Analysis of translating mitoribosome reveals functional characteristics of protein synthesis in mitochondria of fungi

Yuzuru Itoh[1,2†], Andreas Naschberger[1†], Narges Mortezaei[1†], Johannes Herrmann[3] and A. Amunts[1,2]*

[1]Science for Life Laboratory, Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics, Stockholm University, 17165 Solna, Sweden

[2]Department of Medical Biochemistry and Biophysics, Karolinska Institutet, 17165 Solna, Sweden

[3]Cell Biology, University of Kaiserslautern, Erwin-Schrödinger-Straße 13, 67663 Kaiserslautern, Germany

† These authors contributed equally to this work.

* email: amunts@scilifelab.se

Abstract

Mitoribosomes have been specialized for protein synthesis in mitochondria. While it is established that mitoribosomes differ between species, a reference model from the Fungi kingdom is missing, and the structural basis for the mitoribosomal function is not understood. We report models of the translating fungal mitoribosome with mRNA, tRNA and nascent polypeptide, as well as an assembly intermediate, determined from cryo-EM maps at overall resolution of 2.98-3.09 Å. Most of the rRNA expansion segments were modeled, and five additional associated proteins were identified. Mitochondria-specific mS27 is found to have a function of linking two expansion segments. Collectively, the expanded rRNA and mitochondria-specific protein elements coordinate binding of nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD) in the central protuberance of the large subunit and the ATPase inhibitory factor 1 (IF$_1$) in the small subunit. The models of the active fungal mitoribosome explain how mRNA binds through a dedicated protein platform on the small subunit, tRNA translocated with the help of newly identified protein mL108, bridging it with L1 stalk on the large subunit, and nascent polypeptide paths through the exit tunnel involving a series of conformational rearrangements. Finally, an assembly intermediate is found and modeled with the maturation factor Atp25, providing insight into the biogenesis of the mitoribosomal large subunit and translation regulation.

Proteins synthesis in mitochondria supports bioenergetics of eukaryotic cells and executed by dedicated mitoribosomes. Cryo-EM has been instrumental in revealing the first structural snapshots of mitoribosomes. While for mammals the obtained models from human embryonic kidney cells (Brown, Amunts et al. 2014, Amunts, Brown et al. 2015) are in agreement with those from porcine and bovine tissues (Greber, Boehringer et al. 2014, Greber, Bieri et al. 2015), the structure of the mitoribosome from the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* displayed considerable specializations (Amunts, Brown et al. 2014, Desai, Brown et al. 2017, Petrov, Wood et al. 2019). Particularly, it proposed a distinct composition and putative deviations in the functionally defining features of translation, including an expanded mRNA channel exit and rerouted polypeptide exit channel.

Although the cryo-EM data is informative, the deviations of the mitoribosome from a single-celled *S. cerevisiae* that lacks complex I cannot be considered as a prototypic example, but more likely species-specific. In addition, the available models are incomplete due to the limited resolution. Functionally, since the models were derived from dormant mitoribosomes, without tRNA bound to mRNA and nascent polypeptide, the mechanism of action and roles of specific proteins could not be understood. Therefore, in the absence of high-resolution structural information of translating mitoribosome, key questions regarding mitochondrial translation remain open. To provide a representative reference for studying protein synthesis in the mitochondria of fungi, and to reveal how the mitoribosome functions in coordination with its translation partners, we determined structures of the translating mitoribosome from the representative fungal model organism *Neurospora crassa*.

Model organism

N. crassa has been recognized as the organism used for answering a variety of fundamental biological questions (McCluskey and Baker 2017), including the seminal demonstration of the one-gene, one-enzyme hypothesis (Beadle and Tatum 1941), construction of a densely populated genetic map (David D. Perkins 1962), and cytogentic markers (Perkins, Radford et al. 2001). Being an established model organism, it was also the first among the filamentous fungi, which genome was sequenced of (Galagan, Calvo et al. 2003). Since then, *N. crassa* serves as a model organism for the areas of cell biology and physiology, including in analysis of the endogenous circadian rhythm (Baker, Loros et al. 2012) that is tightly associated with mitochondrial activity (de Goede, Wefers et al. 2018).

Specifically in the field of the mitochondrial translation, the pioneering research that has established the field was performed with *N. crassa*. This includes early characterization of the physicochemical properties of the mitoribosomes and the base composition of its rRNA (Kuntzel and Noll 1967), the finding that mitoribosomal intactness requires a relatively high magnesium concentration (Kuntzel 1969), studies showing radioactive amino acid incorporation into mitoribosome (Neupert, Sebald et al, 1969), the finding that Oxa1 facilitates integration of mitochondrially encoded proteins into the inner membrane (Nargang, Preuss et al. 2002), and the first evolutionary analysis of the mitoribosome (van der Sluis, Bauerschmitt et al. 2015).

75 Following these considerations, to provide a reference for the process of protein synthesis in
76 mitochondria, we set to investigate the translating mitoribosome from the model organism
77 filamentous fungus *N. crassa*.

Structure determination

In order to characterize a representative functional mitoribosome, the *N. crassa* mycelia of the
strain K5-15-23-1 overexpressing the protein Oxa1 (Nargang, Preuss et al. 2002) were grown
aerobically, and translation was stalled using chloramphenicol prior to harvesting. The mycelium
was dried, lysed with mortar and pestle, and the mitoribosomes were purified as described previ-
ously (Aibara, Andréll et al. 2018), and subjected to cryo-EM analysis. The cryo-EM consensus
map was obtained from 131,806 particles at overall resolution of 2.86 Å (Supplementary Fig. 1),
representing a considerable improvement of the published data from *S. cerevisiae*.

The 3D classification resulted in two reconstructions of the mitoribosome corresponding to the
ratcheted and non-ratcheted states (Supplementary Fig. 1). After subtracting the mitoribosome
signals outside the tRNA binding sites, followed by focus 3D classifications, we obtained three
distinct classes of mitoribosome with a tRNA occupying P-site (P/P), E-site (E/E), and in the hy-
brid P/E state, at the overall resolutions of 3.05, 3.09, and 2.98 Å, respectively (Supplementary
Fig. 1). In the P/P and P/E tRNA states, we detected and modeled co-purified native mitochon-
drial mRNA, and the density corresponding to the nascent polypeptide was identified.

To further improve the local resolution, focused masked refinements were performed using the
masks for the mtLSU core, central protuberance (CP), L1 stalk, L10m region, mtSSU head, body
and tail (Supplementary Fig. 1). Consequently, the resolution was improved to ~2.50-3.40 Å
throughout most of the regions. The quality of the maps allowed building the most complete
available model, including identification of five proteins previously missed: uL1m, uL10m,
uL11m, mL53 and mL54; two newly identified mitoribosomal proteins: mL108 and the ATP syn-
thase inhibitory factor 1 (IF$_1$); and 60 proteins with higher completeness, as well as the rRNAs
(Figs. 1 and 2).

We noted that mitoribosomes from actively growing *N. crassa* mycelia contain a pool of free
mtLSU, which resembles the profile of assembly intermediate reported from the mitochondria of
human embryonic kidney cells (Brown et al. 2017). Unlike the mtLSU in the intact mitoribo-
some, this population missing the density for bL9m, but has an extra factor Atp25 bound to
uL14m, and a poor density at the interface consistent with unfolded mt-rRNA. The quality of the
structural data allowed analyzing the differences with the mature mtLSU, and propose a putative
regulatory mechanism.

Overall structure and new features

111 The fungal mitoribosome consists of 78 different proteins (Fig. 1, Table S2-S3), 23S and 16S
112 rRNAs. The proteins mS42 and IF$_1$ are found in two copies as homodimers. 48 bacterial
113 orthologs are extended, and 30 proteins are mitochondria specific (Supplementary Fig. 2). For the

rRNA, we modeled 16 expansion segments (ES), 15 of which are in the mtLSU (Supplementary
Figs. 3 and 4), and several other rRNA regions have been reduced. The deletion in the mtDNA
genome are not correlated with a specific functional feature or attributed to selective loss/gain of
activity, but rather reflect a general reductive phase in the mitochondrial genome (van der Sluis,
Bauerschmitt et al. 2015). For the native mitochondrial tRNAs (P/P, P/E, E/E states) and mRNA,
we modeled sequences that fit the corresponding densities the best, because those densities repre-
sent a mixture of different tRNAs and mRNAs in mitochondria.

Figure 1: Structure of the fungal mitoribosome and new features. a, Overall structure of the
complete mitoribosome and its subunits with indicated mitoribosomal proteins. **b,** Superposition
of the correctly built mS27 the previous model (PDB ID: 5MRC) assigned as mS44 and unknown

α-helical protein B. **c,** Newly identified mitoribosomal component IF$_1$ homodimer bound to h44-
ES1 and uS17m extension. **d,** NAD binding pocket in the CP formed by uL5m, mL40, and H84-
ES3. **d,** Newly identified mitoribosomal component mL108, located in the L1 stalk, shown with
its density. **e,** Nucleotide binding pocket of mS29 bound with chemically favorable ATP shown
with its density.

Some of the improvements in the model due to the high-resolution map are exemplified in
Figures 1. We identified protein mS27 directly from the density, and it occupies the positions of
the previously mis-assigned protein mS44 and '*unknown α-helical protein B*' (Fig. 1b,
Supplementary Fig. 5). Another example is the protein mS29 that was reported as a GTPase
involved in apoptosis, and mutations in the P-loop motif of the nucleotide binding pocket were
suggested to impair this function (Kim, Maiti et al. 2017). In the nucleotide pocket of mS29,
which was previously modeled with guanosine diphosphate (GDP), we can see at the local
resolution of 2.77 Å that the density for N2 purine ring atom is missing, and the correct
assignment for the nucleotide is adenosine triphosphate (ATP) (Fig. 1e, Supplementary Fig. 6).
This is further supported by the better resolved chemical environment formed by Leu150 of
mS29, which would be incompatible with guanine since the O6 carbonyl of guanine imparts
repulsive interaction with the backbone carbonyl of Leu150 (acceptor with acceptor), and the
NH1 group of guanine forms a second repulsive interaction with the backbone NH group of
Leu150 (donor with donor). Placing an ATP instead of GDP leads to favorable interactions.

In the CP, we found NAD in the binding pocket formed by mL40, uL5m, and rRNA H84-ES3
(Fig. 1d). Positively charged residues of mL40 and uL5m interact with the negatively charged
NAD phosphates. The pyridine ring of the nicotinamide is held in place by π-stacking on the base
pair of A2755 and U2759. Arg295 of mL40 forms π-stacking at the other side of the NAD
pyridine. Therefore, NAD bridges the mitoribosomal proteins and the mt-rRNA at the core of CP.
This implies regulatory function in the assembly of the mtLSU based on the local NAD level.

The natural inhibitor of the mitochondrial ATP synthase IF$_1$ is bound to the mtSSU tail as a
homodimer, which is its active state (Fig. 1). IF$_1$ inhibits the ATP synthase activity by inserting
its N-terminal part into the catalytically active F$_1$ domain, thereby blocking its rotational
movement and subsequently its hydrolase and synthase activities (Esparza-Molto, Nuevo-
Tapioles et al. 2017). The mtSSU-bound IF$_1$ was identified directly from the density, due to the
characteristic coiled-coil homodimerization of the C-terminal helix and side-chain fitting. It binds
to the rRNA h44, mS27, and the C-terminal extension of uS17m that forms a helical bundle with
the coiled-coil (Supplementary Fig. 7). A metal ion Mg^{2+} bridges a backbone phosphate of h44
with side chains of uS17m and IF$_1$. The topology of IF$_1$ is such that N- and C-termini of each
monomer point in the opposite direction: one towards the mtSSU body, and the other towards the
solvent. The latter appears to have a similar conformation to the canonical binding on the ATP
synthase. The mtSSU rRNA h44 is expanded and coordinated by uS17m extension, which
suggests that IF$_1$ has been acquired through the mechanism of 'structural patching' to stabilize
the rapidly evolving growth (Petrov, Wood et al. 2019). Functionally, IF$_1$ may link the biogenesis
of mitoribosome to the ATP synthesis assembly and inhibition.

Mechanism of mRNA binding involving a dedicated protein platform

Focused classifications on the tRNA binding sites yielded structures of three distinct classes with bound tRNA in P/P, P/E, E/E (Supplementary Fig. S1). The quality of the density allowed us to generate structural models for the translating mitoribosomal complexes with P/P and P/E tRNAs. The presence of tRNAs correlates with additional density lining the mRNA channel path, where well resolved map allowed modeling 10 nucleotides of the native mRNA. The codon-anticodon base pairings are observed in the density of the P/P and P/E states (Fig. 2). The decoding center is conserved, including the position of the flipped-out bases A1803 (A918 in *E. coli*), A1804 (A919) and G756 (G530), as well as the curvature in mRNA around h28. In addition to the modeled mRNA nucleotides in the channel, bulky density extends upstream to the channel entry and downstream to its exit. Therefore, the map allows us to determine how mRNA binds to the mitoribosome and to trace its complete path.

The reference point to the channel entry is the universal site formed by uS3m, uS4m and uS5m. Compared to the previously determined structures of bacterial complex, mRNA contacts mitochondria-specific mS35 as well. However, the density for the mRNA chain starts prior the conventional entry. Particularly, following the density, we observe extended structure involving mitochondria-specific extensions of uS3m and uS5m that are held together at the mtSSU head by mS35 and mS46 (Fig. 2a). This architecture is coupled to the mRNA terminus, thereby suggesting a dedicated platform for its loading on to the mitoribosome. The formed loading platform narrows the entry site considerably, ensuring that the mRNA entering the channel is unpaired.

The channel exit site typically resides at the 3′ end of the rRNA. In the fungal mitoribosome, it has not been significantly altered. The remodeling reported in *S. cerevisiae* does not occur, and therefore represents either a dormant state or species-specific feature. In addition to the conserved proteins, mitochondria-specific mS23, mS26 and mS37 shape the path for mRNA movement (Fig. 2c). C-terminal extension of uS7m narrows the channel, and mitochondria-specific proteins interact with the mRNA density directly. The path toward the exit appears to divaricate, and each subway could in principle accommodate a single stranded mRNA. However, the density for the 5′ mRNA clearly follows only the path lateral to mS26 that is also surrounded by a positively charged chemical environment. Protein bS1, which is considered to be one of the most conserved and ancient protein domains with functional importance of unfolding mRNAs for active translation (Qu et al. 2012), is permanently bound to the channel exit (Fig. 3c).

Figure 2: The mRNA channel traced with the density. a, The density for mRNA (red) reveals a protein platform formed by mS35, mS46 and extensions of uS3m and uS5m that serves to load the mRNA onto the mtSSU. **b,** The overall path taken by mRNA is indicated based on the additional density associated with mtSSU, and codon-anticodon base pairings at the decoding center shown with density. **c,** At the exit site, mitochondria-specific proteins are in contact with mRNA, and bS1 is permanently bound. Putative alternative path is indicated.

Mechanism of tRNA translocation involving a new protein in L1 stalk

During translation, tRNAs are translocated between the three sites. Upon peptide-bond formation, the ribosomal subunits rotate with respect to each other, and the tRNA moves to the intermediate hybrid state. The structure comparison between the complexes with P/P and P/E tRNAs reveals sequential rearrangements in the network of mitoribosome-tRNA interactions and allows us to determine how tRNA is translocated.

Figure 3: The L1 stalk and translocation of tRNA. a, 3D reconstructions of the three tRNA bound states. **b,** The L1 stalk in the P/E tRNA state with the proteins uL1m and mL108. The insertion domain of uL1m interacts with an expansion of H82 in the CP. **c,** Superposition of the tRNA states showing the movement of tRNAs through the inter-subunit space. P/P, P/E, and E/E states are colored green, orange, and red, respectively. The E/E tRNA is show with transparency for clarity. **d,e,f,** The tRNAs and the L1 stalk in the P/P (D), P/E (E), and E/E (F) states. The N-terminal loop of mS29 interacts only to the P/E tRNA.

In the P/P state the anticodon of the tRNA forms base pairing with the mRNA in the conserved P-site of the mtSSU (Fig. 3d). Further stabilization is provided by the conserved C-terminal Arg15 of uS9m, which forms salt bridges with the backbone phosphates in the anticodon loop of the tRNA. The conserved H69 of mtLSU interacts with the D-arm of the tRNA. The conformation of P/P tRNA is overall similar to bacteria. The A-site finger, known as a functional attenuator and important for keeping the correct reading frame (Komoda, Sato et al. 2006), takes in a straight conformation forming the inter-subunit bridge B1a. The conserved G2453 and G2454 of the P-loop form base pairs with the CCA terminus of the tRNA and the emerging peptide is bound to the terminal A76, waiting for peptidyl transfer to the next incoming aminoacyl-tRNA at the A-site. Thus, the arrangement of structural elements and tRNA in mitochondria of fungi shows conserved P-site.

After peptide transfer occurs, the ribosomal subunits move relative to each other forming ratcheted conformation coupled with tRNA translocation, which is represented by our P/E hybrid structure. In the ratcheted conformation, the L1 stalk moves to a closed conformation toward the deacylated tRNA in the P/E hybrid state (Fig. 3). By masked refinement on L1 stalk, we improved the density that allowed building its complete model for the first time in any mitoribosome (Supplementary Fig. 3). We identified additional protein component, namely mL108 (Fig. 1 and 2d), which is unprecedented occurrence in cytoplasmic counterparts. The core

of the protein shows a thioredoxin-like fold, which belongs to a small folding family including mS25, mL43, and the complex I subunit NDUFA2/B8. All these proteins are specific to mitochondria, bearing the possibility of a shared evolutionary origin. The protein mL108 interacts with both the L1-stalk rRNA and the protein uL1m (Fig. 3b). Furthermore, it forms a new inter-subunit bridge with a long C-terminal helix (Fig. 3d-f).

The bases A2381 and C2348 of the stalk rRNA stack on the elbow of the P/E tRNA (Fig. 3e). Unlike in bacteria, uL1m does not interact with the P/E tRNA, instead the insertion domain of uL1m changes its conformation to form a mitoribosome specific interaction with H82-ES1 in the CP in the ratcheted state (Fig. 3b). Therefore, the subunit rotation is synchronized with the L1 stalk movement during tRNA translocation. The terminal adenosine of the P/E tRNA inserts between the conserved G2873 and A2874 at the E site (Fig. 3e). The anticodon arm of the tRNA remains located in the P site forming the codon-anticodon base pairing with the mRNA, resulting in distorted conformation, to swing the acceptor arm into the E-site. The disordered N-terminal extension of mS29 gets structured in the ratcheted state and inserts into the groove of the anticodon stem of the P/E tRNA, suggesting mitochondria-specific regulation of the translation mechanism. The long C-terminal helix of mL108 reaches down to the mtSSU, applying additional stabilization of the L1 stalk.

Upon back rotation of the mtSSU into the non-ratcheted E/E state, the L1 stalk moves outwards assisting to pull the P/E tRNA into the E/E state, allowing dissociation into the solvent to complete the translocation cycle (Fig. 3f). The protein uL1m thereby detaches from the CP, releasing the insertion domain of uL1m. The tip of the C-terminal helix of mL108 translates ~20 Å forming a new bridge with mtSSU by slightly changing its curvature. This structural rearrangement during mtSSU rotation suggests for a mitochondria-specific ratchet sensing mechanism that coordinates the movement of the mtSSU rotation via mL108 to the L1 stalk.

Taken together, the data enables to derive a mechanism for the tRNA translocation describing a series of key conformational changes of the mitoribosomes and its ligands. First, the L1 stalk interacts with mtSSU through mL108 thereby sensing the rotation state. This leads to the inward moving of the rRNA part of the L1 stalk to interact with the tRNA. The insertion domain of uL1m stabilizes the conformation through the mitochondria-specific interactions with the CP, and mS29 N-terminal loop becoming ordered and stabilizes the tRNA in the P/E state, which is disrupted in the following E/E state.

Visualization of mtLSU-Atp25 assembly intermediate suggests regulatory mechanism

During 3D classification, we recognized a minor population of the particles corresponding to the isolated mtLSU, and subsequent processing resulted in 3.03 Å resolution reconstruction from 24,142 particles. Fitting the mtLSU model revealed an extra density that appears as a protein element forming heterodimer with uL14m. In addition, rRNA at the interface (38-ES2, H63, H67-71, H80, 82-ES6, H101, PTC) appears as unfolded (Fig. 5a). Further, the L1 stalk changes

to conformation that is more flexible and the density for bL9m next to L1 stalk is absent, whereas
all the other mtLSU proteins are present (Fig. 5b).

We identified the extra density as Atp25, an ortholog of the bacterial ribosome silencing factor
(Rsf), for which there is no high-resolution structural information in complex with a ribosome
(Häuser, Pech et al. 2012, Li, Jiang et al. 2015). Its human mitochondrial counterpart MALSU1
has been shown to involve late assembly stages (Rorbach, Gammage et al. 2012, Brown, Rathore
et al. 2017). The *Atp25* sequence codes for 699 amino acids, including the targeting sequence, N-
terminal part related to Rsf/MALSU1, and C-terminal part called the M-domain. In *S. cerevisiae*,
the M-domain is cleaved during mitochondrial import (Woellhaf, Sommer et al. 2016), to form a
separate functional protein that stabilizes the mRNA of the ATP synthase subunit Atp9p (Zeng,
Barros et al. 2008). The gene fusion is suggested to have evolved in order to prevent off target
effects of Atp25 on the cytosolic ribosomes prior entry to mitochondria (Woellhaf, Sommer et al.
2016). We modeled 186 residues Atp25 on the mitoribosome, confirming the function in the
assembly of the mtLSU.

Visualization of the mtLSU-Atp25 complex provides structural basis for the assembly pathway
and insight into possible regulation of translation in mitochondria. Atp25 presents only in the
class with the missing bL9m and unfolded interfacial rRNA that affects the L1 stalk. In the
mature mitoribosome, bL9m is anchored at the base of the L1 stalk near the E-site, which is
stabilized through tertiary interactions with the rRNA. Therefore, the recruitment of bL9m
requires specific L1 stalk conformation that is interdependent with rRNA folding, including the
PTC. Indeed, ribosomes purified from bL9-deficient strain of *E. coli* show increased
susceptibility to aminoglycosides (Naganathan, Wood et al. 2015), and the folding of the PTC is
among the last maturation events (Li, Chen et al. 2013, Jomaa, Jain et al. 2014). Furthermore,
bacterial ribosomes lacking bL9 exhibit increased frameshifting (Atkins, Loughran et al. 2016,
Herr, Nelson et al. 2001, Seidman Janssen et al. 2011), for which the molecular mechanism has
been proposed recently through transiently stalled compacted ribosomes (Smith, Costello et al.
2019).

Atp25 bound to uL14m sterically obstruct the binding of the mtSSU by preventing the formation
of bridge B8 with its globular domain (Fig. 5c). The steric block spans ~25 Å, would clash with
h14 of rRNA and the N terminus of mS26 of the mtSSU. Therefore, the eviction of Atp25 must
take place during the final stages of maturation to alleviate the steric hindrance on subunit
joining. A similar mechanism was proposed for eIF6 in the cytoplasmic translation apparatus,
where protein factor SBDS senses the structural integrity of the functional sites before the
displacement (Weis, Giudice et al. 2015). Our data imply that since this is a prerequisite step for
the folding of interfacial mt-rRNA into a native-like conformation, it is also a requirement for the
binding of bL9m. This shows that bL9m attachment is mechanistically regulated during the
assembly of the mitoribosome. Since bL9 suppresses frameshifting in bacteria, the structure of
the mtLSU-Atp25 lacking bL9m suggests regulation of frameshifting in mitochondrial
translation, which might be important for fidelity and reflects an adaptation to the mitochondrial
mRNAs.

References

Aibara S, Andréll J, Singh V, Amunts A (2018). "Rapid Isolation of the Mitoribosome from HEK Cells." J Vis Exp **4**;(140).

Atkins JF, Loughran G, Bhatt PR, Firth AE, Baranov PV (2016). "Ribosomal frameshifting and transcriptional slippage: From genetic steganography and cryptography to adventitious use." Nucleic Acids Res **44**(15): 7007-78.

Afonine, P. V., B. K. Poon, R. J. Read, O. V. Sobolev, T. C. Terwilliger, A. Urzhumtsev and P. D. Adams (2018). "Real-space refinement in PHENIX for cryo-EM and crystallography." Acta Crystallogr D Struct Biol **74**(Pt 6): 531-544.

Altschul, S. F., W. Gish, W. Miller, E. W. Myers and D. J. Lipman (1990). "Basic local alignment search tool." J Mol Biol **215**(3): 403-410.

Amunts, A., A. Brown, X. C. Bai, J. L. Llacer, T. Hussain, P. Emsley, F. Long, G. Murshudov, S. H. W. Scheres and V. Ramakrishnan (2014). "Structure of the yeast mitochondrial large ribosomal subunit." Science **343**(6178): 1485-1489.

Amunts, A., A. Brown, J. Toots, S. H. W. Scheres and V. Ramakrishnan (2015). "Ribosome. The structure of the human mitochondrial ribosome." Science **348**(6230): 95-98.

Baker, C. L., J. J. Loros and J. C. Dunlap (2012). "The circadian clock of Neurospora crassa." FEMS Microbiol Rev **36**(1): 95-110.

Ban, N., R. Beckmann, J. H. Cate, J. D. Dinman, F. Dragon, S. R. Ellis, D. L. Lafontaine, L. Lindahl, A. Liljas, J. M. Lipton, M. A. McAlear, P. B. Moore, H. F. Noller, J. Ortega, V. G. Panse, V. Ramakrishnan, C. M. Spahn, T. A. Steitz, M. Tchorzewski, D. Tollervey, A. J. Warren, J. R. Williamson, D. Wilson, A. Yonath and M. Yusupov (2014). "A new system for naming ribosomal proteins." Curr Opin Struct Biol **24**: 165-169.

Beadle, G. W. and E. L. Tatum (1941). "Genetic Control of Biochemical Reactions in Neurospora." Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A **27**(11): 499-506.

Brown, A., A. Amunts, X. C. Bai, Y. Sugimoto, P. C. Edwards, G. Murshudov, S. H. W. Scheres and V. Ramakrishnan (2014). "Structure of the large ribosomal subunit from human mitochondria." Science **346**(6210): 718-722.

Brown, A., S. Rathore, D. Kimanius, S. Aibara, X. C. Bai, J. Rorbach, A. Amunts and V. Ramakrishnan (2017). "Structures of the human mitochondrial ribosome in native states of assembly." Nat Struct Mol Biol **24**(10): 866-869.

David D. Perkins, Merle Glassey, and , Barbara A. Bloom (1962). "New data on markers and rearrangements in Neurospora." Can J Genet Cytol. **4**: 187–205.

de Goede, P., J. Wefers, E. C. Brombacher, P. Schrauwen and A. Kalsbeek (2018). "Circadian rhythms in mitochondrial respiration." J Mol Endocrinol **60**(3): R115-R130.

de la Rosa-Trevín JM, Quintana A, Del Cano L, Zaldívar A, Foche I, Gutiérrez J, Gómez-Blanco J, Burguet-Castell J, Cuenca-Alba J, Abrishami V, Vargas J, Otón J, Sharov G, Vilas JL, Navas J, Conesa P, Kazemi M, Marabini R, Sorzano CO, Carazo JM (2016). "Scipion: A software framework toward integration, reproducibility and validation in 3D electron microscopy." J Struct Biol **195**(1): 93-9.

De Silva, D., Y. T. Tu, A. Amunts, F. Fontanesi and A. Barrientos (2015). "Mitochondrial ribosome assembly in health and disease." Cell Cycle **14**(14): 2226-2250.

DeLano, W. L. (2002). "Pymol: An open-source molecular graphics tool. ." CCP4 Newsletter On Protein Crystallography **40**: 82-92.

Desai, N., A. Brown, A. Amunts and V. Ramakrishnan (2017). "The structure of the yeast mitochondrial ribosome." Science **355**(6324): 528-531.

Emsley, P. and K. Cowtan (2004). "Coot: model-building tools for molecular graphics." Acta Crystallogr D Biol Crystallogr **60**(Pt 12 Pt 1): 2126-2132.

Esparza-Molto, P. B., C. Nuevo-Tapioles and J. M. Cuezva (2017). "Regulation of the H(+)-ATP synthase by IF1: a role in mitohormesis." Cell Mol Life Sci **74**(12): 2151-2166.

Funes, S., F. E. Nargang, W. Neupert and J. M. Herrmann (2004). "The Oxa2 protein of Neurospora crassa plays a critical role in the biogenesis of cytochrome oxidase and defines a ubiquitous subbranch of the Oxa1/YidC/Alb3 protein family." Mol Biol Cell **15**(4): 1853-1861.

Galagan, J. E., S. E. Calvo, K. A. Borkovich, E. U. Selker, N. D. Read, D. Jaffe, W. FitzHugh, L. J. Ma, S. Smirnov, S. Purcell, B. Rehman, T. Elkins, R. Engels, S. Wang, C. B. Nielsen, J. Butler, M. Endrizzi, D. Qui, P. Ianakiev, D. Bell-Pedersen, M. A. Nelson, M. Werner-Washburne, C. P. Selitrennikoff, J. A. Kinsey, E. L. Braun, A. Zelter, U. Schulte, G. O. Kothe, G. Jedd, W. Mewes, C. Staben, E. Marcotte, D. Greenberg, A. Roy, K. Foley, J. Naylor, N. Stange-Thomann, R. Barrett, S. Gnerre, M. Kamal, M. Kamvysselis, E. Mauceli, C. Bielke, S. Rudd, D. Frishman, S. Krystofova, C. Rasmussen, R. L. Metzenberg, D. D. Perkins, S. Kroken, C. Cogoni, G. Macino, D. Catcheside, W. Li, R. J. Pratt, S. A. Osmani, C. P. DeSouza, L. Glass, M. J. Orbach, J. A. Berglund, R. Voelker, O. Yarden, M. Plamann, S. Seiler, J. Dunlap, A. Radford, R. Aramayo, D. O. Natvig, L. A. Alex, G. Mannhaupt, D. J. Ebbole, M. Freitag, I. Paulsen, M. S. Sachs, E. S. Lander, C. Nusbaum and B. Birren (2003). "The genome sequence of the filamentous fungus Neurospora crassa." Nature **422**(6934): 859-868.

Goddard, T. D., C. C. Huang, E. C. Meng, E. F. Pettersen, G. S. Couch, J. H. Morris and T. E. Ferrin (2018). "UCSF ChimeraX: Meeting modern challenges in visualization and analysis." Protein Sci **27**(1): 14-25.

Greber, B. J., P. Bieri, M. Leibundgut, A. Leitner, R. Aebersold, D. Boehringer and N. Ban (2015). "Ribosome. The complete structure of the 55S mammalian mitochondrial ribosome." Science **348**(6232): 303-308.

Greber, B. J., D. Boehringer, A. Leitner, P. Bieri, F. Voigts-Hoffmann, J. P. Erzberger, M. Leibundgut, R. Aebersold and N. Ban (2014). "Architecture of the large subunit of the mammalian mitochondrial ribosome." Nature **505**(7484): 515-519.

Häuser R, Pech M, Kijek J, Yamamoto H, Titz B, Naeve F, Tovchigrechko A, Yamamoto K, Szaflarski W, Takeuchi N, Stellberger T, Diefenbacher ME, Nierhaus KH, Uetz P (2012). "RsfA (YbeB) proteins are conserved ribosomal silencing factors." PLoS Genet **8**(7):e1002815.

Herr AJ, Nelson CC, Wills NM, Gesteland RF, Atkins JF (2001). "Analysis of the roles of tRNA structure, ribosomal protein L9, and the bacteriophage T4 gene 60 bypassing signals during ribosome slippage on mRNA." J Mol Biol **309**(5): 1029-48.

Jomaa A, Jain N, Davis JH, Williamson JR, Britton RA, Ortega J (2014). "Functional domains of the 50S subunit mature late in the assembly process." Nucleic Acids Res **42**(5): 3419-35.

Kaushal, P. S., M. R. Sharma and R. K. Agrawal (2015). "The 55S mammalian mitochondrial ribosome and its tRNA-exit region." Biochimie **114**: 119-126.

Kim, H. J., P. Maiti and A. Barrientos (2017). "Mitochondrial ribosomes in cancer." Semin Cancer Biol **47**: 67-81.

Kimanius, D., B. O. Forsberg, S. H. Scheres and E. Lindahl (2016). "Accelerated cryo-EM structure determination with parallelisation using GPUs in RELION-2." Elife **5**.

Komoda, T., N. S. Sato, S. S. Phelps, N. Namba, S. Joseph and T. Suzuki (2006). "The A-site finger in 23 S rRNA acts as a functional attenuator for translocation." J Biol Chem **281**(43): 32303-32309.

Kuntzel, H. (1969). "Mitochondrial and cytoplasmic ribosomes from Neurospora crassa: characterization of their subunits." J Mol Biol **40**(2): 315-320.

Kuntzel, H. and H. Noll (1967). "Mitochondrial and cytoplasmic polysomes from Neurospora crassa." Nature **215**(5108): 1340-1345.

Li N, Chen Y, Guo Q, Zhang Y, Yuan Y, Ma C, Deng H, Lei J, Gao N (2013). "Cryo-EM structures of the late-stage assembly intermediates of the bacterial 50S ribosomal subunit." Nucleic Acids Res **41**(14): 7073-83.

Li X, Sun Q, Jiang C1, Yang K, Hung LW, Zhang J, Sacchettini JC (2015). "Structure of Ribosomal Silencing Factor Bound to Mycobacterium tuberculosis Ribosome." Structure **23**(10): 1858-1865.

Li, X., P. Mooney, S. Zheng, C. R. Booth, M. B. Braunfeld, S. Gubbens, D. A. Agard and Y. Cheng (2013). "Electron counting and beam-induced motion correction enable near-atomic-resolution single-particle cryo-EM." Nat Methods **10**(6): 584-590.

Liebschner, D., P. V. Afonine, M. L. Baker, G. Bunkoczi, V. B. Chen, T. I. Croll, B. Hintze, L. W. Hung, S. Jain, A. J. McCoy, N. W. Moriarty, R. D. Oeffner, B. K. Poon, M. G. Prisant, R. J. Read, J. S. Richardson, D. C. Richardson, M. D. Sammito, O. V. Sobolev, D. H. Stockwell, T. C. Terwilliger, A. G. Urzhumtsev, L. L. Videau, C. J. Williams and P. D. Adams (2019). "Macromolecular structure determination using X-rays, neutrons and electrons: recent developments in Phenix." Acta Crystallogr D Struct Biol **75**(Pt 10): 861-877.

McCluskey, K. and S. E. Baker (2017). "Diverse data supports the transition of filamentous fungal model organisms into the post-genomics era." Mycology **8**(2): 67-83.

Naganathan A, Wood MP, Moore SD (2015)." The large ribosomal subunit protein L9 enables the growth of EF-P deficient cells and enhances small subunit maturation." PLoS One **10**(4): e0120060.

Nargang, F. E., M. Preuss, W. Neupert and J. M. Herrmann (2002). "The Oxa1 protein forms a homooligomeric complex and is an essential part of the mitochondrial export translocase in Neurospora crassa." J Biol Chem **277**(15): 12846-12853.

Neupert W, Sebald W, Schwab AJ, Massinger P, Bücher T (1969). " Incorporation in vivo of 14C-labelled amino acids into the proteins of mitochondrial ribosomes from Neurospora crassa sensitive to cycloheximide and insensitive to Chloramphenicol." Eur J Biochem **10**(3):589-91.

Ott, M., A. Amunts and A. Brown (2016). "Organization and Regulation of Mitochondrial Protein Synthesis." Annu Rev Biochem **85**: 77-101.

Perkins DD, Radford A Sachs MS. (2001). "information on individual loci." San Diego, CA: Academic press.

Petrov, A. S., E. C. Wood, C. R. Bernier, A. M. Norris, A. Brown and A. Amunts (2019). "Structural Patching Fosters Divergence of Mitochondrial Ribosomes." Mol Biol Evol **36**(2): 207-219.

Pettersen, E. F., T. D. Goddard, C. C. Huang, G. S. Couch, D. M. Greenblatt, E. C. Meng and T. E. Ferrin (2004). "UCSF Chimera--a visualization system for exploratory research and analysis." J Comput Chem **25**(13): 1605-1612.

Sehnal, D., R. Svobodova Varekova, K. Berka, L. Pravda, V. Navratilova, P. Banas, C. M. Ionescu, M. Otyepka and J. Koca (2013). "MOLE 2.0: advanced approach for analysis of biomacromolecular channels." J Cheminform **5**(1): 39.

van der Sluis, E. O., H. Bauerschmitt, T. Becker, T. Mielke, J. Frauenfeld, O. Berninghausen, W. Neupert, J. M. Herrmann and R. Beckmann (2015). "Parallel Structural Evolution of Mitochondrial Ribosomes and OXPHOS Complexes." Genome Biol Evol **7**(5): 1235-1251.

Vogel, H. J. (1956). "A Convenient Growth Medium for Neurospora crassa." Microbial Genet. Bull. **13**: 42-43.

Rorbach J, Gammage PA, Minczuk M (2012). "C7orf30 is necessary for biogenesis of the large subunit of the mitochondrial ribosome." Nucleic Acids Res **40**(9): 4097-109.

Seidman JS, Janssen BD, Hayes CS (2011). "Alternative fates of paused ribosomes during translation termination." J Biol Chem **286**(36): 31105-12.

Smith AM, Costello MS, Kettring AH, Wingo RJ, Moore SD (2019). "Ribosome collisions alter frameshifting at translational reprogramming motifs in bacterial mRNAs." Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. **116**(43): 21769-21779.

van der Sluis EO, Bauerschmitt H, Becker T, Mielke T, Frauenfeld J, Berninghausen O, Neupert W, Herrmann JM, Beckmann R (2015). "Parallel Structural Evolution of Mitochondrial Ribosomes and OXPHOS Complexes." Genome Biol Evol **7**(5): 1235-51.

Waterhouse, A., M. Bertoni, S. Bienert, G. Studer, G. Tauriello, R. Gumienny, F. T. Heer, T. A. P. de Beer, C. Rempfer, L. Bordoli, R. Lepore and T. Schwede (2018). "SWISS-MODEL: homology modelling of protein structures and complexes." Nucleic Acids Res **46**(W1): W296-W303.

Weis F, Giudice E, Churcher M, Jin L, Hilcenko C, Wong CC, Traynor D, Kay RR, Warren AJ (2015). "Mechanism of eIF6 release from the nascent 60S ribosomal subunit." Nat Struct Mol Biol **22**(11): 914-9.

Williams, C. J., J. J. Headd, N. W. Moriarty, M. G. Prisant, L. L. Videau, L. N. Deis, V. Verma, D. A. Keedy, B. J. Hintze, V. B. Chen, S. Jain, S. M. Lewis, W. B. Arendall, 3rd, J. Snoeyink, P. D. Adams, S. C. Lovell, J. S. Richardson and D. C. Richardson (2018). "MolProbity: More and better reference data for improved all-atom structure validation." Protein Sci **27**(1): 293-315.

Woellhaf, M. W., F. Sommer, M. Schroda and J. M. Herrmann (2016). "Proteomic profiling of the mitochondrial ribosome identifies Atp25 as a composite mitochondrial precursor protein." Mol Biol Cell **27**(20): 3031-3039.

Zeng, X., M. H. Barros, T. Shulman and A. Tzagoloff (2008). "ATP25, a new nuclear gene of Saccharomyces cerevisiae required for expression and assembly of the Atp9p subunit of mitochondrial ATPase." Mol Biol Cell **19**(4): 1366-1377.

Zhang, K. (2016). "Gctf: Real-time CTF determination and correction." J Struct Biol **193**(1): 1-12.

Zheng, S. Q., E. Palovcak, J. P. Armache, K. A. Verba, Y. Cheng and D. A. Agard (2017). "MotionCor2: anisotropic correction of beam-induced motion for improved cryo-electron microscopy." Nat Methods **14**(4): 331-332.

547 Zivanov, J., T. Nakane, B. O. Forsberg, D. Kimanius, W. J. Hagen, E. Lindahl and S. H. Scheres
548 (2018). "New tools for automated high-resolution cryo-EM structure determination in RELION-
549 3." Elife **7**.
550
551 Zivanov, J., T. Nakane and S. H. W. Scheres (2019). "A Bayesian approach to beam-induced
552 motion correction in cryo-EM single-particle analysis." IUCrJ **6**(Pt 1): 5-17.

Methods

Purification of mitoribosomes

Mitochondria were isolated from *Neurospora crassa* strain K5-15-23-1 (Funes, Nargang et al. 2004) which contains a His-tagged version of Oxa1. The *N. crassa* mycelia were grown in aerobic conditions using 10 L of the Vogel's growth medium (Vogel 1956), supplemented with L-lysine and L-leucine at 25°C for 16 h. Each growth flask was supplemented with chloramphenicol (1:1000) 1 h prior to harvesting. To separate the moisture from the mycelia, the culture was filtered through muslin. The dry mycelia were transferred to a pre-cooled mortar and pestle to lyse the cells. All further operations were performed at 4°C. The cells were lysed using sea-sand (silicon dioxide) and SEMP buffer (250 mM sucrose, 1 mM ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA), 10 mM MOPS-KOH pH 7.2, 2 mM phenylmethanesulfonyl fluoride (PMSF), and 1:500 chloramphenicol), by applying a 20 min grinding course. Sand and cell debris were removed using differential centrifugation at low-speed (2000 x g). A subsequent high-speed centrifugation step (17,500 x g) was carried out to sediment crude mitochondria. The mitochondrial pellet was then resuspended in SEM buffer (250 mM sucrose, 1 mM EDTA, and 10 mM MOPS-KOH pH 7.2). To further purify, the crude mitochondria were undergone a sucrose gradient in SEM buffer for 1h at 28,000 rpm with an SW40 Ti rotor (Beckman Coulter). Mitochondrial band was pooled and stored at -80 °C.

Mitochondria were lysed in 4 volumes of lysis buffer (25 mM Hepes-KOH pH 7.5, 20 mM KCl, 15 mM Mg(OAc)$_2$, 2% *n*-dodecyl-β-D-maltoside (DDM), 0.0075 % cardiolipin, 2 mM dithiothreitol (DTT), 1 tablet of protease inhibitor (cOmplete^{TM}, Roche), and RNase inhibitor (RNaseOUT, Invitrogen)) and incubated for 5 min at 4°C. The membrane was separated by centrifugation of the mitochondrial lysate at 30,000 x g for 20 min followed by a second centrifugation step with the same settings. The supernatant was loaded onto a 1.0 M sucrose cushion in the resuspension buffer (20 mM Hepes-KOH pH 7.5, 15 mM KCL, 15 mM Mg(OAc)$_2$, 0.05% DDM, 0.0075% cardiolipin, and 2 mM DTT) with RNase inhibitor and centrifuged at 48,000 rpm with a 70 Ti rotor for 4 h. The pellet was then resuspended in the resuspension buffer, loaded on a 15-30% sucrose gradient in the resuspension buffer, and centrifuged at 23,000 rpm with an SW40 Ti for 16 h at 4°C. Fractions containing mitoribosomes were collected and the mitorobosomes were pelleted by centrifugation at 100,000 rpm with a TLA120.2 rotor (Beckman Coulter) for 45 min at 4°C and resuspended in the resuspension buffer.

Cryo-EM and image processing

Freshly purified sample was used for grid preparation. 3 μl aliquots of purified mitoribsomes was
incubated for 30 s on glow-discharged holey carbon grids (Quantifoil R2/2, 300 mesh, copper)
pre-coated with a home-made continuous carbon film with thickness of ~ 27 Å. The grids were
thereafter vitrified in a liquid ethane with a Vitrobot MKIV (FEI/Thermo Fisher) using a blotting
time of 3 s at 4°C and 100% humidity. Micrographs were collected with a 300 kV Titan Krios
(FEI/Thermo Fisher) transmission electron microscope, 70 μm C2 aperture, using a slit width of
20 eV on a GIF-Quantum energy filter (Gatan). A K2 summit detector (GATAN) was used in the
counting mode at the calibrated magnification of 130,000 (yielding a pixel size of 1.06 Å). An
exposure time of 9 s yielding a total of 35 e/Å^2 was dose fractionated into 20 frames. In total
3,172 movies were collected automatically during two consecutive days using EPU (FEI/Thermo
Fisher) data collection software. Defocus values ranged between 0.8 and 3.0 μm.

Collected movie frames were aligned and corrected for both global and non-uniform local beam-
induced movements using MotionCor (Li, Mooney et al. 2013) and the contrast transfer function
(CTF) parameters were estimated using Gctf (Zhang 2016), inside the SCIPION program (de la
Rosa-Trevín, Quintana et al. 2016). Subsequent data processing steps were performed using
RELION-2.1 and 3.0 (Kimanius, Forsberg et al. 2016). First, 647 particles were manually picked,
followed by two-dimensional (2D) classification. Four good 2D class averages were used for ref-
erence-based picking for the second round. 265,710 picked particles were subjected to 2D classi-
fication and 50 good 2D classes were selected (Figure S1A). Retained 223,605 particles were
classified into six classes by three-dimensional (3D) classification, resulted in four good mito-
monosome classes (131,806 particles), one class with weak mtSSU density (36,053 particles),
and one low quality class containing junks. From the class with weak mtSSU density, isolated
mtLSU particles (24,142 particles) are classified out by further 3D classification.

Pooled good particles were subjected to 3D auto-refinement. Per-particle CTF refinement
(Zivanov, Nakane et al. 2018), followed by Bayesian polishing (Zivanov, Nakane et al. 2019)
and the second round of per particle CTF refinement to improve resolution, resulted in recon-
structions of mito-monosome and the isolated mtLSU with 2.83 and 3.03 Å resolution, respec-
tively (Figure S1A). Resolution is estimated based on the gold standard criterion of Fourier shell
correlation (FSC) = 0.143 between the reconstructed two half maps.

Due to the relative movement between the mtSSU and mtLSU in monosome, we suffered from
low resolution in the mtSSU. We therefore decided to improve the quality of the maps by focused
masked refinement for the mtSSU and mtLSU separately. We obtained the masked maps of
mtLSU and mtSSU with 2.74 and 2.85 Å resolution, respectively (Figure S1A). Further, im-
provement of local resolutions was achieved by focused refinement using the local masks shown
in Fig.S1B.

All the density maps were locally resolution filtered by applying a negative B-factor estimated
automatically by RELION-3.0.

The observed motion between mtLSU and mtSSU prompted us to separate possible sub-states of
the monosome. Firstly, we classified the particles in two major classes (ratcheted and non-

ratcheted states) by overall 3D classification (Fig.S1A). To facilitate classifying tRNA states,
signal subtraction of ribosome was performed using a cylindrical mask covering the A-, P-, and
E-sites for the ratcheted and non-ratcheted states separately by RELION 3.0, following by
focused 3D classification without alignment. For the ratcheted state, the same cylindrical mask
was applied for the classification, which separated the P/E hybrid tRNA bound mitoribosomes
(37,908 particles). For non-ratcheted state, smaller masks were needed to classify tRNAs. The
P/P tRNA bound mitoribosomes were separated applying a mask covering only the P-site, while
E/E tRNA bound ones were separated by a mask covering only the E-site (Fig.S1A). The P/P
tRNA and E/E tRNA bound mitoribosomes were 24,611 and 23,802 particles, respectively.
Among them, only 4,136 particles are overlapping and have both P/P and E/E tRNAs, which are
too few for high-resolution reconstruction.
Local resolution of the tRNA bound mitoribosomes were also improved by using local masked
refinement as shown in the scheme depicted in Fig.S1C.
639

Model building and refinement

Model building was carried out in Coot (Emsley and Cowtan 2004). Rigid body docking was car-
ried out in UCSF Chimera (Pettersen, Goddard et al. 2004). The model of the *S. cerevisiae* mi-
toribosome (PDB ID: 5MRC) was used as a reference. For proteins whose orthologs existed in *S.*
cerevisiae structure, the homology models of *N. crassa* were generated by SWISS Model
(Waterhouse, Bertoni et al. 2018), placed into the density, manually revised and built unmodeled
and unique regions, and real space fit in Coot. Previously unknown or unmodeled proteins were
modeled *de novo* in Coot. For the correct assignment of the proteins, sequence stretches of rea-
sonable quality were directly identified from the map and then applied to BLAST (Altschul, Gish
et al. 1990) and/or compared to the protein sequences gained from mass spectrometry. The ribo-
somal protein mL108 was named according to the standard nomenclature widely accepted in the
ribosome community (Ban, Beckmann et al. 2014). The number was chosen in a chronological
order of discover also considering unpublished data. The entire rRNAs, tRNAs, and mRNAs
were modeled *de novo* in Coot. Since bound tRNAs and mRNAs are mixture of any mitochondri-
al ones, each residue was assigned as either A, U, G, or C, based on the density and conservation.
Ligands and metal ions were placed into the density.

For model refinement of the consensus mtLSU and mtSSU and the monosomes in the three tRNA
states, the local masked refined maps with B-factor sharpening and local-resolution filtering were
merged using the program phenix_combine_focused_maps in the Phenix software suite
(Liebschner, Afonine et al. 2019), thereby generating a map for model refinement. For the isolat-
ed mtLSU, the overall refined map with B-factor sharpening and local-resolution filtering was
used for model refinement. Refinement of all models was performed using Phe-
nix.rel_space_refine (Afonine, Poon et al. 2018). The final structure was validated using the
MolProbity (Williams, Headd et al. 2018) implementation of the Phenix suite.
664

Figure preparation

666 All structural figures were generated with PyMOL (DeLano 2002), UCSF Chimera (Pettersen,
667 Goddard et al. 2004), and ChimeraX (Goddard, Huang et al. 2018). The secondary structure dia-
668 grams of the 16S and 23S rRNA were generated using XRNA
669 (http://rna.ucsc.edu/rnacenter/xrna/xrna.html). The peptide and mRNA tunnel was predicted us-
670 ing the software Mole (Sehnal, Svobodova Varekova et al. 2013).
671

Acknowledgements We thank Frank Nargang for providing the *N. crassa* strain, and Marta
Carroni and Julian Conrad for supporting cryo-EM data collection. This work was supported by
the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Research (FFL15:0325), Ragnar Söderberg Foundation
(M44/16), Swedish Research Council (NT_2015-04107), Cancerfonden (2017/1041), European
Research Council (ERC-2018-StG-805230), Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation
(2018.0080), EMBO Young Investigator Program. Y.I. is supported by H2020-MSCA-IF-2017
(799399-Itohribo). The data was collected at the SciLifeLab cryo-EM facility funded by the Knut
and Alice Wallenberg, Family Erling Persson, and Kempe foundations.
680

681 **Author contributions** A.A. designed the project. N.M prepared the sample and collected cryo-
682 EM data. Y.I., A.N. and N.M. processed the data and built the model. A.N. and A.A. wrote the
683 manuscript with help from Y.I., N.M. and J.H.
684

685 **Competing interests** The authors declare no competing interests.
686

    Supplementary Tables S1-S2

688   **Table S1. List of RNA and proteins from mt-LSU.**

Name	Gene	Uniprot ID	Chain ID	Modeled	Size	Notes
23S rRNA	–	–	A		3464	Spermine bound next to A1271.
uL1m	MRPL1	Q1K699	e	59–300	303	Conserved in *S. cerevisiae* and human but disordered in their structures.
uL2m	RML2	Q7SCX7	B	54–379	383	Likewise its *S. cerevisiae* counterpart, NT extension locates at the subunits interface.
uL3m	MRPL9	Q1K8T6	C	63–369	384	A helix at CT extension is similar to the human uL3m. This extension does not exist in the *S. cerevisiae* counterpart.
uL4m	YML6	V5IMN1	D	62–302, 312–324	325	
uL5m	MRPL7	Q1K6P0	E	44–352	352	
uL6m	MRPL6	Q7RZF0	F	52–252	255	
bL9m	MRPL50	Q7S054	G	52–125	300	
uL10m	MRPL11	Q7RZ62	f	54–298	347	Conserved in *S. cerevisiae* and human. It is not modeled in the *S. cerevisiae* structures.
uL11m	MRPL19	Q7RX40	g	12–158	158	Conserved in *S. cerevisiae* and human. It is not modeled in the *S. cerevisiae* structures.
uL13m	MRPL23	Q7SBV6	H	1–183	183	
uL14m	MRPL38	Q7SBJ8	I	1–46, 59–130	131	
uL15m	MRPL10	Q7SB98	J	47–289	312	
uL16m	MRPL16	F5HIJ5	K	61–228	249	
uL17m	MRPL8	Q1K8C8	L	2–193	193	CT extension unlike its *S. cerevisiae* counterpart lacking a helix.
bL19m	IMG1	Q7RYW8	M	41–234	258	
bL21m	MRPL49	Q7SGE5	N	85–217	217	
uL22m	MRPL22	Q7S5N0	O	43–71, 122–364	364	NT extension extensively remodeled with respect to its *S. cerevisiae* counterpart, whereas CT extension is quite similar. NT partially occupies the position of the absent bacterial rRNA helix 24.
uL23m	MRP20	Q7SA60	P	13–192	228	CT extension remodeled respective to its *S. cerevisiae* counterpart. Most likely it does not block the bacterial exit tunnel likewise CT extension in *S. cerevisiae* uL23m.
uL24m	MRPL40	Q7RXU7	Q	1–353	396	NT extension is a long helix that is not like its bacterial, *S. cerevisiae*, and human counterparts. CT extension is similar to that of the *S. cerevisiae*; it covers a long distance through the surface thereby connecting different parts of the large subunit. The CT extension compensates the absence of bacterial helices 15 and 16.
bL27m	MRP7	Q1K730	R	75–196, 248–383	447	NT extension is similar to bacterial, *S. cerevisiae* and human counterparts. CT extension extensively remodeled respective to *S. cerevisiae* bL27, and partially interacts with rRNA helix 82.
bL28m	MRPL24	Q7SC44	S	42–203, 209–225	274	CT extension remodeled extensively respective to *S. cerevisiae* counterpart.
uL29m	MRPL4	Q7S910	T	44–223	263	
uL30m	MRPL33	Q1K8Y7	U	2–102, 125–161	161	
bL31m	MRPL36	Q1K7L7	V	48–128, 189–207	219	Bridging the LSU CP and the SSU head.
bL32m	MRPL32	Q1K4P1	W	64–122	129	Zn binding

bL33m	MRPL39	V5IM60	X	7–54	59	
bL34m	MRPL34	Q96U95	Y	95–140	140	
bL36m	RTC6	Q7S4E7	0	79–124	124	Zn binding
mL38	MRPL35	Q7RXV8	1	83–449	449	CT extension partially compensates the absence of bL35. Stabilizes helices 84-ES and 82-ES.
mL40	MRPL28	V5IQE0	2	251–370	370	Stabilize helices 82-ES, 84-ES, 38-ES1. NAD is binding and interacting with mL40
mL41	MRPL27	Q7S5W0	3	9–103	103	
mL43	MRPL51	Q7S300	4	2–138	138	
mL44	MRPL3	Q7SA88	5	55–235 273-439	439	NT extension slightly remodeled respective to *S. cerevisiae* mL44. CT extension interacts with helix 0-ES1. It forms heterodimer with mL57.
mL46	MRPL17	Q7S1Z3	6	81–245 253-303 311-368	368	Interacts with helices 38-ES1 and 82-ES.
mL49	IMG2	Q7S518	7	82–165	165	Most likely interacts with helix 28.
mL50	MRPL13	Q7S711	8	273–296, 303–442	443	Extensively remodeled. A 31 amino-acid long helix at the solvent-exposed surface of the protein. Interacting with helices 45 and 46.
mL53	MRPL44	Q7SGH0	h	1–98	98	Conserved in *S. cerevisiae* and human. It is not modeled in the *S. cerevisiae* structures.
mL54	MRPL37	Q7SCZ3	i	77–118, 138–218	218	Bridges L10/L11 area to CP. Conserved in *S. cerevisiae* and human. It is not modeled in the *S. cerevisiae* structures and only one helix is modeled in the human structures.
mL57	MRPL15	Q7S1R6	9	61–265	267	Forms a heterodimer with mL44. Stabilizes helix 0-ES1.
mL58	MRPL20	Q1K6U7	a	41–103, 129–225	225	Interacts with helix 0.
mL59	MRPL25	Q7SEK9	b	2–162	162	
mL60	MRPL31	U9W8F2	c	13–110	110	
mL67	MHR1	Q7RYM5	d	33–218 243-291	292	Similar to its *S. cerevisiae* counterpart with slight remodeling at NT and CT extensions.
mL108	MRPL49	Q7RWZ7	j		201	Conserved but not modeled in *S. cerevisiae*
Nascent polypeptide	-	-	XX			

691 **Table S2. List of RNA and proteins from mt-SSU.**

MRP	Gene	Uniprot ID	Chain ID	Modeled	Size	Notes
16S rRNA	–	–	a		1864	
bS1m	MRP51	A7UWX2	A		470	
uS2m	MRP4	V5ILE0	B		428	
uS3m	VAR1	P23351	C		508	
uS4m	NAM9	Q7SA90	D		453	
uS5m	MRPS5	Q1K548	E		477	Has a unique insertion to form a unique second beak.
bS6m	MRP17	Q7SB95	F	2–117	117	
uS7m	RSM7	Q7S6M9	G		309	
uS8m	MRPS8	Q7SHF3	H	2–161	161	
uS9m	MRPS9	Q7S7R6	I		315	
uS10m	RSM10	Q7RYL4	J		268	
uS11m	MRPS18	Q7SGU0	K		376	
uS12m	MRPS12	Q7S9I4	L		174	
uS13m	SWS2	Q7S2C2	M	2–119	119	
uS14m	MRP2	Q7SF85	N	2–113	113	
uS15m	MRPS28	Q1K5G1	O		320	
bS16m	MRPS16	P08580	P		107	
uS17m	MRPS17	Q7S4E0	Q		165	A unique C-terminal helix, which binds the ATP IF$_1$ dimer.
bS18m	RSM18	Q1K8E0	R		256	
uS19m	RSM19	Q1K8V2	S		91	
bS21m	MRP21	Q7SAJ1	T		236	
mS23	RSM25	F8MRK5	U		240	
mS26	PET123	Q7SHR9	V		316	
mS27	MRP13	Q7RYW7	W		396	Corresponds to mS27 in human. In *S. cerevisiae*, mS44 and the unknown B are one connected protein, which corresponds to human and *N. crassa* mS27.
mS29	RSM23 /DAP3	Q7SD06	X		469	DAP3 death associated protein 3. ATP and Mg ion are bound.
mS33	RSM27	Q1K5R0	Y		108	
mS35	RSM24	Q1K5Z0	Z		382	Has a unique N-terminal domain to form a unique beak.

mS37	MRP10	Q7S4Y4	1	2–89	90	
mS38	COX24	Q7SHR6	2	312–344	344	
mS41	FYV4	Q1K6Q3	3		236	
mS42	RSM27 /MRP1	Q7S2H6	4, 5		310	Homolog of Fe superoxide dismutase. Lost the catalytic Fe ion binding side. Two chains form a homodimer, in contrast to the mS42-mS43 heterodimer in *S. cerevisiae*.
mS45	MRPS35	Q7SHB2	6		348	
mS46	RSM28	Q7SG49	7		414	
mS47	MRP5 /EHD3	Q1K7A4	8		508	3-hydroxyisobutyryl-CoA hydrolase. Probably an active enzyme because its active site is conserved.
ATPIF1	INH1	V5IRA3	0, 9		95	ATP synthase inhibitor 1. Forms a homodimer located in the SSU tail region.
tRNA	–	–	b		76	P, E or P/E tRNA state. The density is mixture of tRNA species.
mRNA	–	–	e		–	

694   **Supplementary Figures**

Figure S1A: Top: Representative micrograph and a gallery of the 2D class averages. **Bottom:** Data Refinement protocol and classification scheme for mtLSU, mtSSU and monosomes.

Figure S1B: Top: Continued scheme of Figure S1A showing masked refinement protocol of mtLSU, mtSSU and L1 stalk of P/E
700 tRNA bound state. **Bottom:** Local resolution shown for the consensus maps as well for the masked maps from local regions as
701 indicated. Fourier-shell-correlation (FSC) curves for the consensus maps are shown.

705 **Figure S1C:** Continued scheme of Figure S1A showing masked refinement protocol of the P/E tRNA and P tRNA bound states.

Figure S2A: Expansion elements of mitoribosomal proteins of mt-LSU of *N. crassa*. Tertiary folds of all proteins of the *N. crassa* of the mt-LSU colored by conservation. Elements that are conserved in bacteria are colored in blue. Elements that are shared between *N. crassa* and *S. cerevisiae* are colored in red. Expansions that are unique to *N. crassa* are colored in yellow.

Figure S2B: Expansion elements of mitoribosomal proteins of mt-SSU of *N. crassa*. Tertiary folds of all proteins of the *N. crassa*
of the mt-SSU colored by conservation. The same coloring scheme is used as in Figure S3A.

Figure S3A: Secondary structure diagram of the 23S rRNA of the mt-LSU as estimated from the structure. ES unique to
Neurospora are shown in yellow and ES shared with *S. cerevisiae* shown in red. Regions absent in the structure were predicted
and indicated by blue colored bases. Nucleotides are labeled in green and helices are numbered in black. ES absent in *N. crassa*
but present in *S. cerevisiae* are indicated by light blue arrows. Domains were labeled in roman numerals.

Figure S3B: Secondary structure diagram of the 16S rRNA of the mtSSU as estimated from the structure. The labeling is identical to Figure S2B.

Figure S4: A three dimensional view of the rRNA of mtLSU and mtSSU of *N. crassa*. The rRNA conserved (bacteria) is shown in gray. ES shared with *S. cerevisiae* are shown in red and ES unique to *N. crassa* are shown in yellow.

Figure S5: Superposition of different mS27 homologs. A: mS27 of *N. crassa* is superimposed with mS27 in *S. cerevisiae* (previously miss-assigned as mS44). **B:** Superposition of mS27 from *N. crassa* and human. **C:** Superposition based on mtSSU rRNA of mS27 from *N. crassa* and *S. cerevisiae* at the mtSSU tail. **D:** Superposition based on mtSSU rRNA of mS27 from *N. crassa* and *S. cerevisiae* at the mtSSU tail.

Figure S6: Comparison of the nucleotide binding pocket of mS29 between *N. crassa* and *S. cerevisiae* (PDB: 5mrc). A: The nucleotide pocket of *N. crassa* shown with density and ATP. **B:** Nucleotide pocket of *S. cerevisiae* shown with density and modeled GDP.

Figure S7: Side-by-side view of the mtSSU tail of *N. crassa and S. cerevisiae*. A: The binding site for IF$_1$ in *N. crassa*. B: The same site in *S. cerevisiae*.