Dynamics and mechanisms of nuclear migration in neurons

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Dynamic cell motility in developing brains





cell differentiation 細胞分化



Process arborization 突起形成 neural network formation

Neurons reach appropriate positions

Process formation and coupling

Migration of neurons in the central nervous system



Summary diagram of Golgi staining of cerebral cortex. Ramón y Cajal (1911)





Live-cell observation of granule cell migration in slice culture



Umeshima et al., PNAS 2007 Umeshima et al., Mol Cell Neurosci. 2012



The Cytoskeleton and Cell Migration: Vic Small lab Website



20-min intervals 8 frames/sec

Nuclear movement in fibroblasts and neurons

Fibroblast migration

Neuronal migration



Figure 16–85. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

actin-dependent

actin+microtubule-dependent

Nucleus migrates independently of leading process elongation





GFP DsRed-Nuc



3-min intervals 8 frames/sec



Push or pull? What do cytoskeletons do for nuclear migration?



Invasive strategies (ablation, disruption) may indirectly affect cell behaviors



Trivedi and Solecki 2011

High-speed, high-resolution live-cell imaging by the CSU confocal microscopy



FIGURE 2-71. Yokogawa high-speed confocal system. Microlenses on a second Nipkow disk increase disk transmission to 40-60% instead of a fraction of a percent as in conventional, single-Nipkow-disk systems. The microlens and pinhole arrays are patterned to give a homogeneous field with no sign of scan lines. (From Ichihara et al., 1996.)

"Video Microscopy", Inoue and Spring, 1997

Nipkow disc confocal microscopy

100x objective

Z: 10~12 planes 3 channels (GFP, RFP, DIC) ⇒total ~36 planes (less than 8 sec)

time-lapse imaging: every 15 sec for 1~2 hours



15-sec interval 20 frames/sec

Estimate the force applied to the nucleus from its motion



Nucleus rotates in *migrating* neurons



Centrosome and Golgi do not rotate with the nucleus



Golgi1-GFP HP1β-mCherry DIC





Hypothetical Mechanism of the Nuclear Rotation



Uniform (bilateral) force drives migration Unbalanced (unilateral) force drives rotation



If so...

1. Rotation axis should be orthogonal to the migration trajectory



2. Rotation should stop when the nucleus is disconnected with cytoskeletons



Image analysis of nuclear rotation









3D movie 1 hr (interval: 15 sec)

HP 1β-mCherry MIP images

Rotation axis is relevant to migration direction



Angles between the rotation axis and migration trajectory



Rotation axis should be orthogonal to the migration trajectory

Microtubules, but not actin, are involved in nuclear rotation



translocation

90



Synchronous movement of microtubule network and nucleus

HP 1β-mCherry microtubules



15-sec interval 7 frames/sec





Dynein and kinesin are involved in nuclear rotation



KLC1-TRP

Perinuclear microtubules are bidirectional in migrating neurons

previous view: MTs are uniformly oriented with (+)-toward the nucleus



How can kinesin function?



EB3-GFP centrin2-GFP

5-sec intervals 6 frames/sec





Both kinesin and dynein can contribute to nuclear transport

Kinesin-1 is not sufficient to drive nuclear rotation

nesp2-SR / Nuc



The nucleus retains sharp deformation in the front





Kinesin/MTs generate point force on the nuclear surface

GFP / Nuc



nesp2-SR / Nuc



Dynamic interaction of MT motors is critical for driving nuclear rotation

Summary and conclusion





kinesin-1

Wu et al., Development 2018

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Interplay of developmental clock and extracellular environment in brain formation







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