## LETTERS TO NATURE



EcoRI secondary structural element

## FIG. 4 An evolutionary scheme that may help to explain the topological relationship between the secondary structural elements outside of the conserved core in restriction enzymes BamHI and EcoRI. a.

EcoRI structure consisting of four a-helices outside of the conserved core. The helices are labelled according to the EcoRI structure<sup>4</sup>. b, The addition and deletion of secondary structural elements during the course of evolution. The unshaded boxes are labelled according to the BamHI structure (compare Fig. 2b), c. Refolding of the protein such that the N and C termini swap their positions with respect to the conserved core. d, Labelling of the secondary structural elements according to the BamHI structure (compare Fig. 2). Note that helices  $\alpha_2$  and  $\alpha_7$ in BamHI are now in opposite orientations to their counterparts  $\alpha_6$  and  $\alpha_1$  in EcoRl.



unsuccessful attempts to alter the specificity of EcoRI (ref. 1) may be indications of the substantially different strategies by which the two enzymes dock to their DNA sites.

In BamHI and EcoRI dimers, the active sites are separated by ~17-19 Å along the DNA axis, whereas in EcoRV the distance is only  $\sim 2$  Å. These distances are consistent with the cleavage properties of these enzymes. BamHI and EcoRI cleave their DNA recognition sequences at positions that are staggered by four base pairs (bp), producing 5' overhanging ends, whereas EcoRV cleaves its DNA site with a 0-bp stagger, producing blunt ends. The conformation of the common core motif in BamHI and EcoRI is ideally suited for the positioning of the two active sites at a relative separation of  $\sim 4$  bp, spanning the major groove of DNA. In considering other restriction enzymes that might share structural similarity with BamHI and EcoRI, it is most likely to be those that also cleave their DNA sites with a (5') 4bp stagger<sup>15</sup>. Nature of the cleavage pattern, rather than the actual DNA sequence recognized, may be the most important constraint on the overall conformation of restriction enzymes. 

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### CORRECTION

# Formation of haematopoietic microenvironment and haematopoietic stem cells from single human bone marrow stem cells

#### Shiang Huang & Leon W. M. M. Terstappen

#### Nature 360, 745-749 (1992)

WE retract the conclusion of this letter that a single cell can give rise to both a haematopoietic microenvironment and haematopoietic stem cells. Flaws in the material covered in the second paragraph of page 748 to the second paragraph on page 749 in particular lead us to misinterpret some of the critical results. Our subsequent attempts to confirm our key claim have been inconclusive. Cells depicted from the colonies attached to the complex bone marrow structures in Fig. 3a can give rise to cell colonies and round dispersed cells with a 'haematopoietic appearance', as shown in Fig. 4a and c, but immunohistochemical staining indicates that there is a large diversity of mesenchymal-derived cell types. 

## ERRATUM

# A convective model for the zonal jets in the atmospheres of **Jupiter and Saturn**

#### Scott A. Condie & Peter B. Rhines

Nature 367, 711-713 (1994)

IN this letter a line of text was accidentally transposed: the first line of text in the left-hand column on page 713 ("columnar convection<sup>18-20</sup>. However, realistic estimates of ... ") should have appeared as the first line of text in the right-hand column on page 712. Π