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The methyl phosphate capping enzyme Bin3 is a stable component of the fission yeast

telomerase holoenzyme

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Abstract:

The telomerase holoenzyme is critical for maintaining eukaryotic genome integrity. In addition

to a reverse transcriptase and an RNA template, telomerase contains additional proteins that

protect the telomerase RNA and promote holoenzyme assembly. Here we report that the

methyl phosphate capping enzyme (MePCE) Bin3 is a stable component of the *S. pombe*

telomerase holoenzyme. Bin3 associates with the telomerase and the U6 snRNA through an

interaction with the recently described LARP7 family member Pof8, and we demonstrate that

these two factors are evolutionarily linked in fungi. Our data suggest that the association of

Bin3 with telomerase is independent of its methyltransferase activity, but rather that Bin3

negatively regulates TER1 levels and telomere length. Taken together, this work yields new

insight into the composition, assembly, and regulation of the telomerase holoenzyme in fission

yeast as well as the breadth of its evolutionary conservation.

Introduction:

To ensure complete DNA replication, the termini of eukaryotic chromosomes contain tandem

repeats, or telomeres, that can be continually extended as the ends of linear chromosomes are

lost through DNA replication. Telomeres serve as protection from DNA degradation, end-to-end

fusions, chromosomal rearrangements, and chromosome loss [1,2]. With very few exceptions,

eukaryotes extend telomeric DNA sequences through the telomerase holoenzyme, a complex

containing the telomerase reverse transcriptase (Trt1 in the fission yeast *Schizosaccharomyces*

pombe), an RNA template (TER1 in *S. pombe*), and accessory proteins that promote complex

assembly and tethering to telomeric DNA [1–4]. While the reverse transcriptase/RNA template

core of telomerase is generally well-conserved among eukaryotes, major differences exist,

including in the sequence and structure of the RNA template. In contrast to ciliate telomerase

RNAs, which are small RNA Polymerase III transcripts [5], yeast and metazoan telomerase RNAs

are longer and transcribed by RNA Polymerase II as precursors. These precursors then undergo

an extensive maturation process to yield the mature form that integrates into the telomerase

holoenzyme [3,4,6,7].

In *S. pombe,* the mature form of TER1 is generated from an intron-containing precursor through

a spliceosome-catalyzed reaction involving release of the 5' exon prior to exon ligation [8]. TER1

maturation then proceeds with the sequential binding of the Sm and Lsm complexes. Sm

proteins, well-characterized for their role in splicing, bind TER1 immediately upstream the 5'

splice site and promote 3' maturation and the addition of a 5' trimethylguanosine (TMG) cap by

the methyltransferase Tgs1 [9]. The Sm complex is then replaced by the Lsm2-8 complex, which

serves to protect the mature 3' end of TER1 from exonucleolytic degradation and promotes the

interaction between TER1 and Trt1 in the active telomerase holoenzyme. The switch from the

Sm to Lsm complexes correlates with distinct, non-overlapping substrates: TER1 precursors are

exclusively bound by the Sm complex, while the mature form of TER1, ending in a polyuridylate

stretch upstream the spliceosomal cleavage site, is only bound by the Lsm2-8 complex [9].

More recently, a role has been proposed for Pof8, a La-related protein 7 (LARP7) homolog, in

telomerase assembly and telomere maintenance in *S. pombe*. Ciliate LARP7 family proteins,

including p65 from *Tetrahymena thermophila*, have previously been characterized for their

functions in telomerase assembly [10]. Binding of p65 to stem IV of the *T. thermophila* telomerase

RNA TER results in a conformational change to the RNA and subsequent binding of the reverse

transcriptase TERT, suggesting a p65-dependent hierarchical assembly of the telomerase

holoenzyme [11]. Pof8 is hypothesized to function similarly in *S. pombe*, with Pof8 binding to TER1

promoting recruitment of the Lsm2-8 complex and enhancing the interaction between TER1

and Trt1. Accordingly, Pof8 deletion strains possess shorter telomeres indicative of a defect in

telomerase function [12–14]. Pof8 also functions in telomerase RNA quality control through

recognition of the correctly folded pseudoknot region and subsequent recruitment of the Lsm2-

8 complex to protect the 3' end from degradation [15]. Telomerase-related functions in LARP7

family proteins, particularly Pof8, map to a conserved C-terminal domain characteristic of

LARP7 family members, the extended RNA recognition motif (xRRM). The Pof8 xRRM is a major

determinant for Pof8-mediated telomerase activity, contributing to TER1 binding and complex

assembly [13,16]. As other fungal Pof8 homologs also possess an xRRM, it is anticipated that Pof8

may have a conserved role in telomere maintenance beyond fission yeast [13,17].

Conversely, LARP7 homologs in higher eukaryotes are best characterized in the transcriptional

regulatory 7SK snRNP, which includes the RNA polymerase III transcribed 7SK snRNA, the

methyl phosphate capping enzyme (MePCE), and hexamethylene bisacetamide-inducible

protein (HEXIM1/2). The 7SK snRNP inhibits transcription by sequestering positive transcription

elongation factor (P-TEFb) and preventing it from phosphorylating the C-terminal domain of the

largest subunit of RNA Polymerase II, which is associated with the transition into productive

transcription elongation [18–20]. The La module and xRRM of LARP7 bind 7SK through its

polyuridylate trailer and the 3' hairpin, respectively, and promote MePCE recruitment to the

complex [21,22]. In addition to adding a γ-monomethyl phosphate cap (i.e. CH_3-pppN) to 7SK

snRNA as a means of protecting it from 5' exonucleolytic degradation, MePCE remains stably

bound to 7SK snRNA to stabilize the complex [21]. MePCE, a homolog of the *Drosophila*

melanogaster Bin3/BCDIN3 protein, also catalyzes the addition of this atypical cap structure to

U6 snRNA [23]. Bin3/MePCE homologs are present in many eukaryotes, but to date little has been

studied outside of humans and *Drosophila* [24]. More recent work has identified BCIND3D, a

related Bin3 family protein overexpressed in breast cancer cells, as the enzyme responsible for

methylating the 5' monophosphate of histidine transfer RNA and pre-miR-145 [25,26]. Despite the

many insights into the role of Bin3/MePCE in RNA processing in higher eukaryotes, the function

of the essential *S. pombe* Bin3 homolog has yet to be determined [27,28].

In this work, we have explored the RNA targets of the *S. pombe* Bin3 homolog in an effort to

uncover its function. In addition to an expected association of Bin3 with the U6 snRNA, we

present data showing that Bin3 is a stable component of the *S. pombe* telomerase RNP. Our

results also provide evidence for an evolutionarily conserved interaction between Bin3 and

LARP7 homologs. Importantly, we show that the Bin3-Pof8 interaction is required for the

recruitment of Bin3 to both the U6 snRNA and the active telomerase holoenzyme. Additionally,

we provide evidence that Bin3 does not catalyze the addition of a γ-monomethyl phosphate

cap on TER1, suggesting a catalytic independent function. Rather, we present evidence that

Bin3 may negatively regulate telomerase activity, as decreased Bin3 expression correlates with

increases in steady-state levels of TER1 and longer telomeres. Taken together, our results

identify Bin3 as a novel component of the *S. pombe* telomerase holoenzyme, thus adding a new

layer of complexity to telomerase assembly and telomere maintenance.

Results:

***S. pombe* Bin3 is essential and interacts with the U6 snRNA and the telomerase RNA TER1**

While Bin3/MePCE is conserved in many eukaryotes, its presence in the fission yeast *S. pombe*,

an organism lacking 7SK snRNA [24,29], is not well understood. Unlike the longer Bin3/MePCE

homologs from higher eukaryotes, *S. pombe* Bin3 only contains a conserved

methyltransferase/SAM-binding domain. Alignment of the methyltransferase domain of *S.*

pombe Bin3 to that of *H. sapiens* MePCE and *D. melanogaster* Bin3 reveals that previously

identified residues critical for SAM and SAH binding and nucleotide binding [30] are highly

conserved in *S.* pombe (Figure S1A,B). To validate genome-wide deletion screens identifying

Bin3 as an essential fission yeast protein [27,28], we ectopically expressed GST-tagged Bin3 cDNA

on the thiamine repressible pRep4x plasmid in a wild type strain and subsequently knocked out

the chromosomal copy (Figure S1C). Counter-selection of the Bin3-expressing plasmid on 5'FOA

resulted in lethality of the *bin3Δ* strain, with no phenotype for a wild type strain, confirming its

essential nature. Furthermore, overexpression of GST-Bin3 in wild-type *or bin3Δ* cells (i.e. in the

absence of thiamine) resulted in very slow growth, compared to normal growth when GST-Bin3

expression was repressed by addition of thiamine. Growth in the absence or presence of added

thiamine had no effect on cells transformed with an empty vector (Figure S1D). These data

thus suggest that in addition to Bin3 being essential, its overexpression is poorly tolerated in *S.*

pombe.

We next sought to determine the RNA substrates of *S. pombe* Bin3 to better understand its role

in the processing of fission yeast non-coding RNA(s). Following integration of a protein A (PrA)

tag into the Bin3 genomic locus, we performed RIP-Seq and plotted Bin3 IP reads against the IP

from an untagged strain, followed by validation of potential candidate substrates with northern

blotting (Figure 1, S2, Table S1). Consistent with previous reports of MePCE interacting with U6

snRNA [23], U6 emerged as one of the most highly enriched Bin3-interacting RNA transcripts. *S.*

pombe U6 is an unusual transcript in that it is transcribed by RNA Polymerase III yet contains an

mRNA-type intron removed by the spliceosome [31,32]. Alignment of RIP-Seq reads to the *S.*

pombe genome suggested that Bin3 interacts exclusively with the spliced form of U6. We

confirmed this with northern blotting, demonstrating robust immunoprecipitation of mature

U6 and no immunoprecipitation of the intron-containing precursor (Figure 1B). Chromatin

immunoprecipitation studies suggest that 7SK and U6 snRNA may be co-transcriptionally

modified by the human MePCE homolog [33], however our data are consistent with a model

wherein *S. pombe* Bin3 interacts with U6 post-splicing.

Surprisingly, the *S. pombe* telomerase RNA TER1 was also highly enriched in Bin3

immunoprecipitates (Figure 1A, C). Given the previously established link between the human

Bin3 homolog MePCE and human LARP7, [20] as well as the established link between the *S.*

pombe LARP7 homolog Pof8 and the telomerase holoenzyme [12–14], we considered the

possibility that Bin3 may also be part of the telomerase holoenzyme through an evolutionarily

conserved interaction with LARP7 family members.

Bin3 interacts with the mature form of TER1

Since TER1 processing and maturation involves a spliceosome-catalyzed reaction [8], we first set

out to determine the processing state of Bin3-associated TER1 by sequencing the 5' and 3' ends

through circularized rapid amplification of cDNA ends (Figure 2A). We also performed cRACE on

TER1 immunoprecipitated by Pof8, the telomerase reverse transcriptase Trt1, and Lsm3, all

known components of the mature TER1-containing active telomerase holoenzyme [3,4,9,12–14]. All

sequenced candidates had a discrete 5' end consistent with the reported 5' end [3,4] and a similar

distribution of 3' ends ending immediately upstream the 5' splice site [8], suggesting that Bin3

interacts with the full-length, 3' end-matured TER1 associated with the active telomerase

holoenzyme. The heterogeneity observed at the 3' end of all candidates is likely the result of

exonucleolytic nibbling prior to binding of the Lsm2-8 complex [9]. To investigate this further, we

subjected TER1 RNA immunoprecipitated by Bin3, Trt1, Pof8 and Lsm3 to RNase H cleavage to

generate shorter 5' and 3' fragments and compared fragment size by northern blot (Figure 2B).

The sizes of the 5' and 3' ends of TER1 were similar across immunoprecipitates, further

substantiating that Bin3 binds the mature form of TER1, rather than the intron-containing

precursor.

Further TER1 processing in *S. pombe* involves the addition of a 5' trimethylguanosine (TMG) cap

by Tgs1 [9]. Since Bin3 homologs are normally associated with the formation of a γ-monomethyl

phosphate cap, and to further understand when Bin3 interacts with TER1 with respect to TER1

processing, we examined the cap structure of Bin3-associated TER1 by immunoprecipitating

RNA associated with Bin3 and subsequently re-immunoprecipitating this RNA with an anti-TMG

antibody. The specificity of the anti-TMG antibody was confirmed by showing that it effectively

enriched the TMG cap containing U5 snRNA over the TMG cap lacking U6 snRNA or an

unrelated tRNA (Figure 2C). While Bin3-associated U6 snRNA was not immunoprecipitated by

the anti-TMG antibody, in agreement with data demonstrating the presence of a γ-monomethyl

phosphate cap [34], Bin3-associated TER1 RNA was effectively enriched by anti-TMG

immunoprecipitation. These data are consistent with previous work demonstrating a TMG cap

on TER1 in *S. pombe,* and also with Bin3 associating with TER1 following spliceosomeal cleavage

and 5' TMG capping, similar to what has been posited for Pof8 [12]. This suggests that Bin3

interacts with the primary cohort of TER1 transcripts, and not a γ-monomethyl phosphate

capped subset, and that TER1 is not a substrate for Bin3-catalyzed modification.

Bin3 interacts with components of the mature telomerase holoenzyme

Since our results indicate that Bin3 interacts with the mature form of TER1, we set out to

confirm the presence of Bin3 in the mature *S. pombe* telomerase holoenzyme. We

immunoprecipitated Bin3 and identified interacting proteins through mass spectrometry,

followed by validation using co-immunoprecipitation (Figure 3). We identified Pof8, the Lsm2-8

complex, and Trt1 in Bin3 immunoprecipitates, all of which make up the catalytically active core

telomerase holoenzyme [9,12–14,35–37] (Table S2, S3). We also detected the RNase P and RNase

MRP subunit Pop100 in Bin3 immunoprecipitations. Pop1, Pop6, and Pop7, subunits of RNase P

and RNase MRP in budding yeast, have recently been identified as components of the budding

yeast telomerase complex [38–40], suggesting that the involvement of RNase P and RNase MRP

subunits in telomere maintenance is evolutionarily conserved. The finding that Bin3 interacts

with core components of the telomerase holoenzyme, and not the Sm complex nor the TMG

capping enzyme Tgs1, suggests Bin3 does indeed associate with the active telomerase

holoenzyme rather than a precursor. The involvement of Bin3 in the telomerase holoenzyme

was further substantiated by gene ontology analysis to determine overrepresented biological

processes and cellular components among the top 50 Bin3 interactors. Telomerase holoenzyme

complex assembly and telomere maintenance via telomerase emerged as the top

overrepresented biological processes (Figure 3A). Similarly, overrepresented cellular

components include the Lsm2-8 complex, the telomerase holoenzyme, and spliceosomal

snRNPs (Table S4). We also repeated immunoprecipitations in the presence of benzonase to

determine if these interactions are direct or mediated through a nucleic acid intermediate

(Table S2). With the exception of Pof8, interactions between Bin3 and other components of the

telomerase holoenzyme were lost, indicative of an interaction mediated by TER1.

We confirmed the interactions between Bin3 and Pof8, as well as Bin3 and Trt1, through co-

immunoprecipitation (Figures 3B, 3C, S3). We also performed co-immunoprecipitations with

benzonase, demonstrating that the interaction between Bin3 and Pof8 persists with benzonase

treatment, while the Bin3-Trt1 interaction is lost (Figures 3B and 3C). The apparent nucleic acid-

dependence of the interaction between Bin3 and the majority of the telomerase holoenzymes

is reminiscent both of the budding yeast telomerase RNA TLC1, which acts as a scaffold to

nucleate telomerase holoenzyme assembly [41], as well as the MePCE/Bin3-containing 7SK snRNP

[42]. The finding that Bin3 and Pof8 interact directly is in agreement with previous reports

demonstrating a protein-protein interaction between MePCE and LARP7 in the context of the

vertebrate 7SK snRNP [33,42], suggesting the direct interaction may be evolutionarily conserved.

The apparent immunodepletion of Trt1 during Bin3 immunoprecipitation (Figure 3C, see

flowthrough lanes) indicated an absence of detectable Trt1-containing telomerase

holoenzymes lacking Bin3, substantiating the idea that Bin3 is a stoichiometric component of

the *S. pombe* telomerase holoenzyme. Consistent with this, benzonase treatment prior to Bin3

immunoprecipitation resulted in reappearance of Trt1 in the immunoprecipitation flowthrough.

On the other hand, affinity purification of Bin3 did not completely deplete Pof8 from the Bin3

immunoprecipitation flow through, consistent with either Bin3-independent functions for Pof8

or with possible dissociation of Pof8 from some Bin3-containing complexes (see U6, below)

(Figure 3B).

Bin3 is recruited to the active telomerase holoenzyme through the LARP7 family protein Pof8

We then tested whether Bin3 was recruited to the telomerase holoenzyme through its

interaction with Pof8, much like the human LARP7 homolog promotes MePCE recruitment to

7SK snRNA [21]. Immunoprecipitation of Bin3 in the context of a *pof8Δ* strain resulted in a

complete loss of TER1 binding, providing evidence that the interaction between Bin3 and TER1

is dependent on an interaction between Bin3 and Pof8 and Pof8 and TER1 (Figure 4A).

Unexpectedly, the interaction between Bin3 and U6 was also lost in the *pof8Δ.* Recent findings

indicate that human LARP7 binds U6 to guide post-transcriptional modification [43,44], so it is

tempting to speculate that Pof8 may also mediate Bin3 binding to U6 in fission yeast. To

address this, we immunoprecipitated Pof8 alongside Bin3 and other components of the

telomerase holoenzyme and looked for U6 enrichment. We observed slight enrichment of U6 in

Pof8-myc immunoprecipitates relative to immunoprecipitation using an untagged strain or the

Trt1-myc tagged strain (Figure 4B). We did not see enrichment for the intron-containing

precursor, suggesting that like Bin3, Pof8 interacts with the spliced form of U6. The slight

enrichment of U6 with a Pof8 immunoprecipitation, compared to the more robust

immunoprecipitation seen with Bin3 and Lsm3, suggests that Pof8 may transiently bind U6,

perhaps serving to load Bin3 on U6. Since LARP7 binding has been reported to disrupt the

catalytic activity of MePCE [33], a transient Pof8-U6 interaction may be consistent with U6

receiving a γ-monomethyl phosphate cap, compared to TER1, where stable Pof8 binding may

prevent Bin3 catalytic activity.

Knowing that Bin3 interacts with TER1 and components of the telomerase holoenzyme, we next

set out to confirm whether Bin3 is part of the catalytically active telomerase holoenzyme. We

performed a previously described *in vitro* telomerase assay that relies on the presence of the

TER1- and Trt1-containing telomerase holoenzyme to extend an oligonucleotide resembling

telomeric DNA [12]. Bin3 immunoprecipitates extended the oligonucleotide in a similar or greater

manner to Trt1 and Pof8 immunoprecipitates, as well as showed the same loss of activity upon

RNase A treatment, supporting the idea that Bin3, much like Pof8, is a component of the active

telomerase holoenzyme (Figure 4C). Consistent with our previous results, we also observed a

loss of activity for Bin3 immunoprecipitated from a *pof8Δ* strain, providing another line of

evidence that Bin3 is recruited to the telomerase holoenzyme through Pof8. Since Trt1 is only

recruited to the telomerase holoenzyme following Pof8 and Lsm2-8 binding, coupled with the

idea that the assay relies on the presence of a reverse transcriptase, these results are

consistent with a model in which Bin3 is recruited to TER1 through its interaction with Pof8 and

remains bound through subsequent holoenzyme assembly and the catalytic cycle (Figure 4D).

Evidence that Pof8 is required for telomerase holoenzyme assembly and maintenance of

telomere length [12–14], as well as for Bin3 recruitment to telomerase, prompted the question of

whether we could rescue the short telomere phenotype of a *pof8Δ* strain by overexpressing

Bin3. Consistent with a model in which Bin3 only assembles with the active telomerase

holoenzyme through its interaction with Pof8, Bin3 overexpression in a *pof8Δ* strain was

insufficient to rescue telomere shortening and the resultant chromosome fusions occurring

after telomeres reach a critically short length [12] (Figure S4).

Bin3 negatively regulates TER1 accumulation and telomere lengthening

Following the finding that Bin3 is a component of the *S. pombe* telomerase holoenzyme, we

wondered at the function of Bin3, and how it might interface with the stabilization and complex

assembly roles previously described for Pof8 [12–15]. As Bin3 deletion is lethal and its

overexpression results in a slow growth phenotype (Figure S1D), we varied Bin3 expression by

expressing plasmid-encoded Bin3 under the *nmt1* promoter in *bin3Δ* cells grown in rich media

containing thiamine. Under these conditions, we determined that thiamine-repressed, plasmid

encoded Bin3 was expressed approximately two-fold lower than Bin3 endogenously expressed

from the genomic locus (Figure 5A). Surprisingly, considering Pof8's role in TER1 stabilization,

we found this lower expression of Bin3 relative to wild type cells resulted in increased steady-

state levels of TER1 (Figure 5B). To determine the effects of Bin3 depletion on telomere length,

we continually passaged *bin3Δ* strains in minimal media containing supplemented thiamine and

visualized telomeres by southern blotting (Figure 5C). We observed a small but noticeable

telomere lengthening relative to a wild type strain, as well as the disappearance of a lower

band. Taken together, our results suggest that Bin3 may act as a negative regulator to limit

TER1 levels and telomerase activity under wild type conditions, in contrast to the stabilizing

roles of its binding partner Pof8.

Pof8-like proteins are associated with Bin3-like proteins in diverse fungal lineages

The interaction between Bin3 and Pof8, coupled with the conservation of such an interaction in

other examined eukaryotes, led us to wonder at the extent of this interaction on a phylogenetic

scale. While Bin3/MePCE and LARP7/Pof8 family members are ubiquitous in higher eukaryotes,

their absence or presence is more varied in fungal lineages. We queried hundreds of

representative fungal species for the presence of Bin3- and Pof8-like proteins and identified

many species with a) both a Bin3 and Pof8 homolog, b) only a Bin3 homolog, or c) neither a

Bin3 nor a Pof8 homolog (Figure 6, S5). Conversely, only four out of 472 examined species

contained a Pof8-like protein but no Bin3-like protein, and in these species the Pof8 homolog

was noted to have a shortened N-terminal domain that would lack the La module observed in

other LARP7 family members, raising the possibility that members of this rare cohort may not

be bona-fide LARP7 family members, at least as these are currently appreciated [17]. Based on

the observed distribution, it seems likely that both genes were present in a fungi common

ancestor, but Pof8 or both Bin3 and Pof8 were lost in certain lineages. Examination of the

distribution of Bin3 and LARP7-family members in basal eukaryotic lineages reveals a similar

pattern: Bin3 can be present without LARP7, but there are no instances where a LARP7-family

member exists in a lineage lacking a Bin3 homolog (Table S9). Similarly, LARP7-family proteins

are represented in Alveolates, Stramenopiles, Amoebozoa, Fungi, and Metazoans, while Bin3-

family proteins are present in all eukaryotic lineages. Since the presence of Pof8/LARP7 is very

highly linked to the presence of a Bin3 homolog, these data suggest that the function of LARP7

family members may be more intimately associated with the function of Bin3/MePCE than has

been previously appreciated.

Discussion:

In this study, we have identified Bin3 as a novel component of the *S. pombe* telomerase

holoenzyme. In addition to showing an interaction between Bin3 and U6 snRNA, we

demonstrate that Bin3 interacts with the telomerase RNA TER1 and components of the active

telomerase holoenzyme in a manner that is dependent on the presence of the LARP7 family

protein Pof8. Together, our results indicating that Bin3 interacts with the mature, spliced form

of TER1 and Bin3 immunoprecipitates possess telomerase activity *in vitro* strongly suggest that

Bin3 is a constitutive component of the telomerase holoenzyme containing Trt1, Pof8, Lsm2-8,

and Est1 scaffolded on TER1 (Figure 4D). The idea of Pof8 and Bin3 scaffolded on TER1 is

reminiscent of LARP7 and MePCE in the 7SK snRNP, with Pof8/LARP7 recruiting Bin3/MePCE to

the RNA substrate. Similar to our data showing Pof8 recruiting Bin3 to TER1 and the telomerase

holoenzyme, LARP7 has also been demonstrated to recruit MePCE to the 7SK snRNP in human

cells [21]. Thus, the protein-protein interaction and subsequent recruitment to RNA substrates by

LARP7 appears evolutionarily conserved in fission yeast and higher eukaryotes. We also present

data demonstrating that the presence of Pof8-like proteins is nearly universally correlated with

the presence of Bin3-like proteins in fungi, suggesting that the Bin3-Pof8 interaction is highly

conserved and more prevalent than previously anticipated. Since Pof8 is required to load Bin3

onto the telomerase RNA and U6 snRNA in fission yeast, this phylogenetic distribution raises

the question of whether Bin3 homologs in fungi lacking a LARP7 homolog have evolved a

mechanism to bind RNA targets in a Pof8/LARP7 independent fashion.

Since TER1 undergoes several processing steps before assembly into the telomerase

holoenzyme, we were able to assess TER1 processing state to determine when Bin3 interacts

with TER1 with respect to the timing of TER1 maturation. We show that Bin3-associated TER1

has a mature 3' end, indicative of spliceosome-catalyzed end processing, and a 5' TMG cap. This

is consistent with previously reported data on the timing of Pof8 binding; since our data

indicates that the interaction between Bin3 and TER1 is dependent on Pof8, the most

parsimonious explanation is that Pof8, and thus Bin3, bind TER1 following 3' maturation and

TMG capping, preceding the binding of the Lsm2-8 complex [12]. We show that the interaction

between Bin3 and TER1 is dependent on Pof8, leading to the conclusion that Bin3 interacts with

TER1 at the same stage as Pof8, resulting in the hierarchical assembly of the active telomerase

holoenzyme.

The finding that Bin3-associated TER1 is immunoprecipitated by a TMG antibody argues against

a catalytic role for Bin3 in TER1 processing. Our data, coupled with previous work characterizing

the cap structure on the mature TER1 bound to Trt1 [3,4], supports the idea that Bin3 has a

capping-independent function in the telomerase holoenzyme. LARP7 binding to MePCE in the

7SK snRNP inhibits its capping activity; MePCE, in turn, promotes the interaction between 7SK

and LARP7, thereby stabilizing the complex [33]. In the *S. pombe* telomerase holoenzyme and U6

snRNP, we can hypothesize that Pof8 may also inhibit the methyltransferase activity of Bin3 by

binding to and obscuring the active site. This is consistent with our results suggesting a

transient interaction between Pof8 and U6 that may function to load Bin3 on U6. In such a

model, an interaction between Bin3 and Pof8 is necessary to recruit Bin3 to U6 and following

dissociation of Pof8, the catalytic site of Bin3 would become available to cap U6.

Additionally, our work identifying Bin3 as a telomerase-associated protein brings to mind work

identifying a box H/ACA motif at the 3' end of vertebrate telomerase RNA [45]. Box H/ACA RNAs

form an RNP complex with Dyskerin/Cbf5, Nop10, Nhp2, and Gar1 to guide noncoding RNA

pseudouridylation [46,47]. Although Dyskerin is a pseudouridine synthase, to date no evidence has

pointed to a modification function for Dyskerin in the context of telomerase RNA. Rather, the

Dyskerin-containing H/ACA complex has a structural role in telomerase biogenesis, with binding

of the H/ACA RNP to telomerase RNA leading to a conformational change in the RNA that

promotes 3' processing and maturation over exosome-mediated decay [48]. This is reminiscent of

the apparent catalytic independent role we observed for Bin3 in fission yeast telomerase,

although our data point towards Bin3 having a role in limiting TER1 accumulation, perhaps as a

negative regulator of telomere elongation.

Bin3 and Pof8 having seemingly opposing functions in TER1 maturation and the telomerase RNP

may provide an explanation as to the viability of Pof8 knockout strains, while Bin3 knockouts

are lethal. Assuming Bin3 functions in limiting telomerase activity by decreasing TER1 levels, a

lack of Bin3 negative regulation may be detrimental, much like the shelterin component Tpz1

and the telomere cap complex subunit Stn1, both of which are negative regulators of

telomerase and essential proteins in *S. pombe* [27,49]. In contrast, since Pof8 promotes telomerase

activity, its deletion doesn't result in unchecked telomere lengthening. It remains to be found

how exactly Bin3 limits TER1 accumulation but it is possible that Bin3 interfaces with decay

pathways, such as the established exosome-mediated 3' decay pathway [12,14] or an as yet

undiscovered pathway analogous to the 5' decay of human telomerase RNA [50]. Bin3 may

therefore be important for maintaining telomere homeostasis by decreasing TER1 levels under

conditions where cell cycle progression or telomere lengthening are unfavorable.

Another facet of this work builds on the idea that components of the telomerase holoenzyme

are more conserved than previously appreciated. In addition to the ubiquitous telomerase

reverse transcriptase, previous work has identified LARP7 family proteins in both ciliates and

yeast [10,12–14], arguing a level of evolutionary conservation. Other recent findings implicate the

human LARP7 homolog in telomere maintenance [51], suggesting this conservation may extend to

higher eukaryotes. We now also provide evidence indicating the presence of RNase P and

RNase MRP subunits in fission yeast, much like the RNase P and RNase MRP subunits found in

the budding yeast telomerase complex [38–40]. The presence of RNase P and RNase MRP subunits

in two divergent yeast species supports the importance of these factors in the function of a

breadth of telomerase holoenzymes.

Our results indicating that Bin3 is part of the telomerase holoenzyme were quite unexpected,

as Bin3 has been well-characterized in higher eukaryotes for its role in the processing,

maturation, and protection of RNA Polymerase III transcripts [23,33]. An intriguing idea involves

polymerase switching through telomerase RNA evolution. Ciliate telomerase RNA is transcribed

by RNA Polymerase III and subsequently binds the LARP7 homolog p65 through the terminal

polyuridylate stretch common to RNA Polymerase III transcripts [10,52]. Since MePCE and LARP7

also associate with RNA Polymerase III transcripts, it is possible that the Pof8-bound RNA

Polymerase II transcribed TER1, and the *S. pombe* telomerase RNP as a whole, represent an

intermediate step in the evolution of telomerase RNA between ciliates and the RNA Polymerase

II transcribed telomerase RNA of higher eukaryotes. Future work should investigate the

presence of Bin3/MePCE homologs in the telomerase holoenzymes of other species,

particularly in ciliates, which possess both an RNA Polymerase III transcribed telomerase RNA

and a LARP7 homolog. Such findings will continue to develop emerging ideas regarding

conservation in telomerase RNA processing and the composition of telomerase RNPs.

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Author contributions:

J.P. conceived of the study, designed, performed, and analyzed all experiments, and wrote the

first draft of the manuscript with input from all authors. M.E.B. and J-M.D. performed

phylogenetic analysis. J.G. and J.P. analyzed RNA-Seq data. M.A.B. conceived of the study,

designed experiments, supervised the project, and edited the manuscript.

Materials and Methods:

Strains, constructs, and growth media

Strains were grown in yeast extract with supplements (YES) or Edinburgh Minimal Media

(EMM), as indicated. Expression of genes under the control of the *nmt1* promoter was

repressed with the addition of 15 μM thiamine. Tag integration and knockouts were generated

with a previously described PCR-based strategy and verified by PCR and western blotting [53]

(primer sequences in Table S6). Protein A-tagged strains were generated according to [54].

Correct genotypes were selected on YES plates with the corresponding antibiotic (200 μg/mL

G418, Sigma; 100 μg/mL Nourseothricin, GoldBio; 100 μg/mL phleomycin, Invivogen). Other

strains were created by mating and antibiotic selection. A list of strains is provided in Table S5.

Native protein extract and immunoprecipitation

S. pombe cells were grown in YES at 30°C to mid-log phase, harvested, and subject to cryogenic

disruption using a mortar and pestle. Cell powder was lysed in 50 mM NaCl, 20 mM Hepes pH

439 7.4, 55 mM KOAc, 0.5% Triton X, 0.1% Tween-20, 0.2 mM PMSF, 1:100 Protease Inhibitor

440 Cocktail (Thermo, 78430), and 0.004 U/μL RNase inhibitor (Invitrogen, AM2694). For Protein A-

441 tagged strains, immunoprecipitation was carried out with Rabbit IgG-conjugated (MP-

442 Biomedicals, SKU 085594) Dynabeads (Invitrogen, 14301) as described [55]. Myc-tagged proteins

443 were immunoprecipitated with Protein G Dynabeads (Invitrogen, 10003D) coated with anti-myc

444 antibody (Sigma, M4439). Beads were washed 4 times with 400 μL lysis buffer. For RNA

445 immunoprecipitations, bound RNA was isolated by treatment of beads with 0.1% SDS and 0.2

446 mg/mL Proteinase K (Sigma, P2308) at 37°C for 30 minutes, followed by extraction with phenol:

447 chloroform:isoamyl alcohol (25:24:1) and ethanol precipitation.

449 <u>RNA preparation and Northern blotting</u>

450 Total RNA was isolated from native protein extracts by incubation with 0.5% SDS, 0.2 mg/mL

451 proteinase K (Sigma, P2308), 20 mM Tris HCl pH 7.4, and 10 mM EDTA pH 8.0 for 15 minutes at

452 50°C, followed by phenol: chloroform extraction and ethanol precipitation. Northern blot

453 analysis was performed as described using 8% TBE-urea polyacrylamide gels [56]. Briefly,

454 electrophoresed RNA was transferred to positively charged nylon membranes (Perkin Elmer,

455 NEF988001) with the iBlot 2 system (Thermo, IB21001) and probed with ^{32}P γ-ATP-labeled DNA

456 probes (probe sequences provided in Table S7). For RNase H digestion, RNA was incubated with

457 25 pmol RNase H probe (provided in Table S7) for 5 minutes at 65°C and slow cooled to 37°C,

458 followed by digestion with 5 U RNase H (NEB, M02975) for 30 minutes at 37°C. The reaction

459 was stopped with the addition of 25 μM EDTA pH 8.0 and phenol: chloroform extraction and

ethanol precipitation. TMG-capped RNAs were isolated from RNase H-treated

immunoprecipitates with an α-TMG agarose conjugate (Sigma, NA02A), according to [4].

qRT-PCR

1 μg Turbo DNase-treated RNA was reverse transcribed with the iScript cDNA synthesis kit

(BioRad, 1708890), treated with 0.5 μL RNase cocktail (Invitrogen, AM2286), and diluted 1:10.

cDNA was quantified using the SensiFAST SYBR No-Rox kit (Bioline, BIO-98005) and 1 μM of

each primer (primer sequences provided in Table S7). qPCR settings were as follows: 95°C for

10 minutes and 40 cycles consisting of 10 seconds at 95°C, 20 seconds at 60°C, and 20 seconds

at 72°C, followed by melting curve analysis. *Bin3 mRNA* levels were normalized to *his1 mRNA*

levels and subsequently subject to paired two-tailed student's *t*-tests (n=3 biological replicates,

each with 6 technical replicates).

RNA Seq and RIP Seq

Libraries were constructed from immunoprecipitated RNA samples and rRNA-depleted total

RNA samples by the TCAC Sequencing Facility at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.

Libraries were sequenced on an Illumina Hi-Seq 2500 for 50-bp single-end reads. Reads were

mapped to the *S. pombe* ASM294v2 genome using kallisto [57] using parameters –single –

fragment-length=50 –sd=5 and subsequently visualized on IGV [58]. Reads were filtered to

include transcripts containing 4 or more reads in at least one of the Bin3 immunoprecipitated

replicates and TPM values were subject to median-normalization. Gaussian mixture modeling

(GMM) was applied to calculate the probability of an interaction using log of odds [59]. Reads

were further filtered to exclude transcripts with a log of odds score less than 3.17. The log of

the average of median-normalized TPM values from the Bin3 immunoprecipitates was plotted

against that of the control immunoprecipitations.

Circularized Rapid Amplification of cDNA Ends (cRACE)

Immunoprecipitated RNA was treated with 2 U TURBO DNase (Invitrogen, AM2239) and

dephosphorylated with 1 U calf intestinal alkaline phosphatase (NEB, M0290), followed by

decapping and circularization with RNA 5' Pyrophosphohydrolase (NEB, M0356S) and T4 RNA

Ligase 1 (NEB, M0204S). TER1 was amplified from circularized RNA with the OneStep RT-PCR Kit

(Qiagen, 210210) (primer sequences in Table S7). cRACE products were cloned into the pGEM-T

vector (Promega, A1360) and sequenced by the TCAG DNA Sequencing Facility at the Hospital

for Sick Children in Toronto.

Mass spectrometry and GO analysis

Half of the native protein extract was pre-treated with 0.625 U/μL Benzonase (Millipore, E1014)

at 37°C for 30 minutes. The reaction was stopped with 5 mM EDTA pH 8.0 and Protein A

immunoprecipitation was performed in the same manner as for RNA immunoprecipitations.

After washes with lysis buffer, beads were washed with 0.1 M NH_4OAc and 0.1 mM $MgCl_2$ and

eluted with 0.5 M NH_4OH for 20 minutes at room temperature. Eluates were lyophilized and

subject to in-solution tryptic digestion. LC-MS/MS analysis was performed by the IRCM

Proteomics Discovery Platform on a Q Exactive HF.

Raw data was processed and analyzed using the MaxQuant software package 1.5.1.2 [60] and the

fission yeast UP000002485 reference proteome (24/11/2019). Settings used for MaxQuant

analysis were as reported [61]. Proteins present in immunoprecipitations from both biological

replicates and absent from control immunoprecipitations were considered genuine Bin3

interacting partners and ranked by peak intensity. PANTHER overrepresentation tests (GO

Ontology database released 2019-12-09) were conducted on the top 50 Bin3 interacting

partners. Fisher's exact tests with FDR correction were performed using the GO biological

process complete and GO cellular component complete data sets.

<u>Co-immunoprecipitation and western blotting</u>

Cells were harvested at mid-log phase, resuspended in lysis buffer (10 mM Tris HCl pH 7.5, 150

mM NaCl, 0.5% NP40, 1:100 Protease Inhibitor Cocktail), and lysed with acid-washed glass

beads (Sigma, G8772). Immunoprecipitations were carried out as described and proteins were

eluted by resuspending beads in 2X SDS loading buffer (100 mM Tris HCl pH 6.8, 4% SDS, 20%

glycerol, 0.2% bromophenol blue) and boiling at 95°C for 5 minutes. Western blot analyses

were performed using monoclonal anti-myc (Cell Signaling, 2276S) at 1:5000 and monoclonal

anti-beta actin (abcam, ab8226) at 1:2500 for primary antibodies and HRP-conjugated anti-

mouse at 1:5000 for secondary antibodies. Protein A-tagged proteins were detected with HRP-

conjugated polyclonal anti-Protein A (Invitrogen, PA1-26853) at 1:5000.

<u>Telomerase activity assay</u>

The telomerase activity assay was performed as described [12]. Briefly, bead slurries (see

immunoprecipitation) were incubated at 30°C for 90 minutes in a 10 μL reaction containing 50

mM Tris HCl pH 8.0, 1 mM MgOAc, 5% glycerol, 1 mM spermidine, 1 mM DTT, 100 mM KOAc,

0.2 mM dATP, dCTP, and dTTP, 5 μM telomerase assay primer (Table S7), and 0.3 μM 3000

Ci/mmol [α-^{32}P] dGTP (Perkin Elmer, BLU512H250UC). The reaction was stopped with the

addition of 0.5% SDS, 10 mM EDTA pH 8.0, 20 mM Tris HCl pH 7.5, 2 μg/μL Proteinase K

(Sigma), and 10000 cpm [γ-^{32}P] ATP-labeled 100-mer oligonucleotide and incubation at 42°C for

15 minutes, followed by phenol: chloroform extraction and ethanol precipitation. RNase A-

treated samples were pre-incubated with 20 ng RNase A (Invitrogen, AM2271) at 30°C for 10

minutes. Extension products were separated on a 10% urea-TBE polyacrylamide sequencing gel

at 60 W for 90 minutes, dried and exposed to a PhosphorScreen, and imaged with a Typhoon

imager.

<u>Genomic DNA extraction, southern blotting, and chromosome fusion PCR</u>

Genomic DNA was extracted from logarithmically growing cells according to [13]. For southern

blotting, 15 μg genomic DNA was digested overnight with EcoRI and separated on a 1% agarose

gel, transferred to positively charged nylon membranes (Perkin Elmer, NEF988001) by capillary

transfer in 10X SSC, and probed with a ^{32}P γ-ATP-labeled telomere probe (probe sequence

provided in Table S7). The chromosome fusion PCR was adapted from [12]. Briefly, 50 μL PCR

reactions contained 1 μL genomic DNA, 0.4 μM forward and reverse primers (sequences

provided in Table S7), 200 μM dNTPs, 1X Taq ThermoPol Buffer (NEB), and 1.25 U Taq

Polymerase (NEB, M0273). The Trt1 gene was amplified as a loading control in an identical PCR

reaction containing the corresponding primers. The PCR reaction consisted of an initial

denaturation at 95°C for 5 minutes, followed by 32 cycles of 95°C for 15 seconds, 55°C for 30

seconds, and 68°C for 3 minutes, with a final extension at 68°C for 10 minutes.

Structure prediction

The structure of *S. pombe* Bin3 was predicted using Phyre2 [62] and aligned with the co-crystal

structure of the *H. sapiens* MePCE methyltransferase domain bound to 7SK snRNA and SAH

(6DCB [30]) in PyMol [63]. Primary sequences were aligned with the Clustal Omega Multiple

Sequence Alignment tool [64].

Phylogenetic tree construction and search for Bin3-like and Pof8-like sequences

Protein sequences (GeneCatalogs) of 472 fungal species were downloaded from the JGI website

(https://mycocosm.jgi.doe.gov/) in fasta format. 5614520 proteins were downloaded and

merged into a single multifasta file. A blast (Blastp) against all proteins was performed using

diamond blastp [65] with a minimum e-value of 1e-5 and outfmt 6 (for tabular output). In order to

identify homologous proteins, proteins were clustered together if they shared at least 50%

similarity over 70% of coverage using SiLiX [66]. When a cluster contained two or more paralogous

genes derived from duplications, the species was removed from the cluster. Finally, only

clusters with a minimum of 100 species were retained for further analysis. Following these

cleaning steps, we obtained 5328 clusters containing one gene per species. Proteins sequences

of each cluster were aligned using MAFFT (v7.271) with default parameters

(https://mafft.cbrc.jp/alignment/server/). Multiple alignments were cleaned using trimA1

(v1.4.rev22 build [2015-05-21]) with -st 0.01 option. Fastree (version 2.1.10 SSE3) with default

parameters were used to build phylogenetic trees [67]. The consensus fungi tree was obtained

using ASTRAL (astral.5.6.3) software with default parameters [68]. To detect the presence of

genes coding for Bin3-like and Pof8-like proteins, blast searches (blastp and tbalstn) were

performed on each studied fungus genome, using initially either the full-length *S. pombe* Bin3

protein sequence or the *S. pombe* Pof8 xRRM conserved motif. This procedure was repeated in

each fungal clade using clade-specific Bin3-like and Pof8-like sequences detected by the initial

search using *S. pombe* sequences. Finally, new blast searches were performed all over again,

this time using Bin3-like or Pof8-like "probes" made of a collection of sequences representing

the diversity of these two proteins in fungi.

Data availability

Mass spectrometry proteomics and RNA Seq data will be supplied prior to publication.

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Figure Legends:

Figure 1: Bin3 interacts with U6 snRNA and the telomerase RNA TER1

A) Scatterplot of normalized and log-transformed Control IP TPM against Bin3 IP TPM. Bin3

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immunoprecipitates from untagged (wild type, wt) and PrA-tagged Bin3 strains.

C) Same as (B), for the telomerase RNA TER1.

Figure 2: Bin3 interacts with the same TER1 species as well-established components of the

telomerase holoenzyme

A) The 5' and 3' ends of Bin3-, Trt1-, Pof8-, and Lsm3-associated TER1 were identified by cRACE.

The results of 10 independent clones per immunoprecipitation are shown below a schematic of

the architecture of TER1.

B) RNase H northern blots of RNase H generated 5' and 3' ends of TER1 immunoprecipitated by

various telomerase components.

C-D) Northern blot of α-TMG flow through (FT) and immunoprecipitated (IP) transcripts from

total RNA (C) and Bin3-associated transcripts (D).

Figure 3: Bin3 interacts with components of the mature telomerase holoenzyme

A) Gene ontology analysis (biological process) of top 50 Bin3 protein interactors.

B-C) Examination and nucleic acid-dependence of interactions between Bin3 and Pof8 (B) and

Bin3 and Trt1 (C) by co-immunoprecipitation and western blotting. Blots were reprobed for

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Figure 4: Bin3 is recruited to the active telomerase holoenzyme by Pof8

A) Northern blot of TER1 and U6 in PrA immunoprecipitates for an untagged wild type (wt),

PrA-tagged (Bin3 PrA), and PrA-tagged Pof8 knockout strain (Bin3 PrA ΔPof8). Bin3-PrA was

detected in input and immunoprecipitated samples by western blots probing for PrA (bottom

panel). Possible cleavage products are indicated with an asterisk.

B) Northern blot of mature and intron-containing U6 in PrA- and myc-tagged

immunoprecipitated RNA.

C) Telomerase assay of myc- (left) and PrA-tagged (right) proteins. A ^{32}P-labeled 100-mer

oligonucleotide was used as a loading control. Telomerase extension products were compared

to a terminal transferase ladder, with +1 and +6 extension products indicated.

D) Proposed model of the fission yeast telomerase holoenzyme. TER1 structure and binding

locations are based on models constructed by Hu and colleagues[15] and Mennie and

colleagues[13].

Figure 5: Bin3 depletion results in an increase in TER1 levels and telomere length

A) qRT-PCR of Bin3 mRNA normalized to his1 mRNA (mean $\pm$ standard error, paired t test *

at $p > 0.05$, ** at $p < 0.01$, *** at $p < 0.001$, and **** at p<0.0001).

B) qRT-PCR and a representative northern blot of TER1 from total cellular RNA (mean $\pm$

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C) Southern blot comparing telomere length in wild type, *pof8Δ*, and *bin3Δ* strains transformed

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Figure 6: Phylogenic distribution of Bin3 and Pof8 in fungi

Consensus cladogram describing the phylogenic relationships of 472 species representative of

fungi phylum and classes and highlighting (using a color code) the distribution of Bin3 and Pof8

in these species. The cladogram is a consensus tree of 5328 distinct protein coding gene trees

resulting from a genome-wide, against all, protein comparison (see Materials and Methods).

Only posterior probabilities inferior to 1 are shown. The Bin3 and Pof8 distribution is

recapitulated in Supplemental Table 8 with corresponding protein sequences. A cartoon

presenting structural domains of Pof8 is presented. Pof8 La module and RRM1 are only inferred

from secondary structure predictions and are represented by *La** and *RRM1** in the

corresponding cartoon. In four species (colored in orange in the cladogram) only an N-terminal

truncated version of Pof8 (Pof8*) that cannot accommodate the La module is present. Full

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Figure S5.

Supplementary figure captions:

Supplementary figure 1: Bin3 is the essential *S. pombe* methyl phosphate capping enzyme

(MePCE) homolog

A) Clustal alignment of the methyltransferase/SAM-binding domains of *S. pombe* Bin3, *H.*

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C) Wild type and Bin3 knockout strains transformed with pRep4x GST-Bin3 grown on minimal

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A

GO biological process	Fold enrichment	Raw P value	False discovery rate
Telomerase holoenzyme complex assembly	49.39	2.04E-08	5.33E-05
Telomere maintenance via telomerase	31.75	2.54E-04	4.74E-02
RNA-dependent DNA biosynthetic process	31.75	2.54E-04	4.58E-02
Ribonucleoprotein complex assembly	5.47	6.70E-06	2.50E-03
Ribonucleoprotein complex subunit organization	5.29	9.01E-06	2.77E-03
mRNA cis splicing, via spliceosome	5.25	6.76E-05	1.54E-02
mRNA splicing, via spliceosome	4.78	5.48E-05	1.43E-02
RNA splicing, via transesterification reactions with bulged adenosine as nucleophile	4.78	5.48E-05	1.43E-02
RNA splicing, via transesterification reactions	4.72	6.08E-05	1.45E-02
RNA splicing	4.52	8.60E-05	1.80E-02

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Agaricomycetes

Dacrymycetes

Tremellomycetes

Wallemiomycetes

Pucciniomycotina

Ustilaginomycotina

Taphrinomycotina

Saccharomycotina

Pezizomycetes

Sordariomycetes

Leotiomycetes

Eurotiomycetes

Xylonomycetes

Lecanoromycetes

Dothideomycetes

Mucoromycota

Chytridiomycota

Zoopagomycota

Cryptomycota

Microsporidia

Blastocladiomycota

Bin3-like and Pof8-like
Bin3-like only
Pof8-like only (shorter version)*
None of the two

Pof8-like

| La* | RRM1* | RRM2 |

Pof8-like*

| | RRM2 |

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List of supplementary tables:

Supplementary table 1: Bin3-associated RNAs were detected by RIP-Seq (attached as spreadsheet)

Transcripts with 4 or more reads in at least one of the replicates, as well as a minimum log of

odds value of 3.17, are presented.

Supplementary table 2: Results of Bin3-immunoprecipitated proteins from 2 independent

mass spectrometry experiments

Proteins present exclusively in both replicates and absent from control immunoprecipitates

were considered. The top 11 interacting proteins are presented, ranked by total peak intensity.

Interactions persisting in the presence of benzonase are indicated. Experimentally validated

and speculative components of the *S. pombe* telomerase holoenzyme are shaded.

Supplementary table 3: Top 50 Bin3-associated proteins used for GO analyses.

Supplementary table 4: Gene ontology analysis (cellular component) of the top 50 Bin3

protein interactors

Supplementary table 5: *S. pombe* strains used in this study

Supplementary Table 6: Primers used to generate tagged strains

Supplementary table 7: probe sequences

Supplementary Table 8: Distribution of Bin3 and Pof8 in the 472 species used to construct the cladogram of Figure 6 and corresponding protein sequences. (attached as spreadsheet)

Supplementary Table 9: Distribution of Bin3 and Pof8 in basal eukaryotic lineages. Presence of a Bin3- or LARP7-family member= Y, absence= N.

Supplementary Table 2

Protein	Gene	Bin3 PrA IP Replicate 1	Bin3 PrA IP Replicate 2	Bin3 PrA IP + benzonase
LARP7 family protein Pof8	pof8	24	24	22
Vigilin KH domain RNA binding protein	vgl1	17	14	20
Uncharacterized RNA binding protein	SPBC1861	16	24	0
RNase P and RNase MRP subunit Pop100	pop100	16	17	0
Telomerase reverse transcriptase Trt1	trt1	13	12	0
Bin3 family protein (bait)	SPBC2A9	12	12	11
WD repeat/ BOP1NT protein Erb1	erb1	9	9	1
Uncharacterized protein	SPCC18B5	7	7	7
Sec24/Sfb2 subunit	sec24	7	3	0
Telomerase regulator Est1	est1	6	9	0
Lsm2-8 complex subunit Lsm6	lsm6	6	6	0

Supplementary Table 3

Protein	Gene
LARP7 family protein Pof8	pof8
Bin3 family protein (bait)	SPBC2A9
Uncharacterized protein	SPCC18B5
Lsm2-8 complex subunit Lsm8	lsm8
Lsm2-8 complex subunit Lsm7	lsm7
Lsm2-8 complex subunit Lsm2	lsm2
Lsm2-8 complex subunit Lsm6	lsm6
Lsm2-8 complex subunit Lsm5	lsm5
Threonine tRNA ligase	ths1
RNase P and RNase MRP subunit Pop100	pop100
Periodic tryptophan protein 2 homolog	SPBC713

Vigilin KH domain RNA binding protein	vgl1
Uncharacterized RNA binding protein	SPBC1861
Putative glycine tRNA ligase	grs1
Small nuclear ribonucleoprotein-associated protein B	smb1
Pre-mRNA splicing factor Prp12	Prp1
Probable mitochondrial import receptor subunit Tom70	tom70
Nucleic acid binding protein homolog	byr3
Telomerase reverse transcriptase Trt1	trt1
Ribosome biogenesis protein Brx1	brx1
Ribosome biogenesis protein Erb1	erb1
Probable ATP-citrate synthase subunit 2	SPAC22A12

mRNA export factor Elf1	elf1
ATP synthase beta subunit 2	atp2
Sm snRNP core protein Smf1	smf1
Mitochondrial translation elongation factor EF-Tu	tuf1
CUE domain-containing protein	SPBC354
Putative G3BP-like protein	nxt3
Prp19 complex subunit	prp19
Vacuolar carboxypeptidase Y	cpy1
RNA binding protein Nop12	nop12
Putative mitochondrial ribosome recycling factor	tif451
U3 snoRNP-associated protein Utp7	utp7

Chaperonin-containing T-complex eta subunit	cct7
Telomerase regulator Est1	est1
BAR adaptor protein Hob3	hob3
Uncharacterized RNA binding protein	SPCC1827
RNA polymerase I upstream activation factor complex subunit Spp27	spp27
Uncharacterized RNA binding protein	SPBC4F6
Putative leucine-tRNA ligase Lrs1	lrs1
U5 snRNP complex subunit Spp42	spp42
DNA Polymerase V	pol5
Ribosome assembly factor, WD repeat protein Nsa1	nsa1
Translation initiation factor eIF2B epsilon subunit	tif225

26S protease regulatory subunit 8 homolog   let1

Supplementary Table 4

GO cellular component	Fold enrichment	Raw P value	False discovery rate
Lsm2-8 complex	42.34	8.86E-06	1.23E-03
Telomere holoenzyme complex	41.16	6.60E-07	2.44E-04
U6 snRNP	37.04	1.32E-05	1.63E-03
Spliceosomal tri-snRNP complex	15.88	4.49E-06	9.97E-04
U4/U6 x U5 tri-snRNP complex	15.88	4.49E-06	8.31E-04
Catalytic step 2 spliceosome	10.01	2.10E-04	1.46E-02
Spliceosomal snRNP complex	8.50	2.78E-05	2.80E-03
Small nuclear ribonucleoprotein complex	8.10	3.69E-05	3.42E-03
Sm-like protein family complex	7.98	4.05E-05	3.46E-03
Spliceosomal complex	6.12	7.25E-06	1.15E-03

Supplementary Table 5

Figure	Strain	Description	Full genotype	Source
1, Table S1	FY6843	wild type	h- ura4-D18	National BioResource Project
	yJP001	*bin3-PrA*	h- ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-kanMX6	This study
S1	yAS99	wild type	h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 ade6-704	Intine *et al.*, 2000 [70]
	yJP002	*bin3Δ + pRep4x GST-Bin3*	h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 ade6-704 bin3Δ::natMX6 pRep4x GST-Bin3	This study
2a, b	FY6843	wild type	h- ura4-D18	National BioResource Project
	yJP001	*bin3-PrA*	h- ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-kanMX6	This study
	TN7706	*trt1-myc*	h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 trt1$^+$::G8-13myc-natMX6	Mennie *et al.*, 2018
	AM16932	*pof8-myc*	h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 pof8$^+$::13myc-kanMX6	Mennie *et al.*, 2018
	AM17121	*lsm3-myc*	h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 lsm3$^+$::13myc-kanMX6	Mennie *et al.*, 2018
2c	FY6843	wild type	h- ura4-D18	National BioResource Project
	yJP001	*bin3-PrA*	h- ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-kanMX6	This study
3a, Table S2, Table S3, Table S4	FY6843	wild type	h- ura4-D18	National BioResource Project
	yJP001	*bin3-PrA*	h- ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-kanMX6	This study
3b, S3	yJP001	*bin3-PrA*	h- ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-kanMX6	This study
	yJP001a	*bin3-PrA*	h+ ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-kanMX6	This study
	yJP001b	*bin3-PrA*	h+ ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-bleMX6	This study
	AM16932	*pof8-myc*	h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 pof8$^+$::13myc-kanMX6	Mennie *et al.*, 2018

	yJP012	*bin3-PrA pof8-myc*	*h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-bleMX6 pof8$^+$::13myc-kanMX6*	This study
3c	yJP001	*bin3-PrA*	*h- ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-kanMX6*	This study
	yJP001a	*bin3-PrA*	*h+ ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-kanMX6*	This study
	yJP001b	*bin3-PrA*	*h+ ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-bleMX6*	This study
	TN7706	*trt1-myc*	*h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 trt1$^+$::G8-13myc-natMX6*	Mennie *et al.,* 2018
	yJP013	*bin3-PrA trt1-myc*	*h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-bleMX6 trt1$^+$::G8-13myc-natMX6*	This study
4a	FY6843	wild type	*h- ura4-D18*	National BioResource Project
	yJP001	*bin3-PrA*	*h- ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-kanMX6*	This study
	yJP001a	*bin3-PrA*	*h+ ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-kanMX6*	This study
	yJP001b	*bin3-PrA*	*h+ ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-bleMX6*	This study
	TN12118	*pof8Δ*	*h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 pof8Δ::kanMX6*	Mennie *et al.,* 2018
	TN12118a	*pof8Δ*	*h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 pof8Δ::natMX6*	This study
	yJP011	*bin3-PrA pof8Δ*	*h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-bleMX6 pof8Δ::natMX6*	This study
4b	FY6843	wild type	*h- ura4-D18*	National BioResource Project
	yJP001	*bin3-PrA*	*h- ura4-D18 bin3$^+$::bin3-PrA-kanMX6*	This study
	TN7706	*trt1-myc*	*h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 trt1$^+$::G8-13myc-natMX6*	Mennie *et al.,* 2018
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	yJP002	*BinΔ3 + pRep4x GST-Bin3*	*h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 ade6-704 bin3Δ::natMX6 pRep4x GST-Bin3*	This study
S4	FY6843	wild type	*h- ura4-D18*	National BioResource Project
	TN12118	*pof8Δ*	*h- leu1-32 ura4-D18 his3-D1 pof8Δ::kanMX6*	Mennie *et al.,* 2018

Supplementary Table 6

Primer	Sequence
Bin3 PrA For (tag integration)	5'CATTTGCTTAATCAAGCAGGACTAGTGCTTGAATACAGTATCGAACCTCA AGTAAATAACTCTGAGTACAAGAATTTTGCCAAACGAACAATGTATAAAAA AAAAGGAATTGGAATCATAAAACTATTAACTATTAACTTCTACTCGTACGCT GCAGGTCGAC 3'
Bin3 PrA Rev (tag integration)	5'CTACTTCATTCCGCTTTTCTTTCTTTCCTCATATGTTGAATTAGAGAATTTAAT AAAAAATGAGACACGTCCTTTTGGGACATTATGCTTTATAGTTCCAGTCATTGT CTATTCTTAACGTTTTACTAGACAAATCGATGAATTCGATGAATTCGAGCTCG 3'
MX6 For (antibiotic marker swap)	5' GACATGGAGGCCCAGAATAC 3'
MX6 Rev (antibiotic marker swap)	5' TGGATGCGCGCGTTAGTATC 3'
Bin3 KO For (Bin3 gene disruption)	5'TTCGATTCGTAAGTTTAAATTCCATTGCAAAATTTATACTTTTATAAAAAATA GGGGTGATTTGAAAAACCTCCTCGACTTGGGCGGATCCCCGGGTTAATTAA 3'
Bin3 KO Rev (Bin3 gene disruption)	5'GAGAATTTAATAAAAAATGAGACACGTCCTTTTGGGACATTATGCTTTATA GTTCCAGTCATTGTCTATTCTTAACGTTTTACTAGACAAGAATTCGAGCTCGTT TAAAC 3'

Supplementary Table 7

Figure	Probe	Sequence
1c, 1d, 2b, 3c, 2d, 4a, 4b	U6	5' GTGTCATCCTTGTGCAGGGGCCAT 3'
1c, 4b	U6 intron	5' CAACGAGTTAGTATGACTCGAACCTTGG 3'
1d	Ter1	5' CCCGTTCCTTTTAACATTTTGCTCAGACCAAGTG 5'
1d, 2c, 5b	U5	5' CTGGTAAAAGGCAAGAAACAGATACG 3'
2a	Ter1 cRACE For	5' TCTTGAGCGCGTTTTAGGTTTTTTTCACTT 3'
	Ter1 cRACE Rev	5' AACAACGGACGAGCTACACTCAAAATATTA 3'
2b, 4a, 4b, 5b	Ter1 3' RNase H	5' GGGTAGTCAACTATTTTACTAGCG 3'
	Ter1 5' RNase H	5' TTTCAAATCAATCACCAAGCCC 3'
	Ter1 3' RNase H northern	5' GCTCAGACCAAGTGAAAAAAACC 3'
	Ter1 5' RNase H northern	5' TCCTTGTCAACCTTCTAAGCATG 3'
2c	tRNA Thr^{CGU}	5' TGCTCCGGCAGTGACTCGAACA 3'
4c	Telomerase assay primer	5' GTTACGGTTACAGGTTACG 3'
5a	Bin3 mRNA 5' qPCR	5' GAGGAACCTCAATTATCGATCCAAGACTTAAATGTTTGC 3'
	Bin3 mRNA 3' qPCR	5' TCGAGCTTTTTGGATGAGAACATGATCGATATCCAATCC 3'
	His1 5' qPCR	5' TGTCCACCTCGGAATCACTG 3'
	His1 3' qPCR	5' CGAAGACGTGCTTCAGCGA 3'
5b	Ter1 5' qPCR	CAGTGTACGTGAGTCTTCTGCCTT
	Ter1 3' qPCR	CAAAAATTCGTTGTGATCTGACAAG
5c	Telomere southern probe	5' GGGTTACATGTTACAGGTTACA 3'
S3	Chromosome fusion For	5' GGGTTGCAAAGTATGATTGTGGTAA 3'
	Chromosome fusion Rev	5' TGTTGAATGTCAGAACCAACTGTTGCAT 3'
	Trt1 For	5' GCAAAGAAGTTTCCTGGAATAGC 3'
	Trt1 Rev	5' GATGTAATAAAGGGTCGGCAC 3'

Supplementary Table 9

Species	Classification	BIN3	LARP7
Fragilariopsis cylindrus	Stramenopiles, Bacillariophyta	N	N
Pseudo-nitzschia multiseries	Stramenopiles, Bacillariophyta	N	N
Thalassiosira oceanica	Stramenopiles, Bacillariophyta	N	N
Thalassiosira pseudonana	Stramenopiles, Bacillariophyta	N	N
Ochromonadaceae sp	Stramenopiles, Chrysophyta	Y	N
Nannochloropsis gaditana	Stramenopiles, Eustigmatophyceae	Y	N
Nannochloropsis oceanica	Stramenopiles, Eustigmatophyceae	Y	N
Aplanochytrium kerguelense	Stramenopiles, Labyrinthulomycetes	N	N
Aurantiochytrium limacinum	Stramenopiles, Labyrinthulomycetes	N	N
Schizochytrium aggregatum	Stramenopiles, Labyrinthulomycetes	N	N
Achlya hypogyna	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	Y	Y
Aphanomyces euteiches	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	Y	Y
Aphanomyces astaci	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	Y	Y
Phytophthora cactorum	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	y	y
Phytophthora capsici	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	y	y
Phytophthora cinnamomi	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	y	y
Phytophthora infestans	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	y	y
Phytophthora sojae	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	y	y
Plasmopara halstedii	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	y	y
Pythium brassicum	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	Y	Y
Saprolegnia parasitica	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	Y	Y
Thraustotheca clavata	Stramenopiles, Oomycota	Y	Y
Blastocystis hominis	Stramenopiles, Opalozoa	N	N
Pelagophyceae sp.	Stramenopiles, Pelagophyceae	Y	Y
Ectocarpus siliculosus	Stramenopiles, Phaeophyceae	Y	Y
Tetrahymena thermophila	Alveolates, Ciliophora	Y	Y
Paramecium tetraurelia	Alveolates, Ciliophora	Y	Y
Pseudocohnilembus persalinus	Alveolates, Ciliophora	Y	N
Oxytricha trifallax	Alveolates, Ciliophora	Y	Y
Symbiodinium microadriaticum	Alveolates, Dinophyta	Y	N
Stylonychia lemnae	Alveolates, Ciliophora	Y	Y
Stentor coeruleus	Alveolates, Ciliophora	Y	N
Perkinsus marinus	Alveolates, Perkinsea	Y	N
Vitrella brassicaformis	Alveolates, Chromorida	Y	N
Gregarina niphandrodes	Alveolates, Apicomplexa	N	N
Cryptosporidium muris	Alveolates, Apicomplexa	N	N
Eimeria acervulina	Alveolates, Apicomplexa	Y	N

Toxoplama gondii	Alveolates, Apicomplexa	Y	N
Neospora caninum	Alveolates, Apicomplexa	Y	N
Cyclospora cayetanensis	Alveolates, Apicomplexa	N	N
Cystoisospora suis	Alveolates, Apicomplexa	Y	N
Plasmodiophora brassicae	Rhizaria, Endomixa	Y	N
Trypanosoma brucei	Excavates, Euglenozoa	N	N
Naegleria gruberi	Excavates, Heterolobosea	Y	N
Naegleria fowleri	Excavates, Heterolobosea	Y	N
Giardia lamblia	Excavates, Fornicata	N	N
Giardia intestinalis	Excavates, Fornicata	N	N
Trichomonas vaginalis	Excavates, Parabasalia	N	N
Emiliania huxleyi	Haptophyta, Isochrysidales	Y	Y
Chrysochromulina tobinii	Haptophyta, Prymnesiales	N	N
Pavlovalas sp	Haptophyta, Pavlovales	Y	N
Phaeocystis globosa	Haptophyta, Phaeocystales	Y	N