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Tuned for Transposition: Molecular Determinants Underlying the Hyperactivity of a *Stowaway* MITE

Guojun Yang,^{1,2,3} Dawn Holligan Nagel,¹ Cédric Feschotte,⁴ C. Nathan Hancock,¹ Susan R. Wessler^{1*}

Miniature inverted repeat transposable elements (MITEs) are widespread in eukaryotic genomes, where they can attain high copy numbers despite a lack of coding capacity. However, little is known about how they originate and amplify. We performed a genome-wide screen of functional interactions between *Stowaway* MITEs and potential transposases in the rice genome and identified a transpositionally active MITE that possesses key properties that enhance transposition. Although not directly related to its autonomous element, the MITE has less affinity for the transposase than does the autonomous element but lacks a motif repressing transposition in the autonomous element. The MITE contains internal sequences that enhance transposition. These findings suggest that MITEs achieve high transposition activity by scavenging transposases encoded by distantly related and self-restrained autonomous elements.

Most eukaryotic genomes contain large numbers of many different types of transposable elements (TEs). The vast majority of these TEs cannot replicate and mobilize themselves into new regions of the genome (they are nonautonomous). These elements thus depend on transposases encoded by other, autonomous, elements. Miniature inverted repeat TEs (MITEs) are a type of nonautonomous element found in both prokaryotic and eukaryotic genomes, where they are often located in or near genes (1–3). MITEs resemble typical DNA transposons, although they tend to have a small size

[<500 base pairs (bp)] and high copy number and contain terminal inverted repeats (TIRs) flanked by target site duplications. Although MITEs lack coding capacity, in plants they are classified as either *Tourist*-like or *Stowaway*-like (4). Although the high copy numbers of MITEs in plant genomes suggest that they have high transposition activity, only the *Tourist*-like rice element *mPing*, an internal deletion derivative of its autonomous partner *Ping*, has been shown to be currently active (5–7). However, the mechanism by which rice strains accumulate 100- to 1000-fold more *mPing* than *Ping* elements is unknown (8).

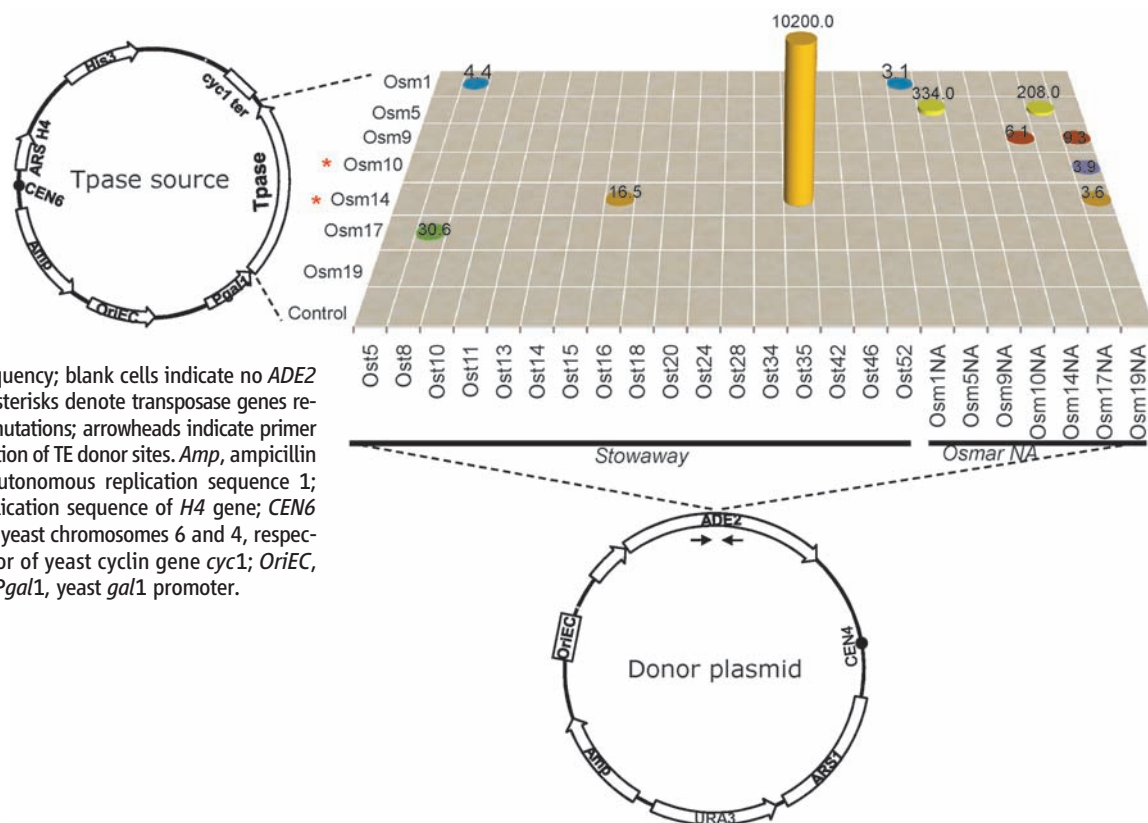
Unlike *mPing*, the vast majority of characterized MITEs are not deletion derivatives of existing autonomous transposons (9, 10). Furthermore, because none of these MITEs are active, their origin, success, and source of transposase have been a mystery. The most logical model to explain the movement of these nondeletion derivative MITEs is that they can borrow the transposase of distantly related elements (in a process referred to as cross-mobilization) and amplify within the genome (4).

The sequenced genome of *Oryza sativa* (rice) contains more than 22,000 *Stowaway* MITEs belonging to at least 25 subfamilies (10). Furthermore, the structure of MITE phylogenetic trees indicates that subfamilies are derived from the amplification of one or a few individual elements to hundreds or thousands of copies (10). *Stowaway* elements have not previously been shown to be active in rice or in any other genome. Surprisingly, none of the *Stowaway* families appeared to be deletion derivatives of any transposase-encoding element found within sequenced rice genomes. It was predicted that rice *Mariner*-like elements (called *Osmars*) were the most likely source of transposase because *Stowaway* and *Osmar* share

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Fig. 1. Yeast excision assay. *Stowaways* (Osts) and nonautonomous *Osmars* (OsmNAs) cloned into the *ade2* coding sequence are shown on the x axis; *Osmar* transposases are shown on the y axis; and *ADE2* reversion frequency (10^{-9} per cell) (table S1) is shown on the z axis. Numbers on cylinders show average *ADE2* reversion frequency; blank cells indicate no *ADE2* reversion was detected. Asterisks denote transposase genes repaired for frame-shifting mutations; arrowheads indicate primer positions for PCR amplification of TE donor sites. *Amp*, ampicillin resistance gene; *ARS1*, autonomous replication sequence 1; *ARS H4*, autonomous replication sequence of *H4* gene; *CEN6* and *CEN4*, centromeres of yeast chromosomes 6 and 4, respectively; *cyc1 ter*, terminator of yeast cyclin gene *cyc1*; *OriEC*, *E. coli* replication origin; *Pgal1*, yeast *gal1* promoter.



terminal inverted repeats (of ~10 bp) and the same target site duplication (the dinucleotide TA) (fig. S1).

On the basis of their transposase protein sequences, *Osmars* were classified into 25 families and placed in three major clades (10). Among the 34 *Osmars*, only five contain intact transposase-coding regions. Here, we refer to *Osmars* with complete ends and intact coding sequences as potentially autonomous elements, those with mutated or truncated coding sequences as nonautonomous elements, and small elements lacking any coding sequences as deletion derivatives of *Osmar* (fig. S1).

To determine whether any *Osmar* transposases could catalyze the transposition of rice *Stowaway* MITEs, we modified a yeast assay previously developed to demonstrate transposition of a nonautonomous version of *Osmar5* (Osm5NA) by its own transposase (11). The assay has two plasmid components (Fig. 1): One is a transposase (Tpase) source that expresses one of seven *Osmar* transposases (abbreviated Osm1, Osm5...) representing each *Osmar* subclade under the control of an inducible yeast promoter (*Pgal1*) (12). The second plasmid in our assay contains the *ade2* reporter gene disrupted by one of 24 nonautonomous elements, including 17 *Stowaways* (abbreviated Ost5, Ost8...) chosen to represent the diversity of *Stowaway* families in rice, and seven direct-deletion derivatives of each *Osmar* element (abbreviated OsmXNA, where NA means nonautonomous) (12). In yeast cells containing both plasmids, potentially successful transposase-transposon interactions were scored on the basis of *ADE2*-revertant colonies (Fig. 1).

These tests revealed that six of the seven transposases showed evidence of activity and uncovered several instances of cross-mobilization (Fig. 1 and table S1). The nonautonomous versions of *Osmar1* and *Osmar5* (Osm1NA and Osm5NA) were excised in the presence of their cognate transposases, and cross-mobilization occurred for Osm17NA by Osm5; Osm19NA by Osm9, Osm10, and Osm14; and Osm14NA by Osm9. We also identified interactions between three *Stowaway* elements and *Osmar* transposases: Ost8 by Osm1 and Osm17, and Ost16 and Ost35 by Osm14 (Fig. 1 and table S1). In contrast to the low excision activities observed for Ost8 and Ost16, the excision of Ost35 by Osm14 was the highest interaction recorded by this assay (Fig. 1 and fig. S2A). Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplification confirmed independent excision events of Ost35 by the *Osmar14* transposase (fig. S2B), and sequencing of the PCR products revealed excision footprints (fig. S2C) similar to those retrieved for *Osmar5* in this and a previous study (fig. S3A) (11). Additionally, reinsertions of Ost35 into chromosomal loci were confirmed by means of Southern hybridization of yeast genomic DNA (figs. S2D and S3B). The fact that *Stowaways* were mobilized by *Osmar* transposases provides a functional mechanism for the mobilization of *Stowaway* MITEs in the rice

genome. The observed excision of one *Stowaway* by two distinct transposases and the excision of two different *Stowaways* by the same transposase suggest that cross-mobilization may be a major mechanism for the amplification of rice MITEs.

The differences in excision frequency between Ost35 and Osm14NA mirrored the difference in copy number between *Stowaway* MITEs and *Osmar* elements in the rice genomes (10). Several properties of the MITEs could explain the differential activity of Ost35 as compared with Osm14NA.

First, it is possible that the differences in size between Osm14NA and Ost35 (1004 versus 239 bp) may be a factor because increases in TE size has been shown to reduce transposition efficiency (13, 14). Second, because transposition of *Mariner* elements requires the binding of transposase to transposon TIRs and/or subterminal regions to form synaptic complexes for subsequent excision and reintegration (15), any differential binding of *Osmar14* transposase to the ends of Osm14NA and Ost35 may have affected their transposition activity. Ost35 has shorter TIRs than *Osmar14* (20 versus 32 bp) and different subterminal se-

quences. Finally, Ost35 and Osm14NA also differ in their internal sequences, which may enhance or repress excision.

To investigate whether element size affects excision frequency, we shortened Osm14NA (1004 bp) to the length of Ost35 (239 bp) (now called Osm14NAS) (Fig. 2 and fig. S4). Relative to Osm14NA, the shorter Osm14NAS displayed weak but detectable excision activity (Fig. 2). Thus, size alone cannot account for the magnitude of excision activity of Ost35.

To investigate how transposase binding differed between elements, we examined the interaction of purified recombinant *Osmar14* transposase with synthesized oligonucleotides corresponding to the terminal (32 bp) and subterminal (32 bp) regions of Ost35 and *Osmar14* (Fig. 3A and fig. S4) in electrophoretic mobility shift assays. These experiments revealed differences in transposase affinity but not in the expected direction. For Ost35, the 5' and 3' terminal regions (abbreviated 5'T and 3'T, respectively, in Fig. 3A and fig. S4) each bound transposase equivalently. There was also some binding, albeit less efficiently, to each of the subterminal regions of Ost35 (5' subT and

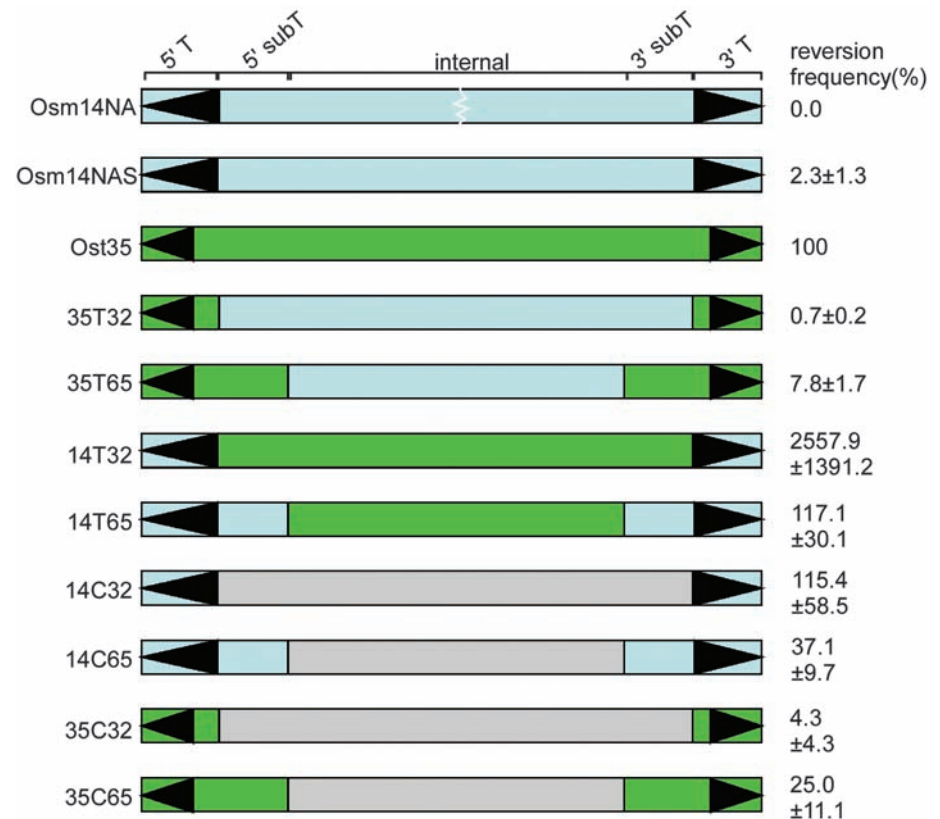


Fig. 2. Contribution of different regions of Osm14NAS and Ost35 to excision activity. *ADE2* reversion frequency is shown to the right of each construct. The chimeric constructs contain the following: 35T32, terminal 32 bp of Osm14NAS replaced by that of Ost35; 35T65, terminal 65 bp of Osm14NAS replaced by that of Ost35; 14T32, terminal 32 bp of Ost35 replaced by that of Osm14NAS; 14T65, terminal 32 bp of Ost35 replaced by that of Osm14NAS; 14C32, control sequence (coding sequence of *gfp*) flanked by terminal 32 bp of Osm14NAS; 14C65, control sequence flanked by terminal 65 bp of Osm14NAS; 35C32, control sequence flanked by terminal 32 bp of Ost35; and 35C65, control sequence flanked by terminal 65 bp of Ost35. Green represents regions derived from Ost35, blue represents regions derived from Osm14NAS, and gray represents regions derived from *gfp*.

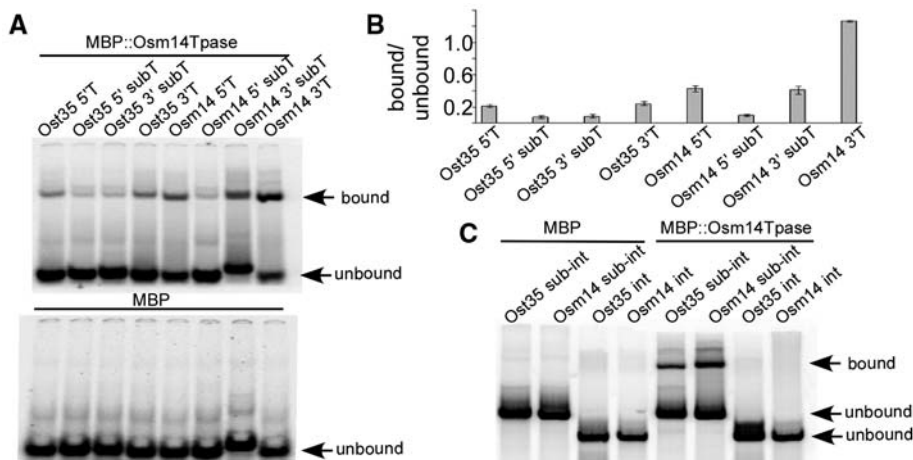


Fig. 3. *Osmar14* transposase shows binding to regions of *Ost35* and *Osm14NAS*. (A) Electrophoretic mobility shift assay (EMSA) of terminal and subterminal regions of *Osm14NAS* and *Ost35*. MBP, maltose binding protein control; MBP::Osm14T_{pase}, fusion protein of MBP and *Osmar14* transposase; T, terminal 32 bp; subT, subterminal 32 bp. (B) Ratio of bound to unbound DNA. Error bars show SE of the mean for three independent events. (C) EMSA of the internal sequences of *Ost35* and *Osm14NAS* (12). Int, internal sequences; sub-int, internal sequences with subterminal sequences attached were used as positive controls.

the 3' subT in Fig. 3A and fig. S4). In contrast, both the terminal and subterminal regions of *Osmar14* bound to transposase more strongly than the equivalent regions in *Ost35*. In addition, binding to *Osmar14* was asymmetrical because sequences from the 3' end of the element showed more binding affinity than those from the 5' end. We detected no binding to the sequences internal to the subTs of either *Ost35* or *Osm14NA* (Fig. 3, B and C, and fig. S4). Furthermore, when unlabeled *Osm14NAS* or *Ost35* was used to compete with radiolabeled *Osm14NAS*, *Ost35* did not outcompete *Osm14NAS* for transposase binding (fig. S5). These results suggest that the higher excision frequency of *Ost35* is not due to an increased affinity for the *Osmar14* transposase.

We swapped multiple regions between *Osm14NAS* and *Ost35* and confirmed that the central region of *Ost35* is involved in enhancing the frequency of excision (Fig. 2). However, this experiment showed, surprisingly, that despite the poor function of *Osm14NAS* in the excision assay, the replacement of the *Ost35* TIRs by those of *Osmar14* (a chimeric element we called 14T32) resulted in a ~25-fold increase in excision as compared with the original *Ost35* transposon or a modified *Ost35* with a different internal sequence of the same length (in this case, derived from the *gfp* gene). These data suggest that the function of the TIRs is normally suppressed in *Osm14NAS* (and also presumably in the natural *Osmar14* element), whereas the function of the *Ost35* TIRs is enhanced by the sequence between them. Further supporting this theory, we observed that the subTs of *Osm14NAS* represses excision when combined with either the *Osmar14* TIRs, the equivalent regions of *Ost35*, or a different internal sequence (Fig. 2). Also, the region of *Ost35* between the terminal sequences (32 bp) enhanced excision of adjacent TIRs by ~20-fold relative to the random internal sequence.

Taken together, these data support two general conclusions. For *Osm14NAS*, the extremely low excision frequency suggests that there is repression of the otherwise optimal *Osmar14* TIRs by one or both of its subterminal regions. For *Ost35*, the high excision frequency most likely indicates that there is enhancement of the otherwise sub-optimal *Ost35* TIRs by part of or the entire *Ost35* internal region.

We next performed site-directed mutagenesis so as to more precisely localize the regions responsible for the enhancement and repression of excision in the internal region of *Ost35* and the *Osm14NAS* subTs, respectively. We used 14T32 and *Osm14NAS* constructs as the templates for mutagenesis. For each construct, we replaced consecutive blocks of eight nucleotides by the sequence ATTTAAAT (*Swa*I restriction site), resulting in 22 derivative constructs from each starting template. Among the mutant constructs derived from 14T32, a 75 to 80% decrease in excision activity was caused by mutations distributed throughout the *Ost35* internal region, whereas a single mutation showed an approximately three-

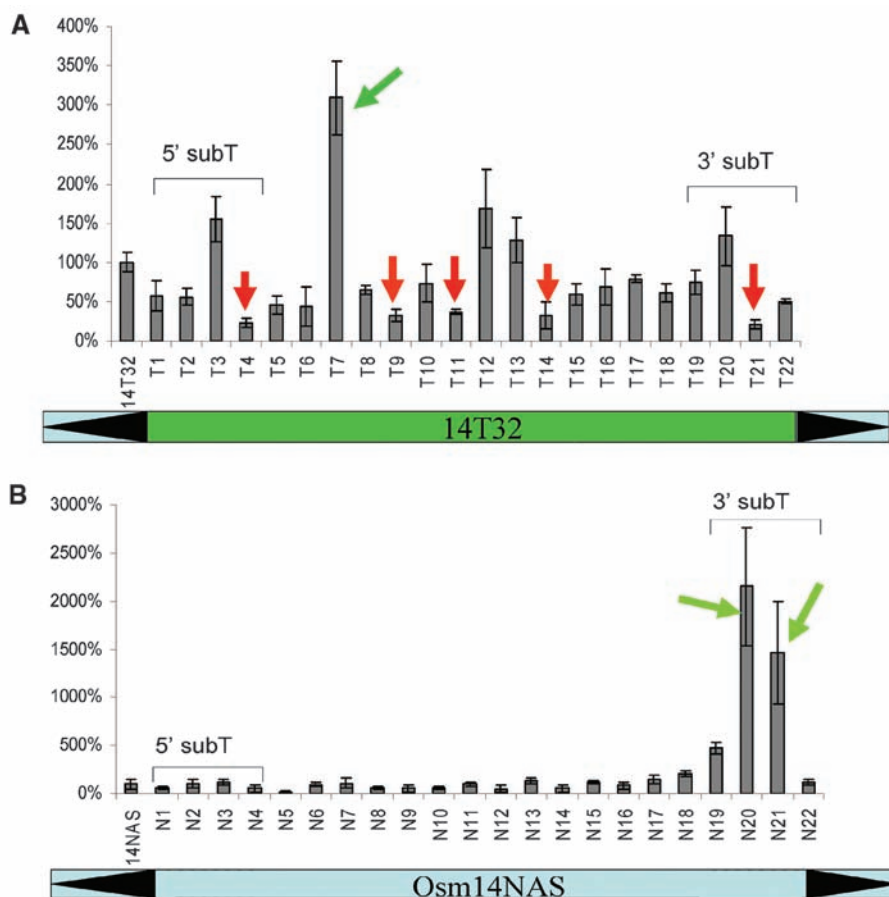


Fig. 4. Mutagenesis analyses of *Ost35* and *Osm14NAS* internal sequences. (A) *ADE2* reversion frequency for mutations in the subterminal and internal sequences of *Ost35*. The template for mutagenesis was 14T32. (B) *ADE2* reversion frequency for mutations in the subterminal and internal sequences of *Osm14NAS*. Positions of mutations correspond to that on the diagram shown beneath each chart. T followed by a number indicates 14T32 mutated at the indicated site; N followed by a number indicates *Osm14NAS* mutated at the indicated site. Green arrows indicate positions of mutations that resulted in increased activity, and red arrows indicate mutations that resulted in decreased activity.

fold increase (Fig. 4A). These data suggest that multiple motifs throughout the Ost35 internal region may promote excision by transposase probably through, for example, favorable DNA curvature or chromatin structure. In contrast, mutagenesis of Osm14NAS pinpointed the repressive region to the 3' subterminal region where mutations resulted in up to a 20-fold increase in excision activity (Fig. 4B).

Our data support a model for the cross-mobilization of *Stowaway* elements by *Osmar* transposase and suggest how *Stowaway* MITEs may arise and amplify in the genome. Most plant genomes characterized to date, including rice, harbor relatively few *Mariner*-like elements (such as *Osmar*) but hundreds to tens of thousands of *Stowaway* MITEs (10, 16, 17). Our data suggest that the low copy number of *Osmar*14, and possibly other *Osmars*, is due in part to a self-regulatory mechanism involving a repressive motif in their 3' subterminal region. We speculate that this strategy limits the amplification of the elements, thereby attenuating their deleterious effects and facilitating their persistence in the genome.

The vertical persistence of DNA transposons has been hypothesized to be accompanied by diversification of transposase DNA-binding activities (10, 18, 19), suggesting that their sequence specificity undergoes episodic relaxation. This view is supported by the fact that *Osmar* transposases have surprisingly weak binding specificity (20) and can apparently cross-mobilize distantly related *Osmars* (Fig. 1). Although the apparent promiscuity of *Osmar* transposases may facilitate

their survival by buffering any potential impact of inactivating mutations (18), it may also allow parasitism by simpler transposons with similar binding sites, such as *Stowaway* MITEs. One factor underlying the success of *Stowaway* MITEs may be the fact that they have minimal cis-requirements for recognition by *Osmar* transposases, coupled to the presence of internal sequences that enhance excision. As short non-coding elements, *Stowaways* may rapidly increase their copy number by tapping into a transposase source if and when it becomes available. In summary, MITE amplification may differ from previously postulated models of transposon invasion and provides an illustration of the complex ecosystem deployed within the genome. Because MITEs are widespread in eukaryotes, the fundamental principles outlined herein may be applicable to a broad range of organisms.

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Supporting Online Material

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Materials and Methods

Figs. S1 to S5

Table S1

References

Sequences and Primers

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The RNA-Binding Protein NANOS2 Is Required to Maintain Murine Spermatogonial Stem Cells

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Stem cells give rise to differentiated cell types but also preserve their undifferentiated state through cell self-renewal. With the use of transgenic mice, we found that the RNA-binding protein NANOS2 is essential for maintaining spermatogonial stem cells. Lineage-tracing analyses revealed that undifferentiated spermatogonia expressing *Nanos2* self-renew and generate the entire spermatogenic cell lineage. Conditional disruption of postnatal *Nanos2* depleted spermatogonial stem cell reserves, whereas mouse testes in which *Nanos2* had been overexpressed accumulated spermatogonia with undifferentiated, stem cell–like properties. Thus, NANOS2 is a key stem cell regulator that is expressed in self-renewing spermatogonial stem cells and maintains the stem cell state during murine spermatogenesis.

Stem cells are essential for tissue homeostasis and regenerative responses to injury and disease. In the spermatogenic stem cell system, germ cell–intrinsic factors have an essential role in the maintenance of stem cells for the continuation of spermatogenesis throughout life (1–5). However, the previous loss-of-function studies have some limitations in terms of understanding the mechanism by which stem cells are lost upon the

gene deletion, as it could be caused by cell death, defective self-renewal, premature differentiation, or other mechanisms.

For decades, the mammalian spermatogenic stem cell has been characterized by the morphological features of the spermatogonia. The spermatogonial types A_{single} (A_{S} ; isolated single cells), A_{paired} (A_{Pr} ; chains of 2 cells), and A_{aligned} (A_{Al} ; chains of 4, 8, 16 or 32 cells) are the most

primitive germ cells observed in mature testes and are collectively described as undifferentiated spermatogonia. They give rise to differentiating spermatogonia, which undergo additional divisions and enter a differentiation pathway. It has been proposed that only A_{S} spermatogonia represent the stem cells (6–8); however, there is no A_{S} -specific molecular marker, and the presence of stem cells is assayed by long-term colony formation after the transplantation of candidate cells into recipient testes (9). For this reason, undifferentiated spermatogonia containing A_{S} to A_{Al} are the smallest population proven to have the properties of stem cells.

Recently, two functionally distinct spermatogonial stem cell populations were identified in mice (10). One is the population that acts as the self-renewing stem cells (actual stem cells), and the other population possesses the potential to self-

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Supporting Online Material for

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This PDF file includes:

Materials and Methods

Figs. S1 to S5

Table S1

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Methods and Materials

Plasmid construction and yeast excision assay

Exons of *Osmar* coding sequences, as determined by the alignment of *Osmar* transposase sequences, were amplified from rice genomic DNA (*Osmar5*, *Osmar9*, *Osmar10*, *Osmar14*) or BAC/PAC vectors (*Osmar1*, *Osmar17*, *Osmar19* from CUGI clone OSJNBa0051P13, OSJNBb0024B16 and OSJNBa0050F15 respectively, Clemson University Genomics Institute, Clemson, SC) before they were joined together with PCR via an overlapping region on the primers to obtain full length coding sequences. The single nucleotide deletion mutation close to the end of the first exon of *Osmar14* was repaired based on the alignment of *Osmar* transposases using a PCR primer with the corrected sequence. The coding sequences for *Osmar5* and *Osmar10* were obtained as previously described (S1). Nonautonomous versions of the *Osmars* that served as transposase source were constructed by joining the fragments of ~450 bp from each end by PCR. Osm14NA (1004 bp) was further shortened to the size of Ost35 (239 bp) by a similar approach, resulting in Osm14NAS element. Because the 5' end of *Osmar19* is missing in the sequenced rice genome, Osm19NA was generated with identical but inverted 5' and 3' ends. The *Stowaway* elements used in this study were chosen on the basis of their family diversity and then similarity to the consensus sequences of corresponding families was used. *Stowaways* were first amplified from rice genomic DNA with PCR primers corresponding to the flanking sequences of each element extracted from rice genome sequence with a MITE Analysis Kit (MAK)(S2). Individual *Stowaway* sequences were subsequently amplified with element specific primers.

Transposase coding sequences were cloned into a pRS413 based vector, as described (S3). The nonautonomous *Osmars* and *Stowaways* were cloned into the *HpaI* site inside the *ade2* reporter gene on pWL89A (S4). Excision assays were performed, as described (S3). Genomic DNA of *ADE2* revertants was used as template for PCR to confirm TE excision with primers flanking TE donor sites. Genomic DNA blot analysis was performed, as described (S3). Sequences of TE elements and primers are included in this document.

Electrophoretic mobility shift assay (EMSA)

The coding sequence of the *Osmar14* transposase was fused to the maltose binding protein gene on expression vector pMal-c2x (NEB, Ipswich, MA), expressed in *E.coli* (BL21) and purified with amylose beads (NEB) as was the maltose binding protein control. While the short fragments (32 bp) used for Fig. 2A were synthesized and annealed before performing the assay, the internal sequences or those including subterminal sequences used for Fig. 2C were obtained by PCR using full length Osm14NAS and Ost35 as templates. The *Osmar14* 3' subT fragment in Fig. 2A does not include six of the 12 bp low complexity poly C stretch between the 3' subT and 3' TIR. Double stranded DNA fragments were end labeled with P³³ using T4 kinase (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA). Quantification of the intensity of the shifted bands was performed with Adobe Photoshop. The relative binding intensity was defined as the ratio of the signal intensity of the shifted band to that of the unbound DNA. Quantification was performed for three independent experiments.

Competition assay

Osm14NAS PCR products were labeled with P33 using T4 kinase (Invitrogen). Each reaction contained 15 ng of labeled DNA and 0.5 µg MBP (control) or *Osmar14* TPase:MBP fusion protein in 15 mM Tris (pH 7.5), 0.1 mM EDTA, 1 mM DTT, 0.3

mg/ml BSA, 0.1% NP-40, 10% glycerol and 33 µg/ml single-stranded DNA. Unlabeled Osm14NAS and Ost35 PCR products were used for competition at the following concentrations: 75 ng, 150 ng, 300 ng. Samples were separated on a 4% native polyacrylimade gel (0.5x TBE) after a 1 hour incubation at room temperature.

Construction of chimeric elements

To obtain the chimeric constructs in Figure 3 (those that have a “T” in their name, e.g. 14T32), PCR primers were designed to contain the terminal 32 bp of one element (e.g. Ost35) as 5’ overhangs attached to the oligos priming into the subterminal region of the other element (e.g. Osm14NAS). Similarly, to obtain constructs bearing swapped terminal 65 bp regions, the 65 bp terminal sequences (e.g. of Ost35) were attached as 5’ overhangs to the oligos priming into the internal sequences of the other element (e.g. Osm14NAS). Chimeric PCR products were then cloned into the *HpaI* site in the *ade2* reporter gene for use in the yeast excision assay. To construct control plasmids containing the terminal (32 or 65 bp) sequences of Osm14NAS or Ost35, a randomly chosen region in the green fluorescent protein gene (mGFP5-er) was used as template with chimeric primers designed in a similar way as that described for the construction of the chimeric versions of Ost35 and Osm14NAS.

Site-directed mutagenesis

For site-directed mutagenesis, primers (~45 nt) were designed to include ~18 nt on both sides of a mutation target site (8 nt), to be replaced with a *SwaI* site (ATTTAAAT). Mutagenesis was performed according to the manufacturer’s manual with a QuikChange Mutisite-directed mutagenesis kit (Stratagene, La Jolla, CA). Mutant constructs were identified by the presence of a *SwaI* site through restriction enzymatic digestion (*SwaI* and *Sall*) and/or sequencing. Primer sequences are included in this document.

Supplemental Figure Legends:

Fig. S1. *Osmars* and *Stowaways* in rice. (A) Approximate copy numbers of *Osmar* (autonomous and nonautonomous) and *Stowaway* elements in the sequenced rice genome (numbers in parenthesis) (*Oryza sativa ssp. japonica cv nipponbare*). The pie-chart is not drawn to scale as the proportion of *Osmars* is one tenth of that shown. (B) Relationship of autonomous *Osmars*, nonautonomous *Osmars*, deletion derivatives and *Stowaways*. CTCCCTCYGT is the terminal sequences shared among *Osmars* and *Stowaways*; black triangles represent TIRs; green regions in *Osmars* represent transposase genes with introns (vertical white bars); red stars indicate nonsense or frame-shifting mutations; colored *Stowaways* represents different families.

Fig. S2. (A) *ADE2* revertants following excision of Ost35 catalyzed by the *Osmar14* transposase. The tpase source is shown in white letters; Donor indicates the element inserted into *ade2*. Each plate contains three sectors representing three independent events. (B) PCR analysis of the donor sites in *ADE2* revertants. C, plasmid control; PCR primer positions are shown in 1A. (C) DNA sequence of donor sites after excision of Ost35. The sequence of the donor site before excision is shown at the top and excision sites from independent *ADE2* revertants are below. (D) Genomic DNA blot analysis of *ADE2* revertants from Ost35 and 14T32. Yeast genomic DNA was digested with *DraI* and separated by agarose gel electrophoresis. Radioisotope (P^{32}) labeled DNA fragment

corresponding to the sequence of Ost35 was used as probe. C, plasmid control that resulted in a single band of ~3 kb.

Fig. S3. Donor sites (A) and insertion sites (B) of OsmNAs and *Stowaways* after transposition. The donor sites for Ost35 are shown in Fig. 1D. Red letters, target site duplications. The insertion sites of *Osmar5* were previously determined (S3).

Fig. S4. Engineered internal deletion derivatives of *Osmar14* and regions used for EMSA. Arrowheads, TIRs; vertical dotted lines, break points in Osm14NA and Osm14NAS. Regions used in EMSA shown in Fig. 2 are indicated for both Osm14NAS and Ost35.

Fig. S5. Competition assay between Osm14NAS and Ost35. Wedge, increasing amount of unlabeled DNA; Small arrowhead indicates where DNA was bound by transposase at one site; large arrowhead indicates where DNA was bound by transposase at multiple sites; lower band (no arrow), unbound labeled DNA. The entire Osm14NAS was end labeled with P33 radioisotope. Equal molar amounts of labeled DNA was added in each lane and equal molar amounts of unlabeled DNA was used in corresponding lanes of Osm14NAS and Ost35.

Table S1. ADE2 reversion of nonautonomous *Osmars* and *Stowaways*

Donor	Media	Transposase source					
		<i>Osmar1</i>	<i>Osmar5</i>	<i>Osmar9</i>	<i>Osmar10</i>	<i>Osmar14</i>	<i>Osmar17</i>
Ost8	YPD	212, 180, 240					124, 124, 40
	-ade	1, 0, 0					0, 1, 1
Ost16	YPD					48, 64, 56	
	-ade					0, 0, 1	
Ost35	YPD					176, 88, 168	
	-ade					588, 484, 195	
Osm1NA	YPD	-, -, 297					
	-ade	0, 0, 1					
Osm5NA	YPD		156, 228, 60				
	-ade		3, 32, 12				
Osm14NA	YPD						
	-ade						
Osm17NA	YPD		252, 328, 160				
	-ade		8, 12, 25				
Osm19NA	YPD			300, -, -	136, -, -	100, 284, 256	
	-ade			1, 0, 0	1, 0, 0	0, 0, 1	

The number of colonies on YPD media and revertants on media lacking adenine are shown only for the combinations that produced *ADE2* revertants. The cells in each galactose-induced colony were suspended in 50 μ l of water and plated on media lacking adenine. An equal volume, but diluted 3.6×10^5 times from the aforementioned cell suspension, was plated on YPD media to obtain the total number of viable cells in the galactose-induced colony. Each number separated by a comma is the number of colonies/revertants grown from one galactose-induced colony. The number of *ADE2*

revertants is shown beneath that on YPD plate correspondingly. “-”, colonies too dense to get an accurate count (>500).

Supplemental References:

S1. C. Feschotte, M. T. Osterlund, R. Peeler, S. R. Wessler, *Nucleic Acids Res.* **33**, 2153 (2005).

S2. G. Yang, T. C. Hall, *Nucleic Acids Res.* **31**, 3659 (2003).

S3. G. Yang, C. F. Weil, S. R. Wessler, *Plant Cell* **18**, 2469 (2006).

S4. C. F. Weil, R. Kunze, *Nat. Genet.* **26**, 187 (2000).

Sequences and Primers

1. Accession numbers for *Osmar* transposase CDS and nonautonomous elements

Transposase	Accession No	Sites for cloning	Size (bp)
Osm1	GQ379705	<i>SpeI</i> , <i>EcoRI</i>	1731
Osm5	GQ379706	<i>BamHI</i> , <i>EcoRI</i>	1509
Osm9	GQ379707	<i>BamHI</i> , <i>EcoRI</i>	1338
Osm10	GQ379708	<i>EcoRI</i> , <i>XhoI</i>	1353
Osm14	GQ379709	<i>BamHI</i> , <i>EcoRI</i>	1377
Osm17	GQ379710	<i>BamHI</i> , <i>EcoRI</i>	1515
Osm19	GQ379711	<i>BamHI</i> , <i>XhoI</i>	1314
OsmarNA			
Osm1NA	GQ379712	<i>HpaI</i>	950
Osm5NA	GQ382183	<i>HpaI</i>	946
Osm9NA	GQ379713	<i>HpaI</i>	996
Osm10NA	GQ379714	<i>HpaI</i>	971
Osm14NA	GQ379715	<i>HpaI</i>	1004
Osm14NAS	GQ379716	<i>HpaI</i>	239
Osm17NA	GQ379717	<i>HpaI</i>	1044
Osm19NA	GQ379718	<i>HpaI</i>	945

2. Accession numbers and positions for *Stowaways* used in this study

Stowaways	Accession No	Position	Length (bp)
Ost5	AP003455	161027 to 161280	254
Ost8	AP006237	115925 to 115670	256
Ost10	BX548156	36272 to 36014	259
Ost11	AC136786	39608 to 39320	289
Ost13	AP005259	120349 to 120599	251
Ost14	AP004553	137117 to 137371	255
Ost15	AC119149	42651 to 42507	143
Ost16	AC130724	64038 to 63815	224
Ost18	AC091122	121581 to 121797	217
Ost20	AC107314	3947 to 4224	278
Ost24	AC079179	54121 to 54357	237
Ost28	AP005586	90538 to 90794	257
Ost34	AC034258	81114 to 80858	255
Ost35	AP003270	47168 to 46930	239
Ost42	AP003832	94101 to 94341	241
Ost46	AP004891	64239 to 64383	145
Ost52	AC108224	15931 to 15697	233

3. Primers for *Osmar* coding sequence cloning

osmar19-BamHI for	actatggatccatgcacggtagtgTTTTTTTTccattagaacatgc
osmar19-XhoI rev	atcaactcgagtcactctagcaaatggttcgcaagggga
osmar19-exon1 rev	ccgaatactccatgaatgcctctccactgttggaactagagcttattgTTTTg
osmar19-exon2 for	ctagtccaacagtggaagaggcattcatggagtattcggcacacaaaag
osmar14-BamHI for	actatggatccatgcaagagtacggcgtgatgcgg
osmar14-EcoRI rev	atcaagaattcttactgcacttggttgctaagtctgttg
osmar14-exon1 rev	ttgtcctttgcgctggttcttctggtgaaaggccacaatcctatcttg
osmar14-exon2 for	tgtggccttcaccagaaaggaaccagcgcaaggacaagtcataatagac
osmar17-BamHI for	actatggatccatggagcatgacctggatgatgcagca
osmar17-EcoRI rev	atcaagaattcttagttgcctagaagttgatgactttctatacaactg
osmar17-exon2 for	gaggaacaagaaattcaactagacaatgacaatgaattgcaacatgagctgg
osmar17-exon2 rev	ttctcctttgtgctgggtccttctaacaaaaggccaaatgcctatctaccatcaaaaag
osmar17-exon3 for	attggcctttgtagaaaggaaccgcacaaaggagaagccgta
Osm10 for EcoRI	tcaatggaattcatgcatgccaaccatagtatagcctgca
Osm10 rev XhoI	attctactcgagtcgccccttactatgtattgatgaaatctaccgcatc
osmar9-BamHI for	actatggatccatgcatatataataatTTTTcttgtgcagatactcaacaagac
osmar9-EcoRI rev	atcaagaattcctagttcaacaaggctgcataacctgttg
osmar9-exon1 rev	ctactcctttgtgctggtccttctaacaaggccatattcctattttgc
Osmar9-exon2 for	tatggccctttgtaggaaggaaccagcacaaggagtagtcgca
osmar1-SpeI for	actagactagtatgccattctttagaaccctgtgagc
osmar1-EcoRI rev	atcaagaattctacctgagataattgtagcattatttactgacttagcatcacac

4. Primers for *OsmNA* cloning

Osm1 P-TA-5' TIR for	/5'phos/tactccctccgtttcgttttgttgcgtttc
Osm1 P-TA-3' TIR rev	/5'phos/tactccctccgtttcgttttgttgcgct
Osm5 P-TA-5' TIR for	/5'phos/tactccctccgtcccacaaaacatgac
Osm5 P-TA-3' TIR rev	/5'phos/tactccctccgtcccacaaaacctgcc
Osm9 P-TA-5' TIR for	/5'phos/tactccctccgtcccacattatagggactg
Osm9 P-TA-3' TIR rev	/5'phos/tactccctccgtcccattatagggattagagggt
Osm10 P-TA-5' TIR for	/5'phos/tactccctccgttccctaatatagagcgtgg
Osm10 P-TA-3' TIR rev	/5'phos/tactccctccgttccctaatatagggcgtaac
Osm14 P-TA-5' TIR for	/5'phos/tactccctccgtcccagaaagaaggattc
Osm14 P-TA-3' TIR rev	/5'phos/tactccctccgtcccagaaagaagcatttct
Osm17 P-TA-5' TIR for	/5'phos/tactccctccgtcccagaaaggaggacgt
Osm17 P-TA-3' TIR rev	/5'phos/tactccctccgtcccagaaaggaggacgt
Osm19 P-TA-TIR	/5'phos/tactccctccgtatcacattagaagatgttttgcgt
Osm1 5' middle rev	gctgatacatggcgtggagggtggtggcaaatcgcaagaacgc
Osm1 3' middle for	cctccacgccatgatcagcctgc
Osm9 5' middle rev	atcaagggtgagatcaggaatctcatattccttcttcc
Osm9 3' middle for	ttcctgatctcaaccttgattacctggacgtgtaactgacgaaggc
Osm10 5' middle rev	ggtggatttagatcaaaaccggccattacatacg
Osm10 3' middle for	tttgatctaaatccaccacacggagcgtacgagcatgagcga
Osm14 5' middle rev	cggtcatggaagcggactgctgcttctcagccactgcttca
Osm14 3' middle for	ccgcttccatgaacgctgctaccga
Osm17 5' middle rev	tgatgatggaggcggaaactcaggtaagcccctccatcttct

Osm17 3' middle for	agttccgcctccatcatcacctcca
Osm19 middle long	ttctcggcagtgagttcacattgcgcttc
Osm19 middle short	actcactgccgagaaggaaccgaggagtgccaagttaatacagc
Osm14NAS internal 5' rev	ctttattgtacctaatagattaggtgtactagtactgagggtagtttag
Osm14NAS internal 3' for	cctaatacattaggtacaaataaagtattattgccacatatgatgc

5. Primers for *Stowaway* cloning

First PCR (flanking)

Os10_flank for	gaaaaaaaaatttagtagggtagatcaa
Os10_flank rev	catgtttgtgaaatgacatatcaca
Os11_flank for	ttacaatgtgctctatgtcttttac
Os11_flank rev	caattgactaaggctttatgttaa
Os13_flank for	ggtgagatttatgtttggttttac
Os13_flank rev	gtaagtagaatgaacattagatct
Os14_flank for	tcagaaaatattgttagtgcctta
Os14_flank rev	ggccaaccgatccttagtacacaaa
Os15_flank for	gaagcggcgcacaaatgtaattgtg
Os15_flank rev	aggagcagcttttgccatatcagg
Os16_flank for	gcctgttactagttcctgtgcaat
Os16_flank rev	tgtagattcactatataaacctga
Os18_flank for	tcctaaaataaagcgtttgtagc
Os18_flank rev	cccaaaataaaatatttttagctaaatcg
Os20_flank for	cttctttttttttcaccaaaagagg
Os20_flank rev	gacacattctgtagtataaaatttag
Os24_flank for	cacacttcatctaattattctcatc
Os24_flank rev	gaggtggcacgggaattaaaaaaaa
Os28_flank for	ggactctttttttatttattgaatac
Os28_flank rev	ggtgcctccccacaaccaacaccta
Os34_flank for	ctgctataattctgtactattgtta
Os34_flank rev	gaatttctgtggatctaataaaaatg
Os35_flank for	tactgttctgcaaaggactaggata
Os35_flank rev	gcctcgtgaagggtgctgagattacc
Os42_flank for	taatttctgaaatcatgcaatgcag
Os42_flank rev	ccagtagctccataaattgatacattt
Os46_flank for	aaaagtaggtgggtttattagtcag
Os46_flank rev	catgtttggctgacttttgactca
Os5_flank for	agaagggccaatccaagttgcaaa
Os5_flank rev	gttggttctaacttctgtatctattgc
Os52_flank for	gctgtatgcagtagaaaagaaatctac
Os52_flank rev	gttgtatcaaaagatgaccaggtaga
Os8_flank for	atcaagttgaccaagtttatagaaaaatata
Os8_flank rev	attttgataaatgtttgtttgttgaaaatag

Second PCR (TIR regions)

Os10_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactccctccgtactcgtaaaa
Os10_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tactccttccgtactcataaag
Os11_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactccctccatctacttttaa
Os11_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tactccctccatctacttttga

Os13_tir_code	/5'phos/tactccctccatcccaaaatat
Os14_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactccctccatccacaaaagt
Os14_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tactctctccatccacaaaagt
Os15_tir_code	/5'phos/tactccctccgcccagaatat
Os16_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactccctccgcccagaatat
Os16_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tactccctccgcccacaaatat
Os18_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactacctccgctcaciaaatat
Os18_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tacttctccgcccacaaatgt
Os20_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tacctccatcccataaaaattg
Os20_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tacctccgcccataaaaattg
Os24_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactacctccgcccacaaataa
Os24_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tacctccatcccacaaataattg
Os28_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactccctccatcccataatat
Os28_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tactccctctatcccataatat
Os34_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactccctctgcccacaaattat
Os34_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tactccatccgcccacaaattat
Os35_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactccctccgcccacacaaaaa
Os35_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tactccctccgcccacacaaaaa
Os42_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactccctccgcccacaaataa
Os42_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tactccctctgcccagtaataa
Os46_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactccctctgcccacaaatat
Os46_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tactccctccgcccataatat
Os5_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactccctccatttcaggttat
Os5_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tactccctccgtttcaggttat
Os52_tir_for_code	/5'phos/tactccatccgctctattttaa
Os52_tir_rev_code	/5'phos/tactccctccgcccacaaattaa
Os8_tir_code	/5'phos/tactccctccgcccacaaatat

6. Primers for TIR swapping

Osm14NA TIR 5'-32-ost35intl	/5phos/tactccctccgcccagaagaaggattcctggcatcccagggtgaaattagt
Ost35 TIR 3'-32-osm14intl	/5phos/tactccctccgcccacaaaaaactcaactctacgggggggggagactttgtc
Ost35 TIR 5'-32-osm14intl	/5phos/tactccctccgcccacaaaaaatacattcctagaagcccaaggtagttttagg
Osm14NA TIR 3'-32-ost35intl	/5phos/tactccctccgcccagaagaagcgatttctggagttgaattttgtcccata
Osm14NA TIR 5'-65-ost35intl	/5phos/tactccctccgcccagaagaaggattcctggaagcccaaggtagttttaggacaaagagc aaaagacaaaaatacctttaatca
Ost35 TIR 5'-65-osm14intl	/5phos/tactccctccgcccacaaaaaatacattcctagcatcccagggtgaaattagtgagatggag aatggctaaactaccctcagtac
Osm14NA TIR 3'-65-ost35intl	/5phos/tactccctccgcccagaagaagcgatttctgggggggggggagactttgtcccaaaaaa aagctaccatcctacacctca
Ost35 TIR 3'-65-osm14intl	/5phos/tactccctccgcccacaaaaaactcaactctacagtttgaattttgtccataaaaaaccacttc gattcgtgcacaaaacacca
Ost35 TIR 5'-32-GFPintl1	/5phos/tactccctccgcccacaaaaaatacattcctagaagctcatcatgtttgtatagttc
Ost35 TIR 3'-32-GFPintl1	/5phos/tactccctccgcccacaaaaaactcaactctacaaatactccaattggcagtgccct
Ost35 TIR 5'-65-GFPintl1	/5phos/tactccctccgcccacaaaaaatacattcctagcatcccagggtgaaattagtgagatggag aataatccatgcatgtgtaatccag
Ost35 TIR 3'-65-GFPintl1	/5phos/tactccctccgcccacaaaaaactcaactctacagtttgaattttgtccataaaaaaccacttc gtcctttaccagacaaccatta
Osm14 TIR 5'-32-GFPintl1	\5phos\tactccctccgcccagaagaaggattcctggaagctcatcatgtttgtatagttc
Osm14 TIR 3'-32-GFPintl1	\5phos\tactccctccgcccagaagaagcgatttctgaaatactccaattggcagtgccct \5phos\tactccctccgcccagaagaaggattcctggaagcccaaggtagttttaggacaaagagc
Osm14 TIR 5'-65-GFPintl1	aaaaatccatgcatgtgtaatccag
Osm14 TIR 3'-65-GFPintl1	\5phos\tactccctccgcccagaagaagcgatttctgggggggggggagactttgtcccaaaaaa aagcgtcctttaccagacaaccatta

7. Primers for site directed mutagenesis

14T32_int_mut1	cagaaagaaggattcctggatttaaatgggaaattagtgagatgg
14T32_int_mut2	atacattcctagcatcccgaattaaattagtgagatggagaatgac
14T32_int_mut3	ctagcatcccgaggtgaaatatttaaatggagaatgacaaaaatac
14T32_int_mut4	ccgaggtgaaattagtgagatttaaattgacaaaaatcctttaac
14T32_int_mut5	aaattagtgagatggagaaattaaatatacctttaatcattgaaaa
14T32_int_mut6	ggagatggagaatgacaaaaatttaataatcattgaaaaaatagtaa
14T32_int_mut7	agaatgacaaaaatacctttatttaataaaaaaatagtaagagtata
14T32_int_mut8	aaaaatcctttaatcattgatttaaatgaagagttagtaggta
14T32_int_mut9	ctttaatcattgaaaaataatttaaatgataggtaggtaaagagtat
14T32_int_mut10	atacctttaatcattgaaaaatagtaagagtatttaaatggtaagagtattgaaggaataaaaattctcg
14T32_int_mut11	aatagtaagagtataaggttaatttaaatgtattgaaggaataaaaatt
14T32_int_mut12	gagtataaggtaggtaaagaatttaaatggaataaaaattctcgtttt
14T32_int_mut13	ggtaggtaagagtattgaaatttaaatattctcgttttacctgctg
14T32_int_mut14	aagagtattgaaggaataaaaatttaattttacctgctgaggtagg
14T32_int_mut15	tgaaggaataaaaattctcgatttaaatgctgaggtaggtaggatgg
14T32_int_mut16	taaaattctcgttttacctgatttaaataggtaggtaggtagaaagt
14T32_int_mut17	ctcgttttacctgctgagggttaaatatggtagaaagtgttttt
14T32_int_mut18	acgtgctgagggtaggtaggttaaaataagtggtttttatgggaca
14T32_int_mut19	agggtaggtaggtagtagaatttaattttatgggacaaaattcaa
14T32_int_mut20	taggtaggtagaaagtgtatttaaatgacaaaattcaactgtaga
14T32_int_mut21	tagaaagtgtttttatggatttaaatcaaaactgtagaagttagt
14T32_int_mut22	ggtttttatgggacaaaatttaaatcagaaatcgcttcttctgg
14NAS_int_mut1	cagaaagaaggattcctggatttaaatggtagttttaggacaagag
14NAS_int_mut2	agggtcctggaagcccaatttaaataggacaaagacaaaaggc
14NAS_int_mut3	ctggaagcccaaggtagttttaaataagacaaaaggctaaactac
14NAS_int_mut4	ccaaggtagtttaggacaaatttaaataggctaaactacctcagta
14NAS_int_mut5	gttttaggacaaagacaaaatttaaatctaccctcagtactagtaca
14NAS_int_mut6	acaaagacaaaaggctaaaatttaaatgtagtactgtacacctaata
14NAS_int_mut7	caaaaggctaaactacctcatttaaatcacctaatacattaggtac
14NAS_int_mut8	taaaactacctcagtactagatttaaatatcattaggtacaataaag
14NAS_int_mut9	cctcagtactgtacacctaatttaaatgtacaaataaagtattattg
14NAS_int_mut10	ctagtacacctaatacattagatttaataaagtattattgcccacata
14NAS_int_mut11	cctaatacattaggtacaataatttaaatattgcccacataatgatcga
14NAS_int_mut12	ttaggtacaataaagtattatttaaatcatatgatgacacagata
14NAS_int_mut13	aaataaagtattattgccaatttaaatgacacagataaaaatct
14NAS_int_mut14	tattattgcccacataatgatttaaatgataaaaatctggtgtttt
14NAS_int_mut15	cccacataatgatgacacaaatttaaatatctggtgtttgtgcacga
14NAS_int_mut16	tgatgacacagataaaaatttaaatgtgacgaatcgcttt
14NAS_int_mut17	cacagataaaaatctggtgatttaaatcgaatcgctttttttgg
14NAS_int_mut18	aaatactggtgtttgtgatttaaatctttttttgggacaaagt
14NAS_int_mut19	ggtgtttgtgacgaatcgatttaaatgggacaaagctcccccc
14NAS_int_mut20	gtgacgaatcgcttttttttaataaagtctccccccccccag
14NAS_int_mut21	atcgctttttttgggacaaatttaaatccccccccagaaatcgct
14NAS_int_mut22	tttttgggacaaagtctcatttaaatccagaaatcgcttcttctg

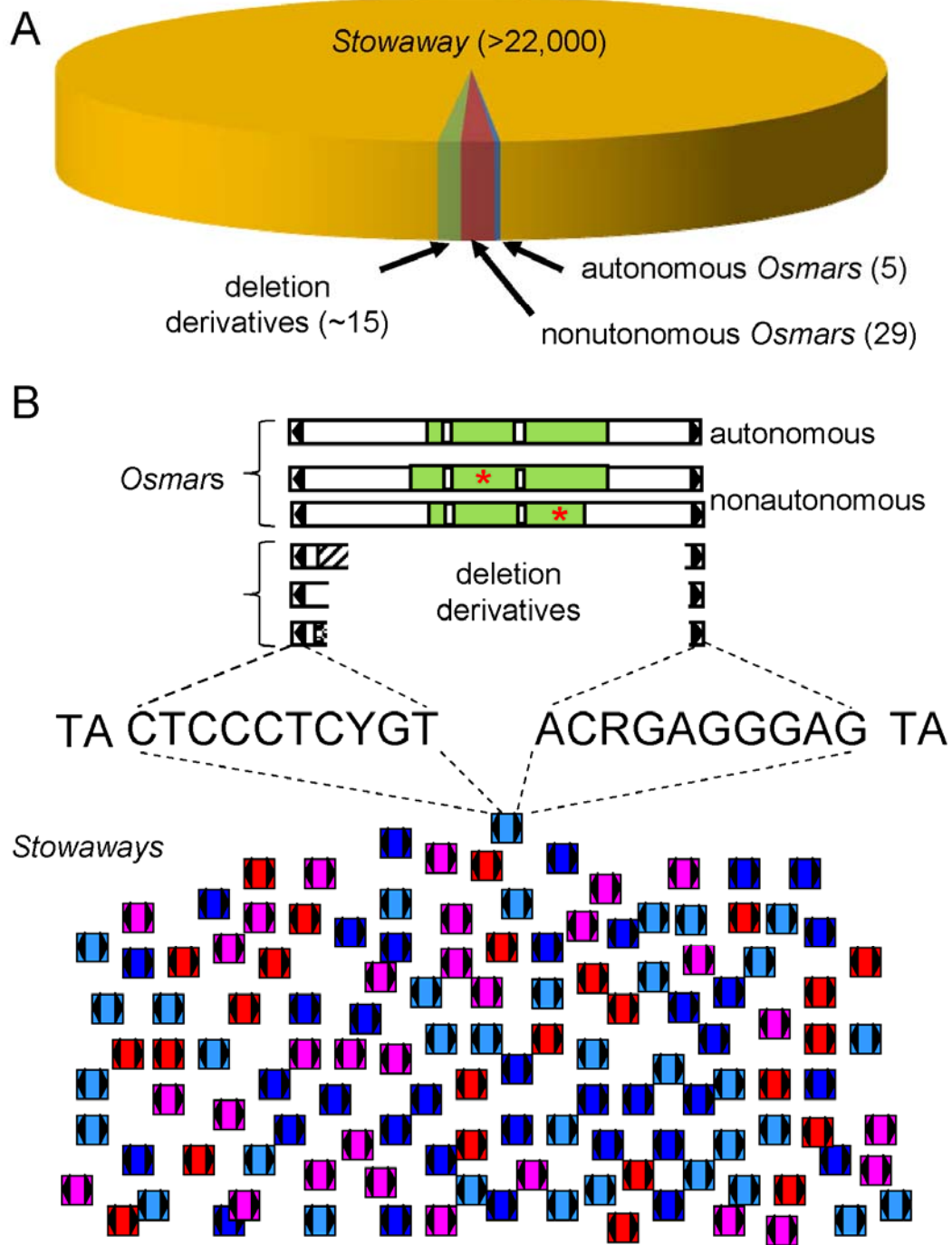


Fig S1

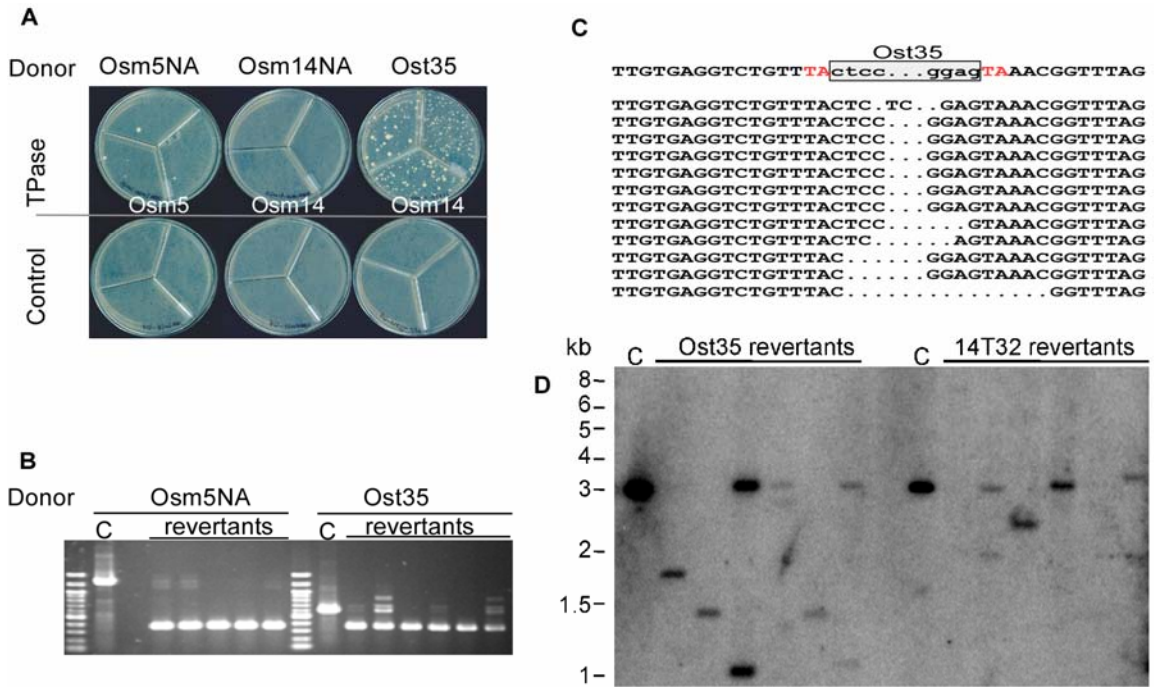


Fig S2

A

Donor sites

Osm5NA TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTACTCCC...GAGTAAACGGTTTAG
TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTA...CCCTCGAGTAAACGGTTTAG
TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTAC.....GGAGTAAACGGTTTAG
TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTACTC.....AGTAAACGGTTTAG
TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTACTCC.....GTAAACGGTTTAG
TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTAC.....GGAGTAAACGGTTTAG

Osm17NA TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTACTCC...GGAGTAAACGGTTTAG
TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTACTC.....AGTAAACGGTTTAG
TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTACTCC.....GGTTTAG
TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTACTCC.....GGTTTAG
TTGTGAGGTCTGTT.....C.....TAAACGGTTTAG

Osm1NA TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTAC.....AACGGTTTAG

Osm9NA TTGTGAGGTCTG.....AGGGAGTAAACGGTTTAG

Osm19NA TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTACTCC.....GGTTTAG

Ost8CGGAGGGAGTAAACGGTTTAG
TTGTGAGGTCT.....GTAAACGGTTTAG
TTGTG.....GGAGTAAACGGTTTAG

Ost16 TTGTGAGGTCTGTTTACTCC.....GTAAACGGTTTAG

B

Insertion sites

Ost35 AAACCGTTA-Ost35--TAAATCGAC
Osm5NA AGTTATGTA-Osm5NA-TATTATTCA
AAATAAATA-Osm5NA-TACTACTCA
TCTTATGTA-Osm5NA-TATGAAATT
TAAATACTA-Osm5NA-TACTCAGTA

Fig S3

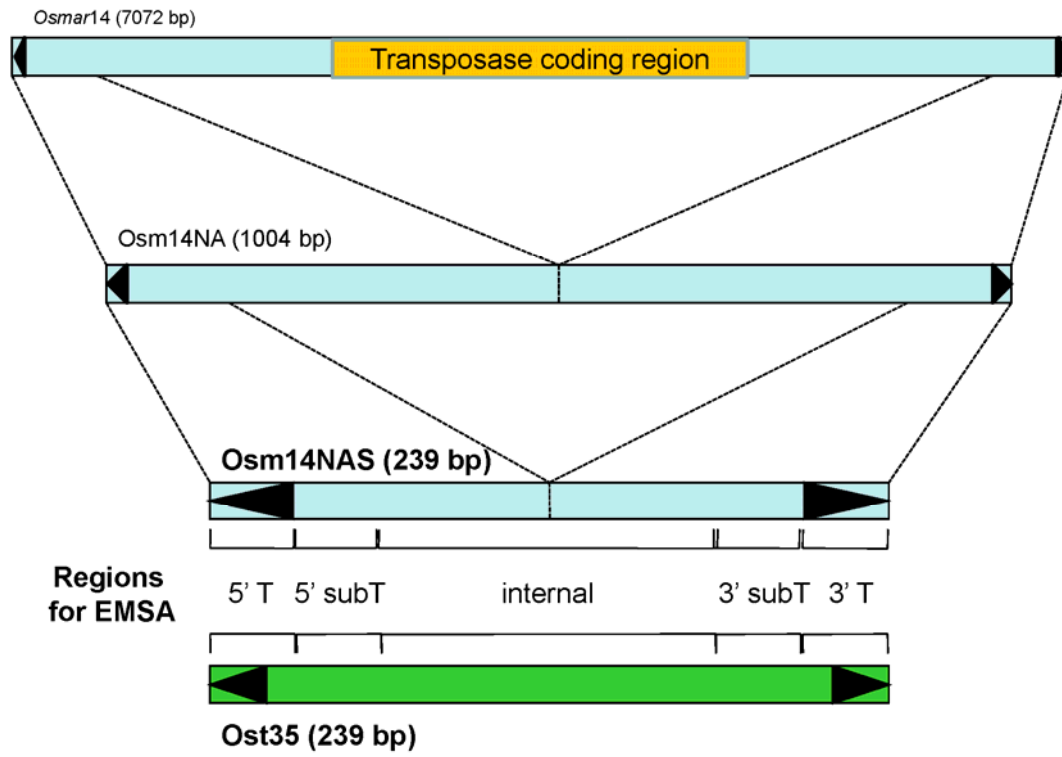


Fig S4

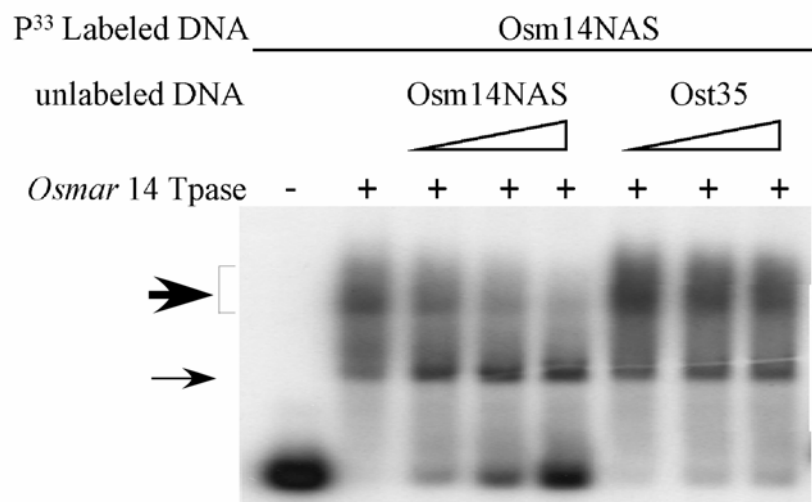


Fig S5