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Title

Identification of sam4 as a rad24 Allele in *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*

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1 Running title: Fission yeast *sam4*

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3 **Identification of *sam4* as a *rad24* Allele in**
4 ***Schizosaccharomyces pombe***

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6

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22 **Key words:** *Schizosaccharomyces pombe*; fission yeast;
23 **meiosis; sexual differentiation**

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1 Abstract

2

3 Fission yeast requires nutritional starvation to switch mitotic
4 cell cycle to sexual differentiation, but *sam* mutants, which we
5 had isolated nine alleles, mate without starvation condition.
6 Those mutants are useful for understanding the mechanism
7 underlying how cells sense the nutritional starvation and
8 change the cell cycle. To identify the *sam* allele, we first
9 sought phenotypes other than the original *sam* phenotype. We
10 found that all nine *sam* mutants were sensitive to 1M KCl,
11 *sam2*, *sam3*, *sam4* and *sam9* were sensitive to 0.1 M CaCl₂ and
12 only the *sam4* mutant was sensitive to 150 J/m² UV. This
13 peculiar phenotype of *sam4* suggested us that *sam4* might be
14 the allele of *rad24*, which encodes a 14-3-3 protein. In fact the
15 Rad24 protein disappeared in *sam4* and the *rad24* mRNA was
16 not transcribed in *sam4*. In addition, the mutation that changed
17 Gln to stop codon was found in the *rad24* locus of *sam4*. Thus
18 we concluded that *sam4* is the allele of *rad24*. We also found
19 that over expression of *rad24* or *rad25* (a paralog of *rad24*) has
20 a suppressive effect on *sam1*, but *sam1* was not the allele of
21 *rad24* nor *rad25*. Thus, 14-3-3 proteins are deeply involved in
22 switching of mitotic cell cycle to the sexual differentiation of
23 fission yeast.

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1 The fission yeast *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* proliferates
2 continuously when it has abundant nutrients but arrests its cell
3 cycle progression in the G1 phase upon depletion of glucose or
4 nitrogen. Heterothallic cells of an opposite mating type,
5 namely h^- and h^+ , start to develop sexually through processes
6 that include conjugation, meiosis and sporulation.
7 Homothallic cells (h^{90}) switch frequently between the h^- and h^+
8 mating type.

9 The sexual differentiation that precedes meiosis is regulated
10 by the cAMP pathway, the stress responsive pathway, the
11 pheromone signaling pathway and the TOR pathway.¹⁻³⁾ The
12 cAMP pathway signals the nutrient conditions, mainly the
13 glucose levels, to the cells. When glucose (or nitrogen) is
14 abundant, the heterotrimeric-type guanine nucleotide-binding
15 protein (Gpa2) becomes activated through the Git3 receptor;⁴⁾
16 this subsequently activates adenylyl cyclase (Cyr1) to
17 generate cAMP from ATP.⁵⁾ Cyr1 interacts with its associated
18 protein Cap1,⁶⁾ which plays a partly regulatory role of
19 adenylyl cyclase and also interacts with actin and 14-3-3.^{7, 8)}
20 When cAMP is abundant, it associates with the regulatory
21 subunit Cgs1. and the catalytic protein kinase Pka1 is
22 released.⁹⁾ Sterility caused by higher cAMP levels is reversed
23 by over expression of the *moc1-moc4* genes.¹⁰⁻¹⁴⁾ Pka1
24 phosphorylates the zinc-finger protein Rst2, which otherwise
25 induces the expression of *ste11* that encodes the key
26 transcription factor.¹⁵⁾

27 The pheromone signaling pathway is initiated by the binding
28 of mating pheromone to the pheromone receptor, which

1 activates the receptor-coupled G protein Gpa1. The signal is
2 then transmitted to a MAPK cascade – a process that depends
3 on the oncoprotein homolog Ras1. The Ras1 protein recruits
4 the MAPKK kinase, Byr2,¹⁶⁾ to the membrane, where it is
5 activated. Byr2 is maintained in an inactive form by an
6 inter-molecular interaction¹⁷⁾ or binding with the 14-3-3
7 homologs Rad24 and Rad25.¹⁸⁾ Activated Byr2 phosphorylates
8 the MAPK kinase, Byr1, thereby activating it, which in turn
9 activates the MAP kinase, Spk1, via a typical MAP kinase
10 activation mechanism.^{19, 20)}

11 Previously, we reported the existence of *S. pombe sam*
12 mutants, which undergo mating and sporulation without
13 requiring nitrogen or glucose starvation. The *sam* phenotype is
14 now re-defined as a mutation that skips the requirement of
15 starvation for mating. Two (*sam3* and *sam9*) are dominant
16 while seven (*sam1*, *sam2*, *sam4*, *sam4*, *sam5*, *sam7* and *sam8*)
17 are recessive.²¹⁾ On the basis of this characterization, we
18 previously isolated two suppressor genes, *msa1* and *msa2*^{22, 23)}
19 both of which encode RNA binding proteins that negatively
20 regulate sexual differentiation. We also screened out *sla1*^{24,}
21 ²⁵⁾ encoding a homolog of the mammalian La protein and *zds1*
22 that involved in CaCl₂ tolerance as the genes that suppressed
23 the *ras1* deletion phenotype through the analysis of *sam3* and
24 *sam9*.²⁶⁾

25 In this study we further explored the phenotypes of nine *sam*
26 mutants and identified the *sam4* allele for the first time among
27 nine *sam* mutants. We found that the *sam4* mutation lies in the
28 missense mutation of *rad24* and that abolish the production of

1 Rad24 and also transcription of *rad24*.

2

3

4 Materials and Methods

5 *Strains and media.* The *S. pombe* strains used in this study are
6 listed in Table 1. *S. pombe* was grown in YES-rich medium
7 (0.5% yeast extract, 3% glucose, 225 mg/liter adenine,
8 histidine, leucine, uracil, and/or lysine hydrochloride) or
9 Pombe Minimum (PM) synthetic medium, supplemented with 75
10 mg/liter adenine, leucine, and/or uracil when necessary.
11 Nitrogen-free PM medium (1% glucose without ammonium
12 chloride) were used to culture *S. pombe* when the mating
13 efficiency had to be measured. *Escherichia coli* strains DH5 α
14 was used for plasmid manipulation. *E. coli* was grown in LB
15 medium (1% polypepton, 0.5% yeast extract, 1% NaCl, pH
16 7.2).

Table 1

17

18 *Plasmid.* The plasmids pREP42-*rad24* and pREP42-*rad25* were
19 previously described.¹⁸⁾ pJK148-*rad24* was constructed as
20 follows: The *rad24* DNA from wild type *S. pombe* was amplified
21 by PCR using *rad24F-SalI* and *rad24R-NotI* primers. The PCR
22 product was digested with *SalI* and *NotI* and inserted into
23 pJK148, an integration vector for the *leu1* site. pJK148-
24 *rad24*(C615T) was constructed in the similar way by starting
25 from amplifying the *rad24* locus of *sam4*.

26

27 *Strain construction.* The *rad24*-disrupted strain was
28 constructed as follows: An upstream region of *rad24* from the

1 wild-type *S. pombe* KT34 genome was amplified by PCR using
2 rad24d1 and rad24d2 as a primer containing the pFA6a-specific
3 DNA sequence. Approximately a 500bp fragment from
4 downstream of the stop codon of the *rad24* gene from KT34 was
5 amplified by PCR using the rad24d3 primer, which contains the
6 pFA6a-specific DNA sequence and the rad24d4 primer. In the
7 second PCR, the *kanMX6* product amplified from pFA6a-
8 kanMX6 by pFA6a-com5 and pFA6a-com6 was used to join the
9 first two PCR products. Strain KT34 was transformed with the
10 second PCR product and stable G418 resistant transformants
11 were selected to obtain the $\Delta rad24$ strain. Proper integration
12 of the *rad24* disruption was verified by colony directed PCR
13 using Nb2 primer and rad24-P4 primer. The resulting strain
14 was named TMS2. Homothallic *rad24* deletion strain was also
15 derived from SP870 in a similar way, yielding TMS1.

16

Table 2

17 *Mating efficiency.* The mating and sporulation efficiency was
18 calculated using following equation:

19 $Mat (\%) = (2Z + 2A + 0.5S)/(H + 2Z + 2A + 0.5S)$ where *Z* stands
20 for the number of Zygotes, *A* for the number of asci, *S* for the
21 number of free spores, and *H* for the number of cells that failed
22 to mate.²³⁾

23
24 *Western blotting.* Approximately 1×10^8 cells were harvested
25 after growth in the appropriate medium, washed twice with
26 dH₂O, dissolved in 100 μ l of dH₂O, and samples were boiled at
27 95°C for 5 min. Subsequently, 120 μ l of 2x Laemmli buffer (4%
28 SDS, 20% glycerol, 0.6M β -mercaptoethanol, 8M urea, 0.12M

1 Tris-HCl [pH 6.8]) was added and the samples were vigorously
2 vortexed with acid-washed glass beads for 3min. The samples
3 were heated at 95°C for 5min. The glass beads and large debris
4 were removed by centrifugation at 16,000 x g for 10min (Fig.
5 4). Each sample was analyzed on SDS-PAGE with a 7.5% or
6 10% polyacrylamide gel and then transferred to Immobilon
7 Transfer Membranes (Millipore) by using a wet-type transfer
8 system or semidry transfer system. To detect the Rad24 protein,
9 the membrane was incubated with a Rad24 antibody diluted
10 1:2,000 in 5% skim milk in PBS-T (137mM NaCl, 8mM
11 Na₂HPO₄·12H₂O, 2.7mM KCl, 1.5mM KH₂PO₄, 0.1% Tween20).
12 The membrane was washed with PBS-T for 15min and 5min
13 twice per wash and then incubated with horseradish
14 peroxidase-conjugated anti-rabbit secondary antibody (Bio-
15 Rad Laboratories, Inc.) diluted 1:3,000 in 5% skim milk in
16 PBS-T. After the membrane was washed, the secondary
17 antibodies were detected with the ECL system as described by
18 the manufacturer (Amersham). To detect tubulin, the
19 membrane was incubated with an anti-tubulin monoclonal
20 antibody (Sigma T-5168) diluted 1:5000 in 5% skim milk in
21 PBS-T, washed and then incubated with horseradish
22 peroxidase-conjugated anti-mouse secondary antibody diluted
23 1:1000 in 5% skim milk in PBS-T. After the membrane was
24 washed, the secondary antibodies were detected with the ECL
25 system (Amersham)

26

27 *Preparation of RNA and RT-PCR.*

28 Total RNA was prepared for RT-PCR and it was performed as

1 described previously.^{2,3)} *S. pombe* cells were grown in PM
2 medium at 30°C to a density of 2 x 10⁸ cells/ml. The cells were
3 pelleted by centrifugation, washed with DEPC treated H₂O.
4 The cells were suspended in 1 ml of ISOGEN (RNA isolation
5 reagent; Nippon Gene) and vigorously vortexed 6 minutes with
6 glass beads. After centrifugation (10,000 x g for 15 minutes at
7 4°C), the supernatant was precipitated with isopropanol. Then,
8 RNA samples were treated with RQ1 RNase free DNase
9 (Promega) for 30 min at 37°C. Each 500ng RNA was reverse
10 transcribed by TAKARA PrimerScript followed by semi
11 quantitative PCR using Ex taq polymerase.

12

13

14 **Results**

15 *Identification of sam alleles*

16 We have previously isolated nine *sam* mutants that mate and
17 sporulate without any starvation condition in *S. pombe*.²¹⁾ Wild
18 type *S. pombe* strain does not form spores under nutrient rich
19 condition such as on YES rich medium, but all *sam* mutants
20 formed the spores under the same condition. Thus, the *sam*
21 phenotype is now re-defined as a mutation that skips the
22 requirement of starvation for mating. The degree of mating
23 efficiency were variable among nine *sam* mutants but which are
24 clearly higher than wild type (Fig.1). Rounder cell shaped
25 cells were often observed in *sam3*, *sam4* and *sam9* strains (Fig.
26 1)

Fig.1

27 To identify the corresponding *sam* mutations, we first looked
28 for the phenotypes in which we can use for the screening to

1 identify the *sam* gene. We checked the sensitivity of nine *sam*
2 mutants to 0.1M CaCl₂, 1M KCl, 0.18M NaCl, 0.2M MgCl₂,
3 0.2M MgSO₄, 0.25mM MnCl₂, and 1.2M sorbitol. Although no
4 sensitivity was found to 0.2M MgCl₂, 0.2M MgSO₄, 0.25mM
5 MnCl₂, and 1.2M sorbitol (data not shown), we found that *sam2*,
6 *sam3*, *sam4*, and *sam9* are sensitive to 0.1 M CaCl₂, all nine *sam*
7 mutants are sensitive to 1M KCl but with different degree (Fig.
8 2) and *sam4* was a little sensitive to 0.18M NaCl (data not
9 shown). Because KCl sensitivity is a characteristic phenotype
10 of *cyr1* and *pka1* mutants, ^{27, 28)} which are also categorized as
11 *sam* mutants, those results suggest the tight linkage of *sam*
12 phenotype and KCl sensitivity. Fig.2

13 We next tested UV sensitivity of all *sam* mutants and found
14 only *sam4* is clearly sensitive to the UV in the dose higher than
15 120 J/m² (Fig. 3). The observation of UV sensitivity of *sam4*
16 lead us to compare its sensitivity in the *rad24* mutant, because
17 of which is known to be sensitive to UV²⁹⁾ and also displayed
18 the *sam* phenotype.¹⁸⁾ As the result, the UV sensitivity of *sam4*
19 was found to be in a similar level to a *rad24* mutant.

20 Fig.3

21 *Detection of Rad24 protein level in sam mutants*

22 Above result prompted us to check the protein level of Rad24
23 in *sam4*, because *rad24* is known to mate without any
24 starvation condition like all *sam* mutants.¹⁸⁾ To know the
25 existence of the Rad24 protein in the *sam4* mutant, we used the
26 antibody against Rad24. This antibody was raised against the *S.*
27 *pombe* Rad24 protein and recognized Rad24 specifically.³⁰⁾
28 When we tested the presence of Rad24 in nine *sam* mutants by

1 western blotting, Rad24 was detected in all *sam* mutants except
2 for *sam4*. Thus, Rad24 was completely lost in the *sam4* mutant.
3 This result indicated that *sam4* is the allele of *rad24* or the
4 mutation that affect the Rad24 protein. Fig.4

5 Then, we tested the expression level of *rad24* by Reverse
6 Transcription (RT) coupled PCR. The total RNA was extracted
7 from *sam4* and wild type SP870, and reverse transcribed with
8 Reverse Transcription System (Promega). RT-PCR was
9 conducted by the primer sets of *rad24*ORF-F and *rad24*ORF-R.
10 The actin mRNA was amplified by primers set of *act1*-F and
11 *act1*-R as a control. As the result, there was no band of *rad24*
12 appeared in the RNA sample taken from *sam4*, while *rad24* was
13 detected in the wild type strain (Fig. 5). Thus, *rad24* was not
14 expressed or very low in the *sam4* mutant. This result
15 suggested that the *sam4* mutation lies within the *rad24* gene or
16 the other gene that affected the transcription of *rad24*. Fig.5

17 We then sequenced the *rad24* locus of the *sam4* mutant by
18 amplifying the genomic DNA of *rad24* from the *sam4* mutant.
19 The primers of *rad24* P-1 and *rad24* P-4 were used for
20 amplification of the *rad24* locus and surrounding region. The
21 amplified fragments were directly sequenced by primers
22 indicated in Fig. 6. As the result, only one mutation was found
23 at the position of 615 nucleotide from the start codon of *rad24*.
24 By this mutation, the CAA (Gln) condon was changed to TAA
25 (stop) codon, that lead to generate truncated or non functional
26 Rad24 protein (Fig. 6). There was no other mutation including
27 the promoter region and the terminator region. The result that
28 only the nonsense mutation was found in *rad24* was a little

1 surprising since we did not detect the transcription of *rad24* in
2 the *sam4* mutant, which will be discussed later.

Fig.6

4 *Suppression of sam4 mutant by rad24*

5 We next introduced the exogenous *rad24* by expression on the
6 plasmid in the *sam4* mutant to test whether all phenotypes of
7 *sam4* was reversed. We confirmed that the plasmid restored its
8 phenotypes of *sam4* in sensitivity to 0.1M CaCl₂, 1M KCl and
9 150 J/m² UV (Fig. 7A). The *sam* phenotype, namely, mate
10 without any starvation, was also reversed by expression of
11 *rad24* (Fig. 7B). Further more, we amplified the *rad24* allele
12 from *sam4* and introduced into the *leu1* locus of an authentic
13 *rad24* mutant. As expected, there was no suppression of *rad24*
14 by *rad24* allele of *sam4* in the derived strain named TM4. TM4
15 was phenotypically identical with the *rad24* deletion mutant
16 (data not shown). All these results consistently indicate that
17 the *sam4* is the allele of *rad24* and also there is no
18 phenotypically difference between the *sam4* mutant (HS418)
19 and *rad24* null allele. From all those results, we concluded
20 that the *sam4* strain contains only the nonsense mutation in
21 *rad24*.

Fig.7

23 *Suppression of the sam1 mutant by rad24 or rad25.*

24 We further examined whether expression of *rad24* or *rad25*
25 affect the phenotypes on other *sam* mutants. We introduced
26 *rad24* or *rad25* in all *sam* mutants to see any phenotypes are
27 reversed by expression of those genes. As the result, the KCl
28 sensitive phenotype and high mating ratio of *sam1* was found

1 to be reversed by expression of *rad24* or *rad25* (Fig. 8,A & B).
2 To seek out any possibility of *sam1* is the allele of *rad24* or
3 *rad25*, we sequenced the *rad25* and *rad24* loci of the *sam1*
4 mutant (HS412) in a similar way as tested in the *sam4* mutant
5 (HS418), but did not find any alteration in those two genes. We
6 concluded that *sam1* is not a allele of *rad24* nor *rad25*. On the
7 contrary to the *rad24* deletion strain, the *rad25* deletion strain
8 did not show the *sam* phenotype, nor sensitive to KCl, UV, and
9 CaCl₂ (Fig. 8,C ,D and data not shown). It is unlikely that any
10 other *sam* mutants are either the allele of *rad25* or *rad24*.

Fig. 8

12 **Discussion**

13 Despite a long on-going analysis of *sam* mutants in our
14 laboratory, we had not succeeded to identify any *sam* alleles
15 and only isolated suppressors genes such as *msa1* and *msa2*.^{22,}
16 ²³⁾ We also isolated and characterized *zds1*²⁶⁾ and *sla1*^{24, 25)} as
17 inducers of sexual differentiation through the analysis of *sam3*
18 and *sam9* dominant mutants. But here we clearly showed that
19 *sam4* is the allele of *rad24* that encodes one of 14-3-3 proteins.
20 14-3-3 is a protein widely found in eukaryotes and modulate
21 many cellular process by interacting primarily phospholyrated
22 protein.³¹⁾ Fission yeast has one paralogous gene of *rad24* for
23 14-3-3 called *rad25*. It can be dispensable for either one of
24 *rad24* and *rad25* genes but not for both.²⁹⁾ A *rad24* deletion
25 mutant is highly inclined to sexual differentiation, but a *rad25*
26 deletion strain is not (Fig. 8). This can be explained by the
27 different expression level of *rad24* and *rad25* in *S. pombe*.
28 Rad24 is much abundant than Rad25 in fission yeast. When

1 *rad25* was expressed under the *nmt1* promoter, it behaves like
2 *rad24* so that the function of Rad24 and Rad25 is not
3 indistinguishable.

4 It is reasonable that *rad24* allele was included in one of nine
5 *sam* mutants, as it has been known that deletion of *rad24* lead
6 to the *sam* phenotype.¹⁸⁾ The phenotype of *sam4* and *rad24*
7 deletion mutants were identical and no evidence was obtained
8 that argue against the existence of other mutations in *sam4* as
9 far as we examined in this study.

10 The *sam* phenotype, namely skip starvation for mating, were
11 currently considered in mainly defective at two different
12 points. One defective point resides in the signal transduction
13 pathway such as the cAMP pathway. Typically, *cyr1* that
14 encodes adenylyl cyclase or *pkal* that encodes protein kinase
15 A deletion mutants showed *sam* phenotype.^{5, 9)} The other is the
16 mutation defective in cell cycle controller like *cig2/cyc17*
17 encoding one of cyclin.³²⁾ If the cell cycle progression was not
18 inhibited at G1 phase, cells easily stop at the G1 phase, so that,
19 cells skip the requirement of nutritional starvation for mating.
20 Since Rad24 interacted with proteins related meiosis such as
21 Ste11, Mei2, and Byr2, and negatively regulate those proteins,
22 the deletion mutant of *rad24* skip requirement of starvation for
23 mating.

24 Because it has been shown that Rad24 (or Rad25 in some
25 cases) bound with many proteins like Cdc25,³³⁾ Clp1,³⁴⁾
26 Plc1,³⁰⁾ Chk1,³⁵⁾ Cid13 and CAP⁸⁾ in addition to Byr2,¹⁸⁾
27 Ste11,³⁶⁾ and Mei2³⁶⁾ in fission yeast, Rad24 (or Rad25)
28 involves in many cellular events other than sexual

1 differentiation. In addition to the phenotypes of UV
2 sensitivity and *sam* phenotype, we found *rad24* deletion mutant
3 is sensitive to CaCl_2 , which was not shown before. Sensitivity
4 to UV can be explainable from its property of Rad24 to interact
5 with Chk1, a check point involved kinase or Plc1,
6 Phospholipase C, and *sam* phenotype can be explainable of its
7 property of Rad24 to interact with Byr2, Ste11 and Mei2. But,
8 CaCl_2 and KCl sensitive phenotype can not be clearly
9 explainable at this point. One possibility of CaCl_2 sensitivity
10 of the *rad24* deletion mutant might be relevant to the role of
11 Zds1 because deletion of *zds1* causes CaCl_2 sensitivity ²⁶⁾ and
12 it interacted with Rad24 (our unpublished observation). But,
13 as it was shown that more than 200 proteins interact with
14 14-3-3 in *S. cerevisiae*, ³⁷⁾ it is not an easy task to dissect the
15 each function of Rad24 to be responsible for each different
16 phenotype in *S. pombe* by current information.

17 There was a point mutation in *rad24*, so that we generally
18 expect the transcription is normal. But no or very little
19 transcription of *rad24* was observed in *sam4*. This result was a
20 little surprising. But, we think this observation probably
21 reflect the response of Nonsense mediated mRNA decay (NMD).
22 NMD is the mechanism that detects and eliminates aberrant
23 mRNAs whose expression would result in truncated proteins by
24 premature termination codon.³⁸⁾ This NMD mechanism is
25 known to be highly conserved in eukaryotes including budding
26 yeast, worms, mammals and plants, although no clear evidence
27 was shown experimentally in fission yeast yet.³⁸⁾ Our result
28 might be one of the example that fission yeast uses the NMD

1 mechanism as well.

2 Among other *sam* mutants *sam1* was suppressed by expression
3 of *rad24* or *rad25*. But, no mutation was found in *rad24* nor
4 *rad25* in *sam1*. Rad24 was detected by western blot so that it is
5 unlikely that *sam1* is the allele of *rad24* or that affect the
6 expression of *rad24*. It is also considered that all nine *sam* are
7 independent allele. We do not know what gene is mutated in
8 *sam1*. But, all our results suggested that 14-3-3 proteins are
9 deeply involved in the sexual differentiation of fission yeast.

10

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14 Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology of Japan.

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1 Fig. 1. Phenotypes and mating efficiency of nine *sam* mutants.
2 Cells were grown on YES medium for 3 days and pictures were
3 taken. Mating efficiency was calculated by counting 300 cells.

4

5 Fig. 2. Sensitivity of *sam* mutants by KCl and CaCl₂.
6 SP870 (wild-type), and *sam1-sam9* cells were cultured at 30°C
7 in liquid medium until they reached log phase. They were
8 concentrated to 1 x 10⁷ cells/ml and then diluted sequentially
9 5-fold (in the right-hand direction). The cells were spotted on
10 YES plates and incubated at 30°C for 3 days with 1 M KCl and
11 0.1 M CaCl₂.

12

13 Fig. 3. Sensitivity of *sam* mutants to UV.
14 Indicated cells were grown and diluted as in Fig. 2. Cells were
15 exposed to 120, 150 J/m² UV or none. The cells were spotted on
16 YES plates and incubated at 30°C for 3 days.

17

18 Fig. 4. Western blot of *sam* mutants by Rad24 antibody.
19 Indicated cells were grown in YES at 30°C and crude proteins
20 were extracted. The samples were analyzed by SDS-PAGE with
21 a 10% polyacrylamide gel. Rad24 was detected with a Rad24
22 specific antibody. Tubulin was detected with a tubulin specific
23 antibody as a loading control.

24

25 Fig. 5. mRNA level of *rad24*.
26 The mRNA level was monitored by RT-PCR. Samples were
27 taken from a *sam4* mutant and wild type as indicated.
28 Experiments were done with reverse transcriptase (Left panel)

1 and without reverse transcriptase (Right panel). The *act1* gene
2 encoding actin was used as a control. PCR was done with two
3 different cycles.

4

5 Fig. 6. A mutation site of *rad24* in the *sam4* mutant. The *rad24*
6 gene was amplified by *rad24* P1 and P-6 primers. The sequence
7 of the *rad24* region was determined by the primers indicated by
8 arrows. A mutation was found at the 615 position from the start
9 codon. By this mutation Gln codon was changed to stop codon.

10

11 Fig. 7. Suppression of *sam4* by *rad24*.

12 A *sam4* mutant that expressed *rad24* or not was grown for 3
13 days on PM minimum medium under indicated condition(A).
14 Cells were taken by photography (B). The phenotypes of *sam4*
15 were reversed by expression of *rad24*.

16

17 Fig. 8. Suppression of the *sam1* mutant by *rad24* or *rad25*.

18 *rad24* or *rad25* was expressed in the *sam1* mutant. They were
19 tested for the phenotypes of KCl sensitivity (A) and mating
20 efficiency (B). Phenotypic comparison of homothallic and
21 heterothallic *rad24* and *rad25* deletion mutants on KCl
22 sensitivity was done (C). Cells of the *rad24* deletion mutant
23 made spores on YES rich medium but cells of the *rad25*
24 deletion did not (D).

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Table 1

Strain	Genotype	Source
L972	<i>h-</i>	Lab. stock
SP66	<i>h90 ade6-M210 leu1-32</i>	Lab. stock
SP870	<i>h90 ade6-M210 leu1-32 ura4-D18</i>	5)
KT34	<i>h- ade6-M210 leu1-32 ura4-D18</i>	21)
HS412	<i>h90 ade6-M216 leu1-32 ura4-D18, sam1</i>	21)
HS414	<i>h90 ade6-M216 ura4-D18, sam2</i>	21)
HS416	<i>h90 ade6-M216 ura4-D18, sam3</i>	21)
HS418	<i>h90 ade6-M216 leu1-32 ura4-D18, sam4</i>	21)
HS420	<i>h90 ade6-M216 leu1-32 ura4-D18, sam5</i>	21)
HS422	<i>h90 ade6-M216 leu1-32 ura4-D18 sam6</i>	21)
HS424	<i>h90 ade6-M216 leu1-32 ura4-D18 sam7</i>	21)
HS428	<i>h90 ade6-M216 ura4-D18 sam8</i>	21)
HS430	<i>h90 ade6-M216 ura4-D18 sam9</i>	21)
r24.d	<i>h- ade6-M704 leu1-32 ura4-D18 rad24::ura4</i>	29)
r25.d	<i>h- ade6-M704 leu1-32 ura4-D18 rad25::ura4</i>	29)
SP24U1	<i>h90 ade6-M210 leu1-32 ura4-D18 rad24::ura4</i>	18)
SP25U1	<i>h90 ade6-M210 leu1-32 ura4-D18 rad25::ura4</i>	18)
TMS1	<i>h⁹⁰ ade6-M210 leu1-32 ura4-D18 rad24::kanMX6</i>	this study
TMS2	<i>h⁻ ade6-M210 leu1-32 ura4-D18 rad24::kanMX6</i>	this study
TMS3	<i>h⁹⁰ ade6-M210 ura4-D18 rad24::kanMX6 leu1-32::leu1:rad24</i>	this study
TMS4	<i>h⁹⁰ ade6-M210 ura4-D18 rad24::kanMX6 leu1-32::leu1:rad24(C615T)</i>	this study

1

2

3

4 Table 2 primers

Primer name	Sequence (5' to 3')
Rad25F-NotI	TAGCGGCCGCATGAGTAATTCTCGTG
Rad25R-NotI	TAGCGGCCGCAAGCTTTAACAGTGTCA
rad24ORF-F	ACCTTTCCAGTGCCAACCAC
rad24ORF-R	GGCATCAATCATGAGCAACG
rad24F-SalI	TATGTCGACACACCTGGTGGCATAGCAGAC
rad24R-NotI	CTGGCGGCCGCACAGCAGCTACCAAATACACAC
rad24-d1	TTTGACAGTGTTCAGGCACC
rad24-d2	TCGACCTGCAGCGTACGATTGGCACTGGAAAGGTTGCG
rad24-d3	TAAACGAGCTCGAATTCATCGATAGCTCGTTGCTCATGATTGATGCC
rad24-d4	AGTGGTACATCGGTCGTATGC
rad24 P-1	GGAACGTGTGCGCAAATTG
rad24 P-2	CTTCCGCCGATAGAACCTTG
rad24 P-3	TCTCCGAGTTGGACAGCCTTTC
rad24 P-4	AGGGTCAACCGACTTTCTCG
rad24 P-5	TACATCATGCTGCGCATCTC
rad24 P-6	AGAAAACCTTGGATTGCGCAG
rad25 P-1	TGGGAAAATCGTATTGACCAG
rad25 P-2	GGCATTTCAGAGCTCGATAGTC
rad25 P-3	TCCCACATACAGTAGCAAACCTGC
rad25 P-4	CAATCAAGTTGCCCAACG
rad25 P-5	CTTGTCGAGTGTTGCCCTAC
rad25 P-6	TCAGGAGTAACACGAAACACCG
pFA6a-com5	TCGTACGCTGCAGGTCGA
pFA6a-com6	ATCGATGAATTCGAGCTCGTTTA
act1-F	GGCATCACACTTTCTACAACG
act1-R	GAGTCCAAGACGATACCAGTG
nmt1-F	CCGGATAATGGACCTGTAA
nmt1-R	GAATGGGCTTCCATAGTTTG
Nb2	GTTTAAACGAGCTCGAATTCATCGAT

5

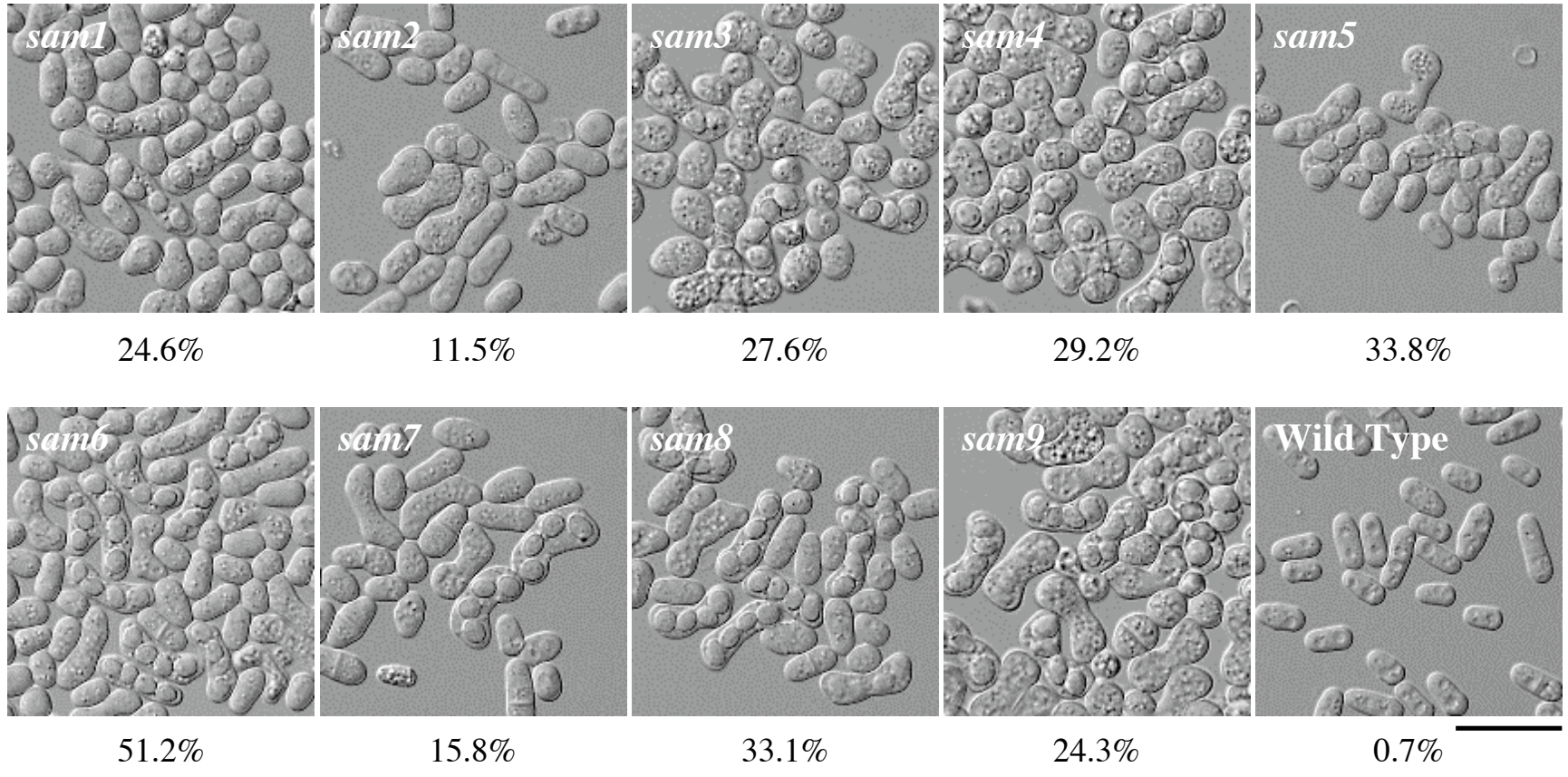


Fig.1

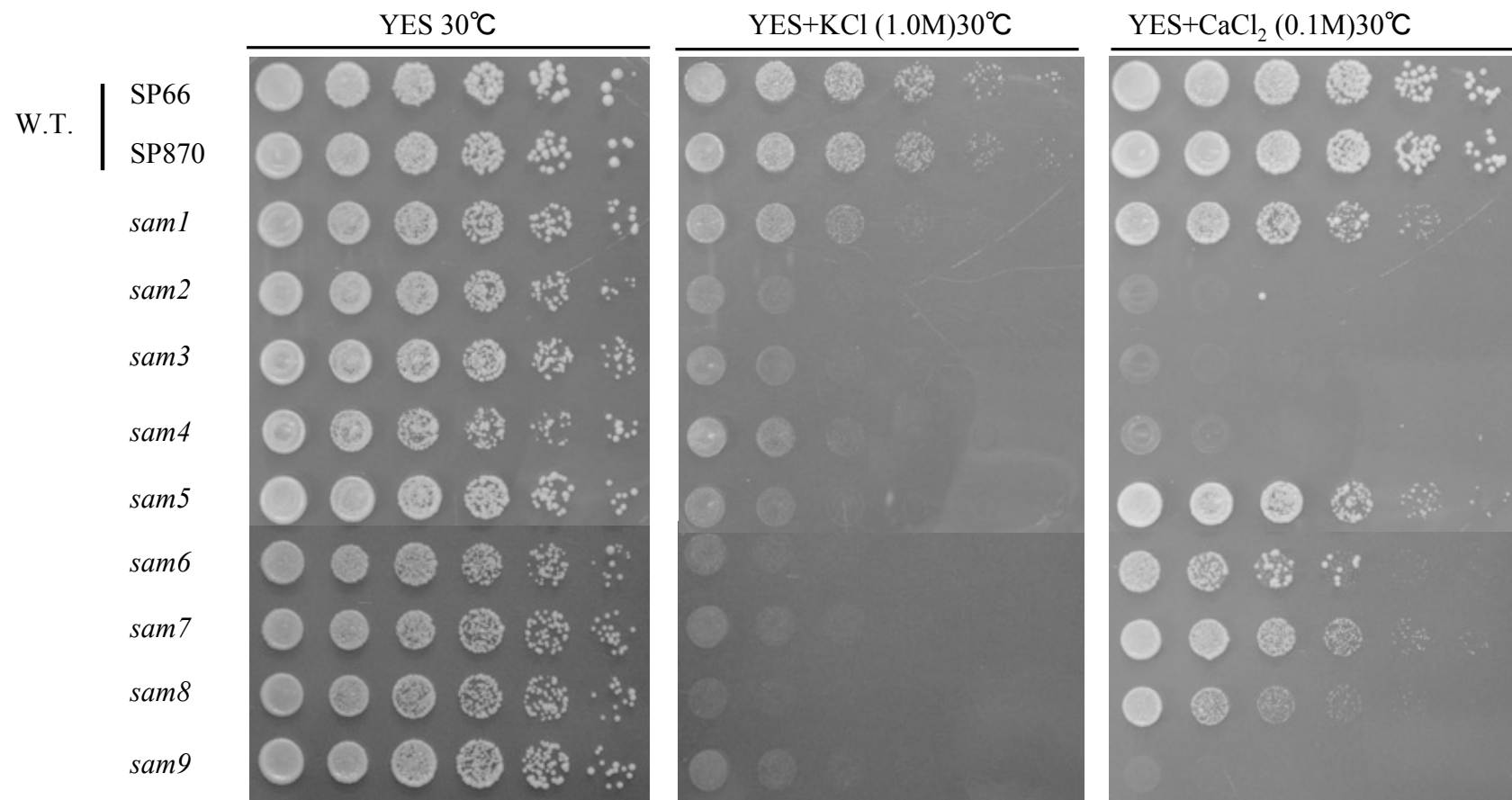


Fig.2

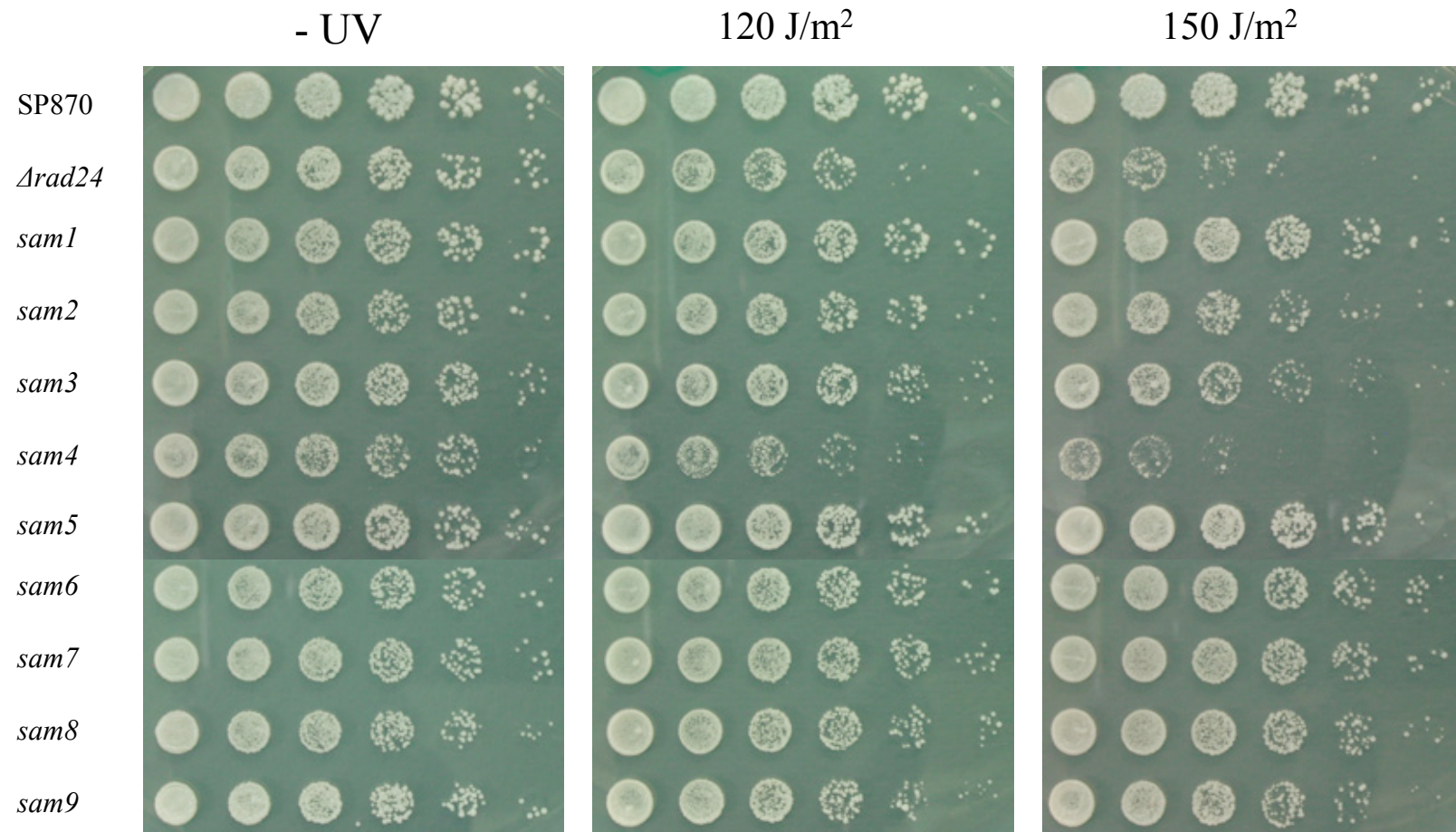


Fig.3

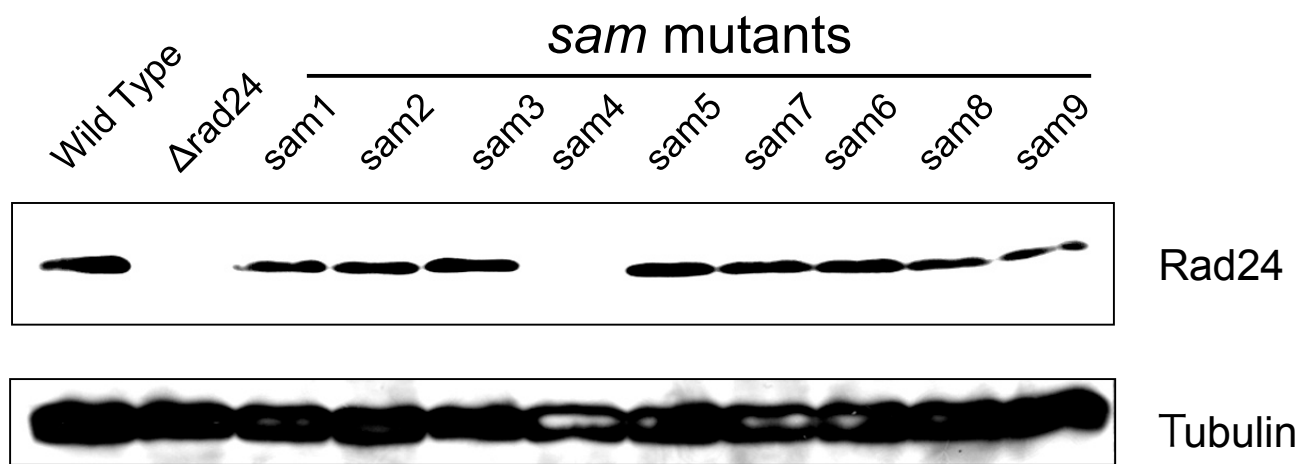


Fig.4

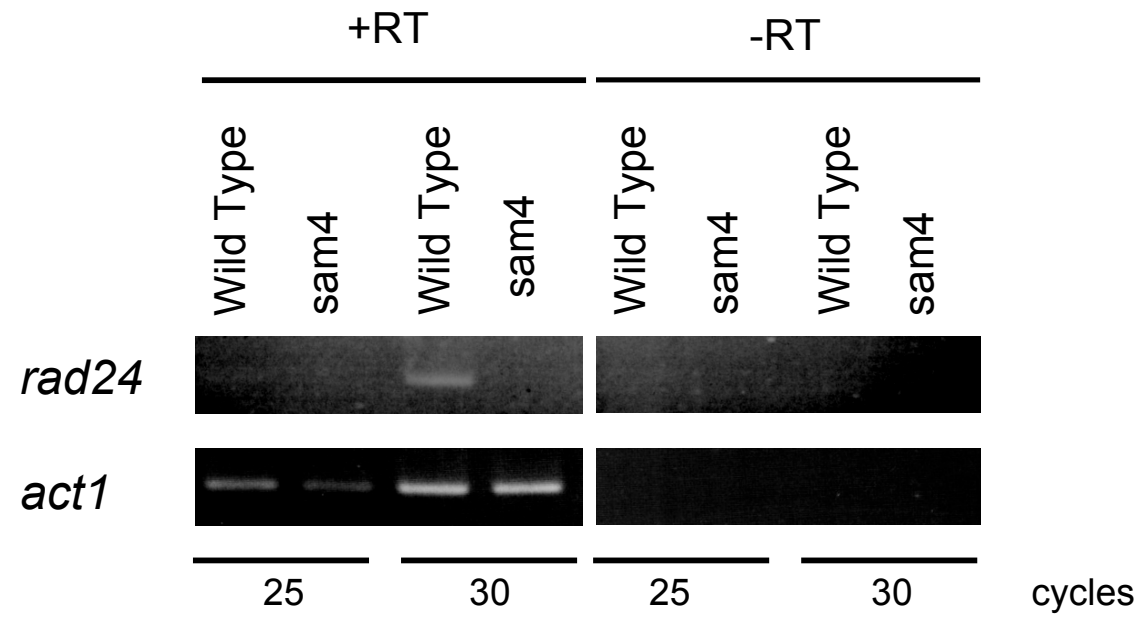


Fig.5

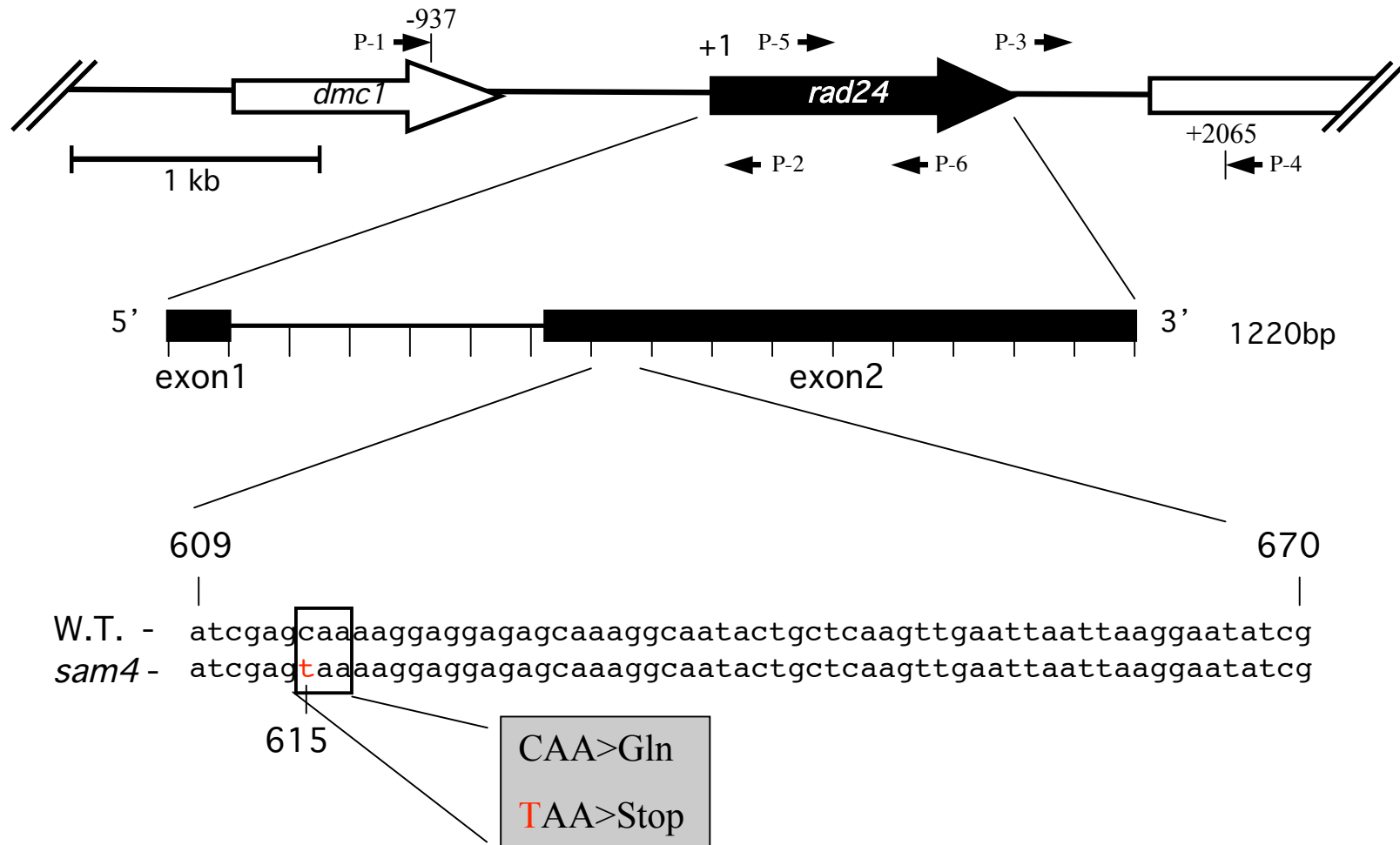


Fig.6

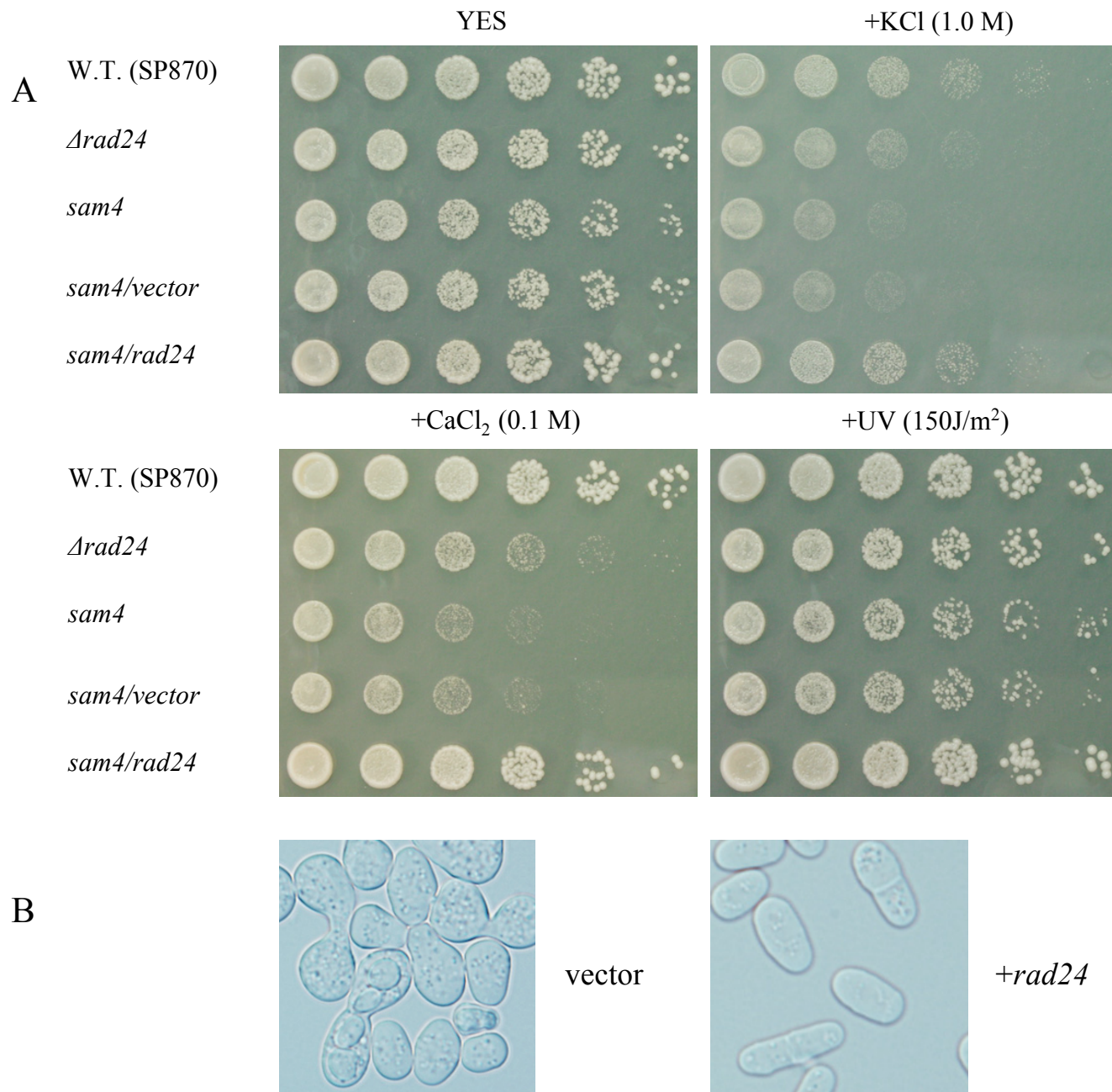
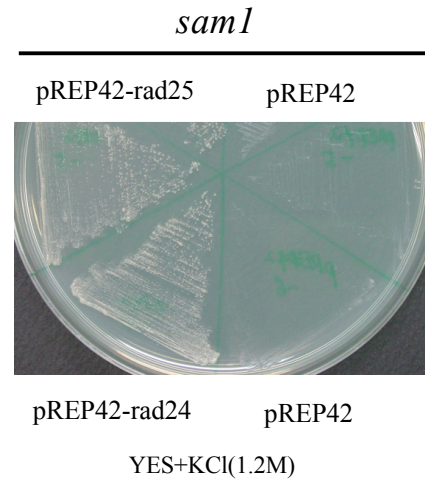


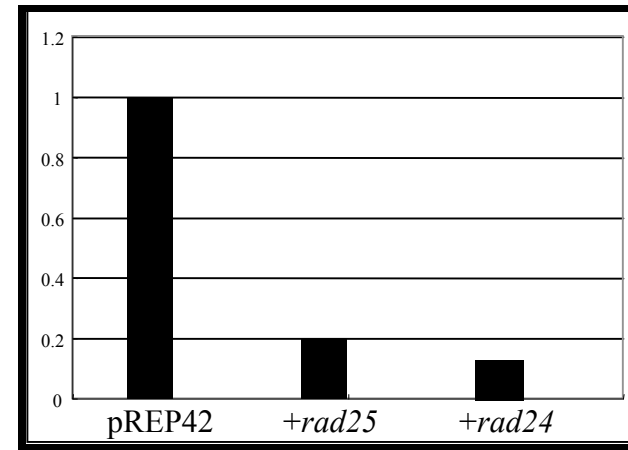
Fig.7

A

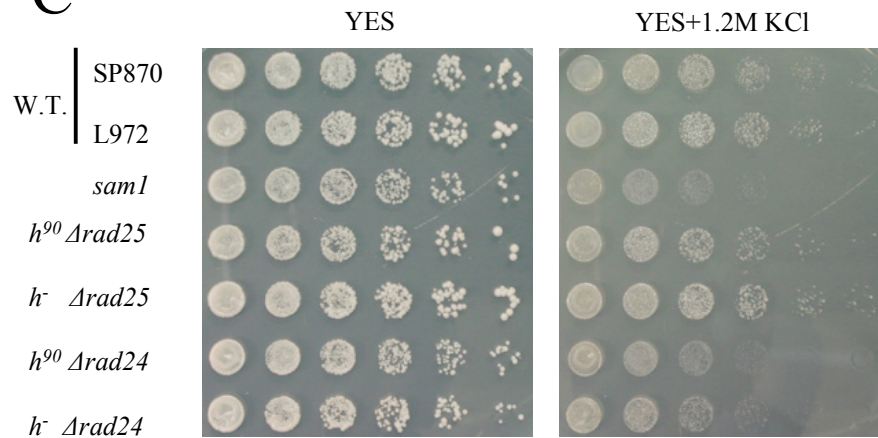


B

Relative spore formation



C



D

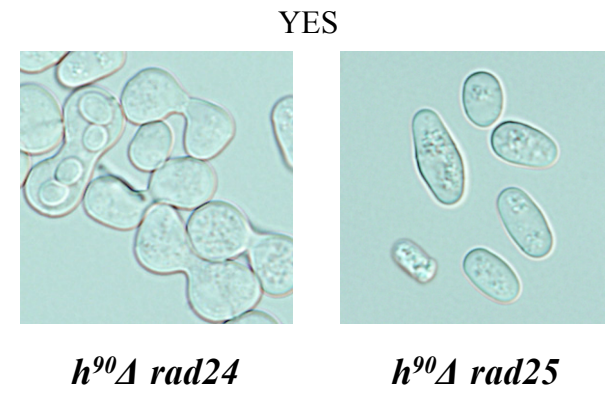


Fig.8