

 INSTITUTE OF BIOCHEMISTRY AND BIOPHYSICS
POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Biosynthesis of rRNA and tRNA

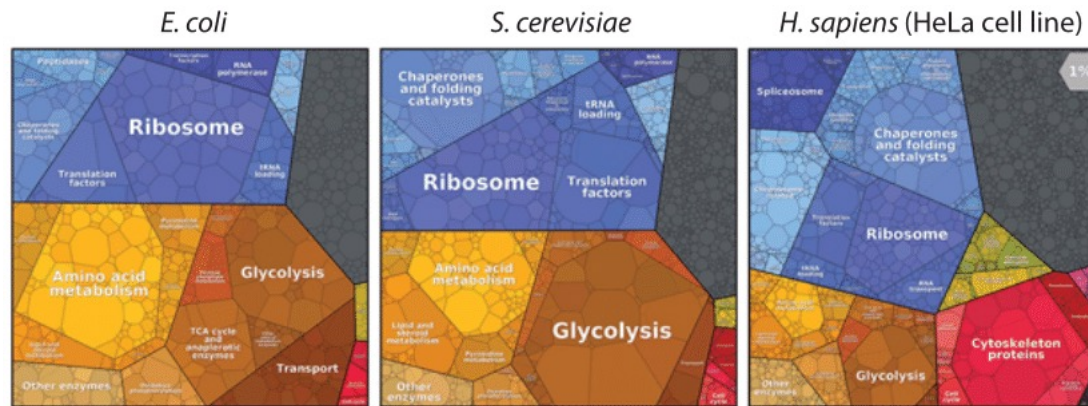
Tomasz W. Turowski

UW

22.04.2024

RNA/protein composition:

Proteins:



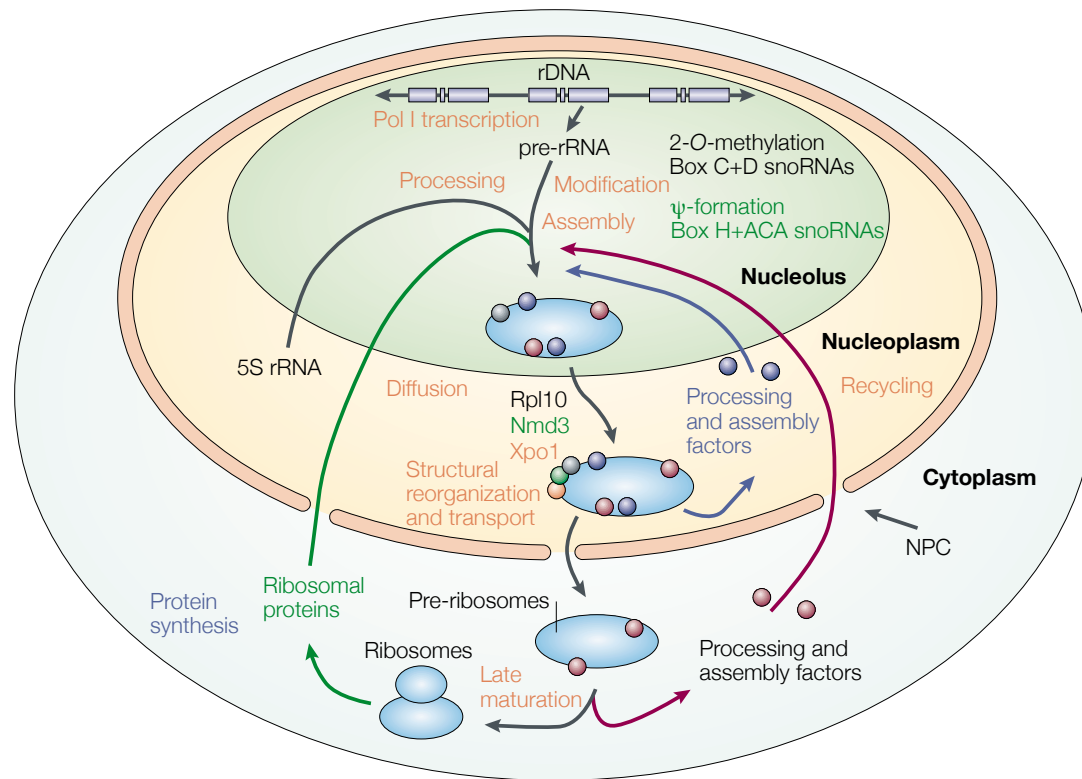
RNA:

- rRNA 80%
- tRNA 15%
- mRNA 2-5%

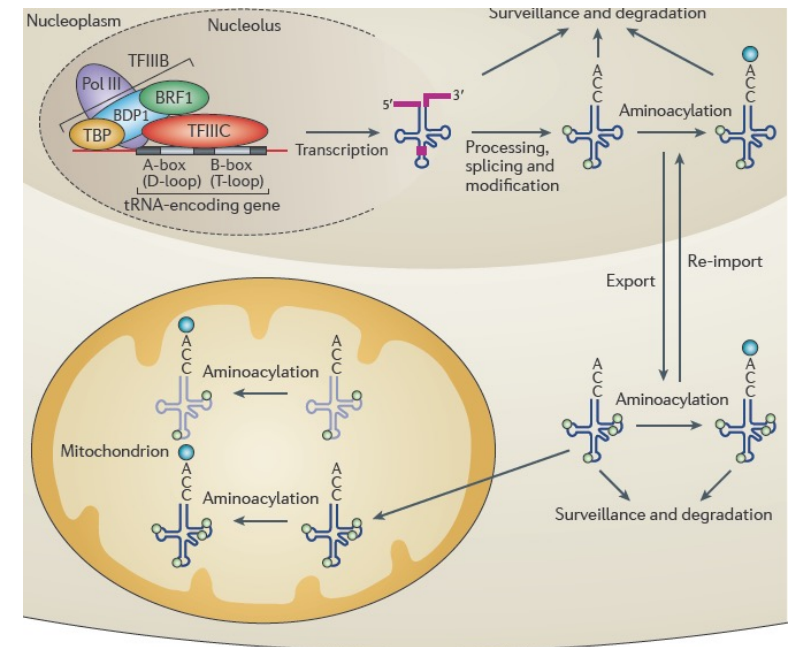
RNA synthesis: The road from the nucleus to the cytoplasm

rRNA

The pathway is best characterized in the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*

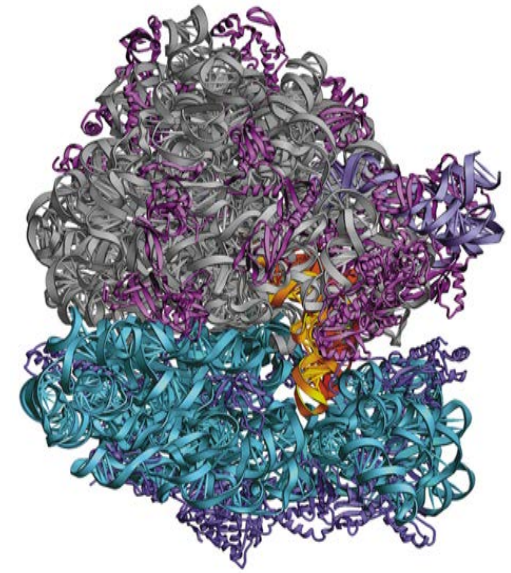


tRNA



Kirchner and Ignatova, *NatRevGenet*, 2015

Ribosome biosynthesis



Ribosome synthesis rates

	Ribosomes	Division time	Ribosome/min
HeLa	3,300,000	24h = 1,440 min	2,300
S.cerevisiae	200,000	100 min	2,000

- In yeast ~70% of Pol II transcription is devoted to making ribosomal protein mRNAs and 80% of all RNA in the cell is ribosomal RNA

The Ribosome

The ribosome is composed of ribosomal RNA (rRNA) and ribosomal proteins.

- ~ 200 non-ribosomal proteins
- ~ 100 snoRNAs
- ~ 80 ribosomal proteins

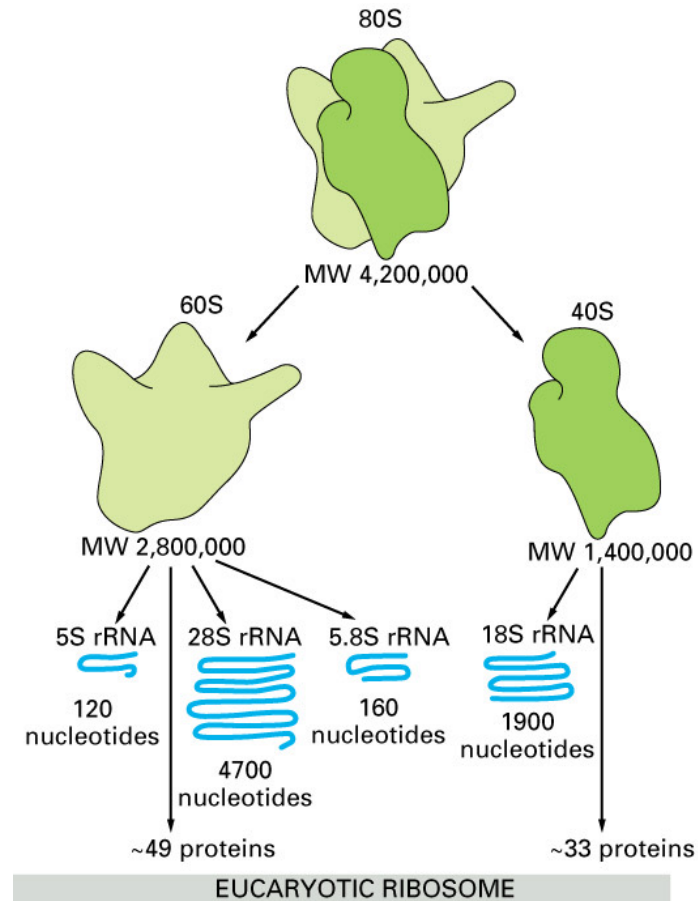
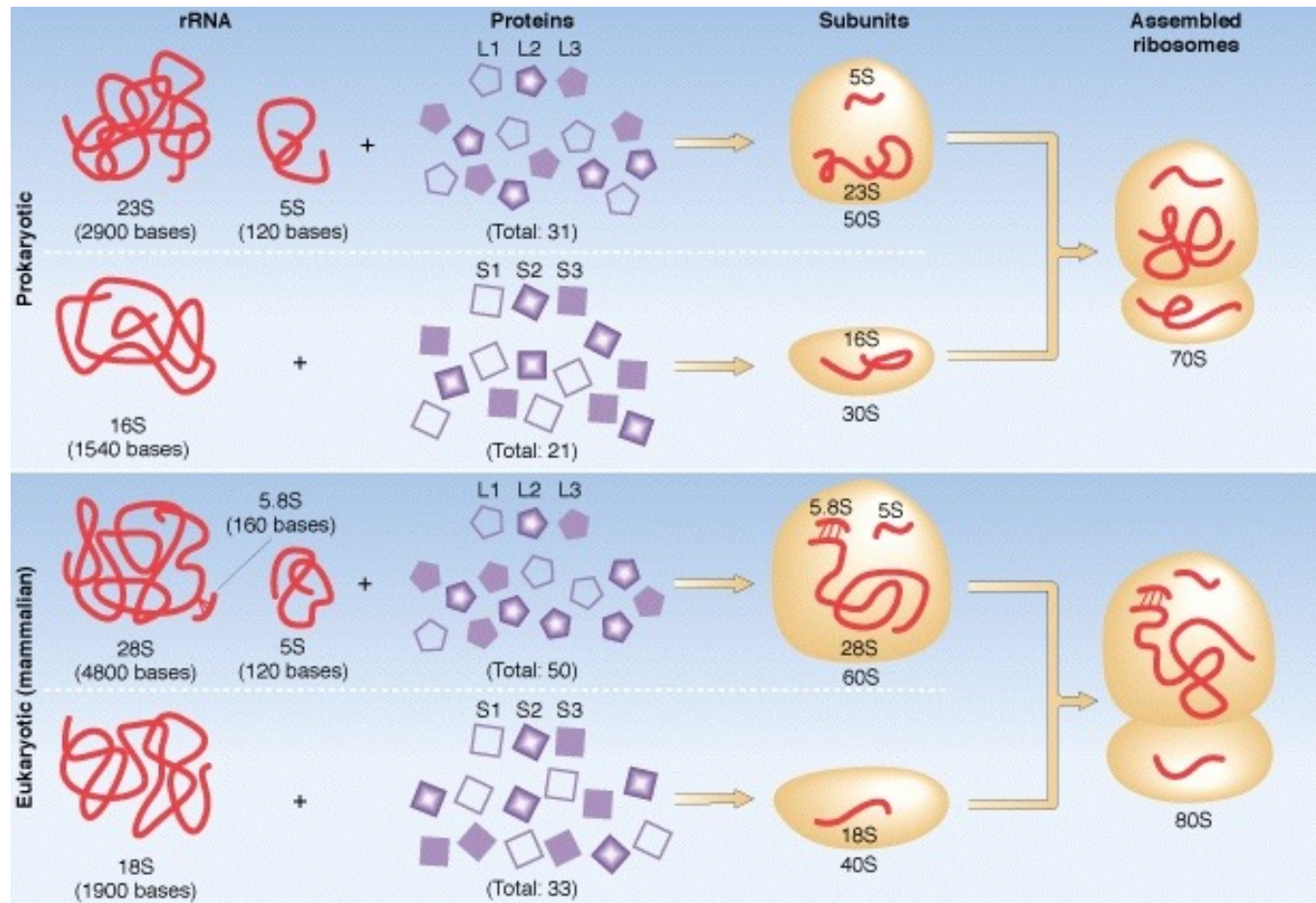


Figure 6-63 part 2 of 2. Molecular Biology of the Cell, 4th Edition.

Prokaryotic vs Eukaryotic Ribosome

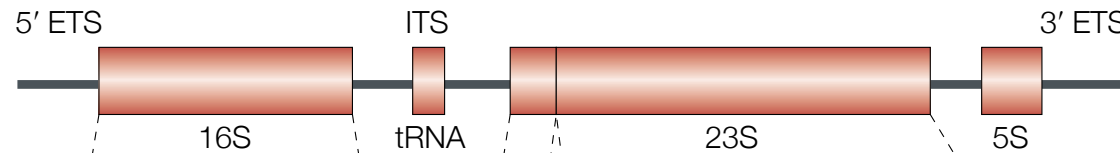
Prokaryotic vs Eukaryotic Ribosome



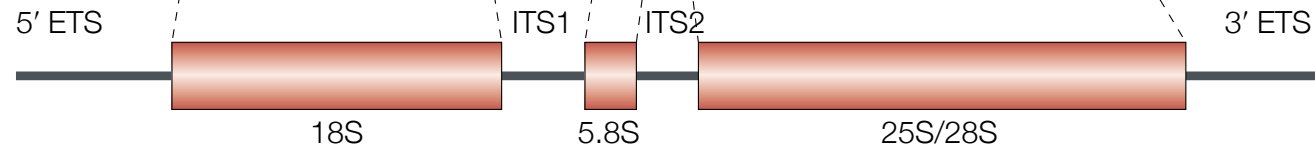
Ribosomal RNA Processing

- rRNA genes of both eukaryotes and bacteria are transcribed as larger precursors and must be processed to yield rRNAs of mature size
- Several different rRNA molecules are embedded in a long precursor and each must be cut out

Bacteria

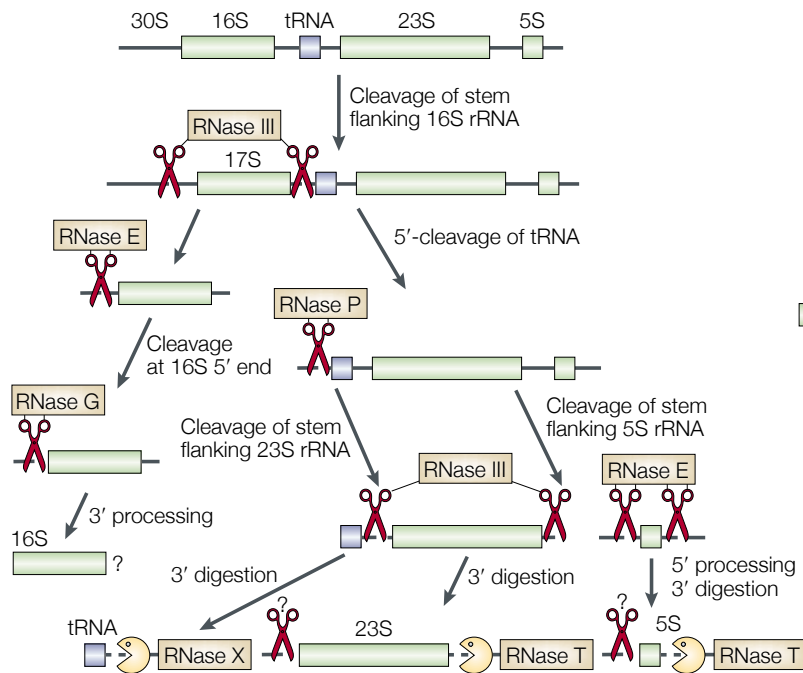


Eukaryotes

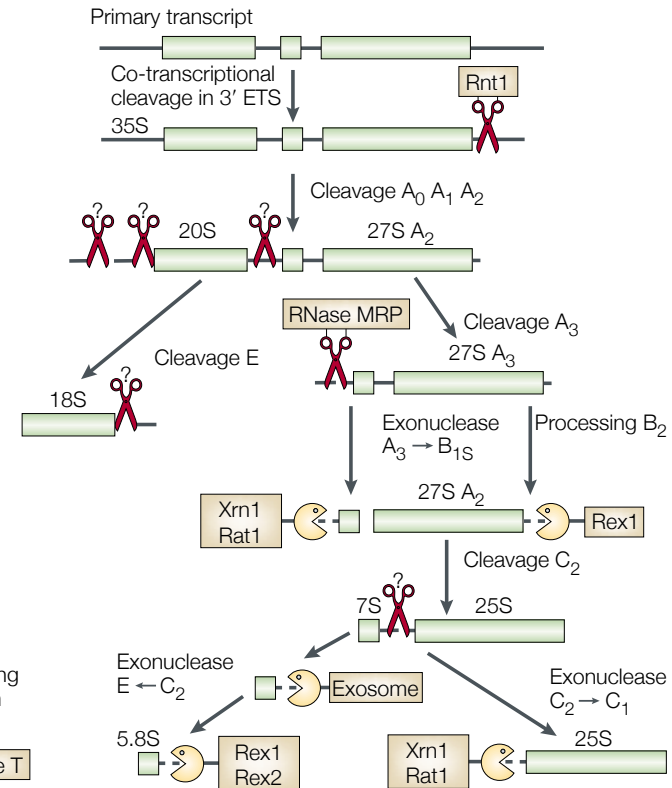


Ribosomal RNA Processing

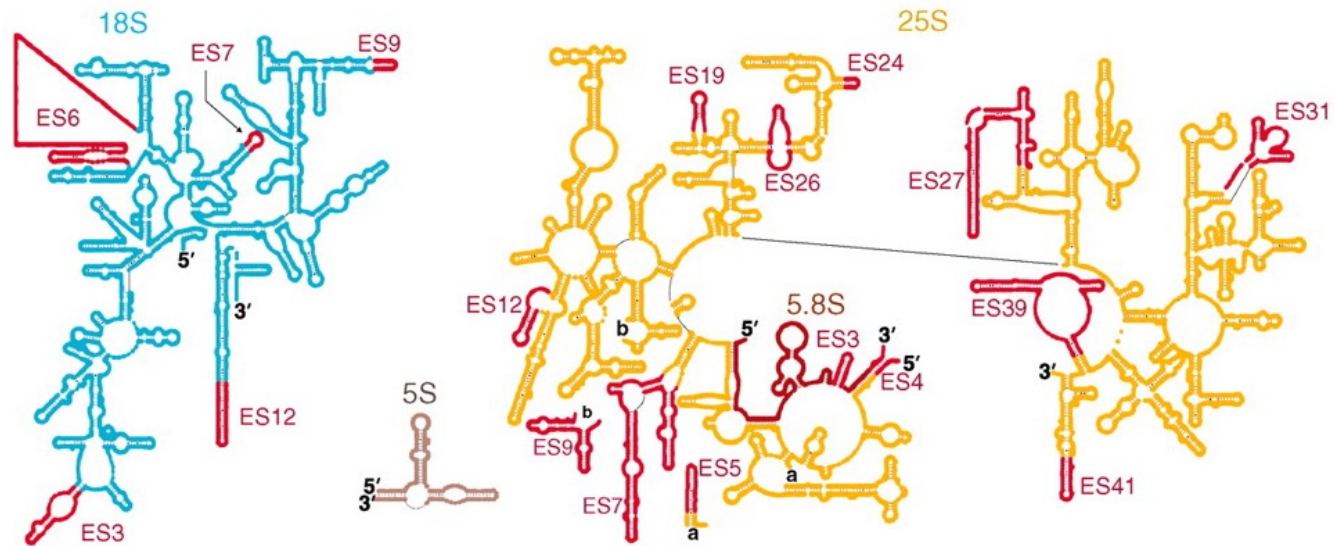
a *Escherichia coli* pre-rRNA processing



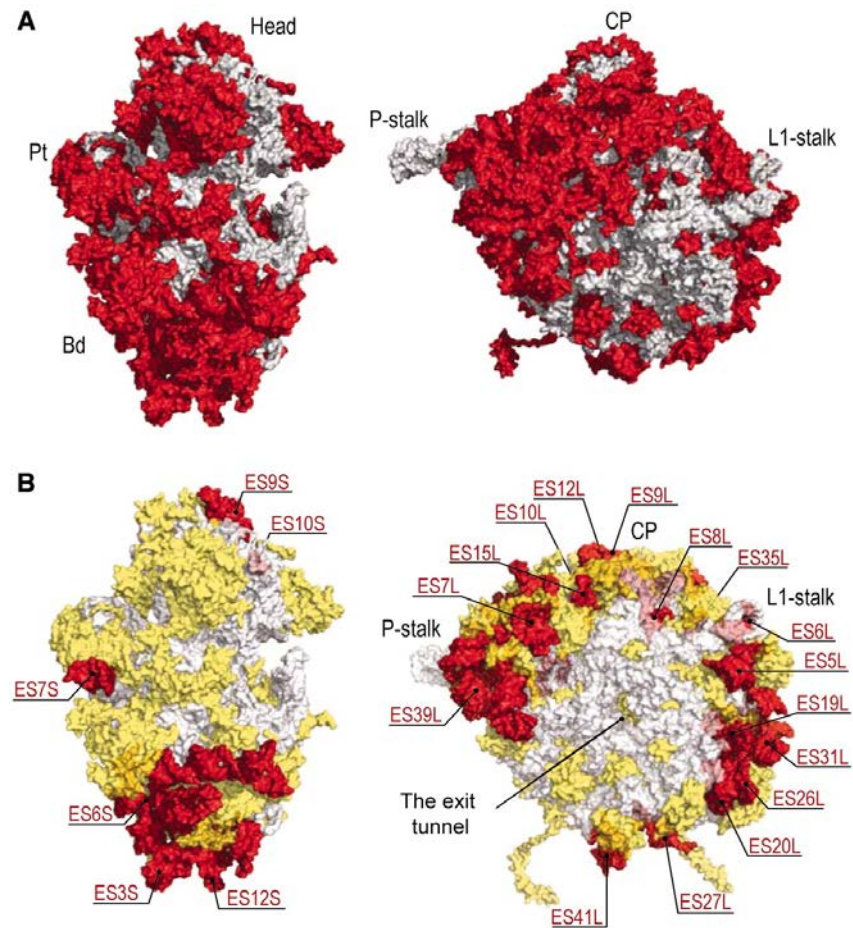
b *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* pre-rRNA processing



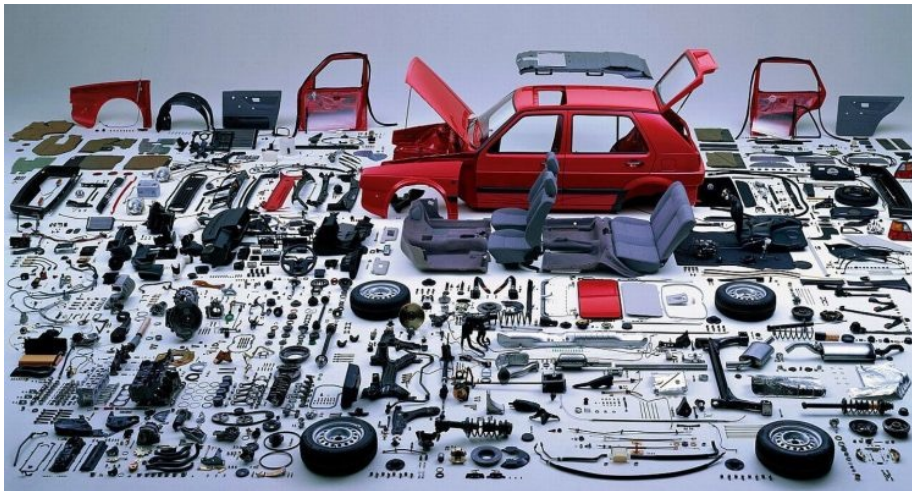
Eukaryotic rRNAs contain expansion segments (ES)



Ribosomal RNA expansion segments and variable regions



Ribosome biosynthesis:



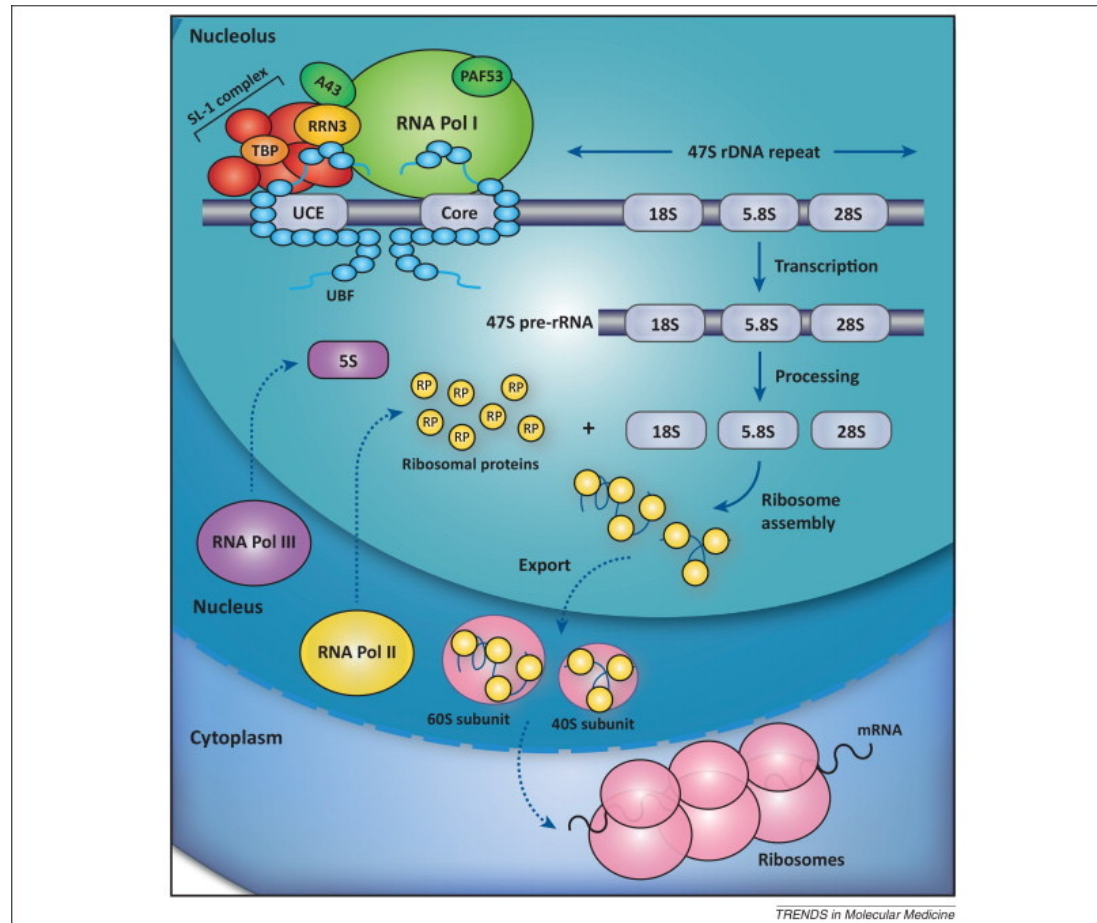
?



Ordering
Positioning
Quality Control (QC)

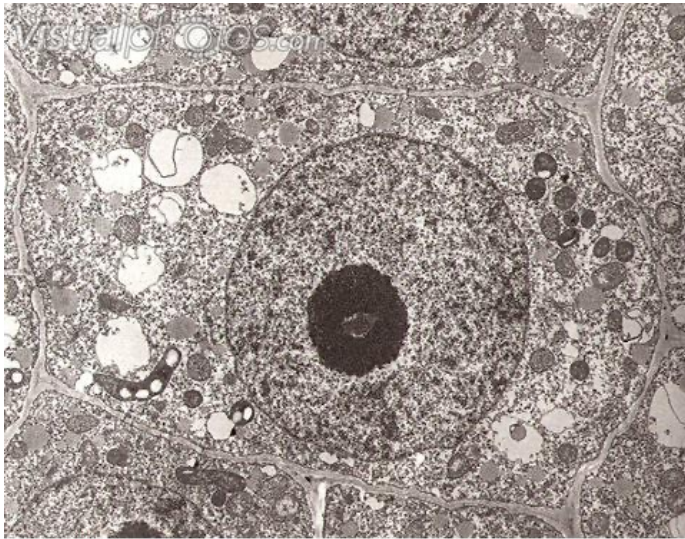
Ribosome assembly: the Nucleolus

RNAPI transcription



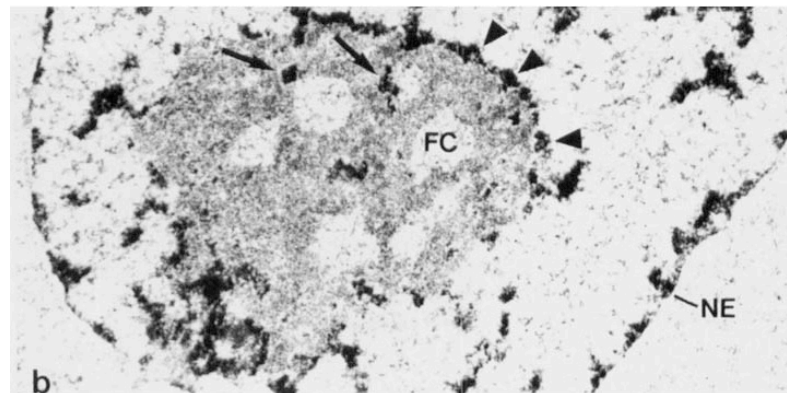
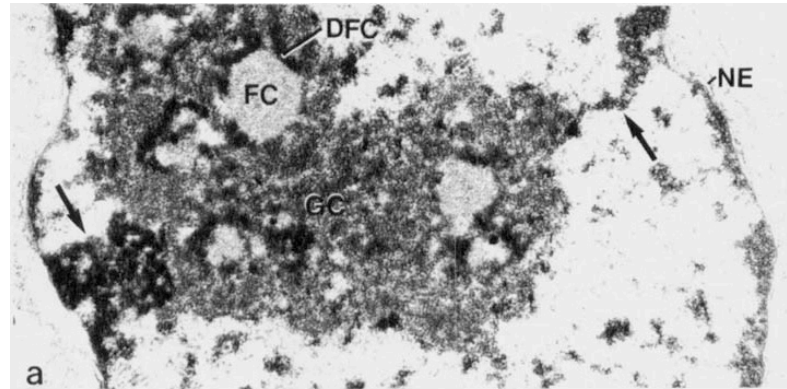
Ribosome assembly: the Nucleolus

The nucleolus



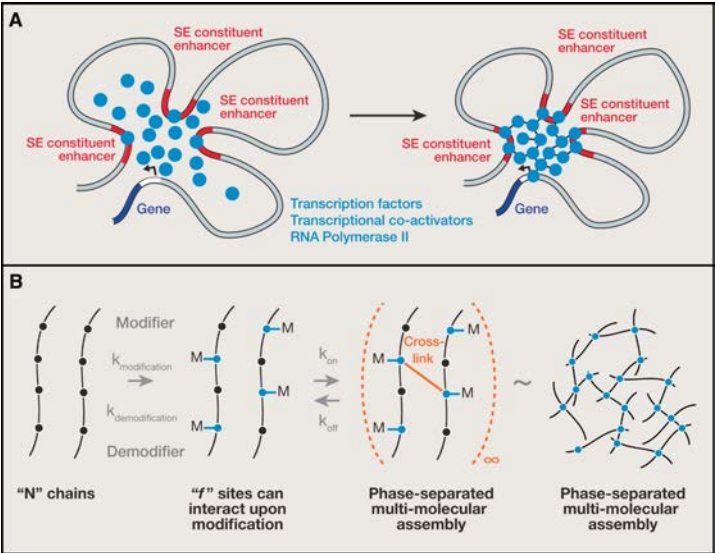
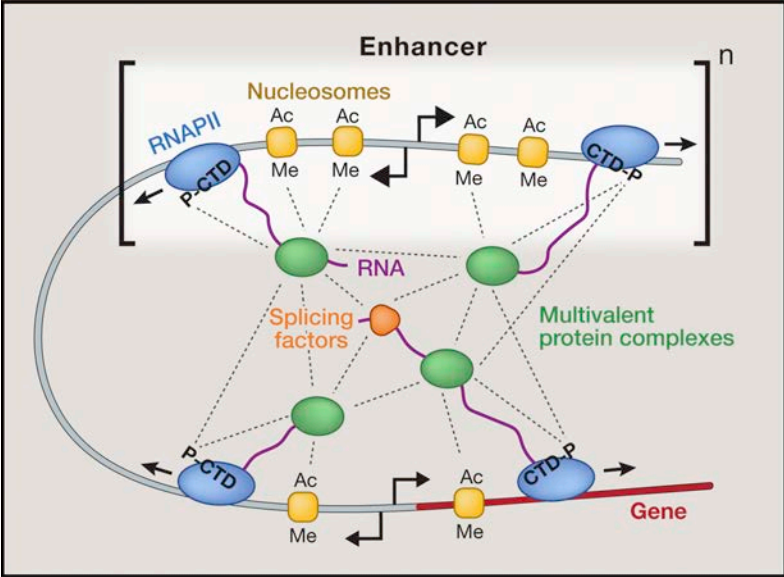
b060005 [RM] © www.visualphotos.com

electron micrograph



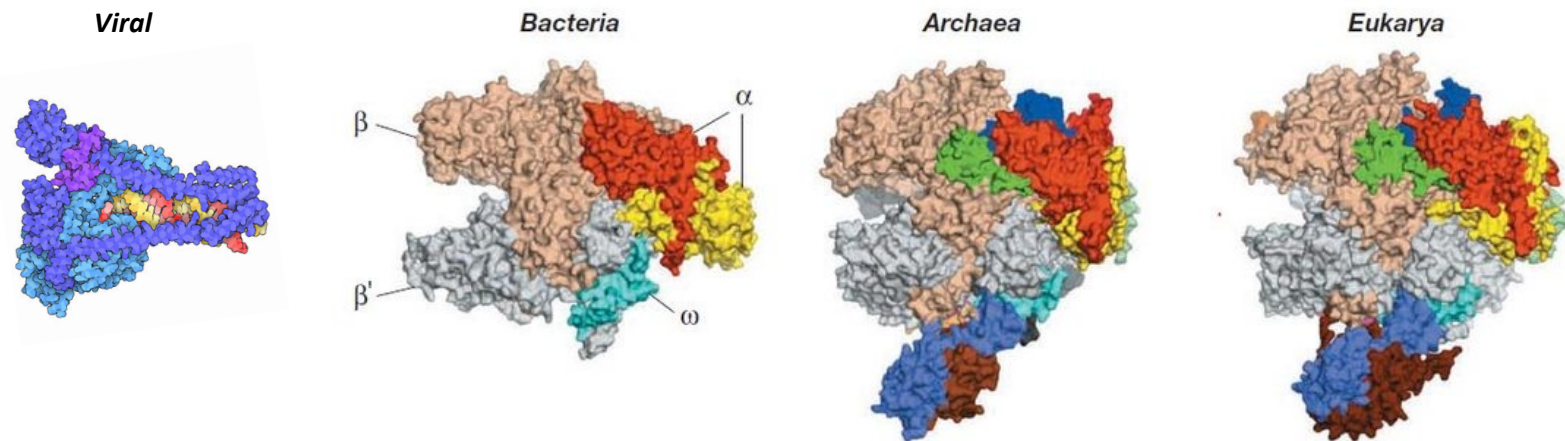
Ribosome assembly: the Nucleolus

The nucleolus is liquid droplet



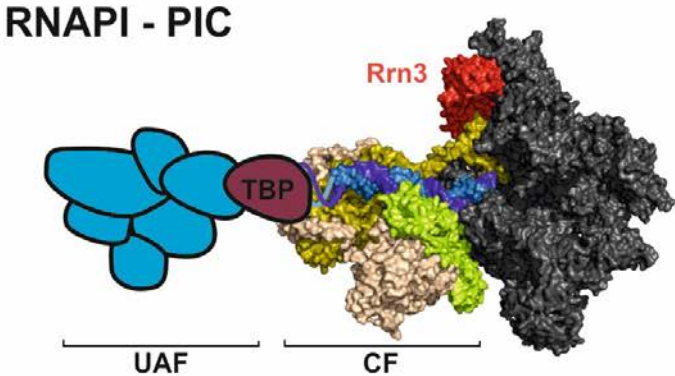
Basic mechanisms of transcription

- Catalyzed by RNA polymerases
- Composed of initiation, elongation and termination
- Determines fate of mature transcripts



Pre-rRNA transcription

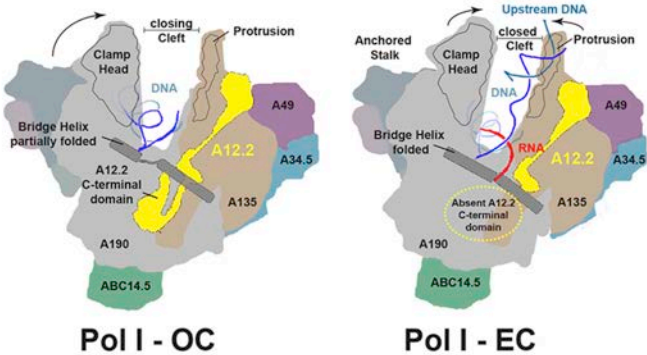
RNA polymerase I transcribes rDNA transcription



RNAPI-specific transcription factors (UAF, CF, Rrn3)

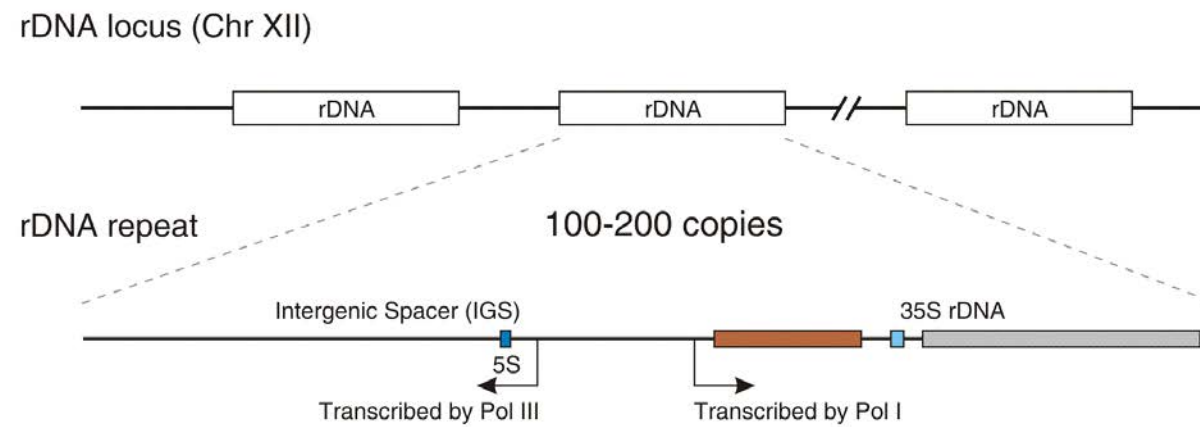
Variable cleft architecture

Rpa12-mediated cleavage



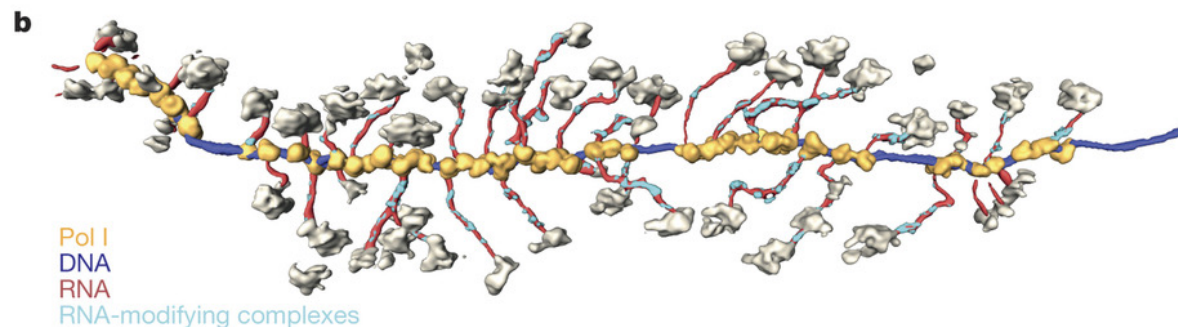
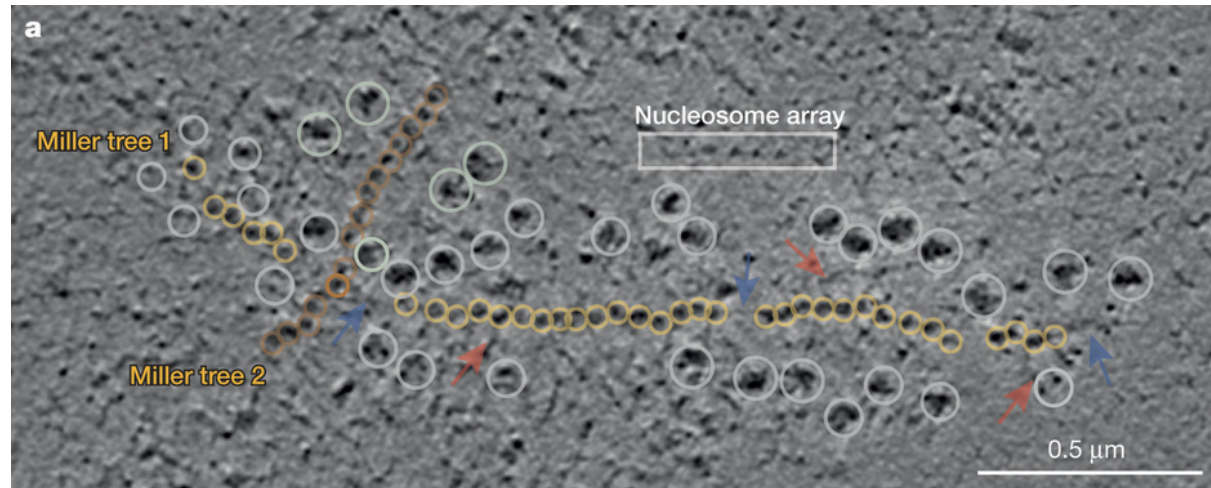
Pre-rRNA transcription

rDNA transcription unit



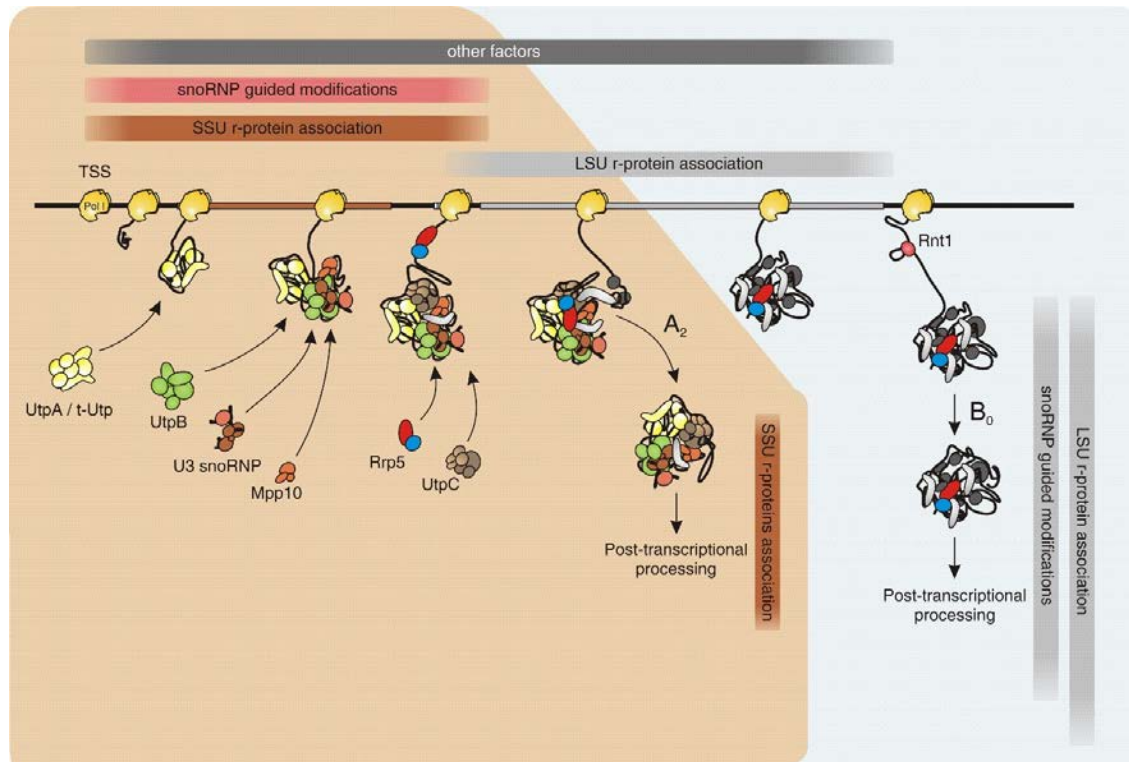
Ribosome assembly: the Nucleolus

Ribosome assembly and rRNA processing occurs co-transcriptionally



Ribosome assembly: the Nucleolus

Ribosome assembly and rRNA processing occurs co-transcriptionally



SSU processome

LSU processome

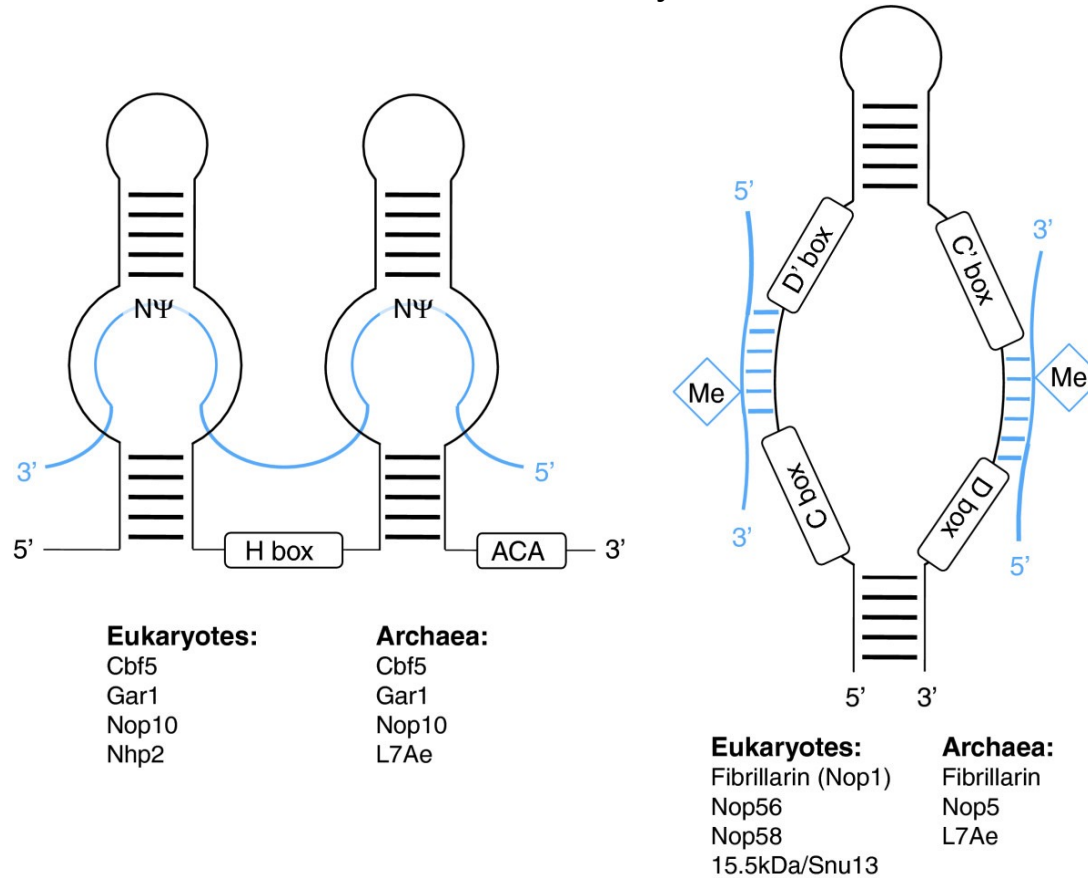
Co-transcriptional:

**70% of A₂ cleavage
Rnt1 cleavage**

**Base modifications
R-protein association**

Ribosome assembly: the Nucleolus

Modification of rRNA by snoRNPs



rRNA processing

Endonucleases:

Rnt1, Upt24, MRP,
Las1, Nob1

Exonucleases:

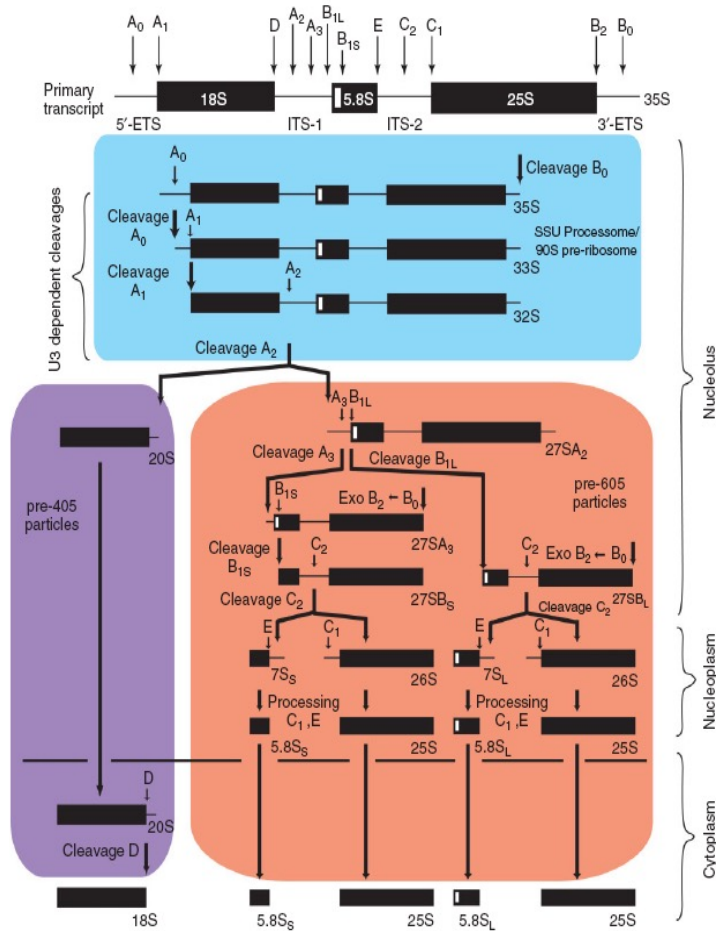
5'-3'

Rat1, Xrn1, Rrp17

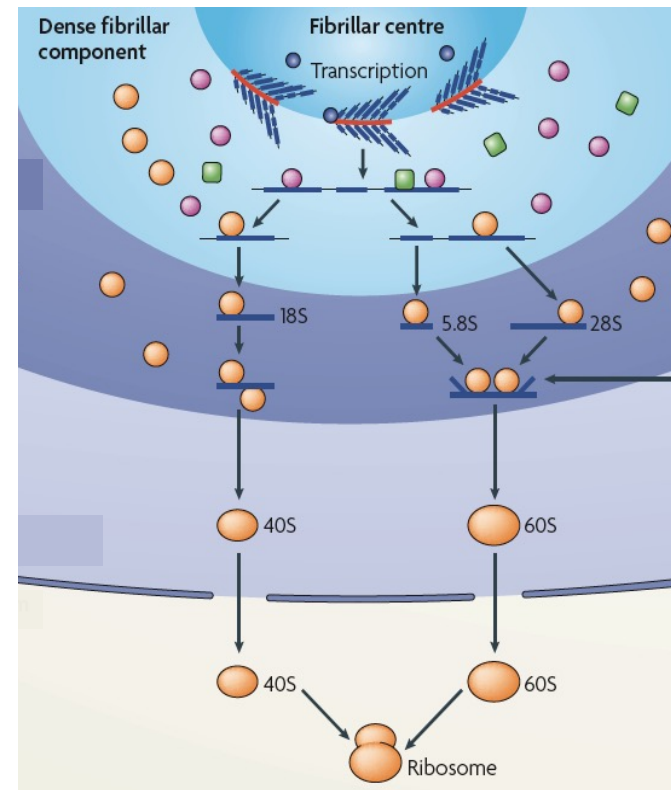
3'-5'

exosome: Dis3, Rrp6

Rex1-3, Ng1



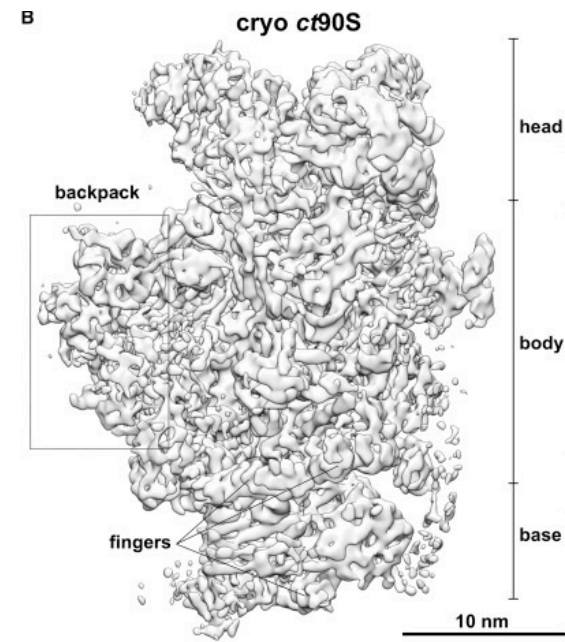
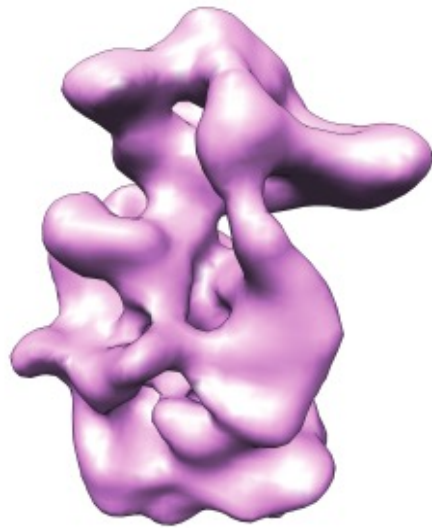
Phipps et al, WIRERNA., 2010



Boisvert et al, NatRevMolCellBiol., 2007

Ribosome assembly factors

High resolution cryo-EM revealed

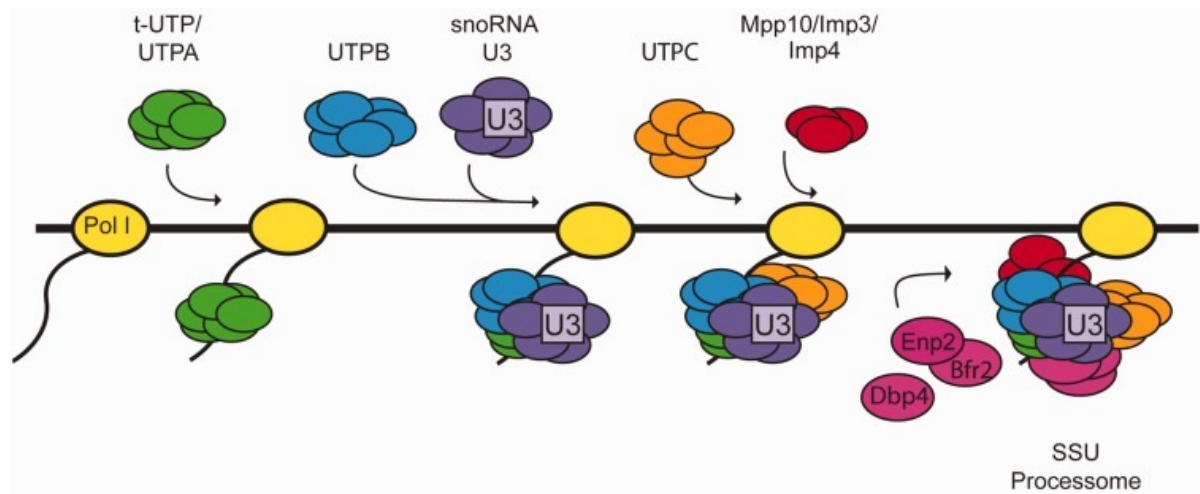


Ribosome assembly factors

Small subunit (SSU) processome

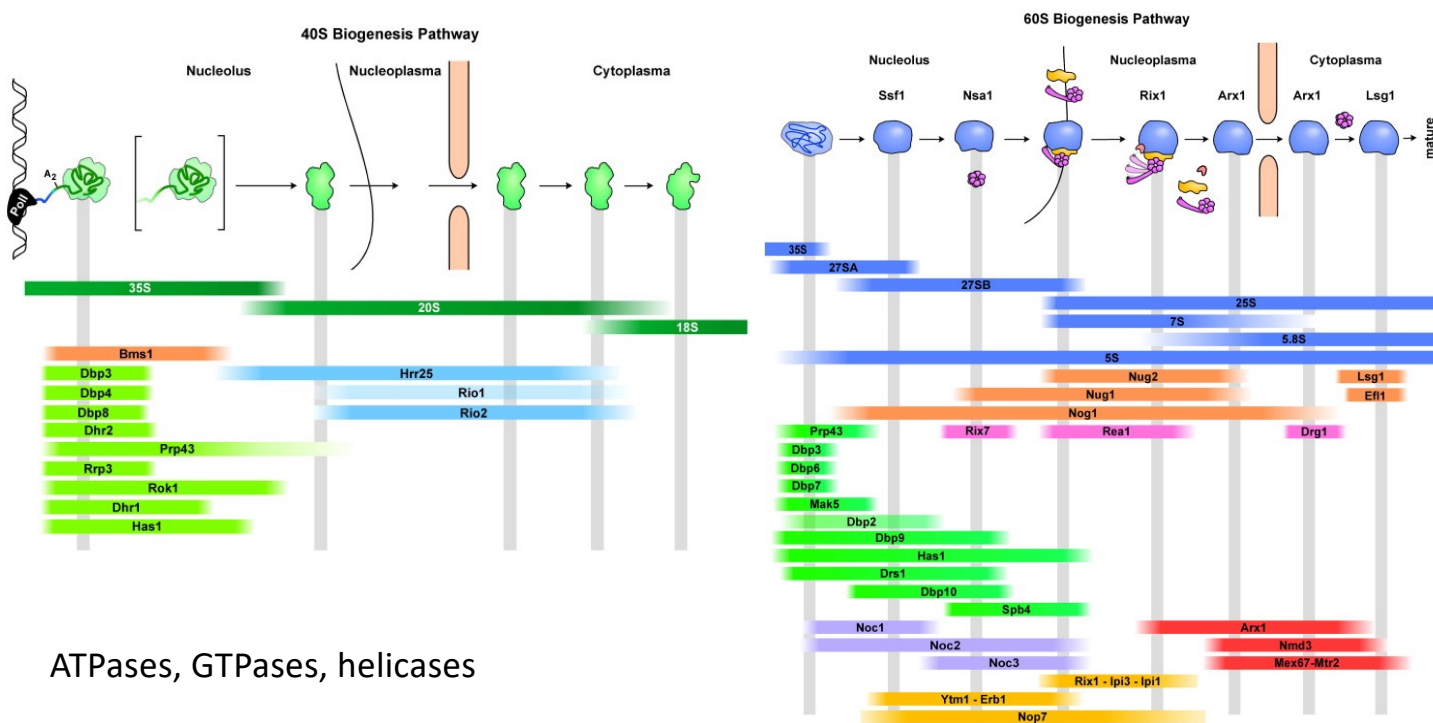
TABLE 1 | Composition of the SSU Processome

Complex	Subcomplex	Protein Names
U3 snoRNP	Box C/D	Nop1, Nop56, Nop58, Snu13
	Mpp10	Imp3, Imp4, Mpp10 Rrp9
UtpA/t-Utp		t-Utp4, t-Utp5, t-Utp8, t-Utp9, t-Utp10, t-Utp15, t-Utp17
UtpB		Utp1, Utp6, Utp12, Utp13, Utp18, Utp21
UtpC		Rrp7, Utp22 Rrp36
Other	CK II	Cka1, Cka2, Ckb1, Ckb2
		Utp2, Utp3, Utp7, Utp11, Utp14, Utp16, Noc4, Utp20, Utp23, Utp24, Utp25, Utp30, Bms1, Dbp8, Dhr1, Dhr2, Emg1, Krr1, Rcl1, Rok1, Rrp3, Rrp5, Sof1, Dbp4, Enp1, Esf1, Esf2, Fal1, Fyv7, Gno1, Has1, Kre33, Lcp5, Ltv1, Mrd1, Nop9, Nsr1, Pfa1, Prp43, Sgd1, Slx9, Ygr251



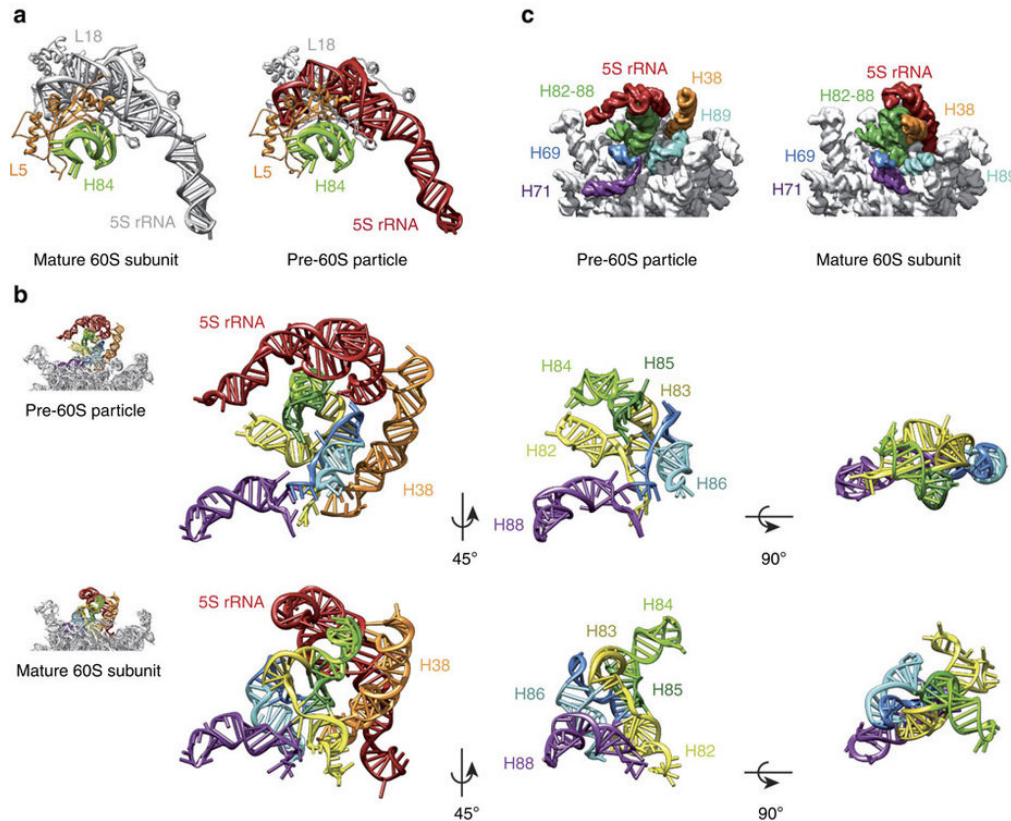
Ribosome assembly factors

Many “assembly” factors are required to build a ribosome
Most of these have an unknown function.



Ribosome assembly: structural maturation

5S RNP rotation in 60S ribosome biogenesis



In pre-60S particle the 5S rRNA and its associated ribosomal proteins L18 and L5 (5S ribonucleoprotein (RNP)) are rotated by almost 180° when compared with the mature subunit

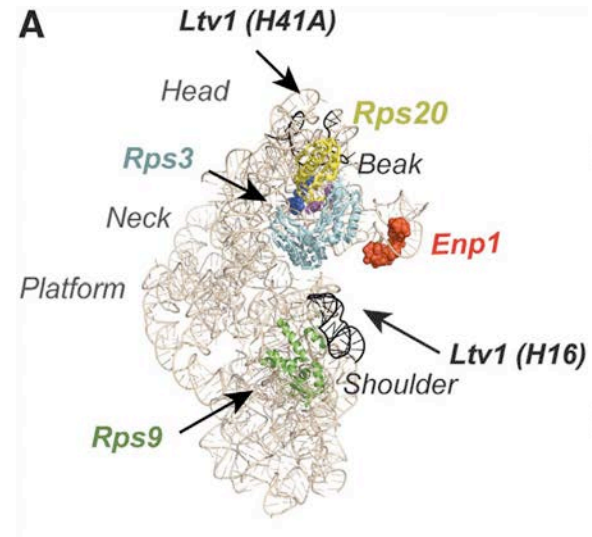
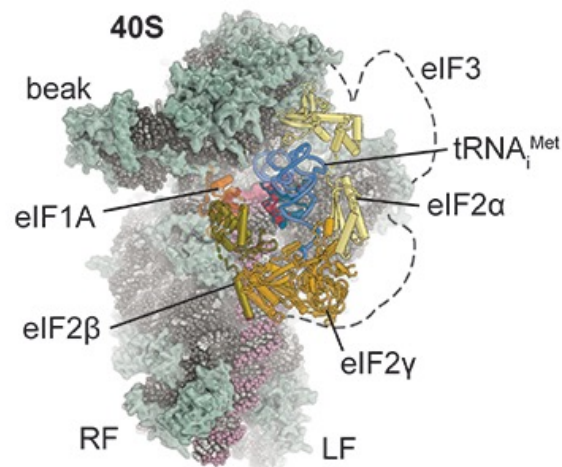
Ribosome assembly factors

Many overlap with sites where translation initiation factors bind

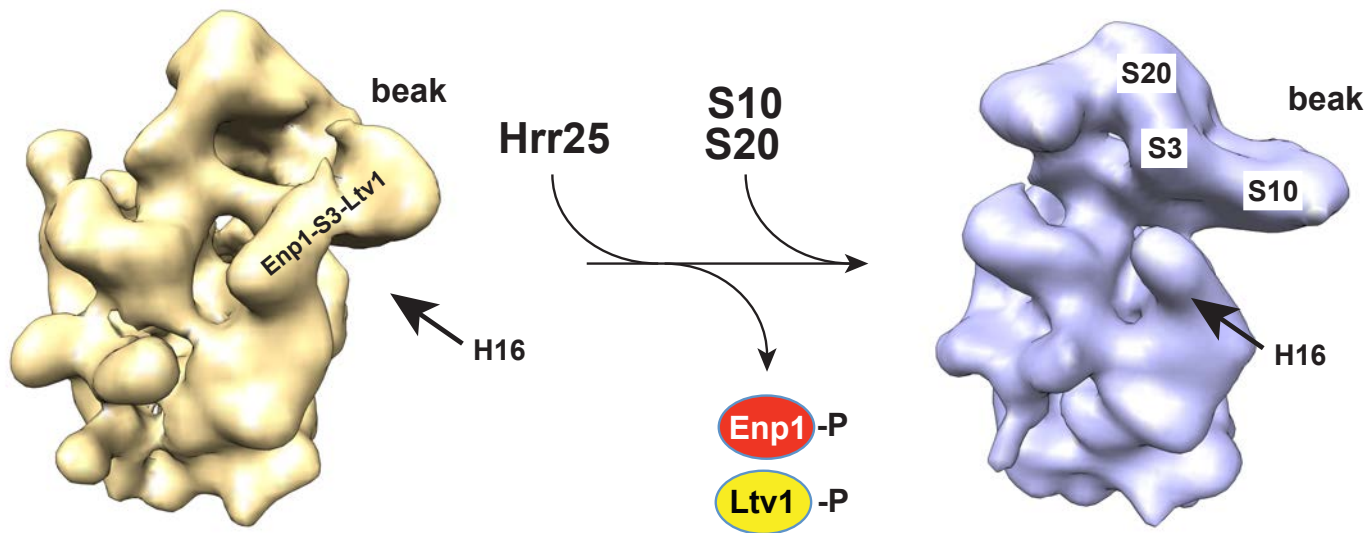
Some overlap with sites where other assembly factors bind
(to provide order of assembly)

Ribosome assembly: the Cytoplasm

Translation initiation factors binding sites



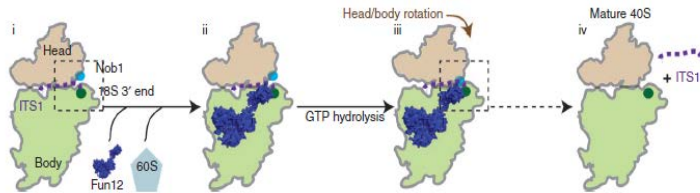
Ribosome assembly: the Cytoplasm



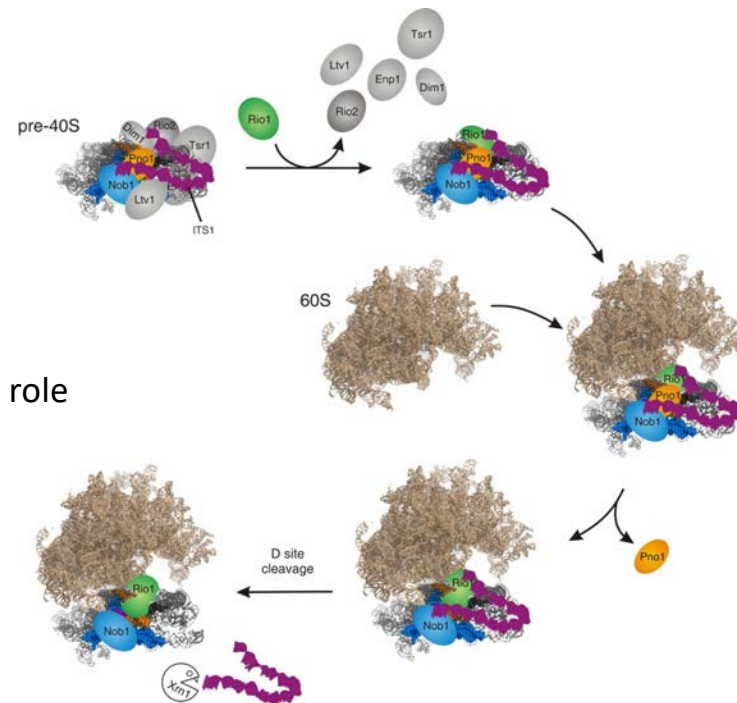
Ribosome assembly: the Cytoplasm

Two pathways of pre-rRNA processing: GTP and ATP-dependent

GTP dependent pathway – GTPase eIF5b



ATP dependent pathway – ATPase Rio1

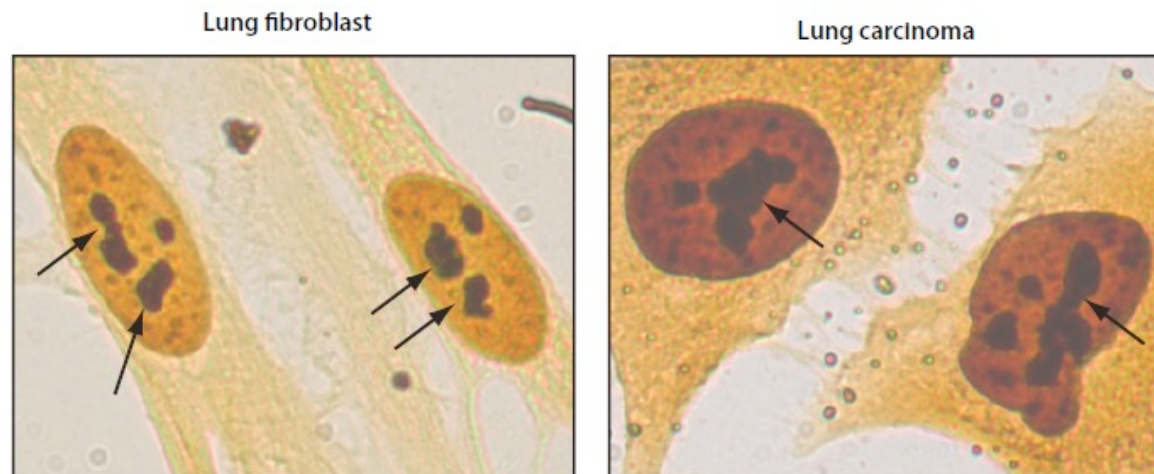


Late pre-40S maturation has a proofreading role

Ribosome synthesis and diseases

Ribosome synthesis and cancer

The size of nucleoli correlates with rRNA synthetic activity, and nucleolar hypertrophy is a diagnostic marker for cancer.



Ribosome synthesis and cancer

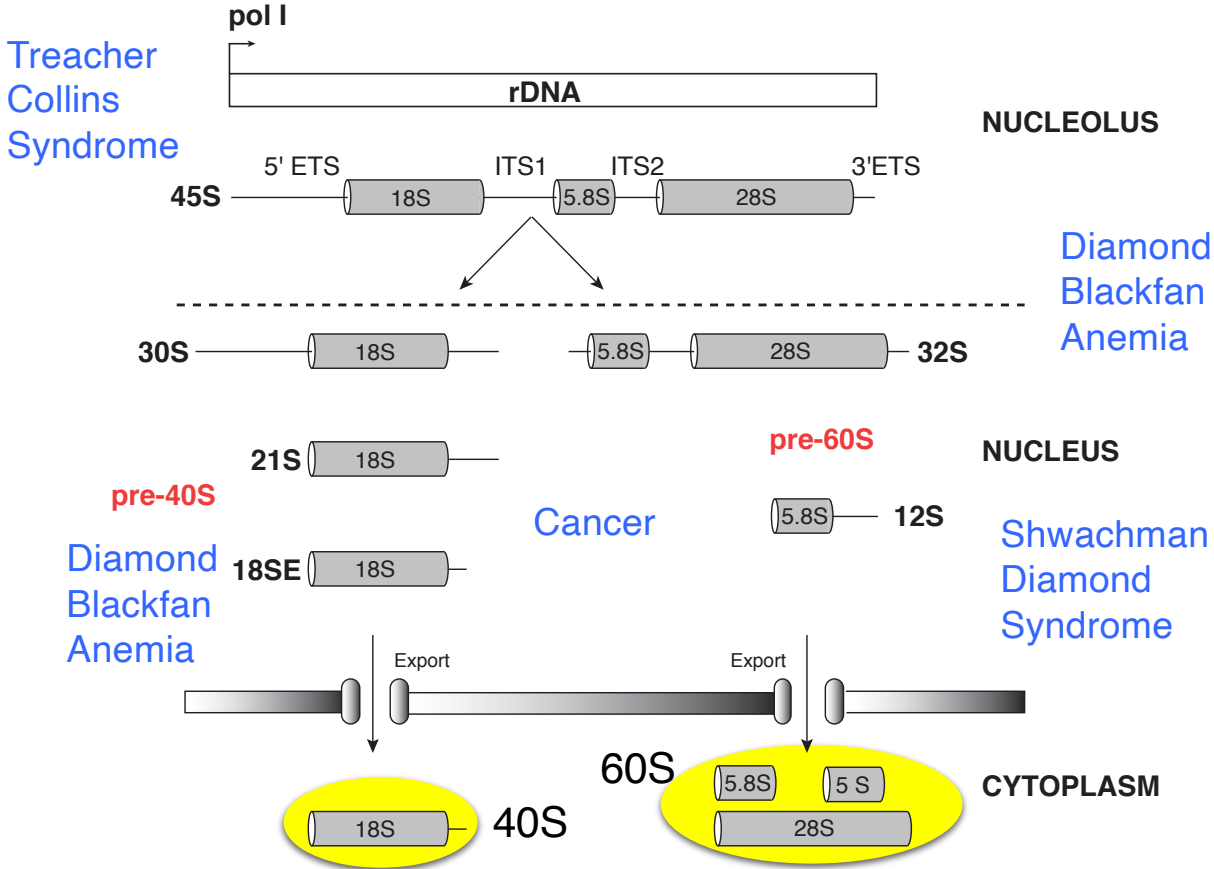
Pre-rRNA transcription as a target for anticancer drugs

Table 1 Approved anticancer drugs that may partially exhibit their therapeutic potential through inhibition of rRNA biogenesis

Drug	Target	Mode of action	Ref.
Actinomycin D	GC-rich duplex DNA	Intercalates in GC-rich regions of rDNA and inhibits at low concentrations elongation of Pol I transcription	(126)
Cisplatin	Adjacent guanosines in DNA	Forms crosslinks in DNA that possess high affinity for HMG-containing proteins. Hijacks UBF from its site of action, thus inhibiting Pol I transcription	(120)
Irinotecan/Topotecan	Topoisomerase I	Traps Topoisomerase I to rDNA leading to DNA strand breaks and inhibition of Pol I transcription	(127)
Mitomycin C	Guanosines in 5'-CpG-3' motifs	Inhibits Pol I transcription by alkylating guanosines and inducing interstrand crosslinks in rDNA	(128)
5-Fluorouracil	Thymidylate synthase	Incorporation of 5-FU in 47S pre-rRNA inhibits processing of pre-rRNA	(129)
Temsirolimus	mTORC1	Inhibits rRNA synthesis by interfering with mTORC1 activity	(130)

Ribosome synthesis and diseases

Ribosome assembly defects leads to “Ribosomopathies”



Ribosome synthesis and diseases

Selected physical abnormalities seen in ribosomopathies

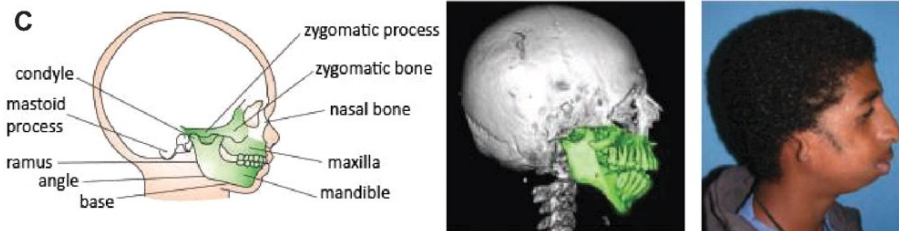


Diamond Blackfan Anemia

- Congenital disorders
- Haploinsufficiency



Dyskeratosis Congenita



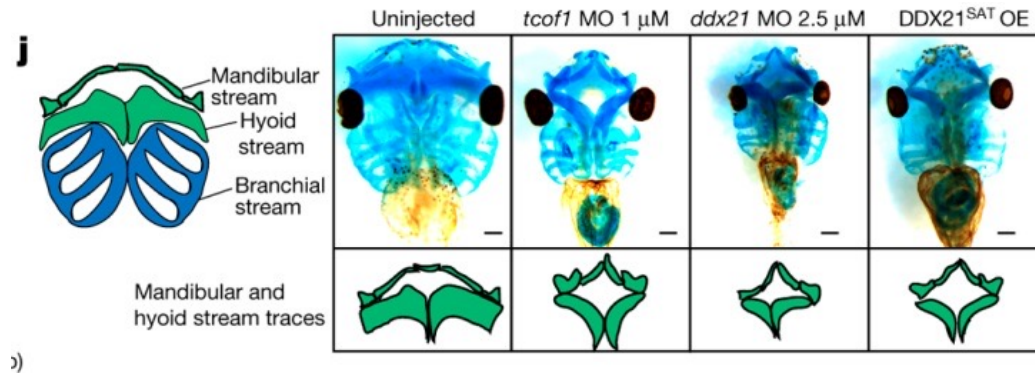
Treacher Collins

Narla A , Ebert B L Blood 2010;115:3196-3205

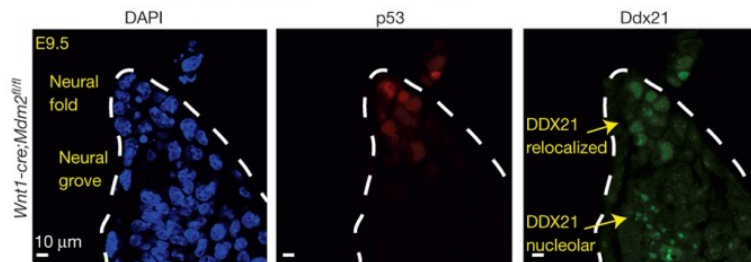
Hannan et al. Biochimica et Biophysica Acta 1829 (2013) 342–360

Ribosome synthesis and diseases

The functions of DDX21 are linked to rRNA synthesis levels and altered by TCS-associated perturbations



Xenopus laevis cranial cartilages

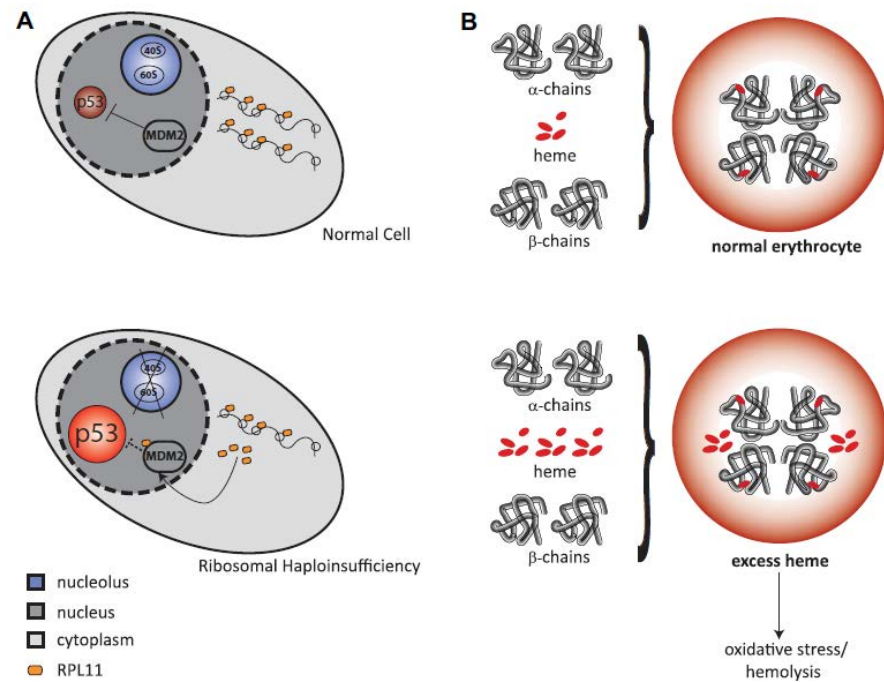


Neural crest cells are sensitive to p53 stabilization

(E)9.5 mouse embryos

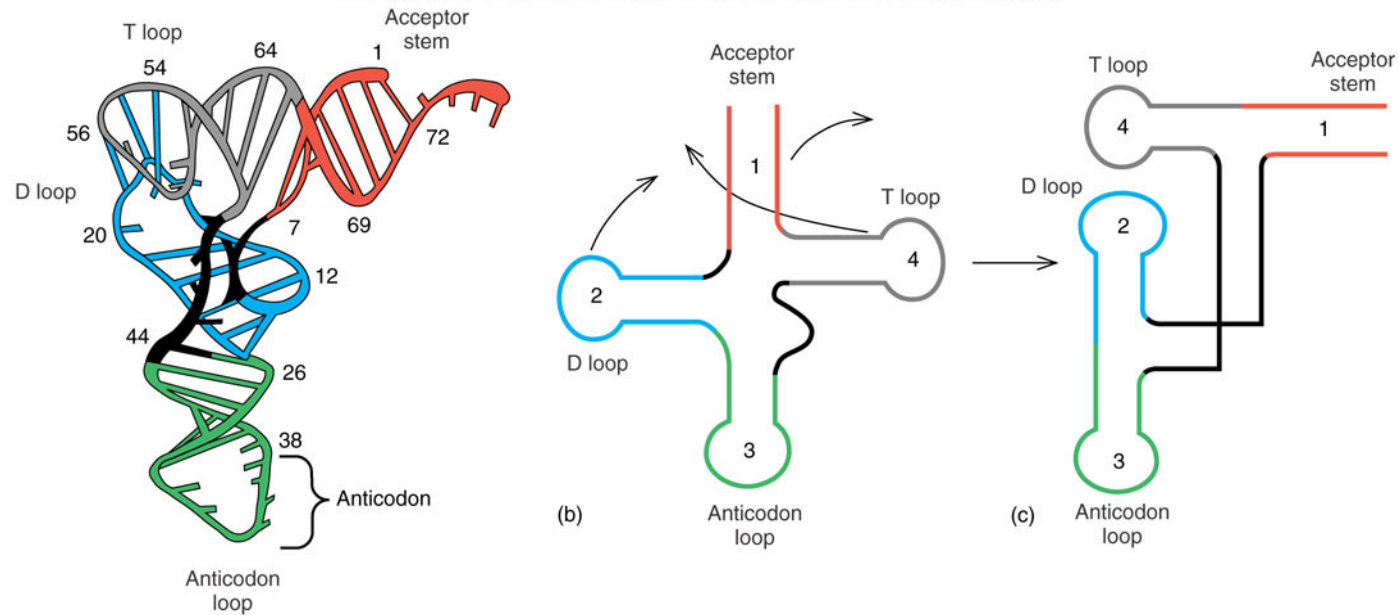
Ribosome synthesis and diseases

Potential mechanisms for the cellular consequences of ribosomal haploinsufficiency



Synthesis of tRNA

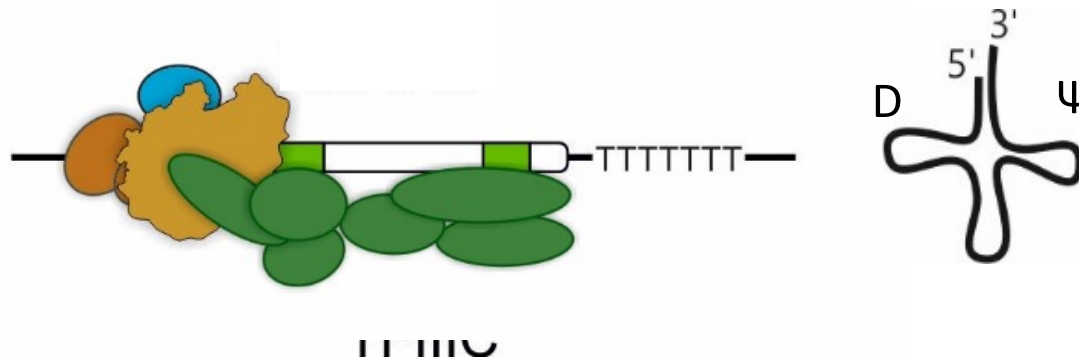
tRNA molecule



- All tRNAs share a common cloverleaf secondary structure and L-shaped tertiary structure.
- L shape maximizes stability by lining up base pairs in the D and anticodon stems, and base pairs in the T and acceptor stems

tRNA biogenesis: transcription

RNAPIII transcription

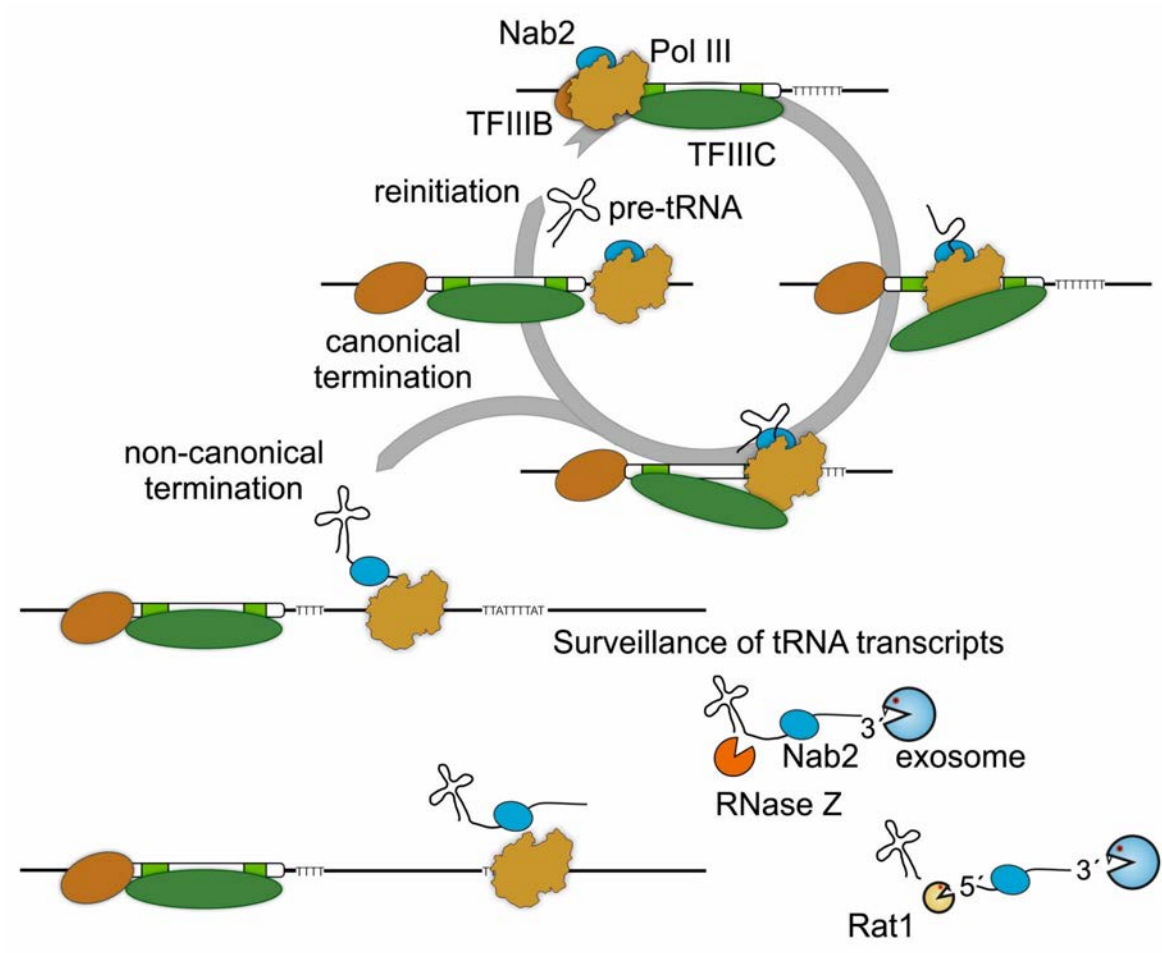


TFIIC recognizes internal promoter elements

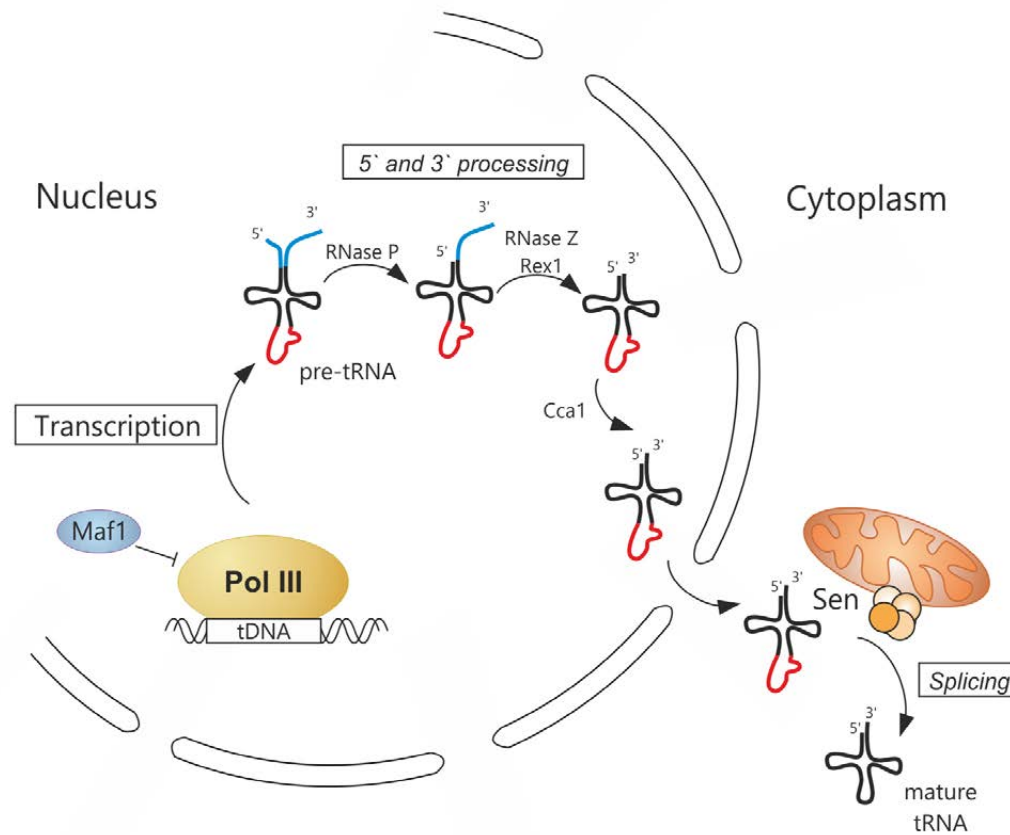
TFIIC recruits TFIIB

TFIIB recruits Pol III -> all together constitute initiation complex of Pol III

tRNA biogenesis: RNAPIII transcription cycle



tRNA biogenesis: processing



Nucleus:

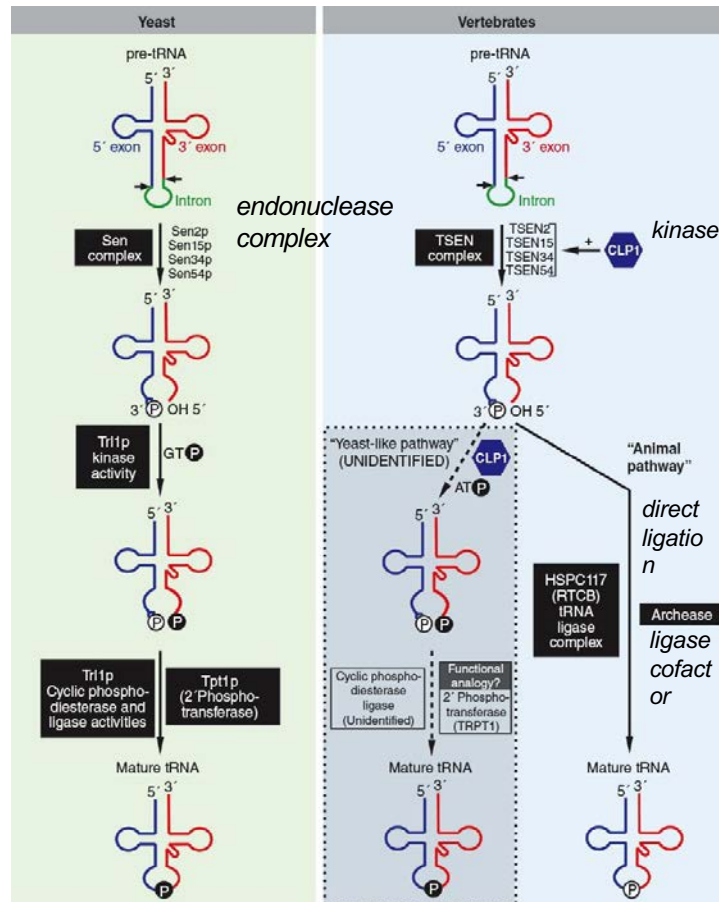
5' end endo cleavage – RNase P
3' end endo cleavage – RNase Z
3' exo trimming Rex1-3
CCA addition by Cca1

Cytoplasm:

Splicing SEN complex

•tRNA travels between nucleus and cytoplasm during processing steps
•mature tRNA can be imported to the cytoplasm by retrograde pathway

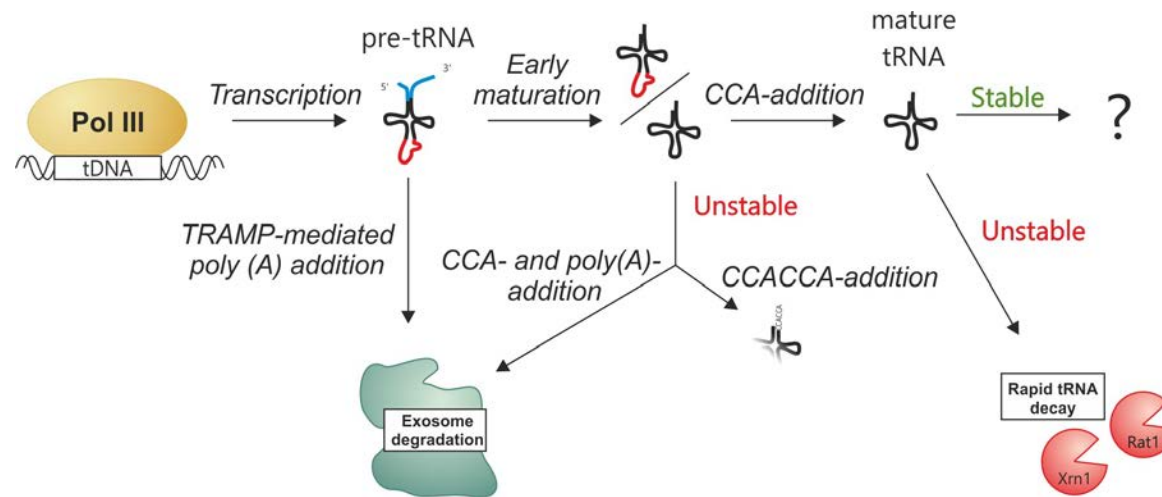
tRNA biogenesis: splicing



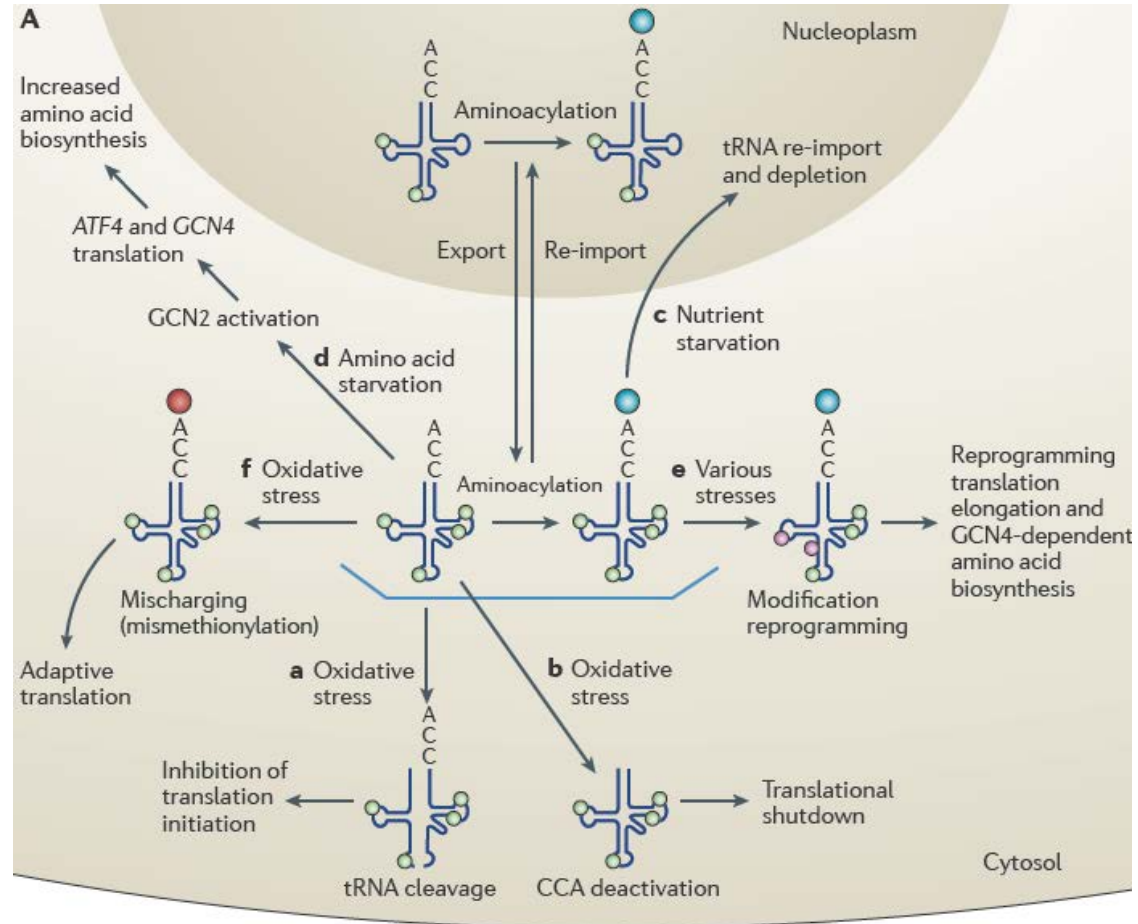
Introns in tRNAs in yeast:

- are dispensable (can be deleted)
- may control some tRNA modification (pseudoU in anticodon in tRNA^{Ile})
- ensure proper growth at some conditions (deletion of some introns results in slow growth in respiratory conditions)
- may affect codon-anticodon pairing

tRNA biogenesis: surveillance



tRNAs and stress



Kirchner and Ignatova, NatRevGenet, 2015

Thank you