M2D2: Complete in-silico cloning of protein expression plasmid

- 1. Prelab discussion
- 2. Complete DNA engineering exercise



That was the last year the DNA invited the restriction enzyme to their Halloween party.

10/14/2021

Overview of M2: drug discovery

Determine putative PF3D7_20109-F21 binders via high throughput screening (SMM)



Use purified protein to validate binding of small molecules identified in SMM

How are proteins made?



http://genius.com/Biology-genius-the-central-dogma-annotated

What if we want to make a specific protein?

- Chemically synthesize protein by successively linking each amino acid
 - Complicated, have to make each protein, expensive
- Synthesize RNA encoding the protein
 - RNA degrades easily
 - Amplification! 1 RNA -> Many Proteins
- Create DNA encoding the protein
 - Highly stable, easily transformed into bacteria
 - Amplification Cascade! 1 DNA -> Many RNA -> Many Proteins

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What if we want to make a specific protein?

- Who are the players?
 - Insert
 - Vector
- What is the process?
 - Digestion
 - Ligation



How do we synthesize the insert?





Digestion: restriction enzymes

- Function as homodimers
- Each dimer contains active site that cleaves backbone at site of palindromic recognition sequence
- Results in cleavage of both strands



Digest reagents and conditions



• Temperature:

• Time:



Ligation: T4 DNA ligase

- Functions as a carrier for AMP leaving group
- Forms covalent phosphodiester bond between 3' OH acceptor and 5' phosphate donor
- Requires ATP



Ligation conditions



Kilobases Mass (ng)

42

42

50

42

33

125

48

36

42

42

10.0

8.0

6.0

5.0

- 4.0

- 3.0

- 2.0

- 1.5

- 1.0

-0.5

- Ideally, want 3:1 molar ratio of insert:backbone
- Calculate molar amounts from measured concentrations and known sizes of DNA molecules

Pro tips for ligation calculations

- 1. Determine volume of vector
 - Use backbone concentration = 50 ng/uL
 - Want 50 100 ng
- 2. Calculate moles of vector
 - Vector = (you will discovery this in the exercise) bp, MW bp = 660 g/mol
- 3. Calculate moles of insert
 - Insert = (you will discover this in the exercise) bp, 3:1 ratio of insert:vector
- 4. Calculate volume of insert
 - Use insert concentration = 25 ng/uL

How do we confirm the cloning product?

• Transformation

• Purification

• Digestion



Transformation

- 1. Incubation
- 2. Heat shock
- 3. Recovery
- 4. Selection



Purification

- 1. Resuspend cells
- 2. Lysis
- 3. Neutralization
- 4. Wash
- 5. Resuspend or elute DNA



Digestion, again

- Confirmation digests
- Ideally, will cut once in insert and once in vector
 - Xbal and EcoRI?
 - Pstl?
 - Ncol?



pNLL-PCR (7000bp)

Pstl Digest: Ideal = 3000 bp and 4000 bp fragments



For today...

- In silico cloning of your plasmid
- Set up restriction enzyme digest

For M2D2...

- Read your journal club article, chose the figures you want to be the focus of your story, and answer the questions on the wiki
- Email Noreen to reserve your JC presentation date