The Prefoldin Bud27 Mediates the Assembly of the Eukaryotic RNA Polymerases in an Rpb5-Dependent Manner

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Abstract

The unconventional prefoldin URI/RMP, in humans, and its orthologue in yeast, Bud27, have been proposed to participate in the biogenesis of the RNA polymerases. However, this role of Bud27 has not been confirmed and is poorly elucidated. Our data help clarify the mechanisms governing biogenesis of the three eukaryotic RNA pols. We show evidence that Bud27 is the first example of a protein that participates in the biogenesis of the three eukaryotic RNA polymerases and the first example of a protein modulating their assembly instead of their nuclear transport. In addition we demonstrate that the role of Bud27 in RNA pols biogenesis depends on Rpb5. In fact, lack of BUD27 affects growth and leads to a substantial accumulation of the three RNA polymerases in the cytoplasm, defects offset by the overexpression of RPB5. Supporting this, our data demonstrate that the lack of Bud27 affects the correct assembly of Rpb5 and Rpb6 to the three RNA polymerases, suggesting that this process occurs in the cytoplasm and is a required step prior to nuclear import. Also, our data support the view that Rpb5 and Rpb6 assemble somewhat later than the rest of the complexes. Furthermore, Bud27 Rpb5-binding but not PFD-binding domain is necessary for RNA polymerases biogenesis. In conclusion, we also demonstrate genetic interactions between BUD27, RPB5, and RPB6. Bud27 shuttles between the nucleus and the cytoplasm in an Xpo1-independent manner, and also independently of microtubule polarization and possibly independently of its association with the RNA pols. Our data also suggest that the role of Bud27 in RNA pols biogenesis is independent of the chaperone prefoldin (PFD) complex and of Iwr1. Finally, the role of URI seems to be conserved in humans, suggesting conserved mechanisms in RNA pols biogenesis.

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Introduction

Eukaryotic RNA polymerases are a family of multimeric enzymes, RNA pol I, II, and III, responsible for the specific synthesis of different RNAs. RNA pol I is specialized in the synthesis of the pre-rRNA precursor of the three largest rRNA and typically accounts for about 75% of the entire transcription output in fast-growing yeast cells. RNA pol III transcribes mostly tRNAs and 5S rRNA, together with several short non-translated RNAs, while transcription corresponds to about 15% of the total RNA. RNA pol II, the enzyme that produces all mRNAs and many non-coding ones, transcribes most of the nuclear genome but nevertheless contributes to less than 10% of total RNA in growing cells. RNA pol I, II, and III are composed of 14, 12, and 17 subunits respectively, with a catalytic core formed by the two largest subunits highly conserved through evolution and five common subunits to the three enzymes [1–3]. Despite intensive studies concerning the structure and the transcriptional regulation of the three RNA polymerases [4,5], little is known about the mechanisms governing their assembly and their nuclear import. Noteworthy findings in both human and yeast demonstrate the participation of different proteins in the transport of the RNA pol II to the nucleus, Iwr1 and Npa3 in yeast, and GPN1 (RPAP4) and GPN3 in humans [6–10]. It has also been suggested that RPAP2 plays a role in import on the basis that it is cytoplasmic, binds fully assembled enzyme and shuttles in a CRM1-dependent manner [11]. However, no data concerning proteins involved in the nuclear transport of the RNA pol I or III are available. In addition, proteomic analysis in humans cells seek to decipher the mechanisms of RNA pol II biogenesis and assembly identifying a number of polymerase-associated factors. Among these, HSP90 and its R2TP/Prefoldin-like chaperone, including hSpagh (RPAP3), are clearly involved in these processes [8,12]. In humans, R2TP/Prefoldin-like complex contains Rpb5, a common subunit to the three eukaryotic RNA polymerases [2], as well as the unconventional prefoldin Rpb5 interactor (URI/RMP),
Bud27 Mediates the Assembly of RNA Polymerases

Author Summary

The mechanisms governing the assembly and the transport of the three eukaryotic RNA polymerases to the nucleus are in discussion. Interesting papers have demonstrated the participation of some proteins in the assembly of the nuclear RNA polymerases and in their transport to the nucleus, but the mechanisms involved are poorly understood. Our data help clarify the mechanisms governing biogenesis of the three eukaryotic RNA pols and demonstrate that the prefoldin Bud27 of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* mediates the correct assembly of the three complexes prior to their translocation to the nucleus, in a process which is dependent on Rpb5. In addition, our data support the view that, during the assembly of the RNA pols, Rpb5 and Rpb6 assemble rather late compared to the rest of the complexes. Furthermore, this role of Bud27 seems to be specific, as it is not extended to other prefoldin members. Finally, the role of Bud27 seems to be conserved in humans, suggesting conserved mechanisms in RNA pols biogenesis.

Results

Bud27 interacts physically with the three eukaryotic RNA polymerases

Immunoprecipitation studies and protein identification by mass spectrometry have shown that URI interacts with components of the RNA pol II in human cells [8,12,14]. In addition, work in yeast [24,25], using systematic characterization of complexes by TAP and mass spectrometry predicted the association of the URI orthologue, Bud27, with multiple components of the RNA pol II machinery. However, only the physical interaction between Bud27 and Rpb5 in yeast has been further demonstrated and no clear data concerning the association of Bud27 with the other two RNA polymerases have been reported. To gain insights into the association of Bud27 with the three RNA pols and to identify proteins that associate with Bud27 in yeast, we used the *BUD27* gene TAP-tagged at its 3' end in TAP purifications. As shown, the Bud27-TAP cells grow normally (Figure 1A). Bud27-TAP was affinity-purified from a whole-cell lysate by two consecutive affinity columns (IgG-Sepharose and Calmodulin-Sepharose). After the second purification, 10 proteins were specifically enriched. It bears noting that most of these proteins are members of the three RNA polymerases: Rpa190, Rpa135 and Rpa49 (RNA pol I); Rpe160 and Rpe128 (pol III); Rpe40 (pol I and III); Rpb1 (pol II); Rpb10 and Rpb5 (pol I, II and III) (Figure 1B). In addition, we also identified Yke2 (Pfd6), a member of the Gim/prefoldin protein complex involved in the folding of alfa-tubulin, beta-tubulin, and actin and also a member of the RPAP3/R2TP/prefoldin-like complex participating as intermediary of the RNA pol II assembly in humans [13,26]. Curiously beta-tubulin and Ssb1, a chaperone member of the HSP70 family [27], were present in the affinity-purified Bud27 preparation.

To confirm the interaction between Bud27 and the three RNA polymerases, we purified Bud27-TAP from a strain containing also Rpa190-HA tagged (RNA pol I) and Rpe25-Myc tagged (RNA pol III) proteins. As shown in Figure 1C, an Rpa190-HA reacting band was revealed. No such band was detected when the TAP purification was performed in control strain BY4741 or in control strain YFN229 containing Rpb3 TAP but also tagged forms of the three complexes participating as intermediary of the RNA pol II assembly in humans [13,26]. Curiously beta-tubulin and Ssb1, a chaperone member of the HSP70 family [27], were present in the affinity-purified Bud27 preparation.

Bud27 shuttles between the nucleus and cytoplasm in an Xpo1-independent manner

Our data demonstrating a physical interaction between Bud27 and the three RNA polymerases, as well as the reported localization of Bud27 in the cytoplasm [19], suggest a role for this prefoldin in the cytoplasmic biogenesis of the RNA pols. To
clarify the localization of Bud27 in the cell and to explore if this protein shuttles between cytoplasm and nucleus, as is the case in humans and *Drosophila* [20,21], we used a functional *BUD27-GFP* gene fusion, cloned in a centromeric plasmid, expressed from a Tet-repressible promoter [25]. The functionality of this Bud27-GFP fusion protein was confirmed by its ability to complement the temperature sensitivity of a *bud27* mutant strain (Figure S1). As shown in Figure 2A, Bud27-GFP was preferentially localized at the cytoplasm.

A more detailed analysis of Bud27 amino acid sequence using the NetNES 1.1 and cNLS mapper servers [28,29] predicted a possible leucine-rich nuclear export signal (NES) between positions 686 and 695 (LRDEIRDFQL) and a nuclear localization signal (NLS; amino acids 562 to 595). Proteins with a NES signal are actively translocated to the cytoplasm via the action of nuclear export pathway mediated by an evolutionarily conserved CRM1/exportin protein Xpo1, suggesting that Bud27 could shuttle between the nucleus and cytoplasm in an Xpo1-dependent manner. To verify this possibility, we examined the localization of Bud27 in *xpo1-1* cells transformed with the above-mentioned plasmid after shifting from 30°C to 37°C for up to 5 h, a condition under which the Xpo1-dependent protein export was blocked [30]. However, no nuclear Bud27-GFP accumulation was found following a shift to 37°C for up to 5 h (Figure 2B).

On the other hand, and as the existence of NES and NLS signals in Bud27 suggest that this is a shuttling protein, we deleted the NES sequence from Bud27-GFP. Our results demonstrated that this led to a nuclear accumulation of Bud27 (Figure 2C).

Figure 1. Bud27 physically interacts with the three RNA polymerases. A) Growth of BUD27-TAP, Wild-type and a Δbud27 cells in YPD at the indicated temperatures. B) Summary of the proteins interacting with Bud27 in a TAP purification analysis. C) Western blot of protein co-purified with Bud27-TAP (3), Rpb3-TAP (2), and non-tagged wild-type strains (1). anti-HA, anti-Myc, anti-Rpb1 (8WG16), and anti-PAP antibodies were used. No tag: wild-type strain BY4741; Rpb3-TAP: Rpb3-TAP, Rpa190-HA (RNA pol I) and Rpc25-Myc (RNA pol III) strain; Bud27-TAP: Bud27-TAP, Rpa190-HA (RNA pol I) and Rpc25-Myc (RNA pol III) strain.

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addition, the deletion of this sequence did not affect the ability of the fusion protein to complement the growth defect caused by the bud27 null mutation (Figure S1). To gain insight into the mechanism by which Bud27 translocates to the nucleus, we analysed Bud27 NES-GFP localization after adding benomyl, a drug demonstrated to promote depolarization of microtubules and accumulation of the largest subunit of the RNA pol II, Rpb1, in the cytoplasm [8]. As expected, benomyl led to the accumulation of RNA pols in the cytoplasm, as shown by monitoring Rpb8-ECFP in vivo (Figure 2D upper panel). Contrary, nuclear localization of Bud27 NES-GFP is not significantly altered by the addition of benomyl (Figure 2D lower panel).

These data together demonstrate that Bud27 shuttles between nucleus and cytoplasm and suggest that the NES sequence is required for the nuclear export of Bud27 in an Xpo1-independent manner. In addition, the data recorded using benomyl suggest that the translocation of Bud27 to the nucleus is independent of microtubule polarization.

Figure 2. Bud27 shuttles between nucleus and cytoplasm. Live cell imaging of Bud27-Gfp (centromeric plasmid pCM189) in ∆bud27 mutant cells at 30°C (A) and Xpo-1 mutant cells for 1 h at 37°C (B). C) Live cell imaging of Bud27 NES-GFP in ∆bud27 mutant cells at 30°C, showing nuclear localization. D) Rpb8-ECFP (C-terminal ECFP tagged Rpb8) and Bud27 NES-GFP in wild-type or ∆bud27 mutant cells treated with benomyl (60 μg/ml) at 30°C. doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1003297.g002

Lack of Bud27 results in RNA polymerases cytoplasmic accumulation

To help elucidate the function of Bud27 and its association with the RNA pols, and to investigate the effect of Bud27 in the assembly and/or transport of these enzymes to the nucleus, we tested the hypothesis that Bud27 is needed for correct localization of the three RNA pols. The reason to suspect a role for this prefoldin in the cytoplasmic biogenesis of the three RNA pols came from the observation that Bud27 is localized mainly in the cytoplasm of yeast cells while the three RNA pols in the nucleus.

Then we performed immunocytochemistry experiments in a wild-type and a ∆bud27 mutant strain containing an Rpa190-HA tagged (RNA pol I) and Rpc160-Myc tagged (RNA pol III) proteins, using anti-HA, anti-Rpb1 (8WG16) and anti-Myc antibodies, to analyse the intracellular localization of the largest subunits of the RNA pol I, II, and III, respectively. In a wild-type strain (Figure 3A), fluorescence for Rpb1 and Rpc160 was restricted to the nucleus, while for Rpa190 it was mainly nucleolar,
indicating that, as expected, RNA pol II and III were localized in the nucleus and RNA pol I, mainly in the nucleolus. However, deletion of BUD27 resulted in the accumulation of the three RNA pols in the cytoplasm, although nuclear and nucleolar, but more diffuse, staining was also observed. To corroborate these results and to monitor the localization of another subunit shared by the three RNA polymerases, we genomically tagged Rpb8 with a C-terminal ECFP tag and we monitored its localization by live cell imaging (Figure 3B). As in the case for Rpa190, Rpb1, and Rpc160, fluorescence for Rpb8 was detected mainly in the nucleus of a wild-type strain, while a clear cytoplasmic accumulation was found in a Δbud27 mutant strain. These results indicate that the three RNA enzymes are partially mislocalized, according to the differences in the amount of Rpb1 associated with chromatin fractions (Figure 3C). In addition, nuclear localization of the three RNA pols seems not to depend on Bud27 localization, since Bud27 variant that lacks NES sequence and that is accumulated in the nucleus did not impair the nuclear localization of the RNA pol I, II or III (Figure S2A).

Also, we investigated whether cells resumed growth and RNA pols nuclear localization when a Δbud27 mutant strain was complemented with a BUD27-TAP gene fusion into a centromeric plasmid expressed from a Tet-repressible promoter [25]. As expected, BUD27-TAP fully restored growth of the Δbud27 mutant strain at the restrictive temperature of 37°C (Figure S1). In addition, Rpb8-ECFP signal was again restricted to the nucleus, suggesting that the three RNA pols again became nuclear (Figure S2B). Furthermore, these data correlate with an increase in the amount of Rpb1 associated with chromatin fractions in the Δbud27 mutant strain overexpressing the BUD27-TAP gene fusion (Figure 3C).

All together, these data indicate that Bud27 is necessary for the nuclear localization of RNA pols in the S. cerevisiae nucleus, and suggest that it may play a role in assembly and/or nuclear transport of the three enzymes.

Silencing of URI results in cytoplasmic accumulation of RPB1 in human cells

URI is an evolutionarily conserved member of the prefoldin family among eukaryotes [18,22]. Then, to start elucidating if in humans URI IS also involved in the biogenesis of the RNA pols, we performed siRNA silencing experiments in human pulmonary fibroblast and monitored the effect of URI depletion on Rpb1 intracellular localization. As shown by q-RT PCR, URI mRNA expression decreased to 40% at 100 nM of siURI (Figure S3). Furthermore, silencing of URI resulted in the accumulation of Rpb1 in the cytoplasm of treated cells (Figure 3D), as revealed by immunocytochemistry experiments using 8WG16 antibodies. Contrary, control experiment did not affect nuclear localization of Rpb1. These data suggest that, as it is the case for Bud27, URI modulates the translocation of RNA pol II to the nucleus, pointing to a common role for these conserved proteins in the biogenesis of, at least, the RNA pol II.

Figure 3. Lack of Bud27 led to RNA pol I, II, and III cytoplasmic accumulation. A) Immunocytochemistry experiments using antibodies against Rpa190-HA (anti-HA), Rpb1 (8WG16), andRpc160-Myc (anti-Myc) in wild-type and Δbud27 mutant cells with tagged Rpa190-HA (RNA pol I) andRpc160-Myc (RNA pol III), at 30°C. B) Live cell imaging of Rpb8-ECFP in wild-type and Δbud27 mutant cells, at 30°C. C) Western blot of chromatin fractions from wild-type and Δbud27 mutant cells harboring an empty vector (pCM) or a vector overexpressing BUD27 (pCM-BUD27-TAP). Tubulin and Nop1 were used as controls of non-chromatin and chromatin fractions, respectively. D) Rpb1 immunolocalisation analysis (8WG16) in human pulmonary fibroblast under silencing of URI. As a control, cells without siRNA heteroduplex.

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Bud27 is required for correct assembly of the three RNA polymerases

To investigate the effect of Bud27 in RNA pols complex assembly, we immunoprecipitated RNA pol II from a wild-type and a Δbud27 mutant strain containing functional tagged versions of different RNA pol II subunits (Rpb2-TAP, Rpb3-HA and Rpb4-Myc). We performed immunoprecipitation experiments using anti-Rpb1 antibodies (8WG16) and analysed different RNA pol II subunits corresponding to the different assembly intermediates previously described, Rpb1 together with Rpb4/5/7/8/9 and Rpb2 together with Rpb3/10/11/12 [10,12,31]. Our results revealed no significant differences in the yield or subunit composition between the two polymerases for Rpb1, Rpb2, Rpb3, or Rpb4 (Figure 4A). It is worth noting that Rpb2 purification gave also similar amount of Rpb1/Rpb2 (Figure 4B).

Also, we analysed Rpb5, a common subunit shared by the three RNA polymerases and demonstrated by us and others [18] to physically interact with Bud27. Surprisingly, the amount of Rpb5 clearly decreased in RNA pol II immunoprecipitated from a Δbud27 mutant strain (Figure 4A), indicating that lack of Bud27 affects RNA pol II assembly. To corroborate these results and to investigate whether Bud27 also participates in the assembly of the other two RNA pols (I and III), we immunoprecipitated the three RNA pols from a wild-type and a Δbud27 mutant strain containing functional tagged versions of different RNA pol subunits (Rpa190-HA and Rpc160-Myc). The immunoprecipitation of

Figure 4. Lack of Bud27 affects assembly of RNA pol I, II, and III. A) RNA pol II was immunoprecipitated with anti-Rpb1 antibodies (8WG16) from a strain containing Rpb2-TAP, Rpb3-HA and Rpb4-Myc. RNA pol II subunits were analysed with Anti-HA, anti-Rpb1 (8WG16), anti-Myc, anti-PAP, anti-Rpb5 and anti-Rpb6 antibodies. B) Western blot of Rpb1 co-purified with RPB2-TAP. Anti-Rpb1 (8WG16) and anti-PAP antibodies were used. C) RNA pol I, II and III were immunoprecipitated with anti-HA, anti-Rpb1 (8WG16) and anti-Myc antibodies from a wild-type and a Δbud27 mutant strains containing Rpa190-HA (RNA pol I) and Rpc160-Myc (RNA pol III), transformed with a plasmid overexpressing RPB5 (pFL-RPB5), or with an empty vector (pFL). Rpa190-HA, Rpb1,Rpc160-Myc, Rpb5, and Rpb6 were analysed by Western blot with the antibodies indicated above.

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the three largest RNA pol subunits, using anti-HA, anti-Rpb1 (8WG16), and anti-Myc antibodies, again revealed significant differences in yield between Rpb5 and the largest subunits of the three RNA pols between wild-type and mutant polymerase complexes (Figure 4C, lines 5 and 6).

Rpb6, another common subunit to the three RNA pols seems to assemble rather late in humans although this mechanism is unclear [12]. Thus, we also analysed the amount of Rpb6 in immunoprecipitated RNA pol II between the wild-type and Δbud27 mutant strains. Again, surprisingly, the amount of Rpb6 clearly decreased in RNA pol II mutant complex (Figure 4A and 4C, lines 5 and 6), but also in RNA pol I and III (Figure 4C, lines 5 and 6). These data indicate that Bud27 has a role in the assembly of the three RNA pols, by interfering with the correct assembly of Rpb5 and Rpb6 in the complexes. Furthermore, the fact that no significant differences were detected between the wild-type and the mutant strain in whole-cell extracts for any of the RNA pols subunits analysed suggests that when Bud27 lacks, the non-assembled subunits are not rapidly degraded.

To extend our analysis, we performed Rpb3-TAP purification from wild type and Δbud27 mutant containing functional tagged version of Rpb3 (Rpb3-TAP), as Rpb3-TAP purification has been largely and successfully used to purify RNA pol II [32–34]. The protein mixture obtained in each case was subjected to multidimensional protein identification technology (MudPIT) [35] and to separation by gel electrophoresis. From our analysis we can conclude that all RNAPII subunits are associated to Rpb5 in absence of Bud27 (Table S1), but however, the yield of Rpb3 recovery drops abruptly in Δbud27 cells. It is also significant the reduction of Rpb3 co-purifying proteins. Taking together, our results suggest that lack of Bud27 led to an unstable RNA pol II complex and then, that Bud27 is also necessary to maintain stability of the enzyme.

**RPB5 overexpression corrects temperature sensitivity, rapamycin sensitivity, nuclear RNA pols localization, and RNA pols assembly in cells lacking Bud27**

The data above strongly indicate that Bud27 is required for assembly of the three RNA pols and that this mechanism depends on correct assembly or stabilization of Rpb5. Because Rpb5 was identified as an interactor with Bud27, we considered the possibility that these proteins are functionally linked.

In an attempt to clarify the relationship between Rpb5 and Bud27, we explored whether *Rpb5* overexpression corrects the temperature sensitivity of the Δbud27 mutant strain. Notably, increasing dosage of Rpb5 suffices to rescue the growth defect of the strain lacking Bud27 at a restrictive temperature (Figure 5A), as is the case for *BUD27* overexpression (Figure S1). Bud27 in yeast and URI in human cells were originally characterized as regulators of gene expression controlled by TOR (for target of Rapamycin, pCM and pFL correspond to the control empty vectors. B) Live cell imaging of Rpb8-ECFP in wild-type and Δbud27 mutant cells at 30°C, containing empty vector (pFL) or overexpressing RPB5 (pFL-RPB5). doi:10.1371/journal.pgen.1003297.g005

To test which conserved domains of Bud27 are important for growth, we transformed Δbud27 cells with plasmids expressing full-length Bud27 or proteins deleted for the indicated domains, and tested their ability to complement the temperature-sensitive
phenotype (Figure S1). Surprisingly, neither the PFD or the Rpb5-binding domain nor both were functionally important in vivo, as previously indicated [19].

To assess whether the above-mentioned conserved domains participated in the nuclear localization of the three RNA polys, we monitored Rpb8-ECFP and Rpb1-GFP by live cell imaging in a Δbud27 cells with plasmids containing full-length BUD27 or BUD27 deleted for the PFD, Rpb5-binding domains, or both. As shown in Figure 6, deletion of Rpb5-binding domain led to a clear Rpb1-GFP cytoplasmic accumulation. Similarly, a more diffuse cytoplasmic Rpb8-ECFP signal was observed. However, PFD-binding domain was not crucial for the correct nuclear localization of the three RNA polys. Thus, we conclude that nuclear localization of the three RNA polys mediated by Bud27 is dependent on Rpb5-binding domain.

The role of Bud27 in RNA polys biogenesis is independent of the chaperone prefoldin (PFD) complex

URI (Bud27) is believed to function as a scaffold protein able to assemble additional members of chaperone prefoldin (PFD) family through its PFD and Rpb5-binding domains in both human and yeast. Human and yeast PFD is a complex composed of six different subunits, PFD1-PFD6, referred to as the prefoldin/GimC complex, which functions as a molecular chaperone and delivers newly synthesised unfolded proteins to cytosolic chaperonin TRiC/CCT to facilitate the folding of proteins [13,23]. In humans, PFDs and URI are constituents of an 11-subunit complex associated to the RNA pol II, namely the RPAP3/R2TP/prefoldin-like complex, suggested to participate in RNA pol II assembly [12,13]. In addition, data from yeast and mammalian cells have shown that the functions of the prefoldin and CCT chaperone complexes are eliminated by removal of individual subunits [36].

To evaluate whether the deletion of other components of the prefoldin complex in yeast also participate in the RNA polys nuclear localization, we analysed Rpb8-ECFP and Rpb1-GFP localization by live cell imaging in strains deleted for different prefoldins: YKE2 (PFD6), shown by us and others [23] to physically interact with Bud27, with Rpb5 [24] and genetically with other components of the RNA pol I and III machinery [37,38]; GIM6 (PFD1), which genetically interacts with BUD27 [19] and with subunits of RNA pol I and III machinery [37,39,40]; GIM4 (PFD2), which interacts neither with BUD27 nor with the RNA polys. Surprisingly, in contrast to Bud27, these three components of the prefoldin complex are dispensable for the nuclear localization of the three RNA polys at 30°C or even at 37°C (Figure 7, for 30°C), indicating that the role of Bud27 in the biogenesis of the RNA polys seems to be independent from the rest of the prefoldin complex.

The role of Bud27 in RNA polys biogenesis is independent of Iwr1

The conserved protein Iwr1 was originally identified as a protein that co-purified with almost every subunit of RNA pol II and that interacts with the basal transcription machinery and regulates the transcription of specific genes [30]. Recently, it has been shown that Iwr1 specifically binds RNA pol II between Rpb1 and Rpb2 and directs its nuclear import, although it is not involved in RNA pol I or III transport [6,10]. Curiously, IWR1 genetically interacts with BUD27 [41] and RPB3 [42] and physically with Bud27 [24] although we could not reproduce this interaction by our TAP purification. Based on these data, and to rule out the possibility that accumulation of RNA pol II in the cytoplasm in cells lacking Bud27 is not an indirect effect due to the mislocation of Iwr1, we analysed localization of Iwr1 in Δbud27 cells. For this experiment, cells were transformed with a plasmid expressing an Iwr1 protein lacking its NES domain and shown to accumulate in the nucleus, instead of a
plasmid with entire IWR1, since it leads to a diffuse signal and no clear nuclear localization [30]. As shown (Figure 8), deletion of BUD27 does not affect the nuclear localization of Iwr1-DNES. These data suggest that nuclear localization of Iwr1 does not require interaction with Bud27.

Discussion

Human URI/RMP and its orthologue in yeast, Bud27, is the most studied member of the prefoldin-like (PFD) family of ATP-independent molecular chaperones, also called unconventional prefoldin Rpb5 interactor [18]. Based on recent data of large-scale proteomic screen of RNA polymerases in human cells, URI has been shown to be a component of the HSP90/R2TP complex and has been proposed to participate in the biogenesis of RNA polymerases [8,12]. However, this role has not been confirmed. In this work, we show evidence that Bud27 in S. cerevisiae is the first example of a protein that participates in the biogenesis of all RNA polymerases, and mediates the assembly of the three transcriptional complexes. Furthermore, Bud27 seems not to play a role in the nuclear transport of the RNA pols. Our data also suggest similar role for human URI.

Consistent with a role for Bud27 in RNA pols biogenesis, we demonstrated by TAP purification and immunoprecipitation experiments that Bud27 interacts with different subunits of the three RNA pols. Our data agrees with those of Krogan et al. showing physical interactions between Bud27 and RNA pol II [24] or between URI or Bud27 and Rpb5, a common subunit shared by the three RNA pols [14,18]. Moreover other authors identified, in human cells, URI as a component of the R2TP/prefoldin-like complex which binds the largest subunits of the RNA pol II [12,43]. Finally, in accordance with these physical associations, genetic interactions between BUD27 and different components of the three transcriptional machineries have been found in yeast by us (Mirón-García, unpublished data) and others [44].

Biochemical and structural studies of RNA pols have proposed a detailed model of these enzymes, but however, little is known on how they assemble into the complexes or how they are transported from the cytoplasm to the nucleus. Our work provides new data to elucidate the mechanisms governing RNA pols biogenesis and localization and complement those in human and yeast [6–8,12]. Bud27 is the first protein so far demonstrated to participate in the biogenesis of the three RNA pols, modulating their assembly. Accumulation of the three RNA pols in the cytoplasm, as a consequence of BUD27 deletion accounts for a defect in nuclear transport. However, lack of Bud27 does not impair RNA pols nuclear localization under RPB5 overexpression, suggesting that Bud27 is dispensable for their nuclear import. Only two proteins in S. cerevisiae had been shown to participate in RNA pol II biogenesis so far, Iwr1 and Npa3, and only the Npa3 homologue RPAP4/GPN1 in humans. Notably, these proteins are necessary for nuclear transport but none of them are involved in pol assembly [6–8].

Our immunoprecipitation experiments in Δbud27 mutant strain and the analysis of different subunits corresponding to the different assembly intermediate previously described [12,31], demonstrate that Bud27 mediates the assembly of the three RNA pols. In fact,
the lack of Bud27 alters the correct assembly of Rpb5 and Rpb6 in the three RNA complexes and led to a more instable enzyme. Results are also consistent with RNA pols assembly in the cytoplasm as a prerequisite for their nuclear import and agree with recent observations in yeasts and humans [6,8,12]. In addition, co-purification and gel filtration analysis (unpublished data) suggest that RNA pol intermediates do not appear in yeast in the absence of Bud27. These data, together with the fact that only differences in the yield of Rpb5 and Rpb6 were observed and that RPB5 overexpression corrects not only assembly but also nuclear RNA pols transport, point to the fact that Bud27 mediates RNA pols assembly in an Rpb5-dependent manner, in agreement with data confirming its role in protein folding [23]. Our data point to a role of Bud27 in the correct folding of Rpb5 to the rest of the complex, since lack of Bud27 leads to transcription defects not related to a decrease in nuclear RNA pols amount but to RPB5-dependent processes (Mirón-García, in preparation). Furthermore, we cannot rule out that Bud27 could act to stabilize the interaction between Rpb5 and the rest of the RNA pols complexes, and hence their integrity. Interestingly, the Rpb5-binding domain but not the conserved PFD-binding domain of Bud27 is essential for this role, since only Δbud27 cells expressing a version of Bud27 lacking the Rpb5-binding domain show cytoplasmic RNA pols localization. In addition, the defect in Rpb6 assembly is also consistent with the fact that RPB6 overexpression partially corrects the temperature sensitivity of the Δbud27 mutant (our unpublished data) and with the physical contact between Rpb5 and Rpb6 on the RNA pol II structure [45]. Furthermore, as Bud27 is not essential and its deletion seems only to affect part of the RNA pols complexes, it appears that Bud27 participates in coordination with other proteins to address its role in RNA pols biogenesis. These results also provide information concerning the mechanisms governing the assembly of Rpb5 and Rpb6 into the rest of the complexes. Our data suggest that Rpb6 could assemble rather late once Rpb5 is assembled, as previously proposed in human [12]. However, we cannot disregard the possibility that it assembles before and Rpb5 would be necessary to stabilize its contact with the other components of the RNA pols. Alternatively, we cannot rule out that Rpb5 could be assembled in early steps of the RNA pols biogenesis participating in maintaining the integrity of the RNA pols, although this possibility seems less unlikely.

As is the case for Bud27 in yeast, HSP90 and its cochaperone RPAP3 in human cells have been shown to coordinate the assembly of RNA pol II and its involvement in RNA pol I and III assembly has been suggested [43]. Curiously, HSP90 and RPAP3 are members of the RTP2/prefoldin-like complex, a molecular machine dedicated to the assembly of multi-molecular protein complexes, such as the RNA pol II. It contains 11 components, among them URI and Rpb5. On the contrary, in yeast the R2TP complex contains five proteins and Rpb5 and Bud27 have not been found as bona-fide constituents [43]. Interestingly, prefoldin 6 (Yke2), which is part of the human RTP2 complex also appears as a Bud27 interactor when purified via TAP. Thus it is tempting to speculate that in yeast, also Bud27 and Rpb5 could associate with the R2TP complex. Moreover, physical interactions between Bud27 and a member of the Hsp70 family chaperones (Ssh1), as well as with the beta-tubulin chain of the microtubules (Tub2) have been identified (Figure 1B). This is consistent with previous data from two-hybrid analysis [19,23]. Notably, polymerization of tubulins into microtubules requires prefoldins and chaperonin CCT complex, which has been shown to interact with RNA pol II subunits [8,36]. Impairing microtubule assembly, both in humans and yeast, leads to a RNA pol II mislocalization in the cytoplasm [8]. Thus it is possible that these interactions are functional, although further work will be necessary to address this issue.

As shown here RNA pols nuclear localization is dependent on Rpb5-binding domain. However, Bud27 PFD and Rpb5-binding conserved domains are not required for growth, neither for its role in translation [19]. Then, these domains could be also important for other roles of Bud27 in the nucleus, such as for its interaction with other transcriptional regulators [14,16,20]. Consistent with this possibility Bud27 shuttles between the cytoplasm and nucleus via an Xpo1-independent pathway. Discrepant results have been reported concerning Bud27 localization. According to Desplaces et al. Bud27 is excluded from the nucleus in yeast [19]. However, in humans and Drosophila [20,21] nuclear localization for Bud27 has also been reported. Moreover, physical association between Rpb5, Bud27, and transcription factors TFIIH, as well as between Rpb5 and TFIIA [14,16], let us to propose that Bud27 could compete with these transcription factors to bind Rpb5.

Finally, silencing experiments in human cells, account for a conserved role of URI in RNA pols biogenesis, suggesting similar mechanisms that must be deciphered.

Materials and Methods

Yeast strains, plasmids, genetic manipulations, media, and genetic analysis

Common yeast media, growth conditions, and genetic techniques were used as described elsewhere [46]. Rapamycin (LC Labs, USA) and Benomyl (Sigma-Aldrich) was used at the indicated concentrations.

Strains, plasmids and primers are listed in Table 1, Table 2, and Table 3.

Protein tagging

Rpb8-ECFP and Rpb1-GFP tagging was performed by yeast recombination of a PCR fragment as described in Longtine et al. [47] amplified from plasmid pKT210 [48] or from chromosomal DNA from strain FY66, using Rpb8ECFP-501 and Rpb6ECFP-301 or Rpb1-308 and Rpb1-310 primers, respectively (see Table 3).

Protein immunoprecipitation and TAP purification

400 ml cells growing exponentially (A600~0.6-0.8) in yeast extract-peptone-dextrose (YPD) medium or synthetic minimal (SD) were washed twice with ultrapure water and lysis buffer (50 mM HEPES [pH 7.5], 120 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 0.3% [SD] were washed twice with ultrapure water and lysis buffer (50 mM HEPES [pH 7.5], 120 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA, 0.3% Chaps 50%). Cells were resuspended in 1 ml lysis buffer supplemented with 1x protease inhibitor cocktail (Complete, Roche), 0.5 mM PMSF, 2 mM sodium orthovanadate and 1 mM sodium fluoride and whole-cell extracts were prepared using a MixerMill MM400 RETSCH (3 min 30 Hz). Immunoprecipitations were carried out as described elsewhere [49] with some modifications: 150 µl of whole-cell extract (2000 µg) and lysis buffer for all washes were used. 35 µl of Dynabeads M-280 (Thermo Scientific) and 12CA5 anti-HA antibodies (0.4 µg, ROCHE). For TAP purification, the same protocol was used with Dynabeads Pan Mouse IgG (Invitrogen). The affinity-purified proteins were released from the beads by boiling for 10 min. Eluted proteins were analysed by Western blot with different antibodies: 9E10 anti-C-Myc antibody (1 µg, Sigma, Covance) and 12CA5 anti-HA antibodies (0.4 µg, ROCHE). For TAP purification, the same protocol was used with Dynabeads Pan Mouse IgG (Invitrogen). The affinity-purified proteins were released from the beads by boiling for 10 min. Eluted proteins were analysed by Western blot with different antibodies: 9E10 anti-C-Myc, 12CA5 anti-HA, 8WG16 anti-Rpb1 antibody (1.5 µg, Covance) and 12CA5 anti-HA antibodies (0.4 µg, ROCHE). For TAP purification, the same protocol was used with Dynabeads Pan Mouse IgG (Invitrogen). The affinity-purified proteins were released from the beads by boiling for 10 min. Eluted proteins were analysed by Western blot with different antibodies: 9E10 anti-C-Myc, 12CA5 anti-HA, 8WG16 anti-Rpb1, PAP, anti-POLR2C (1Y26, Abcam), and anti-Rpb6 or anti-Rpb5 (a gift from M. Werner).
### Table 1. *S. cerevisiae* strains.

| Strain      | Genotype                                                                 | Origin                     |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| BY4741      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ1 met15Δ10 ura3Δ10                                       | Euroscarf                  |
| BY4742      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ1 lys2Δ10 ura3Δ10                                       | Euroscarf                  |
| Y01246      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ10 lys2Δ10 ura3Δ10 YLR179W(GIM6, PFD1)::kanMX4            | Euroscarf                  |
| Y00243      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ10 lys2Δ10 ura3Δ10 YEL003W(GIMA, PFD2)::kanMX4            | Euroscarf                  |
| Y04149      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ10 met15Δ10 ura3Δ10 YLR200W(YKE2, PFD6)::kanMX4           | Euroscarf                  |
| Y05642      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ10 met15Δ10 ura3Δ10 YFL023W(BUD27)::kanMX4               | Euroscarf                  |
| ATCC20138B  | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ10 met15Δ10 ura3Δ10 YFL023W(BUD27)::GFP::HIS3MX6         | Invitrogen                 |
| YSC1178     | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ10 met15Δ10 ura3Δ10 YFL023W(BUD27)::TAP::HIS3MX6          | Open Biosystems            |
| YSC1178(RPB2-TAP) | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ10 met15Δ10 ura3Δ10 YOR151C(RPB2)::TAP::HIS3MX6          | Open Biosystems            |
| W303-1A     | MATα ade2-1 his3-11,15 leu2-3,112 trp1-1 ura3-1 can1-100                  | [52]                       |
| W303-1B     | MATα ade2-1 his3-11,15 leu2-3,112 trp1-1 ura3-1 can1-100                  | [52]                       |
| YPH500      | MATα ade2-101 his3-3Δ200 leu2-11 lys2-801 trp1-1·63 ura3-52               | [49]                       |
| MW3522      | MATα ade2-101 his3-3Δ200 leu2-11 lys2-801 trp1-1·63 ura3-52 YOR341W(RPA190)::3HA::HIS3 | [48]                       |
| XPO1        | MATα ade2-1 can1-100 his3-11,15 leu2-3,112 trp1-1 ura3-1 YGR218W(XPO1)::LEU2 [pXW440 (XPO1 in pRS313)] | [54]                       |
| xpo1-1      | MATα ade2-1 can1-100 his3-11,15 leu2-3,112 trp1-1 ura3-1 YGR218W(XPO1)::LEU [pXW457 (xpo1-1 in pRS313)] | [54]                       |
| YVY50-4c    | MATα ade2-101 his3-3Δ200 leu2-11 lys2-801 trp1-1·63 ura3-52 YFL021W(RPB3)::HA::kanMX4 | [55]                       |
| D473-4A     | MATα ade2-1 his3-11,15 leu2-11 lys2-801 trp1-1·63 ura3-1 YBR154C(RPB5)::URA3::LEU2 [pFL44::RPB5] | Gift from P. Thuriaux      |
| LMY3.1      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ10 met15Δ10 ura3Δ10 YDR007W(TRP1)::kanMX4; YLR140W(RPB4)::Myc18::TRP1 | Gift from S. Chávez       |
| MW3608      | MATα ade2-101 his3-3Δ200 leu2-11 lys2-801 trp1-1·63 ura3-52 YOR116C(RPC160)::13Myc::TRP | Gift from M. Werner       |
| SL876a      | MATα his3-3Δ200 leu2-3,112 trp1-1·63 ura3-52 YFL021W(RPB3)::TAP::XOURA | Gift from P. Thuriaux      |
| YCZ106      | MATα ade2-101 his3-3Δ200 leu2-11 lys2-801 trp1-1·63 ura3-52 YKL144C(RPC25)::Myc::kanMX6 | Gift from P. Thuriaux      |
| D495-1c     | MATα his3-3Δ200 leu2-3,112 lys2-801 trp1-1·63 ura3-52 YKL144C(RPC25)::Myc::kanMX6 YOR341W(RPA190)::3HA::HIS3 | This work                 |
| D610-11A    | MATα his3-3Δ200 leu2-3,112 lys2-801 met15Δ10 trp1-1·63 ura3-1 YFL023W(BUD27)::kanMX4 YBR154C(RPB5)::URA3::LEU2 [pF144::RPB5] | This work                 |
| YFN56       | MATα his3-3Δ200 leu2-3,112 lys2-801 trp1-1·63 ura3-52 YFL021W(RPB3)::TAP::XOURA YOR341W(RPA190)::3HA::HIS3 | This work                 |
| YFN105      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ10 met15Δ10 ura3Δ10 trp1-1·63 YFL023W(BUD27)::kanMX4 | This work                 |
| YFN106      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ10 met15Δ10 ura3Δ10 trp1-1·63 YFL023W(BUD27)::kanMX4 | This work                 |
| YFN223      | MATα ade2-101 his3-3Δ200 leu2-3,112 lys2-801 trp1-1·63 ura3-52 YOR341W(RPA190)::3HA::HIS3 YOR116C(RPC160)::13Myc::TRP | This work                 |
| YFN229      | MATα ade2-1 his3-11,15 leu2-3,112 lys2-801 trp1-1 ura3-1 YLR144C(RPC25)::Myc::kanMX6 YOR341W(RPA190)::3HA::HIS3 YOR116C(RPC160)::13Myc::TRP | This work                 |
| YFN233      | MATα ade2-101 his3-3Δ200 leu2-10 trp1-1·63 ura3Δ10 YOR341W(RPA190)::3HA::HIS3 YOR116C(RPC160)::13Myc::TRP YFL023W(BUD27)::kanMX4 | This work                 |
| YFN255      | MATα ade2-1 his3-11,15 leu2-10 lys2-801 trp1-1 ura3-1 YLR144C(RPC25)::Myc::kanMX6 YOR116C(RPC160)::13Myc::TRP YFL023W(BUD27)::kanMX4 | This work                 |
| YFN289      | MATα his3-11,15 leu2-3,112 met15Δ10 trp1-1 ura3-1 YOR151C(RPB2)::TAP::HIS3MX6 | This work                 |
| YFN308      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2Δ10 met15Δ20 trp1-1 ura3Δ10 YOR151C(RPB2)::TAP::HIS3MX6 YLR140W(RPB4)::Myc18::TRP1 | This work                 |
| YFN323      | MATα ade2-101 his3-11,15 leu2-3,112 lys2-801 ura3-52 YFL023W(BUD27)::kanMX4 YOR341W(RPA190)::3HA::kanMX4 | This work                 |
| YFN329      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2-3,112 lys2-801 trp1-1 ura3-52 YFL023W(BUD27)::kanMX4 YOR341W(RPA190)::3HA::kanMX4 YOR151C(RPB2)::TAP::HIS3MX6 YLR140W(RPB4)::Myc18::TRP1 | This work                 |
| YFN331      | MATα his3Δ1 leu2-3,112 lys2-801 trp1-1 ura3Δ10 YFL023W(BUD27)::kanMX4 YOR151C(RPB2)::TAP::HIS3MX6 YLR140W(RPB4)::Myc18::TRP1 | This work                 |
digested with 125 (1.2 M sorbitol, 0.1 M K-phosphate buffer pH 6.5) and cell wall with PBS. Cells were resuspended in spheroplasting buffer 2 h with slow shaking, and then centrifuged and washed twice.

Human cells were fixed for 15 min at room temperature with 4% (v/v) paraformaldehyde in PBS. Following fixation, cells were washed three times for 15 min with PBS, treated with 50 mM ammonium chloride for 30 min and permeabilised for 20 min with PBS containing 0.1% (v/v) Triton X-100 (wash solution). Blocking solution (wash solution with 5% (w/v) BSA) was then added for 30 min and then, cells incubated for 1 h with 1:100 dilution of the primary antibodies (8WG16) in blocking solution.

The fluorescence intensity was scored with a fluorescence microscope (Olympus BX51).

Chromatin isolation

Chromatin isolation was performed as previously described [51] with some modifications. Briefly, about 5×10^8 cells growing exponentially (A600=0.6–0.8) were resuspended in 3 ml of 22.7 mM 2-mercaptoethanol (SIGMA) by incubation for 1 h at 37°C without shaking. The spheroplasts were washed twice with PBST (PBS with 0.05% Tween 20) and then resuspended in the same solution. Cell suspension was added to an AAS (3-aminopropyltriethoxysilane, Sigma) slide, incubated at room temperature until slide was dry and washed twice with PBST. Then, 50 μl of PBS-BSA (1 mg/ml BSA) were added, and the slides. After incubation for 30 min in a humid chamber were washed three times with PBS. Next, 50 μl of 1:100 dilution of the primary antibodies (8WG16, anti G-Myc or anti-HA) in PBS-BSA (1 mg/ml BSA) were added and, the slides. After incubation for 30 min in a humid chamber were washed three times with PBS. Cells were washed three times for 15 min with wash solution and incubated for 1 h, in the dark, at room temperature in a humid chamber with 50 μl of 1:100 dilution of secondary antibody (Cy2 antiamouse; Jackson Labs). The slides were washed three times with PBS and incubated for 5 min with 50 μl of 1 μg/ml DAPI (in PBS). After washing three times with PBS, slides were finally covered with a Vectashield (Vector Laboratories) mounting solution.

Immunolocalization and fluorescence microscopy

Chromatin isolation was performed as previously described [51] with some modifications. Briefly, about 5×10^8 cells growing exponentially (A600=0.6–0.8) were resuspended in 3 ml of 22.7 mM 2-mercaptoethanol (SIGMA) by incubation for 1 h at 37°C without shaking. The spheroplasts were washed twice with PBST (PBS with 0.05% Tween 20) and then resuspended in the same solution. Cell suspension was added to an AAS (3-aminopropyltriethoxysilane, Sigma) slide, incubated at room temperature until slide was dry and washed twice with PBST. Then, 50 μl of PBS-BSA (1 mg/ml BSA) were added, and the slides. After incubation for 30 min in a humid chamber were washed three times with PBS. Next, 50 μl of 1:100 dilution of the primary antibodies (8WG16, anti G-Myc or anti-HA) in PBS-BSA (1 mg/ml BSA) were added and, the slides. After incubation for 30 min in a humid chamber were washed three times with PBS. Cells were washed three times for 15 min with wash solution and incubated for 1 h, in the dark, at room temperature in a humid chamber with 50 μl of 1:100 dilution of secondary antibody (Cy2 antiamouse; Jackson Labs). The slides were washed three times with PBS and incubated for 5 min with 50 μl of 1 μg/ml DAPI (in PBS). After washing three times with PBS, slides were finally covered with a Vectashield (Vector Laboratories) mounting solution.

The fluorescence intensity was scored with a fluorescence microscope (Olympus BX51).

Table 2. Plasmids.

| Name          | Yeast markers          | Origin          |
|---------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| pCM189        | ORI (CEN) URA3         | [25]            |
| pCM189-BUD27  | ORI (CEN) URA3         | This work       |
| pCM189-BUD27-GFP | ORI (CEN) URA3 | This work       |
| pCM189-BUD27-INES-GFP | ORI (CEN) URA3 | This work       |
| pCM189-BUD27-TAP | ORI (CEN) URA3 | This work       |
| pCM189-BUD27-PFD-TAP | ORI (CEN) URA3 | This work       |
| pCM189-BUD27-IRS-TAP | ORI (CEN) URA3 | This work       |
| pCM189-BUD27-PIFSD-TAP | ORI (CEN) URA3 | This work       |
| pFL44L        | ORI (2 μm) URA3        | [56]            |
| pFL44L-RPB5   | ORI (2 μm) URA3        | [57]            |
| pCM189-IWR1-INES | ORI (CEN) LEU2 | Gómez-Navarro et al, submitted |
| pKT210        |                        |                 |

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Table 3. Primers.

| Name     | Sequence                          |
|----------|-----------------------------------|
| RpbbECFP-501 | GAAAATTCGAATTCGGAGGAAAAAGAAC | |
| RpbbECFP-301 | CACCTTCTAAAGTTTTTATTTTGTTGCA  |
| Rpb1-508   | CCAACATCTCCAGGCTCACG            |
| Rpb1-310   | CGGAAGCCGATGATCGG                |
| hsURI1_02  | GCCGCAAAAUAAUUUGCUAAUU          |
| hsURI1_02_as| AAUAAAGCAUUAAUAAUCGGCUU         |
| hsURI1E9-R01| ATTAGGGCAATGATGTTGTA            |
| hsURI1E10-R01| GCCGATCTGTCTTTCTCGT            |
| PPIA 501   | TTCATCCTGACTGCCAAGAC            |
| PPIA 301   | TCGAGTTGTCACACAGCTAAC           |

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100 mM PIPES/KOH (pH 9.4) containing 10 mM DTT and 0.1% sodium azide and then incubated at room temperature for 10 min. Cells were spun down, resuspended in 2 ml of 50 mM phosphate buffer (pH 7.5), containing 0.6 M Sorbitol, 10 mM DTT, and 4 µl of 20 mg/ml zymolase and incubated 10 min at 37°C in a water bath to spheroplast formation. Spheroplasts were then pelleted at 4°C, washed with 50 mM HEPES-KOH buffer (pH 7.5) containing 100 mM KCl, 2.5 mM MgCl₂ and 0.4 M Sorbitol, resuspended in equal volume (~80 µl) of EBX buffer (50 mM HEPES-KOH (pH 7.5), 100 mM KCl, 2.5 mM MgCl₂, 0.25% Triton-X100, 0.5 mM PMSF, 0.5 mM DTT, cocktail protease inhibitors Complete Roche 1x) and incubated for 3 min on ice. This whole cell extract was laid onto 400 µl of EBX-S buffer (EBX with sucrose 30%) and centrifuged at 12000 rpm for 10 min. After the sucrose gradient a chromatin pellet became visible and was washed with 400 µl of EBX buffer and finally resuspended in 100 µl of the same solution. A 1/10 dilution of chromatin pellet was used for SDS-PAGE and Western blotted with antibodies against Rpb1 (8WG16), alpha-tubulin (T5168; Sigma-Aldrich) and Nop1 (28F2; Abcam).

RNA silencing (siRNA)

URI, prefoldin-like chaperone (Gene ID: 8725) gene was silenced by transfection with the siRNA heteroduplex hsURI1_02 and hsURI1_02_as (Table S1). Human pulmonary fibroblast (HPF) were cultured in growth medium (GM), consisting of DMEM supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum, 2 mM L-glutamine, and 50 U/ml penicillin-streptomycin. Cells were seeded in twenty-four well plates (30,000 cells per well) and transfected in triplicate with 40–200 nM heteroduplex oligonucleotides using the Lipofectamine 2000 Transfection Reagent (Invitrogen), following the manufacturer’s protocol, and incubated for 24 h at 37°C. Control cells were treated in the same conditions without siRNA heteroduplex. The experiments were performed three times (three replicates). After indicated time, cells were either harvested for RNA extraction or fixed with PFA 4% in PBS for immunolocalisation analysis.

RNA isolation and quantitative real-time PCR (q–RT–PCR)

Total RNA was isolated from URI silenced HPF cells using the SV Total RNA Isolation System (Promega), according to the manufacturers. Retrotranscription was performed from 200 ng of total RNA using the Maxima First Strand cDNA Synthesis Kit (Fermentas) in a final volume of 20 µl, according to the manufacturer’s protocol. As a control, each sample was subjected to the same process without reverse transcriptase.

URI mRNA accumulation was analyzed by q-RT-PCR with oligonucleotides hsURI1E9-01 and hsURI1E10-01 using cDNA corresponding to 10 ng. Human cyclophilin A (PPIA) was used as an internal control. Each PCR reaction was performed at least three times, with three independent samples. All oligonucleotides used are indicated in Table 3.

Supporting Information

Figure S1 Δbud27 mutant phenotypes are corrected by overexpression of different BUD27 constructions. Growth of wild-type and Δbud27 mutant strains transformed with different constructions containing whole BUD27 or deleted forms of BUD27, at different temperatures; pCM and pFL correspond to the control empty vectors. (TIF)

Figure S2 RNA pol localisation. A) Deletion of Bud27 NES domain does not impair RNA pols nuclear localisation (Rpb8-ECFP). Δbud27 mutant cells overexpressing Bud27ANES-GFP were grown at 30°C and localisation of Bud27ANES-GFP and Rpb8-ECFP was analysed in vivo. B) BUD27 overexpression (pCM-BUD27-TAP) corrects nuclear localization of Rpb8-ECFP in Δbud27 mutant cells at 30°C when compared to the same strain containing an empty plasmid (pCM). (TIF)

Figure S3 siRNA silencing of URI. URI mRNA accumulation was determined in human pulmonary fibroblast grown in GM medium at 37°C transfected with 40, 100 and 200 nM of siRNA(URI) heteroduplex. CONTROL cells were treated in the same conditions without siRNA heteroduplex. (TIF)

Figure S4 RPB5 overexpression rescues nuclear RNA pols localisation. Immunocytochemistry experiments using antibodies against Rpa1-190-HA (anti-HA), Rpb1 (8WG16), and Rpb1-160-Myc (anti-Myc) in Δbud27 mutant cells with tagged Rpa1-190-HA (RNA pol I) and Rpb1-160-Myc (RNA pol III), at 30°C, transformed with a plasmid overexpressing RPB5 (pFL-RPB5), or with an empty vector (pFL). (TIF)

Table S1 Rpb3-TAP purification from wild type and Δbud27 mutant containing functional tagged version of Rpb3 (Rpb3-TAP). The protein mixture obtained in each case was subjected to multidimensional protein identification technology (MudPIT) [35] and their ratios versus Rpb3 calculated. (DOC)

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Author Contributions

Conceived and designed the experiments: FN SR-N. Performed the experiments: MCM-G AIG-G FH-T VG-M FN. Analyzed the data: MCM-G AIG-G FH-T VG-M FN SR-N. Contributed reagents/materials/analysis tools: MCM-G AIG-G FH-T VG-M SR-N FN. Wrote the paper: FN.
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