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Title:	Threshold-dependent transcriptional discrimination underlies stem cell homeostasis
Authors:	Yadav, R.K. (/jspui/browse?type=author&value=Yadav%2C+R.K.)
Keywords:	Dependent Transcriptional Mechanisms
Issue Date:	2016
Publisher:	PNAS
Citation:	Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America, 113(41), E6298-E6306.
Abstract:	Transcriptional mechanisms that underlie the dose-dependent regulation of gene expression in animal development have been studied extensively. However, the mechanisms of dose-dependent transcriptional regulation in plant development have not been understood. In Arabidopsis shoot apical meristems, WUSCHEL (WUS), a stem cell-promoting transcription factor accumulates at a higher level in the rib meristem and at a lower level in the central zone where it activates its own negative regulator, CLAVATA3 (CLV3). How WUS regulates CLV3 levels has not been understood. Here we show that WUS binds a group of cis-elements, cis-regulatory module, in the CLV3-regulatory region, with different affinities and conformations, consisting of monomers at lower concentration and as dimers at a higher level. By deleting cis elements, manipulating the WUS-binding affinity and the homodimerization threshold of cis elements, and manipulating WUS levels, we show that the same cis elements mediate both the activation and repression of CLV3 a lower and higher WUS levels, respectively. The concentration-dependent transcriptional discrimination provides a mechanistic framework to explain the regulation of CLV3 levels that is critical for stem cell homeostasis.
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