

these states is important for establishing basic molecular mechanisms. Techniques such as a mean squared displacement (MSD) analysis average populations and thus cannot resolve multiple states of motion. By plotting non-averaged rather than mean displacements of simulated trajectories, we show that states of motion can be resolved and analyzed to determine the kinetics of transitions between dynamic states. We have applied this technique to several different dynamic systems. First, we show that submaximal velocities of partially activated thin filament motility result from switching between an "on" and "off" state, and that the level of activation increases with a decrease in the lifetime of the "off" state. Second, we show that submaximal myosin-based actin sliding velocities observed at low myosin densities result from a similar switching between "on" and "off" states. Next, we use this technique to analyze the dynamics of myosin light chain kinase (MLCK) moving on actin-myosin filaments in smooth muscle cells, where the lifetime of the paused states could give potential insight into the kinetics of smooth muscle phosphorylation by MLCK. Finally, we apply this technique to vesicle motility in 3T3 L1 to determine the kinetics of vesicle pausing. In general, a non-averaged displacement analysis provides a simple approach for determining the kinetics of transitions between dynamic states of single molecules.

3530-Pos Board B391

Universal Optimality of Molecular Motors

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Abstract

Molecular motors capable of directional track-walking or rotation are abundant in living cells, and inspired the emerging field of artificial nanomotors. Some biomotors can convert 90% of free energy from chemical fuels into usable mechanical work, and the same motors still maintain a speed sufficient for cellular functions. We have explored how this extreme efficiency-speed trade-off can be achieved in a single-molecule system that is intrinsically prone to ubiquitous thermal fluctuations. Specifically, we found that a regime of universal optimization unfamiliar in macroscopic engines exists for molecular motors. Like Carnot cycle for heat engines, the universally optimized working cycle for molecular motors is infinitely slow. But when a deviation from the ideal conditions reduces energy efficiency linearly from 100%, the speed is recovered exponentially due to Boltzmann's law. Experimental data on a biomotor indicate that this universal optimization has been largely approached in living cells, underpinning the extreme efficiency-speed trade-off in biomotors. I shall also discuss an experimental study by us towards achieving a similar artificial nanomotor in engineered systems.

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Watching the Motions of the Cell Wall Synthesis Machinery and Underlying Cytoskeleton in *B. Subtilis*

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Rod-shaped bacteria elongate by the action of cell-wall synthesis complexes linked to underlying dynamic MreB filaments, but how these proteins function to allow continued elongation as a rod remains unknown. To understand how the movement of these filaments relates to cell wall synthesis, we characterized the dynamics of MreB and the cell wall elongation machinery using high-resolution particle tracking in *Bacillus subtilis*. We found that both MreB and the elongation machinery move in linear paths across the cell, moving at similar rates (~20 nm / second) and angles to the cell body, suggesting they function as single complexes. These proteins move circumferentially around the cell, principally perpendicular to its length. We find that the motions of these complexes are independent, as they can pause and reverse, and also as nearby complexes move independently in both directions across one surface of the cell. Inhibition of cell wall synthesis with antibiotics or depletions in the cell wall synthesis machinery blocked MreB movement, suggesting that the cell wall synthetic machinery is the motor in this system. We propose that bacteria elongate by the uncoordinated, circumferential movements of synthetic complexes that span the plasma membrane and insert radial hoops of new peptidoglycan during their transit.

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Quantitative Study of Tubulin Distribution and Mitochondrial Dynamics in Skeletal Muscle Cells

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The comparative studies of regulation of oxidative phosphorylation as a function of mitochondrial organization in healthy and cancerous cardiac muscle cells have revealed that the mechanisms of regulation of the energy metabolism depend on the cellular organization (Biochim Biophys Acta, 2010, 1797: 678-97). The aim of this study is to evaluate mitochondrial dynamics and organization of mitochondria into intracellular energy units in adult skeletal muscle cells as a function of the energy metabolic pattern and mitochondrial interactions with cytoskeletal proteins. Among the latter, intracellular distribution of tubulin isoform was evaluated in rat oxidative and glycolytic skeletal muscle cells by Western blot analysis, immunofluorescence and functional methods. Investigation of mitochondrial dynamics in living skeletal muscle fibers was conducted using fluorescent probe labelling analyzed by fluorescent confocal microscopy. Fast scanning of cells was carried out using a line scanning LSM7 LIVE and LSM710 confocal microscope. The fast and simultaneous line scanning in two fluorescent channels synchronized with the piezo stage axial displacements allow rapid 3D imaging of the mitochondrial dynamics referenced to the structural elements of sarcomers. The analysis of position of mitochondrial fluorescence centres, or virtual mass centres, is studied by applying the gradient clustering algorithm.

Among the results obtained, we report specific tubulin isoforms distribution profiles in oxidative and glycolytic muscles that could rely to their energy metabolic pattern.

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Cytoplasmic Streaming in *Drosophila Melanogaster*

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The persistent circulation of the cytoplasm, called cytoplasmic streaming, occurs in a variety of eukaryotic cells. One context in which streaming occurs is during the establishment of *Drosophila* body axes, when Kinesin-1 transports the axes determinants and drives cytoplasmic streaming. Although Kinesin is essential for flows, neither the mechanism by which Kinesin induces streaming nor the impact of these flows on transport are known. We have succeeded in a precise quantitative measurement of the statistical properties of streaming by Particle Image Velocimetry. We have combined these measurements with an in vivo study of the cytoplasm rheology, to calculate the energy dissipation due to streaming. Since Kinesin is required for flows we can relate the energy dissipated to the work done on the fluid by Kinesin and determine the minimum number of motors necessary to drive streaming. Furthermore we have performed these measurements on mutants that effect Kinesin-1 motor activity and found remarkable agreement between our in vivo measurements and in vitro studies.

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Structural Basis for Activation of the Cytoskeleton Regulatory Protein IRSp53

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The scaffolding protein insulin receptor tyrosine kinase substrate p53 (IRSp53) is a ubiquitous regulator of the actin cytoskeleton that mediates filopodia and lamellipodia formation under the control of Rho-family GTPases. IRSp53 is comprised of an N-terminal IRSp53/MIM homology domain (IMD) that senses negative membrane curvature and a central semi-CRIB motif followed by an SRC homology 3 (SH3) domain that binds to proline-rich regions of a wide range of actin regulators. Here, we present the crystal structure of a complex between activated CDC42 and the CRIB domain of IRSp53. Isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC) experiments confirm the binding of this domain to CDC42, and exclude the possibility of binding by inactive forms of CDC42 or activated forms of RAC1. Moreover, we demonstrate that the SH3 domain also binds to the CRIB domain, suggesting a mechanism of regulation where binding of CDC42 is required to release autoinhibition of the SH3 domain.