

**Integrity and function of the *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* spindle pole body
depends on connections between the membrane proteins Ndc1, Rtn1, and Yop1**

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ABSTRACT

The nuclear envelope in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* harbors two essential macromolecular protein assemblies: the nuclear pore complexes (NPCs) that enable nucleocytoplasmic transport, and the spindle pole bodies (SPBs) that mediate chromosome segregation. Previously, based on metazoan and budding yeast studies, we reported that reticulons and Yop1/DP1 play a role in the early steps of de novo NPC assembly. Here, we examined if Rtn1 and Yop1 are required for SPB function in *S. cerevisiae*. Electron microscopy of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells revealed lobular abnormalities in SPB structure. Using an assay that monitors lateral expansion of the SPB central layer, we found that *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* SPBs had decreased connections to the NE compared to wild type, suggesting that SPBs are less stable in the NE. Furthermore, large budded *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells exhibited a high incidence of short mitotic spindles, which were frequently misoriented with respect to the mother-daughter axis. This correlated with cytoplasmic microtubule defects. We found that overexpression of the SPB insertion factors *NDC1*, *MPS2*, or *BBP1* rescued the SPB defects observed in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells. However, only overexpression of *NDC1*, which is also required for NPC biogenesis, rescued both the SPB and NPC associated defects. Rtn1 and Yop1 also physically interacted with Ndc1 and other NPC membrane proteins. We propose that NPC and SPB biogenesis are altered in cells lacking Rtn1 and Yop1 due to competition between these complexes for Ndc1, an essential common component of both NPCs and SPBs.

ABBREVIATIONS

α , alpha; HU, hydroxyurea; INM, inner nuclear membrane; NE, nuclear envelope; NPC, nuclear pore complex; Δ , null; Nup, nucleoporin; ONM, outer nuclear membrane; Pom, pore membrane protein; Rtn, reticulon; SPB, spindle pole body; TEM, thin section electron microscopy; DIC, differential interference contrast.

INTRODUCTION

The nuclear envelope (NE), which physically separates the nucleoplasm from the cytoplasm, is a characteristic feature of all eukaryotic cells and structurally based upon two distinct yet connected membrane bilayers. These NE membranes harbor specialized functions, with the outer nuclear membrane (ONM) continuous with the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) and the inner nuclear envelope (INM) having a unique protein composition (ANTONIN *et al.* 2011; LUSK *et al.* 2007; SCHIRMER *et al.* 2003). However, specific connections between the ONM and INM are critical for cell function. For example, ONM protein-INM protein interactions that bridge the perinuclear space are required for nuclear positioning (HIRAOKA and DERNBURG 2009; RAZAFSKY and HODZIC 2009). Moreover, the ONM and INM are specifically fused at sites of nuclear pores (DOUCET and HETZER 2010). The NE is further distinguished by the presence of large protein assemblies; for example, the nuclear pore complex (NPC) found in all eukaryotes and the spindle pole body (SPB) in the budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. A full understanding of the dynamics between the NE membranes and its different NE protein assemblies has not yet been achieved.

The NPCs in the NE are responsible for regulating the trafficking of macromolecules between the nucleoplasm and cytoplasm, and between the ONM and INM (LUSK *et al.* 2007; TETENBAUM-NOVATT and ROUT 2010). As >60 MDa proteinaceous complexes, the NPCs are assembled from ~30 different proteins termed nucleoporins (Nups) or pore membrane proteins (Poms) with each Nup or Pom present in multiples of eight-fold stoichiometry (8, 16, or 32 copies) (ALBER *et al.* 2007). NPCs have structurally

distinct modules: the nuclear basket filaments, the cytoplasmic filaments, the outer, central and luminal rings, and a set of linker complexes. In the closed mitosis of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and during metazoan interphase, all NPCs assemble *de novo* into an intact NE (ALBER *et al.* 2007; ANTONIN *et al.* 2008; BROHAWN *et al.* 2008; BROHAWN *et al.* 2009; CAPELSON *et al.* 2010; D'ANGELO *et al.* 2006; TALAMAS and HETZER 2011). This NPC biogenesis mechanism requires a multistep process that is dependent on both ONM and INM events. The first steps of *de novo* NPC assembly require ONM/INM fusion and stabilization of the resulting highly curved pore membrane, a process that is not yet fully understood (ANTONIN *et al.* 2008; D'ANGELO *et al.* 2006; DOUCET and HETZER 2010; FERNANDEZ-MARTINEZ and ROUT 2009; TALAMAS and HETZER 2011). Membrane bending and curvature-stabilizing proteins, as well as potential changes in lipid composition, are likely required (DOUCET and HETZER 2010). Current models propose that the initial pore fusion event is mediated by NPC associated Poms. In *S. cerevisiae*, this potentially includes Ndc1, Pom152, Pom34, and Pom33. (ANTONIN *et al.* 2008; CHADRIN *et al.* 2010; DOUCET and HETZER 2010; HETZER and WENTE 2009; MADRID *et al.* 2006; MANSFELD *et al.* 2006; ONISCHENKO *et al.* 2009). In addition, an early step in *de novo* NPC biogenesis requires the reticulons (Rtn) and Yop1/DP1 (CHADRIN *et al.* 2010; DAWSON *et al.* 2009), proteins in the outer membrane leaflet that act to stabilize/maintain membrane curvature (DE CRAENE *et al.* 2006; HU *et al.* 2008; VOELTZ *et al.* 2006; WEST *et al.* 2011). Post-fusion of the INM and ONM, the Rtns and Yop1/DP1 are speculated to transiently localize at and stabilize the nascent pore (DAWSON *et al.* 2009; HETZER and WENTE 2009). The subsequent recruitment of

peripheral membrane Nups would maintain the curved pore membrane and provide a scaffold on which other Nups then assemble.

The *S. cerevisiae* SPB is the functional equivalent of the centrosome, nucleating both cytoplasmic microtubules involved in nuclear positioning and cytoplasmic transport as well as nuclear microtubules required for chromosome segregation (BYERS and GOETSCH 1975). Much like the NPC, the SPB is a modular structure and is formed by five sub-complexes: the γ -tubulin complex that nucleates microtubules, the linker proteins that connect the γ -tubulin complex to the cytoplasmic and nuclear face of the core SPB, the soluble core SPB/satellite components that form the foundation of the SPB and SPB precursor, the membrane anchors that tether the core SPB in the NE and the half-bridge components that are important for SPB assembly (JASPERSEN and WINEY 2004). Duplication of the ~0.5 GDa SPB begins with formation of a SPB precursor, known as the satellite, at the distal tip of the half-bridge. Continued expansion of the satellite by addition of soluble precursors, and expansion of the half-bridge, leads to the formation of a duplication plaque. The SPB is then inserted into a pore in the NE, allowing for assembly of nuclear components to create duplicated side-by-side SPBs (ADAMS and KILMARTIN 1999; BYERS and GOETSCH 1974; BYERS and GOETSCH 1975; JASPERSEN and WINEY 2004; WINEY and BLOOM 2012). The membrane anchors and half-bridge components both play a role in this SPB insertion step (ARAKI *et al.* 2006; FRIEDERICHS *et al.* 2011; KUPKE *et al.* 2011; SCHRAMM *et al.* 2000; SEZEN *et al.* 2009; WINEY and BLOOM 2012; WINEY *et al.* 1991; WINEY *et al.* 1993; WITKIN *et al.* 2010). Unlike NPC assembly, SPB duplication is spatially and temporally restricted. The new SPB is assembled during late G1 phase, approximately 100 nm from the pre-existing

SPB (BYERS and GOETSCH 1975). However, although the exact mechanism of SPB insertion is unknown, its insertion into the NE is thought to require the formation of a pore membrane similar to that found at the NPC.

Interestingly, previous studies have revealed physical and/or functional links between the factors required for NPC and SPB assembly and integrity. One of the SPB membrane anchors is Ndc1, a conserved integral membrane protein that is also an essential NPC Pom and required for NPC assembly (CHIAL *et al.* 1998; KIND *et al.* 2009; MANSFELD *et al.* 2006; STAVRU *et al.* 2006). Some NPC components are required for proper remodeling of SPB core components and regulation of SPB size (GREENLAND *et al.* 2010; NIEPEL *et al.* 2005), whereas the loss of other NPC components rescues SPB mutant assembly phenotypes (CHIAL *et al.* 1998; SEZEN *et al.* 2009; WITKIN *et al.* 2010). The exact mechanism by which all of these NPC components influence SPB assembly is not known. With the relationships between NPC and SPB biogenesis, we examined *S. cerevisiae* cells lacking Rtn1 and Yop1 for altered SPB structure and function. Indeed, we found perturbations in SPB integrity and NE attachment that were rescued by Ndc1 overproduction. Physical and genetic data indicated that Ndc1 function at NPCs is specifically altered in *rtn1 null* (Δ) *yop1* Δ cells. We propose that these observations reflect the known dual requirement for Ndc1 in both NPC and SPB assembly and pinpoint a role for Rtn1 and Yop1 in Ndc1 function at the NPC. These results also further implicate the role of Ndc1 in a common NPC and SPB biogenesis step that potentially requires NE membrane remodeling events for pore formation and complex insertion.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Yeast strains and plasmids

All strains and plasmids used in this study are listed Tables S1 and S2. Strains denoted with SWY are derived from the BY4741 and BY4742 S288C lineage, whereas SLJ strains are derivatives of W303. Unless otherwise noted, yeast genetic techniques were performed by standard procedures described previously (SHERMAN *et al.* 1986), and yeast were transformed by the lithium acetate method (ITO *et al.* 1983). All strains were cultured in either rich (YPD: 1% yeast extract, 2% peptone, and 2% dextrose) or complete synthetic minimal (CSM) media lacking appropriate amino acids and supplemented with 2% dextrose. Kanamycin resistance (conferred by the *KAN^R* gene) was selected on medium containing 200 µg/ml G418 (US Biological). Yeast were serially diluted and spotted onto YPD to assay fitness and temperature sensitivity as previously described (TRAN *et al.* 2007).

The plasmids pSW3673, pSW3674, pSW3675 and pSW3676 were generated by subcloning genomic DNA fragments containing the coding sequence, promoter and 3'-UTR into the *SacI* and *SacII* sites of pRS425. For *MPS2*, a 2.5kb genomic fragment was isolated by PCR amplification with KlenTaq-LA (Sigma) using primers 5'-TCGACCGCGGTGGTGGGAAGGTTTCCTTGAG-3' and 5'-CGCATCTGAGCTGTAACATGACTCGAGTCGA-3'. A 2.2kb *BBP1* genomic fragment was amplified with 5'-TCGACCGCGGCGTGCGATACGCAAATAGAA-3' and 5'-CGGGAATTACAGCTCGTGTTCCTCGAGTCGA-3', 1.6kb, 1.9kb) into *SacI* and *SacII*

sites of pRS425 (CHRISTIANSON *et al.* 1992). Likewise, *APQ12* and *BRR6* were isolated in 1.6 kb and 1.9 kb PCR fragments, respectively using the primers (5'-TCGACCGCGGCGAATCCGTCAACGAGTTTT-3', 5'-CAATGCTGCTGCTGTTGTTTCTCGAGTCGA-3'), and (5'-TCGACCGCGGTTAAAGAGGCAGGGAGAGCA-3', 5'-TCCACAAGTTGGAAGTGCATCTCGAGTCGA-3') .

The plasmid pSW3594 (for amino(N)-terminal tagging with GFP) was generated by subcloning the GFP coding sequence into pSW3447 at HindIII and Sall using the oligos 5'-GCATAAGCTTATGAGTAAAGGAGAAGAACTTTTCACT-3' and 5'-GTACGTCGACgtTTTGTATAGTTCATCCATGCCATG-3'. The *GFP-TUB3* integration cassette was generated by PCR from this plasmid using the oligonucleotides 5'-GATCAGGTATCTCATAAAGTACATTAATCGACTAAGCAAGCGACTTGAGACAATGA GTAAAGGAGAAGAACTTTTCACTGGAGTTGTCCC3' and 5'-CCAGCATGCATTACCTATTTGACAACCTGCTTGACCAACATTAATACTAATGACCTC TCTAGTGGATCTGATATCACCTA-3'. Integration of the *GFP-TUB3-HIS5* cassette and excision of the *HIS5* marker sequence were accomplished as previously described (TERRY and WENTE 2007).

Cell cycle arrest

Wild type and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells were arrested at different stages in the cell cycle by the addition of hydroxyurea (HU) (Sigma), nocodazole (Sigma) or alpha (α)-factor (ZymoResearch) at a concentration of 200 mM, 2.5 μg/ml or 5 μg/ml, respectively as

described (JACOBS *et al.* 1988). Arrest was observed as 95% population synchronization by phase contrast microscopy. For HU arrest, early log phase (O.D. 0.2) cultures of wild type (YOL183) and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* (SWY3811) cells were arrested in YPD for 3 hours at 30°. For indirect immunofluorescence, cells were fixed in 3.7% formaldehyde for 1.5 hours at room temperature and processed as described (STRAWN *et al.* 2004) with mouse anti-alpha tubulin (clone DM1A, 1:200, Sigma). Bound antibodies were detected by incubation with Alexa Fluor 594-conjugated goat anti-mouse IgG (1:300, Molecular Probes). Samples were washed and mounted for imaging in 90% glycerol and 1 mg/ml *p*-phenylenediamine, pH 8.0. All images were taken on a confocal microscope (LSM 510; Carl Zeiss, Inc.) with a 63× Plan-Apochromat 1.4 NA oil immersion lens at a zoom of 4. Fluorescence was acquired using a 543-nm laser and an LP560-nm long pass filter. Images were processed with ImageJ (National Institutes of Health; (ABRAMOFF *et al.* 2004) and Adobe Creative Suite 4 (Adobe).

For nocodazole release experiments, cells were grown to an OD₆₀₀ of 0.15 in YPD with 1% DMSO at 23°C and arrested for 3.5 hours. Cells were washed two times with cold CSM, suspended in room temperature CSM and plated onto small CSM agarose pads on VALAP sealed slides. To visualize spindles in live cells, endogenously expressed GFP-Tub3 was used. Since Tub3 is a minor component of microtubules, we reasoned that tagging *TUB3* would be less detrimental to microtubule function than tagging *TUB1*. Live cell results using GFP-Tub3 were consistent with IF results stained for Tub1 (data not shown). For time-lapse microscopy, Z stacks of bright field and direct GFP-Tub3 epifluorescence were taken for individual cells every 5 minutes using a microscope (BX50; Olympus) equipped with a motorized stage (Model 999000, Ludl), a

UPlanF1 100X NA 1.30 oil immersion objective and digital charge coupled device camera (Orca-R²; Hamamatsu). Images were collected and scaled using Nikon Elements and processed with ImageJ or Photoshop 12.0 software.

To monitor spindle dynamics following α -factor arrest, cells were grown to an OD₆₀₀ of 0.15 at 30°C in YPD, pH 3.9 and then arrested for 2 hours at 30°C. Cells were washed twice with equal volumes of YPD, pH 6.5, suspended in fresh YPD equal to the original volume and incubated at 30°C. At 15 minute intervals, cell samples were fixed for indirect immunofluorescence as described (STAGE-ZIMMERMANN *et al.* 2000) and mounted on slides. Asynchronous cell populations expressing endogenous GFP-Tub3 were also imaged using a microscope (BX50; Olympus) equipped with a motorized stage (Model 999000, Ludl), a UPlanF1 100X NA 1.30 oil immersion objective and digital charge coupled device camera (Orca-R²; Hamamatsu). Images were collected and scaled using Nikon Elements and processed with ImageJ or Photoshop 12.0 software. Images of cells were scored by bud index and position of SPB or spindle within the cell. Large budded cells were counted and scored as having separate GFP positive foci in mother and daughter bud (post mitosis), GFP positive foci in mother and daughter bud connected by GFP positive spindle (anaphase spindle), or GFP positive foci connected by spindle sequestered the mother bud (pre-anaphase spindle). Pre-anaphase spindles were considered misaligned if the closest SPB within the cell was greater than 1 μ m from the bud neck, or greater than 60 degrees different than the mother bud axis.

GFP-Tub1/Spc42-mCherry images were acquired with a 100X 1.4 NA oil objective on an inverted Zeiss 200m equipped with a Yokagawa CSU-10 spinning

disc. 488 nm excitation and 568 nm excitation were used for GFP and mCherry, respectively, and emission was collected through BP 500-550 nm and BP 590-650 nm filters, respectively, onto a Hamamatsu EMCCD (C9000-13). For each channel, a Z-stack was acquired using 0.6 or 0.7 micron spacing. 13 total slices were acquired and a maximum projection image was created using ImageJ (NIH).

Hydroxyurea Survival

To assay recovery from arrest at early S phase, 200 mM HU was added to wild type (YOL183) and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* (SWY3811) cells at an O.D. of 0.15 in YPD with 1% DMSO. Cells were incubated for 6 hours at 30°C, washed in ddH₂O, and equivalent cell counts were plated onto YPD agar. Cell survival was calculated after 3 days growth at 30°C by the percentage of colonies formed from HU-arrested cultures versus those treated with DMSO alone.

Immunoprecipitation

Lysates from Ndc1-TAP cells were prepared from mid-log phase cultures using a bead beater (Biospec) as described (BOLGER *et al.* 2008). Solubilized fractions were added to 25µl of packed IgG-coated sepharose beads and incubated for 4 hours at 4°C. Proteins bound to the sepharose beads were washed in wash buffer (0.05% Tween, 150mM NaCl, 50mM Tris-HCL pH6.5), eluted by boiling in SDS sample buffer, resolved by SDS-PAGE and detected with rabbit affinity purified anti-GFP IgG (a gift of M. Linder,

Washington University School of Medicine, St. Louis, MO. (1:2000) and Horseradish Peroxidase-conjugated donkey anti-rabbit antibodies (1:5000, GE Healthcare).

For Yop1-3xFLAG, liquid nitrogen ground lysates were prepared from 200 OD₆₀₀ mid-log phase cells as described (JASPERSEN *et al.* 2006) and 40 µl anti-Flag resin (Sigma-Aldrich) was added. After overnight incubation at 4°C, beads were washed five times at 4°C and resuspended with loading buffer. Samples were analyzed by SDS-PAGE followed by immunoblotting. The following primary antibody dilutions were used: 1:1000 anti-HA 3F 10 (Roche) and 1:1000 anti-FLAG M2 (Sigma-Aldrich). Alkaline phosphatase-conjugated secondary antibodies were used at 1:10,000 (Promega).

Membrane yeast two-hybrid system

Bait and prey constructs were created by amplifying SFII-SFII fragments and directionally inserted into the SFII site of pBT3N or pBT3-STE or pPR3N. Plasmids were co-transformed into SLJ5572 (Dualsystem Biotech NMY51). Transformants were spotted onto SD-LEU-TRP and SD-LEU-TRP-HIS-ADE plates and grown for 2-3 days at 30°C.

Superplaque assay and Thin-section Electron Microscopy

Myc-Spc42 localization and spindle morphology was analyzed by indirect immunofluorescence microscopy as described (JASPERSEN *et al.* 2002). Cells were examined with a Zeiss Axioimager using a 100X Zeiss Plan-Fluar lens (NA = 1.45), and images were captured with a Hamamatsu Orca-ER digital camera and processed using

ImageJ (NIH). Superplaque formation was assayed by electron microscopy (EM) as described (CASTILLO *et al.* 2002) Samples were frozen on the Leica EM-Pact (Wetzlar, Germany) at ~ 2050 bar, then transferred under liquid nitrogen into 2% osmium tetroxide/0.1 % uranyl acetate/acetone and transferred to the Leica AFS (Wetzlar, Germany). The freeze substitution protocol was as follows: -90°C for 16 hours, up 4°C/hour for 7 hours, -60°C for 19 hours, up 4°C/hours for 10 hours, -20°C for 20 hours. Samples were removed from the AFS and placed in the refrigerator for 4 hours, then allowed to incubate at room temperature for 1 hour. Samples went through 3 changes of acetone over 1 hour and were removed from the planchettes. They were embedded in acetone/Epon mixtures to final 100% Epon over several days in a stepwise procedure as described (MCDONALD 1999). 60 nm serial thin sections were cut on a Leica UC6 (Wetzlar, Germany), stained with uranyl acetate and Sato's lead and imaged on a FEI Technai Spirit (Hillsboro, OR).

For thin-section EM (TEM) of SPBs, early log phase cultures of parental (BY4724) and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* yeast strains (SWY3811) grown in YPD were processed to preserve and stain dense protein and membrane structures and as previously described (DAWSON *et al.* 2009). Grids were examined on a CM-12 120-keV electron microscope (FEI, Hillsboro, OR). Images were acquired with an Advantage HR or MegaPlus ES 4.0 camera (Advanced Microscopy Techniques, Danvers, MA) and processed with ImageJ and Photoshop 12.0 software.

RESULTS

Rtn1 and Yop1 are required for normal spindle pole body morphology

In *S. cerevisiae* lacking Rtn1 and Yop1, NPCs are clustered in a limited NE region and NPC assembly is altered (DAWSON *et al.* 2009). Based on connections between SPB and NPC assembly (ADAMS and KILMARTIN 1999; CHIAL *et al.* 1998; JASPERSEN and WINEY 2004; SEZEN *et al.* 2009; WITKIN *et al.* 2010), we speculated that the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* mutant cells might have SPB perturbations. Using thin section electron microscopy (TEM), SPB morphology was assessed in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells. In wild type cells, SPBs were embedded in the NE with the documented laminar structure of central, inner and outer plaques (Figure 1A). Nuclear microtubules organized from the inner plaque were also apparent. However, in the micrographs from *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells, the SPBs had strikingly altered morphology (Figure 1B-E, Supplemental Figure 1). SPBs appeared to have unusually separated laminar structure with atypical plaque densities as well as peripheral lobular densities adjacent to the central plaque (Figure 1B-C, Supplemental Figure 1). Of the 15 SPBs identified by this method, 12 exhibited this altered SPB morphology. As illustrated in Figure 1E, the aberrant SPB morphologies in the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells were distinct from mutants with defects in SPB membrane components wherein the SPB structural perturbations typically include half bridge instability or an inability to insert the newly duplicated SPB into the NE, both of which result in a monopolar mitotic spindle (JASPERSEN and WINEY 2004). Moreover, to date, there are no reports of SPB structural alterations in other NPC clustering mutants (e.g. *nup133Δ* and *nup120Δ*); however, others have documented shorter spindles in *nup120Δ* cells (AITCHISON *et al.* 1995).

The *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* TEM micrographs also revealed a prevalence of NPCs clustering near the aberrant SPB structures (Figure 1C). Others have reported NPC localization near SPBs in the NE in both wild type and NPC clustering strains (ADAMS and KILMARTIN 1999; HEATH *et al.* 1995; SCHRAMM *et al.* 2000; WINEY *et al.* 1997). To gain a further understanding of their distributions in the NE, colocalization of SPBs and NPC clusters was assayed in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells. For direct comparison, the same analysis was conducted in *nup133Δ* and *nup120Δ* cells that also have clustered NPCs (HEATH *et al.* 1995; PEMBERTON *et al.* 1995). Strains expressing chromosomally integrated *BBP1-GFP* (encoding a SPB component (SCHRAMM *et al.* 2000)) and *NIC96-mCherry* (encoding a Nup (GRANDI *et al.* 1993)) were analyzed by direct fluorescence microscopy (Figure 1F). As determined by the association of Bbp1-GFP foci with a Nic96-mCherry cluster, the SPBs localized coincident with NPC clusters at a frequency of 57.2% and 48.8%, respectively, for the *nup133Δ* and *nup120Δ* cells. In wild type cells NPCs do not cluster and the Bbp1-GFP foci were found on the Nic96-mCherry-labeled NE rim. Strikingly, in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells, the co-localization of NPC clusters with SPBs increased significantly to 86.0% of cells (Figure 1G). Taken together, the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* mutant resulted in both SPB morphology defects that were distinct from other known NPC clustering mutants and an increased coincidence of NPC clusters and SPBs.

Since SPBs were associated with NPC clusters in 57.2% of *nup133Δ* cells, we speculated that this mutant could be used to determine if Rtn1 is enriched at SPBs. For this, *nup133Δ RTN1-GFP* cells expressing *SPC42-MCHERRY* (encoding a SPB component) were analyzed by direct fluorescence confocal microscopy (Supplemental Figure 2). In cells where the Spc42-mCherry foci were clearly distinct from the Rtn1-

GFP/NPC cluster, no coincident Rtn1-GFP intensity was observed at the Spc42-mCherry foci. Although this did not eliminate the possibility that Rtn1 and Yop1 colocalize with SPBs, it suggests that any association is below the detection limit of this method.

SPB superplaques in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells are unstable in the NE

When the SPB component Spc42 is overproduced, the excess protein is incorporated into the central plaque of the SPB. This results in a lateral expansion of the SPB to form a structure termed the superplaque (DONALDSON and KILMARTIN 1996). Others have found that many of the same molecular and regulatory events required for SPB duplication are also required for superplaque formation (CASTILLO *et al.* 2002; DONALDSON and KILMARTIN 1996; JASPERSEN and WINEY 2004). To further test SPB structural integrity and connections of the SPB to the NE, we examined the ability of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells to stably maintain superplaque attachment. Using a galactose-inducible *myc-SPC42*, superplaque formation was induced in wild type and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells. By indirect immunofluorescence, as compared to superplaques in wild type cells, the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* superplaques were more variable in size. In addition, an increased proportion was extended away from the microtubules and DNA (Figure 2A). Examination of superplaques by TEM revealed that 29% of the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* superplaques were completely disconnected from the NE, compared to 10% in wild type cells (Figure 2B-G). Interestingly, the overall laminar structure of the superplaques in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells was not significantly altered, with over 50% of these structures showing a straight layered structure similar to the SPB central plaque (Figure 2B-G).

These data suggested that Rtn1 and Yop1 play a role in stable attachment of SPB structures to the NE.

Cells lacking Rtn1 and Yop1 have defects in the mitotic spindle

The observation that SPB morphology is altered in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells indicated that SPB function might also be impaired. To assay SPB function, we used a variety of cellular arrest factors to examine SPBs and spindles at distinct stages in the cell cycle. SPB remodeling occurs throughout the cell cycle, starting with duplication of a new SPB in late G1 phase and then growth of the SPB core through exchange of subunits in S phase and G2/M. SPB size decreases as cells exit mitosis, presumably through the removal of core subunits (BYERS and GOETSCH 1975; YODER *et al.* 2003). Therefore, SPBs in wild type cells arrested with hydroxyurea (HU) or nocodazole in S phase or G2/M, respectively, undergo a lateral expansion and increase the overall size. In contrast, the SPBs in wild type cells arrested in G1 phase using α -factor are contracted in the size.

Microtubule structure of wild type and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells in arrested and released cells was observed using indirect immunofluorescence for anti-alpha tubulin or direct fluorescence microscopy of GFP-Tub3 to determine if there were defects in the microtubule cytoskeleton. As reported (MILLER and ROSE 1998), in wild type cells with α -factor treatment, the late G1 arrest point in wild type cells was characterized by frequent alignment of the SPB with the shmoo extension and astral microtubules that extend into the shmoo. However, the α -factor arrested microtubules of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells appeared to have a minor spindle positioning defect (Table 1). SPBs were more

frequently misoriented away from the shmoo in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells compared to wild type, 12.6% and 7.4% respectively. This suggests a possible impairment of cytoplasmic microtubules. Further analysis of this phenotype by treatment of cells with HU, which results in a S-phase arrest in wild type cells with a short bar-like spindle positioned at the bud neck, revealed additional defects in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells (Figure 3A). A single bright focus of GFP-Tub3 fluorescence was observed in the mother cells of HU arrested *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells (Figure 3A), suggesting that loss of *RTN1* and *YOP1* function is associated not only with a defect in nucleation of cytoplasmic microtubules needed for spindle positioning but also with a defect in the formation of a bipolar spindle. Furthermore, prolonging HU treatment of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells for up to six hours did not increase the percentage of cells with wild type short spindles (data not shown).

To determine if *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* mutants have a defect in spindle formation, we treated cells with nocodazole, which inhibits spindle formation, and assessed the ability of the spindle to repolymerize following removal of the nocodazole. Wild-type and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ GFP-Tub3* cells were arrested in G2/M with nocodazole. Time course imaging on agarose pads was conducted of individual cells following release. Wild type cells showed re-polymerization of microtubules by 15 min after nocodazole washout. However, re-polymerization in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells was delayed until approximately 30 min (Figure 3B,C). This significant delay in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells was not due to growth defects since release from α -factor arrest was not delayed in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells compared to wild type (Figure 3D-G). We concluded that *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells have altered microtubule dynamics.

Because cytoplasmic microtubules are critical for spindle positioning along the

mother-daughter axis, we speculated that *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells were defective in nucleation or maintenance of cytoplasmic microtubules (HOEPFNER *et al.* 2002; MOORE *et al.* 2009; WINEY and BLOOM 2012). To further analyze the microtubules of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ*, we imaged cells expressing GFP-Tub1 and Tub4-mCherry by live cell microscopy. The GFP-Tub1 localization results were consistent with the GFP-Tub3 data; however, the cytoplasmic microtubules were more easily observed with GFP-Tub1 (Figure 4A). From these images, we found that short spindles nucleated cytoplasmic microtubules that went towards the bud. Strikingly, as the spindles elongated, cytoplasmic microtubules were present less frequently in the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells (52.4% compared to 83.7% in wild type). To determine if *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells were deficient in cytoplasmic microtubules nucleation, TEM micrographs of cells under HPF/FS conditions were analyzed. Similar to our other TEM observations (Figure 1B-D), *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* SPBs were frequently flanked by NPCs (12 of 17) and associated with some type of detached NE structure (12 of 17) (Figure 4 B-C). Also, *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* SPBs often lacked visible cytoplasmic microtubules (8 of 17) compared to wild type (1 of 10); however, all were associated with nuclear microtubules. Taken together, we concluded that *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells have defects in nuclear positioning caused by insufficient cytoplasmic microtubules.

Rtn1 and Yop1 impact proper spindle function

Since *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells exhibit spindle defects during HU arrest and following release from G2/M, cell viability assays were performed to determine if these defects in spindle morphology result in compromised spindle function, chromosome segregation

errors and ultimately cell death. The *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells were arrested with HU for 6 hours, released into the cell cycle, and then plated on YPD plates. Compared to wild type, *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells had 50% reduced viability after HU treatment (Figure 5A). Overall, these results suggested that when arrested in S-phase, *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells are vulnerable to reduced spindle integrity, resulting in increased cell death.

We also speculated that *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells would exhibit defects in SPB function in untreated cells. GFP-Tub3 was used to observe the spindles in an asynchronously growing population of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells. There was no increase in the number of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells with extra SPBs or evidence of non-functional SPBs that did not nucleate microtubules (Figure 4B and data not shown). However, the overall *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* population harbored an increase in large budded cells with pre-anaphase spindles (spindles of less than 2 micrometers) (Figure 5B, C). Furthermore, when compared to wild type, the pre-anaphase spindles in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells were more frequently misaligned within the mother bud (Figure 6B). Thus, *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells exhibited poor spindle function in asynchronous cells, likely due to reduced SPB integrity and the defects in the cytoplasmic microtubules.

Overexpression of SPB insertion factors specifically rescues rtn1Δ yop1Δ spindle defects

Previously, we demonstrated that NPC clustering in the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells is rescued by the overexpression of *NDC1* or *POM152* (DAWSON *et al.* 2009). Pom152 and Ndc1 interact in a complex in the NPC, and they have partially overlapping roles in NPC assembly (MADRID *et al.* 2006). To determine if altered NPC assembly/function was

indirectly impacting SPBs, the shortened misaligned spindles phenotype was assessed by live cell microscopy in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ GFP-TUB3* cells overexpressing *NDC1* or *POM152*. Compared to empty vector, overexpression of *NDC1* rescued both of the SPB defects observed in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells, as reflected by reduced numbers of large budded cells with short spindles (Figure 6A) and wild type levels of properly oriented pre-anaphase spindles (Figure 6B). In contrast, overexpression of *POM152* did not have the same effect on spindle defects in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells (Figure 6A,B), and the decrease in the average percent of short or misaligned spindles was not significant (p-values of 0.20 and 0.13, respectively).

Since overexpression of *POM152* inhibits wild type cell growth (WOZNIAK *et al.* 1994), it is of note that decreased growth rate was not observed in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells (Supplemental Figure 3). Importantly, overexpression of *NDC1* rescued the mild growth defect of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells whereas *POM152* overexpression did not (Supplemental Figure 3), suggesting that the compromised growth of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells reflects the reduced fidelity of SPB function. Overall, overexpression of either *NDC1* or *POM152* rescued NPC clustering in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells (DAWSON *et al.* 2009); however, only *NDC1* overexpression rescued the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* spindle defect. Thus, simply rescuing the NPC clustering defect did not rescue the SPB defect, suggesting the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* effect was not an indirect overall NPC perturbation impact.

Proper targeting of Ndc1 to SPBs occurs by its association with other SPB insertion factors at the NE (KUPKE *et al.* 2011; SCHRAMM *et al.* 2000; WINEY *et al.* 1991). Bbp1 and Mps2 are SPB-specific proteins that interact with Ndc1 and play roles in SPB insertion and stability (MUÑOZ-CENTENO *et al.* 1999; SCHRAMM *et al.* 2000; WINEY *et al.*

1991). We hypothesized that overexpressing *BBP1* or *MPS2* would rescue the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* spindle defects but not the NPC clustering defect. By examining GFP-Tub3, we found that SPB defects were rescued in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells overexpressing *BBP1* or *MPS2* (Figure 6A, B). For *BBP1* overexpression, the numbers of large budded cells that had not completed mitosis (31% versus 50% for *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* alone) and the proportion with misoriented anaphase spindles (17% versus 28% for *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* alone) were clearly reduced. Likewise, in the population of cells overexpressing *MPS2*, there were fewer large budded cells that had not completed mitosis (34%) and a lower proportion with misoriented anaphase spindles (13%). Indeed, the spindle defect rescue levels in the *BBP1* and *MPS2* experiments were similar to that found with overexpressing *NDC1*. However, NPC clusters were still present in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells overexpressing *BBP1* or *MPS2* (data not shown). Thus, rescue of the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* spindle defects by overexpression of SPB anchoring components was specific. These results indicated that the NPC and SPB defects are separable and both potentially the result of defects or insufficiencies in NE membrane proteins.

We speculated that the underlying cause for the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* mutant phenotypes might be a perturbation in the function of shared SPB and NPC component(s). *Ndc1* has roles at both SPBs and NPCs (CHIAL *et al.* 1998; LAU *et al.* 2004; WINEY *et al.* 1993). Two other NE membrane proteins, *Brr6* and *Apq12*, have also been linked to both NPC biogenesis and SPB insertion (HODGE *et al.* 2010; SCARCELLI *et al.* 2007; SCHNEITER and COLE 2010; TAMM *et al.* 2011). To test for specificity, *BRR6* and *APQ12* overexpression was analyzed. Overproduction of neither *Brr6* nor *Apq12* altered the SPB or NPC defects in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells (data not shown). Thus, the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells

had NPC and SPB defects that are separate from the lipid homeostasis defects and membrane fluidity function associated with *BRR6* and *APQ12*. Moreover, *NDC1* overexpression was unique in rescuing both the SPB and NPC defects.

High osmolarity reduces NPC clustering but not spindle defects of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells

To further test the functional separation of NPC and SPB defects in cells, experiments were conducted after growth of cells in high osmolarity media (1M NaCl). Strikingly, the percentage of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells with distinct NPC clusters was reduced in high osmolarity media from 71% to 22% (Figure 7A). This differed from a previous report for the *nup120Δ* clustering mutant wherein high osmolarity rescues growth and nucleocytoplasmic transport defects but not NPC clustering (HEATH *et al.* 1995). However, while growth of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells in high osmolarity (1M NaCl) rescued NPC clustering, it did not rescue the observed SPB defects (Figure 7B). These results again highlighted differential NPC and SPB effects in the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells. Previous work has shown that high osmolarity results in the increased *RTN2* expression, which could compensate for the loss of Rtn1 and Yop1 at NPCs (DE CRAENE *et al.* 2006; ROMERO-SANTACREU *et al.* 2009).

Rtn1 and Yop1 interact with Ndc1

Based on the genetic and functional connections, we investigated whether Rtn1 and/or Yop1 physically interact with integral membrane proteins of the NPC and/or SPB. Rtn1 and Yop1 interact by co-immunoprecipitation (VOELTZ *et al.* 2006). Furthermore,

based on a published large scale split ubiquitin-based two hybrid screen, Yop1 interacts with both Pom33 and Pom34 (MILLER *et al.* 2005). Using the split ubiquitin two hybrid assay, we used a candidate approach to identify other possible Yop1 interaction partners. Remarkably, Pom34, Pom152 and Ndc1 were all positive for interaction with Yop1. However, Yop1 did not interact with either Nbp1 or Mps3, two proteins involved in SPB insertion, using this system (Figure 8A) (ARAKI *et al.* 2006; FRIEDERICHS *et al.* 2011).

Using immunoprecipitation assays, we further examined the interaction between Ndc1 and Rtn1. Lysates of yeast cells exogenously expressing *NDC1-TAP* and *RTN1-GFP* were incubated with IgG-sepharose beads. By immunoblotting analysis, Rtn1-GFP was co-isolated with Ndc1-TAP (Figure 8B). Similarly, lysates of yeast cells exogenously expressing Ndc1-3xHA and Yop1-3XFLAG were incubated anti-FLAG affinity matrix and bound samples were analyzed by immunoblotting. As shown, Yop1-3XFLAG and Ndc1-3xHA were co-isolated (Figure 8C). Overall, these data showed that Rtn1 and Yop1 physically interact with Ndc1 and other membrane components of the NPC.

DISCUSSION

Previously, we defined a role for Rtn1 and Yop1 in nuclear pore and NPC biogenesis (DAWSON *et al.* 2009). Building on this, here we demonstrate novel functions of Rtn1 and Yop1 at the NE by discovering links to SPB morphology and microtubule dynamics. We conclude that the lack of Rtn1 and Yop1 perturbs Ndc1 function, an essential factor required for both SPB and NPC assembly. This is based on a complementary set of genetic, cell biological and biochemical data. We find that *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells have structural and functional defects in SPBs, in the SPB-associated microtubule spindles and cytoplasmic microtubules, and in SPB superplaque formation. Overproduction of either Ndc1 or components involved in anchoring the SPB to the NE rescues the SPB defects in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells. Furthermore, although increasing Ndc1 levels also rescues the NPC defects in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells, overproducing NPC specific or SPB specific components only rescues the defects in their respective complex. Interestingly, Rtn1 and/or Yop1 physically interact with Ndc1. We conclude that Rtn1 and Yop1 facilitate proper Ndc1 function in the NE at NPCs and SPBs.

Together with our prior work, *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* mutants have clear defects in the structure of both NPCs and SPBs. In addition to the NPC clusters, the NE in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells also has partial NPC-like structures present on only the INM or ONM surface (DAWSON *et al.* 2009). Interestingly, the aberrant lobular SPB structures in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells are not similar to other reported SPB morphological defects (Figure 1). The *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* mutant cells also have altered spindle function, indicative of defects in SPB migration due to insufficient or defective cytoplasmic microtubules (Figure 3, 4, 5).

Although gross defects in insertion, such as monopolar spindles, are not observed, our data does suggest that the connections of the SPB to the NE are altered. Upon *SPC42* overexpression, a greater proportion of the superplaque in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells are partially or fully disconnected from the NE (Figure 2). We speculate that both the NPC and SPB defects in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells reflect decreased stability of the respective structure/complex in the NE.

Ndc1 is to date the only known factor common to both NPCs and SPBs. Based on the work here, we propose that Rtn1 and Yop1 are also common effectors of both NPCs and SPBs. We have previously shown that Rtn1 and Yop1 colocalize to NPC clusters in *nup133Δ* cells (DAWSON *et al.* 2009); however, there is no evidence of physical association of Rtn1 and Yop1 with SPBs. General changes to the lipid and protein composition of the NE are one of several possibilities by which the absence of Rtn1 and Yop1 could affect NPC and SPB stability. Alternatively, several pieces of evidence indicate that the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* effect is directly perturbing NPCs and/or SPBs. The SPB is associated with the NPC clusters in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells to a greater extent than it is in other NPC clustering mutants *nup133Δ* and *nup120Δ* (Figure 1F,G). Furthermore, the gene specificity in the overexpression suppression analysis is intriguing and indicates that the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* defects are possibly not due to a general perturbation in NPC or the NE. Overexpression of *POM152* rescues the NPC clustering defect but does not rescue the SPB defects in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* mutants. Likewise, overexpression of *MPS2* or *BBP1* results in rescue of spindle defects, but not NPC clustering. Interestingly, these multicopy suppressors of the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* phenotypes are physical or genetic interactors of Ndc1/*NDC1*. Moreover, elevated Ndc1 levels

rescue both the SPB and NPC defects in the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* mutant. Based on this genetic data and the physical interaction between Ndc1 and Rtn1/Yop1, we speculate that Ndc1 function is potentially controlled by Rtn1 and/or Yop1.

Others have provided key data supporting a role for Rtns and Yop1/DP1 in stabilizing membrane curvature. Lipid reconstitution assays in the presence of purified Yop1 result in the formation of stable membrane tubules (Hu *et al.* 2008), and in *rtn1Δ rtn2Δ yop1Δ* cells the ER structure is specifically altered (WEST *et al.* 2011). However, whereas all tubular ER is dramatically altered in *rtn1Δ rtn2Δ yop1Δ* cells, the overall structural properties of the NE are not altered. We speculate that the *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* defects in NPCs and SPBs are due to highly localized or highly temporal defects in stabilizing membrane structures at NPCs and/or SPBs. Moreover, the Rtns and Yop1/DP1 could serve to facilitate the function of other proteins directly involved in the respective membrane association of NPCs and SPBs (see below). During NPC assembly, both positive and negative membrane curvature are predicted to occur for the INM and ONM to fuse (ANTONIN 2009). The Rtns and Yop1/DP1 are proposed to function in the NE and stabilize the highly curved nuclear pore membrane during these early NPC biogenesis steps (DAWSON *et al.* 2009). The physical interactions between Rtn1 and Yop1 with Ndc1 (Fig. 5B&C) and other membrane components of the NPC (Fig. 5A and (CHADRIN *et al.* 2010)) provide a plausible mechanism by which these proteins might be co-localized/recruited to nuclear pore membranes.

Our working model for how Rtn1 and/or Yop1 mediate NPC biogenesis extends directly to two alternative scenarios for how Rtn1 and/or Yop1 might impact SPB assembly. SPBs also require membrane curvature maintenance, with specific

membrane changes required during SPB duplication and migration. First, it is possible that Rtn1 and Yop1 function with Ndc1 at both NPCs and SPBs. Loss of Rtn1 and Yop1 might result in the need for increased levels of Ndc1 at both complexes to allow proper function. As such, both NPCs and SPBs are defective or not correctly assembled without additional Ndc1. Second, alternatively, it is possible that Rtn1 and Yop1 function with Ndc1 only at the NPC. In this case, in the absence of Rtn1 and Yop1, increased levels of Ndc1 are sequestered by NPCs and potentially titrated away from SPBs. It is possible that overexpression of *MPS2* or *BBP1* rescues the SPB in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells due to Mps2 and Bbp1 having overlapping functions with Ndc1 at the SPB, or due to physical interactions between these proteins resulting in Ndc1 being more efficiently targeted away from the NPC to the SPB. This second model places NPC and SPB assembly as acting antagonistically in terms of Ndc1 function.

It has been previously suggested that a feedback mechanism exists in response to defects in SPB duplication, with this resulting in antagonistic roles of the NPC and SPB complexes (WITKIN *et al.* 2010). Many SPB assembly mutants, including *ndc1-1* and *mps2-1*, are suppressed by specific deletions in genes encoding NPC components (CHIAL *et al.* 1998; FRIEDERICHS *et al.* 2011; SEZEN *et al.* 2009; WITKIN *et al.* 2010).

Interestingly, proper Ndc1 levels are critical for cell survival, as illustrated by its haploinsufficiency and overexpression phenotypes leading to defects in SPB duplication (CHIAL *et al.* 1999). Our data, along with these studies, supports a model of competition between SPBs and NPCs for a common limiting component, Ndc1. Since Ndc1 is thought to be targeted to SPBs and NPCs through specific physical interactions with other membrane proteins (ONISCHENKO *et al.* 2009), loss of *POM152* or *POM34* could

result in a shift of Ndc1 recruitment to SPBs, which might aid in SPB assembly. Such a model of Ndc1 altered recruitment would suggest that competition for Ndc1 leads to antagonism of SPBs and NPCs.

Evidence exists to indicate that this antagonism between NPCs and SPBs is regulated within the cell. Inhibition of Pom34 translation by the Smy2-Eap1-Scp160-Asc1 (SESA) network is sufficient to rescue the temperature sensitive insertion defects of *mps2-2* cells (SEZEN *et al.* 2009). It is intriguing to consider that linking SPB and NPC assembly/function by such a mechanism might allow control of nuclear pore formation and number during specific cell cycle stages and restrict SPB duplication in the G1 phase of the cell cycle.

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Table 1: *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells have mild SPB positioning defects upon α -factor arrest.

	Wild type	<i>rtn1Δ yop1Δ</i>
Microtubules positioned in shmoo	335 (92.6%)	384 (87.3%)
Microtubules positioned away from shmoo	27 (7.4%)	56 (12.6%)
Total	362	440

Parental (YOL183) or *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* (SWY3811) cells expressing GFP-Tub3 arrested with α -factor. Cells were fixed to preserve GFP fluorescence and imaged and scored based on proximity of SPB and microtubules to the shmoo; p-value= 0.00012.

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Figure Legends

Figure 1: **SPBs have abnormal morphology and colocalize with NPC clusters in**

***rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells.** (A-D) Parental wild type (A) or *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* (B-D) cells were grown to early log phase at 23°C and processed for TEM. Scale bar, 100 nm. Arrowheads point to SPBs, arrows point to NPCs, asterisks indicate abnormal lobular structures on SPBs. (E) Cartoon representations of SPBs from wild type, SPB-insertion mutants, and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells. cMTs: cytoplasmic microtubules; nMTs: nuclear microtubules; OP: outer plaque; IP: inner plaque; CP: central plaque; HB: half-bridge; DP: duplication plaque/uninserted SPB; L: lobular abnormalities (F) Parental wild type, *rtn1Δ yop1Δ*, *nup133Δ*, and *nup120Δ* cells expressing endogenously tagged Nic96-mCherry and Bbp1-GFP were grown to early log phase at 25°C. Representative DIC and direct fluorescence microscopy images are shown. Scale bar, 2 μm (G) Quantitative analysis of Bbp1-GFP and Nic96-mCherry colocalization. Cells were scored for presence of a Bbp1 foci within the Nic96 cluster (SWY4950: n=882; SWY5033: n=602; SWY4971: n=571). Error bars represent standard error.

Figure 2: **Deletion of reticulons affects superplaque formation.**

Parental (SLJ1433) and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* (SLJ3828) were grown overnight in YEP + 2% raffinose at 30°C until they were in early log-phase then divided into two cultures. To one culture, glucose was added to a final concentration of 2% while the other was treated with 2% galactose to induce expression of *myc-SPC42*. After 4 h of continued growth at 30°C, cultures were harvested and examined by indirect immunofluorescence microscopy and by EM. (A)

Microtubules (green) and myc-Spc42 (red) were labeled using anti-Tub1 and anti-myc antibodies, respectively. DNA (blue) was visualized using DAPI. Bar, 5 μ m. (B-F) NE-associated superplaque structures were examined by EM, and analyzed in 31 wild type and 34 *rtn1 Δ yop1 Δ* SPB/superplaque structures (G). Asterisks indicate SPB superplaques with complete attachment, arrowheads at superplaques with single attachment, and arrows at superplaques completely detached from nucleus. Scale bar B-E, 500 nm.

Figure 3: Mitotic arrest leads to collapsed spindles and reduced microtubule function in *rtn1 Δ yop1 Δ* cells. (A) Microtubules in parental wild type (YOL183) or *rtn1 Δ yop1 Δ* (SWY3811) cells arrested with 200 mM HU were detected by indirect anti-tubulin immunofluorescence and laser scanning confocal microscopy. Scale Bar, 2 μ m (B) Direct fluorescence of GFP-Tub3 was visualized following nocodazole or α -factor arrest in GFP-Tub3 (SWY4617) or *rtn1 Δ yop1 Δ* GFP-Tub3 (SW4935) cells. DIC, differential interference contrast. Scale bar, 2 μ m. (C) Time-lapse images were scored for release from nocodazole arrest as the percentage of cells exhibiting of microtubule re-polymerization. (F-G) Time-lapse images were scored for release from α -factor arrest based on bud index and position of SPBs within the cells.

Figure 4: *rtn1 Δ yop1 Δ* cells have defects in cytoplasmic microtubules. (A) Asynchronous cultures of parental wild type (SLJ3996) or *rtn1 Δ yop1 Δ* (SLJ3994) cells expressing GFP-Tub1 and Tub4-mCherry were grown to early log phase and imaged.

Cells were analyzed for the presence or absence of cytoplasmic microtubules and length of spindles. Arrows point to duplicated SPBs in large budded cells. Single asterisk indicates a cell with duplicated poles and cytoplasmic microtubules that go toward bud and mother. The double asterisk indicates a cell with spindle elongation in the mother. (B-C) Asynchronous *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells were processed by HPF/FS and imaged by EM. Black arrows point to SPBs. Asterisk indicates NPC in close proximity to SPB. Arrowheads point to nuclear and cytoplasmic microtubules. White arrows point to electron-dense structure present in the nucleoplasm associated with nuclear microtubules (B) and to an electron dense structure resembling the satellite (C). Scale bar, 100nm.

Figure 5. *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells exhibit functional defects in spindle positioning. (A) Parental wild type (YOL183) and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* (SWY3811) cells were arrested with 200mM HU. Cell viability following HU arrest was measured by colony formation after 3 days growth. (B) Live cell direct fluorescence microscopy was conducted with GFP-Tub3 and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* GFP-Tub3 cells grown to early log phase at 23°C. Scale bar, 2μm. (C) Bud index was scored in DIC images of parental GFP-Tub3 (SWY4616, n = 423) and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* GFP-Tub3 (SWY4877, n=750).

Figure 6: Overexpression of SPB insertion factors rescues *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* defect. Parental wild type GFP-Tub3 and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* GFP-Tub3 cells transformed with plasmids expressing *NDC1*, *RTN1*, *POM152*, *BBP1*, *MPS2*, or empty vector were

grown to mid-log phase at 30°C and visualized by live cell direct fluorescence microscopy. (A) Cells were scored for bud index by quantification of DIC images and cell cycle position by spindle stage (parental + pRS315, n=1251; + pRS425; n=1483; SWY4877 + pRS315, n=409; +pRSS425; n=2372; + pNDC1; n=2073; + pRTN1, n=2095; + pPOM15; n=904; + pBBP1, n=792; + pMPS2, n=2475). (B) Large budded cells with pre-anaphase spindles were further characterized by orientation of their spindle. Error bars indicate standard error. The asterisk and double asterisk denotes statistical significance (P-value < 0.04, P-value <0.01 respectively).

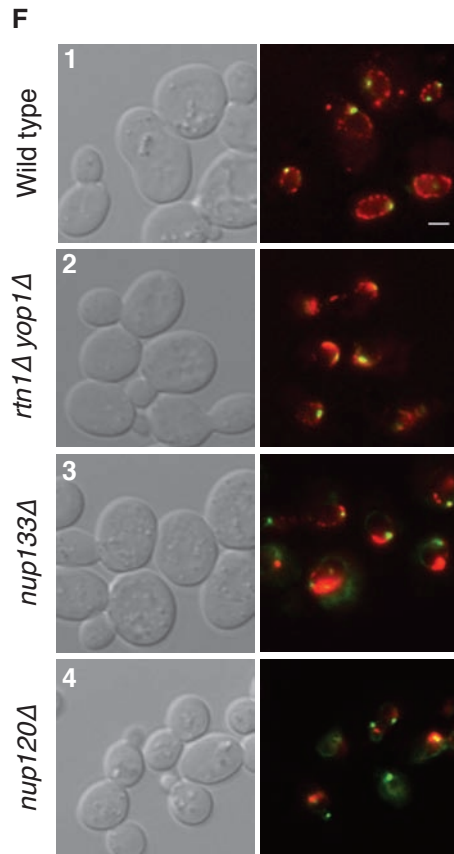
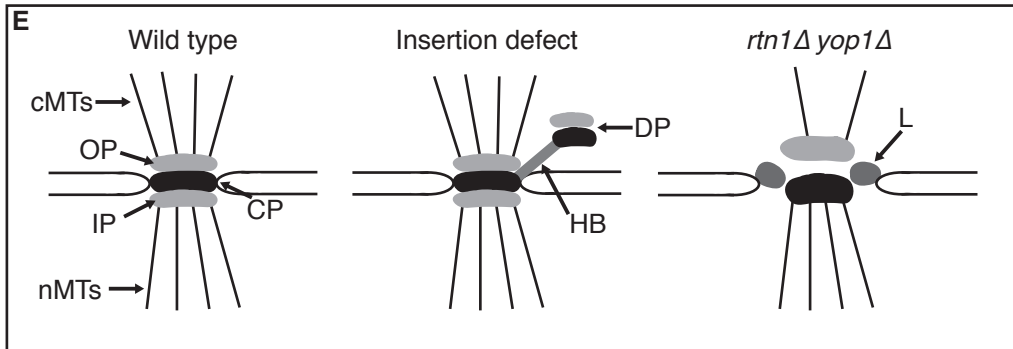
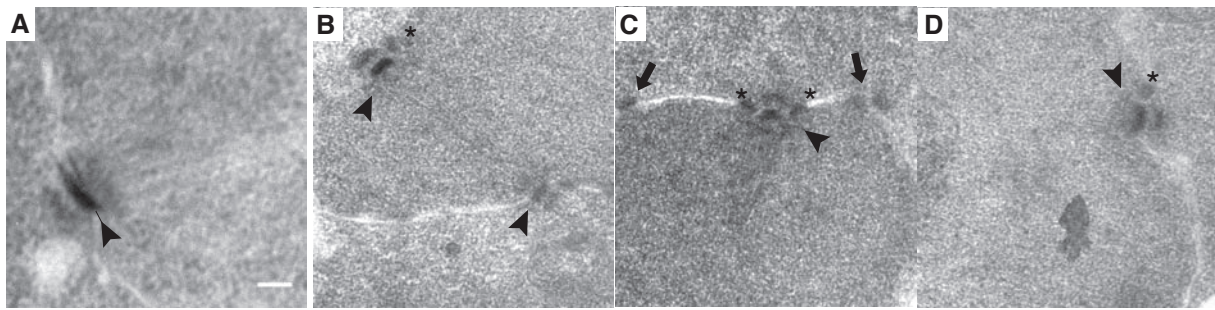
Figure 7: Growth in high osmolarity only reduces NPC clusters in *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells. (A) Asynchronous cultures of *rtn1Δ yop1Δ nic96-GFP* cells (SWY4725) were grown to log phase at 23°C in YPD. After shifting to YPD alone (control) or YPD + 1.0M NaCl, cells were grown at 23°C for an additional 5 hours and imaged. (B) Asynchronous cultures of parental and *rtn1Δ yop1Δ* cells endogenously expressing *GFP-TUB3* (SWY4616 and SWY4877, respectively) were grown to log phase at 23°C in YPD. After shifting to YPD + 1.0M NaCl, cells were grown at 23°C for an additional 5 hours and imaged. Cells were scored for bud index by quantification of DIC images and cell cycle position by spindle stage (SWY4616: n=171; SWY4877: n=233) p-value = 0.041.

Figure 8: Rtn1 and Yop1 interact with Ndc1 and NPC components. (A) Split ubiquitin yeast two-hybrid vectors containing a *LEU2* marker and the C-terminal region of ubiquitin (Cub) fused to *NDC1*, *NBP1*, *MPS3*, *POM152*, or *POM34* (baits) were

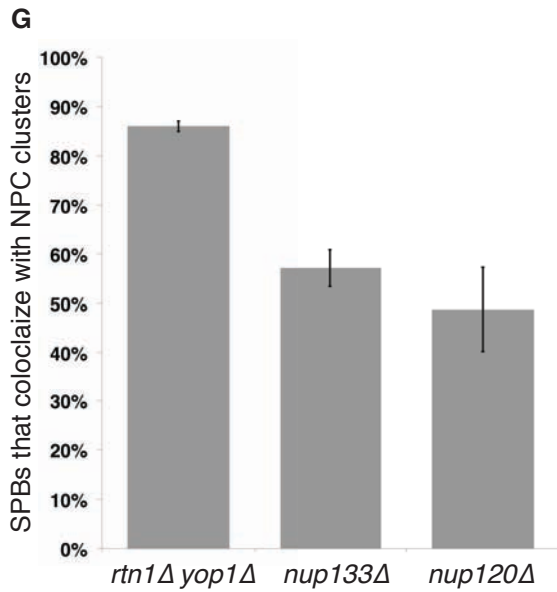
expressed in SLJ5572 and tested for their ability to interact with the N-terminal region of ubiquitin (NubG) fused to Yop1 or the N-terminal region of ubiquitin alone in a *TRP1* vector (preys). Interaction of bait and prey proteins leads to cleavage of the split ubiquitin and release of a transcription factor, which activates reporter genes such as *HIS3* and *ADE2*. (B) Lysates were prepared from wild type, Ndc1-TAP Rtn1-GFP and Rtn1-GFP cells and immunoprecipitated with IgG-coated sepharose beads. Analysis of cell lysates and immunoprecipitated proteins by western blotting with anti-GFP antibodies showed that Ndc1-TAP binds to Rtn1-GFP. (C) Lysates were prepared from wild type, Ndc1-3xHA, Yop1-3xFLAG, and Ndc1-3xHA Yop1-3xFLAG cells and immunoprecipitated with anti-FLAG antibodies. Analysis of cell lysates and immunoprecipitated proteins by immunoblotting with anti-FLAG and anti-HA antibodies showed that Ndc1-3xHA binds to Yop1-3xFLAG. Positions of molecular mass markers (kilodaltons) are indicated to the left.

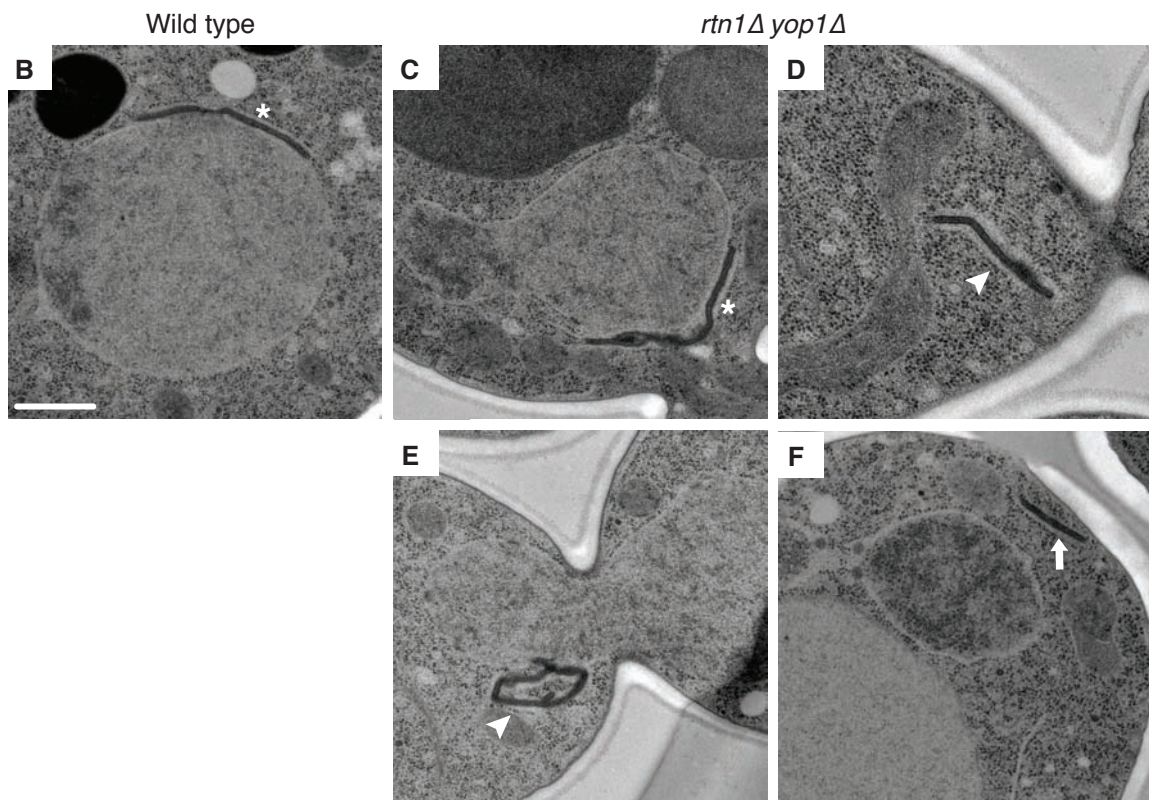
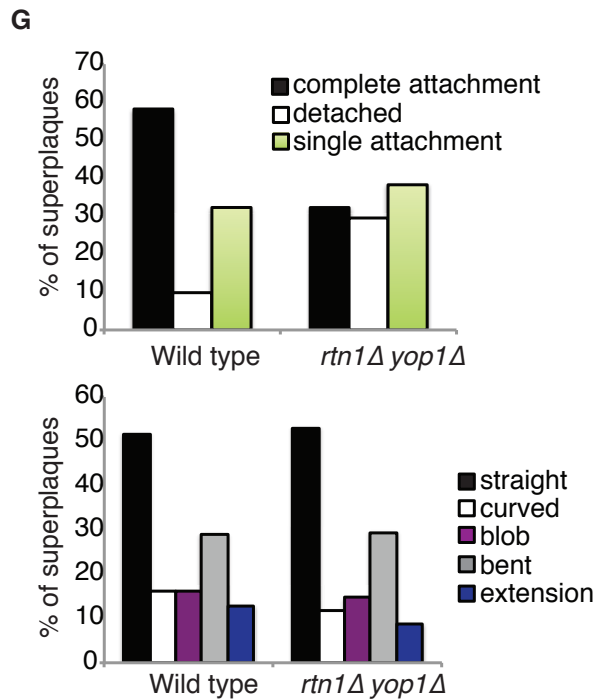
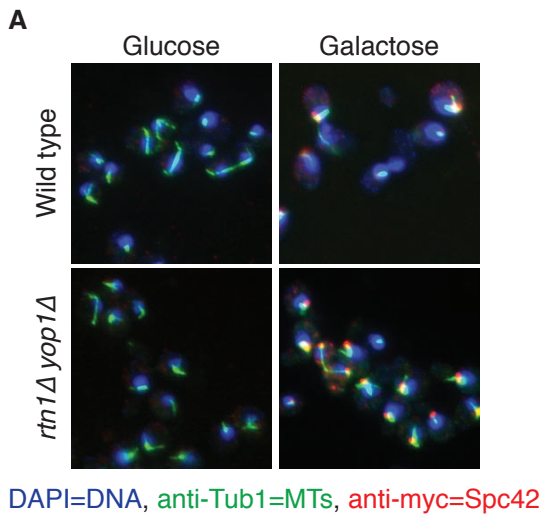
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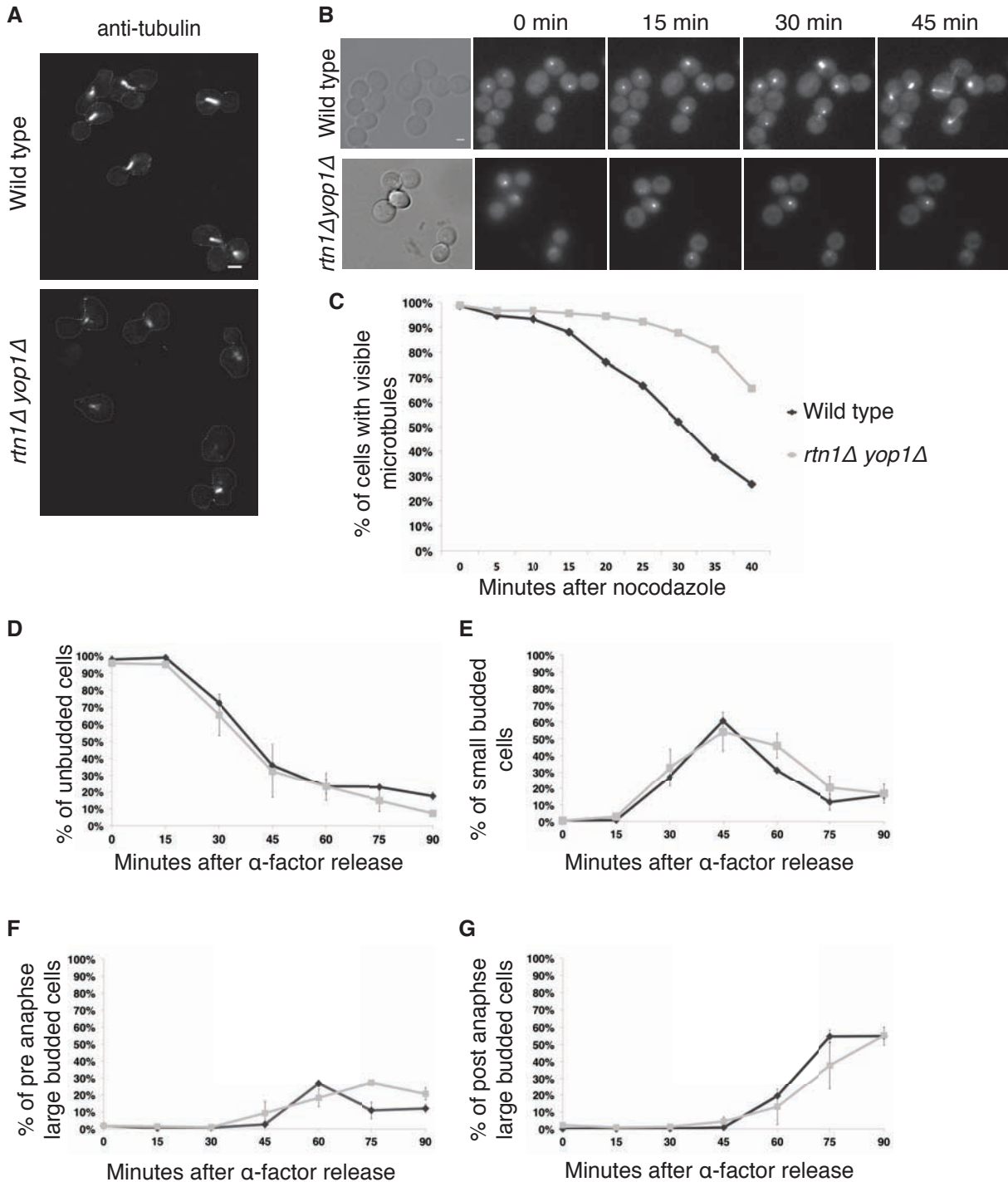
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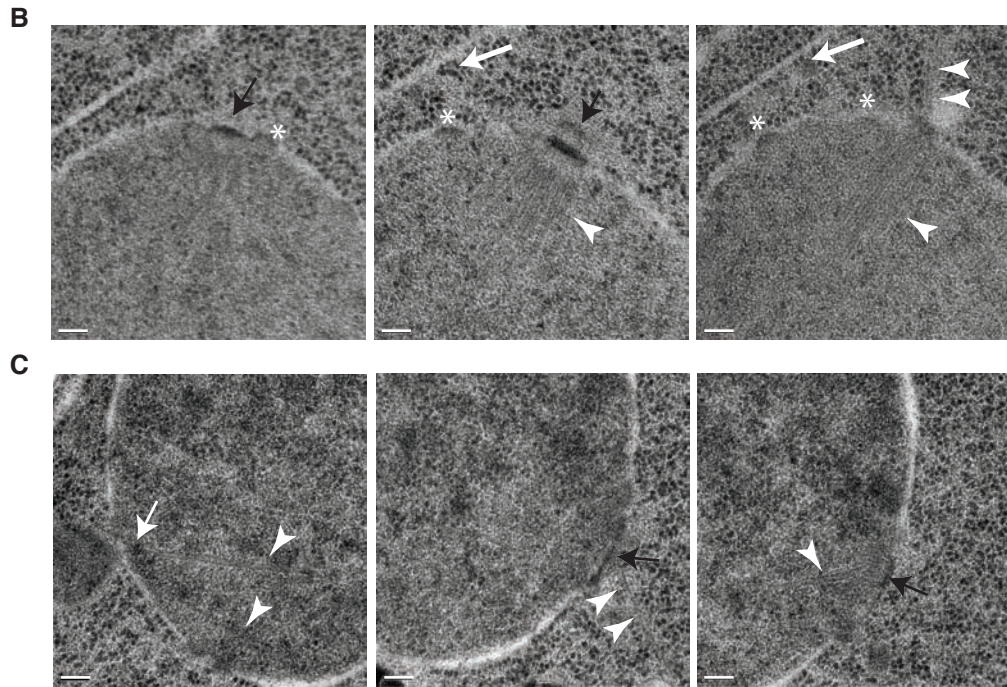
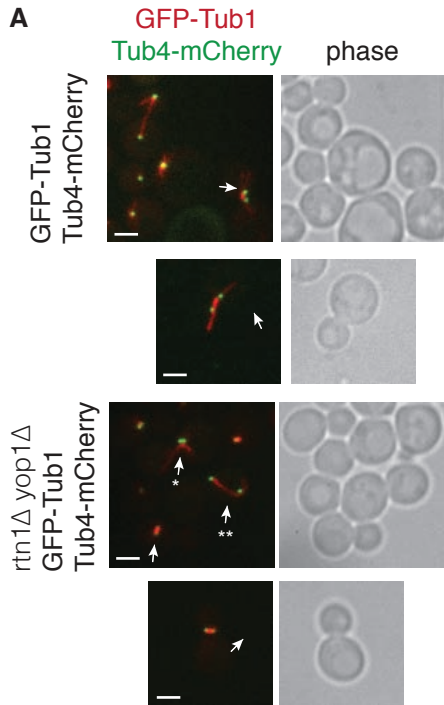


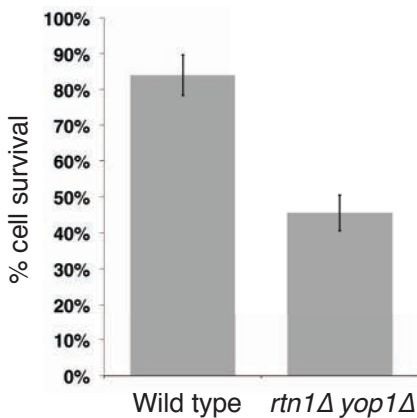
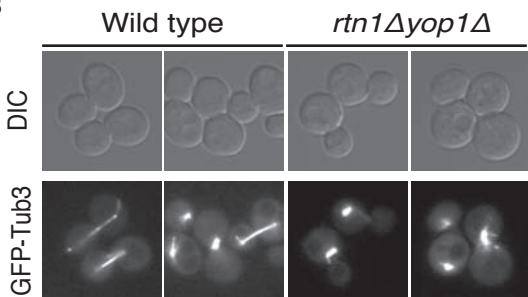
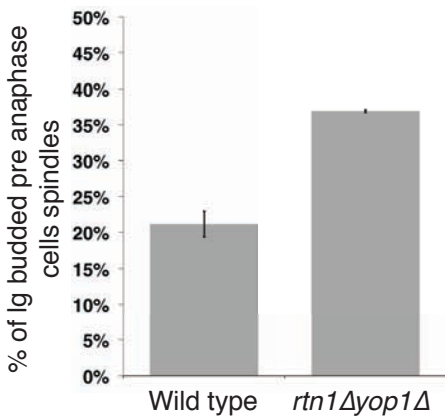
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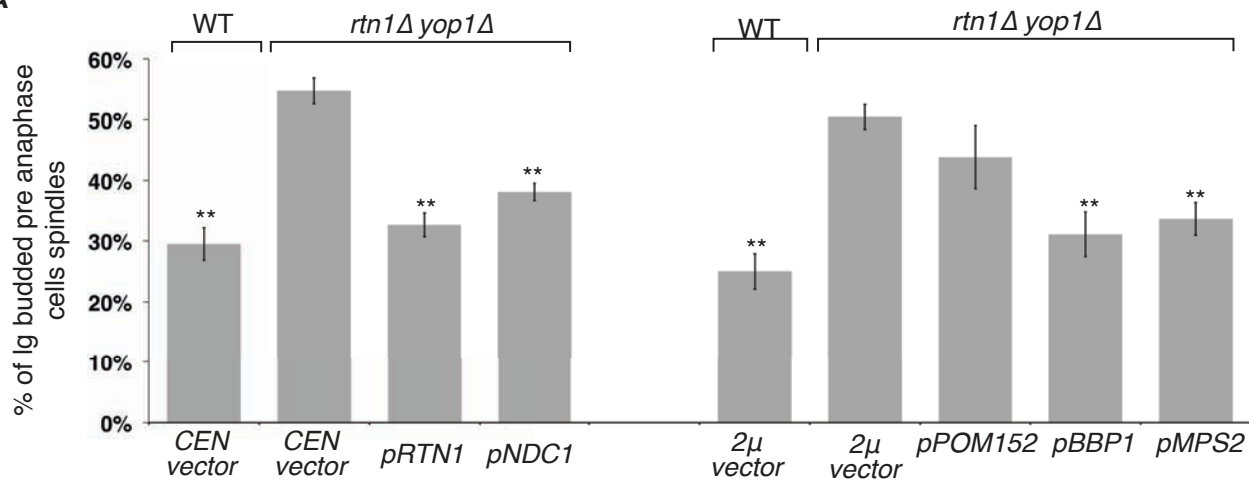
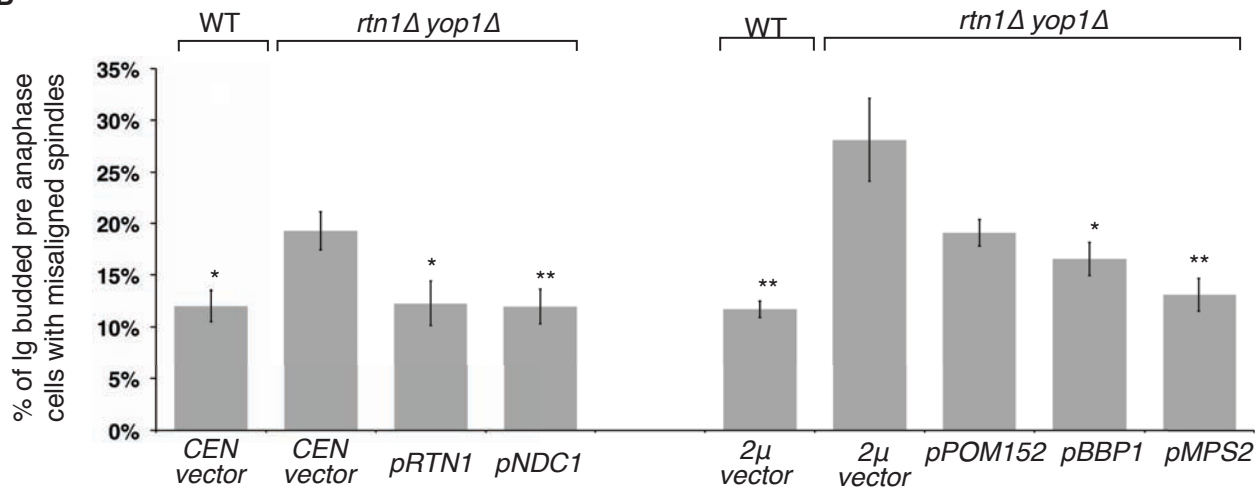








A**B****C**

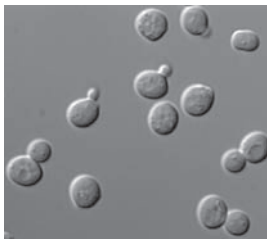
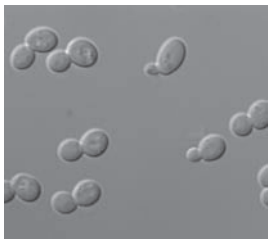
A**B**

A*rtn1* Δ *yop1* Δ *nic96*-GFP

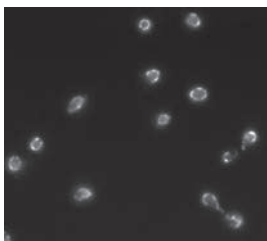
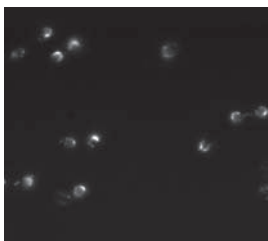
YPD

YPD + 1.0 M NaCl

DIC

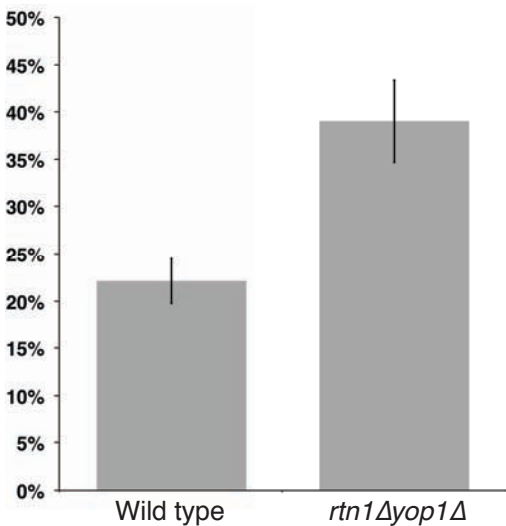


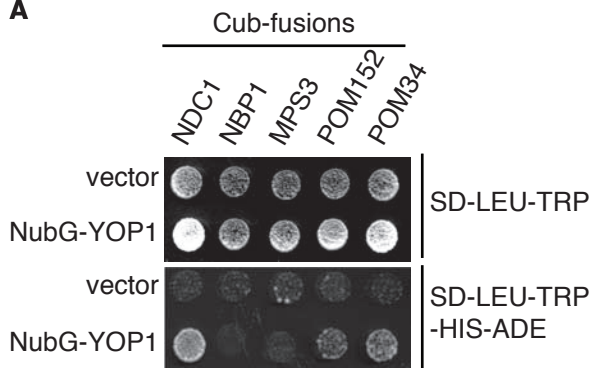
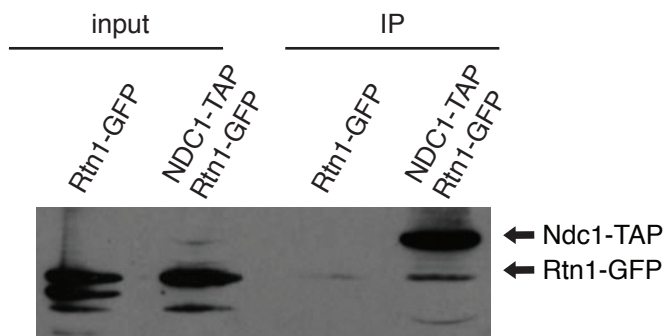
GFP

**B**

% of lg budded pre anaphase cells

spindles



A**B****C**