

Analysis of Gene Regulatory Regions using Comparative Genomics: From the wet lab to computer and back

Jean Imbert, INSERM U599

Tel: 04 91 75 84 04 - imbert@marseille.inserm.fr

<http://u119.marseille.inserm.fr/ji.html>



Institut de Cancérologie
et d'Immunologie de Marseille

INSERM Workshops 2004 n°152:
Comparative genomics of vertebrate: concepts and bioinformatic tools
May 27-28, 2004
La Londe – Les Maures, France

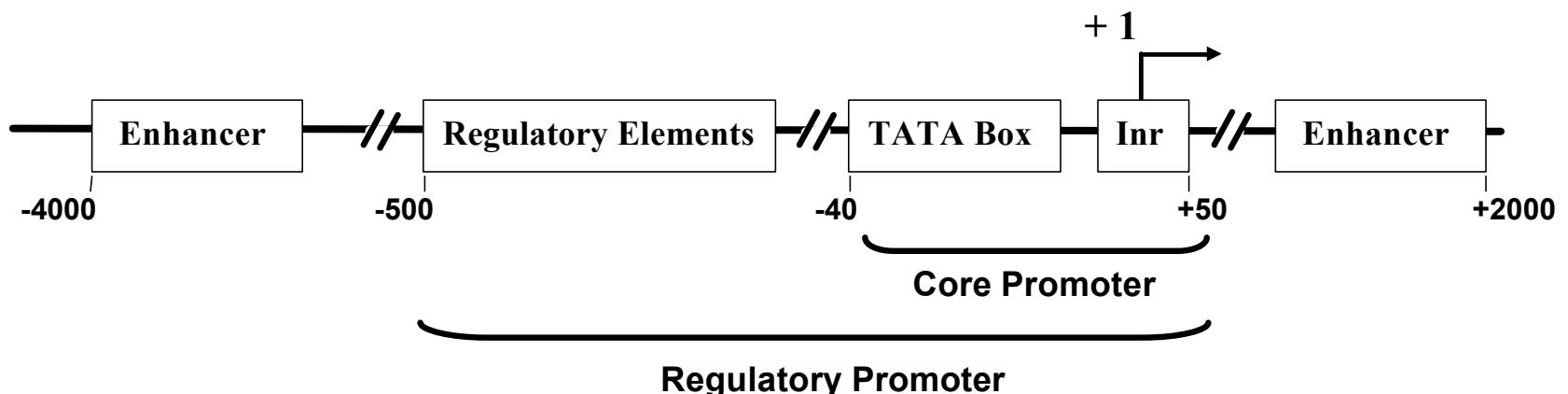
CORE PROMOTER



TATA Box: TATAAAA (about 25 base pairs upstream of the start point)

Initiator (Inr): PyPyC^APyPyPyPyPy

MODEL OF TYPICAL GENE PROMOTER AND REGULATORY REGIONS



Eukaryotic Promoter Classes

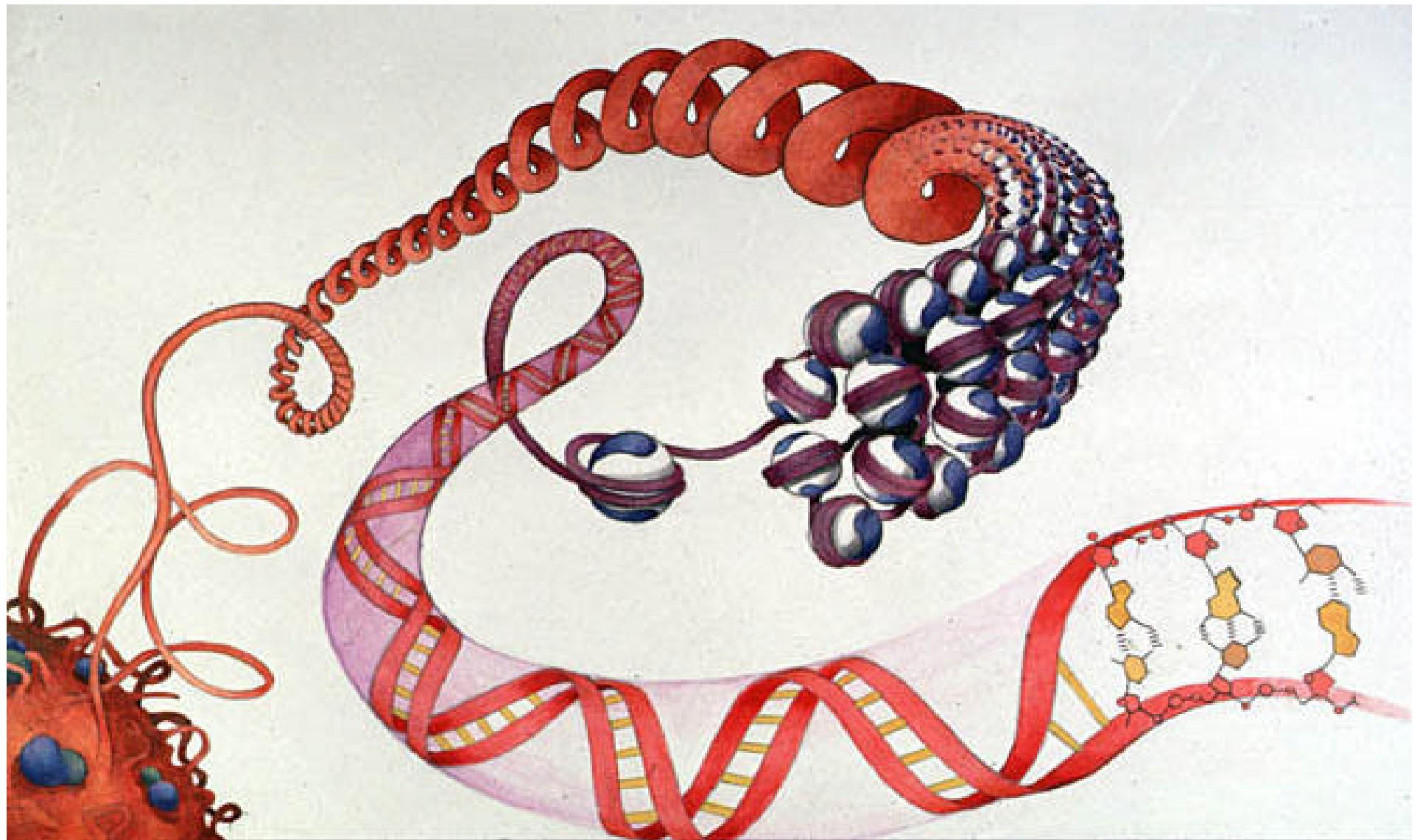
• Pol I	< 1%	3/4 rRNAs (28S, 18S, 5.8S)
• Pol II with TATA-box	> 70%	mRNAs
• Pol II without TATA-box	~ 20%	
• Pol III internal	~ 5%	Small RNAs tRNAs 5S RNAs
• Pol III upstream with TATA-box	< 1%	
• Pol III upstream without TATA-box	< 1%	

Components of Eukaryotic Promoters and Regulatory Regions

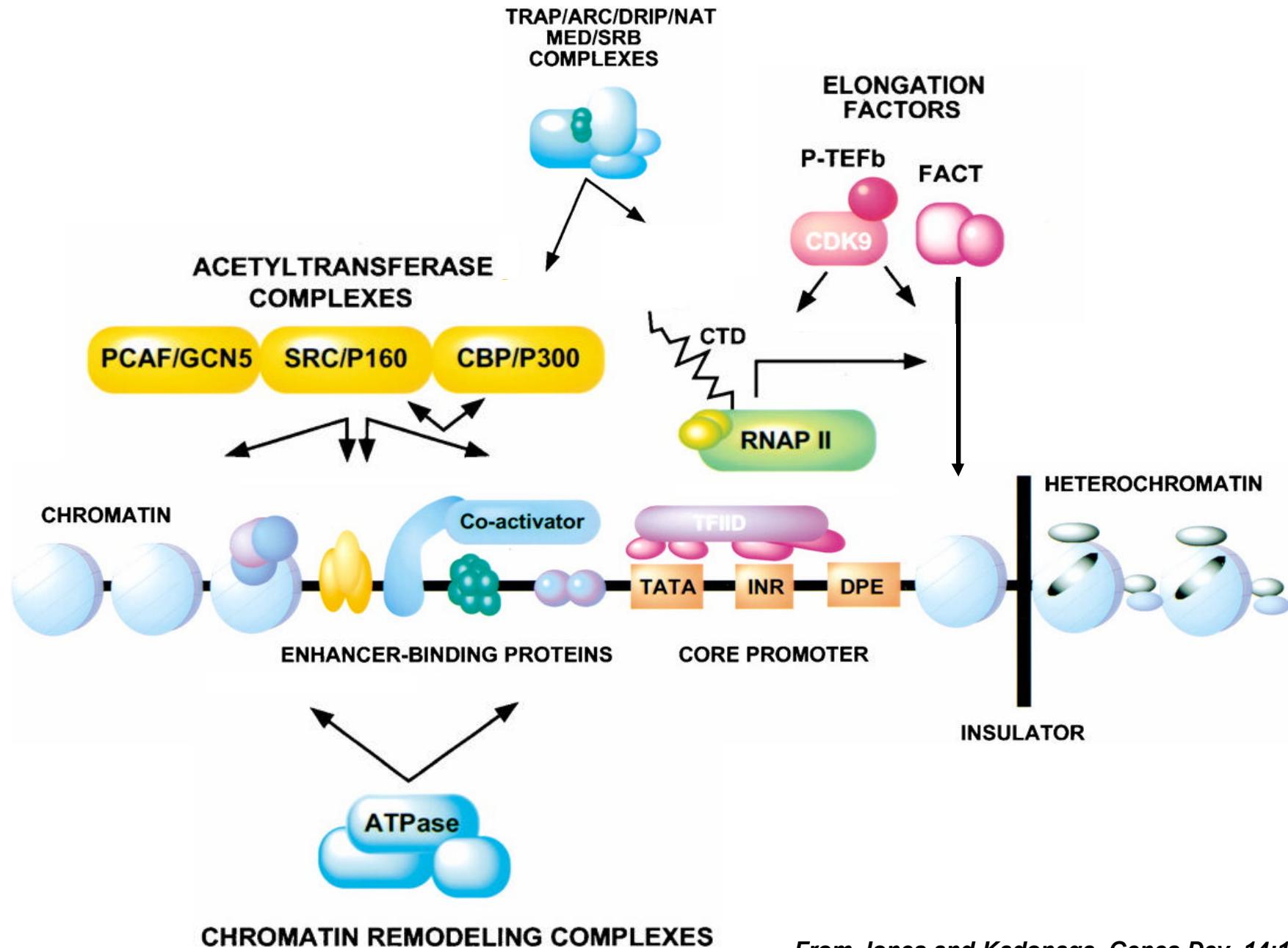
- Site selector elements TATA-box, Initiator
- Common upstream elements CCAAT-box, GC-box
- Regulatory elements HSE, SRE, GRE, etc.
- Enhancers / Silencers
- Locus control regions (LCRs)
- Scaffold / Matrix attachment sites (SARs / MARs)
- CpG islands

Promoter Regulatory Elements: Features and Facts

- Degenerate sequence motifs
- Length: 6 to 20 bp
- Low complexity (8-12 bits)
- Binding sites of transcription factors
- Excess of binding sites over binding proteins in the nucleus
- Most *in vitro* binding sites not functional *in vivo*
- Some *in vivo* binding sites also not functional
- Regulatory potentials depends on cooperative effects between multiple elements



From G. Almouzni, Institut Curie, Paris



From Jones and Kadonaga, *Genes Dev.* 14:1992-1996, 2000.

TOOLS FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF REGULATORY SEQUENCES AND THEIR COGNATE TRANSCRIPTION FACTORS

1. Identification and characterization of regulatory sequences

- Gene reporter assays: transient or stable transfection (CAT, Luciférase, SEAP, GFP, b-gal, etc.)
- *In vitro* transcription assay
- Sequencing, database mining (web: TESS, Euk. Pr. Database, TRANSFAC, MATINSPECTOR, TFSEARCH, etc.)
- Animal or cellular models: enhancer trap, enhancer knock-in, minichromosomes, etc.

2. Identification and characterization of specific transcription factors (TFs)

- EMSA and sequels: UV-crosslinking, pull-down assay using biotynilated oligonucleotide
- Footprint detection:
 - * *in vitro* : nucleases (DNase I hypersensitivity, S1 nuclease, Mmase) or chemical compounds
 - * *in vivo* : genomic footprinting, Chromatin ImmunoPrecipitation (ChIP) and sequels

3. TFs physical and functional interactions

- Transfection and biochemistry
- ChIP-on-chip

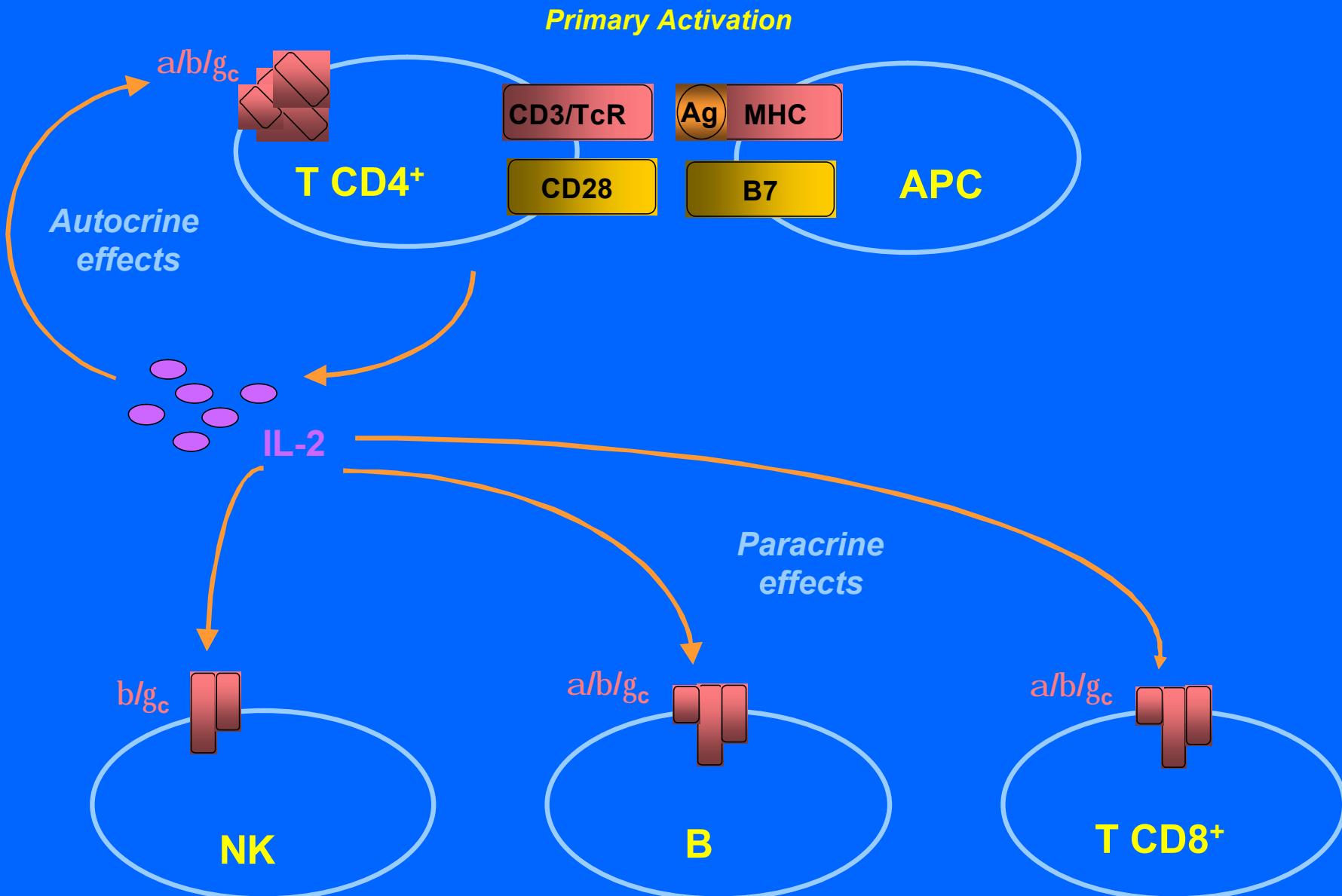


U599 Cancer Institute of Marseille



Control of CD25/IL-2Ra gene transcription





ROLE OF THE IL-2Ra CHAIN

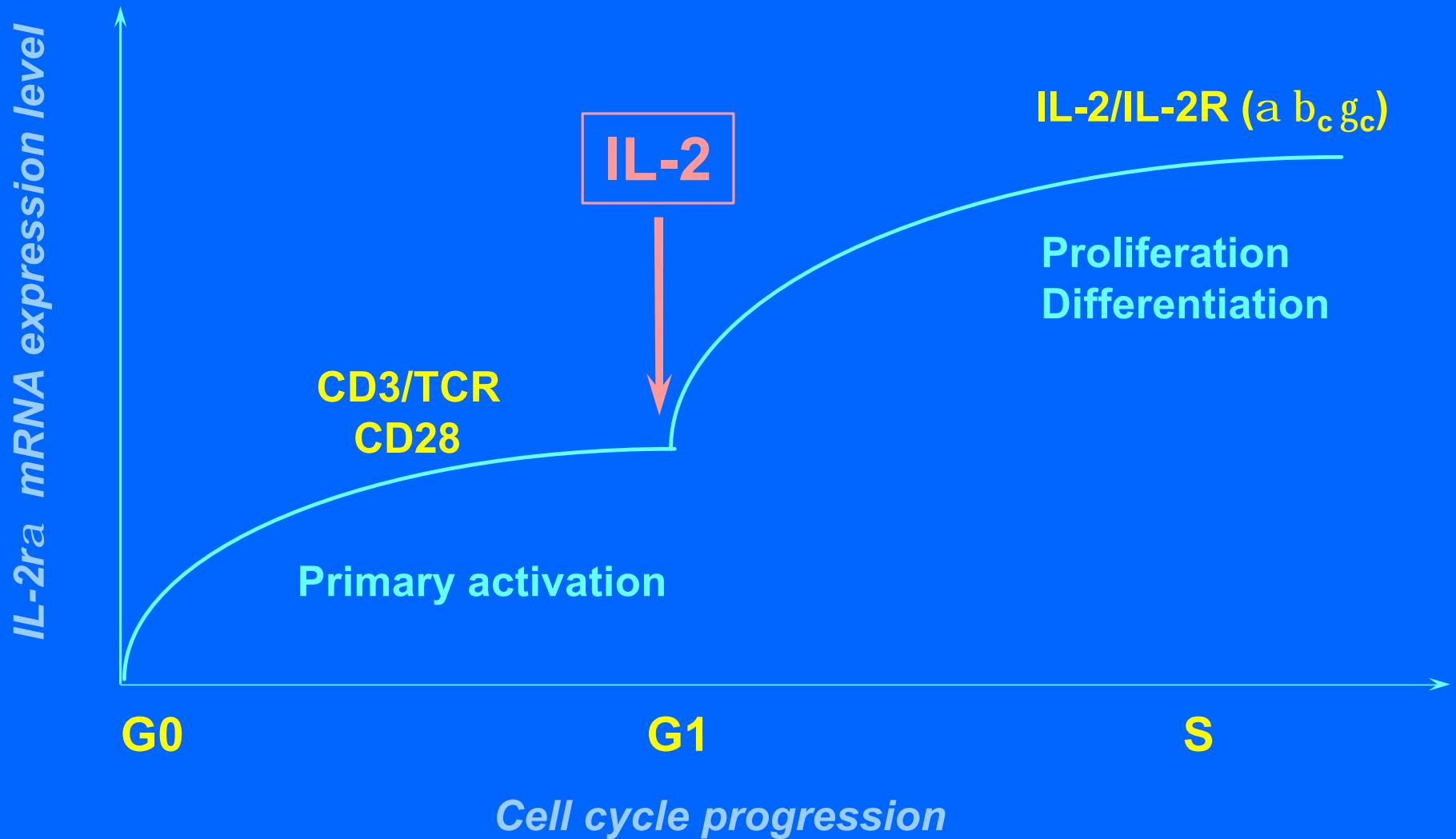
- ➡ SOLE IL-2 SPECIFIC CHAIN
- ➡ *DE NOVO EXPRESSION CREATES AN HIGH AFFINITY IL-2 RECEPTOR ($K_d=10^{-11}$) IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE INTERMEDIATE AFFINITY RECEPTOR β/γ_c ($K_d=10^{-9}$) SHARED WITH IL-4R, -7R, -9R AND -15R*
- ➡ IL-2^{-/-} MICE ~ IL-2Ra^{-/-} MICE

THE HIGH AFFINITY IL-2 RECEPTOR IS ESSENTIAL
TO TRIGGER AND SUSTAIN AN EFFICIENT RESPONSE TO THE LIMITED AMOUNT
OF SECRETED IL-2 AVAILABLE IN PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

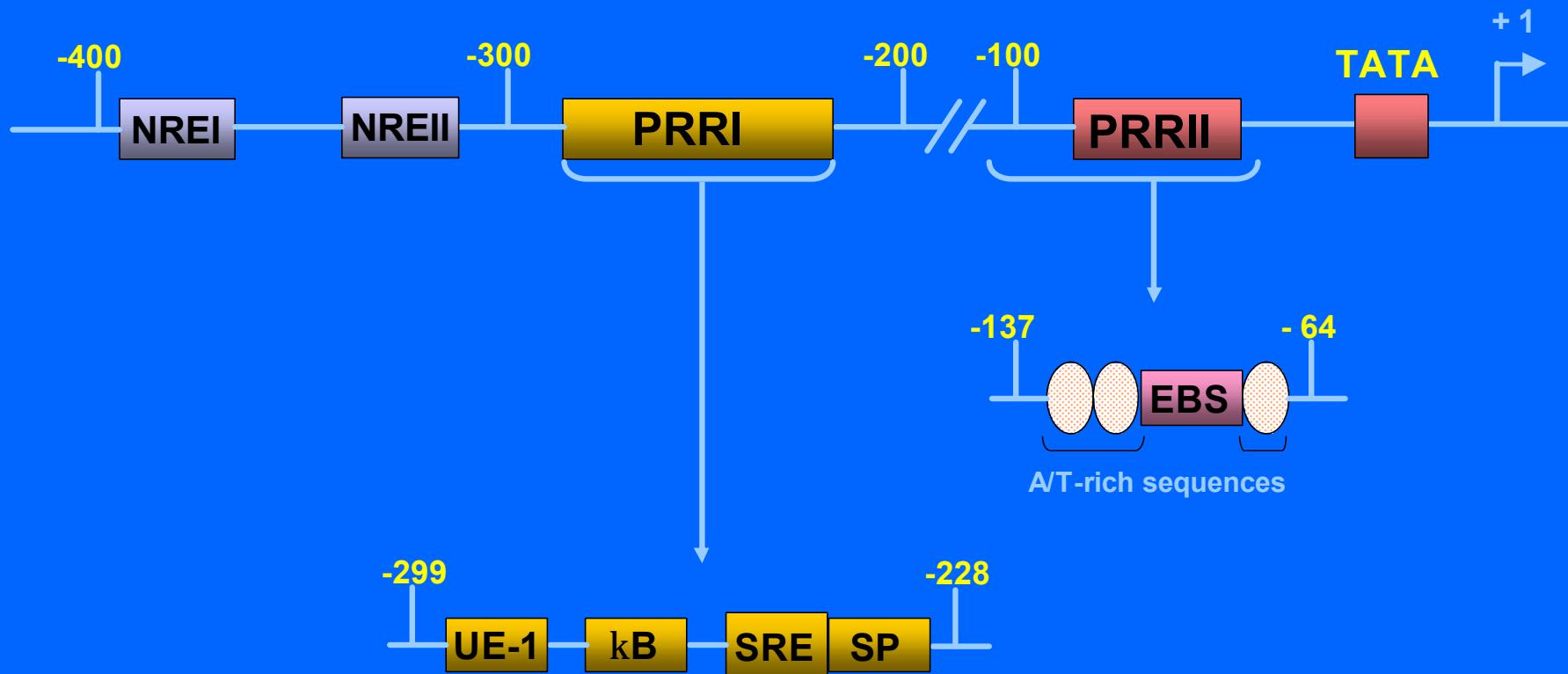
IL-2Ra CHAIN EXPRESSION IS CONTROLLED A TWO MAIN LEVELS:

- TRANSCRIPTIONAL
- POST-TRANSCRIPTIONAL
(mRNA stabilization)

CD25/IL-2Ra GENE TRANSCRIPTION DURING T CELL ACTIVATION

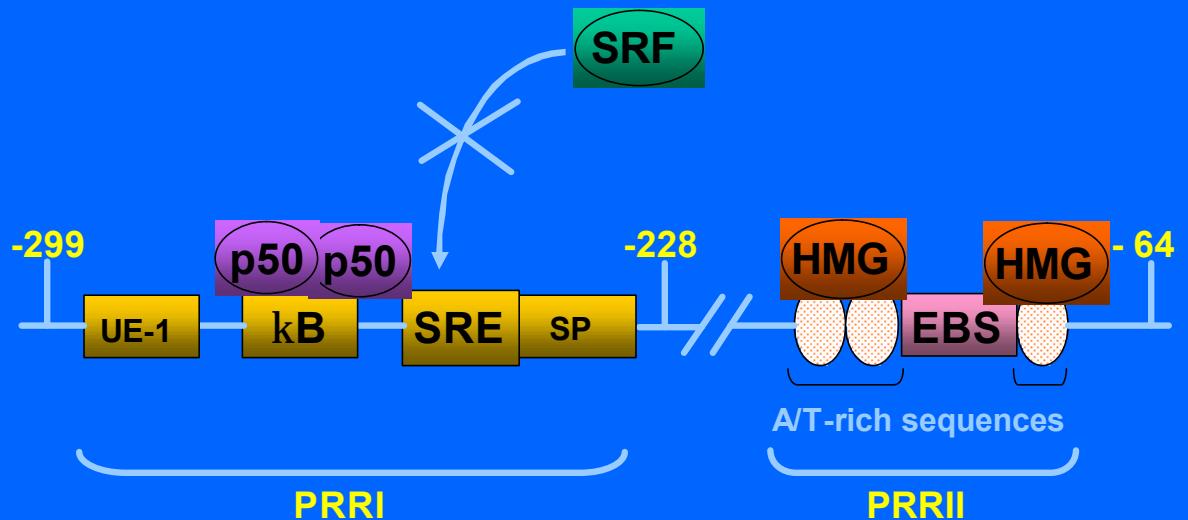


PROXIMAL REGULATORY REGIONS OF THE HUMAN CD25/IL-2Ra GENE



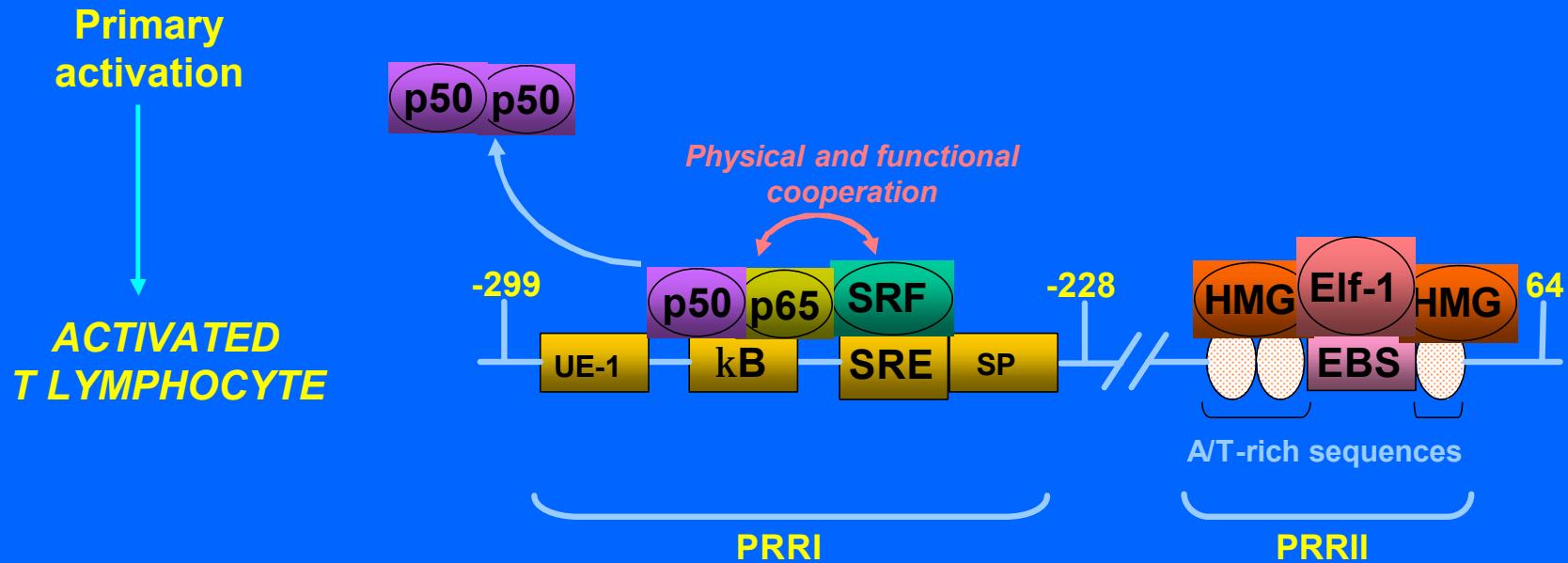
PRR: POSITIVE REGULATORY REGION

RESTING T LYMPHOCYTE



PRRI : Inactive NF- κ B p50/p50 homodimers binding

PRRII : HMG(Y) constitutive binding



PRRI
(induction)

- Active NF-κB p50/p65 or p65/c-Rel heterodimer binding
- SRF binding
- Physical and functional intercation SRF / NF-κB
Ballard et al., Science, 1988; Toledano et al., PNAS, 1990; Costello et al., CGD, 1993;
Algarte et al., EMBO J, 1995; John et al., MCB, 1995

PRRII
(T cell specificity)

- Elf-1 binding
John et al., MCB, 1995

Seq 1 = ">HS_IL-2Ra_9.3KB genomic fragment from ENSG00000134460 5'->3'"
 Seq 2 = ">MmIL-2Ra_12.5kb genomic fragment from phage Ch4C19 5'->3'"

Local Alignment Number 6

Similarity Score: 24894

Match Percentage: 71 %

Number of Matches: 425

Number of Mismatches: 142

Total Length of Gaps: 29

Begins at (8724,11629) and Ends at (9313,12201)

```

0   .   :   .   :   .   :   .   :   .   :   .
8724 GAGGACTCAGTTATGAAGTGCTGGTGAGACCACTGCCAAGAACGTGCTT
|:|||||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
11629 GAGGACTCAGTTACAAAACCTAACGTGAGACCACTGCCAAGAACGTGCTT
50   .   :   .   :   kb site   :   .   SRE   .SP1/
8774 GCTCACCCCTACCTTCACGGCAGGGAATCTCCCCTCTCCTTTATGGGCG
|:|||||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
11679 GCTCACCCCTCCTGCCGCCGA GGG AATCCCCCTTCCTTGTA CAGGCA
100 GC-box   :   .   :   .   :   .   :   .   :   .
8824 TAGC TGAAGAAAGGATTCAAATGAAGTTCATCCTTCTCATCAACCCCC
|:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
11728 AAAC ACACAAAGGACTCATAGTGAAGCCTGATCCTCTCACCAAACAC
150   .   :   .   :   .   :   .   :   .
8874 AGCCCACACCTCC AGCAATTGAACTGAAAAAAACCTGGTTGAAA
|:|||||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
11778 TGCCCACACCTCTAGTAATTGAACTTGAAAAAAAC TGGTTTGAAA
200   .   :   HMGI (Y)   .   HMGI (Y)   .   :   .   EBS/:
8923 AATTACCGCA AACTATAATTGTCAT Caaaaaaaaaaaaaa aaCACT
|:|||||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
11827 AATTACCGCA AACCATAATTGTCAT AAAAAAAAAAAAAAACACT
250 Elf-1 HMGI (Y)   .   :   .   :   .
8973 TCCTATATT TGAGATGAGAGAAGAGAGTGCCTAGG CAGTTCTGGCTG
|:|||||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
11870 TCCTATA T GAGATCAGAACAGAG TAGGCACAAGTTCT GCTG
300   .   :   .   TATA box   .   :   .   :   +1 :
9021 AACACGCCAGCCAA TACTTAAAGAGAGCAACTCCTGACTCCGATAGAGA
|:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
11914 ACCAGATCAGCTAATGCTTAAA TAGAACAACTCCTGGCTGTGAT TGACA
350   .   :   .   :   .   :   .   :   .
9071 CTGGATGGACCCACAAGGGTGACAGCCCAGGGGACCGATCTCCCATCC
|:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
11964 TTGTCTAAA AGCCAAGATGACAGACTGAGAGGCCTGAGCCCTTGTCT
400   .   :   .   :   .   :   .
9121 CACATCCT CGGGCGCATGCCAAAAGAGGCTGACGGCAACTGGCCTT
|:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
12012 GGCATTCTCCAGGAAGATGCAGTAAAGGGTTG ACCCAATATA
450   .   :   .   :   .   :   .
9170 CTGCAGAGAAAGACCTCCGCTTCACTGCCCGG CTGGTCCCAAGGGTCA
|:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
12056 CTGCAGAGAAATTCCATCCAGTCCCTCTCCATCCTGATCCCATGTGCCA
500   .   :   .   :   .   :   .
9219 GGAAGATGGATTACCTGCTGATGTTGGGACTGCTCACGTTCATCATG
|:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
12106 GGAAGATGGAGCCACGCTTGCTGATGTTGGGTTCTCTCATTAACCATA
550   .   :   .   :   .
9269 GTGCCCTGGCTGCCAGGCAGGTAAG GGCCTGTGGGTGCCCGGAA
|:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:||:|
12156 GTACCCAGTTGTCGGGCAGGTAAGAGAACCGGAACTGCCCTGGAA

```

PRRI
[-276,-244]

PRRII
[-137,-64]

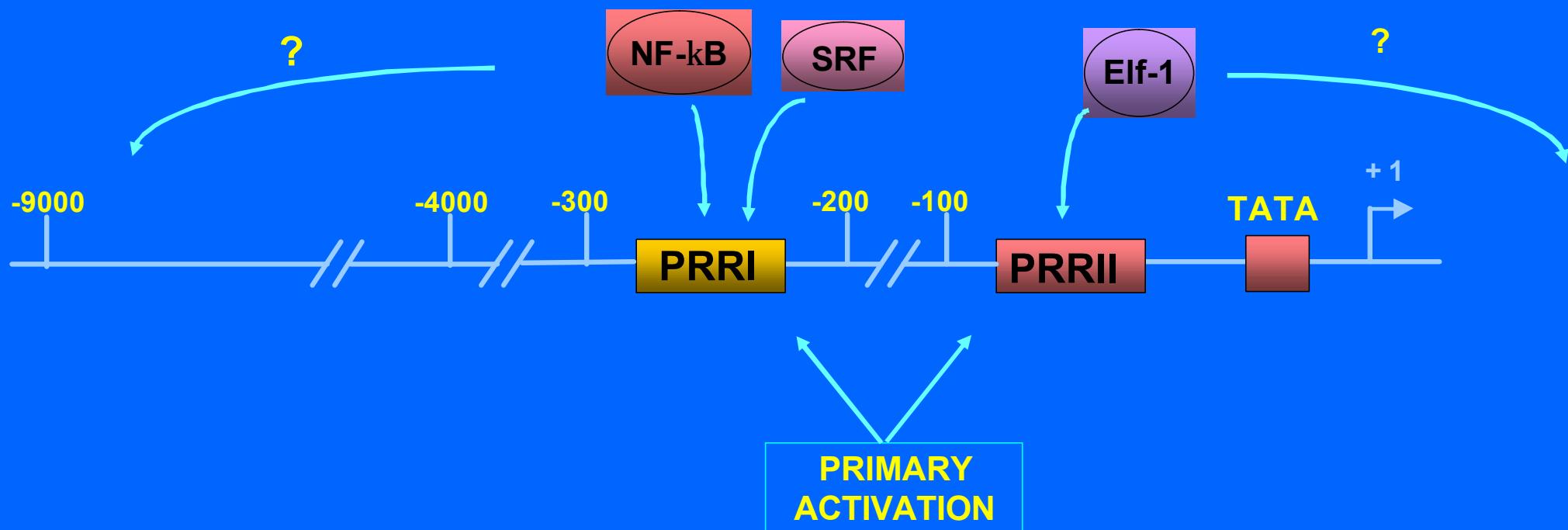
Homo Sapiens versus Mus Musculus PRRI/II conservation

Local identities (alignment n° 6)

8724-8798 <-> 11629-11703	83%	(75 nt)
8800-8886 <-> 11704-11790	76%	(87 nt)
8887-8911 <-> 11792-11816	96%	(25 nt)
8913-8946 <-> 11817-11850	97%	(34 nt)
8954-8979 <-> 11851-11876	100%	(26 nt)
8982-8999 <-> 11877-11894	83%	(18 nt)
9003-9006 <-> 11895-11898	100%	(4 nt)
9007-9015 <-> 11901-11909	78%	(9 nt)
9017-9079 <-> 11910-11972	70%	(63 nt)
9082-9128 <-> 11973-12019	51%	(47 nt)
9129-9153 <-> 12021-12045	64%	(25 nt)
9160-9202 <-> 12046-12088	58%	(43 nt)
9203-9292 <-> 12090-12179	73%	(90 nt)
9293-9313 <-> 12181-12201	62%	(21 nt)

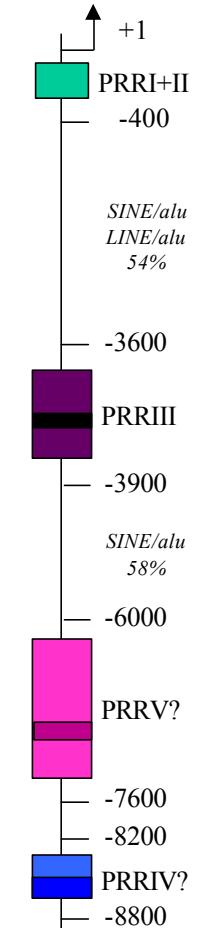
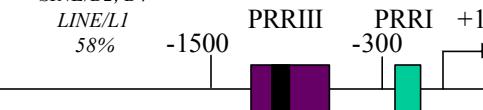
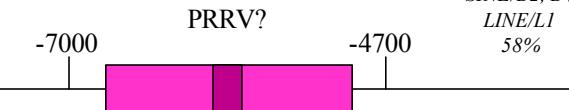
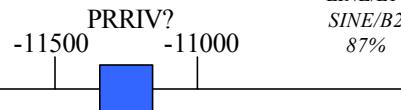
**HOWEVER NEITHER PRRI NOR PRRII, ALONE OR IN ASSOCIATION, ARE SUFFICIENT
TO ELICIT AN EFFICIENT TRANSCRIPTION
IN GENE REPORTER ASSAYS USING VARIOUS T CELL MODELS**

SEARCH FOR IL-2 AND/OR CD28 RESPONSIVE REGULATORY REGIONS WITHIN CD25/IL-2Ra GENE LOCUS

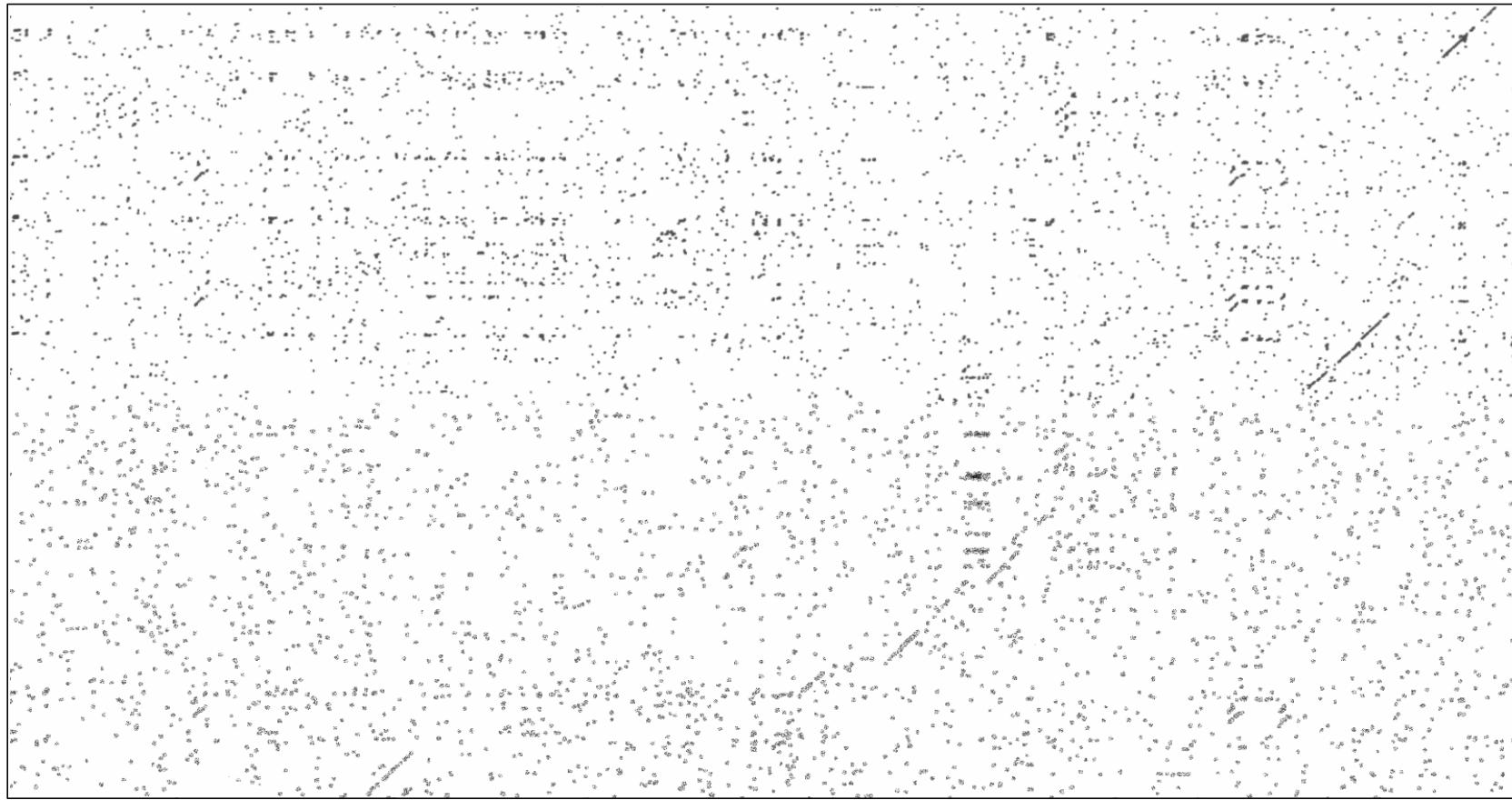


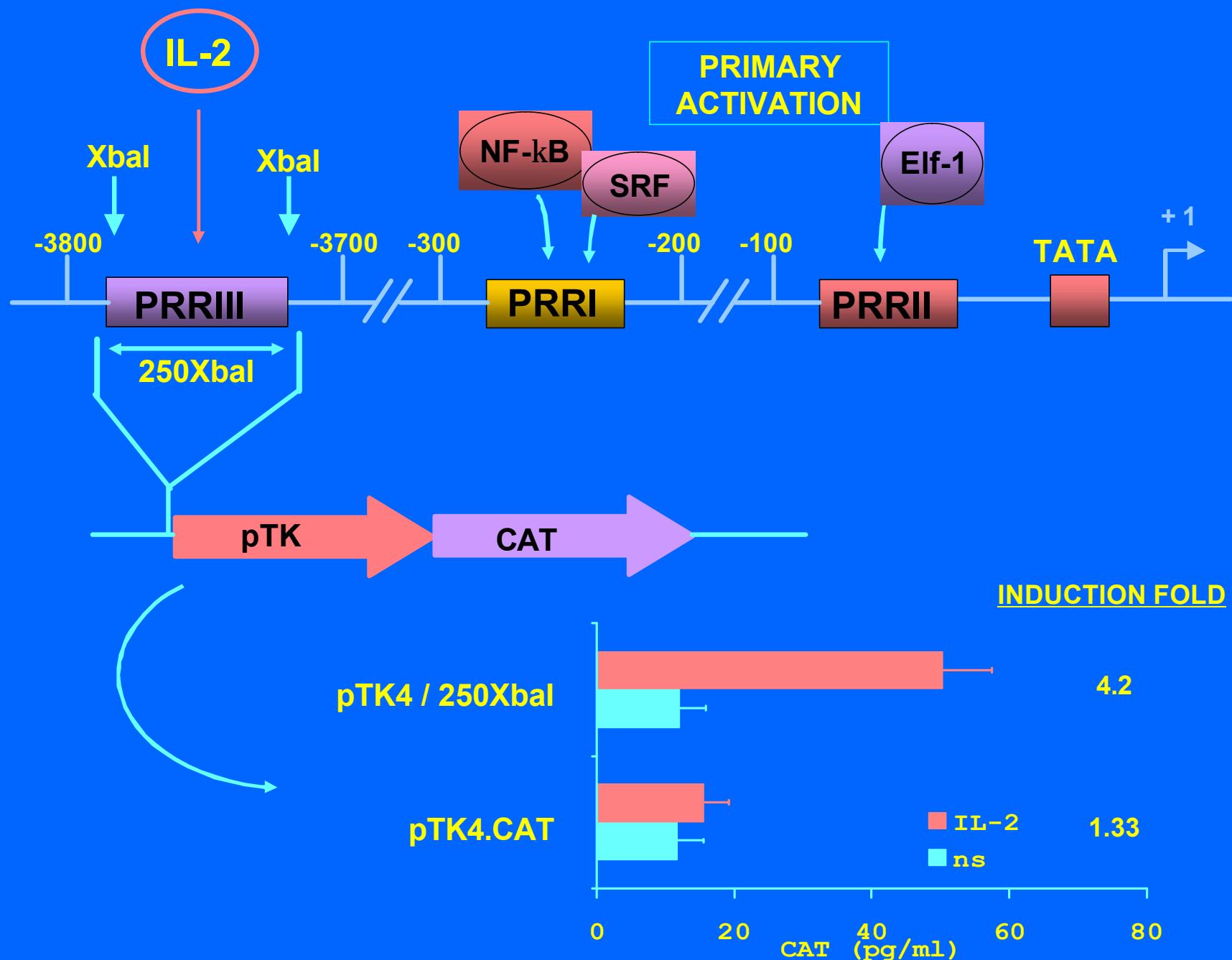
1 kb

SOURIS



HOMME





PRRIII

Homo Sapiens

GASd/EBSd

- 3772

TTTCTTCTAGGAAGTACCAAACATTTCTGATAATAGAATTGAGCAATTTCCTGAT
IIIIIIII--IIIIIIII-IIIIIIIIIIIII-III-IIIIIIIIIII-IIIIIIIIIII
TTTCTTCTGAGAAGTACCAGACATTTCTGATAAGAGAGTTGAGCAACTTCCTGAT

- 1369

Site I

Site II

Site III

EBSp

- 3718

- 1315

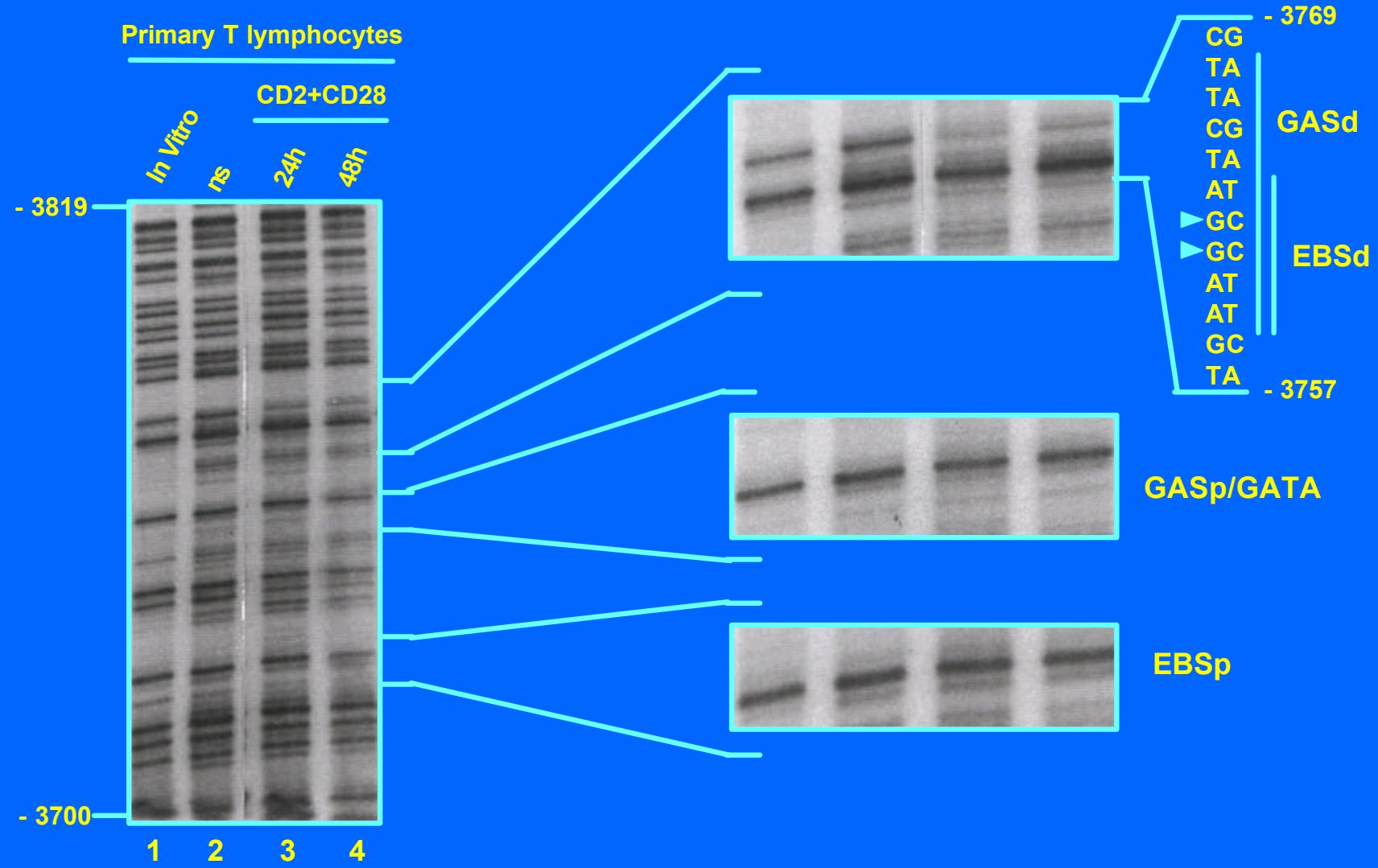
Mus Musculus

IL-2rE

In Vivo Footprinting

- 1) Methylation of guanines (major groove) and to a lesser extent of adenines (minor groove) by DMS on living cells
The level of methylation is affected by protein binding to DNA
- 2) Genomic DNA extraction
- 3) Cleavage of methylated residues by piperidine
- 4) LMP-PCR amplification of the region to be analyzed
Last amplification cycles performed with a ^{32}P -labeled primer
- 5) Analysis of the PCR products on sequencing gel

In vivo modification of the GASd/EBSd motif occupancy in response
to CD2+CD28 costimulation in purified human primary T cells



The GASd/EBSd motif is the only putative regulatory element within PRRIII modified *in vivo* in response to an IL-2-dependent induction in human T lymphocytes

INDUCIBLE

- 3772

TTTCTTCTAGGAAGTACCAAACATTTCTGATAATAGAATTGAGCAATTTCCTGAT
AAAGAAGATCCTTCATGGTTGTAAAGACTATTATCTTAACTCGTTAAAGGACTA



GASd/EBSd



GASp/GATA



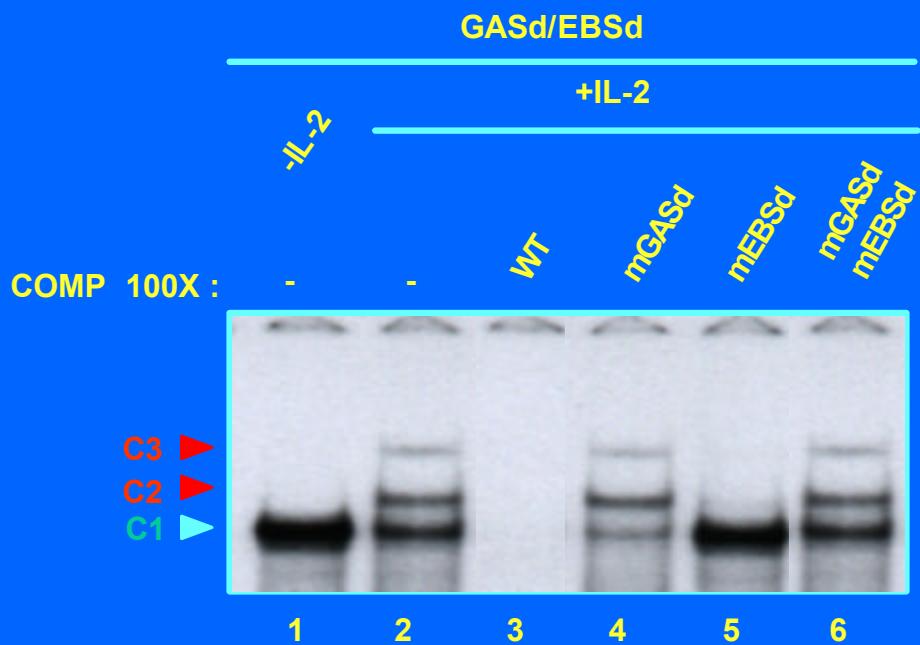
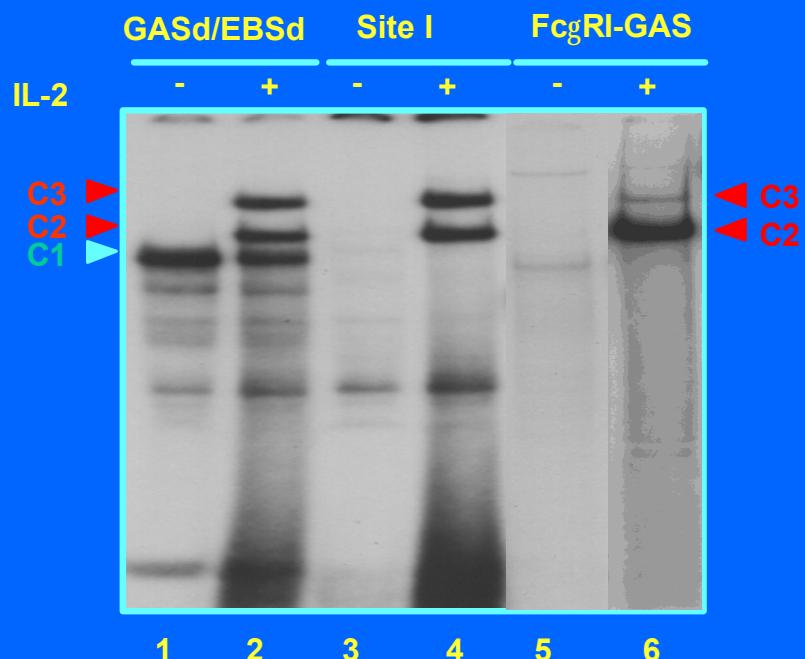
EBSp

- 3718

CONSTITUTIVE

Lecine, P., Algarte, M., Rameil, P., Beadling, C., Bucher, P., Nabholz, M. and Imbert, J. *Elf-1 and Stat5 bind to critical element in a new enhancer of the human interleukin-2 receptor alpha gene.* Mol. Cell. Biol. 16: 6829-6840; 1996.

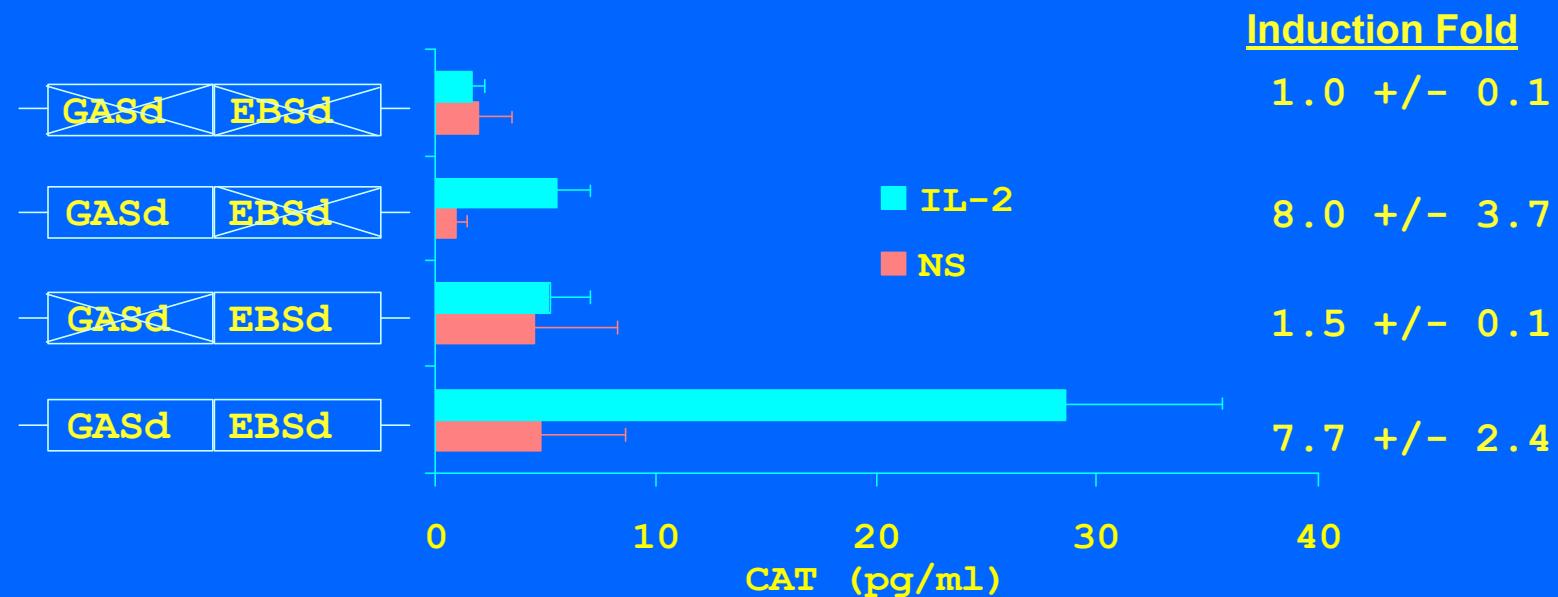
Inducibles complex C2 and C3 are GAS-specific
Constitutive complex C1 is EBS-specific

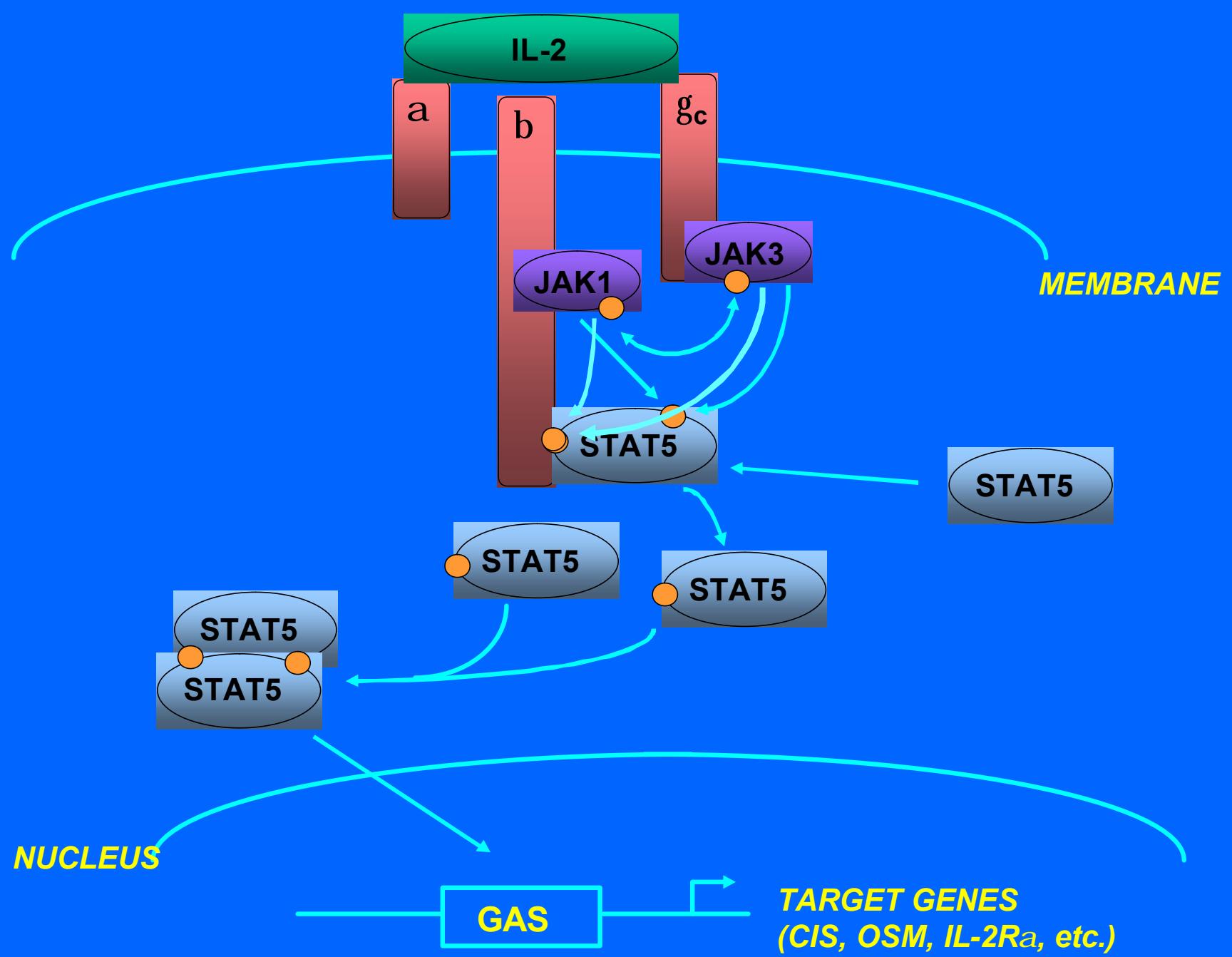


CD25/IL-2Ra GASd/EBSd EMSA probe:

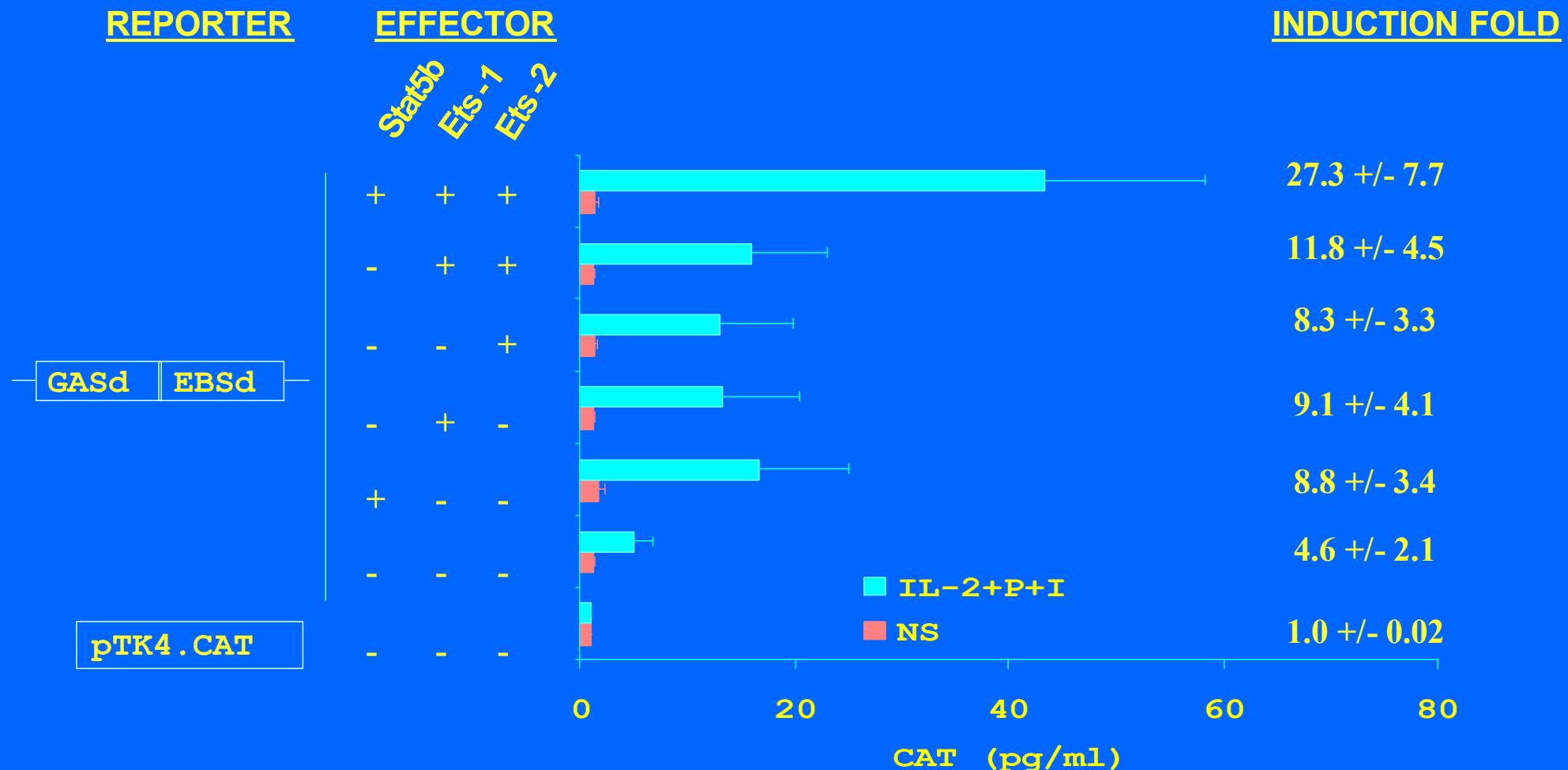
GASd
TTTCTTCTAGGAAGTACC
AAAGAAGATCCTTCATGG
EBSd

Disruption of the GASd motif by site-directed mutagenesis fully abolish IL-2 response

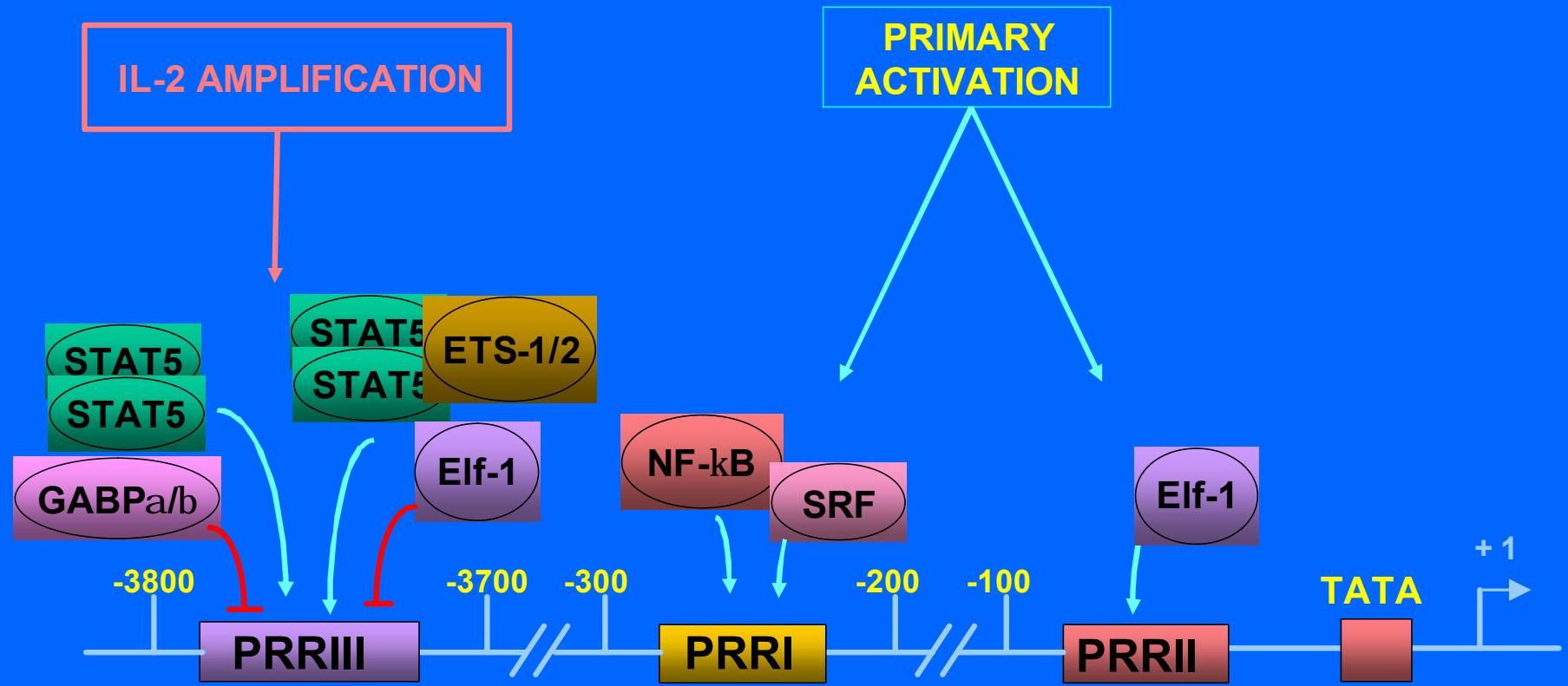




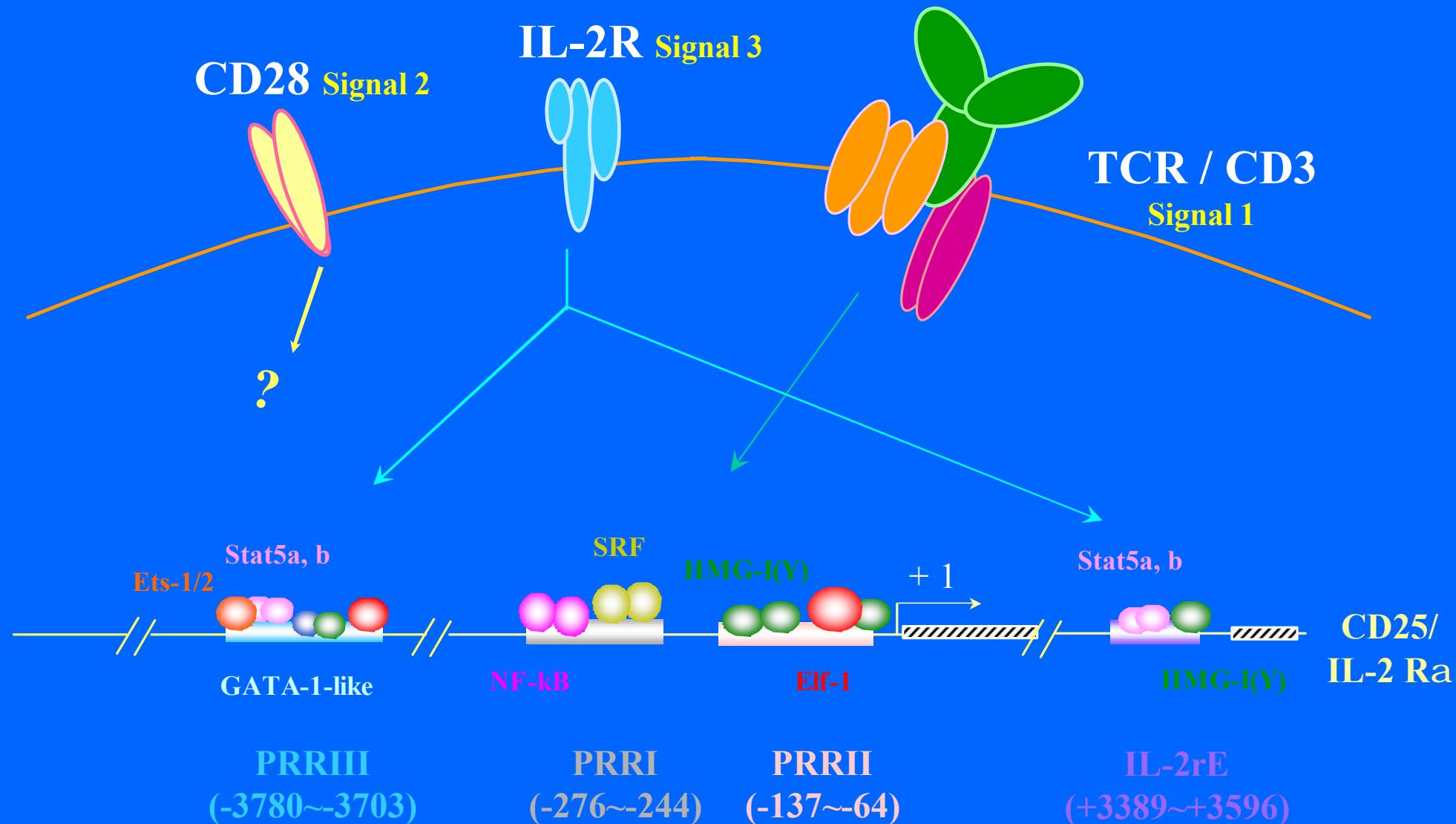
**Stat5b, Ets-1 and Ets-2 cooperate functionally
in response to IL-2 +PMA+Ionomycin**



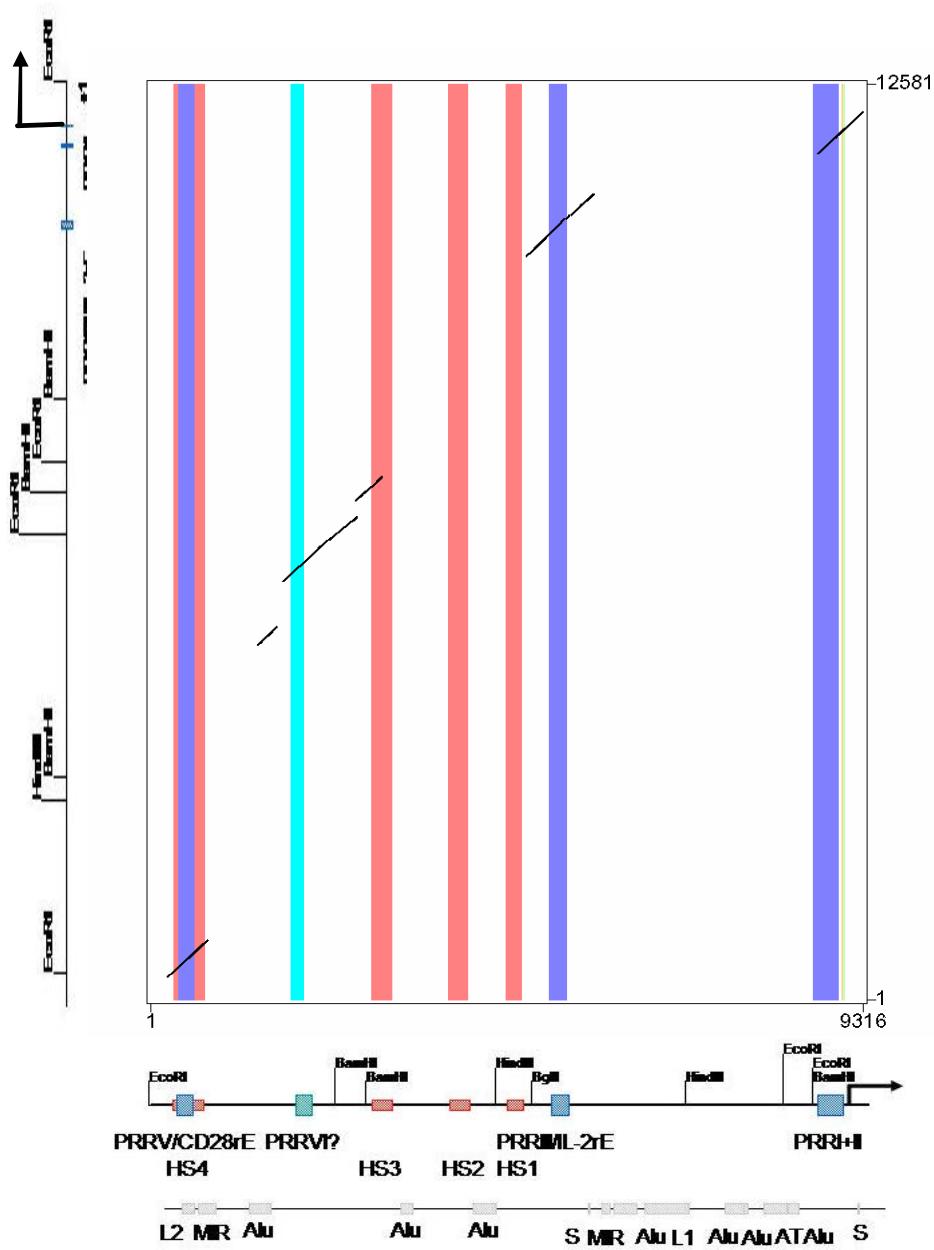
Rameil, P., Lecine, P., Ghysdael, J., Gouilleux, F., Kahn-Perles, B. and Imbert, J. IL-2 and long-term T cell activation induce physical and functional interactions between STAT5 and ETS transcription factors in human T cells. *Oncogene* 19: 2086-2097, 2000.



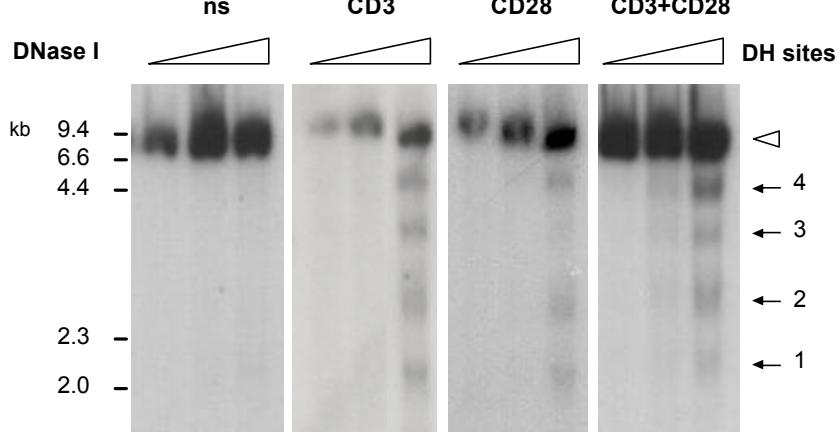
Regulatory elements and their cognate transcription factors in the human CD25/IL-2Ra gene



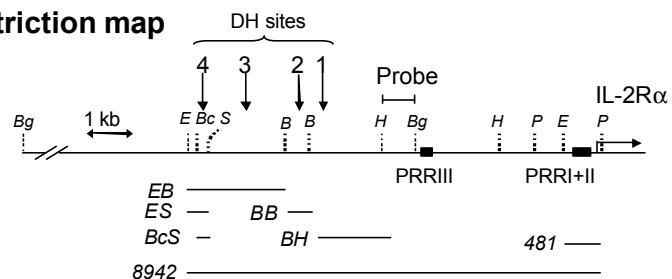
A. Homo Sapiens/Mus musculus CD25/IL-2Ra gene



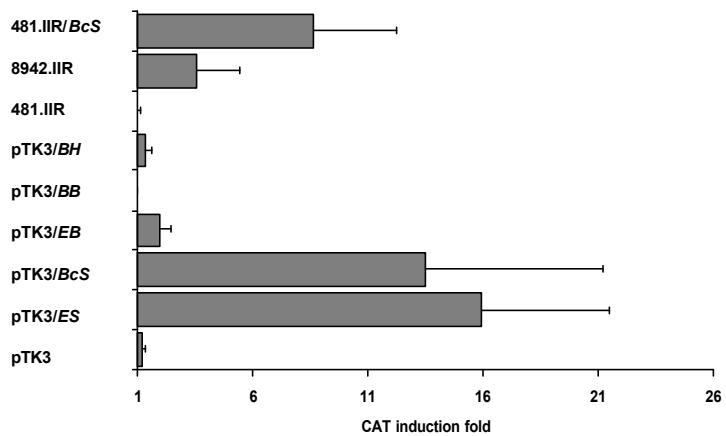
B. DNase I hypersensitive sites



C. Restriction map



C. Gene reporter assays



A Well-Conserved but not Functional Candidate for a CD28 Responsive Enhancer

Comparison of two nucleotidic sequences:

Sequence 1 : cons4HS

Sequence 2 : cons4mus

```
resetting to DNA matrix
LALIGN finds the best local alignments between two sequences
version 2.0u4 Feb. 1996
Please cite:
X. Huang and W. Miller (1991) Adv. Appl. Math. 12:373-381
```

```
Comparison of:
(A) cons4HS
(B) cons4mus
using matrix file: DNA, gap penalties: -16/-4
```

79.6% identity in 201 nt overlap; score: 612

NF-ATp							
10	20	30	40	50	60		
cons4H	CATA GTGGATTG GTT TTTCC ACGGGACCCCTGTGCCCTGTCTAGTAGAATCTGGTGGA	::::::::::	::::::::::	::::::::::	:: :: :: ::		
cons4m	CATA GTGGATTCTGGT TTTCC ACAGGACCC-----TGTCTAGTAAAACCTAGTGGA	10	20	30	40	50	
NF-kB/CD28RC CREB Ets							
70	80	90	100	110	120		
cons4H	AATTACAAACTGC AGAAATTCA ACTCA GTGCCGCA TAA CAGGATGCA CCTGTAGAT TTC	::::::::::	:: :: :: :	::::::::::	::::::::::		
cons4m	AATTACAAGCTG- AGAAATTCA G CTT GTGCCACAA TAA CAGGATGCA CCTGTAGAT TTC	60	70	80	90	100	110
GAS							
130	140	150	160	170	180		
cons4H	GTAGAA TTAGCAGCAGCATTCTTCAATAACCAGTTGAGAGAAATAACCCTGTTGCATA	::::::::::	:: :: :: :	::::::::::	:: :: :: ::		
cons4m	ACAGAA TTAGCTGCTGTCTCTTAACGCCAATTGAGAGAAAGAAGCCTGTTGTCTG	120	130	140	150	160	170
190	200						
cons4H	GTGCCAACTGGGGCAGAATCT	::::::::::	::::::::::				
cons4m	CTGCCAACAGGGCAGAATCT	180	190				

The Functional PRRV/CD28rE within Human CD25/IL-2Ra Gene

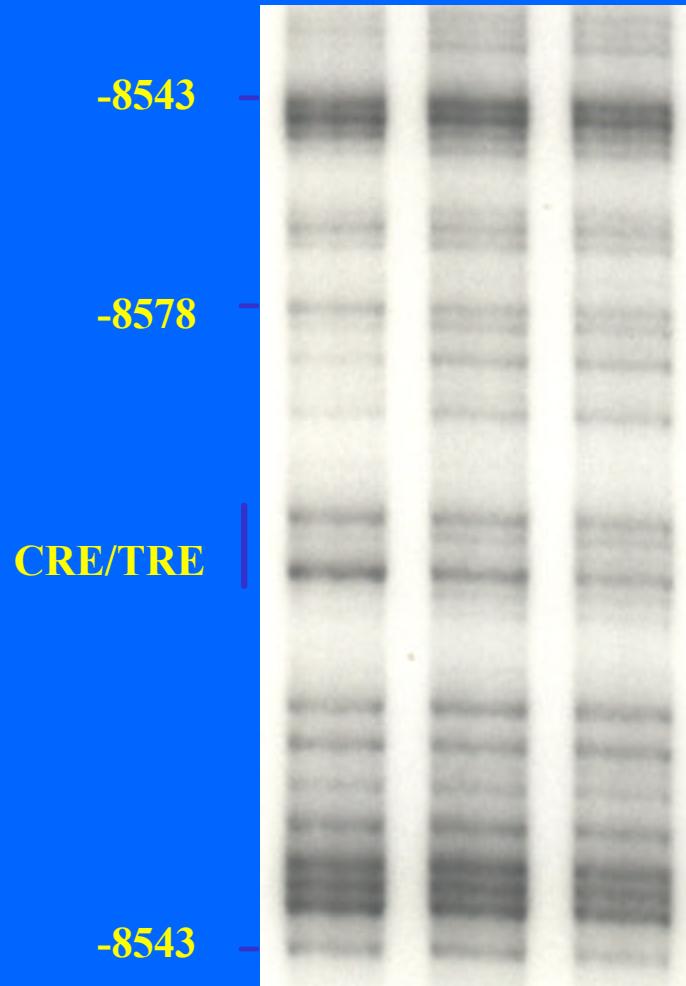
Bcl-1
-8688 TGATCA GCCGTGTCTCCAGAGAGCTACAAGGCAGTTCAATTGGTAAAT
ACTAGT CGGCACAGAGGTCTCGATGTTCCGTCA AAAGT TAACCATTAA
NFAT

.
-8638 GCCCTGAGAGTGATGGGCTTGTGGCATGTGTAAGGGTTAGACAGACCTGG
CGGGACTCTCACTACCCGAACACCGTACACATTCCAATCTGTCTGGACC
. TRE . CRE/TRE
-8588 GACTAGACATGAC ACCACTCC TGAC GAATTATGTGAGTGTGGGTGTTCA
CTGATCTGT ACTG TGGTGAGG ACTG CTTAATACACTCACACCCACAAAGT
TCF 11 TCF 11 . .
NFAT .
-8538 CAACCACAATGAGATGCAATGCCTGCAC TTGTAACA TGGA A ATAGTGATG
GTTGGTGT ACTC TACGTTACGGACGTGAACATTGTACCTTATCACTAC
TCF 11 . .
SphI
-8488 GCATGC
CGTACG

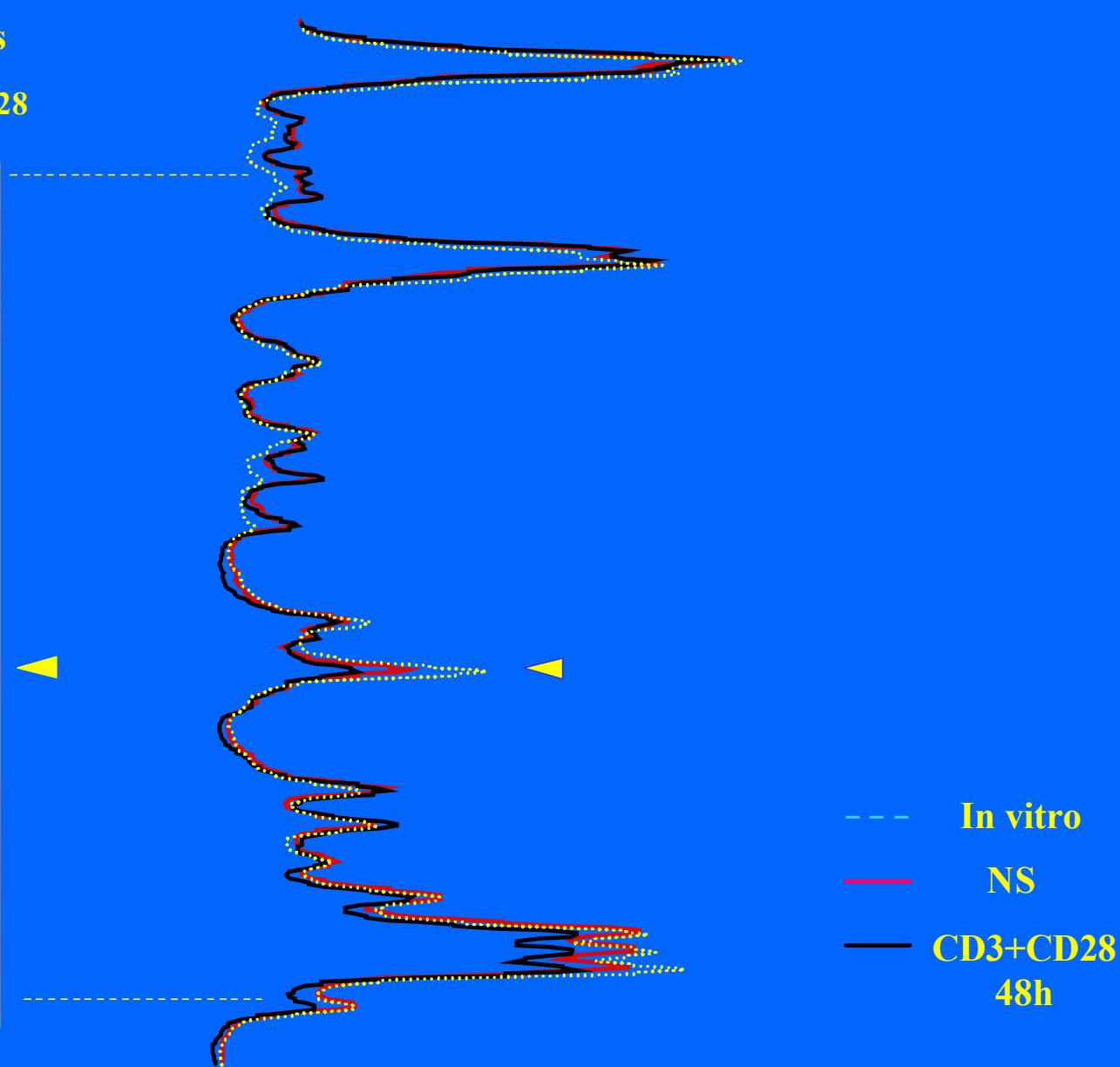
In vivo LM-PCR characterized the regulatory elements in PRRIV/IL-2Ra

Human primary T cells

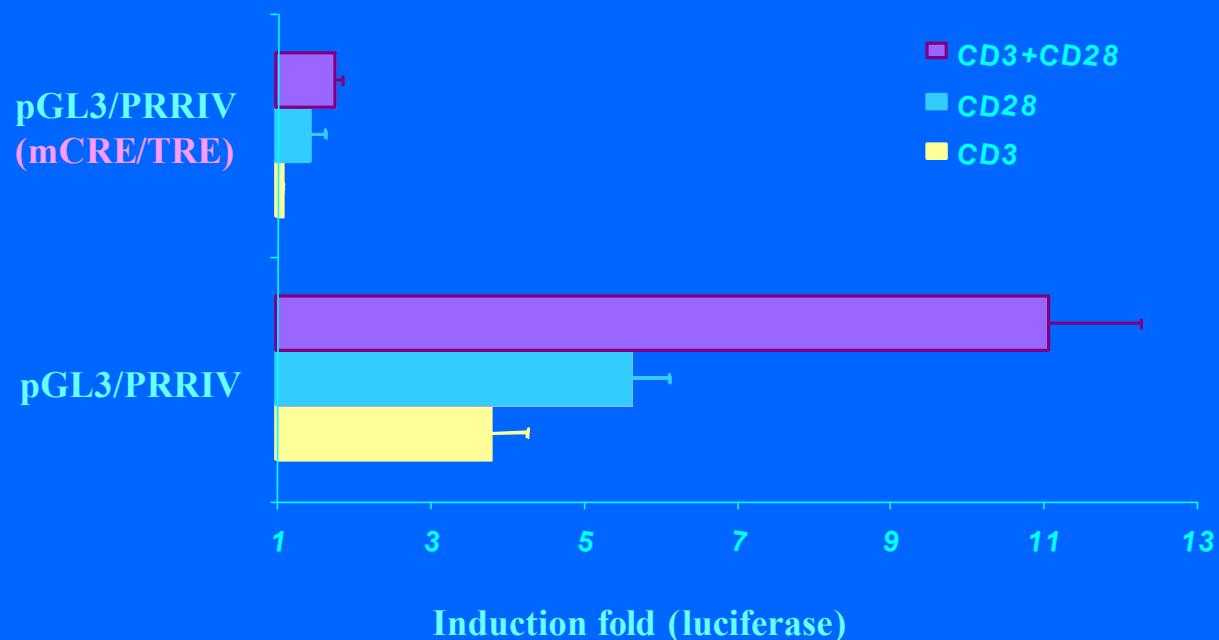
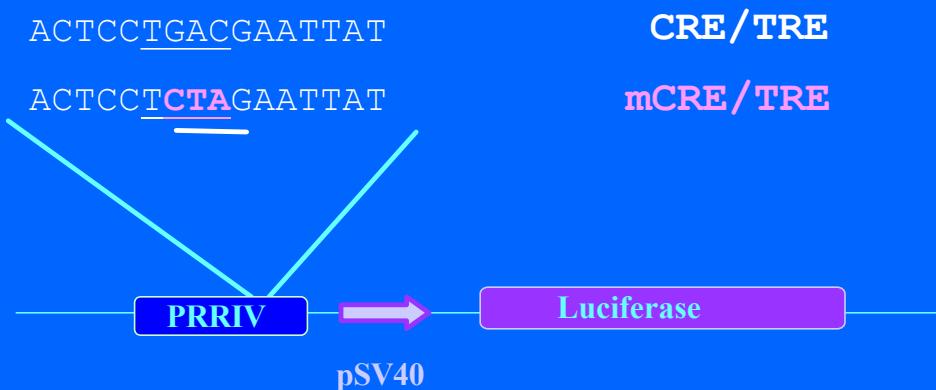
In vitro NS CD3+CD28
48h



Coding strand



The CRE/TRE within PRRIV is essential for the response of PRRIV to TCR-CD3 and CD28 signals



```
Seq 1 = ">HS_IL-2Ra_9.3KB genomic fragment from ENSG00000134460 5'->3''"
Seq 2 = ">MmIL-2Ra 12.5kb genomic fragment from phage Ch4C19 5'->3'"
```

```
Local Alignment Number 1
Similarity Score: 12780
Match Percentage: 59 %
Number of Matches: 325
Number of Mismatches: 175
Total Length of Gaps: 42
Begins at (211,312) and Ends at (744,819)
```

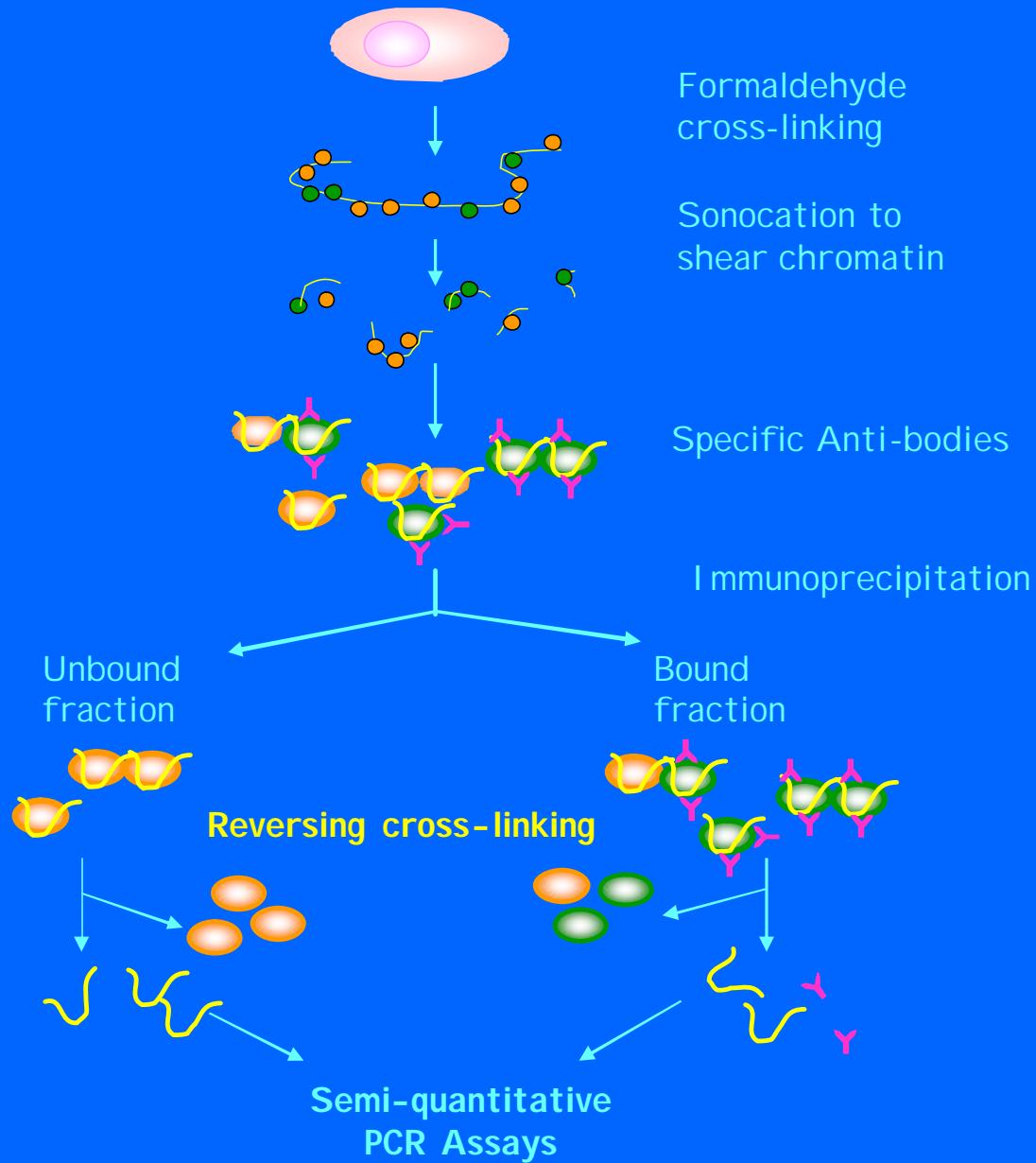
The crucial CRE/TRE motif within CD25/IL-2Ra PRRV/CD28rE is contained in a SINE/MIR repeat and is not conserved between *Homo Sapiens* and *Mus Musculus*

Local identities (alignment n°1)

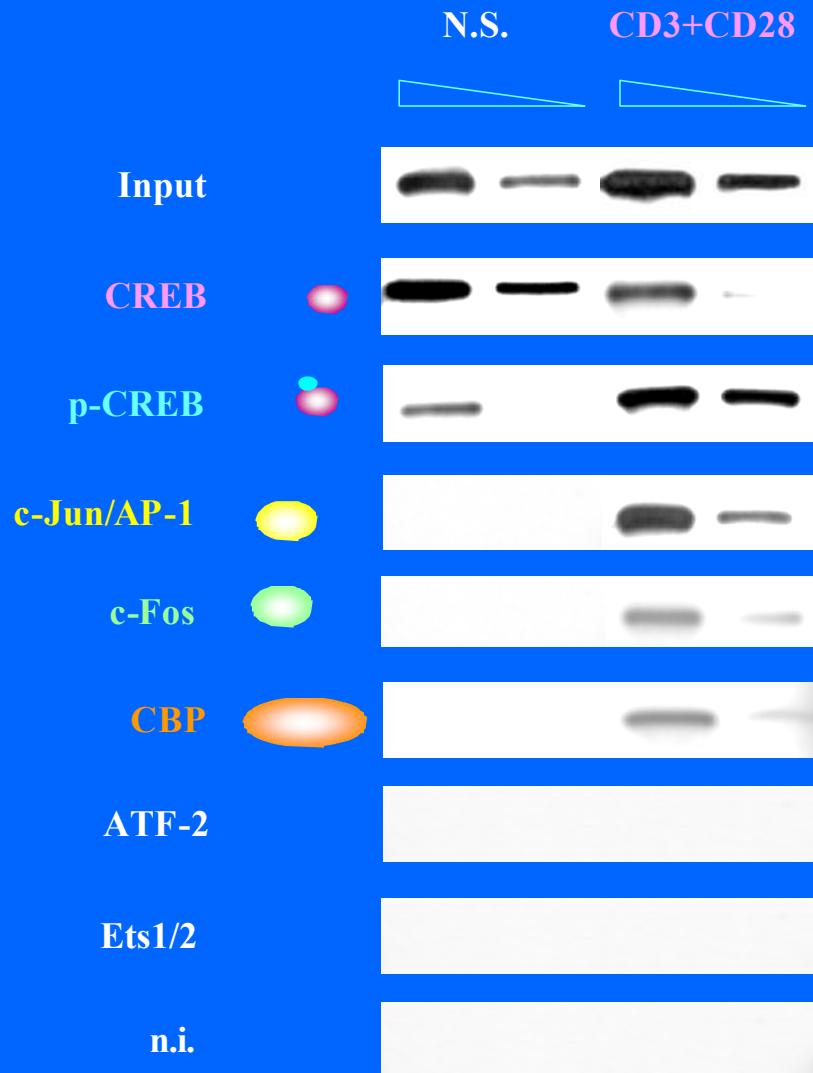
211-245	<-->	312-346	74%	(35 nt)
261-312	<-->	347-398	62%	(52 nt)
313-322	<-->	400-409	70%	(10 nt)
323-371	<-->	414-462	61%	(49 nt)
374-388	<-->	463-477	60%	(15 nt)
389-444	<-->	480-535	75%	(56 nt)
447-482	<-->	536-571	53%	(36 nt)
491-542	<-->	572-623	67%	(52 nt)
544-602	<-->	624-682	61%	(59 nt)
603-664	<-->	684-745	66%	(62 nt)
666-686	<-->	746-766	57%	(21 nt)
690-709	<-->	767-786	85%	(20 nt)
712-744	<-->	787-819	58%	(33 nt)

**HS4 (-8.5Kb)
CD28rE (PRRV)
[-8689,-8484]**
BclII-SphI fgt
**underlined:
SINE/MIR repeat**

Chromatin immunoprecipitation (ChIP)



Specific recruitment of CREB, CBP, c-Jun/AP-1, and c-Fos/AP-1 to PRRIV in vivo



Human resting T cells

A schematic diagram of the PRRIV promoter region in human resting T cells. It shows a pink DNA sequence with a blue transcription start site symbol. Two pink oval shapes representing CREB proteins are shown bound to the DNA.

PRRIV

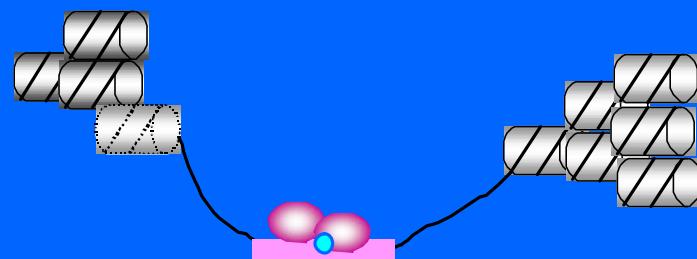
Activated human primary T cells

A schematic diagram of the PRRIV promoter region in activated human primary T cells. It shows a pink DNA sequence with a blue transcription start site symbol. A complex cluster of proteins is shown bound to the DNA, including orange (CBP), yellow (c-Jun/AP-1), green (c-Fos), and pink (CREB).

PRRIV

Resting human primary T cells

Activated human primary T cells



IL-2Ra gene
transcription

Off



Nucleosome



CRE/TRE

On



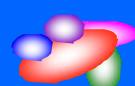
Remodelled
nucleosome



CREB



c-Jun/AP-1



RNA polymerase II
complex



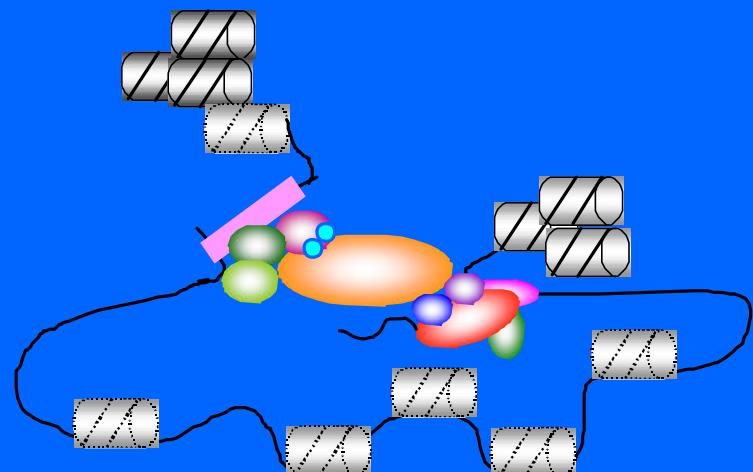
Phosphorylated
Ser¹³³ of CREB

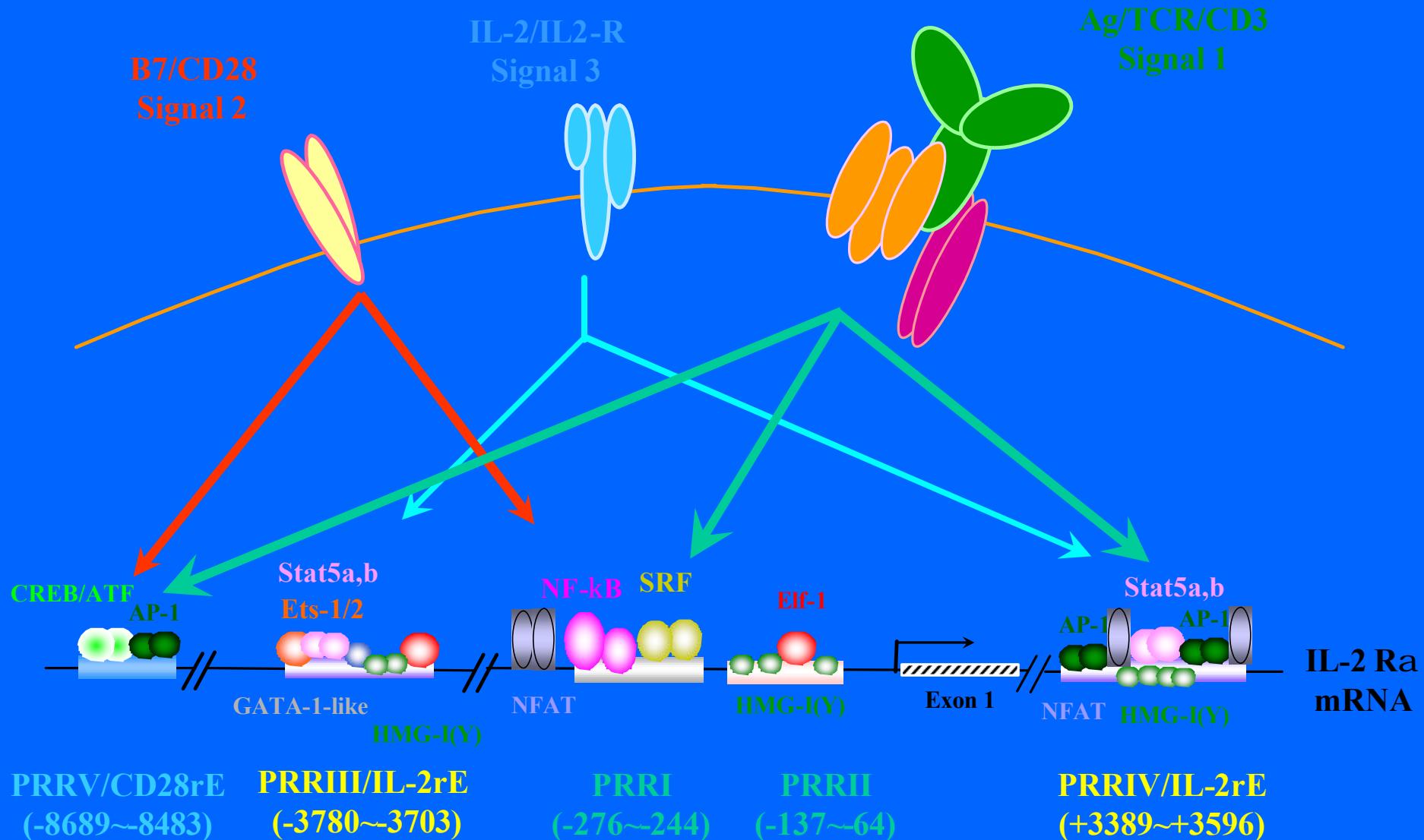


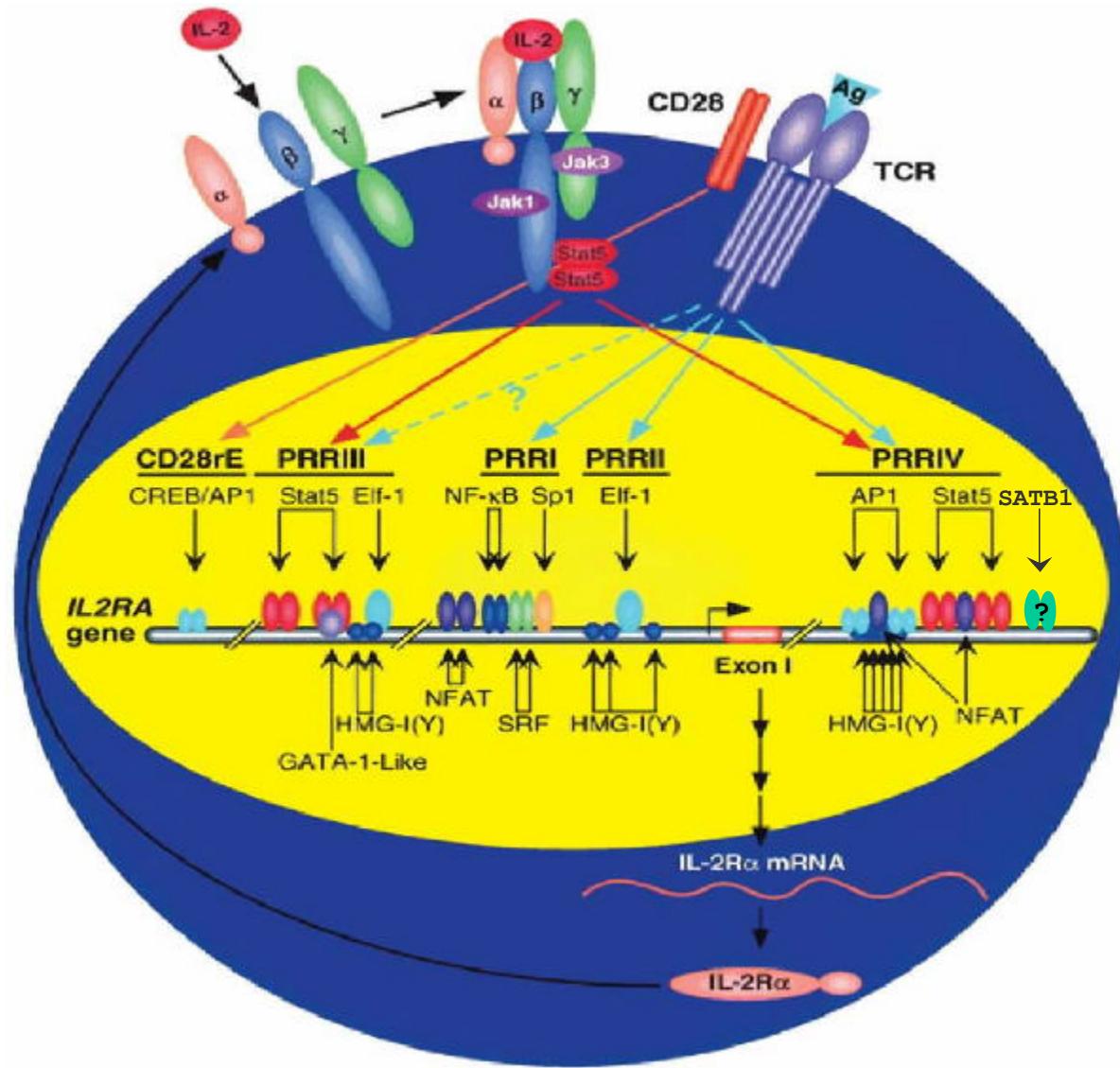
CBP/p300



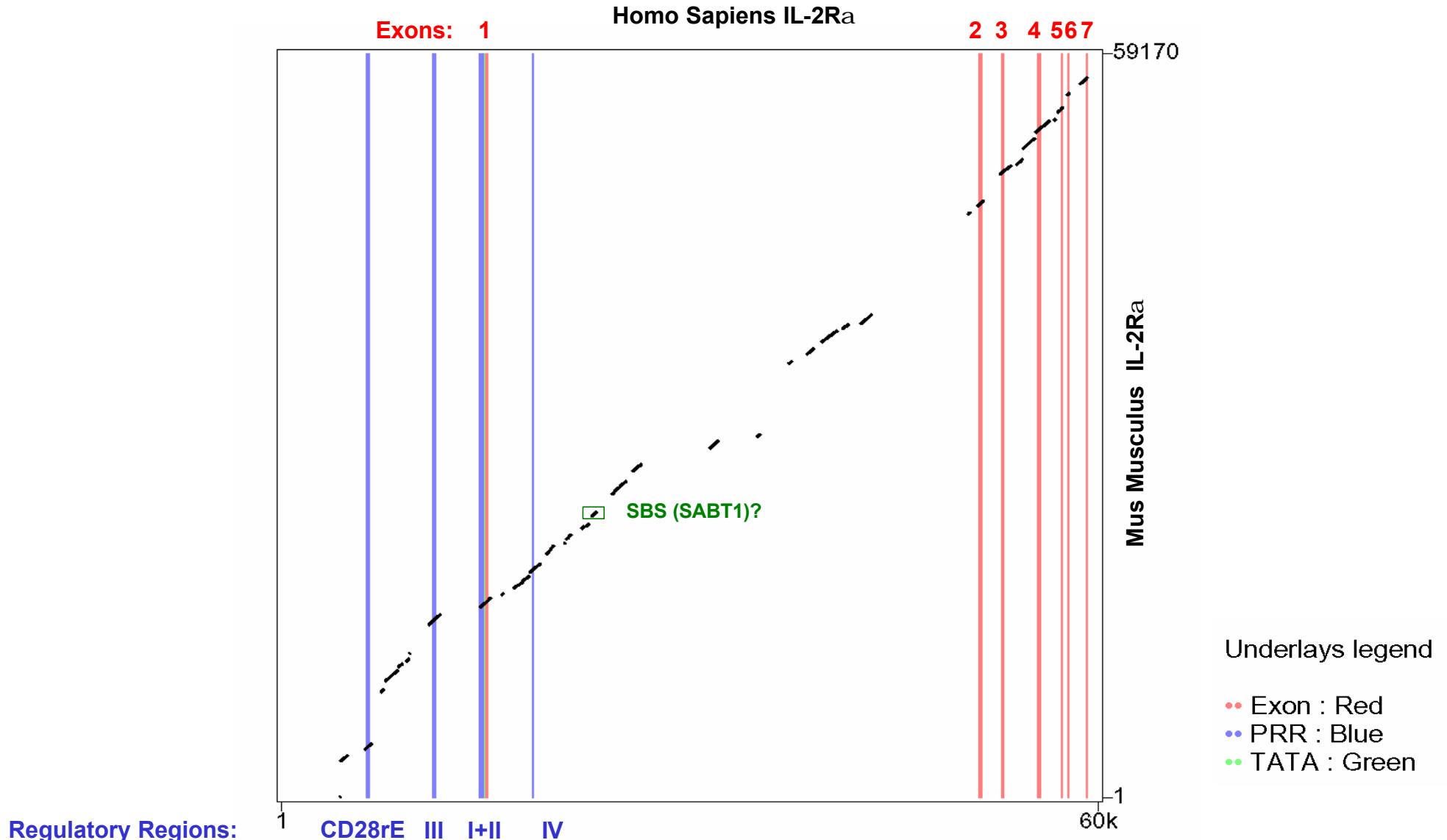
c-Fos/AP-1





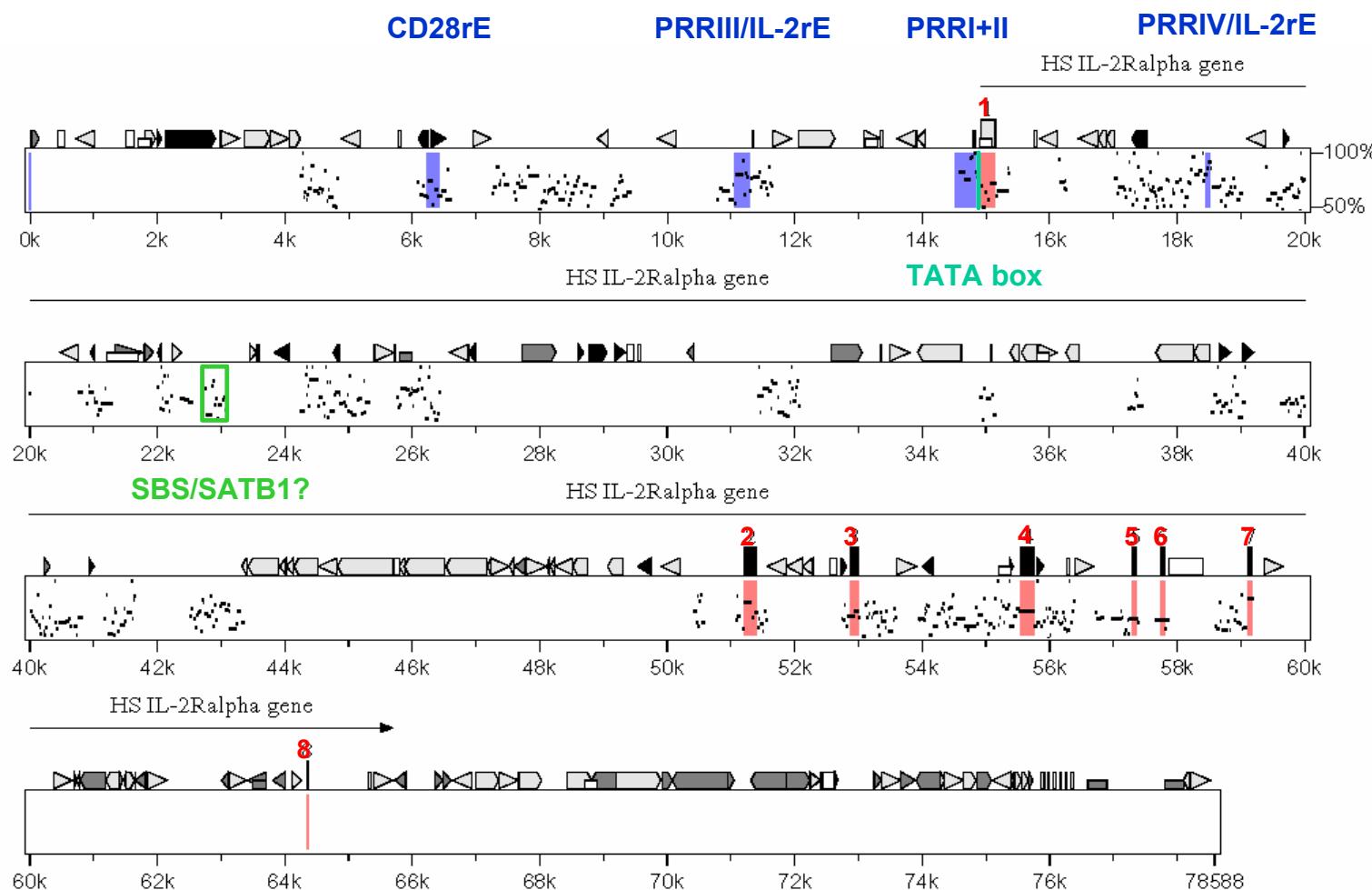


Homo Sapiens/Mus Musculus IL-2Ra locus dotplot comparison



Schwartz, S., Zhang, Z., Frazer, K.A., Smit, A., Riemer, C., Bouck, J., Gibbs, R., Hardison, R., and Miller, W. (2000). PipMaker: A Web Server for Aligning Two Genomic DNA Sequences. *Genome Res.* 10, 577-586.

Percent Identity Plot (PIP) of Homo Sapiens and Mus Musculus IL-2Ra locus



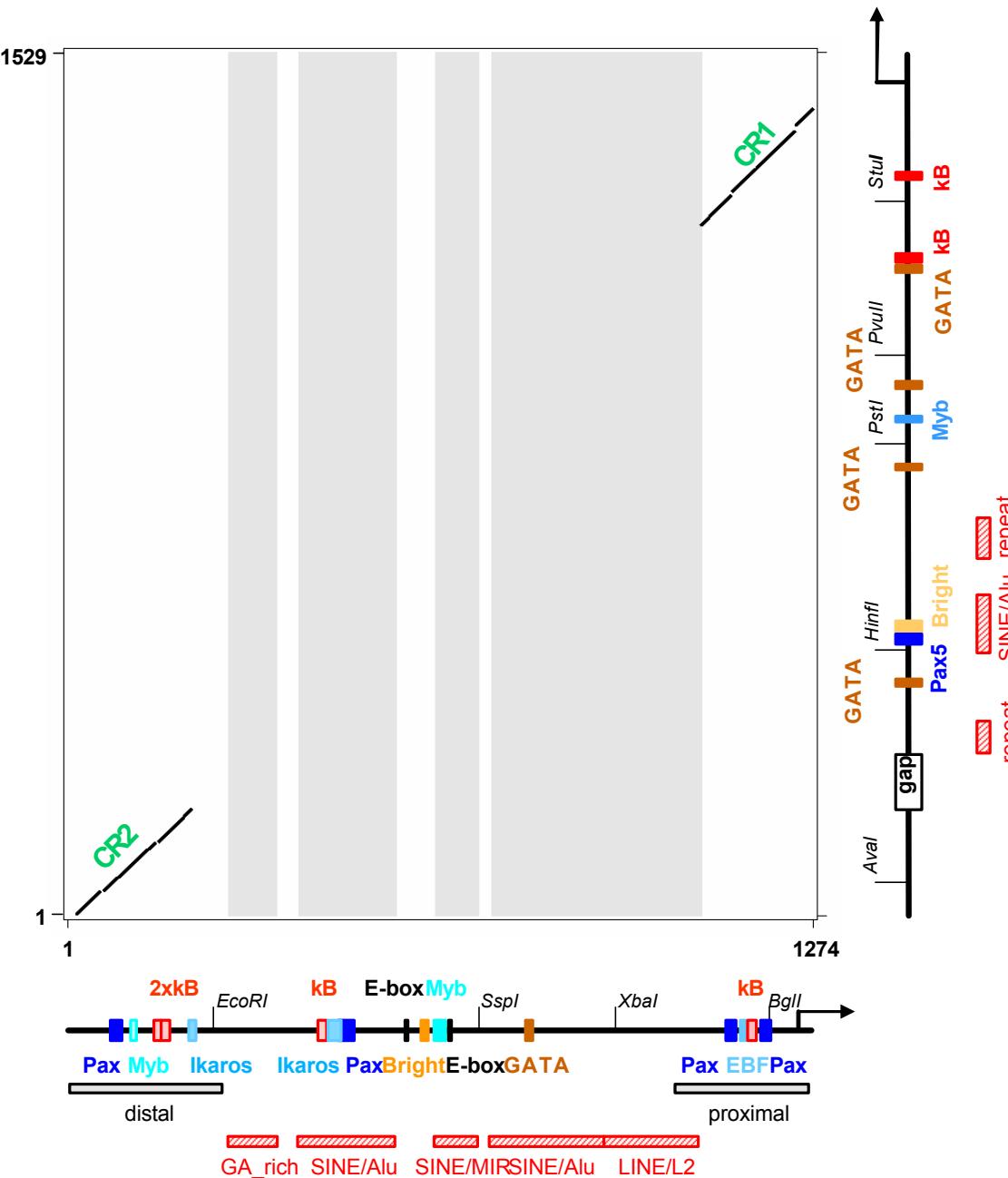
Underlays legend

Exon : Red	●
PRR : Blue	●
TATA : Green	●
Gene	→
Exon	■
UTR	□
RNA	□
Simple	□
MIR	▼
Other SINE	▽
LINE1	□
LINE2	■
LTR	■
Other repeat	▼
CpG/GpC≥0.60	□
CpG/GpC≥0.75	■

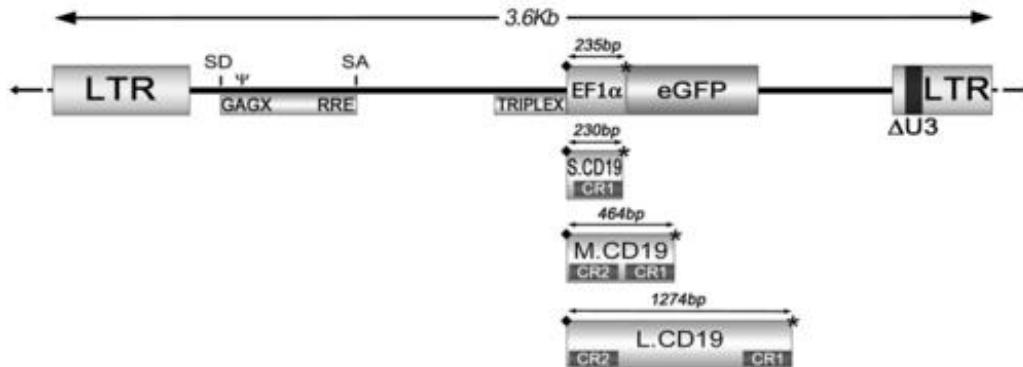
Schwartz, S., Zhang, Z., Frazer, K.A., Smit, A., Riemer, C., Bouck, J., Gibbs, R., Hardison, R., and Miller, W. (2000). PipMaker: A Web Server for Aligning Two Genomic DNA Sequences. *Genome Res.* 10, 577-586.

Selection of CD19 B-cell specific regulatory sequence and design of CD19-GFP lentiviral vector

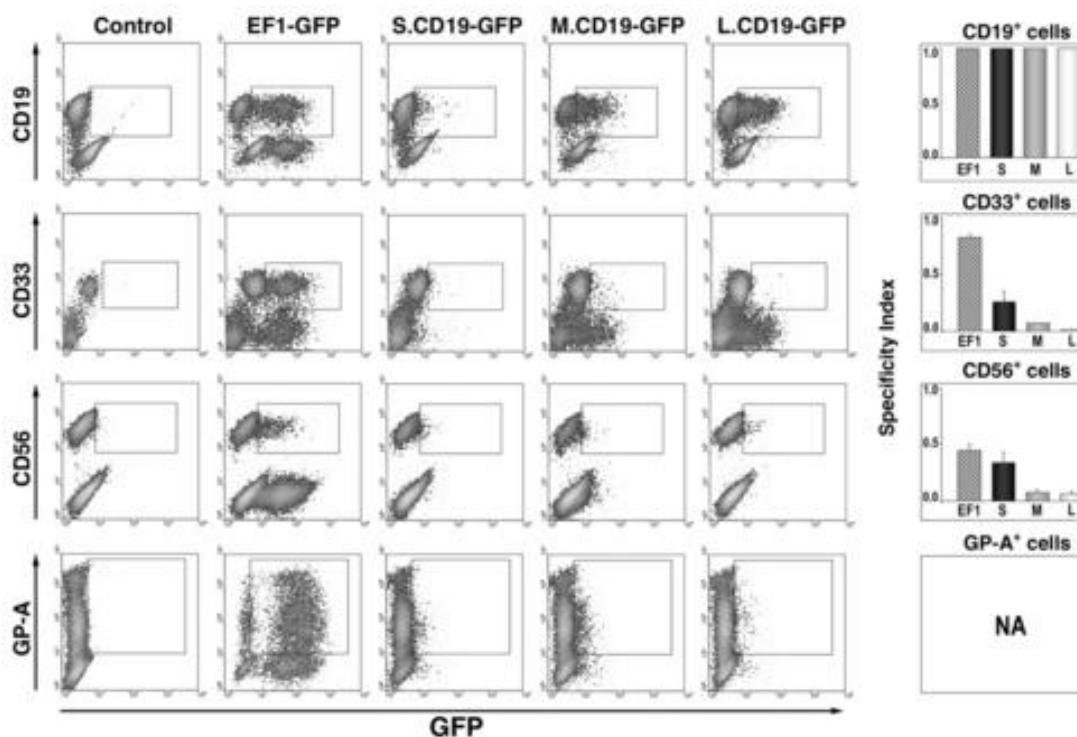
Computational analysis of homologies between Human and Mouse CD19 gene 5' regions



A. Recombinant CD19-GFP lentiviral vectors



B. GFP expression in the progeny of transduced CD34⁺ progenitor cells differentiated in vitro



INSERM UMR599 Cancer Institute of Marseille

Director : Françoise Birg

Transcription Team

Michèle Algarté
Régis Costello
Bénédicte Delaval
Brigitte Kahn-Perlès
Patrick Lécine
Carol Lipcey
Pascal Rameil
Jung-Hua Yeh
Jean Imbert

Immunology Team

Chantal Cerdan
Jacques Nunès
Daniel Olive

Gene & Cellular Therapy Team

Thomas Moreau
Christian Chabannon
Cécile Tonnelle

Immunology Center of Marseille-Luminy

Salvatore Spicuglia
Sanjeev Kumar
Pierre Ferrier

INSERM U363, Paris

Fabrice Gouilleux

Curie Institute, Orsay

Jacques Ghysdael

ISREC, Lausanne

Philip Bücher
Markus Nabholz

ICRF, London

Carol Beadling
Doreen Cantrell

Genzentrum, Martinsried,

Patrick Baeuerle

