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Inner nuclear membrane proteins Lem2 and Bqt4 interact with different lipid synthesis enzymes in fission yeast

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Running title: Proteomic analysis of Lem2 and Bqt4-binding proteins

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Summary

 The nuclear envelope (NE) is a double-membrane structure consisting of inner and outer membranes that spatially separate the nucleus from the cytoplasm, and its function is critical for cellular functions, such as genome maintenance. In the fission yeast, *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*, the inner nuclear membrane proteins, Lem2 and Bqt4, play pivotal roles in maintaining the NE structure. We previously found that the 6 double deletion of *lem2*⁺ and *bqt4*⁺ causes a synthetic lethal defect associated with severe NE rupture, and overexpression of Elo2, a solo very-long-chain fatty acid elongase, suppresses this defect by restoring the NE. However, the molecular basis of this restoration remains elusive. To address this, we identified Lem2- and Bqt4-binding proteins via immunoprecipitation and mass spectrometry in this study. Forty- five and 23 proteins were identified as Lem2- and Bqt4-binding proteins, respectively. Although these binding proteins partially overlapped, Lem2 and Bqt4 interacted with different types of lipid metabolic enzymes: Cho2, Ole1, and Erg11 for Lem2 and Cwh43 for Bqt4. These enzymes are known to be involved in various lipid synthesis processes, suggesting that Lem2 and Bqt4 may contribute to the regulation of lipid synthesis by binding to these enzymes. **Keywords:** nuclear envelope, Lem2, Bqt4, *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*, proteome analysis

Introduction

 The nuclear envelope (NE) is a double-membrane structure that acts as a physical barrier to spatially separate the genomic DNA from the cytoplasm. The NE comprises the outer nuclear membrane (ONM) and inner nuclear membrane (INM). ONM contains many NE-specific integral membrane proteins and shares many integral membrane proteins with the endoplasmic reticulum (ER) due to its continuity with the ER. In contrast, INM is enriched in only NE-specific integral membrane proteins, many of which are thought to play important roles in the interactions of the NE with chromatin (1). These interactions modulate the genetic activities of chromosomes via the formation of heterochromatin beneath the NE (2- 28 4). INM and ONM are joined at the nuclear pore complex (NPC), forming a pore structure that penetrates the nuclear envelope. Material transport between the nucleus and cytoplasm occurs via the NPC. The NE plays an essential role in genomic activities, such as replication and transcription, by regulating chromatin structures and nucleocytoplasmic transport, and the rupture or opening of NE causes genomic instability and subsequent cell death (5, 6). Therefore, structural maintenance of the NE is crucial for cell viability (7).

 To date, several hundreds of INM proteins have been identified in vertebrates via proteomic analysis (8-10). Among them, the LEM (Lap2–emerin–Man1) domain protein, Lem2, is one of the most characterized NE proteins that is well conserved among various species, including *Tetrahymena*, yeast, and humans (11-14). Lem2 contributes to nuclear reformation during mitosis by promoting membrane fusion mediated by the ESCRT-III complex in human cells (15, 16). Similarly, in budding and fission yeasts, Lem2 recruits Chm7/Cmp7 (CHMP7 in humans) and other ESCRT-III components to the ruptured sites of the NE to seal it at the end of mitosis (15-19). In addition to these cooperative functions with the ESCRT-III complex, Lem2 has been reported to be involved in various nuclear processes, such as heterochromatin formation (20-22), exosome-mediated RNA elimination (23), and NE/ER boundary formation, with the ER protein, Lnp1 (homolog of human Lunapark), in the fission yeast, *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* (24, 25).

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 S. pombe strains used in this study are listed in Supplementary Table 1. Cells were cultured at 30 °C. For the routine maintenance of *S. pombe* cells, a rich medium containing yeast extract with supplements (YES) was used (30). As a minimum medium, Edinburgh minimal medium with 5 mg/mL glutamate instead of NH4Cl (EMMG) or EMMG5S (EMMG with 0.225 mg/mL adenine, leucine, uracil, lysine, and histidine) was used. Cell strains carrying *lem2*Δwere maintained in EMMG to avoid genomic instability, which occurs in rich medium, as previously reported (6, 22, 24, 26). To select *S. pombe* cells carrying *kan^r* , *hph, NAT*, 72 and *aurl^r* genes as selection markers, cells were cultured for 2–4 d on YES plates containing 100 μ g/mL G418 disulfate (Nacalai Tesque, Kyoto, Japan), 200 μg/mL hygromycin B (FUJIFILM Wako Pure Chemical Corp., Osaka, Japan), 100 μg/mL nourseothricin sulfate (WERNER BioAgents, Jena, Germany), and 100 μg/mL blasticidin S (FUJIFILM Wako Pure Chemical Corp.), respectively.

Plasmid construction

All plasmids used in this study were constructed using In-Fusion (Takara Bio Inc., Kusatsu, Japan; Cat.

#639648) and NEBulider (New England Biolabs, Ipswich, USA; Cat. #E2621L), according to the

manufacturer's protocol. The plasmid encoding FLAG-Lem2-HA was constructed as previously described

 (26) . To generate the plasmid encoding FLAG-Bqt4-HA for expression, the coding sequence of *bqt4⁺* was

amplified via PCR and inserted into the pCST4-FLAGHA vector between *Bam*HI and *Bgl*II sites.

Gene disruption, integration, and tagging

 Gene disruption, integration, and tagging were performed using a two-step PCR method for direct chromosome integration, as previously described (31, 32). Briefly, for the first-round PCR, ~500 bp genomic sequences upstream and downstream from the open reading frames (ORFs) of interest were 88 amplified via PCR using KOD One (TOYOBO, Osaka, Japan; Cat. #KMM-201). These PCR products were then used as primers for second-round PCR to amplify a template sequence containing the selection markers. The resulting PCR products were transformed into *S. pombe* cells for disruption, integration, and tagging, and transformants were selected on an appropriate selection plate. The obtained strains were confirmed for correct constructions of disruption, integration, and tagging via genomic PCR using KOD Fx Neo (TOYOBO; Cat. #KFX-201) at the 5′ and 3′ ends of the target gene. In addition, we performed genomic PCR inside the ORF of the target gene to confirm the absence of an ORF in the genome.

Immunoprecipitation (IP)

S. pombe cells harboring a gene encoding FLAG-Lem2-HA or FLAG-Bqt4-HA for expression under the

control of the *nmt1* promoter were pre-cultured in EMMG supplemented with 10 μM thiamine, followed

99 by incubation in EMMG without thiamine for 17 h at 30 °C to induce protein expression.

100 For one-step purification to prepare samples 1 and 2 in Fig. 1B, cells (5.0×10^7) were 101 resuspended in 100 μL CSK-HEPES buffer (10 mM HEPES-NaOH pH7.4, 3 mM MgCl₂, 300 mM

sucrose, 1 mM EDTA, and 0.5% Triton X-100 containing either 150 mM or 300 mM NaCl) supplemented

with 2 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride and 5% protease inhibitor cocktail (P8215; Sigma-Aldrich,

USA) and homogenized with Multi-Beads Shocker (Yasui Kikai, Co., Japan) at 2,700 rpm for 10 cycles

of 60 s on and 60 s off. Cell homogenates were centrifuged, and the supernatants were diluted to five

times their volume with CSK-HEPES buffer to prepare the cell extract. The cell extract was incubated

with 100 ng of anti-HA rat monoclonal antibody (3F10; Roche, Switzerland) and 30 μL of Dynabeads

sheep anti-rat IgG (11035; Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., USA) for 3 h at 4°C. Dynabeads were washed

five times to remove the non-specific bound proteins. Specific bound proteins were eluted with the

Laemmli sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) sample buffer (62.5 mM Tris-HCl pH6.8, 2% SDS, 10% glycerol

111 and 0.0025% bromophenol blue).

112 For two-step purification to prepare samples 3 and 4 in Fig. 1B, cells $(1.0 \times 10^8 \text{ and } 1.6 \times 10^9 \text{ for }$

Lem2 and Bqt4, respectively) were suspended in CSK-Tris buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl pH8.0, 150 mM

114 NaCl, 3 mM MgCl₂, 300 mM sucrose, 1 mM EDTA, and 0.5% Triton X-100) and homogenized as

described above. The cell extract was incubated with anti-FLAG M2 beads (A2220; Sigma-Aldrich,

USA) for 2 h at 4°C. After removing the non-specific bound proteins by washing the beads five times, the

bound proteins were eluted with CSK-Tris buffer containing 100 μg/mL of 3× FLAG peptide (F4799;

Sigma-Aldrich, USA). The eluate was incubated with 100 ng of anti-HA rat monoclonal antibody (3F10)

and 30 μL of Dynabeads sheep anti-rat IgG for 2 h at 4°C. To remove the non-specific bound proteins, the

Indirect immunofluorescence staining

Indirect immunofluorescence staining was performed according to a previously described procedure (36)

except that anti-HA rat monoclonal (1:100 dilution; 3F10) and Alexa488-labeled anti-rat IgG (1:250

dilution; Thermo Fisher Scientific) antibodies were used as primary and secondary antibodies,

149 respectively.

Live cell imaging

Subcellular localization of GFP-S65T (designated as "GFP" throughout this manuscript) fusion proteins

was observed in living cells. Cells were cultured overnight in EMMG at 30°C to attain the logarithmic

growth phase before placing them onto a glass-bottom dish (MatTek, Ashland, USA; Cat. **#**P35G-1.5-14-

 C). Cells were attached to glass via soybean lectin (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, USA; Cat. #L1395) and covered with EMMG.

Fluorescence microscopy

S. pombe cells were observed using the DeltaVision Elite system (GE Healthcare Inc., Chicago, USA)

equipped with pco.edge 4.2 sCMOS (PCO, Kelheim, Germany) or CoolSNAP HQ2 cooled-CCD camera

(Photometrics, Tucson, USA); the 60× PlanApo N OSC oil-immersion objective lens (numerical aperture

[NA] = 1.4, Olympus, Tokyo, Japan) objective lens was used. Optical section images were acquired at 0.2

μm intervals. All images were deconvolved using the built-in SoftWoRx software (v7.0.0) using the

default setting with a homemade optical transfer function. Excitation intensity and exposure time were

165 adjusted for each condition as the expression levels of the proteins were different. The brightness of

images was linearly changed using Fiji software (v1.53t) (37) for better visibility.

Results and Discussion

Lem2 interacts with lipid synthesis enzymes

 To identify Lem2-binding proteins, we first generated *S. pombe* cells expressing Lem2 tagged with FLAG and HA in the N-terminus and C-terminus, respectively (FLAG-Lem2-HA), or tags-only (FLAG-HA) as a control. Indirect immunofluorescence staining of the cells showed that the FLAG-Lem2-HA protein was localized in NE, whereas FLAG-HA as a control was not (Fig. 1A). This NE localization of FLAG-Lem2- HA is consistent with the previously reported localization of Lem2-GFP (12, 38). Based on this localization pattern, we determined that FLAG-Lem2-HA was sufficient to identify the Lem2-binding proteins. Thus, IP was performed on FLAG-Lem2-HA. We tested four different IP conditions (samples #1–4; Fig. 1B). First, we performed one-step purification: Lem2-binding proteins were immunoprecipitated using an anti-HA antibody at 150 or 300 mM NaCl (samples #1 and #2, Fig. 1B). Specific bands were observed with both 150 and 300 mM NaCl in the Lem2 precipitant compared to the control, indicating that our IP procedure effectively enriched the Lem2-binding proteins. Some of the binding proteins observed under the 150 mM NaCl condition remained bound under the 300 mM NaCl condition, suggesting that these proteins may bind to Lem2 more tightly than others (sample #2 in Fig. 1B). Next, we performed two-step purification: Lem2 binding proteins were first immunoprecipitated using anti-FLAG and then immunoprecipitated using anti-HA antibodies (samples #3 and #4, Fig.1B). We investigated whether endogenous Lem2 antagonized the interaction between FLAG-Lem2-HA and its binding proteins and found no obvious differences in the

presence or absence of endogenous Lem2 (samples #3 and #4 in Fig. 1B).

 Analysis of these four samples via liquid chromatography (LC)/MS led to the identification of 45 proteins; eight out of 45 proteins (Bqt4, Cho2, Ole1, Nmd5, Erg11, Ape2, Rad25, and Rpl6) were detected in all four conditions, and the remaining 37 proteins (including Vtc4) were detected in all conditions, except the 300 mM NaCl condition (Table 1). Bqt4, Ole1, and Vtc4 have been reported as Lem2-binding proteins via IP–WB analysis and yeast-two-hybrid assays (26, 29); however, some of the known Lem2-binding proteins, such as Nur1 (21) and Sad1 (12), were not detected under any of the four conditions tested in this study. This result suggests that most, if not all, of the proteins identified in this

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 study were Lem2-binding proteins. Furthermore, some Lem2-binding proteins, such as Cho2 and Erg11, were found to be involved in lipid metabolism.

 Next, we classified the 45 binding proteins according to GO terms (Table 1 and Fig. 1C). GO classification revealed that the enriched proteins were related to lipid metabolism (Cho2, Ole1, Erg11, Hmg1, Fas1, Erg5, Tsc13, Lcf1, and Its8; fold enrichment [FE] = 3.81), nucleocytoplasmic transport 200 (Nmd5, Kap123, and Sal3; FE = 2.97), protein folding (Cct3, Hsp90, and SPBC17A3.05c; FE = 3.59), 201 and protein glycosylation (Wbp1, Stt3, and Ost1; FE = 4.48). Notably, proteins involved in N- glycosylation and folding were enriched together with Bip1, a member of the Hsp70 family, implying that Lem2 participates in protein quality control. Enrichment of the karyopherin/importin β family is convincing as karyopherin/importin β mediates the nuclear import of Heh1/Lem2 in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* (39). Proteins related to lipid metabolism control membrane homeostasis cooperatively with Lem2, as Lem2 is involved in nuclear membrane maintenance in cooperation with Bqt4 (22, 26) and with Elo2, a very-long-chain fatty acid elongase (6). We selected Cho2, Ole1, and Erg11 identified under 300 mM NaCl as Lem2-binding proteins and further evaluated their interactions with Lem2 via IP–WB. GFP-tagged Cho2 (GFP-Cho2), Ole1 (GFP-Ole1), and Erg11 (Erg11-GFP) were expressed in *S. pombe* expressing FLAG-Lem2-HA. GFP alone, instead of GFP-tagged proteins, was expressed in cells as a control. After cell lysis, IP was performed on the cell lysates using an anti-HA antibody. The proteins obtained via IP were further analyzed via WB using anti-GFP or anti-HA antibodies (Fig. 2A). All three proteins, Cho2, Ole1, and Erg11, were detected using an anti-GFP antibody (see "WT" in Fig. 2A). This result is consistent with the IP–MS results. Next, we examined whether Bqt4 mediated these interactions because Lem2 binds to Bqt4 and its NE localization depends on Bqt4 (26). We performed an IP–WB 216 experiment on the *bqt4*Δ background ("*bqt4*Δ" in Fig. 2A). Deletion of *bqt4*⁺ did not affect these interactions, indicating that Cho2, Ole1, and Erg11 interact with Lem2 independent of Bqt4. Finally, we examined whether Lem2 affected their subcellular localization. GFP-Cho2, GFP-Ole1, and Erg11-GFP 219 were localized in the cortical ER and NE (or perinuclear ER), and deletion of the $lem2^+$ gene did not

 affect their localization (Fig. 2B), indicating that Lem2 is not necessary for the NE localization. As Cho2, Ole1, and Erg11 function in the synthesis of phosphatidylcholine, unsaturated fatty acids, and ergosterol,

respectively, Lem2 potentially plays a broad role in regulating the lipid composition of the nuclear

membrane.

Bqt4 interacts with lipid synthesis enzymes different from those of Lem2

 We attempted to identify Bqt4-binding proteins because our previous analyses demonstrated a functional relationship between Lem2 and Bqt4 (6, 22, 26). FLAG-Bqt4-HA was expressed in *S. pombe* cells. Using this strain, Bqt4-binding proteins were immunoprecipitated using a two-step purification method in two independent experiments and analyzed via LC/MS (Fig. 3A, B). Twenty-three proteins were identified in both replicates (Fig. 3B and Table 2). Our analyses detected only one known Bqt4-binding protein, Imp1 (40), whereas other known binding proteins, such as Bqt3 (27) and Lem2 (26), were not detected via LC/MS. To examine whether Bqt3 and Lem2 were present in the IP fractions, we performed WB and detected both Bqt3 and Lem2 in the IP fractions (Fig. 3C), demonstrating the validity of our IP fractions. Bqt3 and Lem2 were not detected via MS possibly due to their property or abundance. Furthermore, Bqt3 is a small protein with almost the entire sequence composed of transmembrane domains, which may limit the number of observable peptides in MS analysis. In case of Lem2, the expression level of Lem2 seems to be lower than that of Bqt4, according to the PomBase database. Consistent with this, over half of the Lem2-binding proteins (24 out of 45 proteins) were detected as minor Bqt4-binding proteins (see yellow-highlighted sections in Supplementary Table S2).

 APSES domain of Bqt4 has been reported to function as an interaction surface for protein 241 binding and one consensus binding motif of the domain is (D/E) ₃₋₄xFxxx ϕ , where ϕ represents hydrophobic amino acids (41). This motif was found in 96 proteins in *S. pombe* by Pombase database search, but only Bip1 had this motif at its C-terminal end (652-DDDYFDDEA-660) among the 23

identified Bqt4-binding proteins. This suggests that most of the identified proteins interact with Bqt4

independent of the APSES domain or that its interaction is mediated by other proteins and/or DNA.

 According to the GO classification, proteins related to nucleocytoplasmic transport (Imp1, Cut15, and Kap95; FE = 5.81) were enriched as Bqt4-binding proteins. Notably, importin β/karyopherin, 248 but not importin α , was identified as a Lem2-binding protein, whereas both importin α and β were 249 identified as Bqt4-binding proteins. This suggests that Bqt4 plays a role in the recruitment of importin α to INM. The 19S proteasome subunits, Rpn1 and Rpt2, were also detected. This is consistent with our previous report that Bqt4 is degraded in the absence of Bqt3 (27), implying that Bqt4 is degraded via a proteasome-dependent pathway.

 Among the Bqt4-binding proteins, seven proteins (Ape2, Rad25, Bip1, Pfk1, Ura1, Sum3, and Tif35) were shared with Lem2-binding proteins. Rad25 and Rad24, which are 14-3-3 protein homologs in *S. pombe*, were detected (Table 2), suggesting that Bqt4 and Lem2 cooperatively regulate the cell cycle checkpoints at G2/M phase (42). Cwh43, which is involved in triacylglycerol metabolism (43), was found only in the Bqt4-binding proteins. GFP-Cwh43 was localized to the NE (or perinuclear ER) and deletion 258 of *bqt4*⁺ did not affect its localization (Fig. 3D).

 As Lem2 interacts with a different set of lipid synthesis enzymes than Bqt4, the nuclear 260 membrane ruptures caused by the double deletion of $lem2^+$ and $bqt4^+$ genes could be explained by the involvement of different lipid metabolic processes via the interactions of Lem2 and Bqt4 with different lipid synthesis enzymes. Consistently, lipid metabolism has been reported to be important for the maintenance of the inner nuclear membrane in *S. cerevisiae* (44). It has also been reported that the synthesis of glycerophospholipid is required for nuclear membrane expansion, especially during cell division, in fission yeasts (45, 46). Collectively, our results suggest that regulation of lipid synthesis in the NE and ER may be necessary to maintain nuclear functions.

Conclusion

In this study, we identified 45 Lem2-binding proteins and 23 Bqt4-binding proteins via IP and MS

- analysis. Nine proteins identified in Lem2, including Cho2, Ole1, and Erg11, were involved in lipid
- synthesis. Chw43, which was identified only in Bqt4, was involved in glucosylceramide synthesis. Our
- results suggest that Lem2 and Bqt4 may regulate different processes of lipid synthesis.

Footnotes

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Author Contributions

- Y. Hirano, Y. K., and C. O. carried out the experiments. Y. Hirano, Y. K., T. H. and Y. Hiraoka designed
- experiments and analyzed the data sets. Y. Hirano, T. H. and Y. Hiraoka prepared the manuscript. C.O., T.
- H. and Y. Hiraoka supervise the project.

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Nuclear envelope expansion is crucial for proper chromosomal segregation during a closed mitosis

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Figure legends

Figure 1. Identification of Lem2-binding proteins.

(A) Subcellular localization of FLAG-Lem2-HA (right panels) or FLAG-HA (left panels, as a control) in

Schizosaccharomyces pombe cells. Cells expressing FLAG-Lem2-HA or FLAG-HA were stained via

indirect immunofluorescence staining using anti-HA antibody and observed via fluorescence microscopy.

 Black signals represent high fluorescence signals. Nuclear regions (pink square) are enlarged on the right. Bar: 10 μm.

 (B) SDS-PAGE analysis of Lem2-binding proteins obtained via immunoprecipitation (IP). Proteins were stained via silver staining. Molecular weights of the markers are shown on the left of each gel. Left panel: One-step purification of Lem2-binding proteins. Cells expressing FLAG-Lem2-HA (Lem2) or FLAG-HA as a control (Cont) were lysed in the CSK-HEPES buffer containing 150 or 300 mM NaCl. Cell lysates were subjected to IP using anti-HA antibody to obtain Lem2-binding proteins. Loaded samples are indicated at the top of each lane: molecular weight markers (MW), FLAG-HA as a control (Cont), FLAG- Lem2-HA (Lem2), and 20 ng BSA as a loading marker (BSA). Red asterisks indicate the heavy and light chains of the anti-HA antibody. Right panel: Two-step purification of Lem2-binding proteins in the presence or absence of endogenous Lem2. FLAG-Lem2-HA (Lem2) or FLAG-HA (Cont) were expressed in *lem2*⁺ and *lem2*Δ cells. Cells were lysed in CSK-HEPES buffer containing 150 mM NaCl, and cell lysates were subjected to IP using the anti-FLAG antibody and subsequently the anti-HA antibody. MW and BSA are as described above. Numbers at the bottom represent the sample numbers for mass spectrometry analysis. (C) Classification of the 45 proteins identified via mass spectrometry. These proteins were classified

according to gene ontology (GO) terms and the results are shown as a pie chart. The value in parentheses

represents fold enrichment of the GO term.

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 Figure 2. Characterization of Lem2-binding proteins Cho2, Ole1, and Erg11. (A) Western blotting of GFP-Cho2 (left panels), GFP-Ole1 (middle panels), and Erg11-GFP (right panels). A GFP-fused protein (GFP-Cho2, GFP-Ole1, or Erg11-GFP) was expressed in *S. pombe* wild- type (WT) expressing FLAG-Lem2-HA and *bqt4*Δ cells expressing FLAG-Lem2-HA. Cell lysates were subjected to IP using anti-FLAG antibody beads, and the bound GFP-tagged proteins were detected using anti-GFP or anti-HA antibodies. GFP was used as a control for GFP-fused proteins. For Cho2 IP, 0.5 and 0.01% input were loaded for GFP and GFP-Cho2, respectively. For Ole1 and Erg11 IP, 0.2% input was loaded. Molecular weight markers (MW) are shown on the left. Asterisks indicate the non-specific bands. (B) Subcellular localization of GFP-Cho2, GFP-Ole1, and Erg11-GFP. One of the GFP-fused proteins was expressed in *S. pombe* WT or *lem2*Δ cells and its localization was observed via fluorescence microscopy. Black signals represent high fluorescence signals. Due to the different expression levels of these proteins, the display scale of the images was adjusted individually: among these three proteins, Cho2 was the highest and Erg11 the lowest in the expression level. Bar: 5 μm. **Figure 3. Identification and characterization of Bqt4-binding proteins.** (A) SDS-PAGE of Bqt4-binding proteins obtained via IP. Cells expressing FLAG-Bqt4-HA or FLAG-HA were lysed in the CSK-HEPES buffer containing 150 mM NaCl. Binding proteins were obtained via two- step purification using the anti-FLAG antibody and subsequently the anti-HA antibody. Purified proteins were subjected to SDS-PAGE and detected via silver staining. Loaded samples are indicated at the top of each lane: molecular weight markers (MW), FLAG-HA as a control (Cont), FLAG-Bqt4-HA (Bqt4), and 20 ng BSA as a loading marker (BSA). Molecular weights of the markers are shown on the left side.

Conflict of interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest with the contents of this article.

Table 1. **Lem2-binding proteins.** The proteins shown in Fig.1B were identified by LC/MS. Numbers indicate the number of detected peptides by LC/MS analysis. GO classification shown here is based on PomBase.

| Identified Proteins | | Accession Number | MW | Trans- membrane | $lem2+$ | | | | | | $lem2\Delta$ | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|-----------------------------|
| | | | | | | | One-step purification (HA) | | Two-step purification ($FLAG \rightarrow HA$) | | | | GO slim | GO | Ref. |
| Name | Description | | (kDa) | domain | 150mM NaCl | | 300mM NaCl | | | | 150mM NaCl | | | | |
| Lem ₂ | LEM domain nuclear inner membrane protein Hehl/Lem2 | SPAC18G6.10 | 78 | \overline{c} | control $\bf{0}$ | lem ₂ 89 | control θ | lem ₂ 48 | control θ | lem ₂ 283 | control $\overline{2}$ | lem ₂ 287 | | | |
| Bqt4 | bouquet formation protein Bqt4 | SPBC19C7.10 | 48 | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | 10 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\overline{7}$ | $\overline{0}$ | 14 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 15 | telomere organization | telomere organization | Hirano Y et |
| Cho ₂ | phosphatidylethanolamine N- methyltransferase Cho2 | SPBC26H8.03 | 103 | 10 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | 18 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\overline{4}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 19 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 16 | lipid metabolic process | phosphatidylcholine biosynthetic process | al. (2018) |
| Ole1 | acyl-coA desaturase | SPCC1281.06c | 54 | $\overline{3}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 9 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\overline{1}$ | $\overline{0}$ | 15 | $\overline{0}$ | 19 | lipid metabolic process | unsaturated fatty acid biosynthetic process | Varberg JM et al. (2020) |
| Nmd ₅ | karyopherin/importin beta family nuclear import/export signal receptor | SPCC550.11 | 116 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\bf{0}$ | 8 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 8 | $\overline{0}$ | 10 | nucleocytoplasmic transport | protein import into nucleus | |
| Erg11 | sterol 14-demethylase | SPAC13A11.02c | 56 | $\overline{2}$ | $\bf{0}$ | 5 | $\bf{0}$ | $\mathbf{1}$ | θ | 3 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\overline{2}$ | lipid metabolic process | ergosterol biosynthetic process | |
| Ape2 | aminopeptidase Ape2 | SPBC1921.05 | 99 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\overline{4}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | | θ | 8 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 8 | protein targeting | cytoplasm to vacuole transport by the NVT pathway | |
| Rad ₂₅ | 14-3-3 protein Rad25 | SPAC17A2.13c | 30 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\overline{4}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\overline{1}$ | $\bf{0}$ | $\overline{7}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf Q$ | mitotic cell cycle phase transition | mitotic G2 DNA damage checkpoint signaling | |
| Rp16 | 60S ribosomal protein L6 | SPCC622.18 | 21 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | 3 | $\bf{0}$ | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\bf{0}$ | 3 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 7 | cytoplasmic translation | cytoplasmic translation | |
| Pfk1 | 6-phosphofructokinase | SPBC16H5.02 | 103 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | 22 | $\mathbf{0}$ | θ | $\overline{0}$ | $\overline{7}$ | $\overline{0}$ | -6 | carbohydrate metabolic process | glycolytic process | |
| Hmg1 | 3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-CoA reductase Hmg1 | SPCC162.09c | 115 | τ | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | 15 | $\mathbf{0}$ | θ | $\overline{0}$ | 12 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 13 | lipid metabolic process | ergosterol biosynthetic process | |
| Rp1402 | 60S ribosomal protein L2 | SPBP8B7.03c | 40 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | 14 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | θ | $\overline{0}$ | $\overline{7}$ | $\overline{0}$ | 9 | cytoplasmic translation | cytoplasmic translation | |
| Met10 | sulfite reductase NADPH flavoprotein subunit | SPCC584.01c | 111 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | 12 | $\bf{0}$ | θ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 5 | $\mathbf{0}$ | -6 | sulfur compound metabolic process | hydrogen sulfide biosynthetic process | |
| Ural | carbamoyl-phosphate synthase | SPAC22G7.06c | 248 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\bf{0}$ | 12 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | θ | θ | 17 | $\overline{0}$ | 20 | amino acid metabolic process | de novo' pyrimidine nucleobase biosynthetic process | |
| Gcnl | translation initiation regulator, HEAT repeat protein Gcn1 | SPAC18G6.05c | 297 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | 11 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | θ | $\bf{0}$ | 11 | $\overline{0}$ | 10 | cytoplasmic translation | cellular response to amino acid starvation | |
| Sum3 | ATP-dependent RNA helicase Sum3 | SPCC1795.11 | 70 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | 8 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | θ | $\bf{0}$ | 3 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 2 | cytoplasmic translation | cytoplasmic translational initiation | |
| Fas1 | fatty acid synthase beta subunit Fas1 | SPAC926.09c | 231 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | 8 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | θ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 5 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\overline{4}$ | lipid metabolic process | fatty acid biosynthetic process | |
| Rp113 | 60S ribosomal protein L13 | SPAC664.05 | 24 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\overline{0}$ | 8 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | θ | θ | 3 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\overline{4}$ | cytoplasmic translation | cytoplasmic translation | |
| Bfr1 | brefeldin A efflux transporter Bfr1 | SPCC18B5.01c | 172 | 12 | $\overline{0}$ | τ | $\overline{0}$ | θ | θ | $\overline{7}$ | Ω | 15 | transmembrane transport | xenobiotic detoxification by transmembrane export across the plasma membrane | |
| Wbp1 | dolichyl-di-phosphooligosaccharide- protein glycotransferase subunit Wbp1 | SPCC338.15 | 49 | $\mathbf{1}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 7 | $\bf{0}$ | θ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 6 | $\overline{0}$ | 8 | protein glycosylation | protein N-linked glycosylation via asparagine | |
| SPAC11D 3.14c | 5-oxoprolinase (ATP-hydrolizing) | SPAC11D3.14c | 139 | $\boldsymbol{0}$ | $\bf{0}$ | 6 | θ | Ω | θ | 13 | $\overline{0}$ | 10 | sulfur compound metabolic process | cellular detoxification | |
| SPBC1703 .13c | mitochondrial inorganic phosphate transporter | SPBC1703.13c | 34 | 3 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 5 | θ | Ω | θ | $\overline{4}$ | $\overline{0}$ | 12 | transmembrane transport | mitochondrial transport | |

Table 2. Bqt4-binding proteins. The proteins shown in Fig.3A were identified by LC/MS. Numbers indicate the number of detected peptides by LC/MS analysis. GO classification shown here is based on PomBase.

| Identified Proteins | | | MW | Trans- | Replicate 1 | | Replicate 2 | | | GO | |
|----------------------------|--|------------------|-----------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Name | Description | Accession Number | (kDa) | membrane domain | control | Bqt4 | control | Bqt4 | GO slim | | Ref. |
| Bqt4 | bouquet formation protein Bqt4 | SPBC19C7.10 | 48 | | $\overline{0}$ | 172 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 302 | | | |
| Imp1 | importin alpha family nuclear import signal receptor adaptor Imp1 | SPBC1604.08c | 60 | Ω | Ω | 35 | θ | 84 | nucleocytoplasmic transport | protein import into nucleus | Lucena R et al. (2015) |
| Tef102 | Translation elongation factor EF-1 alpha Ef1a-b | SPAC23A1.10 | 50 | Ω | $\mathbf{0}$ | 13 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 16 | cytoplasmic translation | cytoplasmic translational elongation | |
| Cut15 | importin alpha family nuclear import signal receptor adaptor Cut15 | SPCC962.03c | 60 | θ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 12 | $\overline{0}$ | 31 | nucleocytoplasmic transport | protein import into nucleus | |
| Tef3 | translation elongation factor eEF3 | SPCC417.08 | 116 | θ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 12 | θ | 6 | cytoplasmic translation | cytoplasmic translational elongation | |
| Pmal | plasma membrane P-type proton exporting ATPase, P3-type Pma1 | SPAC1071.10c | 100 | 9 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 11 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 35 | transmembrane transport | regulation of intracellular pH | |
| Rad25 | 14-3-3 protein Rad25 | SPAC17A2.13c | 30 | θ | $\mathbf{0}$ | τ | θ | 6 | mitotic cell cycle phase transition | mitotic G2 DNA damage checkpoint signaling | |
| Mts4 | 19S proteasome regulatory subunit Rpn1/Mts4 | SPBP19A11.03c | 98 | $\mathbf{0}$ | θ | 6 | $\overline{0}$ | 8 | mitotic sister chromatid segregation | proteasomal protein catabolic process | |
| Pdc101 | pyruvate decarboxylase | SPAC1F8.07c | 62 | Ω | θ | 5 | θ | 16 | generation of precursor metabolites and energy | generation of precursor metabolites and energy | |
| Pfk1 | 6-phosphofructokinase pfk1 | SPBC16H5.02 | 103 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 5 | $\overline{0}$ | 6 | generation of precursor metabolites and energy | glycolytic process | |
| Ural | carbamoyl-phosphate synthase | SPAC22G7.06c | 248 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\overline{4}$ | $\overline{0}$ | 37 | amino acid metabolic process | de novo' pyrimidine nucleobase biosynthetic process | |
| Vid27 | WD repeat protein, Vid27 family, conserved in fungi and plants | SPBC1685.14c | 92 | $\overline{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\overline{4}$ | θ | 9 | Not classified | Not classified | |
| Rad ₂₄ | 14-3-3 protein Rad24 | SPAC8E11.02c | 30 | Ω | θ | $\overline{4}$ | θ | 6 | mitotic cell cycle phase transition | mitotic G2 DNA damage checkpoint signaling | |
| Bip1 | ER heat shock protein BiP | SPAC22A12.15c | 73 | | θ | $\overline{4}$ | θ | 5 | protein catabolic process | ubiquitin-dependent ERAD pathway | |
| Ape2 | aminopeptidase Ape2 | SPBC1921.05 | 99 | Ω | θ | $\overline{3}$ | θ | 13 | protein targeting | cytoplasm to vacuole transport by the NVT pathway | |
| Sks2 | heat shock protein, Hsp70 family, ribosome associated Sks2 | SPBC1709.05 | 67 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\overline{3}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 11 | protein folding | ribosome biogenesis | |
| Kap95 | karyopherin/importin beta family nuclear import signal receptor Kap95 | SPAC1B1.03c | 95 | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ | $\overline{3}$ | θ | 9 | nucleocytoplasmic transport | protein import into nucleus | |
| Sec26 | coatomer beta subunit | SPBC146.14c | 104 | Ω | θ | 3 | θ | 6 | vesicle-mediated transport | intracellular protein transport | |
| Eft2 | translation elongation factor 2 (EF-2) Eft2,A | SPAC513.01c | 93 | θ | θ | 3 | θ | 3 | cytoplasmic translation | cytoplasmic translational elongation | |
| Rpt2 | 19S proteasome base subcomplex ATPase subunit Rpt2 | SPBC4.07c | 50 | θ | $\mathbf{0}$ | 3 | $\overline{0}$ | $\overline{2}$ | mitotic sister chromatid segregation | proteasomal protein catabolic process | |
| Sum3 | translation initiation RNA helicase Sum3 | SPCC1795.11 | 70 | θ | θ | 2 | θ | $\overline{4}$ | cytoplasmic translation | cytoplasmic translational elongation | |
| Tif35 | translation initiation factor eIF3g | SPBC18H10.03 | 31 | θ | θ | 2 | θ | 3 | cytoplasmic translation | formation of cytoplasmic translation initiation complex | |
| Cwh ₄₃ | glycosylceramide biosynthesis protein Cwh43 | SPAC589.12 | 110 | 19 | Ω | $\overline{2}$ | Ω | $\overline{2}$ | lipid metabolic process | GPI anchor biosynthetic process | |
| Alg9 | mannosyltransferase complex subunit Alg9 | SPAC1834.05 | 66 | 10 | $\mathbf{0}$ | 2 | θ | $\overline{2}$ | lipid metabolic process | dolichol-linked oligosaccharide biosynthetic process | |

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Supplymentary Data 1

Full blot for Figure 2A

Full blot for Figure 3C

Supplementary Table 1. *S. pombe* **strains used in this study**

Supplementary Table S2. Minor Bqt4-binding proteins.

The proteins identified only in one replicate are shown. Numbers indicate the number of detected peptides by LC/MS analysis. Yellow-highlighted are shared proteins with Lem2 binding proteins.

