Asymmetrical localization of Nup107-160 subcomplex components within the

nuclear pore complex in fission yeast

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Abstract

The nuclear pore complex (NPC) forms a gateway for nucleocytoplasmic transport. Nup107-160 subcomplexes, key components for building the NPC, are believed to be symmetrically localized on the nuclear and cytoplasmic sides of the NPC. However, in *S. pombe*, immunoelectron microscopic and genetic interaction analyses revealed that the Nup107-160 subcomplexes had an asymmetrical localization: constituent proteins spNup131, spNup120, spNup85, spNup96, spNup37, spEly5, and spSeh1 were localized on the cytoplasmic side whereas spNup132 and spNup107 were on the nuclear side, suggesting the complex was split into two pieces in *S. pombe*. The expression of a fusion protein of spNup96 with spNup107 caused cytoplasmic relocalization of spNup107. In this strain, half of the spNup132 proteins changed their localization to the cytoplasmic side of the NPC, leading to defects in mitotic and meiotic progression. These observations suggest the asymmetrical structure of the Nup107-160 subcomplex in fission yeast is necessary for normal cell cycle progression.

Keywords: nuclear pore complex, nucleoporin, Nup133, Y-complex, immunoelectron microscopy

Introduction

In eukaryotes, the nuclear envelope (NE) separates the nucleus from the cytoplasm. Molecular transport between the nucleus and cytoplasm across the NE occurs through nuclear pore complexes (NPCs). These complexes are cylindrical, eight-fold symmetrical structures that perforate the NE and are made of multiple sets of about 30 different protein species known as nucleoporins (Nups) (Rout et al., 2000; Cronshaw et al., 2002; Alber et al., 2007). Nups are classified into three groups: transmembrane Nups, FG repeat Nups, and scaffold Nups. Transmembrane Nups have transmembrane helices and anchor NPCs to the NE. FG repeat Nups contain phenylalanine-glycine (FG) rich repeats and are involved in molecular transport through the NPC cylinder structure. Scaffold Nups form two inner rings and two outer rings, which serve as the NPC structural core (Bui et al., 2013; von Appen et al., 2015; Kosinski et al., 2016; Lin et al., 2016), and associate with the membrane through interactions with transmembrane Nups (Alber et al., 2007; Onischenko et al., 2009; Eisenhardt et al., 2014). These NPC structures and most Nups are generally conserved among eukaryotes (Rout et al., 2000; Cronshaw et al., 2002; DeGrasse et al., 2009; Tamura et al., 2010; Amlacher et al., 2011; Obado et al., 2016a), although numerous species-dependent differences are found (Knockenhauer and Schwartz, 2016).

The Nup107-160 subcomplex is a key component of the outer rings and in most eukaryotes is composed of equal numbers of Nup107, Nup85, Nup96, Nup160, Nup133, Sec13, and Seh1, and depending on the species Nup37, Nup43, and ELYS are also included (Walther et al., 2003; Harel et al., 2003; Loïodice et al., 2004; Rasala et al., 2006; Liu et al., 2009; Thierbach et al., 2013). These Nups assemble to form, both *in vitro* and *in vivo*, the Y-shaped Nup107-160 subcomplex in *Homo sapiens*, the budding

yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae,* and the thermophile *Chaetomium thermophilum* (von

Appen et al., 2015; Thierbach et al., 2013; Kampmann and Blobel, 2009; Flemming et

al., 2010; Fernandez-Martinez et al., 2012; Kelley et al., 2015; Stuwe et al., 2015).

Nup85, Nup43, and Seh1 form one of the two short arms, while Nup160, Nup37, and

ELYS form the other. The two arms are connected to Nup96 and Sec13, and Nup96 is

connected to Nup107 and Nup133 to form the long stem (Nup96-Nup107-Nup133) of

the Y-shaped molecule. Multiple copies of the Nup107-160 subcomplex form the outer

rings on the nucleoplasmic and cytoplasmic sides of the NPC (Bui et al., 2013; von

Appen et al., 2015; Stuwe et al., 2015; Kim et al., 2018).

Like other eukaryotes, the fission yeast *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* has a set of

conserved Nups (Baï et al., 2004; Chen et al., 2004; Asakawa et al., 2014) (hereafter, we

use 'sp' to denote *S. pombe* proteins and 'sc' and 'hs' to indicate *S. cerevisiae* and *H.*

sapiens proteins). However, the *S. pombe* NPC has several unique features. It contains

spEly5 (a potential homolog of metazoan ELYS) and spNup37, but lacks Sec13 and

Nup43 (Asakawa et al., 2014), and it has two redundant Nup133 homologs (spNup131

and spNup132) in addition to two redundant scNic96/hsNup93 homologs (spNpp106

and spNup97). Most strikingly, the Nup107-160 subcomplex in *S. pombe* is composed

of unequal numbers of spNup107, spNup120 (a homolog of hsNup160), spNup85,

spNup96, spNup37, spEly5, spSeh1, spNup131 and spNup132 (Asakawa et al., 2014);

the relative numbers of spNup107and spNup131 are 4 - 8 in a single NPC, and that of

spNup132 is approximately 48 whereas the other components are approximately16.

Thus, a unique/different structural organization of the Nup107-160 subcomplex is

suggested in *S. pombe* compared with *S. cerevisiae* and humans (Asakawa et al., 2014).

spNup131 (spNup133a) and spNup132 (spNup133b) have similar molecular

structure and both are able to bind to spNup107 (Baï et al., 2004). Despite their similar

biochemical features, spNup131 and spNup132 are likely to have different functions

because gene disruption strains show different phenotypes. The strain lacking spNup132

(*nup132Δ*) displays altered NPC distribution (Baï et al., 2004); its growth is inhibited in

the presence of thiabendazole (a microtubule-depolymerizing drug) or hydroxyurea (a

DNA replication inhibitor) (Chen et al., 2004; Asakawa et al., 2014); and it exhibits

delayed chromosome segregation in meiosis and unusual spore formation (Asakawa et

al., 2014; Yang et al., 2015). The strain lacking spNup131 (*nup131Δ*) doesn't display

any of these characteristics. In addition, telomere elongation and deficiency in

SUMOylation have been reported in *nup132Δ*-specific phenotypes (Liu et al., 2010; Nie

and Boddy, 2015). The causes of these functional differences remain unknown.

In the present study, we examined the positioning of each Nup within the NPC in *S.*

pombe using immunoelectron microscopy and high-precision distance measurements

using fluorescence microscopy. In addition, genetic interaction analyses were performed

to confirm the interaction between certain Nup107-160 components. Our results reveal a

unique structure for the *S. pombe* Nup107-160 subcomplex and suggest that a variation

in NPC organization developed during evolution in this organism.

Results

spNup131 and spNup132 are differently positioned at the cytoplasmic and

nucleoplasmic sides of the NPC

The molecular architectures of spNup131 and spNup132 are similar to that found in

other species, with an N-terminal β-propeller domain followed by a C-terminal α-helix

stack domain (Whittle and Schwartz, 2009) (**Supplementary figure 1a**). However,

phylogenetic analysis indicates that spNup131 and spNup132 belong to evolutionarily

distant clades, with the spNup131-containing clade branching from a common ancestor

of yeast Nup133 homologs much earlier than that of spNup132 (**Supplementary figure**

1b). This suggests that despite the similarity in their domain architecture, spNup131 and

spNup132 may have structural features that are distinct enough to confer different

functions.

To understand the differences between spNup131 and spNup132, we examined

the positioning of those Nups within the NPC by immunoelectronmicroscopy (IEM).

The spNup131 or spNup132 gene was replaced with the respective gene N-terminally

fused to GFP (GFP-spNup131 or GFP-spNup132). IEM was carried out using a specific

antibody against GFP. The results showed that GFP-spNup131 is located at the

cytoplasmic side of the NPC, while GFP-spNup132 is located at the nuclear side (**Fig.**

1a). To confirm the accessibility of the nucleus to immunogold particles using this

method, the nuclear centromere protein spMis6 (Saitoh et al., 1997) was co-stained

(**Supplementary figure 2a-c**); only the cells positive for spMis6 were evaluated for

staining of spNup131(**Supplementary figure 2b, c**). A montage picture of spNup131

with quantification shows that spNup131 was exclusively located in the cytoplasmic

side of the NPC (left panels of **Fig. 1b**). In contrast, the localization of spNup132 was

exclusively in the nuclear side (right panels of **Fig. 1b**), indicating that spNup131 and

spNup132 have distinct localizations. To resolve potential artifacts of GFP-tagging at

the N-terminus, we repeated these experiments using strains in which spNup131 and

spNup132 were C-terminally fused to GFP. We obtained essentially the same results

with N- and C-tagged proteins (**Fig. 1c**), suggesting that spNup131 and spNup132 are

differentially positioned at the cytoplasmic and nuclear sides, respectively, of the NPC.

To confirm the different localization of spNup131 and spNup132 in living cells

by fluorescence microscopy (FM), we observed cells simultaneously expressing

spNup131 and spNup132 fused with GFP and mCherry, respectively; we also tested

cells expressing spNup131 and spNup132 fused with mCherry and GFP, respectively

(**Fig. 1d**). To determine their localizations within nuclear pores with high-precision, we

applied an open-source program "Chromagnon" (Matsuda et al. 2018; Matsuda A, 2018:

this software is available at https://github.com/macronucleus/Chromagnon). After the

chromatic correction, the average distance of spNup131 from spNup132 in each nucleus

along its radial direction was measured (see Methods for details). As a result, the

position of mCherry-spNup132 relative to GFP-spNup131 was -49.3±1.8 nm

(mean±SEM), and the position of mCherry-spNup131 relative to GFP-spNup132 was

32.7±1.4 nm, both indicating that spNup131 was located at the exterior position (distant

from the nuclear center) compared with the location of spNup132 within the NPC (**Fig.**

1e). These results support the interpretation of the IEM observation that spNup131and

spNup132 are separately localized in the NPC: spNup131 is positioned at the

cytoplasmic side and spNup132 is positioned at the nucleoplasmic side of the NPC.

Different functions of spNup131 and spNup132 at the cytoplasmic and

nucleoplasmic sides of the NPC

To determine the function of spNup131 and spNup132, we identified its interacting

proteins using affinity capture/mass spectrometry (**Supplementary figure 3a,b**).

Several non-Nup proteins that interact with spNup131 and spNup132 were identified

(**Supplementary figure 3c**).

Among the candidate proteins specifically interacting with spNup131, we

selected spFar8 (also known as spCsc3) and examined its functional relationship with

spNup131. spFar8 is one of the components of the striatin-interacting phosphatase and

kinase (STRIPAK) complex (Goudreault et al., 2009; Frost et al., 2012) that regulates

the functions of the spindle pole body (SPB; the yeast microtubule-organizing center)

during mitosis (Singh et al., 2011). GFP-fused spFar8 (spFar8-GFP) localized at the

nuclear periphery during interphase, as previously reported (Singh et al., 2011) (see

"wild type" in **Fig. 2a**). IEM analysis revealed that spFar8-GFP localized at the

cytoplasmic side of the nuclear pores (**Fig. 2b**). This NPC localization of spFar8-GFP

was greatly decreased in the *nup131Δ* cells (see "*nup131Δ*" in **Fig. 2a**) but not in the

nup132Δ cells ("*nup132Δ*" in **Fig. 2a)**. Western blotting analysis of the cell strains

tested above showed no marked changes in the amount of spFar8 protein (**Fig. 2c**). The

mislocalization of spFar8 in the *nup131Δ* cells occurred when spNup132 was

ectopically expressed, whereas normal localization was restored when spNup131 was

expressed (**Fig. 2d, e**). Localization of another STRIPAK complex protein, spFar11, to

the nuclear periphery was also decreased in *nup131Δ* cells (**Supplementary figure 4**).

These results suggest that spNup131 plays a role in retaining the STRIPAK complex at

the cytoplasmic side of the NPC in interphase cells. The genetic interaction of

STRIPAK proteins with spNup131 shown by this experiment is consistent with their

localization at the cytoplasmic side of the NPC indicated by IEM.

Among the candidate spNup132 interacting proteins identified by affinity

capture/mass spectrometry (**Supplementary figure 3c**), we examined the functional

relationship of spNup211 with spNup132. spNup211 is an *S. pombe* homolog of human

Tpr and *S. cerevisiae* Mlp1 and Mlp2 (Bae et al., 2009); Tpr homologs are known to

localize on the nuclear side of the NPC (Strambio-de-Castillia et al., 1999; Krull et al.,

2004). IEM analysis of spNup211 showed that spNup211-GFP localized at the nuclear

side of the nuclear pores as expected (**Fig. 3a**). To examine its localization in

relationship to spNup132, GFP-fused spNup211 (spNup211-GFP) was observed by FM

in wild type, *nup131Δ*, and *nup132Δ* cells. In wild type and *nup131Δ* cells,

spNup211-GFP was localized at the nuclear periphery (see "wild type" and "*nup131Δ*"

in **Fig. 3b**). In contrast, in the *nup132Δ* cells, spNup211-GFP formed several bright foci

at the nuclear periphery ("*nup132Δ*" in **Fig. 3b**). We measured the maximum

fluorescence intensity of spNup211-GFP in each nucleus in wild type, *nup131Δ*, and

nup132Δ cells. The value was significantly higher in the *nup132Δ* cells (**Fig. 3c, left**

graph) whereas spCut11-mCherry, as a control, was uniformly distributed at the nuclear

periphery with similar maximum fluorescence intensities in all strains (**Fig. 3c, right**

graph). This result suggests that the distribution of spNup211 at the NPC is regulated

specifically by spNup132 but not spNup131. This fact is consistent with their

localizations at the nucleoplasmic side of the NPC, and the lack of interaction between

spNup211 and spNup131 is also consistent with their different localizations within the

NPC.

Immunoelectron microscopy of spNup107-160 subcomplex Nups

Because the Nup133 homologs are integrated components of the Nup107-160

subcomplex, we next examined the positioning of the other Nup107-160 subcomplex

components in *S. pombe*: spNup107 (scNup84/hsNup107), spNup120

(scNup120/hsNup160), spNup85 (scNup85/hsNup85), spNup96 (also known as

spNup189C; scNup145C/hsNup96), spNup37 (hsNup37), spEly5 (hsELYS), and

spSeh1 (scSeh1/hsSeh1) in cells expressing each of these Nups fused to GFP. A

spNup98-spNup96 fusion protein is expressed as the *nup189+* gene product, and

spNup96 is generated by cleavage with the autopeptidase activity in the C-terminus of

spNup98 (Asakawa et al., 2015).

IEM results showed that of the 7 Nups, spNup120, spNup85, spNup96,

spNup37, spEly5, and spSeh1 were predominantly located on the cytoplasmic side of

the NPC, whereas spNup107 was located on the nuclear side of the NPC (**Fig. 4a**). The

localization of spNup107 on the nuclear side was also confirmed using an N-terminus

fusion protein (**Fig. 4a**). Simultaneous detection of spMis6-GFP further confirmed the

localization of spNup120, spNup85, spNup96, spNup37, spEly5 and spSeh1 on the

cytoplasmic side of the NPC (**Fig. 4a**). This result suggests that the Nup107-160

subcomplex is split into two pieces in *S. pombe* and that these two pieces are differentially

located on the cytoplasmic and nuclear sides of the NPC. This result contrasts with the

structure of the Nup107-160 complex reported in *S. cerevisiae* and humans, in which all

of the components are connected to form the Y-shape structure. Thus, this result

suggests an unexpected separation of the Nup107-160 subcomplex at the junction of

spNup96 and spNup107 in *S. pombe*.

To confirm the different localizations of the Nup107-160 subcomplex

components by FM, we examined the localization of these components in living cells.

We chose spNup85 and spNup107 as representatives of cytoplasmic and nucleoplasmic

components identified by IEM. We first determined the position of spNup85-GFP

within NPCs by comparing it with that of mCherry-spNup131 and mCherry-spNup132

(**Fig. 4b**). The position of mCherry-spNup131 relative to spNup85-GFP was 11.4±1.9

nm (mean±SEM) and the position of mCherry-spNup132 relative to spNup85-GFP was

-26.2±1.0 nm (**Fig. 4b**; the relative position of Nup85 to Nup131 and Nup132 is

indicated in the right panel). This result supports cytoplasmic positioning of spNup85 as

indicated by IEM. Second, we determined the position of spNup107-GFP within NPCs

using a similar method. The position of mCherry-spNup131 relative to spNup107-GFP

was 34.0±2.1 nm and the position of mCherry-spNup132 relative to spNup107-GFP was

-4.4±1.0 nm (**Fig. 4c**; the relative position of Nup107 to Nup131 and Nup132 is

indicated in the right panel). This result supports nuclear positioning of spNup107 as

indicated by IEM.

245   Taken together, these results demonstrate that the Nup107-160 subcomplex

components are differentially localized at the cytoplasmic and nucleoplasmic sides

within the NPC in *S. pombe* (**Fig. 4d**). Based on the localization analysis in this study

and quantification of each Nup reported previously (Asakawa et al., 2014), we

estimated the molecular weight of the cytoplasmic outer ring and nucleoplasmic outer

ring as 7.4 MDa and 7.0 MDa, respectively: the cytoplasmic outer ring is estimated as

8-fold of a single unit (two each of spNup120, spNup85, spNup96, spEly5, and

spNup37 and one each of spSeh1 and spNup131), and the nucleoplasmic outer ring is

estimated as 8-fold of a single unit (six spNup132 and one spNup107). In this

estimation, a single unit of both the cytoplasmic and nucleoplasmic outer rings consist

of 7 α-solenoids and 6 β-propellers as elements, suggesting that the ring structures are

similar to each other. The values are a bit larger than the molecular weight (4.65 MDa)

of one outer ring in *S. cerevisiae*, which consists of 8-fold of a single unit containing 5

α-solenoids and 4 β-propellers as elements (Kim et al., 2018).

Enforced cytoplasmic localization of Nup107 by fusing to Nup96 results in

reduction of Nup132 from the nuclear side, leading to defects in meiosis

To address the significance of the separated localization of the *S. pombe* Nup107-160

subcomplex components, we generated an *S. pombe* strain with spNup96 artificially

fused to spNup107 in a *nup107Δ* background (spNup96-spNup107-GFP). The strain

was viable, and Western blot analysis confirmed expression of the fusion protein with

the predicted molecular weight (**Fig. 5a**). By IEM, the majority of the

spNup96-spNup107-GFP fusion protein molecules were localized at the cytoplasmic

side of the NPC (**Fig. 5b**), showing a change in the location of spNup107 from the

nuclear side to the cytoplasmic side. Under this condition, spNup132 was recruited to

both the nuclear and cytoplasmic sides of the NPC (**Fig. 5c**), suggesting that a

significant fraction of the spNup132 molecules was recruited by spNup107. We

assumed that the cytoplasmic recruitment of spNup132 molecules would result in a

reduction of spNup132 at the nuclear side. As previously reported, the *nup132Δ* cells

exhibit growth sensitivity to the microtubule-destabilizing drug thiabendazole (TBZ),

and they have delayed meiotic division and abnormal spore formation (Chen et al, 2004;

Asakawa et al, 2014; Yang et al, 2015). Thus, we examined whether the

spNup96-spNup107-GFP strain showed those deficiencies. We found that this strain

exhibited growth sensitivity to TBZ (**Fig. 5d)**, delayed meiotic division (**Fig. 5e, f**), and

abnormal spore formation (**Fig. 5g**), similarly to the defects found in *nup132Δ* cells.

These results suggest that the split structure and asymmetrical localization of the

Nup107-160 subcomplex are necessary for retaining Nup132 at the nuclear side of the

NPC, which in turn is necessary for the normal progression of mitosis and meiosis in *S.*

pombe.

The N-terminal β-propeller region is required for differential localization of

Nup133 homologs

Finally, we determined which domains of spNup131 and spNup132 were responsible for their different localizations. In this experiment, we expressed full length spNup131 or spNup132, fragments of spNup131 or spNup132, or chimeric proteins of spNup131 and spNup132 (**Fig. 6a**). To exclude the possibility that endogenous spNup131 or spNup132 predominantly occupy preferred sites for spNup131 and spNup132 fragments or chimeric proteins, a *nup131Δ nup132Δ* double-deletion strain (lacking genes for both spNup131 and spNup132) was used. Protein expression was confirmed by Western blot analysis (**Supplementary figure 5**). FM observation showed that GFP fused full-length spNup131 (spNup131FL) and spNup132 (spNup132FL) were localized at the nuclear periphery (**Fig. 6b**). The N-terminal domains of both Nup131 and Nup132 (spNup131N and spNup132N) were not localized at the nuclear periphery, while the C-terminal domain of both proteins (spNup131C and spNup132C) were localized at the nuclear periphery, consistent with a previous report (Berke et al., 2004). Interestingly, IEM analysis showed that spNup131C localized to the nuclear side of the NPC (**Fig. 6c**) in contrast with the localization of full length spNup131 on the cytoplasmic side (compare the upper two panels in **Fig. 6c**; also see **Fig. 1b**). These results suggest that the C-terminal domains of both spNup131 and spNup132 have the ability to localize on the nuclear side of the NPC, probably through binding to Nup107, and also suggest that the N-terminal domains of spNup131 and spNup132 are involved in determining their differential localizations. To test this idea, we examined the localization of the chimeric proteins spNup131N+spNup132C and spNup132N+spNup131C: If the C-terminal domains were independent and functioning correctly, both chimeric proteins should be localized to the nuclear side of the NPC via interaction with Nup107, and if the

N-terminal domains were independent and functioning correctly, the

spNup131N+spNup132C protein should then be localized to the cytoplasmic side via

Nup131N and the spNup132N+spNup131C protein should be retained on the nuclear

side via Nup132N. The results showed that the spNup131N+spNup132C chimeric

protein mostly diffused to the cytoplasm with some enrichment in the nuclear periphery

compared with spNup132FL (**Fig. 6b**) and that the other chimeric protein,

spNup132N+spNup131C, also diffused to the cytoplasm but with no enrichment in the

nuclear periphery compared with spNup131FL (**Fig. 6b**). The relatively strong

cytoplasmic staining of the chimeric proteins suggests that the N-terminal domains may

function to prevent "abnormal" localization of spNup131 and spNup132. Overall, this

result indicates that both N-terminal and C-terminal domains are required for the proper

differential localization of spNup131 and spNup132.

Immunoelectron microscopy of the other nucleoporins

Because the Nup107-160 subcomplex seems to have a unique organization in *S. pombe,*

we wished to understand the overall structure of the NPC. For this purpose, we

performed IEM of other Nups to reveal their positionings within the NPC. GFP-fused

Nups were used and IEM was carried out using a specific antibody against GFP, unless

specified otherwise (**Fig. 7**). We first examined inner ring Nups known as the Nup93

subcomplex in vertebrates. spNup97 and spNpp106, redundant *S. pombe* homologs of

scNic96/hsNup93, were both similarly positioned near the center of the NPC (**Fig. 7a**);

the redundancy of scNic96/hsNup93 homologs is unique to the *Schizosaccharomyces*

genus. spNup184 (scNup188/hsNup188) and spNup186 (scNup192/hsNup205) were

also positioned near the center (**Fig. 7a**). spNup40 (scNup53/scNup59/hsNup35) and

spNup155 (scNup157/scNup170/hsNup155) were also located near the center of the

NPC, but they showed a slightly broader range of localization (**Fig. 7a**).

336   The channel Nups spNup44 (scNup57/hsNup54) and spNup45

(scNup49/hsNup58) were positioned at the center of the pore (**Fig. 7b**). spNup98

(scNup145n/hsNup98) was detected on the cytoplasmic side of the nuclear pore when

using an anti-GFP antibody (see "spNup98-GFP" in **Fig. 7b**); however, an anti-Nup98

antibody (clone 13C2; Iwamoto et al., 2013), which specifically recognizes endogenous

spNup98, detected its positioning near the center of the pores (see "spNup98" in **Fig.**

7b). This staining pattern is likely due to the interaction of spNup98 with other Nups. In

H. sapiens and *S. cerevisiae*, the C-terminal region of the Nup98 homologs

(hsNup98/scNup145n/scNup100/scNup116) interacts with Nup96 homologs

(hsNup96/scNup145c) (Hodel et al., 2002; Griffis et al., 2003; Ratner et al., 2007;

Stuwe et al., 2012), and the C-terminal Nup98-APD (autoproteolytic and NPC-targeting

domain) binds to Nup88 homologs (hsNup88/scNup82) and to Nup96 in a mutually

exclusive manner (Stuwe et al., 2012). Thus, the C-terminal region of spNup98 might be

tethered by spNup96 and spNup82, both of which are positioned at the cytoplasmic side

of the NPC, while the N-terminal region is extended to the center of the pore. The *S.*

pombe homolog of the conserved Nup Nsp1 (scNsp1/hsNup62) was localized

frequently in the cytoplasmic side and infrequently in the nuclear side of the NPC (**Fig.**

7b).

354   spNup82 (scNup82/hsNup88) and spNup146 (scNup159/hsNup214) were

detected at the cytoplasmic side (**Fig. 7c**) as expected from their homologous

counterparts. spAmo1(scNup42/hsNlp1) was also detected at the cytoplasmic side (**Fig.**

7c). The transmembrane Nups, spCut11 (scNdc1/hsNdc1), spPom152 (scPom152), and

spPom34 (scPom34) were localized at the center of the pore and slightly biased toward

the cytoplasm (**Fig. 7d**). The conserved Nups, spNup60 (scNup60), spNup61

(scNup2/hsNup50), and spNup124 (scNup1/hsNup153) (**Fig. 7e**) as well as

spNup211(scMlp1/scMlp2/hsTpr) (**Fig. 3a**) were detected at the nuclear side as

expected from their homologous counterparts. We added a recently identified Nup

spAlm1 (Salas-Pino et al., 2017) to the group of nuclear Nups, according to its

nucleoplasmic localization (**Fig. 7e**).

365   We summarized the positionings of the *S. pombe* Nups within the NPC in **Fig.**

8. Transmembrane Nups (spCut11, spPom152, and spPom34); inner ring Nups

(spNup97, spNpp106, spNup184, spNup186, spNup40, and spNup155); cytoplasmic

ring Nups (spNup82, spNup146, spAmo1, spNsp1); central channel Nups (spNsp1,

spNup98, spNup44, and spNup45); and nuclear basket Nups (spNup124, spNup60,

spNup61, spNup211, and spAlm1) are positioned similarly to the positions of their

orthologs in *S. cerevisiae* and human (Rout et al., 2000; Maimon et al., 2012; Bui et al.,

2013: von Appen et al., 2015; Kim et al., 2018). Thus, these NPC substructures, which

include a central channel structure that is required for nucleocytoplasmic transport,

seem to be common to other eukaryotes. In contrast, the Nup107-160 subcomplex

(spNup131, spNup120, spNup85, spNup96, spNup37, spEly5 and spSeh1, spNup107

and spNup132) in *S. pombe* has a highly unusual asymmetrical organization: spNup131,

spNup120, spNup85, spNup96, spNup37, spEly5 and spSeh1 are located in the

cytoplasmic side of the NPC whereas spNup107-and spNup132 are located in the

nuclear side of the NPC. This asymmetrical organization of the Nup107-160

subcomplex may be required for building and maintaining the structural organization of

the central channel and other NPC elements common to other eukaryotes, and

consequently, the Nup107-160 subcomplex would be required for normal cell cycle

progression in *S. pombe.*

Discussion

IEM of *S. pombe* Nups suggest that the *S. pombe*-specific Nup107-160 subcomplex

structure is uniquely split into two pieces that localize differentially to the cytoplasmic

and nuclear sides of the NPC while preserving the conserved modular structures of the

Nup107-160 subcomplexes of other eukaryotes. High-precision distance measurements

using FM also support this result (**Fig. 1d,e, and 4b**). The asymmetrical organization of

the *S. pombe* Nup107-160 subcomplex contrasts with the localization of the

Nup107-160 subcomplexes in *H. sapiens*, *S. cerevisiae* and *Trypanosoma brucei*, in

which Nup107-160 complexes are found on both the cytoplasmic and nuclear sides of

the NPC (Rout et al., 2000; D'Angelo et al., 2006; von Appen et al., 2015; Obado et al.,

2016a; Kim et al., 2018). Our results suggest that the *S. pombe* NPC has a novel

organization that has evolved in the *Schizosaccharomyces* genus, which commonly

bears the Nup132 and Nup131 clades (**Supplementary figure 1b**).

In *H. sapiens* and *S. cerevisiae,* the Nups in the Nup107-160 subcomplex

assemble to form Y-shaped structures (Lutzmann et al., 2002; Kampmann and Blobel,

2009; Kelley et al., 2015; Stuwe et al., 2015; von Appen et al., 2015). A total of 32

Y-complexes form two concentric reticulated rings at both the nuclear and cytoplasmic

sides of the human NPC (Bui et al., 2013; von Appen et al., 2015). This organization

may be supported by the iso-stoichiometry of each Nup in the Nup107-160 subcomplex:

the amounts of each Nup in the Nup107-160 subcomplex in human cells are nearly

equal (Ori et al., 2013). In contrast, in *S. pombe*, the amounts of each Nup in the

Nup107-160 subcomplex are not equal but highly divergent, ranging from 1 copy to 5-6

copies/unit (Asakawa et al., 2014). In addition, the Sec13 homolog in *S. pombe* does not

localize in the NPC, and Nup43 is not conserved in the genome (Asakawa et al., 2014).

The different stoichiometry and composition of the *S. pombe* Nup107-160 subcomplex

components are likely due to the unique fission yeast–specific separated structure of the

Nup107-160 subcomplex revealed in this study.

The role of the separate locations of the Nup107-160 subcomplex remains

unknown. In mammalian cells undergoing 'open mitosis,' the Nup107-160 subcomplex

is required for NPC assembly at an early stage of telophase and is therefore thought to

provide a structural element important for reconstructing the NPC at the end of mitosis

(Walther et al., 2003; Harel et al., 2003; Boehmer et al., 2003). Thus, the Nup107-160

subcomplex has essential scaffold functions. In contrast, during vegetative cell growth

in fungi mitosis is 'closed'. Consequently, the nuclear envelope is not broken down

during mitosis and the NPCs do not need to be reconstructed. Notably, Nup133

homologues are dispensable for vegetative growth in fungi, including *S. pombe* and *S.*

cerevisiae (Doye et al., 1994; Baï et al., 2004; Asakawa et al., 2014). This suggests a

different role for Nup133 homologs among eukaryotes depending on the type of mitosis.

While the role of Nup133 homologs in vegetative cell growth in fungi is unknown, it is

clear that spNup132 but not spNup131 is required for the progression of meiosis in *S.*

pombe, especially with regard to proper segregation of meiotic chromosomes (Asakawa

et al., 2014; Yang et al., 2015). Such functional differences between spNup131 and

spNup132 are reflected by the different locations of these two components within the

NPC (**Fig. 1**). A decrease in spNup132 on the nuclear side and its relocation to the

cytoplasmic side causes defects in meiosis similar to those found in *nup132Δ* cells as

shown in Figure 5, further supporting our conclusion.

spNup132 is required for normal kinetochore formation during meiosis in *S.*

pombe. Deletion of the *nup132* gene but not the *nup131* gene causes untimely

kinetochore assembly during the first meiotic chromosome segregation (Yang et al.,

2015) and increases the sensitivity to the microtubule-destabilizing drug thiabendazole,

likely due to defects in the kinetochore structure in mitosis (Asakawa et al., 2014).

Similarly, in mammalian cells, kinetochore-related functions have been reported for the

Nup107-160 subcomplex. A fraction of the Nup107-160 subcomplex is found at the

kinetochores and spindle poles during mitosis (Harel et al., 2003; Loïodice et al., 2004;

Belgareh et al., 2001; Orjalo et al., 2006), and depletion of the Nup107-160 subcomplex

from kinetochores results in altered kinetochore protein recruitment (Zuccolo et al.,

2007; Platani et al., 2009; Mishra et al., 2010). While the molecular mechanism of

underlying spNup132-mediated regulation of kinetochore proteins remains unknown,

considering the similarity in kinetochore-related functions, spNup132, but not

spNup131, is likely to be a functional homolog of mammalian Nup133.

IEM analysis in this study revealed that spNup131 is localized only on the

cytoplasmic side of the NPC, and a genetic analysis showed interaction between

spNup131 and spFar8. spFar8, which was proven to be located at the cytoplasmic side

of the NPC in this study, is an *S. pombe* ortholog of the STRIPAK complex component

Striatin (Frost et al., 2012). In *S. pombe*, the STRIPAK complex regulates the septation

initiation network through the conserved protein kinase Mob1 (Moreno et al., 2001;

Goudreault et al., 2009) and is required for asymmetric division of mother and daughter

SPBs during mitosis (Singh et al., 2011). The spNup131-dependent NPC localization of

spFar8 revealed by this study implies that the NPC regulates STRIPAK localization in

interphase cells. Human STRIPAK complexes have been proposed to play roles at the

interface between the Golgi and the outer nuclear envelope (Frost et al., 2012).

Considering the physical and genetic interaction with spNup131, STRIPAK is likely to

interact with the NPC on the cytoplasmic side of the NE. Although the role of the

STRIPAK complex in interphase cells in *S. pombe* is not fully understood, the

interaction between spNup131 and spFar8 may provide an important example linking

the NPC to cytoplasmic structures.

This study demonstrates that the *S. pombe* Nup107-160 subcomplex has a

novel separated structure and exhibits a localization pattern not reported in other

organisms. Recent studies suggest that NPC structures are not necessarily the same

among eukaryotes (Iwamoto et al., 2017; Mosalaganti et al. 2018; Kim et al., 2018). For

example, the binucleated ciliate *Tetrahymena thermophila,* a single-cell organism, has

two functionally distinct nuclei, the macronucleus (MAC) and micronucleus (MIC), in a

single cell: The MAC and MIC differ in size, transcriptional activity, and

nucleocytoplasmic transport specificity (Karrer, 2012). Interestingly, in *T. thermophila,*

the MAC and the MIC NPCs are composed of differ amounts of the Nup107-160

subcomplex components (Iwamoto et al., 2017). The amount of the subcomplex in the

MIC is about three times more than that in the MAC, suggesting that the Nup107-160

subcomplex forms different structures in the MAC from the MIC. In the green algae

Chlamydomonas reinhardtii, a single cell organism, the NPCs have 24 Y-complexes

asymmetrically distributed within a single NPC: 16 Y-complexes at the nuclear side and

eight Y-complexes at the cytoplasmic side (Mosalaganti et al. 2018). The asymmetrical

distribution of the Y-complexes in *C. reinhardtii* may suggest a specific function of the

Y-complex in either cytoplasmic or nuclear side of the NPC although it is currently

unclear. In some multicellular organisms, the expression level of Nups varies between

cell types and during development (Ori et al., 2013; Cho et al., 2009; Olsson et al.,

2004; D'Angelo et al., 2009; D'Angelo et al., 2012). It is also known that some

mutations in Nups result in developmental defects in metazoans (Raices and D'Angelo,

2012). These findings suggest that the NPC composition in cell types and during

development is biologically significant. Altered compositions might alter the NPC

structure, at least in part; thus, unidentified NPC subcomplex structures may play roles

in specific biological events such as differentiation and development. Thus, we

speculate that novel NPC structures may be important to elucidate the biological

functions of the NPC.

Methods

S. pombe cell cultivation

Strains used in this study are listed in Supplementary Table 1. YES or EMM2 culture

medium was used for routine cultures (Moreno et al., 1991). ME medium was used to

induce meiosis and spore formation. When necessary, TBZ (T5535-50G, Sigma-Aldrich

Inc, Tokyo, Japan) was added to the YES medium to a final concentration of 10 μg/mL.

Immunoelectron microscopy

For immunoelectron microscopy, 1.5×10^8 cells expressing GFP-Nup131 were fixed in

1 mL of a mixture of 4% formaldehyde (18814-10, Polysciences, Inc, Warrington, PA,

USA) and 0.01% glutaraldehyde (1909-10, Polysciences, Inc.) dissolved in 0.1 M

phosphate buffer (PB) (pH 7.4) for 20 min at room temperature, treated with 0.5 mg/mL

Zymolyase 100T (7665-55, Nacalai Tesque, Inc., Kyoto, Japan) in PB for 20-30 min at

30°C, and then permeabilized with 0.2% saponin (30502-42, Nacalai Tesque, Inc.) and

1% bovine serum albumin (BSA) in PB for 15 min. The GFP epitope tag was labeled

with a primary antibody (600-401-215, rabbit polyclonal anti-GFP antibody, Rockland

Immunochemicals, Limerick, PA, USA) diluted 1:400 in PB containing 1% BSA and

0.01% saponin, and a secondary antibody (7304, goat anti-rabbit Alexa 594

FluoroNanogold Fab' fragment; Nanoprobes Inc., Yaphank, NY, USA) diluted 1:400.

The same immunostaining conditions were used for the cells expressing each of the

other GFP-fused Nups except for the dilution ratios of primary and secondary

antibodies; the conditions used for each experiment are listed in supplementary Table 2.

For analysis of the spNup98 N-terminal region, we used a mouse monoclonal

anti-Nup98 antibody (13C2) (Iwamoto et al., 2013; Asakawa et al., 2015; available

from BioAcademia Inc, Japan, Cat. #70-345) diluted 1:100 and anti-mouse Alexa594

FluoroNanogold Fab' fragment (7302, Nanoprobes) diluted 1:400. Cells then were fixed

again with 1% glutaraldehyde in PB for 1 h at room temperature and treated with 100

mM lysine HCl in PB twice for 10 min each. The cells were stored at 4°C until use.

Before use, the cells were incubated with 50 mM HEPES (pH 5.8) three times for 3 min

each and with distilled water (DW) once, incubated with Silver enhancement reagent (a

mixture of equal volumes of the following A, B, and C solutions: A, 0.2% silver acetate

solution; B, 2.8% trisodium citrate-2H_2O, 3% citric acid-H_2O, and 0.5% hydroquinone;

C, 300 mM HEPES, pH 8.2) at 25°C for 2-5 min. Cells were embedded in 2% low

melting agarose dissolved in DW. Cells were post-fixed with 2% OsO_4 in DW for 15

min and stained with 1% uranyl acetate in DW at room temperature. Cells were

dehydrated using stepwise incubations in ethanol and acetone and finally embedded in

epoxy resin Epon812. Solidified blocks containing cells were sectioned, and the

ultra-thin sections were stained with uranyl acetate and lead citrate, the usual

pretreatment for EM observations. Images were obtained using a JEM1400 transmission

electron microscope (JEOL, Tokyo, Japan) at 120kV.

Nuclear pores containing more than two immunogold particles were chosen for

localization analysis as described previously (Rout et al., 2000). To confirm the

accessibility of the nucleus to immunogold particles, the nuclear centromere protein

spMis6-GFP was co-expressed with GFP-fused Nups in cells and stained with anti-GFP

antibody for IEM. For quantification of the Nup signals, we chose only cell specimens

with a positive spMis6-GFP signal. For quantitative representations, montage pictures

were produced by stacking 20 NPC images with 5% opacity on Adobe Photoshop CS

software.

cDNA clones

nup107⁺ and *nup37⁺* cDNAs were provided by National BioResource Project Japan

(http://yeast.lab.nig.ac.jp/yeast/top.xhtml). cDNA fragments of other Nups were

amplified from a cDNA library pTN-RC5 or pTN-FC9 (National BioResource Project

Japan) using PCR.

Strain construction

To visualize nuclear pore localization of the different domains of Nup131 and Nup132,

lys1⁺-integrating plasmids carrying GFPs65t-fused with respective Nup domains were

introduced into cells with a *nup131Δnup132Δ* double-deletion mutant background. To

construct the spNup96-spNup107 fusion Nup, a cDNA fragment encoding spNup107 or

spNup107-GFP followed by a drug resistance marker gene was integrated after the

chromosomal spNup96 coding region. After a diploid strain was obtained by crossing

the spNup96-spNup107 fusion containing strain with the wild type strain, the *nup107*[+]

gene on the original chromosomal locus was deleted. To introduce the chromosomal

fluorescent tag and gene disruption, a two-step PCR method was applied (Bähler et al.,

1998). Nup-GFP fusion constructs were described previously (Asakawa et al., 2014).

The spMis6-GFP fusion was constructed as described previously (Chikashige et al.,

2004) or using the two-step PCR method. mCherry-spAtb2 was visualized as described

previously (Yang et al., 2015).

Plasmid construction

To express the full-length or domains of the spNup131 and spNup132 proteins, cDNA

fragments were amplified by PCR. For overexpression, the PCR products were

sub-cloned into the plasmid that carries the *nmt1* promoter and terminator. For

physiological expression, the PCR products were sub-cloned into the *Bgl*II site of the

plasmid (pY53) that carries the *nup132* promoter (-1000bp)-driven GFPs65t and the

nmt1 terminator. Each sub-cloning was done by using the In-Fusion PCR cloning kit

(Clontech Laboratories, Mountain View, CA, USA). Plasmids were integrated at the

lys1 gene locus. Correct integrations were confirmed by PCR.

Fluorescence microscopy

Images were obtained using a DeltaVision microscope system (GE Healthcare, Tokyo,

Japan) equipped with a CoolSNAP HQ^2 CCD camera (Photometrics, Tucson, AZ, USA)

through an oil-immersion objective lens (PlanApoN60×OSC; NA, 1.4) (Olympus,

Tokyo, Japan) as described previously (Asakawa et al., 2014). Z-stack images were

obtained and processed by deconvolution and denoising algorithm (Boulanger et al.

2009) when necessary. For time lapse microscopy, cells were observed every 5 minutes

as described previously (Yang et al., 2015). The projection images of z-stacks were

made by softWoRx software equipped in the microscope system.

Precise distance measurements with fluorescence microscopy

Cells to be analyzed were cultured in 150 µl of the EMM2 5S medium on an 8-well

chambered coverglass, Lab-Tek II (Thermo Fisher Scientific Japan, Yokohama, Japan);

cells used for references for chromatic correction were also cultured in a chamber of the

same coverglass. Simultaneously acquired multicolor images were obtained with OMX

SR (GE Healthcare) equipped with three sCMOS cameras. The three-dimensional (3D)

images were deconvolved by constrained iterative deconvolution using the Priism suite

(http://msg.ucsf.edu/IVE/) with a Wiener filter enhancement of 0.9 and 15 iterations. To

correct for chromatic shifts of multicolor FM images, green-to-red photoconversion of

GFP was used as the reference as previously reported (Sawin and Nurse 1997; Matsuda

et al., 2010): Nup96-GFP was used in this study. For photoconversion, cells were

illuminated with 405 nm light at about 393 W/cm^2 for 4 seconds, then both green and

red-converted GFP species were excited with 488 nm to obtain images of the same

object in the green and red channels. Chromatic shifts were measured using such images,

and the correction parameters were determined using the Chromagnon software

(https://github.com/macronucleus/Chromagnon), by which a chromatic shift can be

corrected with an accuracy of ~10 nm in 2D XY plane and ~15 nm in 3D XYZ space

using test samples (Matsuda et al., 2018). The correction parameters were applied to all

images obtained from the same chambered coverglass as described in Matsuda et al.,

2018.

Next, individual nuclei in the images were identified and segmented by our

software using functions from the "ndimage" module of the Scipy package

(http://www.scipy.org). The centers of the nuclei were identified by least-square fitting

with 3D ellipses using the 3D coordinates of the nucleoporin fluorescence above

threshold. The images of the NE at the midsection were linearized with polar

transformation. These images were then averaged across all angles to produce 1D

intensity profiles along the radial direction of the nuclei. The intensity profiles were

fitted to Gaussian profiles to determine a distance between the peaks of green and red

for each of the individual nuclei. The mean distance was determined from more than 70

nuclei. Because not all nuclei were round, we rejected nuclei of elliptical or irregular

shapes before the final calculation.

Western blot analysis

For western blot analysis, whole cell extracts were prepared from approximately 5×10^6

cells by trichloroacetic acid (TCA) precipitation as described previously (Asakawa et al.,

2014). To detect GFP-fused proteins, a rabbit polyclonal anti-GFP antibody

(600-401-215, Rockland Immunochemicals Inc.) was used. To detect spNup98, a mouse

monoclonal anti-Nup98 antibody (13C2) was used (Iwamoto et al., 2013).

HRP-conjugated goat anti-rabbit or anti-mouse IgG (NA9340-1ml or NA9310-1ml, GE

Healthcare) was used as a secondary antibody. Protein bands were detected by

chemiluminescence using ChemiDoc MP imaging system (Bio-Rad).

Preparation of whole cell extracts for affinity-capture experiments

Growing cells (about 5×10^9) were collected and washed with 10 mM HEPES buffer

(pH 7.5) containing 1 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF). The washed cells

were divided into aliquots of 3×10^8 cells in 10 mM HEPES buffer (pH 7.5) containing

1 mM PMSF. Cells were again collected by centrifugation, and the cell pellet was kept

frozen by liquid nitrogen until use. To make a cell extract, the cell pellet was thawed

and suspended in 100 μL of lysis buffer (50 mM HEPES (pH 7.5), 150 mM NaCl, 1%

Triton X-100, 1 mM EDTA, 2 mM PMSF) with a protease inhibitor cocktail (165-20281,

Wako, Tokyo, Japan) and mashed by glass beads using Multi-beads shocker (Yasui

Kikai Corporation, Osaka, Japan). We chose this extraction condition based on a

previous study identifying the components of plant NPCs (Tamura et al., 2010).

Because the presence of 1% Triton X-100 gave better results for extracting plant NPC

components, we decided to use 1% Triton X-100 as a detergent, and we examined three

different salt conditions (50 mM, 150 mM or 500 mM NaCl) in the presence of the

detergent. As a result, 150 mM NaCl gave better results with low background. At least

for extracting spNup131 and spNup132, this condition was better than that optimized

for extracting NPCs in other organisms such as budding yeast (1.5 M ammonium

acetate, 1% Triton X-100) (Hakhverdyan et al., 2015) and trypanosoma (20 mM HEPES

(pH7.4), 250 mM NaCitrate, 0.5% Triton X-100, 0.5% deoxy Big CHAP) (Obado et al.,

2016b). After further addition of 400 μL of lysis buffer, the mashed cell pellet was

transferred to new microtubes. The supernatant was collected after centrifugation at

15000 rpm for 15 min at 4°C and used as the whole-cell extract.

Affinity-capture and LC/MS/MS analysis

The whole-cell extract was incubated with a rabbit anti-GFP antibody (600-401-215,

Rockland Immunochemicals). Antibody-conjugated proteins were collected by

incubating with Protein A Sepharose beads (17528001, GE Healthcare). Beads were

then washed 4-5 times with the lysis buffer described above. After elution in

SDS-PAGE sample buffer, protein samples were loaded onto a 12% SDS-PAGE gel for

liquid chromatography coupled to tandem MS (LC/MS/MS). Data analysis for

LC/MS/MS was performed as described previously (Nozawa et al., 2013) using the

Pombase protein dataset released on November 12th, 2015. To identify proteins

interacting with spNup131 and spNup132, protein samples were prepared from two

independent experiments and each preparation was analyzed by LC/MS/MS. Proteins

detected as more than one unique spectrum were identified as interacting proteins with

spNup131 and spNup132. Alternatively, when proteins detected as only one unique

spectrum in the first experiment were repeatedly detected in the second experiment,

they were also identified as interacting proteins.

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Competing financial interests

The authors declare no competing financial interests.

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Figures with legends

Fig. 1 Localization of spNup131 and spNup132 at the NPC. **a** IEM of GFP-spNup131 and GFP-spNup132. Arrows indicate the nuclear pores. Scale bar, 100 nm. **b** Quantitative representation of IEM for N-terminally tagged spNup131 and spNup132. (left) A montage image of 20 immunoelectron micrographs. The diameter of the circle is 200 nm. (right) A schematic drawing illustrating the distribution of immunogold

particles shown in the montage image. Red dots represent the pore centers. **c** Quantitative representation of IEM for C-terminally tagged spNup131 and spNup132. Montage pictures and distributions of immunogold particles are shown as described in **b**. IEM micrographs used for the quantitative analysis are available in Figure 1—source data 1. **d** Fluorescence microscopy of a nucleus simultaneously expressing spNup131 and spNup132 fused to GFP and mCherry in living cells. (left) A nucleus expressing GFP-spNup131 and mCherry-spNup132. Green, GFP-spNup131; Magenta, mCherry-spNup132. (right) A nucleus expressing mCherry-spNup131 and GFP-spNup132. Magenta, mCherry-spNup132; Green, GFP-spNup131. Scale bar, 1 μm. **e** Distances between spNup131 and spNup132 in living cells. Results from cells expressing GFP-spNup131 and mCherry-spNup132 (n=90, left) and results from cells expressing mCherry-spNup131 and GFP-spNup132 (n=138, right) are shown in the box plot: values of the distance determined in individual cells are shown in Figure 1—source data 2. Center lines show the medians; box limits indicate the 25th and 75th percentiles. Whiskers extend to the 5th and 95th percentiles. The diagram on the right shows the positions of spNup131 and spNup132 within the NPC.

Fig. 2 spNup131 is required for spFar8 localization on the cytoplasmic side of the NPC. **a** Localization of spFar8-GFP in wild type, *nup131Δ*, and *nup132Δ* cells. spFar8-GFP was expressed in the indicated strains, and cells exponentially growing in EMM2 liquid medium were observed by FM. spCut11-mCherry was observed as an NPC marker. Scale bar, 10 μm. **b** IEM of spFar8-GFP. For quantitative representation, a montage image of 20 immunoelectron micrographs and a schematic drawing illustrating the distribution of immunogold particles are shown. The red point indicates the pore center.

IEM micrographs used for the quantitative analysis are available in Figure 2—source data 3. **c** Western blot analysis of spFar8-GFP. Whole cell extracts were prepared from wild type, *nup131Δ*, and *nup132Δ* cells expressing spFar8-GFP and subjected to SDS-PAGE and Western blot analysis. spFar8-GFP was detected with anti-GFP antibody. spNup98 was detected with anti-Nup98 antibody (13C2) as a loading control. The arrow indicates the position of spFar8-GFP. Small dots on the left indicate positions of molecular weight markers. **d** Overexpression of spNup131 and spNup132 in *nup131Δ* cells expressing spFar8-GFP. spNup131 or spNup132 were overexpressed in *nup131Δ* cells and localization of spFar8-GFP and spCut11-mCherry was observed by FM. Empty vector was also introduced for a control strain. Scale bar, 10μm. **(e)** Quantitative analysis of cells exhibiting spFar8-GFP at the NE in the experiment described in **d**. Cells observed were: 81, 102, and 130 for vector, spNup131[op], and spNup132[op], respectively.

a

spNup211-GFP

Cyt

NE

Nuc

200nm

b

	spNup211-GFP	spCut11-mCherry	merged
wild type			
nup131Δ			
nup132Δ			

c

Fig. 3 spNup132 is required for the distribution of the nucleoplasmic nucleoporin spNup211 at the NPC. **a** IEM of spNup211-GFP. For quantitative representation, a schematic drawing illustrating the distribution of immunogold particles based on 20 immunoelectron micrographs is shown. The red point indicates the pore center. IEM micrographs used for the quantitative analysis are available in Figure 3—source data 1. **b** FM of spNup211-GFP in living cells. Arrows indicate bright dots observed in *nup132Δ* cells. Scale bar, 10 μm. **c** Maximum intensity values of spNup211-GFP and spCut11-mCherry in wild-type (n=76), *nup131Δ* (n=50), and *nup132Δ* (n=73) cells: values of the maximum intensity determined in individual cells are shown in Figure 3—source data 2. In the box plot, the center lines show the medians; box limits indicate the 25th and 75th percentiles. Whiskers extend to the 5th and 95th percentiles. Averages (±standard deviations) are 110.1±22.7, 105.0±21.5 and 154.7±64.1 for spNup211-GFP, and 18.0±3.2, 17.6±3.0 and 18.8±4.0 for spCut11-mCherry in wild-type, *nup131Δ*, and *nup132Δ*, respectively. *p* values shown at the bottom are calculated by the U-test.

Fig. 4 Localization of Nup107-160 subcomplex orthologs. **a** IEM of *S. pombe* Nup107-160 subcomplex orthologs. Immunogold distributions of the projected

immunoelectron micrographs are shown as a quantitative representation. To confirm the accessibility of the nucleus to immunogold particles, spMis6-GFP was used. spMis6-positive nuclei were evaluated for staining with anti-GFP antibody. IEM micrographs used for the quantitative analysis are available in Figure 4—source data 1. **b** Position of spNup85-GFP determined by high-precision distance measurements using FM. **(upper panel)** FM images of a nucleus expressing spNup85-GFP and mCherry-spNup131 or mCherry–spNup132. Green, spNup85-GFP; magenta, mCherry-spNup131 or mCherry-spNup132. Scale bar, 1 μm. **(lower panel)** Distance between spNup85-GFP and mCherry-spNup131 (left) or mCherry-spNup132 (right). The relative positions of spNup131 and spNup132 to spNup85 are shown in the box plot: center lines show the medians; box limits indicate the 25th and 75th percentiles; whiskers extend to the 5th and 95th percentiles. n, cell number examined. Values of the distance determined in individual cells are shown in Figure 4—source data 2. The diagram on the right shows the positions of spNup85, spNup131 and spNup132 within the NPC. **c** Position of spNup107-GFP determined by high-precision distance measurements using FM. **(upper panel)** FM images of a nucleus expressing spNup107-GFP and mCherry-spNup131 or mCherry–spNup132. Green, spNup107-GFP; magenta, mCherry-spNup131 or mCherry-spNup132. Scale bar, 1 μm. **(lower panel)** Distance between spNup107-GFP and mCherry-spNup131 (left) or mCherry-spNup132 (right). The relative positions of spNup131 and spNup132 to spNup107 are shown in the box plot as described in **b**. Values of the distance determined in individual cells are shown in Figure 4—source data 3. The diagram on the right shows the positions of spNup107, spNup131 and spNup132 within the NPC. **d** A schematic drawing showing the localization of Nup107-160 subcomplex orthologs in *S. pombe*.

Fig. 5 Localization and functional analysis of an spNup96-spNup107 fusion Nup. **a** Western blot analysis of the spNup96-spNup107-GFP fusion protein. Asterisks represent non-specific cross reactions of the anti-GFP antibody. **b** IEM of the spNup96-spNup107 fusion protein. Immunogold distribution of the projected immunoelectron micrographs is shown. IEM micrographs used for the quantitative

analysis are available in Figure 5—source data 1. **c** IEM of GFP-spNup132 in wild type and spNup96-spNup107 fusion backgrounds. Localization of GFP-spNup132 in a wild type background is taken from the data shown in **Fig. 1b**. IEM micrographs used for the quantitative analysis are available in Figure 5—source data 1. **d** A cell growth assay in the presence (+TBZ) or absence (-TBZ) of TBZ. Five-fold serial dilutions of wild type and spNup96-spNup107 fusion strains were spotted on YES medium containing or lacking TBZ and incubated for 3 days. **e** Time-lapse observation of *S. pombe* cells (wt or spNup96-spNup107 fusion strains) undergoing meiosis. Cells expressing mCherry-fused α-tubulin (spAtb2) were induced to enter meiosis. The duration of meiosis I and II was determined as the time the spindle was present. Dotted lines show cell shapes. The time 0 indicates the time of the first appearance of meiosis I spindle formation. Representative images are shown (number of cells observed: 32 for wild type and 33 for spNup96-spNup107). **f** Statistical analysis for images obtained in **(e)**. Duration of meiosis I and II. Error bars represent standard deviations. The duration of meiosis I was 28.4 ± 3.0 min in wild type and 37.9 ± 6.3 min in spNup96-spNup107 fusion cells. The duration of meiosis II was 25.8 ± 1.8 min in wild type and 29.8 ± 2.9 min in spNup96-spNup107 fusion cells. Asterisks indicate statistical significance ($p < 0.0001$) between the indicated strains by Welch's t-test. Number of cells observed: 32 for wild type and 33 for spNup96-spNup107. **g** Abnormal spore formation was observed in the spNup96-spNup107 fusion background. More than 200 asci were counted for each strain.

Fig. 6 Localization of the spNup131 and spNup132 domains. **a** Schematics of the spNup131 and spNup132 fragments. Magenta represents peptides from spNup131 and light blue represents peptides from spNup132. **b** Localization of spNup131 and spNup132 fragments as determined by FM. GFP-fused fragments were expressed under the spNup132 promoter in the background of the *nup131Δ nup132Δ* double mutant.

spCut11-mCherry served as an NPC marker. Scale bar, 5 μm. **c** IEM of the spNup131 and spNup132 fragments. Projection images (left) and immunogold distributions (right) are shown as described in the legend of **Fig.1b**. The red points indicate the pore centers. IEM micrographs used for the quantitative analysis are available in Figure 6—source data 1.

Fig. 7 IEM of *S. pombe* nucleoporins. **a** Inner ring Nups. **b** Channel Nups. IEM for spNup98 was performed using an anti-Nup98 antibody (13C2) for the wild type strain and an anti-GFP antibody for the spNup98-GFP strain. **c** Cytoplasmic ring Nups. **d** Transmembrane Nups. **e** Nuclear basket Nups. The localization of the other nuclear basket Nup, spNup211, is shown in **Figure 3a**. Immunogold distributions are shown based on the projected immunoelectron micrographs for quantitative representation. The red points indicate the pore centers. IEM micrographs used for the quantitative analysis are available in Figure 7—source data 1.

Fig. 8 Model of the *S. pombe* NPC. The positions of the *S. pombe* Nups and the relative numbers of the Nup107-160 subcomplex Nups making up a single unit of the 8-fold rotational symmetrical structure of the *S. pombe* NPC are shown. The positions of the subcomplexes were deduced based on the IEM analysis in this study. The numbers of the Nup107-160 subcomplex components were deduced based on the FM and biochemical analysis reported previously (Asakawa et al., 2014): spNup131 (1 molecule, dark blue), the spNup120-spNup85-spNup96-spNup37-spEly5 complex (2 molecules each, dark green), spSeh1 (1 molecule, light green), spNup107 (1 molecule, orange), spNup132 (6 molecules, right blue).