Analysis of E. coli promoter sequences

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#### ABSTRACT

We have compiled and analyzed 263 promoters with known transcriptional start points for <u>E. coli</u> genes. Promoter elements (-35 hexamer, -10 hexamer, and spacing between these regions) were aligned by a program which selects the arrangement consistent with the start point and statistically most homologous to a reference list of promoters. The initial reference list was that of Hawley and McClure (Nucl. Acids Res. 11, 2237-2255, 1983). Alignment of the complete list was used for reference until successive analyses did not alter the structure of the list. In the final compilation, all bases in the -35 (TTGACA) and -10 (TATAAT) hexamers were highly conserved, 92% of promoters had interregion spacing of 17±1 bp, and 75% of the uniquely defined start points initiated 7±1 bases downstream of the -10 region. The consensus sequence of promoters with inter-region spacing of 16, 17, or 18 bp did not differ. This compilation and analysis should be useful for studies of promoter structure and function and for programs which identify potential promoter sequences.

## INTRODUCTION

Promoters are DNA sequences which affect the frequency and location of transcription initiation through interaction with RNA polymerase (1,2). Two conserved regions about 35 and 10 base pairs (bp) upstream from the transcription start (-35 and -10 regions, respectively) were identified by comparison of relatively few promoters (3-6). More extensive compilations and comparisons of promoters for genes of <u>E. coli</u> and its phage and plasmids supported and extended the concept of a "consensus" promoter sequence: a -35 (TTGACA) and -10 (TATAAT) region separated by 17 bp with transcription initiating at a purine about 7 bp downstream from the 3' end of the -10 region (7-9). While the -35 and -10 regions show the greatest conservation across promoters and are also the sites of nearly all mutations which affect transcriptional strength, other bases flanking the -35 and -10 regions, in addition to the start point also occur at greater than random frequencies and sometimes affect promoter activity (9-12). In addition, variation in spacing between the -35 and -10 regions plays a role in promoter strength (13-16).

Promoter compilations and analyses have led to computer programs which

predict the location of promoter sequences on the basis of homology either to the consensus sequence or to a reference list of promoters (17-19). Such programs are of practical significance in searching new sequences (2,20); thus promoter compilations are important beyond providing data regarding promoter structure. However, current compilations are based on sequences aligned by eye in attempts to maximize homology to the consensus sequence. Unfortunately, sequences closer to the consensus sequence may be missed thus weakening the homology between promoters and consequently reducing the predictive power of algorithms. Although promoter elements can be identified by biochemical or genetic evidence that pin-point bases which interact with RNA polymerase, such data is unavailable for most genes.

We have updated the compilation of <u>E. coli</u> promoter sequences and have reiteratively aligned them on the basis of a computer program which finds the sequence with greatest homology to the reference set. This compilation and reanalysis of 263 promoters should be useful in studies of promoter structure and function and in promoter search algorithms.

## METHODS

## Promoter Compilation

The starting point for analyses described below was the Hawley and McClure (9) compilation of 112 <u>E. coli</u> promoters with known transcriptional start points. Three resources were used to extend and update this compilation Index Medicus, Dialog, and the National Institutes of Health GENBANK database on the National Biomedical Research Foundation Protein Identification Resource. Following Hawley and McClure, only promoters in which a transcriptional startpoint has been identified by biochemical or genetic means are used in the analysis. We included promoters whose start points were identified by S1 nuclease mapping (21) if additional evidence such as high resolution <u>in vitro</u> transcript run-off size or the site of polymerase binding supported the S1 data.

### Analysis

DNA sequences from about -50 to +10, with respect to known transcriptional start points for genes of  $\underline{E}$ ,  $\underline{coli}$  and its plasmids and phage were analyzed for promoter signals by a modification of the algorithm described by Staden (19). This algorithm utilizes the frequency of all bases at each position in the conserved areas of the promoter and therefore derives near maximal information about the similarity of any test sequence to the reference set of sequences. In brief, the test sequence is analyzed in all possible alignments of promoter

elements to determine the arrangement of -35 and -10 elements which maximizes similarity to known promoters on a strictly statistical basis. Each alignment yields a "promoter homology index" (PHI) derived from the weight matrix of the reference set of promoters. The weight matrix contains log frequencies for each base at each position in the -35 and -10 hexamers and log frequencies of the occurrence of -35 and -10 hexamers separated by 15-21 base pairs. PHI for a given alignment is the sum of log frequencies taken from the weight matrix for the elements of the test sequence. Staden's algorithm has been shown to be operationally similar in prediction of promoter strength to an alternative algorithm of Mulligan et al. (18) which includes data on cumulative deviations from the consensus sequence (20). We chose Staden's algorithm because it seemed less arbitrary in assessment of homology.

Our program finds for each DNA sequence the 10 (or more) highest ranking alignments of all possible -35 and -10 hexamers with a spacing of 15-21 base pairs, and flags those consistent with the transcription start data. A promoter sequence was deemed consistent with start data when the initiation point was between 4 and 12 bases from the -10 hexamer (see Results and Discussion).

The initial weight matrix was derived from the compilation and promoter alignment of Hawley and McClure (9). Null frequencies were replaced by the reciprocal of the number of entries in the weight matrix at that point to avoid complete exclusion of certain bases in, or spacing between, the -35 and -10 regions (19). Following analysis of the new promoter compilation, the weight matrix was updated using new alignments. This process was repeated until consecutive reiterations yielded identical highest ranking promoters for each sequence. To avoid chance fixation on extreme patterns in the weight matrix, frequencies were periodically smoothed artificially by reducing the frequencies of highly "conserved" bases and increasing the frequencies of highly excluded bases. This procedure was repeated on several promoter lists, including subdivisions of all promoters with 16, 17, or 18 bp spacing between the -35 and -10 regions.

## RESULTS and DISCUSSION

### Promoter Compilation

Table 1 shows 288 <u>E. coli</u> promoters aligned by reiterative application of the modified algorithm of Staden (19) (Methods). Although most of these promoters are wild type bacterial, plasmid, or phage promoters (type "b", "p", "f", column b, respectively), some mutant promoters (type "M" or "m", column b)

are also included. Mutations which generate an entirely new promoter (type "M") are included among 263 promoters with known transcription start points used for analyses as described below. Mutants of naturally occurring promoters (type "m") are not; transcription start data are often not available for these mutants and their inclusion would bias the weight matrix for base frequencies at the non-mutated positions. The list includes 112 promoters compiled by Hawley and McClure (9), which can be identified by reference "9" in column j. Analysis of these promoters separately or together with additional <u>E. coli</u> promoters yielded essentially identical results.

The algorithm makes no use of previously identified -35 and -10 regions for a given promoter; it identifies the statistically best -35 and -10 regions consistent with transcription start data using the weight matrix of 263 promoters listed in Table 1. Columns (c), (d), and (e) indicate the stable alignment of -35 and -10 regions and the spacing between them. gives the relative promoter homology index (PHI) of the selected -35 and -10 this value is the sum of the appropriate weight matrix values for each base in the -35 and -10 hexamers, plus the value for their spacing, minus the unnormalized index value of the consensus sequence (TTGACA...17...TATAAT). PHI values are from a logarithmic scale and can be interpreted loosely in terms of probability: for example, PHI - 0 indicates that the promoter elements are identical to consensus sequence elements, i.e. the most probable arrangement of bases and spacing, while PHI - -2 indicates that the probability of occurrence of bases in these regions and the spacing between them is theoretically 100 times smaller than that of the consensus sequence. Such interpretations may not be justified since they assume that gap penalties and bases at each position are independent and that these are the only conserved elements in Interestingly, a correlation exists between promoter promoter structure. strength and homology index (18). Thus promoter strength generally decreases as PHI values become more negative. Some promoters, however, do not follow this generalization (11,12).

Column (g) signals significant discrepancies between the best promoter alignment consistent with the transcription start data and the overall best alignment (indicated with double underlines) independent of transcription start data. The number in this column is the PHI value of the overall best alignment. Only discrepancies in PHI greater than 0.5 are shown. Column (h) signals discrepancies between published -35 and -10 regions (single underlines) and those selected by our analysis. The number in this column is the PHI value of the published alignment. These PHI values will be less negative than that in

TABLE 1
Alignment of E. coli Promoter Securaces

		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·											
	TYP	_				-10		SP.		DISC		TS	REF
(4)	(ъ)	) (c	)			<b>(</b> a)	(	(e)	(£)	<b>(g)</b>	(h)	<b>(1)</b>	<b>(j)</b>
! _													
aceEF	ь	ACCUMANCE OF CITE					COC=CAGGTCCAG	17	-4.3		-4.4	4	24
ada		AACATTCTTCCTTT TTO	_					17	-5.5	-3.4	-4.6	4	25,26
alaS		AACOCATACOCTAT TIT					ATTOOC=CITTICAGT		-3.1				9
ampC		TOCTATOCICAÇÃO TIG					CTAACCCMTCGCCAATC		-1.5				9
ampC/C16	Ъ	CCTATC TIC					TACAATCIMACGIATCG		-1.3			1,3	25
araBAD		TEMOCOCATOCIAC CIG					CITICIOCAL COOCIT		-3.6		-3.7		9
araC	ь	GCAAATAATCAATG TOG					Tricrincgocitring		-3.6				9
araE	ь	CICTIFICOGAC CIG					TTCACTATETCTTACTC		-3.2			4	28
araI(c)	. =	ACCOCATOCTAC CTO					GTITCTCCATECOCCIT		-4.3			4	29
araI(c)X(c)		AGOOGATOCTAC CTO					TICTOCATECOCCITTI		-3.8			4	29
argCBH		TRIGHTHICATIC TIG						18	-2.4		-2.6		9
		THEFITTCATE TIE					CAATATTCHTCCAGTAT		-2.0				30
		Trigritticatic tic					CAATATTCeTGCAGTAT		-2.0				30 .
argE-Pl		TEACOCCHOCHOGG TIT					TATTOMTAATACTOCA		-2.6			4	31
argE-P2		COCCATCATIGCTT TOO						17	-3.9		-3.9	4	31
argE/III3		COCCATCATTOCTT TOO						17	-3.3 -1.7			4	31 22
argF	ь Б	ATTIGICAAATOOOC TIG					CAATTTEATTCAATAA		-1.7 -1.5			4	31,32 31
argI	b						CAATTTDAATTCATTCA						
argR aroF	_	TOCHOCOCCC TTO					TCAGTCTanaGTCTCCG		-3.2 -1.9		-5.9	2,4	31
		TACGAAAATATOGA TIIG					TACCICATOCTCCCIC					2,4	33
aroG		AGIGEAAAAOOOOG TITI					OCAACTMITTOCATTICA		-1.6			2,4	33
aroli bioA		CINCINCAGAACTA CTC					OCTANCOMO CONC		-3.1				9
bios bios		CONTINUE TRANSPORTED TRANSPORT					TOTALACCIMATICT TACANGTERACACOGAA	18	-3.8 -2.2	-3.4			9
1													9
bioP98	ь Б	TIUTIAATTOOGIG TAG					TOGITTECAACTOCAT		-2.0			,	-
C62.5-P1	_	WE OF STATE OF THE					TOOCACACOCTGTTTT		-3.3		+	4	34
carAB-Pl		ATOCOGOCATEAG TTO					•	17	-1.9			4	35 35
carAB-P2	b h	TAACCACATTICCA TIC					OCAA#TAAAGTGAG	18	-2.4			4	9
Cat	_	ACCTIGATODOC ACC					CANATAARATCACTACC		-4.2			• 4	36-38
cit.util-37	•		-				CTCTATACA DAATTCTC		-5.6	-2.2	*	3,4	36-38
		GACAGOCACAGCA TTO					TAMETCAAATCAC	18	-3.4			3,4 3	39
1	-	TCATATATTCACAC CTC					CATACINICTATATAT	18		-1.5	-3.5	3	9
CloUPmaI		ACACOCOGTTOCTC TTC						15	-2.2 -3.4		-4.4	1 7	40
colEl-B		TEADAAAATOCTCT TTG					TAATACIUDA		-2.4		-4.4	1.3	40
colE1-C		TEATAAAATOCTCT TTC					AAATACT#TACATATAA		-1.7			1,3	9
ColEl-Pl		GGAAGICCACAGIC TIG					TEATOCTYTATATAAAA				-1.9		9
ColE1-P2		TITITAACTEATIG TIT					OCAAAOOgCOCTINOOCT		-1.7 -2.2		-1.9	1,3	41
colE110.13	-						AGAAGGACHGTATTTIGG GGAAAGGGGGGTAGGGT		-1.7			1,3	42
l		TTITIMACTINTIC TIT							-3.2			2.3	43
cap		AAGOGAGACACCAG GAG					ACTOACHATOCTACAC	17			•	1-3	44
cyal death		CTAGOCCATCTITC TIT							-1.8 -2.8			4	45
dapD		AAGTOCATCAGOOG TIC					COCTGALL/TETTEMCTO		-3.5			7	•
deo-F1	b b						ACTAACHTACOCTTICC ACTAACHAACTCCCAA	19	-3.9				9
deo-P2	-						CATCTCHTCATTTAAA		-3.2			2,4	46
deo-P3		ACACCAACTOTOTA TOO					OCCOCTC#TTOCCCAAG		-1.2			1.2	47
divE		AAACAAATINGOGG TTT					TACCCACTTCTCCAAA		-4.4		-4.9	4	48,49
dnsA-lp		TOTOCOCCEDANTOS TOC					COGengtecCGATCG	17	-4.5		٠,,	4	48,47
dnaA-2p dnaK-Pl		TUTUTGAGAAACAG AAG					ACTOMICOSCACTO	18	-3.2		-8.2	2.4	34
		TITICATCTCCCC TIC						16	-2.4		-9.3	2.4	34
dnek-P2		ATCAAATTOOCAG TIC					AGACHONICAACCACA ACCOMOCTHACCCC	16	-2.4		-,,,	2-4	50,51
drag-P1		COCAGOOCTAAAGG TIT					ACCESS CENTRAL COOK	17					
Ppla-oriTpX		CAACCACCAACCTC TIC					ATTTMOGATAAAG ACCOCTMOGGCCCCC		-2.5 -4.0			2	52 52
Poles-traM	_	ATTROCCUTOCITOC TAG								2.0	-5.7		
Pplas-traY/ frdABCD	∕Ζp b						TaccttttctgaTTATT		-3.9	-3.0		3	53 54
funA	_	CATCHOCTCAA ATT					CTTCTACCTATAAACCA		-3.2		-3.9	4	-
		CONCENCIATION OF THE					TACTODCTECEAACAGG		-3.5		-3.8	4	55-57
Y-6-tmpA	-	ACACATENACAGCA CEC					ATTTOOMACOCTTOCA		-2.4		• •		9
¥-6-tnpR		ATTCATTMACAAT TIT					ATCCCACACATAAAAAC		-2.4		-3.0		9
gal-Pl		TOCATGTCACACTT TTO						17	-3.8	-2.9			9
gal-P2		CTAATTTATTOCAT GTC						16	-2.9		-3.1		9
Ser-L7/mit-	- 1 W	TAATTIATTOCAT GIG	LA CITAT	ıwı	AUTTIGT	TATAL!	ATOCTESTICATAC	16	-2.3		-4.0	3	58

		TAATTIATTOCAT					ATOGTTATTICATAC	16	-2.9			3	58
glnL		CAMPTOTOTOATOC					GCACTMAATOGTGC	19	-3.2			2,4	59
glns		TAAAAACTAACAG					MODOGECUTACCTT	17	-2.1				9
gltA-Pl		ATTCATTOCCACA					TOOGACTOCTAAGTA	16	-4.3		-4.4	4	57,60
glta-P2		ACTICT DACAMACA					TEALCAACTOOCT	18		-1.8	-2.5	4	57,60
glyx		TOCTTTGTCAACAC			TEATTOOCT	TATACT	CTTCBOCCTICTCC	17	-2.4			2,4	63
glyn/geneX	ь	ACACCAAACAACCA	TITACA	TIOCACCC	CTATITITA	TAAGAT	CCATTECACATACAT	18	-1.9			2,4	61
gnd	ь	OCATOGATAAOCTA	TTDATA	CTTDAADA	ACTACITTC	DATACT	TATTTOCHACATTOCA	17	-1.7			4	62
groE	ь	TTTTTCCCCC	TICAAC	COCCCAAG	OCATOOOCA.	THEIC	TOGTCHOCAGOOOGAA	17	-3.9		+	4	34
gyrB	ь	COCACCAAAA	TICGAA	CATCTITAC	OCTOCAAAACOC	TAAAAT	AACCCATEAACCCAACT	21	-3.2			4	63
his	ъ	ATATAAAAAGTTC	TICCII	TCDACCTG	AAAGTGGTT	DACGIT	<b>AAAAGACATCAGTTGAA</b>	1.8	-3.6				9
him	ь	CATCENCANACENA	TIMATA	AKTACTTA	ATTMACCCT	CATCAT	TOTACAATCA&CTOTAC	17	-3.5	-2.7	-5.7		9
hisBo	ь	OCTOCACTOCOCTG	TITAAA	TOTTICIC			CITACCICATCAC	17	-2.4			2,4	64
hisJ(St)	ъ	TACAATCCT/TOOC	TICIO	COCTEATT	AATOCCAC	CATACT	COCATOCCATCTC	16	-3.0		-3.6	-	9
hias		AAADAADAACCICA					TCAACccgCATCCCTC		-2.7			4	65,66
htpR-Pl	ъ	ACATEACCCCACTT	ACCOUNT	GAATAATA			CTTTOCHCCAATOCTT		-3.8			4	67,68
htpR-P2	ь	TTCACAAGCTTGCA	TIGAAC	TTGTGCATA			AAAACAgTCAATG	18	-3.7	-2.3		4	67,68
htpR-P3		ACCTICCATICAAC					ACTGAATRATAACCTCC		-3.2			4	67,68
LLVCEDA		COCAAAAAATATCT					TTTACCCATTCCTTCCA			-3.9	<b>4</b> 6		9
ilviH-Pl	ь	CICIOCCIOCCAA					GTTutacacattutTiC		-3.2	-3.,	-4.0	2.4	69
ilvIH-P2	-	CACCATTTATOCT						17	-3.1		-3.1		69
11vIH-P3	ь	ATTTEACCATEAA					<u>TAT</u> UACCCCCTCT GTCCCATTUACCCCATT		-2.7		-J.L	2.4	
11vIH-P4	_												69 60
ISline FL		TGDAGAATTTTATT					TAATIMAAAAAATAGAG		-2.7			2,4	69
	-	OCACOCOCICATO					CCTOLLETICACCTCCT		-2.5			1,3,4	
ISlins PR	b	ATATATACCTEA				_	TITATGTECACATAAT		-3.6	-3.3		1,3,4	
ISZI-II	Ä			TATACOOG			TAAGACUSTCACTEATT		-2.6				9
lacI		CACACCATOGAATG					MOCOCOCEGAACACACT		-4.5				9
lecPl	ь	TAGGCAGCCAGGC					CICIOCATICICACC		-2.0				9
LacP115	H	TTDACACTTEATC			TICICIO	TATIOT	GACCEGATERCEATTT	1.7	-3.9				9
LacP2		AATCICACTENC <u>CT</u>			COCACOCTT	TACACT	TEATCOLTOCOCCIOC	17	-4.0	-2.6	-4.3		9
Lambdac17	H	OCTUTATOCATTIA	TTTCCA	TACATICA				17	-1.4				9
lambdacin	M	TACATAACAATTGA	TIGAAT	CTATOCAA	ATAAATOCA	TACACT	ATACCINTOCTITAAT	17	-1.6				9
LembdaL57	H	TCATAACCAATCC	TITITI	ATAATOOCA	ACTENCEA	TAAAAT	ACCCAACCTCTTCCACA	17	-2.4		-2.5		9
lembdaPI	f	COCTITITICATION	CICIAA	TICOGGAG	ACTITICOGA	TUDACI	TGACACETCAGGAGTG	17	-3.6				9
lambdaFL	f	TATCTCTOGCOGTG	TICACA	TAMATACC	ACTIGOOGT	CATACT	CACCACATCACCACCA	17	-1.4				9
1.mbdaPo		TACCICIOCOGAAG					CACTOCTYTTGATAGAT		-2.1				9
LenbdaPR		TAACACCGTCCCTC					OCTIOCATCTACTAAG		-1.4				9
lambdaPR'		TTAACOGCATGATA					TCACTCAmCCATCCCTT		-1.1				9
LambdaPRE		CACCCTOCTTCCCT					CITHCATAACAAT	18	-4.1		-5.7		ģ
LambdaPRM		AACACCCACCGTCT							-2.6		-3.1		ģ
							TMACCTATCACCACAA					2 /	71
		TOCTOOCCTCAATC					AATAC#GACCTTAAT	16	-3.4			2,4	
	ь			TOUTTE			TAAAACCATATOOCATT		-2.5				9
		TOGATAATTAACTA					COCCLOCALOCITYCCY		-1.5				9
		TUTOCACTITATOG					CACACCETAACTCTAT		-1.9				9
livJ	ь	TOTCAAAATAOOTA	TTOCAA	TATCATAA	AAATOOOGA	TATCIT	TENGCAGAGUATOCT	17	-2.5			1,4	67,68
lpd	ъ	TCTTC	TTDAAA	AATIGTIA	ACAATITIG	TAAAAT	<b>ACCUACCIGATINGAACCA</b>	17	-1.1			4	24,57
1pp	Ъ	OCATCAAAAAAATA	TICICA	ACATAAAAA	ACTITICIC	TAATAC	TICINACECDICATOCA	17	-3.2		-3.3		9
	m	ATCAAAAAATA					TOTANCECTACATOCA		-1.9				72
	m	ATCAAAAAAATA					TCTAAC@CTACATOCA		-1.6				72
	m	ATCAAAAAAATA					TICINACECTACATOGA		-2.7		-2.8		72
Micros	ь	ATCCCCAACCCCCC					COCCOCCENACCTICACC		-1 2				9
mcll	H						CTCTCC+ATTCTCACC		-4.1			4	76
		CCCCCCCACCCAT					CTCTCC_ATTCTCACC		-4.1			4	76
	н						CTCTCCAATTCTCACC		-4.1			4	
_		CCCCCCACCCAT					CTCTCCAATTYTCACCC					-	76
12.		CCCCCCACCCAT							-3.7			4	76
		MOCCOCCAMOCACCA					CICTOCAATTETCACOC		-3.1			4	76
		CACCOCCTOCACCA					ACACTOCETTACCTCT		-3.5				9
							CACCOCATCATCAATG		-3.3			_	9
•		ATOCOCOCACCATG					ACCONTRACCTICICI	_	-4.7			2	77
malPQ/A516P1									-4.6			2.4	78
		ATOCOCOCACCACC					TCICTIGAA		-4.6			2,4	78
		CCCCCACCATCAC					TCTCTTgAA		-4.9			2,4	78
		ATOCCCCACCAT					<b>DICCOADLACCTICAT</b>		-5.2		-5.2		77
		ATCCCCCCACCAC					ACCCATEACCTICICT		-3.9		-4.7		77
		ATICCOCCICACCAC					ACCENTRACCTICICIT		-4.4				77
mlPQ/Pp15	m	ATOCCCCCACCAT	CACAAA	OCTCAACAT			ACCONTRACCTICICI		-4.0				77
malPQ/Ppl6	ш	ATOCCCCCACCATA	ACCAAC	CTCAACAT			ACCCATEACCTICTCT						77
							ACCCATHACCTICTCT						77
m=1FQ/Pp18	Ð	ATCCCCCCACCATC	<b>GOLDAN</b>	ULUANLAL		CANALI	ALUADIAU TILIBIT	u	-4.3				

MARTIN   D   TROMOGRAMO TROMA TROMOAN   THOUSANT MINT CONTINUOUS   17 -3.9 -3.3   2.4   7   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1		_												
MARTIN   D   TROMOGRAMO TROMA TROMOAN   THOUSANT MINT CONTINUOUS   17 -3.9 -3.3   2.4   7   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1											_			-
MICHAEL   D. MAGADIATRICA TITLET_COUTTING   ACTIVATE TRAIT_COUNTING   17 - 2.5   2.4   8											-2.9	-2.9		56
MIRCON													-	79
March												-2.5		79 80
March		-									-3.3			81
Mark-1		-									-2 0			82,83
Name											-4.9		2,4	84
Number											-2 A	-4 O	2 4	85
Right		_									-2.0			85
NellingsC    GTOCAMTICTORA GUOZI GATTICAMA   AMACITIC DIDITY CORPORAGEMONTO   18 4-18   4-18   8-8			TACCAAAAACCACC	TITACA	TDAGCET							7.0		85
NELTHANDOO    CAMANTOCIAN TIMES THAMAN THATCHAMAN   AMACTEMINE THAN THAN THAN THAN THAN THAN THAN THAN												-4.1		86
												٠	• •	86
DESCRIPTION   DESCRIPTION   TITLED   CAMMANGE TRANS TROUGHESTING   17 -1.6   -2.7 -2.0 -7 .4 3, 3   9   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0   0	•													87
Capa	TLIBA		CACTAT	TTOCAT	TTTTTMCC					-1.8			1.3	88,89
CAPT   D.   CHINTONNET TIONE TRITTING   CATHTON GACANT GACATIONICS   1 - 2.9   3,4   9	OUTDA.	ь								-2.7	-2.0	-7.4		90
COMPS		ъ							17					92,893
DEFINITED   DESCRIPTION   THE CONTRIBUTION   THE	ompF	ъ	CCTMCC	TACCCA	AACCTTOAG	TITCAATGG	AAAGAT	COCTOCHGACACACATAAA	17	-4.6	-3.9		3,4	91
DEPTI	compF/pKT217	•	Œ	TACCCA	AACCTING	TTTCCAACC	TTIAAT	CCCCLeCTITATCAC	17	-3.4	-2.6		3,4	91
PAGESTATE   PAGESTATIONE TIMES TRANSPORT   CONTINUE THAT CHANGESTAND   1 - 0.4   9   9   9   9   9   9   9   9   9		ь	TITIOOOCCAATAAA	TICIAI	ACTIMAG	CICCICIT	TAATAT	CCTTTYTAACAATTT	15	-3.4	-2.4		4	92
P22mm	pl5primer	P	ATAAGATGATCTTC	TICACA	TOGITITG	CTCTOCCCC	TAATCT			-2.1			1	93
P22FR	pl5m=I	P	TAGAGGAGTTAGTC	TICAAC	TCATGOOCC								1	93
Page	P22arxt	ť	TOCAAGTTAGTGTA	TTCACA	TCATAGAA	COACTCIAC	TATATT	CTCAATAGGTCCACCC	17	-0.4				9
P2218M														-
PRESIZEDIA   PITTICIMAGNA TITALA MICHAEL   TOGATANO TROUT HARDOGRAGITITAT   17 - 1.7   1,3   9														-
PRESIZENA   PITTICTMATNAC TICAMA TATICATE   COCICATIA GACANT AMOCREMINATION   17 -2.6   9		f									-3.1	-3.9		-
PRESIZER	•	_											1,3	94
PRESIZED   PAGAMOGRICUTC TIGAGA TOCTITIT   TRUTOCCC TARICT GUICITEGAAACAAA   17   -2.1   9														
PRESIZED   PREMINED   MAGANTUTCATUT TITACA GOTINITA   TOGATAGC TITACI GOODINGTITATCACA   17 -1.0   9   1   1   2.7   4   9   1   9   1   1   9   1   1   1   1														
PREMAP   P   TICKINCACCIDITIC CIGARI   TIDATICOC TACTIT ATCACAGITIA   17   -2.7   4   9   9   9   9   1   1   1   1   1   1														
PERPI   D   TICKINGACGITIC CITACT GGTTAGGANTTAGGGGA TAMACT ACCOCALEMANGCTIA   21 -3.3   9													,	-
PRESENT   P. GIGLIMAGNATIC TIGNAG TEGLEDOOT   AACHROOG TACARGAGGGGTATTE   18 -2.2   9													4	
PRECET-10 H AGGATTCTCATCT TITGACA GCTINTCA TOGATGCCC TAGTIT ATCACAGTTA 17 -1.6 4 9 PRESENTED-15 H AGGATTCTCATCT TITGACA GCTINTCA TOGATGCCC TAGTIT ATCACA AGGATTCACCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCC									_					•
PRESENT-15										_			4	95
PRESENT_722													•	95
PRINCE   TRUE   TRUE   TRUE   CUTATION   TRUE   CUTATION   TRUE   TRUE   CUTATION   TRUE   TRUE   CUTATION   CUTA													7	95
PERCECTA33   TICKCARUT TRACA COTATICA   TOLADAGE THANT INTATAMATITATION   17 -0.7   1 9									_				i	96
POOLY   PROPERTY   PROCEEDINGS   TOWN AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AN													_	96
POOLVIRON-P2   P   TOTTICAACACC ATURN TAATUUG										-1.6			1.3.4	
PEG3503   N									16	-3.0				97
Philia		•								-3.6			4	95
Philip	•	f.							17	-1.7				9
PRINCE		£	COCACTEMANTACE	TICCAA	AATACCTCC					-2.6				9
POCI-I-      DETECTION TO THE STATE TO THE STATE ACCOUNTY TO STATE STA									18	-1.7				9
POCI-IT	pori-I	ь	CICTROTICACTTI	TICACI	TCTCTATA					-3.2				9
PRODE   DESCRIPTION   DESCRI	•		_											9
PSCIOLOCIPI   P										-3.1			3,4	99
POSTIOLOGICIP3   PARMOCOTCAGNICA TOMACA TOAGNICG   CAMANICCT DRIGGT GENTRACTAMACC   17 -3.6   2.3   10	pSC101oriPl	P	T	TICIAG	ACCACCAAAC/				21	-4.4		1		102,103
PyTB1-Pl   D CITTCACACTOCC CURTA ACTOCAT   CAATGGA TAAAAT CCATACGGATHOCTIO 16   -4.2   -3.6   3   10	P								16			ŧ		102,103
Pyte	p6C1OlociP3	p.	ATACCCTCACATCA	TOMACA	TCAGTAGG	CAAAATOCT	TATOCT	CENTENCCEMANCC	17	-3.6			2,3	102,104
PYTED B TROCOCCAGGROAD TROCT TRUGTOC GAACTOCCA CATHAT ACGREECECCGTTTG 17 -2.6 3,4 10 PYTE-P1 B AGROCTICHAGGA TAGGAA TAACCOCC GGAACTOCC TATHAT GGGCAGCGACACTTTC 17 -1.8 4 10 PYTE-P2 B CINCOCCTICATA CROCCA CATCATACAC GTRUCTICT TRAMA ACGAGGGGTGAACTTTC 17 -1.8 4 10 PYTE-P2 B CINCOCCTICATA CROCCA TOCOCCATTCC GTRUCTCT TRAMA ACGAGGGGTGAACTTTC 17 -1.8 4 10 PYTE-P2 B CINCOCCTICATA CROCCAT TOCOCCCTTT TRAMA ACGAGGGGTGAACTTTC 17 -1.6 4 10 PYTE-P2 B COCCAGAACAACAACA 18 -4.5 9 PYTE-P2 B COCCAGAACAACACAC TRAMA CACACACACAC TATHAT CROCCAGACACACACAC TATHAT CROCCAGACACACACAC TATHAT CROCCAGACACACACACACACACACACACACACACACACACA											-3.6		-	105
Pyte-P    b ADDOCTICADA CROCA TRACCOC   CGAGTOCC TATRAT COCAGCACATTEC   17 -1.8   4   10														105
PTE-P2   D   CIMCOCOCTICATA CTOCOC ATCATAGAC   CITUTUTI TRIMAA ACCACAGGGGTGGAAGC   18   -4.6   4   10   10   10   10   10   10   10						CAACTOOCA	CATAAT	ACgreece(OGTTTG					3,4	106
REDORTHS   P CHACCOCCTINGCC COCCCT TOCCCCGTT   TRACTICET TATENT ATGRACACAGAG   18   -4.3   9	••					CCAACTCCC	TATAAT	COCCAGCOACATTTC					4	107,108
PAGEOGRAPHI   PAGEOGRAPHIC TIGAGE TITTICOGE   SCATADIAGE TREATE COCCOCATRACTIGATE   17 -1.6   9									_				4	108
RIRNAIT   PADDAGTEMATIC TICAGT GTICAGAA   CATTAGTIC TACATT ACTICATOGTTMAGGAA   17   -2.2   9   9   9   9   9   9   9   9   9														-
RENNIT   P ACDAAGCA TAGAC TITACT TIGTOOC   TROCKTOC TROKET ACTICATOGETHAGGAA 16 -2.4   9														•
PROCESSES   1														
THE BORDOGGIOATE ATTICA ACCOUNT CONTINUES FROM THE BORDOGGIO TO 4.0 4.5 2,3,4 50 CIPP(ENUSEP) B ANDOGGACOCOCC CIDEAC ACCOUNT CAMPOUNT TAILET COCCOUNTACCIDENC TO -1.2 1 10 CIPP THILL B CANCERCACCIDENT TO -1.2 1 10 CIPP THILL B CANCERCACCION TO -1.2 1 10 CIPP THILL B CANCERCA														-
TYPE DE ATMACCAACCOCC TEGACA ACCOCCC CAAACCTC TATACT COCCCCCAACCTCAC 17 -1.2 1 10 TYPE DE CATCACCCACCTC CYTOCC CYTOACC CATCACCC TECACAT CYTOACCCCCACCTC TACACC CYTOACCCCCACCTC TACACC CYTOACCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCCC												4 «	224	•
rplJ         b Tethaactaatooc typec 10000000         Catylic tacaat cynocccaccatta 17 -1.8         9           rpHIp         b Catocaccaccatc cytooc cythacc         Atcacccc type 2 -2.8         -2.9         4           rpH2p         b Ataccaaccaccatc cytooc cythact coccactc         Tacaattat theat coccacttaatc 17 -1.0         4         44           rpH3p         b AAATTAATCACCA TACACA AAAATTCC         CTBAATCA TCBAC AAAgstccCaccaCC         17 -2.3         4												→.5		109
TURNID D CATCOACGACCATE CTTOOL CTTMOCC ATCACCOOL TATAAT CUTCCACCCCCCCCCC 17 -2.8 -2.9 4 44 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17 17													-	
TURRED B ATMAGGAMAGNAM TREACT COCCAGRO TACAMETRAT TACAMET COCGCCCCTITMATC 17 -1.0 4 44 FURRED B AMATTAMICAGCA TAGACA AMANTICC CTIMATICA TICIMAT AMAGINECCAGGAGG 17 -2.3 4 44												-2 a	4	48
THEORY D ANATTIANTICACCA TAGACA AAAATTCC CITMATICA TUTMAT AAAgutcCCACCACG 17 -2.3 4 44									-	-		2.,	•	48
-tt														48
TOOK D THOUGHTATTTTC THOUGH AGTHOUGT TURKCHOOC TAGATT ACCURAGE CAMBUTT 17 -1.8 9													-	
The second secon		_							_					

	_												
rpoë	ъ	OCACITAMINIMET	COCACA	CCACCTCC	CTICICIC	TAAATC	CCAATGAAATOCTTOAA	16	-4.4				9
rpoD-Pa	ь	OCCUPATIONS	CACCEA	AAACCCAC	CACCATOOC	TATACT	TATAGOGTT	17	-3.5			2,4	110
гра0-Рь	ь	ACCCACCT	CTCACC	ACCOCCAA	CITITAGAG	CACTAT	OCTOCTACAMET	18	-4.6		-5.9	2.4	110
rpoD-Phs	ъ	ATOCTOCCACOC			ATCTCCCAC	CATATA	CCACACAGE	17	-2.9			4	110
rpoD-Pha/min	ь	000	TICAAA	AACTGTGGAT	CTOOCACCATA	TACCAG	ATAAGAATATegeT	21	-4.2	-2.9	-4.7	4	110
rm4.56	ъ	COCACOCCATOCC					COCCUTOCOCCTTOCCTT	17	-1.9			1	111
rmARP1		TITIMAATTIOCIC			TAACTOOC	TATAAT	CCCCCACCECTGACACG	16	-0.8				9
rmABP2	ъ	<b>CCAAAAATAAATCC</b>	TIGACT	CICINCOC	OCAACCCC	TATTAT	OCACAcccOOCOOCO	16	-1.4				9
rm3-P3	ъ	CIATCATAACCAT	DACTICA	TOTATOOTT	ATCAAACCCT	TAAAAT	COCCUPIENTCACCTIC	20	-4.1			2,4	112-114
rmB-P4	ь	COCTATOCCCTCAC					ACCCAACCTCTTCCACA	15	-3.8			2.4	112-114
TIMOEXCP2		CCTGAAATTCACCG					ACCCCACCTOCCCACAG		-1.7			-	9
rmD-Pl		CATCAAAAAAATAC			CCCATCCC	TATAAT	COCCOCTOCKTTCACACG	16	-2.7				9
1		CIOCAATITTICIA					CCCCCTCCATCCACACG		-2.3				9
g · _ ·		TTEATATETTTOOC					COCCACCACTICACACG		-0.8				9
TOG-P2		AACCAAAGAAATCC					OCACACODOCCOCCO		-1.4				9
,		ATOCATTITICOCC					CCCCCTCC+TCCACACG		-1.2				9
RSPprimer		<b>GCAADACCTGTTOG</b>					CTCATHAATAAACAA	17	-2.0				9
RSPmal		THEAGCAGTFICTE						18	-1.8				9
510		TACTAGCAATACCC					COCCESSCENCIA	16	-2.2				9
ach-Pl		ATATUTACCTOAA					COCCOCACICTOCCAA		-1.0			4	57,115
adh-P2		ACCITICOCCUATIA					CTOCCOC TOCTTACOC		-2.9			4	57,115
		COCITIATITITIC					COOCECOCTOCATA	17	-2.2			•	9
spc spot42r							THETOCHTACOCTACA		-3.2		-3.3		9
, .		TINCAAAACTOCT TAGTAAAACOOCTA					-	18	-2.9		-3.3		116,117
sab									-0.3				9
str		TOGTTGTATATTIC					TOOOCHTOCTCATAT	17	-3.6			4	22
sucAB		AAATOCAGGAAATC					TTDAAA	18	-1.4			7	9
		CCTTCAAAAAGACG					COOCOCCECAACOCCCA		-1.8				9
17-AL		TATCAAAAAGAGTA					TACACCOUNTOCACACCC		_				9
T7-A3		CTCAAACAAAACCC					CTACCACATGAAACGAC		-1.2				9
17-C		CATTGATAAGCAAC						17	-2.1				9
17-D		CTTTAAGATACOOG					TENGCINTEGCTTEN		-1.9				
T7A2		ACCAAAAACACCCDA					ACAAATOgCTAGCTAAC		-1.3				9
	P	CTTACCCATC					CAACCCCHCTACACATA		-2.4			1,3	118
	Ħ	AATGAGCTC					CICIOCASTICIC	16	-0.4				119,120
Th10Pin	P			TOCATACAC			CAAATOCTTTCgCCAAA		-3.5		-5.0		9
Th10Pout	P	ACTICIDATED COCC	CACAAT	TOCTMARC				17	-2.7				9
Th10tetA	p	ATTOCHATTITTIC	TICACA	CICIATCAT	TCATACACT	TATTT	ACCACTOCCTATCACT	18	-1.4				9
Tnl0tetR	P	TATICATITCACTI			ACCICACTICC	TAAAAT	AACTOTATCAATGATA	18	-2.2				9
IniOtetR*	p	TOATHOOGAG	TOOTINA	AATAACTC	TATCAATCA	TACACT	CICAAC	17	-3.0			4	122
Thl0xxPl	p	TEAAAATTTTCTTC	TICATO	ATTITIAT	TTOCATCA	DACATI	TAAAADIACADACC	16	-2.6			4	123
Tnl0xxP2	P	AAATCTTCTTAAGA	TICICA	CCACCACA	TCATCATCA	TACCAT	AAACHTACTGACCG	17	-1.8			4	123
TnlOxxP3	P				GICAGDATGIT	DATOCI	ATCATCATC TGTOCTC	21	-3.3		-4.6	4	123
Tn2660bla-P3	P	TITTICTAAATACA	TTCAAA	TATCTATC	OCCTCATCA	CACAAT	AACCCTGATAAATGCT	17	-2.6			2,4	124
		CCTTIATAAAATIC	TTCAAG	ACCANACC	OCCTOSTICA	TACCCT	TATELLLATAGGTEAA	17	-2.3			2,4	124
Tn266lbla-Pb	P	CCTC	CICATA	COCTEATT	TTTATACCT	TAATUT	CATCACAATAATOCITT	17	-3.1			2,4	124
Tn501mer	p	TTTTCCATATOCC	TICACI	COCTACATO	ACTINCOGANG	TAACCT	TACCCINTOCAATTIC	19	-3.2			3,4	125-127
In50lmerR	p	CATCOCCTICTOCT	TICCAA	TICAAATI	OGA <u>TAGOG</u>	TAACCI	TACTHOCCTACTCA	16	-3. <b>3</b>		-3.8	3,4	125-127
7n5IR	P	TOCACCATUTGATO	TTCCAT	CTCACCTC	CTAACATOG	TAACCT	TCATGATAACTTCTOCT	17	-3.4				9
Tin5neo	p	CAACCCAACCCCAA	TICCCA	OCTOOOCC	COCCTCTCC	TAACCT	TOOGAACCCCTOCAA	17	-2.1				9
In7-PLE	P	ACTAGACAGAATAG	TICINA	ACTGAAAT	CACTOCACT	TATECE	gtgassasCCAT	17	-1.6			4	128
tmaA	ь	<b>AAACAATTTCAGAA</b>	TACACA	AAAACTCT	CACTUDAA	TAATGT	ACCOTOGUETOTTCCC	16	-2.8				9
tonB	ь	ATOCTOTOCOTTA	TICAAT	ATCATTOCT	ATTICCATT	TAAAAT	CCACACCTOCTTT	18	-1.3			4	129
terfA	p	ACCCCCTAAACTIC	TICACA	CCCCAACCA	ATCTTTACC	TAAACT	ACACTOLOCT	18	-1.1			4	130,131
tæfB	p	ACCOCCTAAACCTC	TICACC	TOOCACAA	AUGITIMOC	TAAACT	TUTUTORIGI	17	-1.1			4	130
teop	ъ	TCTCAAATCACCTC	TECACA	ATDATCA	TOGAACTAG	TEAACT	AGEACCC AGTECACCT	17	-1.7				9
tapP2		ACCOCANGANANCO					AAACOCRACOCCOCC		-3.3				9
trp8		TOGOCACCTOCTEA					ACTICITE COCACTACA		-4.3	-2.8			9
tap6		COCCOCACCCTATOG					TOTALANATICACC	17	-4.5	-	-5.7		9
ttotA		CACCITACIATIOC					CAACEMGTTGGTTAA	18	-2.5			3	132
tufB		ATGCAATITITEAG					OCCOCCE CTICATOOC						9
tyrT		TCTCAACGTAACAC					OCCOCCATION OF A						ý
tyrT/109		ACAGOOGTCTTTG							-2.6			2-4	131
tyrT/140		TEAGTOSTCACIA					TACECTAATOS		-4.2		-5.2		131
tyrT/178	Ъ						GTOCA-DATACA		-5.2		-4.9		131
tyrT/212	ь			CCTACACAG			COCCOCAGCTOCTCACC				,	2-4	131
tyrT/6	ь						ATCATGEOCOCCTTC			-1 4	-1.6		131
tyrt/77	ь						COCTENCE ATEAAAAT		-4.3			2-4	131
uncI		TOOCTACTATION					TICACOCCUTTUCAT			7.2	-1.6		132,133
												<del></del>	
	_												

uwzB-Pl	b TOCAGTATACITIC TICOCA TACTTAC	TACCACCAG TAAAAT TACATACCTCCCCCC	17	-1.0		9
uvcB-P2	b teacaaatattaig cicaig aacietitt	TTDATOCAG TATAAT TEGTEORCATAATDAA	1.8	-2.5		9
uvrB-P3	b acagitatocacia ticcig togataac	CATCTCTAT THORET THORAGACACCACCCA	17	-3.7		9
uvrC	b GOCCATTIBOCAGE TIGHTE CAACCICA	ATTICAGAT TATOUT GATGECENCAAGG	17	-1.8	4	136
uw <u>r</u> D	b TOGAAATTTOOOGC TTOOCA TCTCTCAC	CTOOCIGA TATAAT CAGCAANTCICTATAT	16	-1.1	3	137
434PR	f AAGAAAACTGTAT TIGACA AACAAGAT	ACATIGINT GAAAAT ACAAGAAAgITTIGTIGA	1.7	-1.3		9
434PRM	f ACAMPTATOTICT TIGICA AATACAGT	TITICIEST CANCET TODOCCEMATANCACA	17	-2.4		9

List of promoter sequences arranged alphabetically by name (a) and aligned with respect to optimal -35 (c) and -10 hexamer sequences (d) consistent with the transcriptional start. Column (b) designates promoter type: b, bacterial; p, plasmid or transposon; f, phage; M, mutation or fusion which generates a new promoter; m, point mutation in an existing promoter. The lower case base(s) downstream of the -10 region denotes experimentally determined transcriptional start point(s). Column (e) indicates spacing in base pairs between -35 and -10 Column (f) reports relative promoter homology index (PHI) of hexamers. Column (g) promoter elements in columns c.d.e as described in the text. discrepancies between the promoter elements consistent with transcriptional start data and the best promoter elements independent of start data (indicated by double underlines). Only discrepancies for which the PHI values of these promoters differed by at least 0.5 are shown. Column (h) signals discrepancies between the computer selected promoter elements and published -35 and -10 sequences (shown by single underlines). The figures in these columns are PHI values corresponding to the underlined promoter elements. Column (i) indicates the nature of experimental data defining the transcription start: 1, total or partial RNA sequence with identification of the 5' nucleoside triphosphate; 2, mutational or genetic identification of -35 and -10 regions; 3, high resolution sizing of in vitro transcripts; 4, high resolution S1 nuclease mapping. The 112 promoters documented by Hawley and McClure (9) are included in this compilation and can be identified by a 9 in reference column (1).

- % Only one of the -35 or -10 promoter hexamers was unambiguously identified, thus no PHI value for the published promoter can be given.
- + Underlined -35 and -10 regions for these genes represent heat shock promoter elements which are apparently recognized by a distinct heat shock sigma factor (34).

column (f) whenever a combination of -35 and -10 elements found by the computer or in the literature is (i) more consensus-like than the elements our program finds, but (ii) inconsistent with the transcription start data.

# Base Distributions

Figure 1 shows the distribution of bases for analyzed promoters and indicates positions at which bases occur more frequently than chance by greater than 6 standard deviations (highly conserved, upper case bases) or 3 standard deviations (weakly conserved, lower case bases) (9). The base distribution of a compilation of random sequences is multinomial with probabilities  $p_T$ ,  $p_G$ ,  $p_C$ ,  $p_A$ , where  $p_T$ ,  $p_G$ ,  $p_C$ ,  $p_A$  are the frequencies of occurrence of T, G, G, and G, respectively. The standard deviation for each base G is  $\P(np_X(1-pX))$  where G is at that position. This statistic applies strictly only to

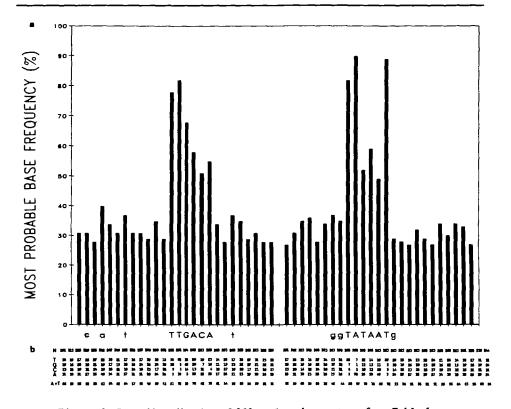


Figure 1. Base distribution of 263 analyxed promoters from Table 1.

(a) Frequency histogram of the most highly conserved base on the non-template strand from 12 bp upstream of the -35 hexamer to 11 bp downstream of the -10 hexamer. Highly conserved (upper case) and weakly conserved (lower case) bases, as defined in the text, are shown below the histogram. (b) Frequency of bases (T,G,C,A and T+A) in aligned promoters as a percentage of total number of bases (N) at each position.

non-aligned positions. Frequencies T,G,C,A are 0.284, 0.225, 0.217, and 0.274, respectively, in non-aligned positions, yielding weakly conserved bases at -11, -9, -6, and +3 with respect to the -35 region, and -2, -1 and +1 with respect to the -10 region. Two of these bases (the A 9 bases upstream of the -35 and the G 2 bases upstream of the -10 region) were previously identified as weakly conserved by Hawley McClure (9) using uniform and base frequencies (.25,.25,.25,.25) and a Poisson approximation to the multinomial distribution. A similar consensus sequence was derived by Rosenberg and Court (7) from analysis of 46 promoters.

It is difficult to assign statistics to the conservation of bases in the aligned regions. However, using either the multinomial or Poisson distribution

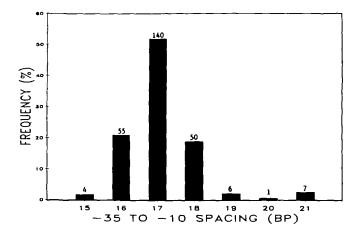
TABLE 2
Base Distribution in -35 and -10 Regions

(a)					-35						-10					
		T	T	G	A	C	A	T	A	T	A	A	T			
	T	78	82	15	20	10	24	82	7	52	14	19	89			
A11	G	10	5	68	10	7	17	7	1	12	15	11	2			
Promoters	С	9	3	14	13	52	5	8	3	10	12	21	5			
	Α	3	10	3	58	32	54	3	89	26	59	49	3			
Mean clonality				7	0					7	4					
(b)																
(-)	т	78	85	22	27	11	25	84	2	65	9	11	93			
Spacer = 16	G	9	4	67	9	7	13	5	ő	7	9	11	2			
(n=55)	C	7	5	9	9	58	5	4	2	5	9	15	5			
( 55)	A	5	5	2	55	24	56	7	96	22	73	64	o o			
Mean clonality	••	_	•	_	9		-	•	- •		1	04	v			
											_					
(c)																
	Т	82	81	15	18	10	25	79	9	49	15	25	89			
Spacer = 17	G	7	6	70	8	9	14	9	1	16	15	12	2			
(n=140)	С	7	3	13	17	50	1	12	2	9	14	21	6			
	Α	4	10	2	57	32	60	1	88	26	56	43	3			
Mean clonality				7	1				72							
(d)																
\ = /	T	75	82	12	14	14	18	88	10	49	18	18	86			
Spacer = 18	Ğ	18	6	69	14	4	29	4	2	6	20	12	2			
(n=50)	Č	8	Ö	12	8	47	12	6	4	22	11	25	4			
(	Ā	ō	12	-8	65	35	41	2	84	24	51	45	8			
Mean clonality		•		-	9			-			2					

Frequency of bases in -35 and -10 hexamers for (a) all 263 analyzed promoters from Table 1 (a), and promoters with 16 (b), 17 (c) or 18 (d) by separating the -35 and -10 regions. Mean clonality for each region is the arithmetic average of clonalities for each position within the region. Clonality of a base position is the square of the sum of squared frequencies at that position (138).

(which yields a larger standard deviation) and any of the base frequencies discussed above, all bases in the -35 hexamer and -10 hexamer appear highly conserved.

We did not align sequences with respect to transcription start point since in many cases this point is not precisely defined, due either to alternative initiation sites or experimental error in this determination. Nevertheless, the most probable bases 6-10 bp downstream of the -10 region, corresponding to the transcription start area of most promoters, reflect the sequence of bases in this region (CAT).



<u>Figure 2</u>. Distribution of promoters with 15-21 bp separating the -35 and -10 hexamers. The number of promoters in each group is indicated on top of the bars.

Base frequencies for -35 and -10 hexamers of all analyzed promoters are shown in Table 2a. Previous analysis of a limited compilation of promoter sequences suggested greater conservation of consensus-like sequences in promoters with -35 to -10 spacings of 16 or 18 bp than in promoters with the usual 17 bp spacing (J. McClarin and J. Hedgpeth, personal communication). To test this idea, subgroups of promoters with -35 to -10 spacing of 16, 17, or 18 bp were also tabulated (Table 2b-d). A composite measure of "clonality" for these regions (see Table legend) does not suggest an overall increase in conservation of bases in the -35 and -10 regions except in the -10 region of promoters with a 16 bp spacing. For these promoters, the -10 region is more consensus-like on average than the -10 region of other promoters. The statistical significance of these observations is difficult to determine since promoter sequences are not strictly independent.

## Inter-region (-35 to -10) Spacing

Figure 2 shows the frequency of occurrence of promoters with 15-21 bp separating the -35 and -10 regions. As previously observed, this spacing is stringently constrained: 92% of all sequences are optimally aligned when 17±1 bp separate the -35 and -10 regions. This is consistent with known severe effects of spacer mutations (13-16) and our current understanding of RNA polymerase:promoter interaction in which the protein complex contacts one side of the DNA helix (8). Inter-region spacing outside the 16-18 bp range presumably requires unusual polymerase or DNA conformations since conserved

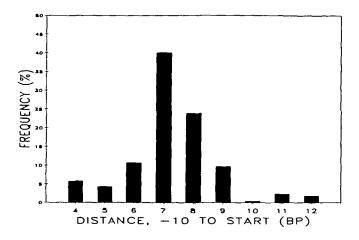
contact points would not lie on the same face of the DNA helix. Alternatively, the rarer inter-region distances may reflect interaction of regulatory proteins with RNA polymerase (1,2). It would be useful to obtain experimental data on interactions between RNA polymerase and DNA for promoters whose -35 to -10 spacing is thought to deviate significantly from 17 bp.

## Other Analyses

We did not include weakly conserved bases flanking the -35 and -10 regions in the weight matrix since this would limit the range of possible alignments for the -35 and -10 regions. The significance of weakly conserved bases has not been well studied and the apparent conservation of some of these bases may reflect chance. Furthermore, an analysis of our compilation using a weight matrix based on an extended -35 and -10 region (the 9 most highly conserved positions in each region) produced results similar to those shown in Table 1 (unpublished data). Stronger homology might exist in these flanking bases if slight variability in their spacing from the -35 and -10 regions were allowed.

We also did not use weakly conserved bases near the transcription start in our weight matrix because mutation studies have not supported a role for this region in promoter recognition by RNA polymerase (22,23). However, initiation points were used to validate computer-selected -35 and -10 regions by disqualifying promoters whose -10 region was not within 4-12 bp upstream of the start point. A relatively wide range of separation between these regions was allowed since experimental error in determining the start point is often ± 2 bp and actual constraints dictated by promoter/polymerase interactions are not Despite the weak constraint on promoter position imposed by the program 75% of optimal promoter alignments were 7  $\pm$  2 bp from the -10 hexamer (Fig. 3). This strengthens the notion that transcription initiation occurs 5-9 base pairs downstream from the -10 region. However, in 30 cases (column g), the program identified best-fit promoters inconsistent with the reported transcriptional start point. Such discrepancies have been noted for other, similar analyses (17,18,20) and have been attributed to either inadequacies in the computer algorithm for detecting promoters or inadequacies in experimental determination of transcriptional start points. These are likely explanations here as well, but since there have been few determinations of both polymerase contact points and sites of transcription initiation, a third possibility is that the true range of distance between the -10 and transcription start point has been underestimated.

McClure (2) outlined four generalizations of  $\underline{E}$ ,  $\underline{coli}$  promoters from analysis of 112 promoters: (i) all promoters using sigma factor 70 have at least two of



<u>Figure 3</u>. Distribution of promoters with transcription start points initiating 4-12 bases downstream of the -10 hexamer. Only promoters with uniquely defined start points are included in this analysis.

the three most highly conserved bases in the -10 region (TA...T), (ii) all promoters have at least one of the most highly conserved TTG residues in the-35 region, (iii) most promoters with poor homology to the consensus sequence in in the -35 region are positively regulated, and (iv) promoters using sigma factor 32 during heat shock have similar, non-consensus-like -10 regions. Our analysis supports these generalizations although some exceptions exist: 4 promoters (ada, cit.util-379, dapD, and ppc) listed in Table 1 break rule (i) and 2 promoters (lacP2 and pyrB1-P1) break rule (ii). Exceptions such as these are expected in larger compilations, but also might reflect differences in search algorithms. We have compared the ranking of the 112 promoters of Hawley and McClure (9) analyzed with the program of Mulligan et al. (16) with the ranking generated by our program. The correlation using Hawley and McClure's alignment was relatively high (Spearman rank-correlation coefficient = 0.81), but increased only slightly when our alignment was used (coefficient - 0.83). Therefore, there is no significant difference in the method by which the promoter homology score is derived.

### SUMMARY

We have compiled and analyzed 263 promoter of <u>E, coli</u> including 112 studied by Hawley and McClure (9). The major difference in our approach is in the reiterative alignment of promoter regions to select -35 and -10 regions most consistent with the reference list of promoters and with known transcriptional

The consensus sequence defined by this alignment (c.a..t.....TTGACA..t.....ggTATAATg) is identical in sequence to that of previous reports in the highly conserved -35 and -10 hexamer regions (7,9), but differs in some of the weakly conserved bases. Most aligned promoter elements identical to those identified by Hawley and McClure (9) or investigators reporting the promoter sequence. However, in 64 cases -35 and-10 regions were selected which were more consensus-like in sequence or interregion spacing than those proposed in the initial publication. Of these, 15 differed from that of the computer-selected promoter by more than one PHI unit corresponding to a factor of 10 in statistical similarity to the consensus The computer generated alignment of promoter elements is derived from and consistent with our current knowledge of promoter sequence and thus should provide the best indication of promoter structure.

Although this compilation and analysis is an improvement over previous analyses, it too suffers the limitation that without experimental data confirming points of interaction between RNA polymerase and -35 and -10 regions, it is not possible to align these regions by existing methods without introducing bias from the initial alignment. Assuming promoter regions are defined by restricted sequence data, the consensus sequence should be identified by a program which examines all possible alignments of all sequences. Execution of an exhaustive alignment algorithm is not presently feasible for large sequence compilations such as <u>E. coli</u> promoters. However, we suspect that such an analysis would not significantly alter the consensus promoter sequence as defined here.

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 $^{1}$ The promoter compilation will be provided upon receipt of a blank 5%" disk.

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