

In silicio Identification of Glycosyl-Phosphatidylinositol-Anchored Plasma-Membrane and Cell Wall Proteins of Saccharomyces cerevisiae

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Use of the Von Heijne algorithm allowed the identification of 686 open reading frames (ORFs) in the genome of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* that encode proteins with a potential N-terminal signal sequence for entering the secretory pathway. On further analysis, 51 of these proteins contain a potential glycosyl-phosphatidylinositol (GPI)-attachment signal. Seven additional ORFs were found to belong to this group. Upon examination of the possible GPI-attachment sites, it was found that in yeast the most probable amino acids for GPI-attachment are asparagine and glycine.

In yeast, GPI-proteins are found at the cell surface, either attached to the plasma-membrane or as an intrinsic part of the cell wall. It was noted that plasma-membrane GPI-proteins possess a dibasic residue motif just before their predicted GPI-attachment site. Based on this, and on homologies between proteins, families of plasma-membrane and cell wall proteins were assigned, revealing 20 potential plasma-membrane and 38 potential cell wall proteins. For members of three plasma-membrane protein families, a function has been described. On the other hand, most of the cell wall proteins seem to be structural components of the wall, responsive to different growth conditions.

The GPI-attachment site of yeast slightly differs from mammalian cells. This might be of use in the development of anti-fungal drugs. © 1997 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

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INTRODUCTION

Glycosyl-phosphatidylinositol-anchored proteins (GPI-proteins) are found in all eukaryotic cells.

*Correspondence to: L. H. P. Caro, Institute for Molecular Cell Biology, BioCentrum Amsterdam, University of Amsterdam, Kruislaan 318, 1098 SM Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Contract grant sponsor: Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs Contract grant sponsor: EC program EUROFAN The addition of GPI-anchors to newly synthesized proteins occurs at the membrane of the endoplasmic reticulum. Subsequently, the GPI-proteins are transported to the cell surface via the secretory route.

Precursors of proteins to be GPI-anchored contain two hydrophobic sequences: one at their amino-terminus, which is a signal sequence that

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Table 1. Putative GPI-proteins in *S. cerevisiae* and their expected ω -site (depicted in bold).

Gene name	Protein name	GPI-signal
YAL063c	Flo9	STASLEISTYA G SANSLLAGSGLSVFIASLLLAII
YAR050w	Flo1**	STASLEISTYA G SANSLLAGSGLSVFIASLLLAII
<i>YBR067c</i>	Tip1**	VETASNAGQRV N AGAASFGAVVAGAAALLL
YBR078w	-	SSSSSSKKSK G AAPELVPATSFMGVVAAVGVAYYKIKATICVSII TLISSLMISLPFLFYYETVGSSLNFICR
YCL048w		DSKKRVISKYA N SANPSMQLDPLLFGTCLVAMLLF
YCR089w		WITTPIVSTYA G SASKFLCSKFFMIMVMVINFI
YDR055w		ASSSSKSSKG N AAIMAPIGQTTPLVGLLTAIIMSIM
YDR077w	Sed1**	SASSHSVVINS N GANVVVPGALGLAGVAMLFL
<i>YDR144c</i>	Mkc7	SPTSSSSP <u>RK</u> E N GGHNLNPPFFARFITAIFHHI
<i>YDR261c</i>	Exg2*	LSSTTTS $\overline{\text{RK}}$ SKN AAISNKLTTSQLLPIKNMSLTWKASVCALAITIAALCASL
YDR349c		${\tt SNSTNRTSSAS} \textbf{G} \ {\tt AGVRLSSPYTFNKDPAGHVTRIASLLLLSIFSILIVL}$
YDR522c	Sps2	AKSQGSS <u>KK</u> ME N SAPKNIFIDAFKMSVYAVFTVLFSIIF
<i>YDR534c</i>		SSTTPQIVNYT G AADSIAAGTGLMGAALAAVIFL
YEL040w		ASSSTSSMSGN N AGANVAANWRLTVLCVILGYVL
<i>YER011w</i>	Tir1/Srp1**	ATKAVSEQTEN G AAKAFVGMGAGVVAAAAMLL
<i>YER150w</i>		VSSTHDVETNSN AANARAIPGALGLAGAVMMLL
<i>YGR189c</i>		EASSTNSVQISN GADLAQSLPREGKLFSVLVALLALL
<i>YHR126c</i>		PSSTANVSVYE G AGMKVESKNMGYIVGVAALLFL
YHR211w	Flo5	STASLEISTYA G SANSLLAGSGLSVFIASLLLAII
YIL011w	Yib1	STNSSSSATSK N AGAAMDMGFFSAGVGAAIAGAAAMLL
YIR019c	Flo11	YSVPSISSTYQ \mathbf{G} AANIKVLGNFMWLLLALPVVF
<i>YJL078c</i>		TSTTAKLSAYE G AATPLSIFQCNSLAGTIAAFVVAVLFAF
<i>YJL171c</i>		LSNGVRLTNMQ N GVWYYILAIFTAFTQVVLI
<i>YJR004c</i>	Agα1/Sag1**	TSTSLMISTYE G KASIFFSAELGSIIFLLLSYLLF
<i>YJR150c</i>		SSASRVIDVTTN GANKFNNGVFGAAAIAGAAALLL
<i>YJR151c</i>		SSASYTVSINTN GAYNFDKDNIFGTAIVAVVALLLL
YKL046c	~	APLNITKGSKA G AGIITAVIGISIVACALWLVF
YKL096w	Cwp1**	QAPNTVYEQTE N AGAKAAVGMGAGALAVAAAYLL
YKL097w-a	Cwp2**	SSTETISQQTEN GAAKAAVGMGAGALAAAMLL
YKR102w	Flo10	STASLEMSSYL G $IANHLLTNSGISIFIASLLLAIV$
YLR040c		SSSTSRTSQSQ N GAHAKSLYFPMALFGIFAVAL
YLR042c		TNTISSSTSTG G VGSVKPCLYFVLMLETIAYLFS
YLR110c		AAPTHSVTSYT G AAAKALPAAGALLAGAAALLL
<i>YLR120c</i>	Yap3*	TASATSTSS <u>KR</u> N VGDHIVPSLPLT LISLLFAFI
<i>YLR121c</i>		KS <u>KR</u> ALQRAAT N SASSIRSTLGLLLVPSLLILSVFFS
YLR194c		GKVASVMSNSTN GAFAGTHIAYGAGAFAVGALLL
YLR343w	_Gas2	NVKYPSSEERE N DGTIAFKTSGFVILLISMIAAGILL
YLR391w-a	Icwp**	AVISTFSEGSGN VLEAGKSVFIAAVAAMLI
YMR006c		ARSSSSTANKA N AAAISYANTNTLMSLLGAITALFGLI
YMR008c	Plb1	ASASGSSTHKKN AGNALVNYSNLNTNTFIGVLSVISAVFGLI

directs the protein into the secretory pathway, and another at the carboxy-terminus, which is cleaved off and replaced by a preformed GPI-anchor by a putative GPI-protein transamidase complex (Hamburger *et al.*, 1995; Benghezal *et al.*, 1996).

The GPI-attachment signal is composed of a cleavage/attachment domain, a spacer domain of approximately 8–12 amino acids, and a terminal hydrophobic domain of at least 11 amino acids. The attachment site, the ω -site, has to be a small

Table 1. Continued.

Gene name	Protein name	GPI-signal
YMR200w	Rot1	NRHKTNAIKRQ N TSFLTSNAIWYISAGMLGVGSLLFLAF
<i>YMR215w</i>	Gas3	SSKSKGVGNĪV Ň VSFSQSGYLALFAGLISALL
<i>YMR307w</i>	Gas1*	SSASSSSSKK N AATNVKANLAQVVFTSIISLSIAAGVGFALV
<i>YNL190w</i>		TYGPGEKARKN N AAPGPSNFNSIKLFGVTAGSAAVAGALLLL
<i>YNL300w</i>		NTTTHEISTŸV G AAVKGSVAGMGAIMGAAAFALL
<i>YNL322c</i>	Kre1*	IKSAIKKTVSH N EAQHLGMSSFTSILGGLLTVLIWFL
<i>YNL327w</i>	Egt2	TIKPPSISTYS G AAGQLTIRIGSLLLGLISFLL
YNR044w	Aga1**	TSSMVTISQYM G SGSQTRLPLGKLVFAIMAVACNVIFS
YOL030w	Ğas5	TSSSQSSSKSK G AAGIIEIPLIFRALAELYNLVL
YOL132w	Gas4	EDKDDL <u>KRK</u> HR N SASISGPLLPLGLCLLFFTFSLFF
YOL155c		KTSTGIIVQSE G IAAGLNANTLNALVGIFVLAFFN
YOR009w		SKTTGIVEQTE N GAAKAVIGMGAGALAAVAAMLL
YOR010c	Tir2	QATSTVSEQTEN GAAKAVIGMGAGVMAAAAMLL
YOR214c		PGNITTIGGYEN SSSSLMPSMGILSFLFGLYLLLHP
<i>YOR382w</i>		SSSSSSASSS G AAPAAFQGASVGALALGLISYLL
<i>YOR383c</i>		SSSTAELSSYT G AADAITAGTGLMGAALAAVMLL
<i>YPL130w</i>		SNISSLNEDYD N ASNFLTPTTVALAVLLTILLFIQAY
YPL261c		LGPLPDDKKLKN DAKYSFMNYFIITCIGIIM

Dibasic motifs just prior to the putative ω -site are underlined (see text). Ybr078p is also shown here, although an extra transmembrane domain following the GPI-attachment signal is encoded by the ORF.

amino acid, and is followed by two small amino acids at the carboxyl side, the $\omega+1$ and the $\omega+2$ sites. The requirement for the ω - and the $\omega+2$ sites are the most stringent (Coyne *et al.*, 1993; Nuoffer *et al.*, 1993). The structure requirements, however, are not identical between mammalian cells and yeast cells (Udenfriend and Kodukula, 1995).

In Saccharomyces cerevisiae, GPI-proteins are found not only attached to the plasma-membrane, but also as an intrinsic part of the cell wall. Whereas GPI-proteins linked to the plasmamembrane possess an intact GPI-anchor, GPIproteins in the cell wall have their GPI-anchor trimmed at the plasma-membrane, prior to incorporation into the cell wall (Lu et al., 1994, 1995; Müller et al., 1996). The exact structure of the GPI-remnant present in mature cell wall proteins is still unknown, but it lacks at least the phospholipid part. Therefore, in the case of cell wall proteins (CWPs), the phospholipid of the GPI-moiety is not the anchoring structure. Instead, the glycan part of the GPI-remnant has been shown to be bound to the cell wall glucans (Kapteyn et al., 1996; Van Der Vaart et al., 1997a; F. Fujii, pers. commun.). We therefore suggest the name GPI-protein, instead of GPI-anchored protein.

With the complete genome of *S. cerevisiae* sequenced, we sought to identify the GPI-proteins in yeast, and to determine which GPI-proteins are destined for the cell wall and which for the plasma-membrane.

METHODS

The non-redundant open reading frames (ORFs) from the *S. cerevisiae* genome were retrieved from MIPS: Martinsrieder Institut fur Protein Sequenzen (http://www.mips.biochem.mpg.de/yeast/). These sequences were first screened for the presence of a signal sequence, using PSIGNAL (Von Heijne, 1986), with a cut-off value of 3.5.

In sequences containing a signal sequence, the presence of potential transmembrane spans was calculated according to the KKD algorithm (Klein *et al.*, 1985) with the threshold value of 15 for the peripheral/integral odds (Nelissen *et al.*, 1995).

The amino acid sequences of the potential CWPs and of families of potential plasmamembrane proteins were aligned with the multiple alignment program PILEUP, of the Wisconsin

^{*}Known plasma-membrane protein; **known cell wall protein.

Sequence Analysis Package (Version 8, (1994) Program Manual, Genetics Computer group, 575 Science Drive, Madison, WI 53711, U.S.A.).

The evolutionary distance *D* between two proteins was calculated as described in Nelissen *et al.* (1995). Phylogenetic trees were constructed using the free PHYLIP package: Phylogeny Interference Package (version 3.57c).

RESULTS

All 6218 known ORFs in the S. cerevisiae genome were analysed for the presence of a putative signal sequence in the encoding protein. The algorithm predicts the presence of a signal peptide with an accuracy of 75-80% (Von Heijne, 1986). This calculation identified 686 potential secretory proteins. Within this subset, 55 ORFs that encode proteins containing only one additional hydrophobic domain at the extreme C-terminus were found. In this set it was determined whether a potential GPI-attachment signal could be found according to the consensus rules described by Nuoffer et al. (1993) and by Udenfriend and Kodukula (1995). This revealed 51 proteins with a potential GPI-attachment signal. Four ORFs do not predict a clear GPI-attachment site: YAL058w/ CNE1, YDR506c, YKR032w and YPR157w. To the group of GPI-proteins seven ORFs were added that were missed in the original screen for proteins with a secretion signal, or that were not present in the database searched (YBR078w, YDR144c, YDR349c, YDR534c, YKL097w-a, YLR391w-a and YOR382w). These were either known GPIproteins or were found through homology searches with known GPI-proteins. YBR078w might represent a pseudogene, because it has a GPIattachment signal, which is followed by an extra transmembrane domain. In Table 1, the 58 different GPI-proteins and their putative ω-sites for GPI-attachment are presented. In S. cerevisiae the most probable amino acids for GPI-attachment are asparagine and glycine.

GPI-proteins in yeast have been found both in the plasma-membrane and as an intrinsic part of the cell wall. All GPI-proteins that are known not to be covalently linked to the cell wall, Exg2p, a β1,3-exoglucanase (Cid *et al.*, 1995), Gas1p, which is involved in cell wall construction (Nuoffer *et al.*, 1991; Ram *et al.*, 1995), Yap3p, an aspartyl protease (Ash *et al.*, 1995), and Kre1p, which presumably is involved in coupling GPI-proteins to glucan (Lu *et al.*, 1995; Roemer and Bussey, 1995), con-

tain a dibasic amino acid motif just prior to their ω -site (see Table 1; Vossen et~al., 1997). The function of these basic amino acids at that location is not known (see Discussion for an hypothesis). It is, however, tempting to postulate that proteins with a dibasic motif amino-terminal to their GPI-signal are destined for the plasma-membrane (see Table 2). Other proteins, of unknown localization, with strong sequence similarities to any of these putative plasma-membrane proteins but lacking this motif are also listed in Table 2.

Several families of GPI-anchored plasmamembrane proteins were assigned. The Gasfamily, in which Gas1p is known to be involved in cell wall construction, consists of five homologs (Figure 1a), only two of which contain the dibasic motif. Deletion of *GAS1* renders the cell hypersensitive to Calcofluor White, due to a weakened cell wall (Ram *et al.*, 1995). Deletions of *GAS2,3,4,5* also renders the cells hypersensitive to Calcofluor White (A. F. J. Ram, unpublished results), indicating that the homologs of Gas1p may have a function in cell wall construction as well.

The Yap3-family of GPI-anchored aspartyl proteases consists of four members (Figure 1b). For two members, Yap3p and Mkc7p, proteolytic activity has been demonstrated. *In vitro*, Yap3p proteolytically cleaved several pro-hormones at di- and monobasic sites (Cawley *et al.*, 1993; Azaryan *et al.*, 1993); whereas *in vivo*, pro-hormones were cleaved under conditions of either overexpression of Yap3p or overexpression of the pro-hormone (Egel-Mitani *et al.*, 1990; Bourbonnais *et al.*, 1993). The physiological substrates of Yap3p and Mkc7p have not been identified.

The Sps2-family consists of four members (Figure 1c), three of which contain the dibasic motif. Sps2p is a sporulation-specific protein (Percival-Smith and Segall, 1986, 1987).

Plb1p is a lysophospholipase. In a *plb1* deletion strain no residual lysophospholipase/phospholipase B activity could be detected in culture supernatants or cell extracts. However, the mutant had no apparent phenotypic defect, suggesting that Plb1p is functionally redundant with another protein (Lee *et al.*, 1994). This could be the product of *YMR006c*, which, interestingly, is located almost next to *PLB1* on chromosome XIII.

Five potential plasma-membrane GPI-proteins do not show a strong homology to any of the other plasma-membrane proteins. For two of these, Kre1p (Lu *et al.*, 1995; Roemer and Bussey, 1995)

Table 2. Known and putative plasma-membrane proteins and related proteins, containing a GPI-anchor attachment signal. The proteins are grouped in families.

Gene name	Protein name	Dibasic motif	AA no.	N-sites no.	S/T (%)	Reference
Gas-family:						
						Vai et al. (1991)
YMR307w	Gas1p	+	559	10	24	Nuoffer <i>et al.</i> (1991) Ram <i>et al.</i> (1995)
YLR343w	Gas2p	_	555	10	13	ream et al. (1000)
YMR215w	Gas2p Gas3p	_	524	7	22	
YOL132w	Gas4p	+	471	2	13	
YOL030w	Gas4p Gas5p	_	484	6	23	
1 OLUJUW	Сазэр		101	· ·	20	
Yap3-family:						
YDR144c	Mkc7	+	596	9	26	Komano and Fuller (1995)
YDR349c		_	596	15	25	,
YLR120c	Yap3	+	569	10	26	Ash et al. (1995)
Ylr121c	1	+	508	11	21	,
Sps2-family:						
YBR078w		+	478	11	28	
YCL048w		+	463	3	13	
YDR055w		_	444	15	29	
YDR522c	Sps2	+	502	5	14	
DII 4 0 4						
Plb1-family:						
<i>YMR006c</i>	73. d	_	706	25	23	
<i>YMR008c</i>	Plb1	+	664	20	18	
Others:						
YDR261c	Exg2	+	562	15	17	Cid et al. (1995)
YMR200w	Rot1	+	256	5	19	Old Ct al. (1000)
YNL190w	10011	+	204	11	29	
YNL322c	Kre1	+	313	0	41	Roemer and Bussey (1995)
YPL261c	17161	+	102	0	14	receiller and Dussey (1993)

and Exg2p (Cid et al., 1995) a function has been described.

In *S. cerevisiae*, 13 genes encoding CWPs have been described: *AGα1* (Lipke *et al.*, 1989), *AGA1* (Roy *et al.*, 1991), *CWP1*, *CWP2* (Van Der Vaart *et al.*, 1995), *TIP1* (Kondo and Inouye, 1991; Van Der Vaart *et al.*, 1995), *TIR1/SRP1* (Marguet *et al.*, 1988), *TIR2* (Kowalski *et al.*, 1995), *FLO1* (Teunissen *et al.*, 1993), *FLO5* (Bidard *et al.*, 1994), *FLO11* (Lo and Dranginis, 1996), *SED1* (Van Der Vaart *et al.*, 1996), *YCR089w* (Van Der Vaart *et al.*, 1997b) and *YLR391w-a* (Moukadiri *et al.*, 1997). Furthermore Flo9p and Flo10p have been described as potential CWPs (Teunissen and Steensma, 1995). They all possess an N-terminal signal peptide and a putative

GPI-anchor addition signal at their C-terminus. Furthermore, they all contain serine- and threonine-rich regions, which probably become heavily *O*-glycosylated with short mannose side chains, thereby conferring a rod-like structure on these regions (Jentoft, 1990; Klis *et al.*, 1997). The serine- and threonine-rich stretch usually covers the C-terminal part of the protein, but sometimes the whole protein.

In addition to the 15 CWPs described so far, 23 additional ORFs encode potential CWPs (Table 3). They all meet the criteria for having a GPI-attachment signal, stretches rich in serine and threonine and lacking the dibasic motif. In addition, many show sequence similarity to known CWPs.

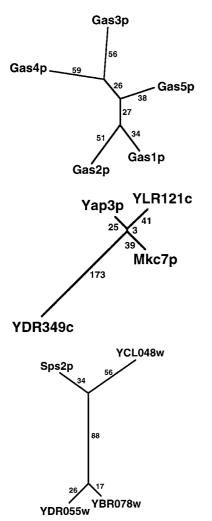


Figure 1. Phylogenetic trees of GPI-proteins potentially localized in the plasma-membrane. Each number corresponds to the phylogenetic distance *D* multiplied by 100. (a) Gas-family; (b) Yap3-family; (c) Sps2-family.

Based on sequence homology, several families of CWPs can be assigned. The Tir-family, some members of which were described by Marguet *et al.* (1988), Kondo and Inouye (1991), Van Der Vaart *et al.* (1995), and Kowalski *et al.* (1995), is depicted in Figure 2a. Our search revealed five new members of this family (Tir3p–Tir7p). The Flo-family, involved in flocculation of cells, consists of five members (Figure 2b), but also includes some pseudogenes (Teunissen and Steensma, 1995). The sexual agglutinins were grouped as a family based mostly on their functional homology (Table 3). Seventeen (potential) CWPs do not show a strong

homology with any of the other CWPs, and for one a function is known: Egt2p is involved in cell separation after cytokinesis and is expressed in the G1-phase of the cell cycle (Kovacech *et al.*, 1996).

Another striking feature of many CWPs is that they contain repeats. In general, the repeats are very rich in serine and threonine, and to a lesser extent in alanine, valine, proline and glutamate. For many of these proteins the repeats may be a means of spanning the cell wall and exposing the functional domain to the outside of the cell. The repeats are strongly conserved within families, as described by Teunissen *et al.* (1995) for the Flofamily and by Marguet *et al.* (1988) for some members of the Tir-family. Although plasmamembrane GPI-proteins also often have a serine/ threonine-rich stretch, no repeats are found in these proteins.

DISCUSSION

All ORFs encoded by the genome of S. cerevisiae were analysed for the presence of a signal peptide and a GPI-attachment signal in the predicted proteins. The 58 candidate proteins all have serine/ threonine-rich stretches. The serine/threonine-rich domain, which will be heavily *O*-glycosylated, probably functions in protruding the protein in or partially through the cell wall. GPI-proteins are found in the plasma-membrane or in the cell wall and some differences between these proteins were noted (Table 4). Plasma-membrane proteins contain a dibasic residue motif just N-terminal to the ω -site for GPI-attachment. Čell wall proteins often have repeats in their serine/threonine-rich domain. Furthermore, mature CWPs have trimmed GPIanchors and are glucosylated, as opposed to plasma-membrane proteins.

None of the GPI-proteins that have been found to be covalently linked to the cell wall, contain a dibasic residue motif N-terminal to the ω -site for GPI-attachment. The function of such a dibasic residue motif in plasma-membrane proteins is not known. It may be a targeting signal for e.g. receptor-mediated endocytosis. Such a motif has been described for endoplasmic reticulum-membrane proteins as interacting with the coatomer in vesicle-mediated transport (Cosson and Letourneur, 1994). Alternatively, this motif may function as a cleavage-site for plasma-membrane-localized proteases. In this way proteins can be removed from the cell surface, thereby

 $Table \ 3. \quad Known \ and \ putative \ cell \ wall \ proteins \ containing \ a \ GPI-anchor \ attachment \ signal, \ rich \ in \ serine \ and \ threonine \ and \ lacking \ a \ dibasic \ residue \ motif.$

	Protein	AA	N-sites	S/T	
Gene name	name	no.	no.	(%)	Reference
Tir-family:					
<i>YBR067c</i>	Tip1	210	0	31	Van der Vaart <i>et al.</i> (1995) Kowalski <i>et al.</i> (1995)
YER011w	Tir1/Srp1	254	0	31	Marguet <i>et al.</i> (1988) Kowalski <i>et al.</i> (1995)
YIL011w	Yib1	269	1	35	Trownshi et al. (1000)
YJR150c	Tir3*	298	2	34	
YJR151c	Tir4*	1161	7	48	
YKL096w	Cwp1	239	1	29	Van der Vaart et al. (1995)
YKL097w-a	Cwp2	92	0	27	Van der Vaart <i>et al.</i> (1995)
YLR040c	Tir5*	224	3	25	van der vaart et al. (1000)
YOR009w	Tir6*	487	5	41	
YOR010c	Tir2	251	0	36	Kowalski et al. (1995)
Flo-family:					
<i>YAL063c</i>	Flo9	1322	17	41	Teunissen and Steensma (1995)
YAR050w	Flo1	1537	14	41	Teunissen <i>et al.</i> (1993)
YHR211w	Flo5	1075	6	40	Bidard <i>et al.</i> (1994)
YKR102w	Flo10	1169	12	41	Teunissen and Steensma (1995)
YIR019c	Flo11	1367	2	50	Lo and Dranginis (1996)
Sed1-family:	G 14	000	-	40	V 1 V 1 (1000)
YDR077w	Sed1	338	5	43	Van der Vaart <i>et al.</i> (1996)
YER150w		148	3	29	
Yel040-family: YEL040w		467	9	29	
YGR189c		507	3	36	
Agglutinin family:					
<i>YJR004c</i>	Agα1/Sag1	650	11	30	Lipke <i>et al.</i> (1989)
YNR044w	Aga1	725	0	54	Roy et al. (1991)
Others:		1000	1.5	45	V l V 1 (1000)
YCR089w YDR534c		1609	15	45	Van der Vaart <i>et al.</i> (1996)
		528	3	40	
YHR126c		159	7	21	
YIL171c		396	11	21	
YJL078c		881	8	42	
YKL046c		449	12	13	
YLR042c		161	3	32	
YLR110c		133	3	30	
YLR194c	т	254	1	41	3.6 1 11 1 2 40000
YLR391w-a	Icwp	238	1	42	Moukadiri et al. (1997)
YNL300w	.	102	1	37	TT 1 (1000)
YNL327w	Egt2	1041	19	38	Kovacech et al. (1996)
YOL155c		967	5	42	
YOR214c		236	4	20	
YOR382w		153	1	42	
YOR383c		204	0	41	
<i>YPL130w</i>		223	3	17	

^{*}Proposed synonym.

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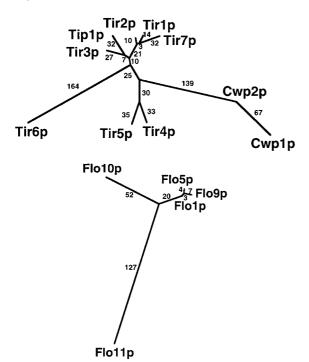


Figure 2. Phylogenetic trees of GPI-proteins potentially localized in the cell wall. Each number corresponds to the phylogenetic distance D multiplied by 100. (a) Tir-family; (b) Flo-family.

preventing their incorporation into the cell wall, or they can be removed after incorporation into the cell wall. The plasma-membrane proteases Yap3p or Mkc7p might be involved in this cleavage step. This may at the same time define substrates for these plasma-membrane proteases, for which so far no substrates have been found (Egel-Mitani et al., 1990; Azaryan et al., 1993; Bourbonnais et al., 1993; Cawley et al., 1993; Ash et al., 1995; Komano and Fuller, 1995). However, when a dibasic motif was introduced before the ω -site for GPI attachment in Cwp2p (in the Cwp2- α -galactosidase chimeric protein) the protein was still found in the cell wall (M. J. Van Der Vaart, pers. commun.). One should realize that this was only determined in cells overexpressing the mutated protein. In these cells, much of the overproduced substrate could have escaped proteolysis, or receptor-mediated endocytosis.

The cell wall of *S. cerevisiae* has a layered structure, consisting of about equal amounts of glucan and heavily mannosylated proteins. Glucan and some chitin form the inner skeletal layer, which is interspersed with and surrounded by mannoproteins. Some glycoproteins are non-covalently linked to the cell wall as demonstrated by their extractability with hot sodium dodecyl sulfate, but the bulk of the wall proteins can be extracted only by β -glucanases, suggesting that they are tightly linked to the β -glucan skeleton of the cell wall (Klis, 1994). To date, all genes that code for glucanase-extractable CWPs have been found to contain a GPI-anchor attachment signal (Lipke et al., 1989; Kondo and Inouye, 1991; Roy et al., 1991; Teunissen et al., 1993; Van Der Vaart et al., 1995). For Agα1p (Wojciechowicz *et al.*, 1993), Cwp1p (Shimoi et al., 1995), Cwp2p (Van Der Vaart et al., 1997a), and Tip1p (F. Fujii, pers. commun.), the addition of a GPI-anchor has been biochemically confirmed. Van Berkel et al. (1994) showed that addition of the C-terminal 30 amino acids of Aga1p, which includes the GPIattachment signal, to α-galactosidase from a plant (guar) is sufficient for incorporation of the chimeric protein into the cell wall.

Table 4. Characteristics of yeast GPI-proteins. The proposed characteristics are based on the analysis of known representatives of each group.

	GPI-proteins			
Characteristics	Plasma-membrane	Cell wall		
Signal peptide	+	+		
GPI-attachment signal	+	+		
Serine/threonine-rich	+	+		
Repeats	_	Often		
Dibasic motif preceding ω-site	+	_		
GPI-anchor trimmed	_	+		
β-Glucosylated	_	+		

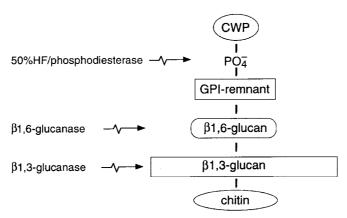


Figure 3. The cell wall building block: incorporation of cell wall proteins (CWPs) into the cell wall. On the left-hand side treatments to disrupt specific linkages are depicted (Kapteyn *et al.*, 1996).

The model explaining how the GPI-remnant is involved in the incorporation of CWPs into the cell wall is shown in Figure 3. Biochemical studies have shown that the GPI-moiety of wall-bound Agα1p is modified, and lacks at least the inositol and the phospholipid part (Lu et al., 1994). Cell wall anchorage of Agα1p was accompanied by addition of β 1,6-glucan (Lu *et al.*, 1995). Like Ag α 1p, other CWPs could be released from the cell wall by β1,3-glucanases. These proteins were shown to contain β1,6-glucan (Montijn et al., 1994; Van Berkel et al., 1994; Van Der Vaart et al., 1995, 1996; Kapteyn et al., 1996). From these proteins, the β1,6-glucan could be released by treatment with aqueous HF, which is known to cleave phosphodiester bonds, suggesting that β 1,6-glucan is attached to the GPI-anchor remnant (Kapteyn et al., 1996). For Cwp2p and Tip1p it was shown that β 1,6-glucan is attached to the GPI-remnant, most probably to what is left of its glycan part (Van Der Vaart et al., 1997a; F. Fujii, pers. commun.). Recently it was established that Agα1p, Cwp1p, and other CWPs form a complex with β 1,3-glucan through their β 1,6-glucan moiety, and that the attachment of this β1,3-/β1,6-glucan heteropolymer is responsible for anchoring CWPs (Kapteyn et al., 1996). In its turn, β1,3-glucan may become covalently linked to chitin in the cell wall (Hartland et al., 1994; Kollár et al., 1995). In this way the glucans and proteins form an entity, constituting the cell wall.

Similar β -glucosylated CWPs have been found in various filamentous and yeast-like members of the Ascomycetes, suggesting that this attachment-structure is a common feature of the outer layer of

the cell wall of the Ascomycetes (Kapteyn *et al.*, 1994; Bailey *et al.*, 1996; Schoffelmeer *et al.*, 1996; Staab *et al.*, 1996; Montijn *et al.*, 1997).

Why does a yeast cell have the information for the synthesis of almost 40 CWPs of similar structure? For the agglutinins and at least three of the flocculins (Flo1p, Flo5p, Flo11p), as well as for Egt2p, a function has been identified. Most of the other CWPs are probably structural proteins functioning as building block. It has been found that mutants with a deletion of one or more CWPs have a weakened cell wall (Van Der Vaart et al., 1995), although they have no growth phenotype under many conditions (Kowalski et al., 1995). It is possible that different proteins are required under different growth conditions. Indeed, for some CWPs, especially members of the Tir-family, it has been shown that their synthesis is induced upon stress conditions. Tip1p was identified as a cold and heat shock-inducible protein (Kondo and Inouye, 1991). SRP1/TIR1 expression is increased when cells are grown in glucose (Marguet and Lauquin, 1986), by cold shock and under anaerobic growth conditions (Donzeau et al., 1996). Interestingly, CWP1 transcripts and protein levels are induced in mutants with a weakened cell wall such as $fks1\Delta$ and $gas1\Delta$ (Ram et al., 1996). SED1, which belongs to another CWP-family, also responds to several stress conditions, such as a weakened cell wall or a temperature shock (L. H. P. Caro and A. F. J. Ram, unpublished results). Apart from determining the strength of the wall, CWPs might determine the permeability of the cell wall. Deleting *CWP2* results in cells with increased permeability, as demonstrated by their

hypersensitivity to Zymolyase (Van Der Vaart *et al.*, 1995). Furthermore, it is tempting to speculate that a different set of CWPs is incorporated into cell walls of pseudohyphally growing cells, as has been described for *Candida albicans* (Kapteyn *et al.*, 1994), or in spore walls. Flo11p is produced only in haploid cells (Lo and Dranginis, 1996).

The Tir-family of CWPs has homology to the *PAU*-family (Viswanathan *et al.*, 1994), encoding serine-poor proteins (seripauperins). The *PAU*-genes encode proteins with a signal sequence, but no additional hydrophobic regions. The gene products are homologous to the N-terminus of Tir1p, which does not include the serine/threonine-rich part of Tir1p. Since the *PAU*-products do not have a GPI-attachment signal, it seems unlikely that they are members of the Tir-family.

Analysis of the GPI-signal containing proteins revealed some interesting characteristics of the yeast genome. Often duplications are found of the serine/threonine-rich parts within CWPs. On several occasions two very homologous genes are located next to each other on the chromosome, indicative of gene-duplication. In the Tir-family of CWPs this was found for TIR3/YJR150c and TIR4/YJR151c on chromosome X, for CWP1/YKL096w and CWP2/YKL097w-a on chromosome XI, and for TIR6/YOR009w and TIR2/YOR010c on chromosome XV. Furthermore, many genes were found on two copies of duplicated chromosomal regions, as described by Wolfe and Shields (1996).

Some pseudogenes have been identified in the Flo-family containing frame-shifts and sometimes missing the C-terminus: *YAL065*, *YAR061w/062w* and *YHR213w* (Teunissen and Steensma, 1995). In the Sps2 family of plasma-membrane GPI-proteins *YBR078w* might be a pseudogene since after its putative GPI-attachment site, an additional membrane-spanning domain is found.

As reported here, yeast seems to preferentially use asparagine and glycine as GPI-attachment sites, whereas mammalian cells use serine and asparagine (Udenfriend and Kodukula, 1995). This indicates that there is a difference in the specificity of yeast and mammalian transamidase, which might be important for anti-fungal drug development.

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