Evolution of the Bifurcation Phenotype

Phylogenetic Reconstruction and Inverse Dynamical Analysis of yeast GATA networks

Rainer Machné, James Lu Lukas Endler, Stefan Müller, Stefanie Widder, Xtof Flamm, Peter Schuster, Heinz Engl, Dougie Murray

TBI, University of Vienna, Austria

Inverse Methods Group, RICAM Linz, Austria

Systems Biology Institute, Tokyo

Bled 2007

Outline

- Why yeast GATA factors ?
 - respiratory/metabolic oscillations in yeast
- What are yeast GATA factors ?
 - Nitrogen- and general amino acid metabolism
 - Homology to metazoan developmental GATAs ?
- Inverse dynamical analysis
 - 1. What are bifurcation phenotypes?
 - bistability and oscillation vs. duplication and mutation
- Phylogenetic reconstruction
 - predict bifurcation phenotypes in 15 species, 49 proteins

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my second RNA (((...;-)...)))

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 - predict bifurcation phenotypes in 15 species, 49 proteins AreA 3'UTR:

- my second RNA (((...;-)...)))
- What group I introns (my first) have to do with it ?
- What miRNA induced DNA mutation has to do with it ?
- What hyaluronic acid has to do with it ?

Respiratory oscillations in yeast



The redox attractor:

- 3 genome-wide transcription phases
- 1 oxidative phase: make ATP (and ROS)
 - S metabolism and ribosomes
- 2 reductive phases: use ATP
 - (re-)build and charge
- gating of DNA synthesis and cell cycle !!

Klevecz et al. 2004 PNAS and (confirmed by) Tu et al. 2005 Science Murray et al. 1999 Microbiology, Lloyd et al. 2002 Microbiology Murray 2004 Current Genomis, Lloyd and Murray 2005 Trends Biochem Sci in rat muscle cells: see papers by Miguel Aon and Sonia Cortassa

A tunable attractor, e.g. period doubling bifurcations



Murray and Lloyd 2006 Biosystems Murray et al. 2001 J Bacteriol Li and Klevecz 2006 PNAS

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Short- and long-period respiratory oscillations in yeast



Time interest Time i

reductive, non-respiratory cell



Short-period: 40 minutes, cell-cycle gating ?

Klevecz et al. 2004 PNAS Murray, Beckmann, Kitano 2007 PNAS

Long-period: 300 minutes, cell-cycle synchrony ?

Tu et al. 2005 Science

Murray et al. 1999 Microbiology, Lloyd et al. 2002 Microbiology Murray 2004 Current Genomis, Lloyd and Murray 2005 Trends Biochem Sci in rat muscle cells: see papers by Miguel Aon and Sonia Cortassa

Metabolic models - glycolytic oscillations



Similarities:

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- energy (ATP) and redox (NAD(P)H) oscillations
- acetaldehyde (C2) acts as population synchronizer
- H₂S is the major synchronizer for respiratory oscillation
- H₂S and KCN both inhibit the electron transport chain
- Roughly an order of magnitude different period!

Metabolic models - sulfate assimilation



metabolic feedback in sulfate assimilation

glycolytic oscillator TCA/respiration gene regulatory network

- \Rightarrow coupled oscillators : different timescales
- \Rightarrow multistability of TCA : respiration vs. amino acids
- \Rightarrow coupled oscillators : cell cycle gating

Wolf, Sohn, Heinrich, Kuriyama, 2001 FEBS Letters

A cell-wide oscillation



a stable cell-wide oscillation in continuous yeast culture without any nutrient deficiency etc. : default state !!(?)

Klevecz et al. 2004 PNAS Murray, Beckmann, Kitano 2007 PNAS

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Metabolic models - amino acid synthesis



Gene regulatory models: MET and GATA networks



- TOR kinase complex: general nutrient starvation response
- GCN4 controls general amino acid synthesis
- GATA network controls nitrogen metabolism (GLU, GLN)
- MET network controls sulfur metabolism (MET, CYS)
 - GLU + CYS + GLY \rightarrow glutathione
 - ► MET + ATP → S-adenosylmethionine

Murray, Beckmann and Kitano 2007, PNAS

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What are GATA factors ?



Transcription factors

- bind (multiple adjacent) HGATAR sites
- act as transcriptional activators and / or repressors
- (also) involved in chromatin remodelling
- yeast: competitive inhibitors w/o activating domain

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often auto-regulatory!

A. nidulans AreA DNA-binding domain

Yeast and C. elegans GATA networks



- Gln3/Gat1 regulates central nitrogen metabolism: GLU/GLN
- activates general a.a. synthesis, e.g. amino acid permeases
- Elt-2 is the terminal transcription factor of a GATA cascade
- activates intestine specific genes, e.g. amino acid permeases

GATA network: model and parameters



- 1. minimal model assumptions: all linear, except for transcriptional activation: $Vmax * (A/(K_d + A))^2$
- 2. parameters and variables: chosen to accord to recent quantitative data (in orders of magnitude) $K_d = 18nM \approx 10$ molecules/femtolitre max. transcription rate : 6-8 transcripts/minute
- 3. Inverse Dynamical Analysis: how can duplication events and subsequent mutations change the dynamic repertoire of the system ?

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Auto-activator: hysteresis



S = low GLN concentration (GLN3 in yeast)

- A recovers GLN concentration by synthesis and transport
- Iower S does not mean that A is not needed anymore!!
- S should really decrease significantly to switch-off A
 avoid oscillating GLN deficiency

Auto-activator: hysteresis (... but ... why?)



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 - \Rightarrow avoid oscillating GLN deficiency

A duplication: hypersensitivity / irreversibility



- duplication leads to hypersensitivity or even irreversibility wrt to S
- immunological/pathogenic context, e.g.
 - ▶ IL? \rightarrow STAT6 \rightarrow GATA-3 \rightarrow GATA-3 \rightarrow T_{h2} activation

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- haploinsufficiency ? move bif. to the right
 - development of haploid lifestyle in yeasts
 - haploinsufficiency diseases known for both GATA-3 and GATA-6

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Inverse Dynamical Analysis of bifurcation phenotypes

- 1. Inverse eigenvalue analysis
 - Probe the possibility for multistability/oscillations
 - Identify minimal dynamic-changing parameter combinations using sparsity-promoting regularization
- 2. Forward bifurcation anlysis (w.r.t identified parameters)
- 3. Inverse bifurcation analysis
 - Design the system to obtain desired dynamical behavior
 - Identify influential parameters: propose experiments for verification



⇒ MathSBML/Mathematica package by James Lu, might go into SOSlib extension later

Relieving hypersensitivity / irreversibility



James Lu, Machne R, Schuster P, Engl H 2007 BIRD07 conference paper

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- use IEA/IBA to find relieving mutations
 - scaled model to allow for individual mutations:

 $\begin{array}{l} K_{a1}^{A1} = bA1 \cdot ba1 \cdot K_d \\ K_{a2}^{A1} = bA1 \cdot ba2 \cdot K_d \\ K_{a1}^{A2} = bA2 \cdot ba1 \cdot K_d \\ K_{a2}^{A2} = bA2 \cdot ba2 \cdot K_d \end{array}$

- e.g. mutation of hGATAr binding site in gene a1: ba1
- e.g. mutation of hGATAr binding domain in protein A1: bA1



- 1. duplication of A
 - hypersensitivity stress!
- 2. diverse mutation possible to relieve stress, e.g. $ba1 \rightarrow 0$
- 3. only some of these mutations allow further evo. (devo.) pathways (*Fluchtlinien*)
- 4. diversification of A1 and A2 target genes, e.g. $\Delta bA1$

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Duplication of DNA binding domain: oscillations ?



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- more complex bifurcation diagrams: co-existence of bistability (saddle-node bif.) and oscillations (Hopf bif.)
- Why oscillations: embedding into global oscillator
 - cell cycle (Swi 5 binding sites in GAT1!)
 - respiratory oscillations

Phylogenetic reconstruction I: proteins

Pipeline:

- 1. 4 GAT1-like and 6(?) other Zn-f. from S. cerevisiae
- 2. psiblast Zn-finger in full genomes
 - collected 107 proteins
- 3. filter by dialign/clustal
 - 49 proteins with GAT1-like Zn-f. : same DNA binding site!

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4. characterize proteins by clustal/dialign/probcons

- extreme size variations, very little conservation, but... some small domains conserved:
- Zn-finger variations correspond to other domains
- NES or not!
- activating domain, activator-characteristic C-term
- inhibitor-characteristic Leucine zipper, no AD
- Fe-binding element in 2GATA set
- many N, Q, SPT, KR rich regions

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Conserved Zn finger

Hemiascomycota

S. cerevisiae Ashbya gossypii Candida glabrata Kluyveromyces lactii Debaromyces hansenii Yarrowia lipolytica Candida albicans ...?... S. pombe Ascomycota Aspergillus nidulans A. fumigatus A. terreus Neurospora crassa Basidiomycota Cryptococcus neoformans Ustilago maydiis ...?... Encephalitozoon cuniculi

	* **	* * * * * * * *	******:		**	
Dh_50424457_223	-KFLQCTNCN	KTTPLWRKSNK	DLLCNACGLF	YKLHGV	LRPLS	-OPDRKSSVLNDTLTLTNK
Ca_46434483_253	-KVLQCTNCQ	RTTPLWRKANN	GDLLCNACGLF	YKLHGV	LRPIN	DKKRKYTKRNDKMISTD-
Ca_46437465_133	-SGPVCGNCQ	OTTPLWRRDET	GQVLCNACGLF	LKLHGR	PRPIS	KTDTIKSRNRVKQNGSN-
Ca_46437412_130	-SGPVCGNCQ	Q <mark>TTPLWRRD</mark> ET	GQVL <mark>CN</mark> ACGLF	'L <mark>KLHG</mark> R	PRPIS	LKTDTIKSRNRVKQNGSN-
Dh_50418791_41	-TSPVCRNCK	QTTPLWRRDET	GQVL <mark>CNACG</mark> LF	'L <mark>KLH</mark> GR	PRPIS	LKTDTIKSRNRIKQANPS-
Sc_DAL80_27	-DHPTCQNCF	VK <mark>TPLWRRD</mark> EH	GTVL <mark>CNACG</mark> LF	'LKLHGE	PRPIS	LKTDTIKSRNRKKLNNNN-
Af_AreB_13	-LQPVCQNCG	ISTTPLWRRDEL	GSVL <mark>CNACG</mark> LF	'LKLHGR	PRPIS	LKTDVIKSRNRVKTAGQG-
An_40738445_13	-LQPICQNCG	TSKTPLWRRDEL	GSVL <mark>CNACG</mark> LF	'LKLHGR	PRPIS	LKTDVIKSRNRVKTAGQG-
Y1_50549355_160	-LTPVCQNCQ	ISTTPLWRRDEA	GQVL <mark>CN</mark> ACGLF	'LKLHGR	ARPIS	LKTNVIKSRNRIKNHGHG-
Nc_28923776_12	-TQPTCQNCA	ISTTPLWRRDEM	GQVL <mark>CN</mark> ACGLF	'LKLHGR	PRPIS	LKTDVIKSRNRQQQQQQQ-
K1_50312009_80	-SNPVCKNCY	ISTTPLWRRDEH	GSVLCNACGLF	LKLHGR	PRPIS	LKTDVIKSRNRKSSHHDS-
Cg_50288243_79	-SAPVCKNCM	ISTTPLWRRDEQ	GSVLCNACGLF	LKLHGK	PRPIS	LKTDVIKSRNRKNVQTSP-
Ag_45198587_38	-GCPVCQNCH	ISTIPLWRRDEN	GAVLCNACGLF	LKLHGR	PRPIS.	LKTDVIKSKNKKAGHEEK-
SC_GZF3_127	-NVPVCKNCL	ISTIPLWRRDEN	GAMLCNACGLF	LKLHGK	PRPIS.	LKTDVIKSKNRKSNTNHA-
Cg_50292953_22	-PIPQUANCE	SHIPLWRRDKD	SMLCNACGLF	QAMINGR	ARPID	KIDQIRHRNRKKKAISV-
Ch_58258269_1182	NP1-MCINCQ.	INTPLWRRDPD	GOPLENACGLE	IKLIGV	VRPLS	GRIDVIKKRNRAGPGPKE-
Um_46100068_1593	PPT-VCSNCH	TRTPLWRRDPE	GOPLENACGLE		VRPLS	LKTDVIKKRNRASGAQRA-
AC_AFEA_012	GP1-ICINCP	Q11PLWRRNPE	SQPLCNACGLF	LALIGV	VRPLD	CKIDVIKKRNRSSANSLA-
AL_ALEA_007	CDT-TOTNOP	OTTDIWRRNPE	COPI CNACCLE	LALIGV	VEPLO	WTOUT VY DNDNG NGT A
No 28025520 720	TDT-TOTNOP	OTTDIWRRNPD	CODI CNACCI F	THINGY	VEDT C	KTDUTKKPNDCCCACT D-
v1 50551201 83	KDT_SCTNCH	OTTDIWPPNDE	SEPL CNACCLE	TRIHOV	VPDT.S	KTDVIKKPNPTNCTNAS-
Sp 63054447 631	-PTPTCTNCO		COPLONACCLE	METNOV	VPDT.S	KTDVIKKPNPCVCTSAT-
y1 50556296 532	-EALOCSNCN	TTTPLWRRSPE	SESL CNACGLE	TRIHOV	VEPLS	KTDVIKKENRASGTGTT-
K1 50312349 467	-TETOCSNCH	KTTPLWRRDPO	INPL CNACGLE	TRIHOV	VEPLS	KKDVIKKRORSSNKSKO-
Ag 45199031 285	-PDTKCSNCM	KTTPLWRRGPO	SDPLCNACGLE	TRIHOV	VEPLS	KTDVTKKRORGSNRNTO-
SC GAT1 306	-PDTKCSNCT	STTPLWRKDPK	SL.PLCNACGLE	TRIHOV	TRPLS	KTDTTKKRORSSTKINN-
Dh 50421709 376	-GPISCINCN	TATPLWRRDPK	GKPLCNACGLF	LKLHGV	VRPLS	KTDVIKKRORGSNTSSK-
Ca 46438200 434	-TGVSCTNCG	KTTPLWRRNPO	GOPLCNACGLF	LKLHGV	VRPLS	KTDVIKKRORGNNNGSG-
Cg 50292241 254	-EDLICTNCG	TNTPLWRKDID	RKPLCNACGLF	FKLHGV	MRPLS	LKTDVIKKRKRTAKIKTN-
K1_50302249_345	-PPTQCYNCK	LKTPLWRRDPD	GNTLCNACGLF	QKLHGT	MRPLS	LKSDIIKKRNTKKRTKKD-
Ag_45198755_326	-POTOCFNCK	FKTPLWRRDLQ	GNTLCNACGLF	OKLHGT	MRPLS	L <mark>KSDVI</mark> KKRNTKKRARKA-
Sc_GLN3_302	-PLIQCFNCK	FKTPLWRRSPE	gn <mark>tl</mark> cnacglf	QKLHGT	MRPLS	L <mark>KSDVIKKR</mark> ISKKRAKQT-
Cg_50285693_334	-DAVHCDNCK	YK TPLWRRSPE	GKVLCNACGLF	OKLHGT	MRPLS	LKTDVIRKRNSKKRTKIQ-
Ca_46443763_211	-KVTKCYNCN	TTATPLWRRDAE	GNTLCNACGLF	'LKLHGT	CRPLS	LKSDVIKKRNSRKTSTSS-
Dh_50427591_215	-KQTECFNCH	ALK <mark>TPLWRKDP</mark> Q	GKTLCNACGLF	'L <mark>KLH</mark> GT	TRPLS	L <mark>KTDVIKKR</mark> SSRRS <mark>P</mark> ATN-
Nc_SREP_278	-VVIACQNCG	TTITPLWRRDEA	GHTICNACGLY	YKLHGV	HRPVT	MKKAIIKRRKRVIPAAGG-
Y1_50552360_393	-VVIACQNCG	TTITPLWRRDDS	GS <mark>TICNACGLY</mark>	YRLHGV	HRPVR	KKNMIKRRKRVLEKDGG-
Sp_19113848_168	-SVTFCQNCA	TINTPLWRRDES	GNPICNACGLY	YKIHGV	HRPVT	KKAIIKRRKRLVFNGNA-
At_SreA_249	-MLVSCQNCG	TVTPLWRRDEN	GHPICNACGLY	YKLHGC	YRPTT	MKKSIIKRRKRVVPALRD-
At_SREP_243	-LLVSCQNCG	TVTPLWRRDEN	GHPICNACGLY	YKLHGC	TRPST	MKKTIIKKKKKVVPALRE-
An_40746893_247	-MLVACQNCG	I VIPLWRRDEN	SHPICNACGLI	INLIGS	IRPII	AKAIIIKKKKKVVPALKE-
Ca_SFUI_180	-LALACFNCG	TITPLWRRDDA	GNTICNACGLE	TRLHGS	HRPIK	MKRPTIKRRKRNVSDKKS-
Dn_30420129_195	-MALACTNCG		INTICNACGLI	IRLIGS	UPDIC	WYCUTYDDYDTDNNATA-
CD CDS1_478	-UCMCCPNCC	CTTDI WRRDED	CRROCHACGLI	HALLIGI	DDDUA	WYTUTYPPYPUPAUAIA-
Sp 19075466 415	-FNLUCANCS	TKTSLWPKDPH	COTVCNACCLY	ARTHCH	NPPTC	KENKTTPPPPCKCPCCF-
Tim 46099653 627	-DMTSCENCG	TTPLWRKDDA	HTYCNACGLY	TRIHNE	HRPVT	RADVIKERSRYDEERGR-
EC GATA 4	-KOGECSNCN	TATPLWRRADD	STLCNACGLY	YNTHOR	KRPTS	FKADSGKSRMRCRRAGGD-
ruler	1				0	
					-	1

Activation domain



GLN3 specific, α -helix

Svetlov and Cooper 1997

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GAT1 specific, putative activation domain

 \Rightarrow check charge patterns, 2^{ndary} structure

Activator-specific C-terminus



probably an α -helix

\Rightarrow check 2^{ndary} structure

Platt et al. 1996 EMBO J

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Inhibitor-specific

		•
K1_50312009_462	LKTRISELELVTDLYKRHVFELDSRCKA	LEQEL
Sc_DAL80_225	LKTKISELELVTDLYKKHIFQLNEKCKQ	LEVEL
Cg_50288243_426	LRTRINELELVTDLYKRHIYELDERCKK	LEKEL
Sc_GZF3_507	LKTRINELELVTDLYRRHINELDGKCRA	EERL
Ag_45198587_272	LKTRINELELINDLYKRHIFELNDRCKM	L <mark>E</mark> MKH
Cg_50292953_148	LKTRVNELESITRLYKNHITRLEQRCQI	LESKL
Ca_46437465_547	LKTRISELELVNDLYRTRIMELEAMEQA	ARLRE
Ca_46437412_541	LKTRISELELVNDLYRTRIMELEAMEQA	ARLRE
Dh_50418791_471	LKTRISELELVNDLYRTRIMELEAMEQA	ARLRE
Af_AreB_208	LKTRVSELELINGLFRGRVAELEQSDAT	ARRSE
An_40738445_203	LKTRVSELDLINGLFRGRVAELEQSDAT	ARRSE
Y1_50549355_483	LKTRLSELELVNDLFRSRVAEVEAAEQA	ARRSE
Nc_28923776_183	LKTRVSELEVIQELYRGRLHQLETEENI	RQASE
ruler	1	30



leucine zipper

... Cooper 1997

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iron-responsive element between 2 Zn fingers

Phylogenetic reconstruction I: domain structures

- S. cerevisiae, C. glabrata: 2 A, 2 I, 0 2GATA
 - pattern corresponds to known yeast genome evolution
- Aspergillus sp. et al.: 1 A, 1 I, 1 2GATA
 - A. terreus: lost I, and see below
- new inhibitor in Yarrowia lipolytica ?
- new iron-responsive activator in S. pombe ?

Phylogenetic reconstruction II: hGATAr sites

>Sc_DAL80_upstream_1000
T
cTcTcT

- hGATAr sites
 - multiple adjacent binding sites in some but not all
 - different distances, correspond to genome-size constraints
 - distances between adjacent sites ? relation to GATA protein size

- construct networks for 15 species!
- again A. terreus: weak auto-activation

Phylogenetic reconstruction II: 3'UTR



- 1. dialign 1000 nt. downstream of 49 coding sequences
- 2. AreA 3'UTR found in 3 species: known feedback function!
 - half-life w/o 3'UTR: ca 23 min
 - half-life with 3'UTR, -GLN: ca. 40 min
 - half-life with 3'UTR, +GLN: ca. 7 min
- 3. blast fungal genomes with A. nidulans sequence
 - retrieved sequences from 5 additional species
- 4. again A. terreus: very small T-rich loop

Platt et al. 1996 EMBO J, Moroviz et al. 2000 and 2001

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Platt et al. 1996 EMBO J, Moroviz et al. 2000 and 2001

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Outlook

- 1. finish above, add some of the detected new models and potential new bifurcation parameters
- 2. maybe collect closer yeast relatives to better define protein domains and find more UTR RNA structures

3. do experiments (anyone, please)

Dougie Murray Lukas Endler Stefan Müller Thanks: Stefanie Widder Xtof Flamm Peter Schuster Heinz Engl

gesundheit and a well recovery of all your livers and lungs

- Mobile group I introns (mgli) frequently appear in redox-related genes (phages, cyanobacteria, unicellular photosynthetic organisms, chloroplasts, mitochondria)
- One mgli is splice-inhibited by NADP⁺, two mgli regulated by redox machinery of respiratory and photosynthetic e⁻ transport chains, respectively
- ➤ 7 cyanobacteria (origin of both mgli and O₂ using e⁻ transport chains) contain mgli in fMet-tRNA (translation initiation)
- the only fMet-tRNA of an organism is really a bad bad place for a selfish intron

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Could mobile introns with splicing sensitivity to redox state spread a simple adaptation mechanism (emergency switch for cellular redox reactors), e.g. during transition from the anaerobic to the aerobic (O_2) world?

Group I self-splicing introns



Nobel Prize 1989, Thomas R. Cech (with Sidney Altman)

group I and II introns are self-splicing ribozymes

Cech 1990 Annu Rev Biochem Waldsich et al. 2002 EMBO J Adams et al. 2004 RNA/Nature

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A function of mobile introns?

- Positive td splice regulators
 - guanosines
 - specific splicing factor Cyt-18 (Tyrosyl-tRNA synthetase)
 - RNA chaperones, e.g. StpA
 - HEG derived maturases
- Negative td splice regulators
 - competitive, guanosine analog
 - deoxyguanosine and dideoxyguanosine
 - amino acid arginine
 - coenzyme flavin FMN
 - coenzyme thiamin pyrophosphates
 - antibiotics streptomycin, viomycin, capreomycin
 - competitive, no guanosine analog
 - antibiotic lysinomycin
 - non-competitive, mixed
 - aminoglycoside antibiotics kanamycin, tobramycin, tetracycline, pentamidine, spectinomycin
 - NAD⁺
 NADP⁺

Balance replication / transcription / translation with redox conditions?

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- Emergency switch for cellular redox reactors?
- Involved in redox clocks?

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- Negative td splice regulators
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 - deoxyguanosine and dideoxyguanosine
 - amino acid arginine
 - coenzyme flavin FMN
 - coenzyme thiamin pyrophosphates
 - antibiotics streptomycin, viomycin, capreomycin
 - competitive, no guanosine analog
 - antibiotic lysinomycin
 - non-competitive, mixed
 - aminoglycoside antibiotics kanamycin, tobramycin, tetracycline, pentamidine, spectinomycin
 - NAD⁺
 NADP⁺

Balance replication / transcription / translation with redox conditions?

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- Emergency switch for cellular redox reactors?
- Involved in redox clocks?

A function of mobile introns?

- Positive td splice regulators
 - guanosines
 - specific splicing factor Cyt-18 (Tyrosyl-tRNA synthetase)
 - RNA chaperones, e.g. StpA
 - HEG derived maturases
- Negative td splice regulators
 - competitive, guanosine analog
 - deoxyguanosine and dideoxyguanosine
 - amino acid arginine
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mRNA, tRNA and rRNA introns

Consequences of splice inhibition:

- > T4 phage dNTP synth: adapt to available reductive potential
- e⁻ transport chain: avoid oxidative stress
- fMet-tRNA (7 cyanobacteria): block translation
- Leu-tRNAs (conserved from cyanob. to chloroplasts): attentuate or bias translation
- rRNA (div. bacteria, nucleus, chloroplasts, mitochondria): block translation

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 \Rightarrow is there a global regulation of translation? \Rightarrow is it redox regulated?

Respiratory oscillations in yeast



S. cerevisiae: involvement of COX1 and COB introns in respiratory phase? Redox dependent global translation phases: involvement of rRNA, tRNA intron splice modulation by redox?

> Klevecz et al. 2004 PNAS and (confirmed by) Tu et al. 2005 Science Murray et al. 1999 Microbiology, Lloyd et al. 2002 Microbiology Murray 2004 Current Genomis, Lloyd and Murray 2005 Trends Biochem Sci

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td intron: in vitro non-competitive splice inhibition by NADP⁺, a by-product of reactions catalyzed by the frd and td gene products

- T4 dNTP synthesis as a NADPH consuming process: key enzymes of reductive steps contain introns
- T4-like cyanophages carry a *photosynthetic* group I intron in variable regions in the vicinity of *td* and *nrdB* genes
- Group I (also II, III) intron abundance in e⁻ transport chains of photosynthesis and respiration, 2 examples of regulation
- Cyanobacterial origin of ... all this:
- Cyanobacteria and cyanophages form an ecological 'metaspecies' with dynamic genomes of individual species; a perfect environment for mobile introns

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Could mobile introns with splicing sensitivity to redox state spread a simple adaptation mechanism, e.g. during transition from the anaerobic to the aerobic (O_2) world?

Thanks: Chris K. Mathews Renee Schroeder, Herbert Wank Christoph Flamm, Lukas Endler, Stefan Müller Ladislav Nedbal, Georg Schmetterer Douglas Murray, Noriko Hiroi, Akira Funahashi