

SUPPLEMENTAL EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

Transgenes

The following transgenes were obtained from other labs:

wgls73[ceh-14::TY1::EGFP::3xFLAG] (Sarov et al., 2012)

wgls55[mec-3::TY1::EGFP::3xFLAG] (Sarov et al., 2012)

otls92[flp-10::gfp] (Mehta et al., 2004)

rtEx251[nlp-15::gfp] (Nathoo et al., 2001)

gmls21[nlp-1::gfp] (Frank et al., 2003)

zwEx107[inx-7::gfp] (Altun et al., 2009)

otEx537[ser-2b::gfp] (Tsalik et al., 2003)

kyls174[slt-1::gfp] (Hao et al., 2001)

otls14[zig-3::gfp] (Aurelio et al., 2003)

jsEx896[hid-1::gfp] (Mesa et al., 2011)

xdEx44[cam-1b::gfp] (Zhang et al., 2013)

jsEx740[aex-6::gfp] (Mahoney et al., 2006)

adls1240[eat-4::gfp] (Lee et al., 1999)

uls22[mec-3::gfp] (gift from M. Chalfie). This construct contains begins 2372 bp upstream of the *mec-3* translational start site and is fused to GFP at the end of exon 3.

uls3[mec-7::gfp] (gift from M. Chalfie)

zdls5[mec-4::gfp] (Clark and Chiu, 2003)

arEx1127[glt-3::mCherry] (a gift from D. Shaye)

qls74[pop-1::gfp]

qls95[sys-1::venus] (Phillips et al., 2007).

uls115[mec-17::rfp] (gift from M. Chalfie)

The following transgenes were generated in this study:

Reporter for transcription factors:

otEx181[ceh-14^{prom}::gfp; rol-6]

otls337[unc-86^{fosmid}::SL2::NLS::YFP::H2B; ttx-3::mCherry]
otEx5851 [unc-86^{fosmid}::NLS::mChOpti; lin-44::yfp]
otls429[pag-3^{fosmid}::mChOpti; ttx-3::gfp]

Terminal identity markers:

otls544[cho-1^{fosmid}::mChOpti]
otls439[lad-2^{prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otls358[ser-2b::gfp; pha-1] (integration of otEx537)
otEx5480[ahr-1::TY1::EGFP::3xFLAG; ttx-3::mCherry]

Ectopic expression:

otEx5440, otEx5441, otEx5442 [unc-86::mec-3; ttx-3::gfp]
otEx5853 [hsp::unc-86; ttx-3::mCherry]
otEx5852[hsp::mec-3; ttx-3::dsRed]

ser-2 and *ceh-14* cis-regulatory analysis:

otEx5779, otEx5780, otEx5781[ser-2^{4.7kb prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5782, otEx5783, otEx5784[ser-2^{2.4kb prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5785, otEx5786, otEx5787[ser-2^{1.3kb prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5788, otEx5789, otEx5790[ser-2^{700bp prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5791, otEx5792, otEx5793[ser-2^{370bp prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5795, otEx5796, otEx5797[ser-2^{370bpmutA prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5798, otEx5799, otEx5800[ser-2^{370bpmutB prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5801, otEx5802, otEx5803[ser-2^{370bpmutA/B prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5804, otEx5805, otEx5806[ser-2^{370bpmutC prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5807, otEx5808, otEx5809[ser-2^{370bpmutD prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5810, otEx5811, otEx5812[ceh-14^{1kb prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5813, otEx5814, otEx5815[ceh-14^{480bp prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5816, otEx5817, otEx5818[ceh-14^{480bpmutA prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5819, otEx5820, otEx5821[ceh-14^{480bpmutB prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5822, otEx5823, otEx5824[ceh-14^{480bpmutC prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]

otEx5825, otEx5826, otEx5827[ceh-14^{480bpmutA/B/C prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5828, otEx5829, otEx5830[ceh-14^{480bpmutD prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5831, otEx5832, otEx5833[ceh-14^{480bpmutE prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5834, otEx5835, otEx5836[ceh-14^{480bpmutF prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5837, otEx5838, [ceh-14^{480bpmutD/E/F prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5839, otEx5840, otEx5841[ceh-14^{480bpmutA/D/E/F prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5842, otEx5843, otEx5844[ceh-14^{480bpmutB/D/E/F prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5845, otEx5846, otEx5847[ceh-14^{329bp prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]
otEx5848, otEx5849, otEx5850[ceh-14^{170bp prom}::gfp; pha-1(+)]

EMSA probe sequences

EMSA probe sequences are as follows (underlining indicates the sequence added for complementarity to the short labeled oligonucleotide):

ceh-14 promoter probe:

5'-

AATTGTTTTCAATTTAAAATGAGCAACTGTAATTTTCTATTCATTAAAGTATTTTTTTTA
 CCATTTAAAAGGAACCCATTCATGAAAAGTTGGTCAAGGTCGTTTCC-3'

tph-1 promoter probe:

5'-

CCCAACACCACATTATTCATGTATTTCTCCAAACCACTGAACCATCTCATTCTCAA
 ACCAGTTTCTATCCGTTTGTTTGCATTCAATTAATTTTTGGTCAAGGTCGTTTCC-3'

unlabeled *mec-3* promoter probe:

5'-

ACATTTGAAAAACAACAAATTCATTCGAAATGCATTGCCATAATGAATCGACCGA
 AAAACACAAGTGACCGTCAGGAGATCGATAGAG-3'

ceh-14 mutated promoter probe:

5'-

AATTGTTTTTCATTTAAAATGAGCAACTGCCATTTTCTATTCCCTAAAGTATTTTTTTTA
CCATTTAAAAGGAACCCATTCCCGAAAAGTT-3'

unlabeled competitor *ceh-14* promoter probes:

Site D: 5' - TTCTATTCATTAAAGTATT - 3'

Site D (mut): 5' - TTCTATTCCCCCAAGTATT - 3'

Site E: 5' - CCCTCTCTTAATTGCTTTT - 3'

Site E(mut): 5' - CCCTCTCTCCCCTGCTTTT - 3'

Site F: 5' - TGACATCAATTAAGTTGAA - 3'

Site F (mut): 5' - TGACATCACCCCAGTTGAA - 3'

Single Molecule FISH

Oligonucleotides for smFISH consisted of 48 20-nucleotide probes against *pag-3* mRNA coupled to CAL Fluor 610 Red Dye (Biosearch Technologies). smFISH was performed as described at biosearchtech.com/stellarisprotocols. Briefly, L4 stage animals were fixed in 3.7% formaldehyde and hybridized to oligonucleotides at a 1:2000 concentration. *pag-3* mRNAs were quantified by taking stacks of images 0.3 um apart and counting individual fluorescent dots.

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES

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SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE LEGENDS

Fig.S1 – Related to Fig.1

A: BDU-mediated mechanosensory responses are mediated by BDU expressed neuropeptides. Gravid adults were touched with a platinum pick in the anterior half of the midbody. The number of head swings of backwards movement before animals stopped, reversed direction, or did an omega turn was scored. *n* is given at the bottom of each bar. NS, not significant ***p*<.001 ****p*<.0001 (t-test with Bonferroni correction). Error bars: s.e.m.

A1: Mechanosensory response of wildtype (WT), neuropeptide mutants, and neuropeptide processing mutants.

A2: Rescue of the *nlp-1(ok1469)* phenotype by expressing *nlp-1* under control of two different BDU promoters.

A3: To ensure that *ceh-14(ch3)* and *nlp-1(ok1469)* mutants are not generally defective in backwards response, animals were exposed to the noxious chemical copper chloride. No difference was seen between wild type and *ceh-14* or *nlp-1* animals.

B: Crossregulation of transcription factors in ALM and BDU.

B1: Expression of fosmid-based reporters of transcription factors in embryo and adult. *unc-86^{fosmid}::yfp (otIs337)* is expressed in ALM and BDU. *ceh-14^{fosmid}::gfp (wglIs73)* is expressed in BDU. *mec-3 (wglIs55)* is expressed exclusively expressed in ALM. *pag-3^{fosmid}::rfp (otIs429)* is expressed in ALM and BDU. Arrows in embryo images indicate ALM, arrowheads indicate BDU.

B2: Expression levels of *pag-3* in BDU and ALM are similar, as determined by mRNA counting with smFISH. smFISH was performed on L4 stage animals and expression of *pag-3* was compared between ALM and BDU neurons. Each data point represents the number of mRNAs seen in either ALM or BDU of a single animal. See Supplementary Experimental procedures for more details on smFISH.

B3: Cross-regulation of BDU transcription factors. While expression of *unc-86* is unaffected by either *pag-3(Is20)* or *ceh-14(ch3)*, expression of *pag-3* is off in BDU in *unc-86(n846)* and expression of *ceh-14* is off in both *unc-86(n846)* and *pag-3(Is20)*. Animals were scored at the L4 stage. *n*≥50.

B4: Summary of transcription factor interactions. Regulation of *ceh-14* by both *pag-3* and *unc-86* (“feedforward loop”) is inferred from the analysis of the *cis*-regulatory architecture of the *ceh-14* locus described in Fig.3B. *mec-3* regulation by *unc-86* was previously shown (Xue et al. 1992).

Fig.S2 – Related to Fig.2

A: UNC-86 binds to a probe derived from the *ceh-14* promoter. This binding is competed away with addition of cold oligos corresponding to putative UNC-86 binding sites (see main text), but not by mutated forms of those binding sites. EMSA was performed with 100 nM UNC-86. See Supplementary Experimental Procedures for probe sequences.

B: Specificity of UNC-86 binding to *ceh-14* promoter. UNC-86 binding is competed away with the addition of cold oligos identical to the probe but not by a mutated form of the oligo missing the UNC-86 binding site. See Supplementary Experimental Procedures for probe sequences.

Fig.S3 – Related to Fig.5

A: The *unc-86p::mec-3* transgene rescues the mutant phenotypes of *mec-3*. *mec-17::rfp*, an ALM reporter, was examined for expression in ALM in wild type, *mec-3(e1338)*, and the *mec-3* mutant rescued by *mec-3* driven by the *unc-86* 5.2kb promoter

B: The *unc-86p::pag-3* transgenes rescues the mutant phenotypes of *pag-3*. *flp-10::gfp*, a BDU reporter, was examined for expression in BDU in wild type, *pag-3(ls20)*, and the *pag-3* mutant rescued by *pag-3* driven by the *unc-86* 5.2kb promoter.

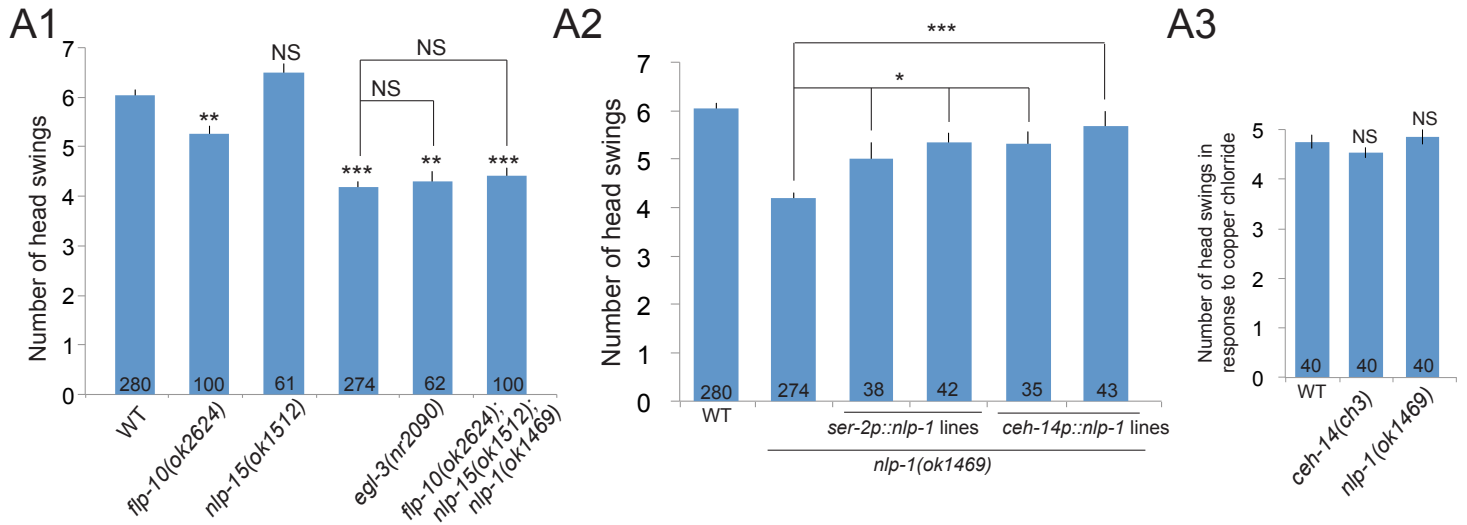
Fig.S4 – Related to Fig.6

A: Competition for UNC-86 binding is dependent on the presence of an unlabeled competitor probe. EMSA was performed with or without the presence of an unlabeled *mec-3* promoter probe using 100 nM UNC-86 and 200 nM MEC-3.

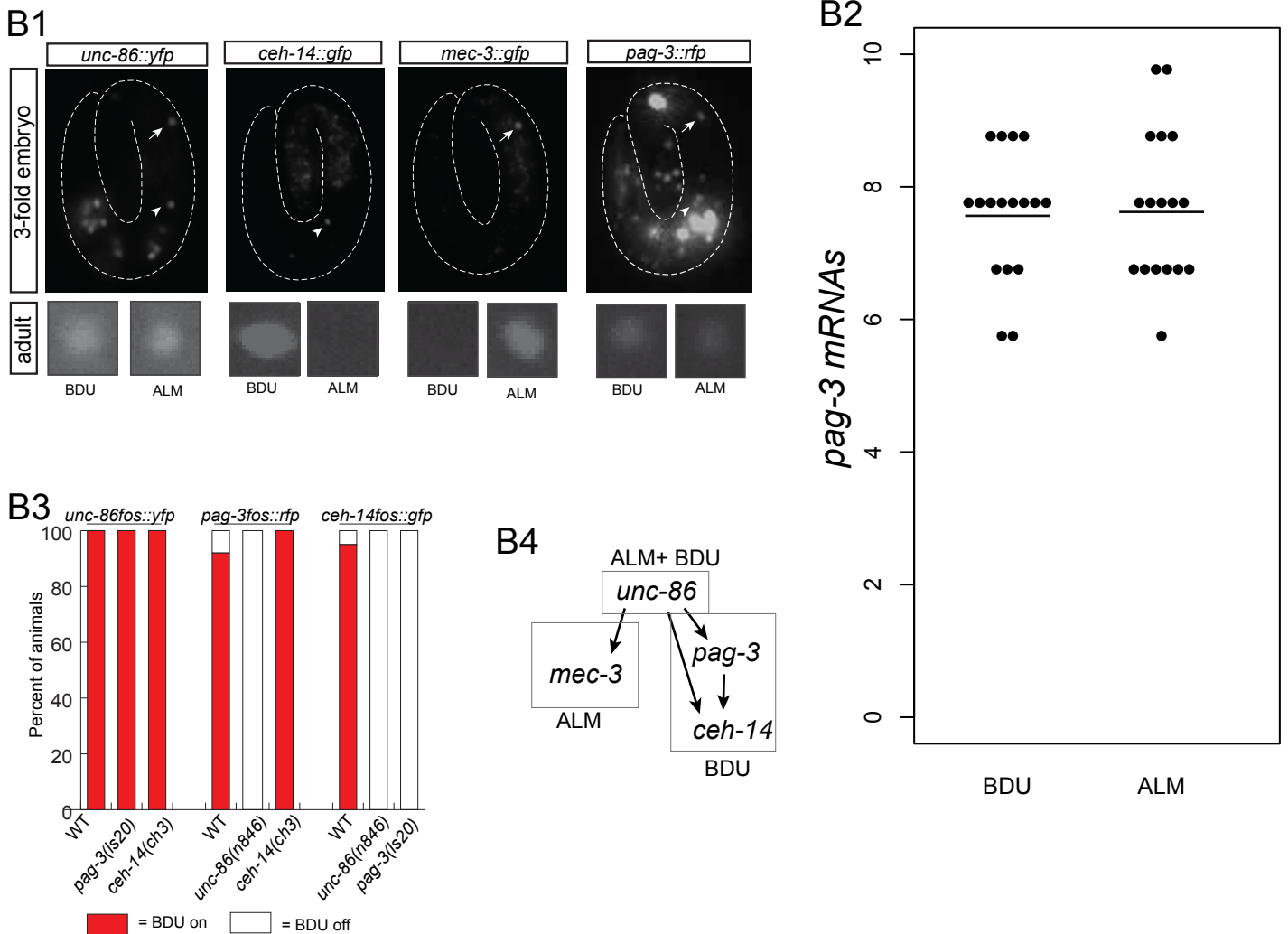
B: MEC-3, but not PAG-3, is able to compete UNC-86 away from binding to a *ceh-14* promoter. EMSA was performed with 100 nM UNC-86, 100 or 200 nM MEC-3, and 100 or 200 nM PAG-3.

C: Loss of UNC-86/MEC-3 binding abolishes the competition mechanism. UNC-86(L195F) binding to a *ceh-14* probe is unaffected by the addition of MEC-3. EMSA was performed with 100 nM UNC-86(L195F) and 100 or 200 nM MEC-3.

A

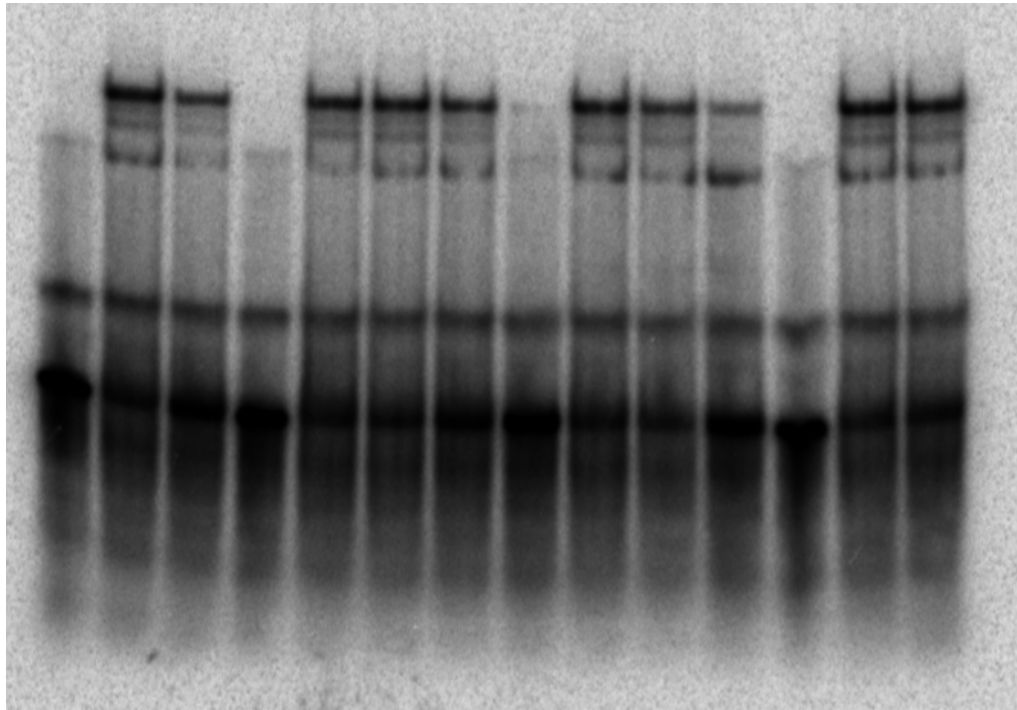


B

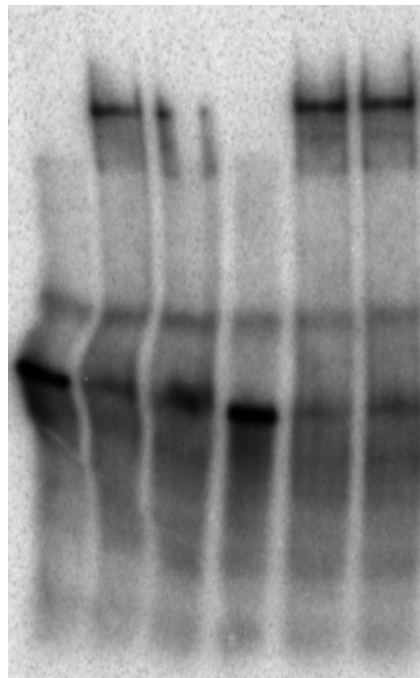


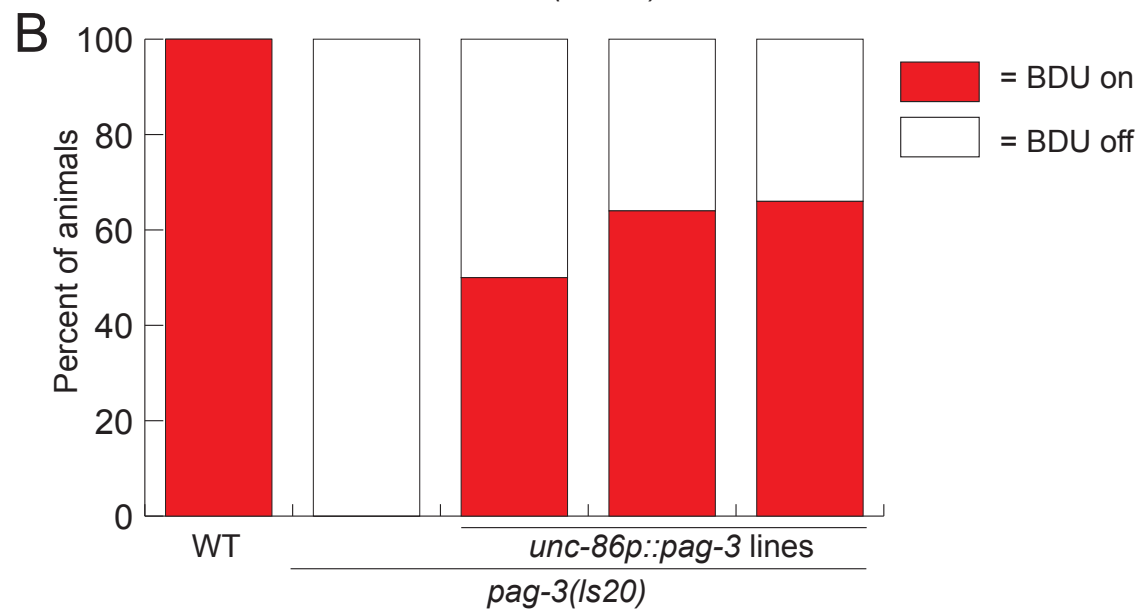
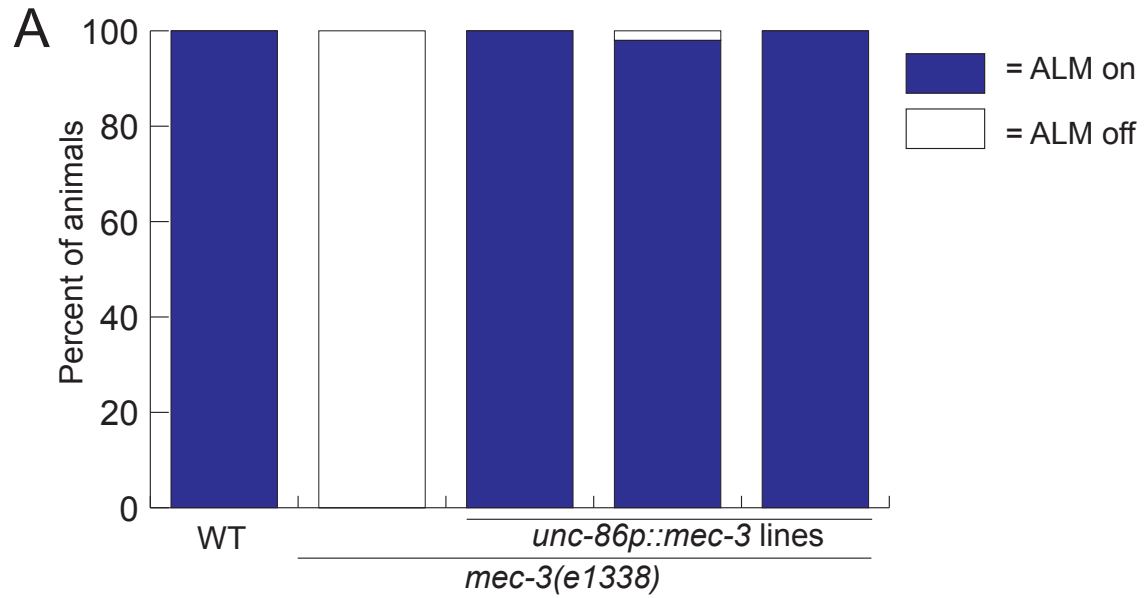
A

UNC-86: - + + + + + + + + + + + + + +
Cold competitor: - - Site D Site D (mut) Site E Site E (mut) Site F Site F (mut)

**B**

Cold competitor: - - *ceh-14* probe mutated *ceh-14* probe
UNC-86: - + + + + +





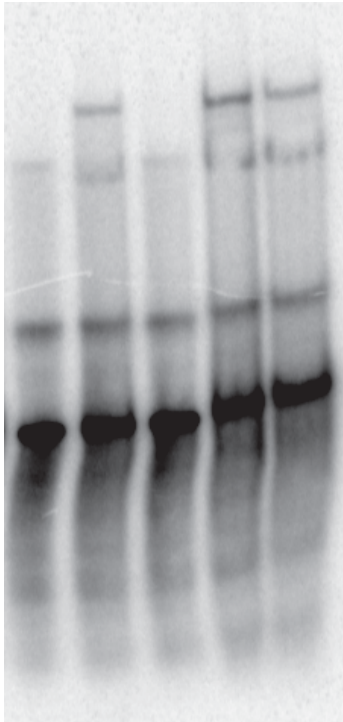
Supplemental Figure S3

A

UNC-86: - + + + +

MEC-3: - - + - +

Unlabeled ALM probe: + + + - -




probe:

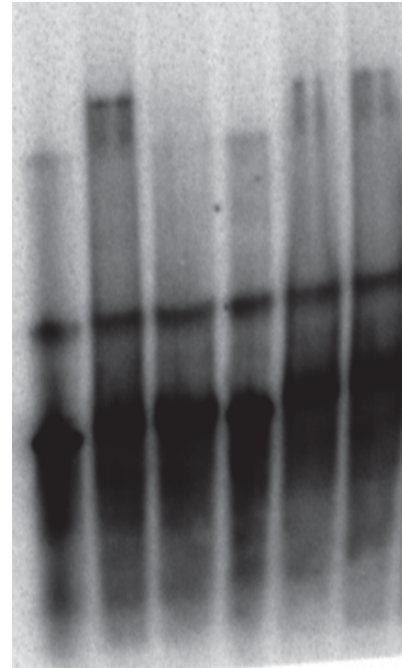
ceh-14

B

UNC-86: - + + + + +

MEC-3: - -  - -

PAG-3: - - - - 



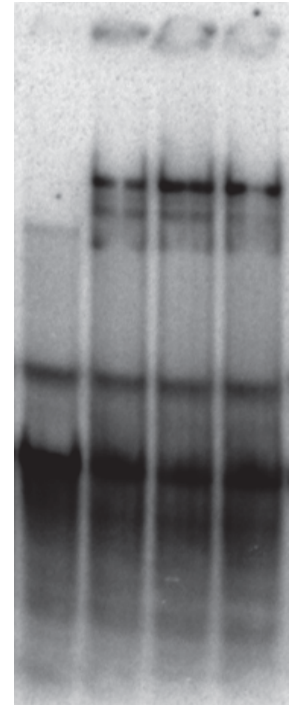
probe:

ceh-14

C

MEC-3: - - 

UNC-86(L195F): - + + +



probe:

ceh-14