

See discussions, stats, and author profiles for this publication at: <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/30848306>

# A map of specific cleavage sites and tRNA genes in the chloroplast genome of *Euglena gracilis* bacillaris

ARTICLE *in* MGG - MOLECULAR AND GENERAL GENETICS · MARCH 1981

DOI: 10.1007/BF00425601 · Source: OAI

---

CITATIONS

11

---

READS

14

6 AUTHORS, INCLUDING:



**William Farmerie**

University of Florida

70 PUBLICATIONS 3,962 CITATIONS

SEE PROFILE



**Raafat El-Gewely**

University of Tromsø

64 PUBLICATIONS 695 CITATIONS

SEE PROFILE



**Margaret I Lomax**

University of Michigan

87 PUBLICATIONS 1,836 CITATIONS

SEE PROFILE

## A Map of Specific Cleavage Sites and tRNA Genes in the Chloroplast Genome of *Euglena gracilis bacillaris*

M. Raafat El-Gewely<sup>1</sup>, Margaret I. Lomax<sup>1</sup>, Elizabeth T. Lau<sup>1</sup>, Robert B. Helling<sup>1</sup>, William Farmerie<sup>2</sup>, and W. Edgar Barnett<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Division of Biological Sciences, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109, USA

<sup>2</sup> Division of Biology, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830, USA

**Summary.** A map showing locations of 22 of the 30 endonuclease EcoRI cleavage sites and 54 additional sites for eight other restriction endonucleases is presented. The regions of chloroplast DNA that hybridize with chloroplast tRNA are also shown.

### Introduction

Chloroplasts and mitochondria are self-duplicating, arising only by growth and division of pre-existing chloroplasts and mitochondria. These organelles contain unique genetic information, as revealed most simply by the demonstration that specific mutant genes can be located within them (Birky, Jr. 1978). Although chloroplasts and mitochondria may be considered genetically autonomous, obeying their own unique rules of inheritance, functionally they are not autonomous. For example, each contains a protein synthesizing apparatus dependent on RNA transcribed from organellar genes, but most ribosomal proteins are encoded in nuclear genes. In their reliance on the host genome, organelles are similar to viruses or other obligate intracellular parasites.

Our interest in understanding the organization, structures, and functions of organellar genes has focused on the chloroplast of the unicellular alga *Euglena gracilis*. These chloroplasts contain multiple copies of circular DNA molecules (c1DNA) about 130–140 kilobase pairs (kb) in circumference (Manning and Richards 1972; Slavic and Hershberger 1975). Each c1DNA molecule contains three complete sets of genes for ribosomal RNA (rRNA; Rawson et al. 1978; Gray and Hallick 1978; Kopecka et al. 1977; Helling et al. 1979) and approximately 24–30 transfer RNA (tRNA) genes (Schwartzbach et al. 1976; McCrea and Hershberger 1976; Gruol and Haselkorn 1976; Mubumbila et al. 1980). The overall organization of the rRNA genes (rDNA) in the two commonly studied laboratory strains, B (*bacillaris*) and Z, is similar, although differences in the rDNA leader sequences have been demonstrated (Helling et al. 1979). In addition a part of a fourth rRNA gene set has been identified in strain Z (Jenni and Stutz 1979). After subtracting the rRNA and tRNA genes, sufficient DNA remains to code for over 100 polypeptides of 25,000 daltons molecular weight.

We would like to achieve a complete map of the chloroplast genes of *E. gracilis bacillaris*, and an understanding of how these genes are regulated. In order to provide a framework within which we can place all other genes we have developed a c1DNA map showing 76 restriction endonuclease cleavage sites, and the locations of the tRNA and rRNA genes.

### Materials and Methods

**Strains.** All plasmids were maintained in *Escherichia coli* K12 strain RH202 ( $F^-$  *thi lacY tonA supE44 hss*) (Adams et al. 1979). *E. gracilis bacillaris* chloroplast DNA isolation was essentially as described (Lomax et al. 1977).

**Plasmids.** Recombinant plasmids containing chloroplast DNA fragments were constructed as described (Lomax et al. 1977; Helling and Lomax 1978; Helling et al. 1979). All plasmids were purified by transformation prior to DNA isolation. Plasmid DNA preparations were prepared as described (El-Gewely and Helling 1980). A list of the plasmids used in this study is presented in Table 1. Cloned fragments were released from the cloning vehicle by digestion with the appropriate restriction endonuclease, and the fragments were purified by rate-zonal sedimentation (El-Gewely and Helling 1980).

**Restriction Endonucleases.** The enzymes AvaI, BalI, BamHI, BglII, EcoRI, HindIII, HpaI, HpaII, KpnI, PstI, PvuII, SalI, TaqI, XhoI were purchased from New England Biolabs and/or Bethesda Research Labs and used as indicated on the instruction sheet. They are referred to as Ava, Bal, Bam, Bgl, Eco, Hin, HpaI, HpaII, Kpn, Pst, Pvu, Sal, Taq, and Xho in this paper.

**Table 1.** Recombinant plasmids containing chloroplast DNA

| Plasmid | Cloned chloroplast DNA fragment           | Size of fragments (kb) | Parent plasmid |
|---------|---|------------------------|----------------|
| pMIL    | 10 Eco L                                  | 3.30                   | RSF2124        |
|         | 12 Eco R                                  | 2.495                  | RSF2124        |
|         | 14 Eco R + V + 2A/2B <sup>a</sup>         | 2.49 + 1.34 + 0.92     | RSF2124        |
|         | 16 Eco 2A/2B <sup>a</sup>                 | 0.92                   | RSF2124        |
|         | 17 Eco S + U + 2A                         | 2.30 + 1.69 + 0.92     | RSF2124        |
|         | 19 Eco M                                  | 3.20                   | RSF2124        |
|         | 20 Eco V + X                              | 1.34 + 1.11            | RSF2124        |
|         | 22 Eco J + R                              | 3.65 + 2.495           | RSF2124        |
|         | 23 Eco P                                  | 2.95                   | RSF2124        |
|         | 26 Eco X                                  | 1.11                   | RSF2124        |
|         | 27 Eco I                                  | 4.65                   | RSF2124        |
|         | 28 Eco 2A/2B <sup>a</sup>                 | 0.92                   | RSF2124        |
|         | 34 Eco 2A/2B <sup>a</sup> + 2C (2 copies) | 0.92 + 2 × 0.87        | RSF2124        |
|         | 38 Eco T                                  | 1.77                   | RSF2124        |
|         | 48 Eco N + O                              | 3.05 + 2.95            | RSF2124        |
| pRBH    | 021 Sal C                                 | 4.40                   | pBR322         |
|         | 022 Bam F                                 | 5.25                   | pBR322         |
|         | 026 Bam E                                 | 5.68                   | pBR322         |
|         | 044 Eco P                                 | 2.95                   | RSF2124        |

<sup>a</sup> Fragment is either 2A or 2B as judged by size

**Electrophoresis.** Fractionation and size estimation of endonuclease-generated DNA fragments was achieved by agarose gel electrophoresis (Helling et al. 1974, 1979). Agarose concentration varied from 0.6 to 1.9% depending on the size of the fragments. P22-Eco fragments and/or pBR322-Taq fragments were used as DNA size standards.

**Transfer of DNA to Nitrocellulose Membranes.** Separated DNA fragments in agarose gels were photographically recorded, then denatured and transferred to nitrocellulose membranes (Southern 1975) essentially as described in Helling et al. 1979.

**Preparation of  $^{125}\text{I}$ -tRNA.** The tRNA was purified from isolated chloroplasts of *E. gracilis bacillaris*, and iodinated as described (Schwartzbach et al. 1976).

**DNA/tRNA Hybridization.** The dried filters containing denatured DNA fragments were incubated with the Denhardt mixture (Denhardt 1966) for 2–4 h at 65°C, in heat sealed freezing bags. Although RNA was reported not to bind to nitrocellulose membranes (Gillespie and Spiegelman 1965), the prehybridization treatment was found to be essential to reduce non-specific binding of tRNA and thus reduce the background. Prolonged incubation resulted in loss of DNA from the filters. Hybridization was made in the same bags, after decanting the prehybridization medium, for 16–24 h at 33°C. The hybridization mixture (pH 5.2) contained  $^{125}\text{I}$ -tRNA (23 µg/ml; specific activity about  $2 \times 10^6$  cpm/µg), unlabelled chloroplast rRNA (184–690 µg/ml), bovine serum albumin (20 µg/ml),  $2 \times \text{SSC}$ , 0.05 M ammonium acetate and 33% formamide. (SSC is 0.15 M NaCl-0.015 M sodium citrate, pH 7.0). After hybridization the filters were incubated with  $2 \times \text{SSC}$ ,

0.05 M ammonium acetate, 33% formamide (pH 5.2) for 20 min at 33°C, then washed 3 times with  $2 \times \text{SSC}$ , 0.05 M ammonium acetate pH 5.2. Filters were incubated at room temperature for 30 min with preboiled RNase A (Sigma Type 1 A) (20 µg/ml) in  $2 \times \text{SSC}$ , 0.05 M ammonium acetate pH 5.2, and washed in the same buffer 3 times and dried in a vacuum oven at 75° for 2 h. Bands were visualized by fluorography with intensifying screens at -70° (Swanstrom and Shank, 1978) and Kodak XR-5 film. Exposure was for one to six days.

## Results

**The Products of Restriction Endonuclease Digestion of Chloroplast DNA.** Purified chloroplast DNA from *E. gracilis bacillaris* was treated with ten restriction enzymes (separately) and each digest was subjected to agarose gel electrophoresis. The number and sizes of fragments generated by each nuclease were determined, as shown in Tables 2 and 3. Sma did not cleave c1DNA, in agreement with data on c1DNA from strain Z (Kopecka, Crouse and Stutz, 1977; Gray and Hallick, 1978). Sma and Xho recognition sequences belong to the family of nucleotide sequences cut by Ava (Table 3). Ava sites in cloned segments of the rDNA that are not cut by Xho are also not cut by Sma, even though Sma cuts  $\lambda$ DNA made in the same strain of *E. coli* (not shown). Lack of cleavage of c1DNA by Sma probably reflects lack of any CCCGGG sequence, rather than modification of the Sma recognition site of DNA in the chloroplast.

**Table 2.** Sizes of c1DNA fragments generated by enzyme (in base pairs)<sup>a</sup>

| Fragment | Enzyme | EcoRI | Ava I | Bal I | Xho I | BamHI | Pvu II | Pst I | Kpn I | Sal I |
|----------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| A        |        | 21340 | 41580 | 37345 | 47835 | 57350 | 67510  | 52435 | 73005 | 86675 |
| B        |        | 19610 | 26695 | 26440 | 41580 | 45195 | 25850  | 36790 | 50050 | 42925 |
| C        |        | 9700  | 12070 | 17345 | 29495 | 14830 | 21300  | 26065 | 5695  | 4400  |
| D        |        | 9090  | 10690 | 12480 | 5680  | 5695  | 8800   | 11660 | 5250  |       |
| E        |        | 7400  | 10680 | 10300 | 5250  | 5680  | 6850   | 7050  |       |       |
| F        |        | 7300  | 7700  | 7360  | 3550  | 5250  | 3690   |       |       |       |
| G        |        | 7000  | 3850  | 6500  | 610   |       |        |       |       |       |
| H        |        | 5300  | 3450  | 5680  |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| I        |        | 4650  | 2800  | 5250  |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| J        |        | 3650  | 2800  | 2900  |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| K        |        | 3650  | 2750  | 2400  |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| L        |        | 3300  | 2130  |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| M        |        | 3200  | 2115  |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| N        |        | 3050  | 1685  |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| O        |        | 2950  | 765   |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| P        |        | 2950  | 765   |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| Q        |        | 2570  | 765   |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| R        |        | 2495  | 610   |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| S        |        | 2300  | 100   |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| T        |        | 1770  |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| U        |        | 1690  |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| V        |        | 1340  |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| W        |        | 1130  |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| X        |        | 1130  |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| Y        |        | 1120  |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| Z        |        | 950   |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| 2A       |        | 920   |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| 2B       |        | 920   |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| 2C       |        | 870   |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |
| 2D       |        | 430   |       |       |       |       |        |       |       |       |

<sup>a</sup> Fragments below about 200 base pairs would not have been detected. Sizes of fragments larger than 12 kb were estimated by adding component segments generated by cutting with other restriction nucleases (see text), and setting total c1DNA size at 134 kb

**Table 3.** Predicted and observed numbers of restriction endonuclease cleavage sites in cDNA

| Enzyme              | Recognition Sequence | No. of cleavage sites expected <sup>a</sup> |                             | No. of cleavage sites observed <sup>b</sup> |                              |
|---------------------|----------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------|
|                     |                      | total                                       | -repeated rDNA <sup>c</sup> | total                                       | -repeated sites <sup>c</sup> |
| Sma I               | CCC↓GGG              | 0.5   | 0.5                         | 0   | 0                            |
| Sal I               | G↓TCGAC              | 4.6   | 4.3                         | 3   | 3                            |
| Kpn I               | GGTAC↓C              | 4.6   | 4.3                         | 4   | 2                            |
| Pst I               | CTGCA↓G              | 4.6   | 4.3                         | 5   | 5                            |
| BamH I              | G↓GATCC              | 4.6   | 4.3                         | 6   | 4                            |
| Pvu II              | CAG↓CTG              | 4.6   | 4.3                         | 6   | 6                            |
| Xho I               | C↓TCGAG              | 4.6   | 4.3                         | 7   | 5                            |
| Bal I               | TGG↓CCA              | 4.6   | 4.3                         | 11  | 9                            |
| Ava I <sup>d</sup>  | C↓PyCGPuG            | 3.0   | 2.8                         | 12  | 8                            |
| EcoRI               | G↓AATTC              | 41.7  | 38.3                        | 30  | 26                           |
| Total without EcoRI |                      | 35.7  | 33.4                        | 54  | 42                           |
| Total with EcoRI    |                      | 77.4  | 71.7                        | 84  | 68                           |

<sup>a</sup> Assumes 75% A+T base composition (Brawerman and Eisenstadt, 1964; Ray and Hanawalt, 1964; Edelman et al., 1964), and a total cDNA size of 134 kb

<sup>b</sup> Minimal estimate because several adjacent sites might be counted as a single site

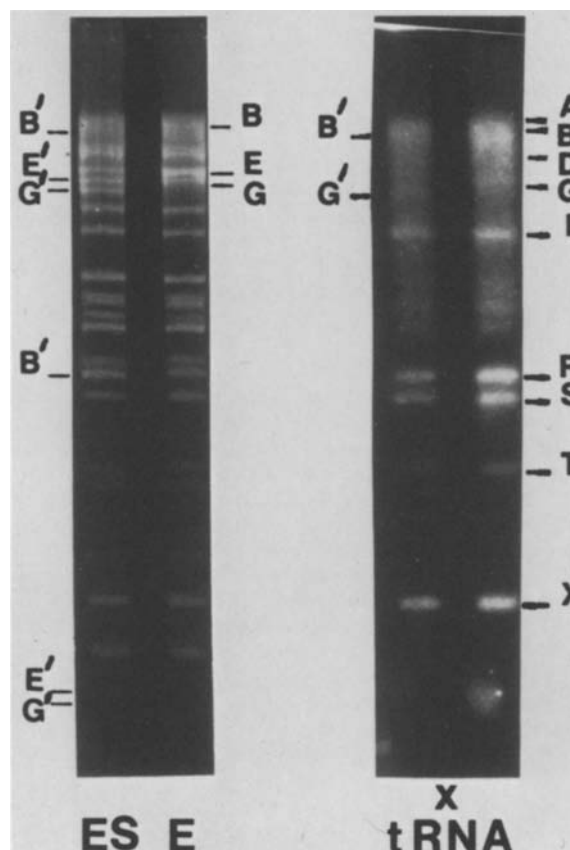
<sup>c</sup> 11 kb corresponding to two of the three repeated rRNA gene sets, and corresponding restriction sites were subtracted from the entire genome totals to obtain these estimates

<sup>d</sup> Does not include Xho or Sma sites which are also cleaved by Ava

The thirty Eco fragments sum to almost 134 kb, and so we have assumed a total chloroplast genome size of 134 kb. From the size and base composition of the DNA, and the specificity of each restriction endonuclease, the number of cleavage sites per cDNA molecule can be predicted (Table 3). In most cases the observed number of sites agrees with the predicted number, especially when the repeated rRNA genes are not considered (Table 3).

**Mapping Restriction Sites in cDNA by Digestion with Two or More Restriction Enzymes.** We have previously mapped two of the three Sal sites, nine Eco sites, and associated rRNA genes (Helling et al. 1979). Figure 1 shows that Sal cleaves Eco fragments B, E, and G. Furthermore the two Sal cleavage products of each Eco fragment can be identified. Similar double-digest patterns of cDNA have been used to determine the positions of other restriction sites. (Figs. 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, Tables 4–6). Although every double digest contained some fragments that were too large to estimate precisely, the use of many combinations allowed precise distance estimates to be made over most of the chloroplast chromosome (i.e., based on digestion products of 0.6 to 5 kb).

The three Sal segments of cDNA could be oriented (going clockwise from the origin) as Sal C—Sal A—Sal B, or as Sal C—Sal B—Sal A. (The map origin was defined by the Sal C fragment; Helling et al. 1979). The following results show the former order to be correct. Sal cleaves Bam C into two new fragments whose combined lengths (2.71 kb and approximately 12 kb; Table 5) equal that of Bam C (about 14.8 kb). The distance from the Sal site at the map origin counterclockwise until about 12 kb past the last Bam site in the rDNA repeat region corresponds to the estimated size of Sal B. Bam B must extend across the map origin because it was also cleaved by Sal. If the alternative order Sal C—Sal B—Sal A were correct, then the Bam fragments



**Fig. 1.** Chloroplast tRNA hybridization with cDNA digested by Eco (E) and by Eco + Sal (ES). Left: DNA fragment pattern after agarose-gel electrophoresis. Eco fragments before and after cleavage by Sal are designated. Right: Corresponding hybridization patterns with tRNA. Hybridizing Eco fragments, and hybridizing derivatives of Eco B and Eco G after Sal cleavage are identified

would necessarily be ordered as B—C—A—D—E—F (instead of the correct order B—A—C—D—E—F), the termini of Sal B falling within Bam B and Bam C. However the sizes of the Sal-Bam digest products do not agree with those expected of this alternative arrangement. All of our results agree with the order: Sal C—A—B, and Bam B—A—C—D—F—E.

With pairs of enzymes producing few fragments, the cleavage patterns are generally simple (as shown in Fig. 2 for Bal+Kpn and Bal+Xho). Kpn cuts cDNA four times; three sites have already been located within the rDNA (Helling et al. 1979). Kpn cleaves Bal D, G, H, and I (Fig. 2). The Bal fragments G, H and I each correspond to the length of the rDNA repeat (Table 2), and location of those Bal fragments in the rDNA was confirmed by hybridization with rRNA and cleavage of cloned rDNA segments (not shown). Similar double-digest experiments showed that the fourth Kpn site is in fragments Ava A, Bam A or B, Eco A, Pvu E, Sal A, and Xho A or B. Bal D is cleaved only by Pvu and Kpn (Table 4), and Pvu E is cleaved only by Bal and Kpn (Table 4). These results place both Bal D and Pvu E within Ava A, Eco A and Sal A. From the sizes of the derivative fragments, the Kpn site and the sites bounding Bal D and Pvu E were located with respect to each other. The Eco-Kpn double-digest pattern of cDNA showed Kpn splits Eco A into new fragments of approximately 5.7 kb and 15.6 kb. (All other bands in the gel could be accounted for as Eco fragments not cleaved by Kpn, or as Kpn-Eco fragments from the rRNA genes.) Similar double-digests with Eco+Bal and Eco+

**Table 4.** Cleavage products resulting from digestion of cDNA with Bal and another restriction endonuclease

| Bal – Bam          |                     | Bal – Kpn          |                     | Bal – Pst          |                     | Bal – Pvu          |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Fragment size (kb) | Equivalent fragment | Fragment size (kb) | Equivalent fragment | Fragment size (kb) | Equivalent fragment | Fragment size (kb) | Equivalent fragment |
| 23                 | Bal C               | 40                 | Bal A               | 15.3               | Bal D               | 20                 | Bal C               |
| 17                 |                     | 26                 | Bal B               | 15.2               |                     |                    |                     |
| 15                 |                     |                    |                     | 12.5               |                     | 18                 |                     |
| 14                 |                     | 17                 | Bal C               | 11.7               |                     | 17                 |                     |
| 12.5               | Bal D               | 10.3               | Bal E               | 11.1               | Bal E               | 12                 | Bal E               |
| 11.5               |                     | 9.6                |                     | 10.7               |                     | 10.3               |                     |
| 10.3               | Bal E               | 7.36               | Bal F               | 10.3               |                     | 8.8                |                     |
| 7.36               | Bal F               | 3.43               |                     | 7.36               | Bal F               |                    | Pvu D               |
| 5.40               |                     | 3.42               |                     | 7.05               | Pst E               | 6.7                | Bal G               |
| 5.39               |                     | 3.06               |                     | 6.6                |                     | 6.5                |                     |
| 4.96               |                     | 2.99               |                     | 6.5                | Bal G               | 6.3                |                     |
| 2.61               |                     | 2.90               | Bal J               | 5.68               | Bal H               | 6.2                |                     |
| 2.40               | Bal K               | 2.84               |                     | 5.25               | Bal I               | 5.68               | Bal H               |
| 1.095              |                     | 2.40               | Bal K               | 3.45               |                     | 5.25               | Bal I               |
| 0.29 (× 3)         |                     | 2.26 (× 2)         |                     | 2.90               | Bal J               | 3.69               | Pvu F               |
|                    |                     |                    |                     | 2.40               | Bal K               | 2.90               | Bal J               |
|                    |                     |                    |                     |                    |                     | 2.40               | Bal K               |
|                    |                     |                    |                     |                    |                     | 1.75               |                     |
|                    |                     |                    |                     |                    |                     | 0.66               |                     |

**Table 5.** Cleavage products resulting from digestion of cDNA with Bam and another restriction endonuclease

| Bam – Pst          |                     | Bam – Pvu          |                     | Bam – Sal          |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Fragment size (kb) | Equivalent fragment | Fragment size (kb) | Equivalent fragment | Fragment size (kb) | Equivalent fragment |
| 35                 | PstB                | 30                 |                     | 60                 | Bam A               |
| 25                 |                     | 26                 | Pvu B               | 27                 |                     |
| 20                 |                     | 21                 |                     | 14                 |                     |
| 14.8               | Bam C               | 14.8               | Bam C               | 12                 |                     |
| 11.7               | Pst D               | 8.8                | Pvu D               | 5.695              | Bam B               |
| 7.05               | Pst E               | 6.85               | Pvu E               | 5.68               | Bam E               |
| 5.695              | Bam D               | 5.695              | Bam D               | 5.25               | Bam F               |
| 5.68               | Bam E               | 5.68               | Bam E               | 4.40               | Sal C               |
| 5.25               | Bam F               | 5.25               | Bam F               | 2.71               |                     |
| 1.45               |                     | 4.05               |                     |                    |                     |
| 0.40               |                     | 3.69               | Pvu F               |                    |                     |
|                    |                     | 0.70               |                     |                    |                     |

**Table 6.** Cleavage of Eco fragments of cDNA by Bam

| Eco fragment (kb) | Products of Bam cleavage (kb) |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| B (19.6)          | 16.5 + 3.23                   |
| F (7.30)          | 4.85 + 2.45                   |
| H (5.30)          | 4.37 + 0.93                   |
| K (3.65)          | 3.35 + 0.3                    |
| M (3.20)          | 2.45 + 0.75                   |
| O (2.95)          | 2.45 + 0.50                   |

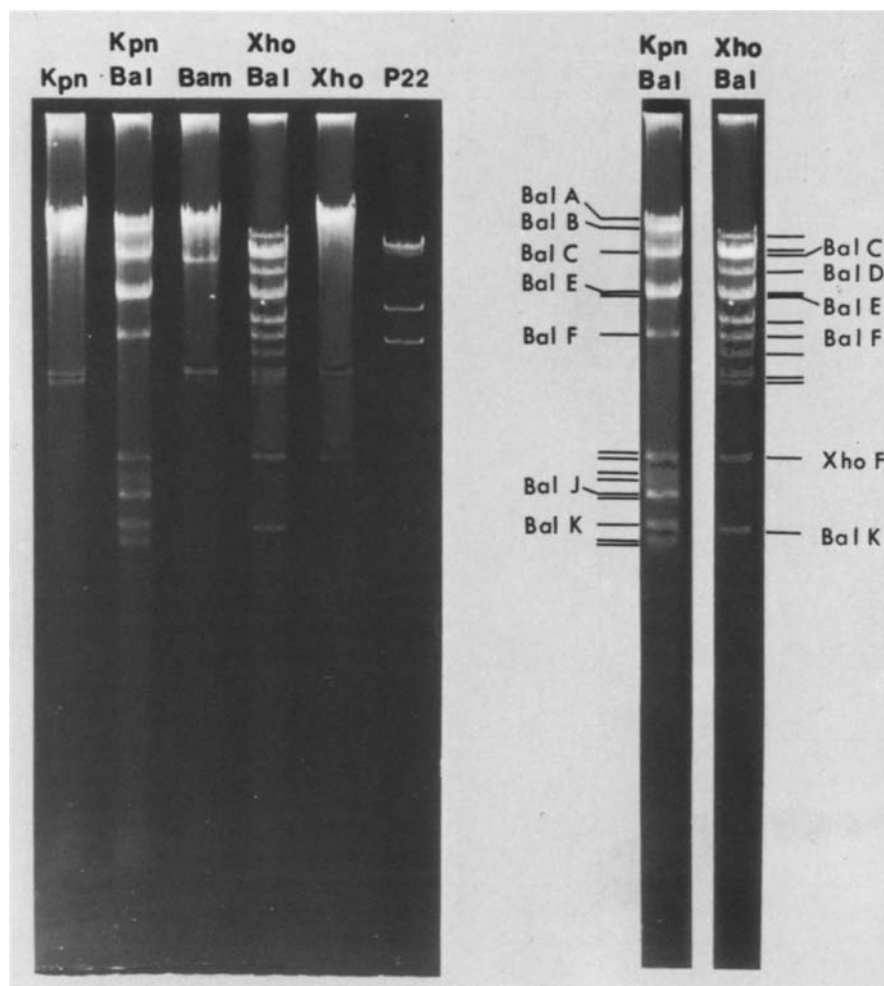
Pvu allowed positioning the relevant Bal, Kpn and Pvu sites within Eco fragment A.

The gel patterns revealed most of the Eco fragments that could be cleaved by a second enzyme. For example, Table 6 lists the six Eco fragments that are cleaved by Bam, and the sizes of the derivative fragments. The locations of Bam sites within Eco B, M, and O were already known (Helling et al. 1979). Of the remaining new Eco-Bam fragments, the 4.85 kb

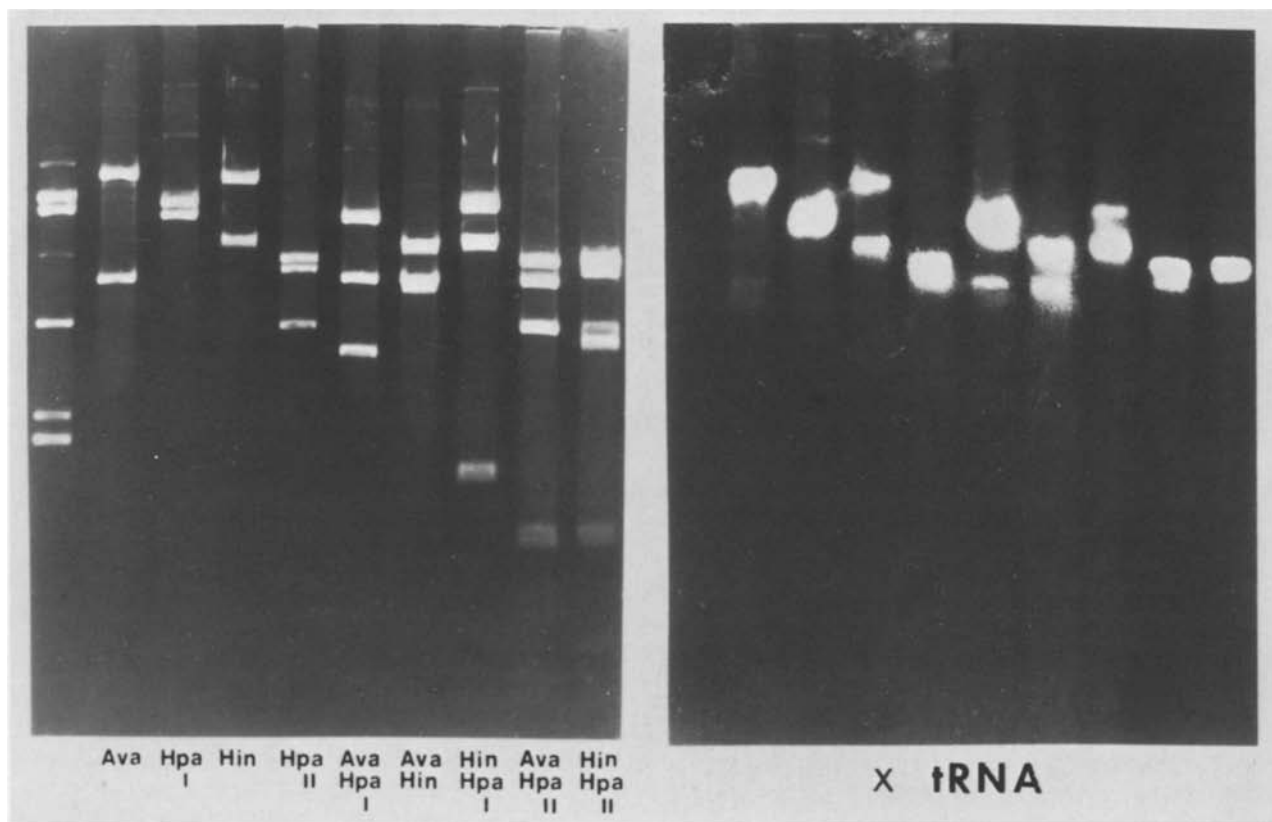
and 4.37 kb segments must be associated with Eco F and Eco H because each was larger than Eco K. The correct combinations of pairs of double digest products could be determined readily by addition of lengths. We identified the origins of double digest fragments resulting from cleavage with Eco plus Pst, Xho, or Kpn similarly.

We have carried out double-digestions of cDNA with each possible pair of restriction endonucleases. In several cases triple digests were made in order to confirm mapping assignments. The sum of the data obtained is contained in Tables 2, 4–7, and Fig. 9–10. The use of cloned cDNA segments, and hybridization with cloned cDNA or with tRNA simplified our analysis and confirmed our initial mapping as described below.

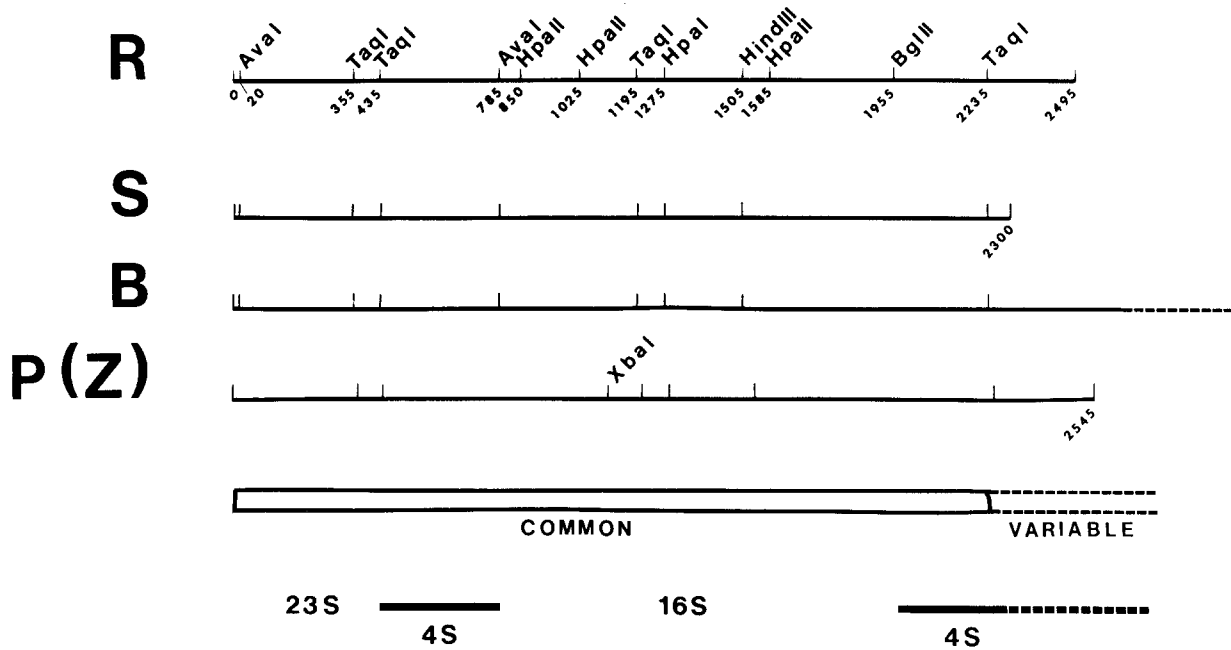
*The Use of Cloned cDNA Fragments for Mapping.* Most of the Eco fragments of cDNA have been cloned in plasmids of *E. coli* (Table 1; Lomax et al. 1977; Helling et al. 1979). The cloned fragments were used for detailed restriction site mapping. Cleavage patterns of purified Eco fragment R digested by several



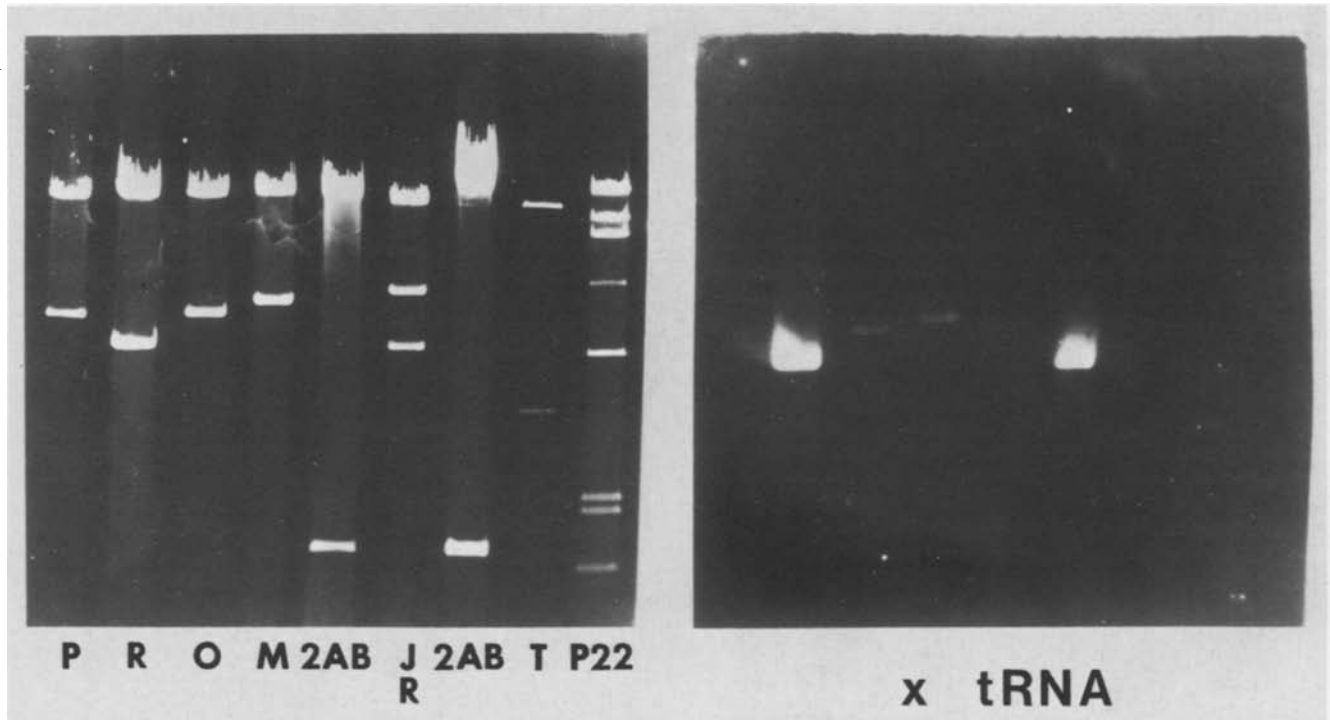
**Fig. 2.** Agarose gel electrophoresis patterns of cDNA after cleavage by restriction endonucleases



**Fig. 3.** tRNA hybridization with cloned cDNA fragment Eco R after digestion with other endonucleases. Left track in agarose gel (left) shows Taq fragments of pBR322 DNA



**Fig. 4.** Restriction site map of proximal portion of the three repeated rRNA gene sets of strain B (Eco fragments R, S, and B) and the equivalent region of strain Z. Segments hybridizing with chloroplast tRNA (Fig. 3) are designated below. Data for strain Z (fragment P) are from Orozco (1979)

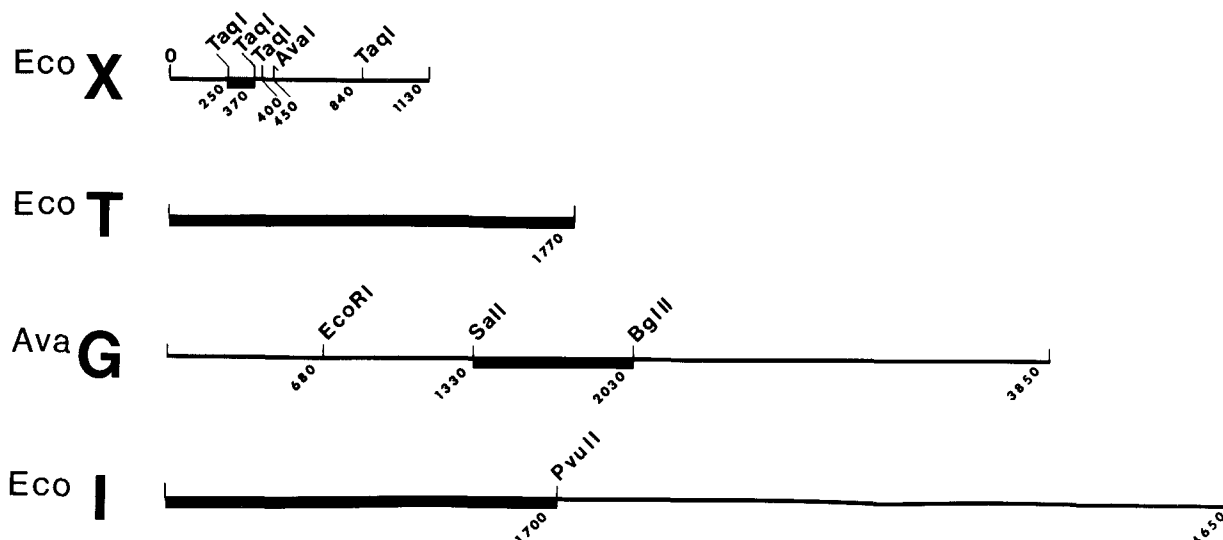


**Fig. 5.** Hybridization of tRNA with cloned segments of cDNA. Cloned segments are designated. Largest band in each slot except the rightmost corresponds to the pBR322 cloning vehicle. Right slot contains Eco fragments of P22 DNA

restriction endonucleases are shown in Fig. 3. As an example of the way in which this and other data were analyzed to obtain a restriction site map of fragment R, consider slots 3 (*Hpa* I), 4 (*Hind*III), and 8 (both enzymes). Each enzyme cut fragment R once, generating two new fragments. Comparison of the three gel patterns reveals that the *Hpa* site is within the larger *Hin* fragment, and the *Hin* site is within the smaller *Hpa* fragment. From the sizes of the fragments, a unique restriction site map

is readily determined. Detailed maps of fragment R, the homologous region of each of the other rRNA gene repeats, and the equivalent segment from strain Z are shown in Fig. 4.

**Genes for tRNA.** <sup>125</sup>I-labelled tRNA from chloroplasts was used as a hybridization probe with the cloned cDNA segments. Consider the results shown in Fig. 5. The RNA hybridized with Eco fragments R and T but not with the plasmid carrier or

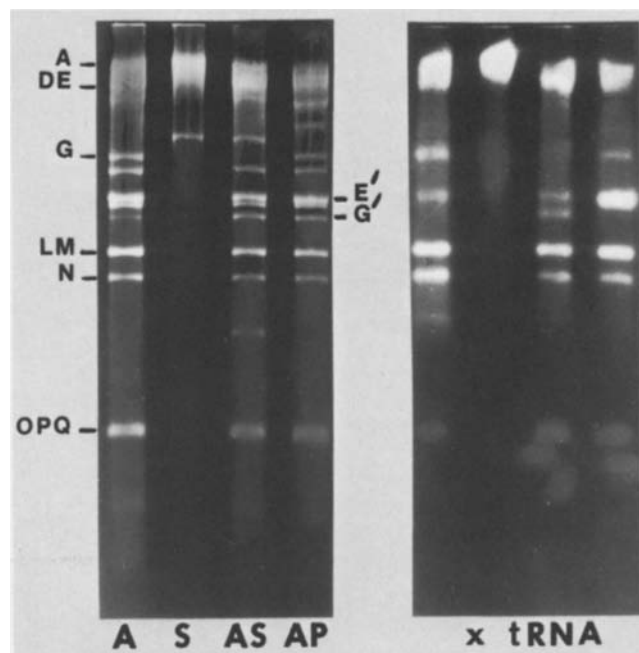


**Fig. 6.** Regions of tRNA hybridization with cloned fragments of cDNA. tRNA hybridizes with the segments delineated by heavy bars



**Fig. 7.** Chloroplast hybridization with cDNA digested by Xho (X), Eco (E), or Xho+Eco (XE). Left: Separation of cDNA fragments by agarose gel electrophoresis. Xho and Eco fragments hybridizing with tRNA are designated. Right: corresponding hybridization patterns with tRNA

with other cloned cDNA segments. This and similar experiments with other cloned fragments (Table I) showed hybridization to Eco fragments I, R, S, T, and X, but not to fragments, J, L, M, O, P, U, V, W, 2A or 2B, and 2C. (Eco fragments M and O showed some hybridization to contaminating breakdown



**Fig. 8.** Chloroplast tRNA hybridization with cDNA digested by Ava (A), Sal (S), Ava+Sal (AS), or Ava+Pst (AP). Left: Separation of cDNA fragments by agarose gel electrophoresis. Hybridizing Ava fragments are designated. The hybridizing subfragments of Ava G after cleavage by Sal (slot 3) and Ava E after cleavage by Pst (slot 4) are also noted. Right: corresponding hybridization patterns with tRNA

products of rRNA co-purifying with the tRNA if excess unlabelled rRNA was not present during hybridization.)

Hybridization of tRNA to subfragments of the relevant cloned fragments allowed us to determine the positions of the tRNA genes more precisely. Fig. 3 shows the tRNA hybridization patterns to subfragments of Eco segment R. The results reveal two regions within R that hybridize with the tRNA. For example, both HindIII fragments hybridize (slot 4); the two tRNA hybridizing regions are shown in the map in Fig. 4. The RNA hybridized at equivalent positions in each of the three sets of rRNA associated genes. Hybridization in the left region may extend into the Taq fragment with coordinates 355 to 435.



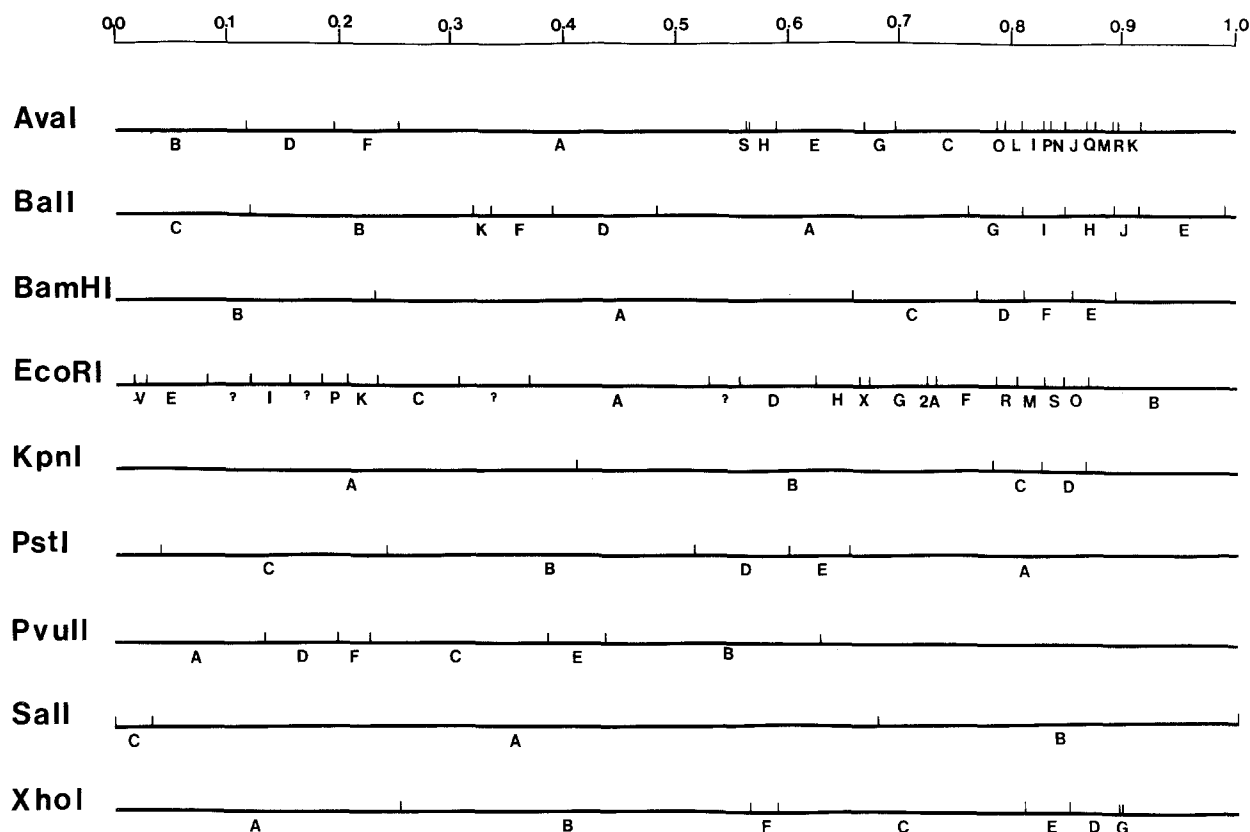


Fig. 9. *Euglena* cDNA restriction site maps for nine endonucleases

No positive result was obtained with this fragment, but the fragment is too small for the result to be meaningful. The tRNA hybridized to the region right of the Bgl site at coordinate 1955, but not to the Bgl-Taq fragment from coordinates 1955–2235. Hybridization to the segment right of the Taq site at 2235 was observed to be less intense than to the equivalent Bgl fragment (right of the coordinate 1955), probably because of less efficient binding of the smaller fragment to nitrocellulose.

Less complete restriction site maps showing the positions of tRNA hybridization within other cloned cDNA segments are shown in Fig. 6. Total cDNA digested by each endonuclease separately, and in pairwise combination, was hybridized with tRNA. The RNA hybridized with Eco fragments A, B, D, G, I, R, S, T, and X (Fig. 1), consistent with the results with cloned fragments. The tRNA hybridized with the larger of the derivatives of Eco B and G cleavage by Sal (Fig. 1).

The intensity of fluorescence varies reproducibly among hybridizing fragments. These differences may be attributed to non-uniform labelling of different RNA species by radioiodination, variation in concentration of different kinds of RNA molecules, lower efficiency of transfer of large DNA molecules from the gel, and lower efficiency of binding of small DNA fragments to the nitrocellulose filter. The latter two variables are unlikely to be significant for DNA molecules between 8 kb and 0.5 kb in size (Southern 1975).

The tRNA hybridized with all of the Xho fragments except the smallest (G; Fig. 7). However hybridization to Xho F was faint and not always observed. Hybridization was never observed to Ava H, a 0.1 kb-shorter derivative of Xho F (Fig. 8). As expected, cleavage of Eco B by Xho released a 2.9 kb fragment containing tRNA genes (Fig. 7); this fragment corresponds to the proximal end of the clockwise-most rDNA repeat (Helling et al. 1979).

The tRNA-hybridizing fragment Ava G is cleaved by Sal to release two segments, the larger containing the hybridizing sequence (Fig. 8). Ava G was cloned, and the restriction map and hybridization pattern of the isolated segment determined. The results show that tRNA hybridizes with a 0.7 kb portion between a Sal site and a Bgl II site (Fig. 6). The cloned Ava G fragment was isotopically labelled by nick-translation (Helling et al. 1979), and hybridized to a filter-blot of Eco-digested cDNA. Ava G was observed to hybridize only with Eco fragments G and X (not shown). Therefore Ava G overlaps adjoining Eco fragments G and X. The restriction and hybridization patterns of Ava G, Eco G, and Eco X yield the unique orientation of the fragments shown in the overall maps (Figs. 9–11).

## Discussion

We have located precisely the cDNA restriction sites for nine endonucleases through analysis of single- and double-digest restriction patterns of total cDNA and of cloned cDNA segments, and by hybridization studies (Fig. 9, 10). The distance clockwise from the Sal C site defining the map origin to the first recognition site for each enzyme is given in Table 7. All of our results are consistent, and we believe this map to be accurate subject to the following qualifications. 1) The orientation of Xho F with its internal Ava site has not been determined. 2) The Eco fragment between Eco G and Eco F was designated Eco 2A because the distance separating Eco G and Eco F corresponds approximately to the size of Eco 2A. However this assignment has not been verified directly. Our results are consistent with and more extensive than current restriction site maps for the Z strain (Hallick et al. 1979). The single striking difference between the B and Z cDNA maps resides in the rDNA. Here the leader sequences of each rDNA repeat differ both among

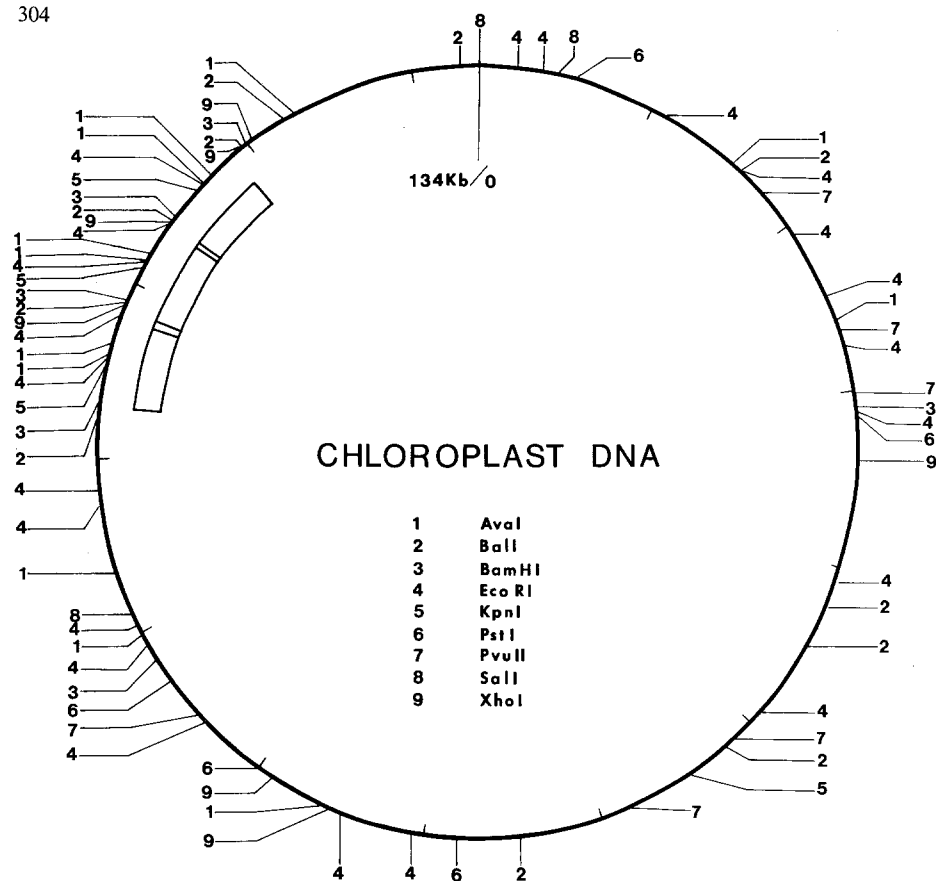


Fig. 10. *Euglena* cDNA map showing locations of cleavage sites for nine endonucleases, and the three repeated rRNA gene sets. *Ava* also cuts at all *Xho* sites (Table 3). Locations of eight of the thirty known *Eco* sites remain to be identified (see Fig. 9)

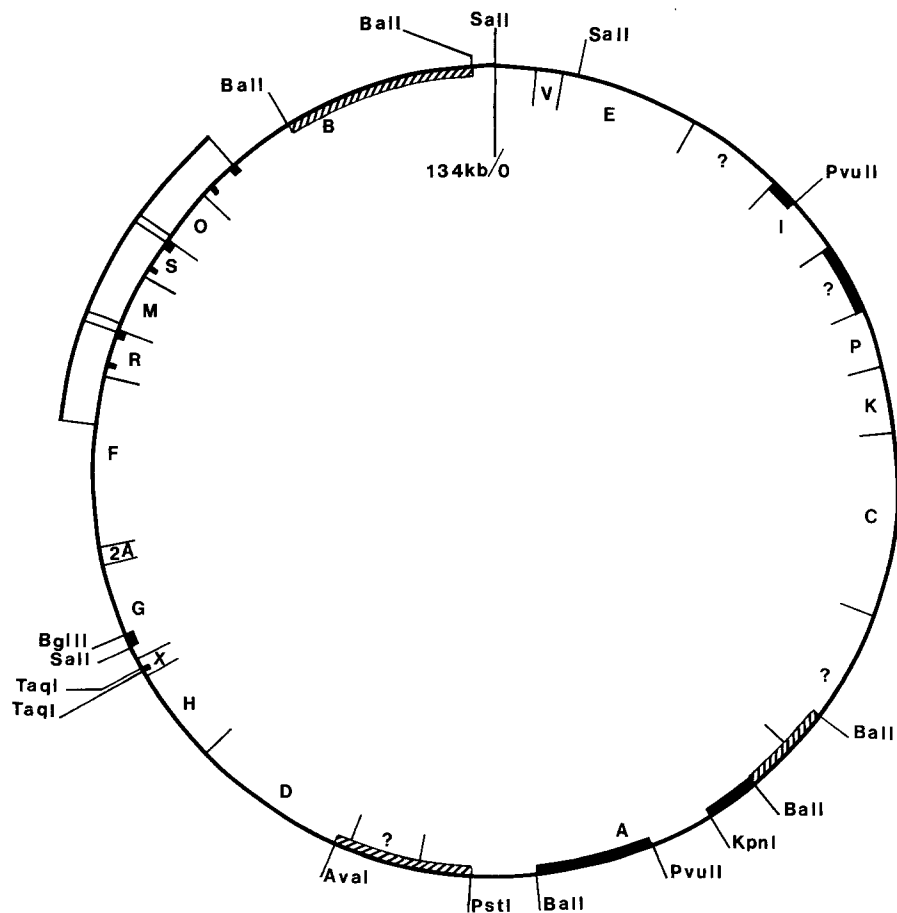


Fig. 11. *Euglena* cDNA map showing regions hybridizing with chloroplast tRNA. Solid bars indicate prominent bands of hybridization. Slashed bars indicate regions of less intense hybridization

**Table 7.** Position of the first recognition site for each restriction endonuclease

| Enzyme | Fragment spanning origin | Distance from map origin (kb) |
|--------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sal    | —                        | 0                             |
| Eco    | B                        | 2.2                           |
| Pst    | A                        | 5.35                          |
| Ava    | B                        | 15.545                        |
| Bal    | C                        | 16.075                        |
| Pvu    | A                        | 17.825                        |
| Bam    | B                        | 31.015                        |
| Xho    | A                        | 33.935                        |
| Kpn    | A                        | 55.115                        |

themselves and with the equivalent sequences of strain Z (Helling et al. 1979). The three rDNA repeats in strain B and the corresponding regions in strain Z appear to have identical coding sequences for rRNA, so far as we can tell from mapping endonuclease cleavage sites (Fig. 4). Strain Z also has an additional gene for 16S rRNA (Jenni and Stutz 1979) that may or may not be present in the B strain.

Our hybridization results with total tRNA reveal a minimum of 15 regions of cDNA containing tRNA genes (Fig. 11). The hybridizing regions correspond well with the more limited mapping reported for the Z strain by Hallick et al. (1979). *Euglena* chloroplast tRNA yields about thirty RNA spots in two dimensional gel electrophoresis, of which 23 tRNAs corresponding to 18 amino acids have been identified (Mubumbila et al. 1980). Therefore some of the hybridizing regions we have identified must contain genes for more than a single tRNA. Keller et al. (1980) have, in fact, shown directly that tRNAs for both isoleucine and alanine are present between the 16S and 23S genes of two and probably all three of the complete rRNA gene sets. In addition, a different tRNA (either tRNA<sup>Trp</sup> or tRNA<sup>Glu</sup>) hybridizes to the leader sequence of two and probably all four of the 16S rRNA genes of strain Z (Keller et al. 1980). The regions of hybridization correspond to those identified by us (Fig. 4), and by Hallick et al. (1979) as hybridizing with total tRNA. Orozco and Hallick (1980) have sequenced the 16S–23S rDNA spacer region and thereby identified directly the genes for tRNA<sup>Ala</sup> and tRNA<sup>Ile</sup> in the order 16S–tRNA<sup>Ile</sup>–tRNA<sup>Ala</sup>–23S. Therefore each cDNA molecule appears to have three copies of each of these genes. If in addition a gene for a third tRNA is present in the leader of each rRNA gene set, a minimum of 17 and probably at least 21 tRNA genes must be elsewhere in the chloroplast genome (Mubumbila et al. 1980).

**Acknowledgement.** We thank S. Dembinski, M. Ginther, and M. Zorza for their help, and D. Bay for his skilled photography. Supported by NIH grant GM25565, and by the U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration under contract with Union Carbide Corporation. M.R. E-G. is on leave from Alexandria University Science Center for Advancement of Postgraduate Studies.

## References

- Adams J, Kinney T, Thompson S, Rubin L, Helling RB (1979) Frequency dependent selection for plasmid-containing cells of *Escherichia coli*. *Genetics* 91:627–637
- Birky Jr CW (1978) Transmission genetics of mitochondria and chloroplasts. *Annu Rev Genet* 12:471–512
- Denhardt DT (1966) A membrane filter technique for the detection of complementary DNA. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun* 23:641–646

- El-Gewely MR, Helling RB (1980) Preparative separation of DNA-ethidium bromide complexes by zonal density gradient centrifugation. *Anal Biochem* 102:423–428
- Gillespie D, Spiegelman S (1965) A quantitative assay for DNA-RNA hybrids with DNA immobilized on a membrane. *J Mol Biol* 12:829–842
- Gray PW, Hallick RB (1978) Physical mapping of the *Euglena gracilis* chloroplast DNA and ribosomal RNA gene region. *Biochemistry* 17:284–289
- Gruol DJ, Haselkorn R (1976) Counting the genes for stable RNA in the nucleus and chloroplasts of *Euglena*. *Biochim Biophys Acta* 447:82–95
- Hallick, RB, Rushlow KE, Orozco EM, Jr Stiegler GL, Gray PW (1979) Chloroplast DNA of *Euglena gracilis*. Gene mapping and selective in vitro transcription of the ribosomal RNA region. In: ICN-UCLA Symp Mol Biol 15. New York: Academic Press
- Helling RB, Goodman HM, Boyer HW (1974) Analysis of endonuclease R.EcoRI fragments of DNA from lambdoid bacteriophages and other viruses by agarose gel electrophoresis. *J Virol* 14:1235–1244
- Helling RB, El-Gewely MR, Lomax MI, Baumgartner JE, Schwartzbach SD, Barnett WE (1979) Organization of the chloroplast ribosomal RNA genes of *Euglena gracilis* *bacillaris*. *Mol Gen Genet* 174:1–10
- Helling RB, Lomax MI (1978) The molecular cloning of genes – general procedures. In: Chakrabarty A (ed). *Genetic engineering* CRC Press, W Palm Beach
- Jenni B, Stutz E (1979) Analysis of *Euglena gracilis* chloroplast DNA. Mapping of a DNA sequence complementary to 16S rRNA outside of the three rRNA gene sets. *FEBS Lett.* 102:95–99
- Keller M, Burkard G, Bohnert HJ, Mubumbila M, Gordon K, Steinmetz A, Heiser D, Crouse EJ, Weil JH (1980) Transfer RNA genes associated with the 16S and 23S rRNA genes of *Euglena* chloroplast DNA. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun* 95:47–54
- Kopecka H, Crouse EJ, Stutz E (1977) The *Euglena gracilis* chloroplast genome: analysis by restriction enzymes. *Eur J Biochem* 72:525–535
- Lomax MI, Helling RB, Hecker LI, Schwartzbach SD, Barnett WE (1977) Cloned ribosomal RNA genes from chloroplasts of *Euglena gracilis*. *Science* 196:202–205
- Manning JE, Richards OC (1972) Isolation and molecular weight of circular chloroplast DNA from *Euglena gracilis*. *Biochim Biophys Acta* 259:285–296
- McCrea JM, Hershberger CL (1976) Chloroplast DNA codes for transfer RNA. *Nucleic Acids Res* 3:2005–2018
- Mubumbila M, Burkhard G, Keller M, Steinmetz A, Crouse E, Weil JH (1980) Hybridization of bean, spinach, maize and *Euglena* chloroplast transfer RNAs with homologous and heterologous chloroplast DNAs: an approach to the study of homology between chloroplast tRNAs from various species. *Biochim Biophys Acta* 609:31–39
- Orozco EM Jr (1979) Transfer RNA genes of *Euglena gracilis* chloroplast DNA. *Fed Proc* 38:820
- Orozco EM Jr, Hallick RB (1980) DNA sequence of tRNA<sup>Ile</sup> and tRNA<sup>Ala</sup> in the 16S–23S spacer region of the rRNA operon of *Euglena gracilis*. *Fed Proc* 39:1782
- Rawson JRY, Kushner SR, Vapnek D, Alton NK, Boerma CL (1978) Chloroplast ribosomal RNA genes in *Euglena gracilis* exist as three clustered tandem repeats. *Gene* 3:191–209
- Schwartzbach SD, Hecker LI, Barnett WE (1976) Transcriptional origin of *Euglena* chloroplast tRNAs. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 73:1984–1988
- Slavick NS, Hershberger CL (1975) The kinetic complexity of *Euglena gracilis* chloroplast DNA. *FEBS Lett* 52:171–174
- Southern EM (1975) Detection of specific sequences among DNA fragments separated by gel electrophoresis. *J Mol Biol* 98:503–517
- Swanstrom R, Shank PR (1978) X-ray intensifying screens greatly enhance the detection by autoradiography of the radioactive isotopes <sup>32</sup>P and <sup>125</sup>I. *Anal Biochem* 86:184–192

Communicated by L.S. Lerman

Received January 5, 1981