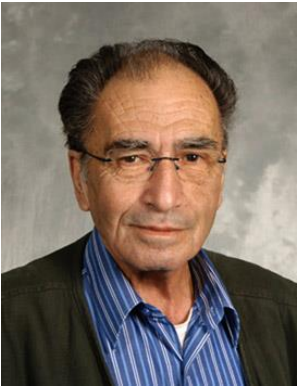


TALMON ARAD & the RIBOSOMES

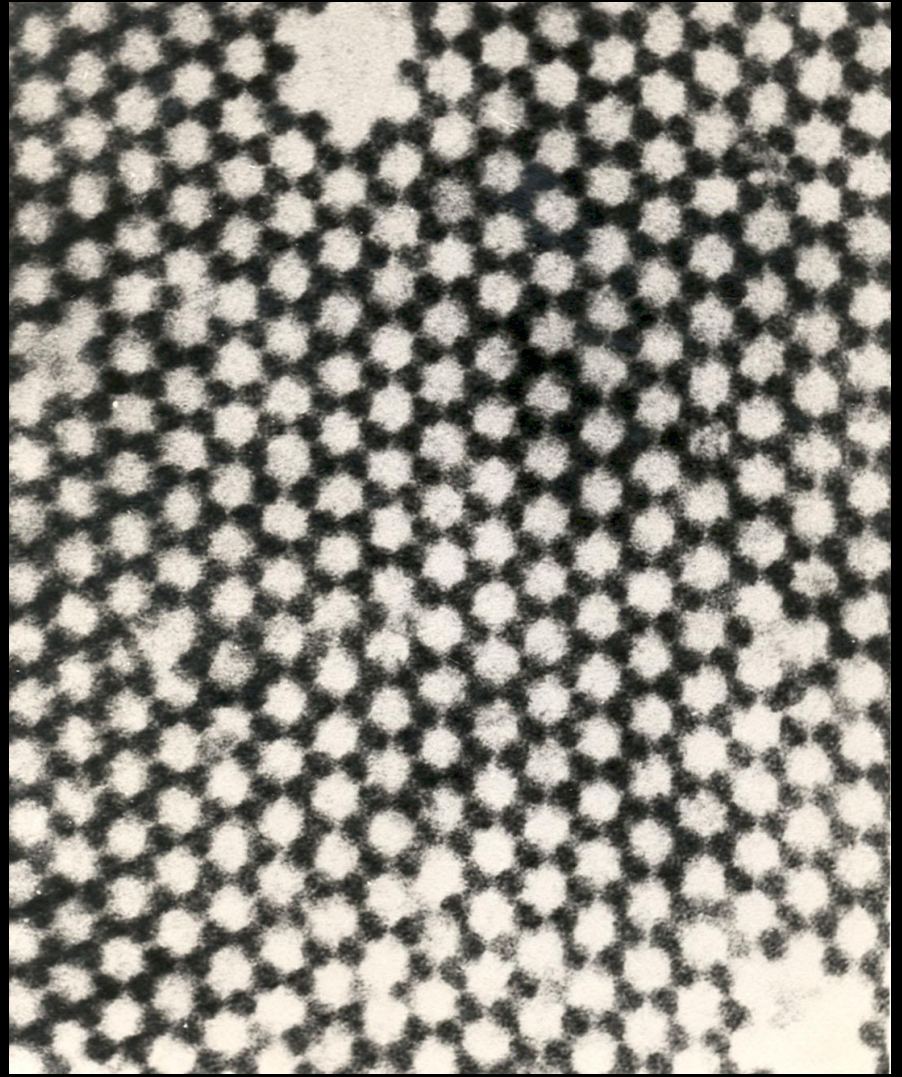


I first met Talmon during my army service, at the Headquarters of the Chief Medical Officer.

A decade later I met him again, as the top electron microscopist in Kevin Leonard's lab at EMBL, Heidelberg.



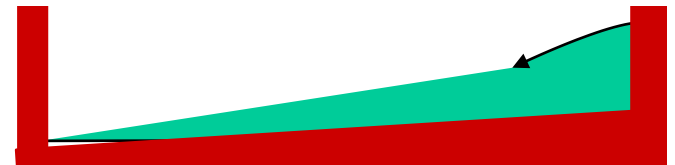
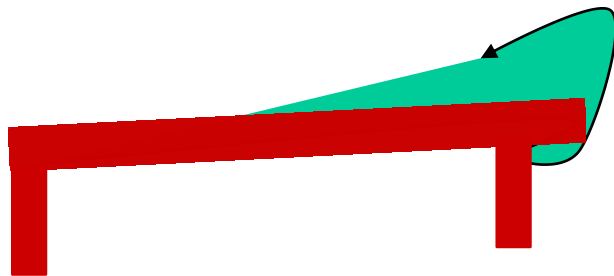
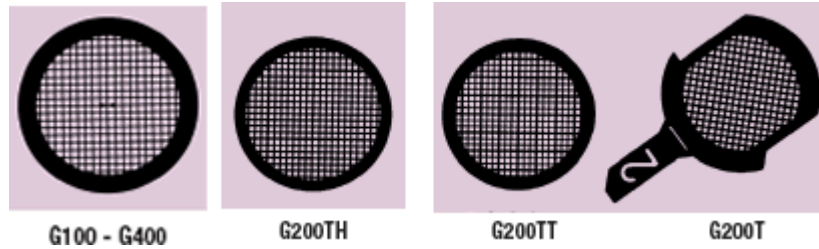
This way he entered the ribosome field.



Work done at EMBL

The upside-down “miracle” 1986

Talmon Arad & Ute Piefke



Work done at EMBL

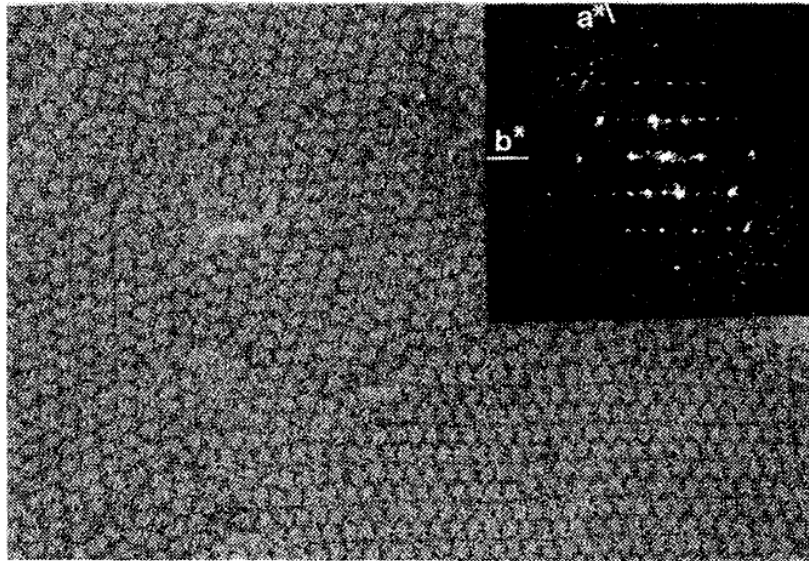


Fig. 1. A typical image of a salt-grown two-dimensional sheet stained by gold-thioglucose, and an optical diffraction pattern from a single crystalline domain containing about 20×10 unit cells. The a^* and b^* axes have been labeled. Areas for three-dimensional image reconstruction were chosen by using their optical diffractions according to the following criteria: (i) best resolution, (ii) patterns with sharpest reflections in patterns with no spurious spots, that is, including only one lattice region with the minimum mosaic spread.

Yonath, Leonard & Wittmann 1987

...cantly to the resulting model, as shown in Fig. 5. Two-dimensional sheets were prepared as de-

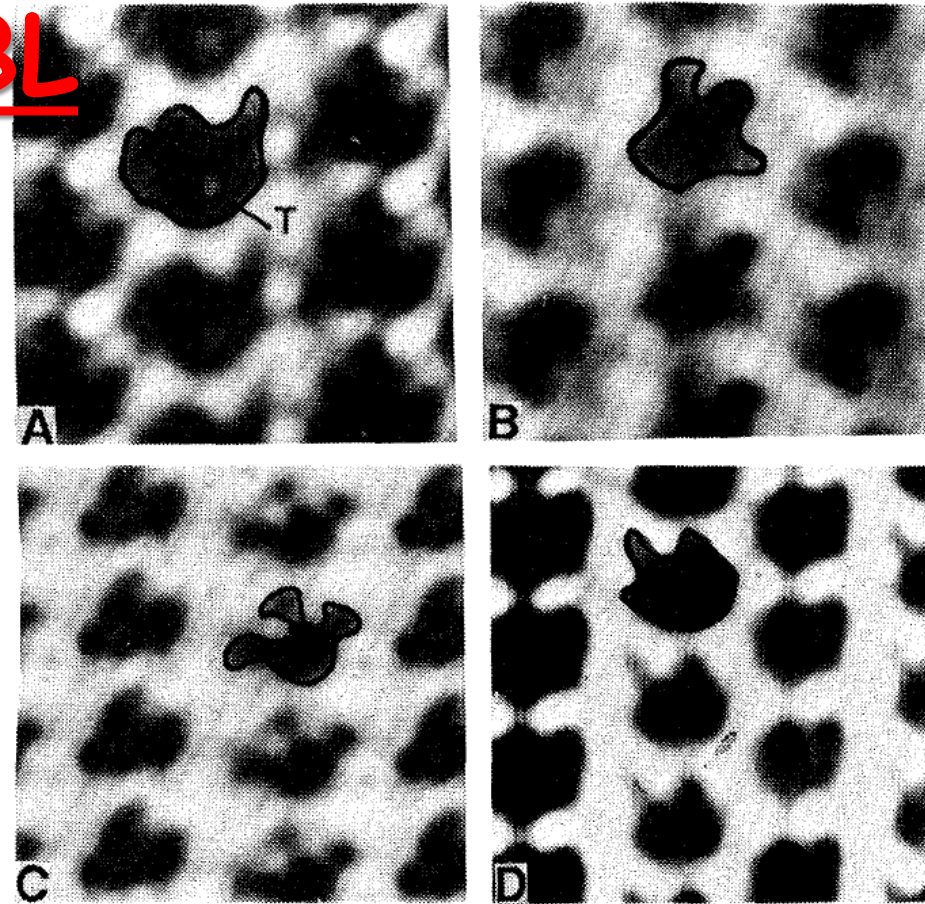
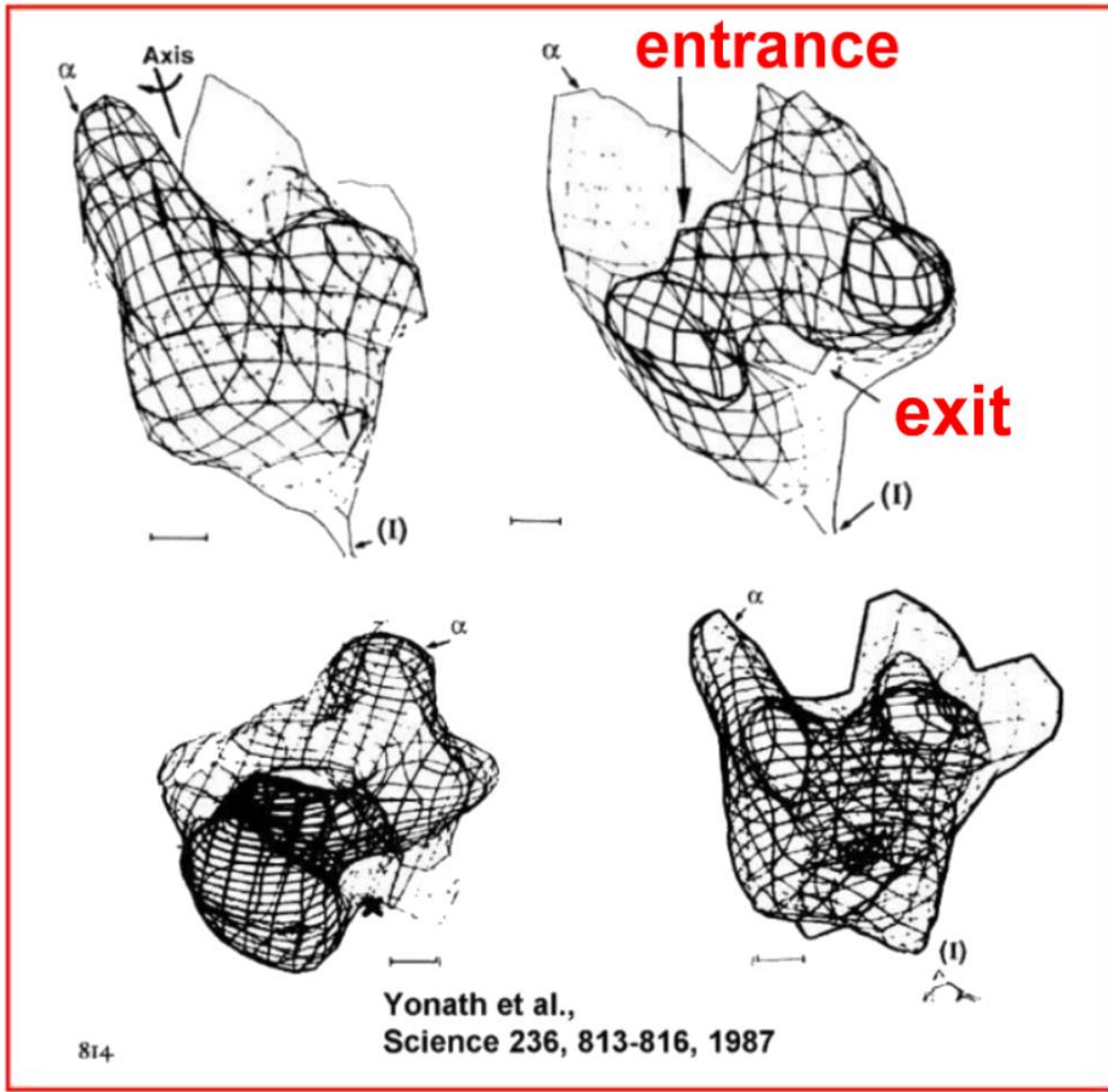


Fig. 4. Filtered images of electron micrographs in which the depicted view resembles that derived from electron microscopy of single particles. The particles are black and the background is white. (A–C) Filtered images of type (ST) sheets at 30° , 20° , and 35° tilt angles, respectively. The tunnel (T) can be seen. (D) Filtered image of type (AL) sheets at a tilt angle of 25° .



Using three dimensional
image reconstruction
of tilt series of
two-dimensional sheets
we* found that the PTC
is situated above the
entrance to an internal
tunnel.

Based on previous
biochemical studies,
Malkin & Rich, 1967
Blobel & Sabatini, 1970
we suggested that this
is the nascent protein
exit tunnel.

The ribosomal tunnel - a rather controversial result, which 10 years later was rediscovered

NATURE VOL. 331 21 JANUARY 1988

REVIEW ARTICLE

The ribosome returns

Peter B. Moore

In the longer term, however, the need for high resolution information about ribosome structure is clear. The progress made by Yonath and collaborators in their crystallographic investigations in the past year is encouraging in this respect. They recently proposed a startling model for the 50S ribosomal subunit in which they postulate a large channel through the centre of the particle³⁰. This model was based on a three-dimensional reconstruction from electron micrographs of crystalline sheets of ribosomal subunits from *Halobacterium marismortui*, a bacterium that lives only in saturated, or near-saturated salt solutions. It would be interesting to know whether this radiation-damaged model is consistent with, for example, the solution-scattering data available for large subunits from *E. coli*. More significant than this model, however, is the fact that Yonath and co-

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In ribosome research Talmon has 7 papers, was first in 2 of them

1. Avila-Sakar, A.J., Guan, T.L., Arad, T., Schmid, M.F., Loke, T.W., Yonath, A., Piefke, J., Franceschi F. and Chiu, W. (1994). Electron cryomicroscopy of *Bacillus stearothermophilus* 50S ribosomal subunits crystallized on phospholipid monolayers, *J Mol Biol*, 239, 689-97;
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3. Arad, T., Piefke, J., Gewitz, H.S., Romberg, B., Glotz, C., Muessig, J., Yonath, A. & Wittmann, H.G. (1987). The growth of ordered two-dimensional sheets of ribosomal particles from salt- alcohol mixtures, *Anal Biochem*, 167, 113-7;
4. Glotz, C., Muessig, J., Gewitz, H.S., Makowski, I., Arad, T., Yonath, A. and Wittmann, H.G. (1987). Three-dimensional crystals of ribosomes and their subunits from eu- and archaebacteria, *Biochem Int*, 15, 953-60;
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6. Shoham, M., Muessig, J., Shevack, A., Arad, T., Wittmann H.G. and Yonath, A. (1986). A new crystal form of large ribosomal subunits from *Halobacterium marismortui*, *FEBS Lett*, 208, 321-4
7. Arad, T., Leonard, K., Wittmann, H.G. and A. Yonath, 1984. Two-dimensional crystalline sheets of *Bacillus stearothermophilus* 50S ribosomal particles, *EMBO J*, 3, 127-31

2 - משמאל - גביש של יחידת המשנה הגדולה של הריבזום. מימין חתך של הגביש הנראה משמאל בכוון אקראי, צבוע נגטיבית

3- גידול גבישים דו ממדיים (חד שכבתיים) ישירות על גריד מיקרוסקופי הפוך כדי למנוע החליקתם. השיטה פותחה על ידי פיפקה וטלמון

4- מבנים של הגבישים החד שכבתיים. משמאל - לפני "ניקוי" ועם הדיפרקציה של קרן האלקטרונים. מימין - המבנים לאחר "טיפול" מתמטי (ניקוי)

5- סבוב (+_60 מעלות) של הדגמים מתמונה 4 הביא לגילוי המנהרה שבתוך הריבזום, שדרכה עובר החלבון הנוצר בריבזום מנקודת היווצרותו עד יציאתו לחלל התא

6- גילוי המנהרה היה לא צפוי, ועל כן גרם לתגובות שליליות, חלקן אפילו פורסמו על ידי "גדולי הדור". היא "גולתה" מחדש למעלה מעשר שנים על ידי מיקרוסקופיה בטמפרטורות נמוכות וכן כשפוענח מבנה הריבזום