

Computing the Future of Biology & Biotechnology

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Stanford Department of Bioengineering
The BioBricks Foundation

9 March 2009





Questions

What is this stuff?

How does it work?

Where did it come from?

What is it doing?

Where is it going?

How much DNA on Earth?



How much DNA on Earth?

- ~1E10 tons bacteria (5% DNA)
- ~5E9 tons plants (1% DNA, made up number)
- ~1E9 tons animals (1% DNA, made up number)
- ~1E31 viruses (50% DNA)

How much DNA on Earth?

4E35 bp bacterial DNA

4E34 bp plant DNA

1E34 bp animal DNA

5E30 bp virus DNA

5E35 bp DNA on the planet

How quickly can we sequence?

$1E10$ bp per sequencing center per month

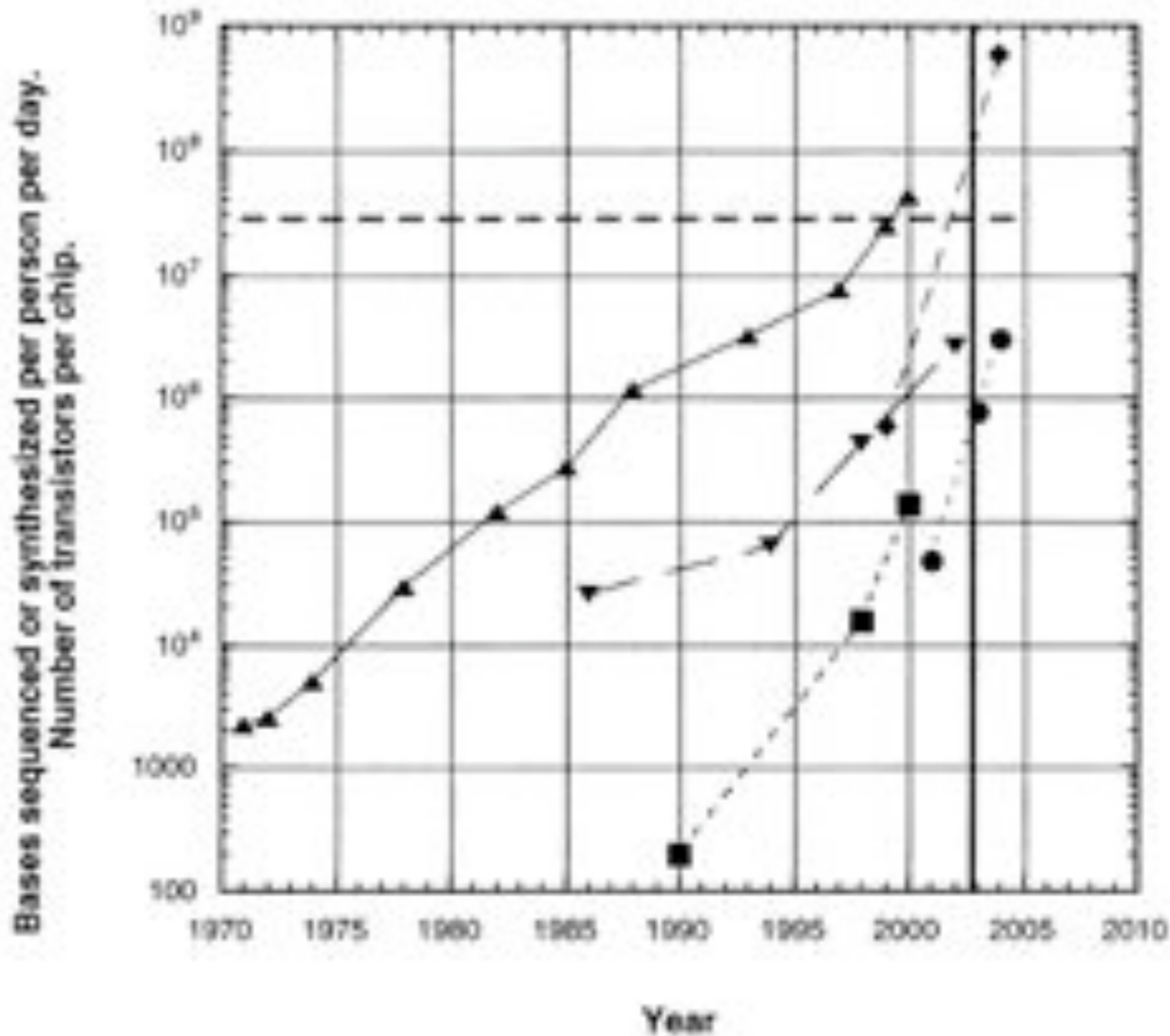
$1E12$ bp per month per Earth

$5E23$ months to sequence all DNA on earth





Productivity Improvements in DNA Synthesis and Sequencing (as of October, 2002)



Typical NIH R01 c.2090

Specific Aim #1:

Sequence all DNA on earth in first month of project

Reviewer Comments:

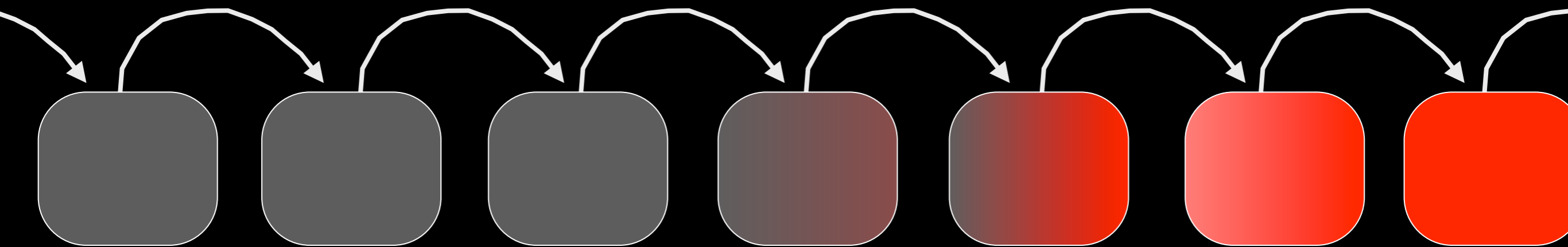
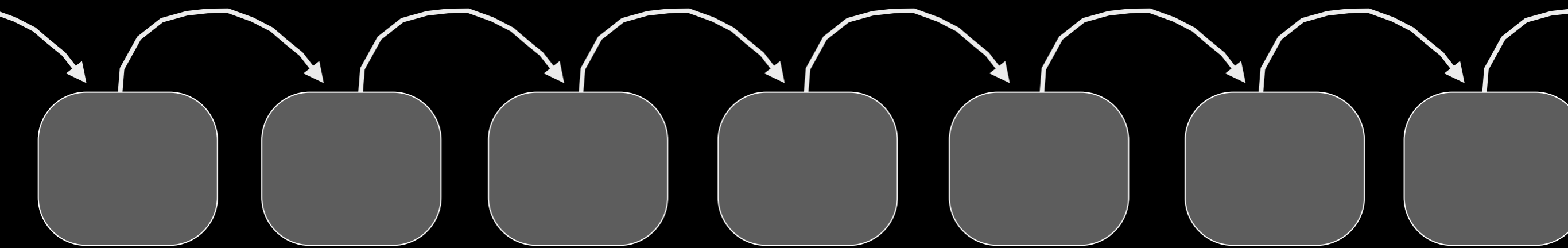
Data storage & sharing plans not adequate

Functional annotation tools insufficient

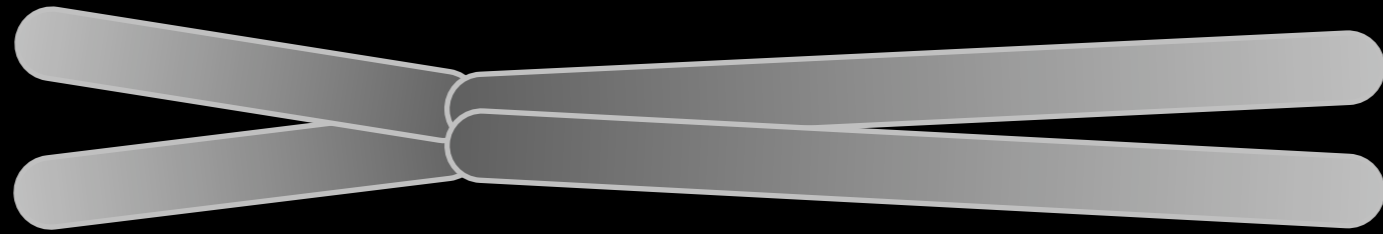
Questions.

Can we finish genetics?

Could we finish early?

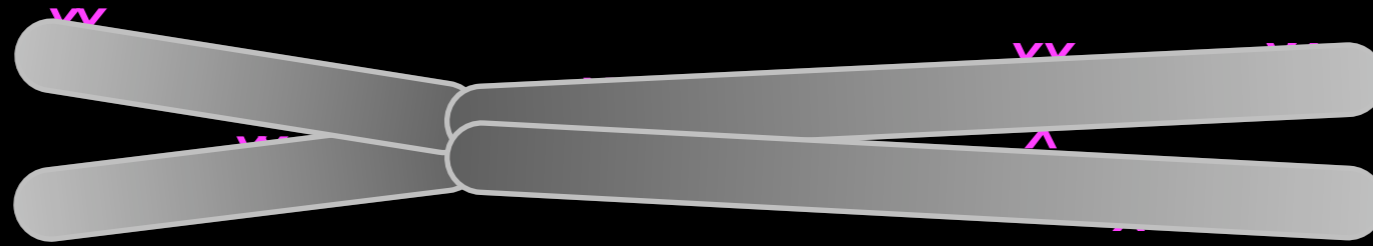


Genetics is bounded?!



1. Genomes have finite lengths.
2. Fixation rates of mutants in populations are finite.
3. Atrophy rates of functional genetic elements are greater than zero.

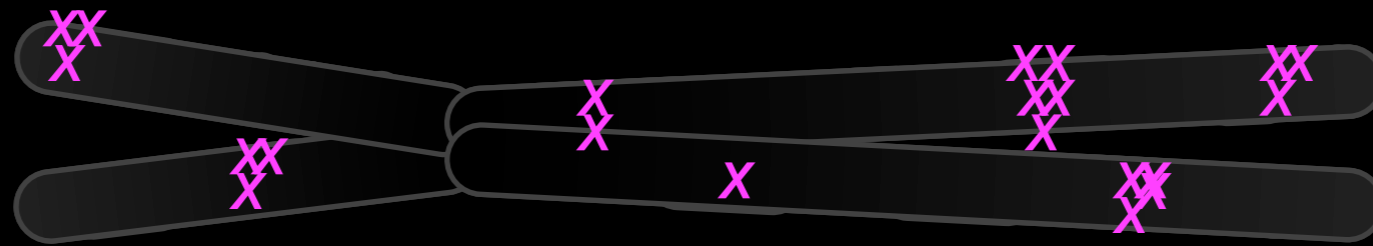
Pre-Sequencing Genetics



1. Collect or make libraries of mutants; characterize or screen.
2. Map mutants to loci.

Underlying Math = Logic

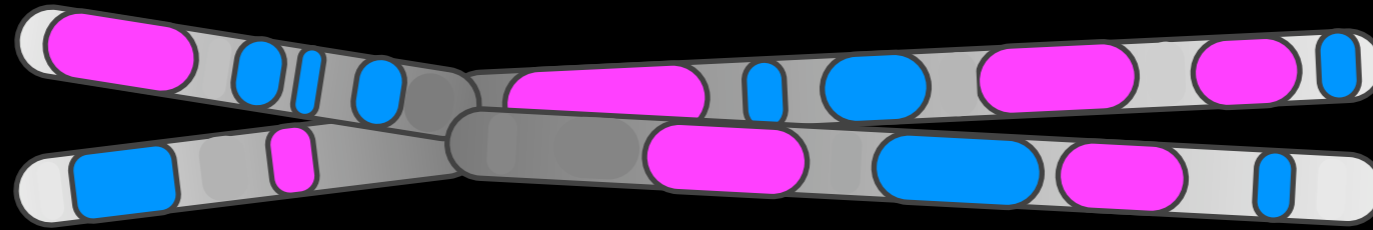
Post-Sequencing Genetics



1. Read DNA.
2. Identify putative functional genetic elements via models.

Underlying Math = Pattern Recognition

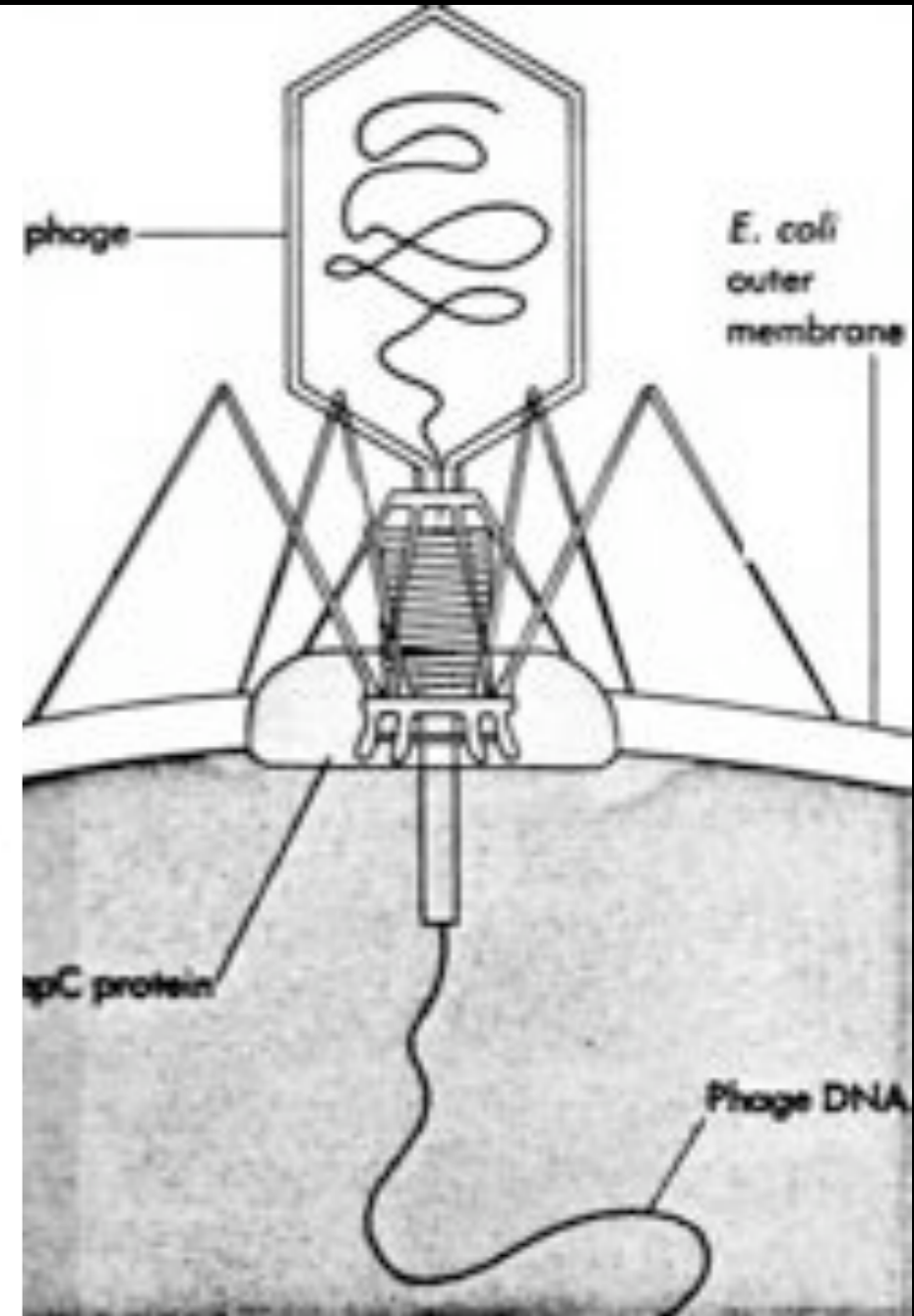
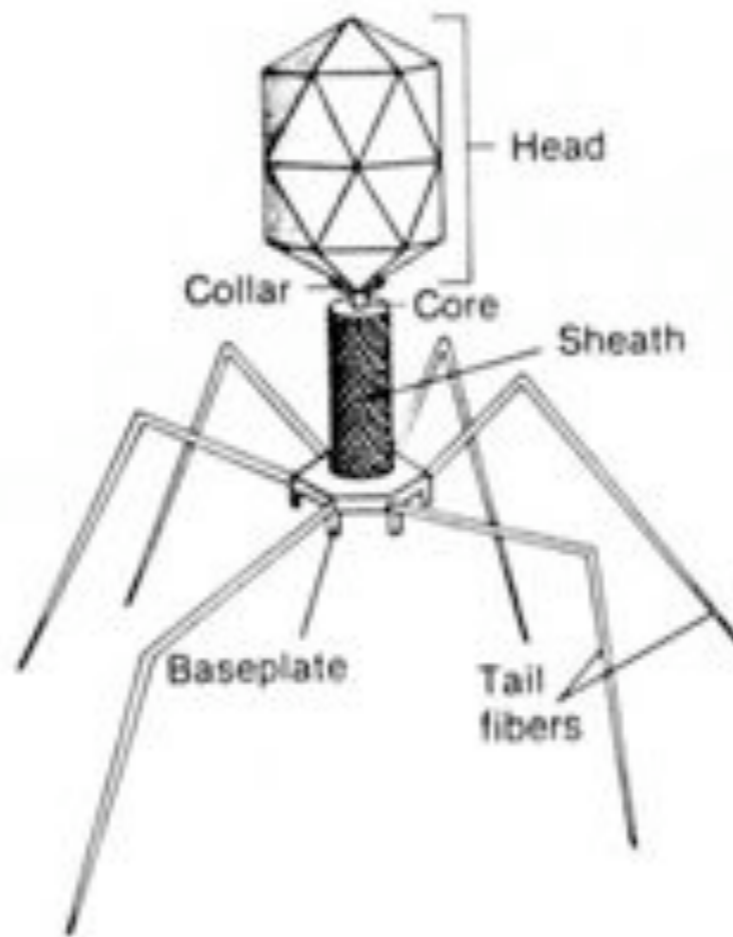
Post-Synthesis Genetics?



1. Design and construct any mutant or combinations thereof; characterize.
2. Reveal / confirm functions or demonstrate absence thereof.

Underlying Math =? Perturbation Design

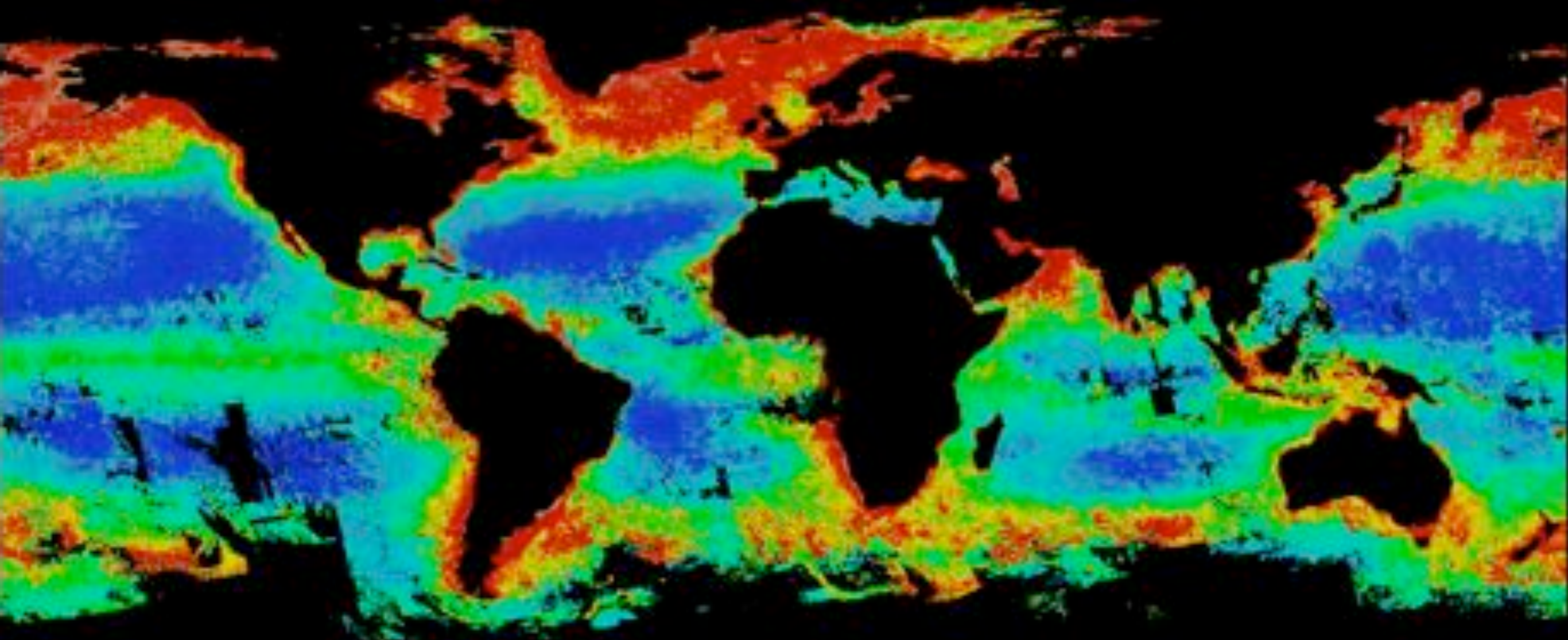
Bacteriophage



Key Features

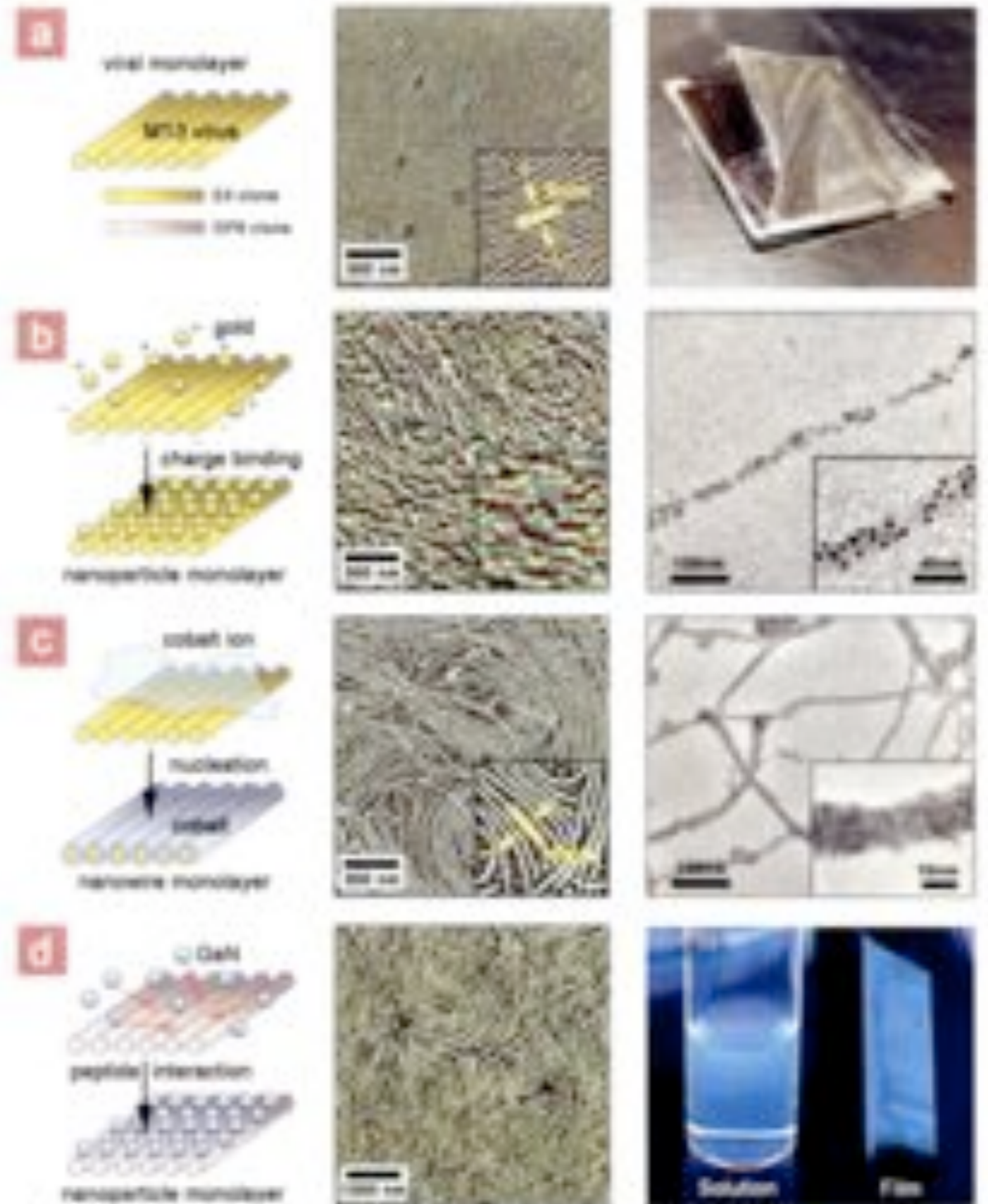
- *self assembling*
- *nanoscale*
- *reproducing machine*
- *programmed via DNA*

Ecological importance



<http://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/vis/a000000/a002400/a002497/index.html>

Technical importance



Phage T7: *Pre-Sequencing*

Virology

Volume 39, Issue 3, November 1969, Pages 562-574

Abstract

doi:10.1016/0042-6822(69)90104-4  Cite or Link Using DOI

Copyright © 1969 Published by Elsevier Science (USA).

The genetics and physiology of bacteriophage T7^{*1}

F. William Studier

Biology Department, Brookhaven

Accepted 9 July 1969. ; Available

Abstract

Nineteen genes have been identified and their order has been determined. The linear genetic map is over 200 map units long. For another 10 or so genes remain to be identified.

The ability of mutants from each gene to form plaques has been determined. Mutants from most genes appear to be essentially normal in their ability to form DNA-containing particles when grown in the presence of a host cell.

The development of detailed genetic maps for one in which to study a number of

“19 genes have been identified in T7 by isolation & characterization of amber mutants... .. it is estimated that not more than another 10 or so genes remain to be discovered.”

Phage T7: *Post-Sequencing*

Journal of Molecular Biology
Volume 155, Issue 4, 5 June 1983, Pages 477-535

Abstract

doi:10.1016/S0022-2836(83)80282-4  Cite or Link Using DOI
Copyright © 1983 Published by Elsevier Ltd.

Complete nucleotide sequence of bacteriophage T7 DNA and the locations of T7 genetic elements

John J. Dunn^a, F. William Studier

^aBiology Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, New York 11973

Received 11 August 1982. Available online 15 October 1982.

The complete nucleotide sequence of bacteriophage T7 DNA has been determined. All previously known T7 genes are present and are arranged in a compact, efficient manner. This arrangement allows for the expression of only 38 of them. In addition, 12 other genes are expressed. Where gaps in the sequence occur, one or more transcription signals, RNAase III cleavage sites, early promoters and the early transcription start site for RNA polymerase. Ten RNAase III cleavage sites are processed at these sites to provide for the expression of 10 genes. There are few polar effects at the level of transcription initiation and ribosome-binding and initiation.

“...coding sequences for 50 genes...”

“...evidence for expression of only 38...”

~100 genetic elements total



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 Display Show Send to Hide: sequence all but gene, CDS and mRNA features

 Range: from to Reverse complemented strand Features:
 1: [NC_001604](#). Reports Enterobacteria ph...[gi:9627425]

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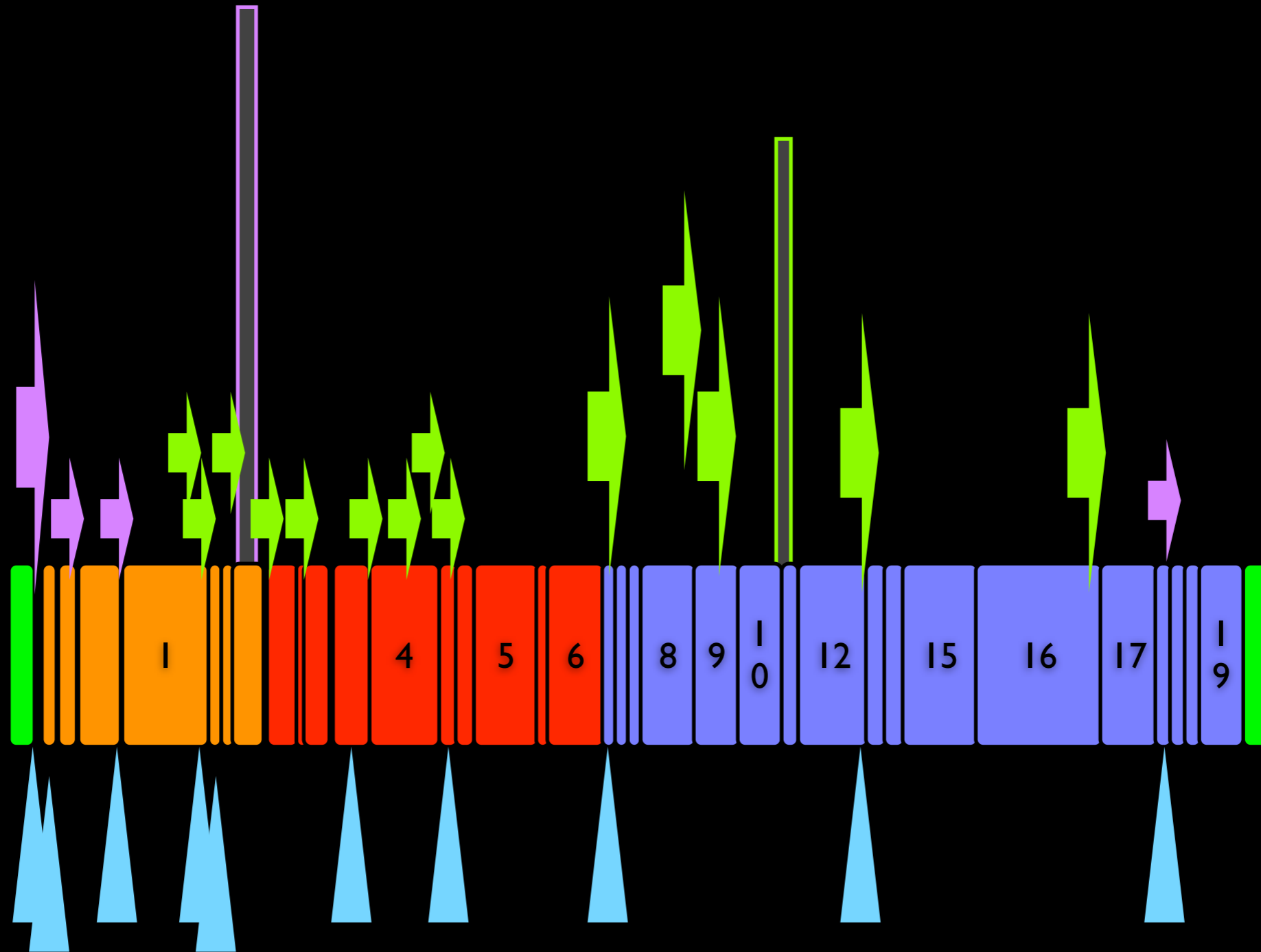
LOCUS NC_001604 39937 bp DNA linear FIG 04-MAY-2006
 DEFINITION Enterobacteria phage T7, complete genome.
 ACCESSION NC_001604
 VERSION NC_001604.1 GI:9627425
 PROJECT GenomeProject:14462
 KEYWORDS capsid; dGTPase; DNA ligase; DNA polymerase; E. coli; E. coli RNA polymerase; EcoB; EcoK; endonuclease; exonuclease; F plasmid; H-NS protein; head-tail connector; helicase; internal virion; lysosyme; primase; promoter; protein; protein kinase; recBCD nuclease; RNase III site; scaffolding protein; single-stranded DNA binding protein; T7 RNA polymerase; tail; tail fiber; terminase; transcription terminator.

SOURCE Enterobacteria phage T7
 ORGANISM [Enterobacteria phage T7](#)
 Viruses; dsDNA viruses, no RNA stage; Caudovirales; Podoviridae; T7-like viruses.

REFERENCE 1 (bases 11061 to 11062)
 AUTHORS Cheng,X., Zhang,X., Pfliegerath,J.W. and Studier,F.W.
 TITLE The structure of bacteriophage T7 lysosyme, a zinc amidase and an inhibitor of T7 RNA polymerase
 JOURNAL Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A. 91 (9), 4034-4038 (1994)
 PUBMED [8111011](#)

REFERENCE 2 (bases 1 to 39937)
 AUTHORS Liu,Q. and Richardson,C.C.

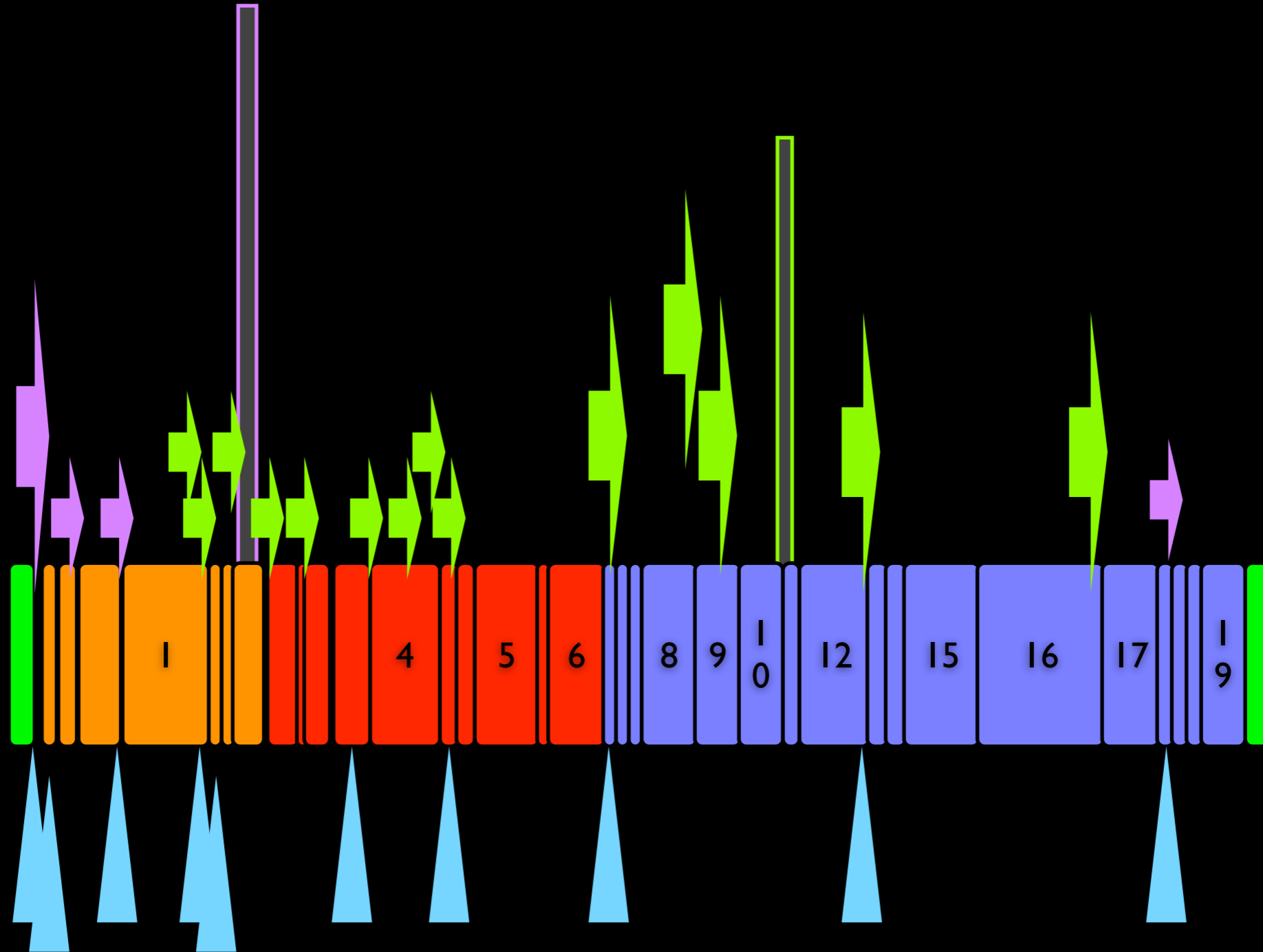
Functional depiction of T7 genome

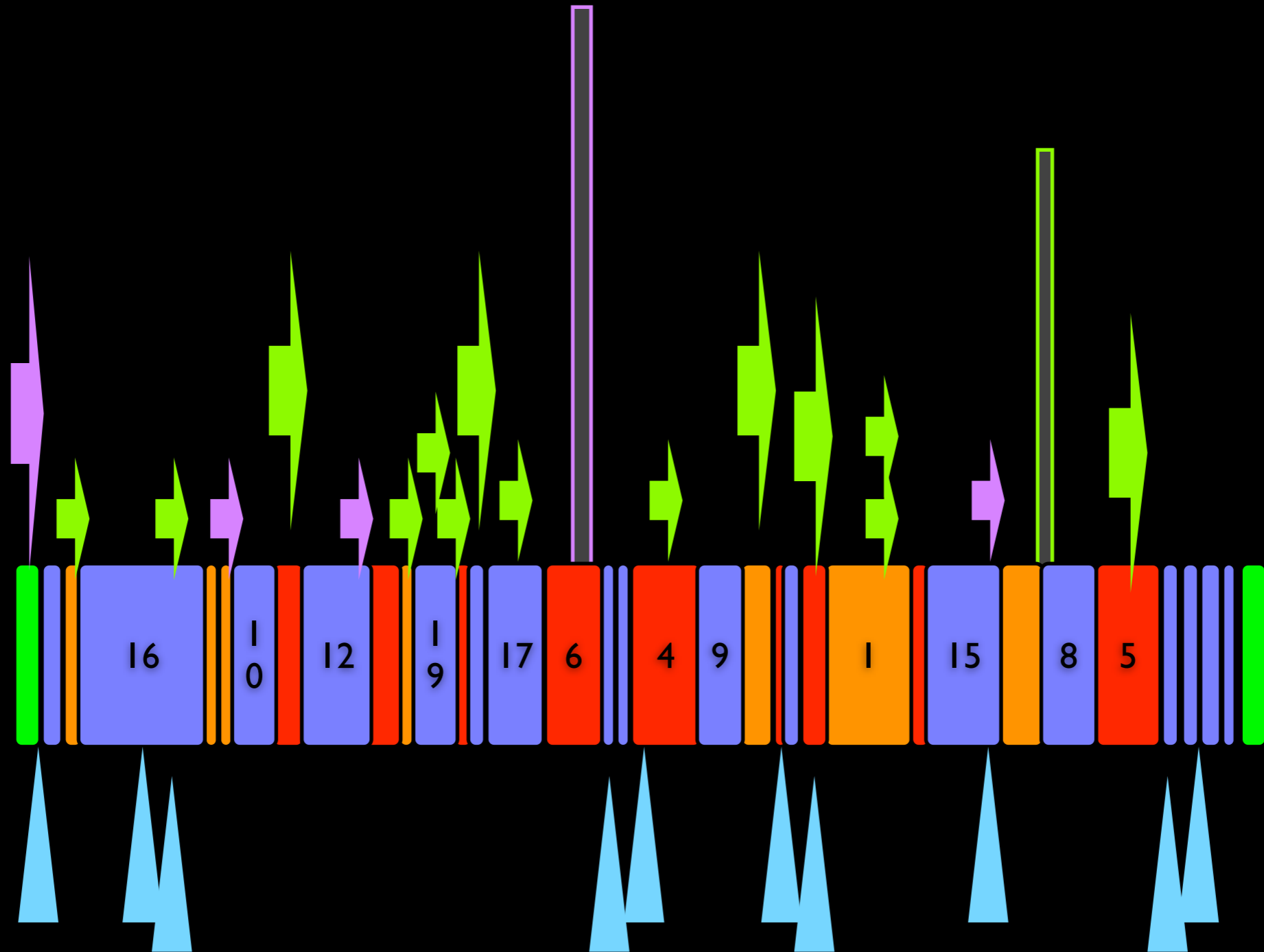


	Gene ^a	Amino acids ^b	M _r ^c	Function ^d
Class I	0.3	116	13,876	Inactivates host restriction
	0.4	50	5824	
	0.5	47	4744	
	0.6.1	52	6214	
	0.6.2	111	(13,374)	
	0.7	309	41,124	Protein kinase
	7	880	86,002	T7 RNA polymerase
	7.1	42	5180	
	7.2	84	10,000	Replication
	7.3	209	41,133	DNA ligase
Class II	7.4	31	3446	
	7.5	29	3174	
	7.6	86	10446	
	7.7	185	22,063	
	7.8	18	2781	
	8	63	7043	Inactivates host RNA polymerase
	8.1	231	25,382	Single-stranded DNA-binding protein
	8.2	139	13,817	
	8	148	17,040	Endonuclease
	8.1	150	18,896	Amidase (lysosyme)
	8.2	121	14,329	
	8.1	366	62,826	Primase
	8.2	303	35,743	Primase
	18.1	39	4263	
	18.2	112	12,653	
	18.1	70	7927	
	18.1	89	9660	
	18.1	130	13,208	
	5	704	70,691	DNA polymerase
	5.1	118	13,067	
5.2	89	11,073		
5.7	68	7280	Permits growth on 3 lysogen	
6	347	39,995	Exonuclease	
6.2	37	4884		
Class III	6.1	54	6474	
	6.7	97	9297	
	7	112	13,393	Host range
	7.1	86	9607	Host range
	7.7	189	14,737	
	8	323	58,989	Head-tail protein
	9	306	33,796	Head assembly protein
	10.1	344	36,414	Major head protein
	10.2	397	(61,890)	Minor head protein
	11	196	22,289	Tail protein
	12	783	89,283	Tail protein
	13	138	13,852	Internal virion protein
	14	185	20,826	Internal virion protein
	15	166	14,219	Internal virion protein
	16	528	143,549	Internal virion protein
	17	532	61,441	Tail fiber protein
	17.1	67	7368	
18	89	10,145	DNA maturation	
(18.7)	82	9195		
19	585	66,130	DNA maturation	
(19.2)	81	9264		
(19.3)	56	6429		
19.5	49	5434		

Dunn & Studier (1983)
Journal of Molecular Biology
v166 p477

Functional depiction of T7 genome





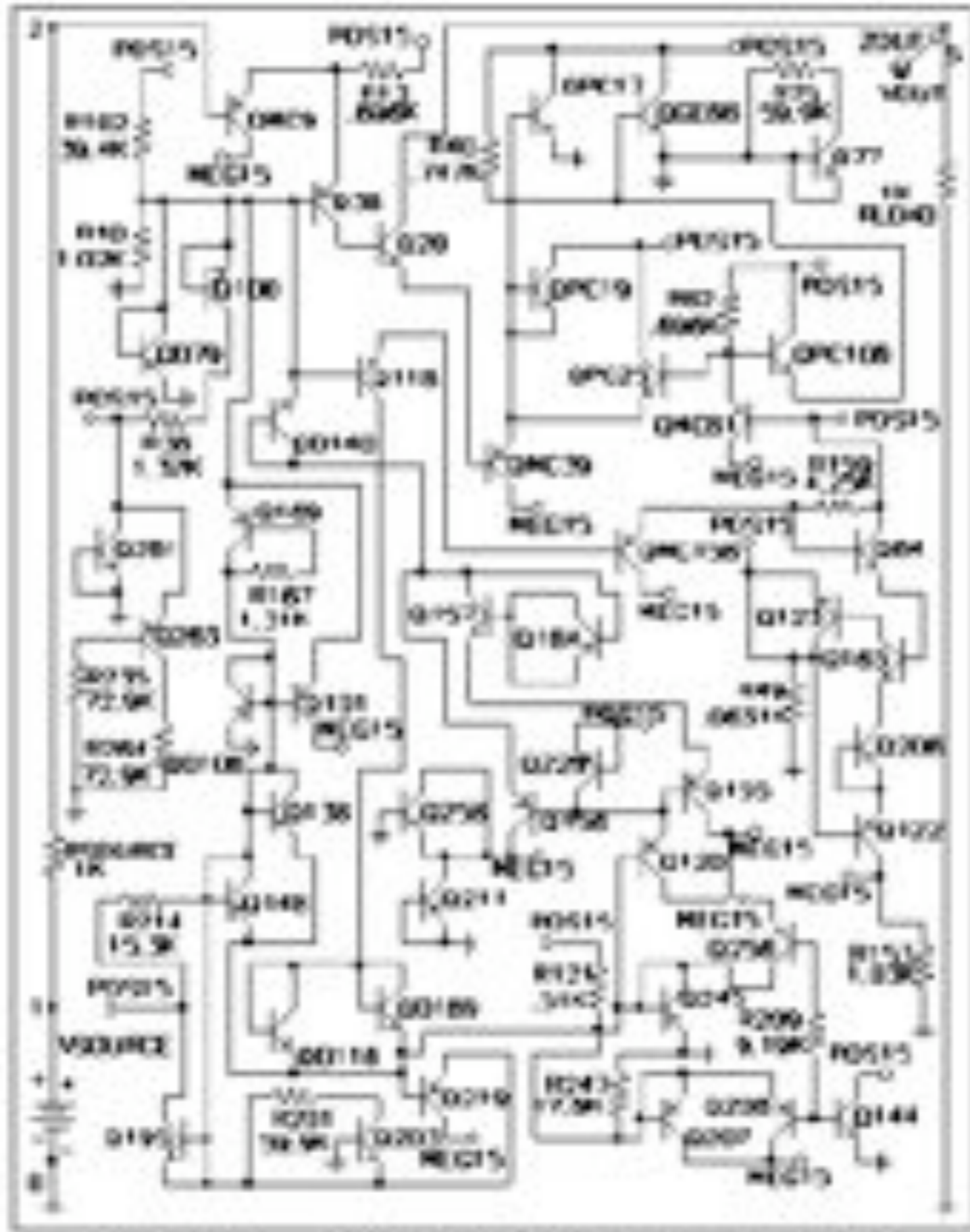
I have no idea what this genetic program will do

Natural DNA sequence

-----2.8----->

...acgcaaagggaggcgac**atg**gcagggtacggcgc**taa**aggaatccgaaa...

<--3-RBS--><-----3----->



Evolved Circuit:

1. What does it do?
2. How does it work?
3. Why this design?

J.R. Koza et al.

Automated Synthesis of Computational Circuits using Genetic Programming, 1997 IEEE International Conference on Evolutionary Computation

Design & build new genome?

-----2.8----->
acgcaagggaggcgacatggcaggttacggcgctaaaggaatccgaaa
<--3-RBS--><-----3----->

acgcaaGgggagAcgacaCggcaggttacggcgctaaggatcggccgcaaagggaggcgacatggcaggttacggcgctaa
-----2.8-----><D28R | D29L><--3RBS--><-----3----->

Phage T7: *Post-Synthesis*

Molecular Systems Biology (2006) doi:10.1038/msb4100035
 © 2006 EMBO and Nature Publishing Group. All rights reserved 1744-4292/06
 www.nature.com/msb



Refactoring bacteriophage T7

Leon Y Chan^{1,3}, Sriram Kosuri^{2,3} and Drew Endy^{2,4}

¹ Department of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA and ² Division of Biological Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA

³ These authors contributed equally to this work

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Received 15.7.06; accepted 23.7.06

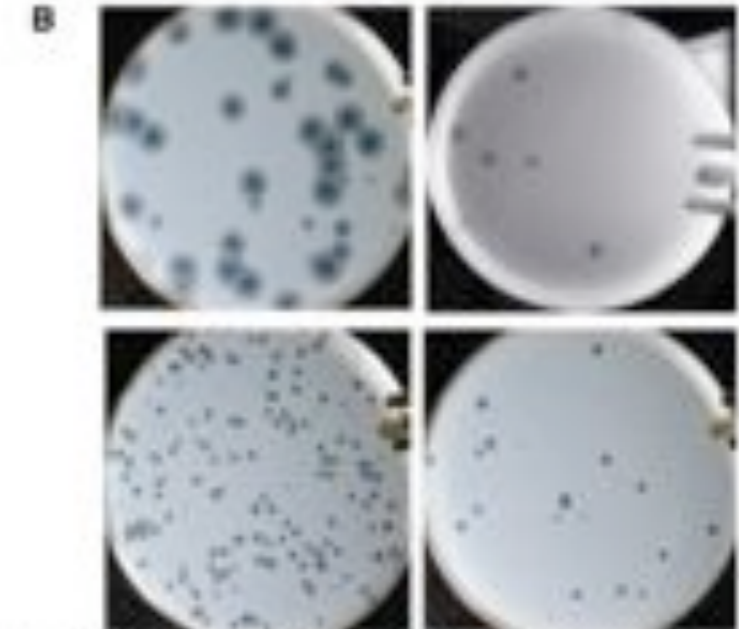


Figure 4 Characterization of T7.1 (A) Loss of log-phase liquid cultures of *E. coli* BL21 (30°C) by wild-type T7 (black), alpha-WT dimers (red), WT-beta-WT dimers (blue), alpha-beta-WT dimers (orange); absorbance of 620 nm is ~200 optical density. Vertical bars show standard deviation at each time point (based on four replicates) (Supplementary information). (B) T7 plaques on *E. coli* BL21 (30°C, 10-min Petri dish). Clockwise from top left: wild-type (WT) T7, alpha-WT dimers, WT-beta-WT dimers, alpha-beta-WT dimers (Supplementary information).

-----2.8----->
 acgcaaagggaggcgacatggcagggttacggcgctaaaggaatccgaaa

<--3-RBS--><-----3-----

acgcaaGgggagAcgacaCggcagggttacggcgctaaaggatcggccgcaaagggaggcgacatggcagggttacggcgctaaa

-----2.8-----><D28R | D29L><--3RBS--><-----3-----

Complete Chemical Synthesis, Assembly, and Cloning of a *Mycoplasma genitalium* Genome

David G. Colman, Gaywood A. Sanders, Cynthia Andrews-Flanagan, Kelly Baden-Tillson, Stephen Zwart, Timothy B. Stockwell, Kenneth M. Wilson, A. Higin, David Meryman, Lei Young, Madeline N. Siskin, Jo Cyle A. Hutchison III, Hamilton O. Smith*

We have synthesized a 582,470-base pair *Mycoplasma genitalium* genome named M. genitalium JCV-1.2, contains all the genes of wild-type M. genitalium, which was disrupted by an antibiotic marker to block genetic selection. To identify the genome as synthetic, we inserted "watermarks" to tolerate transposon insertions. Overlapping "cassettes" of 3 to 7 kb (chemically synthesized oligonucleotides, were joined by in vitro recombinational assemblies of approximately 24 kb, 72 kb ("full genome"), which were all cloned as bacterial artificial chromosomes. These intermediate clones were sequenced, and clones of all four 5' sequences were identified. The complete synthetic genome was then associated recombinational cloning in the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. A clone with the correct sequence was identified. The methodology could be used for constructing large DNA molecules from combinations of natural and synthetic DNA segments.

Mycoplasma genitalium is a bacterium with the smallest genome of any microorganism that has been grown in pure culture (1, 2). Approximately 480 of its 883 protein-coding genes are essential under optimal laboratory conditions when individually disrupted (3, 4). However, it is not known which of these 193 genes are simultaneously dispensable. We proposed one approach to this question would be to produce reduced genomes by chemical synthesis and transduce them into cells to test their capacity to provide the essential genetic

functions for 38% necessary step via chemical synthesis.

The actual genome presented large. Although it became feasible, it was necessary to be able to synthesize the genome in its entirety. The largest protein-coding gene that we are aware of is the *glaA* cluster (5). To a 582,470-base pair

genome, we needed to establish convenient and reliable methods for the assembly and cloning of much larger synthetic DNA molecules.

Strategy for synthesis and assembly. The native 582,470-bp M. genitalium genome encodes (Mycoplasma genitalium CD7 ATCC 33180 genome sequence; accession no. U40947) 873 genes (estimated from 100 percent of genes).

Note added in proof: While this paper was in press, we realized that the TARBAC vector in our sMgTARBAC37 clone interrupts the gene for the RNA subunit of RNase P (*mpB*). This confirms our speculation that the vector might not be at a suitable site for subsequent transplantation experiments.

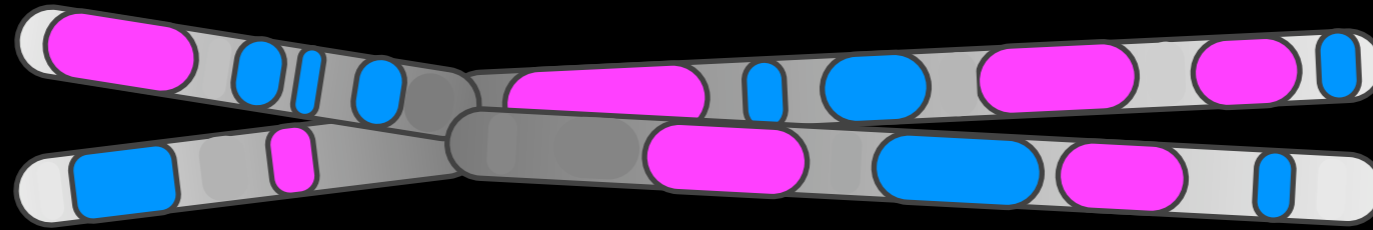
References and Notes

1. S. D. Colman, P. C. Hu, W. Litaker, K. F. Bott, *Mol. Microbiol.* **4**, 683 (1990).



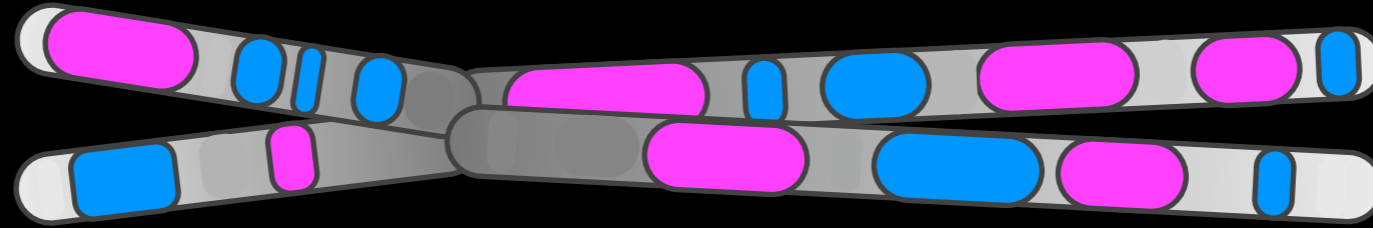
Fig. 1. Linear GenBank-style representation of the 582,470-bp M. genitalium JCV-1.2 genome. Features shown include locations of watermarks and the antibiotic resistance marker, table 7-4022, transposon insertions determined in our 2005 and 2006 studies (3, 4), overlapping synthetic DNA cassettes that comprise the whole genome sequence, 485 M. genitalium protein-coding genes, 40 M. genitalium rRNA, tRNA, and structural RNA genes, and 91-site assemblies (Fig. 2). The red dagger on the genome coordinates line shows the location of the yeastE. coli shuffle vector insertion. Table 12 lists cassette coordinates; table 13 has 1802 sites for all 100 cassettes; table 14 lists watermark coordinates; table 15 lists the sequences of the watermarks.

Post-Synthesis Genetics?



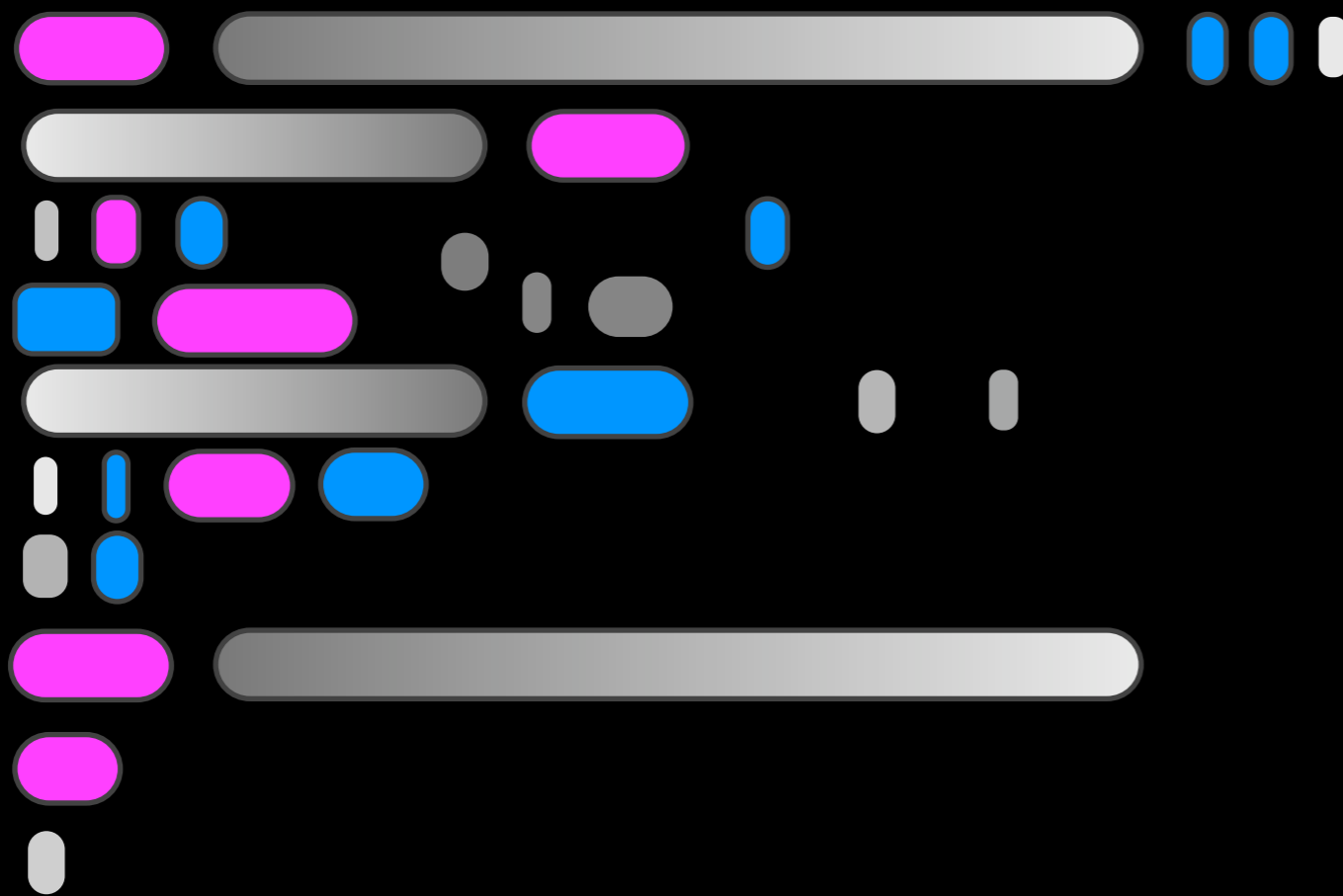
1. Design and construct any mutant or combinations thereof; characterize.
2. Reveal / confirm functions or demonstrate absence thereof.

0. Given a newly sequenced & annotated genome...



1. Synthesize and assemble DNA fragments of length, L (say $1.5x$ max CDS length), offset so as to provide $3x$ coverage, only including known elements, deleting, scrambling, or otherwise destroying all unannotated sequence (i.e., **simplons**).
2. Recombine **simplons** back onto native genome, or into generic testbed (perhaps a generic deletion collection), screen.

4. As a byproduct of preceding, produce full collection of native genetic elements: CDSs, regulatory elements, and so on.



A highly active synthetic mammalian retrotransposon

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Correspondence to: Jef D. Boeke¹ Email: jboeke@jhmi.edu

LINE-1 (L1) elements are retrotransposons that comprise large fractions of mammalian genomes¹. Transcription through L1 open reading frames is inefficient owing to an elongation defect², inhibiting the robust expression of L1 RNA and proteins, the substrate and enzyme(s) for retrotransposition^{3,4,5}. This elongation defect probably controls L1 transposition frequency in mammalian cells. Here we report bypassing this transcriptional defect by synthesizing the open reading frames of L1 from synthetic oligonucleotides, altering 24% of the nucleic acid sequence without changing the amino acid sequence. Such resynthesis led to greatly enhanced steady-state L1 RNA and protein levels. Remarkably, when the synthetic open reading frames were substituted for the wild-type open reading frames in an established retrotransposition assay⁶, transposition levels increased more than 200-fold. This indicates that there are probably no large, rigidly conserved cis-acting nucleic acid sequences required for retrotransposition within L1 coding regions. These synthetic retrotransposons are also the most highly active L1 elements known so far and have potential as practical tools for manipulating mammalian genomes.

Published online before print October 31, 2006

Genome Research, DOI: 10.1101/gr.5565706

Letter

Identification of an infectious progenitor for the multiple-copy HERV-K human endogenous retroelements

Marie Dewannieux^{1,3}, Francis Harper^{2,4}, Aurélien Richaud^{1,4}, Claire Letzelter¹, David Ribet¹, Gérard Pierron², and Thierry Heidmann^{1,5}

¹ *Unité des Rétrovirus Endogènes et Éléments Rétroviraux des Eucaryotes Supérieurs, UMR 8122 CNRS, Institut Gustave Roussy, 94805 Villejuif Cedex, France;* ² *Laboratoire de Réplication de l'ADN et Ultrastructure du Noyau, UPR1983 Institut André Lwoff, 94801 Villejuif Cedex, France*

Human Endogenous Retroviruses are expected to be the remnants of ancestral infections of primates by active retroviruses that have thereafter been transmitted in a Mendelian fashion. Here, we derived in silico the sequence of the putative ancestral "progenitor" element of one of the most recently amplified family—the HERV-K family—and constructed it. This element, *Phoenix*, produces viral particles that disclose all of the structural and functional properties of a bona-fide retrovirus, can infect mammalian, including human, cells, and integrate with the exact signature of the presently found endogenous HERV-K progeny. We also show that this element amplifies via an extracellular pathway involving reinfection, at variance with the non-LTR-retrotransposons (LINEs SINEs) or LTR-retrotransposons, thus recapitulating ex vivo the molecular events responsible for its dissemination in the host genomes. We also show that in vitro recombinations among present-day human HERV-K loci can similarly generate functional HERV-K elements, indicating that human cells still have the potential to produce infectious retroviruses.

³ Present address:

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Virus Attenuation by Genome-Scale Changes in Codon Pair Bias

J. Robert Coleman,¹ Dimitris Papamichail,^{2*} Steven Skiena,² Bruce Futcher,¹
Eckard Wimmer,^{2†} Steffen Mueller¹

As a result of the redundancy of the genetic code, adjacent pairs of amino acids can be encoded by as many as 36 different pairs of synonymous codons. A species-specific "codon pair bias" provides that some synonymous codon pairs are used more or less frequently than statistically predicted. We synthesized de novo large DNA molecules using hundreds of over- or underrepresented synonymous codon pairs to encode the poliovirus capsid protein. Underrepresented codon pairs caused decreased rates of protein translation, and polioviruses containing such amino acid-independent changes were attenuated in mice. Polioviruses thus customized were used to immunize mice and provided protective immunity after challenge. This "death by a thousand cuts" strategy could be generally applicable to attenuating many kinds of viruses.

VAL KILMER CARRIE-ANNE MOSS TOM SIZEMORE

RED PLANET

THEY DIDN'T FIND
LIFE ON MARS
IT FOUND THEM.

DVD

“I think you're just ignoring the facts.

I'm a geneticist, I write code, okay?

A, G, T, P in different combinations; hacking the human genome, okay?

I choose what I choose. Either your kidneys work or you grow six fingers.

I do that.”

Tom Sizemore, *Red Planet* (2000).

Proposed Computing Priorities

- Primary sequence assembly, annotation, analysis
- Functional primary networks (graphs)
- Secondary structure (2D physics)
- Tertiary structures, networks, dynamics (3D physics)
- Reverse engineering tools
(for reproducing machines;
time-scale decoupling of control systems;
pattern forming systems)
- Post-synthesis biology tools (perturbation design)



Challenge

*Make biology easy
to engineer.*

Opportunity

*Enable all of
biotechnology.*

People

Platforms

Tools

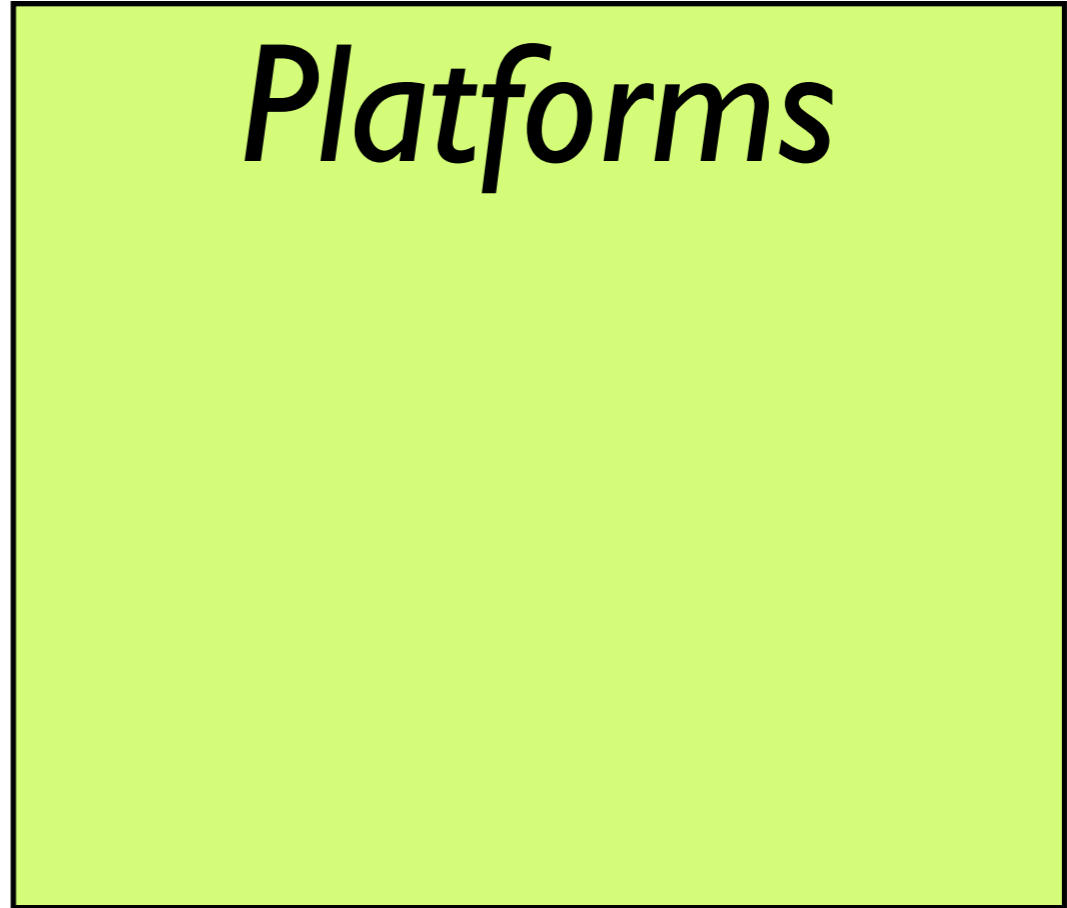
Translation



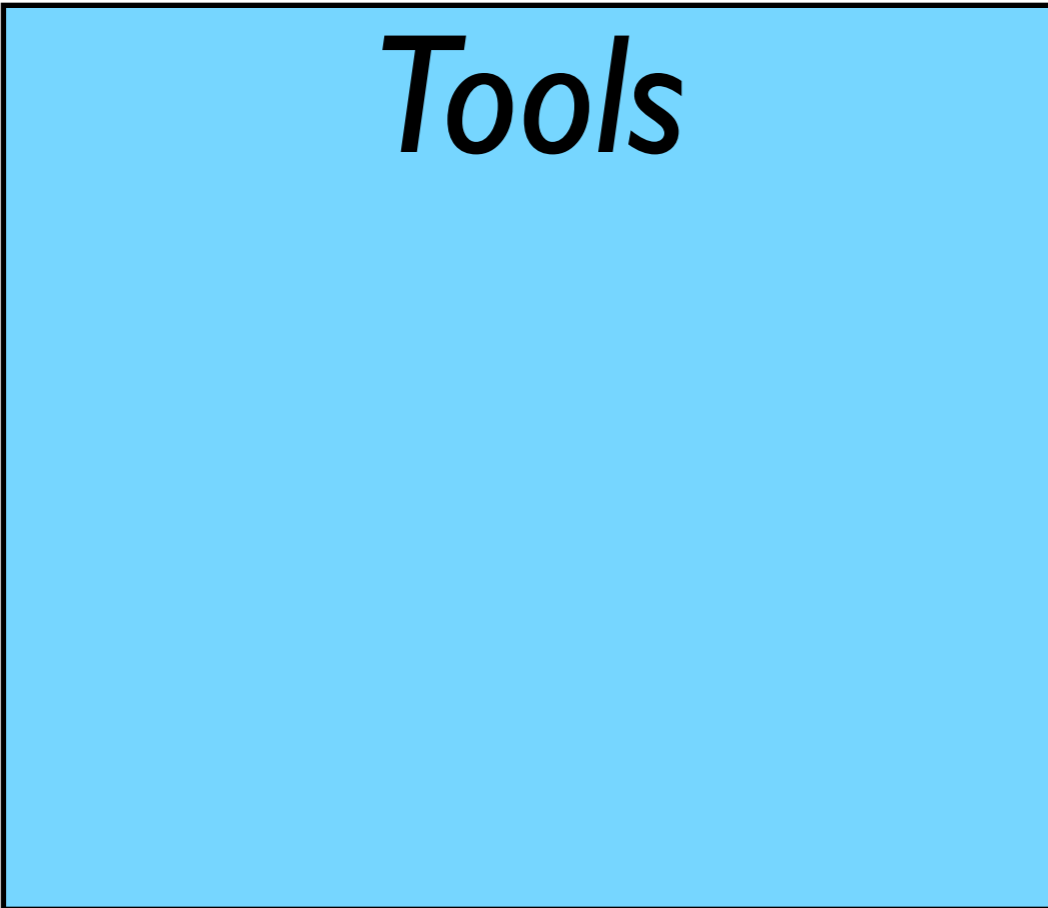
People



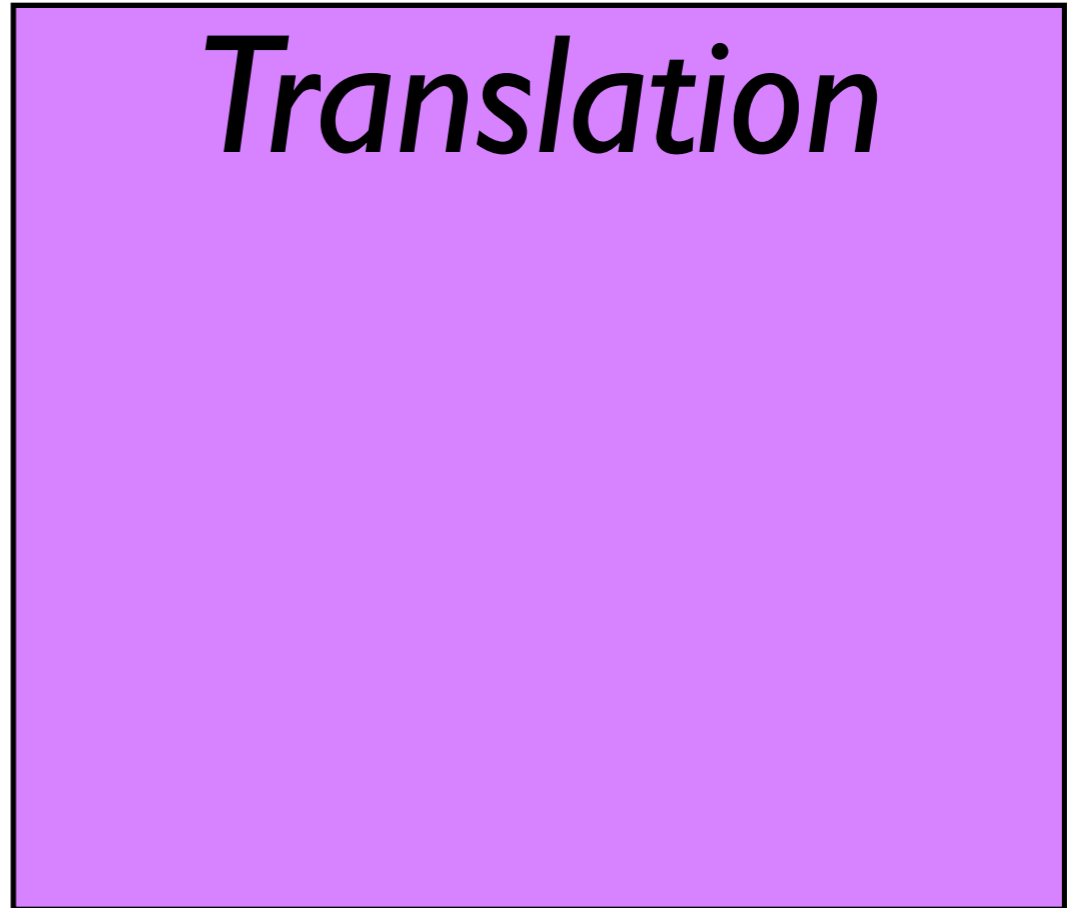
Platforms



Tools



Translation





Registry of Standard Biological Parts

Go Search

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The Registry of Standard Biological Parts has moved from parts.mit.edu to partsregistry.org. References to the Registry at parts.mit.edu will be automatically redirected to the new site.

Registry Tools

Add a part

Over 3500 BioBrick DNA parts

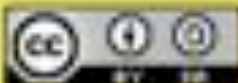
Freely available*

Today

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- We
- We are starting an editorial board for promoting well-defined and useful parts to BioBrick™ part status. To join this effort check the [BioBrick™ Part Program](#)
- There is a [problem](#) with using primers VR1 and VF2 to PCR parts containing B0015 or B0010.
- [News archive...](#)

[Report any bugs here](#) | [Request new features here](#) | [See new features here](#) | [See old bugs, requests, and features here](#)



People



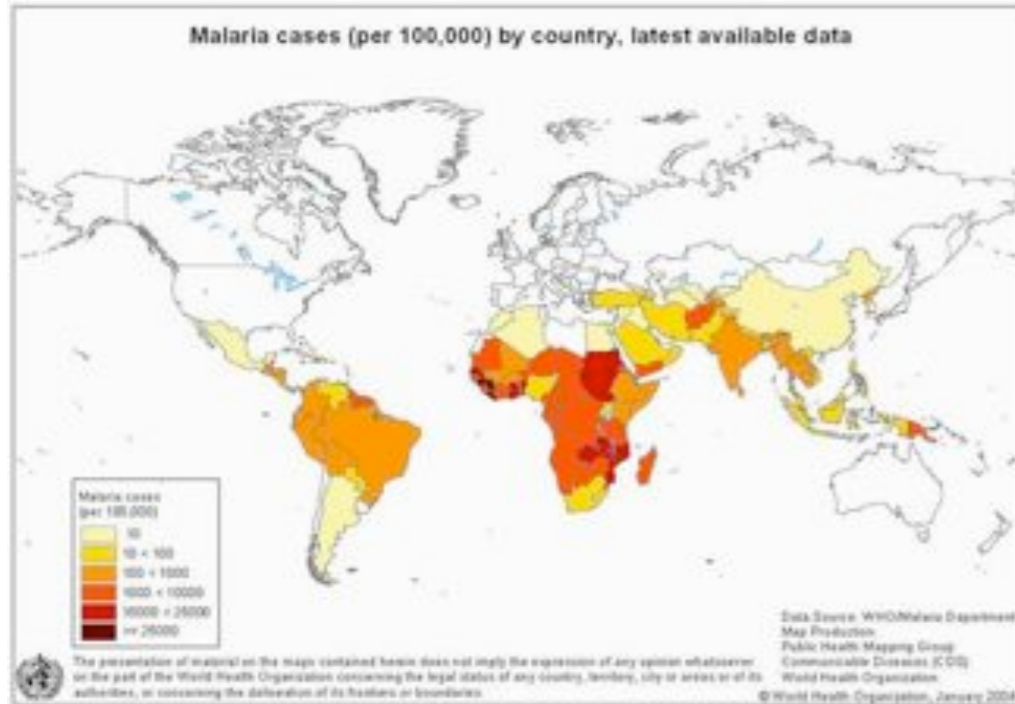
Platforms

Tools

A screenshot of the Registry of Standard Biological Parts website. The browser address bar shows "http://www.partsregistry.org/". The page features a search bar, navigation links like "Browse Parts by Type", "Featured Parts", "Help & Documentation", and "Users & Groups". A "Registry News" section contains several bullet points about updates and issues. A "Registry Tools" sidebar lists functions like "Add a part", "Search Parts", "Measurement", "DNA Repositories", "Sequence Analysis", and "Send Parts to the Registry". The footer includes links for "Recent changes", "What links here", "Related changes", "Upload file", "Special pages", and "My preferences".

Translation

Today, each project is Herculean



2) Jay Keasling's team spent \$25M to make artemisinin via biotechnology.

1) Malaria is a global problem, artemisinin offers a cure.



3) But artemisinin resistance is already occurring.

Must we always spend many years and \$25M for each pressing biotech project?

Food

Energy

Environment

Agriculture

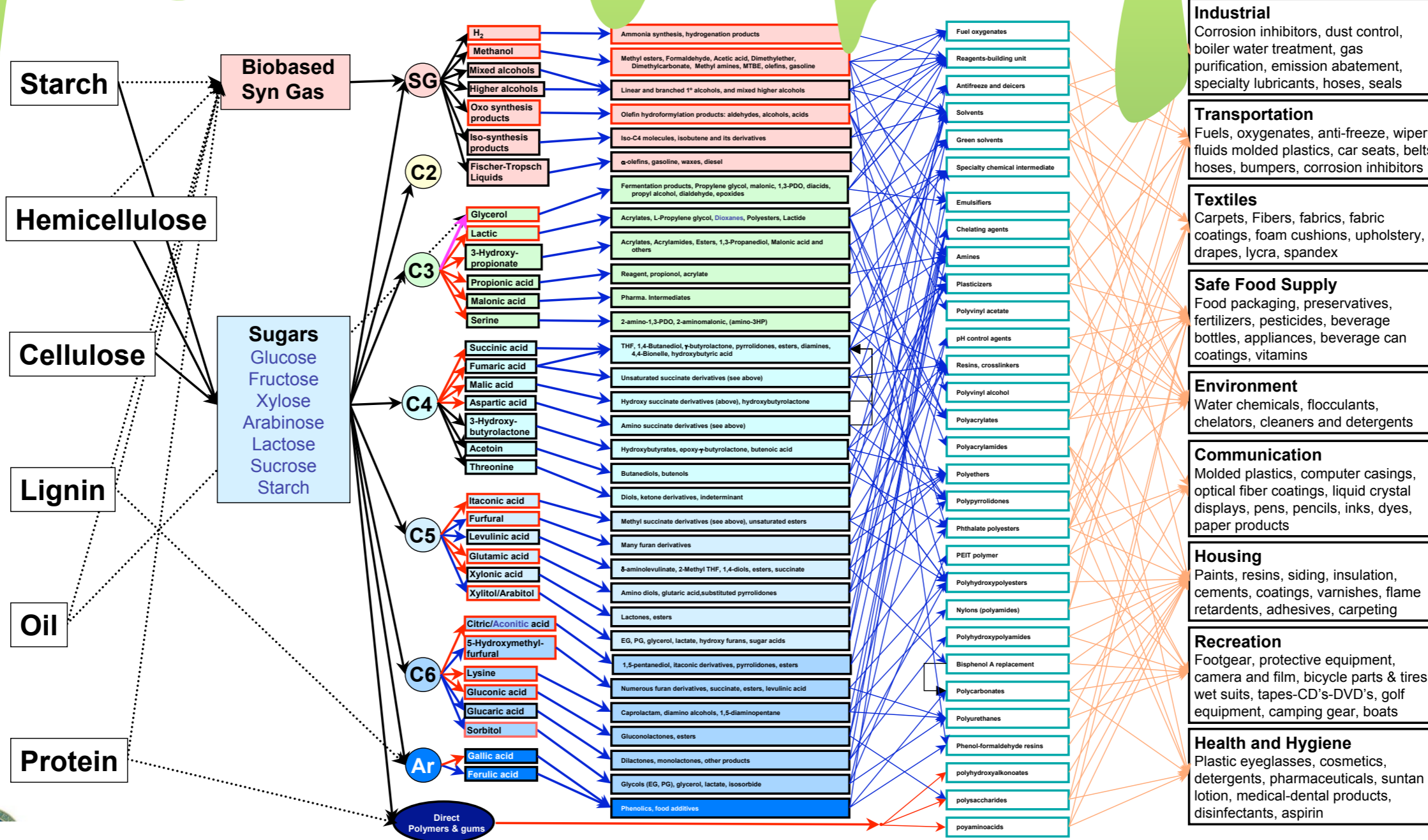
Health

Chemicals

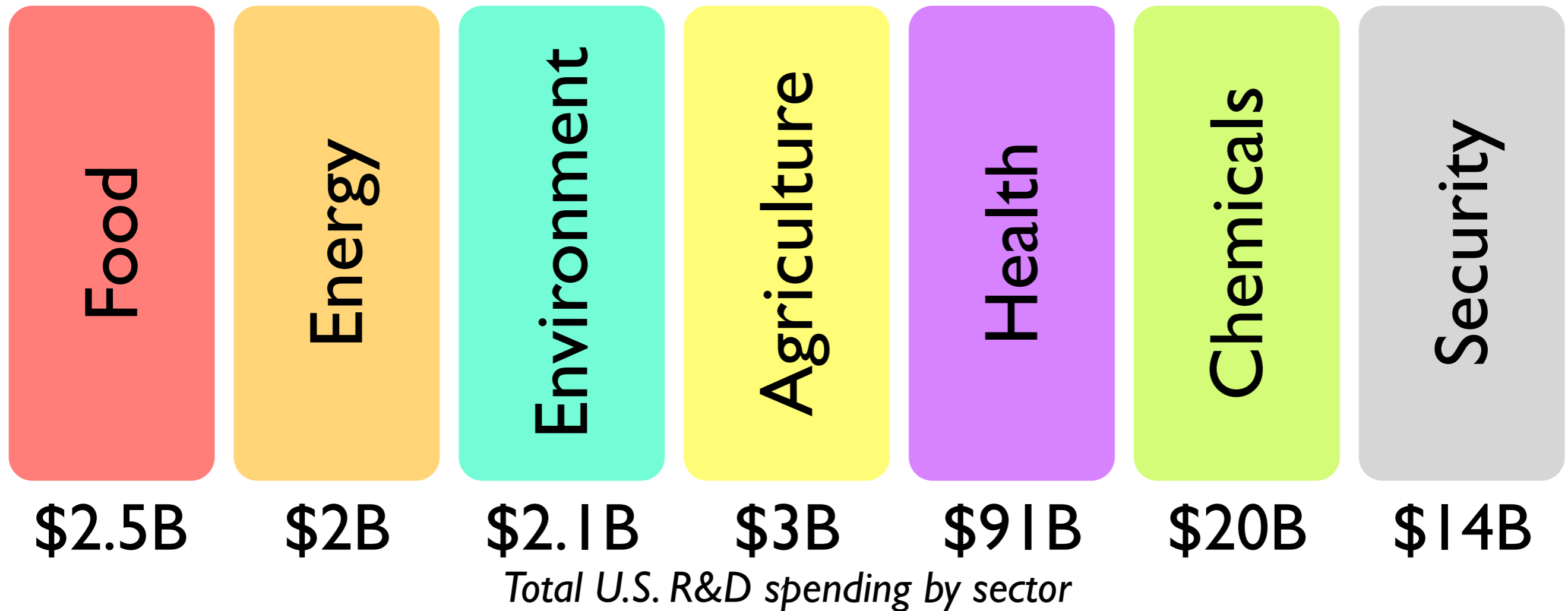
Security

2004 DOE report lists 120 highvalue chemicals for biomanufacturing

Feedstocks → Intermediate Platforms → Building Blocks → Secondary Chemicals → Intermediates → Products/Uses



Biotechnology is everywhere



NIH spends \$1.5B just on manipulating DNA

Investment in open technology platforms non-existent

We need new tools

1973

Construction of biologically functional bacterial plasmids in vitro

Cohen et al., PNAS, 1973

MATERIALS AND METHODS
E. coli strain W1485 containing the RSF1000 plasmid, which carries resistance to streptomycin and sulfamamide, was obtained from S. Falkow. Other bacterial strains and R factors and procedures for DNA isolation, electron microscopy, and transformation of *E. coli* by plasmid DNA have been described (1, 7, 8). Purification and use of the *Eco*RI restriction endonuclease have been described (5). Plasmid heteroduplex studies were performed as previously described (9, 10). *E. coli* DNA ligase was a gift from P. Modrich and R. L. Lehman and was used as described (11). The detailed procedures for gel electrophoresis of DNA will be described elsewhere (Helling, Goodman, and Boyer, in preparation); in brief, duplex DNA was subjected to electrophoresis in a tube-type apparatus (Hoefer Scientific Instrument) (0.6 × 15-cm gel) at about 20° in 0.7% agarose at 22.5 V with 40 mM Tris-acetate buffer (pH 8.05) containing 20 mM sodium acetate, 2 mM EDTA, and 18 mM sodium chloride. The gels were then soaked in ethidium bromide (5 µg/ml) and the DNA was visualized by fluorescence under long wavelength ultraviolet light ("black light"). The molecular weight of each fragment in the range of 1 to 200 × 10⁶ was determined from its

1985

Cloning and expression of the human erythropoietin gene

Lin et al., PNAS, 1985

Assembly of Expression Vector for the Epo Gene. For direct expression of the genomic Epo gene, the 4.8-kilobase (kb) *Bst*EII-*Bam*HI fragment of λHE1 (see *Results*), which contains the entire Epo gene, was used. After converting the *Bst*EII site into a *Bam*HI site with a synthetic linker, the fragment was inserted into the unique *Bam*HI site of the expression vector pDSVL (unpublished data), which contains a dihydrofolate reductase (DHFR) minigene from pMg1 (24). The resulting plasmid pDSVL-gHuEPO (Fig. 1A) was then used to transfect Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) DHFR⁻ cells (25) by the calcium phosphate microprecipitate method (26). The transformants were selected by growth in medium lacking hypoxanthine and thymidine. The culture medium used was Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium supplemented with 10% fetal bovine serum, penicillin, streptomycin, and glutamine (25).

2006

Production of the antimalarial drug precursor artemisinin acid in engineered yeast

Ro et al., Nature, 2006

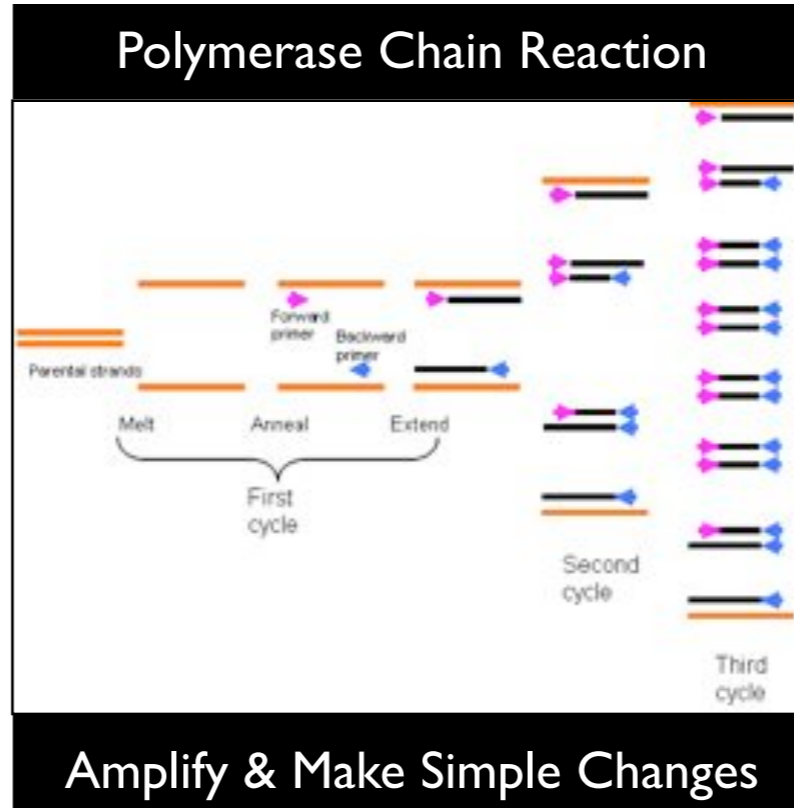
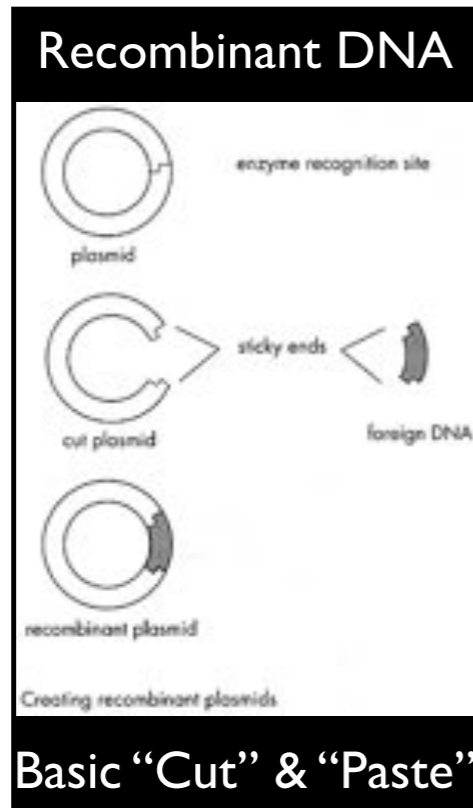
Plasmid construction. To create plasmid pRS425ADS for expression of *ADS* with the *GAL1* promoter, *ADS* was PCR amplified from pADS⁺ using primer pair 9 and 10. (Supplementary Table S1). Using these primers the nucleotide sequence 5'-AAAACA-3' was cloned immediately upstream of the start codon of *ADS*. This consensus sequence was used for efficient translation²² of *ADS* and the other galactose-inducible genes used in this study. The amplified product was cleaved with *Spe*I and *Hind*III and cloned into *Spe*I and *Hind*III digested pRS425GAL1²³.

For integration of an expression cassette for *dhfr8*, plasmid pG-HMGR was constructed. First, *Sac*I restriction sites were introduced into pRS426GAL1²⁴ at the 5' end of the *GAL1* promoter and 3' end of the *CYC1* terminator. To achieve this, the promoter-multiple cloning site-terminator cassette of pRS426GAL1 was PCR amplified using primer pair 11 and 12. The amplified product was cloned directly into *Cla*I-

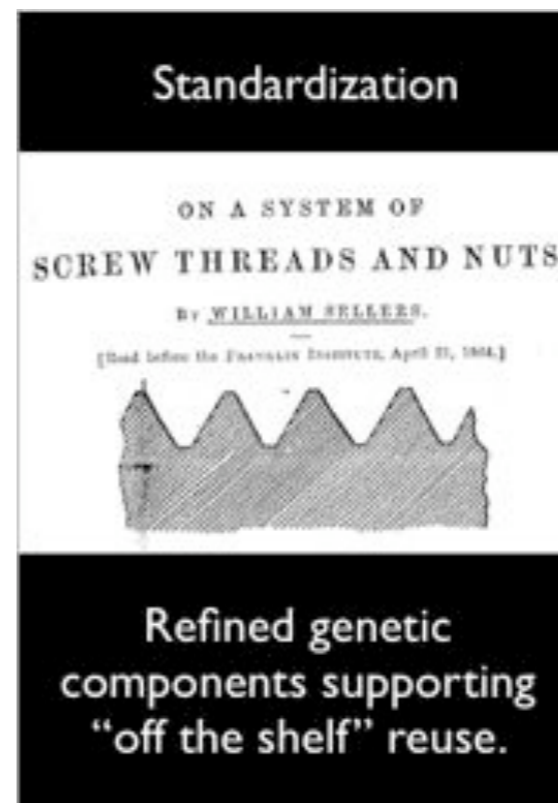
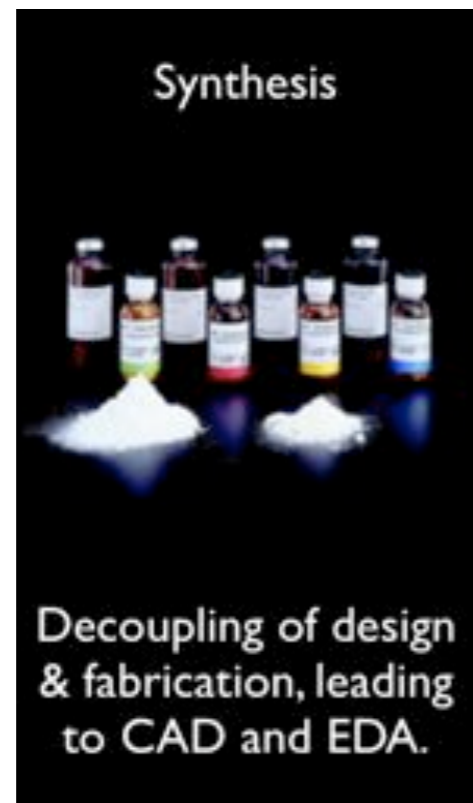
Genetic engineering basics unchanged past 30+ years

Synthetic biology = tools revolution

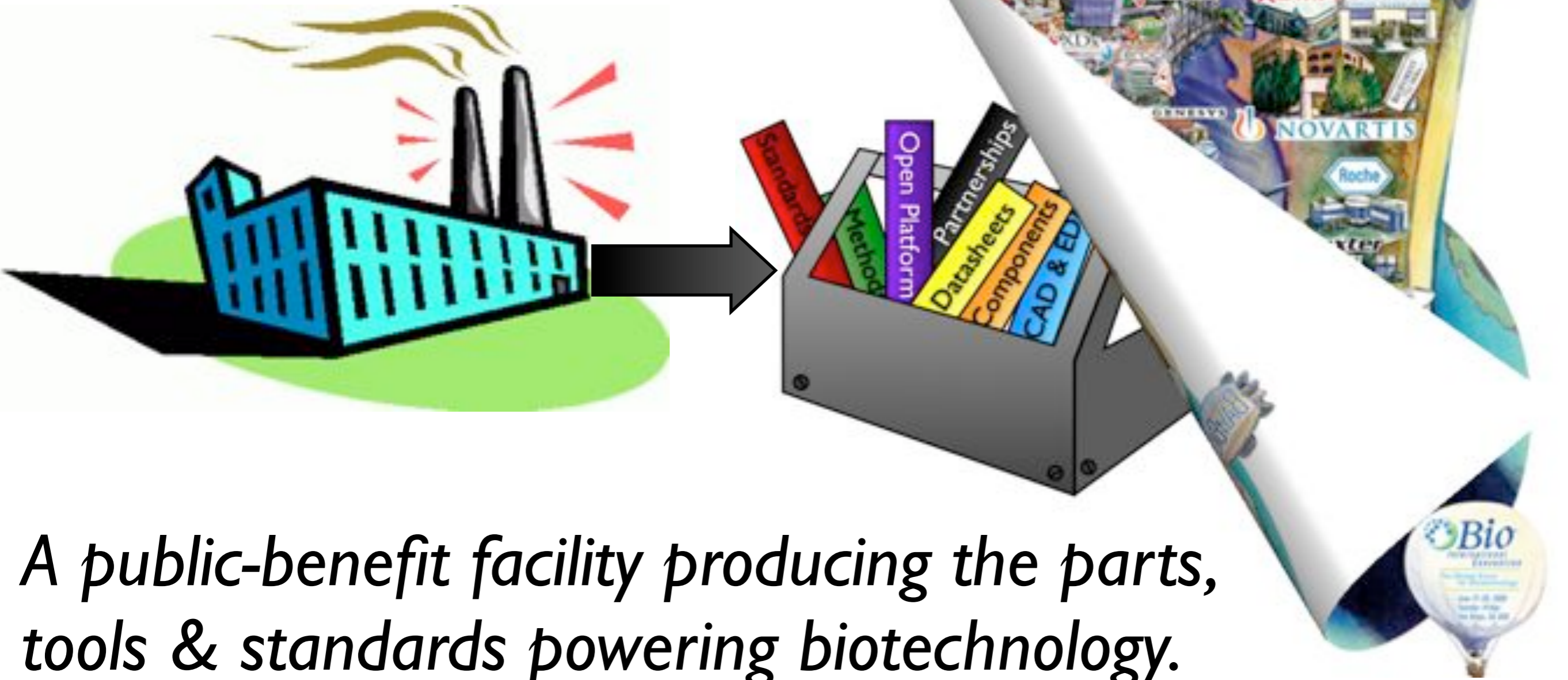
First Gen. Biotech =



Next Gen. Biotech Adds New Tools =



What is the BioFAB?



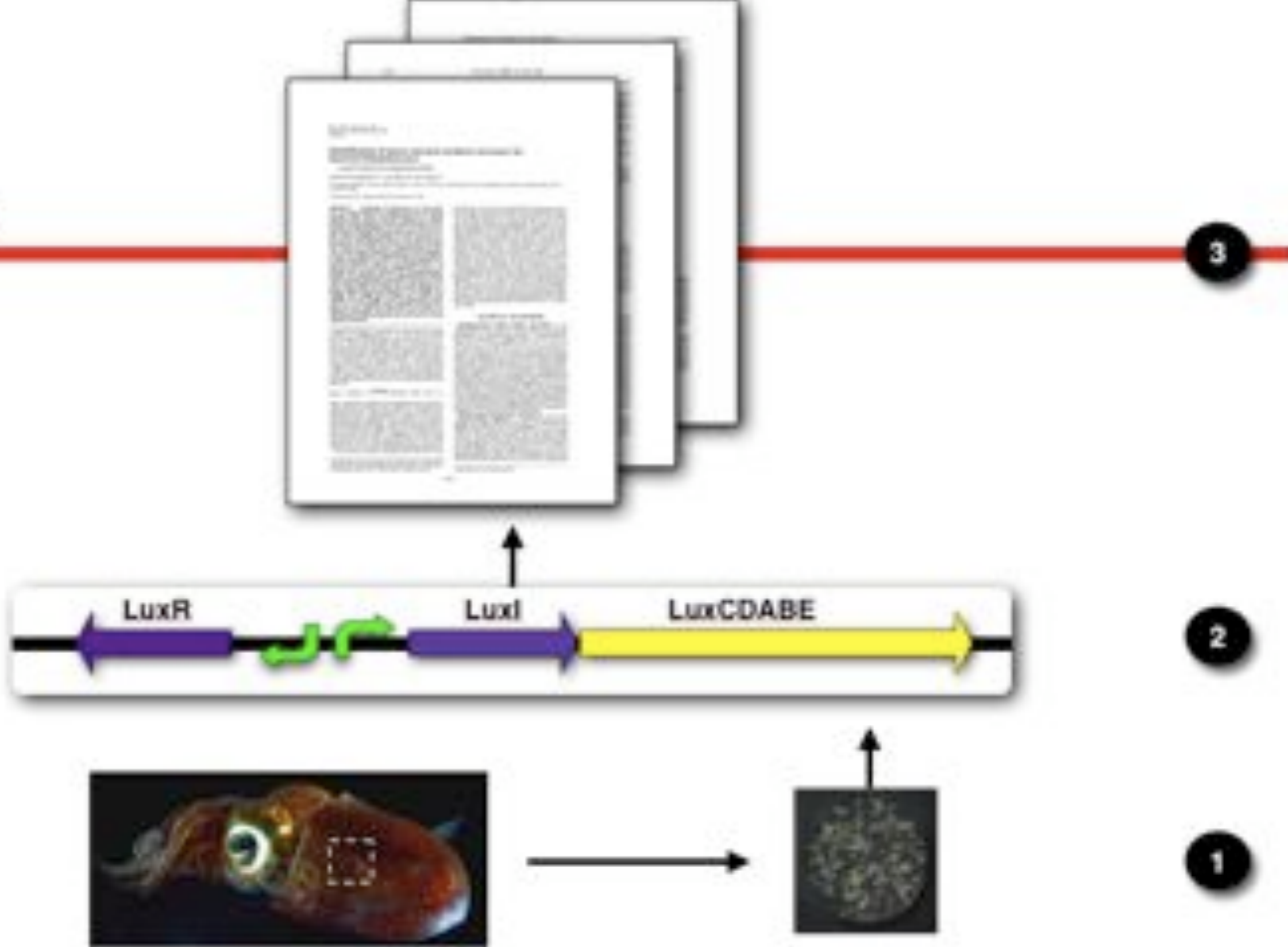
A public-benefit facility producing the parts, tools & standards powering biotechnology.

“Off-the-shelf genetic parts cut our project development times and overall costs by half.”

- Jack Newman, Founder & SVP Research, Amyris Biotechnologies

Device Engineers

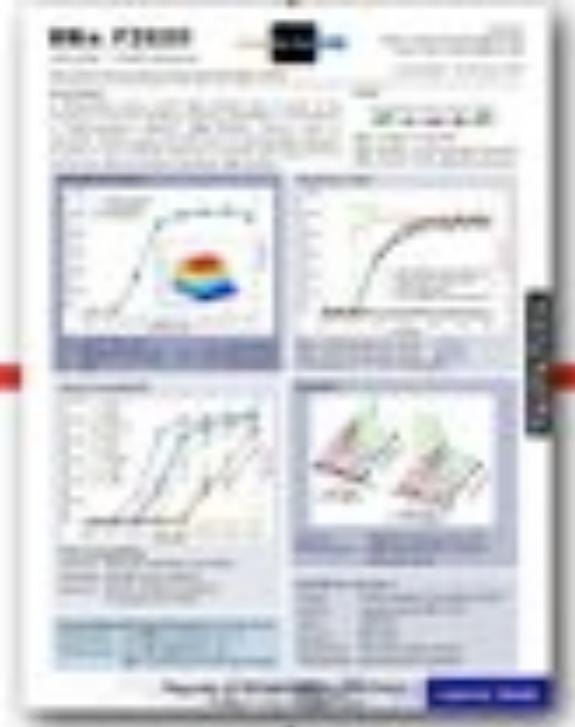
Biologists



System Engineers

Device Engineers

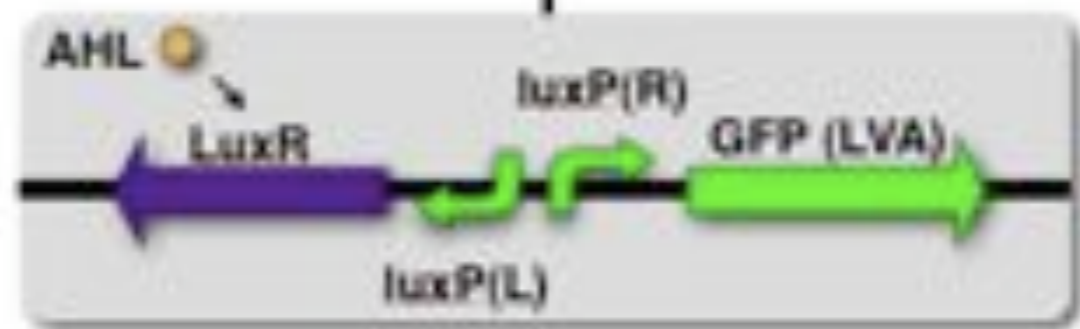
7



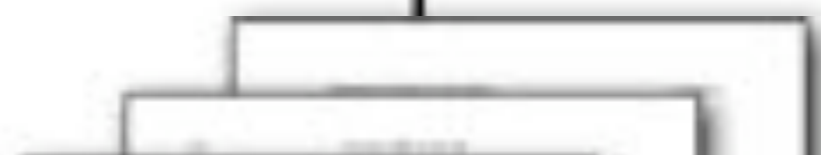
6

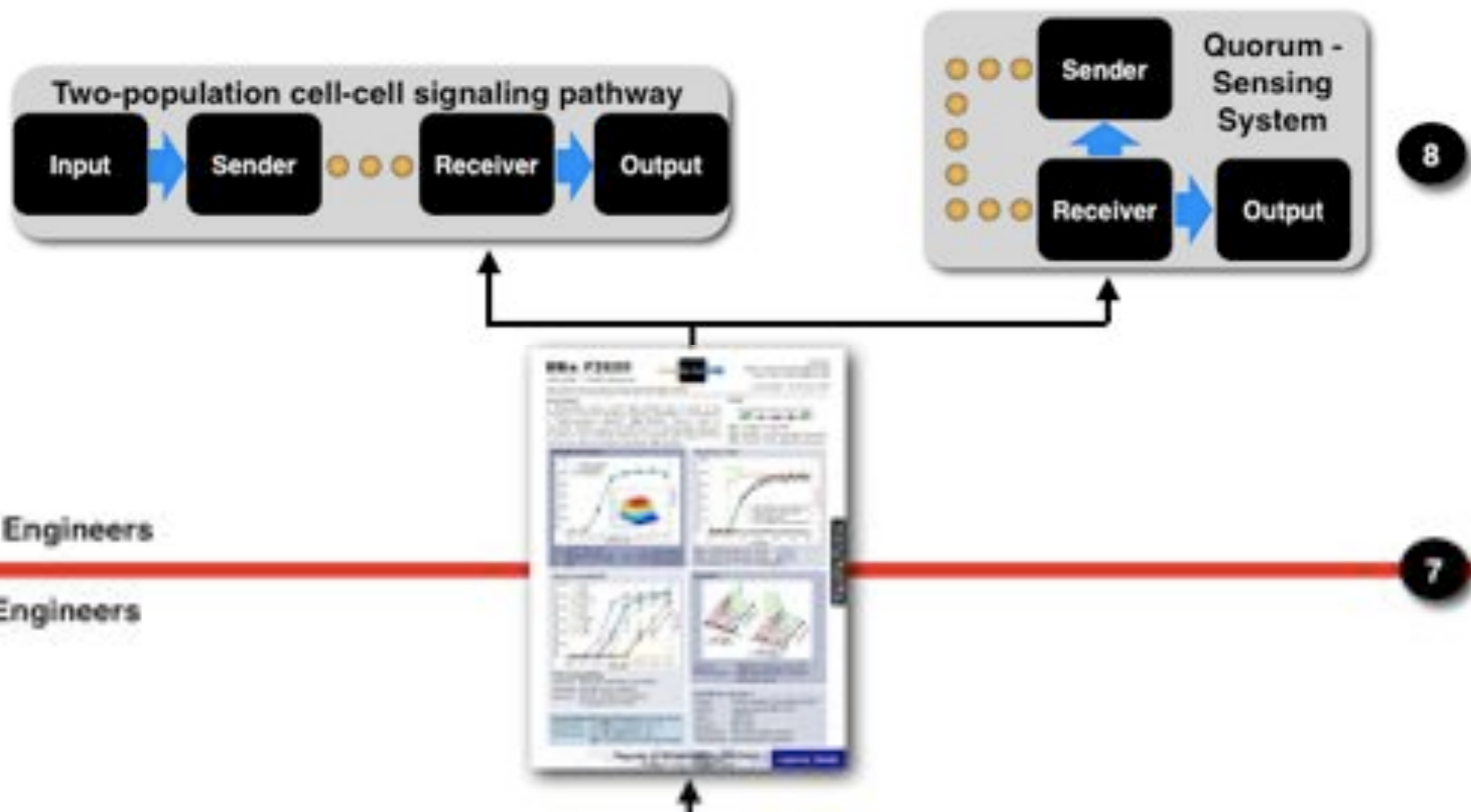


5



4



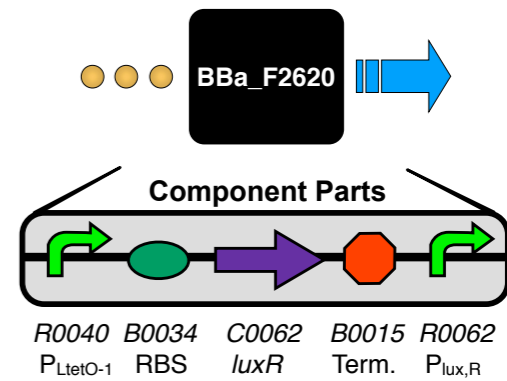


BBa_F2620

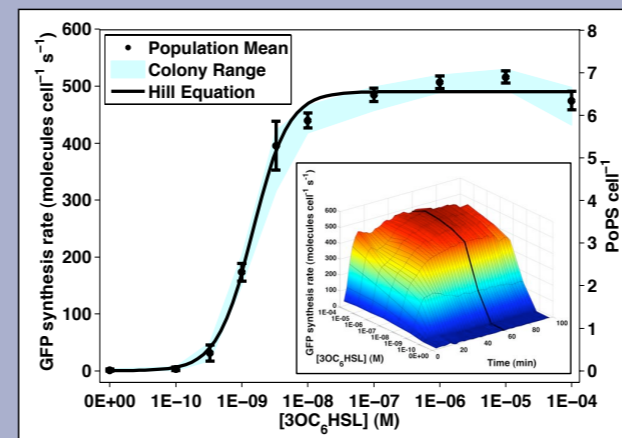
3OC₆HSL → PoPS Receiver

Mechanism & Function

A transcription factor (LuxR) that is active in the presence of a cell-cell signaling molecule (3OC₆HSL) is controlled by a regulated operator (P_{LtetO-1}). Device input is 3OC₆HSL. Device output is PoPS from a LuxR-regulated operator. If used in a cell containing TetR then a second input such as aTc can be used to produce a Boolean AND function.



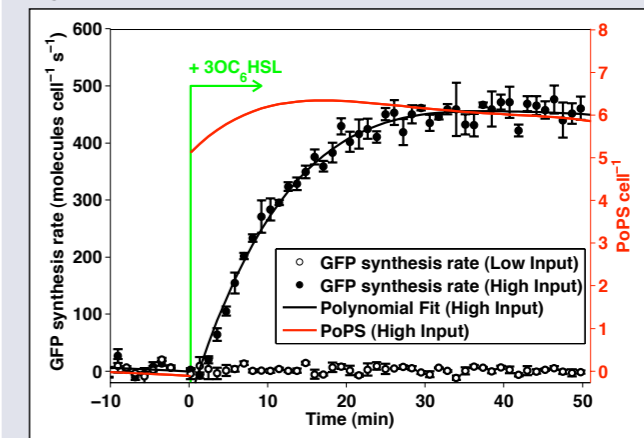
Static Performance*



$$P_{out} = \frac{P_{max} [3OC_6HSL]^n}{K^n + [3OC_6HSL]^n}$$

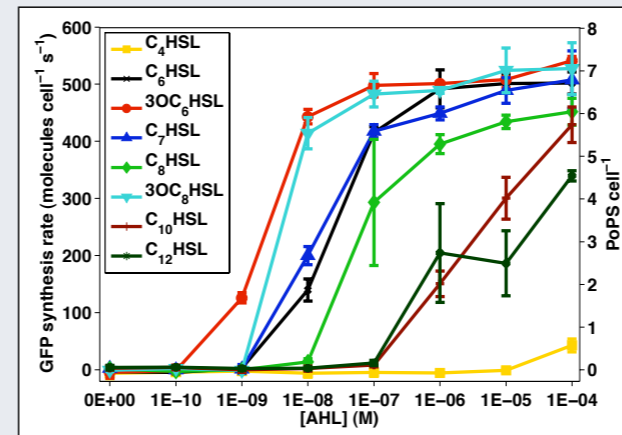
P_{max} : 6.6 PoPS cell⁻¹
 K : 1.5E-09 M 3OC₆HSL
 n : 1.6

Dynamic Performance*



BBa_F2620 Response Time: <1 min
BBa_T9002 Response Time: 6±1 min
 Inputs: 0 M (Low), 1E-07 M (High) 3OC₆HSL

Input Compatibility*



Part Compatibility (qualitative)

Chassis: MC4100, MG1655, and DH5α.
Plasmids: pSB3K3 and pSB1A2
Devices: E0240, E0430 and E0434

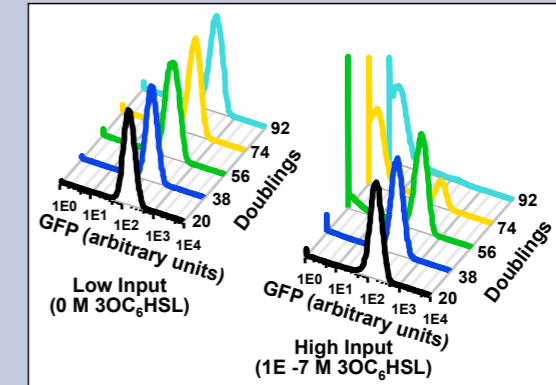
Transcriptional Output Demand (low/high input)

Nucleotides: 0 / 6xNt nucleotides cell⁻¹ s⁻¹

Polymerases: 0 / 1.5E-1xNt RNAP cell⁻¹

(Nt = downstream transcript length)

Reliability**



Genetic: >92/>56 culture doublings
Performance: >92/>56 culture doublings
 (low/high input during propagation)

Conditions (abridged)

Output: PoPS measured via BBa_E0240

Culture: Supplemented M9, 37°C

Plasmid: pSB3K3

Chassis: MG1655

***Equipment:** PE Victor3 multi-well fluorimeter

****Equipment:** BD FACScan cytometer



Unknown
Our Lord's Candle (*Yucca whipplei*), Lakeview Mountains, 22 Apr 2006
Smugmug.com



Unknown

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgenweb/mn/stearns/postcards/quarry.jpg>

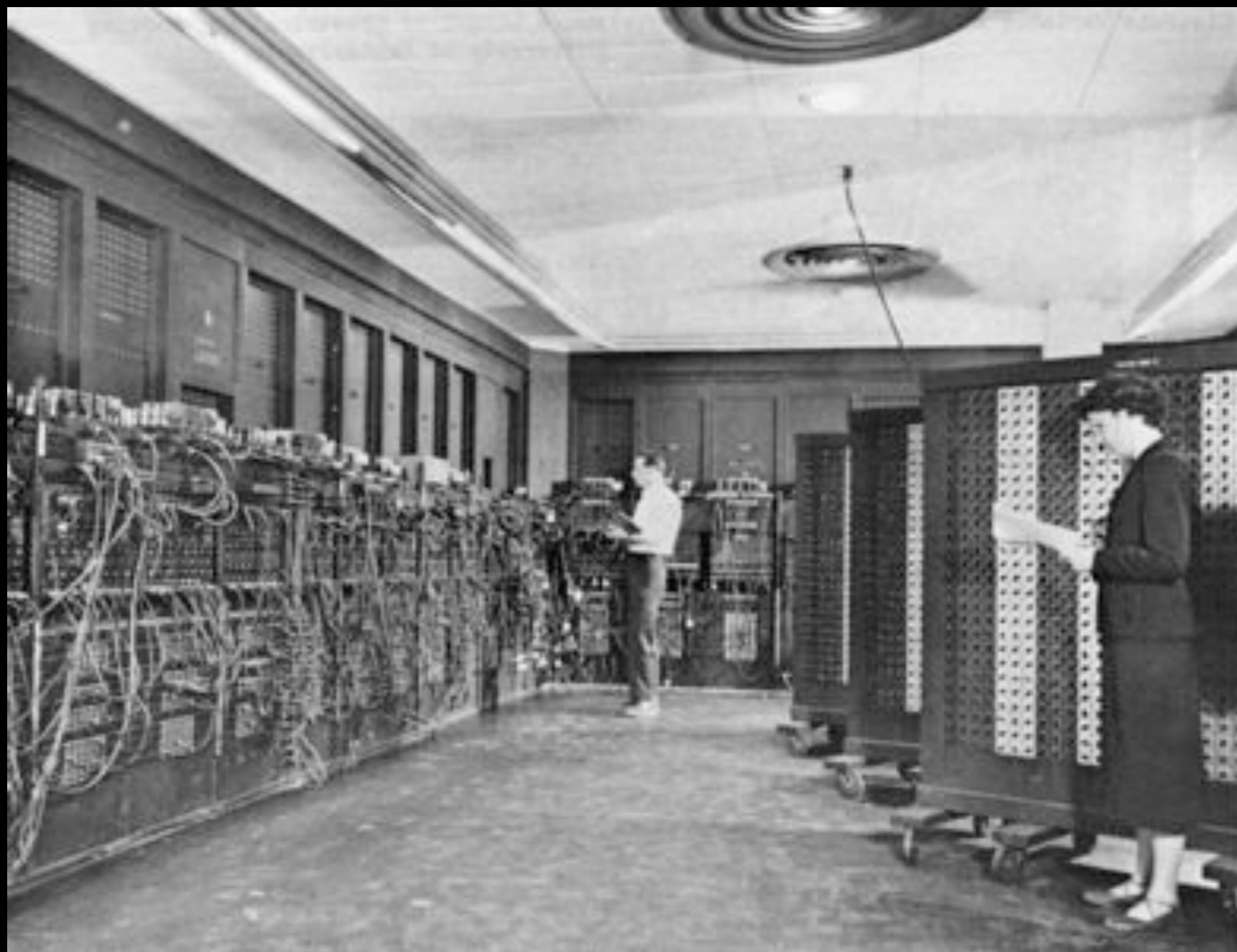


Washington National Cathedral

<http://www.cathedral.org/cathedral/discover/1930photos/5.shtml>



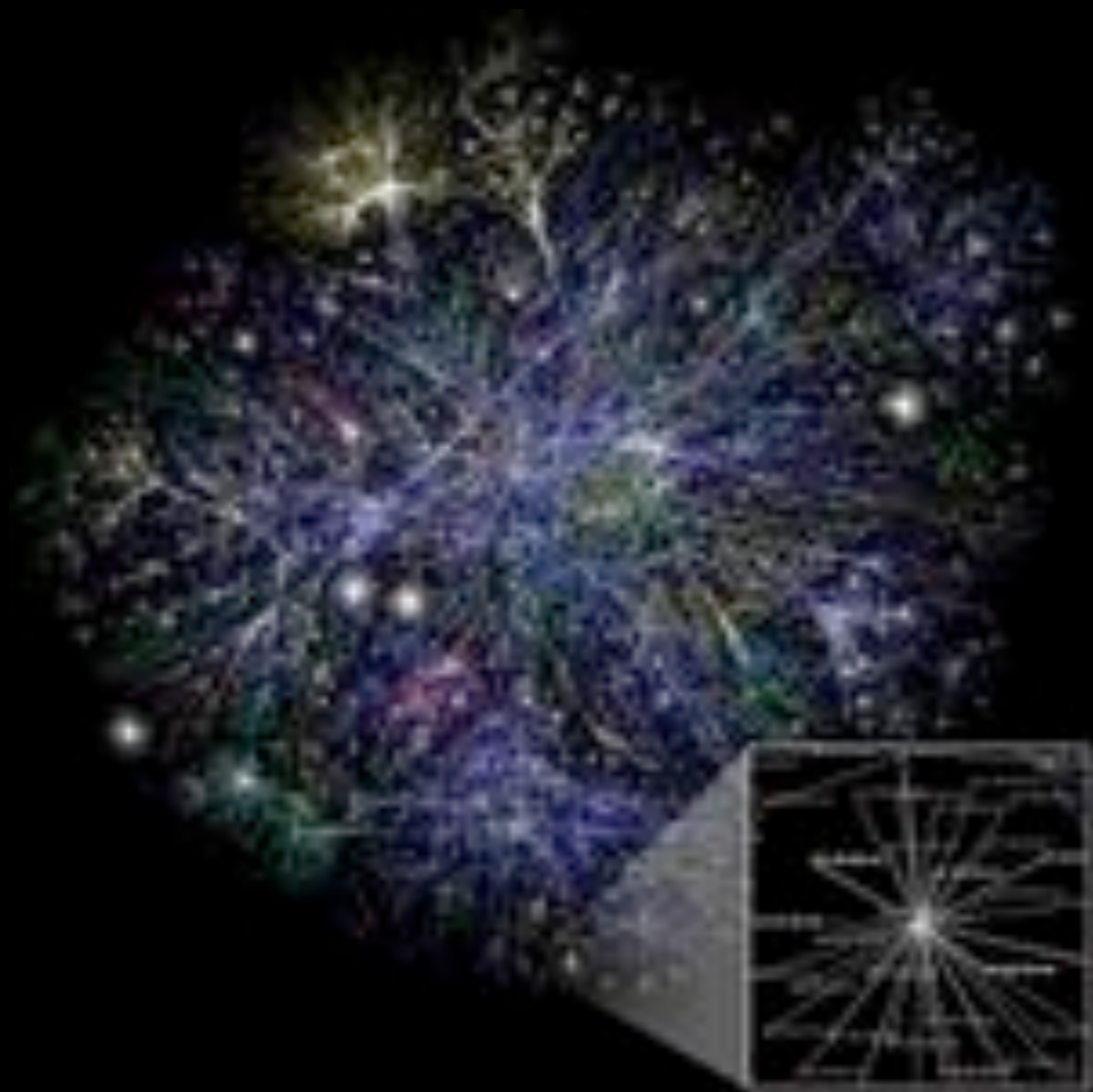




<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Eniac.jpg>



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:Apple_I.jpg

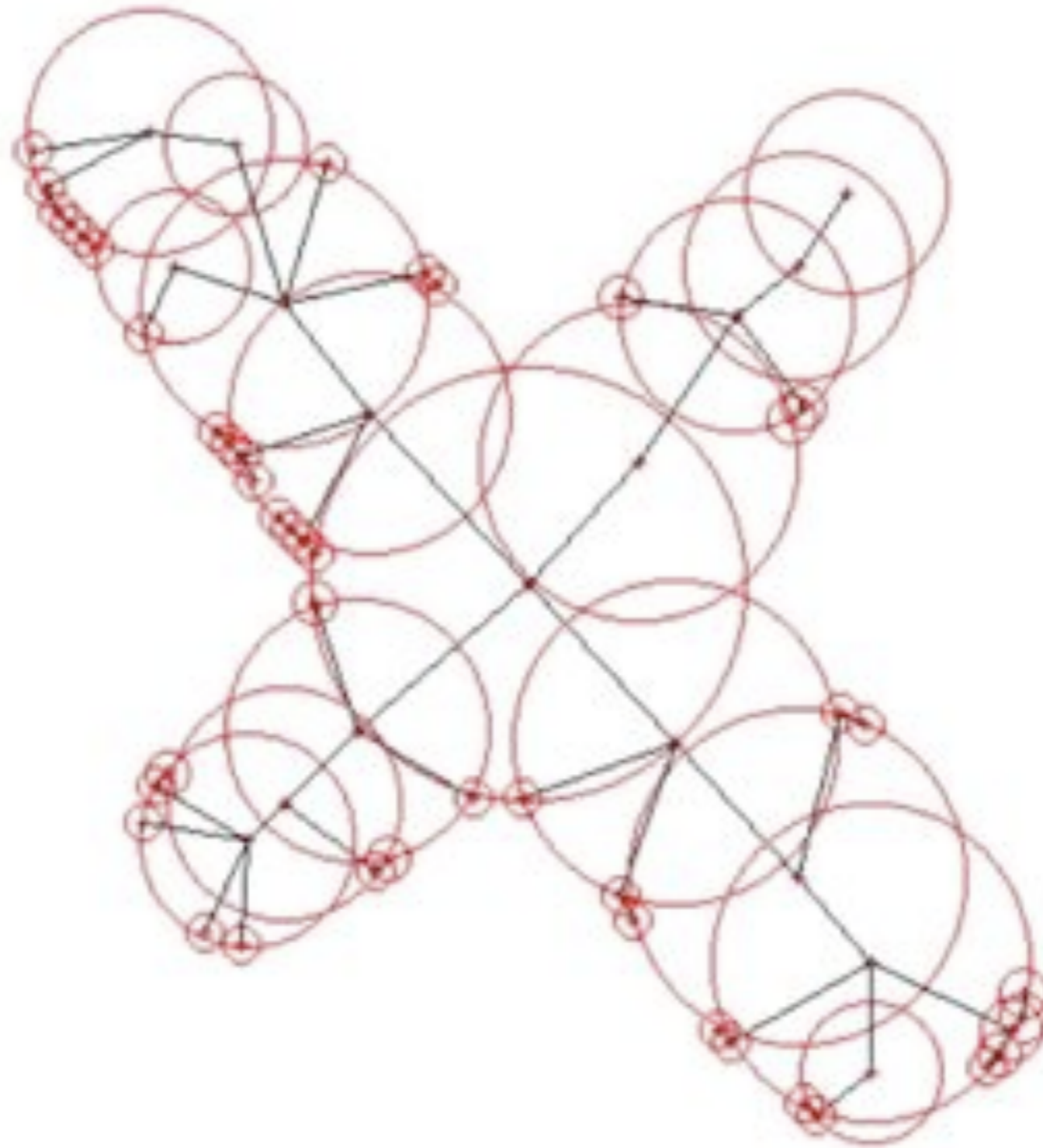


<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internet>

A p p s

Tools

7. Control & dyn. systems
6. Reverse engineering
5. Fab, CAD & EDA
4. Standards & abstraction
3. Languages & grammars
2. Device design
1. Info. theory & signal proc.



Nagpal, Kondacs, Chang, Programming Methodology for Biologically-Inspired Self-Assembling Systems, in the *AAAI Spring Symposium on Computational Synthesis: From Basic Building Blocks to High Level Functionality*, March 2003.

Movie online via <http://www.swiss.csail.mit.edu/projects/amorphous/Robust/cross.mpeg>

6. Standardization

5. Abstraction

4. DNA construction

3. DNA sequencing

2. Polymerase chain reaction

1. Recombinant DNA

Proposed Computing Priorities

- Advocacy for tools!!!
- Advocacy for open technology platforms.
- More tools, including:
 - Languages (e.g., for programming dynamic shapes)
 - CAD and EDA (what's going into the synthesizers?)
 - Coding schemes (signatures, fail fast, et cetera)
- Theory supporting of design of understandable reproducing machines
- Tools that enable humanity (e.g., Games, Community)