

Supervillin binding to myosin II and synergism with anillin are required for cytokinesis

Tara C. Smith^a, Peter C. Fridy^b, Yinyin Li^c, Shruti Basil^{a,*}, Sneha Arjun^{a,†}, Ryan M. Friesen^{a,‡}, John Leszyk^d, Brian T. Chait^c, Michael P. Rout^b, and Elizabeth J. Luna^a

^aProgram in Cell and Developmental Dynamics, Department of Cell and Developmental Biology, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA 01655; ^bLaboratory of Cellular and Structural Biology and ^cLaboratory of Mass Spectrometry and Gaseous Ion Chemistry, Rockefeller University, New York, NY 10065; ^dProteomics and Mass Spectrometry Facility, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

ABSTRACT Cytokinesis, the process by which cytoplasm is apportioned between dividing daughter cells, requires coordination of myosin II function, membrane trafficking, and central spindle organization. Most known regulators act during late cytokinesis; a few, including the myosin II-binding proteins anillin and supervillin, act earlier. Anillin's role in scaffolding the membrane cortex with the central spindle is well established, but the mechanism of supervillin action is relatively uncharacterized. We show here that two regions within supervillin affect cell division: residues 831–1281, which bind central spindle proteins, and residues 1–170, which bind the myosin II heavy chain (MHC) and the long form of myosin light-chain kinase. MHC binding is required to rescue supervillin deficiency, and mutagenesis of this site creates a dominant-negative phenotype. Supervillin concentrates activated and total myosin II at the furrow, and simultaneous knockdown of supervillin and anillin additively increases cell division failure. Knockdown of either protein causes mislocalization of the other, and endogenous anillin increases upon supervillin knockdown. Proteomic identification of interaction partners recovered using a high-affinity green fluorescent protein nanobody suggests that supervillin and anillin regulate the myosin II and actin cortical cytoskeletons through separate pathways. We conclude that supervillin and anillin play complementary roles during vertebrate cytokinesis.

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INTRODUCTION

Cytokinesis is a dynamic multistep process in which the plasma membrane, the actin- and myosin II-associated membrane cortex, and components of the microtubule-rich central spindle coordinate

the physical separation of a dividing cell into daughter cells (recently reviewed in Green *et al.*, 2012). As animal cells enter anaphase and the central spindle forms, it sends signals that recruit myosin II and actin to the cell equator (Werner *et al.*, 2007; Salbreux *et al.*, 2012). Ingression of the cleavage furrow requires continued myosin II activation at the cell equator and remodeling of the cortical actin cytoskeleton as the furrow narrows into an intracellular bridge with a midbody at its center by telophase (Wang, 2005; D'Avino, 2009). The cortex maintains a close association with the central spindle and midbody until abscission into daughter cells is complete at the end of cytokinesis (Frenette *et al.*, 2012; Green *et al.*, 2012). Successful cell division requires coordination of myosin activation, actin cytoskeletal proteins, and central spindle assembly with membrane trafficking to and from the furrow (Poirier *et al.*, 2012; Salbreux *et al.*, 2012; Schiel and Prekeris, 2013).

Genetic deletion or RNA interference (RNAi)-mediated knockdown of several membrane-associated, cytoskeletal proteins leads to division failure during early cytokinesis. These proteins include myosin II, citron kinase, epithelial cell transforming sequence 2 oncogene (ECT2), epithelial protein lost in neoplasm/LIM domain and actin

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Present addresses: *College of Osteopathic Medicine, University of New England, Biddeford, ME 04005; †Drexel University College of Medicine, Philadelphia, PA 19129; ‡Providence Alaska Medical Center, Anchorage, AK 99508.

Address correspondence to: Elizabeth J. Luna (Elizabeth.Luna@umassmed.edu).

Abbreviations used: AnilKD, anillin knockdown by specific double-stranded RNA; bSV, bovine supervillin; ECT2, epithelial cell transforming sequence 2 oncogene; EPLIN/LIMA1, epithelial protein lost in neoplasm/LIM domain and actin binding 1; hSV, human supervillin; L-MLCK, long isoform of myosin light-chain kinase; MHC, myosin II heavy chain; pMRLC, phosphorylated (activated) myosin regulatory light chain; PRC1, protein regulator of cytokinesis 1; SVKD, supervillin knockdown by specific double-stranded RNA.

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binding 1 (EPLIN/LIMA1), and two proteins that bind to both myosin II and F-actin: anillin and supervillin (Knecht and Loomis, 1987; Field and Alberts, 1995; Straight *et al.*, 2005; Zhao and Fang, 2005; Chalamalasetty *et al.*, 2006; Gruneberg *et al.*, 2006; Piekny and Glotzer, 2008; Chircop *et al.*, 2009; Smith *et al.*, 2010; Watanabe *et al.*, 2013). After RNAi-mediated depletion of either anillin or supervillin, furrows form and begin to ingress, but then the cells contract and bleb abnormally around their peripheries, with large movements of cytoplasm relative to the cleavage furrow (Straight *et al.*, 2005; Zhao and Fang, 2005; Smith *et al.*, 2010). Vertebrate supervillin and anillin both bind directly to the myosin II heavy chain (MHC) and can bind and bundle actin filaments (Field and Alberts, 1995; Chen *et al.*, 2003; Straight *et al.*, 2005). Anillin and supervillin also both interact with components of the central spindle (Piekny and Glotzer, 2008; Smith *et al.*, 2010; Frenette *et al.*, 2012). In addition, supervillin regulates cell proliferation through control of p53 levels (Fang and Luna, 2013) and contributes to cell motility, invasion, and rapid recycling of membrane vesicles (Crowley *et al.*, 2009; Fang *et al.*, 2010; Bhuwania *et al.*, 2012). These reports suggest overlapping roles for these proteins in regulation of myosin II and actin assembly at the membrane.

Because vertebrate anillin and supervillin both contain binding sites for F-actin, myosin II, and central spindle proteins, we hypothesized that these proteins might play complementary roles in regulating cortex organization relative to the central spindle during early cytokinesis. This hypothesis is consistent with the similarity in timing of cytokinesis failure after knockdown of either protein (Straight *et al.*, 2005; Zhao and Fang, 2005; Smith *et al.*, 2010). Supervillin homologues exist in worms and flies but lack N-terminal sequences corresponding to the myosin II- and actin-binding sites in vertebrate supervillins (Pestonjamas *et al.*, 1997; Pope *et al.*, 1998; Archer *et al.*, 2005). Thus, reports that loss of anillin from vertebrate cells results in a lower incidence of multinucleated cells than is observed after anillin depletion in *Caenorhabditis elegans* oocytes and *Drosophila* cells (Echard *et al.*, 2004; Maddox *et al.*, 2005; Straight *et al.*, 2005; Zhao and Fang, 2005) may be due to the absence of functionalities specific to vertebrate supervillin.

We further hypothesized that, like anillin (Straight *et al.*, 2005; Zhao and Fang, 2005; Hickson and O'Farrell, 2008; Piekny and Glotzer, 2008), supervillin might promote the localization of activated, phosphorylated myosin regulatory light chain (pMRLC) to the furrow, perhaps through its interactions with the long isoform of myosin light chain kinase (L-MLCK; Takizawa *et al.*, 2007; Bhuwania *et al.*, 2012). Mice lacking MLCK survive to birth, indicating that this protein is dispensable for embryonic cell divisions (Somlyo *et al.*, 2004), but inhibition of MLCK suggests synergy with other kinases during divisions leading to polyploid megakaryocytes (Avanzi *et al.*, 2012). L-MLCK localizes to the cleavage furrow in vertebrates (Poperechnaya *et al.*, 2000), and overexpression of the supervillin-binding L-MLCK N-terminus disrupts cytokinesis (Dulyaninova *et al.*, 2004). We therefore investigated whether supervillin and anillin cooperate during cell division and the role of supervillin and its ability to bind MHC and L-MLCK in this process. We used HeLa cells, in which p53 levels are kept low by papilloma virus proteins in a supervillin-independent pathway (Li *et al.*, 2004; Fang and Luna, 2013), to focus on the role of supervillin's MHC-binding activity during early cytokinesis and how supervillin coordinates with anillin to maintain alignment of the cortical cytoskeleton with the central spindle.

RESULTS

Supervillin regulates myosin II in cell division

We showed previously that the knockdown of supervillin in HeLa cells leads to a significant increase in the number of binucleated and

multinucleated cells (Smith *et al.*, 2010). We show here the rescue of that phenotype by expression of enhanced green fluorescent protein (EGFP)-tagged human supervillin (hSV; Figure 1, A–D). This EGFP-hSV message is susceptible to a double-stranded RNA (dsRNA) targeting the coding region of hSV (supervillin knockdown by specific double-stranded RNA-1 [SVKD-1]) but not to a 3'-untranslated region UTR (3'UTR)-targeted dsRNA (SVKD-2; Figure 1A, lanes 5 and 6). EGFP-hSV could not rescue the knockdown phenotype caused by SVKD-1 but reduced to control levels the numbers of binucleated/multinucleated cells generated by SVKD-2 (Figure 1B). Rescue also was observed, with expression levels of EGFP-hSV only twofold to threefold higher than that of endogenous protein in a stable HeLa cell line (Figure 1, C and D), but not by expression of EGFP-tagged bovine supervillin (EGFP-bSV; Figure 1, E and F). Subsequent to this work, we became aware that the EGFP-hSV construct in the stable cell line contains a point mutation (K923E). Nevertheless, both higher levels of wild-type EGFP-hSV (Figure 1, A and B) and near-endogenous levels of EGFP-hSV(K923E) (Figure 1, C and D) rescued the binucleated/multinucleated phenotype of supervillin-knockdown cells.

Two regions of supervillin, including the myosin II regulatory sequence, are important for normal cell division, whereas actin-binding sequences target supervillin to the furrow. Although full-length EGFP-bSV did not rescue the knockdown phenotype, its overexpression was not detectably harmful (Figure 1G). We therefore used a panel of existing EGFP-bSV deletion mutants to determine whether their overexpression would result in dominant-negative increases in binucleated/multinucleated cells in the presence of endogenous hSV (Figure 1G and Supplemental Figures S1 and S2). As compared with EGFP expression alone, cell division was not detectably affected by the expression of bSV-1–171-EGFP or EGFP-bSV-1010–1792. Expression of EGFP-bSV-1–830, which contains the myosin II regulatory sequence plus all three actin-binding sites, caused a small but significant decrease in the number of binucleated/multinucleated cells. By contrast, significant twofold or greater increases in the percentages of binucleated/multinucleated cells were seen upon expression of EGFP-bSV-171–1792, which lacks the myosin II/L-MLCK-binding sequence, and after expression of EGFP-bSV-831–1281, which contains a coiled-coil sequence and binding sites for the central-spindle protein KIF14 and other cell-cycle regulatory proteins (Wulfkühle *et al.*, 1999; Smith *et al.*, 2010; Figure 1G, red bars). Increases also were observed with other constructs but did not pass statistical testing. Consistent with dominant-negative effects on cell division, we also observed aberrant nuclear and cortical morphologies in cells expressing constructs that increased the numbers of binucleated/multinucleated cells (Supplemental Figure S2, q–t', y–b"). All constructs that contained the three F-actin-binding sequences within bSV-171–830 (Chen *et al.*, 2003) were concentrated at the furrow (Figure 1G and Supplemental Figure S2). These data suggest that although the myosin II/L-MLCK-interacting region within bSV-1–170 is not required to target supervillin to the furrow of dividing cells, its loss generates a dominant-negative phenotype (Figure 1G).

Supervillin is required for normal localization of total and activated myosin II at the equatorial cortex during cytokinesis (Figure 2). We previously reported that furrow ingression is disrupted after supervillin knockdown and that supervillin promotes myosin II activation at membranes in interphase cells by scaffolding MHC and L-MLCK (Takizawa *et al.*, 2007; Bhuwania *et al.*, 2012). We therefore explored whether supervillin knockdown would displace total or activated myosin II from the cleavage furrow during early cytokinesis (Figure 2), using antibodies against myosin IIA heavy chain

(Figure 2A), the major myosin II isoform in HeLa cells (Maupin *et al.*, 1994), and against phosphorylated Ser-19 in myosin II regulatory light chain (pMLRC; Figure 2B; Matsumura *et al.*, 1998). MHC appearance was indistinguishable from controls through anaphase I (unpublished data). However, compared with controls (Figure 2A, a–d, i–l), myosin II concentrations at the polar cortices increased in supervillin-knockdown cells starting in anaphase II (Figure 2A, e–h, arrowhead) and remained mislocalized through bridge formation (Figure 2A, m–p, arrowheads), resulting in significantly decreased ratios of equatorial-to-polar signals (Figure 2C, red vs. blue regions).

Of interest, the effects of supervillin knockdown on pMLRC localization (Figure 2, B and D) did not follow the same pattern as the effects on total myosin II. Compared to controls (Figure 2B, a–d, i–l), activated myosin II was mislocalized in supervillin-depleted cells in anaphase I (Figure 2B, e–h), regained the expected localization to the invaginating furrow in anaphase II and telophase (Figure 2D), and then became mislocalized again during bridge formation (Figure 2, B, m–p, D). These results suggest that supervillin is required to restrict both total and activated myosin II to the furrow during cell division but is not solely responsible for localizing activated myosin.

Identification of the separate myosin II- and L-MLCK-binding sites

Separate sequences within the supervillin N-terminus interact with myosin II and the L-MLCK N-terminus (Figure 3 and Supplemental Figures S3–S5). Our laboratory showed previously that the N-terminal 174 amino acids of bSV (bSV-1–174) associate with myosin IIB in stress fibers in COS7 cells and cause myosin II to contract into stable punctae containing bSV-1–174-EGFP, MHC, and L-MLCK (Takizawa *et al.*, 2007). We used this system as a first assay for the importance of three well-conserved sequences within bSV-1–174 (Figure 3A, black bars, and Supplemental Figures S3 and S4). As previously shown, cells expressing EGFP alone (Supplemental Figure S3, a–c) displayed normal stress fibers, whereas cells expressing bSV-1–174 tagged with EGFP on either terminus contained punctae of MHC and EGFP (Supplemental Figure S3, d–i). These hypercontractile punctae were eliminated by deletion of either the N-terminal 11 residues or C-terminal 47 amino acids of bSV-1–174 (Figure 3A and Supplemental Figure S3, j–x) and reduced in cells expressing bSV-93–174-EGFP (Supplemental Figure S3, y–a'). Point mutations made in the first two conserved regions had no detectable effect (Supplemental Figure S4, a–o), but charge-to-alanine replacements in the third conserved region (bSV-99–153) either reduced or eliminated the punctae (Supplemental Figure S4, p–x and y–a', respectively). Taken together, these results implicate the first and third of the three highly conserved sequences within bSV-1–174 in supervillin-induced myosin II hypercontractility (Figure 3A).

Our second approach to identifying interaction sites within bSV-1–174 was to sediment EGFP-tagged mutated bSV-1–174 proteins with glutathione *S*-transferase (GST) fusion proteins containing either the subfragment-2 domain of myosin IIA (GST–myo-S2; Figure 3, B–E) or the N-terminal six immunoglobulin (IgG)-like domains of the long isoform of myosin light-chain kinase (GST–L-MLCK; Supplemental Figure S5, A–D). Our laboratory previously showed that GST–bSV-1–174, but not GST alone, binds directly to myosin IIA and IIB S2 domains and to the L-MLCK N-terminus (Chen *et al.*, 2003; Takizawa *et al.*, 2007). In this assay, EGFP-tagged bSV-1–174 bound to each GST construct, as expected (Figure 3, A and B, lane 2, and Supplemental Figure S5A, lane 2). C-terminal deletion of bSV-128–174 (Figure 3, A, B, lanes 4 and 5, and C, lane 3) eliminated binding

to GST–myo-S2, but deletion of the first two conserved domains either maintained or enhanced binding (Figure 3, A and B, lanes 6 and 7), suggesting the importance of the third conserved region (bSV99–153) for MHC binding. Point mutagenesis of R107/Y108, R112/R113, R140/K141, and K148/R149 within bSV99–153 also eliminated binding to MHC (Figure 3, C, lanes 5–8, and D, lanes 6 and 7). Binding to GST–myo-S2 was also reduced for bSV-11–174 (Figure 3, A, B, lane 5, and C, lane 4), suggesting that the first conserved region contributes to the binding avidity. However, point mutations within the first two conserved domains did not detectably affect binding to GST–myo-S2 (Figure 3, D, lanes 3–5, and E, lanes 4 and 5).

Results from the GST–L-MLCK pull-down assays showed that the MHC-binding sequence is not required for the interaction with L-MLCK (Figure 3A and Supplemental Figure S5). EGFP–bSV-1–101, which lacks the MHC-binding domain, interacts with GST–L-MLCK (Supplemental Figure S5A, lane 4), and mutations in SV99–153 had no effect on the GST–L-MLCK interaction (Supplemental Figure S5, C, lane 5, and D, lane 6). Interaction with GST–L-MLCK is lost by further deletion of the second domain (EGFP–bSV-1–23; Supplemental Figure S5A, lane 3), but no mutations made in the first two conserved domains eliminated the interaction (Supplemental Figure S5, B, lane 3, C, lanes 3 and 4, and D, lane 4). We considered the possibility that myosin IIA might be acting as a bridge between GST–L-MLCK and bSV-1–174-EGFP in the pull-down assays, thereby masking the effectiveness of the point mutants. However, the GST-tagged L-MLCK bait lacks the MHC-binding site in the L-MLCK C-terminus, and endogenous MHC is absent from relevant bound fractions (Supplemental Figure S5E). These results show that our assay design precluded recovery of significant amounts of the ternary complex of bSV-1–174 with MHC and L-MLCK. They also show that the L-MLCK interaction site within the supervillin N-terminus is distinct from the binding site for MHC.

The sequences within supervillin investigated here are highly conserved among vertebrates (Figure 3F). The first conserved region within bSV-1–174 contributes to, but is not required for, binding to both MHC and L-MLCK. The second conserved region may be part of a larger site involved in L-MLCK binding. The first and third sequences are both required for supervillin-induced myosin II hypercontractility (Figure 3A, black bars, and Supplemental Figure S3). The third conserved domain also is essential for binding to MHC, with numerous point mutations (Figure 3F, brackets labeled M), supporting the results of deletion analyses. Because the R140A,K141A mutation effectively abolished both MHC binding and the generation of hypercontractile punctae in the COS7 experiments (Figure 3, A and C, and Supplemental Figure 4), we chose it for further experiments.

Myosin II binding is important for supervillin function during cell division

Supervillin proteins with point mutations at the MHC-binding site exhibit dominant-negative effects on cell division and are unable to rescue the supervillin-knockdown phenotype (Figure 4). To further test the requirement of the supervillin–myosin II interaction for cytokinesis, we transferred point mutations into full-length EGFP–bSV and repeated the assay for dominant-negative effects on cell division in the presence of endogenous supervillin, using EGFP alone and bSV-171–1792 as controls (Figure 4A). Point mutations in the first two conserved domains did not significantly affect the percentages of binucleate/multinucleate cells (Figure 4A; K4A, R6A, R9A, R10A and E36A, E37A). By contrast, the R140A,K141A mutation, which eliminated MHC binding *in vitro* and *in vivo* (Figure 3 and Supplemental Figure S4), was as effective as bSV-171–1792 at inducing a

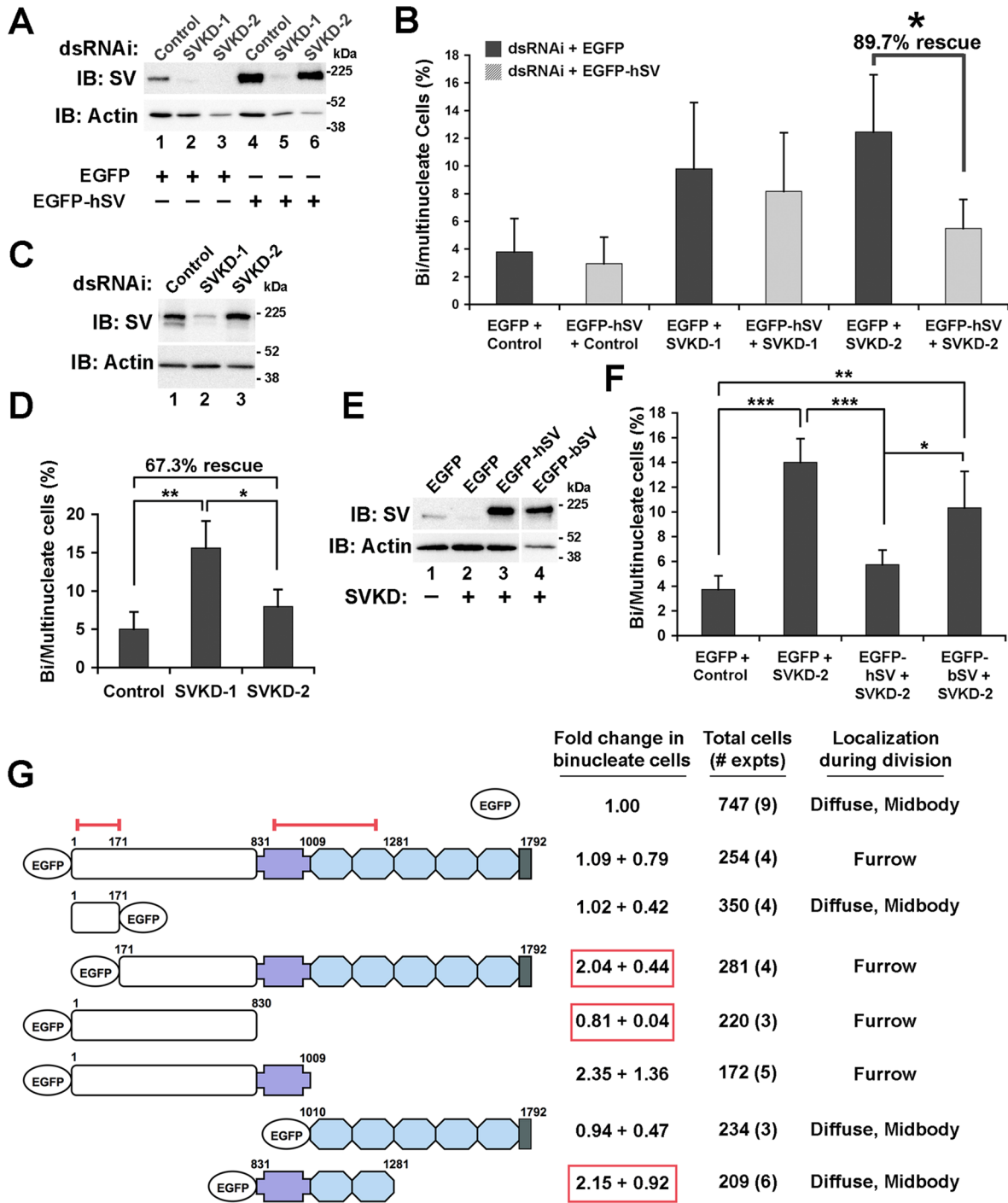


FIGURE 1: Overexpressed EGFP-hSV, but not EGFP-bSV, rescues the increase in binucleated/multinucleated cells caused by knockdown of supervillin; key roles for residues 1–171 and 831–1281 are suggested by dominant-negative effects of EGFP-bSV deletion proteins. (A) Immunoblots showing knockdown of endogenous supervillin and overexpression of EGFP-hSV; actin used as loading control. Lanes 1–3, EGFP with control (1), SVKD-1 (2), or SVKD-2 (3) dsRNAs; lanes 4–6, EGFP-hSV with control (4), SVKD-1 (5), or SVKD-2 (6) dsRNAs. (B) Quantification of binucleated/multinucleated HeLa cells simultaneously transfected with EGFP (black bars) or EGFP-hSV (gray bars) and dsRNAs, as indicated. EGFP-hSV is immune to the SVKD-2 dsRNA. Means \pm SD; $N = 3$; $*p = 0.0424$ (paired two-tailed t test). (C) Immunoblots and (D) quantification of binucleated/multinucleated HeLa cells stably expressing EGFP-hSV(K923E) after transfection with 20 nM dsRNAs, as indicated. Means \pm SD; $N = 4$; $*p = 0.0103$, $**p = 0.0025$ (paired two-tailed t test). (E) Immunoblots and (F) quantification of binucleated/multinucleated HeLa cells cotransfected with EGFP constructs and either control or SVKD-2 dsRNA, as indicated in E. Means \pm SD; $N = 4$, >50 cells counted per condition per experiment; $*p < 0.05$, $**p < 0.01$, $***p < 0.001$ (analysis of variance [ANOVA]). (G) Fold increase (dominant-negative effect) of binucleated/multinucleated HeLa cells after expression of the indicated EGFP-tagged bSV deletion mutants for 48 h (representative images in Supplemental Figure S1) and the localizations of these proteins during cell division (Supplemental Figure S2). Columns show means \pm SD, relative to EGFP-transfected cells;

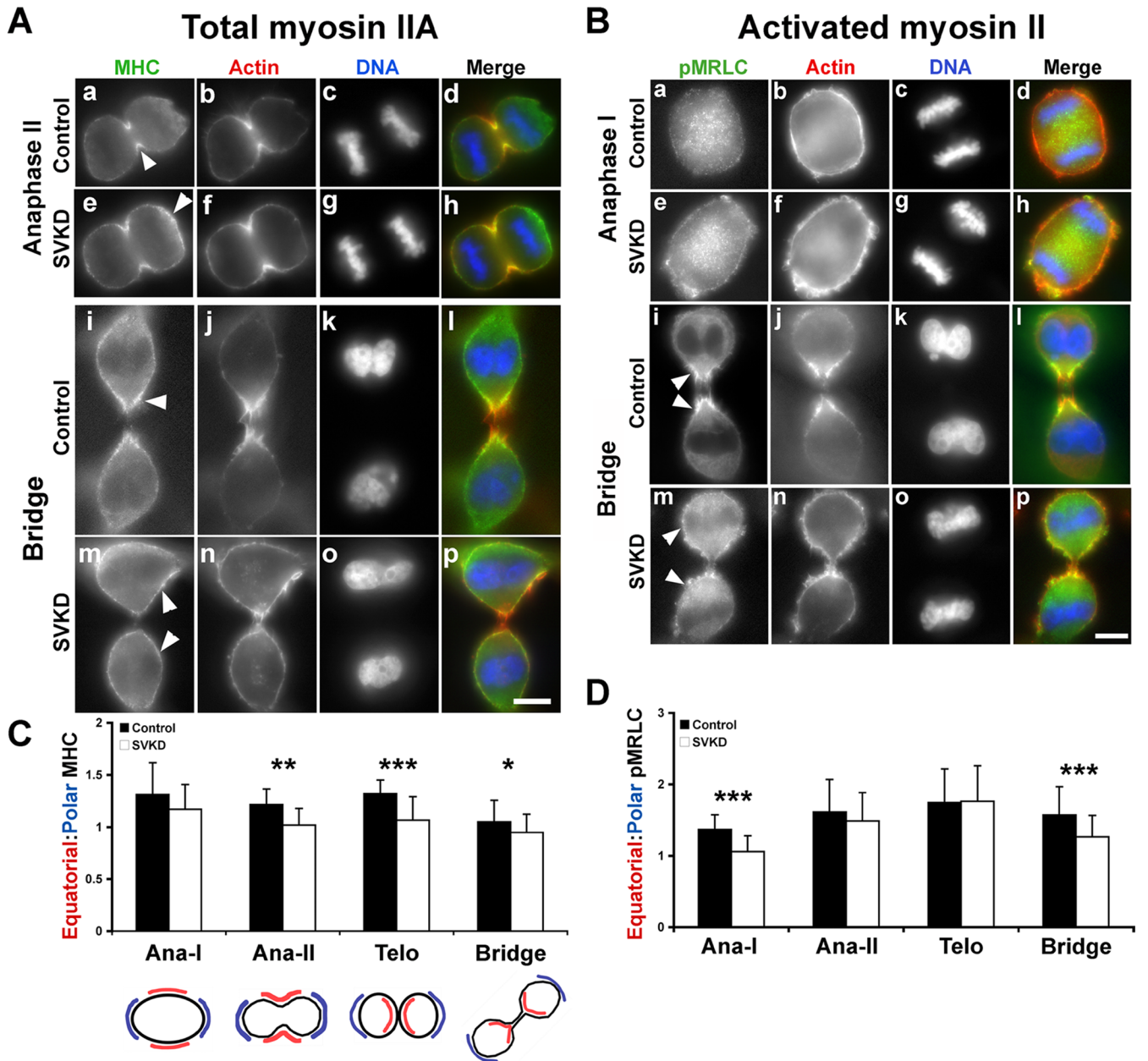


FIGURE 2: Supervillin is required for localization of myosin II at the cytokinetic furrow. (A, B) Immunofluorescence localizations of (A) total MHC and (B) regulatory myosin II light chain phosphorylated at Ser-19 (pMRLC, active myosin II) in synchronized HeLa cells transfected with control (a–d, i–l) or supervillin-specific (SVKD-2; e–h, m–p) dsRNA. MHC or pMRLC signal (a, e, i, m; green in merges); F-actin (b, f, j, n; red in merges), DNA (c, g, k, o; blue in merges) in dividing cells. White arrowheads, MHC and pMRLC localizations. Bars, 10 μ m. (C, D) Mean ratios of cortex-specific equatorial (red) to polar (blue) total (C) and activated myosin II (D) signals in cells at different stages; * $p = 0.0483$, ** $p = 0.0058$, *** $p \leq 0.0007$ (two-tailed t test). Black bars, control cells; white bars, SVKD-2 cells. Number of cells analyzed was as follows: (C) anaphase I ($N = 8$ control, 13 SVKD), anaphase II ($N = 12$ control, 11 SVKD), telophase ($N = 13$ control, 23 SVKD), and cytokinesis ($N = 29$ control, 30 SVKD), $N = 2$ experiments; and (D) anaphase I ($N = 15$ control, 13 SVKD), anaphase II ($N = 19$ control, 24 SVKD), telophase ($N = 13$ control, 30 SVKD), and cytokinesis ($N = 38$ control, 44 SVKD), $N = 5$ experiments.

total numbers of cells and experiments; and localizations of deletion proteins in dividing cells. Red boxes denote statistically significant effects on cell division ($p \leq 0.05$, two-tailed t test). Red brackets, regions implicated as important for cytokinesis, either when absent (bSV1–171) or overexpressed (bSV831–1281). Supervillin domains are shown as (white) the intrinsically disordered N-terminus (Fedechkin *et al.*, 2013), (purple) the central region with a predicted coiled-coil domain (Wulfkuhle *et al.*, 1999), (blue) five sequences with homology to gelsolin repeats (Pestonjamas *et al.*, 1997), and (gray) the C-terminus with structural similarity to the villin headpiece (Vardar *et al.*, 2002).

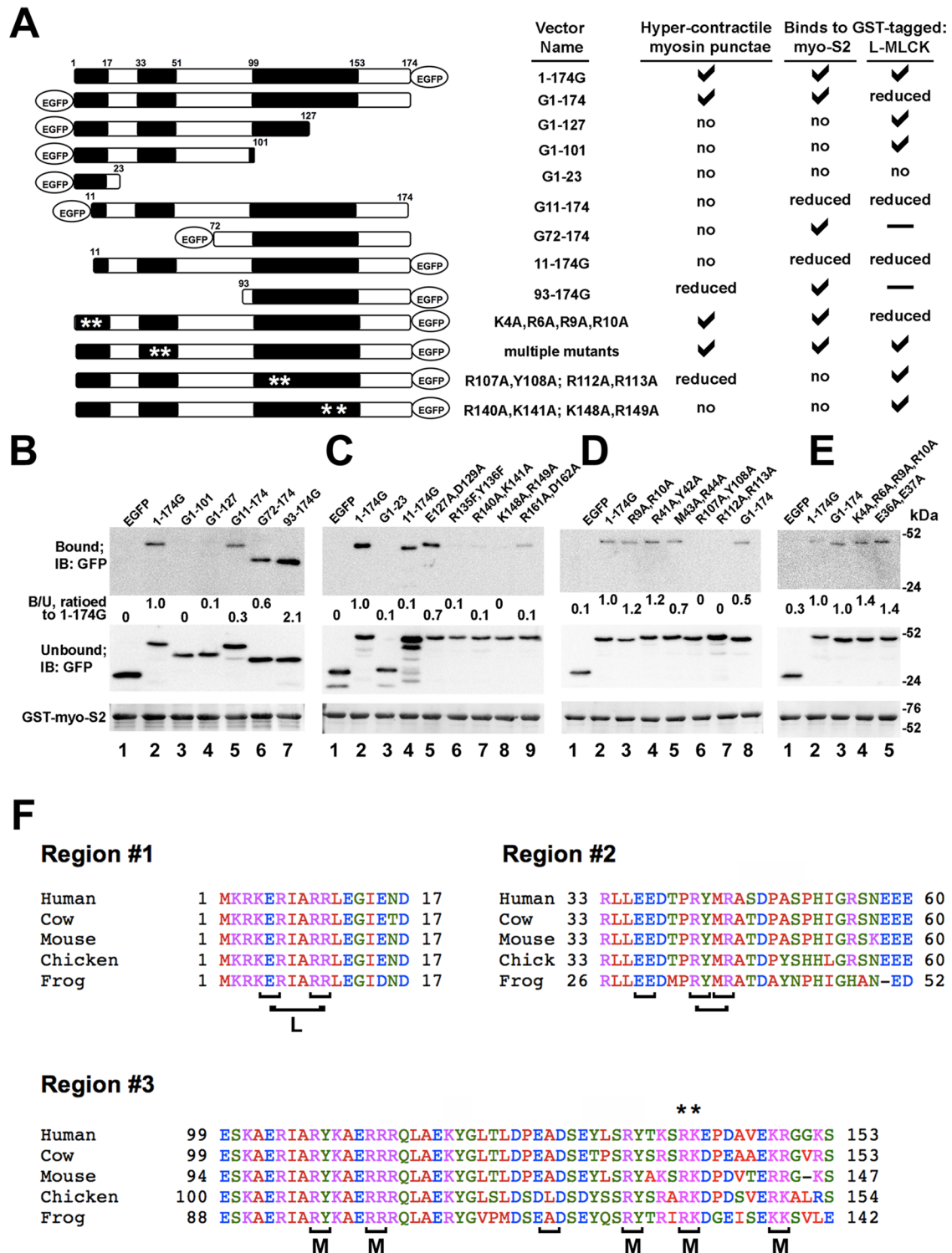


FIGURE 3: Deletion and point mutagenesis of the myosin II-binding site. (A) Summation of results with EGFP-tagged deletion and point mutants of bovine SV1-174 obtained from in vivo overexpression experiments in COS7 cells (hypercontractile myosin punctae; Supplemental Figures S3 and S4) and from pull-down experiments with GST-tagged myosin II S2 (GST-myosin S2) or GST-tagged L-MLCK N-terminus (GST-L-MLCK; Supplemental Figure S5). Highly conserved regions in SV1-174 are indicated in black. White asterisks show approximate locations of point mutations. (B-E) Representative anti-GFP immunoblots of bound and unbound GFP-tagged SV1-174 mutant proteins, as indicated, after pull down with GST-myosin S2. Ratios show the bound-to-unbound GFP signals as a fraction of the SV1-174-EGFP signal (positive control). $N \geq 2$. Ratios ≤ 0.5 were considered binding reductions (A, reduced) and ratios ≤ 0.1 as no binding to myosin II (A, no). Ponceau-stained blots of bound proteins show levels of GST-myosin S2. (F) Sequences of highly conserved regions within supervillin amino acids 1-174. Amino acid sequences from *Homo sapiens*, NP_003165), cow (*Bos taurus*, NP_776615), mouse (*Mus musculus*, ADP02396.1), chicken (*Gallus gallus*, XP_418577.3),

dominant-negative defect in cytokinesis (Figure 4A). We then performed rescue experiments after mutating the same myosin II-affecting residues in the full-length EGFP-tagged human supervillin (Figure 4B). Wild-type supervillin (EGFP-hSV) again rescued the knockdown phenotype, but two mutants defective in binding to MHC (R140A,K141A; K148A,R149A; Figure 3C, lanes 7 and 8) failed to return the numbers of binucleate/multinucleate cells to control levels. Although these experiments do rule out a role for the supervillin interaction with L-MLCK during cytokinesis, they show that the interaction with myosin II is critical for normal cell division.

Supervillin and anillin play nonredundant roles in cell division

Supervillin and anillin are both required for high-fidelity production of daughter cells (Figure 5). The phenotypes observed upon supervillin knockdown are similar to that of another cortical cell division protein, anillin, which also is required for the localization of total and active myosin II at the cleavage furrow (Straight *et al.*, 2005; Zhao and Fang, 2005). Although their amino acid sequences are very different, supervillin and anillin exhibit a similar organization of interaction domains: both bind directly to myosin II and F-actin, contain functional nuclear targeting sequences (Figure 5A, black T), and are predicted to have a central coiled-coil domain (Figure 5A, blue bars; Pope *et al.*, 1998; Wulfschlegel *et al.*, 1999; Oegema *et al.*, 2000; Chen *et al.*, 2003; Straight *et al.*, 2005; Piekny and Glotzer, 2008). Both also bind to proteins in the central spindle: anillin to citron kinase, RhoA, and the RhoA guanine nucleotide exchange factor ECT2 (Piekny and Glotzer, 2008; Gai *et al.*, 2011; Frenette *et al.*, 2012), and supervillin to the kinesin KIF14 and to protein regulator of cytokinesis 1 (PRC1; Zhu *et al.*, 2005; Carleton *et al.*, 2006; Gruneberg *et al.*, 2006; Smith *et al.*, 2010; Hasegawa *et al.*, 2013). In addition, the supervillin C-terminus binds to the furrow-regulatory protein, EPLIN (Chircop *et al.*, 2009; Smith *et al.*, 2010). To determine the relationship between supervillin and anillin during cell division, we first quantified the effects on HeLa cell division after single and double knockdowns of these two proteins. The numbers of binucleated/multinucleated cells increased significantly (Figure 5, B, white arrowheads, and C) after the knockdown of either supervillin alone (Figure 5B, b, SVKD) or anillin alone (Figure 5, B, c and e; anillin knockdown by specific double-stranded RNA-1 [AnilKD-1], AnilKD-2), as compared with treatment with control dsRNA (Figure 5, B, a, and C). Knockdown efficiency (Figure 5D) and percentage increase in number of binucleated cells for single knockdowns were similar to those reported previously (Straight *et al.*, 2005; Zhao and Fang, 2005; Smith *et al.*, 2010). Supervillin levels were unaffected by anillin knockdown, but surprisingly the amount of endogenous anillin increased an average of (1.9 ± 0.3) -fold (both dsRNAs, $n = 11$; $p < 0.0001$, *t* test) after supervillin knockdown (Figure 5D, lane 2). Simultaneous knockdown of supervillin and anillin approximately doubled the percentages of binucleated/multinucleated cells as compared with either single knockdown, with up to ~80% of cells failing cytokinesis (Figure 5, B, d and f, and C). These effects were more than additive, consistent with effects in parallel pathways.

We next asked whether overexpression of EGFP-hSV could rescue the binucleate phenotype caused by knockdown of anillin (Figure 5, E and F). We simultaneously transfected HeLa cells with

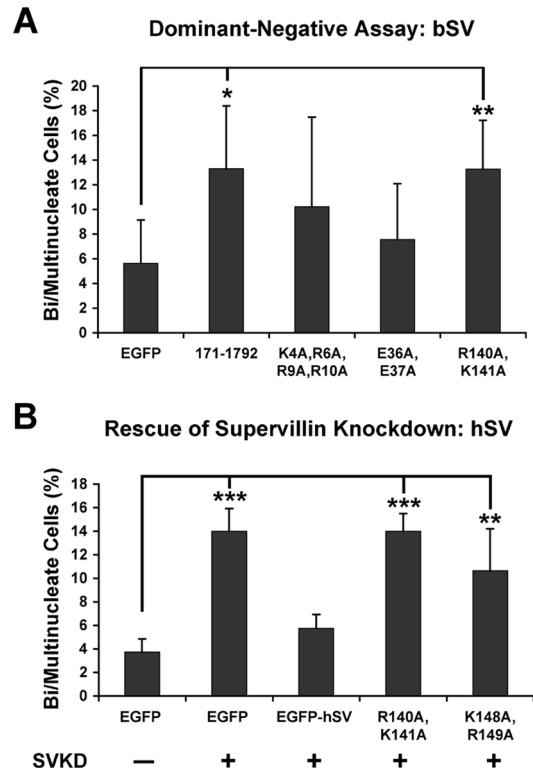
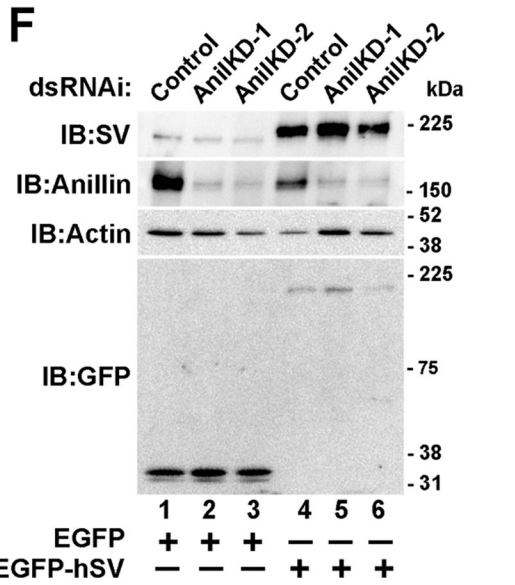
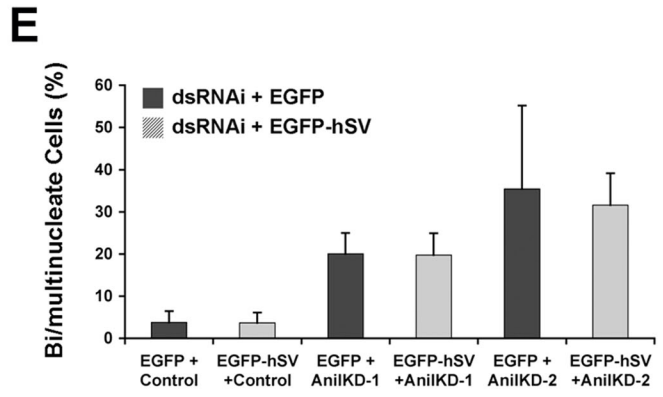
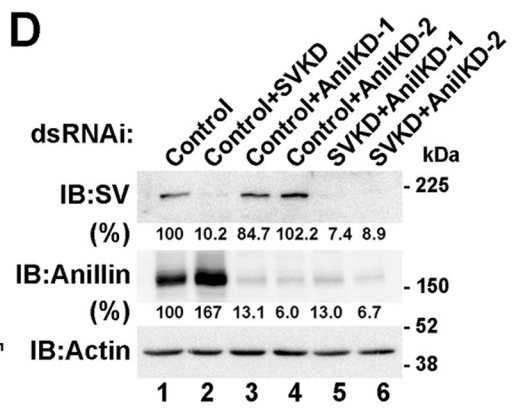
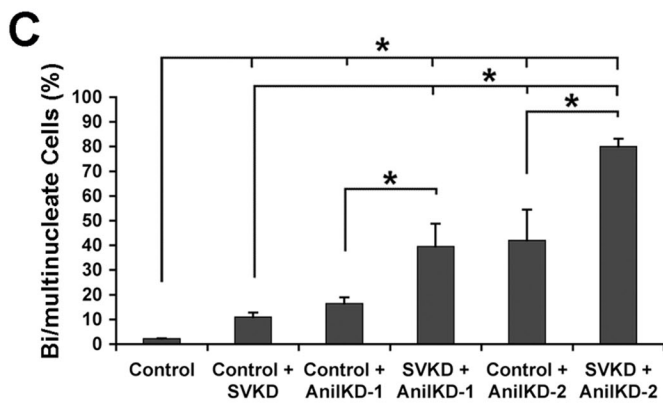
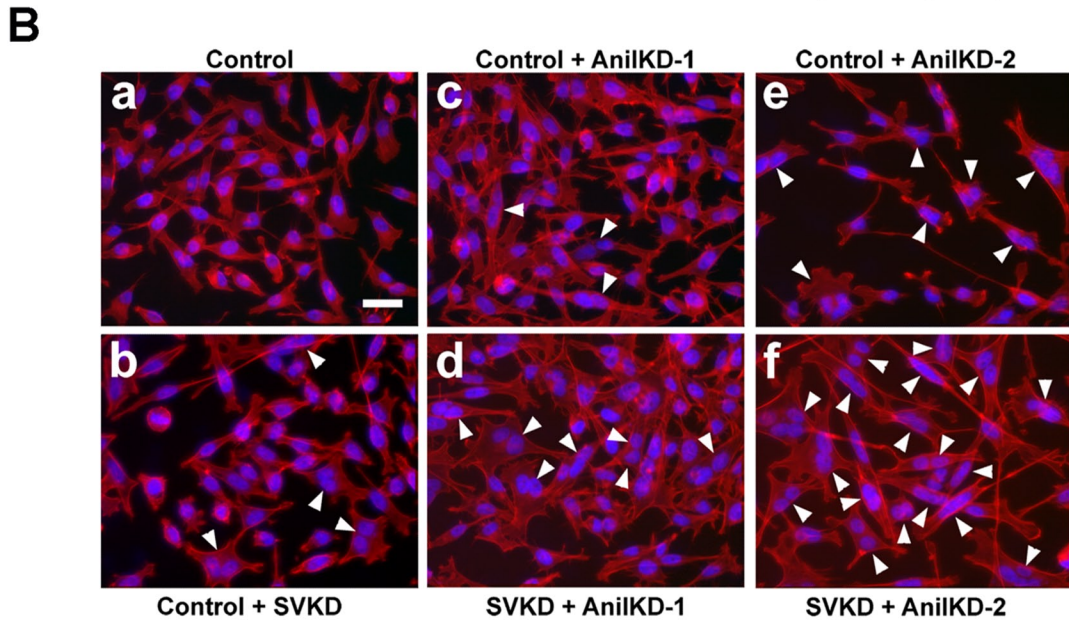
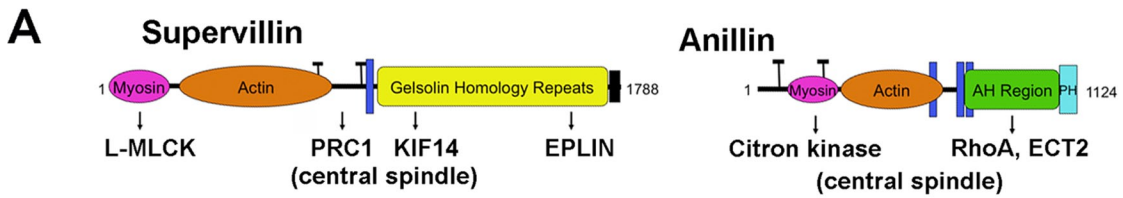


FIGURE 4: Point mutations that disrupt binding to myosin II mimic the dominant-negative phenotype of bSV171–1792 and eliminate rescue of the binucleate/multinucleate phenotype by full-length human EGFP-SV. (A) Dominant-negative overexpression of EGFP-bSV constructs. Cells were assayed as in Figure 1G. Means \pm SD; $N \geq 3$ experiments; >30 –151 cells per condition per experiment. * $p = 0.0228$, ** $p = 0.0055$ (paired two-tailed *t* test). (B) Lack of rescue of the binucleate/multinucleate phenotype in SVKD cells by EGFP-hSV proteins containing point mutations that eliminate myosin II binding (hSV-R140A,K141A; hSV-K148A,R149A). Mean percentages of binucleate/multinucleate cells \pm SD; $N \geq 3$ experiments; ≥ 60 cells counted per condition per experiment. *** $p < 0.01$, **** $p < 0.001$ (ANOVA).

either control or anillin-specific dsRNAs and a plasmid encoding either EGFP alone or EGFP-hSV (Figure 5, E and F); we also used the HeLa cell line that stably expresses EGFP-hSV(K923E) (unpublished data). In both cases, the percentages of binucleate cells upon anillin knockdown were unaffected by the overexpression of supervillin (Figure 5E). Knockdown of anillin and expression of both EGFP and EGFP-hSV were confirmed by Western blot (Figure 5F). We also made several attempts at the reciprocal experiment, to rescue supervillin knockdown by overexpression of EGFP-anillin, but were unsuccessful due to an apparent loss of substrate adhesion by cells expressing EGFP-anillin for >24 h. In this context, we note that the nearly twofold increase of endogenous anillin that occurs in supervillin-knockdown cells (Figure 5D) is insufficient to fully block the effects of supervillin knockdown (Figure 5C). However, partial compensation by increased anillin may explain why the binucleate/multinucleate phenotype caused by knockdown of supervillin alone

and frog (*Xenopus (Silurana) tropicalis*, NP_001090765.1) supervillins were aligned using CLUSTALW 2.1 (www.genome.jp/tools/clustalw/). Brackets, residues targeted for alanine or phenylalanine replacement, as described in *Materials and Methods*. L, the four-residue mutation that reduced the L-MLCK interaction; M, mutations that reduced or eliminated myosin II interaction. **Point mutation used in subsequent assays.



is less penetrant than that seen in anillin-depleted cells (Figure 5C) and raises the possibility of intersecting pathways.

Supervillin is mislocalized in dividing cells depleted of anillin. To determine where and when supervillin and anillin pathways might cross-talk during cell division, we first used the HeLa stable cell line from Figure 1D to quantify supervillin localization in cells depleted of anillin (Figure 6). Consistent with our previous observation with bovine supervillin (Smith *et al.*, 2010), human supervillin concentrated at the cleavage furrow in cells treated with control dsRNA (Figure 6A, a–h'). The equatorial-to-polar ratio of supervillin in these control cells increased during anaphase II and telophase, dropping somewhat at bridge formation (Figure 6B, black bars). By contrast, anillin knockdown mislocalized supervillin away from the cleavage furrow by anaphase II (Figure 6A, i–p' and q–x', white arrowheads), as represented by a relatively constant equatorial-to-polar ratio of supervillin signals throughout cell division (Figure 6B, gray and white bars). Note that anillin-depleted cells generally do not progress past anaphase II before furrowing fails (Straight *et al.*, 2005; Zhao and Fang, 2005), making it impossible to determine whether supervillin can be recruited to the membrane around the midbody in late cytokinesis (Smith *et al.*, 2010) after anillin knockdown.

Anillin localization is independent of supervillin from anaphase through telophase (unpublished data) but becomes mislocalized in supervillin-knockdown cells away from the midbody and into the cortices of the bridge and nascent daughter cells (Figure 7). Consistent with previous reports (Field and Alberts, 1995; Oegema *et al.*, 2000), anillin concentrates at the center of the midbody within the cytokinetic bridge in dividing HeLa cells treated with control dsRNA (Figure 7, A, a–d', white arrowheads, and B, red box). However, in supervillin-knockdown cells, anillin became redistributed away from the midbody into the cortices of the daughter cells at the proximal ends of the cytokinetic bridge (Figure 7, A, e–h' and i–l', white arrowheads, and B, blue region). This aberrant anillin signal is reminiscent of both the supervillin (Smith *et al.*, 2010) and myosin II (Figure 2Ai) localizations in control cells at this stage of cell division. This localization also resembles that observed for anillin after knockdown of the central spindle component citron kinase (Gai *et al.*, 2011). Taken together with the mislocalization of supervillin upon loss of anillin (Figure 6), these results suggest compensatory pathways that may cross-talk to regulate myosin II activity during cell division.

Overlapping cytoskeletal interactors but distinct signaling proteins

Protein affinity isolations suggest overlapping cytoskeletal partners and distinct signaling pathways for supervillin and anillin (Table 1). We used a high-affinity anti-GFP nanobody on magnetic beads (Domanski *et al.*, 2012) to collect complexes from extracts of HeLa cells that were transfected for 24 h with EGFP alone, EGFP-tagged hSV, or EGFP-tagged anillin. Cultures were enriched for dividing cells by treating with a Cdk1 inhibitor to synchronize them at the G2/M boundary; unsynchronized cells were used for comparison. Bead-associated proteins were eluted and identified by mass spectrometry using stringent criteria for protein assignments. The most abundant interacting proteins specific for supervillin and anillin are shown in Table 1. Nonspecific contaminants were defined as proteins that were represented by total spectral peptide counts in the EGFP-only samples that were $\geq 50\%$ of those observed in the EGFP-supervillin or EGFP-anillin samples (Supplemental Table S2). The majority of these contaminants were skin epithelial proteins, but they included abundant proteins from many intracellular compartments. All proteins specifically recovered with GFP nanobody beads from M-phase-enriched and unsynchronized cells are listed in Supplemental Tables S3 and S4, respectively. Although supervillin and anillin did not appreciably coisolate with each other, myosin II was the most abundant specific interactor for each, with both the myosin IIA heavy chain (MYH9) and light chains well represented (Table 1). Actin and actin-binding proteins, such as filamin A, also are abundant in the pull downs for both proteins.

Additional known interactors for each protein are well represented in our affinity isolations (Table 1). These include the supervillin interactors, EPLIN, KIF14, and 14-3-3 proteins (Jin *et al.*, 2004; Smith *et al.*, 2010). All three of these proteins participate in signaling pathways that, like supervillin, regulate both cell motility and cytokinesis (Carleton *et al.*, 2006; Gruneberg *et al.*, 2006; Han *et al.*, 2007; Chircop *et al.*, 2009; Zhou *et al.*, 2010; Freeman and Morrison, 2011; Ahmed *et al.*, 2012). Anillin-specific interacting proteins include CD2AP, SH3KBP1/CIN85/Cindr, and citron Rho-interacting kinase (Table 1; Monzo *et al.*, 2005; Haglund *et al.*, 2010; Gai *et al.*, 2011). CD2AP and SH3KBP1 are SH3 domain-containing proteins that participate in membrane trafficking and actin remodeling, as well as cytokinesis (Monzo *et al.*, 2005; Havrylov *et al.*, 2008; Johnson *et al.*,

FIGURE 5: Supervillin (SV) and anillin synergistically regulate cell division, but supervillin overexpression does not rescue anillin knockdown. (A) Similar organization of binding sites in supervillin and anillin. Both proteins bind directly to myosin II (pink), bind and bundle F-actin (orange), and contain nuclear localization signals (black T's) and coiled-coil domains (dark blue). Both bind central spindle proteins: supervillin to PRC1 and KIF14, which also binds citron kinase; and anillin to citron kinase, RhoA, and the Rho guanine nucleotide exchange factor ECT2. The supervillin N-terminus also binds to L-MLCK, and its C-terminus interacts with EPLIN/LIMA1, another cytokinetic regulator. Gelsolin homology repeats (yellow); villin-like headpiece (black bar); anillin homology region (AH, green); PH domain (cyan). (B) Representative micrographs of each knockdown condition showing binucleated/multinucleated HeLa cells (white arrowheads). (a) Control, (b) control + SV knockdown (SVKD-2), (c) control + anillin knockdown 1 (AnilKD-1), (d) SVKD-2 + AnilKD-1, (e) control + anillin knockdown 2 (AnilKD-2), and (f) SVKD-2 + AnilKD-2. Actin shown in red, DNA in blue. Bar, 20 μm . (C) Percentages of cells with two or more nuclei 48 h after transfection with control, supervillin-specific, or anillin-specific dsRNAs. Means \pm SD, $n > 250$ cells counted per condition per experiment; $N = 3$ experiments; $*p < 0.05$ (paired two-tailed t test). (D) Immunoblots of HeLa lysates showing supervillin and anillin knockdowns (20 nM total dsRNA), with actin as loading control. Numbers indicate the mean residual percentages of supervillin and anillin after 48 h of knockdown, $N = 4$. Endogenous anillin levels consistently increased at 48 h in supervillin-knockdown cells. Lanes: 1, control dsRNA; 2, control + SVKD-2; 3, control + AnilKD-1; 4, control + AnilKD-2; 5, SVKD-2 + AnilKD-1; 6, SVKD-2 + AnilKD-2. (E) Quantification of binucleated/multinucleated HeLa cells simultaneously transfected with EGFP (black bars) or EGFP-hSV (gray bars) and anillin dsRNAs, as indicated. Means \pm SD; $N = 3$ experiments, >46 –143 cells counted per condition per experiment. (F) Immunoblots showing overexpression of EGFP-hSV and knockdown of anillin; actin used as loading control. Anti-GFP confirms expression of EGFP and EGFP-hSV. Lanes 1–3, EGFP with control (1), Anil KD-1 (2), or Anil KD-2 (3) dsRNAs; lanes 4–6, EGFP-hSV with control (4), Anil KD-1 (5), or Anil KD-2 (6) dsRNAs.

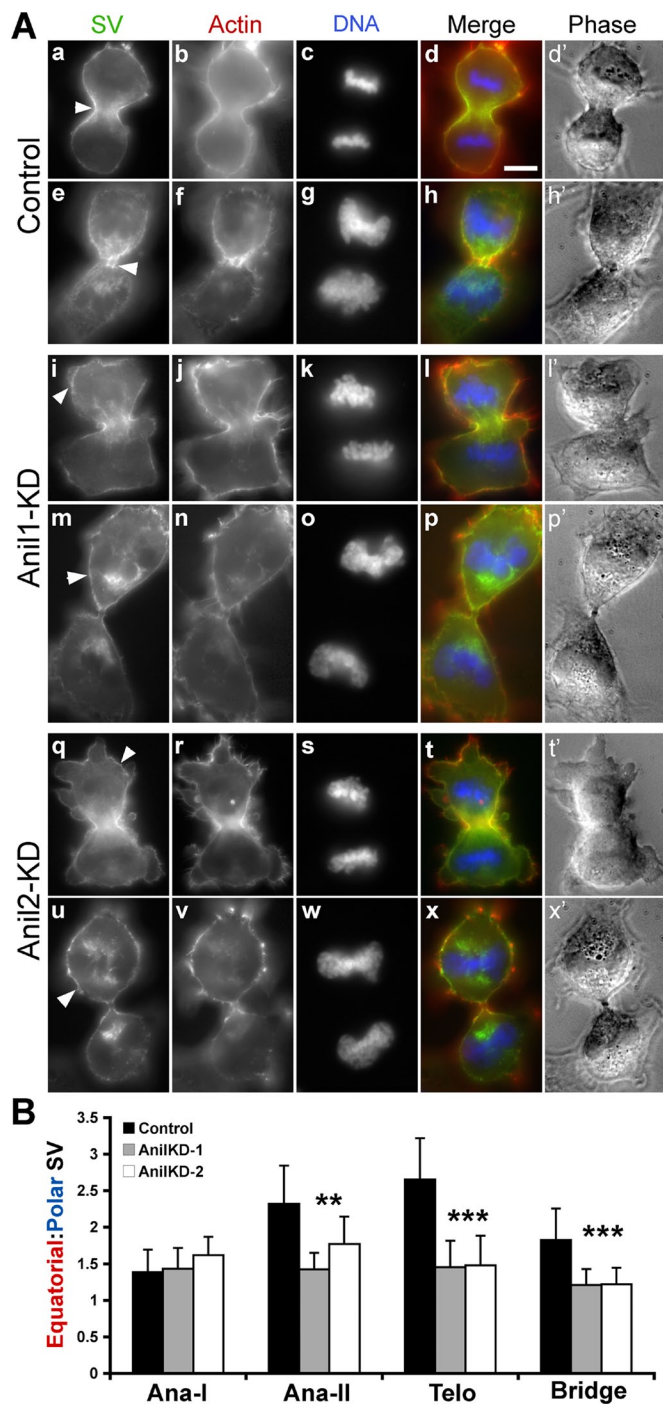


FIGURE 6: Supervillin remains at the furrow during initial stages of division in anillin-knockdown cells but becomes mislocalized in late anaphase. (A) HeLa cells stably expressing EGFP-hSV(K923E) were transfected with either control (a–h') or one of two anillin-specific dsRNAs (i–x'), and stained with anti-EGFP (a, e, i, m, q, u; green in merge), actin (b, f, j, n, r, v; red in merge), and DNA (c, g, k, o, s, w; blue in merge). Phase images shown in d', h', l', p', t', x'. Bar, 10 μ m. Supervillin is initially present at the invaginating furrow in dividing cells but becomes mislocalized around the cortex beginning in anaphase II in anillin-knockdown cells (white arrowheads in e, i, m, q, u). (B) Ratio of cortex-specific equatorial-to-polar SV signal in cells at indicated stages of cell division, calculated as in Figure 2; ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$ (ANOVA). Black bars, control cells; gray bars, AnilKD-1 cells; white bars, AnilKD-2 cells. Numbers of cells analyzed at each stage, combined from two different experiments: anaphase I ($N = 7$

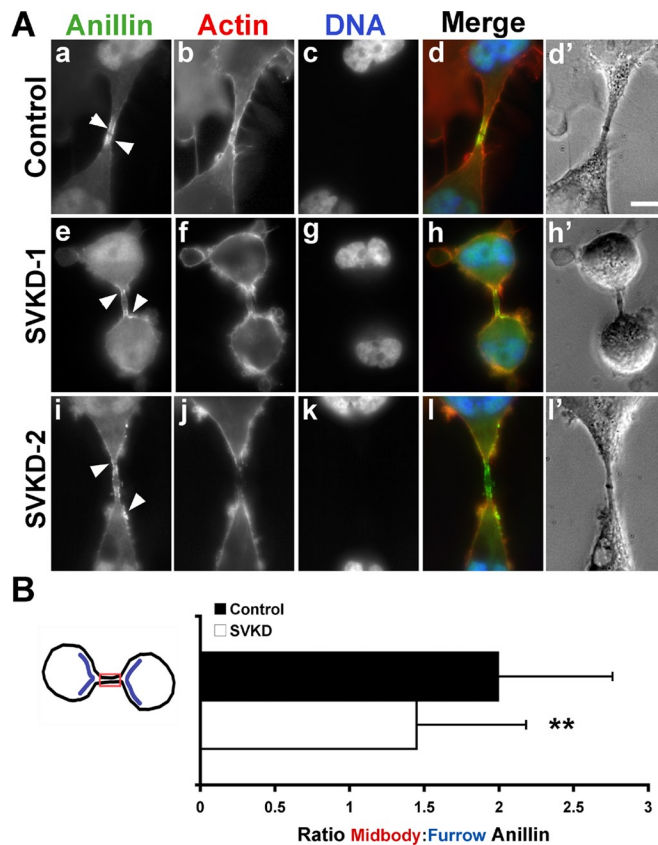


FIGURE 7: Anillin is mislocalized away from the midbody into the cortex during cytokinesis in supervillin-knockdown cells. (A) HeLa cells transfected with control (a–d') or supervillin-specific (SVKD-1, e–h'; SVKD-2, i–l') dsRNAs and stained for endogenous anillin (a, e, i; green in merge), actin (b, f, j; red in merge), and DNA (c, g, k; blue in merge). Phase images shown in d', h', l'. Bar, 10 μ m. Anillin localization at the midbody and cytokinetic furrow shown by white arrowheads (a, e, i). (B) Ratio of anillin signal in the midbody (red box) vs. the cortices of the daughter cells proximal to the furrow (blue). Mean ratios \pm SD; $N = 3$ experiments; ** $p = 0.0019$ (two-tailed t test). Total number of cells assayed: 34 control (black bar) and 77 SVKD (white bar).

2008; Samoylenko *et al.*, 2012), and citron kinase regulates cytokinesis through its interactions with Rho and KIF14 (Gruneberg *et al.*, 2006; Watanabe *et al.*, 2013). The presence of citron kinase in only the isolates from synchronized EGFP-anillin cells suggests that the enrichment for M-phase cells was effective. By contrast, supervillin-interacting proteins appear to be largely the same in interphase versus M-phase and include many proteins (α -actinin, capping protein, tropomyosin, tropomodulin) associated with stress fibers and other unbranched actin filaments.

Many new candidate interactors for supervillin and anillin also were revealed (Table 1 and Supplemental Tables S3 and S4). Novel direct or indirect interactors for supervillin include four membrane-associated myosins (myosins 1B, 1C, 6, and 18A), suggesting additional loci for cross-regulation of membrane dynamics and furrow structure. Supervillin family members flightless-1 and gelsolin also emerged as supervillin-selective interactors (Table 1). Flightless-1

control, 13 Anil1, 6 Anil2), anaphase II ($N = 8$ control, 16 Anil1, 15 Anil2), telophase ($N = 5$ control, 12 Anil1, 15 Anil2), and cytokinesis ($N = 23$ control, 22 Anil1, 11 Anil2).

Protein	Total spectral counts (minus background)					
	M phase		Unsynchronized		Known interactors	
	SVIL	ANLN	SVIL	ANLN	Supervillin	Anillin
Myosin II						
Myosin-9, MYH9	1480	180	1449	515	Chen et al. (2003)	Straight et al. (2005)
Myosin regulatory light chain 12A, MYL12A	55	6	67	21		
Myosin light polypeptide 6, MYL6	33	3	46	6		
Myosin regulatory light polypeptide 9, MYL9	39	0	41	0		
Baits						
Supervillin, SVIL	993	0	2182	0		
Anillin, ANLN	11	1300	7	1946		
Other myosins						
Unconventional myosin-Ic, MYO1C	156	10	209	47		
Unconventional myosin-Ib, MYO1B	154	5	200	29		
Unconventional myosin-VI, MYO6	150	1	214	15		
Unconventional myosin-XVIIIa, MYO18A	100	0	30	0		
Actin and actin-binding proteins						
Actin, cytoplasmic 2, ACTG1	603	49	1175	148		
Actin, cytoplasmic 1, ACTB	607	68	1175	164	Chen et al. (2003)	Field and Alberts (1995)
Filamin-A, FLNA	80	65	110	19	Smith et al. (2010)	
α -Actinin-4, ACTN4	117	14	161	33	Nebl et al. (2002)	
α -Actinin-1, ACTN1	71	12	96	15	Nebl et al. (2002)	
F-actin-capping protein subunit α -1, CAPZA1	86	34	124	106		
F-actin-capping protein subunit α -2, CAPZA2	51	14	58	51		
F-actin-capping protein subunit β , CAPZB	87	17	99	114		
Coronin-1C, CORO1C	82	8	135	23		
Drebrin, DBN1	81	0	49	9		
Protein flightless-1 homologue, FLII	48	0	33	0		
Gelsolin, GSN	30	1	8	0		
LIM domain and actin-binding protein 1, LIMA1/EPLIN	25	0	82	0	Smith et al. (2010)	
Tropomyosin α -1 chain, TPM1	40	0	33	5		
Tropomyosin β chain, TPM2	34	0	25	4		
Tropomyosin α -3 chain, TPM3	42	0	30	5		
Tropomyosin α -4 chain, TPM4	46	4	38	5		
Tropomodulin-3, TMOD3	35	0	52	0		
Other cytoskeletal proteins						
Kinesin-like protein KIF14, KIF14	89	0	212	0	Smith et al. (2010)	
Tubulin α -4A chain, TUBA4A	25	52	0	0		

TABLE 1: Most abundant specific interactors with GFP-tagged supervillin and anillin.

Continues

Protein	Total spectral counts (minus background)					
	M phase		Unsynchronized		Known interactors	
	SVIL	ANLN	SVIL	ANLN	Supervillin	Anillin
Tubulin α -1C chain, TUBA1C	25	74	0	0		
Signaling proteins						
14-3-3 protein epsilon, YWHAE	63	5	69	0	Jin <i>et al.</i> (2004)	
14-3-3 protein gamma, YWHAG	31	0	51	0	Jin <i>et al.</i> (2004)	
Ras GTPase-activating-like protein IQGAP1	45	9	68	4		
DNA-dependent protein kinase catalytic subunit, PRKDC	31	2	14	0		
Myosin phosphatase Rho-interacting protein, MPRIP	27	0	24	0		
CD2-associated protein, CD2AP	0	56	0	225		Monzo <i>et al.</i> (2005)
SH3 domain-containing kinase-binding protein 1, SH3KBP1/CIN85/Cindr	0	25	0	157		Haglund <i>et al.</i> (2010)
Ser/Thr-protein phosphatase 2A regulatory subunit A α , PPP2R1A	6	20	14	21		
Ser/Thr-protein phosphatase 2A regulatory subunit B α , PPP2R2A	6	20	13	18		
<i>(Citron Rho-interacting kinase, CIT/CTRO)</i>	0	13	0	0		Gai <i>et al.</i> (2011)
Other Proteins						
Nucleophosmin, NPM1	13	20	7	3		
Nucleolin, NCL	5	22	0	0		
60S ribosomal protein L4, RPL4	5	27	0	0		
60S ribosomal protein L7, RPL7	2	20	4	7		

Total specific spectral counts, minus any background counts observed in EGFP-only samples, for the 43 most abundant (of 265 total) proteins that coisolated in triplicate analyses with EGFP-tagged human supervillin (SVIL) or anillin (ANLN) and anti-GFP nanobody affinity beads from M-phase-enriched (M phase) and unsynchronized HeLa cells (unsynchronized). Only proteins represented by >20 specific peptides, e.g., an average of ~7 peptides/experiment, are shown. Citron Rho-interacting kinase, in italics, is included because of its documented interaction with anillin. References cite previously documented interactions.

TABLE 1: Most abundant specific interactors with GFP-tagged supervillin and anillin. Continued

promotes Rho-induced activation of linear actin assembly by formins (Higashi *et al.*, 2010), and gelsolin may directly regulate myosin II activity at cell-substrate adhesions through calcium-dependent binding to MHC (Arora *et al.*, 2013). Other supervillin-selective interactors are the signaling proteins IQGAP1, PRKDC, and MPRIP/p116Rip. IQGAP1 is a large multidomain protein that regulates numerous motile processes, including cytokinesis (Shannon, 2012). PRKDC is a large member of the phosphoinositide-3/phosphoinositide-4 kinase family that has been primarily studied for its role in DNA repair and p53-mediated apoptosis after exposure to ionizing radiation but also has been implicated in mitotic progression (Stephan *et al.*, 2009; Hill and Lee, 2010). Although it is not known to regulate cytokinesis, MPRIP recruits myosin phosphatase to unbranched actin filaments and thus regulates pMRLC activation (Koga and Ikebe, 2005; Surks *et al.*, 2005). Conversely, serine/threonine protein phosphatase 2A emerged as a novel candidate interactor for anillin (Table 1); homologues of this protein regulate myosin II assembly or cytokinesis in yeast and soil amoeba (Rai and Egelhoff, 2011; Goyal and Simanis, 2012). Thus, most of the newly identified abundant interactors are known or plausible participants in cytokinetic signaling pathways. The reproducible differences in interaction

partners between supervillin and anillin suggest that these proteins participate in distinguishable pathways that overlap to regulate myosin II function at the furrow.

DISCUSSION

We show here that the MHC-binding site within supervillin lies within residues 99–153 and that loss of myosin II binding leads to dominant-negative disruption of cell division and loss of ability to rescue supervillin depletion. Point mutagenesis suggests that at least five regions of local charge are involved in the supervillin–MHC interaction. Supervillin residues 93–125 were previously implicated in binding to myosin II by proteolytic mapping (Chen *et al.*, 2003) and are unstructured although predicted to be capable of ligand-dependent folding (Meszaros *et al.*, 2009; Fedechkin *et al.*, 2013). Supervillin amino acids 1–10 also contribute to binding avidities for both MHC and L-MLCK, although they are not sufficient for binding to either protein. These residues may be part of secondary, lower-avidity interactions for each protein or be important for ligand-dependent structural rearrangements that facilitate tight binding.

We also show here that supervillin binding to myosin II is required for efficient cytokinesis; that this phenotype is similar to, but occurs

somewhat later than, cell division defects caused by loss of anillin from human cells (Straight *et al.*, 2005; Zhao and Fang, 2005); and that supervillin synergizes with anillin to regulate myosin II at the furrow. In supervillin-knockdown cells, some cortical MHC redistributes away from the furrow, beginning in late anaphase, whereas pMRLC distribution is aberrant only in early anaphase and at the bridge stage. Of interest, Rab21-associated integrin trafficking, a process facilitated by supervillin (Fang *et al.*, 2010), is similarly required for both initial myosin activation signaling and membrane recruitment to the ends of the invaginating furrow (Pellinen *et al.*, 2008). Because anillin localizes normally in supervillin-knockdown cells until bridge formation, it is apparently sufficient for myosin II activation at the furrow during late anaphase and telophase. In supervillin-knockdown cells, the overexpression and redistribution of anillin to the bridge ends and the apical cortices of nascent daughter cells, which are characteristic localizations for supervillin (Smith *et al.*, 2010), may allow anillin to partially compensate for supervillin depletion from cytokinetic bridges. Functional cross-talk between supervillin and anillin is further supported by the mislocalization of supervillin in anillin-knockdown cells and the more-than-additive effects observed after double knockdowns of both proteins. Taken together, these results suggest that anillin and supervillin coordinate during the initial activation of myosin II in the anaphase cortex, anillin plays the primary role in myosin activation during later anaphase and telophase, and supervillin is required primarily for cortical constriction or membrane trafficking during bridge elongation or closure.

Proteomic identifications of supervillin and anillin interactors support the presence of separate functional pathways that coordinately regulate cytokinesis. Supervillin and anillin apparently do not interact directly, but each binds to both MHC and F-actin. Not all reported binding partners were identified in the affinity isolates, possibly due to insolubility of very large complexes or the loss of proteins with lower avidities. Nonetheless, many interactors with signaling capabilities show specificity for one protein or the other. These results suggest overlap of function between supervillin and anillin at the level of myosin II recruitment and activation, with each protein playing a key role at the cortex at different stages of cell division. The greater association of actin-binding proteins with supervillin, especially the abundance of stress fiber-associated proteins, is reminiscent of observations in *Drosophila* cells, in which unbranched actin filaments are required for continued myosin II localization at the furrow (Dean *et al.*, 2005). The number of supervillin-associated unconventional myosins raises questions about whether their motor or actin-binding activities contribute to membrane trafficking or cortical tension during the later stages of bridge narrowing.

The interactions of supervillin and anillin with different central spindle and signaling proteins suggest that each can promote scaffolding or signaling between the furrow cortex and the central spindle (Figure 5A). Furthermore, the second region of supervillin important for normal cell division (SV-831–1281) contains the KIF14-interaction site (Smith *et al.*, 2010) and potentially a binding site for PRC1 (Hasegawa *et al.*, 2013), both of which are required for central spindle assembly (Carleton *et al.*, 2006; Neef *et al.*, 2007; Shrestha *et al.*, 2012). The interaction of KIF14 with citron kinase (Gruneberg *et al.*, 2006; Watanabe *et al.*, 2013), which coisolates with anillin (Table 1; Gai *et al.*, 2011), suggests that supervillin and anillin could each link the cortex with separate-but-interacting components of the central spindle.

While this work was in revision, another report also proposed supervillin as a molecular link between myosin II activation and central spindle function (Hasegawa *et al.*, 2013). These researchers showed that supervillin epitopes are found at the central spindle

under fixation conditions that reduce the cortical signal and that supervillin residues 676–1009 bind directly to PRC1. In addition, cleavage furrows became elongated in the absence of the MHC/L-MLCK-interacting supervillin N-terminus or after mutation to alanine of Ser-238, a residue that is phosphorylated by polo-like kinase 1 (PLK1), a PRC1-binding partner and cytokinesis regulator (Hu *et al.*, 2012). These supervillin mutations reduced pMRLC localization at the furrow during ingression (Hasegawa *et al.*, 2013). These results are consistent with our observations that the loss of supervillin decreases the proportion of total MHC at the furrow during anaphase II and telophase and affects the proportion of furrow pMRLC during early anaphase and bridge formation. The results of Hasegawa *et al.* (2013) also may explain the failure of bSV, which naturally has an alanine at position 238, to substitute for human supervillin in rescue experiments and imply that not all functional regulatory sites in the supervillin N-terminus are conserved across species.

Supervillin is likely to be differentially important for cytokinesis in vertebrate cells, as opposed to other organisms. First, although a sequence 70% identical (85% similar) to the MHC-binding site in human supervillin is found in sea urchin supervillin (XP_784024.3), no sequences similar to those implicated in L-MLCK binding (residues 1–10 and 23–101) are present. This suggests a different regulatory mechanism in sea urchin, the only organism in which MLCK is known to play a major role in activating myosin II during cell division (Lucero *et al.*, 2006; Uehara *et al.*, 2008). Second, the MHC- and L-MLCK-binding N-terminal sequences identified here are absent from fly and worm supervillin homologues (CG33232; viln-1/C10H11.1), potentially explaining why anillin knockdown in *Drosophila* Kc167 cells displays more penetrance than is observed in HeLa cells (Straight *et al.*, 2005). Taken together, these observations suggest that supervillin may act as a genetic buffer for anillin function to ensure the fidelity of cytokinetic bridge formation and midbody formation in vertebrates.

We conclude that the myosin II-binding capability of supervillin is required for high-fidelity cell division and that supervillin helps to recruit and activate myosin II in the furrow cortex, especially during the bridge stage of cytokinesis. The identities of supervillin and anillin interactors suggest that each may scaffold the central spindle with the furrow cortex, with supervillin associating with myosin II, unbranched actin filaments, and signaling proteins, many of which play important roles in interphase processes, including cell migration and membrane trafficking. Thus, during both interphase and cytokinesis, supervillin integrates dynamic processes involving membrane signaling cascades, vesicle trafficking, microtubule-rich structures, and the actin- and myosin II-associated membrane cortex.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Cell culture

Adherent HeLa S3 Tet-Off (Clontech, Mountain View, CA) and COS7 cells were grown as described previously (Smith *et al.*, 2010). HeLa S3 Tet-Off cells stably expressing a GFP fusion to human supervillin, nonmuscle isoform 1 (Fang and Luna, 2013), latently discovered to bear a point mutation (K923E), were cultured in the HeLa medium. All experiments were performed in six-well culture dishes containing 22-mm² coverslips, except for production of extracts used in GST pull downs and GFP nanobody affinity isolations (see later descriptions). All cultures were grown at 37°C in 5% CO₂.

Antibodies

For immunoblotting, rabbit anti-supervillin (H340; Nebl *et al.*, 2002; Oh *et al.*, 2003) was used at 1:1000. Rabbit antibody against amino acids 417–687 in human anillin was a kind gift from Michael Glotzer

(University of Chicago; Piekny and Glotzer, 2008) and used at 1:5000. Mouse monoclonal anti-actin (C4; Millipore, Temecula, CA) was used at 1:3000. Rabbit monoclonal anti-GFP (D5.1; Cell Signaling, Beverly, MA) was used at 1:1000. Rabbit polyclonal anti-myosin IIA (Covance, Princeton NJ) was used at 1:10,000. Horseradish peroxidase-conjugated donkey anti-mouse and anti-rabbit antibodies (Jackson ImmunoResearch, West Grove, PA) were used at 1:20,000.

For immunofluorescence, HeLa cells were stained with mouse monoclonal anti-pMRLC (Ser-19; 1:200; Cell Signaling), rabbit anti-anillin (1:1500), or rabbit polyclonal anti-myosin IIA (1:200; Covance). COS7 cells were stained with rabbit polyclonal anti-myosin IIB (1:100; Covance). Rabbit polyclonal anti-EGFP (1:1000; Abcam, Cambridge, MA) was used to enhance the EGFP-supervillin signal in the stable HeLa cell line (Smith *et al.*, 2010). Secondary antibodies were goat anti-rabbit or anti-mouse Alexa Fluor 488 conjugates (HeLa) and goat anti-rabbit Alexa Fluor 568 (COS7; Life Technologies, Grand Island, NY). Actin and DNA were visualized using Alexa Fluor 568-phalloidin (Life Technologies) and Hoechst, respectively.

RNA interference

Stealth (Life Technologies) duplex sequence for SV-6016-6040 (SVKD-2) was described previously (Smith *et al.*, 2010); this dsRNA targets a 3'-UTR sequence absent from EGFP-supervillin. The following Stealth dsRNA sequences also were used: 5'-GAACU-AUGAAGGACCACCAGAGAU (scrambled control) and 5'-GAA-GAUUUCGAAGCCAGACCAGAU against a coding sequence present in both endogenous and EGFP-tagged human supervillin (SVKD-1; SV-2473-2497). 5'-ACGAAAGGGUUUGGCCAAUUAUCA (AnilKD-1; ANLN-3473-3497) and 5'-CGUGAUUAGACUUGUUAC-UAGGGUA (AnilKD-2; ANLN-3800-3824) were used to knock down anillin.

Plasmids

The nonmuscle myosin IIA-S2 region was subcloned from 6xHis-NMIIAS2 vector, a kind gift from Mitsuo Ikebe (University of Massachusetts Medical School), and transferred into pGEX-6P-3 (GE Healthcare Life Sciences, Piscataway, NJ) by restriction digest using *EcoRI* and *XhoI* (New England Biolabs, Beverly, MA). A vector encoding a GST fusion with the six Ig domains of the L-MLCK N-terminus, amino acids 2–867 (L-MLCK-6lg), was a kind gift from Anne Bresnick (Albert Einstein College of Medicine; Dulyaninova *et al.*, 2004). EGFP-hSV was generated by PCR (Pope *et al.*, 1998) and ligated into pEGFP-C2 between *EcoRI* and *XbaI* in two steps by Zhiyou Fang (University of Massachusetts Medical School; Fang and Luna, 2013). First, a 3' *EcoRV/XbaI* fragment was ligated into pEGFP-C2 digested with *SmaI* and *XbaI*. This vector was then digested with *EcoRI* and ligated with an *EcoRI* fragment containing the hSV 5' sequence. EGFP (Clontech), EGFP-bSV, bSV-1-171-EGFP, EGFP-bSV-171-1792, EGFP-bSV-1-830, EGFP-bSV-831-1281, EGFP-bSV-1-1009, EGFP-bSV-1010-1792, EGFP-bSV-831-1792, EGFP-bSV-1-342, and bSV-1-174-EGFP were described previously (Wulfkuhle *et al.*, 1999; Chen *et al.*, 2003; Takizawa *et al.*, 2007). EGFP-bSV-1-174 was created by converting residue G175 in EGFP-bSV1-342 (Wulfkuhle *et al.*, 1999) to a stop codon using the QuikChange Site-Directed Mutagenesis kit (Agilent Technologies, Santa Clara, CA). Two C-terminal deletion constructs were made by restriction digestion of EGFP-bSV-1-342. Digestion with *BamHI* (New England Biolabs) and religation resulted in EGFP-bSV-1-127; digestion with *XhoI* (New England Biolabs) and religation produced EGFP-bSV-1-101. EGFP-bSV-1-23 was created by converting residue L24 to a stop codon. EGFP-bSV-11-174 and bSV-11-174-EGFP

were created by PCR using EGFP-bSV-1-830 as template. The resulting fragments were then ligated in-frame into either the pEGFP-C1 or -N3 vector (Clontech). EGFP-bSV-72-174 and bSV-93-174-EGFP were created by converting residues R72 and S73 in bSV-1-174 to a *BglII* restriction site, followed by digestion with *BglII* (New England Biolabs) and religation. All primers for point mutagenesis and PCR are listed in Supplemental Table S1.

Targeted alanine mutations were introduced into bSV-1-174 and hSV-1-330 using the QuikChange kit as described and primers listed in Supplemental Table S1. To mutate a total of four residues in bSV-1-11 and bSV-33-51, a second set of primers was used to introduce additional mutations into bSV-1-174-R9A,R10A and bSV-1-174-M43A,R44A. EGFP-bSV-1-174 mutants were restriction digested with *NheI* and *PvuI* (New England Biolabs) and cloned into the corresponding restriction sites in EGFP-bSV-1-1792. EGFP-hSV-1-330 mutants were restriction digested with *NheI*-HF and *BstEII*-HF (New England Biolabs) and ligated into the corresponding sites in EGFP-hSV-1-1788. All constructs and mutations were verified by sequencing.

Transfections and protein extractions

For protein knockdowns, HeLa cells were reverse transfected with 20 nM total dsRNA (20 nM control, or 10 nM each of control and either supervillin or anillin dsRNAs) and 5 μ l of Lipofectamine RNAiMAX (Life Technologies), according to the manufacturer's instructions. In rescue experiments, 4 μ l of Lipofectamine 2000 (Life Technologies) was used to reverse transfect dsRNAs (20 nM total concentration) and plasmid DNA (1.5–4.0 μ g) together, and cells were grown on coverslips coated with bovine fibronectin (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO; Smith *et al.*, 2010). After transfection, cells were incubated for 48 h before fixation with 4% paraformaldehyde or extraction with RIPA buffer containing protease inhibitors (Smith *et al.*, 2010). To produce extracts for GST pull-down experiments, HeLa cells were plated in 6-cm dishes and incubated overnight before transfection using Lipofectamine 2000 and either EGFP or EGFP-tagged BSV-1-174 deletion and mutation constructs. After 24 h of expression, cells were extracted with RIPA buffer lacking SDS and clarified by centrifugation at 16,000 \times g for 15 min at 4°C (Smith *et al.*, 2010). Each 6-cm dish extract was divided for use in pull downs with both GST-myo-S2 and GST-L-MLCK-6lg.

For visualization of proteins during cell division, cells were synchronized at the G2/M transition by incubation for 20 h with 10 μ M RO-3306 (Enzo Life Sciences, Farmingdale, NY), a reversible Cdk1 inhibitor (Vassilev, 2006). Cells were released by rinsing three times with D-PBS (Life Technologies) and then incubated at 37°C with fresh medium for 90–105 min before fixation in 4% paraformaldehyde and staining. To screen for dominant-negative effects of EGFP-bSV proteins on cell division, cells were reverse transfected as described, incubated overnight, synchronized with RO-3306, and then released for 4–18 h before fixation and staining.

COS7 cells were seeded on coverslips for 24 h before being transfected with 1–1.5 μ g of EGFP-tagged constructs and 10 μ l Effectene transfection reagent (Qiagen, Valencia, CA). Cells were then incubated for 24 h before fixation with 4% paraformaldehyde and staining.

Imaging and equatorial:polar ratio determination

Cells were imaged using an Axioskop fluorescence microscope with Plan-NeoFluor objectives (Carl Zeiss Microscopy, Thornwood, NY), as described previously (Smith *et al.*, 2010). Protein localizations in dividing HeLa cells and myosin II punctae in COS7 cells were imaged using a 100 \times (numerical aperture [NA] 1.3) oil immersion

objective. Numbers of binucleated/multinucleated HeLa cells were assayed using a 40× (NA 0.9) objective lens, and representative overviews for Figure 5B were obtained with a 25× (NA 0.8) objective. Images were uniformly adjusted for brightness and contrast, and merged images were assembled with Photoshop (Adobe, San Jose, CA).

Average signal intensities at the equatorial and polar cortices were determined using a modification of the method of Robinson *et al.* (2002). The polygon tool in ImageJ (National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, MD) was used to select areas with widths of ~0.4 μm that covered the cortex signal along the regions of the cell indicated in Figures 2 and 7. Mean signal intensities for these boxes were obtained by using the Measure function under the Analyze menu with area, mean signal intensity, and SD selected for output. Measurements were made for each pole and each side of the furrow (Figure 2), which were then averaged using Excel (Microsoft, Redmond, WA) before calculating the ratio of equatorial to polar signal. For anillin localization at the midbody (Figure 7), signal intensities along the daughter cell cortices proximal to the midbody were analyzed and averaged as before, but the midbody signal itself was taken as one measurement. InStat software, version 3 (GraphPad Software, San Diego, CA), was used to calculate means and SD and perform statistical tests.

GST pull down and SDS-PAGE

Fusion proteins were made using Rosetta DE3 pLysS competent *Escherichia coli* (EMD4Biosciences, La Jolla, CA), as previously described (Swaffield and Johnston, 2001; Chen *et al.*, 2003; Smith *et al.*, 2010). GST pull-down assays were performed as previously described (Smith *et al.*, 2010). HeLa cell lysates were separated on 5–15% gradient SDS-PAGE gels and transferred to Protran nitrocellulose (Whatman, Dassel, Germany) to confirm knockdown of supervillin and anillin proteins and expression of EGFP-SV. Extracts containing bSV-1–174 proteins were run on 10% SDS-PAGE gels. Blots were visualized using either Supersignal WestPico or WestFemto ECL reagents (Thermo Scientific, Rockford, IL) on a Kodak Image Station (Eastman Kodak, Rochester, NY). Protein band densities were obtained using Kodak Molecular Imaging Software, version 4.0 (Eastman Kodak) and ratios calculated using Excel.

GFP nanobody affinity isolations

Protein affinity isolations were performed using a GFP nanobody covalently bound to magnetic beads. Isolations were performed in triplicate, with replicates carried out on separate days. HeLa cells from a subconfluent T-75 flask were split into three 10-cm dishes and incubated overnight. Cells were then transfected using Lipofectamine 2000 and 13 μg of EGFP, EGFP-anillin, or EGFP-hSV and incubated for 24 h before extraction. To enrich for dividing cells, plates were incubated for 3 h after transfection and then treated with 10 μM RO-3306 (Enzo Life Sciences), as described. Cells were released from synchronization for 100 min before extraction. Cells were extracted with 1 ml of RIPA buffer with protease inhibitors but lacking SDS (Smith *et al.*, 2010). Ten microliters (per extract) of anti-GFP nanobody-conjugated beads (Domanski *et al.*, 2012) were washed three times in cold RIPA buffer lacking SDS before the addition of 900 μl of cleared lysate. Strong magnets were used at each step to separate the beads from the lysate and washes. After incubation for 1 h at 4°C with rotation, the beads were transferred to a fresh tube and washed three times with ice-cold RIPA buffer lacking SDS. Proteins were eluted from the magnetic beads with 2% SDS and run on either 5–15% acrylamide SDS gels (Laemmli, 1970) for silver staining or 10% SDS-PAGE for in-gel digestion and

analysis by liquid chromatography and tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS).

In-gel digestion

Samples for in-gel digestion were run ~1.5 cm into the resolving area of 10% minigels and stained with a ProteoSilver Silver Stain Kit (Sigma-Aldrich). Protein-containing regions were excised, destained, and cut into 1 × 1 mm pieces. Gel pieces were placed in 1.5-ml microcentrifuge tubes with 1 ml of water for 1 h. The water was removed, and 125 μl/tube 250 mM ammonium bicarbonate was added. Disulfide bonds were reduced by adding 25 μl/tube 45 mM 1,4-dithio-D-threitol and incubating for 30 min at 50°C. Samples were cooled to room temperature and alkylated for 30 min with 25 μl/tube 100 mM iodoacetamide. Gel slices were washed twice with 1-ml aliquots of water and incubated at room temperature for 1 h with 1 ml/tube of a 50:50 mixture of 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate:acetonitrile. This solution was replaced with 200 μl/tube of acetonitrile, at which point the gel slices turned opaque white. After removal of acetonitrile, the gel slices were further dried in a Savant SpeedVac (Thermo Scientific, Asheville, NC). Gel slices were rehydrated in 75 μl/tube of 2 ng/μl trypsin (Sigma-Aldrich) in 0.01% ProteaseMAX Surfactant (Promega, Madison, WI) and 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate. Additional aliquots of 50 mM ammonium bicarbonate were added, as necessary, to fully submerge the gel slices. Samples were incubated for 21 h at 37°C. Supernatants were removed to separate 1.5-ml microcentrifuge tubes. Gel slices were extracted further with 100 μl/tube of 80:20 acetonitrile:1% formic acid. Extracts for each sample were combined, and the tryptic peptides were dried in a SpeedVac.

LC-MS/MS

Dried tryptic peptides were dissolved in 25 μl of 0.1% trifluoroacetic acid and 5% acetonitrile, and a 3-μl aliquot was directly injected onto a custom-packed trap column (2 cm × 100 μm C18). Peptides were eluted and sprayed from a custom-packed emitter (25 cm × 75 μm C18) with a linear gradient from 100% solvent A (0.1% formic acid, 5% acetonitrile) to 35% solvent B (0.1% formic acid, acetonitrile) in 90 min at a flow rate of 300 nl/min on a Proxeon Easy nanoLC system directly coupled to a LTQ Orbitrap Velos mass spectrometer (Thermo Scientific). Data-dependent scans were acquired according to a scheme in which full MS scans from 350 to 2000 *m/z* were acquired in the Orbitrap Velos at a resolution of 60,000, followed by 10 MS/MS scans acquired in the LTQ ion trap instrument. The raw data files were processed with Extract_MSN (Thermo Scientific) into peak lists and then searched against the Human index of the SwissProt database using the Mascot Search engine, version 2.4 (Matrixsciences, London, United Kingdom). Parent mass tolerances were set to 10 ppm, and fragment mass tolerances were set to 0.5 Da. The variable modifications of acetyl (protein N-terminus), pyro glutamic for N-terminal glutamine, carbamidomethylation of cysteine, and oxidation of methionine were used. Mascot search results were loaded into Scaffold4 software (Proteome Software, Portland, OR) for comparisons of sample results. Cosedimenting proteins were screened using conservative parameters, with a positive identification requiring a protein threshold of 99% and a minimum of two peptides per protein, with a peptide threshold of 95%. The estimated Prophet false discovery rate at these settings is <0.4%.

Proteins present in EGFP-only affinity isolates at spectral count levels ≥50% of the number of peptides identified in EGFP-hSV or EGFP-anillin fractions were defined as contaminants and eliminated; these proteins are listed in Supplemental Table S2. The most abundant interactors are presented in Table 1. All identified proteins

meeting the cut-off parameters and the spectral counts from each experiment, including background counts, are reported in Supplemental Tables S3 and S4.

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