

# **RECOMBINANT DNA TECHNOLOGY AND APPLICATIONS**

• Editors •

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# **Recombinant DNA Technology and Applications**

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# Preface

Genetic engineering is a multidisciplinary field involving two distinct classes of professionals. The first, involved in cloning and cell culturing, is composed of genetists, molecular biologists, biochemists, and cell biologists; the second, involved in large-scale facility design, bioprocessing, and manufacturing, is composed of technologists and engineers. Each group uses specific terminology and jargon that is rarely integrated together. In addition, matters are often complicated by legal, ethical, regulatory, and policy issues.

This book represents an attempt to bridge the gap between the two groups of professionals. Each chapter presents state-of-the-art knowledge with a strong focus on underlying fundamentals. The initial chapters stress molecular aspects. Then, the emphasis gradually moves to more applied and technical issues. Some of the topics were selected to be at the crossroads between two distant sides (plasmid stability, protein refolding and protein recovery), so as to allow for gradual changeover. The true interdisciplinary nature of this book is reflected by the diverse disciplines it includes: genetic manipulation, microbial physiology, plant tissue culture, plant-microbe interactions, genetics, molecular and cell biology, protein chemistry and recovery, chemical engineering (bioprocessing, plant design, control), laws, government regulations, and policy issues.

There are five parts in this book. Part 1 contains six chapters that review the basic techniques, with some present and perspective applications, essential for cloning cells in microorganisms, mammals, plants, and insects. In Part 2, there are three chapters that discuss various applications of recombinant and other related technologies (such as gene probes and monoclonal antibodies) for medicine. Part 3 includes four chapters devoted to the improvement of product expression in prokaryotes through genetic, phenotypic, and environmental means as well as product recovery and purification which to a certain degree serves as a bridge between two ends, i.e., biological and engineering. Part 4 presents the practical ways of handling recombinant organisms in a real device or plant. Finally, Part 5 provides some "soft" societal issues, which are never as clear as those of science and technology: offering many possible alternatives in social matters, be it regulatory, patent, or policy issues.

In the overall attempt of placing a product in a market, the limiting, bottlenecking steps move typically from scientific to technical to societal issues; thus, this book follows that pattern.

Also, the book provides a coherent picture of the topic of recombinant DNA

technology. The contributors are well-known experts and active scientists in their respective fields. They provide an overall review with an attempt to identify the future direction or the potential for application. The book, however, does not intend to cover all aspects of this proliferating segment of biotechnology.

We are very grateful to all contributors for their diligent work, effort, patience in dealing with editors, and meeting deadlines. Also, the editors acknowledge the effort of the reviewers listed here: Juan A. Asenjo, *University of Reading*; Rakesh K. Bajpai, *University of Missouri*; Wayne M. Barnes, *Washington University*; Donald W. Bowden, *Collaborative Research, Inc.*; Donald A. Cooksey, *University of California*; Bruce E. Dale, *Texas A&M University*; Judy Diaz-Collier, *Monsanto Company*; Malcolm Fraser, *University of Notre Dame*; Kevin Glenn, *Monsanto Company*; W. Fred Hink, *Ohio State University*; Paul Hippenmeyer, *Monsanto Company*; Juan Hong, *University of California*; James B. Kaper, *University of Maryland*; Paul Kiefer, *Monsanto Company*; Dhinakar S. Kompala, *University of Colorado*; Jack H. Ladenson, *Washington University*; Verne A. Luckow, *Monsanto Company*; Victor M. Morales, *National Research Council Canada*; Garry K. Patterson, *University of Missouri*; Donald W. Peterson, *Leydig, Voight & Mayer*; Aleš Prokop, *Washington University*; Janos Scharer, *University of Waterloo*; Richard A. Schoenfeld, *Genzyme Corporation*; Lisa Steiner, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*; Kathryn C. Zoon, *Food and Drug Administration*.

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# Contents

Contributors	xi
Preface	xiii

## Part 1 Cloning Techniques and Applications

Chapter 1. Cloning in Bacteria: Vectors and Techniques	3
Introduction	3
Vectors for <i>Escherichia coli</i>	4
Broad-Host-Range Cloning Vectors	11
Shuttle Vectors	12
Expression of Foreign Genes in <i>E. coli</i>	14
Translocation of Proteins in Bacteria	18
New Techniques	20
Conclusion	22
References	22
Chapter 2. Expression of Heterologous Proteins in Yeast	29
Introduction	29
Yeast Expression Systems	30
Yeast Expression Vectors	32
Selectable Markers	37
Transformation Techniques	38
Plasmid Copy Number	39
Expression of Heterologous Proteins	40
Expression Modes	47
Intracellular Expression	47
Extracellular Expression	49
Glycosylation	51
Posttranslational Modifications	54
Host Strain Development	54
Summary	55
References	56

<b>Chapter 3. Strategies for Production of Proteins in Mammalian Cells</b>	<b>66</b>
Introduction	66
Host Cell Effects on Heterologous Proteins	67
Establishment of Cell Lines with Specific Traits	74
The Use of Mutant Cell Lines	84
Creation of Novel Cell Lines by Genetic Engineering	87
Summary	92
References	92
 <b>Chapter 4. Cloning and Expression of Heterologous Genes In Insect Cells with Baculovirus Vectors</b>	 <b>97</b>
Introduction	97
The Biology of Baculoviruses	115
Identifying and Purifying a Recombinant Baculovirus	117
In Vitro Quantitation of Baculoviruses	120
Characterization of Recombinant Baculovirus Vectors	120
Summary of Available Baculovirus Transfer Vectors	121
Factors Affecting Expression of Foreign Genes by Baculovirus Vectors	124
Insect Cell Culture	125
Large-Scale Propagation of Insect Cells in Bioreactors	128
Production of Recombinant Proteins in Insect Larvae	130
Posttranslational Modifications of Recombinant Proteins Expressed in Insect Cells	131
Future Directions	134
References	136
 <b>Chapter 5. Genetics and Antibiotic Process Improvement: From Classical Genetics to Genetic Engineering</b>	 <b>153</b>
Introduction	153
Classical and Modern Genetic Strategies Used for the Construction of Strains That Overproduce Antibiotics and Other Secondary Metabolites	154
Potentials for Recombinant-DNA Technology in Antibiotic-Producing Microorganisms	158
Cloning of Antibiotic Biosynthetic Genes from Prokaryotic <i>Streptomyces</i>	159
Cloning of Antibiotic Biosynthetic Genes from Filamentous Fungi	162
Yield Improvement of Antibiotic Production via Recombinant-DNA Manipulation	164
Generation of New Hybrid Antibiotics by Recombinant-DNA Technology	165
Conclusion	166
References	167
 <b>Chapter 6. Applications of Genetic Engineering for Agriculture</b>	 <b>171</b>
Introduction	171
Plant Genetic Transformation	172
Engineered Resistance to Herbicides	175
Engineered Resistance to Plant Pests	175

Conclusion	182
References	182

## Part 2    Applications of Recombinant and Other Related Technologies for Medicine

### Chapter 7. Recombinant-Derived Vaccines: Models for Future Development 191

Introduction	191
Killed Vaccines	192
Live Vaccines	206
References	218

### Chapter 8. DNA Probes Informative for Diagnosis and Identification 232

Introduction	232
Single Copy DNA Probes and Their Use	236
Methods for Labeling DNA Probes	248
Conclusion	251
References	252

### Chapter 9. Monoclonal Antibodies in Diagnostic Medicine 255

Introduction	255
General Methodologies and Strategies for Obtaining Monoclonal Antibodies	256
Immunoassays	262
Current and Future In Vitro Diagnostic mAb Products	267
Bispecific Monoclonal Antibodies	270
Chimeric Monoclonal Antibodies	273
Catalytic Monoclonal Antibodies	276
Summary	276
Bibliography	277
References	277

## Part 3    Improving Product Expression and Recovery

### Chapter 10. Optimizing Protein Production in Recombinant Strains of *Escherichia coli* 285

Introduction	285
Genetics of Expression Systems	286
<i>E. coli</i> Expression Vectors	295
Posttranslational Considerations	299
Conclusion	305
References	305

<b>Chapter 11. Plasmid Stability of Recombinant DNA Microorganisms</b>	<b>316</b>
Introduction	316
General Properties of Plasmid Vectors	316
Nature of Plasmid Instability	317
Factors Affecting Plasmid Stability	318
Plasmid Stability Due to Environmental Growth Conditions	319
Kinetic Modeling of Plasmid Stability	321
Analytical Methods for the Determination of Plasmid Copy Number	325
Methods Used to Increase Plasmid Stability	326
Conclusion	329
References	330
 <b>Chapter 12. Inclusion Body Formation and the Recovery of Aggregated Recombinant Proteins</b>	 <b>333</b>
Introduction	333
Protein Folding and Aggregation in Vitro	335
Intracellular Folding	337
Inclusion Bodies in <i>E. coli</i>	340
Refolding and Purification of Proteins from Inclusion Bodies	344
Conclusion	351
References	351
 <b>Chapter 13. Product Recovery and Purification: An Overview</b>	 <b>357</b>
Introduction	357
Intracellular versus Secreted Proteins and Inclusion Bodies	363
Cell Harvesting and Breakage	367
Protein Recovery Techniques	374
Protein Purification: Chromatography	384
Protein Deactivation	406
Related Processes	407
References	408
 <b>Part 4 Bioprocessing: Reactors and Facilities</b>	
 <b>Chapter 14. Bioreactor Design and Operation</b>	 <b>415</b>
Introduction	415
Bioreactor Design	416
Bioreactor Operation and Control	426
References	449
 <b>Chapter 15. Mixing Equipment for Bioreactors and Their Scale-Up</b>	 <b>460</b>
Impeller Types	461
Fluid Shear	466
Pilot Planting	470
Scale-Up	473

Conclusion	474
References	476
<b>Chapter 16. Advances in Bioreactor Control</b>	<b>477</b>
Introduction	477
Bioreactor Modeling	479
Optimal Fed-Batch Control	485
Self-Tuning Control	493
Model Predictive Control	496
Expert Systems Applications	499
Discussion	504
References	505
<b>Chapter 17. Biopharmaceutical Plant Design</b>	<b>509</b>
Introduction	509
Regulatory Considerations	512
Project Management	514
Design Basis and Scope Definition	521
Process Design	527
Utility Systems	540
Architectural Layout	555
Validation	560
Summary and Conclusion	564
References	564
<b>Part 5 Societal Issues</b>	
<b>Chapter 18. Clinical Development of Drugs and Biologics Produced by Recombinant DNA Technology</b>	<b>569</b>
Introduction	569
Preclinical Issues	570
Phases of Clinical Investigation	571
The Study Population	573
Dosing	574
Drug Interactions	575
Combination Therapy	576
Adverse Reactions	577
Clinical End Points	579
Conclusion	580
References	580
<b>Chapter 19. Legal Issues in Biotechnology: Patenting</b>	<b>583</b>
Introduction	583
Patenting of Living Matter	585
Culture Deposits	587

<b>Scope of Invention</b>	<b>589</b>
<b>Loss of Patent Rights</b>	<b>592</b>
<b>Enforcement of Patents</b>	<b>594</b>
<b>Plant Patents</b>	<b>596</b>

**Chapter 20. U.S. Biotechnology Policy: Linking Education,  
Research, and Innovation** **599**

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>599</b>
<b>Creating a Biotechnology Policy</b>	<b>600</b>
<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>606</b>
<b>References</b>	<b>606</b>

<b>Index</b>	<b>609</b>
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# Cloning Techniques and Applications



# Cloning in Bacteria: Vectors and Techniques

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## Introduction

In the past decade there has been a near-explosive increase in both the number of investigators using in vitro gene manipulation and the range of power and usefulness of those techniques. Gene cloning has become much easier since the early days of molecular biology. The variety of restriction and modification en-

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**Abbreviations:** Ap<sup>R</sup>, ampicillin resistance;  $\beta$ -Gal,  $\beta$ -galactosidase; BHR, broad-host-range; bp, base pair(s); CM<sup>R</sup>, chloramphenicol resistance; dCTP, deoxyribo-cytosine 5'triphosphate; fl, filamentous; IPTG, isopropyl- $\beta$ -D-thiogalactopyranoside; MCS, multiple cloning site; RBS, ribosomal binding site; Tc<sup>R</sup>, tetracycline resistance; vector 1/2, there are two vectors in the series vector 1 and vector 2.

zymes that are commercially available, as well as kits for hybridization, nucleotide sequence determination, in vitro site directed mutagenesis,  $\lambda$  in vitro packaging, etc., increases each year. Several other tasks required during the cloning process have become routine; examples are plasmid DNA purification, restriction mapping, hybridization or immunodetection, oligonucleotide synthesis, and, up to a certain point, nucleotide sequence determination. That has not, by any means, made molecular cloning less of a challenge; it has only expanded its range of possibilities. There are still many cloning projects that require ingenuity.

The most basic needs for cloning are a vector, a host bacterium, and a selection or screening strategy for the phenotypic expression of the desired gene. A vector is an autonomous replicating DNA molecule into which a desired gene can be introduced and stably maintained in the host. That allows further manipulations and analysis of the gene of interest. The type of vector is important for the success of the cloning, but the key factor is the selection, or screening method, that can be applied to distinguish the clone with the desired gene from the background. The most commonly used screening procedures are hybridization to a probe, immunodetection of the gene product, and detection of the activity of the gene product or change in the expression of a gene in the vector (insertional inactivation or insertional activation). Protein activity can be detected by an enzyme assay or through complementation of a metabolic defect of the host. [For a review on protein detection methods, consult (22).] Very often the choice of the vector depends on the available selection.

There are now several books and laboratory manuals that give step-by-step instructions for cloning (3, 20, 36, 117, 119, 122) or that list cloning vectors with maps and brief descriptions of their uses (79). For an in-depth review on cloning vectors see Rodriguez and Denhardt (85). Another recent review on cloning techniques and analysis of bacterial genes is that of Chater and Hopwood (17). One of the most widely used practical manuals is undoubtedly that of Sambrook, Fritsch, and Maniatis (91). The size of this work has quadrupled since the first edition in 1982, a consequence of the expansion of the field. Nevertheless, the book remains a must in every molecular cloning laboratory.

In spite of the number of recent articles on this subject, the pace of development of cloning techniques and vectors warrants another publication. We will, however, try to avoid duplication of information as much as possible. This chapter will be a wide overview of recent advances with a few specific examples that will direct readers to more detailed publications; these will help them in their quest for the proper vector and technique for a particular cloning project.

### Vectors for *Escherichia coli*

Since cloning was developed in *E. coli*, most vectors, as well as techniques, are restricted to this bacterial species. Usually the cloning is performed by ligation of DNA fragments to a vector molecule and transformation of the recombinant plasmid into *E. coli*, and it is in this bacterial species that the desired clones are selected and manipulated (e.g., subcloned, mutated, and sequenced). They can then be introduced into other microbes if necessary.

The introduction of foreign DNA into *E. coli* is not devoid of problems. The