Local and sex-specific biases in crossover vs. noncrossover outcomes at meiotic recombination hotspots in mouse

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List of Supplemental Material

Supplemental text describing the use of recombinant inbred mouse strains for recombination hotspot identification.

Figure S1. Breeding scheme for generating recombinant-inbred strains.

** Table S1: Polymorphisms, oligonucleotides, and recombinants at the central hotspot.

** Table S2: Polymorphisms, oligonucleotides, and recombinants at the distal hotspot.

Table S3: Additional primers for amplification and sequencing of the central hotspot region.

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Table S5: Compilation of recombination and DSB (SSDS read count) data for the hotspots shown in Figure 3B.

** Provided as separate Excel files.

Identification of hotspots using recombinant inbred (RI) mouse strains

To compare recombination in male and female meiosis, we set out to identify two hotspots, preferentially on the same chromosome: one hotspot in a chromosomal region where males showed a clear preference for crossover formation over females, and one hotspot in a chromosomal region where males and females showed similar levels of crossover formation. At the time these studies were initiated, direct maps of DSBs via SSDS mapping were not yet available, so we initially made use of a method previously described by Bois (Bois, 2007) in which RI mouse strains are used as a crossover library (Figure S1) for prospective hotspot identification.

Based on cytological analysis using MLH1 foci as a marker for crossover formation, male mice form crossovers preferentially in the centromere-distal subtelomeric regions of many chromosomes (Baker *et al.*, 1996; Froenicke *et al.*, 2002). In contrast, females show much less of a preference for crossing over in this region (de Boer *et al.*, 2006). Using these cytological data, we selected the following centromere-distal subtelomeric regions as having a malespecific crossover preference: 90–100% of chromosomes 1 and 2, 75–90% of chromosome 18 and 70–90% of chromosome 19 (with the centromere set at 0%). We further defined the following central regions as having no clear sex-specific preference for crossing over: 40–60% for chromosomes 1, 2 and 19; and 45–65% for chromosome 18.

Using SNP data from various RI panels (Shifman *et al.*, 2006), sites where a crossover had occurred during RI inbreeding can be easily identified. We used strains from five RI lines: BxD (C57BL/6J x DBA; 34 strains), BxA and AxB (C57BL/6J x A/J and vice versa; 18 and 22 strains, respectively), BxH (C57BL/6J x C3H/HeJ; 16 strains) and CxB (BALB/cByJ x C57BL/6J; 13 strains) to identify crossover breakpoints located in the chromosomal regions of interest. In all RI lines, one of the parents was C57BL/6J because the cytological data were from mice of this background (de Boer *et al.*, 2006).

To select hotspot candidates for further analysis, we took into account the number of occurrences of crossovers in different RI lines, presence of reciprocal recombinant configurations in different lines, and the number of known SNPs in the region. For each target chromosomal region, we selected two RI crossover breakpoints (16 in total; see table below). The selected breakpoints mapped to very large regions, ranging from \sim 70 kb to \sim 850 kb, so we used the mouse phenome database from Jackson labs (http://phenome.jax.org) to locate SNPs at various positions within the CO breakpoint region. Short stretches surrounding the SNPs (typically ~1 kb) were amplified from genomic DNA (purchased from the Jackson Laboratories) from both parental strains as well as from the RI strains involved. SNPs were subsequently

genotyped by sequencing. This was repeated until $a \sim 10$ kb region containing the crossover breakpoint remained, which we then sequenced.

Despite an initial group of 16 crossover breakpoints as possible hotspots, we were only able to use one in this study because most hotspot candidates did not meet the requirements for analysis. Since the conversion tracts that are associated with noncrossovers are short, a high SNP density within the hotspot is required for the detection of noncrossovers. In addition, sufficient SNPs located outside but nearby (within ~5 kb) are required for the allele-specific PCR needed in both the crossover and noncrossover/crossover assays. Finally, because both assays are PCR-based, it is important to have few repeat elements surrounding the hotspot. As many as 13 candidate breakpoints had to be discarded because they failed to meet one or more of these criteria (see table below). Thus, while the crossover library in RI strains may be useful for prospective hotspot identification in some circumstances (Bois, 2007), its overall success rate in identifying hotspots suitable for molecular assays is too low to make it a viable alternative to more direct DSB mapping via SSDS or SPO11-oligo sequencing.

References

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Bois, P. R. J. (2007). "A highly polymorphic meiotic recombination mouse hot spot exhibits incomplete repair." Mol.Cell.Biol. **27**(20): 7053-7062.

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Kauppi, L.*, et al.* (2004). "Where the crossovers are: recombination distributions in mammals." Nat.Rev.Genet. **5**(6): 413-424.

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Analyzed crossover breakpoints from RI strains.

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Table S3A. Hotspot in the central region of chromosome 1: primers used for amplification and sequencing

Table S3B. Hotspot in the central region of chromosome 1: Universal PCR primers.

Table S4A. Hotspot in the distal region of chromosome 1: primers used for amplification and sequencing.

Table S4B. Hotspot in the distal region of chromosome 1: Universal PCR primers.

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Table S5. Hotspot compilation used in Figure 3B

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All coordinates are NCBI Build 37

*SSDS hotspot coordinates and strength are from Brick et al. (2012).

**References:

1. Wu et al. (2010).

2. Bois (2007).

3. Cole et al. (2010).

4. Kauppi et al. (2007).

5. Yauk et al. (2003).

6. Buchner et al. (2002).

Figure S1. Breeding scheme for generating recombinant-inbred strains.

RI strains are named using abbreviations for the maternal and paternal progenitor strains. Each RI strain can be viewed as a library of crossovers that occurred during the generations of inbreeding prior to fixation of homozygosity. Adapted from Bois (2007).