1 **Title:**

2 Current updates on mitofusin oligomers and mitochondrial membrane fusion.

3 **A molecular perspective on mitochondrial membrane fusion: from the key**
4 **players to oligomerization and tethering of mitofusin**

5 **Authors:**

6 Dario De Vecchis^{1*}, Astrid Brandner², Marc Baaden², Mickael M. Cohen^x and Antoine Taly^{2*}

7
8 **ORCID:**

9 Dario De Vecchis : 0000-0002-7732-5095

10 Antoine Taly : 0000-0001-5109-0091

11
12 ***Correspondence:** d.devecchis@leeds.ac.uk or taly@ibpc.fr

13
14 **Affiliations:**

15
16 ²Institut de Biologie Physico-Chimique, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris,
17 France. Laboratoire de Biochimie Théorique, UPR 9080.

18
19 **Acknowledgments:** This work was supported by the "Initiative d'Excellence" program from
20 the French State (Grants "DYNAMO", ANR-11-LABX-0011, and "CACSICE", ANR-11-EQPX-
21 0008).

22
23 **Abstract:**

24 Mitochondria are dynamic organelles characterized by an ultrastructural organization which is
25 essential in maintaining their quality control and ensure functional efficiency. The complex
26 mitochondrial network is the result of the two ongoing forces of fusion and fission of inner and
27 outer membranes. Understanding the functional details of mitochondrial dynamics is
28 physiologically relevant as perturbations of this delicate equilibrium have critical consequences and
29 involved in several neurological disorders. Molecular actors involved in this process are large
30 GTPases from the dynamin-related protein family. They catalyze nucleotide-dependent membrane
31 remodeling and are widely conserved from bacteria to higher eukaryotes. Although structural
32 characterization of different family members has contributed to understand molecular mechanisms
33 of mitochondrial dynamics in more detail, the complete structure of some members as well as the
34 precise assembly of functional oligomers remain largely unknown. As increasing structural data

35 becomes available, the domain modularity across the dynamin superfamily emerged as a foundation
36 for transfer the knowledge towards less characterized members. In this review we will first provide
37 an overview of the main actors involved in mitochondrial dynamics. We then discuss recent
38 example of computational methodologies for the study of mitofusin oligomers, and present how the
39 usage of integrative modeling in conjunction with biochemical data can be an asset in progress the
40 still challenging field of membrane dynamics.

41

42 **Keywords:**

43 Mitofusin, Fzo1, mitochondrial dynamics, mitochondrial fusion, mitochondrial fission, dynamin-
44 related proteins.

45

46

47

48

49 **Introduction**

50

51 Mitochondria are central vital organelles widely involved in many important cellular functions.
52 They possess a doubled-membrane apparatus which is inherently connected to their ultrastructural
53 organization. Our current understanding about their morphology is beyond the initial beliefs that
54 depicted them as simple rod-shaped bodies. They are far from being isolated and indeed very
55 dynamic during cell life. Mitochondria continuously move on cytoskeletal tracks, divide and fuse,
56 forming shapes that range from isolated corpuscles to filamentous networks (Braun and
57 Westermann 2011, Chan 2012, Cohen and Tareste, 2018, Tilokani et al., 2018). This precisely
58 controlled process is known as mitochondrial dynamics for which they evolved a dedicated set of
59 protein machineries (Friedman and Nunnari. 2014, Mattie et al., 2019). When particular cell
60 locations are in need of high ATP production, mitochondria are fragmented and mobilized in these
61 sites (Skulachev 2001; Li et al. 2004; Kuznetsov et al. 2009). Similarly, an efficient organellar
62 fragmentation also ensures propagation of mitochondrial genome from mother to daughter cell
63 (Taguchi et al. 2007; Altmann et al. 2008; Ishihara et al. 2009). Isolation of damaged or senescent
64 mitochondria from the network followed by degradation through a specific form of autophagy (i.e.
65 mitophagy), ensures proper quality control of the mitochondrial network (Khaminets et al. 2016;
66 Georgakopoulos et al. 2017). Nevertheless, too much fission lead to mitochondrial heterogeneity
67 and dysfunction in yeast as well as in mammalian cells (Chen et al. 2005, 2007; Merz and
68 Westermann 2009). Because of that, a concerted fusion activity counterbalances potential excessive
69 fragmentation. Healthy mitochondria fuse back to the existing network which homogenizes their
70 proteomic content. Fusion also contributes to face the gradual accumulation of mutations in the
71 nucleoid (i.e. mtDNA) through genetic complementation (Ono et al. 2001; Balaban et al. 2005;
72 Maiese 2016). Therefore, fusion and fission processes are critical steps of cellular quality control
73 through which mitochondria maintain their homeostasis (Itoh et al. 2013; Liesa and Shirihai 2013).
74 Perturbations of this delicate equilibrium are associated with several diseases which are mostly
75 neurological disorders (Bertholet et al. 2016). This is due to the fact that neuronal cells are
76 energetically demanding and thus particularly sensitive to mitochondrial dynamics (Knott et al.
77 2008). Therefore, understanding the mechanistic details of mitochondrial dynamics is
78 physiologically and medically relevant.

79

80 The main factors mediating mitochondrial dynamics are multi-domain mechano-chemical GTPases
81 that belong to the dynamin superfamily (Praefcke and McMahon 2004; Ferguson and De Camilli

2012; Daumke and Praefcke 2016). These Dynamin-Related Proteins (DRPs) are mostly implicated in membrane-remodeling processes (Daumke and Praefcke 2016; Ramachandran 2018).

Human Drp1 (Dnm1 in yeast) mediates the scission of mitochondria (Smirnova et al. 2001; Kraus and Ryan 2017). The role of Drp1 appears to be highly conserved in eukaryotes (Labrousse et al. 1999; Sesaki and Jensen 1999; Smirnova et al. 2001; Aldridge et al. 2007; Logan 2010) and cells lacking Drp1 (or Dnm1) contain highly interconnected mitochondria networks (Otsuga et al. 1998; Smirnova et al. 1998). Drp1 is recruited to the mitochondrial outer membrane (OM) by protein adaptors: the mitochondria fission factor (Mff) and the two mitochondrial dynamics proteins MiD49 and MiD51 (Otera et al. 2010; Palmer et al. 2011). Investigation into individual and combined loss of each adapter showed a combined prominent role of MiD51/Mff (Osellame et al. 2016). In yeast, Dnm1 localization relies on the integral OM protein Fis1 and two adaptors Mdv1 and Caf4 (Mozdy et al. 2000; Tieu et al. 2002; Okamoto and Shaw 2005; Griffin et al. 2005) which recruit Dnm1 to mitochondria. Fis1 is conserved in human (Dohm et al. 2004) but its function evolutionary diverged to act as an inhibitor of the mitochondrial fusion machinery (Yu et al. 2019). After Drp1/Dnm1 is recruited to the mitochondrial OM (Sesaki and Jensen 1999; Smirnova et al. 2001) its innate capacity to assemble into multimeric complexes, leads to membrane constriction upon GTP hydrolysis (Mears et al. 2011; Fröhlich et al. 2013). Rings and spirals-like structures of Drp1 assemble around the organelle at region of contact with the endoplasmic reticulum (ER), which is a requisite for the fission event (Friedman et al. 2011). ER tubules wrap around the organelle to decrease its average diameter from 300-500 nm to 150 nm (Friedman et al. 2011). Another Dynamin, Dyn2, was suggested to collaborate with Drp1 (Lee et al. 2016), but the involvement of this second DRP in mitochondrial division is controversial (Fonseca et al. 2019).

OPA1(optic atrophy 1) and its yeast homologue Mgm1 (mitochondrial genome maintenance 1) mediate the fusion of the mitochondrial inner membrane (IM) and participate in cristae organization (Wong et al. 2000; Frezza et al. 2006). The fusion of the mitochondrial OM is triggered by the mitofusins Mfn1 and Mfn2 in mammals and by the fuzzy onion Fzo1 protein in yeast (Hales and Fuller 1997; Cohen and Tareste 2018). Notably, the phylogenetically related group of atlastin (and its yeast homologue Sey1p), functions in fusion of ER tubules (Hu et al. 2009; Orso et al. 2009). Several structural observations on recombinant atlastins and Sey1 have provided deep insights into fusion of ER tubules (Yan et al., 2015, Kim et al., 2017, Lee et al., 2019). In contrast, fulllength mitofusins have not been purified which has limited the study of their assembly and

oligomerization, which is an essential step in the OM fusion process (Rapaport et al. 1998; Fritz et al. 2001; Ishihara et al. 2003, 2004; Santel et al. 2003; Koshiba et al. 2004; Brandt et al. 2017).

117

Integration of physics-based computational methodologies in the study of membrane proteins can be of great advantages to overcome current limitations in their isolation and purification. Clear examples are widely discussed in recent review works (Friedman et al. 2018; Marrink et al. 2019; Corradi et al. 2019). The involvement of mitofusins in mitochondrial fusion was also recently reviewed (Cohen and Tareste 2018). Here, we thus review and discuss recent observations on mitofusin oligomerization and dynamics in their native membrane environment based on computational approaches such as molecular modeling and molecular dynamics (MD) simulation.

125

126 **Mitochondrial fusion machineries**

127

The first known mediator of mitochondrial fusion was identified in 1997 by genetic analysis of the male sterile fuzzy onions (*fzo*) mutant in *Drosophila melanogaster* (Hales and Fuller 1997). In fruit-fly, *fzo* is a developmentally regulated gene, fundamental in the early step of spermatogenesis (Hales and Fuller 1997). Its paralogue protein, Marf/Dmfn, was later found to be ubiquitously expressed (Hwa et al. 2002). The discovery of *fzo* lead to subsequent identification of the conserved protein family that was termed mitofusin in human and fuzzy onions in yeast (Hales and Fuller 1997; Rapaport et al. 1998; Hermann et al. 1998; Rojo et al. 2002; Logan 2010). Mitochondria evolved two independent machineries involved in the fusion process of their two independent membranes. The mitofusins/*fzo* machinery is responsible for the OM fusion, whereas OPA1/Mgm1 deliver IM fusion. Mutant cells for these families of proteins contain fragmented mitochondria in yeast (Rapaport et al. 1998; Hermann et al. 1998; Wong et al. 2000) and mammals (Chen et al. 2003; Olichon et al. 2003), furthermore, fused cells lacking mitofusins, Mgm1 or OPA1 cannot mix their mitochondrial matrix contents, indicating a lack of fusion (Hermann et al. 1998; Wong et al. 2000; Chen et al. 2003; Cipolat et al. 2004). Mitofusins are expressed as a single copy in invertebrates and lower eukaryotes, such as the yeast Fzo1 (Rapaport et al. 1998; Hermann et al. 1998), while vertebrates express two paralogues, mitofusin Mfn1 and Mfn2 with high sequence similarity (Rojo et al. 2002).

145

The second member of the DRP family required for mitochondrial IM fusion is Opa1/Mgm1 (Cipolat et al. 2004; Meeusen et al. 2006; Griparic et al. 2007; Kanazawa et al. 2008). They localize in the mitochondrial inter-membrane space (IMS) and are targeted to the IM thanks to an N-

terminal mitochondrial import sequence (MIS) and transmembrane (TM) helices before the GTPase domain (Wong et al. 2000; Olichon et al. 2002; Guillou et al. 2005). OPA1/Mgm1 are synthesized as precursors that undergo proteolytic processing (Herlan et al. 2003; Leroy et al. 2010). Two membrane-bound proteases, Oma1 (Ehres et al. 2009; Head et al. 2009) and Yme1l (Gripovic et al. 2007; Song et al. 2007), process Opa1 resulting in fragments with different molecular weights and referred as “long” (L-OPA1) and “short” (S-OPA1). An initial study suggested that the two forms alone have little fusion activity and are both required for mitochondrial fusion (Song et al. 2007). However, it is now known that L-OPA1 is sufficient to deliver fusion (Tondera et al. 2009; Anand et al. 2014; Ban et al. 2017) and that there is a precise balance between the activity of both proteases Oma1 and Yme1l, though the exact role of S-OPA1 is not completely understood (MacVicar and Langer 2016). Recently a study suggested that S-OPA1 facilitates the binding of L-OPA1 to the negative charged lipid cardiolipin (CL), promoting fusion (Ban et al. 2017). This model also corroborates studies performed in yeast suggesting the recruitment of both L-OPA1 and S-OPA1 isoforms as well as CL for IM fusion (DeVay et al. 2009; Rujiviphat et al. 2009). Interestingly, OPA1-dependent fusion depends on Mfn1 but not Mfn2 (Cipolat et al. 2004; Tondera et al. 2009). Besides, a specific region that confers mitofusin isoform-specific function has been identified (Sloat et al., 2019). This region provides a specific fusion activity to Mfn1 and Mfn2 and may be involved in higher order oligomerization. A functional connection between factors dedicated to OM and IM fusion is not surprising since the processes are coordinated. This observation is possibly corroborated by a recent new topology proposed for the human mitofusins according to which the C-terminal end is exposed to the mitochondrial IMS (Mattie et al. 2018). Nonetheless, other proteins such as the yeast factor Ugo1 have been identified having a possible role at the interface between the OM and IM.

Ugo1 is a 58 kDa protein embedded in the OM with the N-terminal end facing the cytosol and the C-terminal facing the IMS (Sesaki and Jensen 2001). Ugo1 was proposed to coordinate OM and IM fusion due to its ability to interact both with Fzo1 and Mgm1 (Wong et al. 2003; Sesaki and Jensen 2004) creating a scaffold for the assembly of a fusion complex. The involvement of Ugo1 in both outer and inner membrane fusion was then further demonstrated (Hoppins et al. 2009). Even though no Ugo1 equivalent protein has been identified in mammals, an Ugo1-like protein, named SLC25A46, has been described in humans and shown to be present in mouse, zebrafish, fruit-fly and nematode (Abrams et al. 2015). Interestingly SLC25A46, like Ugo1, is recruited to the OM (Haitina et al. 2006). However, there is insufficient evidence to determine orthology and the protein fails to complement Ugo1 deletion in yeast (Abrams et al. 2015). As previously discussed (Cohen

183 and Tareste 2018) the exposure of the human mitofusin to the IMS (Mattie et al., 2018) could
184 possibly compensate the lack of Ugo1 in human.

185

186 **Membrane fusion catalysts from bacterial homologues**

187

188 Interestingly, DRPs were also identified in bacteria (van der Blik 1999; Leipe et al. 2002; Low and
189 Löwe 2006), plants (Fujimoto et al. 2010; Huang et al. 2015; Aung et al. 2012; Gao et al. 2003; Gao
190 et al. 2006) and green algae (Findinier et al. 2019). They are thought to regulate cell shape and
191 thylakoid morphology in cyanobacteria (Low and Löwe 2006; Bürmann et al. 2011) and chloroplast
192 fragmentation or thylakoid fusion in plants (Gao et al. 2003; Gao et al. 2006; Findinier et al. 2019).
193 Furthermore, the dynamin-like protein LeoA from a pathogenic *Escherichia coli* strain has been
194 assigned a role in the secretion of bacterial vesicles for enhancing the release of toxins (Michie et al.
195 2014). Although the function of bacterial DRPs/DLPs was largely unknown, *in vitro* analyses on
196 DynA from *Bacillus subtilis* revealed its capacity of tethering and merging membranes, suggesting
197 a possible role at the site of septation during the cytokinesis phase (Bürmann et al. 2011). Moreover,
198 DynA shared also the ability to seal membrane gaps originated by membrane stress, thus
199 contributing to the innate immunity of bacteria (Sawant et al., 2016). Many bacterial species contain
200 more than one dynamin gene organized in an operon with two of them often found in tandem
201 (Bürmann et al. 2011, Boot et al., 2017, PMID: 29281637, Boot et al., 2016, PMID: [27474746](#)).
202 Some species even harbour a fusion of the two genes incorporating two GTPase domains, like the
203 DynA protein in *B. subtilis*. In this latter case, the protein is not cleaved into separate subunits and is
204 able to tether two membranes. Among the two parts, only the subunit called D1 was found to be
205 associated with the membrane when expressed in a unique construct with the green fluorescent
206 protein (Bürmann et al. 2011). The subunit D1 can not only bind to the membrane, but also create
207 an extensive tethered zone of clustered liposomes and promote GTP-independent membrane fusion
208 (Bürmann et al. 2011). Interestingly, the process was observed to depend on magnesium ions, which
209 facilitate also membrane fusion in areas of high membrane curvature and proximity (Wilschut et al.
210 1981). Therefore, a role as passive catalysts has been proposed and the GTP hydrolysis might not be
211 needed to directly energize the reaction, but regulate whether and how the dynamin complex enters
212 a fusogenic-state (Bürmann et al. 2011).

213 The BDLP (bacterial dynamin-like protein), a mitofusin homologue from the filamentous
214 cyanobacteria *Nostoc punctiforme*, was shown to induce GTP-dependent deformation and
215 tubulation of membranes (Low et al. 2009). Although BDLP is soluble in water (Low and Löwe
216 2006), it includes a membrane binding domain called *paddle* and mutations located in this region

217 abrogate lipid binding (Low and Löwe 2006). The BDLP apoenzyme and GDP-bound crystal
 218 structures reveal a compact molecule comprising a GTPase domain which is in close contact with
 219 two helical bundles, called *neck* and *trunk* (PDB: 2J69) (Low and Löwe 2006) (Fig. 1b). BDLP
 220 tubulates *E. coli* liposomes in presence of a non-hydrolysable GTP analogue (Low et al. 2009).
 221 Under these conditions, BDLP forms coated tubes that resemble those formed by the eukaryotic
 222 dynamin 1 in the presence of phosphatidylserine liposomes (Sweitzer and Hinshaw 1998; Daumke
 223 and Praefcke 2016). In both cases, an “open” molecule forms an extended repeat that represents the
 224 basic assembly unit of a helical filament (PDB: 2W6D) (Low et al. 2009). Indeed the BDLP cryo-
 225 EM reconstruction is compatible with the interpretation that BDLP mediates lipid curvature through
 226 a long-range conformational change between a “closed” and an “open” state (Low et al. 2009) (Fig.
 227 1b). In BDLP, the GTPase-anchored chunk, called *neck*, moves away from the membrane-anchored
 228 *trunk* of $\sim 135^\circ$ along the proposed hinges 1a and 1b. The entire GTPase domain also turns $\sim 70^\circ$
 229 around two other hinge regions, 2a and 2b (Low et al. 2009). Striking evidence of bending in this
 230 region comes from the dynamin 1 crystal structures (PDB: 5D3Q (Anand et al. 2016) and 3ZYC
 231 (Chappie et al. 2011)), with a conserved proline mediating a sharp kink of 70° , proposed to guide a
 232 *powerstroke* reaction during membrane remodeling (Chappie et al. 2011; Daumke and Praefcke
 233 2016).

234

235 **Fig. 1** Schematic representation of the modular domain architecture of selected proteins from the
 236 dynamin superfamily. (a) Cartoon summarizing the modular domain architecture for selected DRPs
 237 and DLPs discussed in the text. The classical nomenclature is indicated. The heptad repeats of the
 238 mitofusins/Fzo1 (HRN, HR1 and HR2) are also called HB1 and HB2 (Helical Bundles). They are
 239 aligned to the *stalk/neck* domains of other DLPs and dynamins showing a similar architecture and
 240 they might serve as BSE (Bundle Signaling Element). MTS (Mitochondrial Targeting Sequence),
 241 TM (transmembrane), PAD (paddle), PH (Pleckstrin Homology), PRD (Proline-Rich Domain). (b)
 242 The BDLP conformational change upon GTP and lipid binding. The structure is closed in its GDP-
 243 bound (not shown) and in its apo-form (left) (PDB: 2J68 (Low and Löwe 2006)). Lipid binding
 244 concomitant with GTP hydrolysis, reveals a conformational change detected using cryo-electron
 245 microscopy (right) (PDB: 2W6D (Low et al. 2009)). (c) (Left) The Fzo1 structural model (De
 246 Vecchis et al. 2017) with HB1 and HB2. (Center) Crystal structure of the human Mfn1 fragment-
 247 construct obtained upon addition of GDP/AlF₄⁻ (not shown) (PDB: 5GOM (Cao et al. 2017)) and
 248 observed in presence of GDP/BeF₃⁻ (not shown) (PDB: 5YEW (Yan et al. 2018)) (Right). (d) Cryo-
 249 electron microscopy of the human dynamin 1 (Dyn1) in complex with GMPPCP (not shown) (PDB:
 250 6DLU (Kong et al. 2018)). The PRD was not present in the reconstruction

c Fzo1 structural model

Mfn1 • GDP/AlF₄⁻

Mfn1 • GDP/BeF₃⁻

d Dyn1 • GMPPCP

251

252 In BDLP, as described for other dynamins (Ghosh et al. 2006; Chappie et al. 2010), the GTPase
253 domain homodimerizes across the nucleotide binding pockets upon nucleotide binding (Low and
254 Löwe 2006), resulting in the often called GG dimer (Chappie et al. 2010). However, the effect of
255 nucleotide binding is not limited to GTPase domain homodimerization and GTP binding also
256 induces lateral self-association between BDLP homodimers (Low et al. 2009).

257 Recent crystal structures of an Mfn1 fragment suggested a closed and open conformation (Qi et al.
258 2016; Cao et al. 2017; Yan et al. 2018). The protein construct consists of the GTPase domain linked
259 to a 4-helix bundle which is comparable to the bacterial DLPs' *neck*. Mfn1 was found to dimerize in
260 presence of GTP or with transition state analogues (i.e. GDP/BeF₃⁻ or GDP/AlF₄⁻). Crystals were
261 obtained with the transition state analogues and showed two alternative configurations as for BDLP,
262 with the canonical GG interface followed by the 4-helix bundle (called HB1) (Cao et al. 2017; Yan
263 et al. 2018). Interestingly, one alternative is reminiscent of the BDLP open form in which the HB1
264 bundle runs perpendicular to the GG interface (PDB: 5YEW (Yan et al. 2018)). Conversely, in the
265 second alternative the HB1 runs parallel to the GG interface (PDB: 5GOM (Cao et al. 2017)) which
266 is comparable to the BDLP closed form (Fig. 1c).

267 Altogether, even though structural information about full-length Mfns/Fzo1 are currently lacking,
268 hints on how these proteins might function could be provided by the structure of bacterial DLPs
269 homologous to mitofusins that were previously solved.

270

271 **Topology and domain composition of mitofusins**

272

273 Similarly to other members of the dynamin superfamily, mitofusins have a modular domain
274 organization confirmed also by a recent evolutionary analysis (Purkanti and Thattai 2015; Sinha and
275 Manoj 2019) (Fig. 1a). They likely contain three distinct structural domains as described for the
276 bacterial DLPs (Low and Löwe 2006): i) A GTPase domain (or G-domain) characterized by low
277 nucleotide affinity, that binds and hydrolyzes GTP without guanine nucleotide exchange factor at
278 variance with most G-proteins (Dever et al. 1987; Vetter and Wittinghofer 2001; Ozturk and Kinzy
279 2008) and two helical bundles probably involved in oligomerization and stimulation of GTPase
280 activity ii) the HB1, or bundle signaling element (BSE) in human dynamin, or *neck* in bacterial
281 dynamins (Low and Löwe 2006) and iii) the HB2, or *stalk* in eukaryotes, or *trunk* in bacterial
282 dynamins (Fig. 1a). The GTPase domain mediates dimerization (Low and Löwe 2006; Low et al.
283 2009; Chappie et al. 2010; Anton et al. 2011; Cao et al. 2017; Yan et al. 2018) and harbors four
284 conserved motifs called G1 to G4, involved in nucleotide binding with distinct characteristics.

Remarkably, the G1 motif (also called P-loop), tightly wraps around the β -phosphate (Saraste et al. 1990; Chappie et al. 2010, Cao et al. 2017; Yan et al. 2018) and the G2, G3 motifs (also called the switch regions) change conformation upon GTP hydrolysis in human dynamin (Chappie et al. 2010). It has been hypothesized that the BSE domain bears possible functions in transferring the conformational information to the *trunk* region (Chappie et al. 2010), though the *stalk* domain is linked via a hinge to the GTPase domain in BDLP (Low et al. 2009). Additionally, many dynamins contain a domain for interactions with lipids. This can be a pleckstrin-homology (PH) domain as in the classical dynamins (Klein et al. 1998), a TM domain as in mitofusin/Fzo1 (De Vecchis et al. 2017; Fritz et al., 2001; Rojo et al., 2002; Mattie et al. 2018) and atlastin (Hu et al. 2009; Orso et al. 2009; [Betancourt-Solis](#) et al., 2018; Huang et al., 2017) or a *paddle* region for transient lipid attachment as in BDLP (Low et al. 2009) (Fig. 1a). This domain modularity across species is remarkable as taken singularly each protein may deliver completely different tasks that span from fusion to fission.

It is established that the yeast mitofusin Fzo1 spans the mitochondrial OM twice, exposing the protein N- and C-terminal to the cytosol (Fritz et al. 2001; Rojo et al. 2002). From their first identification and further biochemical analyses this was similarly confirmed for the human orthologues (Santel and Fuller 2001; Rojo et al. 2002; Koshiba et al. 2004; Huang et al. 2011). However, this observation was recently challenged for the Mfn1 and Mfn2, and further corroborated by a phylogenetic analysis (Mattie et al. 2018). The work suggested that mitofusins from vertebrates harbor a single TM domain exposing the protein C-terminal to the mitochondrial IMS. Nevertheless, the Mfn2 C-terminal end could be exposed to the cytosol as suggested by tagging and partially rescue mitochondrial fusion (Mattie et al. 2018). Therefore, it might still be possible for the human as well as other vertebrates to adopt two different topologies (Cohen and Tareste, 2018). This duality may facilitate the coordination between OM and IM during fusion and supply the function that Ugo1 has in yeast (Cohen and Tareste, 2018), perhaps in concert with the recently identified SLC25A46 (Abrams et al. 2015).

Mitofusin family members also contain two heptad repeat (HR) regions, called HR1 and HR2, situated as for Fzo1 on either side of the TM region. The HR2 is proposed to be exposed to the mitochondrial IMS for the vertebrate mitofusins (Mattie et al. 2018). The yeast Fzo1 encodes a third HR (named HRN) located at the N-terminal end with respect to the GTPase domain and the first 60 N-terminal residues of Fzo1 are essential for mitochondrial respiration and thus for the function of the yeast mitofusin (De Vecchis et al. 2017). The hydrophobic HR motifs are predicted to form

319 coiled-coil structures (Eckert and Kim 2001) and are thought to play a critical role in tethering two
320 mitochondria during a docking step before fusion (Koshiba et al. 2004; Daste et al. 2018). Such
321 HRs are known to be central for other fusogenic machineries like viral fusion proteins (Skehel and
322 Wiley 1998) and SNAREs (e.g. soluble N-ethylmaleimide-sensitive factor attachment protein
323 receptor) (Ungar and Hughson 2003; Bonifacino and Glick 2004). However, the mechanism
324 towards which the human mitofusin HR1 promotes bilayer fusion appear to be different with
325 respect SNAREs or viral proteins (Daste et al., 2018). In particular, the human HR1 possibly act by
326 destabilizing the lipid bilayer especially in region characterized by lipid packing defects (Daste et
327 al., 2018). Structural data revealed that the HR2 region from Mfn1 (residues 660-735), (PDB : 1T3J
328 (Koshiba et al. 2004)) forms a dimeric antiparallel coiled-coil that is 9.5 nm long (Koshiba et al.
329 2004). Its formation was hypothesized to be an important step during a *trans* complex mitofusin
330 dimer assembly, as this structure would mediate tethering of mitochondria. Furthermore, the study
331 found that removal of the GTPase domain (resulting in the construct comprising residues 331-741),
332 promotes an extensive aggregation of mitochondria in a HR2-dependent manner (Koshiba et al.
333 2004). In contrast to this value of 9.5 nm observed by crystallography, electron microscopy revealed
334 trapped densely packed mitochondria that maintain a uniform gap of ~16 nm between opposing
335 OMs (Koshiba et al. 2004). Experimental observation of the yeast mitofusin Fzo1 lead to the final
336 discovery of an average 8 nm distance between outer membranes during Fzo1-mediated
337 mitochondrial tethering (Brandt et al., 2016). These discrepancies may finally suggest different
338 mechanisms between the human and the yeast mitofusins.

339

340 Trans oligomers have also been described recently for bacterial DLPs. Two chains, DLP1 and DLP2
341 from *Campylobacter jejuni*, form a *trans* tetramer through their helical bundles suggesting a
342 mechanism that facilitates the tubulation and tethering of liposomes in trans (Liu et al. 2018). . In
343 the research, structural data have been proposed to be homologous to human Mfn1 (Liu et al. 2018)
344 and a molecular model of how bacterial DLP may tether liposome membranes is provided (Liu et al.
345 2018).

346 In the last decades the community provided a wide-range of biochemical and structural data across
347 several mitofusin-related DLPs/DRPs (Low and Löwe 2006; Low et al. 2009; Michie et al. 2014,
348 Liu et al. 2018). This data, jointly with the domain modularity observed in DRPs ([Daumke and](#)
349 [Praefcke, 2016](#); Sinha and Manoj 2019) might allow a transfer of structural and functional
350 knowledge across the dynamin superfamily. even across different species as attempted for the yeast
351 mitofusin Fzo1 (De Vecchis et al. 2017).

352

353 **An integrated modeling approach for building intact mitofusin models**

354

355 Several attempts have been made to model full-length structures of Fzo1 and human mitofusins
356 because molecular modeling represents an alternative approach to investigate the possible
357 architecture and dynamics of these large GTPases. Mitofusin closed and open conformations have
358 been investigated using a mix of techniques from homology modeling to threading (Anton et al.
359 2013). In this study, full-length Fzo1 was modeled using the BDLP-apoenzyme as structural
360 template (PDB: 2J68 (Low and Löwe 2006)), whereas a truncated variant without the TM domain
361 was modeled using the open conformation of BDLP (PDB: 2W6D (Low et al. 2009)). In another
362 study, the threading method was also employed to model the human Mfn1 using BDLP as a
363 template (Escobar-Henriques and Anton 2013). With similar approaches, a model of Mfn2 was
364 subsequently proposed (Franco et al. 2016). In this model, HR1 and HR2 helical segments are
365 locally unfolded and bent in the predicted hinge regions 1a and 1b. In this model the conformational
366 change prior to tethering/fusion was proposed to consist in an unfolding process of the HR2
367 domain. This hypothesis clearly contrasts with the conformational switch proposed for BDLP or for
368 other DRPs resolved so far (Low and Löwe 2006; Low et al. 2009; Michie et al. 2014, Liu et al.
369 2018). Therefore, this model made few consideration of the established importance of the mitofusin
370 GTPase domain in mitochondrial fusion (Low et al. 2009; Anton et al. 2011; Brandt et al. 2016).
371 Nonetheless, a short peptide (residues 367-384) designed to perturb intra-molecular HR1-HR2
372 interactions, was found to rescue mitochondrial morphology in murine embryonic fibroblasts and
373 cultured neurons expressing either a Mfn2 mutant or the naturally occurring human Charcot-Marie-
374 Tooth type 2A (CMT2A) mutant (Franco et al. 2016). Besides, it would be of great advantage in the
375 dissection of the mechanism underpinning the CMT2A, if these peptides would be compared with
376 other available mitofusin and mitofusin-homologous structural models.

377 A further research proposed a complete model of the human Mfn2 ([Beręsewicz](#) et al., 2017;
378 [Beręsewicz](#) et al., 2018). The group used the server I-TASSER that implement the threading
379 approach (Roy et al., 2010), using the apo form of BDLP as a template (PDB: 2J69). The GTP
380 molecule was subsequently docked in the GTPase binding site ([Beręsewicz](#) et al., 2017; [Beręsewicz](#)
381 et al., 2018). Interestingly, the modeling stage was followed by a molecular dynamics simulations in
382 a solvated lipid bilayer. Although the model resulted stable, in future research it would be
383 interesting to extend the current simulations that were run for decades of ns ([Beręsewicz](#) et al.,
384 2017; [Beręsewicz](#) et al., 2018).

385

386 In contrast to the mitofusin models mentioned above, a near full-length structural model of the yeast
387 Fzo1 was obtained using a totally integrative modeling approach (De Vecchis et al. 2017) (Fig. 1c).
388 The model was experimentally validated. Although the rather low identity with BDLP, the study
389 supported a comparable domain organization of the mitofusin Fzo1. Moreover, taking advantage of
390 the yeast system, it was possible to validate the model through *in vivo* genetic assays using double
391 swap mutations across predicted salt bridges that have been further corroborated by the human
392 Mfn1 crystal structure (Cao et al. 2017; De Vecchis et al. 2017). In retrospect, this work depicts to
393 date the most complete and elaborate model of mitofusins comprising both HB1 and HB2 helical
394 bundles. In this system, the Fzo1 architecture is revealed with a precise description of the helical
395 spans. In particular, HR1 and HR2 are not continuous but are locally bent over the hinges 1a, 1b.
396 Moreover, the HR2 portion located in the trunk of Fzo1 is exposed to the solvent and may be
397 available for *trans* tethering interactions (De Vecchis et al. 2017). In this context, the HR2 could
398 have a role in membrane tethering as previously suggested for Mfn1 (Koshiba et al. 2004).
399 However, alternative models are still possible for the human mitofusins, particularly after the recent
400 new topology proposed, in which the HR2 would be exposed to the mitochondrial IMS (Mattie et
401 al. 2018). Nevertheless, experimental evidence on Fzo1 suggested that HR1 and HR2 should run in
402 parallel and are associated (De Vecchis et al. 2017). As opposed to the models presented above, the
403 Fzo1 structural model was further characterized, experimentally validated and dynamically assessed
404 in a membrane environment using a MD simulations approach (De Vecchis et al. 2017). The
405 bundles HB1 and HB2 are linked by flexible hinges as in BDLP (Low and Löwe 2006; Low et al.
406 2009). The study also clarifies the contribution of GTPase domain residues involved in nucleotide
407 stabilization in line with previous annotations (Griffin and Chan 2006; Anton et al. 2011; Cao et al.
408 2017). Overall, the Fzo1 architecture was somewhat anticipated since the initially hypothesized
409 GTPase domain-dependent rearrangements (Cohen et al. 2011). The novel advantage of the Fzo1
410 model is represented by the precise location of the TM domain. This novelty, in conjunction with
411 the known GTPase-interface in mitofusins, allows one to correctly orient the Fzo1 model with
412 respect to two juxtaposing bilayers to mime mitochondrial tethering. Due to partial structural data this
413 is not yet possible for the human mitofusins (Qi et al. 2016; Cao et al. 2017). In light of that, we
414 therefore started to investigate putative “open” and “closed” conformations based for instance, on
415 the rearrangements proposed for the bacterial DLPs and guided by available distances between
416 tethered mitochondrial membranes in human and yeast (Koshiba et al. 2004; Brandt et al. 2016).

417
418 **A coarse-grained approach to study membrane-inserted mitofusin oligomers**

419

420 An essential requisite prior membrane fusion is the close apposition of two membrane bilayers, a
421 mechanism known as tethering. Mitofusins are specialized in tethering opposing bilayers and
422 promoting their fusion (Koshiba et al. 2004; Ishihara et al. 2004; Griffin and Chan 2006; Anton et
423 al. 2011; Shutt et al. 2012; Cao et al. 2017). Similarly to other DRPs, mitofusins can self-assemble
424 (Rapaport et al. 1998) and they do not function as monomers but oligomerize in both *cis* (on the
425 same lipid bilayer) and *trans* (from opposing lipid bilayers) to mediate membrane attachment and
426 fusion. In this respect, GTPase domain integrity is critical for the yeast mitofusin Fzo1 to determine
427 *cis* and *trans* association (Hermann et al. 1998). When solubilized yeast mitochondria were
428 subjected to size-exclusion chromatography, the mitofusin Fzo1 eluted in fractions that have been
429 proposed to be compatible with a homodimer in *cis* (Anton et al. 2011). Further analyses have
430 shown that Fzo1 dimerizes in an Ugo1-dependent manner and that the endogenous Fzo1 complex is
431 homooligomeric (Anton et al. 2011). Crosslinking experiments have shown that purified Fzo1 could
432 be crosslinked to an Fzo1 dimer (Anton et al. 2011). However, only the monomeric form is detected
433 when mutants affect the GTP-binding site (Anton et al. 2011), leading to the conclusion that Fzo1
434 dimerization relies on GTP binding but does not require GTP hydrolysis (Anton et al. 2011). Fzo1
435 homodimers further associate upon formation of mitochondrial contacts and the corresponding
436 oligomeric state has been proposed to be a *trans* tetramer (Rapaport et al. 1998; Anton et al. 2011).
437 In particular, Fzo1 was shown to trigger the formation of a complex ring-shaped macromolecular
438 complex (called MCD) during mitochondrial docking (Brandt et al. 2016).
439 Although the GTPase domain has often been the principal subject of attention, HR domains have
440 been hypothesized to play an important role during mitochondrial tethering (Koshiba et al. 2004;
441 Griffin and Chan 2006). As discussed previously, the HR2 helical segment was suggested as
442 determinant for tethering (Koshiba et al. 2004; Franco et al. 2016). Interestingly, in our recent Fzo1
443 model, the HR2 hydrophobic spine is largely exposed to the solvent, suggesting it could be
444 available for putative interactions (De Vecchis et al. 2017). What still remains an open question is
445 whether HRs or GTPase interactions take place in *trans* or in *cis* prior to mitochondrial tethering
446 (Koshiba et al. 2004; Franco et al. 2016).
447
448 As introduced above we can take advantage of the current knowledge and the essential building
449 blocks provided by our recent Fzo1 model (De Vecchis et al. 2017) to investigate *cis* and *trans*
450 mitofusin oligomers. The models proposed in our study were further assessed for stability in a
451 membrane environment using a coarse-grained MD simulation. In the context of mitofusins, these
452 building blocks would form on the same membrane imposing the initial assembly of *cis*-oligomers.
453 Consequently, we started our investigation from *cis*-assembled Fzo1 models that further gave rise to

3 *trans*-oligomers. We carefully consider current opinions on which domain should trigger the
oligomerization in *cis*. Analogously to BDLP the GTPase of Fzo1 should have a predominant role
(Low et al. 2009), though the same GTPase interface is thought to trigger *trans*-oligomerization of
mitofusins (Cao et al. 2017; Yan et al. 2018). To take into account all possibilities, we also
considered the HRs as possible actors to guide *cis*-oligomers in a parallel fashion although for Mfn1
they have been observed to assemble in anti-parallel fashion in *trans* (Koshiba et al. 2004). The *cis*-
models described above were combined in *trans*-oligomers and the model that particularly fits with
the current literature is shown in Fig. 2a.

Fig. 2 Putative Fzo1 *trans*-tethering complex. (a) The system represents the final configurations of
the putative Fzo1 *trans*-tethering complex after a CG-MD simulation. The *cis* interactions occur
towards the GTPase domain. The *trans* interactions occur through the HRs (also called HBs)
oriented in an antiparallel fashion as suggested for the human Mfn1 (Koshiba et al., 2004).
The color code is the same as in Fig. 1. GTPase domain, *orange*; HB1, *blue*; HB2 (or BSE), *green*;
TM region, *pink*. The two bilayers represent two mitochondrial OM prior fusion (M1 and M2 in b).
Lipid head groups and tails are shown as spheres from *red* to *blue* according the *z*-axis. Solvent is
omitted for clarity. (b) Proposed Fzo1 fusion path. The color code is the same as in a

In this model two molecules of Fzo1 would oligomerize in *cis* through their GTPase domain (Fig.
2b). The HB2/*trunk* region in the *cis*-oligomer would expose a hydrophobic spine from the HR2
that would be available for *trans* interactions (De Vecchis et al. 2017). Consequently, the HRs
spines will then be oriented in an anti-parallel fashion which is in agreement with the crystal
structure of Mfn1 (Koshiba et al. 2004). The TM helices from each monomer also remained in
contact with each other ($88 \pm 4\%$ conservation) as well as stably embedded in the membrane during
the simulation. The contact conservation respect to the lipid-TM contacts present in the initial setup
was $\sim 98 \pm 1\%$. On top of this, the total lipid-protein contact surface increased about 25% during the
simulation as a consequence of the observed membrane curvature.

Moreover, the tethering distance of 5.5 to 9.5 nm calculated during the MD simulations and
imposed by this Fzo1 *trans*-oligomer would agree with the ~ 8 nm separation between OMs
observed experimentally (Brandt et al. 2016). It is finally possible that this Fzo1 *trans*-oligomer we
proposed, might correspond to the macromolecular assembly observed in the ring-shaped
mitochondrial docking complex (i.e. the MDC) were the tether distance reaches 6 to 8 nm (Brandt
et al. 2016).

a

b

Our previous atomistic MD simulations of Fzo1 structural models have been conducted in a lipid bilayer which contains an equal concentration of phosphatidylethanolamine (POPE) and phosphatidylcholine (POPC). Despite the simplicity of this bilayer respect the native one in mitochondria (Zinser et al. 1991), we observed Fzo1 interacting more with POPE compared to POPC (De Vecchis et al. 2017). POPE plays an important role in fusion (Birner et al. 2001; Jahn and Grubmüller 2002; Joshi et al. 2012; Chan and McQuibban 2012) and is a major component of mitochondrial membranes, indeed PE-deficient yeast mitochondria that do fuse are notable for incompletely mixing bilayers (Chan and McQuibban 2012). An overlapping function in mitochondrial dynamics has been proposed for CL, which is specifically synthesized in mitochondria (Osman et al. 2009), where it plays a role in different mitochondrial processes (Pfeiffer et al. 2003; Osman et al. 2009). However, CL is also present in the OM (Zinser et al. 1991) where it has been hypothesized to play a role in mitochondrial OM dynamics (DeVay et al. 2009; Ban et al. 2010; Joshi et al. 2012; Zhang et al. 2014). The lipid-modifying enzyme belonging to the phospholipase D superfamily MitoPLD, targets the OM and promotes membrane adherence by hydrolyzing CL to generate phosphatidic acid (PA) (Choi et al. 2006; Jensen and Sesaki 2006; Roth 2008; Kameoka et al. 2018), a common fusogenic lipid also required for SNARE-mediated fusion (Mendonsa and Engebrecht 2009). PA accumulation enhances mitofusin-dependent OM fusion (Choi et al. 2006). Such changes in lipid composition induce negative membrane curvature, and CL comprises about 20% of the total lipid content in mitochondrial IM, therefore it has been proposed to have a role in facilitating fusion and fission (Jensen and Sesaki 2006; Roth 2008; Joshi et al. 2012; Ban et al. 2017). Although CL content in the OM is much lower than in the IM, it still represents 6% of the total lipids there (DeVay et al. 2009) and can approach 25% of the total lipid mixture in contact sites (Choi et al. 2006), where fusion may take place (Fritz et al. 2001). Therefore, it will be informative and auspicious in further MD simulation studies, to consider the effect of mitochondria lipidome as an emerging feature in membrane dynamics regulation.

513

514 **Conclusion**

515

Deciphering mitofusin's core functional assembly is a necessary prerequisite for an accurate understanding of the mitochondrial OM fusion pathway. In this review we highlight the importance of integrative modeling as a great advantage in the study of mitochondrial dynamics. The inherent domain modularity across the dynamin superfamily from bacterial dynamin to human homologues jointly with available biochemical data are actual resources. Their combination could reveal the essential building blocks of the different actors involved in mitochondrial dynamics. Further

522 combination of these information with the powerful tools of state-of-the-art computational
523 methodologies, provides new possibilities and could contribute to advance the field of membrane
524 dynamics.

525

526 **Compliance with Ethical Standards**

527

528 **Disclosure of potential conflicts of interest**

529 The authors declare no conflict of interest.

530

531 **Research involving Human Participants and/or Animals**

532 This research does not involve human participants or animals.

533

534 **References**

535

Abrams AJ, Hufnagel RB, Rebelo A, et al (2015) Mutations in SLC25A46, encoding a UGO1-like protein, cause an optic atrophy spectrum disorder. *Nat Genet* 47:926–932. doi: 10.1038/ng.3354

Abutbul-Ionita I, Rujiviphat J, Nir I, et al (2012) Membrane tethering and nucleotide-dependent conformational changes drive mitochondrial genome maintenance (Mgm1) protein-mediated membrane fusion. *J Biol Chem* 287:36634–36638. doi: 10.1074/jbc.C112.406769

Aldridge AC, Benson LP, Siegenthaler MM, et al (2007) Roles for Drp1, a dynamin-related protein, and Milton, a kinesin-associated protein, in mitochondrial segregation, unfurling and elongation during *Drosophila* spermatogenesis. *Fly (Austin)* 1:38–46

Altmann K, Frank M, Neumann D, et al (2008) The class V myosin motor protein, Myo2, plays a major role in mitochondrial motility in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. *J Cell Biol* 181:119–130. doi: 10.1083/jcb.200709099

Anand R, Eschenburg S, Reubold TF (2016) Crystal structure of the GTPase domain and the bundle signalling element of dynamin in the GDP state. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun* 469:76–80. doi: 10.1016/j.bbrc.2015.11.074

Anand R, Wai T, Baker MJ, et al (2014) The i-AAA protease YME1L and OMA1 cleave OPA1 to balance mitochondrial fusion and fission. *J Cell Biol* 204:919–929. doi: 10.1083/jcb.201308006

Anton F, Dittmar G, Langer T, Escobar-Henriques M (2013) Two deubiquitylases act on mitofusin and regulate mitochondrial fusion along independent pathways. *Mol Cell* 49:487–498. doi: 10.1016/j.molcel.2012.12.003

Anton F, Fres JM, Schauss A, et al (2011) Ugo1 and Mdm30 act sequentially during Fzo1-mediated mitochondrial outer membrane fusion. *J Cell Sci* 124:1126–1135. doi: 10.1242/jcs.073080

- Balaban RS, Nemoto S, Finkel T (2005) Mitochondria, oxidants, and aging. *Cell* 120:483–495. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2005.02.001
- Ban T, Heymann JAW, Song Z, et al (2010) OPA1 disease alleles causing dominant optic atrophy have defects in cardiolipin-stimulated GTP hydrolysis and membrane tubulation. *Hum Mol Genet* 19:2113–2122. doi: 10.1093/hmg/ddq088
- Ban T, Ishihara T, Kohno H, et al (2017) Molecular basis of selective mitochondrial fusion by heterotypic action between OPA1 and cardiolipin. *Nat Cell Biol* 19:856–863. doi: 10.1038/ncb3560
- Bertholet AM, Delerue T, Millet AM, et al (2016) Mitochondrial fusion/fission dynamics in neurodegeneration and neuronal plasticity. *Neurobiol Dis* 90:3–19. doi: 10.1016/j.nbd.2015.10.011
- Birner R, Bürgermeister M, Schneiter R, Daum G (2001) Roles of phosphatidylethanolamine and of its several biosynthetic pathways in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. *Mol Biol Cell* 12:997–1007
- Bonifacino JS, Glick BS (2004) The mechanisms of vesicle budding and fusion. *Cell* 116:153–166
- Brandt T, Cavellini L, Kühlbrandt W, Cohen MM (2016) A mitofusin-dependent docking ring complex triggers mitochondrial fusion in vitro. *Elife* 5:. doi: 10.7554/eLife.14618
- Braun RJ, Westermann B (2011) Mitochondrial dynamics in yeast cell death and aging. *Biochemical Society Transactions* 39:1520–1526. doi: 10.1042/BST0391520
- Bürmann F, Ebert N, van Baarle S, Bramkamp M (2011) A bacterial dynamin-like protein mediating nucleotide-independent membrane fusion. *Mol Microbiol* 79:1294–1304. doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2958.2011.07523.x
- Cao Y-L, Meng S, Chen Y, et al (2017) MFN1 structures reveal nucleotide-triggered dimerization critical for mitochondrial fusion. *Nature* 542:372–376. doi: 10.1038/nature21077
- Chan EYL, McQuibban GA (2012) Phosphatidylserine decarboxylase 1 (Psd1) promotes mitochondrial fusion by regulating the biophysical properties of the mitochondrial membrane and alternative topogenesis of mitochondrial genome maintenance protein 1 (Mgm1). *J Biol Chem* 287:40131–40139. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M112.399428
- Chappie JS, Acharya S, Leonard M, et al (2010) G domain dimerization controls dynamin's assembly-stimulated GTPase activity. *Nature* 465:435–440. doi: 10.1038/nature09032
- Chappie JS, Mears JA, Fang S, et al (2011) A pseudoatomic model of the dynamin polymer identifies a hydrolysis-dependent powerstroke. *Cell* 147:209–222. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2011.09.003
- Chen H, Chomyn A, Chan DC (2005) Disruption of fusion results in mitochondrial heterogeneity and dysfunction. *J Biol Chem* 280:26185–26192. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M503062200
- Chen H, Detmer SA, Ewald AJ, et al (2003) Mitofusins Mfn1 and Mfn2 coordinately regulate mitochondrial fusion and are essential for embryonic development. *J Cell Biol* 160:189–200. doi: 10.1083/jcb.200211046

- Chen H, McCaffery JM, Chan DC (2007) Mitochondrial fusion protects against neurodegeneration in the cerebellum. *Cell* 130:548–562. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2007.06.026
- Choi S-Y, Huang P, Jenkins GM, et al (2006) A common lipid links Mfn-mediated mitochondrial fusion and SNARE-regulated exocytosis. *Nat Cell Biol* 8:1255–1262. doi: 10.1038/ncb1487
- Cipolat S, Martins de Brito O, Dal Zilio B, Scorrano L (2004) OPA1 requires mitofusin 1 to promote mitochondrial fusion. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 101:15927–15932. doi: 10.1073/pnas.0407043101
- Cohen MM, Amiot EA, Day AR, et al (2011) Sequential requirements for the GTPase domain of the mitofusin Fzo1 and the ubiquitin ligase SCFMdm30 in mitochondrial outer membrane fusion. *J Cell Sci* 124:1403–1410. doi: 10.1242/jcs.079293
- Cohen MM, Tareste D (2018) Recent insights into the structure and function of Mitofusins in mitochondrial fusion. *F1000Res* 7:. doi: 10.12688/f1000research.16629.1
- Corradi V, Sejdiu BI, Mesa-Galloso H, et al (2019) Emerging Diversity in Lipid-Protein Interactions. *Chem Rev*. doi: 10.1021/acs.chemrev.8b00451
- Daumke O, Praefcke GJK (2016) Invited review: Mechanisms of GTP hydrolysis and conformational transitions in the dynamin superfamily. *Biopolymers* 105:580–593. doi: 10.1002/bip.22855
- De Vecchis D, Cavellini L, Baaden M, et al (2017) A membrane-inserted structural model of the yeast mitofusin Fzo1. *Sci Rep* 7:10217. doi: 10.1038/s41598-017-10687-2
- DeVay RM, Dominguez-Ramirez L, Lackner LL, et al (2009) Coassembly of Mgm1 isoforms requires cardiolipin and mediates mitochondrial inner membrane fusion. *J Cell Biol* 186:793–803. doi: 10.1083/jcb.200906098
- Dever TE, Glynias MJ, Merrick WC (1987) GTP-binding domain: three consensus sequence elements with distinct spacing. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 84:1814–1818
- Dohm JA, Lee SJ, Hardwick JM, et al (2004) Cytosolic domain of the human mitochondrial fission protein fis1 adopts a TPR fold. *Proteins* 54:153–156. doi: 10.1002/prot.10524
- Eckert DM, Kim PS (2001) Mechanisms of viral membrane fusion and its inhibition. *Annu Rev Biochem* 70:777–810. doi: 10.1146/annurev.biochem.70.1.777
- Ehses S, Raschke I, Mancuso G, et al (2009) Regulation of OPA1 processing and mitochondrial fusion by m-AAA protease isoenzymes and OMA1. *The Journal of Cell Biology* 187:1023–1036. doi: 10.1083/jcb.200906084
- Escobar-Henriques M, Anton F (2013) Mechanistic perspective of mitochondrial fusion: tubulation vs. fragmentation. *Biochim Biophys Acta* 1833:162–175. doi: 10.1016/j.bbamcr.2012.07.016
- Ferguson SM, De Camilli P (2012) Dynamin, a membrane-remodelling GTPase. *Nat Rev Mol Cell Biol* 13:75–88. doi: 10.1038/nrm3266
- Franco A, Kitsis RN, Fleischer JA, et al (2016) Correcting mitochondrial fusion by manipulating mitofusin conformations. *Nature* 540:74–79. doi: 10.1038/nature20156

- Frezza C, Cipolat S, Martins de Brito O, et al (2006) OPA1 controls apoptotic cristae remodeling independently from mitochondrial fusion. *Cell* 126:177–189. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2006.06.025
- Friedman JR, Lackner LL, West M, et al (2011) ER tubules mark sites of mitochondrial division. *Science* 334:358–362. doi: 10.1126/science.1207385
- Friedman R, Khalid S, Aponte-Santamaría C, et al (2018) Understanding Conformational Dynamics of Complex Lipid Mixtures Relevant to Biology. *J Membr Biol* 251:609–631. doi: 10.1007/s00232-018-0050-y
- Fritz S, Rapaport D, Klanner E, et al (2001) Connection of the mitochondrial outer and inner membranes by Fzo1 is critical for organellar fusion. *J Cell Biol* 152:683–692
- Fröhlich C, Grabiger S, Schwefel D, et al (2013) Structural insights into oligomerization and mitochondrial remodelling of dynamin 1-like protein. *EMBO J* 32:1280–1292. doi: 10.1038/emboj.2013.74
- Georgakopoulos ND, Wells G, Campanella M (2017) The pharmacological regulation of cellular mitophagy. *Nature Chemical Biology* 13:136–146. doi: 10.1038/nchembio.2287
- Griffin EE, Chan DC (2006) Domain interactions within Fzo1 oligomers are essential for mitochondrial fusion. *J Biol Chem* 281:16599–16606. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M601847200
- Griffin EE, Graumann J, Chan DC (2005) The WD40 protein Caf4p is a component of the mitochondrial fission machinery and recruits Dnm1p to mitochondria. *J Cell Biol* 170:237–248. doi: 10.1083/jcb.200503148
- Griparic L, Kanazawa T, van der Bliek AM (2007) Regulation of the mitochondrial dynamin-like protein Opa1 by proteolytic cleavage. *J Cell Biol* 178:757–764. doi: 10.1083/jcb.200704112
- Guillou E, Bousquet C, Daloyau M, et al (2005) Msp1p is an intermembrane space dynamin-related protein that mediates mitochondrial fusion in a Dnm1p-dependent manner in *S. pombe*. *FEBS Lett* 579:1109–1116. doi: 10.1016/j.febslet.2004.12.083
- Haitina T, Lindblom J, Renström T, Fredriksson R (2006) Fourteen novel human members of mitochondrial solute carrier family 25 (SLC25) widely expressed in the central nervous system. *Genomics* 88:779–790. doi: 10.1016/j.ygeno.2006.06.016
- Hales KG, Fuller MT (1997) Developmentally regulated mitochondrial fusion mediated by a conserved, novel, predicted GTPase. *Cell* 90:121–129
- Head B, Griparic L, Amiri M, et al (2009) Inducible proteolytic inactivation of OPA1 mediated by the OMA1 protease in mammalian cells. *The Journal of Cell Biology* 187:959–966. doi: 10.1083/jcb.200906083
- Herlan M, Vogel F, Bornhovd C, et al (2003) Processing of Mgm1 by the rhomboid-type protease Pcp1 is required for maintenance of mitochondrial morphology and of mitochondrial DNA. *J Biol Chem* 278:27781–27788. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M211311200
- Hermann GJ, Thatcher JW, Mills JP, et al (1998) Mitochondrial fusion in yeast requires the transmembrane GTPase Fzo1p. *J Cell Biol* 143:359–373

- Hu J, Shibata Y, Zhu P-P, et al (2009) A class of dynamin-like GTPases involved in the generation of the tubular ER network. *Cell* 138:549–561. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2009.05.025
- Huang P, Galloway CA, Yoon Y (2011) Control of mitochondrial morphology through differential interactions of mitochondrial fusion and fission proteins. *PLoS ONE* 6:e20655. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0020655
- Hwa JJ, Hiller MA, Fuller MT, Santel A (2002) Differential expression of the *Drosophila* mitofusin genes *fuzzy onions* (*fzo*) and *dmfn*. *Mech Dev* 116:213–216
- Ishihara N, Eura Y, Mihara K (2004) Mitofusin 1 and 2 play distinct roles in mitochondrial fusion reactions via GTPase activity. *J Cell Sci* 117:6535–6546. doi: 10.1242/jcs.01565
- Ishihara N, Jofuku A, Eura Y, Mihara K (2003) Regulation of mitochondrial morphology by membrane potential, and DRP1-dependent division and FZO1-dependent fusion reaction in mammalian cells. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun* 301:891–898
- Ishihara N, Nomura M, Jofuku A, et al (2009) Mitochondrial fission factor Drp1 is essential for embryonic development and synapse formation in mice. *Nat Cell Biol* 11:958–966. doi: 10.1038/ncb1907
- Itoh K, Nakamura K, Iijima M, Sesaki H (2013) Mitochondrial dynamics in neurodegeneration. *Trends Cell Biol* 23:64–71. doi: 10.1016/j.tcb.2012.10.006
- Jahn R, Grubmüller H (2002) Membrane fusion. *Curr Opin Cell Biol* 14:488–495
- Jensen RE, Sesaki H (2006) Ahead of the curve: mitochondrial fusion and phospholipase D. *Nat Cell Biol* 8:1215–1217. doi: 10.1038/ncb1106-1215
- Joshi AS, Thompson MN, Fei N, et al (2012) Cardiolipin and mitochondrial phosphatidylethanolamine have overlapping functions in mitochondrial fusion in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. *J Biol Chem* 287:17589–17597. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M111.330167
- Kameoka S, Adachi Y, Okamoto K, et al (2018) Phosphatidic Acid and Cardiolipin Coordinate Mitochondrial Dynamics. *Trends Cell Biol* 28:67–76. doi: 10.1016/j.tcb.2017.08.011
- Kanazawa T, Zappaterra MD, Hasegawa A, et al (2008) The *C. elegans* Opa1 homologue EAT-3 is essential for resistance to free radicals. *PLoS Genet* 4:e1000022. doi: 10.1371/journal.pgen.1000022
- Khaminets A, Behl C, Dikic I (2016) Ubiquitin-Dependent And Independent Signals In Selective Autophagy. *Trends in Cell Biology* 26:6–16. doi: 10.1016/j.tcb.2015.08.010
- Klein DE, Lee A, Frank DW, et al (1998) The pleckstrin homology domains of dynamin isoforms require oligomerization for high affinity phosphoinositide binding. *J Biol Chem* 273:27725–27733
- Knott AB, Perkins G, Schwarzenbacher R, Bossy-Wetzel E (2008) Mitochondrial fragmentation in neurodegeneration. *Nat Rev Neurosci* 9:505–518. doi: 10.1038/nrn2417
- Kong L, Sochacki KA, Wang H, et al (2018) Cryo-EM of the dynamin polymer assembled on lipid membrane. *Nature* 560:258–262. doi: 10.1038/s41586-018-0378-6

- Koshiba T, Detmer SA, Kaiser JT, et al (2004) Structural basis of mitochondrial tethering by mitofusin complexes. *Science* 305:858–862. doi: 10.1126/science.1099793
- Kraus F, Ryan MT (2017) The constriction and scission machineries involved in mitochondrial fission. *J Cell Sci* 130:2953–2960. doi: 10.1242/jcs.199562
- Kuznetsov AV, Hermann M, Saks V, et al (2009) The cell-type specificity of mitochondrial dynamics. *Int J Biochem Cell Biol* 41:1928–1939. doi: 10.1016/j.biocel.2009.03.007
- Labrousse AM, Zappaterra MD, Rube DA, van der Bliek AM (1999) *C. elegans* dynamin-related protein DRP-1 controls severing of the mitochondrial outer membrane. *Mol Cell* 4:815–826
- Leipe DD, Wolf YI, Koonin EV, Aravind L (2002) Classification and evolution of P-loop GTPases and related ATPases. *J Mol Biol* 317:41–72. doi: 10.1006/jmbi.2001.5378
- Leroy I, Khosrobakhsh F, Diot A, et al (2010) Processing of the dynamin Msp1p in *S. pombe* reveals an evolutionary switch between its orthologs Mgm1p in *S. cerevisiae* and OPA1 in mammals. *FEBS Lett* 584:3153–3157. doi: 10.1016/j.febslet.2010.05.060
- Li Z, Okamoto K-I, Hayashi Y, Sheng M (2004) The importance of dendritic mitochondria in the morphogenesis and plasticity of spines and synapses. *Cell* 119:873–887. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2004.11.003
- Liesa M, Shirihai OS (2013) Mitochondrial dynamics in the regulation of nutrient utilization and energy expenditure. *Cell Metab* 17:491–506. doi: 10.1016/j.cmet.2013.03.002
- Liu J, Noel JK, Low HH (2018) Structural basis for membrane tethering by a bacterial dynamin-like pair. *Nat Commun* 9:3345. doi: 10.1038/s41467-018-05523-8
- Logan DC (2010) The dynamic plant chondriome. *Semin Cell Dev Biol* 21:550–557. doi: 10.1016/j.semcdb.2009.12.010
- Low HH, Löwe J (2006) A bacterial dynamin-like protein. *Nature* 444:766–769. doi: 10.1038/nature05312
- Low HH, Sachse C, Amos LA, Löwe J (2009) Structure of a bacterial dynamin-like protein lipid tube provides a mechanism for assembly and membrane curving. *Cell* 139:1342–1352. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2009.11.003
- MacVicar T, Langer T (2016) OPA1 processing in cell death and disease – the long and short of it. *J Cell Sci* 129:2297–2306. doi: 10.1242/jcs.159186
- Maiese K (2016) The bright side of reactive oxygen species: lifespan extension without cellular demise. *J Transl Sci* 2:185–187. doi: 10.15761/JTS.1000138
- Marrink SJ, Corradi V, Souza PCT, et al (2019) Computational Modeling of Realistic Cell Membranes. *Chem Rev*. doi: 10.1021/acs.chemrev.8b00460
- Mattie S, Riemer J, Wideman JG, McBride HM (2018) A new mitofusin topology places the redox-regulated C terminus in the mitochondrial intermembrane space. *J Cell Biol* 217:507–515. doi: 10.1083/jcb.201611194

- Mears JA, Lackner LL, Fang S, et al (2011) Conformational changes in Dnm1 support a contractile mechanism for mitochondrial fission. *Nat Struct Mol Biol* 18:20–26. doi: 10.1038/nsmb.1949
- Meeusen S, DeVay R, Block J, et al (2006) Mitochondrial inner-membrane fusion and crista maintenance requires the dynamin-related GTPase Mgm1. *Cell* 127:383–395. doi: 10.1016/j.cell.2006.09.021
- Mendonça R, Engebrecht J (2009) Phosphatidylinositol-4,5-bisphosphate and phospholipase D-generated phosphatidic acid specify SNARE-mediated vesicle fusion for prospore membrane formation. *Eukaryotic Cell* 8:1094–1105. doi: 10.1128/EC.00076-09
- Merz S, Westermann B (2009) Genome-wide deletion mutant analysis reveals genes required for respiratory growth, mitochondrial genome maintenance and mitochondrial protein synthesis in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. *Genome Biol* 10:R95. doi: 10.1186/gb-2009-10-9-r95
- Michie KA, Boysen A, Low HH, et al (2014) LeoA, B and C from enterotoxigenic *Escherichia coli* (ETEC) are bacterial dynamins. *PLoS ONE* 9:e107211. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0107211
- Mozdy AD, McCaffery JM, Shaw JM (2000) Dnm1p GTPase-mediated mitochondrial fission is a multi-step process requiring the novel integral membrane component Fis1p. *J Cell Biol* 151:367–380
- Nunnari J, Marshall WF, Straight A, et al (1997) Mitochondrial transmission during mating in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* is determined by mitochondrial fusion and fission and the intramitochondrial segregation of mitochondrial DNA. *Mol Biol Cell* 8:1233–1242
- Okamoto K, Shaw JM (2005) Mitochondrial morphology and dynamics in yeast and multicellular eukaryotes. *Annu Rev Genet* 39:503–536. doi: 10.1146/annurev.genet.38.072902.093019
- Olichon A, Baricault L, Gas N, et al (2003) Loss of OPA1 perturbs the mitochondrial inner membrane structure and integrity, leading to cytochrome c release and apoptosis. *J Biol Chem* 278:7743–7746. doi: 10.1074/jbc.C200677200
- Olichon A, Emorine LJ, Descoins E, et al (2002) The human dynamin-related protein OPA1 is anchored to the mitochondrial inner membrane facing the inter-membrane space. *FEBS Lett* 523:171–176
- Ono T, Isobe K, Nakada K, Hayashi JI (2001) Human cells are protected from mitochondrial dysfunction by complementation of DNA products in fused mitochondria. *Nat Genet* 28:272–275. doi: 10.1038/90116
- Orso G, Pendin D, Liu S, et al (2009) Homotypic fusion of ER membranes requires the dynamin-like GTPase atlastin. *Nature* 460:978–983. doi: 10.1038/nature08280
- Osellame LD, Singh AP, Stroud DA, et al (2016) Cooperative and independent roles of Drp1 adaptors Mff and MiD49/51 in mitochondrial fission. *J Cell Sci*. doi: 10.1242/jcs.185165
- Osman C, Haag M, Potting C, et al (2009) The genetic interactome of prohibitins: coordinated control of cardiolipin and phosphatidylethanolamine by conserved regulators in mitochondria. *J Cell Biol* 184:583–596. doi: 10.1083/jcb.200810189

- Otera H, Wang C, Cleland MM, et al (2010) Mff is an essential factor for mitochondrial recruitment of Drp1 during mitochondrial fission in mammalian cells. *J Cell Biol* 191:1141–1158. doi: 10.1083/jcb.201007152
- Otsuga D, Keegan BR, Brisch E, et al (1998) The dynamin-related GTPase, Dnm1p, controls mitochondrial morphology in yeast. *J Cell Biol* 143:333–349
- Ozturk SB, Kinzy TG (2008) Guanine Nucleotide Exchange Factor Independence of the G-protein eEF1A through Novel Mutant Forms and Biochemical Properties. *J Biol Chem* 283:23244–23253. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M801095200
- Palmer CS, Osellame LD, Laine D, et al (2011) MiD49 and MiD51, new components of the mitochondrial fission machinery. *EMBO Rep* 12:565–573. doi: 10.1038/embor.2011.54
- Pernas L, Scorrano L (2016) Mito-Morphosis: Mitochondrial Fusion, Fission, and Cristae Remodeling as Key Mediators of Cellular Function. *Annu Rev Physiol* 78:505–531. doi: 10.1146/annurev-physiol-021115-105011
- Pfeiffer K, Gohil V, Stuart RA, et al (2003) Cardiolipin stabilizes respiratory chain supercomplexes. *J Biol Chem* 278:52873–52880. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M308366200
- Praefcke GJK, McMahon HT (2004) The dynamin superfamily: universal membrane tubulation and fission molecules? *Nat Rev Mol Cell Biol* 5:133–147. doi: 10.1038/nrm1313
- Purkanti R, Thattai M (2015) Ancient dynamin segments capture early stages of host-mitochondrial integration. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 112:2800–2805. doi: 10.1073/pnas.1407163112
- Qi Y, Yan L, Yu C, et al (2016) Structures of human mitofusin 1 provide insight into mitochondrial tethering. *J Cell Biol* 215:621–629. doi: 10.1083/jcb.201609019
- Ramachandran R (2018) Mitochondrial dynamics: The dynamin superfamily and execution by collusion. *Seminars in Cell & Developmental Biology* 76:201–212. doi: 10.1016/j.semcdb.2017.07.039
- Rapaport D, Brunner M, Neupert W, Westermann B (1998) Fzo1p is a mitochondrial outer membrane protein essential for the biogenesis of functional mitochondria in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. *J Biol Chem* 273:20150–20155
- Rojo M, Legros F, Chateau D, Lombès A (2002) Membrane topology and mitochondrial targeting of mitofusins, ubiquitous mammalian homologs of the transmembrane GTPase Fzo. *J Cell Sci* 115:1663–1674
- Roth MG (2008) Molecular mechanisms of PLD function in membrane traffic. *Traffic* 9:1233–1239. doi: 10.1111/j.1600-0854.2008.00742.x
- Rujiviphat J, Meglei G, Rubinstein JL, McQuibban GA (2009) Phospholipid association is essential for dynamin-related protein Mgm1 to function in mitochondrial membrane fusion. *J Biol Chem* 284:28682–28686. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M109.044933
- Rujiviphat J, Wong MK, Won A, et al (2015) Mitochondrial Genome Maintenance 1 (Mgm1) Protein Alters Membrane Topology and Promotes Local Membrane Bending. *J Mol Biol* 427:2599–2609. doi: 10.1016/j.jmb.2015.03.006

- Santel A, Frank S, Gaume B, et al (2003) Mitofusin-1 protein is a generally expressed mediator of mitochondrial fusion in mammalian cells. *J Cell Sci* 116:2763–2774. doi: 10.1242/jcs.00479
- Santel A, Fuller MT (2001) Control of mitochondrial morphology by a human mitofusin. *J Cell Sci* 114:867–874
- Saraste M, Sibbald PR, Wittinghofer A (1990) The P-loop--a common motif in ATP- and GTP-binding proteins. *Trends Biochem Sci* 15:430–434
- Sesaki H, Jensen RE (2001) UGO1 encodes an outer membrane protein required for mitochondrial fusion. *J Cell Biol* 152:1123–1134
- Sesaki H, Jensen RE (1999) Division versus Fusion: Dnm1p and Fzo1p Antagonistically Regulate Mitochondrial Shape. *J Cell Biol* 147:699–706. doi: 10.1083/jcb.147.4.699
- Sesaki H, Jensen RE (2004) Ugo1p links the Fzo1p and Mgm1p GTPases for mitochondrial fusion. *J Biol Chem* 279:28298–28303. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M401363200
- Shutt T, Geoffrion M, Milne R, McBride HM (2012) The intracellular redox state is a core determinant of mitochondrial fusion. *EMBO Rep* 13:909–915. doi: 10.1038/embor.2012.128
- Sinha S, Manoj N (2019) Molecular evolution of proteins mediating mitochondrial fission–fusion dynamics. *FEBS Letters* 593:703–718. doi: 10.1002/1873-3468.13356
- Skehel JJ, Wiley DC (1998) Coiled coils in both intracellular vesicle and viral membrane fusion. *Cell* 95:871–874
- Skulachev VP (2001) Mitochondrial filaments and clusters as intracellular power-transmitting cables. *Trends Biochem Sci* 26:23–29
- Smirnova E, Griparic L, Shurland DL, van der Bliek AM (2001) Dynamin-related protein Drp1 is required for mitochondrial division in mammalian cells. *Mol Biol Cell* 12:2245–2256
- Smirnova E, Shurland DL, Ryazantsev SN, van der Bliek AM (1998) A human dynamin-related protein controls the distribution of mitochondria. *J Cell Biol* 143:351–358
- Song Z, Chen H, Fiket M, et al (2007) OPA1 processing controls mitochondrial fusion and is regulated by mRNA splicing, membrane potential, and Yme1L. *J Cell Biol* 178:749–755. doi: 10.1083/jcb.200704110
- Sweitzer SM, Hinshaw JE (1998) Dynamin undergoes a GTP-dependent conformational change causing vesiculation. *Cell* 93:1021–1029
- Taguchi N, Ishihara N, Jofuku A, et al (2007) Mitotic phosphorylation of dynamin-related GTPase Drp1 participates in mitochondrial fission. *J Biol Chem* 282:11521–11529. doi: 10.1074/jbc.M607279200
- Tieu Q, Okreglak V, Naylor K, Nunnari J (2002) The WD repeat protein, Mdv1p, functions as a molecular adaptor by interacting with Dnm1p and Fis1p during mitochondrial fission. *J Cell Biol* 158:445–452. doi: 10.1083/jcb.200205031
- Tondera D, Grandemange S, Jourdain A, et al (2009) SLP-2 is required for stress-induced mitochondrial hyperfusion. *EMBO J* 28:1589–1600. doi: 10.1038/emboj.2009.89

- Ungar D, Hughson FM (2003) SNARE protein structure and function. *Annu Rev Cell Dev Biol* 19:493–517. doi: 10.1146/annurev.cellbio.19.110701.155609
- van der Bliek AM (1999) Functional diversity in the dynamin family. *Trends Cell Biol* 9:96–102
- Vetter IR, Wittinghofer A (2001) The guanine nucleotide-binding switch in three dimensions. *Science* 294:1299–1304. doi: 10.1126/science.1062023
- Wilschut J, Düzgüneş N, Papahadjopoulos D (1981) Calcium/magnesium specificity in membrane fusion: kinetics of aggregation and fusion of phosphatidylserine vesicles and the role of bilayer curvature. *Biochemistry* 20:3126–3133
- Wong ED, Wagner JA, Gorsich SW, et al (2000) The dynamin-related GTPase, Mgm1p, is an intermembrane space protein required for maintenance of fusion competent mitochondria. *J Cell Biol* 151:341–352
- Wong ED, Wagner JA, Scott SV, et al (2003) The intramitochondrial dynamin-related GTPase, Mgm1p, is a component of a protein complex that mediates mitochondrial fusion. *J Cell Biol* 160:303–311. doi: 10.1083/jcb.200209015
- Yan L, Qi Y, Huang X, et al (2018) Structural basis for GTP hydrolysis and conformational change of MFN1 in mediating membrane fusion. *Nat Struct Mol Biol* 25:233–243. doi: 10.1038/s41594-018-0034-8
- Zhang Q, Tamura Y, Roy M, et al (2014) Biosynthesis and roles of phospholipids in mitochondrial fusion, division and mitophagy. *Cell Mol Life Sci* 71:3767–3778. doi: 10.1007/s00018-014-1648-6
- Zinser E, Sperka-Gottlieb CD, Fasch EV, et al (1991) Phospholipid synthesis and lipid composition of subcellular membranes in the unicellular eukaryote *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. *J Bacteriol* 173:2026–203