

Table 1 The contribution of different steps in gene expression to the variance in protein abundances between genes.

	Variance in protein levels (log10) ^a	Percent contribution to variance in protein levels				
		mRNA (%)	Transcription (%)	RNA degradation (%)	Translation (%)	Protein degradation (%)
Schwanhausser 2nd data ^a	0.97	40	34	6	55	5
Measured protein error strategy ^b	0.34	56	38	18	30	14
Measured translation strategy ^c	0.61	81	71	10	11	8

* In this column, the value given for *Schwanhausser et al.*'s (2011) 2nd data is the variance in their measured protein abundances; the remaining values are our estimate for the variance in true protein levels for different scenarios.

^a Estimates from *Schwanhausser et al. (2011)* based on the 4,212 genes for which NIH3T3 cell protein and mRNA abundance data are available.

^b Our estimates for the same 4,212 genes studied by *Schwanhausser et al. (2011)* after correcting the overall scaling of the NIH3T3 cell protein abundance data and taking several sources of molecule specific experimental error into account: stochastic protein error and all mRNA errors.

^c Our estimates for the same 4,212 genes studied by *Schwanhausser et al. (2011)* derived using measured translation rates from *Subtelny et al. (in press)*.