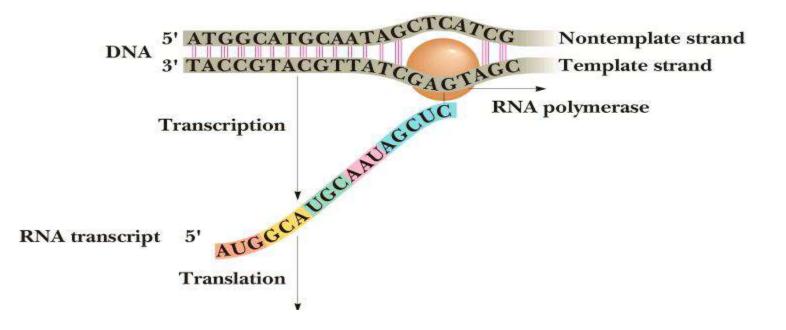
# Ph. D. course work SEMINAR

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# Transcription in Prokaryotes



•Only a single RNA polymerase In E.coli, RNA polymerase is 465 kD complex, with 2  $\alpha$ , 1  $\beta$ , 1  $\beta'$ , 1  $\sigma$ • $\beta'$  binds DNA

- • $\beta$  binds NTPs and interacts with  $\sigma$
- •σ recognizes promoter sequences on DNA

 α subunits appear to be essential for assembly and for activation of enzyme by regulatory proteins

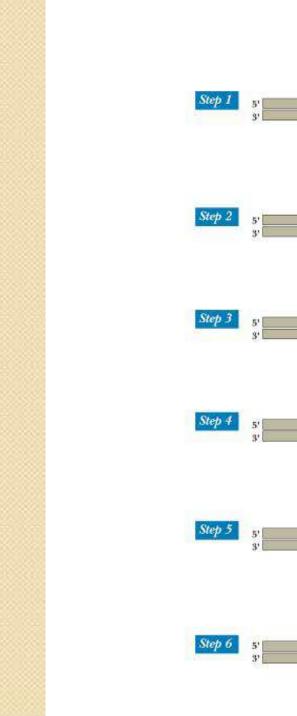
# Stages of Transcription

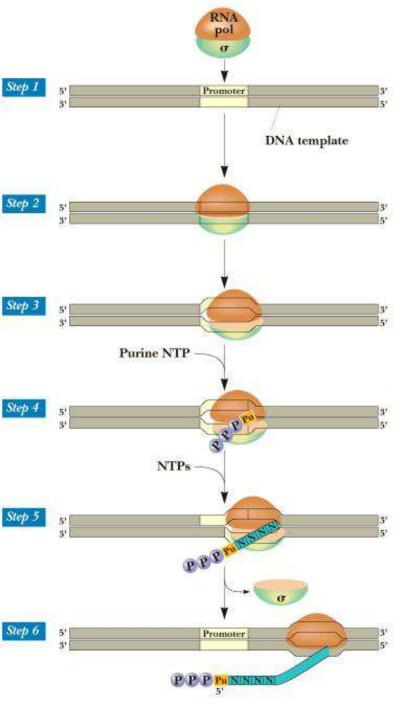
•binding of RNA polymerase holoenzyme at promoter sites

initiation of polymerization

chain elongation

chain termination





#### Binding of polymerase to Template DNA

Polymerase binds nonspecifically to DNA with low affinity and migrates, looking for promoter
Sigma subunit recognizes promoter

sequence

•RNA polymerase holoenzyme and promoter form "closed promoter complex" (DNA not unwound) -  $K_d = 10^{-6}$  to  $10^{-9}$  M •Polymerase unwinds about 12 pairs to form "open promoter complex" -  $K_d = 10^{-14}$  M

# **Properties of Promoters**

•Promoters typically consist of 40 bp region on the 5'-side of the transcription start site

Two consensus sequence elements:
The "-35 region", with consensus
TTGACA - sigma subunit appears to bind here

•The Pribnow box near -10, with consensus TATAAT - this region is ideal for unwinding - why? Garrett & Grisham: Biochemistry, 2/e Figure 31.3

Gene -35 region **Pribnow box** Initiation (-10 region) site (+1) GGATCCTACCTGACGCTTTTTATCGCAACTCTCTACTGTTTCTCCATACCCGTTTTT araBAD GCCGTGATTATAGACACTTTTGTTACGCGTTTTTTGTCATGGCTTTGGTCCCGCTTTG araC bioA TTCCAAAACGTGTTTTTTGTTGTTAATTCGGTGTAGACTTGTAAACCTAAATCTTT bioB CATAATCGACTTGTAAACCAAATTGAAAAGATT<mark>TAGGTT</mark>TACAAGTCTACACCGAAT galP2 ATTTATTCCATGTCACACTTTTCGCATCTTTGTTATGCTATGGTTATTCATACCAT A C C C C A G G C T T T A C A C T T T A T G C T T C C G G C T C G T A T G T T G T G G G A A T T G T G A G C G G lac lacI CCATCGAATGGCGCAAAACCTTTCGCGGTATGGCATGATAGCGCCCGGAAGAGAGTC A A A A T A A A T G C T T G A C T C T G T A G C G G G A A G G C G T A T T A T C A C A C C C C C G C G C C G C T G rmAl rmD1 CAAAAAATACTTGTGCAAAAAATTGGGATCCC<mark>TATAAT</mark>GCGCCTCC<mark>G</mark>TTGAGACGA CAATTTTTCTATTGEGGCCTGCGGAGAACTCCCTATAATGCGCCTCCATCGACACGG **rmEI** fRNATyr CAACGTAACACTTTACAGCGGCGCGCGTCATTTGATATGATGCGCCCCGCTTCCCGATA A A A T G A G C T G T T G A C A A T T A A T C A T C G A A C T A G T T A A C T A G T A C G C A A G T T C A C G T A trp Initiation

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# Initiation

•RNA polymerase has two binding sites for NTPs Initiation site prefers to binds ATP and GTP (most RNAs begin with a purine at 5'-end) •Elongation site binds the second incoming NTP OH of first attacks alpha-P of second to form a new phosphoester bond (eliminating PP<sub>i</sub>) •When 6-10 unit oligonucleotide has been made, sigma subunit dissociates, completing "initiation" Note rifamycin and rifampicin and their different modes of action

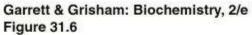
# Elongation

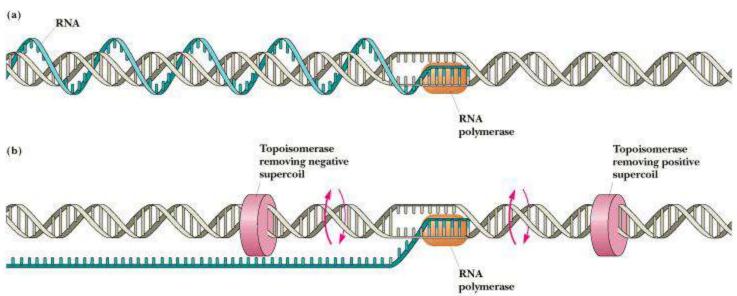
Core polymerase - no sigma

 Polymerase is accurate - only about 1 error in 10,000 bases

- Even this error rate is OK, since many transcripts are made from each gene
  Elongation rate is 20-50 bases per second slower in G/C-rich regions (why??) and faster elsewhere
  Topoisomerases precede and follow
- polymerase to relieve supercoiling







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# Termination

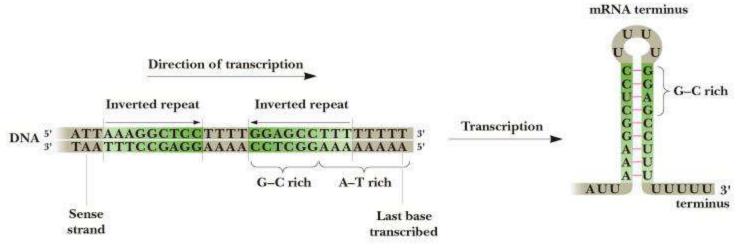
*Two mechanisms* Rho - the termination factor protein

 •rho is an ATP-dependent helicase
 •it moves along RNA transcript, finds the "bubble", unwinds it and releases RNA chain
 Specific sequences - termination sites in DNA

inverted repeat, rich in G:C, which forms a stemloop in RNA transcript
6-8 As in DNA coding for Us in transcript

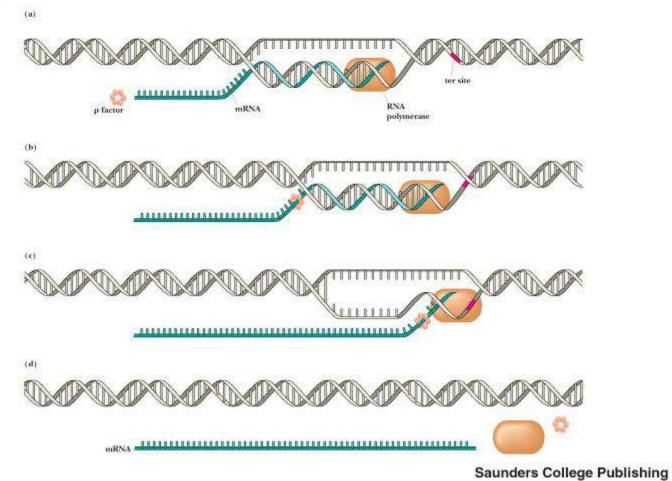


Garrett & Grisham: Biochemistry, 2/e Figure 31.7



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Garrett & Grisham: Biochemistry, 2/e Figure 31.8





# THANK YOU