Shugoshin maintains mitotic arrest in response to improper kinetochore-microtubule interactions independent of the Bub1-pH2A axis

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Abstract

During chromosome segregation, the spindle assembly checkpoint (SAC) detects errors in kinetochore-microtubule attachments. Timely activation and maintenance of the SAC until defects are corrected is essential for genome stability. Here, we show that *SGO1* codes for shugoshin, a tension-sensing protein, that ensures the maintenance of SAC signals in response to unattached kinetochores during mitosis in a basidiomycete budding yeast *Cryptococcus neoformans.* Sgo1 maintains optimum levels of Aurora B[Ipl1] kinase and protein phosphatase 1 (PP1) at kinetochores. The absence of Sgo1 results in the loss of Aurora B[Ipl1] with a concomitant increase in PP1 levels at kinetochores. This leads to a premature reduction in the kinetochore-bound Bub1 levels and early termination of the SAC signals. Surprisingly, the SAC maintenance function of Sgo1 is independent of the Bub1 kinase activity in this budding yeast. Sgo1 is predominantly localized to spindle pole bodies (SPBs) and along the mitotic spindle. In the absence of proper kinetochore-microtubule attachments, Sgo1 reinforces the Aurora B[Ipl1] kinase- PP1 phosphatase balance, which is critical for maintaining the SAC response.

Introduction

The precise segregation of duplicated chromosomes in mitosis depends on the stable attachment of kinetochores with microtubules (MTs) and proper orientation on the mitotic spindle. The kinetochore is a multi-subunit protein complex composed of inner and outer layers (Musacchio and Desai, 2017). The inner kinetochore assembles onto centromeric chromatin and is constitutively associated with DNA. Subsequently, the outer kinetochore assembles and promotes the attachment of MTs emanating from centrosomes or spindle pole bodies (SPBs). Apart from playing a role in MT attachment, the kinetochore also acts as a signaling platform for recruiting mitotic surveillance components that detect unattached or improperly attached kinetochores (Lara-Gonzalez et al., 2021, Zich and Hardwick, 2010, Musacchio and Salmon, 2007). Once errors are detected, cells remain arrested at metaphase until rectified.

Mitotic surveillance systems monitoring erroneous kinetochore-MT attachments include the spindle assembly checkpoint (SAC) and a chromosome passenger complex (CPC) component, Aurora B[Ipl1] kinase. The SAC comprises Mad1, Mad2, BubR1, Bub3, and the kinases Bub1 and Mps1 (Lara-Gonzalez et al., 2021). The SAC machinery conveys a 'wait anaphase' signal (MCC, the mitotic checkpoint complex) during cell division in response to unattached kinetochores that inhibits the anaphase-promoting complex (APC/C[Cdc20]) from ubiquitylating B-type cyclins and securin (Hardwick et al., 2000, Musacchio, 2015, Sudakin et al., 2001). Upon the formation of proper kinetochore-MT attachments, the SAC is silenced. APC/C[Cdc20] inhibition is relieved, resulting in the degradation of B-type cyclins and securin, thus promoting mitotic exit and sister chromatid separation (Cohen-Fix et al., 1996, King et al., 1996).

Tension across sister-kinetochores attached to MTs is important in ensuring high fidelity of chromosome segregation. Tensionless kinetochore-MT attachments, if not rectified, result in the missegregation of chromosomes. Aurora B[Ipl1] acts as a tension sensor, detecting tension across sister-kinetochores (Biggins and Murray, 2001, Tanaka et al., 2002, Hauf et al., 2003, Pinsky et al., 2006). In response to tensionless kinetochore-MT attachments, phosphorylation of outer kinetochore by Aurora B[Ipl1] results in the destabilization of kinetochore-MT interactions, leading to the generation of unattached kinetochores (Cheeseman et al., 2006, Ciferri et al.,

2008) indirectly activating the SAC. Several reports implicate that Aurora B^{Ipl1} can

also directly activate the SAC machinery in response to unattached kinetochores,

indicating that the function of Aurora B^{Ipl1} is not just limited to detecting tensionless

attachments (Kallio et al., 2002, Petersen and Hagan, 2003, Saurin et al., 2011,

Santaguida et al., 2011, Pinsky et al., 2009). The kinase activity of Aurora B^{Ipl1} also

counteracts PP1 phosphatase recruitment to kinetochores (Liu et al., 2010). The

activity of PP1 at kinetochores is required to terminate the SAC signaling and to help

cells proceed into anaphase. PP1 dephosphorylates kinetochore substrates and thus

promotes the stabilization of kinetochore-MT attachments (Lara-Gonzalez et al.,

2021). Premature recruitment of PP1 to kinetochores results in early termination of

the SAC signal and leads to chromosome mis-segregation (Roy et al., 2019).

Shugoshin, another tension sensor, also detects tensionless kinetochore-MT

attachments and promotes the biorientation of sister kinetochores during mitosis.

Unlike Aurora B^{Ipl1}, shugoshin cannot directly destabilize tensionless attachments but

acts as an adaptor protein in recruiting Aurora B^{Ipl1}, thus promoting the biorientation

of sister kinetochores. Though it plays an important role in the biorientation of

chromosomes, several reports indicate that during mitosis, shugoshin is dispensable

for the SAC activation (Indjeian et al., 2005, Vanoosthuyse et al., 2007, Sane et al.,

2021). Shugoshin primarily localizes to centromeres, and phosphorylation of histone

H2A (T120, humans/S121, yeasts) by the SAC component Bub1 kinase plays a

central role in targeting it to centromeres (Kawashima et al., 2010, Fernius and

Hardwick, 2007).

Mechanisms involved in monitoring kinetochore-MT attachments are not extensively

studied in basidiomycete yeasts such as *Cryptococcus neoformans* with a

significantly altered kinetochore structure (van Hooff et al., 2017, Sridhar et al.,

2021). Studies to explore the roles of SAC components Bub1 (Madbub), Mps1, and

Mad1 in the checkpoint response using *C. neoformans* have just begun (Leontiou et

al., 2022, Aktar et al., 2023). Here, we probed the role of an evolutionarily conserved

protein, shugoshin, in *C. neoformans* in monitoring the kinetochore-MT attachments

during mitosis. We propose that shugoshin performs this function by maintaining

higher Aurora B^{Ipl1} and lower PP1 levels at kinetochores during MT depolymerizing

conditions. Strikingly, we observed that the kinase activity of Bub1 is dispensable for

the shugoshin's checkpoint maintenance function, indicating that the mechanism of
shugoshin targeting is rewired during *C. neoformans* mitosis.

Results

Shugoshin is required for efficient metaphase arrest in response to
microtubule depolymerizing drugs

SGO1 (FungiDB ORF ID: CNAG_05516) encodes the only form of shugoshin that is
expressed in *C. neoformans.* The putative 645-aa-long protein coded by *SGO1* has
an N-terminal coiled-coil domain and a C-terminal basic SGO motif (Fig 1A;
Supplementary Fig 1A and B). Multiple sequence alignment of amino acid
sequences revealed the presence of conserved residues required for PP2A binding
(Supplementary Fig 1B) (Xu et al., 2009). The SGO motif in *C. neoformans*
shugoshin also possesses a conserved lysine residue (K382) that is required for the
binding of shugoshin to phosphorylated histone H2A (Supplementary Fig 1B)
(Kawashima et al., 2010, Liu et al., 2013, Fernius and Hardwick, 2007). Previous
studies reported that shugoshin plays a role in ensuring proper kinetochore-MT
attachments during mitosis (see reviews (Gutierrez-Caballero et al., 2012, Marston,
2015)). Mutants affecting kinetochore-MT interactions and proteins participating in
the error correction machinery and SAC, are hypersensitive to MT depolymerizing
drugs. To test if Sgo1 contributes to the fidelity of mitotic chromosome segregation,
we created *sgo1* null mutants in *C. neoformans.* While Sgo1 was found to be
dispensable for growth, *sgo1* null mutant cells displayed sensitivity to a MT-
depolymerizing drug, thiabendazole (TBZ), similar to that of SAC mutant *mad2* (Fig
1B)*.* These results suggest that *sgo1Δ* mutant cells in the basidiomycete yeast *C.*
neoformans have phenotypes similar to those of ascomycete yeasts such as
Saccharomyces cerevisiae, *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* and *Candida albicans*
(Indjeian et al., 2005, Kitajima et al., 2004, Sane et al., 2021).

Next, we sought to test if enhanced sensitivity to the MT poison observed in *sgo1Δ*
mutant cells accentuate when combined with *mad2Δ* mutant. To test this, we created
sgo1Δ mad2Δ double mutants. Such double mutant cells exhibited synthetic lethality
in the presence of TBZ (Fig 1B), indicating that both Sgo1 and Mad2 are required for
an efficient SAC response in MT-depolymerizing conditions. If shugoshin is required
for an efficient SAC response in *C. neoformans*, it is expected that the *sgo1Δ*

mutant, when combined with a kinetochore mutant, would enhance sensitivities to

TBZ. To explore this possibility, we used null mutant cells of a recently reported

basidiomycete-specific kinetochore linker protein bridgin (Bgi1). It has been shown

that *bgi1Δ* mutants are viable but exhibit gross chromosomal missegregation

(Sridhar et al., 2021). *bgi1Δ* mutants, combined with *mad2Δ*, displayed enhanced

sensitivity to TBZ compared to each of the single mutants alone (Sridhar et al.,

2021). The spotting assay indicated that *sgo1Δ bgi1Δ* double mutant cells are

hypersensitive to TBZ, similar to that of *mad2Δ bgi1Δ* (Supplementary Fig 2).

Together, these results reveal that shugoshin plays a role in proper kinetochore-MT

interactions and/or monitors defective attachments in response to spindle poison.

MT-depolymerizing drugs arrest wild-type cells at metaphase in the large-budded

stage with an undivided nucleus. Only when the defects are rectified will such cells

proceed to complete the cell division. To verify whether *sgo1Δ* mutants can induce

metaphase arrest when MTs are depolymerized, we performed a microscopy-based

assay to score for the cell cycle defects associated with *sgo1Δ* mutants by treating

cells with nocodazole (Fig 1C). Nocodazole-treated wild-type cells of *C. neoformans*

arrest at the large-budded stage with a visibly condensed chromatin mass (Fig 1D).

After 240 min of nocodazole treatment, >90% of wild-type cells were at the large-

budded stage with a condensed undivided nucleus (Fig 1D and Supplementary Fig

1C, D, and E). As expected, the checkpoint defective mutant (*mad2Δ*) failed to arrest

cells at the large-budded stage (Fig 1D). In the *sgo1Δ* mutants, though we initially

observed an increase in the proportion of large-budded cells compared to *mad2Δ*

mutants, after 240 min post-nocodazole treatment, the large-budded cell population

significantly reduced (Fig 1D). Moreover, unlike wild-type, most large-budded cells in

sgo1Δ mutants had an uncondensed chromatin mass similar to *mad2Δ* mutant cells

(Supplementary Fig 1C, D, and E). In the case of *sgo1Δ mad2Δ* double mutants, no

significant differences in the proportion of large-budded cells were observed when

compared to *sgo1Δ* and *mad2Δ* single mutants (Fig 1D). Estimating the ploidy

content in nocodazole-treated cells using flow cytometry (Fig 1E) revealed that wild-

type cells arrested at 2n ploidy level. On the other hand, *mad2Δ* cells shifted towards

4n, indicating a failure in arresting cells at metaphase and initiating the next cell

cycle events. Unlike *mad2Δ, sgo1Δ* cells displayed a ploidy content of 2n and 4n,

revealing the presence of cells that are delayed at metaphase and cells that have

initiated the next round of DNA replication. Similar results were also obtained in
sgo1Δ mad2Δ double mutants. Taken together, we show that shugoshin is required
for an efficient metaphase arrest in response to unattached kinetochores induced by
MT-depolymerizing drugs.

sgo1Δ mutant cells fail to maintain the SAC component Bub1 at kinetochores
in response to prolonged microtubule depolymerization

Why are *sgo1Δ* mutant cells not arrested when treated with a MT poison at
metaphase? It is possible that *sgo1Δ* mutant cells arrest at metaphase immediately
after being treated with the MT poison but were unable to maintain the arrest upon
prolonged exposure to the drug. To test this, we localized the SAC component Bub1
(Fig 2A) tagged with GFP in wild-type and *sgo1Δ* cells. A recent report (Leontiou et
al., 2022) suggested that Bub1 localizes to kinetochores in *C. neoformans* and plays
a role in SAC-mediated arrest. We synchronized *C. neoformans* cells by arresting
them at G2 using hypoxia (Ohkusu et al., 2004) and released them in the presence
of nocodazole (refer to Materials and Methods for further details) (Fig 2B). Inducing
physical hypoxia in *C. neoformans* results in 'unbudded' G2 arrest. These G2-
arrested cells enter mitosis synchronously when subjected to extensive aeration.
Upon release into nocodazole-containing media, wild-type cells accumulated at the
large-budded stage with GFP-Bub1 signals, which were maintained until the end of
the experiment (Fig 2C and D). In case of *sgo1Δ* cells, the proportion of Bub1-
positive large-budded cells increased similarly to that of wild-type until 120 min.
However, beyond 200 min post-nocodazole treatment, a sudden decline in the
proportion of Bub1-positive large-budded cells was observed in the mutant (Fig 2C
and D). Studies in *S. pombe* have shown that the kinase-dead version of Bub1 is
checkpoint-proficient but fails to maintain prolonged SAC arrest (Fernius and
Hardwick, 2007)**.** A similar observation was reported in *C. neoformans*, where *bub1-*
kd mutant cells failed to sustain the arrest induced by nocodazole (Leontiou et al.,
2022)**.** To understand how checkpoint responses differ in *sgo1Δ* from *bub1-kd,* we
compared GFP-Bub1 localization dynamics in hypoxia-synchronized cells treated
with nocodazole (Fig 2D). Though neither *sgo1Δ* nor *bub1-kd* mutant cells could
maintain the arrest like the wild-type, *bub1-kd* cells were able to maintain the arrest
longer than *sgo1Δ* cells.

Moreover, Bub1 signal intensities in *sgo1Δ* mutants were significantly reduced compared to the wild-type (Fig 2E). To further support these observations, we resorted to a single-cell microfluidics assay to quantitatively measure the checkpoint response in individual cells treated with the MT poison (Fig 2F and G). Using this system, we probed the GFP-Bub1 dynamics in wild-type, *sgo1Δ*, *bub1-kd,* and *mad1Δ* mutant cells treated with nocodazole. Similar to the results observed in the experiment performed with the synchronized cells, neither *sgo1Δ* nor *bub1-kd* mutant cells could maintain checkpoint arrest like wild-type as indicated by the lower mean kinetochore residence times of Bub1 (Fig 2G). Checkpoint defective *mad1Δ* mutant cells were used as a control. These results reveal that *sgo1Δ* cells, similar to *bub1-kd* cells, are proficient in checkpoint activation and cannot maintain checkpoint signals during prolonged treatment with nocodazole.

Aurora B^{Ipl1} maintenance at kinetochores is affected in *sgo1Δ* mutants during prolonged checkpoint arrest

Shugoshin interacts with CPC proteins and helps in either the recruitment or maintenance of CPC components at centromeres/kinetochores in *S. cerevisiae*, *S. pombe* and humans (Hindriksen et al., 2017, Marston, 2015). Previously, we established the role of Aurora B^{Ipl1} (a CPC component) in regulating nuclear division during mitosis in *C. neoformans* (Varshney et al., 2019). Although it has been shown that the entry of Aurora B^{Ipl1} into the nucleus coincides with the nuclear envelope breakdown (NEBD), its localization to kinetochores remained unexplored. In this study, we colocalized Aurora B^{Ipl1} with the inner kinetochore protein CENP-A at different cell cycle stages (Supplementary Fig 3A). During G2, when kinetochores are clustered, we could only detect weak signals of Aurora B^{Ipl1} that intensified as cells entered metaphase. Apart from the kinetochore localization, we could also observe spindle-like localization of Aurora B^{Ipl1} during anaphase (Supplementary Fig 3A). Upon treatment with nocodazole, we observed colocalization of Aurora B^{Ipl1} with kinetochores (Supplementary Fig 3B). To test whether kinetochore localization of Aurora B^{Ipl1} is affected in *sgo1Δ* cells in *C. neoformans*, we synchronized both wild-type and *sgo1Δ* mutant cells by inducing physical hypoxia followed by a release in nocodazole-containing media (Fig 2B). We scored for Aurora B^{Ipl1}-3xGFP-positive large-budded cells. In *sgo1Δ,* we observed a reduced proportion of Aurora B^{Ipl1}-positive large-budded cells over time compared to wild-type(Fig 3A and B). Similar to

the Bub1 levels in *sgo1Δ* mutant cells, a reduction in the intensity of the Aurora B^{Ipl1}

signals in the *sgo1Δ* cells was also observed compared to the wild-type (Fig 3C).

Taken together, we conclude that Sgo1 is required to maintain Bub1 and Aurora B^{Ipl1}

at kinetochores when MTs are depolymerized.

Aurora B^{Ipl1} is required for the maintenance of Bub1 at kinetochores in

response to microtubule depolymerization

Reduced Aurora B^{Ipl1} levels at kinetochores in *sgo1Δ* cells prompted us to test

whether the absence of Aurora B^{Ipl1} leads to failure of checkpoint arrest when treated

with MT depolymerizing agents. For conditional depletion of Aurora B^{Ipl1}, we placed

the gene under the *GAL7* promoter. We treated Aurora B^{Ipl1}-overexpressed

(permissive, galactose media) and Aurora B^{Ipl1}-depleted (non-permissive, glucose

media) cells with nocodazole (Fig 3D). We assayed for large-budded cells with a

condensed chromatin mass as observed at metaphase. Cells overexpressing Aurora

B^{Ipl1} and treated with nocodazole displayed a higher proportion of large bud arrested

cells. In contrast, cells depleted of Aurora B^{Ipl1} failed to arrest at the large-budded

stage and exhibited an increase in the proportion of tri-budded cells (Supplementary

Fig 4A and B). Moreover, approximately 50% of the large-budded cells displayed an

uncondensed nuclear mass, similar to what was observed in *mad2Δ* mutants

(Supplementary Fig 4A and B). These results suggest that Aurora B^{Ipl1} is required for

an efficient metaphase arrest when cells are treated with a spindle poison in *C.*

neoformans.

To confirm these observations further, we examined GFP-Bub1 localization

dynamics in cells depleted of Aurora B^{Ipl1} and treated with nocodazole (Fig 3E).

Aurora B^{Ipl1}-depleted cells subjected to nocodazole treatment for 120 and 240 min

were able to load Bub1 initially but failed to maintain Bub1 at kinetochores upon

prolonged treatment with nocodazole (Fig 3E and F), similar to what was observed in

sgo1Δ mutant cells. We also noticed a significant reduction in the levels of Bub1 at

kinetochores in Aurora B^{Ipl1}-depleted cells similar to that of *sgo1Δ* mutants (Fig 3G).

These results reveal that Aurora B^{Ipl1} in *C. neoformans* helps maintain Bub1 at

kinetochores in the presence of nocodazole.

Shugoshin antagonizes the recruitment of PP1 at kinetochores in response to

nocodazole treatment

The kinase activity of Aurora B[Ipl1] and the phosphatase activity of PP1 are

antagonistic at kinetochores (Tatchell et al., 2011, Lesage et al., 2011). We

hypothesized that a reduction in Aurora B[Ipl1] levels leads to increased PP1 levels

(Fig 4A), and higher PP1 levels may lead to the loss of Bub1 from kinetochores. We

expressed PP1-GFP (FungiDB ORF ID CNAG_03706; Supplementary Fig 5) in a

CENP-A-mCherry expressing strain (CNKB003). First, we studied the effect of

sgo1Δ on PP1 localization during nocodazole treatment (Fig 4B). Both wild-type and

sgo1Δ cells exhibited GFP-PP1 signals at kinetochores during the metaphase-

arrested stage. Quantifying the fluorescence signal intensity of PP1 revealed a

marginal but significant increase in the GFP-PP1 signal intensities at kinetochores in

sgo1Δ compared to wild-type cells (Fig 4C). A similar result was observed when

Aurora B[Ipl1]-depleted cells were treated with nocodazole (Fig 4D and E). The SAC

can be silenced by dephosphorylation of MELT repeats on Knl1[Spc105] with the help of

PP1. As a result, checkpoint components are removed from kinetochores (Pinsky et

al., 2009, Rosenberg et al., 2011, Meadows et al., 2011, Espeut et al., 2012,

Vanoosthuyse and Hardwick, 2009, Nijenhuis et al., 2014). Premature recruitment of

PP1 to kinetochores is detrimental and leads to chromosome mis-segregation (Roy

et al., 2019). Based on the results described above, we propose that the increase in

PP1 levels at kinetochores leads to the loss of Bub1 signals in the absence of

shugoshin or Aurora B[Ipl1], which interferes with the SAC maintenance in MT

depolymerizing conditions.

The kinase activity of Bub1 is dispensable for the function of shugoshin

during mitosis in *C. neoformans*

Thus far, we reveal an unknown role of Sgo1 in maintaining Bub1 through the

balance of Aurora B[Ipl1] and PP1 at kinetochores in *C. neoformans* (Fig 5A). Studies

from several yeast species and humans reveal that Bub1 is one of the major factors

that recruits shugoshin to centromeres (Fig 5A) (Kawashima et al., 2010, Liu et al.,

2013). To study if the Bub1 kinase activity required for shugoshin's function is

evolutionarily conserved in *C. neoformans*, we utilized the kinase-dead (*bub1-kd*)

mutant of Bub1. *In vitro* assays reported earlier (Leontiou et al., 2022) revealed that

Bub1 could phosphorylate the reconstituted human H2A containing nucleosomes,

and kinase-dead mutants of Bub1 fail to phosphorylate. We performed a genetic

interaction assay by scoring the TBZ sensitivity of *sgo1Δ*, *bub1-kd*, and *sgo1Δ bub1-*

kd mutants (Fig 5B). If both Sgo1 and Bub1 kinase activity function in the same
pathway in *C. neoformans*, one would expect little to no change in the sensitivity of
double mutants compared to either of the single mutants, *sgo1Δ* and *bub1-kd*. By
dilution spotting assay, we observed that the *bub1-kd sgo1Δ* double mutant cells
behaved like that of the *sgo1Δ* mutant (Fig 5B). Moreover, the sensitivity of *sgo1Δ*
mutant cells to TBZ is higher than that of *bub1-kd* mutant. These results hint that the
kinase activity of Bub1 is dispensable for shugoshin's checkpoint function during
mitosis in *C. neoformans*.

The lysine residue K382 of Sgo1 in *C. neoformans* corresponds to lysine K492 in
Sgo1 of humans (Supplementary Fig 1B). This residue is known to play a role in
binding to phosphorylated H2A (Kawashima et al., 2010, Liu et al., 2013). A mutation
in the lysine residue of shugoshin in fission yeast (K298) and humans (K492) results
in the loss of centromeric localization of shugoshin in mitosis. To test the role of the
evolutionarily conserved lysine residue in *C. neoformans*, we mutated K382 to
alanine. The plasmid constructs harboring either wild-type *SGO1* or a *sgo1-K382A*
allele were integrated into the *SAFE HAVEN* locus of the *sgo1Δ* strain (Fig 5C, *top*
panel). If the kinase activity of Bub1 is indeed dispensable for shugoshin's
checkpoint function during mitosis, the strain carrying *sgo1-K382A* allele would
rescue the sensitivity to spindle poisons. Spotting assays on TBZ plates revealed
that *sgo1-K382A* mutants behaved like that of wild-type cells (Fig 5C, *bottom panel*).
These results confirm that the kinase activity of Bub1 is dispensable for the SAC
function of shugoshin in *C. neoformans.*

Shugoshin is enriched at the spindle pole bodies (SPBs) and localizes to the
spindle during mitosis

Having established that Bub1 kinase activity is not required for the SAC maintenance
function of Sgo1, we examined the cell cycle localization dynamics of Sgo1 in *C.*
neoformans. Shugoshin localizes to the kinetochore during cell division in most
species studied (Marston, 2015) (Supplementary Fig S7, *right*). To find the sub-
cellular localization of Sgo1, we expressed GFP-Sgo1 from its native locus in the
CENP-A-mCherry tagged strain. We synchronized the cells using hypoxia to
examine the cell cycle stage-specific localization of Sgo1. No signals of Sgo1 could
be observed during most of the interphase. In G2, where all centromeres cluster as a

single punctum (Kozubowski et al., 2013, Sridhar et al., 2021), we observed Sgo1 signals near clustered centromeres (Fig 6A). Upon entry into mitosis, Sgo1 appeared as two distinct puncta that flanked the bar-like signals of CENP-A. Apart from the punctate signals of Sgo1, we observed weak signals along the pole-to-pole axis during metaphase and anaphase that resembled spindle-like localization. To examine whether Sgo1 localizes to spindle pole bodies (SPBs), we expressed Tub4-mCherry (γ-tubulin) in the GFP-Sgo1 expressing strain. GFP-Sgo1 signals colocalized with SPBs during G2 and mitotic stages (Fig 6B), indicating that Sgo1 localizes predominantly to SPBs during the mitosis in *C. neoformans*.

To test if the spindle-like localization during mitosis depends on the spindle MT integrity, we arrested cells at metaphase using two methods. First, we used nocodazole to depolymerize MTs that activate the SAC and arrest cells at metaphase. Second, we depleted Cdc20, an anaphase-promoting complex/cyclosome (APC/C) component. Depletion or inactivation of Cdc20 leads to metaphase arrest in *S. cerevisiae* (Hwang et al., 1998). Upon treating *C. neoformans* cells with nocodazole, we observed that Sgo1 colocalized with the SPB (Fig 6C). On the other hand, depletion of Cdc20 by placing it under the galactose regulatable promoter (*GAL7*) resulted in metaphase arrest, and the spindle-like localization of shugoshin along the pole-to-pole axis was maintained (Fig 6D). These observations led us to conclude that the spindle-like localization of Sgo1 requires intact MTs during mitosis.

The tension-sensing function of shugoshin is conserved in *C. neoformans*

Shugoshin senses tensionless attachments by recruiting several factors that play a role in correcting tensionless attachments (Marston, 2015). Cohesin is a molecular glue that holds two sister chromatids together during mitosis until metaphase. Cohesin plays an essential role in generating tension that resists the pulling force of MTs aiding high-fidelity chromosome segregation (Guacci et al., 1997, Michaelis et al., 1997). Loss of cohesion at centromeres results in tensionless kinetochore-MT attachments. To test if Sgo1 in *C. neoformans* can detect tensionless attachments, we depleted one of the cohesin subunits, Scc1/Mcd1/Rad21, by placing it under the *GAL7* promoter both in the wild-type and *sgo1Δ* mutant cells. *C. neoformans* Scc1 (FungiDB ORF ID CNAG_01023) harbors N- and C-terminal Scc1 domains

(Supplementary Fig 6A and B). We show that, like *S. cerevisiae* and *S. pombe*, *SCC1* in *C. neoformans* is essential for viability (Supplementary Fig 6C). Upon depletion of Scc1, a high proportion of wild-type cells are arrested at the large-budded stage (Supplementary Fig 6D, E, and F). In contrast, the *sgo1Δ* mutants depleted of Scc1 did not show such an increase in the proportion of large-budded cells, indicating that shugoshin plays a role in detecting tensionless kinetochore-MT attachments and delays the cell cycle progression.

Discussion

In this study, we characterized the mitotic functions of shugoshin in *C. neoformans*. The only form of shugoshin, coded by *SGO1*, localizes to SPBs and along the mitotic spindle during mitosis in *C. neoformans* rather than at centromeres/kinetochores. In response to prolonged MT depolymerization, Sgo1 maintains adequate Aurora B^{Ipl1} levels at kinetochores to antagonize premature phosphatase action of PP1 at kinetochores. Thus, by regulating an optimum balance of the protein kinase Aurora B^{Ipl1} and the protein phosphatase PP1, shugoshin retains checkpoint responses until errors are corrected. Together, we discovered a previously unknown role of Sgo1 in regulating PP1 at kinetochores. We also demonstrated that the checkpoint maintenance function of Sgo1 is independent of the evolutionarily conserved Bub1 kinase activity-mediated targeting of Sgo1 to centromeres/kinetochores.

Sgo1 is not required to activate the SAC; rather, it helps prolong the SAC response by maintaining the levels of Bub1 at kinetochores in *C. neoformans*. A similar result was also observed in the absence of Aurora B^{Ipl1} in response to MT depolymerization conditions. Studies in *S. cerevisiae*, *S. pombe*, flies*,* and humans reveal that shugoshin interacts with the chromosome passenger complex (CPC) and is required for either recruitment or maintenance of Aurora B^{Ipl1} to correct tensionless kinetochore attachments in an organism-specific manner (Hindriksen et al., 2017, Marston, 2015). We show that apart from maintaining Bub1 levels at kinetochores, Sgo1 is also required to maintain Aurora B^{Ipl1} levels when treated with nocodazole. In response to MT depolymerization, *sgo1Δ* mutants fail to maintain Aurora B^{Ipl1} and Bub1 levels at kinetochores. Even Aurora B^{Ipl1}-depleted cells were unable to maintain Bub1 at kinetochores. At this point, we hypothesize that Sgo1 regulates the SAC function through Aurora B^{Ipl1} in one of the two possible ways: a) by maintaining high Aurora B^{Ipl1} activity at kinetochores, thereby preventing the action of PP1 in

terminating SAC signals, or b) by regulating activities of Mps1 and Bub1 (Saurin et al., 2011, Roy et al., 2022) at kinetochores, thereby modulating the SAC response. The fact that we observe an increase in the levels of PP1 at kinetochores in the reduced levels of Aurora B[Ipl1] indicates that Sgo1, more likely, acts through Aurora B[Ipl1] to antagonize the activity of PP1 at kinetochores thereby preventing premature SAC termination.

Bub1 plays a major role in targeting shugoshin to kinetochores in *S. cerevisiae* and *S. pombe*, *Xenopus laevis,* and humans (Liu et al., 2013, Kawashima et al., 2010, Boyarchuk et al., 2007) (Fig 5A). Intriguingly, the checkpoint maintenance function of Sgo1 is not mediated through Bub1 kinase activity during mitosis in *C. neoformans.* Moreover, Sgo1 in *C. neoformans* shows non-canonical localization at SPBs and along the mitotic spindle instead of being at centromeres/kinetochores. The reason that the kinase activity of Bub1 is dispensable for shugoshin's function during mitosis could be due to the unusual localization of shugoshin. The centromeric localization of Drosophila MEI-S332 (shugoshin) during meiosis is antagonized by the kinase activity of polo-like kinase (Plk1/Cdc5) (Clarke et al., 2005). In humans, Plk1-mediated phosphorylation of shugoshin targets a splice variant of Sgo1 to centrosomes during interphase (Wang et al., 2008). Even though the lysine residue (K382) required for the kinetochore targeting is evolutionarily conserved in *C. neoformans* Sgo1, it will be worth testing if the action of Plk1/Cdc5 prevents the association of Sgo1 to kinetochores, especially in mitosis and thereby targeting it to SPBs.

The fact that Sgo1 is not required for the SAC activation but for the maintenance of the SAC response via maintaining a balance between Aurora B[Ipl1]-PP1 at kinetochores also explains why *sgo1Δ mad2Δ* double mutants are synthetic lethal in the presence of MT depolymerizing drugs. The observed synergy indicates that both Sgo1 and Mad2 act in different pathways, where Sgo1 may play a role in the biorientation of chromosomes that functions via the Aurora B[Ipl1]-PP1-Bub1 axis.

How does shugoshin play a role in checkpoint maintenance and tension sensing while localizing to spindle MTs and SPBs but not at kinetochores? We speculate that in MT depolymerizing conditions, SPBs are not separated, and kinetochores/centromeres lie near SPBs (Supplementary Fig 7, *left*) (Funabiki et al.,

1993). This proximal association of kinetochores to SPBs brings unattached kinetochores close to shugoshin present on the SPBs (Fig 6E). The SPB-associated Sgo1 may utilize this mechanism and position near the Aurora B^{Ipl1} gradient on kinetochores, thereby influencing the Aurora B^{Ipl1} localization or its maintenance at kinetochores. In response to the above situations, Sgo1 promotes lower levels of PP1 through Aurora B^{Ipl1}, thus influencing the SAC maintenance (Fig 6E). Once errors are corrected and sister-kinetochores are bioriented, the spatial proximity of Sgo1 to Aurora B^{Ipl1} gradient at kinetochores is reduced, leading to a shift towards reduced Aurora B^{Ipl1}and increased PP1 activity/levels at kinetochores resulting in the termination of SAC signaling.

Altogether, this study illustrates the functional diversity of an evolutionarily conserved protein, shugoshin. A spatio-temporal balance of kinase and phosphatase activity is crucial for proper kinetochore-MT attachments and SAC signaling. Sgo1 monitors the kinetochore-MT attachment state in mitosis by balancing Aurora B^{Ipl1} and PP1 levels at kinetochores. The SAC maintenance function of Sgo1 depends neither on the kinase activity of Bub1 nor the centromeric localization Sgo1. It is tempting to speculate that the SAC maintenance is mediated via direct or indirect binding of Sgo1 to SPBs and along the spindle MTs. Further investigation is needed to confirm this hypothesis.

Materials and Methods

Strains and media growth conditions

C. neoformans cultures were grown and maintained on YPD (1% yeast extract, 2% peptone, and 2% dextrose) and YPG (1% yeast extract, 2% peptone, and 2% galactose) media at 30°C unless specified. YPD+1M sorbitol or YPG+1M sorbitol plates were used for transformation. For the selection of transformants, 100 µg/mL of nourseothricin (NAT, clonNAT, Werner BioAgents), 180 µg/mL neomycin (G-418, Sigma-Aldrich), and 220 µg/mL of hygromycin (HiMedia) were used.

Biolistic transformation

The biolistic transformation was done based on a previously described method (Davidson et al., 2000). Approximately 5 mL of *C. neoformans* culture was grown overnight, centrifuged at 4,000 rpm for 5 min, and resuspended in 300 µL sterile

dH$_2$O. Around 300 µL of cell suspension was spread on the YPD+1M sorbitol plate

and dried. Gold micro-carrier beads (0.6 µm) coated with 2-5 µg of DNA were

prepared, and 10 µL of 2.5 M CaCl$_2$, 2 µL of 1M spermidine free base (Sigma-

Aldrich) were added. The mixture was vortexed for 30 s, incubated for 10 min at

room temperature, centrifuged, washed with 500 µL of 100% ethanol, and

resuspended in 10 µL of 100% ethanol. The solution was placed on a micro-carrier

disk and allowed to dry. Dried disks were placed in the biolistic transformation

apparatus (Biolistic® PDS-1000/He Particle Delivery System). Helium gas pressure

of approximately 1300 psi under a vacuum of a minimum of 25 inches of Hg was

generated to bombard the cells with micro-carrier beads. The cells were incubated

for 5-6 h in YPD+1M sorbitol medium at 30°C. Cells were then plated on

YPD+NAT/NEO/HYG selection plate and incubated at 30°C for 3-4 days.

Strains and plasmids

483 Lists of strains, plasmids, and primers used in this study are provided in Tables S1-
484 S3. The construction of *C. neoformans* strains and plasmids is detailed below.

GFP-SGO1 **strains**

The fluorescent fusion protein of shugoshin was generated by cloning the 1200 bp

homology region and the *SGO1* promoter into the pVY7 plasmid containing the GFP

and NAT sequences. GFP was tagged to the N-terminal region of the *SGO1* gene.

The primers used for generating the clone are listed in Table S3. The 1200 bp

homology region and a 500 bp *SGO1* promoter region were amplified from the

SGO1 gene using *C. neoformans* (H99) genomic DNA. The individual PCR

fragments were gel purified. The amplified regions were cloned using BamHI, SacI,

and NcoI sites. The final clone was linearized using HindIII and transformed into H99

and CNVY101. The transformants obtained were confirmed by PCR.

sgo1Δ **strains**

496 An overlap PCR strategy was used to delete *SGO1* gene in the desired strains.

497 Around 1000 bp region upstream to the start codon (ATG) and 1000 bp downstream

498 region of the stop codon of the *SGO1* ORF was amplified using *C. neoformans* (H99)

499 genomic DNA. The *NEO* resistance marker fragment was amplified from the pLK25

500 plasmid (Table S2). The individual PCR fragments were gel purified. Using these

individual PCR amplified fragments, a final overlap cassette of ~3800 bp was constructed using primers (Table S3). The final cassette was used to transform *C. neoformans*. The transformants obtained were confirmed by PCR. To delete the *SGO1* gene in different strain backgrounds, the *NEO* marker was swapped with either *NAT* or *HygB* genes amplified from the pVY7 and pSH7G plasmids (Table S2) using the same set of primers. The *sgo1Δ* cassette was used to transform H99, CNVY108, SHR741, SHR830, IL102, IL143, CNKB003 and CNSD190 strains. The transformants obtained were screened by PCR.

TUB4-mCherry strain

An overlap PCR strategy was used to tag Tub4 with mCherry at C-terminus. Primers used for overlap cassette construction are listed in Table S3. Around 1000 bp region upstream to the stop codon (without including the stop codon) and 1000 bp 3' UTR region after the stop codon was amplified from the *TUB4* ORF using *C. neoformans* (H99) genomic DNA. The mCherry sequence with antibiotic resistance marker NEO was amplified from the pLK25 plasmid (Table S2). The individual PCR fragments were gel purified. A final overlap cassette of ~4500 bp was constructed using individual PCR fragments. The final cassette was transformed into CNSD127 strain. The transformants obtained were confirmed by PCR.

GAL7-3xFLAG tagged *SCC1*, *AURORA B^{IPL1}*, *CDC20* strains

To place the desired gene under regulatable *GAL7p* along with an N-terminal 3XFLAG sequence, an overlap PCR strategy was used. Around 1000 bp regions upstream (US) and downstream (DS) of the start codon (ATG) of the ORFs of interest were amplified using *C. neoformans* (H99) genomic DNA. *GAL7* promoter with *HygB* resistance gene was amplified from pSH7G plasmid, and the 3xFLAG sequence was introduced using a primer (Table S3). The individual PCR fragments were gel purified. A final overlap cassette was assembled using the individual purified fragments. The cassettes generated were transformed into *C. neoformans* and the positive transformants were confirmed by PCR. The 3xFLAG tagged conditional mutants of *SCC1*, *AURORA B^{IPL1}*, and *CDC20* generated using the strategy mentioned above are listed in Table S1.

AURORA B^{IPL1}-3xGFP mCherry-CENP-A strain

The H99 strain expressing Aur B^{Ipl1}-3xGFP and mCherry-CENP-A was generated by the random integration of the plasmid pLKB71 (Table S2). The mCherry-CENP-A construct is expressed using the *H3* promoter. To create the strain, the plasmid backbone of pLKB71 was digested with HindIII and transformed into CNNV113, and the transformants were selected on the YPD-agar plate containing hygromycin selection. The colonies obtained were screened using a Zeiss Axio Observer 7 widefield microscope for the transformants positive for the mCherry-CENP-A signal.

GFP-PP1 mCherry-CENP-A strain

The N-terminal GFP fusion protein of PP1 was generated by cloning around 1000 bp homology region and PP1 promoter into the pVY7 plasmid containing GFP and NAT sequences. Around 955 bp PP1 promoter region and 1000 bp PP1 homology region was amplified from PP1 ORF using *C. neoformans* (H99) genomic DNA. The PCR amplicons were gel purified. The digested amplicons of promoter and homology region were cloned into pVY7 using SacI; NcoI and SpeI sites respectively. The final clone was linearized using BglII and transformed into CNVY101 strain, and the positive transformants were confirmed by PCR.

GFP-sgo1-K382A-SH1 and GFP-SGO1-SH1 strains

The N-terminal GFP fusion protein of wild-type and mutant (K382A) allele of *SGO1* was generated by cloning *SGO1* promoter, *SGO1* ORF, and 3'UTR into the pSD29 plasmid (Table S2) containing the GFP, HygB and *SAFE HAVEN* sequences. Around 2340 bp of *SGO1* ORF and 315 bp of *SGO1* promoter, and 436 bp of 3'UTR were amplified from the *SGO1* gene using *C. neoformans* (H99) genomic DNA. The K382A mutation in the *SGO1* ORF was introduced using overlap PCR. The primers used are listed in Table S3. The individual PCR fragments were gel purified. The purified fragments of *SGO1* promoter, *SGO1* ORF, and 3'UTR were cloned sequentially using SpeI, BamHI, HpaI, NheI, and ApaI sites. The final clone was linearized using XcmI and transformed into CNSD113. The transformants obtained were confirmed by PCR.

Thiabendazole sensitivity assay

For assaying sensitivity to thiabendazole, the $O.D_{600}$ values of overnight cultures of
wild-type and mutants used in this study were estimated, and serial dilutions starting
from 10^5 cells to 10^1 cells were spotted on YPD-agar, DMF (Dimethyl Formamide);
control, and YPD-agar plates with different concentrations of thiabendazole (2.0, 2.5,
3.0 and 4.0 μg/mL). The plates were incubated at 30°C for 24 to 48 h and imaged
using a Bio-Rad chemidoc imaging system.

Synchronization of *C. neoformans* by inducing physical hypoxia

For the synchronization of *C. neoformans* cells, we have used a protocol developed
by Ohkusu et al., (Ohkusu et al., 2004) which utilizes a two-step protocol for the
synchronization. *C. neoformans* cells, when grown in hypoxia conditions, result in
unbudded G2 arrest, and cells release synchronously once shifted to extensive
aeration conditions. Hypoxia synchrony is a two-step process. First, cells were grown
at moderate aeration to 4.0 $O.D_{600}$/mL in a 250 mL flask (Borosil Erlenmeyer flask
with a screw cap was used for this experiment) with 50 mL of 1% YPD at 100 rpm,
30 °C. In the second step, the culture was diluted 1.5 times with fresh 1% YPD (final
volume of 125 mL) and then incubated further for 5 h. The second step induces
physical hypoxia, and at the end of the incubation, most cells get arrested at the
unbudded G2 stage.

For the synchronization experiments, we used an overnight culture grown in 1% YPD
to inoculate the secondary culture at 0.1 $O.D_{600}$/mL in 1% YPD and grown to 1
$O.D_{600}$/mL at 180 rpm, 30°C. This log phase culture was used for hypoxia synchrony,
as mentioned above. The percentage of cells in the unbudded G2 stage was
confirmed using a microscope. The culture was diluted to 1 $O.D_{600}$/mL using fresh
media, transferred to a sterile falcon or conical flask with appropriate culture
volumes, and released under extensive aeration conditions (180 rpm, 30°C).

GFP-Bub1 and Aurora B[Ipl1]-3xGFP retention assay

588 To study the localization dynamics of GFP-Bub1 and Aur B[Ipl1]-3xGFP in response to
589 nocodazole treatment, wild-type and *sgo1Δ* mutants were subjected to hypoxia
590 synchrony, and the cells were released into 1% YPD media containing 1 μg/mL
591 nocodazole. Time points were collected every 40 minutes until 280 min. The cells
592 collected were imaged using a Zeiss Axio Observer 7 widefield microscope.

Imaging GFP-Sgo1 localization in *mCherry-CENP-A* and *TUB4-mCherry* strains

For imaging GFP-Sgo1 colocalization with CENP-A- and Tub4-mCherry tagged proteins, we synchronized cells using physical hypoxia. Cells were released into 1% YPD and collected every 10 min starting from 30 to 90 min. Cells were imaged using a Zeiss Axio Observer 7 widefield microscope.

Budding index calculation

The proportion of unbudded, small-budded, and large-budded cells was calculated based on the budding index (diameter of daughter cell/diameter of mother cell). The diameters of both mother and daughter cells were calculated along the mother-daughter axis using the line tool in Fiji (Schindelin et al., 2012).

Fluorescence microscopy

For widefield microscopy, Zeiss Axio Observer 7 equipped with 100x Plan Apochromat 1.4 NA objective, Colibri 7 LED light source, motorized XYZ stage and PCO.edge 4.2 sCMOS camera was used. Images were acquired at 2x2 or 4x4 binning. Zen blue edition (2.3) software was used for controlling the microscope components and acquisition. For imaging, cells grown in culture media were washed twice with autoclaved dH$_2$O and resuspended in water. The cell suspension was placed on microscope cover glass and imaged.

Microfluidics assay

Timelapse assays were performed as described (Leontiou et al., 2022).Cell outlines were segmented using the baby algorithm (Pietsch et al., 2023). To quantify the kinetochore retention time of GFP-Bub1 fluorescence, we create a projection of the maximum values from all GFP sections, then divide the median fluorescence of the brightest 5 pixels within each cell by the median fluorescence of the cell as a whole. This ratio reliably measures protein aggregation at an organelle (Leontiou et al., 2022). In the absence of nocodazole, cells with any outlier values for the ratio, defined as values greater than 3 scaled median absolute deviations away from the median, are removed. Cells present for fewer than 80% of recorded time points are also removed. The ratios were normalized for each strain by dividing the mean value for wild-type cells in the absence of nocodazole, measured in the same experiment. To calculate the kinetochore retention times, a threshold of 1.008 was applied to the

ratio values at each time point to determine the presence or absence of Bub1 at the kinetochore. Small gaps in localization (due to kinetochore signal dropping briefly out of focus) were removed by applying a 1-dimensional morphological closing to the thresholded image, with a 3-pixel (3 timepoint or 6 minutes) structuring element. For the temporal heat maps, the data for 30 cells present for the whole experiment are selected for inclusion from each strain pseudo-randomly using the Matlab rand function. There were a small number of outlier values within the heat maps, resulting from a fault in the LED control equipment. These were removed by replacing any values in the 5th percentile of a cell trace with the median value for all time points. The raw data and code used in data processing and plotting are available on request.

Flow cytometry

5 mL of *C. neoformans* culture was grown overnight, and 2 O.D$_{600}$ cells were taken and washed with sterile dH2O and fixed in 1 mL of 70% ethanol overnight at 4°C. Fixed cells were centrifuged at 4000 rpm and washed with 1 mL NS buffer(10 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 250 mM sucrose, 1 mM EDTA (pH 8.0), 1 mM MgCl2, 0.1 mM CaCl2, and 7 mM β-mercaptoethanol) and resuspended in 200 µL of NS buffer added with 2 µg of RNase and incubated at 37°C for 3-4 h. Propidium Iodide (final concentration 12 µg/mL) was added to this mixture and incubated for 30 min at room temperature in the dark. 50 µL of the sample was suspended in 2 mL of 1x PBS (Phosphate buffered saline) solution, vortexed, and sonicated for 10 s at 30% Amp. 30,000 cells were analyzed by flow cytometry using FL2-A channel on (FACSAria III; BD Biosciences) at a rate of 500–2,000 events/s.

Statistics and microscope image analysis

P-values were assessed by unpaired, two-tailed t-test or two-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparison test using GraphPad Prism 8.00 (GraphPad software). Error bars represent the standard deviation (SD) or standard error of the mean (SEM) as mentioned for each experiment. N for each experiment is mentioned in the figure legends. Fiji software (Schindelin et al., 2012) was used to process and analyze microscope images. Fluorescence intensity values of signals were quantified by drawing a circular region of interest (ROI) of defined pixel size on the maximum intensity Z-projected images. The intensity values were calculated by subtracting the

656 product of mean background fluorescence intensity and area of the ROI from
657 integrated density, and the resultant values were plotted.

Acknowledgments

We thank members of Kaustuv Sanyal lab for their support, discussion, and
suggestions on the work. We thank A. Arockia Jeyaprakash, Institute of Cell Biology,
School of Biological Sciences, University of Edinburgh, UK, for the discussion and
inputs on the work. We thank Ioanna Leontiou (University of Edinburgh) for *bub1Δ*
strain construction. We thank the in-house flow cytometry facility at JNCASR and N.
Nala for assistance with flow cytometric analysis. We thank Vikas Yadav, Duke
University, USA, for the reagents provided for Tub4-mCherry strain construction.
Satya Dev Polisetty is a Research Associate supported by DST-TRCII funding by the
Government of India. Krishna Bhat is a senior research fellow (SRF) supported by
CSIR, Government of India. Kevin Hardwick was supported by the Leverhulme Trust
(RPG-2018-379); Ivan Clark was supported by the Wellcome Trust-University of
Edinburgh Institutional Strategic Support Fund, and we thank Peter Swain
(University of Edinburgh) for leading on this ISSF funding. Kaustuv Sanyal is a JC
Bose National Fellow (JCB/2020/000021) of the Science and Engineering Research
Board (SERB), Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.
Kaustuv Sanyal acknowledges financial support from the Department of
Biotechnology, Government of India, SERB, and intramural funding from JNCASR.

Conflict of interest

677 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

Figure legends

Figure 1. Shugoshin is required for a robust spindle assembly checkpoint arrest. (A) Schematic of the relative positions of the conserved N-terminal coiled-coil domain and the C-terminal basic SGO motif present in Sgo1 of *C. neoformans*. **(B)** A ten-fold serial dilution spotting assay to score for the sensitivity of the CNVY108 (*SGO1 GFP-H4*), CNSD110 (*GFP-H4 sgo1Δ*), SHR741 (*GFP-H4 mad2Δ*), CNSD148 (*GFP-H4 sgo1Δ mad2Δ*) on plates containing the indicated concentrations of thiabendazole (TBZ). No drug represents DMF (dimethyl formamide) only. The plates were incubated at 30°C for 24 h. **(C)** Schematic of the assay to score for cell

cycle arrest phenotypes when treated with nocodazole. Cells treated with nocodazole for 120 and 240 min were scored for cell cycle arrest phenotypes. **(D)** Bar graphs representing the proportion of large-budded cells in the indicated strains, N=3, n>100, cells counted in each experiment. Two-way ANOVA with Tukey's multiple comparison test was used to estimate the significance. ****p<0.0001, ***p<0.001, **p=0.0019/0.0072 and ns=non-significant **(E)** *Left*, an outline of the assay to study the effect of nocodazole on the ploidy content of indicated strains using flow cytometry. *Right*, histograms depicting ploidy changes associated with nocodazole treatment.

Figure 2. Shugoshin ensures Bub1's retention at kinetochores to maintain the spindle assembly checkpoint arrest. (A) Schematic of the SAC pathway and the role of Sgo1 and Aurora B^{Ipl1} in detecting erroneous kinetochore-MT attachments. **(B)** An outline of the experiment used to determine the dynamics of GFP-Bub1 localization under nocodazole-treated conditions. **(C)** Microscopic images of GFP-Bub1 localization in IL102 (*SGO1*) and CNSD176 (*sgo1Δ*). For representation, cells treated with nocodazole for 120 and 280 min were shown. Scale bar, 5 μm. **(D)** Quantification of the proportion of large-budded cells with GFP-Bub1 signal in indicated strains treated with nocodazole. N=3, n>100 cells were analyzed, and the shaded regions above and below the line graphs represent error bands corresponding to SD. **(E)** Quantification of GFP-Bub1 fluorescence intensity values at 120 min post-nocodazole treatment. N=3, n>100 cells analyzed for each experiment. White circles represent the average intensity values of replicates. A mean of the average intensity values of replicates is represented as a black bar, and error bars represent SD. An unpaired t-test was used to test the significance, **p=0.0092. **(F)** Microfluidics assay to determine the retention time of GFP-Bub1 at kinetochores in response to nocodazole treatment. Kymographs of 30 randomly selected cells are shown. Each bright track on the Y-axis of the kymograph represents GFP-Bub1 signals from an individual cell. The length of each bright track along the X-axis represents the time (min) cells spent in mitosis. Nocodazole (2.5 μg/mL) was added 300 min into the experiment. Assay was performed using IL102 (*GFP-BUB1*), IL143 (*GFP-bub1-kd*), CNSD176 (*GFP-BUB1 sgo1Δ*), CNSD173 (*GFP-bub1-kd sgo1Δ*) and IL089 (*GFP-BUB mad1Δ*) strains. **(G)** Bar graphs representing the quantitative analysis of GFP-Bub1 retention time at kinetochores

obtained from microfluidics assay in the above-indicated strains. n=30, error bars
represent SD.

Figure 3. Shugoshin-dependent Aurora B^{Ipl1} pool at kinetochores ensures
maintenance of Bub1 to prolong the checkpoint arrest. (A) Microscopic images
of Aurora B^{Ipl1}-3xGFP localization in CNSD190 (*AURORA B^{Ipl1}-3xGFP mCherry-*
CENP-A SGO1) and CNSD196 (*AURORA B^{Ipl1}-3xGFP mCherry-CENP-A sgo1Δ*)
strains treated with nocodazole. For representation, cells treated with nocodazole for
120 and 280 min were shown. Scale bar, 5μm. **(B)** Quantification of the proportion of
large-budded cells with Aurora B^{Ipl1}-3xGFP signals in the indicated strains. N=3,
n>100 cells were analyzed, and the shaded regions above and below the line graph
represent error bands corresponding to SD. **(C)** Quantification of Aurora B^{Ipl1}-3XGFP
fluorescence intensity values at 120 min post-nocodazole treatment. N=3, n>58 cells
for each experiment. White circles represent the average intensity values of
replicates. The mean of the average intensity values of replicates is represented as a
black bar. Error bars represent SD. An unpaired t-test was used to test the
significance, ** p= 0.0013. **(D)** A schematic to assess the response of Aurora B^{Ipl1}
overexpression or depletion to nocodazole treatment. **(E)** Microscopic images of
GFP-Bub1 localization in CNSD205 (*GAL7-3xFLAG-AURORA B^{IPL1} GFP-BUB1*)
Aurora B^{Ipl1} overexpressed and repressed conditions treated with nocodazole. Cells
treated with nocodazole for 120 and 240 min are shown for representation. Scale
bar, 5 μm. **(F)** Bar graphs representing the proportion of large-budded cells scored
for the presence or absence of GFP-Bub1 signal at 120 and 240 min of nocodazole
treatment. n>100 cells were counted. **(G)** Quantification of GFP-Bub1 fluorescence
intensity values in Aurora B^{Ipl1} overexpressed and repressed conditions at 120 min of
nocodazole treatment. White circles represent the average intensity values of
replicates. The mean of the average intensity values of the replicates is represented
as a black bar. Error bars represent SD. N=3, n> 79 cells analyzed for each
experiment. An unpaired t-test was used to test the significance, *p=0.0439.

Figure 4. Sgo1-mediated Aurora B^{Ipl1} recruitment prevents excess PP1
phosphatase at the kinetochore. (A) The effect of *sgo1Δ* on maintaining a balance
between Aurora B^{Ipl1} and PP1 levels at kinetochore in *C. neoformans.* **(B)**
Microscopic images of CNKB003 (*GFP-PP1 mCherry-CENP-A*) in *SGO1* and
CNSD180 (*GFP-PP1 mCherry-CENP-A sgo1Δ*) cells treated with nocodzole (1

µg/mL) for 120 min. Yellow ovals represent PP1-GFP signals used for quantitation. **(C)** Quantification of GFP-PP1 fluorescence signal intensity values in the above-indicated strains treated with nocodazole. N=3, n>100 cells were analyzed for each experiment. White circles represent the average GFP-PP1 signal intensities calculated for each experimental repeat. An unpaired t-test was used to determine statistical significance. **p= 0.0044. The mean of the average intensity values of replicates is represented as a black bar. Error bars represent SD. **(D)** Microscopic images of CNKB023 (*GFP-PP1 mCherry-CENP-A GAL7-3xFLAG AURORA B^{IPL1}*) Aurora B^{Ipl1} overexpressed and repressed conditions treated with nocodazole (1 µg/mL) for 120 min. **(E)** Quantification of fluorescence intensity values of GFP-PP1 signal in the conditions mentioned above. N=4, n=100 cells for each experiment. White circles represent the average intensity values of replicates. Error bars represent SD. The mean of the average intensity values plotted is represented as a black bar. Paired t-test was used to determine statistical significance. **p= 0.0069.

Figure 5. The kinase activity of Bub1 is dispensable for shugoshin-mediated maintenance of the spindle assembly checkpoint. (A) Schematic of the conserved pathway of shugoshin recruitment to kinetochores by the kinase activity of Bub1 and the role of Sgo1 in *C. neoformans* in SAC maintenance. **(B)** A ten-fold serial dilution spotting assay to score for the sensitivity of the CNSD110 (*sgo1Δ*), IL143 (*GFP-bub1-kd*), CNSD173 (*sgo1Δ GFP-bub1-kd*) double mutants and SHR866 (*mad2Δ*) to thiabendazole. **(C)** *Top*, experimental strategy used to test the requirement of the lysine, K382 residue of Sgo1 in the SAC maintenance function. *Below*, a ten-fold serial dilution spotting assay to score for the sensitivity of the CNSD110 (*sgo1Δ*), CNSD207 (*sgo1Δ GFP-SGO1-SH1*), and CNSD209 (*sgo1Δ GFP-sgo1-K382A-SH1*).

Figure 6. Kinetochore proximal association of Sgo1 in MT-depolymerizing conditions. (A-D) *Left,* microscopic images of GFP-Sgo1 localized with a kinetochore marker, CENP-A, and an SPB marker, Tub4, at different stages of the mitotic cell cycle, in nocodazole treated and Cdc20 depletion conditions. Scale bar, 5 µm. **(A)** CNSD125 (*GFP-SGO1 mCherry-CENP-A*). **(B)** CNSD130 (*GFP-SGO1 TUB4-mCherry*). **(C)** Nocodazole (1 µg/mL) treated condition. *Top panel*, CNSD125. *Bottom panel*, CNSD130. **(D)** Cdc20 depletion condition, CNSD167 (*GFP-SGO1 mCherry-CENP-A GAL7-3xFLAG-CDC20*). *Right*, line scan profiles of both GFP

(Sgo1) and mCherry (CENP-A, Tub4) fluorescence signals. Distance on the X-axis represents the length of the line drawn on the image to measure fluorescence intensity. Gray values on the Y-axis represent the fluorescence signal intensity. **(E)** Kinetochore proximal model of Sgo1 function in SAC maintenance in *C. neoformans.*

Supplementary figure legends

Supplementary figure 1. *C. neoformans* **Sgo1 has a conserved coiled-coil domain and the SGO motif. (A)** The protein sequence of *C. neoformans* Sgo1. **(B)** Multiple sequence alignment (MSA) of the CnSgo1 N-terminal coiled-coil and the C-terminal SGO motif with vertebrate and invertebrate species (Cn- *C. neoformans*; Sc- *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*; Sp- *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*; Hs- *Homo sapiens*; Mm- *Mus musculus*; Xl- *Xenopus laevis*; Dm- *Drosophila melanogaster*). Multiple sequence alignment of Sgo1 homologs was performed using Clustal Omega (Sievers et al., 2011), and the alignment was formatted using Jalview 2 (Waterhouse et al., 2009). *Represent amino acid residues involved in PP2A binding. The dark blue circle represents the key residue (K382 in *C. neoformans*) required for Bub1-mediated kinetochore proximal centromere localization of shugoshin. The teal blue colored box represents the coiled-coil domain. The light blue colored box represents the conserved basic SGO motif. **(C)** Microscopic images of GFP-H4 tagged CNVY108 (*SGO1 MAD2*), CNSD117 (*sgo1Δ*), SHR866 (*mad2Δ*), CNSD148 (*sgo1Δ mad2Δ*) treated with nocodazole (1 μg/mL) for 120- and 240-min. Scale bar, 5 μm. **(D)** Bar graphs representing the proportion of unbudded, small-budded, large-budded, and tri-budded cells. N=3, n>100 cells counted in each experiment. **(E)** Bar graphs representing the proportion of large-budded cells of indicated phenotypes, N=3, n>100 cells counted in each experiment.

Supplementary figure 2. *sgo1Δ bgi1Δ* **double mutant cells exhibit enhanced sensitivity to MT depolymerizing drug.** A ten-fold serial dilution spotting assay to score for the sensitivity of the wild-type CNVY108 (*SGO1 BGI1 GFP-H4*), CNSD117 (*sgo1Δ GFP-H4)*, SHR741 (*mad2Δ GFP-H4*), SHR830 (*bgi1Δ GFP-H4*), CNSD148 (*sgo1Δ mad2Δ GFP-H4*) and CNSD163 (*sgo1Δ bgi1Δ GFP-H4*) to thiabendazole. No drug represents DMF (Dimethyl formamide) only. The plates were incubated at 30°C for 24 h.

Supplementary figure 3. Aurora B^{Ipl1} colocalizes with the kinetochore (CENP-A) during G2 and mitosis and exhibits spindle-like localization. (A) Microscopic images of Aurora B^{Ipl1}-3xGFP localized with mCherry-CENP-A at G2, metaphase, and anaphase stages of the cell cycle. **(B)** Colocalization of Aurora B^{Ipl1}-3xGFP with mCherry-CENP-A when treated with nocodazole (1 µg/mL) for 120 min. Scale bar, 5 µm.

Supplementary figure 4. Aurora B^{Ipl1} mutants fail to arrest at metaphase in response to nocodazole treatment. (A) Microscopic images of CNNV104 (*GFP-H4 GAL7-AURORA B^{IPL1}*) grown in permissive and non-permissive media in the presence and absence of nocodazole. Scale bar, 5 µm. Representative images of cells treated with nocodazole and depleted of Aurora B^{Ipl1} for 240 and 480 min were shown. **(B)** *Left*, bar graphs representing the proportion of unbudded, small-budded, large-budded, and tri-budded cells. *Right*, bar graphs representing the proportion of large-budded cells of indicated phenotype, n>100 cells counted for each time point.

Supplementary figure 5. Sequence conservation of *C. neoformans* PP1. Multiple sequence alignment of PP1 homolog of *C. neoformans* (CNAG_03706) with vertebrate and invertebrate species (Cn- *C. neoformans*; Sc- *S. cerevisiae*; Sp- *S. pombe*; Ca- *Candida albicans*; Hs- *H. sapiens*; Mm- *M. musculus*; Dm- *D. melanogaster*) was performed using Clustal Omega (Sievers et al., 2011) and the alignment was formatted using Jalview 2 (Waterhouse et al., 2009). Highly conserved regions are shaded in dark blue.

Supplementary figure 6. Shugoshin responds to tensionless kinetochore-MT attachments. (A) Pairwise sequence alignment of Scc1 homologs of *C. neoformans* (CNAG_01023) and *S. cerevisiae* by Clustal Omega (Sievers et al., 2011), and formatted using Jalview 2 (Waterhouse et al., 2009). Highly conserved regions are shaded in dark blue. The two domains corresponding to N- and C-terminal Scc1 domains (E-values of 2.0e-31 and 2.2e-15, respectively) of CnScc1 are highlighted in violet and green boxes. **(B)** Schematic of the domains present in *C. neoformans* Scc1 protein. **(C)** Plate photographs of strains expressing Scc1 under the regulatable *GAL7* promoter grown in media containing glucose (non-permissive) and galactose (permissive). **(D)** Schematic to check the response of Scc1 repression in *SGO1* and *sgo1Δ* backgrounds. **(E)** Microscopic images of GFP-H4 tagged CNSD181 (*GAL7-*

3xFLAG-SCC1) and CNSD182 (*sgo1Δ GAL7-3xFLAG-SCC1*) strains depleted of
Scc1. Representative images of cells depleted of Scc1 for 4 and 6 h were shown.
Scale bar, 5 µm. **(F)** Bar graphs representing the percentage of unbudded, small-
budded, large-budded, and tri-budded cells scored. N=2, n>100 cells for each
experiment, error bars represent SD.

Supplementary figure 7. Schematic highlighting the sub-cellular localization of
shugoshin reported in various species. *Left*, schematic highlighting the spatial
positioning of SPB/centrosome and centromeres in yeasts and metazoans. *Right*,
localization of the shugoshin with respect to the kinetochore, MTOCs equivalent to
centrosomes or SPBs, spindle MTs, and telomeres. Filled and open squares
represent the presence or absence of shugoshin at the indicated sub-cellular
locations. The data was compiled from reviews (Marston, 2015, Gutierrez-Caballero
et al., 2012). [1,2] (Mohr et al., 2015, Wang et al., 2008), [3*] (Salic et al., 2004), this
study has shown that the purified N-terminal region of shugoshin is capable of
binding to MTs *in* vitro. [4] (Sane et al., 2021) and [5] (Tashiro et al., 2016).

 Table S1: List of strains

Strain	Genotype	Source
H99	*MATα* (wild-type)	(Perfect et al., 1993)
CNVY101	*MATa::mCherry-CENP-A-NEO (pLKB74)*	(Kozubowski et al., 2013)
CNVY108	*MATα::GFP-H4-NAT (pVY3)*	(Kozubowski et al., 2013)
SHR741	*MATα::GFP-H4-NAT (pVY3) MAD2::mad2-NEO*	(Sridhar et al., 2021)
SHR830	*MATα::GFP-H4-NAT (pVY3) BGI1::bgi1Δ-HygB*	(Sridhar et al., 2021)
IL143	*MATα::BUB1::bub1Δ-NAT HISp-GFP-bub1-kd-HYGB (chromosome 3, safe haven p37)*	(Leontiou et al., 2022)
IL102	*MATα::BUB1::bub1Δ-NAT HISp-GFP-bub1-HygB (chromosome 3, safe haven p37)*	(Leontiou et al., 2022)
IL089	*MATα::MAD1::mad1Δ HISp:GFP-Bub1: HygB (chromosome 3, safe haven p37)*	(Leontiou et al., 2022)
CNNV113	*MATα:: AUR B^{IPL1}:: AUR B^{IPL1}p- AUR B^{IPL1}-3xGFP-NEO*	(Varshney et al., 2019)
CNNV104	*MATα:GFP-H4-NAT (pVY3), AUR B^{IPL1}::GAL7p- AUR B^{IPL1}- HygB*	(Varshney et al., 2019)
CNSD110	*MATα::SGO1::sgo1Δ-NEO*	This Study
CNSD117	*MATα::GFP-H4-NAT (pVY3) SGO1::sgo1Δ-NEO*	This Study
CNSD125	*MATa::mCherry-CENP-A-NEO (pLKB74) SGO1::SGO1pr-GFP-SGO1-NAT (pSD10)*	This study
CNSD127	*MATα::SGO1::SGO1p-GFP-SGO1-NAT (pSD10)*	This study
CNSD130	*MATα::SGO1::SGO1p-GFP-SGO1-NAT (pSD10) TUB4::TUB4-mCherry-NEO*	This study
CNSD148	*MATα::GFP-H4-NAT (pVY3) MAD2::mad2-NEO SGO1::sgo1Δ-NEO*	This study
CNSD163	*MATα::GFP-H4-NAT (pVY3) BGI1::bgi1Δ-HygB SGO1::sgo1Δ-NEO*	This study
CNSD167	*MATa::mCherry-CENP-A-NEO (pLKB74) SGO1::SGO1pr-GFP-SGO1-NAT (pSD10) CDC20p::GAL7p-3xFLAG-CDC20-HYGB*	This study
CNSD173	*MATα::BUB1::bub1Δ-NAT HISp-GFP-bub1-kd- HygB (chromosome 3, safe haven p37) SGO1::sgo1Δ-NEO*	This study
CNSD176	*MATα::BUB1::bub1Δ-NAT HISp-GFP-bub1-*	This study

	HygB (chromosome 3, safe haven p37) SGO1::sgo1Δ-NEO	
CNSD180	*MATa::mcherry-CENP-A-NEO PP1:: PP1p-GFP-PP1-NAT* (pKB004) *SGO1::sgo1Δ-HYGB*	This study
CNSD181	*MATα::GFP-H4-NAT (pVY3) SCC1p::GAL7p-3xFLAG-SCC1- HygB*	This study
CNSD182	*MATα::GFP-H4-NAT (pVY3) SCC1p::GAL7p-3xFLAG-SCC1- HygB SGO1::sgo1Δ-NEO*	This study
CNSD190	*MATα::AUR B^{IPL1}:: AUR B^{IPL1}p- AUR B^{IPL1}-3xGFP-NEO mCherry-CENP-A- HygB (pLKB71)*	This study
CNSD196	*MATα:: AUR B^{IPL1}:: AUR B^{IPL1}p- AUR B^{IPL1}-3xGFP-NEO mCherry-CENP-A-HygB (pLKB71) SGO1::sgo1Δ-NAT*	This study
CNSD205	*MATα::BUB1::bub1Δ-NAT HISp-GFP-bub1-HygB (chromosome 3, safe haven p37) AUR B^{IPL1}::GAL7-3XFLAG-AUR B^{IPL1}-NEO*	This study
CNSD207	*MATα::SGO1::sgo1Δ-NEO SGO1p-GFP-SGO1- HygB (pSD34) (SAFE HAVEN1, chrormosome1)*	This study
CNSD209	*MATα::SGO1::sgo1Δ-NEO SGO1p-GFP-sgo1-K382A- HygB (pSD35) (SAFE HAVEN1, chrormosome1)*	This study
CNKB003	*MATa::mcherry-CENP-A-NEO PP1:: PP1p-GFP-PP1-NAT* (pKB004)	This study
CNKB023	*MATa::mcherry-CENP-A-NEO PP1:: PP1p-GFP-PP1-NAT* (pKB004) *AUR B^{IPL1}::GAL7-3XFLAG-AUR B^{IPL1}-NEO*	This study

876 **Table S2: List of plasmids**

Plasmid	Description	Source
pVY7	*H3p-GFP-NAT* from pCN19 cloned into pBSII using SacI-ApaI	(Yadav and Sanyal, 2018)
pSH7G	*HygB-GAL7-GFP* pBlueScriptII KS(-)	(Sridhar et al., 2021)
pLKB71	pXLI + *mCherry-CENP-A-HygB*	From Joseph Heitman, Duke University, US
pSD10	*H3p* of pVY7 replaced with *SGO1p* (SacI/NcoI) + *SGO1* homology region (BamHI)	This study
pSD29	*GAL7p of p*SH7G replaced with *SGO1p* (SpeI/BamHI)+*SGO1* 3'UTR (NheI/ApaI)+*SAFE HAVEN1* (ApaI)	This study
pSD34	*SGO1* allele (HpaI/NheI) cloned into pSD29	This study
pSD35	*sgo1-K382A* allele (HpaI/NheI) cloned into pSD29	This study
pKB004	*H3p* of pVY7 replaced with *PP1p* (SacI/NcoI) +*PP1* homology region (SpeI)	This study

 Table S3: List of primers

Primer number	Sequence 5'-3'	Purpose
SDP1	CCGATGAGCGTACACCACTTAC	*SGO1* deletion overlap primers
SDP2	CCAGCTCACATCCTCGCAGCTGCTACGAGATTGAGACGAATG	
SDP3	CATTCGTCTCAATCTCGTAGCAGCTGCGAGGATGTGAGCTGG	
SDP4	CTCCCAACTTCCCCGCTTTTGGTTTATCTGTATTAACACGGAAGAG	
SDP5	CTCTTCCGTGTTAATACAGATAAACCAAAAGCGGGGAAGTTGGGAG	
SDP6	ATCAGAACGCACGTCGCAC	
SDP7	CAGGCAGAGGATTGGGAAGTC	
SDP8	CCAGTTCCTCAAAGAGCTTGAC	*SGO1* deletion confirmation primer
SDP20	ACTGAGCTCACTATCTGCAAAATCGACTTG	*SGO1pr-GFP-SGO1* N-terminal tagging
SDP21	CATGCCATGGCCTGTATTTACGCCTGGAG	
SDP22	CGCGGATCCATGTCCCAGAGGCAAGGCAG	
SDP23	CGCGGATCCGTTTCATCTCGACCACAGGTC	
SDP24	GGCACAAGCTGGAGTACAAC	Universal forward primer for tagging confirmation
SDP25	CTTCAGGTTCAGCATTGTCTG	
SDP27	ACTGGGCCCACACGATGTTTTCCATCAG	*SAFE HAVEN1* cloning
SDP28	ACTGGGCCCGGTCTCACAATCATCAACATC	
SDP54	AACAGTGATGGCAGCGTC	*TUB4-mCherry* C-terminal tagging overlap
SDP55	CGCATCCAACGTCATCCAAG	
VYP360	CTTGTGAACAATGCTGATAGTGTGG	
VYP361	CTCGCCCTTGCTCACCATCTCCCCCCCAAAATCGATATAATCC	
VYP362	GGATTATATCGATTTTGGGGGGGGAGATGGTGAGCAAGGGCGAG	
VYP363	CGAAGTGCGTACTTGAAAGAAGTCCAAGCTTGGTACCGAGCTC	
VYP364	GAGCTCGGTACCAAGCTTGGACTTCTTTCAAGTACGCACTTCG	
VYP365	TGATGATCTCCAAGCTCTTCAC	
SDP108	TTGTTGTTACCATCATCCTCTC	Universal confirmation Reverse primer for deletion cassettes
SDP110	AGATCGACAACATGCGACC	*GAL7-3xFLAG-*

SDP111	CTGCAGATATCCATCACACTGGGAAGGGACC GTTTTTGACTAAC	*Cdc20* tagging overlap
SDP112	GTTAGTCAAAAACGGTCCCTTCCCAGTGTGA TGGATATCTGCAG	
SDP113	ATGGTCTTTGTAGTCCATCATTCTCAGGAGA GAATTGAGTG	
SDP114	ATGGACTACAAAGACCATGACGGTGATTATA AAGATC ATGACATCGACTACAAGGATGACGATGACAA GCTTGGAGA ACATACATCTGGC	
SDP115	CCGTGCCAACTCATGACC	
SDP116	GGATGTCGGCAATGAATTCAG	*GAL7-3xFLAG- Cdc20* integration confirmation
SDP162	AGCCTCATCCGACTTCACAG	*GAL7-3xFLAG- SCC1* tagging overlap
SDP163	GCAGATATCCATCACACTGGCCAACACGTAC ACGTCAACC	
SDP164	GGTTGACGTGTACGTGTTGGCCAGTGTGATG GATATCTGC	
SDP165	CACCGTCATGGTCTTTGTAGTCCATTCTCAG GAGAGAATTG AGTGC	
SDP166	ATGGACTACAAAGACCATGACGGTGATTATA AAGATCATGA CATCGACTACAAGGATGACGATGACAAGATC TTGAACGAAC TGATCAAGTC	
SDP167	CCATCTCGACATCATAGTCGTC	
SDP168	CCTTACGACCACAACCAGC	*GAL7-3xFLAG- SCC1* integration confirmation
SDP191	TATGACCTAGAACTGACAGACTCG	*GAL7-3xFLAG- AUR B^{IPL1} tagging overlap*
SDP192	GCAGATATCCATCACACTGGGGAGGCCAAAT CTGGAGG	
SDP193	CCTCCAGATTTGGCCTCCCCAGTGTGATGGA TATCTGC	
SDP195	ATGGACTACAAAGACCATGACGGTGATTATA AAGATCATGACATCGACTACAAGGAT GACGATGACAAGTCCTCGCAGAATGTTTCTG G	

SDP196	CTCGTCAAATCTGCCTAATCTGG	
SDP197	GTCCTGTAGAAGTTGAATTGC	*GAL7-3xFLAG-AUR B^{IPL1}* integration confirmation
SDP170	TTCGTCGACAACGCTAGCTAATGGCGACGATAATGATG	*SGO1* 3'UTR cloning for complementation
SDP171	TATGGGCCCTGCACTTGCGATAGATATCG	
SDP172	ACTGTTAACATGTCCCAGAGGCAAGGC	*SGO1* gene amplification for sgo1 deletion complementation
SDP173	GTTGCTAGCTTACTGCAAGACTCCAACGGC	
SDP198	CCCATCAGGTTTCCGCATGGCTCTTTCGAAATTATCAGCTAACG	*sgo1-K382A* allele amplification for sgo1 deletion complementation
SDP199	CGTTAGCTGATAATTTCGAAAGAGCCATGCGGAAACCTGATGGG	
SDP201	CTGAAGGAACTGGAAGAGG	*sgo1-K382A* sequencing primer
KBP001	ACGGAGCTCGACGTCGTACAAATGCATAC	*GFP-PP1* N-terminal tagging
KBP002	GGCCCATGGTTTATACGAAGTACGTTATATGTG	
KBP003	TATACTAGTATGGGAGAACAGCCTGAAATTG	
KBP005	ATCACTAGTCAATAAACAAGCTCACTTGGAAGG	
KBP006	GCCGCCGTATCCACCGTATTTC	

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1075

A

coiled-coil   SGO motif

1   40 93   361 386   645

H2A binding

C. neoformans shugoshin

B

wild-type
sgo1Δ
mad2Δ
mad2Δ sgo1Δ-1
mad2Δ sgo1Δ-2

DMF   2.0   2.5   3.0

thiabendazole (µg/mL)

C

nocodazole (1 µg/mL)

120 and 240 min
post-treatment

untreated   metaphase-arrested
(large budded)

D

percent large-budded cells

post-nocodazole treatment (min)

wild-type   *sgo1Δ*   *mad2Δ*   *sgo1Δ mad2Δ*

240
120

E

flowcytometry analysis

nocodazole (1 µg/mL), time (min)

240
180
120
60

log phase culture

Wild-type   *mad2Δ*   *sgo1Δ*   *sgo1Δ mad2Δ*   time (min)

counts

n 2n 4n 8n   n 2n 4n 8n   n 2n 4n 8n   n 2n 4n 8n

DNA content

A

nocodazole treatment

C. neoformans *sgo1Δ* ⟶ Aur B^{Ipl1} ↓↓ ⟶ PP1 levels ?

B

120 min post-nocodazole treatment

mCh-CENP-A   GFP-PP1   merge

SGO1

sgo1Δ

5 μm

C

fluorescence intensity of GFP-PP1 (AU)

**

SGO1 *sgo1Δ*

D

120 min post-nocodazole treatment

Aur B^{Ipl1}

mCh-CENP-A   GFP-PP1   merge

overexpressed

repressed

5 μm

E

+nocodazole

fluorescence intensity of GFP-PP1 (AU)

**

overexpressed   repressed

Aur B^{Ipl1}

A

B

wild-type			
sgo1Δ			
bub1-kd			
sgo1Δ bub1-kd-1			
sgo1Δ bub1-kd-2			
mad2Δ			
DMF	2.0	3.0	4.0

thiabendazole (µg/mL)

C

strain	thiabendazole sensitivity
sgo1Δ →	sensitive
sgo1Δ GFP-SGO1 →	resistant
sgo1Δ GFP-sgo1-K382A →	?

wild-type		
sgo1Δ		
sgo1Δ GFP-SGO1		
sgo1Δ GFP-sgo1-K382A		
DMF	2.0	4.0

thiabendazole (µg/mL)

A

mCh-CENP-A | GFP-Sgo1 | merge | zoomed | line scan profile

G2

metaphase

anaphase

B

Tub4-mCh | GFP-Sgo1 | merge | zoomed

G2

metaphase

5 μm

distance (μm)

C 2h post-nocodazole (1 μg/mL) treatment

mCh-CENP-A | GFP-Sgo1 | merge | zoomed | line scan profile

Tub4-mCh | GFP-Sgo1 | merge | zoomed

distance (μm)

D depletion of Cdc20 for 8 h

mCh-CENP-A | GFP-Sgo1 | merge | zoomed

5 μm

distance (μm)

E

SPB / KT — Sgo1 pool / Aur B^Ipl1 pool

bi-oriented

(NE)

SPB / KT — Sgo1 pool / Aur B^Ipl1 pool

depolymerized MTs

recruitment

Sgo1

Aur B^Ipl1 → PP1

SAC maintenance

retention of Bub1

Bub1 → Mad2

SAC activation

kinetochore

maintenance

metaphase arrest

kinetochore (SPB) SPB — microtubules (NE) nuclear envelope

A *C. neoformans* Sgo1 (CnSgo1)

```
1   MSQRQGRRSTGPTPLPQQTSQERREQGFVEQQKFDDFRRRHREQNKDIILDNVERRKIIKTLQDEISILQNELLDVRRRNMALESRVKKMERENSRLGGASVLK   104
105 ALDHLLAAAPALYSLRQSLSSLPTPPPSASYKQPSNTRPTLTFVGNPTATRPAANGKQRQDLGAVVESEEGEWMDDRRVTSRSRGRGRQTDVGSVAASRSPRPK   208
209 TPVFPARSSVSPSPKKVISARKIPVKRRRESGLLSARPRSCSPEVVNGQEPVIPVKQEPQVVDKEPVGETRVDEEPVGETSEWEEGPVVEMKPDEALALVQEEE   312
313 QVDFSRKEKEGNTEAEAEIVEVNETGEPESEPSRPSDPAITDNAEPEGTGRGRRARASVVSYKEPSLVKKMRKPDGIQTQDVIKTLTRKSISPRRAKSSLSPKR   416
417 TKKDAYTTSSPPPIPLIPERSPSSRSASTRTANLSASSQSMRRKSTLPKANNRSRGKQEEVGKMARGEDKGGEDLEEYEDIHDDGEELDLKFGRSLQIGTGSGF   520
521 RKPSSSSTLSHHPAMRSNAPKTLPTTSVPATTLMSAPLPANKVDSLLAALNVDPRPVRSTGTGVTTSSRRQSSARGFRPTSTMRSRDVLTEVRPSNVETKPALE   624
625 QDLKKDAGEVARGTRAVGVLQ                                                                                     645
```

B

```
          *  *  *
CnSgo1 41 --HREQNKDIILDNVERRKIIKTLQDEISILQNELLDVRRRNMALESRVKKMERENSRLGGASVLKALDHLL-- 110
ScSgo1 47 --YSRQNSLLAKDNSILKIKVNSLEKKISQLVQENVTLRSKTSISEAIYR-----ERLS--NQLQVIENGIIQ 110
SpSgo2 17 --QIRQYKEIIRISKAQSIRIKELQLENERLLSENIDLRTTAINLEEQLETVQNENEENK--TKLAALLNRFHE  86
HsSgo1 55 KNYQDNNKMLVLALENEKSKVKEAQDIIQLRKECYYLTCQLYALKGKLTSQQTVE---------------- 110
MmSgo1 55 RYYQDNNRLLVLALENEKSKVREAQDVILQLRKECYYLTCQLYALKEKLTSRQSE---------------- 110
XlSgo1 55 KNYKANNTALALALEAEKLKTRQAQDLILGLKREHQRLIFEIFMLRRRLQSQQGRD---------------- 110
DmSgo1 7  QCYKLLNAELMDQVQKQRLEIGEYRKRVISLEREIMDIREEHVLQN--------HRQRMENISIVRSLMLSLNV  72
                                Coiled-coil
```

```
CnSgo1 360 -GTGRGRRARASVVSYKEPSLVKKMRKPDGIQTQ 392
ScSgo1 364 -SFTRTRRTRGKAVDYTLPSLRAKMRRPSEKLVD 396
SpSgo2 568 KPDGRSRRE-RKKVNYALPGLRTKLRRNFDLPSD 600
HsSgo1 470 -AVALPKRRCTASVNYKEPTLASKLRRGDPFT-- 500
MmSgo1 460 -AVALTKRRCSTIKSYKEPTLASKLRRGDPFTDL 492
XlSgo1 597 -STPSRKRRCKVSINYAEPKLSGKLRRGDPFTDS 629
DmSgo1 367 -NSARPSRSCR-PTSLVEPSLKNKLRNGSKGKAK 398
                        SGO motif
```

C

GFP-H4

5 µm

wild-type   sgo1Δ   mad2Δ   sgo1Δ mad2Δ

post-nocodazole treatment (min) 240 / 120

D

post-nocodazole treatment (min)

120 / 240

percent cells

Wild-type sgo1Δ mad2Δ sgo1Δ mad2Δ

E

post-nocodazole treatment (min)

120 / 240

Percent large budded cells

Wild-type sgo1Δ mad2Δ sgo1Δ mad2Δ

Legend:
- ⬤ unbudded
- 🍐 small-budded
- ◖◗● undivided (condensed chromatin)
- ◖◗● undivided (uncondensed chromatin)
- ◖◗ large-budded
- 🍐 tri-budded
- ◖◗ divided
- ◖◗● mis-segregated

Supplementary Figure 2. *Polisetty et. al*

wild-type
sgo1Δ
bgi1Δ
bgi1Δ sgo1Δ

bgi1Δ mad2Δ
mad2Δ

DMF   2.0   2.5   3.0

thiabendazole (µg/mL)

Supplementary Figure 3. *Polisetty et. al*

A

	mCh-CENP-A	Aur B^{Ipl1}-3xGFP	merge	zoomed
G2				
metaphase				
anaphase				

5 µm

B

120 min post-nocodazole (1 µg/mL) treatment

mCh-CENP-A	Aur B^{Ipl1}-3xGFP	merge	zoomed

5 µm

5 μm

	kinetochore	MTOC	spindle	telomeres
M. musculus	■	□	□	□
H. sapiens	■	■ [1,2]	□	□
X. laevis	■	□	■ [3*]	□
D. melanogaster	■	□	□	□
C. albicans	■	□	■ [4]	□
S. cerevisiae	■	□	□	□
S. pombe	■	□	□	■ [5]

■ YES □ NO

yeasts   metazoans

SPB/centrosome   centromeres

nucleus   microtubules