



Significant Trans-Translational Factor: Ribosomal Protein S1

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Abstract

In *Escherichia coli*, S1 is a necessary protein. While it is not found in all bacteria, it is well known for its role in the initiation and elongation stages of protein synthesis. S1 facilitates transcriptional cycling, controls bacteriophage T4 gene expression, and forms a complex with the phage in addition to its ribosomal functions. Recombination-related protein that is a subunit of the ϕ and Q β RNA bacteriophage replicases. Protein S1 was also discovered to bind to tmRNA, which is an important component of trans-translation. Despite the fact that the physiological importance of protein S1 for trans-translation has been debated for several years, recent studies clearly show that protein S1 is a significant, but poorly understood component of trans-translation. Protein S1 binding to free tmRNA is necessary for tmRNA-stalled ribosome interaction, according to our findings. As faulty proteins are intended for proteolysis, S1 travels to the ribosome with the tmRNA. Protein S1 has been identified as a significant target for pharmacological action as a result of these findings.

Introduction

As the ribosome stalls on an mRNA molecule with no stop codon, bacteria use transfer-messenger RNA (also known as 10S RNA or SsrA) and Small protein B (SmpB) to recycle the ribosome, tag the faulty protein for proteolytic degradation, and speed up the degradation of the truncated mRNA. Comparative analyses of tmRNA sequences showed that tmRNA is made up of two parts: a tRNA-like domain and an mRNA-like region, denoted as TLD and MLR in figure 1A, respectively. TLD and MLR are bound by four pseudoknots in *E. coli* tmRNA (pk-pk4). Other bacterial tmRNAs can have three to six pseudoknots. SmpB imitates the anticodon arm of a canonical tRNA inside the TLD-SmpB complex. SmpB's C-terminal tail has been shown to mimic mRNA and play an important role in ribosome-bound tmRNA activity [1-3].

Conclusion

The protein S1 binding site on the tmRNA molecule is made up of the MLR, pk2, and pk3 regions. Photoaffinity labelling studies show that tmRNA binding to the ribosome has only a minor impact on the interactions between protein S1 and tmRNA. Recently demonstrated that one molecule of S1 would bind to a 10-nucleotide RNA fragment. Since the region containing MLR, pk2, and pk3 is made up of around

a hundred nucleotides, a “rolling mechanism” for protein S1 functions on tmRNA may be proposed, in which protein S1 binds to a single-stranded fragment of tmRNA (e.g. MLR) and then “unzips” its structured segment. Experiments using optical tweezers to show the unzipping and re-zipping of an RNA hairpin by a single protein S1 molecule in several steps help such a “rolling process.” The rolling process can explain why only minor local conformational changes in tmRNA can be observed, since the unzipping and re-zipping of double-stranded RNA segments occurs sequentially. Further research into the role of R6 in protein S1 functions is needed. Despite the fact that R6 binds RNAs *in vitro*, it is not needed for protein S1 functions in canonical translation and transcriptional cycling, protein S1 involvement in Q bacteriophage replication, or protein tagging in *M. tuberculosis*.

References

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