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Satb1 regulates Contactin 5 to pattern dendrites of a mammalian retinal ganglion cell

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SUMMARY

The size and shape of dendritic arbors are prime determinants of neuronal connectivity and function. We asked how ON-OFF direction-selective ganglion cells (ooDSGCs) in mouse retina acquire their bistratified dendrites, in which responses to light-onset and light-offset are segregated to distinct strata. We found that the transcriptional regulator *Satb1* is selectively expressed by ooDSGCs. In *Satb1* mutant mice, ooDSGC dendrites lack ON arbors and the cells selectively lose ON responses. *Satb1* regulates expression of a homophilic adhesion molecule, Contactin 5 (*Cntn5*). Both *Cntn5* and its co-receptor *Caspr4* are expressed not only by ooDSGCs but also by interneurons that form a scaffold on which ooDSGC ON dendrites fasciculate. Removing *Cntn5* from either ooDSGCs or the interneurons partially phenocopies *Satb1* mutants, demonstrating that *Satb1*-dependent *Cntn5* expression in ooDSGCs leads to branch-specific homophilic interactions with interneurons. Thus, *Satb1* directs formation of a morphologically and functionally specialized compartment within a complex dendritic arbor.

Keywords

Satb1; *Satb2*; Contactin; *Caspr*; retinal ganglion cell; ooDSGC

INTRODUCTION

Among the features by which we distinguish classes of neurons from each other, dendritic morphology ranks high. This was a main criterion used by Ramón y Cajal in the nineteenth century (Ramón y Cajal, 1909), and it remains a powerful criterion today. Many

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Design of experiments and analysis of data: Y.-R.P., A.K., N.T., D.K., J.R.S. Histological analysis: Y.-R.P., N.T., E.M.M. RNAseq: Y.-R.P. *Cntn/Caspr* interactions: A.K., D.K., Y.-R.P. Electrophysiology: A.K. Writing manuscript: Y.-R.P. J.R.S. with input from other authors.

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neurobiologists can identify cerebellar Purkinje cells, cortical pyramid neurons or spinal motor neurons based on dendritic shape alone. Importantly, dendritic arbors are not mere plumage: their size, shape and location are critical determinants of the numbers and types of inputs that each neuron receives (Lefebvre et al., 2015; London and Hausser, 2005).

Substantial distinctions also occur among neuronal types within a general class. Here, retinal ganglion cells (RGCs) provide a good example. RGCs in the ganglion cell layer all send one or a few primary dendrites into the inner plexiform layer (IPL), where they branch to form planar arbors confined to narrow strata. Yet arbors of individual RGC types, of which there are >30 in mice, differ in multiple ways, including symmetry, diameter, branch density, and stratification level (Sanes and Masland, 2015) (Figure 1A). Their diameter and shape are directly related to the size and shape of their receptive field, respectively. Their stratification level is a prime determinant of the interneuron types from which they receive synapses and therefore the visual features to which they respond. Thus, RGCs provide a useful system for exploring how neurons within a class acquire type-specific dendritic features.

Studies in multiple systems have revealed three sets of factors that control dendritic morphogenesis: intrinsic transcriptional programs, signals from neighboring cells, and (at least for vertebrates) activity-dependent remodeling (Dong et al., 2015; Lefebvre et al., 2015). Studies of the dendritic arborization (da) neurons in *Drosophila* provide an influential model for transcriptional control of type-specific arborization patterns. Four groups of da neurons (called I–IV) elaborate dendrites that innervate the body wall. They differ, however, in dendritic complexity (I least, IV most). The four groups are distinguished by differential expression of a set of conserved transcription factors that determine class-specific arborization patterns by regulating expression of cytoskeletal and adhesive molecules (Corty et al., 2009; Grueber et al., 2003; Jinushi-Nakao et al., 2007; Kim et al., 2006; Li et al., 2004; Sugimura et al., 2004). The adhesion molecules, in turn, interact with environmental cues, leading to appropriate patterns of dendritic growth and arborization (Parrish et al., 2007; Santiago and Bashaw, 2014). It is likely that this logic is evolutionally conserved (Cubelos et al., 2010; Peng et al., 2009; Puram and Bonni, 2013; Valnegri et al., 2015; Whitney et al., 2014), but in few if any cases have genetic programs been identified that control individual features within complex dendrites.

Here, we analyzed RGCs to address this issue, focusing on a particularly well-studied, the ON-OFF direction-selective RGCs (ooDSGCs) (Vaney et al., 2012). ooDSGCs have bistratified dendritic arbors. Inputs sensitive to increased and decreased illumination levels are confined to the inner (ON) and outer (OFF) strata of the IPL, respectively, thus accounting for their dual responsiveness. There are four ooDSGC types, each responsive to motion in one of 4 directions (ventral, dorsal, nasal, and temporal) (Oyster and Barlow, 1967). The four types share many structural and physiological properties but exhibit some molecular differences (Huberman et al., 2009; Kay et al., 2011a; Morrie and Feller, 2016). To find genes involved in establishing type-specific features, we used a gene expression database generated from 17 sets of retinal cells that we had transcriptionally profiled (Kay et al., 2012; Kay et al., 2011b). To improve our chance of finding genes involved in ooDSGC dendritic morphogenesis, we sought transcriptional regulators that were expressed by two ooDSGC types with different directional preferences but not by other RGCs. *Satb1* (special

AT-rich sequence binding protein 1), recently implicated in development of cortical interneurons (Close et al., 2012; Denaxa et al., 2012), fulfilled this criterion. We showed that *Satb1* acts cell-autonomously in ooDSGCs to generate bistratified arbors; in its absence, ooDSGCs selectively lose their ON arbor and become unresponsive to light-on stimuli. We then compared transcriptome profiles of control and *Satb1*^{-/-} ooDSGCs to seek cell surface proteins that could act downstream of *Satb1* and mediate its morphogenetic effects. We found that the immunoglobulin superfamily member Contactin 5 (*Cntn5*) is one such molecule: its expression is regulated by *Satb1* and its deletion leads to dendritic alterations similar to those of *Satb1* deletion. Finally, we present evidence that *Cntn5* and its co-receptor *Caspr4* may act by mediating homophilic adhesion to *Cntn5*/*Caspr4*-expressing interneurons that form a scaffold for the ooDSGC ON arbor. Together, our results elucidate a genetic pathway that generates type-specific features in the dendrites of RGCs.

RESULTS

Satb1 is selectively expressed in ooDSGCs

To seek transcriptional regulators selectively expressed by ooDSGCs, we used a gene expression database obtained by transcriptomic profiling of 17 sets of retinal neurons isolated by FACS from transgenic mouse lines ((Kay et al., 2012; Kay et al., 2011b) and J. N. K., Y.-R. P. and J.R.S., unpublished). It included 8 groups of RGCs, 5 groups of amacrine cells, 3 groups of bipolar cells, and horizontal cells. Of the RGCs, three were ooDSGCs: Hb9-GFP and *Fstl4*-CreER;stop-YFP lines label ooDSGCs that prefer ventral motion on the retina (V-ooDSGCs) (Kim et al., 2010; Trenholm et al., 2011); and the *Drd4*-GFP line labels nasal-preferring ooDSGCs (N-ooDSGCs) (Huberman et al., 2009; Kay et al., 2011a). We compared expression profiles to that of *Cartpt*, which encodes *Cart*, a peptide that is present in most if not all ooDSGCs (Kay et al., 2011a). *Satb1*, like *Cartpt*, was expressed at higher levels in all three ooDSGC populations than in any other retinal type represented in the database (Fig. 1B).

To validate the expression of *Satb1* in ooDSGCs, we stained retinas with anti-*Satb1* (Fig. 1C). *Satb1* was present in a subset of RGCs, identified by the pan-RGC marker *Rbpms* (Rodriguez et al., 2014), but not in any other retinal cells, including photoreceptors, interneurons, or Müller glia (Fig. 1D and S1A). 80% of *Satb1*-positive RGCs were *Cart*-positive and the three ooDSGC-specific lines (Hb9-GFP, *Drd4*-GFP, and *Fstl4*-CreER;stop-YFP) each labeled ~20% of *Satb1*-positive cells, consistent with the fact that each line marks one of the four ooDSGCs types (Fig. 1D) (Kay et al., 2011b). Moreover, >90% of ooDSGCs labeled in each of these lines were *Satb1*-positive (Fig. 1E). In contrast, no RGCs were detectably *Satb1*-positive in several lines that label monostратified RGCs or bistratified RGCs that arborize in laminae distinct from those in which ooDSGCs arborize (Fig. 1E) (Duan et al., 2015; Kim et al., 2008; Osterhout et al., 2011). Thus, most *Satb1*-positive retinal cells are ooDSGCs. The remaining *Satb1*-positive cells include a small fraction of RGCs labeled in the TYW3 line (Kim et al., 2010; Krishnaswamy et al., 2015), some of which are *Foxp2*-positive (Rousso et al., 2016); most of these contain lower levels of *Satb1* than do ooDSGCs.

In a complementary approach, we used the Thy1-YFPH line, which labels ~200 RGCs per retina (Feng et al., 2000). Labeling is sufficiently sparse in this line to assess cellular morphology, and previous studies showed that most RGC types are represented (Coombs et al., 2006; Samuel et al., 2011). Over 90% of the YFP, *Satb1* double-positive RGCs were bistratified with arbors in S2 and S4 (We divide the IPL into 5 equal strata, with S1 neighboring the inner nuclear layer and S5 neighboring the ganglion cell layer; see Fig. 1A) (Fig. 1F, G). Together these results demonstrate that nearly all retinal cells brightly stained for *Satb1* are ooDSGCs.

***Satb1* is required for patterning ooDSGCs dendritic arbors**

To assess the function of *Satb1* in ooDSGCs, we crossed a null allele (Close et al., 2012) to the Hb9-GFP and *Drd4*-GFP lines, which mark V-ooDSGCs and N-ooDSGCs, respectively. Results were similar in both lines. We discuss V-ooDSGCs here and return to subtle but informative differences between V- and N-ooDSGCs below. Retinal structure was not detectably perturbed in the absence of *Satb1* (Fig. S1). However, whereas dendrites of wild-type ooDSGCs are bistratified with arbors in S2 and S4; mutant ooDSGC dendrites were monostратified, retaining their outer arbor in S2 but lacking their inner arbor in S4 (Fig. 2A, B).

We assessed the specificity of this phenotype in two ways. First, we examined lamina-specific arborization of 10 other groups of retinal neurons. In no case did lamination differ detectably between *Satb1* mutants and controls (Fig. S1). Second, we asked whether other properties of ooDSGCs were regulated by *Satb1*. Loss of *Satb1* had no detectable effects on the number or spacing of ooDSGCs, or their projections to targets in the brain (Fig. S2). Moreover, ooDSGCs in *Satb1*^{-/-} retina neither lost their characteristic markers, nor acquired markers of other RGC types (Fig. S3). Thus, *Satb1* acts selectively on dendritic morphogenesis without causing a more global fate change.

To evaluate dendritic morphology quantitatively, we traced and measured individual ooDSGC arbors from sparsely-labeled regions in whole mounts; these were generally in peripheral retina. Consistent with results from sections, S2 (OFF) and S4 (ON) arbors were similar in size in controls, but ON arbors were far smaller than OFF arbors in mutants (Fig. 2C). Moreover, whereas S4 branches are planar in controls, those that persisted in S4 of mutants were generally ascending toward S2 (Fig. 2D, E). Despite loss of the ON arbor, the total dendritic length and the total number of branch points did not differ significantly between mutants and controls (Fig. 2F, G). Instead, the decrease in dendritic arbor branching in S4 was compensated by an increased branch density in S2, leading to a slight broadening of the S2 arbor (Fig. 2B, D–E, H–J). Thus *Satb1* does not control the overall elaboration of dendritic branches in ooDSGCs, but rather their position: branches divided between S2 and S4 in controls are directed to S2 in mutants.

***Satb1* acts to stabilize the ooDSGC ON arbor**

We next analyzed the formation of ooDSGC arbors during early postnatal life. Previous work showed that dendrites of ooDSGCs are largely restricted to S2 and S4 by postnatal (P) 5–6 (Kim et al., 2010). Analysis at earlier stages revealed that ooDSGC arbors were

concentrated in a broad band in the inner portion of the IPL at P3, before becoming bistratified (Fig. 3A–C). Arbors in *Satb1* mutants and controls were similar until P6: branches first extended in S4, then formed a second plexus in S2. In controls, however, arbors remained bistratified, whereas in mutants, the nascent S4 arbor was lost after P6, leading to a monostратified arbor centered in S2 (Fig. 3A, D–F). Together, these results define three stages in the development of ooDSGC arbors: formation of a broad S4 arbor between birth and P3; splitting into distinct S2 and S4 arbors between P3 and P6; and growth and stabilization of the arbors between P6 and P9. In *Satb1* mutants, the first two stages proceed normally but the S4 arbor is not maintained (Fig. 3G).

Satb1 patterns ooDSGC dendrites postnatally and cell-autonomously

Although the *Satb1* mutant phenotype is apparent after P6, the defects could result from an earlier requirement for *Satb1* in the ooDSGC developmental program. To test this possibility, we used conditional *Satb1* mutants (*Satb1^{fl/fl}*) to delete *Satb1* from ooDSGCs postnatally, a week after they become postmitotic (De la Huerta et al., 2012). We generated *Satb1^{fl/fl}*;Hb9-GFP mice, and used adeno-associated viral (AAV) vectors to introduce cre at P0, deleting *Satb1* from only some ooDSGCs; mutant and control cells were distinguished by staining with anti-*Satb1*. When examined at P14, ooDSGCs from which *Satb1* had been deleted bore monostратified dendrites, whereas nearby cells that retained *Satb1* had bistratified dendrites (Fig. 3H, I). In contrast, infection at P3 had no detectable effects on dendritic stratification. We draw three conclusions from these results: First, *Satb1* acts late in the developmental program that patterns ooDSGC dendritic arbors. Second, its requirement is confined to a restricted postnatal period. Finally, it acts cell-autonomously.

Satb1 is required for ON responses of ooDSGCs

As noted above, inputs that convey information about ON stimuli (typically bright stationary or moving objects on a dark background) and OFF stimuli (dark objects on a bright background) are segregated on ooDSGC dendritic arbors: ON- and OFF-responsive excitatory and inhibitory interneurons synapse selectively on S4 and S2 arbors, respectively (Vaney et al., 2012). In *Satb1^{-/-}* mice, S4 (ON) dendrites may be translocated to S2, the OFF sublamina. They might carry their inputs with them, remain uninervated, or receive OFF inputs. To distinguish these and other possibilities, we targeted control and mutant GFP-positive ooDSGCs in the Hb9-GFP line for loose-patch recording. Because constitutive *Satb1* mutants die shortly after weaning (~P21), we used conditional mutants for these studies and induced retina-specific deletion with a transgenic line (Furuta et al., 2000).

We first stimulated ooDSGCs with spots of light (~200 μm in diameter, 1 sec duration). As expected, control ooDSGCs responded vigorously to both the onset (ON response) and offset (OFF response) of the stimulus. In contrast, mutant ooDSGCs retained normal OFF responses but lacked ON responses (Fig. 4A, B). Thus, excitatory inputs from ON bipolar cells are unlikely to form functional synapses on ooDSGC dendrites that might translocate to the OFF sublamina. As an additional test, we stained axonal arbors of Type 5 bipolars, which deliver ON input to S4 (Duan et al., 2014) with anti-CaBP5; their position was not detectably affected in *Satb1* mutant retina (Fig. S1D).

To assess inhibitory responses, we made use of the fact that the direction-selectivity of ooDSGCs is patterned by inhibition from starburst amacrine cells (Fried et al., 2002; Wei et al., 2011). The direction-selectivity of the OFF response did not differ detectably between *Satb1*^{-/-} and control ooDSGCs, indicating that inhibitory inputs to the OFF arbor were normal (Fig. 4C, D). Thus, *Satb1* is required for ON responses of ooDSGCs but dispensable for responsiveness and direction-selectivity within the OFF channel.

Satb1 differentially affects dendrites of V-ooDSGCs and N-ooDSGCs

Analysis of *Satb1* mutants described to this point was performed on V-ooDSGCs labeled in the Hb9-GFP line. We used two additional lines to analyze other ooDSGC populations: *Drd4*-GFP, which marks nasal motion-preferring N-ooDSGCs and *Cartpt*^{Cre}, which, like CART staining, marks all ooDSGCs as well as some amacrine cells. *Satb1* deletion had a similar effect on all classes of ooDSGCs: the normally bistratified dendritic arbor became monostratified in the absence of *Satb1* (Fig. 2K, L and S4A, B). We analyzed N-ooDSGCs further. For N-ooDSGC as for V-ooDSGCs, the defect reflected instability of the ON arbor (Fig. S4C). However, further analysis revealed a difference between phenotypes in N-ooDSGCs and V-ooDSGCs. Approximately one-third of mutant N-ooDSGCs resembled mutant V-ooDSGCs in that they retained only the S2 arbor. Another third were also monostratified, but their arbor was centered on S3. The final third retained a bistratified dendritic morphology (Fig. S4D, E).

What accounts for the difference in *Satb1*'s role between V-ooDSGCs and N-ooDSGCs? We considered the possibility that these two RGC types might differentially express *Satb2*, a homologue of *Satb1*. *Satb2* was expressed by both V-ooDSGCs and N-ooDSGCs at P14 (Fig. S4F), as well as in subsets of other RGCs and amacrine cells (Kay et al., 2011b). At P1 and P3, however, *Satb2* was expressed in significantly more N-ooDSGCs than V-ooDSGCs (Fig. S4G, H). Moreover, in *Satb1*^{-/-} retina, *Satb2* was lost from most V-ooDSGCs but retained by ~70% of N-ooDSGCs (Fig. S4H). Thus, we speculate that *Satb2* as well as *Satb1* controls ooDSGCs dendritic arborization, but that key differences in their regulation affect their relative contribution in V-ooDSGCs and N-ooDSGCs.

Satb1 regulates Cntn5 expression in ooDSGCs

Satb1 presumably acts in ooDSGCs by directly or indirectly regulating expression of genes involved in dendritic growth, stability or patterning. To seek such genes, we isolated ooDSGCs by FACS from Hb9-GFP and *Satb1*^{-/-};Hb9-GFP mice and analyzed their transcriptomes by RNAseq. Approximately 95 genes were significantly regulated by *Satb1* ($p < 0.01$), 19 being up-regulated and 76 being down-regulated in mutants compared to controls (Table S1).

We focused on transmembrane recognition molecules such as immunoglobulin superfamily molecules, cadherins, and plexins, which have been implicated in synaptic choices of retinal interneurons and RGCs (Duan et al., 2014; Krishnaswamy et al., 2015; Sun et al., 2013; Yamagata and Sanes, 2008). Among genes surveyed, the immunoglobulin superfamily member Contactin 5 (*Cntn5*) showed the most striking reduction in the *Satb1*^{-/-} Hb9-GFP

cells (Fig. 5A). qPCR performed on independently isolated sets of control and mutant V-ooDSGCs confirmed the reduction (Fig. S5A).

For further analysis, we used the *Cntn5^{LacZ}* mouse line, in which a tau-beta galactosidase (LacZ) fusion was inserted into the *Cntn5* locus (Li et al., 2003). We showed recently that a set of ON bipolars express Cntn5 in mature retina (Shekhar et al., 2016). In young retina, however, the majority of LacZ-positive cells were ooDSGCs (Fig. 5B, S5B). Expression appeared during the first several postnatal days, and 80% of ooDSGCs were LacZ positive by P6 (Fig. 5C). *Cntn5* expression in bipolar cells was detectable after P8 (Fig. S5E).

Contactin 5 and Satb1 mutants have similar effects on ooDSGC dendritic arbors

We next used the *Cntn5^{LacZ}* line, which is a null allele, to ask whether Cntn5 plays a role in patterning ooDSGC dendrites. Dendritic defects in *Cntn5^{LacZ/LacZ}* mice were qualitatively similar to those described above for *Satb1* mutants: S4 (ON) arbors of V-ooDSGCs were disrupted in *Cntn5^{LacZ/LacZ}* mice but S2 (OFF) arbors persisted (Fig. 5D–F and S5C, D), and the S2 arbor was enhanced to the same extent that the S4 arbor was diminished (Fig. 5G–K). The phenotype was selective in that retinal organization was not detectably perturbed in the absence of *Cntn5*, nor were lamina-specific arbors disrupted in other cell types assayed (Fig. S5E–G). For each parameter measured, however, effects were quantitatively less severe in *Cntn5^{LacZ/LacZ}* mice than in *Satb1^{-/-}* mice. These results indicate that the effects of Satb1 on ooDSGC morphogenesis are mediated in part but not entirely by Cntn5.

Contactin5 is expressed by ON but not OFF starburst amacrine cells

Cntn5 could interact with ligands on neighboring cells to stabilize the ON arbor. What might those cells be? Starburst amacrine cells (SACs) are attractive candidates. ooDSGC dendrites fasciculate on SAC dendrites, from which they receive abundant inhibitory synapses (Wei et al., 2011) and ooDSGC dendrites fail to form stratified arbors when SACs are ablated in neonates (X. Duan and J.R.S. unpublished). SACs with somata in the inner nuclear and ganglion cell layers interact with the OFF and ON ooDSGC arbors, respectively (Fig. 6A). Based on this reasoning, we asked whether Cntn5 ligands are present on ON SAC arbors.

Cntn5 has been shown to bind to PTPR γ and APLP1 (Bouyain and Watkins, 2010; Shimoda et al., 2012). We examined the distribution of these proteins immunohistochemically and found that they were diffusely distributed in the IPL (Fig. S6A). In contrast, Cntn5 itself was highly concentrated in S4. It was diffusely distributed through the IPL in neonates, but became concentrated in S4 by P6 (Fig. 6B). This immunoreactivity could reflect a concentration of Cntn5 on the ON dendrites of ooDSGCs, but an alternative possibility was suggested by further analysis of the *Cntn5^{LacZ}* line, which revealed that ON but not OFF SACs express Cntn5 (Fig. 6C). This result suggested that Cntn5 could be localized on SAC dendrites, in addition to or instead of ooDSGC dendrites.

To distinguish these possibilities, we used high-resolution confocal microscopy. We triply stained whole mounts of Hb9-GFP retina with antibodies to VACHT and ChAT (to mark SAC dendrites), GFP (to mark ooDSGC dendrites) and Cntn5. Imaging revealed that immunoreactivity was associated with both ON SACs and ON ooDSGC dendrites, whereas

little immunoreactivity was present on OFF SACs or OFF ooDSGC dendrites (Fig. 6D and S6C). Moreover, the density of *Cntn5* puncta in ON ooDSGC dendrites was significantly decreased in *Satb1* mutants (Fig. 6E). In contrast, loss of *Satb1* had no effect on expression of *Cntn5* in SACs (Fig. S5B, S6B). Thus, ON dendrites of ooDSGCs and dendrites of ON SACs both bear *Cntn5*, but regulation of their expression differs, being *Satb1*-dependent in ooDSGCs and *Satb1*-independent in SACs.

Cntn5 binds to Caspr4 and mediates homophilic adhesion

If *Cntn5* mediates interactions between ooDSGC and SAC dendrites that sculpt the ooDSGC arbor, it must be capable of signaling to the cell interior and binding homophilically. We tested these requirements in turn.

Contactins are attached to the outer leaflet of the plasma membrane by a glycosylphosphatidyl-inositol linkage; they signal to the cell interior through contactin-associated proteins (Casprs), a set of 7 transmembrane proteins, with which they form dimers (Poliak and Peles, 2003; Shimoda and Watanabe, 2009). Analysis of our transcriptomic database revealed that all 7 Casprs, as well as four other *Cntn*-binding proteins were expressed by ooDSGCs but their expression was not significantly affected by loss of *Satb1* (Figure S6D). Because Contactin/Caspr interactions are selective, we performed co-expression and co-clustering assays in heterologous cells to determine which Casprs could dimerize with *Cntn5*. *Cntn1* and *Cntn2* associated selectively with *Caspr1* and *Caspr2*, respectively, consistent with previous studies (Fig. S6E) (Peles et al., 1997; Poliak et al., 2003; Traka et al., 2003). *Cntn5* did not associate detectably with *Caspr1*, 2, 3 or 5c, but did co-cluster with *Caspr4* (see also Ashrafi et al., 2014), *Caspr5a* and *Caspr5b*. For one of them, *Caspr4*, we obtained retinas from a reporter line and confirmed that *Caspr4* was expressed in both ooDSGCs and SACs as well as several other cell types (Fig. S6F, G). Thus, appropriate Casprs are present in ooDSGCs to render *Cntn5* capable of translating intercellular interactions into intracellular signaling events.

We also used heterologous cells to test whether *Cntn5* or *Cntn5*/Caspr dimers bind homophilically, as previously demonstrated for *Cntn2* and *Cntn4* (Felsenfeld et al., 1994; Rader et al., 1993; Yamagata and Sanes, 2012). In a previous study (Yamagata and Sanes, 2012), we did not detect homophilic binding of chick *Cntn5*, but in that study, we did not co-express Casprs with *Cntns*. We therefore repeated the experiments, using mouse *Cntns* with or without Casprs. Mouse *Cntn5* mediated weak aggregation, which was enhanced by co-expression of *Caspr4*, to a level nearly equivalent to that of *Cntn2* (Fig. 6F, G). Caspr requirements for adhesion mirrored those for dimerization, in that co-expression of *Caspr 2* or *5c*, which do not dimerize with *Cntn5*, had no effect on aggregation. Adhesion was specific in that *Cntn5*/Caspr4-expressing cells did not aggregate with *Cntn2*-expressing cells (Fig. 6H, I). Together, these results support the idea that homophilic *Cntn5*/Caspr4 interactions with ON SACs could stabilize ooDSGC ON dendritic arbors.

Conditionally knocking-down *Cntn5* in either presynaptic SACs or postsynaptic ooDSGCs causes the similar loss of ON arbor

Finally, we designed a direct test of the hypothesis that *Cntn5*-mediated homophilic interactions stabilize the ON ooDSGC arbor. For this purpose, we used a conditional strategy to attenuate *Cntn5* expression separately in ooDSGCs and SACs. We designed shRNAs against *Cntn5*, assessed their efficacy in heterologous cells (Fig. S7A, B) and generated an AAV vector to deliver the shRNA in a cre-dependent manner (Yu et al., 2015). We injected the vector intravitreally into either *Chat^{Cre};Hb9-GFP* mice to attenuate expression in SACs or *vGlut2^{Cre};Hb9-GFP* mice to attenuate expression in ooDSGCs. In both cases, defects in ooDSGCs were indistinguishable from those demonstrated above for the constitutive *Cntn5* mutant: ON arbors were disrupted, OFF arbors persisted, and the decreased length of the ON arbor was equivalent to the increased length of the OFF arbor (Fig. 7A–K, S7C, D). The finding that *Cntn5* is required in both ON-SACs and ooDSGCs to stabilize the ON ooDSGC arbor provides strong evidence that ON SACs provide a scaffold for ooDSGC dendrite maturation, and that *Cntn5*-mediated homophilic binding mediates the intercellular interaction.

DISCUSSION

All RGCs receive inputs from retinal interneurons in the IPL, and their axons send information through the optic nerve to the rest of the brain. Yet, RGCs are a heterogeneous class, with >30 types of RGCs in mice, each tuned to particular visual features (Baden et al., 2016; Sanes and Masland, 2015). Differences among their dendrites are prime determinants of differences in their specific response properties. For example, the size and shape of the dendrite arbor define the approximate size of the receptive field center (Brown et al., 2000; Peichl and Wässle, 1983; Yang and Masland, 1994). Perhaps most striking, dendrites of each RGC type are restricted to specific sublaminae within the IPL. Since afferent processes of amacrine and bipolar interneurons are similarly restricted, the laminar position of an RGC dendrite determines the inputs to which it has access and therefore the visual features to which it responds. Of particular relevance here, OFF RGCs, which respond to decrements in light intensity, have dendrites in the outer part of the IPL, where they receive input from OFF bipolar cells. Conversely, ON RGCs have dendrites in the inner part of the IPL, where they receive input from ON bipolar cells. ooDSGCs respond to both ON and OFF signals because the inner and outer arbors of their bistratified dendrites receive input from ON and OFF bipolars, respectively (Vaney et al., 2012).

Here, we investigated cellular and molecular processes that lead to formation of bistratified ooDSGC dendrites. Initially, ooDSGCs elaborate diffuse arbors in the ON sublaminae of the IPL. Later, they add an OFF arbor and then, over the following few days, restrict both ON and OFF arbors to the narrow strata occupied by SAC dendrites. In the absence of *Satb1*, the OFF arbor forms but the ON arbor does not. Instead, dendrites in the ON sublaminae grow into the OFF sublaminae (summarized in Fig. 3G). Thus, *Satb1* is required for the maturation and maintenance of the ON arbor. *Satb1* acts in part by regulating the expression (directly or indirectly) of the adhesion molecule *Cntn5*. *Cntn5* in ooDSGCs, in turn, interacts homophilically with *Cntn5* in ON SACs, likely as a *Cntn5*/*Caspr4* heterodimer, to anchor

ON ooDSGC dendrites. Together, these results reveal a pathway that controls formation of a specific dendritic compartment within a specific RGC type.

Satb1

Satb1 is a homeodomain transcriptional regulator that affects gene expression in two ways: it organizes chromatin globally by anchoring specific DNA sequences to the nuclear matrix, and it affects transcription of specific genes by recruiting chromatin modifiers to their upstream sequences (Galante et al., 2007). Its mechanism of action has been studied most thoroughly in thymocytes (Yokota and Kanakura, 2014), but it has also been implicated in development of several other cell types and in oncogenesis (Brocato and Costa, 2015).

In contrast, few studies have analyzed roles of Satb1 in the nervous system. We show here that Satb1 is required for morphogenesis of ooDSGC dendrites. In its absence, ooDSGCs dendrites become monostratified and lack ON input. The effect of Satb1 is remarkably specific: it has no discernable effect on the generation or survival of ooDSGCs, or on their acquisition of markers that characterize RGCs generally or ooDSGCs specifically. Recently, two groups reported a requirement for Satb1 in terminal differentiation of a population of somatostatin-positive cortical interneurons; in its absence, these interneurons fail to mature and acquire appropriate inputs (Close et al., 2012; Denaxa et al., 2012). Thus, in both retina and cortex, Satb1 affects specific neuronal types and is dispensable for initial differentiation but required for maturation and innervation. In cortex but not in retina, Satb1 is also required for neuronal migration and survival.

Comparison of two populations of ooDSGCs, V-ooDSGCs and N-ooDSGCs suggests that Satb2, a homologue of Satb1, may also regulate morphogenesis of ooDSGC arbors. Both genes are expressed in ooDSGCs, although Satb2 is also expressed in other retinal neuronal types (Kay et al., 2011b). Both RGC types lose ON arbors in the absence of Satb1, but the phenotype is less penetrant and more variable in N-ooDSGCs than in V-ooDSGCs. Interestingly, Satb2 appears earlier in N-ooDSGCs than in V-ooDSGCs, and loss of Satb1 is accompanied by down-regulation of Satb2 in V-ooDSGCs but not N-ooDSGCs. Although direct evidence is lacking, these results suggest that the two homologues may cooperate to pattern dendritic arbors.

Contactin 5

The contactins are a family of 6 immunoglobulin superfamily adhesion molecules. They and their co-receptors, Casprs, are expressed by subsets of neurons throughout the brain, and play roles in a variety of developmental processes, ranging from neuronal migration to axon guidance to formation of Nodes of Ranvier (Poliak and Peles, 2003; Shimoda and Watanabe, 2009; Zuko et al., 2011). Deletion of the *Cntn5* gene in mice leads to defects in the subcortical auditory pathway and loss of presynaptic inhibitory boutons in spinal cord (Ashrafi et al., 2014; Li et al., 2003; Toyoshima et al., 2009). Polymorphisms in genes encoding several Contactins and Casprs, including *Cntn5*, have been linked to autism (Zuko et al., 2013).

We previously analyzed the expression and roles of three closely related subfamilies of immunoglobulin superfamily molecules in developing chick retina – Contactins, Sidekicks

and Dscams (Goodman et al., 2016; Yamagata and Sanes, 2008; Yamagata et al., 2002). We found that 9 of the 10 genes in these groups (*Sdk1*, *Sdk2*, *Dscam*, *Dscam1* and *Cntn1–5*) were each expressed in discrete, largely non-overlapping subsets of retinal neurons, and that processes of neurons that expressed each one were restricted to one or a few sublaminae within the IPL (Yamagata and Sanes, 2012). Using loss- and gain-of-function methods, we showed that at least 7 of the proteins (*Sdk1*, *Sdk2*, *Dscam*, *Dscam1* and *Cntn1–3*) are involved in the patterning of retinal arbors in the IPL. Based on these results, we suggested that these recognition molecules comprise an immunoglobulin superfamily code that regulates dendritic patterning and synaptic specificity in retina. Subsequent genetic analyses in mice have supported this idea for Dscams (Fuerst and Burgess, 2009; Fuerst et al., 2008), Sidekick2 (Krishnaswamy et al., 2015) and, now, Contactin5. The added precision of analysis in mice has shown that these proteins act in somewhat different ways: Dscams by restricting dendrites to appropriate sublaminae, Sdk 2 by promoting specific intralaminar connections and Cntn5 by regulating dendritic morphogenesis.

Contactins are linked to the external surface of the plasma membrane, and often signal to the cell interior by forming complexes with transmembrane proteins of the Caspr (contactin-associated protein, also called CNTNAP) family (Shimoda and Watanabe, 2009). We found that Cntn5 can form heterodimers with 3 of 7 Casprs (4, 5a and 5b), all of which are expressed by ooDSGCs, and used a reporter line to confirm expression of Caspr4. We did not pursue functional studies of Casprs for three reasons: ooDSGCs express multiple Casprs, they are not detectably regulated by *Satb1*, and at least Caspr4 is far more broadly distributed than Cntn5.

Contactin 5-mediated homophilic interactions of ooDSGCs dendrites with SACs

How does Cntn5 act? The most likely idea is that Cntn5 on ooDSGC dendrites interacts with ligands in the inner part of the IPL to stabilize ON dendritic arbors. Although neurites of many cell types contact ooDSGCs during development, we viewed SACs as likely candidates because the ON and OFF ooDSGC arbors fasciculate tightly with the dendrites of ON and OFF SACs, respectively. Moreover, SAC dendrites stratify prior to elaboration of ooDSGC bistratification (Stacy and Wong, 2003), and, in ongoing work, we have found that early postnatal ablation of SACs (using diphtheria toxin) prevents ooDSGC dendrites from forming stratified arbors (X. D. and J.R.S. unpublished).

We provide three lines of evidence in support of the idea that the critical interaction between ooDSGCs and ON SACs is mediated by Cntn5/Caspr dimers. First, Cntn5/Caspr4 heterodimers mediate homophilic cell-cell interactions. Second, Cntn5 and Caspr4 are both expressed by ON SACs as well as ooDSGCs, with Cntn5 selectively expressed by ON SACs. This selective expression is highly unusual: ON and OFF SACs are molecularly extremely similar and, to our knowledge, only two proteins have been found that are concentrated in just one type – semaphorin 6A and P2X2 in ON and OFF SACs, respectively (Kaneda et al., 2004; Sun et al., 2013). Third, attenuating expression of *Cntn5* in either ooDSGCs or SACs has the same effect on ooDSGC arbors as global deletion of *Cntn5*.

At this point we cannot rule out the possibility that other Cntn5-mediated interactions are also involved in patterning ooDSGC dendrites. Cntn5 and Caspr4 are expressed by type 5

bipolar cells, which innervate ON SACs and ON arbors of ooDSGCs (Duan et al., 2014; Shekhar et al., 2016). These bipolar terminals do not form until after ooDSGC arborize and they are not detectably displaced in *Cntn5* mutants (N.M.T and J.R.S, unpublished). Nonetheless, *Cntn5*-mediated interactions could play a role in stabilizing the axonal arbors of Type 5 bipolars, the ON arbors of ooDSGCs or both. Alternatively, *Cntn5* could interact heterophilically with other ligands, although our initial studies of the localization of these proteins do not support the possibility.

In summary, we have characterized some of the molecular circuitry required to endow ooDSGC dendrites with a morphologically striking and functionally critical feature, their dual (ON-OFF) receptivity. Particularly striking is the precision with which *Satb1* and *Cntn5* sculpt ooDSGC arbors: the ON arbor is deleted (*Satb1*) or depleted (*Cntn5*) in their absence, with no apparent effect on the overall size of the arbor, the magnitude of OFF responses, or direction-selectivity. This specificity suggests that a transcriptional hierarchy of at least three levels will be required to explain the morphogenesis of RGC dendrites – a first level that provides RGCs with their identity, a second level that diversifies RGCs into types, and a third level that controls acquisition of sets of specific features. Some members of the first level have been identified (Xiang, 2013), and *Satb1* is a member of the third level. Testing this model will require identification of members of the second level.

STAR★METHODS

KEY RESOURCES TABLE

| REAGENT or RESOURCE | SOURCE | IDENTIFIER |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Antibodies | | |
| Chicken polyclonal anti-GFP | Abcam | CAT#ab13970; RRID: AB_300798 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-GFP | Millipore | Cat# AB3080P; RRID: AB_2630379 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-Satb1 | Abcam | Cat#ab109122; RRID: AB_10862207 |
| Goat polyclonal anti-Satb1 | Santa Cruz | CAT#sc-5989; RRID: AB_2184337 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-Cart | Phoenix Pharmaceuticals | Cat#H-003-62; RRID: AB_2313614 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-mCherry | Cai et al., 2013 | N/A |
| Mouse monoclonal anti- β -galactosidase | DSHB | CAT#40-1a; RRID: AB_2314509 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti- β -galactosidase | Duan et al., 2014 | N/A |
| Goat polyclonal anti-choline acetyltransferase | Millipore | CAT#AB144P; RRID: AB_11214092 |
| Goat polyclonal Anti-Vesicular Acetylcholine Transporter | Millipore | CAT#ABN100; RRID: AB_2630394 |
| Guinea pig polyclonal anti-Rbpms | PhosphoSolutions | CAT# 1832-RBPMS; RRID: AB_2492226 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-Calbindin | Swant | CAT# CB38; RRID: AB_10000340 |
| Mouse monoclonal anti-Calretinin | Millipore | CAT# MAB1568; RRID: AB_94259 |
| Guinea pig polyclonal anti-vGlut3 | Chemicon | CAT# AB5421; RRID: AB_2187832 |
| Sheep polyclonal anti-tyrosine hydroxylase | Millipore | CAT# AB1542; RRID: AB_1542 |
| Mouse monoclonal anti-Gad65/67 | USHB | CAT# Gad-6; RRID: AB_528264 |
| Mouse monoclonal anti-PKCa | Abcam | CAT# ab31; RRID: AB_303507 |

| REAGENT or RESOURCE | SOURCE | IDENTIFIER |
|--|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-Secretagoin | BioVendor | CAT# RD181120100; RRID: AB_2034060 |
| Mouse monoclonal anti-CaBp5 | Rieke et al., 2008 | N/A |
| Rat monoclonal anti-Ctip2 | Abcam | CAT#ab18465; RRID: AB_2064130 |
| Goat polyclonal anti-Is11 | R&D Systems | Cat# AF1837; RRID: AB_2126324 |
| Mouse monoclonal anti-Brn3a | Millipore | Cat# MAB1585; RRID: AB_94166 |
| Goat polyclonal anti-Brn3b | Santa Cruz | Cat# sc-6026; RRID: AB_673441 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-Tbr2 | Abcam | Cat# ab23345; RRID: AB_778267 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-Melanopsin | Thermo Fisher Scientific | Cat# PA1-780; RRID: AB_2267547 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-Foxp2 | Abcam | Cat# ab16046; RRID: AB_2107107 |
| Mouse monoclonal anti-Syt2 | ZIRC | CAT#Znp-1; RRID: AB_10013783 |
| Rat monoclonal anti-Cntn5 | Millipore | CAT#MABN877 |
| Mouse monoclonal anti-Kv4.2 | Rockland | Cat# 200-301-G03; RRID: AB_2611209 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-Cntn1 | Novus | CAT# NBP1-84763; RRID: AB_11026884 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-Cntn2 | Novus | CAT# NBP1-90054; RRID: AB_11028475 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-Cntn5 | Novus | CAT# NBP1-83242; RRID: AB_11019867 |
| Rat monoclonal anti-RFP | Chromotek | CAT# 5f8; RRID: AB_2336064 |
| Rabbit polyclonal anti-dsRed | Clontech | Cat# 632496; RRID: AB_10013483 |
| Rat anti-mouse monoclonal CD90.2 (Thy-1.2) PE-Cyanine7 | Affymetrix | CAT#25-0902-81; RRID: AB_469641 |
| Rat anti-mouse monoclonal CD90.2 (Thy-1.2) microbeads | MACS Miltenyi Biotec | CAT# 130-049-101 |
| Chemicals, Peptides, and Recombinant Proteins | | |
| Hank's balanced salt solution (HBSS) | Thermo Fisher Scientific | CAT#14170-112 |
| Papain | Worthington | CAT# LS003126 |
| MEM | Invitrogen | CAT#11090099 |
| BSA | Sigma | CAT#A9418-10G |
| Ovomucoid | Worthington | CAT#LS003087 |
| Large cell column | MACS Miltenyi Biotec | CAT# 130042202 |
| Superscript III first-strand synthesis super mix for qRT-PCR | Invitrogen | CAT# 11752-050 |
| qPCR SYBR green | Thermo Fisher Scientific | CAT# F410L |
| Ames Medium | Sigma | A1420-10X1L |
| Euthasol | Virbac | CAT#710101 |
| Tamoxifen | Sigma | CAT#T5648 |
| Critical Commercial Assays | | |
| Ovation RNA-seq system V2 | NuGEN | CAT# 7102-32 |
| Ovation low-input library system | NuGEN | CAT# 0344-32 |
| PicoPure RNA Isolation Kit | Invitrogen | CAT# KIT0204 |
| RNA Clean and Concentrator-5 Kit | Zymo | CAT# R1015 |
| Deposited Data | | |
| Raw data files for RNA sequencing | Gene Expression Omnibus | GEO: GSE90673 |

| REAGENT or RESOURCE | SOURCE | IDENTIFIER |
|---|----------------------------|---|
| Raw data for microarrays | Gene Expression Omnibus | GEO: GSE90673 |
| Experimental Models: Cell Lines | | |
| HEK293 cells | ATCC | N/A |
| Experimental Models: Organisms/Strains | | |
| Mouse: STOCK Tg(Drd4-EGFP)W18Gsat/Mmnc | MMRRC | 000231-UNC; RRID: MMRRC_000231-UNC |
| Mouse: B6.Cg-Tg(Hlx3-GFP)1Tmj/J | IMSR | # JAX:005029; RRID: IMSR_JAX:005029 |
| Mouse: TYW3 | Kim et al., 2010 | N/A |
| Mouse: TYW7 | Kim et al., 2010 | N/A |
| Mouse: STOCK Tg(Cdh3-EGFP)BK102Gsat/Mmnc | MMRRC | #000236-UNC; RRID: MMRRC_000236-UNC |
| Mouse: Fstl4-CreERT2 | Kim et al., 2010 | N/A |
| Mouse: STOCK Tg(Jam2-cre/ERT2)2Jrs/J | Kim et al., 2008 | Stock No: 029417; RRID: IMSR_JAX:029417 |
| Mouse: B6.129(SJL)-Kcng4 ^{tm1.1(cre)Jrs/J} | Duan et al., 2014 | Stock No: 029414; RRID: IMSR_JAX:029414 |
| Mouse: B6.Cg-Tg(Thy1-EYFP)15Jrs/J | Feng et al., 2000 | Stock No: 005630; RRID: IMSR_JAX:005630 |
| Mouse: B6.Cg-Tg(Thy1-YFP)HJrs/J | Feng et al., 2000 | Stock No: 003782; RRID: IMSR_JAX:003782 |
| Mouse: Satb1 floxed C57BL/6N-Satb1 ^{tm1a(EUCOMM)Hmgw/J} | Close et al., 2012 | N/A |
| Mouse: STOCK Tg(Six3-cre)69Frty/GcoJ | The Jackson Laboratory | Stock No: 019755; RRID: IMSR_JAX:019755 |
| Mouse: STOCK Tg(Cartpt-cre)1Aibs/J | The Jackson Laboratory | Stock No: 009615; RRID: IMSR_JAX:009615 |
| Mouse: Cntn5 ^{tm1Kwat} /Cntn5 ^{tm1Kwat} | Li et al., 2003 | RRID: MGI_3051993 |
| Mouse: <i>Caspr</i> ^{4GFP} | Ashrafi et al., 2014 | N/A |
| Mouse: Vglut2-ires-Cre | IMSR | RRID: IMSR_JAX:016963 |
| Bacterial and Virus Strains | | |
| AAV9.CAG.Flex.tdTomato.WPRE.bGH (AllenInstitute864) (titer: 1e12) | Penn Vector Core | CAT# AV-1-ALL864 |
| AAV2/9-CAG-Cre | Boston Children's Hospital | N/A |
| AAV2/9-CAG-Flex-dsRed-shCntn5-2 | Boston Children's Hospital | N/A |
| Oligonucleotides | | |
| Primer: Cntn5 (primer set 1) Forward GGAAAGATACCGAGCCAGAAG | IDT | N/A |
| Primer: Cntn5 (primer set 1) Reverse GACTGTGAGGTGATAGAGTGTG | IDT | N/A |
| Primer: Cntn5 (primer set 2) Forward CTGCTGCCATTTGAAGAGTGT | IDT | N/A |
| Primer: Cntn5 (primer set 2) Reverse TGAGTCTCCAACAGGAAGCCAT | IDT | N/A |
| Primer: Cntn5 (primer set 3) Forward ACTCCTCAGATGCCTTCAGACA | IDT | N/A |
| Primer: Cntn5 (primer set 3) Reverse AGTTCATTCCGAAGCCATCTG | IDT | N/A |
| Primer: GAPDH Forward GTGGAGTCATACTGGAAC ATGTAG | IDT | N/A |
| Primer: GAPDH Reverse AATGGTGAAGGTCGGTGTG | IDT | N/A |
| shCntn5-1 target sequence: AGTGTGGCTGAGAATAAAT | IDT | N/A |

| REAGENT or RESOURCE | SOURCE | IDENTIFIER |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| shCtn5-2 target sequence: GCAGATTTAATGATCAGGAAC | IDT | N/A |
| shCtn5-3 target sequence: GCAGACAGTGTGTCAGATGAG | IDT | N/A |
| shCtn5-4 target sequence: CTGGATGATGCCGGAATATAC | IDT | N/A |
| Software and Algorithms | | |
| Tophat2 | Trapnell et al., 2012 | RRID: SCR_013035 |
| Cufflinks | Trapnell et al., 2012 | http://cole-trapnell-lab.github.io/cufflinks/ ; RRID: SCR_013035 |
| Cuffdiff | Trapnell et al., 2012 | http://cole-trapnell-lab.github.io/cufflinks/ ; RRID: SCR_013035 |
| IGV | Broad Institute | https://www.broadinstitute.org/igv/ ; RRID: SCR_011793 |
| ImageJ | NIH | http://rsb.info.nih.gov/ij/index.html |
| Pairwise stitching ImageJ plugin | NIH | http://imagej.net/Image_Stitching |
| Segmentation Simple Neurite Tracer ImageJ plugin | NIH | http://imagej.net/Simple_Neurite_Tracer |
| AnalyzeSkeleton ImageJ plugin | Ignacio Arganda-Carreras | http://imagej.net/AnalyzeSkeleton |
| Interactive Stack Rotation ImageJ plugin | Stephan Saafeld | http://imagej.net/Interactive_Stack_Rotation |
| Zen | Zeiss | RRID: SCR_013672; https://www.zeiss.com/microscopy/en |
| FluoView FV1000 | Olympus | N/A |
| GraphPad Prism | GraphPad | RRID: SCR_002798 |
| Other | | |
| Agilent BioAnalyzer 2100 | Agilent | N/A |
| Illumina Nestseq 500 | Illumina | N/A |

CONTACT FOR REAGENT AND RESOURCE SHARING

Further information and requests for reagents may be directed and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact and corresponding author Joshua R. Sanes (sanesj@mcb.harvard.edu).

EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

Mice—All animal experiments were approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committees (IACUC) at Harvard University. Mice were maintained in a pathogen-free facility under standard housing conditions with continuous access to food and water. The RNaseq experiments were carried out at postnatal age (P) 6. Histological studies used P1–21 mice unless indicated otherwise. Electrophysiological analysis was performed on adults (2–3 months). Both male and female mice were used in all studies in roughly equal numbers. We noted no sexual dimorphisms in any results reported here. None of the mice had noticeable health or immune status abnormalities, and were not subject to prior procedures. The genotype of mice is described where appropriate.

The following mouse lines were used:

1. *Satb1* conditional allele (*Satb1^{fl}*) (C57BL/6N-*Satb1^{tm1a}(EUCOMM)Hmgu/J*) was a gift from G. Fishell (Close et al., 2012). To generate a constitutive mutant, the floxed segment was deleted in the germline using *Cre*.

2. *Six3-Cre* mice express *Cre* in most of the retina, excluding the far periphery (Furuta et al., 2000).
3. Hb9-GFP transgenic mice express GFP in ooDSGCs that prefer ventral motion (Trenholm et al., 2011). This expression reflects a position effect; *Hb9* is not expressed endogenously in these cells.
4. DRD4-GFP BAC transgenic mice express GFP in ooDSGCs that prefer nasal motion (Huberman et al., 2009; Kay et al., 2011b). This expression reflects a position effect; *Drd4* is not expressed endogenously in these cells.
5. FSTL4-CreER mice, express CreER in ooDSGCs that prefer ventral motion (Kim et al., 2010). This expression reflects a position effect; *Fstl4* is not expressed endogenously in these cells.
6. Thy1-stop-YFP Lines #1 and #15 transgenic mice express YFP in a cre-dependent manner in many neuronal population (Buffelli et al., 2003).
7. JamB-CreER BAC transgenic mice express CreER in a population of RGCs called J-RGCs that prefer ventral motion at the offset of illumination (Kim et al., 2008).
8. *Kcng4^{tm1.1(cre)Jrs}* mice express *Cre* in Type 5 bipolar cells and alpha RGCs (Duan et al., 2014, 2015).
9. Cdh3-GFP BAC transgenic mouse express GFP in several sets of RGCs including bistratified intrinsically photosensitive RGCs (Osterhout et al., 2011).
10. Thy1-YFP-H transgenic mice express YFP in approximately 200 RGCs per retina (Feng et al., 2000; Samuel et al., 2011).
11. TYW3 transgenic mice express YFP in several sets of monostratified RGCs that laminate in S3 (Kim et al., 2010; Krishnaswamy et al., 2015).
12. TYW7 transgenic mice express YFP in two sets of monostratified OFF alpha (Kim et al., 2010).
13. *Cntn5^{lacZ}* “knock-in” mice express tau-lacZ from the endogenous *Cntn5* locus (*Cntn5^{stm1Kwat}*), generating a null allele of *Cntn5* (Li et al., 2003).
14. *Caspr4^{GFP}* “knock-in” mice express GFP from the endogenous *Caspr4* locus (Ashrafi et al., 2014).
15. *ChAT^{Cre}* mice express Cre in cholinergic neurons without disrupting endogenous ChAT expression (Rossi et al., 2011).
16. *vGlut2^{Cre}* mice express Cre in excitatory glutamatergic neurons without disrupting endogenous VGluT2 expression (Vong et al., 2011).

METHOD DETAILS

Histology—Mice were euthanized with intraperitoneal injection of euthasol (Virbac), and either enucleated immediately or transcardially perfused with Ringer’s solution followed by 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA) in PBS. Eye cups were removed and fixed in 4% PFA on ice

for 1 hr. Retinas were then dissected, post-fixed for an additional 30 min and then rinsed with PBS and analyzed as whole mounts or after sectioning in a cryostat (Leica) as described by (Duan et al., 2014; Kim et al., 2010).

Antibodies used were as follows: chick and rabbit anti-GFP (1:500, Abcam; 1:5000, Millipore); rabbit and goat anti-Satb1 (1:1000, Epitomics; 1:500, Santa Cruz); rabbit anti-Cart (1:2000, Phoenix Pharmaceuticals); rabbit anti-mCherry (1:1000, homemade); rabbit and mouse anti- β -galactosidase (1:5000, homemade; 1:1000, DSHB); goat anti-choline acetyltransferase (1:500, Millipore); goat anti-VAcHT (1:1000, Millipore); guinea pig anti-Rbpms (1:5000, PhosphoSolutions); rabbit anti-Calbindin (1:2000, Swant); mouse anti-Calretinin (1:5000, Millipore); guinea pig anti-VGLUT3 (1:2500, Millipore); sheep anti-tyrosine hydroxylase (TH) (1:2000, Millipore); mouse anti-Gad65/67 (1:1000, Millipore); mouse anti-PKCa (1:1000, Abcam); rabbit anti-Secretagogin (1:10,000, BioVendor); mouse anti-CaBP5 (1:50, gift from Dr. Francoise Haeseleer); rat anti-Ctip2 (1:500, Abcam); goat anti-Isl1 (1:1000, R&D systems); mouse anti-Brn3a (1:500, Millipore); goat anti-Brn3b (1:1000, Santa Cruz); rabbit anti-Tbr2 (1:1000, Abcam); rabbit anti-Melanopsin (1:5000, Thermo scientific); rabbit anti-Foxp2 (1:1500, Abcam); mouse anti-Kv4.2 (1:1000, Rockland); and rabbit anti-dsRed (1:1000, Clontech). Nuclei were labeled with DAPI (1:1000, Invitrogen). Secondary antibodies were conjugated to Alexa Fluor 488, 568, and 647 (Invitrogen) and used at 1:1000. Fluoromount-G (SouthernBiotech) was used for mounting whole mounts. ProLong Gold Antifade was used for mounting retina section slides.

Brains from perfused animals were post-fixed in 4% PFA at 4°C overnight, and then sunk in 30% sucrose, embedded in Tissue Freezing Medium (EMS) and cryosectioned at 50 μ m thickness. Brain sections were stained with chicken anti-GFP (1:500) for 5 days 4°C, then counterstained with DAPI, mounted and imaged.

Adeno-Associated Virus—Intravitreal injection of AAV was performed as previously described (Hong et al., 2011). P 0–3 pups were anesthetized on ice for 5 min and AAV virus was introduced with a fine glass pipette using a Picospritzer (Parker) to control pressure. Four AAV vectors were used: AAV2-CAG-flex-tdTomato (University of Pennsylvania AAV core), AAV2-CAG-LSL-YFP (University of Pennsylvania AAV core), AAV2-CAG-Cre (Childrens Hospital Boston AAV core), and AAV2-CAG-flex-dsRed-shCntn5 (Childrens Hospital Boston AAV core). Infection sites were visualized by anti-tdTomato, anti-GFP, or anti-dsRed staining.

Image Acquisition—Images were acquired on Olympus FV1000 MPE or Zeiss LSM 710 confocal microscopes with 405, 488–515, 568, and 647 lasers, processed using Zeiss ZEN or Olympus Fluoview FV1000 software suites, and analyzed using ImageJ (NIH). Section images were acquired with a 40X oil lens at the resolution of 1024 \times 1024 pixels, a step size of 0.8 μ m, and 90 μ m pinhole size. Images for dendritic reconstruction were scanned at a step size of 0.2–0.3 μ m, 40 μ m pinhole size. Images of whole retinas were acquired with a 20 \times oil lens at a resolution of 1024 \times 1024 pixels, a step size of 1.0 μ m, and 90 μ m pinhole size. Images for anti-Cntn5 staining in whole mounts were scanned at a step size of 0.3 μ m, 40 μ m pinhole size.

Analysis of Gene Expression—We used the microarray datasets described in (Kay et al., 2011b, 2012), supplemented with new arrays from Hb9-GFP and Drd4-GFP RGCs and horizontal cells. Briefly, retinal neurons expressing fluorescent proteins were purified by fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS), and amplified cDNA was hybridized with Affymetrix microarrays. Data were analyzed using GeWorkbench software. The gene expression level from individual samples was normalized to the total expression level of the gene across all the samples and transformed into log₂ value.

For RNaseq, Hb9-GFP cells from wild-type or *Satb1*^{-/-} retina were FACS sorted at P6. Five replicates for each genotype. Libraries were generated using the Ovation RNA-Seq and Ultralow System V2 kits (Nugen). Libraries were sequenced with Illumina NextSeq High 75 cycle, single-end reads.

For RT-PCR, total RNA was isolated and purified from FACS sorted cells using a PicoPure RNA Isolation Kit (Invitrogen). DNase treatment was performed to remove genomic DNA using RNA Clean & Concentrator- 5 Kit (Zymo). First strand cDNA synthesis was done using the Superscript III reagents (Invitrogen). RT-PCR was carried out using DyNAmo HS SYBR green qPCR kits (Thermo). ddCt values were used to detect *Cntn5* levels with the expression of GAPDH as internal control. Three primer sets for *Cntn5* are: 1) GGAAAGATACCGAGCCAGAAG (Forward), and GACTGTGAGGTGATAGAGTGTG (Reverse); 2) CTGCTGCCATTTTGAAGAGTGT (Forward), and GACTGTGAGGTGATAGAGTGTG (Reverse); 3) ACTCCTCAGATGCCTTCAGACA (Forward), and AGTTCCATTCC GAAGCCATCTG (Reverse). GAPDH primer set: GTGGAGTCATACTGGAAC ATGTAG (Forward), and AATGGTGAAGGTCGGTGTG (Reverse).

Electrophysiology—Electrophysiological analysis was performed as described previously (Krishnaswamy et al., 2015). Briefly, mice were dark-adapted for > 2 hr and retinas were dissected in oxygenated (95% O₂; 5% CO₂) Ames solution heated to ~30–32°C. Relaxing cuts were made and the retina was placed in a recording chamber with ganglion cells facing upward and the dorsal-quadrant of the retina marked for orientation. GFP cells were then visualized under a two-photon microscope and targeted for loose patch recording using patch electrodes (3–5MΩ) filled with Ames medium. Monochrome stimuli (410nm) were presented by a projector controlled by the psychophysics toolbox in MATLAB. Receptive field centers were determined with small flashing spots, and then stimulated by presenting a long bar moving along its long axis in 8 different directions to test for direction selectivity. Direction selective index was computed as previously (Duan et al., 2014).

Assays of Cntn/Caspr Interactions—cDNAs encoding all annotated *Cntns* and *Casprs* in the mouse genome were cloned from a mouse brain cDNA library and the products were cloned into pCR8-TOPO (Life Technologies). *Cntns* and *Casprs* were then subcloned into modified expression vectors using Gateway cloning: pCAGS-RfA for Contactins and pUbmCherry for *Casprs* (creating Caspr-mCherry fusion proteins).

To assay cis-interactions of *Cntns* with *Casprs*, human embryonic kidney (HEK) 293 cells obtained from ATCC were cultured on poly-L-lysine coated coverslips and co-transfected

with expression vectors using TransIT-2020 (Mirus). To cluster Cntns/Casprs on the surface of HEK cells, living cell cultures were rinsed with PBS, incubated with rabbit anti-contactin antibodies (1:200 in HEPES-buffered Opti-MEM Reduced Serum Medium) for 30 min at room temperature, rinsed with PBS, fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde/PBS for 1 min, and methanol-treated at -20°C for 15 min. Coverslips were then stained with rat anti-RFP antibody, rinsed with PBS, and stained with secondary antibodies. Coverslips were inverted, mounted on glass slides using Fluoromount-G, and imaged after drying. Positive clustering was defined as the detection of colocalization of two antibodies.

We also assayed Cntn/Caspr-mediated cell-cell interactions in HEK293T cells. However, because these cells endogenously express N-cadherin, which results in substantial endogenous adhesion, we used a line in which expression of N-cadherin was fully eliminated by disrupting both alleles of the N-cadherin gene using CRISPR-mediated gene disruption. HEK293-Ncad-negative cells were co-transfected with Cntn and Caspr vectors described above, along with a cDNA expressing a fluorescent protein, using TransIT-X2 Dynamic Delivery System (Mirus). Aggregation was then assayed as described by (Yamagata and Sanes, 2008). Two days after trans-fection, the cells were dissociated with 0.05% trypsin in the presence of EDTA for 20 min at 37°C . The reaction was stopped by egg white trypsin inhibitor. Cells were then divided into 24 well culture dishes in PBS (Ca^{2+} Mg^{2+} free) supplemented with 1% BSA, 20mM HEPES and $1\mu\text{g/ml}$ DNase I, and rotated at 84 rpm at 37°C for 45 min-1 hr. Aggregation% was defined as $1 - [\text{all the parts (after aggregation)}/\text{total cells}]$.

Design and Testing of shCntn5 Expression Vectors—The strategy for designing shCntn5 in cre-dependent AAV vector was adapted from Yu et al. (2015). Briefly, hairpin (sh) oligonucleotides were designed online (<http://katahdin.mssm.edu/siRNA/RNAi.cgi?type=shRNA>). The shCntn5 sequences tested were:

shCntn5-1:

GCTGTTGACAGTGAGCGAAGTGTGGCTGAGAATAAATTAGTGAAGCC
ACAGATGTAATTTATTCTCAGCCAAACTGTGCCTACTGCCTCGGA

shCntn5-2: TGCTGTTGACAGTGAGCGCGCAGATTTAATGATCAGGAACTAGT
GAA

GCCACAGATGTAGTTCCTGATCATTAATCTGCATGCCTACTGCCTCG

shCntn5-3: TGCTGTTGACAGTGAGCGCGCAGACAGTGTGTCAGATGAGTAGT
G

AAGCCACAGATGTACTCATCTGACACACTGTCTGCTTGCCTACTGCCTCGG
A

shCntn5-4: TGCTGTTGACAGTGAGCGCCTGGATGATGCCGGAATATACTAGTG
A

CCACAGATGTAGTATATCCGGCATCATCCAGTTGCCTACTGCCTCGGA

The oligonucleotides were amplified and cloned into pPRIME-dsRed vector. The knockdown efficiency by individual shCtn5 was assessed in HEK293 cells and the shRNA with the highest efficacy, shCtn5-2, was subcloned into AAV-CAG-flex vector.

QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

ImageJ (NIH) software was used to generate maximum intensity projections. Plots of intensity across the IPL were processed as following: max projected section images were straightened using the straighten function in ImageJ, based on VAcHt/ChAT-positive dendritic bands within the IPL. The whole IPL depth was outlined with ON and OFF SAC somata labeling the inner and outer limit, and divided into 20 bins ranging from 0 (outer)-1(inner). Fluorescence intensities from individual bins were normalized to the total intensity for each image.

For reconstruction of dendrites from whole mounts, well-isolated GFP-positive cells were chosen from sparsely labeled regions, usually in the periphery. Dendrites were manually traced with the simple neurite tracer from ImageJ. Traced cells were filled out by volume and transformed to Z for the stratification analysis as described above. Dendritic length and branch number were calculated using skeleton analysis and multipoint tools in ImageJ.

GFP cell numbers from a 1×1 mm square region were counted at 3–4 locations per retina. X–Y cell coordinates, marked manually, were used to calculate DRP statistics and the distance of exclusive radius as described by Kay et al. (2012).

Hb9 dendritic branches from either ON or OFF arbor were isolated to quantify Ctn5 puncta density. Both the dendritic length and number of Ctn5 puncta located in the dendrite were measured. The density of Ctn5 puncta were calculated as number of Ctn5 puncta per μm of Hb9 dendrite.

RNaseq data were analyzed using Tuxedo tools (Trapnell et al., 2012). Briefly, sequenced reads were mapped to the mouse genome (mm10) via Tophat, transcripts were counted via Cufflinks, and differentially expressed genes were detected with Cuffdiff or t test.

All data are shown as Mean \pm SEM with n representing the cell number from at least three mice or independent experimental replicates. Statistical analyses were performed using Graphpad prism 6. Two-tailed Student's t tests were used for two group comparisons, and one-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's post-tests were used for multiple comparisons. Statistical details can be found in Figures and Figure Legends.

DATA AND SOFTWARE AVAILABILITY

The accession number for the raw and processed microarray and RNA-seq data reported in this paper is GEO: GSE90673.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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BULLET POINTS/HIGHLIGHTS

- Satb1 is expressed by ON-OFF direction-selective retinal ganglion cells (ooDSGCs)
- Satb1 is required for the characteristic bistratification of ooDSGC dendrites
- Effects of Satb1 are mediated in part by the homophilic adhesion molecule Contactin 5
- Contactin 5-mediated homophilic binding to interneurons stabilizes ooDSGC dendrites

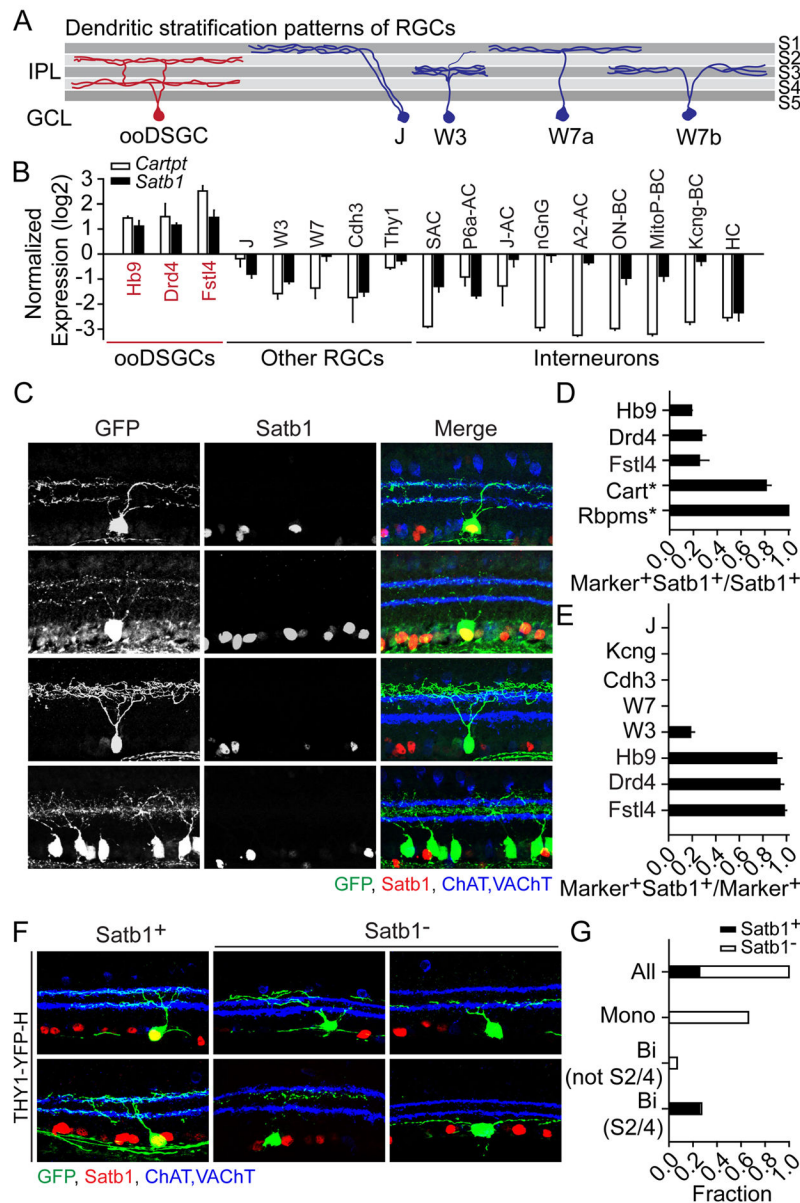


Figure 1. oodSGCs selectively express *Satb1*

(A) Sketch of bistratified oodSGCs and selected monostratified RGC types. IPL, inner plexiform layer. S1–5, IPL sublaminae; GCL, ganglion cell layer.

(B) Microarray analysis of *Satb1* and *Cartpt* expression in retinal cells isolated by FACS from transgenic lines. Expression values were log2 transformed and centered on their mean values across all the samples. *Cartpt* was previously shown to be selectively expressed by oodSGCs and a set of amacrine cells. Transgenic lines are described in Methods and (Kay et al., 2012). AC, amacrine cells; BC, bipolar cells; HC, horizontal cells.

(C) Immunostaining of *Satb1* (red in merge) in sections from transgenic lines that label oodSGCs (Hb9-GFP and Drd4-GFP) or other RGCs (J-RGCs in JamB-CreER and W3-RGCs in TYW3) at P14. S2 and S4 laminae are marked with anti-ChAT and anti-VACHT

(blue in merge). Arrowheads indicate Satb1-positive cells; open arrowhead indicates a Satb1-negative cell.

(D) Fraction (\pm SEM) of Satb1-positive cells that are also transgene positive in Hb9-GFP, Drd4-GFP, and Fstl4-CreER, each of which labels one of 4 ooDSGC types; or those are labeled by anti-Cart, or anti-Rbpms. * indicates cells labeled by antibodies. 3 P14–21 animals per line, >20 cells per animal.

(E) Fraction (\pm SEM) of transgene-positive RGCs that are Satb1-positive in indicated lines. 3 P14–21 animals per line, >20 cells per animal.

(F) Immunostaining of Satb1 in retinas from P21 Thy1-YFP mice. Micrographs show two bistratified RGCs (S2/4) that are Satb1-positive and four monostratified RGCs (S1, S3, S4, S5) that are Satb1-negative.

(G) Fraction of Thy1-YFP-marked RGCs that were Satb1-positive or negative. RGCs were divided into monostratified (Mono), bistratified (Bi, not S2/4), and bistratified (Bi, S2/4 = ooDSGC) populations. 25% of YFP-positive RGCs was bistratified cells, 94% of which were Satb1-positive. 3 animals, 59 cells.

Scale bars represent 20 μ m.

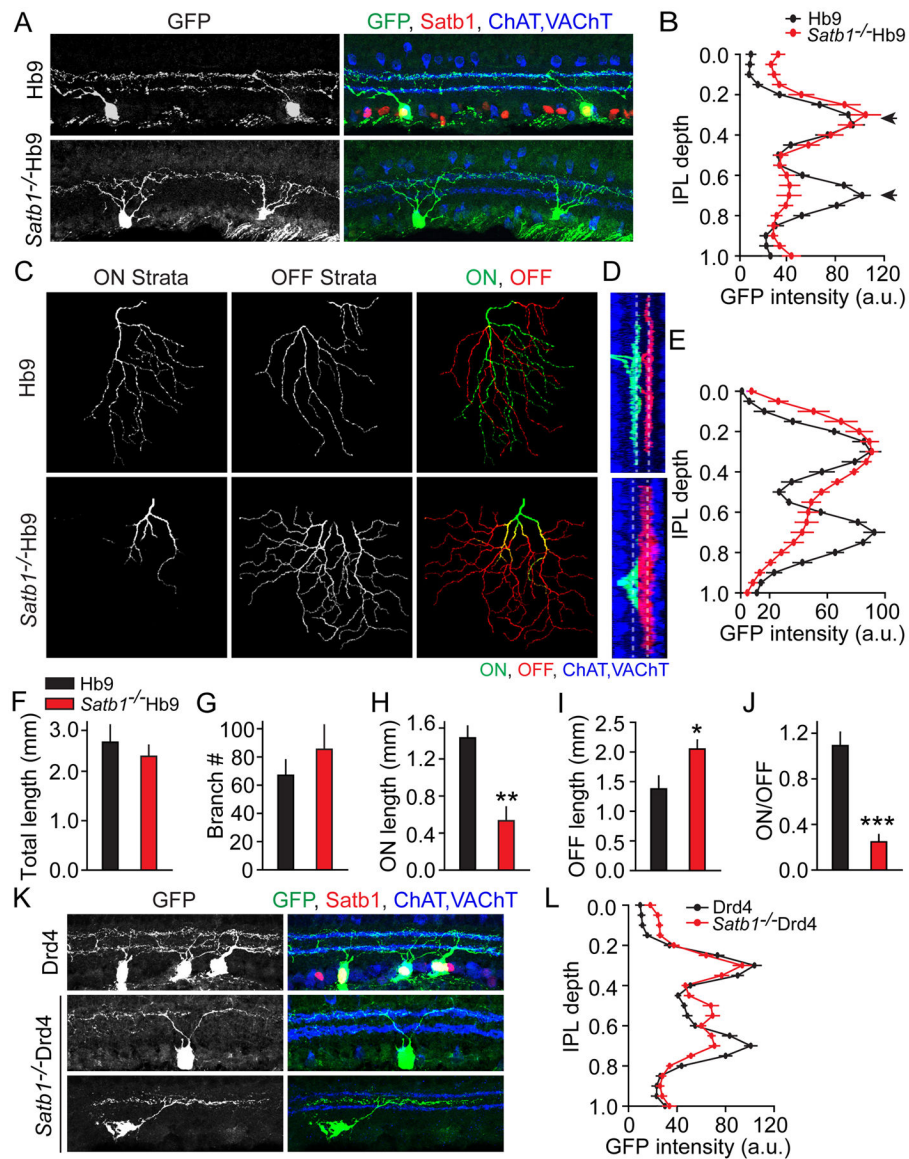


Figure 2. ooDSGCs dendrites are monostratified in the absence of Satb1

(A) Hb9-GFP RGCs from P14 wildtype and *Satb1*^{-/-} retinas stained as in Fig. 1C.

(B) Mean intensity (\pm SEM) of GFP labeled dendritic processes across the IPL from sections such as those in A (n=11, wildtype; 13, *Satb1*^{-/-}). 0 and 1 are borders of inner nuclear layer and ganglion cells layer, respectively. Peaks of ChAT + VAcHt staining from Fig. S1 are shown as arrows.

(C) Dendrites of Hb9-GFP RGCs reconstructed from whole mounts of P14 wildtype and *Satb1*^{-/-} retinas. ON and OFF strata, determined by ChAT + VAcHt staining are shown in green and red, respectively.

(D) Rotation of cells in C to show the stratification. S2 and S4 laminae, marked by anti-ChAT and VAcHt, are indicated by white dashed lines.

(E) Mean intensity (\pm SEM) of GFP labeled dendritic processes across the IPL from images such as those in D (n=5 for each genotype).

(F–J) Wildtype and mutant Hb9-GFP dendrites do not differ in total dendritic length (F) or branch point number (G), but ON arbors are smaller (H) and OFF arbors are larger (I) in mutants than wildtypes. The ON/OFF ratio of arbor length is decreased in *Satb1*^{-/-}Hb9 (J). Measurements are from data in C. Error bars represent SEM. ***p<0.001, ** p<0.01, * p<0.05 by t-test.

(K) Drd4-GFP RGCs from P16 wildtype and *Satb1*^{-/-} retinas stained as in Fig. 1C.

(L) Mean intensity (\pm SEM) of GFP labeled dendritic processes across the IPL from sections such as those in K (n=14, control; 33, mutant).

See also Figures S1–4. Scale bars represent 20 μ m.

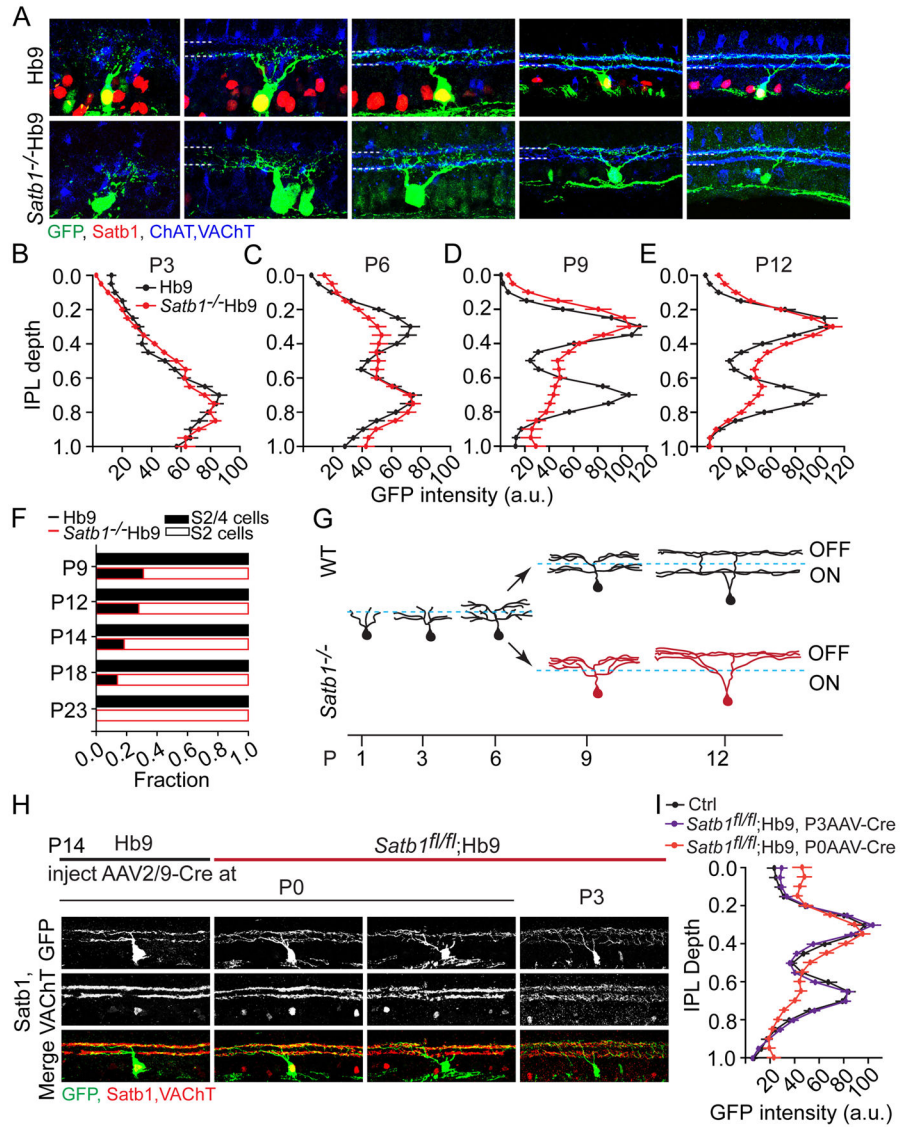


Figure 3. Satb1 acts on oODSGCs postnatally and cell-autonomously

(A) Retinal sections from Hb9-GFP and *Satb1*^{-/-};Hb9-GFP mice at indicated ages, stained as in Fig. 1C. Arrowheads indicate dendrites sprouting into S2 at P3, and ascending dendrites from S4. S2 and S4 highlighted by white dashed lines.

(B–E) Mean intensity (± SEM) of GFP labeled dendritic processes across the IPL from sections such as those in A. n=10–21 (mean=16) per genotype per age.

(F) Fraction of S2/4 bistratified and S2 monostratified Hb9-GFP RGCs from control and *Satb1*^{-/-} retinas at indicated ages. n=11–59 RGCs (mean 28) per genotype per age.

(G) Sketch illustrating dendritic morphogenesis of control and *Satb1*^{-/-};Hb9-GFP oODSGCs. Blue dashed line marks the separation between ON and OFF portions of IPL.

(H) Retinal sections from P14 Hb9-GFP and *Satb1*^{fl/fl};Hb9-GFP mice following injection with AAV-cre at P0 or P3. *Satb1* deletion at P0 but not P3 leads to stratification changes. oODSGC somata are outlined by dashed circles. Anti-Satb1 and VACHT is red in merge.

(I) Mean intensity (\pm SEM) of GFP-labeled dendritic processes across the IPL from sections such as those in H. (n=10, control; 16, either *Satb1^{fl/fl}*;Hb9 condition). See also Figures S4. Scale bars represent 20 μ m.

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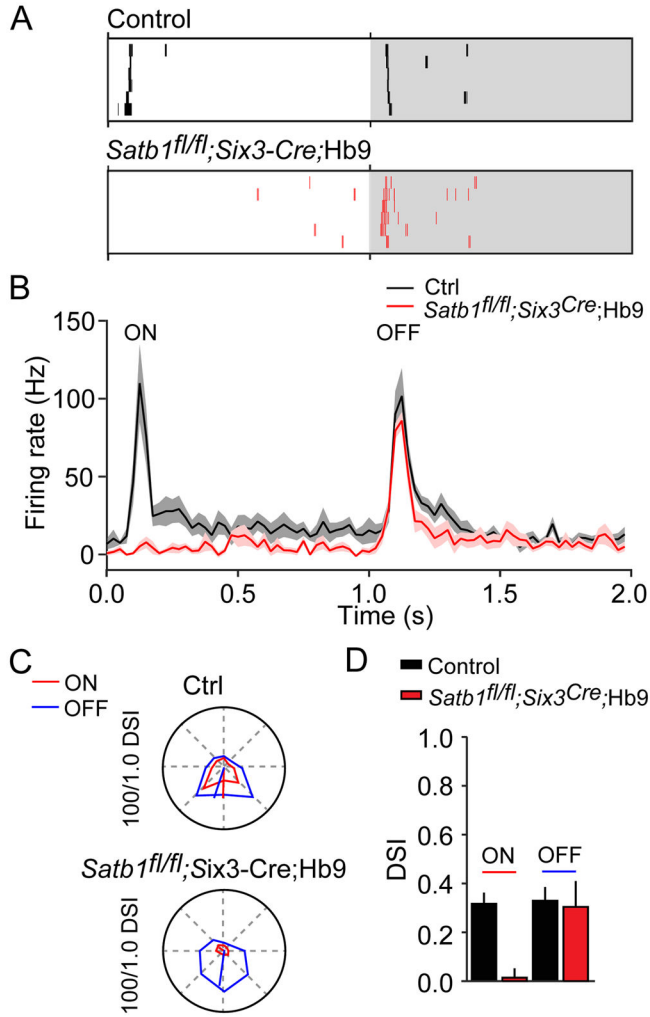


Figure 4. ON responses of ooDSGCs are lost in the absence of Satb1

(A) Spike raster plots from Hb9-GFP RGCs in control and *Satb1* mutant retinæ in response to a ~200µm flashing spot centered on the receptive field (6 trials). Mutant ooDSGCs lack ON responses.

(B) Average firing rates of Hb9-GFP (n=10) and *Satb1* mutant Hb9-GFP RGCs (n=6) in response to stimulation as in A. Solid lines indicate average values. Shadowing denotes SEM. Bin width, 25 ms.

(C) Polar plots for firing rates (octagons) and direction-selectivity index (DSI; lines) from control and *Satb1* mutant Hb9-GFP RGC in response to a bright bar moving in 8 different directions. Radius=100Hz, 1.0 DSI.

(D) Average DSI from control (n=10) and mutant (n=6) Hb9-GFP RGCs computed from population vectors such as those in C.

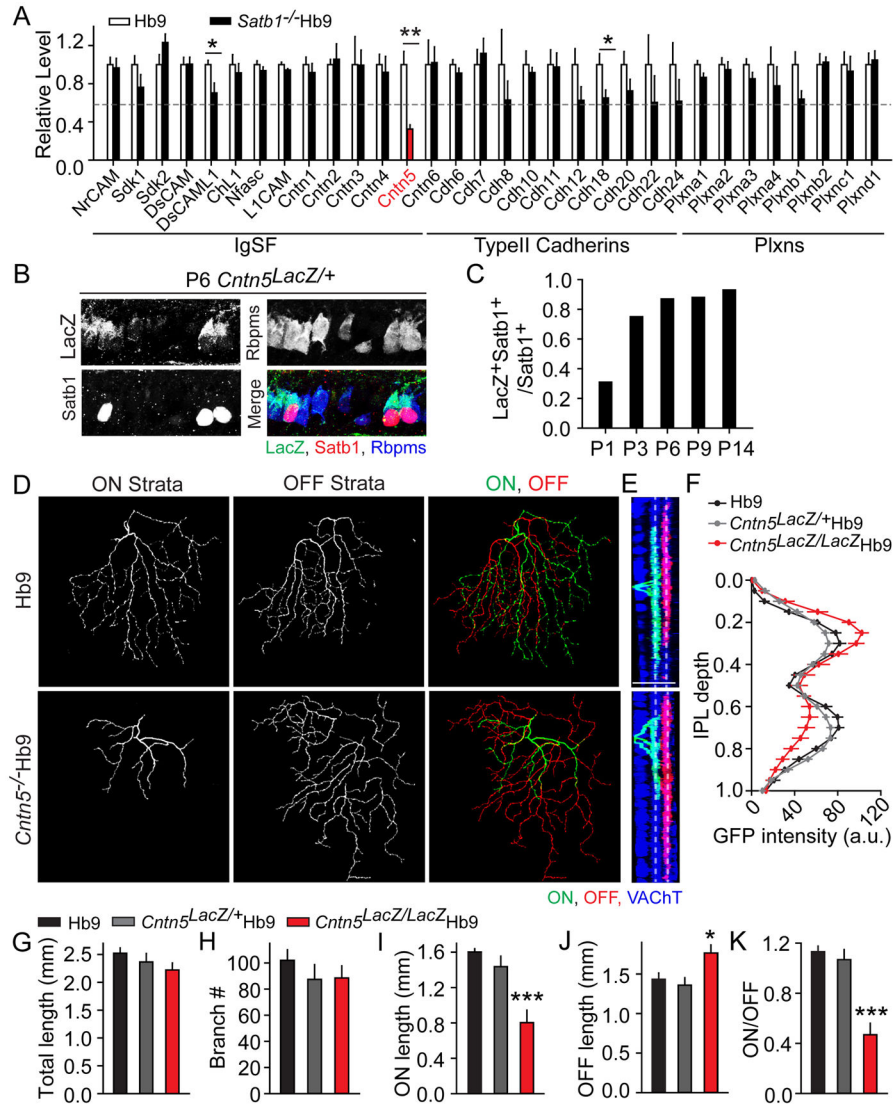


Figure 5. *Cntn5* is regulated by *Satb1* and required for oODSGC arbor formation
 (A) Expression levels of immunoglobulin superfamily members (IgSF), Type II cadherins, and Plexins (Plxns) in *Satb1*^{-/-};Hb9-GFP RGCs compared to those in control Hb9-GFP RGCs as determined by RNAseq.
 (B) Section of P6 *Cntn5*^{LacZ/+} retina stained for anti-LacZ (green in merge); *Satb1* (red in merge); and Rbpms (blue in merge). Arrowheads indicate *Satb1* - positive RGCs.
 (C) Fraction of *Satb1*-positive RGCs that are LacZ-positive in *Cntn5*^{LacZ/+} retinas at indicated ages; n > 40, 2 animals per age.
 (D) Dendrites of single Hb9-GFP RGCs reconstructed from whole mounts of P21 wildtype, and *Cntn5*^{LacZ/LacZ} retina. ON and OFF strata are shown in green and red, respectively.
 (E) Rotation of stacks in D. S2 and S4 laminae, marked by anti-ChAT and VACHT staining (blue), are highlighted by white dashed lines.
 (F) Mean intensity (± SEM) of GFP labeled dendritic processes across the IPL from images such as those in D (6–8 RGCs per genotype).

(G–K) Dendritic length (G), branch number (H), ON arbor length (I), OFF arbor length (J), and ON/OFF ratio (K) from reconstructed dendrites as shown in D (6–8 RGCs per genotype).

See also Figures S5 and Table S1. Scale bars represent 20 μm . *** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$ by one-way ANOVA with Bonferroni posttests.

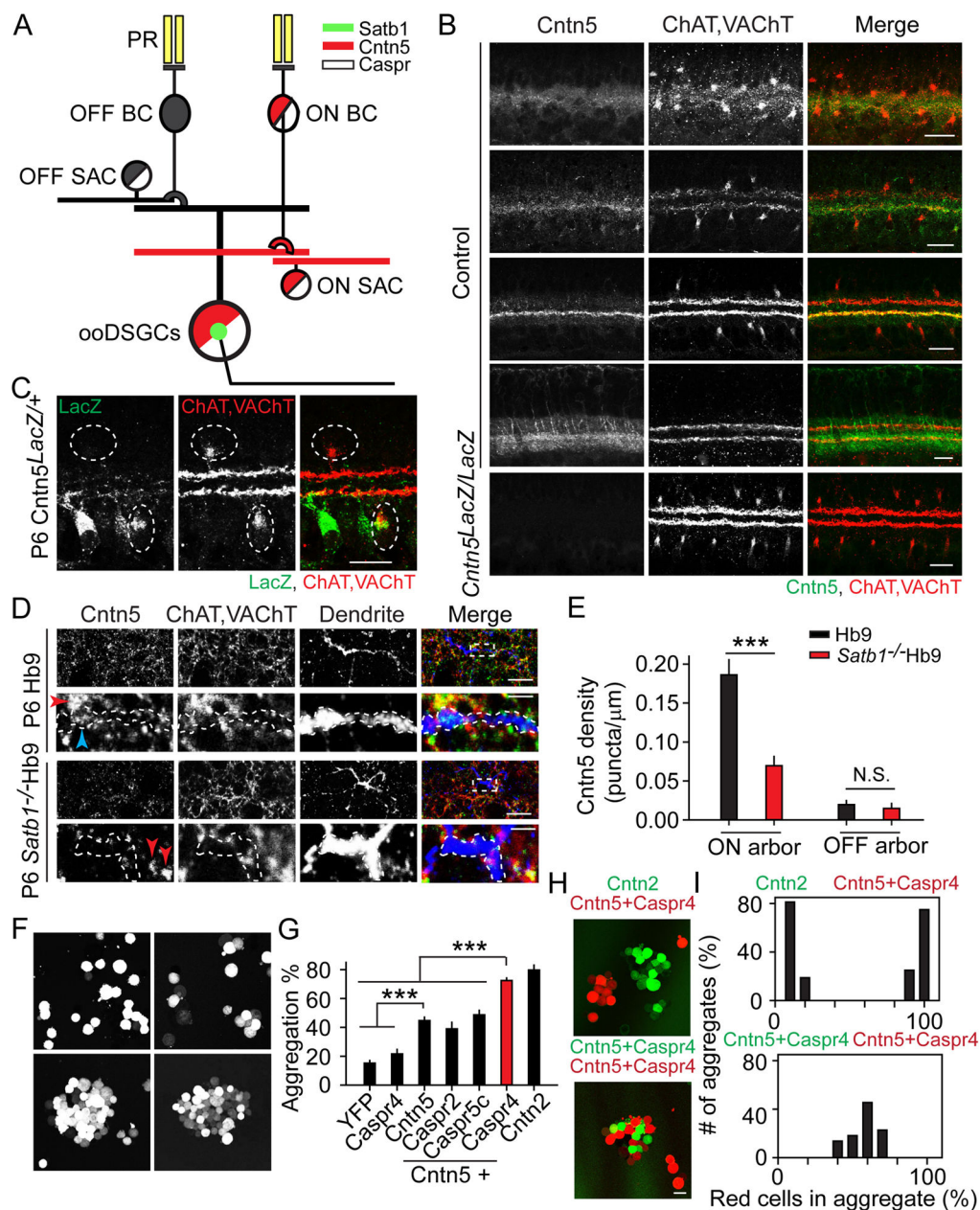


Figure 6. Cntn5 is expressed by ON but not OFF SACs, and located in both ON SAC plexus and ON strata of ooDSGC dendrite

(A) Cells of the direction-selective circuit, indicating expression of Cntn5, Caspr and Satb1. BC, bipolar cell. PR, photoreceptor.

(B) Anti-Cntn5 (green in merge) and anti-ChAT, VAcHT (red in merge) staining from control and *Cntn5^{LacZ/LacZ}* retinas at indicated ages.

(C) LacZ staining with SAC markers (ChAT, VAcHT) in P6 *Cntn5^{LacZ/+}* retina. SAC somata are outlined by dashed circles. Arrowheads indicate co-labeled cells.

(D) Confocal images of ON retinal strata from P6 Hb9-GFP and *Satb1^{-/-}* Hb9-GFP retinas stained with antibodies to Cntn5 (green), ChAT and VAcHT (red) and GFP (blue). Low-

power micrographs show stacks; single 0.3 μm planes from boxed regions are shown at higher power below. ooDSGC dendrites in the high-power images are outlined. Red arrowheads indicate Cntn5 puncta colocalized with SAC processes. Blue arrowhead indicates Cntn5 puncta colocalized with ooDSGC dendrite.

(E) Average density (\pm SEM) of Cntn5 puncta per μm in ooDSGC dendrites. $n>20$ for each genotype.

(F) Aggregation of heterologous cells transfected with vectors encoding Cntns and/or Casprs as indicated.

(G) Percentage of cells in aggregates from images such as those in F. $n>200$ cells for each condition.

(H) Cntn5/Caspr4-expressing cells aggregate with each other but segregate from Cntn2-expressing cells. Cells transfected as in F were marked with distinct fluorophores to assess co-aggregation.

(I) Percentage of red cells in mixed aggregates from images such as those in H. $n>200$ cells for each condition.

See also Figure S6. Scale bars represent 20 μm in B, C; 10 μm in D, 2 μm in D, insets.

*** $p<0.001$, ** $p<0.01$, N.S.: $p>0.05$, by one-way ANOVA with Bonferroni's post-tests.

