Mechanobiochemistry

Jorge Alegre-Cebollada







Fundación Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Cardiovasculares Carlos III

Single-molecule Mechanobiochemistry at CNIC Bridging Molecular Mechanobiology and Cardiac Disease

i. How do posttranslational modifications (PTMs) regulate elasticity in vivo?





Cristina Sánchez



ii. <u>Measure the mechanical properties of mutant proteins causing</u> <u>cardiomyopathy</u>





Carmen Suay

iii. Production of biomaterials whose mechanical properties are regulated by physiological cues





Carla Huerta

The elasticity of the myocardium is key to an efficient heart





The mechanics of the myocardium is defective in cardiomyopathies



From "Pathophysiology of Heart Disease", 5th Edition, Ed. Leonard S. Lilly

The sarcomere is the functional unit of striated muscle



Mutations in structural proteins lead to familial cardiomyopathy



Genotype to phenotye?

The elasticity of striated muscle can be modulated



Protein elasticity is determined by protein unfolding/refolding



Novel technology Single-molecule Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM)



Popa*, Kosuri*, Alegre-Cebollada, et al. Nat Prot, 8, 1261 (2013)



Polyprotein engineering for force spectroscopy





Single-molecule AFM Mechanical unfolding and refolding



Covalent anchoring of polyproteins using HaloTag chemistry



Popa, Berkovich, Alegre-Cebollada et al. JACS 135, 12762 (2013)

Experimental objectives (i)

How do redox posttranslational modifications regulate elasticity?



Thiol chemistry controlling titin elasticity



Titin's buried (cryptic) cysteines



Disulfide bonds as regulators of polymer elasticity



Vulcanization

Disulfide bonds as regulators of protein elasticity



Limited extension: stiffer protein

Detection of cryptic disulfides in titin Ig domains



Time

Wiita *et al.* **PNAS** 103, 7222 (2006) Kosuri, Alegre-Cebollada *et al.* **Cell**, 151, 794 (2012)

We pull from an Ig domain of cardiac titin.

Direct observation of disulfide isomerization



Alegre-Cebollada *et al.* **Nature Chemistry** 3, 882 (2011) Solsona *et al.* **J Biol Chem**, 289, 26722 (2014)

What about unpaired cysteines? S-glutathionylation of titin



S-glutathionylation inhibits protein folding



S-Glutathionylation decreases mechanical stability



The elasticity of cardiomyocytes is modulated by S-glutathionylation of titin's cryptic cysteines

motor



In collaboration with Nazha Hamdani and Wolfgang Linke (Bochum University, Germany)

Molecular yoga: a novel role for buried residues in proteins



Alegre-Cebollada*, Kosuri* et al. Cell, 156, 1235 (2014)

Mass spectrometry to determine posttranslational modifications



Preliminary results Posttranslational modifications of buried cysteines in titin



Disulfide bonds

Other redox modifications

- S-glutathionylation
- S-nitrosylation
- Sulfenylation

In-gel detection of reduced thiols



Monobromobimane (mBBr)

$R-SH + mBBr \rightarrow$ Fluorescent derivative



Experimental objectives (ii) Mechanical properties of mutant proteins causing cardiomyopathy

Diagnostic reasons



Therapeutic reasons



SNP or pathogenic mutation?

Drugs that restore healthy phenotype

Experimental objectives (iii) Biomaterials that mimic the elasticity of muscle



Titin's I27 domain

Saqlain et al. Macromol Mater Eng 300, 369 (2015)

Stiffness depends on reversible protein unfolding/refolding



Saqlain et al. Macromol Mater Eng 300, 369 (2015)

Mechanobiology Seminar Series at CNIC. If interested, send an e-mail to jalegre@cnic.es



Linke et al. J Cell Sci 111, 1567 (1998)