

1                   **The SnAC domain of SWI/SNF is a histone anchor required for remodeling**

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23

24 **Abstract**

25 The SWI/SNF chromatin remodeling complex changes the positions where nucleosomes are bound to  
26 DNA, exchanges out histone dimers, and disassembles nucleosomes. All of these activities depend on  
27 ATP hydrolysis by the catalytic subunit Snf2 containing a DNA-dependent ATPase domain. Here we  
28 examine the role of another domain in Snf2 called SnAC (Snf2 ATP Coupling) that was shown previously  
29 to regulate the ATPase activity of SWI/SNF. We have found that SnAC has another function besides  
30 regulating the ATPase activity that is even more critical for nucleosome remodeling by SWI/SNF. We  
31 have found that deletion of the SnAC domain strongly uncouples ATP hydrolysis from nucleosome  
32 movement. Deletion of SnAC does not adversely affect the rate, processivity, or pulling force of  
33 SWI/SNF to translocate along free DNA in an ATP-dependent manner. The uncoupling of ATP hydrolysis  
34 from nucleosome movement is shown to be due to loss of SnAC binding to the histone surface of  
35 nucleosomes. While the SnAC domain targets both the ATPase domain and histones, the SnAC domain  
36 as a histone anchor is more critical role in remodeling because it is required to convert DNA  
37 translocation into nucleosome movement.

38 **(187 words)**

39

40 Introduction

41

42 Packing DNA into chromatin involves wrapping 147 bp of DNA around a histone octamer to form a  
 43 nucleosome and nucleosomes are assembled into higher-order structures. Chromatin makes genomic  
 44 DNA less accessible to protein factors important for transcription, replication, repair and recombination.  
 45 Chromatin structure is dynamic due to remodeling factors, some of which are ATP-dependent that  
 46 facilitate making discrete regions accessible to other factors. ATP-dependent chromatin remodelers are  
 47 single or large multi-subunit assemblies composed of 1-17 subunits ranging from several kilodaltons to  
 48 over a megadalton in molecular weight(5, 14). Each has a catalytic subunit with a conserved ATPase  
 49 domain related to that of ATP-dependent DNA helicases. In helicases this domain couples ATP  
 50 hydrolysis to DNA translocation and subsequent unwinding of double-stranded nucleic acid substrates  
 51 by means of a translocase domain and a duplex destabilizing wedge domain(12, 15, 33). Unlike  
 52 helicases, chromatin remodelers do not have nucleic acid unwinding activity, but have retained the  
 53 translocase activity which in turn repositions or disassembles nucleosomes(29, 33).

54

55 Nucleosome movement by SWI/SNF and ISWI type complexes requires the ATPase domain to  
 56 translocate along nucleosomal DNA near the dyad axis (6, 9, 30, 45). DNA gaps near the Superhelical  
 57 Location (SHL) 2 of the nucleosome block movement without interfering with binding of the remodeler.  
 58 DNA translocation this far inside of nucleosomes is challenging because there is no easy path for the  
 59 ATPase domain to initially move. As the ATPase domain begins to translocate it encounters histone-DNA  
 60 interactions in both directions and have to overcome multiple histone-DNA interactions while trying to  
 61 pull DNA into nucleosomes. The force required to disrupt histone-DNA interactions as shown by  
 62 mechanically unwrapping nucleosomes is ~23 pN and is a substantial force opposing the ATPase domain  
 63 (1). SWI/SNF on the other hand was able to move nucleosomes against the inherent resistance of the

64 nucleosomes plus an opposing mechanical force of  $\sim 12$  pN, which suggests that these enzymes could  
65 have a pulling force of  $>30$  pN. And yet the ATPase domain alone does not appear to have a pulling  
66 force of 12 or 30 pN on free DNA and instead a mechanical force of only  $\sim 1$  pN is required to stall  
67 SWI/SNF and RSC translocation on free DNA. Presumably the intrinsic pulling force of the ATPase  
68 domain should be the same in either case. The ATPase domain may have greater tendency to “slip” on  
69 DNA than nucleosomes and a sufficient anchor to DNA is missing to prevent it from slipping. Evidence  
70 for tethering to the substrate being critical comes from a minimal complex of Arp7, Arp9, and a Tet  
71 dimer fused to a truncated copy of the catalytic subunit of RSC. This minimal complex can generate  
72 pulling forces of up to  $\sim 30$  pN due to the tight binding of the Tet dimer to its recognition site (34) and is  
73 much higher than that observed for the native RSC complex. The questions remain for SWI/SNF and RSC  
74 as to the nature of the anchor in the native complex, whether DNA or histones are the targets, and the  
75 protein domain(s) that serves as anchor.

76

77 Many of the interactions of SWI/SNF with nucleosomes are not through nucleosomal DNA but with the  
78 face of the histone octamer not bound to DNA and are likely important for remodeling. The interactions  
79 of SWI/SNF with nucleosomes have been probed by site-directed crosslinking to specific sites in DNA  
80 and histones. DNA crosslinking has shown that Snf2, the catalytic subunit of SWI/SNF, is exclusively  
81 associated with nucleosomal DNA near SHL2 and other subunits are not seen elsewhere with  
82 extranucleosomal or nucleosomal DNA(9, 10). The only exception was the Snf6 subunit that is co-  
83 localized with the transcription activator Gal4-VP16 to its binding site in the extranucleosomal DNA  
84 region. In contrast SWI/SNF extensively interacts with the part of the histone octamer not bound by  
85 DNA in nucleosomes. Four subunits of SWI/SNF were crosslinked to segments of the H3-H4 tetramer  
86 and H2A-H2B dimer with Snf2 being one of the subunits most readily crosslinked(10). It seems likely the  
87 critical anchor for SWI/SNF is histones rather than DNA. Furthermore, DNA does not seem to be the

88 likely anchor given that SWI/SNF does not require extranucleosomal or nucleosomal DNA except that  
89 bound by the ATPase domain to move nucleosomes.

90

91 A domain in SWI/SNF that interacts with histones was identified in this study by tethering to histones a  
92 proteolytic agent that cleaves peptide bonds with hydroxyl free radicals similar to other studies using  
93 Fe-EDTA tethered to DNA or protein for mapping protein-DNA and protein-protein interactions (7, 8).  
94 Previously this approach has shown that the ATPase and HSA domains of Snf2 associate with free DNA  
95 when SWI/SNF is bound and identified the specific orientation of the ATPase domain relative to DNA  
96 (9). We now find the SnAC and ATPase domains are associated with the histone proteins when SWI/SNF  
97 is bound to nucleosomes. Our previous studies showed that the SnAC (Snf2 ATP Coupling) domain of  
98 Snf2 in yeast SWI/SNF is required for the ATPase and remodeling activities of SWI/SNF, but not for  
99 complex integrity, substrate recognition or recruitment function (31).

100

101 We found that without SnAC as the anchor domain ATP hydrolysis and DNA translocation activities are  
102 uncoupled from nucleosome mobilization by SWI/SNF. Deletion of the SnAC anchor domain  
103 diminished the interactions of SWI/SNF with the histone octamer, but not those with nucleosomal DNA.  
104 DNA movement inside the nucleosome is highly sensitive to the loss of the SnAC while translocation on  
105 free DNA is not either in terms of rate of movement, processivity, or pulling force.

106

## 107 **Materials and Methods**

108

### 109 **Nucleosome reconstitution, gel shift assays for binding and remodeling**

110 Mononucleosomes were reconstituted with 5.2  $\mu$ g of PCR generated DNA from p-159-1 plasmid that  
111 had 29 and 59 bp of DNA flanking either side of the 601 nucleosome positioning sequence (29N59) or

112 with 8  $\mu\text{g}$  of sonicated salmon sperm DNA, 100 fmoles  $^{32}\text{P}$  labeled 29N59 DNA and 9  $\mu\text{g}$  wild type  
113 *Xenopus laevis* octamer at 37°C by a rapid salt dilution method(3, 19). The labeled DNA was generated  
114 by PCR with an oligonucleotide labeled using Optikinase (USB) and [ $\gamma^{32}\text{P}$ ] ATP (6000Ci/mole).

115

116 SWI/SNF complexes were purified as described previously (10). SWI/SNF was prebound to 29N59  
117 nucleosomes (2.5 nM) containing only PCR-generated DNA at a molar ratio of 3:1 (full-binding  
118 conditions) for 15 min at 30°C and an additional 15 min at 25°C for measuring rates of nucleosome  
119 movement. ATP was added to a final concentration of 320  $\mu\text{M}$  for  $\Delta\text{SnAC}$  SWI/SNF or 4.4  $\mu\text{M}$  for WT  
120 SWI/SNF) for different times, stopped and SWI/SNF competed off by addition of  $\gamma$ -thio ATP and salmon  
121 sperm DNA to a final concentration of 4.5 mM and 0.45mg/ml respectively. The remodeled products  
122 were analyzed on 5% native polyacrylamide gels (acrylamide:bisacrylamide=60:1) at 200V in 0.5X Tris-  
123 Borate-EDTA.

124

#### 125 **ATPase assays**

126 ATPase kinetic assays were performed under conditions identical to remodeling kinetics with 0.055 $\mu\text{Ci}$   
127  $\gamma\text{P}^{32}\text{ATP}$  in a 13.5 $\mu\text{l}$  reaction volume.

128

#### 129 **Site-directed mapping**

130 A unique cysteine was engineered at H2A 45 position by site-directed mutagenesis, overexpressed and  
131 purified as described (20). The histone mutant was refolded into octamer with WT H2B, H3 and H4. The  
132 mutant octamer was reconstituted into 29N59 nucleosomes with 1-4 pmoles of labeled DNA. In the  
133 nucleosome structure, H2A45 is in close proximity to one strand of nucleosomal DNA 37-39 bp from the  
134 dyad axis. After UV crosslinking, DNA scission is initiated at the crosslinked site by alkaline conditions.  
135 Para azido phenacyl bromide (APB) (Fluka) was added to 60  $\mu\text{l}$  of reconstituted nucleosomes to a final

136 concentration of 400 $\mu$ M and incubated at 25°C for 3 hrs for conjugation of H2A 45. Remodeling time  
137 courses were performed with reaction volumes scaled up a factor of five, stopped by addition of  $\gamma$ -thio  
138 ATP and UV irradiated for 3 min at 312 nm. Samples were denatured with 0.1% SDS for 20 min at 70°C  
139 and histone-DNA cross-linked samples purified by phenol-chloroform (4:1) extraction. The inter-phase  
140 containing the conjugates was washed three times with 1% SDS, 1M Tris-HCl pH 8.0 and precipitated  
141 with sodium acetate and ethanol. After washing the pellet with 70% ethanol, it was dried and  
142 resuspended in cleavage buffer (2%SDS, 20mM ammonium acetate, 0.1mM EDTA). DNA was cleaved at  
143 the cross-linked site by incubation in 0.1 M NaOH, for 45 min at 90°C. The cleaved sample was  
144 neutralized with 2 M HCl and ethanol precipitated. Samples were resuspended in formamide and  
145 resolved on a 6.5% PAGE, containing 8 M urea and visualized by phosphorimaging.

146

#### 147 **DNA cross-linking**

148 Probe synthesis was performed with *p*-azidophenacyl bromide (APB) modified phosphorothioate oligos  
149 that were radiolabeled close to the modification site with Optikinase (USB) and [ $\gamma$ <sup>32</sup>P] ATP(27, 32). A  
150 series of modified oligonucleotides (IDT DNA) with the phosphorothioate located between the third and  
151 fourth nucleotides from the 5' end of the oligonucleotide were designed to scan the extranucleosomal  
152 (every 3 bp) and nucleosomal regions (every ~5 bp). Nucleosomes containing salmon sperm DNA and  
153 labeled probe were reconstituted and photocrosslinked with SWI/SNF recruited by Gal4-VP16 as  
154 described previously(26, 27, 32). Histone cross-linking was performed as described previously (10) using  
155 SWI/SNF purified from PSY2 and PSY3 (31). The intensity of the crosslinked band of interest was  
156 normalized to the H3 80 Snf2 signal in absence of ATP to find the relative crosslinking efficiency.

157

#### 158 **Single molecule DNA translocation assays**

159 The DNA used in the single molecule experiments was a linearized 2.88 kb plasmid that contained a  
160 single asymmetric BsaI site on the opposite side of the plasmid from two Gal4 binding sites separated by  
161 27 bp from a 601 high affinity nucleosome positioning sequence. The plasmid was linearized by BsaI and  
162 ligated to two short duplex DNA molecules, which contained the 4 bp single strand overhang that was  
163 complimentary to one of the two single strand overhangs created by the BsaI restriction enzyme. The  
164 two short dsDNA molecules were labeled with either biotin or digoxigenin. The 4 bp overhang that is  
165 created by BsaI is asymmetric. This ensures that the ligated linearized plasmid contained a biotin and  
166 digoxigenin at opposite ends. The biotin-labeled end of the DNA molecule was attached to a commercial  
167 super-paramagnetic bead (Dyna M280, Invitrogen) previously functionalized with streptavidin protein.  
168 The digoxigenin-labeled end was bound to a functionalized glass surface coated with anti-digoxigenin.

169

170 Our magnetic tweezers setup was similar to the one described by Strick et al (36, 37). Experiments were  
171 carried out in a lab built flow cells placed on a stage above a 60X oil-immersion lens mounted on an  
172 inverted microscope. The magnetic field used to manipulate the magnetic bead was generated by two  
173 magnets. The force on the DNA was determined from the thermal fluctuations of the tethered bead in  
174 the x-y plane and the distance between the bead and the glass surface via the equipartition theorem  $F =$   
175  $k_B T / \langle \Delta x^2 \rangle$ . Data acquisition was achieved using Labview image analysis software. The program tracks  
176 the position of the bead to determine the force being applied to the DNA and the distance between the  
177 bead and the glass surface. The DNA extension can be determined with an error of ~10 nm. The force  
178 was measured with 5-10 % accuracy. To eliminate the effects of microscope drift, differential tracking  
179 was performed by monitoring at the same time a second polystyrene bead glued to the surface. Data  
180 were acquired using 5nM WT SWI/SNF or 5nM SnAC mutant and 0.25 nM Gal4-VP16 protein. The  
181 reaction buffer was 20 mM Hepes (pH =7.8), 3 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>, 0.08%NP-40, 0.2 mM PMSF, 2 mM BME, 53  
182 mM NaCl, 0.02% Tween-20, 0.1 mg/ml BSA.



183

184 **Nucleosome reconstitutions for single molecule nucleosome remodeling measurements.**

185 Nucleosomes were reconstituted by salt double-dialysis(16, 40) in 50  $\mu$ L volume with 0.1  $\mu$ g of 2.9 kbp  
186 biotin-digoxigenin labeled DNA plasmid, 1.0  $\mu$ g of 250bp containing the 601 DNA high affinity  
187 nucleosome positioning sequence, 2  $\mu$ g of 147 bp low affinity DNA, 2 M NaCl, 1 mM benzamidine  
188 hydrochloride, 5 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0), and 0.5 mM EDTA. Samples were titrated with different amounts  
189 of histone of octamer, ranging from 1 to 3  $\mu$ g, to find conditions where most of the tethers only have "1"  
190 or "0" nucleosomes. The histone octamer was prepared as previously described (23). Nucleosomes were  
191 characterized on a 5% acrylamide gel. The sample containing 1.6  $\mu$ g histone octamer was used for most  
192 of the experiments presented here. This sample showed that on an average 20-30% of the tested  
193 molecules have one nucleosome.

194

195 **Magnetic tweezers single molecule nucleosome remodeling measurements**

196 The nucleosome sample was pre-incubated with streptavidin-coated magnetic beads (Dynabead M280,  
197 Invitrogen) at a ratio of 1:2 for 20 min in 20  $\mu$ l of 0.5X TE with 0.1 mg/mL BSA for 20 min. The sample  
198 was injected into the flow cell (assembled with an antidigoxigenin-coated cover glass slide) at 2  $\mu$ l/s and  
199 incubated for 10 min. Before the protein is added into the flow cell, the height of the DNA was recorded  
200 as a function of time for around 300 s and at constant force of 3 pN using a lab-built magnetic tweezers  
201 apparatus. Finally, 5 nM WT or  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF protein and 1 mM ATP was flowed in. Addition of 0.5 nM  
202 Gal4-VP16 protein increased the probability of observing an event in a 5-10 min period. The height of  
203 the DNA in presence of the protein was recorded for  $\sim$ 300 s. Buffer conditions were identical to that  
204 described for the DNA experiments

205

206 We determined the number of nucleosomes within a single nucleosome sample by detecting the  
207 number of steps in the tether extension as the force was increased from 3 to 26 pN. The force was  
208 initially increased to 3 pN over 20 s, then increased from 3 to 26pN over 100 s, and then held at 26 pN  
209 for 250s. As an additional control the force was reduced to 0.3 pN and the height of the DNA was again  
210 tracked for ~300 s. This last control determines if the protein was active during the measurement and  
211 whether or not the sample contained one or zero nucleosomes.

212

213 A total of 27 remodeling events were analyzed independently. Based on the Brownian fluctuations, an  
214  $80 \pm 10$  bp threshold was set for determining the change in extension of a DNA molecule due to its  
215 interaction with SWI/SNF. Rates were estimated by analyzing each individual remodeling event. The  
216 shortening rates were fitted using straight lines with an average of  $100 \pm 50$  bp/s. The average time of  
217 the remodeling event was estimated to be  $20 \pm 10$  s.

218

#### 219 **Conjugation of Fe-BABE to nucleosomes and mapping of Fe-BABE mediated cleavage of Snf2**

220 The 601 nucleosome positioning sequence (NPS) DNA prepared by PCR was used for nucleosome  
221 assembly. The DNA has biotin incorporated at one 5' end and the NPS has 69 and 60 bp of flanking DNA  
222 with Gal4-binding site within the flanking 60 bp stretch (Biotin-69-601-60). Conjugation of Fe-BABE to  
223 the solvent accessible lysines in the nucleosome was done using 2-iminothiolane (2-IT) to attach a free  
224 sulfhydryl group to the accessible lysines as previously reported with some minor modifications (41, 42).  
225 Briefly, nucleosomes (0.4  $\mu$ M) were incubated at 37°C for an hr with 0.85 mM Fe-BABE and 0.425 mM 2-  
226 IT in buffer containing 10 mM MOPS pH 8, 1 mM EDTA, 5% glycerol, 0.1% NP40 and 0.5 mM PMSF. The  
227 control nucleosomes were incubated with Fe-BABE alone. Excess Fe-BABE and 2-IT were removed using  
228 a Sephadex G-50 spin column, and conjugation of Fe-BABE to the nucleosomal histones was analyzed by  
229 Western blot analysis using anti-chelate CHA225 antibody (41, 42).

230

231 Mapping of FeBABE mediated cleavage of Snf2 was performed as described previously (9). The cleavage  
232 products were analyzed by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotting using anti-HA antibody (Pierce, USA) against  
233 the C-terminal HA-tag of Snf2. Cleavage sites, and hence the nucleosome interacting regions of the  
234 SWI/SNF subunits were determined by using truncated fragments of the same protein as molecular  
235 weight standards (4).

236

#### 237 **Histone cross-linking and label transfer**

238 Mononucleosomes (29N59) containing mutant histones with unique cysteine residues (H2A19, H2A89,  
239 H2B109 and H380) were assembled and analyzed on native PAGE with ethidium bromide staining.  $\beta$ -  
240 mercaptoethanol (from histone octamer) was removed by passing the assemblies through a Sephadex  
241 G-25 spin column. Sixteen nmoles of PEAS (N-(2-pyridyldithio) ethyl)-4-azidosalicylamide; a radio-  
242 iodinated, cleavable and photoactivatable crosslinking reagent, Molecular Probes) in dimethyl sulfoxide  
243 was radiolabeled with 2.5 mCi  $I^{125}$  in a 90  $\mu$ l reaction volume adjusted with 100mM sodium phosphate  
244 buffer pH 7.4. Modification was carried out in an IODO GEN (Pierce) iodination tube for 3 min at RT and  
245 stopped with 1  $\mu$ l 2.5 mM tyrosine and 1  $\mu$ l 80 mM methionine. Twenty pmoles of nucleosomes were  
246 modified with a 20 molar excess of iodinated PEAS for 30 min on ice. Unconjugated PEAS- $I^{125}$  and free  
247  $I^{125}$  were removed by passing the sample through a Sephadex G-25 spin column. The modified  
248 nucleosomes were dialyzed against final dilution buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 1 mM EDTA, 0.01% NP-  
249 40, 5% glycerol). The unmodified and modified nucleosomes were run on 4% native gel and ethidium  
250 bromide stained. WT or mutant SWI/SNF complexes were bound to the modified nucleosomes,  
251 incubated at 30°C for 30 min and the bound products separated on a 4% native polyacrylamide gel  
252 (acrylamide:bisacrylamide=36:1) at 200 V in 0.5X Tris-Borate-EDTA at 4°C. SWI/SNF bound to  
253 nucleosomes was crosslinked by UV irradiation. "Plus ATP" samples were first prebound at 30°C for 30

254 min and then 800 $\mu$ M ATP was added for 10 min before nucleosome remodeling was stopped by UV  
 255 irradiation. DTT was added to a final concentration of 100 mM to reduce disulfide bonds and transfer  
 256 the <sup>125</sup>I label to the crosslinked target protein. The samples were loaded on a 4-20% SDS-PAGE and  
 257 radiolabeled subunits identified by phosphorimaging.

258

259 **Results**

260

261 **The ATPase and SnAC domains of Snf2 associate with the histone portion of the nucleosome**

262 The interactions of SWI/SNF with the histone octamer were mapped by targeted proteolysis to identify  
 263 the domain(s) that anchor SWI/SNF to the nucleosome and facilitate in creating an effectively higher  
 264 pulling force. Fe-BABE (Fe(III) (S)-1-(*p*-Bromoacetamido-benzyl)ethylene diamine tetraacetic acid), an  
 265 Fe-EDTA derivative, was covalently linked to the lysine residues on the nucleosome surface including  
 266 histone tails using 2-iminothiolane or 2-IT (41, 42). Fe-BABE developed by Claude Meares and colleagues  
 267 (7, 8) can be used to create hydroxyl free radicals that cleave peptide binds. The extent of Fe-BABE  
 268 conjugated to histones was assessed by immunoblotting using chelate specific CHA255 antibody (Fig.  
 269 1B). Modification of the histones had no apparent effect on SWI/SNF binding to nucleosomes as shown  
 270 by gel shift assay (data not shown). Fe-BABE modified nucleosomes were bound to WT SWI/SNF and  
 271 cleavage initiated by adding H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> and ascorbate. SWI/SNF used in these experiments had a  
 272 hemagglutinin epitope (HA) tag at the C-terminus of Snf2 and immunoblotting detected full length and  
 273 proteolytic fragments containing the C-terminal end of Snf2 (9). Accurate determination of the cleavage  
 274 sites was done using C-terminal HA epitope tagged Snf2 polypeptides prepared by in vitro translation for  
 275 size markers. Cleavage sites were mapped within a ~10 amino acid region as shown previously (4). The  
 276 SnAC and ATPase domains were both found to be in close proximity to histones. Snf2 was cleaved by  
 277 modified histones near amino acid residues 810, 1098, and 1342 (Fig. 1A lanes 2, 3, 5, and 6 and Fig. 1C,

278 black arrows). The main Snf2 cleavage site was at amino acid 810 and is located in the N-terminal lobe  
279 of the ATPase domain between motifs I and Ia. The second, relatively weaker cleavage site was at amino  
280 acid ~1098 and is in the C-terminal lobe close to motif IV (11). These two cleavage sites flank a region  
281 previously shown to be crosslinked to nucleosomal DNA 17 and 18 bp from the dyad axis (9) and are  
282 consistent with SWI/SNF binding to nucleosomes (Fig. 1D). The third cleavage site was at amino acid  
283 ~1342 located inside the SnAC domain. Cleavage at these three sites within Snf2 was dependent on  
284 modification of the accessible lysines as seen when 2-IT is omitted (Fig. 1A compare lanes 2-3 with 8-9).  
285 Also, no cleavage was observed when ascorbate and hydrogen peroxide were omitted (Fig. 1A compare  
286 lanes 1-2 or lanes 4-5). These contacts were not changed upon remodeling as shown with the addition  
287 of ATP and are consistent with these interactions being maintained during nucleosome movement (Fig.  
288 1A compare lanes 2-3 or lanes 5-6). The addition of Gal4-VP16 did not significantly alter the contacts of  
289 Snf2 with the nucleosomal histones although cleavage around amino acid 1098 appeared to slightly  
290 stronger (Fig. 1A compare lanes 2-3 with lanes 5-6). The interactions of SWI/SNF with free DNA has  
291 been previously investigated in a similar manner by tethering Fe-BABE to DNA and is summarized in  
292 Figure 1C (9). Cleavage at the SnAC domain is specific for nucleosomes and modified histones, and is not  
293 observed when SWI/SNF binds to free DNA only. These data highlight that the likely target for the SnAC  
294 domain is histone proteins when SWI/SNF is bound to nucleosomes.

295

296 **Absence of the SnAC domain reduces binding of SWI/SNF to the open histone octamer face of**  
297 **nucleosomes.**

298 Another approach was used to find if the interactions of SWI/SNF with the histone octamer face are  
299 perturbed when the SnAC domain is absent. Unique cysteines were engineered into four locations on  
300 the histone octamer surface (Fig. 2A) and were designed to not perturb nucleosome structure/stability,  
301 their ability to be remodeled, and were previously used for site-directed histone photocrosslinking (10).

302 The SnAC domain was found to be required for stable binding of Snf2 to the histone portion of  
303 nucleosomes in the absence of ATP as there was a 2 -3 fold reduction in Snf2 cross-linking at all four  
304 positions when the SnAC domain was removed (Fig. 2B-E). The interactions of the Snf5 and Swp82  
305 subunits of SWI/SNF were also reduced upon deletion of the SnAC domain (Fig. 2D & 2E). Remodeling  
306 decreased the extent of Snf2 and Snf5 crosslinking at residues 19 and 113 of H2A to levels similar to the  
307 reduction observed when the SnAC domain was removed (Fig 2C and 2D, compare open bars to bars  
308 with the different shades of gray). Remodeling only weakly decreased or not at all Snf2, Snf5, and Swp82  
309 crosslinking at residue 109 of H2B and residue 80 of H3. The SnAC domain as shown by histone cross-  
310 linking has a general role in establishing the interactions between SWI/SNF and the histone octamer  
311 face of nucleosome. Taken together, these data indicate that the SnAC domain interacts with the  
312 histone portion of nucleosomes and stabilizes SWI/SNF binding to histones.

313

#### 314 **Snf2 remains in contact with nucleosomal DNA in the absence of the SnAC domain**

315 A histone anchor domain in SWI/SNF may or may not influence the binding of the complex to  
316 nucleosomal DNA. Previously Snf2 was found to contact nucleosomal DNA at superhelical location 2  
317 (SHL2) by site-directed DNA cross-linking and to translocate on DNA from SHL2 in a 3' to 5' direction (10,  
318 45). Potential changes or loss of Snf2 interactions with nucleosomal DNA due to deletion of the SnAC  
319 domain were determined by site-directed DNA photocrosslinking. Every ~5<sup>th</sup> bp in nucleosomal DNA  
320 corresponding to positions facing in or away from the histone octamer core and every 3<sup>rd</sup> bp in  
321 extranucleosomal DNA were scanned by DNA cross-linking. The precise location of the phosphate  
322 backbone in regards to its position near the histone octamer had been previously determined for the  
323 601 nucleosome by hydroxyl radical footprinting(18). The photoreactive group is attached to the  
324 phosphate backbone and probes contacts both in the major and minor grooves of DNA(25-27). After UV  
325 irradiation a radiolabel is transferred to the crosslinked subunit by enzymatic digestion of DNA and the

326 subunit identified by SDS-PAGE and phosphorimaging. WT or  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF was recruited by Gal4-  
 327 VP16 onto mononucleosome substrates. Snf2 was crosslinked most efficiently 17 bp from the dyad axis  
 328 with WT SWI/SNF and corresponds to a position pointing in towards the histone octamer (Fig. 3A-C).  
 329 Peptide mapping studies of the cross-linked Snf2 subunit suggest the ATPase C terminal lobe (between  
 330 motifs IVa and V) wedges in between the DNA and histone surface at this location (9). The other two  
 331 positions next to bp -17 face away from the histone octamer at bp -22 and -11, and are less efficiently  
 332 cross-linked (Figure 3B). Generally, Snf2 is cross-linked to  $\sim$ 3 helical turns of DNA from bp -33 to 0 and is  
 333 centered at the SHL2 position. Except for two positions towards the entry site at bp +52 and +63 on the  
 334 side of nucleosomal DNA facing away from the histone octamer, Snf2 is not significantly cross-linked to  
 335 DNA elsewhere in the nucleosome and is highly localized.

336

337 Snf2 is associated with nucleosomal DNA at the SHL2 position in  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF as seen by efficient  
 338 DNA crosslinking of Snf2 at bp -17 and -33 comparable to WT SWISNF (Figure 3B & 3C). There are  
 339 however differences in the DNA cross-linking pattern indicating that the manner in which Snf2 is bound  
 340 is altered. The most notable difference is the additional positions to which Snf2 is efficiently cross-linked  
 341 to DNA with  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF. Only with  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF was there relatively strong cross-linking of Snf2  
 342 inside at bp -38 and others on the exposed surface of nucleosomal DNA at bp 0 and +42 (Fig. 3B and 3C).  
 343 These data suggest that the binding of Snf2 to nucleosome DNA in the nucleosome is broadened in the  
 344 absence of the SnAC domain and potentially has greater flexibility to scan additional proximal DNA sites.  
 345 Given that  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF retains contact with nucleosomal DNA, it should be able to hydrolyze ATP  
 346 and translocate on DNA, but may not be able to mobilize nucleosomes without a histone anchor.

347

348 **Lack of SnAC domain uncouples nucleosome mobilization from ATP hydrolysis and DNA translocation**

349 We examined if loss of the SnAC domain caused an uncoupling of nucleosome mobilization from ATP  
 350 hydrolysis. Previously  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF was shown to hydrolyze ATP 7-8 fold less than WT (31) and in  
 351 order to better assess remodeling differences separate from that of ATP hydrolysis, higher ATP was  
 352 used with  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF (320  $\mu$ M) than wild type SWI/SNF (4  $\mu$ M). Under these conditions the rate of  
 353 hydrolysis was  $\sim$ 2 times faster for  $\Delta$ SnAC than wild type SWI/SNF (Fig. 4A, 1.2 vs. 0.65 nM s<sup>-1</sup> for  $\Delta$ SnAC  
 354 vs. WT). Nucleosome remodeling was followed by measuring changes in the electrophoretic mobility of  
 355 nucleosomes caused by their shifting positions on DNA. Under these conditions favoring  $\Delta$ SnAC  
 356 SWI/SNF, the wild type SWI/SNF remodeled nucleosomes about 120 times more efficiently (Fig. 4C-D, 26  
 357 pMs<sup>-1</sup> vs. 0.21 pMs<sup>-1</sup> and Table 1) as determined by EMSA. The approximate number of ATP hydrolyzed  
 358 per remodeling event by  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF was on average 5700 as determined from the rate of ATP  
 359 hydrolysis (1.2 nM s<sup>-1</sup>) divided by the rate of remodeling (0.21 pM s<sup>-1</sup>) and in comparison, WT SWI/SNF  
 360 hydrolyzed about 25 ATP per remodeling event (0.65 nM ATP s<sup>-1</sup> vs. 0.026 nM nucleosome s<sup>-1</sup>). This  
 361 implies that WT SWI/SNF was 270 times more efficient at converting ATP hydrolysis into nucleosome  
 362 movement. Nucleosome remodeling was also assayed by restriction enzyme (RE) accessibility that  
 363 measures the relative rates of nucleosomal DNA cleavage due to site exposure (Polach and Widom,  
 364 1995). Cleavage of the HhaI site near the dyad axis was monitored over time with WT and  $\Delta$ SnAC  
 365 SWI/SNF using the same conditions mentioned before. Exposure of the HhaI site is due to formation of  
 366 DNA bulges on the surface of the nucleosomes and/or nucleosome movement away from its original  
 367 position. The extent of site exposure with the  $\Delta$ SnAC complex was  $\sim$ 64 times lower than with the WT  
 368 complex (Table 1, 4.5 vs 0.07 pM DNA cut s<sup>-1</sup> for WT vs  $\Delta$ SnAC), which is comparable to the reduction in  
 369 nucleosome movement observed by EMSA (data not shown).

370

371 The uncoupling of ATP hydrolysis from nucleosome movement could be due to defects in DNA  
 372 translocation such as that observed for mutations in motif V of the ATPase domain (35). Single DNA



373 molecules with one end tethered to a glass slide and the other to a magnetic bead (Fig. 5A) were used to  
374 directly examine the rate of DNA translocation of both  $\Delta$ SnAC and wild type SWI/SNF as previously  
375 reported for RSC (22). The height of the bead was recorded at different tension forces lower than 2 pN  
376 in the presence of ATP with and without SWI/SNF. DNA was observed to be shortened with SWI/SNF and  
377 ATP due to translocation of SWI/SNF and formation of DNA loops (Fig. 5B and 5C) as reported previously  
378 (44). ATP concentration was varied from 0.2  $\mu$ M to 10 mM and the maximum rate of DNA translocation  
379 observed was at  $\geq 1$  mM ATP (data not shown). In the absence of protein, the DNA molecules undergo  
380 restricted Brownian fluctuations as expected (data not shown). SWI/SNF was recruited to a unique  
381 location on the 2.88 kb DNA fragment by Gal4-VP16 binding to two adjacent sites in the middle of the  
382 DNA template (9, 10). The recruitment of SWI/SNF by Gal4-VP16 made it possible to observe more DNA  
383 translocation events mediated by SWI/SNF at higher tension forces, where thermal fluctuations could be  
384 further suppressed and allow for shorter translocation events to be resolved. The selective recruitment  
385 of SWI/SNF by Gal4-VP16 was demonstrated with DNA shortening by SWI/SNF being dependent on  
386 Gal4-VP16 when competitor DNA was present (data not shown). Recruitment of SWI/SNF by Gal4-VP16  
387 did not increase the force required to stall translocation by SWI/SNF.

388

389 We repeated the same magnetic tweezers experiment with the  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF and observed transient  
390 shortening of DNA length similar to that for wild type SWI/SNF. Changes in DNA extension greater than  
391 the maximum height change induced by Brownian motion (determined in the absence of protein) were  
392 analyzed in order to compare the extent and rate of translocation of WT or  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF on free  
393 DNA. The signal was smoothed with a rolling average of one second. The peaks with drops greater than  
394 peak drops due to Brownian fluctuations were identified with MatLab. Once a translocation event or  
395 spike was identified and the magnitude determined, the rate of translocation or velocity was fit using  
396 straight lines as shown in Figure 5C. We found that at 0.3pN, the average loop size on DNA is  $580 \pm 20$

397 bp for WT and  $550 \pm 70$  for  $\Delta$ SnAC (Fig. 5D and Table 1). The force dependence of DNA shortening for  
398 both WT and  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF are very similar as shown in Figure 5D. At 0.3 pN, we found the rate of  
399 translocation is  $600 \pm 100$  bp/s for WT and  $500 \pm 100$  for  $\Delta$ SnAC (Fig. 5E and Table 1). Single molecule  
400 measurements showed mutants lacking the SnAC domain have the same average loop size and  
401 translocate at the same rate as WT along duplex DNA and therefore the SnAC domain is not required for  
402 SWI/SNF translocation along duplex DNA.

403

#### 404 **The SnAC domain is essential for translocation on nucleosomal templates**

405 A similar setup was used to examine the rate of nucleosome movement and DNA translocation in a  
406 nucleosomal context. The same DNA template as before containing a 601 nucleosome positioning  
407 sequence was used to reconstitute and position a single nucleosome on DNA. SWI/SNF translocation of  
408 nucleosomes and shortening of DNA tolerate significantly higher tension forces than translocation of  
409 SWI/SNF on free DNA as shown previously (44). A single nucleosome was observed to be bound to each  
410 DNA as the change in end-to-end distances observed when adjusting the tension force from 0.3 to 26 pN  
411 corresponding to that expected for unwrapping one nucleosome from DNA (data not shown). Changes  
412 in DNA length were observed at 3 pN when WT SWI/SNF and ATP were added as observed with  
413 shortening of the end-to-end distances, but no shortening was observed with  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF (Fig. 5F).  
414 In 13 of 15 traces there was clear evidence of DNA shortening with WT SWI/SNF, but in 13 traces with  
415  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF no DNA shortening was observed. There was no inherent problem with these templates  
416 as shown by WT and  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF being able to equally translocate along the free DNA portion of the  
417 template when the tension force was reduced to 0.3 pN (data not shown). Single molecule experiments  
418 show that in the absence of SnAC, SWI/SNF is unable to move DNA through nucleosomes creating DNA  
419 loops and thereby shortening the DNA tether.

420

421 In order to examine more carefully the molecular changes in DNA and histone interactions associated  
422 with nucleosome movement, we monitored the interactions of residue 45 of histone H2A with DNA  
423 before and during remodeling. Alanine 45 of histone H2A was changed to a cysteine and conjugated to  
424 an aryl azide for probing these interactions. After crosslinking to DNA, the DNA site is labile under  
425 alkaline conditions and the cleavage site mapped with base pair resolution. Residue 45 is close to  
426 nucleosomal DNA 37 and 39 bp from the dyad axis and in one of its two orientations is ~15 bp from  
427 where the ATPase domain of Snf2 is normally bound (9, 20). SWI/SNF was bound to nucleosomes and  
428 the position most proximal to the ATPase domain binding site monitored. WT SWI/SNF moved  
429 nucleosomes away from the original position as monitored by reduction of cutting at bp -37 with almost  
430 half having moved after 10 s and nearly completely moved after 160 s (Fig. 6A and 6B). Within 10  
431 seconds, the crosslinked site was shifted to bp -87 and is 50 bp from its original position placing the edge  
432 of the nucleosome 22 bp past the DNA end. Later after 40 seconds, a new crosslinked position was also  
433 seen at bp +72 that represents a 110 bp step to the other side with the longer extranucleosomal DNA,  
434 placing the nucleosome 49 bp off the other edge of DNA (Fig. 6B).  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF did not significantly  
435 move DNA inside nucleosomes from its original position and there doesn't appear to be any significant  
436 movement of nucleosomal DNA ~15 bp away from where the ATPase domain is likely bound (Fig. 6C).  
437 Even limited movement of nucleosomal DNA is not observed without the SnAC domain of SWI/SNF.  
438 Given that Snf2 is still bound to nucleosomal DNA, hydrolyzes ATP, and can equally well translocate  
439 along DNA without the SnAC domain; it is very significant that nonetheless it is unable to move DNA  
440 inside the nucleosome ~15 bp from where the ATPase domain is bound. These data highlight the critical  
441 importance of a histone anchor in SWI/SNF to facilitate in the initial movement of DNA inside of  
442 nucleosomes.

443

444 **Discussion**

445 **Converting ATP hydrolysis and DNA translocation by SWI/SNF into nucleosome movement requires**  
446 **the SnAC domain to bind to histones**

447 Deletion of the SnAC domain of Snf2 uncouples ATP hydrolysis and DNA translocation by SWI/SNF from  
448 nucleosome mobilization. The SnAC domain is evolutionary conserved in all eukaryotic SWI/SNF  
449 complexes and is essential for the in vitro and in vivo activity of SWI/SNF (31). Although SnAC enhances  
450 ATP hydrolysis by SWI/SNF, its role is more pronounced for being required to convert ATP hydrolysis and  
451 DNA translocation into changes of nucleosome translational positions. The two roles of SnAC are  
452 distinguished from each other by using different concentrations of ATP with each in order to have  
453 equivalent rates of ATP hydrolysis with wild type SWI/SNF and SWI/SNF lacking the SnAC domain. Even  
454 when  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF hydrolyzed ATP two times faster than wild type SWI/SNF,  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF moved  
455 nucleosomes  $\sim$ 120 times slower than wild type SWI/SNF. The extent and type of uncoupling shown for  
456 the SnAC domain has never been observed before to our knowledge for any ATP-dependent chromatin  
457 remodeler. Most uncoupling of chromatin remodelers are generally only  $<5$  times that of wild type and  
458 involve a reduction in DNA translocation compared to ATP hydrolysis. Previously, mutations in motif V  
459 of the ATPase domain of SWI/SNF have uncoupled ATP hydrolysis from DNA translocation (17, 24, 35,  
460 43). These mutations are in a motif that is conserved in multiple DNA helicases and in some of these  
461 instances this motif has been shown to directly interact with DNA. Changes in motif V of Snf2 probably  
462 uncouple ATP hydrolysis from DNA translocation by causing the enzyme to hold less tightly to DNA. Loss  
463 of the SnAC domain however does not have this effect as  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF translocates on single DNA  
464 molecules with rates and total distances traversed comparable to wild type SWI/SNF. Besides  
465 mutations within the ATPase domain, a domain outside of the ATPase domain known as the HSA domain  
466 when removed reduces remodeling efficiency about a factor of  $<2$  (38). The HSA domain binds to the  
467 actin related proteins Arp 7 and 9 that are shared between RSC and SWI/SNF. The HSA domain likely  
468 stimulates chromatin remodeling through the interaction of the Arp 7 and 9 subunits (2, 28, 39). The

469 HSA domain also has a propensity to bind to free DNA, which may also enhance the remodeling  
470 activities of RSC and SWI/SNF (9). The SnAC domain unlike the HSA domain does not bind or recruit  
471 other subunits to the SWI/SNF complex or bind DNA like the HSA domain and seems to have a very  
472 different target.  
473

474 **The SnAC domain is a histone anchor required to create sufficient force to mobilize nucleosomes**  
475 SWI/SNF requires a stable anchor to create a sufficient pulling force to move nucleosomes when the  
476 ATPase is bound at SHL2. The strong uncoupling of ATP hydrolysis and DNA translocation from  
477 nucleosome movement when the SnAC domain is removed is characteristic of a crucial histone anchor.  
478 The SnAC domain satisfies several of the criteria expected for a histone anchor of SWI/SNF. First and  
479 foremost SnAC appears to bind to the histone component of nucleosomes as shown by an innovative  
480 protein footprinting technique using an artificial protease tethered to the histones in nucleosomes. The  
481 only other domain shown to interact in this manner is the ATPase domain. Consistent with this finding  
482 is the observation that when SnAC is missing the interactions of SWI/SNF with the open histone octamer  
483 face of the nucleosome are reduced overall as seen by site-directed crosslinking. These effects are  
484 specific to histones as Snf2 is still observed to bind well to nucleosomal DNA as would be expected for a  
485 histone anchor domain that uncouples DNA translocation from moving nucleosomes. In support of our  
486 work, when switching the ATPase-helicase domains between BRG1 and SNF2h, a region from residue  
487 1250-1386 of BRG1 including the SnAC domain was required in addition to the ATPase domain to retain  
488 the remodeling activity of any BRG1 chimeras(13). In another study, a region from amino acid 1223-1420  
489 from BRG1 encompassing the SnAC domain (residues 1332-1390) was found to be essential for  
490 remodeling and histone H3 interactions (21). These data show the SnAC domain is important for  
491 regulating SWI/SNF activity in both yeast and humans. The other criteria is that SnAC is exquisitely  
492 required for SWI/SNF to move nucleosomal DNA even short distances from their original positions when

493 proximal to the bound ATPase domain. This was shown using a method to track changes in histone-  
494 DNA interactions with base pair resolution 37 bp from the dyad axis.

495

496 Our model for the SnAC domain is that it binds to the histone octamer and provides an anchor for the  
497 ATPase domain (Fig. 7). This anchor is required for the ATPase domain to gain traction and create a  
498 sufficient pulling force to move DNA inside of nucleosomes. Just like a Tet-dimer fused to the Sth1  
499 catalytic subunit converts it from being able to create a pulling force of ~1 pN to a pulling force of almost  
500 30 pN (34), SnAC domain as an anchor also can make the ATPase domain of Snf2 to have a significantly  
501 higher pulling force. Thus the pulling force of a chromatin remodeler may be more a function of the  
502 strength of its anchor to the nucleosomes rather than the strength of the ATPase domain alone. It will  
503 be important to find how other chromatin remodelers interact with nucleosomes and potentially have  
504 key anchors like SWI/SNF or not. Histone anchors like that observed for SWI/SNF may be more a  
505 function of those remodelers that disassemble nucleosomes rather than of those remodelers involved in  
506 changing nucleosome spacing.

507

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637

638

639 **Figure Legends**

640

641 **Figure 1. The SnAC domain associates with nucleosomal histones.**

642 (A) The interactions of Snf2 in the context of the whole SWI/SNF complex with nucleosomes were  
 643 probed by Fe-BABE being conjugated to solvent accessible lysine residues in nucleosomes. Cleavage of  
 644 Snf2 was detected by immunoblotting using an antibody against the C-terminal HA-epitope of Snf2.  
 645 Nucleosomes were modified with 2-iminothiolane (2IT) and Fe-BABE (lane 1-6) or with Fe-BABE alone  
 646 (lane 7-9) as a negative control. ATP (1 mM) was added in lanes 3 and 6 and incubated before addition  
 647 of ascorbate and hydrogen peroxide. (B) The successful coupling of Fe-BABE to nucleosomes was  
 648 detected by immunoblotting using the anti-chelate antibody CHA225. Nucleosomes were incubated  
 649 with Fe-BABE alone (lane 2) or Fe-BABE and 2IT (lane 3). (C) Map of the Snf2 domains including the  
 650 ATPase domain with conserved helicase motifs is shown. The other domains include the QLQ domain  
 651 and HSA (helicase-SANT-associated) domain on the N terminal half and the SnAC (Snf2 ATP coupling),

652 tandem AT hooks and bromodomain in the C terminal half of Snf2. The regions of Snf2 shown to contact  
 653 free DNA (gray arrows) and histone octamer (black arrows) by Fe-BABE mediated proteolysis are shown.  
 654 The thickness of the arrows is proportional to the frequency of cleavage. (D) A structural model of the  
 655 ATPase domain (beige) bound to DNA (blue) based on the crystal structure of Rad54 is shown. The  
 656 regions shown to be close to histones by cleavage (green) or to nucleosomal DNA by crosslinking (red)  
 657 are highlighted.

658

659 **Figure 2. Loss of SnAC reduces interactions of SWI/SNF with the open face of the histone octamer.**

660 (A) The location of the four positions in the open face of the histone octamer inside nucleosomes used  
 661 to probe for the interactions of SWI/SNF are shown in magenta. A side and top view are displayed. (B)  
 662 Modified nucleosomes were bound to  $\Delta$ SnAC (lanes 3, 5, 7 and 9) and WT SWI/SNF (lanes 2, 4, 6 and 8)  
 663 in the absence of ATP (B) or presence of 800 $\mu$ M ATP (gel not shown). After cross-linking, the radiolabel  
 664 was transferred and the subunits of SWI/SNF resolved on a 4-20% SDS-PAGE. Labeled proteins were  
 665 detected by phosphorimaging. Lane 1 had photoreactive H380 nucleosomes, but no SWI/SNF was  
 666 added before cross-linking. The relative amount of Snf2 (C), Snf5 (D), and Swp82 (E) crosslinked at the  
 667 different histone positions for WT SWI/SNF (-ATP (black bar), + ATP (white bar)) and  $\Delta$ SnAC (-ATP (dark  
 668 gray bar), + ATP (light gray bar)) SWI/SNF are shown. The crosslinking experiments were done in  
 669 triplicates and standard deviations shown.

670

671 **Figure 3. Loss of the SnAC domain does not reduce the interactions of Snf2 with nucleosomal DNA.**

672 (A) SWI/SNF was recruited to nucleosomes by Gal4-VP16 binding 27 bp from the entry site of the  
 673 nucleosome as described in Materials and Methods. The cross-linked protein(s) were analyzed on 4-  
 674 20% SDS-PAGE and detected by phosphorimaging. A representative of several gels for WT (top panel,  
 675 lanes 1-8) and  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF (bottom panel, lanes 9-16) is shown for cross-linking with nucleosomal

676 DNA at sites spanning from bp -17 to -54. Crosslinking of WT Snf2 at bp -17 (lanes 8 and 17) was used as  
 677 the reference in all gels for normalization. (B-C) Mapping the interactions of Snf2 with DNA by DNA  
 678 cross-linking was done at 27 positions along nucleosomal DNA and 10 along extranucleosomal DNA. The  
 679 nucleosomal positions probed every helical turn face either in (B) or away (C) from the histone octamer.  
 680 The gray closed triangles represent WT and black open squares  $\Delta$ SnAC cross-linking. Every 3<sup>rd</sup> bp was  
 681 probed in extranucleosomal DNA (B; gray closed diamond for WT and black closed diamond for  $\Delta$ SnAC).  
 682 The amount of label transferred to the Snf2 subunit was quantified and normalized to the amount of  
 683 label transferred to Snf2 when cross-linked at bp -17 using WT SWI/SNF (relative cross-linking). The  
 684 numbering system is relative to the nucleosomal dyad axis as zero and positions to the left being  
 685 negative and those to the right being positive.

686 **Figure 4. The SnAC domain couples ATP hydrolysis of SWI/SNF to nucleosome movement.**

687 The rates of ATP hydrolysis of the WT (A) and  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF (B) were measured under full binding  
 688 conditions with 6.4 nM 29N59 mononucleosomes (29 and 59 bp of extranucleosomal DNA) and 20 nM  
 689 SWI/SNF. The ATP concentration used for WT and  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF was respectively 4.4  $\mu$ M and 320  $\mu$ M.  
 690 The time scale was also different for WT SWI/SNF (0 to 10 min) versus that for  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF (0 to 120  
 691 min). (C-D) The rate of nucleosome movement by WT (lanes 1-8) and  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF (lanes 9-17) was  
 692 followed by gel shift assay under the same conditions as in (A) and (B). The amount of nucleosomes  
 693 moved versus time for WT (closed triangle) and  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF (open circle) are compared.

694

695 **Figure 5. SnAC is not required for translocation on free DNA, but is on nucleosomes.**

696 (A) Cartoon illustrating the magnetic tweezers geometry for detecting SWI/SNF translocation events  
 697 along a single DNA molecule. (B) Time traces of the end-to-end distance of a 2.88 kb DNA molecule with  
 698 and without 5nM SWI/SNF. The gray points are the raw data, while the black curve is a 1 s rolling  
 699 average of time series. The long spikes that correspond to DNA shortening caused by SWI/SNF (bottom

700 time trace) are not present in the absence of the SWI/SNF complex (top time trace). (C) Two of the  
701 characteristic translocation events from the bottom time trace in panel B are shown. The translocation  
702 rates were determined by fitting individual events using a straight line (red line). We observed two  
703 distinct types of translocation events. The top time series shows an event where SWI/SNF shortens the  
704 DNA end-to-end distance, stalls, and then reverses directions. The bottom time series shows an event  
705 where SWI/SNF shortens the end-to-end distance and then reverses direction without any significant  
706 stall time. Both type of translocation events were previously reported for RSC. (D) Force dependence of  
707 DNA shortening measured at 1 mM ATP for WT (gray filled triangles) and  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF (black open  
708 squares) complexes. (E) Force dependence of the translocation rates for WT (gray filled triangles) and  
709  $\Delta$ SnAC (black open squares) SWI/SNF. Data was taken at 1 mM ATP, in the presence of Gal4-VP16. (f)  
710 Example time traces of the end-to-end distance of a 2.88 kb DNA molecule containing 1 nucleosome and  
711 the flow cell contains 5 nM WT (upper trace) or  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF (lower trace) and 1 mM ATP. Changes in  
712 end-to-end distances were observed under a pulling force of 3 pN. A remodeling event is circled in the  
713 upper trace. A total of 15 traces for WT SWI/SNF and 13 traces for  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF were obtained with  
714 tethers containing a single nucleosome.

715

716 **Figure 6.  $\Delta$ SnAC SWI/SNF cannot move nucleosomal DNA close to the binding site of the ATPase**  
717 **domain.**

718 (A) Nucleosome positions were mapped using site-directed crosslinking and alkali mediated cleavage at  
719 different times during remodeling. The photocrosslinker was placed at residue 45 of histone H2A and  
720 alkali-induced cleavage of DNA monitored with the bottom strand radiolabeled. The original cut site was  
721 at bp -37 (black rectangle) and the DNA translocation site was 15-25 bp from the dyad axis (yellow  
722 rectangle). Remodeling was initiated by the addition of ATP and changes in histone-DNA interactions  
723 examined after 10 (red), 40 (green), and 160 s (purple). (B-C) Lane profile overlay analyses of the

724 sequencing gels from site-directed mapping experiments are shown for WT (B) and  $\Delta$ SnAC (C) complexes.  
 725 The x and y axes denote bp position (dyad being zero, left of dyad being negative and right of dyad being  
 726 positive) and cross-linking/cleavage signal in arbitrary units respectively. Time-dependent decrease in  
 727 cross-linking/cleavage signal at the original nucleosome position is shown on the left panel. Appearance  
 728 of cross-linking/cleavage signal upon remodeling is shown at the -87 (middle panel) and +72 (right  
 729 panel) positions indicating 50bp movement towards the shorter linker and 110bp movement towards  
 730 the longer linker respectively. Note the lack of movement measured by either disappearance of cross-  
 731 linking/cleavage at the original nucleosome position or the appearance of cross-linking/cleavage at -87  
 732 or +72 positions in case of the  $\Delta$ SnAC complex (C).

733

734 **Figure 7. Model for an anchor to histones being required for SWI/SNF to mobilize nucleosomes.**

735 Histone octamer is shown as a sphere with numbers indicating different superhelical positions and a  
 736 black line representing DNA with positions having the corresponding number. ATPase lobes are gray  
 737 ovals (I and II) and hinge region shown as a black line connecting the two lobes. Blue region is the SnAC  
 738 domain. (A) When SnAC is present the ATPase domain is anchored to the histone octamer and pulls DNA  
 739 through it. The ATPase domain when tethered has sufficient force to disrupt histone-DNA interactions  
 740 toward the entry site and create DNA bulges on the surface of nucleosomes. (B) In the absence of SnAC  
 741 as a histone anchor, the ATPase domain is not fixed and cannot create a sufficient pulling force to  
 742 disrupt histone-DNA interactions.

743

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745

746 **Table 1: Kinetic parameters of  $\Delta$ SnAC complex obtained from Michaelis-Menten analysis, remodeling**  
 747 **and ATPase assays**

	WT	$\Delta$ SnAC
Rate of remodeling (pM s <sup>-1</sup> )	2.6 <sup>a</sup>	0.021 <sup>b</sup>
Rate of ATP hydrolysis (nM s <sup>-1</sup> )	0.65 <sup>a</sup> 8.3 +/- 0.35 <sup>b</sup>	1.2 +/- 0.049 <sup>b</sup>
# of ATP required to mobilize 1 nucleosome	25 <sup>a</sup>	5700 <sup>b</sup>
Rate of HhaI site exposure (pM DNA cut s <sup>-1</sup> )	4.5 <sup>a</sup>	0.07 <sup>b</sup>
Rate of DNA translocation (bp/s)	600±100	500±100
Average distance traveled on DNA (bp)	580±20	550±70
Rate of translocation on nucleosomes	100 ± 50 bp/s	n/a

748 <sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions 4.4uM ATP at 25°C

749 <sup>b</sup>Reaction conditions 320uM ATP at 30°C

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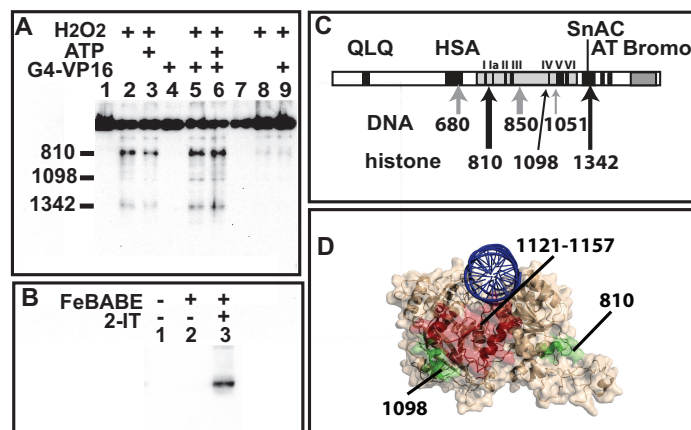


Figure 1  
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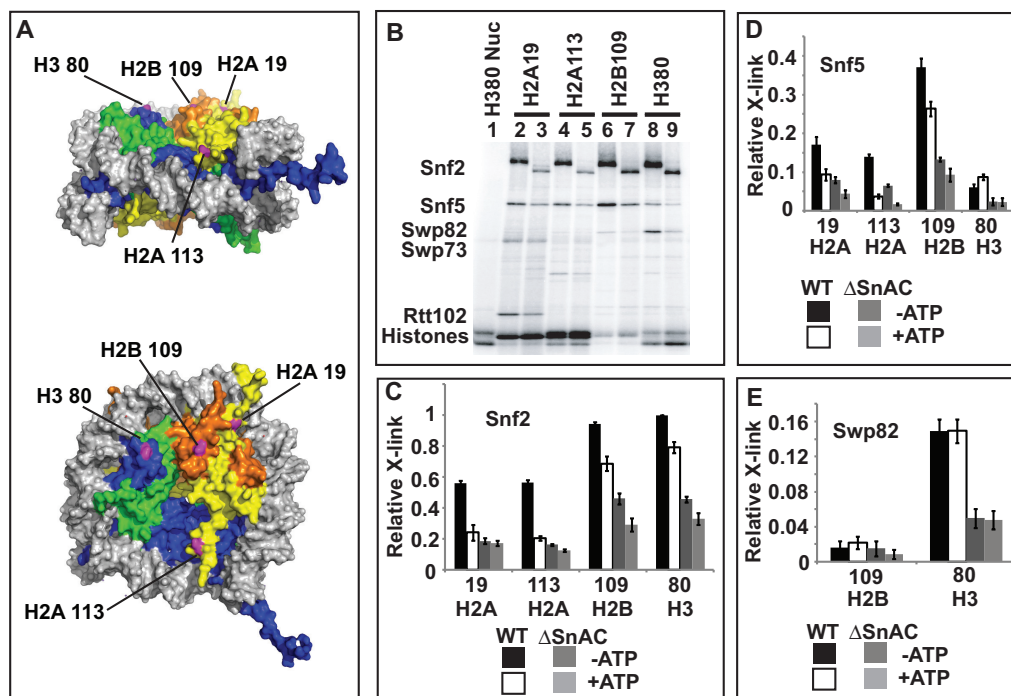


Figure 2 --2 column width



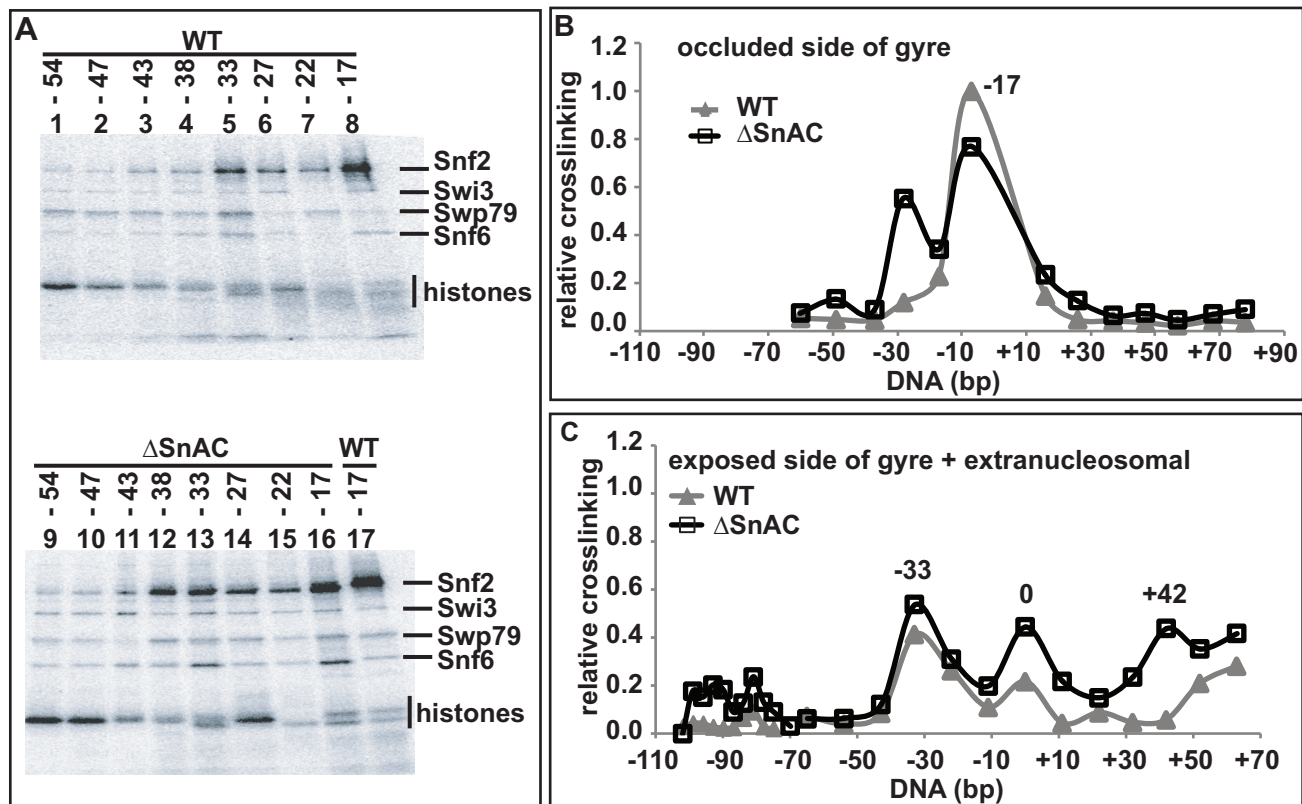


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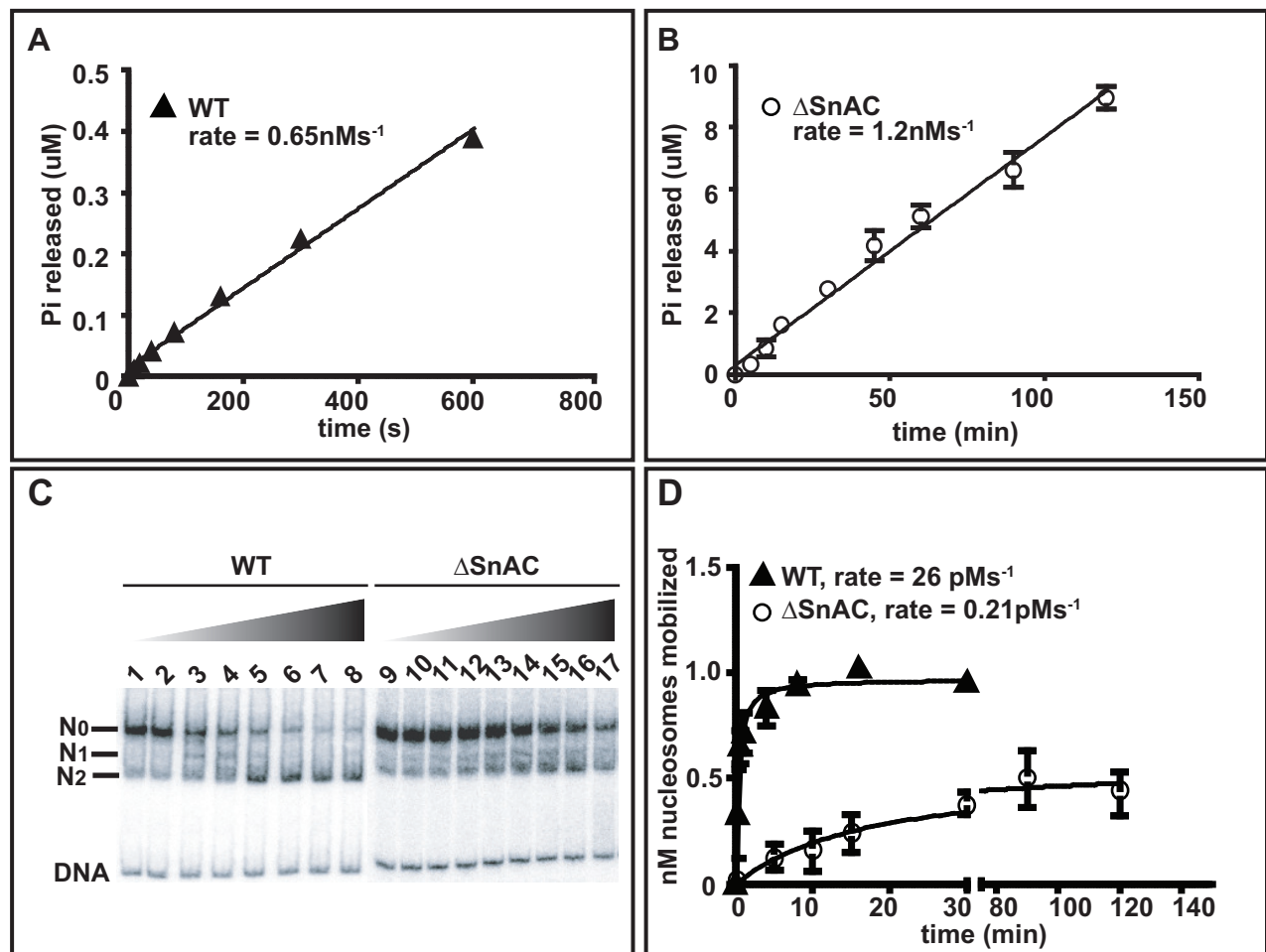


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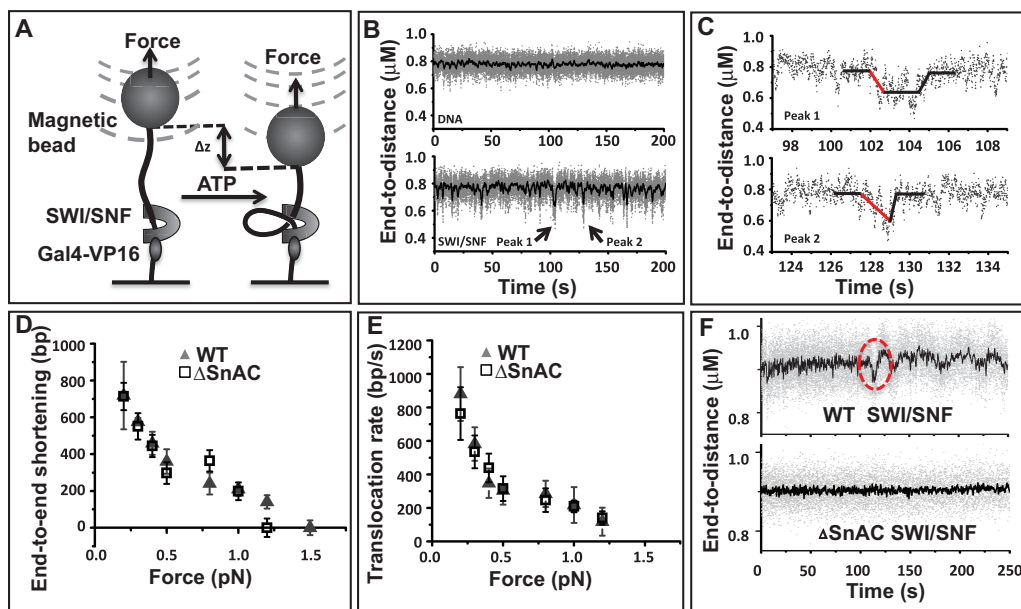


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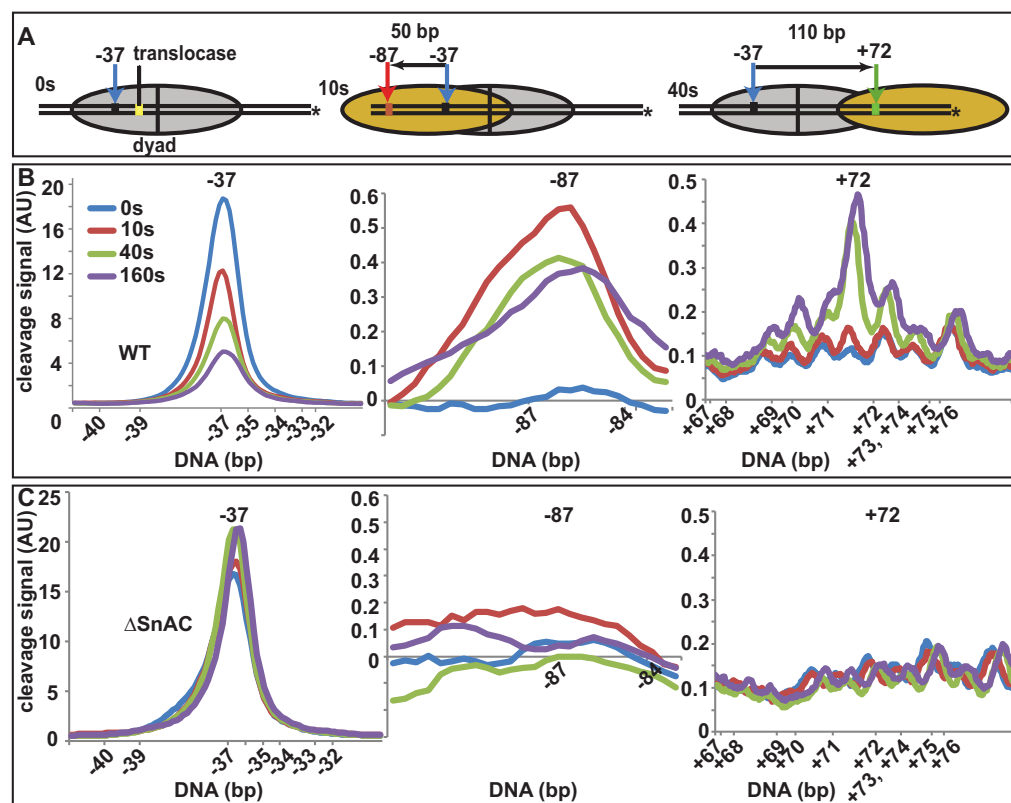


Figure 6 - 2 column width

