

## Processing of insect retrotransposons by self-cleaving ribozymes

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## Abstract

We show that several classes of insect non-LTR retrotransposons harbor self-cleaving ribozymes of the HDV family at their 5' termini. In *Drosophila* the R2 ribozymes exhibit highly differential *in vivo* expression and robust *in vitro* activity, modulated by an upstream sequence originating from the insertion site. Our data suggest a role for self-cleaving ribozymes in co-transcriptional processing of retrotransposons with implications for downstream events, including translation and retrotransposition.

Retrotransposons are mobile genetic elements that utilize reverse transcriptase activity to propagate *via* a RNA intermediate in many eukaryotic genomes. The large fraction of eukaryotic genomes composed of retrotransposons coupled with contributions to ectopic recombination and novel gene regulatory elements suggest potential for major evolutionary influence<sup>1</sup>. Autonomous retrotransposons are divided into long terminal repeat (LTR) and non-LTR or LINE (long interspersed repeat elements) elements. SINEs (short interspersed elements) are non-autonomous elements thought to be mobilized primarily by non-LTR type elements<sup>2</sup>. LTR elements have promoters within the LTRs<sup>2</sup>, however, the promoters for non-LTR elements are less well conserved and they can even be transcribed as introns of larger host transcripts<sup>3</sup>. The non-reverse transcriptase (RT) structural and catalytic proteins encoded by the two autonomous types of elements are also quite distinct<sup>4</sup>.

One of the best-characterized non-LTR retrotransposons is R2, which inserts site-specifically into the 28S rDNA of most insects<sup>5</sup>. R2 was first identified as an insertion sequence in *Drosophila melanogaster*<sup>6</sup> and transcripts of interrupted rRNA genes were shown to be processed co-transcriptionally at the boundary of the 28S transcript and 5' and 3' ends of the intervening sequence<sup>7</sup>. R2 is co-transcribed with the 28S rRNA precursor by RNA polymerase I<sup>3</sup>. Across thirteen *Drosophila* species, the 5' ends of R2 elements contain conserved features predicted to form a folded RNA secondary structure<sup>3</sup>. The mechanism of R2 retrotransposition has been studied in depth, leading to a general model for non-LTR reverse transcription and integration in which the endonuclease-catalyzed cleavage of the target DNA backbone is followed by target-primed reverse transcription (TPRT), second strand synthesis by the RT, and insertion of the newly synthesized cDNA into the genome<sup>8</sup>. Although much of this model has

been validated *in vitro*, the mechanism of co-transcriptional processing of these elements has been unknown.

Recently we have used structure-based searches to identify the hepatitis delta virus (HDV) family of self-cleaving ribozymes in many organisms<sup>9</sup>. These ribozymes fold into an intricate double-pseudoknot structure composed of five base-paired regions joined by single-stranded regions<sup>10</sup>. We found that some of the sequences map to predicted RT genes in the purple sea urchin *Strongylocentrotus purpuratus* and one ribozyme maps to the 5' terminus of the RTE retrotransposon in the African mosquito *Anopheles gambiae*<sup>9</sup>. These results suggested that self-cleaving ribozymes might function in retrotransposition. However, the predicted secondary structure of these sequences differs somewhat from structures of canonical HDV-like ribozymes: some examples of the sea urchin ribozymes have shorter P1 regions than was previously observed and the mosquito RTE ribozyme (drz-Agam-2) contains an unusually large peripheral domain in the J1/2 region<sup>9</sup>.

To test more broadly for the association of HDV-like ribozymes with retrotransposons, we performed motif searches<sup>11</sup> that allowed for variable P1 helices and large inserts in the J1/2 region of the ribozyme. We searched ESTs, RT-containing mRNAs and sequences defined as repeats by RepeatMasker in various insect genomes. The expanded search criteria allowed for identification of many ribozyme candidates, a subset of which mapped to the 5' termini of known retrotransposons (**Table 1, Supplementary Table 1, and Supplementary Fig. 1**). These included additional *A. gambiae* RTE elements, and R2, Bilbo and Baggins non-LTR retrotransposons in various *Drosophila* species. We found that the conserved regions at the 5' end of R2<sup>3</sup> form the catalytic core of the putative ribozyme double-pseudoknot structure (**Fig.**

**1a**), while the less-conserved sequences map primarily to the peripheral domains (J1/2 and P4-L4).

To investigate the activity of the *Drosophila* ribozymes, we amplified the genomic regions containing the 5' termini of the R2 and Baggins elements from several *Drosophila* species and tested their Mg<sup>2+</sup>-dependent self-cleavage *in vitro*. Similar to the *A. gambiae* ribozymes<sup>9</sup>, the *Drosophila* RNAs showed robust self-cleavage kinetics at ambient temperature and physiological Mg<sup>2+</sup> concentrations (**Fig. 1b and 1c**), demonstrating that these structures are *bona fide* ribozymes. In the R2 ribozymes, the cleavage rate constants varied among isolates, which differed mostly in composition of the leader sequence just upstream of the cleavage site and the J1/2 peripheral region. This suggests that folding of the sequence surrounding the cleavage site and of the peripheral domain affect the formation of active ribozymes. In HDV ribozymes the sequence upstream of the cleavage site has previously been shown to influence proper folding of the ribozymes into active conformations<sup>12</sup>. When this leader sequence has the capacity to extend the P1 helix of the ribozyme, it prevents formation of the P1.1 region of the the active site, resulting in decreased activity. Our data correlate well with this hypothesis: we observe significantly faster self-cleavage kinetics in identical ribozymes preceded by leader sequences that cannot extend the P1 helix and slower kinetics in constructs that can form the longer P1 (**Fig. 1d**). Interestingly, a typical insertion site for the R2 element in the 28S rRNA gene<sup>6</sup> creates a leader sequence that supports fast ribozyme self-cleavage. We speculate that efficient co-transcriptional 5' processing of the element is beneficial to the retrotransposon and that insertion into the typical site in the 28S rDNA provides an evolutionary advantage to R2 retrotransposon propagation.

The Bilbo and Baggins retrotransposons and their 5' ribozymes were found in only a subset of the *Drosophila* species. The ribozyme-terminated Baggins retrotransposons are found in *D. melanogaster*, *D. sechellia*, *D. simulans*, *D. ananassae*, *D. grimshawi*, and *D. persimilis*. These ribozymes have predicted structures similar to the R2 RNAs, with large peripheral domains in the J1/2 region, but longer P4-L4 regions (**Table 1 and Supplementary Fig. 1**). Their *in vitro* activity is also variable and the sequences we tested had somewhat lower cleavage rate constants than the R2 ribozymes. Nonetheless, their activity was robust and, as in the case of other HDV-like ribozymes<sup>9,13</sup>, showed temperature and Mg<sup>2+</sup> dependence.

To investigate the *in vivo* activity of the ribozymes, we analyzed total RNA isolated from several life stages of *D. melanogaster* (W1118). Similar to *A. gambiae*, where the ribozymes are differentially expressed<sup>9</sup>, we found that *D. melanogaster* R2 ribozymes were highly expressed in adult females and pupae and less so in larvae and adult males (**Fig. 2a**). The expression difference between adult males and females is striking because the level of ribosomal RNA expression is the same. This suggests that different rDNA loci are transcribed in males and females or that R2 elements inserted in non-rDNA loci are expressed in females. Expression analysis<sup>14,15</sup> and electron microscopy<sup>7</sup> have previously shown that the R2 retrotransposons are processed co-transcriptionally at the 5' termini. Together these data show that the R2 retrotransposons and their terminal ribozymes are highly expressed and active *in vivo*, leading to a model of R2 RNA production involving co-transcriptional cleavage by an HDV-like ribozyme (**Fig. 2b**).

The role of self-cleaving ribozymes beyond 5' terminal processing is speculative, however two potential functions have previously been proposed for this region. The 5' terminal structure of the R2 element harbors a short coding region just upstream of the RT coding region<sup>3</sup>.

The start and stop codons map to the P4 helix of the self-cleaving ribozyme (**Fig. 1a**), suggesting that the ribozyme structure may affect translation of the R2 transcript. The second function may be in insertion of the R2 cDNA. The R2 RT enzyme efficiently switches templates upon reaching the 5' end of the R2 RNA, presumably to facilitate insertion of the element into a new genomic site<sup>16</sup>. This *trans*-templating reaction by the R2 protein is significantly more efficient when the 5' end of the RNA template consists of a 5' hydroxyl group, as compared to a methylguanosine cap analog or a triphosphate<sup>17</sup>. The 5' product of the self-scission reaction in HDV-like ribozymes is a hydroxyl group, thus ribozyme-terminated RNA may be a superior substrate for *trans*-templating by the R2 protein and may be beneficial for overall retrotransposon insertion efficiency. The model we describe here suggests that these elements have linked transcription, translation, and transposition in such a way that templates with ribozyme-terminated 5' ends are efficient retrotransposons. The mechanism through which the 5' end is retained in these non-LTRs is distinct from LTR elements and provides protection from 5' end erosion in actively propagating elements.

Our results show that multiple insect non-LTR retrotransposons harbor self-cleaving ribozymes that are used to liberate their 5' termini from upstream transcripts. This work explains observations made over 25 years ago that showed that the *Drosophila* R2 retrotransposons are processed co-transcriptionally and points to several possible roles of self-cleaving ribozymes in retrotransposition. Our finding supports a general trend indicating that self-cleaving ribozymes are associated with many transposable elements, including the human LINE1 non-LTR retrotransposon<sup>13</sup>, and satellites in newts<sup>18</sup>, fungi<sup>19</sup> and schistosomes<sup>20</sup>.

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## **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

A.L. and D.J.R. designed experimental strategies; D.J.R., C.-H.T.W. and N.J.R. performed experimental analysis and interpreted data; A.L. and D.J.R. interpreted data and wrote the manuscript.

## **COMPETING INTERESTS STATEMENT**

The authors declare no competing financial interests.



## Figure legends

**Figure 1** *D. melanogaster* drz-Dmel-1-1 ribozyme. **(a)** *Drosophila* R2 ribozyme consensus secondary structure. Core elements are colored by region corresponding to the HDV ribozyme<sup>10</sup>. Boxed nucleotides are start and stop codons found upstream of the R2 coding region<sup>3</sup>. Green arrow points to the cleavage site. Consensus is based on *in vitro* active R2 ribozymes (**Table 1**). **(b)** *In vitro* self-cleavage activity of <sup>32</sup>P-labeled ribozyme incubated in 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> at 37°C. **(c)** Semi-logarithmic graph of *in vitro* self-cleavage reactions at indicated conditions. **(d)** Potential extension of the P1 helix with the leader sequence. Alternative pairing between the leader sequence (black) and the P1.1 region (gray) is shown in red. Rate constants listed were measured in 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> at 37°C.

**Figure 2** R2 retrotransposon activity in *Drosophila*. **(a)** Expression of drz-Dmel-1 ribozymes relative to GAPDH mRNA (logarithmic scale) measured using RT-qPCR of total RNA isolated from indicated developmental stages. RT-qPCR primers were designed to amplify all ribozyme-containing R2 elements. All data are average values ± average deviations. **(b)** Proposed model of R2 RNA processing and expression.

## Methods

All ribozymes constructs were amplified from their respective genomes using primers listed below. Naming of the ribozymes follows the rules proposed previously<sup>9</sup>. Briefly, the name of the ribozyme was derived from the binomial nomenclature for the species (drz = delta-like ribozyme, *Drosophila ananassae* – Dana). Among the fruit fly ribozymes, family 1 (e.g. drz-Dmel-1) corresponds to R2 (or R2B) ribozymes and family 2 (e.g. drz-Dmel-2) corresponds to Baggins ribozymes.

*Drosophila melanogaster* (strain: W1118)

### drz-Dmel-1-1

Ribozyme construct:

5'aagcgctggcaacggcgggagtaactatgactgtcttaaGGGGAGTCATGGGGTATTTGAGAGCAGAGG  
GGGAGTATTCTTCTGTAATTCGTAAGTCATATCATATGATGTGCGGAAGGGGAATTT  
TACTCTGTAACACACAAGTCTCTCCTTTACTCAAGTCGACTCAAACCTCCTCGTGGT  
GGTCCCCGGTAATGCTAAACTTGTTTAGCAGCTAATTTGAGCGGCaaaactt

AL506: 5' TTCCCGCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGAAGCGCTGGTCAACGGCGGG

AL507: 5' AAGTTTTGCCGCTCAAATTAGCTGCTA

AL508 (inhibitor): 5' GACTCCCCTTAAGA

### drz-Dmel-1-2

Ribozyme construct:

5'ggcgagctgatcactgattgggggtgactgctgcacagattGGGGATCATGGGGTATTTGAGAGCAGAGGG  
GGAGTATTCTTCTGTAATTCGTAAGTCATATCATATGGTGTGCGGAAGGGGAATTTT  
ACTCTGTAACACACAAGTCTCTCCTTTACTCAAGTCGACTCAAACCTCCTCGTGGTG  
GTCCCCGGTAATGCTAAACTCGTTTAGCAGCTAATTTGAGCGGCaaaac

AL527: 5' TTCCCGCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGGGCGAGCTGATCACTGATTGG

AL528: 5' GTTTTGCCGCTCAAATTAGCTGCTA

AL529 (inhibitor): 5' GATCCCCAACTCG

### drz-Dmel-2-1

Ribozyme construct:

5'gtttgtctccgattctccaattgtattattataatGGCCGCCATGACAGTAGGTATCACAAAGGGGATCA  
ACGCGCCACCACTACTGGAAGTGCAACTACACTCTCCACGCGAGGGCGGCTGGGAA  
CAGGCTCTCAGTTAGGTCATGTCTCTGCTAAGAGTGCTGGCTAATCATAGTTGgget

AL512: 5' TTCCCGCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGGTTTTGTCTCCGATTCTCCAA

AL565: 5' AGCCCAACTATGATTAGCCAGC

AL514 (inhibitor): 5' GGCGGCCATTAT

### drz-Dmel-2-2

Ribozyme construct:

5'cacgatatctacggatctcgcggtaacttaaaccaaaaaGGCCGCCACGACAGTAGATATCACAAGGGG  
ATCAACGCGCCACCAACGGTGGTACGCGCCGTAATTGTGAAACACTACTGGACGTG  
CAACTACACTCTCCACGCGAGGGCGGCTGGAAACAGGCTTTTAGTAAGGTCATGTA  
ACTGCTAAGAGTGCTGGCTAATCGTAGTTGggctgg

AL515: 5' TTCCCGCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGCAGATATCTACGGATCTCG

AL516: 5' CCAGCCCAACTACGATTAGCCA

AL517 (inhibitor): 5' GGCGGCCTTTTT

### drz-Dmel-2-3

Ribozyme construct:

5'atatattatattattgccatgcccttaagccccgaaaaGGCCGCCACGCCTATAGGTATCACAAGGGGAT  
CAACGCGCCACCAACGGTGGTACACACCGTAAGTGTGACATACTACTTGAAGTGCA  
ACTACACTCTCCACGCGAGGGCGGCTGGAAACAGGCTCTTAGTTAGGACCCTGCTA  
AGAGTGCTGGCTAATCGTAGTTGggctgg

AL518: 5' TTCCCGCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGATATATTTATATTATTTGCCATGCCCT

AL519: 5' CCAGCCCAACTACGATTAGCCAG

AL520 (inhibitor): 5' GGCGGCCTTTTT

*Drosophila simulans* (strain: (Matzkin) Isosancruz-19)

### drz-Dsim-1

Ribozyme construct:

5'agtaagcgcgggtcaacggcgggagtaactatgactctctGAGGGATCTGGGGTAATTGCGAGCAGAGGG  
GGAGTATTTTTCTGTAATTCGTAAGTCATATCATATGGTGTGCGGAAGGGGAATTTT  
ACTCTGTAACTCACAAGTCTCTCCTTTACTCAAGTCGACTCAAACCTCCTCGTGGTG  
GTCCCCGGTAATGCTAAACTTGTTTAGCAGCTAATTTGAGCGGCaaaaactt

AL566: 5' TTCCCGCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGAGTAAGCGCGGGTCAACGGCG

AL567: 5' AAGTTTTTGCCGCTCAAATTAGCTGCT

AL568 (inhibitor): 5' GATCCCTCAGAGAG

*Drosophila ananassae* (strain: (BGS) SB18.8C)

### drz-Dana-1

Ribozyme construct:

5'taagcgcgggtcaacggcgggagtaactatgactctctttGGAGAATATGGATTTGATTGTGCAGAGGGGG  
TGCTATACCGTAACCTCGTAAGCCATGCAATCAGATCAAGTCGACTCAAACCTCCTC  
GTGGTATTCTCTGGGTGCCAGTATTTACTGGTAGCTGATTTGAGCGGCgaaag

AL581: 5' TTCCCGCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGTAAGCGCGGGTCAACGGC

AL581: 5' CTTTCGCCGCTCAAATCAGCT  
AL583 (inhibitor): 5' ATATTCTCAAAGAGA

*Drosophila sechellia* (strain: (BSC) 3529 line 15)

#### drz-Dsec-1

Ribozyme construct:

5' agtaagcgcgggtcaacggcgggagtaactatgactcttaGGGGATCAGGGGTAATTGCGAGCAGAGGGG  
GAGTATTTTTCTGTAATTCGTAAGTCATATCATATGGTGTGCGGAAGGGGAATTTA  
CTCTGTAACTACAAGTCTCTCTTTACTCAAGTCGACTCAAACCTCCTCGTGGTGG  
TCCCCGGTAATGCTAAACTTGTTTAGCAGCTAATTTGAGCGGCaa

AL798: 5' TTCCCGCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGAGTAAGCGCGGGTCAACGGC  
AL799: 5' TTGCCGCTCAAATTAGCTGCTA  
AL800 (inhibitor): 5' GATCCCCTAAGAG

*Drosophila persimilis* (strain: CC23)

#### drz-Dper-1

Ribozyme construct:

5' aagcgcgggtcaacggcgggagtaactatgactctcttaaGGAAGATATGGATCTGAACAATAGCGTAGA  
AGGGGAGTCATTCCGTAATTCGTAATTCGTAATAAATTAGATCAAGTTGATTCAAGAC  
CTCCTCGTGGTATCTTCTGGATGCTATTAGACTAAAGTTCTTTTGGTCTAATAGTAAC  
TAACTTGAACagcgaaa

AL645: 5' TTCCCGCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGAAGCGCGGGTCAACGGCG  
AL646: 5' TTTCGCTGTTCAAGTTAGTTACTATT  
AL644 (inhibitor): 5' ATCTTCTTAAGAGA

#### drz-Dper-2

Ribozyme construct:

5' tcagcttgccgatattgtagtagttttaagttgacccaGGCCGTCAGCCATCGGGTGCTACAGGGGGACA  
AACGGATGACGGGTCGGCTCGCACA ACTGTGA ACTCGGAACCCGCCGTA ACTGTAC  
ACACCGGTGGAAGTGCGACTATACTCTCCCCGTGAGGGCGGGCTGGAAACAGGTCTT  
GGCACGGTCATGTCTCTGCCAGGATTCTGGCGAATGGTAGTCGggcg

AL633: 5' TTCCCGCGAAATTAATACGACTCACTATAGGGAGTCAGCTTGTCCGATATTGTAGTAG  
AL634: 5' CGCCCGACTACCATTTCGCC  
AL635 (inhibitor): 5' GACGGCCTGGG

Transcription, kinetic analysis of ribozyme self-cleavage, RNA extraction, and RT-qPCR were performed as described previously<sup>9</sup>. Primers used for qPCR are listed below.

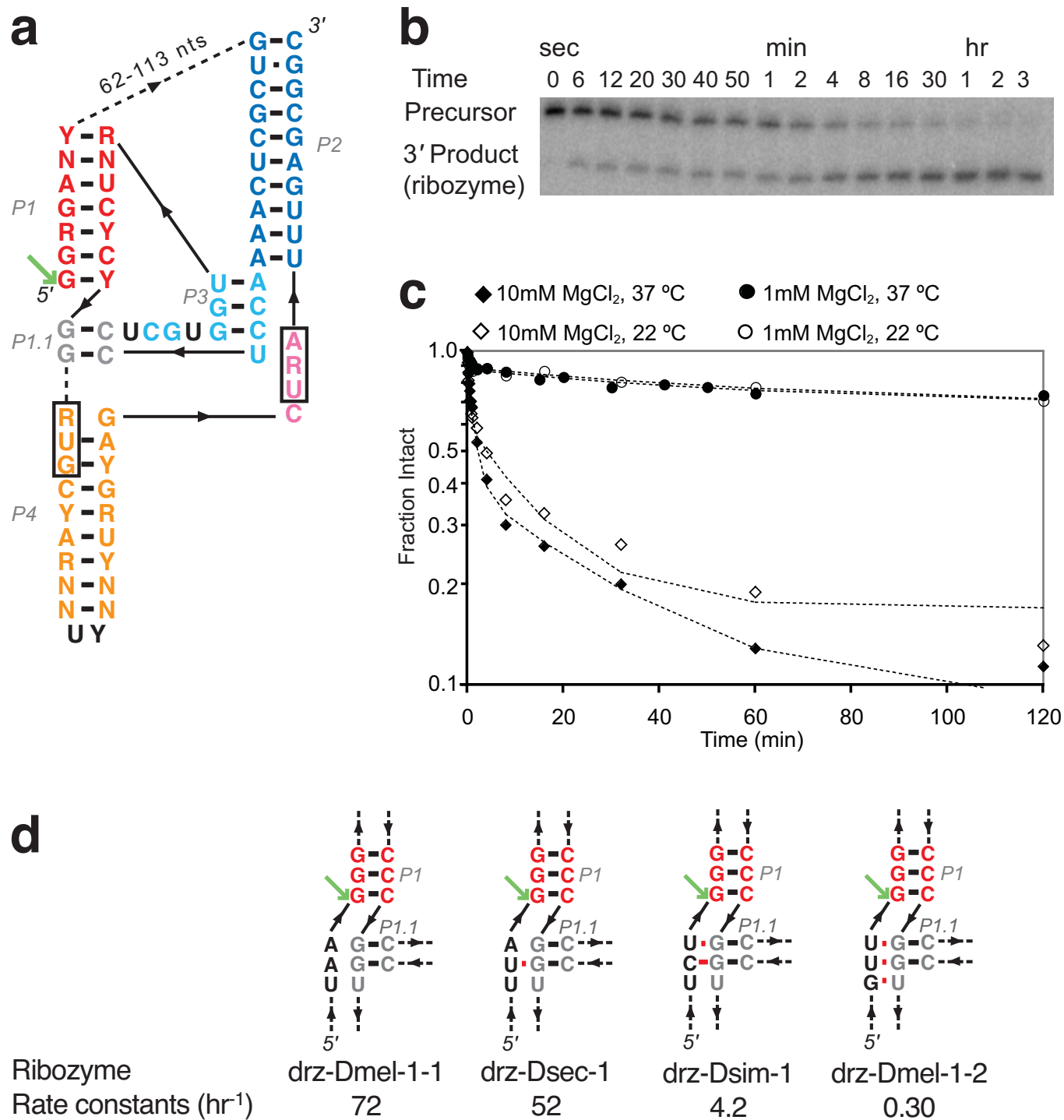
drz-Dmel-1: forward - 5' CGACTCAAACCTCCTCG TGGT, reverse - 5' TAGCCGCTGCGTTTGGTTCATA  
GAPDH: forward - 5' GGACTCACGGTCGTTTCAAG, reverse - 5' GCCTTGTC AATGGTGGTGAA

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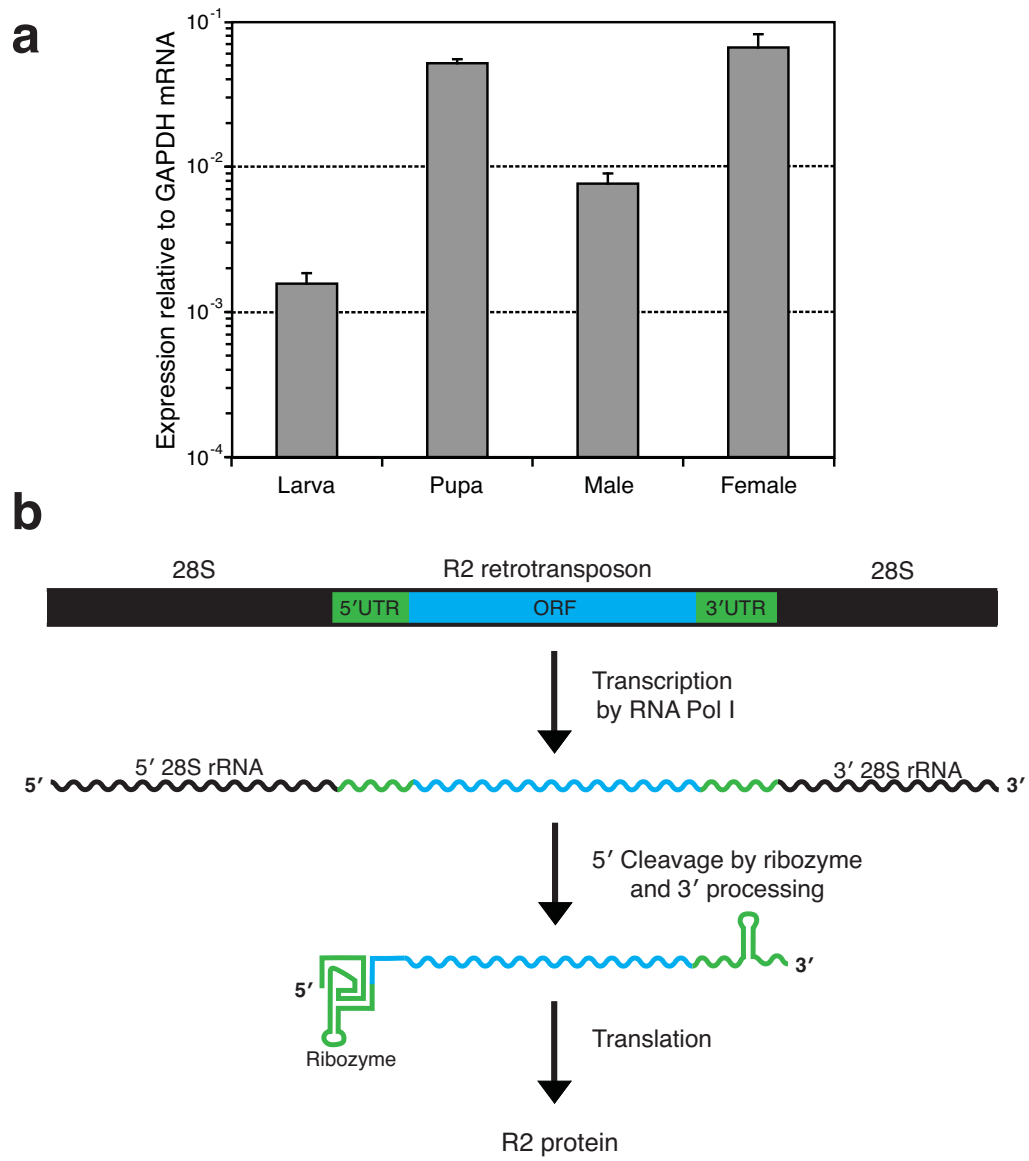
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# Figure 1.





**Figure 2.**

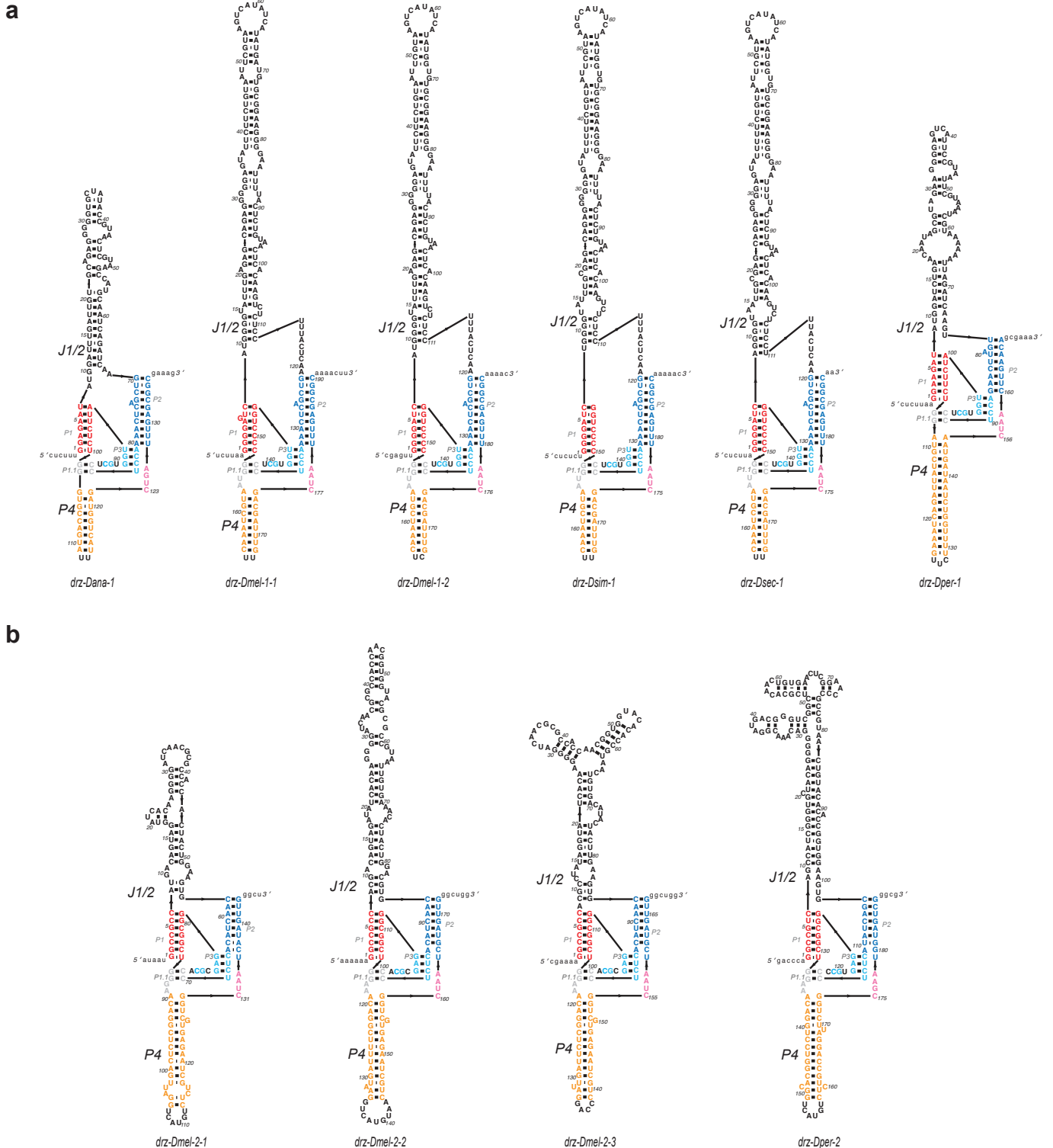


**Table 1 Retrotransposon ribozymes with confirmed *in vitro* activity**

| Genomic locus (strand) |                           | P1       | J1/2 Length | P2         | P3  | L3      | P3' | P1'     | J1.1/4 | P4 Length | J4/2   | P2'        | Ribozyme Name | Rate Constant/hr <sup>-1</sup> | Number of copies in reference genome |
|------------------------|---------------------------|----------|-------------|------------|-----|---------|-----|---------|--------|-----------|--------|------------|---------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>R2</b>              |                           |          |             |            |     |         |     |         |        |           |        |            |               |                                |                                      |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | chrUextra: 5231803 (-)    | GGGGAGUC | 113         | GUCGACUAAA | ACC | UCCUCGU | GGU | GGUCGCC | GGUAA  | 18        | GCUAA  | UUUGAGCGGC | drz-Dmel-1-1  | 71 ± 31                        | 39                                   |
|                        | chrXHet: 198910 (+)       | GGGGAUC  | 113         | GUCGACUAAA | ACC | UCCUCGU | GGU | GGUCGCC | GGUAA  | 18        | GCUAA  | UUUGAGCGGC | drz-Dmel-1-2  | 0.30 ± 0.01                    |                                      |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>    | super_700: 5309 (-)       | GGGGAUC  | 112         | GUCGACUAAA | ACC | UCCUCGU | GGU | GGUCGCC | GGUAA  | 18        | GCUAA  | UUUGAGCGGC | drz-Dsec-1    | ~ 50                           | 12                                   |
| <i>D. simulans</i>     | chrX_random: 649216 (-)   | GGGGAUC  | 112         | GUCGACUAAA | ACC | UCCUCGU | GGU | GGUCGCC | GGUAA  | 18        | GCUAA  | UUUGAGCGGC | drz-Dsim-1    | ~ 4                            | 11                                   |
| <i>D. ananassae</i>    | scaffold_13163: 86767 (+) | GGAGAAU  | 62          | GUCGACUAAA | ACC | UCCUCGU | GGU | AUUCUCU | GGG    | 18        | GCUGA  | UUUGAGCGGC | drz-Dana-1    | > 60                           | 3                                    |
| <b>R2B</b>             |                           |          |             |            |     |         |     |         |        |           |        |            |               |                                |                                      |
| <i>D. persimilis</i>   | super_2450: 4278 (-)      | GGAAGAU  | 69          | UGAUUCAAG  | ACC | UCCUCGU | GGU | AUCUUCU | GGA    | 35        | ACUAA  | CUUGAACA   | drz-Dper-1    | 22 ± 3                         | 1                                    |
| <b>Baggins</b>         |                           |          |             |            |     |         |     |         |        |           |        |            |               |                                |                                      |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | chrU: 1256859 (-)         | GGCCGCC  | 50          | CAACUACA   | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | 39        | GCUAAU | CAUAGUUG   | drz-Dmel-2-1  | ~ 1                            | 12                                   |
|                        | chrU: 2434288 (+)         | GGCCGCC  | 79          | CAACUACA   | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | 39        | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG   | drz-Dmel-2-2  | 11 ± 2                         |                                      |
|                        | chr3LHet: 191774 (+)      | GGCCGCC  | 79          | CAACUACA   | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | 34        | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG   | drz-Dmel-2-3  | 0.19 ± 0.03                    |                                      |
| <i>D. persimilis</i>   | super_43: 160102 (+)      | GGCCGUC  | 96          | GCACUAAU   | CUC | UCCCCGU | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | 37        | GCGAA  | UGGUAGUUG  | drz-Dper-2    | 1.1 ± 0.1                      | 1                                    |
| <b>RTE</b>             |                           |          |             |            |     |         |     |         |        |           |        |            |               |                                |                                      |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>      | chrX: 7606912 (+)         | GUUCUGU  | 46          | ACUCAAU    | ACG | UCCUCGU | CGU | ACAGAAG | GGUAA  | 81        | GCUAA  | AUUGAGA    | drz-Agam-2-2  | ref. 11                        | 36                                   |

All kinetics were measured in 10 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> at 37°C, except for drz-Dper-2, which was measured in 1 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> at 22°C.

# Supplementary Figure 1.



**Supplementary Figure 1.** Proposed secondary structures of HDV-like ribozymes identified in *Drosophila* retrotransposons. Paired elements of the structurally conserved cores are grouped by color. The peripheral J1/2 domains are shown in black. Predicted base-pairing is indicated by short horizontal lines. Lines with arrows indicate connections and do not correspond to any sequence. *Drosophila* R2 (drz-Dper-1 is from R2B) (a) and Baggins (b) ribozymes are shown with the ribozyme names indicated below their secondary structures.

Supplementary table 1 Putative retrotransposon ribozymes

| Organism                 | Retrotransposon | Genomic locus (strand)  | P1             | J1/2 Length | P2             | P3         | L3             | P3'        | P1'            | J1.1/4       | P4 Length | J4/2         | P2'            | Ribozyme Name       |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|------------|----------------|------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr2L:1325088 (+)       | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr2L:13681013 (-)      | GCUCUGC        | 59          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr2L:5793525 (-)       | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr2R:10640126 (-)      | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr2R:42188194 (-)      | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr2R:47201145 (-)      | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr2R:48807223 (+)      | GCUCUGC        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUAA        | 48        | CCUUA        | GGCGGAU        |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr2R:52222381 (+)      | GCUCUGC        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3L:12176742 (+)      | GCUCUGC        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GUAGAGU        | GCU          | 18        | UCCAA        | GCCUGGAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3L:35802504 (+)      | GCUCUGC        | 59          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 60        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3L:492623 (+)        | GCUCUGC        | 59          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3L:4992577 (+)       | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3L:5416869 (-)       | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3R:17347810 (-)      | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3R:24429181 (-)      | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3R:26113924 (-)      | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3R:36915833 (-)      | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3R:40187311 (+)      | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3R:49291435 (+)      | GCUCUGU        | 59          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chr3R:52939674 (+)      | GCUCUUC        | 12          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUAGC       | 53        | GCGGAU       | GUUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:10705999 (+)       | GCUCUGU        | 59          | AUUCGAAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCA        |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:10766686 (+)       | GCUCUGC        | 59          | UUCGGAC        | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUAA        | 190       | ACCGAC       | UACAGAA        |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:12052610 (+)       | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:19907466 (-)       | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:19977002 (-)       | GCUCUGU        | 59          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:21458910 (+)       | GCUCUGU        | 56          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:2679251 (-)        | GCUCUUC        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:28798192 (+)       | GCUCUGU        | 19          | CCCCAGUG       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 42        | CCCAAC       | CCCUUGGG       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:30448356 (-)       | GCUCUGU        | 19          | CCCCAGUG       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 42        | CCCAAC       | CCCUUGGG       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:35889172 (-)       | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:50466685 (+)       | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:56500771 (-)       | GCUCUGU        | 59          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GUUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:8826460 (-)        | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrU:9504200 (+)        | GCUCUGU        | 59          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GUUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <b><i>A. gambiae</i></b> | <b>RTE</b>      | <b>chrX:7606912 (+)</b> | <b>GUUCUGU</b> | <b>46</b>   | <b>ACUCAAU</b> | <b>ACG</b> | <b>UCCUCGU</b> | <b>CGU</b> | <b>ACAGAAC</b> | <b>GGUAA</b> | <b>81</b> | <b>GCUAA</b> | <b>AUUGAGA</b> | <b>drz-Agam-2-2</b> |
| <i>A. gambiae</i>        | RTE             | chrX:9302720 (+)        | GCUCUGU        | 58          | AUUCGGAC       | ACG        | UCCUCGU        | CGU        | GCAGAGU        | GGUA         | 55        | GCGGAU       | GGUGGCAU       |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>   | R2              | chrU:6635081 (+)        | GGGGAUC        | 113         | GUCGACUCAA     | ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC     |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>   | R2              | chrU:9469608 (-)        | GGGGAUC        | 113         | GUCGACUCAA     | ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC     |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>   | R2              | chrU:9660851 (+)        | GGGGAUC        | 113         | GUCGACUCAA     | ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC     |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>   | R2              | chrUextra:10741648 (+)  | GGGGAUC        | 113         | GUCGACUCAA     | ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC     |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>   | R2              | chrUextra:10784596 (-)  | GGGGAUC        | 113         | GUCGACUCAA     | ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC     |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>   | R2              | chrUextra:11156813 (-)  | GGGGAUC        | 113         | GUCGACUCAA     | ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC     |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>   | R2              | chrUextra:12028170 (-)  | GGGGAUC        | 113         | GUCGACUCAA     | ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC     |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>   | R2              | chrUextra:13744436 (+)  | GGGGAUC        | 113         | GUCGACUCAA     | ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC     |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>   | R2              | chrUextra:14001871 (+)  | GGGGAUC        | 113         | GUCGACUCAA     | ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC     |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>   | R2              | chrUextra:14308093 (+)  | GGGGAUC        | 113         | GUCGACUCAA     | ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC     |                     |

|                               |           |                                 |                  |            |                        |                |            |                |              |           |              |                   |                     |
|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|------------------|------------|------------------------|----------------|------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:15113533 (+)          | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:15146783 (+)          | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:15239032 (+)          | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:16371793 (+)          | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:1641391 (-)           | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:17219920 (+)          | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:18878225 (-)          | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:21911713 (-)          | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:23561203 (-)          | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:2423598 (+)           | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:25327518 (-)          | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:3329827 (-)           | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:5092520 (-)           | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:5153848 (-)           | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:5156753 (+)           | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <b><i>D. melanogaster</i></b> | <b>R2</b> | <b>chrUextra:5231803 (-)</b>    | <b>GGGGAGUC</b>  | <b>113</b> | <b>GUCGACUCAAA ACC</b> | <b>UCCUCGU</b> | <b>GGU</b> | <b>GGUCCCC</b> | <b>GGUAA</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>GCUAA</b> | <b>UUUGAGCGGC</b> | <b>drz-Dmel-1-1</b> |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:7629486 (-)           | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:8442033 (-)           | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:9005695 (-)           | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:913417 (-)            | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i>        | R2        | chrUextra:9355577 (-)           | GGGGAUC          | 113        | GUCGACUCAAA ACC        | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGCGGC        |                     |
| <b><i>D. melanogaster</i></b> | <b>R2</b> | <b>chrXHet:198910 (+)</b>       | <b>GGGGAUC</b>   | <b>113</b> | <b>GUCGACUCAAA ACC</b> | <b>UCCUCGU</b> | <b>GGU</b> | <b>GGUCCCC</b> | <b>GGUAA</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>GCUAA</b> | <b>UUUGAGCGGC</b> | <b>drz-Dmel-1-2</b> |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>           | R2        | super_1387 (-)                  | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>           | R2        | super_1786:3915 (-)             | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>           | R2        | super_2180:400 (+)              | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>           | R2        | super_294:10603 (-)             | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>           | R2        | super_4663:1872 (-)             | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <b><i>D. sechellia</i></b>    | <b>R2</b> | <b>super_700:5309 (-)</b>       | <b>GGGGAUC</b>   | <b>112</b> | <b>GUCGACUCAAA ACC</b> | <b>UCCUCGU</b> | <b>GGU</b> | <b>GGUCCCC</b> | <b>GGUAA</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>GCUAA</b> | <b>UUUGAGCGGC</b> | <b>drz-Dsec-1</b>   |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>           | R2        | super_757:5113 (-)              | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>           | R2        | super_8043:867 (-)              | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>           | R2        | super_8352:1206 (+)             | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>           | R2        | super_971:275 (+)               | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. simulans</i>            | R2        | chrU:12442859 (-)               | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. simulans</i>            | R2        | chrU:15080282 (+)               | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. simulans</i>            | R2        | chrU:15188210 (+)               | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. simulans</i>            | R2        | chrU:1918327 (-)                | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. simulans</i>            | R2        | chrU:3651895 (+)                | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. simulans</i>            | R2        | chrU:6203424 (+)                | GGGGAGU          | 89         | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. simulans</i>            | R2        | chrU:6302210 (+)                | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. simulans</i>            | R2        | chrU:9223417 (-)                | GGGGAUC          | 116        | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. simulans</i>            | R2        | chrU:9334398 (+)                | GGGGAAU          | 39         | GACUCAAA ACC           | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GGUCCCC        | GGUAA        | 76        | UCAUA        | UUGGAAC           |                     |
| <b><i>D. simulans</i></b>     | <b>R2</b> | <b>chrX_random:6649216 (-)</b>  | <b>GGGGAGU</b>   | <b>85</b>  | <b>GUCGACUCAAA ACC</b> | <b>UCCUCGU</b> | <b>GGU</b> | <b>GGUCCCC</b> | <b>GGUAA</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>GCUAA</b> | <b>UUUGAGCGGC</b> | <b>drz-Dsim-1</b>   |
|                               |           |                                 | <b>GAGGGAAUC</b> | <b>112</b> | <b>GUCGACUCAAA ACC</b> | <b>UCCUCGU</b> | <b>GGU</b> | <b>GGUCCCC</b> | <b>GGUAA</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>GCUAA</b> | <b>UUUGAGCGGC</b> |                     |
| <i>D. yakuba</i>              | R2        | chrU:15871674 (+)               | GGGGAAC          | 74         | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GUUUCUU        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. yakuba</i>              | R2        | chrU:18155939 (-)               | GGGGAAC          | 73         | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GUUUCUU        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. yakuba</i>              | R2        | chrU:24016810 (+)               | GGGGAAC          | 73         | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GUUUCUU        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <i>D. yakuba</i>              | R2        | chrU:25452614 (+)               | GGGGAAC          | 73         | ACUCAAA ACC            | UCCUCGU        | GGU        | GUUUCUU        | GGUAA        | 18        | GCUAA        | UUUGAGC           |                     |
| <b><i>D. ananassae</i></b>    | <b>R2</b> | <b>scaffold_13163:86749 (+)</b> | <b>GGAGAAU</b>   | <b>62</b>  | <b>GUCGACUCAAA ACC</b> | <b>UCCUCGU</b> | <b>GGU</b> | <b>AUUCUCU</b> | <b>GGG</b>   | <b>18</b> | <b>GCUGA</b> | <b>UUUGAGCGGC</b> | <b>drz-Dana-1</b>   |

|                        |         |                          |         |     |          |     |         |     |         |        |        |     |        |           |              |
|------------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|-----|----------|-----|---------|-----|---------|--------|--------|-----|--------|-----------|--------------|
| <i>D. yakuba</i>       | R2B     | chrU:23410395 (-)        | GGGGAAC | 80  | ACUCAA   | ACC | UCCUCGU | GGU | GUUUC   | CC     | GGUAA  | 18  | GCUAA  | UUUGAGC   |              |
| <i>D. persimilis</i>   | R2B     | super_2450:4278 (-)      | GGAAGAU | 70  | GAUUCAAG | ACC | UCCUCGU | GGU | AUCUUCU | GGA    | GGA    | 35  | ACUAA  | CUUGAAC   | drz-Dper-3   |
| <i>D. persimilis</i>   | Baggins | super_43:160102 (+)      | GGCCGUC | 96  | CGACUAA  | CUC | UCCCGCU | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 37  | GCGAA  | UGGUAGUCG | drz-Dper-2   |
| <i>D. ananassae</i>    | Baggins | scaffold_622:299 (+)     | GGCCGUC | 70  | CGACUAA  | CUC | UCCACGU | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGUAA  | GGUAA  | 38  | GCGAAU | CGUAGUCG  |              |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chr2L:22970826 (+)       | GGCCGCC | 73  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 43  | GCUAAU | CGUAGCUG  |              |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chr2R:697370 (-)         | GGACACC | 80  | AACUUA   | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGUGGCU | GGA    | GGA    | 169 | GCUAA  | GGACAGUC  |              |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chr2R:721076 (+)         | GGCCGCA | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 12  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chr2RHet:1908889 (-)     | GCUUCA  | 250 | GGCGGAU  | CUC | UCCCGAC | GAG | GGAAGU  | GGG    | GGG    | 152 | CCAUAA | AGGCGCU   |              |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chr2RHet:2197264 (-)     | GGCCGCC | 69  | ACUGCA   | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GAU    | GAU    | 193 | GCUAAU | GGAGAGU   |              |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chr3LHet:191774 (+)      | GGCCGCC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 34  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  | drz-Dmel-2-3 |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chr3LHet:2034646 (-)     | GGCCGCU | 81  | ACUACA   | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGA    | GGA    | 169 | GCUAA  | GGAGAGU   |              |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chr3LHet:832291 (+)      | GGCCACC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGA    | GGA    | 96  | CCGGAC | UAAGGUG   |              |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chrU:1256859 (-)         | GGCCGCC | 50  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGGAA  | GGGAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CAUAGUUG  | drz-Dmel-2-1 |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chrU:2434561 (-)         | GGCCGCC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  | drz-Dmel-2-2 |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chrU:6970241 (+)         | GGCCGCC | 74  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCCGC  | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGA    | GGA    | 27  | GCUAA  | AGUGCUG   |              |
| <i>D. melanogaster</i> | Baggins | chrXHet:161365 (-)       | GACCGCC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>    | Baggins | super_6206:1441 (-)      | GGCCGCC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAAC | GGAAAC | 38  | GCUAAU | CGUUGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>    | Baggins | super_63:22187 (-)       | GGCUGCC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>    | Baggins | super_72:87870 (-)       | GGCCGCC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>    | Baggins | super_731:795 (-)        | GGCCGCC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>    | Baggins | super_731:5452 (-)       | GGCCGCC | 79  | AAAUACA  | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>    | Baggins | super_777:799 (+)        | GGCUGCC | 79  | CAAAUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | CCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>    | Baggins | super_921:11825 (-)      | GGUCGCC | 78  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. sechellia</i>    | Baggins | super_99:64843 (-)       | GGCGGCC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. simulans</i>     | Baggins | chr2h_random:992223 (+)  | GGCCGCC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCCAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. simulans</i>     | Baggins | chr2L:16805900 (-)       | GGCCGCC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 37  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. simulans</i>     | Baggins | chr2R_random:548618 (+)  | GGCCGCC | 79  | CAACUGCA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGGAA  | GGGAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. simulans</i>     | Baggins | chr2R_random:562083 (+)  | GGCCGCC | 79  | CAACUGCA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. simulans</i>     | Baggins | chr3h_random:1377615 (-) | GGCCGCC | 66  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. simulans</i>     | Baggins | chrU:14353216 (+)        | GGCCGCC | 73  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |
| <i>D. simulans</i>     | Baggins | chrU:1800152 (-)         | GGCCGCC | 79  | CAACUACA | CUC | UCCACGC | GAG | GGCGGCU | GGAAA  | GGAAA  | 39  | GCUAAU | CGUAGUUG  |              |