



## EDGAR WINGENDER: DNA/PROTEIN SEQUENCE AND FUNCTION

### MAKING COMPLEX DATA AVAILABLE FOR SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS AND THE BEGINNINGS IN BRAUNSCHWEIG

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JOHN COLLINS (HZI/GBF/TU BRAUNSCHWEIG, 1975-2010)

BIOINFORMATICS OF GENE REGULATION: 30 YEARS OF TRANSFAC (7-9 MARCH, 2018,  
GÖTTINGEN)

## Edgar's time at the GBF:

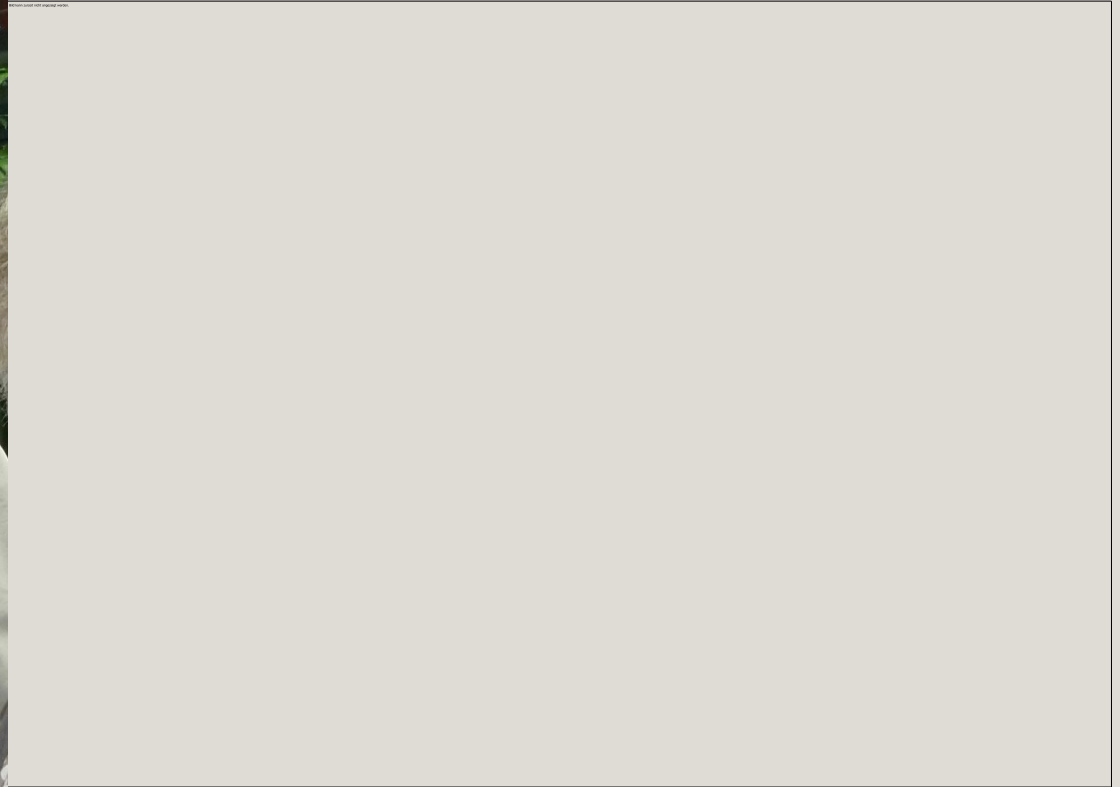
01.1977 – 12.1977

Diplomarbeit with Professor Karl Wagner

05.12.1977 started

Doktorarbeit, promoted 09.12.1980 (Karl Wagner, Jürgen

Bode) till 30.04.1981 as Postdoc.



*1981-1986 University of Marburg as Research Assistant (Lecturer) with Professor Klaus H. Seifart 1981 till 1986*

**Wingender, E.** and Seifart, K. H. **Transcription in eukaryotes - the role of transcription complexes and their components** Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 26, 218-227 (1987)

Jahn, D., **Wingender, E.** and Seifart, K. H. **Transcription complexes for various class III genes differ in parameters of formation and stability towards salt** J. Mol. Biol. 193, 303-313 (1987)

**Wingender, E.,** Jahn, D. and Seifart, K. H. **Association of RNA polymerase III with transcription factors in the absence of DNA** J. Biol. Chem. 261, 1409-1413 (1986)

**Wingender, E.,** Dilloo, D. and Seifart, K. H. **Zinc ions are differentially required for the transcription of ribosomal 5S RNA and tRNA in a HeLa-cell extract** Nucleic Acids Res. 12, 8971-8985 (1984)

**Wingender, E.,** Shi, X. P., Houpert, A. and Seifart, K. H. **Isolation of a transcription complex for ribosomal 5S RNA** EMBO J. 3, 1761-1768 (1984)

Shi, X. P., **Wingender, E.,** Böttrich, J. and Seifart, K. H. **Faithful transcription of ribosomal 5-S RNA in vitro depends on the presence of several factors** Eur. J. Biochem. 131, 189-194 (1983)

Returned to the GBF 01.02.1986 – 15.11.2002 as Research Assistant (Postdoc)

- founded Transfac 1987, spin-off from GBF ->-> founding of Biobase



1986 – 1990

Wingender, E. Compilation of transcription regulating proteins Nucleic Acids Res. 16, 1879-1902 (1988)

actin (cytoskeletal)	Xenopus laevis /HeLa	-94 to -75 (SRE)	1a, 4a, 4b	AAGATgcCCATATtTGcgATCTT	SRF (?)	4
Ad2MLP (adenovirus 2 major late prom.)	adenovirus/HeLa	-68 to -49	1a, 3, 4a, 4b	TGTAGGCCACGTGACCGG	UEF, USF, MLTF	5-10
		-63 to -52	1b	GGCCACGTGACC	USF	9
		-50 to -10	1a	TATAAAA	?	8
		-40 to +35	1a	TATAAAA	TFIID	9
		-34 to -22	1b	TATAAAA	TFIID	9
Adh (alcohol dehydrogenase) -distal prom. -proxim.prom.	Drosophila	- 85 to - 47	1a	GTGTGTGTGTGcCtGTGcGcGTGc	Adf-1	11
		-269 to -229	1a	TACTAA (4x)		11
		-151 to -105	1a	GCAAGCCTGCGTGCcgggtgaGCAGC	Adf-1 ?	11
		- 98 to - 77	1a	GAGATCGCBTAACBGTAGATAA		11
Adh1 (alcohol dehydrogenase)	maize	-190 to -186	4a (in vivo)	CCACG		12
		-145 to -138 (after ind.)	4a (in vivo)	CCCCGG		12
		-120 to -117 (after ind.)	4a (in vivo)	CGTGG		12
		-108 to -100	4a (in vivo)	CCCACAGGC		12
ADH2 (alcohol dehydrogenase)	yeast	-257 to -216	deletions	22 bp dyad symmetry	ADR1	13
albumin	rat/liver	-156 to -141	1a	GCAAGGGATTTAGTTA		14
		-126 to -107	1a	TTTTTGGCAAGGAT	NF-1	14
		-105 to - 89	1a	ATTTTGTAAAT		14
		- 72 to - 35	1a	TGGTTAATGATCTACAGTTATTGGTTA		14
A-MuLV (amphotrop. murine leukemia virus)	/F9, PCC4	-87 to -59	1a, 3	CCAAT	EPBF	15
aP2 (adipocyte P2)	mouse/adipocytes	-124 to -108	1a, 3	AACATBACTCAGAGGAA	c-fos ?	16
BPV (bovine papilloma virus-1)	/rec	7613 to 7639 (enhancer)	1a	ATCGGTGCACCGAT	E2 DRF prod.	17
	/HeLa	7637 to 7667 (enhancer)	1a	TTGGGctCCCCAA	AP-2	18
a2(I) collagen	mouse/3T3	- 95 to - 70	2a	CCAAT		19, 20
		-315 to -295	1a, 2a, 3, 4b	TCGNNNNNGCCAA	NF-1	19, 20
collagenase	human/HeLa,HepB2	-79 to -60	1a, 1b	ATGABTCAGA	AP-1	21
CYC1	yeast	-293 to -278 (UAS 1, A)	1a, 3, 4b	CCGA	RAF	22
		-268 to -257 (UAS 1, B)	1a, 3, 4b	TGGCCGGTTCACBACATBA	HAP1	22

The meeting was designed to bring specialists from three traditionally diverse fields together, namely: human geneticists, molecular biologists and computer scientists. It will be increasingly necessary that these three groups interact in order to extract the most in terms of biological and medical information from the data being gathered on the various genomes being analysed (human, mouse, pin worm, fruit fly, yeast, bacteria etc.). This ongoing analysis will help focus on which methods are particularly efficient, where bottlenecks occur, in short, where the real emphasis in methodological developments, and where the real focus on biological (medical?) studies should be placed. Individual views

1st European Meeting  
Human Genome Organisation (HUGO)



The long term aim of the human genome initiative is, with perhaps a total expenditure of some \$ 2,000 to 3,000 million over the next 13 years, to yield a complete analysis of the genetic content of the human genome. Thus it is an important aim of this meeting to take

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efforts so far and during the next two days, to wish you all an interesting, profitable and enjoyable meeting, and to open the meeting by calling for the first lecture on "Genome analysis and cancer" by the president of HUGO, Sir Walter.

1986 – 1990

Sömjen, D., Binderman, I., Schlüter, K.-D., **Wingender, E.**, Mayer, H. and Kaye, A. M. Stimulation by defined parathyroid hormone fragments of cell proliferation in skeletal derived cell cultures *Biochem. J.* 272, 781-785 (1990)

Rupp, E., Mayer, H. and **Wingender, E.** The promoter of the human parathyroid hormone gene contains a functional cyclic AMP-response element *Nucleic Acids Res.* 18, 5677-5683 (1990)

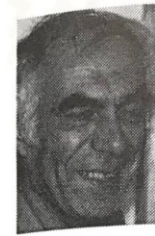
**Wingender, E.** Transcription regulating proteins and their recognition sequences *CRC Crit. Rev. in Eukaryotic Gene Expression* 1, 11-48 (1990)

**Wingender, E.**, Bercz, G., Schlüter, K.-D. and Mayer, H. Structure-Function Relationship in Parathyroid Hormone *Advances in Protein Design - International Workshop 1988* (H. Blöcker, J. Collins, R. D. Schmidt, eds.), GBF Monographs, Verlag Chemie, Weinheim 12, 167-176 (1989)

Schlüter, K.-D., Hellstern, H., **Wingender, E.** and Mayer, H. The central part of parathyroid hormone stimulates thymidine incorporation of chondrocytes *J. Biol. Chem.* 264, 11087-11092 (1989)

**Wingender, E.**, Bercz, G., Blöcker, H., Frank, R. and Mayer, H. Expression of human parathyroid hormone in *Escherichia coli* *J. Biol. Chem.* 264, 4367-4373 (1989) Seifart, K. H.,

#### 4. The "Bone" Project



Hubert Mayer



Edgar Wingender



Gerhard Gross



Thomas Ankenbauer



Andrew Scutt



Cathrin Koch



Ralf Kersanach



Christian Duvos



Dietmar Schröder



Heidemarie Gründel



Ina Schulz



Veronica Vargas



Annegret Bischoff



Inge Hollatz



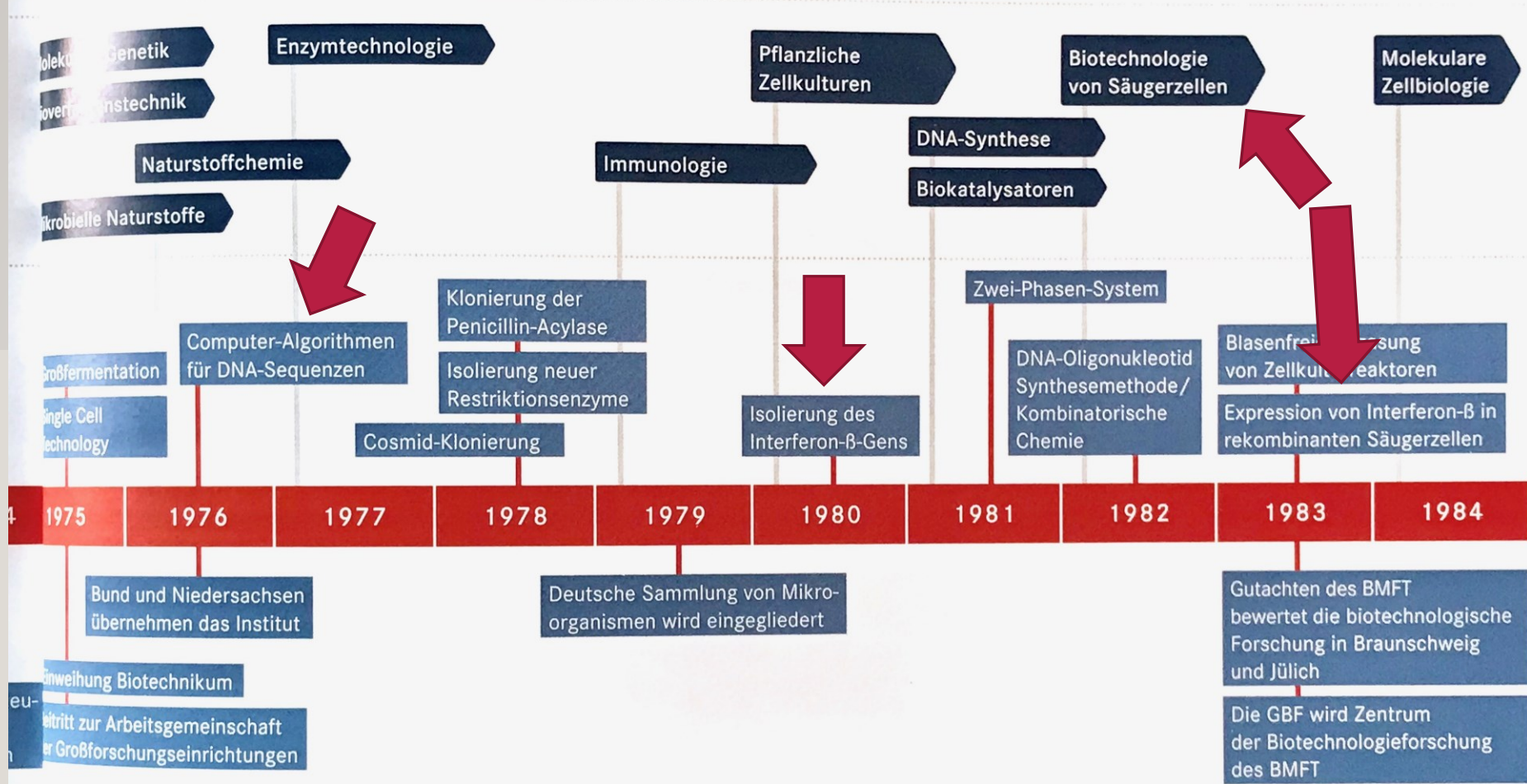
Gunda Sellenriek

Rudi Balling, GBF/HZI  
Director 2001-2009

Leopold Flohé,  
GBF, Director 1991-1994







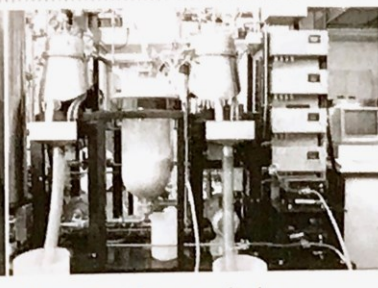
Einweihung des Biotechnikums 1975



Minister Matthöfer besichtigt die GBF



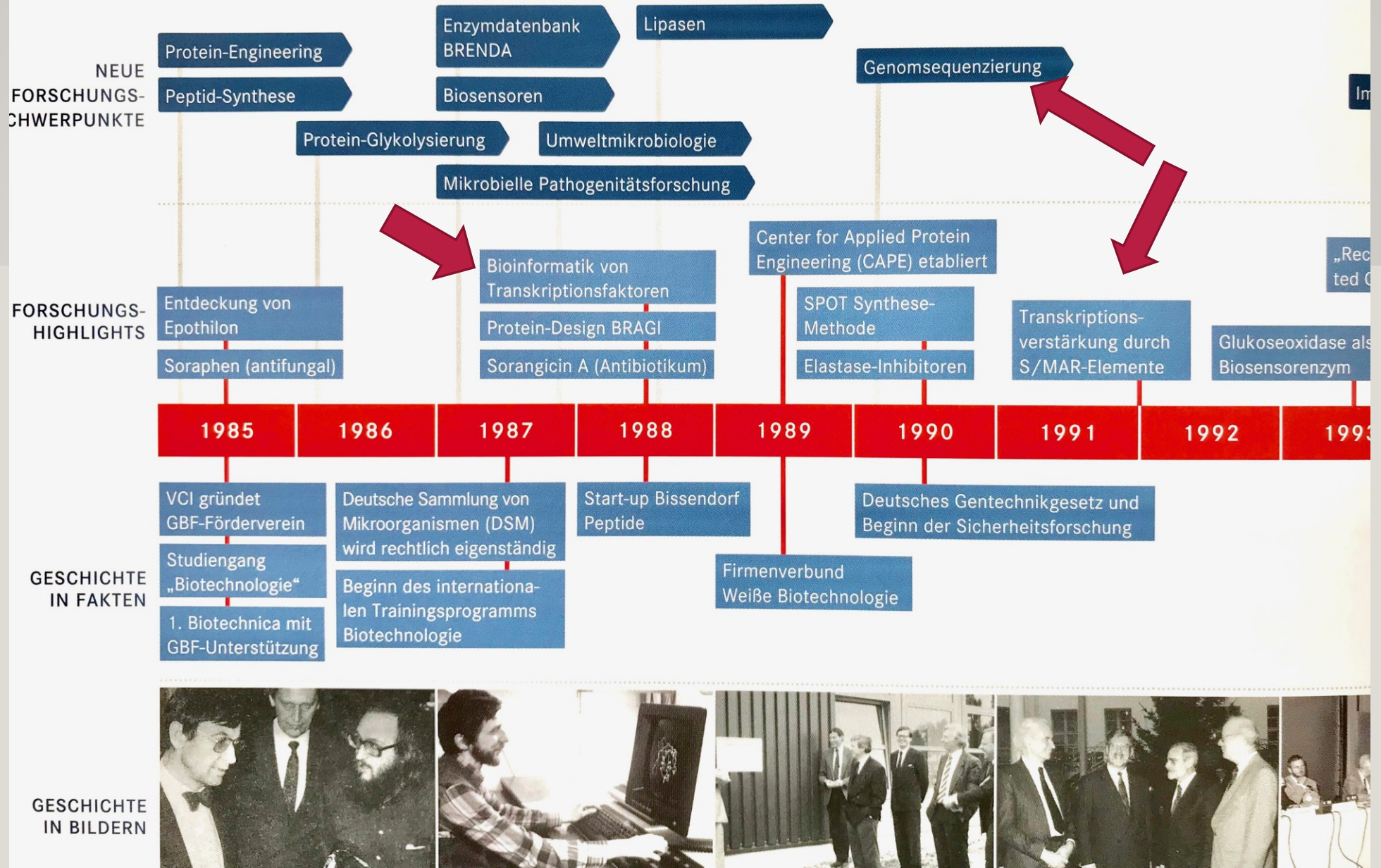
Maria-Regina Kula erhält das Bundesverdienstkreuz



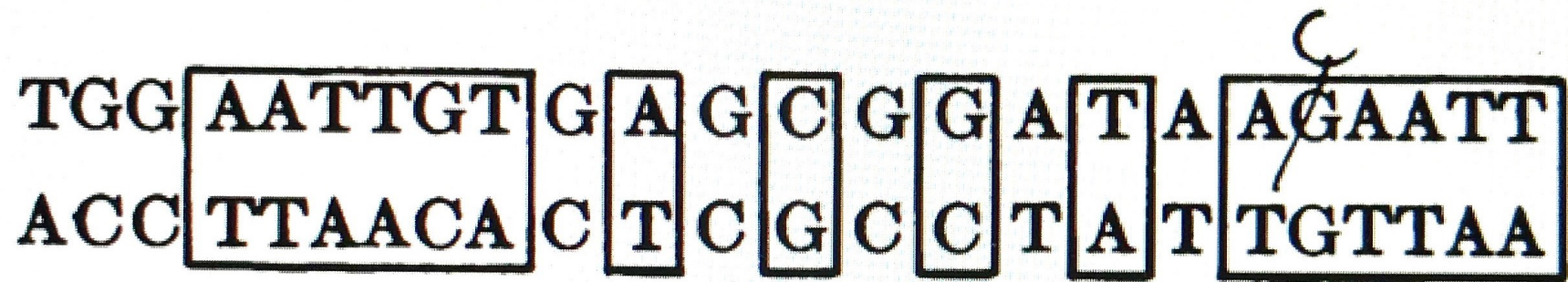
Enzymreinigung mit dem Zwei-Phasen-System



Die erweiterte GBF im Jahr 1984

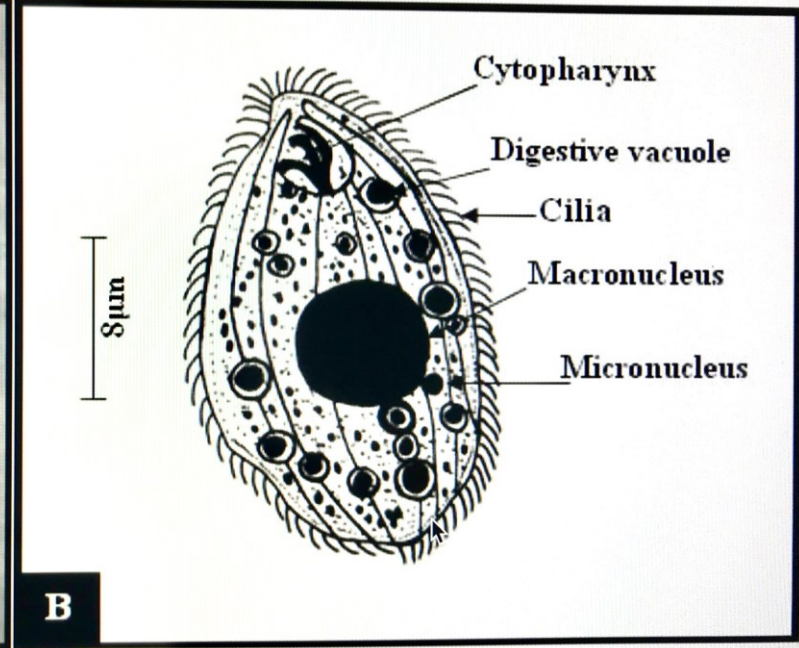
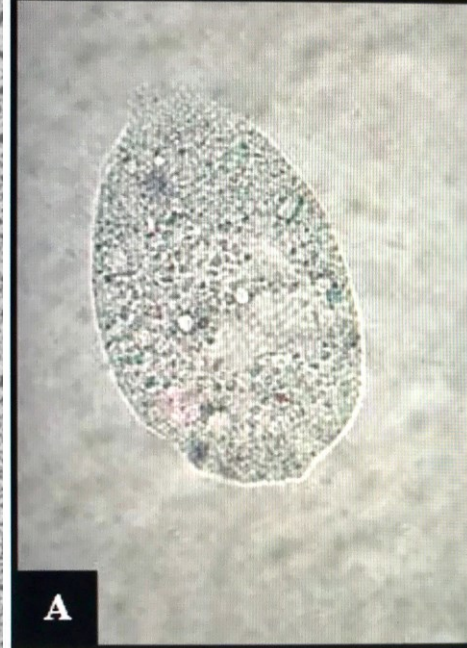
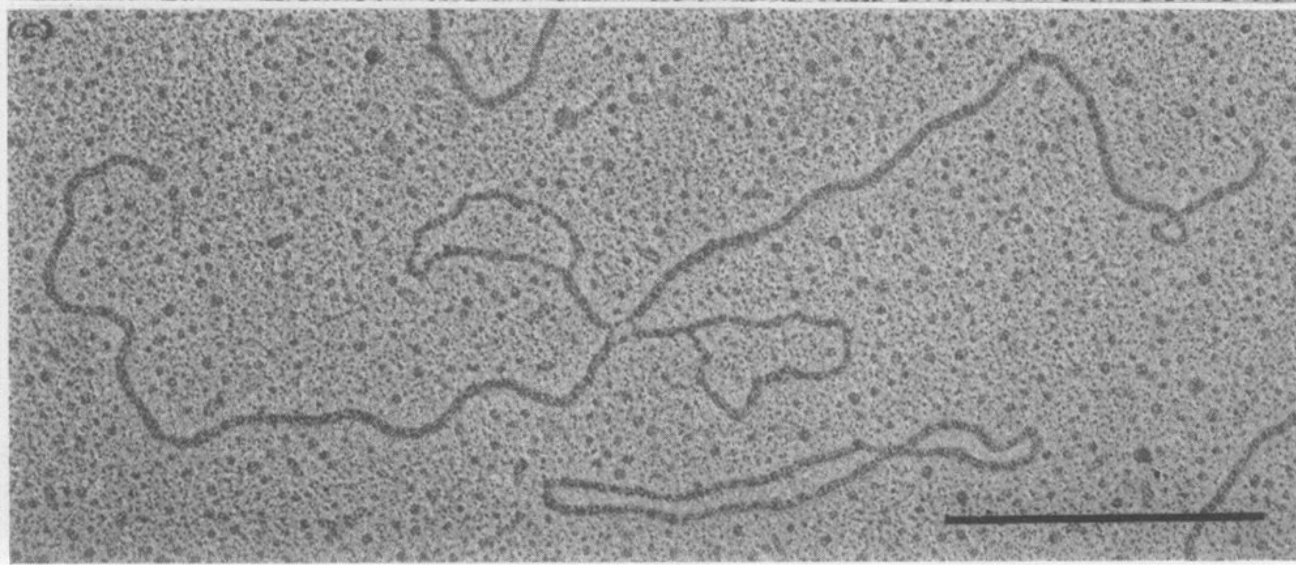
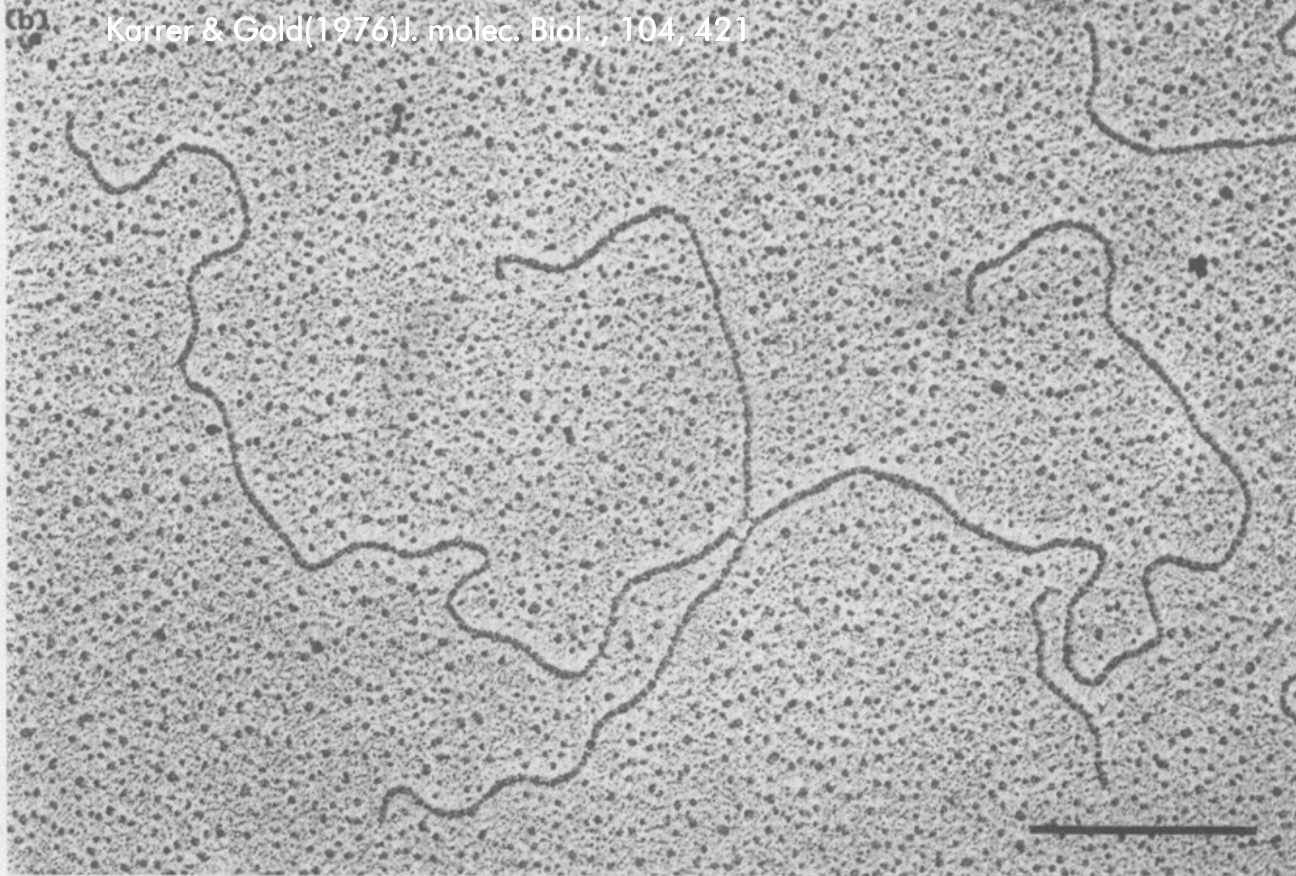


below:



(However, two to three of these matched base pairs might be symmetrical by chance.) This symmetry could permit the repressor protein to interact with DNA on a 2-fold symmetry axis: either two subunits could interact, each with the appropriate half of the symmetry region; or (as suggested by Dr. Thomas Steitz) all four subunits could interact, two with the left-hand region, the other two, related by a 2-fold axis, with the right-hand region. A 2-fold symmetry was suggested on

Late 1975 Jan Engberg (Panum Medical School, Copenhagen) and myself writing on our work and ideas on the role of symmetry in DNA regulation in *Tetrahymena pyriformis*



## Free Ribosomal DNA Molecules from *Tetrahymena pyriformis* GL are Giant Palindromes

JAN ENGBERG, POUL ANDERSSON, VAGN LEICK

*Biochemical Institute B*

*University of Copenhagen*

*Blegdamsvej 3, DK-2200 Copenhagen N, Denmark*

AND

JOHN COLLINS†

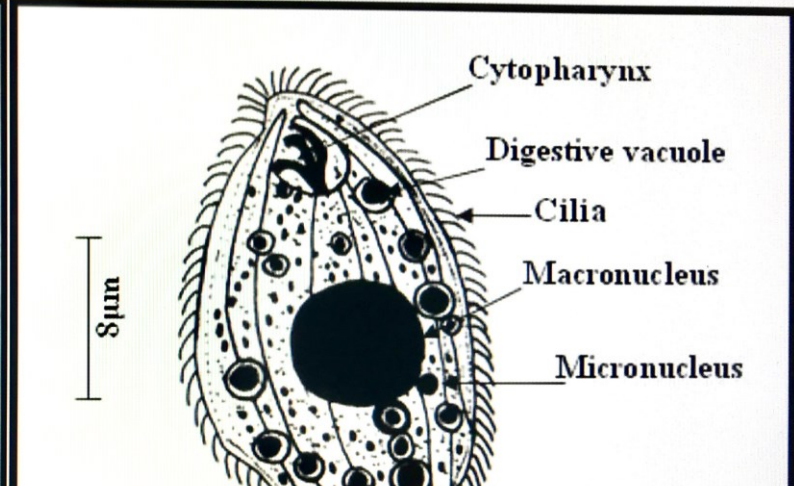
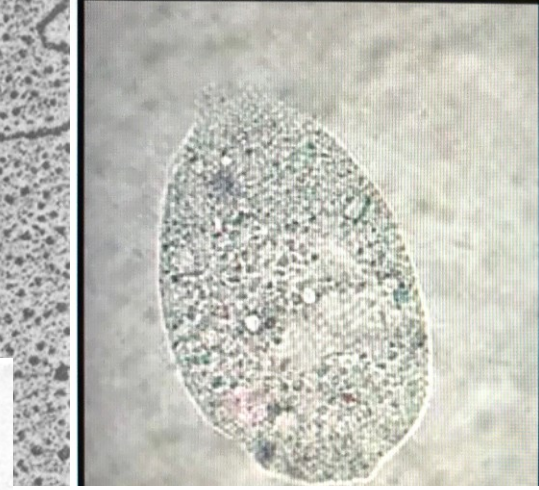
*Institute of Microbiology*

*University of Copenhagen, Øster Farimagsgade 2A, DK-1353 Copenhagen K*

*Denmark*

*(Received 29 December 1975, and in revised form 16 February 1976)*

Restriction endonuclease *EcoRI* was used to study the structure of the free ribosomal DNA molecules from *Tetrahymena pyriformis*, strain GL. From the



7

*J. theor. Biol.* (1977) 66, 573-582

**A Model for Switching on Ribosomal RNA Synthesis by Creating a Palindromic DNA Sequence in the Promoter Region of the Ribosomal RNA Cistron: the "Structon"**

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*Gesellschaft für Biotechnologische Forschung mbH,  
D-3300 Braunschweig-Stockheim, Mascheroder Weg 1,  
Federal Republic of Germany*

AND

JAN ENGBERG

*Biochemical Institute B, University of Copenhagen, Blegdamsvej 3,  
2200 Copenhagen, Denmark*

(Received 21 October 1976)

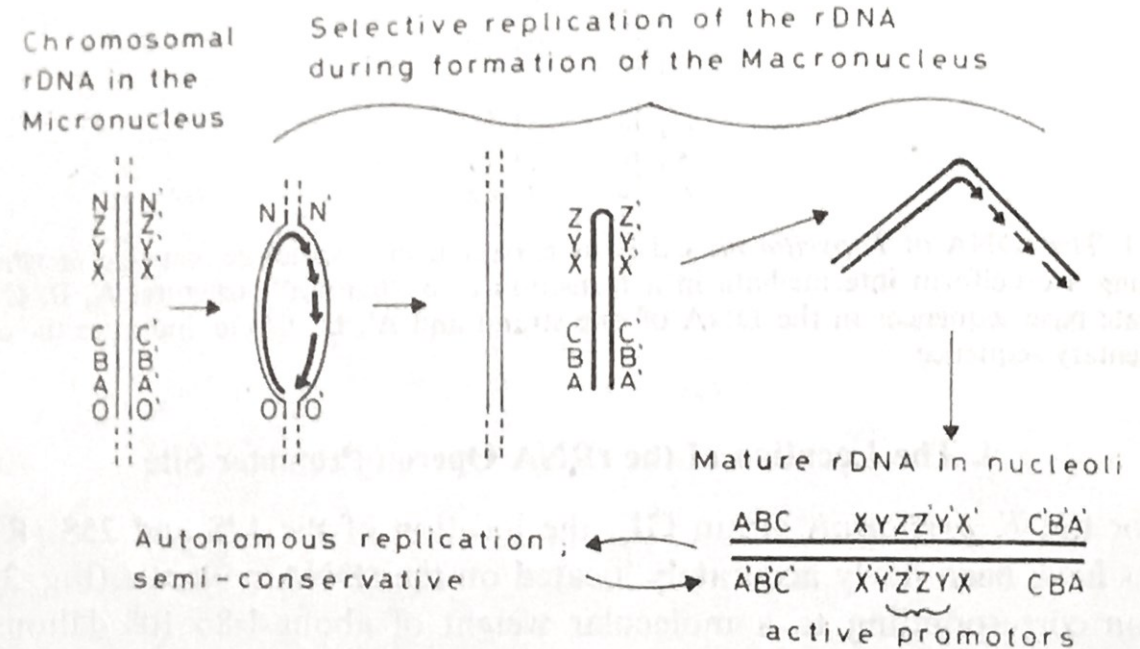
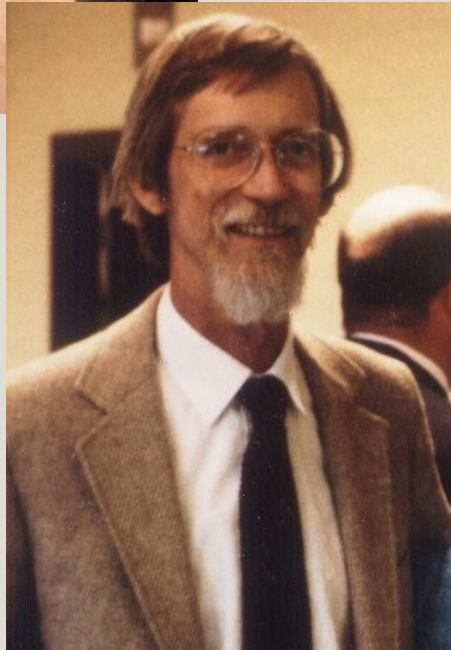


FIG. 2. The "structon"; a segment of the micronuclear chromosomal DNA equivalent to just over one ribosomal RNA cistron is selectively replicated through a "hairpin" intermediate, during the development of the macronucleus. The "hairpin" is then replicated to the open linear form which is found in the nucleoli. The model further postulates that NZYX alone is not sufficient to act as a promoter, but some element in Y'Z'ZYX is capable of functioning as a promoter leading the efficient rRNA synthesis only in the nucleolus.

It therefore **seemed imperative** to us to have a tool to analyse DNA sequences for various possible structures including initially **symmetric regions** (*palindromic sequences*) *even though we could analyze ALL the sequences that were available in 1975/76 by hand in a short time.*

*Generally useable sequencing technology didn't come into being until the end of 1977: Maxam & Gilbert and the Sanger method which required either isolated end-labelled ( $P^{32}$ ) DNA fragments or single-stranded DNA (e.g. from an M13-cloned fragment) and a synthetic DNA primer*

First computer algorithms searching for inverse symmetry (palindromic sequences)  
 Dave Lincoln & John Collins, 1975



	binary		binary
A= 3	011	G= 6	110
T= 4	100	C= 1	001
A+T = 7	0111	C+G = 7	0111
A+A= 6	0010	C+T= 5	0101
T+T= 8	1000	G+T= 10	1010
G+G= 12	1100	A+G= 9	1001
C+C= 2	0010	C+A = 4	0100

\*\*\*\*\*

Choose length of scan for symmetry e.g. 6 bp:

DNA sequence

.....G G A A T T C T A A.....

a b c d e f ->

[(a+f)-7] if SUM= 0 -> [(b+e)-7,

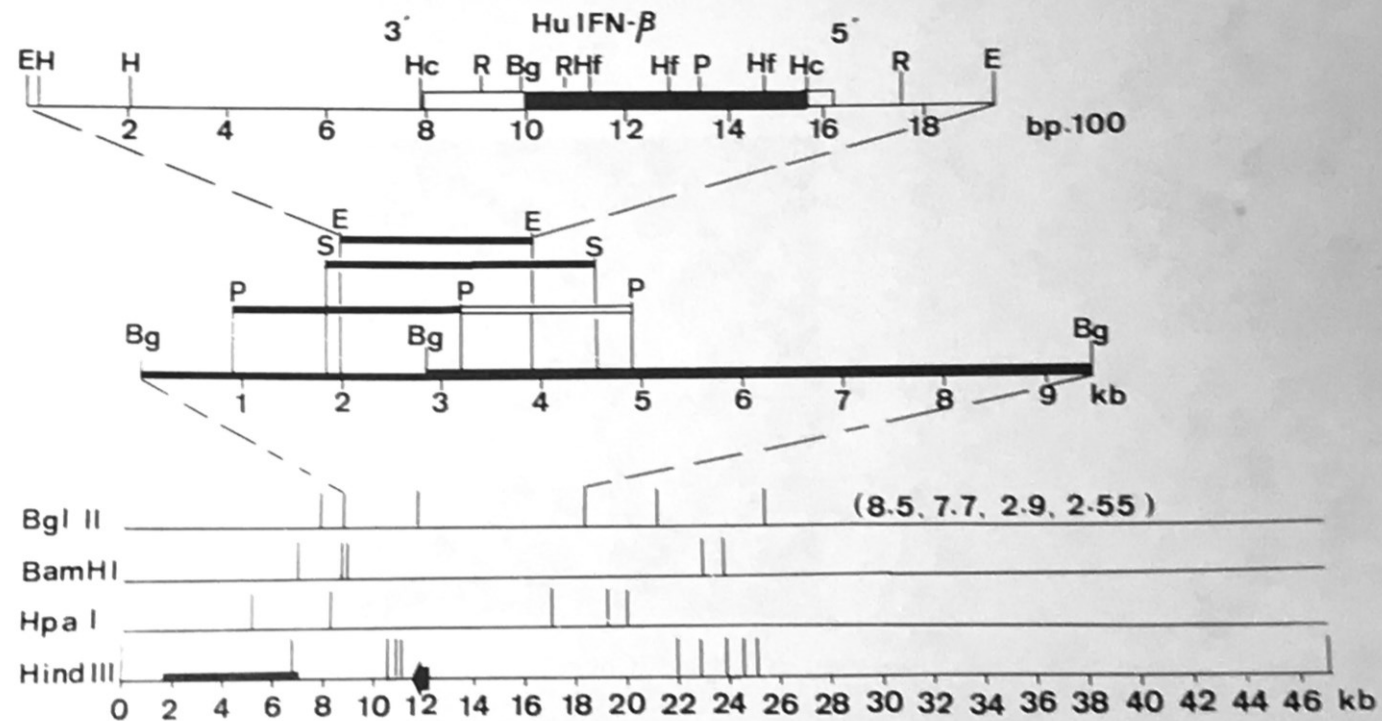
if SUM =0 -> [(c+d)-7] ->

if SUM =0 -> write out sequence and position (first steps to GENMON and computation on small computers compared to mainframe).

Later modified for partial homology (consensus) and partial symmetry comparisons.







Collins J. and Hohn B. (1978) Cosmids: a type of plasmid gene-cloning vector that is packageable in vitro in bacteriophage Lambda heads. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 75, 4242-4246

Gross G., Mayr U., Bruns W., Grosveld F., Dahl H. H. M. and Collins J. (1981) The structure of a thirty-six kilobase region of the human chromosome including the fibroblast interferon gene IFN- $\beta$ . Nucl. Acids Res. 9, 2495-2507

Hauser H., Gross G., Bruns W., Hochkeppel H.-K., Mayr U. and Collins J. (1982) Inducibility of human  $\beta$ -interferon gene in mouse L-cell clones. Nature (Lond.) 297, 650- 655

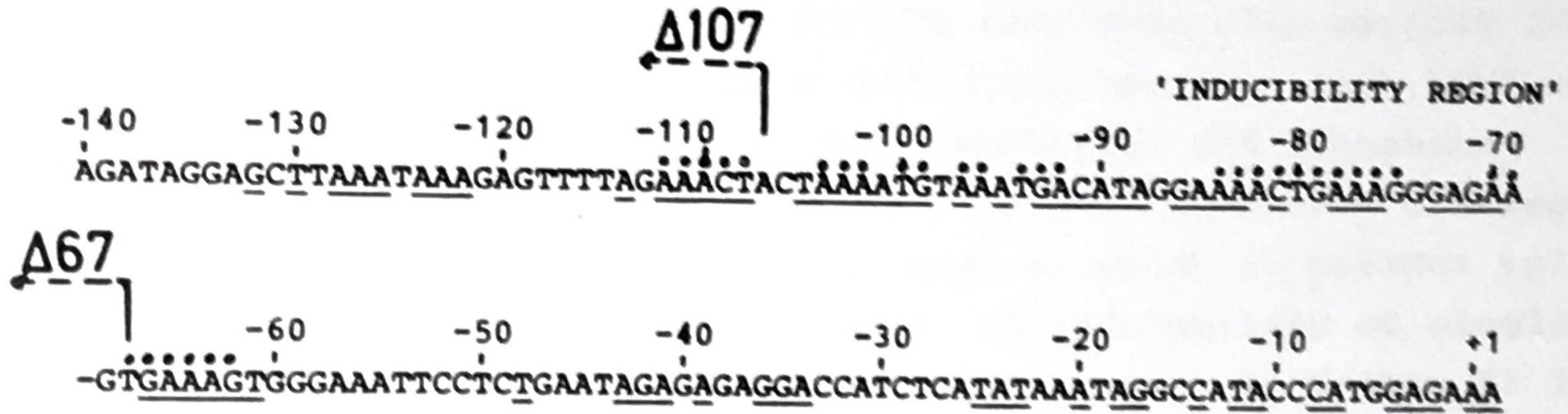


Fig. 4. The immediate 5'distal sequence to the transcription start (designated +1) of the IFN $\beta$  gene are represented as well as the limits of the deletions  $\Delta$ -107 and  $\Delta$ -67 which define the borders of the "inducibility region". Homology of this sequence to the equivalent huIFN $\alpha$ 1 sequence is underlined. Short sequence runs having high homology to the consensus sequence AACTGAAAG are dotted.



**Edgar, thanks to you, and all those who worked with you, to facilitate interpretation of the wealth of data that accumulated on gene regulation, structure and function.**

**Wishing you a happy and healthy retirement!**