

Additional file 1

An improved *Escherichia coli* strain to host gene regulatory networks involving both the AraC and LacI inducible transcription factors

Manjunatha Kogenaru^{1,2,3*} and Sander J. Tans¹

¹FOM Institute for Atomic and Molecular Physics, Science Park 104, 1098 XG Amsterdam, The Netherlands,

^{2,3}Present address: ²EMBL/CRG Systems Biology Research Unit, Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG), Dr. Aiguader 88, 08003 Barcelona, Spain. ³Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), 08003 Barcelona, Spain.

*Corresponding author

Email addresses:

MK: mkogenaru@yahoo.com

SJT: tans@amolf.nl

1. Strain engineering

We selected a 40 base pairs (bps) regions from the 5' and 3' ends of the *lacI* as a homology arms and added this to the either ends of the chloramphenicol acetyltransferase (*cat*) selection cassette. This cassette is in turn flanked by the Cre recombinase recognition loxP sites[1]. This whole construct was PCR amplified as a single product and digested with 10 U of *DpnI* for 2 hours at 37 °C. This digested product was further purified by loading on to the agarose gel, before transforming into the parental BW27783 strain by electroporation. Prior to this, the BW27783 was transformed with the phage lambda-derived Red recombinase encoding helper plasmid pKD46[2] (GenBank™ Accession number AY048746). The transformants from the *lacI* deletion were selected on the LB agar plate containing 15 µg/ml Chloramphenicol. The resulting chloramphenicol-resistant clones were screened for the positive recombinants by colony PCR. The confirmed positive clone was further colony-purified once under non-selective condition at 37 °C, and subsequently tested for Ampicillin sensitivity to confirm the loss of the helper plasmid. This clone was further verified for the desired mutation.

V2LacI-del_fr

[GTGAAACCAGTAACGTTATACGATGTCGCAGAGTATGCCGAGGAAGCGGAATTCGGACC](#)

V2LacI-del_rv

[TCACTGCCCGCTTTCAGTCGGGAAACCTGTCGTGCCAGCTACCGTCGACGGATCCCCGG](#)

lacI

>gi|1657477|gb|U73857.1|ECU73857 Escherichia coli str. K-12 substr. MG1655
GAACAACGGGTGATTGGCTGTCTGAATCTGGTGTATATGGCGAGCGCAATGACCATTGAACAGGCAGCGGAAAAGCATCT
TCCGGCGCTACAACGGGTAGCAAAACAGATCGAAGAAGGGGTGAATCGCAGGCTATTCTGGTGGCCGGAAGGCGAAGCG
GCATGCATTTACGTTGACACCATCGAATGGCGCAAAACCTTTCGCGGTATGGCATGATAGCGCCCGGAAGAGAGTCAATT
CAGGGTGGTGAATGTGAAACCAGTAACGTTATACGATGTCGCAGAGTATGCCGGTGTCTTTATCAGACCCTTTCCCGCG
TGTTGAAACCAGGCCAGCCACGTTTTCTGCGAAAACCGCGGAAAAGTGAAGCGGCGATGGCGGAGCTGAATTACATTTCCC
AACCAGCGTGGCACAACAACCTGGCGGGCAAACAGTCGTTGCTGATTGGCGTTGCCACCTCCAGTCTGGCCCTGCACGCGCC
GTCGCAAAATTGTCGCGCGATTAAATCTCGCGCCGATCAACTGGGTGCCAGCGTGGTGGTGTGATGGTAGAACGAAGCG
GCGTCGAAGCCTGTAAAGCGGCGGTGCACAATCTTCTCGCGCAACCGCTCAGTGGGCTGATCATTAACTATCCGCTGGAT
GACCAGGATGCCATTGCTGTGGAAGCTGCCCTGCACATAATGTTCCGGCGTTATTTCTTGATGTCTCTGACCAGACACCCAT
CAACAGTATTTATTTCTCCCATGAAGACGGTACGCGACTGGGCGTGGAGCATCTGGTTCGATTGGGTACCAGCAAATCG
CGCTGTTAGCGGGCCCATTAAGTTCTGTCTCGGCGCGTCTGCGTCTGGCTGGCTGGCATAAATATCTCACTCGCAATCAA
ATTCAGCCGATAGCGGAACGGGAAGGCGACTGGAGTCCATGTCCGGTTTTCAACAAACCATGCAAATGCTGAATGAGGG
CATCGTTCCCCTGCGATGCTGGTTGCCAACGATCAGATGGCGCTGGGCGCAATGCGCGCCATTACCGAGTCCGGGCTGC
GCGTTGGTGGGATATCTCGGTAGTGGGATACGACGATACCGAAGACAGCTCATGTTATATCCCGCCGTCAACCACCATC
AAACAGGATTTTCGCTGCTGGGGCAAACCAGCGTGGACCCTGCTGCAACTCTCTCAGGGCCAGGCGGTGAAGGGCAA
TCAGCTGTTGCCCGTCTCACTGGTGAAGAAAACCACCTGGCGCCAATACGCAAACCGCTCTCCCCGCGCGTTGG
CCGATTCATTAATGCAGCTGGCAGCAGGTTTTCCGACTGGAAGCGGGCAGTGAAGCGCAACGCAATTAATGTGAGTTA
GC

lacI homology arm sequence

loxP sites

Chloramphenicol acetyltransferase antibiotic resistance gene

LacI-del-test_rv

ACGTAAGAGGTTCCAACTTTCACC

LacI-del-test_fr

CCCGCCCTGCCACTCATCGCAGTAC

LacIdel-test2_fr

CGCAGGCTATTCTGGTGGCC

LacIdel-test2_rv

TCACTGCCCCGCTTTCCAGTCCG

>MK01 sequence at engineered locus

GAACAACGGGTGATTGGCTGTCTGAATCTGGTGTATATGGCGAGCGCAATGACCATTGAACAGGCAGCGGAAAAGCATCT
TCCGGCGCTACAACGGGTAGCAAAACAGATCGAAGAAGGGGTGAATCGCAGGCTATTCTGGTGGCCGGAAGGCGAAGCG
GCATGCATTTACGTTGACACCATCGAATGGCGCAAAACCTTTCGCGGTATGGCATGATAGCGCCCGGAAGAGAGTCAATT
CAGGGTGGTGAATGTGAAACCAGTAACGTTATACGATGTCGCAGAGTATGCCGAGGAAGCGGAATTCGGACCGGCGCGC
CAAAAAAACCCGCCGAAGCGGGTTTTTTTTCCCGGGATAACTTCGTATAATGTATGCTATACGAAGTTATCGATTACGCC
CGCCCTGCCACTCATCGCAGTACGTTGTGAATTCATTAAGCATCTGCCGACATGGAAGCCATCACAAACGGCATGATGA
ACCTGAATCGCCAGCGGCATCAGCACCTTGTGCGCTTGGCTATAATATTTGCCCATGGTGAAGAACGGGGCGAAGAAGTT
GTCCATATTGGCCACGTTTAAATCAAACTGGTGAAGCTCACCCAGGGATTGGCTGAGACGAAAAACATATTCTCAATAA
ACCCTTTAGGGAAATAGGCCAGTTTTTACCCTAACACGCCACATCTTGCGAATATATGTGTAGAAACTGCCGAAATCG
TCGTGGTATTCACTCCAGAGCGATGAAAACGTTTTAGTTTTGCTCATGGAAGAACGGTGTAAACAGGGTGAACACTATCCCA
TATCACCAGCTCACCGTCTTTTCATTGCCATACGGAATTCGGATGAGCATTATCAGGCGGGCAAGAATGTGAATAAAGG
CCGGATAAAACTTGTGCTTATTTTTCTTTACGGTCTTTAAAAGGCCGTAATATCCAGCTGAACGGTCTGGTTATAGGTA
CATTGAGCAACTGACTGAAATGCCCTCAAAATGTTCTTTACGATGCCATTGGGATATATCAACGGTGGTATATCCAGTGAT
TTTTTTCTCCATTTTAGCTTCCTTAGCTCCTGAAAATCTCGATAACTCAAAAAATACGCCCGGTAGTGATCTTATTTTCAT
TATGGTGAAAGTTGGAACCTCTTACGTGCCAATCGATAACTTCGTATAATGTATGCTATACGAAGTTATCCCGGGGATCC
GTCGACGGTAGCTGGCAGCAGGTTTTCCCGACTGGAAGCGGGCAGTGA

2. DNA constructs

2.1 Construction of the plasmids used in the competition assay

The gene *lacI* along with the promoter *lacI*^Q were amplified from pET-28b+ vector (Novagen) as a template. The *eYFP* gene was amplified from the in-house plasmid pLacImCherry-eYFP (M.K. and

S.J.T, unpublished) as a template. Using these two PCR products as a template, an overlap PCR was performed. The resulting PCR product was cloned onto the vector backbone of pLacImCherry-eYFP with XbaI and SalI restriction enzymes (Figure S2a). Similarly, *eYFP* was replaced with *mCherry* to obtain the construct that constitutively express (Figure S2b).

2.2 Construction of the plasmids used in the simultaneous induction assay

The *araC-P_{BAD}* part was PCR amplified from the in-house plasmid that is similar to the pBAD24 cloning vector (GenBank™ Accession number X81837). The resulting PCR product was cloned into pINV-110[3] plasmid backbone using AatII and XhoI restriction enzymes, to obtain an intermediate plasmid, pAraC. The *mCherry* sequence was cloned into the pAraC using EcoRI and XhoI restriction enzymes (Figure S3a).

The gene *lacI* along with its promoter was cloned into the vector backbone of pLacImCherry-eYFP using HindIII and SalI restriction enzymes (Figure S3b).

Figure S1

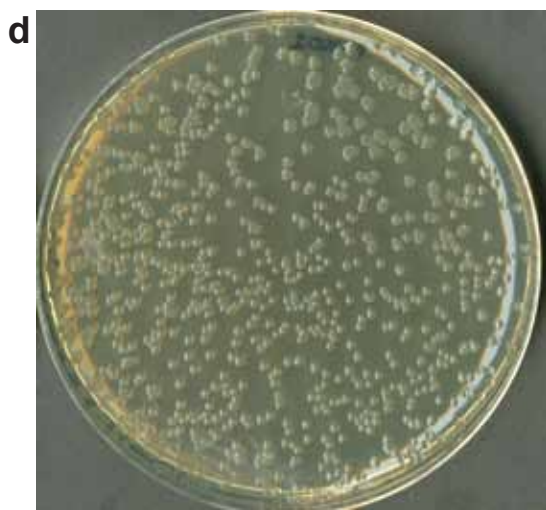
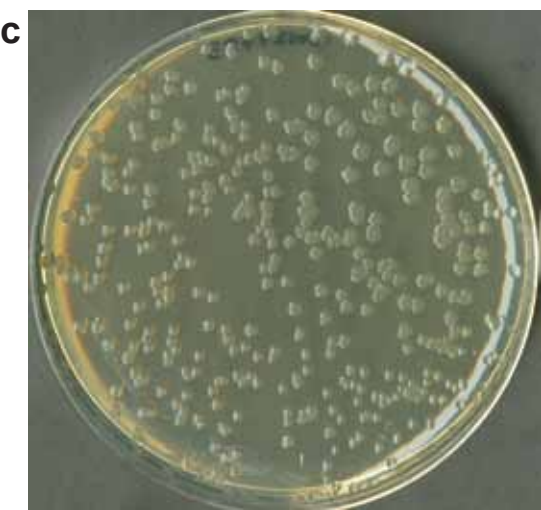
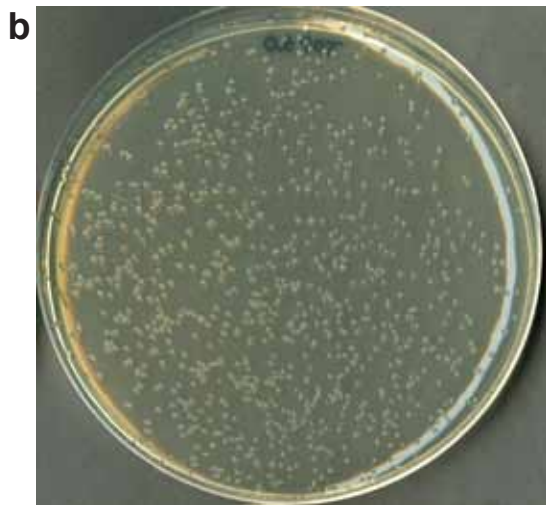
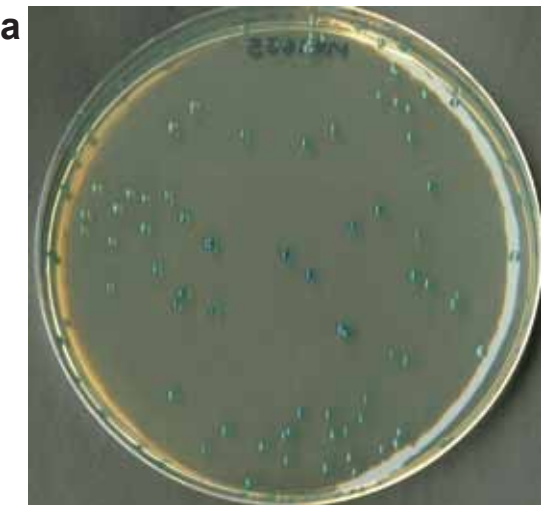
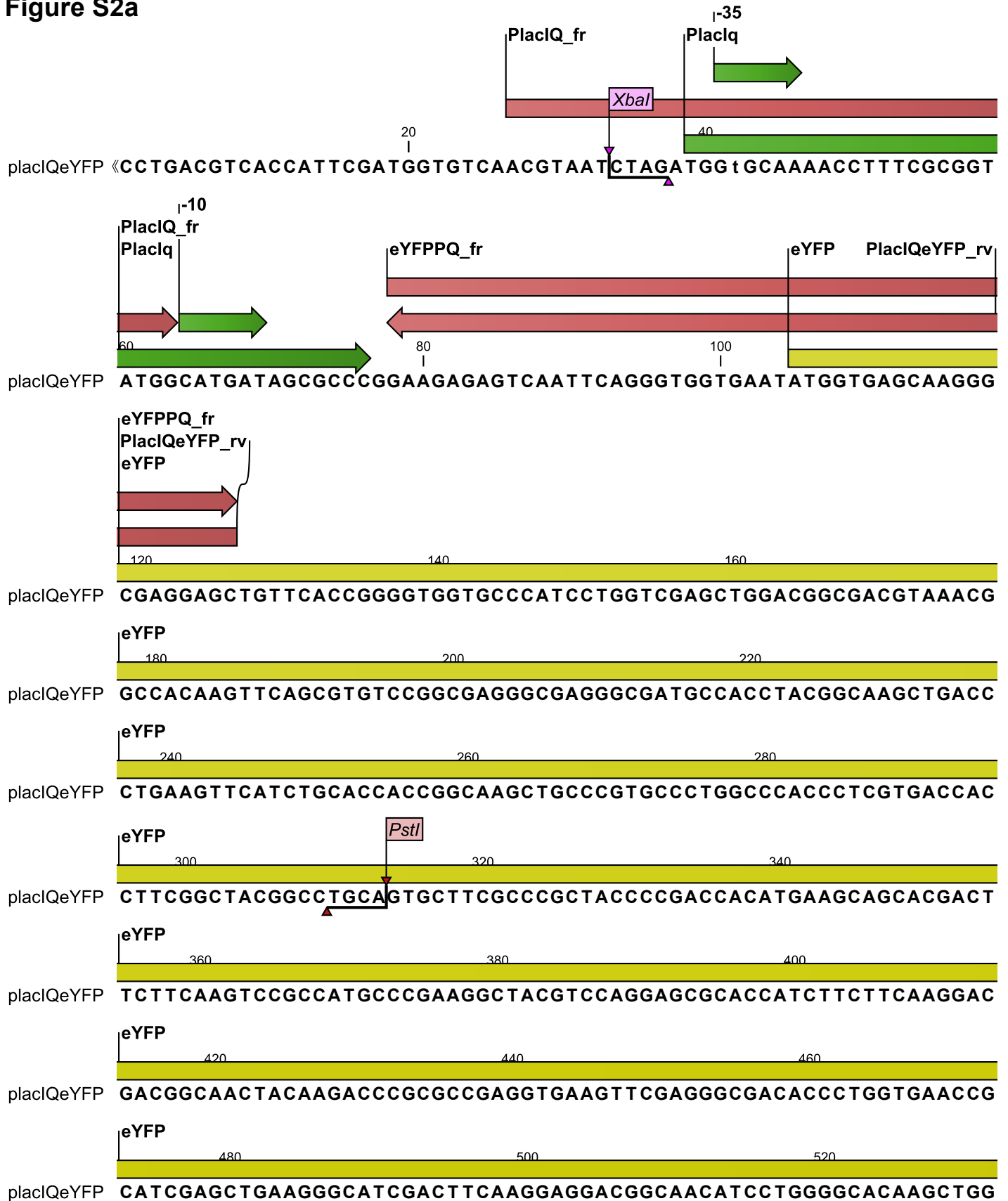


Figure S2a



eYFP
540 560 580
placIQeYFP AGTACAAC TACAACAGCCACAACGTCTATATCATGGCCGACAAGCAGAAGAACGGCATC

eYFP
600 620 640
placIQeYFP AAGGTGAACTTCAAGATCCGCCACAACATCGAGGACGGCAGCGTGCAGCTCGCCGACCA

eYFP
660 680 700
placIQeYFP CTACCAGCAGAACACCCCATCGGGCAGGGCCCGTGCTGCTGCCGACAACCACTACC

eYFP
720 740 760
placIQeYFP TGAGCTACCAGTCCGCCCTGAGCAAAGACCCCAACGAGAAGCGCGATCACATGGTCTCTG

eYFP
780 800 820
placIQeYFP CTGGAGTTCGTGACCGCCGCGGGATCACTCTCGGCATGGACGAGCTGTACAAGTAACC

Sall-eYFP_rv1

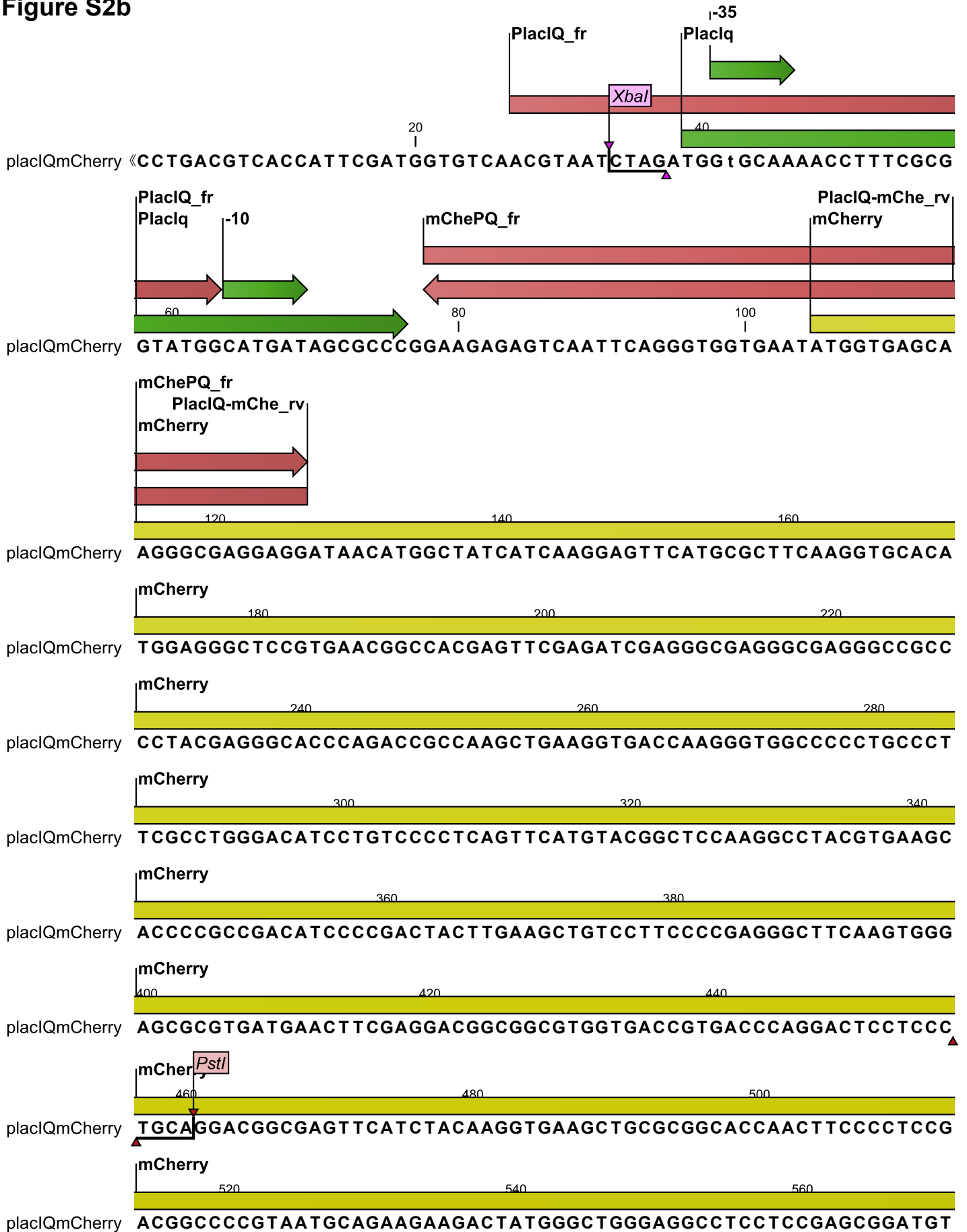
Sall-eYFP_rv1
T1 Term
Sall
840 860 880
placIQeYFP TAGGGGAGTCGACCCGCTGCATCAAATAAACGAAAGGCTCAGTCGAAAGACTGGGCCT

T1 Term
900 920 940
placIQeYFP TTCGTTTTATCTGTTGTTTGTCCGGTGAACGCTCTCCTGAGTAGGACAAATCCGCCGCC

T1 Term
XhoI
960 980 1,000
placIQeYFP TAGACTCGGCCGCTCTCGAGGTCTTCGGTTTCCGTGTTTCGTAAAGTCTGGAAACGCGGA

1,020 1,040 1,060

Figure S2b



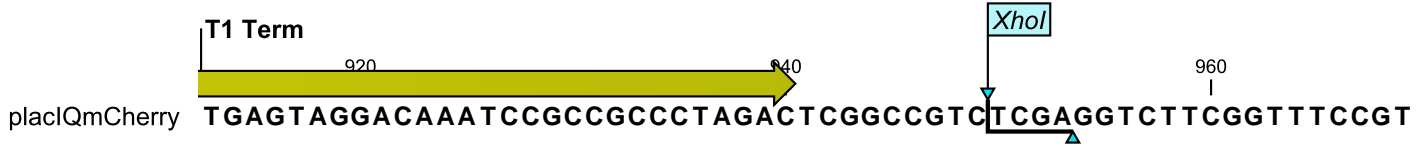
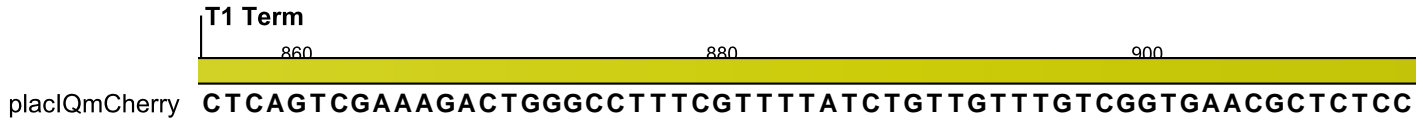
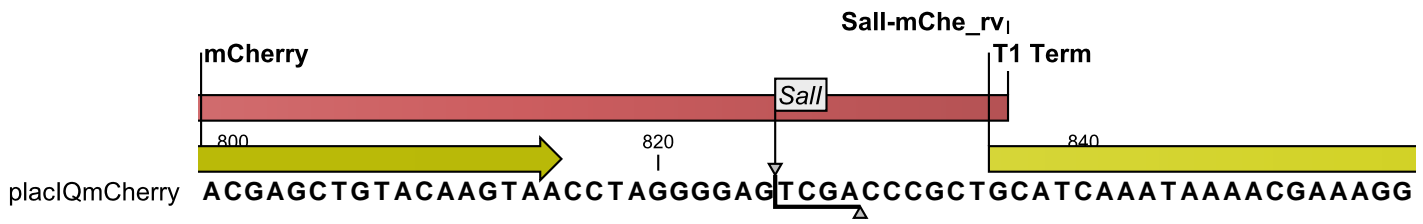
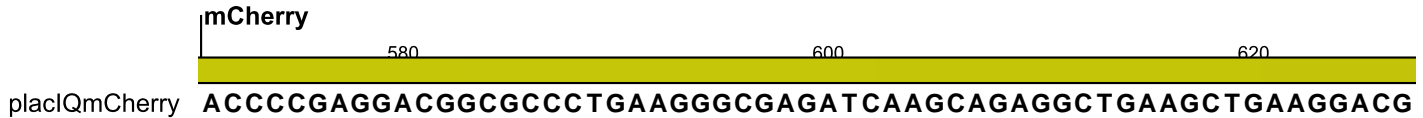
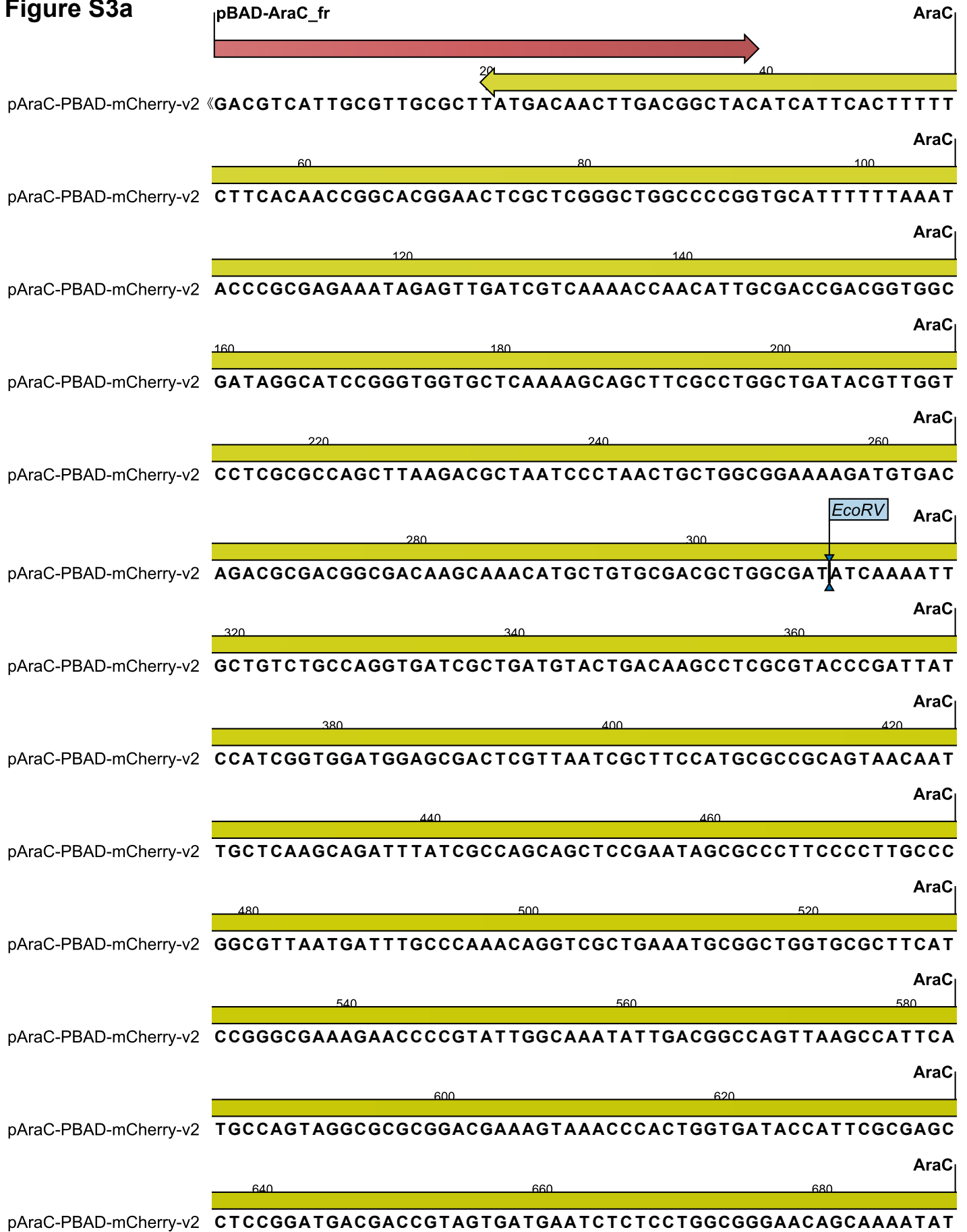
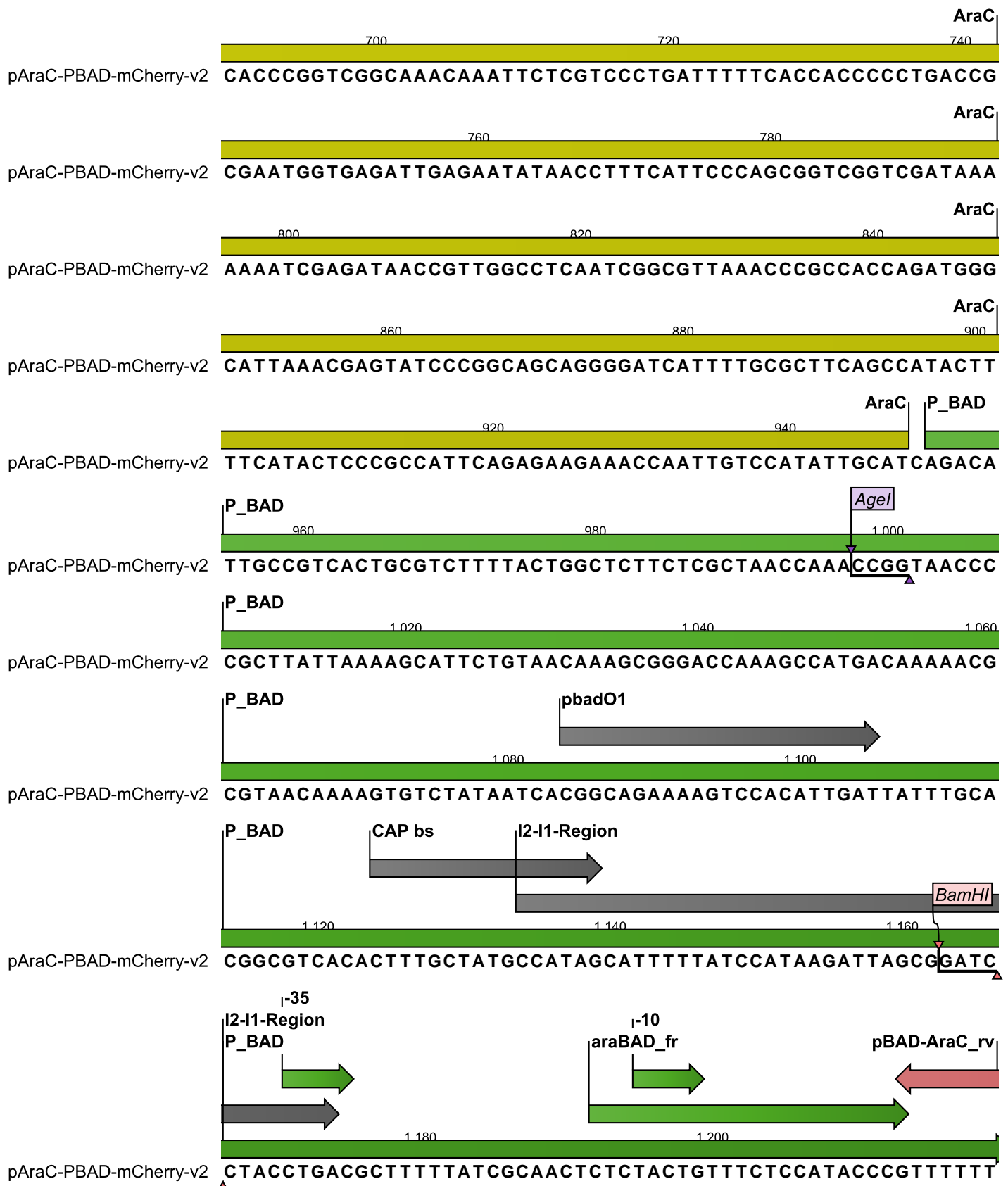
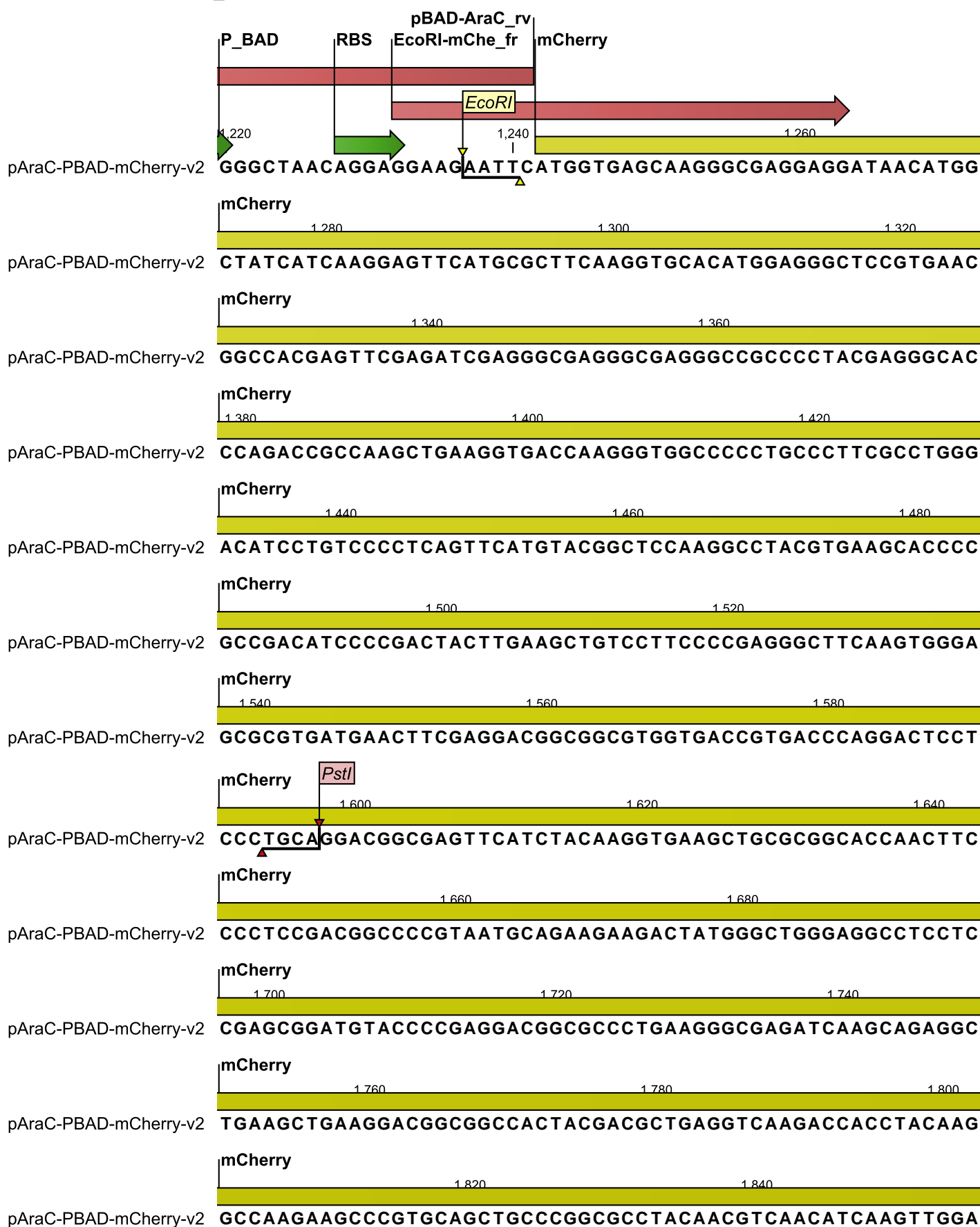


Figure S3a







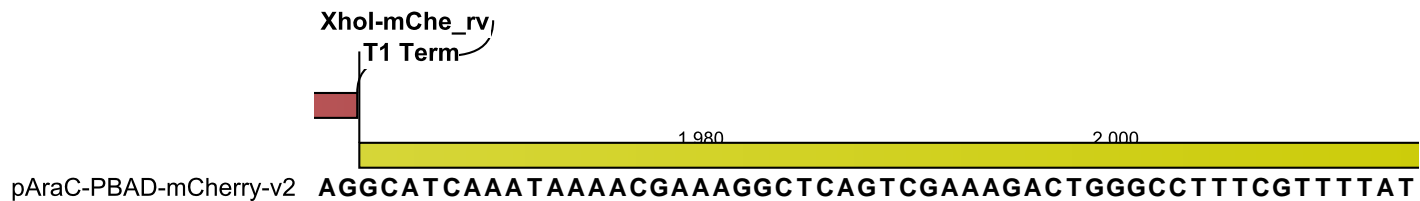
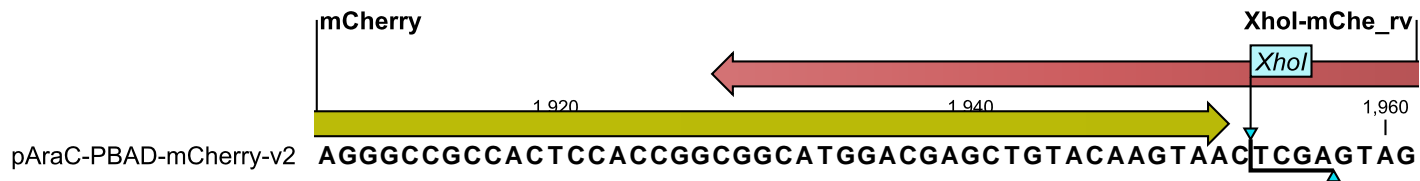
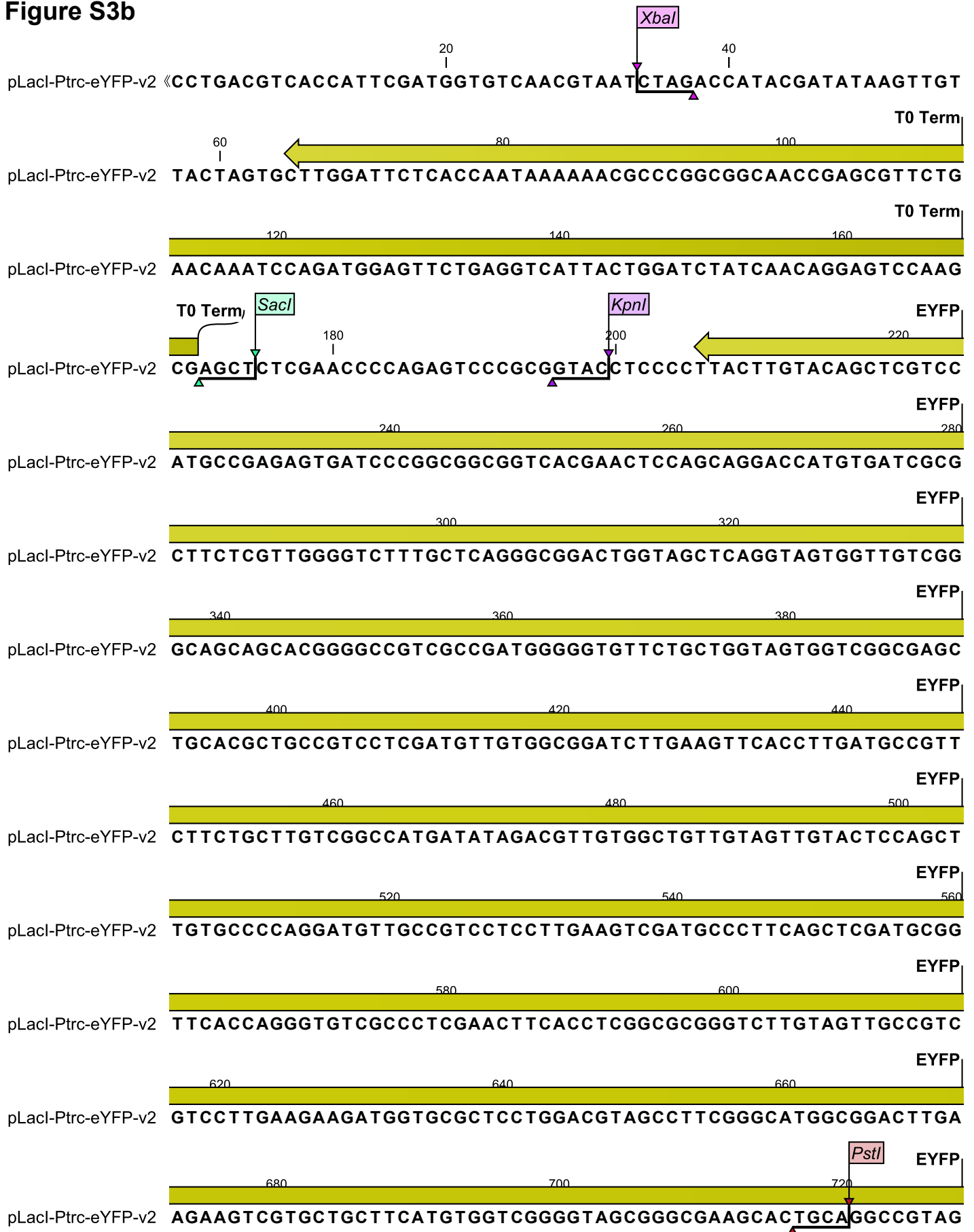
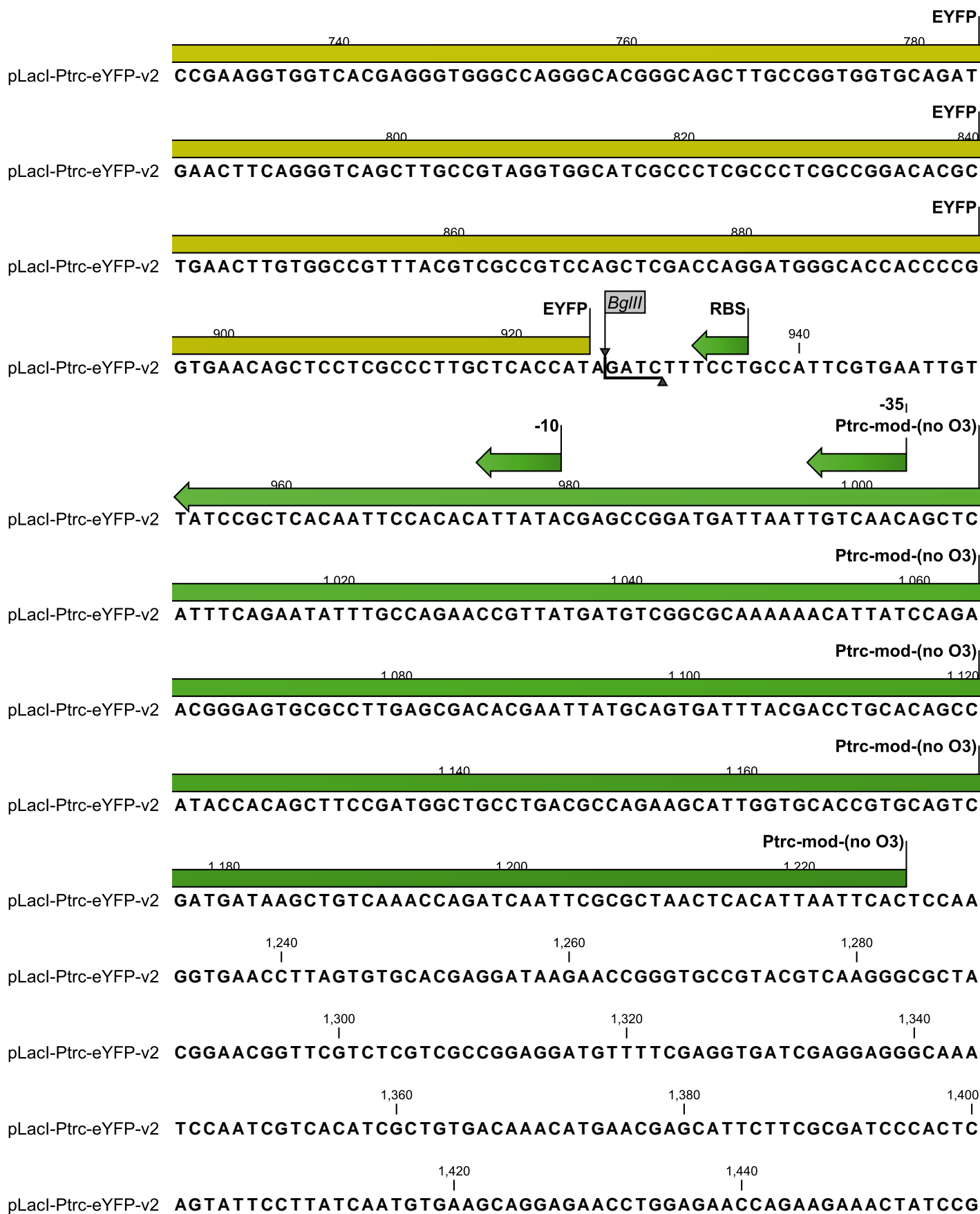
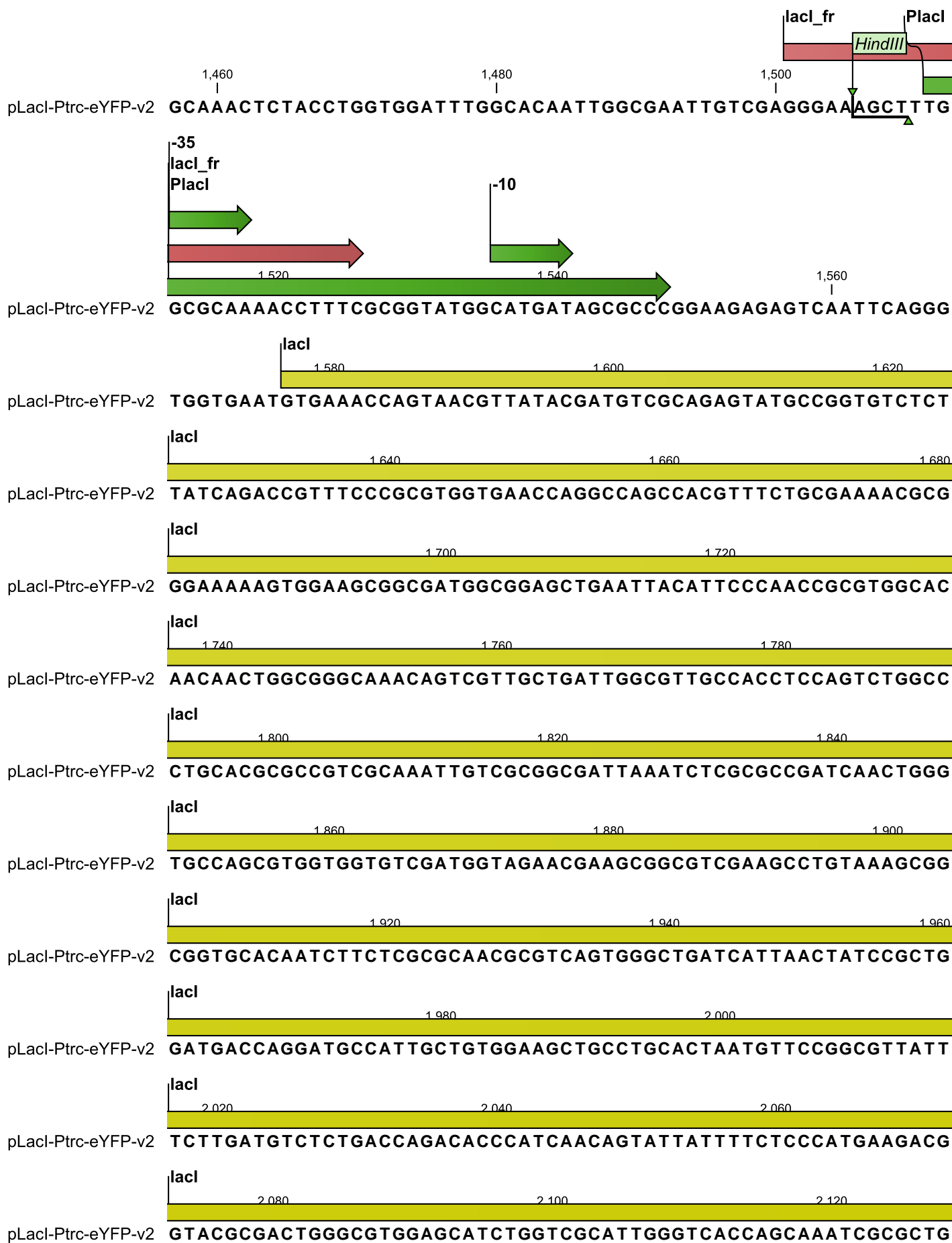
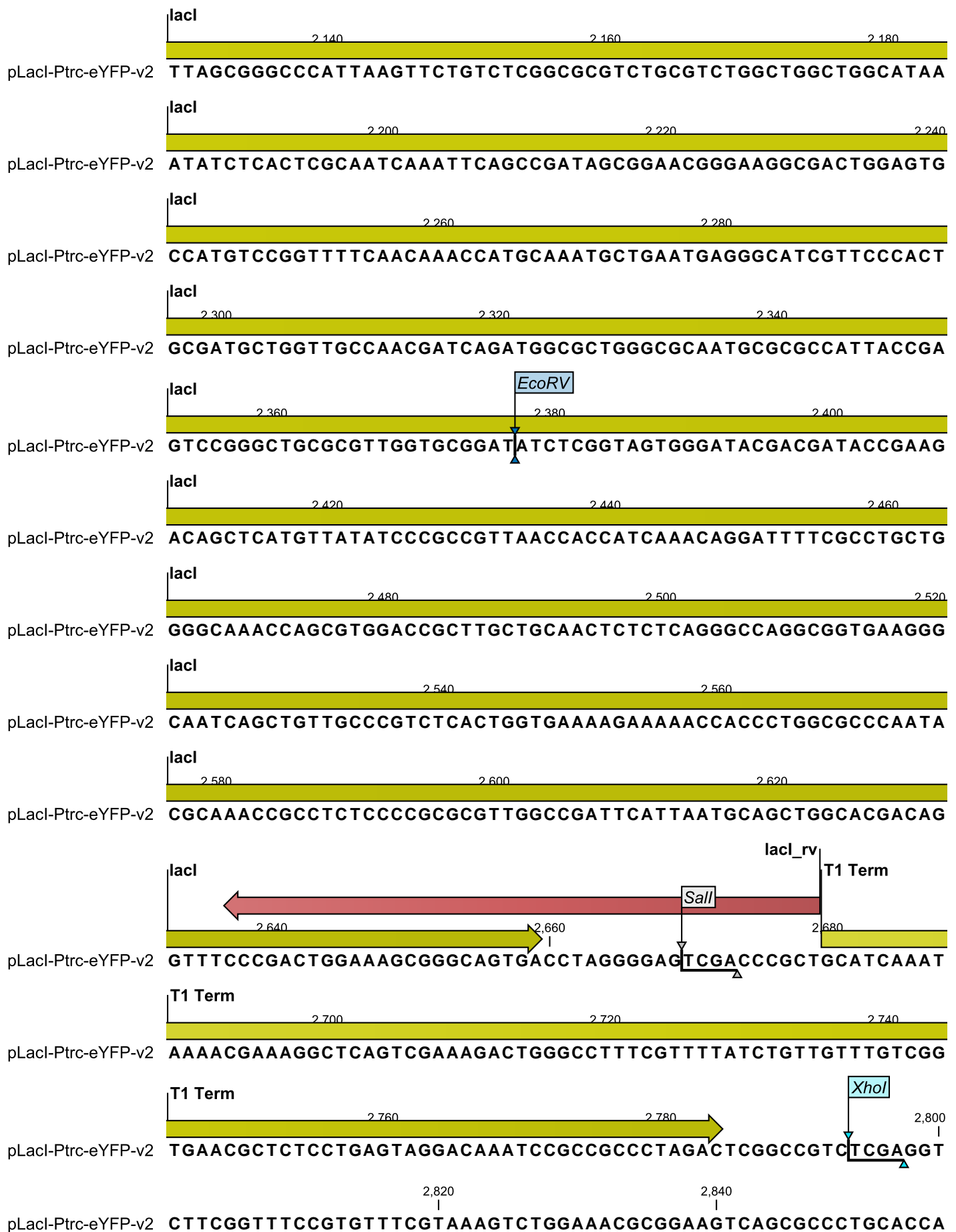


Figure S3b









References

1. Watt RM, Wang J, Leong M, Kung HF, Cheah KS, Liu D, Danchin A, Huang JD: **Visualizing the proteome of Escherichia coli: an efficient and versatile method for labeling chromosomal coding DNA sequences (CDSs) with fluorescent protein genes.** *Nucleic Acids Res* 2007, **35**:e37.
2. Datsenko KA, Wanner BL: **One-step inactivation of chromosomal genes in Escherichia coli K-12 using PCR products.** *PNAS* 2000, **97**:6640-6645.
3. Yokobayashi Y, Weiss R, Arnold FH: **Directed evolution of a genetic circuit.** *PNAS* 2002, **99**:16587-16591.