Determinants of the *Drosophila* Odorant Receptor Pattern

Erin Song, 1 Benjamin de Bivort, 1,2 Chuntao Dan, 1,3 and Sam Kunes 1,*

1Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA
2Present address: Rowland Institute at Harvard, 100 Edwin Land Boulevard, Cambridge, MA 02142, USA
3Present address: Janelia Farm Research Campus, 19700 Helix Drive, Ashburn, VA 20147, USA
*Correspondence: kunes@fas.harvard.edu

SUMMARY

In most olfactory systems studied to date, neurons that express the same odorant receptor (Or) gene are scattered across sensory epithelia, intermingled with neurons that express different Or genes. In *Drosophila*, olfactory sensilla that express the same Or gene are dispersed on the antenna and the maxillary palp. Here we show that Or identity is specified in a spatially stereotyped pattern by the cell-autonomous activity of the transcriptional regulators Engrailed and Dachshund. Olfactory sensilla then become highly motile and disperse beneath the epidermis. Thus, positional information and cell motility underlie the dispersed patterns of *Drosophila* Or gene expression.

INTRODUCTION

Despite the catalog of mechanisms known to determine cell fate, how an olfactory receptor neuron (ORN) chooses to express a particular odorant receptor (Or) gene remains unclear. In most olfactory systems studied to date, neurons that express the same Or family member are scattered across sensory epithelia, interspersed with neurons that express different Or genes (Ressler et al., 1993; Vassar et al., 1993; Vosshall et al., 1999; Ngai et al., 1993). These patterns are similar but not identical between individuals and might be explained by stochastic mechanisms whereby distant neurons independently select an Or gene from a regionally restricted palette (reviewed in Fuss and Ray, 2009). There is evidence for such a mechanism in the mouse, where a distal enhancer element (the H domain) activates one of at least several possible Or loci (Serizawa et al., 2003; Lomvardas et al., 2006; Fuss et al., 2007). It is not clear, however, if stochastic mechanisms are universal determinants of Or gene choice.

Olfactory epithelia in *Drosophila* are found on the third segment of the antenna and the maxillary palp. Together these tissues contain 2,000–3,000 odorant receptor neurons (ORNs), which are organized into ~1,100 sensillum units (Shanbhag et al., 2000). *Drosophila* sensilla come in a number of defined types, each with characteristic odorant response spectra (Clyne et al., 1997; de Bruyne et al., 1999, 2001) due to stereotyped patterns of Or gene expression (Hallem et al., 2004; Goldman et al., 2005; Couto et al., 2005; Fishilevich and Vosshall, 2005). Most ORNs express one Or chosen from a library of 60 Or genes, whereas others express a member of the ionotropic glutamate receptor-like family (Benton et al., 1999). All Or genes are expressed in conjunction with Or83b (Larsson et al., 2004), which encodes a requisite subunit of an odorant-gated ion channel (Sato et al., 2008; Wicher et al., 2008). Odorants bind discretely to OR proteins to create stereotyped neuronal responses (Yao et al., 2005; Hallem and Carlson, 2006).

The identification of transcription factors and promoter DNA binding sites that selectively control Or gene expression suggests that combinatorial transcriptional regulation underlies Or gene choice in *Drosophila* (Clyne et al., 1999; Ray et al., 2007, 2008; Tichy et al., 2008; Bai et al., 2009). Combinatorial regulatory activity might also underlie the expression of vertebrate class I Or genes (Hoppe et al., 2003, 2006). Yet how selective transcriptional mechanisms might account for the dispersed patterns of Or gene expression is unresolved.

The antenna was a subject of classical lineage studies that uncovered the compartmental organization of the *Drosophila* body plan (Morata and Lawrence, 1978, 1979). Mitotic clones induced after the formation of compartment borders remained contiguous in either of the antenna’s two compartments. These studies relied on cuticle markers and did not fully resolve the behavior of sensilla beneath the epidermis. Here we show that olfactory sensilla are highly mobile and move considerable distances after their specification, though they respect the compartment boundary. The transcription factors Engrailed and Dachshund are redeployed to a spatially localized subset of sensillum progenitors, where they act as combinatorial determinants of sensillum identity and Or choice. Thus, it appears that, in *Drosophila*, the dispersed odorant receptor pattern can arise from the scattering of sensilla after the spatially defined determination of their Or identities.

RESULTS

Olfactory Sensilla Move beneath the Epidermis

The *Drosophila* olfactory apparatus consists of bilaterally symmetric antennae and maxillary palps that harbor approximately 1,200 and 120 ORNs, respectively (Figure 1A). The ORNs are organized into sensillum units containing 1–4 neurons and additional support cells. Each ORN sends an axon into the brain to synapse with the clustered dendrites of projection neurons (PNs) in morphological units known as glomeruli (reviewed by Davis, 2005; Figure S2 available online). The adult
antenna arises from the eye-antennal imaginal disk, an epithelial sheet of concentric ring-like domains (Figure 1A) whose growth and patterning in the larva sets the stage for ORN differentiation in the pupa. The ORNs are thought to arise in a temporal process like ommatidial assembly in the compound eye (Ray and Rodrigues, 1995). This process begins with the appearance of founding cells (FCs; Figure 1A; Reddy et al., 1997) that arise in stereotyped locations and temporal sequence in the early pupal stage. An FC recruits adjacent cells into nascent sensillum clusters. A final cell division precedes the differentiation of sensillum cell types. As a first step toward understanding lineage relationships in sensillum development, we examined somatic clones that labeled multiple sensilla. Mosaics were induced at several times during imaginal disc cell division during the larval stage. We used FLP-mediated interchromosomal recombination and positive fluorescent protein labeling (mosaic analysis with a repressible cell marker [MARCM]; Lee and Luo, 1999) or intrachromosomal recombination with ‘‘flpout’’ GAL4 and lacZ reporter transgenes (Pignoni and Zipursky, 1997; Struhl and Basler, 1993). Both approaches produced heritable and stable GFP or lacZ expression and were calibrated to yield less than one clone per antenna, on average (see Supplemental Experimental Procedures; Figure 1D). Since late-larval-stage specimens with multiple antennal clones were rare, the distribution of labeled cells in an older specimen should usually reflect the behavior of a single clone.

When clones were induced in larval-stage animals and examined at the late pupal stage, GFP-positive ORNs were dispersed throughout the antenna, markedly intermixed with unlabeled neurons (59 specimens). Labeled neurons were often distributed throughout the antenna, markedly intermixed with unlabeled neurons (59 specimens). Labeled neurons were often distributed throughout the antenna, markedly intermixed with unlabeled neurons (59 specimens). However, single labeled neurons were infrequent, as labeled neurons usually appeared in clusters of two or three (Figures 1C, 1C’, and 2A) that evidently belonged to a single sensillum. Their dendrites, labeled by membrane-targeted GFP, coalesced into bundles entering single bristles (arrows in Figures 1C and 1C’). When MARCM was performed with the ubiquitous Tubulinβ7-GAL4 driver, all cell types, including neurons, support and epidermal cells, were colabeled within a single clone (Figures 1F and 1G; Figure 5E). Clonally derived epidermal cells (Figure 1F; 33 specimens) typically formed a relativley contiguous patch that overlaid labeled and unlabeled sensilla (Figure 1G). Thus, sensilla and epidermal cells behaved differently, with labeled sensilla interspersed with unlabeled sensilla below contiguous labeled epidermis.

To define the temporal period in which the separation and intermixing of lineally related ORNs occurred, clones were induced at the midlarval stage (72 hr–96 hr after egg laying [AEL]) and examined at several time points through midpupation, a range encompassing most of sensillum development. Clonal cells were contiguous prior to the pupal stage (29 specimens; Figure 1D). The dispersal of clonally related neuronal cell clusters...
was first evident in the second pupal day (22 specimens; Figure 1E, arrow indicates labeled epidermis). Intercluster distances increased over a period of 36 hr. Notably, this period of neuronal dispersal followed soon after the early events of sensillum development.

These qualitative observations suggested that young sensilla become mobile soon after their initial development. To quantify the spatial relationships between the cells of a clone, we analyzed the pair-wise distances between labeled cells in mid-pupal-stage specimens (Figures 2A and 2B). Each antennal specimen was imaged as a three-dimensional stack of confocal micrographs so that the distance of each labeled neuron or epidermal cell to all other labeled cells (neuron or epidermal) could be calculated, normalized, and ranked (see Supplemental Experimental Procedures). As shown in Figure 2A, the labeled neuron nearest to a labeled neuron (n = 1) was about 1.3 cell diameters away, as labeled neurons were often found in pairs within a sensillum (e.g., Figure 1C). In contrast, a disproportionately larger gap separated a labeled neuron from the second, third, or fourth distal-labeled neurons. Clonally labeled epidermal cells, on the other hand, were distributed evenly with respect to rank (Figure 2A). The fourth nearest neuron to a labeled neuron was nearly 1.5 cell diameters further than the distance between labeled epidermal cells of the same rank. In addition, the geometric center of all labeled neurons was shifted away from the geometric center of labeled epidermal cells belonging to the same clone (Figure 2B), such that labeled neurons were shifted beneath unlabeled epidermis. Finally, clonally labeled neurons spread over a significantly larger radial distance than did epidermal cells (Figure 2B).

We considered two models for the dispersal of clonally related cells to compare statistically with the behavior of ORNs. In the

![Figure 2. Statistical Analysis of Clonal Cell Distributions in the Antenna](image-url)

(A) Nearest neighbor analysis of clonally related cells. The average distance (in cell diameters) was compared between colabeled cells in neuronal, epidermal, retinal, and “simulated” clones (see Supplemental Experimental Procedures). Distances between cells of a given cell type were normalized by the average distance between adjacent (nonclonal) cells of the same cell type. Statistical significance is indicated (p < 0.05; **p < 0.01; ***p < 0.001).

(B) Distance of clonal cells from the geometric center of a clone. A clone center was computed on the basis of the X, Y coordinate location of all labeled epidermal cells when GFP-labeled clones were generated with tub > y`, CD2 > GAL4; UAS-CD8::GFP. The fraction of cells (neuron or epidermal) more than a particular distance (in cell diameters) is indicated. Labeled epidermal cells were closer to the geometric center of the clone than neurons.

(C) Typical specimens, bearing GFP-labeled clones as in (B), with or without UAS-fas1₁₁ expression. GFP-positive neurons were clustered when they expressed FasI (bottom).

(D) Nearest neighbor analysis of clonally labeled neurons, with and without ectopic expression of FasI. Statistical significance is as in (A).
first, clonally labeled cells were examined in the retina, where some cell movement and clonal mixing occurs over short distances as precursors join ommatidial cell clusters (Ready et al., 1976; Lawrence and Green, 1979). For retinal clones, the distance between each labeled neighbor was found to increase by a constant ~0.5 cell diameter, well below the increment observed for olfactory neurons (Figure 2A). A second model for cell movement during proliferation was developed theoretically and simulated in silico (Supplemental Experimental Procedures; Movies S1 and S2). The positions of hundreds of cells in a bounded square plane were computed as each cell progressed through cycles of cell division. As new cells were generated by cleavage in a random direction within the sheet, the cell arrangements were continuously “relaxed” to minimize the proximity of each cell’s center to those of its neighbors (Movie S1). This simulated cell displacement resulted in dispersal similar to that observed experimentally in the retina and for antennal epidermal cells (Figure 2A). The behavior of clonally related cells in both of these models was distinct from that of olfactory receptor neurons.

As a test of the notion that clonally related neurons originate in close proximity, we examined the effect of inhibiting dispersal by ectopically expressing the homophilic cell adhesion molecule Fasciclin I (Zinn et al., 1988) within clones. Fasciclin I promotes the association of cells and cellular appendages in both cell culture and in vivo (Elkins et al., 1990). Rare FRT recombination events were used to induce GAL4 expression and transactivate UAS-fasciclin I and UAS-CD8::GFP during the expansion of a clone (Figure 2C). Spatial analysis of cell position (Figure 2D) revealed that neurons expressing Fasciclin I are tightly clustered. These observations suggest that enhanced homophilic adhesion prevents the migratory separation of sensilla, which remain together near their clonal origin.

A Switch in the Expression of the Posterior Determinant Engrailed

The antenna is composed of posterior and anterior compartments, as defined by a clonal analysis employing cuticular markers (Morata and Lawrence, 1979). It is unclear, however, whether neurons and other sensillum components beneath the epidermis respect compartmental restrictions; at least one sensory structure, the “bristle of doubt,” can escape compartmentalization (Morata and Lawrence, 1979). Posterior compartment cells are marked by the expression of Engrailed (En), a determinant of posterior identity (Morata and Lawrence, 1975). Cells lacking en+ function, for example, in en− somatic clones, can be extruded from posterior epithelia (Komborg, 1981; Lawrence and Struhl, 1982). As we describe below, ~25 olfactory sensilla in the anterior compartment are primarily composed of En-positive cells, whereas ~45 sensilla in the posterior compartment lack En expression. For the most part, anterior En-positive sensilla and posterior En-negative sensilla reside in their compartments of origin. Thus, a large fraction of sensilla switch their state of Engrailed expression early in their development.

Engrailed (En) expression was examined in the developing and mature antenna with three well-characterized antibody and transgenic reagents (anti-mAb4D9, P[en-lacZ]enXho25 and P[en2.4-GAL4]16G). In the larva and early pupa, Engrailed was expressed uniformly in the posterior compartment and absent from the anterior compartment of the antennal disk (Figures 3A and 3B). However, by 7 hr after puparium formation (APF), En expression was detected in a few anterior compartment cells (Figure 3C) and reduced or undetectable in many posterior compartment cells (arrowheads, Figure 3C). By 9 hr APF, there were 11–14 En-positive cells in the anterior compartment, which were roughly aligned in a crescent (arrow in Figure 3F). These En-positive cells were identified as sensillum (FCs), which arise in three semicircular domains at this stage (Figures 3G, 3E, and 3F; Ray and Rodrigues, 1995; Reddy et al., 1997). By 16 hr APF, disk eversion transforms the flat antennal imaginal disk into the segmented tubular adult appendage (Figure 4A). The anterior compartment En-positive sensilla were observed in an irregular pattern at this (24 hr APF; Figure 3H) and later times (Figures 4B, 4E, and 4H). In the posterior compartment (Figures 4C and 4D), En-positive and En-negative sensillum clusters were distributed in alternating stripes at early pupal time points (Figure 4D). The stripe pattern was absent in older specimens (Figure 4F; third pupal day).

A redefinition of expression pattern likewise occurred for Dachshund (Dac), a transcription factor that, like Engrailed, has an early role in imaginal disk development (Mardon et al., 1994; Lecuit and Cohen, 1997). Dac was expressed in a contiguous horseshoe pattern straddling the anterior-posterior compartment border in the larval antennal disk (Figure 3D; Mardon et al., 1994). The Dac-positive cell population intersected the En-positive cell population such that some FCs expressed both genes (Figures 3D and 3D′, inset). By the second pupal day (~36 hr APF; Figure 4G), Dac-positive cells were distributed broadly, interspersed with Dac-negative cells and included in the two possible classes with respect to Engrailed expression (Figures 4G–4I).

Given the evident mobility of young sensilla, we considered whether movement across the compartment border might account for the presence of En-positive sensilla in the anterior compartment and En-negative sensilla in the posterior compartment. Single progenitor clones and En expression were visualized after sensillum formation and dispersal (Figures 5C–5E). Labeled clones containing En-positive neurons in the anterior compartment always included En-negative neurons (21 specimens). Similarly, En-positive and En-negative neurons shared labeled clones within posterior territory (18 specimens). There was little evident movement of anterior or posterior derived cells across the compartment border, only an occasional intrusion consistent with local mixing (arrow in Figure 5D). Similarly, in both compartments, single progenitor clones harbored both Dac-positive and Dac-negative ORNs (12 specimens; Figures 5F and 5G) and were also mixed for the expression of En (12 specimens). Thus, we suppose that sensillum progenitors switch their state of En and Dac expression early in sensillum development.

Since many cells alter their state of En and/or Dac expression prior to or during sensillum formation, it was unclear whether subsequent changes in the pattern of En and Dac were due to additional alterations in cellular expression or identity, or attributable instead to stable expression in cells that disperse. We therefore utilized the photo-switchable fluorescent protein Kaede (Ando et al., 2002) to mark cells in vivo (Figures 5A and
Animals expressing Kaede in En-positive cells (en-GAL4 > UAS-Kaede) were exposed to violet light at time points during the first pupal day and examined for the perdurance of red fluorescence at the beginning of the second pupal day. Thus, in these experiments, cells that expressed En prior to violet light exposure are marked by photo-switched Kaede (red). Notably, with switching at 12 hr APF, when En-positive FCs are still arrayed in a spatially stereotyped pattern (Figure 3F), nearly all green Kaede fluorescent cells at 24 hr APF (i.e., after dispersal) displayed red fluorescence (Figure 5B). All red fluorescent cells displayed green fluorescence (Figure 5B; data not shown). In contrast, red fluorescent cells were absent from the anterior compartment when photo-switching was done before the appearance of En-positive FCs. We conclude that cellular En expression is dynamic prior to sensillum formation, but is stable thereafter; later changes in En distribution are therefore attributable to cell dispersal, not to labile En expression. Thus, as observed with clonally marked cells (Figures 1 and 2), En-positive sensilla appear to become motile, disrupting an early spatially stereotyped pattern.

*engrailed* and *dachshund* Expression Are Precisely Correlated with Sensillum Identity and *Or* Gene Expression

Since clonally related sensilla were distributed across the epithelium in a manner similar to patterns of *Or* gene expression, we
asked whether ORNs that express the same Or gene share a close lineage relationship. Neurons belonging to small, labeled clones were examined to determine if they often express the same Or gene (Figure S1A). We also asked whether the axons of ORNs belonging to a small clone targeted the same antennal lobe glomeruli, which would be the case for ORNs expressing the same Or gene (Figures S1B and S1C; see Davis, 2005). Neither approach revealed a close linkage between clonal origin and Or gene expression.

We then considered whether Engrailed and Dachshund are linked to the expression of specific Or genes. Or genes are expressed in stereotyped combinations in defined sensillum types (Figure 6; Dobritsa et al., 2003; Elmore et al., 2003; Hallem et al., 2004; Goldman et al., 2005; Couto et al., 2005; Fishilevich and Vosshall, 2005). The antennal ab4 sensillum contains two neurons that, respectively, express Or56a and Or7a. These ORNs were always En-positive (Figure 6). The two neurons of sensillum ab8 express Or9a and Or43b respectively; these ORNs were also En-positive. The at3 sensillum was shared by two En-positive neurons, expressing Or2a and Or19a, respectively, and one En-negative (Or43a-positive) neuron. In total, four sensillum types contained neurons that were En-positive and Dac-negative. Another seven sensillum types (ab1, ab3, ab7, ab9, ab10, pb1, and pb3) contained En-negative and Dac-positive neurons. Three of these sensilla (ab1, ab3, and ab7) contained both Dac-positive and Dac-negative neurons. Thus, like En, Dac expression was strictly correlated with the expression of specific Or genes (Figure 6). The two ORNs of

Figure 4. Sensillum Identities Defined by En and Dac Expression
(A) Compartments of the larval and adult antenna. Eversion at the end of the first pupal day transforms the flat imaginal disc (left) into a segmented pouch, the precursor to the adult antenna (right top, bottom). The proximal-distal locations of the four antennal segments (Al–AlII, Ar) and their larval primordia are indicated. Anterior and posterior compartments are labeled (posterior, purple shading). Opposing perspectives are shown on the right, top and bottom, for the adult antenna.
(B–D) En-positive sensilla in the early posteversion antenna. En-positive sensilla are visualized at 24 hr APF (en-lacZ, blue color in B–D; grayscale in B’–D’; anti-Ci, green color) in the anterior (B, B’), and posterior compartments (D, D’). Posterior compartment epidermis is uniformly En-positive (C, C’). Red lines indicate the anterior (ant), posterior (pos) borders in (C) and (D).
(E–F) En-positive sensilla in midpupal stage. En-positive sensilla (en-lacZ, blue in E, F; grayscale in E’, F’) were visualized at 48 hr APF in the anterior (ant, E) and posterior (pos, F) compartments. All neurons are stained with anti-Elav (red color) and anti-HRP (green color).
(G–I) Dac expression in En-positive and En-negative olfactory neurons. Mid- (G) and late- (H, I) pupal-stage specimens were labeled for Dac (anti-Dac, red color) and En (en-lacZ, blue color) expression. A subset of olfactory neurons in the anterior (G, H) and posterior (I) compartments expresses both Dac and En (circled in G, G’; region between arrows in H-I). All neurons are labeled by anti-HRP (green color) in (H) and (I).
maxillary palp sensillum pb2 were En-positive and Dac-positive. Or13a, which has not been assigned to a sensillum, was also found only in En-positive and Dac-positive ORNs. The remaining five defined sensillum types expressed neither En nor Dac. Notably, En and Dac expression was not correlated with particular sensillum morphological types (e.g., basiconic, trichoid, or coeloconic).

The axons of ORNs target first-order projection neurons in a spatially stereotyped ensemble of 43 glomeruli in the brain’s antennal lobe neuropil. ORNs that express the same Or gene send their axons to the same glomerulus (reviewed in Davis, 2005). The axonal projection pattern of En-positive ORNs has previously been examined via the use of the en-GAL4 driver and a marker for axonal termini, UAS-nSynaptobrevin::GFP (nSyb::GFP; Blagburn, 2008; Chou et al., 2010). We also examined these axonal projections. Nineteen glomeruli were strongly labeled (Figure S2; Table S1), a pattern which agreed, to a first approximation, with the expectation based on Or gene expression (Couto et al., 2005; Fishilevich and Vosshall, 2005). There were a few notable exceptions. Though the Or43a ORNs were not detectably En-positive (Figure 6), the Or43a-targeted glomerulus, DA4I, was labeled by En-positive axons. We note that the Or43a ORN shares the at3 sensillum with two En-positive ORNs and Or43a expression is engrailed-dependent (below; Figure S3B). Or47a and Or82a formed another anomalous pair, expressed in two ORNs in the ab5 sensillum. Both ORNs appeared En-negative, but their respective target glomeruli were labeled by en-GAL4 driven axonal reporter expression. The expression of these Or genes also displayed en+ dependence (below). We suspect that these ORNs may be transiently En-positive and/or have expressed En at an undetected level.
The axonal projection pattern of Dac-positive ORNs was similarly examined by using dac-GAL4 to label axon termini with nSyb::GFP. This selectively labeled 22 glomeruli, which were as predicted on the basis of Or gene expression in Dac-positive ORNs (Figure S2; Table S1). Three glomeruli were coincidently labeled by en-GAL4 and dac-GAL4, also as predicted by Or gene expression. Two of these glomeruli (VA7I and VC1) were targeted by the En-positive, Dac-positive ORNs of the pb2 sensillum, which express Or46a and Or33c/Or85e, respectively. Another glomerulus, DC2, was targeted by the Or13a-positive ORNs. The identity of the ORNs targeting the En-positive, Dac-positive VA7m glomerulus is unknown.

The expression of most Dac-positive Or genes was selectively reduced (Or13a, Or22a, Or42b, Or46a, Or49a, Or67a, Or67b, Or67c, Or69aA, and Or92a). Or expression was nearly undetectable in three cases (Or13a, Or67b, and Or92a), whereas in two cases the reduction was small but significant (Or46a and Or67c). In one case, Or42a, a small apparent decrease was not statistically significant. Similar results were obtained by eliminating dac+ via temporally controlled RNA interference (RNAi). Here, a UAS-dachpn transgene was expressed in the pattern of dac+ with dac-GAL4 and temporally restricted to ORN development with temperature-sensitive GAL80ts (Figure 7 A, bottom). The variable loss of Or expression observed with these approaches might reflect differing thresholds for the dac+ requirement or variance in residual dac+ activity. In contrast, Or genes expressed in Dac-negative ORNs were not affected by dac loss-of-function (Figures 7 A and 7B; Or33a, Or43b, Or47b [data not shown], Or56a, Or59b, and Or85a). One notable exception was the significant reduction of Or98a-positive neurons (Figure 7 A) and the level of Or98a mRNA (Figure 7 B). Notably, the Dac-negative Or98a neuron shares a sensillum with the Dac-positive Or67c-positive neuron; it might have been transiently Dac-positive, or Or98a expression might depend on the Or67c-positive neighbor. Thus, with minor exceptions, dac+ function was selectively required in Dac-positive ORNs for normal Or gene expression.

Figure 6. Coupling of En and Dac Expression to odorant receptor and Sensillum Identity

Seventeen identified sensillum types in the antenna and maxillary palp are depicted schematically, with odorant receptor expression and morphological class indicated. The micrographs (bottom panels) show neurons labeled for expression of the indicated Or gene (blue color; see Table S1) and En (green color, en-lacZ or anti-En) or Dac (red color, anti-Dac). The schematic labels each neuron in accordance with En and Dac expression: En+, Dac+ (yellow), En+, Dac- (red), and En-, Dac- (black). No color indicates that the Or is unknown.

Figure 7. engrailed and dachshund Are Selectively Required for Or Gene Expression

Given the coincident expression of Dac and En with specific Or genes, we next considered whether dac+ and/or en+ might be required for Or expression. Both en+ and dac+ have essential early patterning roles, so we employed hypomorphic alleles that display normal antenna development and transgenic gain and loss-of-function alleles that permitted temporal and spatial control of wild-type activity.

Animals heterozygous for dac+/dac- develop normally to adulthood with relatively normal antennae (Figure 7 A; data not shown). When examined with Or reporters (Figure 7A) or by RT-PCR (Figure 7B), the expression of most Dac-positive Or genes was selectively reduced (Or13a, Or22a, Or42b, Or46a, Or49a, Or67a, Or67b, Or67c, Or69aA, and Or92a). Or expression was nearly undetectable in three cases (Or13a, Or67b, and Or92a), whereas in two cases the reduction was small but significant (Or46a and Or67c). In one case, Or42a, a small apparent decrease was not statistically significant. Similar results were obtained by eliminating dac+ via temporally controlled RNA interference (RNAi). Here, a UAS-dachpn transgene was expressed in the pattern of dac+ with dac-GAL4 and temporally restricted to ORN development with temperature-sensitive GAL80ts (Figure 7 A, bottom). The variable loss of Or expression observed with these approaches might reflect differing thresholds for the dac+ requirement or variance in residual dac+ activity. In contrast, Or genes expressed in Dac-negative ORNs were not affected by dac loss-of-function (Figures 7 A and 7B; Or33a, Or43b, Or47b [data not shown], Or56a, Or59b, and Or85a). One notable exception was the significant reduction of Or98a-positive neurons (Figure 7 A) and the level of Or98a mRNA (Figure 7 B). Notably, the Dac-negative Or98a neuron shares a sensillum with the Dac-positive Or67c-positive neuron; it might have been transiently Dac-positive, or Or98a expression might depend on the Or67c-positive neighbor. Thus, with minor exceptions, dac+ function was selectively required in Dac-positive ORNs for normal Or gene expression.
We likewise examined the requirement for en+ in Or gene expression, employing the viable engrailed mutants en7 and en2d, in addition to spatially and temporally controlled RNAi (Figure 7B; Figures S3A and S3B). The expression of most Or genes in En-positive ORNs was significantly reduced in en loss-of-function animals (Or2a, Or7a, Or9a, Or19a, Or33c, Or43a, Or43b, and Or56a) with the exception of three cases (Or13a, Or46a, and Or49b). However, there also were significant losses of En-negative Or92a and Or69a neurons. We considered, as a possible explanation, that the en alleles affected posterior compartment patterning prior to sensillum development; notably, Or69a-positive ORNs were exclusively located in the posterior compartment. To circumvent this problem, RNAi was restricted to the anterior compartment, using cubitus interruptus (ci)-GAL4 to drive UAS-en+ppn. These animals were adult-viable and morphologically normal; in contrast, driving UAS-en-ppn in the posterior compartment with en-GAL4 was lethal. As shown in Figure 7C, the frequency of En-positive ORNs (Or2a, Or19a, Or43a, Or46a, and Or56a) was significantly reduced in the anterior compartment, but essentially unchanged in the posterior compartment (Figure 7C, top). Moreover, En-positive Or genes expressed only in the posterior compartment were not affected (Or9a, Or13a, Or43b, and Or49b). To resolve this requirement for en+ function temporally, we placed ci-GAL4 driven UAS-en-ppn under GAL80ts control. The number of Or56a-positive neurons was strongly reduced when GAL80ts was inactivated at the onset of pupation, which eliminated anterior compartment En expression during the first pupal day (Figure 7C, bottom; data not shown). In contrast, later onset of en RNAi resulted in a much smaller, though significant, reduction in Or56a expression. Thus, en+ function is required in the first pupal day, when En-positive FCs were first detected in the anterior compartment (Figure 3).

To ask whether the requirements for en+ and dac+ are cell autonomous, we examined en or dac loss-of-function in mosaic animal. Mosaics were produced via FLP recombinase mediated loss of a GAL80 transgene, which permitted GAL4 transactivation of RNAi-inducing “hairpin” constructs. For targeting en, we used en-GAL4 to drive UAS-en-ppn and dac-GAL4 was used to drive UAS-dac-ppn expression. A UAS-mCherry reporter was included to fluorescently mark cells with active GAL4. (Figure S3C; Supplemental Experimental Procedures). Recombinational loss of GAL80 was induced just prior to sensillum development. We then asked whether En-positive or Dac-positive cells lacking en+ or dac+ function, respectively, had normal Or gene expression. Indeed, ORNs with en loss-of-function were less likely to express the En-positive Or56a or Or2a genes (Figures S3C and S3D; data not shown). Similarly, ORNs with dac loss-of-function were less likely to express the Dac-positive Or22a gene (Figure S3D). Given that only a small proportion of cells were included in RNAi-positive mosaic clones, these data indicate that en+ and dac+ act cell autonomously in Or gene expression.

**engrailed Is an Instructive Determinant of Sensillum Identity**

Given that en+ is selectively required for Or gene expression, we wondered whether it might also act instructively. Hence, we asked whether ectopic en+ expression could induce En-positive ORN identities. The relative simplicity of the maxillary palp, harboring only three sensillum types (pb1, pb2, and pb3), facilitated such an analysis (Tichy et al., 2008; Bai et al., 2009). The pb2 sensillum contains a pair of En-positive and Dac-positive ORNs, whereas pb1 and pb3 are En-negative and Dac-positive (Figure 6). The dac-GAL4 driver could thus be used to drive UAS-en+ in all maxillary palp ORNs to ask whether Or genes normally expressed in pb2 would be induced in place of Or genes specific to the other two sensillum types. In these animals the average number of pb2-specific Or46a-positive ORNs increased by 2.5 fold (Figure 7D), whereas the number of pb1-specific Or42a-positive ORNs decreased by 7-fold. This suggested that the pb1 sensillum might be transformed to the pb2 identity. However, pb2 also harbors an ORN expressing Or33c. The number of Or33c-positive ORNs was unchanged in the presence of ectopic en+ (Figure 7D). Rather, the induced Or46a ORNs appeared as adjacent pairs (Figure S3E). Thus, we suppose that ectopic en+, under the conditions of this experiment, produced only a partial transformation to pb2 identity.

Interestingly, Pdm3 is expressed in the four En-negative pb1 and pb3 ORNs and not in pb2. Yet, despite this widespread expression, only Or42a expression is absent in pdm3 mutant animals (Tichy et al., 2008), as was observed for ectopic en+ expression above. We therefore asked whether pdm3 expression is affected by ectopic en+ expression. Indeed, pdm3 expression was nearly eliminated by ectopic en+ expression (Figure S3F). En thus appears to act upstream of Pdm3 in the control of ORN identity.

**DISCUSSION**

In most olfactory systems studied to date, ORNs express one or two Or genes selected from a large genomic pool. Neurons that express the same Or gene are dispersed across sensory epithelia, intermixed with neurons that express different Or genes. These dispersed patterns are roughly similar across individuals, with the expression of each Or gene restricted to a characteristic zone of epithelia. The mechanism(s) underlying the formation of these patterns is unclear. An oft-considered possibility is that stochastic processes select Or genes from regionally restricted palettes (reviewed in Fuss and Ray, 2009). Our data indicate that some Or identities in Drosophila are established in early spatially stereotyped patterns that are later disrupted by sensillum motility, scattering sensilla across characteristic domains. Thus, patterning by spatial positional determinants may be sufficient to explain the Drosophila odorant receptor pattern.

These conclusions are based, in part, on somatic mosaic analysis. Clonally labeled sensilla containing from one to four neurons and associated support cells were found many cell diameters away from their nearest labeled siblings in mature epithelia, intermixed with unlabeled sensilla (Figures 1 and 2). Labeled epidermis, in contrast, remained relatively contiguous (Figure 1G). The dispersal and intermixing of labeled and unlabeled sensilla began several hours after the onset of sensillum development (Figure 1) and appeared complete by late pupation. We could suppress sensillum dispersal by increasing intersensillum adhesion via the ectopic expression of a homotypic cell adhesion protein (Figures 2C and 2D). This suggests that clonally related sensilla arise in close proximity.
Figure 7. En and Dac Are Determinants of Or Choice

(A) Or gene expression requires dac\textsuperscript{+} function in Dac-positive ORNs. Late pupal stage antennae from dac\textsuperscript{1}/dac\textsuperscript{9} heterozygotes and dac-GAL4, UAS-dac\textsuperscript{pro}, tub\textsubscript{α1}-GAL80\textsuperscript{ts} animals were examined for expression of the indicated Or gene reporters (anti-GFP staining; grayscale, top micrograph panels). For RNAi induction, GAL80\textsuperscript{ts} was inactivated by a temperature upshift (18°C to 30°C) at the onset of pupation. Cumulative data for the indicated Or reporter genes are displayed in the bottom panel, as the average number of Or-positive ORNs per antenna or maxillary palp (n = 10–20) in the indicated dac loss-of-function background or wild-type.

(B) Expression of Or genes was examined by semiquantitative RT-PCR on substrate mRNA isolated from antennae or maxillary palps of wild-type (control), dac\textsuperscript{1}/dac\textsuperscript{9} (dac-), or en\textsuperscript{1} (en-) animals. The expression of Tubulin\textsubscript{α1} mRNA was included as a control.

(C) Requirement of en\textsuperscript{+} activity for Or gene expression in the anterior compartment. The ci-GAL4 driver was used to selectively target UAS-\textsuperscript{en\textsuperscript{pro}} expression to the anterior compartment in animals bearing the indicated Or reporter constructs. Top panels: Late pupal stage antenna specimens examined on opposite faces for Or reporter expression (green color) in the anterior (a) and posterior (p) compartments. En-positive Or gene expression is selectively lost from the anterior compartment in animals bearing ci-GAL4 > UAS-\textsuperscript{en\textsuperscript{pro}} (white arrows, bottom row). Or49b, expressed only in the posterior compartment, is unaffected. All neurons are stained with anti-Elav (red). En-positive ORNs (for Or49b wild-type, wt) are marked by en-lacZ (blue color).

Bottom: Average number of Or-positive ORNs in wild-type and ci-GAL4 > UAS-\textsuperscript{en\textsuperscript{pro}} animals for Or genes expressed in both compartments (ant/pos) or only in the posterior (pos) compartment. To temporally map the requirement for en\textsuperscript{+}, ci-GAL4 > UAS-\textsuperscript{en\textsuperscript{pro}}; tub\textsubscript{α1}-GAL80\textsuperscript{ts} animals were shifted to nonpermissive temperature at the onset of pupation (130 hr AEL; red bar) or 12 hr later (12 hr APF; blue bar) to inactivate GAL80\textsuperscript{ts} and induce engrailed RNAi. The number of Or56a-positive ORNs was most strongly reduced by early en RNAi.
Endo et al. (2007) have observed coincident clonal labeling of ORNs within a single sensillum, consistent with their derivation from a single progenitor. However, other work suggests that sensillum assembly occurs via recruitment initiated by an FC (Ray and Rodrigues, 1995; Reddy et al., 1997). A resolution to these conflicting proposals might be that clonally marked precursors are locally recruited into a nascent sensillum, which migrates into an unmarked field. The labeled sensillum could appear to be the product of a single progenitor, though this is not the case.

Our data do not distinguish between active or passive dispersal mechanisms. Passive dispersal might occur in an environment of strong intrasensillum adhesion, where weak intersensillum adhesion would permit sensillum movement to be powered by tissue-level mechanical forces. However, the large distances over which sensilla move in relation to the epidermis and to other examples of cell movement (Figure 2A) might be more easily explained by an active mechanism. Neuronal migration is well documented in insects (Cohenhauser and Taghert, 1989; Ganfornina et al., 1996; Klämbt et al., 1991). In Drosophila, stereotyped movement has long been known for glia and neurons (Salzberg et al., 1994; reviewed by Edenfeld et al., 2005). These migrations occur for isolated neurons and small neuronal clusters in patterns regulated by positional cues, such as Wingless, Ephrin, and Slit (Bhat 2007; Coate et al., 2007; Kraut and Zinn, 2004). Recently, complex patterns of mass neuronal movement have been documented in the developing Drosophila optic lobe (Hasegawa et al., 2011; Morante et al., 2011). This latter example of neuronal movement, which follows the determination of neuronal identities, most closely resembles the movement of sensilla in the olfactory epithelium. In preliminary work we have found that sensilla follow stereotyped migratory trajectories under the control of secreted molecular signals (E.S., B.d.B., and S.K., unpublished data). Thus, a highly choreographed dispersal mechanism may underlie the development of the Drosophila odorant receptor pattern.

The antenna is composed of anterior and posterior compartments whose border was delineated by mosaic analysis (Morata and Lawrence, 1979). We asked whether the motile sensilla respect this border, examining their clonal origin relative to expression of the posterior identity determinant Engrailed (Garcia-Bellido and Santamaria, 1972; Morata and Lawrence, 1975; Kornberg, 1981). Though we found En-positive sensilla in the anterior compartment, and En-negative sensilla in the posterior compartment (Figure 4), mosaic analysis revealed these sensilla to have originated within their resident compartments (Figure 5). Evidently, there was a compartmental switch in expression of Engrailed during sensillum development.

Sensilla arise in a temporal process that begins with the appearance of FCs in concentrically arranged domains orthogonal to the proximal-distal axis of the mature antenna (Figure 3; Ray and Rodrigues, 1995; Reddy et al., 1997). Engrailed was expressed in the FCs of the inner domain. A subset of these FCs expressed the transcription factor Dachshund (Figure 3). This stereotyped spatial pattern was disrupted as sensilla dispersed across the epithelium (Figures 3H and 4). Though we did not observe this movement in real time, the early and late En-positive sensilla could be connected through the perdurance of a photo-switched fluorescent protein (Figure 5) and the early en+ requirement for Or gene expression in En-positive sensilla (Figure 7C).

The pattern of En and Dac expression in mature ORNs was strictly correlated with the expression of specific Or genes (Figure 6). Notably, En or Dac expression was not coincident with specific sensillum morphological types or patterns of ORN axonal connectivity (Figure S2). Generally, the ORNs of a sensillum shared their state of En and Dac expression. This overall homogeneity suggests that En and Dac are determinants of sensillum identity, and that downstream processes specify ORN identity and Or gene choice (see Endo et al., 2007). If En and Dac participate in a combinatorial code for sensillum identity, three additional regulators would be required to define the 17 characterized sensillum types.

Consistent with such a role, en and dac loss-of-function resulted in selective loss of Or gene expression in En-positive and Dac-positive neurons, respectively (Figure 7; Figure S3). Our analysis could not clearly discern whether this loss of expression was associated with transformation to alternative sensillum identities, though in a few cases, the expression of En-negative or Dac-negative Or genes was increased (e.g., Or59e and Or67b; Figures 7B and S3B). We also asked whether en+ could play an instructive role in sensillum identity. When expressed early, ectopic en+ brought about a partial transformation of the pb1 sensillum identity to pb2. Interestingly, another Or regulator, Pdm3, yields a similar loss-of-function phenotype (Tichy et al., 2008). Indeed, we found that ectopic en+ strongly reduced Pdm3 expression (Figure S3F), consistent with the proposal that en+ acts upstream of Pdm3.

These observations are consistent with the notion that Drosophila Or gene expression is regulated by a combinatorial transcription factor code (Ray et al., 2007; Clyne et al., 1999; Tichy et al., 2008; reviewed by Fuss and Ray, 2009). The Pit1, Oct1/Oct2, and Unc-86 (POU) domain proteins Acj6 and Pdm3 are expressed in a large fraction of ORNs and selectively required for Or gene expression. acj6 is required for nine of the fifteen Or genes expressed in Acj6-positive ORNs; pdm3 is required for one of the four Or genes expressed in Pdm3-positive maxillary palp ORNs. By comparison, our data suggest that En and Dac are more uniformly required in En-positive and Dac-positive ORNs. Whereas Acj6 and Pdm3 promoter binding sites are essential for Or promoter activity (Tichy et al., 2008; Bai et al., 2009), whether En or Dac might act as directly is unclear. Clustering of consensuous Engrailed binding sites

(D) Instructive role of en+ in Or choice. Ectopic en+ was expressed with dac-GAL4 > UAS-en+ under temporal control by tubα1-GAL80Δ. Animals were shifted to 30°C to inactivate GAL80Δ at 6 hr APF.

Top: Confocal micrographs at similar focal planes of maxillary palps, in specimens as described above. Or reporter genes are as indicated (anti-GFP; green color). All neurons are labeled by anti-Elav (red color). Bottom: Average number of Or-positive ORNs per maxillary palp. Color code (filled circles, green, red, or yellow) in all panels, indicates pattern of En and Dac expression, as defined in Figure 6. In all panels, error bars represent SEM. For statistical significance: *p < 0.05; **p < 0.01; ***p < 0.001.
upstream of en^{+}-dependent Or genes has not been observed (data not shown). Dac binding sites are as yet undefined. Alternatively, En and/or Dac might act as upstream determinants, as suggested by the role of en^{+} as a regulator of pdm3 (Figure S3F).

It is generally thought that stochastic mechanisms underlie the dispersed patterns of Or gene expression. One such mechanism has been described in which the H locus, a distal enhancer domain, acts on a restricted set of odorant receptor genes (Lomvardas et al., 2006; Serizawa et al., 2003). However, it is also evident that many Or genes are controlled by unique sets of transcriptional regulators acting on complex cis-promoter regions. This has raised the question of whether the individual sensory neuron selects a regulatory program that is distinct from its neighbors. Our data suggest that, for Drosophila, this question might be resolved within the established framework of positional determinants employed in developmental patterning. We suppose that stochastic mechanisms might still act locally in the spatially stereotyped development of nascent sensilla but do not find such mechanisms necessary to explain the dispersed patterns of Drosophila Or gene expression.

**EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES**

**Lineage and Mosaic Analysis**

FLP intramolecular recombination-activated lacZ and GAL4 drivers (Pignoni and Zipursky, 1997; Struhl and Basler, 1993) were used to generate lacZ- or GFP-labeled clones, respectively, in animals of the genotypes:

\[
P\{hsp70-FLP\}122; P\{tub\_\_ > y^*, CD2 > GAL4\}/P\{w^*, UAS-CD8::GFP\}
\]

\[
P\{hsp70-FLP\}122; P\{Act\_\_ > CD2 > GAL4\}/P\{w^*, UAS-CD8::GFP\}
\]

\[
P\{hsp70-FLP\}122; P\{Act\_\_ > y^* > lacZ\}
\]

The symbol > indicates an FRT recombination site. MARCM lineage analysis was carried out as described by Lee and Luo (1999). Animals were of the genotypes:

\[
w^*, P\{GawB\_\_alav\}{\text{policy}}; P\{hsp70-FLP\}1/y^*, w^{1118}; P\{hsp70-FLP\}1; P\{FRT\_\_w[h\_]\}|42B, P\{tub\_\_ > GAL80\}/P\{FRT\_\_w[h\_]\}|42B, P\{w^*, UAS-CD8::GFP\}
\]

\[
P\{hsp70-FLP\}1/y^*, w^{1118}; y^*, P\{FRT\_\_w[h\_]\}|42B, P\{tub\_\_ > GAL80\}/P\{FRT\_\_w[h\_]\}|42B, P\{w^*, UAS-CD8::GFP\}; P\{tub\_\_ > GAL4\}+
\]

Animals of the above genotypes were grown to developmental stages indicated and subjected to heat-shocks calibrated to yield infrequent recombination events so that most specimens contained one or no clone (see Suppemental Experimental Procedures). The animals were then returned to normal growth conditions until antennae were removed for analysis at the indicated times.

**Mutant Analysis**

Animals carrying dachshund alleles, dac\(^{\text{1}}\) and dac\(^{\text{2}}\), or the engrailed alleles, en\(^{\text{29}}\) and en\(^{\text{98}}\), were crossed to individual Or gene reporter lines (Table S1) to construct the following strains:

\[
dac^{\text{2}}/dac^{\text{1}}; P\{Or-GFP\}
\]

\[
dac^{\text{1}}, P\{Or-GFP\} / dac^{\text{1}}
\]

\[
en^{\text{29}}/en^{\text{1}}; P\{Or-GFP\}
\]

\[
en^{\text{98}}, P\{Or-GFP\} / en^{\text{1}}
\]

\[
y.w, P\{w^*, UAS-CD8::GFP\}; dac^{\text{2}}/dac^{\text{1}}; P\{Or-GAL4\}
\]

\[
y.w, P\{w^*, UAS-CD8::GFP\}; dac^{\text{1}}/dac^{\text{1}}; P\{Or-GAL4\}
\]

\[
y.w, P\{w^*, UAS-CD8::GFP\}; en^{\text{29}}/en^{\text{1}}; P\{Or-GAL4\}
\]

\[
en^{\text{98}}/en^{\text{1}} (\text{for RT-PCR})
\]

Antennae were removed from late-pupal/adult-stage animals and processed for immunohistochemistry or RT-PCR.

**Transgene Expression**

To target RNAi specifically to anterior compartments, P\{w^*, UAS-er\(^{\text{1198}}\}\) was driven by P\{w^*, ci-GAL4\} in the presence of various Or gene expression reporters (Table S1): P\{w^*, ci-GAL4\}; P\{w^*, UAS-er\(^{\text{1198}}\}\}/P\{Or-GFP\}. Ectopic expression of P\{w^*, UAS-en\(^{\text{1118}}\}\) or P\{w^*, UAS-dac\(^{\text{1118}}\}\) driven by P\{en2.4-GAL4\}\(^{\text{1118}}\) or P\{GawB\_\_dac\} was also temporally controlled with P\{w^*, tub\_\_ > GAL80\} in order to avoid early developmental lethality. Animals were grown at 17°C (permissive temperature for GAL80\(^{\text{1118}}\)) until the late third larval instar, when growth temperature was shifted to nonpermissive 30°C:

\[
w^*, P\{w^*, tub\_\_ > GAL80\}; P\{GawB\_\_dac\}/P\{w^*, UAS-dac\(^{\text{1118}}\}\}; P\{Or-GFP\}
\]

\[
w^*, P\{w^*, tub\_\_ > GAL80\}; P\{en2.4-GAL4\}\(^{\text{1118}}\)/P\{w^*, UAS-en\(^{\text{1118}}\}\}; P\{Or-GFP\}
\]

**Microscopy and Data Analysis**

Image data was acquired on a Zeiss LSM510 Meta confocal microscope and processed with ImageJ. Error estimates in all figure panels are SEM for *, p < 0.05; for **, p < 0.01; for ***, p < 0.001.

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

Supplemental Information includes three figures, one table, Supplemental Experimental Procedures, and two movies and can be found with this article online at doi:10.1016/j.devcel.2011.12.015.

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