

Figure S3. Correspondence between the age of r-proteins and the age of first interacting rRNA helix. The FSFs of r-proteins represents a small subset of FSFs that are known with  $nd_P$  values within the range 0.018-0.534. A method of interpolation was used to determine the age of r-proteins  $(nd_P)$  with reference to the age of the interacting rRNA helix (nd). Figure shows that the protein interactions follow a linear correspondence with rRNA helices. Starting from the oldest protein and first interacting helix, the correspondence is maintained until the point of the second transition after which there is a rapid burst in the discovery of new FSFs. Hence the pattern of  $nd_P$  and nd correspondence is interrupted. To determine the correspondence between the youngest r-proteins and the youngest rRNA helices, we interpolated their  $nd_P$  values on the slope.  $nd_P$  and nd values are given for all universal r-proteins.