Dual Fatty Acylation of p59<sup>Fyn</sup> Is Required for Association with the T Cell Receptor ζ Chain through Phosphotyrosine-Src Homology Domain-2 Interactions

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Abstract. The first 10 residues within the Src homology domain (SH)–4 domain of the Src family kinase Fyn are required for binding to the immune receptor tyrosine-based activation motif (ITAM) of T cell receptor (TCR) subunits. Recently, mutation of glycine 2, cysteine 3, and lysines 7 and 9 was shown to block binding of Fyn to TCR ζ chain ITAMs, prompting the designation of these residues as an ITAM recognition motif (Gauen, L.K.T., M.E. Linder, and A.S. Shaw. 1996. J. Cell Biol. 133:1007–1015). Here we show that these residues do not mediate direct interactions with TCR ITAMs, but rather are required for efficient myristoylation and palmitoylation of Fyn. Specifically, coexpression of a K<sub>7,9</sub>A-Fyn mutant with N-myristoyltransferase restored myristoylation, membrane binding, and association with the cytoplasmic tail of TCR ζ fused to CD8. Conversely, treatment of cells with 2-hydroxymyristate, a myristoylation inhibitor, blocked association of wild-type Fyn with ζ. The Fyn NH<sub>2</sub>-terminus was necessary but not sufficient for interaction with ζ, and both Fyn kinase and SH 2 domains were required, directing phosphorylation of ζ ITAM tyrosines and binding to ζ ITAM phosphotyrosines. Fyn/ζ interaction was sensitive to octylglucoside and filipin, agents that disrupt membrane rafts. Moreover, a plasma membrane bound, farnesylated Fyn construct, G<sub>2A</sub>C<sub>3</sub>S-FynKRas, was not enriched in the detergent insoluble fraction and did not associate with ζ. We conclude that the Fyn SH 4 domain provides the signals for fatty acylation and specific plasma membrane localization, stabilizing the interactions between the Fyn SH 2 domain and phosphotyrosines in TCR ζ chain ITAMs.

Key words: Src homology domains • acylation • cell membrane • protein-tyrosine kinase • receptor/antigen
toylation to occur. Mutations that ablate myristoylation result in loss of palmitoylation (1, 35, 41, 43). Efficient myristoylation of Fyn, therefore, is essential for correct processing and intracellular targeting of Fyn (41, 43).

One of the functional consequences of dual fatty acylation and plasma membrane targeting is to allow Src family kinases to interact with transmembrane receptor complexes. For example, Fyn coimmunoprecipitates with the activated T cell receptor (TCR) and has been reported to interact with multiple TCR subunits (10, 33). Fyn tyrosine kinase activity is stimulated when the TCR is cross-linked, and the first 11-14 amino acids of human Fyn, containing lysines to alanine substitutions at positions 7 and/or 9, or the first 10 amino acids of human Lck, followed by amino acids 11-16 of human Fyn. An antisenese oligonucleotide was used corresponding to a region of the SH3 domain of Src (6, 19). Thus, it remained possible that alteration in fatty acylation levels was responsible for the inability of the mutant Fyn to interact with the ζ chain.

We therefore reevaluated the role of the SH4 motif of Fyn, focusing on the significance of lysines 7 and 9 in fatty acylation and membrane targeting of Fyn, and its interactions with the TCR ζ chain. Here we show that dual fatty acylation of a K7A,Fyn mutant was drastically impaired. A gain of function experiment revealed that overexpression of NMT restored fatty acylation levels of K7A,Fyn and allowed the mutant protein to interact with the cytoplasmic tail of the TCR ζ chain fused to CD8. Using the myristoylation inhibitor 2-hydroxymyristate, we observed that association of wild-type Fyn with the ζ chain can be disrupted by blocking fatty acylation. The Fyn NH2 terminus was necessary but not sufficient for interaction with ζ. Both functional Fyn kinase and SH2 domains were required, directing phosphorylation of ζ ITAM tyrosines and subsequent binding of the Fyn SH2 domain to ζ ITAM phosphotyrosines. The interactions between Fyn and ζ were sensitive to conditions that disrupt membrane rafts and a farnesylated Fyn construct that was not enriched in the detergent insoluble fraction did not stably associate with ζ.

These results provide additional explanations for the sequence requirements and mild detergent conditions needed for coimmunoprecipitation of Fyn with TCR subunits. We conclude that dual fatty acylation of Fyn is required for correct targeting to specific membrane subdomains, that is a prerequisite for stable association with the cytoplasmic tail of the TCR ζ chain. Fyn kinase activity is required for phosphorylation of tyrosine residues in the ΤΙΑΜs of the ζ chain, to which the Fyn SH2 domain subsequently binds. The localization of Fyn in plasma membrane rafts therefore serves an essential role in stabilizing SH2-phosphotyrosine interactions between Fyn and TCR ζ.

**Materials and Methods**

**Materials**

Cell culture reagents were purchased from Gibco Laboratories. cDNA's for human wild-type Fyn, G-A,Fyn, and Cα5-Fyn (1) and NMT (28) and rabbit polyclonal antiserum raised against Fyn SH43 protein (3) were from lab stocks. pEFBOS-CD8-ζ, CD8-T76, and CD8-4F (16, 22) were kindly provided by Dr. Arthurr Weiss (Department of Immunology, University of California, San Francisco, San Francisco, CA.). pSV LSH-2 Fyn, containing mutant Fyn lacking amino acids 144-248, was kindly provided by Drs. Nicolas D' Unant and K. Bertin-Harrier (Friedrich Miescher Institute, Basel, Switzerland). pEGFP N1 and rabbit polyclonal antibody against green fluorescent protein (GF1) were obtained from Clontech. A n-tiCD8 monoclonal antibody solution and high purity digustin were from Calbiochem. Protein A-agarose and protein A/G agarose beads and antiphosphotyrosine (PY99) monoclonal antibody solution were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co. and n-octylglucoside was from Boehringer Mannheim. TranSM-label and TR2-Nal were from DuPont-NEB. Synthesis and radioiodination of IC16 (16-iodoheptadecanoic acid) and IC13 (13-iodoheptadecanoic acid) fatty acid analogues were performed as previously described (2).

**Plasmid Construction**

Construction of plasmids containing wild-type Fyn, G-A,Fyn, Cα5-Fyn, and GαS-Fyn was described before (1, 41). For generation of K7A,Fyn, K7A,S-Fyn, and Lck(10)Fyn constructs, sense oligonucleotides were synthesized to encode the upstream region of pGEM 3Z, an NcoI site, and either the first 11-14 amino acids of human Fyn, containing lysines to alanine substitutions at positions 7 and/or 9, or the first 10 amino acids of human Lck, followed by amino acids 11-16 of human Fyn. An antisense oligonucleotide was used corresponding to a region of the SH3 domain of Fyn (1). Sense and antisense primers were used with pGEM 3Z-Fyn as a template to generate mutant cDNA's, which were digested with Ncol and BstXI to produce 76-bp fragments that were used to replace the corresponding fragments of Fyn in pSP65. A G A,FynKRas construct was generated by PCR using a sense oligonucleotide encoding nucleotides 1110-1130 of human Fyn containing a unique BglII site, and an antisense oligonucleotide corresponding to the last 18 nucleotides of Fyn, followed by the last 54 nucleotides of KRas4B, a stop codon, and a SalI site. The primers were used with pGEM 3Z-Fyn as a template. The PCR product was digested with BglII and Sall to produce a 500-bp fragment that was used to replace a corresponding carboxy-terminal fragment of Gα-S-Fyn in pSP65. A lI Fyn constructs in pSP65 were subsequently digested with EcoRI and Sall, and ligated into pCMV5. FynKRas was subsequently digested by generation of pCMV5-G A,FynKRas with BglII and Sall, followed by ligation into BglII cut pCMV5-Fyn. G A,S,FynKRas was generated by PCR, with pGEM 3Z-Fyn as a template, using a sense oligonucleotide encoding an NcoI site followed by the first eight amino acids of human Fyn, containing a glycine-to-alanine substitution at position 2 and a cysteine-to-serine substitution at position 3, and an antisense oligonucleotide corresponding to the SH3 domain of Fyn (1). The PCR product was digested with Ncol and BstXI to generate a 76-bp fragment that was used to replace the corresponding fragment of pSP65-FynKRas as G A,C,S,FynKRas as subcloned into pCMV5 as described above. ΔSH-Fyn was subcloned into pSP65 by digestion of pS5ΔSH2-Fyn with BstXI and BstE2 and ligation into BstXI- and BstE2-digested pSP65, and subcloned into pCMV5, as described above. K7A,FynKRas was cloned using a Quickchange site-directed mutagenesis kit (Stratagene Inc.). Fyn(16-GFP) was generated by PCR, using a sense oligonucleotide, encoding an EcoRI site followed by the first 16 amino acids of human Fyn fused in frame to amino acid 2 of eGFP, and an antisense oligonucleotide corresponding to the carboxy terminus of eGFP and an Xbal site. These primers were used with pEGFP-N1 as a template to generate a 1.6-kb DNA fragment that was digested with EcoRI and Xbal, followed by ligation into pCMV5.

**Cell Culture and Transfection**

DD5-1 cells (A merican T ype C ollection) were cultured and transfected as previously described (41). For cotransfection experiments with Fyn and NMT, 2 μg Fyn cDNA was used with 4 or 10 μg NMT cDNA (ratios 1:2 and 1:5). For CD8-ζ coimmunoprecipitation experiments, 5 μg
Metabolic Radiolabeling, Cell Fractionation and Pretreatment with 2-Hydroxymyristate and Filipin

Transfected COS-1 cells were starved for 1 h at 37°C in DMEM minus methionine/cysteine, supplemented with 2% dialyzed FBS, and labeled for 4 h at 37°C with 25 μCi/mI Tran35S-label. For radiolabeling with fatty acid analogues, cells were starved for 1 h at 37°C in DMEM containing 2% dialyzed FBS, followed by radiolabeling for 4 h at 37°C with either 25 μCi/mI 129I-IC13 or 129I-IC16 (1, 41). Fractionation into cytosolic (S300) and total membrane (P100) fractions and extraction with the nonionic detergent Triton X-100 was performed as described previously (41). 2-Hydroxymyristate was stored as a 100-mM stock solution in DMSO and used for experiments at 1 mM in DMEM containing 1% defatted BSA. Before addition to cells, 1 mM 2-hydroxymyristate solution was sonicated briefly and filtered to remove any undissolved myristate analogue. After preincubation for 2 h at 37°C, DME M containing 5% FBS was added, followed by overnight incubation at 500 μM 2-hydroxymyristate. Where indicated, cells were pretreated for 1 h at 37°C with 10 μg/ml filipin in DMEM containing 1% defatted BSA.

Immunoprecipitation, Gel Electrophoresis, and Quantitation of Fatty Acylation

For immunoprecipitation, each clarified lysate in RIPA buffer (10 mM Tris/HCl, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 1% Triton X-100, 0.1% SDS, 1% deoxycholate) was mixed with 3 μl anti-Fyn or 3 μl anti–GFPI and 10 μl protein A–agarose solution, and incubated for 2-12 h at 4°C. Immunoprecipitates were washed twice with RIPA buffer, once with STE (50 mM Tris/HCl, pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA), resuspended in SDS sample buffer containing 0.1 M DTT, and applied to SDS-PAGE. Radiolabeled proteins in dried gels were visualized by exposure for 8-24 h to X-Omat or BioMax film (Eastman Kodak Co.) or to PhosphorImager screens. Quantitation of radiolabeled proteins was performed using the ImageQuant software provided with the PhosphorImager system (Molecular Dynamics, Inc.). In each labeling experiment, constructs were labeled in duplicate with 129I-IC13, 129I-IC16, or Tran35S-label, and the mean of the duplicate samples was used as the value for each individual experiment. Numbers were corrected for the background in each individual lane of the gel. Efficiency of myristoylation was calculated as (129I-IC13 incorporation per unit of 35S-label, which is accurate since all Fyn constructs used in this report (see Table I) contain identical amounts of methionines and cysteines. Numbers for myristoylation of mutant constructs were expressed relative to wild-type Fyn within each experiment. Each experiment was analyzed in two to four experiments.

CD8ζ Coimmunoprecipitation Experiments

10% w/vol stock solutions of high purity digitonin (Calbiochem Corp.) were prepared according to the manufacturer’s instructions. A fivefold prolonged storage at 4°C, stocks produce precipitates that were removed by reheating and filtration. For experiments, digitonin lysate buffer (1% digitonin, 25 mM Tris, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 300 mM KCl, 25 mM NaF, 0.1 M Na2WO4) was prepared freshly using a clear 10% digitonin stock. Transfected COS-1 cells were lysed for 15 min at 4°C in digitonin buffer supplemented with protease inhibitors (1.5 μg/ml of each leupeptin, aprotinin, and pepstatin A [Boehringer Mannheim], 20 μg/ml each of A EBSF, TLCK, TPCK, and benzamidine [Calbiochem Corp.]). Where indicated, the digitonin lysate buffer was supplemented with 60 μM n-octylglucoside. Lysates were centrifuged for 15 min at top speed in an Eppendorf microfuge at 4°C and incubated for 4 h at 4°C with 2 μl anti-CD8 antibody solution and 10 μl protein A/G-agarose or with 10 μl protein A/G-agarose alone. The anti-CD8 immunoprecipitates were centrifuged for 2 min at top speed in an Eppendorf centrifuge, washed twice with digitonin buffer, and once with STE buffer (10 mM Tris, pH 7.4, 150 mM NaCl). Western blotting analysis for Fyn was performed as described (43), using a rabbit anti–Fyn polyclonal in the primary antibody step. To evaluate the levels of CD8ζ expression, Fyn blots were stripped and reprobed with monoclonal anti–CD8 antibody. To analyze the dependence of palmitoylation on myristoylation, the level of 129I-IC16-palmitate labeling of K7,9A-Fyn was also found to be reduced to 22 ± 3% (n = 4) of wild-type levels.

Results

Replacement of Lysines 7 and 9 in Fyn Results in Reduced Fatty Acylation and Membrane Anchoring

The first set of experiments was designed to quantitatively assess the contributions of lysine residues within the Fyn SH4 motif towards fatty acylation. COS-1 cells were transfected with cDNAs encoding either wild-type Fyn, G2A-Fyn, or the K7,9A-Fyn construct, in which lysines at positions 7 and 9 are replaced by alanine residues (Table I). Radiolabeling with Tran35S-label, followed by immunoprecipitation of Fyn, SDS-PAGE and autoradiography, showed that all constructs were expressed at similar levels (Fig. 1). The K7,9A-Fyn construct displayed moderately elevated levels of expression and migrated as a doublet (Fig. 1). Wild-type Fyn was labeled with both 129I-IC13 (a myristate analogue) and 129I-IC16 (a palmitate analogue), while G2A-Fyn was not (Fig. 1, and Table I), as described previously (1, 41, 43). Although the K7,9A-Fyn construct contains both the glycine at position 2 and the cysteine at position 3 required for efficient myristoylation and palmitoylation of Fyn (1, 41, 43), levels of 129I-IC13 and 129I-IC16 incorporation were drastically reduced (Fig. 1). In subsequent experiments, K7A-Fyn and K9A-Fyn mutants, containing alanine replacements of either lysine 7 or 9, were included to analyze the relevance of the individual lysines for fatty acylation. Radiolabeling with Tran35S-label and 129I-IC13, followed by calculation of expression levels and relative myristoylation (Table I), showed that mutation of lysine 7 or 9 individually reduced myristoylation of Fyn by 51 and 40%, respectively (Table I). Myristoylation of the double mutant, K7,9A-Fyn, was inhibited by 83% (Table I), implying that the effect of each lysine mutation on myristoylation is additive. In agreement with the dependence of palmitoylation on myristoylation, the level of 129I-IC16-palmitate labeling of K7,9A-Fyn was also found to be reduced to 22 ± 3% (n = 4) of wild-type levels.

Lck is the only Src family member that lacks lysines at positions 7 and 9 (36, 37). Quantitative analysis of fatty acylation of full length Lck was hampered by inconsistent immunoprecipitation results using different batches of RIPA buffer and subjected to Western blotting using monoclonal antibody against Fyn (Transduction Laboratories) (43).

Table I. NH2-terminal Sequences of Wild-type and mutant Fyn Constructs

| Amino acid position | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
|---------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Fyn                 | G | C | V | Q | C | K | D | K | E  |
| G2A-Fyn             | A | C | V | Q | C | K | D | K | E  |
| K7A-Fyn             | G | S | V | Q | S | K | D | K | E  |
| K9A-Fyn             | G | C | V | Q | C | A | D | K | E  |
| K7,9A-Fyn           | G | C | V | Q | C | A | D | A | E  |
| Lck                 | G | C | G | C | S | S | H | P | E  |
| Goζ                 | G | C | T | L | S | A | E | E | R  |

Sequences of the first ten amino acids of each Fyn construct are shown with mutant amino acids underlined.

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anti-Lck antibody. Therefore, to test whether the absence of lysines 7 and 9 impairs myristoylation of the Lck amino terminus, we used an Lck(10)Fyn fusion construct (Table I). As shown in Table II, myristoylation of Lck(10)Fyn was very similar (~90%) to that of Fyn, and palmitoylation of Lck(10)Fyn was ~1.4× more efficient than that of Fyn (data not shown). These results show that despite the lack of lysines 7 and 9 in Lck, the overall fatty acylation profile at its amino terminus is very similar to that of Fyn. It is relevant to note that Lck contains a serine at position 6 (Table II), a preferred residue at this site for mammalian NMT recognition (17).

Since fatty acylation of Fyn is essential for membrane binding (1, 41, 43), the reduced levels of fatty acid modification of K7,9A-Fyn would be expected to alter the subcellular distribution of this construct. Transfected cells expressing the various Fyn constructs were radiolabeled with TranzS-label, 125I-IC13 or 125I-IC16, followed by homogenization and fractionation into high-speed supernatant (S100) and membrane (P100) fractions, and the distribution of Fyn was analyzed. Fig. 2 shows that more than 95% of wild-type Fyn was recovered from the membrane fraction as dually acylated protein, whereas ~75% of G2A-Fyn was recovered from the soluble fraction in agreement with previous results (1, 41, 43). In addition, slightly more than 50% of K7,9A-Fyn was found in the soluble fraction (Fig. 2B), specifically consisting of the protein band with the slower migration, that is neither myristoylated nor palmitoylated (A). The reason for this difference in migration is not clear, and it cannot be explained simply by the absence of fatty acylation since the G2A-Fyn mutant does not show this effect. The remainder of K7,9A-Fyn was recovered from the membrane fraction as dually acylated protein (Fig. 2A). The calculated ratio of 125I-IC13 label to TranzS-labeled in the P100 fraction was 25% lower for K7,9A-Fyn compared with wild-type Fyn (data not shown), implying that some of the protein in the membrane fraction is not acylated. This is confirmed by the results with G2A-Fyn, for which ~25% of the protein is found in the membrane pellet, even though none of the protein is fatty acylated. Gels were exposed to film for 8–24 h. (B) Quantitation of the subcellular distribution of 35S-labeled wild-type and mutant Fyn by PhosphorImaging. Gels were exposed to PhosphorImager screens for 8–24 h. Values represent the mean of four independent experiments.

**Table II. Relative Myristoylation Levels of Wild-Type and Mutant Fyn Constructs in COS-1 Cells**

| Construct      | 125I-IC13 incorporation per 35S-labeled unit of Fyn protein |
|----------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
|                | 35S-Met | 125I-IC13 | 125I-IC13/35S-Met | n  |
| Fyn            | 100%    | 100%      | 100%              | 8  |
| G2A-Fyn        | 87 ± 5  | 1 ± 1     | 0 ± 0             | 2  |
| K7,9A-Fyn      | 145 ± 8 | 73 ± 6    | 49 ± 2            | 2  |
| K7A-Fyn        | 195 ± 6 | 116 ± 8   | 60 ± 4            | 2  |
| K7,9A-Fyn      | 150 ± 12| 28 ± 6    | 17 ± 3            | 5  |
| Lck(10)Fyn     | 125 ± 3 | 104 ± 3   | 91 ± 3            | 2  |

COS-1 cells were transfected with Fyn cDNA as indicated and radiolabeled as described in Fig. 1. Gels were exposed to PhosphorImager screens for 24 or 48 h, and incorporation of TranzS-label or 125I-IC13 into wild-type and mutant Fyn was measured using the ImageQuant software provided with the PhosphorImager system. Values for 35S-label in Fyn ranged from 50,000 to 200,000 PhosphorImager units, and for 125I-labeled Fyn from 10,000 to 50,000 units. Background numbers comprised 5–10% of total values for both labeling procedures. Incorporation of radiolabel into the Fyn constructs is expressed relative to wild type. n, number of experiments performed for each construct.

**Overexpression of Enzymatically Active NMT Rescues the Impaired Fatty Acylation and Membrane Binding of K7,9A-Fyn**

Cotransfection experiments were performed to investigate whether the reduced myristoylation of the K7,9A-Fyn mutant was related to levels of NMT activity inside cells. COS-1 cells were transfected with Fyn or K7,9A-Fyn cDNA alone (Fig. 3, lanes 1 and 2), or cotransfected with cDNA encoding either wild-type NMT (lanes 3 and 4) or...
H$_{218}$N-NMT (lanes 5 and 6). H$_{218}$N-NMT contains a point mutation in the active site that abolishes transfer of myristoyl-CoA to protein (28), and serves as a negative control for the requirement of NMT activity. The ratio of NMT cDNA to Fyn cDNA used for transfection was 2:1. Fig. 3 shows that Fyn (lanes 1, 3, and 5) and K$_{7,9}$A-Fyn protein (lanes 2, 4, and 6) were expressed at similar levels, with K$_{7,9}$A-Fyn exhibiting an extra band with a slower migration and reduced myristoylation relative to wild-type Fyn (compare lanes 1 and 2). Cotransfection of K$_{7,9}$A-Fyn with wild-type NMT increased $^{125}$I-IC13 labeling two- to threefold (compare Fig. 3, lanes 1 and 2 with lanes 3 and 4, and see Fig. 4 B), whereas cotransfection with enzymatically inactive H$_{218}$N-NMT had no effect (compare Fig. 3, lanes 1 and 2 with lanes 5 and 6). Cotransfection of K$_{7,9}$A-Fyn with wild-type NMT also increased $^{125}$I-IC16 incorporation of K$_{7,9}$A-Fyn twofold (data not shown). In addition, the relative intensity of the lower band in the K$_{7,9}$A-Fyn doublet increased (Fig. 3, lane 4), consistent with an increase in fatty acylation levels.

The data in Figs. 1–3 imply that levels of endogenous NMT in COS-1 cells are limiting for myristoylation of K$_{7,9}$A-Fyn. To verify this supposition, the effect of varying the ratio of NMT cDNA to Fyn cDNA was tested. Myristoylation levels of K$_{7,9}$A-Fyn increased twofold, using twice the amount of NMT cDNA and three- to fivefold using five times more NMT cDNA (Fig. 4 A). No significant effect on myristoylation of wild-type Fyn was observed (Fig. 4 A), implying that the amount of endogenous NMT was sufficient to achieve maximal myristoylation levels of this protein. An analysis of NMT expression by Western blotting confirmed that increasing levels of NMT protein were expressed after cotransfection with NMT cDNA (data not shown). Radiolabeling with Tran$^{35}$S-label, followed by subcellular fractionation, showed that the distribution of wild-type Fyn between the soluble and the membrane fraction was not affected during coexpression of NMT.
Coimmunoprecipitation of Fyn with the \( \zeta \) Chain of the TCR Depends on the Fatty Acylation Status of Fyn

The ability to manipulate fatty acylation of Fyn provided us with a unique opportunity to quantitate the individual contributions of the fatty acids and the surrounding amino acids towards interactions of Fyn with other membrane bound proteins. We chose to evaluate the interactions of Fyn with the \( \zeta \) chain of the TCR complex as a model system. COS-1 cells were cotransfected with cDNAs for Fyn and CD8-\( \zeta \), a chimeric construct containing the extracellular and transmembrane regions of CD8, fused to the cytoplasmic tail of the TCR \( \zeta \) chain (16). Cells were lysed in a 1% digitonin lysis buffer (10, 33) and subjected to immunoprecipitation with anti-CD8 monoclonal antibody. Incubation with protein A/G + agarose beads alone was used as a negative control. When anti-CD8 immunoprecipitates were analyzed by Western blotting using polyclonal anti-Fyn antibody, a signal for Fyn was obtained using lysates from cells coexpressing Fyn and CD8-\( \zeta \) (Fig. 5 A, lane 3). Relative to the amount of wild-type Fyn, only marginal amounts (<5%) of G2A-Fyn and C3,6S-Fyn were detected after immunoprecipitation with anti-CD8 antisera (Fig. 5, A, lanes 5 and 7, and B). Since G2A-Fyn is neither myristoylated nor palmitoylated and C3,6S-Fyn is myristoylated but not palmitoylated (1, 43), these data indicate that fatty acylation of Fyn with both myristate and palmi-

![Figure 5. Coimmunoprecipitation of wild-type or mutant Fyn constructs with CD8-\( \zeta \). (A) COS-1 cells were cotransfected with cDNAs encoding wild-type or mutant Fyn (see Table I), CD8-\( \zeta \), and NMT where indicated. Cells were lysed in digitonin buffer and subjected to immunoprecipitation with anti-CD8 monoclonal antibody (+) or with protein A/G + agarose beads alone (−). Immunoprecipitates were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and Western blotting using polyclonal anti-Fyn antibody (top). Subsequently, the blot was stripped and reprobed using anti-CD8 monoclonal antibody; the distribution of the 41-kD form of CD8-\( \zeta \) is shown (middle). After immunoprecipitation with anti-Fyn antibody, lysates were subjected to a second immunoprecipitation step, using polyclonal anti-CD8 monoclonal antibody; the expression levels of Fyn protein coimmunoprecipitating with CD8-\( \zeta \) were quantified by scanning of films. Films were exposed for different times to the blot and measurements were made in the linear range of the film. The measured values for coimmunoprecipitation with CD8-\( \zeta \) were corrected for total expression levels and values are expressed relative to the amount of wild-type Fyn that coimmunoprecipitates with CD8-\( \zeta \). Given values represent the mean of two experiments.](https://www.jcb.org/content/145/1/382/F5)
tate is required for association of Fyn with CD8-ζ. K79A-Fyn was also impaired (~70%) in its ability to coimmunoprecipitate with CD8-ζ (Fig. 5A), a result similar to that obtained by Gau et al. (11) for association of K79A-Fyn with a VSV G-ζ chimera. However, the level of coimmunoprecipitation of K79A-Fyn with CD8-ζ could be increased twofold by overexpression of exogenous NMT (Fig. 5A, lane 11, and B) and this correlates well with the twofold increase in myristoylation levels (Fig. 4B). This gain of function experiment indicates that the presence of lysine residues at positions 7 and 9 in Fyn is not required per se for an interaction with the ζ chain, but rather for efficient fatty acylation of Fyn. In addition, Gαζ-Fyn (41) and Lck(10)Fyn, fusion proteins in which the first 10 amino acids of Fyn are replaced with those of human Gαζ or human Lck (Table I) were analyzed. Both constructs are efficiently dually fatty acylated (see reference 41 and Table I), yet their NH2-terminal sequences are distinct from that of Fyn outside the met-gly-cys motif (Table I). AAs depicted in Fig. 5B, the levels of Gαζ-Fyn and Lck(10)Fyn coimmunoprecipitating with CD8-ζ were similar (~90%) to that of wild-type Fyn (Fig. 5B), providing two additional examples of the need for dual fatty acylation rather than specific lysine residues for interaction of Fyn with CD8-ζ. Controls indicated that expression levels of CD8-ζ and Fyn constructs were constant throughout the experiments (see Fig. 5A).

Inhibition of Myristoylation, Membrane Binding, and CD8-ζ Association of Wild-Type Fyn by Treatment with 2-Hydroxymyristate

In an attempt to manipulate fatty acylation levels of wild-type Fyn, the effects of 2-hydroxymyristate, a potent inhibitor of NMT (25, 27) was tested. Transfected COS-1 cells expressing wild-type Fyn were treated with 2-hydroxymyristate and radiolabeled with either Tran35S-label or 125I-IC13. Analysis of immunoprecipitated Fyn after SDS-PAGE showed that the level of 35S-labeled protein was unaffected but that the level of 125I-IC13 labeling was significantly decreased (83%) after treatment with 2-hydroxymyristate (Fig. 6A). Subsequently, analysis of the subcellular distribution of Fyn after treatment with 2-hydroxymyristate showed a dramatic increase in the amount of soluble Fyn. More than 95% of Fyn was recovered from the membrane P100 fraction of control cells, whereas ~40% was observed in the soluble fraction after 2-hydroxymyristate treatment (Fig. 6A). Next, the effect on coimmunoprecipitation of wild-type Fyn with CD8-ζ was analyzed. 2-Hydroxymyristate treatment caused a significant decrease in the amount of wild-type Fyn coimmunoprecipitating with CD8-ζ (Fig. 6B), to ~40% of control levels. A 2-hydroxymyristate treatment, wild-type Fyn still retains glycine 2, cysteine 3, and lysines 7 and 9, all of the residues previously implicated as part of an ITAM binding motif on Fyn, yet it cannot associate with ζ.

Association of Fyn with ζ Chain: The NH2 Terminus of Fyn Alone Is Not Sufficient and Functional SH2- and SH1-kinase Domains Are Essential

To further define the nature of the observed association between Fyn and TCR ζ, the following series of experiments was performed. Fig. 7A, lane 9, highlighting that Fyn and CD8-ζ need to be present within the same cell.

Next, the functional requirements within the Fyn protein structure for association with CD8-ζ were evaluated. We first tested whether the Fyn NH2 terminus alone is sufficient for interaction with the ζ chain in cells, using Fyn(16)GFP, a chimeric construct containing the first 16 amino acids of Fyn fused to GFP. Fyn(16)GFP expressed in COS-1 cells was dually acylated with myristate and palmitate (data not shown), and after extraction with nonionic detergent buffer, ~60% of total Fyn(16)GFP was re-
covered from the detergent insoluble fraction (Fig. 7 B). Thus, Fyn(16)GFP is processed and targeted like wild-type Fyn and other chimeras containing the Fyn SH4 motif (41, 43). After coexpression of Fyn(16)GFP and CD8-ζ in COS-1 cells, followed by digitonin lysis, no Fyn(16)GFP was detected in anti-CD8 immunoprecipitates, although there was a strong signal after immunoprecipitation with (-) or without (--) monoclonal antibody against CD8 (lanes 1-10) or Fyn (lanes 11 and 12). In addition, immunoprecipitation was performed using a mixed digitonin lysate, derived from cells transfected separately with CD8-ζ or Fyn (lanes 9 and 10). Immunoprecipitates were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and Western blotting using polyclonal anti-Fyn antibody. (C) COS-1 cells were transfected with Fyn(16)GFP cDNA and either lysed in RIIPA buffer and subjected to immunoprecipitation using anti-Fyn antibody (Total) or fractionated into 1% Triton X-100 soluble (S) or resistant (R) fractions before immunoprecipitation (left). For immunoprecipitation analysis, COS-1 cells were transfected with Fyn(16)GFP and CD8-ζ cDNA, lysed in digitonin buffer, and subjected to immunoprecipitation with (+) or without (--) anti-GFP or anti-CD8 antibody (right). Immunoprecipitates were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and Western blotting using polyclonal anti-Fyn. (C) COS-1 cells were transfected with cDNA encoding CD8-ζ and either wild-type Fyn, K299M-Fyn, ΔSH2-Fyn, or R176K-Fyn. Digitonin lysates were subjected to immunoprecipitation with anti-CD8 antibody (left) or anti-Fyn monoclonal antibody (right) and immunoprecipitates were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and Western blotting with anti-Fyn antibody. The locations of full length Fyn and ΔSH2-Fyn are indicated by the arrows. The weak signal in the K299M-Fyn lane (left) may be accounted for by phosphorylation of CD8-ζ by endogenous Fyn (see Fig. 8 A, legend).

Association of Fyn with ζ Chain Requires Phosphorylation of ζ ITAMs by Fyn

Based on the findings described above that kinase activity and the SH2 domain in Fyn are critical, we addressed the relevance of the ITAM motifs in the ζ chain for association with Fyn. First, the tyrosine phosphorylation status of CD8-ζ was tested by immunoprecipitation with anti-CD8 antibody followed by antiphosphotyrosine Western blotting analysis. As shown in Fig. 8 A, CD8-ζ was strongly tyrosine phosphorylated when coexpressed with Fyn, ΔSH2-
Table III. Quantitative Analysis of Coimmunoprecipitation of Fyn with CD8-ζ

| Construct | Relative coimmunoprecipitation |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| CD8-ζ     | + Fyn 100%                     |
|           | + K299M-Fyn 35%               |
|           | + ΔSH2-Fyn 14%                |
|           | + R176K-Fyn 38%               |
| CD8-ζT76  | + Fyn 91%                      |
| CD8-ζ+4F  | + Fyn 19%                      |
| CD8-ζ     | + FynKRas 93%                 |
|           | + G2A,C,S-FynKRas 26%         |

COS-1 cells were transfected with cDNAs encoding the indicated constructs, and coimmunoprecipitation experiments were performed as described in Fig. 5. In each experiment, coimmunoprecipitation of Fyn protein construct with anti–CD8 antibody was measured in duplicate and multiple films representing different exposure times to the blot were used to ensure linearity of the signal. These values were first corrected for the total level of Fyn protein in each immunoprecipitation, as measured by the second blot were used to ensure linearity of the signal. These values were first corrected for the total level of Fyn protein in each immunoprecipitation, as measured by the second Fyn immunoprecipitation step (see Materials and Methods). Given numbers for each construct with anti–CD8 antibody coimmunoprecipitation experiments were performed as described in Fig. 5. In each experiment, coimmunoprecipitation of Fyn protein construct with anti–CD8 antibody was measured in duplicate and multiple films representing different exposure times to the blot were used to ensure linearity of the signal. These values were first corrected for the total level of Fyn protein in each immunoprecipitation, as measured by the second Fyn immunoprecipitation step (see Materials and Methods). Given numbers for each test are expressed relative to the amount of wild-type Fyn that coimmunoprecipitates with full length CD8-ζ and represent the mean of two experiments, with errors ranging from 5 to 15%. The given 100% value of wild-type Fyn coimmunoprecipitating Fyn was measured in duplicate and multiple films representing different exposure times to radiography. CD8-ζ is present in three forms in COS-1 cells, migrating at 36, 38, and 41 kD, respectively (Fig. 8 A, top arrows). Comparison of the migration profiles indicated that the 41-kD band and the smear above it represent the tyrosine phosphorylated forms of CD8-ζ (Fig. 8 A, top arrow). Next, the specificity of ζ chain ITAM phosphorylation by Fyn was analyzed by use of a CD8-ζ construct in which the cytoplasmic tail was truncated after the second ITAM motif (CD8-ζ(T76)), and a CD8-ζ(T76) construct in which all four remaining ITAM tyrosines were mutated to phenylalanine (CD8-ζ(4F)) (22). As measured by radiolabeling and immunoprecipitation, the total levels of protein expression in COS-1 cells were similar for each construct (Fig. 8 B, bottom). Truncated CD8-ζ(T76) was observed as one main form that migrated at ~40 kD and the major radiolabeled form of CD8-ζ(4F) was observed to migrate at ~35 kD, as indicated by the arrows. The 40-kD band of CD8-ζ(T76) was tyrosine phosphorylated when coexpressed with Fyn, with moderately reduced levels compared with full length CD8-ζ, whereas no tyrosine phosphorylation was observed for the CD8-ζ(4F) mutant (Fig. 8 B). A analysis of the association of Fyn with the different CD8-ζ constructs showed that similar amounts (~90%) of Fyn coimmunoprecipitated with CD8-ζ(T76), whereas very little (~<20%) Fyn was observed in the CD8-ζ(4F) immunoprecipitate (Fig. 8 C, and Table III). These results show that phosphorylation of ITAM tyrosines in the ζ chain by Fyn is critical for association between Fyn and ζ. A similar finding was reported by Pleiman et al. (29), who showed that the SH2 domains of Fyn and ζ bind to the tyrosine phosphorylated ITAM in the Igα receptor.

Association of Fyn with CD8-ζ Is Stabilized in Membrane Rafts

Dual fatty acylation has previously been shown to be required for localization of Fyn to plasma membrane microdomains. COS-1 cells were transfected with cDNAs encoding the indicated constructs, and coimmunoprecipitation experiments were performed as described in Fig. 5. In each experiment, coimmunoprecipitation of Fyn protein construct with anti–CD8 antibody was measured in duplicate and multiple films representing different exposure times to the blot were used to ensure linearity of the signal. These values were first corrected for the total level of Fyn protein in each immunoprecipitation, as measured by the second Fyn immunoprecipitation step (see Materials and Methods). Given numbers for each test are expressed relative to the amount of wild-type Fyn that coimmunoprecipitates with full length CD8-ζ and represent the mean of two experiments, with errors ranging from 5 to 15%. The given 100% value of wild-type Fyn coimmunoprecipitating Fyn was measured in duplicate and multiple films representing different exposure times to radiography. CD8-ζ is present in three forms in COS-1 cells, migrating at 36, 38, and 41 kD, respectively (Fig. 8 A, top arrows). Comparison of the migration profiles indicated that the 41-kD band and the smear above it represent the tyrosine phosphorylated forms of CD8-ζ (Fig. 8 A, top arrow). Next, the specificity of ζ chain ITAM phosphorylation by Fyn was analyzed by use of a CD8-ζ construct in which the cytoplasmic tail was truncated after the second ITAM motif (CD8-ζ(T76)), and a CD8-ζ(T76) construct in which all four remaining ITAM tyrosines were mutated to phenylalanine (CD8-ζ(4F)) (22). As measured by radiolabeling and immunoprecipitation, the total levels of protein expression in COS-1 cells were similar for each construct (Fig. 8 B, bottom). Truncated CD8-ζ(T76) was observed as one main form that migrated at ~40 kD and the major radiolabeled form of CD8-ζ(4F) was observed to migrate at ~35 kD, as indicated by the arrows. The 40-kD band of CD8-ζ(T76) was tyrosine phosphorylated when coexpressed with Fyn, with moderately reduced levels compared with full length CD8-ζ, whereas no tyrosine phosphorylation was observed for the CD8-ζ(4F) mutant (Fig. 8 B). A analysis of the association of Fyn with the different CD8-ζ constructs showed that similar amounts (~90%) of Fyn coimmunoprecipitated with CD8-ζ(T76), whereas very little (~<20%) Fyn was observed in the CD8-ζ(4F) immunoprecipitate (Fig. 8 C, and Table III). These results show that phosphorylation of ITAM tyrosines in the ζ chain by Fyn is critical for association between Fyn and ζ. A similar finding was reported by Pleiman et al. (29), who showed that the SH2 domains of Fyn and ζ bind to the tyrosine phosphorylated ITAM in the Igα receptor.

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domains known as rafts (5, 35, 38, 41, 43). To test for the involvement of rafts in directing the interactions between Fyn and ζ chain, two different approaches were used. First, we analyzed the sensitivity of coimmunoprecipitation of Fyn with CD8-ζ to treatment with octylglucoside and filipin, agents that disrupt raft stability (5, 38). The association of Fyn with CD8-ζ was almost entirely abolished by addition of octylglucoside to the digitonin lysis buffer (Table III). The interaction was also greatly reduced (∼50%) by pretreatment of cells with filipin (Table III), an agent that binds cellular cholesterol, an essential component for raft integrity (5, 38). An alternate approach was based on the recent observation that, in contrast to fatty acylated proteins, farnesylated proteins are largely excluded from detergent-resistant membrane rafts (23). Fyn was tagged at the carboxy terminus with the KRas4B tail (FynKRas), which promotes farnesylation and plasma membrane targeting (15). This construct is both fatty acylated and farnesylated (data not shown). A second construct containing only a functional farnesyl signal was generated by mutating the amino-terminal fatty acylation sites (G2A,C3S-FynKRas). When expressed in COS-1 cells, wild-type Fyn and the two KRas-tagged constructs were completely membrane bound (Fig. 9 A). Wild-type Fyn and FynKRas were also enriched in the Triton X-100 insoluble fraction (Fig. 9 B). In contrast, the amount of G2A,C3S-FynKRas in the Triton X-100 insoluble fraction was significantly lower (Fig. 9 B), suggesting that farnesylated Fyn exhibits reduced association with plasma membrane rafts. Fig. 9 C and Table III show that coimmunoprecipitation of G2A,C3S-FynKRas with CD8-ζ was significantly reduced, whereas association of FynKRas with CD8-ζ was very similar to that of wild-type Fyn. FynKRas and G2A,C3S-FynKRas as kinase activity and ability to phosphorylate ζ ITAM tyrosines were similar to wild-type Fyn (data not shown). These observations imply that fatty acylation not only provides plasma membrane binding of Fyn, but also guides specific localization to membrane subdomains, which is essential for stabilization of the protein–protein interactions between Fyn and the ζ chain.

Discussion

Lysines 7 and 9 Are Required for Efficient N-Myristoylation of Fyn

Lysine residues at positions 7 and 9 are conserved in
nearly all Src family members (36, 37), and, in the context of the NH₂ terminus of v-Src, the lysine at position 7 is critical for efficient myristoylation (6, 19). We were therefore interested in testing the fatty acylation status of K₇,₉A-Fyn, a mutant containing alanine substitutions for lysines 7 and 9. To obtain sensitive measurements of myristoylation levels, different Fyn constructs (Table I) were expressed at high levels in COS cells, and radiolabeling with the iodinated myristate analogue ¹²⁵I-IC13 was performed. A further immunoprecipitation and SDS-PAGE, quantitation of ¹²⁵I-IC13 incorporation into Fyn was accomplished by PhosphorImaging (2), which is not feasible after radiolabeling with conventional 𝛼-H-labeled myristate analogues used in other studies (11). Since all Fyn constructs used in this report contain the same number of methionines and cysteines, labeling with Tran³⁵S-label in parallel gave precise numbers for expression levels of the protein backbone. Subsequent calculation of ¹²⁵I-IC13 per unit of ³⁵S-labeled protein provided a reliable measure of the efficiency of myristoylation for wild-type and mutant Fyn constructs.

Our results show that, as previously established for v-Src (6, 19), lysine 7 is required for efficient myristoylation of Fyn (Table I). In addition, we show that lysine 9 plays an important role in guiding effective myristoylation of Fyn (Table I). Interestingly, the effects of the individual lysine replacements add up to the total effect observed with the double K₇,₉A-Fyn mutant (Fig. 1, and Table I), suggesting that each lysine residue plays an independent role. The conclusion that these lysines are directly involved in a myristoylation event is further substantiated by our finding that the K₇,₉A-Fyn myristoylation defect is specifically reversed by coexpression with wild-type human NMT, but not with enzymatically impaired H₂₁₈N-NMT (28) (Figs. 3 and 4).

Reversal of the K₇,₉A-Fyn myristoylation defect by additional exogenous NMT in our experiments was almost complete (Fig. 4 B). In the experiments described here, we have used cDNA encoding a 49-kD form of human NMT (28), which has full enzymatic activity in vitro and is capable of functionally complementing myristoylation deficiency in yeast (9). A deduced cellular forms of NMT, with higher molecular weights (~ 60 kD) and different intracellular distribution patterns, have been observed (14), and recently a second mammalian NMT was characterized (13). Most notably, missing from the 49-kD form of NMT (9, 28) is an NH₂-terminal sequence containing a polybasic motif that is proposed to function in ribosomal targeting of NMT (14), as well as other cotranslationally active enzymes, such as N-methionylaminopeptidases (21). We have observed that neither the 60-kD form nor the NMT 1 or 2 isoforms (13) reverse the myristoylation defect in K₇,₉A-Fyn more efficiently than the 49-kD form (data not shown).

Lck is the only Src family member that lacks lysines at positions 7 and 9 (36, 37) and one might question whether myristoylation of Lck is impaired relative to the other Src-related kinases. Since quantitation of fatty acylation of full length Lck proved technically difficult, we used an Lck(10)Fyn fusion construct (Table I). Our results show that the fatty acylation profile of the Lck amino terminus is very similar to that of Fyn (Table I), despite the absence of lysines 7 and 9. We infer that in Lck the serine at position 6 (Table I), a preferred residue at this site for recognition by mammalian NMT (17) is sufficient to direct efficient fatty acylation of this sequence. If myristoylation levels of full length Lck were substoichiometric, one would expect that either its membrane association would not be complete or that additional factors (e.g., CD4) would be required to guide membrane binding of Lck. However, nearly all of the Lck in cells appears to be membrane bound (18, 46). Moreover, two recent studies have shown that plasma membrane targeting of Lck can be achieved in the absence of CD4 and that the first 10 amino acids of Lck are sufficient for plasma membrane binding (4, 46). These experiments imply that myristoylation and palmitylation of full length Lck occur efficiently.

The NH₂ Terminus of Fyn Directs Fatty Acylation and Membrane Localization, but Does Not Specify an ITAM Binding Motif

Several earlier reports have described coinmunoprecipitation of the thymic isoform of Fyn with the TCR/CD3 complex (10, 12, 33). The association was only observed under mild detergent conditions and the exact nature of the interaction remained unclear. Recently, the first 10 amino acids of Fyn were shown to be essential for specific binding of Fyn to the ζ subunit, as well as other chains of the TCR complex in heterologous systems (10). On the basis of mutagenesis experiments, it was concluded that the amino acids glycine 2, cysteine 3, and lysines 7 and 9 define a motif for binding to ITAMs and for plasma membrane localization (11).

Our results described here (Figs. 1–4), as well as earlier work from our group and others (1, 35, 41, 43), indicate that these amino acids within the Fyn SH4 domain are essential for optimal fatty acylation and membrane binding of Fyn. Using the coinmunoprecipitation of various Fyn constructs with a CD8-ζ fusion protein (16) as a model, we present three lines of evidence to demonstrate that the Fyn SH4 domain does not represent a specific ITAM binding motif.

First, we show that the reduced coinmunoprecipitation of the K₇,₉A-Fyn mutant with CD8-ζ (Fig. 5, and reference 11) is specifically reversed by overexpression of NMT (Fig. 5). The effect of NMT overexpression is to increase fatty acylation and membrane binding of K₇,₉A-Fyn (Figs. 3 and 4). This gain of function experiment clearly establishes that coinmunoprecipitation of Fyn with CD8-ζ does not require lysines 7 and 9 per se, but their presence is crucial for directing efficient fatty acylation. This conclusion is further substantiated by the observations made with the Gαζ-Fyn and Lck(10)Fyn constructs, which coinmunoprecipitate with CD8-ζ as efficiently as wild-type Fyn (Fig. 5 B). The NH₂-terminal sequences of Gαζ-Fyn and Lck(10)Fyn do not contain lysines at position 7 and 9 (Table I), but they are efficiently fatty acylated (reference 41, and Table I). Second, the loss of function experiment with 2-hydroxy-myristate (Fig. 6) shows that, even in the presence of all the amino acids proposed to constitute the ITAM binding motif (glycine 2, cysteine 3, and lysines 7 and 9), coinmunoprecipitation of wild-type Fyn with CD8-ζ can be ablated. Thus, loss of association of wild-
type Fyn to CD 8-ζ coincides with a reduction of fatty acylation and membrane binding (Fig. 6). Third, Fyn(16)GFP did not coimmunoprecipitate with CD 8-ζ (Fig. 7 B), showing that the first 16 amino acids of Fyn are not sufficient for interaction with the ITAMs on ζ, in agreement with the results of cross-linking studies (34). This implies that other protein determinants in Fyn are involved in mediating the interactions with ζ chain. Indeed, coimmunoprecipitation of Fyn was observed to require both a functional kinase as well as an SH2 domain (Fig. 7 C).

**Colocalization of Fyn and ζ Chain in Cell Surface Rafts**

Coimmunoprecipitation of Fyn with TCR subunits occurs only under mild detergent conditions (10, 12, 33), which has been taken as evidence for low affinity protein–protein interactions. Our findings with Fyn, and a recently growing interest in membrane microdomains (5, 38), suggests the involvement of additional mechanisms for stabilization of the interactions between Src kinases and TCR subunits, which is supported by several recent independent reports (24, 44, 45). In biological membranes, especially plasma membranes, phase-separated “rafts” exist, representing lipid domains enriched in cholesterol and sphingolipids that provide scaffolds for clustering of transmembrane and peripherally associated proteins (5, 38). These rafts or microdomains can be recovered from cells using mild detergent conditions (5). There is growing evidence that key components of TCR-mediated signaling events are localized to rafts. For example, palmitoylation of the T cell transmembrane protein LAT is essential for localization in rafts and T cell tyrosine phosphorylation events (45). Src family kinases, especially Fyn and Lck, are constitutively localized in rafts via dual fatty acylation motifs (35, 41, 43). A colocalization of the TCR results in specific accumulation of ζ chains in plasma membrane rafts (24). In COS cells, ~20% of CD 8-ζ is in the detergent-insoluble fraction (data not shown), similar to the distribution of the ζ chain in resting T cells (7), and this may explain in part why only a limited amount (~20%) of total Fyn coimmunoprecipitates with CD 8-ζ in COS cells. The functional significance of raft localization is evidenced by the finding that disruption of cell surface rafts interferes with early T cell signaling events (44). These observations establish a connection between local accumulation of signaling molecules in plasma membrane rafts and regulated T cell signaling events.

Based on the results reported here and by others (35, 39, 41, 43), the following model emerges. Myristoylation and palmitoylation within the NH2-terminal SH4 domain directs Fyn into detergent-resistant plasma membrane rafts and positions the downstream SH2 and kinase domains in close proximity to the TCR ζ chain. Phosphorylation of the two ITAMs by Fyn (Fig. 8) allows subsequent interaction between the phosphorylated ITAMs and the Fyn SH2 domain (Figs. 7 and 8). A accumulation of Fyn and the ζ chain in rafts increases the local concentration of both proteins and drives their association. The stability and the extent of Fyn SH2/ζ phosphotyrosine interaction is apparently dependent on the integrity of the rafts since treatment with octylglucoside and filipin, agents that disrupt rafts (5, 38), results in dissociation of the Fyn/ζ complex (Table III), presumably due to a decrease of the effective local protein concentrations. This implies that the Fyn SH2/ζ phosphotyrosine interaction is relatively weak, as found for several other SH2/phosphotyrosine interactions (20). In T cells, dissociation of the Fyn SH2 domain from the ζ chain would make ITAM phosphorytouresine residues on ζ accessible for binding to the SH2 domains of other signaling molecules, such as ZAP-70. This model explains why under-myristoylated and underpalmitoylated forms of Fyn, that are not efficiently membrane bound, as well as a farnesylated Fyn construct that is not enriched in membrane subdomains (Fig. 9), do not interact well with the ζ chain. These studies illustrate that the role of the NH2-terminal SH4 motif is to properly position Src kinases within specific locations of cellular membranes for optimal interaction of downstream Src homology domains with other membrane-bound signaling molecules.

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