Characterisation of the 11Kb DNA region adjacent to the gene encoding Desulfovibrio gigas flavodoxin

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Abstract: Flavodoxin is an FMN binding protein that functions as an electron carrier in the sulphate metabolism of Desulfovibrio gigas. The neighbouring DNA regions of the gene encoding flavodoxin were sequenced and characterised. Transcript analysis of the flavodoxin gene resulted in a positive band corresponding to the size of the coding region, suggesting that flavodoxin is encoded by a monocystronic unit, as previously suggested by sequence analysis.

Analysis of the adjacent DNA regions revealed several interesting genes. The sequenced DNA regions contain nine open reading frames (ORFs) organised in two polycystronic and two monocystronic units. These genes encode proteins involved in different metabolic pathways, namely in DNA methylation, tRNA and rRNA modification, mRNA metabolism, cell division, CoA synthesis and lipoprotein transport across the membrane.

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