

Structure of prokaryotic genom, replication and gene expression in prokaryots

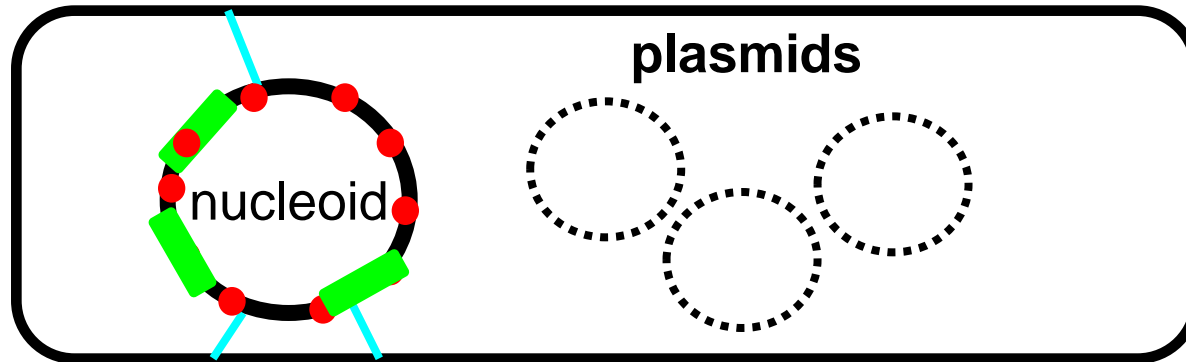
Molecular Biology

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Structure of prokaryotic genom

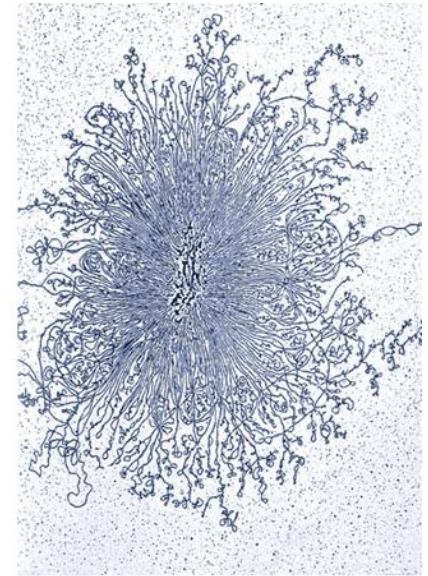
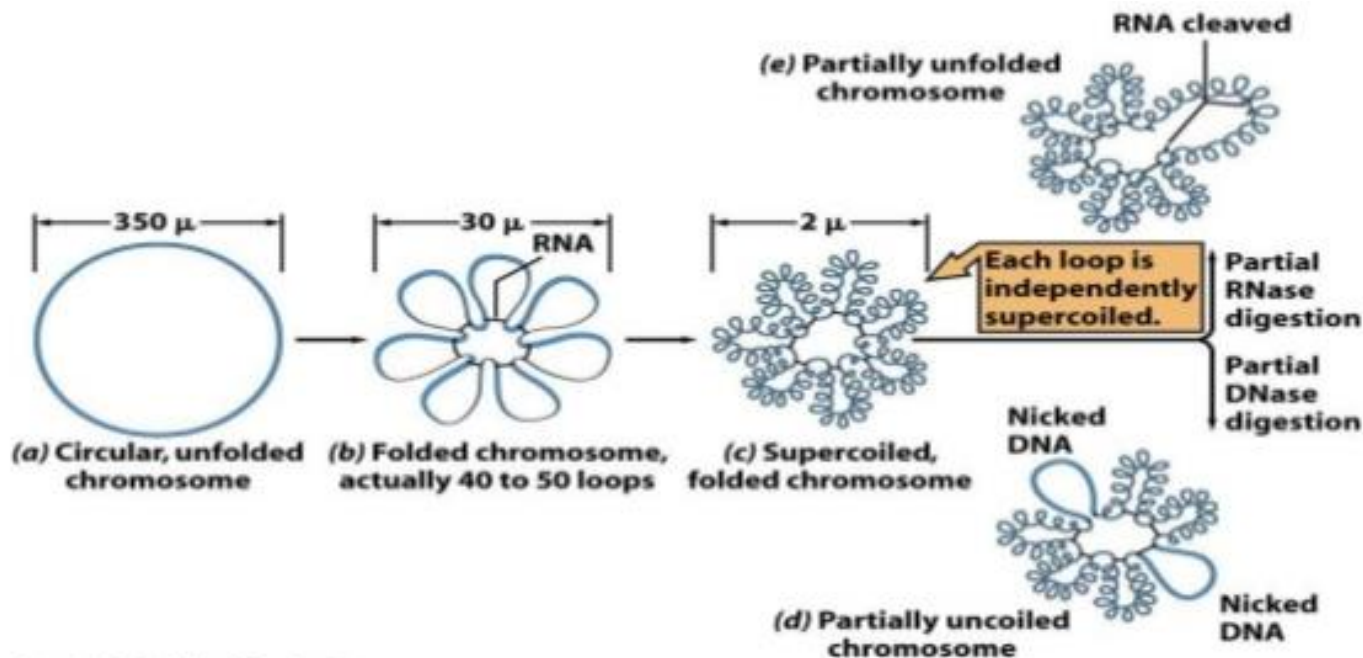
Genom of prokaryotic cell



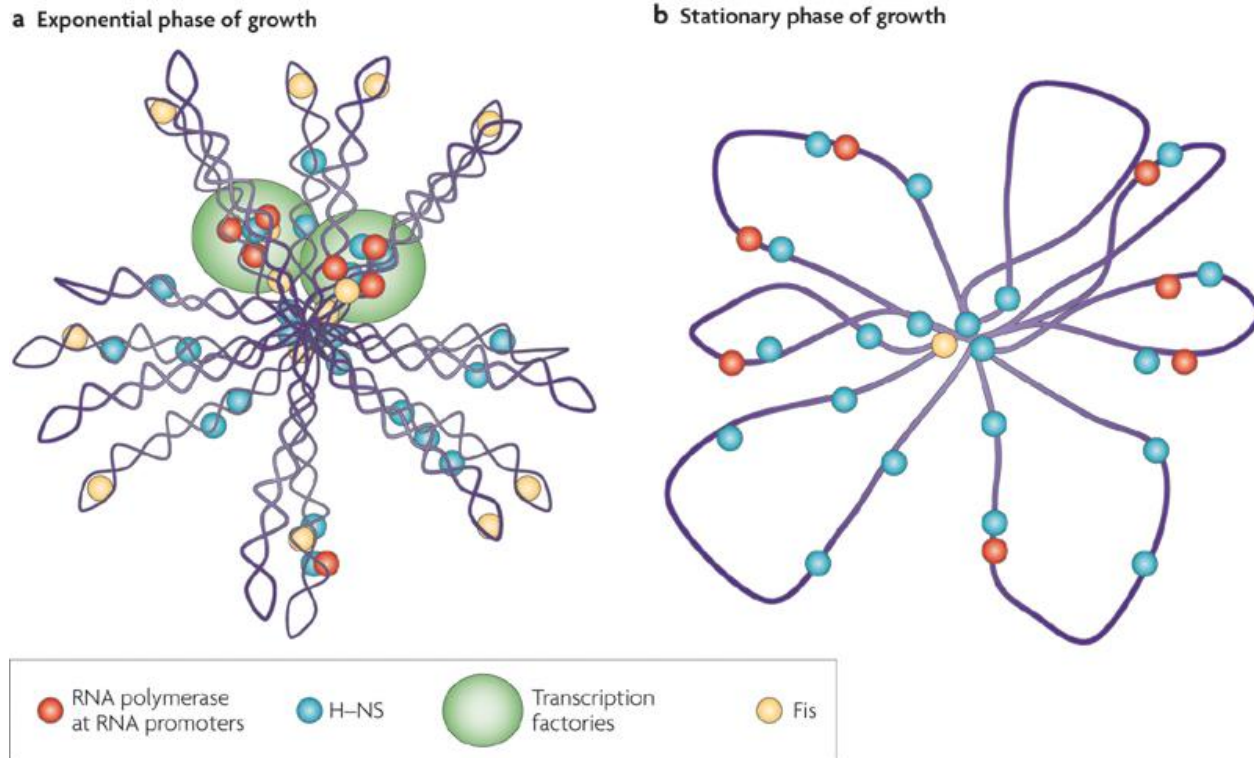
- no nucleus envelope
- DNA, **HLP-proteins (histon-like proteins)**, **non-histone proteins**
- nucleoid is attached to cell membrane on several
- places (*Inc*)

Prokaryotic chromosome

- Part of nukleoid (prokaryotic nucleus)
- Mostly circular dsDNA (linear e.g. for *Borrelia burgdorferi*)
- Superhelix divided to loops (domains)



Dynamic of nucleoid



doi:10.1038/nrmicro2261

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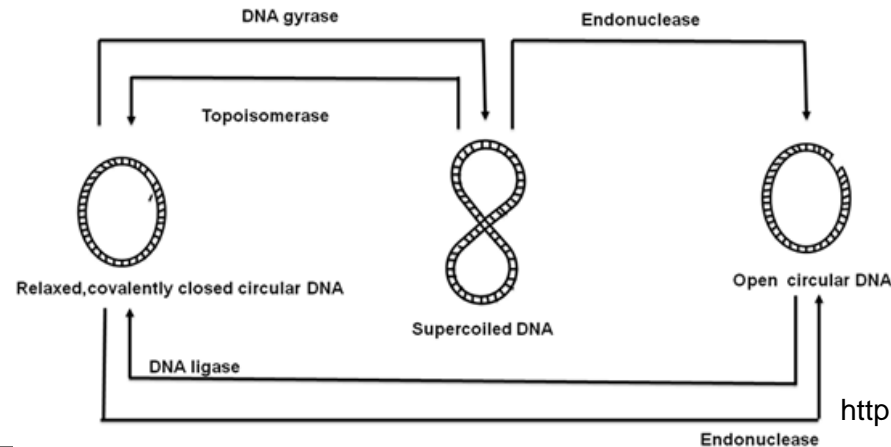
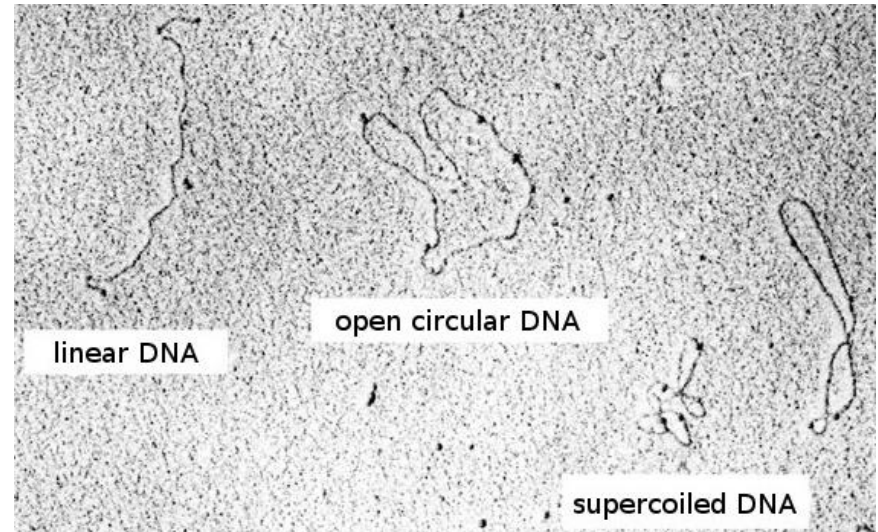
a | The folded chromosome is organized into looped domains that are negatively supercoiled during the exponential phase of growth. In this phase, the abundant nucleoid-associated proteins histone-like nucleoid-structuring protein (H-NS) and factor for inversion stimulation (Fis) bind throughout the nucleoid and are associated with the seven ribosomal RNA operons. As shown here in two cases, these are organized into superstructures called transcription factories. **b** | In stationary phase the rRNA operons are quiescent and Fis is almost undetectable. The chromosome has fewer looped domains, and those that are visible consist of relaxed DNA.

Plasmids

- bear genes which are not necessary for life (e.g., resistance to antibiotics)

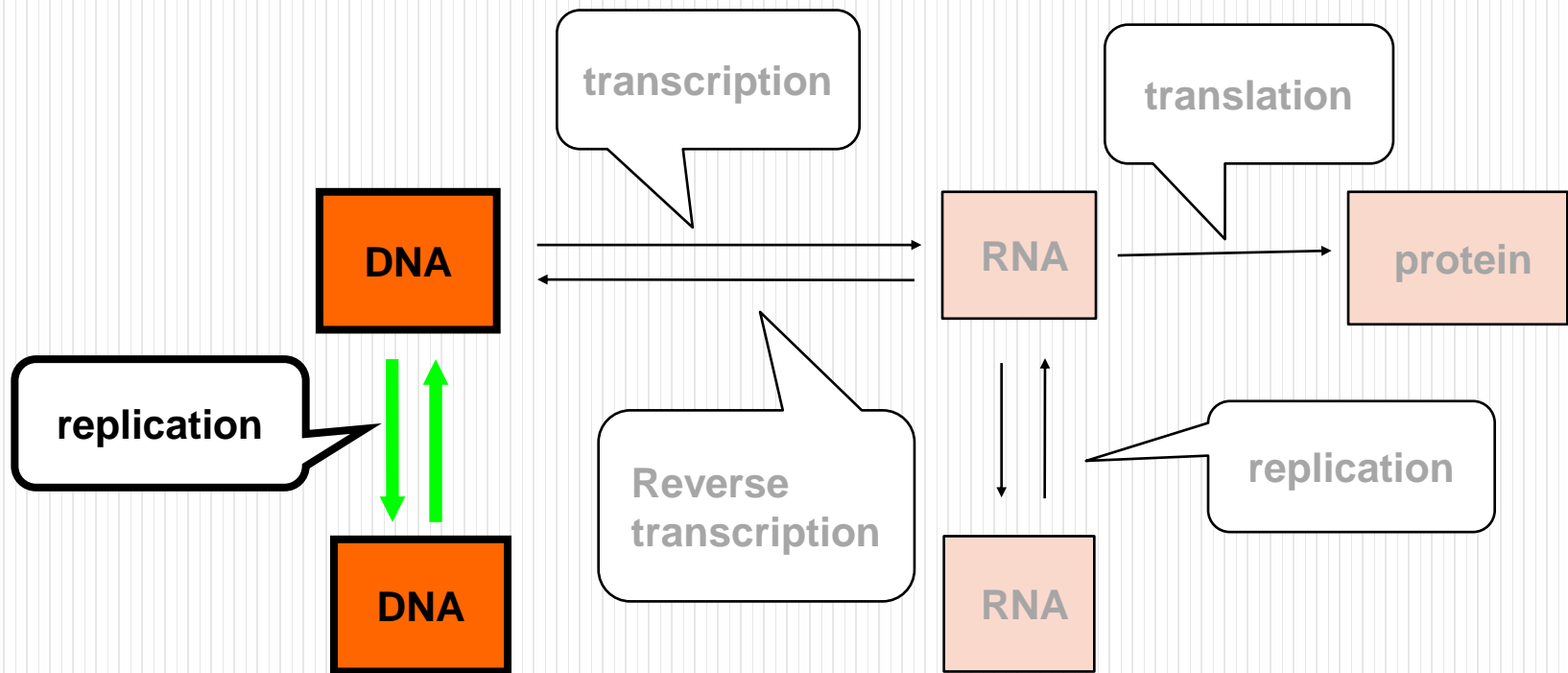
<http://www.wikiwand.com/>

- circular dsDNA
- every is replicon = bears locus ori
- Bears locus Inc for attachment to membrane



<http://nptel.ac.in/courses/102103047/39>

Replication of prokaryotic genom



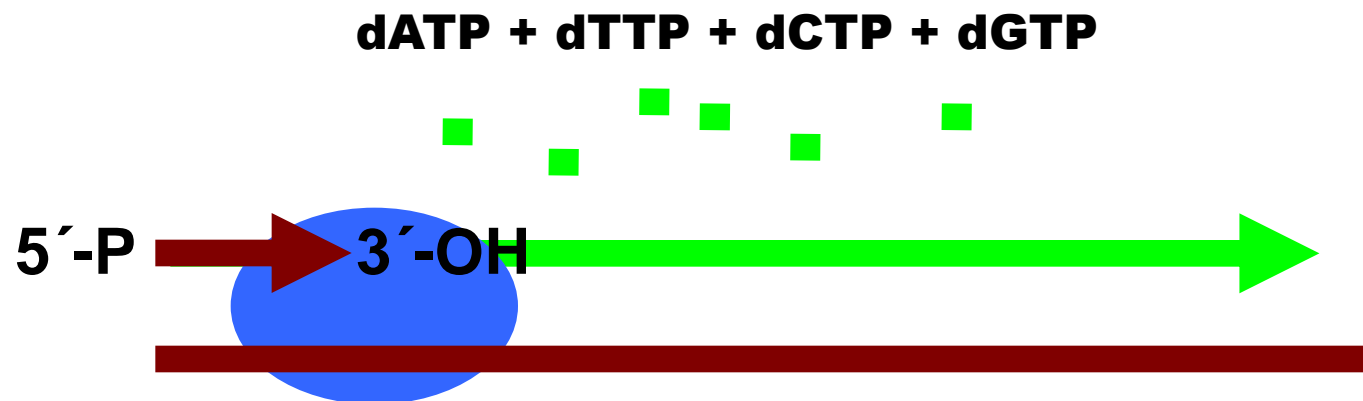
Replication

DNA replication is a process in which the two strands of a DNA double helix are separated and a new complementary strand of DNA is synthesized on each of the two parental template strands.

This mechanism ensures that genetic information will be copied faithfully at each cell division.

What is needed for DNA replication ?

- Template strand (DNA matrix)
- Primer (free 3'-OH end)
- Polymerase + replication proteins
- dNTP



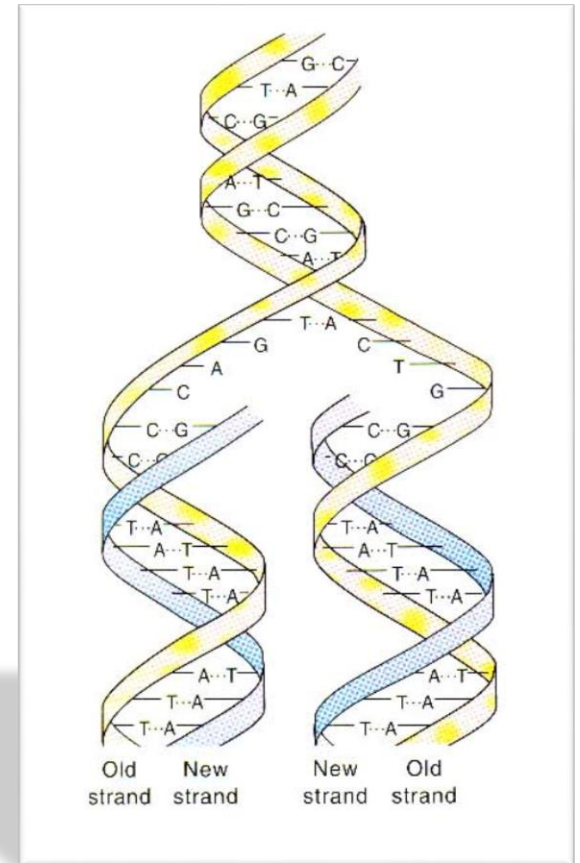
Characteristic features of replication

- It is semiconservative
 - Meselson – Stahl experiment → „the most beautiful experiment in biology“

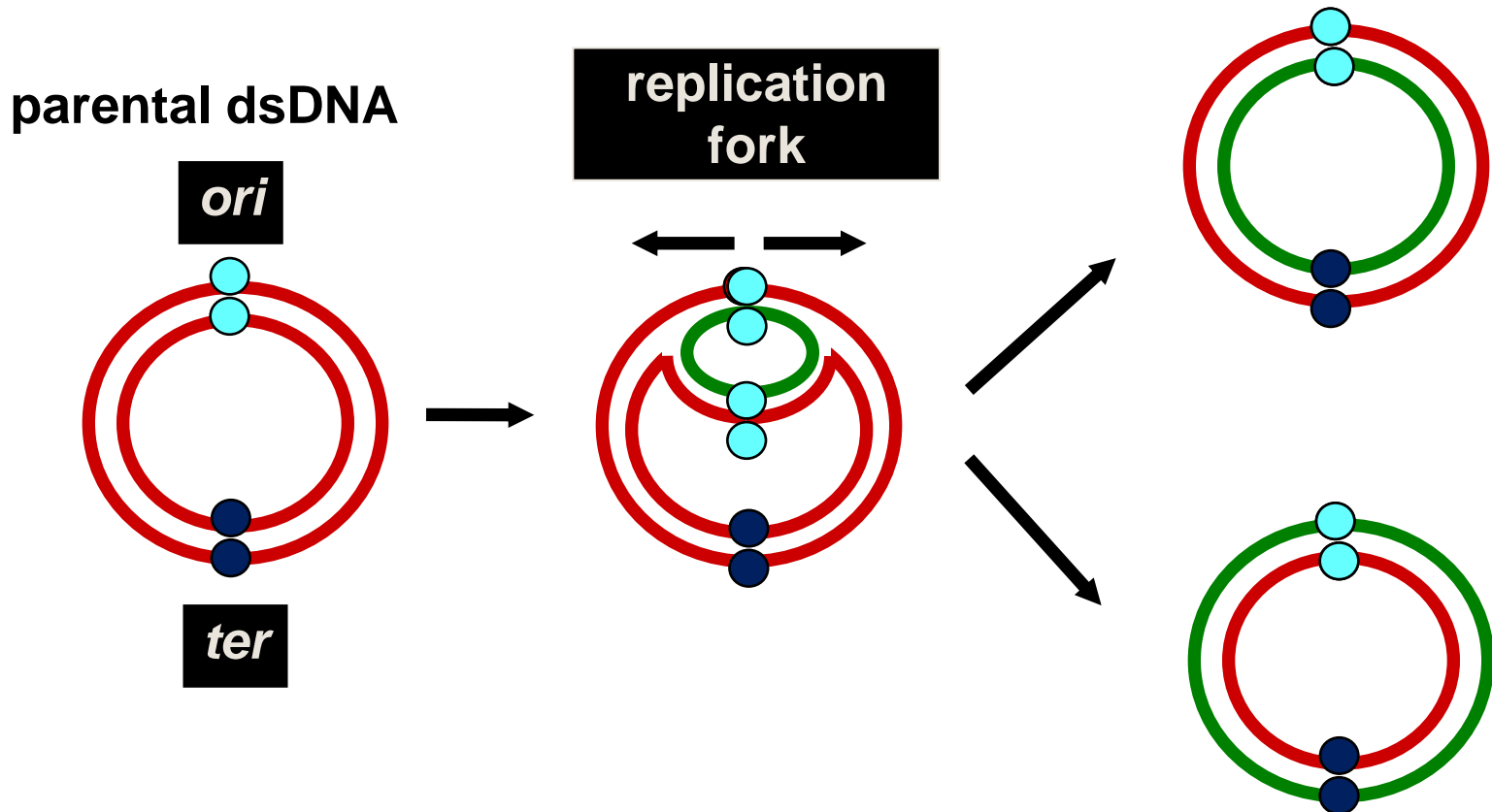


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4gdWOWjioBE>

- It is semidiscontinuous
 - ...Keep a while 😊

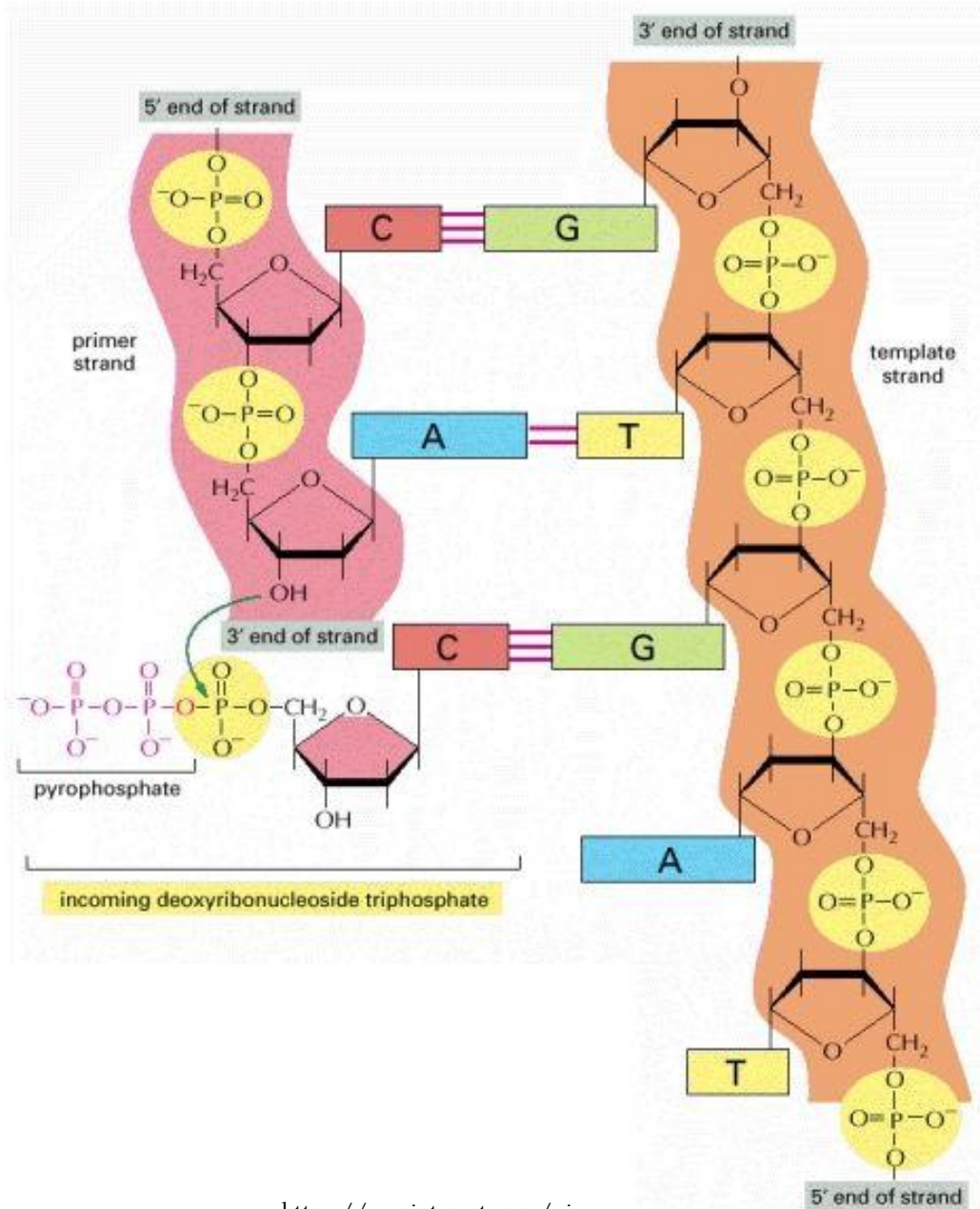


Replication of prokaryotic genom

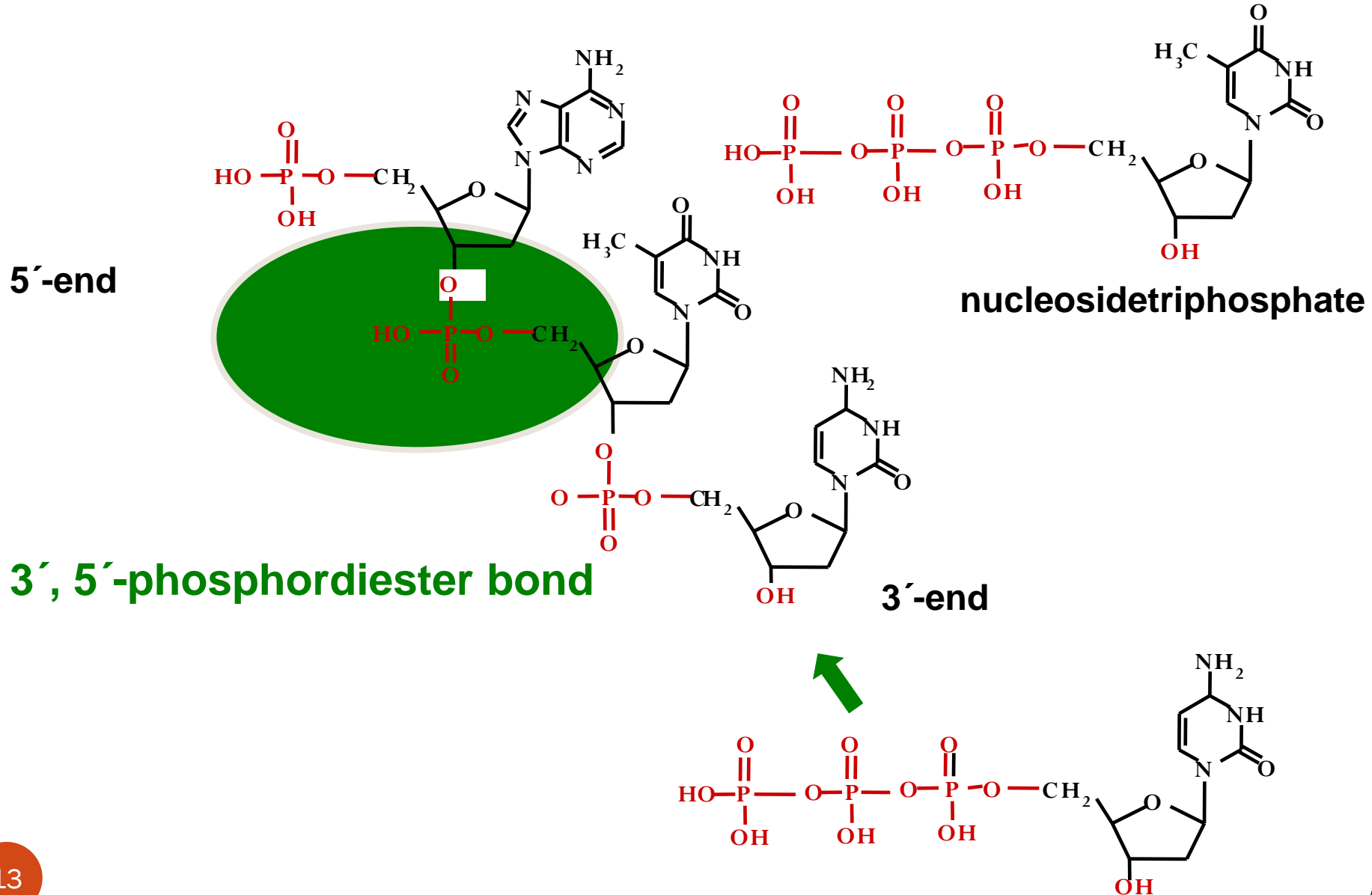


- initiation
- elongation od DNA strand
- termination

Synthesis of DNA during replication



Growing of nucleotide chain

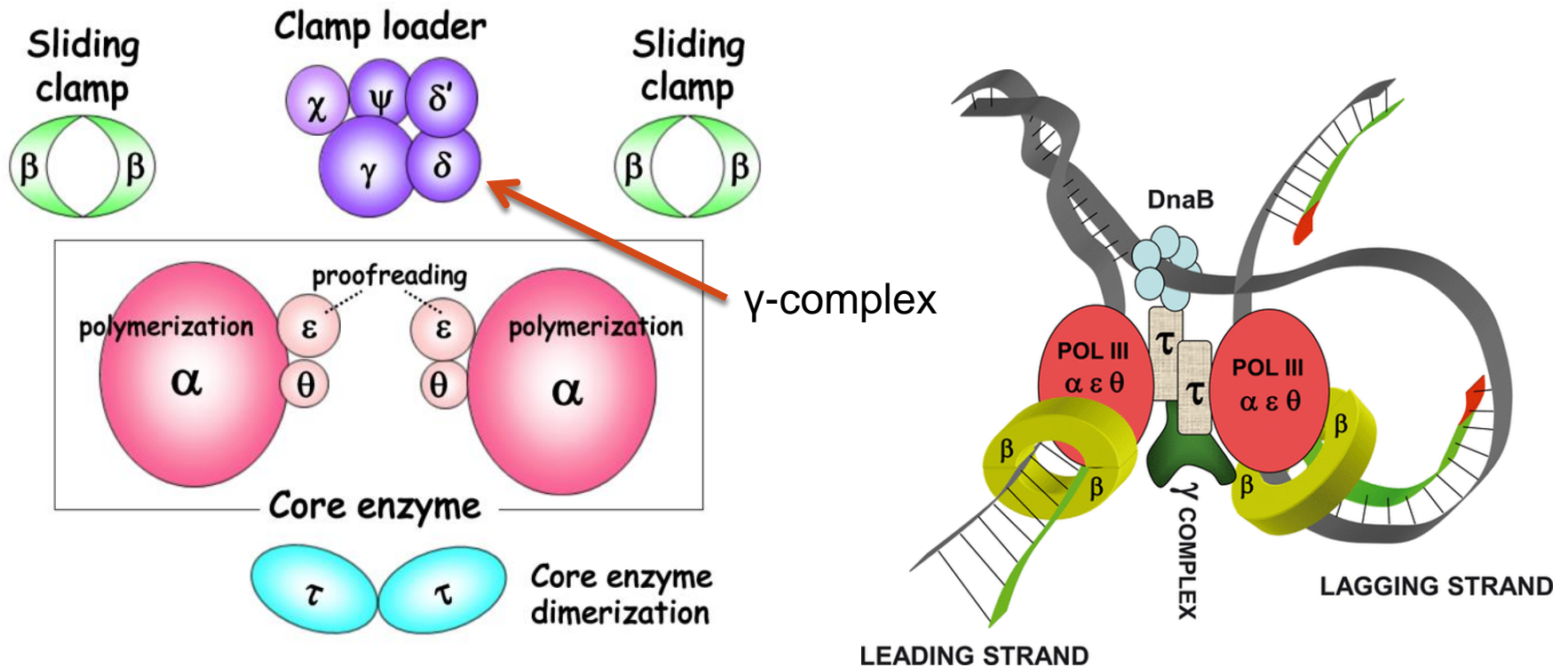


Replication proteins - I

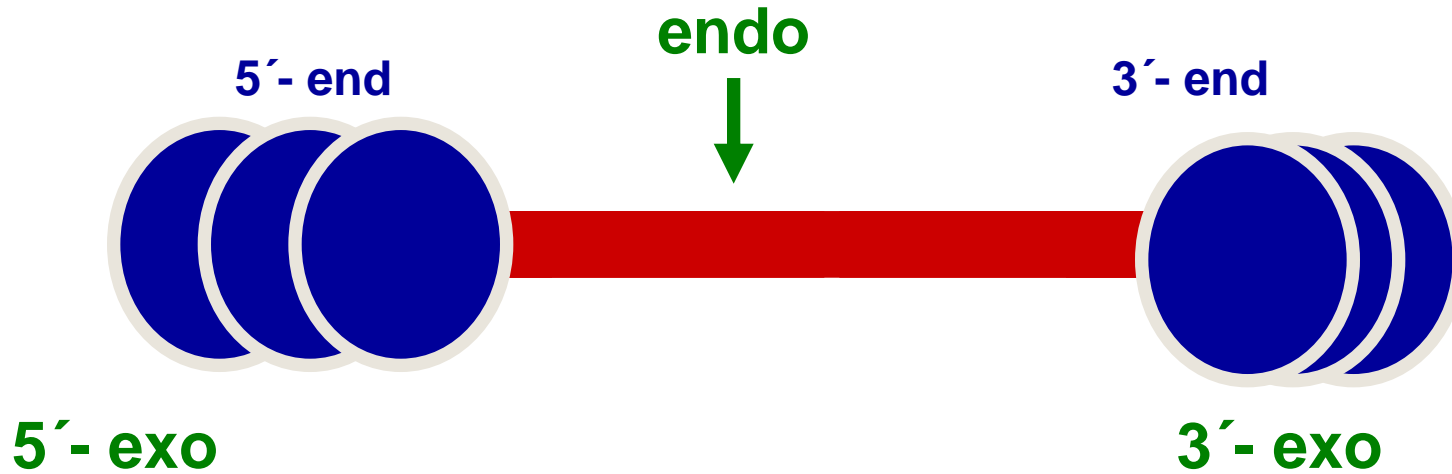
- DNA polymerase I
 - one globular polypeptide, $M = 109\ 000$
 - polymerase, and $5' - 3'$, $3' - 5'$ exonuclease activities
 - It catalyses replication in space between Okazaki fragments
 - It removes RNA-primers by its $5'$ - exonuclease activity
- DNA polymerase II
 - monomeric, $M = 90\ 000$
 - Polymerase activity
 - $3' - 5'$, $5' - 3'$ exonuclease activity
- DNA polymerase III
 - $M = 900\ 000$, oligomeric protein which consists of from several units
 - It catalyse synthesis of leading strand and Okazaki fragments during replication
 - It polymerize by speed $500\ \text{nt/min}$
 - It is processive for the whole DNA molecule

Polymerase III

- Dimer of polymerase III = **PolIII***
- PolIII* - speed 20 nt/s, procesivity 11 nt
- PolIII* + β -clamp – speed 500 nt/s, procesivity „ ∞ “

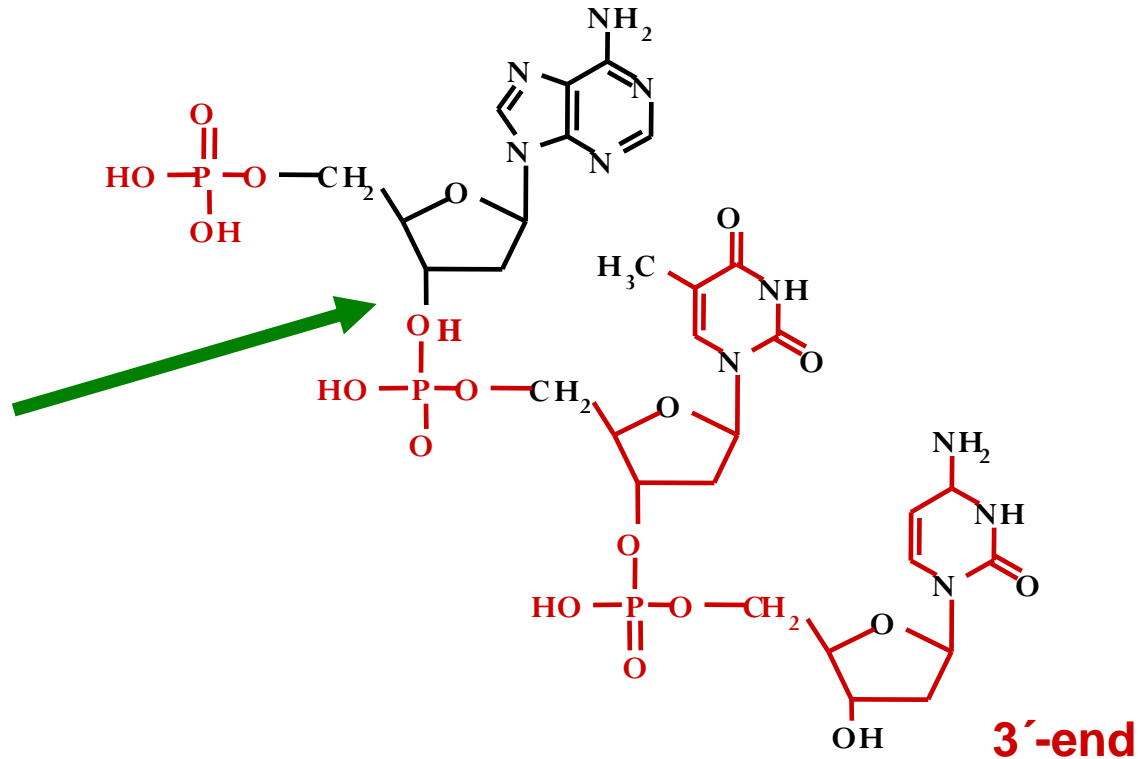


Endo- a exo-nuklease activities



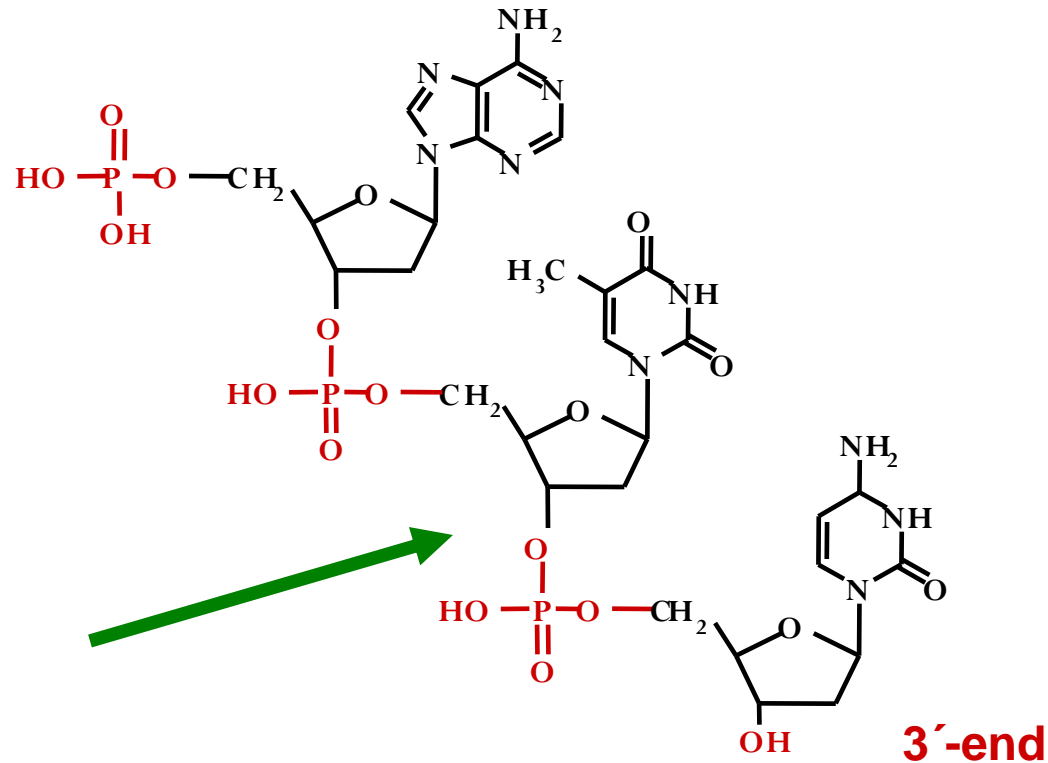
5'-exonuklease activity

5'-end



3'- exonuklease activity

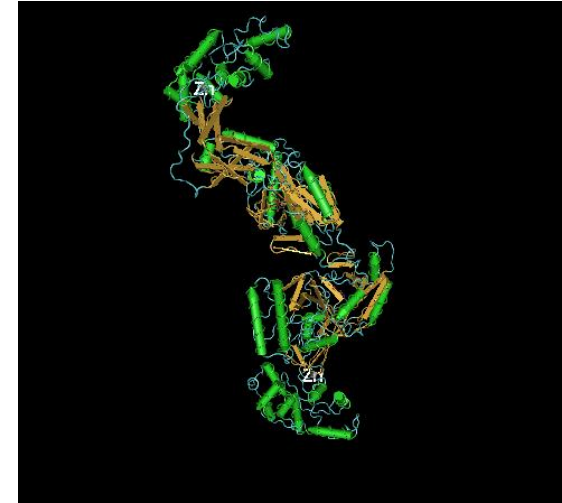
5'-end



Replication proteins - II

➤ DNA-ligase

- It forms phosphodiester bond between 5' - and 3' - ends of two polynucleotide strands
- It joins Okazaki fragments



Replication proteins - III

➤ DNA-primase

- DNA-dependent RNA-polymerase
- synthesis of RNA-primer

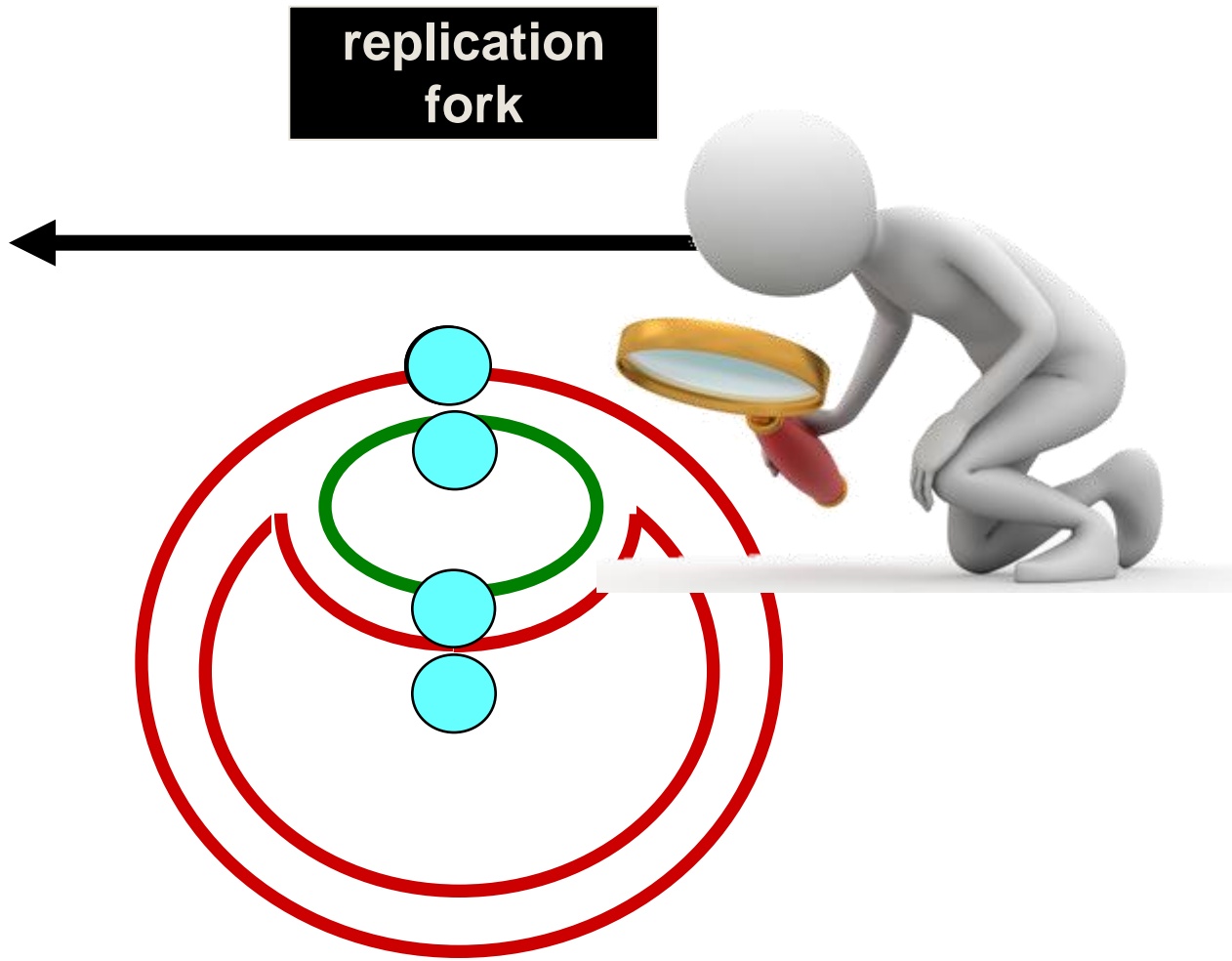
➤ DNA-helicase

- untwists strands from dsDNA
- destroys hydrogen bonds by using the energy from NTP

➤ DNA-gyrase (topoizomerase II)

- transform positive supercoiling to negative

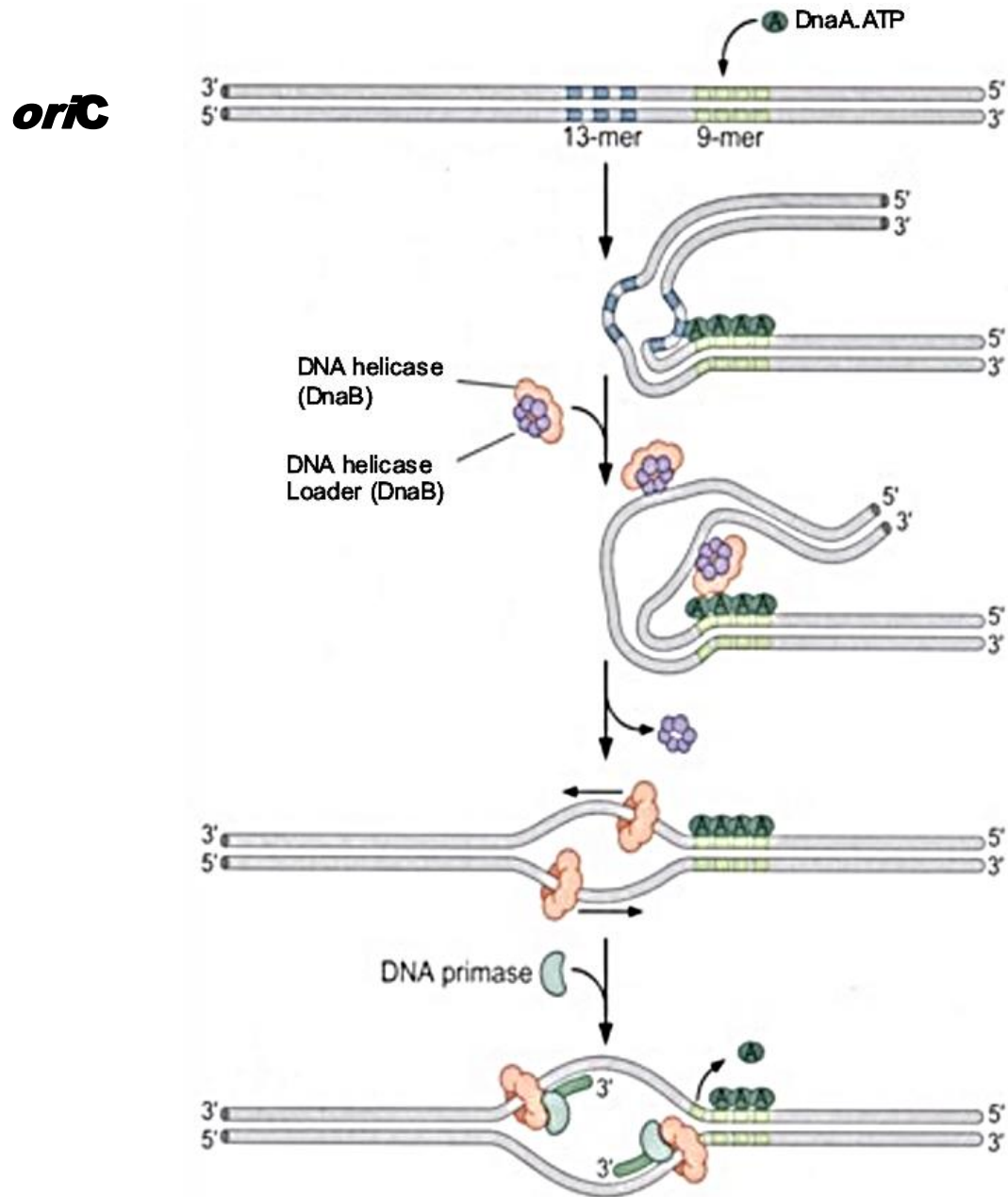
Replication



Initiation of replication

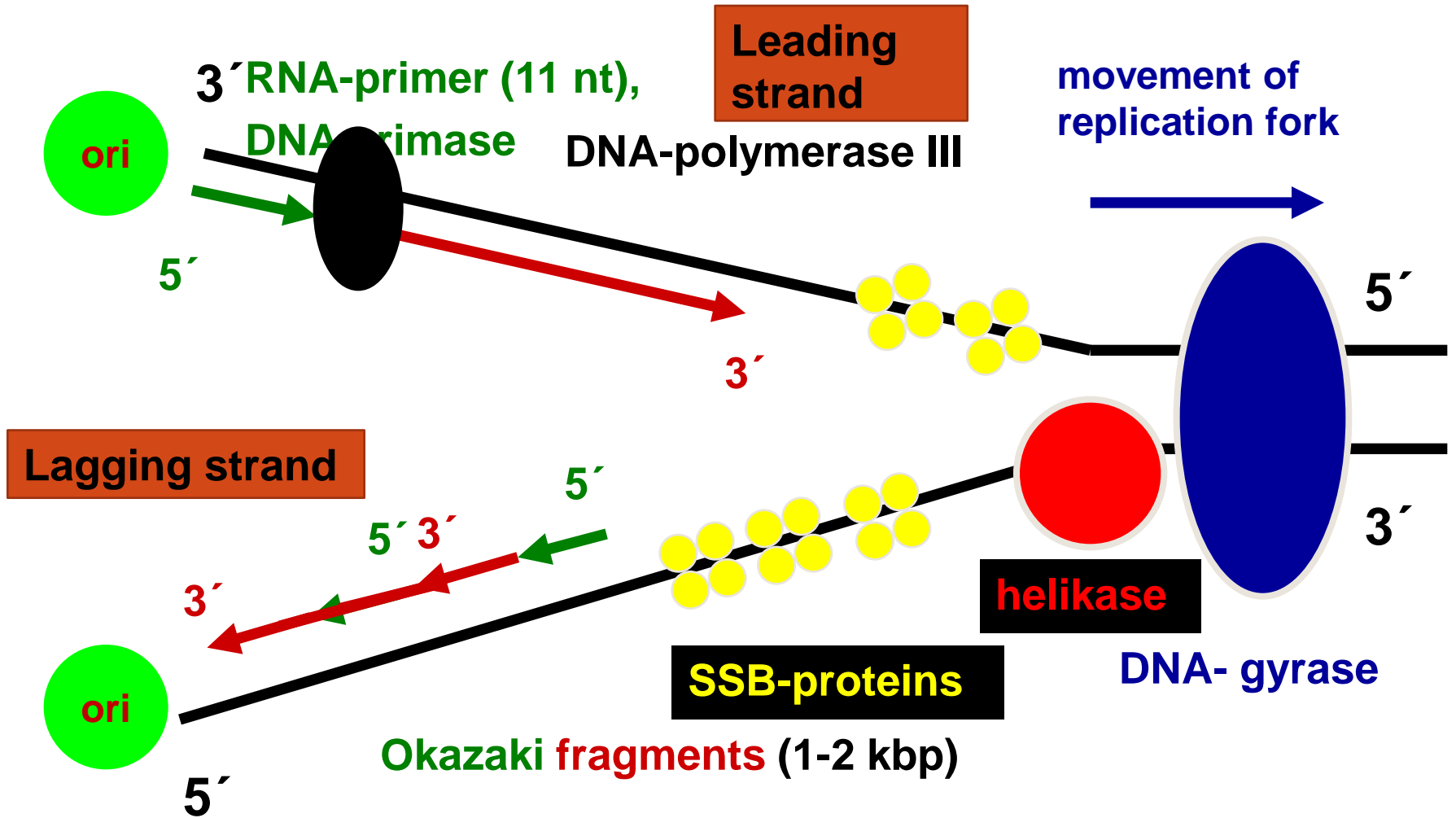
- **DnaA proteins** recognise the origin of replication ***oriC*** (245 nt) → disintegration of H-bonds → opening of ***oriC***
- Helicases bind on released free DNA strands → unwinding of dsDNA in the direction 5′- 3′ → creation of replication fork
- **SSB-proteins** bind to ssDNA parts, the proteins keep the strands in outstretched conditions; it protects reforming of dsDNA

Recognition of *oriC* and initiation of replication



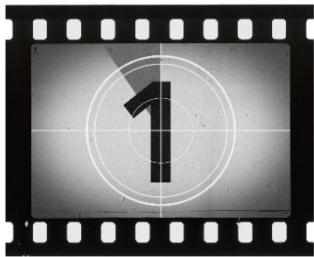
Watson, J. D. et al. (2004) Molecular Biology of the gene. 5th ed. CSHL Press. Fig. 8-26.

Process of replication

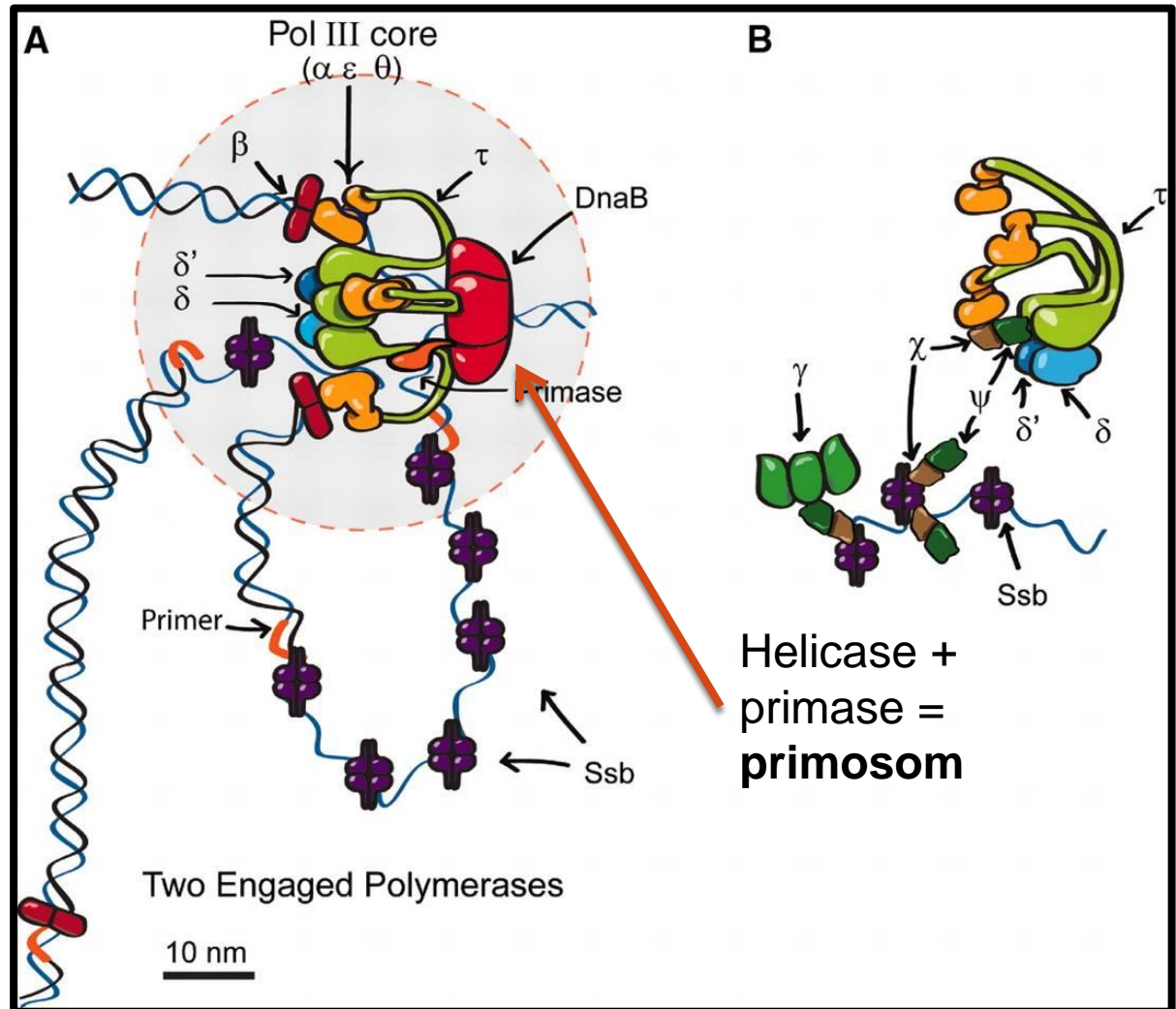


DNA polymesare I removes RNA primers and
synthesize the Okazaki fragments
DNA ligase joins the Okazaki fragment

Replication is performed in replisomes



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1AoVF3k9Hg>

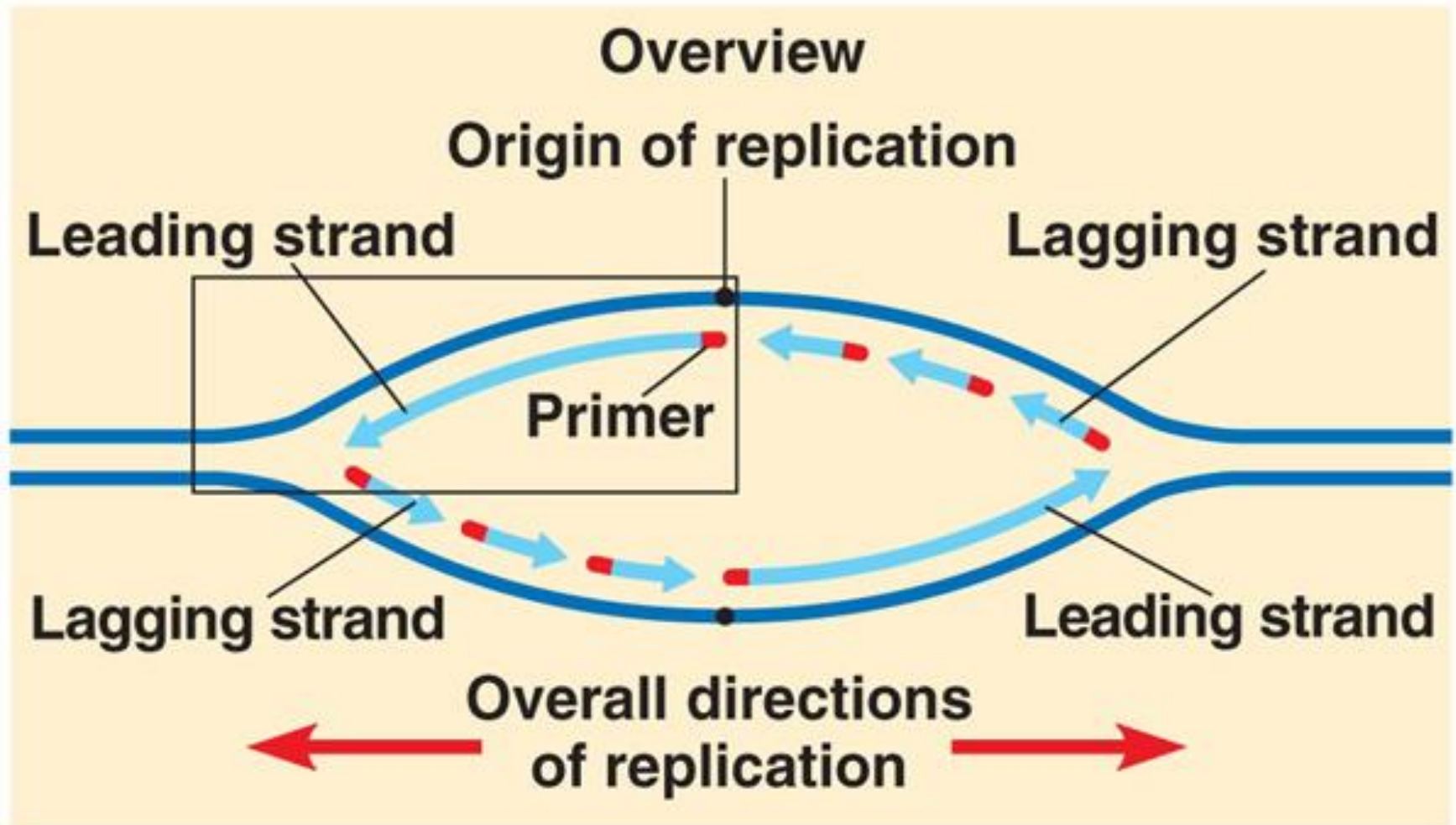


Text to the previous picture

Fig.: Schematic model for replisome components.

- **(A) Two engaged polymerases and one of the three β -clamps at a distance from the core replisome (circle of diameter 50 nm shown in gray). The data indicate that ~75% of replisomes have this organization, whereas ~25% have all three β clamps associated with the core replisome and potentially associated with active Pol III.**
- **(B) Expanded view of clamp loader (3') and three additional molecules of interacting with Ssb tails. The heterodimer bound to the clamp loader may also contact Ssb (14); (shown as a trimer, but the stoichiometry is unknown) then interacts with Ssb-associated.**

Replication is semidiscontinuous and bidirectional



Replication - elongation

Synthesis of new DNA strands is semidiscontinuous

- leading strand
- lagging strand
- Okazaki fragments



Tsuneko Okazaki



Reiji Okazaki

In 1968, Okazaki discovered the way in which the lagging strand of DNA is replicated via fragments, now called Okazaki fragments.

Termination of replication

- Replication of prokaryotic chromosome ends on specific sequences named **terminators** (*ter*)
- The specific **protein Tus** binds to the terminators which inhibits activity of helicase and the formation of replication fork is stopped

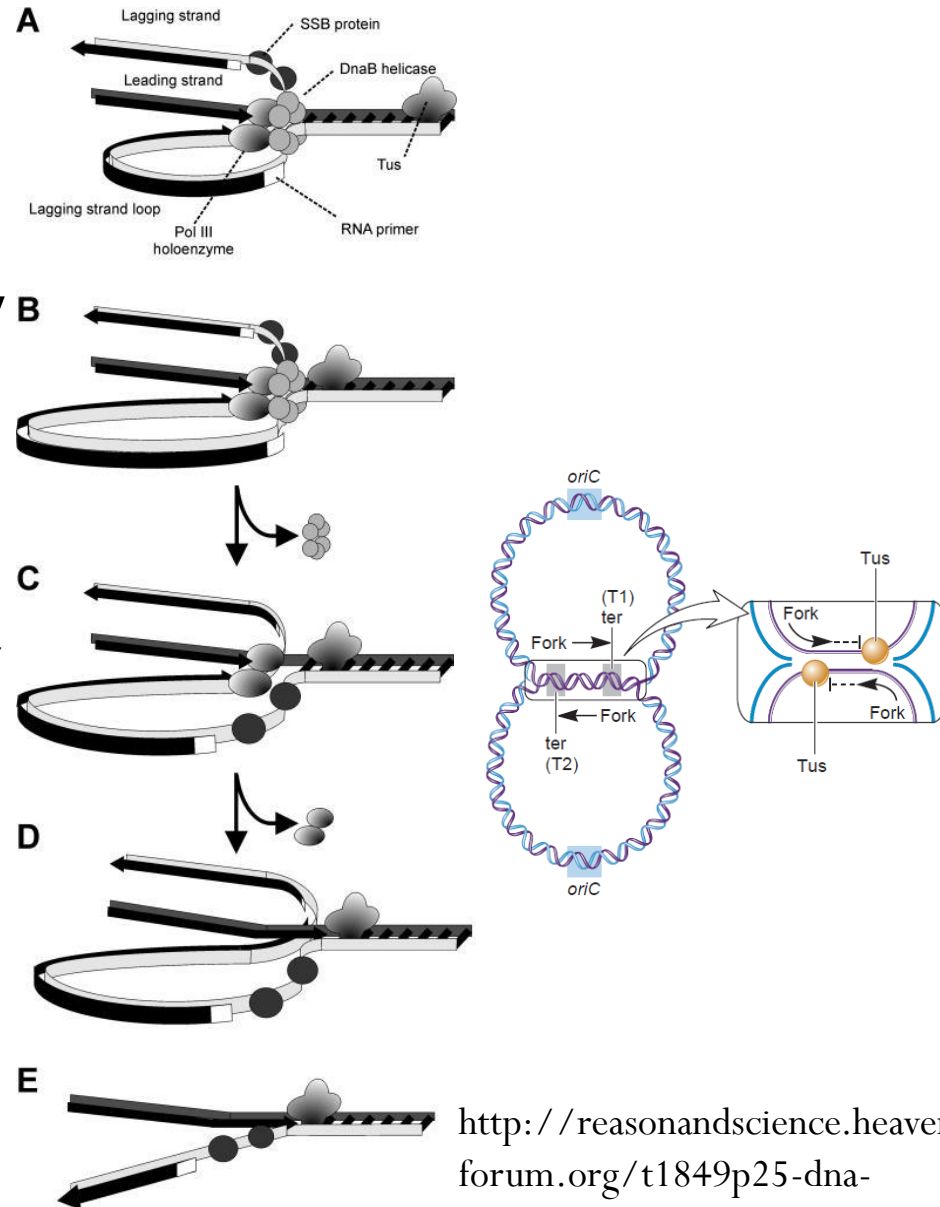
Replisome of *E. coli* and mechanism of replication fork arrest by a Tus-Ter complex.

(A) The replisome moving along the DNA template approaches Tus, and the DnaB helicase assists primase to lay down the last lagging-strand primer.

(B) DnaB helicase action is blocked by Tus, and DnaB dissociates from the template.

(C) DNA polymerase III (Pol III) holoenzyme completes leading-strand synthesis up to the Tus-Ter complex and

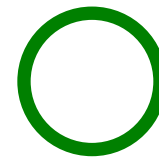
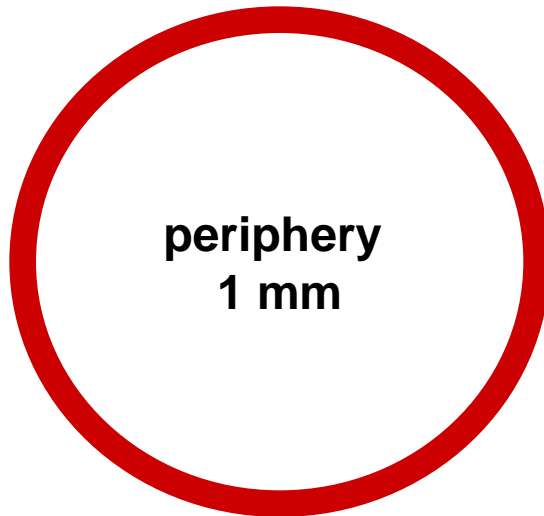
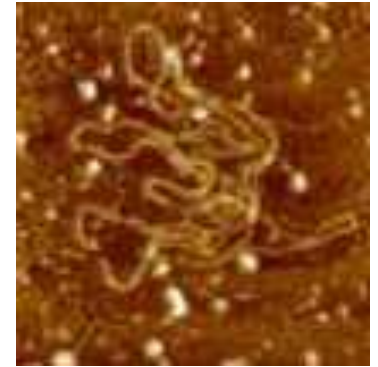
(D) synthesizes the last Okazaki fragment on the lagging strand, which will eventually be ligated by DNA ligase to the penultimate fragment following removal of its RNA primer by DNA polymerase I (not shown). (E) The holoenzyme then dissociates, leaving a Y-forked structure that is single stranded on the lagging strand near the Tus-Ter complex.



<http://reasonandscience.heavenforum.org/t1849p25-dna-replication-of-prokaryotes>

Replication of plasmid DNA

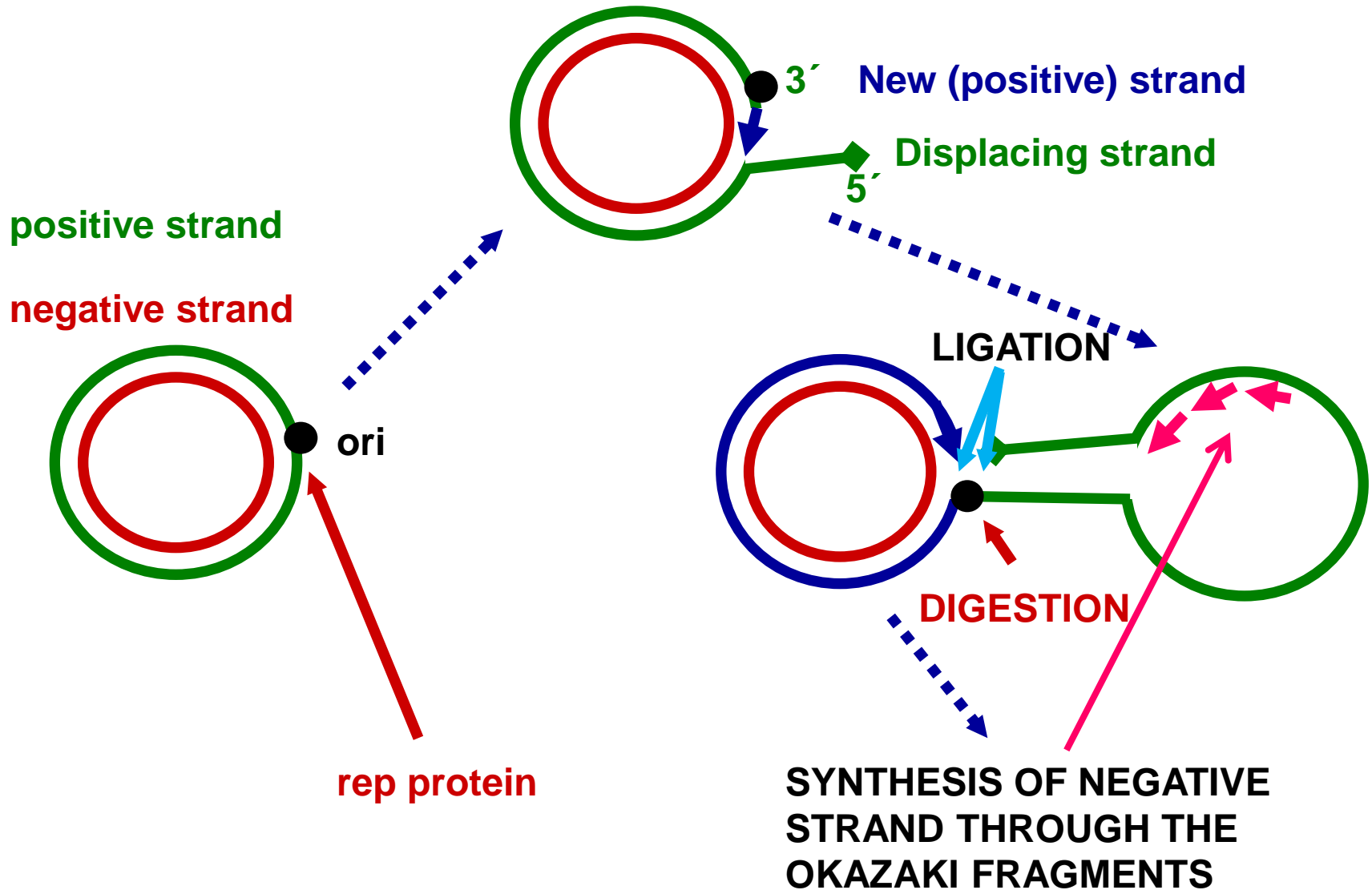
- 1) Plasmids are replicon of circle type
- 2) They are smaller than bacterial chromosome



F plasmid,
periphery 31 μm

- **semiconservative**
- **semidiscontinuous**
- **bidirectional**

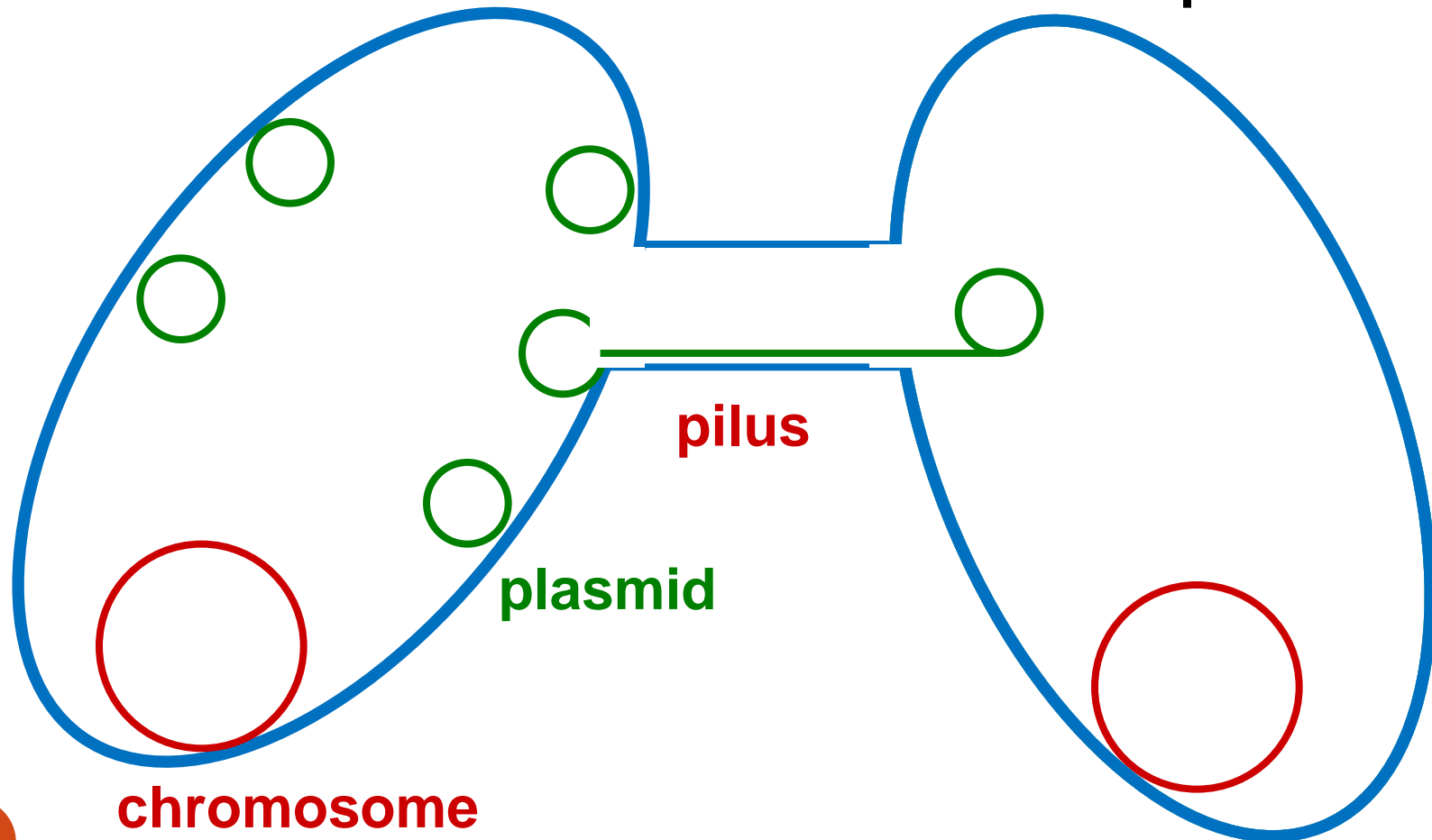
Replication by the rolling circle mechanism



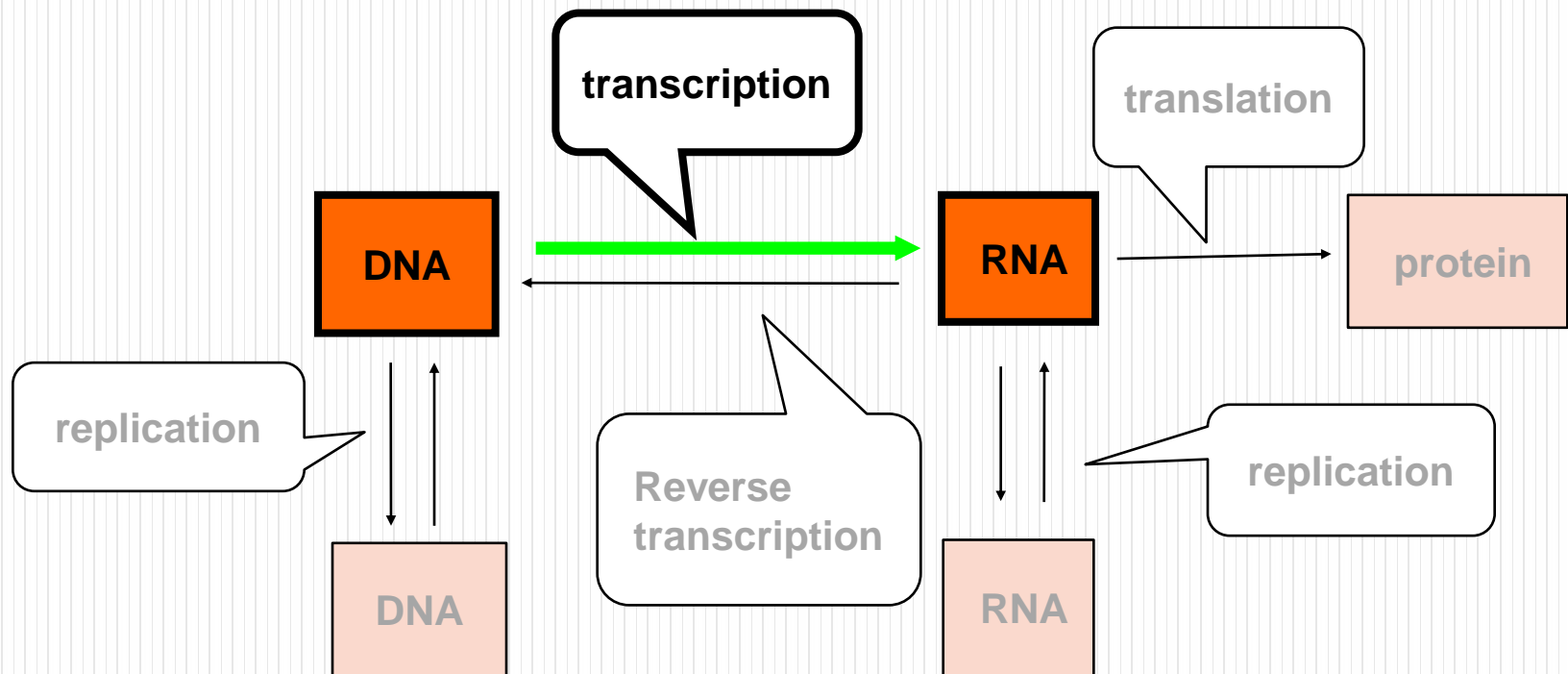
Replication by the rolling circle mechanism during conjugation

Donor cell

Recipient cell



The transcription of prokaryotic genome



What is the transcription?

- Process of copying genetic information in DNA into RNA = synthesis of RNA from ribonucleotides on DNA strand as a template
- DNA-dependent RNA polymerase = transcriptase = prokaryotic RNA polymerase = **RNA polymerase**

Functions of the RNA polymerase

- It binds to promotor sequence
- It catalyses synthesis of long primary transcripts on a template DNA strand

Which primary transcripts are created during transcription?

1) Messenger RNA (mRNA)

it contains transcripts of genetic information from structural genes

2) Precursor ribosomal RNA (pre-rRNA)

primary transcript of the genes for rRNA, post-transcriptionally processed to rRNA

3) Precursor transfer RNA (pre-tRNA)

primary transcript of genes for tRNA post-transcriptionally processed to different types of tRNA

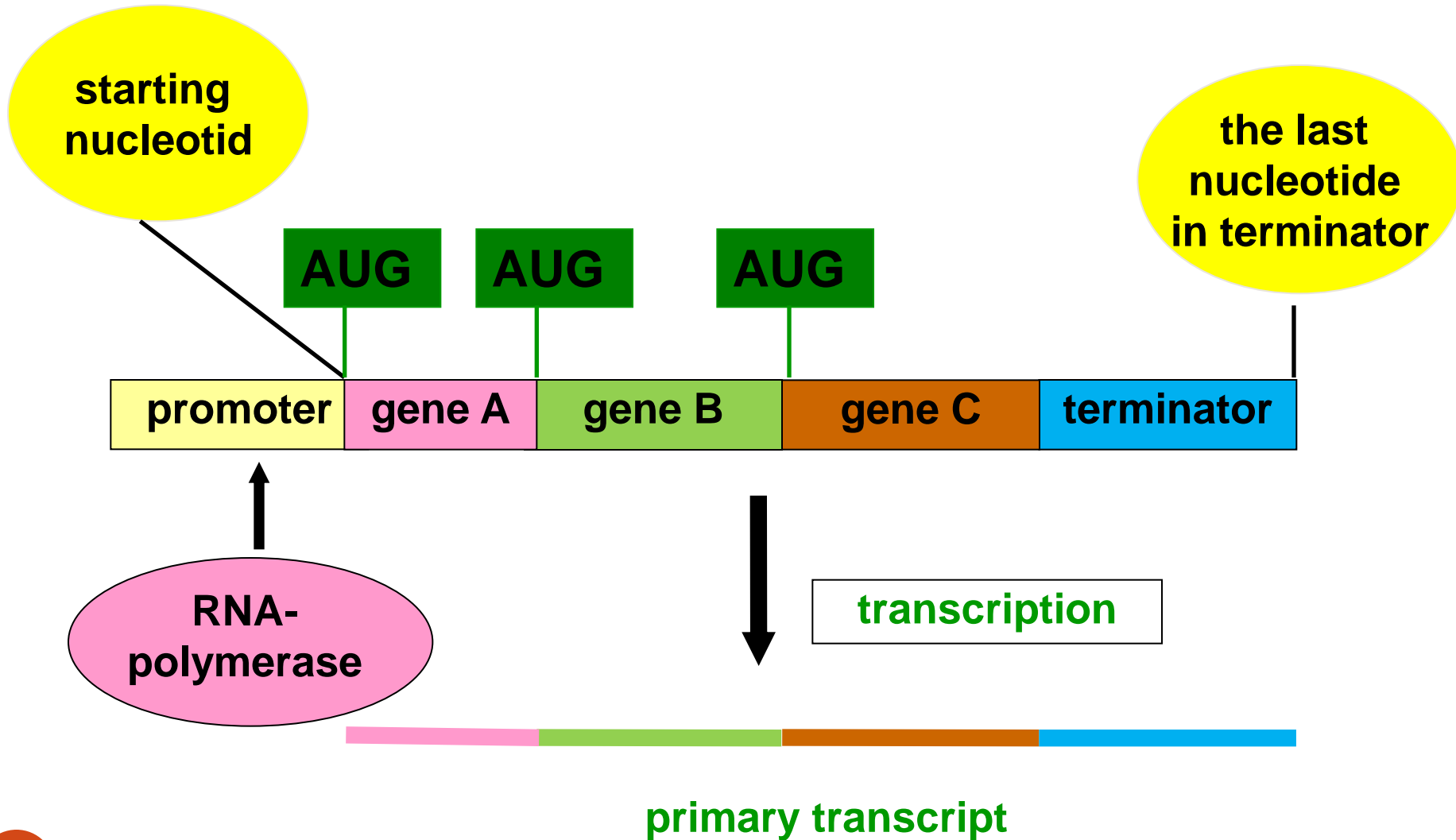
4) Primary transcripts of regulatory RNAs

Transcription units

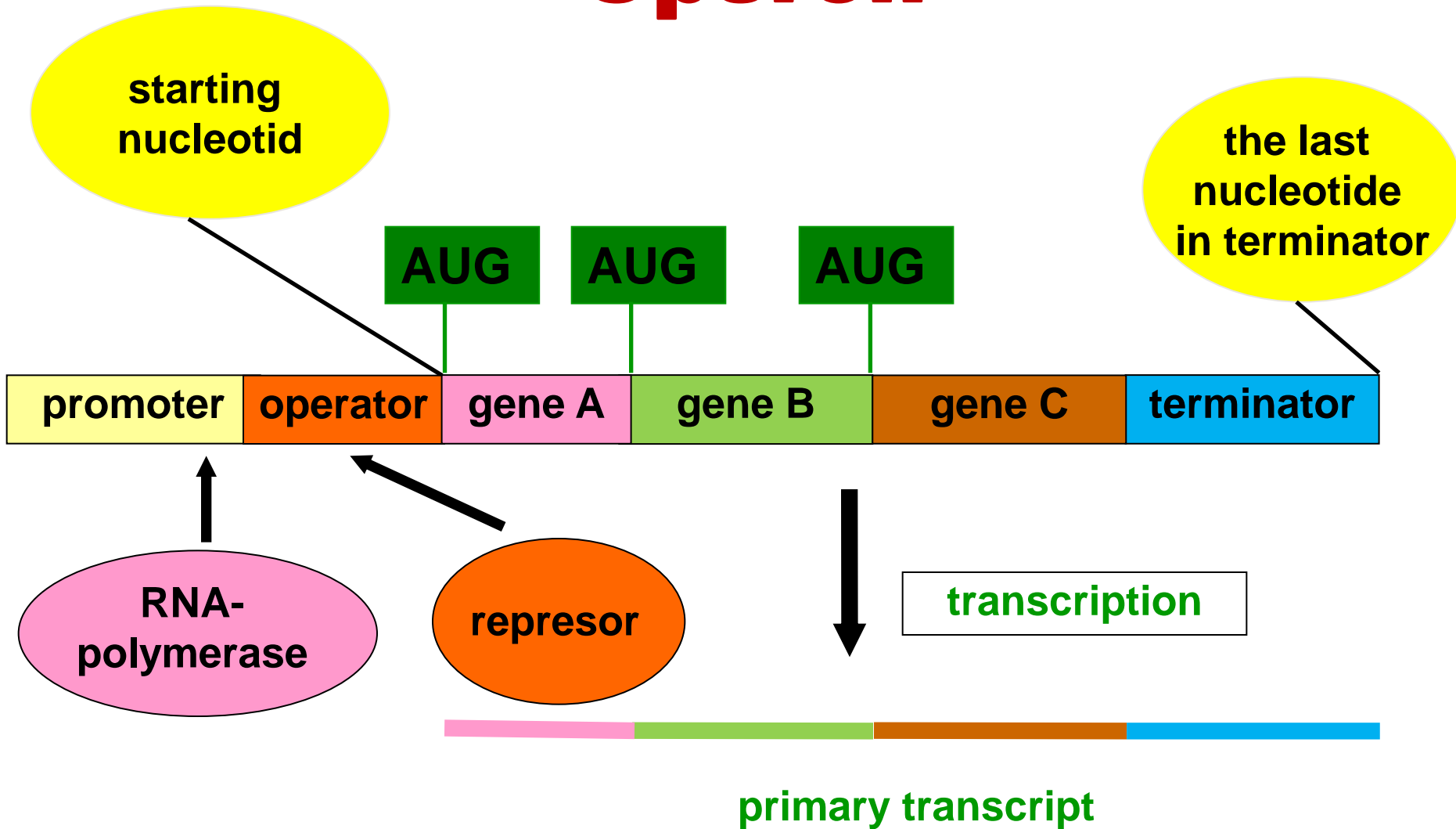
The transcription is performed in specific units = transcription units

- 1) Transcription units of non-operon type
- 2) Operons

Transcription units of non-operon type



Operon

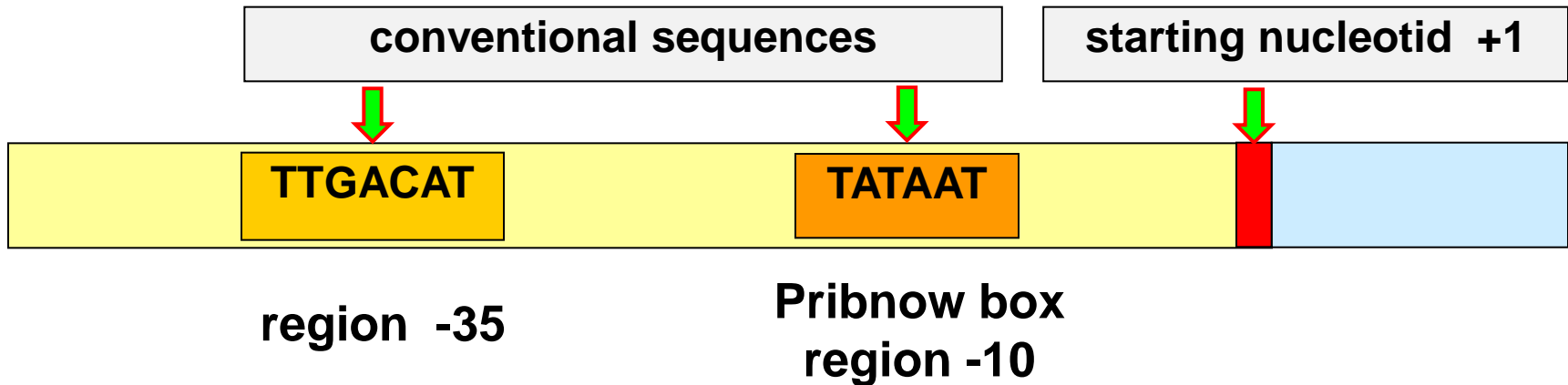


!! promotor can overlap with operator !!

Types of transcription units

- 1) The transcription units which contain structural genes**
- 2) The transcription units which contain genes for rRNA**
- 3) The transcription units which contain genes for tRNA**
- 4) The transcription units for regulatory RNA**

Prokaryotic promoter

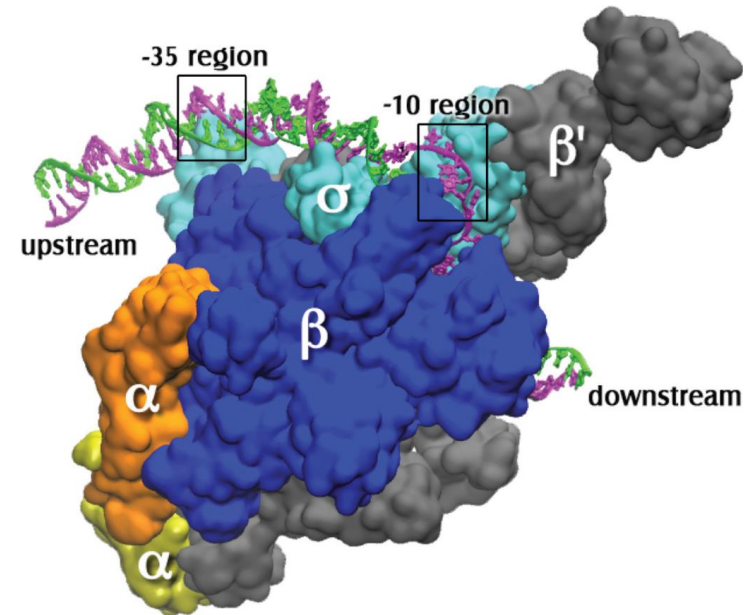
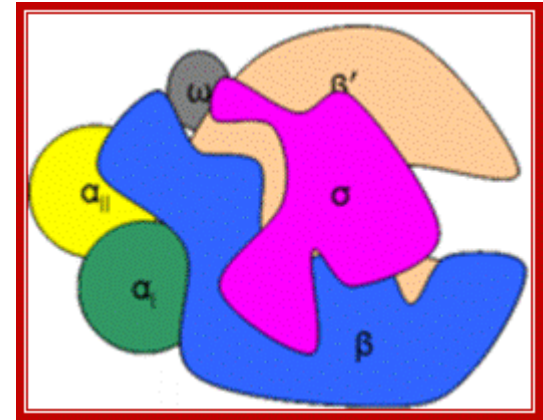


- Similarity of promoters enable their affinity to single RNA polymerase
- Differences are responsible for extent of this affinity
 - strong bacterial promoter – more similar to conventional sequences
 - weak bacterial promoter – less similar to conventional sequences

Bacterial RNA polymerase

- 1) It is able to recognize the promoters of all transcription units
- 2) It consists of 5 subunits

- 2x α (M = 40 000), responsible for stability
- 1x β (155 000), used for binding ribonucleotides to the enzyme
- 1x β' (160 000), responsible for binding RNA polymerase to template DNA strand
- 1x ω , regulation
- 1 x σ (85 000), **σ -factor**, responsible for binding RNA polymerase to promoter



Process of transcription

Initiation of transcription

Binding of RNA polymerase to promoter of the negative DNA chain and starting of RNA chain synthesis

Elongation of RNA chain

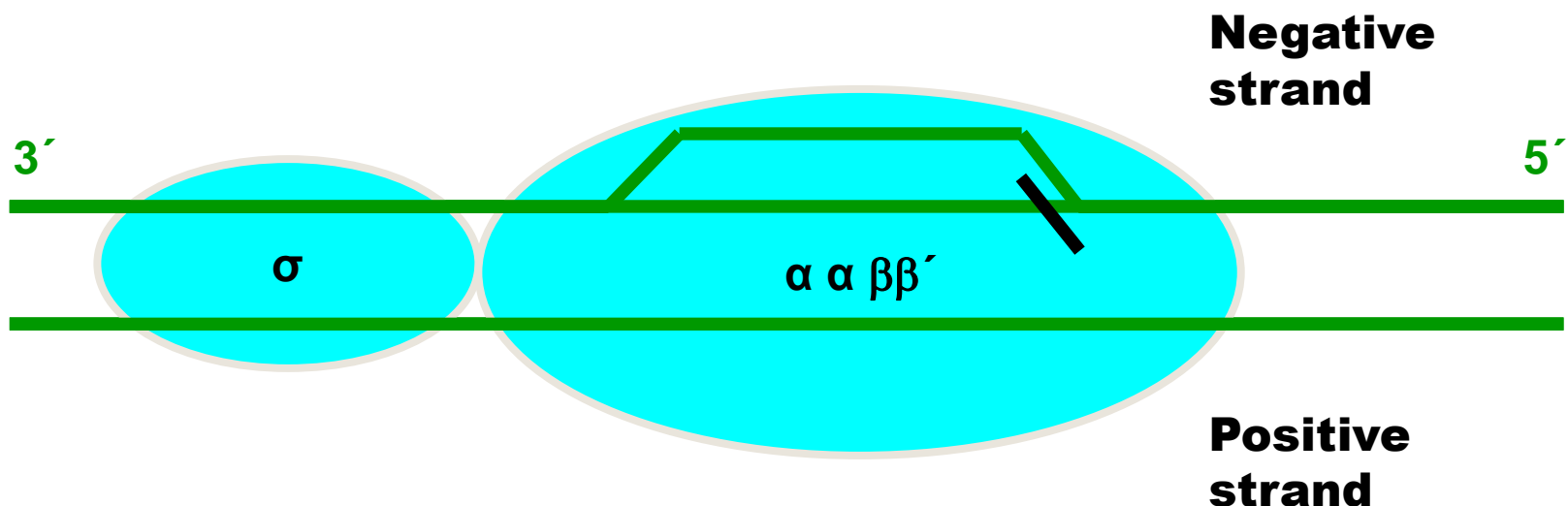
Adding of nucleoside-5'-monophosphates to 3'- end of growing RNA strand

Termination of transcription

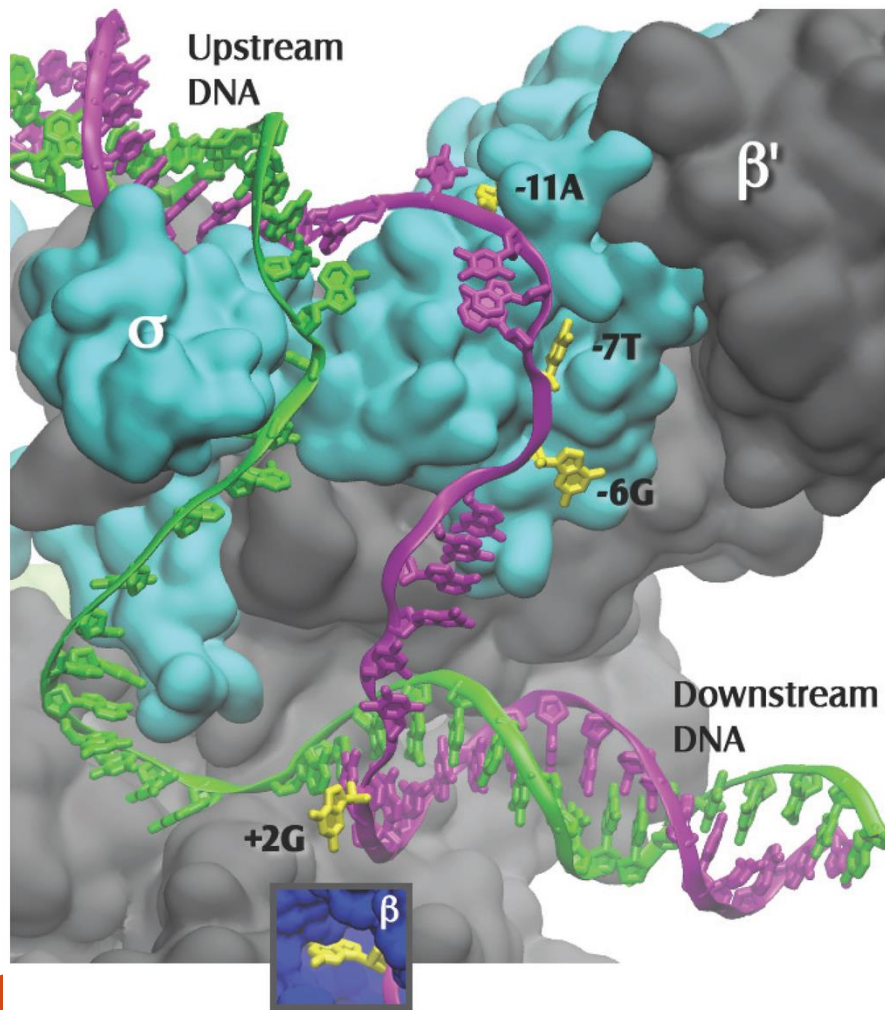
Stop the movement of RNA polymerase → releasing the full length RNA → releasing RNA polymerase from DNA

Initiation of transcription

- 1) Binding of RNA polymerase to the sequence -35 and to the Pribnow box (**closed transcription binary complex**)
- 2) Releasing hydrogen bonds between two DNA strands in the Pribnow box (**open transcription binary complex**)
- 3) Transcription of the first two nucleotides (**open transcription ternary complex**)



Open transcription binar complex

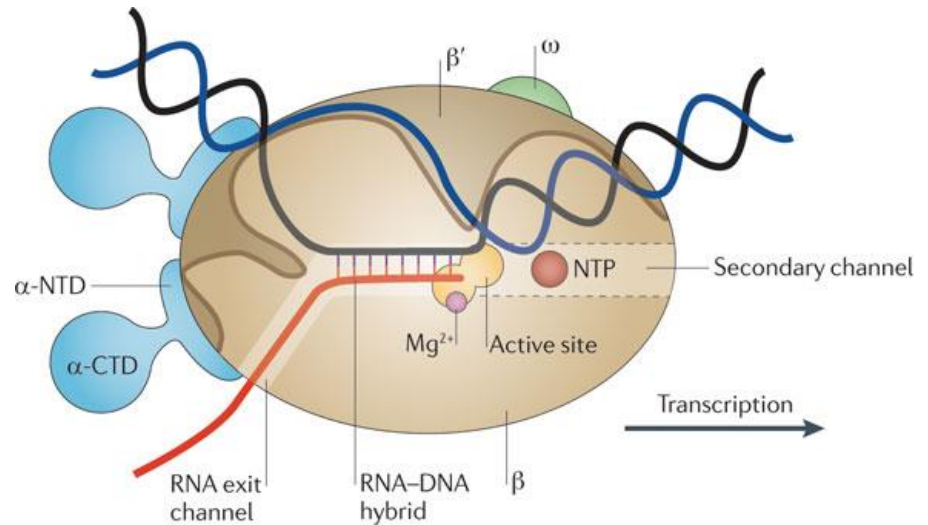


The β subunit was removed to reveal the transcription bubble and the flipped bases in their pockets. Template DNA is in green and nontemplate DNA is in magenta, with the flipped-out bases in yellow. Bases $-11A$ and $-7T$ interact solely with the σ subunit. Base $-6G$ is at the σ - β subunit interface. Base $+2G$ interacts solely with the β subunit (insert). The $-12T$ nontemplate base is shown in the figure as unpaired, as it is in the 4G7O coordinate set; it is likely base paired in the native promoter.

Biomolecules 2015, 5(2), 668-678;
doi:[10.3390/biom5020668](https://doi.org/10.3390/biom5020668)

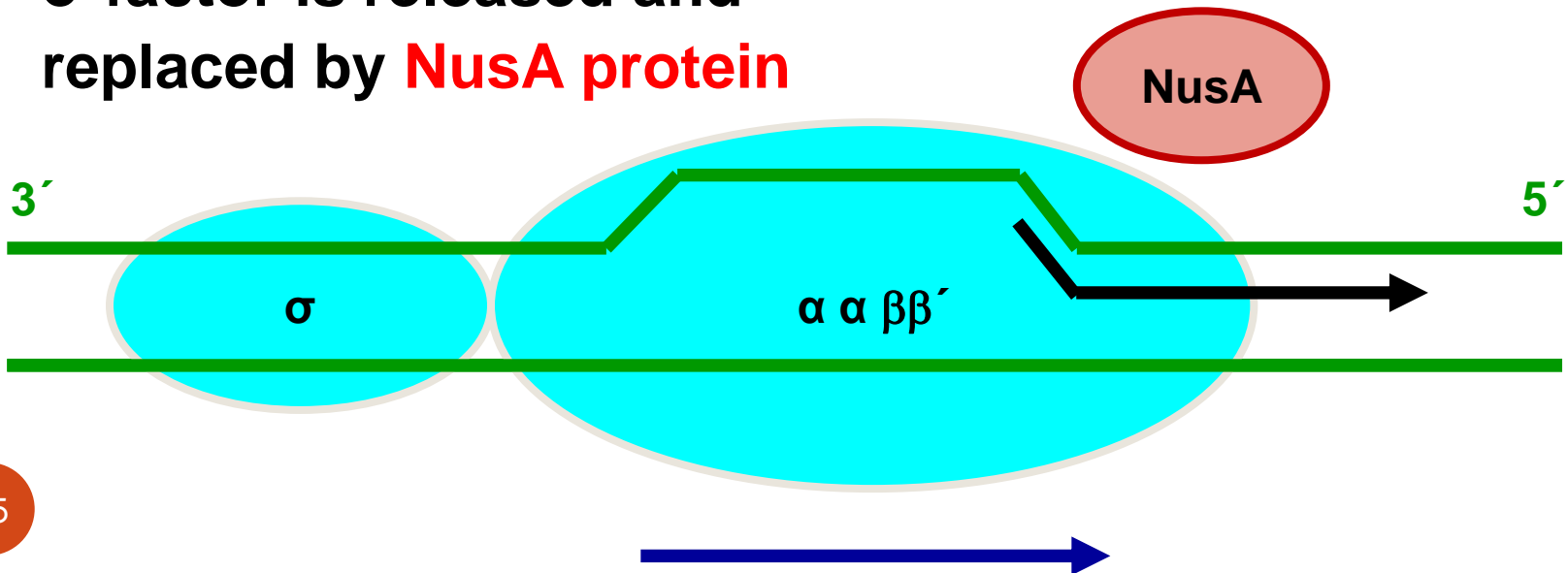
Elongation of transcription

- 1) RNA synthesis continues in 5'-3' direction and RNA polynucleotide grows
- 2) The speed of synthesis is about 40 nt/s
- 3) Once elongation starts, σ -factor is released and replaced by **NusA protein**



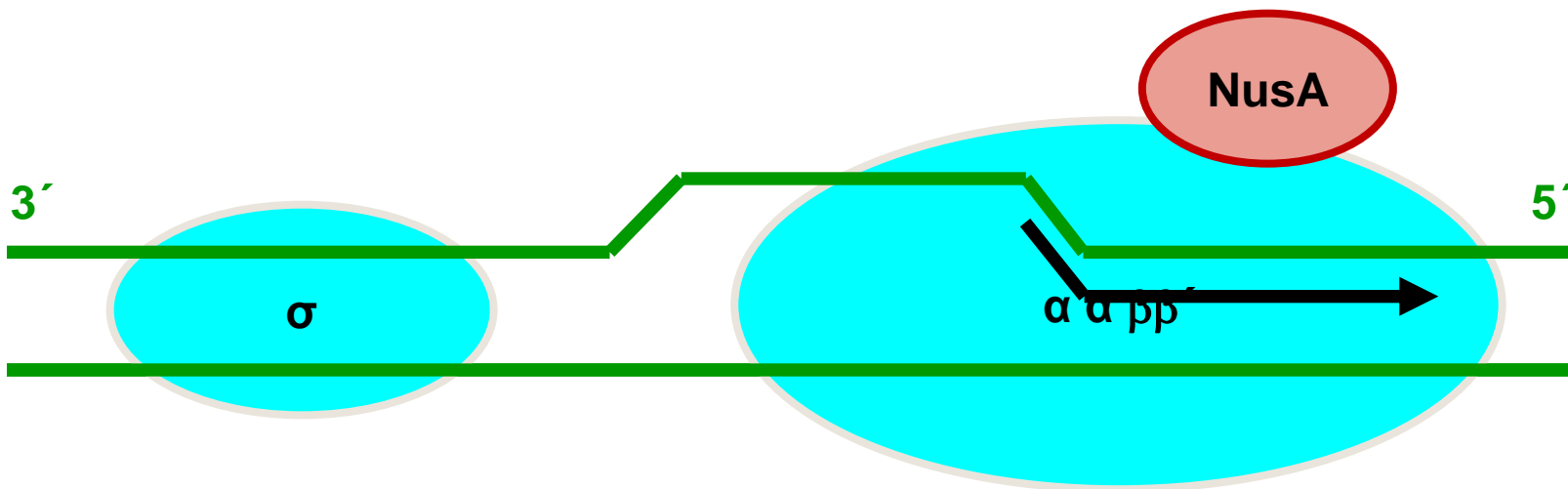
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DOI: 10.1038/nrmicro2560



Termination of transcription

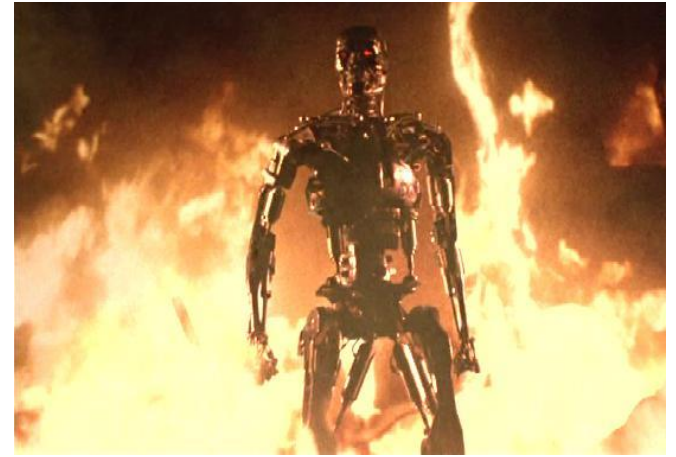
- 1) The RNA polymerase stops its movement
- 2) The full length RNA is released
- 3) The RNA polymerase is released from DNA
- 4) Dissociation of NusA protein from RNAP



Bacterial terminators of transcription

1. Rho-independent terminators

transcription is terminated without the presence of specific ρ -factor

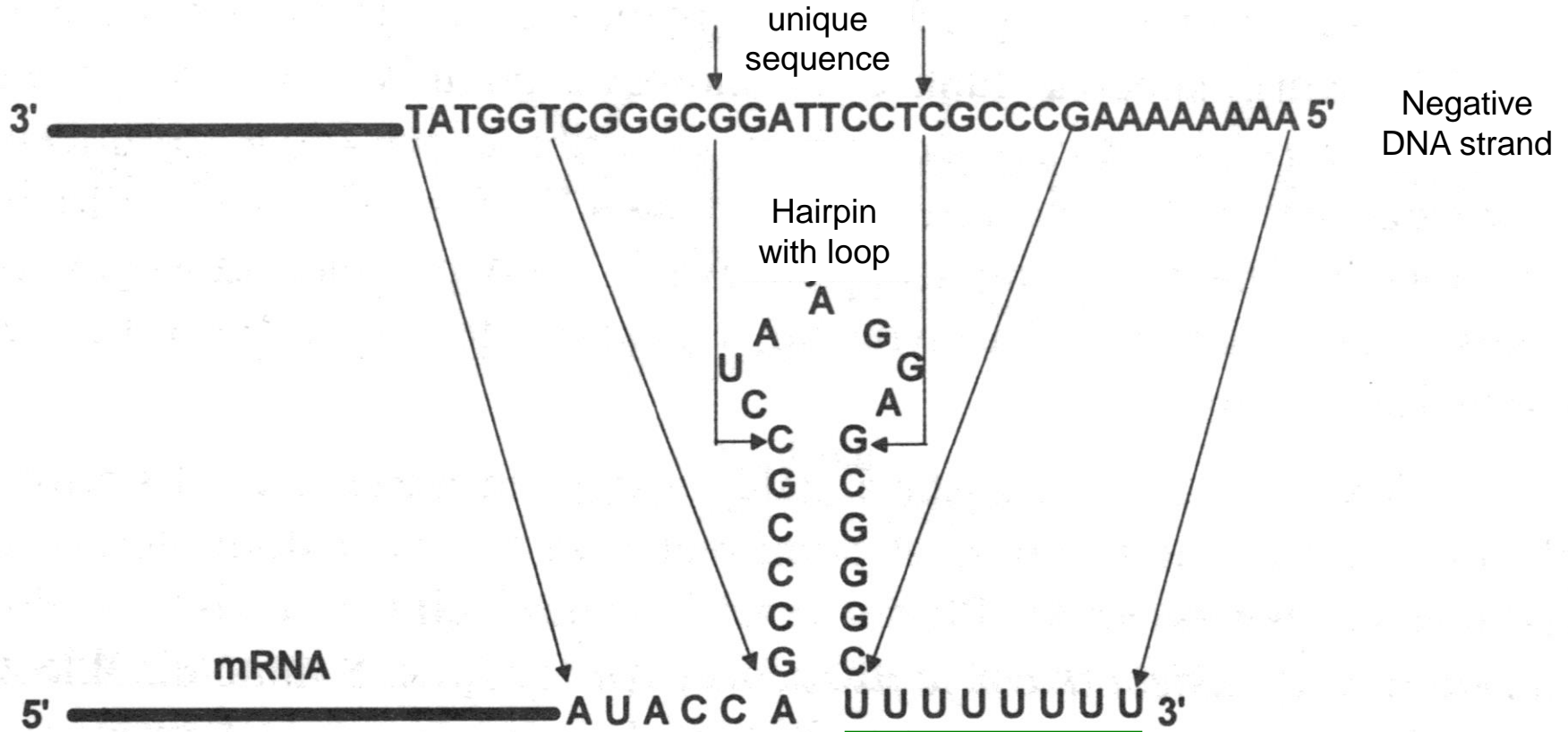


2. Rho-dependent terminators

transcription is terminated in the presence of specific ρ -factor



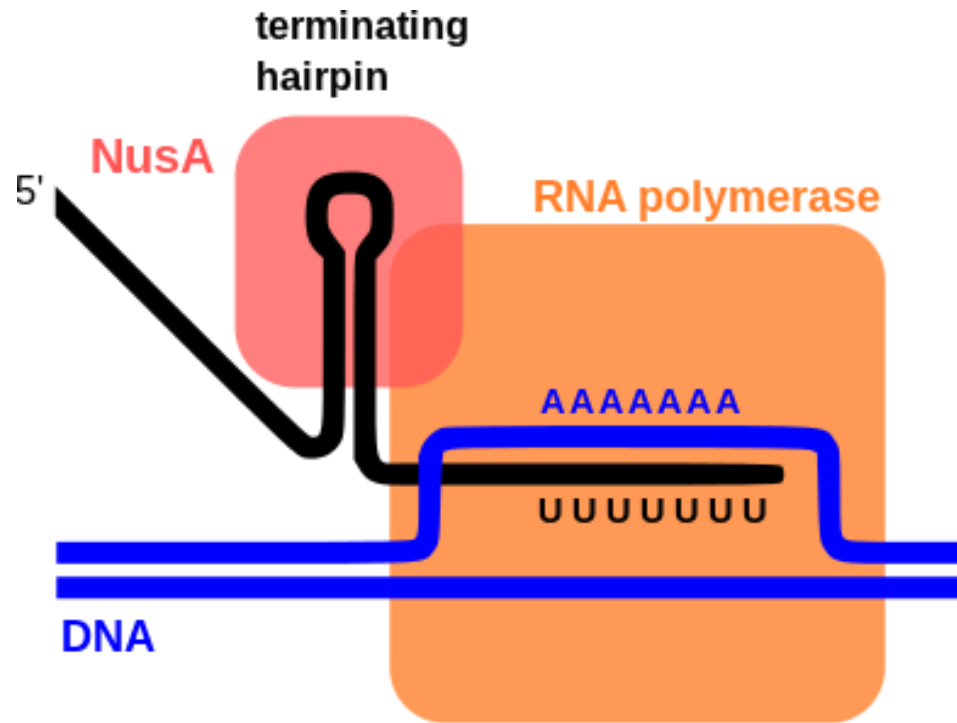
Rho-independent terminators



Rosypal, 1999

Termination of transcription ρ -factor independent

- Hairpin binds to NusA protein
- Stop of RNAP movement
- Finishing of 8U sequence transcription
- RNAP releases from DNA and again associate with σ -factor



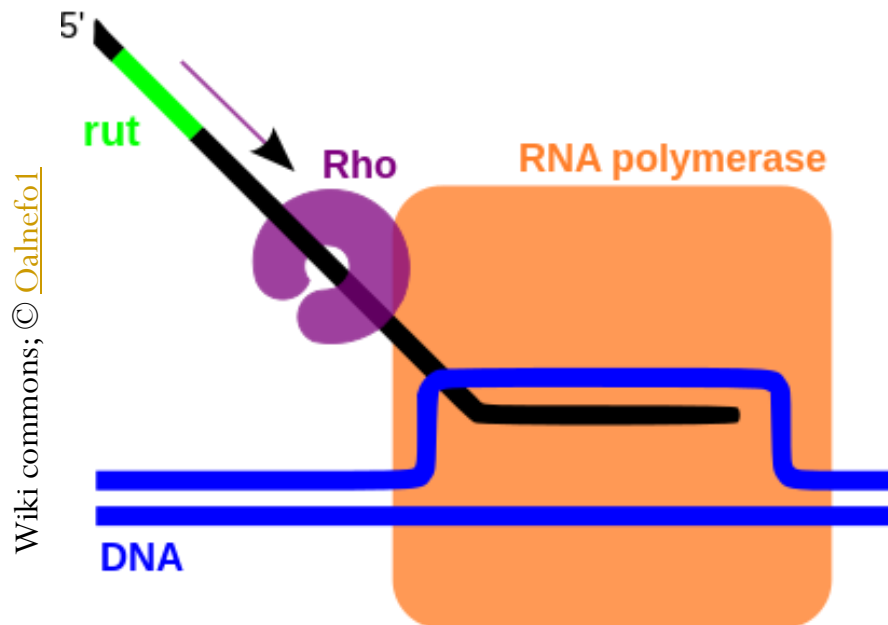
Wiki commons; © [Oalnefo1](#)

Rho-dependent terminators

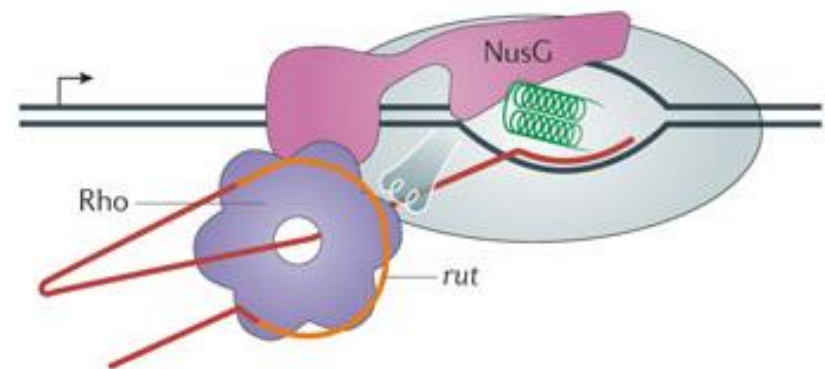
- 1) Similar structure
- 2) The sequence AAAAAAA is replaced by another, for example GTTAGAA
- 3) This sequence is transcribed to CAAUCUU
- 4) No sequence UUUUUUUU → no signal for RNA polymerase releasing → dependency on ρ-factor

Termination of transcription ρ -factor dependent

- ρ -factor binds to *rut* locus of nascent RNA
- Subsequently moves towards RNAP
- Once ρ -factor reaches a RNAP, RNAP dissociates from DNA



Rho-dependent terminator



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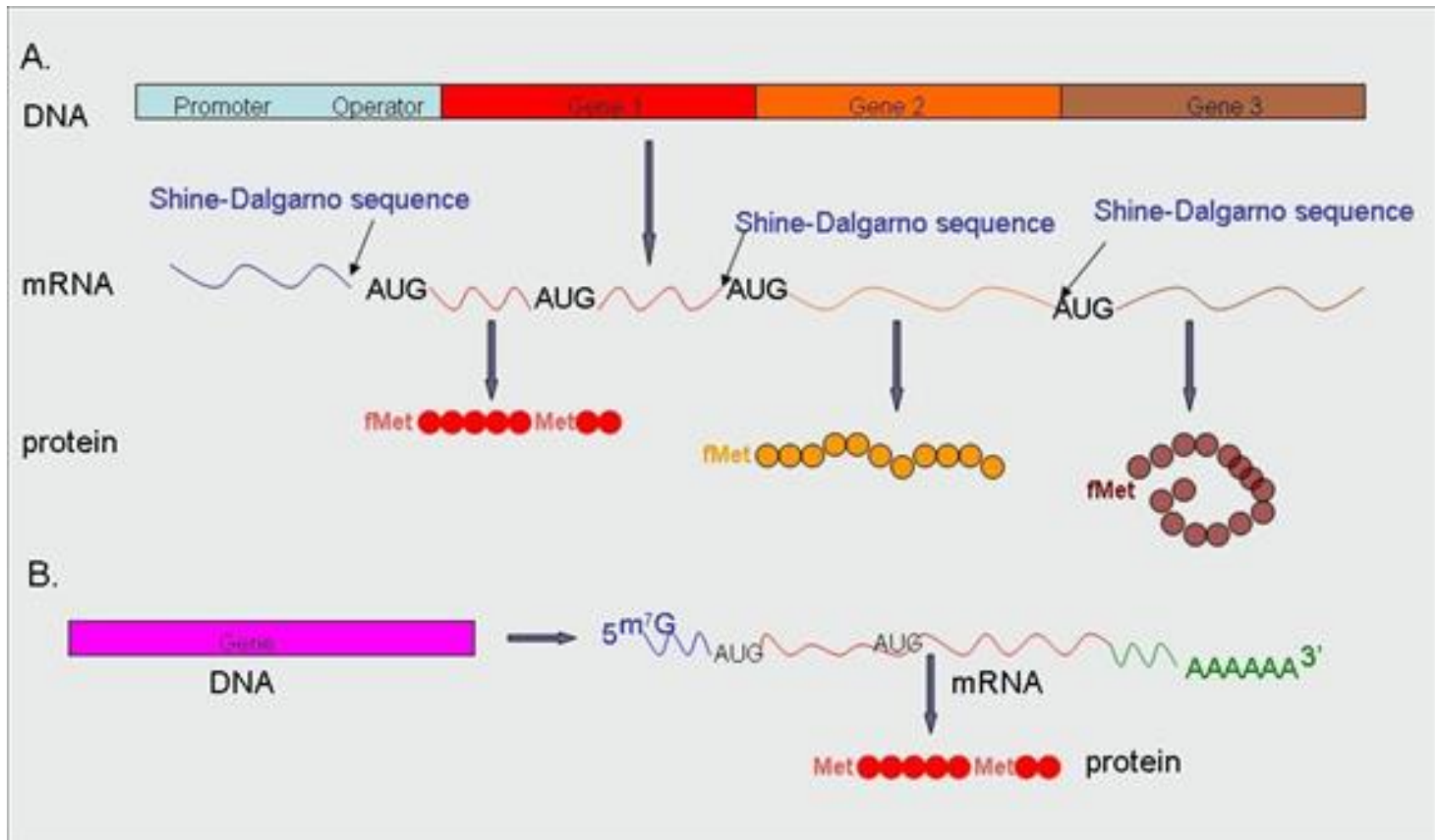
DOI: 10.1038/nrmicro2560

Transcription of the structural genes

- 1) They contain a leader sequence (only in structural genes)
 - the sequence lies between promoter and the first structural gene
 - in operone it is immediately after operator
- 2) The leader sequence contains
 - Shine-Dalgarno sequence 5'AGGA 3'
 - it binds to the 3'- end of 16S-rRNA



Transcription unit of structural genes

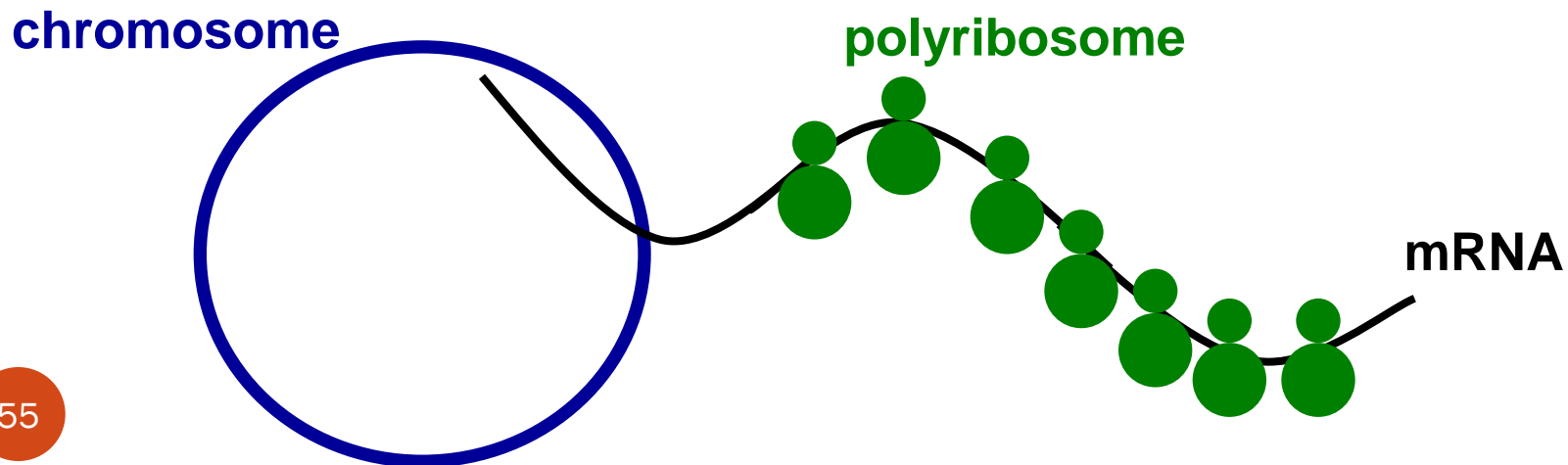


mRNA

- 1) Primary transcript of transcription unit bearing **structural genes**, which are translated into **polypeptide chains**
- 2) Contains leader sequence on the 5'-end
- 3) Bears UUUUUUUU (**ending sequence**) on 3'-end
- 4) Contains **transcripts of several genes = polycistronic (polygenic) mRNA**
- 5) **Any post-transcription processing**
- 6) Short half-life, digestion by ribonucleases in the direction 5' - 3'
- 7) mRNAs represent only 3 % of total RNA in prokaryotic cell every time

Coupled of transcription with translation = coupled synthesis

- 1) Ribosomes bind to mRNA during transcription
- 2) Both process on the same mRNA (**transcription + translation**)
- 3) In some transcription units up to 15 initiations per minute = 15 new mRNA molecules
- 4) On each mRNA up to 30 ribosomes = 30 new polypeptide chains



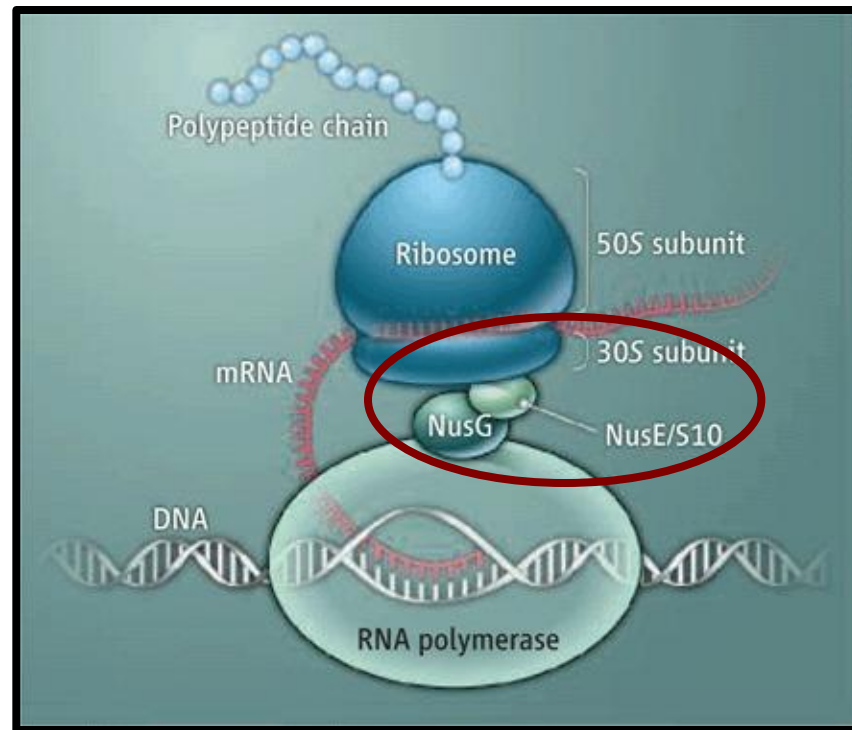
Coupled syntheses

Influences speed of proteosynthesis

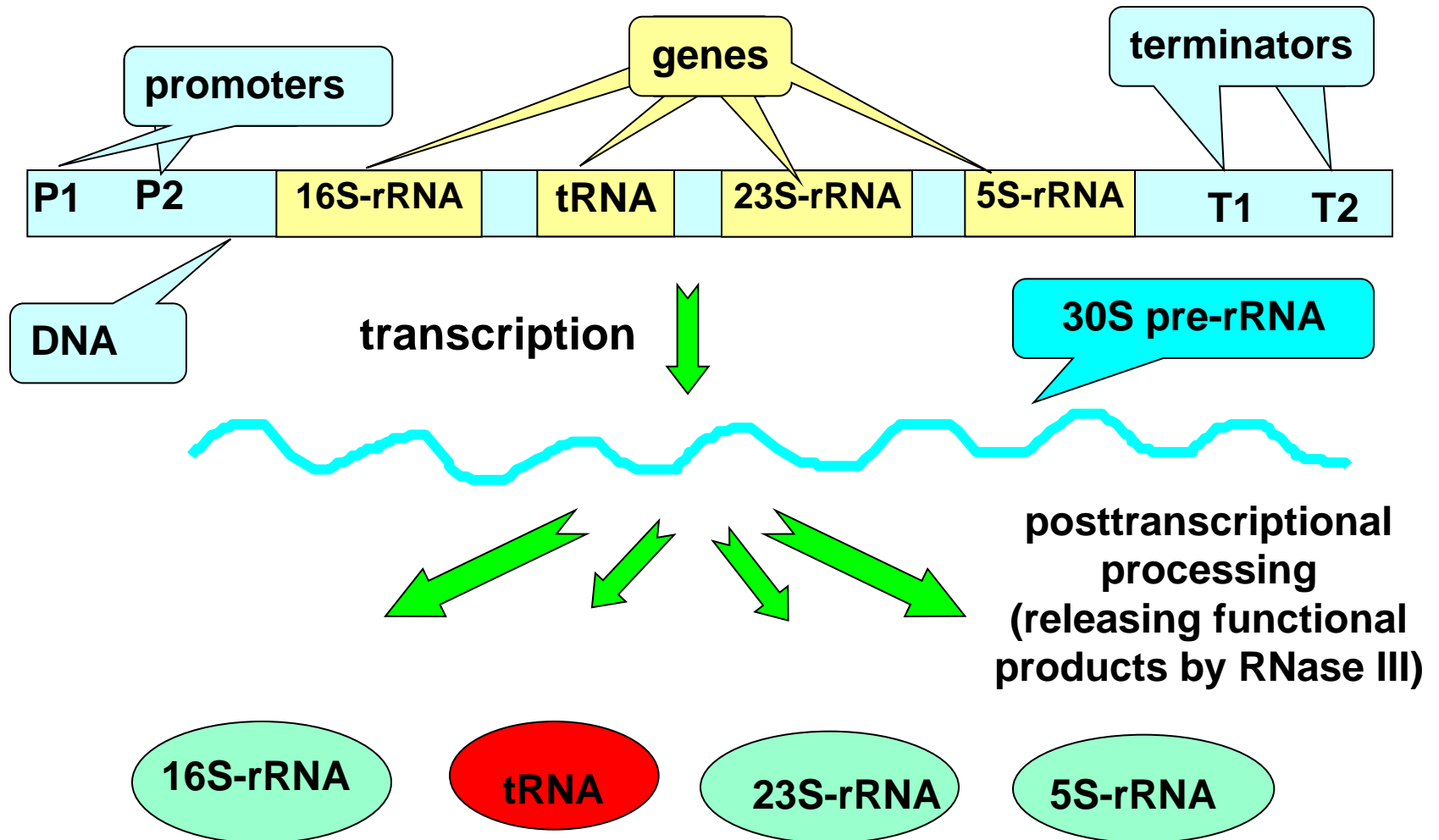
Efficient binding and progression of ribosomes along mRNA increase the speed of RNA polymerase, whereas the absence of ribosomes allows the polymerase to slow and wait for ribosomes to catch up.

Coupled syntheses

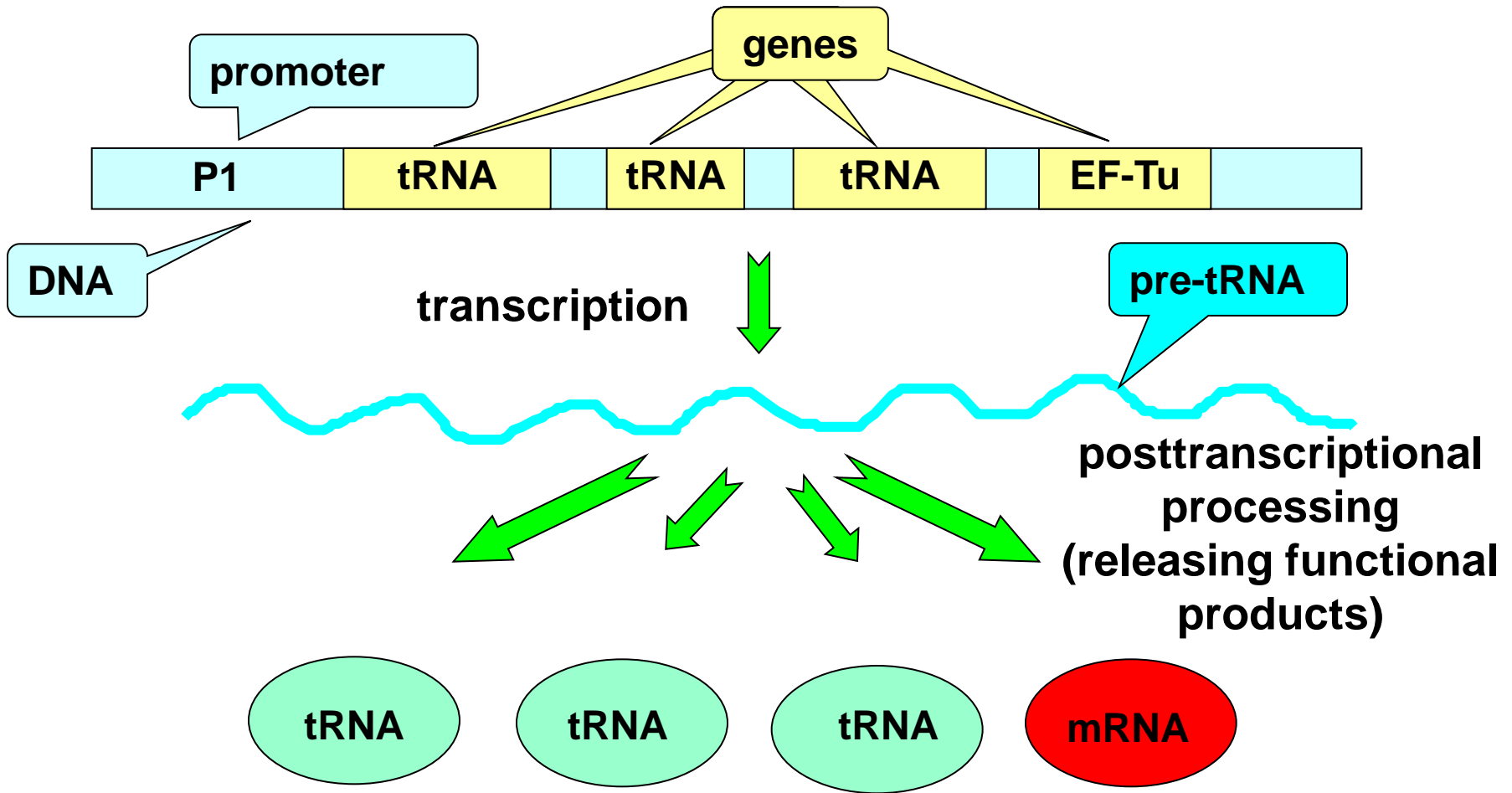
- 1) The first ribosome translating a mRNA associates with RNA polymerase through the NusE-NusG-polymerase interaction
- 2) This prevents retraction of the emerging mRNA into RNA polymerase, and thus inhibits backtracking-associated pauses that slow RNA polymerase in the absence of the ribosome.



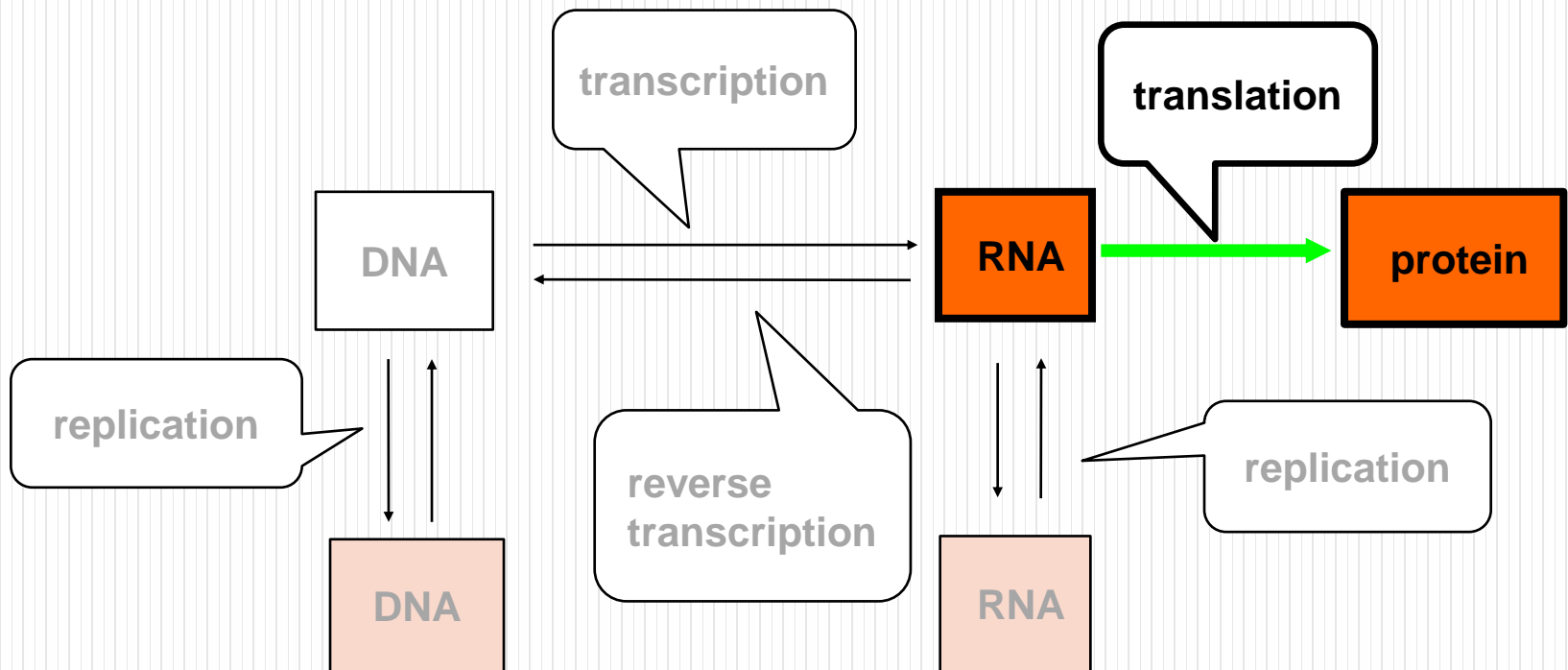
Transcription the genes for rRNA



Transkripce genů pro tRNA



Translation of prokaryotic genom

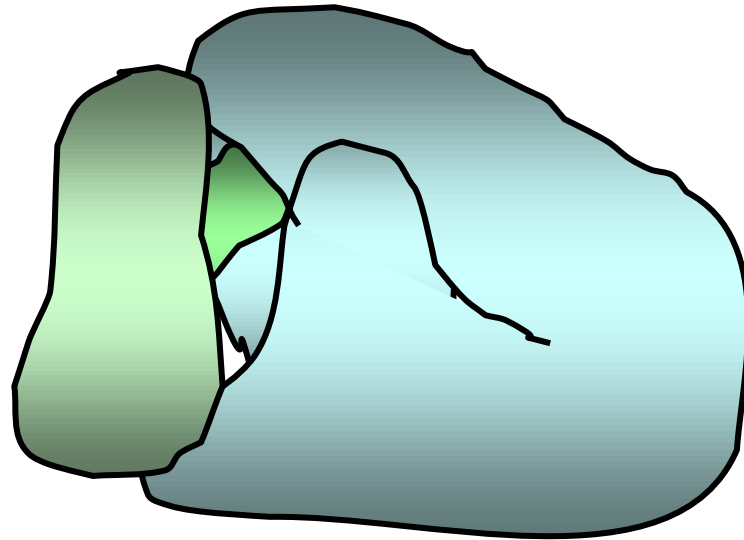


Definition of translation

- **Protein synthesis**
- **Synthesis of polypeptide chain according the genetic code of mRNA on ribosomes**
- **The final process of gene (genetic information) expression**

Participants of translation

- 22 activated standard amino acids
- aminoacyl-tRNA-synthetases
- tRNA
- ribosomes



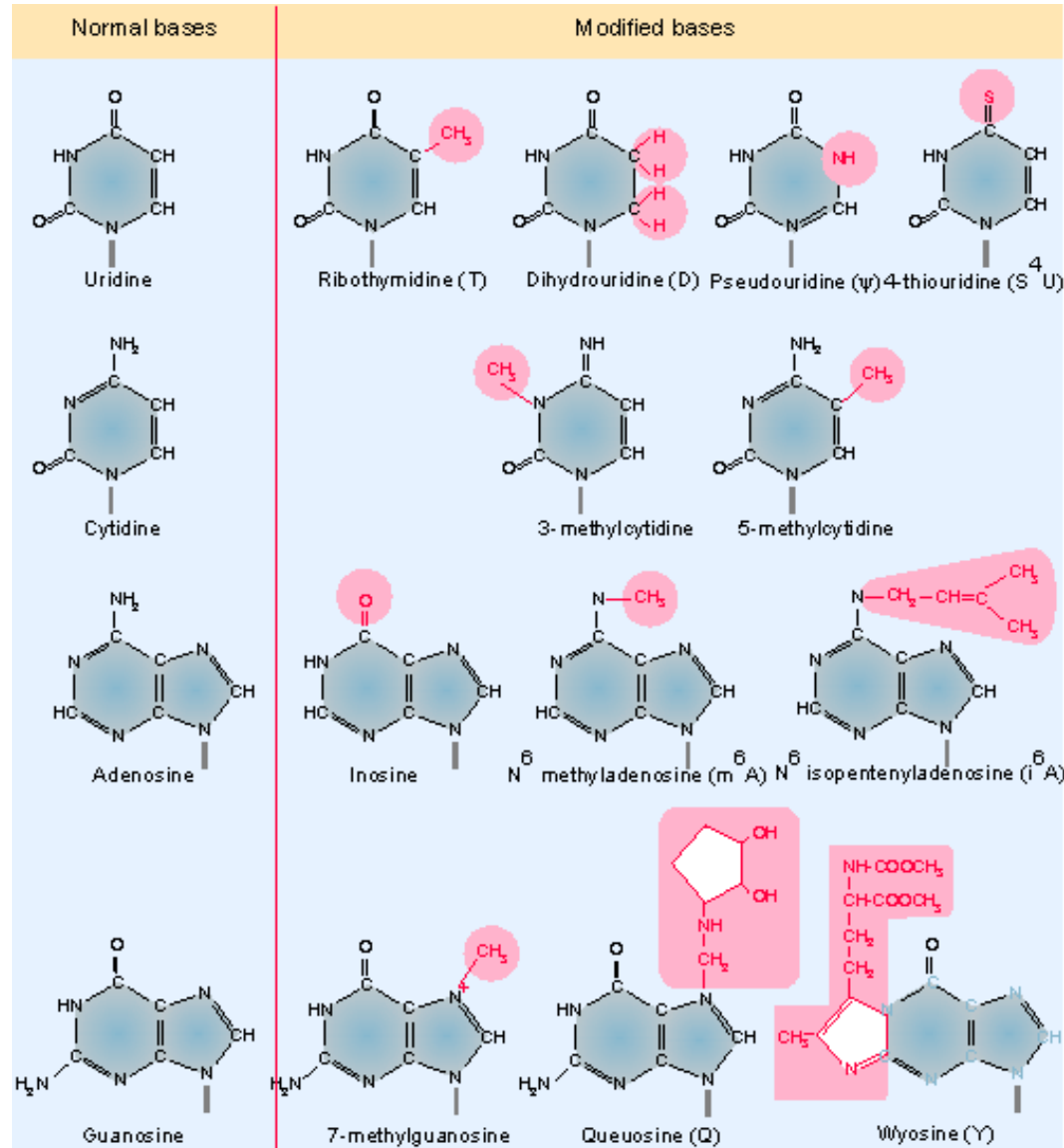
The phases of translation

- **Activation of AA = amino acylation, charging**
 - **Process in which AA is attached to the specific tRNA**
- **Iniciation**
 - **A sequence of processes which produce initiation complex = ribosome 70S, mRNA, initiator tRNA, **initiation factors****
- **Elongation**
 - **The addition of AAs to the growing polypeptide chain, **elongation factors****
- **Termination**
 - **Finishing the synthesis on stop codon, releasing polypeptide from ribosome, **termination factors****

The primary structure of tRNA

- length about 74 - 95 nucleotides
- molecular mass 80 000
- 3' - end = 5' - CCA - 3'
- integral part of the sequence are modified bases
 - they originate by enzyme modification after transcription
- marking tRNA^{Ala}, tRNA^{Leu}, ...
- Ala ~ tRNA^{Ala}, Leu ~ tRNA^{Leu}

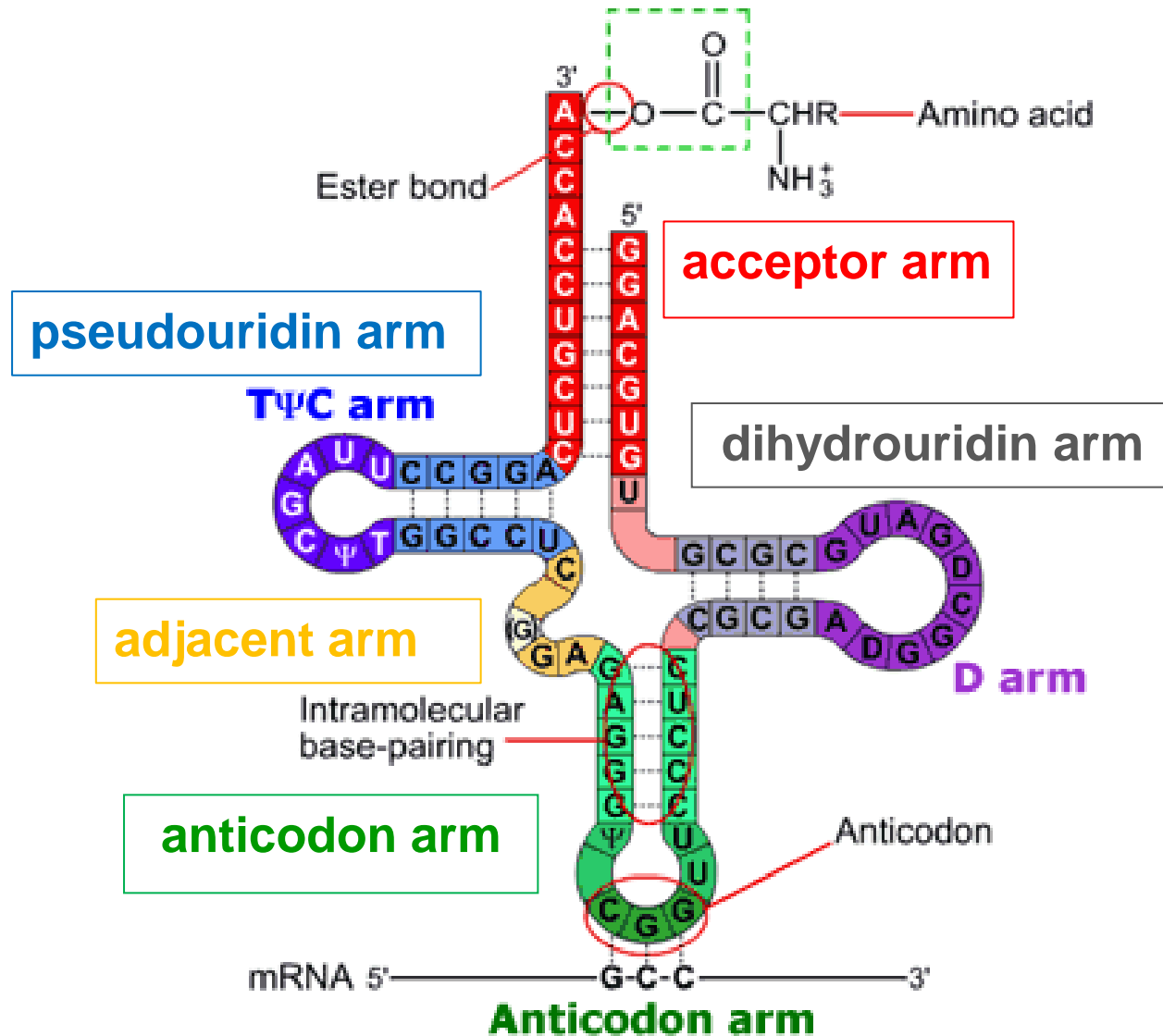
The modified bases in the primary structure of tRNA



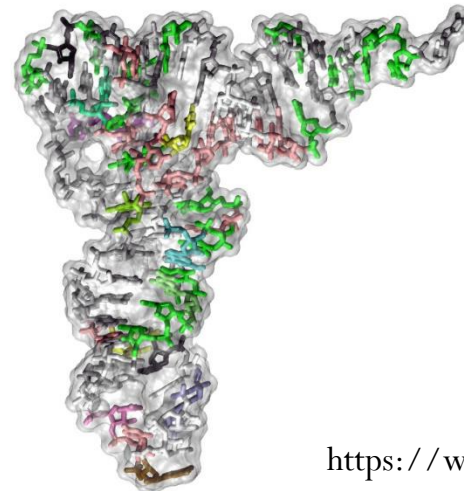
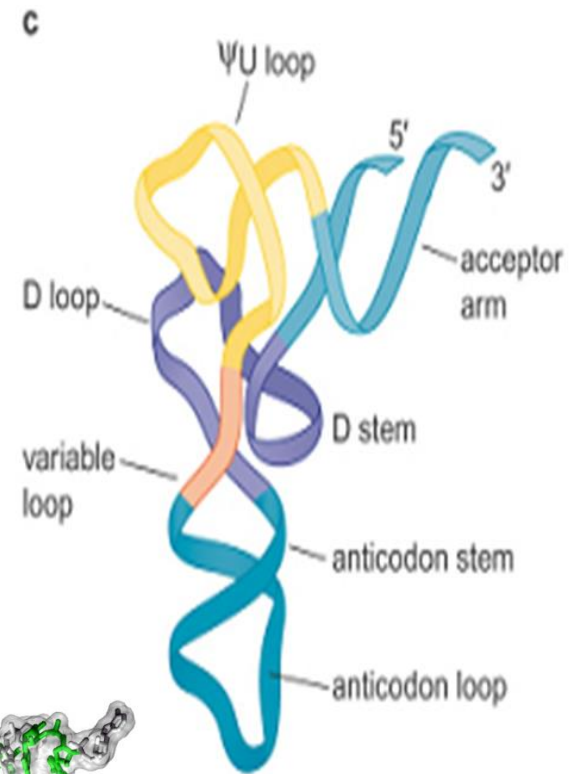
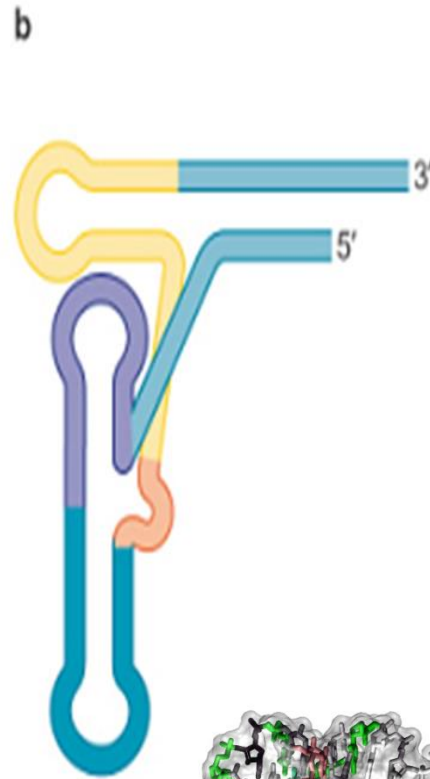
<http://genes.atSPACE.org/7.3.html>

The secondary structure of tRNA

cloverleaf

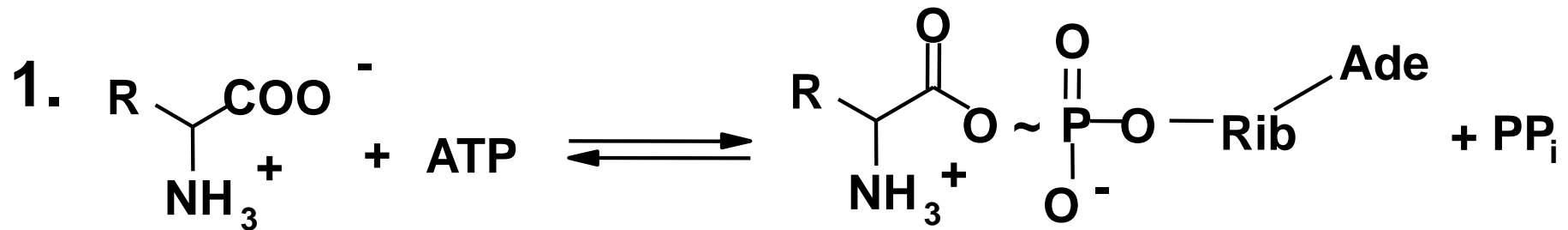


The tertiary structure of tRNA

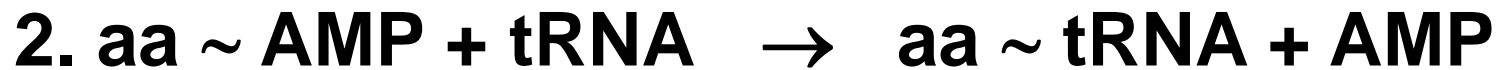


<http://bioindians.org/>

Activation of amino acids

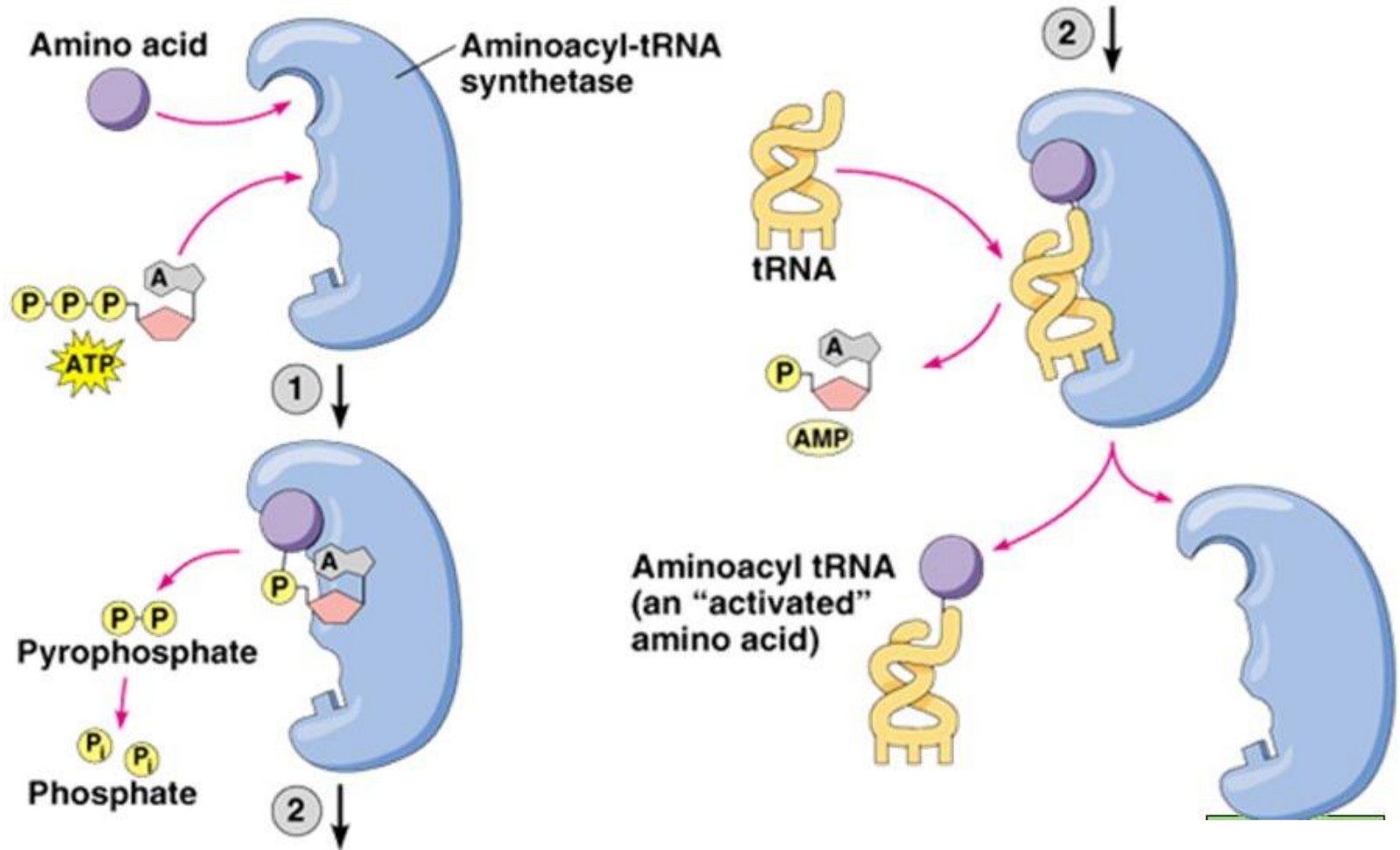


Macroenergetic bound aa $\text{\textcircled{\sim}}$ AMP
aminoacyladenylate

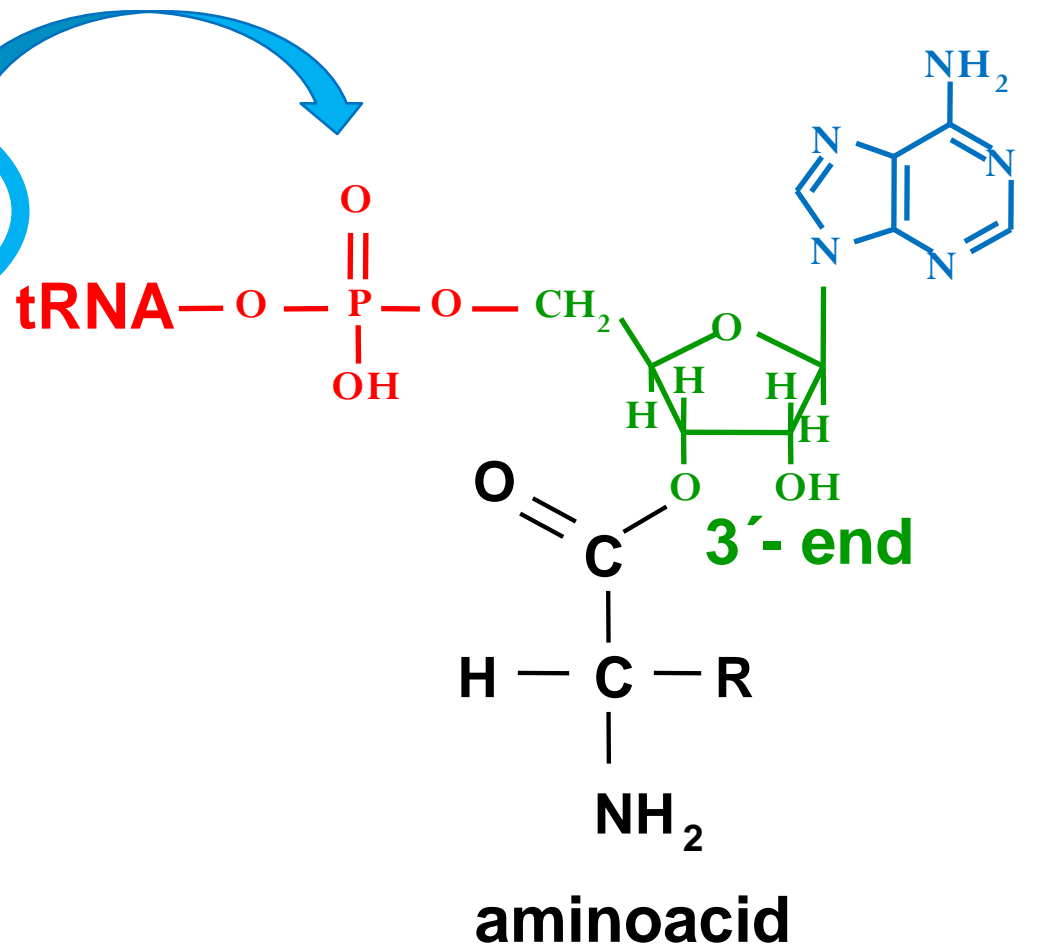
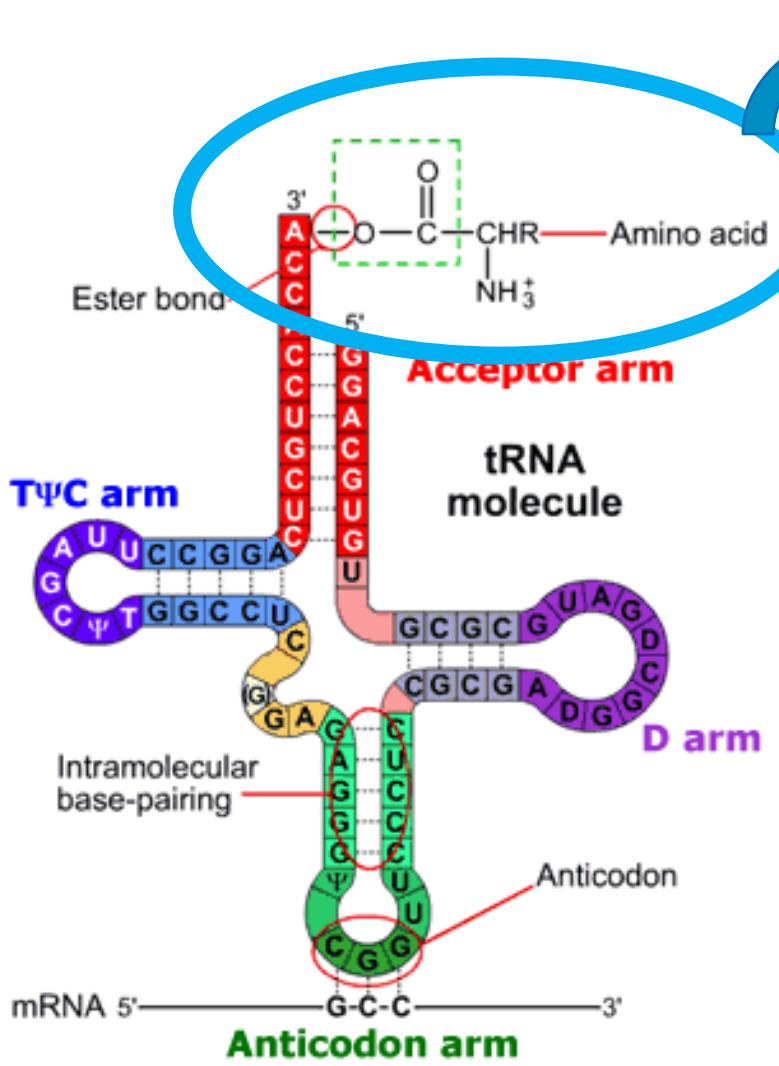


catalysed by aminoacyl-tRNA-synthetase

Activation of amino acids



Structure of aa~tRNA



Aminoacyl-tRNA-synthetases

- **molecular mass = 40 000 - 100 000**
- **low homology in primary structure**
- **several conservative sequences**
- **each tRNA is specific for only one AA**
- **binding site for AA**
- **binding site for tRNA**
 - **binding site for tRNA is able to bind similar tRNA !**
- **binding site for ATP**

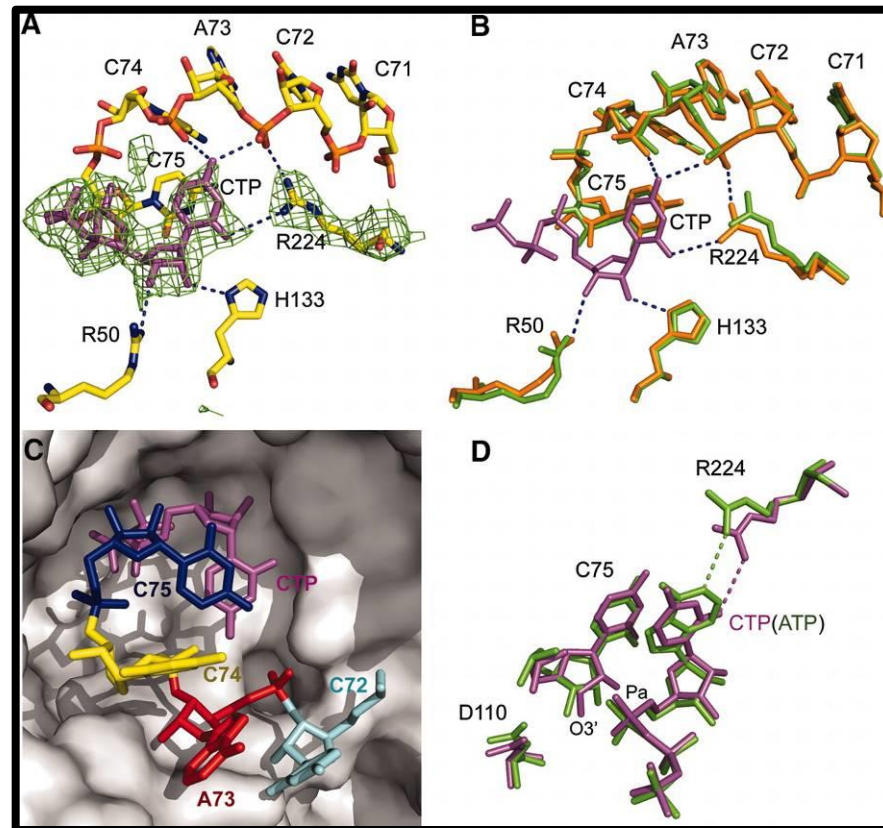
From what coming triplex CCA ?

- This triplex of nucleotides is present at 3'- end of each tRNA
- It is added by nucleotidyltransferase during posttranscriptional processing of the primary transcript (without any template!)
- Two groups of nucleotidyltransferase exist
 - group I = Archae
 - group II = prokaryotes and eukaryotes
- How the C is added is known for many years
- How the A is added was described in 2010 – crystallography studies by Pan et al.

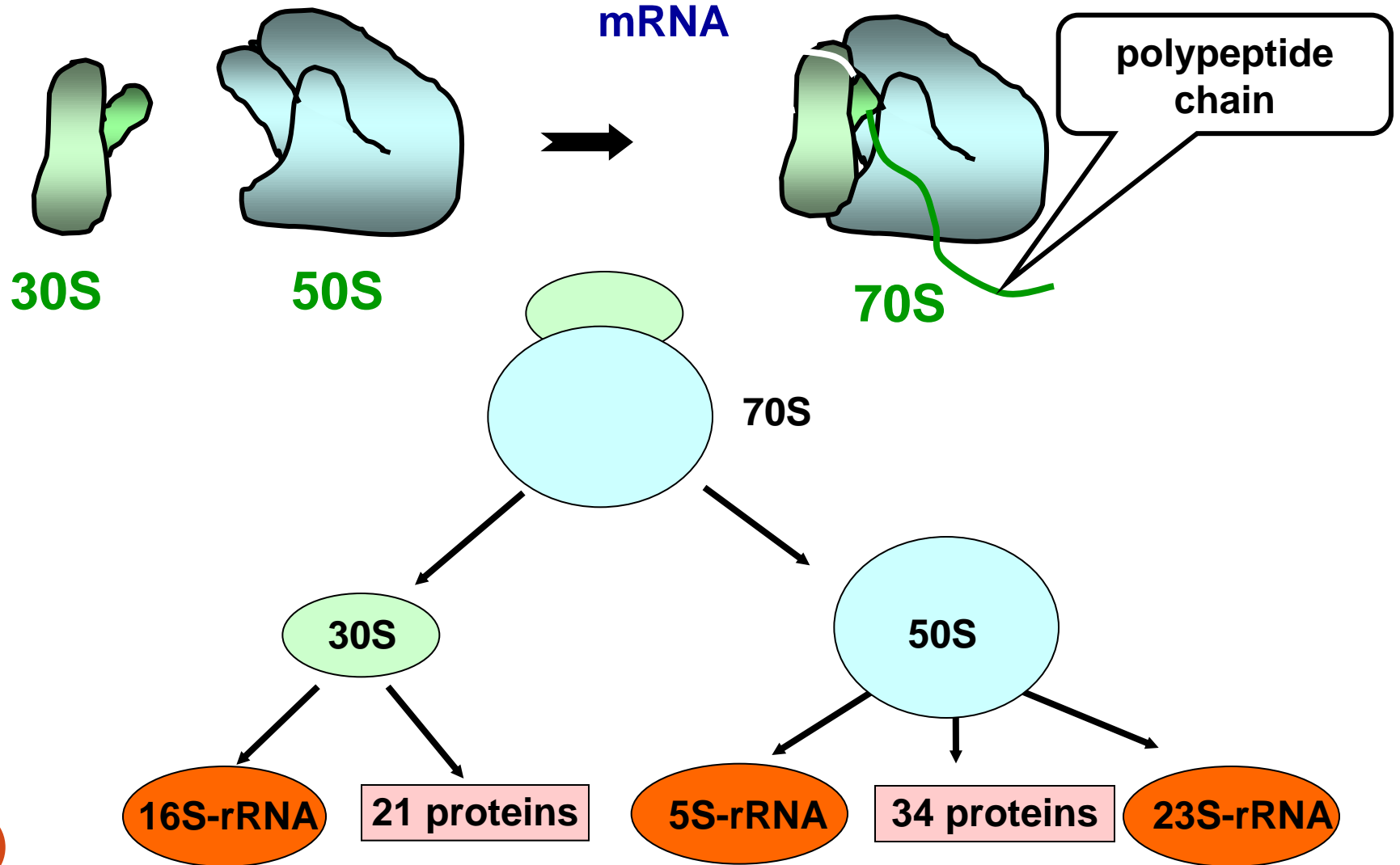
B. Pan et al., Science 330, 937-940 (2010)

From what coming triplex CCA ?

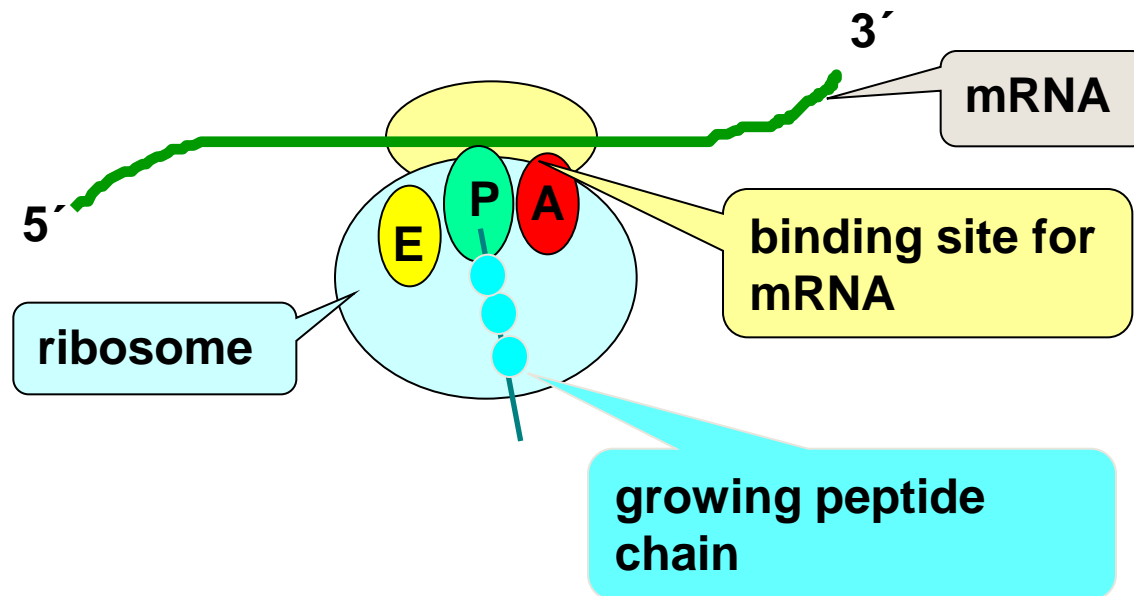
The COOH group from the asparagine acid in position 110 is used as a common base



Prokaryotic ribosomes: 70S 30S a 50S



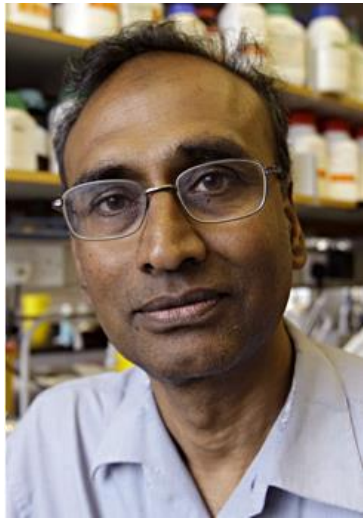
Binding sites on ribosome



- binding site for mRNA
- aminoacyl site (A site)
- peptidyl site (P site)
- exit site for deaminoacylated tRNA (E-site)
- binding sites for initiation and elongation factors

The Nobel prize for chemistry 2009

For research of structure and function of ribosomes
1950 - 1999



Venkatraman Ramakrishnan
**MRC Laboratory of Molecular
Biology, Cambridge, UK**



Ada Yonath
Weizmann Institute, Israel



Thomas A. Steitz
**Howard Hughes,
Yale University, USA**

How the translation begins ?

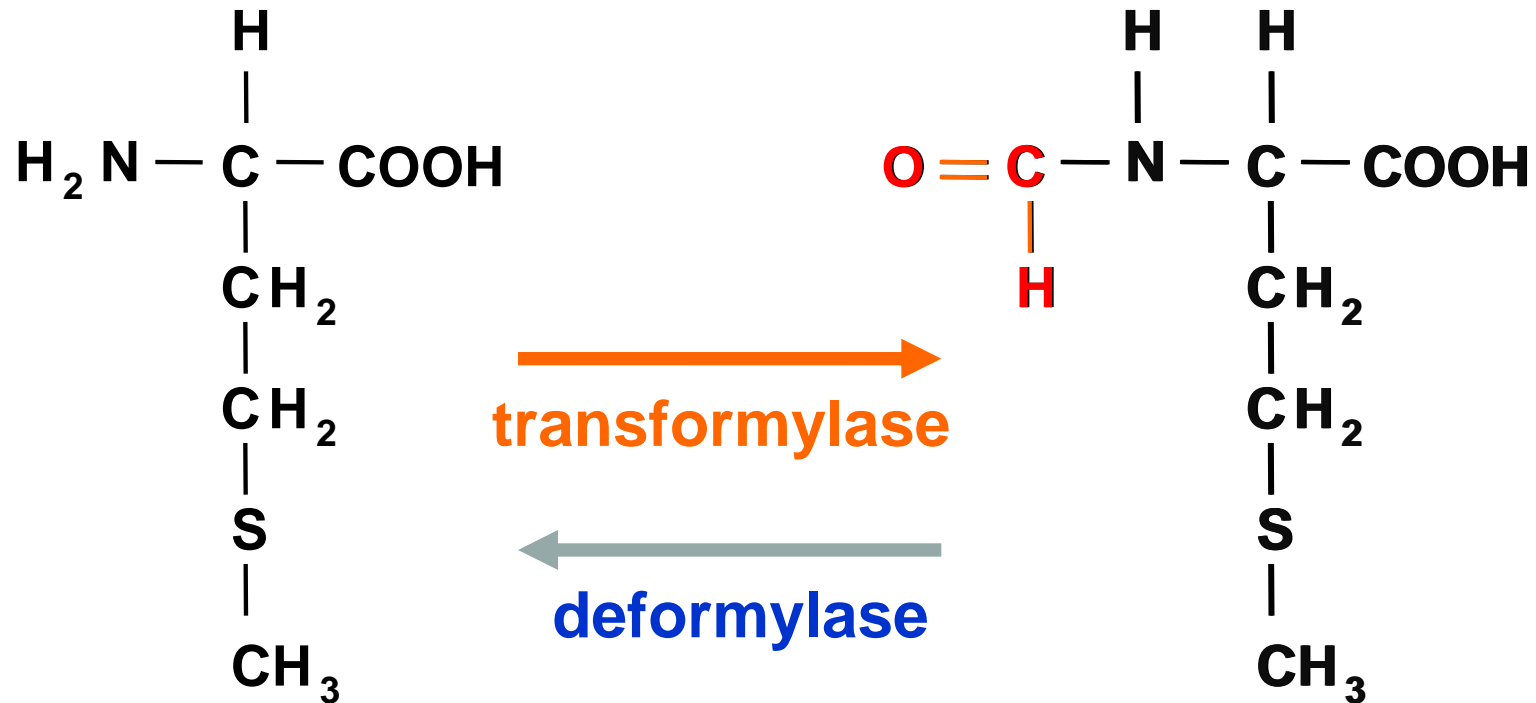
1) Prominence of the codon AUG

- it codes the first AA in polypeptide chain
- it is present also inside of polypeptide chain

2) The codon AUG codes for methionine, nevertheless formylmethionine is at the beginning of polypeptide chain

- two tRNA for methionine exist – tRNA^{Met} and tRNA_i^{fMet}

Formylmethionine

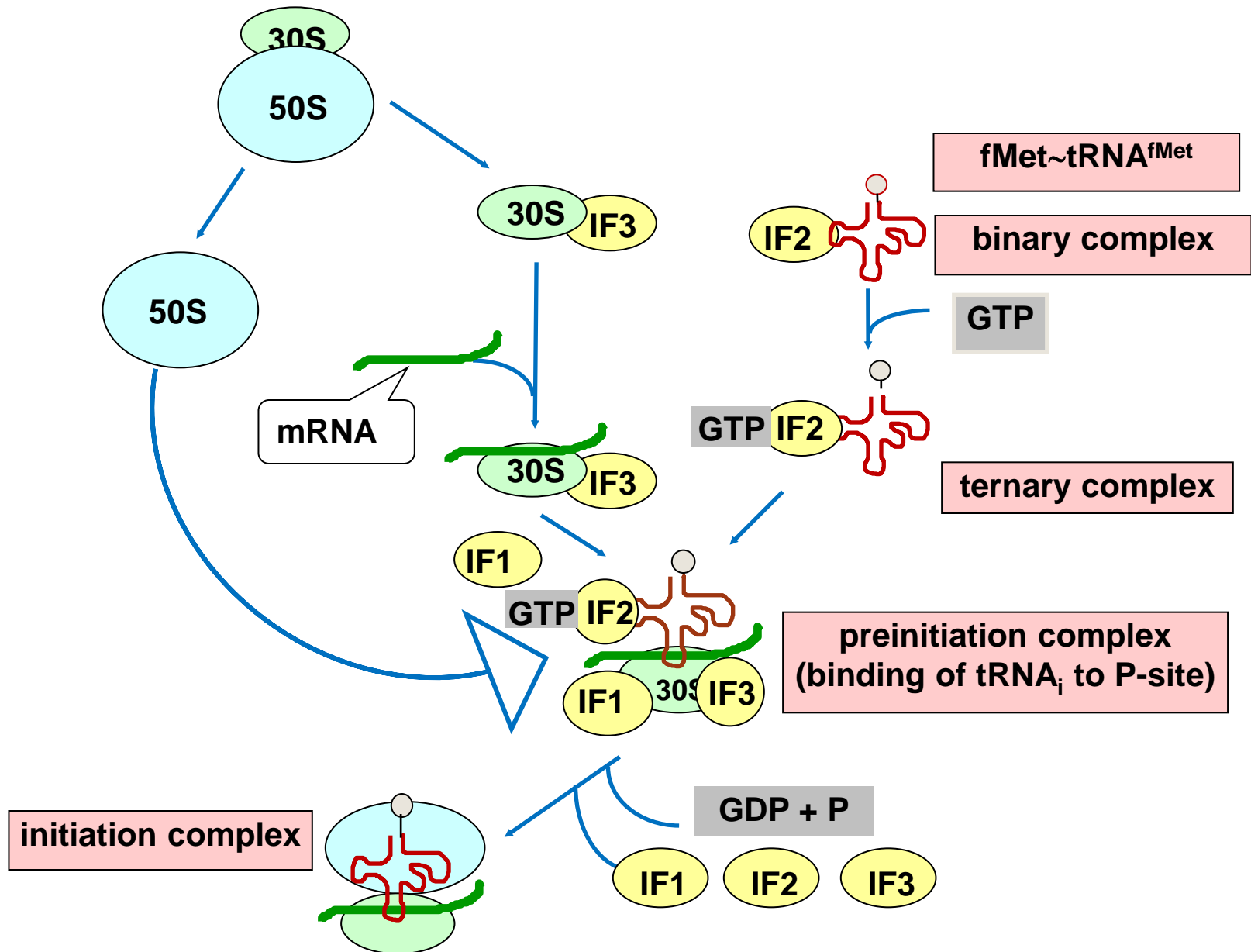


Methionin is formylated on Met ~ tRNA^{fMet}

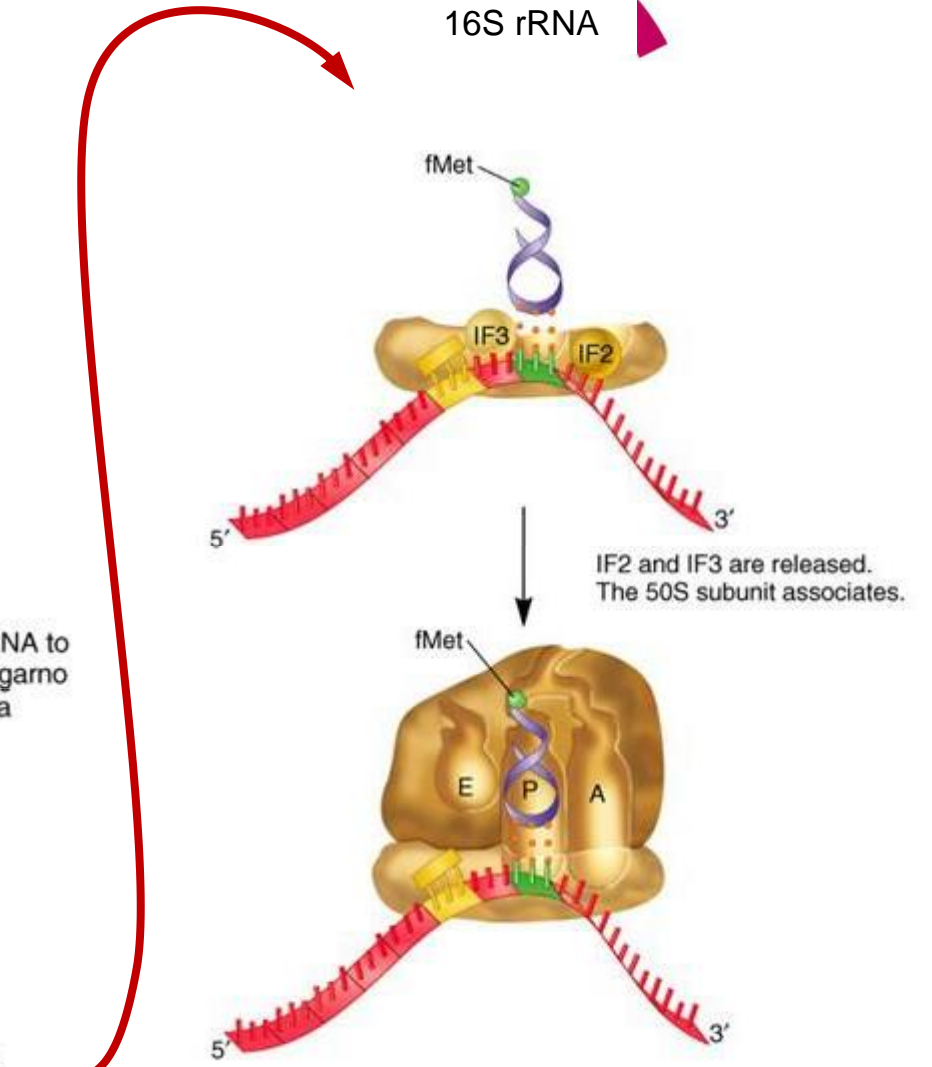
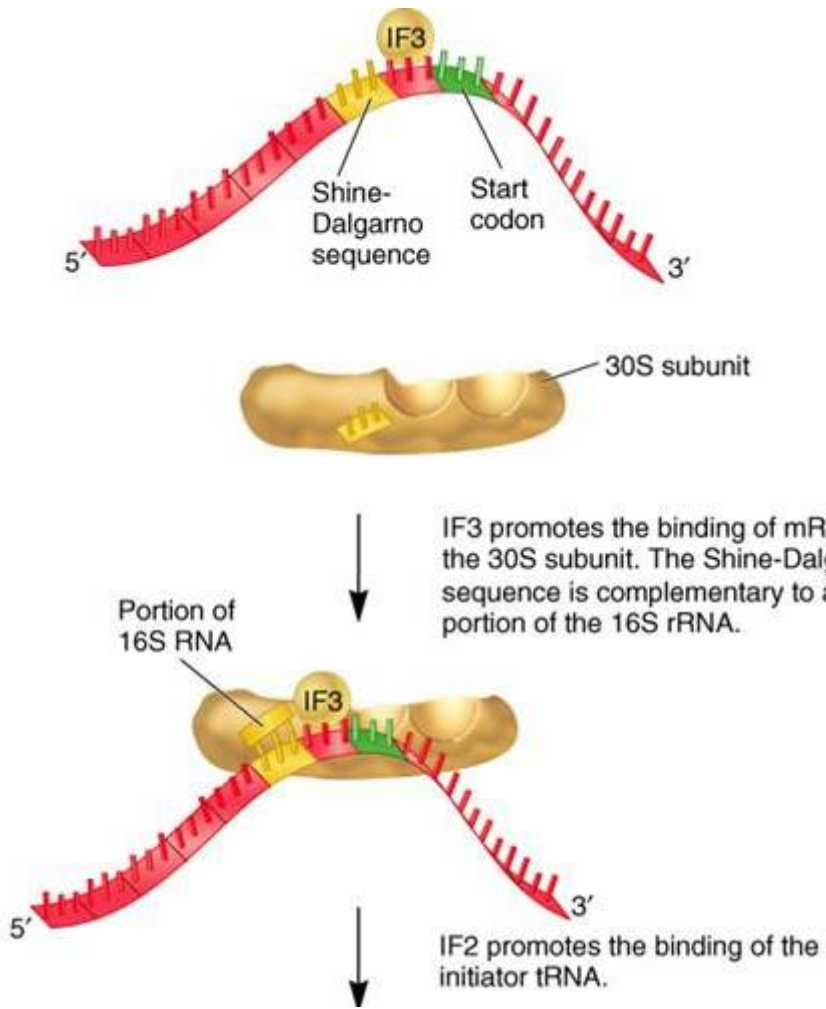
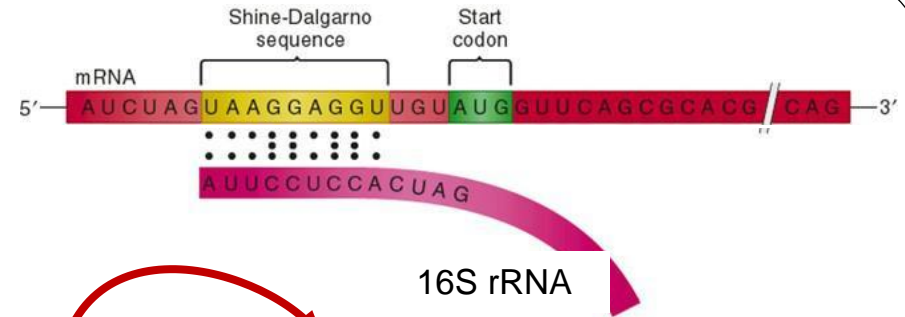
The codon 5' - AUG - 3'

- 1) If it is **at the beginning** it binds **Met~tRNA^{fMet}**, which is formylated for **fMet~tRNA^{fMet}**, the **initiation factor IF2** attends in the process
- 2) If it is **inside**, it binds **Met~tRNA^{Met}**, the **elongation factor EF-Tu** attends in the process

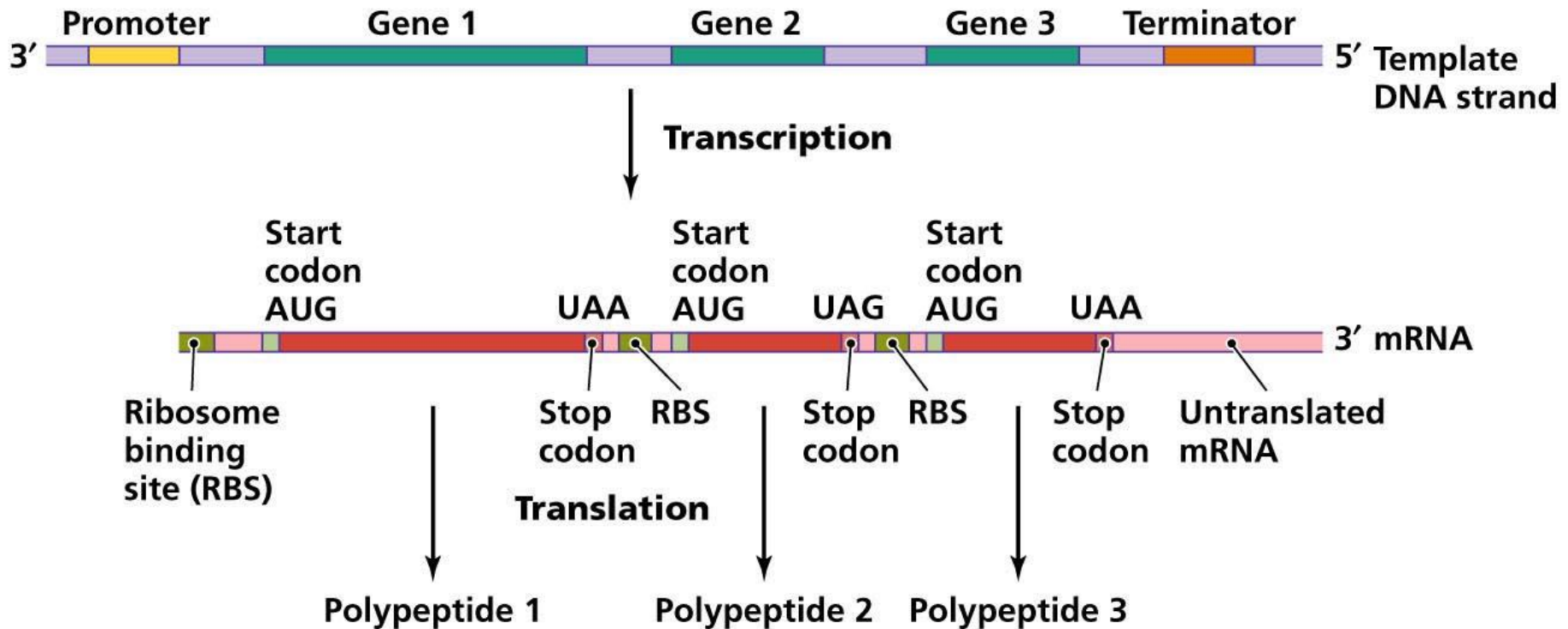
Initiation of translation (prokaryotic)



Initiation of translation

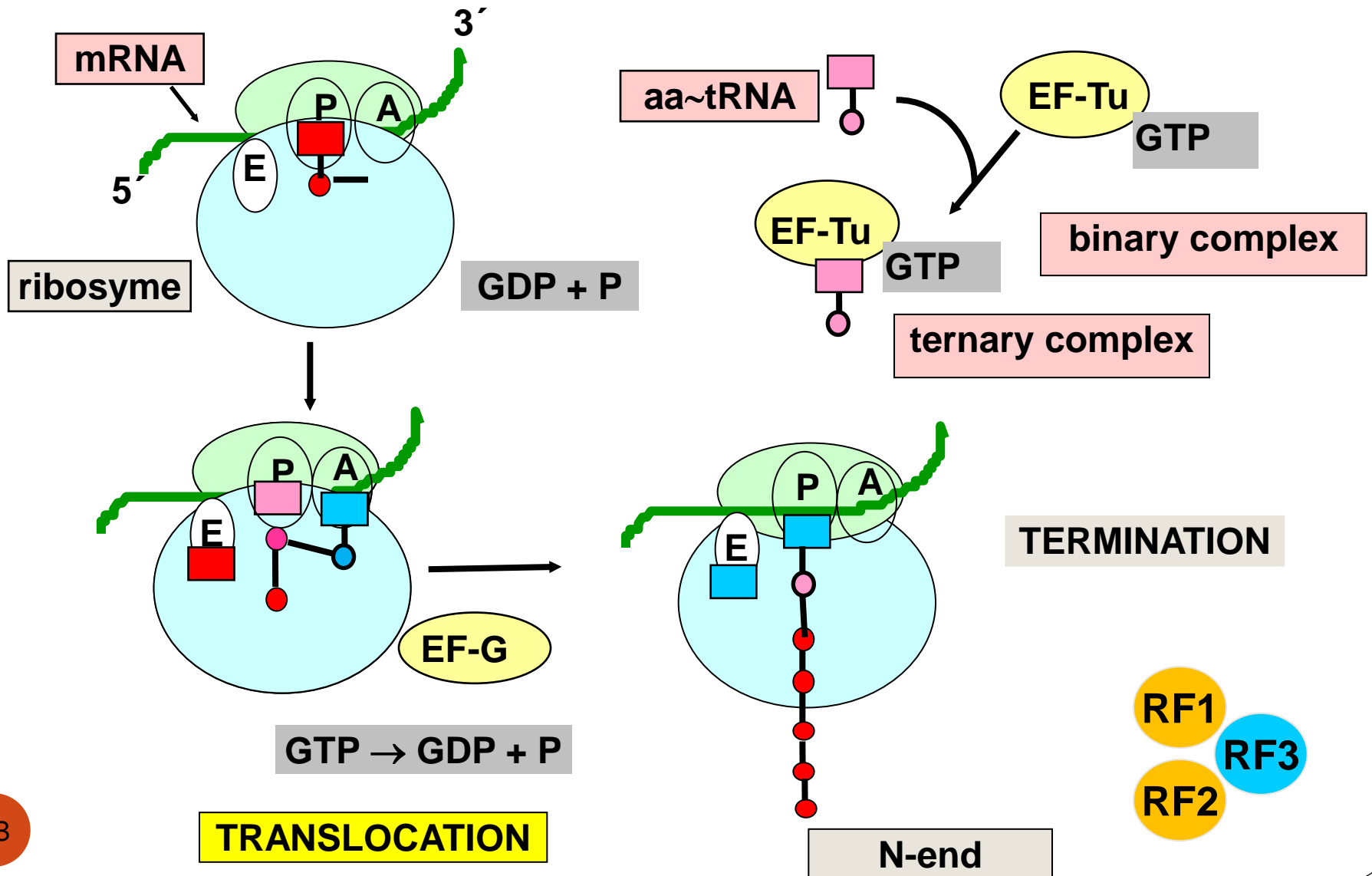


Ribosomes bind also on intergenes sequences

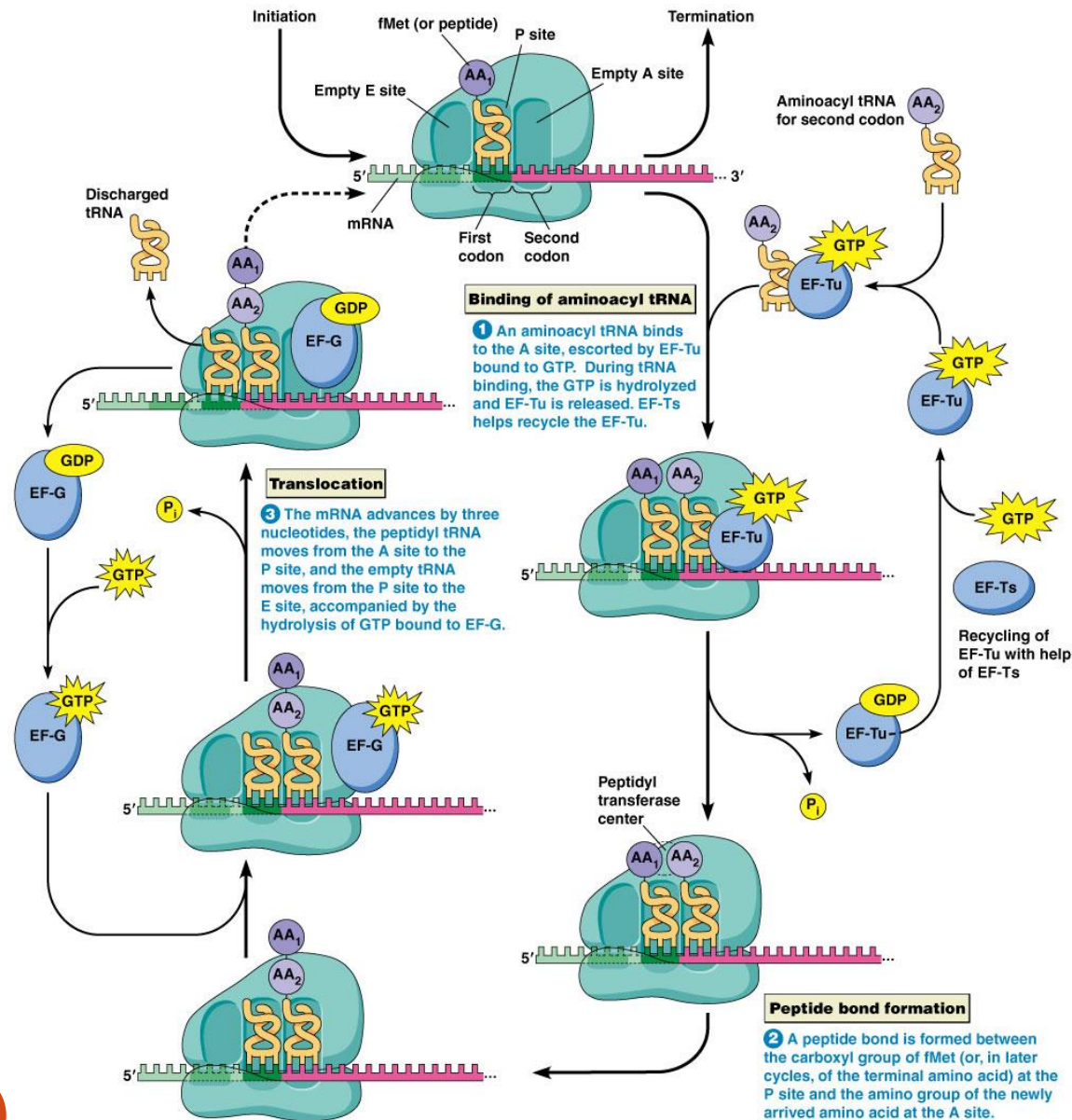


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Elongation of translation (prokaryotic) – Peptide growths N-end → C-end



Elongation of polypeptide chain



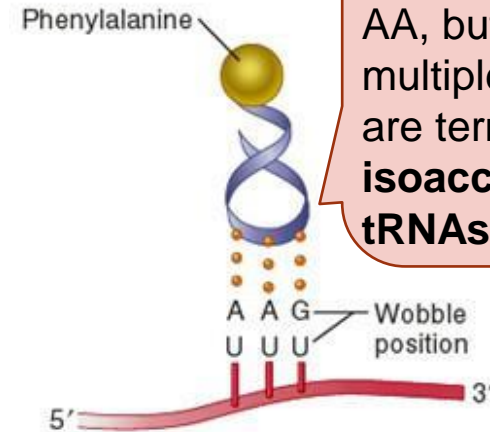
Speed of elongation for *E. coli* 10-20 AA/s

Wobble base pairing in tRNA

- 22 AA – 64 triplets – 40 tRNAs

????

- Some tRNAs recognise more codons
- F. Crick proposed the **wobble hypothesis** in 1966 to explain the pattern of degeneracy
- 1st two bases of the codon-anticodon ($5'-\underline{XX}o-3'$) pair strictly by Watson-Crick rules
- The 3rd ($5'-oo\underline{X}-3'$) can wobble and this movement allows alternative H-bonding between bases to form non-Watson-Crick base pairing



tRNAs charged with the same AA, but recognise multiple codons are termed **isoacceptor tRNAs**

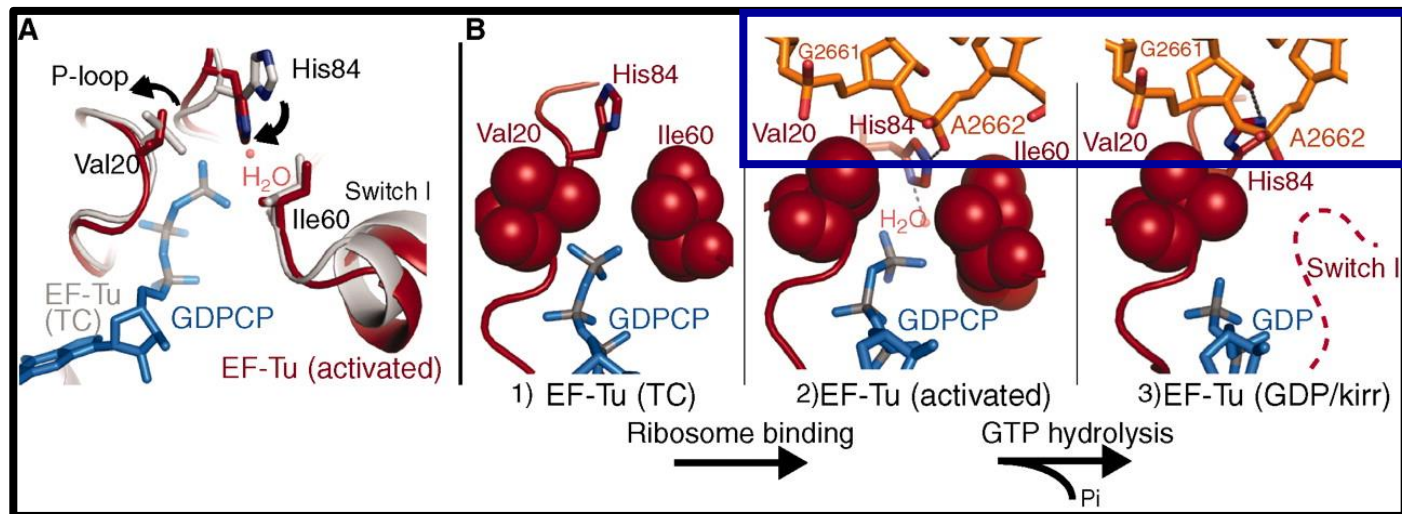
<http://slideplayer.com/slide/3524858/>

Revised wobble rules

Nucleotide of anticodon	Third nucleotide of codon	
G	C, U	
C	G	
A	U, C, (A), G	
U	A, U, G, (C)	
I	U, C, A	
xm^5s^2U xm^5U^5 Um xm^5U	A, (G)	
xo^5U k^2C		U, A, G A

The central role of GTPase

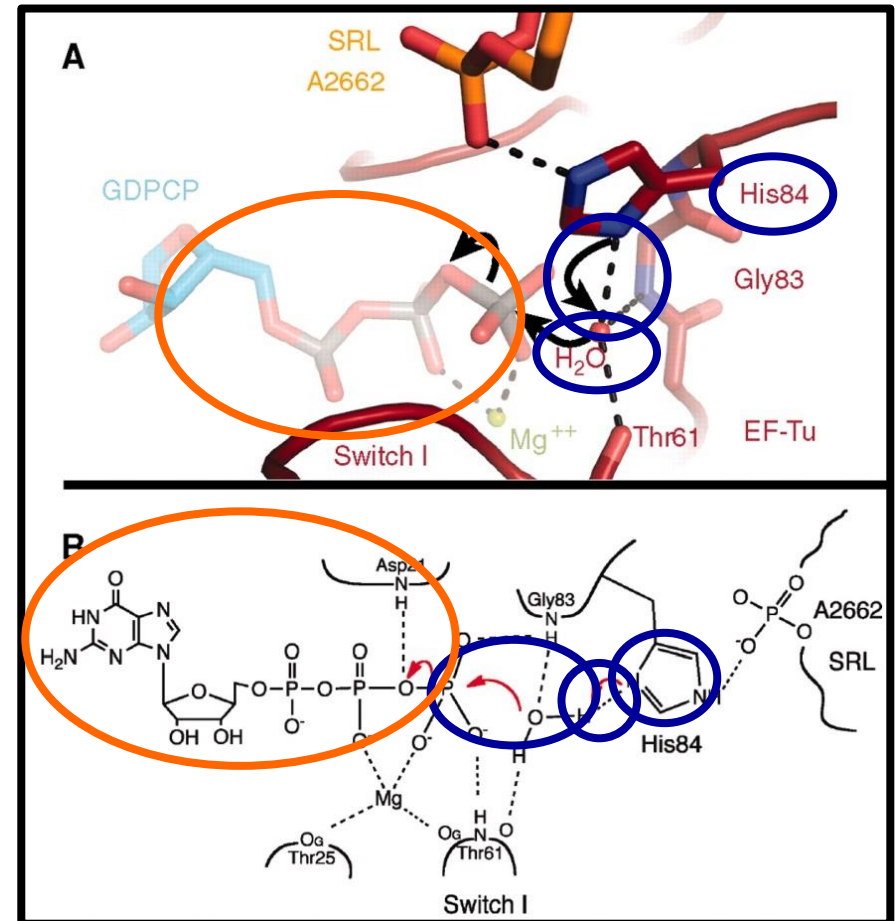
- GTPase is involved in the process
- EF-Tu is a part of GTPase
- A domain which binds GTP is evolutionary highly conservative and is present from bacteria to higher eukaryotes
- Hydrolysis of GTP is associated with conformation change, in which A2662 from 23S-rRNA is involved



R. M. Voorhees et al., Science 330, 835-838 (2010)

Chemism of GTP hydrolysis?

- His84 acts as a general base
- which activate the catalytic water molecule by removing a proton
- the proton attacks γ -phosphate of GTP
- GDP is released



Termination of translation

- the presence of nonsense codon
- the presence of releasing factors RF1 (for UAG and UAA), RF2 (for UGA and UAA) and RF3 (stimulates the effect of RF1 and RF2)
- tRNA releases from carboxy end of polypeptide chain, and growing of this chain stops
- Polypeptide chain and ribosome are released, the ribosome divides to its subunits

Translation - video

Initiation



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=glSrY4dJzh8>

Elongation



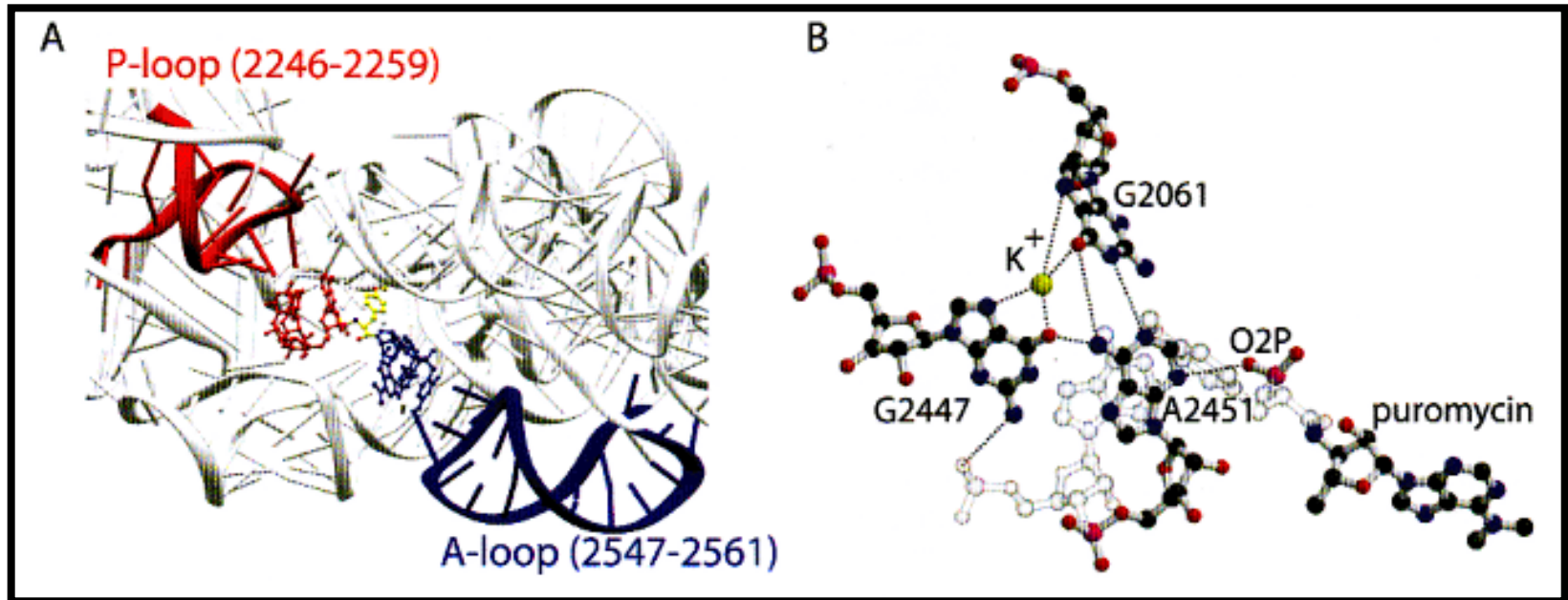
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PpAg2K_7ID4

Termination



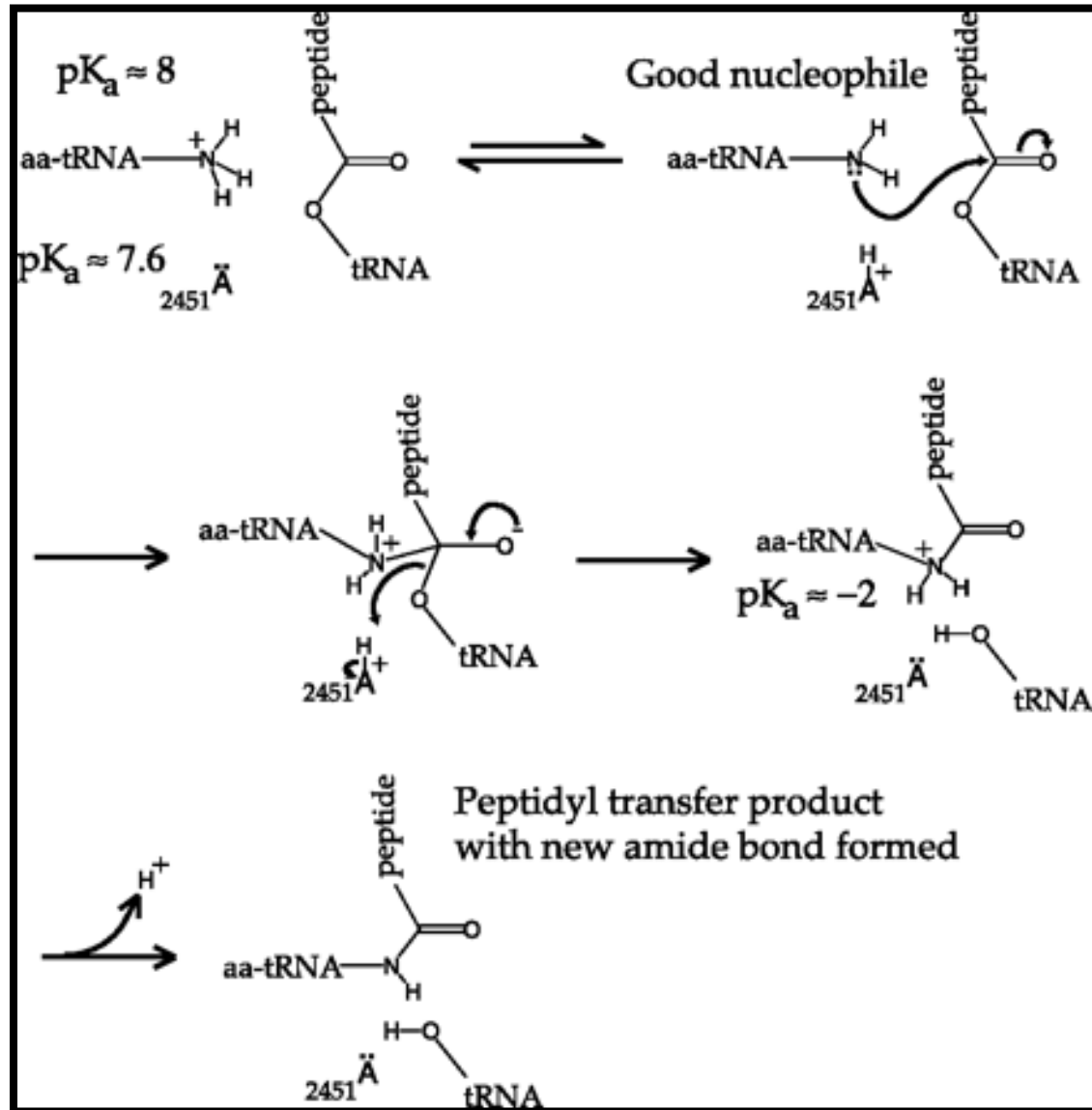
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MNMc28EEkK0>

The catalytic site for peptide bond formation

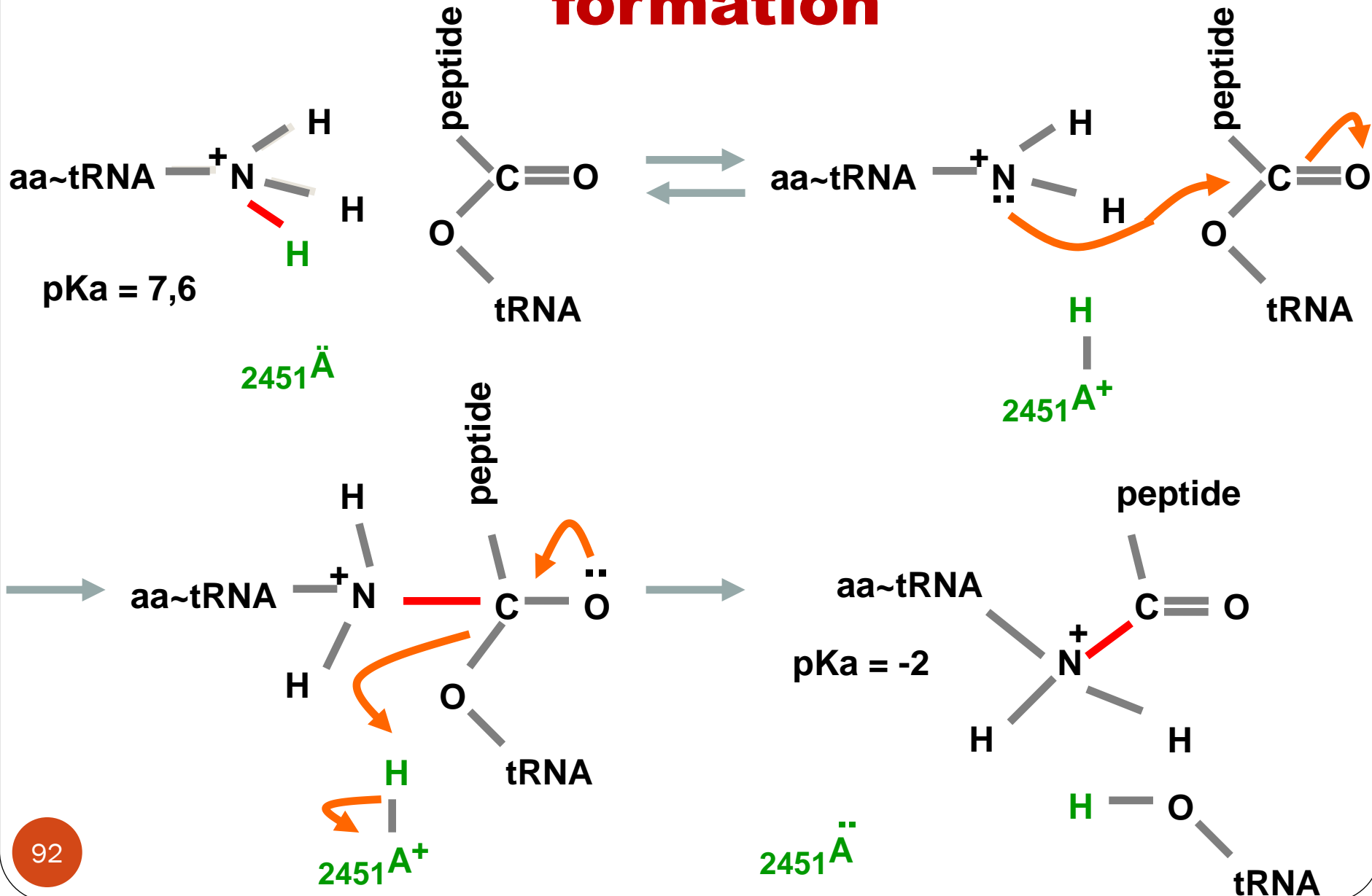


- P-loop and A-loop are the parts of 23S-rRNA
- No protein in the distance 18A from the catalytic site
- crucial is nitrogen N3 on adenine A2451

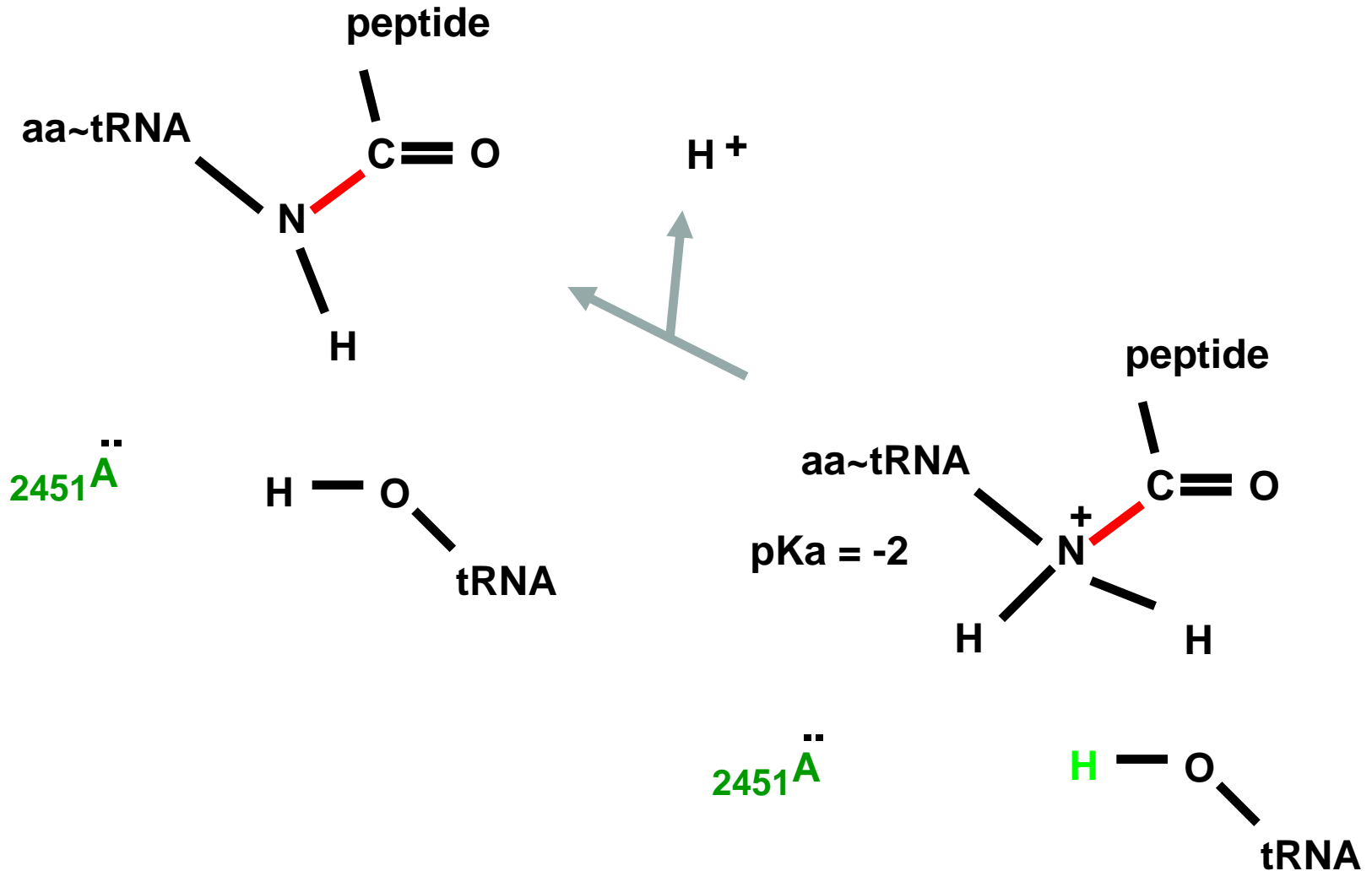
The mechanism of peptide bond formation



The mechanism of peptide bond formation



The mechanism of peptide bond formation



Posttranslation processes

- Cotranslation modifications:
 - Deformylation
 - Cutting of AA from N-end
 - Chemical modification of AA
 - Creation of disulfidic bridges
 - Glycosilation
 - Formation of secondary and tertialy structure
- Posttranslation modifications:
 - Peptides cut off
 - Formation of quarternary structure
 - Binding of prostetic groups
 - Formation of supramolecular complexes