

Title	Collective nuclear behavior shapes bilateral nuclear symmetry for subsequent left-right asymmetric morphogenesis in Drosophila
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Abstract of Thesis

	Name (Dongsun Shin)
Title	Collective nuclear behavior shapes bilateral nuclear symmetry for subsequent left-right asymmetric morphogenesis in <i>Drosophila</i> (集団的な動きによって核が左右対称に配置されることでショウジョウバエの左右非対 称性な形態形成が起こる)

Abstract of Thesis

Directional left-right (LR) asymmetry, which is evident in many animals' external and internal morphology, is genetically determined. Recent studies show that the mechanisms determining LR-asymmetry are evolutionarily divergent. In vertebrates, several different mechanisms contribute to LR-asymmetric development, including nodal flow, LR-asymmetric proton influx, and LR-asymmetric cell migration; some of these mechanisms have parallel functions. In Lophotrochozoa and Ecdysozoa, intrinsic cell chirality plays a key role in LR-asymmetric development. For example, cell chirality in snail and nematode blastomeres determines their subsequent LR-asymmetric organ and body development. In Drosophila, the LR-asymmetrical development of several organs also relies on cell chirality, which is controlled by the myosin 1D gene. Importantly, chiral cells are also found in vertebrates and are thought to contribute to their LR-asymmetric development. However, the molecular mechanisms of LR-asymmetric development in invertebrates remain largely unclear.

Proper organ development often requires nuclei to move to a specific position within the cell. To determine how nuclear positioning affects left-right (LR) development in the Drosophila anterior midgut (AMG), I developed a surface-modeling method to measure and describe nuclear behavior at stages 13-14, captured in three-dimensional time-lapse movies.

I found that the nuclei of the visceral muscles were positioned LR-symmetrically in distinct regions along the anterior—posterior axis in wild-type embryos; I refer to this distribution as proper nuclear positioning (PNP) hereafter. The densely crowded nuclei in these regions actively rearranged their positions relative to neighboring nuclei; I refer to this as collective nuclear behavior (CNB) hereafter. Dally-like protein (dlp), a component of Wnt signaling, was essential for both PNP and CNB. MyoII and LINC complex were required for PNP but not for CNB. Unexpectedly, however, the nuclei aligned LR-asymmetrically in mutants with disrupted MyoII or LINC complex, although the AMG developed LR-symmetrically. My results show that the positioning of the nuclei in the visceral muscles is accomplished via multiple regulatory machineries, including Wnt signaling, MyoII, and LINC complex, and that the LR-symmetric positioning of the nuclei is important for the LR-asymmetric development of the AMG.

I demonstrated that the bilaterally symmetric arrangement of the nuclei in the visceral muscles of the AMG is required for this organ's LR-asymmetric development. In the absence of MyoII or a LINC-complex component, the nuclei align LR-asymmetrically but the AMG develops LR-symmetrically. Thus, MyoII and LINC complex play important roles in the LR-symmetric rearrangement of the nuclei, which is required for or coupled with the subsequent LR-asymmetric morphogenesis.

I revealed two distinct events that control nuclear location PNP and CNB, both of which require Wnt4 signaling. However, LINC complex and MyoII are required for PNP but not for CNB, demonstrating that the two events depend on distinct underlying mechanisms.

I also found that Wnt4 signaling is required for the CNB in the visceral muscles. In the wild-type embryo, the nuclei are densely packed into a limited area in each lateral half of the ventral region of the AMG. However, when Wnt4 signaling was interrupted, as in dlp mutants, the nuclei were sparsely distributed over a larger area and migrated more actively. This observation suggests that Wnt4 signaling might organize the collective movement of the nuclei in wild-type embryos by downregulating nuclear migration.

In this analysis, I demonstrated that nuclear position is crucial in forming LR asymmetry. In wild-type embryo, nuclear position is bilateral, and the morphology of the AMG is LR-asymmetric. However, in the absence of kash

and MyoII, nuclear positioning become LR-asymmetric but the AMG morphology stays bilateral. Therefore, LR-symmetric nuclear arrangement is required for the subsequent LR-asymmetric development of the AMG. Considering that non-skoletal muscles—which are, like Drosophila viscoral muscles, formed of multi-nucleated cells—contribute to LR-asymmetric organs and tissues such as the heart, blood vessels, and digestive organs in vertebrates and other organisms, the contribution of nuclear positioning to LR-asymmetric development may be evolutionarily conserved.	
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論文審査の結果の要旨及び担当者

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論文審査の結果の要旨

からだの左右非対称性が形成される機構は、進化的に多様で、無脊椎動物においてはよく理解されていない。ショウジョウバエの左右非対称性形成機構は、胚消化管の前半部と後半部で異なるというユニークな特徴をもつが、前半部消化管の左右非対称性形成機構についてはほとんど理解されていなかった。これまでの研究から、前半部消化管の左右非対称性形成が、中腸内臓筋の核の左右非対称な再配列から始まることが明らかにされていた。

本博士論文において、ライブイメージングと画像解析(サーフェース・モデル)の新たな方法が開発され、中腸内臓筋の核の動きの定量的解析が可能となった。その結果、野生型の中腸内臓筋において、核が密集して移動することを明らかにした。しかし、核の配置、密集度合は左右対称であった。また、密集した核移動が、Wnt4シグナルに依存して起こることを示した。

核移動には、核膜のアンカー・タンパク質である LINC 複合体や、LINC 複合体と結合している F-アクチンを牽引する MyosinII が関与することがわかっていた。さらに、これまでの研究によって、LINC 複合体の構成因子 KASH をコードする遺伝子の突然変異体、MyosinII の重鎖である Zipper (Zip) をコードする遺伝子の突然変異体では、前半部消化管が左右相称化することがわかっていた。本博士論文において、KASH、zip の突然変異体の内臓筋の核の動きが解析された。その結果として、これらの突然変異体では、核の配置が非左右対称化することが報告された。つまり、前半部消化管の形態が左右相称化する突然変異体においては、野生型では左右対称に並ぶはずの核が、左右非対称に配置されることが明らかにされた。

これらの成果から、核の左右対称な配置が、前半部消化管の左右非対称性形成に必要な条件となっていることが示唆された。左右非対称性の形成機構に関するこれまでの研究では、左右対称性が破れて左右非対称化が誘発される機構に焦点があてられてきた。これに対して、本博士論文では、左右非対称性形成の前提条件として左右対称化が重要であるとするユニークな仮説が提唱されている。

これらの研究成果は細胞生物学研究において新しい見解をもたらしたのみならず、今後の研究の発展に寄与するもので、理学上貢献するところが大きい。よって、本論文は博士(理学)の学位論文審査にふすのに充分な価値があるものと認められる。