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- **Complete sequence alignments** for 78 archaea, 865 bacteria, and 187 eukarya are available in HTML format from our web site:

http://blanco.biomol.uci.edu/download/Bondar_SecYE_align.zip

save date: 9 Apr 2010, 06:35 Structure D-09-00288R

Supplementary Information

Dynamics of SecY Translocons with Translocation-Defective Mutations

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Figure S1. Comparison of the SecYEG wild-type and mutant structures referred to in Figure 1. Overlap between the SecY mutant structures and wild-type SecY, and rmsd of the mutant structures relative to the starting crystal structure ($C\alpha$ rmsd, in Å) for K250E (A; Sim2), T72V/T80V/R104A (B; Sim3), L406K (C, Sim4), and E336R (D, Sim5). Wild-type SecYEG is shown with SecY green, SecE purple, and Secβ blue. For the mutant translocons, SecE and Secβ are shown in transparent purple and transparent blue, respectively. Mutant SecY is depicted as follows: K250E - pink, T72V/T80V/R104A - cyan, L406K - orange, and E336R - gray. Mutated amino-acids are shown as surfaces. The numbers under 'Last 10ns' give the average rmsd ± standard deviation for SecY (green), SecE (cyan), SecB (blue) and the TM region of SecY (dark orange), in Å. In the case of the wild-type Sim1 the rmsd ± standard deviation values for SecY, SecE, SecB, and the TM region of SecY are 3.2 ± 0.1 Å, 2.4 ± 0.2 Å, 1.9 ± 0.2 Å, and 1.9 ± 0.1 Å, respectively (see Figure 1C).

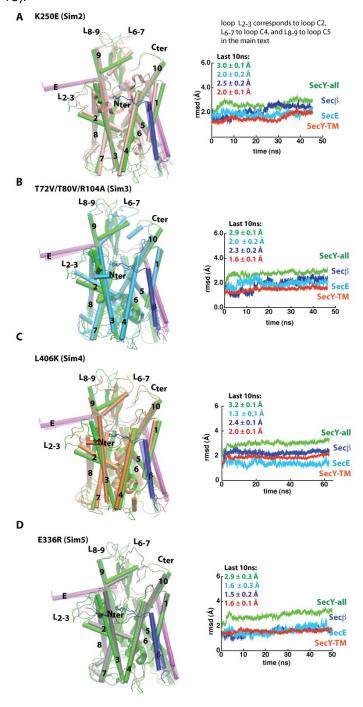


Figure S2. Location of H-Bonding Clusters referred to Figure 2. H-bonding amino acids of wild-type SecYEG were grouped into clusters located largely in the cytoplasmic (CP-1 to CP-6; panels A-F) and extracellular (EC-1 to EC-4; panels G-J) halves of the translocon. SecY is depicted in green, SecE in purple, and Secβ in iceblue. H-bonding amino acids are depicted as bonds with carbon atoms in cyan, oxygen red, and nitrogen blue. For simplicity, only the backbone is shown for non-polar amino acids whose backbone groups participate in H bonding. The figures were prepared using a snapshot from the simulation on the wild-type translocon (Sim1) after ~35ns of unconstrained dynamics.

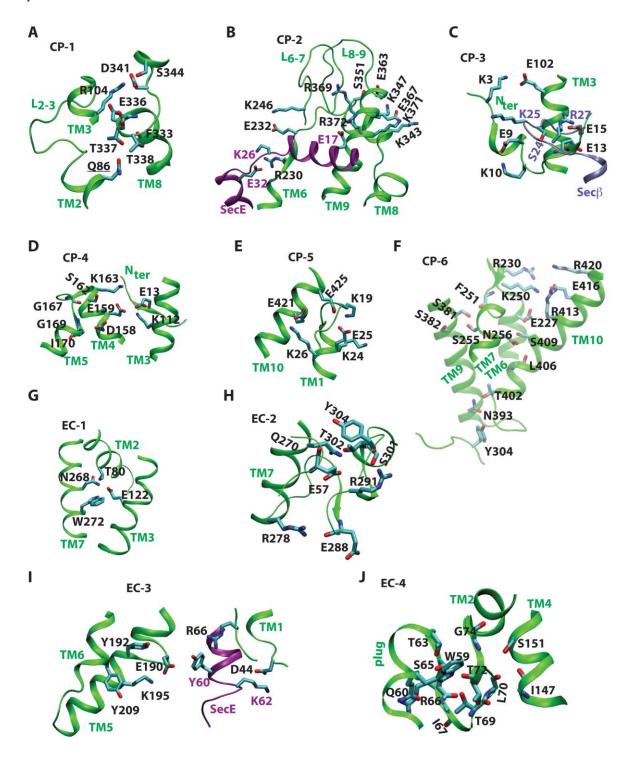


Figure S3. Examples of H-bond interactions in T. maritima corresponding to those of M. jannaschii referred to in Figure 2. The H-bond interactions were determined from the sequence alignments of Figure S5. The coordinates were taken from the SecYEG/SecA crystal structure 3DIN of Zimmer et al. (2008). (A) Amino acids T87 and Q131 (corresponding to M. jannaschii T80 and E122, respectively; Figure S1G) are within H-bonding distance of 3.4 Å. T83 is within H-bonding distance from S76 (3.0 Å); TM3-T124 H bonds to the carbonyl group of P84 (3.2 Å). (B) The TM7 amino acids S277 and S281 are not within H-bonding distance of TM2 or TM3. T168 corresponds to M. jannaschii S151 (see Figure S1J). T168 H bonds with the carbonyl groups of M80 and M164 (distances are 2.7 Å and 2.6 Å, respectively). The distance between the hydroxyl oxygen atoms of T79 and S163 is 3.8 Å. (C) On the cytoplasmic side of the M. jannaschii SecY, R104 and D341 H bond during the simulation on the wild type protein (see Table S1). The corresponding amino acids in T. maritima (R113 and D327) are located far apart from each other (the distance between the R113-CZ and D227-Cγ atoms is 16.1 Å)), but the distance between R107-NH2 and E330-Oɛ2 is significantly shorter at 4.2 Å. Q93-Oɛ1, corresponding to M. jannaschii Q86 (Figure S1A), is within 5.4 Å from T318-Oyı, Assuming that the relative orientation of D327 and E352 is correct in the 4.5 Å resolution structure of Zimmer et al. (2008), the 2.9 Å distance between the carboxyl oxygens of these two acidic amino acids could be interpreted to suggest that D337 or E352 are protonated. In M. jannaschii, amino acids of the N terminus participate in H-bonding interactions with TM3, TM4, and Secß (Figure S1C-D). In the structure of the SecYEG/SecA, these H bonds are not possible due to the N terminus being oriented towards TM10. (D) D158 and E159 of M. jannaschii participate in cluster CP-4 that also includes amino acids of TM3 and the N terminus (Figure S1D). D158 is highly conserved as Asp in archaea and eukarya (Figures S6, S8), and the D168A mutation in yeast (corresponding to M. jannaschii D158) affects topogenesis (Junne et al, 2007). In contrast, most bacteria have Gly at this position in the sequence (Figure S6). E159 is highly conserved in all organisms (Figures S6-S8). The T. maritima E176 (corresponding to M. jannaschii E159) could H bond with TM3-R121 -- the distance between E176-Oε₂ and R121-NH₂ is 4.2 Å. The distances between E176-O_{E1} and T179-OG1, and between Y85-OH and L172-O, are also longer than for a H bond (5.0 Å and 4.1 Å, respectively). (E) The crowded cluster of H bonds CP-6 of the M. jannaschii SecY involves amino acids of TM6, TM7, TM9, and TM10 (Figure S1F). M. jannaschii K250, whose mutation causes a prl phenotype in yeast (Junne et al, 2007), H bonds with TM6-E228 and TM10-E416 (Table S1). The interactions between these amino acids are greatly changed in the open structure of the T. maritima SecY. The distance between K264-Nς and Q407-Oε₁ (corresponding to M. jannaschii K250 and E416, respectively) is 18.9 Å; likewise, the distance between K264-Nς and Q234-Oε₁ (Q234 corresponds to M. jannaschii E227) is 13.1 Å. K264 H bonds instead with E237 (3.5 Å distance). It is not clear whether TM7-S277 and TM10-T393 could H bond (the distance between their hydroxyl oxygen atoms is 4.4 Å).

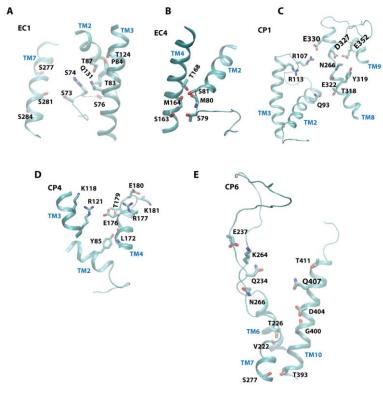


Figure S4. Examples of the hydrogen-bond interactions in T. thermophilus corresponding to those of M. jannaschii referred to in Figure 2. The H-bond interactions were determined from the sequence alignments of Figure S5. The coordinates were taken from the 3.2 Å SecYE-Fab crystal structure 2ZJS of Tsukazaki et al. (2008). (A) Similar to T. maritima, in T. thermophilus E122 is replaced by Gln (Q126). The distances between T82-O_{γ1} (T82 corresponds to M. jannaschii T80; Figure S1G) and Q126-Νε₂ and Q126-Οε₁ atoms are 4.7 Å and 5.1 Å, respectively. TM7-Q282 is also not within H-bonding distance from T80 and Q126 (the distance between T82-O γ_1 and Q282-N ϵ_2 is 7.9 Å). (**B**) On the cytoplasmic side, Q86 and R108, which correspond to M. jannaschii Q86 and R104 (Figure S1A), are not involved in H bonding with other amino acid sidechains. The distance between R108-CZ and D332-Cγ (D332 corresponds to D341 in M. jannaschii) is 15.2 Å. K334 (corresponds to M. jannaschii K343, Figure S1 B) could be part of a H-bonding cluster with E354 (E363 in M. jannaschii), K358, E361. (C) E173 (M. jannaschii E159, Figure S1D) could be part of a H-bonding cluster involving N112, Q113, R109, R116, R174, E177, Y178. The distance between E173-Oε₂ and N112-N $_{\delta 2}$ is 3.5 Å. Because in the crystal structure of the *T. thermophilus* SecY the N terminus points away from TM3, R116 (K112 in M. jannaschii, Figure S1D) cannot H bond to amino acids of the N terminus; the distance between E13-Cδ (M. jannaschii E13, Figure S1D) and R116-C_ζ is 28.7 Å. E13 of the N terminus could instead saltbridge to R422 (the distance between E13-O_{€1} and R422-NH1 is 4.2 Å). (D) TM7-K265 (K250 in M. jannaschii, Figure S1F) is not involved in H bonding. The distances between K265-N $_{\rm Z}$ and E238-O $_{\rm E_2}$, and between K265-N $_{\rm Z}$ and E416-O₆₂ are 5.1 Å and 10.7 Å, respectively. The distance between Q235- (E227 in M. jannaschii) and E416-O₆₁ is 7.9 Å.

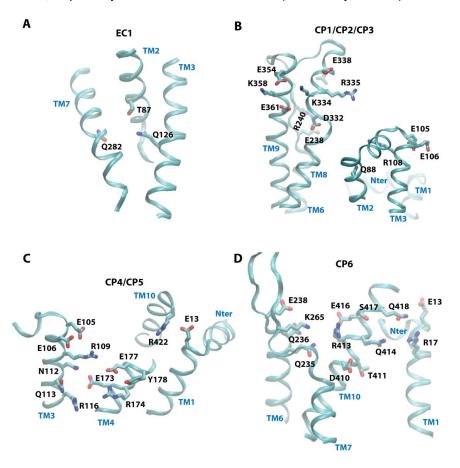


Figure S5. Alignment of Sec61p/SecY sequences from *T. thermophilus*, *M. jannaschii*, *E. coli*, *T. maritima*, and *S. cerevisiae* (referred to in Figure 3). We aligned the SecY sequences whose X-ray crystal structures have been solved (*M. jannaschii*, van den Berg 2003; *T. thermophilus*, Tsukazaki 2008; *T. maritima*, Zimmer 2008), and the sequences of SecY/Sec61 from *E. coli/S. cerevisiae*.

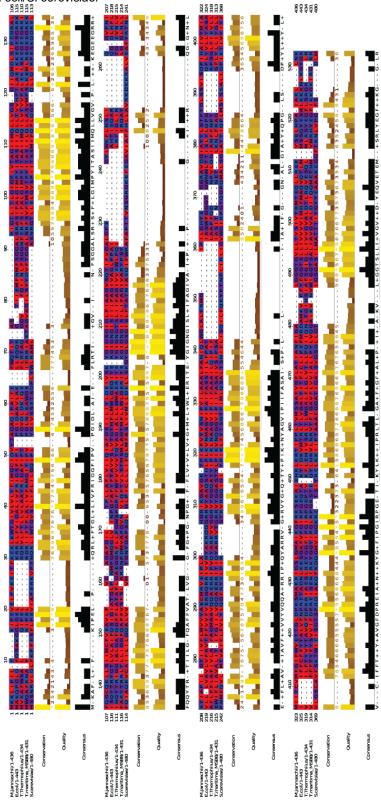


Figure S6. Frequency of analysis for selected H-bonding amino acids in SecY from archaea referred to in Figure 3. The frequency of SecY H-bonding amino-acids from Tables S1-S2 was analyzed as described in 'Protocol for sequence analysis', below. See Figure S2 for the location of H-bonding amino acids, and Tables S1-S2 for the H-bonding dynamics.

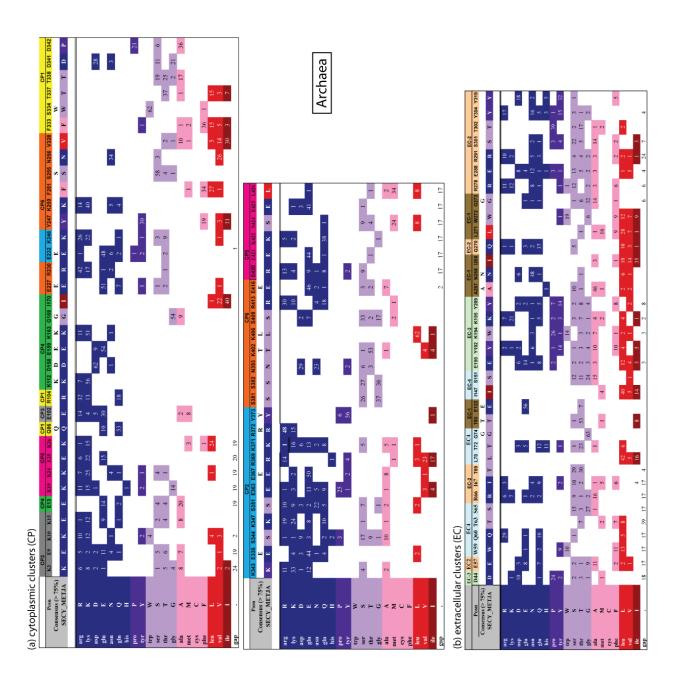


Figure S7. Frequency of analysis for selected H-bonding amino acids in SecY from bacteria referred to in Figure 3. The frequency of SecY H-bonding amino-acids from Tables S1-S2 was analyzed as described in 'Protocol for sequence analysis', below. See Figure S2 for the location of H-bonding amino acids, and Tables S1-S2 for the H-bonding dynamics.

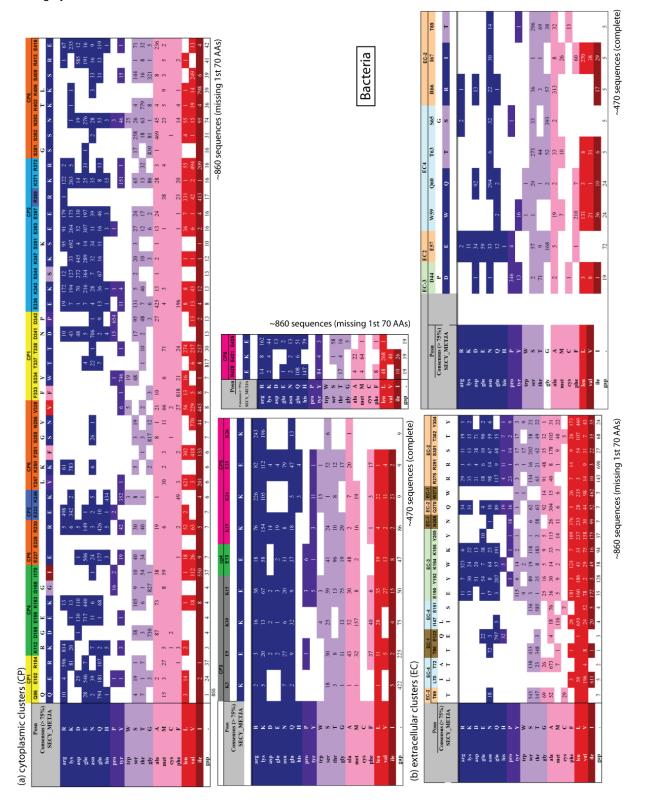


Figure S8. Frequency of analysis for selected H-bonding amino acids in SecY from eukarya referred to in Figure 3. The frequency of SecY H-bonding amino-acids from Tables S1-S2 was analyzed as described in 'Protocol for sequence analysis', below. See Figure S2 for the location of H-bonding amino acids, and Tables S1-S2 for the H-bonding dynamics.

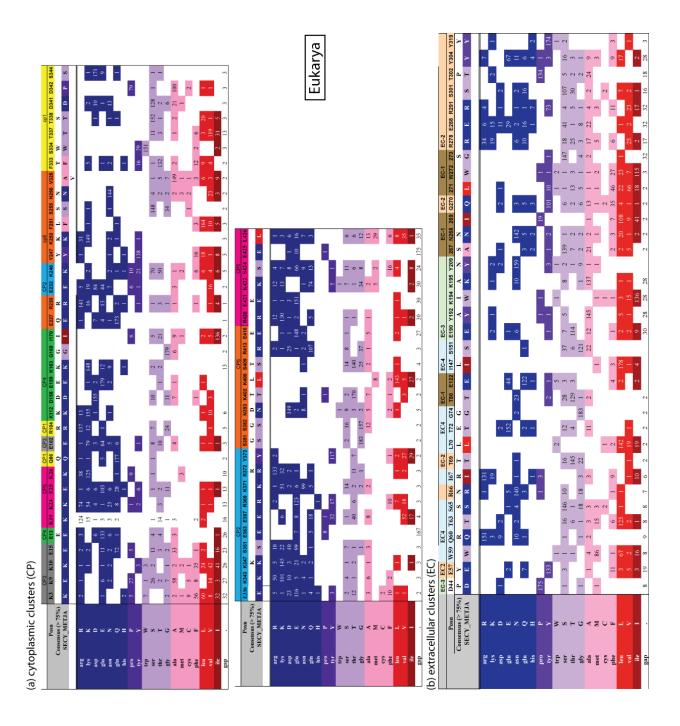


Figure S9. Frequency analysis for selected H-bonding amino acids in SecE from archaea referred to in Figure 3. The frequency of SecE H-bonding amino-acids from Tables S1-S2 was analyzed as described in 'Protocol for sequence analysis', below.

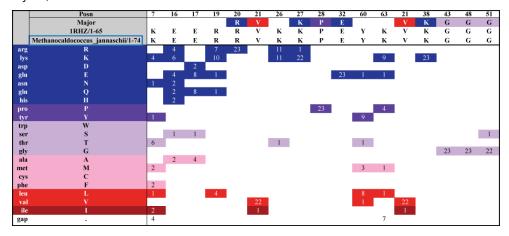


Figure S10. Frequency analysis for selected H-bonding amino acids in SecE from bacteria referred to in Figure 3. The frequency of SecE H-bonding amino-acids from Tables S1-S2 was analyzed as described in 'Protocol for sequence analysis', below.

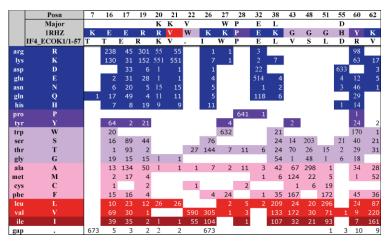


Figure S11. Frequency analysis for selected H-bonding amino acids in SecE from eukarya referred to in Figure 3. The frequency of SecE H-bonding amino-acids from Tables S1-S2 was analyzed as described in 'Protocol for sequence analysis', below.

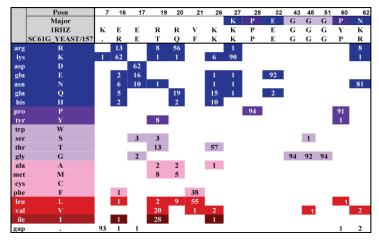
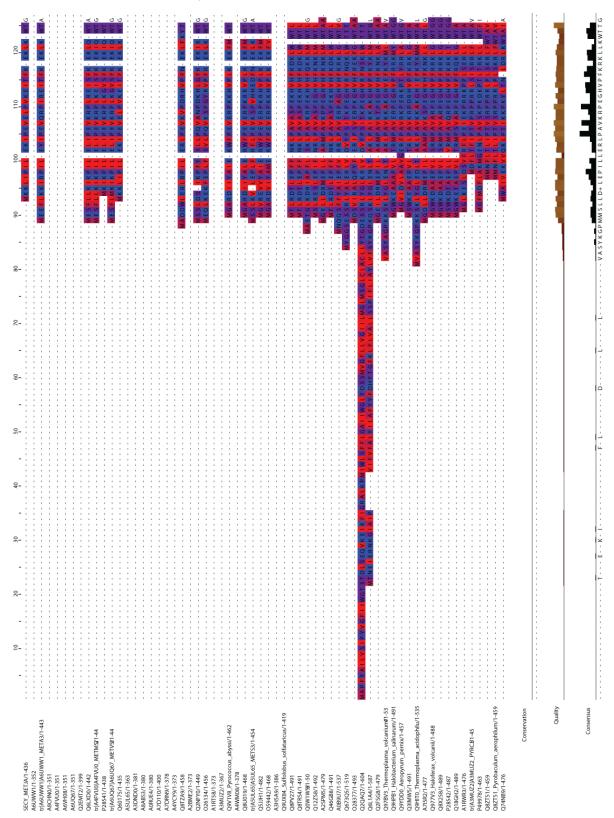
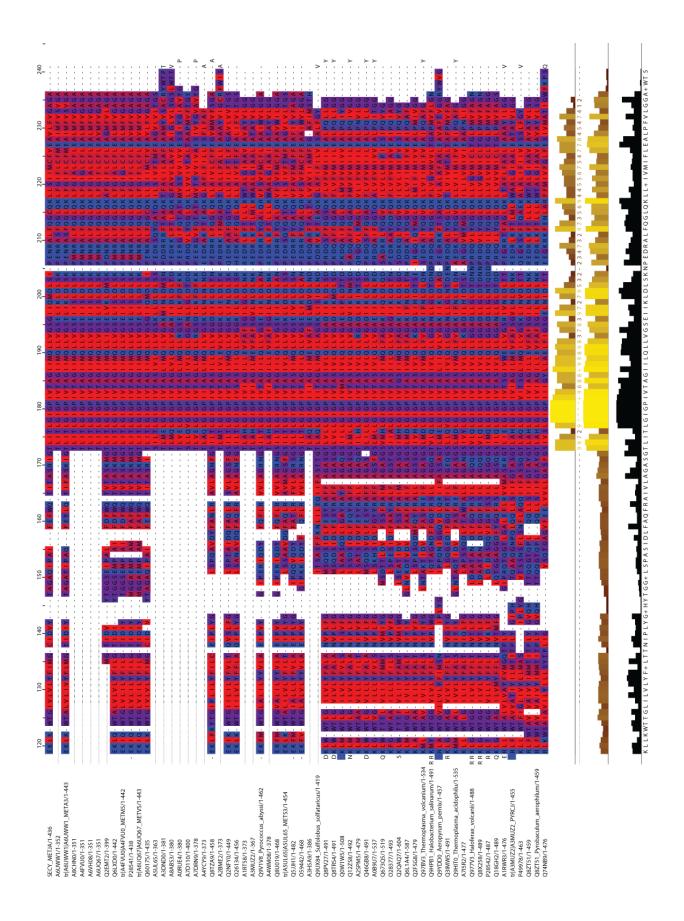
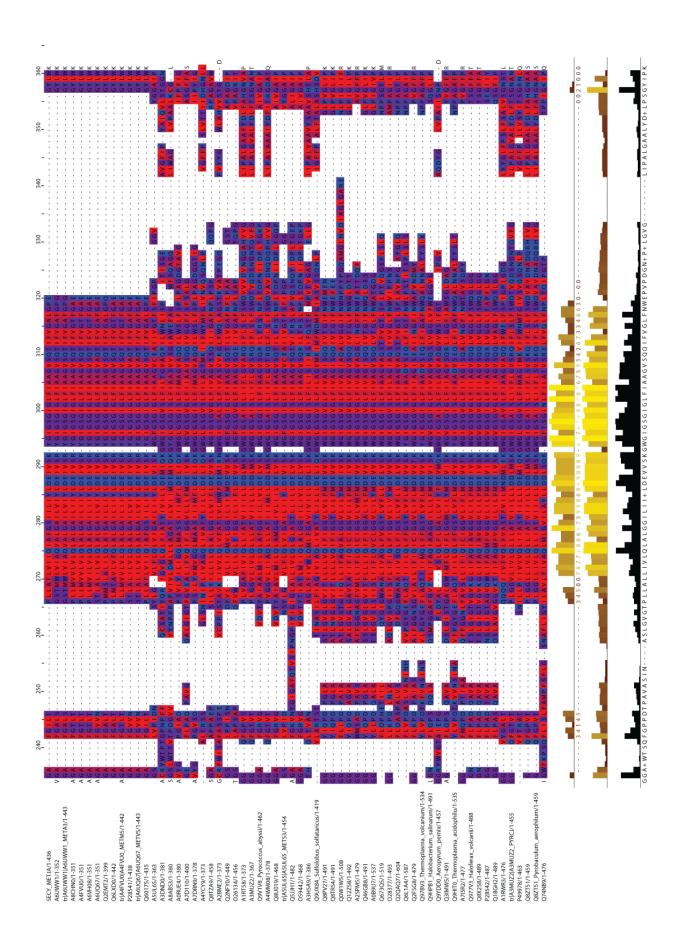
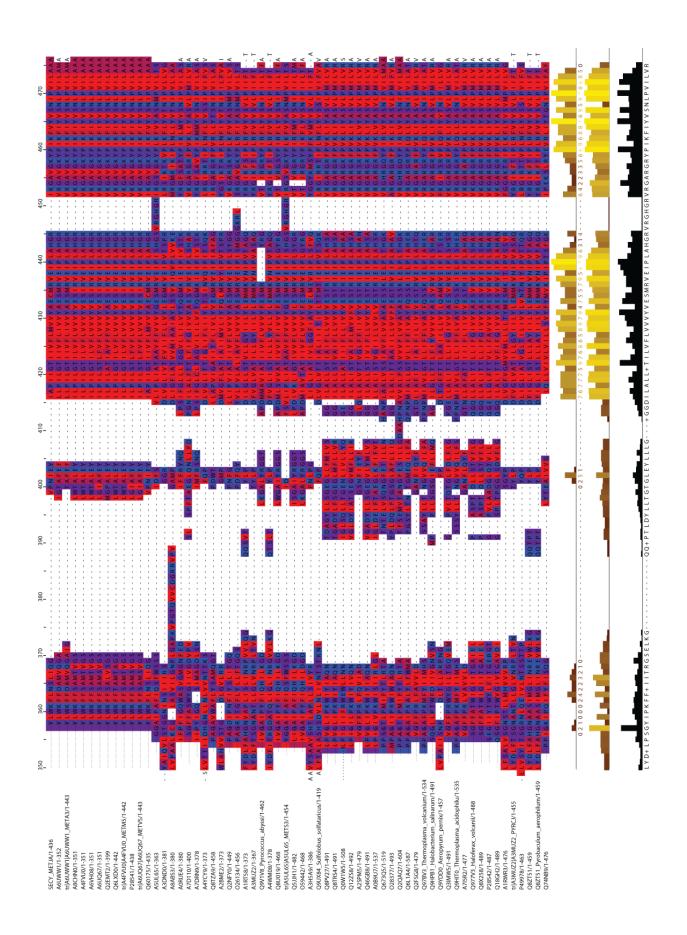


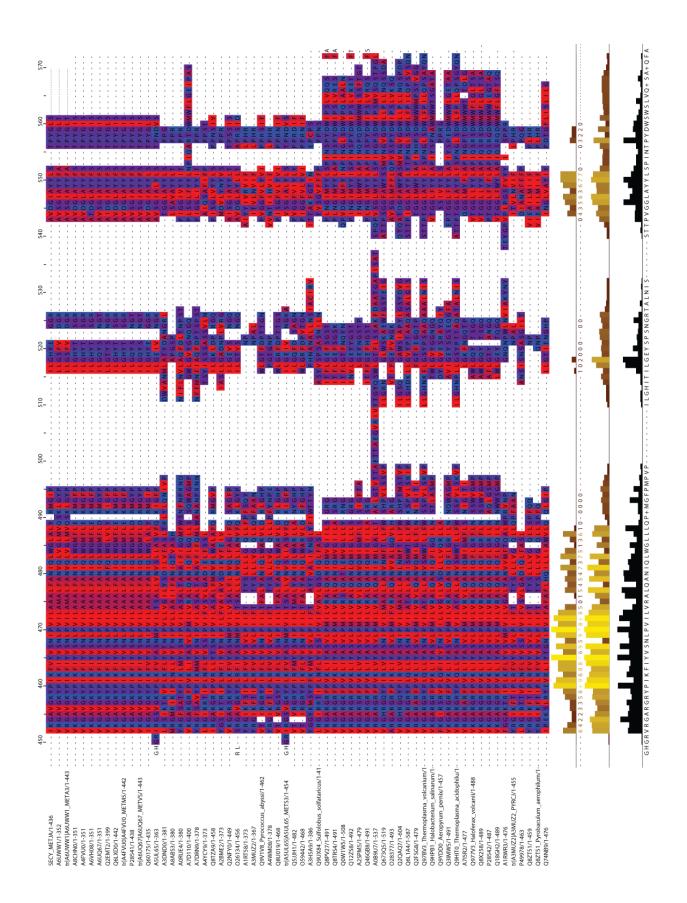
Figure S12. SecY sequence alignment for archaea referred to in Figure 3. The 63 sequences of SecY from archaea were aligned as described in 'Protocol for sequence analysis', below. The organism names and Pfam access codes for all SecY archaeal sequences are given in Table 4.

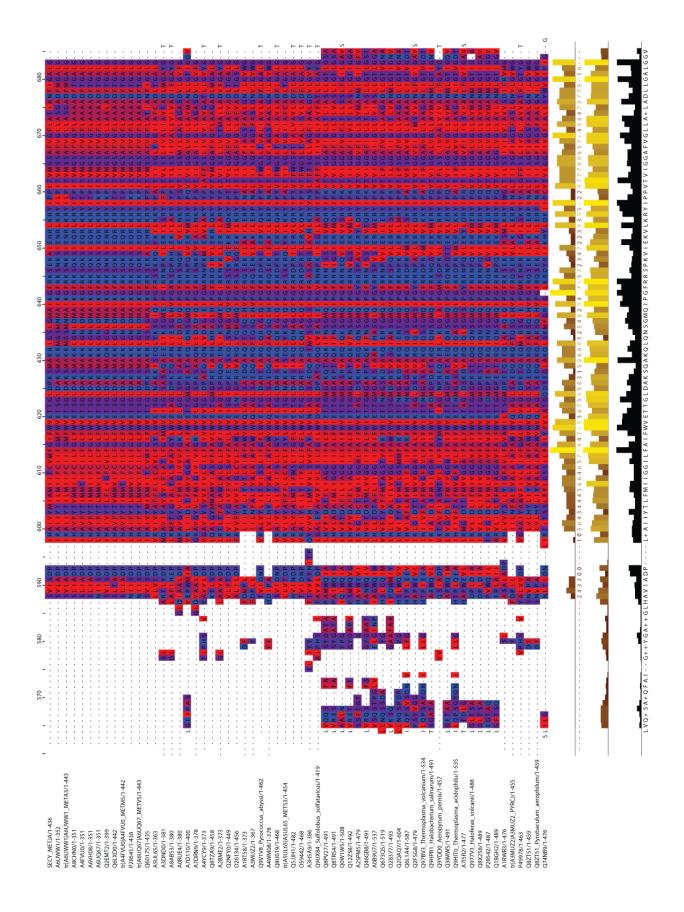












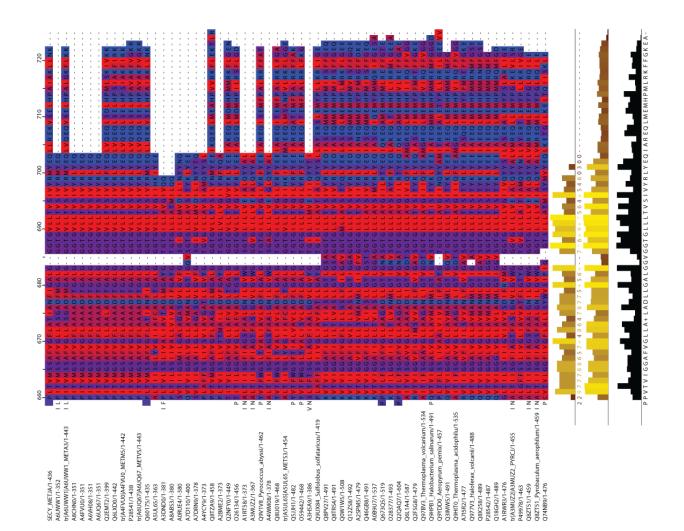


Table S1. Summary of H-bonding analysis for the cytoplasmic half of wild-type SecY (Sim 1). Extent of hydrogen-bonding interactions observed in simulations of the SecYEG translocon. The extent is represented as percent of time hydrogen bonds were made. We analyzed the dynamics of distances for selected H-bonding amino acids in the wild-type translocon for the last 10 ns and 20 ns segments of Sim1 (Figure 1G). As the H-bonding criterion, we used a distance of less than 3.5 Å between the heavy atoms. See Figure S1 for the H-bonding clusters. Indicated in *italics* are amino acids whose mutation is known to cause translocation defects (see Table S3 for details).

Cluster	Hydrogen bond		Last 10 ns	Last 20 ns
	S344-Oγ	D341-Oδ1	89.2	69.0
	S344-Oγ	D341-Oδ2	84.9	67.0
CD4	S344-Oγ	R104-NH1	0	3.0
CP1	R104-NH1	D341-Oδ1	0	9.2
	R104-NH1	D341-Oδ2	0	4.2
	R104-NH1	E336-O	22.3	13.8
	R104-NH2	E336-OE1	48.7	24.4
	Τ337-Ογ1	Q86-Nε2	0.1	6.2
	Τ338-Ογ1	F333-O	25.4	36.9
	K343-NZ	Ε367-Οε1	44.9	73.9
	K343-NZ	Ε367-Οε2	85.8	73.2
	K347-NZ	Ε363-Οε1	27.5	15.7
	K347-NZ	E363-Oε2	32.4	18.0
	K371-NZ	Ε367-Οε1	7.6	12.0
	R369-NH1	L234-O	44.1	26.1
CP2	R372-NH2	SecE_E17-Oε1	75.1	79.7
	R230-NH1	SecE_E32-Oε1	54.6	56.9
	E232-Oε1	SecE_K26-NZ	21.9	13.2
	E232-Oε1	K246-NZ	51.7	62.3
	E232-Oε2	K246-NZ	81.1	66.4
	Ε102-Οε1	K3-NZ	12.4	40.3
	E102-Oε2	K3-NZ	12.0	45.5
	Ε9-Οε1	K10-NZ	65.0	46.8
CP3	Ε9-Οε2	K10-NZ	4.3	22.0
CF3	E13-N	Secβ_S25-OG	61.5	50.0
	K112-NZ	E13-Oε2	28.8	61.7
	K112-NZ	<i>E</i> 159-Οε2	33.5	35.3
CP4	K163-NZ	<i>E</i> 159-Οε2	0.3	0.7
	<i>D158-</i> Οδ1	I170-N	45.6	47.6
	D158-Oδ2	I170-N	26.9	30.2
	D158-Oδ1	G169-N	13.3	11.4
	Ε25-Οε2	K19-NZ	87.1	87.8
CP-5	E421-Oε2	K26-NZ	50.4	46.3
	E425-Oε2	K24-NZ	36.1	18.0
	E425-Oε1	K24-NZ	38.8	19.4
	S409-Oγ	<i>E</i> 227-Οε2	99.9	96.6
	K250-NZ	<i>E416-</i> Οε2	38.2	49.3
CP-6	K250-NZ	<i>E</i> 227-Οε1	5.9	3.9
	Ε416-Οε2	R413-NH1	10.5	41.3
	Ε416-Οε1	R420-NH2	2.4	10.1
	R419-NH1	L432-OT2	54.3	27.1
	S382-Oγ	S255-Oγ	10.5	9.6
	S381-Oγ	S255-Oγ	98.5	98.6
	S381-Oγ	F251-O	100.0	99.9
	S409-Oγ	N256-Nd2	0.3	0.3
	N393-Nδ2	Τ402-Ογ1	97.3	97.1

Table S2. Summary of H-bonding analysis for the periplasmic half of wild-type SecY (Sim 1). Extent of H-bonding interactions observed in simulations of the SecYEG translocon. The extent is represented as percent of time H bonds were made. We analyzed the dynamics of distances for selected H-bonding amino acids in the wild-type translocon for the last 10 ns and 20 ns segments of Sim1 (Figure 1G). As the H-bonding criterion, we used a distance of less than 3.5 Å between the heavy atoms. See Figure S1 for the H-bonding clusters. Indicated in *italics* are amino acids whose mutation is known to cause translocation defects (see Table S3 for details).

Cluster	Hydro	ogen bond	Last 10ns	Last 20 ns
	Ε122-Οε2	Τ80-Ογ1	23.1	35.6
EC-1	Ε122-Οε1	W272-Nε1	75.8	64.4
	Ε122-Οε1	N268-Nδ2	85.8	80.3
	Τ80-Ογ1	N268-Nδ2	95.0	94.9
	R278-NH2	E288-O	78.0	83.4
EC-2	R291-NH1	Т302-О	100.0	100.0
EC-2	R291-NH1	S301-Ογ	21.4	19.9
	Τ302-Ογ1	Q270-Νε2	47.4	53.1
	E57-O	Y304-OH	7.0	17.1
	Ε190-Οε2	K195-NZ	37.1	44.0
	Ε190-Οε1	K195-NZ	49.8	40.2
	Y192-OH	Ε190-Οε1	0.4	1.0
EC-3	Y192-OH	Ε190-Οε2	0.6	1.6
	Y209-OH	K195-NZ	1.7	1.4
	Ε190-Οε1	SecE_Y60-OH	22.4	18.5
	W59-Nε1	T72/V-O	99.8	99.9
	<i>T72</i> -Oγ1	<i>T69-</i> N	97.9	96.6
	<i>T72</i> -Oγ1	<i>T69</i> -O	99.5	99.7
EC-4	<i>S151-</i> Ογ	I147-O	91.6	95.6
LC 4	<i>S151</i> -Ογ	G74-N	23.9	51.3
	L70-O	T72-N	77.4	81.1
	Q60-Οε1	R66-NH1	6.9	9.4
	<i>T69</i> -Ογ1	R66-O	100.0	100.0
	Q60-Οε1	I67-N	92.7	93.0
	S65-Ογ	Τ63-Ογ1	96.8	96.6

Table S3. Known mutation effects of H-bonding amino acids relevant to Figures 4-9. See Figure S5 and S12 for detailed sequence alignments. Summaries of the effects of specific mutations on the function of the *E. coli* and yeast translocons are given in Smith et al., 2005, and Junne et al., 2006, respectively.

Amino acid	Location	Figure	yeast ^a	Effect of mutation	Reference	Revised asignment ³
aciu			E. Coli ^b			asignment
D44	TM1	S1 I	P40S ^b *	SecY100	Ito 1989 Smith 2005	
			L66N ^a	affects topology ¹	Junne 2006	L53 ^b
W59	plug	S1 J		prIA300	Osborne 1993	gap ^c
	p9		F64C ^b	prlA300:open-plug ²	Smith 2005	3-1
Q60	plug	S1 J	R67E ^a	affects topology	Junne 2007	
T63	plug	S1 J	L70N ^a	affects topology ¹	Junne 2007	
R66	plug	S1 I, J		prIA302	Osborne 1993	R57 ^b
		,,,,	A71D ^b	prlA302:open-plug ²	Smith 2005	gap ^c
T69	plug	S1 J	S76F ^b	secY125	Taura 1994	3-1
T72	TM2	S1 J	E79G ^a	affects topology ¹	Junne 2007	
Q86	TM2	S1 A	Q93R ^a	affects topology ¹	Junne 2007	
K112	TM3	S1 D	R121C	reduced functionality	Mori et al, 2004	
S151	TM4	S1 J	S161T ^a	affects topology ¹ ; prl	Junne 2007	
	TM4	S1 D	D168A ^a	affects topology ¹	Junne 2007	
			G175D ^b	SecY104	Taura 1994	
		S1 D	E176Q ^b	affects translocation	van der Sluis 2006	
E159	TM4		E176Cb	reduced functionality	Mori et al, 2004	
E227	C4/TM6	S1 F	Q261R ^a	affects topology ¹	Junne 2007	
K250	TM7/C4	S1 F	K259E ^a	prl	Junne 2007	
NOTO	TN 47	04.5	_	affects topology ¹	F 4004 O-1	
N256	TM7	S1 F	V274G ^b	prlA1	Emr 1981, Osborne 1993	
			1	prIA1: CS stable ²	Smith 2005	
N268	TM7	S1 F	F286Y	restores translocation in I408N	Duong & Wickner 1999	
W272	TM7	S1 G	1290T ^b	secY121	Sako 1991	gap⁵ I183°
F333	TM8	S1 A	T379I	affects topology ¹	Junne 2007	
E336	TM8	S1 A	E382R ^a	affects topology ¹	Junne 2007	
E416	TM10	S1 F	E460K	affects topology ¹	Junne 2007	

¹June et al., 2007 assessed the effect of mutating specific residues on the membrane protein topology by measuring the efficiency of translocation of substrates with different charge distributions of the signal anchors.

²Smith et al., 2005 categorized the prl suppressor mutations with respect to their mechanism. Two classes of prlA suppressor mutations are open-ring stabilization (e.g., prlA300 and prlA302), and closed-state (CS) destabilization (e.g., prlA1). sec phenotypes are nonfunctional under restrictive conditions; in contrast, *prl* phenotypes expand the translocation function of SecY/Sec61 to substrates with mutant/absent signal peptides.

³Revised correspondence of amino acids from the sequences of *M. janaaschii*, *E. coli*, and *S. cerevisiae* based on the sequence alignment from Figure S6.

^aThe sequence of *S. cerevisiae*.

^bThe sequence of *E. coli*.

^(*) The mutation effect is caused by a multiple mutation.

 Table S4.
 The organism names and Pfam access codes for all SecY archaeal sequence alignments of Figure S12.

Accnr	Organism
SECY_METJA	Methanococcus jannaschii:
3din F PDB sequence	Methanococcus jannaschii:
tr A3MUZ2 A3MUZ2_PYRCJ	Pyrobaculum calidifontis
tr A4FVU0 A4FVU0_METS5	Methanococcus maripaludis
tr A5UL65 A5UL65_METS3	Methanobrevibacter smithii
tr A6UQ67 A6UQ67_METVS	Methanococcus vannielii
tr A6UWW1 A6UWW1_META3	Methanococcus aeolicus
SECY_METJA	Methanococcus jannaschii:
Q9YDD0	Aeropyrum_pernix
Q9V1V8	Pyrococcus_abyssi
Q9UX84	Sulfolobus_solfataricus
Q9HPB1	Halobacterium_salinarum
Q9HIT0	Thermoplasma_acidophilum
Q97BV3	Thermoplasma_volcanium
Q977V3	Haloferax_volcanii
Q8ZT51	Pyrobaculum_aerophilum
Q8X258	Haloferax_volcanii
Q8U019	Pyrococcus_furiosus
Q8TZA9	Methanopyrus_kandleri
Q8TRS4	Methanosarcina_acetivorans
Q8PV27	Methanosarcina_mazei
Q74NB9	Nanoarchaeum_equitans
Q6LXD0	Methanococcus_maripaludis
Q6L1A4	Picrophilus_torridus
Q673Q5	uncultured_marine group II euryarchaeote DeepAnt-JyK
Q60175	Methanocaldococcus_jannaschii
Q5JJH1	Thermococcus_kodakarensis KOD1
Q46GB8	Methanosarcina_barkeri str. Fusaro
Q3IMW5 Q2QAQ7	Natronomonas_pharaonis DSM 2160 uncultured_marine group II euryarchaeote HF70_59C08
Q2NFY0	Methanosphaera_stadtmanae DSM 3091
Q2FSG8	Methanospirillum_hungatei JF-1
Q2EMT2	Methanococcus_voltae
Q18GH2	Haloquadratum_walsbyi DSM 16790
Q12ZS8	Methanococcoides_burtonii DSM 6242
Q0W1W5	uncultured_methanogenic archaeon
P28541	Methanococcus_vannielii
P28542	Haloarcula_marismortui
P49978	Sulfolobus_acidocaldarius
026134	Methanothermobacter_thermautotrophicus str. Delta H
028377	Archaeoglobus_fulgidus
059442	Pyrococcus_horikoshii
A8CHN0	Methanococcus maripaludis
A8ABS3	Ignicoccus hospitalis
A7I5R2	Methanoregula boonei (strain 6A8)
A7DRN9	Candidatus Nitrosopumilus maritimus SCM1
A7D110	Halorubrum lacusprofundi ATCC 49239
A6VH08	Methanococcus maripaludis (strain C7 / ATCC BAA-1331) GN=MmarC7
A6UWW1	Methanococcus aeolicus (strain Nankai-3 / ATCC BAA-1280) GN=Maeo
A6UQ67	Methanococcus vannielii (strain SB / ATCC 35089 / DSM 1224) GN=Mevan
A5UL65	Methanobrevibacter smithii (strain PS / ATCC 35061 / DSM 861) GN=Msm
A4YCY9	Metallosphaera sedula
A4WM08	Pyrobaculum arsenaticum
A4FVU0	Methanococcus maripaludis (strain C5 / ATCC BAA-1333) GN=MmarC5
A3MUZ2	Pyrobaculum calidifontis (strain JCM 11548 / VA1) GN=Pcal
A3H5A9	Caldivirga maquilingensis IC-167
A3DND0	Staphylothermus marinus
A2SPM5	Methanocorpusculum labreanum
A2BME2	Hyperthermus butylicus Thermofilum pendens (ctrain Hrk 5) GN=Then
A1RWR3 A1RT58	Thermofilum pendens (strain Hrk 5) GN=Tpen Pyrobaculum islandicum
AORUE4	Pyrobaculum Islandicum Cenarchaeum symbiosum
A0B9U7	Methanosaeta thermophila
700301	methanosaeta thermophila

Protocol for sequence analysis.

The initial list of SecY proteins was compiled using the PFAM database (Finn et al., 2008) Hidden Markov Model (HHM) PF00344 for SecY, which has a coverage of 78 % of the full-length sequences.

SecY PFAM model offers a hand curated seed alignment of 17 reference sequences. The seed SecY alignment HMM (Durbin et al., 1999) is used to generate a full alignment, which are all related sequences with score higher than the manually set threshold values for the HMMs of a particular PFAM entry (Eddy et al, 2001), in this case the SecY family. We used the sequences selected by those models with the best scores for further analysis. The full alignment contained 1154 sequences from all Phyla and is not hand curated.

The sequences were then divided in three groups: archeas, bacteria and eukaryotes. To create the definitive full-length alignments we used T-coffee (Notredame et al., 2000), which allows aligning with good accuracy, profiles, structures and individual sequences. Resulting full-length analysis were manually inspected.

Conservation analysis, paying special attention to the conservation of hydrophobicity was generated following the color scheme from Kyte and Doolittle (Kyte and Doolittle, 1982). According to this scheme, the most hydrophobic residues are colored in red, and the most hydrophilic residues in blue. Tables with the frequencies of the amino acids were generated from the alignments for each important position in the alignment indicating with the Kite & Doolittle color scheme if the hydrophobic/hydrophilic properties for a certain position are conserved.

Alignment figures and modifications were made using Jalview (Clamp et al., 2004), a Java multiple alignment editor and analysis tool. The amino acid histogram representation for each position in the alignment was perform using a java implementation of LogoBar (Perez-Bercoff et al., 2006)

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