

cerebellar EGL and the dentate gyrus harbor neuroblasts that generally give rise to a single lineage (22). Thus, as cells move from a multipotent, less-differentiated state to their terminal phenotype, Atm function after irradiation becomes apparent. Because  $Atm^{-/-}$  and  $p53^{-/-}$  mice appear neuroanatomically normal (23), Atm- and p53-dependent apoptosis is probably distinct from programmed cell death occurring during nervous system development (24).

These data establish a role for Atm during radiation-induced apoptosis in select cell populations in the developing CNS. It is possible, at this stage, that neurons require Atm as a component of a survival checkpoint so that developing neural cells that have genomic (or other) damage can be eliminated. Thus, defective Atm may allow genomically compromised neurons to survive, and their accumulated mutations lead to functional deficits later in life. In specific cell populations such as Purkinje or granule cells, this process could lead to selective neurodegeneration as seen in AT (3). Further, because disruption of Atm function is protective against irradiation, these findings may have therapeutic implications for attenuating the serious neurological sequelae after craniospinal irradiation for pediatric brain tumors.

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## *COI1*: An *Arabidopsis* Gene Required for Jasmonate-Regulated Defense and Fertility

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The *coi1* mutation defines an *Arabidopsis* gene required for response to jasmonates, which regulate defense against insects and pathogens, wound healing, and pollen fertility. The wild-type allele, *COI1*, was mapped to a 90-kilobase genomic fragment and located by complementation of *coi1-1* mutants. The predicted amino acid sequence of the COI1 protein contains 16 leucine-rich repeats and an F-box motif. It has similarity to the F-box proteins *Arabidopsis* TIR1, human Skp2, and yeast Grr1, which appear to function by targeting repressor proteins for removal by ubiquitination.

**J** asmonates (JAs), which include jasmonic acid and its cyclopentanone derivatives, are widely distributed throughout the plant kingdom. They are synthesized by the octadecanoic pathway from linolenic acid in undamaged tissues and (apparently) by a different pathway in wounded tissues. JAs affect a variety of processes in plants, including root growth, fruit ripening, senes-

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cence, pollen development, tuber formation, tendril coiling, and defense against insect pests and pathogens. They alter gene transcription, RNA processing, and translation (1).

Tomato plants respond to injury, such as that caused by chewing insects, by making proteinase inhibitor (pin) proteins that inhibit insect digestive proteases (2). JA is required for plant defenses against insect predation (3) and acts together with ethylene formed in the wounded tissues to regulate pin gene expression (4). In *Arabidopsis*, the functions of JA are defined by the triple mutant fad3-2 fad7-2 fad8, which is deficient in linolenic acid,

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the precursor to JA (5), and by the coil mutant (6) and other mutants (7) with reduced sensitivity to JA. The fad3-2 fad7-2 fad8 and coil mutants have deficient wound responses (8, 9) and high mortality from attack by chewing insects (8, 10), and they produce nonviable pollen (5, 6). Treatment of plants with JA corrects these deficiencies in fad3-2 fad7-2 fad8, but not in coi1 (5, 6, 8–10). The coi1 mutation therefore defines a gene, COI1, that functions in the JA signal pathway and is required for pollen development and defense against pests, and also for defense responses to pathogens (11). To investigate its function, we have used a map-based strategy to isolate COI1.

We genetically mapped coil in F<sub>2</sub> plants from a cross between the coil-1/coil-1 mutant derived from Arabidopsis ecotype Co-

lumbia (6) and wild-type COI1/COI1 plants of ecotype Landsberg erecta. Tests on 188 plants for genetic linkage between the coil phenotype (12) and cleaved amplified polymorphic sequence (CAPS) markers (13) placed coil-1 on chromosome 2 flanked by visible markers as and cer8 (Fig. 1A). Further mapping located COI1 on bacteria artificial chromosome (BAC) D25L8 (Fig. 1B). The COII gene was mapped in D25L8 by screening DNA fragments for transient complementation of coil-1 mutants transgenic for the COIIdependent wound- and JA-responsive reporter gene, PThi2.1-GUS (Fig. 1, B to E) (14). Fragment 8ks was sufficient to complement coil-1 (Fig. 1E); this fragment identified clones 1.8c and 1.9c in an Arabidopsis cDNA library (15). The 1.8c cDNA complemented the coil-1 mutant in the

transient assay (Fig. 1E).

To confirm that 8ks complemented other JA responses in the coil-1 mutant, we used Agrobacterium tumefaciens-mediated transformation to produce stable transgenic plants (16). We could not achieve direct transformation of coil-1 mutants by two different methods that efficiently transformed wild-type plants (16, 17). However, we could successfully transform fertile COI1/coi1-1 plants with 8ks by in planta vacuum-infiltration transformation. About 25% of the untransformed progeny of these plants segregated as coil-1 mutants, as expected. However, of 79 seedlings selected from the same seed lot for kanamycin resistance through the neomycin phosphotransferase gene linked to 8ks on the transforming DNA, all exhibited wild-type growth inhibition in re-



**Fig. 1.** Genetic and physical mapping of *Arabidopsis* DNA sequences that complement *coi1-1*. (**A**) Genetic mapping of 460 plants with chromosome recombinations between visible markers *as* and *cer-8* placed *coi1-1* between CAPS markers C83 and B23 (24). C83 and B23 were used to screen YAC libraries (25). Numbers of detected chromosome recombinations between the marker and *coi1-1* are denoted by *r*; subscripts L and R indicate markers derived from YAC left and right ends, respectively (open box indicates right end). (**B**) The closest markers flanking *coi1-1*, EG13C9 (right end) and YUP10A2 (left end), hybridized to BAC clone D25L8 (25). Restriction enzyme digestion fragments of D25L8 are named to indicate size (in kilobases) and are marked (+) if they complemented *coi1-1* in the transient transformation assay or (-) if they did not. (**C**) Map of 8ks and adjoining DNA. Thick line shows predicted coding sequences; introns are marked as open triangles; p1 (located outside of 8ks) and p2 (within 8ks) are PCR primers that

amplify a 1.5-kb fragment with an internal recognition site for Xcm I (see Fig. 2B). Arrows indicate position and orientation of transcription of expressed sequences 1.8c and 1.9c identified by 8ks in a cDNA library with inserts controlled by the CaMV 35S promoter (*15*). (**D**) Plants transgenic for *PThi2.1-GUS* (*14*) were infiltrated with 10  $\mu$ M methyl jasmonate (JA) or water (control), or wounded by gold particles fired from a particle gun. GUS activity could be detected in wounded and JA-treated wild-type plants, but not in controls or *coi1-1* mutants, indicating that *COI1* is required for JA- and wound-induced expression of the *Thi2.1* gene. (**E**) *coi1-1* plants transgenic for *PThi2.1-GUS* were bombarded (*26*) with gold particles coated with candidate *COI1* DNA sequences. Histochemical staining revealed sites of transformation as blue spots of GUS activity, indicating complementation of *coi1-1* by DNA from BAC D25L8, fragment 8ks, and cDNA 1.8c. Two leaves are shown for each complementation assay.

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sponse to JA and produced fertile pollen. This indicated that the transgene, 8ks, had functionally complemented the *coil-1* mutation. Similar results indicated that *coil-1* was complemented by cDNA clone 1.8c but not by cDNA clone 1.9c, nor by the transformation vector. We determined the DNA sequence of the COI1 gene (18) and developed a CAPS marker to identify *coil-1* mutants that had been complemented by the 8ks transgene.

The DNA sequence of 8ks indicated a single open reading frame that corresponded to cDNA clone 1.8c (Fig. 1C). The corresponding sequence from the coil-1 mutant deviated from that of the wild type by a single nucleotide change, G to A, at

Fig. 2. Stable complementation of the coi1-1 mutant by 8ks. (A) Seedlings of wild type, the coi1-1 mutant, and line T-36 (transgenic for 8ks) were grown on MS medium (control) or medium containing 50 µM JA (6). JA inhibited growth of seedlings of the wild type and T-36, but not the coi1-1 mutant. (B) A 1.5-kb fragment containing part of COI1 or the coi1-1 mutant allele could be amplified by the PCR primers p1 (5'-GGTTCTCTTTAGTCTTTAC-3') and p2 (5'-CAGACAACTATTTCGT-TACC-3') from chromosomal DNA but not from the transgene 8ks (Fig. 1C). Xcm I cleaved the 1.5-kb fragment from wild-type DNA at the recognition site CCA-9N-TGG, but not from the coi1-1 mutant, in which the Xcm I recognition site was altered by the G1401A mutation to CCA-9N-TGA. The 1.5-kb fragment from T-36 was not cleaved by Xcm I, indicating that this plant was homozygous for the coi1-1 mutation and was therefore functionally complemented by the transgene 8ks.

position +1401 relative to the translation start of 1.8c. This mutation created a polymorphism between DNA digested with Xcm I from wild-type plants and from the *coil-1* mutant (Fig. 2B). Analysis of the 79 transgenic plants for this polymorphism revealed that 24 were homozygous for the *coil-1* mutation, one of which is T-36 (Fig. 2); 37 were heterozygous; and 18 were homozygous for the wild type. This agreed with the expected ratio of 1:2:1 (*coil-1*: heterozygous:wild-type) in the 79 tested plants (P > 0.3), and confirms the functional complementation of the *coil-1* mutant by COI1 sequences in 8ks.

The COI1 cDNA sequence predicted a 1779-nucleotide gene product coding for a



	F-Box							
MEDPDIKRCK	LSCVATVDDV	IEQVMTYITD	TD PKDRDSASLV CRRWFKIDS	CRRWFKIDSE	TREHVTMALC	YTATPDRLSR	REPNLRSLKL	80
	leucine-rich repeats start				CO11-15 A	TLRRLIVLAV	DSRT*	
KGKPRAAMFN	LIPENWGGYV	TPWVTEISNN	LROLKSVHFR	RMIVSDLDLD	RLAKARADDL	ETLKLDKCSG	FTTDGLLSIV	160
THCRKIKTLL	MEESSFSEKD	GKWLHELAOH	NTSLEVLNFY	MTEFAKISPK	DLET IARNCR	SLVSVKVGDF	EILELVGFFK	240
AAANLEEFCG	GSLNEDIGMP	EKYMNLVFPR	KLCRLGLSYM	GPNEMPILFP	FAAQIRKLDL	LYALLETEDH	CTLIQKCPNL	320
EVLETRNVIG	DRGLEVLAQY	CKQLKRLRIE	RGADEQGMED coil-18 QK	EEGLVSORGL POISS*	IALAQGCQEL	EYMAVYVSDI	TNESLESIGT	400
YLKNLCDFRL	VLLDREERIT	DLPLDNGVRS	LLIGCKKLRR	FAFYLROGGL	TDLGLSYIGQ	YSPNVRWMLL	GYVGESDEGL	480
	leucine-rich repeats finish				C	oil-1 *		

leucine-rich repeats finish MEFSRGCPNL QKLEMRGCCF SERAIAAAVT KLPSLRYLWV QGYRASMTGQ DLMQMARPYW NIELIPSRRV PEVNQQGEIR 560

EMEHPAHILA YYSLAGORTD CPTTVRVLKE PI\*

592-amino acid protein (Fig. 3). Support for the designation of this open reading frame as COI1 came from the complementation experiments, described above, and from deviations of the sequences of three coil alleles (12) from the wild-type sequence. The DNA sequence of coil-1 differed from the wild type by a single nucleotide that converted codon 467 (W) into a translation stop codon. In coil-15 a 1-nucleotide deletion at codon 60 (C) caused a frame shift that introduced a translation stop at codon 75. In coil-18 a 10-nucleotide deletion, replaced by a  $\sim$ 3-kb insertion, altered the sequence from codon 358 (E) to a translation stop at codon 366. The three mutant alleles were therefore predicted to produce truncated proteins. Northern (RNA) blot analysis revealed that the COI1 transcript was expressed in similar amounts in untreated, wounded, and JAtreated tissues (10).

The deduced amino acid sequence of the COI1 protein contains a degenerate F-box motif (19) and 16 imperfect leucine-rich repeats (LRRs) (20), consensus xLxxaxxxCxxLxxaxa, where "a" is a hydrophobic amino acid (Fig. 3). Both of these motifs are involved in protein-protein interactions (20, 21). Database searches indicated that COI1 was related to three LRR-containing F-box proteins: Arabidopsis TIR1 (22), to which it has 34% identity, as well as human Skp2 and yeast Grr1 (19, 21). TIR1 is required for response to auxin, and tirl mutants are fertile plants with reduced sensitivity to root growth inhibition by auxin. However, coil mutants are male sterile and show wild-type sensitivity to growth inhibition by auxin (10). Apparently, therefore, COI1 and TIR1 function in separate signal pathways. Both Skp2 and Grr1 regulate cell division, and Grr1 also regulates nutrient uptake (23). These and other F-box proteins function as receptors that selectively recruit repressor proteins into a complex required for the ubiquitination of substrates targeted for removal (21). We speculate that COI1 may be an F-box protein that recruits regulators of defense response and pollen development for modification by ubiquitination.

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**Fig. 3.** Derived amino acid sequence of *COI1* (27). A line over the sequence indicates regions with similarity to previously defined functional domains. The altered sequences of the mutant alleles *coi1-1*, *coi1-15*, and *coi1-18* are indicated. The *COI1* cDNA sequence has been deposited in GenBank (accession number AF036340). The COI1 genomic sequence was simultaneously determined in the *Arabidopsis* genome-sequencing project (accession number AF00210).

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