

Table of contents

COVER.....	I
COPYRIGHT.....	II
REFEREES.....	III
DEDICATION.....	IV
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	VI
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	IX
TABLE OF CONTENTS	1
GENERAL INTRODUCTION	5
1. The ribosome	5
2. The cycle of protein synthesis.....	6
2.1 Initiation.....	6
2.2 Elongation	7
2.3 Termination	8
1.4 Recycling.....	9
3. Monosomes & polysomes.....	10
4. Importance of metal ions in ribosome structure and function	10
5. Structural studies on the ribosome.....	11
5.1 The quest for the atomic resolution structures of the ribosome.....	11
5.2 X-ray structures of the two ribosomal subunits.....	14
5.2.1 Atomic resolution structures of the 30S subunit	15
5.3 X-ray structures of the 70S ribosome	18
5.4 Cryo-Electron Microscopy (EM) structures of ribosomal complexes	19
5.4.1 Translocation as seen by cryo-EM	20
5.4.2 Decoding as seen by cryo-EM.....	20
6. Antibiotics and the ribosome.....	21
7. The ribosome during cold shock.....	22

THESIS OVERVIEW.....	24
FIGURES.....	25
CHAPTER I - STRUCTURAL BASIS FOR THE CONTROL OF TRANSLATION INITIATION DURING STRESS	ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.
ABSTRACT	34
INTRODUCTION	35
1. Stationary phase.....	35
2. Cold-shock versus heat-shock.....	35
3. Protein Y	36
4. In vivo	38
5. In vitro.....	38
RESULTS	40
1. Structure determination and interpretation.....	40
2. Comparison of PY, tRNA and mRNA binding sites.....	42
3. Inhibition of P site binding.....	44
4. PY's effect on translation initiation.....	45
5. The effect of PY on IF-dependent ribosome dissociation.....	46
6. Inhibition of A site binding.....	48
DISCUSSION	50
MATERIALS AND METHODS	54
Ribosome preparation.....	54
Protein Y purification.....	55
Initiation factor purification	56
tRNA purifications	56

5' end labeling of RNA (mRNA, tRNA).....	58
Charging assays for bulk tRNA enriched in tRNA ^{fMet}	59
Crystallization of 70S ribosomes / ProteinY.....	60
Chemical probing (exclusively performed by Ant3n Vila-Sanjurjo)	62
Filter binding for P-site inhibition experiments.....	62
Filter binding for initiation assays.....	63
Separation of ribosomes and ribosomal subunits.....	64
FIGURES	65
TABLES	92
CHAPTER II: TOWARDS ATOMIC RESOLUTION STRUCTURES OF THE <i>E. COLI</i> 70S RIBOSOME	ERROR! BOOKMARK NOT DEFINED.
ABSTRACT	95
INTRODUCTION	96
1. Crystallizing the <i>E. coli</i> 70S ribosome	96
2. The content of protein S1 in crystal structures.....	97
3. The ratchet-linker model (Frank and Agrawal 2000).....	98
4. Kasugamycin	99
5. Ribosome Recycling Factor (RRF).....	100
6. The x-ray structures presented here.....	101
RESULTS	102
1. Crystallization of the <i>E. coli</i> 70S ribosome.....	102
1.1 S1 content	102
1.2 Temperature gradient + pH screen	103
1.3 Mounting of crystals	104
1.4 Crystals in the beam.....	104
1.5 Icerings.....	105

2. Building the model & Refinement.....	106
2.1 Molecular replacement	106
2.2 Bulding the model.....	108
2.3 Refinement.....	109
2.4 Quality of the model	111
2.5 Quality of electron density maps	112
3. Relative movement of the two subunits	112
3.1 Relative movement of the 30S subunit.....	113
3.2 Relative movement of the 50S subunit.....	113
3.3 Relative movement of the subunits in the context of the 70S ribosome ..	113
4. Soaking experiments.....	115
4.1 Kasugamycin (ksg).....	115
4.2 Ribosome Recycling Factor (RRF).....	115
DISCUSSION	118
1. Significance of the 3.5Å resolution structure of the E. coli 70S ribosome	118
2. Conformational changes.....	118
3. Kasugamycin	120
3. RRF	122
4. Final Thoughts	123
MATERIAL AND METHODS.....	125
Ribosome preparation.....	125
Crystallization of E. coli 70S ribosome	126
Soaking experiments.....	127
FIGURES.....	129
TABLES	164
SUMMARY	166
ZUSAMMENFASSUNG.....	168
REFERENCES	170