All RNAs great and small



lecture 2

Nascent transcripts Co-transcriptional and posttranscriptional processess Gene loops and Rloops Splicing 3' end formation **Translation cycle RNA enzymes and complexes**



Institute of Genetics and Biotechnology University of Warsaw

RNA MACHINERIES





Passmore and Coller Nat Rev Cell Mol Biol, 2021

RNA POLYMERASES



Yeast Pol II

Mammalian Pol II

RPB

RN/

RPB1

Top view

RPB11

- 12 subunits
- core by specific Rpb1-3 and 11
- Rpb5-6, 8, 10 and 12 shared by Pol I-III
- specific subcomplex Rpb4/7 not essential
- associated factors RAP74, RAP30 (TFIIF)



E32G

PB1

RP

90°

RPB5

Downstream DNA

PB9

RPB3

RPB

Side view

RPB3 1741

Pol II (RNAPII) in the cell



Pol II (RNAPII) in the cell



Bjorklund and Gustafsson, 2005, TiBS; Danino et al. BBA, 2015

Pol II (RNAPII) in the cell



LLPS, droplets

Liquid-liquid phase separation Transcriptional condensates are formed by phase-separation self-assembly driven by IDR (Intrinsically Disordered Region)containing proteins (e.g. CTD in Pol II)

CTD-driven phase separation

Activators recruit/nucleate Pol II hubs near promoters. Initiation-coupled CTD phosphorylation removes individual Pol II enzymes for transcription elongation.

Pol II C-terminal domain (CTD)



CTD CODE





Nascent transcript = during formation, newly formed, still bound by polymerase

- nascent RNAs couple RNA processing with transcription elongation and chromatin modification
- nascent RNAs modulate binding of proteins to regulatory elements (chromatin)
- regulatory effects of nascent transcripts can be enhanced by gene looping
- high concentrations of nascent RNAs can initiate formation of nuclear bodies
- sometimes the function is conferred by nascent transcription (activity) and not the transcript itself

CO-TRANSCRIPTIONAL PROCESSES



POST-TRANSCRIPTIONAL PROCESSES

tRNA PROCESSING

- 5' end by RNAse P
- 3' end by tRNase Z or
- by exonuclease Rex1 and Rrp6



tRNA SPLICING

In the cytoplasm on the mitochondrial membrane (YEAST!!)



Hopper and Shaheen, TiBS, 2008



mRNA

RNA synthetas



Loop formation requires interaction between factors at the promoter (THIIB) and terminator (Rna15 from CF1) /in mammals: transcription factors, nuclear receptors, insulators, chromatin remodellers, Polycomb, architectural proteins/ Loop function: facilitation of transcription reinitiation of PollI, but also repression of gene expression (PcG, DNA methylation)

GENE LOOPING

via Mediator and enhancer RNAs (eRNAs)



Some eRNAs (e.g. LUNAR1 near the IGF1R locus) mediate chromosome looping between enhancers and nearby genes via Mediator or MLL protein complexes

Quinn and Chang, Nat Rev Genet 2015; Lai and Shiekhattar, Curr Op Gene Dev 2014

R-LOOPs

DNA::RNA hybrids formed during transcription before RNP packaging

A Transcription associated R-loop formation



RNA

DNA template

R-loops

- accumulate in RNP biogenesis mutants (tho, sen1, mRNA export)
- negative effects: polymerase stalling, termination defects, replication fork stalling, DNA damage, genetic instability
- prevented by topoisomerases, helicase Sen1, THO complex, resolution (cleavage) by RNase H



Warf and Berglund, 2010, TiBS; Reddy, Ann.Rev.PlantBiol., 2007



SPLICING: co-transcriptional process



Co-trx vs post-trx splicing



Nanopore-based profiling of chromatin-bound RNA

- Incompletely spliced and polyadenylated transcripts are detected on chromatin
- They are not released and exported to the cytoplasm and undergo posttranscriptional splicing
- Splicing of these introns is regulated in response to various environmental signals
- It represents additional layer of stress-related gene expression reprogramming
- Alternative introns are less efficiently spliced than constitutive introns
- Alternative introns are more often removed post-transciptionally

CPA Cleavage and Polyadenylation



Jacquier, Nat. Rev. Genet, 2009

Zhang et al, Mol Cell, 2019



Cleavage by CPSF-73 (human), Brr5/Ysh1 (yeast)

Millevoi and Vagner, NAR, 2008

CPA: mRNA 3' end formation transcription termination at mRNA genes



POL II TRANSCRIPTION TERMINATION



Lecture on transcription termination by Michał Koper

RIBOSOME



3.3 MDa (yeast) – 4.3 MDa (humans)

Ribosome is a ribozyme

- No ribosomal protein with a peptidyl transferase (PT) activity
- Drugs (chloramphenicol) that inhibit PT bind to the 25S rRNA (PT loop)
- Mutations that provide resistance to these drugs map to the PT loop
- Nearly all (99%) of proteins can be stripped from the large subunit and it still retains the PT activity
- Only RNA chains are close enough to the PT center (structure)

 Ribosomal proteins are important for ribosome stability and integrity, but NOT for catalysis



Next lecture

RNA enzymes and complexes RNA granules and subcellular structures RNA decay