Relief of the Dma1-mediated checkpoint requires Dma1 autoubiquitination and dynamic localization

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ABSTRACT Chromosome segregation and cell division are coupled to prevent aneuploidy and cell death. In the fission yeast Schizosaccharomyces pombe, the septation initiation network (SIN) promotes cytokinesis, but upon mitotic checkpoint activation, the SIN is actively inhibited to prevent cytokinesis from occurring before chromosomes have safely segregated. SIN inhibition during the mitotic checkpoint is mediated by the E3 ubiquitin ligase Dma1. Dma1 binds to the CK1-phosphorylated SIN scaffold protein Sid4 at the spindle pole body (SPB), and ubiquitiniates it. Sid4 ubiquitination antagonizes the SPB localization of the Polo-like kinase Plo1, the major SIN activator, so that SIN signaling is delayed. How this checkpoint is silenced once spindle defects are resolved has not been clear. Here we establish that Dma1 transiently leaves SPBs during anaphase B due to extensive autoubiquitination. The SIN is required for Dma1 to return to SPBs later in anaphase. Blocking Dma1 removal from SPBs by permanently tethering it to Sid4 prevents SIN activation and cytokinesis. Therefore, controlling Dma1’s SPB dynamics in anaphase is an essential step in S. pombe cell division and the silencing of the Dma1-dependent mitotic checkpoint.

INTRODUCTION Accurate cell division, yielding two genetically identical daughter cells, requires coordination between mitosis and cytokinesis. In the fission yeast Schizosaccharomyces pombe, the septation initiation network (SIN), a protein kinase cascade, coordinates these two events by initiating cytokinesis after chromosome segregation (for review see Krapp and Simanis, 2008; Johnson et al., 2012b; Simanis, 2015). When there is a mitotic error, a checkpoint mechanism inhibits SIN signaling to prevent cytokinesis from occurring before chromosomes have safely segregated (Marks et al., 1992; Murone and Simanis, 1996; Guertin et al., 2002; Johnson and Gould, 2011). This checkpoint operates in parallel to the spindle assembly checkpoint (Murone and Simanis, 1996; Johnson et al., 2013; Musacchio, 2015). Checkpoints with the similar purpose of maintaining coordination between chromosome segregation and cytokinesis also exist in Saccharomyces cerevisiae and mammals (Mendoza and Barral, 2008; Caydasi and Pereira, 2012; Nahse et al., 2017).

SIN inhibition during a mitotic error depends on the dimeric E3 ubiquitin ligase Dma1, a member of the FHA and RING finger family (Brooks et al., 2008). Dma1 was identified as a high copy suppressor of a hyperactive SIN mutant, and it is required to prevent septation during a prometaphase arrest elicited by the β-tubulin mutant nda3- km311 (Hirakoa et al., 1984; Murone and Simanis, 1996). Overproduction of Dma1 completely blocks SIN activity and results in cell death (Guertin et al., 2002), indicating its levels and activity must be properly regulated. Dma1 colocalizes with SIN components both at the cell division site and at the mitotic spindle pole body (SPB). network (SIN), a protein kinase cascade, coordinates these two events by initiating cytokinesis after chromosome segregation (for review see Krapp and Simanis, 2008; Johnson et al., 2012b; Simanis, 2015). When there is a mitotic error, a checkpoint mechanism inhibits SIN signaling to prevent cytokinesis from occurring before chromosomes have safely segregated (Marks et al., 1992; Murone and Simanis, 1996; Guertin et al., 2002; Johnson and Gould, 2011). This checkpoint operates in parallel to the spindle assembly checkpoint (Murone and Simanis, 1996; Johnson et al., 2013; Musacchio, 2015). Checkpoints with the similar purpose of maintaining coordination between chromosome segregation and cytokinesis also exist in Saccharomyces cerevisiae and mammals (Mendoza and Barral, 2008; Caydasi and Pereira, 2012; Nahse et al., 2017).

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(Guertin et al., 2002); however, it is Dma1’s SPB localization and its ubiquitination of the SIN scaffold protein, Sid4 (Chang and Gould, 2000; Morrell et al., 2004), that is required for SIN inhibition during a mitotic checkpoint (Johnsson and Gould, 2011). Sid4 ubiquitination antagonizes the SPB localization of the Polo-like kinase Plo1 (Guertin et al., 2002; Johnsson and Gould, 2011), the major SIN activator (Ohkura et al., 1995; Mulvihill et al., 1999; Tanaka et al., 2001), so that SIN signaling is blocked and cytokinesis is delayed.

Upon resolution of the mitotic spindle defect, the Dma1-dependent checkpoint signal must be extinguished to resume SIN activation and cell division. Here we report that Dma1 exhibits striking fluctuations in its localization to SPBs and the division site during the cell cycle. We found that both SIN activity and Dma1 auto ubiquitination modulate Dma1 SPB localization dynamics and therefore its ability to inhibit the SIN. By permanently tethering Dma1 to SPBs and preventing these fluctuations, the SIN fails to become active and cytokinesis is blocked. Therefore, Dma1’s dynamic SPB localization is a critical feature of S. pombe cytokinesis and silencing of the mitotic checkpoint.

RESULTS
Dma1’s E3 ligase activity impacts its abundance and localization

Consistent with previous literature (Guertin et al., 2002; Johnsson and Gould, 2011), we observed that Dma1 tagged at its endogenous locus with mNeonGreen (mNG) (Shaner et al., 2013; Willet et al., 2015) (Figure 1A) concentrates at SPBs during mitosis, where it is required for SIN inhibition (Guertin et al., 2002). We also observed localization at cell tips during interphase and at the division site during mitosis and cytokinesis. Given that wild-type Dma1 did not appear to localize to SPBs during the majority of interphase (Figure 1A), we sought to identify the mechanism(s) that influences Dma1 SPB targeting and SIN inhibition.

Because Dma1 localization changes over the course of the cell cycle, we undertook time-lapse imaging experiments to clarify the timing of Dma1 localization to the SPB and cell division site. Dma1-mNG became enriched at SPBs prior to SPB separation (Figure 1B and Supplemental Figure S1A). Unexpectedly, at the onset of mitosis, Dma1-mNG appeared in nodule-like structures, a pattern previously undetected for Dma1 (Guertin et al., 2002), that partially overlapped with cytokinetic precursor nodes marked by Rlc1 (Rincon and Paolletti, 2012), before forming a ring at the division site (Figure 1B and Supplemental Figure S1B). Then Dma1-mNG appeared to transiently leave SPBs during anaphase B, returning to them before telophase and then leaving again after cell division (Figure 1, B and C, and Supplemental Figure S1C). In 24 of 28 (86%) mitotic SPBs, Dma1-mNG signal transiently dimmed or became undetectable, whereas the SPB markers Sid4-mCherry or Sad1-mCherry did not. Dma1 SPB dimming occurred within 2 min of anaphase B onset in 90% of cells exhibiting this phenomenon, and it returned to SPBs in all cases before the end of anaphase B, marked by maximal SPB separation, and then left again at cell division. In a few cases, the Dma1 signal was observed to “flicker” on and off a SPB during anaphase B and to shift in intensity between the two SPBs.

Similarly, Dma1-mNG was observed to leave and then return to the division site although with delayed kinetics (min 18–26) compared with what was observed at SPBs (min 14–16) (Figure 1, B and C, and Supplemental Figure S1, A and B). The role of Dma1 at the division site is not yet understood because no binding partners or substrates at the medial cortex have been identified.

Interestingly, in contrast to wild-type Dma1, we found that the Dma1-I194A mutant, which lacks ubiquitin ligase activity due to a mutation in the RING-finger domain (Johnson and Gould, 2011), was detectable at SPBs throughout the cell cycle when it was tagged with mNG (Figure 1D) or GFP (unpublished data) at its C-terminus, or either fluorophore at its N-terminus (unpublished data). Dma1-I194A-mNG signal persisted at SPBs throughout the cell cycle, only detectably dimming at 14% of mitotic SPBs, although its dynamic localization at the cell division site appeared like wild type (Figure 1E and Supplemental Figure S1). Also, in 20 of 20 cells Dma1-I194A-mNG localized more intensely at one of the two SPBs for most of mitosis (Figure 1, E and F). Thus, Dma1 localization is more dynamic than previously appreciated, and Dma1 catalytic activity affects its SPB dynamics. Because Dma1 activity does not impact its cell division site localization dynamics, a different mechanism of targeting to this site must be in place.

Sid4 ubiquitination does not impact Dma1 accumulation at SPBs

To determine why Dma1-I194A was less dynamic at SPBs during mitosis than Dma1, we examined whether the ubiquitination status of either of Dma1’s two known substrates, Sid4 and Dma1 itself (Johnson and Gould, 2011), modulated its localization. To investigate whether the absence of Sid4 ubiquitination promoted Dma1 localization to SPBs, we first needed to develop a strain in which Sid4 ubiquitination was abrogated. The canonical approach is to replace target lysines with arginines; however, previous attempts to construct such a Sid4 variant were unsuccessful (Johnson and Gould, 2011; Johnson et al., 2013). We therefore turned to a method described previously to eliminate ubiquitination of a protein of interest—fusion to a debubiquitinating enzyme (DUB) catalytic domain (Stringer and Piper, 2011).

To identify the appropriate DUB for fusion to Sid4, we screened 18 of the 20 S. pombe DUBs for their ability to rescue Dma1 overexpression-induced cytokinesis failure and cell death when the DUB was also overproduced (Murone and Simanis, 1996; Guertin et al., 2002). Four of the 18 DUBs (Ubp1, Ubp2, Ubp7, and Ubp14) suppressed Dma1-induced cell death when they were coordinately overproduced, presumably by reversing Sid4 ubiquitination. Of these, only Ubp7 has diffuse cytoplasmic localization and functions independently of other subunits in vivo (Kouranti et al., 2010), making it well suited for our purpose. The ubiquitin specific protease (USP) domain of Ubp7 was fused to the C-terminus of Sid4 (Sid4-DUB) and produced under control of the native sid4+ promoter as the sole version of Sid4 in the cell. The fusion did not affect cell viability, but the Sid4-DUB fusion was still ubiquitinated (Supplemental Figure S2A), indicating that the DUB was not able to access Sid4 ubiquitination sites.

We next tested whether adding the Ubp7 USP domain to the C-terminus of the Sid4 binding partner Ppc89 (Rosenberg et al., 2006) eliminated Sid4 ubiquitination. The Ppc89-Ubp7 USP fusion (hereafter called Ppc89-DUB) abolished Sid4 ubiquitination, comparable to deletion of dma1 (Supplemental Figure S2B). The ppc89-DUB strain grew similarly to wild type at a variety of temperatures (Supplemental Figure S2C), and as would be expected when Sid4 cannot accumulate ubiquitin modifications, the ppc89-DUB strain resisted Dma1 overexpression-induced cell death (Supplemental Figure S2D).

To determine whether lack of Sid4 ubiquitination affected Dma1-mNG localization, we measured and compared Dma1-mNG SPB intensity relative to Sad1-mCherry in wild-type and ppc89-DUB strains and found no difference (Supplemental Figure S2, E and F). Moreover, the dynamic localization of Dma1-mNG to the SPB and division site was unchanged in the ppc89-DUB strain, although mitotic progression took longer in this strain; of 22 SPBs examined in 11 cells,
Dma1-mNG was transiently undetectable on 17 and diminished on 5 others during anaphase (Supplemental Figure S2, G and H). These data demonstrate that an absence of Sid4 ubiquitination does not account for the differences observed in catalytically inactive Dma1 dynamic localization at SPBs relative to wild-type Dma1.

**FIGURE 1:** Dynamics of Dma1 localization through the cell cycle. (A, D) Live cell images of *dma1-mNG* (A) and *dma1-I194A-mNG* (D). Scale bar, 5 µm. (B, E) Images from representative movies of *dma1-mNG sid4-mCherry* (B) and *dma1-I194A-mNG sid4-mCherry* (E). Arrows indicate Dma1 localization in cytokinetic nodelike structures. Arrowheads indicate Dma1 localization to cell tips. Brackets indicate times of reduced Dma1 detection at the division site. Time in minutes denoted below images; 0 indicates initial frame of SPB separation. Scale bars, 5 µm. (C, F) Enlarged SPB region(s) from movies in B and E. Scale bars, 1 µm.

Dma1-I194A-mNG from panel E

**Dma1 exhibits promiscuous autoubiquitination in vivo and in vitro**

In addition to displaying distinct dynamics, by comparing Dma1-mNG and Dma1-I194A-mNG intensities normalized to the SPB marker Sad1-mCherry (Hagan and Yanagida, 1995), we found that...
Dma1-I194A-mNG was more abundant (3.2-fold) at SPBs in both mitotic and septated cells compared with wild-type Dma1 (Figure 2A). Although we did not quantitate Dma1-I194A abundance at the division site or cell tips, it was visibly more intense than wild-type Dma1 at these sites as well (Figure 1D).

To determine whether the different intensities measured at SPBs reflected increased abundance of Dma1-I194A relative to wild-type Dma1, we examined protein levels by whole cell fluorescence intensity and immunoblotting (Figure 2, B and C). By both methods, the mutant protein was 2.6-fold higher in abundance, indicating that inactivating the catalytic activity of Dma1 causes an increase in total Dma1 protein. However, the overall difference in protein abundance was not as high as the difference in SPB intensity (2.6-fold increase vs. 3.2-fold increase) and so cannot fully...
account for the increased protein and lack of dynamics of Dma1-I194A observed at SPBs. Dma1 autoubiquitates in vitro (Johnson et al., 2012a; Wang et al., 2012). Therefore, we next asked whether a lack of autoubiquitination in catalytically inactive Dma1-I194A could explain its increased SPB localization and decreased SPB localization dynamics.

To establish that Dma1 autoubiquitates in vivo, Dma1 and Dma1-I194A, both tagged with his$_6$-biotin-his$_6$ (HBH), were purified under fully denaturing conditions and probed for the presence of ubiquitinated forms by immunoblotting. Using the mts3-1 proteasome mutant to block turnover of ubiquitinated proteins, we detected ubiquitin modification of wild-type Dma1 but not catalytically inactive Dma1-I194A (Figure 2D) (Gordon et al., 1996). Thus, Dma1 autoubiquitates in vivo as well as in vitro.

To test the idea that Dma1 autoubiquitination might promote its proteasomal degradation, we measured Dma1 levels in mts3-1 relative to wild type and found that Dma1 was more abundant in mts3-1-arrested cells (Figure 2E). These data are consistent with autoubiquitination triggering Dma1 destruction.

To investigate directly whether ubiquitin modifications affect Dma1’s ability to localize to SPBs, we sought to identify and mutate the autoubiquitinated residues. We first examined the sites of Dma1 autoubiquitination in vitro using recombinant Dma1 (Figure 2F) (Johnson et al., 2012a; Wang et al., 2012). Dma1 contains 14 lysines that could be targeted for autoubiquitination. A series of mutants containing increasing numbers of lysine to arginine mutations was generated recombinantly and assayed for autoubiquitination using methyl ubiquitin to prevent chain elongation. Though the number of ubiquitin moieties added to Dma1 decreased with increasing availability of lysines, only lysine-less Dma1 (Dma1-14KR) was completely unmodified (Figure 2G). Dma1 also ubiquitinated its maltose-binding protein (MBP) tag if the tag was not removed prior to the ubiquitination reaction (Figure 2H), indicating that Dma1 promiscuously ubiquitinates lysines in its proximity.

To determine which Dma1 lysines are ubiquitinated in vivo, we performed LC-MS/MS analyses on Dma1 purified from cells at different cell-cycle stages. Nine ubiquitinated lysines of the 14 possible were identified (Supplemental Figures S3A-I and S4A). We constructed mutant strains in which the 9 identified modified lysines or all 14 lysines in the protein were substituted with arginine (9KR and 14KR, respectively). Surprisingly, both Dma1 mutants tagged endogenously with the HBH tag were ubiquitinated (Supplemental Figure S4B). The abundance of Dma1-14KR was significantly reduced, likely because so many mutations disrupted its structure (Supplemental Figure S4B). However, that both were still ubiquitinated, combined with the ability of Dma1 and Dma1-14KR to ubiquitinate an MBP tag in vitro (Figure 2H), suggested that tags on the protein could be ubiquitinated in lieu of, or in addition to, Dma1 lysines. Indeed, LC-MS/MS analyses of Dma1-TAP and Dma1-HBH purified from cells identified ubiquitinated lysine residues in both tags (Supplemental Figure S3, J and K), confirming that Dma1 ubiquitinates its tags both in vitro and in vivo. Therefore, we predict that although the Dma1-9KR-mNG and Dma1-14KR mutants exhibited wild-type localization dynamics (Supplemental Figure S4, C and D; unpublished data), this is because Dma1 is still able to ubiquitinate the mNG tag.

We next reasoned that wild-type Dma1 would be able to autoubiquitinate an inactive form of itself in close proximity and therefore restore wild-type dynamics to the catalytically inactive mutant. To test this, we constructed three diploid strains containing one mNG-tagged allele: dma1-mNG/dma1; dma1-I194A-mNG/dma1; dma1-I194A-mNG/dma1-I194A. When both alleles were wild type or both inactive, the localization dynamics of the tagged protein mirrored the haploid situation, with Dma1-mNG dimming or disappearing from 100% of 20 SPBs during anaphase (Figure 3, A and D) and Dma1-I194A-mNG showing no change at 84% of 44 SPBs (Figure 3, B and E). In contrast, when Dma1-I194A-mNG was combined with wild-type Dma1, the tagged inactive protein now exhibited dynamics similar to wild type, with the Dma1-I194A-mNG signal dimming or disappearing at 93% of 28 SPBs during anaphase (Figure 3, C and F). This result indicates that the untagged wild-type Dma1 ubiquitinates the inactive Dma1-I194A-mNG, a reaction that could occur in cis or trans because Dma1 is a dimer (Johnson et al., 2012a). These results are consistent with a model in which autoubiquitination triggers the transient loss of Dma1 from SPBs during early anaphase B to allow SIN activation.

To test directly whether Dma1 autoubiquitination prevents its binding to phosphorylated Sid4, a step necessary for SIN inhibition, full-length Dma1 was purified from bacteria. Like the FHA domain alone (Johnson et al., 2013), full-length Dma1 preferentially bound phosphorylated Sid4 peptide (Figure 4A). When Dma1 was allowed to autoubiquitinate prior to the binding reaction, it did not bind the Sid4 phosphopeptide, and the ubiquitinated Dma1 was detected in the supernatant (Figure 4, A and B). To clearly detect unbound ubiquitinated Dma1, the supernatants of the binding reaction were incubated with USP2, a commercially available deubiquitinating enzyme that shows activity towards multiple types of ubiquitin chains in vitro (Komander et al., 2009). USP2 treatment allowed detection of Dma1 in the supernatants and confirmed that it did not bind the beads (Figure 4A), confirming that Dma1 can interact with Sid4 phosphopeptide only if it is not ubiquitinated. If Dma1 was bound to the Sid4 phosphopeptide before the ubiquitination reaction, then it was released into the supernatant upon ubiquitination (Figure 4, C and D). These data support the idea that autoubiquitination at the onset of anaphase B triggers Dma1 removal from phosphorylated Sid4 at SPBs to allow SIN activation.

Relationship between Dma1 SPB dynamics and the SIN

The dynamic localization of Dma1 during mitosis is reminiscent of that displayed by several SIN components (Johnson et al., 2012b; Simanis, 2015). Asymmetric SPB localization of Cdc7 to one SPB and localization of Sid2 to the division site are considered markers of maximal SIN activation and Cdk1 inhibition (Johnson et al., 2012b; Simanis, 2015). Therefore, we imaged Dma1-mNG in combination with those two SIN components (Figure 5) to place the timing of dynamic Dma1 localization in the context of SIN activation. Dma1-mNG SPB dimming occurred 1–2 min in 14 cells and 3–5 min in three cells prior to the development of detectable asymmetry in Cdc7-mCherry signal in the 17 cells examined (Figure 5, A and B), and the transient reduction in Dma1 division site localization preceded Sid2 division site localization in all 8 cells examined (Figure 5C).

To test whether SIN activity modulated Dma1’s localization pattern, Dma1-mNG was imaged in the SIN mutant cdc7-24 as cells passed through mitosis. Dma1-mNG intensity dimmed or disappeared at 21 of 22 SPBs in 11 cells, but it never reintensified at SPBs as in wild-type cells (Figure 6, A and B), indicating that SIN activity is important for Dma1 reaccumulation at SPBs in late anaphase. Dma1 showed dynamics similar to wild type, with the Dma1-I194A-mNG signal dimming or disappearing at 93% of 28 SPBs during anaphase (Figure 6, C and D). Since in wild-type cells the SIN is not maximally active until Cdc1 activity falls later in anaphase (He et al., 1997; Guertin et al., 2000; Dischinger et al., 2008), these results raise the possibility that...
FIGURE 3: Dma1 catalytic activity drives its localization dynamics. (A–C) Images from representative movies of dma1-mNG/dma1+ (A), dma1-I194A-mNG/dma1-I194A (B), and dma1-I194A-mNG/dma1+ (C). Time in minutes denoted below images. Time 0 indicates initial frame of SPB separation. Scale bars, 5 µm. (D–F) Enlarged SPB region(s) from movies in A–C. Scale bars, 1 µm.

high SIN activity promotes Dma1 SPB reaccumulation at the end of anaphase.

Constitutive Dma1 localization to SPBs prevents cytokinesis
We next wanted to determine the importance of Dma1 transiently cycling off of SPBs during anaphase B by permanently tethering it to SPBs. To do this, we tagged Sid4 at its endogenous locus with GFP-binding protein (GBP), which has a high affinity for GFP (Rothbauer et al., 2006, 2008). When a sid4-GBP-mCherry or sid4-GBP strain was crossed to dma1-GFP, many double mutants (31/35 and 7/19, respectively) were dead. Similarly, synthetic lethality was previously observed when the tags were reversed and dma1-GBP-mCherry was expressed in a sid4-GFP strain (Chen et al., 2017), although in this study, colocalization at SPBs and dependency of cell death on failed cytokinesis was not determined. Fortunately, we were able to recover some double-tagged strains for imaging, although they grew very poorly: 22% of dma1-GFP sid4-GBP-mCherry and 11% of dma1-GFP sid4-GBP cells were dead or lysing. In live dma1-GFP sid4-GBP-mCherry cells, Dma1-GFP localized to the division site normally and colocalized with Sid4-GFP-mCherry at SPBs at all stages of the cell cycle (Figure 7A), indicating that Dma1-GFP was tethered permanently to SPBs. In both double mutant strains, there was a higher percentage of multi-nucleated cells than in wild type and 46% of binucleated cells had “kissing” nuclei (Figure 7, B–D), indicative of SIN failure (Hagan and Hyams, 1988). We reasoned that if the SIN was inhibited in these strains via Dma1-mediated Sid4 ubiquitination, introducing the ppc89-DUB fusion allele that prevents Sid4 ubiquitination (Supplemental Figure S2B) should rescue growth of dma1-GFP sid4-GBP-mCherry cells. As predicted, of the 14 dma1-GFP sid4-GBP-mCherry ppc89-DUB triple mutant strains constructed, all were viable and showed reduced levels of multinucleation and “kissing” nuclei (Figure 4D). These data indicate that constitutive association of Dma1 with Sid4 drives Sid4 ubiquitination, compromises SIN activity, and results in cytokinesis failure. Thus, Dma1’s transient loss from SPBs at the onset of anaphase must be a critical step in silencing the mitotic checkpoint, as well as allowing cytokinesis to proceed in unperturbed cells.

DISCUSSION
SPB localization of the ubiquitin ligase Dma1 is required for its function in a mitotic checkpoint that stalls cytokinesis through SIN inhibition when a mitotic spindle cannot form (Murone and Simanis, 1996; Guertin et al., 2002). In this report, we show that Dma1 exhibits previously unrecognized dynamic localization to SPBs and the cell division site during anaphase. We found that both the SIN and autoubiquitination modulate Dma1 SPB localization dynamics, and therefore its function, in the checkpoint. Further, our data show that if Dma1 is prevented from leaving Sid4 on the SPBs, cells fail division, indicating that Dma1’s transient loss from SPBs is a critical step in cytokinesis and cell survival.

Dma1 division site localization
Though Dma1 was previously shown to localize to the division site (Guertin et al., 2002), our time-lapse imaging experiments with the
brighter mNG fluorophore (Shaner et al., 2013) revealed more detail. Dma1-mNG initially appears in nodelike structures, reminiscent of cytokinetic precursor nodes (Rincon and Paoletti, 2012), before coalescing into a ring. In addition, Dma1 leaves the division site after anaphase B onset and before ring constriction and then reappears at the division site before cell division. The role of Dma1 at the division site is not yet understood, because no binding partners or substrates at the medial cortex have been identified. Because neither Dma1 activity nor the SIN impacts its cell division site localization dynamics, a different mechanism of targeting to this site must be in place. Importantly, tethering Dma1 to Sid4 at the SPB using the GBP-GFP system blocked cytokinesis without disrupting Dma1 localization to the division site, validating that it is Dma1’s SPB localization that is important for controlling SIN function. We also detected Dma1 localization to cell tips in this study, but, again, its mechanism of targeting and function there are not known.

SIN regulation of Dma1 dynamics

Although the transient dip in Dma1 SPB localization in early anaphase depends on its catalytic activity and is independent of SIN function, SIN activity is required for Dma1’s reaccumulation at SPBs later in anaphase. This observation may reflect a change in Dma1’s autoubiquitination activity or that of a counteracting deubiquitinating enzyme or reveals a component of negative feedback in which the SIN activates an inhibitor to direct its own silencing (Garcia-Cortes and McCollum, 2009). Since Dma1 is a phosphoprotein (Koch et al., 2011), it will be interesting to determine the role of phosphorylation in Dma1 regulation and whether this is controlled directly or indirectly by SIN kinases.

Dma1 autoubiquitination controls its dynamic localization at SPBs

Our data show that Dma1 is capable of extensive autoubiquitination in vitro and in vivo. Its promiscuous autoubiquitination, which extended to any tag that we tested that includes lysines, complicated our investigation of its role as we were unable to visualize the dynamic localization of a lysine-less, catalytically active Dma1 protein with confidence in a haploid cell. However, we were able to use heterozygous diploids to show that the active form of the protein was sufficient to remove the inactive form from SPBs during early anaphase. Indeed, our data support the idea...
that autoubiquitination at the onset of anaphase triggers transient Dma1 removal from SPBs to allow full SIN activation (Figure 7E). Preventing Dma1 from leaving the SPB using the GBP trap inhibited the SIN. These results are consistent with the role of Dma1 as a SPB-localized SIN antagonist in early mitosis whose function must be relieved at the onset of anaphase (Guertin et al., 2002; Johnson and Gould, 2011; Johnson et al., 2013).

**FIGURE 5:** SPB dynamics of Dma1 relative to SIN components. Images from representative movies of dma1-mNG cdc7-mCherry (A) and dma1-mNG sid2-mCherry (C). Time in minutes denoted below images. In A, time 0 indicates initial frame of SPB separation while in C, time 0 indicates the beginning of imaging. Scale bars, 5 µm. (B) Enlarged SPB region(s) from movie in A. Scale bars, 1 µm. In A and B, boxes indicate initial frame of asymmetric Cdc7 SPB localization. In C, the box indicates the first frame Sid2 localization to the division site was detected.
Degradation of Dma1

Because the catalytically inactive form of Dma1 is more abundant than wild type, its levels are clearly regulated by its own activity state. While we do not yet know all the factors modulating Dma1 catalytic activity, our data are consistent with autoubiquitination triggering Dma1 destruction. This could happen directly at SPBs, analogously to proteasome-mediated degradation of many regulatory proteins at centrosomes (Vora and Phillips, 2016), or off the centrosome if ubiquitination prevents Dma1 association with its SPB tethers, similarly to what has been observed for another SIN inhibitor, Byr4 (Krapp et al., 2008). This mechanism of inhibiting Dma1, autoubiquitination and self-destruction, may be broadly applicable in signaling pathways when the outcome of substrate ubiquitination is not degradation and signal flux through a pathway must be restored rapidly. Dma1 relatives CHFR and RNF8 are integral components of checkpoint pathways that undergo autoubiquitination in vivo and in vitro (Kang et al., 2002; Lok et al., 2012), but whether this modification is a key step in checkpoint silencing in their cases remains to be determined. To fully understand the factors that modulate the Dma1-dependent mitotic checkpoint, it will be important to determine how Dma1 autoubiquitination is restrained to allow substrate ubiquitination during

**FIGURE 6:** Influence of SIN function on Dma1 localization dynamics. (A) Images from a representative movie of *dma1-mNG sad1-mCherry cdc7-24* following shift to 36°C for 2 h. Time in minutes denoted below images; time 0 indicates initial frame of SPB separation. Scale bar, 5 µm. (B) Enlarged SPB region(s) from movie in A. Scale bars, 1 µm. (C) Representative live cell image of *dma1-mNG sad1-mCherry cdc16-116* shifted to 36°C for 3 h. Scale bar, 10 µm.
FIGURE 7: Dma1 must leave the SPBs for cytokinesis. (A) Representative live cell images of dma1-GFP sid4-GBP-mCherry. (B) Representative DAPI stained images of dma1-GFP sid4-GBP-mCherry. (C) Representative image of dma1-GFP sid4-GBP cells illustrating “kissing nuclei” phenotype indicated with arrows in B and C. Scale bars in A and B, 10 µm; in C, 5 µm. (D) Quantification of cells from B and C with 1, 2, and >2 nuclei and separately “kissing nuclei.” (E) Cartoon showing the dynamic localization of Dma1 throughout mitosis and cytokinesis. In metaphase when the mitotic checkpoint is activated, Dma1 binds and ubiquitinates Sid4. Our data indicate that in early anaphase, Dma1 autoubiquitinates and leaves the SPB allowing maximal SIN activation and cytokinesis.

early mitosis. It will also be important to understand the checkpoint silencing strategies used in other organisms to allow cytokinesis to proceed following chromosome clearance from the division site and whether there are parallels with the strategies used by fission yeast.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Yeast

Yeast strains grown in this study (Supplementary Table S1) were grown in yeast extract (YE), 4X concentrated yeast extract (4X YE), or minimal media supplemented with leucine and uracil for diploid strains (Moreno et al., 1991). Genes were tagged at the 3' end of their open reading frame with mNG:kanR, mNG:HygR, GFP:kanR, mCherry:kanR, mCherry:natR, HBB:kanR, HAT-TAP:kanR, GBP-mCherry:kanR, or ubp7+ (residues 201–875) DUB:kanR using PCR and pFA6 cassettes (Wach et al., 1994; Bahler et al., 1998). For gene replacements, a haploid dma1::ura4+ strain was transformed with the appropriate pIRT2–dma1 mutant, and integrants were selected by resistance to 1.5 mg/ml 5-fluoroorotic acid and validated by colony PCR and DNA sequencing. Diploid strains were made by crossing ade6-M210 cells with ade6-M216 cells on glutamate plates for 24–48 h followed by restreaking to single colonies on MAU plate and incubating at 32°C for 3 d. White colonies (diploid cells) were then picked for subsequent analysis. For spot assays, cells were cultured in YE at 29°C. Serial 10-fold dilutions of each culture were made, 3 µl of each dilution was spotted on YE plates, and they were incubated at various temperatures for 3–4 d. nda3-KM311 cultures were grown at 32°C and then shifted to 18°C for 6 h to block in prometaphase. mts3-1 cells were grown at 25°C and then shifted to 36°C for 3.5 h before imaging or biochemical experiments.

Molecular biology

Plasmids were generated using standard molecular biology techniques. dma1 mutations were made either in the context of a gene fragment in the pIRT2 vector that included 500 base pairs upstream and downstream of the open reading frame or in the context of the open reading frame in pMAL-c2 vector using a QuikChange site-directed mutagenesis kit (Agilent Technologies). The K to R mutation abbreviations are as follows: Dma1-4KR = K3R, K10R, K121R, and K124R; Dma1-9KR = K3R, K26R, K54R, K82R, K124R, K164R, K174R, K237R, and K262R; Dma1-12KR = Dma1-4KR mutations plus K22R, K26R, K162R, K164R, K217R, K237R, and K262R; Dma1-14KR = Dma1-12KR mutations plus K54R, and K82R.

cDNAs encoding Ubp2, Ubp3, Ubp4, Ubp8, Ubp14, Ubp15, Ubp16, and Uch1 were amplified by PCR from genomic S. pombe DNA using primers containing restriction sites. PCR products were digested with restriction enzymes (NdeI/BamHI for ubp2 and ubp3 and Ndel/Xmal for ubp4, ubp8, ubp14, ubp15, ubp16, and uch1),
subcloned into pREP1, and verified by sequencing. DNAs encoding Ubp1, Ubp7, Ubp9, Ubp11, Otu1, Otu2, and Sst2 were digested from genomic constructs, subcloned into pREP1, and verified by sequencing. ubp6 and uch2 cDNAs in pREP1 vectors were gifts from Colin Gordon (Stone et al., 2004).

**Microscopy**

Unless otherwise indicated, all imaging was done at room temperature on a Personal DeltaVision microscope system (Applied Precision) that includes an Olympus IX71 microscope, 60 x NA 1.42 PlanApo oil immersion objective, standard and live-cell filter wheels, a Photometrics CoolSnap HQ2 camera, and softWoRx imaging software. For imaging at 36°C, an environmental chamber with temperature control was used. Time-lapse imaging was done using a CellAsic microfluidic system (EMD Millipore) with appropriate cell media. Figure images are maximum intensity projections of z sections spaced 0.2–0.5 μm apart. Images used for quantification were not deconvolved and sum projected.

Intensity measurements were made with ImageJ software (National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD: http://rsweb.nih.gov/ij/). For all intensity measurements, the background was subtracted by calculating a value for background per pixel (BPP) in the same image as the region of interest (ROI) where there were no cells. The BPP was then multiplied by the area of the ROI, and the resulting product was subtracted from the raw integrated intensity of that ROI yielding the corrected intensity value (Waters, 2009).

For analysis relative to a SPB marker, an ROI was made based on the SPB marker. mNG or GFP fluorescence intensity and mCherry marker fluorescence intensity were measured with background correction for each. Final values for each cell are expressed as mNG/mCherry or GFP/mCherry ratios. Measurements for the cells in each group were averaged for statistical analysis.

**Protein purification and mass spectrometry**

Endogenously tagged versions of Dma1 (Dma1-HA3-TAP and Dma1-HBH) were purified as previously described (Gould et al., 2004; Tagwerker et al., 2006; Elmore et al., 2014) and analyzed by 2D-LC-MS/MS as previously described (McDonald et al., 2002; Roberts-Galbraith et al., 2009). RAW files were processed using two pipelines: 1) using Myrimatch (v 2.1.132) (Tabb et al., 2007) and IDPicker (v 2.6.271.0) (Ma et al., 2009) as previously described (McLean et al., 2011) and 2) using turboSEQUEST, Scaffold (v 4.4.7), and Scaffold PTM (v 3.0.0) as previously described (Beckley et al., 2015). We detected the variable di-Gly modification (114 Da) indicating ubiquitination, and these modifications were manually validated (representative spectra are shown in Supplemental Figure S3).

**Protein expression and purification**

Dma1 variants were cloned into pMAL-c2 or pET-Hisz, MBP precision LIC cloning vector (HMPKS) (HMPKS was a gift from Scott Gradia [Addgene plasmid #29721]) for production as MBP fusions. Proteins were induced in *Escherichia coli* Rosetta2(DE3)pLysS cells by addition of 0.8 mM isopropyl-β-D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG) and overnight incubation at 18°C. Cells were lysed using 300 μg/ml lysozyme for 20 min followed by sonication. Proteins were affinity purified on prewashed amylase resin (New England Biolabs) in MBP column buffer (100 mM NaCl, 20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.4, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM dithiothreitol [DTT], and 1% Nonidet P-40 [NP-40]). Protein was eluted with 10 mM maltose, and, in some cases, the MBP tag was cleaved with Factor Xa protease (New England Biolabs) or Precision protease (GE Healthcare). Dma1 peak elution fraction(s) were detected by SDS–PAGE and Coomassie Blue (Sigma) staining. After pooling peak fractions, Dma1 proteins were concentrated using a 10 MWCO Amicon Ultra centrifugal filter (EMD Millipore). Dma1 was cleaved from MBP by adding 1 μl (2 units) of PreScission protease to 500 μg MBP-Dma1 on amylase beads (in 200 μl MBP column buffer) and incubating at 4°C overnight. The supernatant containing cleaved Dma1 was retrieved and the concentration of Dma1 was determined by SDS–PAGE using bovine serum albumin (BSA) as standard.

**In vitro ubiquitination assay**

Ubiquitination reactions included: 0.25–1 μg recombinant MBP-Dma1 (or variant thereof), or Dma1 cleaved from MBP, 175 nM E1 (R&D Systems), 3 μM E2 (R&D Systems), 50 μg/ml methylated ubiquitin, 5 mM ATP, and 1x ubiquitination buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 2.5 mM MgCl₂, 0.5 mM DTT). These 20 μl reactions were incubated with agatination at 30°C for 90 min before adding SDS sample buffer or cleaving Dma1 from MBP. For MBP cleavage, 1.8 μl of 1 M CaCl₂ and 5 μl Factor Xa were added, and the reactions were incubated at room temperature with agitation for 1 h. Then 100 μl benzamidine beads (1:1 slurry) and 100-μl amylase beads (1:1 slurry) (both prewashed in MBP column buffer) were added, and reactions were incubated at room temperature with agitation for 45 min. Supernatants were transferred to new tubes, and SDS sample buffer was added prior to separation by SDS–PAGE. Ubiquitination products and Dma1 were detected by immuno blotting with anti-ubiquitin (EMD Millipore, MAB1510) at a 1:250 dilution or (Life Sensors, VU-1) at a 1:500 dilution and/or anti-Dma1 (see Supplemental Figure S4E) antibodies.

**In vivo ubiquitination assay**

Dma1-HBH was purified from 250-ml 4X YE pellets as previously described (Tagwerker et al., 2006; Beckley et al., 2015). Briefly, cell pellets were washed with 10 ml modified buffer 1 (8 M urea, 300 mM NaCl, 50 mM NaPO₄, 0.5% Nonidet P-40, and 4 mM imidazole, pH 8, with 1.3 mM benzamidine, 1 mM PMSF, 50 μM PR-619 [LifeSensors], 50 μM N-ethylmaleimide, and 1 Complete Protease Inhibitor Cocktail Tablet, EDTA-free [Roche] per 50 ml) and then lysed by bead disruption with 500 μl buffer 1. Lysates were extracted with 10 ml and then 5 ml buffer 1 (15 ml total extraction), cleared by high-speed centrifugation, and then incubated with 200 μl (1:1 slurry) Ni²⁺-NTA agarose beads (Qiagen) for 3–4 h at room temperature. After incubation, beads were washed four times: one time with 10 ml buffer 1 and three times with 10 ml buffer 3 (8 M urea, 300 mM NaCl, 50 mM NaPO₄, 0.5% Nonidet P-40, and 20 mM imidazole, pH 6.3). Proteins were then eluted for 15 min in 5 ml buffer 4 (8 M urea, 200 mM NaCl, 50 mM NaPO₄, 0.5% Nonidet P-40 and 2% SDS, 100 mM Tris, and 10 mM EDTA, pH 4.3) times, and the two eluates were pooled. The pH of the final eluate was adjusted to 8 before 80 μl streptavidin ultra-link resin (Pierce) was added and incubated overnight at room temperature. The streptavidin beads were then washed three times with buffer 6 (8 M urea, 200 mM NaCl, 2% SDS, and 100 mM Tris, pH 8). Purified proteins were detected on a Western blot using an anti-ubiquitin antibody (EMD Millipore, MAB1510) at a 1:250 dilution or (Life Sensors, VU-1) at a 1:500 dilution and fluorescently labeled streptavidin (Li-COR Biosciences).

**Biotinylated peptide conjugation to streptavidin beads**

A 50% slurry of UltraLink streptavidin beads (20 μl) was washed in 200 μl MBP column buffer three times and resuspended in 88 μl column buffer. The amount of 2 μg (2 μl of 1 mg/ml) synthetic
biotinylated peptides (Genescript) dissolved in 5% acetonitrile was added and incubated at 4°C overnight. Beads were then washed in 200 μl MBP column buffer three times before being resuspended in 10 μl column buffer.

**Sid4 phosphopeptide binding assay**

The Sid4 phosphopeptide binding assay was performed as described (Johnson et al., 2013) with the following modifications. First, 0.5 μg purified recombinant Dma1 (cleaved from MBP-Dma1 by Precision protease) was ubiquitinated in vitro as described above (0.4 μg/μl ubiquitin was used instead of methylated ubiquitin) in the presence (+E2) or absence (–E2) of E2 enzyme in 40 μl total volume for 2 h at 30°C. Reactions were stopped by adding 4 μl 1 M DTT to a final concentration of 91.4 mM. Next, 2.2 μl of the reaction mixture containing 25 ng nonubiquitinated (–E2) or ubiquitinated (+E2) Dma1 was added to 19.8 μl binding buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.4, 25 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl₂, 1 mM DTT) containing streptavidin beads only or 5 μM synthetic biotinylated nonphosphorylated Sid4 peptide (bio-LTSTCVSSISQ) or phosphorylated Sid4 peptide (bio-LTSSpT275CVpS278SISQ) (Genescript) conjugated on Ultralink streptavidin beads (Pierce) and incubated at 4°C for 30 min (beads were preblocked with 50 μl 5% BSA in binding buffer for 1 h). The unbound supernatants were recovered, split equally into two parts, and treated with 0.33 μl H₂O or 1.5 mg/ml USP2 (Boston Biochem) and analyzed by SDS–PAGE. The beads were washed with 1 ml high-salt MBP column buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.4, 250 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 0.1% NP-40, 1 mM DTT) five times, followed by washing with 0.5 ml deubiquitination buffer (50 mM Tris, pH 7.4, 25 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl₂, 10 mM DTT) prior to being split equally into two parts. Beads were resuspended in 19 μl deubiquitination buffer and treated with 0.33 μl H₂O or USP2. The deubiquitination reactions were incubated with shaking at 32°C for 2 h. Reactions were stopped by adding SDS sample buffer.

Alternatively, phosphorylated Sid4 peptides on beads (6.25 μM) were incubated with 5 ng/μl Dma1 in 200 μl high-salt MBP buffer for 30 min at 4°C in the presence of 5% BSA, followed by 6 × 1 wash of high-salt MBP buffer and then with 1 ml of ubiquitination buffer twice. Beads were split into two equal parts (for –E2 and +E2) and subject to the in vitro ubiquitination assay in 20 μl total volume as described above. Reactions were stopped by adding 0.5 μl 1 M DTT to a final concentration of 24.9 mM. The unbound supernatants were recovered and split equally into two parts, and 10 μl of 50 mM Tris, 50 mM KC1, 7.5 mM MgCl₂ was added (after adjusting the buffer composition is 49.4 mM Tris, 25 mM KCl, 5 mM MgCl₂, 12.4 mM DTT) prior to being treated with 0.33 μl H₂O or 1.5 mg/ml USP2. The beads were washed with 1 ml deubiquitination buffer twice and split equally into two parts before treatment with H₂O or USP2 as described above.

**Lysis, immunoprecipitation, and immunoblotting**

Cell pellets were washed once in NP-40 buffer (10 mM sodium phosphate, pH 7.0, 1% N-P-40, 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM EDTA) with inhibitors (1.3 mM benzamidine, 1 mM PMSF, and 1 Complete Protease Inhibitor Cocktail Tablet, EDTA-free [Roche] per 50 ml) and lysed by bead disruption. For denaturing lysis, 500 μl SDS lysis buffer (10 mM sodium phosphate, pH 7.0, 1% SDS, 1 mM DTT, 1 mM EDTA, 50 mM NaF, 100 μM sodium orthovanadate, 1 mM PMSF, and 4 μg/ml leupeptin) was added, and the sample was incubated at 95°C for 2 min, and lysate was extracted with 800 μl NP-40 buffer and transferred to a clean tube. For native lysis, the lysate was extracted with 500 μl NP-40 buffer and again with 800 μl and then transferred to a clean tube. Extractions were followed by two clearing spins of 5 and 30 min. Proteins were immunoprecipitated from native protein lysates using an excess of antibody (listed below) and rocking at 4°C for 1 h, followed by addition of Protein A or G Sepharose beads (GE Healthcare), as appropriate, and rocking at 4°C for 30 min. Samples were washed four times with NP-40 buffer. Antibodies: 0.8 μg anti-GFP (Roche), 2 μg anti-FLAG (Sigma-Aldrich), 3 μl rabbit anti-Sid4 antisemum, or 2 μl rabbit anti-Dma1 serum.

Antisera were raised against recombinant GST-mNG or GST-Dma1 (Cocalico), and their specificity was verified by immunoblotting (Figure 2 and Supplemental Figure S4E, respectively). The anti-Dma1 serum was further purified by ammonium sulfate precipitation. The serum was cleared by centrifugation and then precipitated with 0.5 volumes of saturated ammonium sulfate added dropwise and incubated overnight at 4°C. The precipitate was cleared from the serum by centrifugation and then the serum was precipitated with an additional 0.5 volumes of saturated ammonium sulfate added dropwise and incubated overnight at 4°C. The precipitate was pelleted by centrifugation, resuspended in 0.4 volumes phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), and dialyzed three times in PBS.

For lambda phosphatase treatment, immunoprecipitated protein was washed twice with 25 mM HEPES-NaOH (pH 7.4) and 150 mM NaCl and then treated with lambda phosphatase (New England Biolabs) in 1x NEBuffer for PMP and 1 mM MnCl₂ and incubated at 30°C for 30–60 min with agitation.

For immunoblotting, proteins were resolved by PAGE (see below), transferred to a polyvinylidene difluoride membrane (Immobilon FL; EMD Millipore), blocked with Odyssey Blocking Buffer (LI-COR Biosciences), and incubated with primary antibody at 2 μg/ml or 1:5000 anti-Dma1 serum or 1:2000 anti-Sid4 serum overnight at 4°C. Primary antibodies were detected with secondary antibodies coupled to IRDye680 or IRDye800 (LI-COR Biosciences, Lincoln, NE) and visualized using an Odyssey Infrared Imaging System (LI-COR Biosciences). Resolving gels: 3–8% Tris-acetate PAGE used for Dma1-FLAG and Sid4-DUB blotting; 4–12% NuPAGE used for Dma1-GFP, Sid4, and Dma1 ubiquitination assay blotting, 12% Tris-glycine PAGE used for Cdc2 blotting.

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