Supplemental Movie Legends

Movie S1: Sec7-labeled TGN compartments disintegrate into smaller structures (Related to Figure 4A)

Time-lapse movie of a GFP-Sec7 strain (CFY1037). Single focal-plane images were acquired every second. The movie plays at 5 fps, which is 5X real-time.

Movie S2: Sec7 follows Ypt1 and precedes Ypt31 at the Golgi. (Related to Figure 4E)

Two time-lapse movies in series: 1) a Sec7-6xDsRed, GFP-Ypt1 strain (CFY1689+GFP-Ypt1); 2) a Sec7-6xDsRed, GFP-Ypt31 strain (CFY1805). Single focal-plane images were acquired every second. The movies play at 10 fps, which is 10X real-time.

Movie S3: Imaging cargo sorting events relative to Sec7 disappearance (Related to Figure 4D)

Four time-lapse movies in series: 1) a Sec7-6xDsRed, GFP-Sec7 strain (CFY1681+pCF1084) used as a control; 2) a Sec7-6xDsRed, GFP-Snc1 strain (CFY1711) shows coincident disappearance of Snc1 and Sec7; 3) a Sec7-6xDsRed, Kex2-GFP strain (CFY1690) shows Kex2 is sorted before Sec7 disappearance; 4) a Sec7-6xDsRed, GFP-Tlg1 strain (CFY1689+GFP-Tlg1) shows Tlg1 is sorted before Sec7 disappearance. Single focal-plane images were acquired every second. The movies play at 5 fps, which is 5X real-time.

Supplemental Experimental Procedures

Plasmid constructs

Plasmids were constructed using standard techniques and are described below.

Yeast strains and genetic methods

Strains were generated by standard techniques and are described below.

Antibodies

The anti-Ypt1 (Preuss et al., 1992) and anti-Ypt31 (Jedd et al., 1997) antisera used for Figure S3C were gifts from N. Segev. The anti-G6PDH antibody was purchased from Sigma (A9521).

Protein purification

As reported previously, removal of the first 202 residues of Sec7 greatly improved protein expression, and did not compromise the essential function(s) of the protein (Richardson et al., 2012). Purification of Sec7_f and Sec7∆C+HDS1 constructs were as previously described (Richardson et al., 2012), with the addition of treatment by TEV-protease to remove the 6xHistag prior to the final chromatography step. Removal of the tag was confirmed by immunoblot (Figure S1D). The *sec7-4f* and Sec7∆HDS4 constructs were purified using the same procedure as $Sec7_f$. We were not able to purify a well-behaved construct for the HDS2-3 domain region. In our experience the conserved N-terminal domains of Sec7 appear to be required for expression and purification of truncation constructs. Myristoylated Arf1 was purified as reported (Ha et al., 2005).

C-terminal 7xHis-tagged yeast Rab protein expression constructs were created using the pGEX-6P vector backbone. Constructs were designed so that the C-terminal cysteine residues (prenylated *in vivo*) were replaced with a 7xHis-tag for membrane anchoring. The expression vectors were transformed into Rosetta2 (Novagen) *E. coli* cells and grown in 1-2L TB at 37 $^{\circ}$ C to an OD of \sim 3.0. The temperature was then decreased to 18 $^{\circ}$ C, expression was induced with 500 µM IPTG, and cells were grown overnight. Cells were lysed by sonication in lysis buffer containing 1xPBS, 2 mM MgCl₂ and 5 mM β-Me. The lysate was centrifuged, and protein was purified from the cleared lysate by glutathione resin (G Biosciences) followed by cleavage with PreScission protease overnight at 4°C in a buffer containing 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 2 mM MgCl₂, and 5 mM β -Me. The eluate containing the purified protein was then collected and exchanged into a buffer containing 20 mM Tris-HCl pH 8, 100 nM NaCl, 2 mM MgCl₂, and 1 mM DTT before use in GEF activity assays. We note that there are two distinct species in some of the purifications. Analysis by anti-His-tag immunoblot indicated that the faster migrating species are likely N-terminal proteolytic products (Figure S1C). The structure of yeast Ypt31 demonstrated that the N-terminal nine amino acids are disordered (Ignatev et al., 2008).

For purification of myristoylated Arl1, a plasmid encoding full-length yeast Arl1 was introduced into BL21(DE3) *E. coli* cells together with the Nmt1 plasmid encoding the Nmyristoyl transferase enzyme. Growth and expression was the same as for Arf1. Following cell lysis (in 15 mL lysis buffer per 1 liter cell pellet: 25 mM Tris pH 7.5, 100 mM NaCl, 1 mM $MgCl₂$, 10 mM MSE , 1 mM PMSF) by sonication, the lysate was clarified by centrifugation. The supernatant was incubated with SP-sepharose (GE Healthcare) resin (1 ml resin per 7 mg protein in lysate). The unbound fraction was applied to a MonoQ column (GE Healthcare), and a 100 mM to 1 M NaCl gradient (25 mM Tris pH 8.0, 2 mM $MgCl₂$, 1 mM DTT) was run. Peak fractions were pooled and run on a Superdex 200 column (GE Healthcare). Peak fractions were then run on a HiTrap Phenyl column (GE Healthcare), using a 3 M to 0 M NaCl gradient (20 mM Tris pH 8.0, 2 mM $MgCl₂$, 1 mM DTT). We note that the purified protein runs as three species on an SDS-PAGE gel.

Liposome flotation (binding) assays

Flotation assays were prepared as described (Richardson et al., 2012), using 4 ug of each protein and 0.3 mM of liposomes per 75 ul binding reaction. The His-tags at the C-termini of the Rab proteins allow these proteins to be bound to the liposomes regardless of their activation state. In contrast, the Arf1 and Arl1 proteins only bind to liposomes when activated, due to a conformational change that exposes an N-terminal membrane-inserting helix. 15% PAGE gels were stained with IRDye (Li-Cor) and imaged on a Li-Cor Odyssey instrument. Gel images were processed with the ImageJ despeckle filter and min/max levels were adjusted in Photoshop for clarity.

GEF activity assays

Tryptophan fluorescence GEF assays were performed at 30°C as described (Richardson et al., 2012). See Figure S2A for an example of a single full experiment. Unless otherwise indicated, most assays were performed with 500 nM GTPase activators, 30 nM GEF construct, and 400 nM myrArf1-GDP substrate. Assays in Figure 2C,D used 100nM GEF construct. Assays in Figures 3C and S2B,D,E used either 100 nM GTPase activator or the concentration specified in the figure and 50 nM GEF construct. Liposomes batches were pooled, and the same pool was used for all GEF assays, except for those in Figures 3C and S2B,D,E, which were performed with a separate pool of liposomes.

Microscopy

See below for which strains and plasmids were used for each experiment.

Plasmids used in this study

*The *ypt31-101* mutation was originally reported in (Sciorra et al., 2005). This allele has the following mutations: K43R, K127N

Yeast strains used in this study

Strains and plasmids used in microscopy and growth experiments.

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