Coupled regulation by the juxtamembrane and sterile α motif (SAM) linker is a hallmark of Ephrin tyrosine kinase evolution

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Supporting information

- Figure S1
- Figure S2
- Figure S3
- Figure S4
- Figure S5
- Figure S6
- Figure S7
- Figure S8
- Figure S9
- Table S1
- Table S2
- SI Dataset 1
- SI Methods and Materials

Figure S1. Schematic representation of the domain organization of human EphA3. The domain organization of human EphA3 is illustrated above, with residue numbers corresponding to each region indicated in parentheses. The three major autophosphorylation sites in the juxtamembrane and kinase domain of EphA3 are also indicated.

Figure S2. Alignment of N-terminal and C-terminal Eph sequences flanking the kinase domain. Well-aligned portions of the N-terminal juxtamembrane and C-terminal SAM domain linker are shown, with lengths of omitted segments denoted in parentheses. Sequence numbering above the alignment corresponds to the human EphA3 sequence. Columns with >60% amino acid similarity are highlighted, and divergent N- and C-terminal sequences of other tyrosine kinases are shown below the alignment. The leucine of the SAM linker tethering network (Leu901 in EphA3) and potentially equivalent leucines in other Eph orthologs are shown in red and black font, respectively.

Figure S4. MALDI peptide mass fingerprinting of WT and W826P samples after 30s incubation with MgATP. Red lines indicate expected m/z values for the unphosphorylated, singly-phosphorylated, and doubly-phosphorylated juxtamembrane peptide.

Figure S5. MALDI peptide mass fingerprinting of WT and W826P samples after 10 min incubation with MgATP. Red lines indicate expected m/z values for the unphosphorylated, singly-phosphorylated, and doubly-phosphorylated juxtamembrane peptide.

Sequence: TYVDPHTYEDPTQTVHEFAK, Y8-Phospho (79.96633 Da) Charge: +4, Monoisotopic m/z: 615.26978 Da (-0.66 mmu/-1.08 ppm), MH+: 2458.05727 Da, RT: 39.76 min, Identified with: Mascot (v1.30); IonScore:28, Exp Value:3.5E-002, Ions matched by search engine: 14/152

Figure S6. CID spectrum of the C-terminal phosphorylated juxtamembrane from LC-MS/MS analysis of the W826P sample after 30s incubation with MgATP. Red and blue values indicate matched peptide ions.

Sequence: TYVDPHTYEDPTQTVHEFAK, Y2-Phospho (79.96633 Da)

Charge: +3, Monoisotopic m/z: 820.02344 Da (-1.39 mmu/-1.69 ppm), MH+: 2458.05576 Da, RT: 45.25 min, Identified with: Mascot (v1.30); IonScore:24, Exp Value:9.2E-002, Ions matched by search engine: 14/198 Fragment match tolerance used for search: 0.02 Da

Figure S7. CID spectrum of the N-terminal phosphorylated juxtamembrane from LC-MS/MS analysis of the W826P sample after 30s incubation with MgATP. Red and blue values indicate matched peptide ions.

Sequence: TYVDPHTYEDPTQTVHEFAK, Y2-Phospho (79.96633 Da), Y8-Phospho (79.96633 Da) Charge: +3, Monoisotopic m/z: 846.68201 Da (+1.74 mmu/+2.05 ppm), MH+: 2538.03147 Da, RT: 39.59 min, Identified with: Mascot (v1.30); IonScore:16, Exp Value:4.1E-001, Ions matched by search engine: 8/152

Figure S8. CID spectrum of the doubly-phosphorylated juxtamembrane from LC-MS/MS analysis of the W826P sample after 30s incubation with MgATP. Red and blue values indicate matched peptide ions.

Figure S9. Molecular dynamics analysis of WT and W826P inactive models. A) Key polar interactions in the autoinhibitory conformation of EphA3 (PDB 2QO2). The red segment indicates the 7-residue region that was found to be more flexible in the W826P mutant relative to WT (B). B) RMSF values of juxtamembrane Cα atoms in WT and W826P molecular dynamics simulations. C) Distance between oxygen and nitrogen atoms involved in the two polar interactions in the autoinhibited form calculated from WT and W826P molecular dynamics simulations. D) Key interactions between the C-terminal lobe of the kinase domain and the SAM domain linker in EphA3 (PDB 2QOC). The red segment indicates the 5-residue region that was found to be more flexible in the W826P mutant relative to WT (E). E) RMSF values of SAM linker Ca atoms in WT and W826P simulations.

Table S2. Tryptic juxtamembrane peptides identified by MALD peptide mass fingerprinting.

SI Methods and Materials

Expression and purification of EphA3 WT and mutant proteins

The WT human EphA3 plasmid was obtained from Addgene (plasmid id 25136). The EphA3 coding region corresponds to residues Asp577-Ser947 with an N-terminal 6X His tag. Mutagenesis was carried out using high fidelity Phusion DNA polymerase (New England Biolabs). Plasmids were expressed in BL21 DE3 Rosetta II cells. Cultures were grown to O.D. 600 of 0.8 and induced with 0.2 mM IPTG at 18°C for 16 hours. Cells were harvested by centrifugation and resuspended in 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer pH 8.0, 0.5M NaCl followed by sonication. Cell debris was discarded, and the supernatant was applied on a Ni-NTA agarose column. The protein was eluted in 25 mM HEPES, 0.1 mM NaCl, 300 mM imidazole pH 7.5. Mass spectrometry revealed that the protein had degraded to boundaries corresponding to Asp577-Thr912. The cleaved product was purified out using a MonoQ column, and the smaller fragment was used for subsequent experiments. Proteins were dialyzed into 25 mM HEPES, 0.5 mM NaCl at pH 7.5. Protein concentrations were quantified by UV absorbance at 280 nm.

Mass spectrometry analysis of autophosphorylated samples

All mass spectrometry experiments were performed at the Proteomics and Mass Spectrometry Facility, University of Georgia. Autophosphorylation samples were run on 10% acrylamide gel and stained with coomassie. An in-gel trypsin digest was performed by slicing the gel into small pieces and rinsing with 50% acetonitrile/20 mM ammonium bicarbonate (~pH7.5-8) twice. Gel pieces were dehydrated by adding 100% of acetonitrile and dried out by a SpeedVac. Trypsin solution $(0.01\mu\text{g}/\mu\text{L}$ in 20 mM ammonium bicarbonate) was added until completely absorbed. The tubes were placed in an incubator at 37°C overnight. Tryptic peptides were extracted by incubating with 50% acetonitrile/0.1% formic acid twice. Extracts were dried down by a SpeedVac. For MALDI analysis, samples were brought up in 10 ul of 20% acetonitrile w/0.1% formic acid (FA): 80% water with 0.1% FA. 1 ul was spotted with 1 ul of matrix (15mg/ml of DHB in 50:50 acetonitrile w/0.1% formic acid (FA):water with 0.1% FA). Data was collected using a Bruker Daltonics Autoflex operated in reflectron mode and analyzed using Matrix Science online software.

LC-MS/MS analyses were performed on a Thermo-Fisher LTQ Orbitrap Elite Mass Spectrometer coupled with a Proxeon Easy NanoLC system. Peptides were loaded into a reversed-phase column (self-packed column/emitter with 200 Å 5 µM Bruker MagicAQ C18 resin), then directly eluted into the mass spectrometer. The two-buffer gradient elution (0.1% formic acid as buffer A and 99.9% acetonitrile with .0.1% formic acid as buffer B) starts with 5% B, holds at 5%B for 2 minutes, then increases to 25% B in 60 minutes, to 40% B in 10 minutes, and to 95% B in 10 minutes. The data-dependent acquisition (DDA) method was used to acquire MS data. A survey MS scan was acquired first, then the top 5 ions in the MS scan were selected for following CID and HCD MS/MS analysis. Both MS and MS/MS scans were acquired by Orbitrap at resolutions of 120,000 and 30,000, respectively. Data were acquired using Xcalibur software (2.2, Thermo Fisher Scientific). Proteins identification and modification characterization were performed using Thermo Proteome Discoverer (1.4) with Mascot (Matrix Science) and Uniprot database. The spectra of possible modified peptides were inspected further to verify the accuracy of the assignments. The semi-quantitative analyses were achieved using a label-free quantification workflow within Proteome Discoverer, which a Precursor Ion Areas

Detector node calculates the average of the top three highest peptide areas in the Extracted Ion Chromatograms (mass precision, 2 ppm).

NADH-coupled assay

We employed a NADH coupled enzyme assay in 96 well format. In the assay, reaction progress (conversion of ATP to ADP) was monitored by a coupled reaction that leads to oxidation of NADH. PK/LDH, PEP, and NADH were purchased from Sigma. The reactions were carried out at 35°C in a reaction volume of 50 µl, and absorbance was measured at 340nm every 2 minutes using the absorbance mode in the Synergy H4 microplate Reader. The reaction mixture comprised of 25 mM HEPES (pH 7.5), 500 mM NaCl, 10 mM $MgCl₂$, 1 mM ATP, 1 mM PEP, 500 µM NADH, 400 µM peptide substrate (NH2-KQWDNYEFIW-COOH, obtained from Biomatik corporation), and 100-200 nM of EphA3. A no-peptide control was included to account for any ATPase activity or auto-phosphorylation exhibited by the protein. The amount of protein used was optimized such that the kinase reaction was at least 25 times slower than the coupled PK/LDH reaction. Specific activity for the proteins was calculated by taking a ratio of the Vmax and the concentration of enzymes used in the assay.

Molecular dynamics simulations

All-atom MD simulations were performed using GROMACS (5.0.2) (2) and resources at the Georgia Advanced Computing Resource Center (GACRC), University of Georgia. The starting conformation of EphA3 in the autoinhibited state was modeled from crystal structure 2QO2. The two disordered regions (2 residues in the juxtamembrane and 20 residues in the activation loop) were modeled through a fragment-based loop modeling procedure using Rosetta (3.8)(3). The W826P mutation was introduced in the modeled WT autoinhibited structure using the loop refine module in Modeller.(9.19)(4). The protein was parameterized with amber99SB-ildn force field and solvated with TIP3P water model in a dodecahedron box that was 1 nm bigger than the protein on all sides (5). The system was then neutralized with 0.1M sodium chloride. To take advantage of the latest GPU acceleration, the Verlet cutoff scheme is used to maintain the neighbor list (6). The long-range electrostatics is calculated using particle mesh ewald (PME) algorithms. The resulting simulation system contains approximately 50000 atoms. Energy minimization was performed by coupling steepest descent and conjugate-gradient algorithm until the Fmax was less than 100 kcal/mol. Atom velocities were generated according to a Maxwell distribution at 310K. Canonical (NVT) ensemble simulations were carried out by heating from 0 to 310 K using velocity rescaling for 200 ps with a timestep of 2 fs (7). Isothermal-isobaric (NPT) ensemble ($P = 1$ bar, $T = 310$ K) were carried out using the berendsen barostat to maintain pressure and density of the system. Position restraint was applied to heavy atoms of the protein during the NVT and NPT equilibration steps. The unrestrained MD productions were run for 500 ns from the NPT ensemble. Analysis of MD trajectories were done using packages from the Gromacs suite, and the cross-correlation matrices of $C\alpha$ -C α motions were generated using Prody (8).

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