

Functional universality and evolutionary diversity: insights from the structure of the ribosome

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The structure of the mammalian ribosome, reconstructed at 25 Å resolution, has added a new dimension to our current knowledge as it manifests the conservation and universality of the ribosome in respect to its primary tasks in protein

biosynthesis. A combined approach to the study of the ribosome, using x-ray crystallography and electron microscopy, may further improve our understanding of ribosome function in the future.