

DNA recombination

Bond between nucleotides: phosphodiester

Restriction endonuclease: cleave DNA on specific sequence

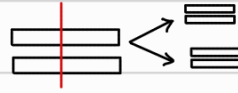
DNA-protein interaction: major groove

Restriction site: sequence where restriction endonuclease cuts

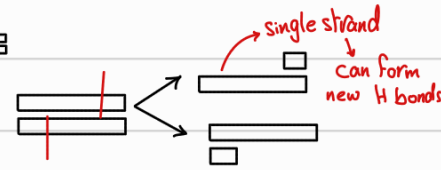
DNA Ligase: join DNA, ATP dependent

→ 4-8 bp, Palindromic → same sequence on both strands

Cleavage → blunt (sharp) → cut both strands on the same position



→ staggered (off center) → on different positions forming sticky (cohesive) ends



DNA recombination → Connect DNA fragment from different sources

→ Consist of the gene of interest and a vector (carrier DNA)

Requires Restriction endonuclease + ligase usually plasmid because it replicates independently

DNA cloning → DNA recombination then → insertion into a cell

→ Purposes of cloning: Amplification, Gene expression

Cloning (amplifying) vector ← Expressing vector

1) own origin of replication (Replicate independently)

2) Antibiotic resistance gene (selectable marker)

3) Restriction site

→ Promoter (initiate transcription)

→ Transcription termination sequence

→ Shine Dalgarno (SD) sequence (initiate translation)

Challenges: 1) Intron - Exon → Reverse transcriptase (mature mRNA → cDNA)

2) Many types of RNA → Poly A tail, Poly T primer

3) Bacteria lacks protein modifications and disulfide bond, causing misfolding and proteins are degraded after synthesis → Eukaryotic system (yeast)

Recombinant protein: different proteins or domains connected into one protein

Protein tags: allow detection and purification of proteins

→ His tag: 6 His, detected by Nickel and purified using antibodies

→ GFP: 220 A.A, emit green light → only detection without purification of proteins

Regulation of transcription: 1) Promoter → initiation of transcription

2) Promoter Proximal Element (PPE)

→ Regulatory sequence near the promoter

3) Enhancer and Silencer → Orientation and position independent

→ Require binding to Proteins

Analysis of transcription regulation \rightsquigarrow we use a reporter gene such as luciferase gene

Complete control \rightsquigarrow usual promoter (basal activity) \hookrightarrow must be downstream the regulatory sequence

Positive control \rightsquigarrow Good promoter (maximum activity)

Negative control \rightsquigarrow No promoter (almost zero activity)

Activation \rightsquigarrow luciferase signal increases, Inhibition \rightsquigarrow luciferase signal decreases

DNA Library:

Genomic DNA \rightsquigarrow Contain all DNA sequences (coding and non coding)

cDNA \rightsquigarrow Only exons (coding = translated and untranslated)

Between individuals \rightsquigarrow Both cDNA and genome are different

For the same individual and different tissues \rightsquigarrow The same genomic, different cDNA

Detection of protein-protein interaction

1) Immunoprecipitation

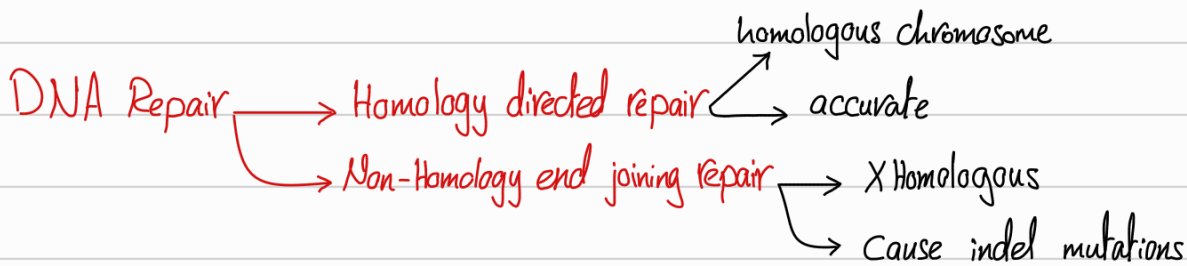
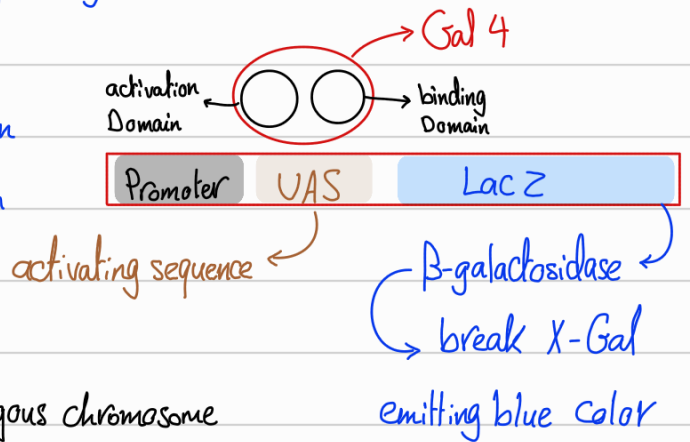
uses small beads bound to antibodies for a specific protein

☆ Precipitated proteins interacts with the protein of interest

2) Yeast two-hybrid system

blue \rightarrow interaction

white \rightarrow X interaction



CRISPR \rightsquigarrow sequence in bacterial genome, has a role in immunity

\hookrightarrow Contains parts of viral genome attacked bacteria

Cas9 \rightsquigarrow RNA-guided nuclease, gRNA, sgRNA \rightsquigarrow guide Cas9 to cut in a specific sequence

Cas9, gRNA system can be used to:

- 1) Repair mutation \hookrightarrow Homology Repair
- 2) Introduce mutations for researches
- 3) Introduce new genes
- 5) dCas9 brings proteins into a sequence, such as
 - Enzymes
 - GFP (visualize)
 - Regulatory proteins

Bring Deaminase

TA \leftarrow ~~CG~~

GC \leftarrow ~~AT~~

Cas12a → staggered cuts / Cas13a → Cut RNA (ribonuclease)

PCR (Polymerase chain reaction) → many cycles → amplify and purify a specific part of DNA
Requires: DNA template, Primer, deoxynucleotide, heat stable DNA polymerase → Taq DNA polymerase
highly sensitive to small amounts of DNA

Steps:

1) Denaturation by Heat

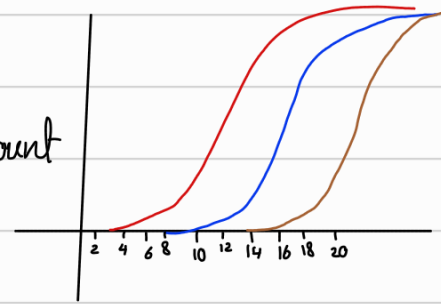
2) Annealing of primer → flank and surround the target sequence

3) Polymerization → The target sequence is flanked completely on the 3 cycle

PCR is specific due to
1) Primer specificity
2) high temperatures → prevent non specific pairing

Real Time quantitative PCR (qPCR) → uses SYBR green

↳ less threshold (C_T) → Sooner (earlier) detection → larger amount



Melting Curve analysis of qPCR → Ensure specificity

↳ depends on T_m and light absorbance the produced fragments

↳ 1 peak → all fragments have the same T_m and Absorbance (identical) → Specific

↳ many peaks → fragments are not identical → not specific (the highest peak is for the needed sequence)

Taqman PCR → Ensure specificity

↳ Most specific, sensitive, Reproducible and multiplexing

↳ uses Reporter (emit signal) and quencher (inhibit signal)

↳ The DNA polymerase has 5' → 3' exonuclease activity

DNA sequencing

1) Termination method

↳ 4 Reaction mixtures containing DNA template, polymerase, Primer

Deoxynucleotides, dideoxynucleotides → No OH on 2', 3' C

↳ stop synthesis, can't form phosphodiester bond with next monomer

↳ labeled with radioactive isotope

↳ If 2 band on gel electrophoresis has the same position → Heterozygous gene → mutation → polymorphism

↳ first eukaryotic genome sequenced

↳ Saccharomyces (yeast)

↳ first multicellular organism

↳ Nematode Caenorhabditis

2) Fluorescent-based DNA sequencing

- all components in the same tube (1 reaction mixture)
 - each dideoxynucleotide is labeled by a fluorescent signal with a certain color
 - Computer program converts the colors into waves
- IF 2 waves present in the same position \rightarrow Heterozygous

3) Next generation sequencing \rightarrow fastest and most efficient

- DNA is fragmented, DNA adaptors attached to the ends of fragments
- All fragments will have the same adaptor and anneal to the same primer
- we use special nucleotides which must be modified, activated and produce signal to bind the next nucleotide

Analysis of gene expression \rightarrow according to the amount of mRNA

All methods require the conversion of mRNA into cDNA (by reverse transcriptase) and double (by DNA polymerase)

1) Quantitative reverse transcriptase

real time qPCR of mRNA

☆ qPCR on cDNA

☆ earlier detection, more cDNA

more mRNA, more expression

Housekeeping gene: gene expressed

constantly in all cells

used to ensure that the sample

is taken properly

☆ SARS-CoV-2 test uses this method

detect a viral gene and an internal

control (human gene)

2) DNA microarray

a slide containing many spots

each spot contains many copies for

a specific known gene

cDNA is labeled by radioactive

isotope or colored fluorescence

for comparison

Upregulated: activated gene

Downregulated: inhibited gene

3) RNA sequencing

☆ Detect the amount and sequence of RNA

☆ Can detect all transcripts

known mRNA

novel mRNA

splicing variants

Analysis of protein sample \rightarrow Polyacrylamide Gel electrophoresis

Analysis of DNA sample \rightarrow Agarose Gel electrophoresis