Translational regulation enhances distinction of cell types in the

nervous system

Authors:

Toshiharu Ichinose[1,2,*], Shu Kondo[3], Mai Kanno[2], Yuichi Shichino[4], Mari Mito[4], Shintaro

Iwasaki[4,5], Hiromu Tanimoto[2,*].

Affiliations:

1: Frontier Research Institute for Interdisciplinary Sciences, Tohoku University; 2: Graduate

School of Life Sciences, Tohoku University; 3: Faculty of Advanced Engineering, Tokyo

University of Sciences; 4: RNA Systems Biochemistry Laboratory, RIKEN Cluster for

Pioneering Research, Wako, Saitama 351-0198, Japan 5: Department of Computational

Biology and Medical Sciences, Graduate School of Frontier Sciences, The University of Tokyo,

Kashiwa, Chiba 277-8561, Japan.

Correspondence authors:

Hiromu Tanimoto (hiromut@m.tohoku.ac.jp) and Toshiharu Ichinose

(toshiharu.ichinose.c1@tohoku.ac.jp)

Author Contributions:

TI, SK, and HT conceptualized the project; TI performed ribosome profiling and RNA-seq with

the help of YS, MM, and SI; MK performed immunohistochemistry and fluorescent in-situ

hybridization, and managed fly care; SK constructed the transgenic reporter strain; YS, MM,

and SI contributed to reagents, protocols, and analytic tools; TI analyzed all data with the help

of YS and SI; TI and HT wrote the manuscript; SK, YS and SI edited the manuscript.

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The authors declare no competing interest.

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Abstract:

Multicellular organisms are composed of specialized cell types with distinct proteomes. While recent advances in single-cell transcriptome analyses have revealed differential expression of mRNAs, cellular diversity in translational profiles remains underinvestigated. By performing RNA-seq and Ribo-seq in genetically-defined cells in the *Drosophila* brain, we here revealed substantial posttranscriptional regulations that augment the cell-type distinctions at the level of protein expression. Specifically, we found that translational efficiency of proteins fundamental to neuronal functions, such as ion channels and neurotransmitter receptors, was maintained low in glia, leading to their preferential translation in neurons. Notably, distribution of ribosome footprints on these mRNAs exhibited a remarkable bias towards the 5′ leaders in glia. Using transgenic reporter strains, we provide evidence that the small upstream open reading frames (uORFs) in the 5' leader confer selective translational suppression in glia. Overall, these findings underscore the profound impact of translational regulation in shaping the proteomics for cell-type distinction and provide new insights into the molecular mechanisms driving cell-type diversity.

Introduction:

Gene expression is regulated both at the transcription and translation levels (Becker et al., 2018; Casas-Vila et al., 2017; Li et al., 2020; Liu et al., 2016; Schwanhäusser et al., 2011), and its heterogeneity defines the specialized morphologies and functions of cells. The *Drosophila* brain is a well-studied model tissue with a diverse array of cell types, classifiable by morphology, cell lineage, or gene expression (Scheffer et al., 2020; Zeng and Sanes, 2017). Recent advances in single-cell transcriptomics have identified groups of differentially expressed genes and provided an in-depth overview of transcriptional regulations (Croset et al., 2018; Davie et al., 2018; Li et al., 2022). While these inventories provided a powerful way to classify cell types, there have been cases falling short in explaining proteomic or morphological diversity (Lago-Baldaia et al., 2023; Li et al., 2020). Therefore, posttranscriptional regulations play pivotal roles in distinguishing cell-type specific proteomes.

Ribosome profiling or Ribo-seq, which is based on deep-sequencing of mRNA fragments protected by ribosomes from RNase treatment (ribosome footprints), has been a powerful approach to provide a genome-wide snapshot of protein synthesis ('translatome') (Ingolia et al., 2009). Application of this method, combined with transcriptome analysis, revealed multiple layers of translational regulation in cells. For example, this comparison allowed measurements

of translational efficiency (TE), which is quantified as the number of ribosome footprints on the

coding sequence per mRNA, and discoveries of previously unannotated ORFs (Dunn et al.,

2013; Ingolia et al., 2011, 2009; Zhang et al., 2018). While TE profiles have been reported to

be variable among dissected animal tissues (Fujii et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2021; Zhang et al.,

2018), differences in translational regulations among identified cell types remain unclear.

Applying ribosome profiling to *Drosophila* heads, we here examine the comprehensive

landscape of translational profiles between neuronal and glial cells. Due to the size of the fly

brain (~0.5 mm) and intricate intercellular adhesions among neurons and glia (Kremer et al.,

2017), surgical separation is impractical. We thus biochemically purified ribosome-bound

mRNAs through genetic tagging of ribosomes in target cells (Chen and Dickman, 2017;

Sapkota et al., 2019; Scheckel et al., 2020; Thomas et al., 2012; You et al., 2021) and further

performed Ribo-seq and RNA-seq. By this comparative transcriptome-translatome analyses,

we suggest that differential translational programs enhance the distinction of protein synthesis

between neuronal and glial cells.

Results:

Comparative transcriptome-translatome analyses reveal translational suppression of

selective groups of proteins in the fly heads

To gain an overview of the translation status, we first applied conventional Ribo-seq in the

whole fly head, and successfully monitored footprint distribution at a single-codon resolution

(Figure 1A, see 'Materials and Methods' for technical details). The majority (96.2%) of

ribosome footprints was mapped onto the annotated coding sequences (CDS), and its

distribution displayed a clear 3-nt periodicity, reflecting the codon-wise movement (Figure 1B).

To compare transcriptome and translatome, we also performed RNA-seq from the same

lysate (Figure 1A). As previously reported, the transcript level and the number of ribosome

footprints did not always match, suggesting substantial posttranscriptional regulations (R^2 =

0.664; Figure 1C). For instance, while *Shaker* (*Sh*) and *Trehalase* (*Treh*), which encode a

voltage-gated K^+ channel and an enzyme that hydrolyzes trehalose, respectively, were similar

regarding transcript levels, far more ribosome footprints were detected on *Treh* (Figure 1D-E).

We therefore measured translational efficiency (TE), ribosome footprints normalized by mRNA

reads. TE was much higher for *Treh* than *Sh* (Figure 1F), and we found a striking genome-

wide variability with more than 20-fold TE difference between the 5 and 95 percentiles (Figure

1G). Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genome (KEGG) pathway enrichment analysis

revealed that transcripts involved in fatty acid metabolism and proteasome are actively
translated (Figure 1H). In contrast, ribosome proteins, as previously reported (Chen and
Dickman, 2017; Cho et al., 2015), and proteins mediating neuronal ligand-receptor interactions
were significantly enriched in the transcripts with low TE, suggesting translational suppression
(Figure 1H). Indeed, many transcripts encoding ligand- or voltage-gated ion channels, G-
protein coupled receptors (GPCR) showed remarkably low TE (Figure 1C and 1I). These
results suggest translational regulations specific to neuronal transcripts in the fly head.

101 Translational regulation enhances the difference in the gene expression profiles
102 between cell types

Because the translatome/transcriptome status of the whole heads was a mixed average
of diverse cell types, such as neurons, glial cells, fat bodies, and muscles, we set up an
experimental approach to dissect cell-type specific translational regulations. By expressing
epitope-tagged RpL3 (uL3 in universal nomenclature) (Chen and Dickman, 2017) under the
control of UAS using the *nSyb-* or the *repo-GAL4* drivers, we immunopurified the tagged
ribosomes and associated mRNAs separately from neurons and glia, and performed Ribo-seq
(Figure 2A). By immunohistochemistry, we confirmed that *UAS-RpL3::FLAG* on the third
chromosome exhibited minimum leakage expression in the brain and did not display any
apparent morphological defects upon expression using either driver, compared to other
insertions or constructs (Chen and Dickman, 2017; Huang et al., 2019; Thomas et al., 2012)
(Figures 2A and Figure 2 – figure supplement 1A-B). The exogenously expressed RpL3::FLAG
was highly concentrated in cell bodies but also detectable in neurites, consistent with the
subcellular localization of the endogenous ribosome (Figure 2 – figure supplement 1C-D).

Through the purification of FLAG-tagged ribosomes, we successfully profiled translatome
from neurons and glial cells in the fly heads: Footprints were found on 10,821 (78.4 % of all
the annotated genes) and 10,994 (79.7 %) genes in neurons and glia, respectively, with decent
reproducibility among the biological replicates ($R^2 > 0.9$, Figure 2 – figure supplement 2A). The
FLAG-tagged RpL3 in the corresponding cells far exceeded the endogenous RpL3, as RpL3
reads were 7.8 and 42.7 times higher in neurons and glia, respectively, compared to the wild-
type whole-head samples (Figure 2 – figure supplement 2B). The known marker genes were
strongly enriched while non-target markers were depleted (Figures 2B and Figure 2 – figure
supplement 2C-D) (Croset et al., 2018; Davie et al., 2018; Li et al., 2022), and the KEGG
enrichment analysis showed significant enrichment of footprints on genes associated with the
known functions of these cell types (Figure 2 – figure supplement 2E). Interestingly, the KEGG

analysis also revealed that neurons exhibit a greater extent of protein synthesis related to
oxidative phosphorylation and mitochondrial ribosome proteins, while glial cells show higher
expression of proteins associated with glycolysis (Figure 2 – figure supplement 2E-F). These
findings support the glia-neuron lactate shuttle hypothesis, a recently proposed concept of
metabolic specialization (Mason, 2017; Volkenhoff et al., 2015). Furthermore, apart from the
annotated CDS, we detected clustered ribosome footprints on *Hsr-ω*, previously annotated as
a long non-coding RNA, strongly suggesting the synthesis of hitherto undescribed
polypeptides (Figure 2 – figure supplement 2G) (Singh, 2022). Altogether, the combination of
genetic labelling of ribosomes in selective cell types and Ribo-seq revealed the differential
translatome profiles in the fly heads.

To further examine translational regulation by calculating TE, we performed RNA-seq
from the same immunoprecipitated complexes, similar to Translating Ribosome Affinity
Purification (TRAP) (Heiman et al., 2008) (Figures 2A and Figure 2 – figure supplement 3A-
B). Because this approach relies on the 80S-ribosome-mRNA complex, we may miss mRNA
with little or no translation. Nevertheless, our transcriptome was similar to the sn-transcriptome
data (Li et al., 2022) (Figure 2 – figure supplement 3C). We identified groups of genes
undergoing neuron- or glia- specific translational regulations compared to the whole heads
(Figure 2 – figure supplement 4A). Genes mediating fatty acid metabolism and degradation,
for example, were actively translated in the whole head, but showed lower TE in neurons or in
glia (Figures 1H and 2C). Because many of these genes are highly expressed in the fat bodies
(Dobson et al., 2018), these results suggest selective translational enhancement in the fat
body. Strikingly, TE of genes involved in neuroactive ligand-receptor interaction was
significantly higher in neurons but lower in glia (Figure 2C-D), suggesting cell-type specific
translational regulation of these genes.

This differential translational regulation was highlighted in the weak TE correlation
between neurons and glia (R^2 = 0.534, Figure 2E). We found a genome-wide tendency that
genes transcribed less in glia are further suppressed at translation (Figure 2F). Specifically,
many functionally-characterized neuronal genes, such as voltage- or ligand- gated ion
channels, G-protein coupled receptors, neuropeptides and proteins for visual perception,
showed particularly lower TE in glia (Figures 2E, 2G-H and Figure 2 – figure supplement 4C).
For these genes, the distinction between neuronal and glial cells was much exaggerated at
the level of translation than at transcription (Figure 2H). Consistently on the genome-wide
scale, the inter-cell type correlation became weaker in Ribo-seq data compared to in RNA-seq
(R^2 = 0.59 vs. 0.81, Figure 2 – figure supplement 3B). Altogether, these data indicate

substantial contributions of translational regulation to shaping the cell-type specific protein
expression.

Biased distribution of ribosomes toward upstream open reading frames of neural genes
in glial cells

We next analyzed the distribution of ribosome footprints on the differentially translated
transcripts (DTT). Fat-body related genes showed lower TE in neurons compared to the whole
head (Figure 2C). Among these genes, we found a remarkable ribosomal accumulation on the
start codon specifically in neurons (Figure 3 – figure supplement 1A-B), as if the first round of
the elongation cycle was arrested in neurons. Through the reanalysis of the published RNA-
seq data (Dobson et al., 2018), we found that mRNAs showing strong ribosomal accumulation
on the start codons are highly abundant in the fat bodies (Figure 3 – figure supplement 1C).
On the other hand, DTTs suppressed in glial cells compared to neurons (defined as genes
with more than 10 times higher TE in neurons than in glia, n = 161), we noticed that glial
ribosome footprints were remarkably biased towards 5′ leaders (Figure 3A-B). Notably, this
pattern was not obvious on the genome-wide scale (Figure 3A-B). The high 5′ leader/CDS
ratio of ribosome footprints in glia was commonly observed on many transcripts with known
neuronal functions, such as *Rab3, Syt4, Arr1* and *Syn* (Figure 3D-E). Conversely, we observed
accumulated ribosome footprints on the 5′ leaders of several glial marker genes specifically in
neurons (Figure 3 – figure supplement 2). Altogether, these results suggest that the translation
of 5' leaders in selective mRNAs differentiates protein synthesis among cell types.

We reasoned translational downregulation via upstream open reading frames (uORFs) in
the 5′ leaders in glia, as the translation of uORFs was reported to suppress that of the
downstream main ORF (Ferreira et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2019, 2018). Consistent with this
idea, metagene plot around the AUG codons on 5′ leaders revealed strong accumulation of
footprints on the upstream AUG codons, similar to those observed on the initiation codon of
CDSs (Figures 4A-B). We calculated the footprint accumulation score on each codon (defined
as the ratio of footprints on each codon with surrounding -50/+50 nt), and found that upstream
AUG and the near cognate codons (NUG or AUN) showed relatively high accumulation (Figure
4C). On the other hand, inside the annotated CDS, none of the codons exhibited such
significant accumulation (Figures 4D). Consistently, we found that transcripts related to
neuronal functions typically contain long 5′ leaders and many upstream AUG (Figure 4 – figure
supplement 1). We thus propose that glial cells suppress the translation of neuronal transcripts
by stalling ribosomes on 5′ leader via uORF.

uORFs in *Rh1* confer translational suppression in glia

We next asked if the 5′ leader sequences of neuronal genes cause cell-type differences

in translation. To this end, we focused on *Rh1* (*Rhodopsin 1*, also known as *ninaE*). *Rh1*

encodes the opsin with a broadband spectral sensitivity, also detecting stimuli of other sensory

modalities (Leung et al., 2020; O'Tousa et al., 1985; Shen et al., 2011; Zuker et al., 1985).

Therefore, the Rh1 protein is heavily expressed in the photoreceptor neurons, but the mRNA

is clearly detectable also in glia (Li et al., 2022) (Figure 5A, Figure 5A – figure supplement 1A).

Consistent with the protein expression, we found that TE of *Rh1* in neurons was 13.5 times as

high as that in glial cells (Figure 2 – figure supplement 4C). Ribosome footprints on the *Rh1*

transcript were heavily biased to 5′ leader in glia, with the striking accumulation on the putative

uORFs composed only of the start and stop codons (Figure 5B).

To address the function of these sequences, we constructed a transgenic reporter strain

using the *Rh1* UTR sequences under the control of UAS (Figure 5C), and directed gene

expression ubiquitously using *Tub-GAL4*. The reporter mRNA was detected both in neurons

and glial cells (Figure 5D; Figure 5 – figure supplement 1B). On the other hand, the protein

levels were much more heterogeneous and strikingly weak in glia than in neurons, in contrast

to the ubiquitous expression observed in the control reporter strain (DeLuca and Spradling,

2018) (Figure 5D). Driving the reporter expression using the *nSyb-* or *repo-GAL4* further

corroborated cell-type specific suppression in glia (Figure 5 – figure supplement 1C-D).

Strikingly, when the 6-base putative uORFs were mutated, the in-vivo protein-to-mRNA ratio

of the reporter was significantly increased in glia but not in neurons (Figure 5E-G). Based on

these results, we propose that glial cells selectively suppress the protein synthesis of neuronal

genes through uORF and thereby enhance the translatome distinction from neurons.

Discussion:

In this study, the comparative translatome-transcriptome analyses in the whole heads,

neurons and glial cells revealed the significant diversity of translational regulations across

different cell types. Particularly noteworthy was the differential translation of transcripts

encoding neuronal proteins, including ion channels and neurotransmitter receptors (Figure 2).

These neuronal transcripts exhibited preferential translation in neurons (Figure 2), and the

relatively long 5′ UTR of these transcripts strongly stalled ribosomes in glia (Figures 3, 4 and

Figure 4 – figure supplement 1). This characteristic feature of long 5′ leaders containing

numerous uORFs is also observed in neuronal transcripts in mammals (Glock et al., 2021).

While the 5′ leader-mediated translational regulations are known to be critical for quick
response to environmental changes, such as starvation or oxidative stress (Harding et al.,
2003; Mueller and Hinnebusch, 1986; Young and Wek, 2016), our study sheds light on its roles
in contrasting protein expression among cell types. Furthermore, considering a pivotal role of
de novo protein synthesis for long-lasting adaptation (Flexner et al., 1963; Tully et al., 1994),
it is plausible that similar mechanisms are employed for neuronal plasticity as well.

The next obvious question would be how the translation of neuronal transcripts is
differentiated among neuronal and glial cells. Ribosomes can initiate translation at uORFs
more frequently in glia. Alternatively, the post-termination 40S subunits reinitiate translation of
the coding sequence more often in neurons. These two possibilities can be distinguished by
profiling the rates of initiation or reinitiation, achievable through sequencing the footprints of
the 40S subunits, known as translation complex profile sequencing, coupled with conventional
Ribo-seq (Archer et al., 2016; Bohlen et al., 2020; Wagner et al., 2020). Although there are
various technical challenges, the application of this technique to specific cells within the brain
would elucidate these possibilities. Furthermore, previous studies have identified eIF1, eIF2α
kinases, and DENR/MCT1, as facilitators of translation of main ORF whose 5′ leaders harbor
uORFs (Ivanov et al., 2010; Schleich et al., 2014; Sonenberg and Hinnebusch, 2009; Zhou et
al., 2020). Interestingly, all these proteins are expressed more in neurons than in glia in our
dataset (supplementary table 1). Selective activation of these molecular machineries might
underlie the cell type specific translation.

Our cell-type specific translatome analysis further revealed translational regulations
beyond 5′ leaders. We found a remarkable ribosomal stall at the initiation codon in several
transcripts, a phenomenon observed in neurons but not in the entire heads (Figure 3 – figure
supplement 1). These transcripts are known to be massively expressed in the fat bodies but
less in the nervous system (Figure 3 – figure supplement 1C) (Dobson et al., 2018), and the
translation was further suppressed in neurons (Figure 3 – figure supplement 1). Therefore,
transition from initiation to elongation may serve as another regulatory checkpoint of protein
synthesis (Harnett et al., 2022; Wang et al., 2019), which enhances cell-type distinctions.
Furthermore, we found ribosome footprints also on the 3′ UTR of certain transcripts, such as
Synapsin (Figure 3C). Stop-codon readthrough has been reported to be more frequent in
neurons than in other cell types (Hudson et al., 2021; Karki et al., 2022; Prieto-Godino et al.,
2016). Because the readthrough events extend the protein C-terminus, its regulation can add
yet another layer of cell-type diversity (Dunn et al., 2013; Jungreis et al., 2011; Klagges et al.,

1996). Altogether, we here propose that translational regulations further differentiate
transcriptome distinctions, thereby shaping the cellular identity.

Due to the specialized functions of neuronal and glial cells, they express distinct sets of
proteins. Neurons allocate more ribosomes to proteins related to neurotransmission, visual
sensing and oxidative phosphorylation, while glial cells synthesize transporters and enzymes
for metabolism of amino acid, fatty acid or carbohydrates (Figure 2 – figure supplement 1F).
Despite these clear differences and specialization, a significant amount of neuronal and glial
cells has a common developmental origin. They originate from a stem cell lineage known as
neuro-glioblasts (Lai and Lee, 2006; Viktorin et al., 2011), and the fate of these cells can be
altered by the expression of a single gene, *glial cells missing* (*gcm*) (Hartenstein, 2011; Hosoya
et al., 1995). Therefore, translational regulations, in addition to transcriptional diversity, may
play a particularly important role in these sister cell types with distinct physiological roles.

In the *Drosophila* brain, approximately 100 stem cell lineages diverge into more than
5,000 morphologically distinct cell types (Ito et al., 2013; Scheffer et al., 2020; Yu et al., 2013).
Hence, translational regulations similar to those described in this study, or other possible
regulations, may play significant roles in further differentiating neuronal or glial subtypes.
Consistent with this idea, our *UAS-Rh1-Venus* reporter showed heterogeneous expression
even among neurons, contrasting with the more uniform expression observed in the control
UASz-GFP reporter (Figures 5D and Figure 5 – figure supplement 1C-D). In accordance,
choline acetyltransferase (ChAT), an enzyme needed to synthesize acetylcholine, and
vesicular acetylcholine transporter (VAChT) are transcribed in many glutamatergic and
GABAergic neurons but its protein synthesis is inhibited (Chen et al., 2023; Lacin et al., 2019).
Substantial post-transcriptional regulations are also implicated during development (Li et al.,
2020; Zhang et al., 2016). Taken together, multiple layers of transcriptional and
posttranscriptional regulations should shape the proteome diversity of cell types in the nervous
system. Further comparative transcriptome-translatome analyses using more specific GAL4
drivers should highlight the diversity of translational regulations leveraged in the brain.

Limitation of the study:

Because our cell-type specific Ribo-seq and RNA-seq are based on immunoprecipitation of
genetically tagged RpL3 (Chen et al., 2017), the read counts could contain biases, such as
underestimation of mRNA level with little or no translational activity, or over- and under-
representation of certain cell types originating from the heterogeneous expression of the

drivers.

Materials and Methods:

Fly culture and genetics

The flies were reared in a mass culture at 24 ºC under the 12-12 hour light-dark cycles on the standard cornmeal food. The *Canton-S* strain was used as the wild-type. We utilized the following transgenic strains: w^{1118};;GMR57C10-GAL4 (*nSyb-GAL4*; BDSC #39171), w^{1118};;repo-GAL4 (BDSC #7415), y^1w^{1118};;tublin-GAL4 (BDSC #5138), w^{1118};MB010B (BDSC #68293), w^{1118};;UAS-RpL3::FLAG (BDSC #77132) (Chen and Dickman, 2017), y^1v^1;UAS-Rh1-Venus (made in this study; see below), y^1v^1;UAS-m-Rh1-Venus (made in this study), *w;UASz-GFP* (a kind gift from Dr. Steven DeLuca) (DeLuca and Spradling, 2018). Females of the GAL4 drivers were crossed to males of the UAS effectors, and the F1 progenies were used for the experiments. Of note, although *UAS-EGFP::RpL10Ab* (Thomas et al., 2012) has been used to isolate ribosomes from specific cells, its expression using the *repo-GAL4* caused lethality in our hands.

Library preparation for ribosome profiling

Tissue collection and lysate preparation

Four to eight days old flies with mixed gender were flash-frozen with liquid nitrogen, thoroughly vortexed, and the heads were isolated from the bodies with metal mesh in a similar manner reported previously (Sun et al., 2020). Approximately 500 frozen heads were mixed with 400 μl of frozen droplets of lysis buffer [20 mM Tris-HCl pH7.5, 150mM NaCl, 5 mM $MgCl_2$, 1 mM dithiothreitol, 1 % Triton X-100, 100 μg/ml chloramphenicol, and 100 μg/ml cycloheximide] in a pre-chilled container, then pulverized with grinding at 3,000 rpm for 15 seconds using a Multi-beads Shocker (YASUI KIKAI). Cycloheximide and chroramphenicol were added to the lysis buffer to prevent possible elongation and run-off of cytosolic and mitochondrial ribosomes, respectively. The lysate was slowly thawed at 4 °C and the supernatant was recovered after spinning down by a table top micro centrifuge. The lysate was treated with 10 U of Turbo DNase (ThermoFisher Scientific) on ice for 10 min to digest the genome DNA. The supernatant was further clarified by spinning at 20,000 g for 10 minutes.

Immunoprecipitation

Anti-FLAG M2 antibody (F1804, Sigma Aldrich) and Dynabeads M-280 bound to anti-mouse IgG antibody (11201D, Invitrogen) were used for immunoprecipitation. 25 μl of the beads solution, washed twice with the aforementioned lysis buffer, was mixed with 2.5 μl of the M2 antibody, and incubated at 4 °C for 1 hour with rotation. Beads were incubated with the

lysate at 4 °C for 1 hour with rotation and washed for four times with the lysis buffer. The

ribosome-bound mRNA was eluted with 50 µl of 100 µg/ml 3× FLAG peptide (GEN-3XFLAG-

25, Protein Ark) dissolved in the lysis buffer.

RNase digestion and library preparation

Ribosome profiling was performed as described previously (McGlincy and Ingolia, 2017;

Mito et al., 2020) with modifications. We used RNase I from *E. coli* (N6901K, Epicentre) to

digest the crude (Figures 1, Figure 2 – figure supplement 1C-D) or the immunoprecipitated

(Figure 2) lysate. Concentration of RNA in lysate was measured with Qubit RNA HS kit

(Q32852, Thermo Fisher Scientific). RNase I was added at a dose of 0.25 U per 1 µg RNA in

a 50 µl reaction mixture, which was incubated at 25 °C for 45 minutes. We used 1.36 µg and

0.5 µg RNA to prepare the whole head libraries (Figures 1, Figure 2 – figure supplement 1C-

D) and the cell-type specific libraries (Figure 2-3), respectively. The RNase digestion was

stopped by adding 20 U of SUPERase•In (AM2694, ThermoFisher Scientific). Ribosomes

were isolated by MicroSpin S-400 HR columns (27-5140-01, GE Healthcare). Subsequently,

we purified RNA using the TRIzol-LS (10296010, ThermoFisher Scientific) and Direct-zol RNA

Microprep kit (R2062, Zymo Research), and isolated the RNA fragment ranging 17 to 34 nt by

polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis.

The isolated RNA fragments were ligated to custom-made preadenylated linkers

containing unique molecular identifiers and barcodes for library pooling, using T4 RNA ligase

2, truncated KQ (M0373L, New England Biolabs) (Mito et al., 2020). Ribosomal RNA was

depleted by hybridizing to the custom-made biotinylated 2′-*O*-methyl oligonucleotides with

complementary sequences to the *Drosophila* rRNA (see *Supplementary Method* for the

sequences), which can be pulled-down using the streptavidin-coated beads (65001,

ThermoFisher Scientific). The rRNA-depleted samples were reverse-transcribed with

ProtoScript II (M0368L, New England Biolabs), circularized with CircLigase II (CL9025K,

Epicentre), and PCR-amplified using Phusion polymerase (M0530S, New England Biolabs)

(Mito et al., 2020). The libraries were sequenced with the Illumina HiSeq 4000 system

(Illumina) with single-end reads of 50 bases.

Library preparation for transcriptome analysis

The crude (Figure 1) or the immunoprecipitated (Figure 2) lysate was prepared using the

same protocol as described above, but without RNase digestion. RNA was purified using

TRIzol-LS. The libraries were constructed in Azenta Japan Corporation, using the NEBNext

Poly(A) mRNA Magnetic Isolation Module (E7760, New England Biolabs) and MGIEasy RNA

Directional Library Prep kit (1000006386, MGI tech). Briefly, poly-A tailed mRNAs were

enriched with the oligo dT beads, fragmented, and reverse-transcribed using random primers.

After the second strand cDNA was synthesized, an adapter sequence was added. DNA library

was PCR-amplified. The libraries were sequenced with DNB-seq (MGI tech) with an option of

paired end reads for 150 bases.

Data analysis

Adaptor sequences were removed using Fastp (Chen et al., 2018), and the reads that

matched to the non-coding RNA were discarded. The remaining reads were mapped onto the

Drosophila melanogaster release 6 genome. Mapping was performed using STAR (Dobin et

al., 2013). PCR-duplicated reads were removed by referring to the unique molecular identifiers.

The number of uniquely mapped reads are as follows:

Ribo-seq:

Sample	#Reads
Canton-S, whole heads	1,427,090
nSyb-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, after IP, replicate 1	2,443,467
nSyb-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, after IP, replicate 2	1,135,284
repo-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, after IP, replicate 1	2,698,259
repo-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, after IP, replicate 2	2,133,920
nSyb-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, whole heads, replicate 1	2,147,092
nSyb-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, whole heads, replicate 2	2,361,588
repo-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, whole heads, replicate 1	1,372,502
repo-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, whole heads, replicate 2	1,846,122

373   RNA-seq:

Sample	#Reads
Canton-S, whole heads	29,132,939
nSyb-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, after IP, replicate 1	40,638,850
nSyb-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, after IP, replicate 2	34,247,848
repo-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, after IP, replicate 1	30,906,375

repo-GAL4/UAS-RpL3::FLAG, after IP, replicate 2   31,928,337

For Ribo-seq analysis, fragments ranging from 20 to 34 nt for whole head samples and
21 to 36 nt for immunoprecipitated samples were used. For the whole head samples, the
position of the P site was estimated as 12 or 13 nt downstream from the 5′ end, for the 20 to
31 nt or 32-34 nt fragments, respectively (Ingolia et al., 2009). For the immunoprecipitated
samples, it was estimated as 12 or 13 nt downstream for the 21 nt or 22-36 nt fragments,
respectively. Footprints were considered to be on the CDS if the estimated P site was between
the annotated start and stop codons. RNA-seq analysis included all fragments greater than 30
nt in length. For genes with alternatively spliced transcripts, the isoform with the highest TPM
in the wild type RNA-seq sample (Figure 1) was selected as the 'representative' isoform. If not
specified, only the representative isoforms were considered. TE was calculated as TPM of
ribosome footprints on CDS divided by TPM of RNA-seq.

The KEGG-enrichment analyses were performed using iPAGE (Figures 1H and 2D)
(Goodarzi et al., 2009) or DAVID (Figure 2 – figure supplement 2E and Figure 2 – figure
supplement 4A) (Dennis et al., 2003). Statistical tests were performed with GraphPad Prism
9.

The Fly Cell Atlas data were downloaded (https://www.ebi.ac.uk/gxa/sc/experiment/E-
MTAB-10519/download/zip?fileType=normalised&accessKey=), and the mean RPKM in
neuronal or glial cells was calculated for each gene according to the annotation (Li et al., 2022).

Reporter construct and the transgenic strain

DNA fragments containing a minimal hsp70 promoter (hsp70Bb) (DeLuca and Spradling,
2018), the 5′ leader or the mutated 5' leader of *Rh1-RA*, the first 15 bases of the CDS of *Rh1-*
RA, the Venus yellow fluorescent protein gene, and the 3′ UTR of *Rh1-RA* were synthesized
and cloned into the pBFv-UAS3 plasmid (Addgene #138399). The sequence of the resultant
plasmid is provided in the *Supporting Information Text*. The plasmid was then injected into *y¹*
v¹ P{nos-phiC31}; P{CaryP}attP40, and their progenies were screened for a *v+* phenotype. A
single transformant was crossed to *y¹ cho² v¹; Sp/CyO* balancer to establish a transgenic line.

Immunohistochemistry and fluorescent in-situ hybridization

Immunohistochemistry (Figures 2A and Figure 2 – figure supplement 1) was performed
as previously described with minor modifications (Kanno et al., 2021). Briefly, dissected male
fly brains were fixed in 2 % paraformaldehyde in PBS for 1 hour at room temperature, washed

three times with PBST (0.1 % Triton X-100 in PBS), blocked with 3 % goat serum in PBST for

30 minutes, then incubated with the primary antibody solution at 4 ºC overnight (mouse anti-

FLAG (1:1000; Sigma-Aldrich; F1804), mouse anti-RpS6 (1:200; Cell Signaling; 54D2), and

rat anti-elav (1:20; DSHB; 7E8A10)). Subsequently, the brains were washed three times with

PBST, incubated with the secondary antibody solution at 4 ºC overnight (anti-mouse Alexa

Fluor 488 (1:400; Invitrogen; A11001), anti-mouse Cy3 (1:1000; Jackson ImmunoResearch;

115-166-003), and anti-rat Cy3 (1:200; Jackson ImmunoResearch; 112-166-003)), washed

three times with PBST and mounted with 86 % glycerol in PBS.

Fluorescent in-situ hybridization, combined with immunohistochemistry, was performed in

a similar manner to (Yang et al., 2017) with several modifications (Figure 5D-G). Dissected

male fly brains were fixed in PBS containing 3 % formaldehyde, 1 % glyoxal and 0.1 %

methanol for 30 min at room temperature, followed by three quick washes with PBT (0.5 %

Triton X-100 in PBS). Consistent with the previous study, the addition of glyoxal to the fixative

improved the FISH signal (Yao et al., 2021). The buffer was then exchanged to the wash

solution (10 % Hi-Di^{TM} Formamide (Thermofisher scientific; 4311320) in 2x saline sodium

citrate (SSC)) and was incubated at 37 ºC for 5 minutes. Subsequently, the brains were

incubated with the custom-made Stellaris *Venus* or *GFP* probes (100 nM; see *Supporting*

Information Text for the sequences; LGC BioSearch Technologies) and the primary antibody

(mouse anti-Repo (1:100; DSHB; 8D12)) in the hybridization buffer (10% Hi-Di^{TM} Formamide

in hybridization buffer (Stellaris RNA FISH Hybridization Buffer, SMF-HB1-10)) at 37 ºC for 16

hours. The probes and the antibody were then removed by washing the samples quickly three

times with preheated wash solution at 37 ºC, followed by three washes for 10 minutes at room

temperature. Blocking was performed with 3 % normal goat serum in PBT for 30 min at room

temperature. The secondary antibody (Cy3 goat anti-mouse (1:2000; Jackson

ImmunoResearch; 115-166-003)) was then added and was incubated at 4 ºC overnight. The

samples were washed once quickly, three times for 20 minutes, and once for 60 minutes with

PBT, and then mounted in 86 % glycerol in 1x Tris-HCl buffer (pH7.4).

Tissues to detect native GFP or Venus signals (Figure 5 – figure supplement 1) were

prepared as follows: dissected brains were fixed in PBS containing 3 % formaldehyde, 1 %

glyoxal and 0.1 % methanol for 30 min at room temperature, followed by one quick wash and

three washes for 10 minutes with PBT. The samples were then mounted in 86 % glycerol in

1x Tris-HCl buffer (pH7.4).

Imaging and microscopes

Imaging was done on the Olympus FV1200 confocal microscope with GaAsP sensors. A
100x/1.35 silicone immersion objective (UPLSAPO100XS, Olympus) or 30x/1.05 silicone
immersion objective (UPLSAPO30XS) was used. Scan settings were kept constant across
specimens to be compared.

Data availability

The raw sequence data were deposited in the National Center for Biotechnology
Information (NCBI) database with the project code (PRJNA992629). The custom scripts are
available in Zenodo (https://zenodo.org/records/10637789).

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Figure 1. Comparative transcriptome-translatome analyses in the *Drosophila* head.

(A) Schematics. Fly head lysate is digested with RNase I for Ribo-seq, while not for RNA-seq.

Resultant short fragments or the whole mRNA are reverse-transcribed and sequenced. (B)

Meta-genome ribosome distribution (estimated P-sites of the 21-nt fragments), relative to the

annotated start and stop codons. RPM: reads per million. (C) Scatter plots of mRNA reads (x-

axis, TPM: transcripts per million) and ribosome footprints on CDS (y-axis, TPM). Several

neuron-related genes are highlighted with colors and arrows. The squared Pearson's

correlation coefficient (R^2) is indicated. (D-F) Ribosome footprints (D), mRNA level (E), and

translational efficiency (F) of *Shaker-RB* (*Sh*) and *Trehalase-RA* (*Treh*). TE: translational

efficiency. TE is calculated as ribosome footprints on CDS (TPM) divided by the mRNA level

(TPM). (G) Histogram of TE. The bin size is 0.2 in the unit of log 2. Total 9,611 genes with at

least one read in both Ribo-seq and RNA-seq are plotted. (H) Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes

and Genomes (KEGG) pathways enrichment analysis, visualized by iPAGE (Goodarzi et al.,

2009), based on TE. The 9,611 genes are ranked and binned according to TE (left to right: low

to high), and over- and under- representation is tested. The presented KEGG pathways show

P values smaller than 0.0005. (I) TE of transcripts in the denoted gene ontology terms. Bars

represent the median. ns: *P* > 0.05; ***: *P* < 0.001; in the Dunn's multiple comparisons test,

compared to the "all" group.

Figure 2. Cell-type specific Ribo-seq and RNA-seq reveal differential translational regulations.

(A) Schematics. FLAG-tagged ribosome protein L3 (RpL3::FLAG) is expressed in neurons (*nSyb-GAL4*) or in glial cells (*repo-GAL4*). RNA-seq and Ribo-seq are performed following

immunoprecipitation. Whole brain images of the exogenously expressed RpL3::FLAG are

shown. Scale bars: 50 µm. (B) The MA-plot of ribosome footprints on CDS among neurons

and glia. Each gene is plotted according to the fold change (x-axis) and the average (y-axis)

in the unit of $\log_2$. Several marker genes are highlighted with green (neuron) or blue (glia). (C)

TE of genes in the denoted KEGG pathways in the whole head (black), neurons (green), or in

glia (blue). Genes with TPM > 1 in the RNA-seq dataset are plotted. Bars represent the

median. *: $P < 0.05$, **: $P < 0.01$, ***: $P < 0.001$, the Dunn's multiple comparisons test. (D)

KEGG pathway enrichment analysis based on the ratio of TE in neurons to in glia. All genes

with at least one read in both cell types (total 9,732 genes) are ranked and binned according

to the neuron-to-glia ratio (left to right: high to low), and over- and under- representation is

tested. The presented KEGG pathways show P values smaller than 0.0005. (E) Scatter plot of

TE in neurons (x-axis) and in glia (y-axis). The squared Pearson's correlation coefficient (R^2)

is indicated. (F) TE in glia plotted according to the ratio of mRNA expression in neurons

compared to glia. ***: $P < 0.001$, Kruskal-Wallis test. All the 7,933 genes showing TPM > 1 in

RNA-seq are analyzed. (G) TE of transcripts, showing at least one read, in the indicated gene

ontology (GO) terms. Bars represent the median. **: $P < 0.01$, ***: $P < 0.001$, Dunn's multiple

comparisons test. (H) Read counts of genes (TPM) in the indicated GO terms in RNA-seq

(yellow) and in Ribo-seq (pink). The grey, green and blue dots indicate the read counts in the

whole head, neurons and glial cells, respectively. ns: $P > 0.05$, **: $P < 0.01$, ***: $P < 0.001$,

Dunn's multiple comparisons test.

Figure 3. Ribosome stalling on the 5′ leaders of DTTs in glia.

(A) Ribosome distribution (estimated P-sites) on the 161 DTTs around the start codons (solid

lines; start +/- 50 nt). These DTTs are defined as transcripts showing more than 10 times

higher TE in neurons compared to glia. The dotted lines in the bottom graph indicate the

genome-wide distribution. All the transcripts showing TPM > 1 in RNA-seq both in neurons

and glia are considered (7,933 genes in total), and the height is normalized by the total reads

on this region. (B) Ratio of ribosome density on 5′ leader (TPM) to CDS (TPM) of the 161 DTTs

or of all transcripts in neurons (green) or in glia (blue). The bars represent the median. ***: *P*

< 0.001, Mann-Whitney test of ranks. (C) Distribution of ribosome footprints on the

representative neuronal transcripts. Ribosome footprints (RPM) normalized by the mRNA level

(TPM) are shown. Note that *Syn-RD* harbors a stop codon in the CDS but a fraction of

ribosomes skip it, generating two annotated ORFs (CDS1 and CDS2) (Klagges et al., 1996).

(D) Ratio of ribosome density on 5′ leader to CDS (mean ± standard error of mean of the

biological replicates). (E) Ratio of ribosome density on 5′ leader to CDS on transcripts in the

indicated GO terms in glia. *: $P < 0.05$, ***: $P < 0.001$, Dunn's multiple comparisons test

compared to the "all" group.

Figure 4. Footprint accumulation on upstream AUG in glia.

(A) Meta-genome ribosome distribution (estimated P-sites of the 32-nt fragments) around the upstream AUG codons in glia. (B) Meta-genome ribosome distribution (estimated P-sites of the 32-nt fragments) around the annotated start codons in glia. (C) Footprint accumulation on 5′ leader in glia, defined as the number of ribosome footprints (estimated P-sites) on each codon normalized by the average on the surrounding (-50 to +50) regions. (D) Footprint accumulation inside the annotated CDS in glia. Annotated in-frame codons except the start and the stop codons are considered. AU: arbitrary unit.

Figure 5. The transgenic *Rh1-Venus* reporter reveals differential translation in neuronal

and glial cells.

(A) Reads on *Rh1-RA* in RNA- or Ribo- seq. (B) Ribosome distribution (estimated P-sites) on

Rh1-RA in neurons (green) and in glia (blue), with 0 on the x-axis indicating the start codon of

the CDS. 6-base upstream ORFs, consisting of consecutive start (or the near-cognate) and

stop codons, are highlighted. Note that footprints are normalized by the total read counts on

the transcript in each cell type to see the relative distribution of ribosomes. (C) Schematics of

the *Rh1* (*UASz-Rh1-Venus*) or the control (*UASz-GFP*) reporter. For the *Rh1* reporter, 5′

leader and 3′ UTR sequences of *Rh1-RA* are fused to CDS of the *Venus* fluorescent protein.

For the control reporter, synthetic 5′ leader sequences (*syn21*) and viral *p10* terminator are

fused to GFP (DeLuca and Spradling, 2018). Note that both reporters contain the same

promoter (*UASz*) (DeLuca and Spradling, 2018) and are inserted onto the identical genomic

locus (*attP40*). (D) Expression of the *Rh1-* or the control reporters driven by *Tubulin-GAL4*.

Sliced confocal images of the cortical regions next to the antennal lobe are shown. We made

consistent observation in 4 brains in each genotype. Green: EGFP or Venus fluorescent signal.

Red: Immunohistochemical signal of repo protein as a glial marker. Grey: EGFP or Venus

mRNA. Orange arrowheads indicate glial cells marked by the repo expression. Scale bars: 5

μm. (E) Schematics of the mutated *Rh1* reporter (*m-Rh1*). The minimal uORF is replaced with

CCCAAA. (F) The expression of the *Rh1-* or *m-Rh1-* reporters, driven by the *nSyb-* or the *repo-*

GAL4. Sliced confocal images of the cortical regions next to the antennal lobe are shown.

Green: Venus fluorescent signal. Red: Venus mRNA signal. The total protein signal was

normalized by the total mRNA signal for each brain. $N = 8$ (*nSub > Rh1*), 8 (*nSyb > m-Rh1*),

16 (*repo > Rh1*), 13 (*repo > m-Rh1*). ns: $P > 0.05$, *: $P < 0.05$, Man-Whitney test of ranks.