



Key: →, the direction of gene transcription; ■, exons; □, CpG islands; ▴, dispersed MIR repeats; ▷, other SINE elements; ▣, long terminal repeats. The nucleotide sequence of the *Xist* gene and the surrounding DNA for each species is plotted on the x axis. Arrangement of dots on the y axis reflects the homology level between the sequence of rat and mouse in the range of 50 to 100% (the higher is the dot position, the higher is the homology).