Neural stem cells

- Neurons in CNS
- Macroglial cells
 - Astrocytes
 - Oligodentrocytes

Neural Stem Cells

- Self-renewing (may be limited)
- Multipotent or unipotent
- Neuroepithelial cells can be considered as neural stem cells

Radial glial cells



Lineage trees of neurogenesis



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Neuroepithelium

- Formed of single layer of cells that appear stratified (pseudostratified) because of the nuclear positioning
- Nuclear positioning is due to interkinetic nuclear migration

Neural epithelium



Polarize features of neuroepithelial and Radial glial cells



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Interkinetic nuclear migration





Retinal pigment epithelium

Interkinetic nuclear migration



Polarize features of neuroepithelial and Radial glial cells



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Polar nature of neuralepithelial cells



Current Biology

Localization of e-cadherin in neuroectoderm

Neuroepithelium/Radial Glial Cells

Table 1 Compariso	n of the properties of neuroepithelia	l and radial glial cells
Property	Neuroepithelial cells	Radial glial cells
Interkinetic nuclear migration	Apical-basal	Apical-basal to the boundary of the ventricular or subventricular zone
Apical surface	Present	Present
Apical-basal polarity	Present	Present, but downregulated
Tight junctions	Present (early stages)	Absent
Adherens junctions	Present	Present
Basal lamina contact	Present	Present
Nestin expression	Present	Present
Astroglial markers	Absent	Present
Tis21 expression*	Confined to the neurogenic subpopulation	Present in the neurogenic subpopulation
Neurogenesis	First phase	Subsequent phases

*The antiproliferative gene Tis21 is a molecular marker that is selectively expressed in virtually all neuroepithelial cells that are about to undergo a neurogenic division, but not in proliferating neuroepithelial cells⁷⁴.

Nestin – intermediate filament – specific to neurons

Radial glial cells in various regions rodent CNS



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Astrocyte-specific glutamate transporter (GLAST)

Brain-lipidbinding protein (BLBP)

Vimentin – neuron specific intermediate filament



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Basal progenitors



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Basal progenitors



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Cleavage plane orientation and cell polarity



Interkinetic nuclear migration



Neurogenesis

- The role of interkinetic migration is not well understood
- The plane of division and the duration of cell division during early stages of neurogenesis is controversial and not well understood
- A systematic analysis of gene regulation and gene products during early neurogenesis could resolve some of the issues



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iPS

- Takahashi, K. & Yamanaka –Induction of pluripotent stem cells from mouse embryonic and adult fibroblast cultures by defined factors. Cell 126, 663–676 (2006)
- Marius Wernig et al. *In vitro reprogramming of fibroblasts into a pluripotent ES-cell-like state Nature* **448**, 318-324 (19 July 2007)

• Genes needed for complete reprogramming - Oct4, Sox2, Klf4 and c-Myc

Drug inducible iPS



Background of MEFs used for primary infections:

Nanog-neo MEFs: ROSA26-rtTA/pgk-puro Collagen1A1-tetO-Oct4 Nanog-neo Nanog-GFP MEFs: ROSA26-rtTA/pgk-puro Nanog-GFP iresPuro



Transformation of differentiated cells to other cell fates

- Basic helix–loop–helix (bHLH) transcription factor MyoD (also called Myod1) can induce musclespecific properties in fibroblasts but not hepatocytes
- Ectopic expression of interleukin (IL)-2 and granulocyte—macrophage colony-stimulating factor receptors can lead to myeloid conversion in committed lymphoid progenitor cells
- FGF induction of neural cells

Direct conversion of fibroblasts to functional neurons by defined factors -Marius Wernig Lab

- Used TauEGFP knock-in mice
- Prepared MEF cell-lines without neuronal cell contamination (used immunofluorescence, PCR, FACS to verify)
- Rare *Tuj1* positive cells which were *TauEGFP* negative
- Used a lentiviral vector to introduce 19 TF

Lentiviral life cycle



Neuronal specific TF tested

doi: 10.1038/nature08797

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Supplemental Table 1: Transcription factors screened for neuron-inducing activity in MEFs

Gene Name	Gene Bank	
Ascl1	NM_008553	
Brn2	NM_008899	
Brn4	NM_008901	
c-myc	NM_010849	
DIx1	NM_010053	
Hes5	NM_010419	
ld1	NM_010495	
ld4	NM_031166	
Klf4	NM_010637	
Lhx2	NM_010710	
Mef2c	NM_025282	
Myt1I	NM_001093775	
NeuroD1	NM_010894	
Nhlh1	NM_010916	
Nr2f1	NM_010151	
Olig2	NM_016967	
Pax6	NM_013627	
Sox2	NM_011443	
Zic 1	NM_009573	

A screen for neuronal-fate-inducing factors and characterization of MEF-derived iN cells.



T Vierbuchen et al. Nature 000, 1-7 (2010) doi:10.1038/nature08797

• vGLUT1-positiveindicating the presence of excitatory, glutamatergic neurons

•GABA positive, the major inhibitory neurotransmitter in brain

nature



Supplementary Figure 2: Screen for enhancers of AscI1-induced conversion

a, The effect of 18 transcription factors in combination with Ascl1 on neuronal induction 13 days post infection. Shown are the average numbers of Tuj1-positive cells with a process three times longer than the cell body derived from two randomly selected, low magnification visual fields. b, Representative Tuj1positive cells 13 days after infection with Ascl1 alone or in combination with the indicated genes. Note the increased complexity of the neurites in the Ascl1+Myt1l condition.

A screen for neuronal-fate-inducing factors and characterization of MEF-derived iN cells.



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nature



Efficient induction of neurons from perinatal tail-tip fibroblasts.

• vGLUT1-positiveindicating the presence of excitatory, glutamatergic neurons

•GABA positive, the major inhibitory neurotransmitter in brain

5F pool - Brn2, Myt1l, Zic1, Olig2 and Ascl1

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The 5F-pool-induced conversion is rapid and efficient.



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MEF-derived iN cells show functional synaptic properties.



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Supplementary Figure 6: Additional neuronal induction efficiency estimates

a, Effect of removing single genes from the 5F pool. The average number of Tuj1-positive neuronal cells visible in a 20x field is normalized to the 5F condition (n=30 visual fields). b, Reproducibility of BAM-iN cell generation. Each bar represents an independent experiment. %iN cells is calculated from the number of plated cells (see methods). The low efficiency in BAM-3 is likely due to suboptimal lentiviral titer, however, the iN cells that are present in this condition still exhibit mature neuronal morphologies. Error bars = S.D.

Defining a minimal pool for efficient induction of functional iN cells.



BAM pool –Ascl1, Brn2 and Myt1

BAZ pool - Ascl1, Brn2 and Zic1

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