microtubule structure (see Carminati and Stearns, 1997), the differences observed here probably reflect actual differences in microtubule lengths and/or stabilities in vivo (see next section).

**\textit{dyn1\textDelta} and \textit{kip3\textDelta} Increase Resistance to Benomyl while \textit{kip2\textDelta} Decreases Resistance**

The observed differences in cytoplasmic microtubule lengths suggested differences in microtubule stability among the various motor mutants. The resistance of yeast cells to compounds that promote microtubule depolymerization, such as benomyl, reflects the intrinsic stability of cellular microtubules. We determined resistance to benomyl by spotting cells onto solid media containing increasing concentrations of the inhibitor (Fig. 5). We found that the \textit{dyn1\textDelta}, \textit{kip2\textDelta}, and \textit{kip3\textDelta} genotypic combinations exhibited opposing and suppressing phenotypes that corresponded to the microtubule length phenotypes described above. \textit{kip3\textDelta} cells displayed higher resistance to benomyl than the wild-type. \textit{dyn1\textDelta} cells displayed resistance that was only slightly but reproducibly elevated over wild-type. In contrast, \textit{kip2\textDelta} cells displayed markedly decreased benomyl resistance. It was not possible to accurately assess the benomyl resistance of the \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip3\textDelta} double mutant because of its extreme slow growth. The two other double mutant combinations, both of which involved \textit{kip2\textDelta}, displayed resistances intermediate between those observed for the single mutants. Deletion of either \textit{dyn1\textDelta} or \textit{kip3\textDelta} was able to restore near wild-type levels of resistance to \textit{kip2\textDelta} cells. The \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip2\textDelta kip3\textDelta} triple mutant also displayed resistance near that of the wild-type.

**Dyn1p and Kip3p Are Required to Achieve and Maintain Proper Spindle Positioning in the Presence of Kip2p**

To determine the effects of loss of Kip3p function in various genetic backgrounds, 18 temperature-sensitive alleles of \textit{KIP3} were generated using a mutagenic PCR-based approach (see Materials and Methods). A representative temperature-sensitive allele, \textit{kip3-14}, was selected for further study. Plasmids carrying \textit{kip3-14} or \textit{KIP3} were introduced into a \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip3\textDelta} double mutant strain, as well as into a \textit{dyn1\textDelta kip2\textDelta kip3\textDelta} triple mutant strain. The resulting strains, along with a wild-type control, were synchro-
Figure 3. Antitubulin immunofluorescence microscopy of motor mutants. Cells were synchronized with hydroxyurea in rich media at 26°C, fixed with formaldehyde, and processed for antitubulin immunofluorescence microscopy. Strains used are the same as in Fig. 2. Bar (top right), 2 μm.
nized in G1 with the α-factor mating pheromone at the permissive temperature of 26°C. The G1 cells were released from the α-factor block, shifted to the nonpermissive temperature (37°C), and assayed for their ability to proceed through mitosis by observation of stained nuclear DNA. As wild-type cells reached a large-budded morphology (bud diameter ~3/4 that of the mother), nuclear DNA masses were either positioned in the neck or had undergone anaphase division with a single DNA mass positioned in each progeny cell body. For the dyn1Δ kip3Δ (pkp3-14) genotype only, cells with two morphologies that were rarely observed for wild-type accumulated after the shift to 37°C (Fig. 6): large-budded cells with nuclear DNA at a position away from the neck (top) and large-budded cells with two nuclear DNA masses in one cell body (bottom). This finding indicates that Kip3p function is required for efficient spindle positioning in the absence of dynein. The nucleus-away-from-the-neck morphology was somewhat elevated over the wild-type for the three other strains that were deleted for DYN1 (Fig. 6, top). However, as previously described for dyn1Δ mutants (Yeh et al., 1995), these did not lead to the formation of binucleate cell bodies (Fig. 6, bottom), presumably because of the actions of other motors that can resolve dyn1Δ spindle-positioning errors (i.e., Kip3p). Notably, the dyn1Δ kip2Δ kip3Δ (pkp3-14) cells did not accumulate the aberrant forms, indicating that elimination of Kip2p could suppress the spindle-positioning defect exhibited by dyn1Δ kip3Δ (pkp3-14). This also demonstrates that another mechanism acts to position spindles efficiently in the absence of dynein, Kip3p, and Kip2p.

We next examined the consequence of loss of Kip3p function in cells that had completed spindle positioning but had not entered anaphase. Cells of the genotypes described above were grown and treated with hydroxyurea at 26°C. At the hydroxyurea arrest point, the majority of cells had short preanaphase spindles and DNA masses that were positioned in or up against the mother–bud neck (Figs. 7 and 8 A). For all dyn1Δ mutant genotypes, the number of cells with nuclei located away from the neck was slightly elevated over wild-type because of the spindle-positioning defect caused by loss of dynein. Maintaining the presence of hydroxyurea, the cells were then shifted to 37°C. After the shift, the number of nucleus-away-from-neck cells remained fairly constant for all genotypes with the exception of dyn1Δ kip3Δ (pkp3-14). The
temperature-induced loss of Kip3p function in the dynein mutant background caused spindles and DNA masses that previously had been positioned at the neck to move to a position distal to the neck. Calcofluor staining of bud scars indicated that the DNA masses had moved exclusively back into the mother cell body (n = 200 cells). The spindles and associated DNA were especially positioned at the peripheral region of the mother cell distal to the neck, with extensive cytoplasmic microtubule arrays directed toward the bud (Fig. 7).

The spindle mislocalization phenotype exhibited by dyn1Δ kip3Δ (pkip3-14) was dependent upon Kip2p activity. The deletion of KIP2 suppressed the temperature-induced loss of spindle positioning (see dyn1Δ kip2Δ kip3Δ (pkip3-14) genotype in Fig. 8 A). This strongly suggests that in the absence of Dyn1p and Kip3p activity, Kip2p function directly leads to spindle mislocalization. Additional evidence that Kip2p is responsible for this effect was obtained in an experiment in which KIP2 expression was placed under the control of a galactose-inducible promoter (Fig. 8 B). Pgal-KIP2 or Pgal control plasmids were transformed into wild-type and dyn1Δ kip2Δ kip3Δ strains. After synchronization with hydroxyurea, galactose was added to induce expression from the galactose promoter. Expression of KIP2 in cells deficient for both DYN1 and KIP3 caused properly positioned spindles to mislocalize to sites away from the neck. Neither wild-type cells expressing the same Pgal-KIP2 construct nor cells carrying the Pgal vector displayed nuclear mislocalization when galactose was added.

Discussion

Dynein motor function is important but not essential for spindle positioning in S. cerevisiae. Although spindle-positioning errors can be detected in dyn1Δ cells growing at room temperature, the extent of this defect is not sufficient to reduce the rate of cell division. Presumably, other motor mechanisms contribute to spindle positioning in the absence of dynein. The experiments described here demonstrated that the Kip3p KRP provides an important spindle-positioning function in the absence of dynein. The elimination of Kip3p function in dynein-deficient cells severely compromised spindle movement to the mother–bud neck. Elimination of Kip3p function in dyn1Δ cells that had completed positioning caused spindles to mislocalize into mother cell bodies. We also demonstrated that the spindle-positioning defects exhibited by dyn1Δ kip3Δ cells are caused, to a large extent, by the actions of the Kip2p KRP. kip2Δ cells exhibited microtubule phenotypes that were opposite to those exhibited by dyn1Δ and kip3Δ cells. Microtubules in kip2Δ cells were shorter and more sensitive to the action of benomyl than wild-type microtubules, while those of dyn1Δ and kip3Δ cells were longer and more resistant. kip2Δ dyn1Δ and kip2Δ kip3Δ double mutants displayed intermediate microtubule phenotypes. Most significantly, elimination of KIP2 function greatly suppressed the spindle localization defect and slow growth exhibited by dyn1Δ kip3Δ cells. Likewise, induced expression of KIP2 caused spindles to mislocalize in cells deficient for dynein and Kip3p.
Although Kip2p normally contributes to spindle positioning, its actions can also antagonize a positioning mechanism. In the absence of dynein and Kip3p function, Kip2p activity caused spindles to move to a location in the mother cell distal to the neck. Since kip2Δ suppressed the growth defect of the dyn1Δ kip3Δ double deletion mutant, the antagonistic actions of Kip2p must be directed against whatever is accomplishing spindle positioning in the absence of dynein and Kip3p. Our genetic findings suggest that this activity is provided by the Kar3p KRP. This would be a novel role for the minus end-directed Kar3p motor whose characterized mitotic functions include pulling spindle poles inwardly prior to anaphase and contributing to bipolar spindle structure (Meluh and Rose, 1990; Saunders and Hoyt, 1992; Hoyt et al., 1993; Endow et al., 1994; Saunders et al., 1997b). Kar3p has also been associated with kinetochore movement along microtubules in vitro (Middleton and Carbon, 1994). Participation of

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**Figure 7.** The spindle and nucleus were drawn away from the mother–bud neck after loss of Kip3p function in the absence of Dyn1p. Cell cycle progression of dyn1Δ kip3Δ (kip3-14) strain (MAY4921) was arrested by growth in the presence of hydroxyurea at 26°C. The culture was then shifted to 37°C for 90 min. Samples taken before (top row) and after (bottom row) the temperature shift were processed for antitubulin immunofluorescence (left column) and DAPI staining (right column).
Kar3p in spindle positioning was suggested by the observation that deletion of KIP2 suppressed the lethality of the dyn1Δ kar3Δ combination. A simple hypothesis consistent with these findings is that Kip2p antagonizes the spindle-positioning activities of both Kip3p and Kar3p (Fig. 9). In the absence of dynein, both Kip3p and Kar3p are required to position spindles. If the antagonistic actions of Kip2p are removed, however, then either Kip3p or Kar3p alone is sufficient. kip3Δ kar3Δ cells are inviable and are not suppressed by kip2Δ. This suggests that Kip3p and Kar3p overlap for an essential function that dynein alone cannot provide. In mitotic cells, most Kar3p is concentrated near the spindle poles with a smaller but detectable amount spreading onto the nuclear microtubules (Page et al., 1994; Saunders et al., 1997). It is possible that some Kar3p also acts upon the cytoplasmic microtubules to affect spindle positioning. We note that Kar3p is essential for the nuclear migration event that occurs during karyogamy (nuclear fusion during mating). In this capacity, Kar3p acts on the cytoplasmic microtubules to move haploid nuclei towards each other before their fusion (Meluh and Rose, 1990). Kip3p does not appear to overlap with Kar3p for a karyogamy role since Kar3p is essential for this process and kip3Δ cells did not display a defect in karyogamy proficiency (Cottingham, F.R., and M.A. Hoyt, unpublished observations).

The molecular roles and mechanisms for the four spindle-positioning motors described here are currently not clear. Below, we describe two general models for the roles and interactions of these motors. These models are not mutually exclusive. In the first model, spindle position is determined by directly antagonistic motor activities. The cooperative actions of dynein, Kip3p, and Kar3p exert a force on one spindle pole, pulling it into the bud cell body.

Figure 8. Kip2p caused nuclear mislocalization in cells deficient for dynein and Kip3p. (A) Quantitation of large-budded cells with mislocalized nuclei after hydroxyurea arrest at 26°C and then a shift to 37°C for the indicated times (see Fig. 7). Strains used were the same as in Fig. 6. (B) Quantitation of large-budded cells with mislocalized nuclei caused by galactose-induced expression of KIP2. Cells were synchronized with hydroxyurea and then switched to media containing galactose to induce expression of KIP2. Samples were analyzed at the indicated times after the addition of galactose. ∆, dyn1Δ kip2Δ kip3Δ (P_{GAL-KIP2}) (MAY-4819); ·, dyn1Δ kip2Δ kar3Δ (P_{GAL-vector}) (MAY-4820); ○, wild-type (P_{GAL-vector}) (MAY4817).

Figure 9. Proposed functional relationship for the Kip2p, Kip3p, Kar3p, and dynein motors. The antagonistic actions of these motors leads to normal spindle positioning. Kip2p is proposed to antagonize the actions of Kip3p and Kar3p because deletion of KIP2 suppressed dyn1Δ kip3Δ and dyn1Δ kar3Δ but not kip3Δ kar3Δ. Kip3p and Kar3p share a single arrow since they appear to overlap for an essential function that cannot be accomplished by dynein. Dynein is proposed to act in a distinct pathway leading to spindle positioning, although it is possible that it is antagonized by Kip2p as well.
At the same time, Kip2p is acting to pull the other pole back towards the mother cell. This antagonism would result in proper positioning and orientation of the spindle along the mother–bud axis. As noted above, we do not view the three bud-directed activities as equivalent. Dynnein is unable to perform some activity provided by either Kip3p or Kar3p. Yeh et al. (1995) found that dyn1Δ cells undergo nuclear division that appears different from DYN1 cells. The dynnein-deficient cells often performed anaphase at an incorrect position in the mother cell, followed by a phase in which a daughter nucleus was translocated to the bud. It is possible that dynnein is primarily responsible for achieving proper spindle orientation before anaphase onset while Kip3p and Kar3p act after anaphase onset in a manner that can correct preanaphase positioning errors. Not all of our findings are easily accommodated by this simple model, however. Although Kip2p was responsible for aberrant spindle movement into the mother in cells deficient for dynnein and Kip3p, spindle mislocalization in kip2Δ mutants, similar to dyn1Δ mutants, occurred exclusively in the mother. This finding does not exclude the possibility that the main role of Kip2p is to pull the spindle towards the mother cell, but it does require a more complicated mechanism. Perhaps proper cytoplasmic microtubule connection on the bud side requires that a tension-producing force be exerted from the mother side. In the absence of the mother-directed force supplied by Kip2p, connections in the bud are made improperly, and the spindle remains in the mother cell. A similar tension-based mechanism has been proposed for the attachment of sister kinetochores to spindle fibers (Nicklas, 1997). Spindle fiber–kinetochore connections are unstable in the absence of tension caused by a proper bipolar attachment. A second finding that is difficult to explain by this model is that dyn1 kip3 cells occasionally possessed cytoplasmic microtubules extending towards the bud from both poles of mislocalized spindles (Figs. 3 and 7). This morphology is unexpected if the spindle is being pulled back into the mother cell body by motors operating on a set of cytoplasmic microtubules.

The second model is based upon the opposing microtubule phenotypes exhibited by the motor mutants. dyn1Δ and kip3Δ cells exhibited cytoplasmic microtubules that were longer and more resistant to benomyl treatment than wild-type. Another group has also observed longer and less dynamic microtubules in dyn1Δ cells (Carminati and Stearns, 1997). It has recently been reported that kar3Δ cells also display longer cytoplasmic microtubules (Saunders et al., 1997a). Coupled with the observation that Kar3p can contribute to microtubule depolymerization in vitro (Endow et al., 1994), it was proposed that Kar3p contributes to microtubule shortening in vivo (Saunders et al., 1997a). The ability to depolymerize microtubules has also been observed for the XKCM1 KRP motor of Xenopus (Walczak et al., 1996). The observation that dyn1Δ and kip3Δ cells exhibited microtubule phenotypes similar to kar3Δ cells suggests that dynnein and Kip3p also contribute to microtubule shortening processes. In contrast, our observation of shorter and benomyl-hypersensitive microtubules in kip2Δ cells suggests that Kip2p actions are required to stabilize microtubules against depolymerization. Perhaps the motor actions of Kip2p contribute in some manner to microtubule polymerization, or the binding of Kip2p to sites on the microtubule lattice increases its stability. For our second model, we propose that the observed spindle-positioning effects were caused by changes in cytoplasmic microtubule polymerization/depolymerization properties. For example, the extremely long cytoplasmic microtubules created in dyn1 kip3 cells may physically mislocalize the spindle. The suppression by kip2Δ may be the result of lowered microtubule stability caused by loss of Kip2p. We note, however, that benomyl treatment did not suppress the dyn1 kip3 growth defect (Fig. 5). Another possibility is that the aberrant polymerization properties of the cytoplasmic microtubules precluded their ability to form the proper cortical connections required to move nuclei. However, it is also possible that the microtubule phenotypes we observed were indirect effects caused by defects in the interactions of microtubules, motors, and the cell cortex.

Both models proposed here require that the spindle-positioning motors act upon the cytoplasmic microtubules. It has been reported that some of the cellular Dyn1p, Kip3p, and Kip2p molecules can be detected in association with cytoplasmic microtubules in mitotic cells (Miller, R.K., and M.D. Rose. 1995. Mol. Biol. Cell. 65:256a; Yeh et al., 1995; DeZwaan et al., 1997). As described above, Kar3p has also been detected on cytoplasmic microtubules, but only in cells undergoing karyogamy (Meluh and Rose, 1990; Page et al., 1994).

Although the mechanisms leading to spindle positioning are currently unclear, we note with interest that both bipolar spindle assembly and spindle positioning are accomplished by antagonistically acting motor proteins. Assembly of the S. cerevisiae preanaphase spindle requires the actions of two KRP s from the BimC family, Cin5p and Kip1p (Hoyt et al., 1992; Roof et al., 1992). The spindle pole–separating actions of the BimC KRP s are antagonized before anaphase by the inwardly directed force produced by Kar3p (Saunders and Hoyt, 1992; Hoyt et al., 1993; Saunders et al., 1997b). Proper spindle structure is achieved by the balance between the outwardly and inwardly directed forces acting upon the spindle poles. At roughly the same period of mitosis, dynnein, Kip3p, and Kar3p, acting antagonistically to Kip2p, are moving and orienting the spindle to permit proper chromosome segregation to progeny cells.

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