

10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90

Mos1	MSSFVPNKEQTRTVLIFCFHLKKTAAESHRMLVEAFGEQVPTVKTCERWFQRFKSGDFDVDDKEHGKPPKRYEADELQALLDEDDA	QTQKQ
HSMAR1	-MEMMLDKKQIRAIFFEFKMGKRAAETTRNNINNAFGPGTANERTVQWFKKFCKGDESLEDEERSGRPSEVDNDQLRAI	TEADPLTTTRE
Human	-.K.....	
Chimp	-.K.....	
Gorilla	-TK.....	
Orangutan	-.K.....	
Siamang	-.K.....	
OWM-Green	-.K.....	
OWN-Rhes	-.K.....	
NWM	-.K.R.....	.H.....

	100	110	120	130	140	150	160	170	180
Mos1	LAEQLEVSSQQAVSNRLREMGKIQKVGRWVPHIELNERQMERRKNTCEILLSRYKRKSFLHRIVTG	DEKWIFFVNPKRKKSYVDPGQPATST							
HSMAR1	VAEELNVNDHSTVVRLHQLIGKVKKLDRWVPHIELSENQKNRFEVSSSLILRNNNEPFLDRIVTC	DEKWILYDNRRRPAQWLDRREEAPKHF							
Human	□.....N.....	T.□.....	H.....	S.....Q.....					
Chimp	.....N.....	T.....	F.....H.....	S.....Q.....				
Gorilla	.....N.....	T.....	H.....	S.....Q.....				
Orangutan	.....N.....	T.....H.....	H.....	S.....Q.....				
Siamang	.....N.....	T.....	H.....	S.....Q.....				
OWM-Green	.....N.....	T.....	R.....	S.....Q.....				
OWN-Rhes	.....N.....	T.....	H.....	S.....Q.A.....				
NWM	.....N.....	T.....	S.....Q.....	S.....Q.....				

	190	200	210	220	230	240	250	260	270
Mos1	ARPNRGKKMTLCVWWWDQSGVYYELLKPGETVNTARYQQQLINLNRALQRKRPEYQKRQHHRVIFLHDNAPSHTARAVRDTLETLNWEVLP								
HSMAR1	PKPNLHQKKVMVTWWSAAGLIHYSFNLNPGETITSEKYAQOIDEMHRLQRLQPALVNR-KGPILLHDNARPHVAQPTLQKLNELGYEVLP								
Human	...I..P.....I.....	E.....NQ.....L.....							
Chimp	...I..P.....I.....	E.....NQ.....L.....							
Gorilla	...I..P.....I.....	E.....Q.....L.....							
Orangutan	...I..P.....I.....	E.....Q.....L.....							
Siamang	...I..P..A.I.I.....	V.....E.....Q.....L..S..-..V.....							
OWM-Green	S..I..P..I..I.....V.....	E.....Q..H..L.....							
OWN-Rhes	S..I..P..I..I.....V.....	E.....Q..H..L.....							
NWM	...I.....I.....	V.E.....Q.....PL.....	-.....V.....						

	280	290	300	310	320	330	340
Mos1	HAAYSPDLAPS	DYHLFASMGHALAEQRFDSYESVKKWLDEWFAAKDEFYWRGIHKLPERWEKCVASDGKYFE*					
HSMAR1	HPPYSPDLSPT	DYHFFKHLNDNFLOQKRFHNQQAENAFQEFVESRSTDFYATGINKLISRWQKCVCDCNGSYFD*					
Human	.....L..N..V..N..	.....Q.....Q.....	*		
Chimp	.....L..N..V..N..	.....R.....Q.....T..Q.....	*		
Gorilla	.....L..N..V..N..	.....K.Q.....Q.....	*		
Orangutan	.....L..N..V..N..	.....K.....Q.....	*		
Siamang	.....L..N..V..N..	.....I.....Q.....	*		
OWM-Green	.....L..N..I..N..	.....K.....Q.....	*		
OWN-Rhes	.....L..N..I..N..	.....K.....Q.....	A....*		
NWM	.....L..N..I..S..	.....I.....R..T..Q.....	*		

Fig. 7. Protein sequence alignment of the active *mosI* transposase from *Drosophila mauritiana* (GenBank accession no. X78906), *Hsmar1* consensus transposase (AAC52010) and MAR region from eight primate species. See Fig. 2 legend for species names and abbreviations. The catalytic DD34D triad is shown in blue, whereas the N residue replacing the last D in MAR is in green. The predicted helix–turn–helix (HTH) motif is shown in red. The motif was predicted with 100% probability in all sequences using the *npsa* prediction server (http://npsa-pbil.ibcp.fr/cgi-bin/npsa_automat.pl?page=NPSA/npsa_hth.html). Note that the mutation D98N in MAR sequences does not seem to alter the potential of this region to form a HTH structure. In fact, the motif is predicted with a higher score of 6.40 (vs. 5.63 in the *Hsmar1* consensus). The boxed residues in the human MAR sequence mark the last residue of the deletion peptides MAR-N92 and MAR-N126, respectively (see Fig. 3). The WVPHEL motif, highly conserved in *mariner* transposases and involved in the ability of the *MosI* transposase to assemble organized complexes of DNA with transposase tetramers (1) is shown in purple. Note that the motif is conserved in MAR and included within the MAR-N126 peptide, in agreement with the formation of at least two protein–DNA complexes with different electrophoretic mobility in EMSA experiments (Fig. 3c). The vertical red line represents the separation between the two halves of the proteins for which K_A/K_S analyses were conducted independently (see *Functional Contribution of the MAR Transposase*).

1. Auge-Gouillou, C., Brillet, B., Germon, S., Hamelin, M. H. & Bigot, Y. (2005) *J. Mol. Biol.* **351**, 117–130.