C4orf41 and TTC-15 are mammalian TRAPP components with a role at an early stage in ER-to-Golgi trafficking

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ABSTRACT TRAPP is a multisubunit tethering complex implicated in multiple vesicle trafficking steps in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and conserved throughout eukarya, including humans. Here we confirm the role of TRAPPC2L as a stable component of mammalian TRAPP and report the identification of four novel components of the complex: C4orf41, TTC-15, KIAA1012, and Bet3L. Two of the components, KIAA1012 and Bet3L, are mammalian homologues of Trs85p and Bet3p, respectively. The remaining two novel TRAPP components, C4orf41 and TTC-15, have no homologues in *S. cerevisiae*. With this work, human homologues of all the *S. cerevisiae* TRAPP proteins, with the exception of the *Saccharomyces* specific subunit Trs65p, have now been reported. Through a multidisciplinary approach, we demonstrate that the novel proteins are bona fide components of human TRAPP and indicate C4orf41 and TTC-15 (which we call TRAPPC11 and TRAPPC12, respectively) in ER-to-Golgi trafficking at a very early stage. We further present a binary interaction map for all known mammalian TRAPP components and evidence that TRAPP oligomerizes. Our data are consistent with the absence of a TRAPP I-equivalent complex in mammalian cells, suggesting that the fundamental unit of mammalian TRAPP is distinct from that characterized in *S. cerevisiae*.

INTRODUCTION

Eukaryotic intracellular vesicle trafficking requires a suite of molecular activities to ensure appropriate targeting of the vesicle and its contents. These activities include sorting, budding, movement, tethering, and fusion of the vesicle, with each step adding a layer of specificity to the trafficking process (Bonifacino and Glick, 2004). *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* TRAPP is a multisubunit tethering complex, with two distinct forms called TRAPP I and TRAPP II, implicated in endoplasmic reticulum (ER) to Golgi and late Golgi trafficking, respectively (Sacher et al., 2001; Cai et al., 2005). Although TRAPP is conserved in all eukaryotes, the function and composition of mammalian TRAPP are not well characterized. It is notable that mutation in the human orthologue of Trs20p, TRAPPC2/sedlin, is the causative lesion in X-linked spondyloepiphyseal dysplasia tarda (SEDT) (Gedeon et al., 1999, 2001; Tiller et al., 2001; Shaw et al., 2003).

*S. cerevisiae* TRAPP I consists of Bet5p, Trs20p, Bet3p, Trs23p, Trs31p, and Trs33p (Sacher et al., 1998, 2000, 2001), with the mammalian orthologues named TRAPPC1, TRAPPC2, TRAPPC3, TRAPPC4, TRAPPC5, and TRAPPC6a/b, respectively (Sacher et al., 2008) (see Table 1 for nomenclature used in this paper). *S. cerevisiae* Trs85p associates with TRAPP I but has recently been proposed to form a distinct subcomplex with a role in autophagy (Nazarko et al., 2005; Meling-Wesse et al., 2005; Lynch-Day et al., 2010). TRAPP II consists of the TRAPP I “core,” with the additional subunits Trs65p, Trs120p, and Trs130p (Sacher et al., 2001). A recently characterized protein, Tca17p, may associate specifically with TRAPP II (Montpetit and Conibear, 2009; Scrivens et al., 2009). The *S. cerevisiae* TRAPP I and TRAPP II complexes are stable assemblies that fractionate discreetly in size-exclusion chromatography. In contrast, upon size...
both proteins are found in stable TRAPP complexes in mammalian cells. As well as the mammalian TRAPP I orthologues listed above, we find that C2 and C2L stably associate with a putative Trs85p orthologue, KIAA1012, which we here refer to as C8. Both also associate with the previously reported Trs120p and Trs130p orthologues, NIBP (C9) and TMEM1 (C10) (Cox et al., 2007). In addition, here we report two novel TRAPP proteins, C4orf41/Gryzun (now designated TRAPPC11 and TTC-15 (now designated TRAPPC12) that, while being found throughout eukarya including diverse fungi, are absent in S. cerevisiae. Whereas Trs85p was recently implicated in autophagy in S. cerevisiae, we provide evidence that the mammalian Trs85p orthologue C8, as well as C11 and C12, are bona fide TRAPP components with roles in ER-to-Golgi trafficking. Specifically, we implicate C11 in membrane traffic between the ER and the ERGIC compartment. Using a combination of binary yeast two-hybrid analysis and biochemical studies, we provide evidence that TRAPP oligomerizes and present an initial model of the architecture of mammalian TRAPP. Our study suggests the absence of a TRAPP I subcomplex in mammalian cells and implies fundamental differences between S. cerevisiae and mammals in how TRAPP regulates early secretory pathway trafficking.

**RESULTS**

TAP-tagged C2 and C2L identify new TRAPP interactors in human cells

The yeast orthologue of C2L, Tca17p, was shown to associate loosely with TRAPP and implied, based in part on yeast genetic interactions, to have a TRAPP II–specific function (Montpetit and Conibear, 2009; Scrivens et al., 2009). In an effort to discern a functional difference between C2 and C2L, we precipitated tandem affinity purification (TAP)-tagged C2 and C2L followed by SDS–PAGE and mass spectrometry. Somewhat surprisingly, the pattern of associated bands detected by silver staining was essentially indistinguishable between the two proteins, suggesting that the two proteins are found in equivalent complexes (Figure 1A). The presence of C2 and C2L in the same complex was indeed confirmed as seen by the coprecipitation of myc-tagged C2 with FLAG-tagged C2L (Figure 1B), consistent with the notion that C2L completes the symmetry of the TRAPP core, residing opposite C2, as previously suggested (Scrivens et al., 2009).

Analysis of the C2- and C2L-interacting proteins demonstrated the presence of known human TRAPP components, including C3, C4, and C5, as well as the previously reported yeast TRAPP II orthologues C9 and C10 (see Figure 1C). Several novel, high-molecular-weight proteins were also identified in the purifications (Figure 1A and Table 2). Peptides originating from KIAA1012, TTC-15, and C4orf41 (the human orthologue of Drosophila melanogaster Gryzun and Danio rerio Foie gras) were detected. These proteins have not been previously characterized as TRAPP components, but KIAA1012 was annotated in GenBank as TRAPPC8, a Trs85p orthologue. Interestingly, C4orf41/gryzun was recently identified in a D. melanogaster screen as a novel component involved in secretion (Wendler et al., 2010). Given that C9 and C4orf41 comigrate,
The newly identified proteins were stable TRAPP components as demonstrated by a second method that characterized TRAPP subunits, showing by a second method that they are indeed stably associated with the complex. These results firmly establish the newly identified proteins as stable TRAPP interactors. We henceforth designate these new components TRAPPC8 (KIAA1012), TRAPPC11 (C4orf41), and TRAPPC12 (TTC-15), following the precedents from the automatic annotation and the order of their discovery.

C8/KIAA1012 has been automatically annotated as a Trs85p orthologue, but its presence in our multiple purifications confirms it as the Trs85p orthologue experimentally. The mammalian protein is significantly longer than its S. cerevisiae counterpart (see Table 1) and displays several short regions of homology. Trs85p has been previously characterized as a yeast TRAPP component and was recently suggested to play a specific role in autophagy in yeast as a component of a discrete TRAPP subassembly (TRAPP III) (Lynch-Day et al., 2010). Interestingly, we find that C8 depletion causes Golgi fragmentation, supporting a role for the mammalian orthologue in ER-to-Golgi trafficking (see below).

C11/gryzun is found in all eukaryotic kingdoms, including fungi, but is absent from S. cerevisiae and Schizosaccharomyces pombe (Supplemental Figure 1A). The protein contains nonoverlapping regions of homology to both human C10 and S. cerevisiae Trs130p (Supplemental Figure 2; Wendler et al., 2010). The importance of C11 in cellular function is evident from the fact that, in zebrafish, a loss-of-function mutation is embryonic lethal (Sadler et al., 2005), whereas Drosophila mutants display defects in learning and memory (Dubnau et al., 2003).

C12/TTC-15 contains a tetratricopeptide repeat domain that is well characterized as a protein–protein interaction domain mediating hetero- and self-associations (Lamb et al., 1995). The domain is composed of degenerate repeats of a 34-amino-acid motif, and C12 contains four such repeats (Supplemental Figure 3). The protein is well-conserved through evolution but, like C11, is curiously absent from S. cerevisiae. As is the case with C11, however, orthologues are detected in other fungi (Supplemental Figure 1B).

**C11 and C12 cofractionate with TRAPP**

We next examined the fractionation of the newly identified proteins by size exclusion chromatography. Consistent with our previous results regarding TRAPP organization in mammalian cells (Scrivens et al., 2009), V5-tagged C8 and endogenous C11 and C12 eluted in the same high-molecular-weight pool relative to the 500 kDa fraction seen for the endogenous C10 protein (Yamasaki et al., 2009). Curiously, endogenous C12 was observed to elute in the same high-molecular-weight pool as TRAPP, as well as a 400- to 500-kDa fraction distinct from other TRAPP components. The components of this smaller C12 assembly are currently being characterized.

To further address the role of C11, we examined the effect of depletion of the endogenous protein by siRNA on complex integrity. Interestingly, depletion of C11 (Supplemental Figure 5) resulted in a partial disassembly of the TRAPP complex, as evidenced by a partial redistribution of the C2 signal from the high-molecular-weight to a very-low-molecular-weight fraction and a loss of C12 from the highest molecular weight pool relative to the ~500 kDa fraction (Figure 2B). A minor effect was also observed for C3, though this was more difficult to discern given the large pool of monomeric C3 in unperturbed cells (see Figure 2A) (Loh et al., 2005; Scrivens et al., 2009; Yamasaki et al., 2009). Curiously, endogenous C12 was observed to elute in the same high-molecular-weight pool as TRAPP, as well as a 400- to 500-kDa fraction distinct from other TRAPP components. The components of this smaller C12 assembly are currently being characterized.

**FIGURE 1: Identification of novel mammalian TRAPP components.**

(A) HEK293T cells were transfected with an empty vector (vector) or transfected with either TAP-C2 or TAP-C2L. Lysates were subjected to two-step affinity purification and fractionated by SDS–PAGE. Bands were excised and subjected to mass spectrometric identification. In some cases, bands were not resolved and the entire eluate was analyzed by mass spectrometry. The bait band refers to either C2 (lane 2) or C2L (lane 3). TTC15/TRAPPC12 is marked with an asterisk since it was not identified in a gel slice but rather following mass spectrometric analysis of a non-gel-resolved protein preparation. Note that the uneven staining of the gel is due to the use of a discontinuous gradient in the resolving portion of the gel. (B) Lysates of HEK293T cells transfected with FLAG-C2L and myc-C2 (lane 1) were treated with preimmune rabbit serum (lane 2) or anti–FLAG IgG. (C) Eluates following TAP purification were fractionated from cells transfected with an empty plasmid (vector) or with the TAP-C4orf41. The gel was transferred to a PVDF membrane and probed for the presence of the indicated TRAPP proteins. (D) HEK293T cells were transfected with HA-C4orf41. Lysates were incubated with preimmune serum (lane 2), anti-HA (lane 3), or anti-TTC15/C12 (lane 4). Immunoprecipitates were then fractionated by SDS–PAGE and probed for the presence of C2, C2L, C3, C12 or HA (indicating the presence of C4orf41/C11). Inputs representing 10% of the sample precipitated are shown in lane 1.

The high-molecular-weight polypeptides on this gel appear to be present in stoichiometric amounts.

In an effort to confirm the stable association of C4orf41 with TRAPP, we purified the complex using TAP-C4orf41 followed by SDS–PAGE and probed for the presence of C2, C2L, or C3 (Figure 2C). These results indicate that, whereas C2, C2L, and C3 in unperturbed cells (see Figure 2A) (Loh et al., 2005; Scrivens et al., 2009; Yamasaki et al., 2009). The importance of C11 in cellular function is evident from the fact that, in zebrafish, a loss-of-function mutation is embryonic lethal (Sadler et al., 2005), whereas Drosophila mutants display defects in learning and memory (Dubnau et al., 2003).

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The C11 knockdown phenotype is consistent with an earlier study showing a similar Golgi phenotype (Wendler et al., 2010). These results imply that the three novel TRAPP-associated proteins function in the early secretory pathway.

C12 displays a punctate and perinuclear localization

Previous studies examining the localization of mammalian TRAPP components have suggested that C3, a core component of the complex, localizes to the transitional ER, whereas C10 and several other subunits were reported to colocalize with early Golgi markers (Yu et al., 2006; Yamasaki et al., 2009). These results prompted us to examine the localization of endogenous C12 using an antibody specific to this subunit. We first used epifluorescence microscopy to validate the C12 antibody in the context of a specific or control knockdown (Figure 4A). The pattern seen in HeLa cells in the absence of C12 knockdown was highly punctate with an obvious concentration of the punctae in the perinuclear region (Figure 4A), reminiscent of that observed for C11 (C4orf41) in Drosophila cells (Wendler et al., 2010) and for C3 in NRK cells (Loh et al., 2005).

Analysis by maximum projection of confocal images recapitulated this punctate localization, in contrast to the ribbon-like localization observed for Golgi markers and the perinuclear portion of ERGIC53 (Figure 4A).

Examination of individual confocal slices revealed that a small portion of the C12 signal overlapped with that of the ERGIC marker ERGIC53, whereas we observed minimal colocalization with the ERES marker/COP II constituent Sec23a or with the cis- and medial-Golgi markers GM130 and mannosidase II (Figure 4B). This labeling pattern was maintained upon nocodazole treatment, upon which we observed a small portion of the C12 signal overlapping with ERGIC53, respectively (Figure 3). The C11 knockdown phenotype is consistent with an earlier study showing a similar Golgi phenotype (Wendler et al., 2010). These results imply that the three novel TRAPP-associated proteins function in the early secretory pathway.

Depletion of C8, C11, or C12 by RNAi results in Golgi fragmentation

We previously reported that depletion of C2 and C2L by RNAi in HeLa cells results in Golgi fragmentation, suggestive of a role in ER-to-Golgi trafficking analogous to that characterized for yeast TRAPP I (Scrivens et al., 2009). Although C2 (as a Trs20p orthologue) represents a component of a putative mammalian TRAPP I core, given the proposed role of Trs85p in autophagy, we did not know whether the depletion of its homologue C8, or of C11 and C12 (with no S. cerevisiae orthologues), would recapitulate this phenotype.

As was the case with C2 or C2L depletion, RNAi against C8, C11, or C12 resulted in Golgi fragmentation in the form of dispersed puncta, as assessed by indirect immunofluorescence of the ER-to-Golgi intermediate compartment (ERGIC), cis- and medial-Golgi markers ERGIC53, GM130, and Golgi α-Mannosidase II (Man II), respectively (Figure 3). The C11 knockdown phenotype is consistent with an earlier study showing a similar Golgi phenotype (Wendler et al., 2010). These results imply that the three novel TRAPP-associated proteins function in the early secretory pathway.

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Depletion of either C11 or C12 perturbs trafficking of ts045-VSV-G-GFP

As components of TRAPP, C11 and C12 are likely involved in anterograde traffic between the ER and the Golgi. The fragmentation of the Golgi observed upon knockdown is indicative of such a role, but to address this notion directly, we examined the effect of C11 and C12 depletion on the trafficking of the temperature-sensitive, fluorophore-tagged VSV-G mutant ts045-VSV-G-GFP. At temperatures above 38°C, this mutant protein is retained in the ER, but upon shifting to the permissive temperature of 32°C, it is efficiently released, first to the ERGIC and then further through the secretory pathway (Bergmann and Singer, 1983; Scales et al., 1997). HeLa cells were

versus merely in proximity to GM130 and Man II (Figure 4C). The localization of this C12 thus contrasts with the reported localization of C10 following nocodazole treatment, where enhanced colocalization with Golgi markers was observed (Yamasaki et al., 2009).

Given that the yeast TRAPP II components Trs120p and Trs130p have been reported to localize to a late Golgi/early endosomal compartment (Cai et al., 2005), we examined the localization of C12 with respect to internalized, fluorescently labeled epidermal growth factor (EGF) or transferrin (Tfn). We did not observe significant overlap with either of these endocytic markers (Figure 4D), suggesting that C12 does not localize to early or recycling endosomes.

FIGURE 4: Localization of TRAPPC12. (A) HeLa cells were treated with nonspecific (NS; top row) or C12-specific (middle row) siRNAs and stained for C12 and ERGIC53, then visualized by epifluorescence microscopy (upper two rows). Maximum projection of confocal images from NS-treated cells (third row) recapitulates the punctate, perinuclear C12 localization seen by epifluorescence microscopy. (B) Single confocal slices of untreated HeLa cells costained for C12 and Sec23a, ERGIC53, GM130, or Man II. (C) HeLa cells were treated with 10 μM nocodazole for 1 h and then stained with antibodies against C12 and either ERGIC53, GM130, or Man II, as indicated. (D) HeLa cells were serum-starved for 2 h prior to incubation with fluor-tagged EGF or transferrin (Tfn). The scale bar in (A) and (B) represents 10 μm, whereas in (C) and (D) it represents 2 μm.
we examined its localization in C11-depleted cells after long incubation times. It has been demonstrated via live-cell imaging that VSV-G reaches the cell surface within ~100 min after release from the ER (Hirschberg et al., 1998; Vasserman et al., 2006). Consistent with the notion that C11-depleted cells are deficient in anterograde trafficking, the VSV-G label remained punctate even 3.5 h after the shift to 32°C (Figure 6, A and B). We postulated that VSV-G had

deployed of C11 or C12 using siRNA for 48 h and then transfected with a plasmid containing ts045-VSV-G-GFP (VSV-G). The following day, VSV-G was blocked in the ER by incubation at the restrictive temperature for 6 h. VSV-G was then released by shifting to 32°C for 30 min in the presence of cycloheximide. In cells treated with a non-specific oligonucleotide, the fluorescent signal appeared in the perinuclear region within 30 min and colocalized with the Golgi marker Man II (Figure 5A). On knockdown of C11 or C12, however, the mutant protein did not traffic to a perinuclear region typical of the Golgi, but rather accumulated in punctate structures (Figure 5, B–E, and Supplemental Figure 7). Confocal microscopy demonstrated that these punctae costained for ERGIC53 (Figure 5, D and E) and are closely apposed to Sec31 (Figure 5, B and C), markers for the ERGIC and ER-exit sites, respectively (Figure 5). These results are consistent with the VSV-G visualized here, representing either cargo at an ER exit site or peripheral ERGIC apposed to an ER exit site, similar to that reported by Mironov et al., 2003.

We previously showed that knockdown of either C2 or C2L results in Golgi fragmentation as evidenced by Man II–positive punctae that also contained ERGIC53 (Scrivens et al., 2009), and in this study, have shown a similar phenotype following knockdown of either C11 or C12. To more formally demonstrate that VSV-G is not merely labeling a functional Golgi mini-stack after a short release,
failed to reach the Golgi and tested this hypothesis by treating C11-depleted cells with the fungal metabolite brefeldin A (BFA), which causes rapid collapse of the cis- and medial-Golgi into the ER (Lippincott-Schwartz et al., 1989) and a redistribution of ERGIC53 to ER exit sites or closely associated peripheral ERGIC elements (Saraste and Svensson, 1991; Marie et al., 2009). As shown in Figure 6C, the Man II signal was redistributed to the ER and was barely visible, indicating that retrograde traffic of this marker was not impaired upon C11 depletion. Importantly, both the SVS-G and ERGIC53 punctae were BFA-resistant and remained colocalized. These results are consistent with C11 depletion arresting anterograde trafficking at an early stage, either at ER exit sites or closely apposed peripheral ERGIC (see Figure 5, B–E).

Mapping of mammalian TRAPP interactions

Although our mass spectrometry, immunoprecipitation, and Western blotting data strongly support the interaction of C8, C11, and C12 with TRAPP in mammalian cells, they do not provide architectural information about mammalian TRAPP. To begin to address this, we mapped the binary interactions of each of the TRAPP subunits by yeast two-hybrid.

We sought to assemble a complete set of TRAPP components. Earlier reports identified several isoforms of the C6 subunit, including two different C6a isoforms as well as C6b (Kim et al., 2005; Kummel et al., 2005, 2008), and we previously identified C2L by its similarity to C2 (Scrivens et al., 2009). To ensure that all possible TRAPP subunits were included in this study, we mined GenBank for TRAPP-related proteins. Indeed, we identified a protein annotated as Bet3-like (using our convention of subunit nomenclature of the mammalian orthologues, we will refer to this protein as C3L). C3 and C3L are clearly related, displaying ∼60% identity at the amino acid level (Supplemental Figure 8A). Key features previously identified on C3, including residues that make up a basic patch on one surface and a cysteine residue that can be acylated, are preserved in C3L. Strikingly, although C3 and C3L are nearly identical in size, C3L has a predicted isoelectric point (pI) of 8.11, whereas C3 is considerably more acidic with a pI of 4.88. This difference is readily seen at the carboxy terminus: whereas the carboxy terminus of C3 is acidic, the carboxy terminus of C3L is highly basic.

To confirm that C3L is capable of interacting with TRAPP, a FLAG-tagged version was expressed in HEK293T cells, and lysates were immunoprecipitated with antibodies against several TRAPP proteins and then probed for the presence of FLAG-C3L. As shown in Supplemental Figure 8B, FLAG-C3L coprecipitated with C2, C10, C11, and C12, confirming that it is a TRAPP-associated protein that should be included in our binary interaction map.

For the yeast two-hybrid analysis, each TRAPP subunit was tested in both the bait and prey vectors against all subunits listed in Table 1. All previously identified interactions based on earlier structural work with some of the mammalian subunits (Kim et al., 2006) were recapitulated in our extensive binary interaction map, suggesting that this is a valid means to assess interacting partners within this complex (Table 3). The strongest interactions were seen between C2/C2L/C6 and the high-molecular-weight proteins C10, C11, and C12. In addition, the high-molecular-weight proteins appear to have extensive and strong interactions among themselves. These data support a model of mammalian TRAPP in which the high-molecular-weight proteins associate with each other and with one or both ends of the complex via interactions with C6, C2L, and/or C2 (see Figure 7C).

Human TRAPP forms oligomers

Several results prompted us to examine whether human TRAPP forms oligomers. First, some interactions seen by the yeast two-hybrid studies above were not seen in the crystal structure. One example is the C4–C2 interaction, which was unexpected since these subunits are separated by both C3 and C5 (Kim et al., 2006). Interestingly, this interaction was also noted for the yeast homologues Tns20p and Tns23p (S.B. and M.S., unpublished data). Second, the size of TRAPP by gel filtration is larger than expected for the sum of its subunits. This is demonstrated by its elution at or near the void volume using a column with a nominal cutoff of 1300 kDa (Superdex 200) (Figure 2; Loh et al., 2005; Kummel et al., 2008; Scrivens et al., 2009; Yamasaki et al., 2009). To investigate whether these results may be due to oligomerization of the complex, HEK293T cells were cotransfected with individual TRAPP proteins bearing two different epitope tags. Lysates were prepared, and the subunit of interest was precipitated with an antibody against one of the tags. The immunoprecipitate was then probed for the presence of the other tag, indicating that the two proteins either associate together or are in the same complex. This experiment was performed for tagged versions of C2L, C10, C11, and C12. As seen in Figure 7A, a tagged version of each subunit precipitated the other tagged version of the same subunit. Because several of these proteins have non-TRAPP-associated pools (see Figure 2), the coimmunoprecipitation experiment was performed on a TRAPP-enriched,
by association of two or more such units. Yeast two-hybrid data and the partial destabilization of TRAPP observed upon C11 knockdown suggest that C11 may mediate the interactions between the TRAPP core (through C2L and C6) and other large TRAPP subunits. Preliminary data on the interactions of various domains of C11 support this notion (B.N. and M.S., unpublished observation). The orientation of the two TRAPP cores is unclear, and they may align either parallel or antiparallel as depicted in our model. However, either model allows for interactions between subunits that were not seen in the crystal structure of the core by interactions between two or more cores of the TRAPP oligomer.

The most closely related yeast complex to human TRAPP is TRAPP II, whose architecture was recently reported (Yip et al., 2010). In TRAPP II, the core is flanked by the high-molecular-weight subunits Trs130p and Trs120p. Dimerization was mediated by interactions between either of these two high-molecular-weight subunits and Trs65p. Although similar to the yeast TRAPP II architecture, our model differs in several respects. First, higher eukaryotes do not have a Trs65p homologue (see Table 1), and therefore oligomerization must be mediated by another subunit. Second, higher eukaryotes contain C11 and C12, proteins that are not found in \textit{S. cerevisiae}. Therefore the “caps” on the ends of the TRAPP core may vary quite significantly from those of \textit{yeast} TRAPP II. The subunits comprising the caps in human TRAPP may provide functions to the complex that are not needed in \textit{S. cerevisiae}. Finally, given the similar phenotype between C8, C11, C12, C2, and C2L knockdowns, our model suggests that all of these subunits may be present in the oligomers of TRAPP, whereas the orthologues of C8 and C2L (Trs85p and Tca17p, respectively) were not detected in TRAPP II purified with tagged Trs120p (Yip et al., 2010). Our model is consistent with a previous report demonstrating that C6a and C6b cofractionate by size exclusion chromatography (Kummel et al., 2008). Because neither the crystal structure of yeast nor mammalian TRAPP suggested

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Subunits in red are in the bait vector, whereas those in black are in the prey vector. Dark red, QDO; light red, TDO; horizontal bars, interactions seen in crystal structure (Kim et al., 2006).

TABLE 3: Summary of binary yeast two-hybrid interactions.

DISCUSSION

Although yeast TRAPP is increasingly well-characterized, the components and function of mammalian TRAPP are less defined. The similarity of the C2- and C2L-TAP-purified TRAPP complexes (Figure 1) suggests that we are likely to have discovered most, if not all, mammalian TRAPP components through this methodology. Vesicle trafficking in \textit{S. cerevisiae} and mammalian cells is characterized not only by conserved molecular assemblies and pathways, but by distinct differences between organelle structure and function. \textit{S. cerevisiae}, for example, need to coordinate membrane traffic to a large vacuole, which is absent in mammalian cells. Likewise, differences are seen in Golgi organization, presence or absence of the ERGIC, and distribution of ER exit sites. Distinct trafficking steps in yeast are mediated by discrete subassemblies of TRAPP, with TRAPP I mediating ER-to-Golgi and TRAPP II mediating late Golgi vesicle trafficking. In contrast, we and others (Loh et al., 2005; Yu et al., 2006; Kummel et al., 2008; Yamasaki et al., 2009) have shown that no TRAPP I equivalent (a complex composed of C1–C6) is present in mammalian cells, but rather that the fundamental unit of TRAPP is a much larger assembly. This raises the question of whether and how mammalian TRAPP, like yeast TRAPP, mediates discrete trafficking events, which is addressed below.

Together with the extensive yeast two-hybrid analysis, we present a model for the architecture of mammalian TRAPP (Figure 7C). Based on our most stringent growth criterion in the yeast two-hybrid analysis, we speculate that the C2 and C2L ends of the TRAPP core (Figure 7C, blue circles) mediate interactions with the high-molecular-weight subunits (Figure 7C, mauve ovals). Oligomers may form by association of two or more such units. Yeast two-hybrid data and the partial destabilization of TRAPP observed upon C11 knockdown suggest that C11 may mediate the interactions between the TRAPP core (through C2L and C6) and other large TRAPP subunits. Preliminary data on the interactions of various domains of C11 support this notion (B.N. and M.S., unpublished observation). The orientation of the two TRAPP cores is unclear, and they may align either parallel or antiparallel as depicted in our model. However, either model allows for interactions between subunits that were not seen in the crystal structure of the core by interactions between two or more cores of the TRAPP oligomer.

The most closely related yeast complex to human TRAPP is TRAPP II, whose architecture was recently reported (Yip et al., 2010). In TRAPP II, the core is flanked by the high-molecular-weight subunits Trs130p and Trs120p. Dimerization was mediated by interactions between either of these two high-molecular-weight subunits and Trs65p. Although similar to the yeast TRAPP II architecture, our model differs in several respects. First, higher eukaryotes do not have a Trs65p homologue (see Table 1), and therefore oligomerization must be mediated by another subunit. Second, higher eukaryotes contain C11 and C12, proteins that are not found in \textit{S. cerevisiae}. Therefore the “caps” on the ends of the TRAPP core may vary quite significantly from those of yeast TRAPP II. The subunits comprising the caps in human TRAPP may provide functions to the complex that are not needed in \textit{S. cerevisiae}. Finally, given the similar phenotype between C8, C11, C12, C2, and C2L knockdowns, our model suggests that all of these subunits may be present in the oligomers of TRAPP, whereas the orthologues of C8 and C2L (Trs85p and Tca17p, respectively) were not detected in TRAPP II purified with tagged Trs120p (Yip et al., 2010). Our model is consistent with a previous report demonstrating that C6a and C6b cofractionate by size exclusion chromatography (Kummel et al., 2008). Because neither the crystal structure of yeast nor mammalian TRAPP suggested
the presence of multiple copies of C6, we suggest that cofractionation of two isoforms of this subunit is due to oligomerization of the complex.

Oligomerization of TRAPP can give rise to complexes with variable components in any one of several positions (i.e., C6a/b, C3/C3L) and might allow for a combinatorial diversification of TRAPP function, perhaps regulating cell-specific activities. Indeed, C3L appears to have a limited expression profile (http://www.genecards.org/cgi-bin/carddisp.pl?gene=BET3L&search=bet3) relative to C3, suggesting a functional diversification. Intriguingly, residues previously implicated as critical for Ypt1p GEF activity in Bet3p are conserved in C3 but not in C3L (Cai et al., 2008).

What, then, is the function of the complex? Localization of subunits by fluorescence microscopy has proven difficult due to the large soluble pools of the proteins. However, C3 was reported to be localized to ER exit sites, whereas C2, C4, and C10 were reported to be bound to COP I vesicles at or near the Golgi (Yu et al., 2006; Yamashaki et al., 2009). Here we report that C12 is largely found in punctae throughout the cell and knockdowns of either C11 or C12 arrest a cargo protein in a BFA-resistant compartment. It was recently suggested that such a BFA-resistant compartment represents peripheral elements of the ERGIC in close association with the ER (Marie et al., 2009). Furthermore, C3 was proposed to be involved in formation of the ERGIC (Yu et al., 2006). Together with the present study, we suggest that TRAPP functions either at ER exit sites or at peripheral ERGIC (BFA-resistant) elements. A defect at the ERGIC may be expected to have an indirect effect on the ability of cargo to properly exit the ER. It remains a possibility that TRAPP may function at both stages (ER exit and early ERGIC) in the early secretory pathway. This notion is supported by several pieces of evidence. Yeast TRAPP acts as a GEF for Ypt1 and precipitation of C10 coprecipitates a Rab1 GEF (Jones et al., 2000; Wang et al., 2000; Yamashaki et al., 2009). A function for activated Rab1 during vesicle budding has been reported previously (Allan et al., 2000), and therefore its GEF would be expected to associate with budding vesicles at ER exit sites. Thus, TRAPP, or a subset of TRAPP proteins, may play an as yet undefined role during vesicle budding accounting for a defect in cargo exit from the ER as we report. Given its well-documented role as a vesicle tether in yeast, the complex may in fact migrate on ERGIC membranes to the Golgi, where it performs a second (tethering) function. The localization of subunits on Golgi-derived COP I vesicles may represent a means to recycle the complex back to ERGIC membranes and, analogous to yeast, may thus function in traffic to the early Golgi. The necessarily dynamic nature of the membrane association of TRAPP proteins could account for differences in their reported localization. Alternatively, C12 appears to fractionate in a second pool distinct from other TRAPP proteins and its localization may be linked to this pool.

C8 (KIAA1012) was found to copurify with TAP-C3 (Gavin et al., 2002). Its copurification with several other TRAPP components and its implication in vesicle trafficking as demonstrated in this study confirm that it is a bona fide TRAPP subunit. Although its yeast orthologue Trs85p was suggested to be in a complex distinct from TRAPP I and TRAPP II that functions in autophagy (Lynch-Day et al., 2010), our study clearly links the mammalian protein to the early secretory pathway. Although our results indicate a general role for C8 in membrane trafficking, they do not preclude a second role for this protein in autophagy in mammals.

Recombinant expression of the yeast equivalent of C1–C6 resulted in a stable, functional core complex, whereas recombinant expression of the mammalian proteins did not (Kim et al., 2006). It was previously speculated that the recombinant mammalian TRAPP core required other subunits to facilitate its stable assembly (Sacher et al., 2008). Our identification of a number of new proteins, the loss of two of which (C11 or C12) appears to partially destabilize the complex in vivo, supports this notion. A detailed analysis of the structure of human TRAPP will help to explain this phenomenon.

MATERIALS AND METHODS
Yeast two hybrid
Modified pGADT7 and pGBK77 plasmids containing TRAPP subunits were transformed into AH109 and Y187 yeast, respectively. Mating was performed on YPD agar plates, and mating efficiency was tested on –leucine/–tryptophan agar plates. Interactions were assessed on –leucine/–tryptophan/–histidine (without or with 3-amino-1,2,4-triazole) and on –leucine/–tryptophan/–histidine/–adenine plates.

ts045-VSV-G-GFP trafficking assay
HeLa cells were plated on glass coverslips in DMEM supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS). One hour prior to transfection, DMEM was removed and replaced with Optimem. Cells were knocked down with 12 pmol siRNA per well in a 12-well dish. Approximately 20 h after transfection, 1 ml DMEM + 10% FBS was added to each well. One hour later, the medium was exchanged for fresh DMEM + 10% FBS and the dishes were returned to the 37°C incubator for 24 h.

ts045-VSV-G-GFP transfection
VSV-G transfection was performed ~48 h after the start of the knockdown. Each well was transfected with 0.4 μg pEGFP-VSV-G (ts045) (Addgene, Cambridge, MA) using Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). Plates were returned to the 37°C incubator for ~18 h.

Temperature shifts
Dishes were placed in a 39.5°C incubator for 6.5 h to induce ER retention of the ts045-VSV-G-GFP. At this point, control cells were fixed on ice. The remainder of the cells were shifted to 32°C by replacement of medium with 32°C DMEM + 10% FBS containing 10 μg/ml cycloheximide and transferred to a 32°C incubator for 30 min. Cells were fixed after 30 min at 32°C, or were left for an additional 3 hours with or without 5 μg/ml BFA. Following release, all cells were prepared for microscopy as described below.

Fluorescence microscopy
Cells containing ts045-VSV-G-GFP fusions were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde in phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), washed thoroughly with PBS, then permeabilized by addition of cold methanol prior to immunofluorescence labeling. For labeling of TRAPP12/TTC-15 and Sec23a or endosomes (EGF-Alexa 488 or Tfn-Alexa 546), HeLa cells were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde in phosphate-buffered saline (PBS), washed thoroughly, then permeabilized with 0.2% Triton X-100 in PBS (Tfn, Sec23a) or endosomes (EGF-Alexa 488 or Tfn-Alexa 546). HeLa cells were prepared for microscopy as described below.

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polyclonal serum, kind gift of Randy Schekman); Sar1b 1:100 (rabbit polyclonal, Assay Biotech catalogue #C16030). Secondary antibodies (Alexa488- or Alexa546-labeled anti-mouse or anti-rabbit secondary antibodies; Invitrogen) were diluted in blocking buffer containing 4’,6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI). Golgi fragmentation was assessed by epifluorescence microscopy using a Zeiss Axioplan microscope. VSV-G trafficking was monitored on fixed cells using a Leica TCS SP2 confocal microscope.

**TLANDEN affinity purification**

TAP-tagged TRAPPc2, TRAPPC2L, or TRAPPC11 were expressed in HEK293T cells. Cells were transfected with the expression plasmid and harvested 48 hours after transfection. TAP-tagged proteins were bound to IgG sepharose (GE Healthcare, Little Chalfont, UK) in batch before treatment with Tobacco Etch Virus (TEV) protease. TEV protease–treated eluates were bound to calmodulin agarose beads (New England Biolabs, Ipswich, MA), washed and then eluted in 50 mM Tris, pH 6.8, 25 mM EGTA. Elutions were subjected to SDS–PAGE followed by silver staining or visualization by Bio-Safe coomassie (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA), bands were excised, and identified by mass spectrometry.

**Comunoprecipitation**

Communoprecipitations were performed on 500 μg protein with 1 μg antibody. Immune complexes were captured onto either protein G- or protein A-agarose. Beads were washed three times with lysis buffer (150 mM NaCl, 0.5 mM EDTA, 50 mM Tris, pH 7.2, 1% Triton X-100, 1 mM dithiothreitol [DTT], 1× Complete EDTA-free protease inhibitor) and resuspended with 1× Laemmli sample buffer. Protein samples were boiled for 2 min at 95°C, centrifuged at maximum speed for 2 min, and fractionated by SDS–PAGE.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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**REFERENCES**


Supplemental information

Methods

small interfering (si) RNA:
Small interfering RNAs (siRNAs) were purchased from Ambion and were stored at -20°C in 5 μM stocks in nuclease free water. Sense oligo sequences were: C8-1: CAGCUCUCCUAUACGGUUTT, C8-2: CAUUAGGCAAUUAAACGATT, C11-1: GGAUUUAUAAACUACAAGATT, C11-2: GGGUUAACAGCUAUUCAAATT, C12-1: CGGACAAGCUGAACGAACATT, C12-2: GGUUAUCAAGUAUUAACCCATT. For transient knockdown, HeLa cells were plated in six-well dishes 24 hours prior to transfection in DMEM+10% FBS with no antibiotics. Cells were approximately 40% confluent at the time of transfection. One hour prior to transfection, DMEM was replaced with Optimem (Invitrogen). Oligonucleotides and Oligofectamine (Invitrogen) were diluted in Optimem and combined as per the manufacturer’s directions. Liposomes were added to the wells at a final concentration of 60 nM of each oligonucleotide in a volume of 1 mL per well. Dishes were then incubated at 37°C with 5% CO₂ for 20 hours before supplementation with 1 mL DMEM+10% FBS. At 24 hours post transfection, the medium was replaced with fresh DMEM+10% FBS and dishes were incubated a further 48 hours prior to fixation.

ts045-VSV-G-GFP trafficking assay
siRNA: 24 hours prior to transfection, HeLa cells were plated on glass coverslips in matched 12-well plates in DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS (no antibiotics were
used for the duration of the assay). One hour prior to transfection, DMEM was removed and replaced with 0.5 mL Optimem. Cells were knocked down with 12 pmol siRNA and 2.4 μL Olifofectamine per well. Approximately 20 hours after transfection, 1 mL DMEM+10 % FBS was added to each well. One hour later the medium was exchanged for fresh DMEM+10% FBS and the dishes were returned to the 37°C incubator for 24 hours.

*ts045-VSV-G-GFP transfection:* VSV-G transfection was performed approximately 48 hours after the start of the knockdown. Prior to transfection, the medium was replaced with 0.5 mL DMEM+10% FBS. Each well of a 12 well dish was transfected with 0.4 μg pEGFP-VSV-G (ts045) (Addgene) and 1 μL Lipofectamine (Invitrogen), each diluted in 250 μL Optimem. This was added to the 0.5 mL DMEM already on the well. Plates were returned to the 37°C incubator for approximately 18 hours.

*Temperature shifts:* Approximately 60 hours after knockdown and 18 hours after plasmid transfection, dishes were placed in a 39.5°C incubator for 6.5 hours to induce endoplasmic reticulum retention of the ts045-VSV-G-GFP. At this point, control cells were fixed on ice by rinsing with ice-cold phosphate buffered saline (PBS) followed by incubation with ice-cold 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS. The remainder of the cells were shifted to 32°C by replacement of medium with 32°C DMEM+10% FBS containing 10 μg/ml cycloheximide and transferred to a 32°C incubator for 30 minutes. At the end of the 30 minute shift, cells were fixed as described above.
Fluorescence microscopy:

Cells containing ts045-VSV-G-GFP fusions were fixed with 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS as described above, then permeabilized by addition of -80°C 100% methanol and incubation for 20 minutes at -20°C prior to immunofluorescence labelling. All other cells were fixed and permeabilized by incubation for 20 minutes at -20°C after addition of -80°C 4:1 methanol:acetone. In both cases, fixative was removed by serial washes with PBS, then cells were blocked for one hour with 2% FBS, 2% BSA and 0.2% fish skin gelatin in PBS. Primary antibodies were diluted in blocking buffer at the following concentrations: Sec31a 1:250 (BD Diagnostics); ERGIC53 1:125 (Sigma); GM130 1:5000 (ML07) or 1:200 (4A3) (both were kind gifts of Martin Lowe); Mannosidase II 1:500 (kind gift of Kelley Moremen); C12/TTC-15 (Abnova). Secondary antibodies: Alexa488- or Alexa546-labelled anti-mouse or anti-rabbit secondary antibodies (Invitrogen) were diluted 1:250 in blocking buffer containing 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI) at a concentration of 10 μg/mL. After antibody incubations, slips were washed with three serial dilutions of blocking buffer and a final wash of PBS alone, then mounted on Antifade Gold (Invitrogen). Golgi fragmentation was assessed by epifluorescence microscopy using a Zeiss axioplan microscope fitted with an X-cite series 120Q light source (EXFO Life Sciences) and a Lumenera Infinity 3-1C 1.4 megapixel cooled CCD camera. VSV-G trafficking was monitored on fixed cells by confocal microscopy using a Leica TCS SP2 microscope.

Antibodies:

In addition to the antibodies described above for immunofluorescence, we used rabbit
polyclonal antibodies to His-tagged C2 and –C3 (described previously in Scrivens et al., 2009). For this study, we raised antibodies to a C11 peptide and serum was affinity purified against the antigenic peptide coupled to Sulfolink beads (Thermo Scientific) as per the manufacturer’s directions.

**Tandem Affinity Purification:**

Tandem affinity purification (TAP)-tagged C2, C2L or C11 were expressed in HEK293T cells. In a typical purification, six 15 cm dishes of cells at 50% confluence were transfected with 20 μg of the expression plasmid using standard Ca2PO4 transfection. 18 hours after transfection, cells were washed thoroughly with HBS supplemented with 0.53 mM EDTA, and returned to the incubator in fresh DMEM supplemented with 10% FBS and 1X penicillin/streptomycin. Twenty-four hours after transfection, cells were split two-fold, resulting in twelve 15 cm dishes per purification. Forty-eight hours after transfection, cells were harvested by removing the medium and washing once with 10 mL ice cold PBS and scraping in 500 μl per plate lysis buffer (1 mM EDTA, 50 mM Tris pH 7.2, 150 mM NaCl, 1% Triton X-100, 1X Complete EDTA-free protease inhibitor (Roche), 1 mM NaOV, 2 mM NaF). Lysates were pooled and rocked for 10 minutes at 4 °C. Lysates were then cleared by centrifugation at 16,100 g for 20 minutes and supernatants reserved. TAP-tagged proteins were bound to a 50 μL bed volume of IgG sepharose (GE Healthcare) in batch in 15 mL conical tubes by rocking for three hours at 4°C. Lysates and beads were then transferred to a 10 mL disposable Bio-Rad column for washing. Beads were washed with 3 x 5 mL lysis buffer and 2 x 5 mL Tobacco Etch Virus (TEV) buffer (10 mM Hepes KOH pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, 0.1% NP-40, 0.5 mM
EDTA). Beads were then collected from the disposable column by resuspending in TEV buffer and transferring to microfuge tubes, where they were washed twice more in TEV buffer. TEV cleavage was performed by resuspending the IgG beads in 300 uL TEV buffer containing 50 U TEV protease and 1 mM DTT and agitating for 10 hours at 4 °C, followed by 1 hour at 16°C. The supernatant was reserved and the IgG beads were washed three times with 300 μL calmodulin (CAM) binding buffer (10 mM β-mercaptoethanol, 10 mM Hepes-KOH, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM MgOAC, 1 mM imidazole, 0.1% NP-40, 2 mM CaCl₂). The washes and TEV supernatant were pooled, yielding a 1.2 mL sample, cleared by three rounds of centrifugation to remove residual IgG beads, and added to a 35 μL bed volume of CAM beads (New England Biolabs). Proteins were bound by incubation for 3 hours at 4°C, then beads were washed three times with CAM binding buffer and twice with CAM rinsing buffer (10 mM Hepes pH 8.0, 75 mM NaCl, 1 mM MgOAC, 1 mM imidazole, 2 mM CaCl₂). Proteins were then eluted in six 35 μL fractions using 50 mM Tris pH 6.8, 25 mM EGTA. Elutions were then subjected to SDS-PAGE followed by silver staining or visualization with Bio-Safe coomassie (Bio-Rad), excision, and mass spectrometry.

**Mass Spectrometry.**

Proteins associating with TAP-tagged proteins were separated by SDS gel electrophoresis. The gel was subsequently stained with either GelCode Blue Stain (Pierce) or BioSafe Commassie (BioRad) following the manufacturer's instructions. Stained bands were excised from the gel, reduced (10 mM DTT, 10 min) and alkylated (55 mM Iodoacetamide, 30 min) and digested with trypsin (12 ng/μL) overnight. The
resulting peptide digest was treated in one of two ways: (i) peptides were subjected to reverse phase separation, followed by MS-MS on a Bruker HCT Ultra ion trap mass spectrometer. Data files were formatted to mgf files with Bruker Compass Data Analysis software (standard settings) and searched on the Homo sapiens NCBI database (version NCBIInr 20090611) using Mascot v. 2.2 (Matrix Sciences). Protein identifications were based on unambiguous peptides with a Mowse score better than 42 (random probability value $p < 0.05$). (ii) peptides were resuspended in 8% acetonitrile, 0.1% formic acid and injected quantitatively for separation on a C18 nanocolumn. Detection and sequencing of the peptides was accomplished by an LTQ ion trap mass spectrometer (Thermo Electron) equipped with an ESI nanosource and operating in positive mode with a voltage of 1.2 kV applied at a liquid junction just upstream of the column. Abundant ions were subjected to pulsed-Q dissociation for ion fragmentation. Peptide sequences thus generated were then used to probe the human genome using SEQUEST from BioWorks 3.3. (Thermo Electron). In some analyses, TAP-C2, -C2L, or C11-associated proteins were excised from a 4% polyacrylamide gel, pH 6.8, as a single band containing all interactors prior to trypsin digestion.

**Plasmids:**

For those TRAPP subunits cloned from cDNA, the source material was pooled human cDNAs from HEK293T, HeLa and A549 cells. Human C11/C4orf41 in pENTR201 and human C12/TTC15 in pOTB7 were purchased from OpenBiosystems. pEGFP-VSVG (ts045) was purchased from Addgene. TAP-C2 and -C2L were created by cloning mouse C2 and human C2L, respectively, into the BamHI and EcoRI sites of pcDNA3-
NTAP (kind gift of Anne-Claude Gingras). For TAP-C11 expression, C11 was cloned by LR recombination into pCDNA-TAP-GWY. pCDNA-TAP-GWY consists of the Gateway cloning cassette from pAG424GPD-ccdB-TAP (Alberti et al. Yeast 24(10): 913-919) excised by digestion with XhoI/SpeI, repaired with the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase, and ligated into the EcoRV site of pcDNA3.1. For HA-C11, C11 was cloned by LR recombination into pcDNA-HA-GWY. pcDNA-HA-GWY consists of the gateway cloning cassette from pAG424GAL-ccdB-HA (Alberti et al. Yeast 24(10): 913-19) cloned into pcDNA3.1 by the same means as pCDNA-TAP-GWY. For V5-C8 or C10 expression, C8 or C10 was cloned by LR cloning into pcDNA3.1/nV5Dest (Invitrogen).

**Gateway cloning:**

Gene sequences of mammalian TRAPP subunits were amplified with oligonucleotides (see Table 1) flanked by attB sites. For BP recombination reactions, 45 ng of pDONR201, 45 ng of PCR product, 0.5 μl of BP clonase (Invitrogen) and TE buffer were incubated overnight at 25°C in a total volume of 3μl. The entire reaction was transformed into DH5α cells and plated on selective LB agar plates. Clones were checked for the presence of the insert via restriction digest and the insert was verified by DNA sequencing. LR recombination was set up the same as BP recombination except LR recombinase was used.

**Cell fractionation following knockdown:**

HeLa were plated 24 hours prior to knockdown in 10 cm dish and reached 40% confluence at the time of transfection. One hour before the transfection, the medium
was changed for fresh DMEM+10% FBS. Just prior to transfection, the medium was changed to 7 mL Optimem per dish. 360 pmol of each oligonucleotide (C11-1 or non-specific control) and 72 μL of Oligofectamine were diluted in Optimem and mixed as per the manufacturer’s instructions and added to the medium already on the plates. 20 hours after the transfection, 6 mL DMEM+10% FBS was added to each dish. Four hours later, the medium was removed and replaced with fresh DMEM+10% FBS. One day later the cells were trypsinized and split to two 15 cm dishes per knockdown. Cells were harvested 24 hours later (72 hours post transfection) by scraping in a total of 1 mL lysis buffer (150 mM NaCl, 50 mM Tris pH 7.2, 0.5 mM EDTA, 1 mM DTT, 1% Triton X-100, 1 X Complete EDTA-free protease inhibitor (Roche) 1 mM NaOV, 2 mM NaF) for each pair of 15 cm dishes. Lysates were then cleared by centrifugation at 16,100 g at 4°C, and 1 mg of cleared lysate was fractionated in gel filtration buffer (150 mM NaCl, 50 mM Tris pH 7.2, 0.5 mM EDTA, 1 mM DTT) on a Superdex 200 column using an AKTA chromatography system (GE Healthcare).

**Co-transfections:**

12-18 hours prior to transfection, HEK293T cells were plated at 40% confluency. One or more 15cm dishes were transfected by the calcium phosphate method. In a conical tube, sterile distilled water, 20 μg of each plasmid and 122 μl of 2M CaCl₂ were added respectively to make up a volume of 1ml which was then mixed slowly with 1ml of HBS by bubbling. The mixture (2ml in total) was spotted evenly on to a 15 cm dish of HEK293T cells which are left to grow at 37°C in a humidified, 5% CO₂ incubator overnight. 24 hours after transfection, cells were washed with 10ml warm PBS followed
by the addition of 20ml fresh DMEM+10% FBS with 1X penicillin/streptomycin. Transfected cells were harvested 48 hours later on ice by washing with 10ml ice-cold PBS and scraped with 1ml lysis buffer (150mM NaCl, 0.5mM EDTA, 50mM Tris pH 7.2, 1% Triton-X100, 1mM DTT, 1 X Complete EDTA-free protease inhibitor (Roche)). In the case where more than one 15cm dish was transfected, 1ml of lysis buffer was used to harvest all transfected cells. Lysates were homogenized for 1 minute on ice and then centrifuged at maximum speed in a refrigerated microfuge for 10 minutes at 4°C.

Co-immunoprecipitation:
In an eppendorf tube, 500 μg of protein harvested from transfected cells was incubated with 1 μg of antibody rotating overnight at 4°C. Pre-washed agarose beads were resuspended with lysis buffer (150mM NaCl, 0.5mM EDTA, 50mM Tris pH 7.2, 1% Triton-X100, 1mM DTT, 1 X Complete EDTA-free protease inhibitor) to make up a 50% slurry. 10ul bed volume of beads was added to each eppendorf tube. For anti-HA mouse monoclonal and anti-V5 rabbit polyclonal antibody, protein G and protein A agarose beads were used, respectively. After 2 hours of incubation with the beads at 4°C, tubes were centrifuged at 4000 rpm for 2 minutes at 4°C. The supernatant was saved and analyzed by SDS-PAGE to determine the efficiency of the immunoprecipitation. The pellet was washed three times with 1ml of lysis buffer and eventually resuspended with 1x Laemmli sample buffer. Protein samples were boiled for 2 minutes at 95°C, centrifuged at maximum speed for 2 minutes and fractionated by SDS-PAGE.
**Gel filtration:**

Approximately 5 mg of protein was fractionated by size exclusion chromatography on a Superdex 200 (10/300 GL) column. Fractions of 0.5 ml were collected in gel filtration buffer (150 mM NaCl, 0.5 mM EDTA, 50 mM Tris pH 7.2, 1mM DTT).

**Yeast two hybrid:**

The plasmids pGADT7 and pGBK7T (Clonetech) were modified to be Gateway-compatible by inserting a cassette encompassing attP1-ccdB-CamR-attP2 into a repaired SfiI site. Kanamycin resistance was ablated in pGBK7T and it was further rendered ampicillin resistant by inserting the β-lactamase gene (as a repaired Drdl/AlwNI fragment from pGADT7) into the repaired RsrII/SfoI site. pGADT7 constructs were transformed into AH109 yeast and pGBK7T constructs were transformed into Y187 yeast. Mating was performed on YPD agar plates overnight at 30°C. Plates were then replicated onto -leucine/-tryptophan to assess mating efficiency. Interactions were scored after replicating to -leucine/-tryptophan/-histidine (TDO) without or with increasing amounts of 3-amino-1,2,4-triazole (3-AT) or to -leucine/-tryptophan/-histidine/-adenine (QDO). Interactions on TDO plates were considered positive if growth was detected at 3-AT levels that could not support growth when a TRAPP-subunit-containing bait or prey plasmid was tested with an empty partner plasmid.
Table 1: List of primers used for PCR

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<th>TRAPP subunit</th>
<th>Primers</th>
<th>Sequence</th>
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Supplemental figure legends

Supplemental Figure 1. Conservation of TRAPPC11 and TRAPPC12. BLAST searches were performed with C11 and C12 to identify related proteins which were then used to construct the phylogenetic trees. (A) The phylogenetic tree for C11. Accession numbers for the sequences are: H. sapiens, NP_068761.4; M. musculus, NP_796214.2; D. rerio, NP_955920.2; D. melanogaster, NP_728832.2; C. elegans, NP_497264.1; A. thaliana, NP_201396.4; O. sativa, NP_001047920.1; L. bicolor, XP_001880173.1; A. flavus, XP_002373747.1 (B) The phylogenetic tree for C12. Accession numbers for the sequences are: H. sapiens, NP_057114.5; D. rerio, NP_001074113.1; M. musculus, NP_848926.2; D. melanogaster, NP_649255.1; C. elegans, NP_508439.2; A. thaliana, NP_195692.2; O. sativa, NP_001047094.1; L. bicolor, XP_001875127.1; A. flavus, XP_002374721.1

Supplemental Figure 2. Domain structure of TRAPPC11. The schematic shows the foie gras domain (263-522) in yellow and the DUF1683 domain (981-1100) in blue, signatures for C11 and related proteins. Two regions in C11 with limited homology to C10 (I) and yeast Trs130p (II) are also shown. Alignments were performed using BLAST. This extends the region of similarity between C11 and C10, previously reported to start at amino acid 345 in C11 (see Cox et al., 2007), and also demonstrates a statistically significant (E value <0.05) region of homology between C11 and S. cerevisiae Trs130p which may be of functional significance. Colouring was performed using Boxshade with black and gray indicating identity and similarity, respectively, in
75% of the sequences. Accession numbers for the sequences are listed in the legend to Supplemental Figure 1.

**Supplemental Figure 3.** Conservation and domain structure of TRAPPC12/TTC-15. A multiple sequence alignment was performed using human, bovine, *Danio* and *Xenopus* TTC-15. Conserved residues are highlighted in black and residues common to at least 2 sequences are highlighted in gray. The four tetratricopeptide (TPR) repeats are boxed in four different colours. It should be noted that high conservation is seen not only in the TPR region but in the region immediately amino-terminal to the TPR domain. Homology is reduced even further upstream and more ancient species such as *Arabidopsis*, *Anopholes* and *Drosophila* have a truncated TTC-15 missing this region, suggesting it has evolved a function in higher eukaryotes. Colouring was performed using Boxshade with black and gray indicating identity and similarity, respectively, in 50% of the sequences. Accession numbers for the sequences are listed in the legend to Supplemental Figure 1 with the following additions: *X. tropicalis*, NP_001006869.1; *B. taurus*, NP_001095760.1.

**Supplemental Figure 4.** TRAPPC2L and TRAPPC10 co-fractionate in two high molecular weight peaks in C10-transfected cells. HEK293T cells were transfected with V5-C10 and fractionated by size exclusion chromatography. Fractions were probed with anti-C2L and -V5 antibodies. The ability of excess C10 to draw the low molecular weight pool of C2L into a higher molecular weight fraction is consistent with their strong interaction by yeast two hybrid and supports the notion that C2L mediates interactions
with C10 and perhaps other high molecular weight TRAPP proteins. A similar effect on C2 was not seen upon C10 overexpression.

**Supplemental Figure 5.** Knockdown of TRAPPC11. HeLa cells were transfected with HA-C11 and then treated with a non-specific siRNA (NS) or two different siRNAs against C11 (C11-1, C11-2). To estimate the level of knockdown, increasing amounts of lysate from the non-specific siRNA sample were fractionated (μg of protein loaded are shown above each lane). The samples were analyzed by western blotting using anti-HA IgG. Both siRNAs against C11 reduce the levels of HA-C11 by ~90%. The coomassie-stained gel is shown as a loading control.

**Supplemental Figure 6.** A view of the cells from Figure 4B in the main text showing the regions used for the higher magnification. The bars represent 10 μm.

**Supplemental Figure 7.** A view of the cells from Figure 5 in the main text showing the regions used for the higher magnification. The bars outside of the boxed region represent 10 μm.

**Supplemental Figure 8.** TRAPPC3L is a novel mammalian TRAPP protein. (A) A BLAST search using human C3 revealed a related sequence called TRAPPC3L (accession number NP_001132916). The human C3 and C3L proteins were aligned and coloured by conserved residues (black) or similar residues (gray). (B) Lysates from cells expressing FLAG-C3L (panels b-e) or FLAG-C3L and V5-C10 (panel c) were
immunoprecipitated with antibody recognizing C2 (panel b), V5 (panel c), C11 (panel d) or C12 (panel e). A control without antibody is shown in panel a. The immunoprecipitates were then probed for the presence of C3L using anti-FLAG antibody. The asterisk in panel e indicates the FLAG-C3L band while the dark band above it is the IgG light chain from the mouse serum used in the immunoprecipitation.
Supplemental Figure 1
Supplemental Figure 4

Supplemental Figure 5
Supplemental Figure 6
Supplemental Figure 7
A

C3  1 MSRNQGTEETKRESELPHTYGALVQLCKDYEENDDDVNLKDNGSTCYBLIREDFL
C3L  1 MSRPAAHPFEPYKNKDPHPVLYGALVQLCKDYEENDDDVNLKDNGSTCYBLIREDFL
C3  61 ARSNVGRCHDFRETADVIAKVAFKMYLGITPSIWNSPAGDEFSLILENNINFYFVELPD
C3L  61 ARSCVGRCHSYSEIIDIIAQVAFKMYLGITPSVTCNKNPSLILEPHNLPPFVELPD
C3 121 N-HSSLSLNYNLGCVLRALMVEQMAVEAKFVQDLKGDSVTE1RFRIRLRTDLNPLAGE
C3L 121 AGSSLSLNYNLGCVLRALMVEQMAVEAKFVQDLKGDSVTE1GTFKKRDDEKKYPK
C3  180 E
C3L  181 K

B

Supplemental Figure 8