

Fig. 7. Protein sequence alignment of the active *mosI* transposase from *Drosophila mauritiana* (GenBank accession no. X78906), *HsmarI* 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 *HsmarI* 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 WWPHEL 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.