Activators

These proteins bind to genes at sites known as enhancers. Activators help determine which genes will be switched on, and they speed the rate of transcription.



These "adapter" molecules integrate signals from activators and perhaps repressors and relay the results to basal factors.

Basal transcription factors

С

Repressors

These proteins bind

to selected sets of genes

In response to injunctions from activators, these factors position RNA polymerase at the start of the protein-coding region of a gene and send the enzyme on its way.





The Cell Nucleus: Structure, Function and Dynamics





Porter & Bonneville: An Introduction to the Fine Structure of Cells and Tissues (1964)

Nuclear Structure (1993)



Spector DL. Annu Rev Cell Biol. 1993;9:265-315.

Nuclear Structure (2001)



Spector DL. J Cell Sci. 2001;114:2891-3 / Ann Rev Biochem 2003

Nuclear Structure (2006)

SnapShot: Cellular Bodies

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	Body Name	Number/ Cell	Typical Size and Shape	Marker Protein	Description	Image
Nuclear Bodies	Cajal Body	0–6	0.1–2.0 µm; round	Coilin	Involved in snRNP and snoRNP biogenesis and posttranscriptional modification of newly assembled spliceosomal snRNAs.	
	Clastosome	0–3	0.2–1.2 μm; irregular	20S core catalytic component of proteasome	Contains ubiquitin conjugates, the proteolytically active 20S core and 19S regulatory complexes of the 26S proteasome, and protein substrates of the proteasome.	
	Cleavage Body	1–4	0.2–1.0 μm; round	CstF 64 kDa	Contains several factors involved in 3' cleavage of mRNAs. \sim 20% contain newly synthesized RNA. Some cleavage bodies localize adjacent to Cajal and PML bodies.	
	Nuclear Speckle or Interchromatin Granule Cluster	25–50	0.8–1.8 μm; irregular	SC35, SF2/ASF	Contains proteins for pre-mRNA processing. Involved in the storage, assembly, and/or modification of pre-mRNA splicing factors.	
	Nuclear Stress Body	2–10	0.3–3.0 μm; irregular	HSF1	Induced by heat shock response. Associates with satellite III repeats on human chromosome 9q12 and other pericentromeric regions; recruits various RNA- binding proteins.	
	OPT Domain	1–3	1.0–1.5 μm; round	PTF	Contains several transcription factors (Oct1/PTF) and RNA transcripts; predominant in late G1 cells. Often localizes close to nucleolus.	
	Paraspeckle	10–20	0.5 μm; round	p54 ^{nrb} , PSP1	Contains several RNA-binding proteins and nuclear- retained CTN-RNA.	E.
	Perinucleolar Compartment	1–4	0.3–1.0 μm; cap	hnRNPI (PTB)	Cap on surface of nucleolus; found mainly in transformed cells. Contains RNA pol III transcripts and several RNA- binding proteins.	0
	PML Body	10–30	0.3–1.0 μm; round	PML	Suggested to play a role in aspects of transcriptional regulation and/or nuclear protein sequestration.	
	Polycomb Body	12–16	0.3–1.0 μm; round/ irregular	Bmi1, Pc2	Contains silencing proteins associated with Polycomb repressive complex 1; associates with heterochromatin.	

Nuclear architecture





* No membrane

* Have a distinct set of proteins

Misteli, Biochem J 2001

Immunofluorescence of cellular structures







GFP-X overexpression



Aggregation of excess proteins.

Nucleolus

Provides components to its surroundings (speckles)

→ might regulate the concentration of factors at their sites of action



Functions:



Telomere Solenoid Chromatin Fiber Nuclear Pore Nucleosomes-Centromere DNA -Helix Chromatin -Arm Histones Condensed Chromosome

Chromatin and Condensed Chromosome Structure

Chromatin domains Euchromatin & heterochromatin 1928 - Heitz





Lymphocyte Heterochromatin clumps

Euchromatin & heterochromatin

Facultative heterochromatin is euchromatin that will adopt heterochromatic properties in a developmentally controlled manner.

Classic example: inactive X chromosomes of female mammals.



X-inactivation ensures that all cells in both males and females synthesize equivalent amounts of X-linked gene products. This "dosage compensation" results in silencing of all or almost all genes on the female's two X chromosomes.

Euchromatin & heterochromatin

The XIST RNA coats the inactive X chromosome.



XIC (X-inactivation center) locus

How are chromosomes organized in the nucleus?

Used a microlaser to induce local genome damage, and predicted that inflicting DNA damage within a small volume of the nucleus would yield different results depending on how chromosomes were arranged.



Chromatin domains

How are chromosomes organized in the nucleus?

→ Chromosome territories

Results:

* DNA repair occurred in one or a few chromosomes

* This was random

Conclusions:

* Each chromosome has its own territory

* There are no fixed positions in the nucleus





Cremer T, Hum. Genet 1982

DNA FISH – fluorescence in situ hybridization



Telomeres



Centromeres



Specific gene (integrated)



This organization is preserved throughout evolution.



(Tanabe et al., 2002)

Chromosomes territories

Genetic material is not widely distributed but occupies a spatially defined sub-volume.

Human chromosomes: 3 (green), 5 (blue), 11 (red)



(Bridger JM, Chromosoma 2005)

Non-random nuclear organization

Mapping the 3D distribution of all chromosomes in normal human fibroblasts (46 XY)

3D M-FISH (multiplex) for all chromosomes, under conditions that preserve 3D structure

Differential staining - probes were differentially labeled using a combinatorial labeling scheme with seven different haptens/fluorochromes







חלוקת תא – טובולין – ירוק היסטון - אדום



חלוקה - תנועת קינטוכורים סימון צנטרומרים







Inter-chromatin

CT-IC model

Chromosome territory – interchromatin compartment

CT architecture resembles a sponge built up from condensed chromatin domains, with a contiguous network of DNAfree channels expanding in between.



CT-IC

3D networks of chromatin bundles and interchromatin channels.



CT-IC

Chromosomes are not solid structures but contain nucleoplasmic channels of many sizes. Chromosome have loops of different sizes and these can cause intermingling between chromosomes.



Nuclear bodies



Figure 6-48 Molecular Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2008)



Usually 2-3 per nucleus





Figure 6-46 Molecular Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2008)

Silver Staining of NORs in Carcinomas



NB 100 (DT = 3.15 days) LoVo (DT = 15.23 days)

(Derenzini et al., 2000. J. Pathol. 191:181)

Nucleolus

rDNA



Nucleolus

fibrillar center

(Raska I, IntRevCytol 2006) (Lamond AI, NatRevMolCellBiol 2007)

Ribosome

Nucleolus

Inter-chromatin granules / "Speckles"

Subnuclear structures enriched in pre-mRNA splicing factors, located in the inter-chromatin regions.

Variable size (1 to several microns), irregular shape. Composed of 20-25nm granules.

(Hall, Lawrence JB, The Anantomical Record ptA 2006)

(Lamond AI, Spector DL, NatRevMolCellBiol 2003)

Inter-chromatin granules / "Speckles"

Live-cell studies show that splicing factors are recruited from speckles to sites of transcription

Speckles round-up when Pol II txn is inhibited

(Misteli T, Spector DL, Nature 2000)

Inter-chromatin granules / "Speckles"

Cajal bodies

CBs are subnuclear organelles found in both plant and animal cells. They can vary in size from less than 0.2 μ m up to 2 μ m or even larger, depending on cell type and species.

Cajal bodies – red, anti-coilin PML bodies - green

(Gall JG, AnnRevCellDevBiol 2000)

Figure 6-49 Molecular Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2008)

PML bodies

The gene encoding the PML protein was isolated at the break point of a common translocation found in patients suffering from acute promyelocytic leukaemia (APL), which results in the expression of an oncogenic fusion protein consisting of the PML protein fused to the retinoic acid receptor- α (RAR- α)

This leukemia is treatable to complete clinical remission with retinoic acid, the physiological ligand of RAR- α , and also induces their reorganization.

(Dellaire G, Bazett-Jones DP, Bioessays 2004)

Site-specific DSBs induced by UV laser irradiation.

⁽Dellaire, Bazett-Jones DP, JCB 2006)

Figure 12-8 Molecular Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2008)

The nuclear pore complex

Imported•Polymerases•Histones•Transcription, replication,
modification and repair
factors•Ribosomal proteins

HeLa cells: 10 million ribosomes, divide each day 10^7 ribosomes every day = 10^7 per 1440 minutes = 7000 ribosomes/minute

Each ribosome has 80 proteins, made into two subunits

→ 560,000 ribosomal proteins imported/min 14,000 ribo subs exported/min

3,000-4,000 pores/cell \rightarrow

Per pore per minute: 100 proteins in, 3 subunits out Also 100 histones/min/pore etc.

Figure 12-9a Molecular Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2008)

FIGURE 4.2

Thin-section transmission electron micrograph of a rat liver cell nucleus. Bar, 0.5 μ m.

FIGURE 4.3

Thin-section transmission electron micrograph of a human hepatoma cell nucleus showing numerous infoldings (*arrowheads*) of the nuclear envelope. The nucleoplasm is nearly devoid of heterchromatin. *Bar*, 0.5 μm.

The three key filament systems of the cytoskeleton, microfilaments (MFs), microtubules (MTs) and intermediate filaments (IFs)

(Aebi U, NatRevMolCellBiol 2007)

Figure 12-19 Molecular Biology of the Cell (© Garland Science 2008)

In interphase, lamin polymers are nearly immobile, with FRAP halftimes of about 3 hrs

Laminopathies Progeria – accelerated aging

HGPS (Hutchinson-Gilford progeria syndrome) – children Becomes apparent in 1-2 year olds – old skin, hair loss, bone deformations, growth retardation, loss of fat Die at 13-20 yrs

