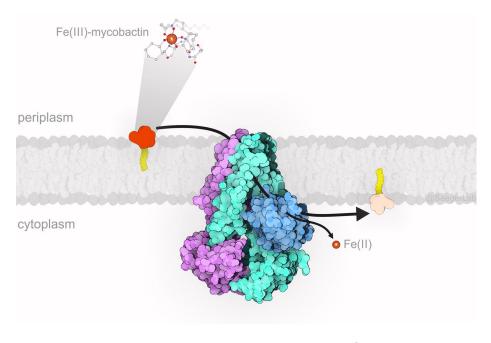


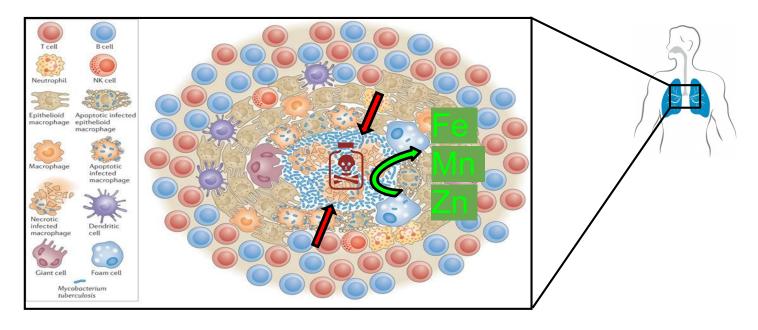
## The ABC exporter IrtAB imports and reduces mycobacterial siderophores



Fabian Arnold, Miriam Weber, Imre Gonda Tuberkulose Symposium 25. März 2021



#### Why does *M. tuberculosis* need siderophores?

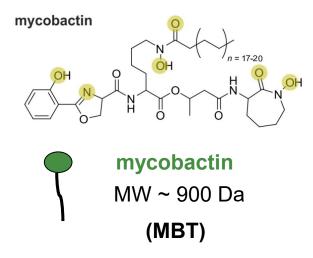


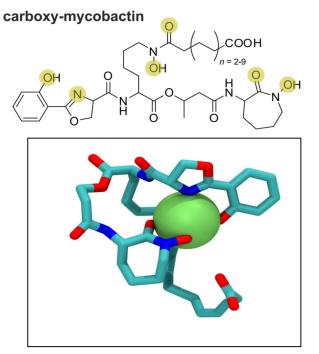
- «Nutritional Immunity» present in the human host
- Decreased virulence in *M. tuberculosis* strains with impaired siderophore synthesis/transport



## The Mycobactins

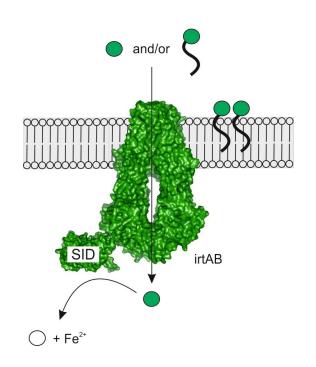
- M. tuberculosis produces two types of siderophores, collectively called «mycobactins»
- Synthesized by a series of enzymes MbtA MbtK







#### IrtAB working model

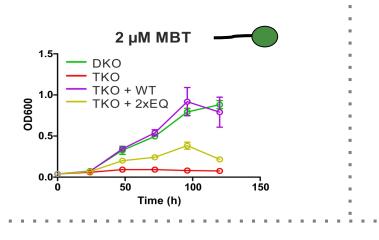


IrtAB was postulated (*in vivo* evidence) to be involved in siderophore trafficking and contribute to virulence in *M. tuberculosis* 

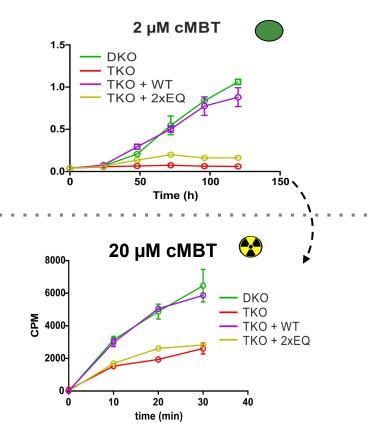
#### Open questions...

- What is the substrate of IrtAB?
- Is IrtAB importing or exporting siderophores?
   (ABC Type I exporter fold)
- Is the siderophore interacting domain (SID) involved in siderophore reduction?

#### Siderophore-dependant growth assay in *M. smegmatis*

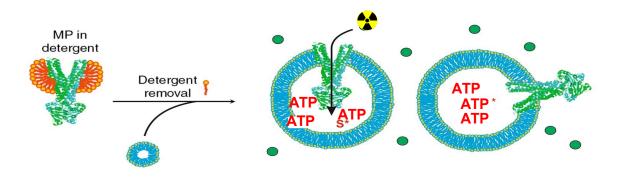








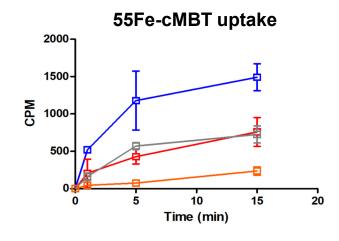
#### Siderophore import in proteoliposomes



- Reconstitution in proteliposomes with ARS
- Monitor the transport directionality

#### At given timepoints:

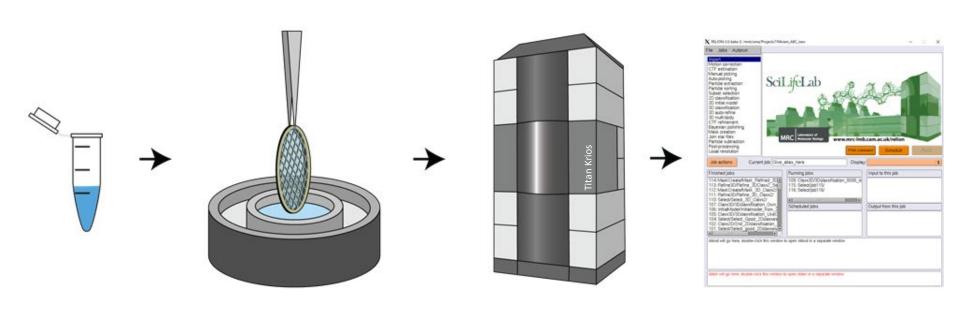




- IrtAB PL + ATP (inside)
- IrtAB PL without ATP
- Emtpy PL
- ► IrtAB PL + ATP (outisde)



#### Cryo-EM sample preparation and data collection



Purified IrtAB sample

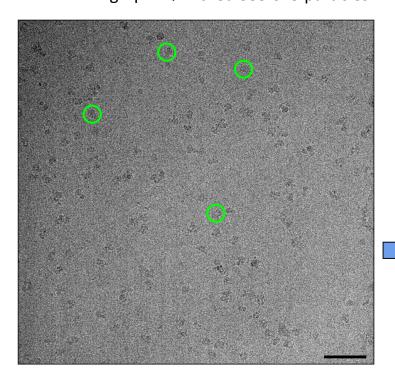
Plunge freezing of sample on EM-grid

Image acquisition at the electron microscope

Data processing in RELION

#### **Structure determination with Cryo-EM**

2 168 micrographs → Picked 335 045 particles



Classified particles in 2D to cover different orientations & remove false-positives

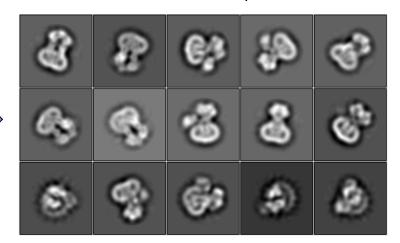
Electron micrographs

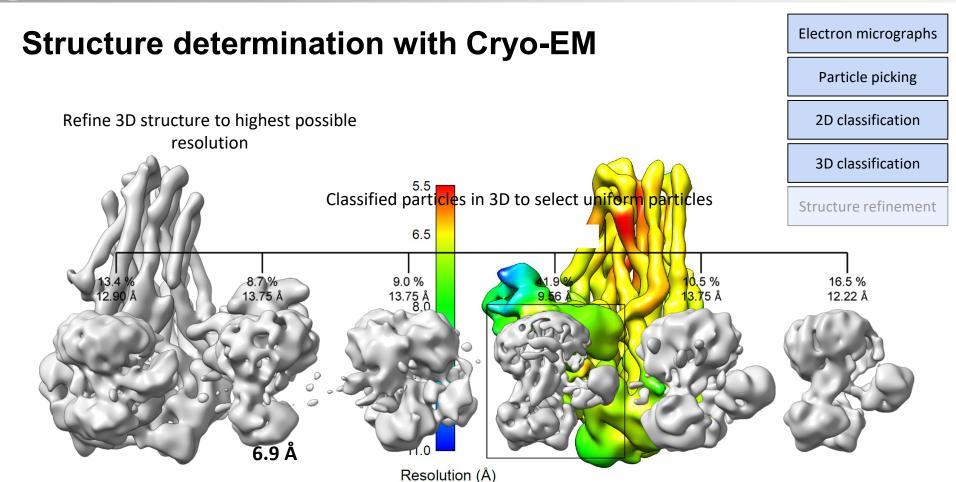
Particle picking

2D classification

3D classification

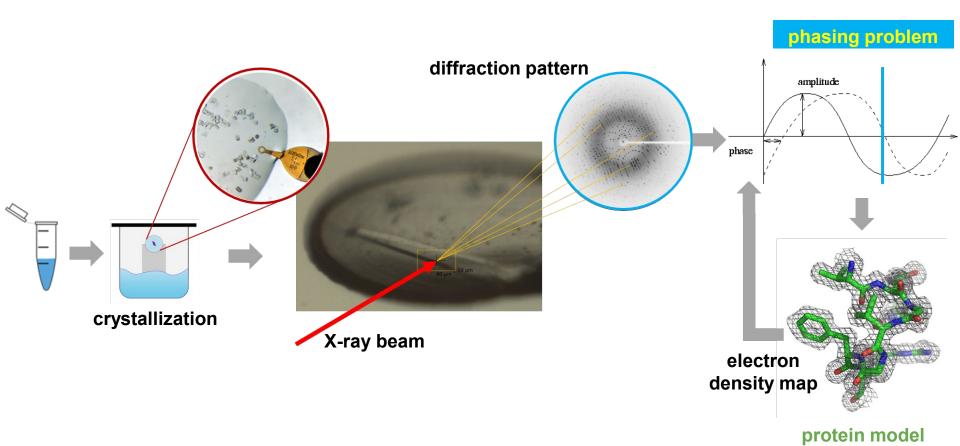
Structure refinement





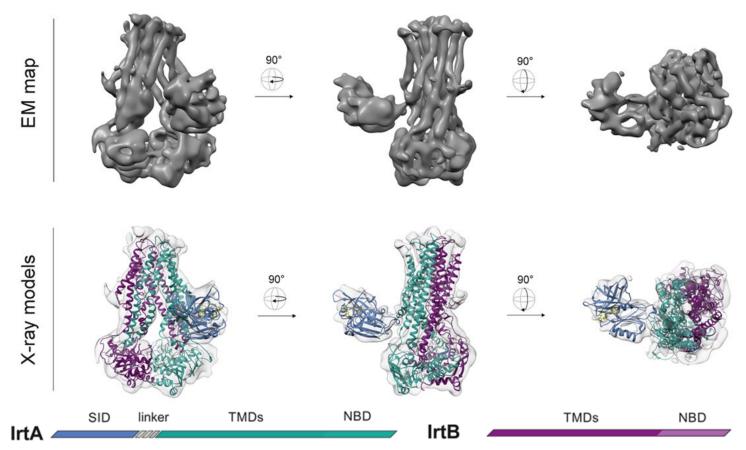


#### High resolution structures with X-ray crystallography



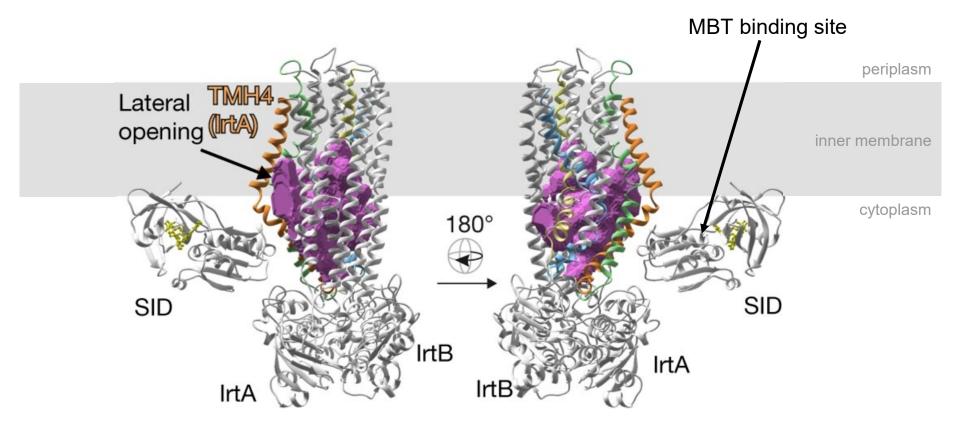


## **Crystallography and cryo-EM meets**



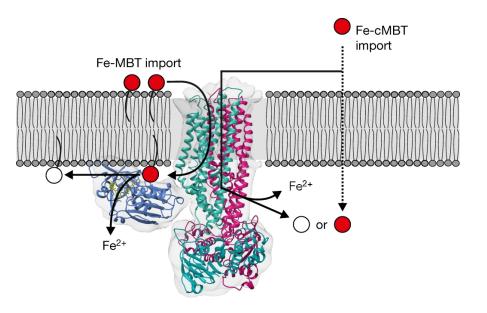


#### Structural peculiarities of IrtAB





#### Taking it all together...



- IrtAB is responsible for the import of cMBT and MBT
- The main role of IrtAB is the import and reduction of MBT

#### Open Questions...

- → How does IrtAB **recognize** and **transport** mycobactins?
- → How can we **exploit** IrtAB for antituberculotic drug development?



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#### **Article**

# The ABC exporter IrtAB imports and reduces mycobacterial siderophores

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Prof. Jörn Piel (ETH)

Prof. Gabriele Meloni (UT Dallas)





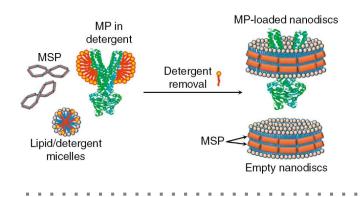




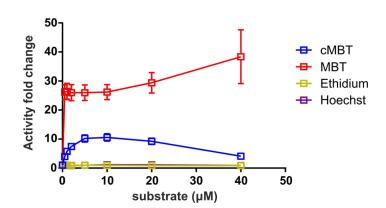


## **Appendix**

#### ATPase activity is stimulated by siderophores



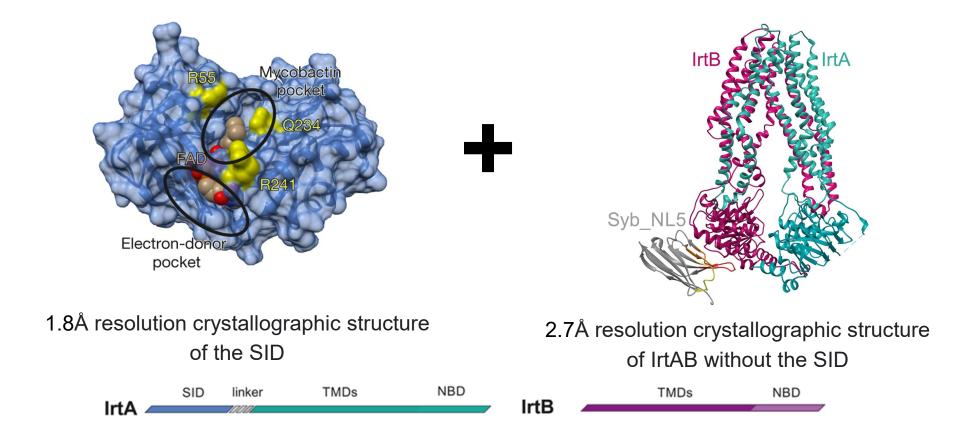
- No ATPase activity with detergent purified IrtAB
- ATPase activity restored after reconstitution in nanodiscs with *E. coli* polar lipids



- Strong ATPase stimulation by the siderophores
- Stimulation by MBT significantly stronger
- Stimulation specific to siderophores



#### High resolution structures with X-ray crystallography





### Confirming the SID binding pocket

