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6 Reconciling DNA replication and transcription in a hyphal organism: Spatial  
7 dynamics of transcription complexes in live *Streptomyces coelicolor* A3(2)  
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25 **Key Words:** *Streptomyces*, RNA polymerase dynamics, Transcription, Translation,  
26 DNA replication.  
27

28 **Summary**

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30 Reconciling transcription and DNA replication in the growing hyphae of the  
31 filamentous bacterium *Streptomyces* presents several physical constraints on growth  
32 due to their apically extending and branching, multigenomic cells and chromosome  
33 replication being independent of cell division. Using a GFP translational fusion to the  
34  $\beta$ -subunit of RNA polymerase (*rpoC-egfp*), in its native chromosomal location, we  
35 observed growing *Streptomyces* hyphae using time-lapse microscopy throughout the  
36 lifecycle and under different growth conditions. The RpoC-eGFP fusion co-localised  
37 with DNA around 1.8  $\mu$ m behind the extending tip, whereas replisomes localise  
38 around 4-5  $\mu$ m behind the tip, indicating that at the growing tip, transcription and  
39 chromosome replication are to some degree spatially separated. Dual-labeled RpoC-  
40 egfp/DnaN-mCherry strains also indicate that there is limited co-localisation of  
41 transcription and chromosome replication at the extending hyphal tip. This likely  
42 facilitates the use of the same DNA molecule for active transcription and  
43 chromosome replication in growing cells, independent of cell division. This  
44 represents a novel, but hitherto unknown mechanism for reconciling two fundamental  
45 processes that utilise the same macromolecular template that allows for rapid growth  
46 without compromising chromosome replication in filamentous bacteria and may have  
47 implications for evolution of filamentous growth in microorganisms, where uncoupling  
48 of DNA replication from cell division is required.

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50

51 **Introduction**

52 The processes of transcription and chromosome replication both occupy the same  
53 cellular template and understanding how such conflicts are reconciled is fundamental  
54 to understanding the complexities of bacterial growth and the structure of the  
55 dynamic bacterial nucleoid<sup>1,2,3</sup>. In eukaryotes this problem is solved by segregating  
56 growth and replication in to separate stages within the cell cycle. In bacteria, this is  
57 not the case and spatial organisation of the nucleoids is dependent on the growth  
58 habits and morphology of the specific bacterium<sup>1</sup>. Bacterial RNAP is highly sensitive  
59 to environmental cues and is subject to significant compaction and expansion forces  
60 due to the action of DNA-binding proteins, DNA supercoiling, macromolecular  
61 crowding, interaction with cytoskeletal proteins and translocation<sup>4,5</sup> impacting on other  
62 cell processes such as DNA replication. *Streptomyces* are filamentous saprophytic  
63 bacteria that have a complex lifecycle, where a single unigenomic spore gives rise to  
64 a multi-compartment, multi-genomic vegetative hyphal mass that can forage for  
65 nutrients through tip extension. In response to nutrient limitation or stress,  
66 specialised multigenomic aerial hyphae are raised in to the air that form septa,  
67 resulting in the formation of a unigenomic compartment which completes  
68 development in to a mature spore<sup>6,7</sup>. This hyphal growth habit is remarkably similar  
69 to that of the filamentous fungi and represents an excellent example of how two  
70 groups of organisms have adapted to life in soil through convergent evolution.  
71 Several aspects of *Streptomyces* biology challenge our understanding of bacterial  
72 nucleoid structure/function and cell division, its links to chromosome replication and  
73 segregation and how this is reconciled with transcriptional activity. The large (8-10  
74 Mbp) linear chromosome found in *Streptomyces*, appears to be largely uncondensed  
75 during vegetative growth<sup>8</sup> but is highly ordered in terms of its structure and  
76 transcriptional activity<sup>9</sup> and unlike the majority of bacteria it can be replicated  
77 independently of cell division<sup>10</sup>. *Streptomyces* are unusual amongst bacteria as  
78 many of the genes required for cell division are dispensable for vegetative growth  
79 such as *ftsZ*, *ftsQ*, and *mreB*, contrary to what is observed in unicellular bacteria<sup>10-12</sup>.  
80 The temporal and spatial location and activity of key cellular proteins and nucleoids  
81 in *Streptomyces* is likely to have significant implications for our understanding of  
82 growth and development in hyphal bacteria. It is known that chromosome replication  
83 does not occur at the apex of hyphal tips in *Streptomyces*<sup>8,13,14</sup> yet it is asynchronous  
84 and non-uniform along extending hyphae<sup>8</sup>. What is less well understood is whether

85 there is any hierarchical organisation of transcription in growing *Streptomyces*  
86 hyphae. In unicellular bacteria transcriptional foci or patches occur in discrete  
87 locations in rapidly growing cells and are associated with the rRNA operons in  
88 bacterial chromosomes<sup>15-18</sup>. Recently we have begun to understand the evolutionary  
89 mechanisms that minimise these conflicts in unicellular bacteria such as genome  
90 organisation, avoidance of co-occupancy and recycling of stalled replisomes/RNA  
91 polymerase (RNAP) holoenzyme on DNA<sup>2,3</sup>. In *Streptomyces* however, the hyphal  
92 lifestyle represents a fundamental evolutionary problem, that is, to reconcile the  
93 issues of chromosome replication and transcription in tandem with the structural  
94 complications of the presence of linear chromosomes and that chromosome  
95 replication is independent of cell division. To attempt to understand this problem we  
96 made a translational fusion of *rpoC* with *egfp* in its native chromosomal location and  
97 studied the dynamics of transcription throughout the lifecycle of *Streptomyces* using  
98 time-lapse microscopy in live cells.

99

100 **Materials and Methods**

101

102 **Bacterial strains, plasmids, growth conditions and conjugal transfer from *E.***  
103 ***coli* to *Streptomyces***

104 The *S. coelicolor* strains and cosmids used in this study are summarised in Table 1.  
105 All strains were grown on mannitol and soya flour (MS) agar<sup>19</sup>, solid nutrient agar<sup>20</sup>  
106 or minimal medium with mannitol<sup>21</sup>. Conjugation from the *E. coli* strain ET12567  
107 (*dam*<sup>-</sup> *dcm*<sup>-</sup> *hsdS*) containing the driver plasmid pUZ8002, was used to bypass the  
108 methyl-specific restriction system of *S. coelicolor*<sup>21</sup>.

109

110 **Construction of the *RpoC-eGFP* fusion strains**

111 The *rpoC-egfp* fusion was created using ReDirect technology<sup>22</sup> in its native  
112 chromosomal location. The *egfp-aac(3)IV-oriT* cassette was amplified using  
113 oligonucleotides containing 39 nucleotide homologous extensions to chromosomal  
114 sequence of the 3' end of *rpoC* (SCO4655) and its adjacent flanking region (For - 5'-  
115 CCGCTGGAGGGACTACGACTACGGTCCGTACAACCAGTACCTGCCGGGCCGG  
116 GCTGCCGGGGCCGGAGGTGAGCAAGGGCGAGGAGCT-3' and Rev - 5'-  
117 CTCGGGGTGACCGCCCTTCGGTCGTATCAAGCTGCCCGCTTCCGGGGATCCG  
118 TCGACC-3') as used by Ruban-Osmialowska et al.,<sup>8</sup> in cosmid D40A, creating  
119 cosmid pLN301 (*rpoC-egfp*). The cosmid, pLN301 was moved in to the non-  
120 methylating *E. coli* strain ET12567/pUZ8002 to facilitate conjugation in to *S.*  
121 *coelicolor*, creating strain sLN301 (M145; *rpoC-egfp*) and was confirmed by  
122 sequencing and Southern hybridization (data not shown). Cosmid pLN301 was also  
123 moved in to the *relA* deletion strain M570 (*hyg* resistant) and mutant strains were  
124 selected on hygromycin and apramycin resistance, kanamycin sensitivity, creating  
125 sLN401. In addition pLN301 was conjugated in to DJ542, an unmarked *dnaN*-  
126 *mCherry* fusion. Strains were confirmed by sequencing and Southern hybridization  
127 (data not shown).

128 Using fluorescent microscopy and a previously established time-lapse fluorescent  
129 microscopy procedure<sup>23</sup> we monitored RpoC-eGFP as a reporter of RNAP spatial  
130 and temporal dynamics under a range of conditions (see Results). Nucleic acid  
131 staining was achieved using SYTO42 (Life Technologies Corp.) and membranes  
132 were stained using FM4-64 (Life Technologies Corp.) according to the  
133 manufacturers instructions. Images were captured using a Nikon TE2000S inverted

134 fluorescence microscopy. Exposure times were 20 ms for phase-contrast and 100  
135 ms for fluorescence imaging. Images were analysed using IPLab scientific imaging  
136 software version 3.7 (Scanalytics, Inc., Rockville, USA). Statistical analysis was  
137 performed using Microsoft Office Excel software.

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140 **Results and Discussion**

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142 **RpoC-eGFP patches show dynamic localisation throughout the lifecycle of**  
143 ***Streptomyces coelicolor*.**

144

145 To determine the location and dynamics of RNAP during the complex lifecycle of *S.*  
146 *coelicolor* we constructed a fusion of eGFP to the  $\beta'$  subunit of RNAP core enzyme  
147 (SCO4655<sup>15-18,24</sup>). The *rpoC-egfp* fusion strain (sLN301) was found to sporulate  
148 normally and to grow at the same apical extension rate as the wild-type strain,  
149 enabling us to conclude that the fusion protein was functional (Fig. 1). We observed  
150 the location of RNAP throughout the lifecycle of *S. coelicolor* (Fig. 1) by monitoring  
151 RpoC-eGFP localization in combination with fluorescence stains for nucleic acids  
152 (SYTO42) and cell membranes (FM4-64).

153 RNAP was distributed throughout the apically extending germ tubes of sLN301  
154 (*rpoC-egfp*) and co-localised with nucleic acids stained with SYTO42 (Fig. 1 A-D).  
155 Localisation of RNAP and nucleic acids was found to be in close proximity to the  
156 extending hyphal tip ( $< 1 \mu\text{m}$ ). As the extending hyphae mature, the distance  
157 between RNAP and the apically extending tip increases. These branching vegetative  
158 hyphae exhibit distinct nucleic acid (nucleoid) patches that co-localise with RNAP in  
159 distinct areas within the hyphae (Fig. 1. E-K; See below also). Moreover the distance  
160 from the tip to the first RNAP patch appears to be around  $2 \mu\text{m}$  throughout the  
161 vegetative mycelium ( $1.8 \mu\text{m} \pm 0.3 \mu\text{m}$ ;  $n=29$ ), suggesting that transcription is  
162 spatially constrained at the extending tip as observed in other hyphae.

163 Examining the distribution RNAP during the growth of aerial hyphae indicated that  
164 RNAP and nucleic acids were distributed throughout the extending aerial hyphae  
165 without showing the discrete pattern behind the extending tip observed in vegetative  
166 hyphae (Fig. 1, L-O). This may represent the requirement for complete distribution of  
167 transcriptional activity throughout the aerial hyphae for the maturation of spore  
168 chains. Examination of mature spore chains show that RNAP co-localised with the  
169 condensed and segregated nucleoids within the septated spore chains (Fig. 1, P-S).

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173 **RNAP tracks behind the extending hyphal tip.**

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175 To characterize the dynamics of RNAP in extending hyphae time-lapse images of *S.*  
176 *coelicolor* sLN301 (*rpoC-egfp*) were generated as phase-contrast images merged  
177 with GFP images (FITC filter) every 30 minutes during growth on minimal medium  
178 plus mannitol as a carbon source. RpoC-eGFP was observed in discrete patches  
179 and tracked behind the extending hyphal tip (Fig. 2A) at a mean distance of 1.8  $\mu\text{m}$   
180 ( $\pm 0.3 \mu\text{m}$ ; n=29) with the dimensions of the patches being 2.5  $\mu\text{m}$  (+/- 1.6  $\mu\text{m}$ ;  
181 n=116). The emerging branches on the vegetative hyphae also showed the same  
182 distribution pattern of RpoC-eGFP patches as the extending primary hyphae. There  
183 appears to be some variation in the intensity of the RNAP-eGFP patches within the  
184 hyphae, although no obvious pattern could be determined, it may be that this  
185 variation is due to the differences in expression levels of various regions in the  
186 genome, such as the rRNA operons<sup>15-18</sup>.

187

188 **RNAP patches co-localise with DNA but not at the hyphal tip.**

189 Examining vegetative hyphae by phase contrast, RNAP-eGFP (FITC filter) and  
190 fluorescent staining of nucleic acids (SYTO42) and membranes (FM4-64) it can be  
191 seen that RNAP patches clearly co-localize with DNA (Fig. 2B). However nucleic  
192 acids stained by SYTO 42 extends to the hyphal tip, whereas RNAP-eGFP was  
193 never observed at the tip of extending hyphae. When compared to the patches for  
194 replisomes, measured by Wolanski et al.,<sup>14</sup> at 5.3  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $\pm 2.0 \mu\text{m}$ ) behind the hyphal  
195 tip, the RNAP-eGFP patches were found located at a mean of 1.8  $\mu\text{m}$  behind the hyphal  
196 tip suggesting there is a spatial separation of transcription and DNA  
197 replication at the hyphal tip. These data, obtained from single tagged strains,  
198 suggest that one or more chromosomes are actively transcribing at the extending tip,  
199 yet active replication occurs behind this. To further examine this spatial separation  
200 hypothesis, a double fluorescent strain *dnaN-mCherry/rpoC-egfp* (sLN501) was  
201 constructed. In sLN501 (*dnaN-mCherry/rpoC-egfp*) RNAP patches were observed to  
202 lag behind the tip, as previously observed and DnaN-mCherry tagged replication  
203 factories were located distal to these. Discrete RpoC-eGFP patches, un-associated  
204 with DnaN-mCherry were observed proximal to the extending tip (Fig 2C), further  
205 supporting our hypothesis of spatially separated transcription and DNA replication at

206 the apical tip of extending *Streptomyces* hyphae. These data suggest there is a  
207 hierarchy of chromosome occupancy at the tip of extending hyphae that is  
208 summarized in our model (Fig. 2 D). Whilst the molecular mechanism underpinning  
209 this spatial constraint is currently unknown, it is thought that avoiding co-occupancy  
210 of the DNA template occurs, at least to some extent, in eukaryotes<sup>25</sup>. The unusual  
211 combination of linear chromosomes and apical growth in *Streptomyces*, coupled with  
212 DNA replication being independent of cell division and chromosome segregation,  
213 suggests that this mechanism may have evolved to allow active transcription at the  
214 actively growing tips, independent of DNA replication and cell division. This is  
215 consistent with the replisome trafficking data of Wolanski et al.,<sup>14</sup> and intriguingly  
216 could involve the pleiotrophic regulator AdpA, which has recently been shown to  
217 control chromosome replication through competition with DnaA at *oriC*<sup>26</sup>.

218

### 219 **RNAP shows *relA*-dependant pausing during nitrogen starvation**

220 To investigate how environmental cues may affect RNAP dynamics in *S. coelicolor*  
221 we examined the effect of the stringent response on RNAP localisation. The highly  
222 phosphorylated guanosine nucleotide ppGpp is known to mediate growth rate  
223 dependent gene expression in bacteria through direct interaction with RNAP during  
224 the stringent response<sup>27,28</sup>. In *Streptomyces*, ppGpp is synthesised by RelA, and has  
225 previously been shown to influence control over antibiotic production and  
226 morphological development in response to nutrient limitation<sup>29-31</sup>, however, what is  
227 not known is how RelA influences the dynamics of RNAP within *Streptomyces* cells  
228 in response to nutrient downshift. To test this, we grew *S. coelicolor* sLN301 (WT  
229 *rpoC-egfp*) and sLN401 ( $\Delta$ *relA rpoC-egfp*) on cellophane discs placed upon on solid  
230 nutrient agar (Rich medium, amino acid/peptide based nitrogen source). Once cells  
231 were growing exponentially, cellophane squares were removed and applied to  
232 minimal medium containing sodium nitrate as the sole nitrogen source (30 mM,<sup>32</sup>) to  
233 induce nitrogen-starvation and the stringent response. Following nitrogen downshift,  
234 the dynamics of RNAP patches was followed (Fig. 3), in strain sLN301 (WT *rpoC-*  
235 *egfp*) cell growth paused and RpoC-eGFP patches remained static, presumably  
236 during the stringent response and the synthesis of ppGpp by RelA. After 60 mins  
237 mycelial growth resumed, but from new branch points in the mycelium and following  
238 120 mins, apical growth was within the normal distribution range of RpoC-eGFP  
239 patches. The resumption of growth via branching is intriguing and may involve the

240 serine/threonine protein kinase, AfsK. It is known that branching is affected by  
241 environmental conditions<sup>33</sup> and that AfsK plays a role in the onset of secondary  
242 metabolism and sporulation, both nutrient dependent processes<sup>34-36</sup>. Recently it has  
243 been shown that AfsK co-localizes and directly regulates DivIVA in  
244 *Streptomyces*<sup>36,37</sup>. Induction of AfsK results in branching and it is believed that  
245 phosphorylation of DivIVA results in disassembly of the apical polarisome and the  
246 assembly of new growth patches at branch points. Interestingly this may represent a  
247 mechanism of altering growth habit in response to nutrient limitation, increasing the  
248 nutrient foraging ability of bacterial colonies. Repeating the experiment with sLN401  
249 (*ΔrelA rpoC-egfp*) resulted in no cessation of growth and no increased branching  
250 following nitrogen-downshift. Intriguingly this suggests a role for the stringent  
251 response in reprogramming the growth habit (apical growth and branching) of  
252 *Streptomyces* in response to nitrogen-downshift, however neither AfsK or DivIVA  
253 were identified as direct targets in a microarray study of a *ΔrelA* mutant and a ppGpp  
254 inducible strain<sup>38</sup>, suggesting there is an as yet unknown mechanism integrating  
255 these signals.

256

257 **Disruption of transcription or translation results in altered RNAP dynamics in**  
258 **hyphae**

259 To further understand the dynamics of RNAP in live *S. coelicolor* hyphae, we used  
260 antibiotic rifampicin to inhibit transcription and chloramphenicol to inhibit translation.  
261 *S. coelicolor* sLN301 (WT *rpoC-egfp*) was grown in the absence of each antibiotic on  
262 cellophane, once cells were growing exponentially, cellophane squares were  
263 removed and applied to the same medium containing 50 % of the minimum inhibitory  
264 concentrations (MIC) of each antibiotic (Fig. 4). Treatment of *S. coelicolor* sLN301  
265 (WT *rpoC-egfp*) with rifampicin resulted in no cessation of the apical extension rate  
266 of hyphae, however RpoC-eGFP patches became dispersed, consistent with dis-  
267 association of RNAP from the nucleoid (Fig. 4); resulting in an overall increase in the  
268 size of fluorescent patches from 2.5  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $\pm$  1.5  $\mu\text{m}$ ; n=54) in untreated to 4.3  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $\pm$   
269 3.0  $\mu\text{m}$ ; n=30). Rifampicin inhibits initiation and re-initiation of transcription through  
270 targeting  $\beta$ -subunit of RNAP core enzyme and this dispersal of RNAP patches  
271 following rifampicin treatment has also been observed in *Escherichia coli*<sup>17</sup>.  
272 Treatment of sLN301 (WT *rpoC-egfp*) with chloramphenicol resulted in a cessation of

273 apical extension over a 120 min period and condensation of the RpoC-eGFP  
274 patches (Fig. 4), which is consistent with observations in other organisms<sup>39</sup>. The  
275 RpoC-eGFP patches also move away from the apical tip following treatment 2.0  $\mu\text{m}$   
276 ( $\pm 0.4 \mu\text{m}$ ; n=14) in untreated to 4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $\pm 2.5 \mu\text{m}$ ; n=15). Moreover, it has also been  
277 shown that active transcription is required for such compaction<sup>17</sup> suggesting that the  
278 compaction observed in *S. coelicolor* indicates that transcriptional activity is  
279 occurring in these patches and that active transcription is not occurring at the tip as  
280 shown above (Fig.1). The coupling of transcription and translation in bacteria has  
281 potentially profound effects on the structure of the nucleoid<sup>17</sup>, the two antibiotics  
282 used in this study both inhibit translation, but in different ways; chloramphenicol  
283 directly inhibits translation, but does not prevent transcription, yet rifampicin inhibits  
284 transcription and due to the coupling of these processes in bacteria it also inhibits  
285 translation<sup>17</sup>. It has also been shown that transcriptional activity is adjusted in  
286 bacteria to meet the translational needs of cells under various growth conditions<sup>40</sup>  
287 suggesting that mechanisms to reconcile potentially conflicting key cellular  
288 processes such as transcription, translation and DNA replication can help reduce the  
289 extreme effects such process can have on growth and nucleoid structure.

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296 **Summary**

297 The tip growth habit of *Streptomyces* challenges our understanding of how  
298 transcription and replisome occupancy of the same template in bacteria can occur.  
299 One way to resolve this is to spatially separate the two processes. Intriguingly,  
300 eukaryotic organisms temporally separate key cellular processes such as growth and  
301 replication. The data presented here suggest that the tip of the actively growing  
302 *Streptomyces* hyphae spatially separates DNA replication and transcription. In these  
303 rapidly extending areas of the mycelium, transcription and replication on the same  
304 template may lead to collisions, and separating these transcribing nucleoids from  
305 replicating nucleoids offers an attractive means to achieving this. Whilst the  
306 mechanism of this spatial separation is currently unknown, spatial or temporal  
307 separations of conflicting processes is an attractive mechanism to maximise apical  
308 growth with minimal conflict between transcription and DNA replication. This may be  
309 especially important for soil organisms such as *Streptomyces* or fungi that, through  
310 convergent evolution, exhibit similar apical growth habits in a resource-limited  
311 ecological niche.

312

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450 **Table 1.** Strains and plasmids used in this study

451

Strain or plasmid	Genotype/comments	Source or reference
<b>S. coelicolor strains</b>		
M145	Prototrophic, SCP1 <sup>-</sup> SCP2 <sup>-</sup>	21
sLN301	Prototrophic, SCP1 <sup>-</sup> SCP2 <sup>-</sup> ; <i>rpoC-egfp</i>	This work.
M570	Δ <i>relA</i>	29
sLN401	Δ <i>relA</i> ; <i>rpoC-egfp</i>	This work.
DJ542	M145 <i>dnaN-mCherry</i> - unmarked with antibiotic resistance	Jakimowicz, Unpublished
sLN501	M145, <i>rpoC-egfp</i> fusion in a DJ542 background – dual GFP & mCherry fluorescence	This work.
<b>Cosmids</b>		
D40A	SuperCos derived cosmid vector with a genomic fragment containing the <i>rpoC</i> gene.	41
pLN301	Cosmid D40A with an in-frame eGFP fusion to the 3` end of <i>rpoC</i> gene	This work.

452 **Figure legends**

453

454 **Fig. 1. RpoC-eGFP patches show dynamic localisation throughout the lifecycle**  
455 **of *Streptomyces coelicolor*.** Representative images of a germinating spore in  
456 phase contrast (**A**), germinating spore stained with SYTO 42 (DNA staining; **B**),  
457 RpoC-eGFP localisation in a germinating spore (**C**), germinating spore stained with  
458 FM4-64 (membrane stain; **D**). Representative images of vegetative hyphae in phase  
459 contrast (**E**), vegetative hyphae stained with SYTO 42 (DNA staining; **F**), RpoC-  
460 eGFP localisation in a vegetative hypha (**G**), vegetative hyphae stained with FM4-64  
461 (membrane stain; **H**), a multiprobe image (RNAP-eGFP in green and FM4-64 in red;  
462 **I**), a multiprobe image (RpoC-eGFP in green and SYTO 42 in red; **J**), a multiprobe  
463 image (RpoC-eGFP, FM4-64 & SYT042; **K**). Representative images of aerial hyphae  
464 in phase contrast (**L**), aerial hyphae stained with SYTO 42 (DNA staining; **M**), RpoC-  
465 eGFP localisation in an aerial hypha (**N**), aerial hypha stained with FM4-64  
466 (membrane stain; **O**). Representative images of a spore chain in phase contrast (**P**),  
467 a spore chain stained with SYTO 42 (DNA staining; **Q**), RpoC-eGFP localisation in a  
468 spore chain (**R**), a spore chain stained with FM4-64 (membrane stain; **S**).  
469

470

471 **Fig. 2. RpoC-eGFP patches track behind the extending hyphal tip. (A)** Time-  
472 lapse images of growing *S. coelicolor* hyphae (LN301; *rpoC-egfp*) showing the  
473 absence of RNAP-eGFP patches at the tip of extending vegetative hyphae. (See  
474 also Supplementary video 1 - <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181785>) **B:**  
475 **RpoC-eGFP patches co-localise with DNA, but not at the hyphal tip.**  
476 Representative images of a vegetative hypha in phase contrast, stained with SYTO  
477 42 (DNA staining), RNAP-eGFP, FM4-64 (membrane stain) and a multiprobe image  
478 (RNAP-eGFP in green and FM4-64 in red). **C: The majority of RpoC-eGFP**  
479 **patches do not co-localise with DnaN-mCherry at the hyphal tip, but do co-**  
480 **localise behind the tip.** Representative images of a vegetative hypha in phase  
481 contrast (**A**), DnaN-mCherry (**B**) RNAP-eGFP (**C**) and a multiprobe image (**D**) of  
482 RNAP-eGFP (green) and DnaN-mCherry (Red). **D:** Schematic representation of a  
483 hyphal tip (polarisome), indicating the locations of nucleic acids, transcription (this  
484 work) and replisome location<sup>14-18</sup> suggesting there is a spatial separation of  
485 transcription and chromosome replication at the hyphal tip.

486

486 **Fig. 3. RpoC-eGFP patches in Wild-Type *S. coelicolor* exhibit pauses**  
487 **following nitrogen-downshift when compared to a  $\Delta$ relA mutant.** Time-lapse  
488 images of growing *S. coelicolor* hyphae (sLN301; *rpoC-egfp*) in nitrogen rich (nutrient  
489 agar) medium over 180 min. (See also Supplementary video 2 -  
490 <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181781>). Time-lapse images of growing *S.*  
491 *coelicolor* hyphae (sLN301; *rpoC-egfp*) following nitrogen downshift over 180 min.  
492 (See also Supplementary video 3 - <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181780>).  
493 Time-lapse images of growing M570 *S. coelicolor* hyphae ( $\Delta$ relA; *rpoC-egfp*)  
494 following nitrogen downshift over 180 min. (See also Supplementary video 4 -  
495 <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181782>)

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497

498 **Fig. 4. RpoC-eGFP patches exhibit altered dynamics following inhibition of**  
499 **either transcription or translation.** Time-lapse images of growing *S. coelicolor*  
500 hyphae (sLN301; *rpoC-egfp*) without any antibiotic treatment. Time-lapse images of  
501 growing *S. coelicolor* hyphae (sLN301; *rpoC-egfp*) following treatment with  
502 chloramphenicol (Cm; 13 mg ml<sup>-1</sup>). See also Supplementary video 5 -  
503 <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181783>. Time-lapse images of growing *S.*  
504 *coelicolor* hyphae (sLN301; *rpoC-egfp*) following treatment with rifampicin (rif; 32 mg  
505 ml<sup>-1</sup>). See also Supplementary video 6 -  
506 <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181784>.

507

## 508 **Supplementary data**

509

510 **Supp Video 1: RpoC-eGFP patches tracking behind the extending hyphal tip.**  
511 Video of growing *S. coelicolor* hyphae (LN301; *rpoC-egfp*) showing the absence of  
512 RNAP-eGFP patches at the tip of extending vegetative hyphae. Images taken at 10  
513 min intervals and converted to video using IPLab scientific imaging software version  
514 3.7 (Scanalytics, Inc., Rockville, USA).

515 <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181785>

516

517 **Supp Video 2: RpoC-eGFP patches in Wild-Type *S. coelicolor*.** Video of growing  
518 *S. coelicolor* hyphae (sLN301; *rpoC-egfp*) in nitrogen rich (nutrient agar) medium  
519 over 180 min. Images taken at 10 min intervals and converted to video using IPLab

520 scientific imaging software version 3.7 (Scanalytics, Inc., Rockville, USA).

521 <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181781>

522

523 **Supp Video 3: RpoC-eGFP patches in Wild-Type *S. coelicolor* exhibit pauses**  
524 **following nitrogen-downshift.** Video of growing WT *S. coelicolor* hyphae (sLN301;  
525 *rpoC-egfp*) following nitrogen downshift over 180 min. Images taken at 10 min  
526 intervals and converted to video using IPLab scientific imaging software version 3.7  
527 (Scanalytics, Inc., Rockville, USA).

528 <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181780>

529

530 **Supp Video 4: RpoC-eGFP patches in a  $\Delta$ re $\Delta$ A mutant of *S. coelicolor* exhibit**  
531 **pauses following nitrogen-downshift.** Video of growing *S. coelicolor* hyphae  
532 ( $\Delta$ re $\Delta$ A; *rpoC-egfp*) following nitrogen downshift over 180 min. Images taken at 10  
533 min intervals and converted to video using IPLab scientific imaging software version  
534 3.7 (Scanalytics, Inc., Rockville, USA).

535 <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181782>

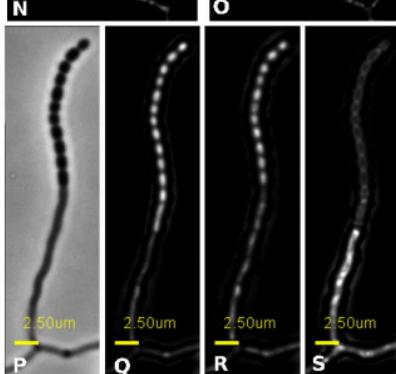
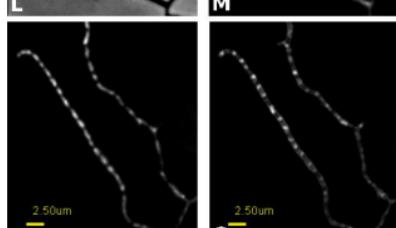
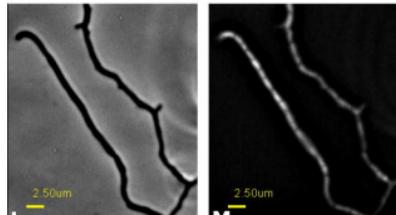
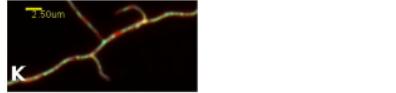
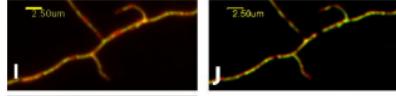
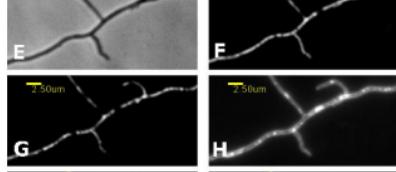
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537 **Supp Video 5: RpoC-eGFP patches exhibit altered dynamics following**  
538 **inhibition of translation.** Video of growing *S. coelicolor* hyphae (sLN301; *rpoC-*  
539 *egfp*) following treatment with chloramphenicol (Cm; 13 mg ml $^{-1}$ ). Images taken at 10  
540 min intervals and converted to video using IPLab scientific imaging software version  
541 3.7 (Scanalytics, Inc., Rockville, USA).

542 <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181783>

543

544 **Supp Video 6: RpoC-eGFP patches exhibit altered dynamics following**  
545 **inhibition of transcription.** Video of growing *S. coelicolor* hyphae (sLN301; *rpoC-*  
546 *egfp*) following treatment with rifampicin (rif; 32 mg ml $^{-1}$ ). Images taken at 10 min  
547 intervals and converted to video using IPLab scientific imaging software version 3.7  
548 (Scanalytics, Inc., Rockville, USA). <http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1181784>



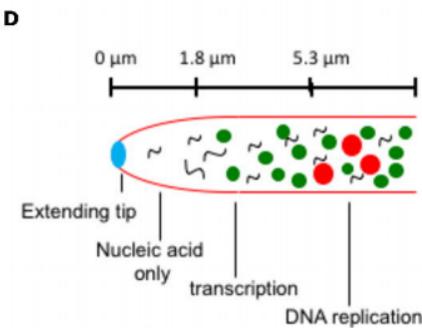
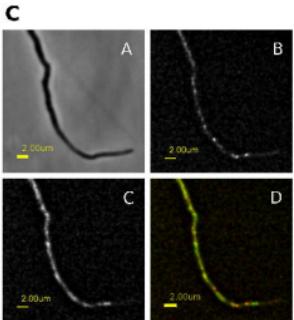
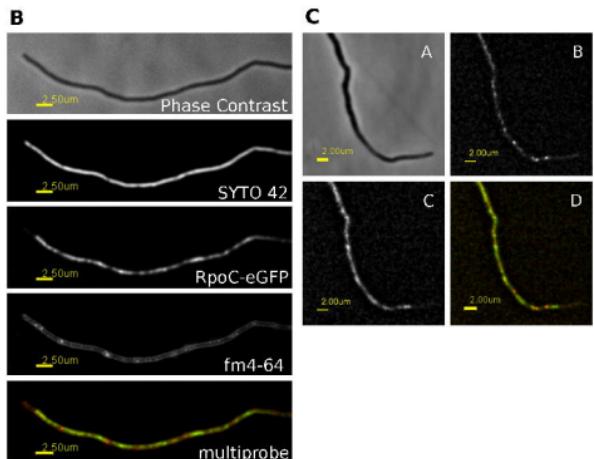
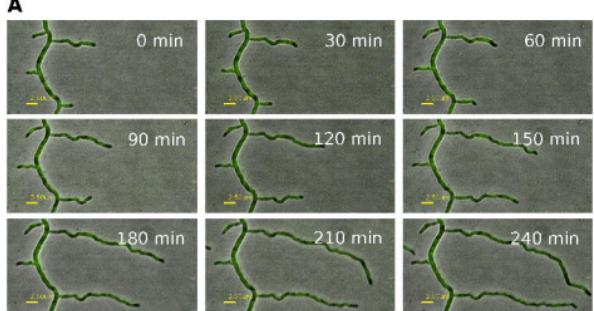


Fig. 3

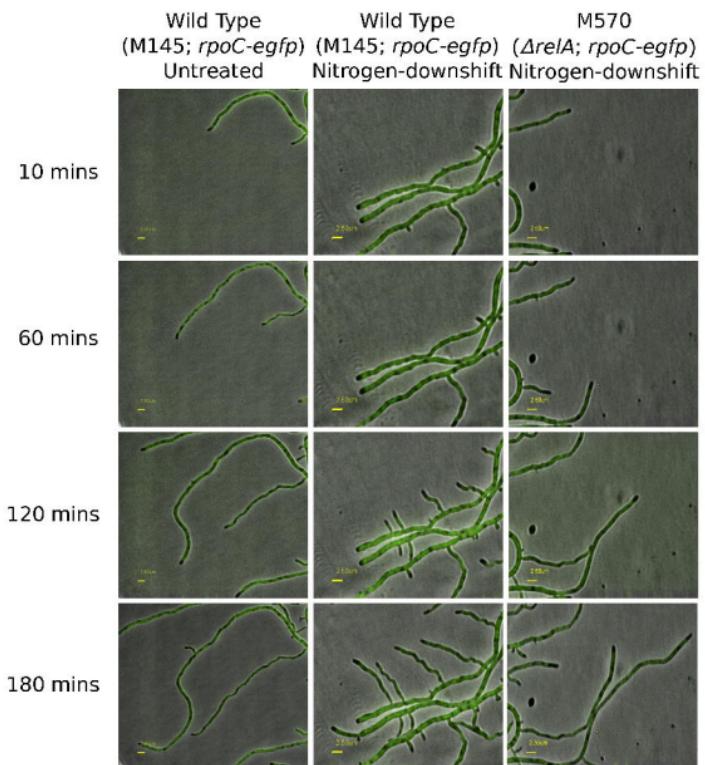


Fig. 4

