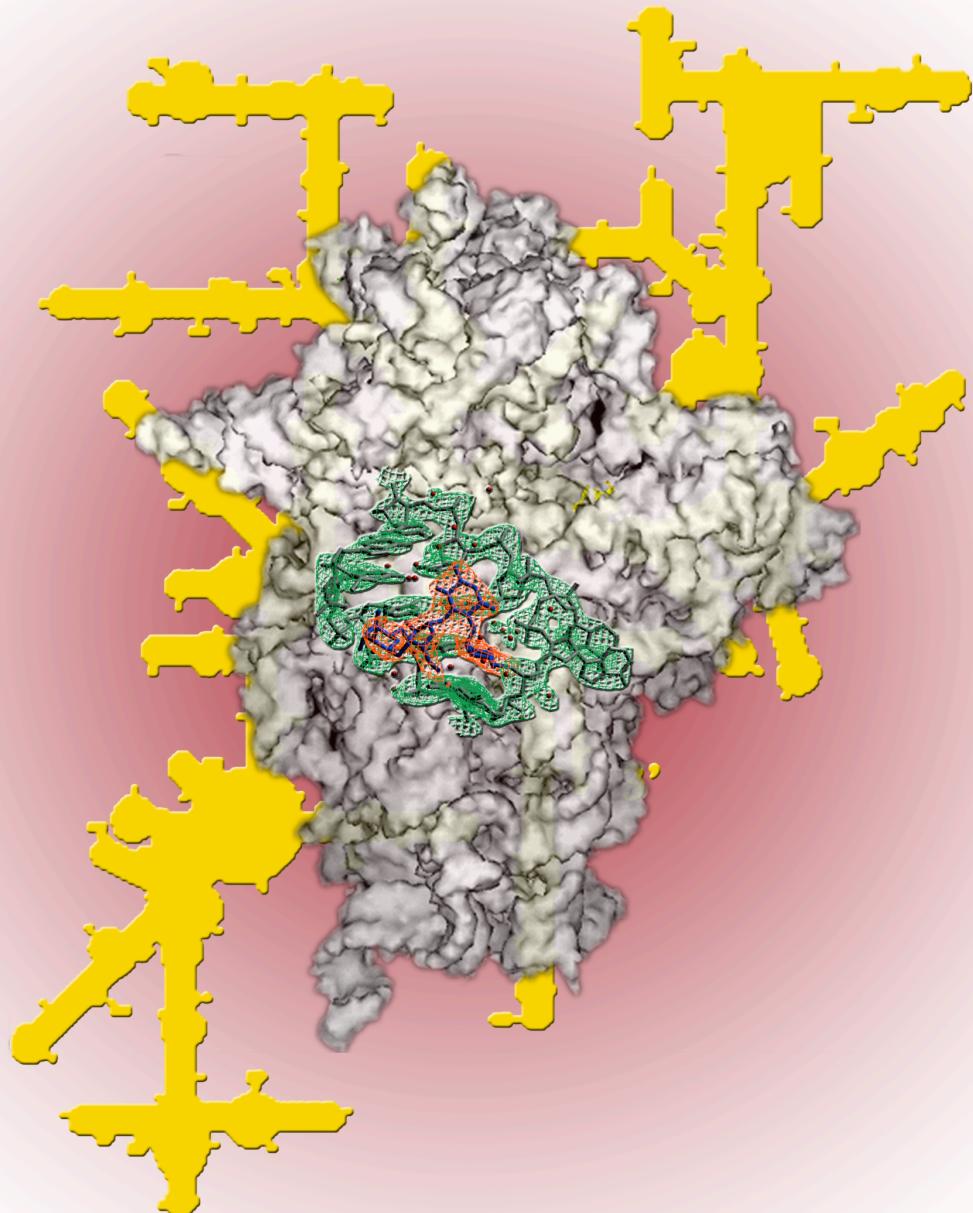


The  
RNA

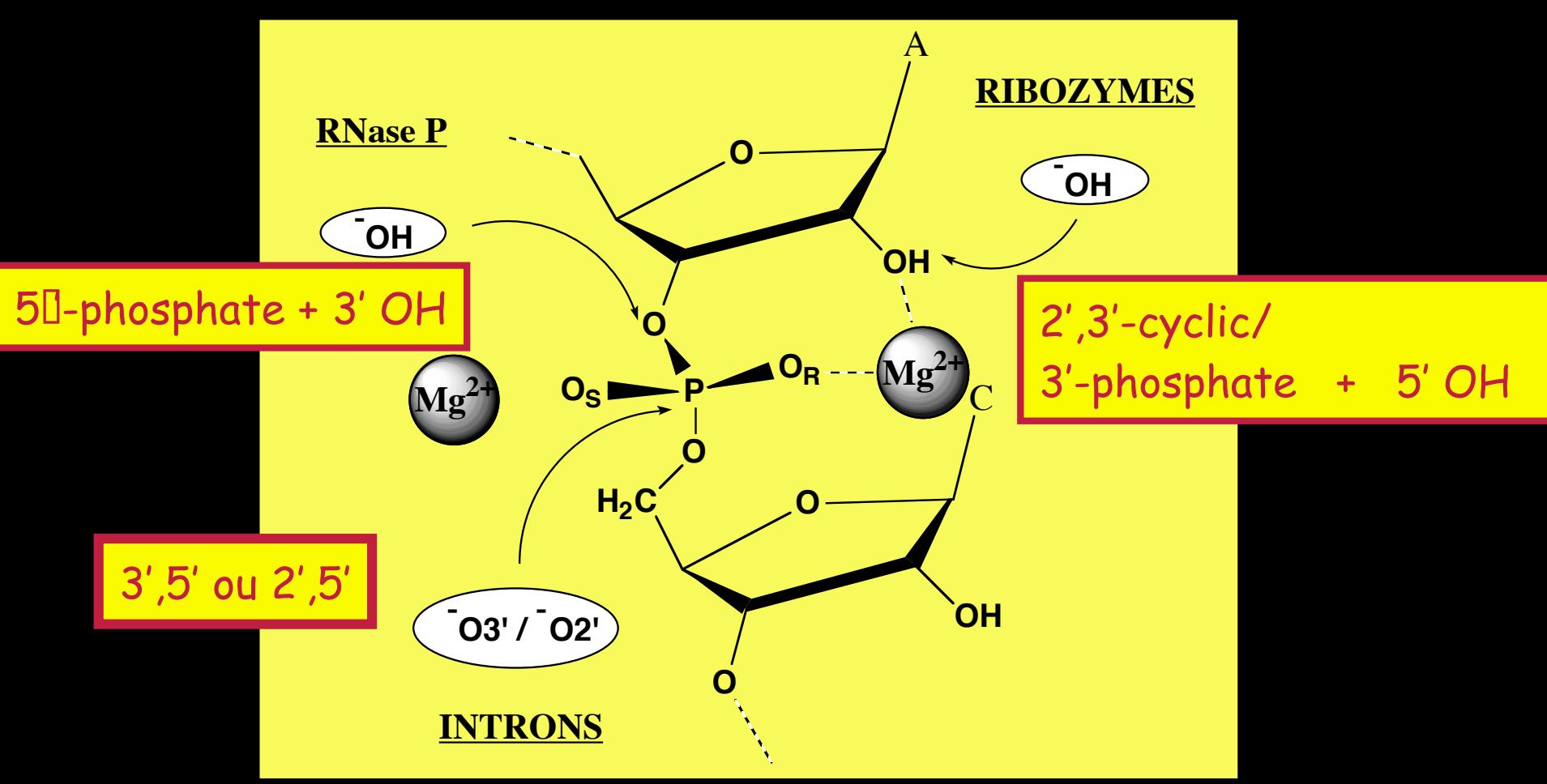
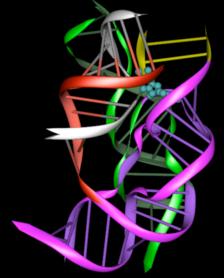
World -V

E. Westhof

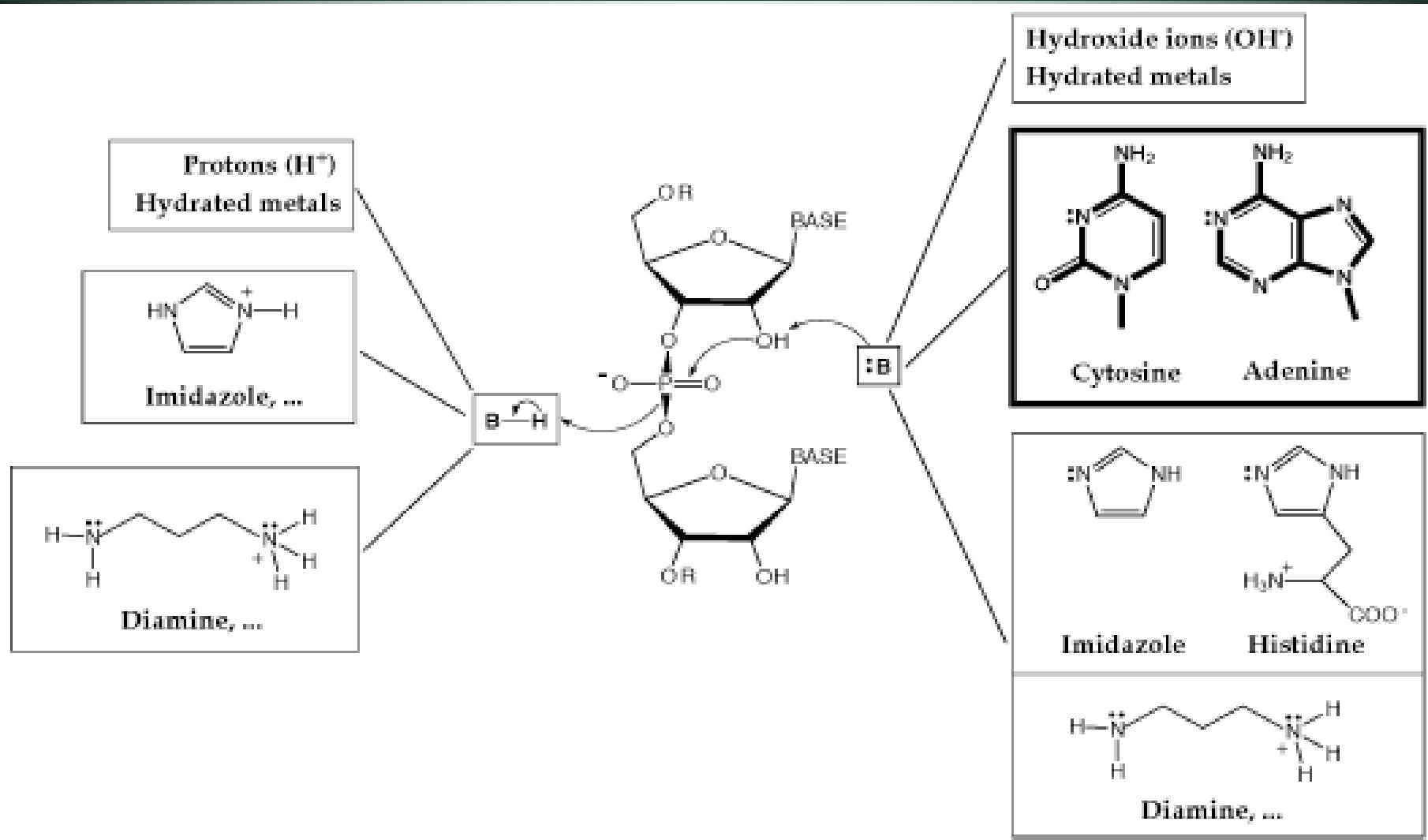
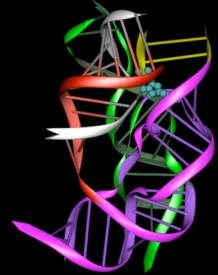


<http://www-ibmc.u-strasbg.fr/upr9002/westhof/>

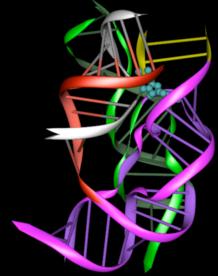
# Three families of catalytic RNAs



# General acid-base catalysis



# Catalytic RNA



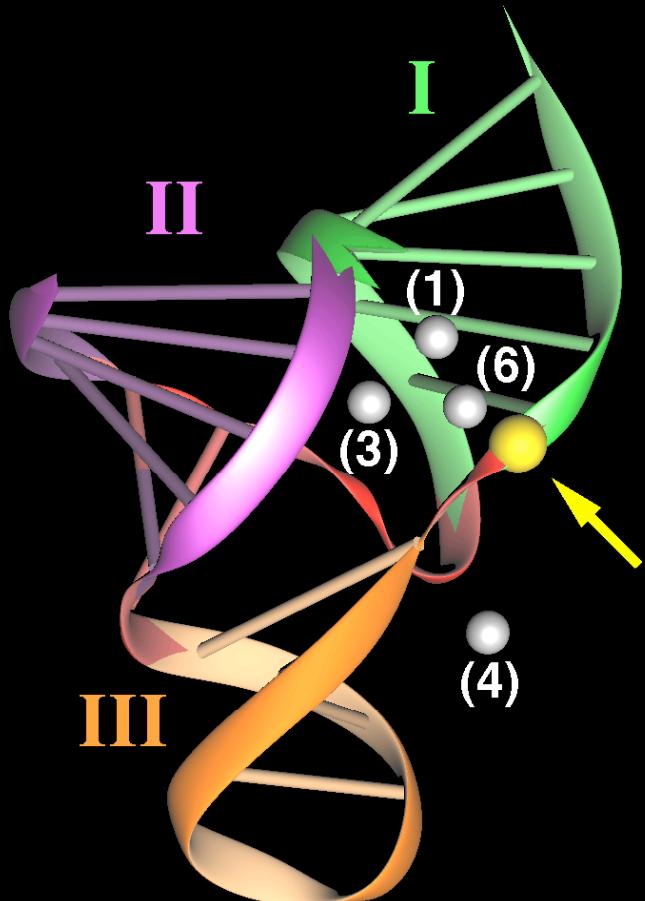
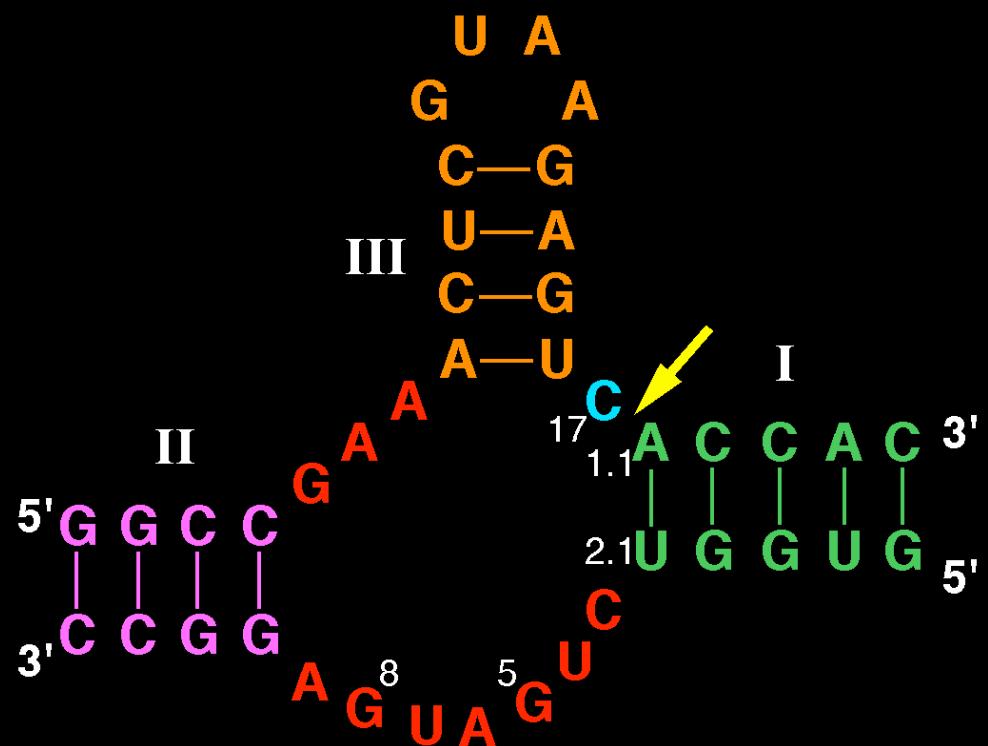
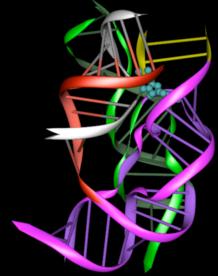
Molecular objects autonomous for 3D  
folding & catalysis

**AUTO-ASSEMBLY**

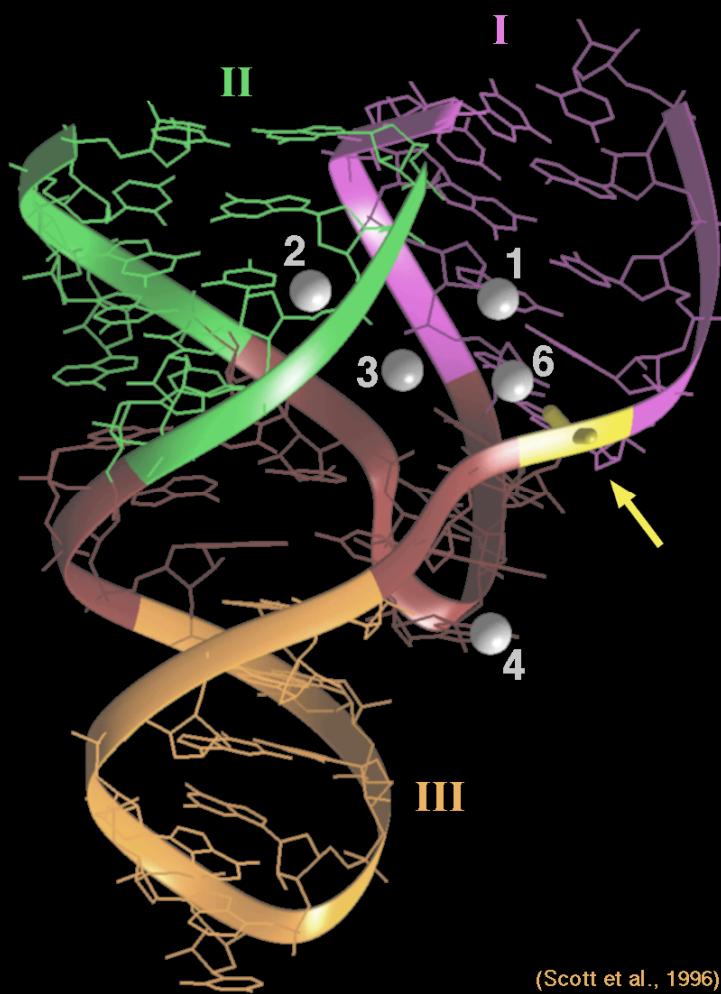
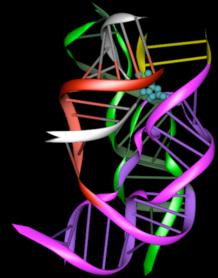


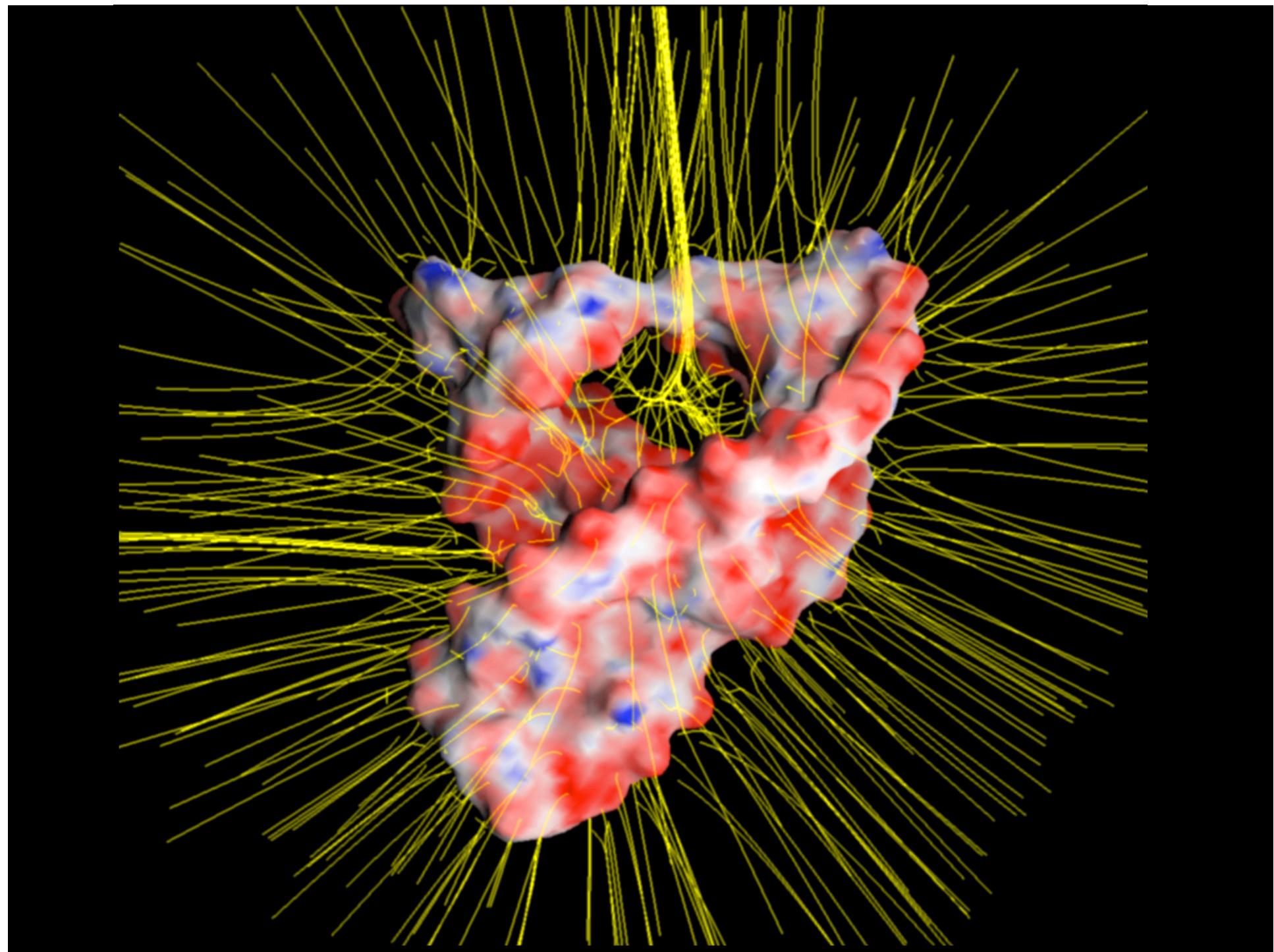
**AUTO-CATALYSIS**

# Hammerhead Ribozyme

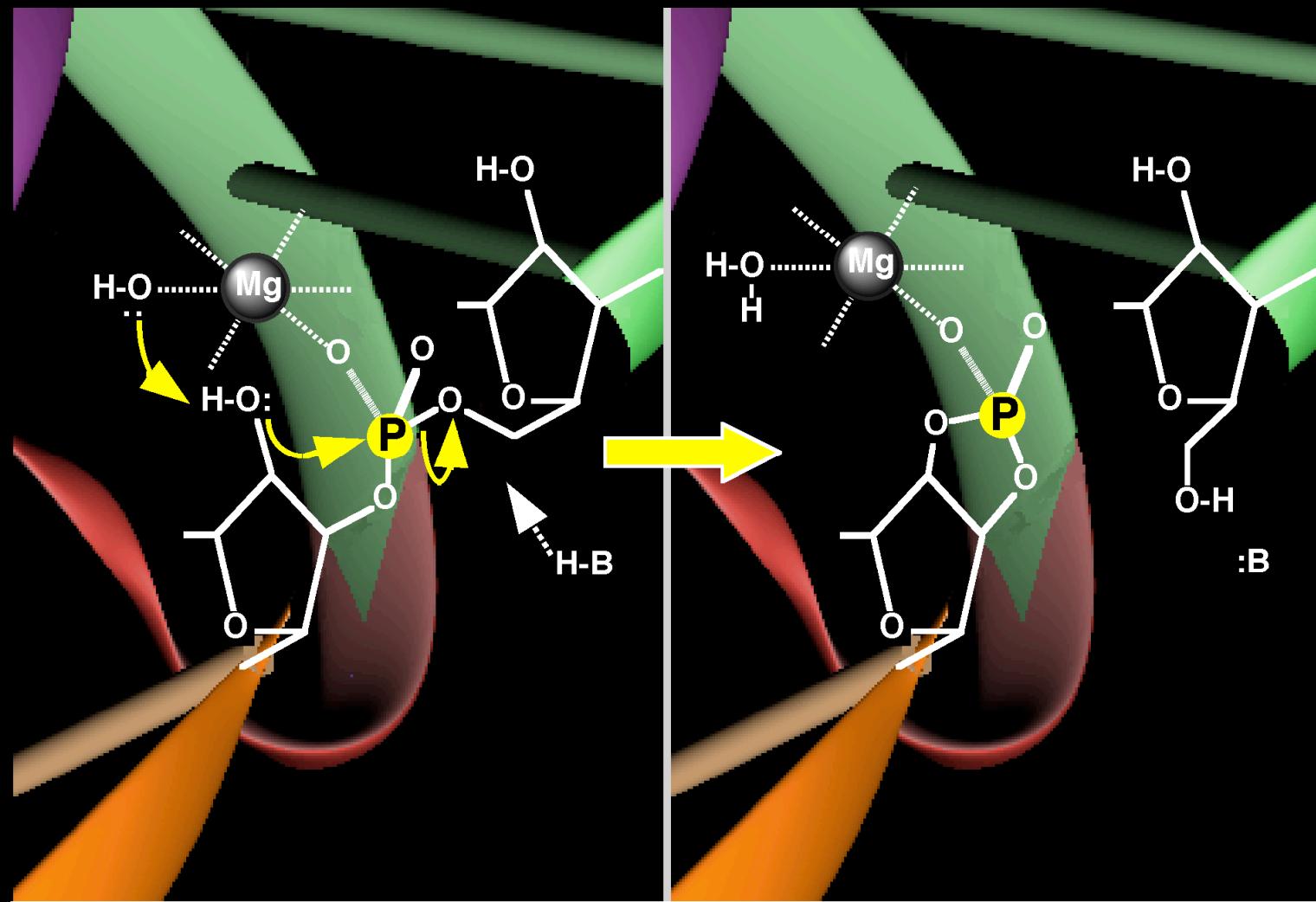
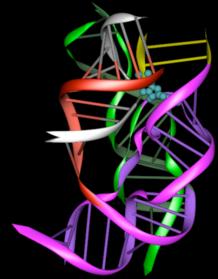


# Hammerhead ribozyme

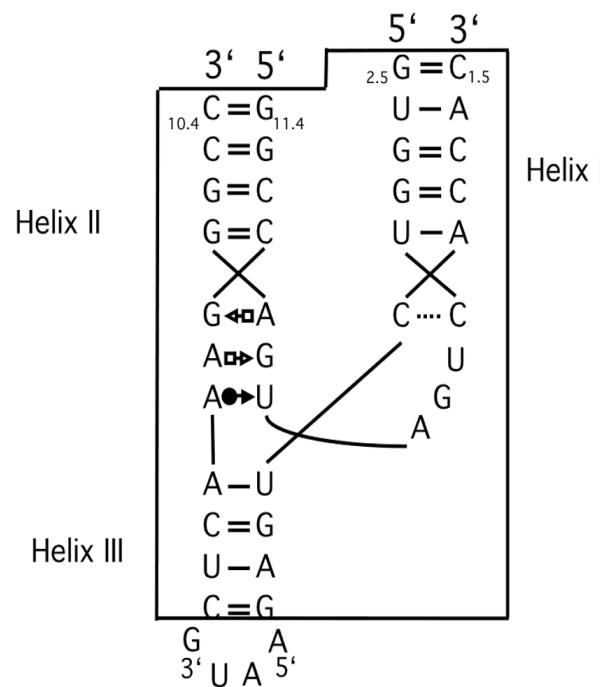




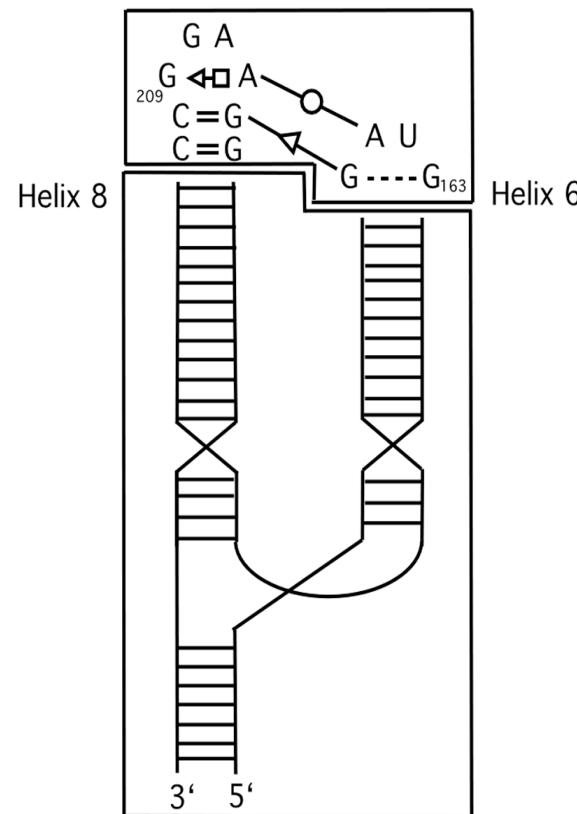
# Catalysis of RNA



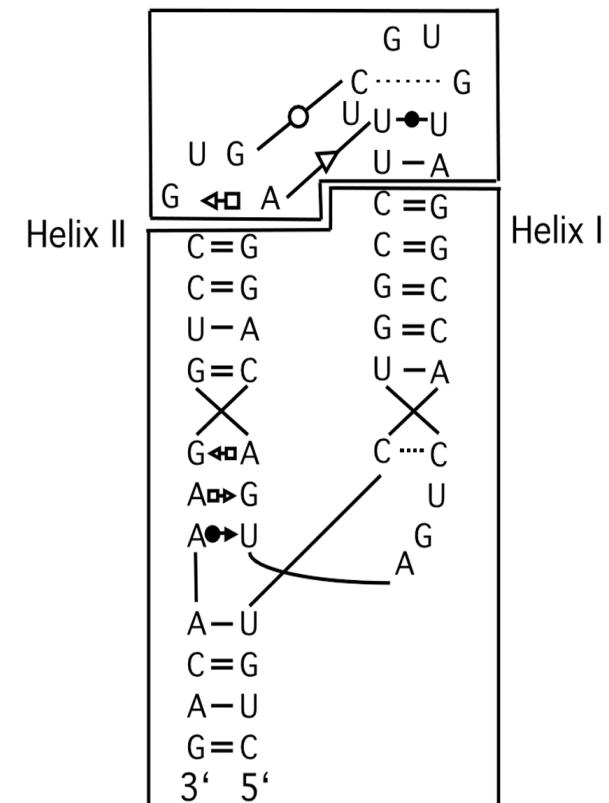
**HH**

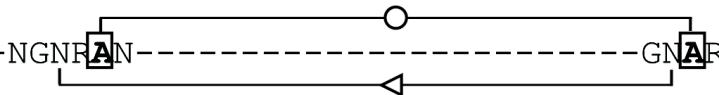


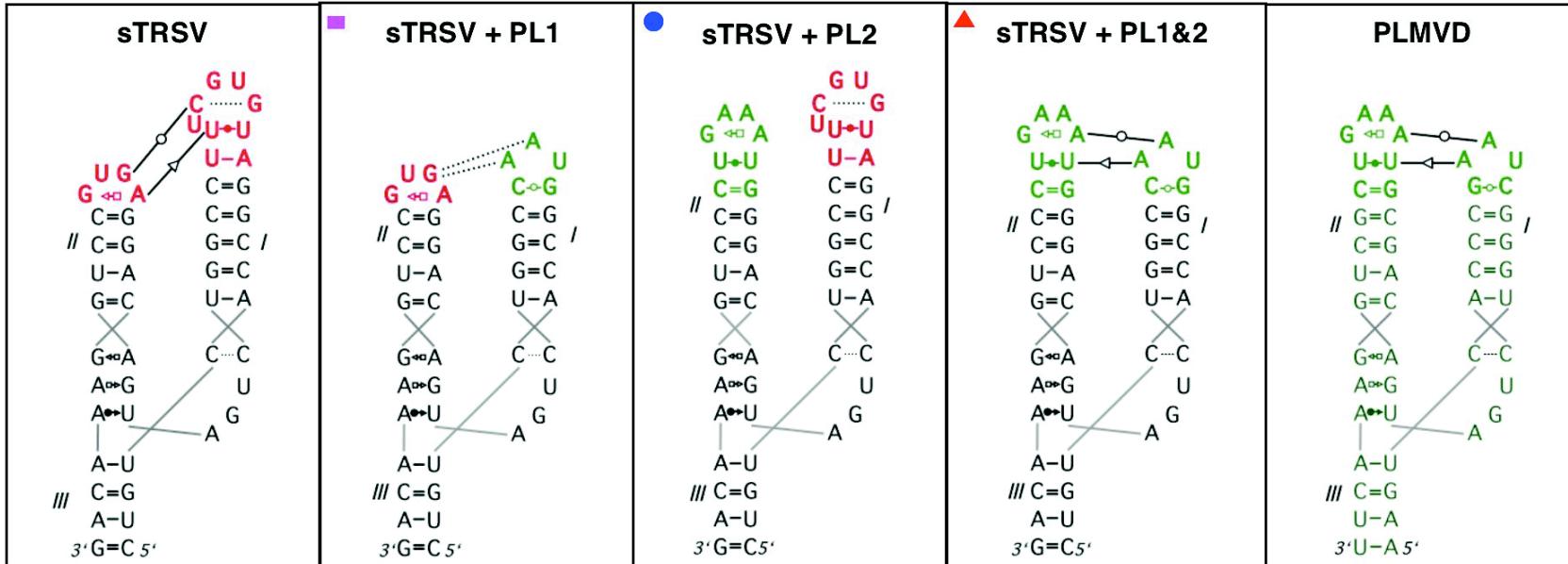
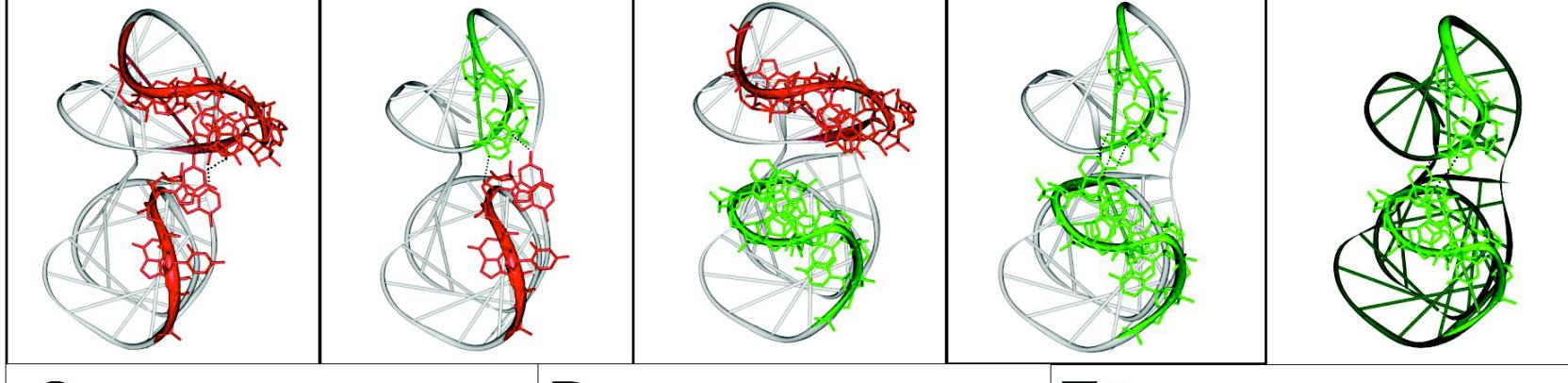
**SRP**

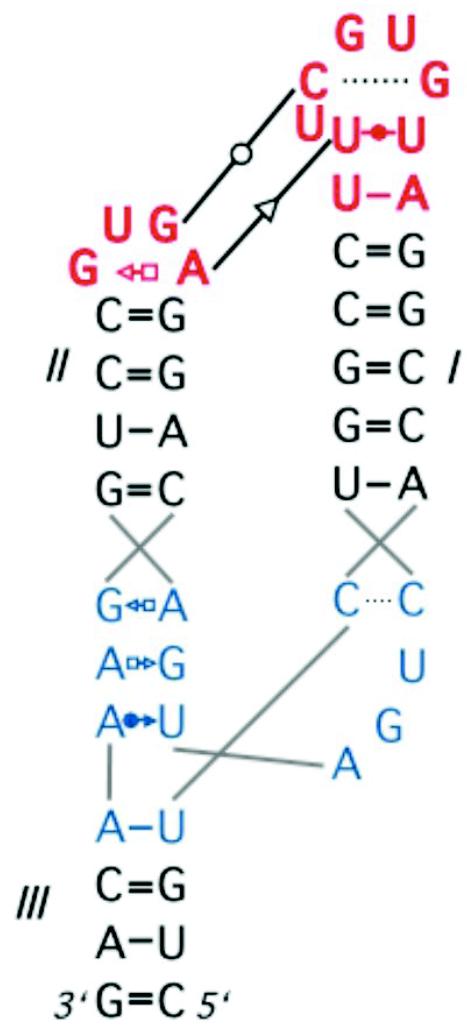


**sTRSV<sup>+</sup>**

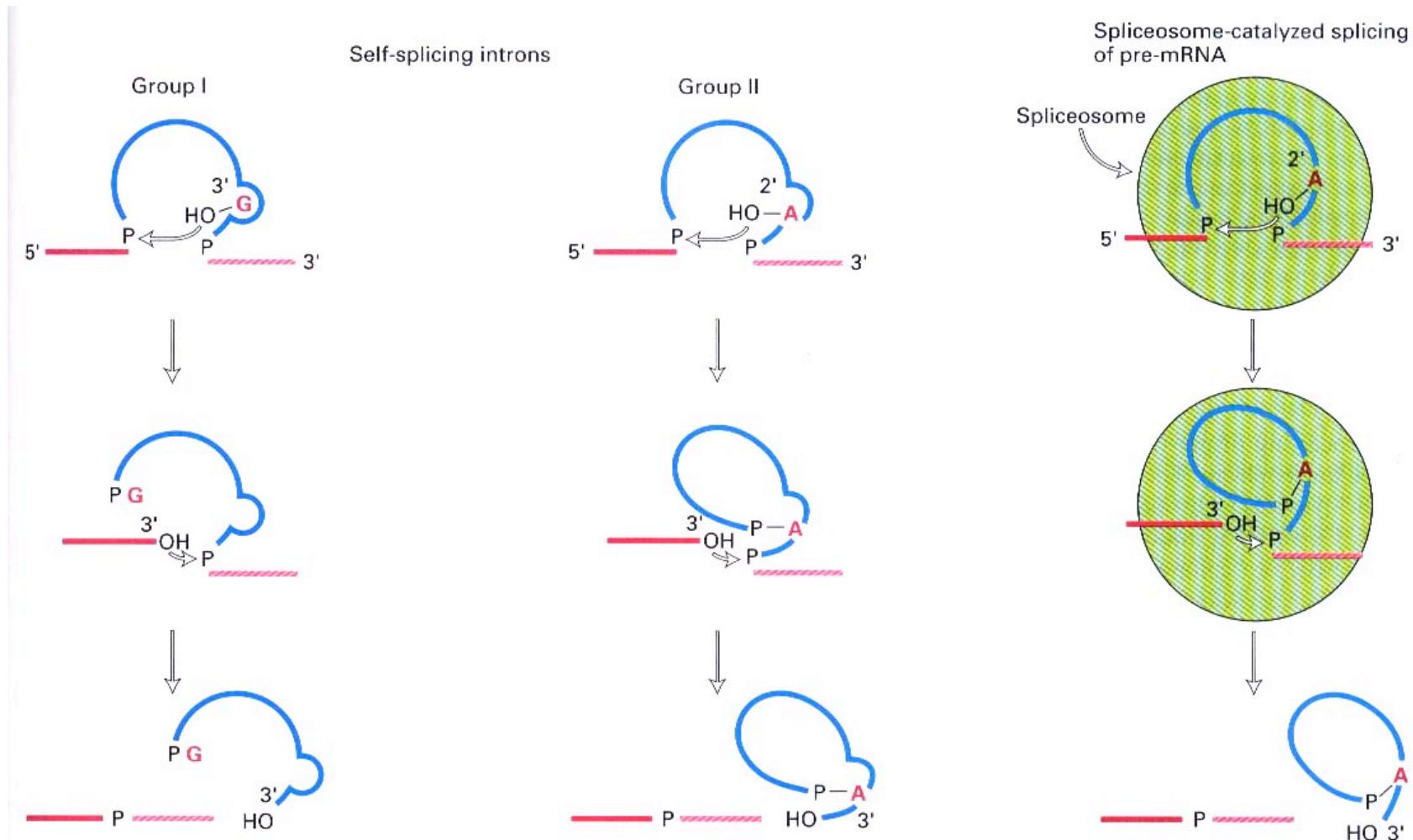


**vVTMoV+** --- UCCGUA-GUGGAU--- GUGU --- AUCCACUCUGAUGA-GUCC--- GAAA-**GGAC**-**GAAA**CGGA---  
**sBYDV-** --- GGUGUCUCAAGGU--- GCG**U** --- ACCUUGACUGAUGA-GUCC--- GAAA-**GGAC**-**GAAA**CACC---  
**Scc+** AUGCUGUAGUGGGAU--- GUG**U** --- GUCUCACUGAAGA-GGAC--- AAAA-**GUCC**-**GAAA**CGGUAU-  
**Scc-** --- GCUAUAUGGGGAU--- GUGU --- GUCCCCUACUGACGA-GUUC--- AAAA-**GAAC**-**GAAA**UAGU---  
**vSCMoV+** --- CGCUGUCUGUACUU--- GUA**U** --- CAGUACACUGACGA-GUCC--- UAAA-**GGAC**-**GAAA**CAGCG-  
**sTRSV+** --- CCUGUCACCGGAU--- GUG**C** --- **UU**UCCGGUCUGAUGA-GUCC--- GUGA-**GGAC**-**GAAA**CAGG---  
**SarMV+** --- ACUGUCGCCGGAU--- GUG**U** --- AUCCGACCUGACGAUGGCC--- AAAA-**GGGC****GAAA**CAGU---  
**sLTSV+** --- UACGUCUGAGCGU--- GAU**A** --- CCCGCUACUGAAGAUGGCC--- GGUA-**GGGC****GAAA**CGUA---  
**CChMvd+** AAGAGGUCGGCACCU--- GAC**G** --- UCGGUGUCCUGAUGAAGAUCCAUGACA-**GGAUC****GAAA**CCUCUU-  
**sLTSV-** --- GACGUUGAGACUGACUGAA**ACGCCGUCUACUGAUGA**-**GGCCAU**-**GGCA**-**GGCC**-**GAAA**CGUC---  
**SCYMV+** --- UACUGUCGCCAGAC--- GUGG--- ACCCGGCCUGAUGA-GUCC--- GAAA-**GGAC**-**GAAA**CAGUA---  
**PLMvd-** UCAUAAGUC--- UGGGC--- **UAA**--- GCCCA--- CUGAUGA-GUCGU-GAAAUGCACG**GAAA**CUUAUGA  
**PLMvd+** -GAAGAGUC--- UGUGC--- **UAA**--- GCACAC--- CUGACGA-GUCUCU-GAGAUGAGAC**GAAA**CUCUUC-  
**Eukar.**  
**SRP RNAs** ----- NGNRA----- 

**A****B**

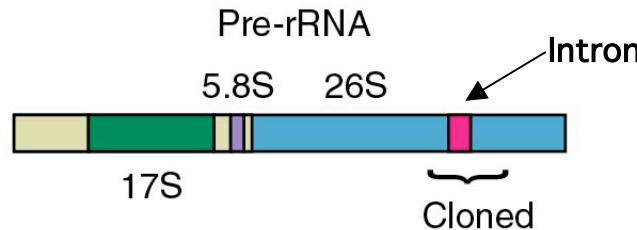


# **GROUP I AND GROUP II (SELF-SPLICING) INTRONS**

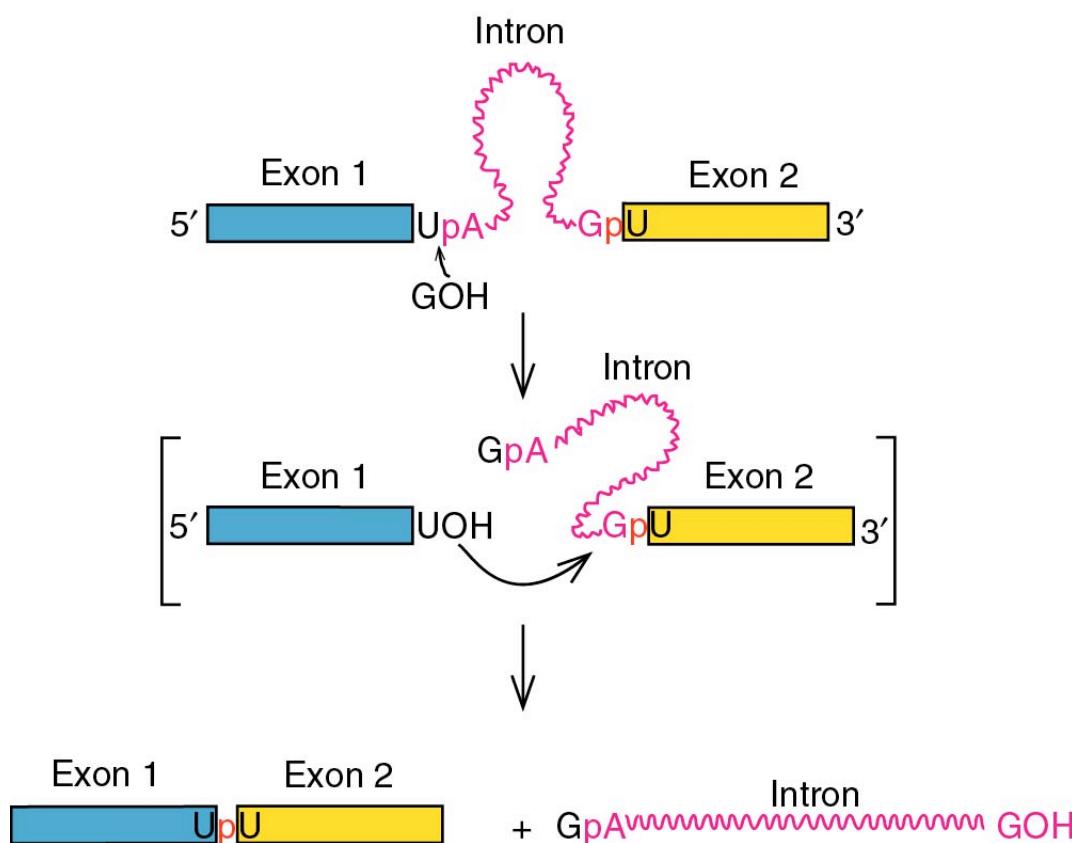


## COMPARISON OF SPLICING REACTIONS IN PRE-rRNA AND PRE-mRNA

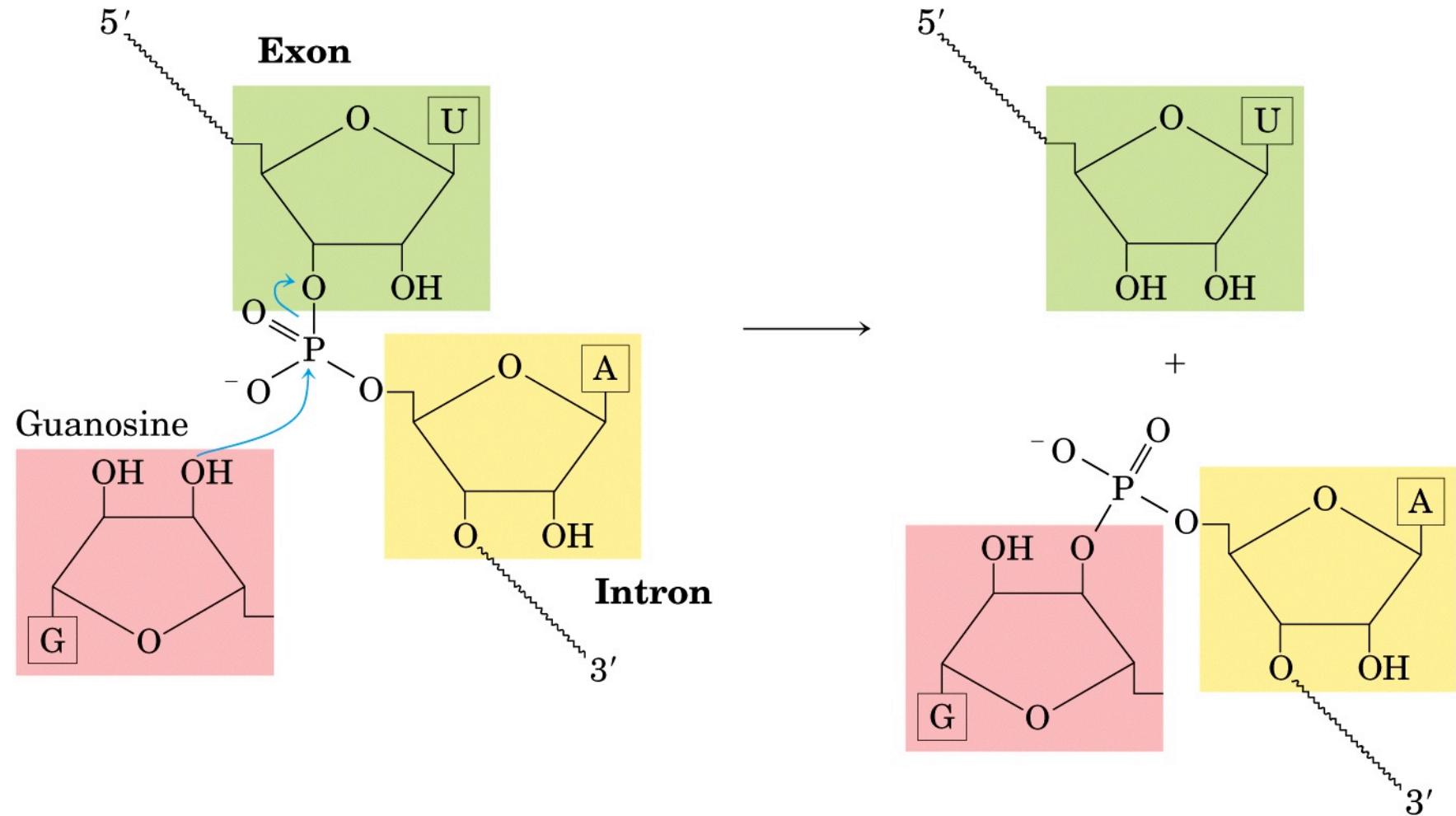
ADAPTED FROM SHARP (1987), SCIENCE 235, 769



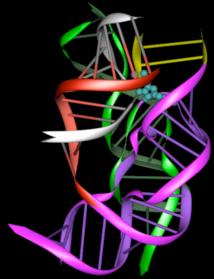
## STRUCTURE OF *TETRAHYMENA* rRNA PRECURSOR



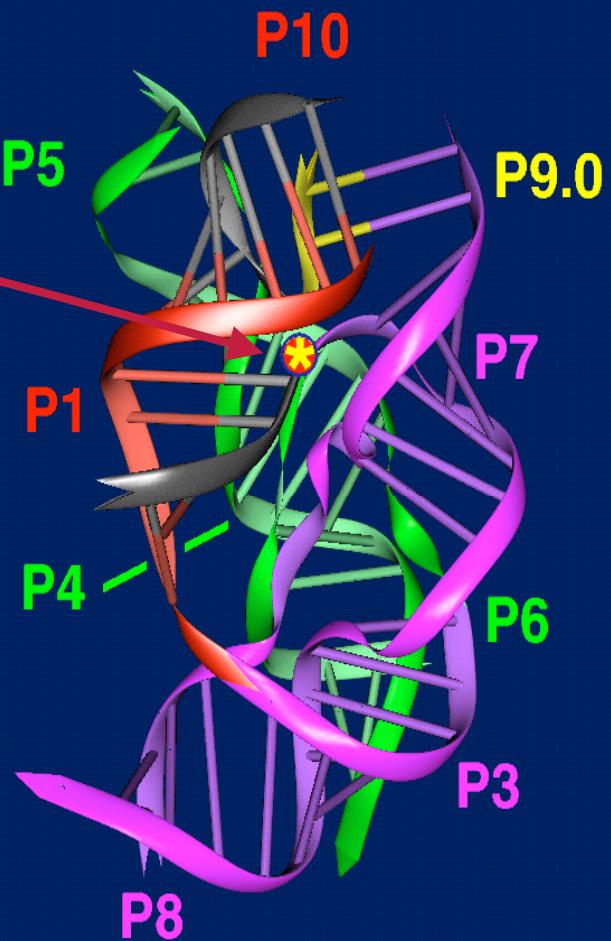
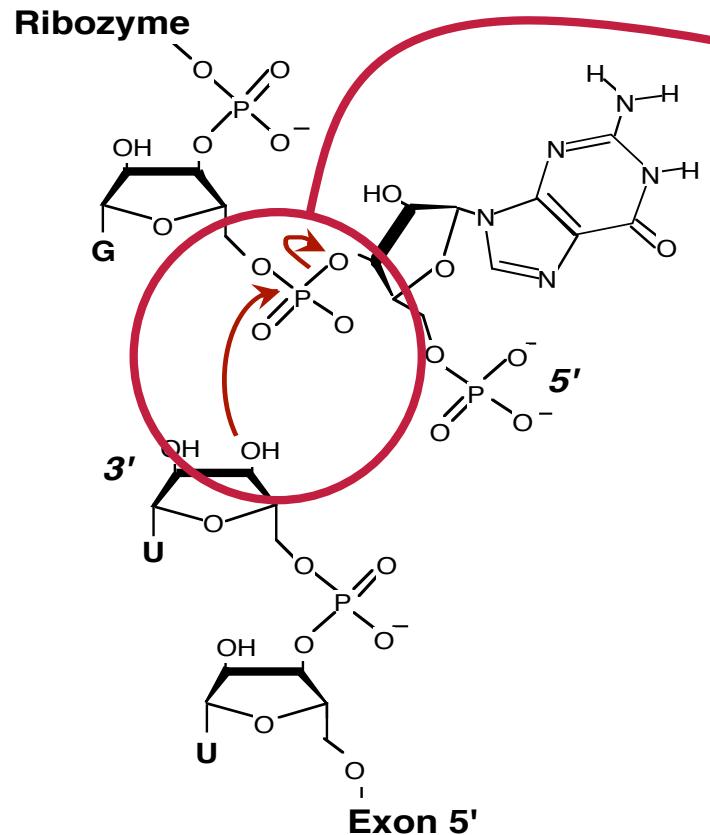
## SELF-SPLICING OF *TETRAHYMENA* rRNA PRECURSOR

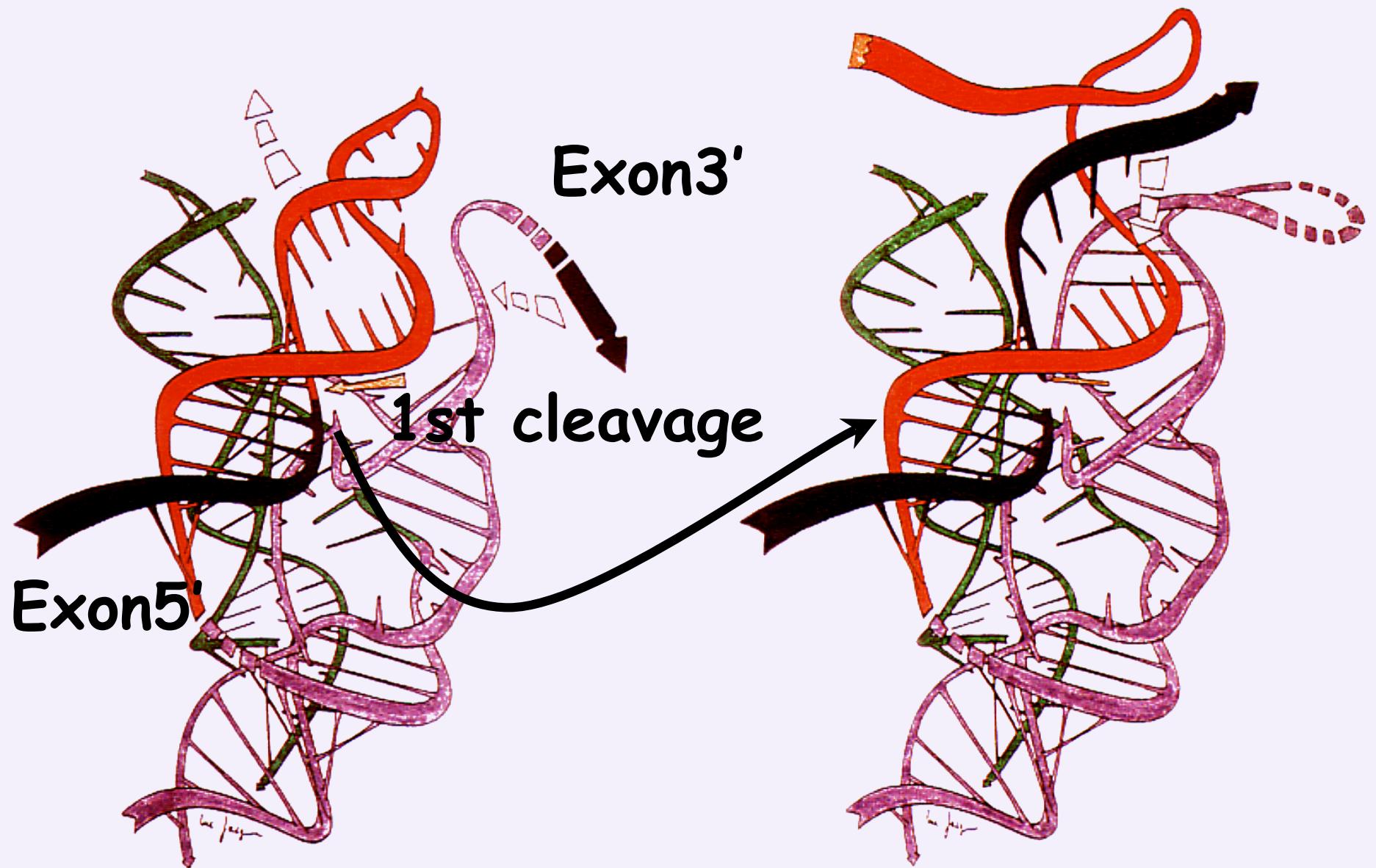


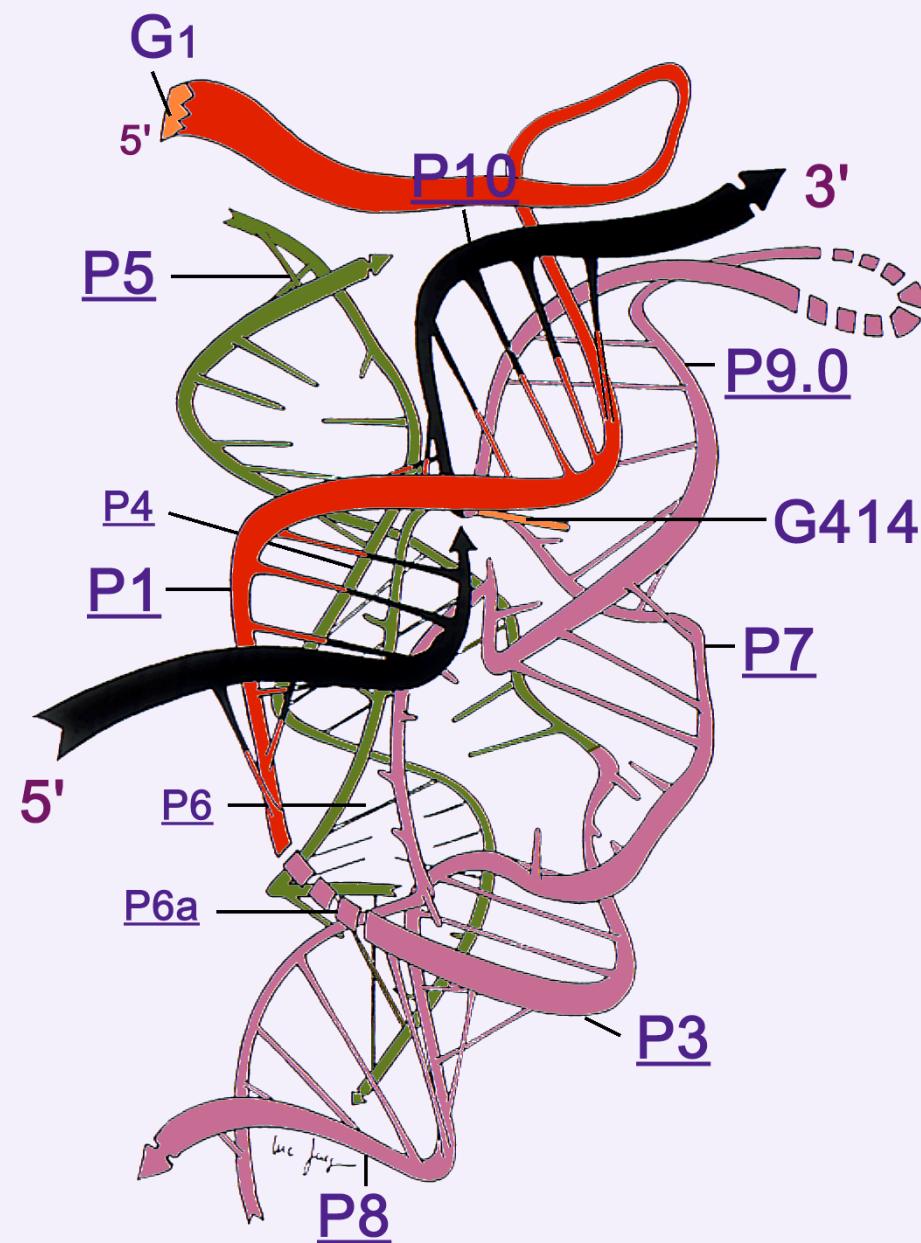
# Catalytic Core of Group I introns



## Transesterification







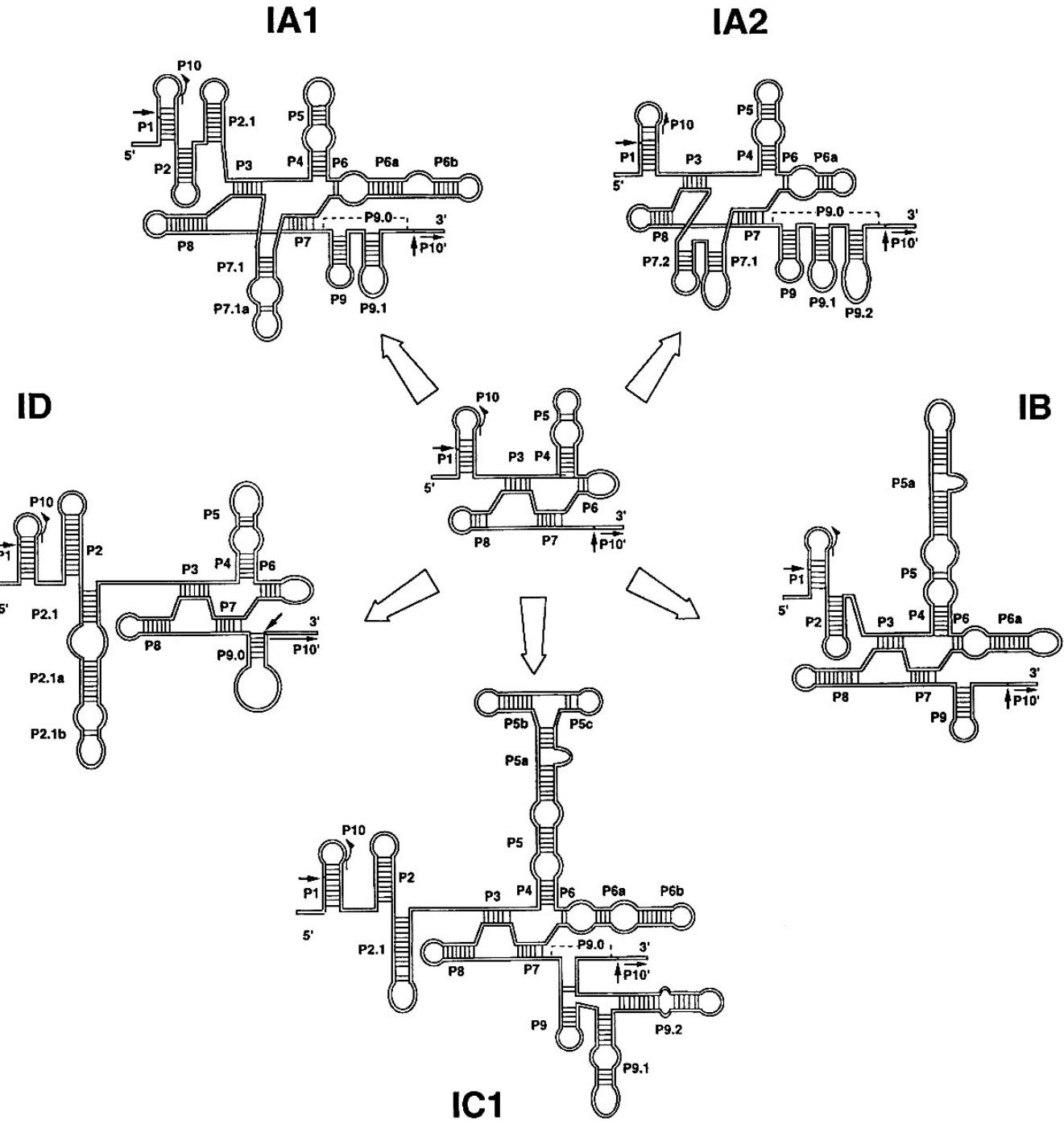


Spliced messenger

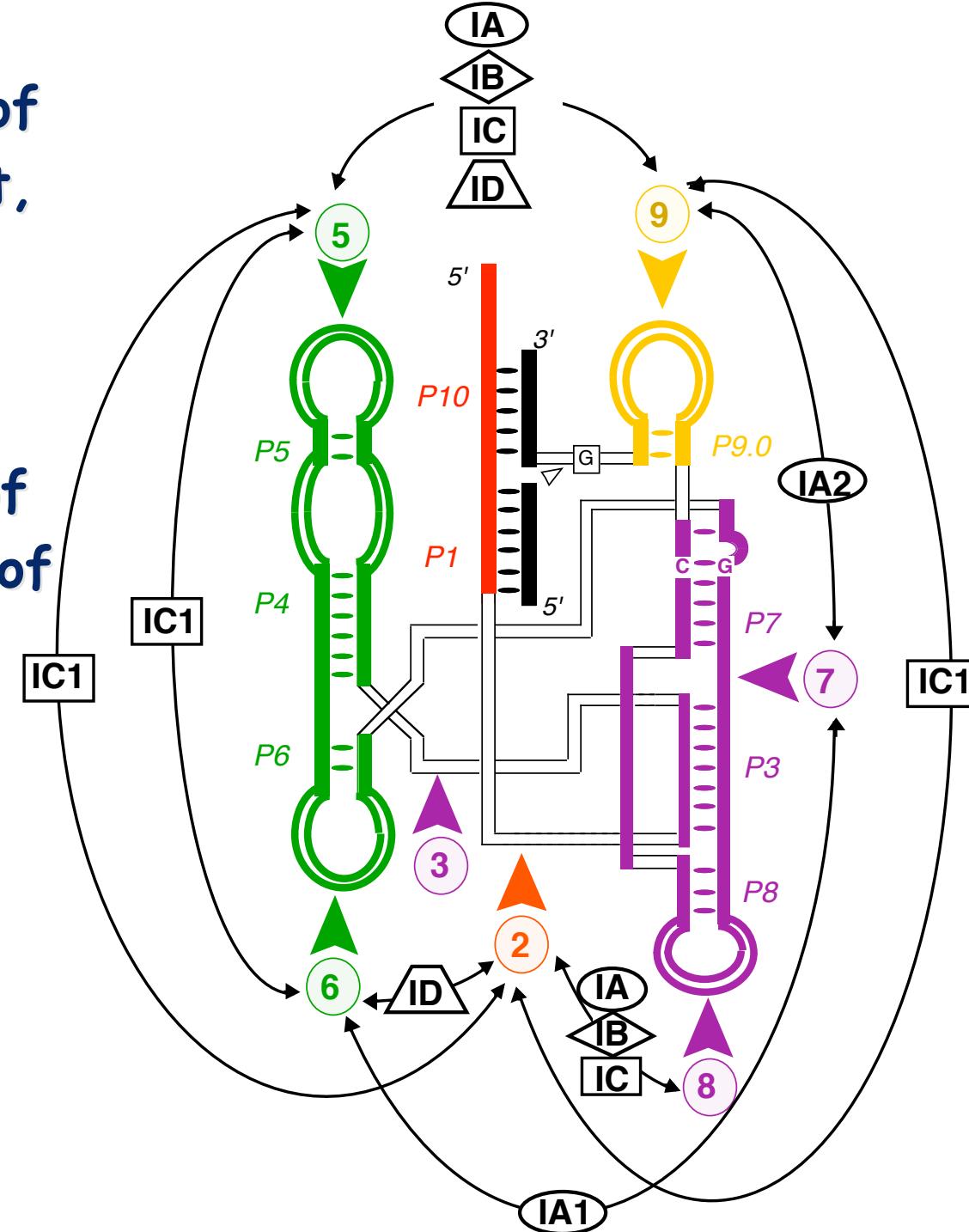


Intron

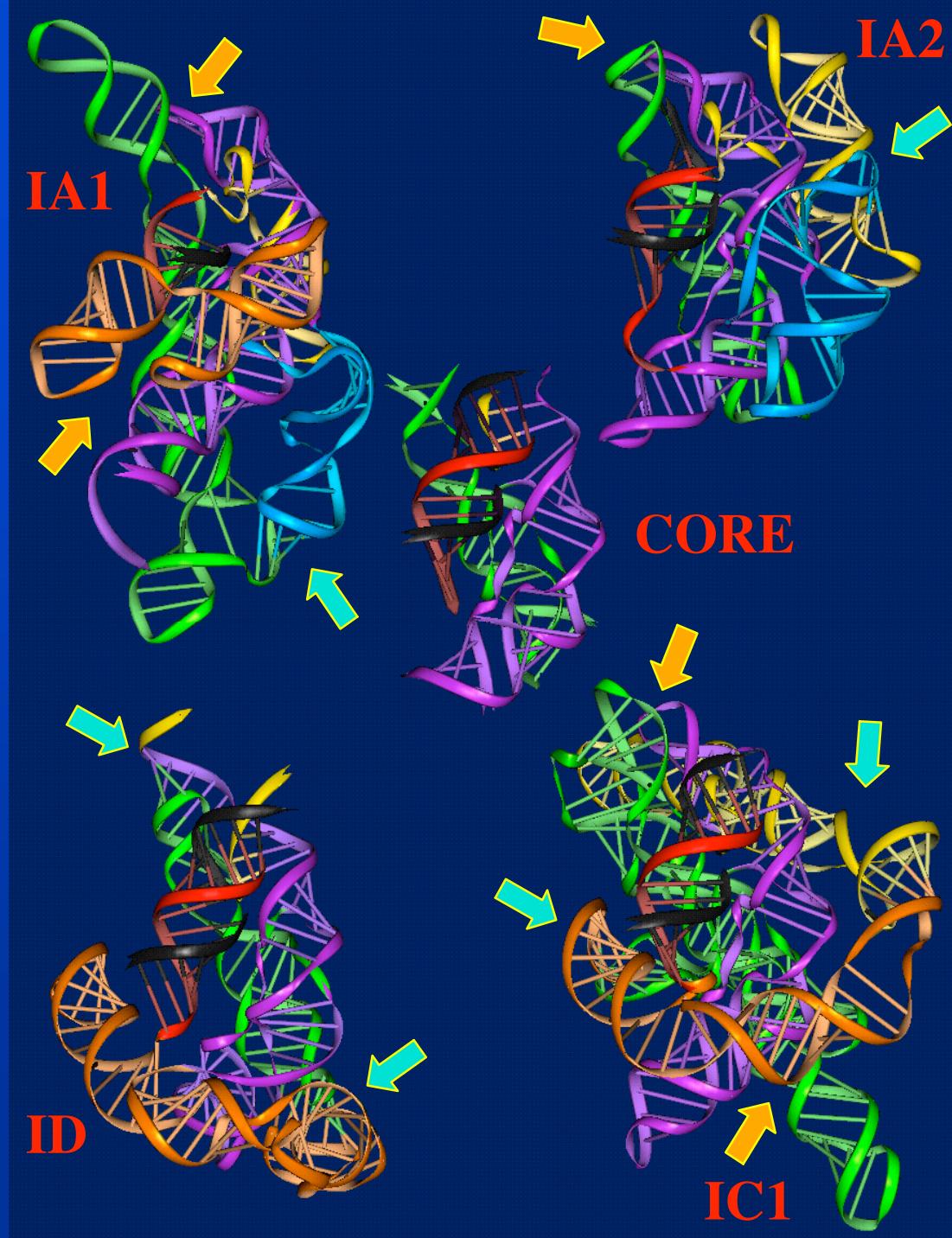
# How do RNA molecules Evolve ?



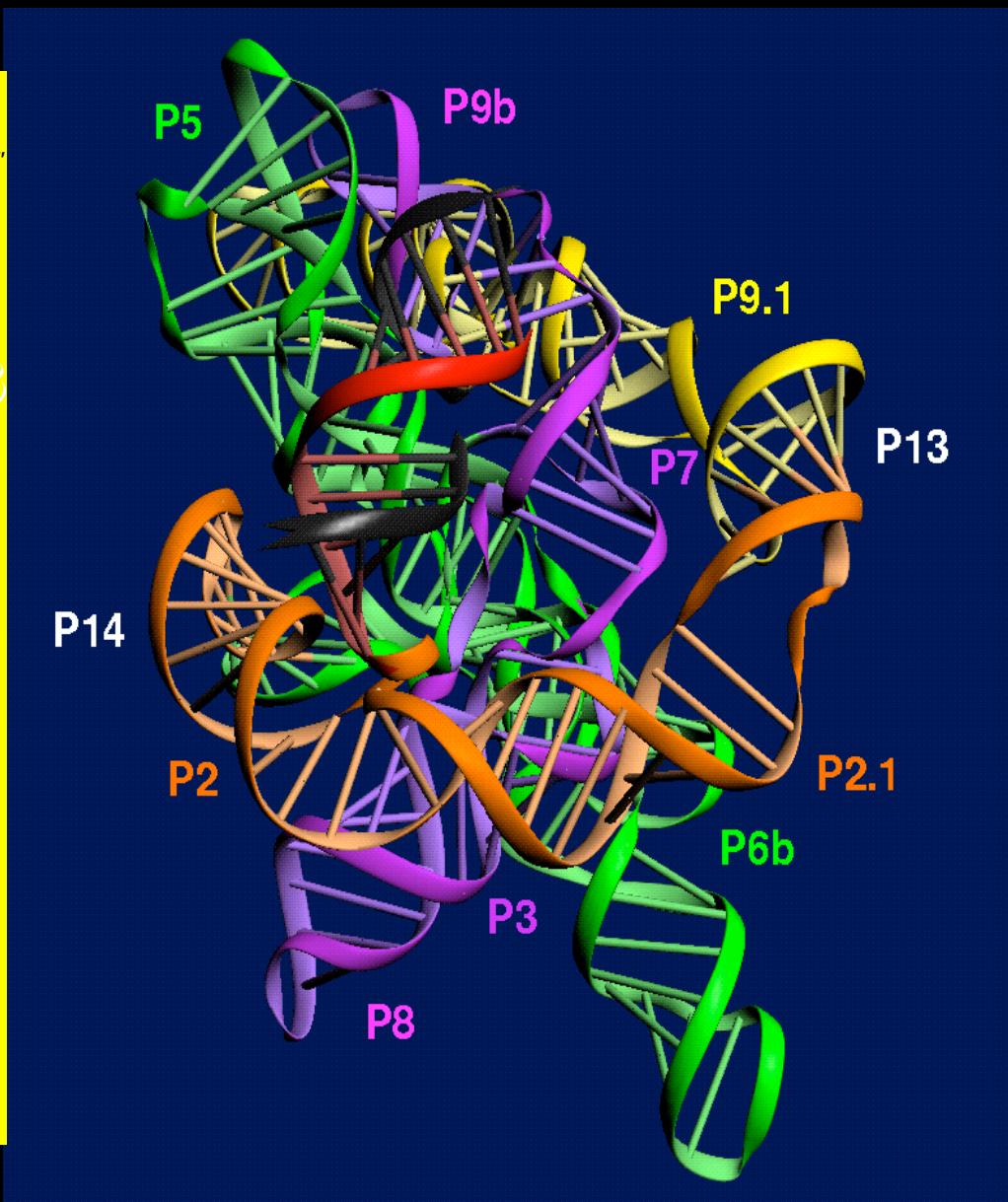
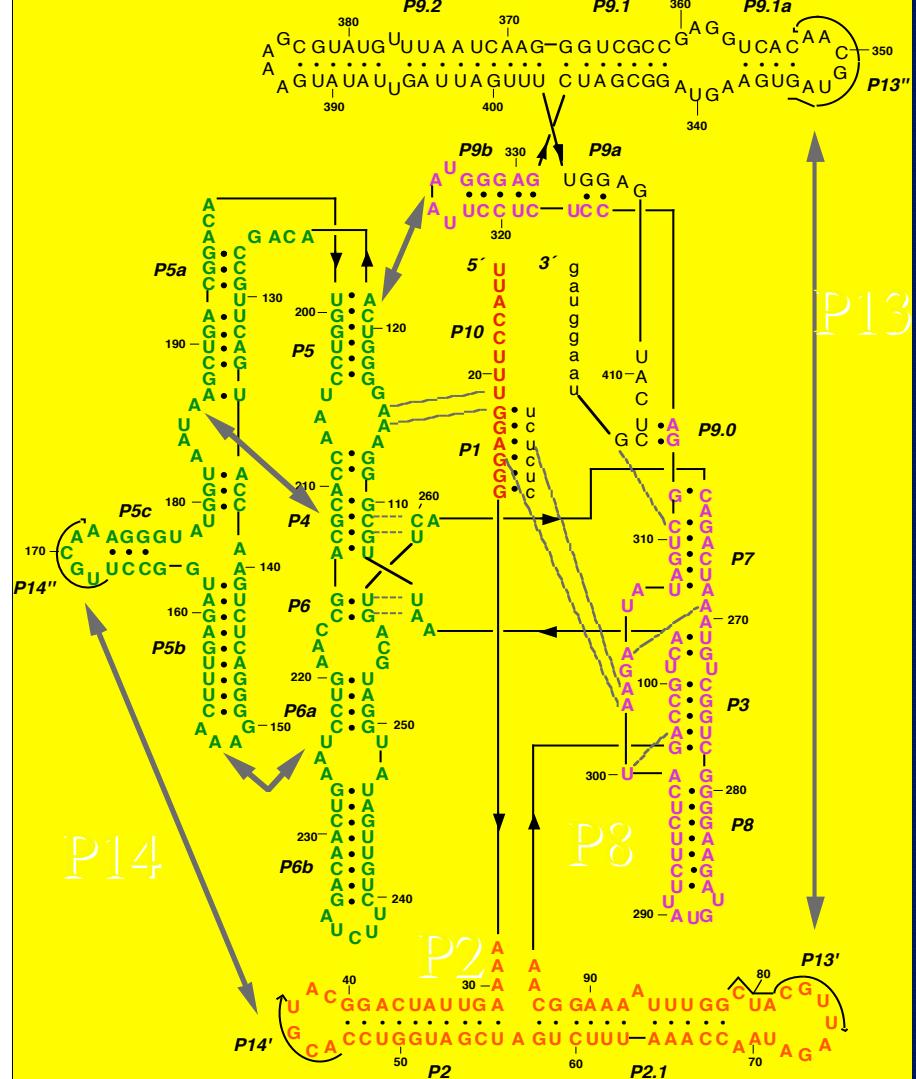
Several sub-groups of Group I introns exist, all with a unique common core. Each of them uses a different sub-sets of the same two types of 3D motifs.



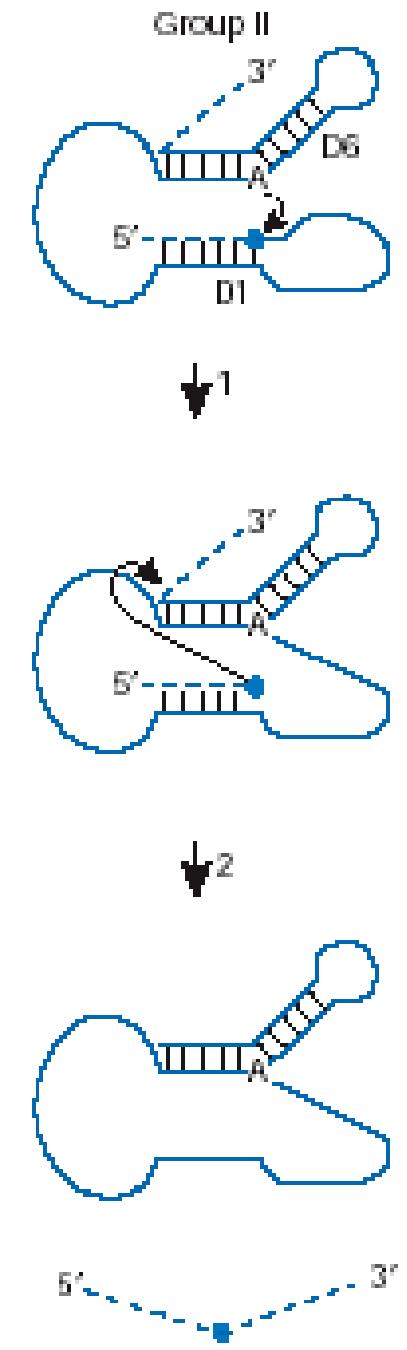
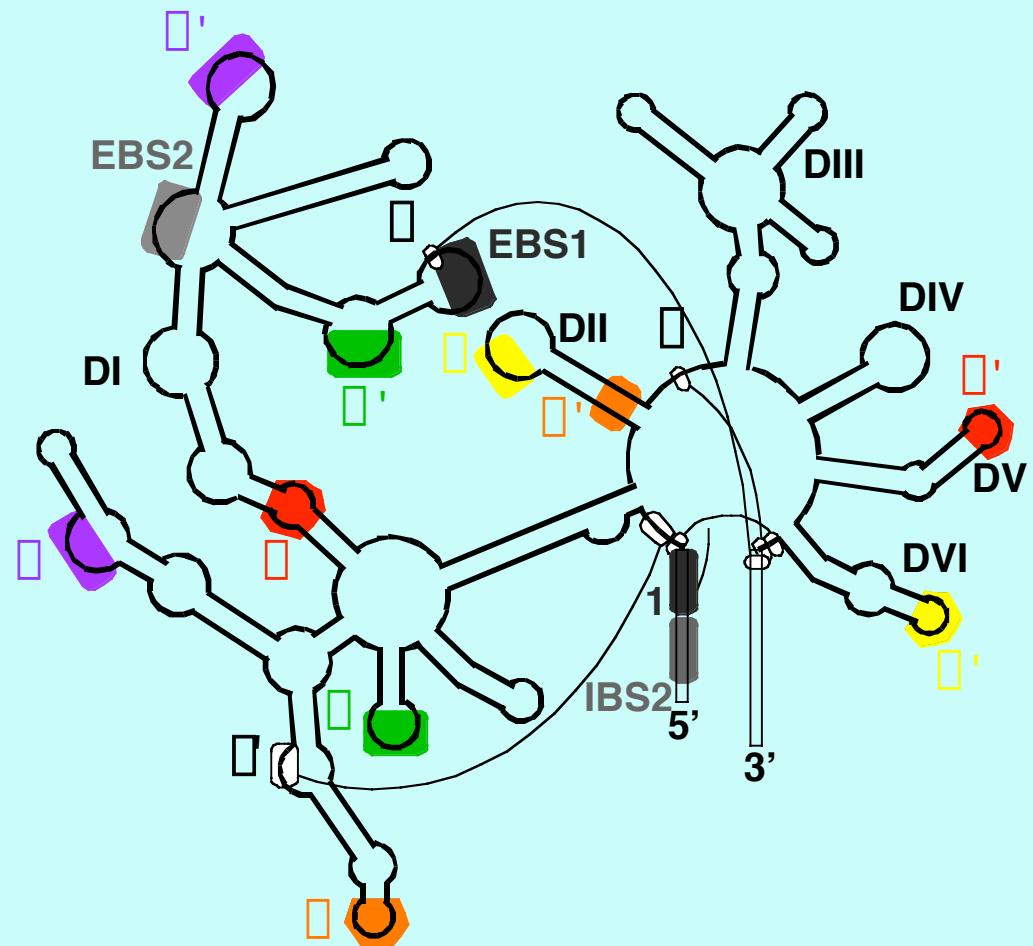
→ - GNRA  
/ receptor -



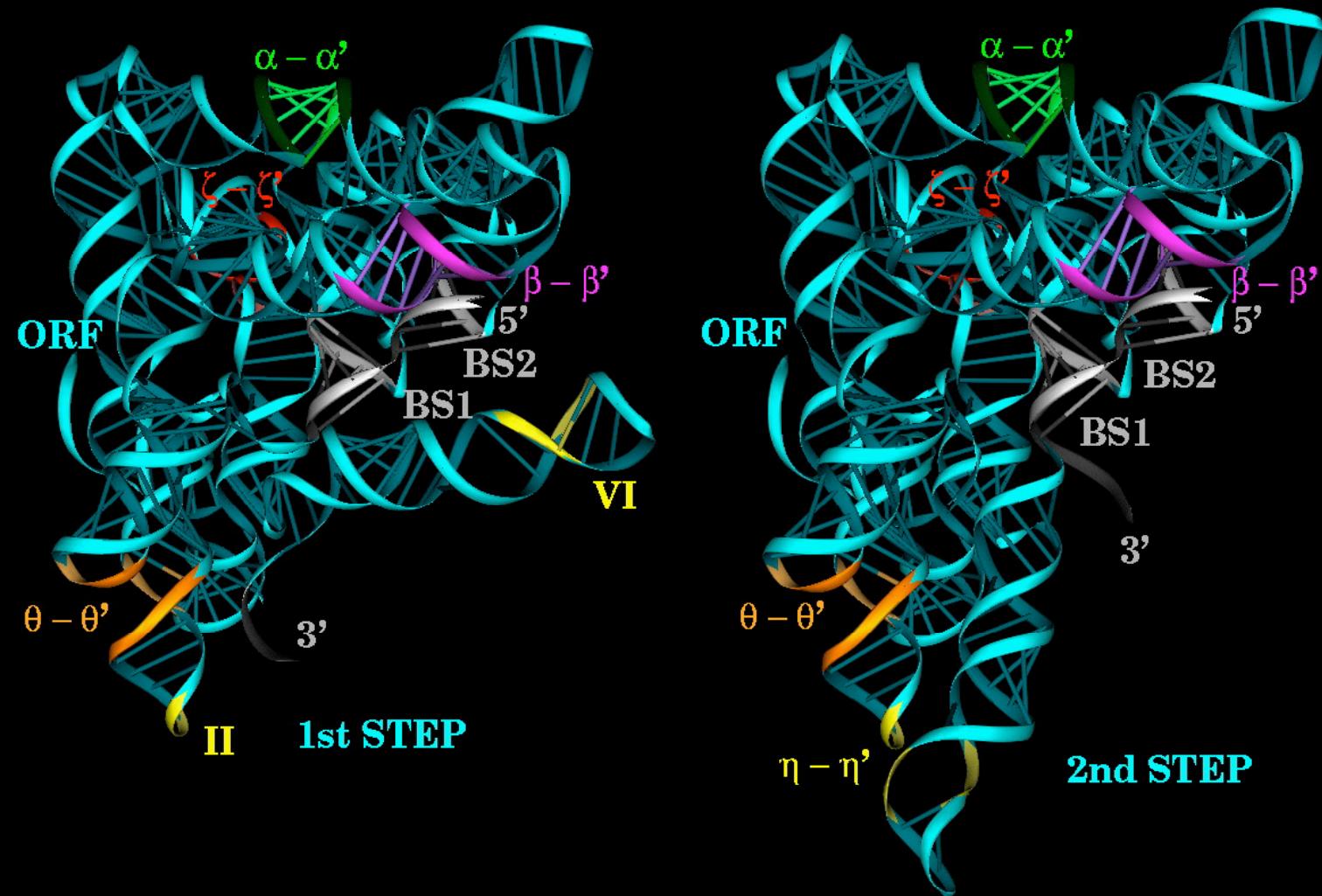
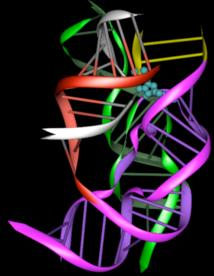
→ -loop / loop-

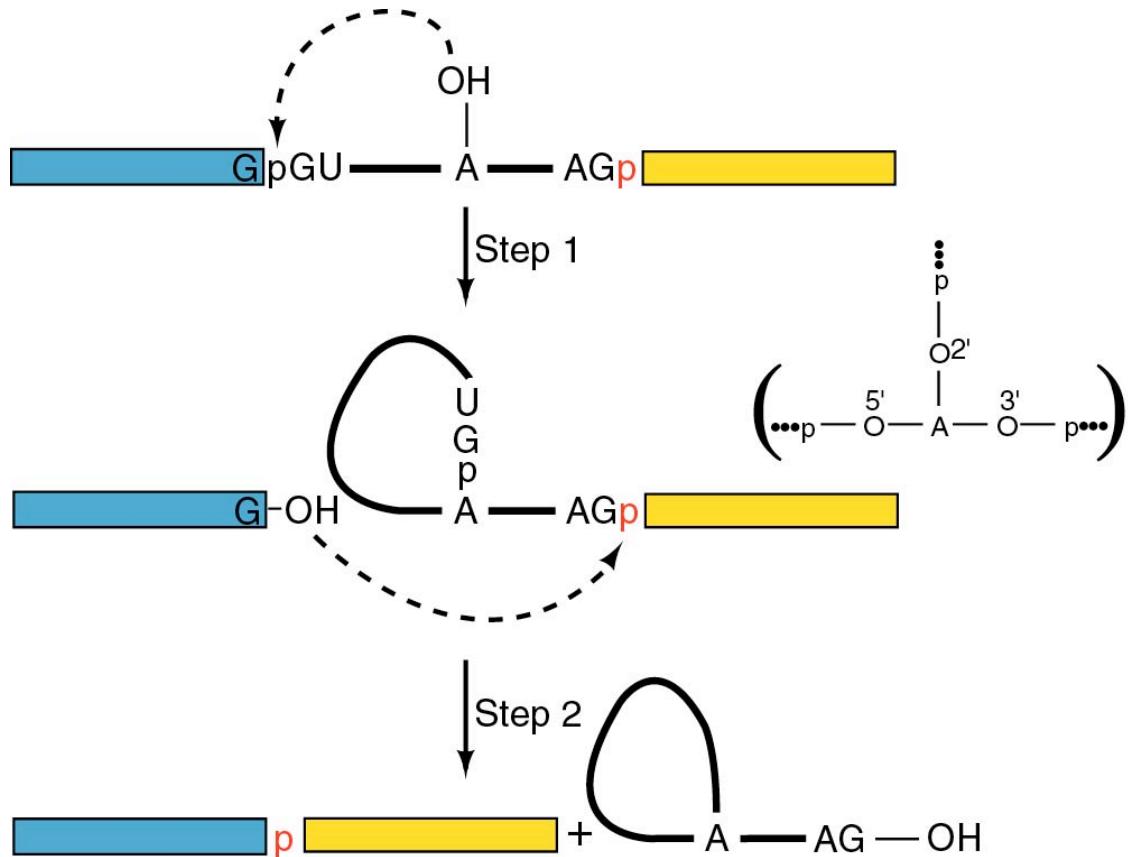


# Group II introns



# Group II introns : 3D models





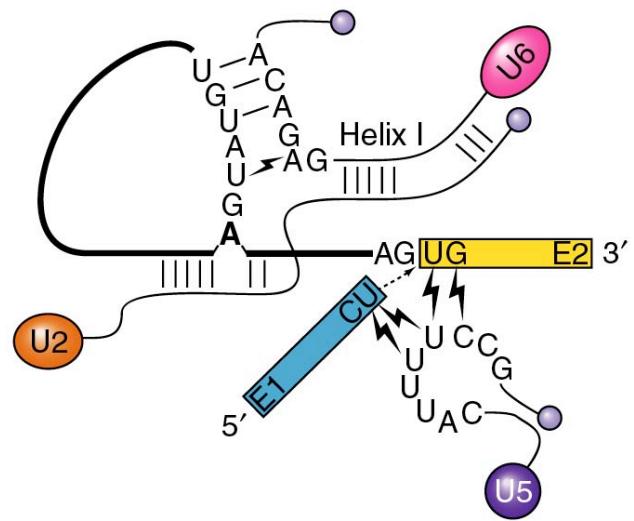
## MECHANISM OF SPLICING OF EUKARYOTIC PRE-mRNA: AN OUTLINE

VERTEBRATES: 5'-AG/GUAAGU---intron---YNCURAC--(Y)<sub>n</sub>--NAG/G-3'

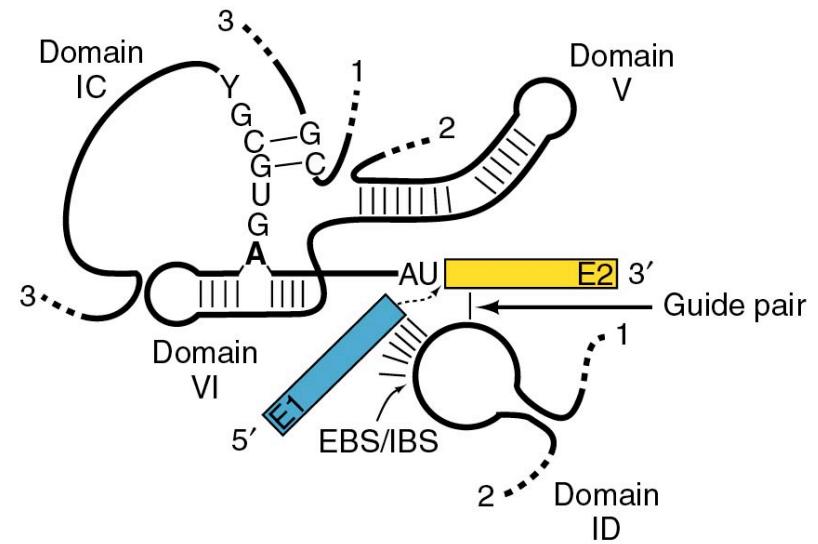
YEAST: 5'-NN/GUAUGU---intron---UACUAAC-----YAG/G-3'

CONSENSUS SEQUENCES AT 5' SPLICING SITE, BRANCH SITE AND 5' SPLICING SITE

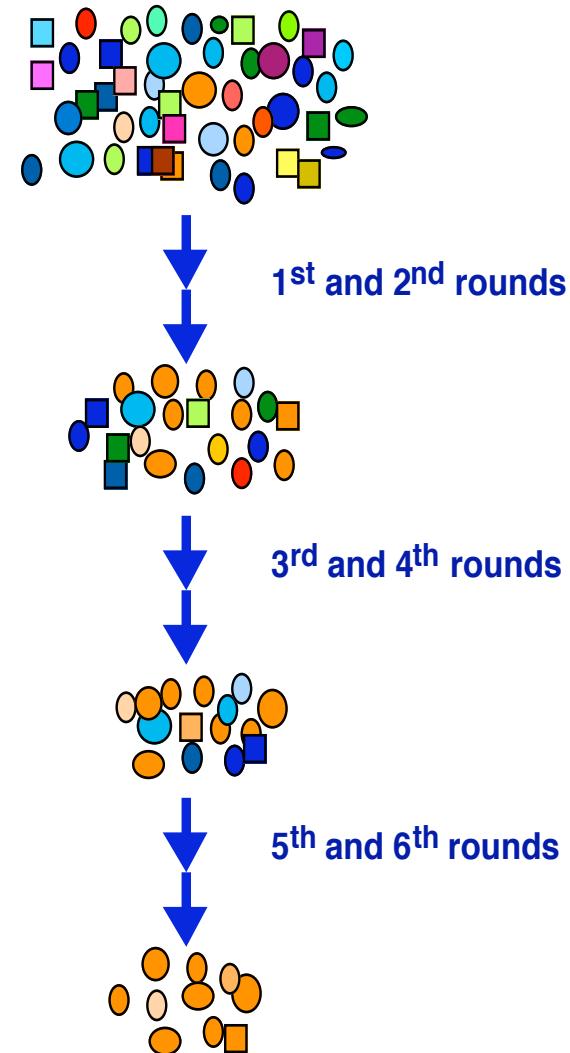
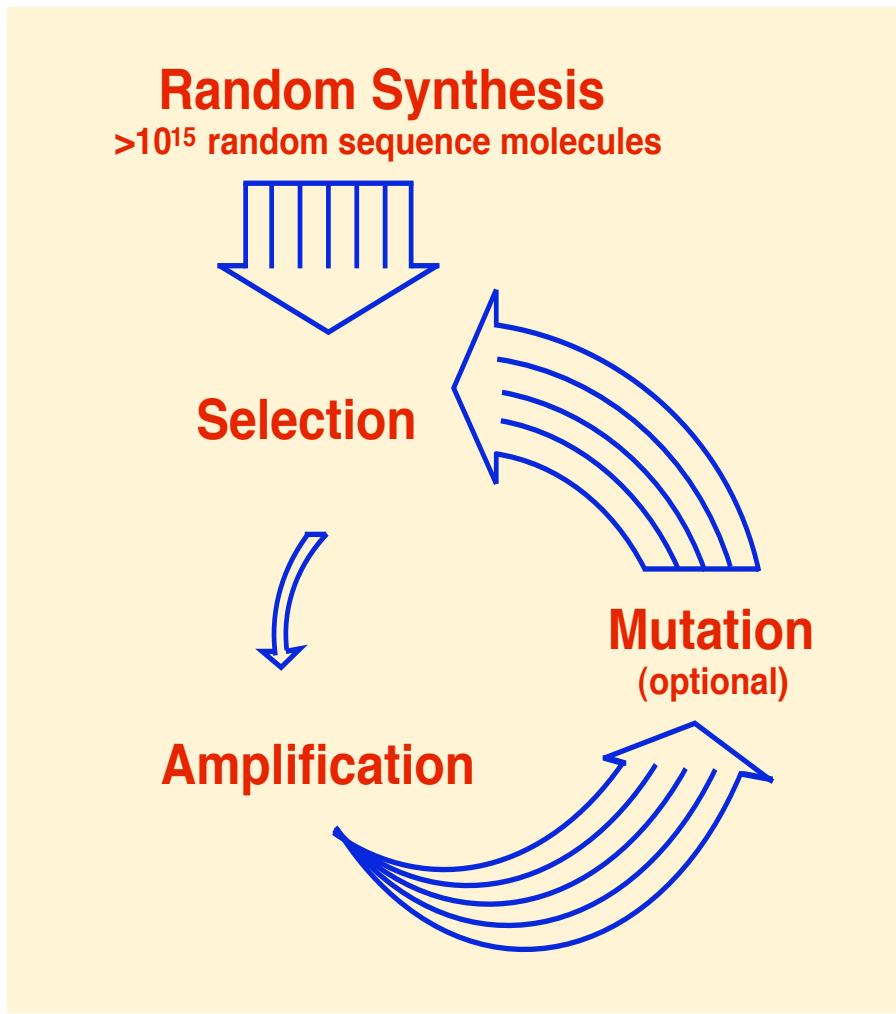
Spliceosomal pre-mRNA



Group II intron

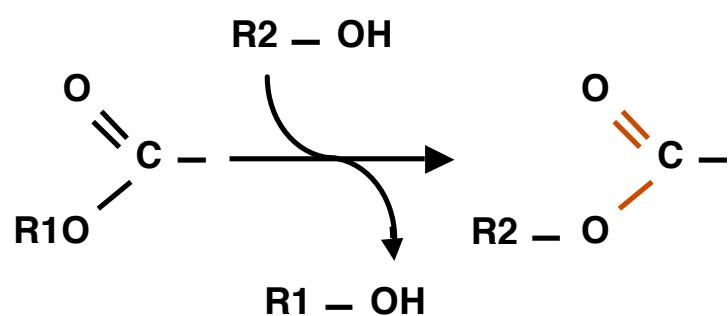


# In vitro selection and evolution techniques

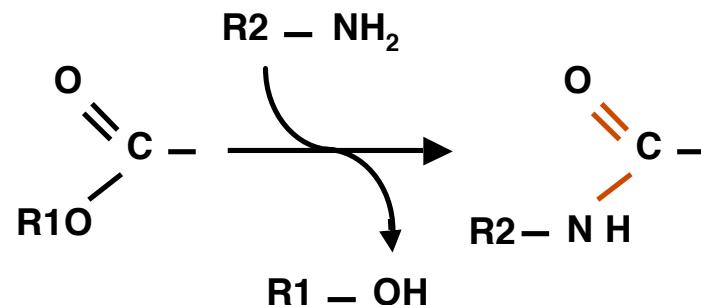


*Ellington & Szostak (1990), Tuerk & Gold (1990), Beaudry & Joyce (1992)*

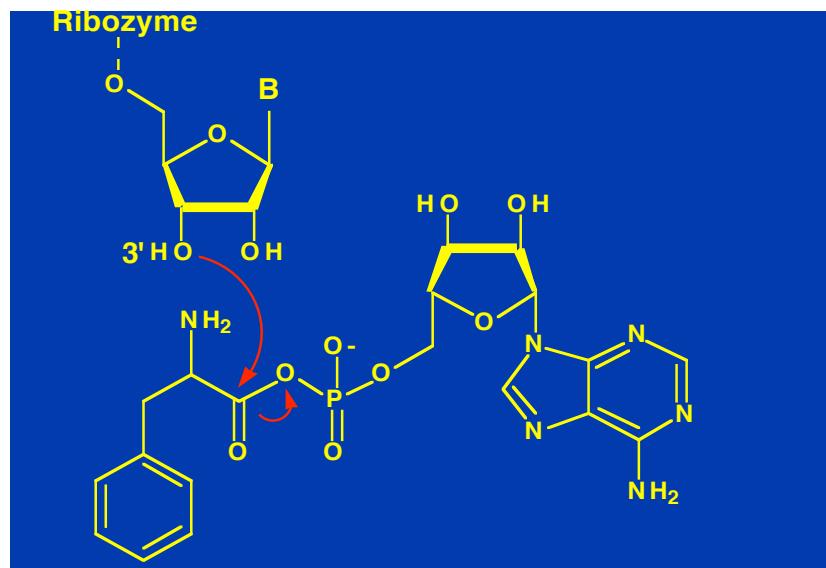
# Ester bond formation



# Amide bond formation

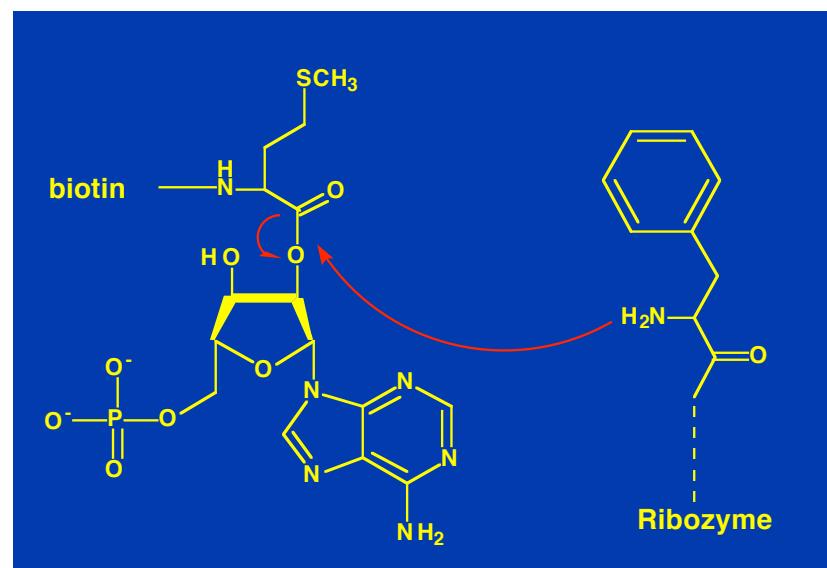


# Aminoacylation



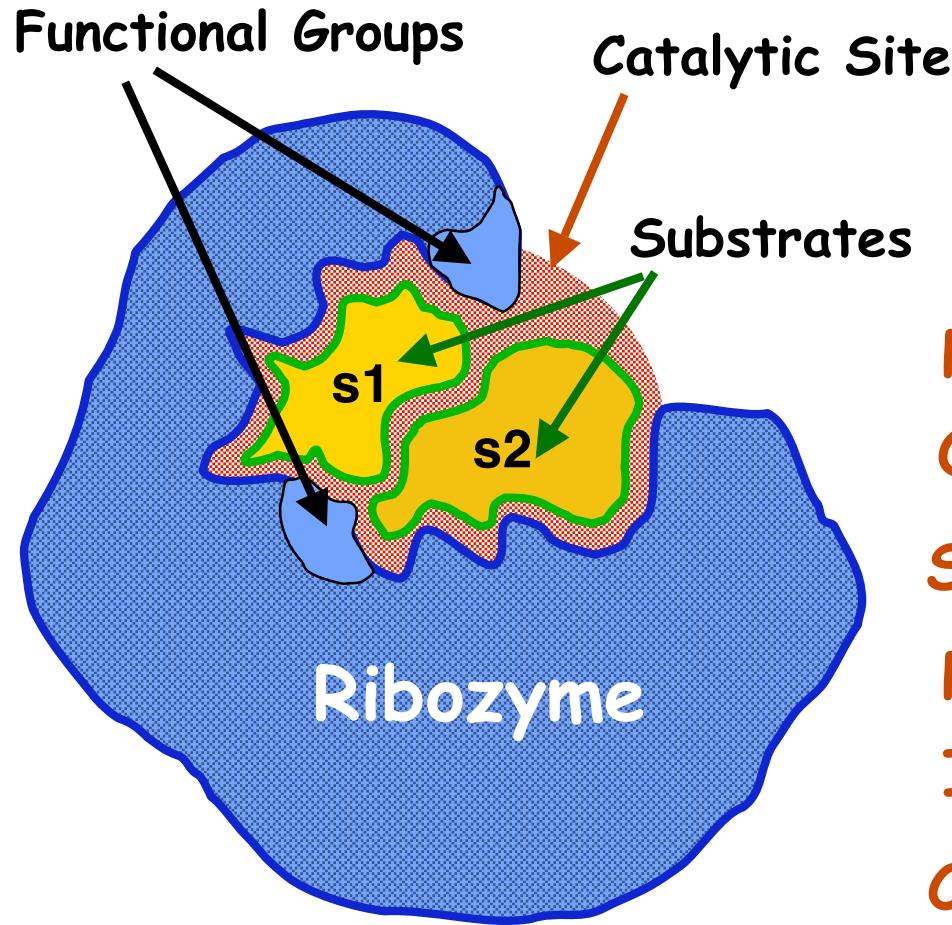
(Illangasekare *et al.*, 1995; Jenne & Famulok, 1998)

# Peptidyl transferase



(Zhang & Cech, 1997, 1998; Lee *et al.*, 2000 )

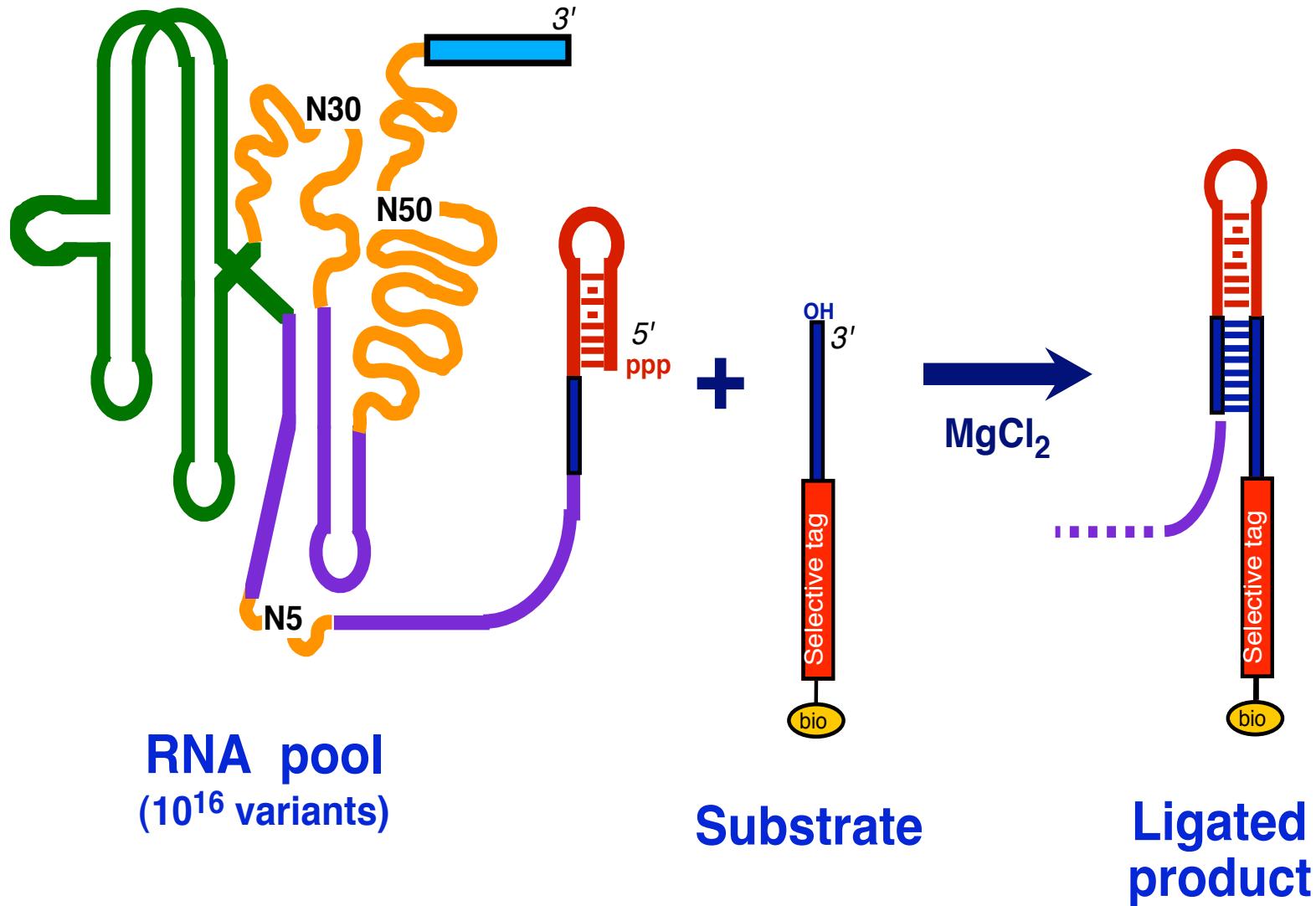
# Contributions to the catalysis by ribozymes



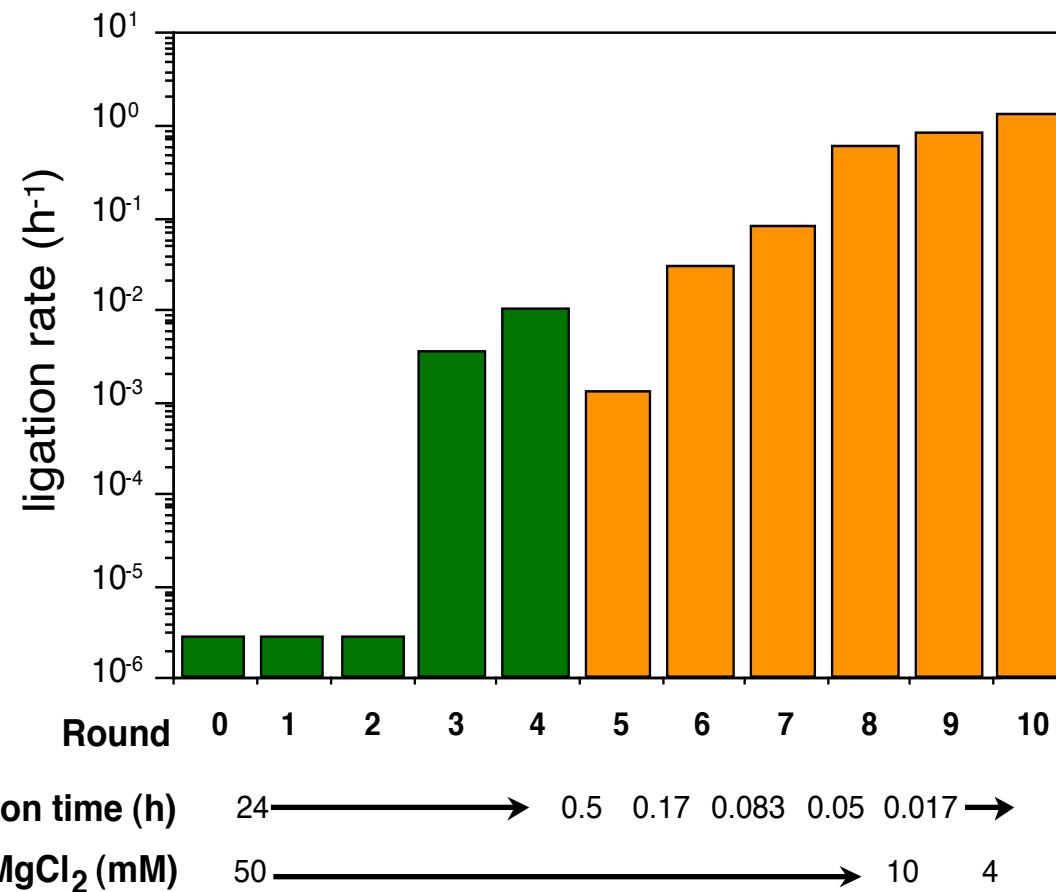
Proximity  
Orientation  
Structural Complementarity  
Polarizable Groups  
Ions  
Covalent catalysis

Acceleration of reaction velocities :  $10^3$ - $10^{11}$

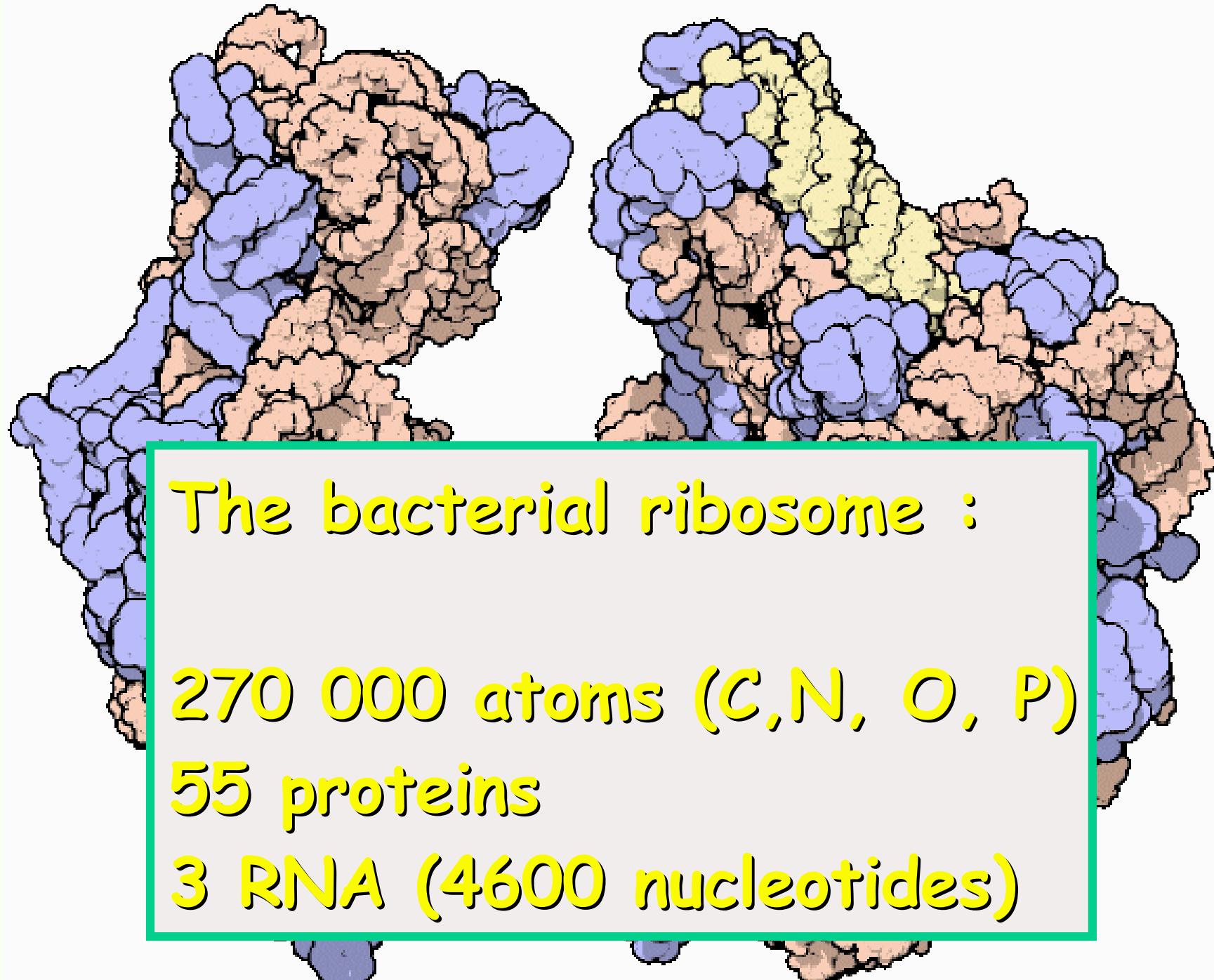
# Selection criterion



# Enhancement of ligation activity with successive rounds of selection



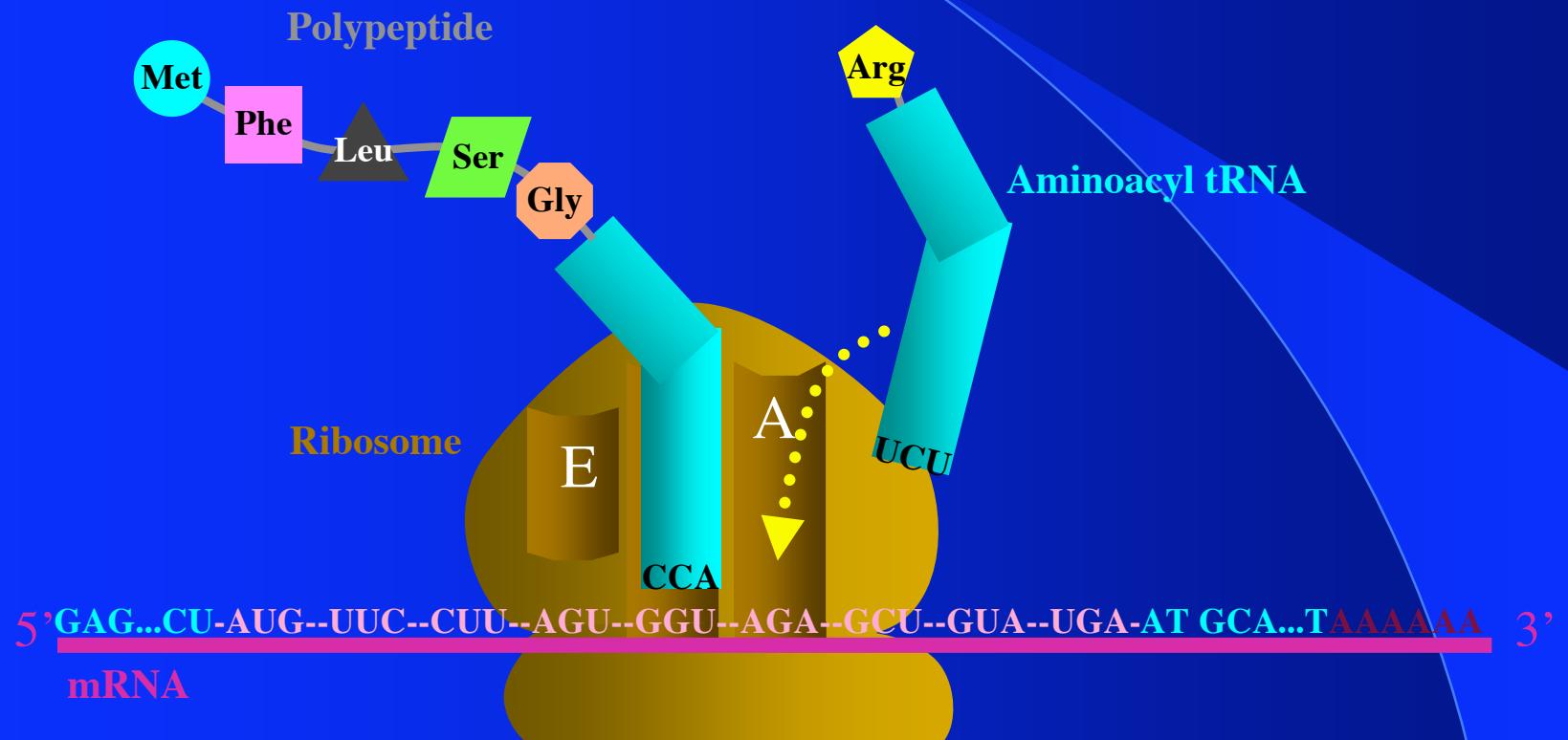
Jaeger, Wright & Joyce (1999) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* **96**, 14712



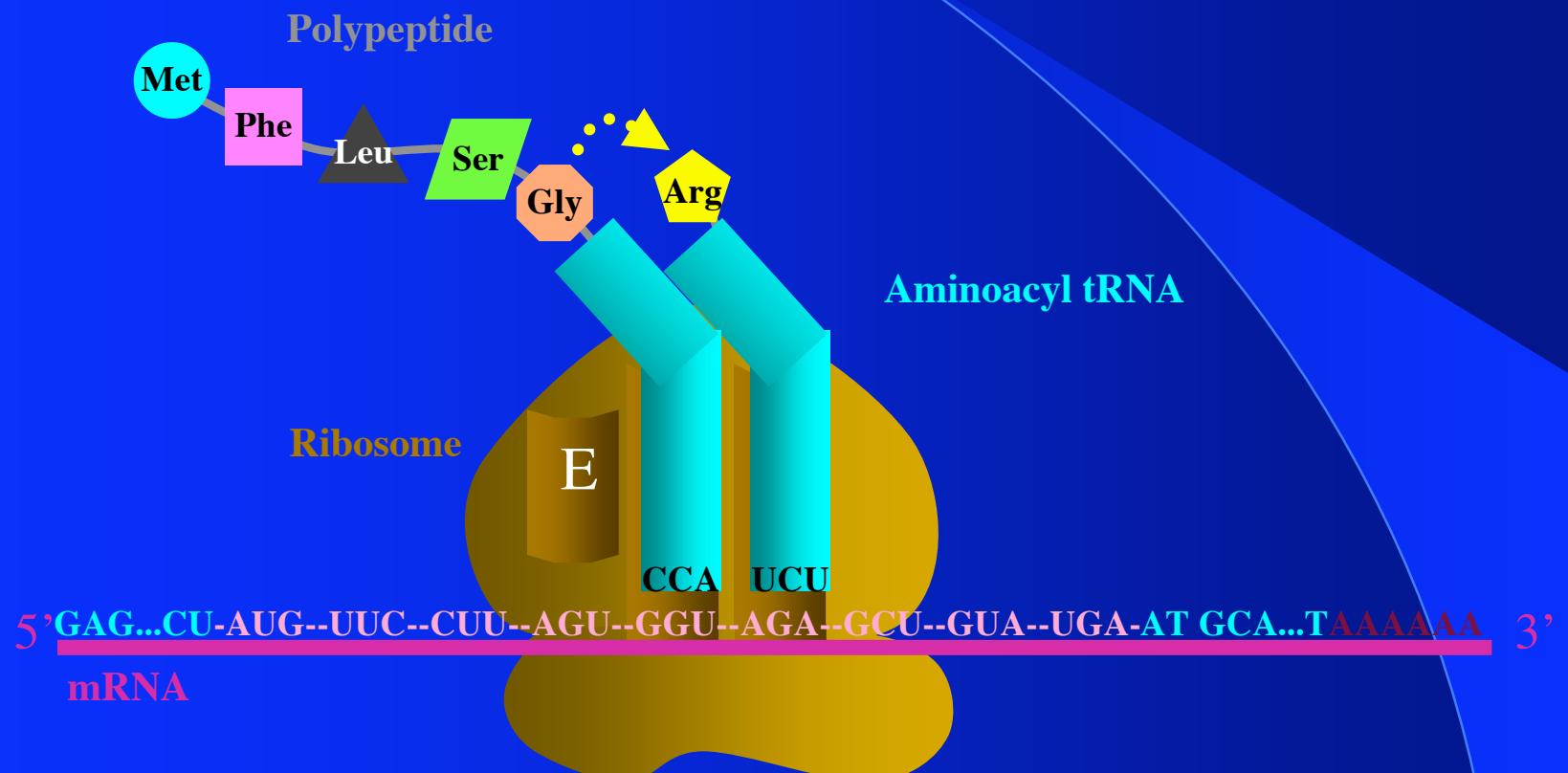
# Translation - Initiation



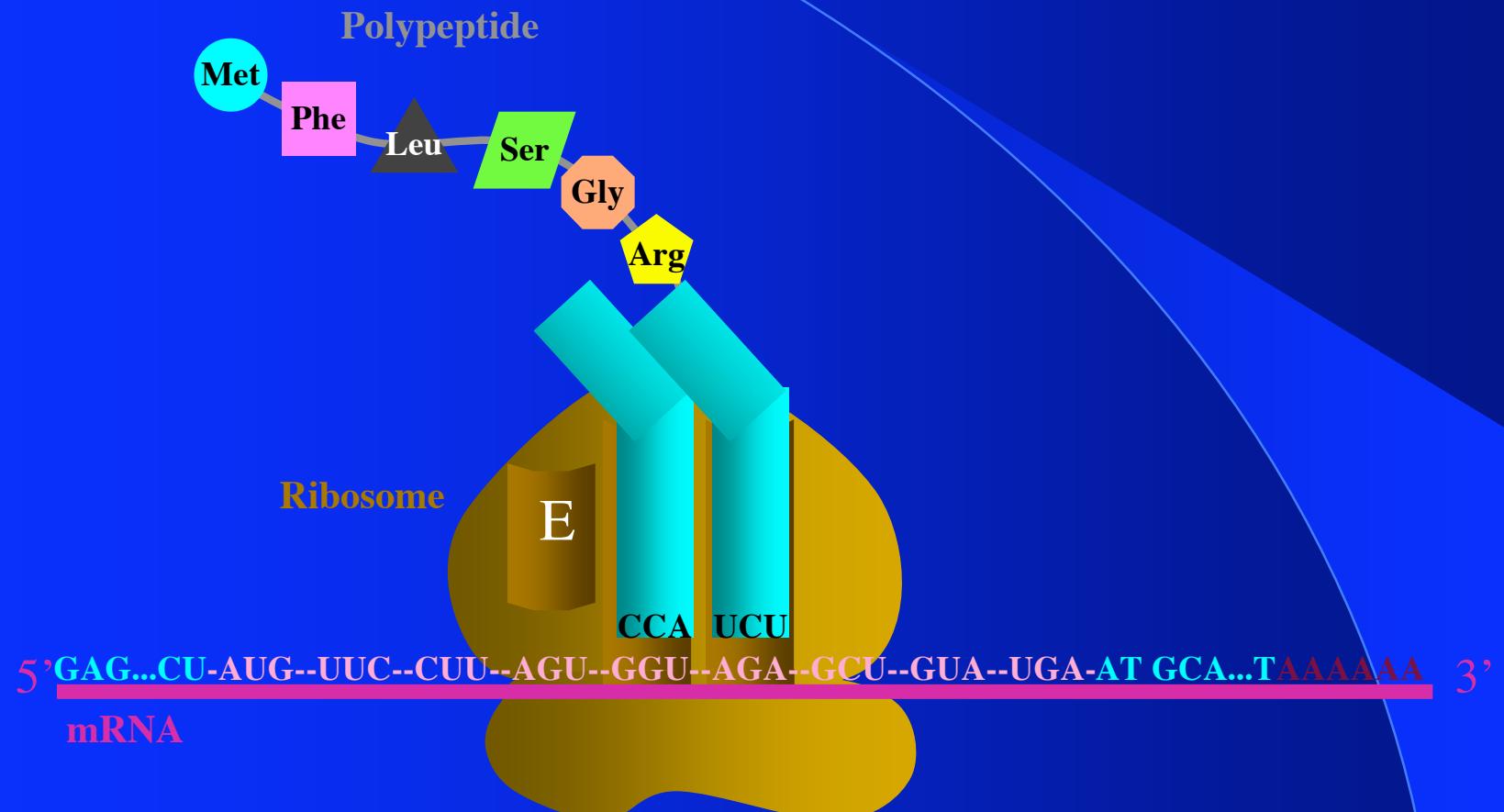
# Translation - Elongation



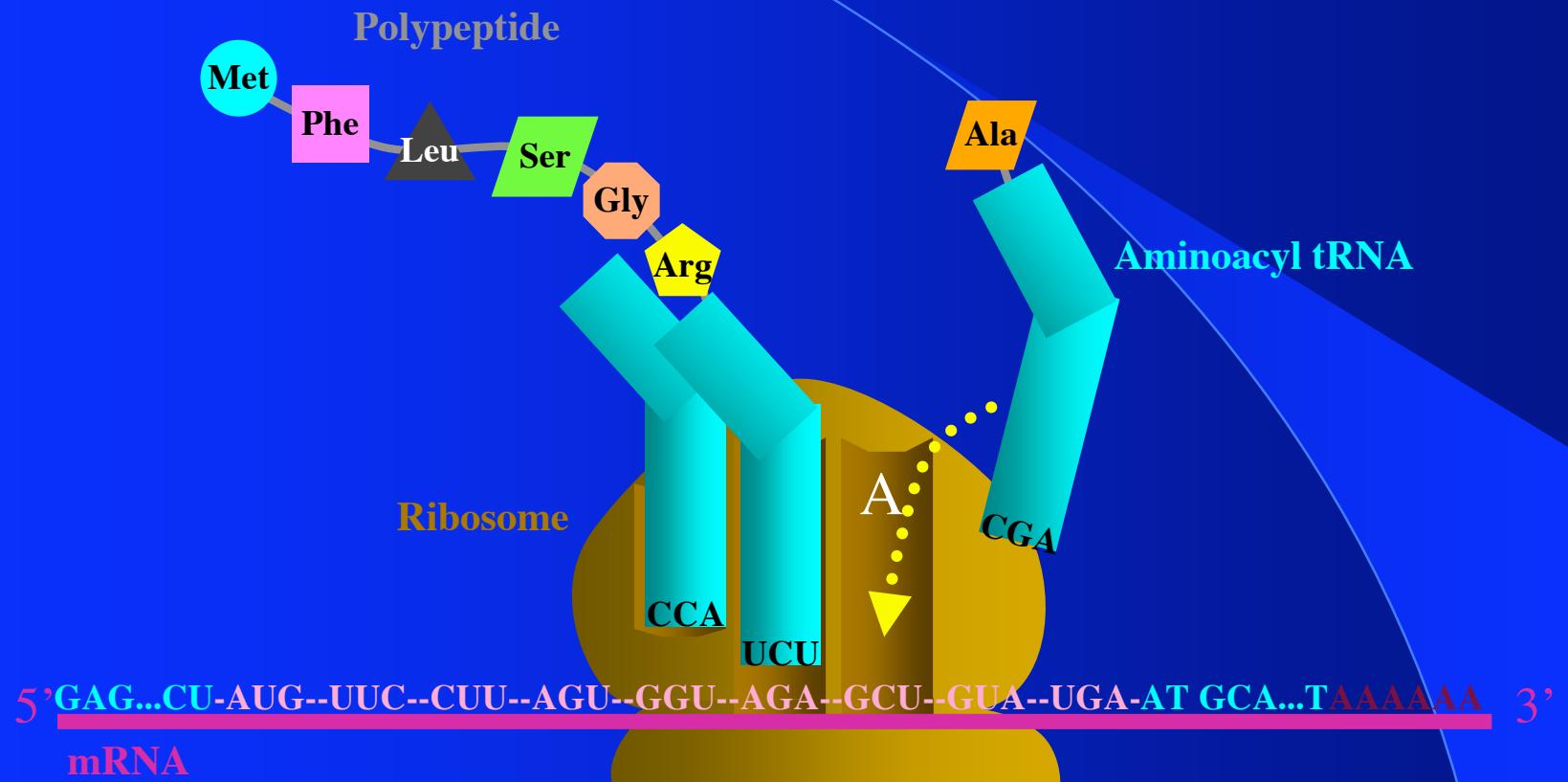
# Translation - Elongation



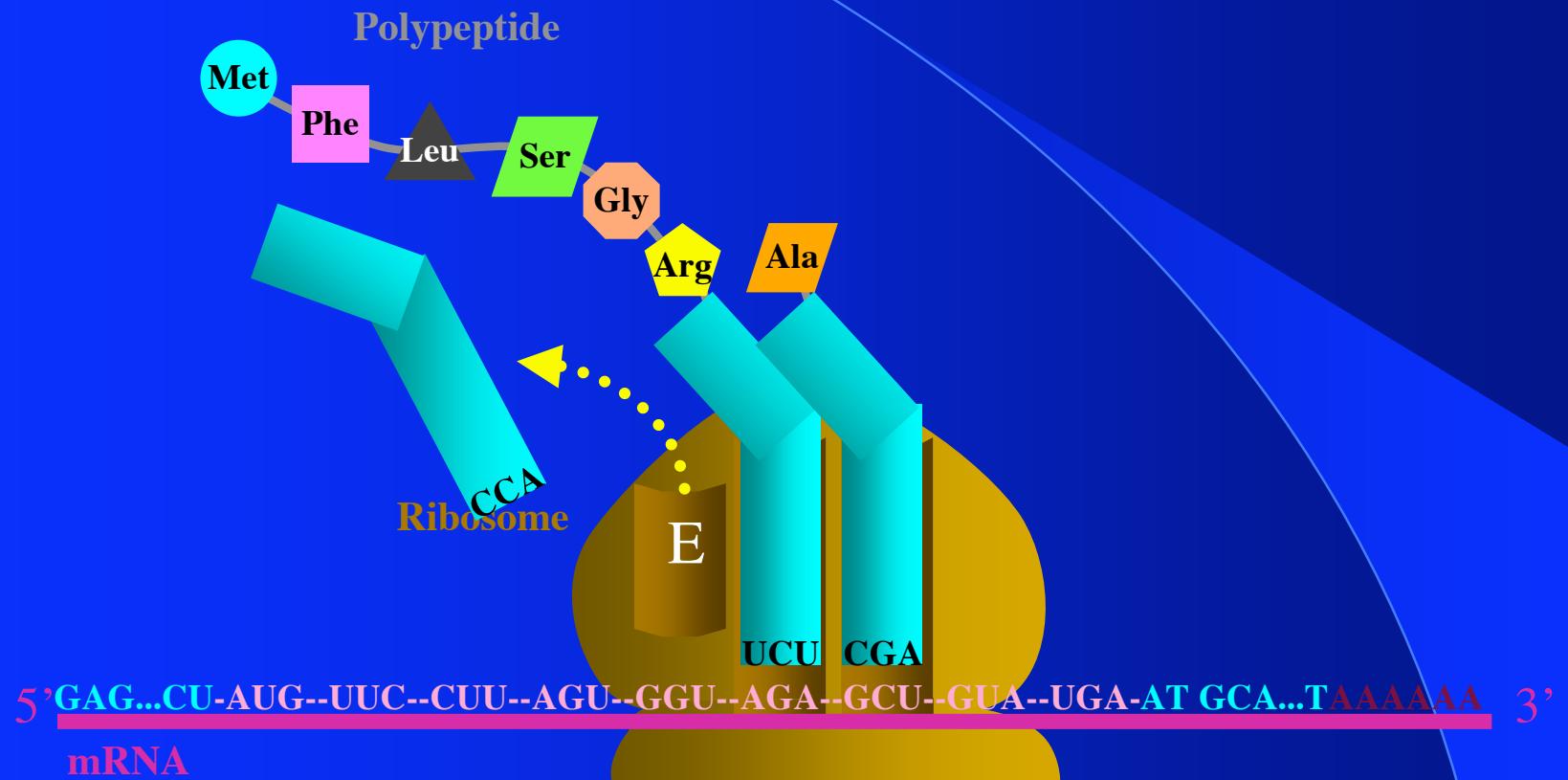
# Translation - Elongation



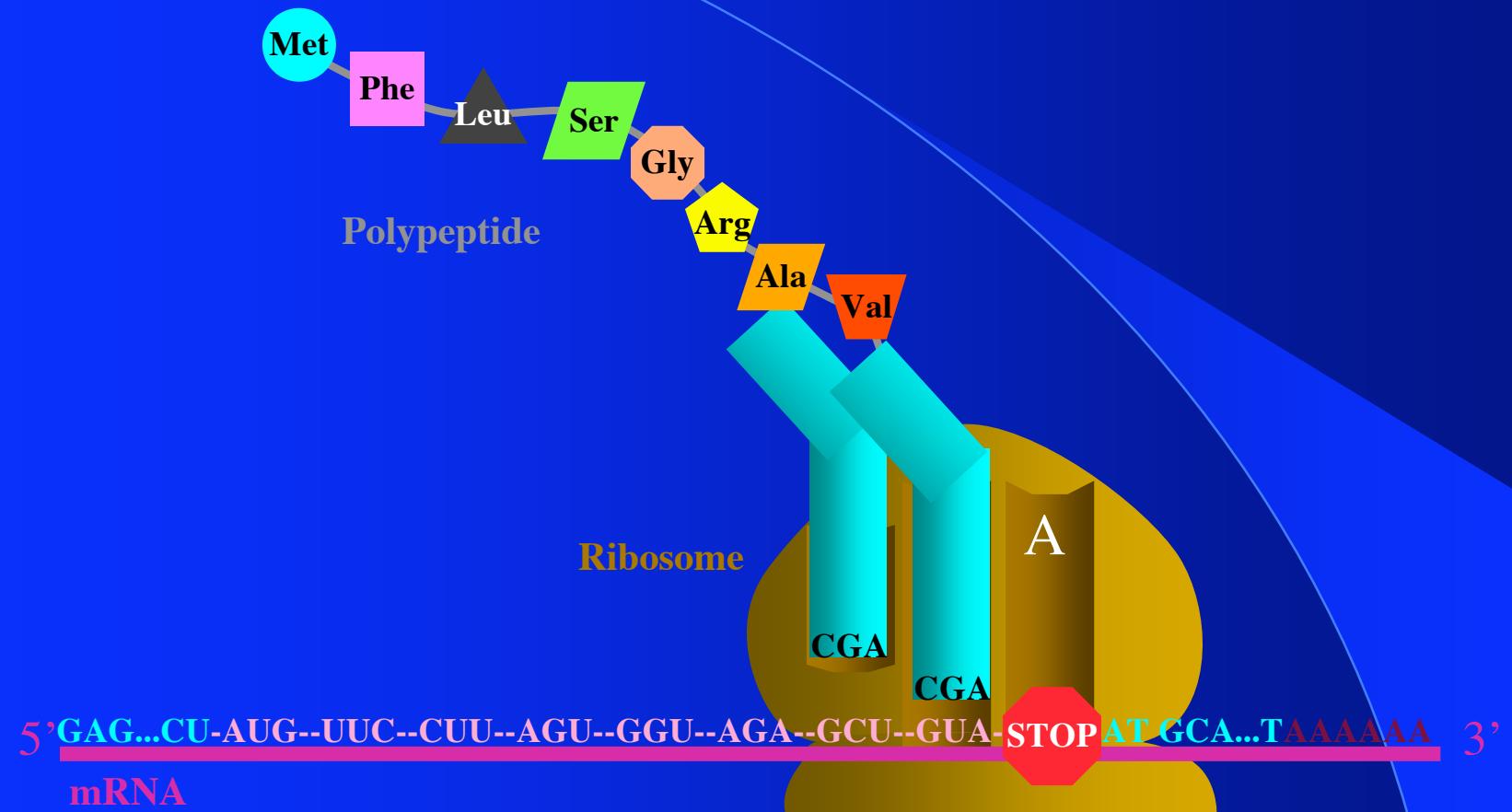
# Translation - Elongation



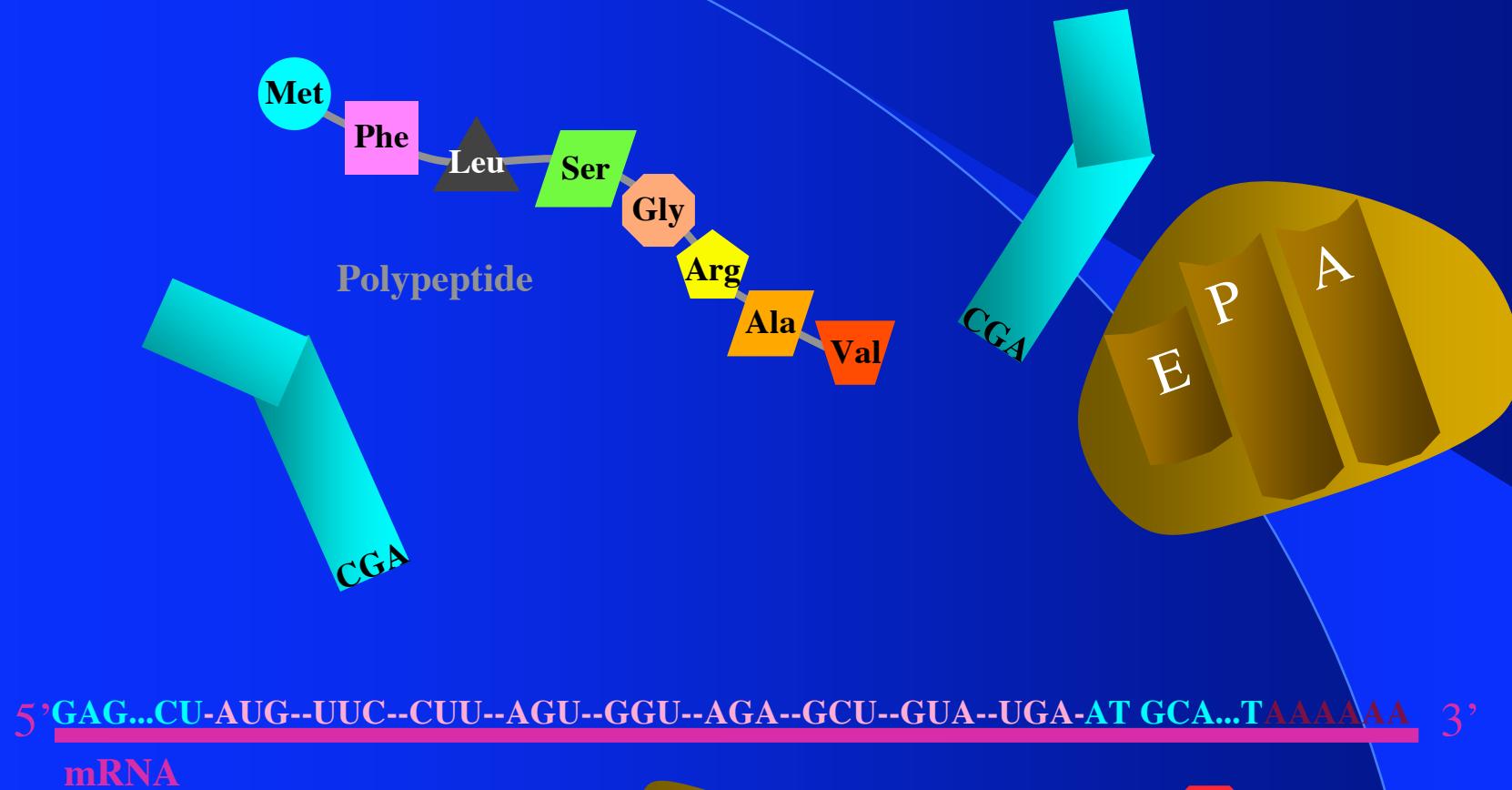
# Translation - Elongation

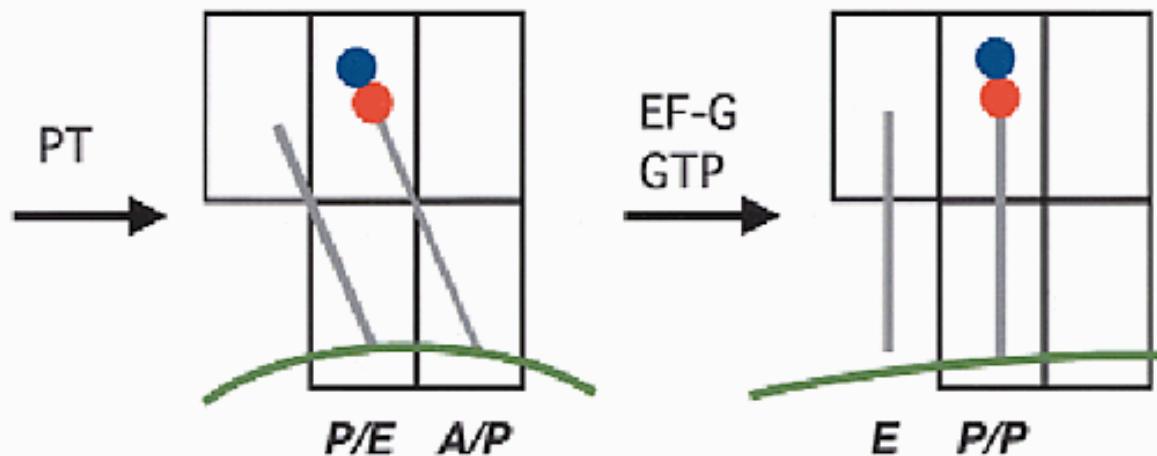
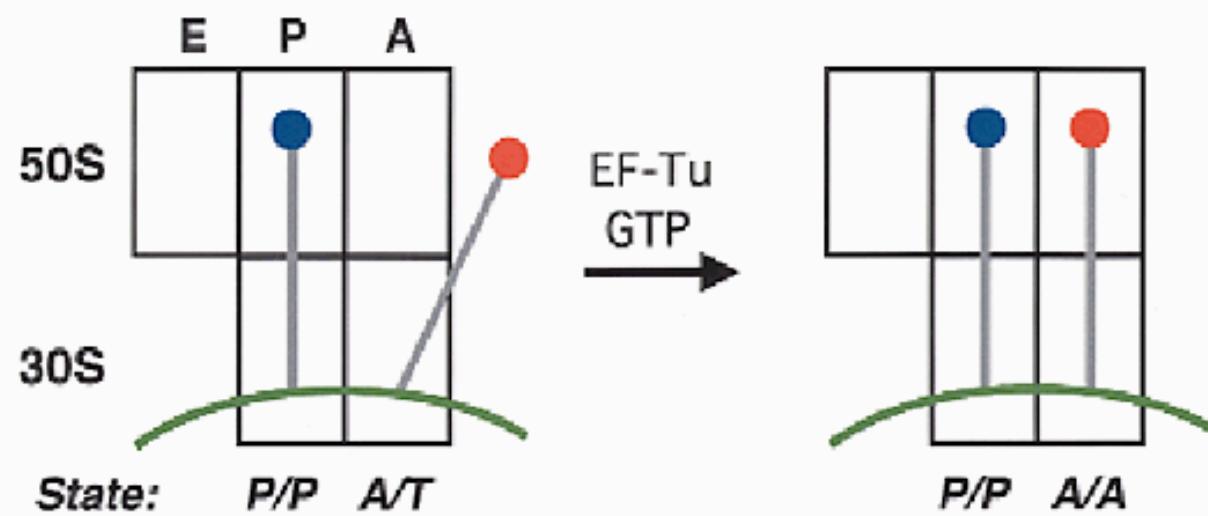


# Translation - Termination

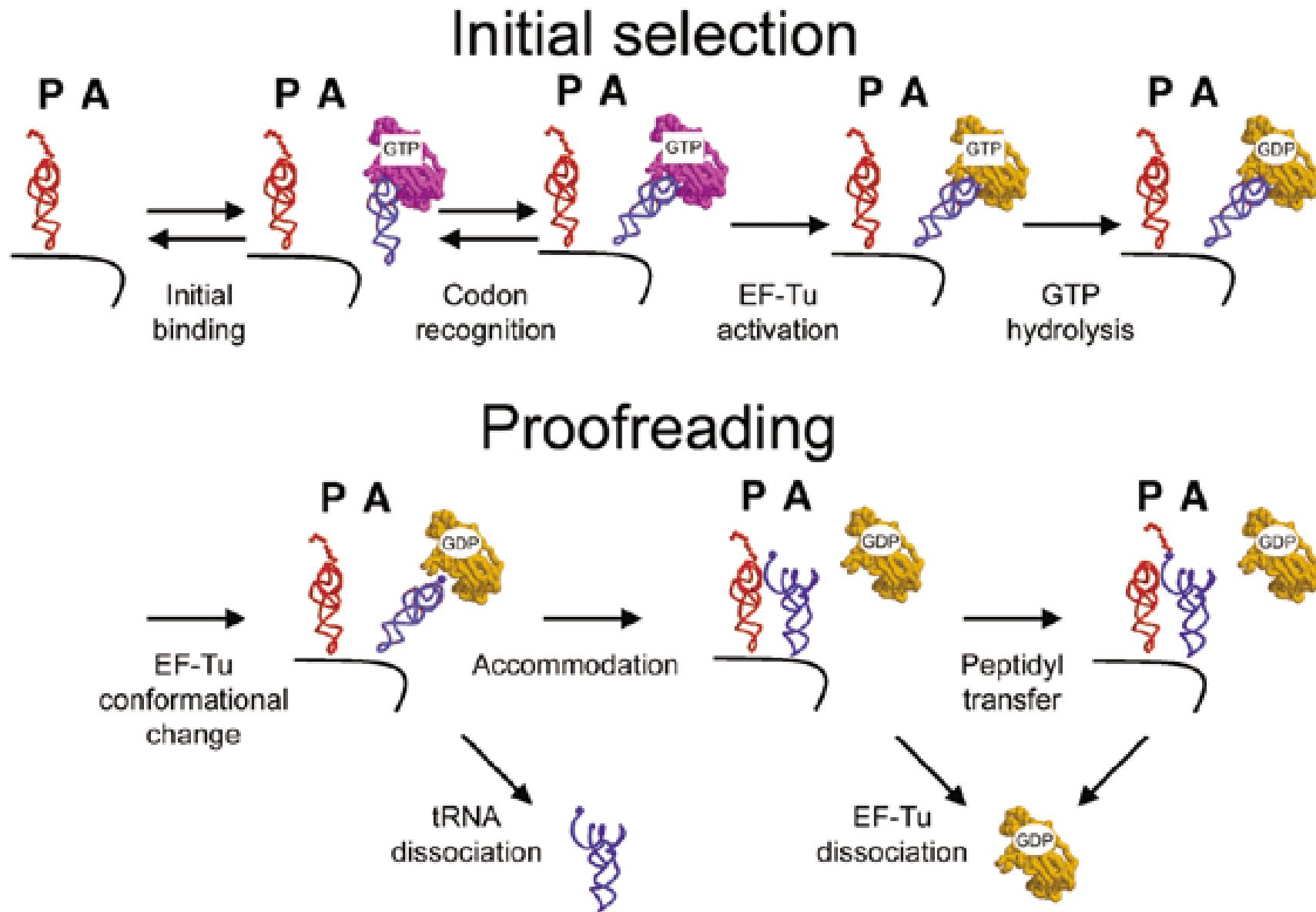


# Translation - Termination





# Kinetic scheme for the binding of cognate tRNA at the A site



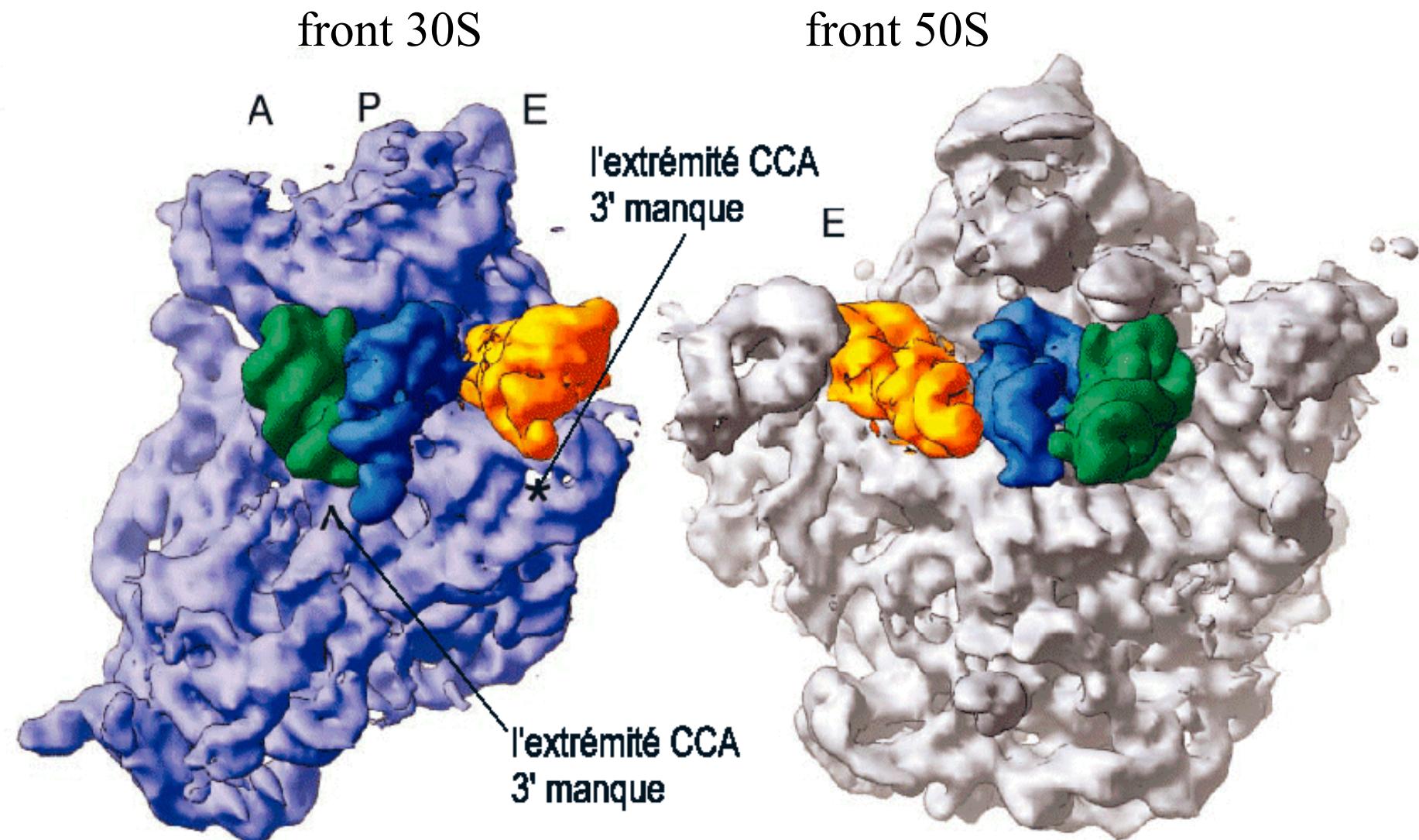
**Table.** Elemental rate constants of near-cognate (Leu) and cognate (Phe)a aa-tRNA binding to the A site according to the model presented in Figure 1

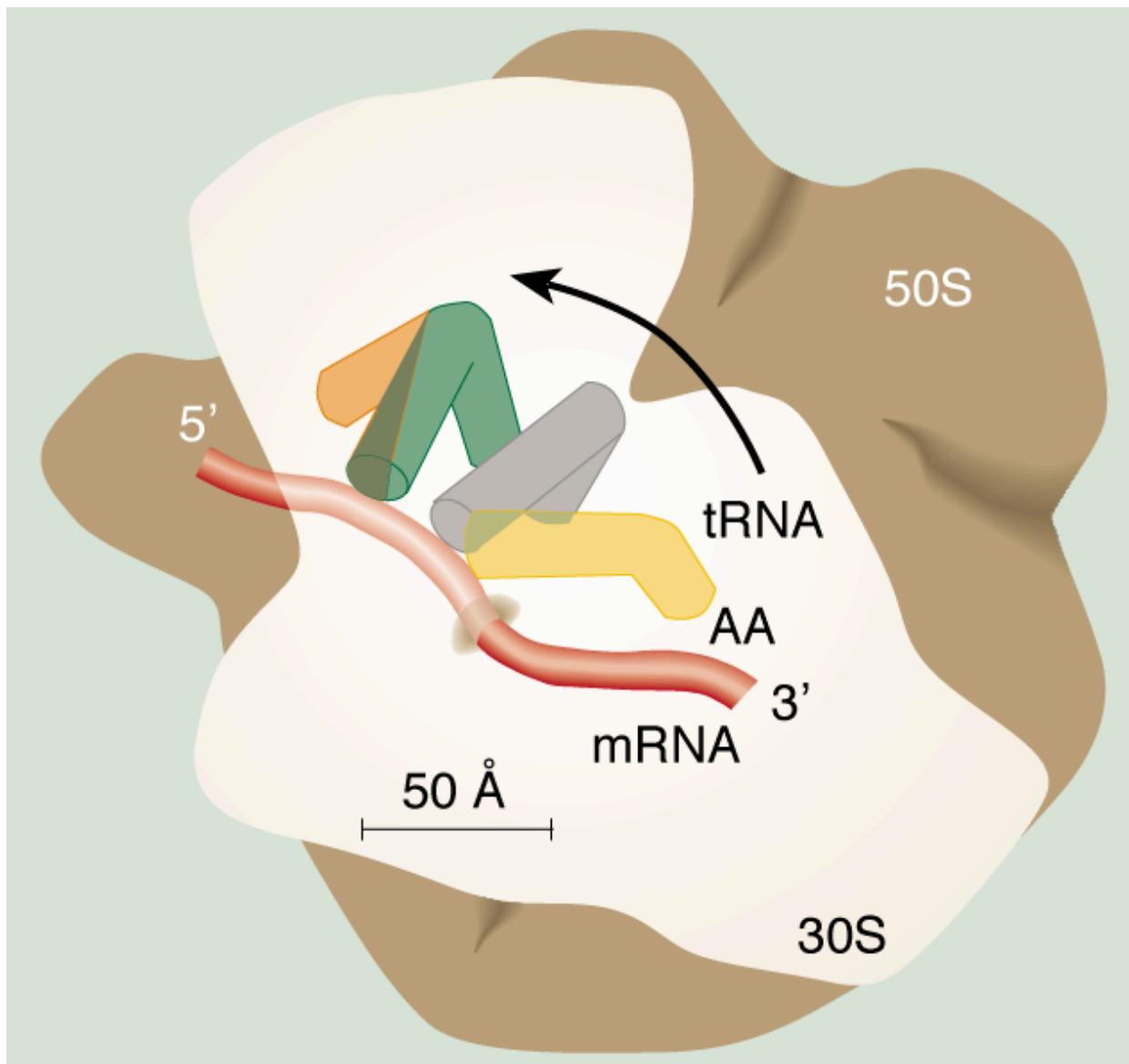
Step		Rate constant (per s)	
		Near-cognate	Cognate
Initial binding	$k_1$	$110 \pm 10$ b	$110 \pm 20$ b (non-cognate 60)
	$k_{-1}$	$25 \pm 5$	$25 \pm 5$ (non-cognate 25)
Codon recognition			
	$k_2$	$100 \pm 20$	$100 \pm 15$
	$k_{-2}$	$17 \pm 8$ d	$0.2 \pm 0.1$
GTPase activation and GTP hydrolysis (e)			
	$k_3$	$50 \pm 20$	$500 \pm 100$ (non-cognate 0.005)
GTP-GDP conformation change of EF-Tu			
	$k_4$	$50 \pm 20$	$60 \pm 20$
aa-tRNA accommodation and peptide bond formation (e)			
	$k_5$	$0.1 \pm 0.03$	$7 \pm 2$
Dissociation of EF-Tu			
	$k_6$	$2 \pm 1$	$3 \pm 1$
aa-tRNA rejection			
	$k_7$	$6 \pm 1$	$<0.3$

b per  $\mu\text{M}/\text{s}$ .

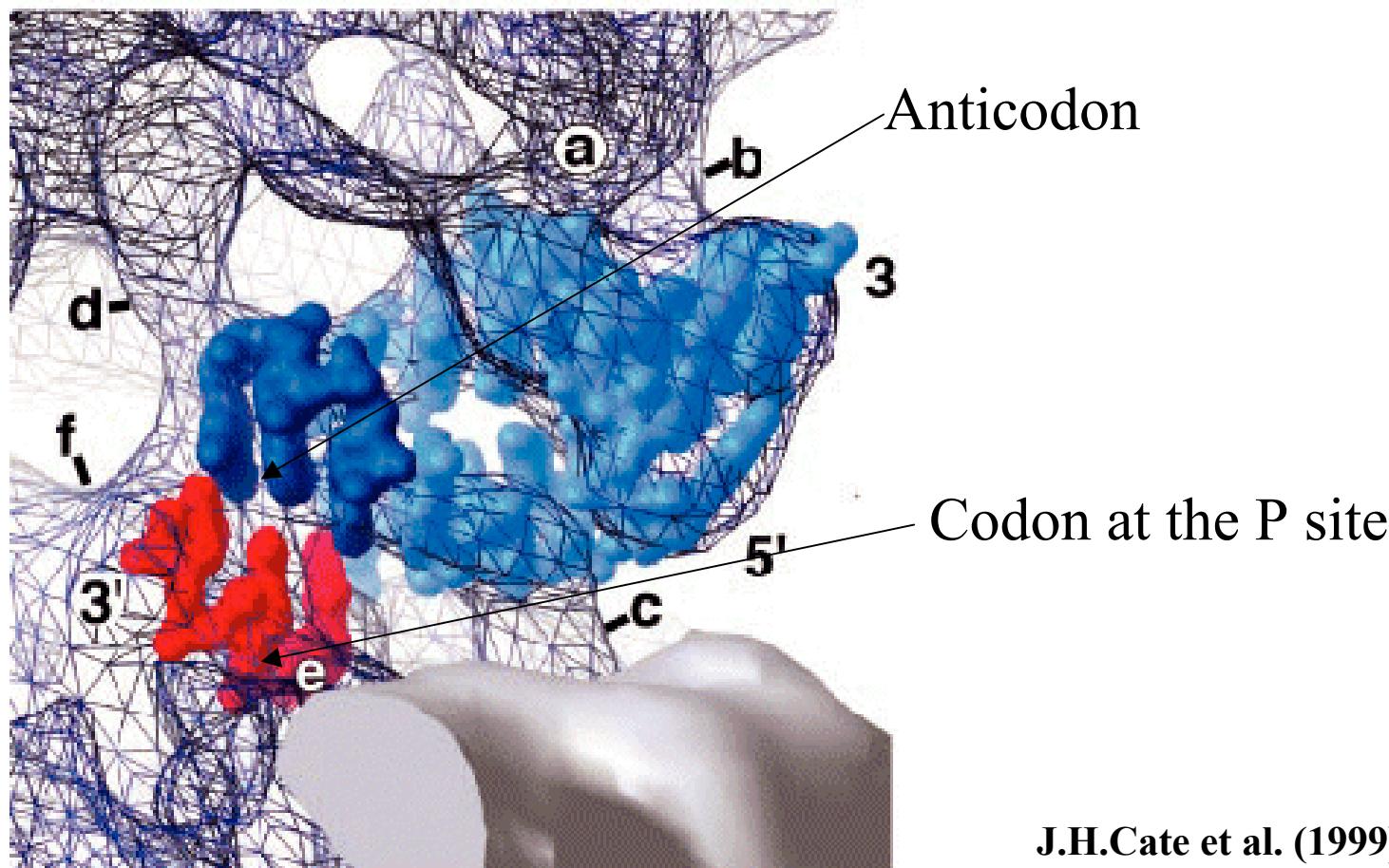
e Grouped for analysis, because the former reaction is rate limiting.

# 70S: ARNt (*Thermus thermophilus*)

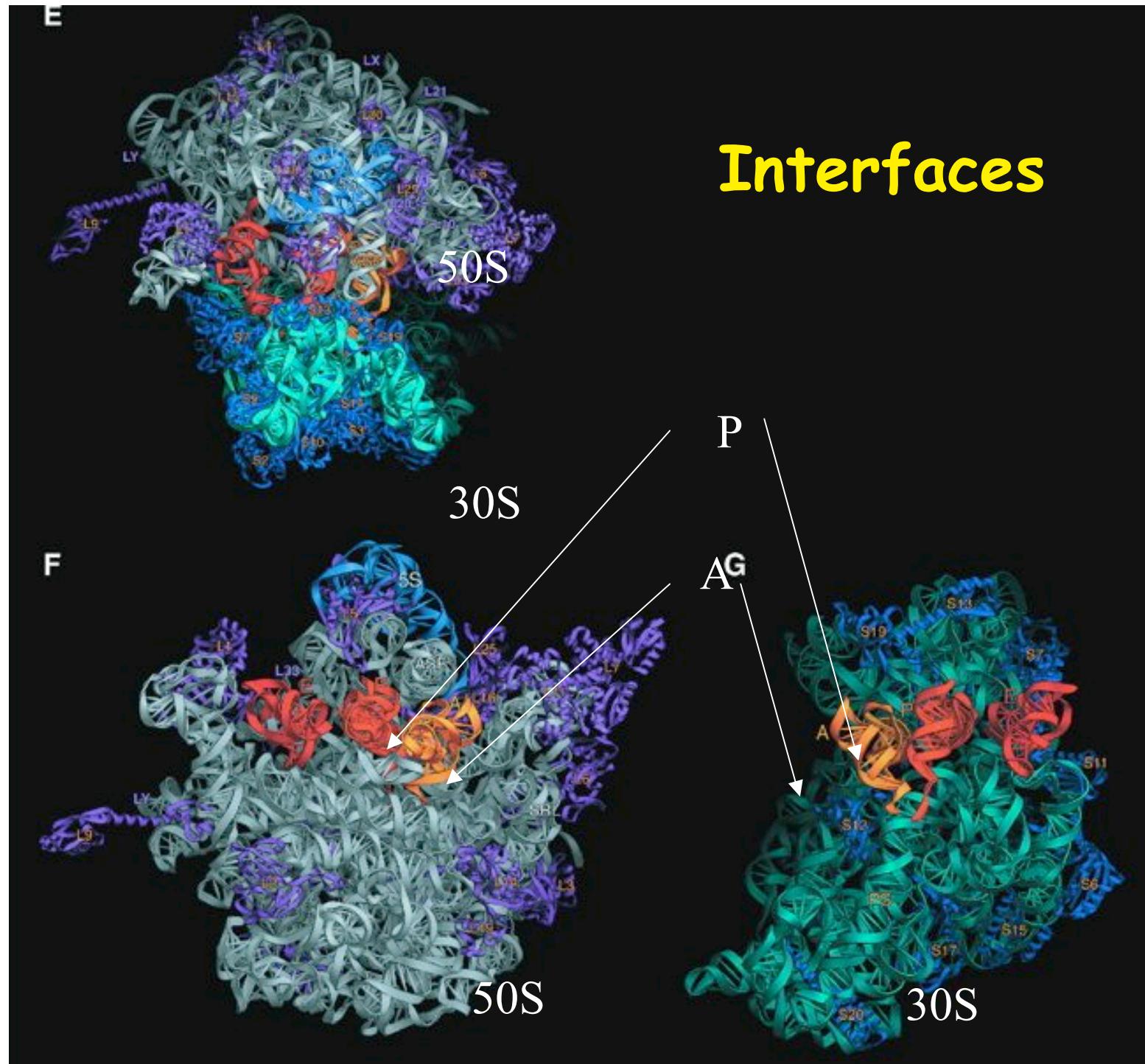


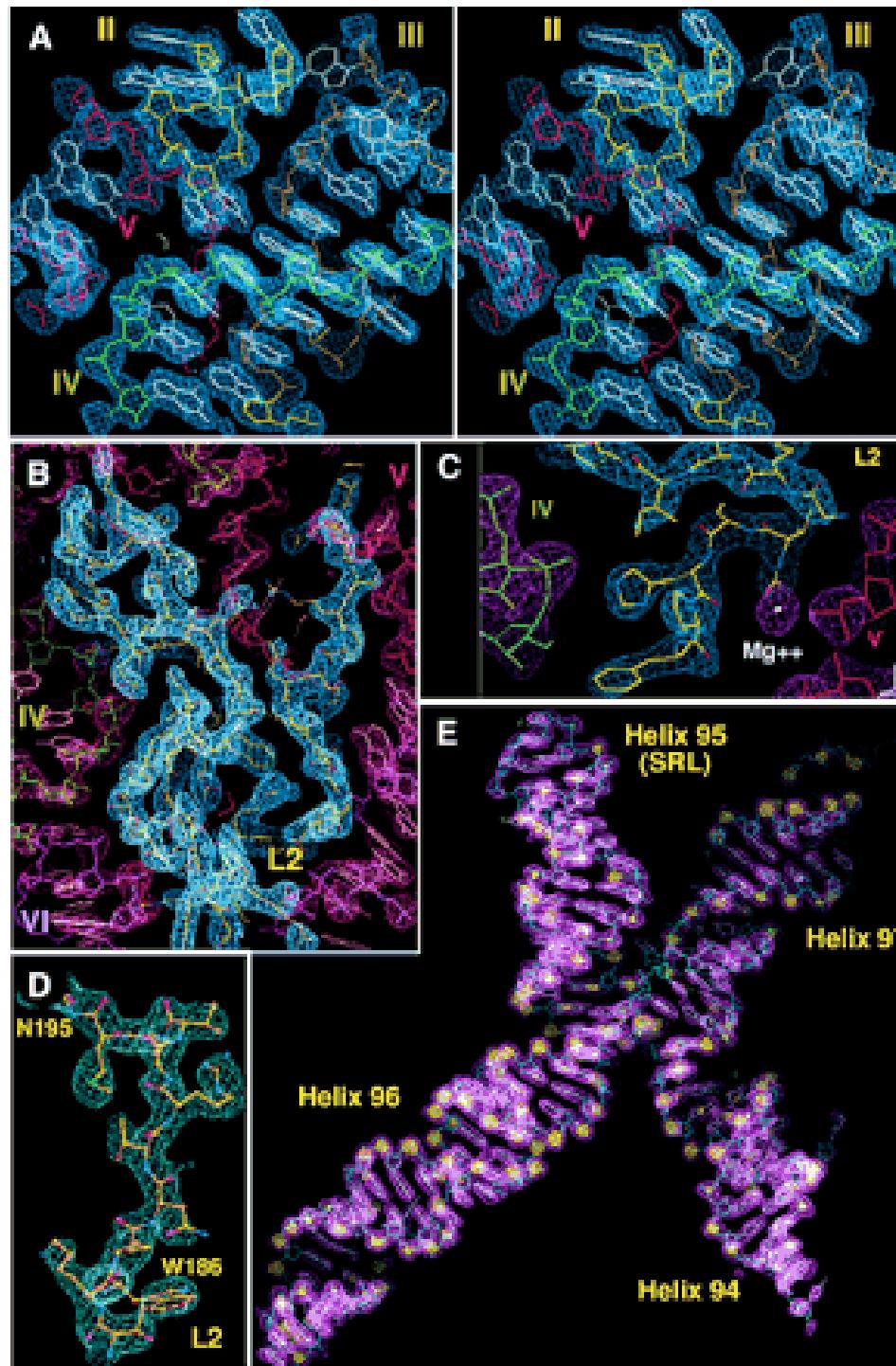


# 70S: tRNA, contacts codon-anticodon in the P site



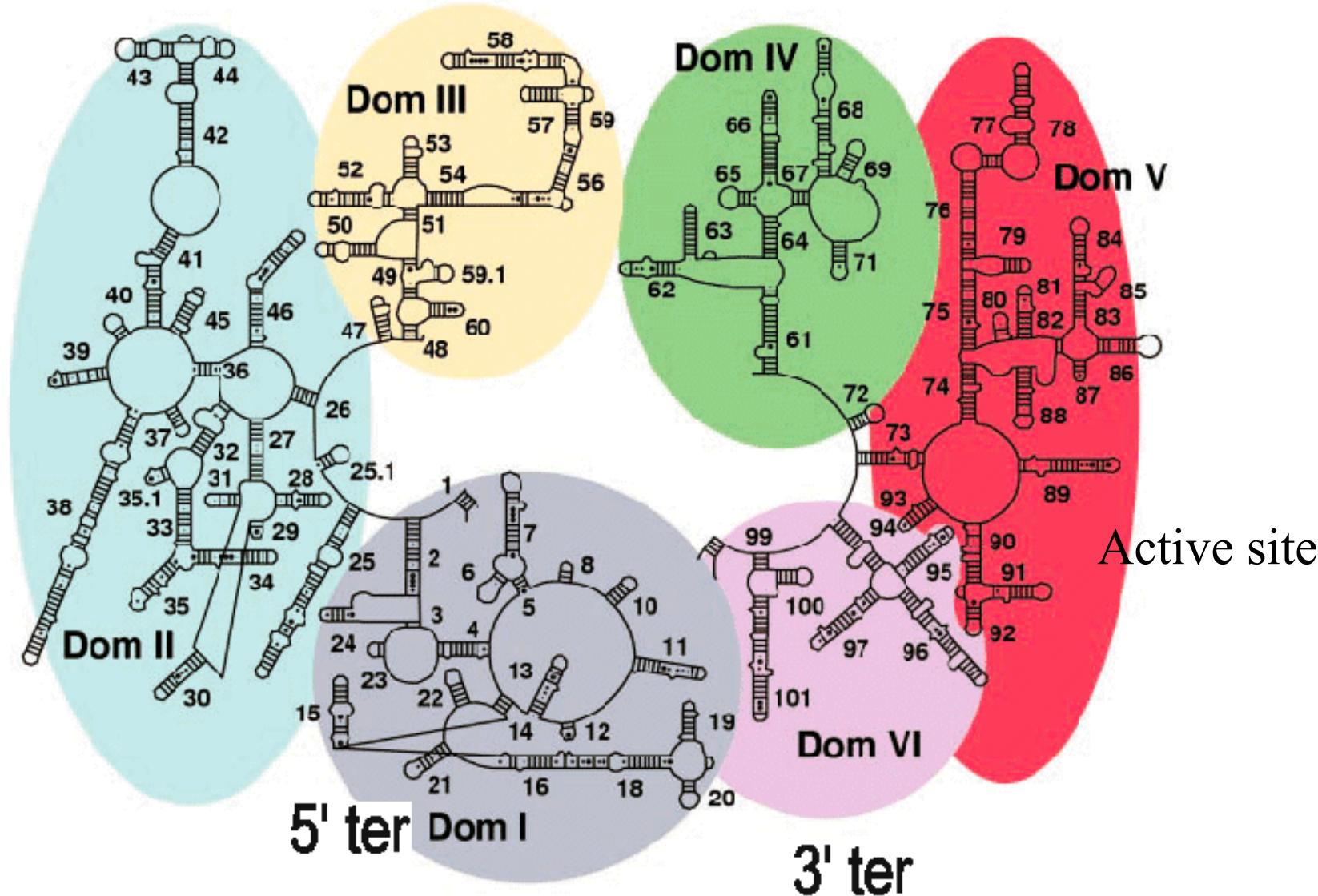
J.H.Cate et al. (1999) Science 285, 2095-2104





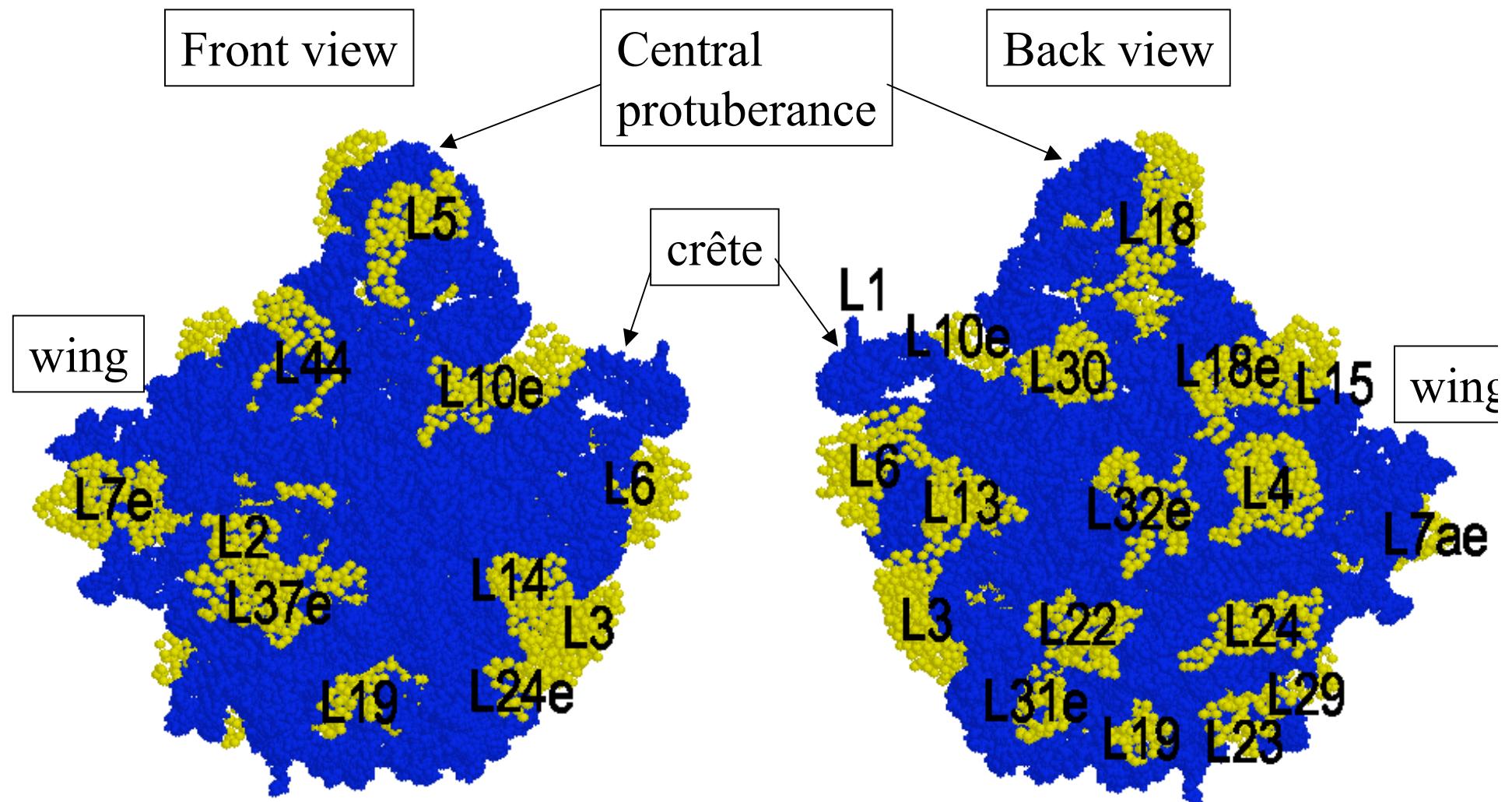
2.4 Å resolution for the 50S

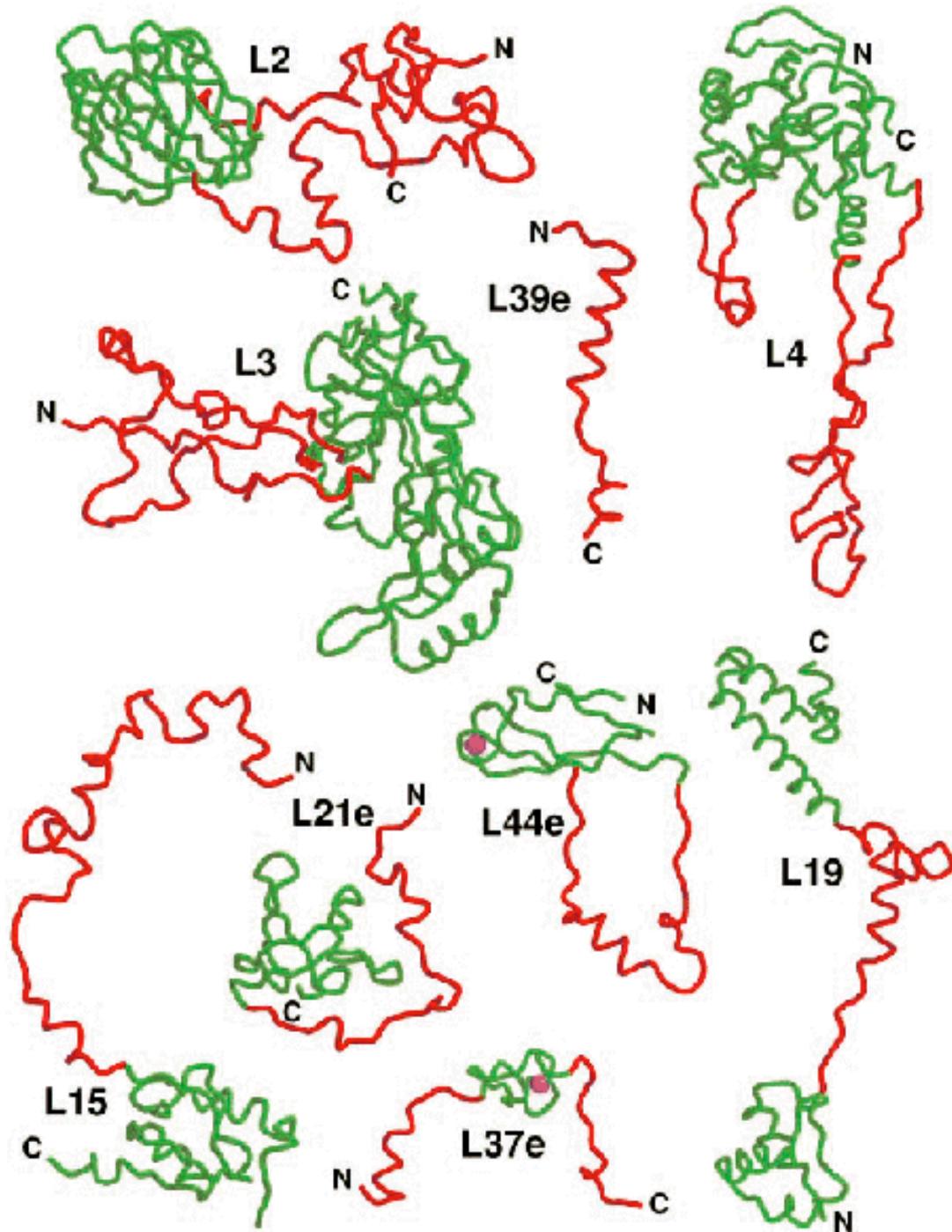
ARNr 23S (*H. marismortui*)



# 50S: localisation of the peptides (*H. marismortui*)

N.Ban et al., (2000) Science, 289, 905-920



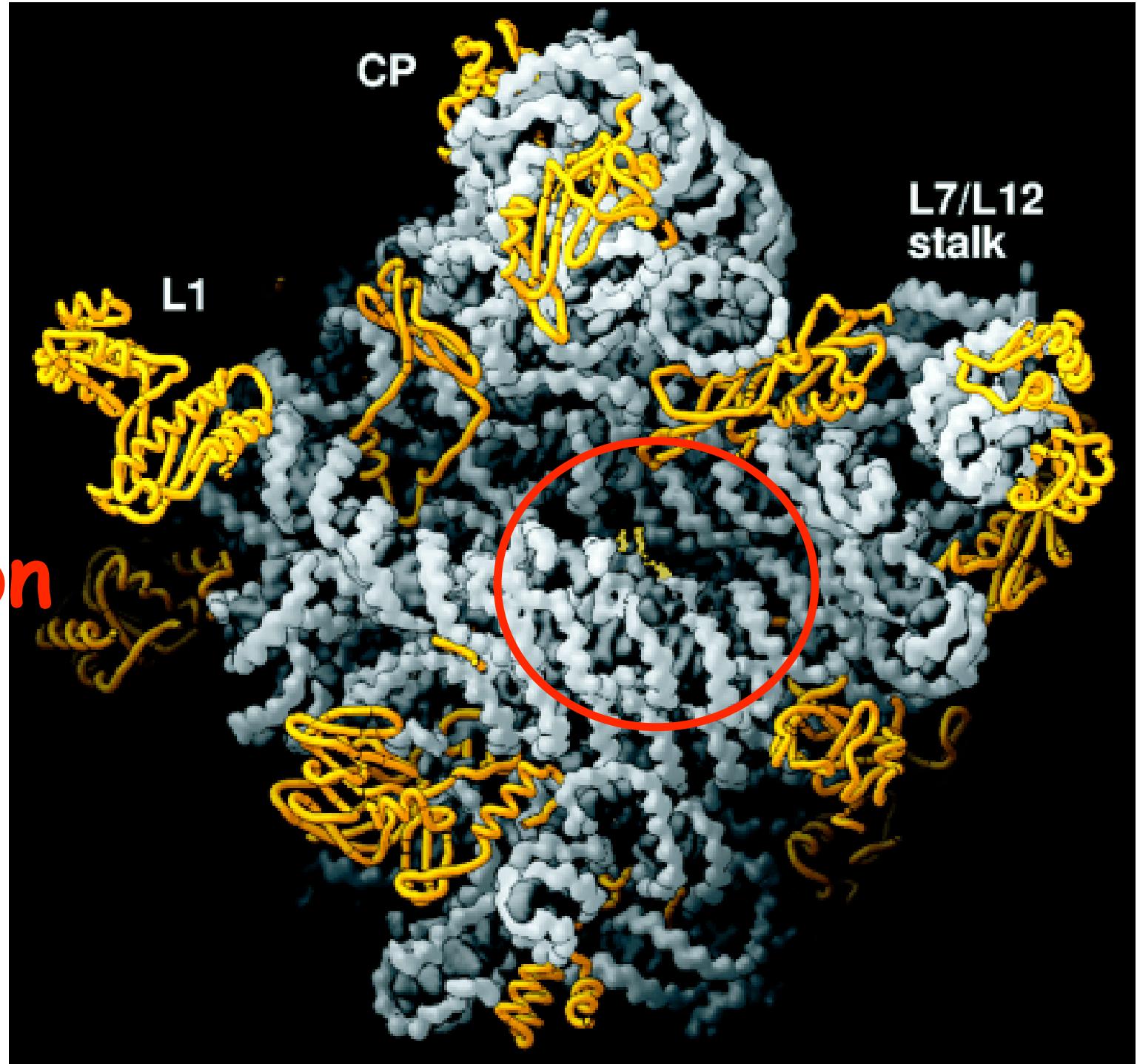


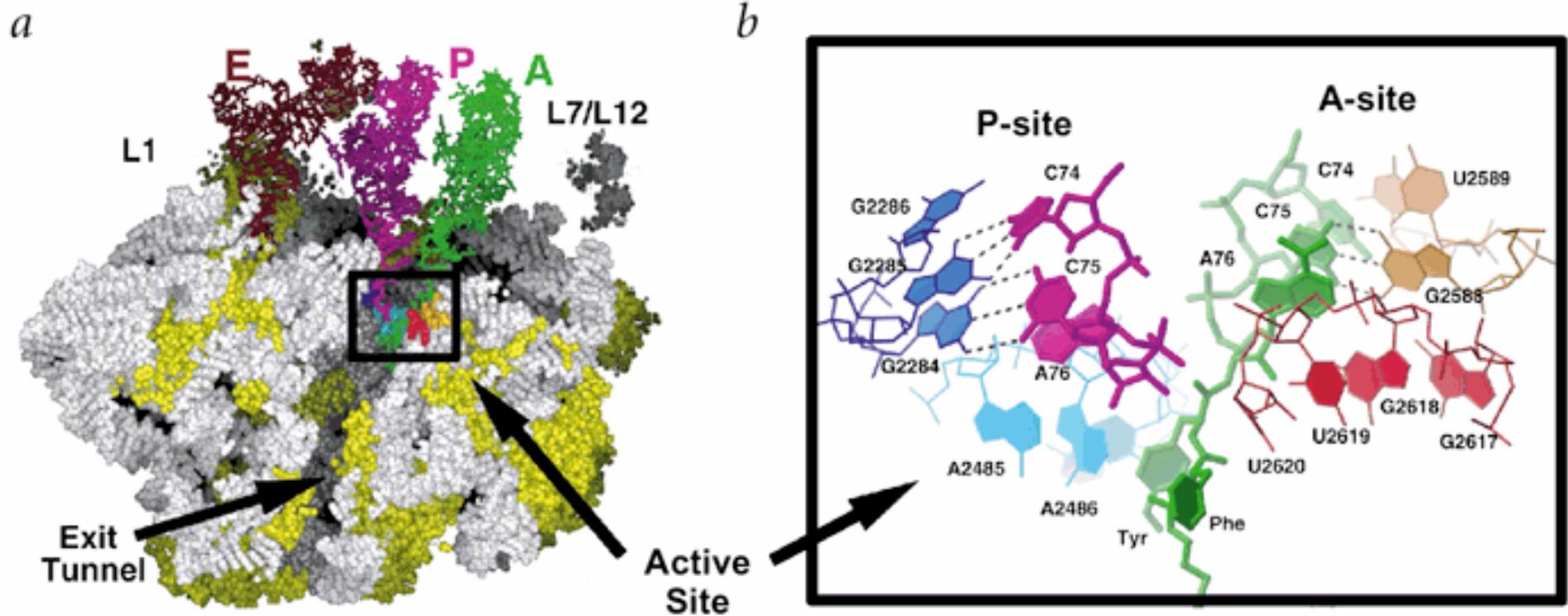
## 50S: structure of proteins (*H. marismortui*)

17 globular  
13 partly or completely stretch

Red :stretched  
Green : globular

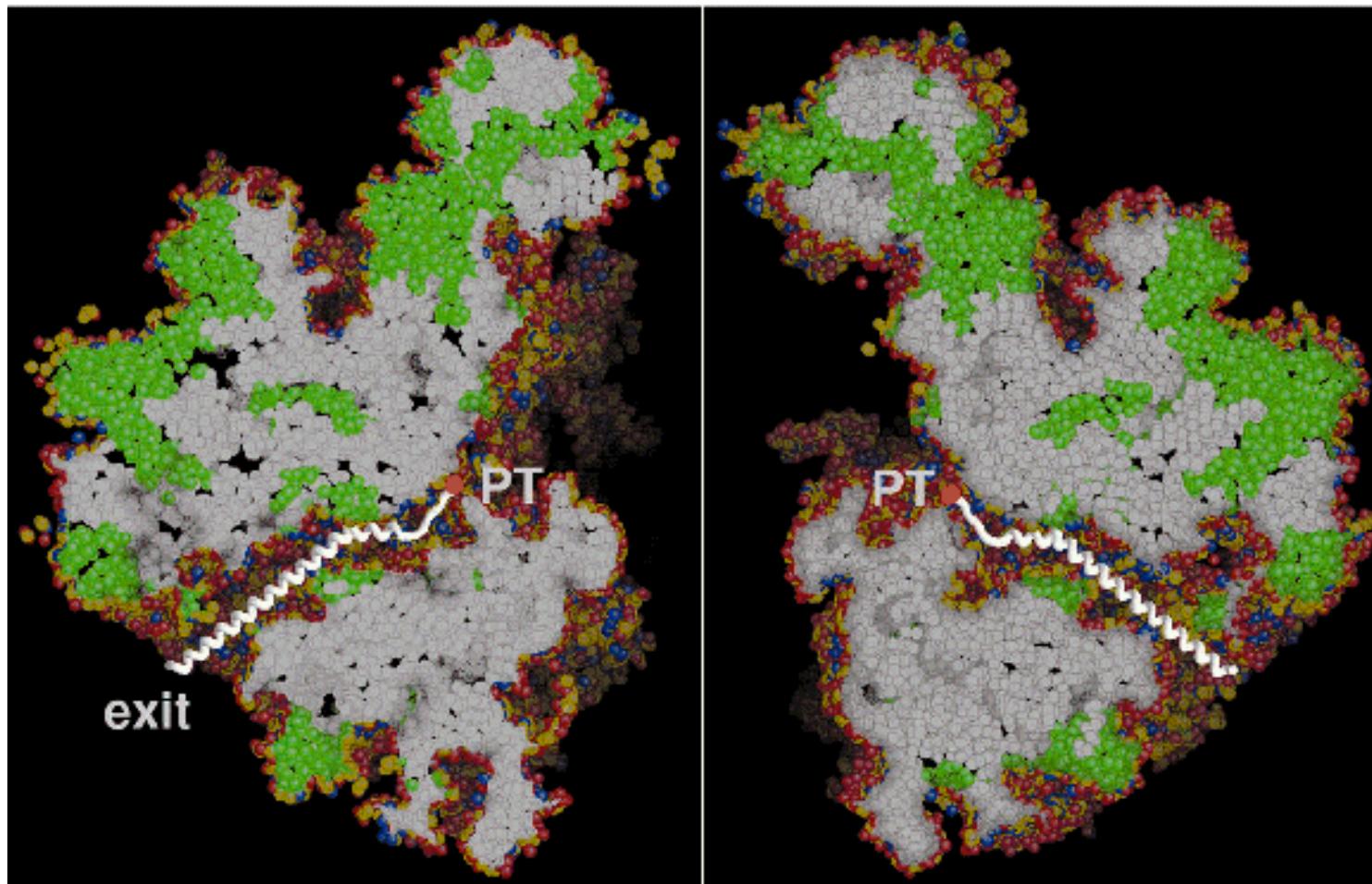
Only  
RNA  
in  
the  
reaction  
site





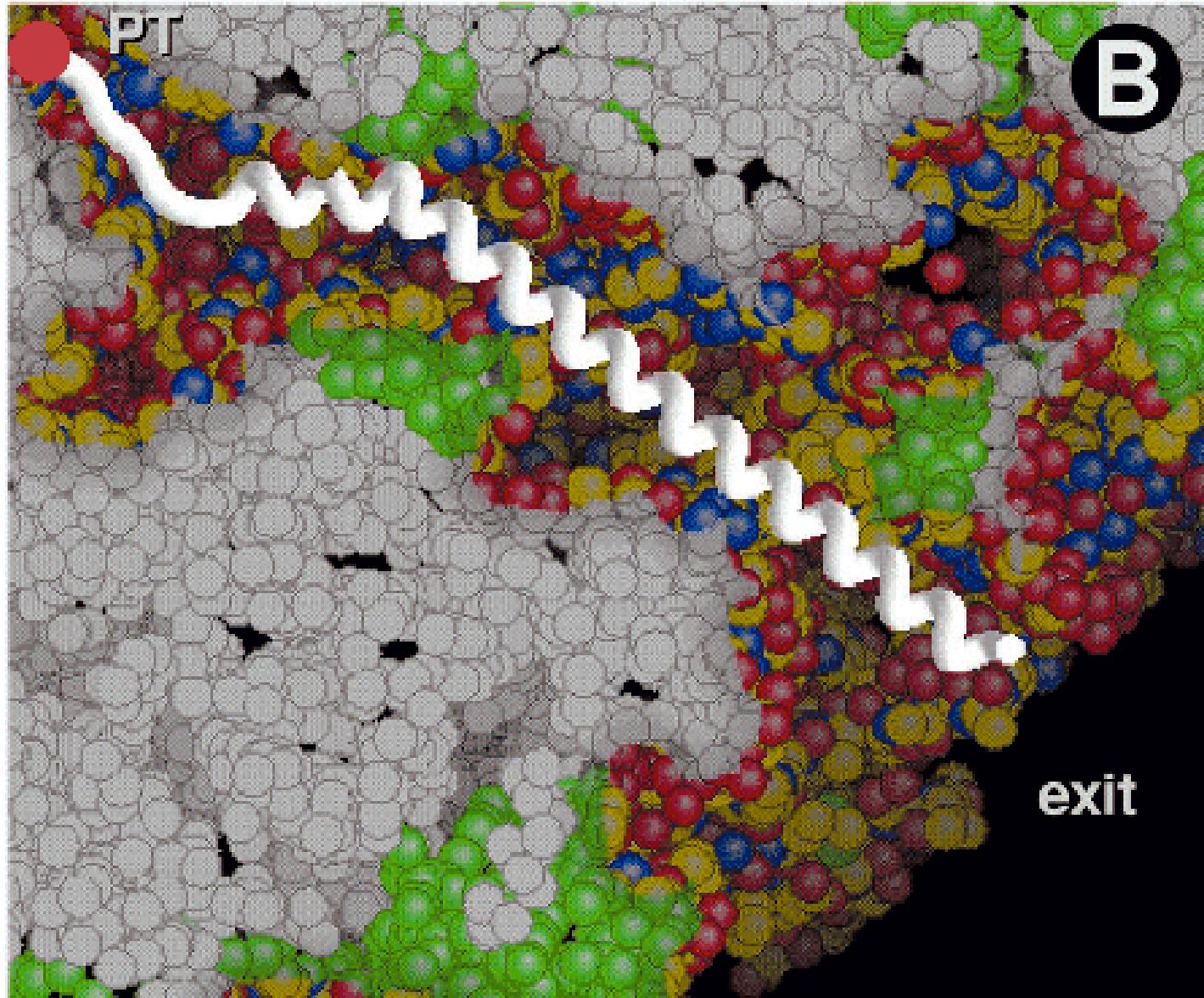
# Tunnel for nascent peptide

Diameter 18 à 25 Å: no helical formation



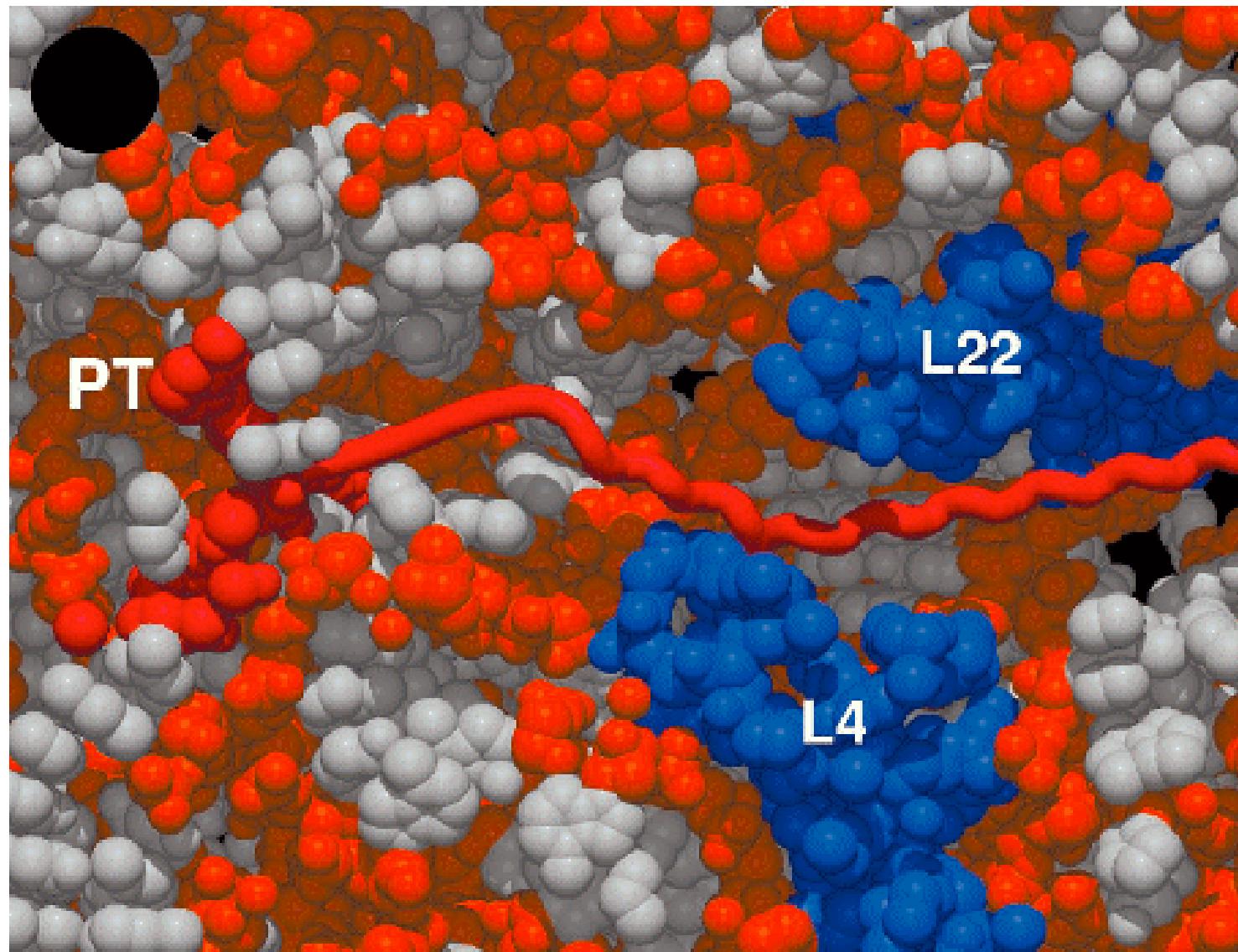
Nissen et al. (2000) Science, 289, 920-930

# Tunnel of nascent peptide



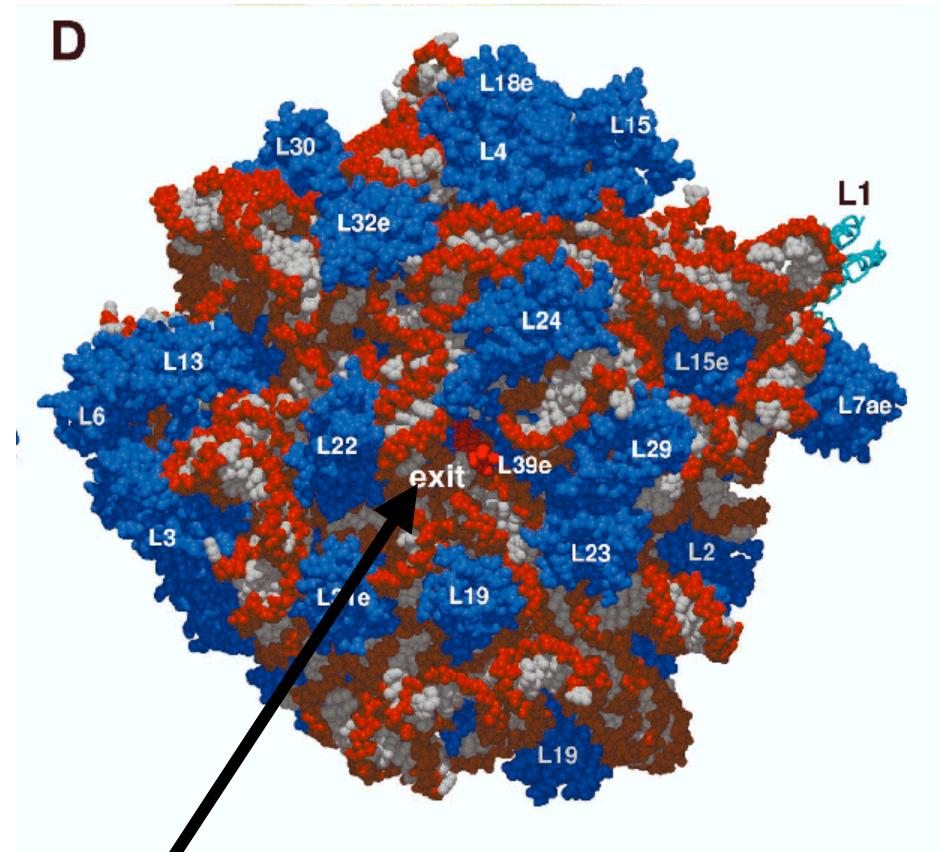
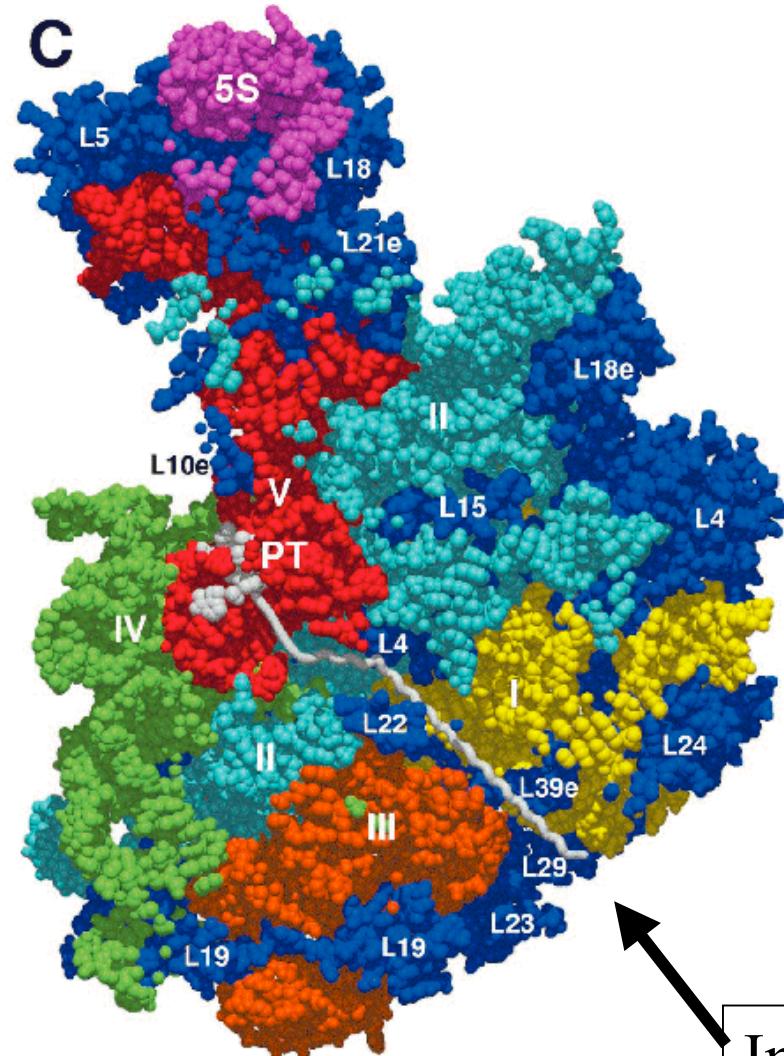
Nissen et al. (2000) Science, 289, 920-930

# Tunnel for nascent peptide



Nissen et al. (2000) Science, 289, 920-930

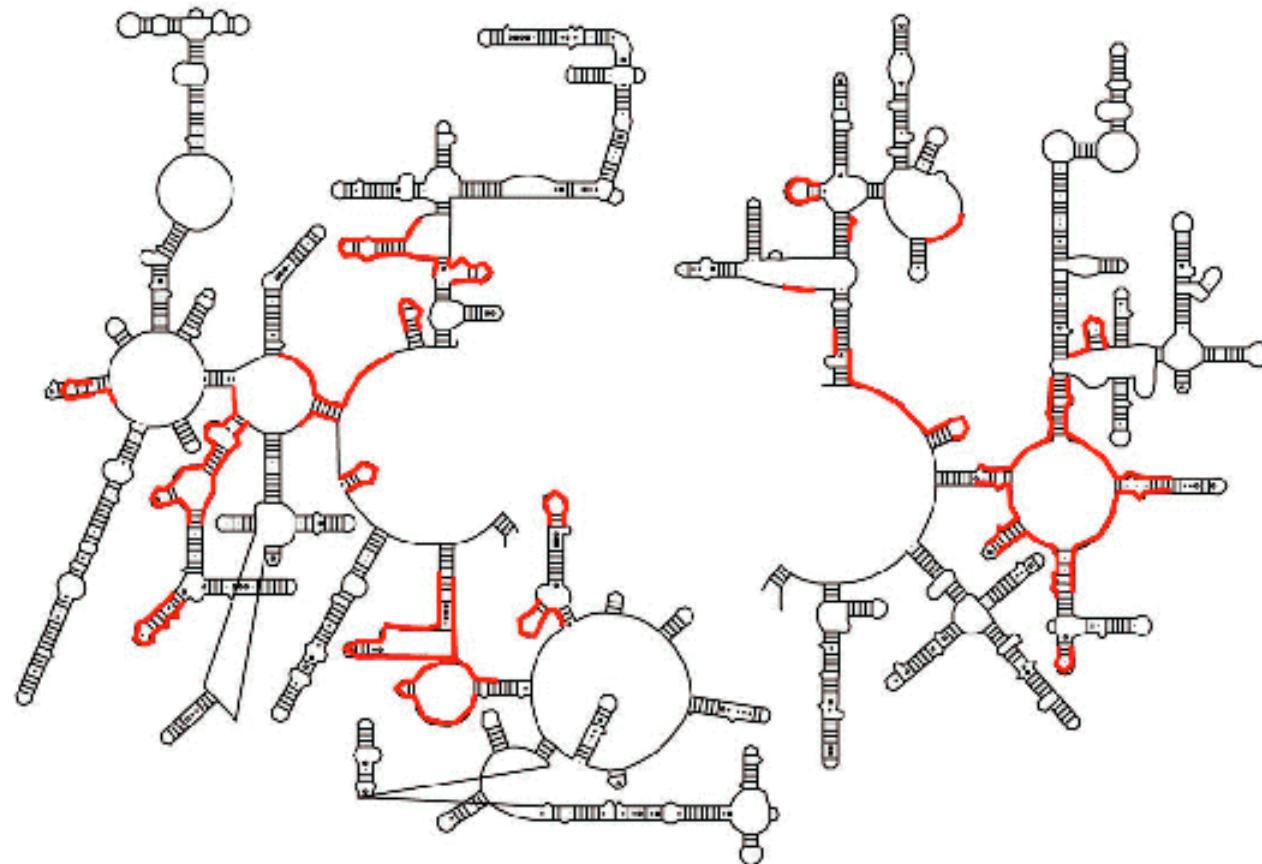
# Tunnel of nascent peptide



Interactions with chaperonines or SRP?

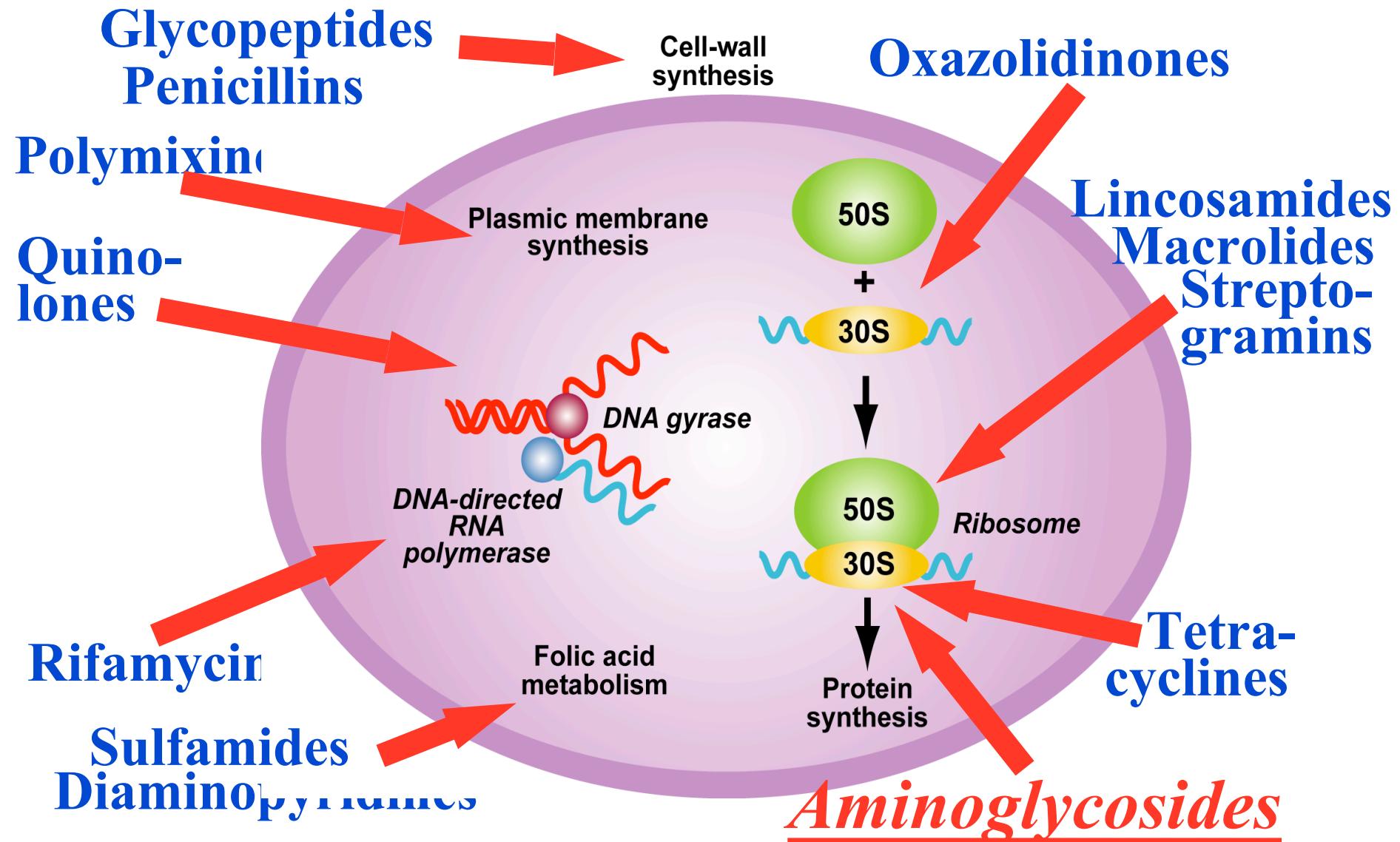
# Tunnel for nascent peptide

Rôle of 23S rRNA (in red)



Nissen et al. (2000) Science, 289, 920-930

# Antibiotic targets



**30S**

16S RNA  
(1530 nt)

+

21 proteins

$0.85 \times 10^6 \text{ g/mol}$

Tetracyclines  
Aminoglycosides

**50S**

5S RNA  
(120 nt)

+

23S RNA  
(2900 nt)

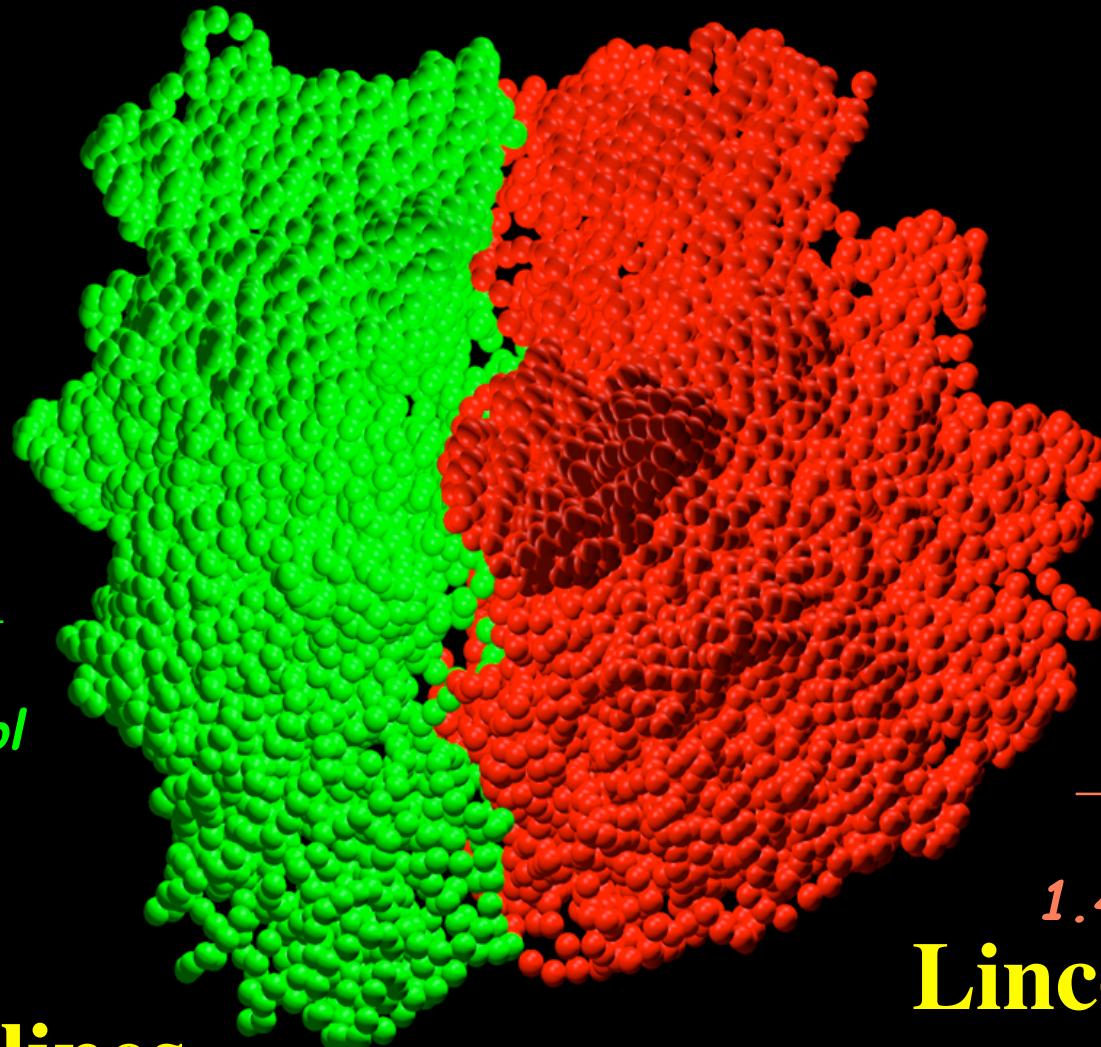
+

35 proteins

$1.45 \times 10^6 \text{ g/mol}$

Lincosamides  
Macrolides  
Streptogramines

**300-800 g/mol**



# Where do they bind ?

Mainly at the rRNA

- At tRNA or mRNA binding sites
- In the exit tunnel (50S particle)
- At pivot points, key for structural rearrangements during mechanical steps of the ribosomes

# How do they bind ?

- Mainly with Bases (Hygromycin)
- Only with Phosphates (Streptomycin)
- With bases & Phosphates (Aminoglycosides)

The ribosome is a ribozyme

and,

like all other known ribozymes,

the ribosome uses RNA-based  
recognition motifs

not only for catalysis

but also

for decoding processes.

# The ribosome as a molecular machine

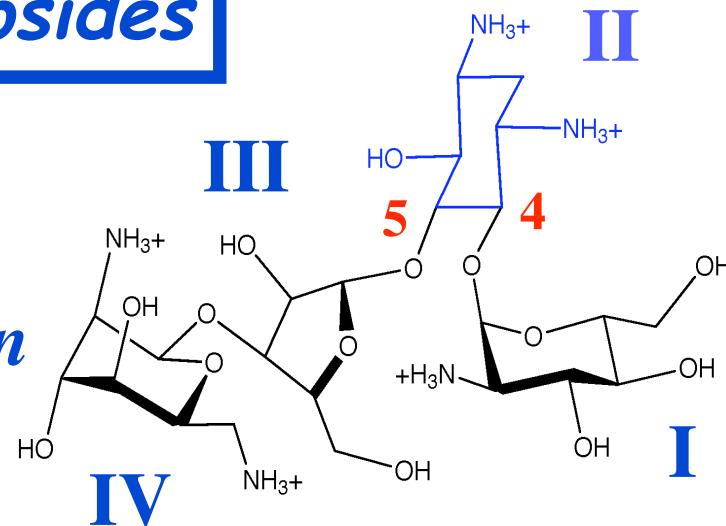
This requires the presence of

- Relative movements of parts
- Alternative conformations (2D/3D)
- Molecular switches
- ....

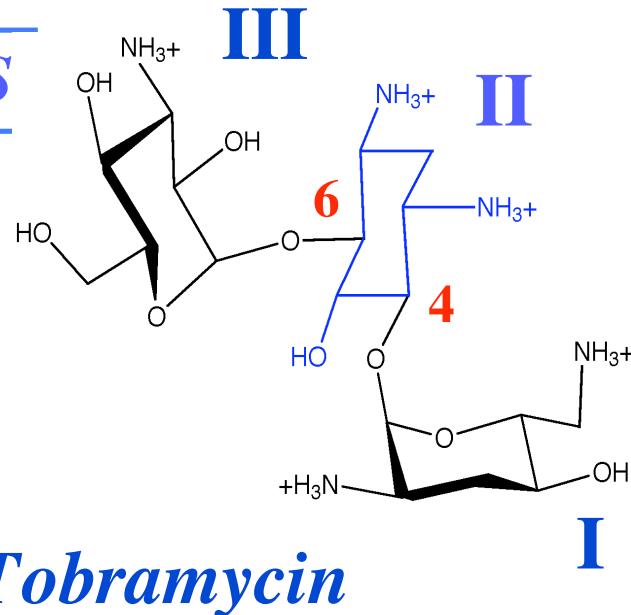
## Some aminoglycosides

4,5 - DOS

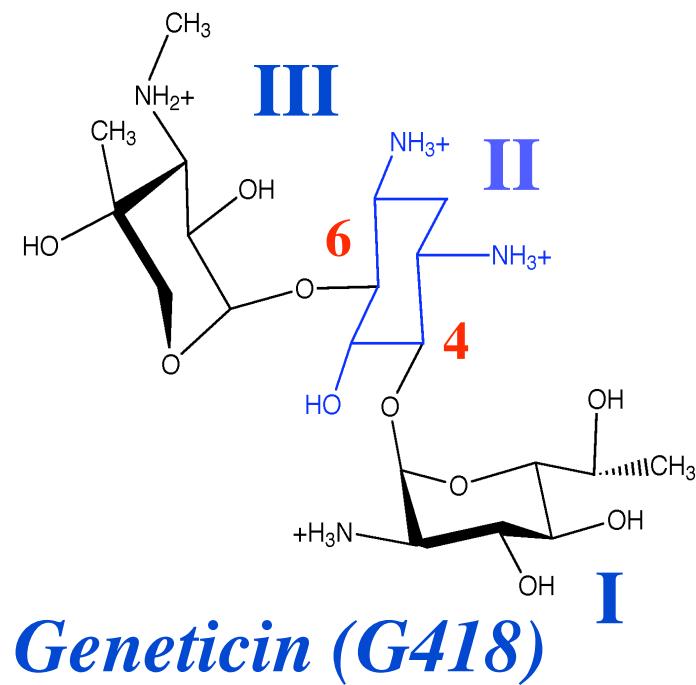
Paromomycin



4,6 - DOS



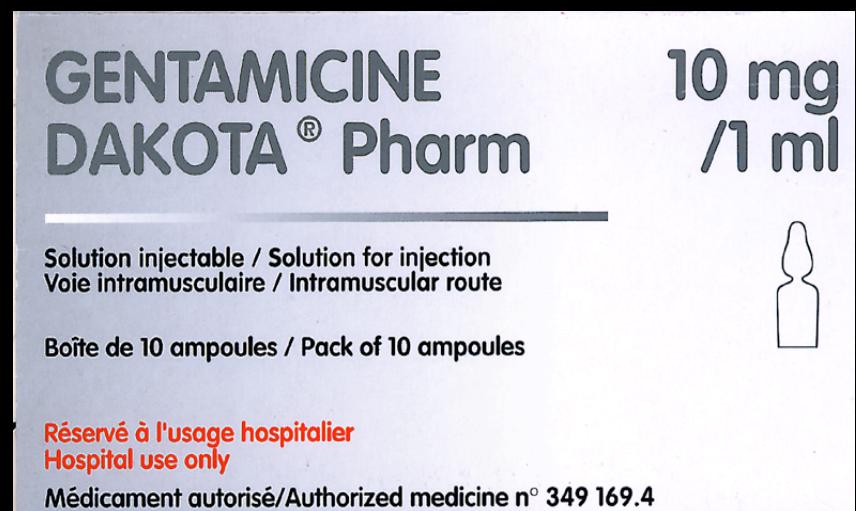
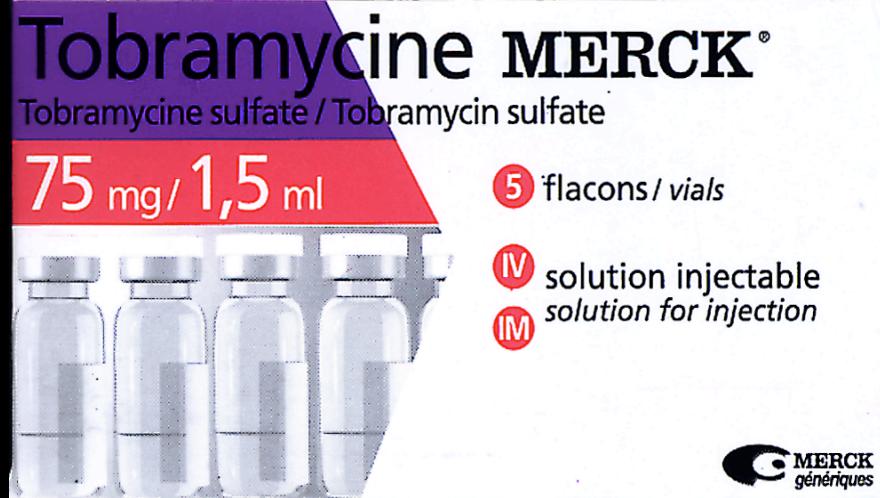
Tobramycin



Geneticin (G418)

# The aminoglycosides

- ◆ Antibiotics (*Actinomycetes*) discovered in the 1940's and used against:
  - Tuberculosis
  - Conjunctivitis
  - Strong infections (intestinal, after surgery, ...)

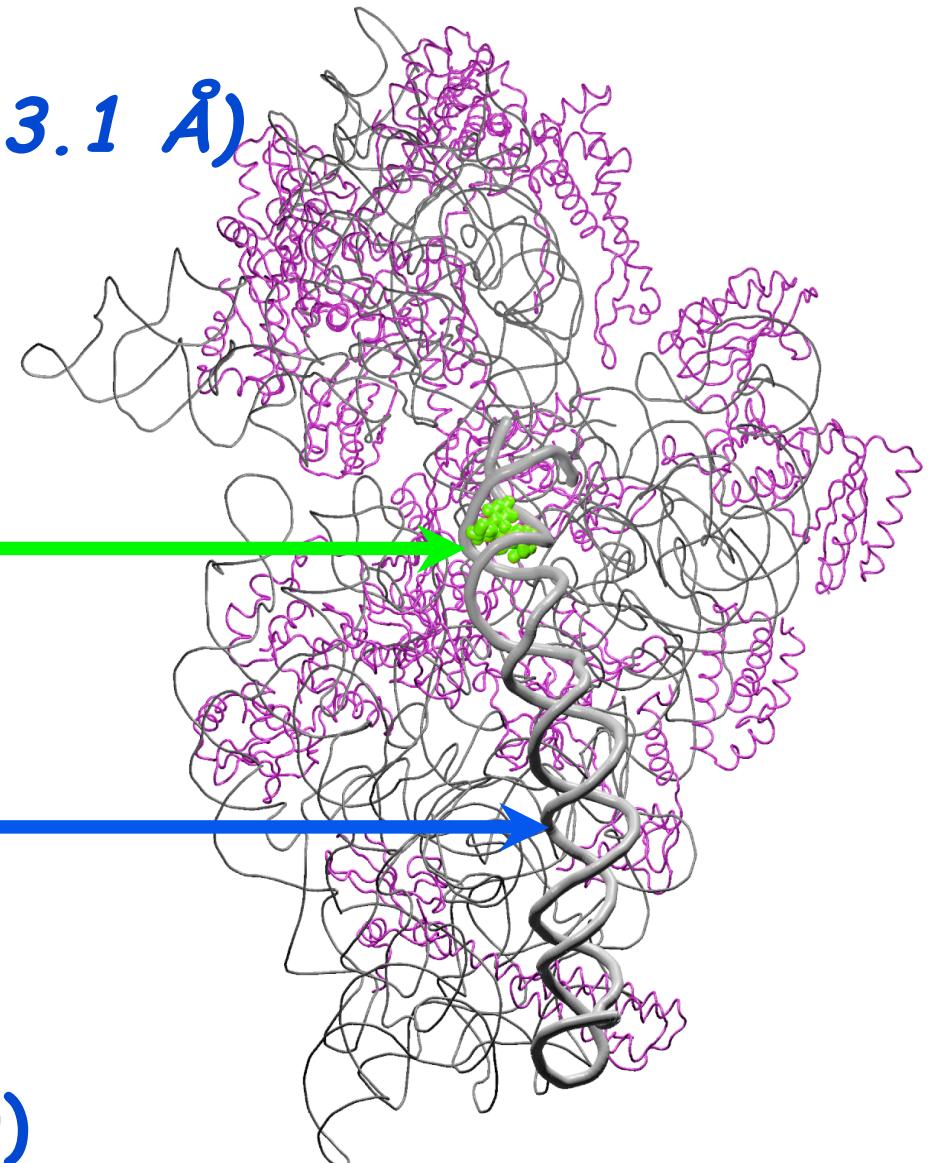


# *Aminoglycoside target : the A site*

30S particle (X-ray: 3.1 Å)

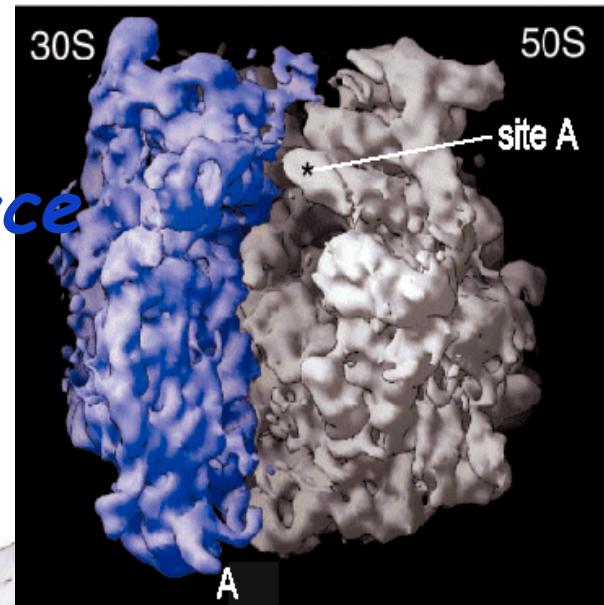
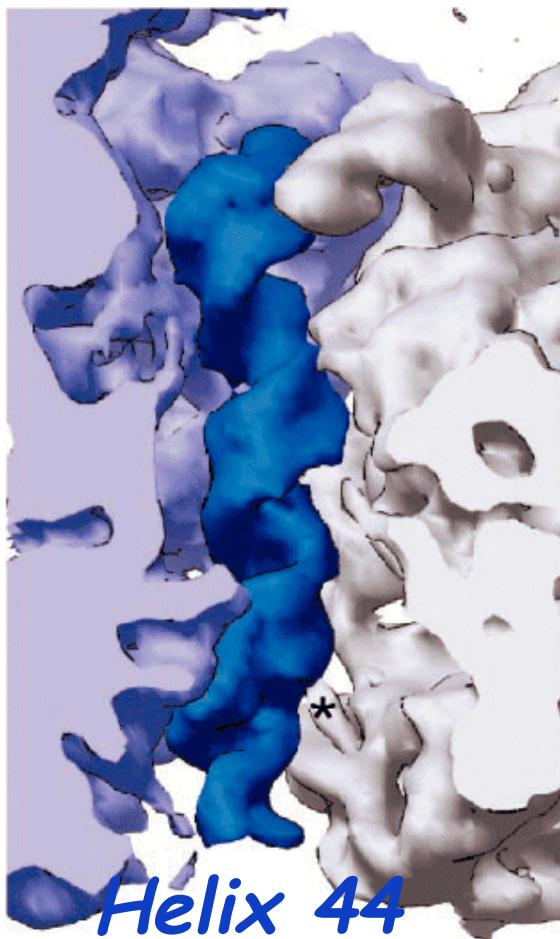
Aminoglycosides

Helix 44

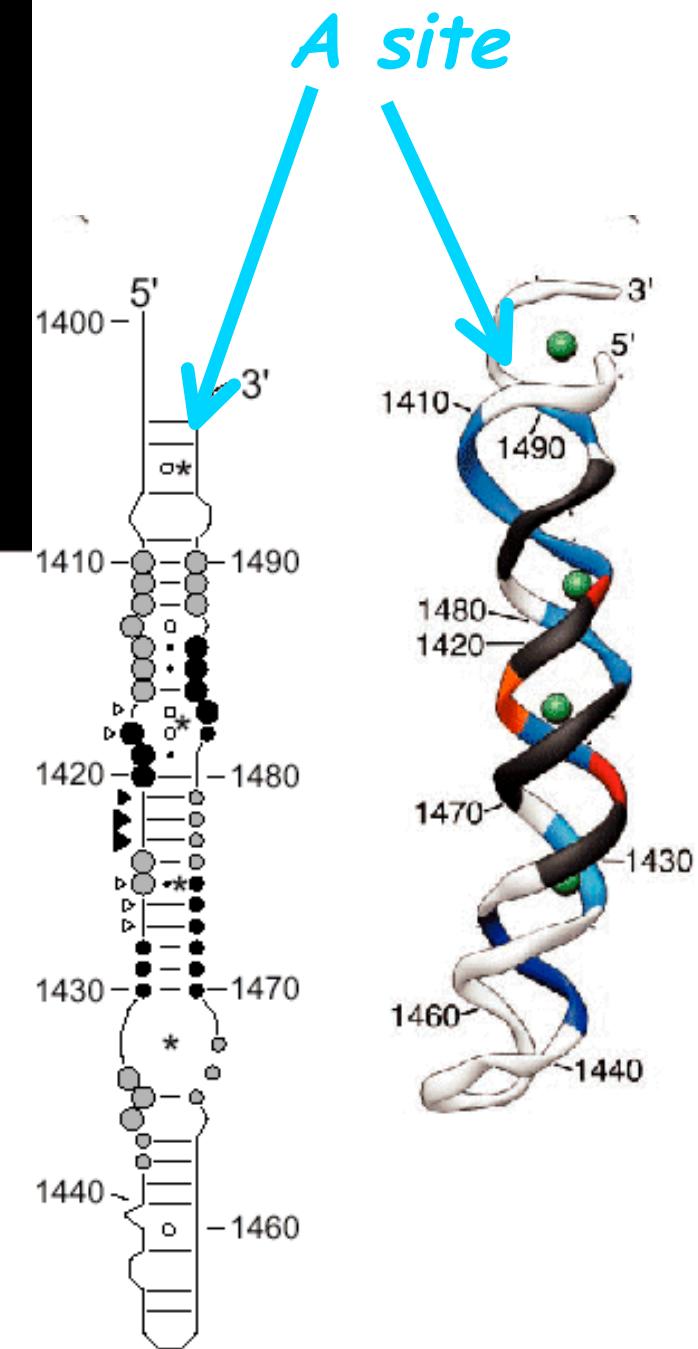


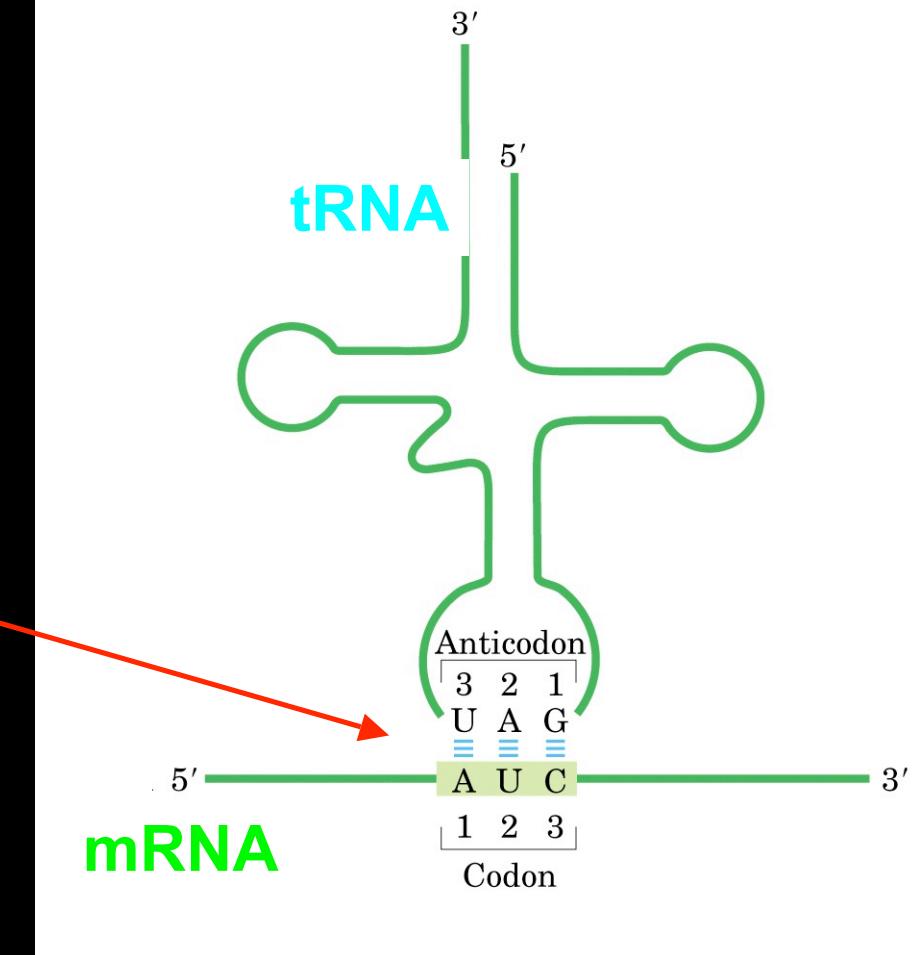
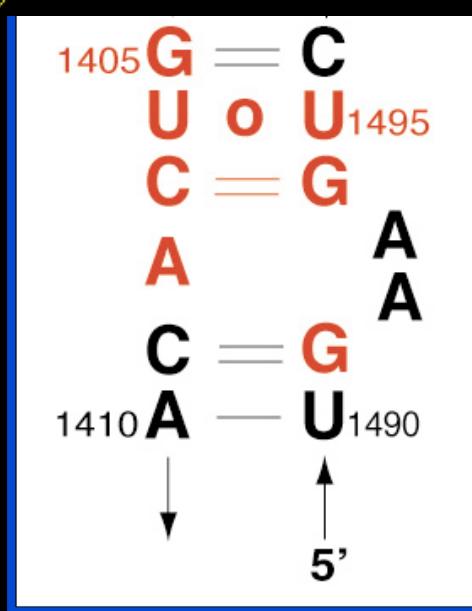
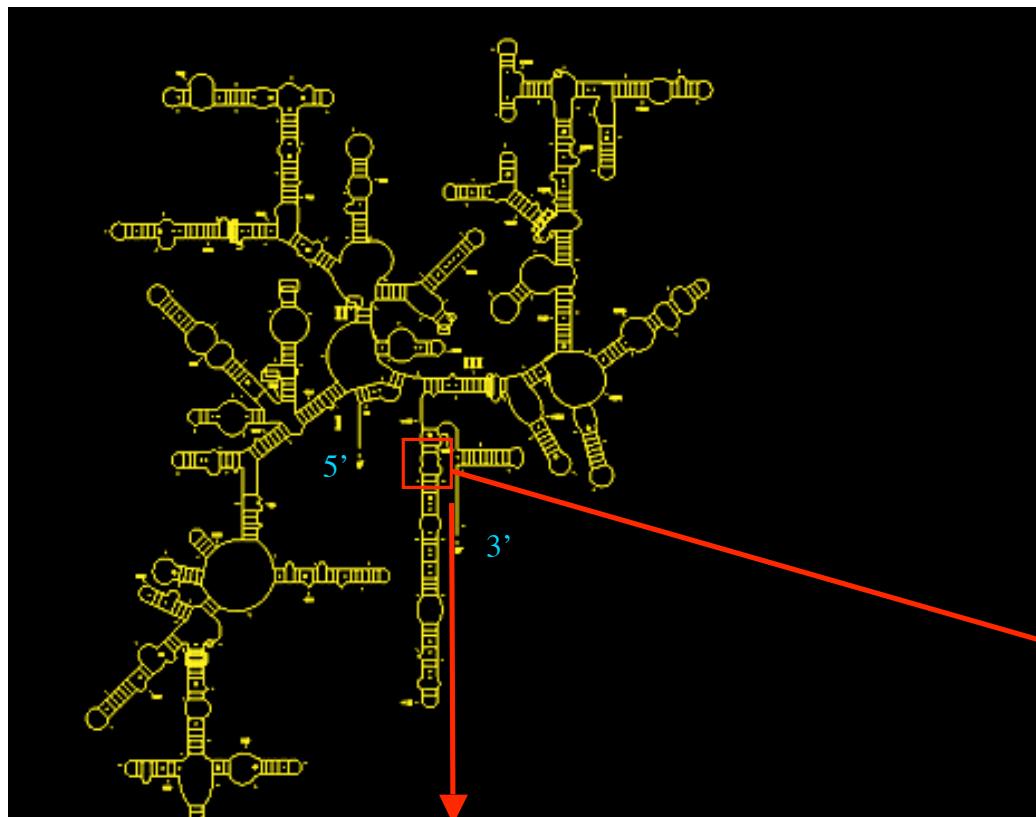
Carter et al., Nature (2000)

*No protein  
At the interface  
Between 30S  
and 50S*



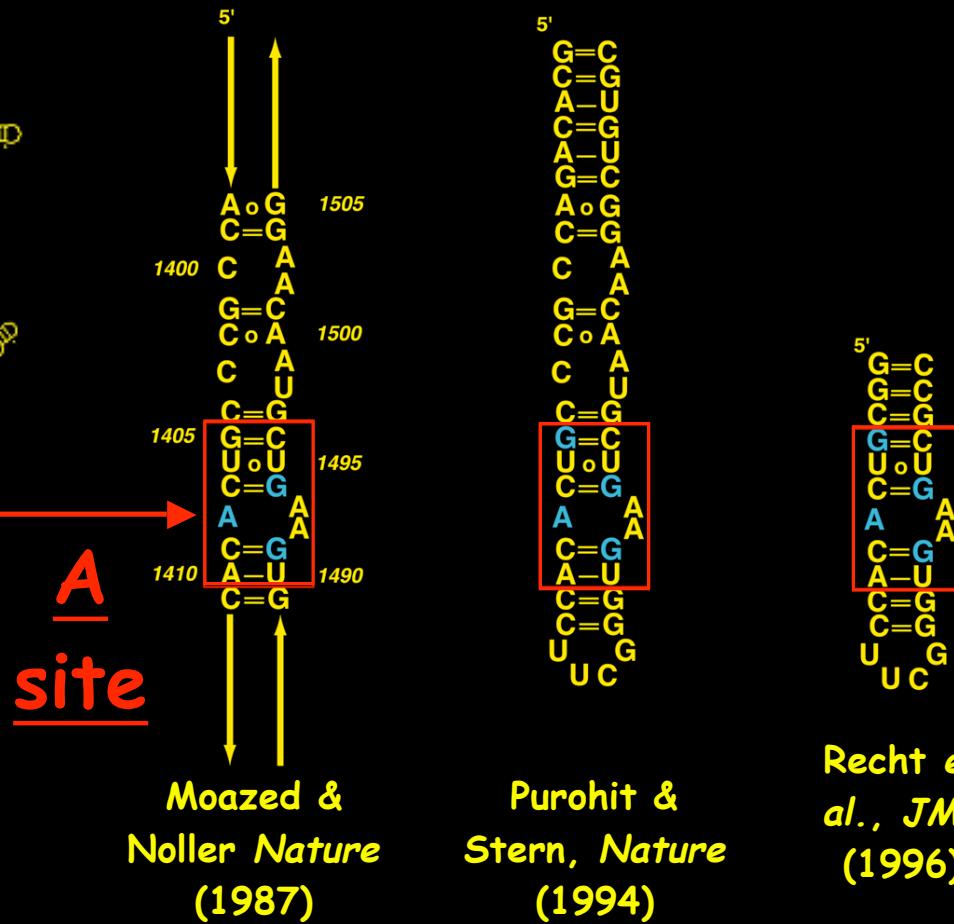
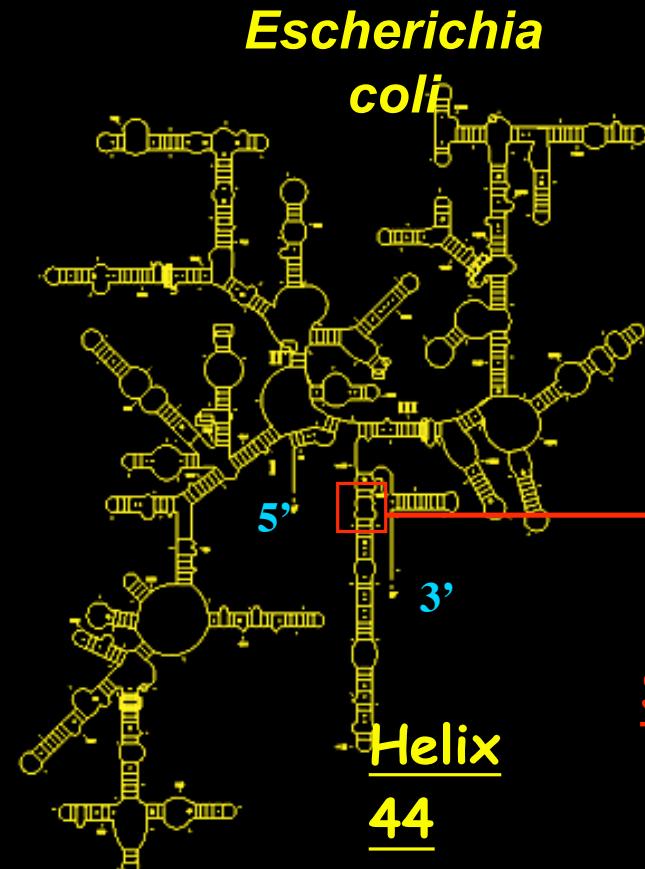
*RNA based  
recognition*





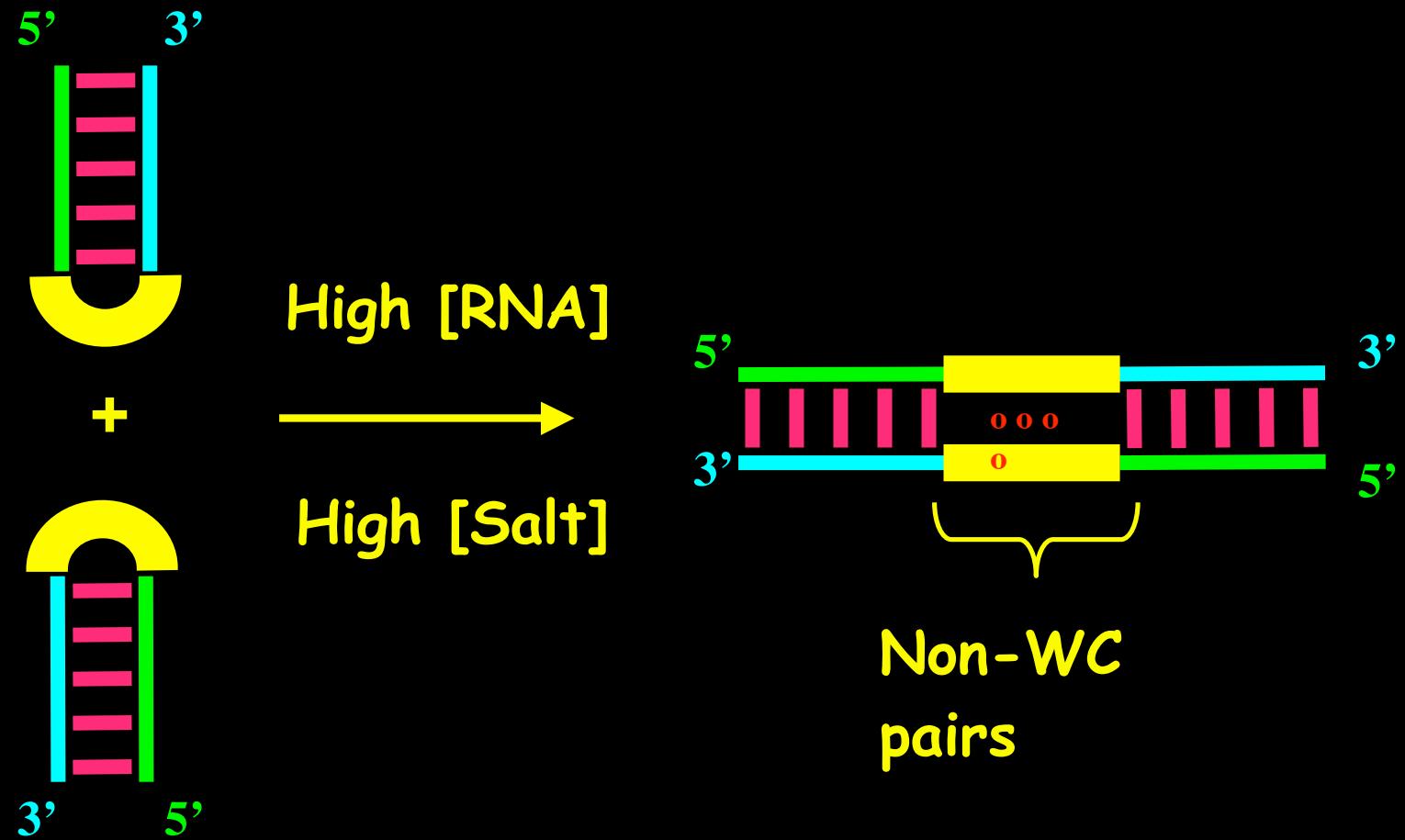
*A site : recognition of the codon-Anticodon helix.  
Central to the fidelity of the Decoding process of the ribosome*

# 16S rRNA 2D Protections induced by structure aminoglycoside binding

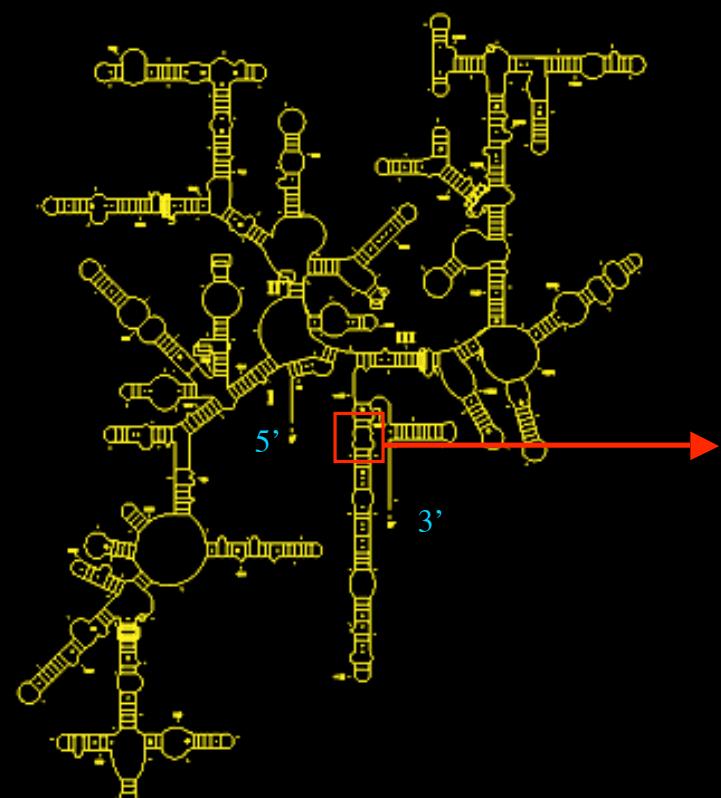


*NMR  
Structures*

# Crystallization of stem-loops

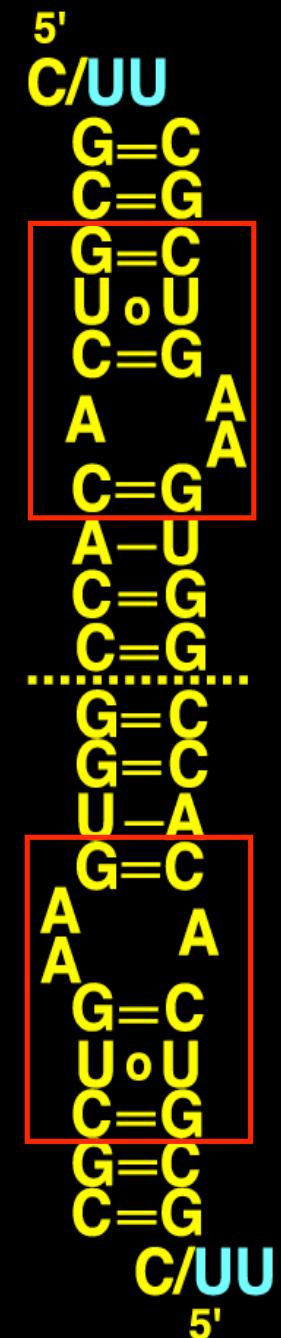
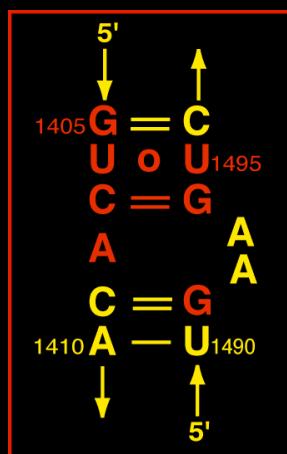


# 2D Structure of 16S rRNA



## rRNA used for co-crystallization

### A Site



**4,5**



**Paromomycin**



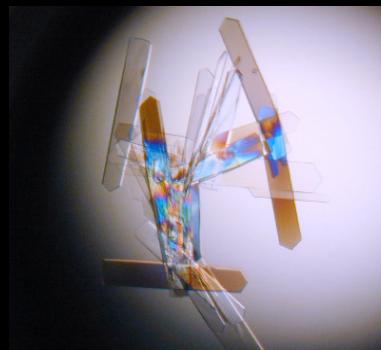
**Neomycin B**



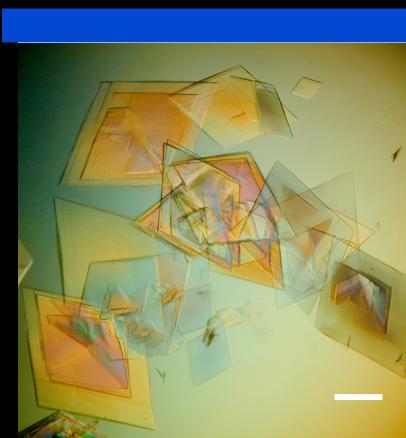
**Lividomycin B**

**Ribostamycin**

**4,6**

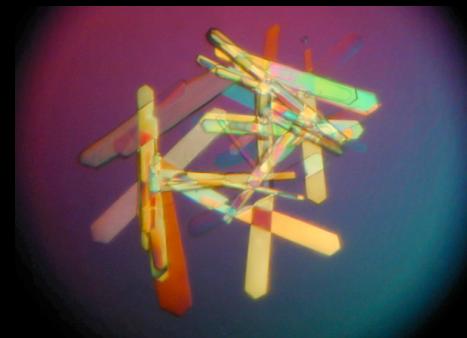


**Tobramycin**



**Kanamycin**

**4,6**



**Geneticin**

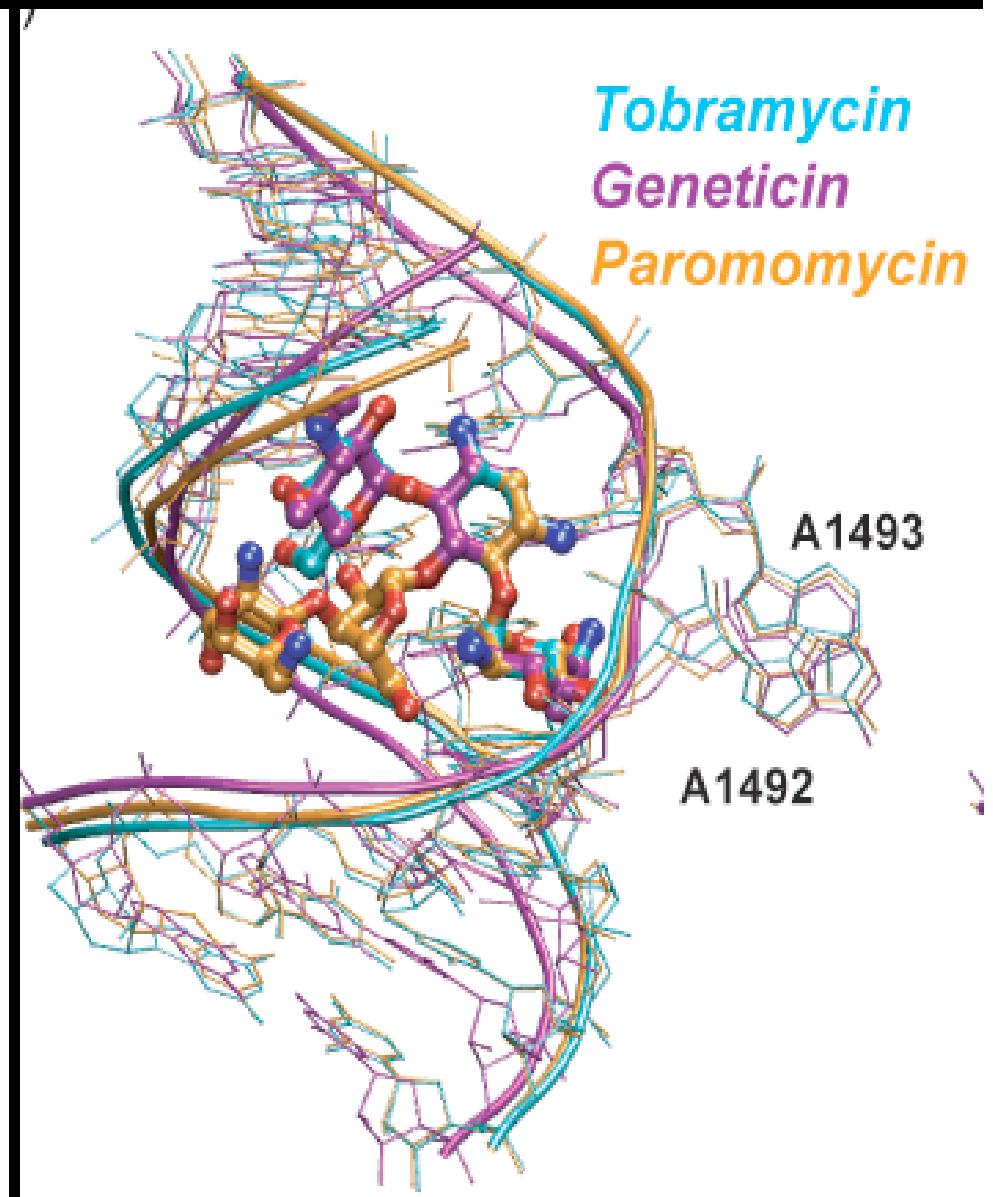


**Gentamicin C1a**

**4, Neamine**

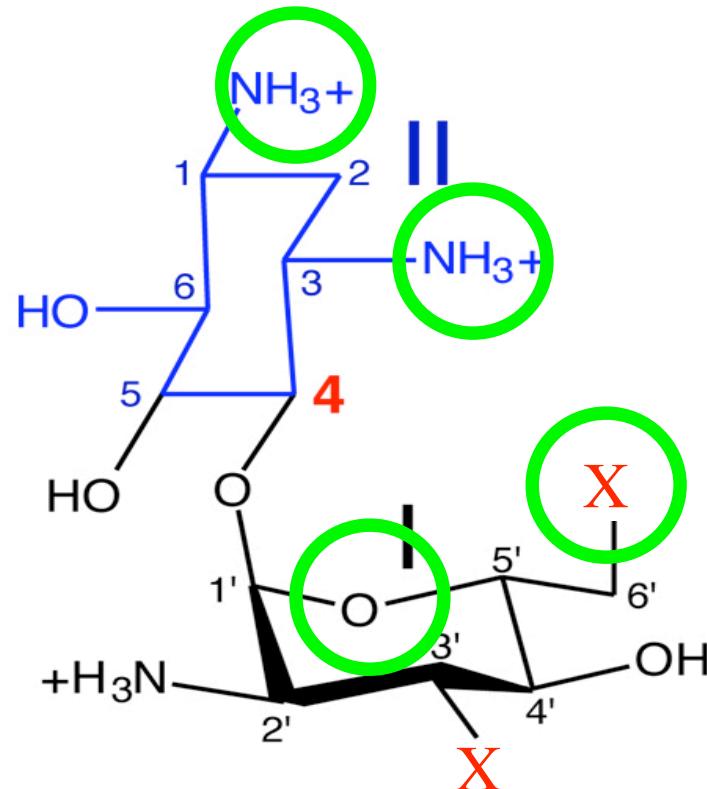
# *High sequence conservation > conservation of contacts*

	Conservation (%)
C · A <sub>1500</sub>	99.5
C A U	98.7
C — G	99.7
1405 G — C	98.9
U · U <sub>1495</sub>	99.0
C — G	99.0
A A	96.5
C — G	83.7 (A-U: 13.6)
1410 A — U <sub>1490</sub>	66.5 (G=C: 26.4)
C — G	79.4 (U-A: 17.8)
C — G	96.5 (U-A: 2.7)



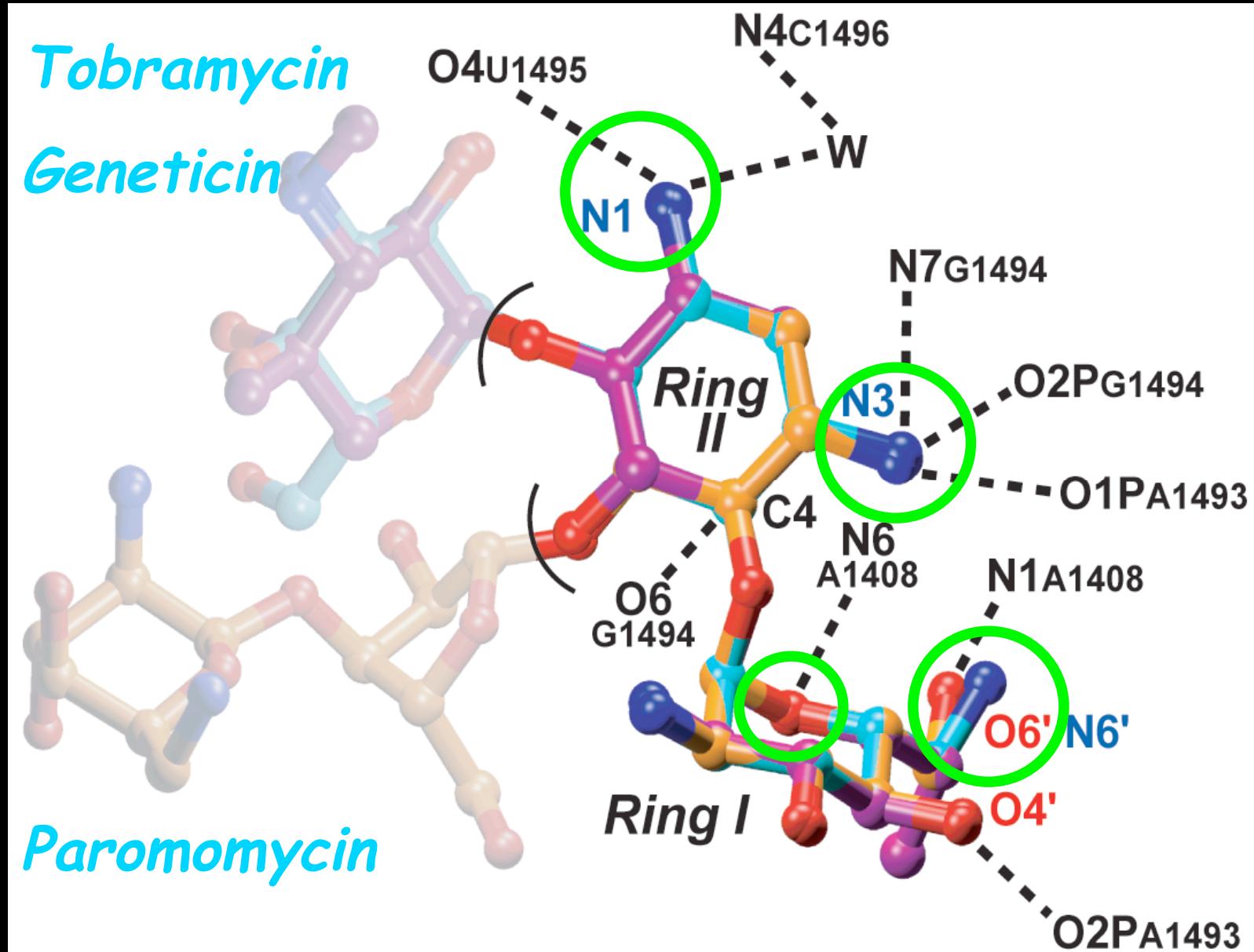
# *Aminoglycoside antibiotics*

(2-DOS) ring substituted at position 4



Neamine ring

# *Conserved interactions: the neamine ring*



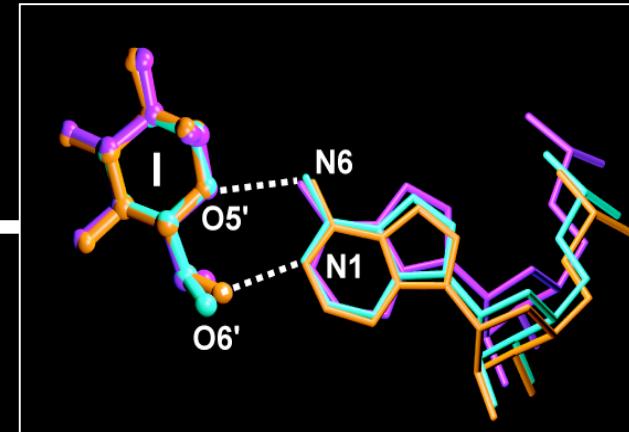
# Pseudo-base pair formation

Tobramycin

Geneticin

Paromomycin

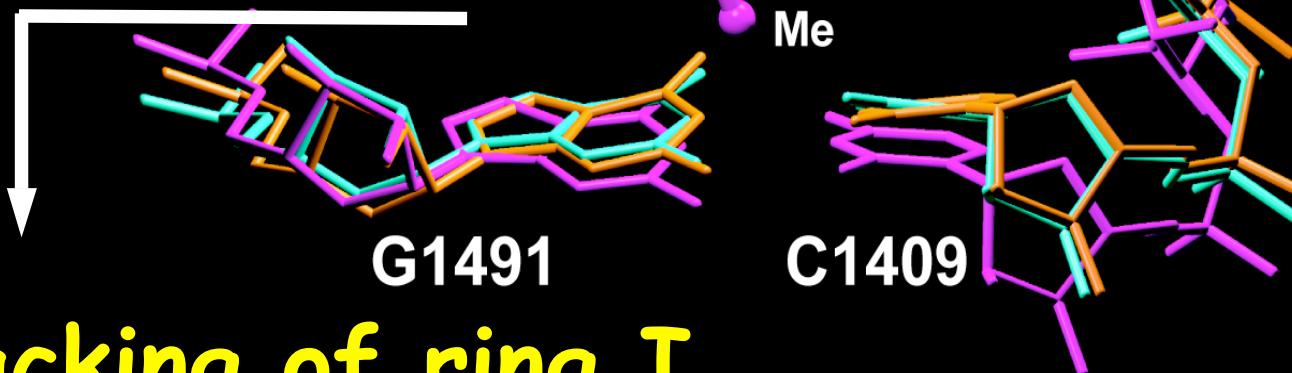
Ring II



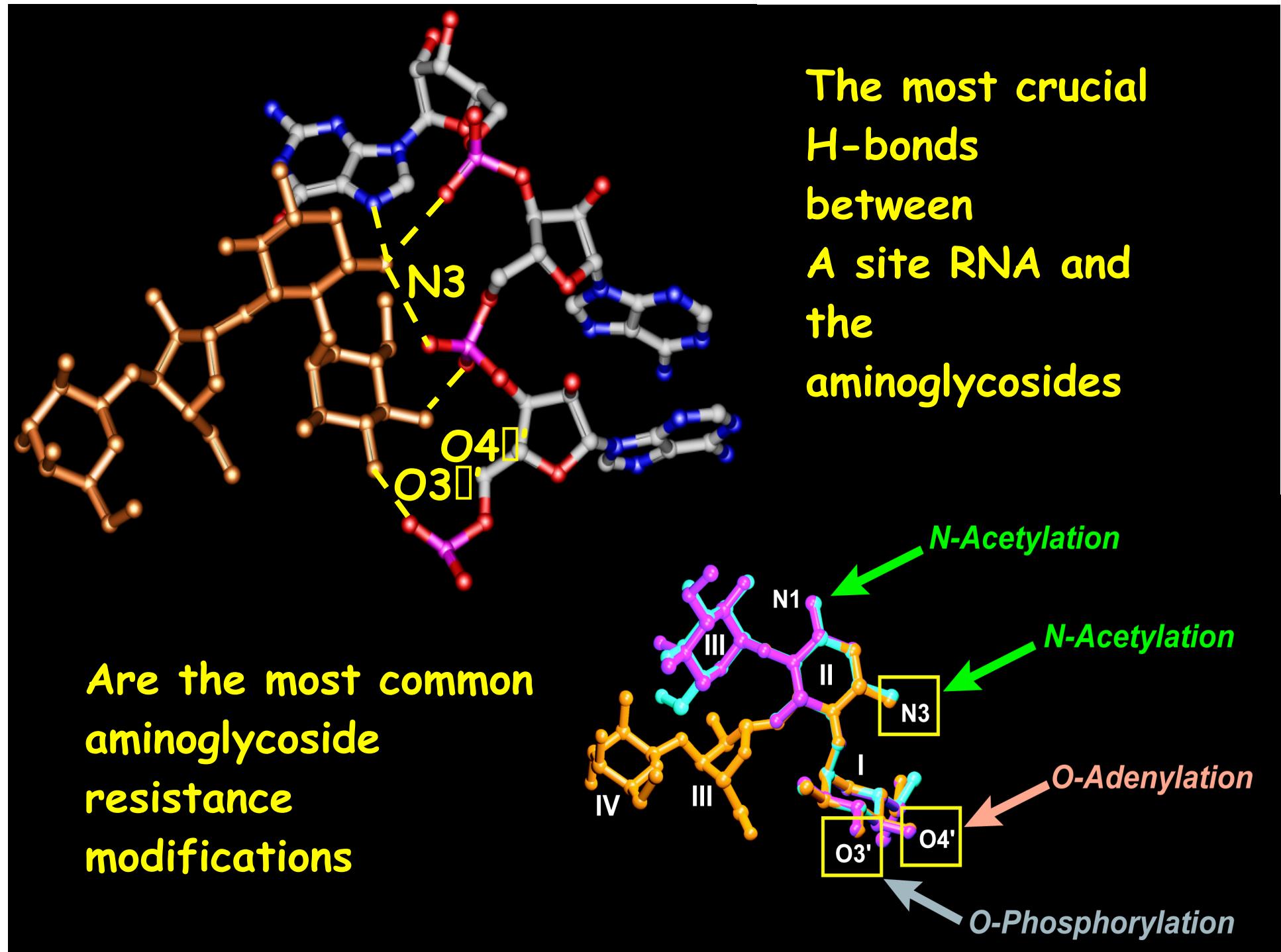
Ring I

A1408

Me

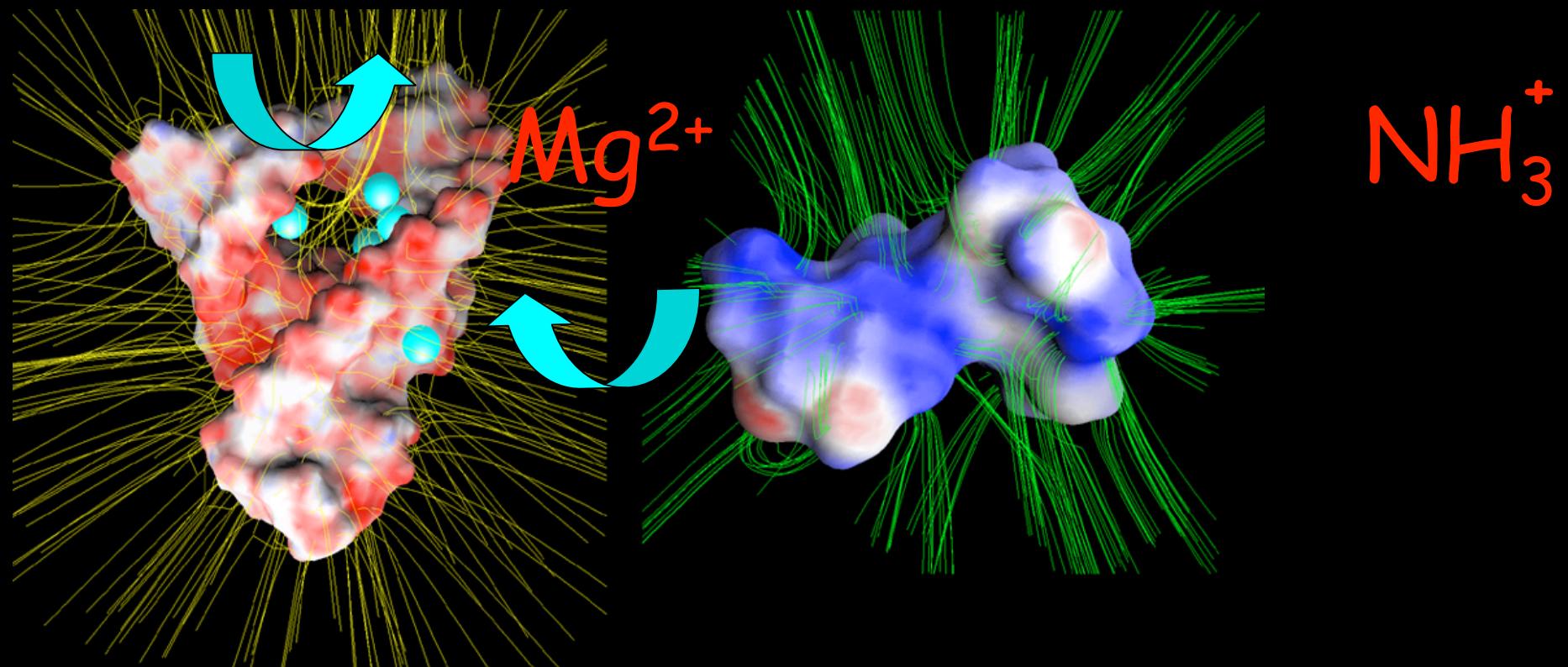


## Stacking of ring I



# Origins of the binding force ?

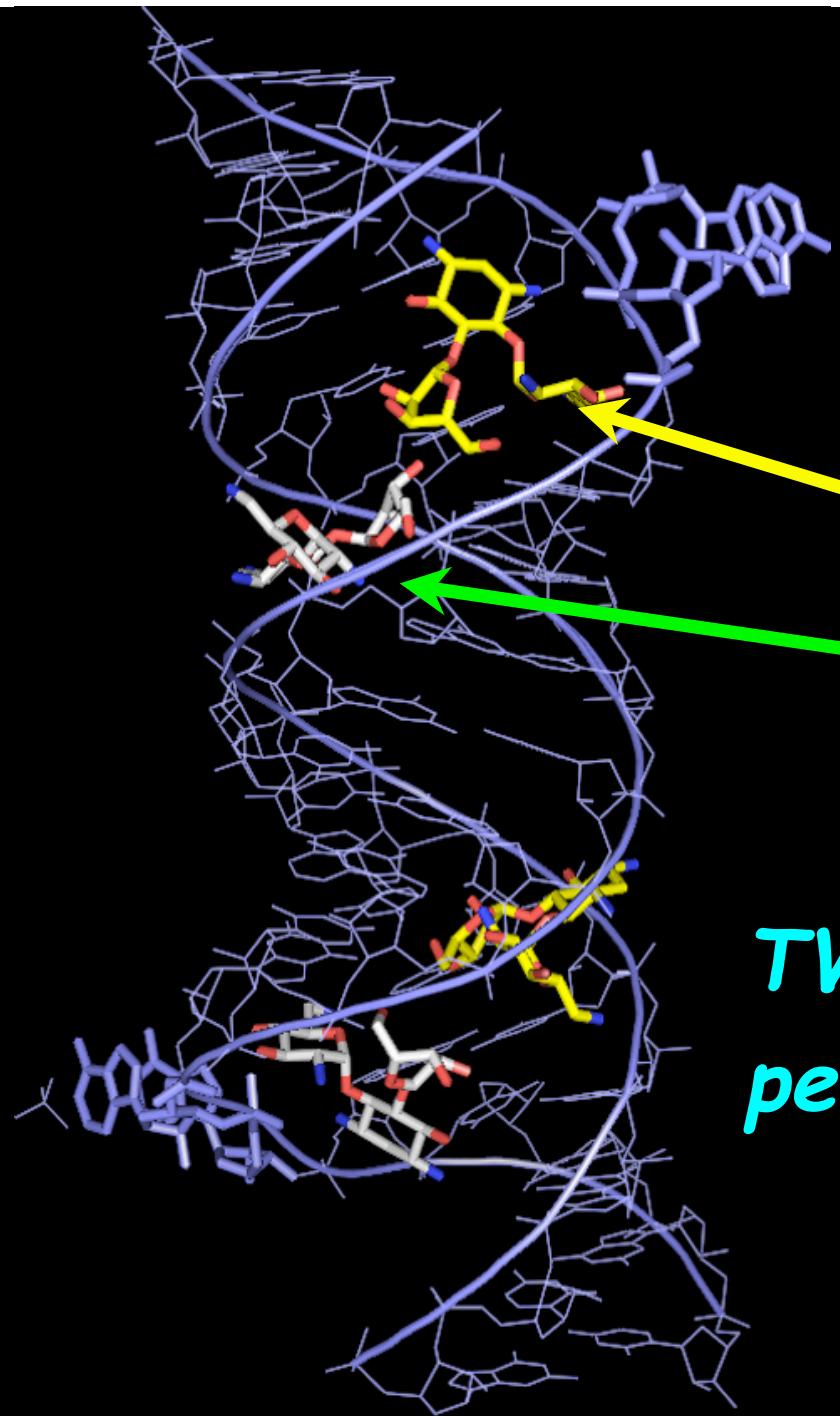
## Displacements of ions, waters... ?



RNA

Aminoglycoside

If the main driving force for  
binding is electrostatics  
what about  
specificity of binding ?

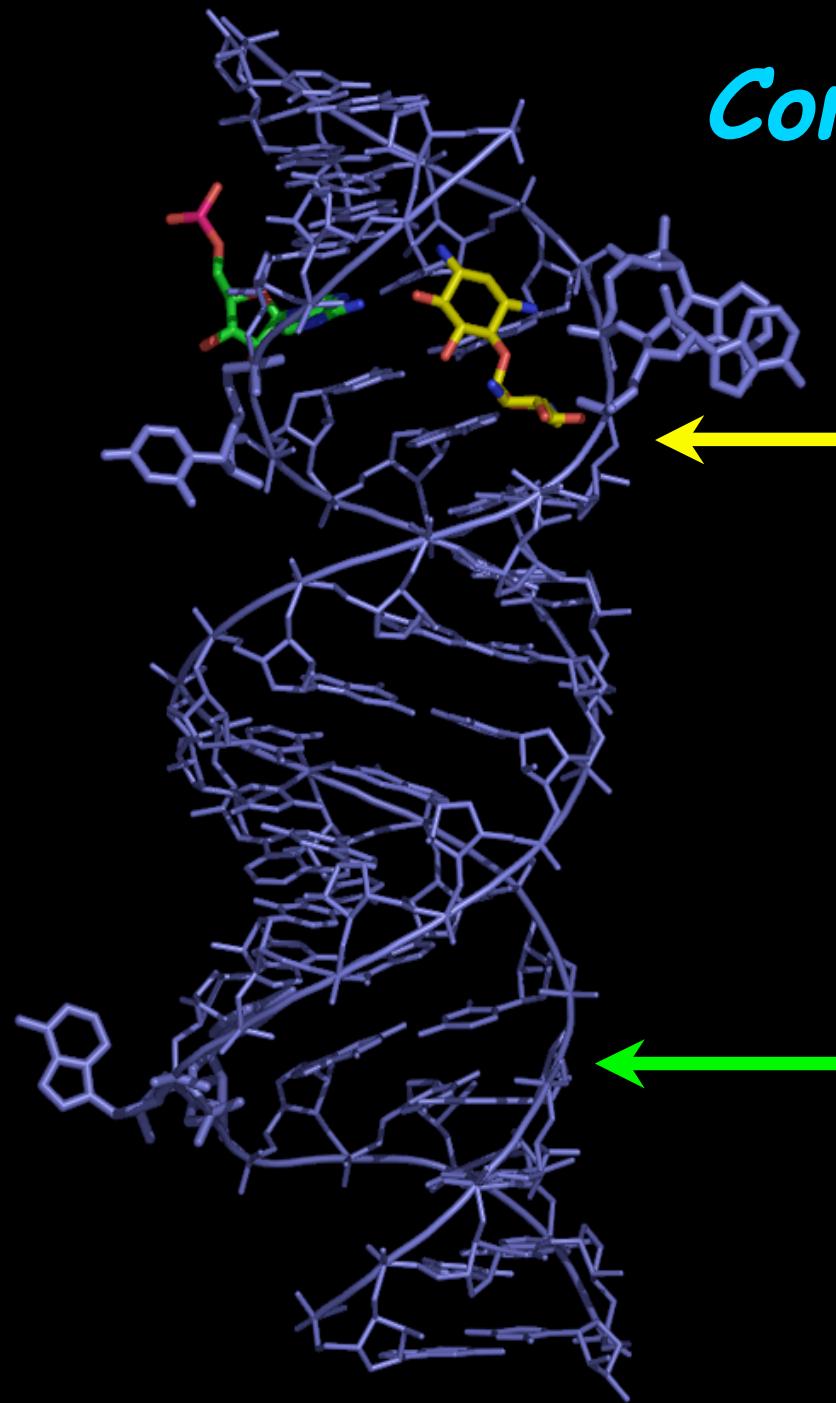


*Complex with  
ribostamycine*

*Specific site*

*Non specific site*

*TWO antibiotic molecules  
per A-site*

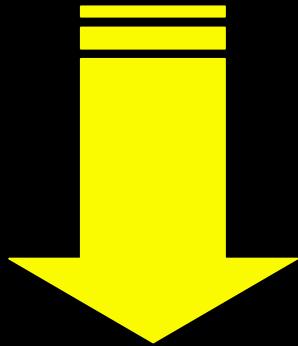


*Complex with neamine  
Recognition motifs*

*Filled site*

*Empty site*

# Differential occupations of the sites



The A site is in a dynamic  
Equilibrium

*How to reconcile these  
results  
with  
biological efficiency ?*

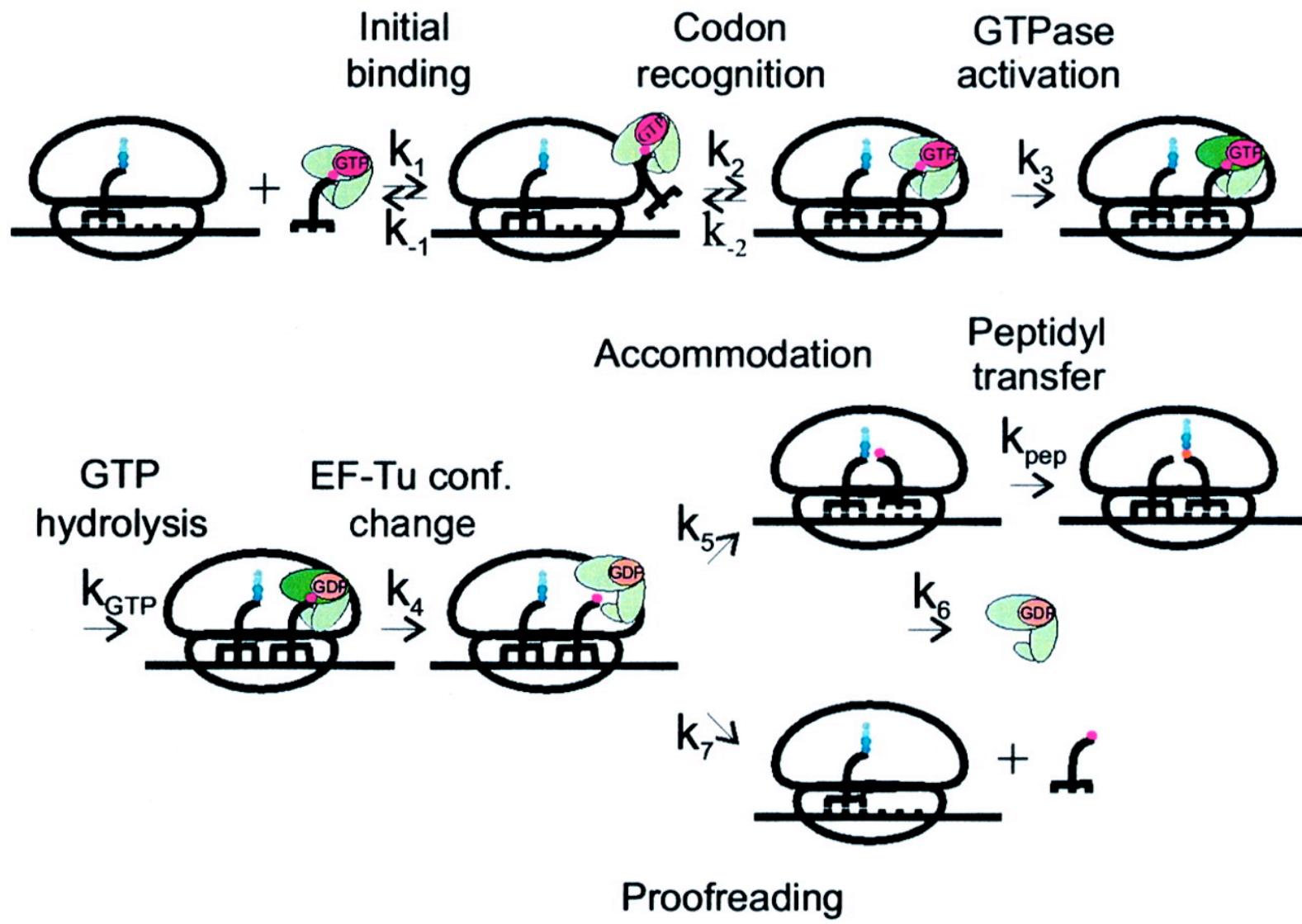
# Fidelity of decoding

---

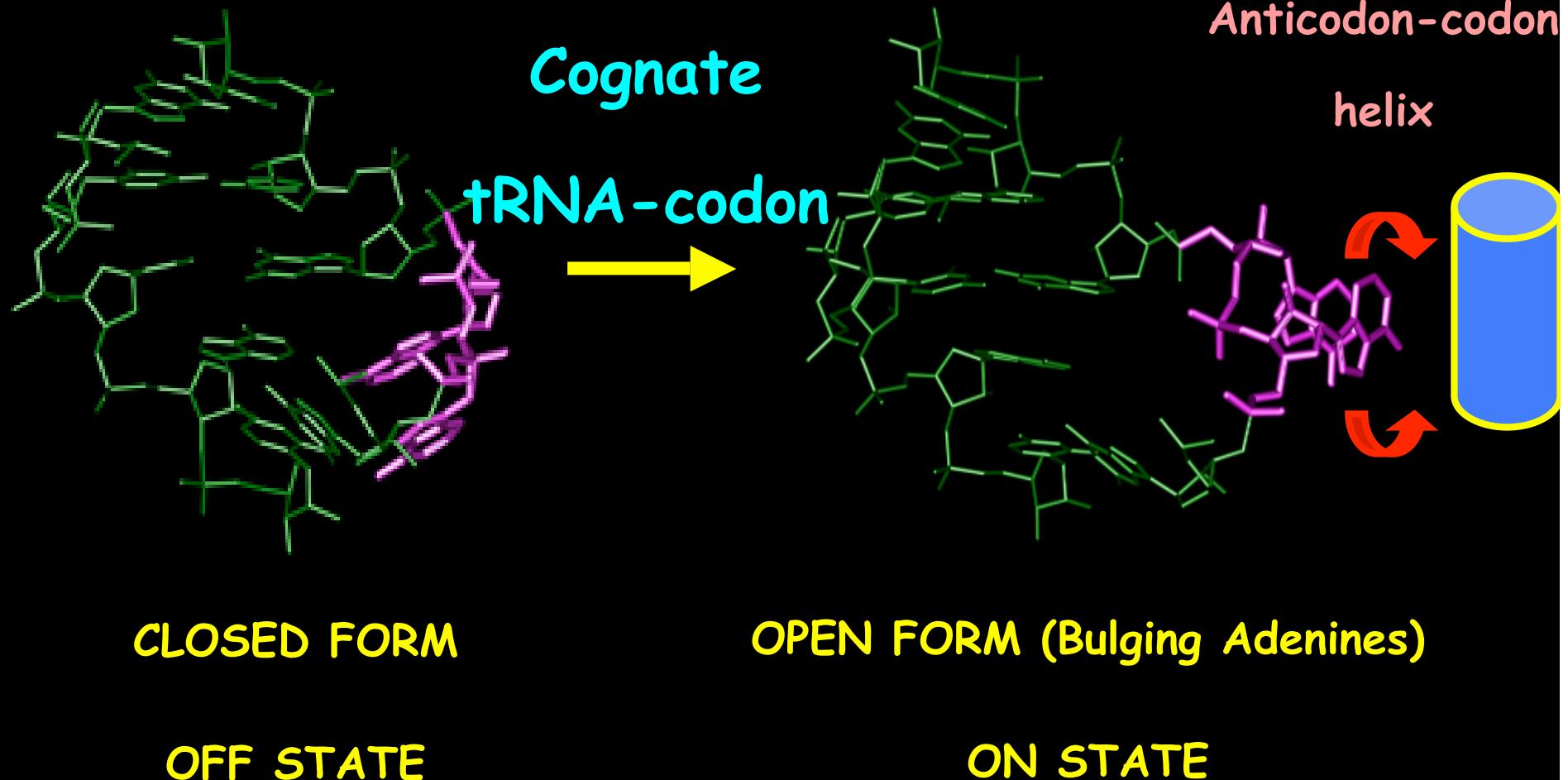
*Decoding = Discrimination between cognate and near- or non-cognate aa-tRNA*

- ◆ Decoding performed at the A site
- ◆ Selection depending on the base complementarity between codon (mRNA) and anticodon (aa-tRNA)
- ◆ Conformational change of the A site induced by cognate codon-anticodon duplex formation

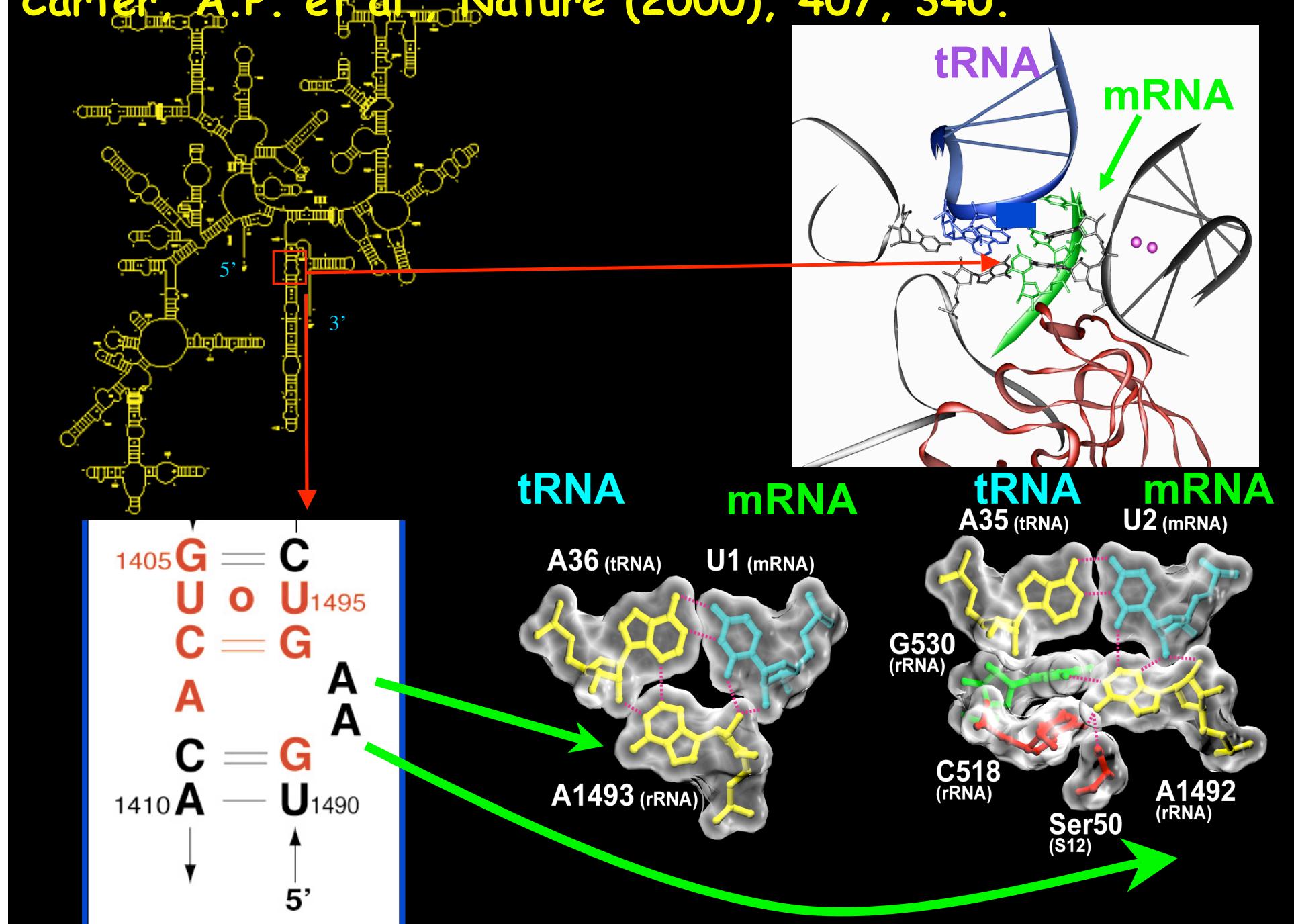
H. Noller, V. Ramakrishnan



# The A-site is a Molecular switch



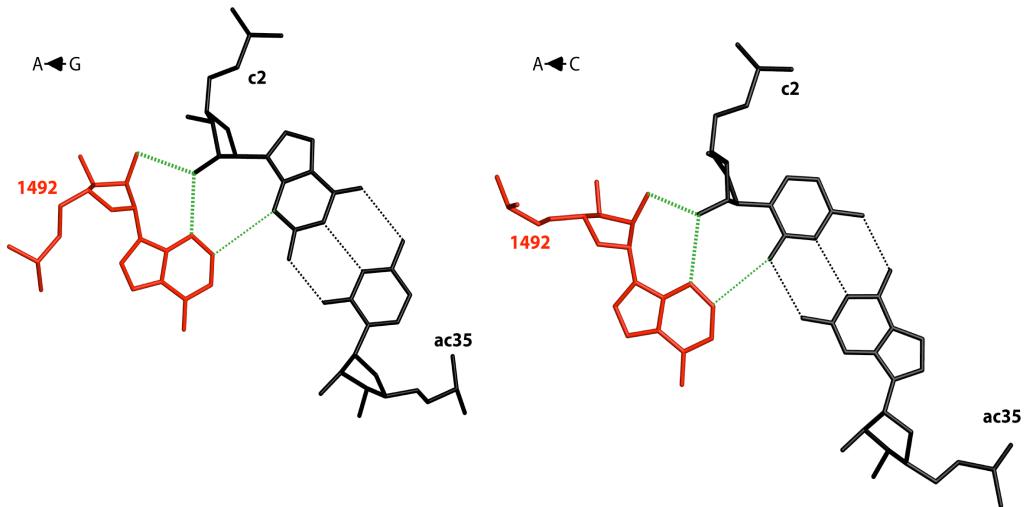
Carter, A.P. et al. Nature (2000), 407, 340.



**A1492**

*2nd codon base pair*

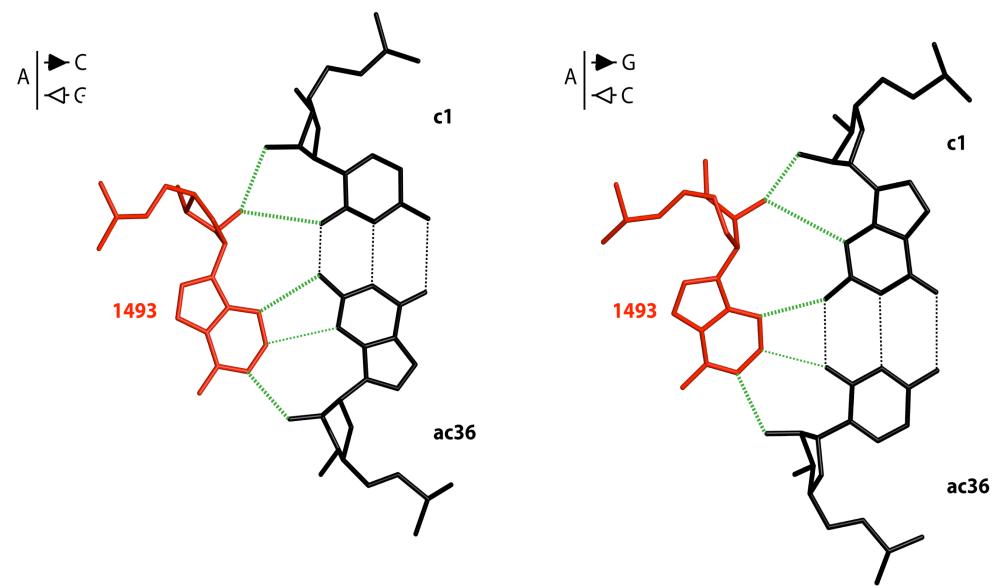
Type II : cis Sugar-edge/Sugar-edge



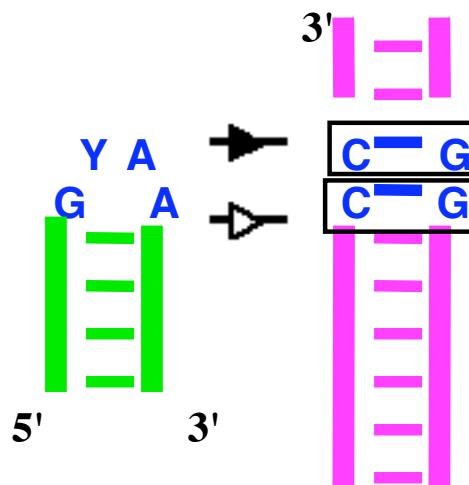
**A1493**

*1st codon base pair*

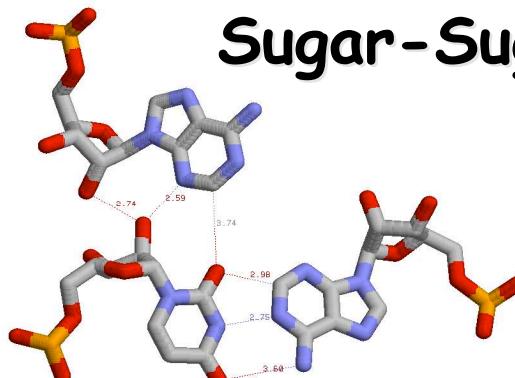
Type I: trans Sugar-edge/Sugar-edge



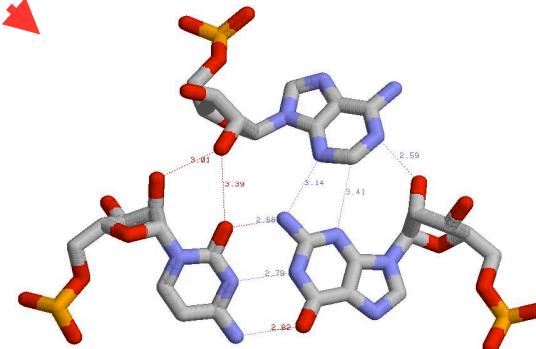
# *The most frequent RNA-RNA Recognition motifs*

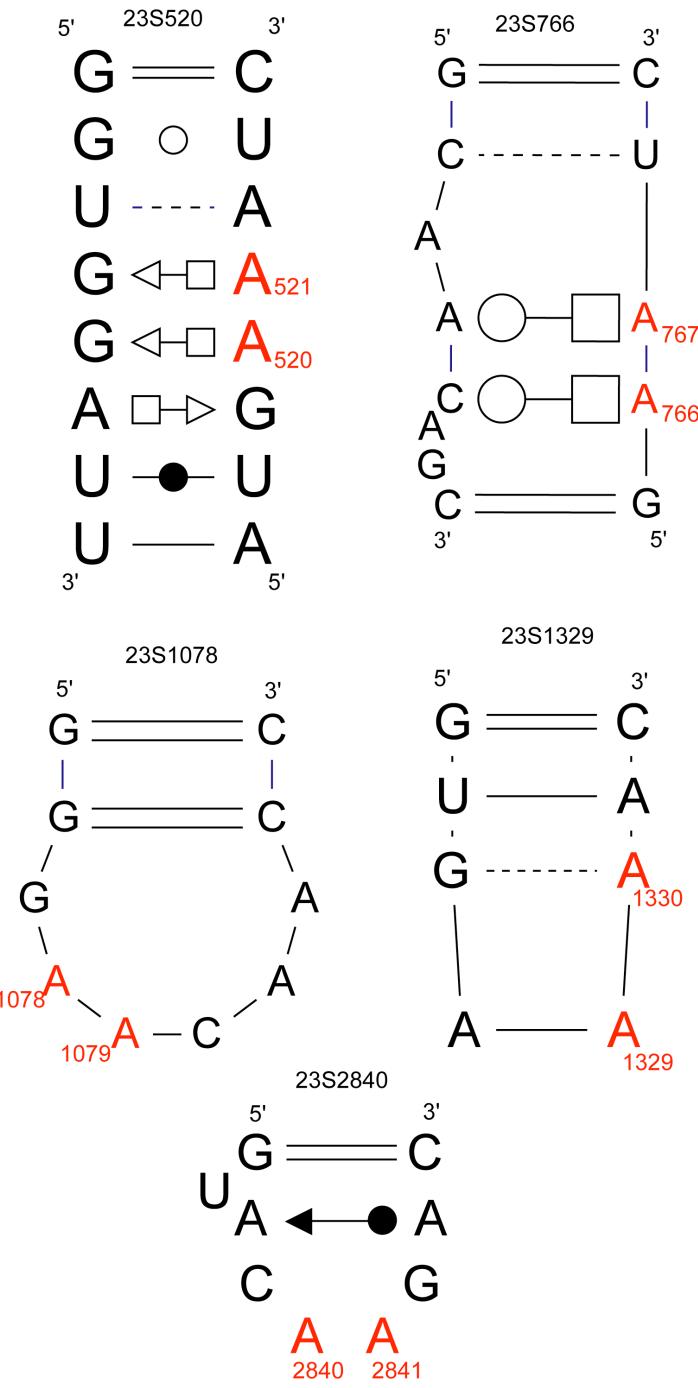


Type II  
Sugar-Sugar Cis

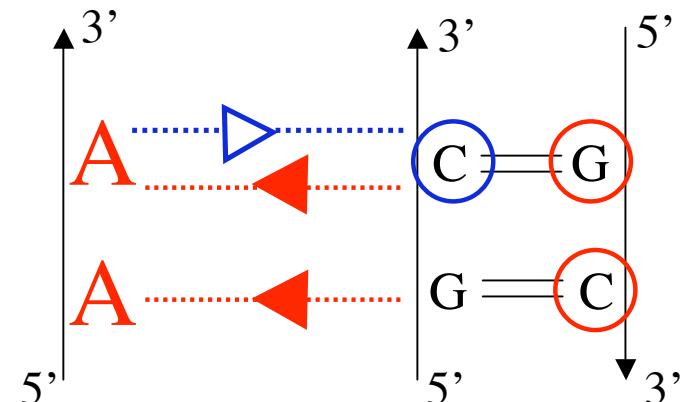


Type I  
Sugar-Sugar Trans





*Always the same base pairs with two adenines presented by various motifs*



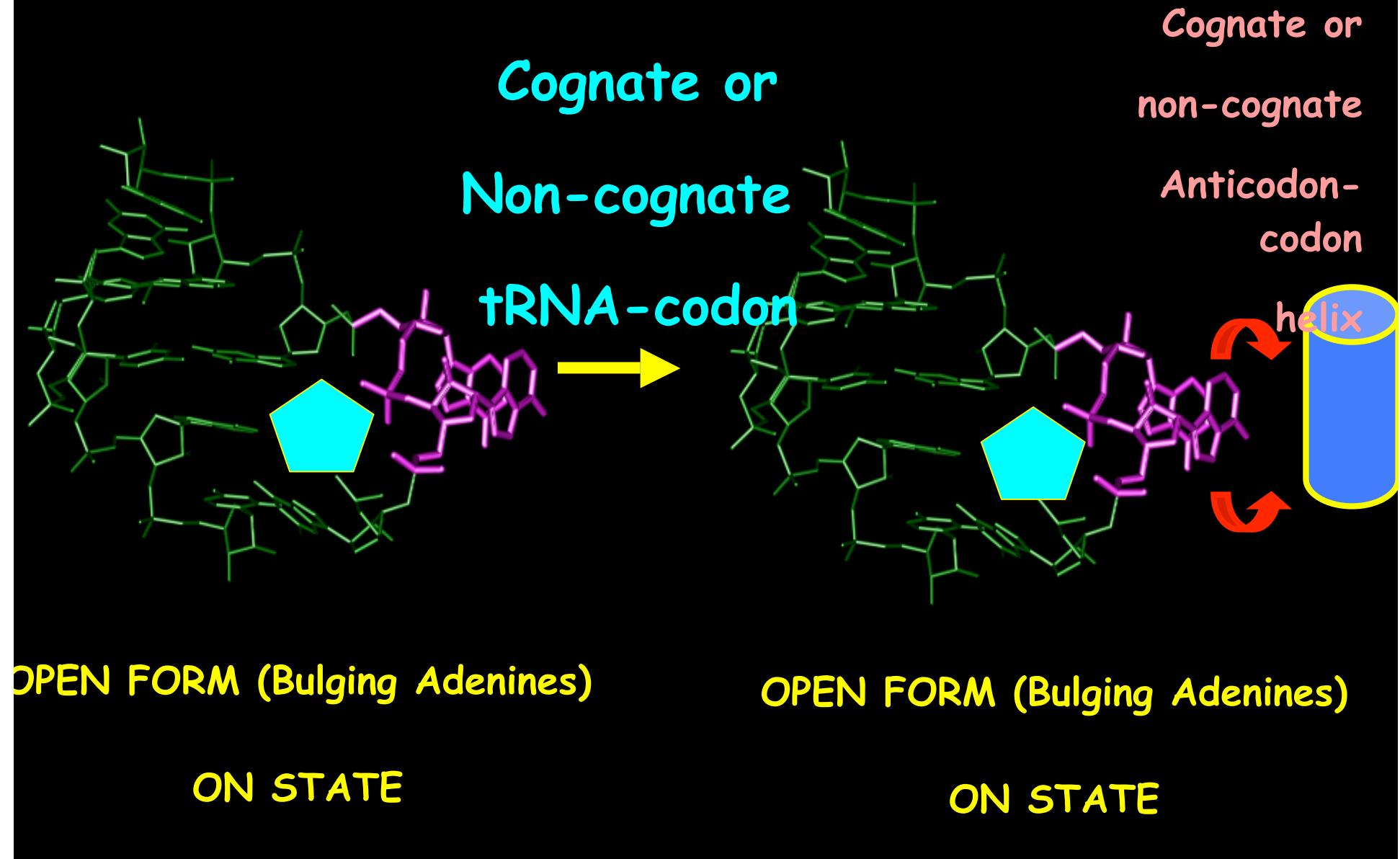
# Origins of the aminoglycoside-induced miscoding

Loss of control at the decoding site  
by mimicking correct cognate codon-anticodon interactions

Pape *et al.*, NSB (2000); Rodnina *et al.*, Biochimie (2002)

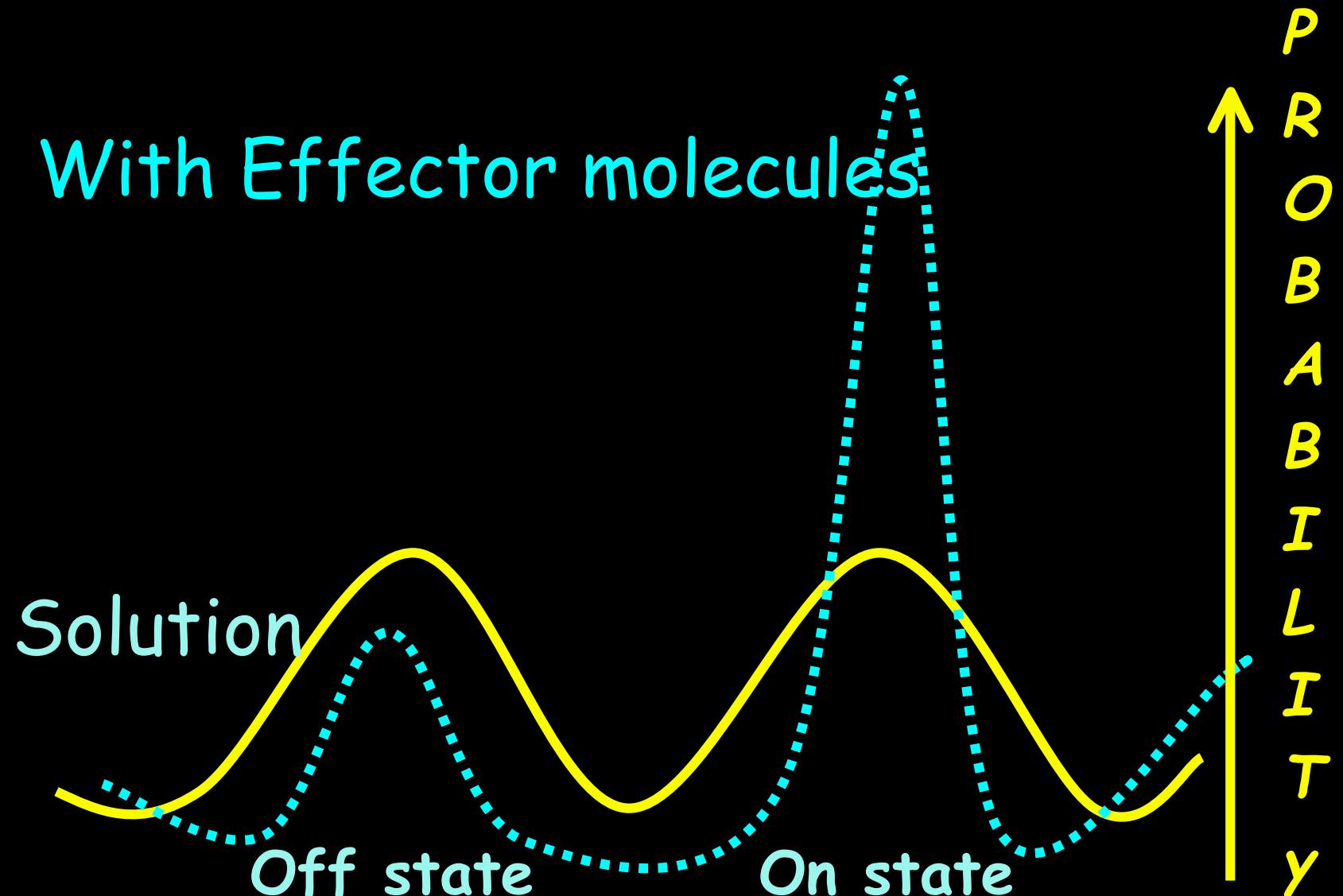
Ogle *et al.*, Science (2001)

The A-site Molecular switch is always 'on' in presence of aminoglycosides



# RNA as a molecular switch

With Effector molecules:

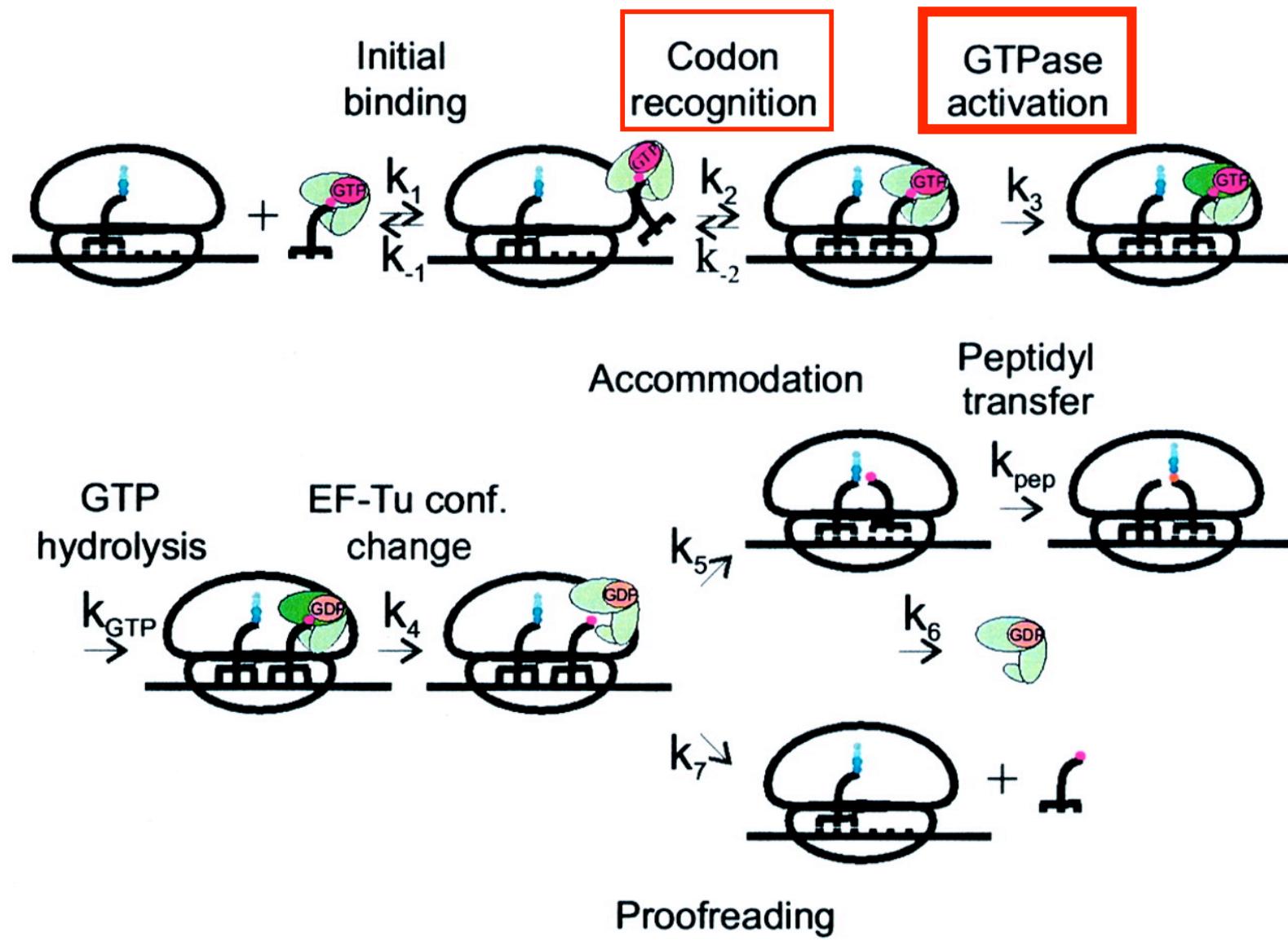


**Table.** Effects of paromomycin on the elemental rate constants of near-cognate (Leu) (Phe)<sub>a</sub> aa-tRNA binding to the A site.

Step		Rate constant (per s)	
		Near-cognate	Near-cognate + Paromomycin
Initial binding	$k_1$	$110 \pm 10^b$	$140^b$
	$k_{-1}$	$25 \pm 5$	$25$
Codon recognition			
	$k_2$	$100 \pm 20$	$37$
	$k_{-2}$	$17 \pm 8^d$	$3.5$
GTPase activation and GTP hydrolysis (e)			
	$k_3$	$50 \pm 20$	$>500$
GTP-GDP conformation change of EF-Tu			
	$k_4$	$50 \pm 20$	$6$
aa-tRNA accommodation and peptide bond formation (e)			
	$k_5$	$0.1 \pm 0.03$	$1$
Dissociation of EF-Tu			
	$k_6$	$2 \pm 1$	-
aa-tRNA rejection			
	$k_7$	$6 \pm 1$	$0.9$

<sup>b</sup> per  $\mu\text{M}/\text{s}$ .

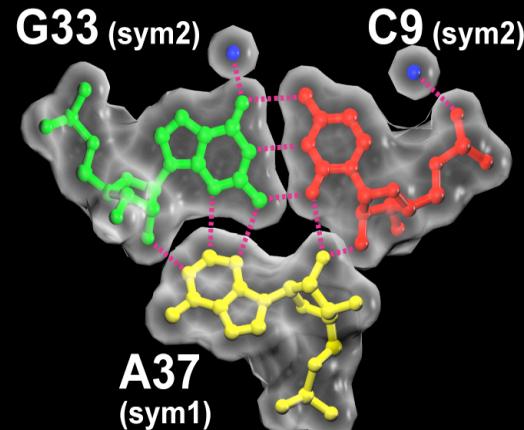
<sup>e</sup> Grouped for analysis, because the former reaction is rate limiting.



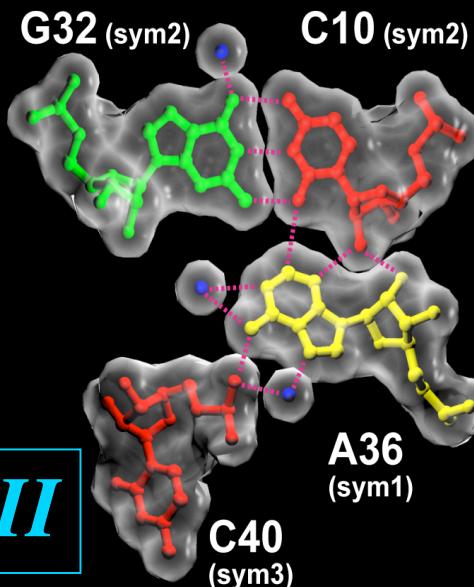
Can we develop new  
antibiotics less prone to  
resistance and toxicity ?

# Mimicry of the codon-anticodon recognition by the rRNA

*Geneticin*

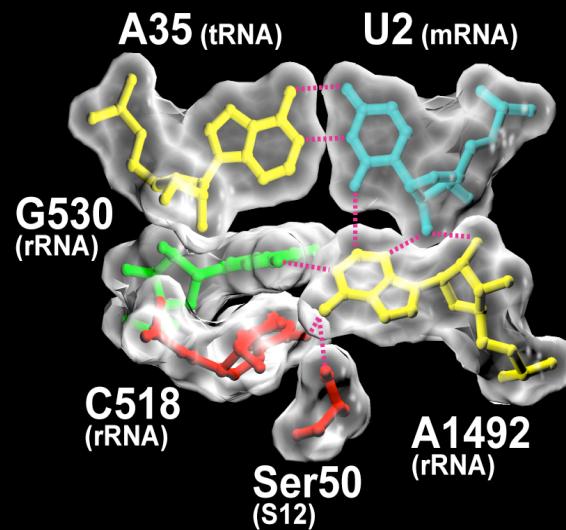
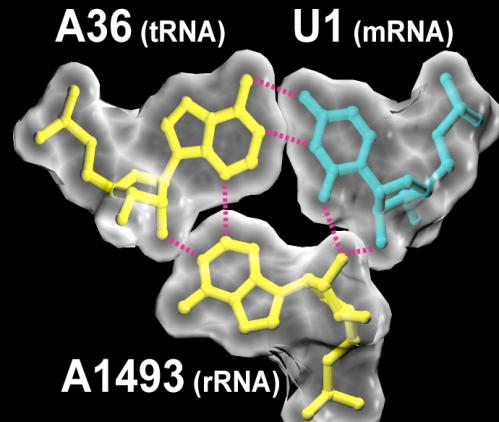


*Type I*

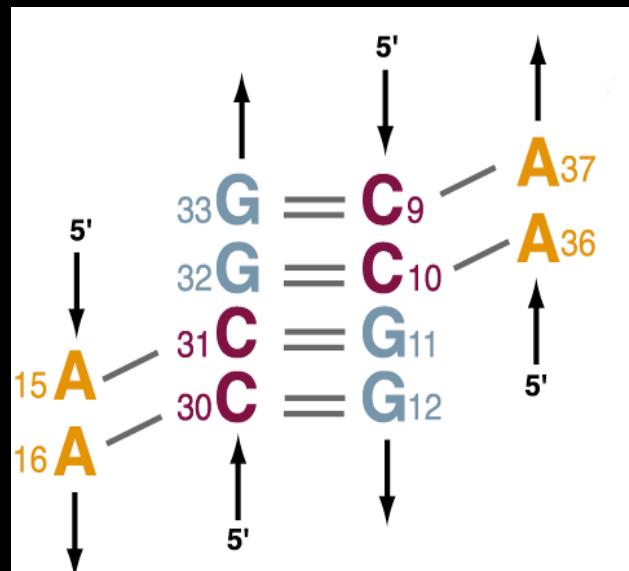
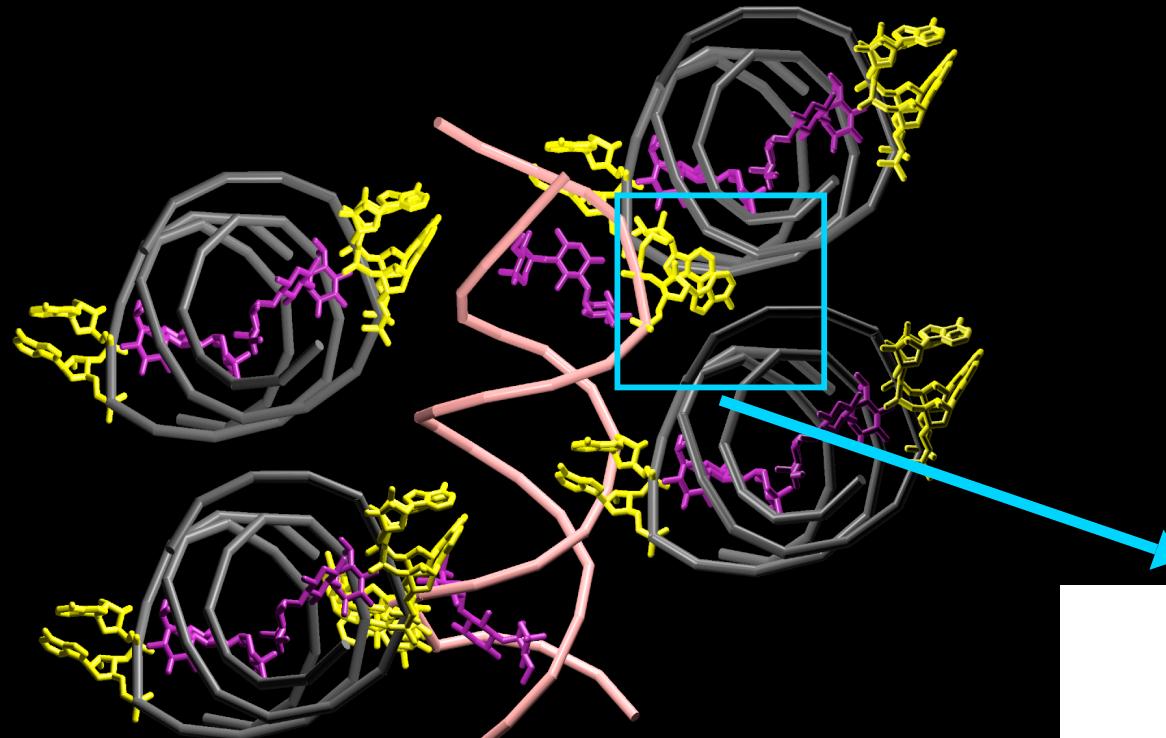


*Type II*

*30S ribosomal particle*



# Crystal packing interactions



Use of crystallization  
as a drug screening  
process

# TOWARDS NON-NATURAL ANTIBIOTICS

