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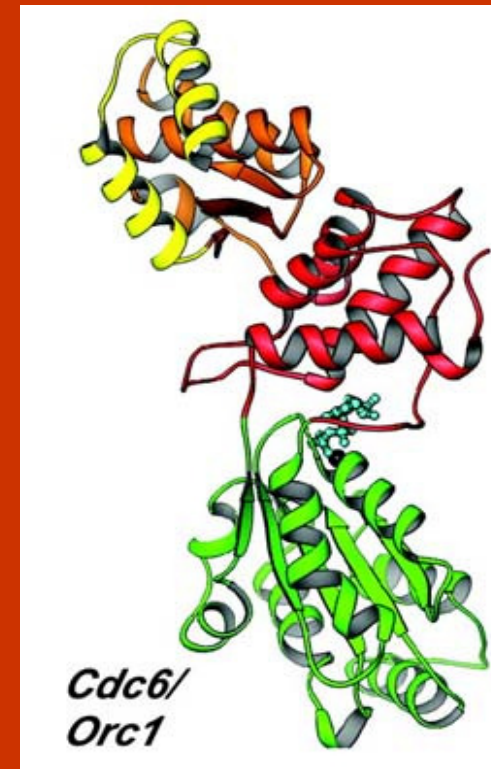
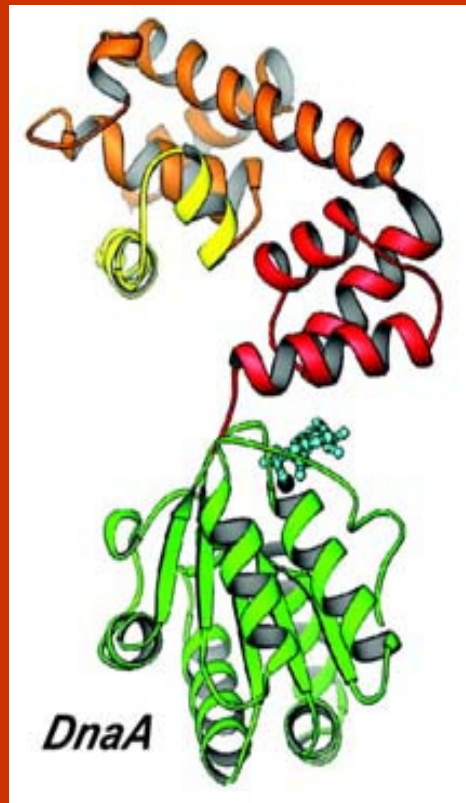
Crosstalk between acidic phospholipids present in bacterial membranes and DnaA, the initiator of Escherichia coli chromosomal replication

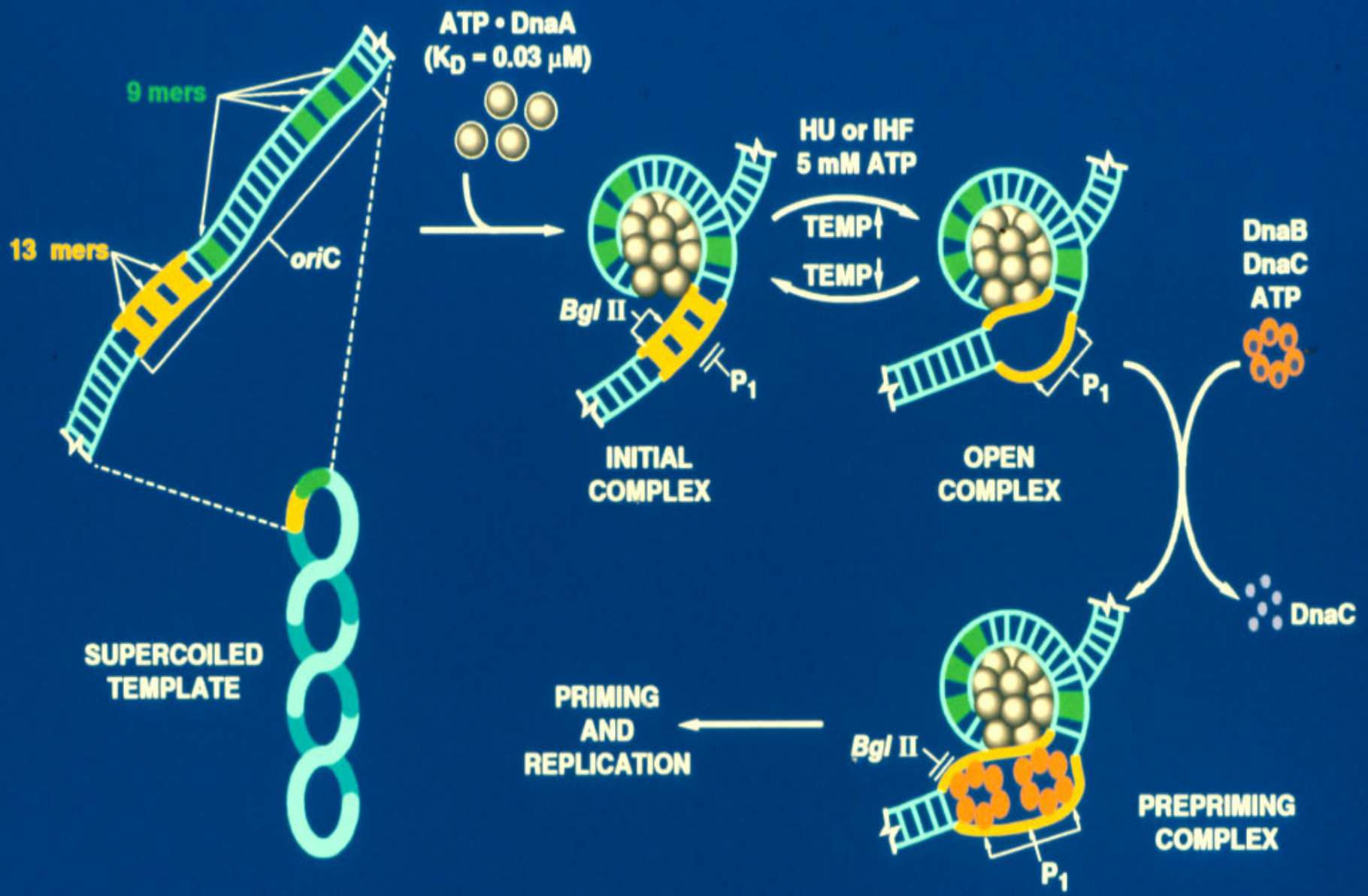
Rahul Saxena, Ph.D.

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular & Cellular Biology

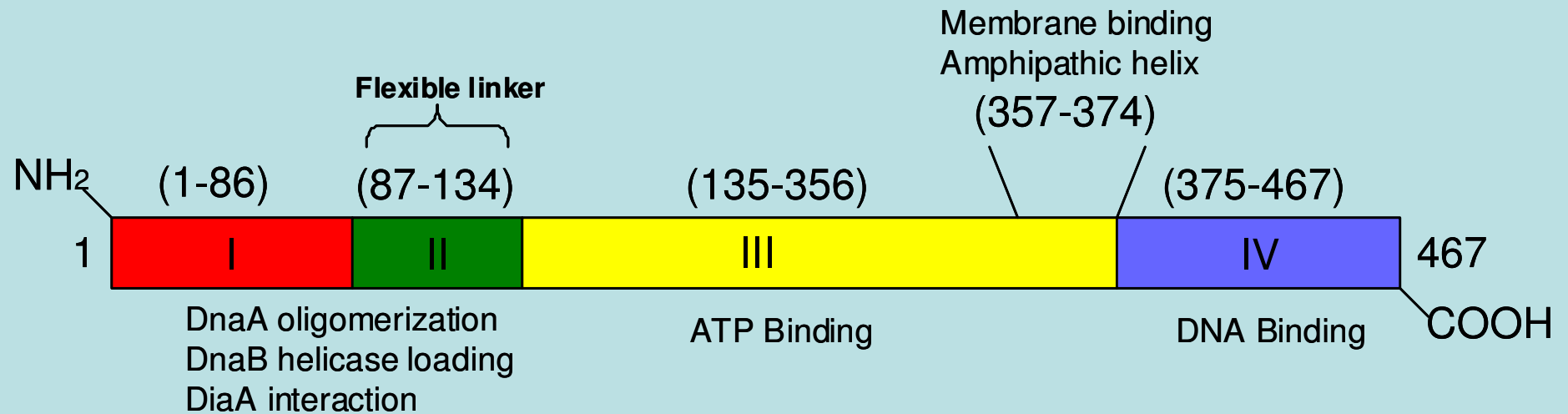
**Georgetown University Medical Center
Washington, DC**

- Both in prokaryotes and eukaryotes mother cell passes the exact same genetic information to its daughter cell.
- Moreover chromosomal origin of replication initiates DNA synthesis, once and only once per cell cycle.
- Interestingly a striking similarity exists between prokaryotic and eukaryotic initiator protein, which are considered to be the structural homologue.



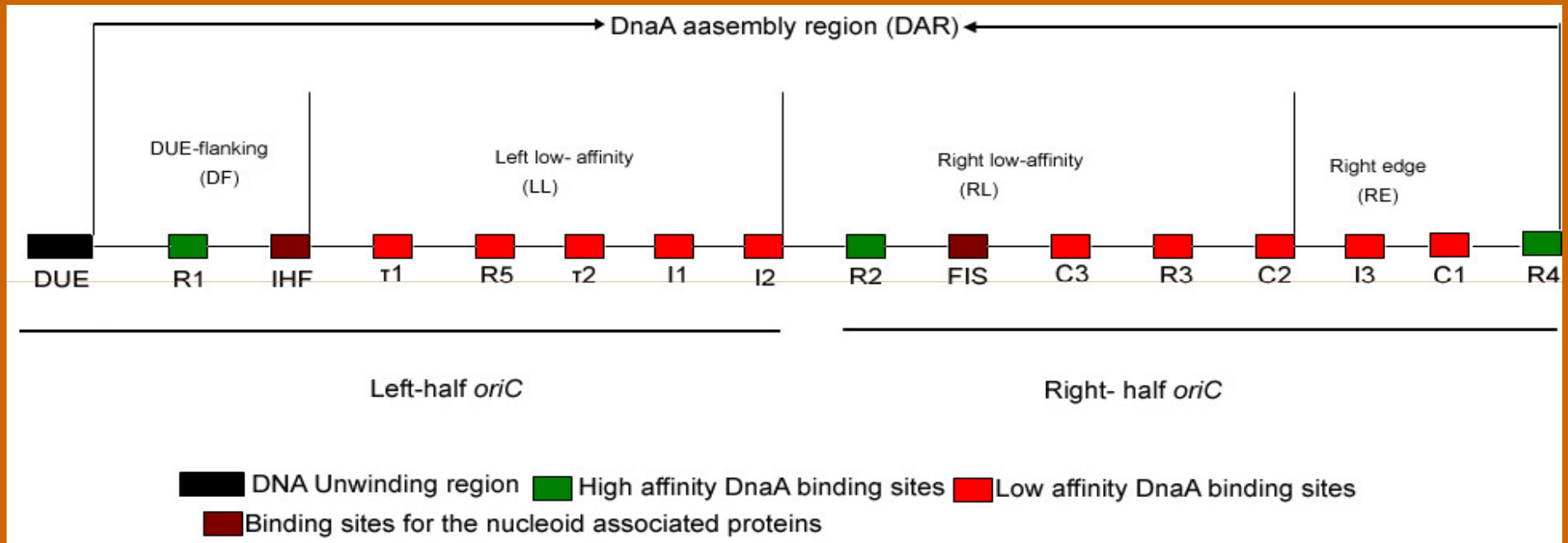


Functional domains of DnaA protein



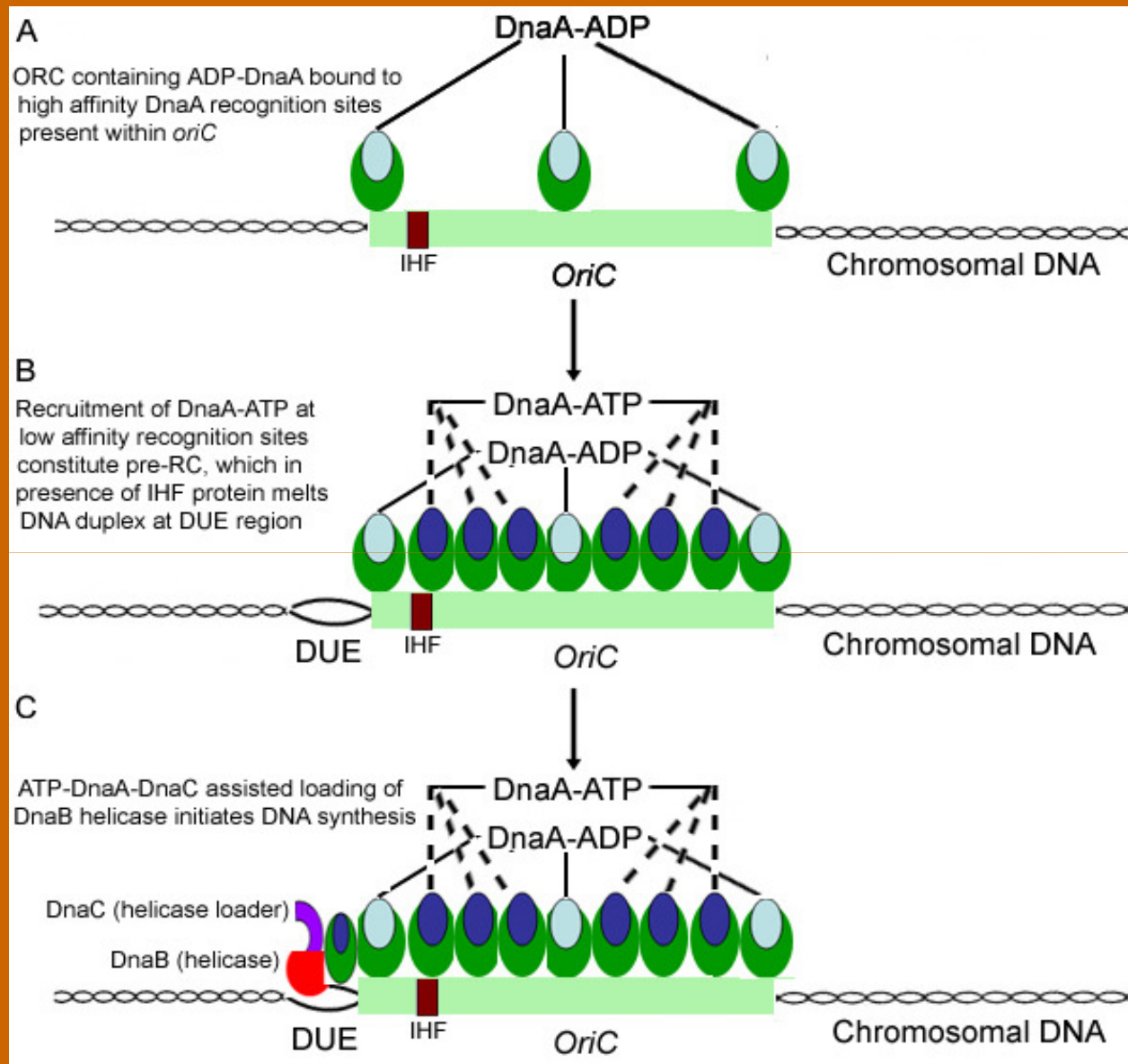
(R. Saxena *et al.*, *Int J Mol Sci.* 2013; 14: 8517-37)

Architecture of *E. coli* chromosomal origin



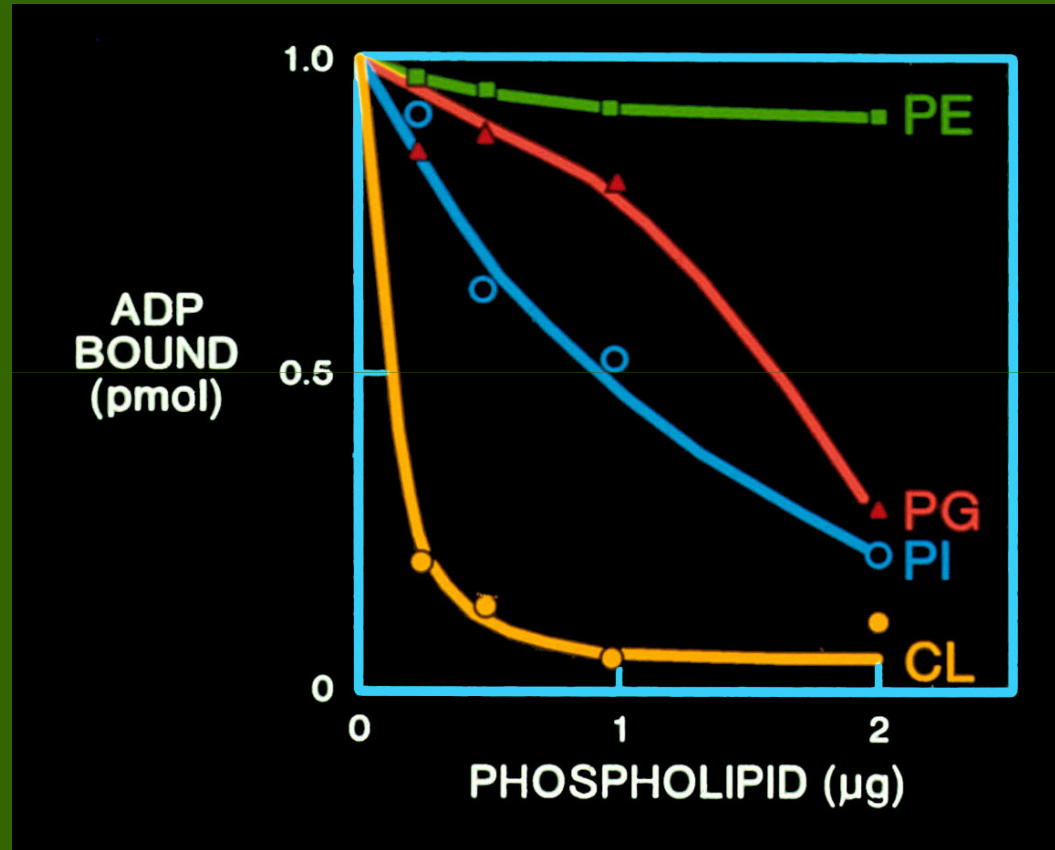
(R. Saxena, *OA Biochemistry* 2013: 1(2):13)

Architecture of *E. coli* chromosomal origin



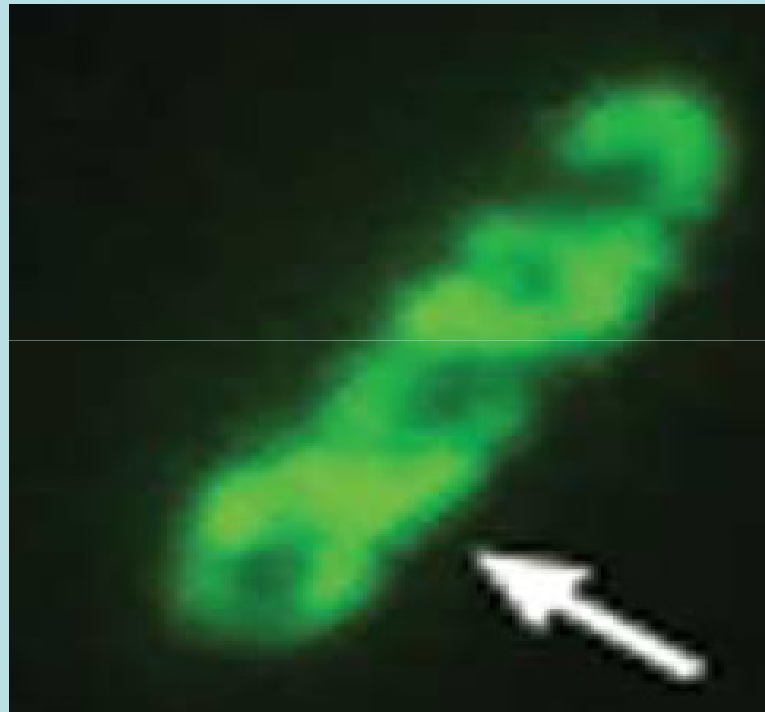
(R. Saxena, *OA Biochemistry* 2013: 1(2):13)

Acidic lipids in a fluid bilayer promote release of DnaA bound nucleotide .



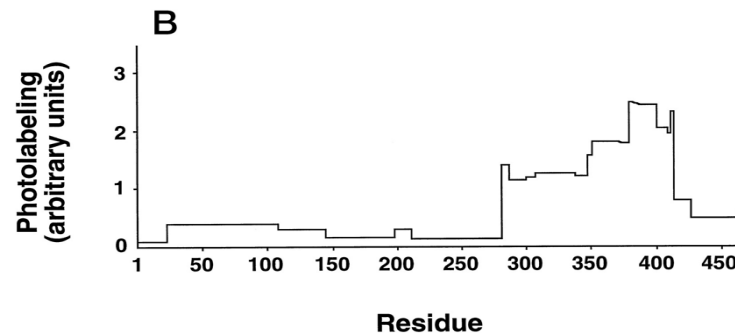
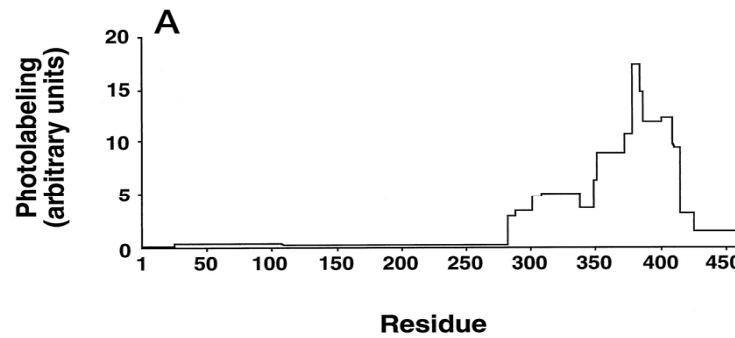
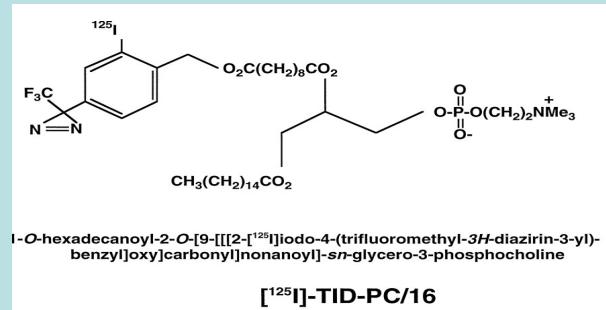
Sekimizu and Korenberg *JBC* 263:7131-35

Cell fractionation and microscopic studies reveal that DnaA protein resides on the membrane



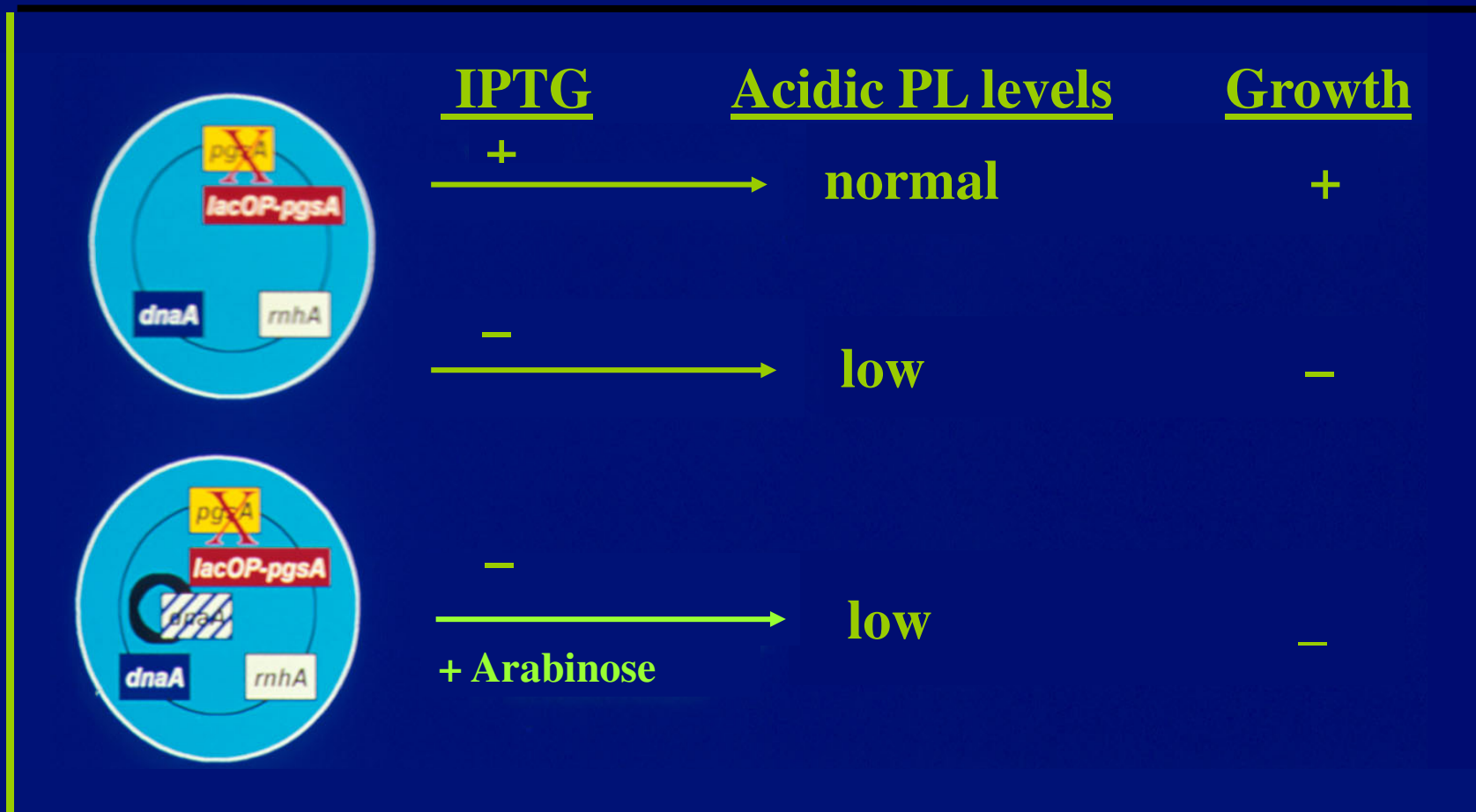
K. Boeneman et al., *Mol. Microbiol.* 72:645-57.

A distinct region of DnaA protein is preferentially photolabeled



Garner J et al., *JBC* 273:5167-73

Screen for Mutations in *dnaA* That Can Suppress the Growth Arrest Phenotype of Acidic Phospholipid-deficient Cells



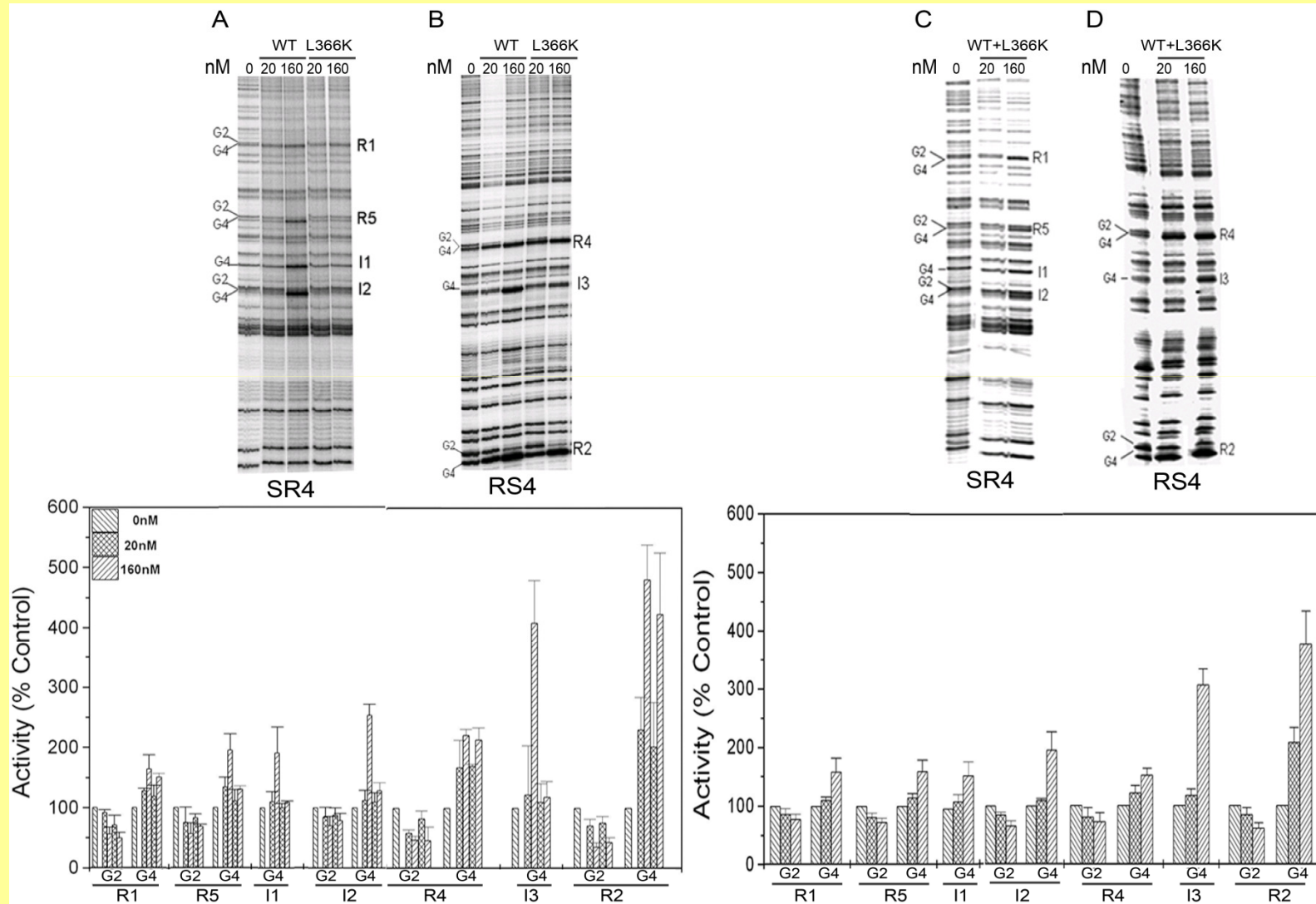
Growth arrested phenotype of phospholipid deficient cells can be restored by over-producing DnaA mutant present in membrane binding amphipathic region

HD L1001 transformed with plasmids expressing	Number of Colonies ¹		
	+IPTG	-IPTG	
	+Glucose	+Glucose	+Arabinose
DnaA (L363R, L366E, 1000 L367E, L369K)	0	0	506
DnaA (L363K, L373R) 1000	0	0	594
DnaA (L363E)	1000	0	0
DnaA (L363K)	1000	0	0
DnaA (L366E)	1000	0	0
DnaA (L366K)	1000	0	615
DnaA (L367E)	1000	0	0
DnaA (L367K)	1000	0	0
DnaA (L373R)	1000	0	0

¹Values are normalized to 1000 colonies for growth in the presence of IPTG and are an average from two or three independent transformations.

W. Zheng et al., *EMBO J* 20, 1164-72.

DnaA(L366K) is feeble in binding to low affinity recognition sequences but when augmented with low amount of DnaA can convert ORC to pre-RC



R. Saxena *et al.*, *JBC* 286:33770-77

Outer space

Outer bacterial membrane

Inner bacterial membrane

Cytoplasm

Mature lpp

PG

processing

Diacyl glycerol

~~Cys21G~~

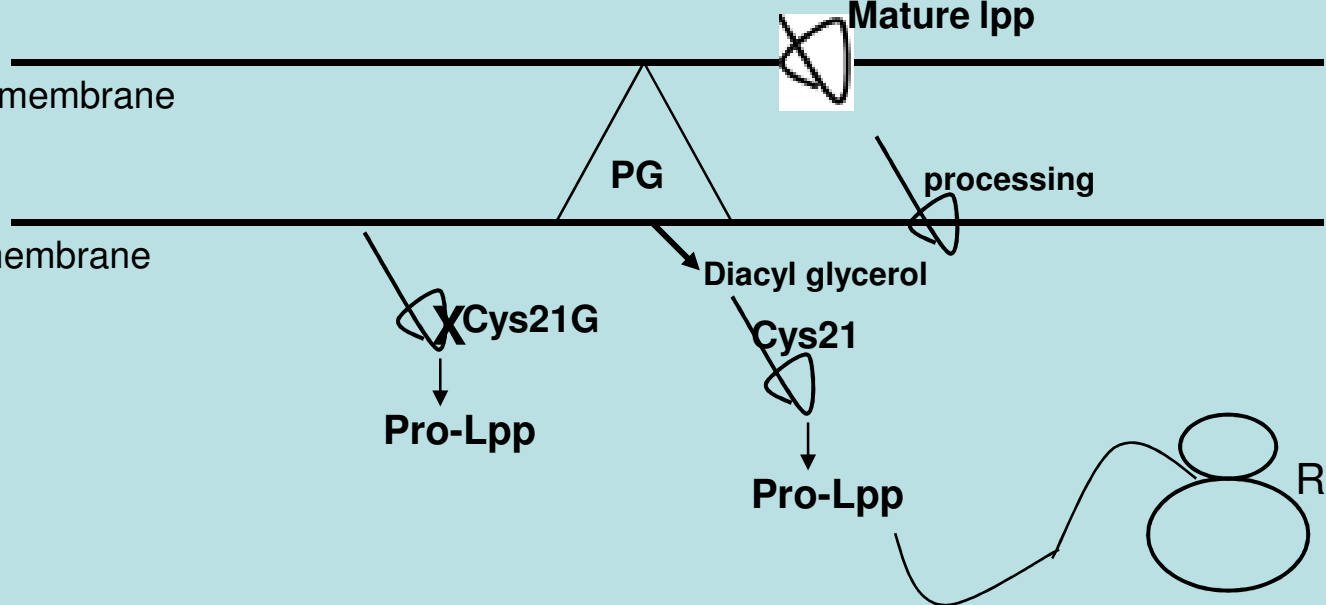
Cys21

Pro-Lpp

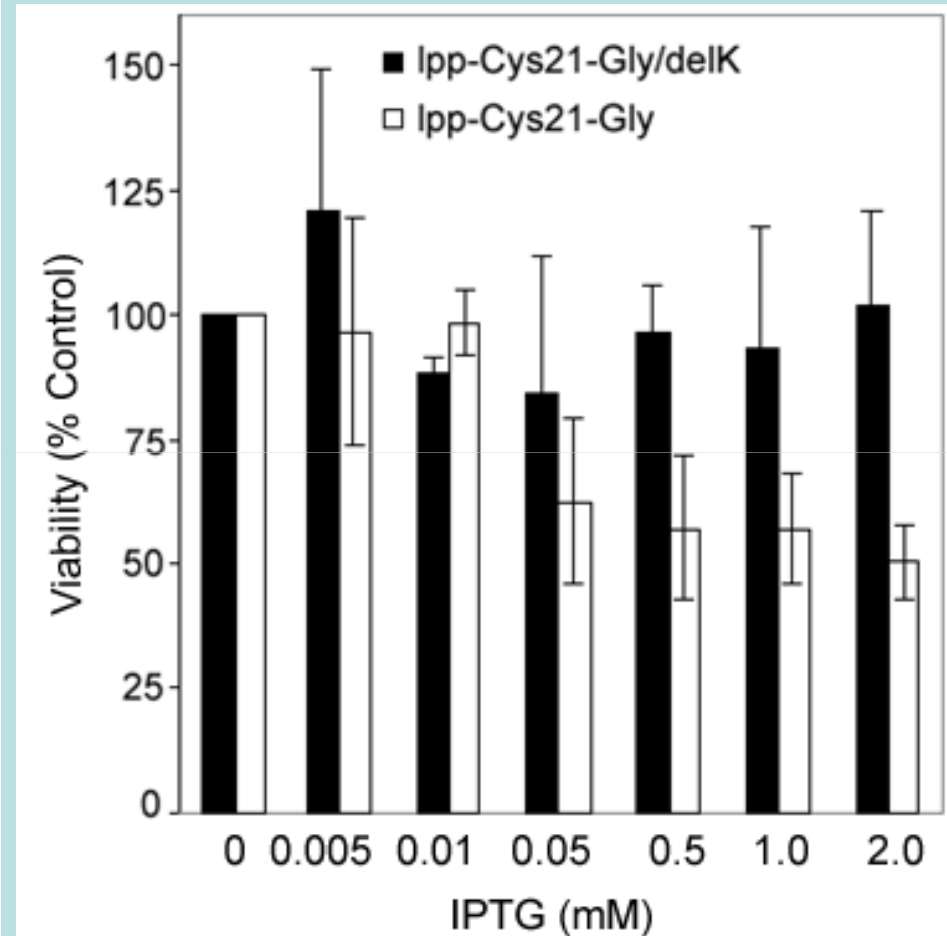
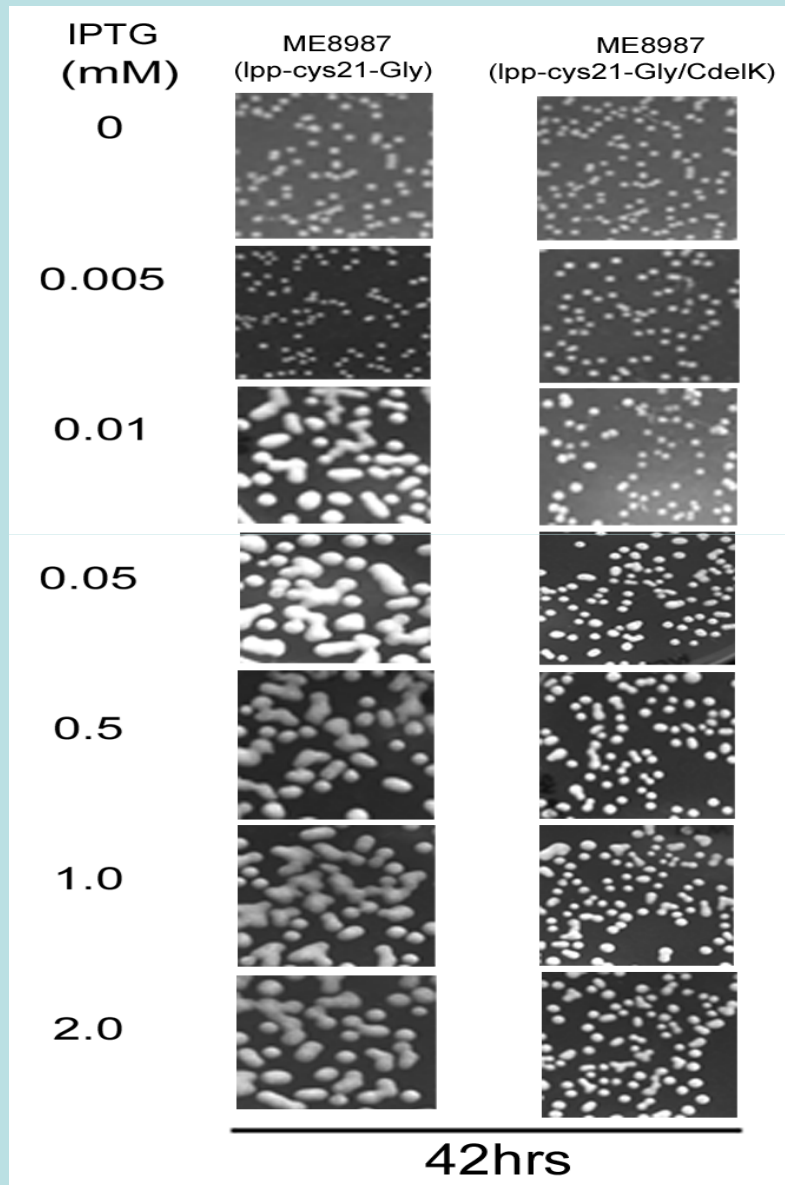
Pro-Lpp

Ribosome

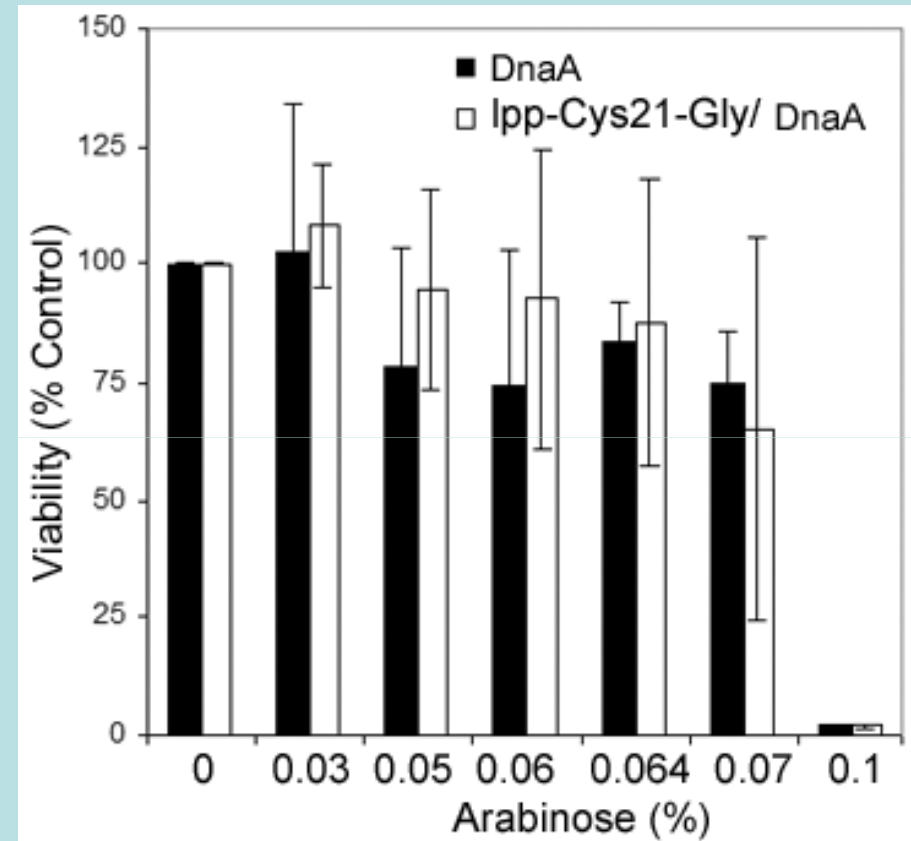
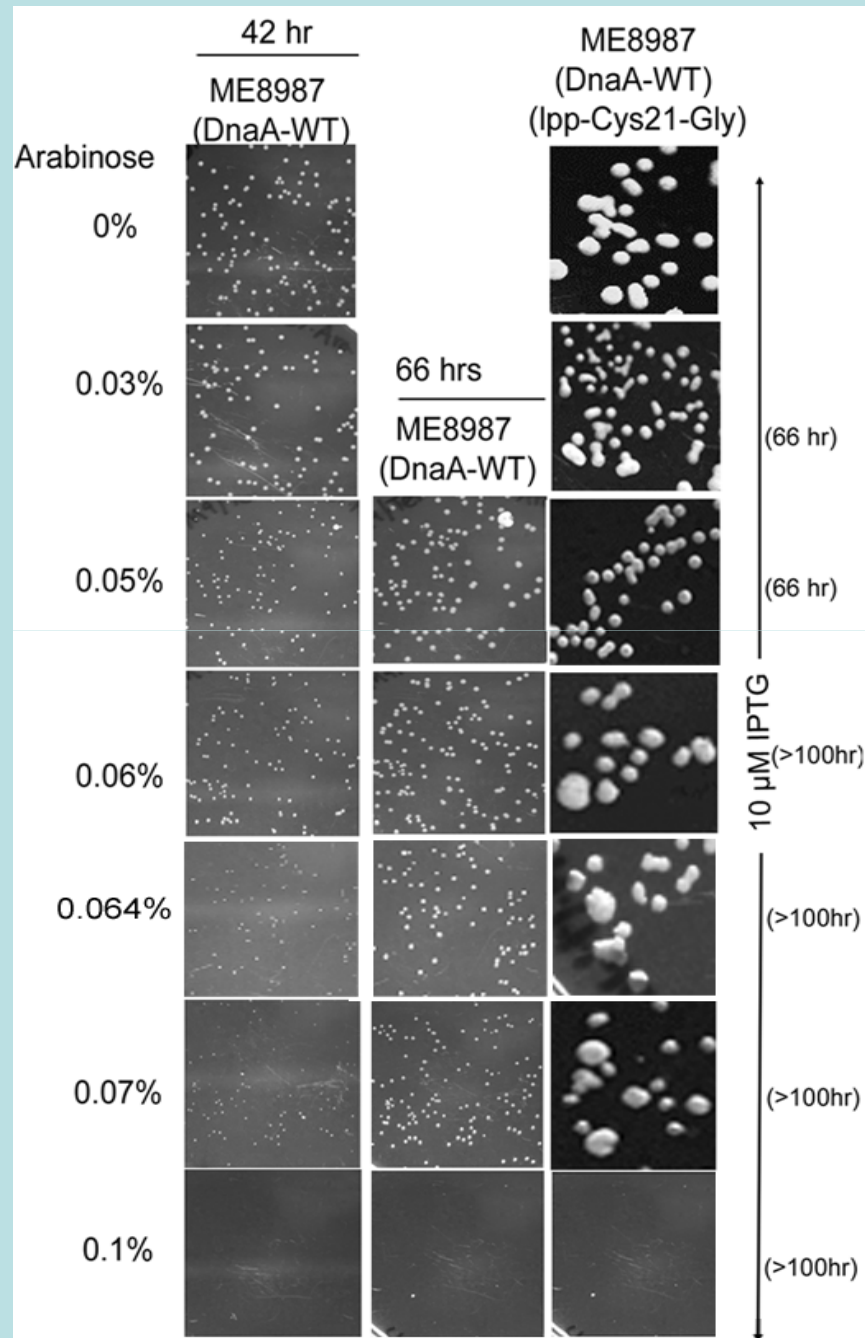
Lpp-polypeptide



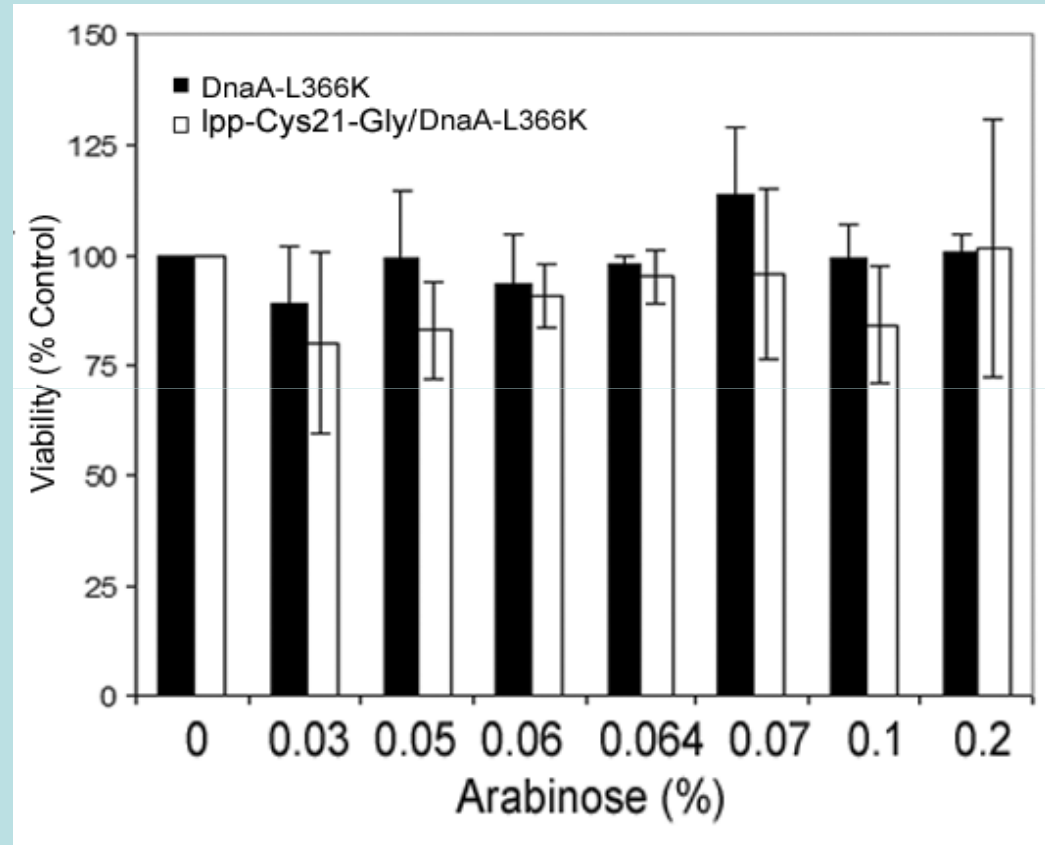
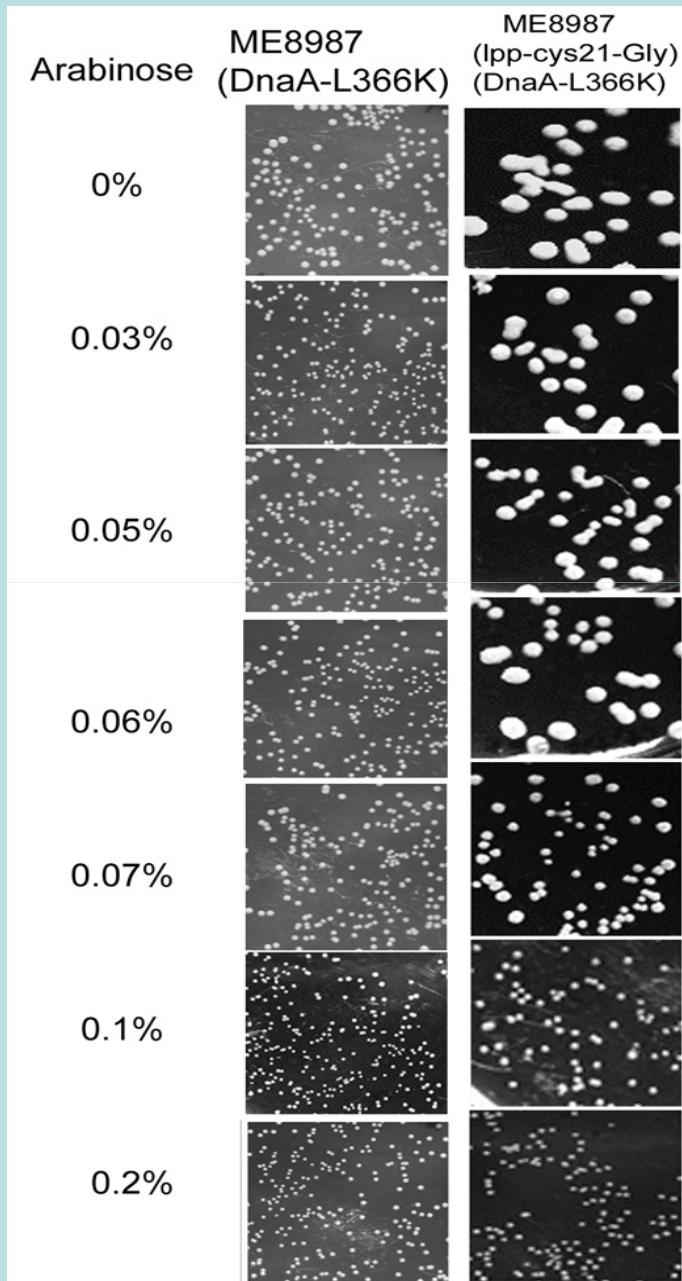
Accumulation of immature Murein lipoprotein on inner membrane of *E. coli* Cells causes mucoidy



E. Coli cannot tolerate the overproduction of DnaA



DnaA(L366K) can restore the altered morphology and cell viability of *E. coli* overproducing Murein lipoprotein



Future prospective:

- Whether the immature pro-lipoprotein accumulated on the inner membrane is causing toxicity for conversion of replication inefficient ORC to replication efficient pre-RC
- How DnaA-L366K bypasses this toxic affect
- A better understanding of how membrane domains of acidic phospholipids influence nucleotide exchange
- Studying the mutant could be an approach to know that if there is any cross talk between the acidic phospholipids present in bacterial membranes and initiation of chromosomal replication.

Acknowledgement

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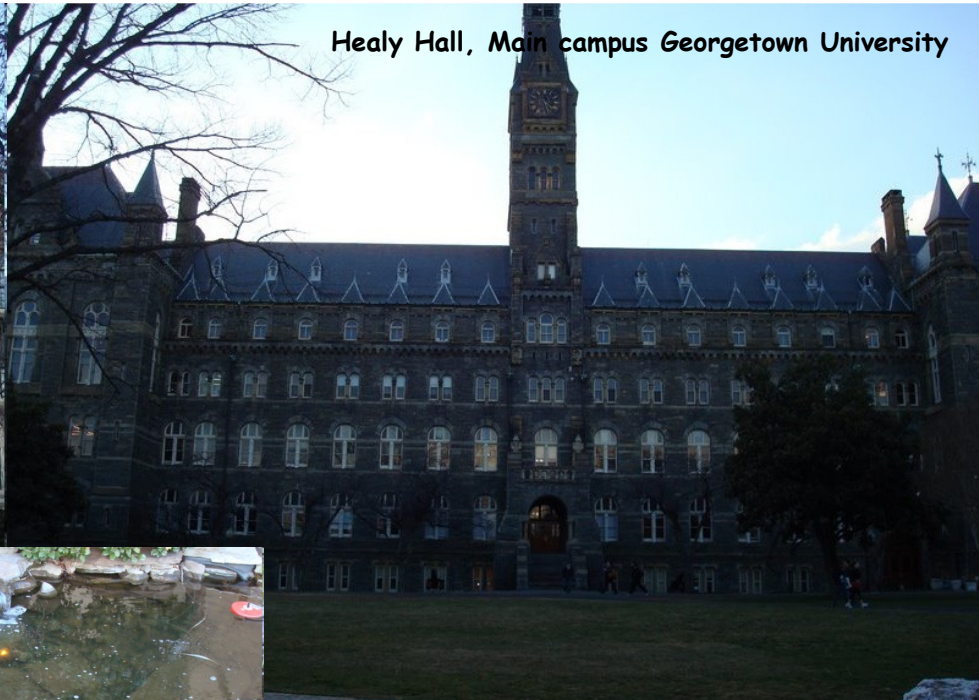
Dr. Yanyua Yang

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Dr. Nicholas Finland



Main campus Georgetown University



Healy Hall, Main campus Georgetown University



Georgetown University



Medical-Dental building



Lombardi Cancer Research center

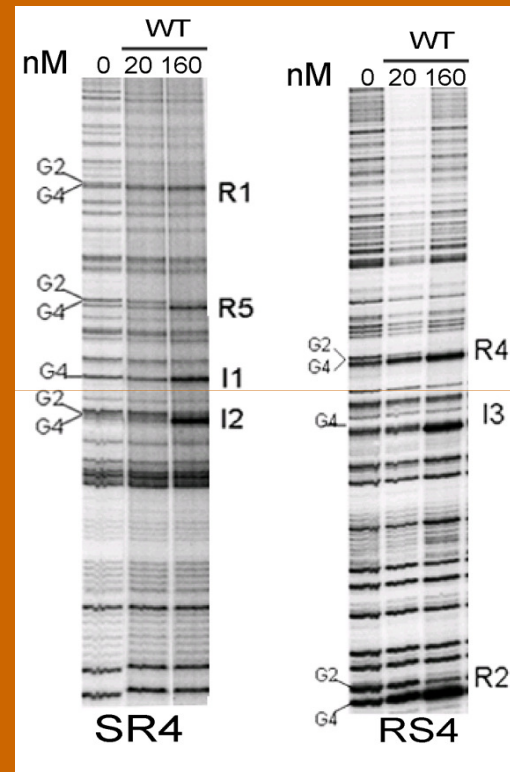
Biochemistry of DnaA

- DnaA, the initiator protein initiates chromosomal replication by binding to high affinity and low affinity recognition elements present within *oriC*.
- Acidic lipids in a fluid bilayer promote release of bound nucleotide.
- Electrostatic interactions between anionic lipid head-groups and DnaA may stabilize DnaA-membrane association.
- A discrete domain of DnaA protein that inserts into the hydrophobic region of acidic bilayers is essential for functional membrane interaction.
- Expression of DnaA protein with mutations in its membrane-binding domain suppresses the arrested growth of acidic phospholipid-deficient cells.
- ADP-DnaA binds to only high affinity recognition sequences to produce replication inefficient origin recognition complex.
- ATP-DnaA binds to both high and low affinity recognition sequences and convert ORC to replication efficient pre-Replication Complex.

Architecture of *E. coli* chromosomal origin

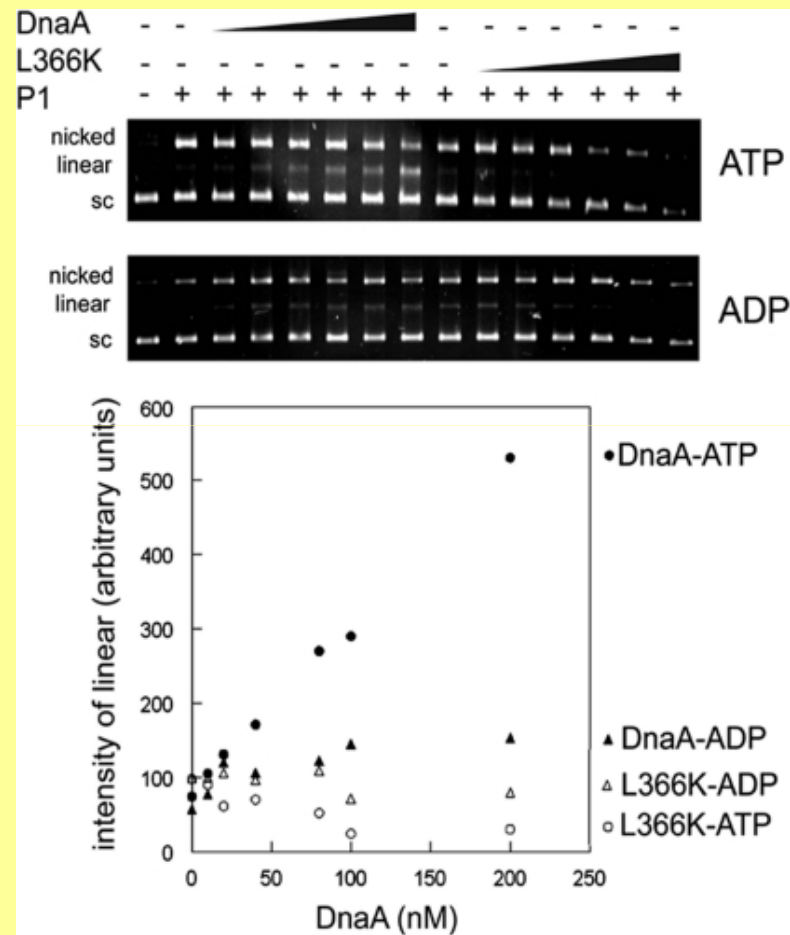


ADP-DnaA forms an origin recognition complex by binding to *oriC* sites R1, R2, and R4.

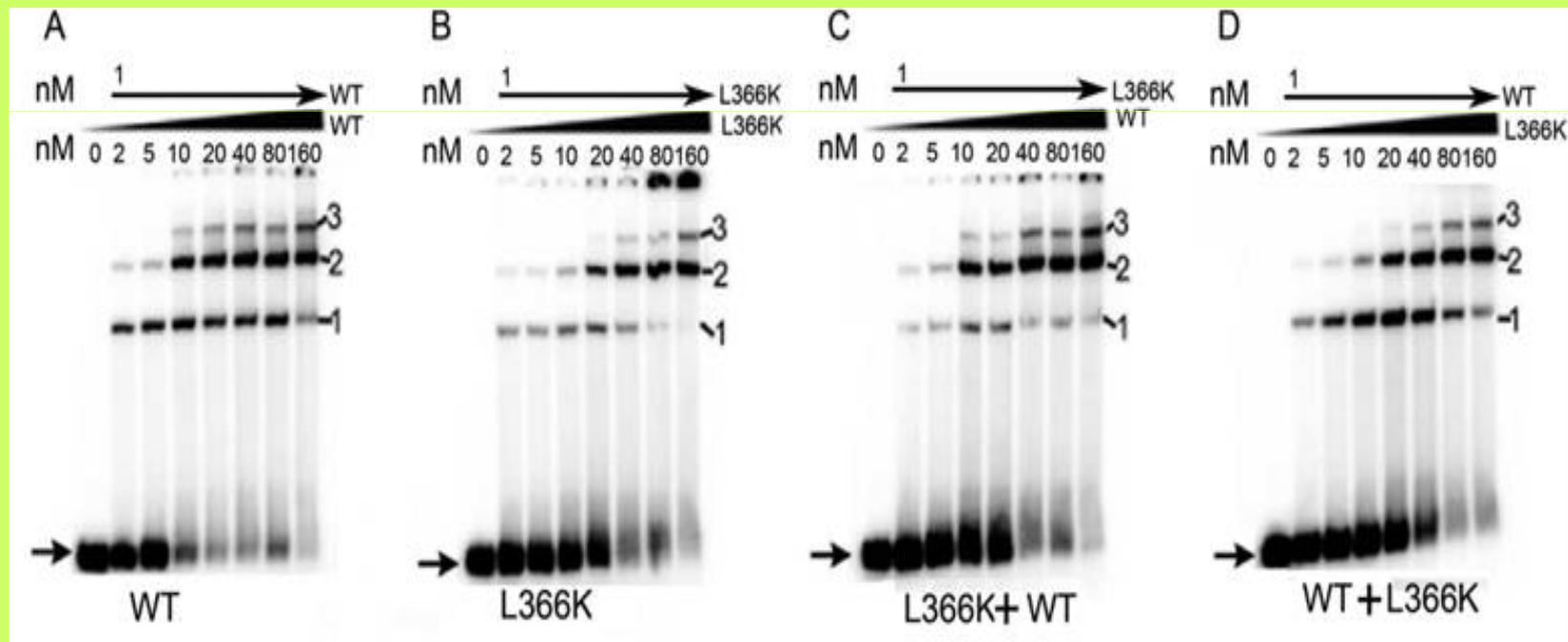


ATP-DnaA can bind within both low affinity sites (such as I1, I2, I3, R1, R5M) and high affinity DnaA boxes (R1, R2, and R4) to form a pre-RC

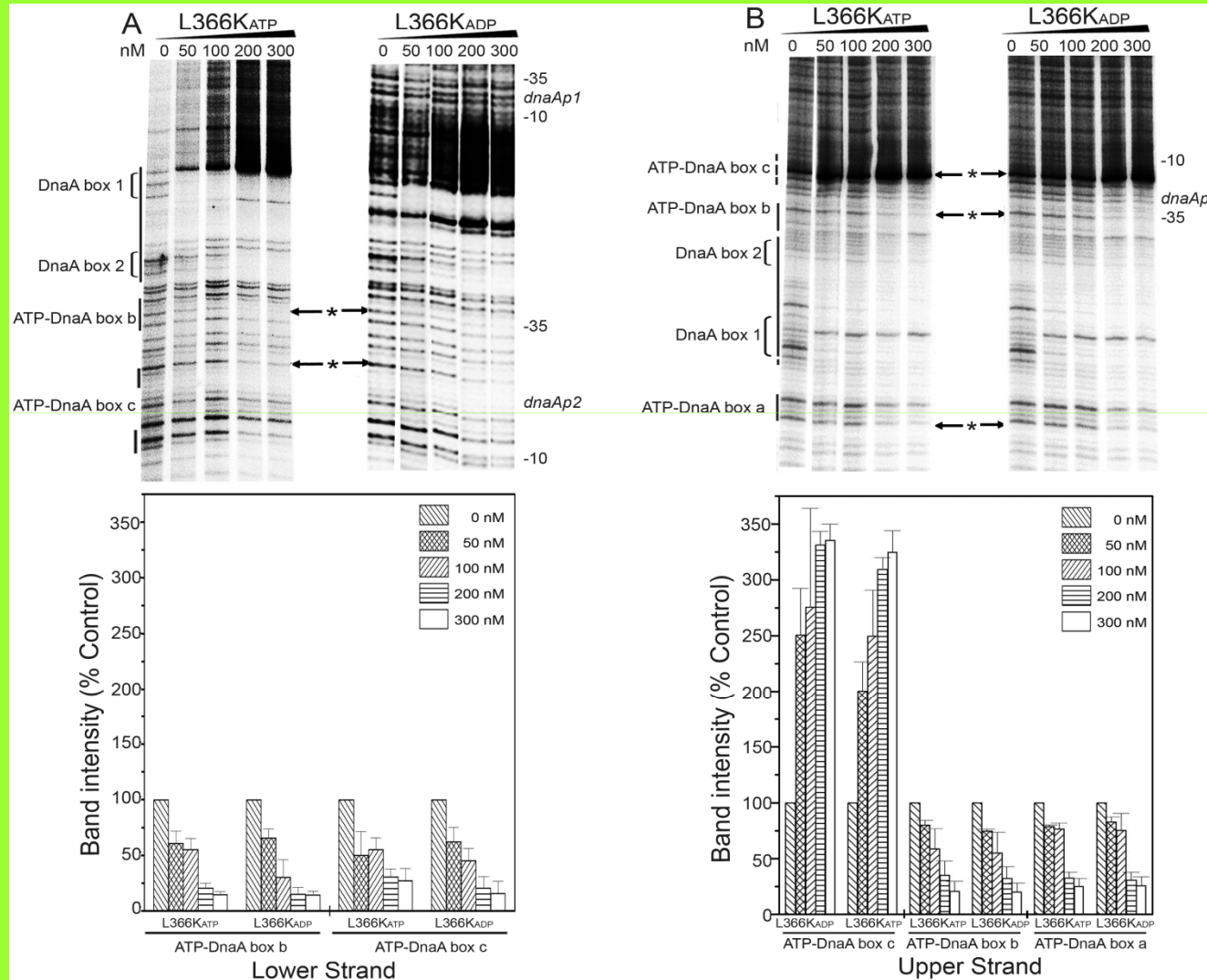
Neither ATP- or ADP-DnaA(L366K) can unwind *oriC*



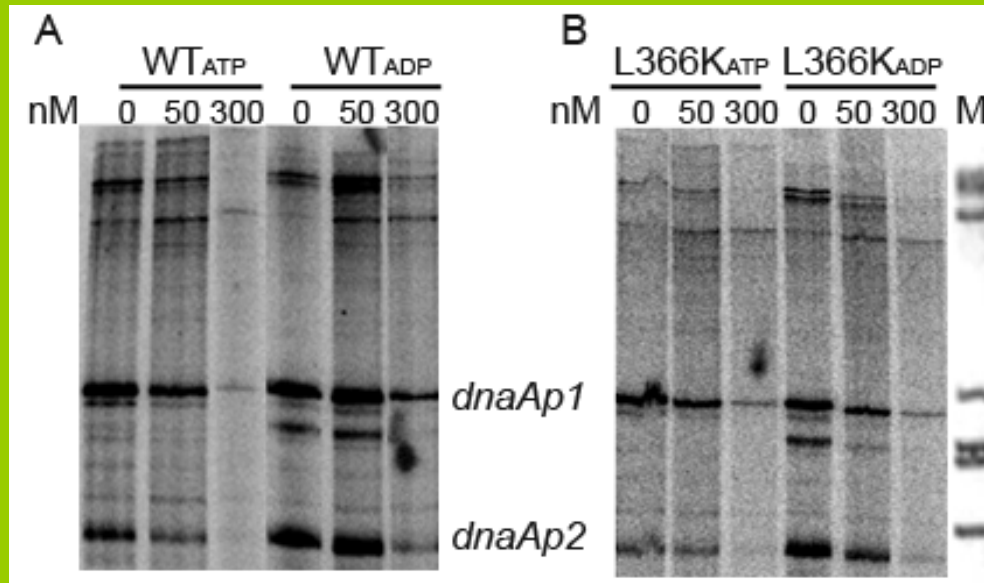
DnaA(L366K) cannot bind low affinity sites but when bound to a strong site can assist loading of wild-type DnaA to low affinity site



ATP-DnaA(L366K) and ADP-DnaA(L366K) confer the same DNase I protection to *dnaA* promoter as ATP-DnaA

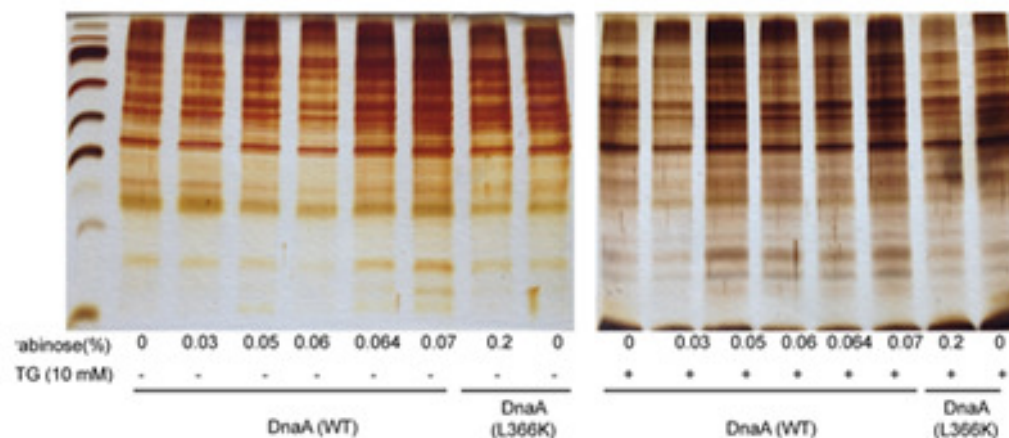
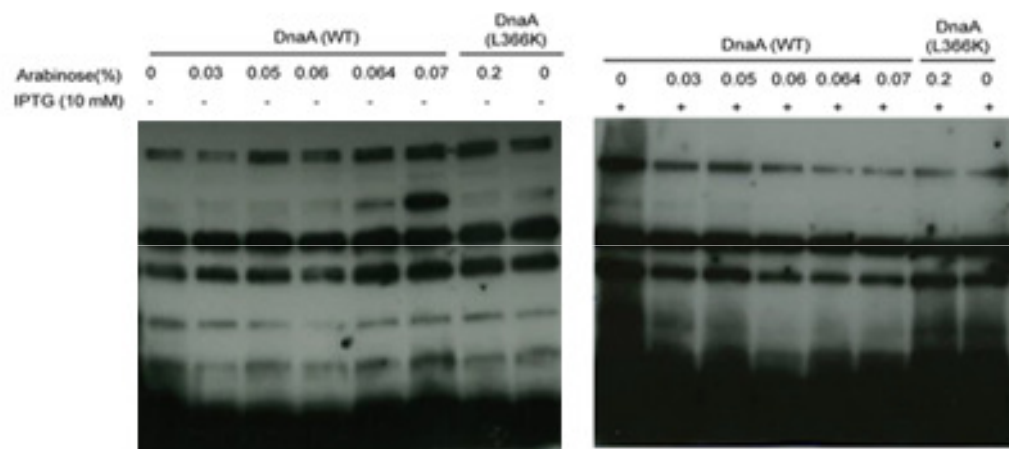
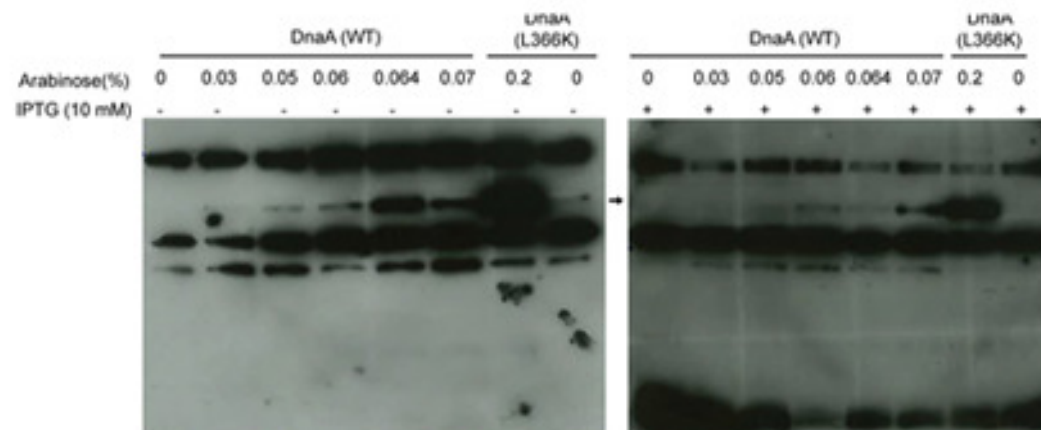


DnaA(L366K) in either nucleotide form represses *in vitro* transcription from *dnaA* promoter similar to ATP-DnaA



nM protein	WT _{ATP}		WT _{ADP}		L366K _{ATP}		L366K _{ADP}	
	(% expression)				(% expression)			
	50	300	50	300	50	300	50	300
<i>dnaAp1</i>	60±5.8	10±3.2	98±2.8	52±13.0	75±7.6	21±3.2	73±4.7	20±2.1
<i>dnaAp2</i>	40±9.0	6±2.0	90±7.0	40±11.0	68±5.0	12±2.0	71±3.6	14±3.6

Each value is calculated as relative percentage of intensity obtained with no protein control (0 nM)

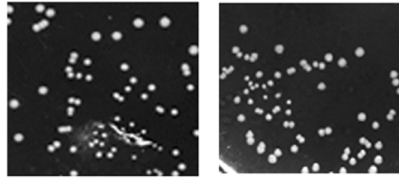


66 hrs

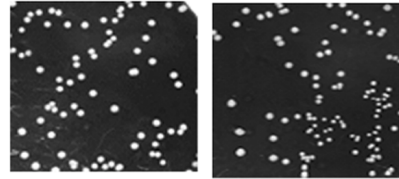
ME8987
(DnaA-WT) ME8987
(DnaA-L366K)

Arabinose

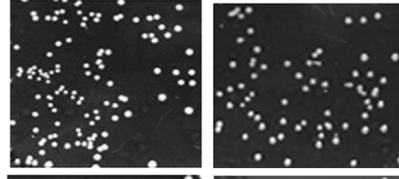
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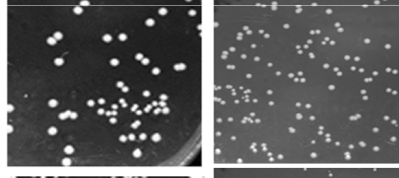
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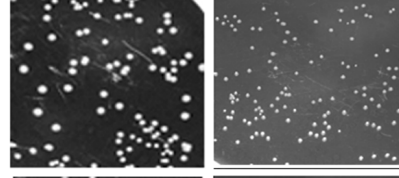
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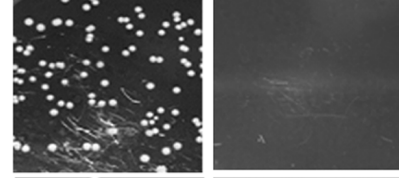
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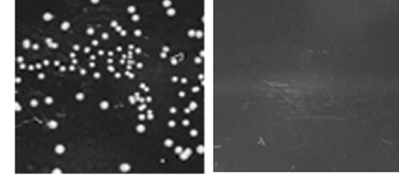
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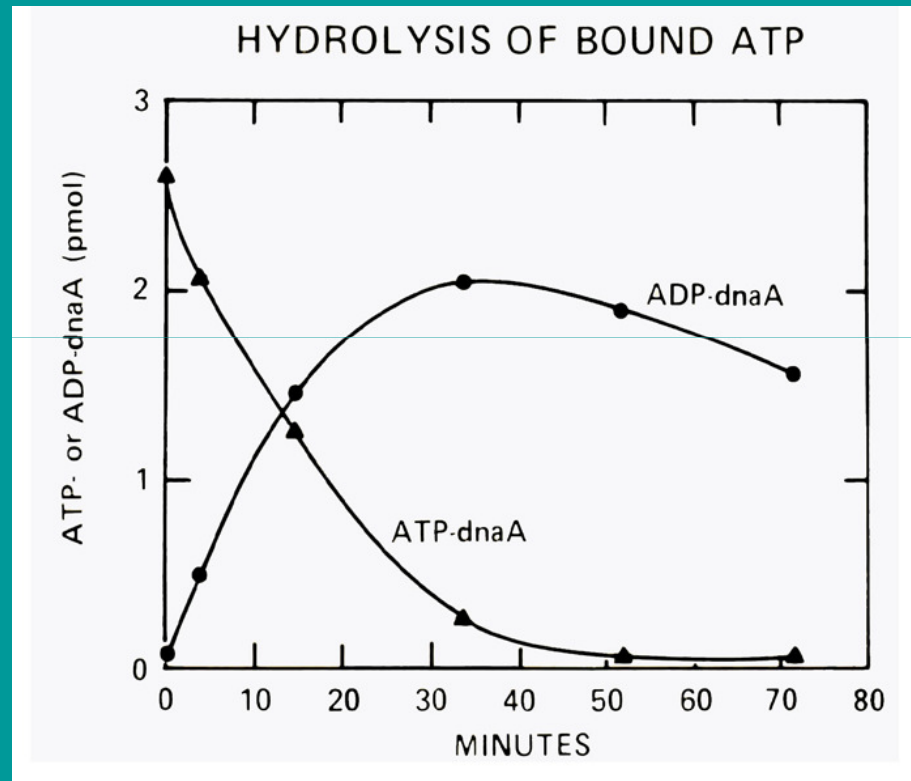
0.1%



0.2%



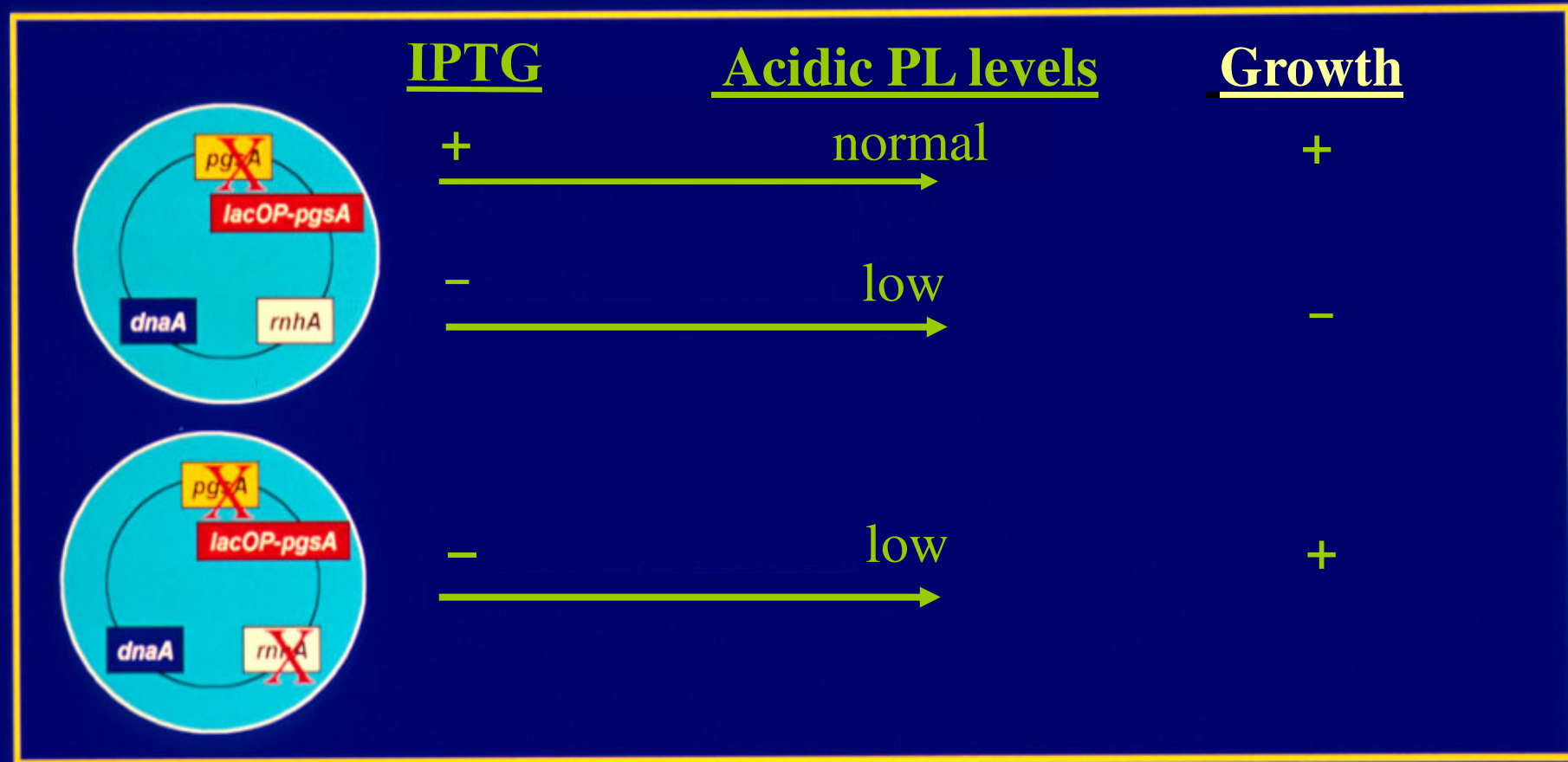
Hydrolysis of ATP bound to DnaA, is a slow process by itself



Colony Formation of HDL1001 Cells Transformed With Plasmids Harboring Deletion Mutant *dnaA* Genes

HDL1001 transformed with plasmids expressing	Number of Colonies		
	+IPTG +Glucose	-IPTG	
		+Glucose	+Arabinose
Wild-type DnaA	1000	0	9
DnaA Δ 317-322	1000	0	9
DnaA Δ 322-329	1000	0	6
DnaA Δ 329-333	1000	0	0
DnaA Δ 332-337	1000	0	16
DnaA Δ 336-340	1000	0	2
DnaA Δ 340-345	1000	0	0
DnaA Δ 346-356	1000	0	161*
DnaA Δ 357-368	1000	0	517
DnaA Δ 363-367	1000	0	700
DnaA Δ 369-376	1000	0	442
DnaA Δ 373-381	1000	0	577
DnaA Δ 377-386	1000	0	407
DnaA Δ 387-396	1000	0	764
DnaA Δ 397-404	1000	0	227*
DnaA Δ 405-417	1000	0	9
DnaA Δ 418-422	1000	0	407
DnaA Δ 432-427	1000	0	262
DnaA Δ 428-435	1000	0	362*
DnaA Δ 436-445	1000	0	667
DnaA Δ 446-455	1000	0	714*
DnaA Δ 456-464	1000	0	577
(Vector)	1000	0	0

Acidic Phospholipids Are Involved in Initiation of Replication at *oriC* *In Vivo*



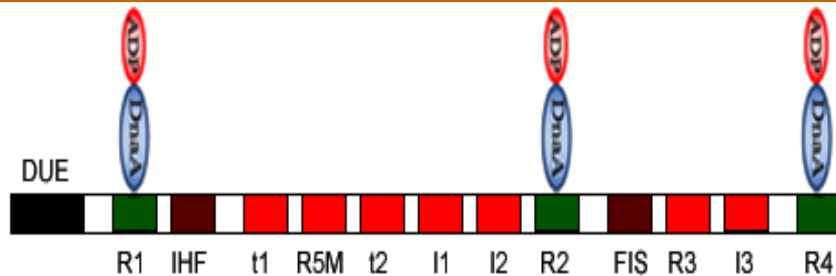
Heacock and Dowhan

JBC 264, 14972 (1989)

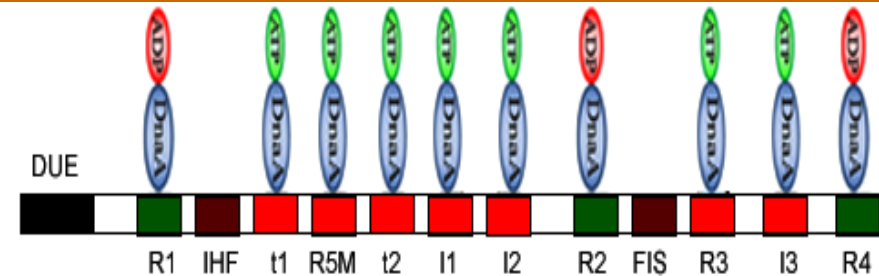
Xia and Dowhan

PNAS 92, 783 (1995)

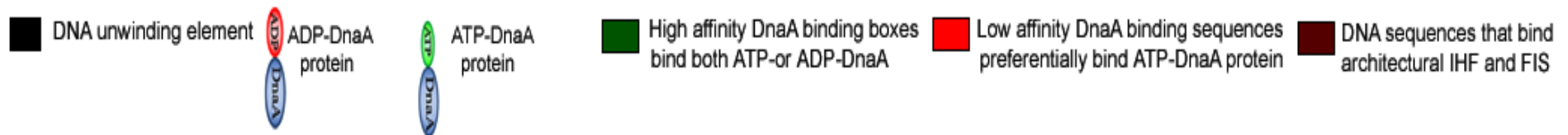
Architecture of E. coli chromosomal origin



Replicatively inactive ADP-DnaA binds only high affinity DnaA boxes, forming ORC-like structures



Replication proficient ATP-DnaA accumulates at additional cognate recognition sequences, converting bacterial ORC like structures to pre-replication complexes



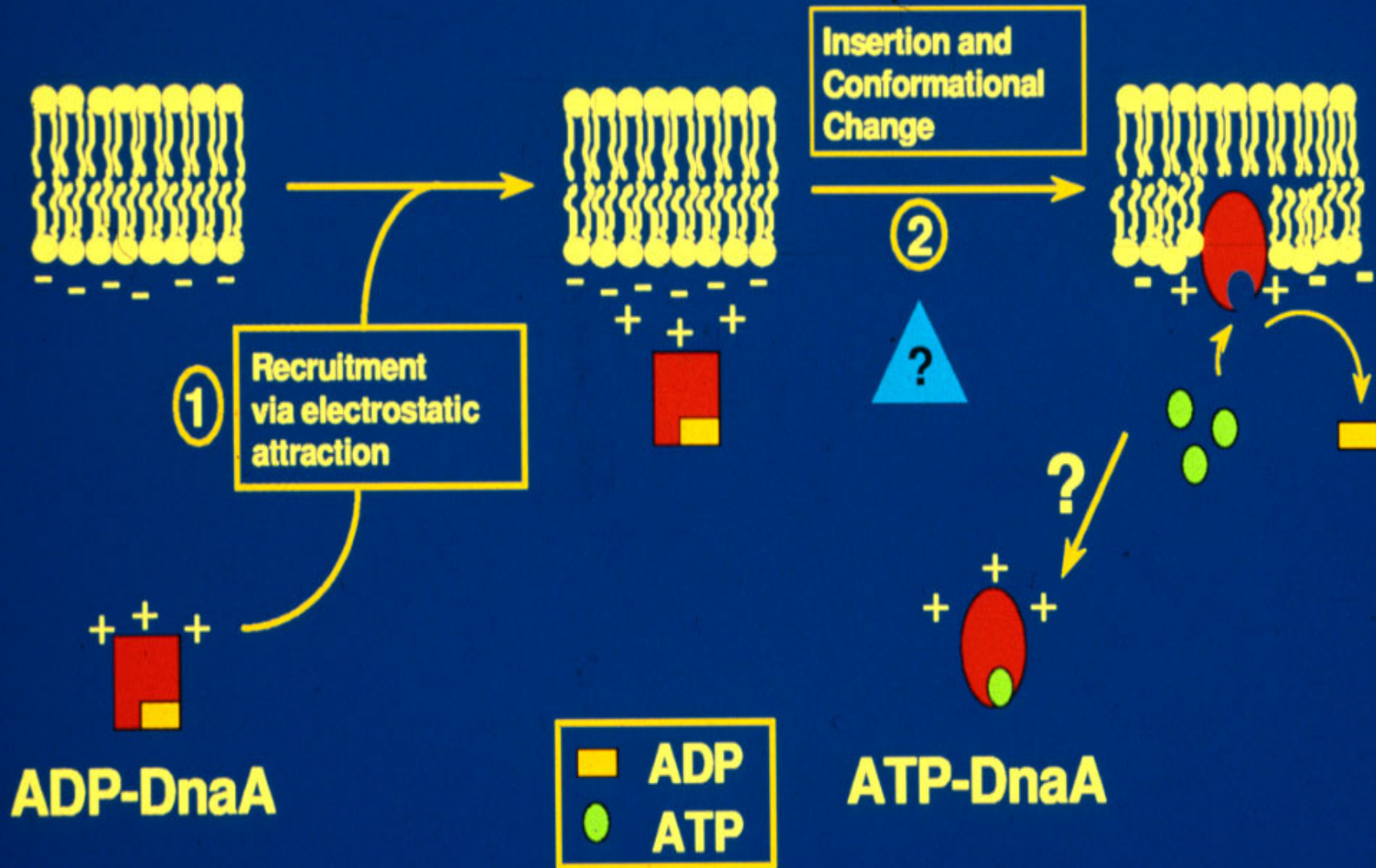
(R. Saxena *et al.*, *Int J Mol Sci.* 2013; 14: 8517-37)

DnaA(L366K) is competent at repressing the *dnaA*

TABLE I
DnaA(L366K) is competent at repressing the *dnaA* promoter *in vivo*

<i>E. coli</i> strain	protein expressed	β -galactosidase activity (in Miller units)
EH2827/pBAD	none	250
EH2827/pZL606	DnaA	130
EH2827/pZL606 (L366K)	DnaA(L366K)	125
M182/pBAD	none	207
M182/pZL606	DnaA	100
M182/pZL606 (L336K)	DnaA(L366K)	80

Regulation of DnaA Protein Activity by Acidic Membranes



K. Li et al., *Biochem* 38, 6213-21.



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