Chapter 3. DNA, RNA, and Protein Synthesis



Translation: From mRNA to Protein



Genetic Code: 3 nt to 1 amino acid

5' <u>AUG</u> <u>CGC</u> <u>AUC</u> <u>UAG</u> <u>UCG</u> 3'

- Codon
- Reading Frame

20 amino acids in nature

Codon (nt)	Amino acid	
1	4	
2	16	
3	64	

Genetic Code: 64 Codons



Structure of tRNA: transfer RNA

- 73 to 93 nt
- Unusual modified bases



Structure of tRNA



Wobble Hypothesis

Nonstandard baseparing between the first base of anticodon and the third base of codon



bacteria

wobble codon base	possible anticodon bases
U	A, G, or I
С	G or I
А	U or I
G	C or U

eucaryotes

wobble codon base	possible anticodon bases
U	A, G, or I
С	G or I
А	U
G	с

Wobble Base-paring



Prokaryotic tRNA processing

- (a) RNase P and other endonucleases cleave (b) the primary transcript.
- (b) RNase D trims the 5' end.

(c) tRNA nucleotidyl transferase adds CCA to the 3' end.



Ribosome: The site of protein synthesis



Processing of *E.coli* rRNA



Assembly of 30S ribosomal subunit in *E.coli*



Structure of 50S Subunit



Four Steps in Translation

1. Activation

Adding an amino acid to tRNA (amnoacyl-tRNA)

2. Initiation

□ Assembling players : ribosome, mRNA, aa-tRNA

3. Elongation

Adding new aa's

4. Termination

□ Stopping the process

Activation of Amino Acid



Structure of Aminoacyl tRNA Synthase





Translational Initiation

Prokaryote

Binding of small ribosomal subunit to mRNA by Shine-Dalgarno (SD) sequence

□ Binding of initiator fMet-tRNA^{fMet}

- N-formylmethionine
- Release of formyl group (deformylase) after protein synthesis

Eukaryote

- Assembly of small ribosomal subunit and initiator MettRNA^{Met}
- Scanning along the mRNA until the complex encounter AUG start codon

Translational Initiation

Prokaryote

Eukaryote



RNA Binding Sites in the Ribosome



Initiation in Prokaryote (1) Assembly of 30S Ribosomal Subunits with mRNA



• SD sequence

• IF-3 prevents binding of

the 50S subunit

Shine-Dalgarno

sequence in the mRNA guides AUG to correct position

• tRNA Binding Sites

A site: Aminoacyl site

P site: Peptidyl site

Ribosome Binding site: Shine-Dalgarno Sequence

(a)

Lipoprotein	····AUCUAGAGGGUAUUAAUAAUAAGCUACU····
RecA	····G G C A U G A C A G G A G U A A A A A U G G C U A U C G····
GalE	····A G C C U A A U G G A G C G A A U U A U G A G A G U U C U G····
GalT	····C C C G A U U A A G G A A C G A C C A U G A C G C A A U U U····
LacI	~~~C A A U U C A G G G U G G U G A A U G U G A A A C C A G U A~~~
LacZ	····UUCACACAGGAAAACAGCUAUGAUU···
Ribosomal L10	····C A U C A A G G A G C A A A G C U A A U G G C U U U A A A U····
Ribosomal L7/L12	····· U A U U C A G G A A C A A U U U A A A U G U C U A U C A C U ····

(b)



Initiation in Prokaryote (2) Assembly of fMet-tRNA^{fMet} and 50S Ribosomal Subunit



• Binding of GTP-bound **IF-2** and the initiating **fMet-tRNA**^{fMet}

Assembly of the 50S ribosomal subunit with simultaneous GTP
 hydrolysis and release of all
 initiation factors

Elongation (1) Binding of Incoming aminoacyl tRNA



Binding of aa-tRNA to GTP bound EF-Tu (elongation factor)

- Binding of aa-tRNA to A site
- Recycling EF-Tu by **EF-Ts**

Elongation (2) Peptide Bond Formation



• Transfer of carboxyl group of aa in P site to aa in A site

Pepdidyl transferase activity in 50S subunit

Elongation (3) Translocation



Translacation of peptidyl-tRNA

to P site

- GTP-bound **EF-G**: translocase
- Translocation of mRNA and 30S
 subunit
- Ejection of empty tRNA

Termination and Release

- Terminating Codons
 UAA, UAG, UGA
- Termination or Release Factors
 - Termination codon in A site
 - □ Release factors (RF1, RF2, & RF3) :
 - Hydrolysis of the terminal peptidyl-tRNA bond
 - Release of the free polypeptide and the last tRNA
 - Dissociation of the 70S ribosome into the 50S and 30S subunits

Termination and Release





Translation Initiation in Eukaryotes





Translation

Energy cost

- ATP hydrolysis for the aminoacyl-tRNA formation
- GTP hydrolysis during the elongation and translocation step

Translation rate

- 15 amino acids/sec
- Rapidly growing *E. coli*
 - 20,000 ribosomes/cell \rightarrow 30,000 polypeptides/min
 - Average molecular weight of bacterial protein
 - □ 1 kb structural gene → 333 amino acids → 35 kDa (105 D/amino acid)

Polysome: 10 to 100 ribosomes on a single mRNA





Inhibitors of Bacterial Translation

