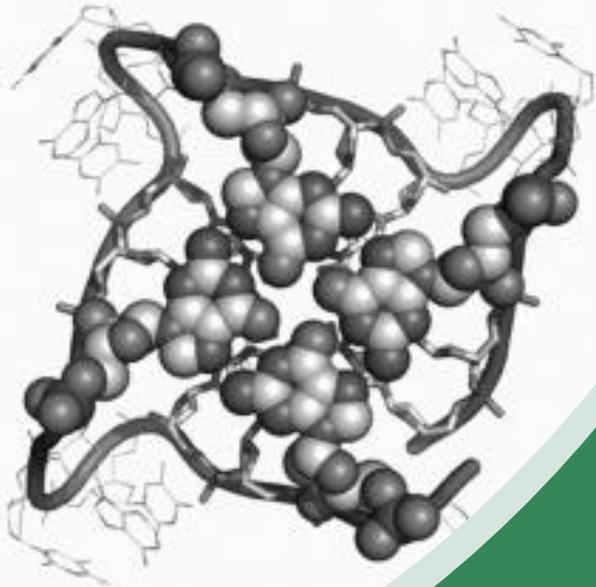


b)



# *G-quadruplexes in RNAs and DHX36*



2019/11/21  
M2 Furuta

1. Introduction
  - History of G-quadruplex (G4)
  
2. RNA G4s and DHX36
  - 2-1. RNA G4s in translational regulation
  - 2-2. RNA G4s in ncRNAs
  
3. Summary

## 1. Introduction

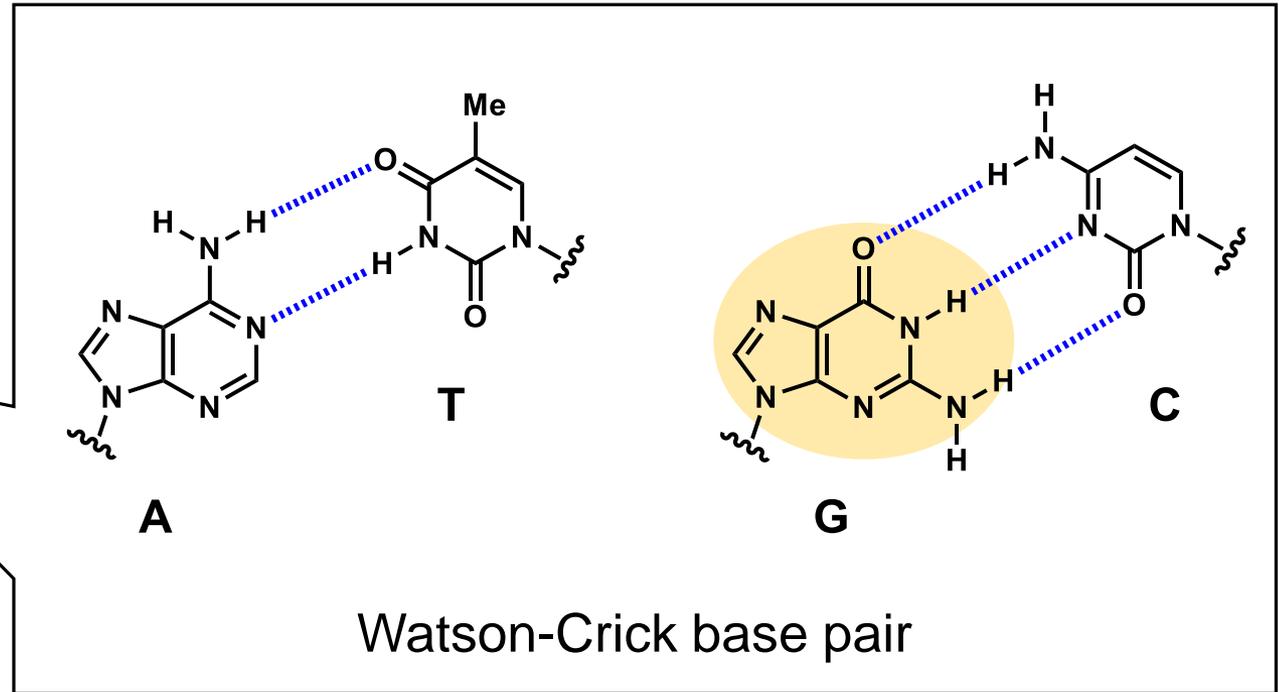
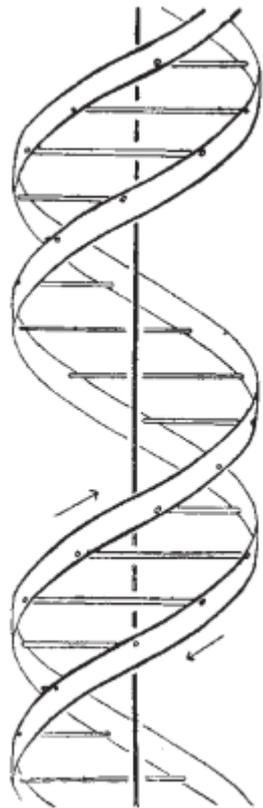
### History of G-quadruplex (G4)

## 2. RNA G4s and DHX36

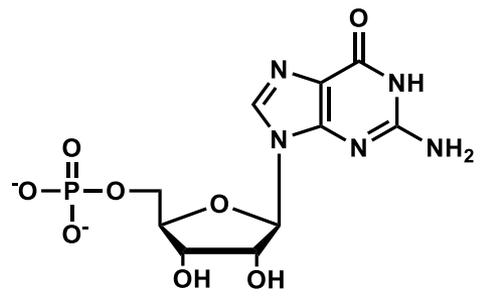
### 2-1. RNA G4s in translational regulation

### 2-2. RNA G4s in ncRNAs

## 3. Summary



DNA double helix



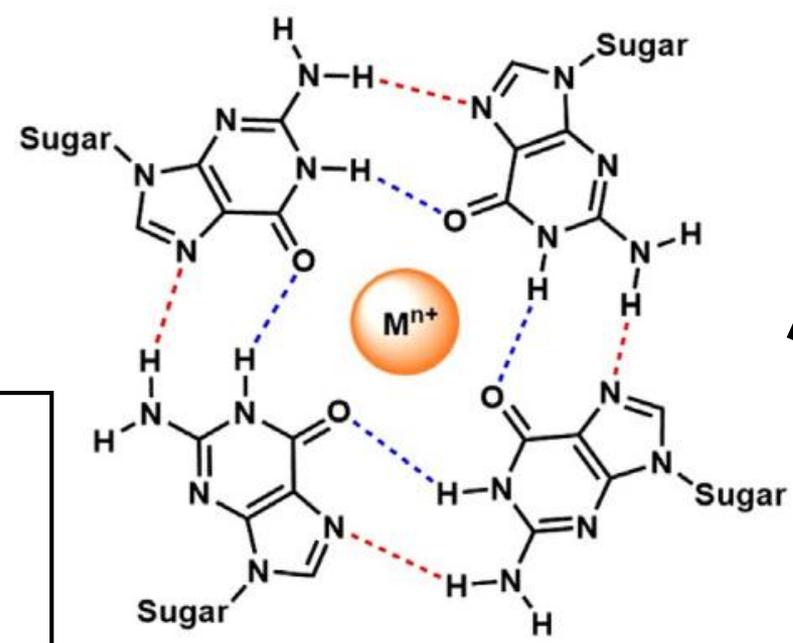
guanylic acid  
(solution)



conc.



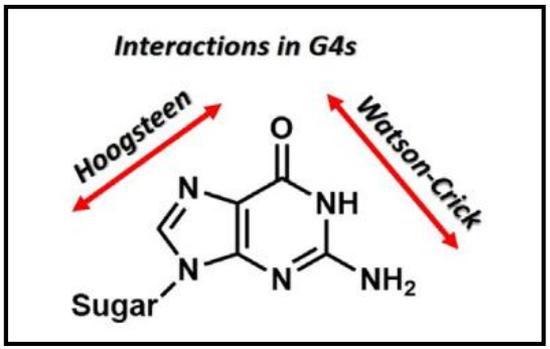
gelatinize



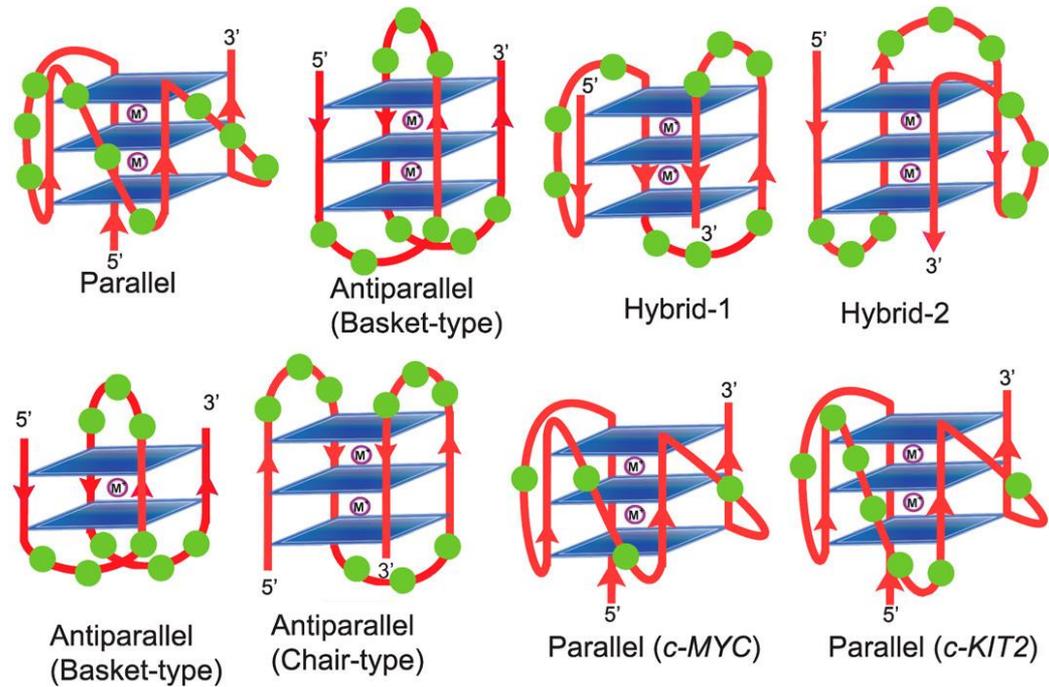
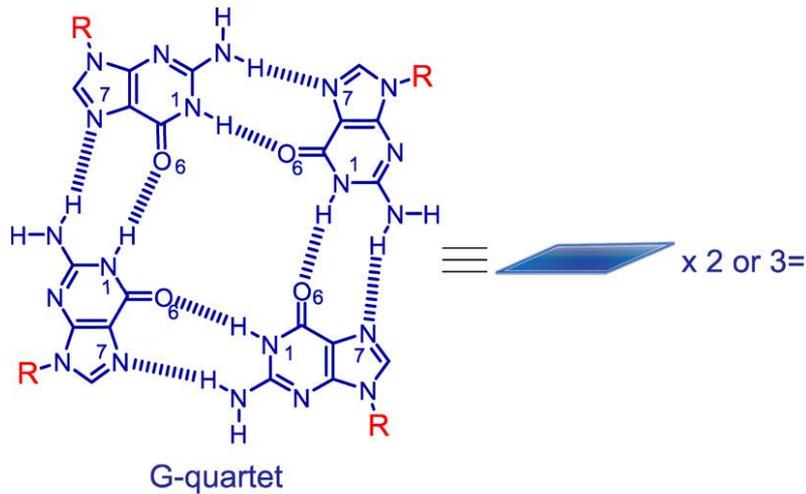
G-quartet



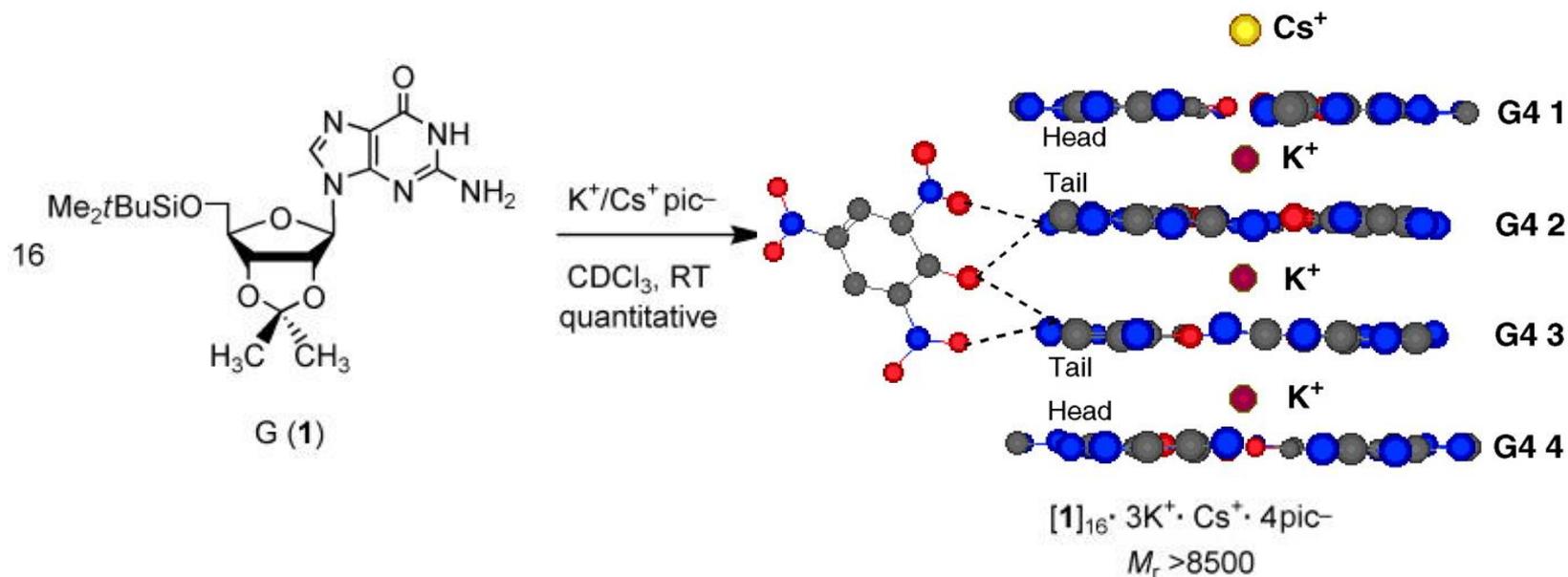
X-ray crystal structure analysis



✓ Self-association in water



- ✓ Stacking of two or more quartets
- ✓ Stabilized by monovalent metal ions



- ✓ Functional... ionophore
- ✓ Chiral... diastereotopic faces (Tail & Head)

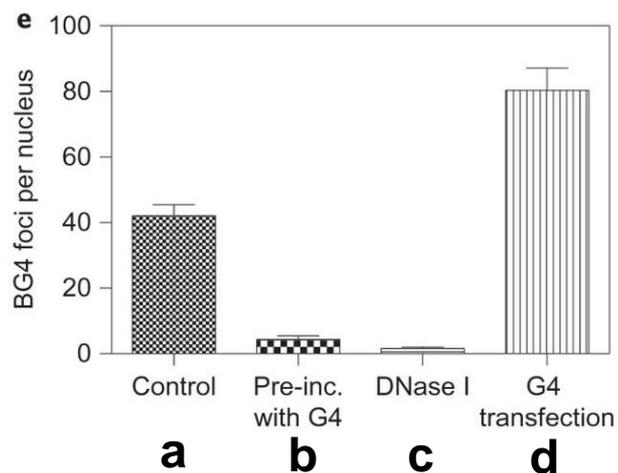
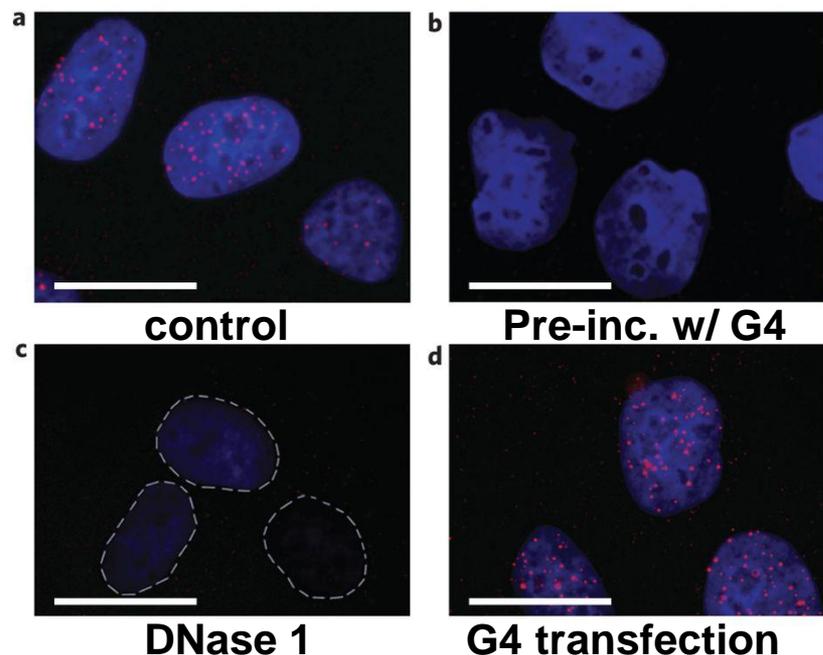
## Hierarchical self-assembly process

1. Hydrogen-bonded G-quartet
2.  $\text{G}_8\text{-M}^+$  octamer formed by cation-dipole interactions and  $\pi$  stacking
3. Hexadecameric G-quadruplex with anion-nucleobase H-bonds

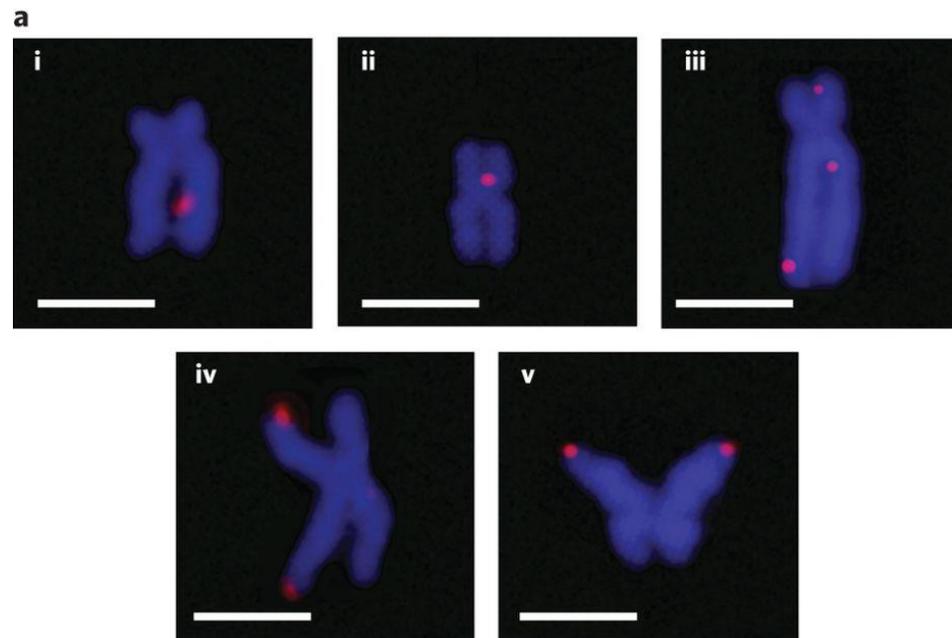
Davis, J. T., et. al., *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2000**, 122, 4060.

Davis, J. T. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2004**, 43, 668.

## In nuclei of human cancer cells

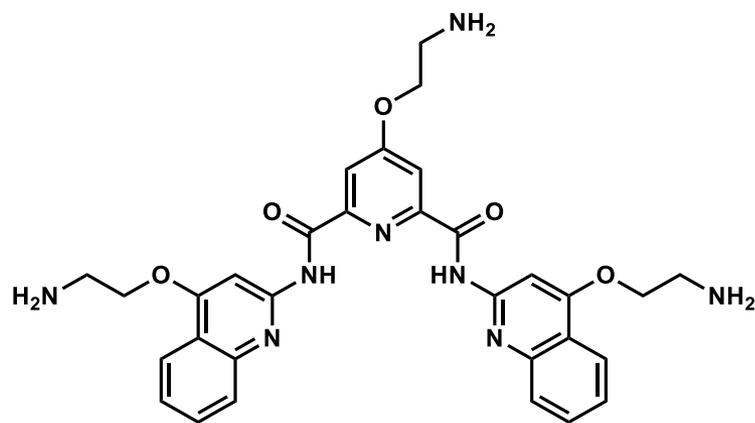
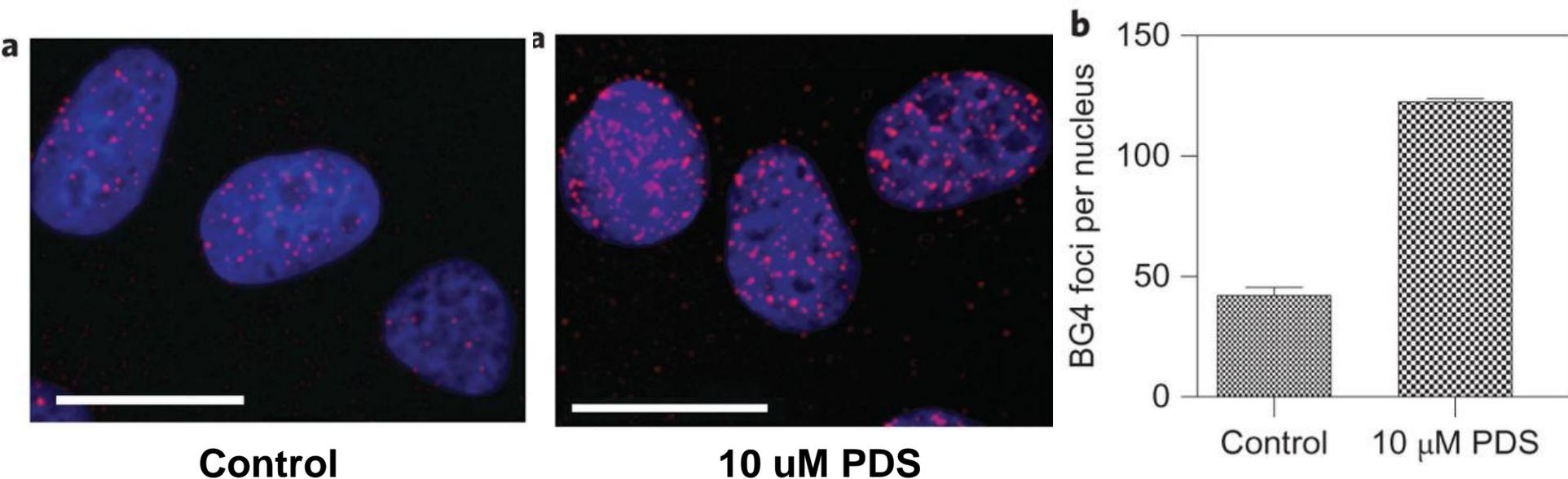


## In chromosomes



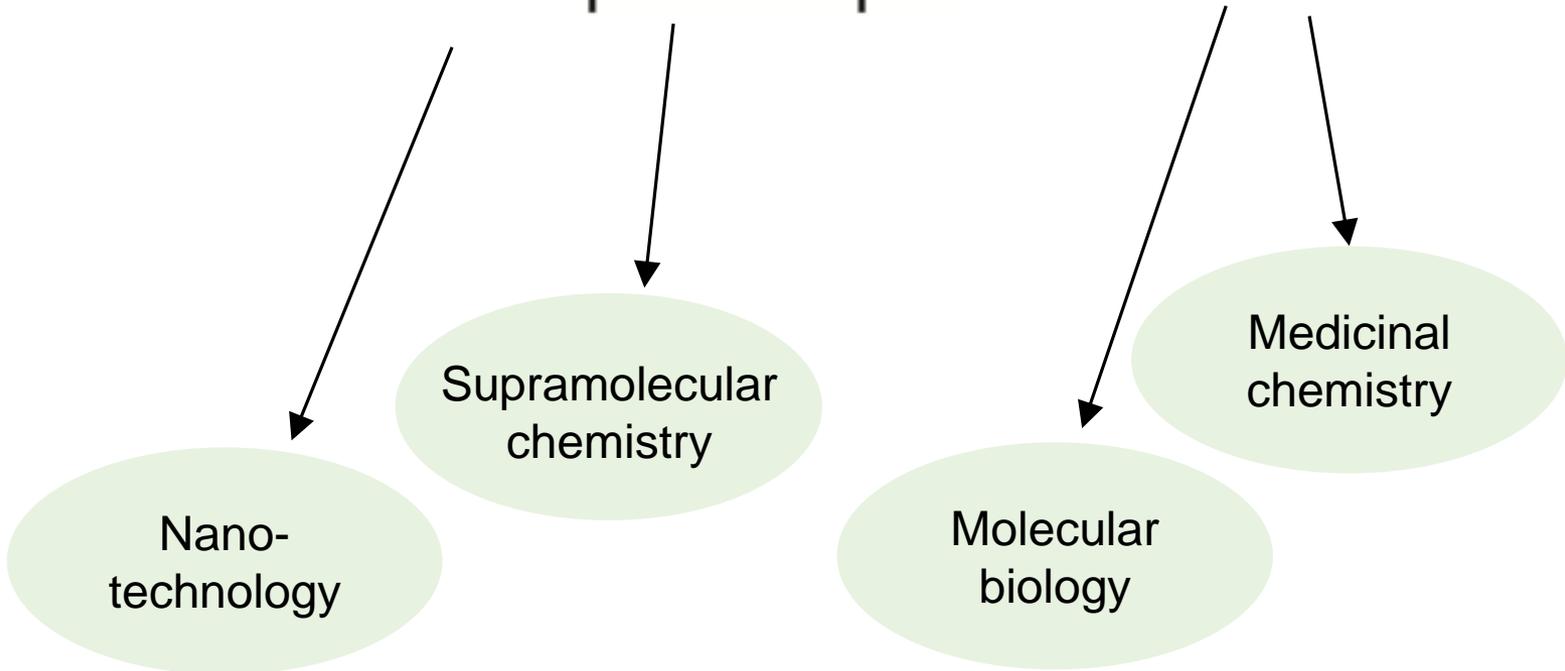
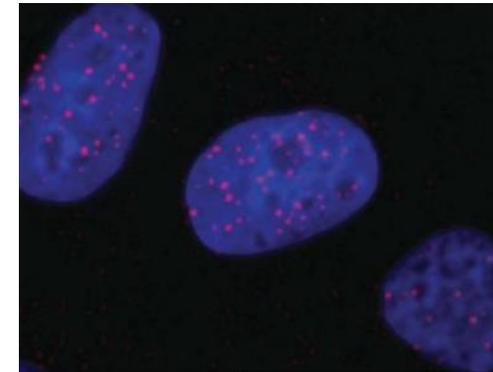
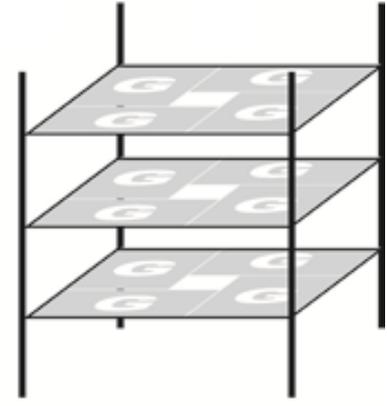
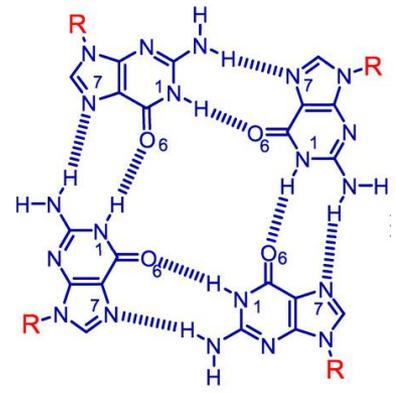
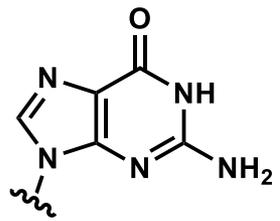
**i - iii** non-telomeric regions  
**iv - v** telomeres (G-rich regions)

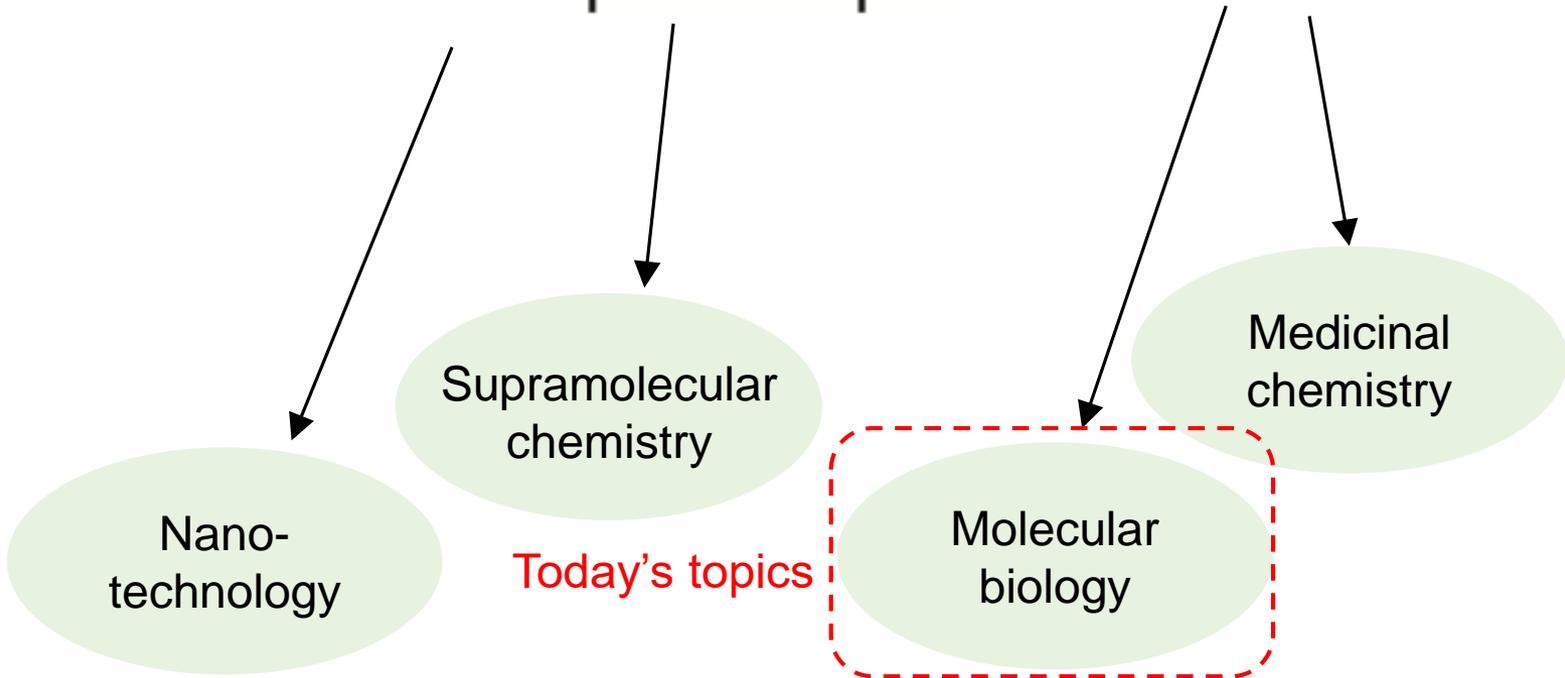
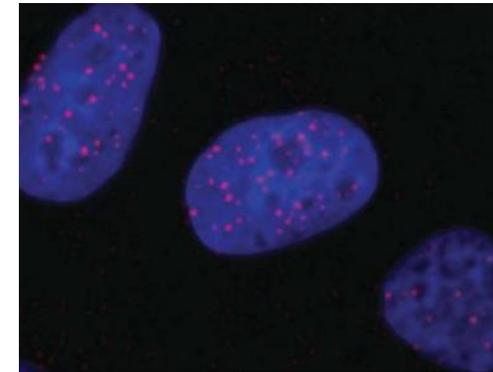
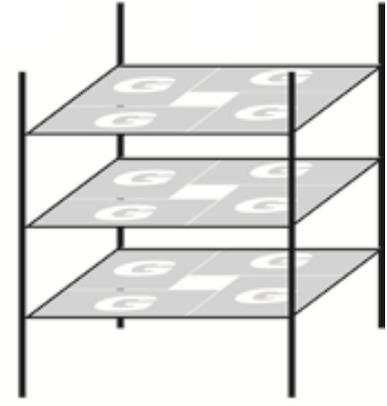
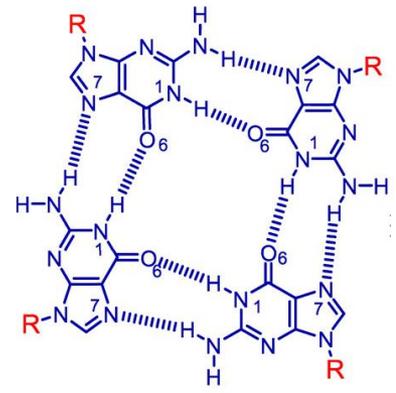
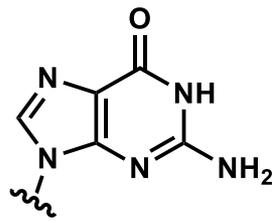
BD4... antibody for G-quadruplex structures  
 (generated by *in vitro* selection with phage display)



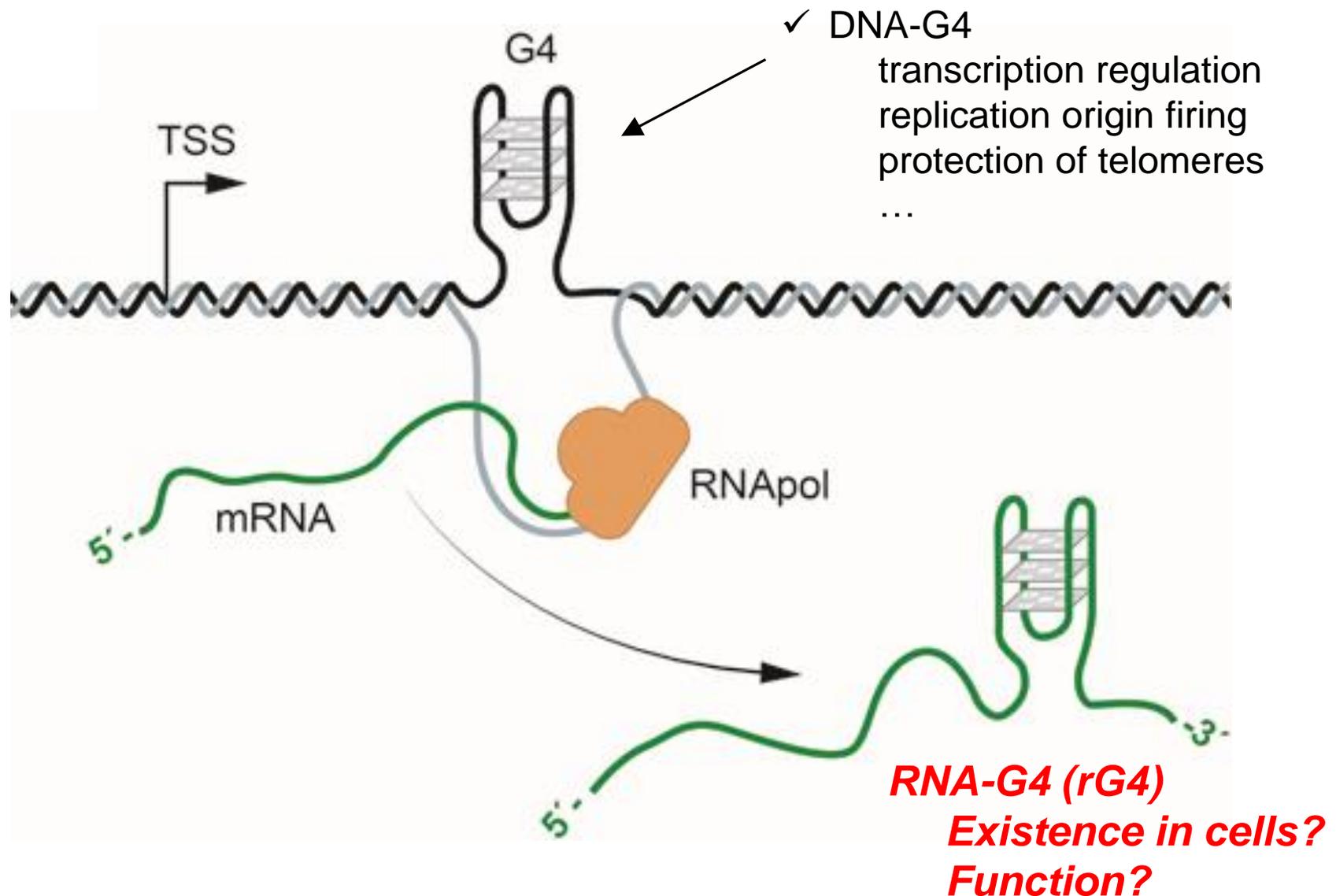
**Pyridostatin (PDS)**

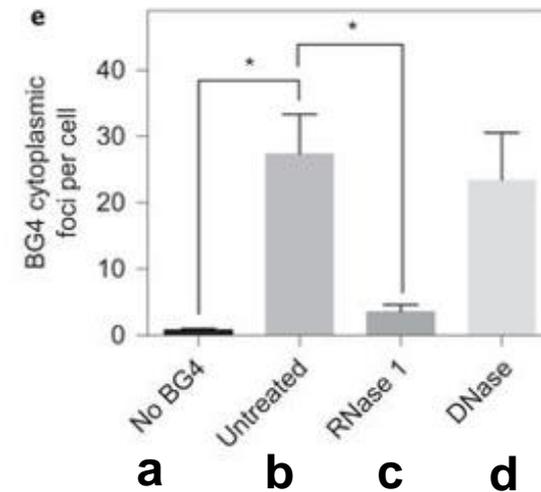
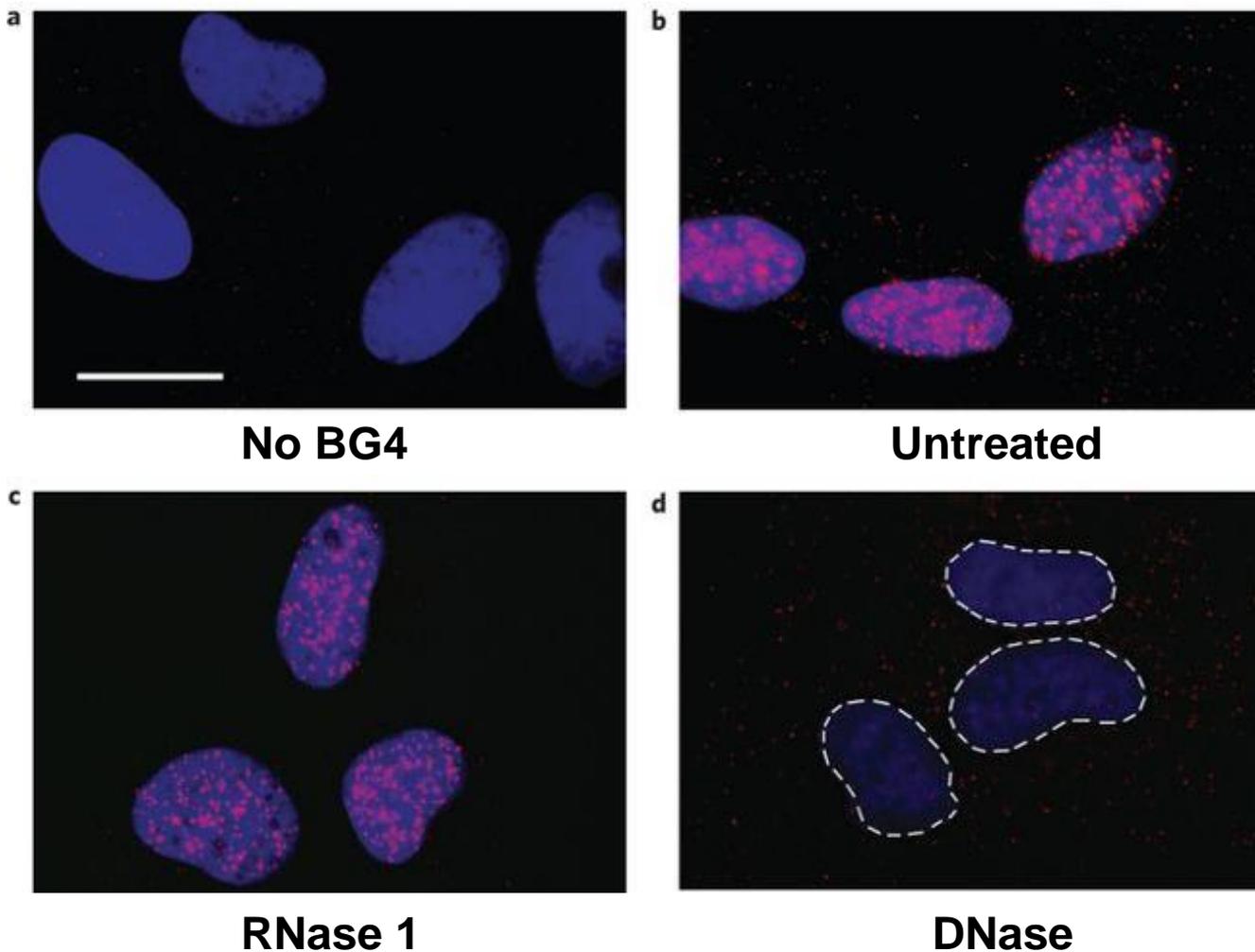
- ✓ Small molecule ligand can stabilize G-quadruplex structure even in cells.



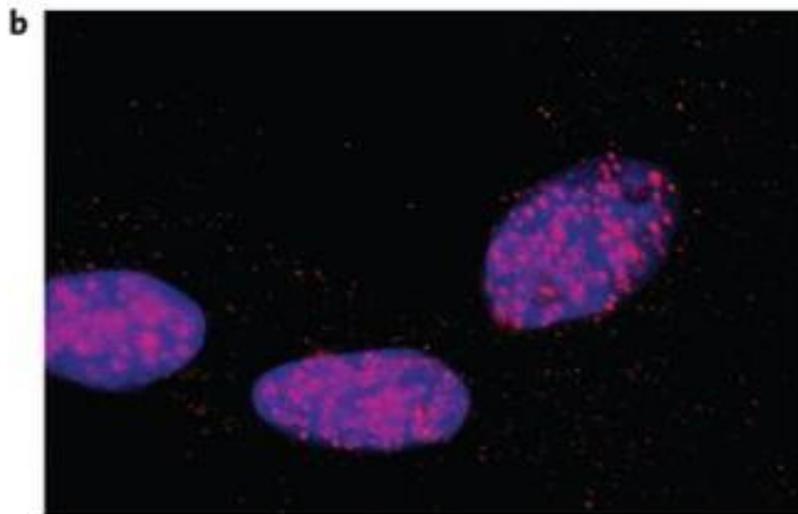


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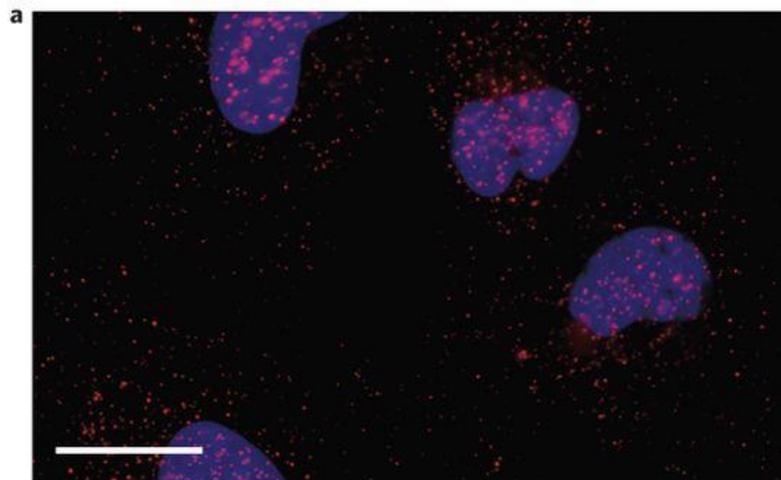
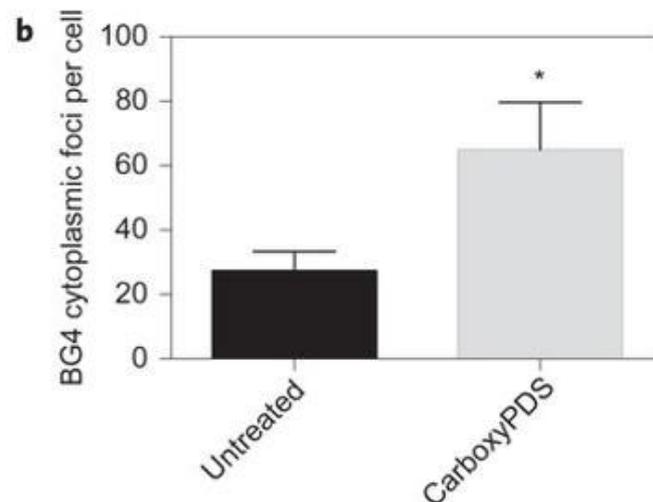




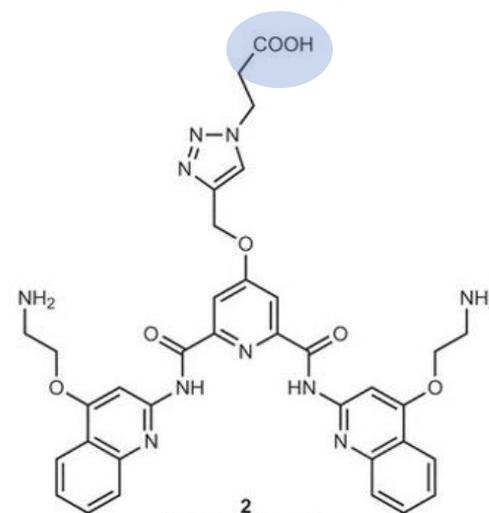
✓ On longer exposure, staining was also distributed throughout the cytoplasm.



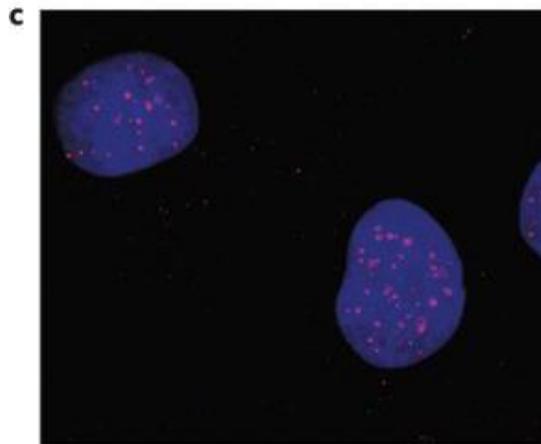
**Untreated**



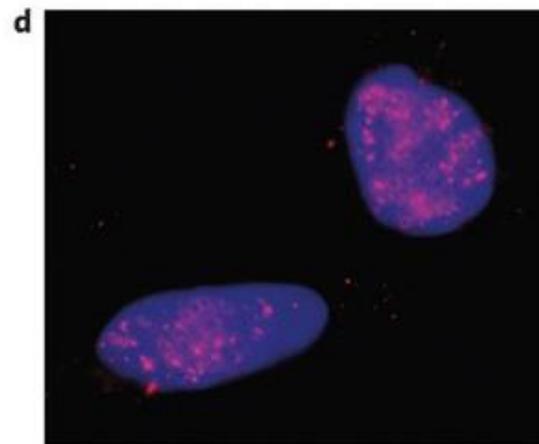
**CarboxyPDS**



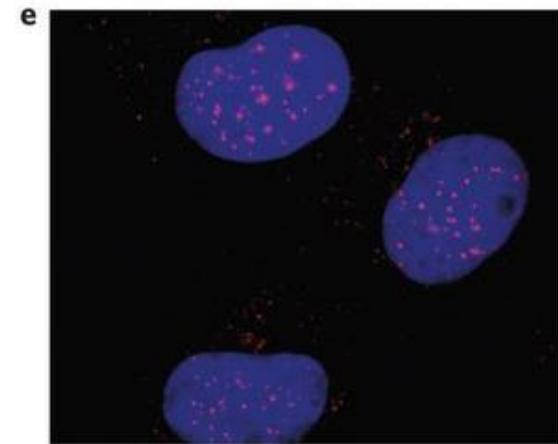
**CarboxyPDS**



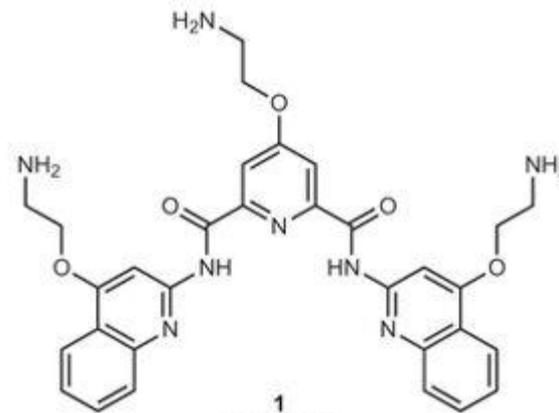
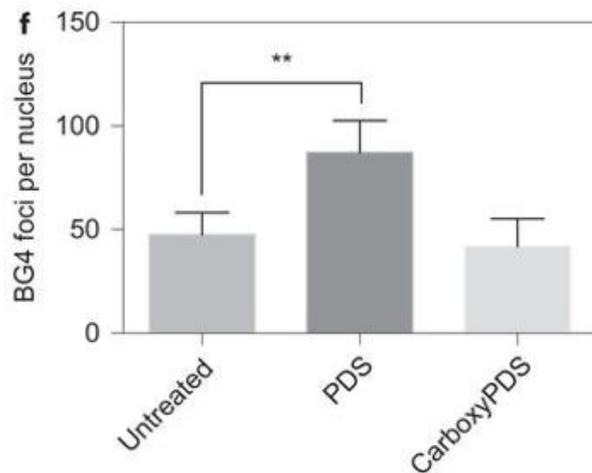
Untreated



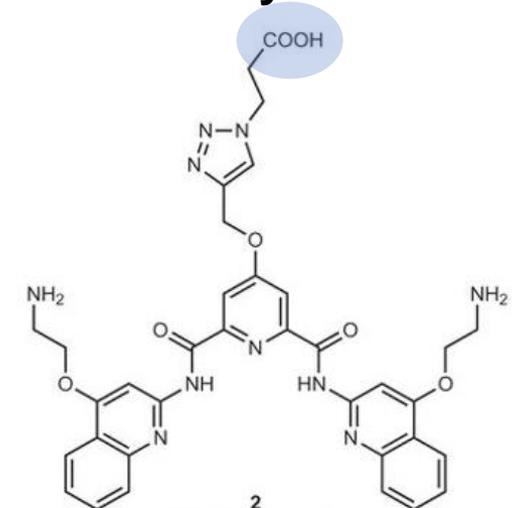
PDS



CarboxyPDS

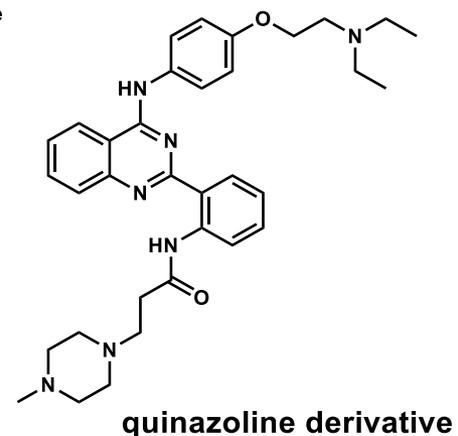
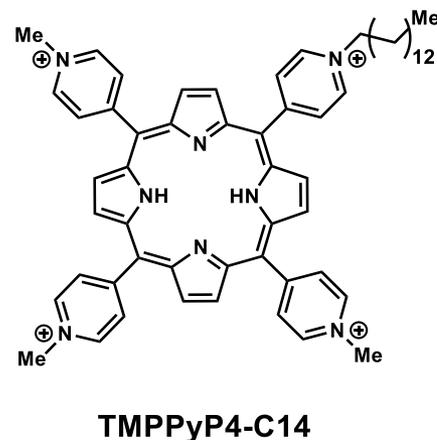
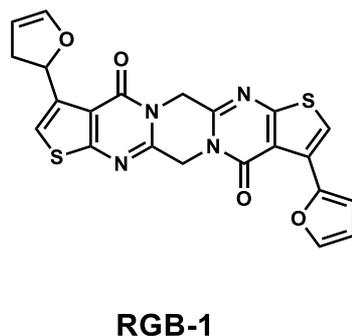
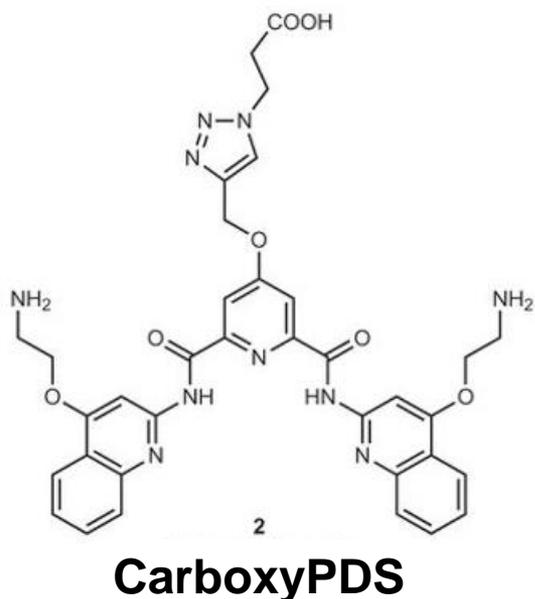


PDS



CarboxyPDS

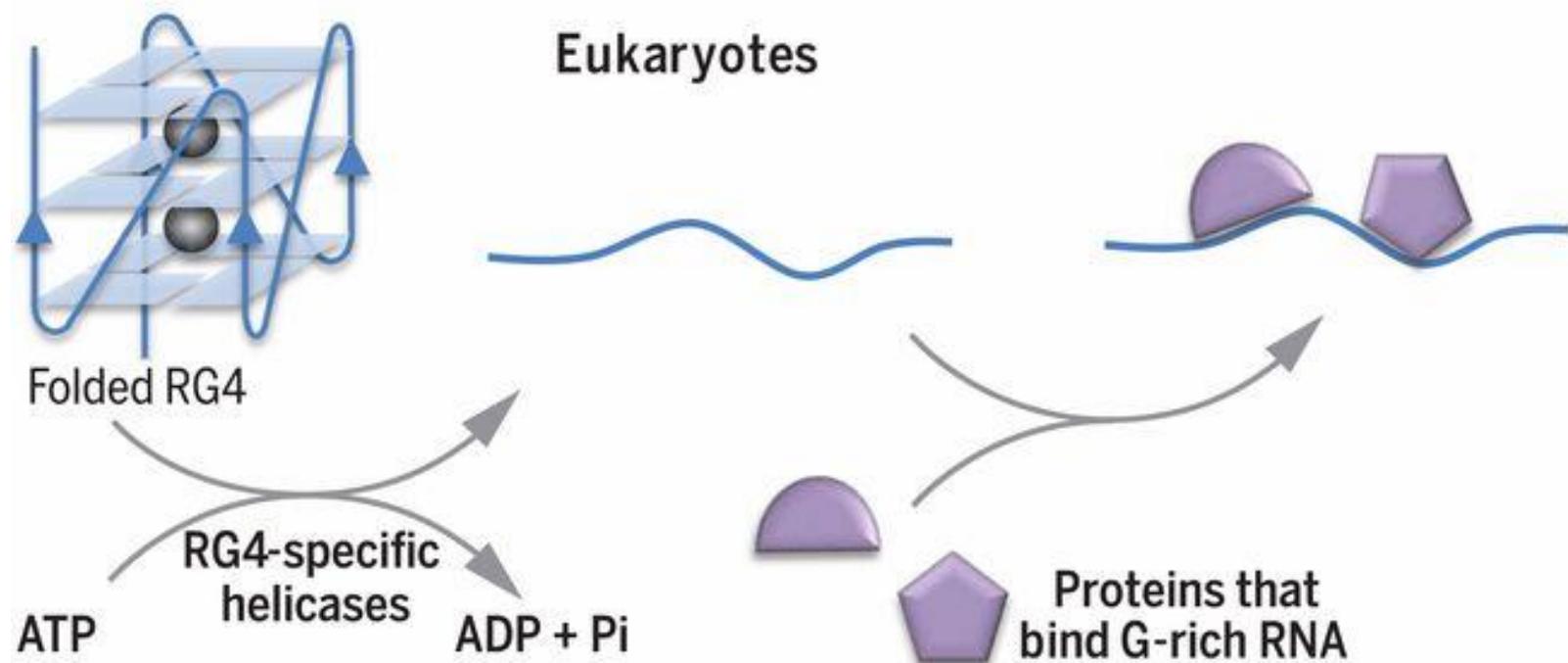
✓ Selective stabilization of endogenous RNA G4s with a RNA G4-specific ligand

Other reported RNA-G4-selective ligands

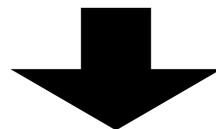
- ✓ Hydrogen bond with 2'-OH group on the ribose
- ✓ Multiple hydrogen-bond receptor sites
- ✓ Accumulation in the cytoplasm of cells

Balasubramanian, S., *et. al.*, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, 51, 11073.

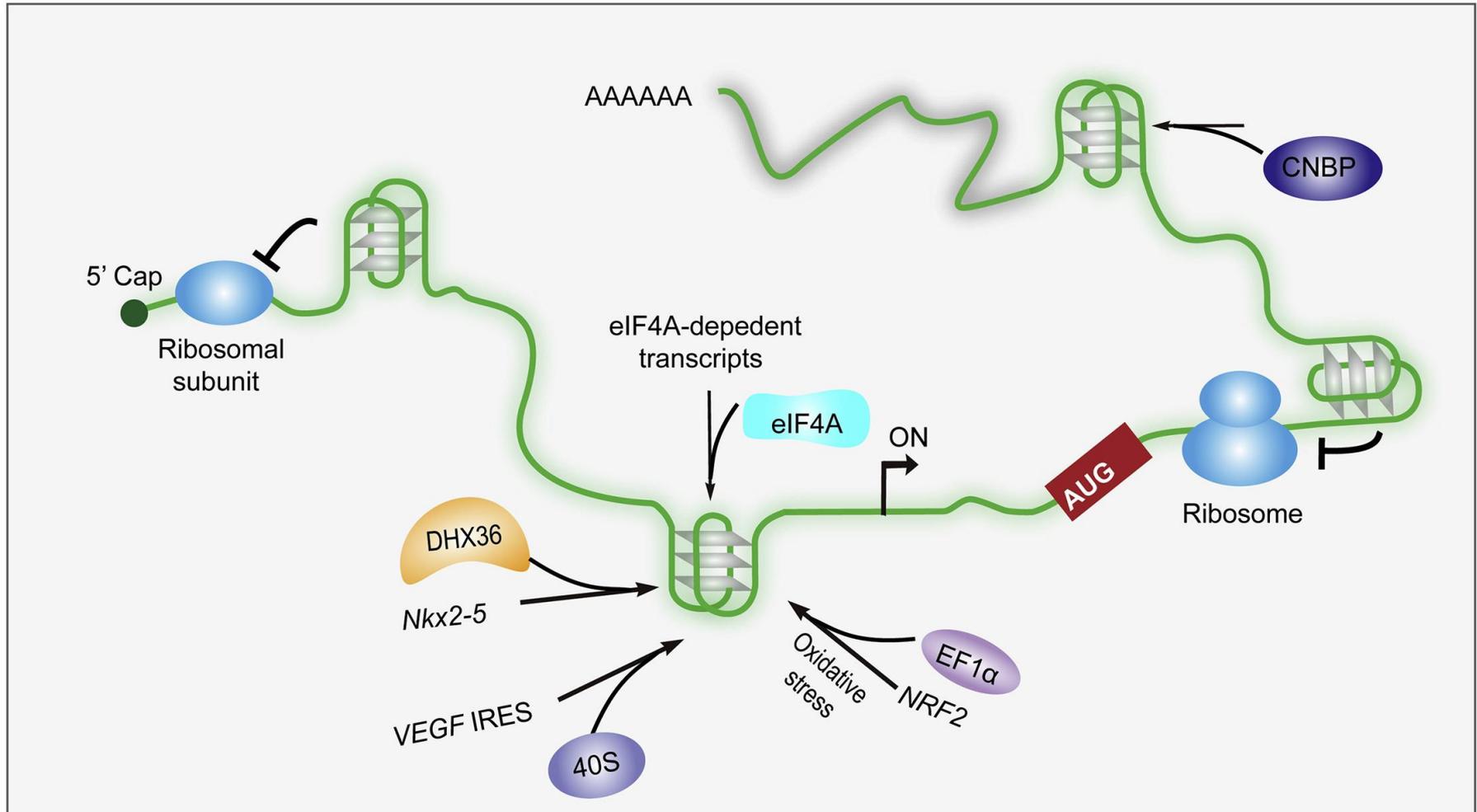
Zhou, X., *et. al.*, *Chem* **2018**, 4, 1314.



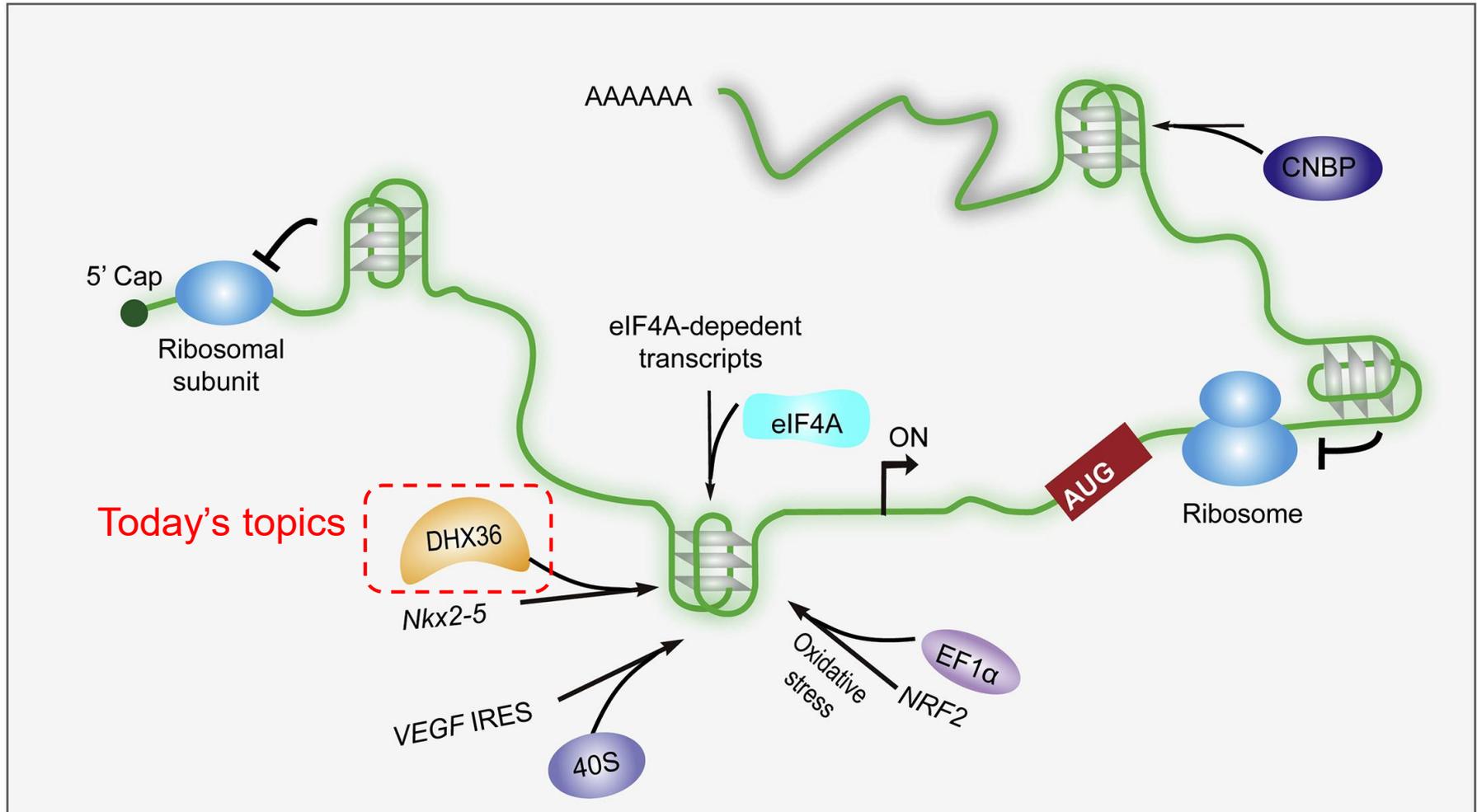
- ✓ In eukaryotic cells, **rG4 are globally unfolded** though thousands of sites in the transcriptome form stable rG4s in vitro.



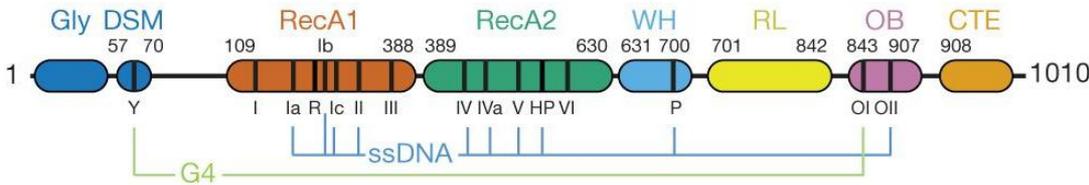
A specialized machinery regulating rG4s formation in cells?



✓ Complex factors are involved in mRNA-translation regulation.

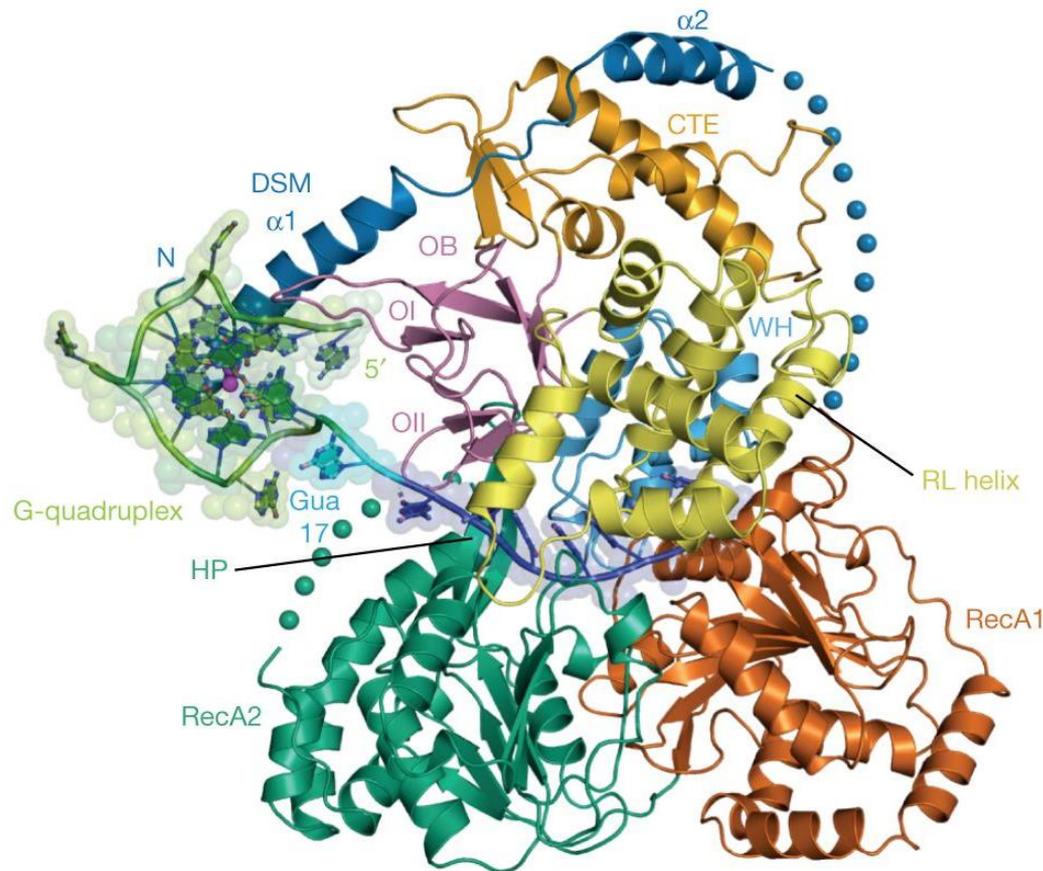


✓ Complex factors are involved in mRNA-translation regulation.

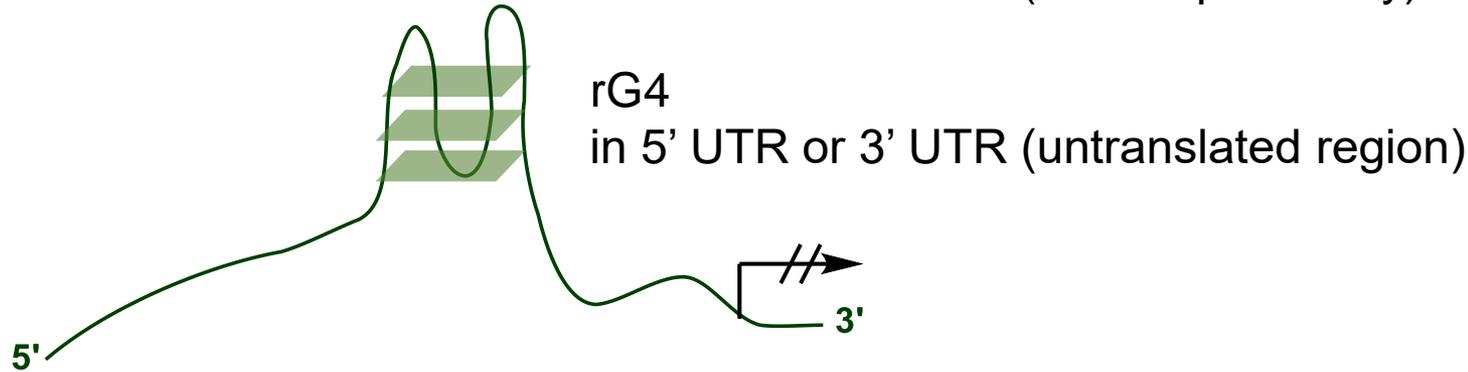


## Structural characteristics

- ✓ DSM(DHX36-specific motif) and OB subdomain specifically recognizes G4s.
- ✓ DSM forms a hydrophobic core, which surface stacks on the top of the bound G4.



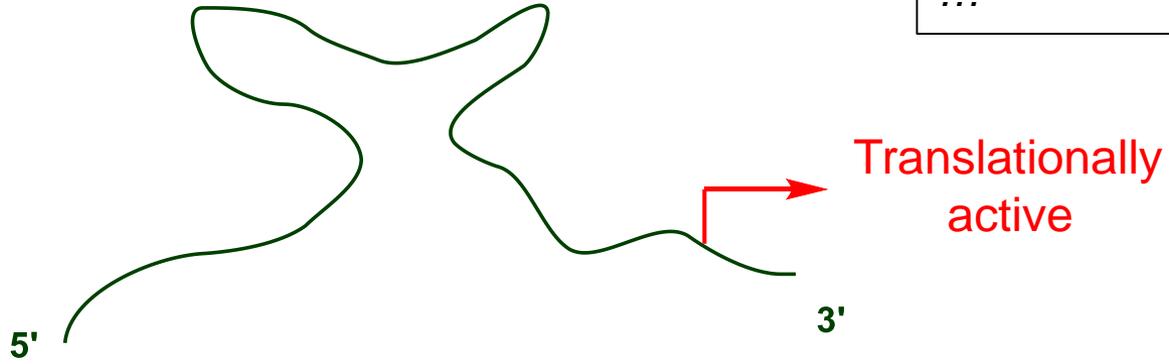
Functional characteristics... RNA helicase which binds and unwinds rG4 (ATP-dependently)

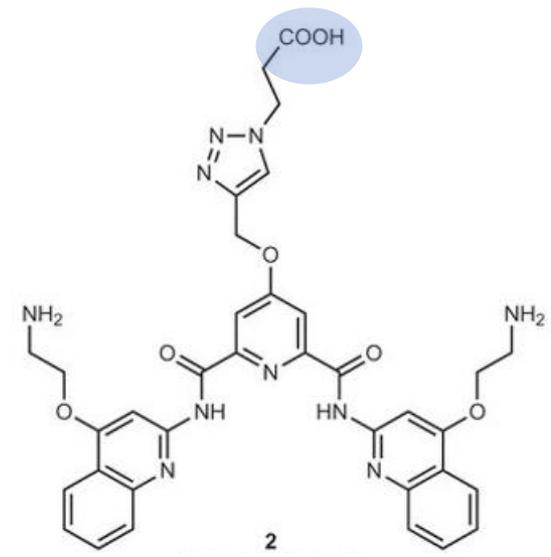
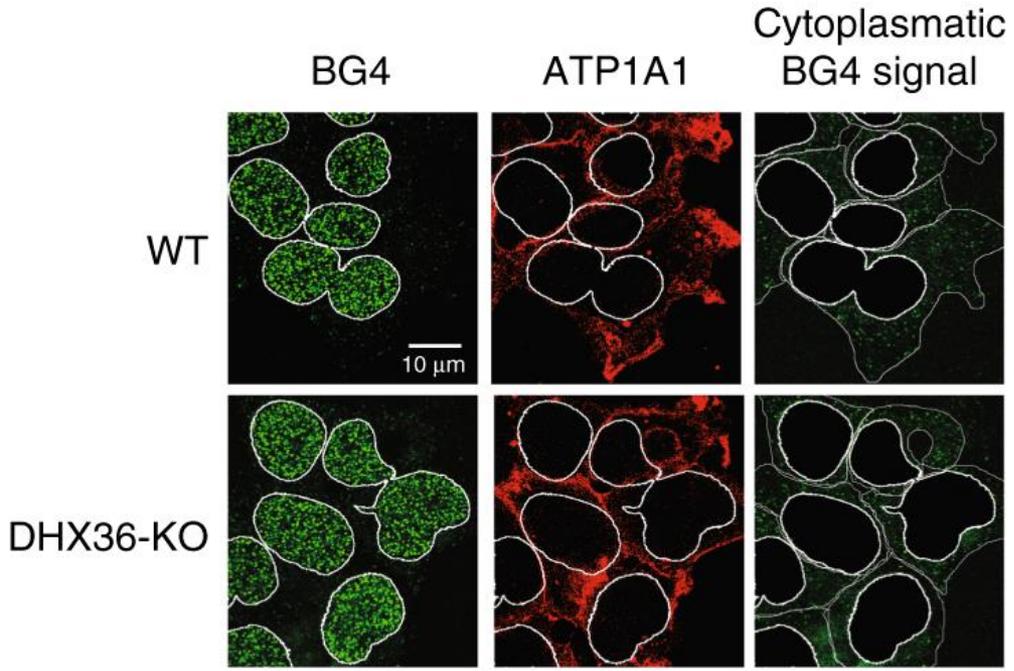


**Translational regulation**



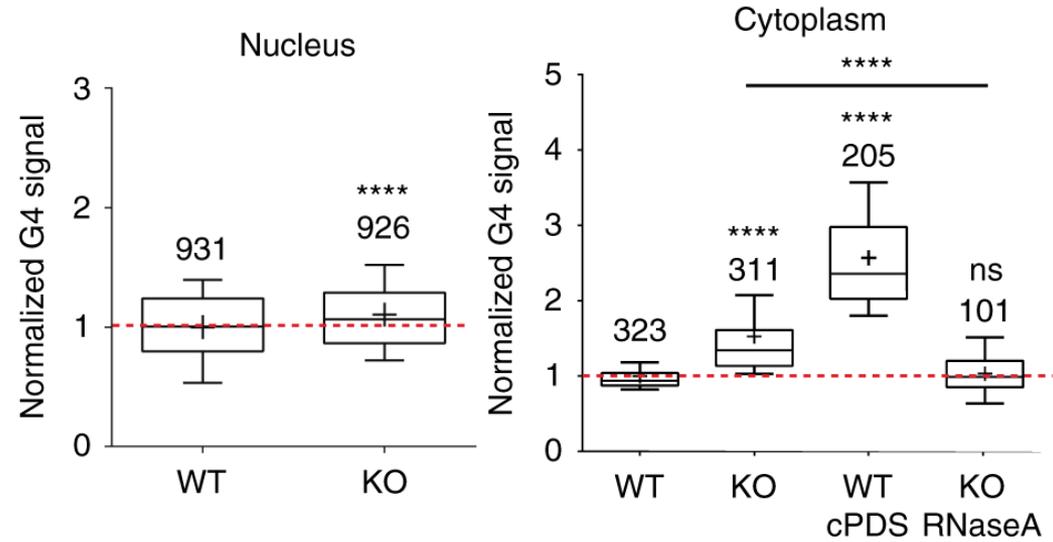
Examples of mRNAs  
*Nkx2-5* (TF related to heart development)  
*YY1* (regulating gene expression)  
*PITX1* (tumor suppressor gene)  
...



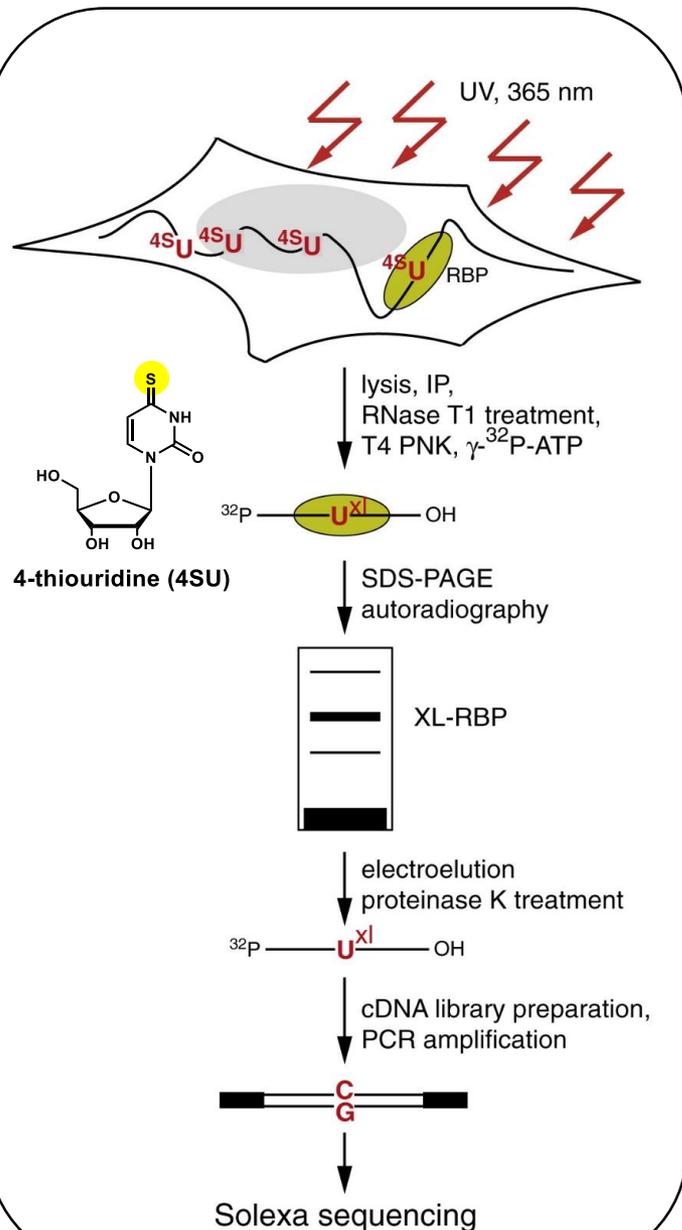


**CarboxyPDS (cPDS)**

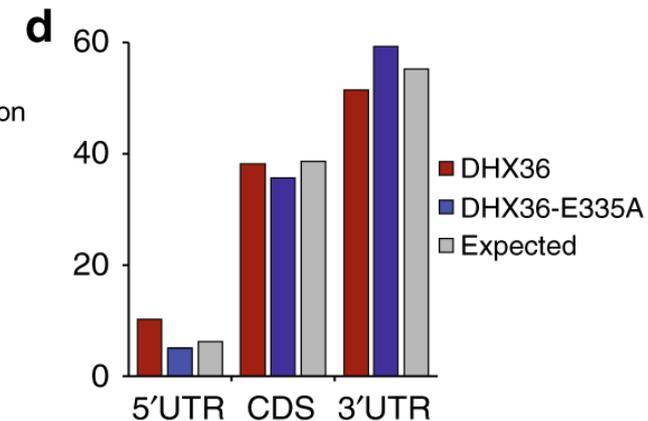
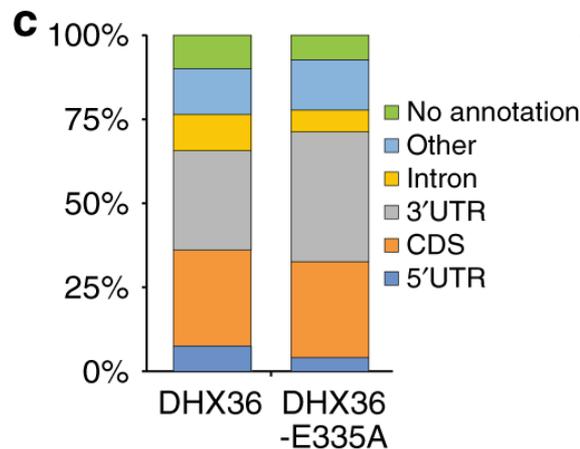
rG4-selective ligand



✓ DHX36-KO resulted in an increase in rG4 formation in living cells.



## PAR-CLIP ... mapping RNA-interactome of a protein (Photoactivatable-ribonucleoside-enhanced crosslinking and immuno-precipitation)



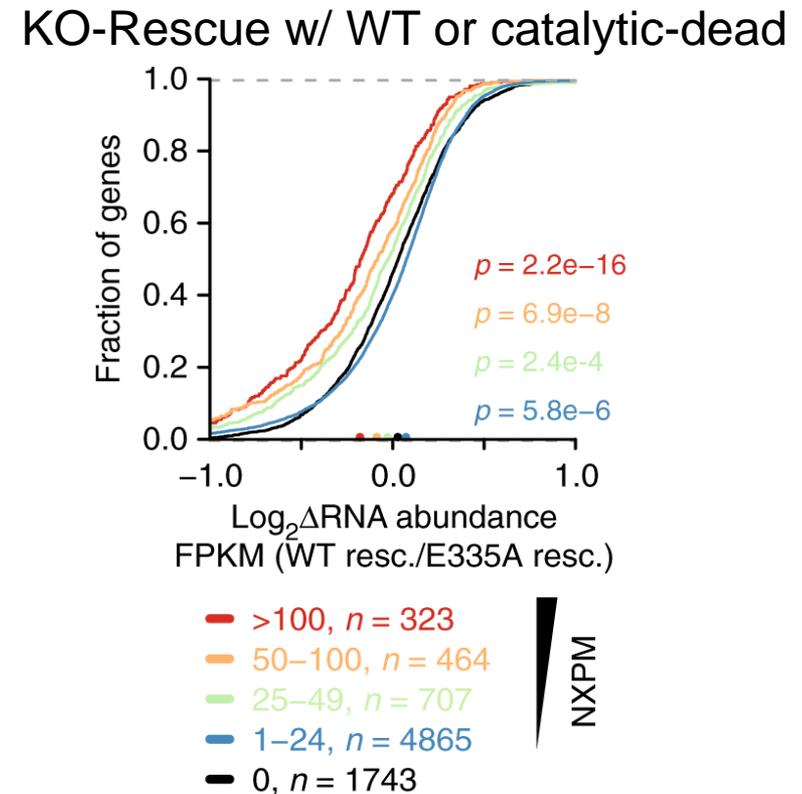
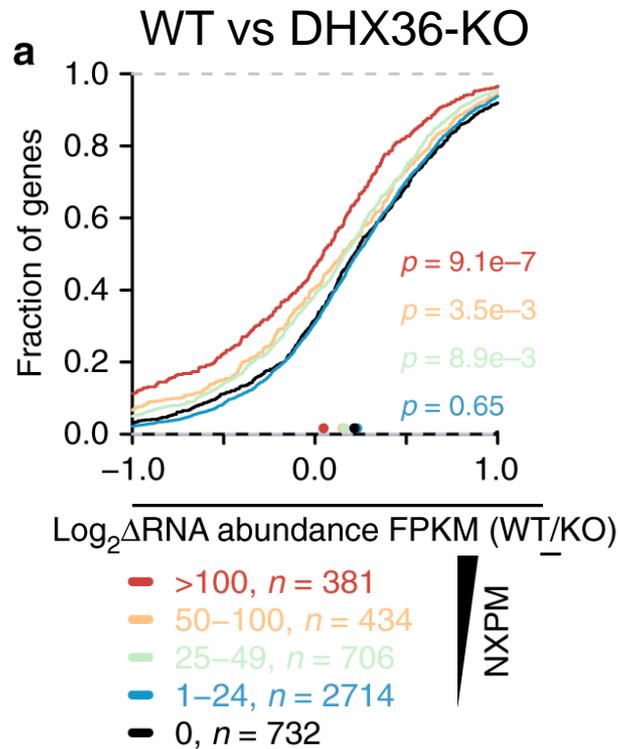
(CDS: coding sequence)  
(E335A... catalytic dead)

- ✓ Any preference for binding sites in exons were observed compared to chance.

Tuschl, T., *et al.*, *Cell* **2010**, *141*, 129.

Paeschke, K., *et al.*, *Nat. Commun.* **2019**, *10*, 2421.

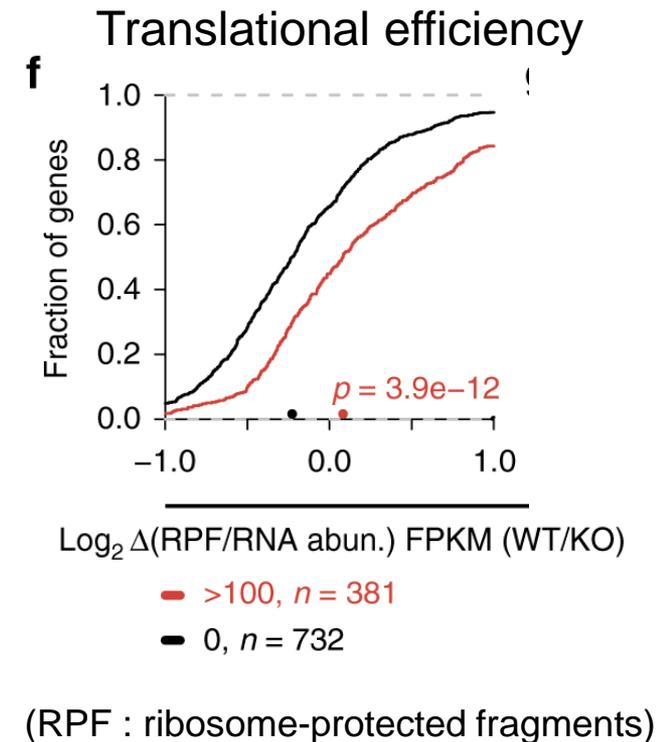
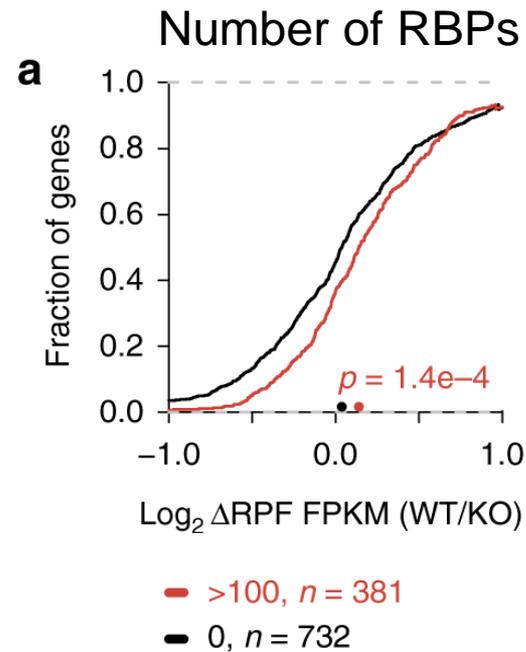
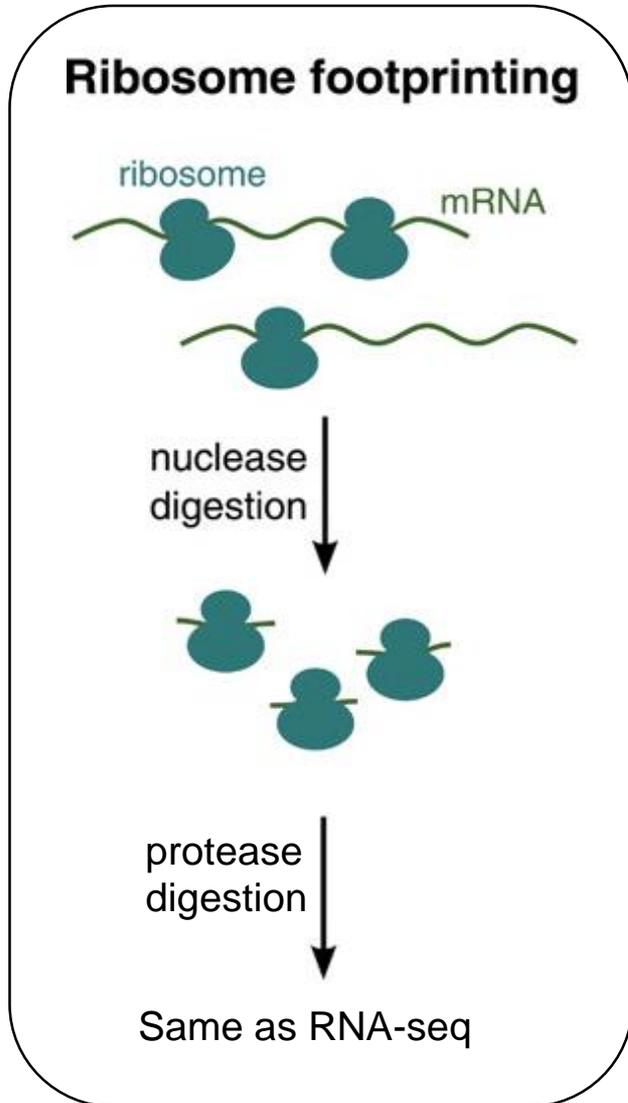
## RNA-seq



(NXPM : normalized crosslinked reads per million in PAR-CLIP)

- ✓ DHX36 **regulates gene expression** in a post-transcriptional manner.
- ✓ DHX36's loss results in the stabilization of target mRNAs in a helicase-dependent manner.

Ribo-seq (ribosome-footprinting) : measures a change in translational activity

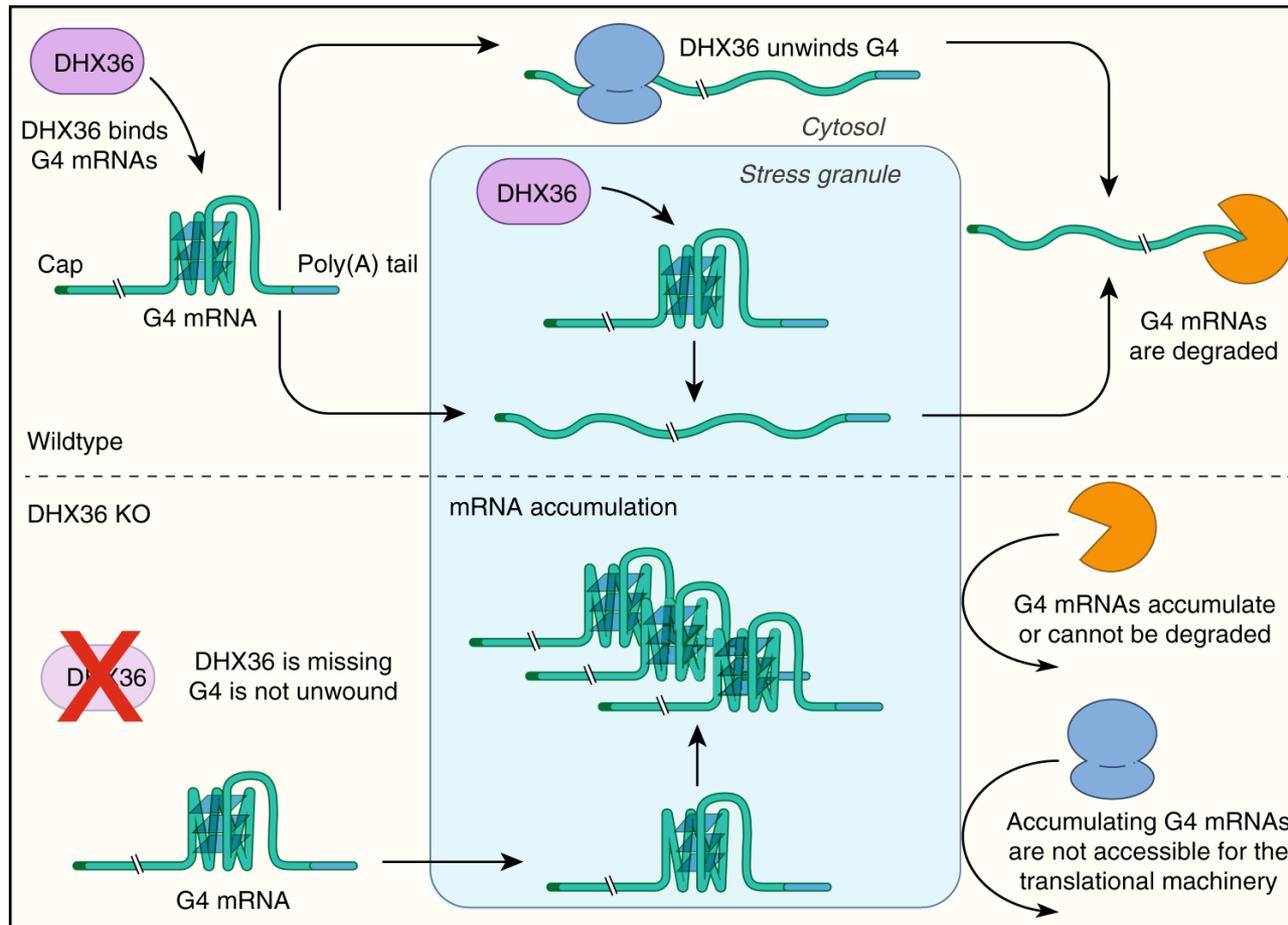


✓ DHX36 **increases translational efficiency** of its targets.

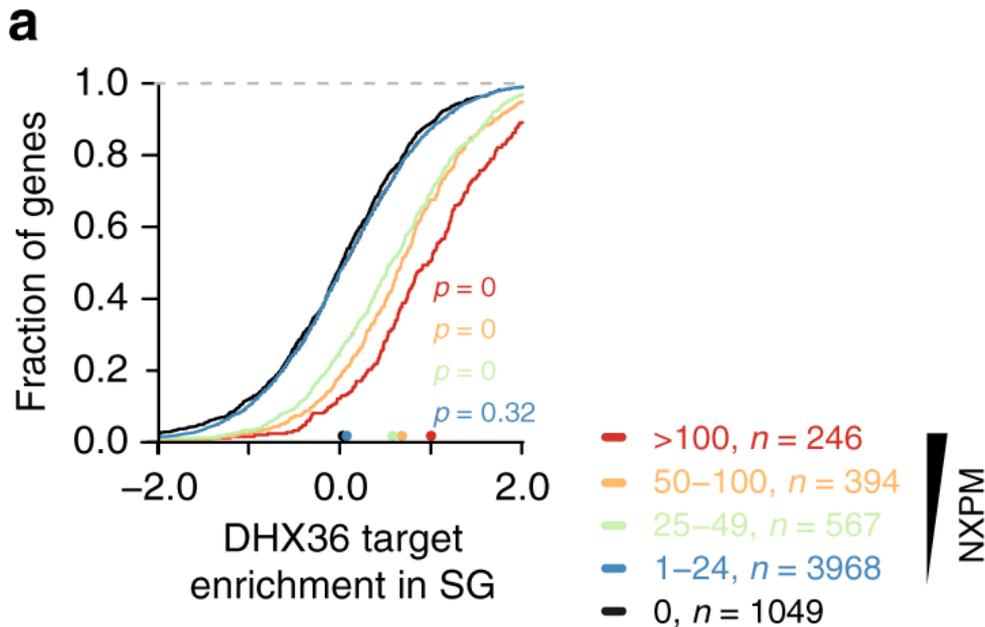
✓ DHX36 binding in 3' UTR was as efficient in promoting translation as binding in 5' UTR.

→ rG4 resulted in **their sequestration into translationally inactive subcellular compartments?** (such as stress granules (SG) or P-bodies)

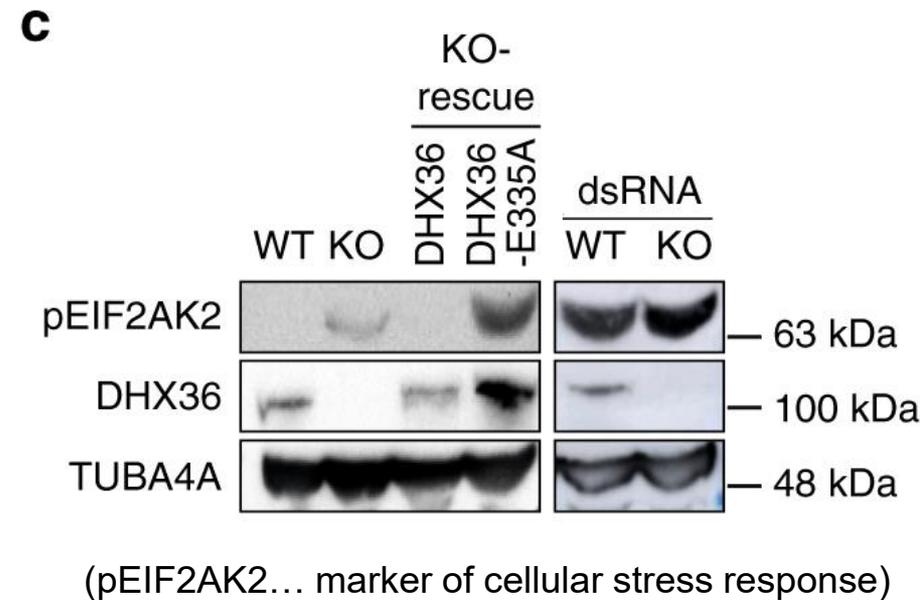
## Hypothesis



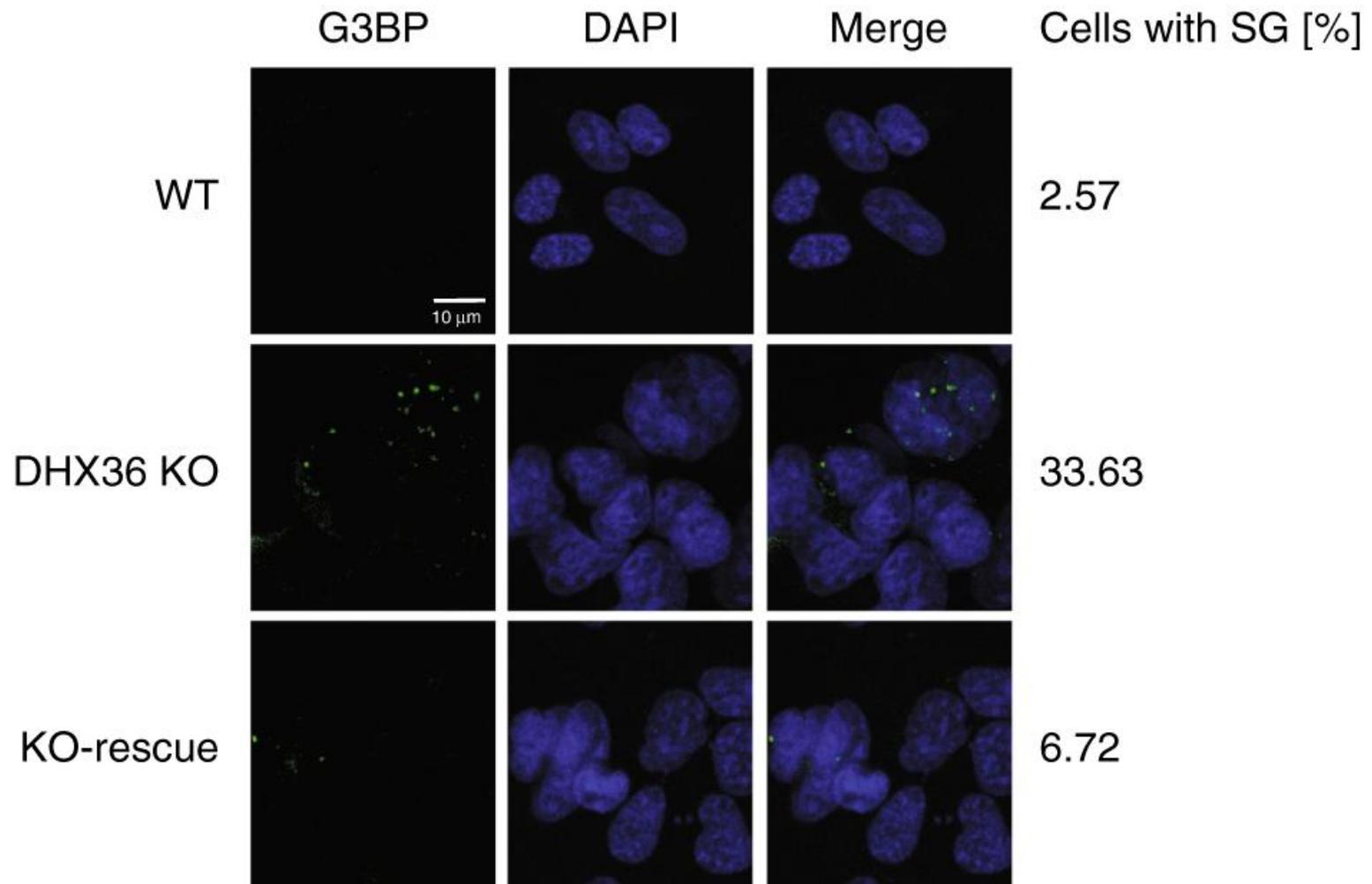
## Cross-reference in dataset of PAR-CLIP & transcripts enriched in SGs



## Western-blotting analysis



- ✓ DHX36 mRNA targets are enriched in SGs.
- ✓ DHX36-KO induced stress response.

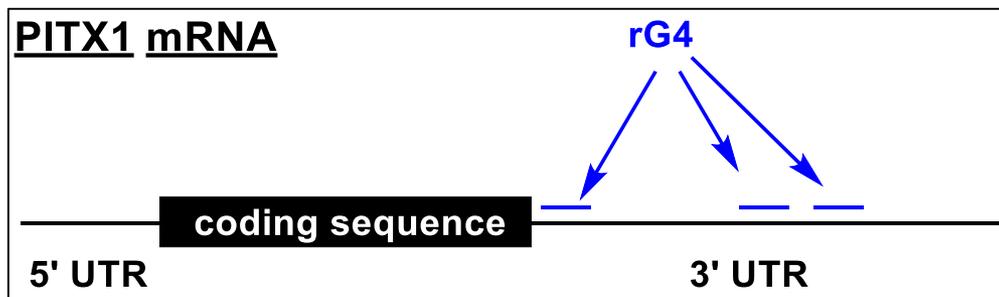
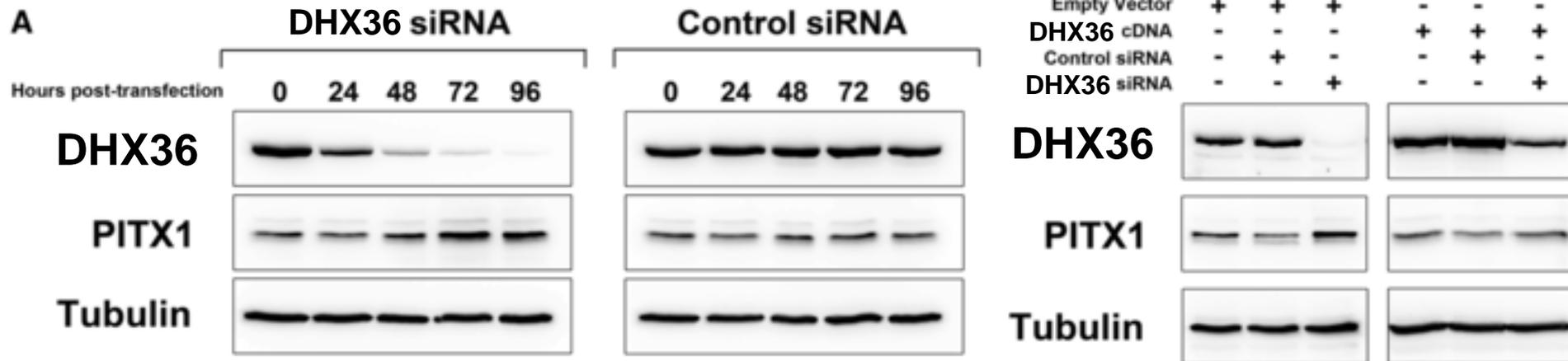


(G3BP... stress granules)

- ✓ Formation of SGs dependent on rG4 was suggested.

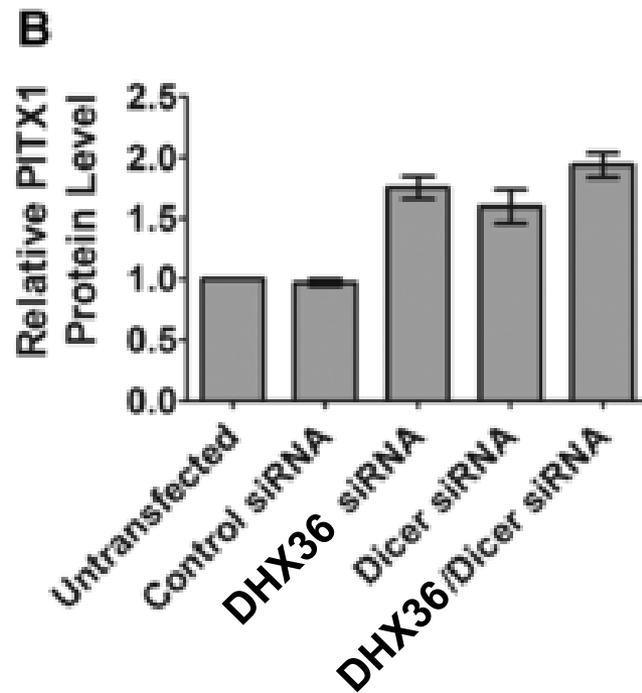
## DHX36 knockdown

## Rescue experiment

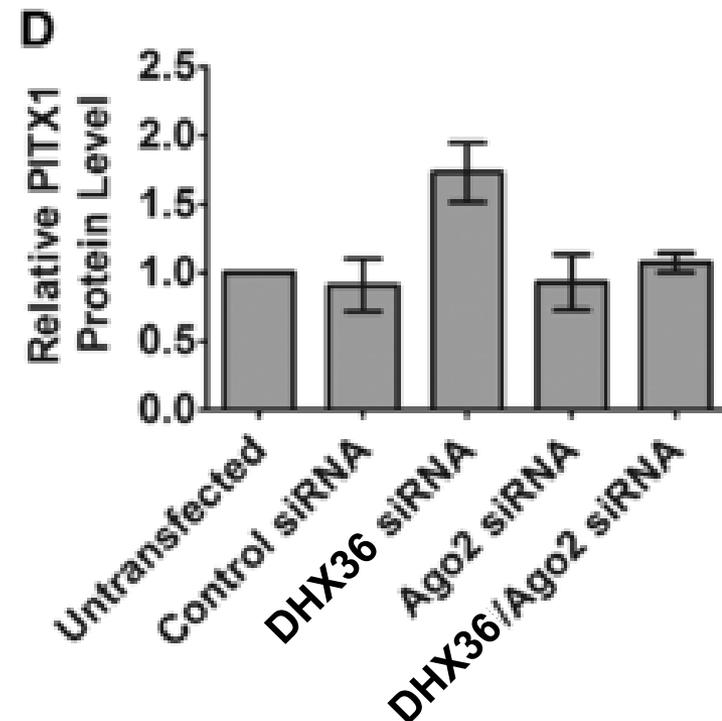


- ✓ DHX36 is a negative regulator of PITX1 protein expression.

## Dicer knockdown



## Ago2 knockdown



Dicer and Ago2... proteins related to miRNA-mediated RNA silencing (see appendix for details)

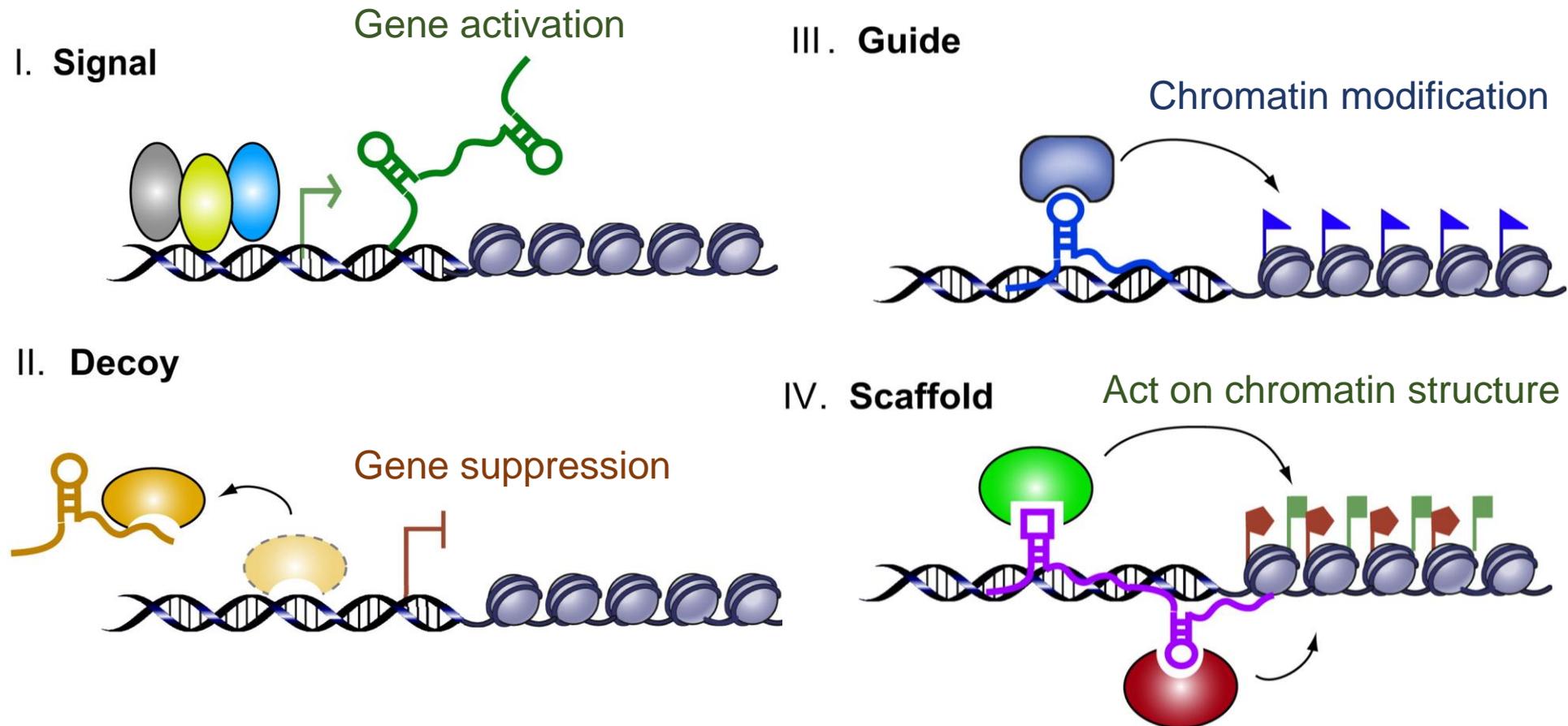
- ✓ There is a link between DHX36 and [miRNA-mediated regulation](#) of PITX1.
- ✓ However, further study is necessary to determine the precise interplay.

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3. Summary

✓ Non-coding RNA(ncRNA)... RNAs which is not translated into proteins

Long non-coding RNA(lncRNA)...ncRNA with lengths exceeding 200 nucleotides

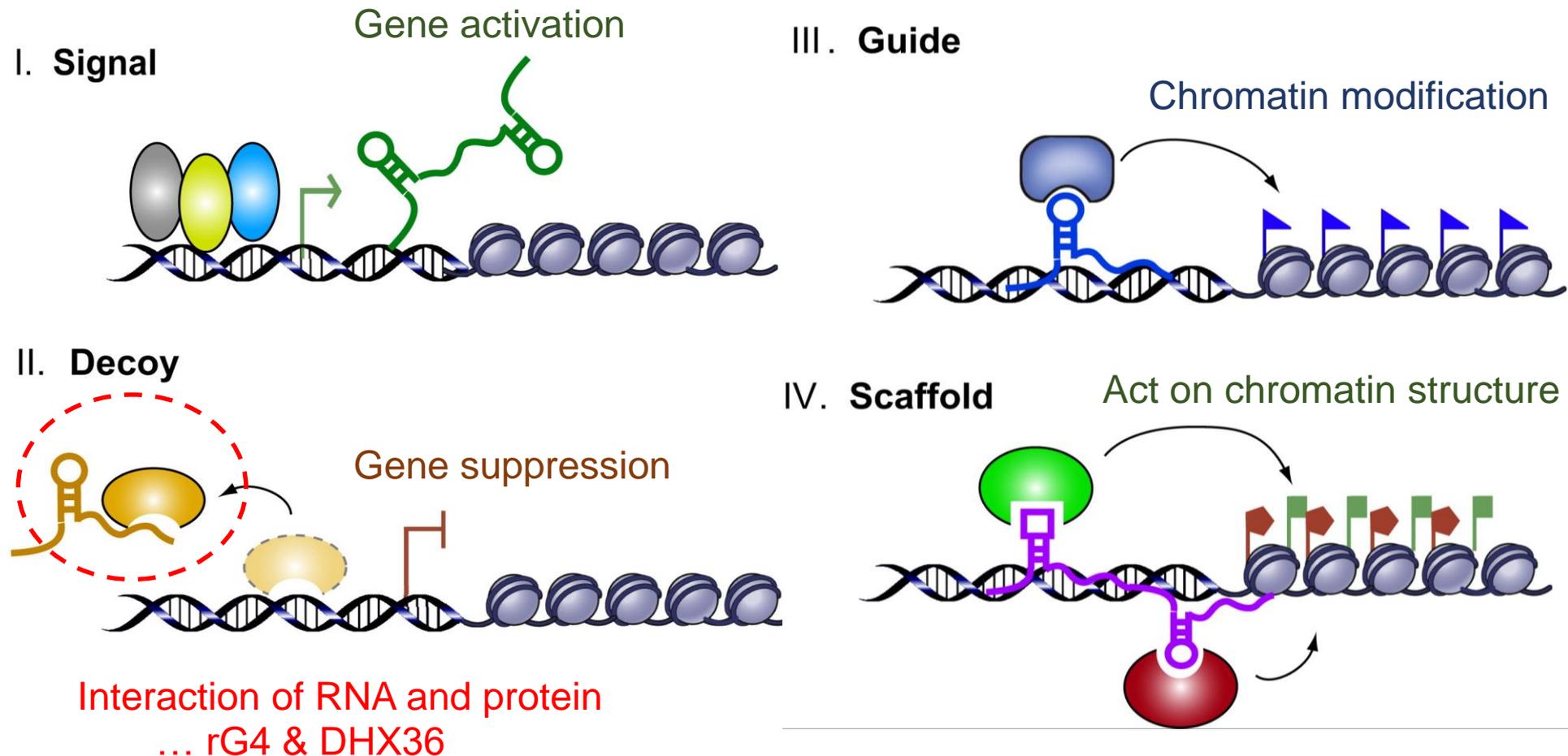
## Mechanisms of functions



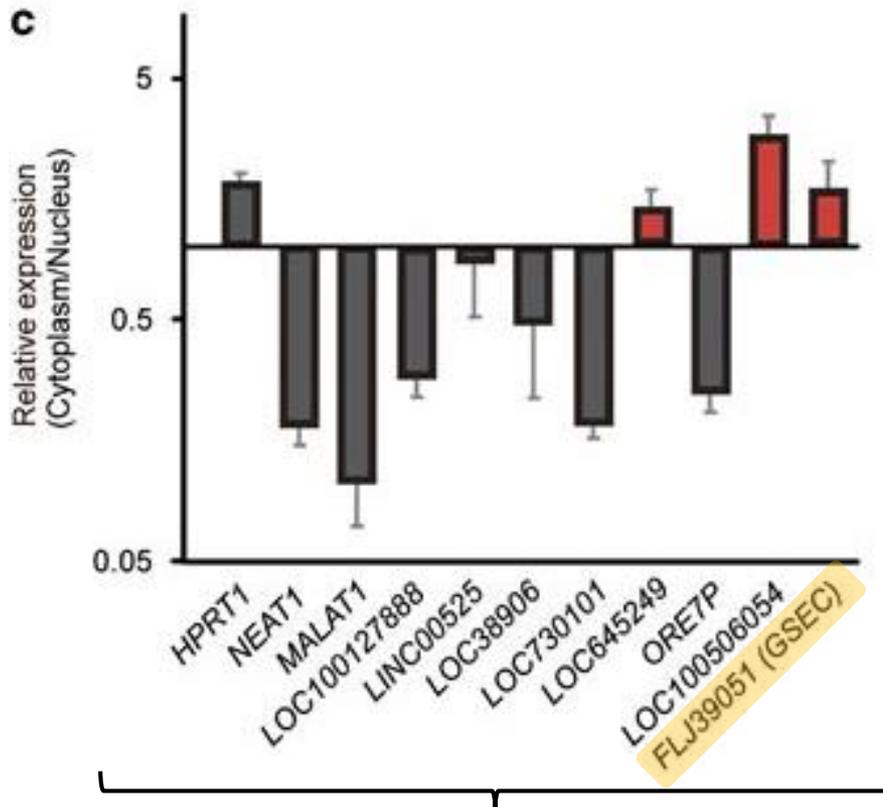
✓ Non-coding RNA(ncRNA)... RNAs which is not translated into proteins

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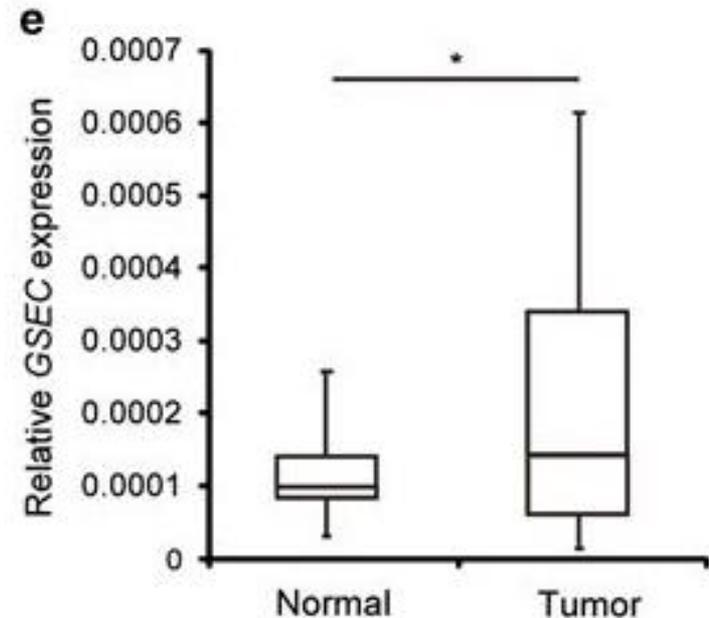
## Mechanisms of functions



*GSEC* (*FLJ39051*)... G-quadruplex-forming sequence containing lncRNA

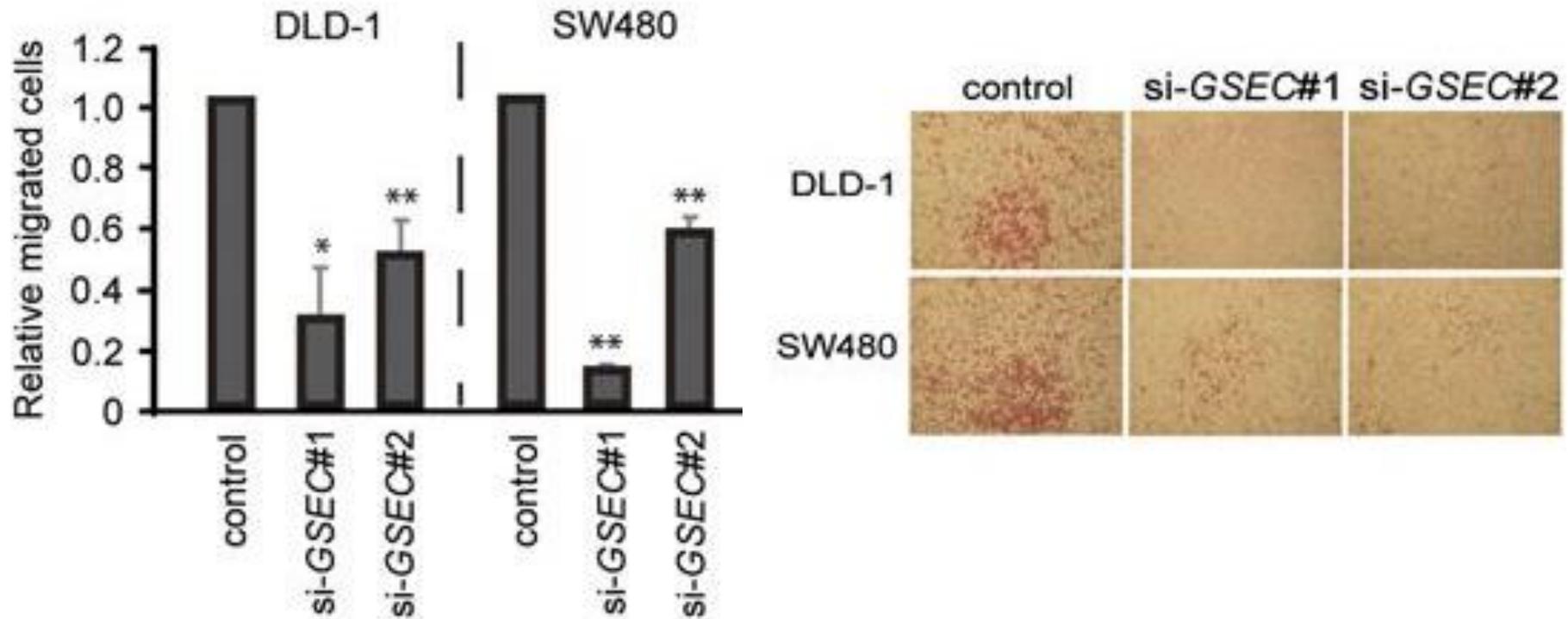


lncRNA upregulated in colon tumor tissues



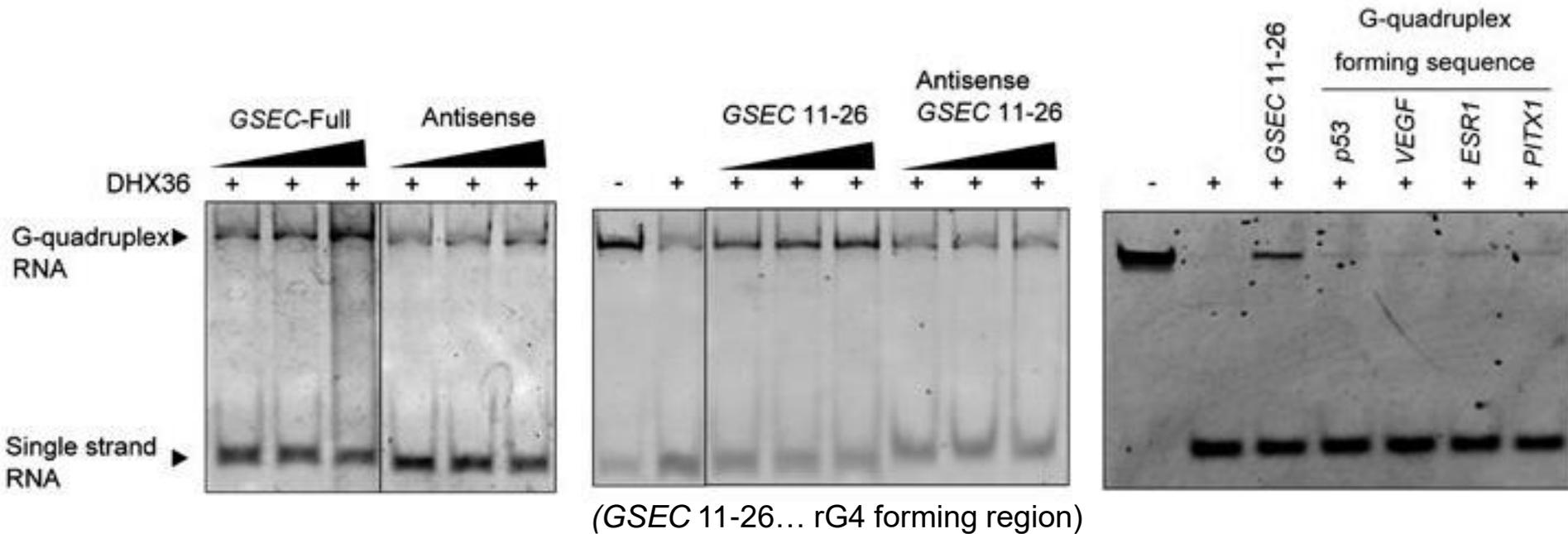
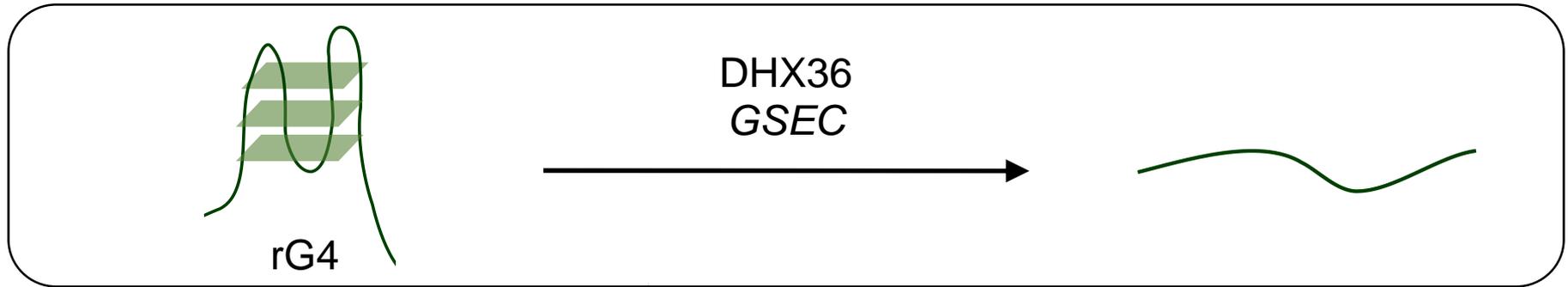
- ✓ *GSEC* was identified as a lncRNA upregulated in colorectal cancer.
- ✓ lncRNA *GSEC* showed enrichment in the cytoplasmic fraction.

Transwell migration chamber assay ... examine cell motility (細胞遊走性)



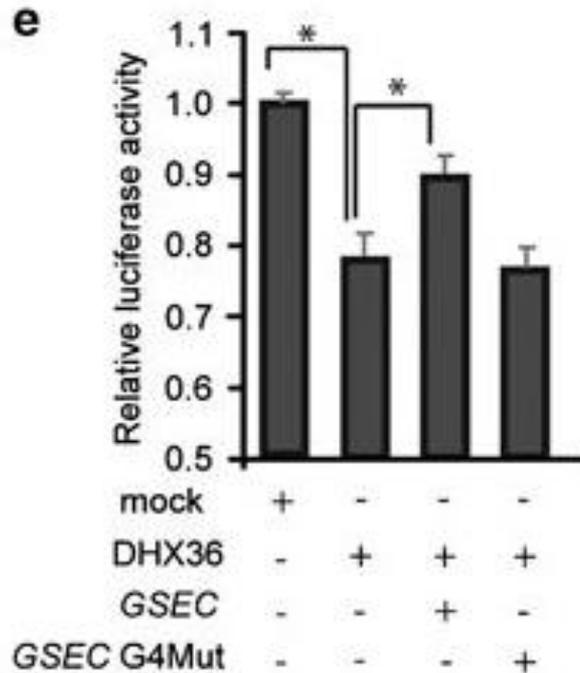
✓ *GSEC* is required for the motility of colon cancer cells.

## rG4 resolution assay



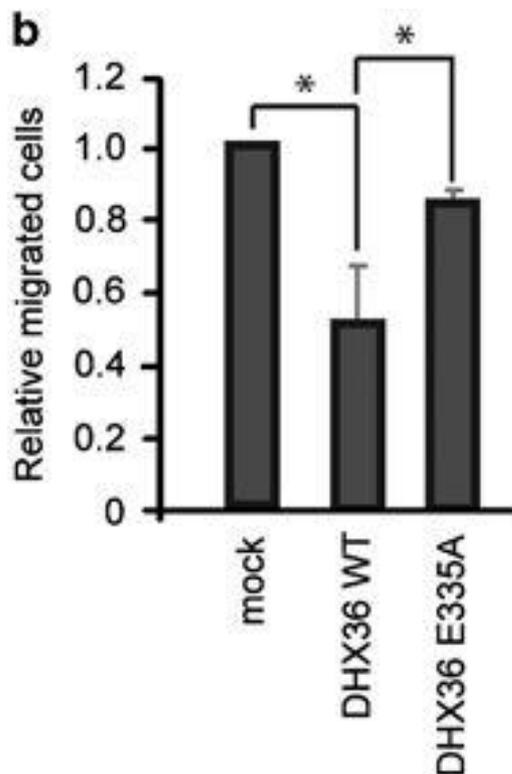
✓ *GSEC* inhibits the function of DHX36.

## Luciferase reporter assay

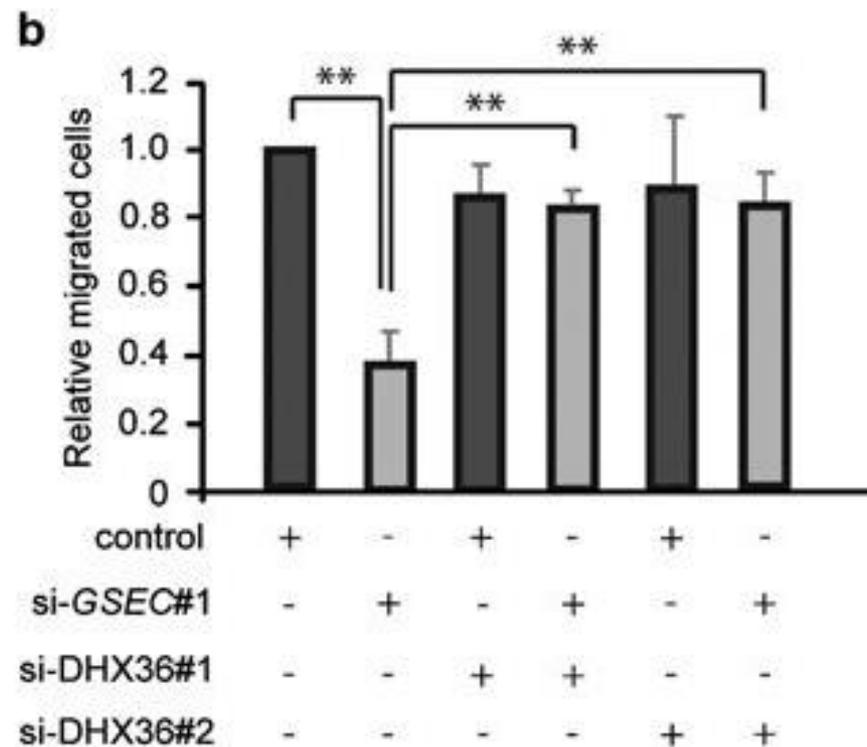


✓ It is possible that *GSEC* is also involved in miRNA-mediated regulation of gene expression.

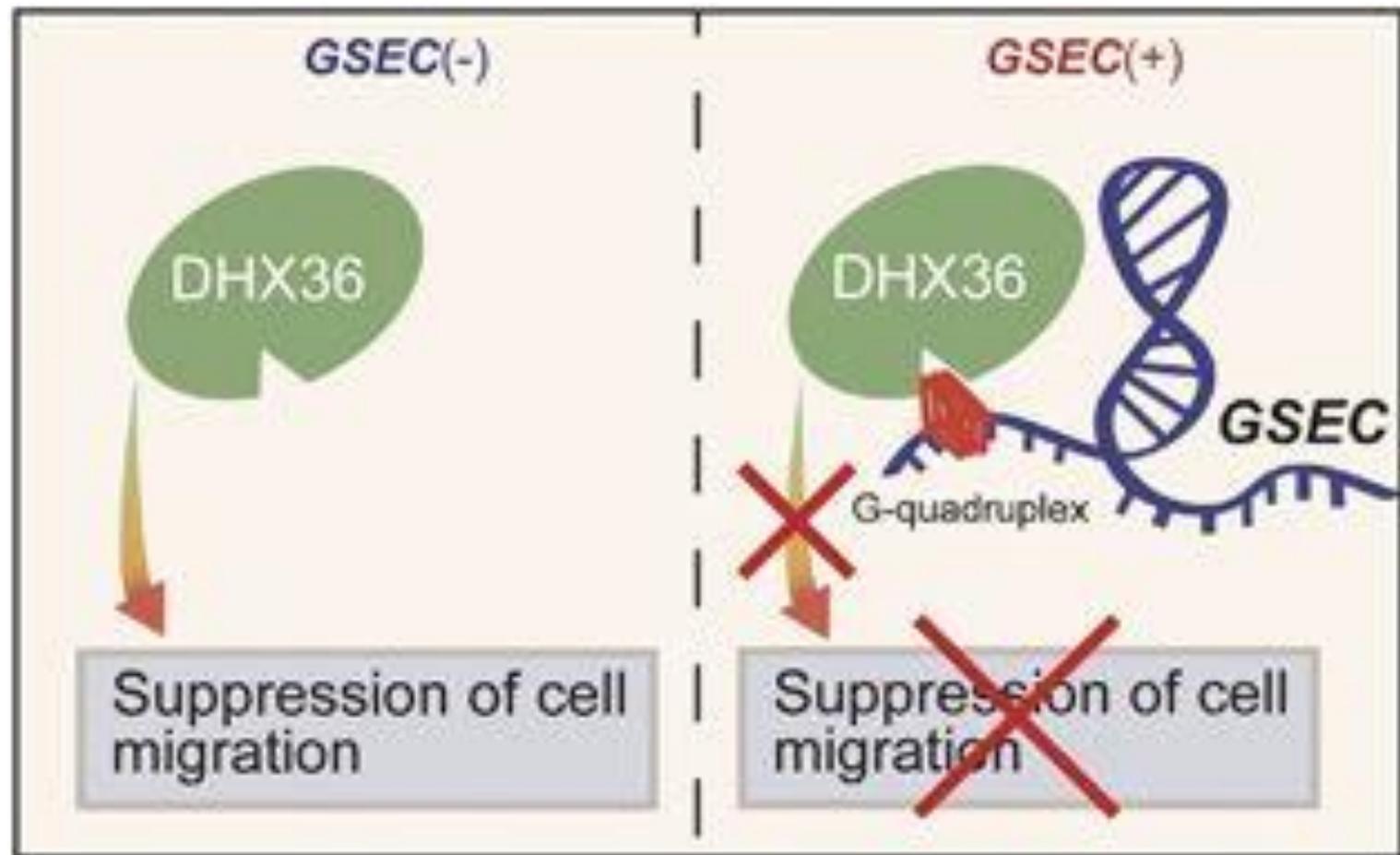
## Overexpression of DHX36



## Knockdown of DHX36 and *GSEC*



- ✓ DHX36 decreases cell motility in a helicase activity-dependent manner.
- ✓ *GSEC* enhances cell motility by inhibiting the function of DHX36.

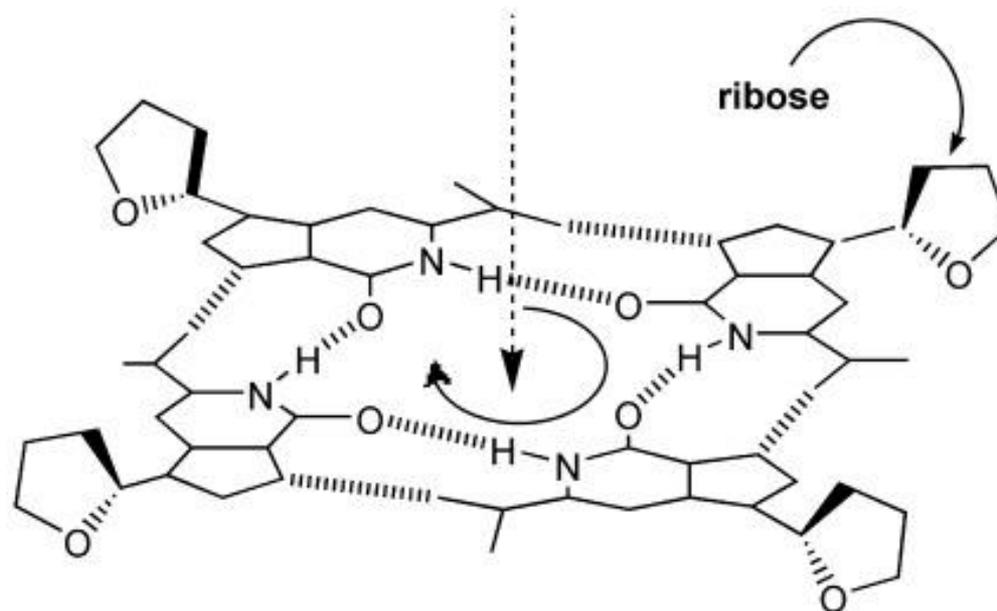


- ✓ *GSEC* binds to DHX36 via rG4 and inhibits rG4-resolution activity.

1. Introduction
  - History of G-quadruplex (G4)
  
2. RNA G4s and DHX36
  - 2-1. RNA G4s in translational regulation
  - 2-2. RNA G4s in ncRNAs
  
3. Summary

- ✓ RNA G-quadruplexes (rG4s) are thought to be regulated by complex factors, which includes DHX36, RNA helicase.
- ✓ DHX36 mainly gives a positive regulation to the translation of mRNAs via its helicase activity.
- ✓ Long non-coding RNA (lncRNA) *GSEC* acts as a decoy for DHX36 binding to prevent the action of DHX36 on other targets.

# ***Appendix***

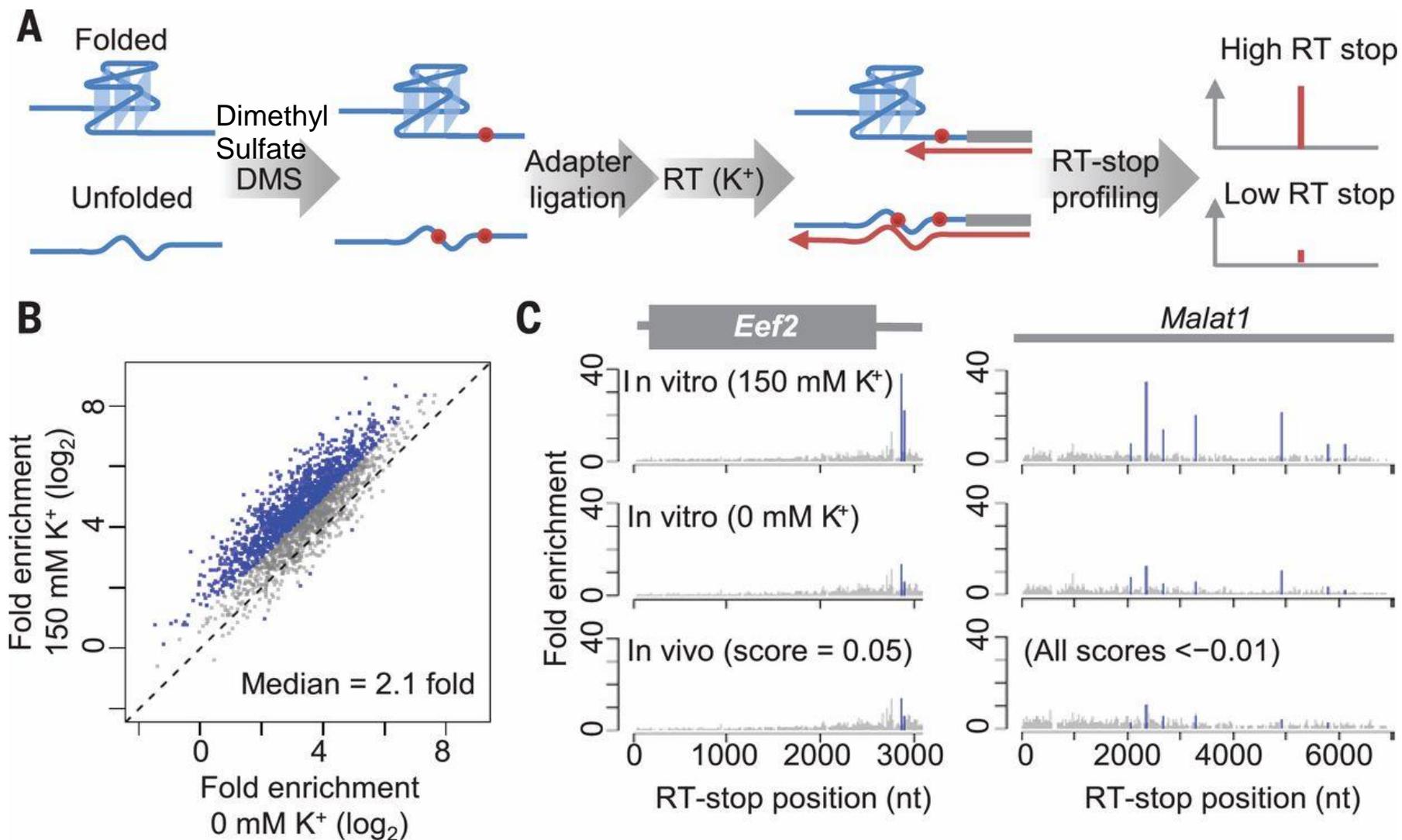


$\text{NH} \cdots \text{C}=\text{O}$  H-Bond Direction is Clockwise

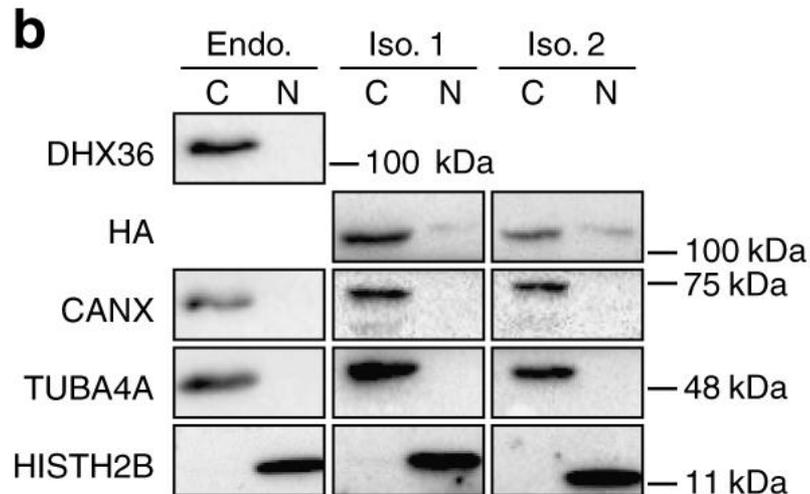
||

“Head” face

- ✓ The attached sugars result in the chiral G-quartet having diastereotopic faces, a “head” and a “tail”.



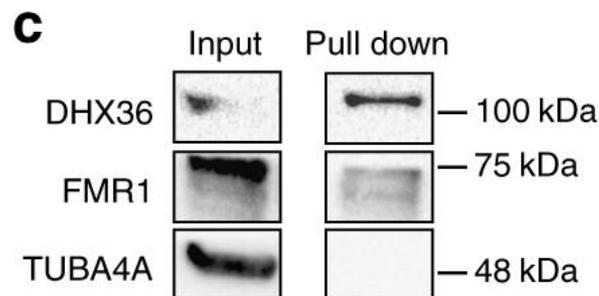
## FlagHA-DHX36(iso1 or iso2) expressed HEK293 cells



✓ DHX36 is a cytoplasmic helicase.

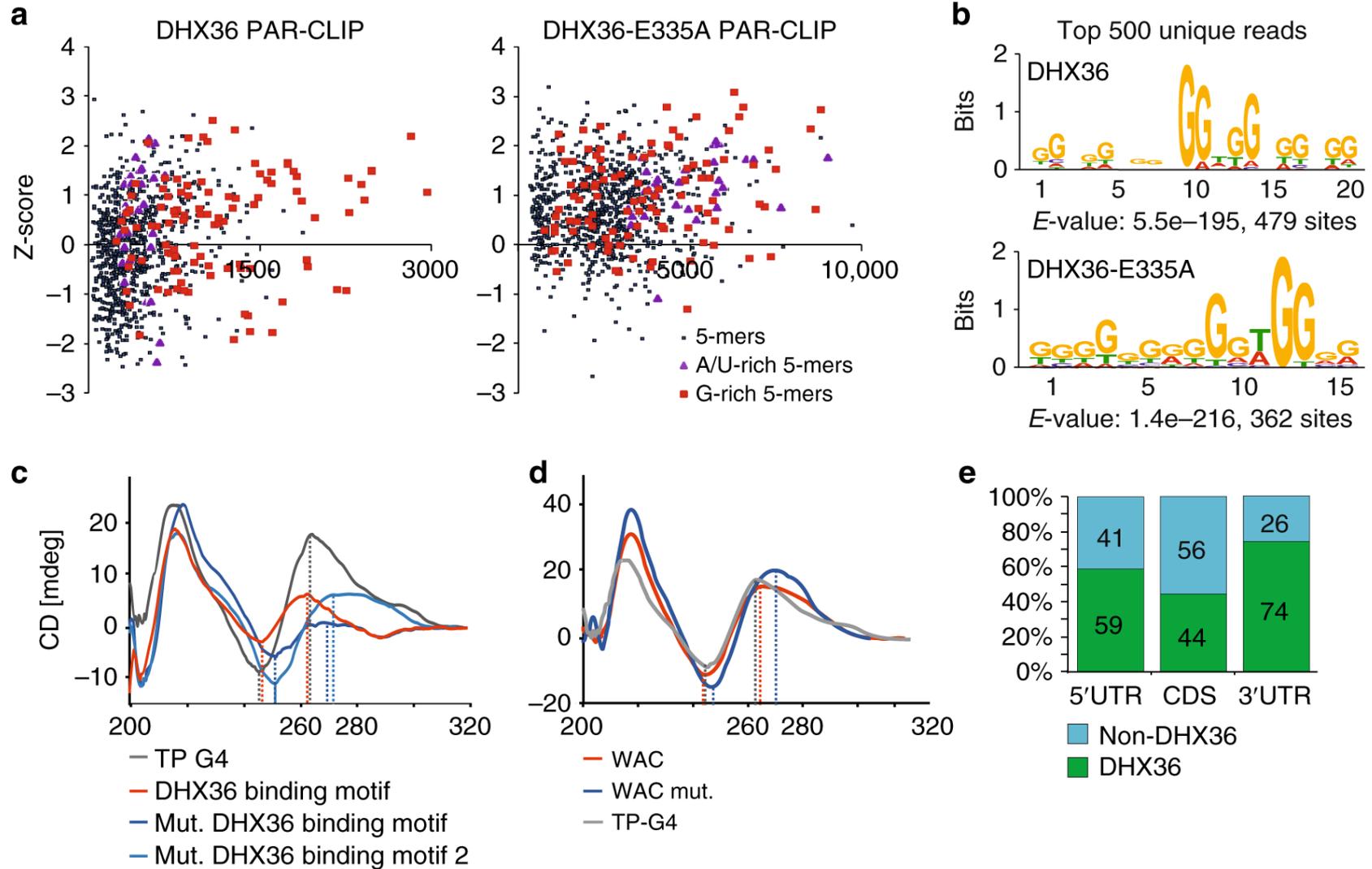
✓ Isoforms 1 and 2 shows no differences in localization.

## Purification of polyadenylated RNA after crosslinking



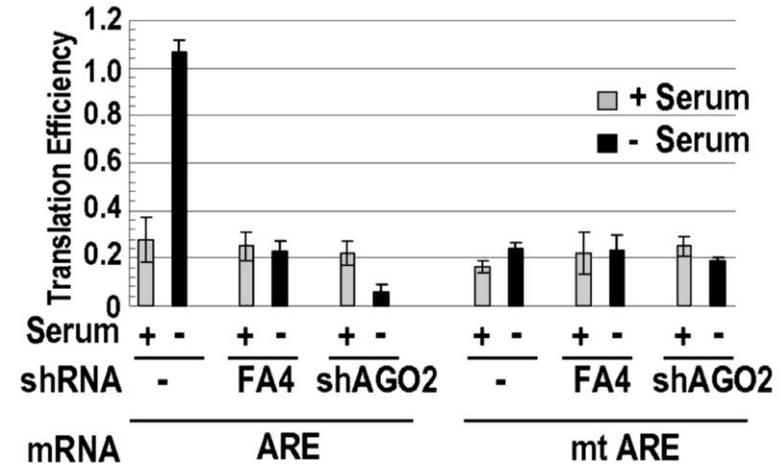
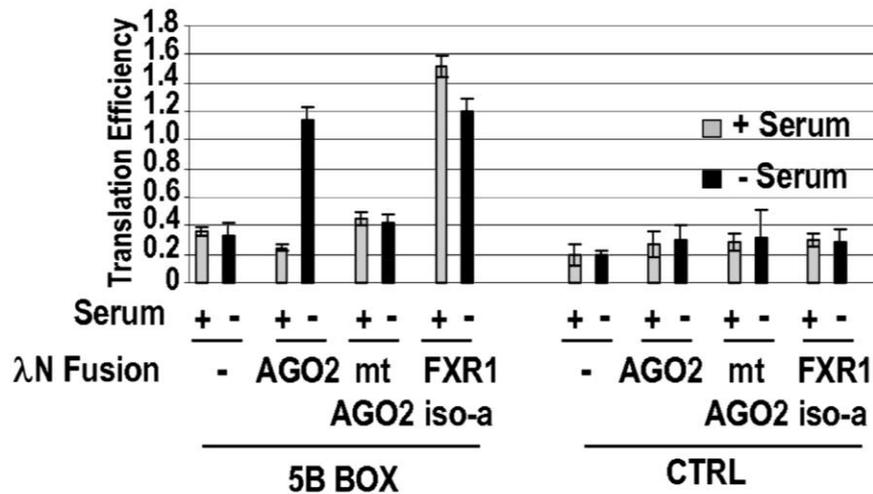
✓ DHX36 interacts with mRNA.

✓ DHX36's main targets are cytoplasmic mRNAs.



✓ DHX36 binds G-rich target mRNAs in cells that form rG4s in vitro.

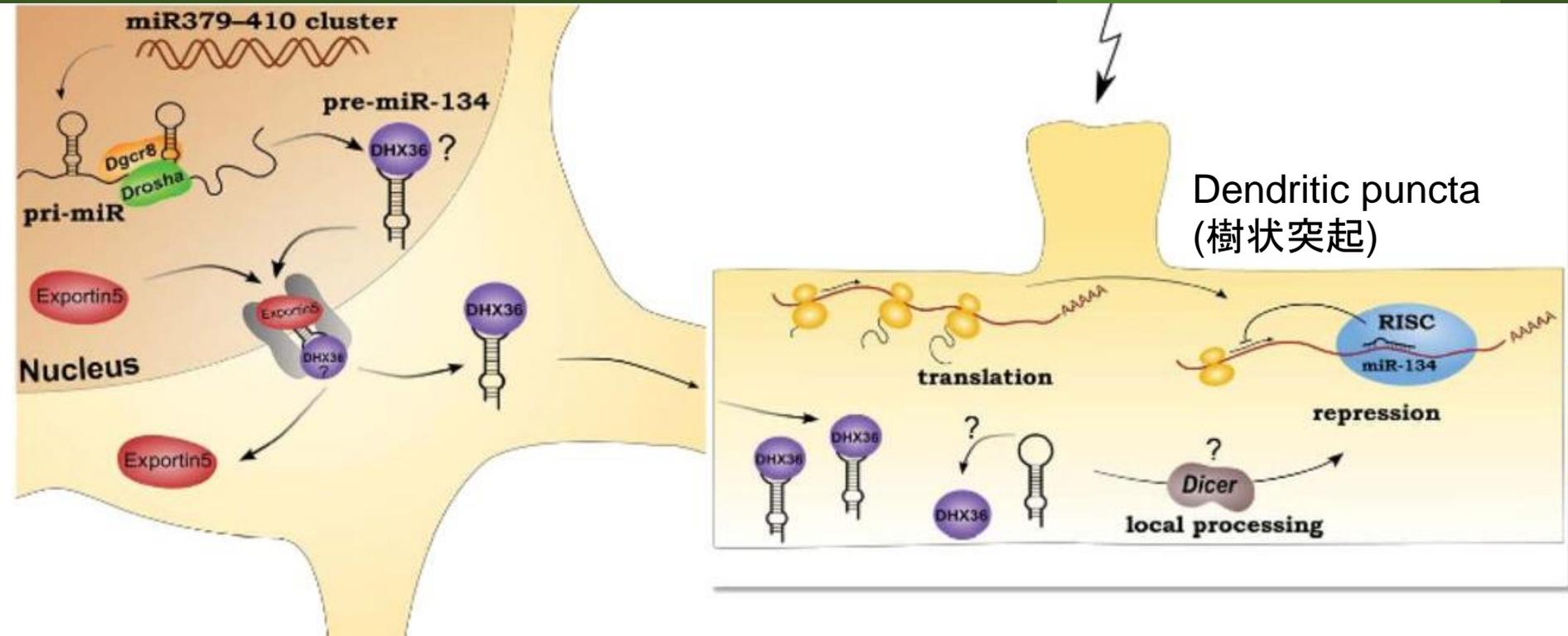




- ✓ Ago2 acts also as a translational upregulator dependent on the context of 3'UTR and bound cofactors.

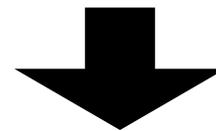
Steiz, J. A., *et. al.*, *Cell*. **2007**, 128, 1105.

- ✓ This literature could explain in part the result that Ago2 knockdown abrogated DHX36 siRNA-mediated PITX1 upregulation.



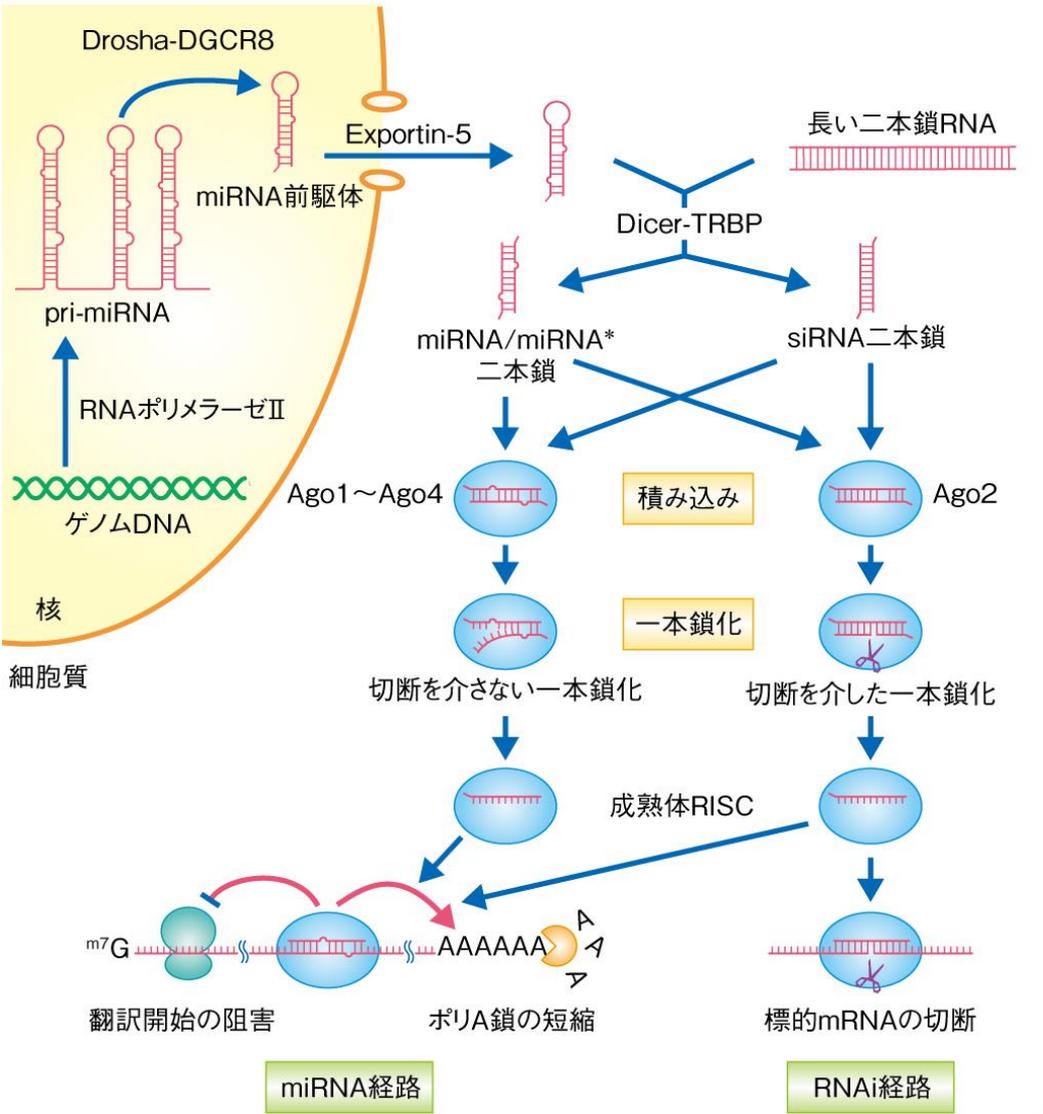
- ✓ DHX36 acts as a specific binding partner of the miR-134 microRNA in neuronal cells.
- ✓ It demonstrates a role in microRNA trafficking.

Schratt, G., et al., *Genes Dev.* **2013**, 27, 991.

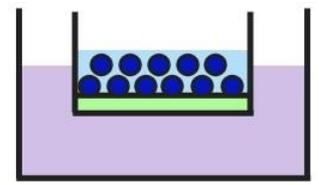


## Hypothesis of miRNA-mediated translational regulation mechanism

1. The interaction between DHX36 and PITX1 mRNA is mediated by a microRNA.
2. In certain contexts, DHX36 may be involved in the sub-cellular localization of PITX1 mRNA.



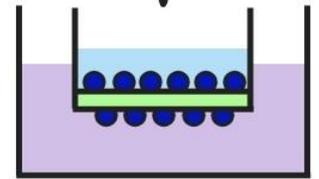
- ✓ Dicer... Rnase which produces RNA duplex (21-24 bp)
- ✓ Ago protein... cleave RNA duplex into single strand RNA
- ✓ Ago + ssRNA → RISC (RNA-induced silencing complex)



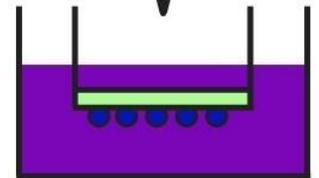
細胞懸濁液を上側チャンバーに添加する。



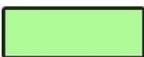
インキュベーション

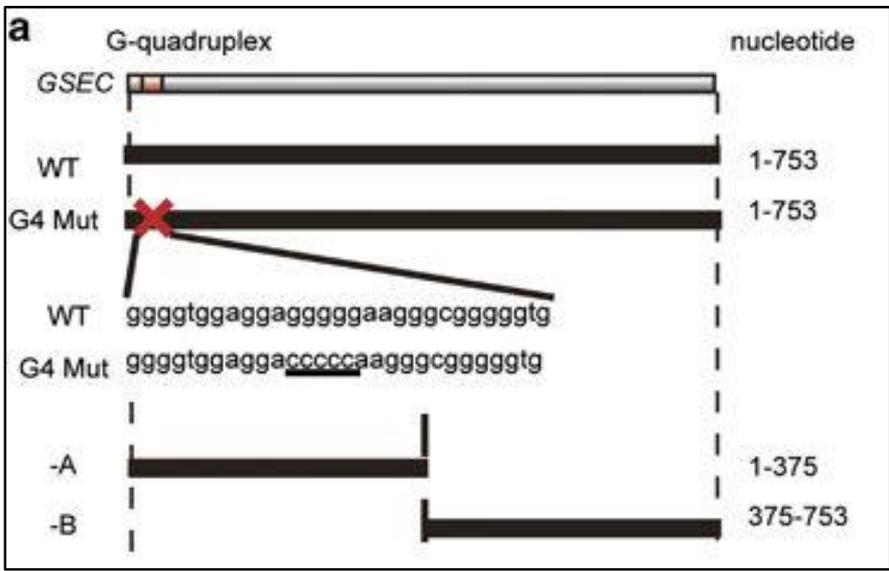


遊走細胞のみがポリカーボネート膜を通過し、底面に接着する。非遊走細胞は上側チャンバーに残る。

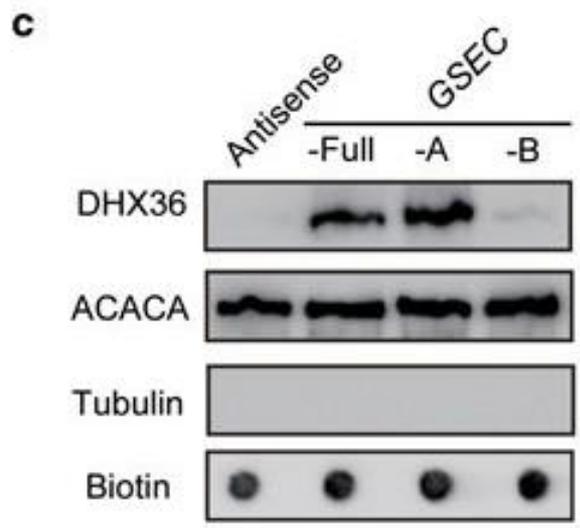
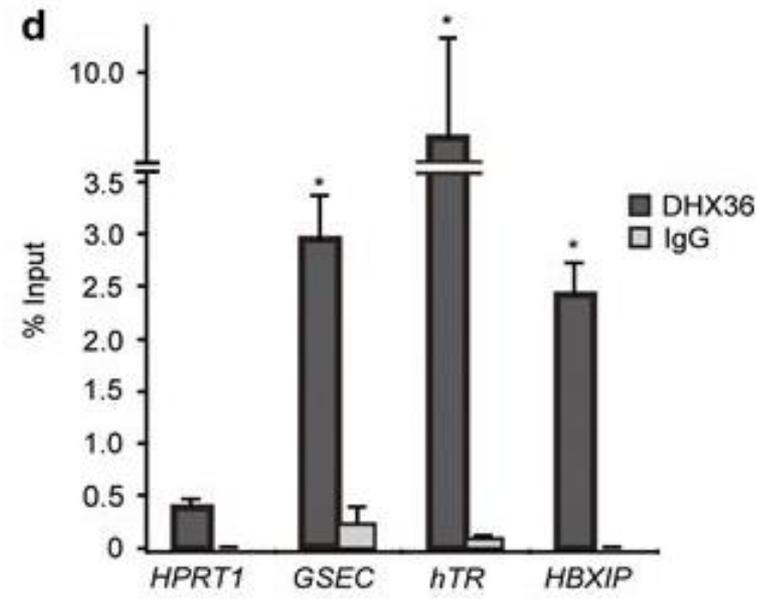


非遊走細胞を除去した後、遊走細胞を染色し定量する。

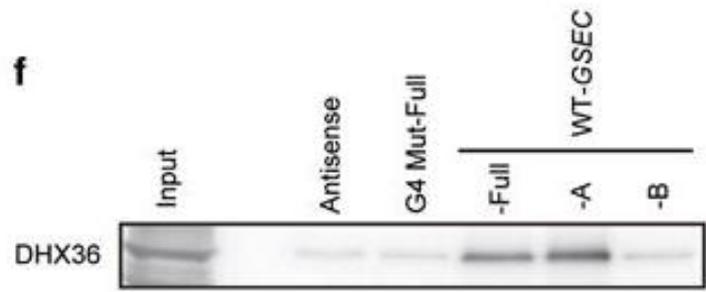
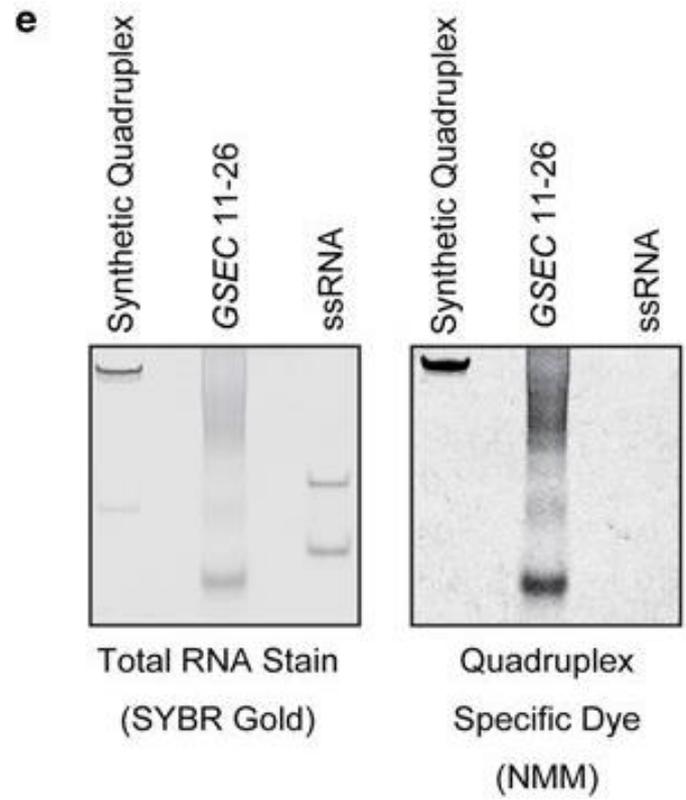
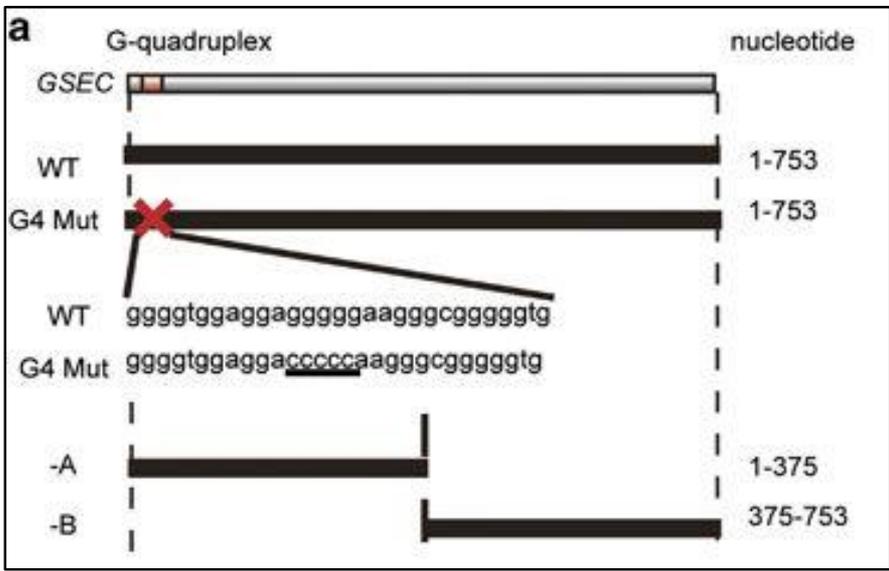
	細胞		培地／化学誘引物質
	血清フリー培地		染色試薬
	ポリカーボネート膜		



## RIP(RNA immunoprecipitation) & qRT-PCR



✓ GSEC binds to DHX36 even in living cells.



✓ GSEC directly interacts with DHX36 through a G-quadruplex structure.