# Chicken galectin-1A and -8 constitute a regulatory network that mediates the earliest steps of avian limb skeletal morphogenesis

Presented in the Embryo Physics Course <u>http://www.embryophysics.org</u> April 14, 2010

By

Ramray Bhat Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy, New York Medical College ramraybhat@yahoo.com



Chicken galectin-1A and -8 constitute a regulatory network that mediates the earliest steps of avian limb skeletal morphogenesis

**Ramray Bhat** 

Ph.D. Candidate Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy New York Medical College Pattern formation of the limb skeleton has a similar time course and spatial scale *in vivo* and *in vitro* 



Christley et al., PLoS Comput. Biol, 2007

Limb cartilage patterning results from interplay between activators and inhibitors of precartilage condensation



Based on Hentschel et al., *Proc. R. Soc. B*, 2004; Newman & Bhat, *Birth Defects Res, Embryo Today*, 2007

#### Mesenchymal condensation morphogenesis



Forgacs & Newman, Biological Physics of the Developing Embryo, 2005

Cell-cell adhesion:

NCAM (Widelitz et al., 1993) N-cadherin (Oberlander and Tuan, 1994) **Cell-ECM** interaction:

Fibronectin (Frenz et al., 1989) Tenascin (Mackie et al., 1987)



## •Galectins: most ubiquitous class of lectins

• Galectins are present in all metazoans and in plants, fungi and some bacteria

• They have specific binding affinity towards β-galactosecontaining glycans and specific proteins

• They are trafficked to the extracellular milieu via the unconventional secretion pathway Are galectins expressed within condensing mesenchymal cells?

#### Galectin expression in vitro



Temporal profile of CG-8 expression in vitro



### Galectin protein expression in 2 day micromass cultures



Red: CG-1A Green: Peanut agglutinin Blue: DAPI

#### Galectin expression in vivo



4 day leg section: CG-1A staining prospective stylopod (\*)



5 day leg section: CG-1A stains prospective zeugopod (z) and stylopod perichondrium (s)

These results also hold for CG-8

#### Galectin expression in vivo





Staining within digit crescents strong and extracellular



Staining strong in zeugopod elements and weak between



Staining sparse within inter-digit and interstitial mesenchyme

Do galectins mediate condensation formation and patterning?

#### Treatment of cultures with exogenous CG-1A



day 2 untreated control



**5 μg/ml** CG-1A [increase in condensation number, decrease in size]



10% FBS



**25 µg/ml** CG-1A [fusion of all condensations]

Staining for condensation marker PNA

#### Treatment of chick embryonic wings with exogenous CG-1A

Injection in interdigital mesenchyme

Control wing



Ectopic digit primordium

Injection in digital mesenchyme



Control wing



Fusion of phalanges and metacarpals

### Treatment of cultures with exogenous CG-8





Day 2 control

20 µg/ml CG-8 [decrease in condensation number decrease in condensation size]

Staining for condensation marker PNA

#### Treatment of chick embryonic wings with exogenous CG-8



#### Effect of galectin inhibition in vitro

Effect on condensation number





Control 2d



anti-CG-1A antibody



anti-CG-8 antibody

Staining with DAPI under low magnification

#### Effect of galectin inhibition in vitro







Control 2d



anti-CG-1A antibody



anti-CG-8 antibody

Staining with DAPI under low magnification

#### Effect of galectin inhibition in vitro





Control 2d



anti-CG-1A antibody



anti-CG-8 antibody

Staining with DAPI under low magnification

#### **Condensation patterning dynamics**



more condensations less inter-condensation spacing CG-8 inhibition phenotype opposite CG-8 addition phenotype less condensations

more inter-condensation spacing

#### **Condensation patterning dynamics**



CG-1A inhibition phenotype ← similar → CG-8 addition phenotype less condensations less condensations more inter-condensation spacing more inter-condensation spacing CG-1A and CG-8 gene expression loop



Interaction feedbacks between CG-1A and CG-8



#### www.drqian.org



Aggregometry

#### CG-1A directly aggregates 5-day leg cells



CG-1A causes aggregation of leg cells within 2 mins



#### CG-8 inhibits the ability of CG-1A to aggregate cells



Apical ectodermal ridge (AER) and dorsal and ventral limb ectoderm and are sources of FGF



Hinchliffe & Johnson, 1980

#### Ectodermal FGF-8 regulates gene expression of CG-1A, -8



interaction between FGF8 and galectins



#### Galectin-based mechanism of limb patterning



#### Galectin-based mediation of precartilage condensation



#### Acknowledgments

New York Medical College

Stuart Newman Ken Lerea Joseph Etlinger Peng Hong Esther Sabban

<u>University of Munich</u> Hans-Joachim Gabius

<u>SUNY Stony Brook</u> John Reinitz

#### CG-1A and CG-8 ligands have different spatial patterns



CG-1A ligand staining on day 3 (16x)



CG-8 ligand staining on day 3 (16x)

Ligand staining assayed by their binding respectively to exogenously added biotinylated galectin

<u>Negative control</u>: Staining inhibition by co-incubating galectin with lactose and not with mannose

#### CG-1A upregulates its own ligand in vitro



CG-1A ligand staining on day 3 (16x)



CG-1A ligand staining Upon addition of CG-1A 10 µg/ml (16x)

#### Galectin-based mechanism of limb patterning



#### Interactions for agent based modeling



CG-1A lig + CG-1A = cell-cell adhesion. expression of CG-8, CG-1A ligand CG-8 lig + CG-8 = no cell-cell adhesion, expression of CG-1A CG-1A lig + CG-8 = no cell-cell adhesion, no expression/inhibition(?) of CG-1A



CG-1A ligand

DPM	molecules	physics	evo-devo role	effect
ADH	cadherins; <mark>galectins</mark>	adhesion	multicellularity	
LAT	Notch	lateral inhibition	coexistence of alternative cell states	
DAD	cadherins	differential adhesion	phase separation; tissue multilayering	₩ →
POLa	Wnt	cell surface anisotropy	topological change; interior cavities	
POLp	Wnt	cell shape anisotropy	tissue elongation	
ECM	chitin; collagen; <mark>galectins</mark>	stiffness; dispersal	tissue solidification; elasticity; EMT	- <b>E</b>
OSC	Wnt + Notch	synchrony of oscillation	morphogenetic fields; segmentation	
MOR	TGF-β; Hh; FGF; <mark>galectins</mark>	diffusion	pattern formation	
TUR	MOR + Wnt + Notch	dissipative structure	segmentation; periodic patterning	

#### Newman and Bhat, Phys. Biol.; 2008