

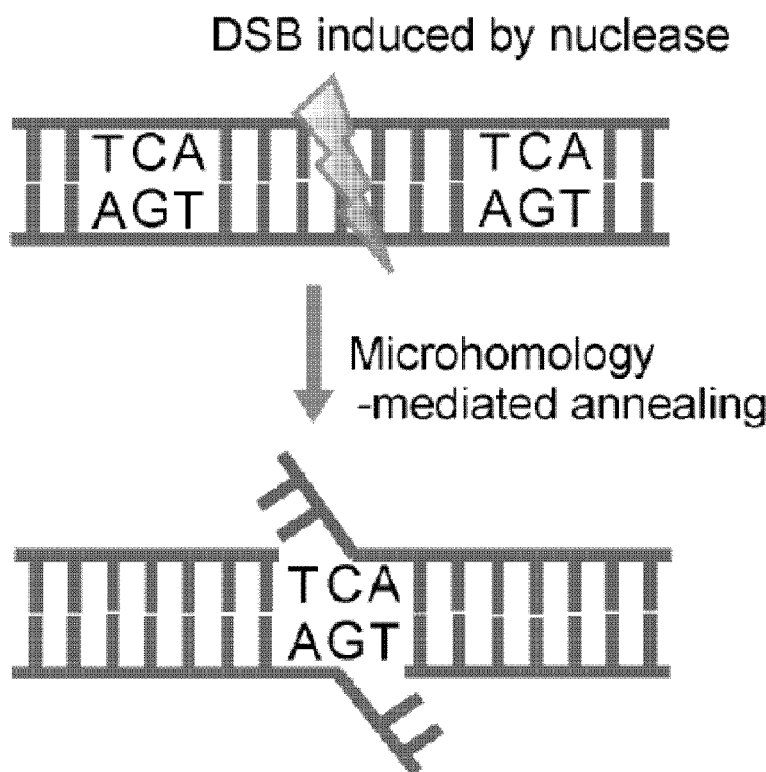


- (51) International Patent Classification:
C12Q 1/68 (2006.01) *G06F 19/22* (2011.01)
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/KR2015/004132
- (22) International Filing Date:
24 April 2015 (24.04.2015)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
61/983,988 24 April 2014 (24.04.2014) US
10-2014-0101133 6 August 2014 (06.08.2014) KR
- (71) Applicant: INSTITUTE FOR BASIC SCIENCE [KR/KR]; 70, Yuseong-daero 1689beon-gil, Yuseong-gu, Daejeon 305-811 (KR).
- (72) Inventors: KIM, Jin Soo; 503-106, Department of Chemistry, College of Natural Sciences, Seoul National University, 1, Gwanak-ro, Gwanak-gu, Seoul 151-015 (KR).
BAE, Sang Su; 503-106, Department of Chemistry, College of Natural Sciences, Seoul National University, 1, Gwanak-ro, Gwanak-gu, Seoul 151-015 (KR).

- (74) Agent: SON, Min; (Hanol Intellectual Property & Law) STX R&D Center, 6th Floor, 163, YangJaeCheon-ro, Gangnam-gu, Seoul 135-855 (KR).
- (81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JP, KE, KG, KN, KP, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A METHOD OF SELECTING A NUCLEASE TARGET SEQUENCE FOR GENE KNOCKOUT BASED ON MICROHOMOLOGY



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method of selecting a nuclease target sequence for gene knockout based on microhomology.

WO 2015/163733 A1

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— *as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty (Rule 4.17(v))*

Published:

— *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*
— *with sequence listing part of description (Rule 5.2(a))*

Description

Title of Invention: A METHOD OF SELECTING A NUCLEASE TARGET SEQUENCE FOR GENE KNOCKOUT BASED ON MICROHOMOLOGY

Technical Field

- [1] The present invention relates to a method of selecting a nuclease target sequence for gene knockout based on microhomology.

Background Art

- [2] Programmable nucleases, which include zinc finger nucleases (ZFNs), transcription-activator-like effector nucleases (TALENs), and RNA-guided engineered nucleases (RGENs) derived from the Type II CRISPR/Cas system, an adaptive immune response in bacteria and archaea, are now widely used for both gene knockout and knock-in in higher eukaryotic cells, animals, and plants. These nucleases induce DNA double-strand breaks (DSBs) at user-defined target sites in the genome, the repair of which via error-prone non-homologous end joining (NHEJ) or error-free homologous recombination (HR) gives rise to targeted mutagenesis and chromosomal rearrangements. Nuclease-mediated gene knockout is achieved preferentially via NHEJ rather than HR because NHEJ is a dominant DSB repair process over HR in higher eukaryotic cells and also because NHEJ does not require homologous donor DNA, fragments of which can be inserted at nuclease on-target and off-target sites. DSB repair by erroneous NHEJ is accompanied by small insertions and deletions (indels) at nuclease target sites, which can cause frameshift mutations in a protein-coding sequence. Inevitably, however, in-frame indels are also generated by this process, reducing the efficacy of nucleases in a population of cells and hampering the isolation of biallelic null clones. A recent study showed that RGENs induced in-frame deletions at frequencies up to 80%, resulting in incomplete gene disruption.

[3]

- [4] It was reported that TALENs and RGENs produce deletions much more frequently than insertions and that nuclease-induced deletions are often associated with microhomology (Kim, Y. et al., Nature methods, 10:185, 2013), the presence of two identical short (2 to several base) sequences flanking a breakpoint junction: Apparently, microhomology stimulates nuclease-induced deletions via a DSB repair pathway known as microhomology-mediated end joining (MMEJ) (Fig. 1a), as observed in *C. elegans*, zebrafish, and human cell lines.

[5]

Disclosure of Invention

Technical Problem

[6] In this regard, the present inventors aimed to develop a technology for predicting a target sequence having a high probability of inducing out-of-frame mutations by an engineered nuclease. As a result, the present inventors developed a method and a program for providing useful information for selecting a nuclease target sequence via microhomology-mediated deletion prediction, and confirmed that these may be efficiently used in inducing effective gene disruptions in human cells, animals, etc., thereby completing the present invention.

[7]

Solution to Problem

[8] An objective of the present invention is to provide a method of selecting a nuclease target sequence for gene knockout.

[9] Another objective of the present invention is to provide a method of providing information for selecting a sequence having high efficiency of out-of-frame deletion by a nuclease.

[10] Still another objective of the present invention is to provide a computer program capable of performing the method.

[11] Still another objective of the present invention is to provide a computer-readable recording medium in which the program is recorded.

Advantageous Effects of Invention

[12] The method according to the present invention enables to identify or select a target site having a low probability of inducing in-frame mutations thus capable of easily producing mutants with knockout of a particular gene. Therefore, the method of increasing knockout efficiency using technologies such as the engineered nuclease technology can be efficiently used in the field of clinical research on life science.

[13]

Brief Description of Drawings

[14] Figs 1a to 1e show prediction of nuclease-induced deletion patterns that are associated with microhomology. (Fig 1a) Schematic representation of microhomology-mediated annealing at a nuclease target site. (Fig 1b) In silico-predicted deletion patterns that result from microhomology-associated DNA repair. Microhomologies are shown in underlined. The equation used for calculating pattern scores is shown below the table. (Fig 1c) Comparison of the pattern score with the experimentally-determined frequency of the deletion pattern found using the deep sequencing data. Arrows indicate the three most frequent deletion patterns correctly predicted by the scoring system. The Pearson correlation coefficient is shown. (Fig 1d) Comparison of microhomology scores with the experimentally-determined frequencies of microhomology-as-

- sociated deletions. The microhomology score is the sum of all the pattern scores assigned to hypothetical deletion patterns at a given target site. (Fig 1e) Comparison of out-of-frame scores with the frequencies of frameshifting deletions observed in cells transfected with TALENs and RGENs.
- [15] Figs 2a to 2d show Experimental validation of the scoring system. (Fig 2a) The distribution of out-of-frame scores associated with potential target sites in the BRCA1 gene. (Fig 2b) The frequencies of out-of-frame indels determined by deep sequencing at high-score and low-score sites. The dashed lines correspond to the peak value of the Gaussian distribution of out-of-frame scores shown in (Fig 2a). (Fig 2c) Correlation of the out-of-frame scores with the frequencies shown in (Fig 2b). (Fig 2d) Correlation of the out-of-frame scores with the frequencies of frameshifting indels (left) or deletions (right) induced by 68 RGENs.
- [16] Fig 3 shows analysis of mutations induced by TALENs and RGENs. (a) The average frequencies of mutations induced by 10 TALENs in HEK293T cells and 10 RGENs in K562 cells. (b) Frequencies of deletions and insertions induced by TALENs and RGENs. Nuclease-induced mutations were classified as deletions or insertions relative to the wild-type sequences. Substitutions that may result from PCR or sequencing errors were obtained rarely (< 0.1%) and excluded in this analysis. (c) Frequencies of microhomology-associated deletions induced by TALENs and RGENs.
- [17] Figs 4a to 4c show evaluation of weight factor for deletion length. The weight factor for deletion length was calculated by fitting the deep sequencing data obtained with TALENs (Fig 4a) and RGENs (Fig 4b) to a single-exponential function (shown as a line). (Fig 4c) The average weight factor for TALENs and RGENs.
- [18] Figs 5a to 5c show source code for assigning a score to a hypothetical deletion pattern associated with microhomology.
- [19] Figs 6a and 6b show comparison of the pattern score with the experimentally-determined frequency of the pattern using the deep sequencing data. Arrows indicate the most frequent deletion patterns correctly predicted by the scoring system. The Pearson correlation coefficient is shown.
- [20] Fig 7 shows distribution of microhomology scores in the BRCA1 gene. Microhomology scores were assigned to all RGEN target sites in the human BRCA1 gene. The distribution of microhomology scores were fitted to a Gaussian function with a peak value at 4026 and a width of 1916.
- [21] Fig 8 shows high-score and low-score sites. (a) Two RGEN target sites separated by 29 bp in the MCM6 gene. Out-of-frame scores at the two sites are shown in parentheses. (b) The most frequent deletion patterns obtained in cells transfected by the RGEN plasmids. Microhomologies are shown in underlined. The two PAM sequences are highlighted.

[22] Fig 9 shows comparison of out-of-frame scores with experimental data. (a) Genotype analysis of 81 live-born mice carrying mutations that had been produced via TALENs or RGENs in our previous studies. (b) Correlation of the out-of-frame scores with the frequencies of out-of-frame deletions (Pearson correlation coefficient = 0.996).

[23] Fig. 10 shows flow chart for system for selecting a target having high efficiency of gene knockout.

[24]

Best Mode for Carrying out the Invention

[25] In one aspect, the present invention provides a method of selecting a nuclease target sequence for gene knockout.

[26]

[27] The method according to the present invention may be used as a target-selecting system capable of pre-estimating the frequency of microhomology-associated deletion, may calculate the out-of-frame score of an *in silico* nuclease target site, and may help selecting an appropriate target site to enable gene knockout in cultured cells, plants, or animals using a scoring system. Therefore, the method may be used for predicting a frequency of out-of-frame deletions of a nuclease target sequence.

[28]

[29] In particular, the present invention provides a method of selecting a nuclease target sequence for gene knockout, which includes:

[30] (a) providing a nuclease target sequence candidate;

[31] (b) collecting information of microhomology present in the nuclease target sequence candidate; and

[32] (c) predicting frequency of microhomology-associated out-of-frame deletion of the nuclease target sequence candidate based on the information of microhomology collected in step (b).

[33]

[34] Further, the method further comprises a step of comparing the frequency of microhomology-associated out-of-frame deletion predicted in step (c) with frequency of microhomology-associated out-of-frame deletion of other nuclease target sequence candidate. Through this step, the nuclease target sequence having high efficiency of out-of-deletion frame deletion can be selected among the nuclease target sequence candidates.

[35]

[36] Further, the information of microhomology may comprise a size of microhomology sequence, a distance between two microhomology sequences, and sequence information of the microhomology sequence, but is not limited thereto.

[37]

[38] The nuclease target sequence candidate may include any sequence as long as it is a sequence in which deletion may be induced by microhomology. In particular, the sequence may be originated from human cells, zebrafish, *C. elegans*, etc., but is not limited thereto. Further, the sequence may be a sequence of mammalian cells, insect cells, plant cells, fish cells, or etc, but is not limited thereto.

[39] In the present invention, the microhomology sequence present in the target sequence refers to a sequence of at least 2bp having 100% identity with a sequence present in other region of the target sequence. In detail, the microhomology sequences refer to identical sequences of at least 2bp flanking a position expected to be cleaved by a nuclease, but not limited thereto. For example, the microhomology sequence in the present invention may have a length of at least 2 bp, 3 bp, 4 bp, 5 bp, 6bp, 7bp, or 8bp, but is not limited thereto. The length of the microhomology sequence may vary depending on a given nuclease target sequence, and is preferably at least 2bp. Further, the length of the microhomology sequence is preferably shorter than the length from 5' or 3' end of the target sequence to a position expected to be cleaved by a nuclease of the nuclease target sequence. If microhomology sequences are present in both sides of a position cleaved by a nuclease, nuclease-induced deletion may be induced by microhomology-mediated annealing (Fig. 1a).

[40]

[41] The nuclease target sequence candidate or nuclease target sequence according to the present invention may have an identical sequence length in both directions with respect to a position expected to be cleaved by a nuclease, but is not limited thereto.

[42] Bases which constitute the target sequence according to the present invention may be selected from the group consisting of A, T, G, and C, but are not limited thereto as long as they are bases which constitute the target sequence.

[43] The position expected to be cleaved by a nuclease according to the present invention refers to a position where the covalently bonded backbone of the nucleotide molecules is expected to be disrupted by a nuclease.

[44] The target sequence may be located in a gene regulatory region or a gene region, but is not limited thereto. The target sequence may be present within 10 kb, 5 kb, 3 kb, or 1 kb, or 500 bp, 300 bp, or 200 bp from the transcription start site of a gene, for example, upstream or downstream of the start site, but is not particularly limited as long as it is a target sequence for a nuclease.

[45] Meanwhile, the gene regulatory region according to the present invention may be selected from promoters, transcription enhancers, 5' non-coding regions, 3' non-coding regions, virus packaging sequences, and selectable markers, but is not limited thereto. Further, the gene region according to the present invention may be an exon or an

intron, but is not limited thereto.

[46]

[47] The nuclease according to the present invention may be selected from the group consisting of zinc finger nucleases (ZFNs), transcription-activator-like effector nucleases (TALENs), and RNA-guided engineered nucleases (RGENs), but is not limited thereto.

[48]

ZFN may include a DNA-cleavage domain and a Zinc finger DNA-binding domain, and particularly, an integration of the two domains, which may be connected by a linker. Further, the zinc finger DNA-binding domain may be modified so that it can bind to a desired DNA sequence.

[49]

Further, TALEN may include a DNA-cleavage domain and transcription activator-like effectors (TALE) DNA-binding domain, and particularly an integration of the two domains, which may be connected by a linker. Further, TALE may be modified so that it binds to a desired DNA sequence.

[50]

RGEN refers to a nuclease containing a target DNA-specific guide RNA and Cas protein as components. The term "guide RNA" refers an RNA specific to a target DNA, which binds to Cas protein, thereby guiding the Cas protein to the target DNA.

[51]

Further, the guide RNA may be composed of two RNAs such as CRISPR RNA (crRNA) and trans-activating crRNA (tracrRNA), or may be a single-chain RNA (sgRNA) produced by the integration of main parts of crRNA and tracrRNA.

[52]

The guide RNA may be a dual RNA including crRNA and tracrRNA, and crRNA may bind to a target DNA.

[53]

Examples of the nuclease are not limited thereto, but may include any nuclease capable of inducing microhomology-associated deletion reflecting the objectives of the present invention, without limitations.

[54]

[55]

Further, in order to predict the frequency of microhomology-associated out-of-frame deletion of the nuclease target sequence candidate, step (c) may comprise calculating a pattern score, which is a score assigned to an expected deletion pattern of each of microhomologies present in the given nuclease target sequence candidate; and calculating (i) a microhomology score, which is a sum of the pattern scores of all microhomologies in the given nuclease target sequence candidate and (ii) a out-of-frame score, which is a ratio of a score which is a sum of the pattern scores of microhomologies associated with out-of-frame deletion to the microhomology score, based on the calculated pattern score.

[56]

[57]

The method according to the present invention may comprise the following steps, but it not limited thereto:

- [58] i) providing a nuclease target sequence candidate;
- [59] ii) examining, in the given nuclease target sequence, whether two identical sequences of at least 2 bp flanking a position expected to be cleaved by a nuclease are present in the target sequence to identify the presence of microhomology;
- [60] iii) obtaining information of microhomology, when the microhomology is present in the target sequence, and repeating steps ii) and iii) one or more times;
- [61] iv) calculating a pattern score, which is a score assigned to an expected deletion pattern of each of microhomologies present in the given nuclease target sequence candidate; and
- [62] v) calculating (i) a microhomology score, which is a sum of the pattern scores of all microhomologies in the given nuclease target sequence candidate and (ii) a out-of-frame score, which is a ratio of a score which is a sum of the pattern scores of microhomologies associated with out-of-frame deletion to the microhomology score.
- [63]
- [64] Step ii) is a step of obtaining information of microhomology, *e.g.*, a distance between 5' positions of the microhomology sequences or a distance between 3' positions of the microhomology sequences, and sequence information of the microhomology sequence, when the microhomology is present in the target sequence. Further, step iii) may further comprise a step of repeating step ii) and iii) one or more times to obtain information on all microhomologies.
- [65] In particular, step iii) may be for obtaining information about a deletion length when nuclease-induced deletion is induced by MMEJ, and microhomology sequence, location, etc.
- [66] All microhomology patterns present in the given nuclease target sequence can be obtained via step iii).
- [67]
- [68] Step iv) refers to calculating a pattern score based on the information obtained from step iii).
- [69]
- [70] In an embodiment, the present invention confirmed that microhomology-associated deletion depends on the size and deletion length of microhomology. In particular, it was confirmed that as the size of microhomology increases, the frequency of deletion increase, while as the deletion length increases, the frequency of deletion decreases. In this regard, an equation for scoring a hypothetical deletion pattern (herein, also referred to as "pattern score") of a given nuclease target sequence was induced based on the results.
- [71]
- [72] In particular, a pattern score may be calculated by the following Equation 1.

[73] [Equation 1]

[74] Pattern score = $S \times \exp(-\Delta / W_{\text{length}})$,

[75] wherein:

[76] S is a microhomology index that corresponds to the size and base pairing energy of the microhomology sequence;

[77] Δ is a distance between 5' positions of the microhomology sequences or a distance between 3' positions of the microhomology sequences (deletion length); and

[78] W_{length} is a weight factor on a distance between the microhomology sequences.

[79]

[80] More particularly, S is an index which corresponds to the size of a microhomology sequence and the base pairing energy which constitutes the same, and for example, may be calculated using Equation 4.

[81] [Equation 4]

[82] Microhomology index = (number of G and C in a microhomology sequence)*2 + (number of A and T bases in a microhomology sequence).

[83]

[84] Considering that G:C pairs are more stable than A:T pairs, +2 was assigned for the number of GC, and +1 was assigned for the number of AT, but are not limited thereto. It may be calculated by various methods which put more weight on the number of GC.

[85]

[86] Further, in the equation,

[87]

[88] W_{length} is a weight factor on a distance between the two sequence fragments, and may be 20 for example. However it is not limited thereto.

[89]

[90] Furthermore, in one embodiment, the present invention may perform calculating a pattern score by classifying step iv) into either when a deletion length is a multiple of 3 or when it is not a multiple of 3, but is not limited thereto.

[91] Here, when a distance between sequence fragments, thus a deletion length, is a multiple of 3, it may be determined that an in-frame deletion will be induced. On the other hand, when the deletion length is not a multiple of 3, it may be determined that an out-of-frame deletion will be induced.

[92]

[93] Further, prior to performing step iv), eliminating of overlapping information obtained from step iii) may be included, but is not limited thereto.

[94]

[95] Step v) of the method is a step of calculating a microhomology score, an out-of-frame score, or both based on the pattern score from iv). Further, more particularly,

the microhomology score and out-of-frame score may be calculated by the following Equations 2 and 3, respectively.

[96] [Equation 2]

[97] Microhomology score = \sum pattern score,

[98] wherein the microhomology score is a sum of pattern scores of the obtained all microhomologies;

[99]

[100] [Equation 3]

[101] Out-of-frame score = \sum pattern score of out-of-frame deletion / microhomology score (\sum pattern score),

[102] wherein \sum pattern score of out-of-frame deletion is a sum of pattern scores of relevant microhomologies whose a deletion length is not a multiple of 3.

[103]

[104] Based on the microhomology score and the out-of-frame score calculated in the step above, the frequency of microhomology-associated deletion and frame shifting mutation regarding a nuclease target sequence may be predicted.

[105]

[106] The method according to the present invention may be implemented as a computer program, and be used to easily select a target having high efficiency of gene knockout. Computer programming languages capable of implementing the method according to the present invention are Python, C, C++, Java, Fortran, Visual basic, etc., but are not limited thereto. Each of the programs may be saved in a compact disc read only memory (CD-ROM), a hard disk, a magnetic diskette, or a similar recording medium tools, etc., and may be connected to intra- or internetwork systems. For example, the computer system may search the nucleotide sequences of a target gene or a regulatory region thereof by connecting to a sequence data base such as GenBank (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nucleotide>) using HTTP, HTTPS, or XML protocols.

[107]

[108] The method according to the present invention may be used to help selecting an appropriate target site for knockout in cultured cells, plants, and animals by effectively predicting the frequency of microhomology-associated deletion of a nuclease target sequence. Further, the method may significantly increase efficiency not only in gene knockout cell clones and animals such as livestock, but also in nuclease-mediated genes or cellular therapies.

[109]

[110] In another aspect, the present invention provides a method of providing information for selecting a sequence having a high efficiency of out-of-frame deletion by a nuclease.

[111]

[112] In particular, it provides a method of providing information for selecting a sequence having high efficiency of out-of-frame deletion by a nuclease, including:

[113] (a) providing a nuclease target sequence candidate;

[114] (b) collecting information of microhomology present in the nuclease target sequence candidate; and

[115] (c) predicting frequency of microhomology-associated out-of-frame deletion of the nuclease target sequence candidate based on the information of microhomology collected in step (b).

[116] Steps (a) to (c) and each term are the same as described above.

[117]

[118] In another aspect, the present invention provides a computer program performing the steps of the method according to the present invention.

[119]

[120] The method, each step, and the computer program are the same as previously described above.

[121]

[122] In another aspect, the present invention provides a computer-readable recording medium in which the program is recorded.

[123] The program, the recording medium, etc., are the same as previously described above.

[124]

Mode for the Invention

[125] Hereinafter, the present invention will be described in more detail with reference to Examples. It is to be understood, however, that these examples are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to limit the scope of the present invention.

[126]

Example 1: Materials & Methods

[128]

[129] (1) Cell culture and transfection

[130]

[131] K562 (ATCC, CCL-243) cells were grown in RPMI-1640 with 10% FBS and a penicillin/streptomycin mix (100 units/mL and 100 mg/mL, respectively). To induce mutations in human cells using RGENs, 2×10^6 K562 cells were transfected with 20 μ g of Cas9-encoding plasmid using Amaxa SF Cell Line 4D-Nucleofector Kit (Lonza) according to the manufacturer's protocol. After 24 h, 60 mg and 120 mg of *in vitro* transcribed crRNA and tracrRNA, respectively, were transfected into 1×10^6 K562

cells. Genomic DNA was isolated at 48 h post-transfection. HEK293T/17 (ATCC, CRL-11268) and HeLa (ATCC, CCL-2) cells were maintained in Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium (DMEM) supplemented with 100 units/mL penicillin, 100 µg/mL streptomycin, 0.1 mM nonessential amino acids, and 10% fetal bovine serum (FBS). To induce mutations in HEK 293T cells using TALENs, 2×10^5 HEK293T cells were transfected with TALEN-encoding plasmids (500 ng) using lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Genomic DNA was isolated at 72 h post-transfection. 1.6×10^4 HeLa cells were transfected with Cas9-encoding plasmid (0.1 µg) and sgRNA expression plasmid (0.1 µg) using Lipofectamine 2000 (Invitrogen) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Cells were collected 72 h after transfection and lysed with cell lysis buffer (0.005% SDS containing Proteinase K from Tritirachium album (1:50; Sigma-Aldrich)).

[132]

[133] (2) Construction of TALEN-encoding plasmids

[134]

[135] TALENs were designed to target sites shown in Tables 1 and 2. TALEN-encoding plasmids were assembled using the one-step Golden-Gate cloning system that we described previously.

[136] Table 1

[Table 1]

Nuclease (cell type)	Gene	Name	Target site (5' to 3')*	SEQ ID NO
TALEN (HEK293T)	<i>APP</i>	APP_1	TAGACCCCGCCACAGCAGC ctctgaagttgg ACAGCAAACCATTGCTTCA	1
	<i>CD4</i>	CD4_1	TGTCTCAGCTGGAGCTCCAG gatagtggcacc TGGACATGCACTGTCTTGCA	2
	<i>CREBBP</i>	CREB_1	TGTCCAATGACCTGTCCCAG aagctgtatgcc ACCATGGAGAAGCACAAGGA	3
	<i>TP53</i>	TP53_1	TACAACCTACATGTGTAACAG ttcttgcattggg CGGCATGAACCGGAGGCCCA	4
	<i>CFTR</i>	CFTR_1	TCGGAAGGCAGCCTATGTGA gataacttcaata GCTCAGCCTTCTTCTTCTCA	5
	<i>CFTR</i>	CFTR_2	TCTCTTACTGGGAAGAATCA tagcttccatg ACCCGGATAACAAGGAGGAA	6
	<i>DROSHA</i>	DROS_1	TGAGGAGGAGATTGCCAATA tgcttcagtggg AGGAGCTGGAGTGGCAGAAA	7
	<i>DROSHA</i>	DROS_2	TGAAGGATACAGAAATGACT gtgaatcaacc ATATCATCAAGGAGCTGATA	8
	<i>NFKB1</i>	NFKB_1	TATGTATGTGAAGGCCATC ccatggtggact ACCTGGTGCCTCTAGTGAAA	9
	<i>NFKB1</i>	NFKB_2	TTGTCATTGCTGTTGTCCCT ctgctacgttcc TATTGTCATTAAAGGTATCA	10
RGEN (K562)	<i>C4BPB</i>	C4BP_1	<u>AATGACCACTACATCCTCAAGGG</u>	11
	<i>CCR5</i>	CCR5_1	<u>TGACATCAATTATTATACATCGG</u>	12
	<i>DROSHA</i>	DROS_1	<u>GATTGCCAATATGCTTCAGTGGG</u>	13
	<i>CCR5</i>	CCR5_2	<u>CCTCCGCTCTACTCACTGGTGT</u>	14
	<i>CCR5</i>	CCR5_3	<u>CCTGCCTCCGCTCTACTCACTGG</u>	15
	<i>CCR5</i>	CCR5_4	<u>GAATCCTAAAACTCTGCTTCGG</u>	16
	<i>CCR5</i>	CCR5_5	<u>CCTAAAACTCTGCTTCGGTGTC</u>	17
	<i>CCR5</i>	CCR5_6	<u>AAATGAGAAGAAGAGGCACAGGG</u>	18
	<i>AAVS1</i>	AAVS1_1	<u>CTCCCTCCCAGGATCCTCTCTGG</u>	19
	<i>EMX1</i>	EMX1	<u>GAGTCCGAGCAGAAGAAGAAGGG</u>	20

*A TALEN site consists of the left-half site (upper-case letters), spacer (lower-case letters), and the right-half site (upper-case letters). PAM sequences are shown in underlined.

[137]

[138] Table 2

[Table 2]

Nuclease (cell type)	Gene	Name	Target site (5' to 3')*	SEQ ID NO
TALEN (HEK293T)	BRCA1	BRCA1 _l	TCCAGCTGCTGCTCATACTA ctgatactgctg GGTATAATGCAATGGAAGAA	21
	BRCA1	BRCA1 _h	TCCTGAACATCTAAAAGATG aagtttctatca TCCAAAGTATGGGCTACAGA	22
	CXCR4	CXCR4 _l	TCTTCCTGCCACCATCTAC tccatcatcttc TTAACTGGCATTGTGGGCAA	23
	CXCR4	CXCR4 _h	TGGGTTGATTTCAGCACCTA cagtgtacagtc TTGTATTAAGTTGTTAATAA	24
	MCM6	MCM6 _l	TTAGAAGTAATTTTAAGGGC tgaagctgtgga ATCAGCTCAAGCTGGTGACA	25
	MCM6	MCM6 _h	TGGAATCAACTTGTATGAAA ccttgtcaaat GTACTCCACAAGTATGTACA	26
	PHF8	PHF8 _l	TACAGAAGGCCAAAAGAAG aatatatcaag AAGAAGCCTTTGCTGAAGGA	27
	PHF8	PHF8 _h	TACAGCCTGCTTGCTCCGCC tataccacagag CACAGCCTGGACATTATGGA	28
	SLC18A2	SLC18 _l	TCCAGTCATATCCGATAGGT gaagatgaagaa TCTGAAAGTGACTGAGATGA	29
	SLC18A2	SLC18 _h	TGTATAAAACAGTGTTCCTA gtgacacaactc ATCCAGAAGTGTCTTAGTCA	30
	TP53	TP53 _l	TGTACCACCATCCACTACAA ctacatgtgtaa CAGTTCCTGCATGGGCGGCA	31
	TP53	TP53 _h	TTGTGAGCCACCAGTCCAG ctggaagggtca ACATCTTTTACATTCTGCAA	32
RGEN (K562)	APP	APP _l	AGAGGAGGAAGAAGTGGCTGAGG	33
	APP	APP _h	GCCACAGCAGCCTCTGAAGTTGG	34
	BRCA1	BRCA1 _l	GCTCATACTACTGATACTGCTGG	35
	BRCA1	BRCA1 _h	ATTGACAGCTTCAACAGAAAGGG	36
	MCM6	MCM6 _l	GCTAGGGACAGAAGTGTTCCTGG	37
	MCM6	MCM6 _h	CTCGTGGCCTGGAGCCTGGCTGG	38

*A TALEN site consists of the left-half site (upper-case letters), spacer (lower-case letters), and the right-half site (upper-case letters). PAM sequences are shown in underlined.

[139]

[140] (3) Construction of Cas9-encoding plasmids.

[141]

[142] The Cas9-encoding plasmid and sgRNA-encoding plasmids were constructed. The Cas9 protein is expressed under the control of the CMV promoter and fused to a peptide tag (NH₃-GGSGPPKKRKYYPYDVPDYA-COOH, SEQ ID NO: 39)

containing the HA epitope and a nuclear localization signal (NLS) at the C-terminus.

[143]

[144] (4) RNA preparation

[145]

[146] RNAs used in K562 cells were *in vitro* transcribed through run-off reactions by T7 RNA polymerase using a MEGAscript T7 kit (Ambion) according to the manufacturer's manual. Templates for sgRNA or crRNA were generated by annealing and extension of two complementary oligonucleotides (Tables 1 or 2). Transcribed RNA was purified by phenol:chloroform extraction, chloroform extraction, and ethanol precipitation. Purified RNA was quantified by spectrometry.

[147]

[148] (5) Targeted deep sequencing

[149]

[150] Genomic DNA segments that encompass the nuclease target sites were amplified using Phusion polymerase (New England Biolabs). Equal amounts of the PCR amplicons were subjected to paired-end read sequencing using Illumina MiSeq at Bio-Medical Science Co. (South Korea). Rare sequence reads that constituted less than 0.005% of the total reads were excluded. Indels located around the RGEN cleavage site (3 bp upstream of the PAM) and around the TALEN target site (spacer) were considered to be mutations induced by RGENs and TALENs, respectively.

[151]

[152] **Example 2: determination of mutant sequences induced by TALENs and RGENs in human cells**

[153]

[154] The mutant sequences induced by 10 TALENs and 10 RGENs in human cells using deep sequencing were determined. TALENs and RGENs induced mutations at frequencies of $19.7 \pm 3.6\%$ (mean \pm s.e.m) in HEK293T cells and $47.0 \pm 5.9\%$ in K562 cells, respectively (Figure 3, Tables 1 and 3).

[155]

[156] Analysis was focused on deletions and excluded insertions because deletions are much more prevalent than are insertions (98.7% vs. 1.3% for TALENs and 75.1% vs. 24.9% for RGENs) and because microhomology is irrelevant to insertions. In aggregate, deletions were associated with microhomology at a frequency of 44.3% for TALENs and 52.7% for RGENs (Figure 3, Table 3). Thus, 43.7% ($= 0.987 \times 0.443$) and 39.6% ($= 0.751 \times 0.527$) of all the indels induced by TALENs and RGENs, respectively, were associated with microhomology. At a given nuclease target site, these microhomology-associated deletions can be predicted. In an extreme case, all or none of these deletions can cause frameshift in a protein-coding gene. In contrast, one third

of microhomology-independent indels result in in-frame mutations. Assuming that ~60% of indels are microhomology-independent on average, the fraction of in-frame mutations at a given site can range from 20% ($= 60\%/3 + 0\%$) to 60% ($= 60\%/3 + 40\%$), a three-fold difference between the two extreme cases. Because most eukaryotic cells are diploid rather than haploid, the fraction of null cells carrying two out-of-frame mutations can range from 16% ($= 0.40 \times 0.40$) to 64% ($= 0.80 \times 0.80$), depending on the choice of target sites.

[157] Table 3

[Table 3]

Nuclea se (cell type)	Gene	Name	Numbe r of seque nce reads	Inserti on	Deletio n	Frequen cy of out-of- frame deletio ns (%)	Frequen cy of out-of- frame indels (%)	Frequen cy of microho mology- associa ted deletio ns (%)	Microho mology score*	Out-of- frame score ^b
TALEN (HEK29 3T)	APP	APP_1	58822	148	24260	74.1879 6373	74.2297 6073	45.0832 6	3930	73.6132 3155
	CD4	CD4_1	13089 0	221	15863	79.5625 0394	79.6692 3651	45.0463 3	3915	85.8492 9757
	CREBBP	CREB_1	14645 5	524	46455	72.3065 332	72.4195 9173	48.7702 1	4184	48.1118 5468
	TP53	TP53_1	10445 1	216	13819	58.7561 495	59.0242 1395	37.3346 1	2704	44.4156 8047
	CFTR	CFTR_1	13308 9	191	11835	57.8284 7486	58.2155 3301	40.7942 5	3171	48.5335 8562
	CFTR	CFTR_2	12247 7	90	9239	80.1493 6681	80.2658 3771	47.2129	3399	83.8187 7023
	DROSHA	DROS_1	21820 0	360	34204	61.3437 0249	61.2342 3215	42.9160 3	4195	46.7938 0215
	DROSHA	DROS_2	24020 3	1455	74503	69.2925 1171	69.3764 9754	39.5017 7	3400	81.0588 2353
	NFKB1	NFKB_1	10768 0	189	14017	57.9510 5943	57.9051 1052	44.2983 5	4111	43.2984 6753
	NFKB1	NFKB_2	23508 2	748	47387	80.9251 4825	80.6959 5928	52.7383	3642	93.4925 8649
RGEN (K562)	C4BPB	C4BP_1	47856	21247	11768	38.9785 86	76.0866 2729	46.4692 4	2969	40.9902 324
	CCR5	CCR5_1	20064 5	10727	94967	83.4921 6043	83.7587 7533	47.6020 1	3316	71.2605 5489
	DROSHA	DROS_1	25150 9	15723	106834	56.8554 9544	60.2421 7303	40.5259 6	4530	46.5562 9139
	CCR5	CCR5_2	76347	1723	26406	74.1649 6251	75.4914 8566	47.1392 9	3772	65.1643 6904
	CCR5	CCR5_3	73367	2511	10001	62.3437 6562	69.4613 1714	55.4934 5	5118	57.4443 1419
	CCR5	CCR5_4	69780	1325	17745	65.0831 2201	67.2941 7934	59.7728 9	4148	68.6354 8698
	CCR5	CCR5_5	99571	3256	29392	80.3041 644	82.1152 9037	62.9491	4569	76.0122 5651
	CCR5	CCR5_6	10645 0	22712	25837	68.4754 422	83.0336 3612	44.9402	3660	60.5191 2565
	AAVS1	AAVS1_1	43249	7812	18964	86.2476 2708	93.2999 7012	57.8395 9	5894	72.3447 6
	EMX1	EMX1	52845	16745	22958	47.3007 2622	69.4745 3476	64.4728 3	4756	50.7569 4

[158]

[159]

A careful analysis of indel sequences also revealed that the frequency of microhomology-associated deletions depends on both the size of the microhomology and the length of the deletions. Thus, as the microhomology size increased, the deletion frequency also increased. In addition, as the length of deletions increased, the deletion frequency decreased exponentially (Fig. 4). For example, the two most frequent

deletions induced by a TALEN pair specific to the human *APP* gene were associated with 5- and 4-nucleotide sequences separated by 20 and 17 bp, respectively, near the target site (Fig. 1b).

[160]

[161] **Example 3: Formula to predict microhomology-associated deletions**

[162]

[163] Based on these observations, a simple formula to predict microhomology-associated deletions was developed. First, deletion patterns at a given nuclease target site that are associated with microhomology of at least 2 bases *in silico* were predicted and then a score was assigned to each hypothetical deletion pattern using a computer program written in Python (Figs. 5a to 5c), according to the following equation 1 that accounts for both the size of microhomology and the deletion length (Fig. 1b).

[164]

[165] [Equation 5]

[166] A pattern score = $S \times \exp(-\Delta/20)$,

[167] where S is the microhomology index that corresponds to the size of microhomology and base pairing energy and

[168] Δ is the deletion length in base pairs (bp).

[169]

[170] Because G:C base pairs are more stable than are A:T pairs, each A:T pair and each G:C pair in the microhomology sequence were arbitrarily assigned to +1 and +2, respectively, to obtain the microhomology index. This simple formula accurately predicted the three most frequent deletion patterns at the TALEN site (Fig. 1c). The program was used to assign scores to the other 19 sites. The program accurately predicted the most frequent deletion pattern at 5 TALEN sites and 8 RGEN sites (Figs. 6a and 6b). Overall, the scores correlated well with the deep sequencing data: The Pearson correlation coefficient ranged from 0.411 to 0.945 at the 20 sites with a mean value of 0.727.

[171]

[172] **Example 4: Evaluation of utility of scoring system**

[173]

[174] To choose nuclease target sites that are prone to forming microhomology-mediated deletions and out-of-frame mutations, two scores were assigned to each target site. A microhomology score is the sum of all the scores assigned to hypothetical deletion patterns at a given site: \sum pattern score. An out-of-frame score assigned to each target site is calculated by the following equation 2:

[175]

[176] [Equation 3]

[177] Out-of-frame score = \sum pattern score of an out-of-frame deletion / \sum pattern score

[178]

[179] The distance between the target sites was ± 30 bp. Then, the predicted scores were compared with the experimental data at the 20 sites. Both the microhomology scores and the out-of-frame scores were statistically significant predictors of the frequencies of microhomology-associated deletions and frame shifting mutations, respectively (Pearson coefficient = 0.635 and 0.797, respectively) (Figs. 1d and e). These results suggest that one can use the scoring system to choose sites appropriate for targeted gene disruption.

[180]

[181] To evaluate the utility of our scoring system, two target sites, one with a high score and the other with a low score, in each of 9 human genes were chosen. To this end, all RGEN target sites (5'-X20NGG-3', where X20 corresponds to the crRNA or sgRNA sequence and NGG is the protospacer-adjacent motif (PAM) recognized by Cas9) in the human *BRCA1* gene (9,494 sites in exons and introns) were firstly identified and the microhomology score and the out-of-frame score were assigned to each target site. Interestingly, the out-of-frame scores were distributed according to a Gaussian function with a peak value at 65.9 (Fig. 2a). This is expected because two thirds of all the microhomology-associated deletions would result in frame-shift mutations. Two target sites in exons, one from the top 20% of the scores and the other from the bottom 20%, were arbitrarily chosen. Likewise, high-score sites and low-score sites in 8 other genes were chosen. A total of 6 or 12 sites were targeted by RGENs or TALENs, respectively (Table 2). Then, mutations in human cells by transfecting cells with plasmids encoding these nucleases were induced, regions containing the target sites were amplified, and the PCR amplicons were deeply sequenced to obtain the fraction of out-of-frame indels at each target site (Table 4).

[182] Table 4

[Table 4]

Nucleas e (Cell type)	Gene	Name	Number of sequence reads	Insertion	Deletion	Frequen cy of out-of-frame deletions (%)	Frequen cy of out-of-frame indels (%)	Microhomology score ^a	Out-of-frame score ^b
TALEN (HEK293 T)	BRCA1	BRCA1_l	77583	795	32519	39.1047 9085	39.6139 2158	4303	21.77551
	BRCA1	BRCA1_h	122533	871	62077	81.1030 1121	81.0808 8489	3045	80.42693
	CXCR4	CXCR4_l	117578	417	42130	45.2613 9826	45.2618 6207	3903	37.56085
	CXCR4	CXCR4_h	280176	882	52068	83.7198 2103	83.7143 6317	4061	84.73282
	MCM6	MCM6_l	191096	3459	131302	43.8324 8991	44.5792 7991	3759	41.63341
	MCM6	MCM6_h	267702	941	19526	80.0024 7724	80.4623 862	3812	79.56453
	PHF8	PHF8_l	253216	1071	87348	41.7805 1364	42.1055 3931	4765	42.70724
	PHF8	PHF8_h	264899	1811	75500	72.2763 1047	72.4708 3002	3267	78.29813
	SLC18A2	SLC18_l	356244	2773	147564	39.7938 1922	40.0061 0221	4816	45.72259
	SLC18A2	SLC18_h	374261	2427	99331	75.6409 3697	75.7682 7054	4220	85.92417
	TP53	TP53_l	84253	342	15334	48.1871 345	48.4695 5659	3236	31.33498
	TP53	TP53_h	176325	1210	29962	79.1670 5144	78.8308 357	3769	86.35421
RGEN (K562)	APP	APP_l	68578	559	6112	34.5598 1506	38.3752 4878	7565	23.91276
	APP	APP_h	278349	2952	23162	76.5880 7947	77.7695 6436	4180	73.37321
	BRCA1	BRCA1_l	143960	10054	30439	34.6828 4963	47.5669 2842	3658	23.75615
	BRCA1	BRCA1_h	102903	3066	15415	88.1639 982	88.6699 8256	4432	79.62545
	MCM6	MCM6_l	273431	3304	93399	34.1983 9631	36.1884 9409	4359	38.74742
	MCM6	MCM6_h	167502	6026	14745	65.1622 1147	74.7811 4478	6330	71.87994

^aMicrohomology score = \sum pattern score.

^bOut-of-frame score = $\frac{\sum \text{pattern score of an out-of-frame deletion}}{\sum \text{pattern score}}$ (± 30 bp between target sites)

[183]

[184]

High-score sites produced out-of-frame indels much more frequently than did low-score sites in all of the 9 pairs (Fig. 2b). Thus, all 9 high-score sites produced frameshifting indels at frequencies higher than 66%, the mean value of predicted scores. In contrast, all 9 low-score sites produced out-of-frame mutations at frequencies much lower than the mean. For example, two RGENs induced out-of-frame

indels at frequencies of 36.2% and 74.8% at two adjacent low-score and high-score sites, respectively, in the *MCM6* gene; the sites were separated by merely 29 bp (Fig. 8), highlighting the importance of target site choice. On average, the high-score sites and low-score sites produced frameshifting indels at frequencies of 79.3% and 42.5%, respectively (Student's t-test, $p < 0.001$). In a diploid cell or organism, the probability of obtaining null clones would be 62.8% ($= 0.793 \times 0.793$) and 18.1% ($= 0.425 \times 0.425$), respectively, strikingly similar to our two extreme-case estimations of 64% and 16% described above. As expected, the out-of-frame scores were reliable predictors of the frequencies of frameshifting indels (Pearson coefficient = 0.934) (Fig. 2c). To demonstrate the usefulness of our scoring system further, we tested 68 new RGENs that target different genes in yet another human cell line, HeLa (Table 5).

[185] Table 5

[Table 5]

Gene	Target site (5' to 3')	Number of sequence reads	Insertion	Deletion	Frequency of out-of-frame deletions (%)	Frequency of out-of-frame indels (%)	Microhomology score _h	Out-of-frame score _h
ABL1	TGGGCTGGATAATGGAG CGTGG (SEQ ID NO: 40)	3777	630	849	89.8704	93.712	5895	67.68447837
ACK	CGGTCCAACAACGATCCC AGAGG (SEQ ID NO: 41)	2374	306	1112	74.1007	79.2666	4429	61.21020546
ALK	CTGTGACCACGGGACGGT GCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 42)	4753	905	2248	66.1922	74.3102	5617	66.22752359
ARG	TCCATCTCGCTCAGGTAC GAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 43)	4316	985	2188	80.8044	86.0384	4220	69.43127962
AXL	GTCCCGTGTGGAAAGCT GCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 44)	3514	494	1870	61.6043	68.5702	4729	55.25481074
BLK	ACTACACCGCTATGAATG ATCGG (SEQ ID NO: 45)	4121	1286	1280	81.4844	90.0624	4684	56.85311699
BRK	CCCAGAGGCCACATACT TGCGG (SEQ ID NO: 46)	3380	913	1229	55.9805	74.2297	5984	61.1631016
CCK4	ACATGCCGCTATTTGAGC CACGG (SEQ ID NO: 47)	3946	133	794	55.9194	60.1942	4259	62.15073961
CSK	CTGACCGACCCCTAGACC GCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 48)	4102	1053	1715	82.7405	88.7283	5058	64.84776592
CTK	GCGGAAACACGGGACCAA GTCGG (SEQ ID NO: 49)	4469	376	1571	78.9306	81.1505	6340	69.95268139
DDR2	CCCCAGTGTCTGGTTTGT CACGG (SEQ ID NO: 50)	6486	1082	3531	84.3104	87.5569	5379	63.32031976
EGFR	CAAAGCTGTATTTGCCCT CGGGG (SEQ ID NO: 51)	4302	194	688	67.0058	73.2426	3892	57.34840699
EphA 1	GCTCCAATTGGATCTACC GCGGG (SEQ ID NO: 52)	3762	317	2322	70.801	73.7779	4049	67.64633243
EphA 10	TGGACCGGCGCAGGTCTC CA1GG (SEQ ID NO: 53)	3575	754	774	71.3178	85.0785	5892	64.69789545
EphA 2	AGGCTCCGAGTAGCGCAC ACTGG (SEQ ID NO: 54)	3700	696	727	77.7166	88.2642	5328	73.40465465
EphA 3	TTGTGACACAGGTTTCTA CAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 55)	2132	608	636	87.1069	92.0418	3497	69.48813269
EphA 4	AACACCGAGATCCGGGAT GTAGG (SEQ ID NO: 56)	5136	287	2520	85.2381	85.1087	4003	68.99825131
EphA 5	ACTGACGCGCCGAAGGGG AGTGG (SEQ ID NO: 57)	4830	109	1800	67.2778	67.7842	6062	62.27317717
EphA 6	TCTCTCAATACGAATTC TGAGG (SEQ ID NO: 58)	3660	344	1357	52.5424	59.3766	4342	63.79648595
EphA 7	CACCTGGTATGTTCTGAT CGGGG (SEQ ID NO: 59)	6125	1850	2738	89.2988	92.6548	4648	74.44061962
EphB	CACATGCATCCCCAACGC	3688	361	2105	71.6665	74.2092	4395	61.592719

[186]

1	AGAGG (SEQ ID NO: 60)							
EphB 2	GGCTACGGACCAAGTTTA TCCGG (SEQ ID NO: 61)	3553	49	537	68.9013	70.9898	3974	59.3356819 3
EphB 4	GCAGAATATTGGACAAA CACGG (SEQ ID NO: 62)	4113	1337	1722	90.0697	93.9523	4455	77.0819304 2
EphB 6	CTTCACCCTTTACTACCG TCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 63)	4867	472	2010	89.7512	90.5318	4798	67.2780325 1
FER	AGACTGGGAATTACGGTT ACTGG (SEQ ID NO: 64)	4619	172	2246	67.4978	67.9487	4468	61.0116383 2
FES	GGAGGCCGAGCTTCGTCT ACTGG (SEQ ID NO: 65)	3287	75	756	32.8042	38.7485	4584	48.5820244 3
FGFR 1	CTCTGCATGGTTGACCGT TCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 66)	4070	210	1386	83.4776	83.7719	4649	67.8425467 8
FGFR 3	CGGCAACTACACCTGCGT CGTGG (SEQ ID NO: 67)	2250	299	1171	65.585	70.9524	4392	48.1329690 3
FGFR 4	AACTCCCATAGTGGGTCG AGAGG (SEQ ID NO: 68)	6126	204	659	62.3672	70.2202	4744	57.2512647 6
FOR	GCAGCTGTACGCGGTGGT GTCGG (SEQ ID NO: 69)	4216	175	1686	45.255	49.2746	5234	36.3584256 8
FMS	ATCTACTTGATCGAGTT GAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 70)	6805	467	2273	53.5416	60.9489	4919	48.3431591 8
FRK	CTGGTCAGTTTGGCGAAG TATGG (SEQ ID NO: 71)	4682	537	699	81.9742	89.4013	4712	72.2410865 9
FYN	GGGACCTTGCCTACGAGA GGAGG (SEQ ID NO: 72)	4055	130	1897	66.5788	67.8836	4443	66.9367544 5
HCK	TGTCGCCCGGTTGACTC TCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 73)	4822	200	420	86.6667	89.5161	3736	72.8854389 7
HER2 /ErbB 2	AGCTGGCGCCGAAIGTAT ACCGG (SEQ ID NO: 74)	4921	121	1935	76.1757	77.0914	5021	69.9482258 5
IGF1 R	TCAGTACGCGTTTACGT CAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 75)	4857	1117	2543	65.0806	74.7268	3991	55.1490854 4
INSR	GAGAATTGCTCTGTCAATC GAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 76)	5838	924	920	84.8913	91.5944	4280	67.5233644 9
ITK	AAGCGGACTTTAAAGTTC GAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 77)	5075	126	472	80.5085	84.0871	4851	78.5198928 1
JAK2	AGCAACAGAGCCTATCGG CATGG (SEQ ID NO: 78)	4060	254	1473	67.2098	70.3532	4379	66.3165106 2
JAK3	CTGGAAGTCGAGAAGG GCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 79)	3349	102	574	86.2369	86.9822	4551	74.2913645 4
KDR	TCCAGGTTTCCGTGATC GTGGG (SEQ ID NO: 80)	5604	988	1684	61.1045	75	3825	63.3464052 3
KIT	TATTCTCATTGTTTCAT CCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 81)	5426	428	1633	55.2358	61.8147	5110	56.5362035 2
LCK	GAGCCTTCGTAGGTAACC AGTGG (SEQ ID NO: 82)	3159	141	680	82.9412	83.8002	4884	73.4234234 2
LMR1	GCCACCCGTCGACGTCCC CTGGG	3363	236	1810	78.5083	80.2053	8541	61.9716660

[187]

	(SEQ ID NO: 83)							8
LMR2	GCTCAGGAGCGTTGAACT TGAGG (SEQ ID NO: 84)	4756	1648	1807	68.9541	83.3864	4369	58.4115358 2
LTK	TGGCTCCAAGATACTAGG CGGGG (SEQ ID NO: 85)	4131	172	1195	82.3431	80.9802	5454	55.5298863 2
MER	CTATTCGGGGACCTTTT CCAGG (SEQ ID NO: 86)	2890	135	1320	81.3636	82.6804	5269	56.9485670 9
MUS K	GCATAGCTACCAATAAGC ATGGG (SEQ ID NO: 87)	4871	154	2709	65.2639	66.2592	4309	54.4209793 5
PDGF Ra	CAGCCTAAGACCAGGAAC GCCGG (SEQ ID NO: 88)	4452	353	2708	84.8227	85.7563	5043	71.3067618 5
PDGF Rb	AGGGAACGTATTATCGT AAGGG (SEQ ID NO: 89)	3996	149	2407	55.7541	57.903	4091	53.9965778 5
PYK2	GGTCCTGAATCGTATTCT TGGGG (SEQ ID NO: 90)	4180	695	1995	77.594	82.3792	3720	57.3118279 6
RET	TGCTGGGTGATGCGGCCG GTGGG (SEQ ID NO: 91)	3179	305	1027	69.2308	75.0751	5776	63.7811634 3
RON	GTCATCGGCCCGTTATG GTGGG (SEQ ID NO: 92)	3350	1133	1326	78.9593	88.2066	6432	62.1890547 3
ROR1	GCCATAGATGGTGGACCG AAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 93)	5172	571	2748	82.2416	84.9654	6204	57.6241134 8
ROS	TGAGGTGCACTAATAGAG GGTGG (SEQ ID NO: 94)	4098	503	1663	44.979	56.5559	3834	53.5732916
RYK	TATTGCCTTACATGAATT GGGGG (SEQ ID NO: 95)	6079	753	2584	67.8406	74.1984	4018	67.8695868 6
SRC	GTCTGACTTCGACAACGC CAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 96)	4141	232	1700	35.0588	41.2526	4157	44.8400288 7
SRM	CCACACTCCGAATTCGCC CTTGG (SEQ ID NO: 97)	1423	73	722	75.2078	77.1069	4392	73.9754098 4
SYK	GGTGATGTTGCCGAAAAA GAAGG (SEQ ID NO: 98)	3825	368	1474	57.9376	65.5809	4424	51.3788426 8
TIE1	CGCCTGTGGGACGGGACA CGGGG (SEQ ID NO: 99)	2050	437	657	64.5358	77.5137	9164	63.7494543 9
TIE2	CAGAGTTCATATTCGTG CGAGG (SEQ ID NO: 100)	5063	1238	2267	68.8134	78.9444	4027	60.4420163 9
TNK1	GCAGTAGGTTGCCGTAG CGAGG (SEQ ID NO: 101)	3497	1307	725	69.931	89.2224	7094	65.2100366 5
TRKB	GCCGTGGTACTCCGTGTG ATTGG (SEQ ID NO: 102)	4525	1080	1973	62.3923	74.8772	3748	68.7299893 3
TRKC	CATCAGCGTTGATGCAGT AGAGG (SEQ ID NO: 103)	5151	83	876	48.0594	50.9906	5474	54.7497259 8
TXK	GTTGTTTACCAGCCACAG CIGGG (SEQ ID NO: 104)	5371	1954	1682	66.4685	83.8284	4931	66.9843845 1
TYK2	GAACCGGCTGTGTACCGT TGTGG (SEQ ID NO: 105)	4569	87	466	86.0515	86.9801	5638	75.8957077
TYRO 3	GGCCACACTAGCGTTGCT GCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 106)	4466	345	2254	60.9583	65.0635	4665	58.1779206 9
YES	TCAGGTCGTATTTAATG GCTGG (SEQ ID NO: 107)	5584	1157	1364	80.9384	88.8933	4727	62.8305479 2

^aMicrohomology score = \sum pattern score.

^bOut-of-frame score = $\frac{\sum \text{pattern score of an out-of-frame deletion}}{\sum \text{pattern score}}$. (± 35 bp between target sites)

[188]

[189]

Again, out-of-frame scores correlated well with the frequencies of frame shifting indels or deletions (Pearson coefficient = 0.717 or 0.732, respectively) (Fig. 2d). The frequencies of out-of-frame indels ranged from 38.7% to 94.0%. In a diploid human cell, the probability of obtaining null clones would range from 15.0% (= 0.387 x 0.387) to 88.4%, a 5.9-fold difference between the extreme cases. Most cancer cell lines including HeLa are multi-ploid (> 3n), making it more important to choose high-

score sites. It is expected that the scoring system would work even better for TALENs because TALENs induce microhomology-independent insertions much less frequently than do RGENs, as shown above. In addition, it was analyzed that the genotypes of 81 live-born mice carrying mutations that had been produced via TALENs or RGENs in our previous studies (Sung, Y.H. et al. *Genome research***24**, 125-131 (2014); Sung, Y.H. et al. *Nature biotechnology***31**, 23-24 (2013)). The frequencies of out-of-frame deletions correlated well with predicted scores (Pearson coefficient = 0.996) (Fig.9).

[190]

[191] Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the conceptions and specific embodiments disclosed in the foregoing description may be readily utilized as a basis for modifying or designing other embodiments for carrying out the same purposes of the present invention. Those skilled in the art will also appreciate that such equivalent embodiments do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended Claims.

Claims

- [Claim 1] A method of selecting a nuclease target sequence for gene knockout, comprising:
- (a) providing a nuclease target sequence candidate;
 - (b) collecting information of microhomology present in the nuclease target sequence candidate; and
 - (c) predicting frequency of microhomology-associated out-of-frame deletion of the nuclease target sequence candidate based on the information of microhomology collected in step (b).
- [Claim 2] The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of comparing the frequency of microhomology-associated out-of-frame deletion predicted in step (c) with frequency of microhomology-associated out-of-frame deletion of other nuclease target sequence candidate.
- [Claim 3] The method according to claim 1, wherein the information of microhomology comprises a size of microhomology sequence, a distance between two microhomology sequences, and sequence information of the microhomology sequence.
- [Claim 4] The method according to claim 1, wherein the nuclease is selected from the group consisting of zinc finger nucleases (ZFNs), transcription-activator-like effector nucleases (TALENs), and RNA-guided engineered nucleases (RGENs).
- [Claim 5] The method according to claim 1, wherein step (c) comprises:
- calculating a pattern score, which is a score assigned to an expected deletion pattern of each of microhomologies present in the given nuclease target sequence candidate; and
 - calculating (i) a microhomology score, which is a sum of the pattern scores of all microhomologies in the given nuclease target sequence candidate and (ii) a out-of-frame score, which is a ratio of a score which is a sum of the pattern scores of microhomologies associated with out-of-frame deletion to the microhomology score, based on the calculated pattern score.
- [Claim 6] The method according to claim 1, wherein the method comprises:
- i) providing a nuclease target sequence candidate;
 - ii) examining, in the given nuclease target sequence, whether two identical sequences of at least 2 bp flanking a position expected to be cleaved by a nuclease are present in the target sequence to identify the

presence of microhomology;
 iii) obtaining information of microhomology, when the microhomology is present in the target sequence, and repeating steps ii) and iii) one or more times;
 iv) calculating a pattern score, which is a score assigned to an expected deletion pattern of each of microhomologies present in the given nuclease target sequence candidate; and
 v) calculating (i) a microhomology score, which is a sum of the pattern scores of all microhomologies in the given nuclease target sequence candidate and (ii) a out-of-frame score, which is a ratio of a score which is a sum of the pattern scores of microhomologies associated with out-of-frame deletion to the microhomology score.

[Claim 7]

The method according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the pattern score is calculated using Equation 1:

[Equation 1]

$$\text{Pattern score} = S \times \exp(-\Delta / W_{\text{length}}),$$

wherein,

S is a microhomology index that corresponds to the size and base pairing energy of the microhomology sequence;

Δ is a distance between initiation sites located at 5' position of each microhomology sequence or a distance between terminal sites located at 3' position of each microhomology sequence of the two microhomology sequences (deletion length); and

W_{length} is a weight factor on a distance between the microhomology sequences.

[Claim 8]

The method according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the microhomology score is calculated using Equation 2, and the out-of-frame score is calculated using Equation 3:

[Equation 2]

$$\text{Microhomology score} = \sum \text{pattern score},$$

wherein the microhomology score is a sum of pattern scores of the obtained all microhomologies;

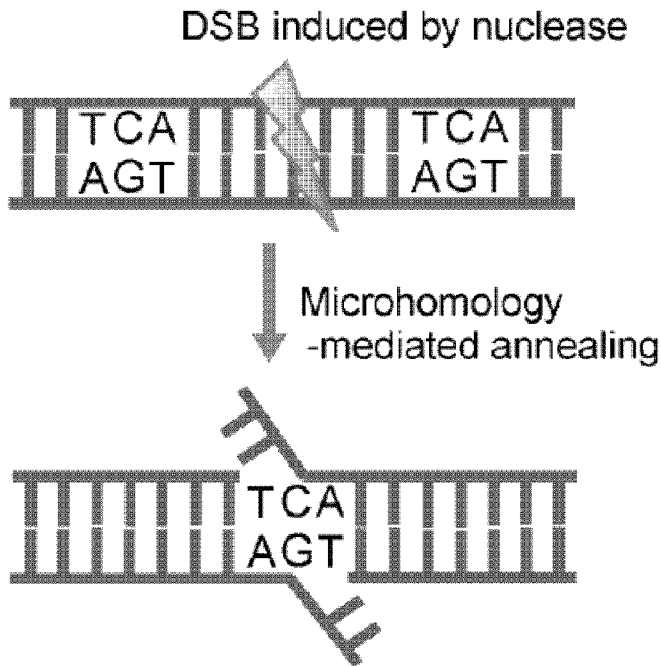
[Equation 3]

$$\text{Out-of-frame score} = \sum \text{pattern score of out-of-frame deletion} / \text{Microhomology score} (\sum \text{pattern score}),$$

wherein $\sum \text{pattern score of out-of-frame deletion}$ is a sum of pattern scores of relevant microhomologies whose deletion length is not a multiple of 3.

- [Claim 9] The method according to claim 7, wherein, in Equation 1,
a) the microhomology index (S) is calculated by Equation 4 below; and
b) W_{length} is 20:
[Equation 4]
Microhomology index = (number of G and C in the microhomology sequence)*2 + (number of A and T bases in the microhomology sequence).
- [Claim 10] A method of providing information for selecting a sequence having high efficiency of out-of-frame deletion by a nuclease, comprising:
(a) providing a nuclease target sequence candidate;
(b) collecting information of microhomology present in the nuclease target sequence candidate; and
(c) predicting frequency of microhomology-associated out-of-frame deletion of the nuclease target sequence candidate based on the information of microhomology collected in step (b).
- [Claim 11] A computer program capable of performing a method according to any one of claims 1 to 6.
- [Claim 12] A computer-readable recording medium in which the program according to claim 11 is recorded.

[Fig. 1a]



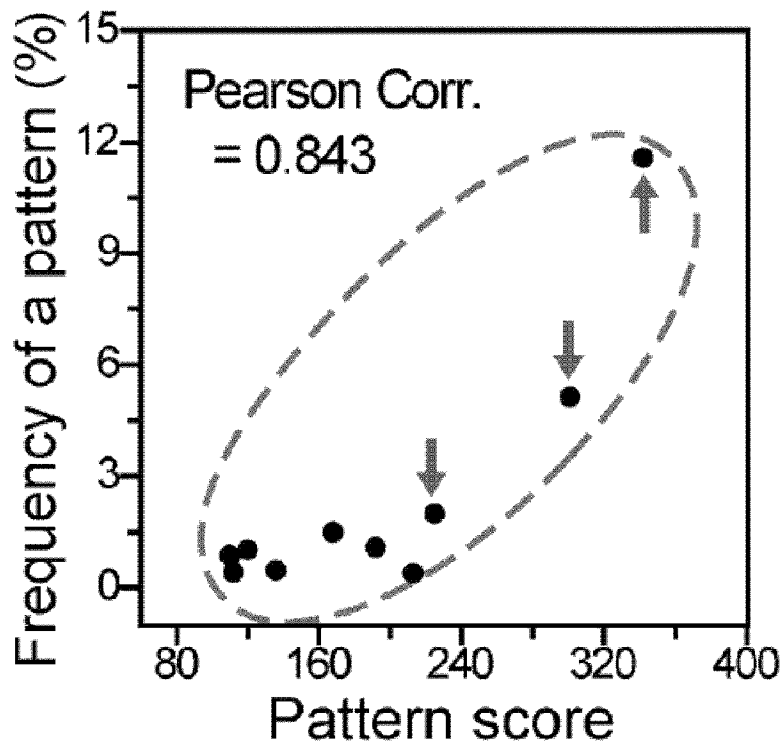
[Fig. 1b]

Targeted by TALEN

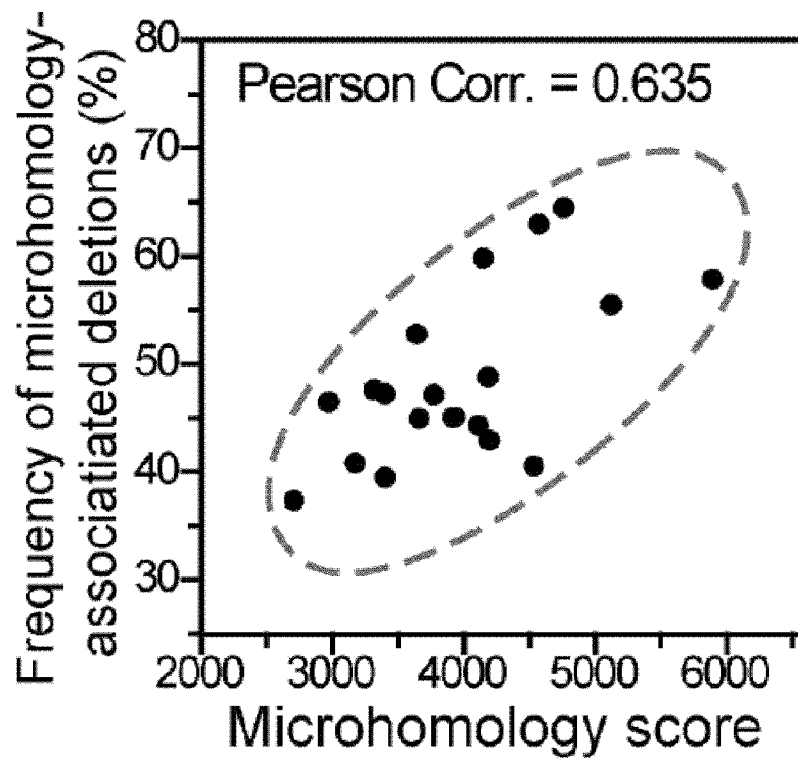
	Δ Deletion length	Microhomology index (S)	Pattern score	In-frame
CTAGACCCCGCCACAGCAGCCTCTGAAAGTTGGACAGCAAAACCATTGCTTCAC	-	-	-	-
CTAGACCCCGCCACAGC-----AAAACCATTGCTTCAC	20	8	342	no
CTAGACCCCGCCACAGCAGC-----AAAACCATTGCTTCAC	17	7	301	no
CTAGACCCCGCCACAGCAGCCTCTG-----GACAGCAAAACCATTGCTTCAC	6	3	225	yes
CTAGACCCCGCCACAGCAGCCTCTGA-----CAGCAAAACCATTGCTTCAC	7	3	213	no
CTAGACCCCGCCACAGCAG-----TTGGACAGCAAAACCATTGCTTCAC	9	3	192	yes
CTAGACCCCGCCACAG-----TTGGACAGCAAAACCATTGCTTCAC	12	3	168	yes
CTAGACCCCGCCACAGCAGCC-----ATTGCTTCAC	22	4	136	no
CTAGAC-----AGCAAAACCATTGCTTCAC	29	5	120	no
CTAGACCCCGC-----AAAACCATTGCTTCAC	26	4	112	no
CTAGACCCCGCA-----TTGCTTCAC	31	5	110	no

$\exp\left(-\frac{\Delta}{20}\right) \times S = \text{Pattern score}$

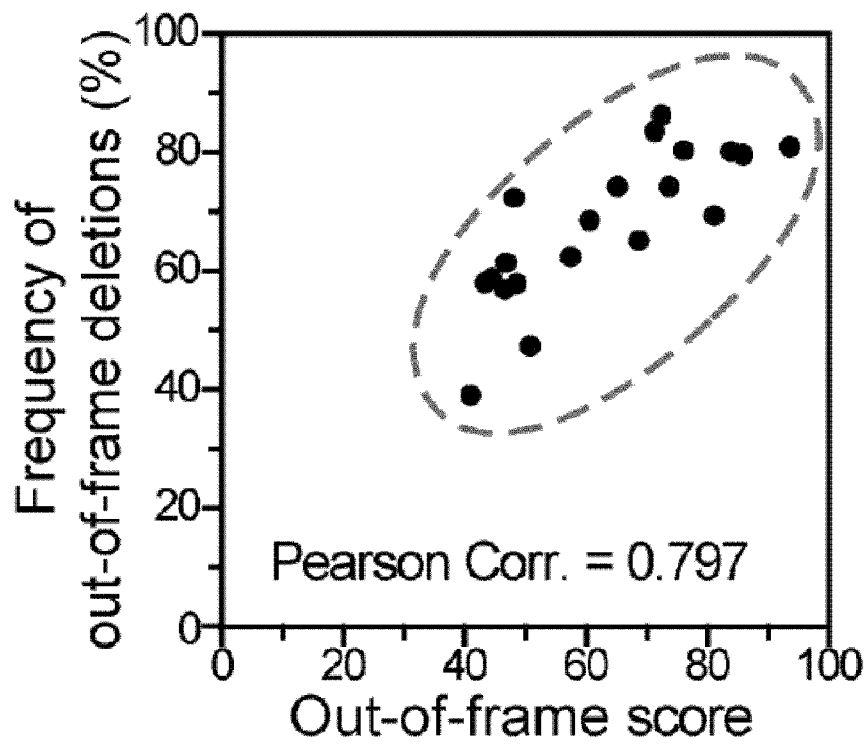
[Fig. 1c]



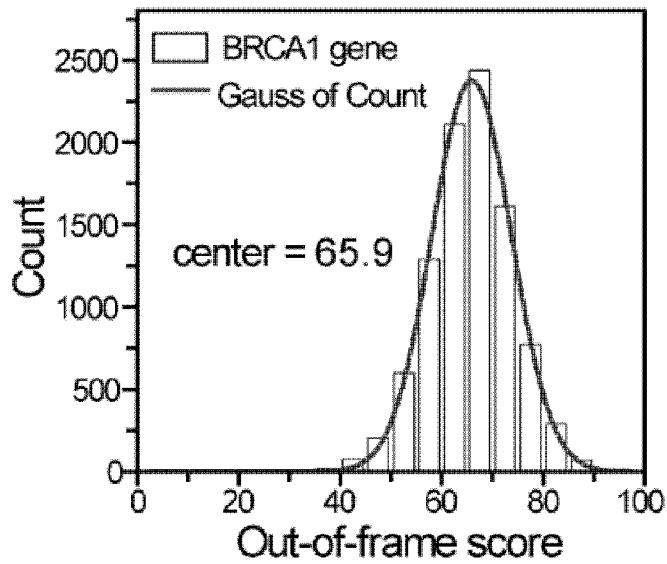
[Fig. 1d]



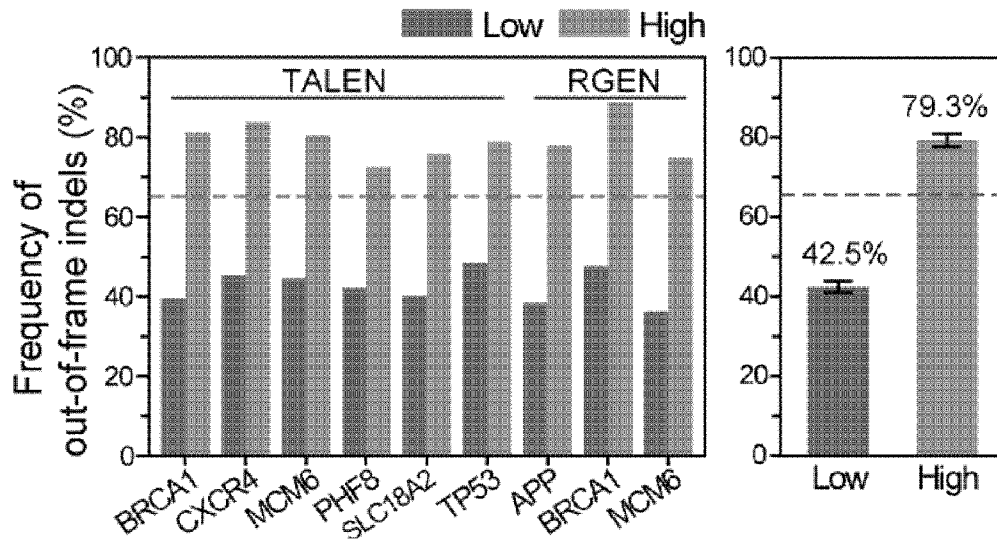
[Fig. 1e]



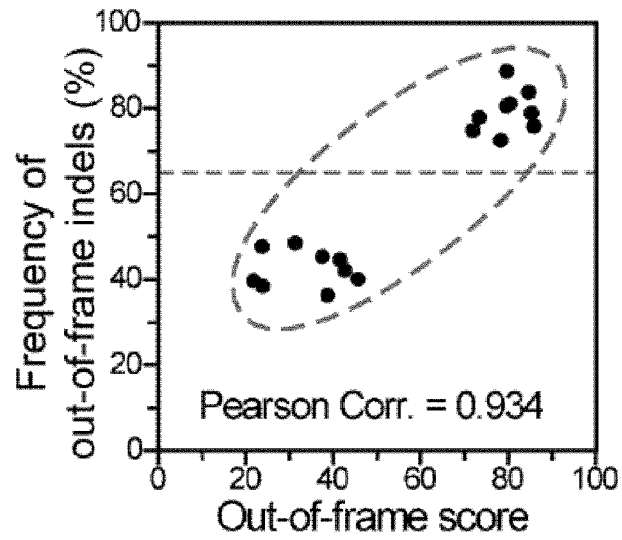
[Fig. 2a]



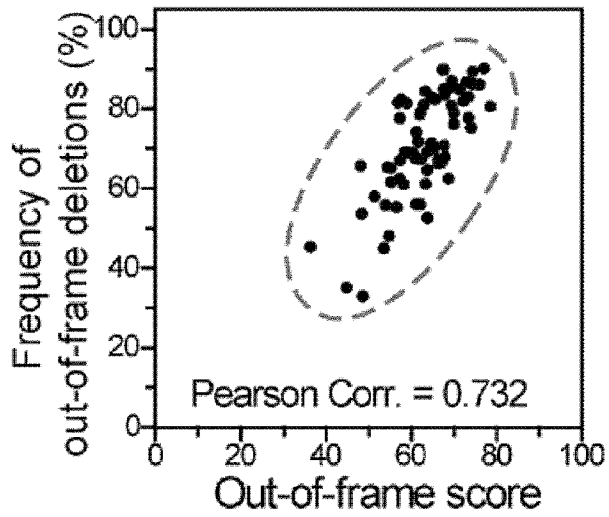
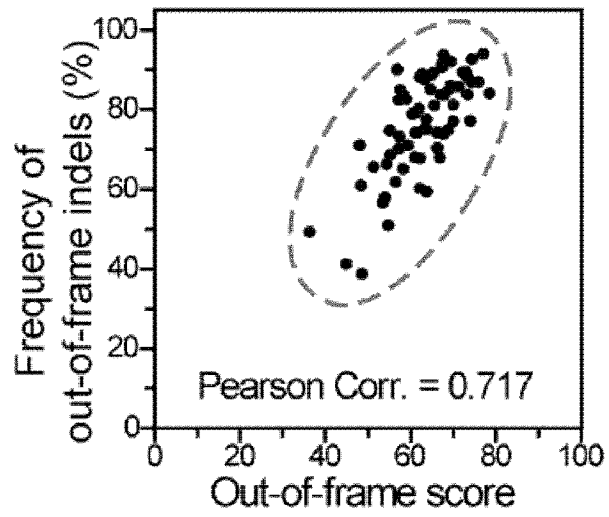
[Fig. 2b]



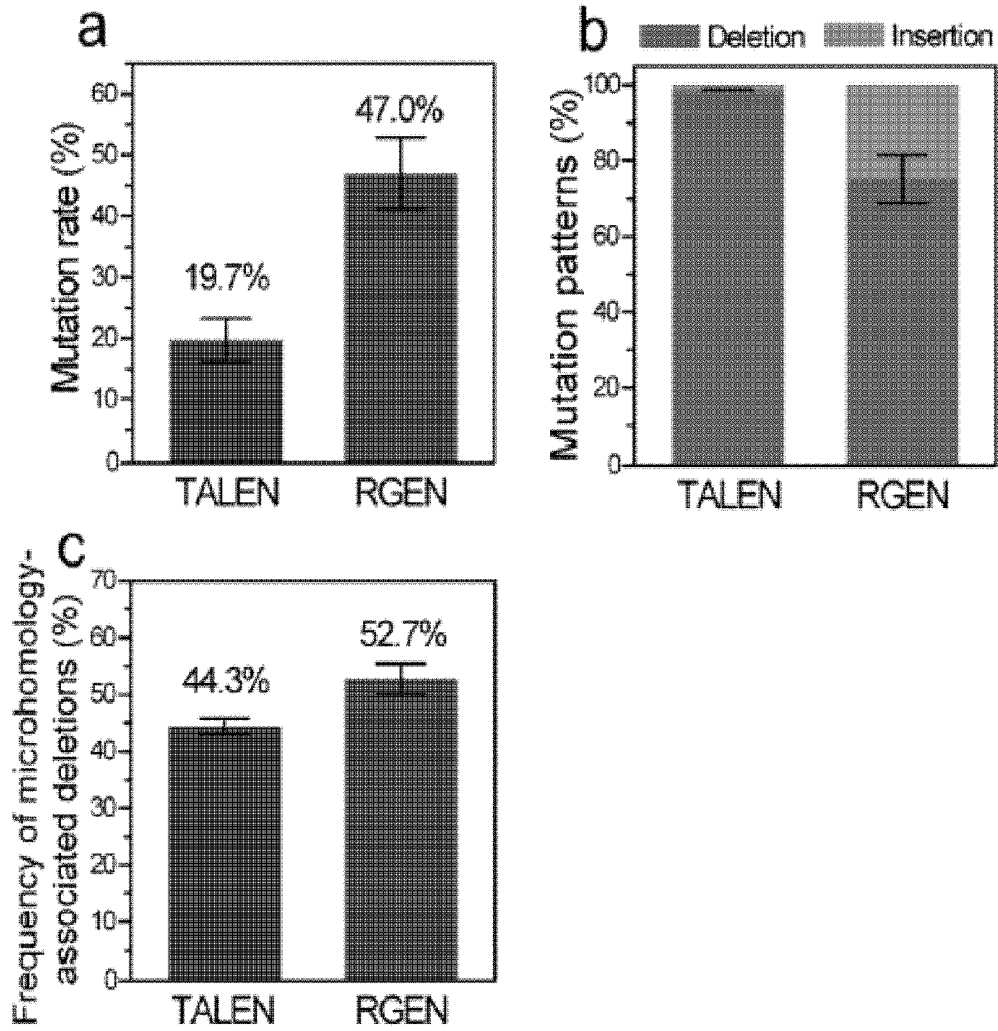
[Fig. 2c]



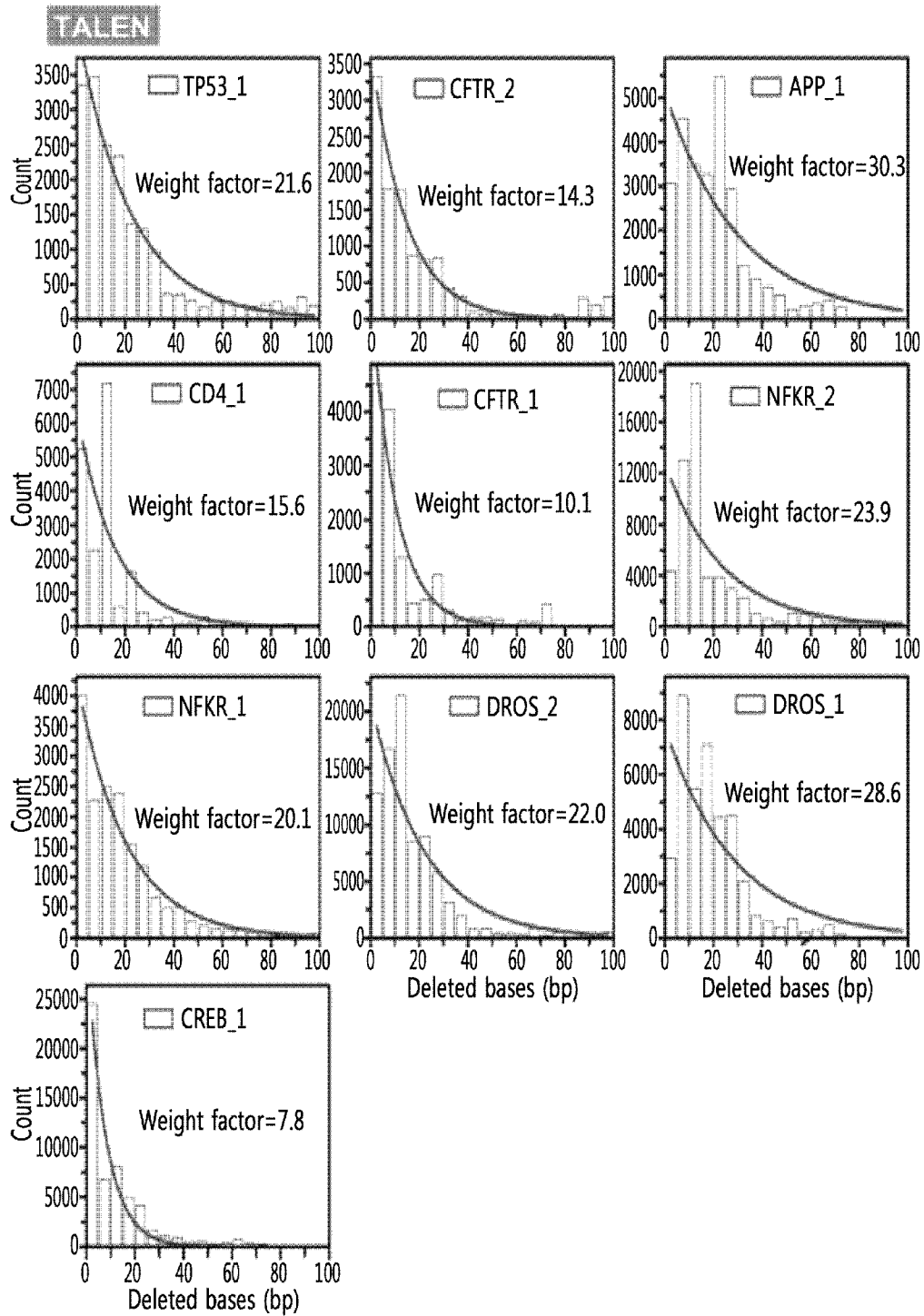
[Fig. 2d]



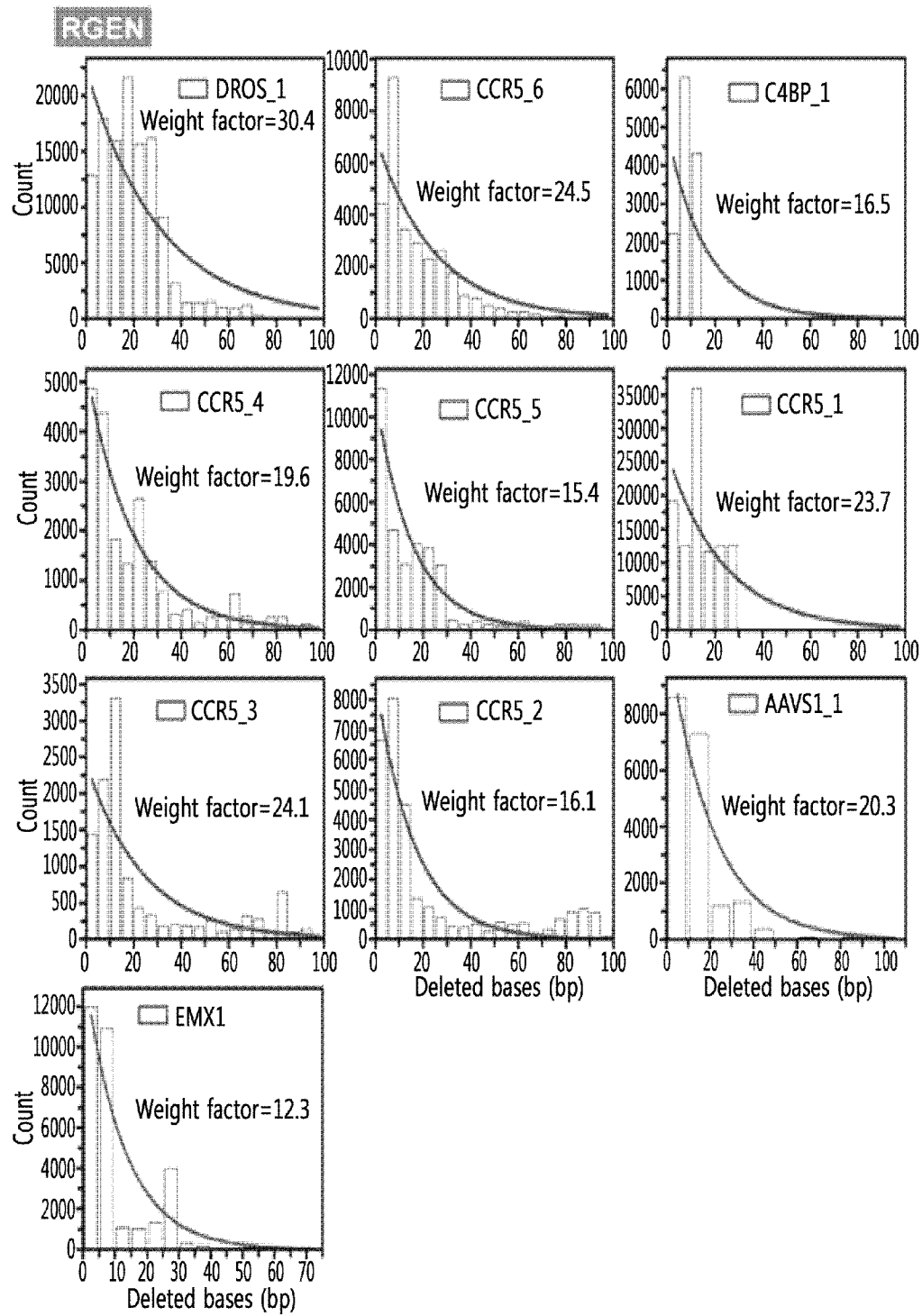
[Fig. 3]



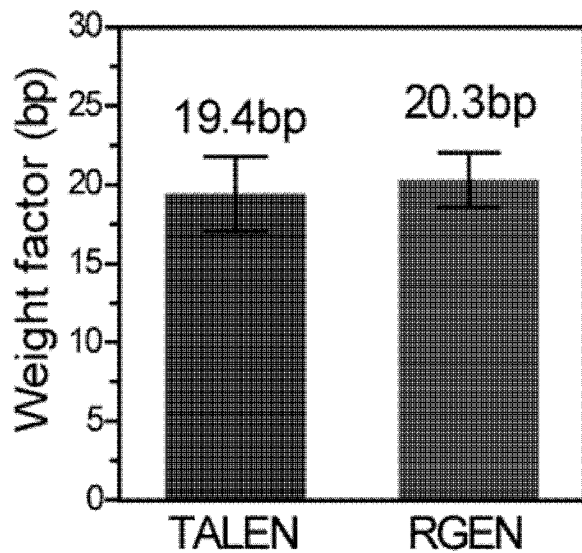
[Fig. 4a]



[Fig. 4b]



[Fig. 4c]



[Fig. 5a]

```
#!/usr/bin/python2.7
from math import exp
from re import findall

seq='GGAGGAAGGGCCTGAGTCCGAGCAGAAGAAGAAGGGCTCCCATCACATCAACCGGTGGCG' # The
length of sequence is recommend within 60~80 bases.
print seq

length_weight=20.0
left=30 # Insert the position expected to be broken.
right=len(seq)-int(left)
print "length of seq = "+str(len(seq))

file_temp=open("1.before removing duplication.txt", "w")
for k in range(2,left)[::-1]:
    for j in range(left,left+right-k+1):
        for i in range(0,left-k+1):
            if seq[i:i+k]==seq[j:j+k]:
                length=j-i
                file_temp.write(seq[i:i+k)+"\t"+str(i)+"\t"+str(i+k)+"\t"+str(j)+"\t"+str(j+k)+"\t"+str(length)+"\n")
file_temp.close()

### After searching out all microhomology patterns, duplication should be removed!!
f1=open("1.before removing duplication.txt", "r")
s1=f1.read()
```

[Fig. 5b]

```
f2=open("2.all microhomology patterns.txt", "w") #After removing duplication  
f2.write(seq+'t'+microhomology+'t'+deletion length+'t'+score of a pattern'\n')
```

```
if s1!="":
```

```
    list_f1=s1.strip().split('\n')
```

```
    sum_score_3=0
```

```
    sum_score_not_3=0
```

```
    for i in range(len(list_f1)):
```

```
        n=0
```

```
        score_3=0
```

```
        score_not_3=0
```

```
        line=list_f1[i].split('\t')
```

```
        scrap=line[0]
```

```
        left_start=int(line[1])
```

```
        left_end=int(line[2])
```

```
        right_start=int(line[3])
```

```
        right_end=int(line[4])
```

```
        length=int(line[5])
```

```
    for j in range(i):
```

```
        line_ref=list_f1[j].split('\t')
```

```
        left_start_ref=int(line_ref[1])
```

```
        left_end_ref=int(line_ref[2])
```

```
        right_start_ref=int(line_ref[3])
```

```
        right_end_ref=int(line_ref[4])
```

[Fig. 5c]

```

    if (left_start >= left_start_ref) and (left_end <= left_end_ref) and (right_start >= right_start_ref) and
(right_end <= right_end_ref):
        if (left_start - left_start_ref)==(right_start - right_start_ref) and (left_end -
left_end_ref)==(right_end - right_end_ref):
            n+=1
        else: pass
    if n == 0:
        if (length % 3)==0:
            length_factor = round(1/exp((length)/(length_weight)),3)
            num_GC=len(findall('G',scrap))+len(findall('C',scrap))
            score_3=100*length_factor*((len(scrap)-num_GC)+(num_GC*2))

        elif (length % 3)!=0:
            length_factor = round(1/exp((length)/(length_weight)),3)
            num_GC=len(findall('G',scrap))+len(findall('C',scrap))
            score_not_3=100*length_factor*((len(scrap)-num_GC)+(num_GC*2))

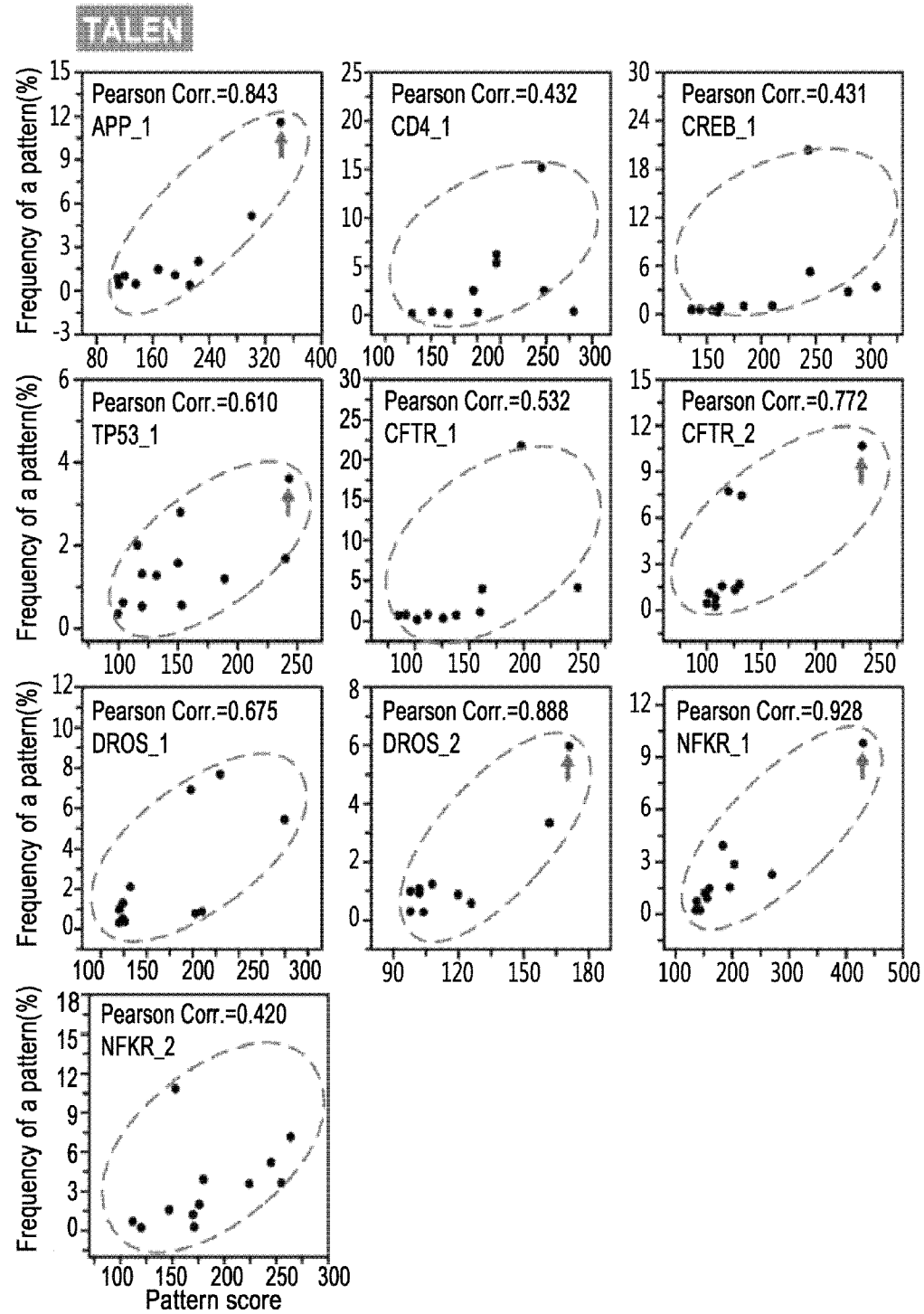
        f2.write(seq[0:left_end]+'-
*length+seq[right_end:]+'t'+scrap+'t'+str(length)+'t'+str(100*length_factor*((len(scrap)-
num_GC)+(num_GC*2)))+'\n')
        sum_score_3+=score_3
        sum_score_not_3+=score_not_3

    print 'Microhomology score = ' + str(sum_score_3+sum_score_not_3)
    print 'Out-of-frame score = ' + str((sum_score_not_3)*100/(sum_score_3+sum_score_not_3))
f1.close()
f2.close()

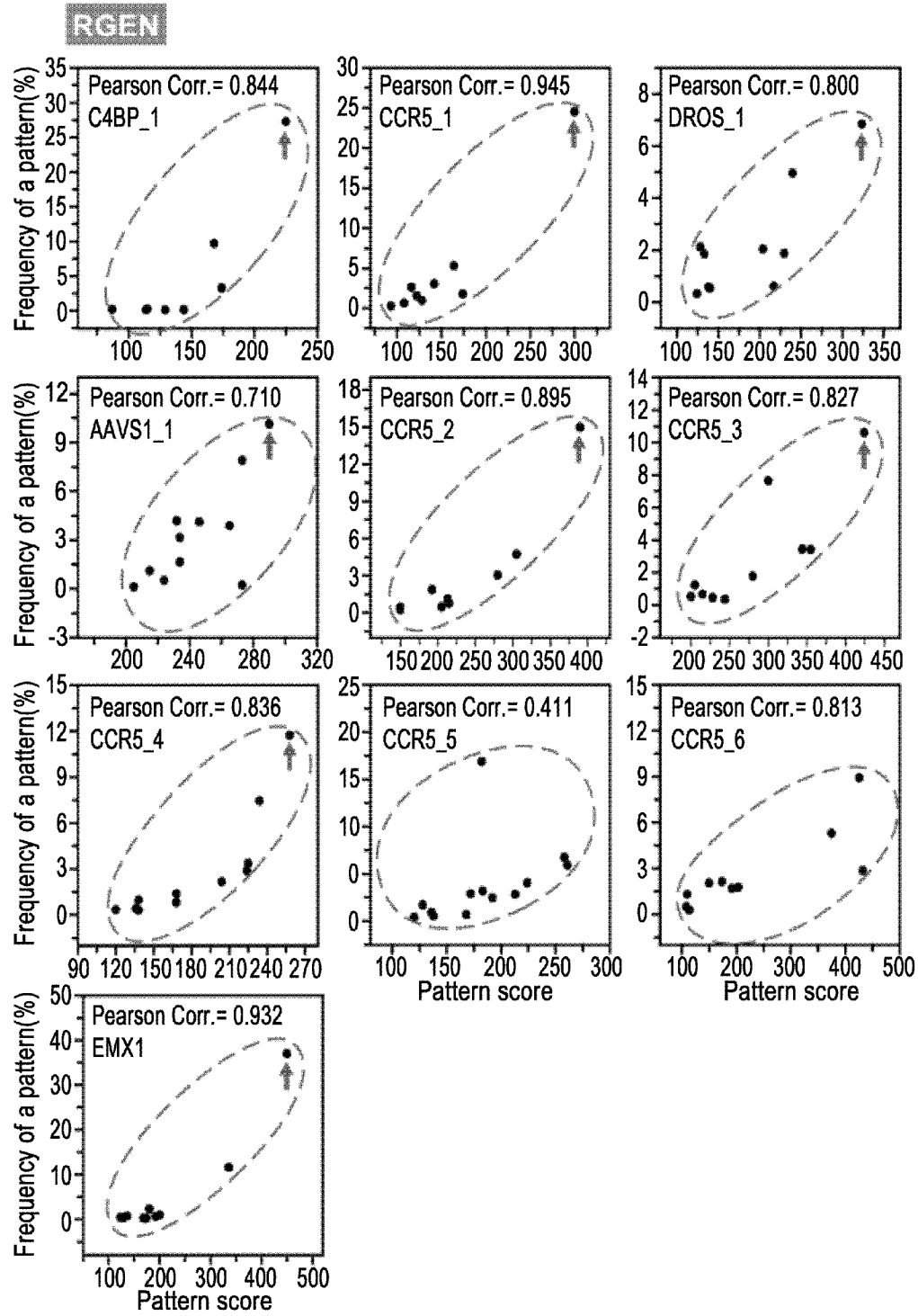
# The row of output file is consist of (full sequence, microhomology scrap, deletion length, score of pattern).

```

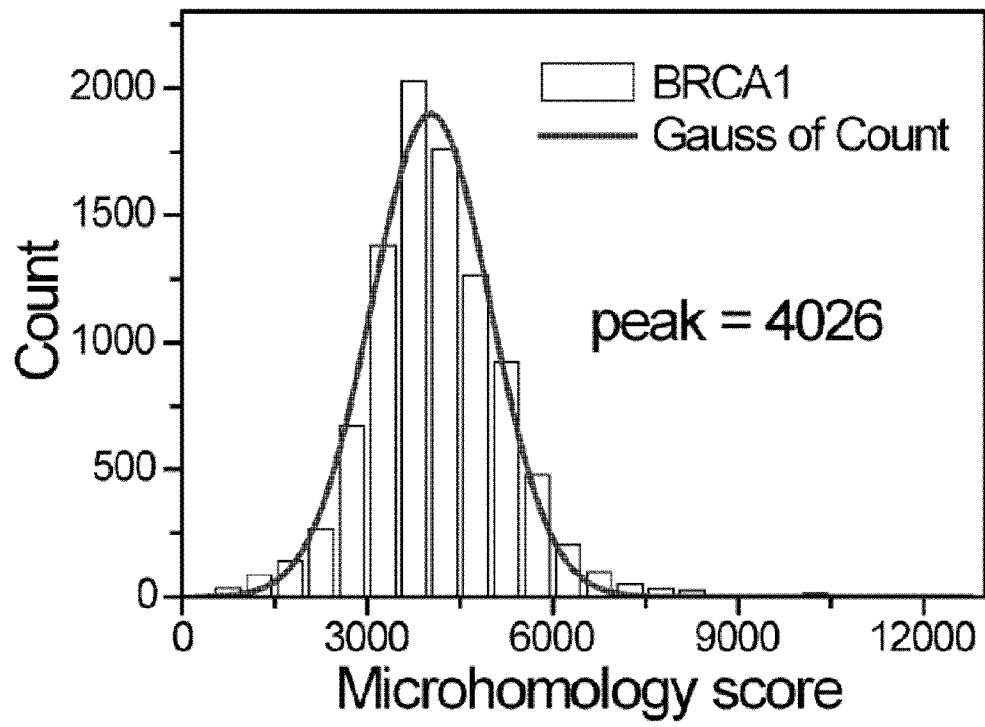

[Fig. 6a]



[Fig. 6b]



[Fig. 7]



[Fig. 8]

a MCM6_h (71.9) MCM6_J (38.7)
 5' - CACAGCACCTCGTGGCCTGGAGCCTGGCTGGAGCTCTGCTAGGGACAGAAAGTGTTCGGGAAGTATGCTTCCAGGATT - 3
 3' - GTGTCGTGGAGCACCGGACCTCGGACCGACCTCGAGACGATCCCTGTCTCACAAAGACCTTCACACGAGGTCCTAA - 5

b MCM6_h MCM6_J

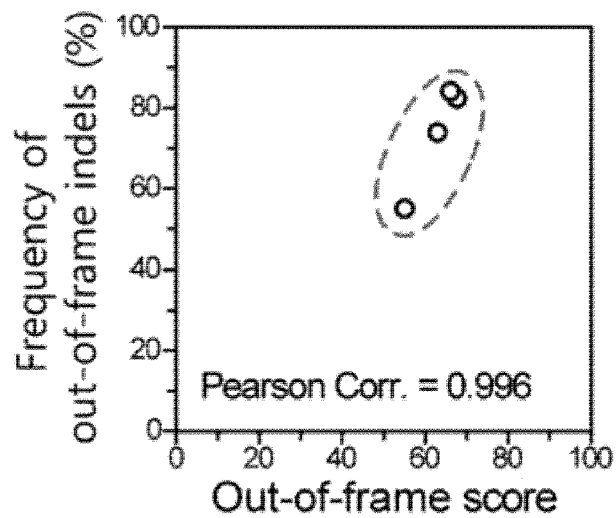
deletion length	in-frame	frequency
-	-	-
11	no	18.9%

deletion length	in-frame	frequency
-	-	-
12	yes	48.5%

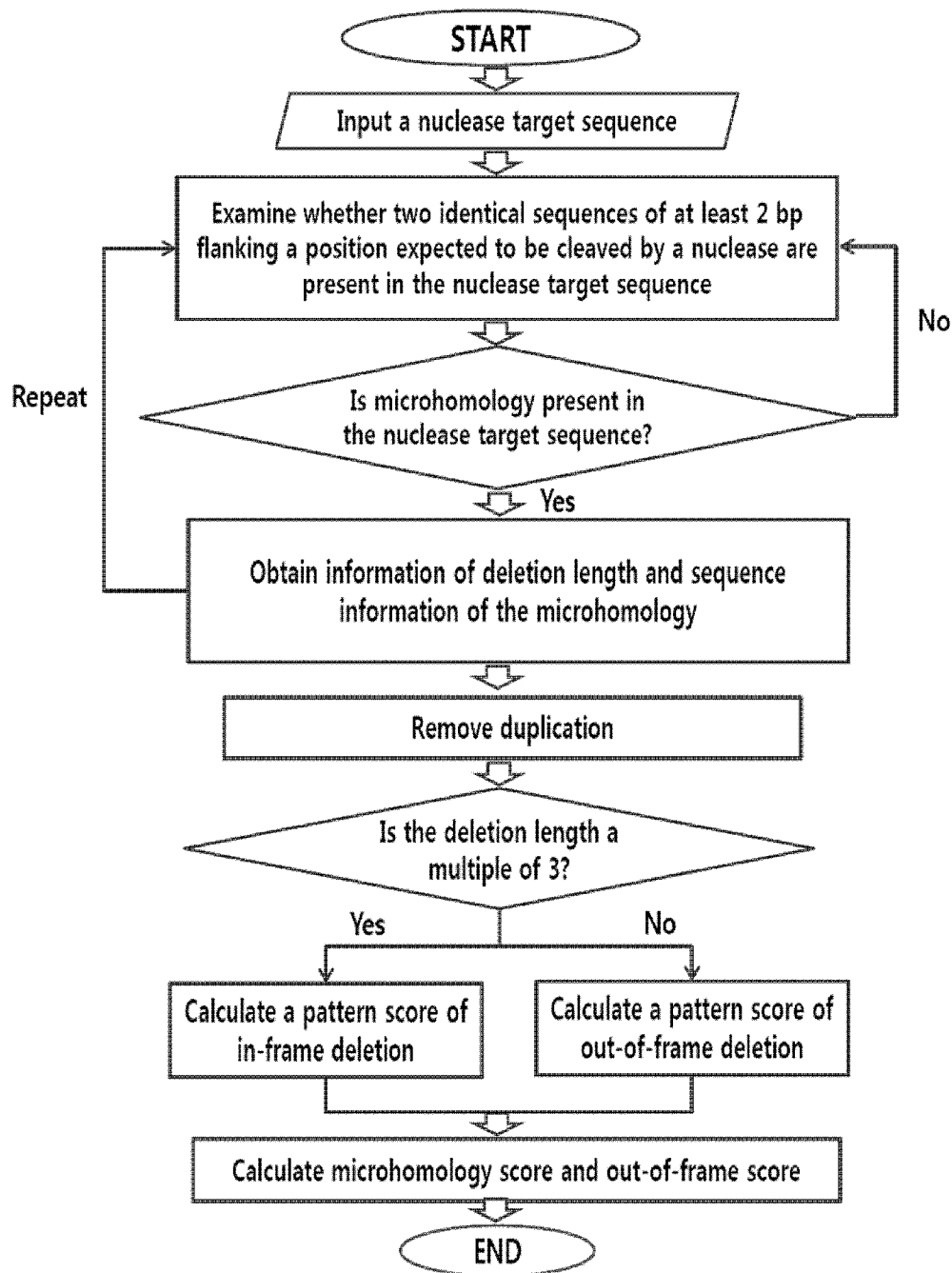
[Fig. 9]

a

Engineered nucleases	TALENs		RGENs	
Gene	Pibf1	Sepw1	Foxn1	Prkdc
Live-born mutant mice	12	6	33	30
Number of out-of-frame	11	10	58	34
Number of in-frame	9	2	10	12
Frequency of out-of-frame indels (%)	55%	83.3%	85.3%	73.9%
Out-of-frame score	55.1	66.9	67.7	63.0

b

[Fig. 10]



A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**C12Q 1/68(2006.01)i, G06F 19/22(2011.01)i**

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

C12Q 1/68; C12N 15/01; C12N 5/04; G06F 19/22

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: microhomology, deletion, frameshift, nuclease, target, algorithm, site-specific, CAS9/CRISPR, RGENs, TALENs, ZFNs

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2012-0149115 A1 (KIM JIN SOO et al.) 14 June 2012 (see abstract, claims, [5], [19], [22], [23], [42], [57], Figs. 6, 9 & 10)	1-10
A	Morton, J., et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, Vol.103, pp.16370-16375. (2006) "Induction and repair of zinc-finger nuclease-targeted double-strand breaks in Caenorhabditis elegans somatic cells" (see the entire document)	1-10
A	Qi, Y., et al., Genome Research, Vol.23, pp.547-554. (2013) "Increasing frequencies of site-specific mutagenesis and gene targeting in Arabidopsis by manipulating DNA repair pathways" (see the entire document)	1-10
A	McVey, M. & Lee, S. E., Trends Genet. Vol.24, pp.529-538. (2008) "MMEJ repair of double-strand breaks (director's cut): deleted sequences and alternative endings" (see the entire document)	1-10
A	Stephens, P.J., et al., Nature, Vol.462, pp.24-31. (Dec 2009) "Complex landscapes of somatic rearrangement in human breast cancer genomes" (see abstract; pages 1007-1008)	1-10

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

10 August 2015 (10.08.2015)

Date of mailing of the international search report

10 August 2015 (10.08.2015)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/KR

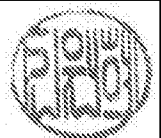
International Application Division
Korean Intellectual Property Office
189 Cheongsa-ro, Seo-gu, Daejeon Metropolitan City, 35208,
Republic of Korea

Facsimile No. +82-42-472-7140

Authorized officer

SHIN, Weon Hye

Telephone No. +82-42-481-8298



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/KR2015/004132

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	Schroeder, Jan., et al., Bioinformatics, (22 Jan 2014) "Socrates: Identification of genomic rearrangements in tumour genomes by re-aligning soft clipped reads" (see abstract; page 3, 2nd para of the right column; Fig. 1).	1-10
T	Bae, S., et al., Nat. Methods, Vol.11(7), pp.705-706. (Jul 2014) "Microhomology-based choice of Cas9 nuclease target sites" (see the entire document)	1-10

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.: 11
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Claim 11 is directed to a computer program which does not require search under Article 17(2)(a)(i) & Rule 39.1(vi) PCT.

2. Claims Nos.: 12
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
Claim 12 is worded in reference to claim 11, for which international search has not been carried out as described above. Claim 12 does not meet the requirement of PCT Article 6.

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.

2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fees.

3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/KR2015/004132

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2012-0149115 A1	14/06/2012	JP 2012-529287A KR 10-2010-0133319 A WO 2010-143917 A2 WO 2010-143917 A3	22/11/2012 21/12/2010 16/12/2010 21/04/2011