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Supplementary Material for

Designer membraneless organelles enable codon reassignment of selected mRNAs in eukaryotes

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Figs. S1 to S9

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Movie S1

Fig. S1. FFC dot plot data corresponding to the bar graph in Fig. 2.

FFC of HEK293T cells expressing the dual-color reporter (mCherry^{185TAG} tagged with ms2 loops and GFP^{39TAG}), tRNA^{Pyl} and the indicated system. Plots show the sum of at least three independent experiments and the axes represent fluorescence intensities in arbitrary units. For transfections with PylRS^{Y306A, Y384F} (PylRS^{AF}) encoding constructs, the ncAA SCO (cyclooctynyl lysine) was added at a concentration of $250 \mu M$, for PylRS^{N346A, C348A} (PylRS^{AA}) 3-iodophenylalanine was added at a concentration of 1 mM (structures indicate used ncAAs). In addition also Opal (TGA) and Ochre (TAA) stop codons were tested by performing experiments with GFP^{39TGA}•mCherry^{185TGA}::ms2 or GFP^{39TAA}•mCherry^{185TAA}::ms2 respectively (tRNA^{Pyl} in these cases with the corresponding anticodons UCA or UUA). In the absence of ncAA, only very low background expression of mCherry and GFP is detected (for this minor background population, the efficiency was typically lower than 3% and the selectivity < 1.7 fold). In row 2 and 3 also data sets are show that did not contain MCP (corresponding to bar graph in maintext Fig. 2). Those serve as a negative control to validate that any observed selectivity effect is dependent on the interaction of MCP with ms2.

Fig. S2. The OT organelles function across a large dynamic working range of Amber suppression efficiency.

The concentration of tRNA^{Pyl} is known to be very important for Amber suppression (21). Here we titrated the amount of *tRNAPyl* (ng of plasmid DNA given) to determine that the observed OT selectivity effect is robust across a large concentration and efficiency range of

Amber suppression. Shown are the corresponding FFC data as well as the bar plot analysis for the tested cytoplasmic PylRS (grey bar), the $OT^{K2::P1}$ (blue bar) and the $OT^{K2::\hat{P}2}$ (green bar) systems. To this end, HEK293T cells were transfected with the dual-color reporter (*mCherry185TAG* tagged with ms2 loops and *GFP39TAG*) and the indicated genetic code expansion system (300 ng each plasmid). Each system was tested against a range of $tRNA^{Pyl}$ encoding constructs, while the total amount of DNA was adjusted to be kept constant by addition of a mock plasmid. All experiments were performed in the presence of SCO. Dot plots show the sum of three independent experiments and axes indicate fluorescence intensity in arbitrary units. The bar plots show the ratio of mCherry to GFP signal normalized to the transfection with the cytoplasmic *PylRS* and 300 ng *tRNAPyl* construct. Shown are mean values with SEM of three independent experiments. The selectivity gain of the two best performing OT organelles is robust (>5.5 and <10 fold) even across a three order of magnitude change in *tRNAPyl* amount.

Fig. S3. Additional validations that the OT organelle selectivity is dependent on the complex formation of MCP with ms2 loops.

(A) FFC analysis of HEK293T cells expressing the dual-color reporter (mCherry185TAG tagged with ms2 loops and GFP^{39TAG}), t RNA^{Py1} and the indicated system. SCO was present in all cases. The result clearly shows that proper function (i.e. selective expression of only the ms2tagged mCherry185TAG) of the OT organelles is dependent on the presence of MCP, since in the absence of MCP the FFC plots show a diagonal distribution similar to the cytoplasmic PylRS system. **(B)** FFC analysis of HEK293T cells expressing an inverted dual-color reporter (relative to main text, since here GFP^{39TAG} was tagged with ms2 loops instead of the mCherry^{185TAG}), tRNAPyl and the indicated system. In the presence of the OT organelles (**K2::P1**, **K2::P2**, **K1::P1** and **K1::P2**), now GFP is preferentially expressed. The result demonstrates that swapping the ms2-tag on the dual-color reporter swaps also the FFC signal. All FFC plots show the sum of at least three independent experiments, the axes represent fluorescence intensity in arbitrary units.

Fig. S4.The OTK2::P1 organelle permits suppression of multiple Amber codons.

HEK293T cells were transfected with constructs encoding tRNA^{Pyl} together with either cytoplasmic PylRS or the $OT^{K2::P1}$ organelle and either a construct encoding the single color reporter GFP^{39TAG, 149TAG}::ms2 (dual Amber construct) or GFP^{39TAG, 149TAG, 182TAG}::ms2 (triple Amber construct) and analyzed via FFC. Plots show the sum of at least three independent experiments. Axes indicate side scatter height (SSC-H) vs GFP fluorescence intensity in arbitrary units. The data clearly show that like the cytoplasmic PylRS, the $OT^{K2::P1}$ organelle is capable of efficiently suppressing multiple Amber codons in one construct (~ 47% for dual Amber and ~ 53% for triple Amber relative to the corresponding cytoplasmic PylRS system for all cells with GFP fluorescence A.U. units $>10^2$).

Fig. S5. The versatile OTK2::P1 organelle enables selective and efficient orthogonal translation of a variety of proteins (this figure shows the complementary HEK293T or COS-7 experiments to maintext Fig. 3).

(A-C) Confocal images of cells transfected with constructs encoding PylRS or the OTK2::P1 organelle for different protein pairs. SCO and tRNAPyl were present in all cases. **(A)** COS-7 cells were transfected with *NUP153::GFP149TAG::ms2* and *VIM116TAG::mOrange*. **(B,C)** *VIM116TAG::mOrange::ms2* and *NUP153::GFP149TAG* transfected in COS-7 cells (**(B)**, analog to maintext Fig. 3B) and HEK293T cells **(C)**. Top to bottom: Vimentin^{116TAG}::mOrange (magenta), Nup153::GFP^{149TAG} (yellow), overlay with Hoechst (cyan) and magnified images of representative cells (see red boxes; scale bars, $20 \mu m$). The experiments clearly show for a variety of proteins and two different cell types, that in the presence of the $OT^{K2::P1}$ organelle, only the ms2 carrying mRNA is translated, while the cytoplasmic PylRS system always translates both.

Fig. S6. Different dual imaging combinations to verify that assembler::MCP always colocalizes with assembler::PylRS.

(**A**) In maintext Fig. 4 we showed that tRNAPyl (visualized by FISH) and PylRS (visualized by IF) colocalize well. Complementary to this, here we show that also PylRS and MCP fused to the assemblers colocalize. IF of HEK293T cells expressing NLS::GFP^{39TAG}::ms2 with tRNA^{Pyl} and the indicated system. Note, that in general IF stainings appear crisper than FISH stainings. Left to right: PylRS (magenta), MCP (yellow), merge (NLS::GFP^{39TAG}::ms2 in green) and magnified image (see red box). NLS::GFP39TAG yields nuclear fluorescence only if Amber suppression was successful, and helps here to identify cells in which transfection with all necessary plasmids occurred. All magnified zooms were centered on GFP positive cells. However, color settings were kept constant through this work for consistency and GFP expression differed between tested system (and cells), consistent with the observed Amber suppression efficiencies for the different systems, which in some cases were very low. Scale bars are 20 µm and in all magnified images red arrows point to representative structures as discussed in maintext Fig. 4.

Fig. S7. PylRS and tRNAPyl colocalize for different KIF and SPD5 assembler systems (complementary to maintext Fig. 4).

In maintext Fig. 4 we showed colocalization of $tRNA^{Pyl}$ and PylRS for assembler systems **P1**, **K2** and **K2::P1**. Here we show that they also colocalize for **P2**, **K2::P2**, **K1**, **K1::P1** and K1::P2. IF and FISH imaging of HEK293T cells expressing tRNA^{Pyl}, NLS::GFP^{39TAG}::ms2 and the indicated system. Top to bottom: IF against PylRS (magenta), FISH against tRNA^{Pyl} (yellow), merge (NLS::GFP39TAG::ms2 in green) and magnified images of representative cells (see red boxes, red arrows highlight representative structures as discussed in maintext Fig. 4, scale bars, $20 \mu m$). All magnified zooms were centered on GFP positive cells. However, color settings were kept constant through this work for consistency and GFP expression differed between tested system (and cells), consistent with the observed Amber suppression efficiencies for the different systems, which in some cases were very low.

The colocalization analysis is in line with the working hypothesis that selectivity is highly dependent on the partition coefficient of $tRNA^{Pyl}$ into the OT organelle. For the three systems where droplet appearance is clearly visible (**P1**, **P2**, **K2::P1**), a qualitative analysis of the relative intensity ratio (IR) of droplets vs. cytoplasm (here used as a qualitative proxy for the partition coefficient; $IR =$ intensity of droplets/intensity in cytoplasm) correlates well with the observed selectivity yielding $IR(K2::P1) \gg IR(P2) \sim IR(P1)$. However, despite the general challenges of

quantitative imaging in cells to establish exact concentrations of proteins *(29)*, the fact that we compare droplets of very different size make absolute quantitation very difficult. In addition, all those system show some selectivity, indicative of a depletion of tRNA^{Pyl} from the cytoplasm to varying degrees. The remaining tRNAPyl levels in the cytoplasm are hardly distinguishable from background fluorescence, so that we found any form of quantitation to be highly dependent on set parameters (threshold, background correction etc.). The trend, however was robust $IR(K2::P1)$ >> $IR(P2)$ ~ $IR(P1)$. We suggest that in the future quantitative technologies such as in cell fluorescence correlation spectroscopy or quantitative super resolution microscopy could be used to measure the concentration of compounds in the droplet directly.

Fig. S8. RPL26L1, α-Tubulin and mRNA::ms2 colocalize with OTK2::P1 organelle, its structure is not changed by the presence of mRNA::ms2.

(**A**) Maximum intensity Z-projection of IF of either untransfected HEK293T cells or HEK293T cells transfected with tRNA^{Pyl}, NLS::GFP^{39TAG}::ms2 and PylRS or OT^{K2::P1} encoding constructs. Left to right: α-Tubulin (yellow), PylRS (magenta), RPL26L1 (cyan) and merge (NLS::GFP39TAG::ms2 in green, scale bars 20 µm). This image series shows that microtubules and ribosomes colocalize in the $OT^{K2::P1}$ organelle.

(**B)** In Fig. 4, S6 and S7 we have shown that tRNAPyl, PylRS, MCP colocalize to OT organelles. Here we use FISH against mRNA::ms2 to visualize that also our targeted mRNA was recruited to the OT^{K2::P1} organelle. FISH was performed in HEK293T cells expressing the dualcolor reporter mRNAs (GFP^{39TAG}, mCherry^{185TAG}::ms2) as well as $tRNA^{Pyl}$ and PylRS or the $OT^{K2::P1}$ organelle (here, no ncAA was present to avoid formation of fluorescent proteins interfering with image analysis). Left to right ms2 (magenta), $tRNA^{Pyl}$ (yellow), merge and magnified images (see red box).

(C) Maximum intensity Z-projection of IF of HEK293T cells expressing with $tRNA^{PyI}$, NLS::GFP^{39TAG}::ms2 and OT^{K2::P1}, in which KIF16B::FUS::PylRS is genetically tagged with iRFP. Left to right: α-Tubulin (yellow), PylRS (magenta), iRFP (cyan) and merge $(NLS::GFP^{39TAG}:ms2 in green)$. This image series shows that the hollow appearance of the $\mathrm{OT}^{K2::P1}$ organelle cannot be attributed to a staining artefact. We believe that the hollow appearance is rather linked to scaffolding to the Tubulin network, but not necessarily of functional relevance.

(D) IF of HEK293T cells transfected with constructs encoding $tRNA^{Pyl}$, $OT^{K2::P1}$ and either a mock plasmid or a plasmid encoding NLS::GFP^{39TAG}::ms2. Left to right: PylRS (magenta), MCP (yellow), merge (NLS::GFP39TAG::ms2 in green) and magnified image (see red box). This image series shows that in $OT^{K2::P1}$ droplet-like appearance and colocalization of MCP and PylRS was detectable in cells expressing mRNA::ms2 and in cells without, indicating, that droplet formation did not depend on RNA recruitment.

(**A-D**) All scale bars are 20 µm and red arrows point to representative structures.

Fig. S9. Single HEK293T cells were sequentially identified based on scatter values.

As a representative example HEK293T cells expressing PylRS, tRNAPyl and the dual-color reporter (mCherry185TAG::ms2 and GFP39TAG) are shown (SCO was present in this experiment). Cells were first gated by cell type using forward scatter area (FSC-A) and side scatter area (SSC-A) parameters. Subsequently, single cells were identified based on SSC-A and side scatter width (SSC-W). Percentage next to gate name is based on the parent population (all data for SSC-A vs. FSC-A, HEK293T for SSC-A vs SSC-W). Cells passing the first gate (left panel) are further gated in the second (right) panel. All FFC data shown in this study were subjected to this analysis.

Movie 1: Complementary to maintext Fig. 4C here we show a movie of the 3D reconstruction.

3D reconstructions of IF images corresponding to those in maintext Fig. 4B,C. NLS::GFP^{39TAG}::ms2 (green), IF against RPL26L1 (cyan) and IF against PylRS (magenta). RPL26L1 staining inside the OT organelle demonstrates recruitment of ribosomes.

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