

## Y-complex nucleoporins independently contribute to nuclear pore assembly and gene regulation in neuronal progenitors

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#### 26 SUMMARY STATEMENT

We report roles for the Y-complex nucleoporins Nup133 and Seh1 in gene regulation upon neuroectodermal differentiation and show that this process can be uncoupled from nuclear pore basket integrity.

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#### 31 ABSTRACT

32 Besides assembling nuclear pore complexes, the conduits of nuclear transport, many 33 nucleoporins also contribute to chromatin organization and gene expression, with critical roles in development and pathologies. We previously reported that Nup133 and Seh1, two 34 35 components of the Y-complex subassembly of the nuclear pore scaffold, are dispensable for mouse embryonic stem cell viability but required for their survival during neuroectodermal 36 37 differentiation. Here, a transcriptomic analysis revealed that Nup133 regulates a subset of genes at early stages of neuroectodermal differentiation, including Lhx1 and Nup210L, 38 39 encoding a newly validated nucleoporin. These genes are also misregulated in Nup133ΔMid 40 neuronal progenitors, in which nuclear pore basket assembly is impaired. However, a four-41 fold reduction of Nup133, despite also affecting basket assembly, is not sufficient to alter 42 Nup210L and Lhx1 expression. Finally, these two genes are also misregulated in Seh1-43 deficient neural progenitors only showing a mild reduction in nuclear pore density. Together 44 these data reveal a shared function of Y-complex nucleoporins in gene regulation during 45 neuroectodermal differentiation, apparently independent of nuclear pore basket integrity.

46

48 **INTRODUCTION** 

49

As channels embedded in the nuclear envelope, the nuclear pore complexes (NPCs) 50 51 constitute the only gateway for selective transport of macromolecules between the 52 cytoplasm and the nucleus. These impressive structures are composed of proteins called 53 nucleoporins (Nups) that assemble in a highly organized and modular manner (reviewed in 54 Dultz et al., (2022)). The Y-complex - also named Nup107-160 complex - that comprises in 55 vertebrates nine distinct proteins, is a key structural subunit of the NPC scaffold. 16 copies of 56 this complex assemble on the nuclear and cytoplasmic sides of the NPC to build up its outer 57 rings, to which cytoplasmic filaments and the nuclear basket are anchored.

58 In addition to their canonical nuclear transport function, many Nups are also known to have 59 other cellular functions, notably in cell cycle progression or as key regulators of chromatin 60 organization and gene expression (reviewed in Buchwalter et al., 2019; Hezwani and Fahrenkrog, 2017). In line with these multiple functions, mutations in many Nups have been 61 62 identified as primary causes of rare genetic diseases. Despite the presence of NPCs in all 63 nucleated cells, most of these diseases specifically affect one or a few organs (reviewed in 64 Jühlen and Fahrenkrog, 2018). Such tissue or cell-type specific alterations may reflect variable Nup stoichiometry at NPCs, as notably reported for several integral membrane Nups 65 66 and peripheral Nups (Ori et al., 2013). For instance, increased levels of the transmembrane 67 protein Nup210 in myoblasts and neuronal progenitors was shown to be critical for their differentiation (D'Angelo et al., 2012). Likewise, depletion of the basket nucleoporin Nup50 68 69 reduces the differentiation efficiency of C2C12 myoblasts (Buchwalter et al., 2014). In 70 contrast, another basket nucleoporin, Nup153, which is highly expressed in pluripotent cells 71 and neuronal progenitors compared to differentiated cells, is required for the maintenance 72 of their identities, notably by regulating epigenetic gene silencing and transcriptional 73 programs (Jacinto et al., 2015; Toda et al., 2017). More recently, the Y-complex constituent 74 Seh1, which is highly expressed in oligodendrocyte progenitor cells, was shown to be 75 required for oligodendrocyte differentiation and myelination by regulating the assembly of a 76 transcription complex at the nuclear periphery (Liu et al., 2019). However, individual Ycomplex Nups also contribute to earlier stages of differentiation, as underscored by the 77 impaired neuroectodermal differentiation of Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>, Seh1<sup>-/-</sup> and Nup43<sup>-/-</sup> mouse 78 79 embryonic stem cells (mESCs) (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021; Lupu et al., 2008).

80 Earlier studies had found that the vertebrate Y-complex is, as an entity, critically required for NPC assembly both at the end of mitosis and during interphase (Doucet and Hetzer, 2010; 81 Harel et al., 2003; Vollmer et al., 2015; Walther et al., 2003). The viability of Nup133<sup>-,/-</sup>, Seh1<sup>-</sup> 82 <sup>/-</sup> and Nup43<sup>-/-</sup> mESCs however indicated that the corresponding Y-complex Nups were 83 84 individually largely dispensable for nuclear pore assembly in these pluripotent cells. 85 Consistently, we previously showed that mutations of Nups that form the short arm of the Ycomplex, namely Nup43, Nup85 and Seh1, only lead to a mild decrease in NPC density in 86 pluripotent mESCs (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021). In contrast, pluripotent Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> 87 88 mESCs feature a normal NPC density, but show specific nuclear basket defects, with half of NPCs lacking Tpr while Nup153 dynamics was increased (Souquet et al., 2018). How Y-89 90 complex Nups contribute to NPC assembly in differentiating mESCs was unknown.

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92 Because of the established implication of the basket nucleoporins Nup153 and Tpr in 93 chromatin organization and gene regulation (Aksenova et al., 2020; Boumendil et al., 2019; 94 Jacinto et al., 2015; Krull et al., 2010; Toda et al., 2017), we decided to investigate potential gene expression defects in Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> mESCs during neuroectodermal differentiation. Here 95 96 we show that Nup133 regulates a subset of genes, including Lhx1 and Nup210L that are 97 similarly misregulated in the absence of Seh1. However, Nup133 and Seh1 deficiencies 98 display distinct NPC assembly phenotypes in neuronal progenitors, thus indicating separate roles for these proteins in NPC architecture and gene regulation in the context of mESC 99 100 differentiation.

#### 102 **RESULTS**

# 103 Nup133 is required for the regulation of a subset of genes during neuroectodermal104 differentiation

We first determined if the impaired differentiation of  $Nup133^{-/-}$  mESCs, initially described in 105 cells derived from *merm* (behaving as *Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>*) blastocysts (Lupu et al. 2008), was also 106 observed in an independent genetic background. As Lupu and colleagues, we observed 107 altered growth and increased cell death upon neuroectodermal differentiation of Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> 108 mESCs derived by CRISPR/Cas9-editing from HM1 mESCs (previously described in Souquet et 109 al., 2018) (Fig. 1A,B). To evaluate the potential effect of Nup133 deficiency in gene 110 regulation upon neuroectodermal differentiation, we assessed the mRNA levels of genes 111 112 expressed in pluripotent cells (Oct4 and Nanog) and in early neuronal progenitors (Sox1 and Pax6) that are considered markers for the respective states. RT-qPCR analyses showed that 113 these genes were properly repressed and activated, respectively, in Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> cells 114 stimulated to differentiate towards neuroectoderm (Fig. 1C). This indicated that despite 115 116 their impaired viability at early stages of differentiation (Fig. 1A, B) the surviving Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> cells are able to exit pluripotency and to commit towards the neuronal lineage, without 117 118 overt defects in the expression of these markers.

To more broadly explore the impact of Nup133 on gene expression, we compared the 119 transcriptome of WT and Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> mESCs at the pluripotent state and after 2 or 3 days of 120 differentiation towards neuroectodermal lineage. We therefore used WT and Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> 121 122 mouse cell lines from two distinct genetic backgrounds, namely the 129/ola blastocystderived HM1 control cell line (Selfridge et al., 1992) and its isogenic CRISPR/Cas9-edited 123 Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> derivatives (#14 and #19; Souquet et al., 2018), and the 129/Sv blastocyst-derived 124 control (#1A4) and Nup133 mutant (merm, #319) mESC lines (Lupu et al., 2018) (Table S1). 125 This analysis revealed that the transcriptomes of pluripotent WT and Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> mESCs were 126 overall similar, with 43 down- and only 2 up-regulated genes, based on an adjusted p-127 128 value<0.05 and a |logFold Change|>2, whereas an increasing number of genes were misregulated (and notably upregulated) at day 3 of differentiation, with 57 down- and 61 up-129 130 regulated genes, using the same cutoffs (Figs. 1D and S1A).

We assayed by RT-qPCR the altered expression of a subset of these genes, filtered by criteria of differential expression (log2FC>2 or <-2), significance (adjusted p-value<0.05) and lastly by

average expression level (average number of reads with a log2(CPM)>1, to ensure proper 133 detection by RT-gPCR) (Fig. S1B-E). In addition to WT (HM1) and Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> (#14) used for the 134 initial RNA-seq experiment, these analyses were also conducted on samples from Nup133 135 "Rescue" cell lines generated by inserting the GFP-Nup133 transgene in Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> (#14) 136 mESCs at the permissive *Tigre* locus (Zeng et al., 2008). As an additional control, we used an 137 138 HM1-derived cell line that carries a transgene (OsTIR) similarly inserted in the Tigre locus (Fig. S2A and Table S1). In contrast to the impaired viability of Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> mESCs upon 139 140 neuroectodermal differentiation, the survival of the Rescue and WT (OsTIR) cell lines were 141 similar, confirming the functionality of the GFP-Nup133 transgene (Fig. 2A-C).

142

For the candidate genes localized on the short arm of the Y chromosome (*Ddx3y* and *Eif2s3y*, also located in close proximity to the loci of *Uty*, *Uba1y*, *Kdm5d and Zfy* (Subrini and Turner, 2021)) we observed clone-dependent expression variations (**Fig. S1B**). This suggests that their apparent shared misregulations, also reported in *Tet1* and *Tet2* mutant mESCs (Huang et al., 2013), might be in our case caused by partial loss or silencing of this genomic region, independently of *Nup133* deficiency.

In contrast, we could validate the increased mRNA levels in Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> compared to WT of 149 Nuggc at day 0, and of Nup210L and Lhx1 at day 3 of differentiation (Fig. S1C). We also 150 confirmed the reduced mRNA levels in  $Nup133^{-1}$  compared to WT for Magohb and Wfikkn1 151 (but not Acta2) at day 3 of differentiation (Fig. S1D). Finally, reduced mRNA levels of the 152 153 assayed candidate genes at the pluripotent state (day 0) were not significant due to high 154 variability among replicates or between control cell lines (HM1 and OsTIR) (Fig. S1E). 155 Importantly, among the validated candidate genes, Lhx1, Nup210L, Nugqc and Magohb were 156 all efficiently restored to wild-type levels by the GFP-Nup133 transgene.

157

*Lhx1* is a transcription factor involved in kidney and brain differentiation (Costello et al., 2015; Delay et al., 2018; McMahon et al., 2019; Shawlot et al., 1999), two organs affected in rare genetic diseases linked to *Nup133* mutations, namely steroid-resistant nephrotic syndrome and Galloway Mowat syndrome (Braun et al., 2018; Fujita et al., 2018). We further focused on this gene because of its complex misregulation in *Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>* cells. Indeed, while we confirmed by RT-qPCR the upregulation of *Lhx1* expression at day 3 of differentiation (Fig. S1C), *Lhx1* was subsequently downregulated again at later time-points (days 5 and 7 of
 differentiation) in *Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>* cells compared to *WT* and *Rescue* cells (Fig. 2D).

The other candidate gene we further characterized, *Nup210L*, is the differentially expressed 166 gene (DEG) with the most significant p-value at day 3 of differentiation (Fig. 1D). It is also 167 168 one of the rare DEGs whose expression already increased at day 2 compared to WT cells (Fig. **S1A**). In mice, *Nup210L* mRNA is mainly detected in the testis and to a lesser extent in the 169 embryonic brain (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gene/77595); in humans, besides testis, 170 171 Nup210L expression was also detected in the prefrontal cortex neurons of rare individuals 172 (Gusev et al., 2019). Analyses at later stages (day 5 and 7) of differentiation towards neuroectoderm showed that Nup210L was still more expressed in Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> compared to 173 174 WT and Rescue cells, although a progressive increase of its expression was also observed in 175 the latter cell lines (Fig. 2E).

176 As its name implies, Nup210L encodes a potential homologue of the transmembrane 177 nucleoporin Nup210/gp210 with 43% overall amino acid identity between the two proteins 178 (Fig. 2F). However, its putative NPC localization had never been established. To address this issue, we generated a GFP-tagged construct encompassing the minimal NPC targeting 179 180 determinants previously established for gp210/Nup210 (Wozniak and Blobel, 1992), namely 181 Nup210L predicted signal peptide, transmembrane domain and C-terminal domain (Fig. 2F). 182 This Nup210L-mini construct when expressed at low levels in mESCs is targeted to the 183 nuclear envelope where it colocalizes with the nucleoporin Tpr. This indicates that, like its 184 homolog, Nup210L is indeed a nucleoporin (Fig. 2F).

185

## The middle-domain of Nup133 is required for mESC differentiation, gene regulation and nuclear basket assembly in neuronal progenitors

Having established the requirement of Nup133 for cell viability upon differentiation and for 188 189 the regulation of a subset of genes, we next aimed to determine how Nup133 contributes to 190 these processes. We first focused on the middle domain of Nup133 that is necessary for the 191 proper assembly of the nuclear pore basket in pluripotent mESCs (Souquet et al., 2018). We therefore integrated the pCAG-GFP-Nup133Δmid transgene in HM1-derived Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> 192 mESCs at the *Tigre* locus (Fig. S2A). The GFP-Nup133∆mid protein levels in the resulting 193 194  $Nup133\Delta mid$  cells were comparable to those of endogenous Nup133 and of GFP-Nup133 in 195 the Rescue cell lines throughout differentiation (Fig. 2B). Cell counts upon monolayer 196 differentiation towards neuroectodermal lineage showed for the  $Nup133\Delta mid$  cell lines a 197 viability phenotype intermediate between WT and  $Nup133^{-/}$ , indicating that the middle 198 domain of Nup133 is required for some, but not all, of the functions of this nucleoporin upon 199 differentiation (**Fig. 2C**).

In contrast, RT-qPCR analysis showed that Nup210L and Lhx1 were similarly misregulated upon neuronal differentiation in  $Nup133\Delta mid$  and in  $Nup133^{-/-}$  cells (Fig. 2D and E).

The improved survival upon differentiation of Nup133 $\Delta$ mid compared to Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> cells 202 203 enabled us to perform immunofluorescence analyses to determine whether the NPC basket 204 assembly defects, previously observed in pluripotent mESCs lacking Nup133 or its middle domain, also occurred at the differentiated stage. Quantitative immunofluorescence 205 206 analyses, performed after 5 days of differentiation, showed that the intensity of Tpr at the 207 nuclear envelope was comparable between the WT and Rescue cell lines. In contrast, a two-208 fold decrease was observed in  $Nup133\Delta mid$  neuronal progenitors (Fig. 3A, B), a defect 209 comparable to the one previously observed at the pluripotent state (Souquet et al., 2018). In 210 addition, we also measured an increased Nup153 intensity at the nuclear envelope in Nup133∆mid progenitors compared to neuronal progenitors from WT or Rescue cell lines 211 212 (Fig. 3C). This increased level of Nup153 is unlikely to solely reflect a global increase in NPC 213 number as reported upon Tpr depletion in other cell lines (McCloskey et al., 2018), since 214 similar quantifications revealed a milder increase of Nup98 intensity at the nuclear envelope 215 compared to Nup153 (Fig. 3D). Likewise, an increased accessibility of the Nup153 epitope when Tpr is absent seems unlikely, as such an effect was not previously observed in Nup133 216 <sup>/-</sup> mESCs at the pluripotent stage (Souquet et al., 2018). The high level of Nup153 observed 217 218 may therefore reflect an increased stoichiometry of Nup153 per NPC in Nup133 Amid-219 compared to control-derived neuronal progenitors, possibly reflecting different stages of differentiation as previously described (Toda et al., 2017). 220

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#### 222 Nup133-dependent gene regulation and nuclear basket assembly can be uncoupled

Having identified a critical function for the middle domain of Nup133 in gene regulation, we next aimed to determine the levels of Nup133 required for this process. We therefore established *Nup133-degron* cell lines that allow auxin-mediated degradation of a GFP-tagged allele of *Nup133* in an OsTIR-expressing mESC line (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., (2021), see Materials and Methods and **Fig. S2B**).

228 The resulting Nup133-degron cell lines maintained normal Nup133 mRNA expression during differentiation (Fig. S3A), but actual Nup133 protein levels (without Auxin treatment) were 229 only ~25% of that found in WT cells (Figs. 4A and S3B). This could be due to leaky OsTIR-230 231 induced degradation as previously reported (Mendoza-Ochoa et al., 2019; Yesbolatova et al., 232 2020), decreased stability of the tagged nucleoporin, or impaired export or translation of its 233 mRNA. Nevertheless, these cells properly differentiated in the absence of auxin (Figs. 4C, 234 S3D and S3E). As anticipated, addition of auxin to the medium throughout differentiation led to a *Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>*-like phenotype: normal growth at the pluripotent state but massive cell death 235 in neuronal differentiation (Figs. 4C, S3C and S3D). 236

Importantly, the lower Nup133 levels observed in the degron cell lines in the absence of auxin was not accompanied by the altered expression of *Nup210L* or *Lhx1* during neuronal differentiation (**Fig. 4E**). In contrast, more extensive depletion of Nup133 upon continuous auxin treatment mimicked the effect of *Nup133* inactivation on these genes (**Fig. 4E**).

Quantification of the nuclear basket protein Tpr in the Nup133-degron cell lines revealed 241 242 that, even in the absence of auxin, Tpr levels at the nuclear envelope were already reduced 243 to ~60% of the WT levels both in pluripotent cells and in neuronal progenitors (Figs. 4D and 244 S4A). In contrast, the levels of Nup98 were not reduced in Nup133-degron cells (Fig. S4C), 245 consistent with a largely unaltered NPC density and a specific alteration of the nuclear 246 basket. The minor - i.e., less than 10% - increase in Nup98 intensity observed in one of the 247 two cell lines (Nup133-degron #1) may reflect modest clonal-dependent variations of NPC density. Finally, the levels of Nup153 were very mildly increased only in the Nup133-degron 248 #1 cells, with a similar trend in both undifferentiated and differentiated cells (Fig. S4B,D). 249 250 These results indicate that a 4-fold reduction of Nup133 protein levels in untreated Nup133*degron cells* is sufficient to severely impair Tpr recruitment or stabilization at nuclear pores, 251 252 without major additional impact on NPC density.

Finally, although most of the GFP-mAID-Nup133 protein was already degraded after 30 minutes of auxin treatment in differentiated cells (**Fig. 4B**), a 16 to 24h auxin treatment of these cells only led to a modest additional decrease of Tpr levels at the nuclear envelope compared to the untreated *Nup133-degron* cells (**Figs. 4D** and **S4A**).

Overall, these results thus demonstrated that a correct Nup133 stoichiometry is critical for nuclear basket assembly, yet is not required for cell viability or gene regulation upon neuroectodermal differentiation. Taken together these data also reveal that a properly

assembled nuclear basket at all NPCs is not required to regulate the expression of Nup133-

target genes.

262

#### 263 *Nup210L* mRNA levels rapidly increase in response to Nup133 or Seh1 depletion.

264 We next aimed to determine if the altered expression of Nup210L and Lhx1 was specific for 265 Nup133 or was shared by other Y-complex constituents. In view of the requirement for Seh1 in global NPC assembly, distinct from the specific basket assembly defect of Nup133 mutant 266 cells (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021), we chose to assess its implication at early 267 stages of differentiation. Despite a very extensive death of the Seh1<sup>-/-</sup> mutant cells upon 268 differentiation, (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021), we could recover some mRNAs from 269 these cells at day 3 of differentiation. As observed for Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> mESCs (Fig. 1A), Seh1<sup>-/-</sup> cells 270 271 properly repressed pluripotency markers and were able to induce early differentiation 272 markers (Fig. S5A). Importantly, mRNA levels of both Nup210L and Lhx1 were aberrantly increased in Seh1<sup>-/-</sup> cells at day 3 of differentiation as also observed in differentiating 273 *Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>* cells (**Fig. 5A**). 274

275

The low viability of Seh1<sup>-/-</sup> cells upon differentiation (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021) 276 did not allow us to perform quantitative immunofluorescence studies at the differentiated 277 278 stage. We therefore established and validated new Seh1-degron cell lines (see Materials and 279 Methods and Fig. S2C), in which the C-terminally-tagged form of Seh1 was properly and homogeneously expressed upon differentiation (Figs. 5B and S5B,C). In the resulting Seh1-280 degron cells, 24h addition of auxin at day 2 or 4 of differentiation led to impaired viability of 281 282 the cells (Fig. 5C). This indicates that Seh1 is not solely required at the early onset of 283 neuronal progenitor differentiation, but also for the proper growth or viability of the progenitors themselves. Analyses of nuclear pore assembly in Seh1-degron-derived neuronal 284 progenitors (at day 5 of differentiation) did not reveal major defects in the absence of auxin 285 286 (Fig. 5D). In contrast, a 16h-treatment with auxin led to a ~30% decrease of both Tpr and 287 Nup98 intensities at the nuclear envelope of neuronal progenitors compared to the control cells (Figs. 5D and S4E). This suggests a global decrease in pore number upon Seh1 288 depletion, comparable to the observations previously made in pluripotent Seh1<sup>-/-</sup> and GFP-289 mAID-Seh1 mESCs (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021). Note that unlike Tpr and Nup98, 290

Nup153 levels were not altered in auxin-treated Seh1-degron cells, suggesting, as also
observed in Nup133∆mid cells, an increased stoichiometry of Nup153 per NPC (Fig. S4F).

We also note that a 24h auxin treatment, applied to Seh1-mAID-GFP cells at day 2 of 293 294 neuronal differentiation, was sufficient to cause a significant increase in Nup210L mRNA 295 levels (Fig. 5E). Likewise, a 24h auxin treatment of Nup133-degron cells induced Nup210L 296 expression (Fig. 5E). In contrast, 24h of auxin treatment did not led to an altered regulation 297 of Lhx1 in Seh1-degron or Nup133-degron cells at day 3 (Fig. 5F). Together, these data indicate that Nup210L and Lhx1 are shared downstream targets of Nup133 and Seh1, with 298 299 Nup210L appearing to be a gene induced early upon loss of these Y-complex Nups. On the 300 other hand, *Lhx1* seems to need a prolonged depletion of these Y-complex Nups to become 301 misregulated, indicating that it is likely an indirect target of Y-complex Nup-dependent 302 regulations.

303

#### 304 **DISCUSSION**

305 In this study, we have shown in differentiating mESCs that a subset of genes is deregulated 306 in the absence of Nup133. We found that neuronal progenitors lacking either Nup133 or just 307 its middle domain share a defect in nuclear basket assembly and altered expression of Nup210L and Lhx1. While this indicates a dual function for the middle domain of Nup133, 308 309 this domain is large enough (416 aa, 17  $\alpha$ -helices) to possibly allow simultaneous 310 interactions with another nucleoporin and a gene expression regulator. Alternatively, this 311 large deletion, by shortening the length of Nup133, may also alter the head-to-tail interactions between consecutive Y-complexes, in turn affecting nuclear basket assembly or 312 313 stability.

However, the basket assembly and altered gene expression phenotypes can be uncoupled. 314 315 Indeed, Nup210L and Lhx1 were not misregulated in our Nup133-degron cell lines that display a constitutive nuclear basket assembly defect, and conversely, they were both 316 317 similarly misregulated in Seh1-deficient cells in which nuclear basket assembly is not 318 specifically altered. As the untreated *Nup133-degron* cell lines exhibit lower Nup133 protein 319 levels than the control cell lines, our data further argue that a limited amount of Nup133 is sufficient to keep Nup210L repressed in differentiating mESCs and to induce the proper and 320 321 timely expression of Lhx1. Because this function in gene regulation is shared by Nup133 and

322 Seh1, two physically distant members of the Y-complex, it likely involves the whole Y-323 complex rather than each of these two individual subunits.

324 The rather short lag time (below 24h) between auxin-induced degradation of Nup133 or 325 Seh1 and Nup210L activation suggests that there could be a direct contact between the Y-326 complex and the Nup210L genomic locus. Although the Y-complex is mainly visualized at 327 NPCs to which it is stably anchored (Rabut et al., 2004), a diffuse fraction is also likely 328 present in the nucleus, as previously described in HeLa cells (Morchoisne-Bolhy et al., 2015). Hence, Y-complex dependent gene regulation may take place either at NPCs or "off-pore". 329 330 Browsing available data of LaminB1-Dam-ID tracks (Peric-Hupkes et al., 2010), we noticed 331 that the Nup210L locus is adjacent to a lamin-associated domain (LAD) in mESCs and neural 332 progenitor cells. A location near the nuclear periphery would be consistent with a regulation 333 of Nup210L taking place at NPCs. In line with this hypothesis, Seh1 was shown to recruit to 334 the NPC the transcription factor Olig2 and the chromatin remodeler Brd7 to promote the expression of differentiation genes in oligodendrocytes (Liu et al., 2019). Additionally, 335 336 Nup133 was proposed to promote the expression of Myc in cancer cells by anchoring its 337 superenhancer to the NPCs (Scholz et al., 2019).

338 This Y-complex-mediated gene regulation may also involve epigenetic mechanisms, as reported for Nup153, which interacts with PRC1 to repress developmental genes (Jacinto et 339 340 al., 2015). Along these lines, it is noteworthy that human NUP210L, initially thought to be a 341 testis-specific gene, was found to be expressed in prefrontal cortex neurons of some individuals. This regulation was linked to the epigenetic allele-specific activation of NUP210L, 342 namely the deposition of the permissive histone mark H3K4me3 at its promoter (Gusev et 343 344 al., 2019). In addition, another epigenetic mechanism, the DNA methylation state of 345 Nup210L, has been linked to psychologic development disorders in patients carrying a hemizygous 22q11.2 microdeletion (Starnawska et al., 2017). Considering its possible link 346 with normal or pathological cognitive abilities, the mechanisms of Nup133- and Seh1-347 dependent Nup210L activation warrant further investigations. It is quite remarkable 348 349 that *Nup210L*, a gene encoding a nucleoporin, is one of the earliest and most robustly upregulated genes when Y-complex deficient mESCs are induced to differentiate towards 350 351 neuronal fates. Although not sufficient to prevent the impaired differentiation of Nup133-352 and Seh1-deficient mESCs, Nup210L induction might be a tentative mechanism to 353 compensate for improper Y-complex (and NPC) assembly in differentiating cells. Nup210L

might for example help to stabilize NPC structure or to promote NPC assembly in challenging conditions. As described for its homolog, Nup210, it may also participate in gene regulation at NPCs, or contribute via its conserved large N-terminal domain to nuclear envelope/ER homeostasis (Raices et al., 2017; Gomez-Cavazos et al., 2015). Finally, Nup210L may also indirectly impact chromatin compaction, as hypothesized in the context of impaired spermiogenesis (Arafah et al., 2021). More studies are needed to elucidate its functions in normal and pathological situations.

#### 362 MATERIALS AND METHODS

363

#### 364 mESCs culture and neuroectodermal differentiation

Cell lines used in this study are listed in Table S1 and were grown as previously described 365 366 (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021). Briefly, mESCs were grown at 37°C and 5% CO2 on Mitomycin-C inactivated feeder cells (DR4-mouse embryonic fibroblast) plated on 0.1% 367 368 gelatin (Sigma-Aldrich, St Louis, MO, USA) in serum/leukemia inhibitory factor (LIF, ESGRO, 369 Millipore, Burlington, MA, USA)-containing stem cell medium. mESCs were used at passages 370 below 30. Lack of contamination in-between the mutant cell lines was assessed by PCR on genomic DNA, proper GFP expression when pertinent, and western blots analyses. Frequent 371 372 DAPI staining ensured lack of major contamination by mycoplasms.

373 The neuroectodermal differentiation protocol used in this study was adapted from 374 (Abranches et al., 2009; Ying et al., 2003), as previously described (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021). Briefly, following trypsinization and feeder removal, mESCs were resuspended 375 376 in N2B27 medium [Neurobasal, DMEM-F12, 7.5% BSA, N2 supplement, B27 supplement, Pen/Strep, L-glutamin,  $\beta$ -mercaptoethanol] and plated at a density of ~ 0.85x10<sup>4</sup> or 3x10<sup>4</sup> 377 cells/cm<sup>2</sup> on gelatin-coated dishes (day 0). Medium was changed every day from day 2 on. To 378 379 stimulate neuronal differentiation, 1µM RA (all-trans-Retinoic acid, Sigma-Aldrich) was 380 added to the medium for 24h on day 2.

For annexin V/propidium iodide (PI) apoptosis/viability assays, cells were trypsinized, 381 counted, and  $10^5$  cells were centrifuged at 400 x q for 3 minutes. Cells were resuspended in 382 500µL of Annexin V binding buffer (ab14084, Abcam) and incubated with 1µL annexin V-Cv5 383 (ab14147, Abcam) and 10  $\mu$ g/mL propidium iodide for 5min at room temperature in the 384 dark. Cells were then analyzed by flow cytometry using a CyanADP Cytomation 385 386 (Beckman-Coulter), using SS (side-scatter) and FS (forward scatter) to remove debris and exclude cell doublets, and 488 nm and 635 nm excitation lasers. At least 10.000 cells were 387 388 acquired and data were then processed using the Summit software.

To induce degradation of the GFP-mAID-Nup133 (in *Nup133-degron* cells) and Seh1-mAID-GFP (in *Seh1-degron* cells), 500µM auxin (Sigma-Aldrich) was added to the medium (from a 280 mM stock in EtOH). The same final concentration of EtOH was added for control experiments.

394

#### 395 **RNA-sequencing**

RNAs were extracted at days 0, 2 and 3 of differentiation from 3 independent Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> 396 clones (KO#1, HM1-derived Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> #14; KO#2, HM1-derived Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> #19; KO#3, 397 blastocyst-derived #319 Nup133<sup>merm/merm</sup> mESCs), and from 3 control samples (WT#1; HM1; 398 WT#2, HM1; WT#3, blastocyst-derived #1AA  $Nup133^{+/+}$ ) (See **Table S1**). Library preparation 399 400 and Illumina sequencing were performed at the Ecole normale supérieure genomics core 401 facility (Paris, France). Messenger (polyA+) RNAs were purified from 1  $\mu$ g of total RNA using 402 oligo(dT). Libraries were prepared using the strand specific RNA-Seq library preparation 403 TruSeg Stranded mRNA kit (Illumina). Libraries were multiplexed by 9 on 2 flowcells. Two 75 404 bp single read sequencing runs were performed on a NextSeq 500 device (Illumina). A mean 405 of 53.14 ± 14.72 million passing Illumina quality filter reads was obtained for each of the 18 406 samples.

407 The analyses were performed using the Eoulsan pipeline version 2.0-alpha7 (Jourdren et al., 408 2012), including read filtering, mapping, alignment filtering, read quantification, 409 normalization and differential analysis: Before mapping, poly N read tails were trimmed, 410 reads  $\leq$ 40 bases were removed, and reads with quality mean  $\leq$ 30 were discarded. Reads were then aligned against the Mus musculus genome from Ensembl version 81 using STAR 411 412 (version 2.4.0k)(Dobin et al., 2013). Alignments from reads matching more than once on the 413 reference genome were removed using Java version of samtools (Li et al., 2009). To compute gene expression, Mus musculus GFF genome annotation version 81 from Ensembl database 414 415 was used. All overlapping regions between alignments and referenced exons were counted 416 and aggregated by genes using the HTSeq-count algorithm (Anders et al., 2015). A first 417 analysis revealed that one of the samples (KO#2 day2) featured an abnormally high level of ribosomal transcripts; this dataset was therefore excluded from subsequent analyses. 418

The rest of the analysis was carried out using the bioinformatics software R (R v4.1.2 (2021.11.01)), and open access packages, using the publicly available bioinformatics course DIYtranscriptomics.com (Berry et al., 2021). Mapped raw counts were transformed in counts per million (cpm) using the cpm function from the EdgeR package (v3.34.1). We filtered the genes that had a log2(cpm) above 1 for more than 3 samples, and then normalized their cpm using the TMM method (Robinson and Oshlack, 2010). The mean-variance relationship of the filtered normalized data was modeled by voom transformation, and a linear model was fitted to the data using the Imfit function from the limma package (v3.48.3). Bayesian statistics for the chosen pair-wise comparisons (average KO expression compared to average WT expression for each time point) were then calculated using the eBayes function from limma, and adjusted with the BH correction. An exhaustive list of differentially expressed genes (p. value<0.05 and |log2FC|>1.5) was pulled-out using the decideTests function. Plots in **Figs. 1D and S1A** were generated in R using ggplot2 (v.3.3.5).

432

#### 433 Transfection and CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing

434 mESCs were transfected as previously described (Souquet et al., 2018) using Lipofectamin 435 2000 (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA) according to manufacturer instructions. To establish the Nup133-Rescue, Nup133- $\Delta$ mid, Nup133-degron and Seh1-degron cell lines, 5·10<sup>5</sup> mESCs 436 437 were co-transfected with  $3\mu g$  of a plasmid directing the expression of a gRNA and high 438 fidelity (HF) Cas9 fused to mCherry and with 3  $\mu$ g of DNA sequences of interest flanked by 439 homology directed repair arms (PCR product or linearized plasmid, see Fig. S2). Plasmids are 440 listed in Table S2, gRNAs designed using the Benchling website (https://benchling.com) are 441 listed in Table S3, and PCR primers used to generate homology-directed repair templates are 442 listed in Table S4. 3 days after transfection, GFP-positive cells were FACS-sorted to select for 443 cells expressing the tagged nucleoporin and plated on culture dishes. Individual clones were 444 picked 6-7 days after sorting and characterized using immunofluorescence, western blot, 445 PCR on genomic DNA and sequencing. Ploidy was assessed using chromosome spreads. Cell line characteristics are summarized in Table S1. 446

447

#### 448 **RT-qPCR**

449 RNA extraction was performed using NucleoSpin RNAII isolation kit (Mascherey-Nagel) 450 according to the manufacturer's instructions. Reverse-transcription (RT) was done with the transcriptase inverse Superscript II (Invitrogen) and random hexamers (Amersham 451 452 Pharmacia), using at least 150 ng of RNA per sample. Real-time quantitative PCR was 453 performed with SybrGreen reagents (Applied Biosystems) on a LightCycler 480 instrument (Roche Life Sciences). All mRNA level results are presented as relative to the TATA-binding 454 455 protein (TBP) mRNA levels. qPCR primers used in this study are listed in supplementary Table 456 S5.

457

#### 458 Western blots analyses

Whole cell lysate preparations and western blot analyses were performed as previously described (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021), using 4-10% SDS-PAGE gels (Mini-Protean TGX Stain free precast gels, Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA, USA) and nitrocellulose membranes (GE healthcare). Incubations with primary antibodies were carried overnight at 4°C. Signals from HRP-conjugated secondary antibodies were detected by enhanced chemiluminescence (SuperSignal® Pico or Femto, ThermoScientific) using ChemiDoc (Bio-Rad). Antibodies used in this study are listed in *Table S6*. The uncropped membranes are presented in **Fig. S6**.

466

#### 467 Immunofluorescence and quantification of nucleoporin intensity at the nuclear envelope.

468 Cells grown on glass coverslips coated with 0.1% gelatin were fixed for 20 minutes in 3% 469 paraformaldehyde (VWR, Radnor, PA) (resuspended in PBS and brought to pH 8.0 with 470 NaOH), permeabilized 30 minutes in H-Buffer (PBS, BSA 1%, Triton 0.2%, SDS 0.02%) and incubated with the primary and secondary antibodies for 1h at room temperature in H-471 472 Buffer, with washes in H-Buffer in-between. Antibodies used in this study are listed in 473 supplementary Table S5. Coverslips were then incubated 5 min with DAPI (Sigma-Aldrich, 474 280nM in PBS) and mounted using Vectashield (Vector, Maravai Life Sciences, San Diego, CA). Images were acquired on a DMI8 microscope (Leica Microsystems), equipped with a 475 476 CSU-W1 spinning-diskhead (Yokogawa, Japan) and 2 Orca-Flash 4 V2+ sCMOS cameras 477 (Hamamatsu), using 100x/1.4 oil objectives

Quantification of nucleoporin intensities at the nuclear envelope (NE) was performed 478 479 essentially as described (Souquet et al., 2018), by mixing the cell line of interest with a 480 reference cell line, either the WT (OsTIR) cell line or the Nup133-Rescue line, as indicated. 481 For each field, we measured the mean intensity of 8-pixel-thick lines drawn on the nuclear rims and of a background area. After subtraction of the background, the NE intensity value 482 obtained for each cell was normalized to the mean value obtained for the reference cells 483 484 acquired in the same field. Box plots were generated using GraphPad Prism (GraphPad 485 Software, Inc.): each box encloses 50% of the normalized values obtained, centered on the median value. The bars extend from the 5<sup>th</sup> to 95<sup>th</sup> percentiles. Values falling outside of this 486 range are displayed as individual points. Statistical analyses were performed using unpaired 487 nonparametric Mann-Whitney tests. p<0.0001=\*\*\*\*, p<0.001=\*\*\*, p<0.01=\*\*, p<0.05=\*. 488

489

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#### 498 **Competing interests**

499 The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

500

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515

#### 516 **Data availability**

517 The RNASeq gene expression data and raw fastq files are available on the GEO repository 518 (<u>https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE218080</u>) under accession 519 number: GSE218080.

#### 521 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

- 522 C.O., A.V., B.S., and V.D. conceived and designed the experiments.
- 523 C.O., A.V., S.P., B.S., F.C. and S.B. performed the experiments.
- 524 C.O., A.V., S.P., L.J. and V.D. analyzed the data
- 525 C.O., A.V., and V.D. wrote the manuscript with contribution of L. J. for the method section.
- 526

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#### Figure 1. Transcriptomic analysis of *Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>* mESCs and early neuronal progenitors

A. Growth curve in neuroectodermal differentiation of WT (HM1) and isogenic Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> 676 mESCs. N2B27: neuronal differentiation medium complemented with N2 and B27 677 678 supplements; RA: all-trans-Retinoic acid (see Materials and Methods). The graph (logarithmic scale) represents the average of cell counts from n=3 independent experiments, except for 679 day 6 (n=2), each represented by a distinct label. Values were normalized to the number of 680 cells seeded at day 0 ( $3.10^4$  cells/cm<sup>2</sup>). **B.** Quantification of apoptosis initiation (defined by 681 annexin V positive (+) and propidium iodide negative (PI -) cells) and cell death (propidium 682 iodide positive cells, PI+) in WT and Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> cells at day 3 of differentiation. Live cells 683 684 correspond to annexin V negative and PI negative cells. The graph represents the mean of 685 n=3 independent experiments, each represented by a distinct label. In A and B, significance was assessed between WT and Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> using paired T. test (\*p<0.05; \*\*p<0.01). **C.** mRNA 686 levels of pluripotency (Nanog, Oct4) and neuronal progenitor (Sox1, Pax6) markers during 687 688 neuroectodermal differentiation were quantified by RT-qPCR and normalized to Tbp mRNA 689 levels. Each dot represents an individual experiment. The number of experiments is 690 indicated (n=). **D.** Volcano plots of the RNA-seq analysis carried out in pluripotent mESCs and in cells at day 3 of neuroectodermal differentiation, showing differentially expressed 691 genes (DEGs), by fold change (log2FC of Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> compared to WT cells) and significance 692 693 (adj. p.Val presented on a -log10 scale). The number of significantly upregulated DEGs (adj. 694 p-value<0.05, log2FC>2) and downregulated DEGs (adj. p-value<0.05, log2FC<-2) is indicated 695 at the top of each colored square. These DEGs are represented by red and blue dots, 696 respectively, if their average normalized expression in log2(CPM) is above 1. The other genes are represented as black dots when their average normalized expression is above 1 and 697 otherwise as grey dots. The names of DEGs assessed by RT-qPCR (genes with adj. p-value<10 698 <sup>2</sup> or |log2FC|>4) are indicated in blue or red. The names of other relevant DEGs (i.e., genes 699 700 that fulfilled these criteria but were not assayed by gRT-PCR, namely Krt19, Pdgfb, Cntd1, 701 Pik3ip1, and Fam196a, and genes that belong to the same Y chromosome locus as Eif2s3y 702 and *Ddx3y*, *namely Kdm5d*, *Zfy1*, *Uba1y and Uty*) are indicated in dark grey.

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#### 705 Figure 2. Altered expression of *Lhx1* and *Nup210L* in *Nup133* mutant cell lines

**A.** Schematics of the GFP-Nup133 (*Rescue*) and GFP-Nup133 $\Delta$ mid fusion proteins (see also 706 Table S1 and Fig. S2A). B. Western blot showing the expression of endogenous Nup133 or its 707 GFP-tagged forms in WT, Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>, Nup133-Rescue and Nup133∆mid cells at day 7 of 708 709 differentiation.  $\gamma$ -tubulin is used as loading control. Molecular weights are indicated 710 (kilodaltons). C. Growth curve obtained from cell counts in neuroectodermal differentiation presented in a logarithmic scale. Cells were seeded at a density of  $\sim 0.85 \times 10^4$  cells/cm<sup>2</sup> (3.10<sup>4</sup>) 711 cells in p12 wells). For the *Nup133∆mid* and *Rescue* cells, the lines correspond to the mean 712 713 of the cell counts from the various clones (each depicted by a different symbol). The number of independent experiments for each clone is indicated (n=).  $n=2^*$ : data for the Nup133 $\Delta$ mid 714 715 #3 and *Rescue* #3 cell lines correspond to technical replicates (independent wells but within 716 the same experiment). D, E. Lhx1 and Nup210L mRNA levels were analyzed by RT-qPCR at the indicated time points of neuroectodermal differentiation in WT (OsTIR), Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>, 717 *Rescue* and *Nup133\Deltamid* cell lines. Each cell line is represented by a distinct label. The 718 719 number of biological replicates for a given cell type is indicated below each time point (n=). 720 F. Left: Schematics of Nup210L and of the GFP\*-mini-Nup210L construct that comprises: 721 Nup210L predicted signal peptide (SP) and part of the luminal domain [aa 1-40], GFP\* (see details about GFP\* in the legend to Fig. S2) and aa 1791-1884 of Nup210L, encompassing 722 723 part of its predicted luminal domain and its transmembrane TM and cytosolic (Cyt) domains. For each domain, the % of identity between mouse Nup210L and Nup210 is indicated. 724 725 Numbers below the schematics correspond to amino acid residues. Right: WT (HM1) mESCs 726 transiently expressing the GFP\*-mini-Nup210L construct were fixed and processed for immunofluorescence with anti-Tpr antibodies. A single confocal section is shown. A three-727 fold magnification of the nuclear envelope area highlights the colocalization of GFP\*-mini-728 729 Nup210L with the NPC marker Tpr within defined dots. Scale bar,  $5\mu$ m.

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# Figure 3. Nup133∆mid cells display a nuclear basket assembly defect at the neuronal progenitor stage

**A.** Representative image (single Z-section) of Tpr and Nup153 immunofluorescence of WT (OsTIR) mixed with Nup133 $\Delta$ mid cells (indicated by a \*) at day 5 of differentiation. Scale bar, 10 $\mu$ m. **B, C, D.** Quantification of Tpr (B), Nup153 (C) and Nup98 (D) fluorescence intensity at the nuclear envelope, presented as box-plots. Values were normalized to the WT (OsTIR) in

each field. Standard deviation (SD), number of analyzed cells (N) and of experiments (n) are
indicated. \*\*\*\*: p-value<0.0001, n.s.: non-significant in Mann-Whitney test.</li>

739

# Figure 4. Nuclear basket integrity and gene regulation are uncoupled in *Nup133-degron*cells.

742 **A**, **B**. Western blot showing the levels of endogenous Nup133 or its GFP-mAID- (*degron*) or GFP- (Rescue) tagged forms in the indicated cell lines at day 5 of differentiation. In B, 743 744 Nup133-degron cells at day 5 of differentiation were either treated with ethanol (used as 745 solvent for auxin; -) or with auxin for the indicated time. 1/2 and 1/4 dilutions of the nontreated Nup133-degron extract were also loaded.  $\gamma$ -tubulin is used as loading control. 746 747 Molecular weights are indicated (kilodaltons). C. Cell counts at day 7 of neuroectodermal differentiation (n=3). Cells were seeded at 0.85 x  $10^4$  cells/cm<sup>2</sup>. The graph represents the 748 average of 3 independent experiments, each represented by a distinct label. D. 749 750 Quantification of Tpr fluorescence intensity at the nuclear envelope in *Nup133-degron* cells 751 treated (+) or not (-) for 16 h with auxin at day 5 of differentiation, presented as box-plots. 752 Values were normalized to the Nup133-Rescue in each field. Standard deviation (SD), number of analyzed cells (N) and of experiments (n) are indicated. \*\*\*\*: p-value<0.0001; \*\*: 753 p-value<0.01; \*: p-value<0.05; n.s.: non-significant in Mann-Whitney test. E. mRNA levels of 754 755 *Lhx1* and *Nup210L* were quantified by RT-qPCR in *Nup133-degron* cells treated (dotted lines) 756 or not (continuous lines) with auxin from day 0 on. For each cell line (represented by distinct 757 labels) and each time point, the number of independent experiments is indicated.

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# Figure 5. Seh1 depletion leads to *Lhx1* and *Nup210L* misregulation and altered NPC density in neuronal progenitors.

A. Expression levels of *Lhx1* and *Nup210L* were assessed by RT-qPCR at day 3 of 761 neuroectodermal differentiation in WT (HM1), Seh1<sup>-/-</sup> (#1) and Nup133<sup>-/-</sup> (#14) cells (n=3). 762 The graph represents the average and standard deviation of 3 independent experiments, 763 each represented by a dot. B. Immunofluorescence analysis of Seh1-mAID-GFP expressing 764 765 cells (Seh1-degron #2) at day 5 of differentiation. Cells treated with EtOH or auxin for the last 16h were fixed and stained with DAPI. Scale bar, 20µm. C. Growth curve obtained from cell 766 counts in neuroectodermal differentiation of *Seh1-degron* cells treated when indicated with 767 auxin from day 2 or day 4 on. Cells were seeded at 0.85 x  $10^4$  cells/cm<sup>2</sup>. The line corresponds 768

to the mean of cell counts obtained from n=3 independent experiments, except for day 5 769 770 (n=2). **D.** Quantification of Tpr intensity at the NE at day 5 of differentiation, in the indicated 771 cell lines. Cells were treated (+) or not (-) with auxin during the previous 16h. Values are 772 normalized to WT (OsTIR) and presented as box-plots. Standard deviation (SD), number of analyzed cells (N) and of experiments (n) are indicated. \*\*\*\*: p-value<0.0001; n.s.: non-773 significant in Mann-Whitney test. E, F. Expression of Lhx1 and Nup210L was assessed by RT-774 775 qPCR at day 3 of differentiation in cells treated with auxin (+) or EtOH (-) for the last 24 h. 776 The number of independent experiments is indicated (n=).





61

8



Differentially expressed genes: - in mESCs

D



Orniacki et al., Figure 1



## Orniacki et al., Figure 2





C Nup153 intensity at the NE (day 5)



B TPR intensity at the NE (day 5)



D Nup98 intensity at the NE (day 5)



### Orniacki et al., Figure 3



5+3

2+1

5+3

5+3

3+1

5+3



Orniacki et al., Figure 5

### **Inventory of Supplementary Material**

#### **Supplemental Figures and Figure legend:**

Figure S1, related to Figure 1: DEGs analysis in differentiating *Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>* cells.

**Figure S2, related to Materials and Methods and Tables S1, S3 and S4:** Schematics of CRISPR-Cas9-mediated cell line establishment via homologous recombination.

Figure S3, related to Figure 4: Characterization of the Nup133-degron cell lines.

Figure S4, related to Figures 3, B-D and Figure 4D: Nucleoporin densities at the nuclear envelope in *Nup133-degron* and *Seh1-degron* cell lines.

Figure S5, related to Figure 5: Characterization of the *Seh1-/-* and *Seh1-degron* cell lines.

Figure S6, related to Materials and Methods: Entire gels used for western blot

#### Supplemental Tables:

- Table S1: Cell lines used in this study
- Table S2: Plasmids used in this study
- Table S3: Sequences of gRNAs used in this study
- **Table S4:** Primers used to generate homology-directed repair templates for Nup133-and Seh1-degrons
- Table S5: qPCR primers used in this study
- Table S6: Antibodies used in this study

#### **References cited in Supplemental Figures and Tables**



#### Figure S1, related to Figure 1: DEGs analysis in differentiating *Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>* cells.

**A.** Volcano plot of the RNA-seq analysis carried out in cells at day 2 of neuroectodermal differentiation, showing differentially expressed genes (DEGs), by fold change (log2FC of *Nup133<sup>-/-</sup>* compared to *WT*) and significance (adj. p.Val presented on a -log10 scale). The number of significantly upregulated DEGs (adj. p-value<0.05, log2FC>2) and downregulated DEGs (adj. p-value<0.05, log2FC<-2) is indicated at the top of each colored square. For this time point, the p-value of several genes is higher (less significant) due to the missing sample (see Materials and Methods). These DEGs are represented by red and blue dots, respectively, if their average normalized expression in log2(CPM) is above 1. The other genes are represented as black dots when their average normalized expression is above 1 and otherwise as grey dots. The names of DEGs assessed by RT-qPCR (genes with adj. p-value<10<sup>-2</sup> or |log2FC|>4) are indicated in blue or red. The names of other relevant DEGs that were not assayed by qRT-PCR (i.e., *Kcnc2*) or that are part of the same Y chromosome locus as *Eif2s3y* and *Ddx3y* are indicated in dark grey. **B-E.** mRNA levels of the indicated candidate genes (normalized to *TBP*) were measured by RT-qPCR in pluripotent mESCs or at day 3 of differentiation (see text for details). Data are presented as the mean±S.D. Each dot represents an individual experiment.



Figure S2, related to Materials and Methods and Tables S1, S3 and S4: Schematics of CRISPR-Cas9mediated cell line establishment via homologous recombination. *Nup133 Rescue* and *Nup133∆mid* (A), *Nup133-degron* (B), and *Seh1-degron* (C). Fragment lengths are indicated in base pairs. mAID: 7kDa mini-auxin Inducible Degron (mAID) sequence (Natsume et al., 2016). Note that two different GFP-coding sequences were used in this study: GFP\*, initially described in Harkins et al. (2017), contains, in addition to the S65T and F64L substitutions present in EGFP, the V163A substitution that is expected to confer it a brighter and more stable signal. In addition, the leucine introduced at position 231 during the creation of EGFP (Tsien, 1998) is reverted to the original Histidine.





**A.** mRNA levels of *Nup133* during differentiation, quantified by RT-qPCR and normalized to *TBP* level, are comparable in the *WT* (*OsTIR*) and *Nup133-degron* cell lines. **B.** Western blot showing the different expression levels of Nup133 in the *OsTIR*, *Nup133-degron* and *Rescue* neuronal progenitors at day 5. γ-tubulin was used as loading control. 1/2 and 1/4 dilutions of the *WT* (*OsTIR*) and *Rescue* extracts were also loaded. **C.** Growth of *Nup133-degron* is comparable to *WT* and not altered by addition of auxin (added at t=0) in pluripotent mESCs. Confluence values were obtained using the IncuCyte® live cell imager software (Essen Biosciences, Ann Arbor, MI) as previously described (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021). The graph corresponds to the mean of n= 2 independent experiments. **D.** Images of *Nup133-degron* cells, treated or not with auxin from day 0, were acquired at day 7 of differentiation using a widefield microscope. Neuronal rosettes and axons are visible in untreated cells while major cell death is observed in auxin-treated *Nup133-degron* cells. Scale bars, 100µm. **E.** RT-qPCR analyses show that auxin-treated *Nup133-degron* cells properly repress the pluripotency marker *Oct4* and induce the neuronal progenitor marker *Pax6* when induced to differentiate towards neuroectoderm. Each dot corresponds to an individual experiment.



n =

3

1

В Nup153 intensity at the NE (pluripotent)



n.s

#2

1.06

0.24

144

3

1.08

0.20

125

3

wт

(OsTIR)

1.01

0.24

173

4



Nup153 intensity at the NE (day 5)



## Figure S4, related to Figure 3, B-D and Figure 4D: Nucleoporin densities at the nuclear envelope in *Nup133-degron* and *Seh1-degron* cell lines.

Fluorescence intensity at the nuclear envelope of Tpr (**A**), Nup153 (**B**, **D**, **F**) and Nup98 (**C**, **E**) was quantified in *Nup133-degron* cells at the pluripotent stage (**A**, **B**), in *Nup133-degron* cells at day 5 of differentiation (**C**, **D**), and in *Seh1-degron* cells at day 5 of differentiation (**E**, **F**) and is presented as box-plots. Cells were treated with auxin (+) or ethanol (-) as control for 24 h or 16h as indicated. Values were normalized in each field to the *Nup133-Rescue* (**A**, **B**, **D**, **E**, **F**) or *WT* (*OsTIR*) cells (**C**) and are presented as box-plots. Standard deviation (SD), number of analyzed cells (N) and of experiments (n) are indicated. \*\*\*\*: p-value<0.001; \*\*\*: p-value<0.001; \*: p-value<0.05; n.s.: non-significant in Mann-Whitney test. Note that Nup153 levels at the NE are mildly affected in a similar manner in pluripotent and differentiated *Nup133-degron* cell lines, with a mild increase observed mainly in *Nup133-degron #1* cells treated or not with auxin (compare panels B and D). In contrast, Tpr levels are strongly decreased in both cell lines (compare panel B with Figure 1E). Note also that in auxin-treated *Seh1-degron* cells, the decreased NE level of Nup98 (panel **E**) (and of Tpr, see Figure 3D) but not of Nup153 (panel F) is consistent with a decreased NPC density combined with an increased stoichiometry of Nup153 per NPC.



Figure S5, related to Figure 5: Characterization of the Seh1<sup>-/-</sup> and Seh1-degron cell lines

**A.** mRNA levels of pluripotency (*Oct4, Nanog*) and neuronal progenitor (*Pax6, Sox1*) markers were analyzed by RT-qPCR in *WT* (*HM1*) and *Seh1*<sup>-/-</sup> mESCs at the pluripotent stage (n=1) and after 3 days of neuroectodermal differentiation (n=3). **B.** *Seh1* mRNA levels during differentiation, quantified by RT-qPCR and normalized to *TBP* level, are comparable in the *WT* (*OsTIR*) and the two *Seh1-degron* cell lines (#1 and #2). Each dot corresponds to an individual experiment. **C.** Western blot showing Seh1 levels upon auxin treatment in cells at day 5 of differentiation. The membrane was first hybridized with the Seh1 antibody, then stripped to perform  $\gamma$ -tubulin hybridization.



#### Figure S6, related to Materials and Methods: Entire gels used for western blot Figures

Images of total protein levels, visualized either by ponceau staining of the nitrocellulose membrane or by the Stain-free staining of the TGX-gel (Bio-Rad) before transfer are also presented. The black rectangles on the nitrocellulose membranes correspond to the areas of the gels that were incubated with the indicated antibodies. Red rectangles correspond to the areas presented in the final figures.

**A**, related to Fig. 2B. *Rescue* clones b11 and f5 were renamed #1, and #2 respectively and *Nup133* $\Delta$ *Mid* clones c5 and d3 and f4 were renamed #3, #1, and #2 respectively. Unlike the clones used in Fig. 2B, the "*Rescue*" lines d7 and g8 had the pCAG-GFP-Nup133 transgene inserted at both *Tigre* loci and were therefore not used in this study. **B**, **C**, related to Figs. **4A**,**B**, were used to characterize the *Nup133-degron* cell lines in neuronal progenitors. **D**, related to Fig. S3, was used to characterize the *Nup133-degron* cell lines in pluripotent mESCs. **E**, related to Fig. S5, was used to characterize the *Seh1-degron* cell lines at day 5 of differentiation. Note that the membrane was successively probed with the anti-Seh1 and anti- $\gamma$ -tubulin antibodies, explaining the residual labelling in the anti- $\gamma$ -tubulin panel. The black dotted box on the anti-Seh1 gel points to the area used to detect  $\gamma$ -tubulin.

### Table S1, related to Experimental Procedures: Cell lines used in this study

NAME	SOURCE (IF PUBLISHED OR COMMERCIAL) OR DESIGN FOR CELL LINES GENERATED IN THIS STUDY	IDENTIFIER	Plate ref.	MUTATIONS (genomic sequences set at 1 for the first <u>A</u> TG)	Chromosome count/ Karyotype
MEF (DR4)	Applied StemCell	ASF-1001	-	-	-
WT (1A4)	LACY lab (Souquet et al, 2018)	#1A4	-	Sox1 <sup>gfp/+</sup>	40 Chr (68%) (XY)
merm #319	LACY lab (Souquet et al, 2018)	#319	-	Nup133 <sup>merm/merm</sup> ; Sox1 <sup>gfp/+</sup>	42 Chr XX, +8, +12
WT mESCs (HM1)	ThermoFisher Scientific (Selfridge et al., 1992)	MES4303	-	-	40 Chr (XY)
Nup133 -/-	DOYE lab - Generated by CRISPR/Cas9 editing. #14 was described in (Souquet et al., 2018); #19 is a distinct clone that arose from the same editing <u>Parental cell line</u> : HM1 Cas9 & gRNA plasmids:	Nup133 <sup>-/-</sup> (#14)	#14	<u>Allele 1</u> : 35 bp deletion in exon 6 ( $\Delta$ 11094-111128), leading to a frameshift after aa 259. <u>Allele 2</u> : large deletion encompassing exons 2-6 ( $\Delta$ 2525-11143) causing a frameshift after aa 59. Very low mRNA levels due to premature stop codons. No protein detected by western blot.	40 Chr
	pX-102: (two tru gRNAs flanking Nup133 exon 2 andCas9-mCherry) AND pX-98: two gRNAs within mNup133 exon 6 and nCas9-EGFP	Nup133 <sup>./-</sup> (#19)	#19	Allele 1:34 bp deletion in exon 6 (Δ11095-11128), leading to a frameshift after aa 260.Allele 2:deletions removing (i) part of exon 2 including its 5' splice site (Δ2539-2719) and (ii) exon 3- 6 (Δ4075-11094).Expected to cause a frameshift after aa 59.Very low mRNA levels due to premature stop codons. No protein detected by western blot.	ND
Seh1 -/-	DOYE lab (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico <i>et al</i> , 2021)	Seh1 <sup>-/-</sup> #1	A18	As described in (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al, 2021).	40 Chr (>60%)

Nup133 Rescue	Parental cell line: Nup133 <sup>-/-</sup> (#14)	Nup133- Rescue #1	B11	Insertion of pCAG-GFP*-Nup133 in one of the <i>Tigre</i> alleles	ND
	<u>Cas9 &amp; gRNA plasmid</u> : pU6-sgTIGRE_CBh-Cas9- T2A-mCherry-3UTR (#2061) <u>HR template</u> : linearized (with AvrII) pTIGRE-CAG-GFP*mNup133FL (#2103)	Nup133- Rescue #2	F5	Insertion of pCAG-GFP*-Nup133 in one of the <i>Tigre</i> alleles	41 Chr (40%) 40 Chr (33%) 42 Chr (23%)
		Nup133- Rescue #3	G5	Insertion of pCAG-GFP*-Nup133 in one of the <i>Tigre</i> alleles	ND

Nup133-	Parental cell line: Nup133 <sup>-/-</sup> (#14) Cas9 & gRNA plasmid: pU6-sgTIGRE_CBh-Cas9- T2A-mCherry-3UTR (#2061)	Nup133- ∆mid #1 Nup133-	D3	Insertion of pCAG-GFP*-Nup133Dmid in one of the <i>Tigre</i> alleles	40 Chr (71%) 40 Chr (70%)
∆mid	HR template: linearized (with AvrII)	Δmid #2 Nup133-	14	Insertion of pCAG-GFP*-Nup133Dmid in one of the <i>Tigre</i> alleles	40 (72%)
	pTIGRE-CAG-GFP*mNup133dMid (#2102)	Δmid #3	C5	······································	40 (75%)
WT (OsTIR)	As described in (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico <i>et al</i> , 2021), but a distinct clone <u>Parental cell line</u> : HM1 <u>Cas9 &amp; gRNA plasmid:</u> pU6-sgTIGRE_CBh-Cas9- T2A-mCherry-3UTR (#2061) <u>HR template:</u> linearized (with EcoRV) TIGRE HR-	OsTIR	5F	Insertion of pCAG-OsTir-T2A-NeoR in one of the <i>Tigre</i> alleles.	40 Chr

Nup133-	Parental cell line: OsTIR (5F) Cas9 & gRNA plasmid:	Nup133- degron #1	B7	<u>Allele 1:</u> insertion of EGFP-mAID after the ATG of Nup133 <u>Allele 2</u> : 10bp deletion at +1	40 (100%)
GFP- mAID-	Cas9HF-Cherry-1gRNA-degron-Nup133 <u>HR template</u> : PCR product: HR-EGFP-mAID-	Nup133-	C8	Allele 1: insertion of EGFP-mAID after the ATG of Nup133 Allele 2: 1bp insertion at +10	40 (74%)
Nup133)	mNup133 (gRNA resistant)-HR; amplification of plasmid #2108 with primers CO69-CO34	degron #2			

pCAG-OsTir-T2A-NeoR-TIGRE HR (#2064)

Seh1- degron (Seh1-	Parental cell line: OsTIR (5F) Cas9 & gRNA plasmid: #2115_Cas9mCherry_gRNA-Seh1Cterm gRNA sequence: AGCTGAGTACAAGCTAGC HR template: PCR product: amplification of plasmid #2120 [Seb1 intron8 (oxon9 HB mAID	Seh1- mAID-GFP #1	E9	<u>Alleles 1 and 2</u> : Seh1–mAID-EGFP (only one band detected and sequenced, corresponding to the AID predicted allele). Note that both alleles carry a 207 bp endoduplication in intron 8, 28 bp before exon 9 that however did not affect Seh1 expression compared to <i>Seh1-mAID-GFP</i> #2 cells	40 Chr (>86%)
mAID-GFP)	EGFP-mSeh1 exon9 UTR (gRNA resistant)-HR] with primers AV48/AV49 (for clone D2) OR #2120 digested with SnaBI and HindII (clone E9)	Seh1- mAID-GFP #2	D2	Only one band detected by PCR Seh1-mAID-EGFP as predicted	40 Chr (>76%)

Table S2. Plasmids used in this study						
Plasmid	Source	Identifier				
		(Doye lab)				
pU6_CBh-Cas9-T2A-mCherry Tigre 3UTR	From P. Navarro Gil and N.	#2061				
	Festuccia (Festuccia et al., 2019)					
pTIGRE-CAG-GFP*mNup133dMid	This paper	#2102				
pTIGRE-CAG-GFP*mNup133FL	This paper	#2103				
Cas9HF-Cherry-1gRNA-degron-Nup133	This paper	#2109				
CMV-EGFP-IntronVariant1-mAID-hSeh1cDNA	This paper	#2108				
Cas9HF-Cherry-1gRNA-degron-Seh1Cterm	This paper	#2115				
mAID-EGFP-mSeh1-exon9-UTR	This paper	#2120				
pCAG-GFP*-miniNup210L (SP-GFP*-TM-Cter)	This paper	#2130				

Plasmids used in this study were either previously published or generated using standard molecular cloning techniques as previously described in (Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021). Plasmid maps are available upon request to V. Doye and plasmids will be shared subject to the signature of a UBMTA. See details about GFP\* in the legend to Figure S2.

Table S3. gRNA sequences used in this study						
Identifier	Sequence	Source				
sg-TIGRE	ACTGCCATAACACCTAACTT	(Gonzalez-Estevez, Verrico et al., 2021)				
gRNA-degron-Nup133	GTTCGCGGAGAGGAGACGCT	This paper				
gRNA-Seh1Cterm	AGCTGAGTACAAGCTAGC	This paper				

Table S4. Primers used to generate homology-directed repair templates for						
Nup133-degron and Seh1-degrons						
Name	Sequence	Source				
CO69 (FW,	CCTCAGGTGTTCAAGCTCCGGGCGCGCGAGGTTCTCGCTATTAGCCC	This				
plasmid	GCGAGTGCCGCTTCCTCCACGCTCTCTGCAAACATGGTGAGCAAGGT	paper				
#2108)	AAGTATC					
CO34 (RV,	GTGGACGTGGGCCCGATCCCGACTAGCGGACCGCGTCGGGTCCCCG	This				
plasmid	GCCCTGGGGTTCGCGGGCTGGAGACGGACGGAAAGGATCTGAGTCC	paper				
#2108)	GGATTTATA					
AV48 (FW,	GAACAAATTATTTTATGAAGGAAAGCATAGTAGAGTTAATTTTTAAA	This				
#2120	AATCTGGTTTTAGGTTACAGCTTTAGTTCTGTGTTATTTTCTTCCATAA	paper				
plasmid)	ATAGC					
AV49 (RV,	GGCTGACTAGTACAAAAGTTATATACACTGTCACTTTAAAGG	This				
#2120	CCTTTTGGACTGTGTGTAGTAGTGAACGGGCTGCTGGTGCATCT	paper				
plasmid)	TGGAAGAGATCAAAC					

Table S5: qPCR primers used in this study						
Name	forward	reverse	<b>Identifier</b> (Doye lab) #			
ТВР	GAAGAACAATCCAGACTAGCAGCA	CCTTATAGGGAACTTCACATCACAG	11/12			
Nup133-Nter (exons 4-6)	GATTTGGTGGCCCTGTCTTA	GAAACTTCCTCCCTGCACTG	3/4			
Nup133-Mid (exons 13-14)	GACAAGGCCGTGACTCAGAT	CAAGCCGACTTGGTGAAGGA	330/331			
Oct4	TGCCCAGCATCACTATTTCA	GAAGCGACAGATGGTGGTCT	17/18			
Nanog	TTGCTTACAAGGGTCTGCTACT	ACTGGTAGAAGAATCAGGGCT	43/44			
Sox1	TGGGTCTCAGAAGGAGGATG	TGGGATAAGACCTGGGTGAG	23/24			
Pax6	GGGAAAGACTAGCAGCCAAA	TGAAGCTGCTGCTGATAGGA	336/337			
Lhx1	CTTTGCAGCTACACCCAAGC	CTTGGAGCGTCGATTCTGGA	440/441			
Acta2	GAGAAGCCCAGCCAGTCG	CTCTTGCTCTGGGCTTCA	168/168			
Nup210L	AGCACTCAATGCTCACGACA	GTTGATGCCAGCACAGCAAA	215/216			
Nup153	AAGAAAGCCGACAGTGAGGA	TTTGCTGCACCTTGATCAGT	5/6			
Ddx3y	CAATTTTGATTTGCCAAGCG	TTTGTGATGTTCAAATTCCTCTCA	549/550			
Eif2s3y	ATTTGGTGAAAGAAAGCCAGG	GGAGCTCCTTCGGCTACTG	545/546			
Wfikkn1	GGAAGCCATCCTGGCATGT	CGCACAGTCCTGGTCCC	434/435			
Cyp26a1	AAGCTCTGGGACCTGTACTGT	CTCCGCTGAAGCACCATCT	561/562			
lgfbp3	TCAATGTGCTGAGTCCCAGA	TGTCCACACACCAGCAGAAG	555/556			
Nuggc	CATTCCAGGCACAGGAGACT	TCATGGGTCTTTCCTCCAGA	553/554			
T (Brachyury)	CTGGGAGCTCAGTTCTTTCG	GTCCACGAGGCTATGAGGAG	67/68			
Magohb	CCGGACGGGAAGCTTAGATA	AGAGCGTCGTCCTCTTTTGT	253/254			
Alpn	CTCTGGCTCTCCTTGACTGC	GCGCATGCTTCCTTCTTA	293/294			
Rasgrp1	ACCGGATCATCATCTCCTCA	AATTCTTTTCCAGGGCATCC	297/298			

Table S6: Antibodies used in this study					
Primary Antibodies	Usage	Concentration	<b>Identifier</b> (Doye lab)	Source /reference	
Mouse monoclonal antibody anti-	IF	1/5	#11	From B. Burke	
Nup153 (SA1)				(Bodoor et al., 1999)	
Rabbit polyclonal antibody anti-Tpr	IF	1/200	#158	Abcam (ab84516)	
Rabbit monoclonal anti Nup98 C39A3	IF	1/20	#236	Cell signaling (#2598)	
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse Nup133 antibody (clone 9C2H8)	IF	1/100	#74	Doye lab (Berto et al., 2018) <sup>2</sup>	
Rat monoclonal anti-mouse Nup133 antibody (clone 3C11G6)	WB <sup>1</sup>	1/10	#75	Doye lab (Souquet et al., 2018) <sup>2</sup>	
Rabbit monoclonal antibody anti- Nup133 (EPR10809)	WB <sup>1</sup>	1/500	#295	Abcam (ab181355)	
Rabbit polyclonal antibody anti-Seh1	WB	1/1000	#297	Abcam (ab218531)	
Mouse anti-gamma-tubulin	WB	1/2500	#3	Abcam (ab11316)	
Secondary antibodies					
Cy™5 AffiniPure Donkey anti-mouse	IF	1/500	#504	Jackson ImmunoRes. 715-165-151	
Cy™5 AffiniPure Donkey anti-rat	IF	1/500	#561	Jackson ImmunoRes. 712-035-152	
Cy™3 AffiniPure Goat anti-rabbit	IF	1/500	#519	Jackson ImmunoRes. 111-165-144	
Peroxidase AffiniPure Donkey anti-	WB	1/1500	#499	Jackson ImmunoRes.	
rabbit				711-035-152	
Peroxidase AffiniPure Goat anti-	WB	1/5000	#515	Jackson ImmunoRes.	
mouse				115-035-068	
Peroxidase AffiniPure Goat anti-	WB	1/10000	#523	Jackson ImmunoRes.	
ratCy™5 AffiniPure Donkey Anti-Rat				112-035-167	

<sup>1</sup> The rat monoclonal anti-mNup133 antibody (#75) was used in Figs 2B, 4C and S3B. The rabbit antibody (Abcam) was used in Figures 4B.

<sup>2</sup> 9C2H8 and 3C11G6 anti-mNup133 monoclonal antibodies are now commercially available through Millipore. The indicated dilutions may not apply to this commercial source.

Validation of the anti-Nup153 and rat anti-Nup133 monoclonal antibodies is described in the indicated publications. Information on the commercial antibodies used in this study is provided by the manufacturers. In addition, the commercial Seh1 antibody was previously validated by western blot using corresponding KO mESCS (Gonzalez-Estevez et al. 2021).

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