

A GENE ORDER DATABASE OF PLASTID GENOMES

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ABSTRACT

A gene order database of 32 completely sequenced plastid genomes was developed. The data structure is formally identical to that of the feature tables in the major GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ databases. The quality of annotations was largely improved. A normalizing gene-labeling system across the complete plastid genomes was developed so that comparative studies are made available without having to go back to sequence analysis. Many incorrect coordinates of tRNA-encoding regions found in the major databases were corrected. We attempted to distinctively label tRNA genes with the anticodon sequence CAT, which encodes either the initiator tRNA, elongator tRNA, or Ile-tRNA. The database is available at <http://www.rs.noda.tus.ac.jp/~kunisawa>.

Keywords: Database, Gene order, Plastid, Genome, Orthologous genes, Initiator tRNA, Elongator tRNA

1 INTRODUCTION

Nucleotide or amino acid substitutions provide measures of sequence similarity, which have been widely used to assess functional and phylogenetic relationships. The major sequence databases, GenBank, EMBL and DDBJ, have played a key role in this purpose. The advent of complete genomic sequence data has provided a new opportunity to investigate more macroscopic evolutionary events, such as duplication, inversion and transposition of parts of a genome. For example, phylogenetic trees are derived from the comparison of gene orders between different genomes (Sankoff, Leduc, Antoine, Paquin, Lang & Cedergren, 1992; Korbel, Snel, Huynen & Bork, 2002). Proteins encoded by gene pairs in a conserved order appear to interact physically (Dandekar, Snel, Huynen & Bork, 1998). The prevalence of small inversions is suggested in yeast genome evolution (Seoighe, Federspiel, Jones, Hansen, Bivolarovic, Surzycki et al., 2000). There are, however, no publicly available gene order databases. The major sequence databases can serve as surrogates for a gene order database. There are, however, a number of problems associated with the use of the major sequence databases for gene order comparison. The most serious has to do with the comparability of different database entries. Two orthologous genes may be labeled in different ways in two different database entries (sequences). This difficulty is overcome in the

COG database (Tatusov, Galperin, Natale & Koonin, 2000; Tatusov, Natale, Garkavtsev, Tatuova, Shankavaram, Rao et al., 2001), in which a unique four-digit number is systematically assigned to each group of orthologous (plus paralogous) genes present in different genomes. Such efforts enable an easy comparison of the orders of protein-encoding genes between different genomes. However, genes coding for transfer and ribosomal RNAs are not taken into consideration in the COG database. As will be shown, errors are found at high frequencies in the major sequence databases with respect to the coordinates and/or annotations of genes specifying tRNAs. RNA-encoding genes were also neglected in a recent comparative analysis of protein sequences from 19 plastid genomes by Rivas, Lozano and Ortiz (2002). According to the GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ databases, more than 30 plastid genomes have been completely sequenced to date.

Under these circumstances, we have decided to develop a gene order database for complete plastid genomes, which can be regarded as excellent model systems in computational genomics studies because of the considerable number available and their small size. Plastid genomes are circular in shape and are of 100-200 kb in size, containing between 30 to 50 different RNA genes and 100 protein-encoding genes in land plants or 200 protein genes in red algae (Sugiura, 1995). We attempted to develop a normalizing gene-labeling system across the completely sequenced plastid genomes in a comparable way. We will show that gene order comparison presents another support both for the identification of orthologous genes with only a weak sequence similarity and for the assignment of a tRNA gene that has the anticodon sequence CAT encoding either initiator Met-tRNA, elongator Met-tRNA or Ile-tRNA. Initiator tRNA is used for the initiation of protein synthesis in all organisms including plastids, whereas elongator tRNA is used for the insertion of methionine into internal peptidic linkages (e.g., Marck & Grosjean, 2002). As well as both initiator and elongator Met-tRNAs, the same anticodon sequence CAT is shared by a peculiar Ile-tRNA species, which recognizes an isoleucine codon AUA by post-transcriptional base modification (Muramatsu, Yokoyama, Horie, Matsuda, Ueda, Yamaizumi et al., 1988). It is not always easy to distinguish among the three types of tRNA genes from sequence data alone, and their specification remains incomplete in the major databases. In the plastid genomes gene-order database, we have tried to distinctively label tRNA genes with the anticodon sequence CAT.

2 DATA

All the genomic sequence data were obtained from the GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ databases (GenBank, n.d.; EMBL, n.d.; DDBJ, n.d.). The completely sequenced plastid genomes are as follows: *Cyanophora paradoxa* (abbreviated as Cpa, GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ database accession No. U30821); *Cyanidium caldarium* (Cca, AF022186); *Cyanidioschyzon merolae* (Cme, AB002583); *Porphyra purpurea* (Ppu, U38804); *Odontella sinensis* (Osi, Z67753); *Guillardia theta* (Gth, AF041468); *Mesostigma viride* (Mvi, AF166114); *Nephroselmis olivacea* (Nol, AF137379); *Chlorella vulgaris* (Cvu, AB001684); *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii* (Cre, BK000554); *Astasia longa* (Alo, ALO294725); *Euglena gracilis* (Egr,

X70810); *Chaetosphaeridium globosum* (Cgl, AF494278); *Marchantia polymorpha* (Mpo, X04465); *Anthoceros formosae* (Afo, AB086179); *Psilotum nudum* (Pnu, AP004638); *Adiantum capillus-veneris* (Aca, AY178864); *Pinus thunbergii* (Pth, D17510); *Pinus koraiensis* (Pko, AY228468); *Calycanthus fertilis* (Cfe, AJ428413); *Amborella trichopoda* (Atr, AJ506156); *Lotus japonicus* (Lja, AP002983), *Nicotiana tabacum* (Nta, Z00044); *Oenothera elata* (Oel, AJ271079); *Arabidopsis thaliana* (Ath, AP000423); *Spinacia oleracea* (Sol, AJ400848); *Epifagus virginiana* (Evi, M81884); *Oryza sativa* (Osa, X15901), *Triticum aestivum* (Tae, AB042240); *Zea mays* (Zma, X86563); *Toxoplasma gondii* (Tgo, U87145); *Eimeria tenella* (Ete, AY217738). *Medicago truncatula* chloroplast (ACO93544) is not included in the present gene order database, since no coding regions were identified in the GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ database entry.

3 ANNOTATIONS OF PROTEIN-ENCODING GENES

The first step in normalized gene-labeling across plastid genomes is the comparison of all the protein sequences from a plastid genome with all the proteins from other plastids using the FASTA computer program (Pearson & Lipman, 1988). Orthologous relationships were identified on the basis of sequence similarity. In the all-by-all FASTA analysis, we used two criteria for detecting orthologous gene pairs from different genomes; (i) a level of amino acid identity higher than 30% and (ii) a region of similarity longer than any of the halves of the either of two protein-lengths. Another gene from a third genome was included in this orthologous group if its protein sequence satisfied the homology criteria when compared to at least one member of the orthologous group. A unique label, which was taken from the GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ annotations, was assigned to the orthologous group thus identified. When orthologous genes were labeled in different ways in the major databases, we arbitrarily used one of the alternate labels (Table 1).

Table 1. Alternate gene labels.

used	synonym	used	synonym	used	synonym
<i>carA</i>	<i>trpG</i>	<i>moeB</i>	<i>chlN</i>	<i>petG</i>	<i>petE</i>
<i>ccsA</i>	<i>ycf5</i>	<i>nblA</i>	<i>ycf18</i>	<i>petL</i>	<i>ycf7</i>
<i>cemA</i>	<i>ycf10</i>	<i>ndhA</i>	<i>ndh1</i>	<i>petM</i>	<i>ycf31</i>
<i>cfxQ</i>	<i>cfxX/Q</i>	<i>ndhB</i>	<i>ndh2</i>	<i>petN</i>	<i>ycf6</i>
<i>crtE</i>	<i>preA</i>	<i>ndhC</i>	<i>ndh3</i>	<i>psbY</i>	<i>ycf32</i>
<i>crtR</i>	<i>desA</i>	<i>ndhD</i>	<i>ndh4</i>	<i>psbZ</i>	<i>ycf9</i>
<i>cysA</i>	<i>ycf85</i>	<i>ndhE</i>	<i>ndh4L</i>	<i>rpoZ</i>	<i>ycf61</i>
<i>ftrC</i>	<i>ftrB</i>	<i>ndhF</i>	<i>ndh5</i>	<i>tatC</i>	<i>ycf43</i>
<i>hupA</i>	<i>hlp</i>	<i>ndhK</i>	<i>psbG</i>	<i>thdF</i>	<i>trmE</i>
<i>lysR</i>	<i>ycf30</i>	<i>ntcA</i>	<i>ycf28</i>		
<i>matK</i>	<i>roaA</i>	<i>pdhA</i>	<i>odpA</i>		

Conserved open reading frames, which were not shared among at least two genomes, were represented in the form of OrfXY, where X or Y stands for an arbitrarily chosen letter of the alphabet. By contrast, non-conserved open reading frames were simply labeled “orf”. Seven paralogous gene families were

found, (i) *psaA* and *psaB*, (ii) *psbA* and *psbD*, (iii) *psbE* and *psbF*, (iv) *psbL* and *psbT*, (v) *ndhA* and *ndhH*, (vi) *apcA*, *apcB*, *apcD*, *apcF*, *cpcA*, *cpcB* and *cpeB*, (vii) *ycf27* and *ycf29*. On the basis of multiple sequence alignments by ClustalW (Thompson, Higgins, & Gibson, 1994) and gene-order comparisons between genomes we have confirmed that these paralogous genes were correctly labeled to reflect their orthologous relationships in the major databases. Using this all-by-all FASTA analysis, we were able to label more than 98% of a total of 3497 protein-encoding genes in a comparable way.

The second step is a gene order comparison for gene pairs that do not satisfy the homology criteria mentioned above. For each of these genes, their neighboring genes were examined and their gene orders were compared between genomes. We found that gene orders are well conserved for gene pairs that show sequence similarities of over 15% amino acid identity irrespective of the length of sequence similarity. A typical example where an amino acid identity is only 16% is observed in a comparison of two open reading frames labeled ORF111 from *Porphyra* (111 aa) and *ycf41* from *Odontella* (113 aa) in the major databases. Although the level of sequence similarity is low, identical gene orders, *ycf39*-ORF111-*psbI* and *ycf39*-*ycf41*-*psbI*, are found in both genomes, suggesting an orthologous relationship between the gene pair. Based on such gene order comparisons, we were able to label about 60 protein-encoding genes, which remained unlabeled in the first step.

Using this methodology we labeled a total of 3497 individual protein-encoding genes from 32 plastid genomes in a consistent and comparable way. A substantial fraction of them, i.e. 2993 genes, were identically labeled to the major GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ databases. A complete list of differences between the present database and the major databases is given in Appendix 1. A major difference arises from the fact that most pre-existing gene-labels in the major databases are not updated when homologous relationships are found between a new sequence and pre-existing sequences. Alternate gene labels (synonyms) are not normalized in the major databases, which is another source of difference.

Plastid genomes encode many short proteins of less than 100 amino acids. This generally makes it difficult to detect orthologous relationships among them, since shorter proteins contain less information. Here, in addition to the primary sequence comparison of individual proteins, both protein length and gene order comparisons were included in orthology detection. Although we have used the identity % obtained by the FASTA alignment in the orthology criteria, this similarity measure can be replaced by the chance probability (P-value) of obtaining the FASTA sequence similarity score, which is known to be a better measure in the detection of weak similarity. Note that orthology detection based on the P-value alone becomes complex and unreliable when too many paralogs are present. The level of sequence similarity, protein length, and gene order are key elements in orthology identification

4 ANNOTATIONS OF RNA-ENCODING GENES

In the course of our initial survey of the GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ sequence entries, non-homogeneous annotations of tRNA-specifying genes were noticed. In one entry the anticodon species of a tRNA gene is listed, while in the other it is not listed. Similarly, the distinction between an initiator Met-tRNA and elongator Met-tRNA is well annotated in one entry, but is ignored in the other. Thus, we have also developed a normalizing gene-label for genes encoding tRNAs. Identification of tRNA genes was carried out with the tRNAscan computer program (Lowe & Eddy, 1997), which reports both the coordinates of a tRNA-specifying region along the genome and its corresponding anticodon species. Our search only failed to find eight tRNA-encoding regions that were annotated in the major databases, and a previously unmentioned Arg-tRNA gene was identified in the *Odontella* (Osi) plastid. The discrepancies between the GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ annotations and our search results are commented on in the present gene order database (see Section 5). Here we adopted a tRNA gene-labeling system using four letters; the first letter represents the amino acid species (in upper case) and remaining three show the anticodon sequence (in lower case), for instance, F_{gaa} for the Phe-tRNA with the anticodon GAA. While His-tRNAs possess an additional base at the 5' terminus, the "minus" 1 residue is often not correctly included in the major database annotations. In addition, there are a lot of mis-typing or mis-counting of base numbers for tRNA-encoding regions in the major databases. We have corrected such incorrect coordinates. Appendix 2 summarizes the corrections necessary in the major databases.

Although tRNAscan is a fine tool, every tRNA-specifying region with the anticodon sequence CAT is assigned as Met-tRNA. The tRNAscan does not distinguish between the initiator, elongator Met-tRNA and the peculiar Ile-tRNA species that recognizes an Ile codon AUA, all of which have the same anticodon sequence CAT. Thus, we have closely examined tRNA sequences identified by tRNAscan and have attempted to divide them into initiator tRNA (labeled f_M), elongator tRNA (M_{cat}), and Ile-tRNA (I_{cat}).

Our close examination has revealed characteristic sequences in the anticodon-loop region. Figure 1 lists nucleotide sequences that are divided into initiator tRNA (f_M), together with three initiator sequences identified in the completely sequenced cyanobacteria, *Thermosynechococcus elongatus* (Tel, BA000039), *Synechocystis* sp. PCC6803 (Syn, AB001339) and *Nostoc* sp. PCC 7120 (Nos, BA000019), whose plastids are thought to share common ancestry. As shown in Figure 1, both the length and sequence of these initiator tRNA genes are well conserved across the cyanobacteria and plastids, although a one-base insertion is found at the D-loop region in an apicomplexan plastid of *Eimeria* (Ete). Most initiator tRNA (formylated Met-tRNA, f_M) sequences exhibit a uniquely conserved sequence, gCTCATAAc, where ¥

	Acceptor	D	anticodon	anticodon	TΨC	TΨC	Acceptor	
	.*****..++++.....	.++++-----	
<i>Thermosynechococcus</i>	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGTCGGGCTCATA	AACCCGAAGGTC	CAATGGTTCAAAT	CCATGC	CCCGCCA		
<i>Synechocystis</i>	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGTCGGGCTCATA	AACCCGAAGGTC	CAATGGTTCAAAT	CCCGCT	CCCGCCA		
<i>Nostoc</i>	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGTCGGGCTCATA	AACCCGAAGGTC	CAATGGTTCAAAT	CCAT	CCCGCCA		
Cpa (62903.. 62976) -	CGCGGAGTAGAGCAGTTTGGT	-AGCTCGTCGGGCTCATA	AACCCGAAGGTC	CAATGGTTCAAAT	CCACT	CTCCGCAA	rps4*-Ttgt*-fM-ycf36*-orf*	
Cca (156623..156696) +	TGCGGAGTAGAGCAGTCTGGA	-AGCTCGTCGGGCTCATA	AACCCGAAGGTC	CAATGGTTCAAAT	CCAT	CTCCGCTA	petM -orf -fM-orf -psaD	
Cme (92958.. 93031) -	CGCGGAGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGTCGGGCTCATA	AACCCGAAGGTC	CAATGGTTCAAAT	CCAT	CTCCGCTA	petM -orf -fM-psaD -Stga	
Ppu (77711.. 77784) -	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGTCGGGCTCATA	AACCCGAAGGTC	CAATGGTTCAAAT	CCAT	CTCCCGCTA	ycf47-ycf36-fM-ycf42 -pbsA	
Osi (62586.. 62659) +	CGCGGAGTAGAGCAGCTGGT	-AGCTCGTTGGGCTCATA	AACCCGAAGGTC	CAATGGTTCAAAT	CCAT	CTCCGCTA	chlI -ycf47-fM-psaD -Stga	
Gth (89030.. 89103) +	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGTCGGGCTCATA	AACCCGAAGGTC	CAATGGTTCAAAT	CCAT	CTCCCGCTA	ycf47-ycf36-fM-psaD -Stga	
Mvi (51904.. 51977) +	CGCGGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGTCGGGCTCATA	AACCCGAAGGTC	CAATGGTTCAAAT	CCAC	CTCCGCAA	psaB -rps14-fM-rps16 -odpB*	
NoI (42740.. 42813) +	TGCGGGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CGTGGTTCAAAT	CCTAC	CTCCGCAC	rpoC2-rps2 -fM-ycf3* -petN	
Cvu (37383.. 37456) +	AGCGGAGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGTAAGGCTCATA	AACCTAAGGTC	CGTGGTTCAAAT	CCTAC	CTCCGCTC	orf *-Stga -fM-Ettc -rpl20	
Alo (37073.. 37146) -	GGCGAAGTAGAGTAAAGGTT	-AGCTCGTGGGCTCAT	ATACCCGAAGGTC	CAATGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCCA	Rtct*-Ttgt -fM-Ggcc -Sgct*	
Egr (30968.. 31041) +	GGCGGAGTAGAGCAGTCAAGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCTA	Ttgt -Ggcc -fM-Sgct* -Ottg*	
Cgl (41514.. 41587) +	CGCGGAGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCTA	petL*-rps14-fM-Ygta* -Ettc*	
Mpo (42156.. 42229) -	CGCGGAGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCCA	psaB -rps14-fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Afo (54026.. 54099) -	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGCCTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCCA	psaB -rps14-fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Pnu (39655.. 39728) -	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGCTTGGT	-AGCTCGTAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCG	CTCCGCCA	psaB -rps14-fM-Tggt -psbD	
Aca (35201.. 35274) -	CGCGGGTGGAGCAGCTTGGT	-AGCTCGCAGGCTCATA	AACCTCGAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCC	CTCCGCCA	psaB -rps14-fM-Tggt -psbD	
Pth (78886.. 78959) +	TGCGGAGTAGAGTAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCCA	psaB -rps14-fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Pko (76762.. 76835) +	TGCGGAGTAGAGTAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCCA	orf* -rps14-fM-Ggcc* -Stga	
Cfe (37712.. 37785) +	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGTTTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCCA	psaB -rps14-fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Lja (24093.. 24166) +	CGCGGGTAGAGCAACTTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCC	CTCCGCCA	psaB -rps14-fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Nta (38356.. 38429) -	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGTTTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCCA	psaB -rps14-fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Oel (28414.. 28487) +	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGATTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCC	CTCCGCAC	psaB -rps14-fM-fM -Ggcc*	
Oel (28505.. 28578) +	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGATTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCC	CTCCGCAC	rps14-fM -fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Ath (36704.. 36777) -	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGTTTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCCA	psaB -rps14-fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Sol (35420.. 35493) -	CGCGGGTAGAGCAGTTTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCCA	psaB -rps14-fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Evi (5334.. 5407) -	GGCGGGTAGAGCAGTTTGGT	-AGCTCGCAAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCT	CTCCGCCA	Sgga -rps14-fM-Stga -Ettc	
Osa (12839.. 12912) -	AGCGGAGTAGAGCAGTTTGGT	-AGCTCAGGAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCC	CTCCGCAC	ycf70-Gtcc -fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Tae (13003.. 13076) -	AGCGGAGTAGAGCAGTTTGGT	-AGCTCAGGAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCC	CTCCGCAC	Icat -Gtcc -fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Zma (13073.. 13146) -	AGCGGAGTAGAGCAGTTTGGT	-AGCTCAGGAGGCTCATA	AACCTGAAGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCC	CTCCGCAC	ycf70-Gtcc -fM-Ggcc* -psbZ*	
Tgo (2380.. 2453) +	AGCGGGTAGAGCAGTTTGGT	-AGCTCGTCGGGCTCAT	ATACCCGAAGGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CGG	CTCCGTTT	Vtac*-Racg- fM-23s -Ttgt	
Tgo (32544.. 32617) -	AGCGGGTAGAGCAGTTTGGT	-AGCTCGTCGGGCTCAT	ATACCCGAAGGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CGG	CTCCGTTT	Vtac*-Racg- fM-23s -Ttgt	
Ete (2379.. 2453) +	AACGGAGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGTCAAGGCTCAT	ATCCGAAGGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCG	TTCCGTTT	Vtac*-Racg- fM-23s -Ttgt	
Ete (32269.. 32343) -	AACGGAGTAGAGCAGTCTGGT	-AGCTCGTCAAGGCTCAT	ATCCGAAGGTC	CAAGGTTCAAAT	CCG	TTCCGTTT	Vtac*-Racg- fM-23s -Ttgt	
	.*****..++++.....	.++++-----	
Characteristic Feature	!	A	g	C	T	A	A	!

Figure 1. Comparison of initiator tRNA (fM) gene sequences and gene orders. The tRNA secondary structure is indicated: Acceptor-stem, "*"; D-stem, "+"; Anticodon-stem, "-"; TYC-stem, "=". Gene orders are shown in the direction from 5' to 3'. Genes encoded on the complementary chain are indicated "*". For more details, see text.

nucleotides located at the anticodon-loop region are shown in upper case letters, while lower case letters indicate the nucleotides at the anticodon-stem region. Exceptions are found only in euglenozoa plastids (Alo and Egr), which are colored in red in Figure 1. The other characteristic feature is that a base A is commonly found in this group of tRNA sequences at the second position of the D-stem but is not found in the other two groups, Icat and Mcat. Once tRNA-encoding genes are thus comparably labeled, we are ready to compare gene orders in the neighborhood of a tRNA gene. The present assignment of fM was examined in the light of gene order comparison. As shown at the right of Figure 1, conservation in gene order is observed in the neighborhood of the fM genes. The ribosomal protein S14 gene *rps14* and/or Ggcc are adjacent to fM in most of the green plants, suggesting a common ancestry for these fM genes. Similarly, in red algal plastids (Cca, Cme, Ppu, Osi, and Gth) fM is located adjacent to *psaD* and/or *ycf36*. In *Cyanophora* (Cpa) and euglenozoa (Alo and Egr), Tgtg is located upstream of fM. In this way, an examination of gene order conservation was helpful in the assignment of these tRNA species. It should be noted that the apicomplexan (Tgo and Ete) fM genes do not share gene orders with other plastids and that their nucleotide sequences differ considerably from others. Therefore, the present assignment of these apicomplexan tRNA sequences as fM should be viewed as a tentative one. For this reason, these apicomplexan tRNAs are labeled “fM?” in the present database. In bacteria, a mismatch (non Watson-Crick) pairing at the first position of the acceptor-stem (marked “!” at the bottom of Figure 1) constitutes an identity element of fM, which is believed to be involved in its recognition by Met-RNA transformylase (Marck, & Grosjean, 2002). An A:T pairing at the first acceptor-stem position is found in chlorophytes (Nol and Cvu) and apicomplexa (Tgo and Ete), which resembles archaeal initiators (Marck, & Grosjean, 2002). Although the *Astasia* (Alo) tRNA sequence shows a G:C pair at that position, its gene order is similar to that in another euglenozoa Egr, which shows a mismatch. Thus, the *Astasia* tRNA is likely to be an initiator fM gene, with the reservation that experimental confirmation is needed.

Figure 2 compares sequences that appear to be Ile-tRNA (Icat) with a CAT anticodon, which can recognize the Ile codon AUA by a post-transcriptional modification of the base C at the first position of the anticodon into lysidine (Muramatsu et al., 1988). All but one of these sequences exhibit a characteristic sequence, aCTCATAAt, in the anticodon-loop and -stem regions, which is uniquely found in Icat. An exception is observed in *Cynophora* (Cpa), where the first base of the characteristic sequence is replaced by G, as shown in red on the left of Figure 2. Other non-canonical bases are also observed in the apicomplexan plastids (Tgo and Ete). It is to be noted that the third position of the acceptor-stem region is commonly occupied by base A in all members of this group. This feature is not found in the other two groups of initiator and elongator tRNAs. As shown in Figure 2, some similarities in gene arrangement are found among red algal plastids (Cca, Cme, Ppu, Osi and Gth) or among green plant chloroplasts (Mvi to Zma in Figure 1). Thus, the examination of gene order further supports the present classification of most of these tRNA genes.

	Acceptor D	D anticodon	anticodon	TΨC	TΨC	Acceptor	
	*****.+++.....	+++-----	-----	*****	
<i>Thermosynechococcus</i>	CCAGGGTTGGCCGAGCGGTTG	-AGGCAGCGAACTCATAATTCGCCAT	-----	-AGGCTGGTTCGACTCCAGCACCTGGGA			
<i>Synechocystis</i>	CCAGGGTTGGCCGAGCGGTTG	-AGGCAGCGAACTCATAATTCGCCCT	-----	-AGACAGGTTCAACTCCTGTACCTGGGA			
<i>Nostoc</i>	CCAGGGTTGGCCGAGCGGTTG	-AGGCAGCGAACTCATAATTCGCCCA	-----	-AGGCAGGTTCAACTCCTGCACCTGGGA			
Cpa (85048.. 85132) +	GCATCTGTGGCCGAGCGGTTGAAGGCAGCGGCTCATAATCCGTCATCT	-GAAA	-AGATATCACTGGTTCGAATCCAGTCAGATGCA		rpoC1*-rpoB*	-Icat -Fgaa -rps16	
Cca (109401..109484) -	GCATCTATGGCCGAGTGGCTTAAGGCAGCGGACTCATAATCCGTCGACAT	-AA	-TGTCATCGCTGGTCAAATCCGGCTAGATGCA		thdF -chlI	-Icat -infC -cysA	
Cme (13223.. 13309) -	GCATCTATGGCCGAGCGGCTTAAGGCAGCGGACTCATAATCCGTCGACAAATTTGTCATCGCTGGTTCGAATCCAGCTGGATGCA				thdF -chlI	-Icat -infC -cysA	
Ppu (34285.. 34371) -	GCATCTGTGGCCGAGGGCCGAAGGCAGCGGACTCATAATCCGCCATTTGGAAGAGACGTCGCTGGTTCGAATCCAGCCAGATGCA				orf*	-ycf10 -Icat -infC* -ilvH	
Osi (96216.. 96300) +	GCATTCGTGGCCGAGTGGTTGAAGGCACCGGACTCATAATCCGTTTCTCT	-GGAACGTC	ACTGGTTCGAACCCAGTCGGATGCA		orf*	-Rccg -Icat -rpl19 -petF	
Gth (50077.. 50162) -	GCATCTGTGGCCGAGTGGTGAAGGCACCGGACTCATAATCCGTC	-TCTGTAAAAGACA	CGCTGGTCAAACCCAGCCGGATGCA		Rccg	-orf -Icat -ilvH -Ltaa	
Mvi (21193.. 21279) +	GCATCTATGGCCGAGAGCCGAAGGCAGCGGACTCATAATCCGTTATCTCGAAAGAGACATCGCTGGTTCGAATCCAGCTGGATGCA				Aggc*	-ycf3 -Icat -rbcL* -atpB	
Cvu (8330.. 8413) +	GCACCTATGGCAGAGTGGTCGATGCAACCGCACTCATAATCCGCTTCC	-GAAA	-GAACATCGTGGTCAAACCCAATGGGTGCA		orf	-orf* -Icat -orf* -orf*	
Alo (8904.. 8987) +	GCATTTATGGCAGAGGAGCATAGCACCGGACTCATAATCTCGTTC	-GAAA	-GGACATCGCTGGTCAAATCCAGCTGAATGCA		rps8	-rpl36 -Icat -rps14 -rps14	
Egr (60338.. 60421) +	GCATTTATGGCAGAGTGGCAGATAGCACCGGACTCATAATCTCGTTC	-GAAA	-GGACATCGCTGGTCAAATCCAGCTGAATGCA		rps8	-rpl36 -Icat -rps14 -rps14	
NoI (96925.. 96997) -	GCATCCATAGCCTAGCGGTTA	-AGGCAGTCGACTCATAATCGGAATA	-----	-TCGCTGGTTCGAATCCAGCTGGATGCA	OrfAU	-rbcL -Icat -ycf62*-chlB	
NoI (195929..196001) +	GCATCCATAGCCTAGCGGTTA	-AGGCAGTCGACTCATAATCGGAATA	-----	-TCGCTGGTTCGAATCCAGCTGGATGCA	OrfAU	-rbcL -Icat -ycf62*-chlB	
Cgl (88615.. 88688) -	GCATCTATAGCCGAGTGGTTA	-AGGCACCCAACCTCATAATTTGGAGAA	-----	-CTCGAGGTTCAAATCCGCTAGATGCA	Vgac*	-OrfCL -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Mpo (80984.. 81057) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCACCCAACCTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCACAGGTTCAATTCCTGTTGGATGCA	16s*	-Vgac* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Afo (105497..105570) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAACGGTTA	-AAGCACCCAACCTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCACAGGTTCAATTCCTGTTGGATGCA	ndhB	-ndhB -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Pnu (84463.. 84536) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCACCCAACCTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCACAGGTTCAATTCCTGTTGGATGCA	Lcaa	-OrfBZ* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Aca (82161.. 82234) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAACGGTTA	-AAGCACCCAACCTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCACAGGTTCAATTCCTGTTGGATGCA	Racg	-Tgt* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Pth (65938.. 66011) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-CTCGCGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	Lcaa	-OrfAN* -Icat -psbA -rpl23	
Pth (119393..119466) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-CTCGCGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	Hgtg*	-OrfAN* -Icat -psbA* -rpoB	
Pko (64070.. 64143) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-CTCGCGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	orf	-OrfAN* -Icat -psbA* -rpl23	
Pko (116557..116630) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-CTCGCGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	ftsH*	-Hgtg* -Icat -psbA* -rpoB	
Cfe (87413.. 87486) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	ycf15*-ftsH*	-Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Cfe (152796..152869) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	ycf15*-ftsH*	-Icat -rpl23 -fm	
Lja (84258.. 84331) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	Lcaa	-ftsH* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Lja (148125..148198) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	Lcaa	-ftsH* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Nta (88699.. 88772) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	ycf15*-ftsH*	-Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Nta (153854..153927) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	ycf15*-ftsH*	-Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Oel (91548.. 91621) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	pseud*	-ftsH* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Oel (161707..161780) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	pseud*	-ftsH* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Ath (86312.. 86385) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	ycf15*-ftsH*	-Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Ath (152264..152337) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	ycf15*-ftsH*	-Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Sol (84198.. 84271) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	orf*	-ycf2* -Icat -rpl2 -rps19	
Sol (149174..149247) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTCGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	rps12^-ftsH*	-Icat -rpl2 -OrfBU	
Evi (21878.. 21951) -	GCATCCATGGCTTAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTTGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	Lcaa	-ftsH* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Evi (67877.. 67950) +	GCATCCATGGCTTAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGCGAA	-----	-TTTGTAGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	Lcaa	-ftsH* -Icat -rpl23^-rpl2	
Osa (83139.. 83212) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGTAAA	-----	-TTTGCGGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	OrfAJ*	-ftsH* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Osa (131906..131979) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGTAAA	-----	-TTTGCGGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	OrfAJ*	-ftsH* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Tae (82901.. 82974) -	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGTAAA	-----	-TTTGCGGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	ndhB	-Lcaa -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Tae (131920..131993) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGTAAA	-----	-TTTGCGGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	ndhB	-Lcaa -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Zma (84881.. 84954) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGTAAA	-----	-TTTGCGGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	ftsH*	-OrfAO* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Zma (137783..137856) +	GCATCCATGGCTGAATGGTTA	-AAGCGCCCAACTCATAATTTGGTAAA	-----	-TTTGCGGGTTCAATTCCTGCTGGATGCA	ftsH*	-OrfAO* -Icat -rpl23 -rpl2	
Tgo (6386.. 6461) +	ATACTGTGGCTGAGTGGCAAAGCAGTGA	GCTCATAA	CTCATATA	-----	-AAACGAAAGTTCGAATCTTTTCAAGTATA	Cgca	-Ltaa #-fM -Ygta -Sgct
Ete (6231.. 6307) +	GTACCTGTGGCTGAGTGGCAAAGCAGTGA	GCTCATAA	CTCATATA	-----	-TTTTCAAAGTTCGAATCTTTTCAAGTATA	Cgca	-Ltaa -fM -Ygta -Sgct
Characteristic Feature	A		ACTCATAAT				

Figure 2. Comparison of Ile-tRNA gene (Icat) sequences and gene orders.

Elongator tRNA (Mcat) genes appear to possess a characteristic sequence at the anticodon-loop region, ACTCATAAG or ATTCATAAG in the non-green plastids, *Cyanophora* (Cpa) to euglenozoa (Egr), or tTTCATACg in green plant chloroplasts (Nol to Zma), as seen in Figure 3. Mismatches to the characteristic sequences are found in Cvu and Pnu, which are indicated in red in Figure 3. The Cvu tRNA gene is puzzling; a non-initiator is suggested from the G:C pair at the first position of the acceptor-stem, whereas its nearest neighbor genes, *rps14* and *Ggcc*, are identical to those found in the initiator tRNAs from green plant chloroplasts. Conserved orders of other tRNA genes confirm the classification as elongator tRNA.

The annotations of genes encoding ribosomal RNAs in the GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ databases were confirmed based on the multiple sequence alignment by CLUSTALW (Thompson, Higgins, & Gibson, 1994). An incorrect coordinate of *Oenothera* (Oel) 5S rRNA gene was found in this analysis. The correction is shown in Appendix 2, which lists revisions necessary to the GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ annotations of ribosomal and transfer RNA genes.

5 DATABASE STRUCTURE

The labeled arrangements of genes on the 32 plastid genomes are structured as a database, which is available online. The gene order of a plastid genome is accessible from the front page of the Web site (see Figure 4). Figure 5 illustrates our database format. The GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ database accession number is given below the species name. Columns 1-6, and 8-13 represent the coordinates of a gene. When a gene is encoded on a strand, the sequence of which is stored in the major databases, its strandness “+” is shown in column 15. Conversely, if encoded on the complementary strand, “-” is used. Pseudogenes are indicated by “&” in column 17. When tRNAscan identifies a tRNA gene that is not listed in the major databases, the symbol “%” appears in the column 17. If the tRNAscan fails to identify a tRNA gene that is annotated in the major databases, another symbol “#” is used. The gene labels developed here are shown in columns 21-30. We adopted a numbering system for exons; the second exon (counted from the 5' end) of gene *XYZ*, for instance, is labeled *XYZ_2*. Original annotations in the major databases are retained after column 41.

Amino acid or nucleotide sequence data are accessible using the link function; a user can confirm the present annotation and infer its biological function by performing the FASTA search or the CLUSTALW multiple alignment, both of which are available at various Web sites.

Another function of the database is to show gene orders in the neighborhood of a given gene. When a user lists one gene symbol in the front page, five genes present at both the 5' and 3' regions of the given gene are displayed, as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. When a gene is present in two copies on a genome, the

	Acceptor D	D	Anticodon	Anticodon TC	TC	Acceptor
*****..++++.....++++.-----.....-----.....=====.....*****.						
<i>Thermosynechococcus</i>	GGCTCAGTAGCTCAGT	-GGTTAGAGCAGGGGACT	CATAAGCCCAAGGTCGCAGGTT	CGAATCCC	CGCTAGAGCCA	
<i>Synechocystis (Partial)</i>	GCTTGGTAGCTCAGT	GGTTAGAGCAGGGGACT	CATAAGCCCAAGGTCGCAGGTT	CGAATCCC	CGCTAGAGCCA	
<i>Nostoc</i>	GGCTCAGTAGCTCAGT	GGTTAGAGCAGGGGACT	CATAAGCCCAAGGTCGCAGGTT	CGAATCCC	CGCTAGAGCCA	
Cpa (87985.. 88056) +	GGCTCGGTAGCTCAGTGG	-TAGAGCAGGGGACT	CATAAGCCCTTGGTCGTGGGTT	CAAAATCCC	CACTTGAGCCA	psaE* -ycf17 -Mcat-psbI -petL*
Cca (142204..142277) -	GGCTTAGTAGCTCAGTGG	TTAGAGCAGGGGATT	CATAAGCCCAAGGTCGTAAGTT	CAAGTCTT	TATCTAAGCCA	ycf26 -argB -Mcat-dnaK* -rpl3
Cme (104198..104270) +	GGCTCAGTAGCTCAGAGG	-TTAGAGCGGGGACT	CATAAGCCCTCAGGTCGTAAGTT	CAAAATCTT	TACCTAGAGCCA	apcB -argB -Mcat-hlp -dnaK*
Ppu (116680..116752) -	GGCTCAGTAGCTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGCAGGGGATT	CATAAGCCCAAGGTCGCAGGTT	CAAAATCCC	CGCTTGAGCCA	ycf33* -argB -Mcat-Aggc -Sgct
Osi (65380.. 65452) -	GGCTCTGTAGCTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGCAGGGGACT	CATAAGCCCAAGGTCGTAAGTT	CAAAATCCC	CACTTGAGCCA	orf -ycf33* -Mcat-Sgct -Dgtc
Gth (119345..119417) -	GGCTTAGTAGCTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGCAGGGGACT	CATAAGCCCAAGGTCGCAGGTT	CAAAATCCC	CGCTTGAGCCA	ilvB* -ycf33* -Mcat-Sgct -Dgtc
Mvi (25330.. 25401) +	GGCTTTGTAGCTCAGCGG	-TAGAGCAGGGGATT	CATAAGCCCAAGGTCGCAGGTT	CAAAATCCC	CGCCAGAGCCA	atpB -atpE -Mcat-Gtcc* -chlI
Alo (60667.. 60738) -	GGTTCAATAGCTCAAAGG	-TAGAGCATAGGATT	CATAAGCCCTCAGGTCACAAGTT	CAAAATCTT	GTGTTGAACCA	Ygta -Hgtg -Mcat-Wcca -Ettc
Egr (100686..100757) -	GGCTCAGTAGCTCAGAGG	-TAGAGCAGGGGATT	CATAAGCCCTTGGTCACAGGTT	CAAAATCTT	GTCTGAGCCA	Ygta -Hgtg -Mcat-Wcca -Ettc
*****..++++.....++++.-----.....-----.....=====.....*****.						
Characteristic Feature			ACTCATAAG			
			ATTCATAAG			
*****..++++.....++++.-----.....-----.....=====.....*****.						
No1 (1618.. 1691) +	GCCTGCTTAGCTCAGTGG	TTAGAGCGTCCGTTTC	CATACGCGGATTTGCT	CAGTTC	CAAAATCTAGTAGCAGGCA	Ltag -psbM* -Mcat-ftsI -psbA
Cvu (129350..129426) +	GCCTGCTTAGCTCAGTGG	TTAGAGCATCCGTC	CATACGCGGAATGT	CACTAGTTC	CGAATCTAGTAGCAGGCA	orf -rps14 -Mcat-Ggcc -orf*
Cgl (47720.. 47792) +	GCCTACTTAACTCAGCGG	-TTAGAGTGTGCTTT	CATACGCGGAGGTC	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Sgga -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Mpo (53801.. 53874) +	ACCTACTTAACTCAGTGG	TTAGAGTATCGCTTT	CATACGCGGAGGTC	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Afo (69683.. 69755) +	ACCTACTTAACTTAGTGG	-TTAGAGTATCGCTTT	CATACGCGGAGGTC	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Pnu (53151.. 53223) +	ACCTACTTAACTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGTATCGCTTT	CATACGCGGAGGTC	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Aca (49115.. 49187) +	GCCTACTTAACTCAGCGG	-TTAGAGTATCGCTTT	CATACGCGGAGGTC	CATTGGTT	CGAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Pth (47156.. 47228) -	ACCCACTTAACTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGTATCGCTTT	CATACGCGGAGGTC	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	orf * -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Pko (46792.. 46864) -	ACCCACTTAACTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGTATCGCTTT	CATACGCGGAGGTC	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	orf -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -orf
Cfe (53351.. 53423) +	ACCTACTTAACTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGTATGCTTT	CATACGCGGGAGT	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Lja (9408.. 9480) -	ACCTACTTAACTCAGCGG	-TTAGAGTATCGCTTT	CATACGCGGGAGT	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Nta (54589.. 54661) +	ACCTACTTAACTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGTACTGCTTT	CATACGCGGGAGT	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Oel (11573.. 11645) -	ACCTACTTAACTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGTATGCTTT	CATACGCGGAGGTC	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Ath (52056.. 52128) +	ACCTACTTAACTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGTATGCTTT	CATACGCGGAGGTC	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Sol (50859.. 50931) +	ACCTACTTAACTCAGCGG	-TTAGAGTATGCTTT	CATACGCGGGAGT	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Evi (7392.. 7464) +	ACCTATTTAACTCAGTGG	-TTAGAAATTTGCTTT	CATACGCGGAGGTC	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	rps4* -Fgaa -Mcat-atpB -rbcL
Osa (51219.. 51291) +	GCCTACTTAACTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGTATGCTTT	CATACGCGGGAGT	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Tae (52034.. 52106) +	GCCTACTTAACTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGTATGCTTT	CATACGCGGGAGT	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
Zma (54020.. 54092) +	GCCTACTTAACTCAGTGG	-TTAGAGTATGCTTT	CATACGCGGGAGT	CATTGGTT	CAAAATCCAATAGTAGGTA	ndhC* -Vtac* -Mcat-atpE* -atpB*
*****..++++.....++++.-----.....-----.....=====.....*****.						
Characteristic Feature			TTTCATAAG			

Figure 3. Comparison of elongator tRNA (Mcat) gene sequences and gene orders.

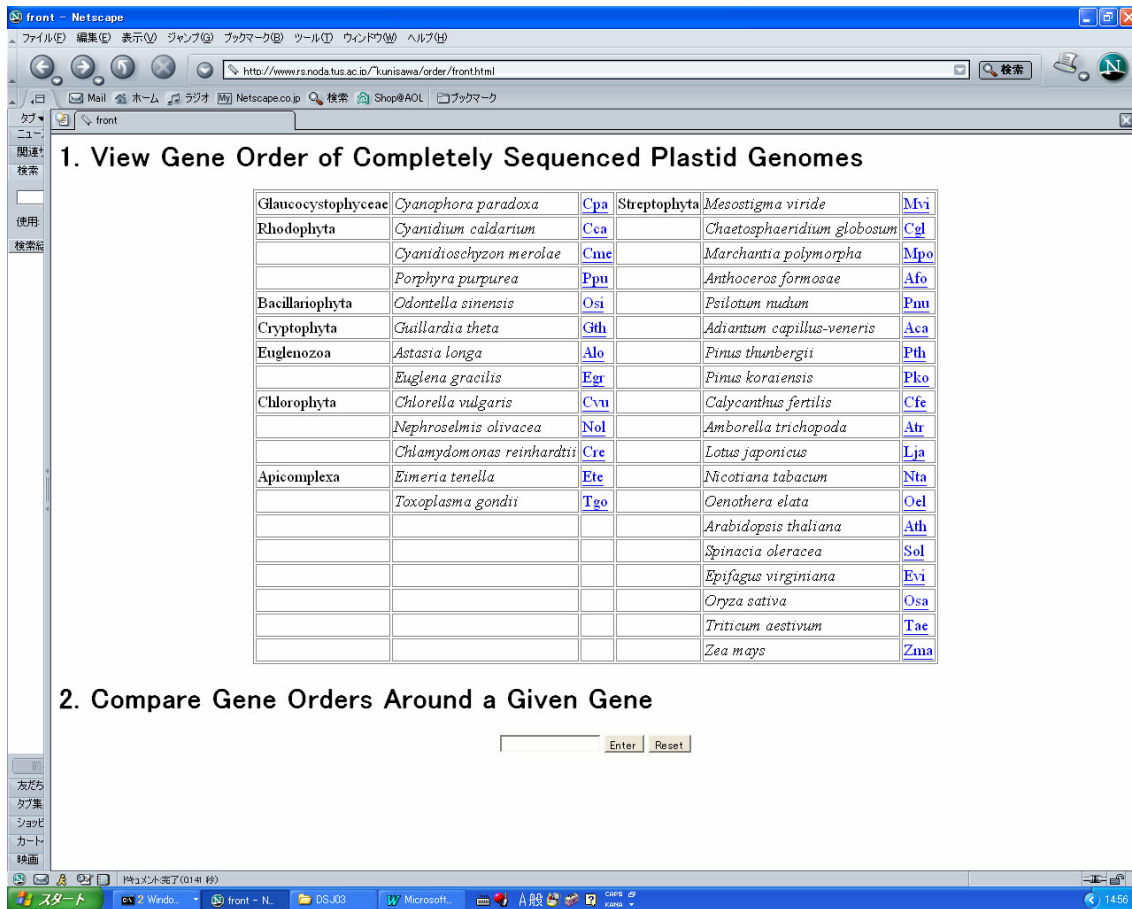


Figure 4. The front page.

corresponding two gene-arrangements are shown. Genes, which are marked “*”, are transcribed in the right to left direction, while others are transcribed in the reverse direction. Using this function, a user can enjoy comparing gene orders between different genomes.

Figure 5. The database format. Several examples are illustrated. The top two lines indicate the column positions.

1 2 3 4 5 6
 1234567890123456789012345678901234567890123456789012345678901234567890123

Odontella sinensis Gene Order
 (GenBank Accession No. Z67753)

267	340	+	t	Ptgg		Sequence
478	1545	+	p	orf	ORF355	Sequence
2210	3694	+	r	16s		Sequence
...						
9852	9923	+	t	Ngtt	9852 9922	Sequence
9944	10729	+	p	thiG	thiG	Sequence
...						
95722	95794	+	%	t Rccg		Sequence
...						

6 CONCLUSIONS

We have developed a gene order database for 32 completely sequenced plastid genomes. We developed a normalizing gene-labeling system across complete genomes, by which comparative studies are made available without returning to sequence analysis. A lot of incorrect tRNA gene coordinates detected in the major databases were corrected. Incomplete annotations of tRNA genes with the anticodon sequence CAT in the major databases were improved, and their classification into initiator tRNA, elongator tRNA and Ile-tRNA genes were specified where possible. The gene order database developed here is available at <http://www.rs.noda.tus.ac.jp/~kunisawa>. Using this database, we are now resolving the phylogenetic relationships of plastid genomes along the lines suggested elsewhere (Kunisawa, Blanchette & Sankoff, 1997; Kunisawa, 2003). At the same time we are extending the present gene order database so that an evolutionary comparison between plastids and cyanobacteria and between plastids and host nuclear genomes will be possible.

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EMBL (n.d.) Home page of the EMBL Nucleotide Sequence Database. Available at: <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/embl/index.html>.

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Appendix 1. Differences between the gene order database (left) and GenBank/EMBL/DDBJ (right) annotations.

>Cpa				12526	13242	-	p ycf53	ORF238	
5727	7598	+	p dnaK	dnaK-A	13279	14241	-	p ycf55	ORF320
8038	9663	-	p groEL	groEL-A	14421	14747	+	p ycf54	ORF108
9727	10038	-	p groES	groES-A	14758	15711	-	p lysR	ycf30
10419	11003	+	p clpP	clpPI	15930	16040	+	p psbY	ycf32
23257	23358	-	p petM	petX	24455	25807	+	p ycf80	ORF450
38535	38915	+	p rpl12	rpl7	27357	27452	-	p petL	ycf7
41932	42933	+	p ycf48	orf333	31543	32448	+	p cfxQ	ORF301
44000	44599	-	p clpP	clpP2	34445	35281	-	p cemA	ycf10
46922	47893	-	p crtE	preA	37652	38101	+	p ycf58	ORF149
56389	56697	-	p ycf49	orf102	38383	38718	-	p ycf41	ORF111
57632	57829	-	p psbZ	ycf9	70041	70805	+	p tatC	ORF254
65817	66308	-	p ycf51	orf163	73102	74136	-	p pdhA	odpA
66487	66576	+	p petN	ycf6	74450	75421	+	p crtE	preA
101705	102271	-	p bioY	orf188	76976	77575	-	p ycf42	ORF199
106514	107098	-	p clpP	clpP1	78397	78612	-	p ycf47	ORF71
107479	107790	+	p groES	groES-B	78688	78786	-	p petM	ycf31
107854	109479	+	p groEL	groEL-B	78840	78929	-	p petN	ycf6
109919	111790	-	p dnaK	dnaK-B	79260	80309	+	p ycf59	ORF349
117520	118092	+	p carA	trpG	83167	84864	-	p ycf45	
118714	119682	-	p ccsA	ycf5	85043	85240	+	p ycf86	
124256	124990	-	p cysA	orf244	108332	108520	-	p psbZ	ycf9
130030	131004	-	p lysR	ycf30	114350	116236	+	p ftsH	ycf25
131084	131200	-	p psbY	ycf32	126158	127306	-	p moeB	ORF382
133050	134432	+	p moeB	chlN	127331	127558	-	p psaC	ORF75
					131048	131761	-	p ntcA	ycf28
>Cca					132611	132826	+	p ycf40	ORF71
26413	27249	-	p cemA	ycf10	142122	142421	-	p ycf65	ORF99
36169	37032	-	p crtR	desA	143163	143759	-	p upp	ORF198
37126	38079	-	p lysR	ycf30	153023	153634	-	p ycf60	ORF203
38214	38327	+	p psbY	ycf32	154703	155272	+	p carA	trpG
42478	42642	+	p nblA	ycf18	155281	156594	-	p ycf44	ORF437
42694	43575	+	p ccsA	ycf5	156863	157585	-	p dsbD	ORF240
51101	51319	+	p rpoZ	ycf61	158849	159025	+	p nblA	ycf18
59064	59651	-	p carA	trpG	159774	160268	+	p cpcA	cpeA
90499	91686	-	p moeB	chlN	160407	161366	+	p ccsA	ycf5
95562	96191	+	p ycf29	ompR	169721	169948	+	p rpoZ	ORF75
105097	106002	+	p cfxQ	cfxX	177513	178496	+	p ycf62	ORF327
108065	108799	-	p cysA	ycf85	179531	179887	-	p ftrC	ftrB
149345	150064	+	p tatC	ycf43					
152129	153145	-	p pdhA	odpA	>Osi				
153181	154152	+	p crtE	preA	478	1545	+	p OrfBY	ORF355
156102	156197	+	p petN	ycf6	7318	7428	+	p psbY	ycf32
157586	157771	-	p psbZ	ycf9	8139	9077	-	p ccsA	ycf5
					45509	46438	-	p lysR	ycf30
>Cme					46632	46796	-	p rpl32	rpl32'
6763	7071	-	p trxA	trxM	46931	47041	-	p psbY	ycf32
12050	12703	-	p cysA	ycf85	52814	53881	-	p OrfBY	ORF355
14638	15978	-	p thdF	trmE	54453	54695	-	p acpP	acp
28154	29065	-	p lysR	ycf30	58339	60273	+	p ftsH	ycf25
49265	49828	-	p carA	trpG	78255	78344	+	p petN	ycf6
59840	60328	+	p ntcA	ycf28	78384	78512	+	p petM	ycf31
95041	95988	-	p crtE	preA	82800	82895	+	p petL	ycf7
95999	96955	+	p pdhA	odpA	86186	86371	-	p psbZ	ycf9
127076	127831	+	p ycf63	ycxr	94783	95082	+	p ycf66	ORF99
144872	145702	-	p cemA	ycf10	98256	99047	-	p tatC	ycf43
>Ppu					>Gth				
1095	2402	+	p moeB	chlN	12381	12680	-	p ycf65	orf99
2454	3929	-	p ycf46	ORF491	23432	24364	-	p lysR	ycf30
5020	5544	-	p ycf52	ORF174	24489	24602	+	p psbY	ycf32

32662	32892	-	p rpoZ	orf75	185636	185965	+	p OrfBB	orf109
33657	34562	-	p ccsA	ycf5	186319	187164	+	p OrfBA	orf281
45154	46002	-	p ycf80	orf282	187363	188532	+	p OrfAZ	orf389
55486	55794	-	p ftrC	ftrB	188786	190570	+	p OrfAY	orf594
57914	58009	-	p petL	ycf7	191410	191874	+	p OrfAX	orf154
58663	59499	-	p cemA	ycf10	192003	192416	+	p OrfAW	orf137b
84369	85241	+	p tatC	ycf43	192413	192724	+	p OrfAV	orf103a
88009	88098	+	p petN	ycf6	193108	193842	+	p OrfAU	orf244
88132	88230	+	p petM	ycf31	199472	200182	+	p OrfAT	orf236
90036	90224	-	p psbZ	ycf9					
96179	96424	+	p acpP	acpA					
96530	96811	+	p hupA	hlp					
117067	118962	+	p ftsH	ycf25					
>Mvi									
41989	42078	+	p petN	ycf6					
62835	63506	+	p bioY	orf223					
65929	66117	-	p psbZ	ycf9					
66600	69272	+	p ftsH	ycf2					
97970	99310	+	p moeB	chlN					
102606	102833	-	p rpoZ	ycf61					
>NoI									
43898	43990	+	p petN	ycf6					
65537	65725	-	p psbZ	ycf9					
69697	80925	+	p ftsH	ycf2					
92744	93454	-	p OrfAT	orf236					
99084	99818	-	p OrfAU	orf244					
100202	100513	-	p OrfAV	orf103a					
100510	100923	-	p OrfAW	orf103b					
101052	101516	-	p OrfAX	orf154					
102356	104140	-	p OrfAY	orf594					
104394	105563	-	p OrfAZ	orf389					
105762	106607	-	p OrfBA	orf281					
106961	107290	-	p OrfBB	orf109					
107401	107622	-	p OrfBC	orf73					
107792	108331	-	p OrfBD	orf179					
108331	109068	-	p OrfBE	orf245					
109711	110043	+	p OrfBF	orf110					
110120	110530	+	p OrfBG	orf136					
110799	111110	-	p OrfBH	orf103b					
111722	112489	-	p OrfBI	orf255					
114476	114667	-	p OrfBJ	orf63a					
116083	116313	-	p OrfBK	orf76					
116661	117002	-	p OrfBL	orf113					
117723	118094	-	p OrfBM	orf123					
118659	119447	-	p OrfBN	orf262					
125851	127146	-	p moeB	chlN					
130930	131121	+	p OrfBO	orf63b					
134353	134565	+	p OrfBP	orf70					
158361	158573	-	p OrfBP	orf70					
161805	161996	-	p OrfBO	orf63b					
165780	167075	+	p moeB	chlN					
173479	174267	+	p OrfBN	orf262					
174832	175203	+	p OrfBM	orf123					
175924	176265	+	p OrfBL	orf113					
176613	176843	+	p OrfBK	orf76					
178259	178450	+	p OrfBJ	orf63a					
180437	181204	+	p OrfBI	orf255					
181816	182127	+	p OrfBH	orf103b					
182396	182806	-	p OrfBG	orf136					
182883	183215	-	p OrfBF	orf110					
183858	184595	+	p OrfBE	orf245					
184595	185134	+	p OrfBD	orf179					
185304	185525	+	p OrfBC	orf73					
>Cvu									
24561	24785	+	p OrfAQ	ORF74					
45442	45591	+	p OrfAQ	ORF49b					
50297	50485	-	p psbZ	ycf9					
61443	62678	-	p accD	AccD					
64391	64516	+	p OrfAQ	ORF41b					
74243	74368	-	p OrfAR	ORF41c					
88702	90216	-	p ycf62	ORF504					
92172	92300	-	p OrfAQ	ORF42c					
93076	93264	+	p OrfAS	ORF62					
99596	99745	-	p OrfAR	ORF49c					
102214	103521	-	p moeB	chlN					
106516	107463	+	p ccsA	ycf5					
110072	112531	+	p ycf1	ORF819					
130569	130736	-	p OrfAS	ORF55c					
135963	136121	-	p OrfAR	ORF52d					
144485	144649	+	p OrfAQ	ORF54d					
>Alo									
11316	11804	+	p OrfCM	ORF162					
14857	15720	+	p OrfAP	ORF287					
30165	30956	+	p OrfAP	ORF263					
32305	33066	+	p OrfAP	ORF253					
33196	33831	+	p OrfAP	ORF211					
33982	34485	+	p OrfAP	ORF167					
39421	41097	-	p OrfCM	ORF558					
61721	62035	+	p OrfBQ	ORF104					
62152	63432	+	p OrfBQ	ORF426					
>Egr									
18724	20100	+	p ycf13	mat1					
72138	72335	-	p psbZ	ycf9					
>Cgl									
89877	90179	-	p OrfCL	orf100					
99526	100902	+	p moeB	chlN					
118964	120340	-	p moeB	chlN					
129687	129989	+	p OrfCL	orf100					
>Mpo									
4001	4105	+	p psbM	ORF34					
22162	22263	-	p ycf12	ORF33					
22516	22614	+	p psaM	ORF32					
22997	23107	-	p psbI	ORF36a					
23438	23605	-	p psbK	ORF55					
24053	25594	+	p chlB	ORF513					
26976	28088	+	p matK	ORF370i					
29909	36319	+	p ftsH	ORF2136					
37012	38124	+	p cysA	mbpX					
41647	41835	+	p psbZ	ORF62					
51233	51742	-	p ndhJ	ORF169					
51793	52524	-	p ndhK	psbG					
52515	52877	-	p ndhC	ndh3					
58065	59015	+	p accD	ORF316					
59525	60079	+	p ycf4	ORF184					

60151	61455	+	p cemA	ORF434	33851	34039	-	p petL	ORF62b
62794	62916	-	p psbJ	ORF40	38271	39056	-	p cemA	ORF261
63036	63152	-	p psbL	ORF38	39194	39364	-	p OrfCX	ORF56a
64152	64247	+	p petL	ORF31	39724	40278	-	p ycf4	ORF184
64370	64483	+	p petG	ORF37	48310	48480	+	p OrfCY	rps12
65027	65155	+	p psaJ	ORF42b	48477	48677	-	p OrfCZ	ORF66
70669	70776	+	p psbT	ORF35	50267	50431	-	p OrfCH	ORF54a
70863	70994	-	p psbN	ORF43	50602	50739	+	p OrfDF	rps12
71092	71316	+	p psbH	ORF74	51051	51128	-	p ycf12	ORF25
75300	75413	-	p rpl36	secX	51599	51745	-	p OrfCG	ORF48b
91101	93179	-	p ndhF	ndh5	64251	64442	+	p ycf72	rps12
93886	94095	+	p rpl32	ORF69	66046	66180	+	p OrfAN	rps12
94183	95049	+	p cystT	ORF288	71552	71875	-	p OrfAB	ORF107
95482	96444	+	p ccsA	ORF320	71742	71954	+	p OrfAA	rps12
96665	98164	-	p ndhD	ndh4	79389	79577	-	p psbZ	ORF62
98289	98534	-	p psaC	frxA	83970	84164	-	p OrfCH	ORF64b
98757	99059	-	p ndhE	ndh4L	86346	86573	+	p ycf68	ORF75a
99113	99688	-	p ndhG	ORF191	86897	87019	-	p OrfDA	ORF40e
99779	100330	-	p ndhI	frxB	92296	92511	-	p OrfDB	ORF71
102202	103380	-	p ndhH	ORF392	93946	95349	+	p moeB	chlN
103873	105267	-	p ycf1	ORF464	95542	100812	+	p ycf1	rps12
105329	108535	-	p ycf1	ORF1068	104925	105887	-	p ccsA	ORF320
110104	110973	-	p chlL	frxC	108685	108906	-	p OrfDC	ORF73b
					112617	118781	-	p ftsH	ORF2054
					119224	119358	-	p OrfAN	ORF44b
>Afo									
33690	40868	+	p ftsH	ycf2					
77577	79103	+	p cemA	ycf10					
126778	127644	+	p cystT	ORF288					
137666	139087	-	p ycf1	ORF473					
139569	142664	-	p ycf1	ORF1031					
142902	144317	-	p moeB	chlN					
>Pnu									
60532	61881	+	p cemA	ycf10					
84908	85159	+	p OrfBZ	orf83					
88517	88867	-	p OrfCA	orf116					
98449	98718	-	p OrfCB	orf89					
98787	99053	-	p OrfCC	orf88					
98809	99165	+	p OrfCD	orf119					
99050	99289	-	p OrfCE	orf79					
99132	99347	+	p OrfCF	orf71					
124100	124315	-	p OrfCF	orf71					
124158	124397	+	p OrfCE	orf79					
124282	124638	-	p OrfCD	orf119					
124394	124660	+	p OrfCC	orf88					
124729	124998	+	p OrfCB	orf89					
134580	134930	+	p OrfCA	orf116					
138288	138539	-	p OrfBZ	orf83					
>Aca									
56428	57822	+	p cemA	ycf10					
98198	104512	+	p ftsH	ycf2					
124805	126181	-	p moeB	chlN					
128339	134653	-	p ftsH	ycf2					
>Pth									
7983	8129	+	p OrfCG	ORF48a					
8594	8695	+	p ycf12	ORF33					
26778	26867	+	p petN	ORF29					
27451	27672	+	p OrfCQ	ORF73a					
28111	28374	-	p OrfCR	ORF87					
30226	30366	-	p OrfCT	ORF46b					
30742	30867	+	p OrfCU	rps12					
30988	31119	+	p OrfCV	rps12					
31594	31803	+	p OrfCW	rps12					
>Pko									
12583	12765	-	p atpF	ORF60a					
27076	27231	+	p OrfCQ	ORF51a					
27769	28086	-	p OrfCR	ORF105					
28783	28977	-	p OrfCS	ORF64a					
30271	30420	-	p OrfCT	ORF49b					
30796	30921	+	p OrfCU	ORF41a					
31042	31173	+	p OrfCV	ORF43b					
31615	31824	+	p OrfCW	ORF69a					
39163	39306	-	p OrfCX	ORF47c					
47944	48147	+	p OrfCY	ORF67b					
48115	48315	-	p OrfCZ	ORF66					
48970	49110	-	p OrfBX	ORF46b					
49570	49767	-	p OrfCG	ORF62a					
49579	49809	+	p OrfDF	ORF76b					
53626	54327	+	p petB	ORF233					
64178	64504	+	p OrfAN	ORF107					
64970	65218	+	p ndhK	ORF82					
69170	69304	+	p ycf3	ORF44e					
69635	69847	+	p OrfAA	rps12					
82100	82297	-	p OrfCH	ORF65					
84263	84490	+	p ycf68	ORF75					
84734	84940	-	p OrfDA	ORF68b					
90107	90418	-	p OrfDB	ORF103					
91835	93247	+	p moeB	chlN					
93548	93829	+	p ycf1	ORF93					
95141	96868	+	p ycf1	ORF575					
105236	105505	-	p OrfDC	ORF89b					
112157	113782	-	p ftsH	ORF541					
115043	116008	-	p ftsH	ORF321					
>Cfe									
29424	29513	+	p petN	ycf6					
36975	37163	+	p psbZ	ycf9					
50242	50988	-	p ndhK	psbG					
87550	94413	+	p ftsH	ycf2					
94535	94768	+	p ycf15	ycf2					
99347	99574	-	p OrfDD	rps12					
115263	116234	+	p ccsA	ycf5					

140708	140935	+	p OrfDD	rps12			
145869	152732	-	p ftsH	ycf2			
>Lja							
11104	11796	+	p ndhK	psbG			
25158	25346	-	p psbZ	ycf9			
32379	32468	-	p petN	ycf6			
59718	60407	+	p cemA	ycf10			
63079	63174	+	p petL	ycf7			
84420	91316	+	p ftsH	ycf2			
110740	111711	+	p ccsA	ycf5			
141140	148036	-	p ftsH	ycf2			
>Nta							
7835	8020	+	p psbK	ORF98			
29535	29624	+	p petN	ycf6			
37594	37782	+	p psbZ	ycf9			
46248	46472	-	p OrfAC	rps12			
62638	63192	+	p ycf4	ORF184			
63415	64104	+	p cemA	ORF229			
88885	95727	+	p ftsH	ycf2			
96060	96407	-	p OrfAD	ORF115			
96119	96397	+	p OrfAE	ORF92			
96556	96795	+	p OrfAF	ORF79			
101951	102346	-	p OrfAG	rps12			
102102	102314	+	p OrfAH	ORF70B			
110597	110824	-	p OrfAI	rps12			
111029	112081	+	p ycf1	ORF350			
115061	115228	+	p rpl32	rp132			
116344	117285	+	p ccsA	ycf5			
131802	132029	+	p OrfAI	ORF75			
140280	140675	+	p OrfAG	ORF131			
140312	140524	-	p OrfAH	rps12			
145831	146070	-	p OrfAF	rps12			
146219	146566	+	p OrfAD	ORF115			
146229	146507	-	p OrfAE	rps12			
146545	146808	-	p ycf15	ycf15'			
146899	153741	-	p ftsH	ycf2'			
>Oe1							
29173	29361	-	p psbZ	ycf9			
66473	67162	+	p cemA	ycf10			
91742	98584	+	p ftsH	ycf2			
99214	99429	-	p OrfAD	rps12			
99767	99937	+	p OrfAF	ORF56			
104576	104869	-	p OrfBR	rps12			
104953	105264	+	p OrfBS	ORF103			
106252	106431	+	p OrfBT	rrn16			
107541	107789	-	p OrfBU	rps12			
107627	107890	-	p OrfBU	rps12			
108551	108727	+	p OrfBV	ORF58			
108729	109088	+	p ycf68	ORF119			
110571	110735	-	p OrfBW	rps12			
118885	119844	+	p ccsA	ycf5			
142593	142757	+	p OrfBW	ORF54			
144240	144599	-	p ycf68	ORF119			
144601	144777	-	p OrfBV	ORF58			
145438	145701	+	p OrfBU	ORF87			
145539	145787	+	p OrfBU	ORF82b			
146897	147076	-	p OrfBT	rrn16			
148064	148375	-	p OrfBS	rps12			
148459	148752	+	p OrfBR	ORF97			
153391	153561	-	p OrfAF	ORF56			
153899	154114	+	p OrfAD	ORF71			
154744	161586	-	p ftsH	ycf2			
>Ath							
28089	28178	+	p petN	ycf6			
35751	35939	+	p psbZ	ycf9			
49257	49934	-	p ndhK	psbG			
60741	61430	+	p cemA	ycf10/cemA			
65712	65807	+	p petL	ORF31			
86474	93358	+	p ftsH	ycf2			
93495	93728	+	p ycf15	orf77			
114461	115447	+	p ccsA	ycf5			
123884	129244	-	p ycf1	rps7			
140704	141171	+	p rps7	orf77			
144921	145154	-	p ycf15	rpl23			
145291	152175	-	p ftsH	rpl23			
>Sol							
1783	3300	-	p matK	maturase			
27285	27374	+	p petN	ycf6			
29409	29660	-	p OrfCS	rps12			
34644	34832	+	p psbZ	ycf9			
42595	42663	-	p OrfAA	ycf3			
42608	42703	+	p OrfAB	ORF31			
43188	43271	-	p OrfAC	rps12			
91797	91970	+	p OrfAF	ORF57			
96758	96949	-	p OrfCI	ORF63			
97056	97199	+	p OrfAH	ORF47			
97339	97503	-	p OrfAG	ORF54			
100243	100461	+	p OrfCJ	ORF72			
106348	107793	+	p ycf1	ORF482			
112317	113288	+	p ccsA	ycf5			
132984	133202	-	p OrfCJ	ORF72			
135942	136106	+	p OrfAG	ORF54			
136246	136389	-	p OrfAH	ORF47			
136496	136687	+	p OrfCI	ORF63			
141475	141648	-	p OrfAF	rps12			
142690	149085	-	p ftsH	ycf2			
>Evi							
22045	28695	+	p ftsH	ORF2216			
42887	48103	-	p ycf1	ORF1738			
61133	67783	-	p ftsH	ORF2216			
>Osa							
1668	3296	-	p matK	ORF542			
11937	12125	+	p psbZ	ORF62			
14077	14346	-	p ycf70	ORF91			
17556	17645	-	p petN	ORF29			
47992	48471	-	p ndhJ	ORF159			
48569	49309	-	p ndhK	psbG			
56553	56873	+	p accD	ORF106			
57222	57332	+	p psaI	ORF36			
57702	58259	+	p ycf4	ORF185			
58677	59369	+	p cemA	ORF230			
61565	61687	-	p psbJ	ORF40			
63531	63626	+	p petL	ORF31			
63799	63912	+	p petG	petE			
64622	64756	+	p psaJ	ORF44			
67638	68288	-	p clpP	rps12			
70490	70597	+	p psbT	ORF35			
80915	81163	-	p OrfBX	rps12			
81286	81699	+	p ycf72	ORF137			
83534	83620	+	p ftsH	ORF28			
83997	84746	+	p OrfAJ	ORF249			
90227	90442	-	p OrfAG	ORF72			
90501	90659	-	p OrfAK	ORF85			

93241	93642	+	p ycf68	ORF133	86288	86707	+	p ftsH	rps12
99016	99087	+	p OrfAL	ORF23	87515	87814	+	p ycf15	rps12
100206	100397	+	p OrfAM	ORF63	87875	88396	+	p OrfAJ	rps12
101229	101399	+	p ndhH	ORF56	94364	94621	-	p OrfAK	ORF85
104352	104543	+	p rpl32	ORF63	97093	97497	+	p ycf68	ORF133
105236	106201	+	p ccsA	ORF321	98712	98861	+	p OrfCK	ORF49
110000	110536	-	p ndhI	ORF178	102866	102937	+	p OrfAL	rps12
114721	114912	-	p OrfAM	ORF63	104074	104265	+	p OrfAM	rps12
116031	116102	-	p OrfAL	ORF23	108995	109960	+	p ccsA	rps12
121476	121877	-	p ycf68	ORF133	118472	118663	-	p OrfAM	ORF63
124360	124617	+	p OrfAK	ORF85	119800	119871	-	p OrfAL	ORF23
124676	124891	+	p OrfAG	ORF72	123876	124025	-	p OrfCK	ORF49
130372	131121	-	p OrfAJ	ORF249	125240	125644	-	p ycf68	ORF133
131498	131584	-	p ftsH	ORF28	128116	128373	+	p OrfAK	rps12
133419	133832	-	p ycf72	ORF137	128423	128599	+	p OrfAG	rps12
133955	134203	+	p OrfBX	ORF82	134341	134862	-	p OrfAJ	ORF173
					134923	135222	-	p ycf15	ORF99
>Tae					136030	136449	-	p ftsH	ORF139
12018	12206	+	p psbZ	ycf9	136736	137461	-	p ftsH	ORF241
17643	17732	-	p petN	ycf6	137492	137596	-	p ftsH	ORF34
65073	65273	+	p rpl33	psl33	137578	137718	-	p OrfA0	ORF46
105310	106278	+	p ccsA	ycf5	139288	139701	-	p ycf72	ORF137
126718	127188	+	p rps7	rps 7	139824	140048	+	p OrfBX	ORF75
>Zma					>Tgo				
1674	3308	-	p matK	matk	15007	15138	+	p OrfCO	ORF B
12017	12205	+	p psbZ	ORF62	16035	16352	+	p OrfCN	ORF E
14498	14707	-	p ycf70	ORF69	16395	18692	+	p clpC	clp
19081	19170	-	p petN	ORF29	18806	19015	+	p OrfCP	ORF C
59666	60223	+	p ycf4	ORF185					
65352	65447	+	p petL	ORF31	>Ete				
65611	65724	+	p petG	petE	14656	14793	+	p OrfCO	ORF-B
72401	72502	+	p psbT	rps12	15734	16060	+	p OrfCN	ORF-E
82689	82913	-	p OrfBX	ORF75	16108	18333	+	p clpC	CLP
83036	83449	+	p ycf72	rps12	18466	18732	+	p OrfCP	ORF-C
85019	85159	+	p OrfA0	rps12	27990	29426	-	p ycf24	ORF-G
85141	85245	+	p ftsH	rps12					
85276	86001	+	p ftsH	rps12					

Appendix 2. Differences between the gene order database (left) and GenBank/EMBL/DBJ (right) annotations.

>Aca				>Lja			
6164 6235 - t Qttg		trnG, tRNA-Gln		46 122 - t Hgtg		48 121 -	
62123 62196 - t Ptgg		62124 62197 -					
97858 97934 + t Hgtg		97859 97932 +		>Mpo			
105171 105242 - t Nggt		105171 105232 -		29595 29671 + t Hgtg		29595 29669 +	
127609 127680 + t Nggt		127619 127681 +		42156 42229 - t fM		Met	
134917 134993 - t Hgtg		134919 134992 -					
>Afo				>Mvi			
33134 33210 + t Hgtg		33134 33208 +		58526 58599 - t Hgtg		58527 58599 -	
				71518 71591 + t Ptgg		71508 71591 +	
>Alo				>NoI			
60748 60822 - t Hgtg		60749 60822 -		26457 26530 - t Hgtg		26458 26529 -	
				85192 85273 - t Ygta		85192 85274 -	
>Ath				>Nta			
2 76 - t Hgtg		4 76 -		4 80 - t Hgtg		6 80 -	
35312 35404 + t Stga		35312 35403 +		47119 47205 + t Sgga		47119 47197 +	
>Cca				>Oel			
96237 96312 - t Hgtg		96238 96311 -		7 82 - t Hgtg		8 82 -	
109401 109484 - t Icat		Mcat		28414 28487 + t fM		Met	
156623 156696 + t fM		Mcat		28505 28578 + t fM		Met	
>Cfe				38059 38129 - t Cgca		38049 38129 -	
2 78 - t Hgtg		1 78 -		72024 72097 - t Wcca		72025 72097 -	
7251 7322 - t Qttg		7250 7322 -		138601 138672 + t Nggt		138601 138682 +	
>Cgl				139542 139662 - r 5s		139543 139662 -	
43670 43745 + t Hgtg		43670 43744 +		>Osa			
>Cme				1373 1407 - t Kttt_1		1363 1397 -	
19230 19302 + t Atgc		19231 19302 +		3895 3931 - t Kttt_2		3902 3938 -	
59178 59253 + t Hgtg		59178 59251 +		6616 6687 - t Qttg		6615 6687 -	
70621 70692 + t Tggt		70621 70691 +		13003 13050 - t Gtcc_1		13010 13050 -	
126900 126972 - t Rtct		126901 126972 -		64229 64302 - t Ptgg		64229 64303 -	
>Cpa				81050 81126 + t Hgtg		81050 81124 +	
85048 85132 + t Icat		Mcat		133992 134068 - t Hgtg		133991 134068 -	
>Cvu				>Osi			
130470 130556 - t Sgga		+		9852 9923 + t Nggt		9852 9922 +	
>Egr				34019 34090 + t Qttg		34020 34089 +	
30968 31041 + t fM		Mcat		95722 95794 + % t Rccg		not listed	
60996 61067 + t Cgca		60996 61056 +		96216 96300 + t Icat		96190 96274 +	
133369 133484 - r 5s		pseudogene		>Pko			
>Ete				1341 1375 - t Kttt_2		1376 3863 -	
2379 2453 + t fM?		Mcat		3864 3900 - t Kttt_1		3864 3898 -	
5909 5983 + t Hgtg		5910 5983 +		8639 8658 + t Gtcc_1		8739 8761 +	
6231 6307 + t Icat?		Mcat		9420 9470 + t Gtcc_2		9423 9469 +	
32269 32343 - t fM?		Mcat		28496 28569 - t Dgtc		28497 28569 -	
>Evi				29427 29553 + # t Gtcc		5' fragment	
70022 69 - t Hgtg		70023 69 -		46792 46864 - t Mcat		46792 46918 -	
>Gth				49033 49109 + t Hgtg		49033 49107 +	
9223 9296 - t Hgtg		9223 9295 -		68475 68561 - t Sgga		68475 68561 +	
50077 50162 - t Icat		Mcat		76959 77029 - t Ggcc		76960 77209 -	
89030 89103 + t fM		Mcat		77775 77863 + t Stga		77775 77862 +	
				102643 102716 + t Pggg		102643 102716 -	
				116167 116243 - t Hgtg		116169 116243 -	

