SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY PRACTICAL

Biological Databases and tools for handling DNA sequences

BACKGROUND

- Your boss has asked you to express the gene mecA in E. coli so that you can characterize the protein and told you that you can get a plasmid from a post doc in another lab.
- The post doc gives you a tube with the plasmid and a fasta file with the nucleotide sequence.

CLONING



BIOBRICK CLONING



E = EcoRI X = Xbal S = Spel P = Pstl

GOLDEN GATE CLONING



* While A and B insert sequences involved in 4-base overlaps are shown in separate colors for clarity, the actual assembly is seamless; 4-base overlaps are insert derived.

GIBSON ASSEMBLY



OBJECTIVES

- Reverse Engineer a plasmid
 - Identify Promoter, RBS, CDS, Terminator, Restriction sites

- Insert a new gene into plasmid
 - Use Registry of Biological Parts or biocyc to find new DNA sequences
 - Optimize expression with RBS calculator
 - Codon Optimize CDS sequence for expression in desired chassis

CLONING SOFTWARE

 Useful for Annotating DNA sequences, Primer Design, In silico Molecular biology (PCR, Restriction digestion, ligation)

Free options

- Serial Cloner, Benchling
- Paid options
 - Geneious, Clone Manager, Snap Gene

NON-ANNOTATED DNA SEQUENCE

- Download sequence from
- <u>https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B2ciXonm2r_jWWZld09NMnB5ZVk/view?usp=sharin</u>

Load sequence into SerialCloner. Annotate the features of the sequence and determine what it does.

SERIAL CLONER

٥			SerialClon	ner 2.6.1						- • ×
File Edit Sequence Featur	res Restriction Protein Function Windo	w Help								
New Open Save	Print Graph Map Seq. Map	al Cut. Scan Fi	A Construct	ct Adaptor P	CR shRNA	Recomb.	Extract Align	Neb Access	(20) Help	press ALT or CTR+SHIFT
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1057	Here									
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1441 1537										
1633										
Save File	Graphic Map Se	quence Map								
	Show Selection Information & Tra	nslation								

NCBI - BLAST

- First we identify the backbone
 - Go to the NCBI Blast website (http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.go v/Blast.cgi)
 - NCBI Blast will search a Nucleotide or Protein database for matches to a given query sequence, or can align two sequences.
 - Click Nucleotide Blast
 - Paste DNA sequence and hit BLAST



- Make specific primers with <u>Primer-BLAST</u>
- Cluster multiple sequences together with their database neighbors using <u>MOLE-BLAST</u>
- Find <u>conserved domains</u> in your sequence (cds)
- Find sequences with similar <u>conserved domain architecture</u> (cdart)
 Search sequences that have gene expression profiles (GEO)

IDENTIFYING THE VECTOR BACKBONE



The red bars show us regions with high alignment scores for sequences in the nucleotide database. A list with all those sequences and alignments is below. As many of the hits for this region are for different cloning vectors, it is likely this is a common vector back bone.

ANNOTATING THE BACKBONE

In Serial Cloner

- Click the Features tab of your DNA sequence
- Click the + sign below the features list to add a new feature
- Name the feature and annotate where it covers your DNA sequence using the alignment from NCBI Blast.

8	Untitled Sequence #1								
File Name		Serial C	loner Format from						
Untitled Sequence #1			2091						
Total length Type Topology to									
2945	2945 DNA Linear								
Locked	Locked								
✓ Show features	Show features								
Sequence Comments	Extremities Features								
Feature List	Name								
Backbone	Backbone								
	From: To:								
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	Show Selection Information	& Translation							

ANNOTATING THE CDS

- Some software will predict ORF within a sequence for you, however you can also find the CDS with NCBI – Blast
- Select the remaining DNA sequence that was **not** part of the backbone
- Go to the NCBI Blast website and this time select blastx
- BlastX will attempt to translate a nucleotide sequence to match to a protein database. This is useful due to the degeneracy in the genetic code

BLASTX

Blastx will give
alignments
similar to blastn,
but will also tell
you what protein
super families it
finds in a given
sequence

Blastx tells you that the sequence relates to the GFP family of proteins



BLASTX ALIGNMENTS

Scroll down to look at the specific alignments. The Blast results show that this is monomeric RFP. Use this alignment to annotate your sequence in Serial Cloner.

Bownload	✓ GenPept Graphics			🔻 Next 🔺 Previous 🔺 Description
monomeric Sequence ID:	red fluorescent protein [synthetic cons gb AAM54544.1 AF506027_1 Length: 22	truct]		
▶ <u>See 39 m</u>	- PPE Generation		Devices Match	Related Information
Score	Expect Method	Vientities Dositives	Caps Frame	Identical Proteins - Proteins identical to
436 bits(112	22) 4e-151 Compositional matrix adjust.	225/225(100%) 225/225(100%)	0/225(0%) +2	the subject
Query 221 Sbjct 1	MASSEDVIKEFMRFKVRMEGSVNghefeiegegegR MASSEDVIKEFMRFKVRMEGSVNGHEFEIEGEGEGR MASSEDVIKEFMRFKVRMEGSVNGHEFEIEGEGEGR	PYEGTQTAKLKVTKGGPLPFAWDI 400 PYEGTQTAKLKVTKGGPLPFAWDI PYEGTQTAKLKVTKGGPLPFAWDI 60		
Query 401 Sbjct 61	LSPQFQYGSKAYVKHPADIPDYLKLSFPEGFKWERV LSPQFQYGSKAYVKHPADIPDYLKLSFPEGFKWERV LSPQFQYGSKAYVKHPADIPDYLKLSFPEGFKWERV	MNFEDGGVVTVTQDSSLQDGEFIY 580 MNFEDGGVVTVTQDSSLQDGEFIY MNFEDGGVVTVTQDSSLQDGEFIY 120		
Query 581 Sbjct 121	KVKLRGTNFPSDGPVMQKKTMGWEASTERMYPEDGA KVKLRGTNFPSDGPVMQKKTMGWEASTERMYPEDGA KVKLRGTNFPSDGPVMQKKTMGWEASTERMYPEDGA	LKGEIKMRLKLKDGGHYDAEVKTT 760 LKGEIKMRLKLKDGGHYDAEVKTT LKGEIKMRLKLKDGGHYDAEVKTT 180		
Query 761 Sbjct 181	YMAKKPVQLPGAYKTDIKLDITSHNEDYTIVEQYER YMAKKPVQLPGAYKTDIKLDITSHNEDYTIVEQYER YMAKKPVQLPGAYKTDIKLDITSHNEDYTIVEQYER	AEGRHSTGA 895 AEGRHSTGA AEGRHSTGA 225		

A TYPICAL GENETIC CASSETTE

 Most functional genetic units are made up of a Promoter, an RBS, a CDS, and finally a Terminator



This can help you look for the other parts of the cassette

IDENTIFYING THE PROMOTER AND TERMINATOR

Display Settings: ⊡ GenBank

Send: 🖂

- Promoter and terminator boundaries are often poorly characterised or annotated but there are still a few tricks to do
 - Blast the sequence
 upstream and
 downstream of the CDS
 to find the promoter
 - Check genbank entries of alignments to find annotations
 - Look for cloning sites/scars to determine the boundaries

Dual controller plasmid for Boolean Integrase Logic, complete sequence

GenBank: KC529324.1

FASTA Graphics

<u>Go to:</u> 🕑	
LOCUS	KC529324 75 bp DNA linear SYN 12-MAY-2013
DEFINITION	Dual controller plasmid for Boolean Integrase Logic, complete
	sequence.
ACCESSION	<u>KC529324</u> REGION: 276
VERSION	KC529324.1 GI:490341930
KEYWORDS	•
SOURCE	Dual controller plasmid for Boolean Integrase Logic
ORGANISM	<u>Dual controller plasmid for Boolean Integrase Logic</u>
	other sequences; artificial sequences; vectors.
REFERENCE	1 (bases 1 to 75)
AUTHORS	Bonnet,J., Yin,P., Ortiz,M.E., Subsoontorn,P. and Endy,D.
TITLE	Amplifying genetic logic gates
JOURNAL	Science 340 (6132), 599-603 (2013)
PUBMED	23539178
REFERENCE	2 (bases 1 to 75)
AUTHORS	Bonnet,J.
TITLE	Direct Submission
JOURNAL	Submitted (25-JAN-2013) Bioengineering, Stanford University, 473
	Via Ortega, Stanford, CA 94305, USA
FEATURES	Location/Qualifiers
source	175
	/organism="Dual controller plasmid for Boolean Integrase
	Logic"
	/mol_type="other DNA"
	/db_xref="taxon: <u>1330438</u> "
misc_f	ature <121
× -	/note="prefix Bba"
regular	cory 2275
7	/regulatory_class="promoter"
	/note="pTet0"
ORIGIN	
1 aa	attcgcggc cgcttctaga gtccctatca gtgatagaga ttgacatccc tatcagtgat
61 a	gagatactg agcac

IDENTIFYING THE RBS

- > The easiest part of the RBS to recognize is the Shine Dalgarno sequence.
 - The Consensus sequence in E. coli is AGGAGGU
 - Synthetic RBS will not necessarily follow this consensus
- If you fail to find a sequence similar to the Shine Dalgarno sequence between your promoter and CDS, search for Biobrick Scar sites or cloning sites which may indicate the RBS location.
- Compare to Synthetic RBS on parts.igem.org
- Reverse engineer mRNA with Salis RBS calculator at https://salis.psu.edu

FINDING CLONING ARTIFACTS

- A biobrick scar is the sequence actaga and results from the ligation of a Xbal cut site with a Spel cut site.
- Finding this sequence between the promoter, RBS, CDS, and terminator is a clear indication of the boundaries of each part.
- Additionally, Common Restriction sites can indicate restriction sites used to construct the Plasmid (EcoRI, BamHI, PstI, XbaI, HindIII, KpnI, NcoI, SacI, XhoI)
- Many modern cloning techniques (golden gate, gibson assembly) are called scarless cloning techniques because they avoid these artifacts, making them more difficult to reverse engineer.

THE ANNOTATED SEQUENCE

- Serial cloner (and most forms of in silico cloning software) will allow you to visualize your annotated plasmids.
- Click on Graphic Map



CREATING A NEW VECTOR

- Modify the vector provided to express mecA (which confers methicillin resistence in Staphylococcus aureus)
 - You will need the following tools:
 - Biocyc / Kegg
 - RBS calculator (<u>https://salis.psu.edu</u>)
 - Codon optimization (www.**jcat**.de/)

BIOCYC.ORG

Pathway Tools Tutorial Date Poll

Sites
Search
Genome
Metabolism
Analysis
SmartTables
Help

BioCyc Database Collection

BioCyc is a collection of 7667 Pathway/Genome Databases (PGDBs), plus software tools for understanding their data.

Getting Started

OCYC

New to BioCyc? Typical usage is:

- Select one or more databases (genomes) to search. To do so, click "change organism database" in the box in the top right of every page. By default, BioCyc searches *Escherichia coli* K-12 substr. MG1655.
- Search for a gene or pathway using the Quick Search, or see the Search menu for more options.

New User Guide >>



Searching Staphylococcus aureus aureus N315 change organism database

Enter a gene, protein, metabolite or pathway ...

Image of Peabody Visual Aids poster by char booth. Used under creative commons license

LOGIN | Why Login? | Create New Account

Quick Search Gene Search

Search BioCyc by Locus ID

You can now enter locus IDs into the BioCyc quick search box. There is no need to first select the correct BioCyc organism database - if the organism is part of BioCyc, the unique locus ID will automatically find it. Some example locus IDs look like this: MSM_0046, MXAN_1061.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

BioCyc Databases

Tools

BioCyc provides tools for navigating, visualizing, and analyzing the

The BioCyc databases are divided into three tiers, based on their quality.

BIOCYC.ORG

BIO	Pathway Tools Tutorial Date Poll Enter a gene, protein, metabolite or pathway Searching Staphylococcus aureus N315 change organ						LOGIN anism d	Why Login? Create New Account Quick Search Gene Search latabase				
Sites - Search	✓ Genome ✓	Metabolism 👻	Analysis 🔻	SmartTables -	Help	lp ▼						
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Ac	ccession IDs G	JCB-41 (Saur158879	PCvc)	Le	ngth 2	2007 bp / 668 aa						Nucleotide Sequence
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		Molecular Weight o	of Polypeptid	e 76.102 kD (fro	m nucle	cleotide sequence)					Þ	Change organisms/databases for comparison operations
		B				,		Unification	n Links		Þ	Search for this gene in other databases
								Entrez	15925745		Þ	Show orthologs (with operon
								Entrez-gene	1122812			diagrams) in multiple databases
								NCBI-Protein	NP_373278	.1	Þ	Align in Multi-Genome Browser
								UniProt	NP_373278	.1	•	Align gene nucleotide sequence with orthologs
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saur158879cyc version 19.0.

http://www.genome.jp/kegg/

KEGG

	KEGG • mecA Search Help
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G Home elease notes prrent statistics	KEGG: Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes
ea from KEGG G Database EGG overview earching KEGG EGG mapping olor codes G Objects	 KEGG is a database resource for understanding high-level functions and utilities of the biological system, such as the cell, the organism and the ecosystem, from molecular-level information, especially large-scale molecular datasets generated by genome sequencing and other high-throughput experimental technologies (See Release notes for new and updated features). New articles KEGG as a reference resource for gene and protein annotation BlastKOALA and GhostKOALA: KEGG tools for functional characterization of genome and metagenome sequences
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EGG API GML	Data-oriented entry points KEGG PATHWAY KEGG pathway maps [Pathway list]
G FTP Ibscription	KEGG BRITE BRITE functional hierarchies [Brite list] KEGG MODULE KEGG modules [Module list Statistics] KEGG ORTHOLOGY Ortholog groups [KO system Annotation]
omeNet	KEGG GENOME Genomes [KEGG organisms] KEGG GENES Genes and proteins [Release history]
lback	KEGG COMPOUND Small molecules [Compound classification] KEGG GLYCAN Glycans [Monosaccharide codes]
ehisa Labs	KEGG REACTION Biochemical reactions [Reaction modules] KEGG DISEASE Human diseases [Cancer Pathogen] KEGG DRUG Drugs [ATC drug classification] KEGG MEDICUS Health information resource [Drug labels search]
	Organism-specific entry points
	- 2 · · · · · · · · · · · · / F · · · · · ·

KEGG

Staphylococcus aureus subsp. aureus N315 (MRSA/VSSA): SA0038

	SA0038	Help
Entry	SA0038 CDS T00051	All links
Gene name	mecA	Ontology (1)
Definition	(RefSeq) penicillin binding protein 2 prime	KEGG BRITE (1)
ко	K02545 penicillin-binding protein 2 prime	Pathway (2) KEGG PATHWAY (1)
Organism	sau Staphylococcus aureus subsp. aureus N315 (MRSA/VSSA)	KEGG MODULE (1)
Pathway	sau01501 beta-Lactam resistance	KEGG GENOME (1)
Module	sau_M00625 Methicillin resistance	Gene (11) KEGG ORTHOLOGY (1)
Brite	<pre>KEGG Orthology (KO) [BR:sau00001] Human Diseases Drug resistance 01501 beta-Lactam resistance SA0038 (mecA) BRITE hierarchy</pre>	RefGene (6) NCBI-Gene (1) NCBI-GI (1) NITE (1) OC (1) 3D Structure (1) PDB (1) Protein (4)
SSDB	Ortholog Paralog Gene cluster GFIT	Protein domain (4) Pfam (4)
Motif	Pfam: Transpeptidase PBP_dimer MecA_N HK_sensor Motif	All databases (20) Download RDF
Other DBs	NCBI-GI: 15925745 NCBI-GeneID: 1122812 NITE: SA0038	
Structure	PDB: 3ZG5 Thumbnail Jmol	
Position	complement(4503147037) Genome map	
AA seq	668 aa AA seq DB search MKKIKIVPLILIVVVVGFGIYFYASKDKEINNTIDAIEDKNFKQVYKDSSYISKSDNGEV EMTERPIKIYNSLGVKDINIQDRKIKKVSKNKKRVDAQYKIKTNYGNIDRNVQFNFVKED GMWKLDWDHSVIIPGMQKDQSIHIENLKSERGKILDRNNVELANTGTAYEIGIVPKNVSK KDYKAIAKELSISEDYIKQQMDQNWVQDDTFVPLKTVKKMDEYLSDFAKKFHLTTNETES	

KEGG



THE REGISTRY OF BIOLOGICAL PARTS

🐲 tools catalog repository assembly protocols help search 🕮 login

Registry of Standard Biological Parts

Browse parts by type Catalog List : Promoters (?): A promoter is a DNA sequence that tends to recruit transcriptional machinery and lead to transcription of the downstream DNA sequence Ribosome Binding Site/about (?): A ribosome binding site (RBS) is an RNA sequence found in mRNA to which ribosomes can bind and initiate translation :== Protein domains (?): Protein domains are portions of proteins cloned in frame with other proteins domains to make -----up a protein coding sequence. Some protein domains might change the protein's location, alter its degradation rate, target the protein for cleavage, or enable it to be readily purified. Protein coding sequences (?): Protein coding sequences encode the amino acid sequence of a particular protein. : Note that some protein coding sequences only encode a protein domain or half a protein. Others encode a fulllength protein from start codon to stop codon. Coding sequences for gene expression reporters such as LacZ and GFP are also included here. Translational units (?): Translational units are composed of a ribosome binding site and a protein coding sequence. They begin at the site of translational initiation, the RBS, and end at the site of translational termination, the stop codon. Terminators (?): A terminator is an RNA sequence that usually occurs at the end of a gene or operon mRNA and causes transcription to stop DNA (?): DNA parts provide functionality to the DNA itself. DNA parts include cloning sites, scars, primer binding TAR. sites, spacers, recombination sites, conjugative tranfer elements, transposons, origami, and aptamers. دے : Plasmid backbones (?): A plasmid is a circular, double-stranded DNA molecules typically containing a few thousand base pairs that replicate within the cell independently of the chromosomal DNA. A plasmid backbone is defined as the plasmid sequence beginning with the BioBrick suffix, including the replication origin and antibiotic resistance marker, and ending with the BioBrick prefix. Plasmids (?): A plasmid is a circular, double-stranded DNA molecules typically containing a few thousand base : 80 pairs that replicate within the cell independently of the chromosomal DNA. If you're looking for a plasmid or vector to propagate or assemble plasmid backbones, please see the set of plasmid backbones. There are a few parts in the Registry that are only available as circular plasmids, not as parts in a plasmid backbone, you can find them here. Note that these plasmids largely do not conform to the BioBrick standard. Primers (?): A primer is a short single-stranded DNA sequences used as a starting point for PCR amplification or sequencing. Although primers are not actually available via the Registry distribution, we include commonly used primer sequences here. : Composite parts (?): Composite parts are combinations of of two or more BioBrick parts.

Browse devices by type

Protein generators (?);

We're in the process of developing new support for the specification of devices in the Registry. For the time being, please see the existing device tables below.

Categories biosafety (30) cds (830) chassis (1635) classic (2014) collections (0) direction (851) dna (134) function (1370) legal (4) plasmid (261) plasmidbackbone (169) primer (42) promoter (672) proteindomain (424) rbs (170) regulation (804) ribosome (149) rnap (576) t3 (3) terminator (103) test (3) test1 (1) viral_vectors (115)

<u>http://parts.igem.</u> <u>org/</u>

- Good resource for finding DNA sequences for specific parts
- Characterization quality varies

CODON OPTIMIZATION

Codon-Adaptation
1. Type/paste sequences below:
Standard genetic code is used for the input sequence. Click horn to change!
2. Specify the pasted Sequence:
Drav Kriva Sequence Protein Sequence
3. Select organism:
4. Additional Options:
Avoid rho-independent transcription terminators.
Avoid Cleavage Sites of Restriction Enzymes:
Aatl
Acci 🔤
Acc651
Afel 💌
Only partly optimization in order to apply site directed mutagenesis.
Columba Devel
Submit

<u>http://www.jcat.de/</u>

- Alternatives from Lifetechnologies, genscript, IDT and other synthesis companies
- Optimize expression for genes when transferring between species

RBS CALCULATOR

- Translation rate depends on RBS
- RBS are not completely modular, the translation initiation rate will vary with the protein coding sequence
- Can design RBS for targeted translation initiation rate
- Can reverse engineer mRNA to determine relative translation initiation rate

RBS Calculator_{v1.1}

tunable control of the translation initiation rate

Title	
Dre Convence (2)	Protein Coding Seguence [0]
Pre-Sequence [7]	Protein Coding Sequence [7]
Target Translation Initiation Rate [?]	Proportional scale (0 to 100,000+) 🔲 Goal: Maximize
Organism or (16S rRNA) [?] (start typing)	
Submit Job 🕨	For Non-Commercial Use Only. Click here for commercial usage.
Design Jobs: 4 queued, 8 currently runnin UPDATES & The next-generati TIPS mRNAs with long non-canonical Sh Research, 2013 fo	g on RBS Calculator (v2.0) better predicts the translation initiation rates of I, highly structured 5' UTRs, structured protein coding sequences, and ine Dalgarno sequences. Read Espah Borujeni et. al., Nucleic Acid or details.

FINISHING UP YOUR NEW INSERT

Add restriction sites (for Traditional, Biobrick, or Goldengate cloning) to your sequence to prepare it for synthesis. Add a few (3-5) bases on the ends of your sequence to ensure good binding of restriction enzymes.

or

- Add homology regions for gibson assembly.
- The sequence can be synthesized by DNA synthesis companies such as IDT.

PRIMERS FOR YOUR BACKBONE

Primers can be designed with primer3 (bioinfo.ut.ee/primer3/) or using cloning software. You can use the sequences below for binding to your backbone.

- > pSB1C3 pTet F = TACTAGAGCCAGGCATCAA
- > pSB1C3 pTet R = AGTAGTGCTCAGTATCTCTATC

Add restriction sites (for Traditional, Biobrick, or Goldengate cloning) to your primers on the 5' end to prepare them for synthesis. Add a few (3-5) bases on the 5' of your sequence to ensure good binding of restriction enzymes.

or

Add homology regions for gibson assembly.

IN SILICO CLONING

You can do in silico PCR by clicking on 'PCR' button in serial cloner.

Select your template (your now-annotated vector) and input the primers you designed.

You can do in silico cloning by clicking on 'Construct' button in serial cloner. Select your PCR product, and your new insert, and the restriction enzymes you want to use for the cloning.

Save your constructed sequence and check that it is what you expect.