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Method for tracking orthogonal ribosomes *in vivo* using MS2 coat protein

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Abstract

Method for tracking orthogonal ribosomes in vivo using MS2 coat protein

John Lindström

Ribosomes are large macromolecules responsible for protein synthesis and they consist of both RNA and proteins. Each ribosome is made of one large and one small subunit. Even though the ribosome is one of the most studied machineries in the cell there is a gap in our understanding of how this macromolecule functions *in vivo*. In this project we aimed to develop a method for tracking a specific subset of ribosomes using super-resolution fluorescence microscopy. This was achieved by using the MS2 coat protein (MS2CP) fused to a fluorescent marker and by modifying ribosomes to have the RNA loop to which the MS2CP binds with high affinity. We were able to obtain the most promising results when the MS2CP was fused to a Halotag with the dye JF549 attached to it. The JF549 has good cell permeability which allows simple and efficient labelling of ribosomes. To be able to observe translation of specific mRNAs we used this labelling strategy to track orthogonal ribosomes which do not recognise mRNA normally produced in cells but can translate mRNAs with a modified 5'-UTR. Orthogonal ribosomes were tested with several different 5'-UTRs. With the construct for which we obtained the highest expression level we observed that up to 43% of the labelled orthogonal ribosomes were engaged in translation of the specific mRNA. The system will make it possible to determine how the sequence of a particular mRNA will affect its *in vivo* translation.

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Celler består av många komponenter som är essentiella för deras överlevnad; en av dessa nödvändiga komponenter är ribosomen. Ribosomernas uppgift är att syntetisera proteiner utifrån budbärar-ribonukleinsyra (mRNA), kopierat från DNA, som fungerar som en mall för proteinet. Ribosomer delas vanligen upp i två enheter och består av både (rRNA) och proteiner. I bakterier består ribosomen av en mindre 30S-enhet och en större 50S-enhet, som tillsammans bildar 70S ribosomer. Vilka proteiner som ska syntetiseras bestäms av att DNA för en gen transkriberas till mRNA. Detta mRNA fungerar som en mall som ribosomen translaterar till proteiner. Det har utförts många studier om ribosomens struktur och funktion, men de flesta detaljerade studier är gjorda *in vitro*, dvs i provrör med framrenade komponenter. Detta gör att interaktioner som sker med andra delar i celler lätt kan förbises. Ett relativt nytt verktyg för att studera dynamiken hos proteinsyntesen inuti levande celler är så kallad ribosomprofilering (ribosome profiling). Detta går ut på att man antingen fryser eller behandlar celler med antibiotika som stoppar proteinsyntesen. Sedan använder man enzymer för att bryta ner RNA som inte är bundet till ribosomen. På detta sätt kan man se vilka mRNA som ribosomerna jobbar med just under det tillfället och hur långt de kommit. Från detta kan man sedan tänka sig att där de flesta ribosomerna befinner sig på RNAt är det hastighetsbegränsande steget. Problemet med denna metod är att hastigheterna man får inte är direkta mätningar av hastigheterna (Michel and Baranov 2013) men att även när man stryper reaktionen, i detta fall translationen, så är det väldigt snabba reaktioner som kan ge brusiga mätningar. Vid användandet av antibiotika kan ribosomernas distribution på mRNA ändras lokalt (Brar and Weissman 2015). Vid användandet av antibiotika kan även osäkra resultat ges om antibiotikats effekt påverkas av vilket mRNA som ska translateras.

Målet med mitt projekt var att utveckla ett nytt system för att studera proteinsyntesdynamik direkt i levande celler.

Ribosomer och proteinsyntesen kan studeras genom olika metoder. Exempelvis kan detta göras genom att märka in molekyler med fluorescens som sedan interagerar med ribosomen. En annan metod utförs genom att stanna av reaktioner och studera vad som interagerar samt hur strukturerna och interaktionerna ser ut under tillfället reaktionen stannar av. I detta projekt märks ribosomerna in med fluorescens. Detta görs med ett bakteriofagprotein, MS2 coat protein, som binder in specifikt till en viss RNA-sekvens. I projektet har en optimerad version av MS2 bindings loopen använts som gör inbindningen stark och specifik. För att få fluorescens kopplas MS2 proteinet till ett protein som kan belysas med laser och avge en signal som kan studeras i mikroskop.

För att MS2-proteinet ska binda in till ribosomen har ribosomerna modifierats till att ha MS2 RNA loopen då den inte förekommer naturligt. Denna modifikation stör inte ut ribosomens funktion men gör det möjligt att studera ribosomens rörelse och med vilken hastighet ribosomen diffunderar.

Med hjälp av denna metod har ribosomernas diffusion inuti bakterien *Escherichia coli* kunnat avgöras. Från denna studies resultat dras slutsatsen att ribosomer som uttrycker proteiner (dvs när den lilla och den stora subenheten sitter ihop på ett mRNA) i *E. coli* diffunderar med en hastighet på runt 0,07–0,10 $\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ och att den lilla subenheten rör sig i 0,6–0,7 $\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$. Lilla subenhetens hastighet mättes med ortogonala ribosomer som inte har något ortogonalt mRNA att translatera. Att ribosomerna är ortogonala innebär att de inte translaterar de normala proteinerna i cellen. Ortogonala ribosomer kan skapas genom en förändring i den sekvens som ribosomerna vanligtvis använder för att känna igen mRNA.

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Abbreviations

DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
S	Svedberg units
SD	Shine-Dalgarno
GFP	green florescent protein
MS2CP	MS2 coat protein
<i>wt</i>	wild type
H6	Helix 6

1 Introduction and background

The ribosome is an essential and highly conserved molecular machine of the cell responsible for translation of the genetic information into functional proteins. Prokaryotes have smaller 70S ribosomes (where S refers to Svedberg units, sedimentation index) while eukaryotes have larger 80S ribosomes, although both share many similarities in their architecture and thus studies on bacterial ribosomes are useful for understanding how eukaryotic ribosomes function (Volkov and Johansson 2018).

The ribosome is a large macromolecular complex, divided into two subunits, which consists of both proteins and rRNA. Besides proteins the larger subunit consists of 23S rRNA and 5S rRNA and the smaller subunit contain 16S rRNA. For initiation of translation of mRNA, the ribosomes recognize a region called the Shine-Dalgarno (SD) sequence located 6-10 nucleotides upstream of the start codon AUG. The shine-Dalgarno sequence is present upstream of the majority of translated genes but the sequence can vary to some extent. Some mRNAs can be translated without a SD sequence though this is not very common (Rackham and Chin 2005). The ribosome recognizes the SD-sequence through a corresponding sequence called the anti-SD sequence located in the 3' end of 16S rRNA in the ribosome.

Although overall structure and mechanism of action of the ribosome is well studied, not all the dynamics and interactions are known. *In vitro* methods such as quench flow or single molecule experiments with fluorescently labelled components of translation allowed to explore more details of the dynamics of translation. Quench flow works by letting a reaction happen for a short time before quenching it, for example by adding an acid. This is then done at several timesteps and the reaction and its rates can be studied (Johansson 2012). For *in vitro* single molecule fluorescent experiments components of translation such as ribosomes, tRNAs, initiation and elongation factors are labelled by fluorescent dyes which allows direct observation of interaction of different components during translation. In a study by Dorywalska *et al.* (2005) they developed a method for labelling ribosomes using small oligonucleotides with a fluorescent dye attached to the oligonucleotide. By immobilizing the sample, they were able to study ribosomal molecules *in vitro* using single molecule fluorescent microscopy (Dorywalska *et al.* 2005). A downside of these methods is that even when one tries to keep the condition for the reaction close to the *in vivo*, one cannot foresee all interactions nor include all components in the reaction environment.

Ribosome profiling is a recently developed method which can be used for observation of how ribosomes translate mRNAs *in vivo* and, among other things, can help study the kinetics of ribosomes, and works by interrupting the translation. The interruption of the ribosomes can be made by quickly freezing the sample or by treating it with antibiotics. Then all RNAs not bound to ribosomes are degraded using enzymes and the mRNA sequences bound to the ribosome are thus protected from degradation and are sequenced (Michel and Baranov 2013). With this method one can look at progression of ribosomes on mRNA and estimate how

abundant the ribosomes are at every position on the RNA. Depending on how many mRNAs that are being translated the expression levels of a protein can be estimated and if many mRNAs have stopped translation at the same location, that location probably has some features which makes translation stall and become rate limiting.

A problem with this method is that a large sample size is needed and genes where expression is low can be left out. When halting the translation these fast types of reactions can give blurry measurements and when using antibiotics, the ribosomes local distribution on the mRNA can change (Brar and Weissman 2015). Another thing that also can affect the interpretation of the results is that our understanding of mode of actions of the antibiotics being used is in many cases not comprehensive and that the antibiotics efficiency can dependent on which mRNA that is being translated. Development of tools to increase our knowledge about the dynamics of protein synthesis can help us understand how for example antibiotics works and why some are bacteriostatic while others are bactericidal, even though both are targeting the protein synthesis (Volkov and Johansson 2018).

The discovery of green fluorescent protein (GFP) was a breakthrough in the study of intracellular dynamics. GFP allowed researchers to look at proteins and DNA at a subcellular level. But observation of proteins at single-molecule level was problematic due to the weak signal from a single fluorophore and high autofluorescence background of cells. Other problems were quick photobleaching of fluorophores, and the resolution was limited to around 250 nm (Kapanidis, *et al.* 2018). Today, super-resolution microscopy in combination with more advanced fluorescent molecules has made single-molecule tracking possible. Single-molecule studies using fluorescent proteins can today reach a resolution down to 10 nm (Stracy *et al.* 2014). Photoactivated fluorophores have been developed to make single molecule tracking possible with higher copy number proteins. High copy number increases the expression through more plasmids expressing the fluorophore. These photoactivatable fluorophores need to be activated with laser pulse before they become fluorescent; this activation allows us to only activate and observe just a few fluorophores at a time.

Recent year's development in single-molecule tracking approaches has finally opened up the possibility to study kinetics of mRNA translation directly inside living cells. One of these ways is labelling of tRNA *in vitro*, electroporation of labelled tRNAs into cells and measuring the diffusion rate of tRNAs in the cell (Volkov *et al.* 2018). Free tRNA diffuse much faster than tRNAs bound to the ribosomes and thus the time when the tRNA is bound to the ribosome can be calculated from the time the tRNA is in the slow diffusional state (Volkov *et al.* 2018). Another way to study the translation using single molecule fluorescents was used by Yan *et al.* (2016) where they linked fluorescence to both the mRNA being translated and to the protein which the mRNA encodes for. The labelling was done using several Suntag regions in the protein which scFv-GFP binds to and PP7-mCherry which binds to an RNA hairpin (Yan *et al.* 2016). They anchored the mRNA to the membrane to be able to observe several rounds of translation from the same mRNA. From this they could study translation for a specific mRNA. The disadvantage of this method is the repeats of the binding sites on the

mRNA and the insertion of repeated tags in the peptide which can affect the translation rate (Yan *et al.* 2016).

The present study aims to provide a tool for efficiently tracking ribosomes *in vivo* and observation of translation from specific mRNAs. To achieve this the ribosome will be labelled using MS2 coat protein (MS2CP) fused with a fluorescent marker, the labelling will be performed in such way that there will be no need for electroporation of labelled molecules into the cell. Labelling will be performed by introducing an RNA loop with specific MS2CP binding into one of the 16S rRNA loops. This loop will be inserted in regions known to be tolerant for modifications in the 16S rRNA. Furthermore, modification of the anti-SD sequence of 16S rRNA will allow us to track orthogonal ribosomes translating specific mRNAs with a substituted SD sequence.

1.1 MS2 bacteriophage coat protein

The MS2CP originates from the bacteriophage MS2 and has the property to bind specific RNA structures. The RNA which MS2CP recognises is a small hairpin present in the bacteriophage's genomic RNA. Introduction of such a hairpin in different RNAs has been shown to direct binding of MS2CP to these RNAs. The hairpin can be modified to make the MS2 binding tighter by substituting an uracil to a cytosine (AUUA→AUCA) (Figure 1). This mutation makes the binding between the RNA loop and the MS2CP 50-100-fold stronger (Johansson *et al.* 1998).

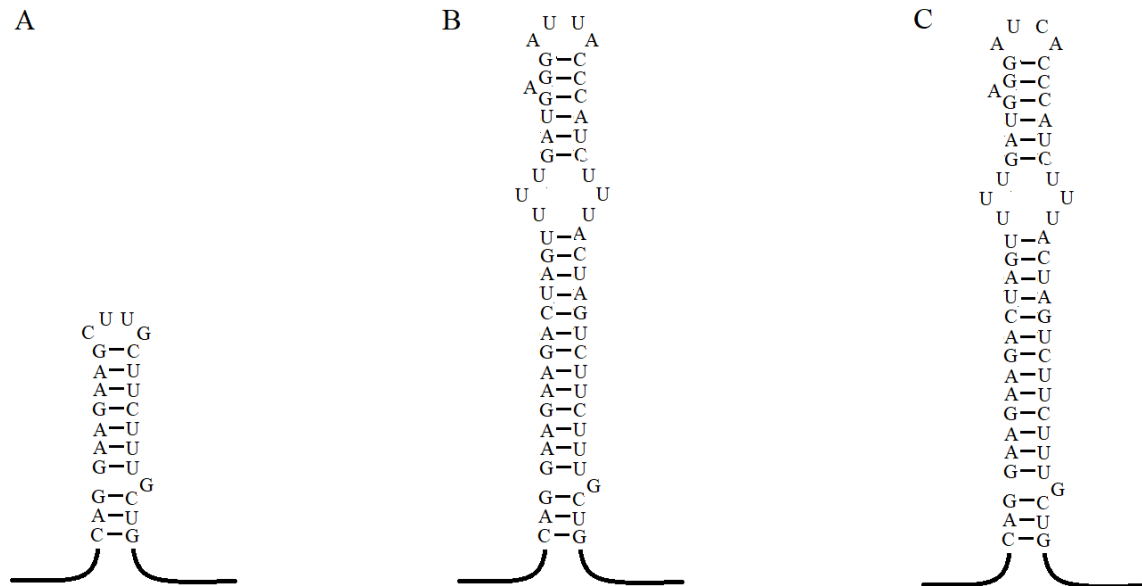


Figure 1 A) helix 6 in ribosomes 16S, which were used in in this study. B) helix 6 in ribosomes 16S modified with *wt* MS2 loop. C) helix 6 in ribosomes 16S with MS2 loop having a cytosine instead of a uracil at the top of the hairpin.

In this study we propose to introduce a hairpin for MS2CP binding in the structure of the ribosome and employ a dimer of MS2CP fused to a fluorescent protein for labelling of ribosomes to study their diffusion. The MS2CP recognize RNA hairpin but only when structured as a dimer. To ensure stability of the dimeric form of the MS2CP we will express the MS2CP as a single polypeptide chain with two monomers attached head-to-tail. For the dimer to be functional and not break apart into MS2CP monomers, modifications of the MS2CP are necessary. In this study a MS2CP dimer with deletion of several nucleotides (CATGGCTTC) was used, these deletions include the starting codon for the second MS2 (Peabody and Lim, 1996). To avoid oligomerization of MS2CP several other mutations can be used to prevent aggregation, such as V30I, A81G and deletion of several amino acids (VATQTVGGVELPV) (Macías *et al.* 2008).

1.2 Fluorescent markers

The green fluorescent protein (GFP) is the first discovered fluorescent protein that allowed labelling of proteins. Fluorescence of fluorescent proteins depends on the maturation of the fluorophore core. Slow maturation of GFP, especially at 37°C, along with non-optimal photochemical properties are GFP's biggest drawbacks which make it inappropriate for single molecule studies. Several improved variants of GFP and other fluorescent proteins have then been developed over the last few decades. In this study we employed two fluorescent proteins: Venus and mEos2. Venus is a derivative of GFP with photophysical properties more suitable for single molecule experiment with mutations which results in faster maturation, increased brightness and stability (Nagai *et al.* 2002).

mEos2 is a red-shifted fluorescent protein which is derived from the Eos fluorescent protein. Unlike Eos, mEos2 matures at 37°C. mEos2 is photoactivatable with 405 nm laser (McKinney *et al.* 2009), making it possible to activate fluorescence only when it is needed, and depending on the time and illumination intensity the number of activated mEos2 can be controlled.

Besides the two abovementioned fluorescent proteins we use Halotag which is not fluorescent on its own but can specifically bind to chemical fluorescent dyes which have superior photochemical properties. In this study we use JF549, a small dye with high brightness and photostability that can allow longer tracking of labelled molecules. The dye unlike the fluorescent proteins is not synthesised in the cell but has good cell permeability and diffuses into the cell when added to the growth media. Once it is inside the cell it binds to the Halotag through a reactive group (Janelia.org 2018) which in this study is fused to the MS2CP.

1.3 Orthogonal ribosomes

Efficiently studying translation can be very hard while the whole proteome is translated. This is difficult because when the whole proteome is translated many different proteins are being

expressed simultaneously and determining what you are really looking at can be difficult. To remove this problem orthogonal ribosomes can be used. These orthogonal ribosomes can be achieved by modifying the anti-SD sequence which only allows them to translate mRNAs with the corresponding SD sequence. Using this, translation can be studied when only a specific mRNA is translated.

2 Material and methods

2.1 Strains

All plasmids used in this study were constructed using the *E. coli* DH5 α strain. For microscopy experiments *E. coli* MG1655 carrying corresponding plasmids was used. The *E. coli* SQ171 strain was used to examine if ribosomes remained functional after modification.

2.2 Plasmids

In this study we constructed a set of compatible plasmids for expression of ribosomal operons (*wt* and orthogonal), MS2CP fusions to fluorescent proteins and Halotag and for expression of the Venus gene with an orthogonal 5'-UTR region. All plasmids were constructed using the Gibson assembly method and by site directed PCR mutagenesis.

2.2.1 Plasmid containing ribosome operon

To create a plasmid pAMM552-rrnB we amplified a fragment containing the entire *rrnB* operon, a ribosomal operon (using oligonucleotides *rrnB_Gibson_F* and *rrnB_Gibson_R*) using the genomic DNA of the MG1655 strain as a template. The fragment was fused with the backbone of Ribo-T (Orelle *et al.* 2015) plasmid (from which the operon for Ribo-T was removed) using the Gibson assembly method. The backbone was amplified using oligonucleotides *pAM552_Gibson_R*, *pAM552_Gibson_F2*. The presence of correct insertion of the *rrnB* operon was confirmed by sequencing.

The pAM552-rrnB was then used in PCR mutagenesis where an extension was added to one of the selected helices (helix 6, 33b, 39 and 44) separately in the 16S rRNA. This was done using site directed PCR mutagenesis (with oligonucleotides *H6_MS2_F*, *H6_R*, *H33b_MS2_F*, *H33b_R*, *H39_MS2_F*, *H39_R*, *H44_MS2_F* and *H44_R*). All locations chosen for mutagenesis with the MS2-loop have been proven to support growth after mutations (Dorywalska *et al.* 2005). The MS2-loop inserted had the C mutation (figure 1) giving higher binding affinity to the MS2 dimer. As mentioned before this mutation gives a 50-100-fold increase in binding (Johansson *et al.* 1998). The constructed pAMM552-rrnB plasmid variants (pAMM552-rrnB-H6, pAMM552-rrnB-H33b, pAMM552-rrnB-H39, pAMM552-rrnB-H44) were verified by sequencing.

Orthogonal ribosomes were first attempted to be constructed from the pAM552-rrnB-H6 plasmid by inserting a CA mutation on position 722-723 in the 16S rRNA and then changing the anti-SD to UGGGA (Rackham and Chin 2005) (using the oligonucleotides *ribo722_CAmut_F*, *ribo721_R*, *riboSDorthogonal_F* and *riboSD_R*). However, we were not able to obtain the desired construct, probably due to the toxicity of orthogonal ribosomes expressed from a multicopy pAMM552 plasmid.

pSC101-o-ribo plasmid containing the operon for orthogonal ribosomes was received as a gift from Chin lab (Rackham and Chin 2005). The orthogonal ribosomes expressed from the pSC101-o-ribo plasmid were then modified to contain the MS2CP binding loop introduced at helix 6. Loop insertion was done using site specific PCR mutagenesis using *H6_MS2_F* and *H6_R* oligonucleotides. We also constructed a variant of the pSC101 plasmid which express *ribo-H6* ribosomes (with *wt* anti-SD) to use as a control. These constructs were prepared by exchanging a fragment containing the anti-SD in pSC101-o-ribo-H6 to the one from pAM552-rrnB. This was done using Gibson assembly by amplification of corresponding fragments (using oligonucleotides *rrb_Gibson_foroSD_F*, *rrb_Gibson_foroSD_R*, *oSDfragment_Gibson_F* and *oSDfragment_Gibson_R*). While pAM552-rrnB has ampicillin resistance, pSC101 has kanamycin resistance.

2.2.2 Plasmid expressing MS2CP protein fused to a fluorescent protein or Halotag

To be able to track the ribosomes they were labelled with MS2CP fused to a marker. The markers tested were Venus, mEos2, and Halotag. All 3 variants of markers were expressed as a fusion with MS2CP placed on a pCOLA plasmid and regulated by the lacUV5 promoter with the lac operator. The pCOLA-MS2 plasmid has a different origin of replication than pAMM552-rrnB and has a kanamycin resistance gene.

To construct the pColA-MS2CP plasmid with different markers we first substituted in pColADuet-1 the original T7 promoter with the lacUV5 promoter with the lac operator using site directed PCR mutagenesis (using oligonucleotides *pColA1* and *pColA2*). Then, using Gibson assembly the MS2CP dimer gene with deletion of several nucleotides (CATGGCTTC), (Peabody and Lim 1996) was inserted in pCOLA downstream of the lacUV5 promoter. Amplification of the pCOLA fragment was performed using oligonucleotides *pColA_Gibson_F* and *pColA_Gibson_R*. For amplification of the MS2CP dimer *MCPd_Gibson_F* and *MCPd_Gibson_R* were used. To lower the expression of labelled MS2CP a mutation called *lacIq* was done leading to an increase of production of the lac repressor. First Venus together with MS2CP was inserted and then mEos2 or HaloTag were inserted, replacing Venus downstream of MS2CP by Gibson assembly (using the oligonucleotides *mEos2_Gibson_F*, *mEos2_Gibson_R*, *HaloTag_Gibson_F* and *HaloTag_Gibson_R*).

Since we were not able to obtain a construct with o-ribo-H6 on plasmid pAM552 (Ampicillin resistance) it was exchanged to plasmid pSC101 (kanamycin resistance) and thereby we were

unable to use pCOLA plasmid, due to having the same resistance (kanamycin resistance) as pSC101. Thus for further experiments we cloned the entire region containing lacUV5 promoter, lac operator and MS2CP-HaloTag fusion into a backbone with p15a replication origin and chloramphenicol resistance gene obtained from a pEVOL plasmid. Cloning was performed by using two rounds of Gibson assembly. First constructing a plasmid with p15a origin, chloramphenicol resistance and a *rrnB* terminator (using oligonucleotides *rrnBt_Gib_F*, *rrnBt_Gib_R*, *pEvol_Gib_F* and *pEvol_Gib_R*). Then, in the second Gibson assembly *lacIq* and MS2CP-HaloTag upstream of the terminator (using *p15CAM_Gibson_Halo_F*, *p15CAM_Gibson_lacI_R*, *MS2Halo_Gibson_p15CAM_F* and *MS2Halo_Gibson_p15CAM_R*) were inserted. The resulting plasmid is shown in the appendix section (figure 7).

2.2.3 Plasmid expressing orthogonal Venusfast

A pBAD24CAM-Venusfast plasmid (a gift from Prune Leroy) containing Venusfast, ampicillin and chloramphenicol resistance was first digested with *XbaI*, to excise the chloramphenicol resistance gene, purified and ligated back together. We used site directed PCR mutagenesis to change 5'UTR of Venusfast based on previous studies with orthogonal ribosomes (An and Chin 2009, Darlington *et al.* 2018) and prepared three constructs (Table 1).

The expression level of Venus for each of the constructs was tested by using a Spark Microplate Reader measuring the growth rate and light emission at 535 nm after excitation from 485 nm laser. For expression induction 0.2 % arabinose was used.

Table 1 showing the sequence between the +1 nucleotide and the start codon in pBAD24-oVenusfast, including the oSD.

	Sequence	oligonucleotides
Pair 1	cAGCGGCCGCTTGAGACCTACTCcGGGAAAG GTCTCCCGCTTTCAtccctCCGCAA	pBADoVenus_pair1_F pBADoVenus_pair1_R
Pair 2	cccgttttttgggctaACAATTTTCATATCCCTCCGCAA	pBADoVenus_pair2_F pBADoVenus_pair2_R
Pair 2.2	cccgttttttgggctaATATCCCTCCGCAA	pBADoVenus_pair2_2_F pBADoVenus_pair2_R

2.3 Competent cells

To be able to insert larger fragment into the cell, for example plasmids which do not diffuse into the cell on its own, competent cells are required. This is a natural way of horizontal gene transfer which allow cells to take up genetic material from the surrounding environment when experiencing harsh environments. In this study we used electrocompetent cells and chemically competent cells. Chemically competent cells require heat shock for transformation while electrocompetent cells needs an electric pulse, also known as electroporation.

To prepare electrocompetent cells an overnight culture was diluted 1:200 in 100 ml SOB medium, and cells were then grown until reaching $OD_{600}=0.4-0.6$. The cell culture was placed on ice for 15 min and bacteria were then pelleted by centrifugation at 4000g for 15 min. The medium was discarded, and the pellet was resuspended in 2ml of 10% glycerol and centrifuged for 7 min at 4 °C. This washing step was repeated 5 times after which cells were resuspended in 400 µl of 10% glycerol and then aliquoted into 20 µl fractions. For transformation a 20 µl fraction was mixed with 0.3 µl DNA (plasmid) and electroporation was performed using Bio-Rad MicroPulser using standard settings. After electroporation cells were immediately transferred to 1 ml of SOC medium and recovered for 1-2h. After recovery cells were spread on plates containing corresponding antibiotics.

Chemically competent cells were purchased from Invitrogen and protocol suggested by the manufacturer was used.

2.4 Plasmid purification

Plasmids were purified using mini preparation kit (Invitrogen) using provided instructions.

2.5 Gibson assembly

Gibson assembly is a method developed in a study by Dr Daniel Gibson (Gibson *et al.* 2009) where they describe an isothermal method where DNA fragments can be assembled in a single step. This is performed using 3 different enzymes: 5' exonuclease, a DNA polymerase and a DNA ligase which are all stored together in the same buffer. This mix is then used to ligate fragments with overhangs complementary to each other (Gibson *et al.* 2009). When being used the 5' exonuclease chews back the 5' end creating single stranded 3' overhangs. The polymerase fills in the gap in the 3' ends and then the ligase fuses them into one double stranded DNA segment (Figure 2). Gibson assembly is an effective way to fuse larger fragments (New England Biolabs 2018).

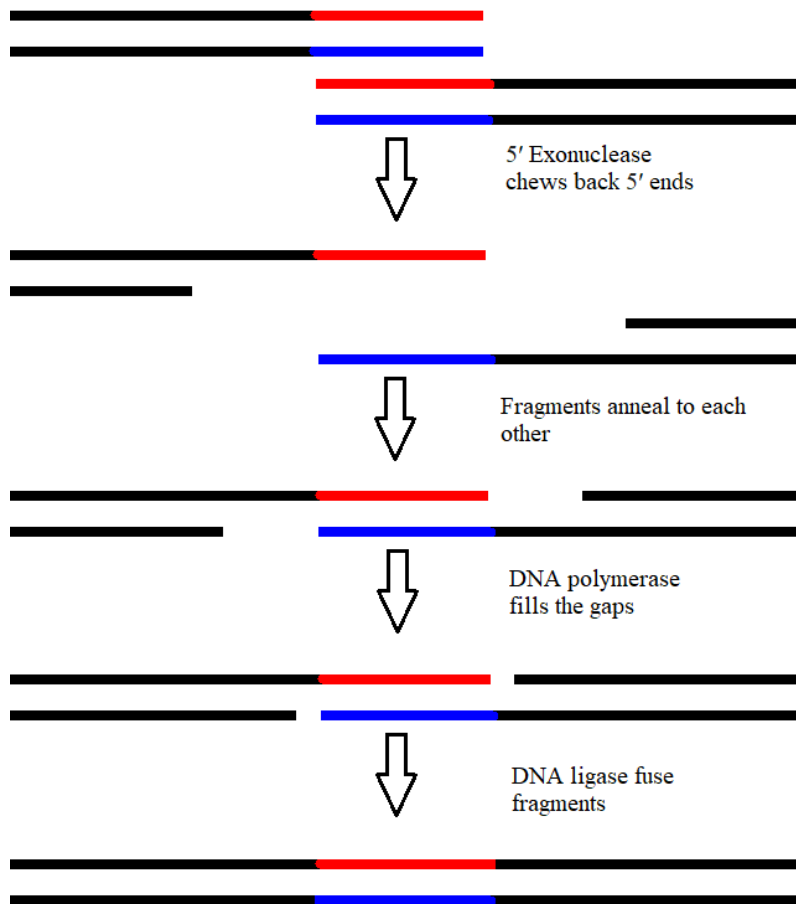


Figure 2 reaction overview of Gibson assembly where the enzymes roles are displayed. Where the red and blue sections represent complementary sequences to each other used for the ligation.

Ligation using Gibson assembly is very easy to use and depending on how many fragments needed to be ligated, 10 μ L of Gibson assembly mix is mixed with fragments in deionized water to final volume of 20 μ L. Fragment amount added depends on how many fragments are being assembled, 0.02-0.5 pmol when assembling 2-3 fragments and 0.2-1 pmol when assembling 4-6 fragments (New England Biolabs 2018).

2.6 Control if mutated helix 6 in ribosomes support growth

To check if the mutations on helix 6, 33b, 39, and 44 were functional and able to support growth the strain SQ171fg/pCSacB was used. SQ171fg/pCSacB was a gift from Michael Jewett (Addgene plasmid # 69344). This strain has the ribosomal operons on the chromosome deleted and contains two plasmids, one with the ribosome operon and one with tRNAs (*E. coli* Genetic Resources at Yale CGSC, The Coli Genetic Stock Center, n.d., Orelle *et al.* 2015). The plasmid containing the ribosome operon also contains a counterselection gene

called *SacB*. This gene becomes toxic to the cell when grown on sucrose and is used to counter select cells which contain the plasmid carrying *sacB*.

To create strains with homogeneous population of ribosomes containing modification in one of the selected loops SQ171fg/pCSacB was made electrocompetent. Then electroporated with corresponding plasmid, and recovered in soc media. 150 μ l of these recovered cells were then transferred to 2 ml soc media with 100 mg ml⁻¹ ampicillin, 30 mg ml⁻¹ spectinomycin and 0.25% sucrose, and then grown overnight. Aliquots were plated on selective agar LB, containing 100 mg ml⁻¹ and 5% sucrose. All ribosomes with mutated helix 6, 33b, 39 or 44 supported growth on selective plates. Obtained strains were restreaked on both ampicillin and kanamycin plates and the absence of kanamycin resistance was confirmed, supporting that cells lost the pCSacB plasmid with the *wt* ribosomal operon.

SQ171 with pAM-rrnB *wt* and H6 were then transformed with pCOLA-MS2-HaloTag to confirm that ribosomes with MS2-Halotag bound to ribosomes still supported growth. For this pAM-rrnB *wt* and H6 together with pCOLA-MS2-HaloTag were grown in a humidity cassette with a 96 well plate with no induction, 200 μ M IPTG and 1 mM IPTG. Growth was then tested using the Spark Microplate Reader measuring the OD₆₀₀ every 5 min for 20 h at 37°C. For all 6 samples 6 replicates were made and 6 wells with LB were used as control.

2.7 Sample preparation for imaging

Before cells were imaged in the super-resolution microscope, they went through different washing steps depending on if fluorescent protein (Venus and mEos2) was used or if cells were expressing Halotag and were labelled with the JF549 dye.

When fluorescent proteins were imaged 1ml of cell culture in logarithmic phase were pelleted and washed 3 times with 1 ml of PBS (salt solution) and then 1 μ l droplets were put on an agarose pad made of EZ Rich Defined Medium (RDM) containing 2% agarose.

When Halotag and JF549 was used for imaging an optimized protocol (Banaz *et al.* 2018) was used to a large extent but with a few modifications. Cells were grown during the day in LB then serial dilutions (1:100, 1:1000, and 1:10000) were made in M9 medium and cultures were grown overnight at 37 °C. Overnight cultures growing in logarithmic phase were taken for labelling and imaging. 2-5 ml of culture were used for pelleting cells which were resuspended in 100 μ l of fresh M9 medium and mixed with 2.5 μ l 50 mM JF549 dye for labelling of Halotag. Cell suspension mixed with dye was incubated for 30 min at 25°C and then washed 3 times by spinning down the cells and resuspending them in 1 ml of M9 medium. After these 3 washes the cells were allowed to recover in 2 ml of M9 media for 30 min at 37°C before being spun down and resuspended in 50-100 μ l of media. Depending on

density they were further diluted 10-1000-fold and added on an agarose pad made of RDM containing 2% agarose

2.8 Imaging and analysis

For imaging, cells were grown on agar pads until they formed small colonies including 20-100 cells, then one bright field and one phase contrast image were taken and fluorescent movies containing 2000 frames recorded in stroboscopic illumination mode with 3.5 ms laser/5 ms camera exposures using 553 nm laser with power set to 150 mW (Figure 3). The phase contrast and brightfield image were then used to identify and to segment cells where boundaries are created determining where one cell ends, and another begins. This is then used to create tracking boundaries where fluorescent dots should not cross these boundaries. Using a MATLAB script (Volkov *et al.* 2018) dot detection was first run identifying the fluorescent dot from the background. Trajectories were then built from these dots and analysis of the trajectories was performed using a Hidden Markov model (HMM) which resulted in models for diffusion states. The HMM converts the trajectories as a model between transitions of a set with diffusion constants. HMM performs a maximum likelihood for the parameters in the model and accounts for localization error and motion blur and learns the pattern of the transition's states from data. This method gives us diffusion states with occupancy and dwell time for a chosen number of diffusion states.

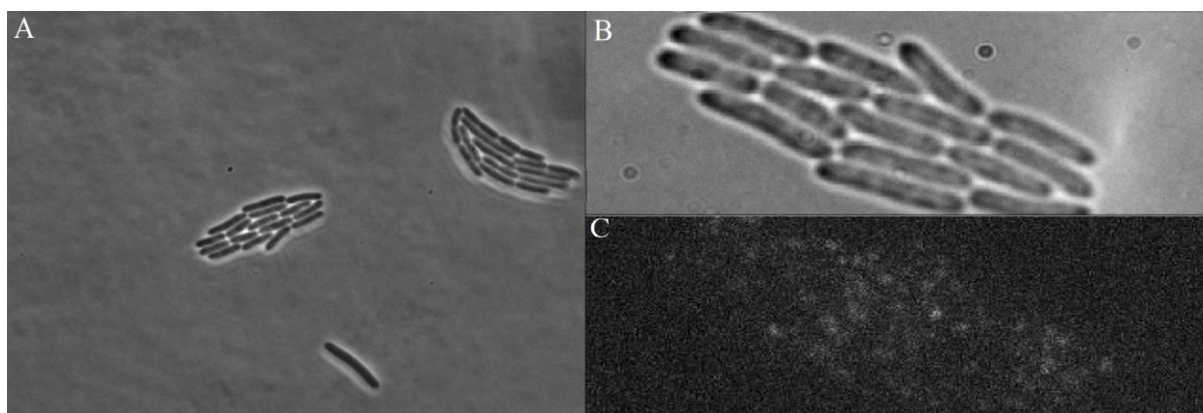


Figure 3 phase contrast (A), bright field (B) and image when illuminated with laser using MS2 loop at helix 6 with MS2-HaloTag with JF549 dye.

3 Results and discussion

3.1 MS2CP unspecific binding occurs to some small, but not very significant extent

First, we evaluated photochemical properties of MS2CP protein fused to different fluorescent proteins or Halotag. This allowed analysing their behaviour in cells to make sure that we observed free diffusion and also made it possible to select the most suitable variant for further

studies. We constructed several plasmids (see Methods) where expression of genes for MS2CP-Venus, MS2CP-mEos2, and MS2CP-HaloTag is regulated by the lacUV5 promoter with the lac operator (IPTG inducible).

Cells expressing one of the fusion proteins: MS2CP-Venus, MS2CP-mEos2, and MS2CP-HaloTag with JF549 – were imaged in microscopy experiments. The data was acquired by images taken every 5 ms with 3.5 ms illumination with 514 (for Venus), 561 (for mEos2), or 553 (for HaloTag) nm laser in order to estimate diffusion coefficient. MS2CP fused to HaloTag showed superior stability and brightness in comparison with both Venus-, and mEos2- fusions and all subsequent experiments and data analysis were performed with MS2CP-HaloTag. For data analysis of images, which includes detection of fluorescent dots, tracking and prediction of diffusional states with HMM analysis, we used a pipeline recently developed in the Elf/Johansson labs (see Methods and paper (Volkov *et al.* 2018) for details). Results of the simple 3 state HMM model for tracking of MS2CP-HaloTag are provided in Table 2, showing the diffusion rate (D), occupancy and dwell time (the average time a molecule stay in a certain diffusion state). We observed that MS2CP-HaloTag diffuses freely (67% of the time, D ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) = 3.9) the majority of the time although free diffusion is often interrupted by relatively short binding events (≈ 100 ms on average) with D ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) = 0.1. We also detect a small fraction of molecules that according to the analysis are moving very fast (D ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) = 45), but this likely represents tracking artefacts (Volkov *et al.* 2018).

Although we observed MS2CP-HaloTag molecules in a slow state, which probably is a result of unspecific interactions by MS2, these events are short and thus should not lead to misinterpretation of results when the MS2CP-HaloTag is stably bound to ribosomes in the presence of the MS2CP binding loop.

Table 2 diffusion rates for ribosomes without the MS2 loop expressed with MS2-HaloTag and image with JF549 dye. Laser used was 553 nm and imaged every 5 ms with laser exposure for 3.5 ms.

	Diffusion state 1	Diffusion state 2	Diffusion state 3
Diffusion rate ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)	0.1	3.9	45.0
Occupancy (%)	25.7	67.4	6.9
Dwell time (ms)	98	137	21

3.2 Mutated ribosomes remain functional

To create ribosomes that can stably bind MS2CP-HaloTag we decided to create several mutants of ribosomes in which the MS2CP binding loop was introduced in one of the positions that previously have been shown to tolerate mutations. As a template we used the pAM552-rrnB plasmid carrying the entire *rrnB* operon. We created constructs where the

MS2CP binding loop was introduced in loop 6, loop 33b, loop 39, and loop 44 of 16S rRNA. To confirm that ribosomes containing the MS2CP binding loop were still functional we introduced constructed plasmids in the SQ171 strain in which all 7 chromosomal ribosomal operons were deleted and which carries a *wt* ribosomal operon on a plasmid with a counterselectable *SacB* marker which can be cured from cells by supplementing growth media with sucrose. After selection on plates with sucrose we observed growth for all the mutants and the growth were comparable to that of cells carrying the *wt* operon. For one of the mutants which carries the MS2CP binding loop at helix 6 (ribo-H6 mutant) we tested growth in liquid media together with a plasmid expressing MS2-HaloTag and observed similar growth with high induction, intermediate induction and without induction of the MS2CP-HaloTag for cells carrying *wt* *rrnB* or ribo-H6 operon. Growths were similar for all replicates of the same sample and the average growth curve for each is shown in Figure 4. Thus, we conclude that mutants constructed with a MS2CP binding loop retain their activity and that at least in case of the ribo-H6 mutant co-expression with MS2CP-HaloTag does not impair functionality. All further experiments were performed with the ribo-H6 mutant.

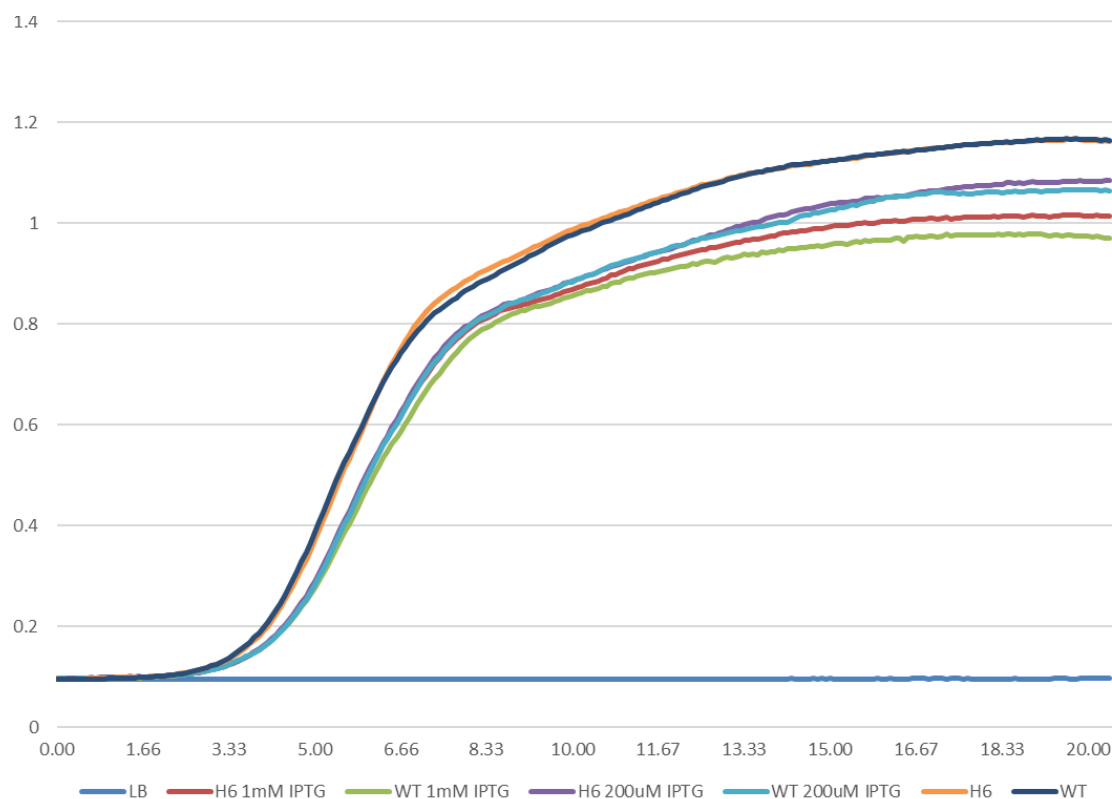


Figure 4 Showing growth curves for H6 and *wt* ribosomes expressed from plasmid in SQ171 strain without induction, with 200 μ M or 1 mM IPTG. A LB sample is also included for reference. Cells were grown on a 96 well plate with a humidity cassette at 37°C with an error of $\pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$ allowed. OD₆₀₀ measurements were taken every 5 minutes and each curve is made from the average of 6 replicates for each sample.

3.3 Samples with mutated ribosomes show significant higher occupancy in slow state than samples without a MS2CP binding loop

Next, we co-expressed the MS2CP-HaloTag and the ribo-H6 mutant and analysed apparent diffusion of fluorescent molecules in the same way presented above. Results of the simple 3 state HMM model for tracking of the MS2CP-HaloTag are provided in Table 3. We observed dramatic change of MS2CP-HaloTag diffusion comparing to results for experiment where the MS2CP loop was not present. In this experiment most of the fluorescent molecules (79%) were present in a slow diffusional state (D ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) = 0.07) which probably represents MS2CP-HaloTag bound to ribosomes engaged in translation. About 15% of molecules at each time point were observed in a faster diffusional state (D ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) = 0.6), which may represent MS2CP-HaloTag bound to the 30S ribosomal subunit searching for mRNA to read. This distribution of states is in agreement with data previously reported for proportion of translating ribosomes. We again observe that analysis detects dots moving very fast (D ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) = 25) which most likely is a result of tracking artefacts. Analysis of transitions between diffusional states (data are not shown) also shows that trajectories of molecules in slower states are mostly interrupted by transitions to tracking artefacts, leading to the times presented in Table 3 are likely underestimated. Importantly, average dwell time in the slowest state is significantly longer than dwell times observed in the control sample (Table 2), thus excluding the possibility that it represents non-specific binding.

Table 3 diffusion rates for ribosomes containing MS2 loop at helix 6 expressed with MS2-HaloTag and imaged with JF549 dye. Laser used was 553 nm and imaged every 5 ms with laser exposure for 3.5 ms.

	Diffusion state 1	Diffusion state 2	Diffusion state 3
Diffusion rate ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)	0.1	0.6	25.0
Occupancy (%)	79	15	6
Dwell time (ms)	900	83	24

3.4 Orthogonal ribosomes are functional but with lower expression levels than at normal over expression

Tracking of ribo-H6 presented above lacks information on which mRNA is translated since we observe the translation from the total mRNA pool. To follow translation from specific mRNAs we decided to use orthogonal ribosomes which have a mutated anti-SD sequence in their 3'-end (Chubiz and Rao 2008). We first attempted to construct the orthogonal ribosomes using the pAM552-rrnB plasmid as a template by changing the anti-SD sequence to UGGGA and introducing additional mutations at position 722-723 (CA) (Rackham and Chin 2005). We were unable to obtain such a construct probably due to toxicity from orthogonal ribosomes since pAMM552 is a high copy number plasmid, which may lead to too many orthogonal

ribosomes per *wt* ribosome drastically reducing cell growth. Toxicity might also be a result of usage of the cell's resources such as initiation factors for translation.

To overcome this problem, we used the pSC101-o-ribo plasmid (kindly provided by Chin lab) which carries the entire ribosomal operon with mutations in the anti-SD sequence and at positions 722-723 and which have been shown to allow cell growth (Rackham and Chin 2005). This plasmid has a copy number of around 5 which is about 10 times lower than that for pAMM522. Cells carrying pSC101-o-ribo grew well and thus we introduced the MS2CP binding loop into helix 6 (o-ribo-H6). Also, a version with wild type anti-SD was created to serve as a control in expression efficiency.

Results of the analysis for tracking of o-ribo-H6 without any mRNA to translate are shown in Table 4. In comparison with ribo-H6 (Table 2) we observe similar diffusional states but the occupancy in the states are very different. Most of the fluorescent molecules in the sample with o-ribo-H6 (81%) are observed in diffusional state $D=0.6-0.69 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ which likely represents freely diffusing 30S subunit. Thus, as we expected, the orthogonal ribosomes without mRNA to read stay most of the time in “search” state not able to initiate translation. We also observe some (16%) o-ribo-H6 in a slower state ($0.14 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) which can represent transient interactions with other molecules in their search for an mRNA to translate or it can be mRNA which are translated without SD. With this analysis we only provide information about the distribution of diffusional states, but optimization of tracking parameters and data acquisition is needed to correctly estimate dwell times and understand the biological meaning of different diffusional states.

Table 4 diffusion rates for MG1655 *E. coli* cells with orthogonal ribosomes containing a MS2 loop at helix 6 without any orthogonal mRNA to translate expressed with MS2-HaloTag and image with JF549 dye. Laser used was 553 nm and imaged every 5 ms with laser exposure for 3.5 ms.

	Diffusion state 1	Diffusion state 2	Diffusion state 3
Diffusion rate ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)	0.1	0.7	52.0
Occupancy (%)	15.8	80.9	3.3
Dwell time (ms)	183	329	15

We continued by co-expressing o-ribo-H6 with orthogonal mRNA that could be a substrate for translation. We created 3 plasmids with a gene encoding fast maturing Venus fluorescent protein (Venusfast) with different 5' UTR according to previous studies with orthogonal ribosomes (An and Chin, 2009, Darlington *et al.* 2018). Selected 5' UTR sequences are shown in Table 1. We then evaluated the efficiency of Venusfast production in cells co-expressing orthogonal ribosomes. Venus production above the background level was observed in all the samples but to a different extent (Figure 5). For tracking experiments, we selected the construct (Venusfast pair 2) with highest production of Venus protein, although

expression was only 1/6 of the expression of the Venus with 5'-UTR recognized by wild type ribosomes (Figure 5C), which may reflect large difference in abundance of *wt* ribosomes and orthogonal ribosomes.

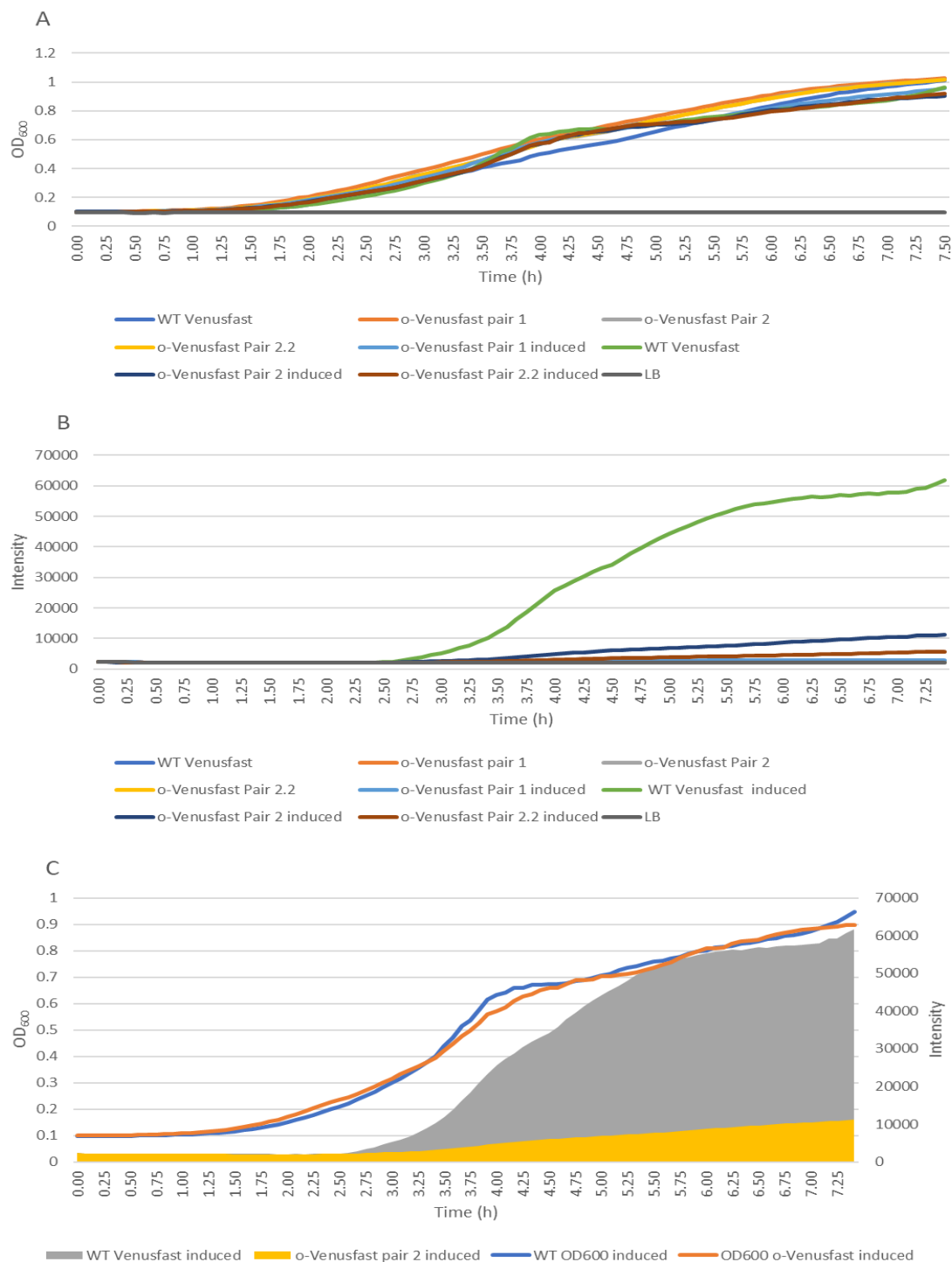


Figure 5 A) Growth curves for three different 5'UTR sequences for pBAD24 o-Venusfast with pSC101 o-Ribo, one *wt* Venusfast with pSC101-*wt*-ribo and one LB sample. B) Fluorescent measurements for the same samples as in A. C) Comparison of o-Venusfast which gave the highest fluorescent and *wt*- Venusfast. With lines you can see the growth and from filling the fluorescent intensity.

Using MG1655 *E. coli* cells expressing o-ribo-H6, MS2-HaloTag and orthogonal Venusfast pair 2 we performed microscopy experiments and confirmed Venus expression with 514 nm laser illumination. We then tracked labelled o-ribo-H6 using 553 nm laser. The results are shown in Table 5. We observed higher abundance in the slowest state (43% in $0.07 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$) than previously when orthogonal ribosomes were tracked without any mRNA to translate. Yet the occupancy is less compared to *wt* ribo-H6 which had an occupancy of 79% in the slowest state (table 3). The possible explanation is that we did not saturate o-ribo-H6 with orthogonal mRNAs, or that the 5'UTR is not optimal and does not allow fast translation initiation.

Table 5 diffusion rates for MG1655 *E. coli* cells with orthogonal ribosomes containing a MS2 loop at helix 6 with orthogonal Venusfast pair 2 mRNA to translate expressed with MS2-HaloTag and image with JF549 dye. Laser used was 553 nm and imaged every 5 ms with laser exposure for 3.5 ms.

	Diffusion state 1	Diffusion state 2	Diffusion state 3
Diffusion rate ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)	0.1	0.7	39.5
Occupancy (%)	43.1	49.8	7.1
Dwell time (ms)	452	162	20

Same as in the sample with ribosomes with modified helix 6 and *wt* anti-SD, most transitions from the slow state was towards the fastest state which is believed to be a tracking artefact. Because of this, parameters in the analysis were changed from having a search radius of 20 pixels to a search radius of 4 pixels for tracking. By doing this the believed artefact could be removed and dwell times were greatly increased (Table 6). Using the 4-pixel radius analysis we see the $0.07 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ state remain as before but the $0.67 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ state in 20 pixels analysis has become $0.49 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ and $0.77 \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ separate states for the 4 pixels analysis. However, when changing from a 3 state model to a 5 state model with 20 pixels search radius states similar to what was seen for 4 pixels search radius can be observed. Tables can be found in the Appendix table 8.

Table 6 diffusion rate given by analysing with 4 pixels search radius for MG1655 *E. coli* cells with orthogonal ribosomes containing MS2 loop at helix 6 with orthogonal Venusfast pair 2 mRNA to translate expressed with MS2-HaloTag and image with JF549 dye. Laser used was 553 nm and imaged every 5 ms with laser exposure for 3.5 ms.

	Diffusion state 1	Diffusion state 2	Diffusion state 3
Diffusion rate ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)	0.1	0.5	0.8
Occupancy (%)	52.4	16.6	31.0
Dwell time (ms)	3804	6293	16634

4 Conclusion

Here we developed a method for tracking of ribosomes using MS2CP fused to Halotag by introducing a MS2CP binding loop in the 16S RNA of the ribosome. The results presented here shows great promise in being a tool for studying ribosomes and translation. The MS2CP fused to Halotag does not seem to have any significant unspecific binding in *E. coli*. Usage of Halotag in combination with the dye JF549 can provide very long trajectories in single molecule studies opening good opportunities for studying translation using this method in the future. One of the large problems when studying ribosomes and translation *in vivo* is that ribosomes asynchronously translate the whole proteome with no information about which protein is being translated. Here we address this challenge by using orthogonal ribosomes. Further optimization of efficiency of apparent translation initiation is required for development of the method into useful tool. We believe that optimisation of the 5'UTR of the mRNA to translate, and adjustments in levels of expression of orthogonal ribosomes and mRNAs will help to achieve more efficient translation with orthogonal ribosomes (Figure 6). We hope that this work will pave the way for further studies on translation *in vivo*.

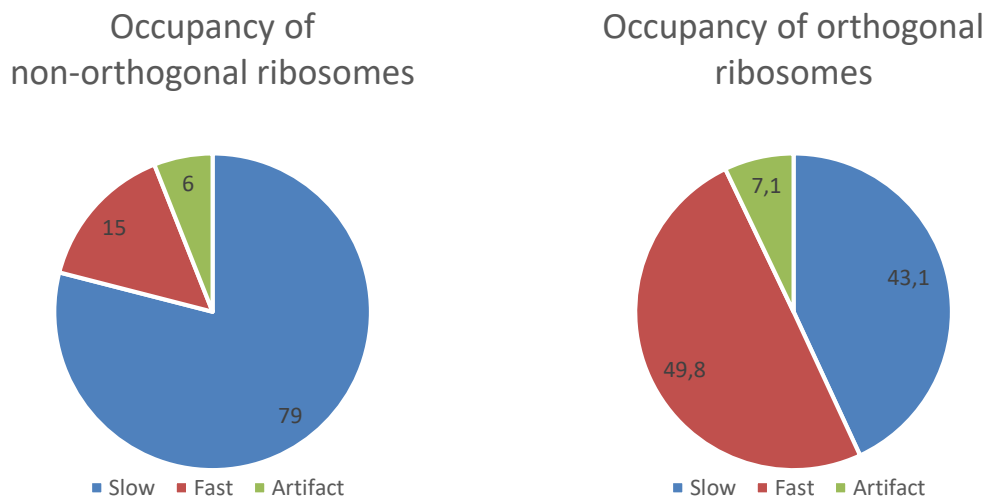


Figure 6 occupancy for slow, fast and artefact for non-orthogonal ribosomes and orthogonal ribosomes translating Venusfast pair 2 from data analysed using 20 pixels search radius.

5 Thanks

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Appendix A

Table 7 showing non-rounded data of analysis for diffusion rates for 3, 4 and 5 state models with 20 pixels search radius for MG1655 *E. coli* cells with orthogonal ribosomes containing MS2 loop at helix 6 with orthogonal Venusfast pair 2 mRNA to translate expressed with MS2-HaloTag and image with JF549 dye. Laser used was 553 nm and imaged every 5 ms with laser exposure for 3.5 ms.

		Diffusion state 1	Diffusion state 2	Diffusion state 3	Diffusion state 4	Diffusion state 5
3 state model	Diffusion rate ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)	0.070	0.667	39.526		
	Occupancy (%)	43.1	49.8	7.1		
	Dwell time (ms)	0.452	0.162	0.020		
4 state model	Diffusion rate ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)	0.068	0.634	7.750	53.939	
	Occupancy (%)	42.5	48.6	4.7	4.3	
	Dwell time (ms)	0.436	0.199	0.080	0.015	
5 state model	Diffusion rate ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)	0.060	0.413	0.759	4.057	52.503
	Occupancy (%)	41.7	21.4	29.3	3.0	4.7
	Dwell time (ms)	0.950	0.101	1.015	0.075	0.013

Table 8 showing non-rounded data of analysis for diffusion rates for 3 and 4 state models with 4 pixels search radius for MG1655 *E. coli* cells with orthogonal ribosomes containing MS2 loop at helix 6 with orthogonal Venusfast pair 2 mRNA to translate expressed with MS2-HaloTag and image with JF549 dye. Laser used was 553 nm and imaged every 5 ms with laser exposure for 3.5 ms.

		Diffusion state 1	Diffusion state 2	Diffusion state 3	Diffusion state 4
3 state model	Diffusion rate ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)	0.071	0.486	0.773	
	Occupancy (%)	52.4	16.6	31.0	
	Dwell time (ms)	3.804	6.293	16.634	
4 state model	Diffusion rate ($\mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$)	0.021	0.094	0.698	4.747
	Occupancy (%)	7.2	46.0	46.8	0.0
	Dwell time (ms)	1.029	1.656	2.428	0.005

Tabell 9 sequences of oligonucleotides used.

pColA1	ACATTATACGAGCCGGAAGCATAAAGTGTAAGCATTTC TAATGCAGGAGTCGCATAAG
pColA2	GTGGAATTGTGAGCGGATAACAATTTGCTGCCACCGCTGA GCAATAA
pColA_Gibson_F	ctgacaatgccagacgataaGCTGCCACCGCTGAG
pColA_Gibson_R	ccatcaattcctcctgtagAAATTGTTATCCGCTCACAATTCCAC

MCPd_Gibson_F	TTGTGAGCGGATAACAATTTctagcaggaggaattgatggcttct
MCPd_Gibson_R	tctggcttaatcgactcatgcagaagggggatccgtagat
mEos2_Gibson_F	tctacggatcccccttctgcatgagtgcgattaagccagacatg
mEos2_Gibson_R	TATTGCTCAGCGGTGGCAGCttatcgtctggcattgtcaggcaa
rrnB_Gibson_F	GATACTGAGCACGGGTACCGgccgctgagaaaaagcgaag
rrnB_Gibson_R	CGCACATTTCCCGGCGCGCCggctttagatatgacgacaggaagag
pAM552_Gibson_R	cttcgctttttctcagcggcCGGTACCCGTGC
pAM552_Gibson_F2	tgctgcatactctacaagccGGCGCGCCGGGAAATGTGCGCG
H6_MS2_F	ACTAGTTTTGATGAGGATcACCCATCTTTACTAGTcttctttgctgacgagtggcg
H6_R	cttcttcctgttaccgttcgacttg
H10_MS2_F	ACTAGTTTTGATGAGGATcACCCATCTTTACTAGTggcctcttgccatcggatgtg
H10_R	ggccccctctttggtcttgcg
H33b_MS2_F	ACTAGTTTTGATGAGGATcACCCATCTTTACTAGTggaaccgtgagacaggtgctgc
H33b_R	ggcacattctcatctctgaaaac
H39_MS2_F	ACTAGTTTTGATGAGGATcACCCATCTTTACTAGTccgggaactc aaaggagactgcc

H39_R	ccgctggcaacaaaggataaggg;
H44_MS2_F	ACTAGTTTTGATGAGGATcACCCATCTTTACTAGTggagggcgct taccactttgtg
H44_R	ggttaagctacctactcttttgc
pColA_lacIq_F	aCCATTTCGATGGTGTCCGGGAT
pColA_lacIq_R	GCAAAACCTTTCGCGGTATGGC
HaloTag_Gibson_F	tctacggatcccccttctgcgcagaaatcggtactggctttcc
HaloTag_Gibson_R	TATTGCTCAGCGGTGGCAGCctagccggaaatctcgagcg
pColAMS2d_GibsonHalo_F	cgctcgagatttccggctagGCTGCCACCGCTGAGC
pColAMS2d_GibsonHalo_R	aagccagtaccgatttctgcgcagaagggggatccgtaga
ribo722_CAmut_F	CAggcgaaggcggccccctgga
ribo721_R	cggtattctccagatctctacgc
riboSDorthogonal_F	TGGGAttaccttaagaagcgtactttgtagtgc
riboSD_R	tgatccaaccgcaggttcccta
pBADOVenus_pair1_F	AAAGGTCTCCCGCTTTCAcatccctCCGCAAatgagtaaaggagaagaact tttactgg
pBADOVenus_pair1_R	CCCgGAGTAGGTCTCAAGCGGCCGCTgtatggagaaacagtagagagttg cg
pBADOVenus_pair2_F;	ACAATTTTCATATCCCTCCGCAAatgagtaaaggagaagaacttttactgg
pBADOVenus_pair2_R	tagcccaaaaaaacgggtatggagaaa
pBADOVenus_pair2_2_F	ATATCCCTCCGCAAatgagtaaaggagaagaacttttactgg

AraC_15aori_Gib_F	tcgataagcttggtacccaaccaattatgacaacttgacggct
Venus_rrnBt_Gib_R	atccgccaaaacagccaagcaagcttttattgtatagttcatccatgcca
rrnBt_Gib_F	aactatacaataaaaagcttgcttggtgttttggcgg
rrnBt_Gib_R	ccgttctgcctgctgaactaacaaaagagttttagaaacgcaaaaagg
p15aOri_F	agattacgcgcagacaaaaacg
oSD_VenusFast_F	TTTCACATCCCTCCGCAAatgagtaaaggagaagaacttttactgg
oSD_VenusFast_R	ccccaaaaaacgggtatggagaaacag
pEvol_Gib_F	tttctacaaactctttgttagttcagcagggcagaacgg
pEvol_Gib_R	cgtcaagttgtcataattggtgggtaccaagcttatcga
rrb_Gibson_foroS_D_F	gtgaggctgaagagaataagccgttcgcttt
rrb_Gibson_foroS_D_R	tcagatgcagttcccaggttgagcccggggat
oSDfragment_Gibson_F	gatgtgaaatccccgggctcaacctgggaactgcattctgatact
oSDfragment_Gibson_R	attaatagaaagcgaacggccttattctcttcagcctcactcccaac
p15CAM_Gibson_Halo_F	cgctcgagattccggctagaagcttgcttggtgttttg;25nm;STD
p15CAM_Gibson_lacI_R	CTGGAAAGCGGGCAGTGAGCttggtgggtaccaagcttatcgatga
MS2Halo_Gibson_p15CAM_F	taagcttggtacccaaccaaGCTCACTGCCCCGCTTTCC
MS2Halo_Gibson_p15CAM_R	caaaacagccaagcaagcttctagccggaaatctcgagcg

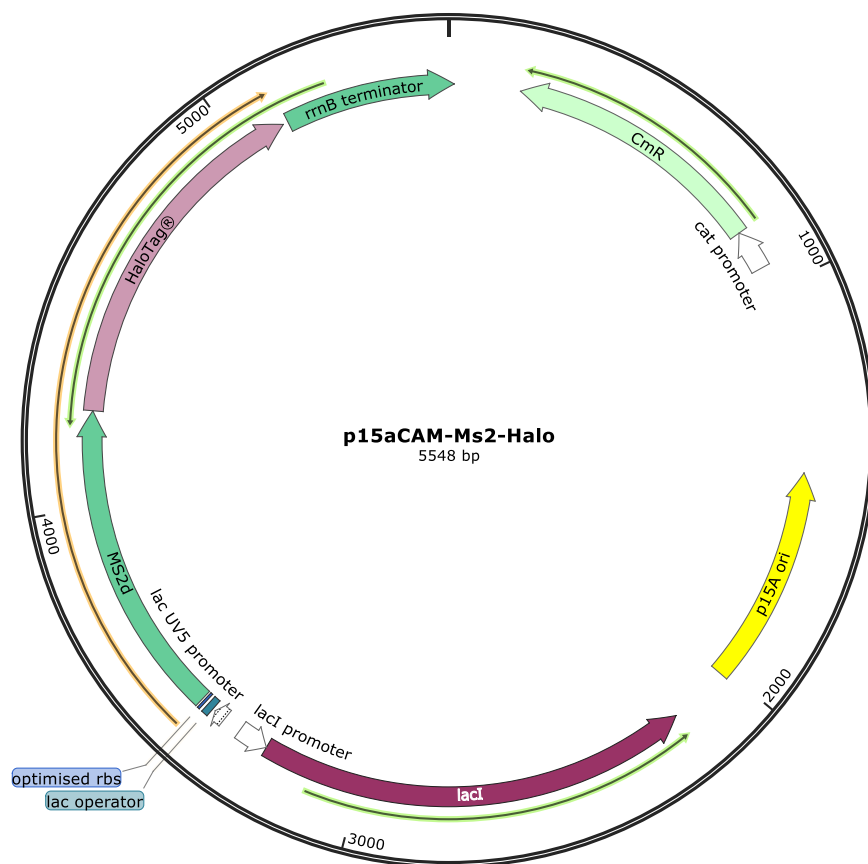


Figure 7 p15acam-MS2CP-halotag plasmid used to express MS2CP-Halotag with orthogonal ribosomes.

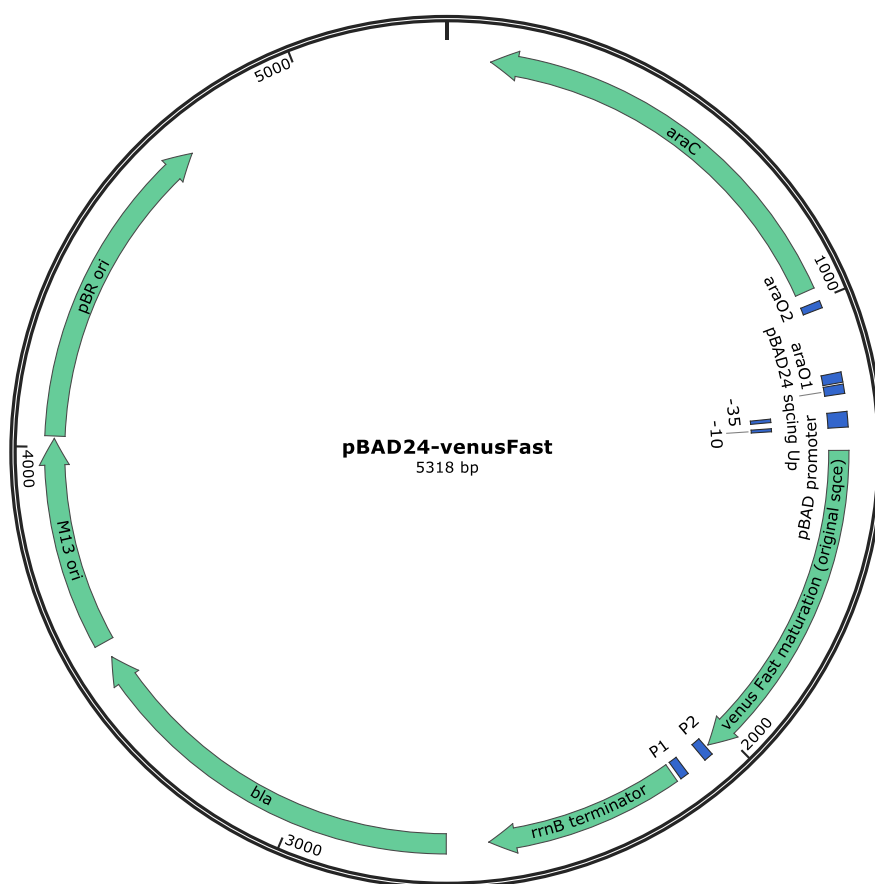


Figure 8 pBAD24- Venusfast plasmid used to express mRNA to test orthogonal ribosomes.

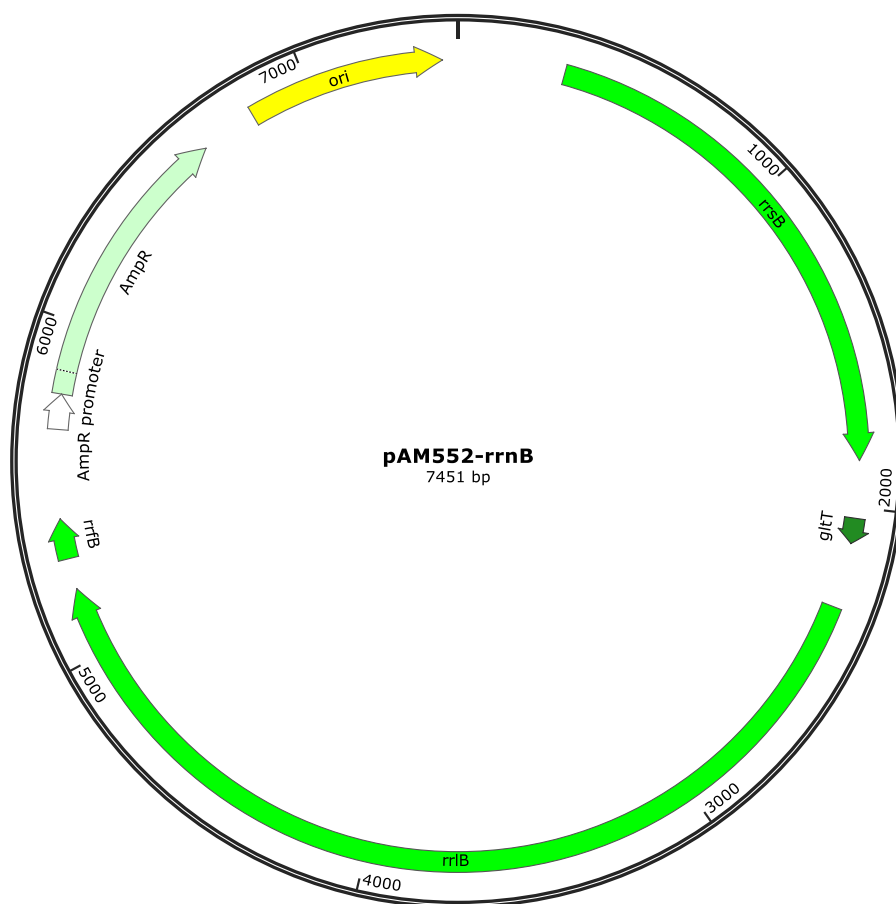


Figure 9 showing pAMM552 which was used to express non-orthogonal ribosomes.



Figure 10 pCOLA plasmid used to express MS2CP-Venus, versions of this plasmid with Venus exchanged to mEos2 and Halotag were also constructed.