

ARTICLE

The N-terminus of Sfi1 and yeast centrin Cdc31 provide the assembly site for a new spindle pole body

Diana Rüttnick*¹, Jlenia Vitale*¹, Annett Neuner, and Elmar Schiebel¹

The spindle pole body (SPB) provides microtubule-organizing functions in yeast and duplicates exactly once per cell cycle. The first step in SPB duplication is the half-bridge to bridge conversion via the antiparallel dimerization of the centrin (Cdc31)-binding protein Sfi1 in anaphase. The bridge, which is anchored to the old SPB on the proximal end, exposes free Sfi1 N-termini (N-Sfi1) at its distal end. These free N-Sfi1 promote in G₁ the assembly of the daughter SPB (dSPB) in a yet unclear manner. This study shows that N-Sfi1 including the first three Cdc31 binding sites interacts with the SPB components Spc29 and Spc42, triggering the assembly of the dSPB. Cdc31 binding to N-Sfi1 promotes Spc29 recruitment and is essential for satellite formation. Furthermore, phosphorylation of N-Sfi1 has an inhibitory effect and delays dSPB biogenesis until G₁. Taking these data together, we provide an understanding of the initial steps in SPB assembly and describe a new function of Cdc31 in the recruitment of dSPB components.

Introduction

In the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, the spindle pole body (SPB) functions as a microtubule (MT)-organizing center similar to the centrosome in animal cells (Jaspersen and Winey, 2004; Rüttnick and Schiebel, 2018). The SPB is a large multilayered structure composed of at least 16 proteins that is embedded in the nuclear envelope (NE) throughout the cell cycle. This embedding is a reflection of the closed mitosis in yeast and enables the SPB to organize simultaneously nuclear and cytoplasmic MTs (Byers and Goetsch, 1975). Nuclear MTs segregate the duplicated chromosomes in mitosis, while the cytoplasmic MTs contact the cell cortex and align the mitotic spindle along the mother–bud axis.

The SPB, as well as the human centrosome, duplicates exactly once per cell cycle (Byers and Goetsch, 1975; Rüttnick and Schiebel, 2016). This tight regulation is essential for the viability of yeast cells. SPB duplication occurs at an SPB substructure that, depending on its length, is called the “half bridge” or “bridge” (Byers and Goetsch, 1975; Rüttnick and Schiebel, 2016). The half bridge is a one-sided attachment to the SPB central plaque and is layered on both sides of the NE (Byers and Goetsch, 1975). The cytoplasmic side of the half bridge consists of parallel bundles of elongated Sfi1 proteins organized in the same orientation (Kilmartin, 2003; Li et al., 2006). All Sfi1 N-termini (N-Sfi1) are embedded in the SPB core, while the Sfi1 C-termini (C-Sfi1) are positioned away from the SPB. The

protein Kar1 with its C-terminal membrane anchor attaches the Sfi1 layer to the NE (Seybold et al., 2015; Vallen et al., 1992). Each Sfi1 molecule binds up to 21 centrin (Cdc31 in yeast) molecules through conserved binding sites along the central α -helical region of Sfi1. Cdc31 stabilizes the elongated structure of Sfi1 but also promotes lateral interactions between Sfi1 molecules of the half bridge (Kilmartin, 2003; Seybold et al., 2015). The nuclear side of the half bridge mainly consists of the SUN (Sad1p/UNC-84) domain protein Mps3 that has an unclear function in SPB duplication (Friederichs et al., 2011; Hagan and Yanagida, 1995; Jaspersen et al., 2002).

Cyclin-dependent kinase 1 (Cdk1) phosphorylates six sites within C-Sfi1 and thereby prevents C-tail to C-tail dimerization (Avena et al., 2014; Elserafy et al., 2014). With anaphase onset, the phosphatase Cdc14 becomes released from the nucleolus and dephosphorylates Cdk1 phosphorylation sites in C-Sfi1 (Avena et al., 2014; Elserafy et al., 2014; Visintin et al., 1998). This triggers antiparallel C-tail to C-tail dimerization of Sfi1 in anaphase, converting the half bridge into the nearly twice as long bridge structure (Kilmartin, 2003). This dimerization also exposes free N-Sfi1 at the bridge distal end that are believed to promote the assembly of an SPB precursor on the cytoplasmic side of the NE, known as the “satellite” (Byers and Goetsch, 1975; Rüttnick and Schiebel, 2016). The satellite consists mainly of

Center for Molecular Biology, University of Heidelberg, German Cancer Research Center–Center for Molecular Biology Alliance, Heidelberg, Germany.

*D. Rüttnick and J. Vitale contributed equally to this paper. Correspondence to Diana Rüttnick: d.ruettnick@zmbh.uni-heidelberg.de; Elmar Schiebel: eschiebel@zmbh.uni-heidelberg.de

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the central plaque proteins SPB component 29 (Spc29) and 42 (Spc42; Adams and Kilmartin, 1999; Burns et al., 2015). How these proteins become recruited to N-Sfi1 and the regulation of this interaction are currently unclear.

After formation in early G₁, the satellite expands with rising Cdk1 kinase activity into the duplication plaque. The duplication plaque inserts next to the mother SPB while still being attached to the parental structure via the bridge (Adams and Kilmartin, 1999; Byers and Goetsch, 1975). A nuclear pore complex, together with a number of integral membrane and membrane-associated proteins that become recruited to the NE insertion site of the new SPB, assists duplication plaque insertion (Chen et al., 2019; Rüttnick et al., 2017). After or during NE insertion, the inner plaque assembles from within the nucleus (Elliott et al., 1999; Knop and Schiebel, 1998). As a final step of the duplication process, the SPB bridge separates in S phase through phosphorylation of C-Sfi1 and the joint activities of the kinesin-5 motor proteins Kip1 and Cin8 that push the SPBs apart (Avena et al., 2014; Elserafy et al., 2014; Leary et al., 2019; Saunders and Hoyt, 1992). The mother and daughter SPBs carry a half bridge each in late S phase until the upcoming anaphase.

The role of Sfi1 in SPB duplication is conserved in *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*. Similarly, in this organism, the half-bridge-like assembly of parallel Sfi1 molecules duplicates into a bridge at the end of mitosis by C-tail to C-tail Sfi1 interactions (Bouhleb et al., 2015). Recently, a function of human Sfi1 (hSfi1) in early steps of centriole duplication has been described (Kodani et al., 2019). hSfi1 promotes centriole duplication by recruiting the ubiquitin-deconjugating enzyme USP9X that stabilizes the centrosomal protein STIL (SCL/TAL-interrupting locus). Whether such a recruiting function is conserved in yeast and whether also C-tail dimerization of hSfi1 is required for its centriole-promoting functions are open questions.

How free N-Sfi1 at the distal end of the bridge contribute to the assembly of the satellite is not understood. In this study, we used mutations in *SFI1* that impair SPB duplication and biochemical experiments to show that N-Sfi1 can recruit Spc29. This process is mediated via the binding of Cdc31 to the first three N-terminal binding sites in N-Sfi1. Also, Spc42 directly interacts with Sfi1. Furthermore, we provide evidence that polo-like kinase Cdc5 prevents the assembly of the satellite in anaphase due to inhibitory phosphorylations in N-Sfi1. This together explains how bridge formation in anaphase is linked to the assembly of the satellite in G₁ and how SPB and bridge components are interacting.

Results

Binding of the satellite proteins Spc29 and Spc42 to Sfi1 requires N-Sfi1 and Cdc31 binding sites

Sfi1 is an elongated protein with an N-terminal extension of 187 amino acids and 21 putative Cdc31-binding sites in its center (Fig. 1 A; Cdc31-binding sites are marked by light green shades) and a C-terminal extension of 148 amino acids. Previously, it was shown that the *sfi1-3* and *sfi1-7* alleles with mutations within the first three N-terminal Cdc31-binding sites (Fig. 1 A) affect SPB duplication (Kilmartin, 2003). Because these mutations in *sfi1-3* and *sfi1-7* are quite distant from the C-Sfi1 that is essential for bridge assembly

(Elserafy et al., 2014), the N-Sfi1 might have a novel role in SPB duplication, perhaps in the formation of the satellite through protein recruitment. To test this notion, we performed a yeast two-hybrid (Y2H) screen with all SPB core proteins, including Spc29 and Spc42, the two main satellite components, as prey constructs and the N-Sfi1 as bait (Fig. 1 B; Fig. S1 A; Adams and Kilmartin, 1999; Burns et al., 2015). One N-Sfi1 version contained only the N-terminal region without Cdc31-binding sites (Sfi1₁₋₁₈₇), while the other included the first three Cdc31-binding sites (Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆) and therefore spanned the region that carried the mutations in *sfi1-3* and *sfi1-7* (Kilmartin, 2003; Li et al., 2006). The Sfi1₁₋₁₈₇ failed to interact with any of the prey proteins. Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ strikingly showed Y2H interactions (blue color) in combination with Spc29, the N-terminus of Spc42 (Spc42₂₁₋₁₃₄; N-Spc42), and Cdc31. In contrast, the C-terminus of Spc42 (Spc42₁₀₁₋₃₆₃) failed to interact with Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ (Fig. 1 B; and Fig. S1 A), although it showed strong Y2H interactions with the SPB component Cnm67 (Elliott et al., 1999), indicating that it is functional per se. Thus, the N-Sfi1 including the first Cdc31-binding sites interacts with the SPB components Spc29 and N-Spc42.

We next asked about the minimal requirements of the N-Sfi1 for the binding to Spc29 and N-Spc42. At least one functional Cdc31-binding site of Sfi1 (Sfi1₁₋₂₃₉) was required for the interaction with Spc29, N-Spc42, and Cdc31 (Fig. 1 C). Removal of the first 62 N-terminal amino acids from Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ had no impact on the interaction with Spc29, N-Spc42, and Cdc31. However, further truncations in the N-Sfi1 (Sfi1₁₂₄₋₂₉₆ or Sfi1₁₉₀₋₂₉₆) abolished interaction with Spc29 and N-Spc42 without affecting Cdc31 binding (Fig. 1 C). All Sfi1 constructs were expressed in yeast, as indicated by an immunoblot for the myc-tagged bait proteins (Fig. S1 B). Taken together, the amino acids 62–239, including the first Cdc31-binding site, are important for the interaction with Spc29 and N-Spc42.

Because SPB duplication is essential for the viability of yeast cells, we expected that interfering with regions of Sfi1 that mediate binding to Spc29 and Spc42 should cause lethality. Sfi1 fragments that are not important for these interactions, such as the N-terminal 62 amino acids, may not have a strong impact on the viability of cells. To test this hypothesis, we constructed *SFI1* alleles with N-terminal truncations and tested their ability to support growth of an *sfi1Δ* strain in a plasmid shuffle complementation experiment. Indeed, cells expressing the *sfi1Δ-62* allele were viable on 5'-fluoroorotic acid (5-FOA) plates, which select for cells that have lost the *URA3*-based WT *SFI1* plasmid but still express *sfi1Δ-62*. In contrast, cells only expressing the *sfi1Δ-124* or *sfi1Δ-190* deletions were not viable (Fig. 1 D). These data indicate that the N-terminal region of Sfi1 encompassing amino acids 62–239, including the first Cdc31-binding site, bind the satellite components Spc29 and Spc42.

Complex formation of recombinant N-Sfi1, Cdc31, and Spc29

To validate the Y2H data and to test whether these interactions were direct (Fig. 1, B and C), we coexpressed different versions of N-SFI1 together with CDC31 and six histidine-tagged SPC29 (SPC29-6His) in *Escherichia coli*. We chose *E. coli* for these experiments because of the tight attachment of Sfi1 to the SPB in yeast cells, which makes extraction

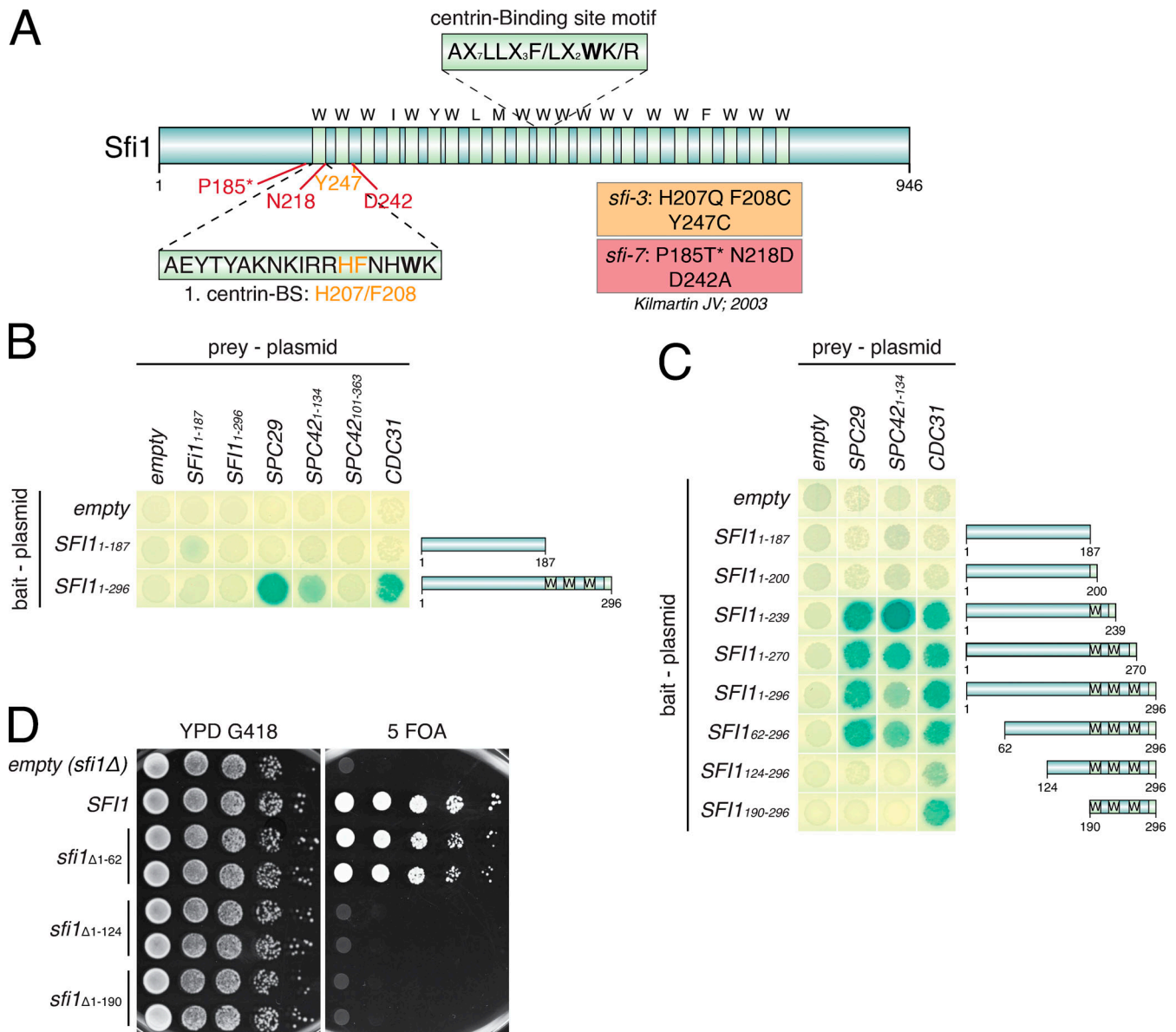


Figure 1. **N-Sfi1 interacts with Spc29 and N-Spc42.** (A) Schematic representation of Sfi1. All 21 conserved Cdc31-binding sites (the key W, I, Y, L, and F residues in the Cdc31-binding motifs are marked by light green shades) are shown, as well as the mutations identified in the *sfi-3* and *sfi-7* mutants as described elsewhere (Kilmartin, 2003). The asterisk in P185T* indicates the P185T mutation in *sfi-7* that was identified by sequencing of the original *sfi-1* plasmid. (B and C) Y2H interaction studies after X-Gal overlay. (D) Representative image of a drop test (10-fold dilutions) of N-terminally deleted Sfi1-truncation mutants analyzed in a *SFI1*-shuffle strain and incubated at 30°C for 2.5 d. BS, binding site; YPD, yeast peptone dextrose.

difficult (Elliott et al., 1999). Furthermore, because *E. coli* does not encode for SPB components, interactions were most likely direct and not mediated by other proteins in the system. After coexpression, we immunoprecipitated Flag-tagged N-Sfi1 and analyzed for coelution with Spc29-6His and Cdc31. Cdc31 coimmunoprecipitated with Sfi1₁₋₂₃₉, Sfi1₁₋₂₇₀, and Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ but not with Sfi1₁₋₁₈₇, as indicated by the Cdc31 immunoblot (Fig. 2 A, top) and the Coomassie blue-stained gel (Fig. 2 A, bottom). The amount of Cdc31 that bound to the Sfi1 fragments correlated with the number of Cdc31-binding sites (Fig. 2 B).

Spc29 was only weakly detected in the Sfi1₁₋₂₃₉-FLAG immunoprecipitation (IP) by anti-Spc29 antibodies (Fig. 2 A). In

contrast, Sfi1₁₋₂₇₀ and Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆, with two and three Cdc31 binding sites, respectively, associated more strongly with Spc29. Binding of Spc29 to Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ was already detected by Coomassie blue staining (Fig. 2 A). The relatively weak interaction between Spc29 and Sfi1₁₋₂₃₉ in this in vitro system compared with the Y2H analysis reflects either the higher stringency of the biochemical approach that discriminates binding differences better than the Y2H or the lack of modifications in the *E. coli*-expressed proteins that, in yeast, possibly enhance the interaction efficiency. In summary, this experiment suggests direct binding of Spc29 to the N-Sfi1-Cdc31 complex.

We next addressed whether binding of Spc29 to N-Sfi1 requires the presence of Cdc31. For this, we coexpressed

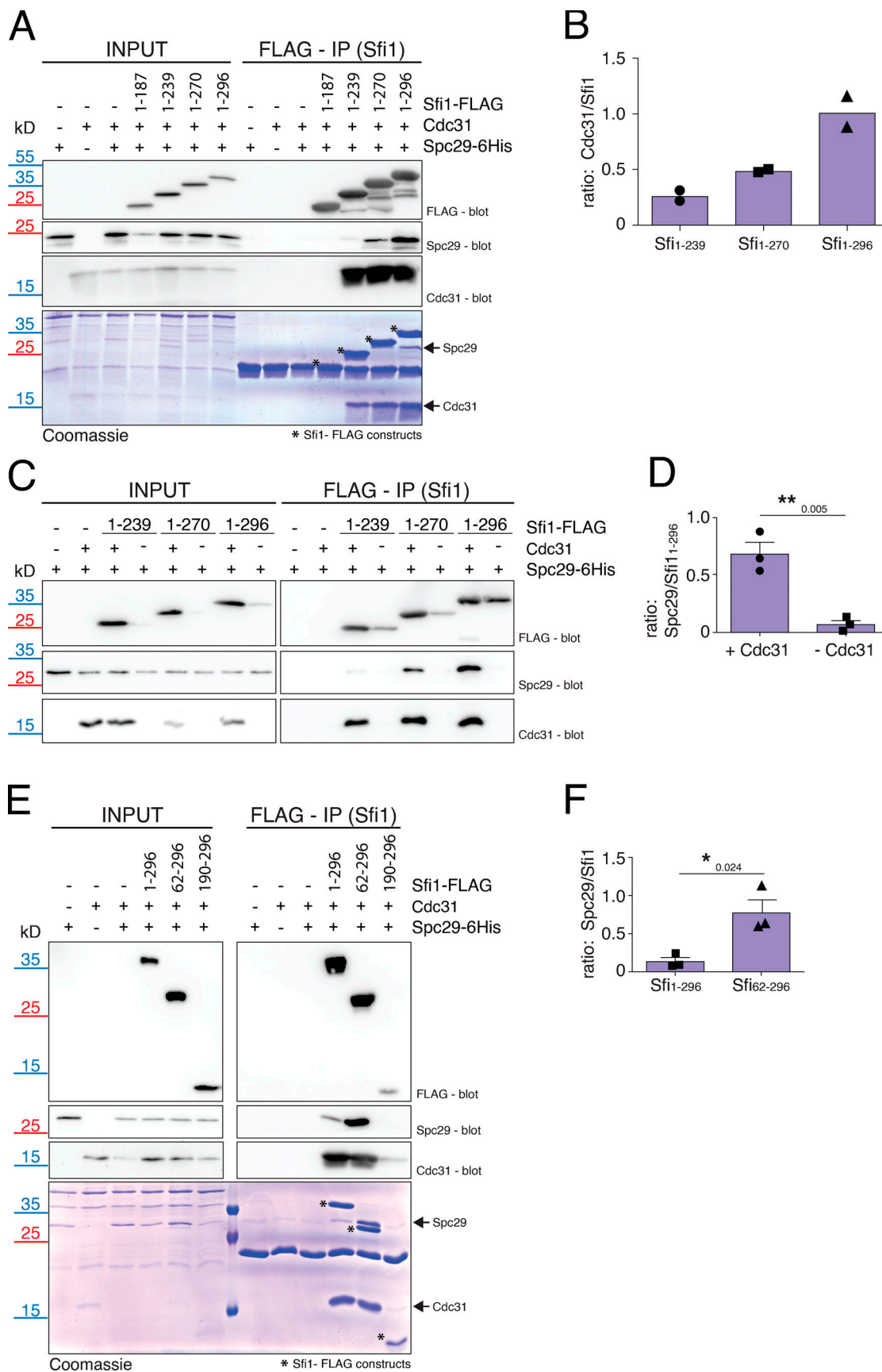


Figure 2. **N-Sfi1 directly interacts with Spc29.** (A) FLAG-IP experiment of N-Sfi1-FLAG constructs with zero, one, two, and three Cdc31-binding sites coexpressed with Cdc31 and Spc29-6His in *E. coli*. Proteins were analyzed by Coomassie blue staining (common band at 20 kD in the IP lanes represents the

light chain of the FLAG antibody) and immunoblotting with the indicated antibodies. The asterisk indicates the position of the enriched Sfi1-FLAG constructs. **(B)** Quantifications of the Coomassie blue-stained gel (as shown in A) to determine the Cdc31/Sfi1-FLAG ratio. $n = 2$. **(C)** FLAG-IP as described for A with the exception that Sfi1-FLAG fragments were also expressed without Cdc31. **(D)** Quantification of Spc29/Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ ratio from the immunoblots in C. $n = 3$. Error bars are SD. P value (0.005) was derived by using a two-tailed *t* test. **(E)** FLAG-IP with N-terminally shortened Sfi1-FLAG constructs coexpressed with Cdc31 and Spc29-6His analyzed by immunoblotting and Coomassie staining. The asterisk indicates the position of the Sfi1-FLAG constructs. Common band at 20 kD in the IP lanes represents the light chain of the FLAG antibody. **(F)** Quantification of the ratio between Spc29 and Sfi1 from the Coomassie blue-stained gel (as shown in E). $n = 3$. Error bars are SD. P value (0.024) was derived by using a two-tailed *t* test. Shape symbols in B, D, and F represent the individual datapoints of each experiment.

N-Sfi1-FLAG constructs and Spc29-6His with and without Cdc31 in *E. coli* (Fig. 2 C). In general, N-Sfi1-FLAG expression was always weaker in the absence of Cdc31 than when it was coexpressed with Cdc31 (Fig. 2 C; compare INPUT lanes with and without Cdc31). Although Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ was only weakly expressed in the absence of Cdc31, in the anti-FLAG IP, Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ and the Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆-Cdc31 complex were both present at similar levels (Fig. 2 C, FLAG-IP lanes in the righthand panel). Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆-Cdc31 efficiently coimmunoprecipitated Spc29, whereas there was only a very weak interaction with Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ alone (Fig. 2, C and D). Thus, Cdc31 promotes binding of Spc29 to Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆.

Using the *E. coli* system, we further evaluated the importance of regions within the N-terminus of Sfi1 for Spc29 recruitment. Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆, Sfi1₆₂₋₂₉₆, and Sfi1₁₉₀₋₂₉₆ were expressed together with Cdc31 in *E. coli*. We also expressed FLAG-tagged Sfi1₁₂₄₋₂₉₆ and alternatively Sfi1₁₂₇₋₂₉₆; however, for unknown reasons, both constructs were not expressed efficiently in *E. coli*. Consistent with the Y2H data (Fig. 1 C), Sfi1₆₂₋₂₉₆ interacted with Cdc31 and Spc29 (Fig. 2 E). Interestingly, Spc29 repeatedly bound with greater efficiency to Sfi1₆₂₋₂₉₆ than to Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆, as judged from the immunoblot analysis and the quantification of the Coomassie blue-stained gel (Fig. 2, E and F). This stronger binding suggests a potential negative role of the N-terminal 62 amino acids of Sfi1 for Spc29 binding. As expected from the Y2H experiment, Sfi1₁₉₀₋₂₉₆ failed to interact with Spc29 (Fig. 2 E). However, we noticed that Cdc31 binding to Sfi1₁₉₀₋₂₉₆ was reduced, which may indicate a folding problem of *E. coli*-expressed Sfi1₁₉₀₋₂₉₆.

Together, Spc29 binds directly to N-Sfi1, depending on the recruitment of Cdc31. The first 62 amino acids of Sfi1 are not required for Spc29 binding, but instead have a negative impact on the Spc29 recruitment.

Spc42 binds directly to N-Sfi1

N-Spc42 has the ability to interact with N-Sfi1 (Fig. 1 B). To confirm this binding and to further map interaction, we tested Spc42 subfragments as prey (Fig. 3 A) together with different N-Sfi1 bait constructs. The N-terminal 1-134 amino acids of Spc42 were adequate for the binding to N-Sfi1 constructs containing at least one Cdc31-binding site (Sfi1₁₋₂₃₉). Spc42₁₋₆₄ and the C-Spc42 fragments were insufficient to mediate binding to N-Sfi1 fragments in this assay. As for Spc29 (Fig. 1 C), the N-terminal 62 amino acids of Sfi1 were not essential for Spc42₁₋₁₃₄ binding (Fig. 3 B). We confirmed that all HA-tagged prey proteins were expressed (Fig. S2).

Expression of 6His-tagged SPC42 fragments together with N-SFI1₁₋₂₉₆-FLAG and CDC31 in *E. coli*, followed by IP experiments, confirmed these results. For this experiment, we used Spc42-6His fragments that contained the sigma-54-dependent

transcriptional regulator domain from *Chlorobium tepidum* (3K2N) at the N-terminus (3K2N-Spc42-6His). 3K2N increases the solubility of the Spc42 constructs without changing the binding properties of the Spc42 moiety (Drennan et al., 2019). In this setup, the FLAG-tagged, Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆/Cdc31-containing *E. coli* extract was mixed with extracts containing 3K2N-Spc42-6His constructs in order to ensure equal input of Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆/Cdc31 followed by FLAG IP. Constant input in case of 3K2N-Spc42-6His and Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆/Cdc31 coexpression was difficult to achieve because of toxic effects for the *E. coli* cells in some combinations. Analysis of the FLAG immunoprecipitates by Coomassie blue staining of the gel and immunoblot analysis indicated that Spc42₁₋₁₃₄ and Spc42₁₋₁₈₆ but not the C-terminal Spc42₁₀₁₋₃₆₃ and Spc42₁₂₆₋₃₆₃ fragments bound to Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆/Cdc31 (Fig. 3 C), which is consistent with the Y2H data (Fig. 3 A). These data together suggest that the N-Spc42 binds to N-Sfi1.

We next tested whether addition of Spc29 to the extracts containing N-Sfi1/Cdc31 and 3K2N-Spc42₁₋₁₈₆-6His would increase the binding efficiency of N-Spc42 to N-Sfi1/Cdc31. As shown in Fig. 3, D and E, the presence of Spc29 did not increase N-Spc42 binding to N-Sfi1/Cdc31, indicating that Spc42 and Spc29 do not bind cooperatively to N-Sfi1/Cdc31 in vitro. In summary, we can conclude that N-Spc42 directly interacts with the N-terminus of Sfi1 independent of Spc29.

Mutations in *sfi1-3* and *sfi1-7* affect binding of Spc29 and Spc42

The conditional lethal *sfi1-3* and *sfi1-7* alleles carry mutations in the N-terminal region of Sfi1 (Fig. 1 A; Kilmartin, 2003), which is important for Spc29/N-Spc42 binding (Figs. 1, 2, and 3). Mutations in *sfi1-3* and *sfi1-7* could therefore interfere with Spc29 and Spc42 binding to Sfi1. However, because the molecular defects of *sfi1-3* and *sfi1-7* were never analyzed in detail, proof for this possibility is missing. To test this model, we first mapped the mutations in *sfi1-3* and *sfi1-7* that contributed to the growth defect and therefore may interfere with the binding of Spc29 and Spc42. Only the combined presence of all three published mutations (H207Q, F208C, and Y247C) in *sfi1-3* caused a conditional lethal growth defect at 37°C (Fig. 4 A; Kilmartin, 2003). Sequencing of the original *sfi1-7* plasmid identified, besides the two published mutations, N218D and D242A, one additional mutation, P185T. Surprisingly, cells with *sfi1*^{N218D D242A} grew as WT *SFI1* cells at 37°C (Fig. 4 B). In contrast, *sfi1*^{P185T} cells showed a conditional lethal growth defect at 37°C (Fig. 4 B). The further addition of N218D and D242A mutations enhanced the growth defect of *sfi1*^{P185T} cells (*sfi1*^{P185T N218D D242A} in Fig. 4 B; 23°C). Thus, it is predominately the P185T mutation preceding the first Cdc31-binding site (Fig. 1 A) that is responsible for the growth defect of *sfi1-7* cells.

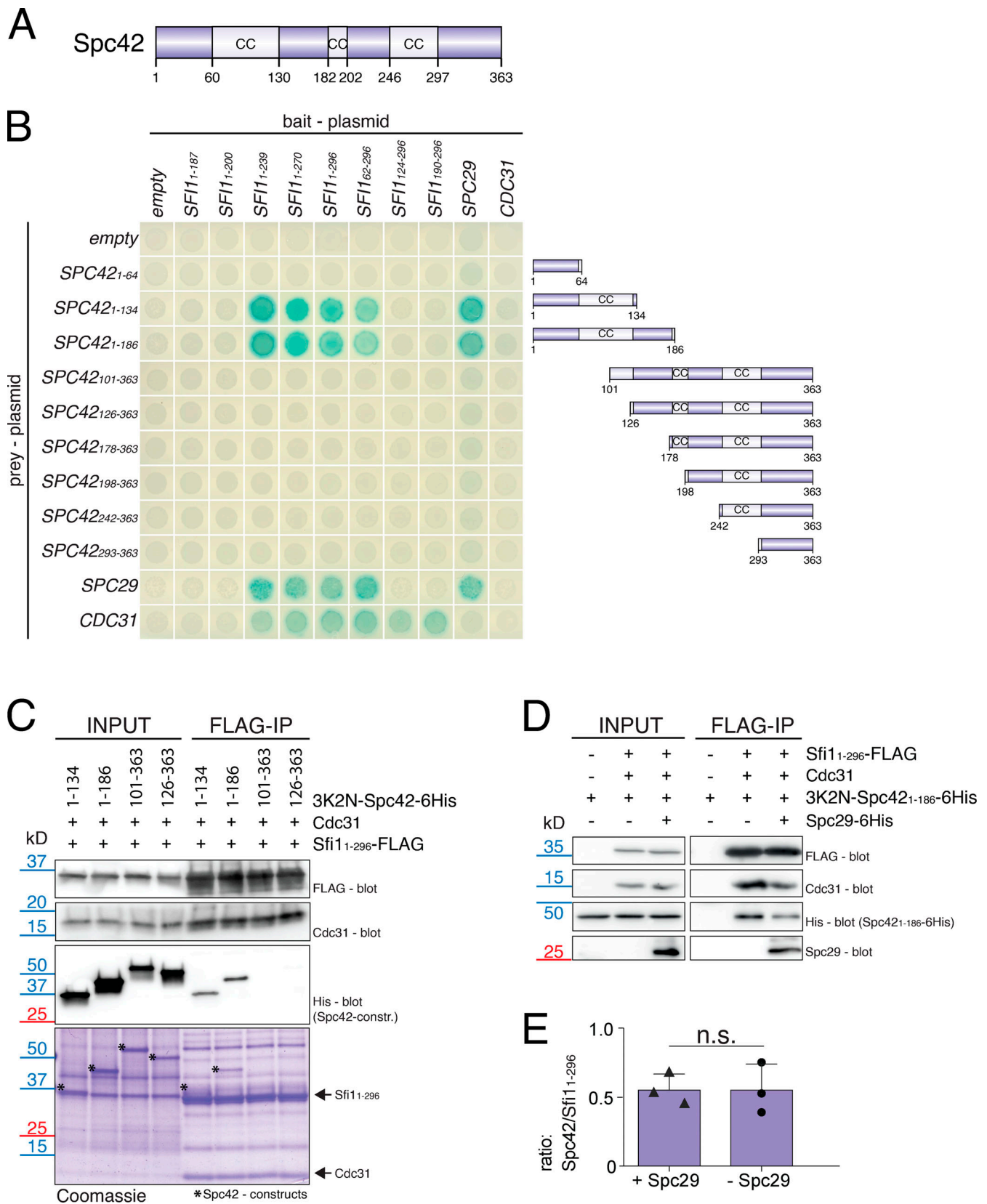


Figure 3. **N-Spc42 directly interacts with Sfi1.** (A) Schematic representation of the SPB protein Spc42. (B) Y2H analysis of the interactions between Spc42 and Sfi1 after X-Gal overlay. (C) FLAG-IP experiment of Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆-FLAG/Cdc31 with the indicated 3K2N-Spc42-6His constructs expressed separately in *E. coli* followed by mixing. Protein interaction was analyzed by immunoblotting and Coomassie blue staining. Asterisks indicate the position of Spc42 constructs in the Coomassie blue stain gel. (D) FLAG-IP of Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆-FLAG/Cdc31 with 3K2N-Spc42₁₋₁₈₆-6His in the presence or absence of Spc29 (performed by mixing of

Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆-FLAG/Cdc31, 3K2N-Spc42₁₋₁₈₆-6His, and Spc29-6His extracts). Protein interaction was analyzed by immunoblotting. **(E)** Quantification of the ratio between Spc42 and Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆/Cdc31 with and without Spc29 from immunoblots in D. *n* = 3. The result of a two-tailed *t* test was NS. Shape symbols represent individual datapoints from each experiment. CC, coiled-coil domain.

Using the Y2H assay to test whether mutations in *sfi1-3* or *sfi1-7* interfere with Spc29 and Spc42 recruitment, we analyzed binding of the N-Sfi1^{F208C}, N-Sfi1^{Y247C}, N-Sfi1^{H207C F208C}, and N-Sfi1^{H207C F208C Y247C} from *sfi1-3* and N-Sfi1^{P185T}, N-Sfi1^{N218D D242A}, and N-Sfi1^{P185T N218D D242A} from *sfi1-7* to Cdc31, Spc29, and N-Spc42. All N-Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ mutant constructs interacted with Cdc31 (Fig. 4, C and D). Interestingly, Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆^{H207Q F208C Y247C} (*sfi1-3*) failed to interact with N-Spc42 and Spc29, while Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆^{F208C} and Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆^{H207Q F208C} primarily showed impaired N-Spc42 binding with only a mild impact on Spc29, suggesting different binding requirements for Spc29 and Spc42 (Fig. 4 C). We next analyzed the impact of the mutations present in *sfi1-7* on Spc29/Spc42 binding. Consistent with the lack of a growth phenotype of *sfi1*^{N218D D242A} cells (Fig. 4 B), the Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆^{N218D D242A} construct had no obvious impact on the binding of Cdc31, Spc29, and N-Spc42 (Fig. 4 D). However, the N-Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆^{P185T} mutation alone or in combination with N218D and D242A abolished the interaction with N-Spc42 and reduced the binding to Spc29 dramatically (Fig. 4 D). These data together suggest that mutations in *sfi1-3* and *sfi1-7* impair the interactions with Spc29 and Spc42, but not with Cdc31. The defective interactions are probably causing the growth defect of the *sfi1-3* and *sfi1-7* mutant cells.

Failure of Sfi1 to bind to Spc29 and Spc42 should affect not bridge formation but instead the assembly of the satellite. By analyzing the phenotype of *sfi1* cells that were synchronized with the mating pheromone α -factor before the release from the cell cycle block and incubation at the restrictive temperature (37°C), we tested this notion. At 37°C, more than half of the *sfi1-3* cells arrested as large-budded cells with a single Spc42-yeast-enhanced GFP (yeGFP) signal reflecting the SPB (Fig. 4 E). About three-fourths of *sfi1*^{P185T} cells accumulated with a large bud and a single Spc42-tdTomato SPB signal (Fig. 4 F). The single Spc42 signal phenotype of large-budded mitotic cells is explained either by two side-by-side SPBs or by an unduplicated SPB. To discriminate between both possibilities, we analyzed synchronized *sfi1-3* and *sfi1*^{P185T} cells incubated at 37°C by thin-section EM. Large-budded *sfi1-3* carried a single SPB with a bridge but lacking a satellite (Fig. 4 G, SPB in one section and bridge in the next section; Fig. S3 A). Quantification of the EM images showed a nearly WT SPB size (Fig. S3 D) and that this single SPB in the *sfi1-3* cells was connected to a bridge with a length of 113 nm (Fig. S3 E). A similar “single SPB with bridge” phenotype was observed in *sfi1*^{P185T} mutant cells (Figs. 4 H and S3 E). However, in contrast to *sfi1-3* cells, the single SPB of *sfi1*^{P185T} cells was enlarged in size (Fig. S3 D). Finally, to show that our EM analysis is capable of visualizing the satellite and that synchronized WT cells incubated at 37°C carry mostly a half bridge, we performed EM analysis with WT cells. α -Factor arrested G₁ cells contained a single SPB that was attached to a satellite-bearing bridge (Fig. S3 B). When α -factor-arrested WT cells were released from the G₁ block at 37°C, we detected two SPBs of normal size (Bullitt et al., 1997) that

were associated with a short half bridge lacking a satellite (Fig. S3, C-E).

This together indicates that preventing binding of Spc29 and Spc42 to N-Sfi1 blocks SPB duplication at the level of satellite formation without affecting bridge assembly.

Importance of the Cdc31-binding sites in N-Sfi1 for SPB duplication

Our in vitro experiments indicate the importance of Cdc31-binding sites 1-3 in N-Sfi1 for the recruitment of Spc29. The Sfi1₁₋₂₃₉ with only one Cdc31-binding site bound Spc29 less efficiently than Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ with three binding sites (Fig. 2 A). Cdc31-binding sites in the N-Sfi1 could function jointly in Spc29 and Spc42 recruitment, or, alternatively, only one Cdc31-binding site could be part of the Spc29/Spc42 binding region. To test these possibilities, we replaced the highly conserved tryptophan (see Fig. 1 A) in the first, second, and third Cdc31-binding sites with alanine in order to interfere with Cdc31 binding. Surprisingly, the W211A mutation in Sfi1₁₋₂₃₉ had little impact on Cdc31 binding in the Y2H system (Fig. S4 A). To further disrupt Cdc31 binding, we chose to mutate the phenylalanine at position -3 in respect to tryptophan (see Fig. 1 A). On the basis of structural predictions, this F208 could also be part of the interaction surface with Cdc31, and because it was mutated in *sfi1-3* to cysteine (F208C), we decided to stay with this mutation (Li et al., 2006). F208C W211A in N-Sfi1₁₋₂₃₉ completely abolished the interaction with Cdc31 (Fig. S4 A). In addition, inactivation of all three Cdc31-binding sites (F208C W211A, F237C W240A, and F268C W271A) completely impaired binding of Cdc31 to Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ (three Cdc31-binding sites).

With this knowledge, we inactivated the first, second, and third Cdc31-binding sites in Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ (three Cdc31-binding sites) and analyzed the impact of these mutations on Cdc31, Spc29, and N-Spc42 binding in a Y2H assay. Inactivation of the first (F208C W211A) Cdc31-binding site completely abolished N-Spc42 interaction with little effect on Spc29 (Fig. 5 A). Cdc31 still bound to Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆^{F208C W211A} through the second and third binding sites. The same consequence on Spc29 and N-Spc42 interactions as for N-Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆^{F208C W211A} was observed when the third Cdc31-binding site was impaired (F268C W271A), while interference with the second Cdc31-binding sites in Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ (F237C W240A) had no impact on the binding of Spc29 and N-Spc42 (Fig. 5 A). This analysis suggests that the second Cdc31-binding site in Sfi1 does not have a crucial role for Spc29 and Spc42 binding as long as the first and third binding sites are intact.

We next combined mutations in different Cdc31-binding sites of N-Sfi1 in order to test for cooperation. Double mutations in the first and second (W211A W240A) and the first and third (W211A W271A) Cdc31-binding sites of Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆ impaired binding of Spc29 and N-Spc42. Because the single W211A and W271A mutations only affected Spc42 binding with no influence on Spc29 (Fig. 5 A), the failure of the double mutants to interact

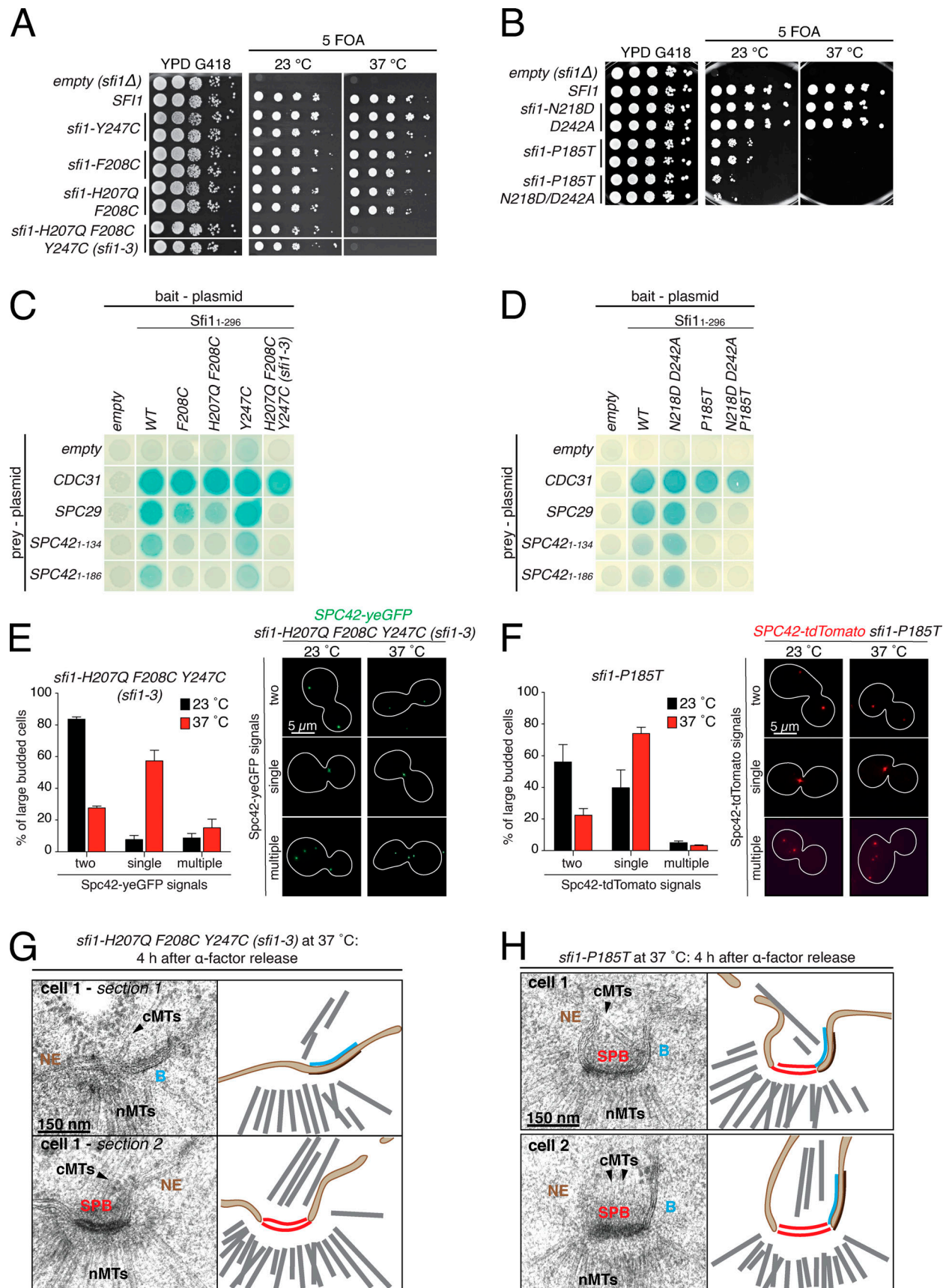


Figure 4. **N-terminal *sfi1* mutants are deficient in SPB duplication.** (A and B) Growth test of the indicated *SFI1* mutants. Yeast cells were serially diluted 1:10 and spotted onto the indicated plates. Plates were incubated for 2.5 d at 37°C or for 4 d at 23°C. (C and D) Y2H analysis of N-Sfi1 constructs carrying the

indicated mutations after X-Gal overlay. **(E and F)** Microscopic phenotype analysis of the indicated *sfi1* mutants 4 h after the release from the G₁ block and the temperature shift to 37°C. Cells incubated at 23°C served as a control. Graph (left) shows the average of 3 independent experiments ($n = 3$) with >100 cells per cell type analyzed for each time. Error bars indicate SD. Of note, whether multiple Spc42-yeGFP signals in *sfi1-3* cells reflect SPBs or only Spc42 assemblies is presently unclear. Exemplary fluorescence images of the analyzed phenotypes are shown on the right. Scale bars: 5 μm . **(G and H)** EM micrographs of the indicated *SFI1* mutants 4 h after the release from G₁ block and the temperature shift. Cartoons illustrate the SPB phenotype. Scale bars: 150 nm. B, bridge; cMTs, cytoplasmic microtubules; nMTs, nuclear microtubules; YPD, yeast peptone dextrose.

with Spc29 suggests a cooperative impact of these two Cdc31 sites on Spc29 interaction (Fig. 5 A). In contrast, the W240A W271A (second and third) combination behaved as W271A and only affected N-Spc42 binding.

To verify the model of assisted Spc29 and Spc42 binding to Sfi1 by specific Cdc31-binding sites, we analyzed the growth behavior of *sfi1* mutants carrying mutations in the first, second, and third Cdc31-binding sites of Sfi1. *sfi1*^{W211A} and *sfi1*^{F208C W211A} (first Cdc31-binding site) showed a reduction in the growth of cells at 37°C (Fig. 5 B, top and middle). *sfi1*^{W240A} and *sfi1*^{F237C W240A} (second) had no impact on cell growth (Fig. 5 B). *sfi1*^{W271A} alone had no effect, while *sfi1*^{F268C W271A} (third) cells were inviable at 23°C and 37°C (Fig. 5 B). Consistent with the Y2H experiment (Fig. 5 A), this result emphasizes the importance of the first Cdc31-binding site and, even more, the third Cdc31-binding site for the function of Sfi1.

We next addressed the impact of Cdc31-binding site cooperation on cell viability. The combination of W211A W240A (mutations in first and second binding sites) and W240A W271A (second and third binding sites) was lethal for cells (Fig. 5 B, bottom), while the single mutants had no or little growth influence compared with WT (Fig. 5 B, top). *sfi1*^{W211A W271A} cells (first and third binding sites) showed a conditional lethal growth defect at 37°C (Fig. 5 B). The strong impact of W240A W271A on cell growth was surprising because the Y2H (Fig. 5 A) detected Spc29 binding. We propose that the Spc29 interaction with N-Sfi1 is not productive for satellite formation when the second and third Cdc31-binding sites are partially defective. This analysis suggests that the partial inactivation of two Cdc31-binding sites in the N-terminus of Sfi1 enhances the growth defect of cells.

To exclude the possibility that mutations in two Cdc31-binding sites of Sfi1 would generally cause lethality, we changed tryptophan or corresponding residues in Cdc31-binding sites 4–9 as single and double mutations. All single mutants grew at 23°C and 37°C. Double mutants affecting two Cdc31-binding sites were viable, except for *sfi1*^{W327 W377A} (fifth and seventh binding sites; Fig. S4 B). This result indicates that the three Cdc31-binding sites in N-Sfi1 are particularly important for the function of Sfi1 because combining two tryptophan mutations in binding site 1, 2, or 3 impaired viability, whereas the growth defect caused by combined mutations in sites 4–9 was mostly negligible.

We took advantage of the temperature sensitivity of the *sfi1*^{W211A W271A} cells for phenotype analysis. Considering the impact of these two mutations on Spc29 and Spc42 binding to N-Sfi1 (Fig. 5 A), we might expect that *sfi1*^{W211A W271A} cells assemble a bridge but then fail in the recruitment of satellite components. Indeed, most *sfi1*^{W211A W271A} cells arrested after 3 h at

37°C as large-budded cells with a single Spc42-yeGFP SPB signal (Fig. 5 C, *sfi1*^{W211A W271A} cell with mitotic arrest at 37°C on the right; G₁, S/M, and anaphase *sfi1*^{W211A W271A} cells on the left grew at 23°C). Quantification of the Spc42-yeGFP signal in *sfi1*^{W211A W271A} cells indicated an increase in the relative fluorescence intensity, which is consistent with either two side-by-side SPBs or the enlargement of the single SPB (Fig. 5 D). EM analysis of *sfi1*^{W211A W271A} cells grown at 23°C revealed SPBs of normal size with an attached half bridge (Fig. 5 E, cell 1 and cell 2; Fig. 5, F and G). At the restrictive temperature (37°C), however, large-budded *sfi1*^{W211A W271A} cells had only one slightly enlarged SPB (Fig. 5, E and F; Fig. S4 C) that carried a bridge without a satellite (Fig. 5, E and G; Fig. S4 C). This together supports the model that impairment of the N-terminal Cdc31-binding sites in Sfi1 is not important for bridge assembly but plays a role in the assembly of the satellite.

Protein kinase-induced block of satellite formation in anaphase

The bridge assembles in anaphase, while the satellite components Spc29 and Spc42 are not recruited before G₁ (Burns et al., 2015). What delays the assembly of the satellite? In vitro phosphorylation analysis of purified GST-Sfi1 combined with mass spectrometry identified five sites that became phosphorylated by polo-like kinase Cdc5 but not by the kinase-dead variant of Cdc5, Mps1 kinase, the aurora kinase Ipl1, and mitotic Cdk1-Clb2 complex (Fig. 6 A). Three of these Cdc5 phosphosites have been described to be subject to phosphorylation in vivo (Keck et al., 2011; Fig. 6 A).

We tested the possibility that this phosphoregulation delays Spc29 and Spc42 binding to N-Sfi1 by introducing phosphoinhibitory (serine/threonine to alanine) and phosphomimetic mutations (serine/threonine to aspartic acid) in Sfi1. Phosphoinhibitory *SFI1* mutants had little impact on the growth of cells at 23°C and 37°C (Fig. 6 B, A mutants). In contrast, the combination of at least three phosphomimetic *SFI1* mutations (*sfi1*^{S10D T11D S42D}) slowed growth at 23°C and impaired growth at 37°C (Fig. 6 B, D mutants). The addition of the S45D mutation further enhanced this growth defect (Fig. 6 B).

What could be the molecular defect of the phosphomimetic *SFI1* mutations? Using the Y2H system, we detected a reduced interaction of phosphomimetic *SFI1* D mutants (Fig. S5, A and B; e.g., *Sfi1*_{1–296}^{S10D T11D S42D}) with N-Spc42 without affecting Spc29 or Cdc31 interaction (Fig. S5 A). Such reduced binding was not observed for the phosphoinhibitory A mutants (Fig. S5, A and B). As a control, we established that all Sfi1 Y2H constructs were expressed similarly in yeast cells (Fig. S5 C). This suggests that the phosphorylation of N-Sfi1 affects interaction with Spc42.

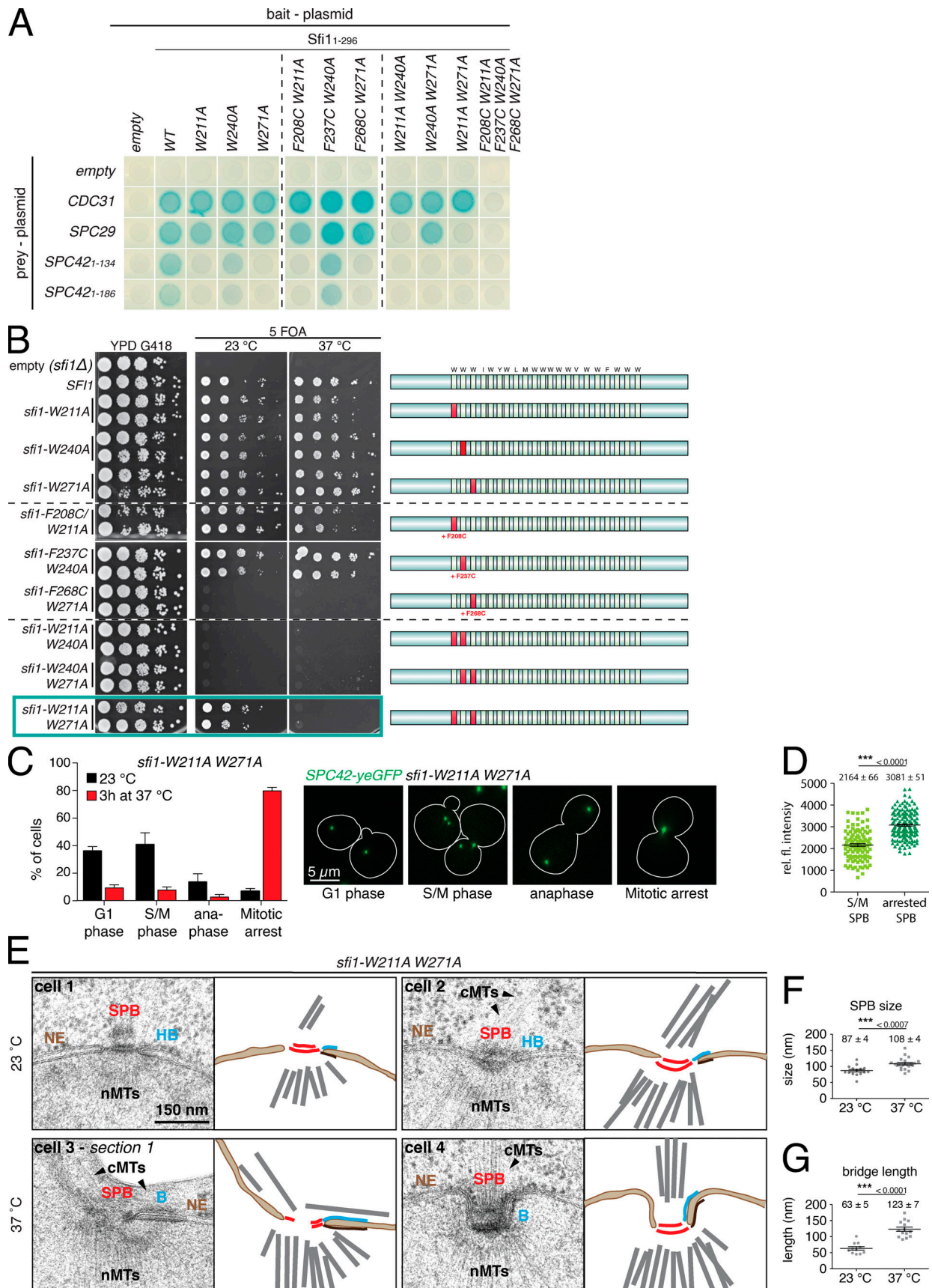


Figure 5. **Role of the N-terminal Cdc31-binding sites of Sfi1 for the SPB assembly.** (A) Y2H analysis of tryptophan and phenylalanine mutants affecting the Cdc31-binding sites in Sfi1 after X-Gal overlay. Fig. S4 A shows the same Cdc31 Y2H analysis supplemented with further mutants of Sfi1. (B) Drop test of the

SFI1 mutants in an *SFI1*-shuffle strain. 10-fold serial dilutions of cells on yeast peptone dextrose (YPD) G418 and 5-FOA plates were incubated for 2.5 d at 37°C and for 4 d at 23°C. Empty (*sfi1Δ*) indicates the *sfi1Δ* cells with the empty control plasmid pRS305K. Cartoons on the right illustrate which Cdc31-binding site (Cdc31-binding sites are marked with light green shades; mutation is in the site marked with red) was mutated. **(C)** *sfi1^{W211A W271A}* mutant phenotypes 3 h after temperature shift to 37°C or growth at 23°C. Left: Quantification of the cell cycle phases. Graph illustrates average of 3 independent experiments ($n = 3$) with >100 cells analyzed each time. Error bars are SD. Right: Exemplary fluorescence images. G₁, S/M, and anaphase are *sfi1^{W211A W271A}* cells grown at 23°C; mitotic arrest is an *sfi1^{W211A W271A}* cell incubated at 37°C. **(D)** Quantification of the Spc42-yeGFP signal of the cells in C. Graph shows one representative result, which was confirmed in 3 independent experiments with $n > 100$ per strain and experiment. Average and SD are given. P value (< 0.0001) was derived by using a two-tailed *t* test. **(E)** EM micrographs of *sfi1^{W211A W271A}* cells after 3 h at 23°C and 37°C are shown. See Fig. S4 C for additional EM images. Cartoons illustrate the SPB phenotype. **(F and G)** Quantification of the EM images for the SPB size and bridge length, respectively. For each cell type and temperature, $n \geq 17$ for the SPB size and $n \geq 11$ for the length of the bridge. Average and SD are given. P values (< 0.0007 , F; < 0.0001 , G) were derived by using a two-tailed *t* test. B, bridge; cMTs, cytoplasmic microtubules; HB, half bridge; nMTs, nuclear microtubules; RFI, relative fluorescence intensity.

The phenotype of *sfi1^{S10D T11D S42D}* and *sfi1^{S10A T11A S42A}* cells (three phosphosites that were confirmed *in vivo* and *in vitro*) was analyzed at 37°C. While the A mutant behaved similar to the WT, D mutant cells arrested in the cell cycle with a large bud, a phenotype that is typical for spindle assembly checkpoint maintenance (Hoyt et al., 1991; Li and Murray, 1991). About 60% of large-budded *sfi1^{S10D T11D S42D}* cells carried only one Spc42-tdTomato SPB signal (Fig. 6 C). Analysis of large-budded *sfi1^{S10D T11D S42D}* cells by EM detected cells with a single enlarged SPB (Fig. 6 D, left panel; and Fig. 6 E) that carried a full bridge structure but lacked a satellite (Fig. 6 D, left panel; and Fig. 6 F). In contrast, when large-budded *sfi1^{S10D T11D S42D}* cells contained two SPBs, these SPBs were associated with a half bridge (Fig. 6 D, right panel; and Fig. 6 F). This analysis suggests that phosphorylation of N-Sfi1 inhibits satellite assembly despite successful bridge formation.

Discussion

The yeast SPB is a relatively simple MT-organizing center that consists of only 16 proteins (Seybold and Schiebel, 2013). As is true of the human centrosomes, it has the essential feature of duplication once per cell cycle (Rüthnick and Schiebel, 2016). The small number of SPB components and the comprehensive understanding of the yeast cell cycle make it an ideal model to study the conserved mechanism of how the cell cycle machinery restricts duplication of a proteinaceous structure to one event per cell cycle.

It was proposed that the exposure of free N-Sfi1 triggers the assembly of the daughter SPB precursor, the satellite, at the distal end of the bridge (Kilmartin, 2003). However, little experimental evidence for such a function of N-Sfi1 has been provided. Here, we show by *in vivo* and *in vitro* approaches that N-Sfi1 can recruit the satellite components Spc29 and Spc42 to the distal end of the bridge. Biochemical data suggest direct binding of Spc29 and Spc42 to N-Sfi1. Both binding sites are probably distinct, as supported by the analysis of *sfi1* mutants. *sfi1^{P185T}* and *sfi1^{F208C}* only moderately affected Spc29 binding but completely abolished the interaction with Spc42. This stronger impact on Spc42 binding was also observed for the *sfi1^{W211A}* and *sfi1^{W271A}* mutants. Although recombinant Spc29 and Spc42 proteins bind independently from each other to N-Sfi1/Cdc31 and no enhancement of N-Spc42 binding by addition of Spc29 was observed, this finding does not exclude the possibility that, during SPB duplication in the natural cellular environment, both

interacting proteins become recruited to N-Sfi1/Cdc31 in a cooperative manner (Elliott et al., 1999). The importance of Spc29 and Spc42 binding to N-Sfi1/Cdc31 for satellite formation is emphasized by the phenotypes of *sfi1-3*, *sfi1-7*, *sfi1^{W211A W271A}*, and *sfi1^{S10D T11D S42D}* cells. All mutant cells fail completely or partly in SPB duplication despite bridge assembly due to their deficiency to bind Spc29 and/or Spc42, and therefore satellite assembly is not initiated.

The yeast centrin Cdc31 has an essential role in SPB duplication. Conditional lethal *cdc31(ts)* cells arrest in mitosis with an enlarged SPB that does not carry a half bridge or bridge (Baum et al., 1986). The lateral cross-linking activity of Cdc31 on Sfi1 molecules within the bridge that is defective in *cdc31(ts)* mutant cells explains this phenotype (Seybold et al., 2015). The data of this study suggest an additional, novel function of Cdc31 in the recruitment of Spc29 and Spc42 to N-Sfi1 and therefore in satellite formation. As shown by *in vitro* binding analysis, binding of Spc29 to N-Sfi1 strongly requires the presence of Cdc31 (Fig. 2 C). In addition, *sfi1* mutations that impair Cdc31 binding also disrupt Spc42 and Spc29 interaction with N-Sfi1 (Fig. 5). This raises the question how Cdc31 contributes to the recruitment of Spc29 and Spc42 to N-Sfi1. The Y2H data indicate a complex interplay of different Cdc31-binding sites in N-Sfi1 and emphasize the special importance of the first and third Cdc31-binding sites for the recruitment of Spc29 and Spc42 (Fig. 5). However, neither in Y2H (Fig. 3 B) nor in co-IP experiments we performed for this study did we find evidence for a direct interaction of Cdc31 with either Spc29 or N-Spc42. Nevertheless, Cdc31 bound to N-Sfi1 could promote Spc29 and Spc42 binding by assisting the recruitment of these proteins to N-Sfi1, by stabilizing the interactions of the tetrameric Spc29–Spc42–N-Sfi1–Cdc31 complex, or indirectly by stabilizing a binding site in N-Sfi1 and therefore providing an interaction platform for Spc29 and Spc42. Structural analysis of N-Sfi1 with bound Cdc31, Spc29, and Spc42 will be needed to solve this open question.

Puzzlingly, while bridge formation occurs in anaphase, the assembly of the satellite does not happen before G₁ phase (Burns et al., 2015; Elserafy et al., 2014). This indicates that a mechanism in addition to the exposure of free N-Sfi1 regulates the assembly of the satellite. Because the deletion of the N-terminal 62 amino acids in Sfi1 enhances binding of Spc29 (Fig. 2, E and F), we tested the possibility that this Sfi1 region functions as such a regulatory element. Phosphorylation analysis suggests that polo-like kinase Cdc5 has the ability to phosphorylate several residues in this N-terminal region of Sfi1. These

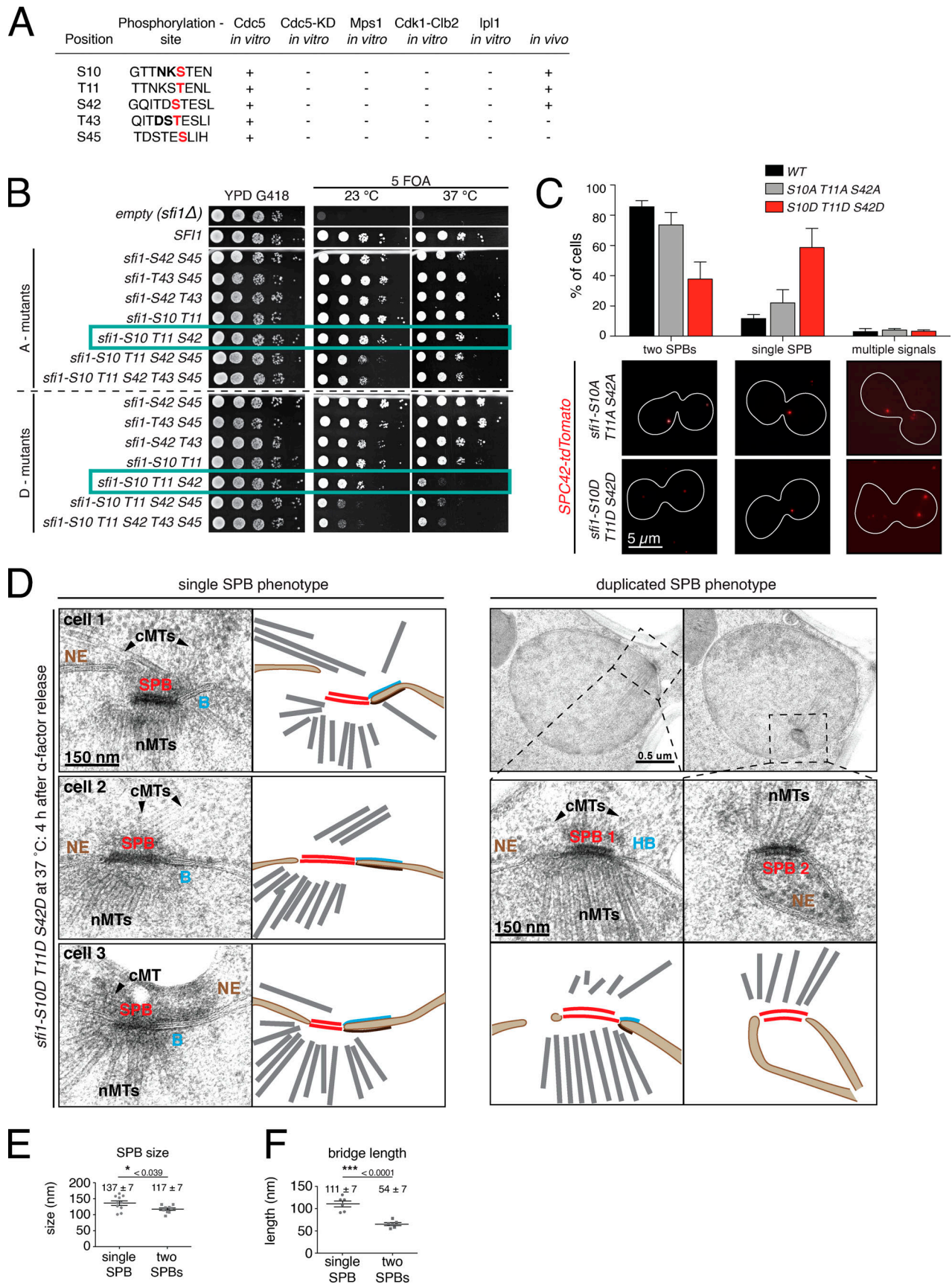


Figure 6. **Role of phosphorylation sites in the N-Sfi1.** (A) Summary of phosphosites identified *in vitro* in purified GST-Sfi1 incubated with Cdc5 [a kinase-dead variant of Cdc5 [Cdc5-KD]], Mps1, Cdk1-Clb2, and Ipl1 and subsequent mass spectrometric analysis. Comparison with the phosphorylation sites identified

in vivo as published elsewhere (Keck et al., 2011). **(B)** Drop test analysis of the indicated phosphoinhibitory (A) and phosphomimetic (D) mutants of *SFI1* in an *SFI1*-shuffle experiment. Empty (*sfi1Δ*) indicates the *sfi1Δ* cells with the empty control plasmid pRS305K. Plates were incubated as described in Fig. 5 B. **(C)** Phenotypic analysis of *sfi1^{S10A T11A S42A}* and *sfi1^{S10D T11D S42D}* mutants together with a WT *SFI1* as described in Materials and methods. Top: Graph illustrates the average of 3 independent experiments ($n = 3$) with >100 large-budded cells analyzed each time. Error bars indicate SD. Bottom: Exemplary fluorescence images of the quantified phenotypes are shown. Scale bar: 5 μm . **(D)** EM micrographs of *sfi1^{S10D T11D S42D}* cells 4 h after release from G_1 block and temperature shift to 37°C. Cartoons illustrate the SPB phenotype. **(E and F)** Quantification of the EM images for the SPB size and bridge length, respectively, with $n \geq 9$ for the SPB size and $n = 6$ for the length of the bridge per cell type. "Single SPB" indicates *sfi1^{S10D T11D S42D}* cells that are large budded but contain only one SPB by EM. "Two SPBs" indicate large-budded *sfi1^{S10D T11D S42D}* cells with two SPBs. Average and SD are given. P values (< 0.039 , E; < 0.0001 , F) were derived by using a two-tailed *t* test. B, bridge; cMTs, cytoplasmic microtubules; HB, half bridge; nMTs, nuclear microtubules; YPD, yeast peptone dextrose.

phosphorylations of N-Sfi1 have a negative impact on the interaction with Spc42 in the Y2H system without affecting Spc29 (Fig. S5, A and B). However, it is still possible that, within the bridge environment at the SPB, where ~80 similarly positioned N-Sfi1 become phosphorylated (Seybold et al., 2015), this combined phosphorylation load influences Spc29 binding. In addition, phosphomimetic *sfi1^{S10D T11D S42D}* mutant cells assemble a bridge at the restrictive temperature but then fail in satellite formation (Fig. 5). This together strongly supports the notion that phosphorylation of N-Sfi1 by Cdc5 delays satellite formation until the decline of Cdc5 activity with mitotic exit (Charles et al., 1998) and is consistent with structured illumination microscopy data showing that Spc29 and Spc42 only become recruited to the distal end of the bridge with mitotic exit in G_1 (Burns et al., 2015).

Data provided in this article also suggest that inhibition of free N-Sfi1 by Cdc5 phosphorylation is not essential for the viability of cells, as indicated by the relatively normal growth of the phosphoinhibitory *sfi1^{S10A T11A S42A}* (A mutant) and the *sfi1 Δ 1-62* mutant cells. Thus, N-Sfi1 phosphorylation by Cdc5 is probably a safeguard mechanism that only becomes essential under disturbing conditions, such as during prolonged mitotic arrest or if an unknown compensation mechanism fails. Future studies will clarify under what circumstances N-Sfi1 regulation by Cdc5 becomes essential.

On the basis of our data, we now can close the gap between bridge assembly in early anaphase and satellite biogenesis in G_1 . The exposed free N-Sfi1 are first blocked by Cdc5 phosphorylation in mitosis. The decline of Cdc5 kinase activity with mitotic exit (Charles et al., 1998) allows binding of Spc29 and Spc42 to the distal end of the bridge in early G_1 . Cdk1 kinase activity that promotes Spc42 polymerization into a 2D crystal then most likely triggers Spc42 layer expansion into a duplication plaque after START of the cell cycle (Bullitt et al., 1997; Jaspersen et al., 2004). Mps1 kinase that phosphorylates Spc29 and Spc42 at multiple sites is also involved in this step (Araki et al., 2010; Jones et al., 2018). Finally, with the help of a recruited nuclear pore complex and the SPB insertion network consisting of the proteins Bbp1, Mps2, Ndc1, and Nbp1, the duplication plaque becomes inserted into the double membrane of the NE (Araki et al., 2006; Chen et al., 2019; de la Cruz Muñoz-Centeno et al., 1999; Rüttnick et al., 2017; Schramm et al., 2000; Winey et al., 1993).

Sfi1 proteins are encoded by the genomes of yeast to human cells. However, the conserved region is restricted to the >20 central centrin-binding sites (Rüttnick and Schiebel, 2016). Because Cdc31 provides lateral interactions between Sfi1/Cdc31

molecules (Seybold et al., 2015), the common function of the central Sfi1/centrin region could be the formation of parallel protein arrays. The N-terminal region of Sfi1 homologues is not conserved. However, this is also not the case for Spc29 and Spc42. An *SPC29* orthologue is not encoded by the *S. pombe* genome (Bestul et al., 2017). *S. pombe* Pcp89 that fulfills the function of Spc42 is not related to Spc42 at the amino acid level (Rosenberg et al., 2006). It was suggested that human Cep57 might play an analogous role to Spc42/Pcp89 at centrioles (Bestul et al., 2017). It will be interesting to test whether these functionally related Spc42/Pcp89/Cep57 proteins interact with the various N-Sfi1/centrin complexes whose amino acid sequences are now adapted to the organism-specific protein of interaction.

Taken together, this study describes the missing link between SPB bridge formation in anaphase and the assembly of the daughter SPB precursor, the satellite, at the distal end of the bridge in G_1 . In addition, it suggests a model for the function of the divergent N-Sfi1.

Materials and methods

Yeast strains, plasmids, and culture conditions

All strains used in this study are listed in Table S1. Endogenous gene tagging and deletions were constructed via PCR-based methods (Janke et al., 2004). Point mutations in *SFI1* were generated in a pRS305K-*SFI1* plasmid via a two-step overlap mutagenesis PCR (Francis et al., 2017). Primers that were used for mutagenesis are listed in Table S1. Single integrations of these plasmids into the genome were achieved by double digest of the plasmid with DraIII-HF and ZraI (Taxis and Knop, 2006), subsequent transformation into a *SFI1*-shuffle strain, and selection for Geneticin (G418)-resistant clones. The integration of the plasmid fragment was confirmed via colony PCR. To analyze the growth behavior of the mutants, 10-fold serial diluted drop tests were performed on yeast peptone dextrose plates with G418 and synthetic complete (SC) media plates with 5-FOA. The latter ones allowed counterselection for strains that spontaneously lost the *URA3*-based pRS316-*SFI1* rescue plasmid. Yeast cells were generally grown in selective synthetic defined or SC media supplemented with 2% glucose or 3% raffinose. To induce the expression of proteins under the *Gall* promoter (e.g., to test the expression of the Y2H proteins), galactose was added to a final concentration of 2%. Alkaline lysis and TCA precipitations were used to prepare yeast cell extracts (Janke et al., 2004).

For the analysis of the temperature-sensitive mutants, cells were precultured at 23°C, synchronized in G_1 by the addition of

α -factor (10 μ g/ml) for 2.5 h, and released back into the cell cycle by a wash and medium change to α -factor-free medium. One half of the culture was incubated at 23°C, and the other half was shifted to 37°C. Cells were subjected directly to live-cell microscopy or fixed for 10 min in 4% PFA/2% sucrose for later microscopic analysis.

Y2H

All indicated gene fragments were cloned into pMM5 and pMM6 (Schramm et al., 2001) and transformed in SGY37 and YPH500, respectively. Transformants were incubated in selective media. On the next day, the density was adjusted to OD₆₀₀ 1, and mating was performed in a 96-well plate in yeast extract, peptone, adenine, and dextrose overnight at 30°C. On the next day, the cells were resuspended carefully and plated on double-selective SC plates lacking histidine and leucine. The plates were incubated again at 30°C for 30 h before the X-Gal overlay was performed (Schramm et al., 2001). Change of color was carefully documented every hour, and figures usually show the Y2H result after 4–5 h. For the quantification of the color change, the images were further analyzed with the open-source ImageJ software (National Institutes of Health), and GraphPad Prism software was implemented for statistical analysis.

Fluorescence light microscopy

A DeltaVision RT system (Olympus IX71 based; Applied Precision Ltd.) equipped with a Photometrics CoolSnap HQ camera (Roper Scientific), a 100 \times /1.4-NA Super-Plan Apochromat oil objective (Olympus), a four-color Standard Insight SSI module light source, a workstation with a CentOS operating system, and softWorx software (Applied Precision Ltd.) was used for imaging at room temperature (23°C). Cells were placed on a microscopic slide and kept in their growth media (live cells) or PBS (fixed cells) for the time of imaging. For all fluorescence signal quantification experiments, all imaging was conducted with the same exposure and illumination settings on living cells to allow the direct comparison of the results. For the quantification of the signal intensity, the integrated density (IntDen) of the SPB (Spc42-yeGFP) in the brightest stack was measured with a 5 \times 5 pixel-square and a 7 \times 7 pixel-square for background correction. The following formula was used to calculate the relative fluorescence intensity: $RFI = \frac{IntDen_{5 \times 5} - \{[IntDen_{7 \times 7} - IntDen_{5 \times 5}] \times [area_{5 \times 5} / (area_{7 \times 7} - area_{5 \times 5})]\}}{IntDen_{5 \times 5}}$. Image processing and phenotypic analysis were performed with ImageJ software. Quantifications were performed three times and analyzed with GraphPad Prism software. A combined graph is shown in Fig. 4, E and F; Fig. 5, C and D; and Fig. 6 C.

EM

Yeast cells were prepared for EM analysis as described previously (Rüthnick et al., 2017). In short, cells were high-pressure frozen with an HPM010 (Abra-Fluid) after collection via filtration, then freeze substituted using the EM-AFS2 device (Leica Microsystems), and 70-nm serial sections were prepared on a Reichert Ultracut S Microtome (Leica Instruments) and post-stained with 2% uranyl acetate and lead citrate. Sections were scanned by using a Jeol JE-1400 (JEOL Ltd.) operating at 80 kV

and equipped with a 4k \times 4k digital camera (F416; TVIPS). Micrographs were further processed using ImageJ software, and statistical analysis was performed with GraphPad Prism software.

Protein purification, in vitro kinase assay, and mass spectrometry

These methods were performed as described before (Elserafy et al., 2014). In short, all kinases were purified from yeast cells (Geymonat et al., 2007; Ubersax et al., 2003), while GST-Sfi1 was purified from *E. coli* by using GST-Sepharose beads (Macherey-Nagel). Subsequently, the in vitro kinase reaction was performed in the presence of 5 μ Ci of γ -³²P-ATP (0.05 nM). Samples were prepared for mass spectrometry, where peptides were analyzed by liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (Orbitrap Elite; Thermo Fisher Scientific). The data were processed using Proteome Discoverer software (version 1.4; Thermo Fisher Scientific). Phosphorylation site localization was performed on the Mascot results using PhosphoRS.

IP

E. coli BL21-CodonPlus was (co)transformed with the indicated plasmids. The protein expression was induced with 0.5 mM IPTG at 37°C for 2–3 h or, in the case of the 3K2N-Spc42-6His constructs, with 1 mM IPTG overnight at 16°C (Drennan et al., 2019). The bacteria were harvested by centrifugation, and the pellet was snap frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at –80°C for further processing. The pellet was thawed on ice, resuspended in 1.5 ml of FLAG-IP-lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 1 mM PMSF, Complete Mini Protease Inhibitor Cocktail; Merck), and sonicated on ice until 90% of the cells had burst. Cell lysate was supplemented with 0.5% Triton X-100, 250 U Benzonase Nuclease (EMD Millipore), and incubated for 1 h, rotating at 4°C. The soluble proteins were separated from the cell debris by centrifugation (21,000 *g* for 15 min) and incubated with previously equilibrated anti-FLAG M2 agarose or magnetic beads (Merck) for 3–4 h, rotating at 4°C. Sfi1, Cdc31, and Spc29 were coexpressed at 37°C (Fig. 2). The Spc42 fusion constructs were most soluble when expressed at 16°C. To combine them with the N-Sfi1/Cdc31 and Spc29 constructs that were expressed separately, we mixed the proteins in experiments (Fig. 3, C and D). The anti-FLAG beads were incubated with *E. coli* extracts containing Sfi1-FLAG, Sfi1-FLAG/Cdc31, Spc42, or Spc29 constructs. The bound proteins were washed five times with lysis buffer and eluted with 100 μ l of 4 \times Laemmli buffer. The proteins were separated by SDS-PAGE and analyzed with Coomassie blue staining or transferred to 0.22- μ m nitrocellulose membrane (Bio-Rad Laboratories) for Western blotting. After staining of the membrane with primary and secondary antibodies (see next section), the signals were detected with the LAS-3000 imaging system (Fujifilm). For quantifications, the scanned gels or membranes were further analyzed with ImageJ software, and statistical analysis was performed with GraphPad Prism software.

Antibodies

Antibodies used in this study were as follows: rabbit anti-Spc42 (Western blot, 1:1,000) and rabbit anti-Spc29 (Western blot, 1:500; Elliott et al., 1999), mouse anti-FLAG (Western blot, 1:1,000, F1804; Cell Signaling Technology), rabbit anti-FLAG (Western blot, 1:1,000, 20543-1-AP; ProteinTech), goat anti-Cdc31 (Western blot, 1:500; Spang et al., 1993), mouse anti-Penta-His (Western blot, 1:1,000, 34660; Qiagen), mouse monoclonal anti-His-HRP (Western blot, 1:2,500, HRP-66005; ProteinTech), mouse monoclonal antipolyhistidine (Western blot, 1:3,000, H1029; Merck), rat anti-HA (Western blot, 1:1,000, 1867423; Merck), mouse anti-Myc (Western blot, 1:1,000, OP10; Cell Signaling Technology), rabbit anti-Tub4 (Western blot, 1:500; Geissler et al., 1996). Corresponding secondary HRP-tagged antibodies were mostly purchased from Jackson ImmunoResearch Laboratories: donkey anti-rabbit HRP (1:5,000; 711-035-152), anti-mouse HRP (1:10,000; 715-035-151), and rabbit anti-goat HRP (1:10,000; 305-035-045). Furthermore, goat anti-rat HRP (1:5,000, A10549; Molecular Probes) and anti-mouse Ig HRP (1:1,000, 18-8817-33; Rockland Immunochemicals) antibodies were used.

Online supplemental material

Fig. S1 shows the full initial Y2H screen of Fig. 1 B and the expression of the Sfi1-Y2H bait constructs. Fig. S2 confirms expression of the Spc42-Y2H bait constructs. Fig. S3 displays EM images and quantifications supplementary to Fig. 4. In Fig. S4, Y2H analysis for the interaction of Cdc31 with all *sfi1*^{W/F} mutants is shown together with the growth assay for mutations in *SFI1* that affect the more central Cdc31-binding sites and EM micrographs for *sfi1*^{W211A W271A} (supplemental to Fig. 5 E). Fig. S5 shows the interaction of the different *sfi1*^{Cdc5} mutants and confirms their expression from the Y2H bait plasmid. Table S1 lists yeast strains, plasmids, and primers used in this study.

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Author contributions: Conceptualization, methodology, project administration, supervision, and writing the original draft were accomplished by E. Schiebel and D. Rüttnick. Further on, D. Rüttnick was responsible for data curation, formal analysis, and visualization. The investigation was carried out by D. Rüttnick, J. Vitale, and A. Neuner (precisely all EM experiments). E. Schiebel ensured funding acquisition and provision of all resources.

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Supplemental material

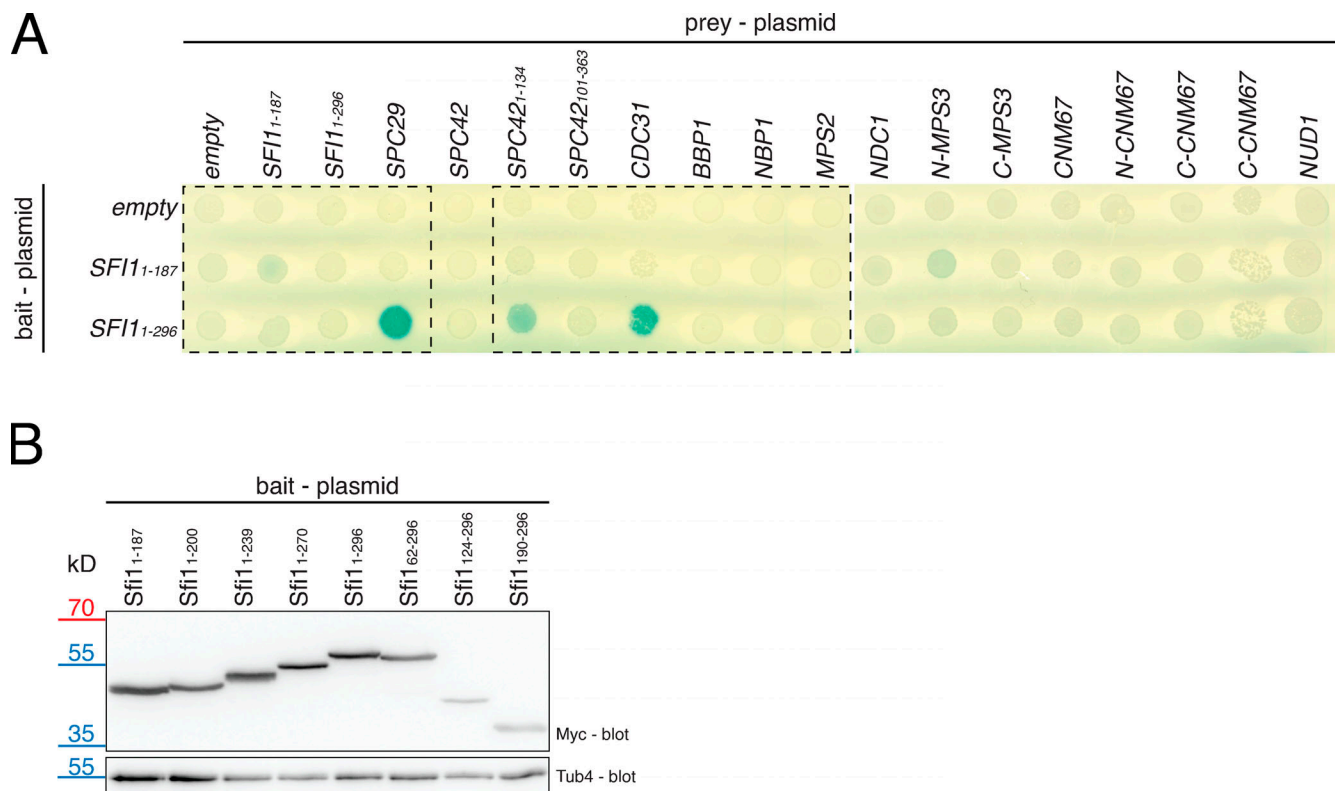


Figure S1. **Y2H interaction study of N-Sfi1.** (A) Uncut Y2H assay with all analyzed SPB components. Parts are shown in Fig. 1 B. The full-length Spc42 Y2H construct did not interact with Sfi1₁₋₁₈₇ and Sfi1₁₋₂₉₆, because this construct is nonfunctional, since it does not show a positive interaction with Spc29 and Cnm67 (Elliott et al., 1999). (B) Immunoblot to confirm the expression of all Sfi1 constructs analyzed in Fig. 1 C and Fig. 3 B. Tub4 is the loading control.

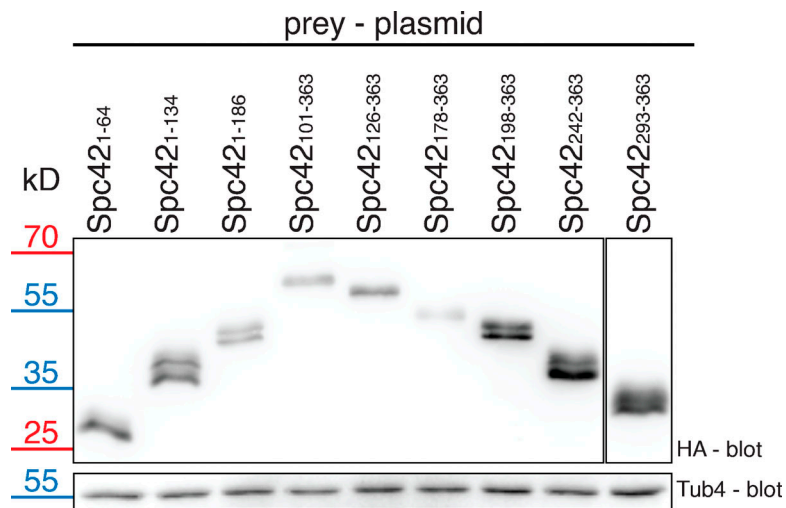


Figure S2. **Immunoblot analysis to confirm the expression of all SPC42 constructs analyzed in Fig. 3 B.** The Spc42 double bands are explained by phosphorylation of the protein (Donaldson and Kilmartin, 1996). Tub4 serves as a loading control.

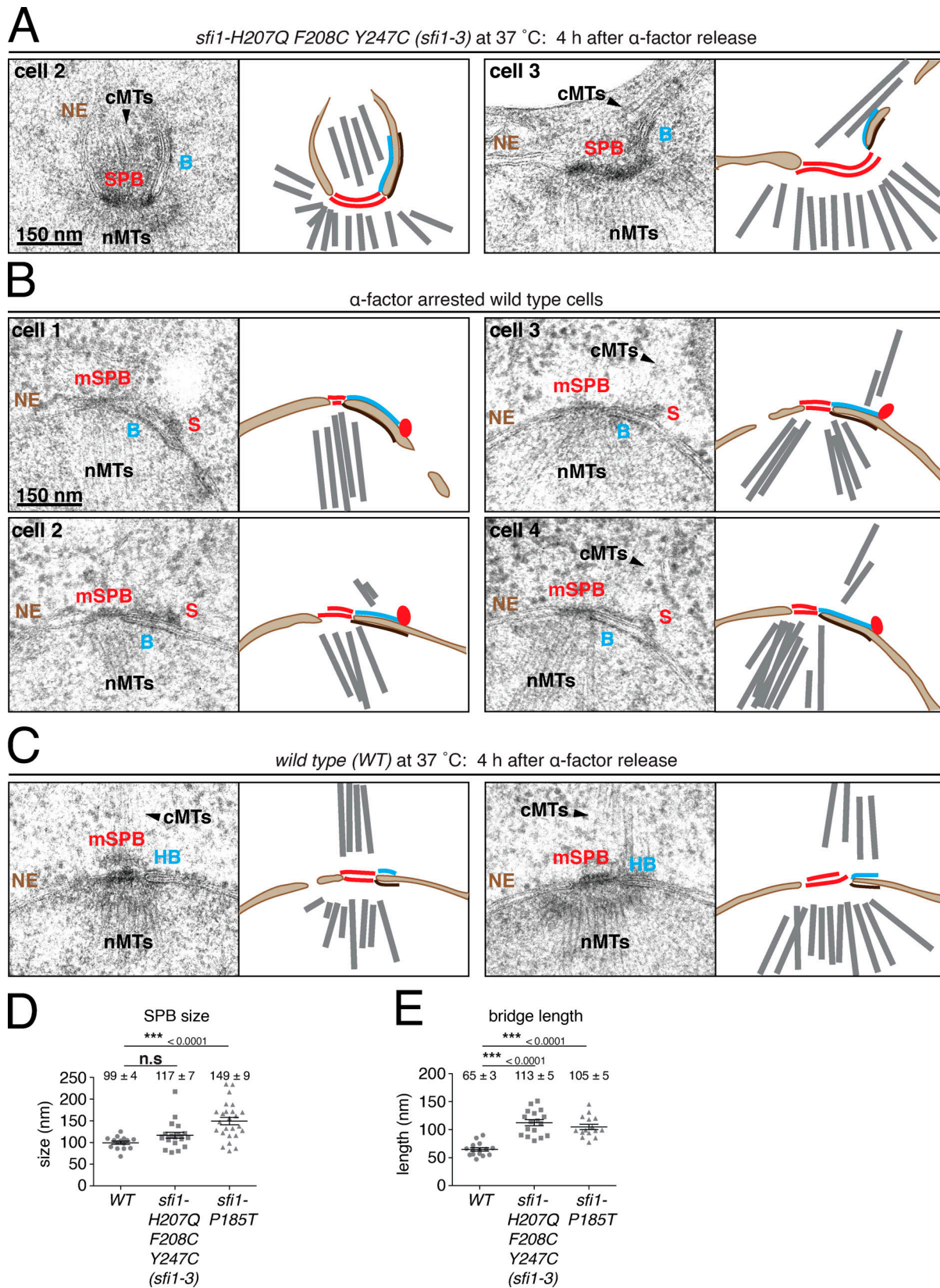


Figure S3. **EM analysis of the SPB fate in WT and N-terminal Sfi1 mutants.** (A) Additional EM analysis of synchronized *sfi1^{H207Q F208C Y247C} (sfi1-3)* cells as in Fig. 4 G. (B) EM analysis of α -factor-arrested WT cells. (C) EM analysis of large-budded WT cells for 4 h at 37°C after release from α -factor. Cartoons in A–C illustrate the SPB phenotype. (D and E) Quantification of the SPB size (D) with $n \geq 13$ and the half-bridge/bridge length of the indicated cell types from A–C and Fig. 4, G and H, with $n \geq 14$. P values (< 0.0001 and n.s., D; < 0.0001, E) were derived by using a two-tailed *t* test. B, bridge; cMTs, cytoplasmic microtubules; HB, half bridge; nMTs, nuclear microtubules. Scale bar: 150 nm.

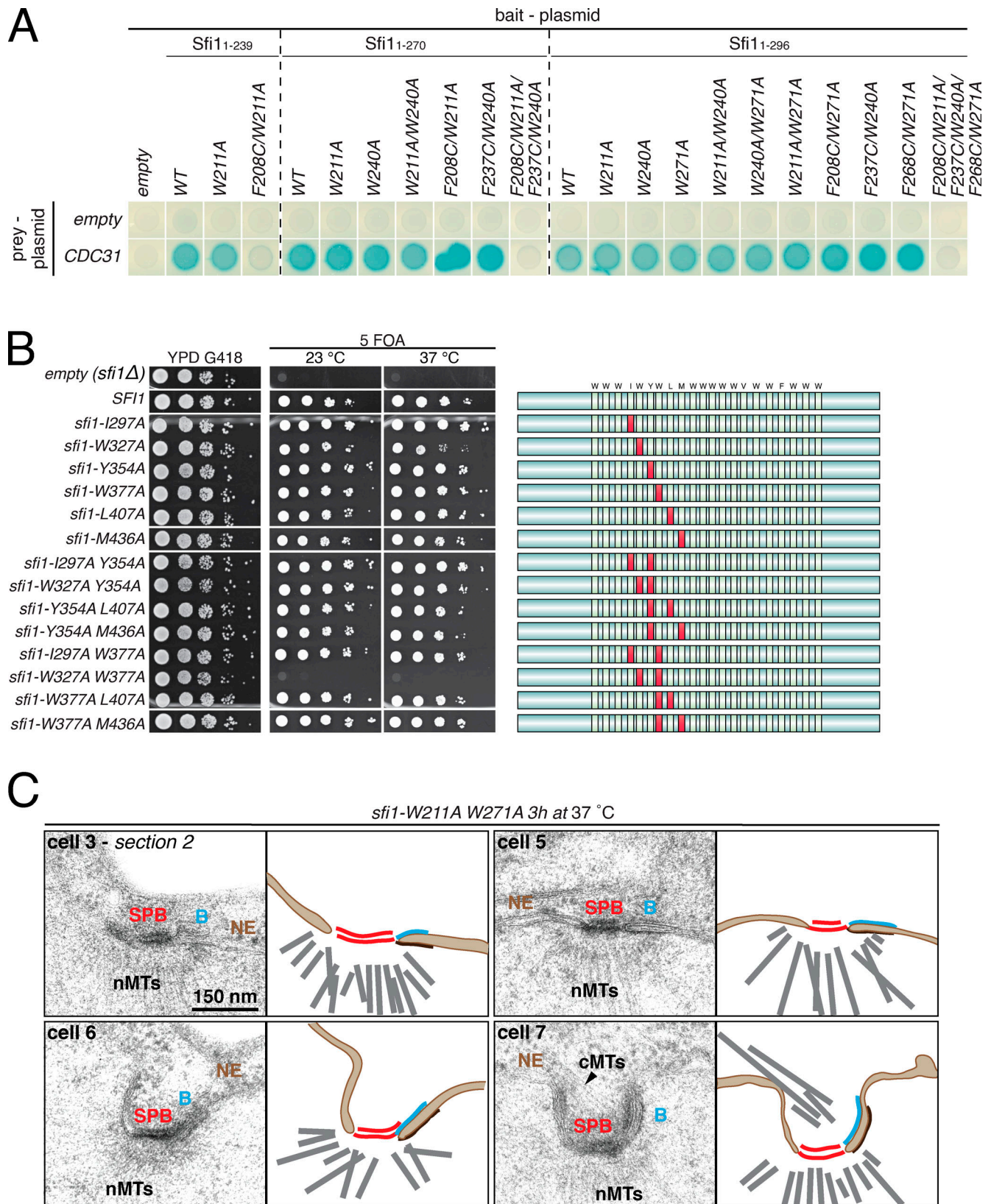


Figure S4. **Additional analysis of *sfi1*^{Cdc31-binding site} mutants. (A)** Y2H study of Cdc31 with all Cdc31-binding site mutants in different N-Sfi1 constructs after X-Gal overlay. Partially, the same results as in Fig. 5 are shown here. **(B)** Drop test analysis of the indicated tryptophan mutants in *SFI1* in a plasmid shuffle experiment. "Empty (*sfi1Δ*)" indicates the *sfi1Δ* cells with the empty control plasmid pRS305K. Plates were incubated as described in Fig. 5 B. Cartoon illustrates which Cdc31-binding sites (marked with light green shades) are affected (marked in red). **(C)** Additional EM images for *sfi1*^{W211A W271A} cells after 3 h at 37 °C (as in Fig. 5 E). Cartoons illustrate the SPB phenotype. B, bridge; cMTs, cytoplasmic microtubules; nMTs, nuclear microtubules. YPD, yeast peptone dextrose.

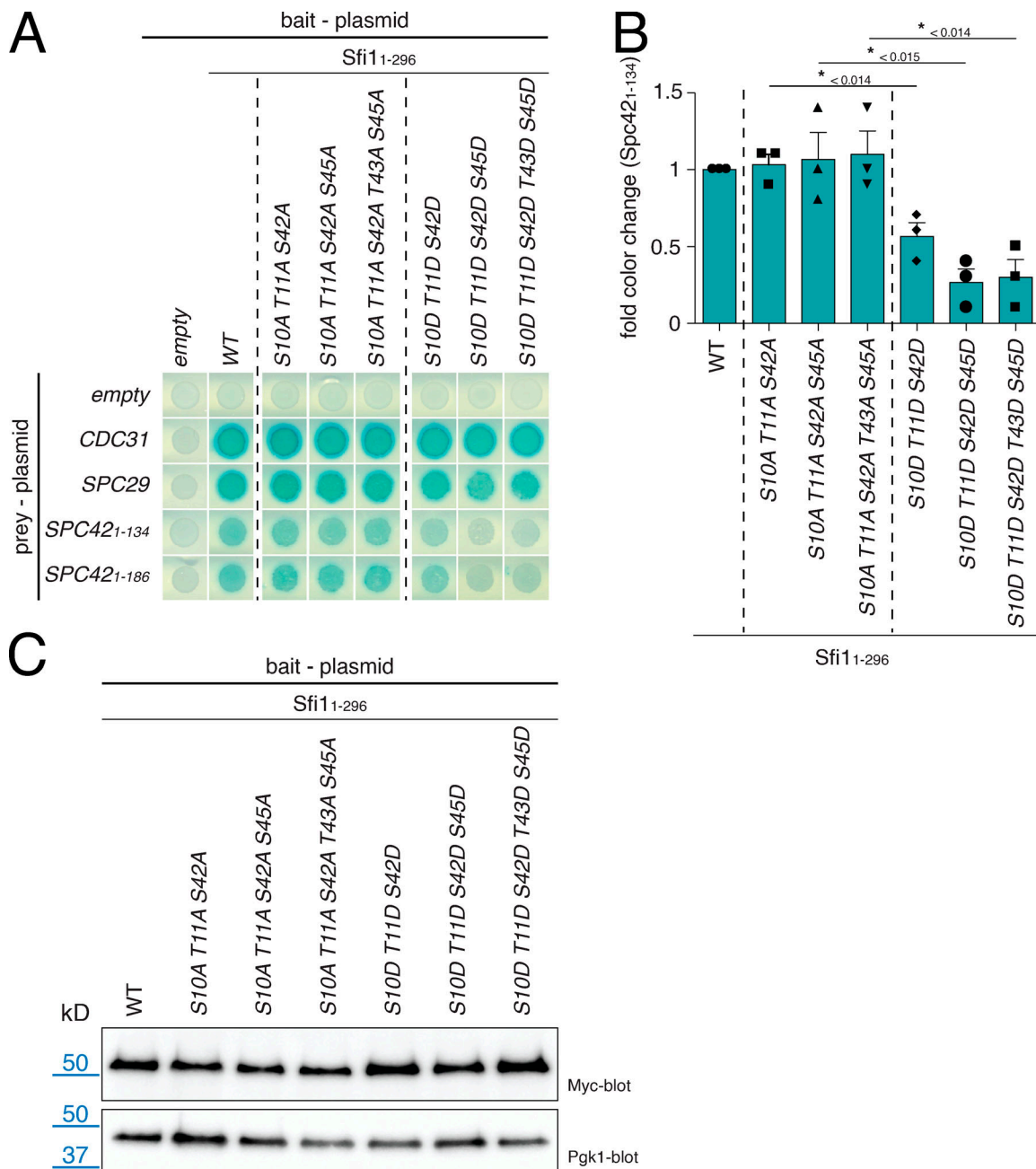


Figure S5. **Y2H interaction study of *sfi1*^{Cdc5} mutants.** (A) Y2H analysis of the *sfi1*^{S10D T11D S42D} mutations on the interaction with N-Spc42 after X-Gal overlay. (B) Quantification of A. Blue color of the cell patches in A was quantified and normalized to WT. *n* = 3. Error bars are SD. P values are indicated in the figure and were derived by using a two-tailed *t* test. Shape symbols represent individual data points from each experiment. (C) Immunoblot analysis to check for the expression of the *SFI1*₁₋₂₉₆ Y2H bait constructs from A. Pgc1 is the loading control.

Provided online is Table S1, which lists all yeast strains and describes their genotype and all plasmids used in this study.