Structural study of epigenetic regulation

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Heterochromatin vs Euchromatin

Heterochromatin "Silent"

Interphase chromatin

Chromosome

Euchromatin "Active"

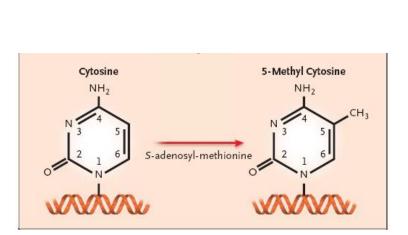
Euchromatin

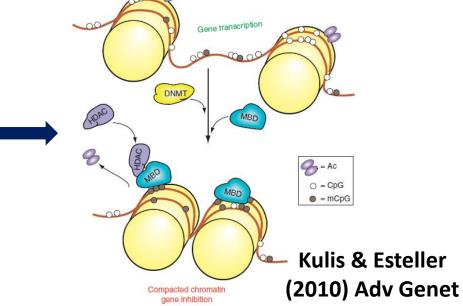
- Low DNA density
- ☐ Hyper-acetylation
- **☐** H3K4me3, H3K36me3
- ☐ Low DNA methylation

Heterochromatin

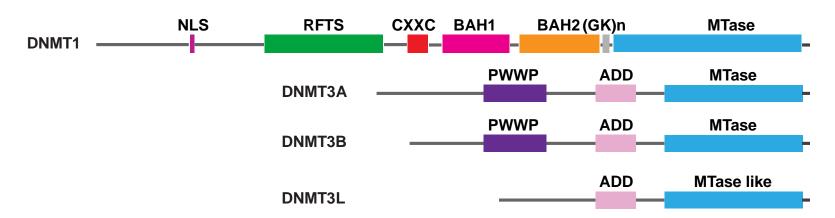
Nucleus

- ☐ High DNA density
- ☐ Hypo-acetylation
- ☐ H3K9me3, H4K20me3, HP1
- ☐ High DNA methylation

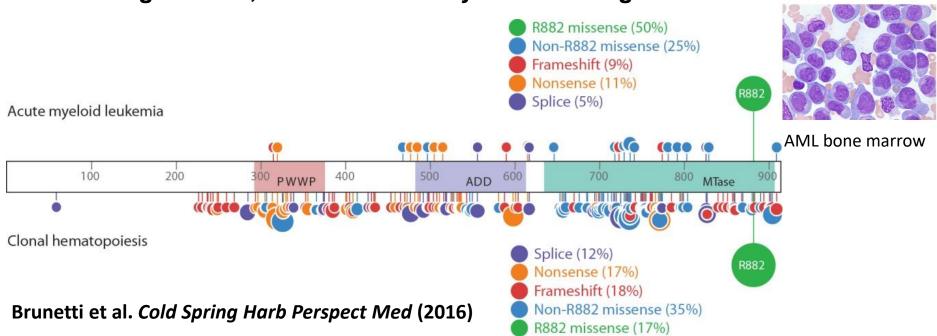




Mammalian DNA methyltransferases (DNMTs)



Dysregulation of DNMTs have been linked to a variety of human diseases, including cancers, immunodeficiency and neurological disorder



Mechanistic study of DNA/histone methylation by X-ray crystallography



Histone methylation





R35GM119721

BAHCC1-H3K27me3 TNRC18-H3K9me3

Fan et al. Nat Genet. (2020) Zhao et al. *Nature* (2023)

Maintenance DNA methylation



DNMT1-CpG

Song et al. Science. (2011)



DNMT1-mCpG

Song et al. Science. (2012)



Apo DNMT1

Zhang et al. JMB. (2015)



DNMT1-H3K9me3/H3ub

Ren et al. PNAS (2020)



DNMT1-H4K20me3

Ren et al. Nat Commun (2021)



ZMET2-DNA

Fang et al. Nat Commun (2022)

De novo DNA methylation



3A-3L-DNA Zhang et al.

3B-3L-DNA Gao et al. Nat *Nature* (2018) Commun (2020)



3AR882H-3L-DNA Anteneh et al. Nat Commun (2020)



3B Polymer Gao et al. Nat Commun (2022)



3AR882H Lu et al. Nat Commun (2024)

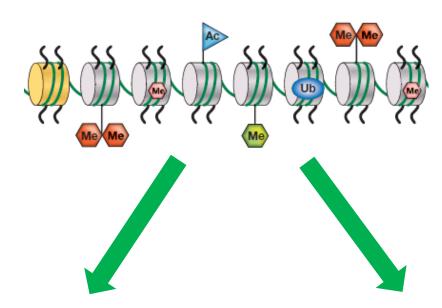


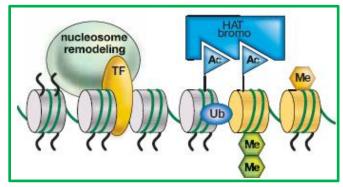
3C-3L Khudaverdyan et al. (2024)

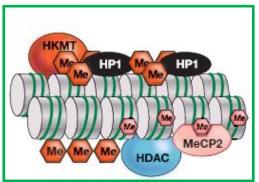


Fang et al. Sci Adv (2021)

Structural study of epigenetic regulation at nucleosome level







Actively transcribed region (Euchromatin)

Transcription repressed region (Heterochromatin)

Cryo-EM structural study of epigenetic regulation at UC Riverside

Opportunities

- In vitro reconstitution of epigenetically modified nucleosome has been well established
- Conformational heterogeneity of epigenetic complexes
- > Low sample yield

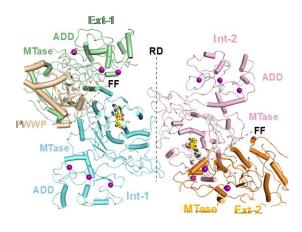
Challenges

- The EM facility at UC Riverside lacks a capacity for cryo-EM data collection
- > Limited access to the cryo-EM facilities of local institutes

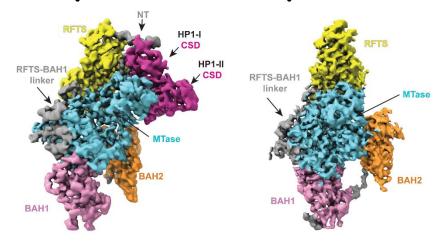


Talos120

Published cryo-EM structural work from the Song lab in collaboration with National Cryo-EM Facility (NCEF)



DNMT3B homo-oligomeric assembly Lu et al. *Nucleic Acids Rres* (2023)

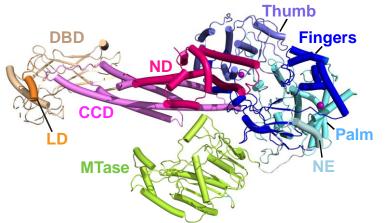


Heterochromatin regulation of DNA methyltransferase DIM2, homologue of human DNMT1 Shao et al. *Nat Commun.* (2024)

Overexpression of DNMT3B and DNMT1 have been associated with cancers



NCEF team

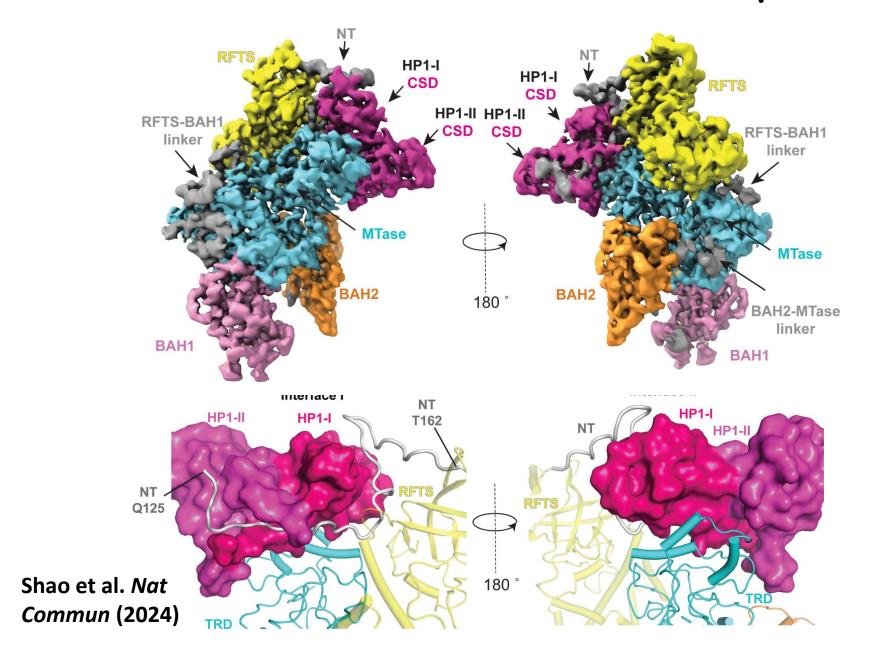


More to come!

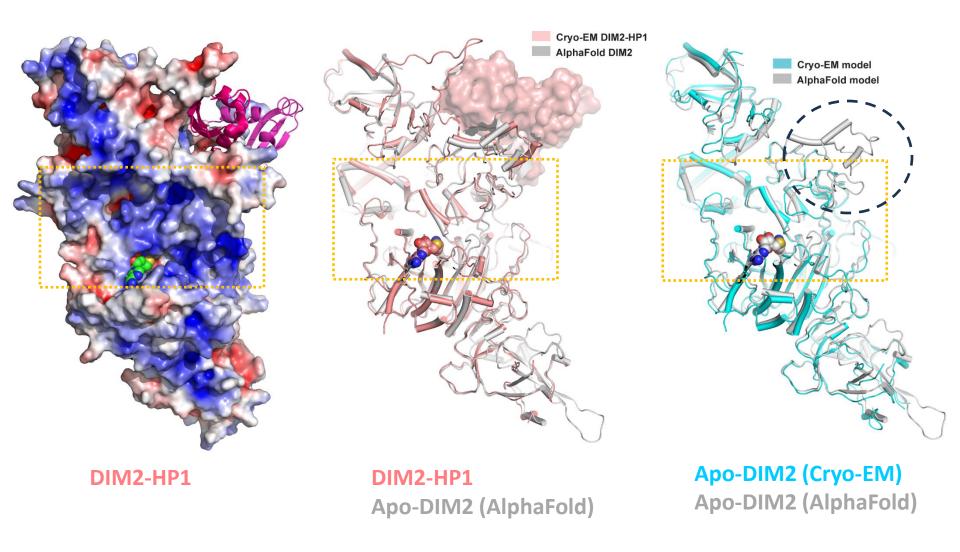
DENV2 NS5 – hSTAT2 complex Biswal et al. *Commun. Biol* (2024)

hSTAT2 regulates antitumor immunity

Structure of the DIM2 - HP1 complex

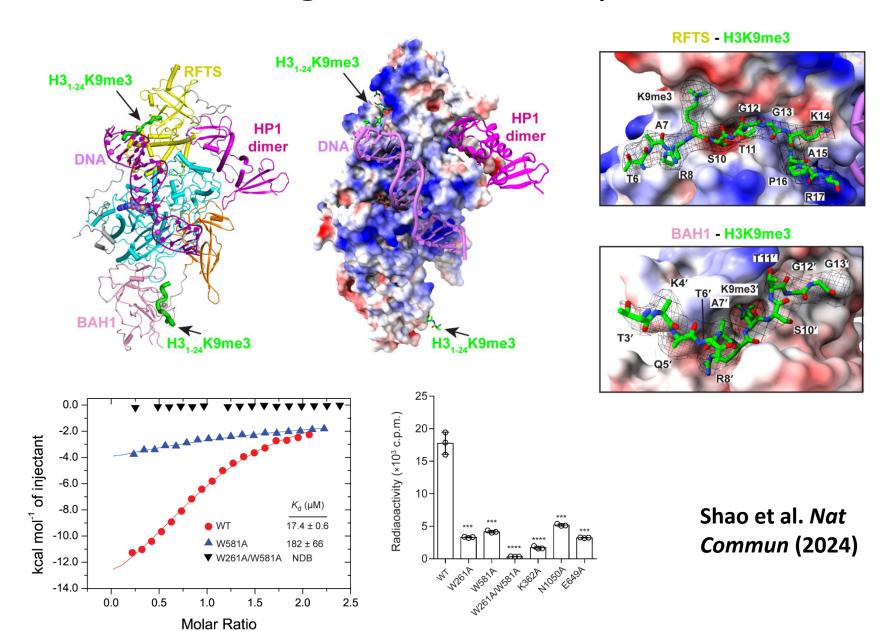


Functional regulation of DIM2 by HP1

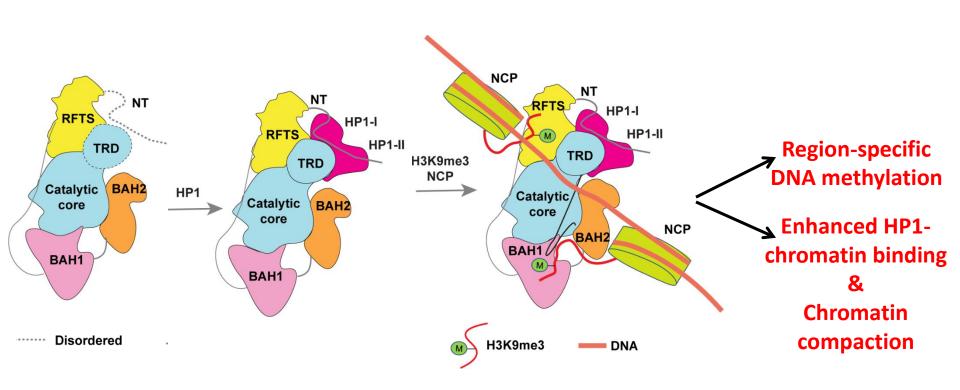


Shao et al. Nat Commun (2024)

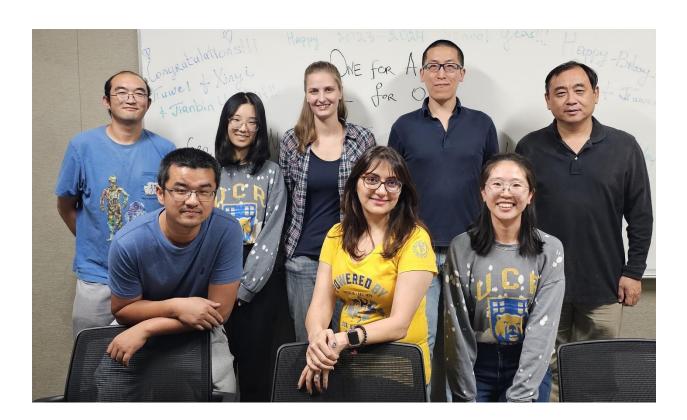
Allosteric regulation DIM2 by H3K9me3



Multi-layered heterochromatin interaction as a switch for DIM2-mediated DNA methylation



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NCEF Team!