# The TRIM9/TRIM67 neuronal interactome reveals novel activators of morphogenesis

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ABSTRACT TRIM9 and TRIM67 are neuronally enriched E3 ubiquitin ligases essential for appropriate morphogenesis of cortical and hippocampal neurons and fidelitous responses to the axon guidance cue netrin-1. Deletion of murine Trim9 or Trim67 results in neuroanatomical defects and striking behavioral deficits, particularly in spatial learning and memory. TRIM9 and TRIM67 interact with cytoskeletal and exocytic proteins, but the full interactome is not known. Here we performed the unbiased proximity-dependent biotin identification (BioID) approach to define TRIM9 and TRIM67 protein-protein proximity network in developing cortical neurons and identified putative neuronal TRIM interaction partners. Candidates included cytoskeletal regulators, cytosolic protein transporters, exocytosis and endocytosis regulators, and proteins necessary for synaptic regulation. A subset of high-priority candidates was validated, including Myo16, Coro1A, MAP1B, ExoC1, GRIP1, PRG-1, and KIF1A. For a subset of validated candidates, we utilized total internal reflection fluorescence microscopy to demonstrate dynamic colocalization with TRIM proteins at the axonal periphery, including at the tips of filopodia. Further analysis demonstrated that the RNA interferencebased knockdown of the unconventional myosin Myo16 in cortical neurons altered growth cone filopodia density and axonal branching patterns in a TRIM9- and netrin-1-dependent manner. Future analysis of other validated candidates will likely identify novel proteins and mechanisms by which TRIM9 and TRIM67 regulate neuronal form and function.

**Monitoring Editor** Avital Rodal Brandeis University

Received: Oct 2, 2020 Revised: Nov 25, 2020 Accepted: Dec 17, 2020

#### INTRODUCTION

Neuronal morphogenesis and function require coordinated cytoskeletal reorganization and plasma membrane expansion (McCormick and Gupton, 2020). Exocytosis leads to the addition of plasma membrane (Pfenninger, 2009; Gupton and Gertler, 2010; Winkle *et al.*, 2014; Urbina and Gupton, 2020), whereas cytoskeletal

This article was published online ahead of print in MBoC in Press (http://www .molbiolcell.org/cgi/doi/10.1091/mbc.E20-10-0622) on December 30, 2020.

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Abbreviations used: BioID, proximity-dependent biotin identification; BirA\*, promiscuous bifunctional ligase/repressor BirA; co-IP, coimmunprecipitation; reorganization molds the plasma membrane into the complex arborized neuronal shape. The functions of many cytoskeletal and membrane remodeling proteins are defined, yet how their functions are coordinated to promote cell shape change remains poorly understood. Further there is likely specialized machinery for the unique

Author contributions: S.M.: project design; data acquisition, curation, and validation; data analysis and interpretation; training undergraduate researchers, manuscript and figure preparation; D.G.: mass spectrometry (MS) and MS data analysis; visualization; T.H.: Myo16 KD analysis; E.W.C.: MS sample quality control and peptide quantification; N.P.B.: Trim67<sup>-/-</sup>. rescue branching experiment; C.H., A.J.B., E.C.J., and J.A.: coimmunoprecipitation experiments; M.B.M.: oversaw MS methods and MS data analysis; manuscript editing; S.L.G.: project conceptualization, design, administration, funding acquisition; interpretation of data; manuscript and figure preparation and approval.

Coro1a, coronin, actin-binding protein 1A; DCC, deleted in colorectal cancer; ExoC1, exocyst complex component 1; FDR, false discovery rate; GO, gene ontology; GRIP1, glutamate receptor interacting protein 1; HSV, herpes simplex virus; KIF1A, kinesin family member 1A; MAP1B, microtubule-associated protein 1B; MS, mass spectrometry; MT, microtubule; Myo16, myosin XVI; PRG-1, phospholipid phosphatase related 4 (Plppr4); SNAP25, synaptosome-associated protein 25; SNAP47, synaptosome-associated protein 47; TIRF, total internal reflection fluorescence; TRIM67, tripartite motif containing 67; TRIM9, tripartite motif containing 9; Ywhae, 14-3-3 epsilon.

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cell shape changes that occur in neurons, which achieve an elongated and polarized morphology in response to a host of guidance cues. Phylogenetic analysis suggested that the emergence of the class I TRIM (TRIpartitite Motif) E3 ubiquitin ligases and the emergence of neuronal-like cells appeared to have occurred contemporaneously (Boyer *et al.*, 2018), and thus class I TRIMs may be well poised to regulate neuronal form and function.

The TRIM family is a subclass of RING-domain E3 ubiquitin ligases, which comprises more than 80 human members, some of which are brain-enriched and implicated in neuronal development and neurological disorders (Tocchini and Ciosk, 2015; Jin et al., 2017; Watanabe and Hatakeyama, 2017; George et al., 2018). TRIM ligases are characterized by an N-terminal RING ligase domain, zincfinger B-Box domain(s), and coiled-coil multimerization domain (Meroni and Diez-Roux, 2005; Short and Cox, 2006). A variable Cterminal structure defines nine distinct classes of TRIM proteins and is often considered responsible for providing substrate specificity. Class I TRIMs contain a Cos domain that in some cases binds microtubules (MTs) (Short and Cox, 2006; Cox, 2012), an FN3 domain, and a SPRY domain. In vertebrates, six class I TRIMs are divided into three paralogue pairs, indicative of multiple gene duplication events (Short and Cox, 2006). In contrast, invertebrates have one or two class I TRIM proteins (Boyer et al., 2018).

Vertebrate class I TRIM pairs include TRIM1 and TRIM18, TRIM36 and TRIM46, and TRIM9 and TRIM67. Mutations in TRIM1 (MID2) and TRIM18 (MID1) are associated with X-linked disorders such as intellectual disability and Opitz G/BBB syndrome (Quaderi et al., 1997; Cainarca et al., 1999; De Falco et al., 2003; Geetha et al., 2014). TRIM36 regulates dorsal axis formation and cell cycle progression (Cuykendall and Houston, 2009; Miyajima et al., 2009). Mutations in TRIM36 are associated with anencephaly (Singh et al., 2017). TRIM46 establishes neuronal polarity and the axon initial segment (Van Beuningen et al., 2015; Harterink et al., 2019). TRIM9 and TRIM67 regulate neuronal morphological changes in response to the axon guidance cue netrin-1 (Winkle et al., 2014, 2016; Menon et al., 2015; Plooster et al., 2017; Boyer et al., 2020). TRIM9 localizes to Parkinsonian Lewy bodies and single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in TRIM9 may be associated with atypical psychosis (Tanji et al., 2010; Kanazawa et al., 2013). Paraneoplastic neurological syndromes and small-cell lung carcinoma are associated with TRIM9, TRIM67, and TRIM46 (van Coevorden-Hameete et al., 2017; Do et al., 2019). These findings demonstrate a role for class I TRIMs in neuronal form and function.

Loss of the single class I TRIM dTrim9 in Drosophila melanogaster and madd-2 in Caenorhabditis elegans leads to axon branching and guidance defects (Hao et al., 2010; Morikawa et al., 2011). Similar phenotypes occur with loss of netrin/unc-6 and its receptor, Frazzled/unc-40 (Kolodziej et al., 1996; Mitchell et al., 1996; Norris and Lundquist, 2011). Similarly, in vertebrates, loss of netrin-1 and its receptor, deleted in colorectal cancer (DCC) results in midline crossing defects such as agenesis of the corpus callosum (Serafini et al., 1996; Fazeli et al., 1997; Bin et al., 2015; Yung et al., 2015). dTrim9 and MADD2 interact with netrin receptors, Frazzled and UNC40 (Hao et al., 2010; Morikawa et al., 2011). Analogously, vertebrate TRIM9 and TRIM67 interact with DCC (Winkle et al., 2014; Boyer et al., 2018). However, unlike loss of Ntn1 or DCC, loss of murine Trim9 results in corpus callosum thickening, due at least partially to aberrant axon branching within the structure (Winkle et al., 2014). In contrast, loss of murine Trim67 results in thinning of the callosum (Boyer et al., 2018). These data suggest that both TRIM9 and TRIM67 function in axon projection downstream of netrin.

We have found that TRIM9 and TRIM67 mediate morphological changes downstream of netrin and DCC by regulating cytoskeletal dynamics and exocytosis (Winkle et al., 2014; Menon et al., 2015; Plooster et al., 2017; Urbina et al., 2018; Boyer et al., 2020). TRIM9 and TRIM67 interact with and modulate ubiquitination of the actin polymerase VASP to regulate growth cone dynamics and netrindependent axonal turning (Menon et al., 2015; Boyer et al., 2020). TRIM9-mediated ubiquitination of DCC is netrin-1 sensitive and regulates signaling, exocytosis, and axon branching. TRIM9 and TRIM67 regulate the frequency and mode of exocytosis, via interactions with exocytic t-SNAREs SNAP25 and SNAP47, respectively (Winkle et al., 2014; Urbina et al., 2018, 2020). TRIM9 and TRIM67 continue to modulate neuronal form and function in the mature animal. TRIM9 regulates morphogenesis of adult-born neurons including dendritic arborization, spine density, and localization in the hippocampus (Winkle et al., 2016). Loss of Trim67 results in hypotrophy of the hippocampus (Boyer et al., 2018). Along with these anatomical phenotypes, mice lacking Trim9 and Trim67 exhibit spatial learning and memory deficits (Winkle et al., 2016; Boyer et al., 2018), phenotypes typically associated with hippocampal dysfunction.

Together these studies indicate that TRIM9 and TRIM67 are important in orchestrating neuronal shape changes, yet the complete repertoire of their function is not known. Most E3 ubiquitin ligases ubiquitinate multiple substrates (Deshaies and Joazeiro, 2009), yet only a few substrates for TRIM9 and TRIM67 have been identified. Further, TRIM9 and TRIM67 interact with proteins without altering their ubiquitination. Therefore, identifying other potential interactors and substrates is critical to understanding the role of TRIM9 and TRIM67 in neuronal development. Here we utilized an unbiased proximity labeling proteomics approach (Roux et al., 2012) to identify candidate interacting partners and substrates. This yielded a number of high-priority interaction candidates poised to regulate the MT and actomyosin cytoskeletons, synaptic structure and maintenance, membrane remodeling, and cytosolic transport, processes that are critical to neuronal form and function. We validated the interaction of a subset of candidates with TRIM9 and TRIM67. Analysis of the validated interaction partner Myo16 showed that loss of this unconventional myosin affected growth cone filopodia density and axonal branching in a TRIM9- and netrin-1-dependent manner.

#### RESULTS

## Proximity-dependent labeling identifies interaction partners of TRIM9 and TRIM67

Unbiased identification of ligase interaction partners and substrates is difficult via standard coimmunoprecipitation (co-IP) techniques due to the transient nature of E3 ligase–substrate interactions (lconomou and Saunders, 2016) and low abundance of ubiquitinated proteins. Proximity-dependent labeling approaches are an effective alternative strategy (Coyaud *et al.*, 2015; Cloer *et al.*, 2018). To identify candidate TRIM9 and TRIM67 interacting partners and substrates, we employed proximity-dependent labeling with the promiscuous biotin ligase (BirA\*) attached to either TRIM9 or TRIM67. This approach exploits biotinylation of proteins within 10 nm of BirA\* (Roux *et al.*, 2012; Kim *et al.*, 2014) and allows identification of transient interaction partners and substrates (Figure 1A). Further, we attached a Myc-BirA\* to TRIM9 and TRIM67 lacking ligase domains (TRIM9 $\Delta$ RING and TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING) to minimize enrichment of biotinylated ubiquitin.

Because TRIM9 and TRIM67 are enriched in neurons, identification of interaction partners in neurons was critical. MycBirA\* constructs were introduced to embryonic cortical neurons by herpes simplex virus (HSV) transduction. To ensure proper localization and function of constructs, we examined localization in neurons and biotinylation of known interaction partners. Myc-BirA\*TRIM9ARING and Myc-BirA\*TRIM67∆RING localized to the axonal growth cone, primarily to the tips of filopodia and along the periphery of the growth cone (Figure 1B), indistinguishable from the localization of endogenous TRIM9 and TRIM67 (Winkle et al., 2014; Boyer et al., 2018, 2020). In contrast, Myc-BirA\* exhibited an expected cytosolic distribution. In neurons supplemented with biotin, the TRIM9 $\Delta$ RING and TRIM67ΔRING puncta (Myc-stained) overlapped with streptavidin signal (Figure 1B), indicating the BirA\* was biotinylating proximal proteins. Previously identified TRIM9 substrates, VASP and DCC, were enriched by affinity purification from lysates of Trim9-/neurons expressing Myc-BirA\*TRIM9ΔRING after biotin addition (Figure 1C). After 24 h of biotin addition, VASP and DCC were more enriched in Myc-BirA\*TRIM9∆RING lysates than Myc-BirA\*–expressing lysates. These results confirmed the feasibility of using an in vitro proximity-dependent biotin identification (BioID) approach with 24 h of biotin addition in developing neurons for the identification of candidate E3 ligase substrates and/or interacting partners.

## Potential TRIM9 and TRIM67 interaction candidates affect cytoskeletal change, protein transport, and synaptic structure

Biotinylated proteins were affinity purified from wild-type embryonic cortical neurons expressing Myc-BirA\* (negative control), Trim9<sup>-/-</sup> neurons expressing Myc-BirA\*TRIM9∆RING, and Trim67<sup>-/-</sup> expressing Myc-BirA\*TRIM67∆RING and analyzed using mass spectrometry. Totals of 2012 and 2315 potential interaction candidates were identified for TRIM9 and TRIM67, respectively (Supplemental Tables 1 and 2). The included proteins have a false discovery rate (FDR) ranging from 0.000 (high-confidence hits) through 0.7559 (low-confidence hits) based on enrichment over MycBirA\* hits and variability across replicates. Of all TRIM9 and TRIM67 interaction candidates, 149 and 151, respectively, were classified as high-confidence interaction hits with FDR values ≤0.25 (Figure 2, A-C). Of these interaction candidates, 91 were common to both TRIM9 and TRIM67 (Figure 2C), approximately 60%. Known interaction partners, including all Enah/VASP family proteins: Enah (TRIM9 interaction FDR: 0, TRIM67 interaction FDR: 0), VASP (TRIM9 interaction FDR: 0, TRIM67 interaction FDR: 0), and EvI (TRIM9 interaction FDR: 0, TRIM67 interaction FDR: 0.0176), and the netrin receptor DCC (TRIM9 interaction FDR: 0.7559, TRIM67 interaction FDR: 0.7559) (Winkle et al., 2014; Menon et al., 2015; Boyer et al., 2018, 2020) were identified by the BioID approach.

Gene ontology (GO) analysis of high-confidence candidates was performed using the ClueGO application in Cytoscape\_3.7.2 (Shannon et al., 2003; Bindea et al., 2009). This approach identified enrichment of protein categories based on function (Figure 2, D and E) and cellular localization (Figure 2, F and G). Consistent with findings that TRIM9 regulates morphogenesis, TRIM9 interaction candidates included proteins regulating neuron projection arborization and localizing to the actomyosin and MT cytoskeletons and localization to clathrin coats, suggesting a possible role in endocytosis (Figure 2, D and F). Similarly, TRIM67 interaction candidates included proteins that regulated cytoskeletal polymerization and localized to cytoskeletal rich structures, including stress fibers, lamellipodium, the pericentriole, and neuronal projections (Figure 2, E and G). Although the proteomic analysis was performed in developing neurons before synaptogenesis, GO categorization for both TRIM9 and TRIM67 was enriched for proteins that localize to both the presynaptic region and post synaptic density as well as for proteins required for maintenance of synapse structures and synaptic localization of other proteins. This analysis suggested novel roles for TRIM9 and TRIM67 in signal transduction cascades and protein translation. For TRIM9 this included phosphatidylinositol-mediated signaling, hippo signaling, MAPKKK activity, anoikis, and translation initiation. Similarly, TRIM67 interaction candidates were enriched in cytosolic transport, mRNA-mediated inhibition of translation, interkinetic nuclear migration, and MAPKKK activity.

#### Validation of TRIM9 and TRIM67 interaction candidates

We focused validation efforts on candidates implicated in actin and MT regulation, membrane remodeling, and motor-based transport. Some high-FDR candidates were included in validation efforts because N-terminal tagging of BirA\* may have affected the biotinylation of true C-terminal interacting partners, as previously observed (Redwine et al., 2017). Indeed the netrin-1 receptor DCC, which interacts directly with the C-terminal SPRY domain of TRIM9 (Winkle et al., 2014), and likely the SPRY domain of TRIM67 by homology, exhibited high FDR values (0.7559 for both TRIM9 and TRIM67, 1.05- and 1.26-fold enrichment over control in TRIM9 and TRIM67, respectively). To validate interactions, we used co-IP assays of Myctagged TRIM∆RING proteins and GFP- or HA-tagged candidate interactors coexpressed in HEK293 cells. This approach overcame issues of transient interactions, low abundance, and unvalidated antibodies to endogenous proteins. As a negative control, immunoprecipitation of an empty Myc construct was included in each assay. For the confirmed interactions described below, there was no detectable signal of candidate interactors coimmunoprecipitating with empty Myc (Figure 3, A-I).

Coro1a (TRIM9 FDR: 0.0027 and TRIM67 FDR: 0) is a type I coronin, a well-characterized actin regulator, and modulator of the signaling endosome (Suo et al., 2014, 2015; Martorella et al., 2017). Coro1a interacted with TRIM67ARING, but not TRIM9ARING (Figure 3A, i and ii). Sipa1l1, commonly called SPAR (spine-associated Rap GTPase-activating protein) (TRIM9 FDR: 0.0082, TRIM67 FDR: 0.5652), modulates actin dynamics in dendritic spines (Pak et al., 2001; Pak and Sheng, 2003; Hoe et al., 2009). Sipa111 interacted with both TRIM9∆RING and TRIM67∆RING, albeit with a higher affinity for TRIM67∆RING (Figure 3B, i and ii). Myo16 (TRIM9 FDR: 0.0855, TRIM67 FDR: 0.0855) is an unconventional myosin enriched in the developing brain that regulates actin dynamics via the wave regulatory complex (WRC), Arp2/3, and PI3K signaling (Patel et al., 2001; Yokoyama et al., 2011). FDR values suggested that Myo16 interacted with TRIM9∆RING and TRIM67∆RING; co-IP confirmed this (Figure 3C, i and ii).

Glutamate receptor interacting protein 1 (GRIP1; TRIM9 FDR: 0, TRIM67 FDR: 0) is a kinesin adaptor protein required for homeostatic AMPA receptor trafficking (Setou et al., 2002; Hoogenraad et al., 2005; Tan et al., 2015; Twelvetrees et al., 2019). GRIP1 interacted with both TRIM9∆RING and TRIM67∆RING (Figure 3D, i and ii). Kif1a (TRIM9 FDR: 0.271, TRIM67 FDR: 0.0587), a member of the kinesin 3 family, is a MT-based motor protein essential for the transport of synaptic vesicle precursors (Okada et al., 1995; Lo et al., 2011; Karasmanis et al., 2018; Guedes-Dias et al., 2019). Kif1a interacted with both TRIM67∆RING and TRIM9∆RING (Figure 3E, i and ii). ExoC1 (yeast homologue, Sec3, TRIM9 FDR: 0.0855, TRIM67 FDR: 0), a member of the octameric exocyst complex that plays a critical role in tethering vesicles to the plasma membrane before exocytosis (Wu and Guo, 2015; Kampmeyer et al., 2017; Yue et al., 2017; Liu et al., 2018), interacted similarly with TRIM9ARING and TRIM67∆RING (Figure 3F, i and ii). Valosin-containing protein (VCP, TRIM9 FDR: 0.7599, TRIM67 FDR: 0.7599) is a clathrin-binding protein and member of the AAA+ ATPase family (Pleasure et al., 1993; Ritz et al., 2011). VCP interacted with both TRIM9 $\Delta$ RING and TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING (Figure 3G, i and ii).

MAP1B (TRIM9 interaction FDR: 0.7599, TRIM67 interaction FDR: 0.7599), a large MT-associated protein that plays a role in MT dynamics, neurite branching, and dendritic spine development (Ma et al., 2000; Li et al., 2006; Tortosa et al., 2011; Tymanskyj et al., 2012; Bodaleo et al., 2016), interacted with TRIM67ΔRING, but not TRIM9∆RING (Figure 3H, i and ii). Two separate blots are shown to demonstrate the specificity of the interaction with TRIM67; one controlled for TRIM9 $\Delta$ RING (left) and one for TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING (right). LPPR4 (TRIM9 interaction FDR: 0, TRIM67 interaction FDR: 0.0738), commonly called PRG-1, is a member of the lipid phosphate phosphatase family. It is a transmembrane protein that functions as an ectoenzyme and promotes axonal growth by locally depleting lipid phosphates (Bräuer et al., 2003; Tokumitsu et al., 2010; Petzold et al., 2016). GFP-LPPR4 was detected on Western blots only after immunoprecipitation (Figure 3I). Myc-TRIM9ARING and Myc-TRIM67ARING were enriched in the GFP-LPPR4 immunoprecipitates, but not the GFP control (Figure 3I, i and ii). Ywhae (TRIM9 FDR: 0.5696, TRIM67 FDR: 0.2572), also called 14-3-3 epsilon, is brain-enriched and required for neurogenesis, neuronal differentiation, and migration (Toyo-Oka et al., 2003, 2014). A microduplication of the Ywhae gene locus is associated with autism spectrum disorders (Bruno et al., 2010). Ywhae did not interact with full-length or  $\Delta$ RING variants of TRIM9 or TRIM67 (Figure 3J, i and ii). These co-IP experiments validated most (seven of eight) of the candidates tested as interaction partners, supporting the validity of the BioID approach for defining the interactome and suggesting that additional valid interaction partners await confirmation.

Live-cell total internal reflection fluorescence (TIRF) microscopy was performed to examine the colocalization of a subset of validated candidates at the basal surface of developing neurons. This revealed that GFP-Myo16 colocalized with tagRFP-TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING along the axon and at filopodia tips (Figure 4A, i, arrowheads, and ii). Similarly, GFP-LPPR4 colocalized with tagRFP-TRIM67 along filopodia tips along the axon and growth cone (Figure 4B, arrowheads; Figure 4Bii). Other interaction partners require investigation of colocalization.

#### The Myo16 interaction is unique to TRIM9 and TRIM67

Myo16 expression peaks during neuronal development (Patel et al., 2001), where it regulates presynaptic organization in cerebellar Purkinje cells (Roesler et al., 2019). TRIM9 and TRIM67 are also expressed in the cerebellum and were recently identified as antibody targets in paraneoplastic cerebellar degeneration (Berti et al., 2002; Boyer et al., 2018; Do et al., 2019). Myo16 localizes along the length of the axon and to the tips of filopodia in hippocampal neurons (Patel et al., 2001). Similarly, endogenous TRIM9 and TRIM67 localize to the tips of filopodia, to the periphery of the axonal growth cone, and along the edges of the axon (Winkle et al., 2014; Boyer et al., 2018, 2020). Similar localization and expression patterns of Myo16, TRIM9, and TRIM67 motivated further investigation of the interaction with Myo16. To confirm that the interaction with Myo16 was specific to TRIM9 and TRIM67, we performed additional co-IP assays. Class I TRIMs share domain architecture; of the three class I paralogue pairs, TRIM1 and TRIM18 (MID1) share closest homology with TRIM9 and TRIM67 (Short and Cox, 2006; Carthagena et al., 2009). Whereas GFP-Myo16 precipitated with full-length Myc-TRIM9 and Myc-TRIM67, Myo16 failed to precipitate with Myc-TRIM18 (Figure 5A). Domain mutants of TRIM67 were employed to map the Myo16 interaction. The FN3 domain of TRIM67 was necessary for mediating the TRIM67/Myo16 interaction (Figure 5B). The FN3 domain of TRIM9 and TRIM67 are 75% identical, whereas they share less than 30% identity to the FN3 domain of other class I TRIMs (Supplemental Figure 1A).

With evidence of the specificity of the Myo16 interaction with TRIM9 and TRIM67, we examined whether loss of these proteins affected Myo16. Myo16 protein levels in cortical neurons were not altered upon loss of Trim9 or Trim67 (Figure 5C). Because the interaction between TRIM67 and Myo16 appeared stronger, we hypothesized that TRIM67 may alter Myo16 ubiquitination. To test this, we performed denaturing immunoprecipitation-based ubiquitination assays of GFP-Myo16 from HEK293 cells in which TRIM67 had been removed via CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing (Boyer et al., 2020). GFP-Myo16 immunoprecipitation contained high-molecular-weight ubiquitin reactivity in TRIM67-/- HEK cells expressing Myc alone or Myc-TRIM67 (Figure 5D). In contrast, immunoprecipitation of GFP alone revealed no high-molecularweight ubiquitin reactivity. These data indicated that Myo16 was ubiquitinated, but it was not TRIM67-dependent. Similar Myo16 ubiquitination was also observed in HEK293 cells in which TRIM9 had been deleted (Figure 5E). This further revealed that Myo16 ubiquitination levels were not different across the three genotypes. Together these data indicated that the Myo16 interaction with TRIM9 and TRIM67 was specific and mediated by the FN3 domain, but the interaction did not detectably alter Myo16 localization, protein levels, or ubiquitination.

## Myo16 regulates netrin-1–dependent axonal branching and filopodial density at the axonal growth cone

The axon guidance cue netrin-1 promotes axon branching in cortical neurons (Dent et al., 2004; Winkle et al., 2014). We have previously shown that deletion of Trim9 or Trim67 independently disrupts netrin-dependent axon branching (Winkle et al., 2014; Menon et al., 2015; Plooster et al., 2017; Boyer et al., 2020). In Trim9<sup>-/-</sup> neurons, basal levels of axon branching are two- to threefold higher but do not increase in response to netrin-1. In contrast, In Trim67-/- neurons, basal levels of axon branching are normal, but similarly do not increase in response to netrin-1 addition. Introduction of full-length TRIM67 into Trim67-/- neurons rescued netrin-dependent axon branching (Boyer et al., 2020). However, TRIM67∆FN3, which did not interact with Myo16 (Figure 5E), failed to rescue netrin-dependent branching (Figure 6, A and B), potentially implicating Myo16 in netrin-dependent axon branching. To test this hypothesis, Myo16 small interfering RNA (siRNA) was introduced into wild-type cortical neurons at day in vitro 0 (DIV 0), and Myo16 levels were reduced approximately 70% by 2 DIV (Figure 6C). Similar to Trim67 deletion, Myo16 knockdown did not alter basal axon branching levels, but abrogated netrin-dependent axonal branching (Figure 6, D and E). Axon length and progression of neuronal morphogenesis were not perturbed by Myo16 knockdown (Supplemental Figure 2). These data indicated that Myo16 was required for netrin-dependent axon branching. Because TRIM67 is known to interact with the netrin receptor DCC (Boyer et al., 2018) but yet there is no evidence that Myo16 interacts with DCC, we surmised that overexpression of Myo16 in Trim67<sup>-/-</sup> neurons was unlikely to rescue netrin sensitivity and netrin-dependent axon branching. We, however, hypothesized that the exuberant axon branching phenotype of Trim9-/- neurons (Winkle et al., 2014) may be dependent on Myo16. Here we confirmed previous data demonstrating that Trim9-/- cortical neurons showed elevated axon branching density (Figure 6, D and E). Reduction of Myo16 in Trim9-/- cortical neurons reduced axonal branch density (Figure 6, D and E), suggesting that Myo16 function was required for the aberrant branching phenotype in Trim9<sup>-/-</sup> neurons.







**FIGURE 2:** Candidate TRIM9 and TRIM67 interaction partners. (A–C) Potential high-confidence (FDR  $\leq$  0.259) interaction partners unique to TRIM9 (A), unique to TRIM67 (B), or shared (C). (D, E) Pie charts of biological processes enriched via GO classification of high-confidence TRIM9 and TRIM67 interaction partners, respectively. (F, G) Pie charts of cellular localization terms enriched via GO classification of high-confidence TRIM9 and TRIM67 interaction partners, respectively. (F, G) Pie charts of cellular localization terms enriched via GO classification of high-confidence TRIM9 and TRIM67 interaction partners, respectively. Percentages for a particular GO term in D–G represent the number of gene IDs that hit against the total number of gene IDs annotated.

neurons expressing Myc-BirA\*. Numbers below the anti-VASP blot represent VASP intensity values normalized to the intensity of the VASP band enriched in the affinity-purified samples (16 h) from neurons expressing Myc-BirA\*. VASP was not detected (N.D.) in affinity-purified samples (6.5 h) from neurons expressing Myc-BirA\* or Myc-BirA\*-TRIM9ΔRING.



**FIGURE 3:** Validation of potential TRIM9 and TRIM67 interaction partners via co-IP assays. (A–G) Immunoblots showing co-IP of GFP- or HA-tagged proteins when immunoprecipitated using an anti-Myc antibody to enrich for Myc, Myc-TRIM9 $\Delta$ RING, or Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING. (A: Coro1A [n = 3], B: Sipa111 [n = 3], C: Myo16 [n = 3], D: GRIP1a [n = 2], E: Kif1a [n = 3], F: ExoC1 [n = 2], G: VCP [n = 2]). A(i) –G(i) show blots for inputs for the coimmunoprecipitated proteins, the immunoprecipitated Myc-TRIM9 $\Delta$ RING or Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING (T9 $\Delta$ R) or Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING (T67 $\Delta$ R). (H(i)) Immunoblot demonstrating co-IP of Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING, but not Myc-TRIM9 $\Delta$ RING with GFP-MAP1B. Two representative blots are included, one with GFP-control coexpressed with Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING (T67 $\Delta$ R) relative to GFP-MAP1B (n = 3). Myc-TRIM9 $\Delta$ RING (T9 $\Delta$ R) did not coprecipitate with GFP- MAP1B (N.D.). (Ii) Immunoblot showing Myc-TRIM9 $\Delta$ RING co-IP with GFP-LPPR4 (PRG-1). The black arrow in the blot probed for GFP

However, axon branching still failed to increase in response to netrin.

Filopodia are required for axon branching response (Dent *et al.*, 2004), and our previous work showed that netrin-dependent increases in growth cone filopodia density were also disrupted by deletion of *Trim9* or *Trim67* (Menon *et al.*, 2015; Boyer *et al.*, 2020). We thus investigated how Myo16 knockdown affected filopodia density after acute netrin addition. Myo16 knockdown in wild-type cortical neurons abrogated the netrin-dependent increase in filopodial densities at axonal growth cones (Figure 6F). Myo16 knockdown also reduced the aberrant elevated filopodial density of *Trim9<sup>-/-</sup>* cortical neurons (Figure 6F). These data confirm a novel role for Myo16 during axonal branching, growth cone filopodia density, and netrin responses.

#### DISCUSSION

Previously identified interacting partners and substrates suggested that TRIM9 and TRIM67 shared interaction partners, functioned in a yin-yang manner, and were poised to regulate the cytoskeletal machinery and membrane remodeling machinery that regulate neuronal morphogenesis, function, and connectivity. Here we used proximity biotinylation to identify previously unidentified candidate interaction partners. This revealed an overlapping interactome of proteins enriched in cellular process regulated by TRIM9 and TRIM67, including neuronal growth and arborization, cytoskeletal dynamics, and membrane remodeling. In addition, novel cellular processes such as synapse structure and maintenance were identified as potential TRIM9 and TRIM67 regulation points. We validated a subset of candidates implicated in cytoskeletal dynamics, membrane remodeling, and transport. One validated candidate, Myo16, plays a role in netrin-dependent axon branching, potentially in coordination with TRIM9 and TRIM67 (Figure 6G). Altogether this study demonstrates that TRIM9 and TRIM67 likely regulate neuronal form and function through a host of interaction partners and potential substrates and this interactome opens up an abundance of new avenues for investigation.

## TRIM9 and TRIM67 regulate the neuronal actin and MT cytoskeletons

Our findings in *Trim9-/-* and *Trim67-/-* neurons revealed disruptions at multiple stages of neuronal morphogenesis, including filopodia stability, growth cone size and turning, axon branching, dendritic arborization, and dendritic spine density (Winkle *et al.*, 2014, 2016; Menon *et al.*, 2015; Plooster *et al.*, 2017; Boyer *et al.*, 2020). GO analysis of candidate interactors here bolsters the role of TRIM9 and TRIM67 function in regulating neuronal growth and guidance, with enrichment in neurite outgrowth regulation, and actin and MT cytoskeletal regulation, including actin and MT polymerization, as well as localization to multiple cytoskeletal structures, stress fibers, focal adhesion, MT ends, and lamellipodium. Here we found that the unconventional myosin, Myo16, interacts with both TRIM9 and TRIM67 and plays a critical role in netrin-dependent axon branching. TRIM67 structure/function results and rescue experiments in *Trim9-/-* neurons suggested Myo16 regulates netrin-dependent branching in

coordination with TRIM9 and TRIM67. The mechanism of this coordinated response is not known. We did find that Myo16 was ubiquitinated, although we did not detect differences in the absence of TRIM9 or TRIM67. However, whether the same residues are ubiquitinated in all genotypes or whether TRIM9 and TRIM67 redundantly lead to Myo16 ubiquitination is not known. Our previous work found that TRIM9 and TRIM67 interact with each other (Boyer et al., 2018) and function in a yin-yang manner to mediate the nondegradative ubiquitination of VASP (Menon et al., 2015; Boyer et al., 2020). Nondegradative ubiquitination of VASP was essential for appropriate netrin-1-dependent axonal responses, such as filopodial stability at the axonal growth cone and axonal turning. Whether a similar antagonistic relationship exists between TRIM9, TRIM67, and Myo16 is an intriguing hypothesis. Similar questions regarding how other cytoskeletal regulators, like Coro1A and Sipa1l1, are involved in neuronal morphogenesis and regulated by TRIM proteins and downstream of netrin signaling remain to be answered.

Several tubulin isoforms and multiple MT-associated proteins and motors were identified, including MAP1B, DCX, and kinesins Kif1A and Kif1B. Class I TRIMs contain a Cos domain in their C-termini that has been implicated in MT binding (Short and Cox, 2006). Class I members TRIM18 (MID1) and TRIM46 have both been shown to interact with MTs and regulate MT organization (Van Beuningen *et al.*, 2015; Wright *et al.*, 2016). As MTs are a critical component in neuronal morphogenesis, investigation into how they are potentially regulated by TRIM9 and TRIM67 is warranted.

#### TRIM9 and TRIM67 regulate membrane remodeling

Developing neurons undergo large changes in plasma membrane surface area, driven by exocytosis. Previous work identified that TRIM9 interacts with and sequesters the exocytic t-SNARE SNAP25 from forming SNARE complexes, resulting in constrained constitutive exocytosis and axon branching in developing neurons (Winkle *et al.*, 2014). This interaction was netrin sensitive, with netrin treatment increasing SNARE complex formation, exocytosis, and axon branching in a TRIM9-dependent manner. Strikingly, this increase in exocytosis primarily occurs in the axon, but how the localization of exocytic events occurs is unknown. Here we identified the exocyst component ExoC1 as a validated novel TRIM interactor. Whether this change in the localization of exocytic events involves vesicle tethering, such as the exocyst complex, is an intriguing hypothesis.

In contrast to TRIM9, TRIM67 regulates exocytic mode not frequency, promoting full vesicle fusion at the expense of kiss-and-run fusion (Urbina *et al.*, 2020). The t-SNARE SNAP47 was also identified in the proteomic screen described here, specifically as a TRIM67 binding partner. As described elsewhere, we found that SNAP47 was partially responsible for TRIM67-mediated regulation of the exocytic mode in developing neurons, but additional proteins must also be involved. Potentially, other membrane-associated proteins like LPPR4 (Sigal *et al.*, 2005) or known exocytic regulators like Munc18 and tomosyn, which we identified as candidate TRIM67 binding partners, may also regulate the exocytic mode downstream of TRIM67.

shows a faint GFP-LPPR4 band. Note that GFP-LPPR4 was not detected in inputs. I(ii) shows individual datapoints of coimmunoprecipitated Myc-TRIM9 $\Delta$ RING (T9 $\Delta$ R) and Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING (T67 $\Delta$ R) relative to GFP-LPPR4 (n = 3). (J(i), (iii)) Immunoblots demonstrating that HA-Ywhae does not coimmunoprecipitate with Myc-TRIM $\Delta$ RING (n = 3) or full-length constructs of TRIM9 and TRIM67 (n = 3). The white asterisks in J(i) denote a nonspecific band observed in all anti-Myc IP lanes. Datapoints were compared using an unpaired t test with Welch's correction, \*, P < 0.05, \*\*\*, P < 0.005.



**FIGURE 4:** Myo16 and LPPR4 colocalize with TRIM67. (Ai) Representative images to demonstrate colocalization of GFP-Myo16 with tagRFP-TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING. Zoomed inset and the blue arrowheads show colocalization along the axon and in filopodia along the axon. (Aii) Pearson's correlation of colocalization between GFP-Myo16 and tagRFP-TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING ( $R_{obs}$ ) compared with Fay-randomized controls ( $R_{rand}$ ). (n = 9 cells from three biological replicates.) (Bi) Representative images to demonstrate colocalization of GFP-LPPR4 with tagRFP-TRIM67. Zoomed inset and the blue arrowheads show colocalization along the axon (yellow box) and at the axonal growth cone (red box). (Bii) Pearson's correlation of colocalization between GFP-LPPR4 and tagRFP-TRIM67 ( $R_{obs}$ ) compared with Fay-randomized controls ( $R_{rand}$ ). (n = 12 cells from four biological replicates.) Datapoints were compared using Student's t test, \*\*\*, P < 0.005.

## A potential role of TRIM9 and TRIM67 in modulating synapse morphology

Although BioID experiments were performed in neurons before synaptogenesis, we found an intriguing enrichment of proteins that localize to the postsynaptic density and the presynaptic active zone and modulate synapse formation and maintenance, such as validated interactors GRIP1, Myo16, VASP, PRG-1, and Kif1a, as well as yet to be validated candidates such as PSD95, BSN, PCLO, and SynGAP1. We previously demonstrated that deletion of *Trim9* altered dendritic spine density in adult-born neurons of the dentate gyrus (Winkle *et al.*, 2016), suggesting that TRIM9 may regulate synaptic connectivity. Adult-born hippocampal neurons are critical in spatial learning and memory, which was dramatically deficient in *Trim9<sup>-/-</sup>* mice (Winkle *et al.*, 2016). Similarly, genetic deletion of *Trim67* resulted in delayed spatial learning and memory and a loss of cognitive flexibility in the Morris Water Maze task



FIGURE 5: Myo16 interacts specifically with TRIM9 and TRIM67. (A) Immunoblot demonstrating GFP-Myo16 co-IP specifically with class I TRIM proteins, TRIM9 and TRIM67, but not TRIM18 (TRIM proteins used in this assay are full-length and Myc-tagged) (n = 3). Plot with individual datapoints of co-IP GFP-Myo16 relative to Myc-TRIM9 or Myc-TRIM67. GFP-Myo16 did not coprecipitate with Myc-TRIM18 (N.D.). (B) Representative immunoblot of TRIM67 domain deletion constructs (TRIM67ΔRING, TRIM67ΔCC, TRIM67ΔFN3, TRIM67ΔSPRY) IP demonstrating that the FN3 domain of TRIM67 is necessary for GFP-Myo16 and Myc-TRIM67 interaction (n = 3). Plot with individual datapoints of co-IPGFP-Myo16 relative to TRIM67 domain deletion constructs ( $\Delta$ RING,  $\Delta$ CC,  $\Delta$ FN3,  $\Delta$ SPRY). (C) Immunoblot showing that endogenous Myo16 protein levels were not significantly different in cultured embryonic cortical neurons from wild type (Trim9+/+:Trim67+/+), Trim9-/-:Trim67+/+, Trim9+/+:Trim67-/- at 2 DIV. Quantification from three biological replicates. (D) Representative immunoblot demonstrating GFP (control) and GFP-Myo16 ubiquitination levels in TRIM67-/-HEK cells expressing either Myc or Myc-TRIM67. The blot was probed with anti-GFP and anti-HA antibodies to visualize Myo16 and ubiquitin, respectively. Myo16 ubiquitination status is not altered (n = 3). Ratio of log transformed intensities of HA-ubiquitin relative to immunoprecipitated GFP-Myo16 denoted below respective lanes. (E) Representative immunoblot demonstrating GFP-Myo16 ubiquitination levels in wild-type, TRIM9<sup>-/-</sup>;TRIM67<sup>+/+</sup>, TRIM9<sup>+/+</sup>;TRIM67<sup>-/-</sup>HEK cells. The blot was probed with anti-GFP and anti-HA antibodies to visualize Myo16 and ubiquitin, respectively. Myo16 ubiquitination status is not altered (n = 3). Ratio of log transformed intensities of HA-ubiquitin relative to immunoprecipitated GFP-Myo16 denoted below the respective lanes. Datapoints in A and B were analyzed using nonparametric analysis of variance (ANOVA) with Fisher's Least Significant Difference (LSD) post-hoc correction, \*, P < 0.05. Nonsignificant differences are not represented. Datapoints in C were analyzed using nonparametric ANOVA followed by the Benjamini–Hochberg procedure. Nonsignificant differences are not represented.

(Boyer et al., 2018). Validation of proteins enriched in these categories will give us an insight into how TRIM9 and TRIM67 regulate synapse formation and function. Although how TRIM9 and TRIM67 function at the synapse and whether this is a developmental role or maintenance role in the adult is unknown, the array of BioID candidates provide multiple pathways for investigation. Many potential scenarios are plausible. This includes regulation of dendritic filopodia formation and spine maturation, based on the role of TRIM9 and TRIM67 in filopodia density and lifetime (Menon *et al.*, 2015; Boyer *et al.*, 2020). This could be through regulation of VASP or Myo16, both of which have been implicated in spine morphogenesis (Lin *et al.*, 2010; Roesler *et al.*, 2019). Alternatively, TRIM9 and TRIM67 may play a role in delivery or retrieval of receptors and membrane material (Winkle *et al.*, 2014; Urbina *et al.*, 2018, 2020) to the pre- or postsynaptic compartments via regulation of proteins such as GRIP1, VCP, or Kif1a.



**FIGURE 6:** Knockdown of Myo16 inhibits netrin-dependent axonal branching. (A) Netrin-1–dependent axon branching assay and quantification in *Trim67<sup>-/-</sup>* neurons expressing Myc, Myc-TRIM67, or Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ FN3. The Myc and Myc-TRIM67 data were published in Boyer *et al.* (2020). Experiments with MycTRIM67 $\Delta$ FN3 were performed contemporaneously and not previously published. Staining for filamentous actin (phalloidin) and  $\beta$ III tubulin were merged, to reveal neuronal morphology. (B) Quantification of axonal branching density shown as violin plots with individual datapoints from three biological replicates. *n* (cells) = 169 Myc, 177 Myc + netrin, 173 Myc-TRIM67, 166 Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ FN3 + netrin, 87 Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ FN3, 83 Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ FN3 + netrin. (C) Representative immunoblot demonstrating effective knockdown of Myo16 at 2 DIV. A prominent Myo16 band that is immunoreactive at ~250 kDa in the lane with control siRNA-treated lysate shows reduced levels in the lane with Myo16 siRNA-treated lysate. A 53% reduction in Myo16 levels is denoted below the corresponding lane. Average of ~70% reduction in Myo16 levels was

#### Other roles for TRIM9 and TRIM67

TRIM67 function is implicated downstream of Ras in neuroblastoma cells (Yaguchi et al., 2012). Our studies indicate that both TRIM9 and TRIM67 are involved downstream of netrin and DCC. In the case of DCC, we found that TRIM9 plays a role in signaling. DCC was ubiguitinated in a TRIM9- and netrin-1-sensitive manner (Plooster et al., 2017). This ubiquitination resulted in reduced DCC phosphorylation levels, which constrained binding, autophosphorylation, and activation of focal adhesion kinase (FAK). GO analysis suggested that TRIM9 and TRIM67 may regulate additional signaling networks such as the MAP kinase pathway. Further, validated interactions with both Myo16 and LPPR4 implicate TRIM9 and TRIM67 in the phosphoinositol signaling pathway, which is critical to morphogenesis. Myo16, also known as NYAP3 (Neuronal tYrosine phosphorylated Adaptor for PI3K), promotes PI3K activity and increases levels of PI(3,4,5)P<sub>3</sub> (Yokoyama et al., 2011). BioID also predicted that TRIM9 and TRIM67 interact with LPPR3 and LPPR4, which also increase membrane levels of PI(3,4,5)P3 levels, by antagonizing PTEN (Brosig et al., 2019). We speculate that netrin-dependent branches may involve TRIM-dependent changes in PI(3,4,5)P<sub>3</sub> membrane levels, via regulation of Myo16, LPPR3, and LPPR4 (Figure 6G). Defining how TRIM proteins alter membrane levels of PI(3,4,5)P<sub>3</sub> and what roles this plays in morphogenesis is critical. Regulation of translation initiation and microRNA (miRNA)-mediated inhibition of translation are some of the other categories enriched in the BioID candidates. Spatiotemporal regulation of protein translation is critical to the proper form and function of a neuron and regulates axonal branching and pathfinding, memory consolidation, and cognitive function (Yoon et al., 2009; Buffington et al., 2014; Wong et al., 2017). Recent evidence also suggests that there are receptor-specific interactomes that could serve as a hub for guidance cue-induced protein translation, such as in netrin-1/DCC signaling (Koppers et al., 2019). Deregulated protein translation has been attributed as the underlying cause of various neurodegenerative disorders (Kapur et al., 2017). Validation of these interacting partners remains to be completed. How these pathways are regulated by TRIM9 and TRIM67 and their participation in neuronal morphogenesis and function will be areas of future investigation.

Previous work together with this study provide evidence that TRIM9 and TRIM67 have multiple overlapping interaction partners and are poised to modulate a number of stages of neuronal morphogenesis, as well as neuronal function. Additional validation and investigations of the TRIM9/TRIM67 interactome are required. However, we propose that these ligases function as molecular rheostats to modulate a shared interactome that coordinates cytoskeletal dynamics and plasma membrane expansion. This coordination facilitates neuronal growth and guidance, essential for establishment of well-connected functional neural networks.

#### **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Request a protocol through Bio-protocol.

#### Animals

All mouse lines were on a C57BL/6J background and bred at the University of North Carolina with approval from the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. Timed pregnant females were obtained by placing male and female mice together overnight; the following day was designated as E0.5 if the female had a vaginal plug. Generation of *Trim9<sup>-/-</sup>* and *Trim67<sup>-/-</sup>* mice has been described previously (Winkle et al., 2014; Boyer et al., 2018).

#### Cortical neuron culture

E15.5 litters were removed from wild-type, Trim9-/-, and Trim67-/pregnant dams by postmortem cesarean section. Dissociated cortical neuron cultures were prepared as described previously (Kwiatkowski et al., 2007). Briefly, cortices were microdissected and cortical neurons were dissociated with 0.25% trypsin for 20 min at 37°C, followed by quenching of trypsin with trypsin quenching medium (TQM; neurobasal medium supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum [FBS] and 0.5 mM glutamine). After quenching, cortices were gently triturated in neurobasal medium supplemented with TQM. Dissociated neurons were then pelleted at  $100 \times g$  for 7 min. The pelleted cells were gently resuspended in serum free medium (SFM; neurobasal medium supplemented with B27 [Invitrogen]) and plated on coverslips or tissue culture plastic coated with 1 mg/ ml poly-D-lysine (Sigma-Aldrich). For axon length and branching analysis, either neuronal growth media or 250 ng/ml netrin-1 in media was added to neuronal cultures at 2 DIV, followed by fixation with 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA) in PHEM buffer (60 mM PIPES, 25 mM HEPES, 10 mM EGTA, 2 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, pH = 6.9) after 24 h. For axonal growth cone filopodia density, 2 DIV neuronal cultures were treated with bath application of 600 ng/ml netrin-1 for 40 min followed by fixation with 4% PFA in PHEM buffer.

#### HEK293 cell culture

Wild-type and *TRIM9<sup>-/-</sup>;TRIM67<sup>+/+</sup>*HEK293 cells were obtained from Simon Rothenfußer (Klinikum der Universitat München, München, Germany) as previously described (Menon *et al.*, 2015). *TRIM9<sup>+/+</sup>;TRIM67<sup>-/-</sup>*HEK293 cells were generated as previously described (Boyer *et al.*, 2020). These cells were grown in DMEM with glutamine (Invitrogen), supplemented with 10% FBS (Hyclone) and maintained at 5% CO<sub>2</sub>/37°C.

observed from two biological replicates. (D) Representative merged images of GFP (to reveal transfection with control or Myo16 siRNA) and  $\beta$ III tubulin (to reveal cell morphology) in wild-type (*Trim9*<sup>+/+</sup>) and *Trim9*<sup>-/-</sup> cortical neurons at 3 DIV demonstrate branching phenotypes with or without 24 h of netrin treatment. (E) Quantification of axonal branching density shown as violin plots with individual datapoints from three biological replicates. *n* (cells) = 103 *Trim9*<sup>+/+</sup> C siRNA, 92 *Trim9*<sup>+/+</sup> C siRNA + netrin, 88 *Trim9*<sup>+/+</sup> Myo16 siRNA, 105 *Trim9*<sup>+/+</sup> Myo16 siRNA + netrin, 85 *Trim9*<sup>-/-</sup> C siRNA, 74 *Trim9*<sup>-/-</sup> C siRNA + netrin, 88 *Trim9*<sup>-/-</sup> Myo16 siRNA, 63 *Trim9*<sup>-/-</sup> Myo16 siRNA + netrin. (F) Quantification of filopodia density at the axonal growth cone at 2 DIV shown as violin plots with individual datapoints from two biological replicates. *n* (cells) = 59 *Trim9*<sup>+/+</sup> C siRNA, 30 *Trim9*<sup>+/+</sup> C siRNA + netrin, 33 *Trim9*<sup>-/-</sup> Myo16 siRNA, 35 *Trim9*<sup>-/-</sup> Myo16 siRNA + netrin. Nonparametric ANOVA with Tukey's post-hoc correction was performed on all data sets. \*, *P* < 0.05, \*\*\*, *P* < 0.005). (G) Model of TRIM-dependent regulation of axon branching in response to netrin. In the absence of netrin, TRIM9 reduces VASP and Myo16 function. In the presence of netrin-1, TRIM67 either directly promotes VASP and Myo16 in turn, along with LPPR3 and LPPR4, may locally promote increased Pl(3,4,5)P<sub>3</sub> levels in the plasma membrane.

#### Plasmids, antibodies, and reagents

Plasmids encoding Myc-TRIM9 full-length, Myc-TRIM67 fulllength, Myc-TRIM9∆RING, Myc-TRIM67∆RING, Myc-TRIM67∆CC, Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ Cos, Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ FN3, Myc-TRIM67 $\Delta$ Cos, and Myc-TRIM67∆SPRY constructs and tagRFP-tagged TRIM67 construct were previously described (Winkle et al., 2014; Boyer et al., 2018, 2020). The pDOWN Gateway entry vectors for expressing Myc-BirA\*, Myc-BirA\*TRIM9ARING or Myc-BirA\*TRIM67ARING were constructed by VectorBuilder. HSV vectors for the BirA\* constructs were generated by Rachael Neve, MIT Proteomics Core (currently at Gene Technology Core-Massachusetts General Hospital). The following plasmids were acquired: pDEST307-FLAG-PRG-1(LPPR4) (Herbert Geller, National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, National Institutes of Health [NIH]; PRG-1 was PCR amplified and recloned into an eGFP vector, eGFP-PRG-1), pML2 (EGFP-N1)-hCoro1A (James Bear, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), pEGFP-Myo16 (Anand Srivastava, Greenwood Genetic Center Foundation), VCP(wt)-EGFP (https://www.addgene.org/23971/, originally deposited by Nico Dantuma), Sipa111-HA (SPAR-HA) (Daniel Pak, Georgetown University), pEGFP-C3-Sec3 (GFP-ExoC1) (https://www.addgene.org/53755/, originally deposited by Channing Der), GFP-Kif1a (Juan Bonafacino, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH), GRIP1b-EGFP (Rick Huganir, Johns Hopkins University), pcDNA3.1-HA-14-3-3ɛ(Ywhae) (https://www.addgene.org/48797/, originally deposited by Huda Zhogbi), pCMV-6Myc-hMID1 (Timothy Cox, University of Washington), pEGFP-C1 MAP1B-GFP (Philips Gordon-Week, King's College London), and GFP-hRas CAAX (Richard Cheney, University of North Carolina). Antibodies included goat polyclonal against DCC (Santa Cruz); rabbit polyclonal against VASP (Santa Cruz); mouse monoclonal against c-Myc (9E10); mouse monoclonal against mouse β-III-tubulin (Biolegend); mouse monoclonal against HA (12CA5) (Patrick Brennwald, University of North Carolina); rabbit polyclonal against Myo16 (Richard Cameron, Augusta University); rabbit polyclonal against Myo16 (Proteintech; 25104-1-AP); fluorescent secondary antibodies. Other fluorescently labeled reagents included streptavidin and phalloidin labeled with Alexa Fluor 561. Recombinant chicken myc-netrin-1 was concentrated from HEK293 cells (Serafini et al., 1996; Lebrand et al., 2004).

#### BioID , affinity purification, and peptide preparation

The negative control Myc-BirA\* and Myc-BirA\*TRIM9ΔRING (amino acids 132–710) or Myc-BirA\*TRIM67ΔRING (amino acids 164–783) constructs were cloned into HSV vectors using Gateway Cloning (VectorBuilder and Rachael Neve, MIT Viral Vector Core). These vectors were packaged into Short Term HSV and driven under a IE 4/5 promoter. GFP expression is also driven in tandem downstream of a mCMV promoter. The two promoters are equivalent in the timing of expression and strength. GFP signal serves as a good indicator of transduction efficiency and timing of expression.

E15.5 cortical neurons from wild-type and *Trim9<sup>-/-</sup>* or *Trim67<sup>-/-</sup>* E15.5 litters were dissociated and plated on poly-D-lysine (PDL) (Sigma)-coated tissue culture dishes. Approximately 40 h postplating, neurons were infected with HSV (multiplicity of infection, MOI = 1.0) carrying either the negative control Myc-BirA\*, Myc-BirA\*TRIM9 $\Delta$ RING, or Myc-BirA\*TRIM67 $\Delta$ RING. Six hours postinfection, cultures were supplemented with 50  $\mu$ M biotin for 24 h. After incubation, cells were lysed using RIPA buffer (150 mM NaCl, 25 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 0.1% SDS, 1.0% NP-40, 0.25% deoxycholic acid, 2 mM EDTA, 10% glycerol, protease and phosphatase inhibitors). Lysates were treated with 0.5 ml benzonase/ml lysate with

end-to-end rotation for 1 h at 4°C. Lysates were cleared by centrifugation, 16,000 × g for 30 min at 4°C. Biotinylated proteins were enriched using streptavidin-conjugated Sepharose beads (GE Healthcare Life Sciences). Beads were washed once with RIPA buffer, twice consecutively with TAP lysis buffer (50 mM HEPES [pH 8.0], 10% glycerol, 150 mM NaCl, 2 mM EDTA, and 0.1% NP-40), and three times consecutively with 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate. Enriched proteins were digested with 2.5 µg trypsin at 37°C for 16 h. Peptides were eluted using the *Rapi*GEST SF Surfactant protocol (Waters). Eluted peptides were desalted using C18 columns followed by an ethyl acetate cleanup. Peptides were then stored at -20°C until analysis by mass spectrometry.

#### Mass spectrometry and data analysis

Reverse-phase nano-high-performance liquid chromatography (nano-HPLC) coupled with a nanoACQUITY ultraperformance liguid chromatography (UPLC) system (Waters Corporation, Milford, MA) was used to separate trypsinized peptides. Trapping and separation of peptides were performed in a 2 cm column (Pepmap 100; 3-m particle size and 100-Å pore size) and a 25-cm EASYspray analytical column (75-m inside diameter [i.d.], 2.0-m C18 particle size, and 100-Å pore size) at 300 nl/min and 35°C, respectively. Analysis of a 150-min gradient of 2–25% buffer B (0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile) was performed on an Orbitrap Fusion Lumos mass spectrometer (Thermo Scientific). The ion source was operated at 2.4 kV, and the ion transfer tube was set to 300°C. Full MS scans (350-2000 m/z) were analyzed in the Orbitrap at a resolution of 120,000 and 1e6 AGC target. The MS2 spectra were collected using a 1.6 m/z isolation width and were analyzed by either the Orbitrap or the linear ion trap, depending on peak charge and intensity using a 3 s TopSpeed CHOPIN method. Orbitrap MS2 scans were acquired at 7500 resolution, with a 5e4 automatic gain control (AGC) and 22 ms maximum injection time after higher-energy collisional dissociation fragmentation with a normalized energy of 30%. Rapid linear ion trap MS2 scans were acquired using a 4e3 AGC, 250 ms maximum injection time after collision-induced dissociation 30 fragmentation. Precursor ions were chosen based on intensity thresholds (>1e3) from the full scan as well as on charge states (2-7) with a 30-s dynamic exclusion window. Polysiloxane 371.10124 was used as the lock mass.

For the data analysis all raw mass spectrometry data were searched using MaxQuant version 1.5.7.4. Search parameters were as follows: UniProtKB/Swiss-Prot mouse canonical sequence database (downloaded 1 February 2017), static carbamidomethyl cysteine modification, specific trypsin digestion with up to two missed cleavages, variable protein N-terminal acetylation and methionine oxidation, match between runs, and label-free quantification (LFQ) with a minimum ratio count of 2. The mass spectrometry proteomics data have been deposited to the ProteomeXchange Consortium via the PRIDE (Perez-Riverol et al., 2019) partner repository with the data set identifier PXD021758. To rank candidate protein-protein interactions by likelihood of interaction, LFQ values for proteins identified in control and experimental conditions were input into SAINTg (version 0.0.4). Interactions were sorted by SAINT's interaction probability, and a FDR threshold was assigned to each of the identified proteins.

#### Data representation and GO analysis

Cytoscape \_3.7 open source bioinformatics interaction visualization software was used to visualize potential interaction candidates using a Prefuse Force Directed Layout in which the source node (TRIM9, TRIM67, or both) appears in the center of the network. GO

enrichment analysis was performed using the ClueGo application available for download in Cytoscape\_3.7.

#### Transfection of cortical neurons and HEK293 cells

For transfection of plasmids and siRNA, dissociated cortical neurons were resuspended in Lonza Nucleofector solution (VPG-1001) and electroporated with an Amaxa Nucleofector according to the manufacturer's protocol. HEK293 cells were transfected using Polyplus jetPRIME reagent or Lipofectamine 2000 as per the manufacturer's protocol.

#### **Co-IP** assays

For co-IP assays HEK293 cells were transfected with plasmids expressing tagged versions of the proteins-of-interest and Myc- or GFP-tagged TRIM9 or TRIM67 full-length or  $\Delta$ RING constructs or Myc-tagged TRIM67 domain deletion constructs. Sixteen to eighteen hours posttransfection the cells were lysed using the immunoprecipitation (IP) buffer (10% glycerol, 1% NP-40, 50 mM Tris, pH 7.5, 200 mM NaCl, 2 mM  $\mathrm{MgCl}_2$  and protease and phosphatase inhibitors). Cells were scraped from the dish and transferred into tubes and then centrifuged at  $18,400 \times g$  for 10 min. Approximately 500–1000 µg of protein per sample was used per co-IP. Myc-tagged proteins were enriched using anti-Myc (9E10) antibody. Antibody was incubated overnight with the lysate, following which Protein Acoupled agarose beads were added to the lysate-antibody mix. After 2 h of incubation the beads were precipitated, washed twice with IP buffer, and then boiled with 2× sample buffer. GFP-Trap beads (Chromotek) were used to enrich GFP-tagged proteins. The beads were incubated with the lysate for 1 h. The beads were then precipitated, washed twice with IP buffer, and then boiled with  $2\times$ sample buffer.

#### Ubiquitination assay

Wild-type, TRIM9-/-;TRIM67+/+, and TRIM9+/+;TRIM67-/- HEK cells were transfected with HA-Ub and GFP-Myo16, and in some cases Myc or Myc-TRIM67, using Lipofectamine 2000 and cultured for 24 h. These cells were treated with 10  $\mu M$  MG132 for 4 h. The cells were then lysed in IP buffer (20 mM Tris-Cl, 250 mM NaCl, 3 mM EDTA, 3 mM EGTA (ethylene glycol-bis( $\beta$ -aminoethyl ether)-N,N,N',N'tetraacetic acid), 0.5% NP-40, 1% SDS, 2 mM dithiothreitol, 5 mM NEM (N-ethylmaleimide), 3 mM iodoacetamide, protease and phosphatase inhibitors, pH = 7.3-7.4). For 5–6 million cells 270 µl of ubiguitin IP buffer was added and incubated on ice for 10 min. Cells were removed from the dish and transferred into tubes. Phosphate-buffered saline (PBS; 30 µl of 1×) was added and gently vortexed. Samples were boiled immediately for 20 min, until clear, and then centrifuged at  $18,400 \times g$  for 10 min. The boiled samples were diluted using IP buffer without SDS to reduce the SDS concentration to 0.1%. Immunoprecipitations were performed under conditions in which only covalent interactions were preserved with anti-GFP (mouse) antibody overnight at 4°C, following which Protein A agarose beads (Santa Cruz) were used to precipitate the antibodybound complex.

#### Immunoblotting

The immunoprecipitated proteins from co-IP assays or ubiquitination assays or endogenous neuronal lysates were separated on reducing polyacrylamide gels and transferred to nitrocellulose membrane using standard procedures. The blots were probed with tag-specific or protein-specific primary antibodies followed by species-specific far-red conjugated secondary antibodies (Licor). Signal was detected using an Odyssey Imager (Licor). Western blots were analyzed using Li-Cor Image Studio Lite. Total fluorescence of labeled bands representing relative protein was measured. For all Western blot comparisons, the ratios of log transformed relative intensities (indicated for each blot) were analyzed using appropriate statistical tests as indicated in the corresponding figure legends.

#### Immunofluorescence

Neurons fixed with 4% PFA in PHEM buffer were permeabilized for 10 min in 0.1% Triton X-100. Permeabilized cells were blocked for 30 min in 10% donkey serum and stained with the indicated primary antibodies for 1 h at room temperature (RT). The primary antibodies were then washed off (4  $\times$  5 min washes in 1 $\times$  PBS), following which species-appropriate fluorescently labeled secondary antibodies or fluorescently labeled phalloidin were added and allowed to incubate for 1 h at RT. After the secondary antibodies/phalloidin was washed off, cells were mounted in a Tris/glycerol/*n*-propyl-gallate-based mounting medium and stored at 4°C till they were ready to be imaged.

#### **Colocalization experiments**

GFP-tagged Myo16 and tagRFP-TRIM67 constructs were expressed in *Trim67<sup>-/-</sup>* dissociated cortical neurons. Colocalization was observed using total internal reflection fluorescence (TIRF) microscopy. For live-cell TIRF and time-lapse imaging, cells were maintained at 37°C, 5% CO<sub>2</sub>, and humidity using a stage top incubator (Tokai Hit).

#### Microscopy and image acquisition

All immunofluorescence and live-cell images were collected on an Olympus IX81-ZDC2 inverted microscope. The following objective lenses were utilized: a UPLFLN 40×/1.39-NA differential interference contrast (DIC) objective (Olympus), UAPON 100×/1.49-NA DIC TIRF objective (Olympus). The microscope is equipped with an automated XYZ stage (Prior) and an Andor iXonelectron multiplying charge-coupled device. Cells for live imaging were maintained at 37°C and 5% CO<sub>2</sub> using a TokaiHit on-stage cell incubator. Images were acquired using Metamorph acquisition software. Image analysis was performed in Fiji. Axon branches were defined as extensions off the primary axon (more than two times longer than other neurites) that were  $\geq$ 20  $\mu$ m in length. Pearson's correlation of colocalization between GFP-tagged Myo16 or LPPR4 and tagRFP-tagged TRIM67 constructs was performed using the Colocalization Test plug-in for ImageJ with Fay randomization.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank Vong Thoon, Caroline Monkiewicz, Carey Hanlin, Janee Cadlett-Jete, and Natalia Riddick for mouse colony management. We thank Emily Cousins for help with troubleshooting the BioID approach and sample submission for mass spectrometric analysis. This work was supported by National Institutes of Health Grants R21MH108970 and R35GM135160 (S.L.G.).

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