Follicular T Cells are Clonally and Transcriptionally Distinct in B Cell-Driven

Autoimmune Disease

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Supplementary Information



Supplementary Fig. 1. Clustering is similar between autoimmune and nonautoimmune samples.

a, Gene expression of Tfh and Tfr defining genes projected onto UMAP of follicular T cells.

b, Dot plot of averaged log-normalized expression of top six differentially expressed genes (rows) for each cluster (columns). Size represents percentage of cells in cluster expressing gene.

c, UMAPs of follicular T cells split by individual samples of wild type (top) or

autoimmune (bottom) chimeras, colored by cluster.

d, Hierarchical clustering of follicular T cell clusters.

e, Trajectory analysis computed using PAGA graph of paths between clusters.

f, Ranked pseudotime values of cells within clusters.

g, Scatter plot comparing correlation of gene expression with pseudotime values

between WT or mixed 564Igi chimera follicular T cells.







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Supplementary Fig. 2. Follicular T cells are transcriptionally distinct in lupus patients.

a, Gene expression of candidate genes (rows) in Tfh (CD3⁺CD4⁺CXCR-5⁺PD-1⁺GITR⁻) and Tfr (CD3⁺CD4⁺CXCR-5⁺PD-1⁺GITR⁺) cells (columns) sorted from WT (grey, n = 9) or mixed 564Igi (red, n=6) chimeras as measured by qRT-PCR. Unbiased hierarchical clustering of samples and genes shown. Gene expression is log-normalized relative to *Ywhaz*.

b, Expression of indicated genes in Tfh and Tfr cells sorted from WT (grey, n = 9) or mixed 564Igi (red, n=6) chimeras as measured by qRT-PCR. P-value computed using two-tailed Student's *t*-test.

c, Confocal microscopy of spleens from WT (black, n = 9) or mixed 564lgi (red, n = 10) chimeras stained for CD4 (red), germinal centers (GL-7, blue), and Sca-1 (green). Insets(right) show higher magnification.

d, Flow cytometry quantification of Sca-1 expression in Tfh and Tfr cells from WT mesenteric lymph nodes (black circles, n = 7 for 6 weeks, n = 6 for 12 weeks), WT mice immunized with NP-OVA for indicated lengths (black, n = 16 for 6 weeks, n = 9 for 12 weeks), or 564lgi (red, n = 12 for 6 weeks, n = 9 for 12 weeks) mice at indicated ages. MFI, median fluorescence intensity. P-value computed using two-tailed Student's *t*-test. **e**, UMAP visualization of T cells from renal biopsies of healthy control (left, n = 7) or systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE, right, n = 24) patients colored by unbiased cluster assignment. Raw scRNA-seq data obtained from Immport SDY997.

f, Stacked bar graph (left) and per sample average (right) of percent of T cells belonging to each cluster between healthy control (black) and SLE (red) patients.

g, Expression of cluster-defining genes within individual clusters.

h, Volcano plots of differentially expressed genes between control and SLE renal biopsy T cells within indicated clusters. Adjusted P-value <0.001 and log₂FC >0.5 shown in red. Differential expression computed by MAST and adjusted for multiple comparison based on Bonferroni correction.

i, Expression of indicated genes within individual clusters amongst renal biopsy T cells split by control (grey) or SLE (red) samples.

j, Venn diagram comparing differentially expressed genes between CD4⁺ PBMCs from healthy and SLE patients (Bradley et al.), between renal biopsy T cells from healthy and SLE patients (Arazi et al.), and between splenic follicular T cells from wild type and mixed 564Igi chimeras (564Igi). Mouse genes were converted to human orthologs where possible.

k, Scatter plot comparing log fold change of gene expression between mixed 564lgi and WT chimera follicular T cells with log fold change of gene expression between Tfh cells from SLE and healthy samples from renal biopsies (Arazi et al.) or CD4⁺ PBMCs (Bradley et al.).

I, FPKM of indicated genes from RNA-sequencing of CD4⁺ PBMCs from control (black, n = 4), inactivate (SLEDAI ≤ 6 , orange, n = 7), and active (SLEDAI > 6, red, n = 7) SLE patients.

Data are represented as mean ± SEM. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



Supplementary Fig. 3. Clonotypes are infrequency shared between follicular T cell clusters.

a, Distribution of CDR3 length of TCR α (left) and TCR β (right) chains of follicular T cells from WT (black) or mixed 564lgi (red) chimeras. Dashed vertical line indicates mean.

b, Motif analysis of 14 amino acid long CDR3s of TCR α (left) and TCR β (right) chains of follicular T cells from WT (top) or mixed 564lgi (bottom) chimeras.

c, Hierarchical clustering of samples (columns) based on variable gene usage (rows) in TCR α (left) or TCR β (right) chains. Row labels indicate variable gene name and column color indicates sample condition (grey, WT; red, 564lgi).

d, Hierarchical clustering of samples (columns) based on learned variable autoencoderbased feature space (rows) of TCR repertoires from WT (grey) or mixed 564lgi (red) chimeras.

e, UMAP visualization learned from TCR repertoire featurization performed on WT (black) and mixed 564Igi (red) chimeras. Individual clonotypes are depicted as circles and sized according to number of cells belonging to given clonotype. Points are colored according to condition.

f, Number of individual cells belonging to each clonotype within follicular T cell clusters identified by scRNA-seq amongst WT (black) or mixed 564lgi (red) chimeras.

g, Venn diagram comparing number of unique and shared clonotypes between follicular T cell clusters identified by scRNA-seq.

h, Ordinance plot of non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS) of clonotype distribution amongst individual samples. Text indicates sample name and color

indicates sample condition (grey, WT; red, 564lgi). Individual clonotypes are depicted as grey circles.

i, Hierarchical clustering of expanded clonotypes (>30 individual cells, columns) based on cluster distribution (rows). Column colors indicate sample condition of given clonotype (grey, WT; red, 564Igi; light red, both) and number of individual cells belonging to each clonotype. Columns are labeled with CDR3 sequences from TCRαβ pairings.



Supplementary Fig. 4. Clonal expansion amongst clusters is similar between autoimmune and non-autoimmune samples.

a, Mappings of four larges clonotypes in WT (top) or mixed 564Igi (bottom) chimeras onto UMAP visualization of transcriptomic data. CDR3 sequences of TCR $\alpha\beta$ pairing of given clonotype indicated above each plot.

b, Percent of cells belonging to five largest clonotypes in each mouse assigned to each cluster in WT (top, n = 5) or mixed 564lgi (bottom, n = 5) chimeras. Data are represented as mean ± SEM. P-value computed using two-tailed Student's *t*-test. **c**, Scatter plot comparing clone size between WT and mixed 564lgi chimeras with selected clonotypes labeled with CDR3 sequences from TCR $\alpha\beta$ pairings. Clonotype size represents number of samples in which the given clonotype is observed. **d**, Motif analysis of 14 amino acid long CDR3s of TCR α (left) and TCR β (right) chains of cells belonging to preferentially expanded clonotypes indicated in Fig. 4b from WT (top) or mixed 564lgi (bottom) chimeras.

e, Distribution of CDR3 length of TCR α (left) and TCR β (right) chains of cells belonging to preferentially expanded clonotypes indicated in Fig. 4b from WT (black) or mixed 564lgi (red) chimeras. Dashed vertical line indicates mean.

f, Scatter plot comparing clone size between Tfr and Tfh cells identified by scRNA-seq labeled with CDR3 sequences from TCR $\alpha\beta$ pairings. Clonotype size represents number of samples in which the given clonotype is observed.

g, Motif analysis of 14 amino acid long CDR3s of TCR α (left) and TCR β (right) chains of Tfh (top) or Tfr (bottom) cells identified by scRNA-seq.

h, Distribution of CDR3 length of TCR α (left) and TCR β (right) chains of Tfh or Tfr cells. Dashed vertical line indicates mean.

i, Rank order plot of correlation coefficients of each gene with clone size across cells assigned to indicated cluster by scRNA-seq.

j, Volcano plots of differences between mixed 564Igi and WT chimeras in gene enrichment between expanded (>5 individual cells) and unexpanded (1 individual cell) clonotypes within indicated cluster. Adjusted P-value <0.01 and log₂FC >0.2 shown in red. Differential expression computed by MAST and adjusted for multiple comparison based on Bonferroni correction.









Supplementary Fig. 5. GLIPH analysis predicts frequent cross-reactivities between follicular T cell clusters.

a, Total size of specificity groups mapped onto UMAP visualization of transcriptomic data of individual follicular T cells from WT (left) or mixed 564lgi (right) mice.
b, Ordinance plot of non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS) of specificity group distribution amongst individual samples. Text indicates sample name and color indicates sample condition (grey, WT; red, 564lgi). Individual specificity groups are depicted as grey circles.

c, Shepard plot of ordination distances from non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS) of specificity group distribution amongst individual samples in (**b**).

d, Scatter plot comparing specificity group size between Tfr and Tfh cells. Specificity groups are colored according to the number of unique clonotypes that belong to a given specificity group and sized according to number of samples in which the given specificity group is observed. Select specificity groups are labeled with their arbitrary name in blue.

e, Unweighted network analysis of clonotype assignment to indicated specificity groups. Specificity groups are depicted as blue circles, clonotypes are colored according to most frequently assigned cluster and sized according to number of cells belonging to given clonotype.

f, Venn diagram comparing number of unique and shared specificity group between follicular T cell clusters identified by scRNA-seq.

g, Mappings of cells belonging to specificity groups preferentially expanded (|log₂FC|>2.5 and total size >10) in WT (black) or mixed 564Igi (red) chimeras onto

UMAP visualization of transcriptomic data from WT (left) or mixed 564Igi (right) chimeras.

h, Percentage of cells assigned to the Tfr cluster within each specificity group (left), geometric mean of clone sizes of clonotypes within each specificity group (middle), and Shannon diversity index of clonotype expansion within given specificity group (right) between specificity groups without a condition preference (public, grey, n = 121) or preferentially expanded in WT (black, n = 26) or mixed 564lgi (red, n = 12) chimeras. Data are represented as mean ± SEM.

i, Rarefaction curves of specificity group richness within follicular T cell clusters identified by scRNA-seq. Individual samples are depicted by lines and colored by sample condition (black, WT; red, 564lgi).



Supplementary Fig. 6. Autoimmune follicular T cells are transcriptionally distinct within a shared TCR specificity group.

a, Gating strategy (left) and quantification (right) to identify extrafollicular (EFO) CD4⁺ T cells from WT (black, n = 6) or mixed 564lgi (red, n = 7) chimeras. Data are represented as mean ± SEM. P-value computed using two-tailed Student's *t*-test. **b**, Flow cytometry histograms (left) and quantification (right) of PD-1 expression in EFO CD4⁺ T cells from WT (black, n = 6) or mixed 564lgi (red, n = 7) chimeras. Data are represented as mean ± SEM. P-value computed using two-tailed Student's *t*-test. **c**, Distribution of clone sizes amongst clonotypes belonging to specificity groups without a condition preference (public, grey) or preferentially expanded in WT (black) or mixed 564lgi (red) chimeras. Vertical lines indicate geometric means.

d, Scatter plot comparing correlation coefficients of each gene with clone size between WT and mixed 564lgi chimeras amongst cells belonging to specificity groups preferentially expanded in WT or mixed 564lgi chimeras. Correlation coefficients >0.05 are indicated in black (correlated in both conditions), red (correlated in mixed 564lgi chimera specificity groups only), or red (correlated in WT chimera specificity groups only).

e, Average expression of indicated gene amongst all cells belonging to individual clonotypes belonging to specificity groups preferentially expanded in WT or mixed 564lgi chimeras versus clone size. Clonotype color indicates sample condition (black, WT; red, 564lgi).

f, CDR3 sequences of clonotypes belonging to specificity group "GLIPH_506".

Conserved motif residues are highlighted, low contact probability residues indicated in red.

g, Volcano plot of differentially expressed genes between cells from mixed 564lgi versus WT chimera belonging to specificity group "GLIPH_506". Adjusted P-value <0.01 and log₂FC >0.2 shown in red. Differential expression computed by MAST and adjusted for multiple comparison based on Bonferroni correction.

h, Violin plot of expression of indicated genes in cells belonging to specificity group "GLIPH 506" in WT (grey) or mixed 564lgi (red) chimeras.

Source data are provided as a Source Data file.



Supplementary Fig. 7. Position-weighted search of protein databases based on known CDR3β specificities.

a, Scatter plot comparing CDR3 β based clonotype size between WT and mixed 564Igi chimeras and colored according to disease category of predicted peptide from TCR database search of annotated CDR3 β sequences (left) or preferential expansion (|log2FC|>3 and total size >10) in WT (black) or mixed 564Igi (red) chimeras (right). Size represents number of samples in which the given CDR3 β sequence is observed. Labels represent antigens for selected CDR3 β sequences present in our annotated TCR database.

b, Positional weighted matrix (PWM) of amino acid preference amongst nine amino acid long peptides corresponding to annotated CDR3β sequences from TCR databases that are identical to CDR3β clonotypes preferentially expanded in WT (left) or mixed 564Igi (right) chimeras identified by scRNA-seq. Peptides were weighted according to clone size multiplied by fold enrichment in given condition.

c, Schematic of PWM-based scoring of the mouse proteome to search for novel candidate peptides based on CDR3β annotation from (**b**).

d, Venn diagram of candidate antigens from the mouse proteome PWM-based search using annotated CDR3β clonotypes preferentially expanded in WT (black) or mixed 564lgi (red) chimeras.

e, Seven highest scoring peptides from the mouse proteome PWM-based search using annotated CDR3 β clonotypes preferentially expanded in WT (left) or mixed 564Igi (right) chimeras.

f, Hierarchical clustering of annotated peptides (rows) based on learned feature space (columns) of CDR3 β sequences from TCR databases using supervised training in Fig. 7G. Only peptides with AUC >0.9 are displayed. Row colors indicate disease class and disease information of given peptide.

Supplementary Table 1. Metadata and sequencing depth of scRNA-seq and scTCR-seq performed on wild type

			scRNA-seq				scTCR-seq				
				Reads	Genes	Reads		Reads	Reads		
Mouse	Gender	Condition	Cells	per cell	per cell	(million)	Cells	per cell	(million)	αβ Pair	Diversity
m14	M	WT	19148	15724	577	301.083152	6245	3384	21.13308	63.10%	539.7
m17	M	564Igi	6476	26083	1475	168.913508	4591	4832	22.183712	82.90%	118.5
m11	F	WT	5399	27779	1500	149.978821	4757	11962	56.903234	82.50%	350.36
m12	F	WT	4427	25186	1325	111.498422	3765	6591	24.815115	82.60%	77.78
m24	M	564Igi	3537	44891	980	158.779467	2642	12051	31.838742	77.50%	135.67
m13	F	564Igi	4756	21583	1551	102.648748	4084	8068	32.949712	86.80%	361.89
m23	M	WT	8269	21978	1228	181.736082	5638	7392	41.676096	83.30%	189.82
m21	F	564Igi	7352	23236	1082	170.831072	5105	9933	50.707965	78.80%	279.32
m34	F	564Igi	5027	30402	1368	152.830854	3155	21882	69.03771	67.90%	182.8
m36	M	WT	6840	26807	1361	183.35988	3914	16370	64.07218	66.40%	165.11

(WT) and mixed autoimmune (564lgi) bone marrow chimeras.

Primer name	Sequence
564lgi_H2_F	CACAGATTCTTAGTTTTTCAA
564lgi_H2_R	TGGAGCTATATCATCCTCTTT
564lgi_K_F	CCAGTGCAGATTTTCAGCTTC
564lgi_K_R	CAGCTTGGTCCCAGCACCGAA
mRPP30_F	TGACCCTATCAGAGGACTGC
mRPP30_R	CTCTGCAATTTGTGGACACG

Supplementary Table 2. Primers for genotyping.

Supplementary Table 3. Primers for qRT-PCR.

Primer name	Sequence
AY036118_F	CCAGCCAACGTAGAAAAGCC
AY036118_R	GCTCTTCCGTGTCTACGAGG
Ccl5_F	CTCACCATATGGCTCGGACACC
Ccl5_R	GCGGTTCCTTCGAGTGACAA
Cd74_F	ACTCCATGGATGGCGTGAAC
Cd74_R	TTCTTCCTGGCACTTGGTCAG
Gm42031_F	AGCTCGACTGCCAACAAGGAG
Gm42031_R	CAAAAGCTGCTCCCATCGGT
ld3_F	TTTCCGAGAATGGGGTGTCG
ld3_R	ATCAGGGCAGCAGAGCTTTT
ll7r_F	CTGTCTTGCCAAGTGTCACC
ll7r_R	TTCAGACTATAGTTGTTCCAGAGTT
Lag3_F	GTAGCATCCATCTGCAGGGAC
Lag3_R	CAGATGCCGGGGTTACCTCA
Ly6a_F	CTCCCTCTTCAGGATGCCAG
Ly6a_R	GCACAGATAAAACCTAGCAGCTC
Tnfsf8_F	CCAGAAAAAGGACTCCACTCCA
Tnfsf8_R	ACTTGGAGGTAGGCCCATGA
Tpi1_F	GCCTGGGAGAACTCATCTGC
Tpi1_R	GCTTCTGTCTGGCAAAGTCG
Ywhaz_F	ACTTTTGGTACATTGTGGCTTCAA
Ywhaz R	CCGCCAGGACAAACCAGTAT