

STRUCTURAL AND FUNCTIONAL STUDIES OF THE HIV-1 PRE-INTEGRATION COMPLEX

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Retrovirus genera

Use a reverse transcription step in the viral replication cycle

Genus	Examples of virus	
Alpharetrovirus	Rous sarcoma virus	Chickens
Betaretrovirus	Mouse mammary tumor virus	Mice
Gammaretrovirus	Murine leukemia virus	Mice
Deltaretrovirus	Human T cell leukemia virus type 1	Humans
Epsilonretrovirus	Walleye dermal sarcoma virus	Fish
Lentivirus	Human immunodeficiency virus type 1 Simian immunodeficiency virus Feline immunodeficiency virus	Humans Monkeys Cats
Spumavirus	Simian foamy virus	Monkeys

Lentivirus

Lentivirus From Latin *lentis* (slow), for slow progression of disease

VIRION Spherical enveloped particle. Diameter 100 nm. Conical capsid.

GENOME

Linear ss RNA, positive sense. Two identical segments, each 9.3 Kb. Cellular tRNA^{lys3} molecules packaged in virions used as primers for reverse transcription.

GENES AND PROTEINS

Four capsid proteins: MA (p17), CA (p24), NC (p7), p6.Three enzymes: PR (p10), RT (p51/66), IN (p32).Two envelope proteins: SU (gp120) and TM (gp41).Six regulatory proteins: Vif, Vpu, Vpr, Tat, Rev, Nef.

Human Immunodefiency Virus

VIRUSES AND HOSTS

Human immunodeficiency virus types 1 and 2 (HIV-1, HIV-2). Simian immunodeficiency virus. Equine, bovine, feline immunodeficiency viruses.

DISEASES

Acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) first described in 1981.
A major global pandemic today (more than 44 million people infected). HIV replicates in and kills lymphocytes and macrophages.
Results in depletion of CD4+ T cells to render host immune-incompetent. As a result, opportunistic infections by other pathogens are often fatal. HIV is transmitted through sexual contact and blood exchange.

DISTINCTIVE CHARACTERISTICS

Proviral DNA can enter nucleus without requirement for cell division. Lentiviruses make a complex set of singly and doubly spliced mRNAs. Six regulatory proteins control virus production and pathogenesis.





François Charles Javaugue, VIH, ed. Hermann, 2014

HIV phylogeny



François Charles Javaugue, VIH, ed. Hermann, 2014

Virions components



Alan Engelman and Peter Cherepanov, Nature Review in Microbiology, 2012, 10, 279-289

Miklos Guttman et al., J Virol. Aug 2012; 86(16): 8750-8764



Structure of the HIV-1 NL4-3 genome

The 5' (**a**) and 3' (**b**) genome halves are shown. Nucleotides are coloured by their SHAPE reactivities. absolute Every nucleotide is shown explicitly as a sphere; base pairing is indicated by adjacent parallel orientation of the spheres. Protein domains are identified by letters; TF, transframe peptide; nts, nucleotides. Important structural landmarks labelled explicitly. are Intermolecular base pairs involving the tRNALys3 primer and the genomic dimer are shown in grey. Inset shows a box plot illustrating SHAPE reactivities for single-stranded versus paired nucleotides in the model. Median reactivities are indicated by bold horizontal lines; the large box spans the central 50% of the reactivity data.

JM Watts et al. Nature 460, 711-716 (2009)



Schematic diagram of HIV multiplication cycle





Nature Reviews | Microbiology

Alan Engelman and Peter Cherepanov, Nature Review in Microbiology, 2012, 10, 279-289

HIV-1 pre-integration complex





Organization of domains ? Mechanism of DNA integration ?

Full length Integrase wt : expression and solubilization

	3	37°		25°		18°	
	ET	EB	ET	EB	ET	EB	
LB	+	-	+	+	+	+	
LB/sucrose	+	-	+	+	++	++	

	-	Glycerol 10%	Chaps 10mM	Triton 0.1%	Sucrose 20%
50mM NaCl	+/-	+/-	++	+/-	+/-
1M NaCl	+	++	+++	+++	++



 $\mathcal{P} \mathcal{P}$

No crystals



Strategy

- Partial non-structuration of the protein (disordered regions)
- High inter domain mobility



- Proteins domains, mutants, solubility fusions
- Stabilization by the interaction with interacting proteins, ligands, DNA.



From unstable protein to stable complexes: Pipeline procedure for stable complex characterization and production



HIV-1 IN/LEDGF complex

Cloning, expression and solubility tests (E. Coli)









Absence of cross linking agents

Presence of cross linking agents

The cross-linking reactions were realised using a solution containing different cross-linkers specific for amino and sulfhydryl groups. The cross linking reactions were performed using a reagent composed of iodoacetec acid N-hydoxysuccinimide ester, Octaneodic acid di-N-hydroxysuccinimide ester and ethylene glycol bis-succinimidylsuccinate. (K200 MALDI MS analysis Kit, CovalX AG, Zürich, Switzerland).



DNA: 21 or 40-mer duplex that mimic the HIV-1 U5 viral DNA end

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5 '-GACTACGGTTCAAGTCAGCGTGTGGAAAATCTCTAGCAGT-3 '
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3 ′ - CTGATGCCAAGTTCAGTCGCACACCTTTTAGAGATCGTCA-5 ′
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LEGDF stimulates the 3' processing activity of IN with a 40-mer DNA. In the presence of LEGDF, the strand transfer efficiency is strongly enhanced for both the 21- and the 40-mer DNA.



The global integration efficiency is higher for the IN/LEDGF complex than for isolated IN molecules. Specific cloning and quantification of the circular FSI products attested that the IN/LEDGF complex catalyzes more concerted integration events than isolated IN molecules. The integration reaction catalyzed by the IN/LEDGF complex is closer to the expected physiological reaction than IN alone (5bp staggered cuts of the target DNA).



Negatively stained EM of GST-IN/LEDGF complexes



6134 images collected

The original form of the In-LEGDF complex is clearly visible

The two fold axis is clearly visible without imposing any symmetry



GST induced dimerization

Unambiguous positioning of integrase



Possible localization of proteins



IN/LEDGF: Cryo-EM



11441 images were collected



IN/LEDGF: Domain organization



IN-LEDGF complex contains 4 IN molecules (A1, A2, B1 and B2) organized in two IN dimers Each IN monomer within the IN dimer has a different conformation \rightarrow the IN dimer is asymmetric Each IN molecule has a distinct function within the dimer.









SNF5/Ini1, a subunit of the SWI/SNF chromatin remodeling complex, is the first cofactor identified to interact with IN.

SNF5/Ini1 is one of the core subunits of the ATP-dependent chromatin remodeling complex SWI/SNF that regulates expression of numerous eukaryotic genes by altering DNA/histone interactions

It has been postulated that SNF5/Ini1 could target PICs to regions of the genome that are enriched for the SWI/SNF complex



INI1: Cloning, expression and solubility tests (E. Coli)



	NaCl				
pH7,5	150mM	500mM	1M	2M	2,5M
0	-	-	-	-	-
CHAPS 7mM	-	-	-	-	-
CHAPS 10mM	-	-	-	-	+
CHAPS 20mM		-	-	(+)	++
Z[3-12] 4mM		+++			

IN/LEDGF/INI1 : complex formation and purification



Yield: 2.5 mg of complex (INT 0.5L, LEDGF 0.5L, SNF5 1.0L)

Protein complexes analysis : High Mass MALDI-ToF



IN/LEDGF and IN/LEDGF/INI1: Functional characterization

Viral DNA Binding assay by fluorescence anisotropy





DNA: 40-mer duplex that mimic the HIV-1 U5 viral DNA end 5'-GACTACGGTTCAAGTCAGCGTGTGGAAAATCTCTAGCAGT-3' -CTGATGCCAAGTTCAGTCGCACACCTTTTAGAGATCGTCA-5 31



The 3' Processing assay by fluorescence anisotropy

INI1 inhibits the 3' processing activity of IN/LEDGF

IN/LEDGF and IN/LEDGF/INI1: Functional characterization



In the presence of INI1, integration occurs with reduced kinetics compared to IN alone or to the IN/LEDGF complex with strongly reduced by-products formation





INI1 localization





Benoit Maillot, Nicolas Lévy, Sylvia Eiler, Corinne Crucifix, et al., (2013), Structural and functional role of INI1 and LEDGF in the HIV-1 preintegration complex, PlosOne, In Press

Michel, F., Crucifix, C., Granger, F., et al., (2009). Structural basis for HIV-1 DNA integration in the human genome, role of the LEDGF/P75 cofactor. EMBO J., 28, 980-991





IN/LEDGF in mammalian cells (vaccinia virus)

• Vaccinia virus: poxvirus family

- dsDNA virus (\approx 200 kb) encoding its own transcription and replication machinery

- viral multiplication in the cell cytoplasm: no RNA splicing
- viral infection diverts the cellular machinery in its favour
- at least 25 kb of foreign DNA
- MVA: Modified Vaccinia virus Ankara
 - non replicative in human cells
 - safe for people with immunodeficiency or skin disorders
 - manipulation is authorized under BSL1 containment
- Mammalian cells: BHK21 (baby hamster kidney cells)
 - authentic post-translational modifications
 - proper folding
 - protein function and structure analysis

Encode T7 RNA polymerase, IPTG inducible

IN/LEDGF in mammalian cells : complex formation and purification **His-LEDGF** Mix **FLAG-IN** Mammalian suspension cells LEDGF + IN Mammalian suspension cells 7mM 1M OEN Lysis, sonication, centrifugation Lysis, sonication, centrifugation → Soluble extract → Soluble extract **Complex formation** by dialysis Affinity chromatography 0mM 0,25M Affinity chromatography **Gel filtration NTI-FLAG M2** Trap Chelatine His-LEDGF 64k Flag-IN 36kD 5-10mg / 10⁹ cells (1L) 8mg / 10⁹ cells (1L) **Gel filtration Gel filtration** His-LEDGF 3200 16/60 Flag-IN S200 16/60 3mg/L of mammalian cells **IN-LEDGF** complex LEDGF IN

Comparison of HIV-1 IN produced in E. coli, insect and mammalian cells

Solubility				
INTEGRASE	1M NaCl 7mM CHAPS	1M NaCl Ø CHAPS	0.5M NaCl Ø CHAPS	
Ecoli	+	-	-	
Insect cells	+	i e	-	
Mammalian cells	+	+	+	

3' processing activity



Work in progress

Methods development

Methods developments

Stable complexes production

- Setup a synthetic biology strategy using biobricks to assemble genes and tags for protein complex expression in prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells
- Optimize the vaccinia virus expression sytem
- In vitro functional characterization: thermodynamic and functional characterization of IN and its complexes
 - Functional tests using fluorescence anisotropy, fluorescence correlation spectroscopy (FCS) and fluorescence resonance energy transfer (FRET).
- In vivo functional characterization: cellular aspects of the PIC (spatial and temporal distribution, colocation with cellular proteins)
 - Fluorescence imaging techniques such as FRET-FLIM, FCS and high resolution fluorescence imaging with STED microscopy in collaboration with Y. Mely and the IGBMC imaging platform. Vector viruses carrying fluorescent tagged integrase (TC) will be used to infect cells transfected with plasmid carrying fluorescent cellular cofactors.

Non covalent complexes crystallization

- Setting up a pipeline of analysis procedures to decipher the best condition for the stabilization of non-covalent complexes in homogeneous conformation.
- Development of new crystallization assays adapted to large non covalent complexes.

Translational Bioinformatics for AIDS

Personalized medicine

Synthetic biology: biobricks for multifactorial gene assembly in expression vectors

Using synthetic biology to built complex, multi-factor expression plasmids for the optimization of protein and protein complexes expression in heterologous organisms by the combinatorial use of different DNA parts.



Assembly vector: New pENTR

E=EcoRI, X=XbaI, S=SpeI, P=PstI, N=Not1

http://partsregistry.org http://biobricks.org/

Ho-Shing et al., 2012, Methods in Molecular Biology, 852, 61-76





Biobrick collection for protein expression in E. Coli, Insect and mammalian cells

Durification	ЦСР	Evilia D2C closuago sito
Purilication	пор	Oxmis - PSC cleavage sile
tags	H10P	10xHis - P3C cleavage site
	H10FP	10xHis - Flag- P3C cleavage site
	FH10P	Flag - 10xHis - P3C cleavage site
	RP	Strep - P3C cleavage site
	RRP	Strep - Strep - P3C cleavage site
	RRFP	Strep - Strep - Flag - P3C cleavage site
	FRRP	Flag - Strep - Strep - P3C cleavage site
TEV cleavage	TT1	Twin TEV cleavage site (TCS) 1 : TCS A – TCS B
sites	TT2	Twin TEV cleavage site (TCS) 2 : TCS C – TCS D
	TT3	Twin TEV cleavage site (TCS) 3 : TCS E – TCS F
	TT4	Twin TEV cleavage site (TCS) 4 : TCS G – TCS H
Linker STOP	STOP	STOP codon
Proteins	TEV	Tobacco Etch Virus protease
	LEDGF	Human Lens epithelial derived growth factor
	IN	HIV-1 Integrase
	IN*	Degenerated HIV-1 Integrase
	TNPO3	Human Transportin
	TT8-eYFP	Twin TEV cleavage site 8 – enhanced Yellow Fluorescent Protein
	·····	



System validation: IN/LEDGF complex production in mammalian cells

Poly-protein expression validation eYFP expression





IN-LEDGF complex purification



 1. Co-transfection of TC-Integrase + LEDGF-EGFP plasmids (confocal microscope, fixed cells)



 2. Infection with HIV-1 VSVG pseudotyped virus and transfection with LEDGF-EGFP plasmid. Knock down of endogenous LEDGF by shRNA (confocal and STED microscope, fixed and live cells)



Nanodrop crystallization techniques (vapor diffusion) (Drop setup with Mosquito robot and visualization with Rock Maker)



IN full length / LEDGF IBD complex



Plate screening on beam line Crystal harvesting

Microfluidics crystallization techniques (Plug-Maker, Protein Biosolution) IN full length/TRNSR2/VBP1 complex



Crystal harvesting

Microfluidics crystallization techniques (Crystal Former, Microlytic)

96 well microfluidic device





Crystallization in progress

Plate screening on beam line

> Crystal harvesting



Development of Translational Bioinformatics for AIDS



Luu, T.D., Rusu, A.M., Walter, V., Ripp, R., Moulinier, L., Muller, J., Toursel, T., Thompson, J., Poch, O., and Nguyen, H. (2012). MSV3d: database of human MisSense variants mapped to 3D protein structure. Database (Oxford) 2012

Nguyen H, Laurent M, Thompson JD, Poch O (2014). Heterogeneous Biological Data Integration with High Level Query Language. IBM Journal of Research and Development, vol. 58 no. 2/3 , 15 April, 2014. doi: 10.1147/JRD.2014.2309032.





Crystallization of IN CCD for Drug Design





22-23°C Diffraction ~2Å



24-25°C No diffraction !

HIV Integrase 50 - 212 (F185K), Crystallization

Crystal name	P1_B2_L11	P1_D4_L12	P1_C6_L13
Crystal source	Plate1_B2	Plate1_D4	Plate1_C6
Crystal image			
Protein concentration	3.1 mg/ml	3.1 mg/ml	3.1 mg/ml
Reservoir composition	1.26 M AS	1.26 M AS	1.50 M AS
Initial drop composition	2µl prot + 2µl res	2µl prot + 2µl res	2µl prot + 2µl res
Ligand soaking	LIG11	LIG12	LIG13

HIV Integrase CCD – ligand structure









IN – LEDGF interaction and IN allosteric inhibitors



Le Rouzic et al., (2013), Retrovirology, 10, 144





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