

Update section

Sequence

Nucleotide sequence of *psbB* from *Prochlorothrix hollandica*

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Prochlorothrix hollandica is an oxygen-evolving photosynthetic prokaryote that has a chlorophyll *b*-containing light-harvesting antenna rather than phycobilisomes [1, 2]. Thus *P. hollandica* has a photosynthetic membrane structure more like that of higher-plant chloroplasts than that of cyanobacteria and may be descended from the evolutionary precursor of chloroplasts. If such an evolutionary relationship exists, analysis of genes encoding conserved elements of the photosynthetic apparatus of *P. hollandica* should yield some insights into the origin of chloroplast genome structure and the constraints of co-regulation of coordinately synthesized polypeptides. Towards this goal we have isolated and sequenced the *P. hollandica* genes *psbB* (presented here), *psbH*, *petB* and *petD* (manuscript in preparation).

The *psbB* gene encodes a chlorophyll *a*-binding protein associated with Photosystem II (PSII), termed CP-47 [7, 11]. The structure of the PSII reaction center appears to be conserved among all oxygenic photoautotrophs and is thought to consist of the proteins D1, D2, and cytochrome b_{559} , along with the P680 chlorophyll and other accessory pigments [4, 10]. CP-47 and CP-43, another chlorophyll *a*-binding protein, are frequently isolated with the PSII reaction center and probably contribute energy directly to the reaction center as the final light-harvesting antennae

[4]. CP-47 was so named because the protein identified from some higher plants migrates at approximately 47 kDa on denaturing polyacrylamide gels [4]. *P. hollandica* PSII chlorophyll-protein complexes also release a protein that migrates at 47 kDa on polyacrylamide gels [1]. However, as is true for the higher-plant gene [11], the *psbB* sequence predicts a product of higher molecular weight. The deduced amino acid sequence from the *P. hollandica psbB* gene sequence would yield a polypeptide of 57 kDa.

The *psbB* gene was isolated from a λ gt10 library of *P. hollandica* genomic DNA [9] based on hybridization with the same gene from *Anabaena* sp. strain PCC7120 [7]. The clone contained a 6.6 kb *Eco* RI fragment that included all of the gene except for the last 14 amino acids of the open reading frame. An overlapping 6.6 kb *Bam* HI fragment was cloned from a new library of *P. hollandica* genomic DNA constructed in the bacteriophage vector λ L47.1 [8]. Sequencing on both strands of approximately 2.2 kb including the open reading frame was by dideoxynucleotide chain-termination reactions (Sequenase Kit, United States Biochemical Corporation). Sequence comparisons using the University of Wisconsin Genetics Computer Group programs [3] indicated that the *psbB* gene sequence is very well conserved with those of cyanobacteria and higher plant chloroplasts. It showed 83% similarity and

73% identity at the amino acid level when compared to the gene from the maize chloroplast [11]. Compared to the *Synechocystis* 6803 *psbB* [13], the *P. hollandica psbB* has 90% similar and 82% identical amino acids.

Unlike the consensus arrangement in the chloroplast genome, *psbB* in *P. hollandica* is not found in an operon with *psbH*, *petB* and *petD*. Only *petB* and *petD* are in a cotranscribed operon in the *Nostoc* genome [6]; *psbB* and *psbH* are not closely linked in any other cyanobacteria [6, 7, 13] or in the cyanelle genome of *Cyanophora paradoxa* (D. Bryant, personal communication).

Figure 1 shows the nucleotide sequence of the *psbB* open reading frame, as well as upstream and downstream regions. The deduced amino acid sequence of the open reading frame is shown using the single letter code. The open reading frame is preceded by a potential ribosome binding site that matches the Shine-Delgarno consensus sequence of *Escherichia coli* [12] in distance from the ATG and in constitution. Transcripts were mapped by primer extension and S1 nuclease protection assays (data not shown). Two transcript 5' ends were evident at -224 and -183 bases from the ATG of the open reading frame. Sequences up-

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-350      TGCCAGGGAT  CCAGACTCGG  CCTCTGGACA  GTACCCCGAT  CCACGTCTCA
-300      AGGGCTGCCC  ATGATGCCCC  CCGATCGCCC  GTGGATTTC   TTGCAATTGG
-250      GAGGGCCACT  AGTTACACT  CTTTATACCT  TTTCTTTTTA  GAACTTTTGG
-200      ATGGTCAAAT  TATCAGTAGA  GCITTTGTAG  CAACTGTCTG  GATGTGCCTG
-150      GTTGCCCCCC  GGCTTGGTGC  ATCAGCGACC  TGATATCAAT  AGACTTGAAG
-100      AAATGCATTT  GTACTGTTTT  GGTACTGGCT  CCCGCTGGA   TCCCAAGCGA
-50       GTACAGTCTT  GCCAAGAGTC  ATAATAATTA  TTTGAGGAGG  AGCGTAGTGC
1         ATGGGACTACCTGGTATCGGTACACACCCCGCTCATCAATGACCCCGTCCGGCTGCTA
          M G L P W Y R V H T A V I N D P G R L L
61        GCTGTACACCTAATGCACACAGCCCTGGTCTTGGGCTGGGCCGGTTCAATGGCGCTCTAT
          A V H L M H T A L V L G W A G S M A L Y
121       GAGCTAGCTGTTTTGATCCCGATGATGCAGTCTCAATCCCATGTGGCGGCAAGGCATG
          E L A V F D P S D A V L N P M W R Q G M
181       TTTGTGCTGCCCTTCATGACCCGCTGGGAGTCACCCACTCCTGGTCTGGTGGACCGTG
          F V L P F M T R L G V T H S W S G W T V
241       ACTGGAGAGCCTTGGATTAAATGAACCGGGCTTTTTAAATGCACACTTAACTTCTGGAGS
          T G E P W I N E P F G F L N A H F N F W S
301       TACGAAGCGGTAGCCCTGATGCACATTTCTTCTGCGGCTCTCTTCTTCTGGTGGCGGFG
          Y E G V A L M H I V L S G L F F L A A V
361       TGGCACTGGGTTTACTGGGATTTGGATCTGTTTGGAGATCCCGGTACCGGCGAGCCGTGCC
          W H W V Y W D L D L F E D O R T G E P A
421       TTAGACCTACCCAAAATCTTTGGCGGTACCTCTTCTGCTAGGCTTCTTGTCTTAAAC
          L D L P K I F G G H L F L L G F L C F N
481       TTGGCACCTTCCACCTGACCGGTATCTTCGGACCGGTATGTGGGTTTCCGATGCTATF
          G T F H L T G I F G P G M W V S D A Y
541       GGCTTAAACGGCCACATCGAGCATATTGCTCTGAATGGGGTCCGGCTGGGTTTAAACCC
          G L T G H I E H I A P E W G P A G F N P
601       TTTAACCCCGTGGTGTGTGGCTCACCCATCGCAGCGGTATCACCTGATGATGGG
          F N P G G V V A H H I A A G I T L M I G
    
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661      GGGGTCTTCCACCTGACGGCTCGTCCCCCTGAGCGCCTTACACCGCCCTGCGTATGGGT
          G V F H L T A R P P E R L Y T A L R M G
721      AATGTGGAACCGGCTCTGGCTAGCGCGATCGCCGCTGTCTTTGGGGCTGCTTTCGTGGT
          N V E T A L A S A I A A V F G A A F V V
781      GCTGGAACCATGTGGTATGGCCAGTGACCACACCTATCGAACTCTTTGGACCTACCCGC
          A G T M W Y G H V T T P I E L F G P T R
841      TACCAGTGGGATCAGGGTACTTACCCAGGAAATCAGCGTGTGGATTCCCAACTG
          Y Q W D Q G Y F T Q E I Q R R V D S Q L
901      GCTGAAGGGCTTCCCTGTCTGAAGCTTGGTCTTCCATCCCTGAGAAGCTAGCCTTCTAC
          A E G A S L S E A W S S I P E K L A F Y
961      GACTATGTTGGTAAACGCCCGCTAAAGCGGCTGTCTCCGCGTGGTGCATGGATAGT
          D Y V G N S P A K G G L F R V G A M D S
1021     GGTGATGGTATTTGCCAAGAGTGGCTGGGTCACCCCGTCTTCCAAGATGGTGCAGGCCGT
          G D G I A E E W L G H P V T Q D A G A F R
1081     GCCCTGTCGGTGCCTGCTTTGCCCACTTCTTGAAGAACTTCCCGTGTCTCAGCGAT
          A L S V R R L P N F F E N F P V I L T D
1141     GCGGATGGTGTAGTTCGTGCTGATATCCCTTCCGCGCTCTGAGTCCAGTACAGCTTC
          G D G V V R A D I P F R R S E S Q Y S F
1201     GAGCAAATGGAGTAAGTGTACGCTTCTACCGCGGTGCTCTGGATGGTCAAACCTTACC
          E Q T G V T V S F Y G G A L D G Q T F T
1261     AATCCTTCGGACGTGAAGAAGTTGCCCGCGTGCCCACTGGGTGAAGCCITCGACTTC
          N P S D V K K F A R R A Q L G E A F D F
1321     GACACCGAAACCTCGGATCTGATGGTGTGTTCCGACCCAGCACCCGGGTTGGTTCACC
          D T E T L G S D G V F R V T S T R G W F T
1381     TTTGGCCATGCTTGCTTTGCCCTGCTTCTTCTTCGGCCACATCGGCACGGTGCCTGC
          F G H A C F A L L F F F G H I W H G A R
1441     ACCCTGTTCCGATGATGTTCGCGGGATCGACGCTGACCTGGGTGAGCAAATCGAATTC
          T L F R D V F A G I D A D L G E Q I E F
1501     GGTGCGTTCAGAAGCTGGGTGACCTGACCACCCGCAAGAGCTAA
          G A F Q K L G D L T T R K S *
1546     GACCCGAATC  GCTCCCTGG  GAGTCTCTAG  GCTAGGGTIT  TAGAGCGCAT
1596     CATCGGTAA  ATAATCGATC  GCCTAAATAA  TCGATCGCT  AAATCACCGA
1646     TCGCATAAAC  TTAAGGGGCT
    
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Fig. 1. Nucleotide sequence and deduced amino acid sequence of *psbB* from *P. hollandica*. Transcript 5' ends are indicated by double underlines; single underlines identify potential promoter regions upstream from the first transcript 5' end. A potential Shine-Delgarno ribosome binding site preceding the open reading frame is designated by italics.

stream from the -183 transcription start site do not resemble those of consensus *E. coli* promoters at -10 and -35 [5]. However, the second transcription start site (-224) is preceded by potential promoter elements that match, in sequence and spacing, the most conserved bases of *E. coli* consensus promoters [5]. Mapping of *psbB* transcripts in *Anabaena* [7] and *Synechococcus* sp. strain PCC7942 (R. Kulkarni and S. Golden, unpublished data) also indicates two transcription start sites. Multiple transcripts arise from the *psbB-psbH-petB-petD* operon in the chloroplast genomes of higher plants, presumably by processing from a single long transcript that contains all four of the genes [11].

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