

Re-engineering Natural Selection with Synthetic Biology

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Davidson College Biology and **GCAT**



Colorado College
March 3, 2014

Outline of Presentation

What is synthetic biology?

Can intro biology students do synthetic biology research?

Is it possible to reengineer natural selection?

Why do research as an undergraduate?

What is Synthetic Biology?

Implementation of engineering principles and mathematical modeling to the design and construction of biological parts, devices, and systems with applications in energy, medicine, and technology.

www.bio.davidson.edu/projects/gcat/Synthetic/What_Is_SynBio.html

Synthetic Biology

Genetic engineering on a new scale.

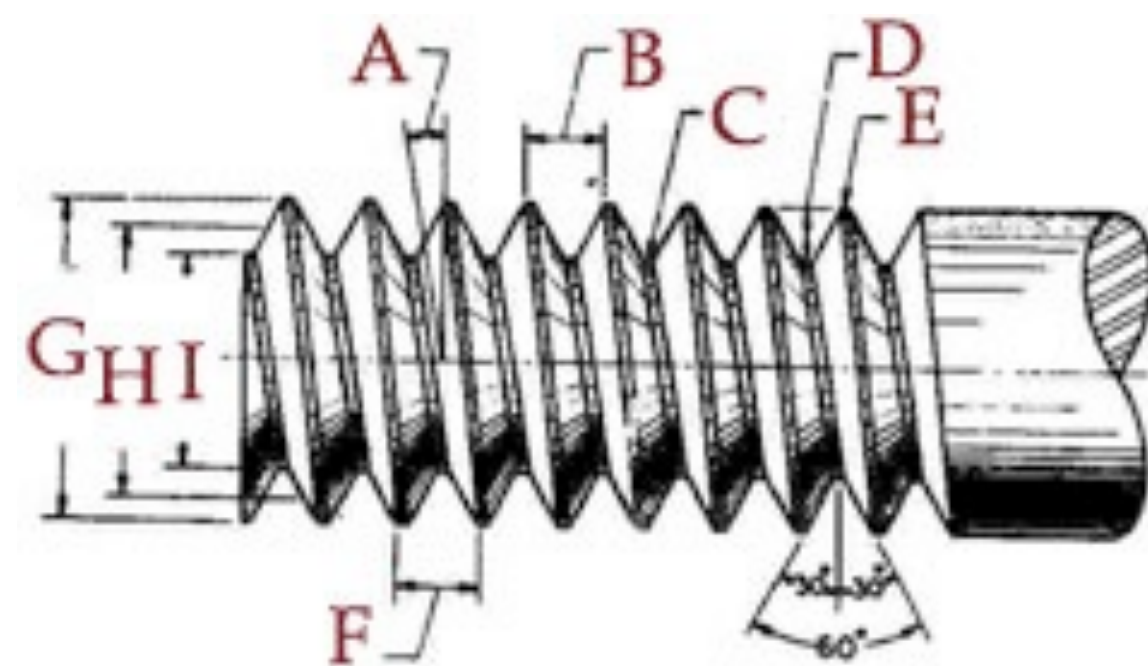
Four Characteristics:

- Standardization
- Modularity
- Abstraction
- Modeling of Designs

Standardization

On a Uniform System of Screw Thread

“In this country, no organized attempt has as of yet been made to establish any system, each manufacturer having adopted whatever his judgment may have dictated as best, or as most convenient for himself.”



William Sellers April 21, 1864

Standardization



On a Uniform System of Screw Thread

Modularity

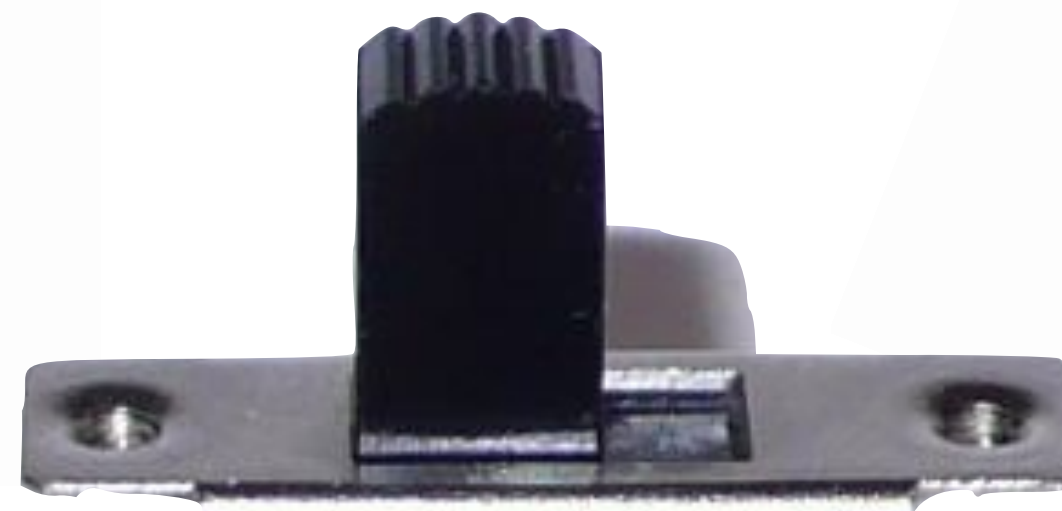
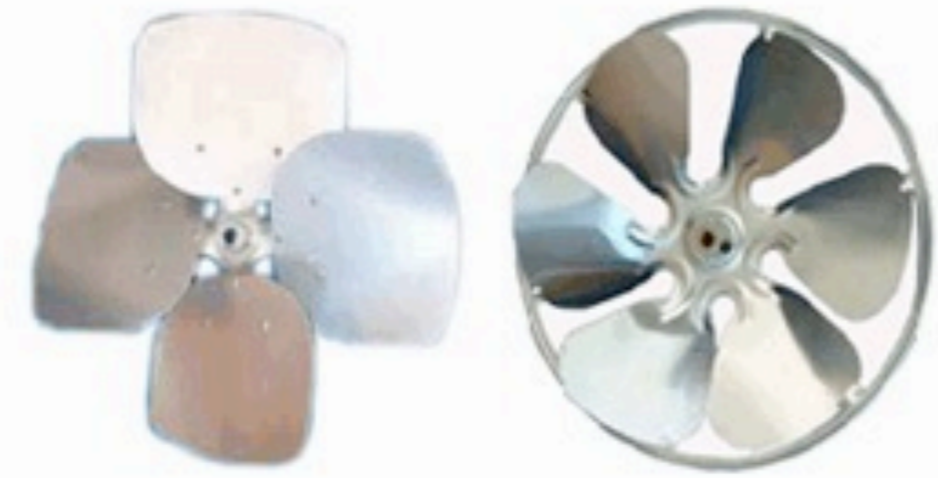


USB ports on computers

Modularity



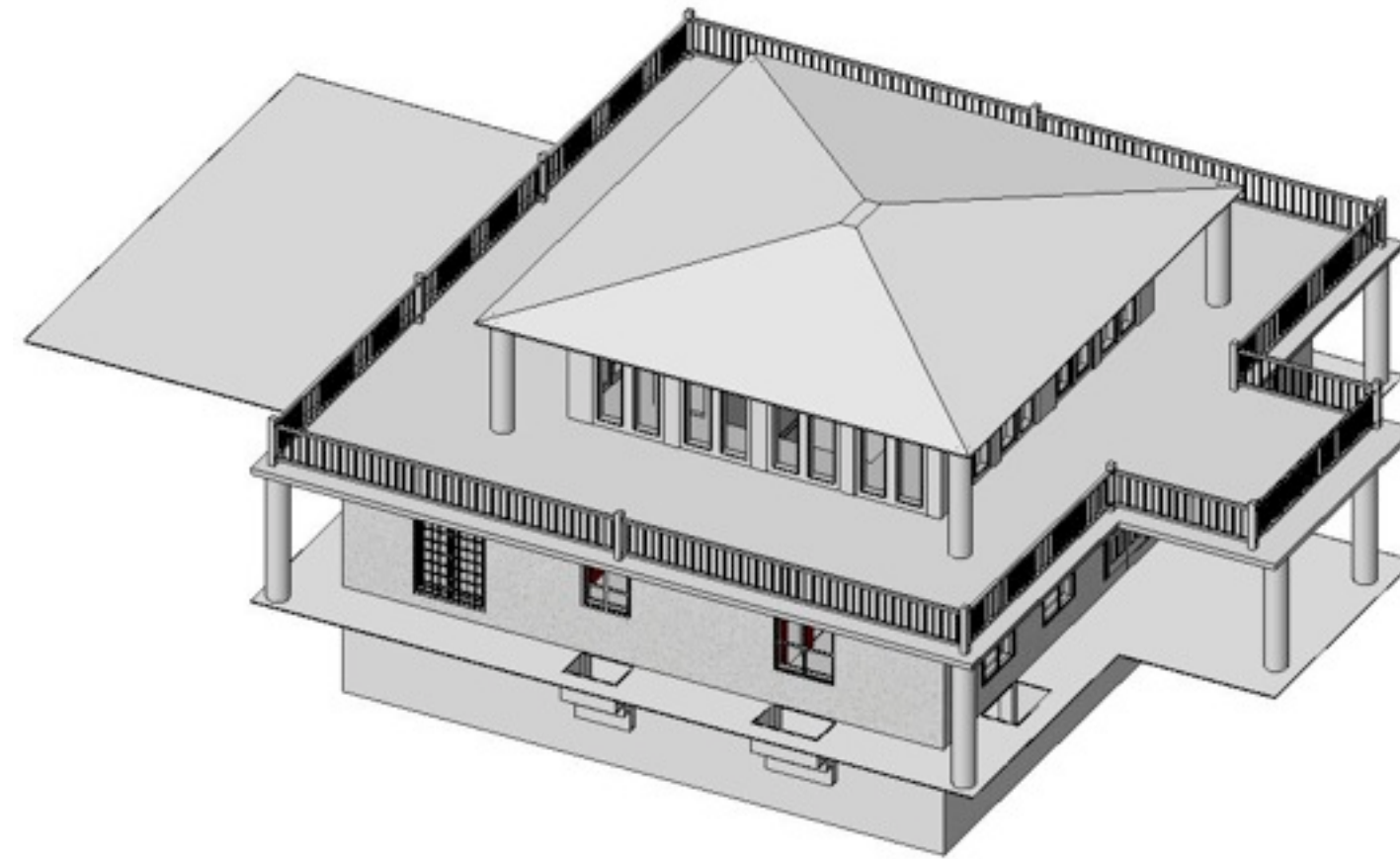
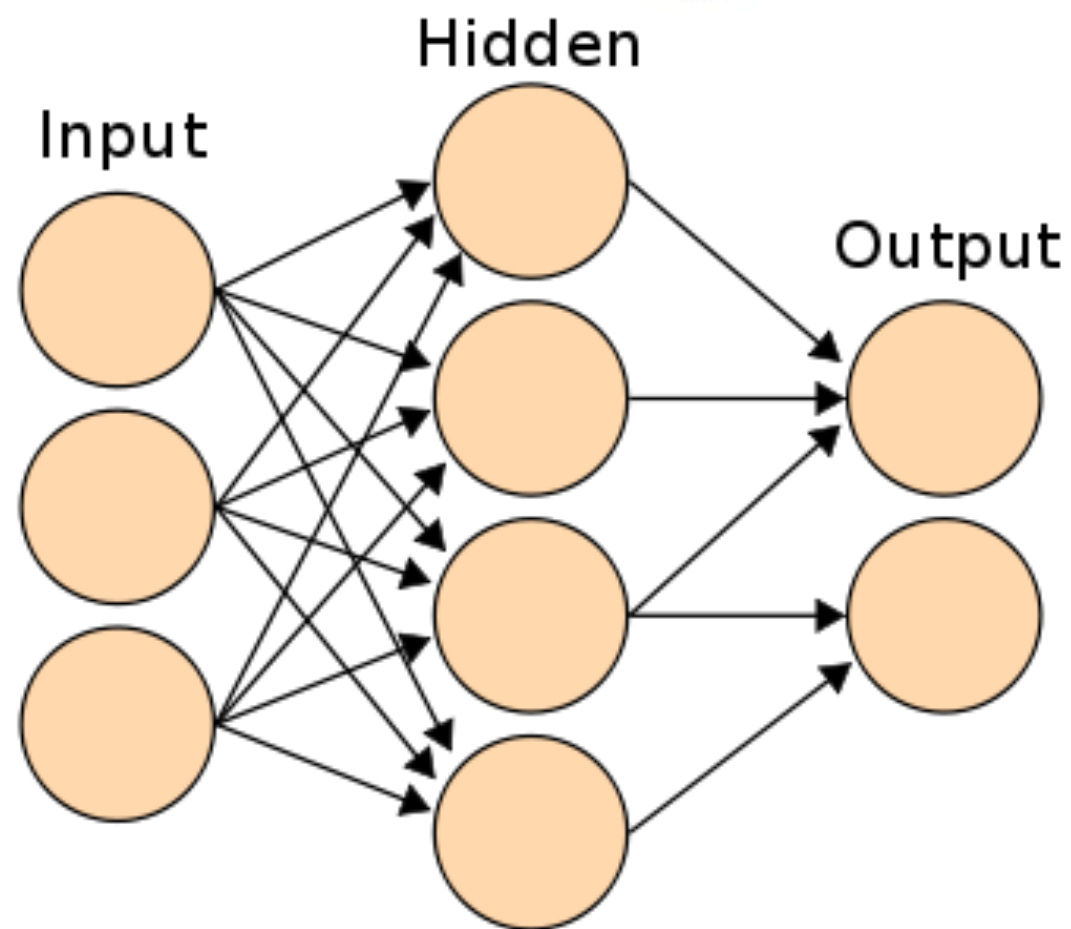
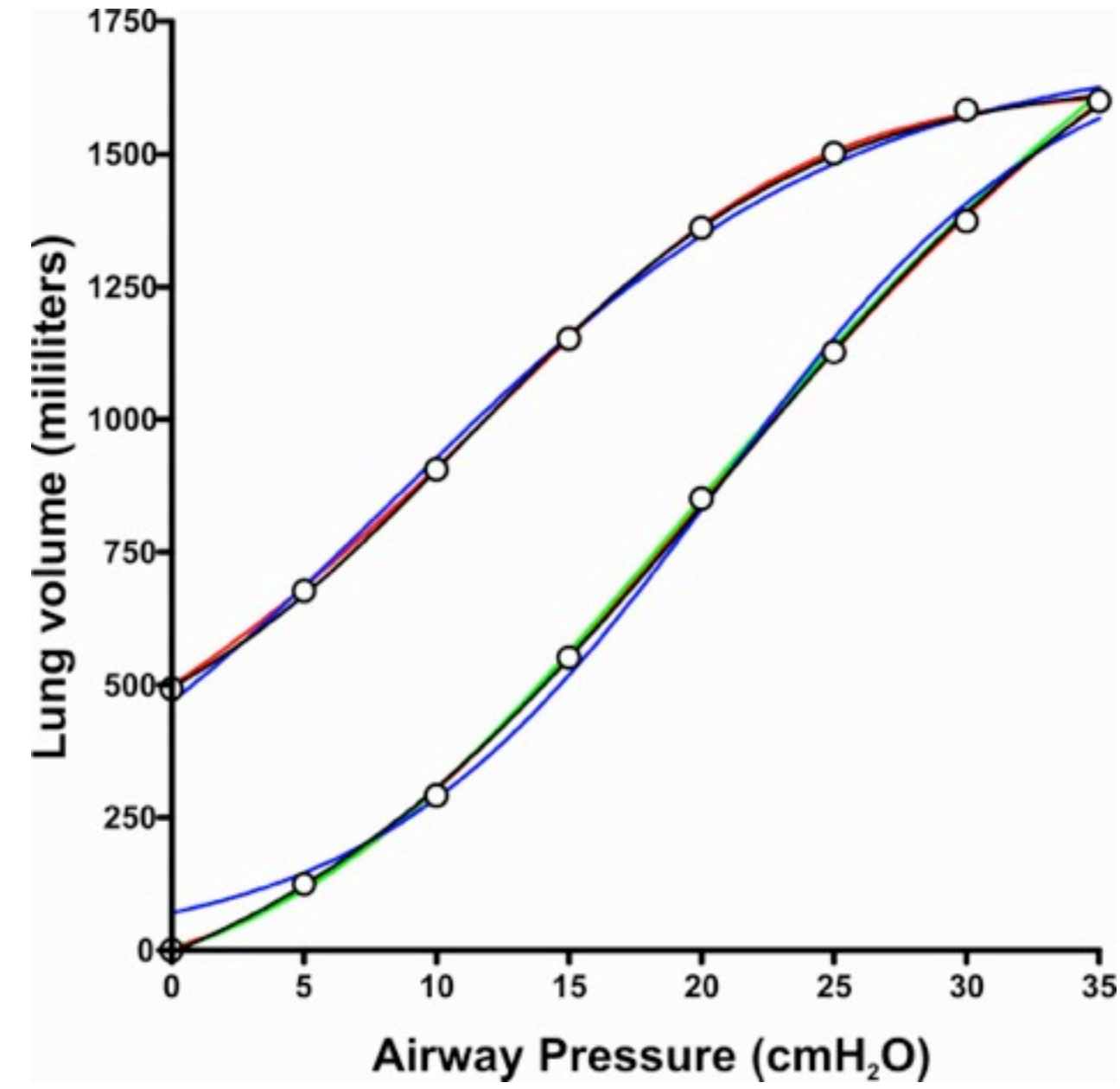
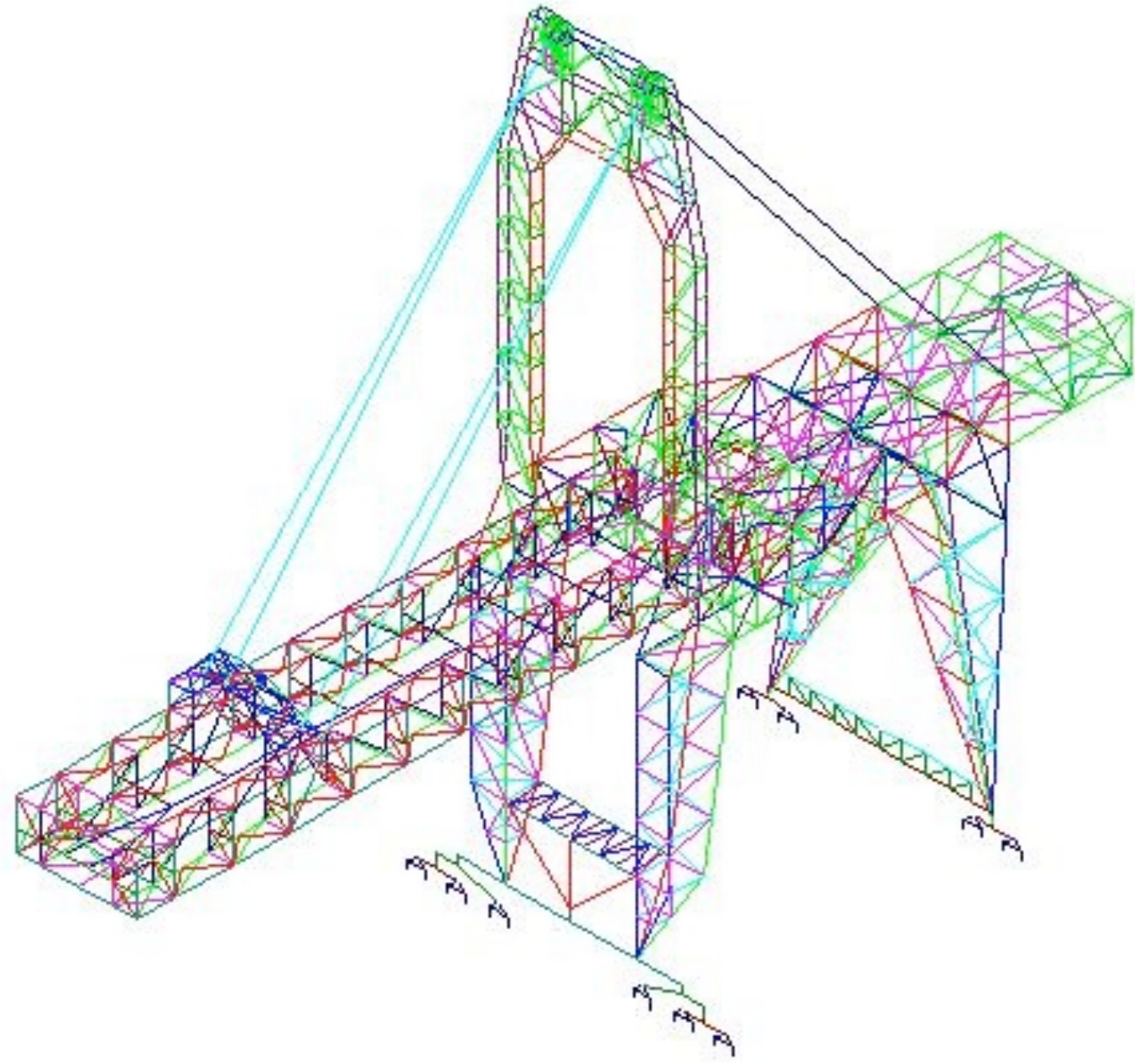
Abstraction



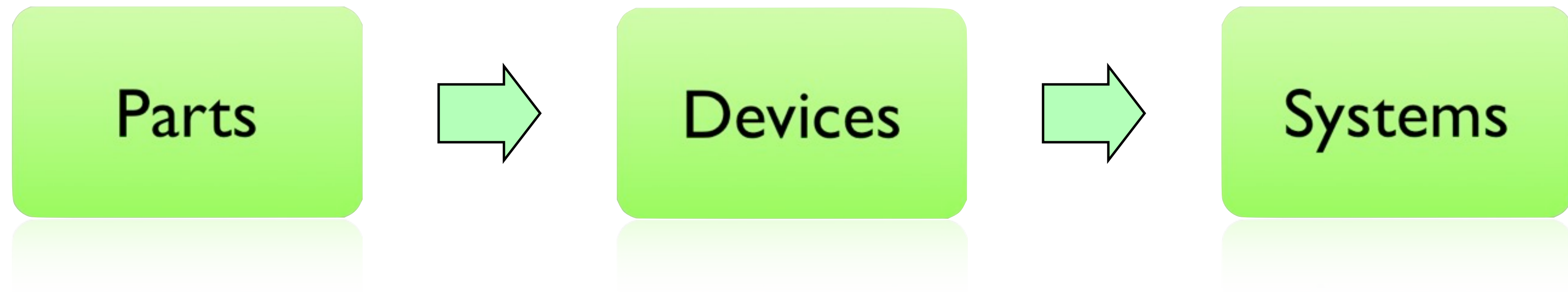
Abstraction



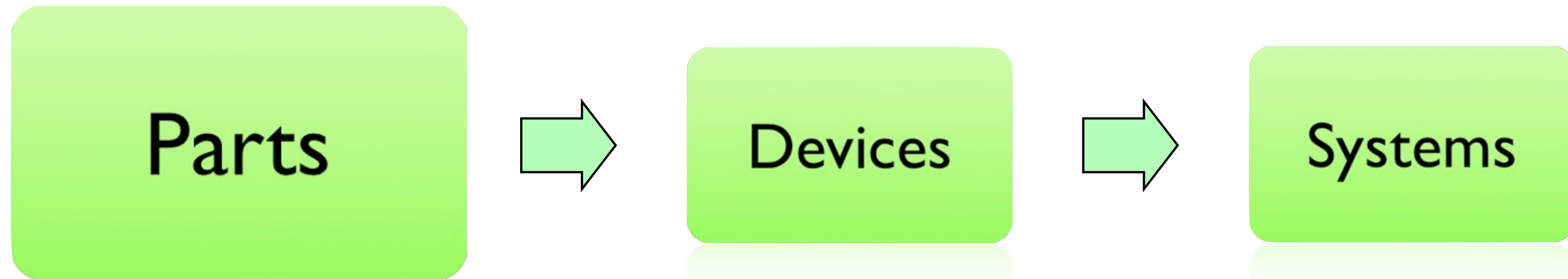
Modeling of Designs



Synthetic Biology



Synthetic Biology



 Ribosome Binding Sites ?

 Protein Coding ?

 Regulatory ?

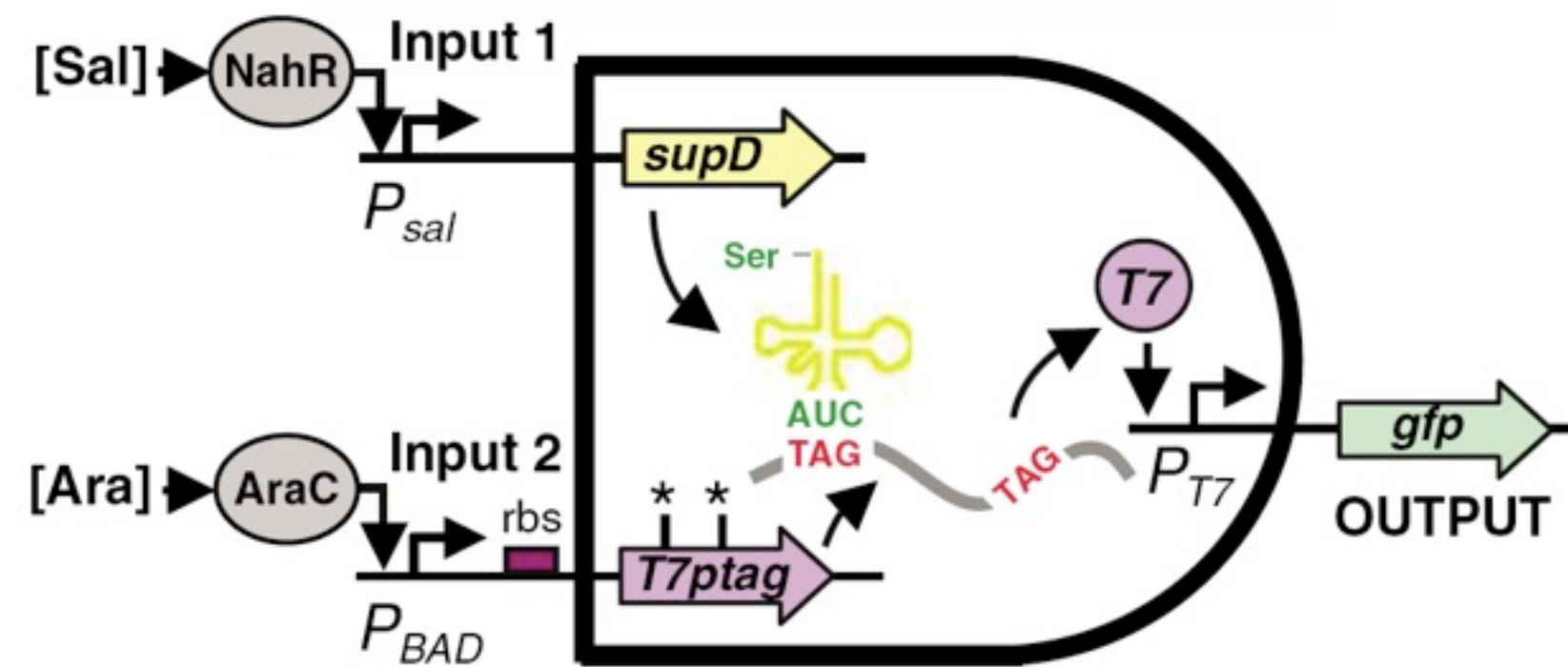
 Terminators ?

 RNA ?

 Conjugation ?

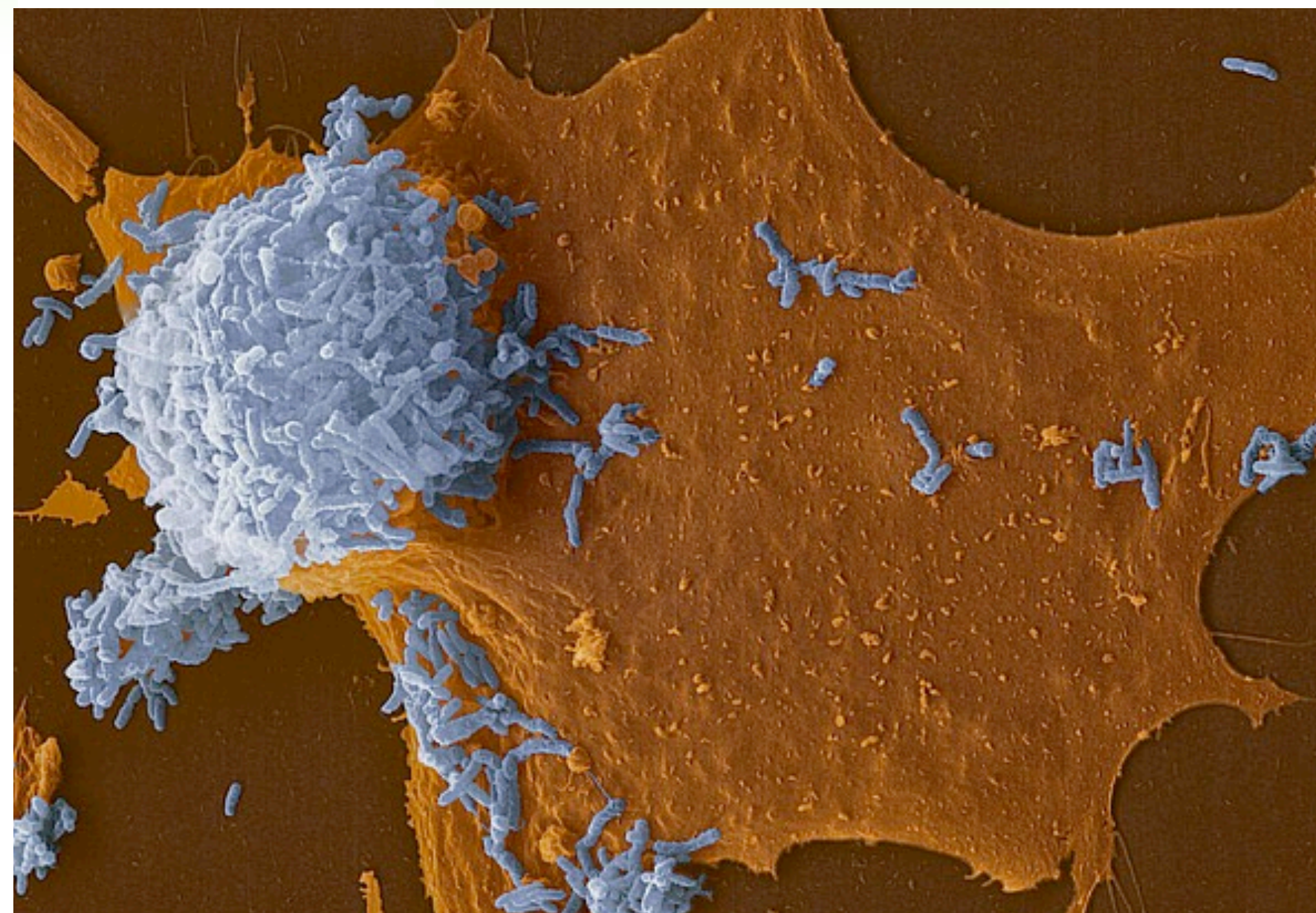
 DNA ?

Synthetic Biology



Anderson et al. Mol Sys Bio. 2007.

Synthetic Biology



Real World Applications of Synthetic Biology

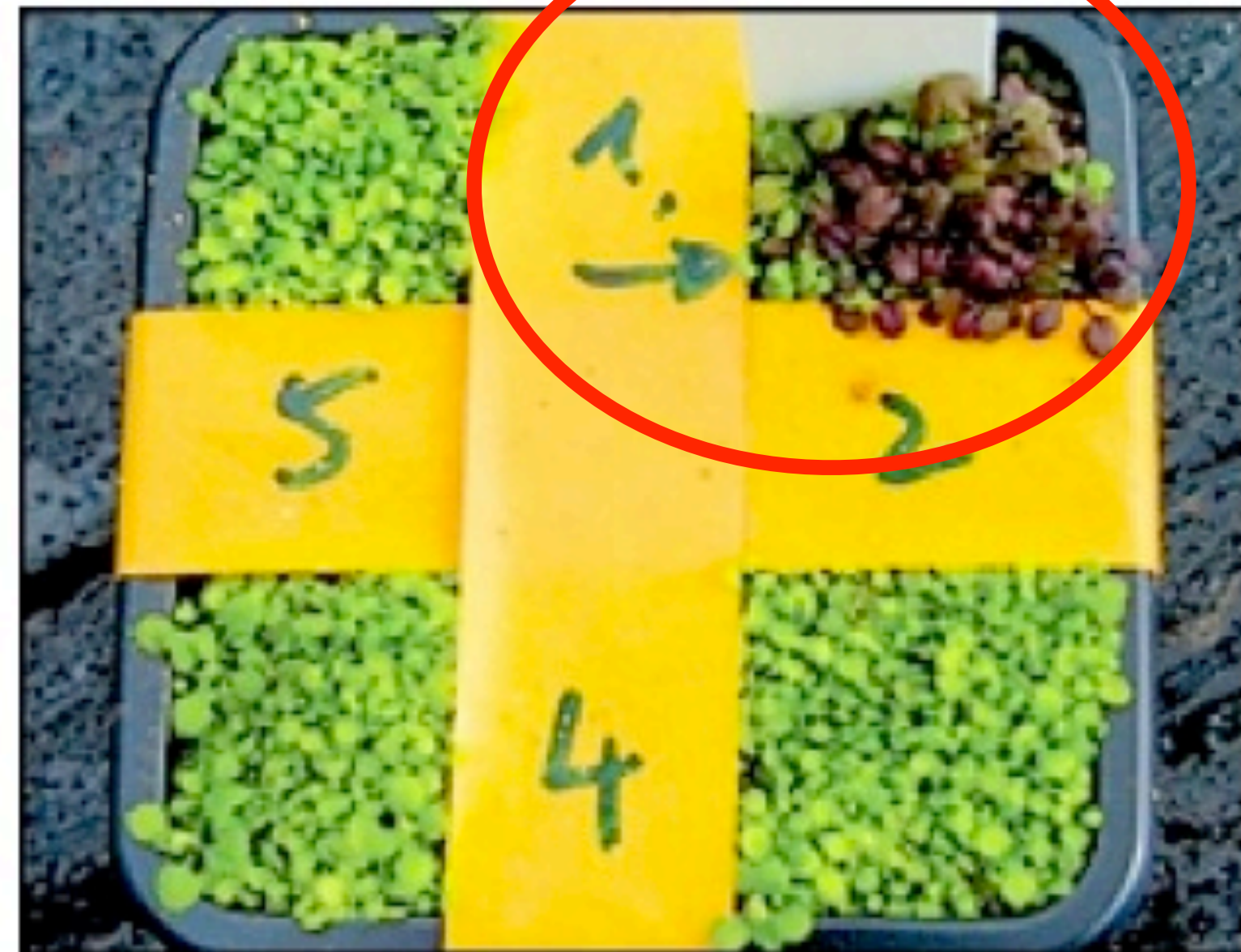
Land Mine Detection



Land Mine Detection



Synthetic Biology Land Mine Detection



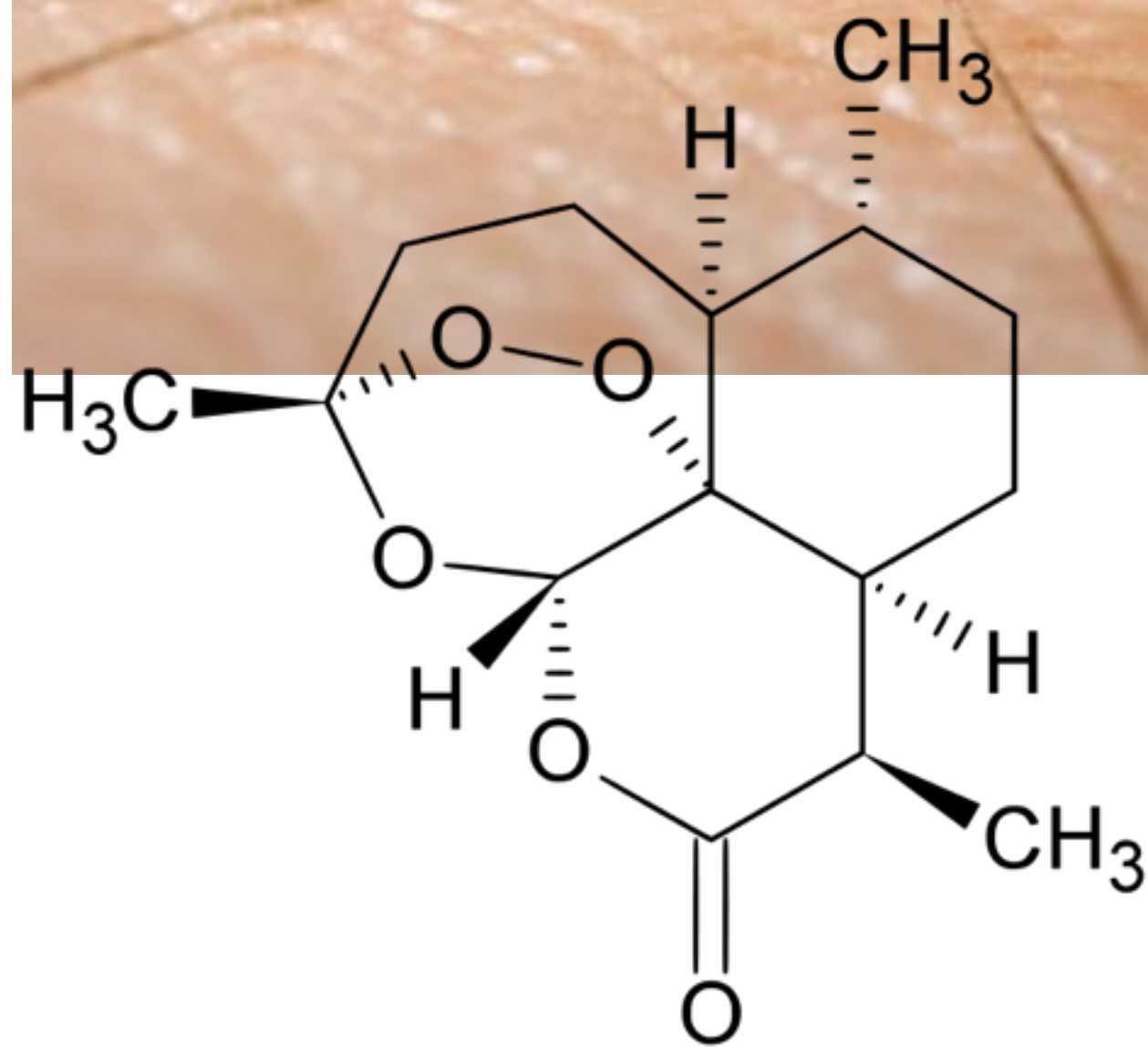
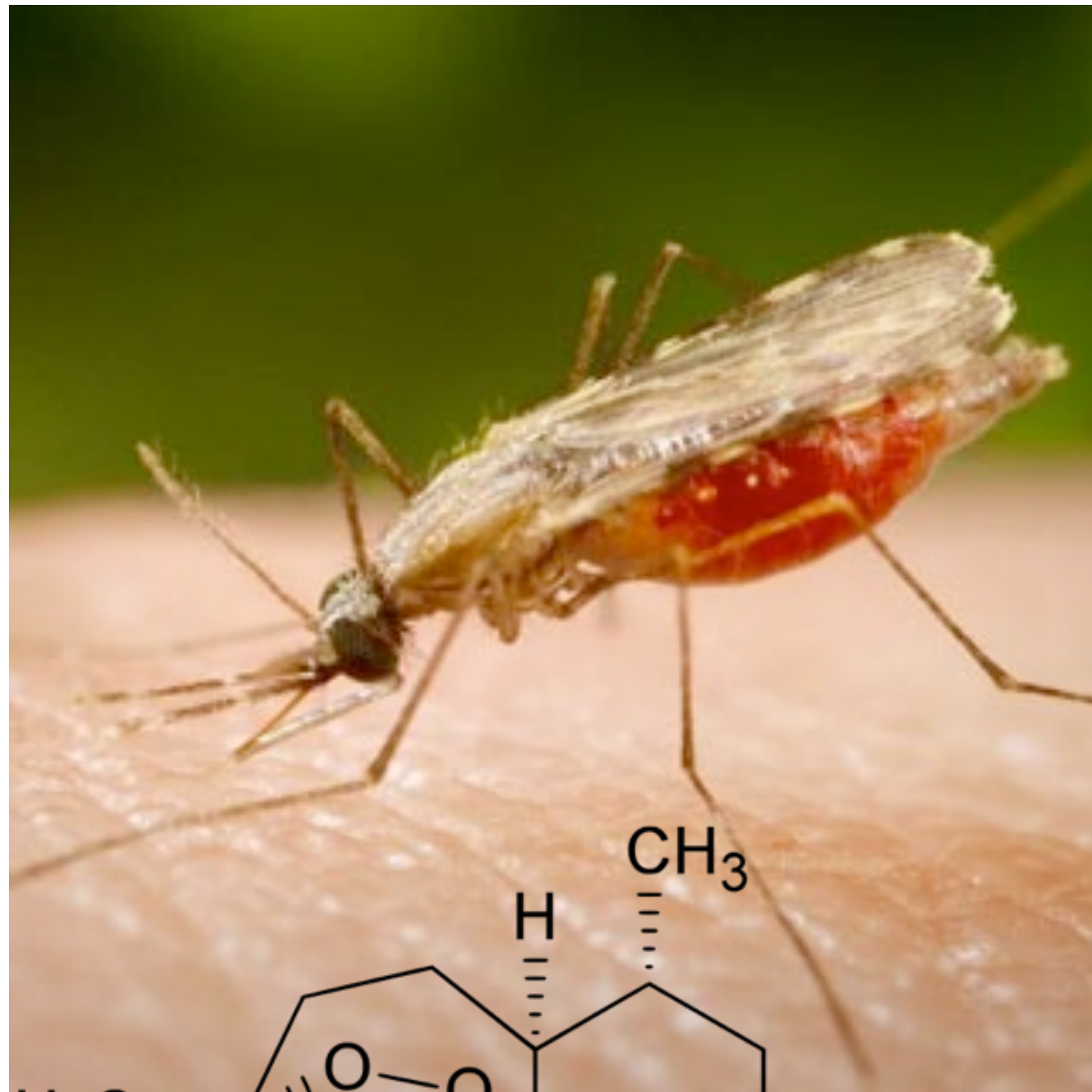
WARNING SIGN: The bioengineered Thales cress turns red when exposed to a mine byproduct.

COURTESY OF ARESA
BIODETECTION

New weed may flag land mines

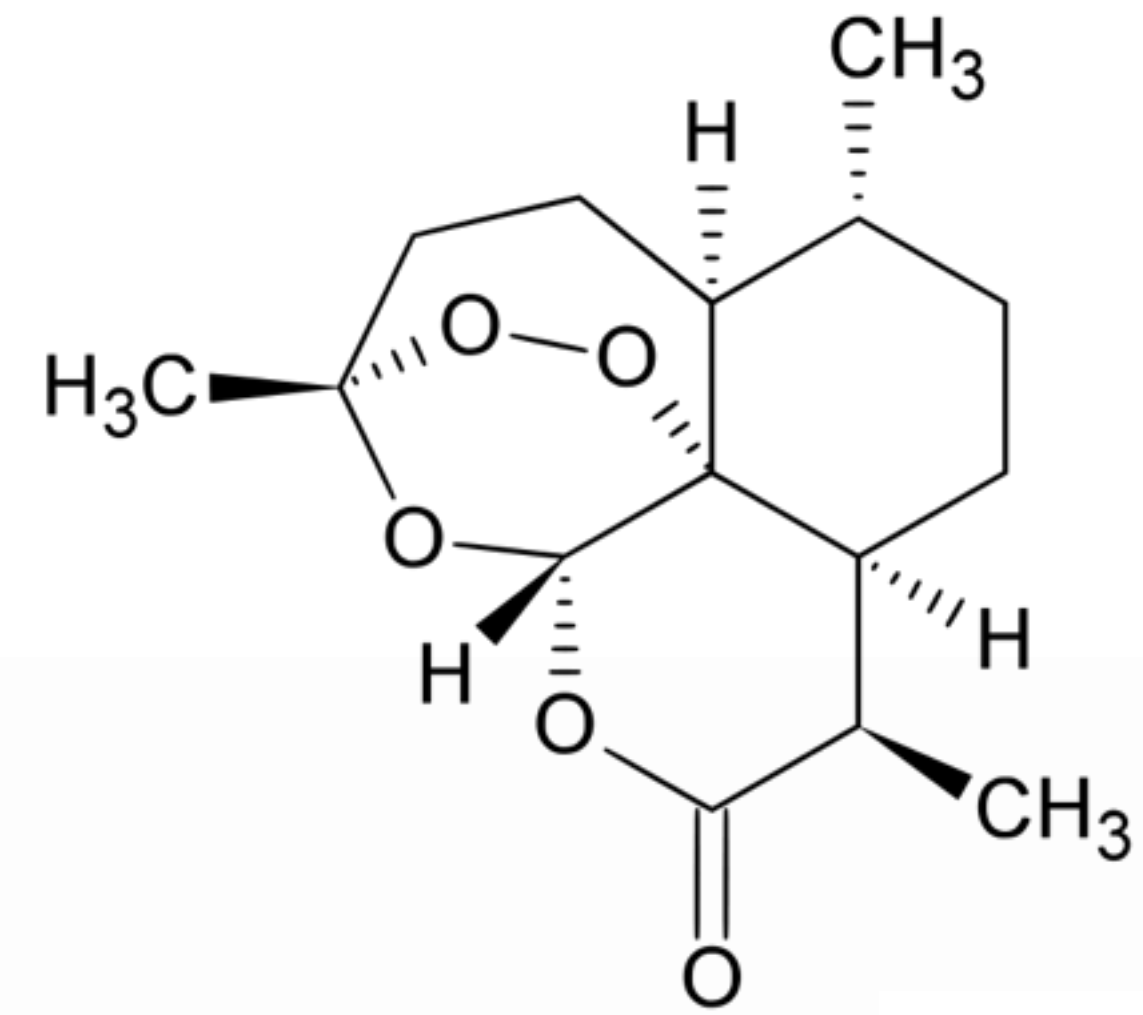
By John K. Borchardt | *Contributor to The Christian Science Monitor*

Production of Medicines

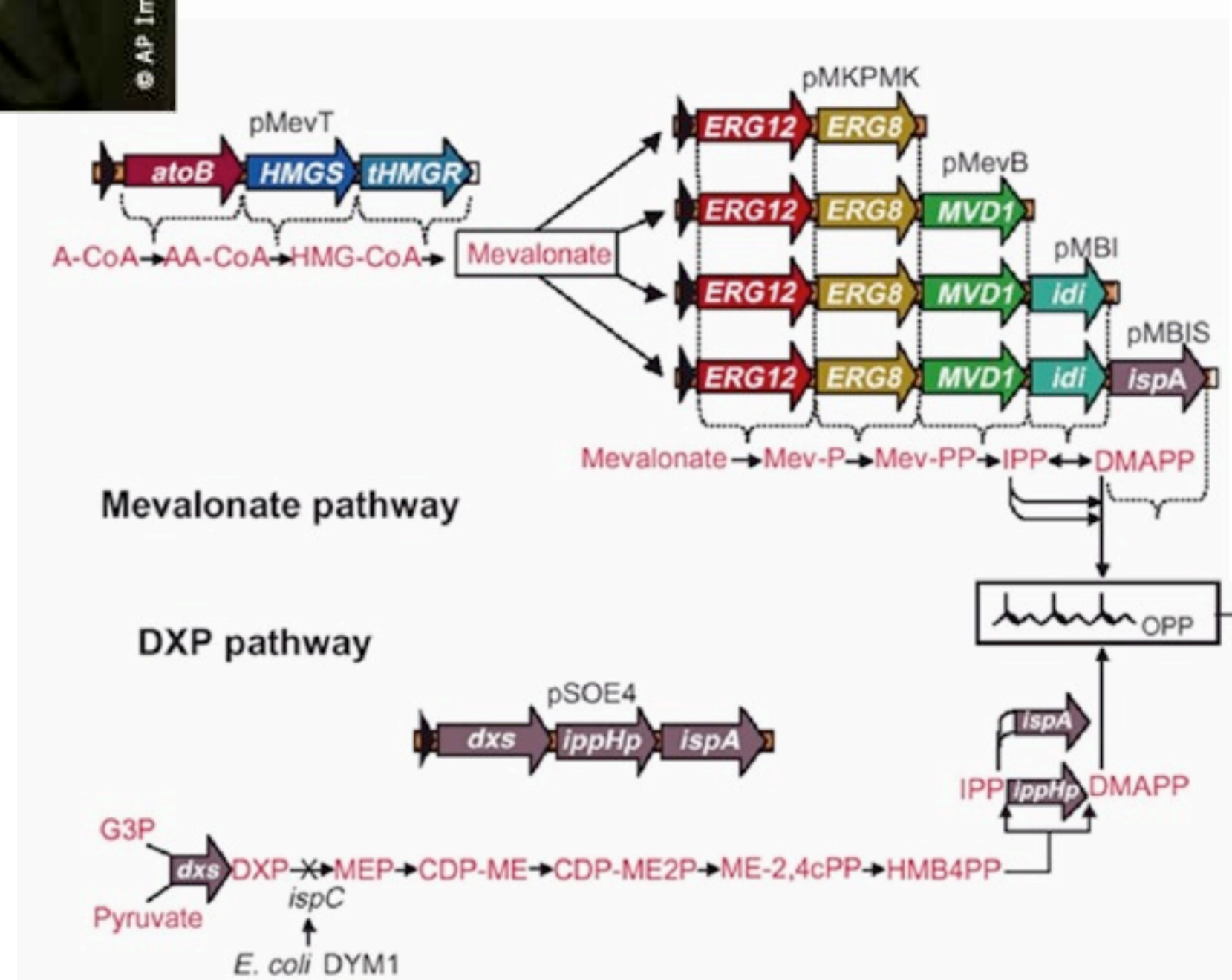


\$1 per pill

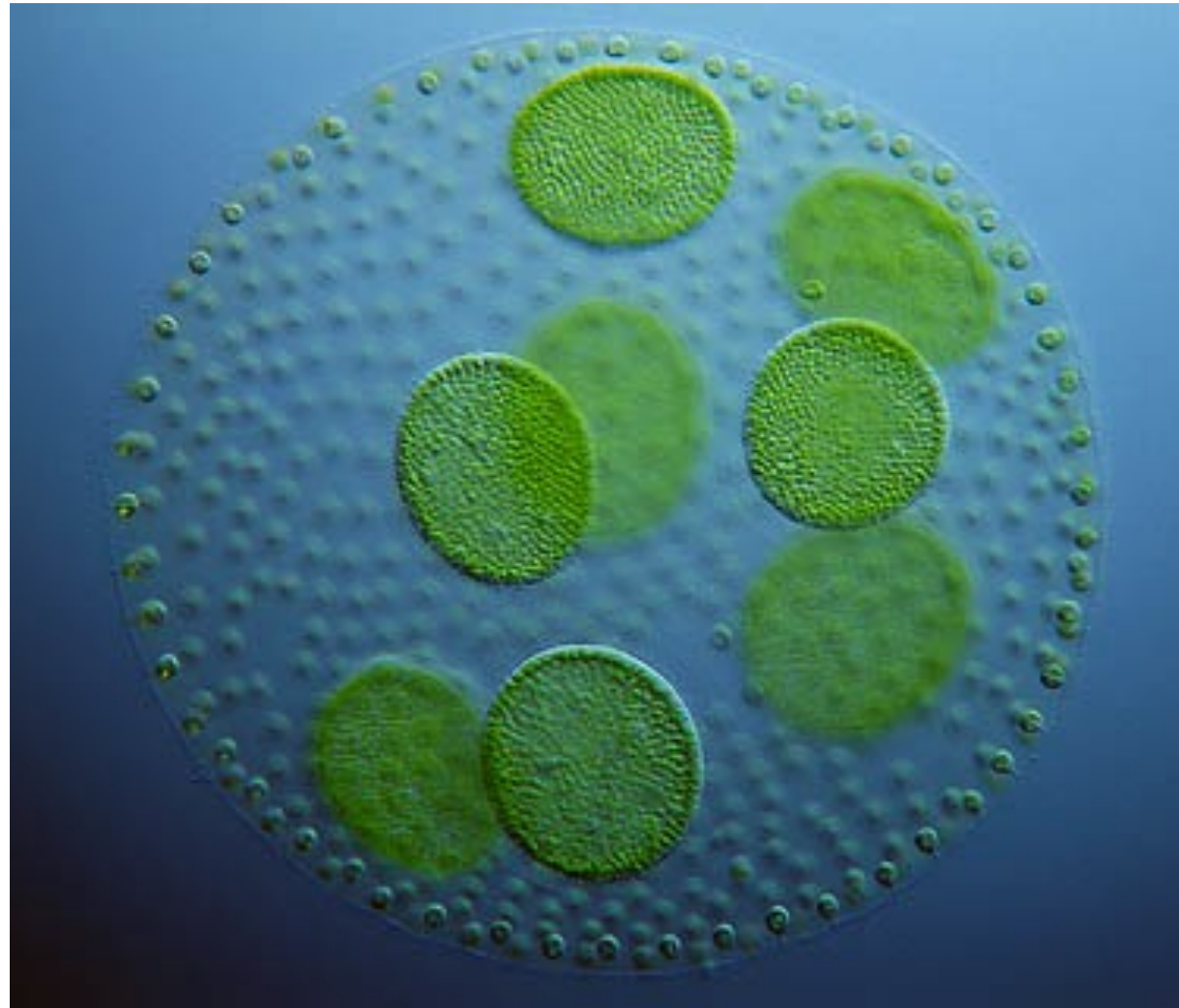
Production of Medicines



10¢ per pill

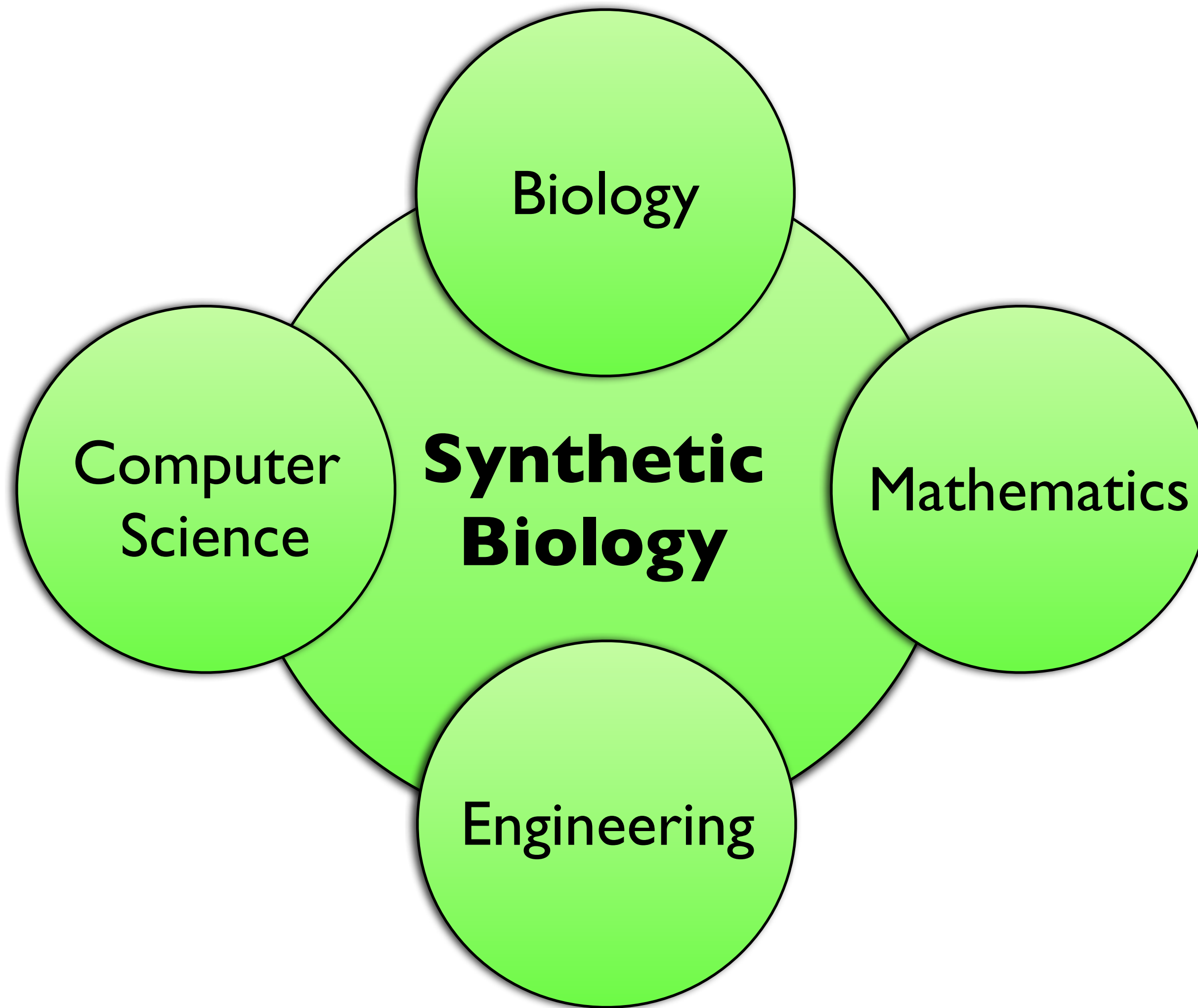


Biofuels from Algae



CO₂-neutral
1,000,000 gallons in 2008

Synthetic Biology



Intro Bio Students Conduct
Promoter Research
Using
Synthetic Biology

Eco RI

GAATTC

CTTAAG

palindrome

type II

Eco RI

GAATTC
CTTAAG

palindrome

type II

Eco RI



type II

Eco RI

G

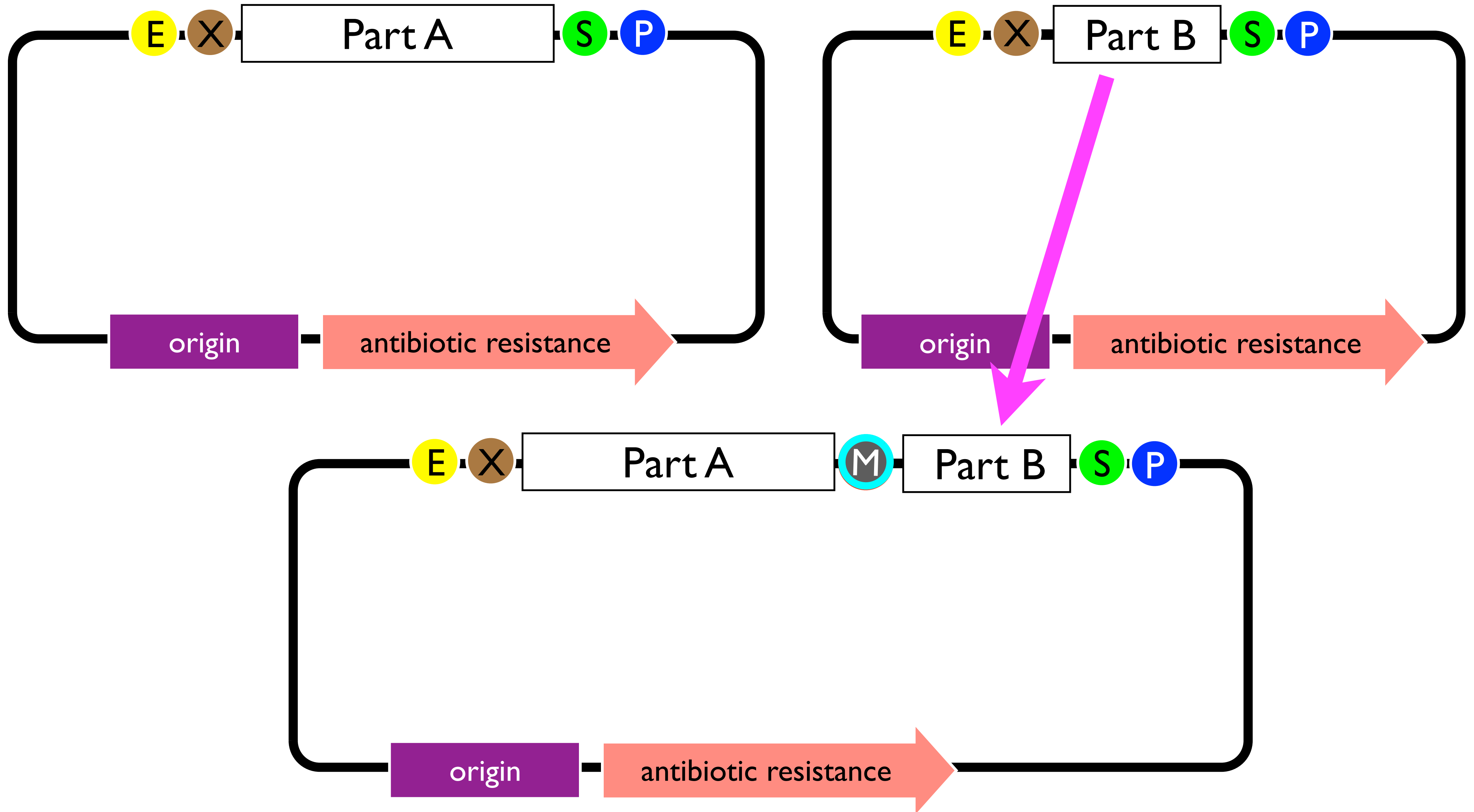
AATTC

CTTAA

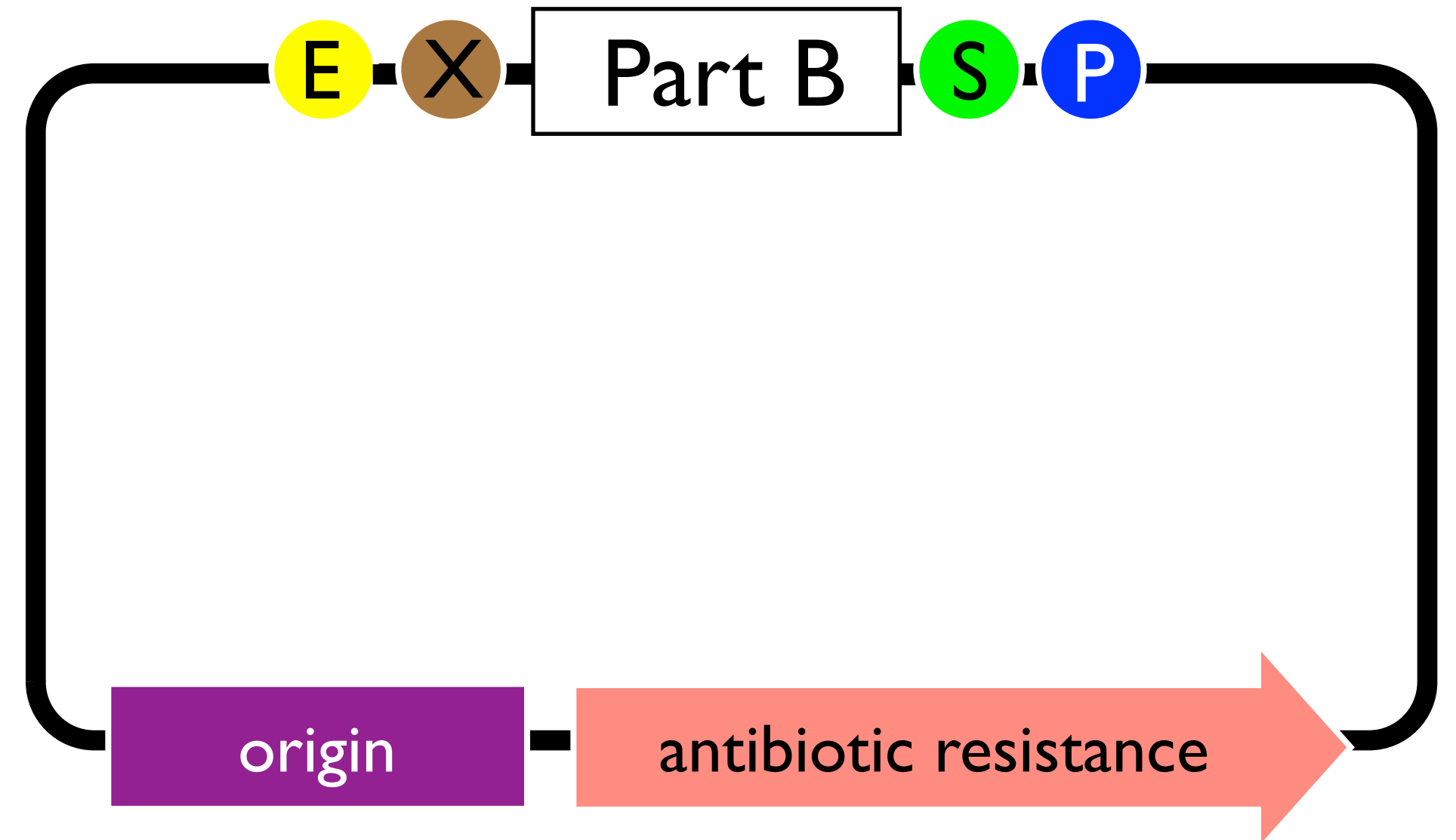
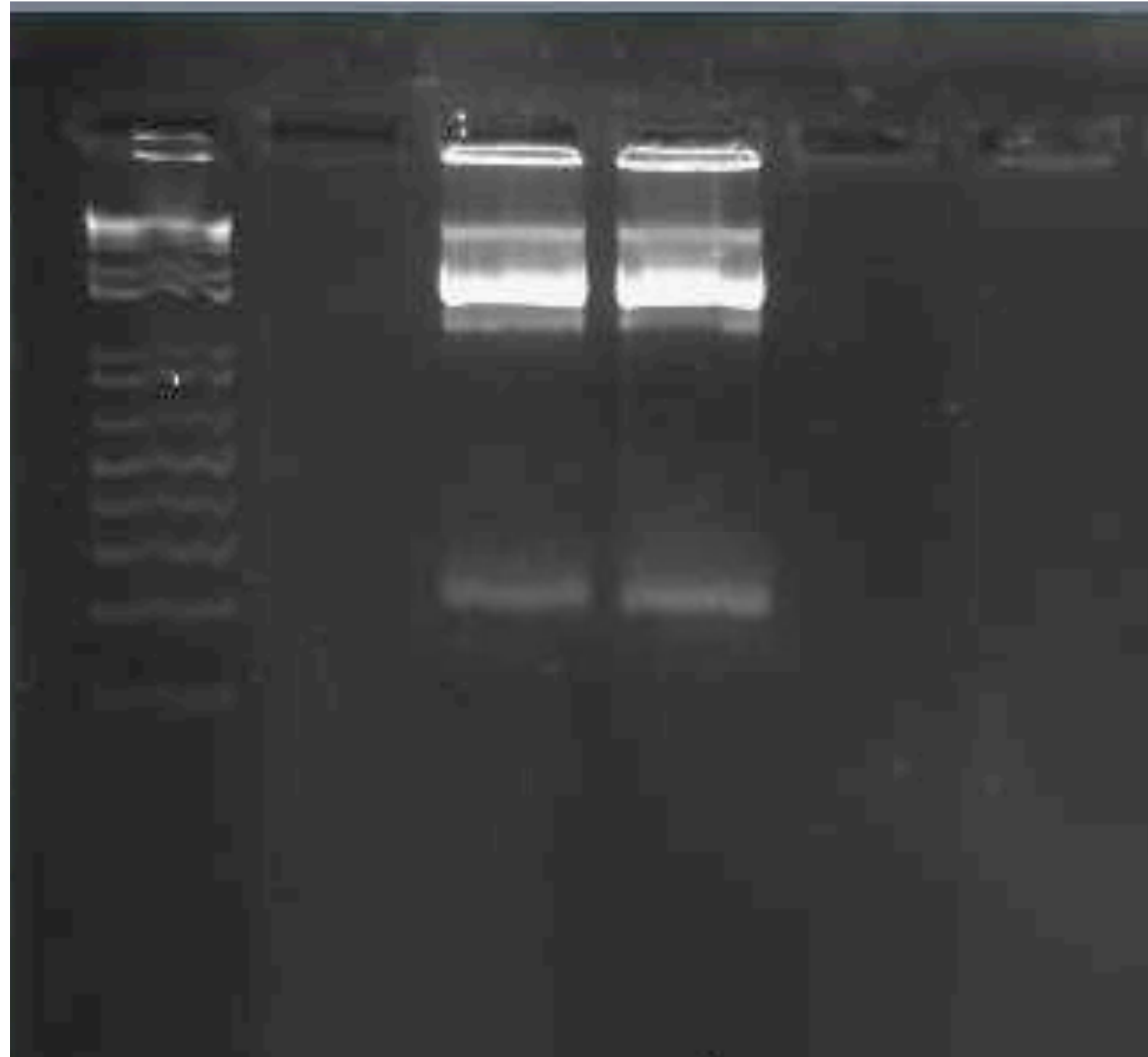
G

type II

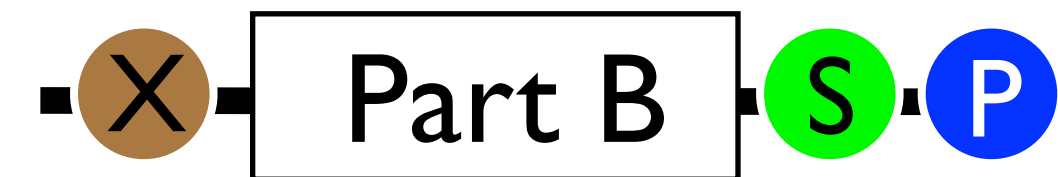
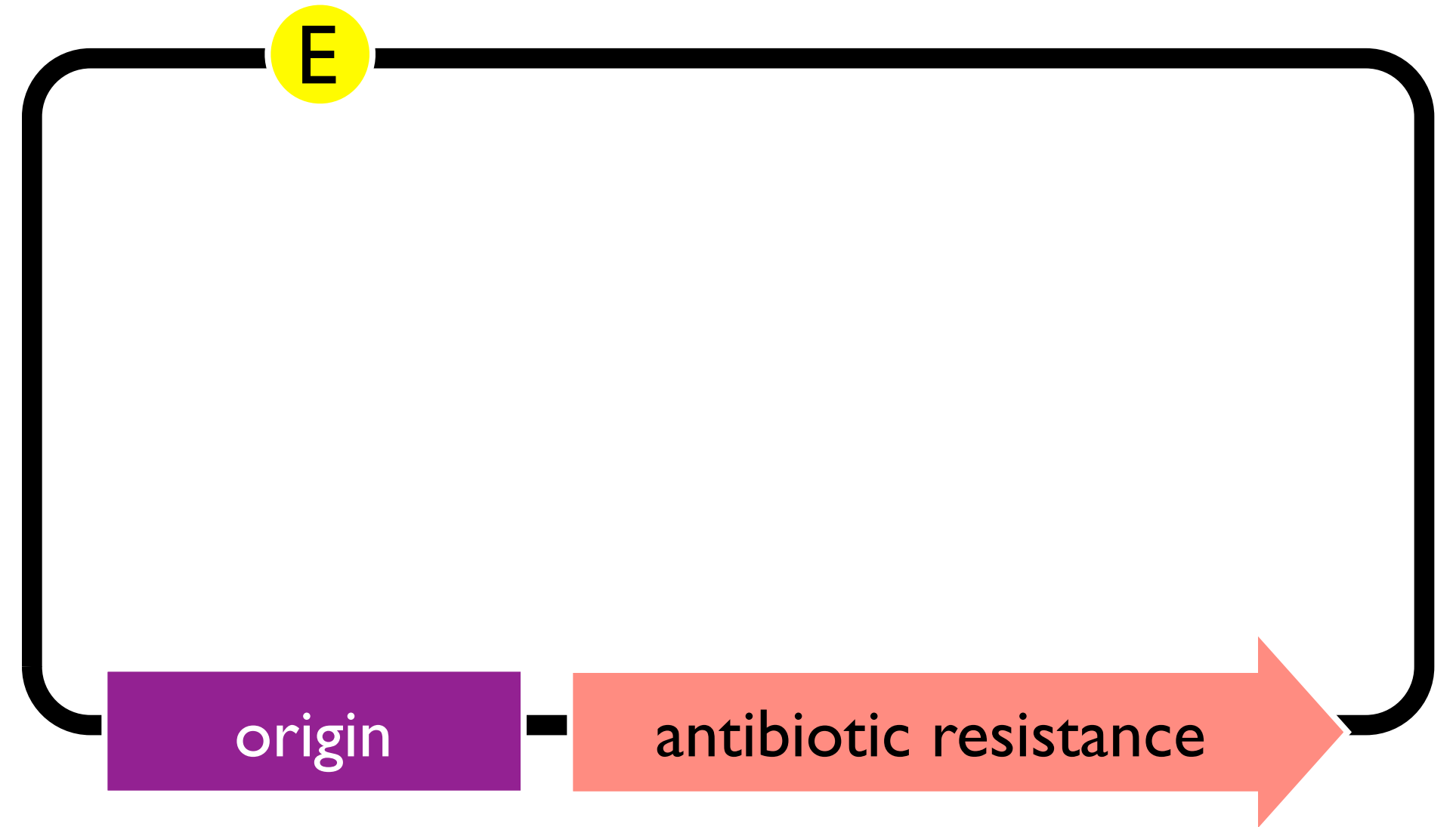
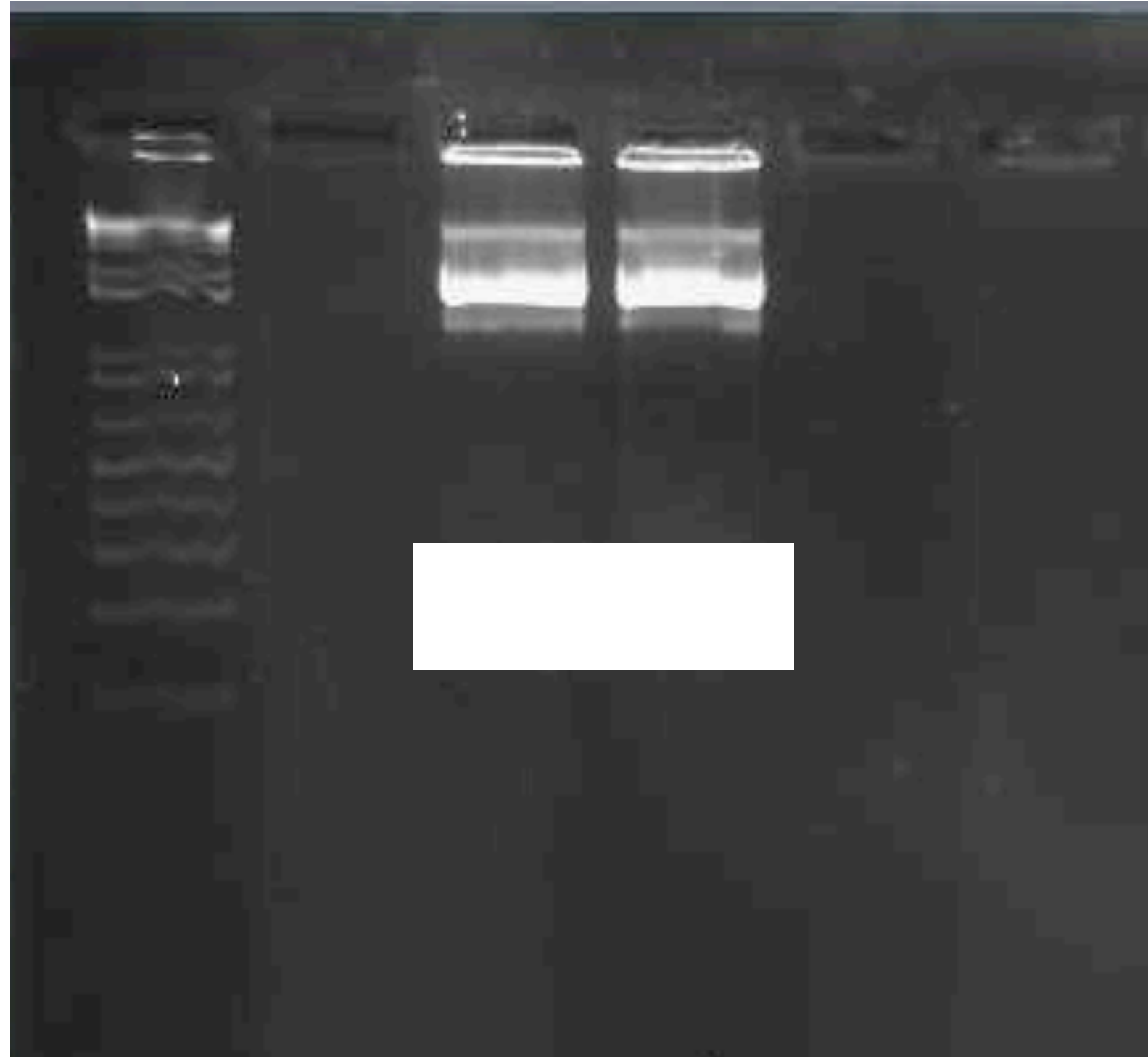
Traditional Cloning (type II)



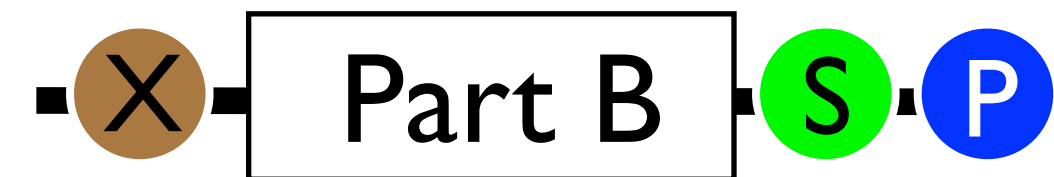
Gel Purification

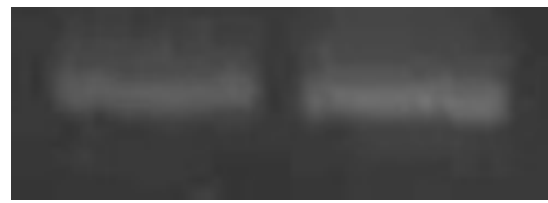


Gel Purification



Gel Purification

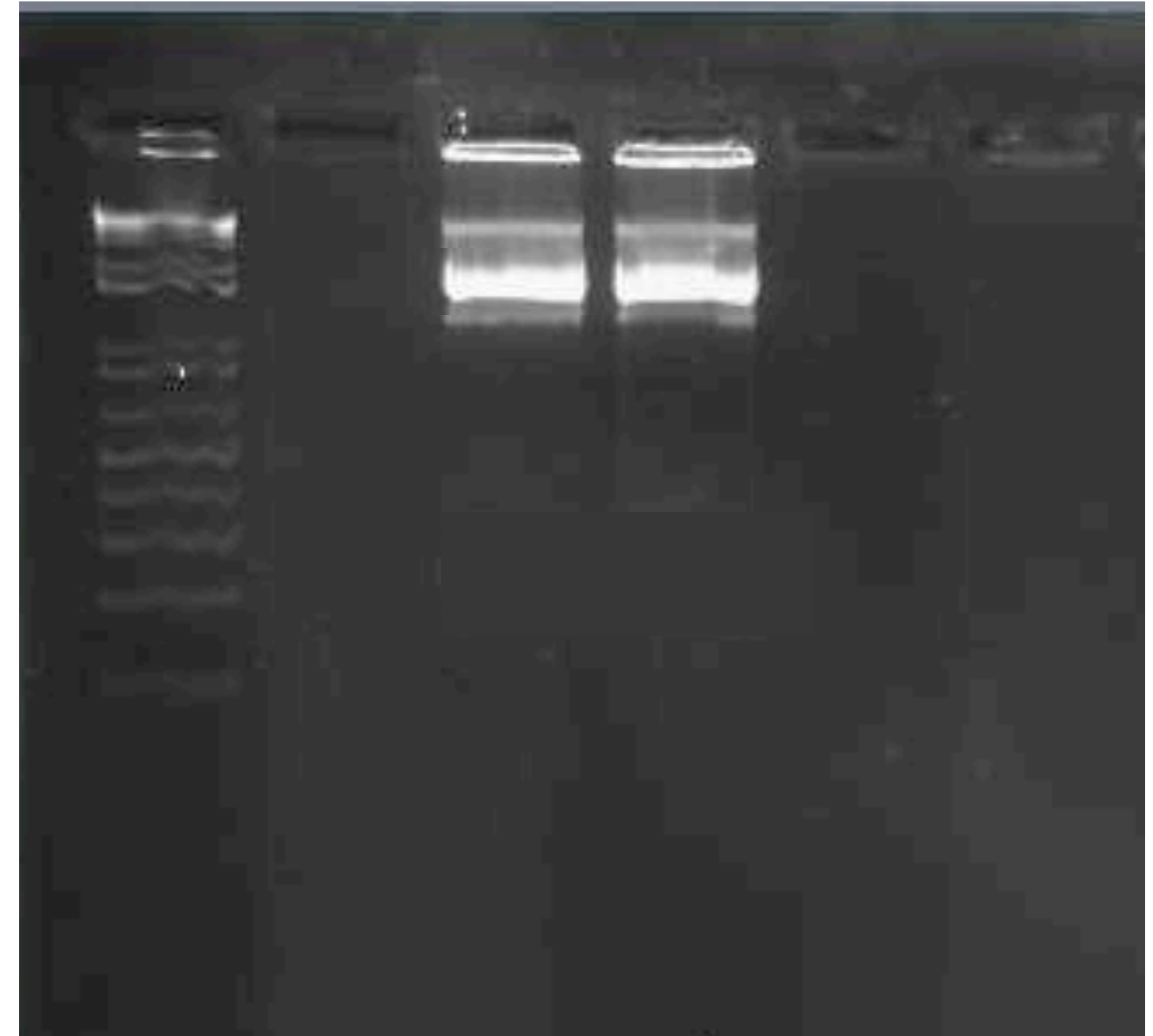
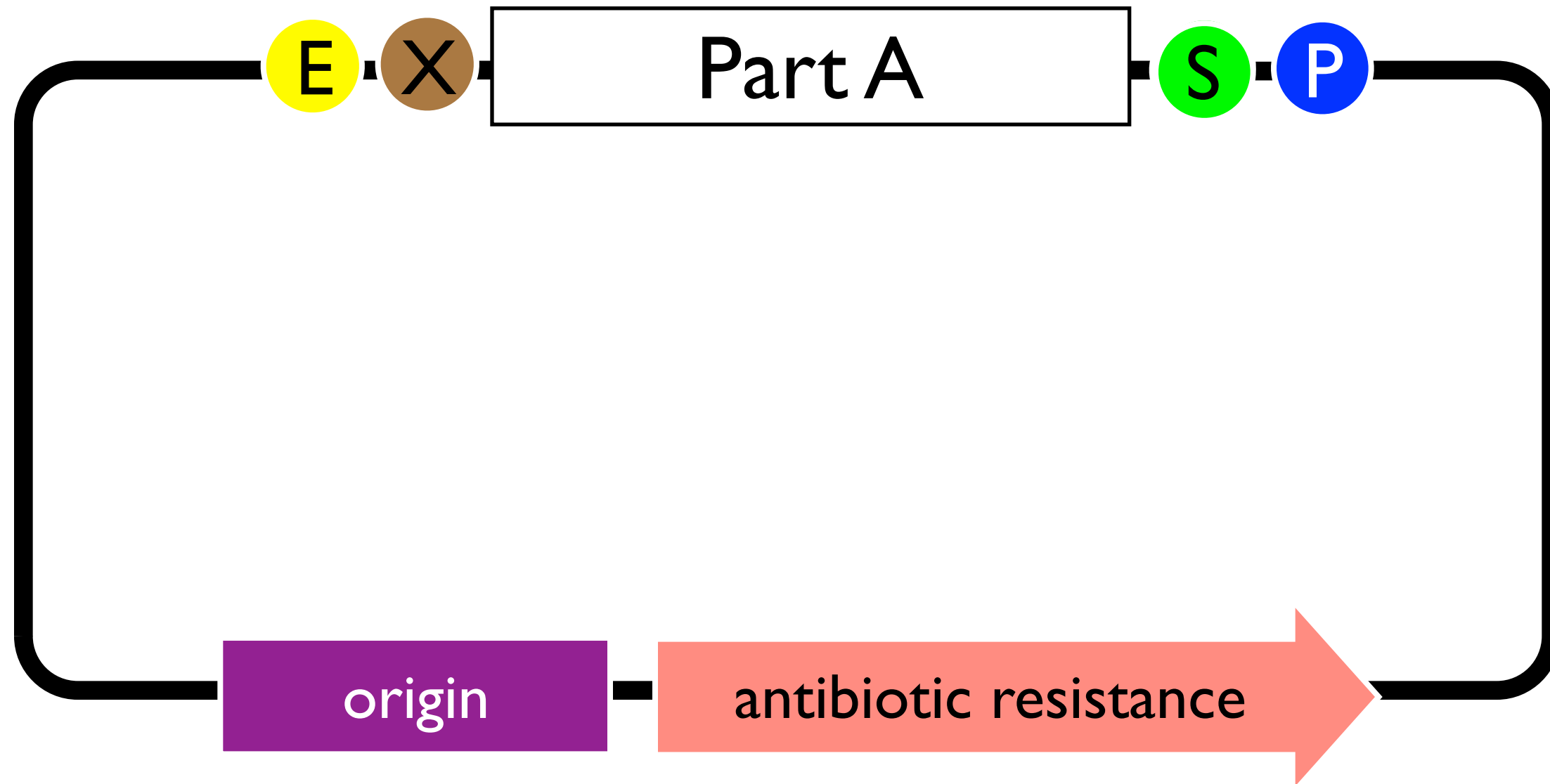
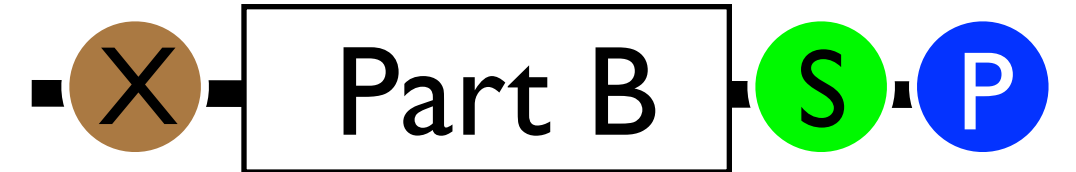




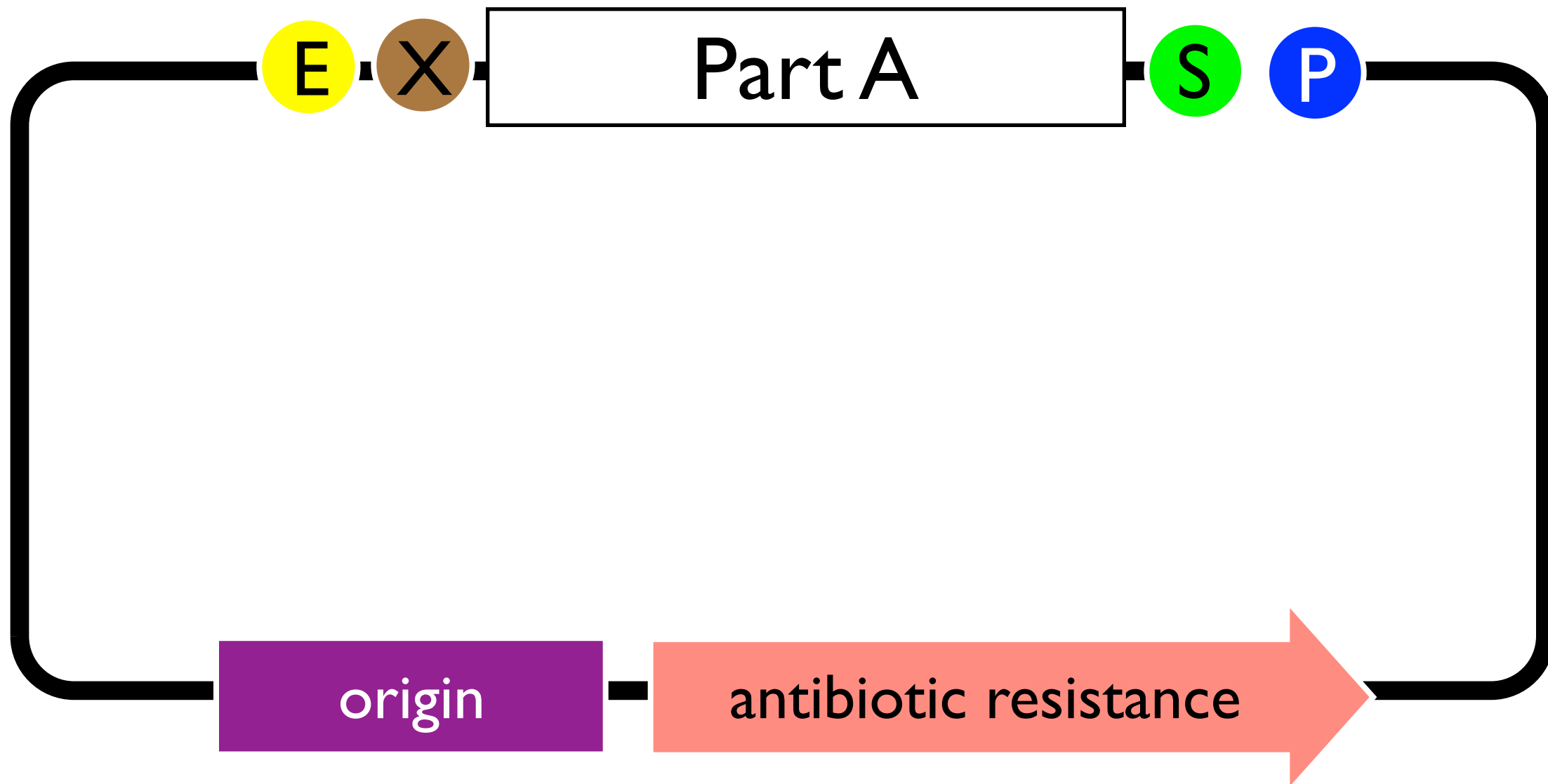
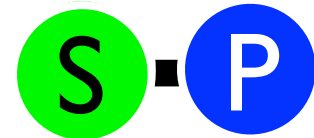
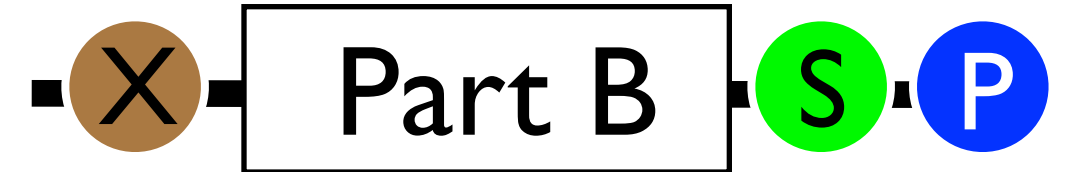
Gel Purification

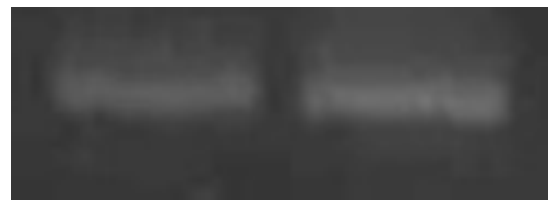


Gel Purification

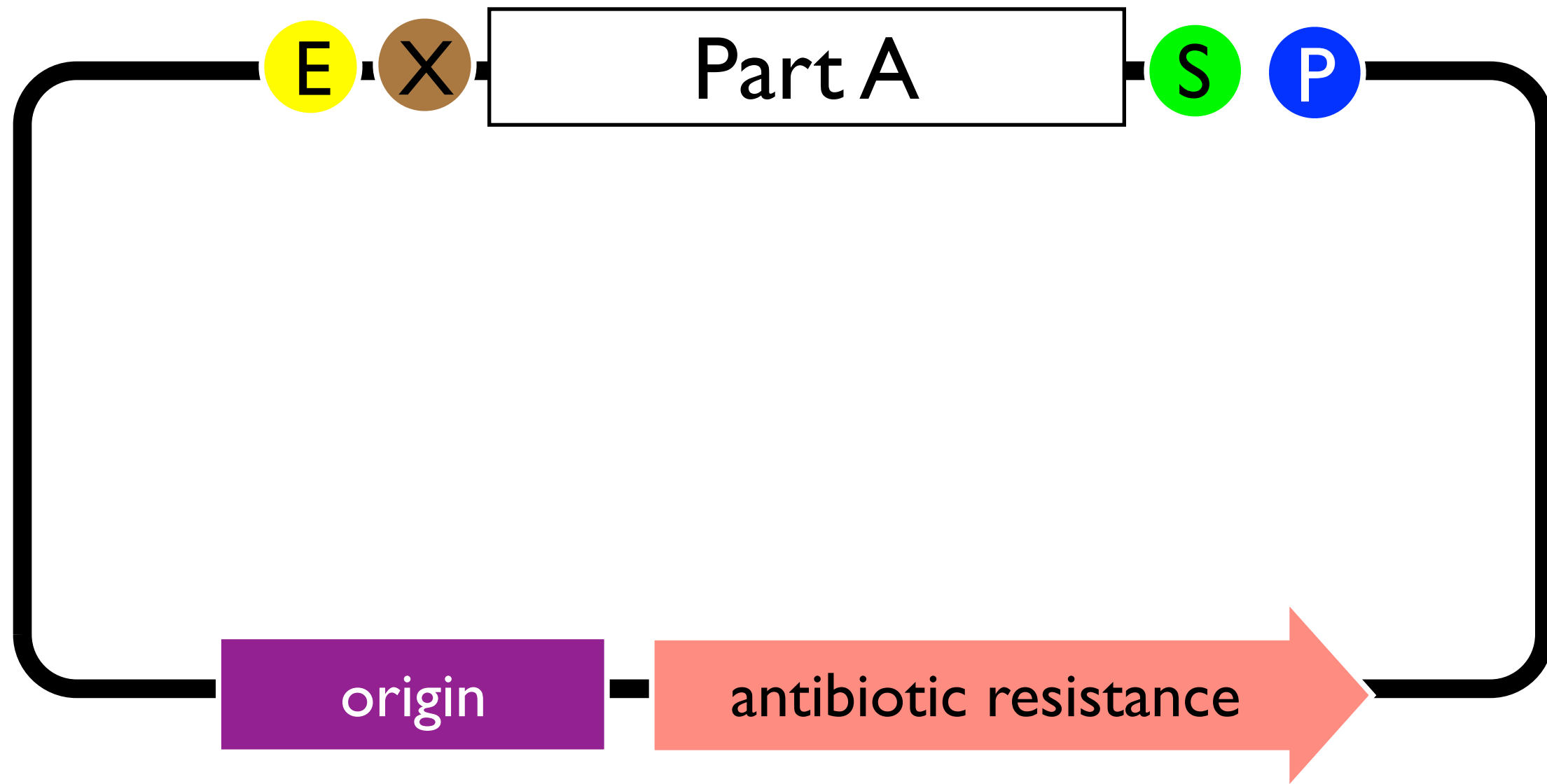


Gel Purification

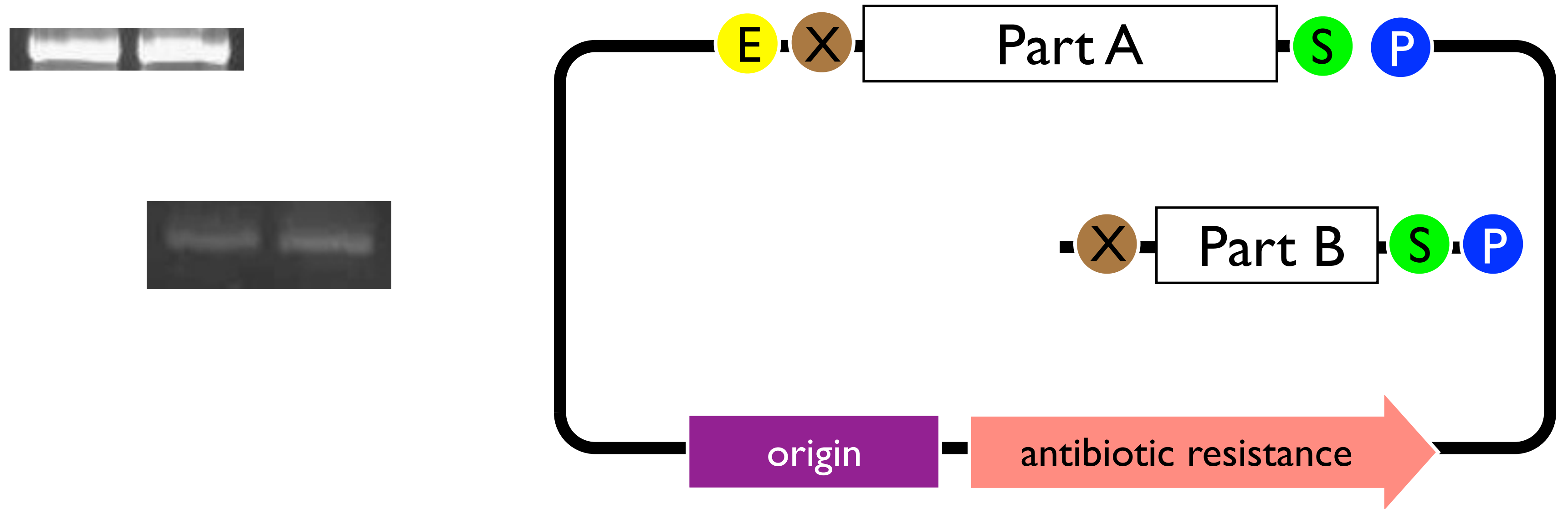




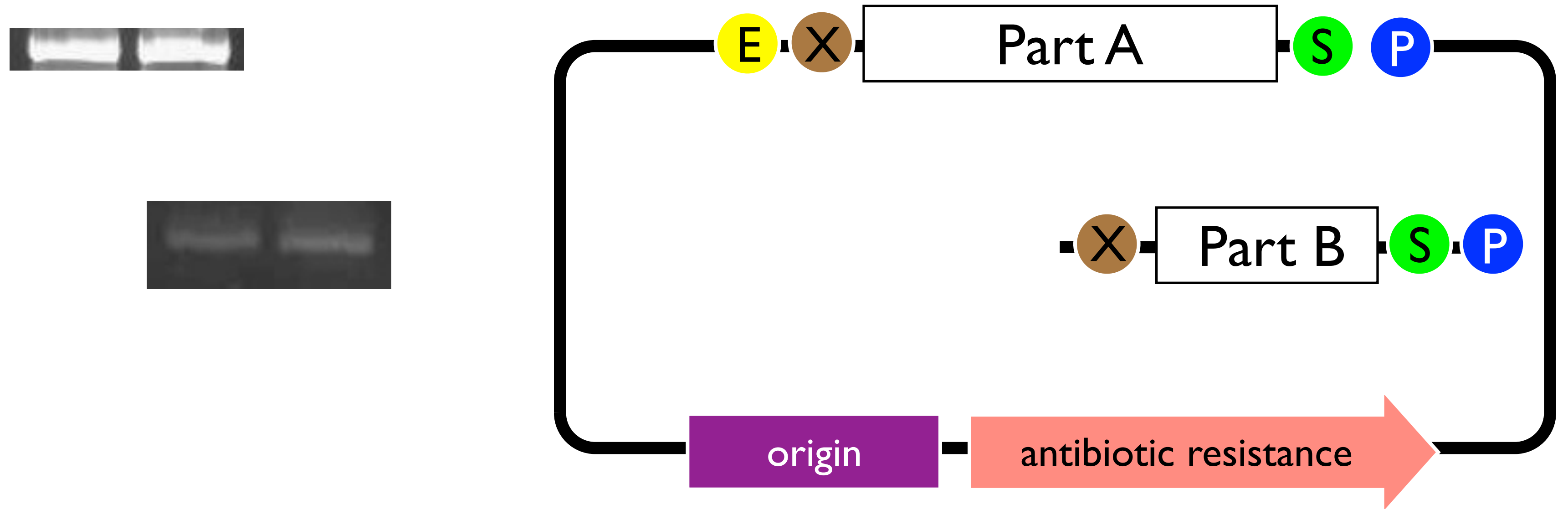
Gel Purification



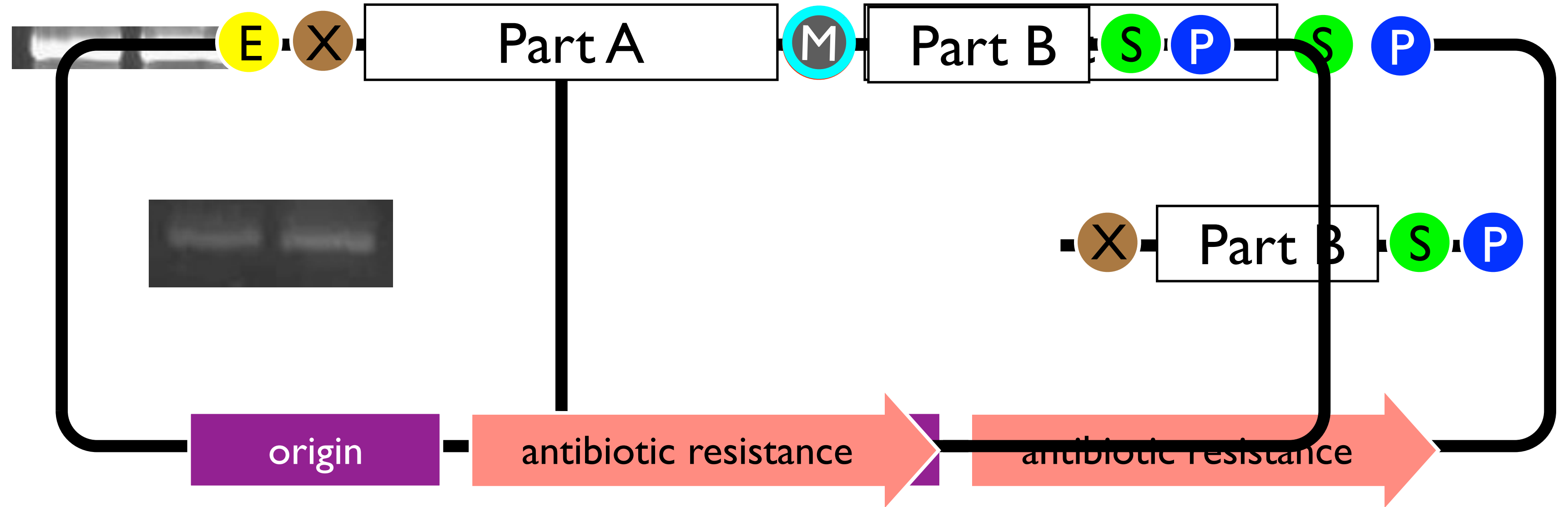
Gel Purification



Ligation



Ligation

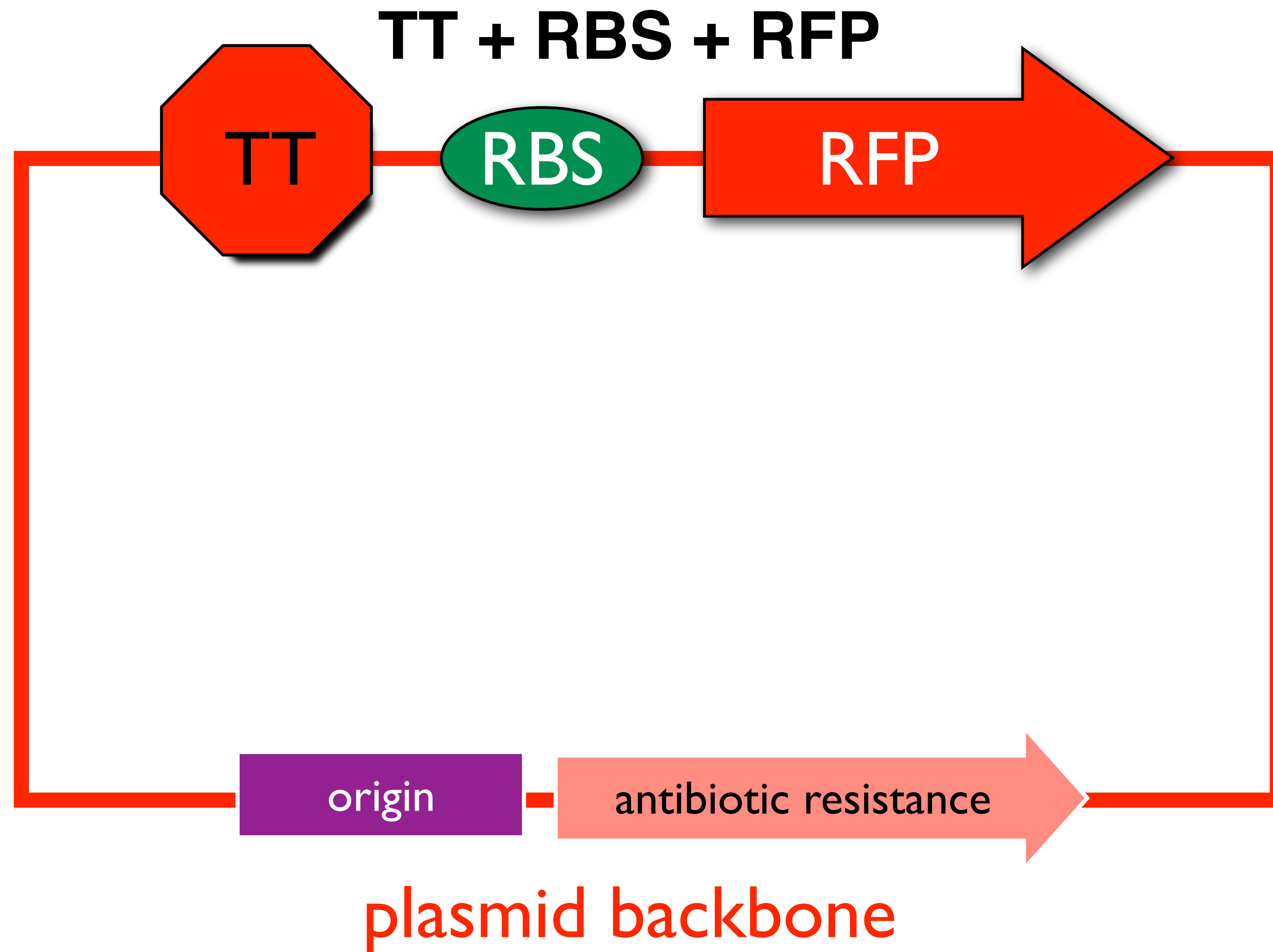
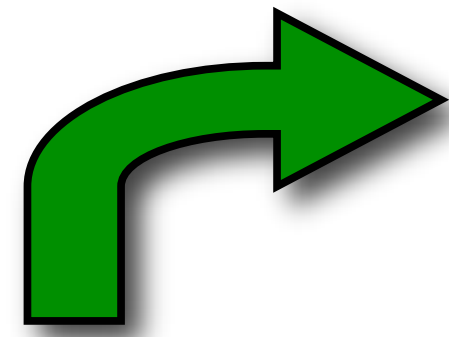


How can we clone DNA without all the hassle?

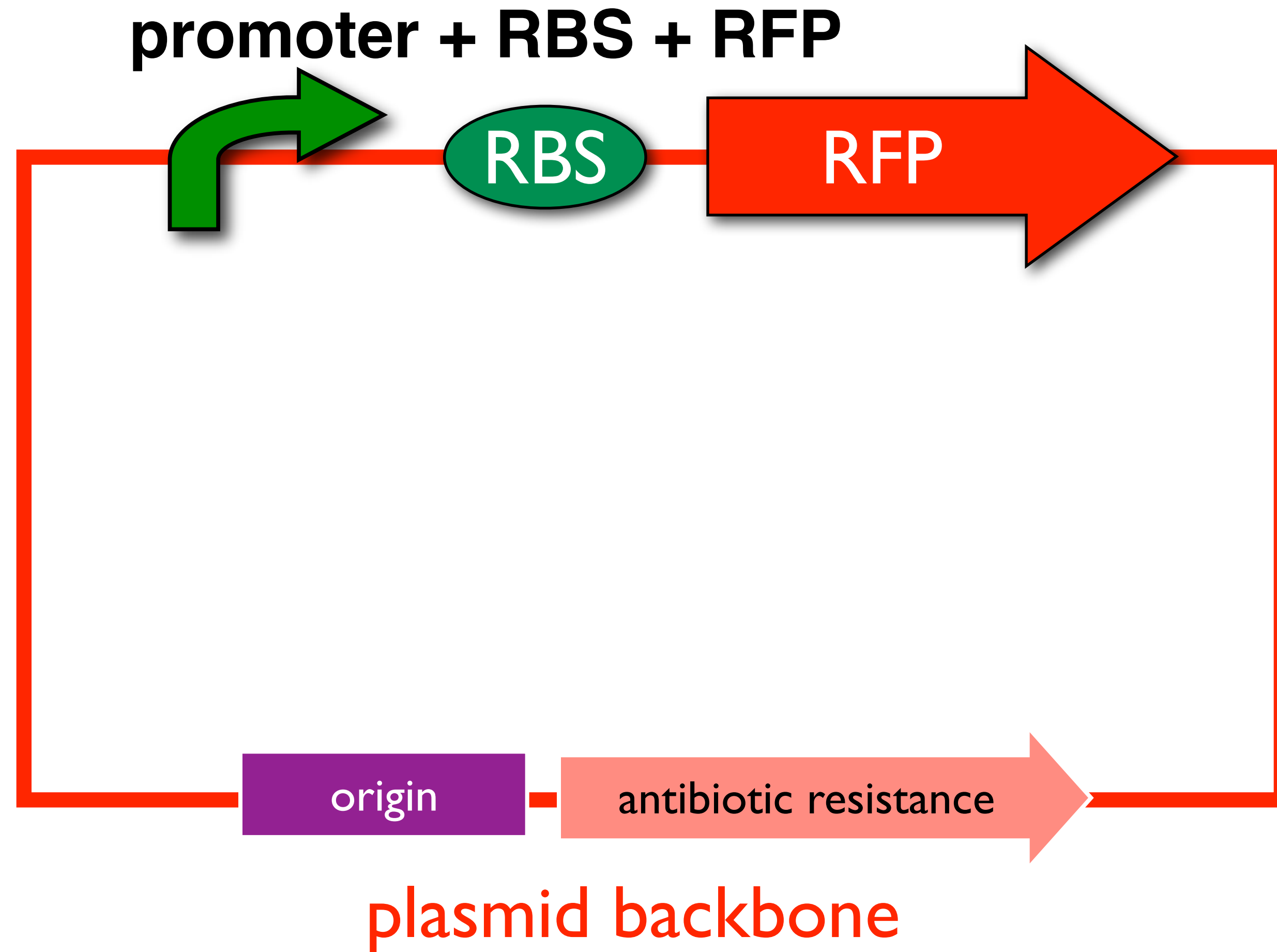
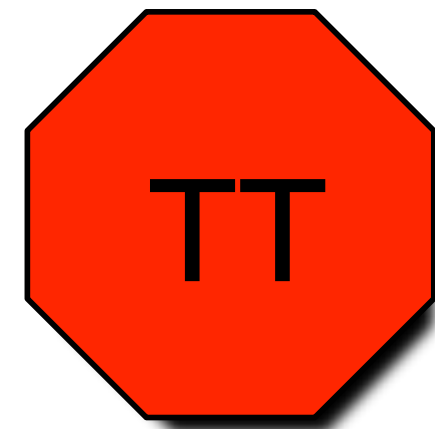
Todd Eckdahl



Golden Gate Assembly Method



Golden Gate Assembly Method



Bsa I

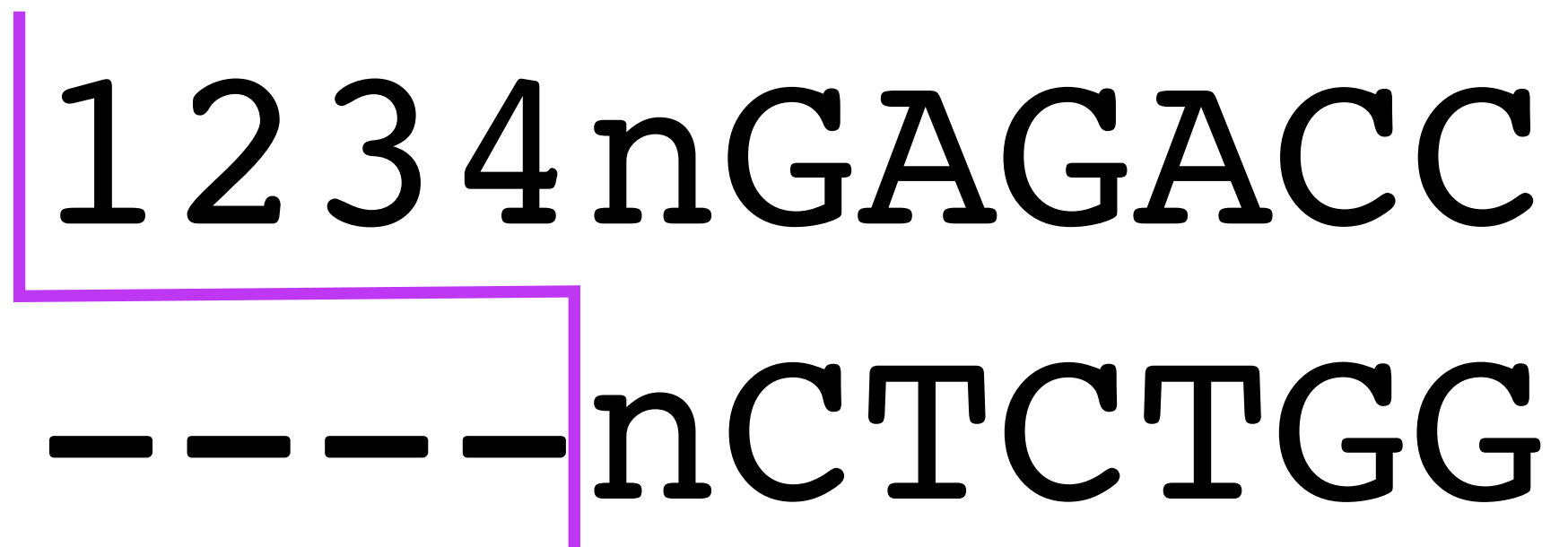
GAGACC

CTCTGG

not a
palindrome

type II

Bsa I



type II

Bsa I

1 2 3 4 n G A G A C C
n C T C T G G

— — — —

type II

Bsa I

GGTCTCn|----
CCAGAGn 1 2 3 4|

type II

Bsa I

GGTCTCn

CCAGAGn 1 2 3 4

type II

Bsa I

cuts
left

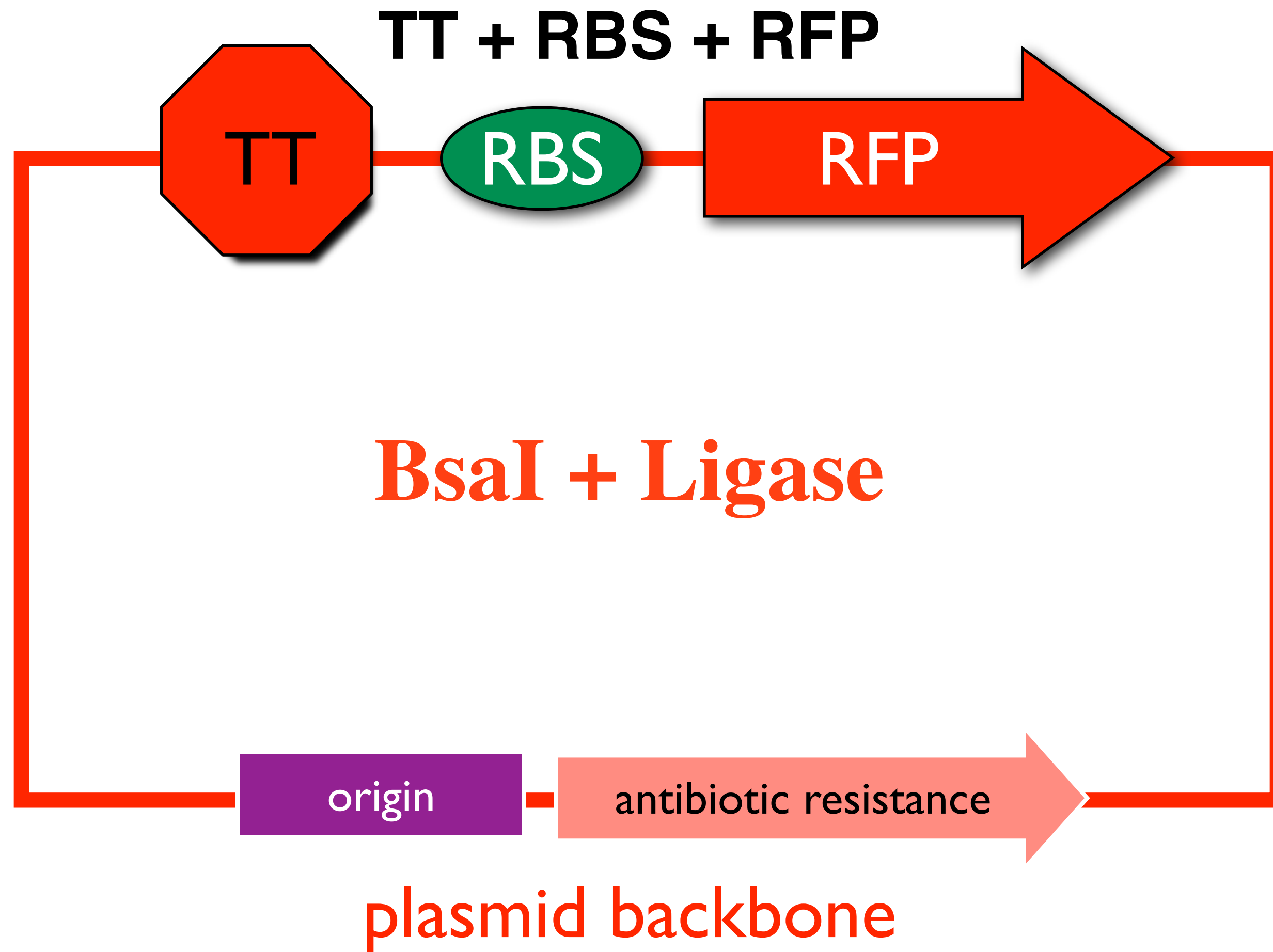
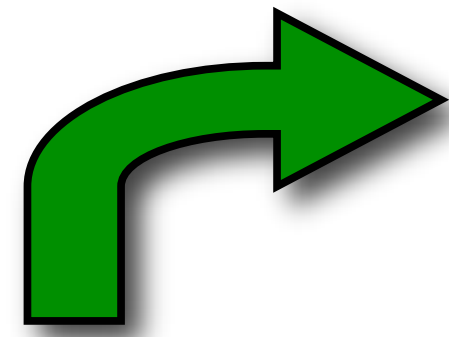
1 2 3 4 n GAGACC
- - - - n C T C T G G

GGTCTCn - - - -

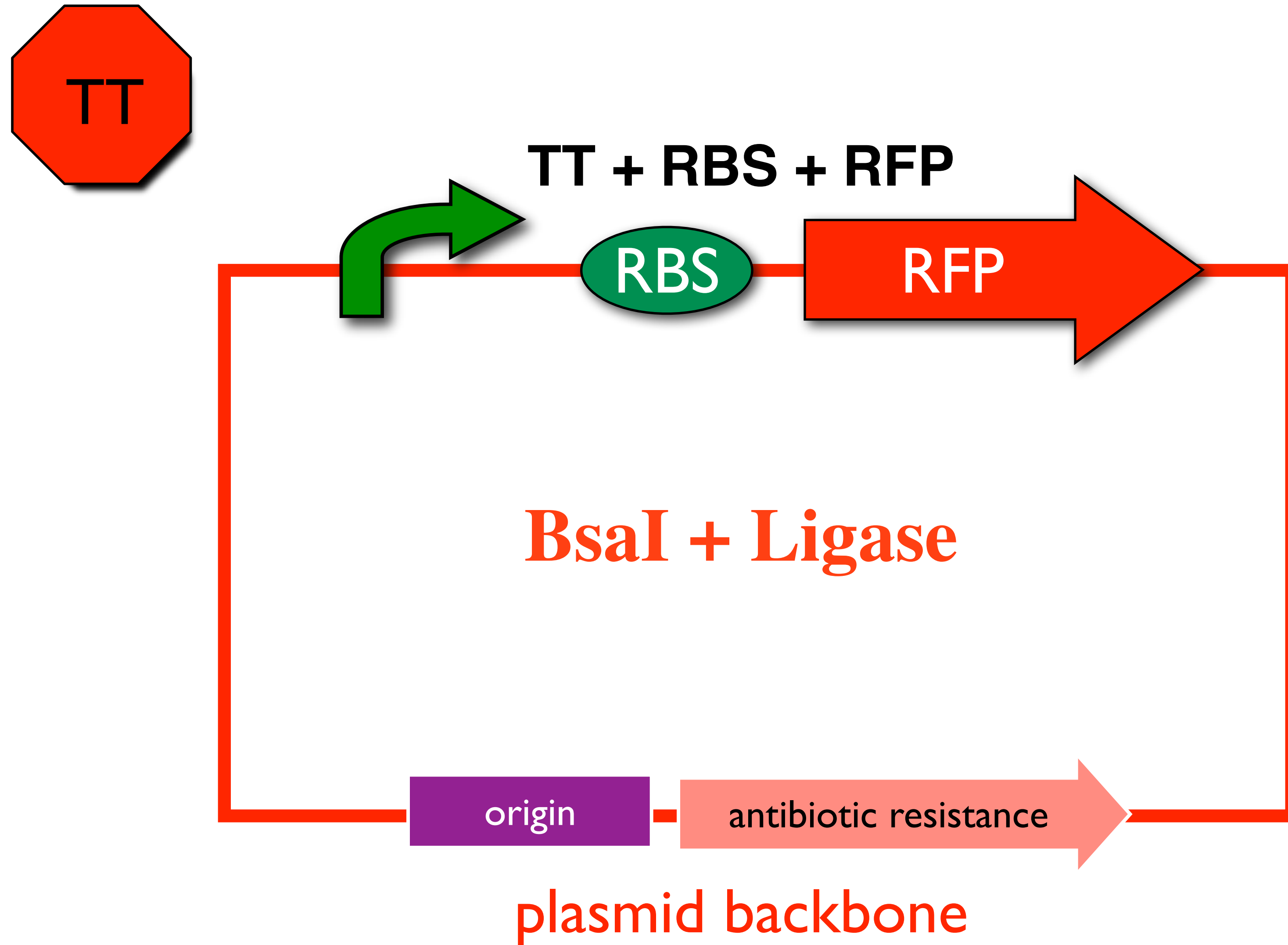
CCAGAGn 1 2 3 4

cuts
right

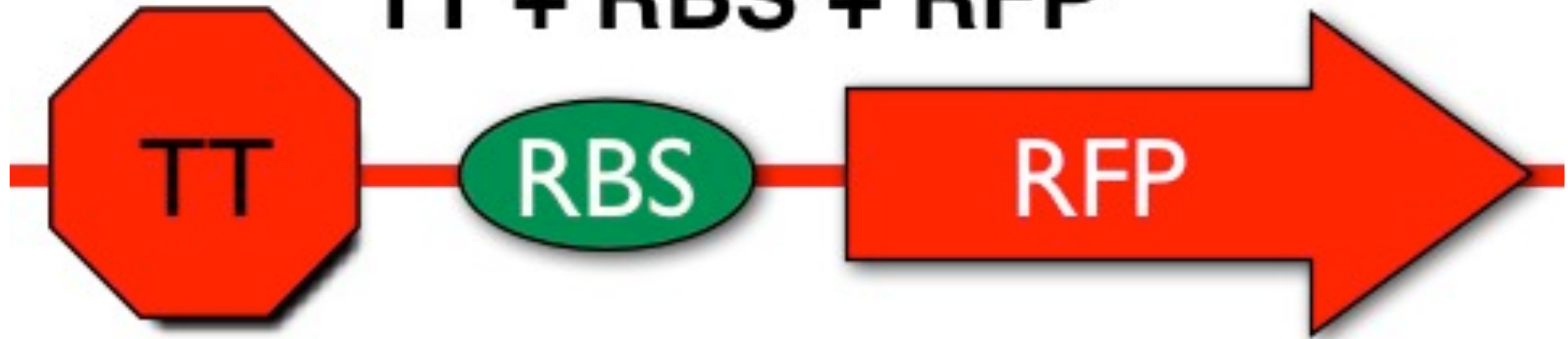
GGA Ligation Method



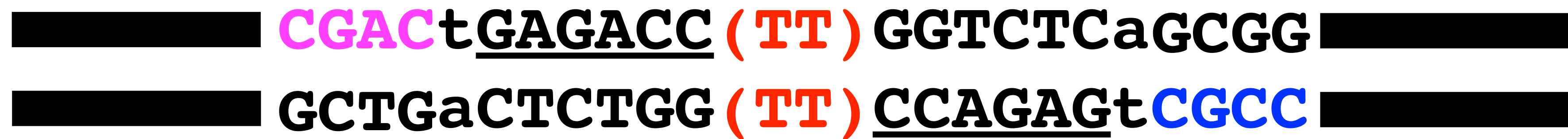
GGA Ligation Method



TT + RBS + RFP



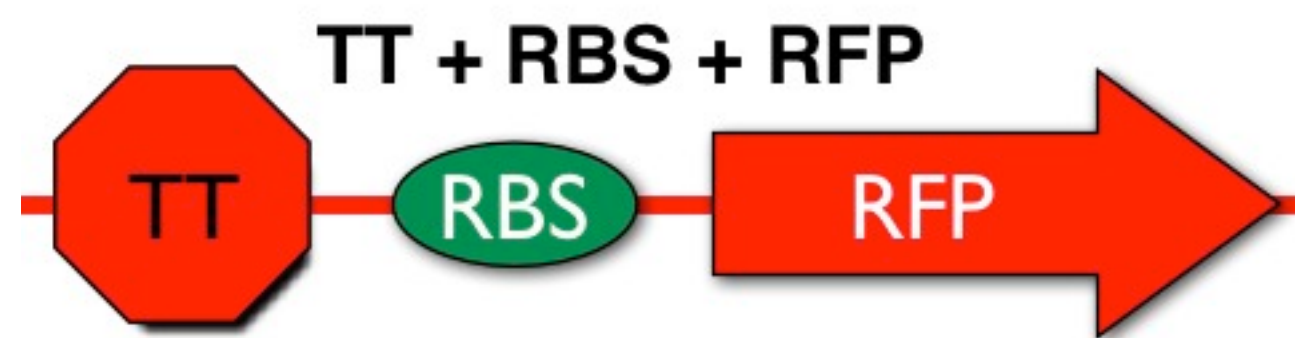
Bsa I



ligase

Bsa I

ligase



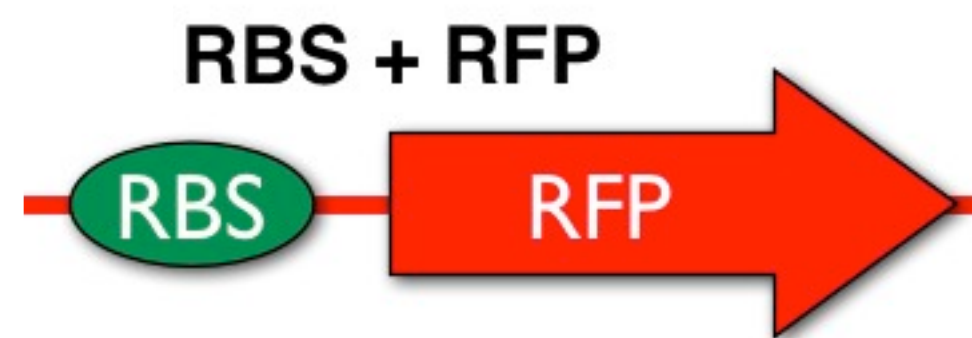
CGACtGAGACC (**TT**) GGTCTCa
aCTCTGG (**TT**) CCAGAGt**CGCC**

██████████
██████████ **GCTG**

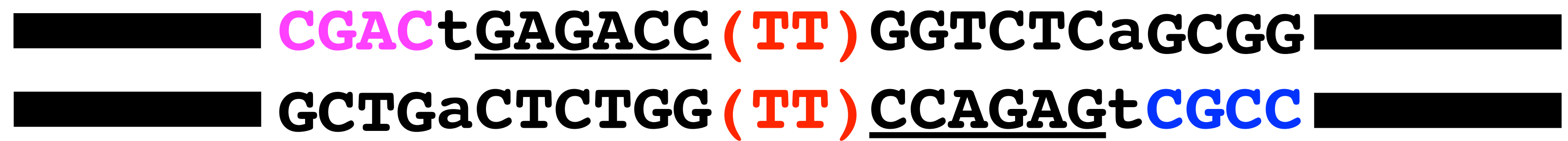
ligase

GCGG ██████████
██████████

ligase

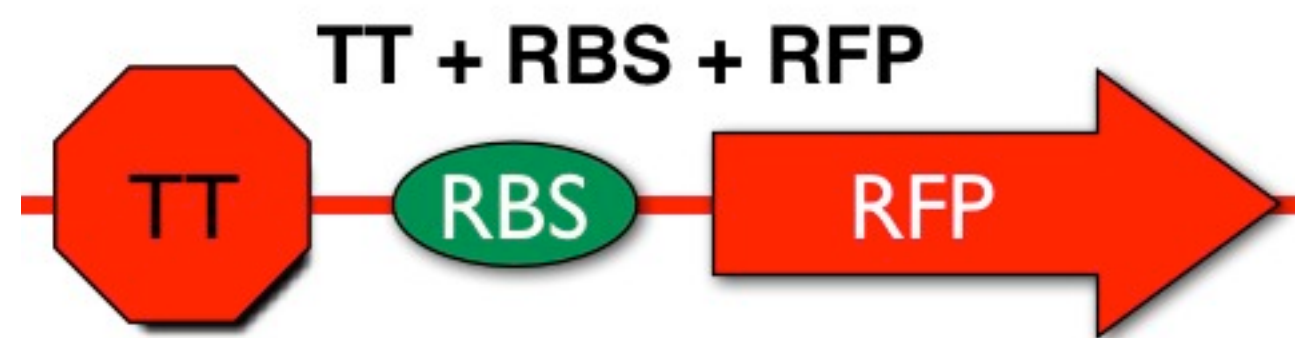


Bsa I



ligase

Bsa I ligase



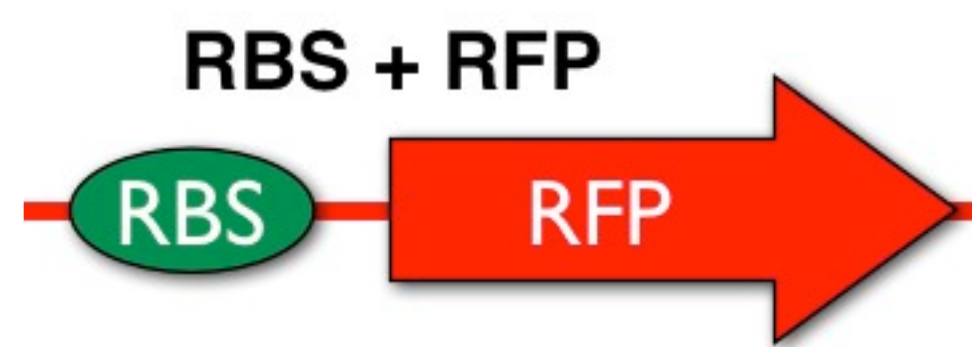
CGACt**GAGACC** (**TT**) **GGTCTCa**
aCTCTGG (**TT**) **CCAGAGt****CGCC**

██████████
██████████ **GCTG**

ligase

GCGG ██████████
██████████

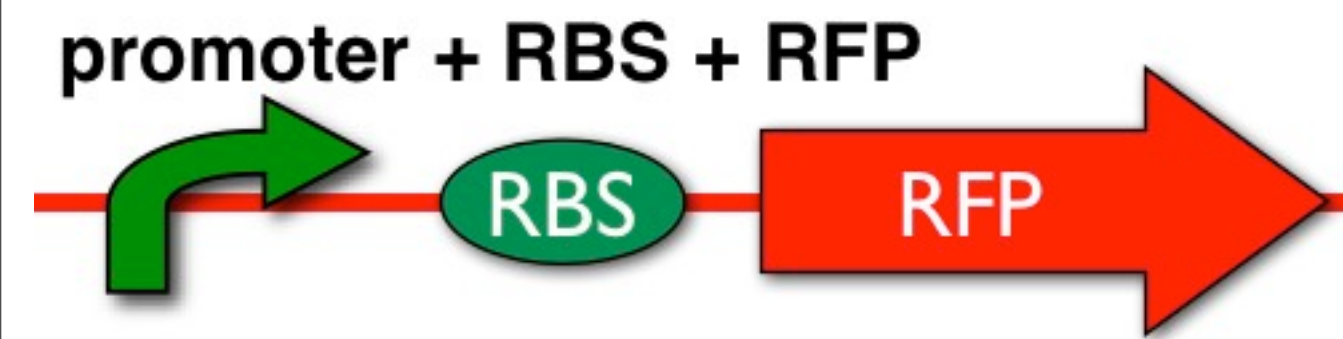
ligase



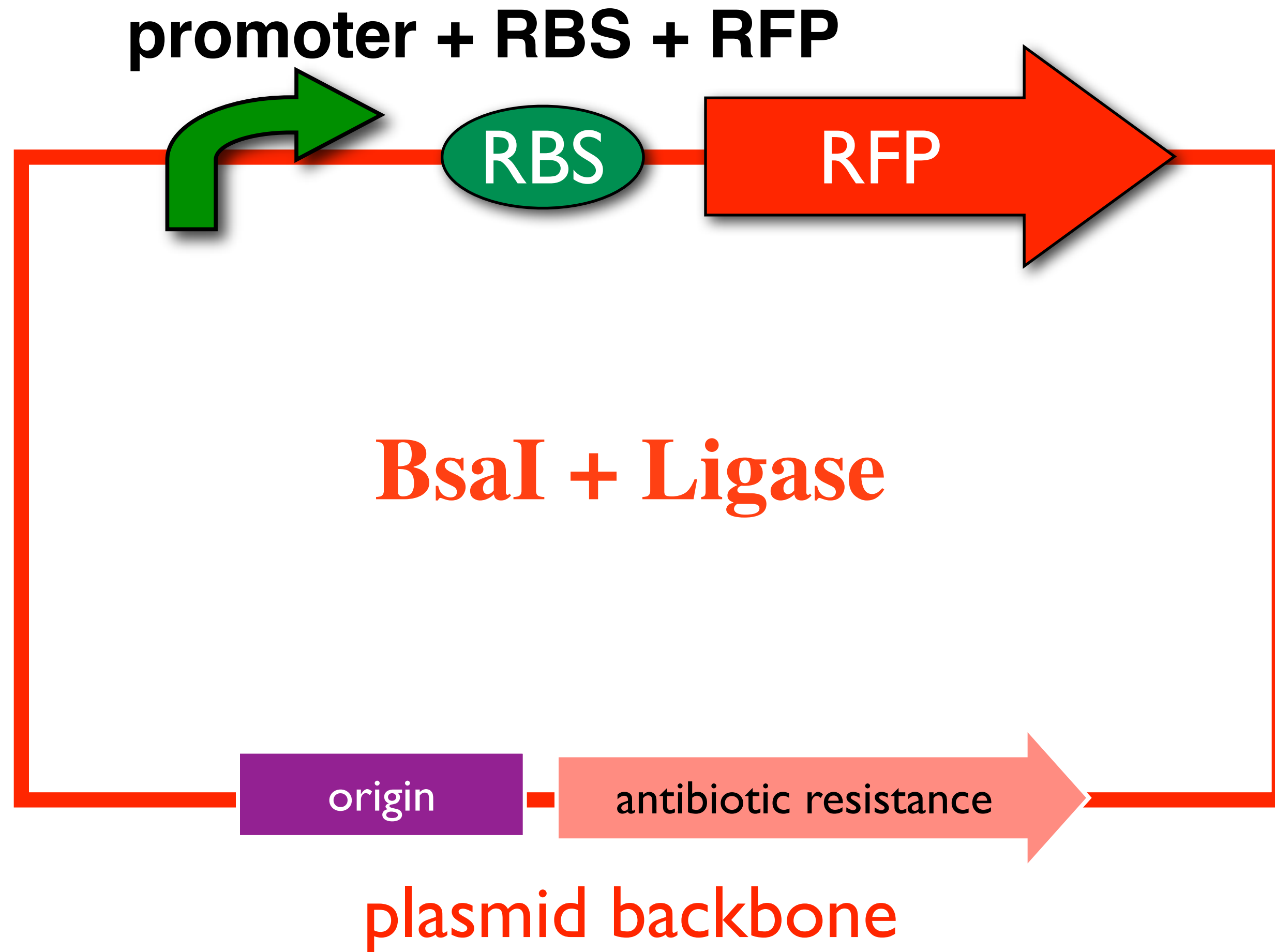
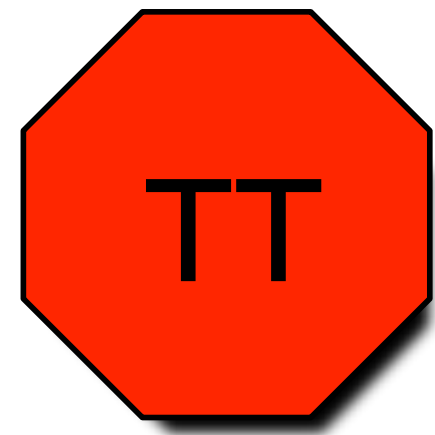
CGAC (promoter)
(promoter) **CGCC**

CGACtGAGACC (TT) GGTCTCa
aCTCTGG (TT) CCAGAGtCGCC

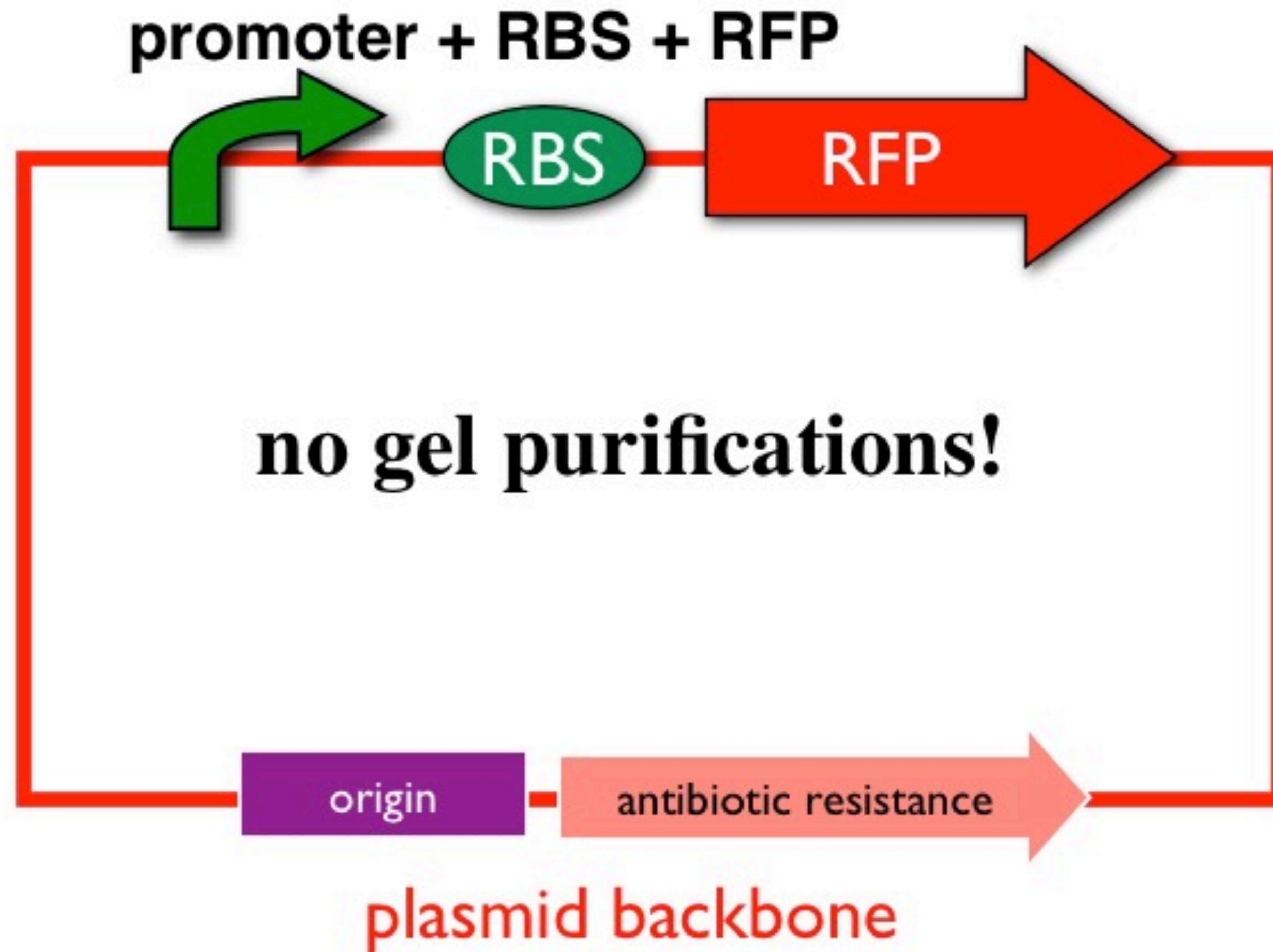
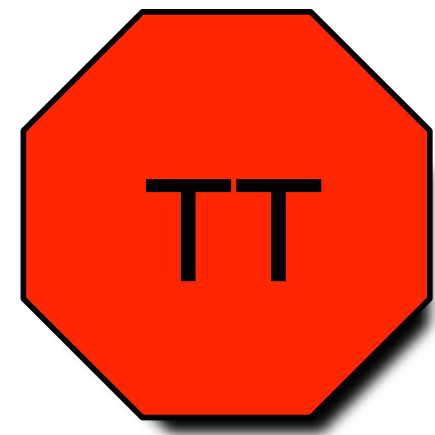
CGAC (promoter) GCGG
GCTG (promoter) CGCC
ligase ligase



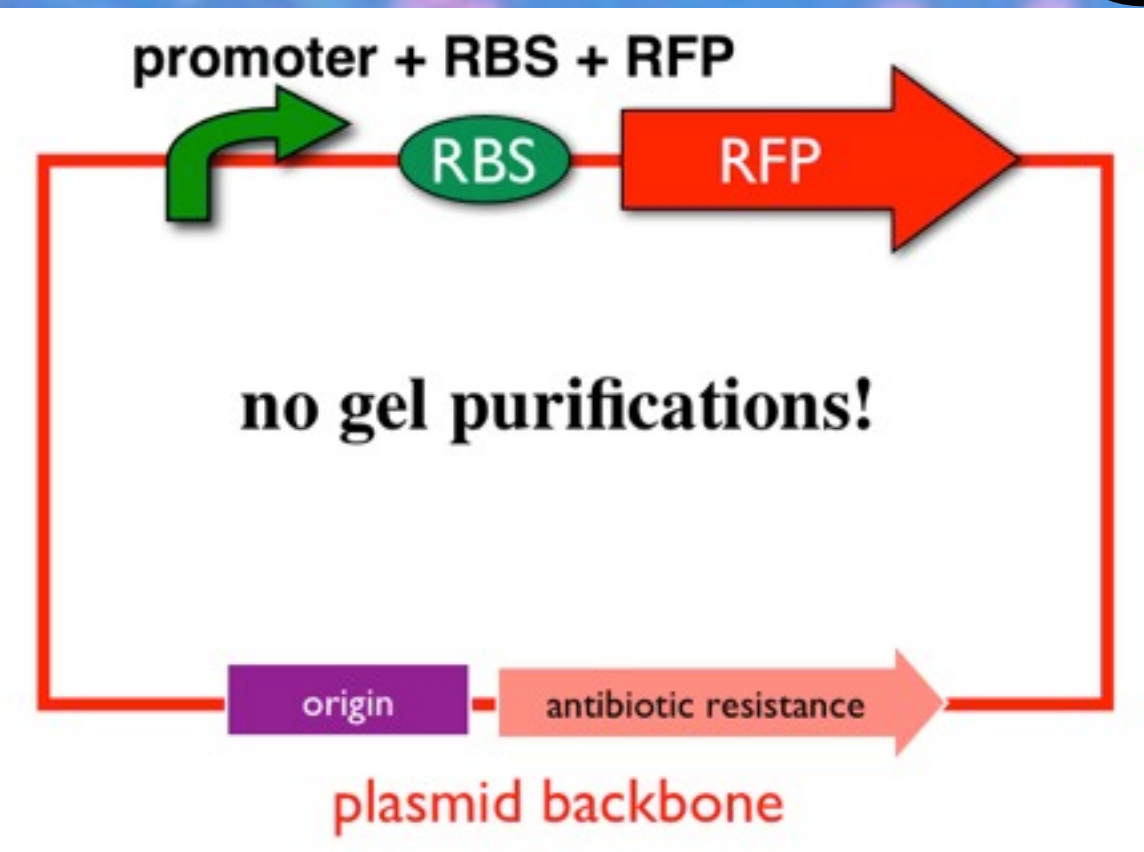
GGA Ligation Method



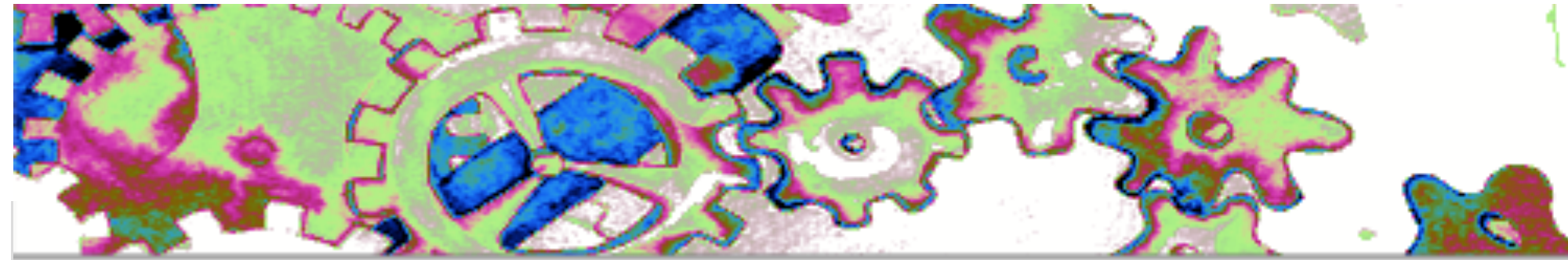
GGA Ligation Method



GGA Ligation Method



Student Sample, September 2012

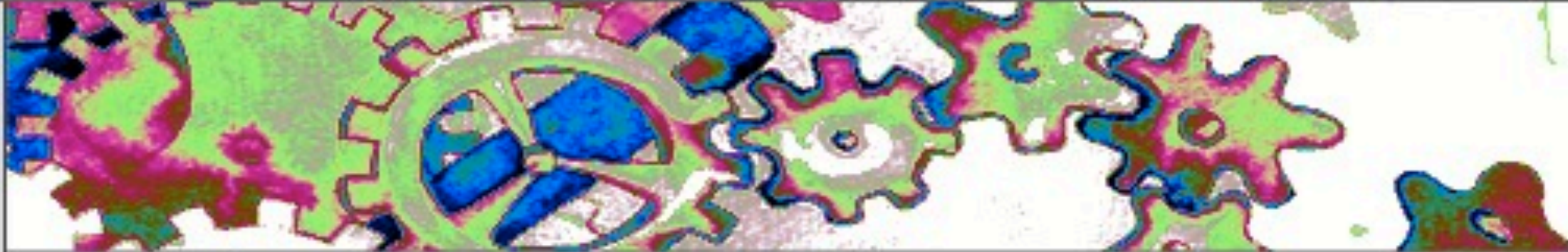


Registry of Standard Biological Parts

	BBa_J100067	Regulatory	fadB promoter (long sequence)	Meredith Nakano	85
	BBa_J100068	Regulatory	fadB promoter (short sequence)	Meredith Nakano	61
	BBa_J100069	Reporter	Superfolder GFP	Rebecca Evans	770
	BBa_J100070	Coding	Superfolder GFP	Rebecca Evans	720
	BBa_J100071	Regulatory	cadA promoter	Ben Clarkson	334
	BBa_J100072	Regulatory	LcpxP promoter--Long cpxP promoter	Ben Clarkson	392
	BBa_J100073	Regulatory	ScpxP--Short cpxP promoter	Ben Clarkson	94
	BBa_J100074	Regulatory	Long pLux Promoter	Betsy Gammon	197
	BBa_J100075	Regulatory	CydAP1 Long Promoter	Betsy Gammon	158
	BBa_J100076	Regulatory	CydAP1 Short Promoter	Betsy Gammon	151
	BBa_J100077	Composite	J10068:K0903005	Meredith Nakano	793
	BBa_J100078	Composite	J100067:K0903005	Meredith Nakano	817
	BBa_J100079	Device	Riboswitch and GFP	Rebecca Evans	879
	BBa_J100080	Device	Riboswitch and GFP	Rebecca Evans	882
	BBa_J100081	Reporter	J100071+E0240	Ben Clarkson	334
	BBa_J100082	Reporter	J100072+E0240	Ben Clarkson	1276
	BBa_J100083	Composite	LuxI Long + RBS + GFP	Betsy Gammon	1081
	BBa_J100084	Composite	CydAP Long + RBS + GFP	Betsy Gammon	1042
	BBa_J100085	RNA	short CRISPR sequence with GFP target spacer	Caroline Vrana	240
	BBa_J100086	Composite	CydAP Short Promoter + RBS + GFP	Betsy Gammon	1035
	BBa_J100087	Reporter	J100073+E0240	Ben Clarkson	978
	BBa_J100088	Generator	J100071+J10063	Ben Clarkson	2965
	BBa_J100089	Generator	J100072+J10063 (LcpxP+LRE, Luciferase)	Ben Clarkson	3023
	BBa_J100090	Regulatory	CRISPR sequence with GFP and AmpR targets	Caroline Vrana	412
W	BBa_J100092	Regulatory	Constitutive promoter for M1-162	Natalie Spach	50
?	BBa_J100093	Regulatory	rrnB P1 promoter	Kayla McAvoy	60
?	BBa_J100094	Regulatory	Lac promoter E. Coli	Cameron Bard	44
?	BBa_J100095	Regulatory	malE1 Maltose induced promoter.	Pooja Potharaju	65
	BBa_J100096	Regulatory	PBAD Promoter from araE Gene	Elizabeth Brunner	27
W	BBa_J100097	Regulatory	Anhydrotetracycline inducible promoter with Bsal sticky ends	Sarah Kim	55
	BBa_J100098	DNA	Promoter for the argF gene	Erin Nieuwma	44
W	BBa_J100099	Regulatory	A promoter (CydAB) activated by the FNR enzyme	Phoebe Parrish	64



Student Sample, September 2012



Registry of Standard Biological Parts


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[BBa J100099 Main Page](#) [Part Design](#) [Physical DNA](#) [Hard Information](#) [Experience](#) [Tools](#)

Part:BBa_J100099

Designed by Phoebe Parrish Group: Campbell_M_Lab (2012-09-13)

 Regulatory DNA Planning
Experience: Works [Get This Part](#)

A promoter (CydAB) activated by the FNR enzyme

The promoter, CydAB, was found to be activated by the FNR enzyme, which is induced by the presence of $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{Fe}(\text{SO}_4)_2$ and ascorbate. The oligo includes both CydAB, the FNR binding site, and the sticky ends needed for the Golden Gate Assembly method.

Sequence and Features

Format:	Subparts	Ruler	SS	DS	Search:	Length: 64 bp	Context: Part only	Get selected sequence		
1	11	21	31	41	51	61	71	81	91	
1	ggaattgata tttatcaatg tataagtctt ggaaatgggc atcaaaaaga gataaattgt tctc									
	~~~~~ FNR binding			~~~~~ -35		~~~~~ -10				

Assembly Compatibility: 10 12 21 23 25

Jeffrey Green. 1993. "Activation of FNR-dependent transcription by iron: An in vitro switch for FNR." FEMS Microbiology Letters 113 (1993) 219-222

[\[edit\]](#)

Wednesday, March 5, 2014

# Student Sample, September 2012

## Part:BBa_J100099:Experience

Designed by Phoebe Parrish Group: Campbell_M_Lab (2012-09-13)

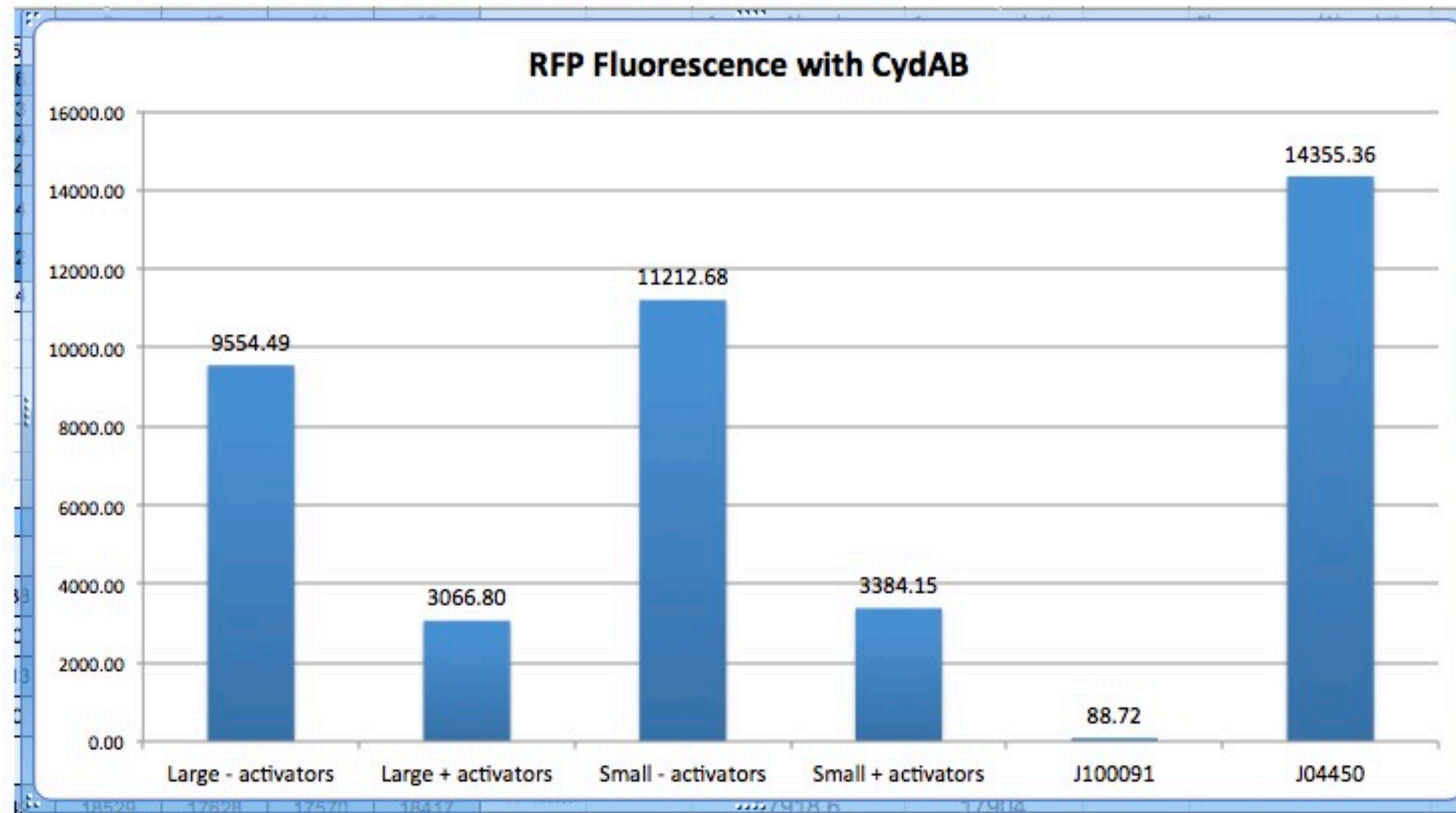


DNA Planning  
Experience: Works  
[Get This Part](#)

This experience page is provided so that any user may enter their experience using this part. Please enter how you used this part and how it worked out.

### Applications of BBa_J100099

We pipetted 200 microliters of one solution containing E coli cells from a small colony and the activators, one with cells from a small colony and no activators, one containing cells from a large colony and the activators, and one containing cells from a large colony and no activators. We also did a positive control with E coli cells containing a known promoter that causes red fluorescence (J04450) and a negative control with cells containing a the transcriptional terminator that does not cause red fluorescence (J100091). We tested both fluorescence of our samples using a fluorometer and the light absorbance using a spectrophotometer. We measured the fluorescence and absorbance of five samples of each solution, including a control solution that just contained the growth medium. We averaged the values for each solution and subtracted the average fluorescence/absorbance of the control. We then divided the average fluorescence by the average absorbance for each solution. These values are displayed on the accompanying graph.



# Registry of Functional Promoters (RFP)

## Registry of Functional Promoters (V1.0)

### Welcome to the Registry of Functional Promoters

This Registry of Functional Promoters was developed by Bill Hatfield, Laurie J. Heyer, A. Malcolm Campbell at Davidson College and Todd Eckdahl of Missouri Western State University, through the support of HHMI grant 52006292 ([GCAT main page](#)) and is freely available for others to use though no support other than the user manual is available.

If you are already a Registered User of GCAT-alog, you do not need to Reregister

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[gcat.davidson.edu/RFP/](http://gcat.davidson.edu/RFP/)

# Registry of Functional Promoters (RFP)

**Registry of Functional Promoters (v1.0)**

**SEARCH**

---

**Search by Entry Number**

Entry Number  Use ", " for multiple entries, "-" for range

---

**Search Criteria**

OR  AND  Promoter Name

OR  AND  Part Number

OR  AND  Sequence

OR  AND  Length

OR  AND  Criterion

OR  AND  Species of Origin:

OR  AND  Constitutive  Regulated

OR  AND  RBS Used for Testing:

OR  AND  ORF Used for Testing:

OR  AND  Plasmid Used for Testing:

OR  AND  *E.coli* Used for Testing:

OR  AND  Media Used for Testing:

OR  AND  Comparison Construct:

OR  AND  Comparison Plasmid:

OR  AND  *E.coli* Used for Comparison Construct:

OR  AND  Media Used for Comparison Construct:

OR  AND  Fold Difference From Comparison:

OR  AND  Comment

OR  AND  Direction: Forward  Reverse

OR  AND  Status: Works  Not Working  Iffy

[gcat.davidson.edu/RFP/](http://gcat.davidson.edu/RFP/)



# Registry of Functional Promoters (RFP)

## Registry of Functional Promoters (v1.0)

### SEARCH PROMOTER RESULTS

Entry No.	Promoter Name	Part Number	Sequence	Length	Citation	Species of Interest	Constitutive/Regulated	Inducible/Repressible	Regulator	RBS Used for Testing	ORF Used for Testing	Plasmid Used for Testing
1	TetR Repressible Promoter	<a href="#">R0040</a>	tccctatcagtgatagagattgacatccctatcagtgatagagatactgagcac	54			Regulated	Repressible	TetR			pSI
2	56 bp LacI Promoter	<a href="#">K091110</a>	cgttgacaccatcgaatggcgcaaaacctttgcgggatggcatgatagcgccggg	56			Constitutive					
3	200 bp LacI Promoter	<a href="#">R0010</a>	caatacgcaaacgcctctccccgcggttgccgattcattaatgcagctggcac gacaggttcccactggaagcgggcagtgagcgcaacgaattaatgtgagtt agctcactcattaggcaccacagcctttacattatgcttccggctcgtatgtgtg ggaattgtgagcggataacaattcacaca	200			Constitutive					
4	LuxR & HSL Regulated Lux promoter	<a href="#">R0062</a>	acctgtaggatcgtacaggttacgcaagaaaatggtttgtatagtcgaataaa	55			Regulated	Repressible				
5	Backwards 200 LacI Promoter (right to left)	<a href="#">J31013</a>	tgtgtgaaattgtatccgctcacaattccacacaacatacgagccggaagcataaa gtgtaaagcctggggtgcctaataatgagtgagctaactcacattaatgcggtgctc actgccgctttccagtcgggaacctgtcgtgccagctgcattaatgaatcgccca acgcgcggggagagggcgtttgcgtattg	200			Regulated	Repressible				
6	OmpC Promoter	<a href="#">K199017</a>	tttacatttgaacatctatagcgataaatgaacatcttaaagtttagtatcatatc gtgttgattattctgcattttggggagaatggact	99			Constitutive					
7	23K series very strong constitutive Promoter	<a href="#">J23100</a>	ttgacggctagctcagtcctaggtacagtgctagc	35			Constitutive					

To Edit an Entry, Enter the Entry # and press "Edit Entry"

To Delete an Entry, Enter the Entry # and press "Delete Entry"

[Search Again](#)

# Testing Known Promoters: Ptac

-35

-10

5' CGACGAGCTGTTGACAATTAATCATCGGCTCGTATAATGTGTGGA 3'  
3' CTCGACAACCTGTTAATTAGTAGCCGAGCATATTACACACCTCGCC 5'



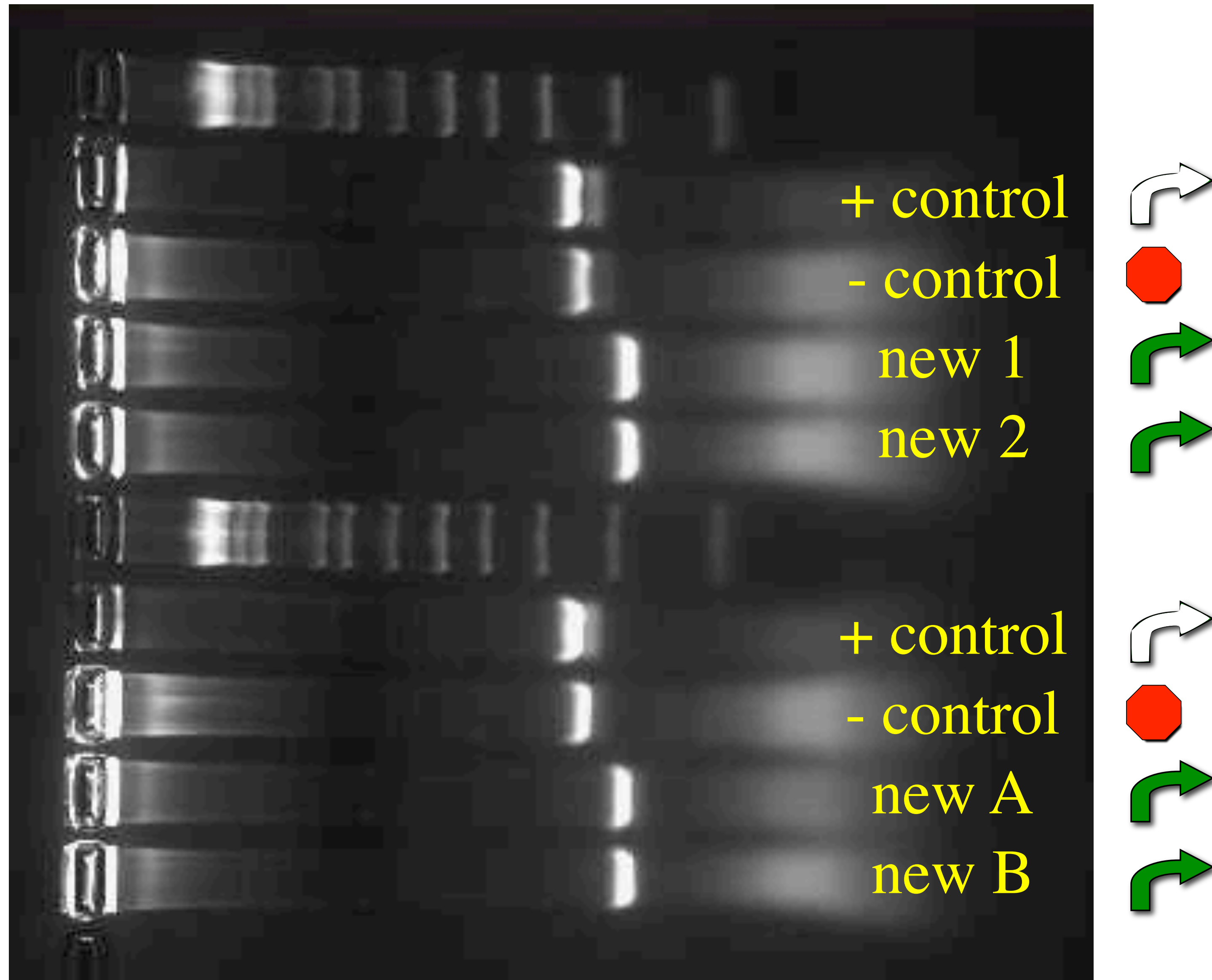
# Student Sample, November 2012

-35      **ATAA (deleted)**      -10

5' CGACGAGCTG**TTGACA**-----ATCATCGGCTCG**TATAAT**GTGTGGA      3'

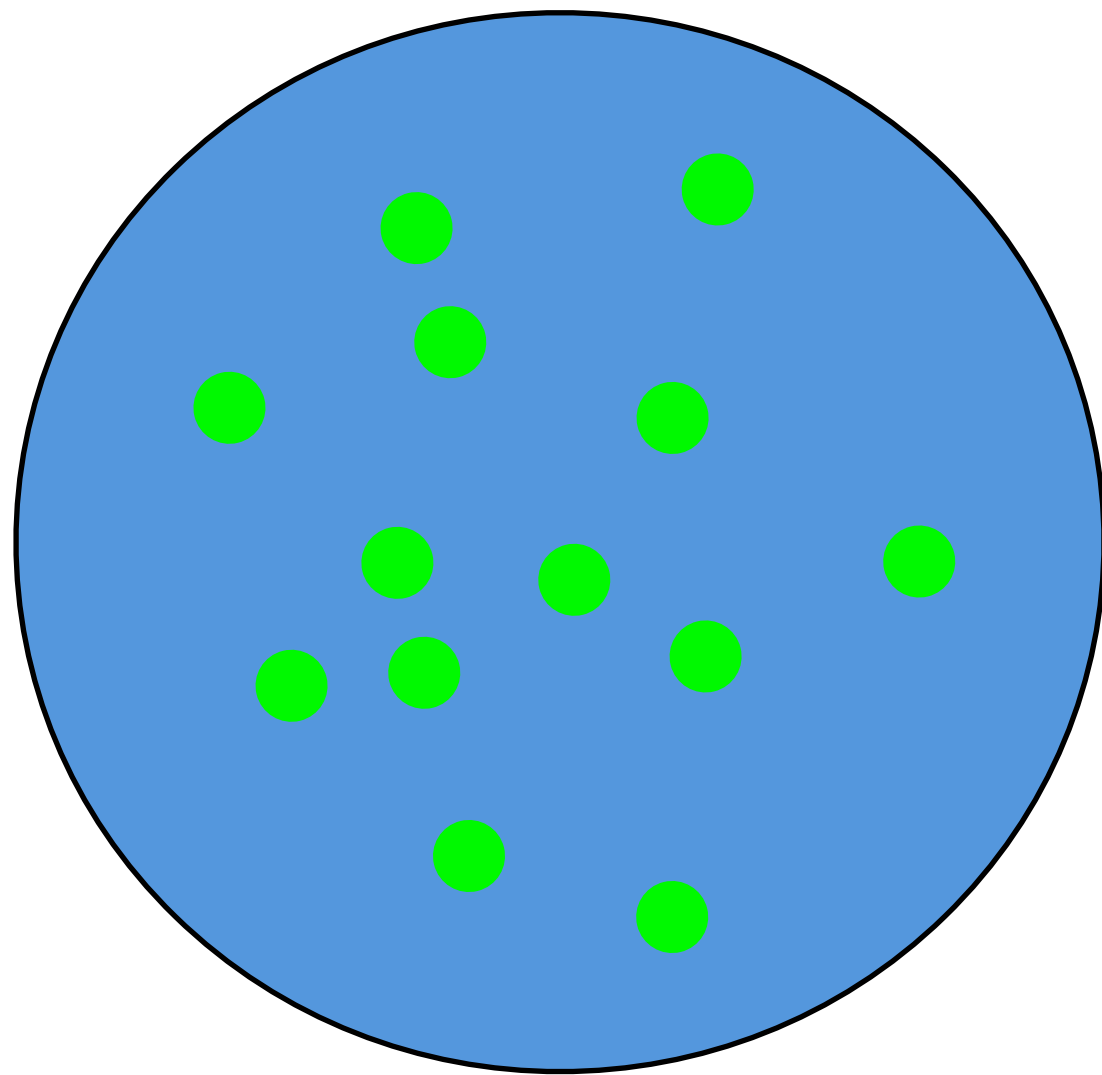
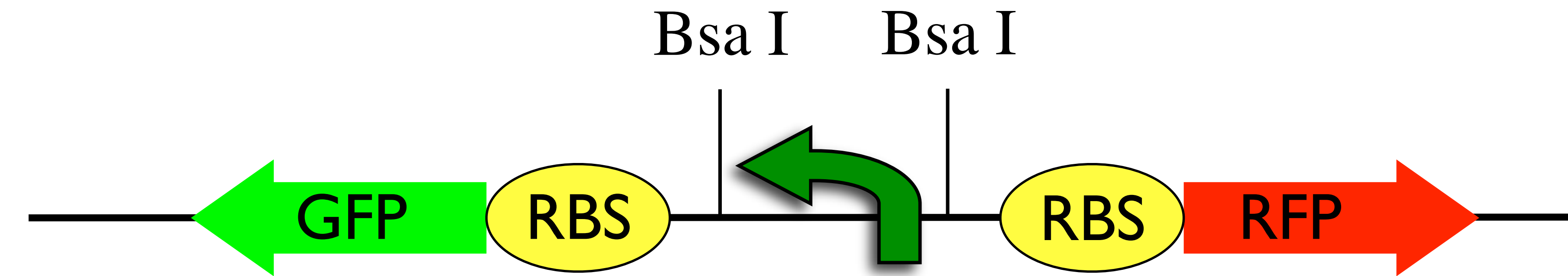
3'      CTCGAC**AACTGT**-----TAGTAGCCGAGC**ATATTAC**CACACCTCGCC      5'

# Student Sample, September 2012



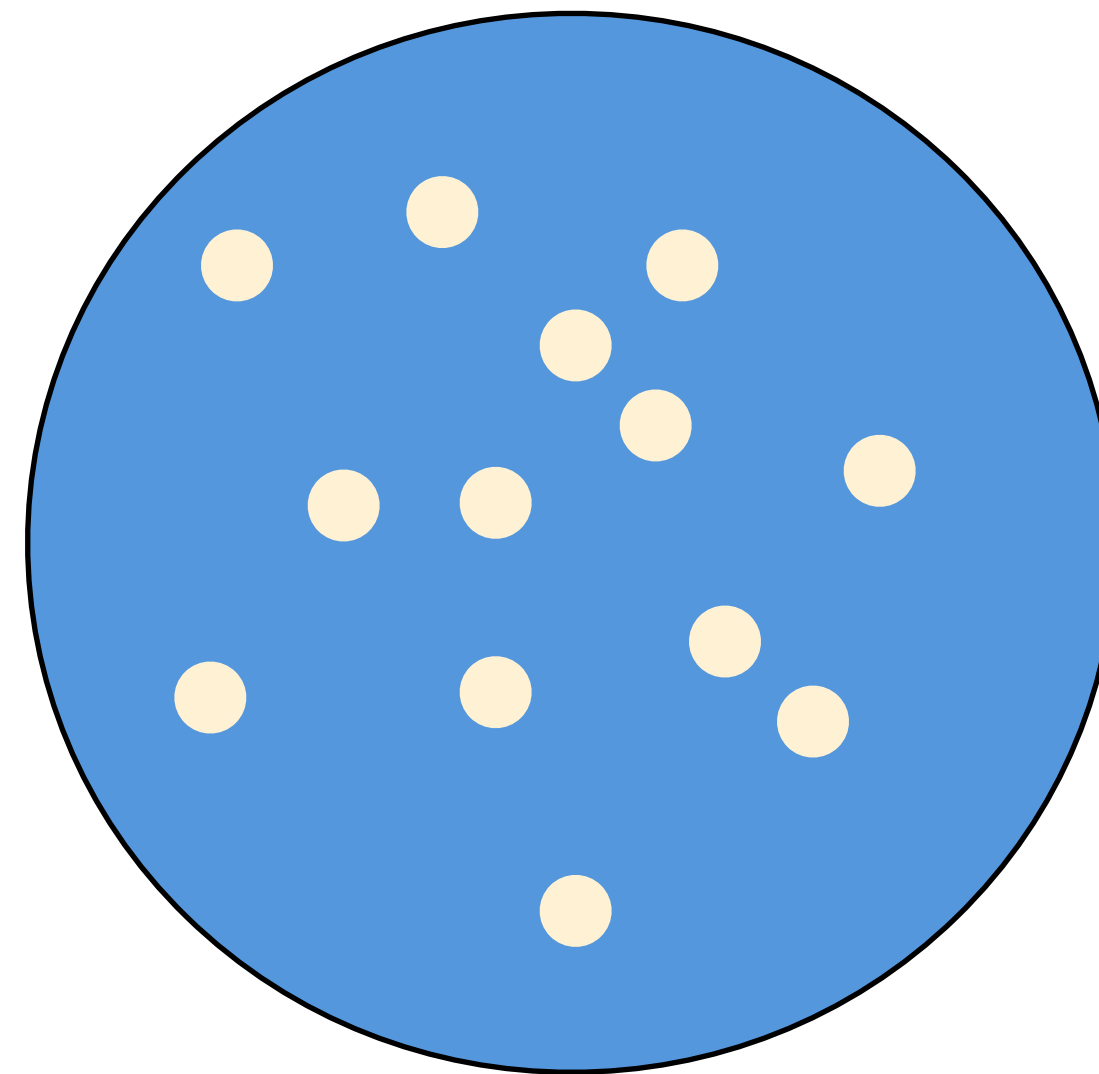
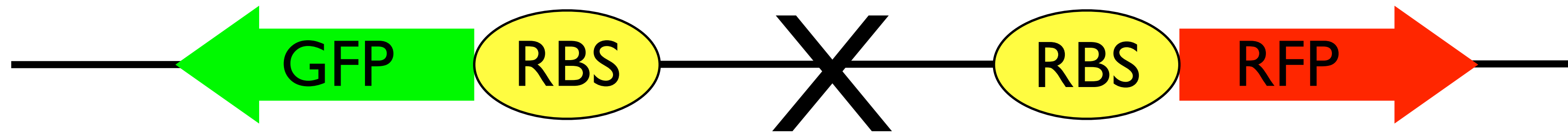
# pClone Red

J119137



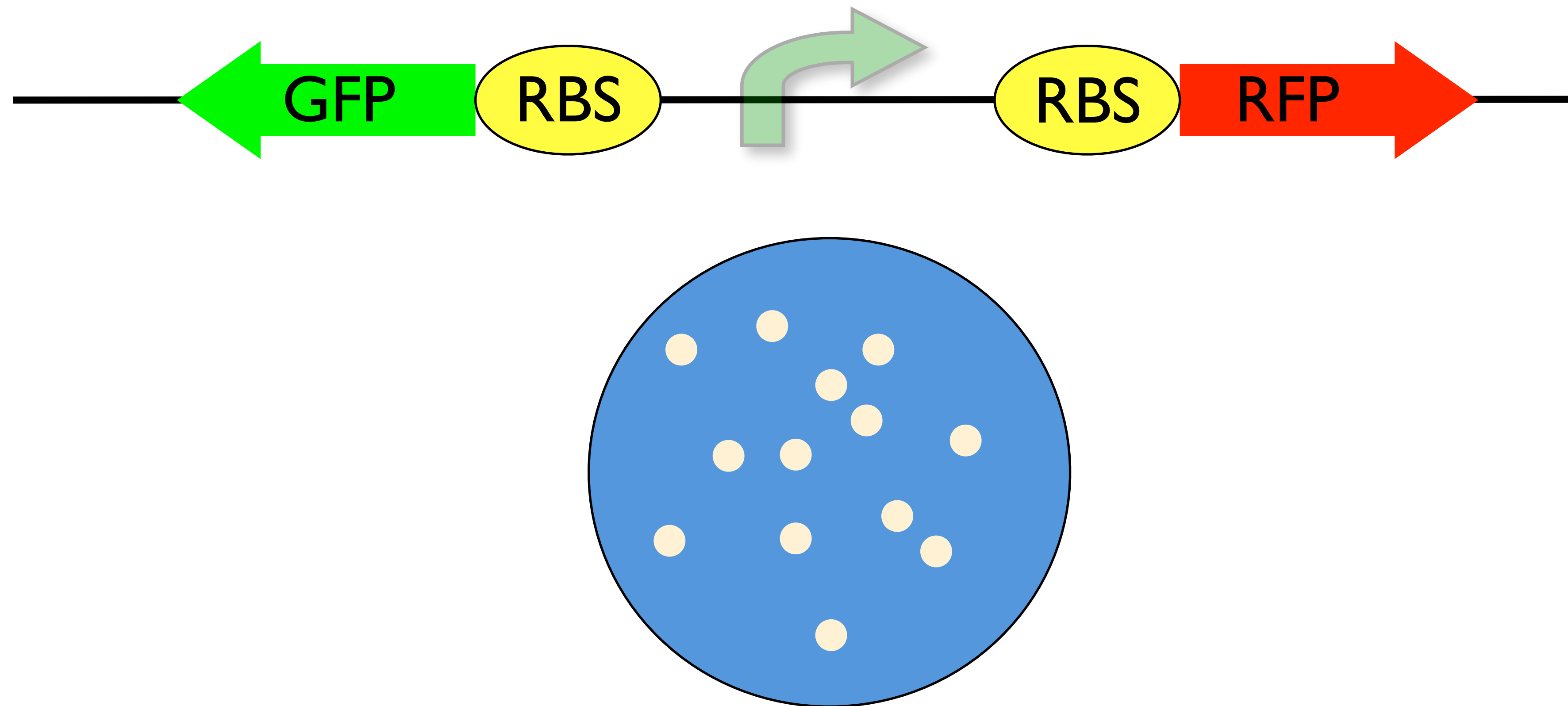
# Remove Initial Promoter

J119137



# Insert Non-functional Promoter

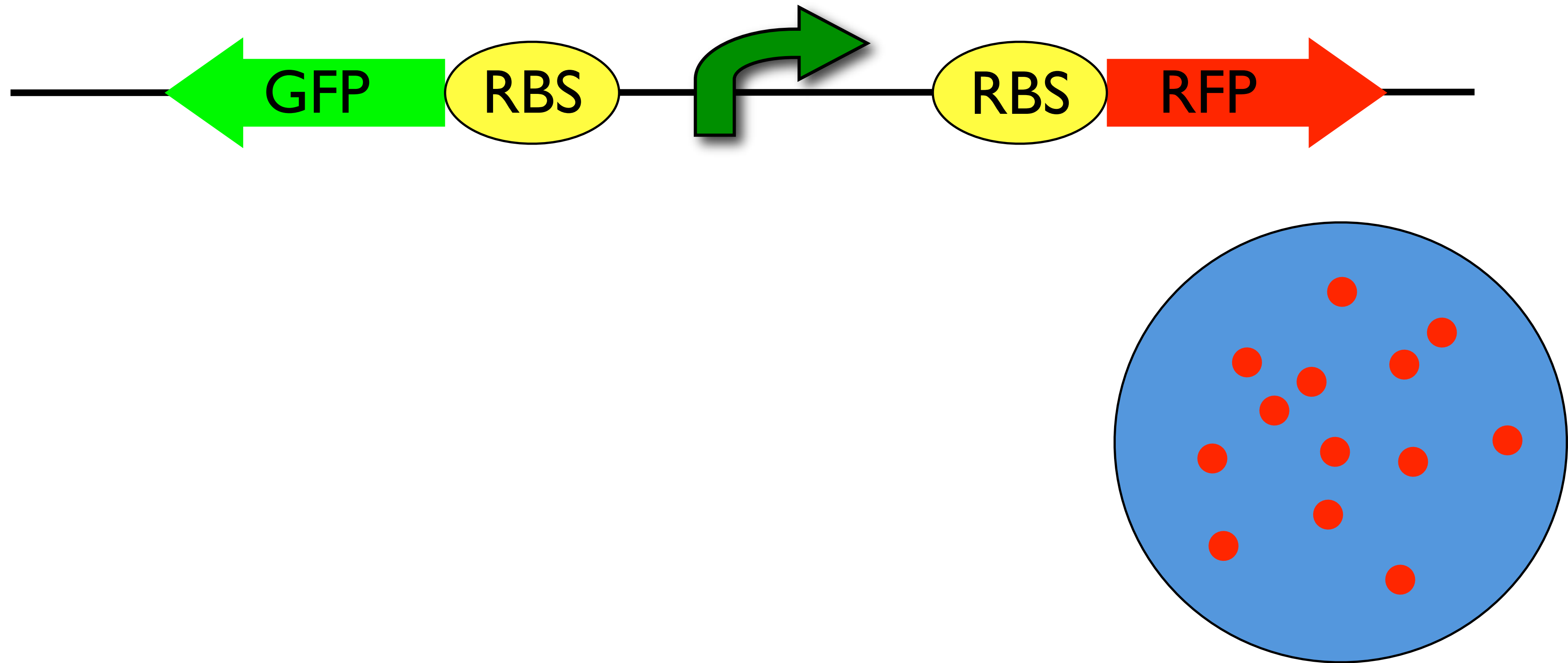
J119137





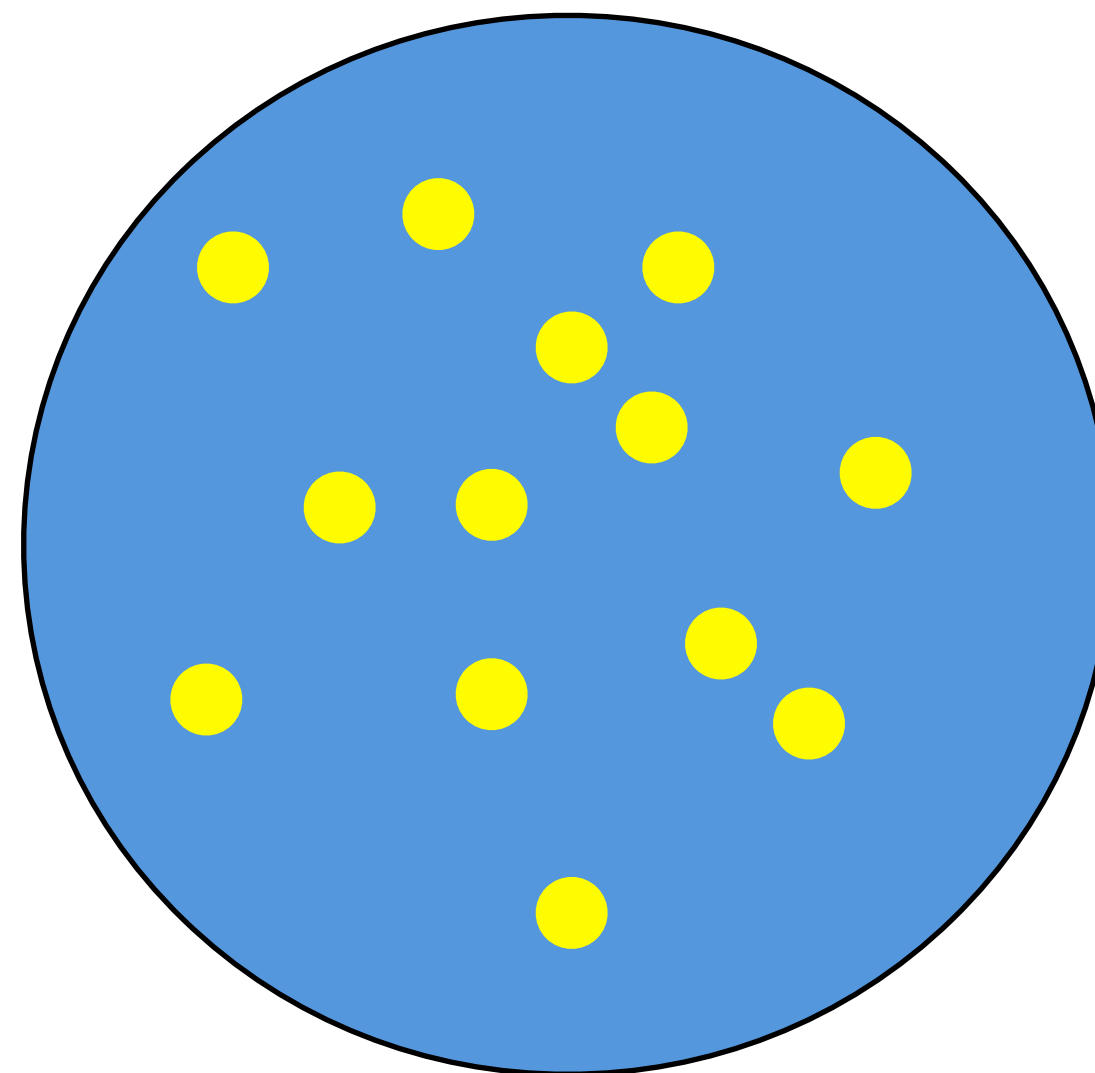
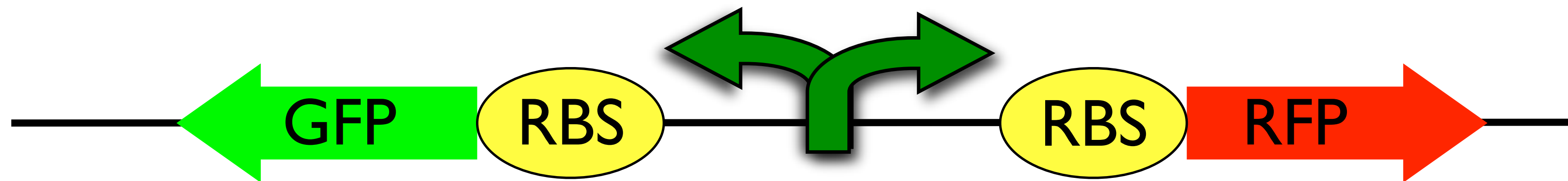
# Insert Forward Promoter

J119137



# Insert Bi-directional Promoter

J119137



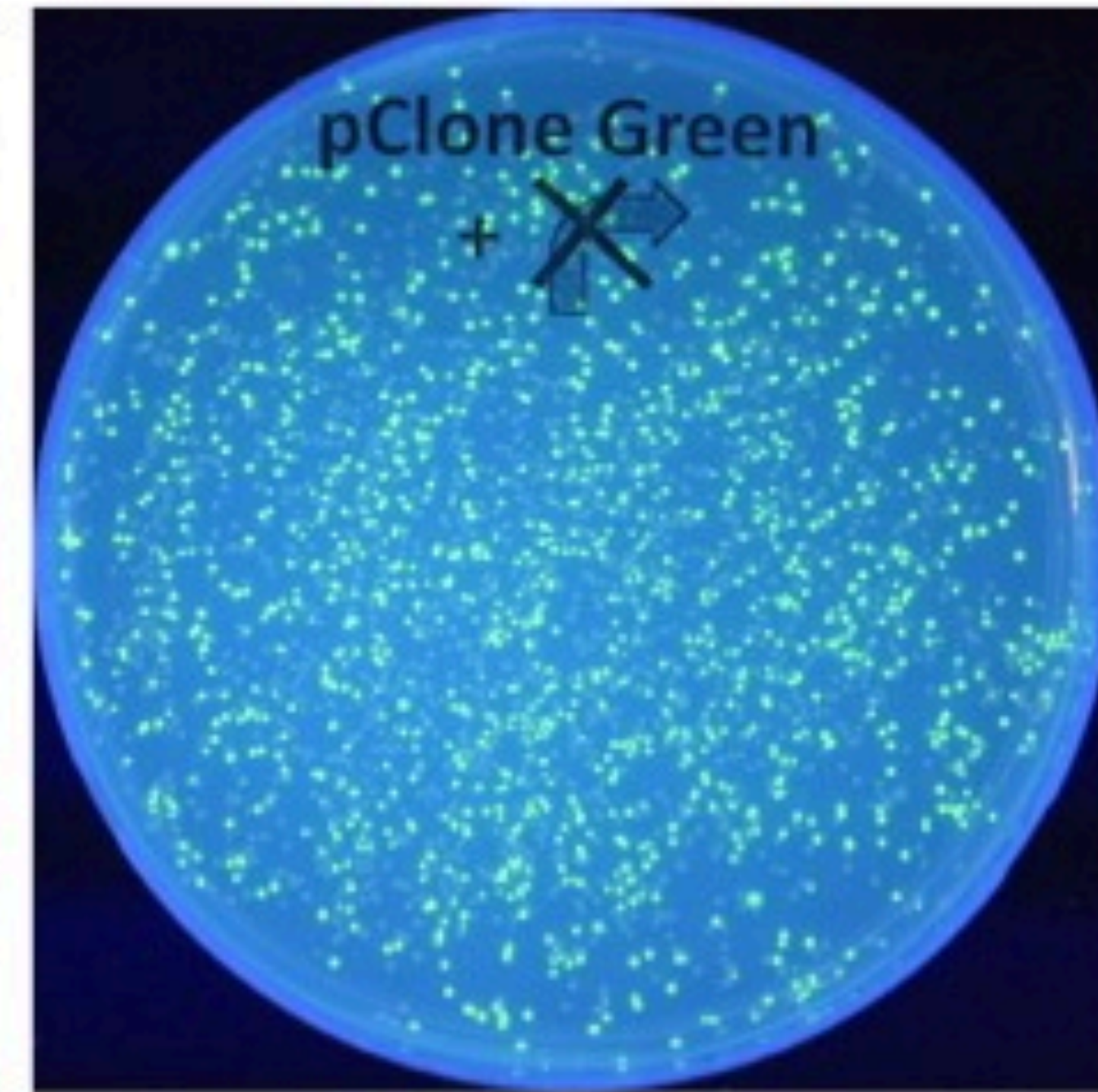
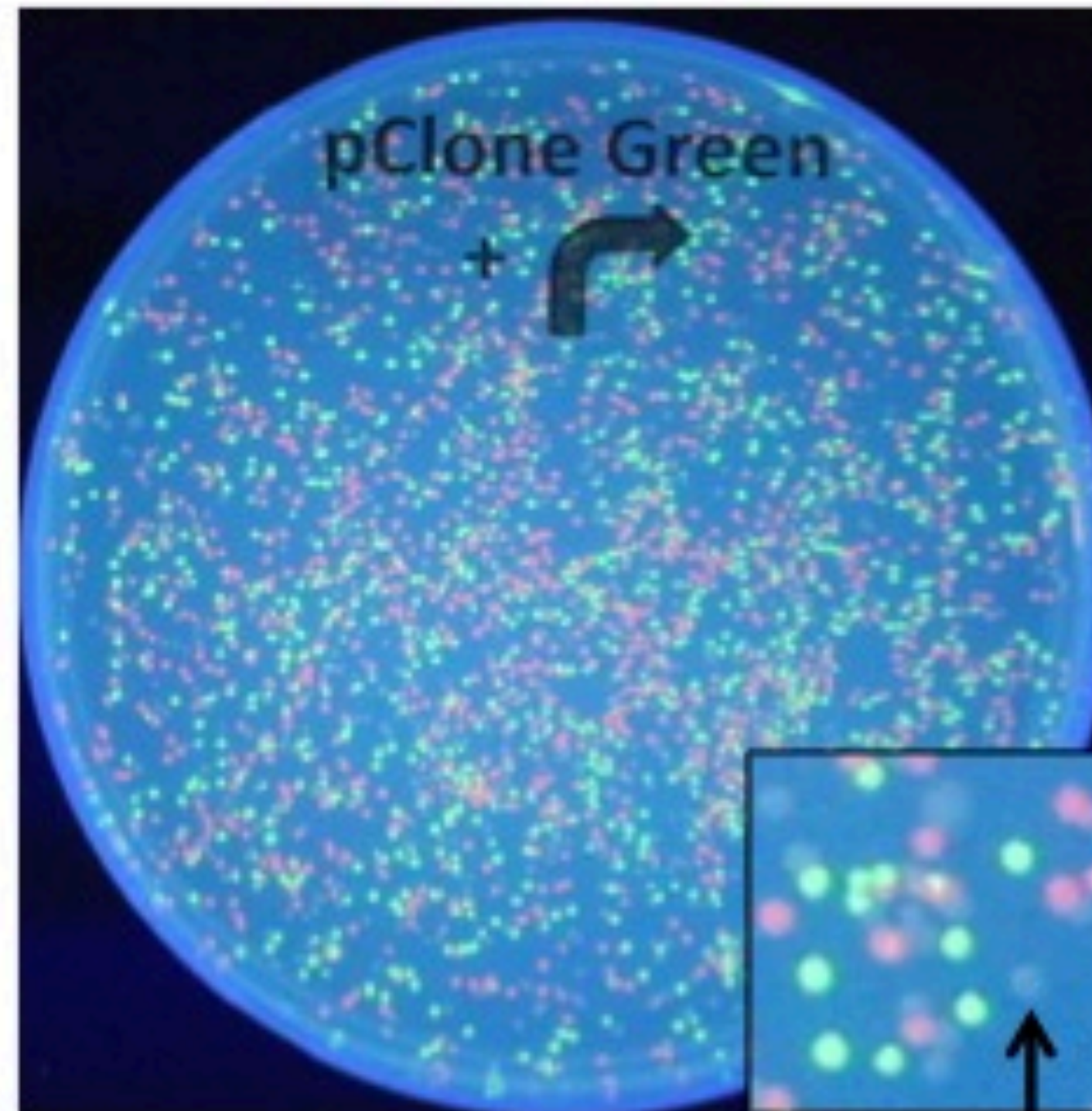
# pClone Red

**A**

**pClone Red**



**B**



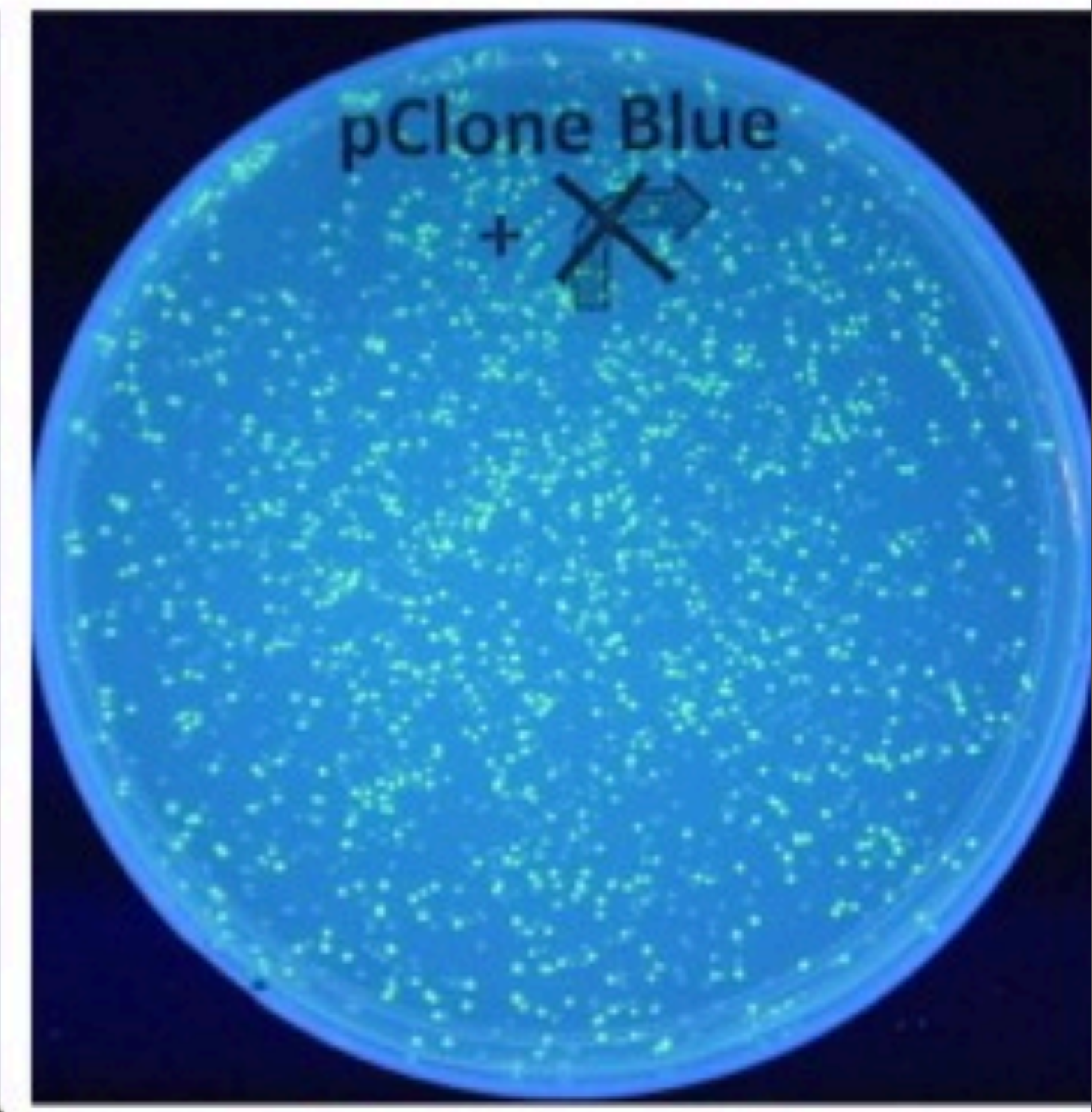
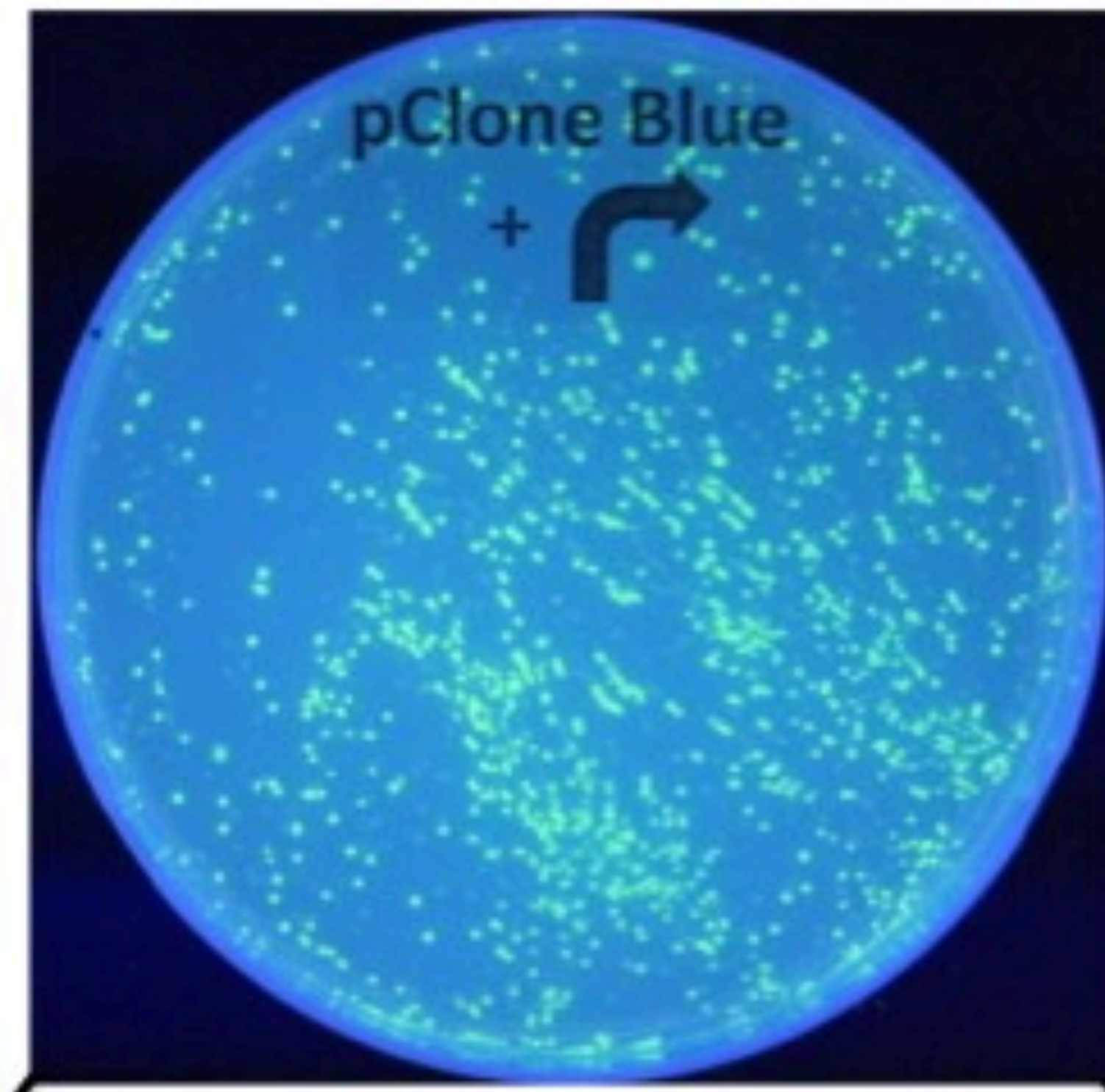
**A**

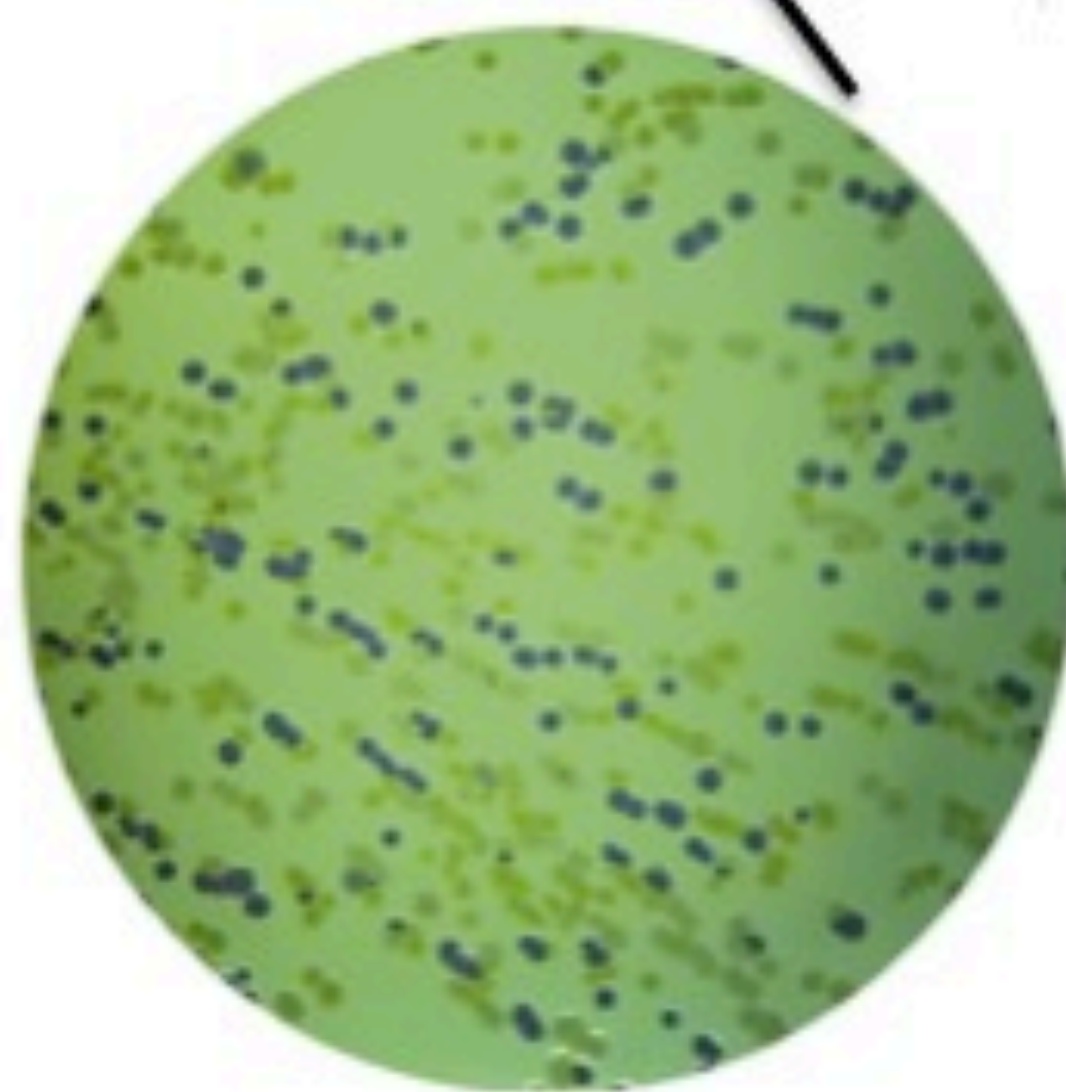
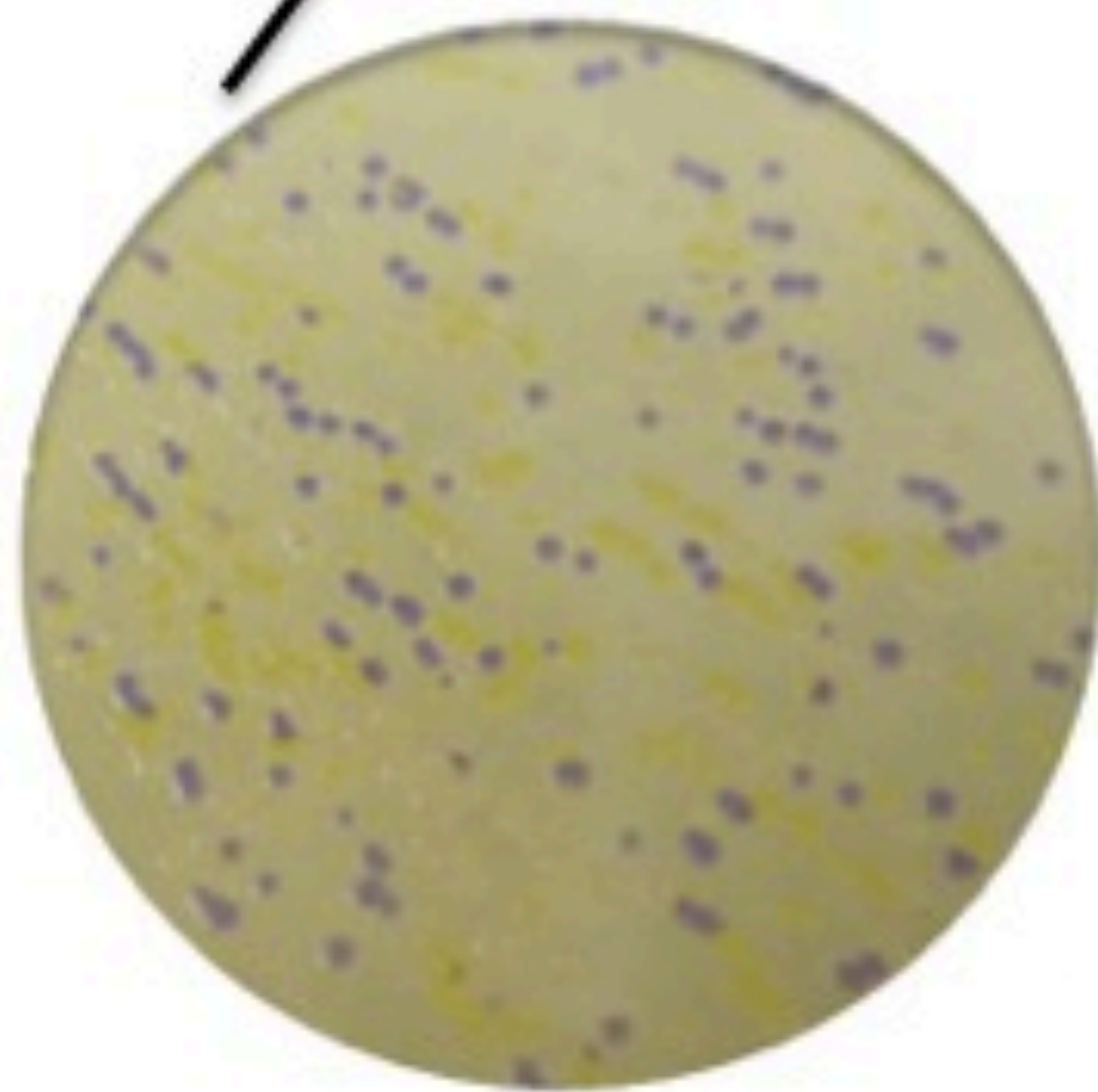
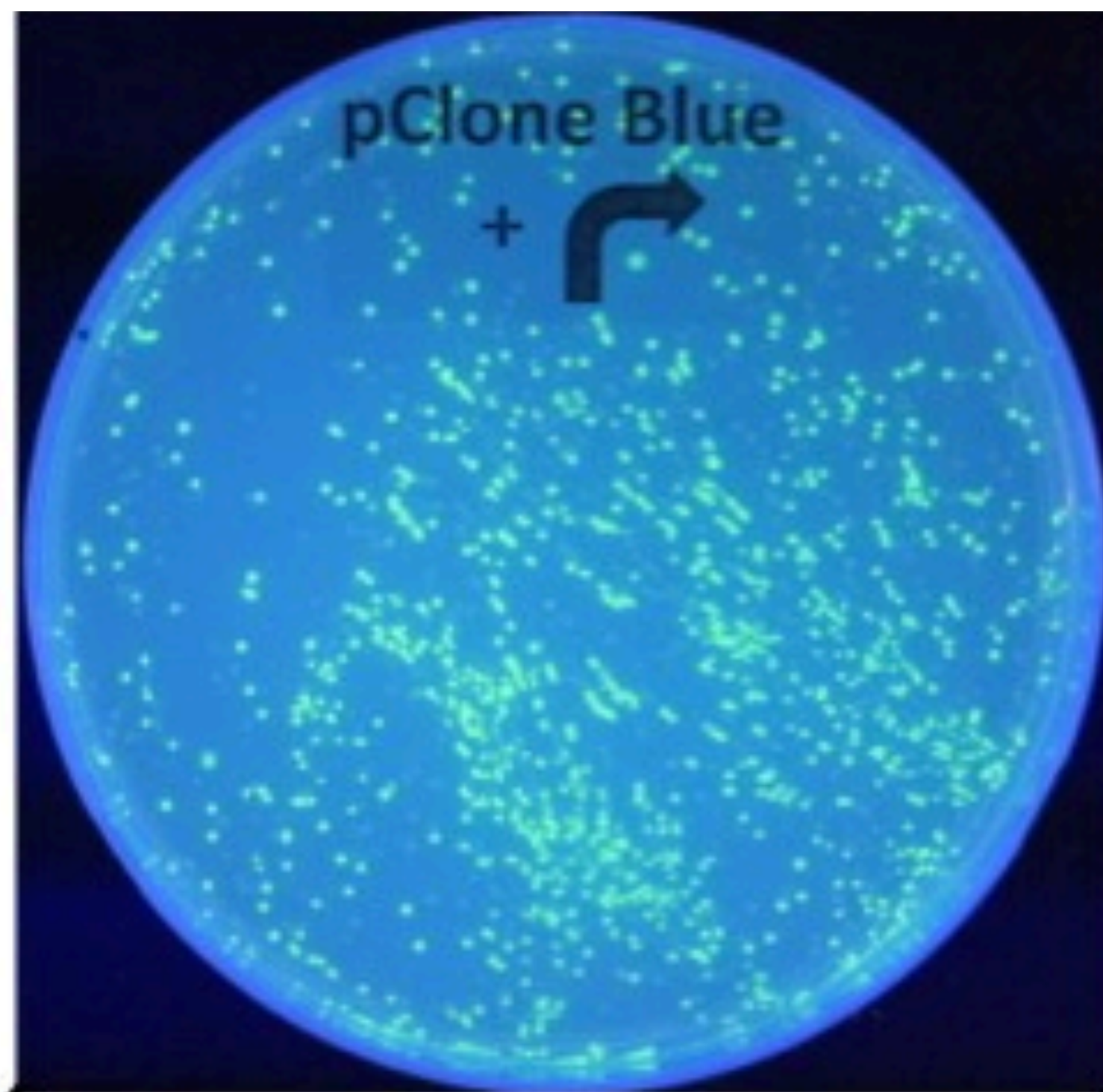
# pClone Blue

**pClone Blue**



**B**





Without basic research, there can be no applications....

After all, electricity and the lightbulb were not invented by incremental improvements to the candle.

former French President Nicholas Sarkozy

# Modular Programmed Evolution of *E.coli* for Optimization of Metabolic Pathways

(research in progress)



# Collaborative 2012 Research Team





# Collaborative 2013 Research Team



# Three Rules for Student Research

## 1. Everyone must learn.



# Three Rules for Student Research

1. Everyone must learn.
2. Everyone must have fun.



# Three Rules for Student Research

1. Everyone must learn.
2. Everyone must have fun.
3. We try to contribute to science.

**1. Research** Open Access Highly accessed  
54451 **Solving a Hamiltonian Path Problem with a bacterial computer**  
Accesses Jordan Baumgardner, Karen Acker, Oyinade Adefuye, Samuel Crowley, Will DeLoache, J  
Heard, Andrew T Martens, Nickolaus Morton, Michelle Ritter, Amber Shoecraft, Jessica T  
Amanda Valencia, Mike Waters, A Malcolm Campbell, Laurie J Heyer, Jeffrey L Poet, Tod  
*Journal of Biological Engineering* 2009, **3**:11 (24 July 2009)  
[Abstract](#) | [Full text](#) | [PDF](#) | [PubMed](#) | [f1000](#) | [▶ Editor's summary](#)



JOURNAL OF BIOLOGICAL  
ENGINEERING

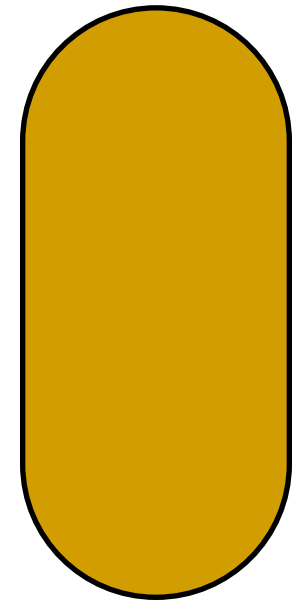
**2. Research** Open Access Highly accessed  
46629 **Engineering bacteria to solve the Burnt Pancake Problem**  
Accesses Karmella A Haynes, Marian L Broderick, Adam D Brown, Trevor L Butner, James O Dickson, W Lance Harden, Lane H  
Heard, Eric L Jessen, Kelly J Malloy, Brad J Ogden, Sabriya Rosemond, Samantha Simpson, Erin Zwack, A Malcolm  
Campbell, Todd T Eckdahl, Laurie J Heyer, Jeffrey L Poet  
*Journal of Biological Engineering* 2008, **2**:8 (20 May 2008)  
[Abstract](#) | [Full text](#) | [PDF](#) | [PubMed](#) | [1 comment](#) | [▶ Editor's summary](#)

**25 undergraduate co-authors**

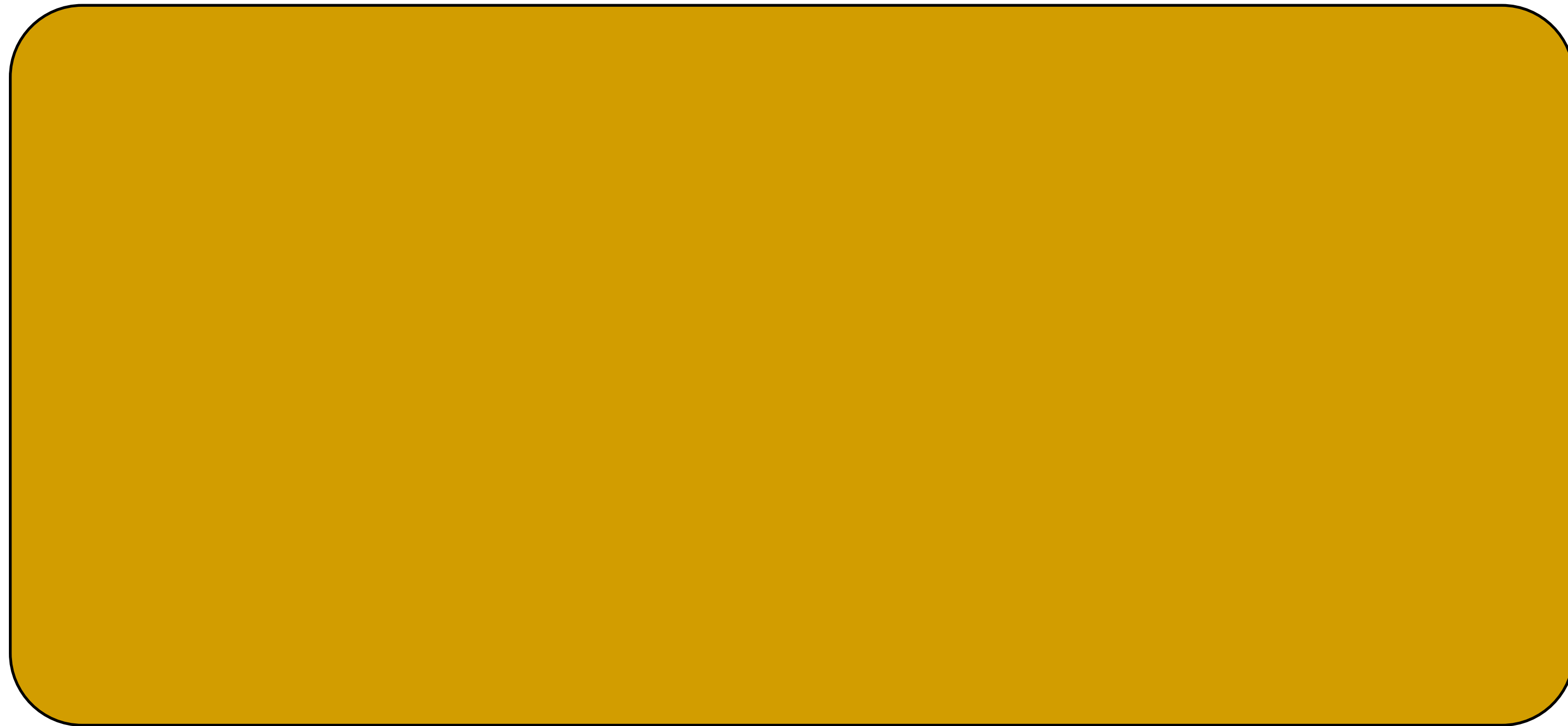
**3. Methodology** Open Access Highly accessed  
30051 **Engineering BioBrick vectors from BioBrick parts**  
Accesses Reshma P Shetty, Drew Endy, Thomas F Knight  
*Journal of Biological Engineering* 2008, **2**:5 (14 April 2008)  
[Abstract](#) | [Full text](#) | [PDF](#) | [PubMed](#) | [Cited on BioMed Central](#)

**Papers of the year 2008 & 2009**

# Make *E. coli* Optimize Drug Production



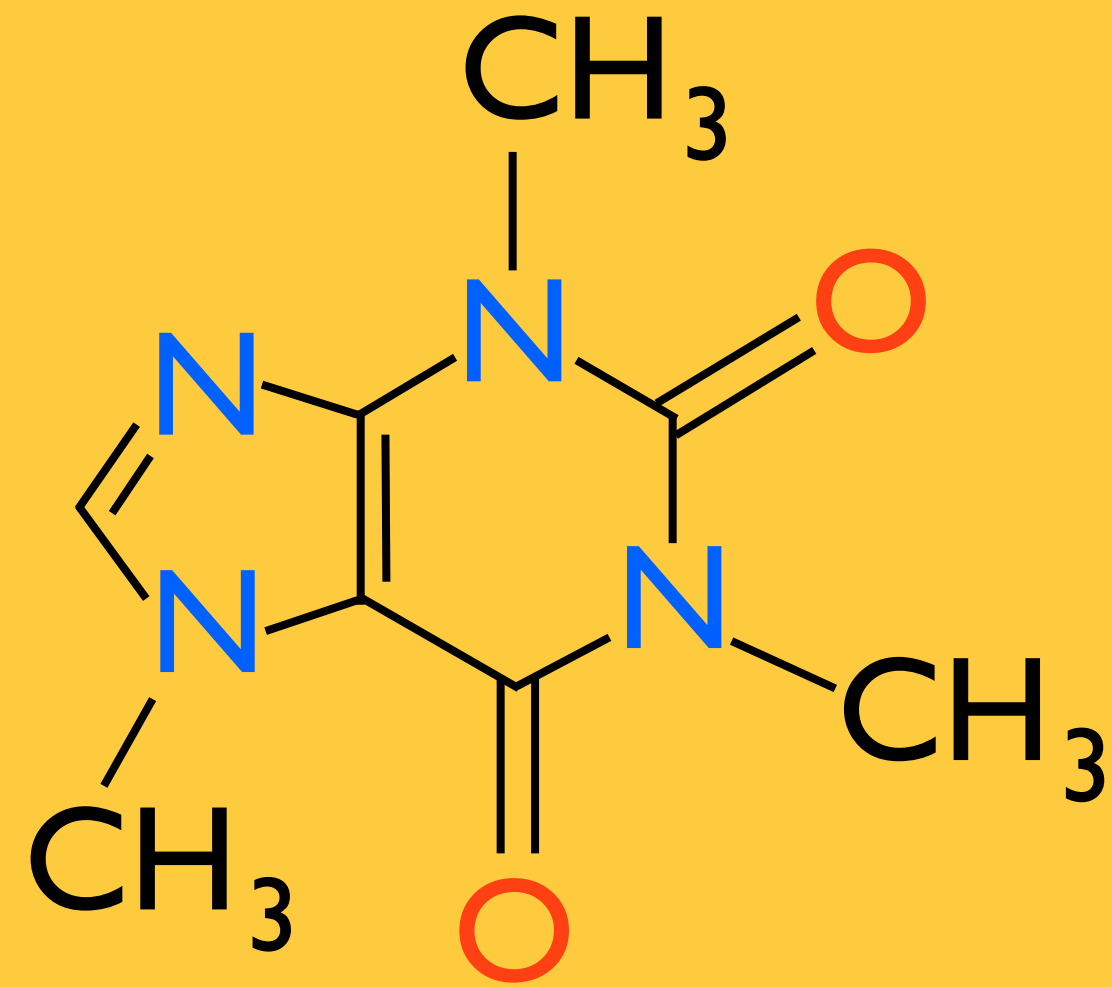
# Make *E. coli* Optimize Drug Production



# Make *E. coli* Optimize Drug Production



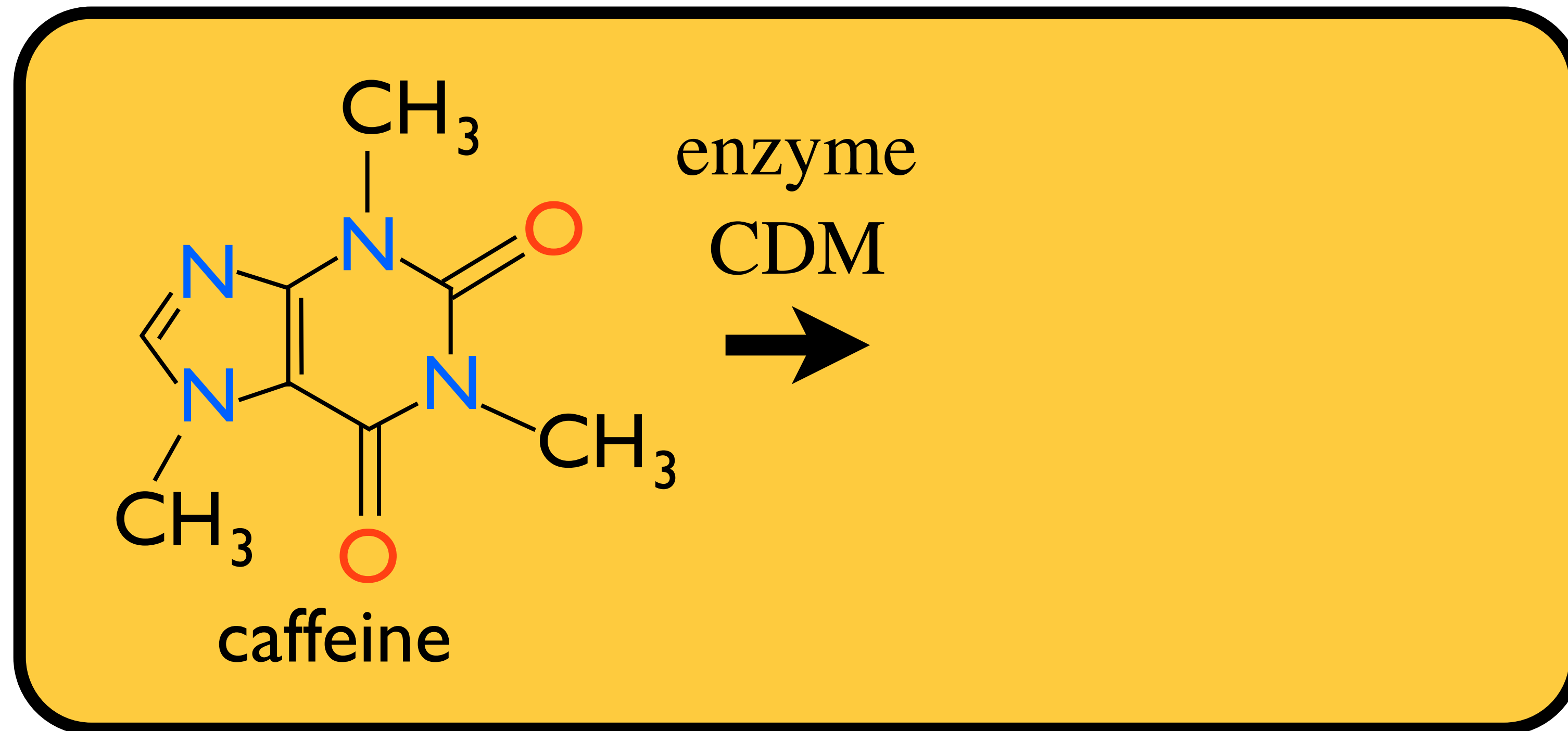
# Make *E. coli* Optimize Drug Production



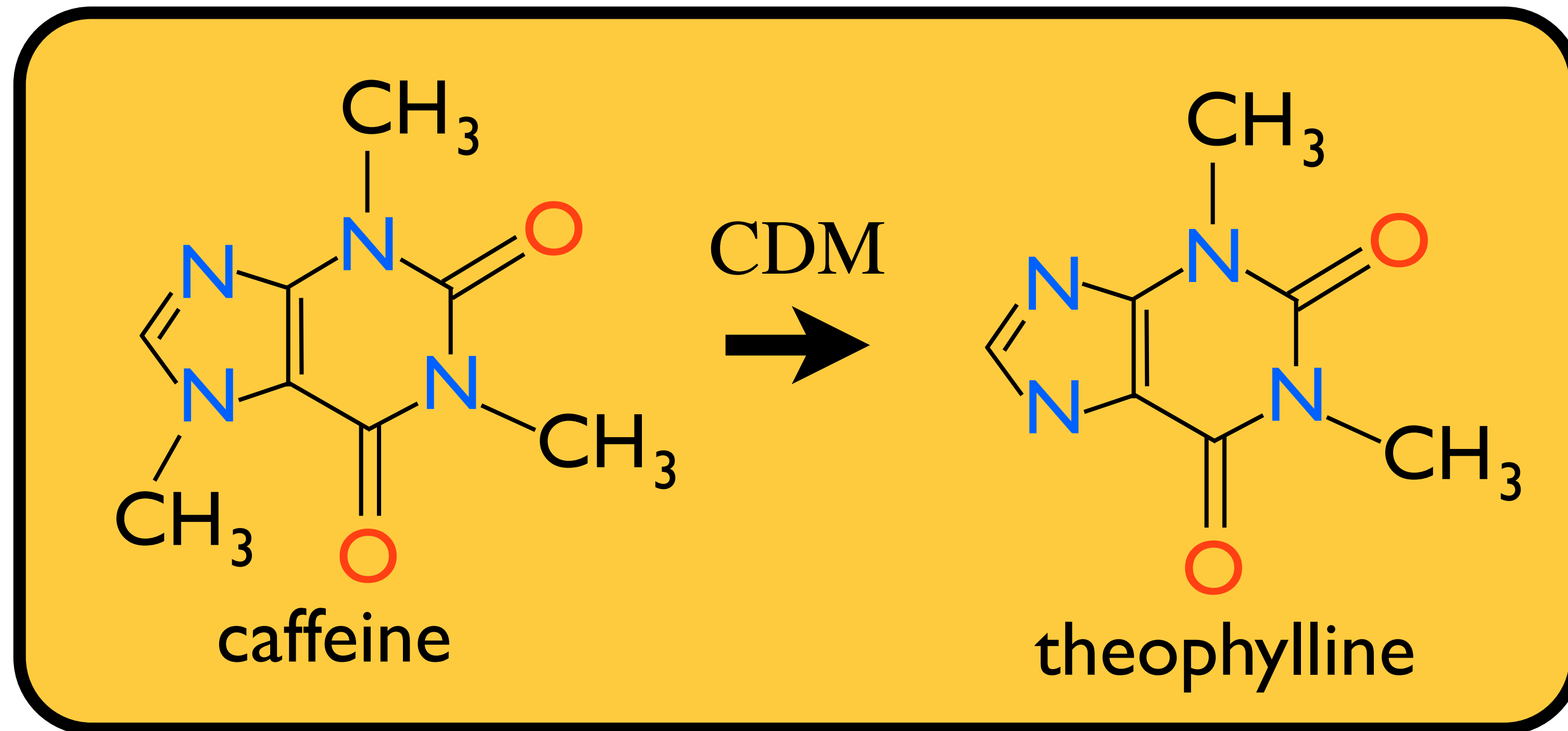
caffeine



# Make *E. coli* Optimize Drug Production

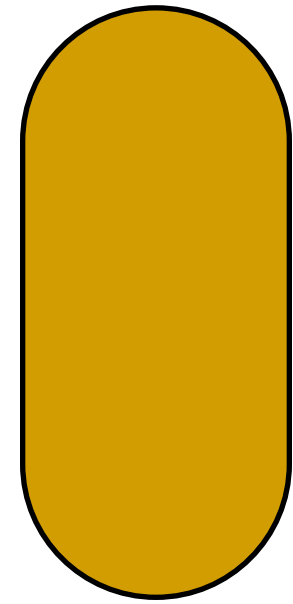


# Make *E. coli* Optimize Drug Production

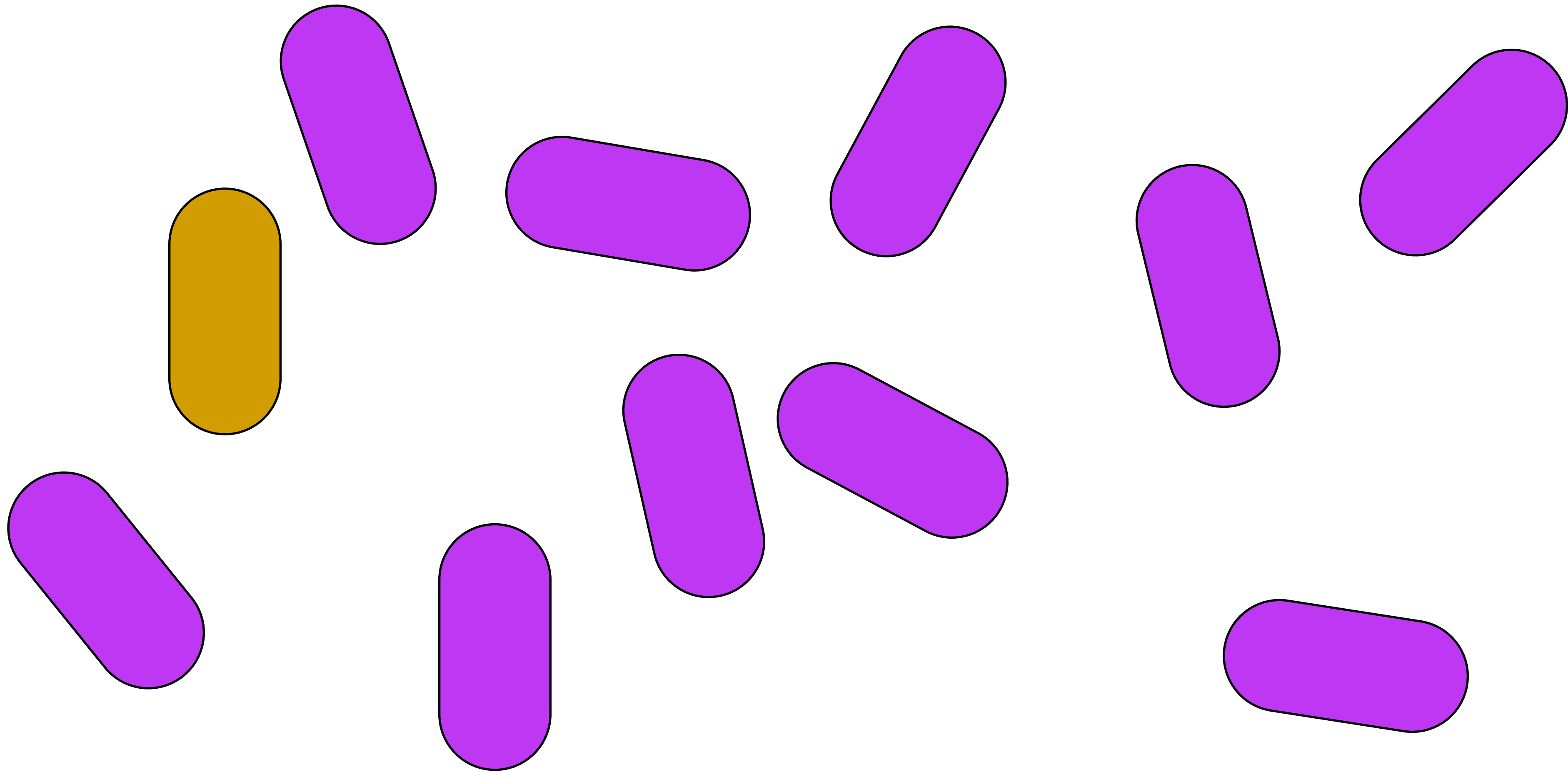


asthma medication

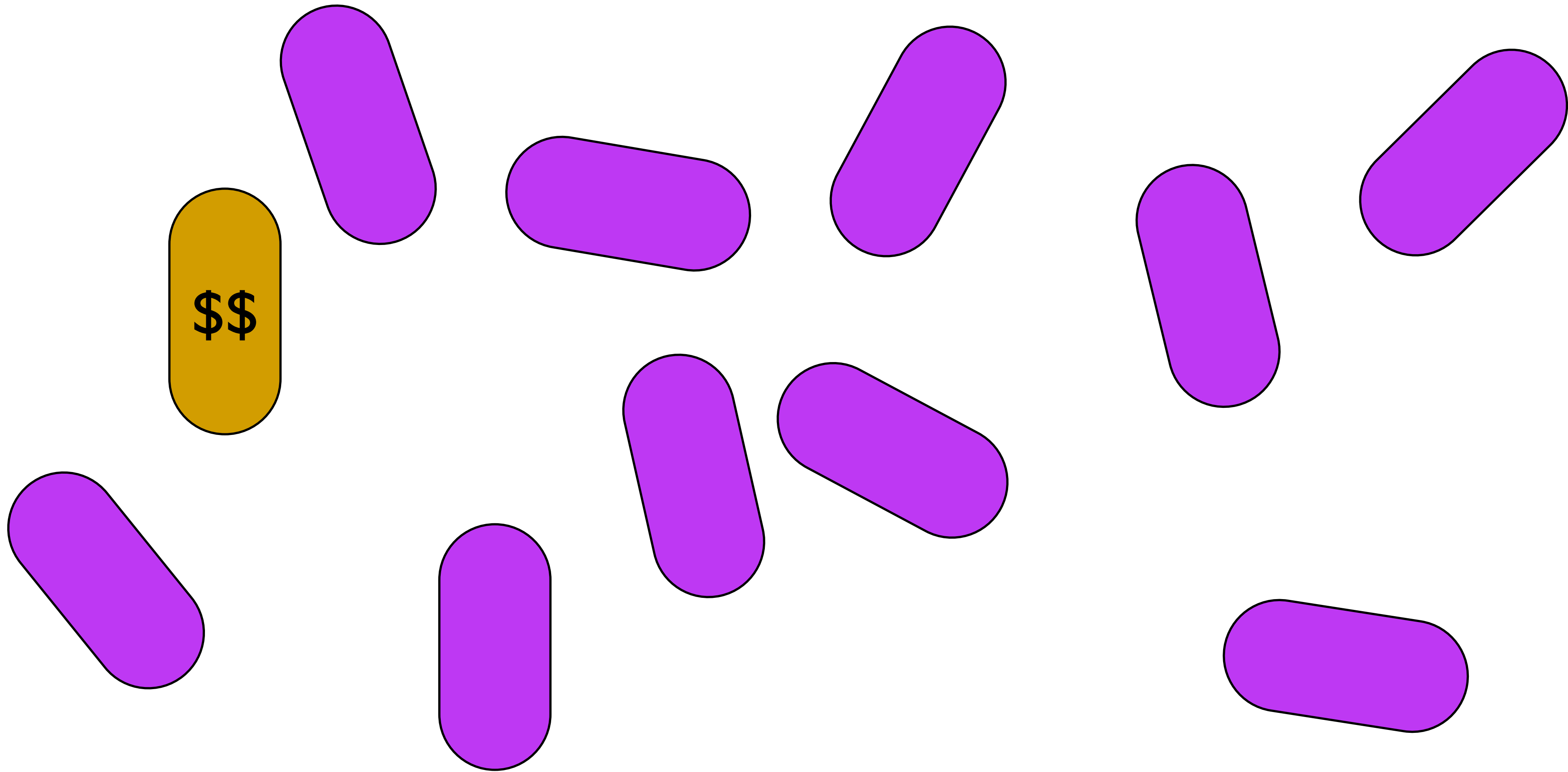
# What Makes Optimization Difficult?



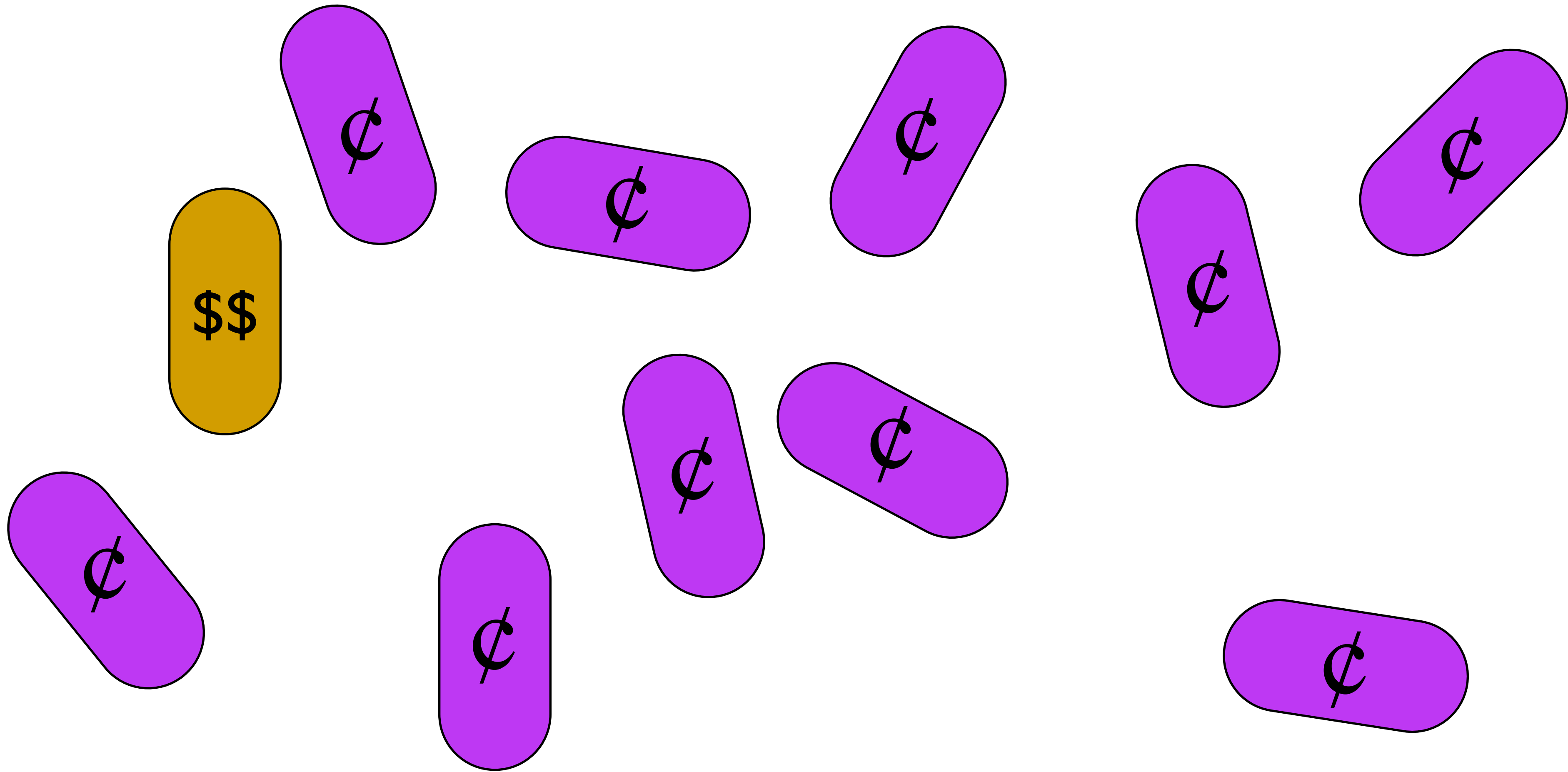
# What Makes Optimization Difficult?



# What Makes Optimization Difficult?



# Natural Selection



# Synthetic Selection



# Synthetic Fitness





# Synthetic Fitness

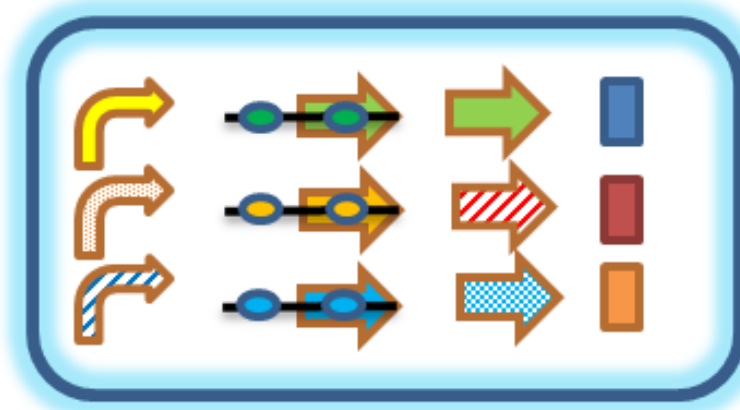


# Engineering Programmed Evolution

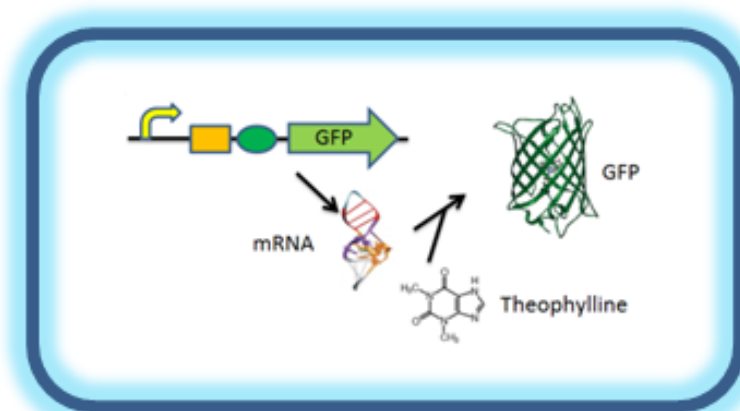
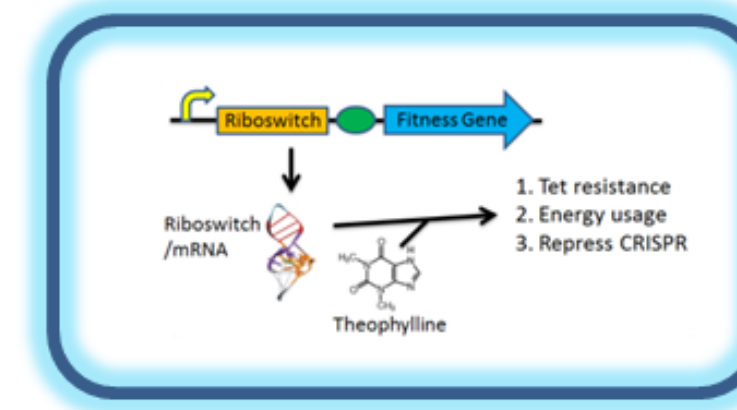


# Programmed Evolution

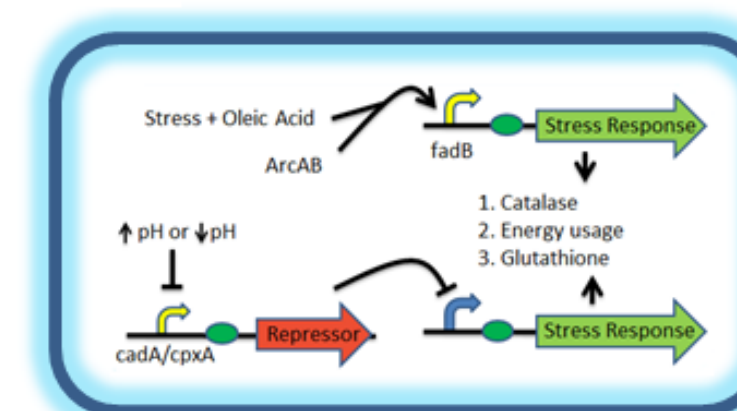
Combinatorics Module



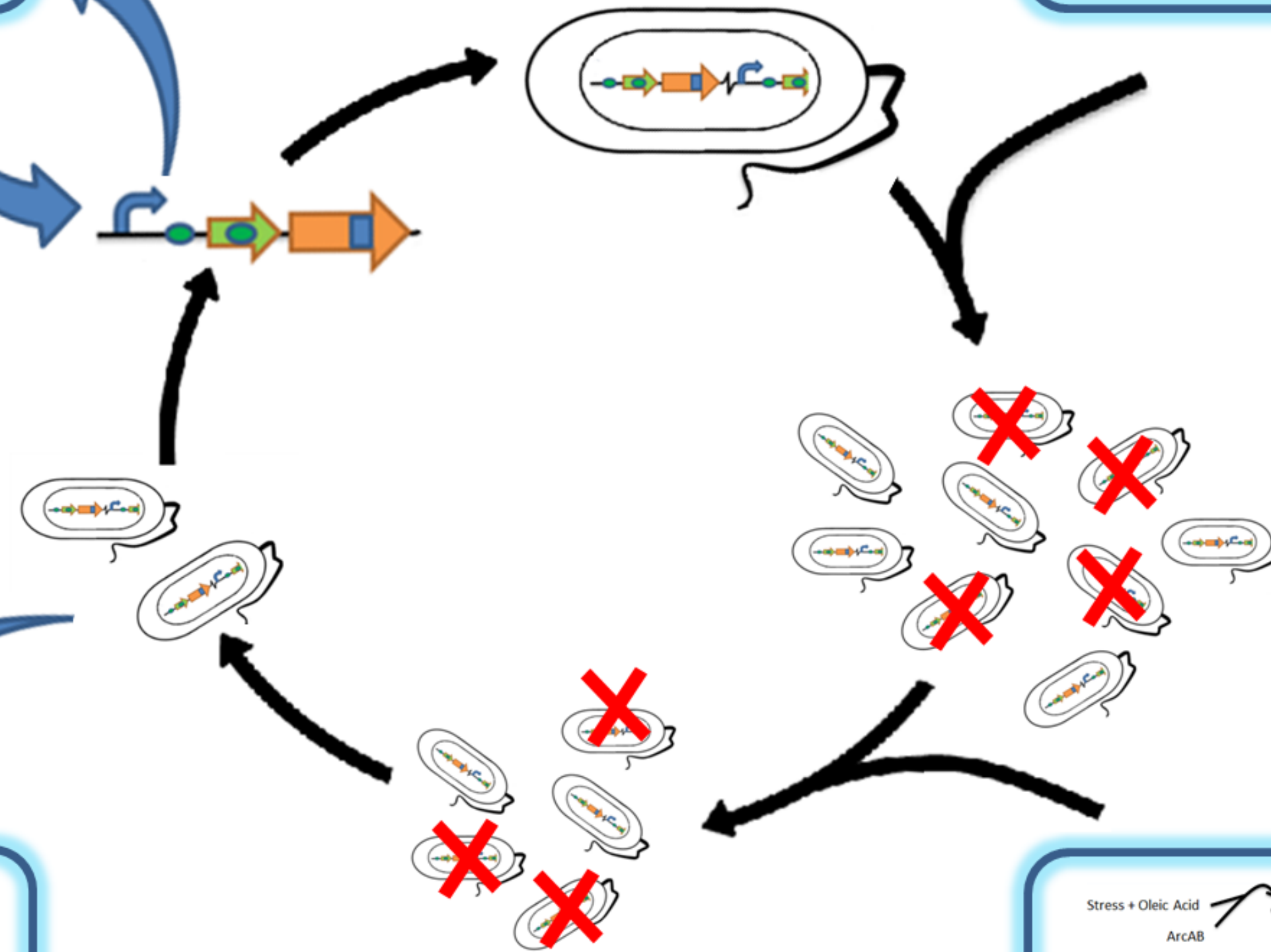
Fitness Module



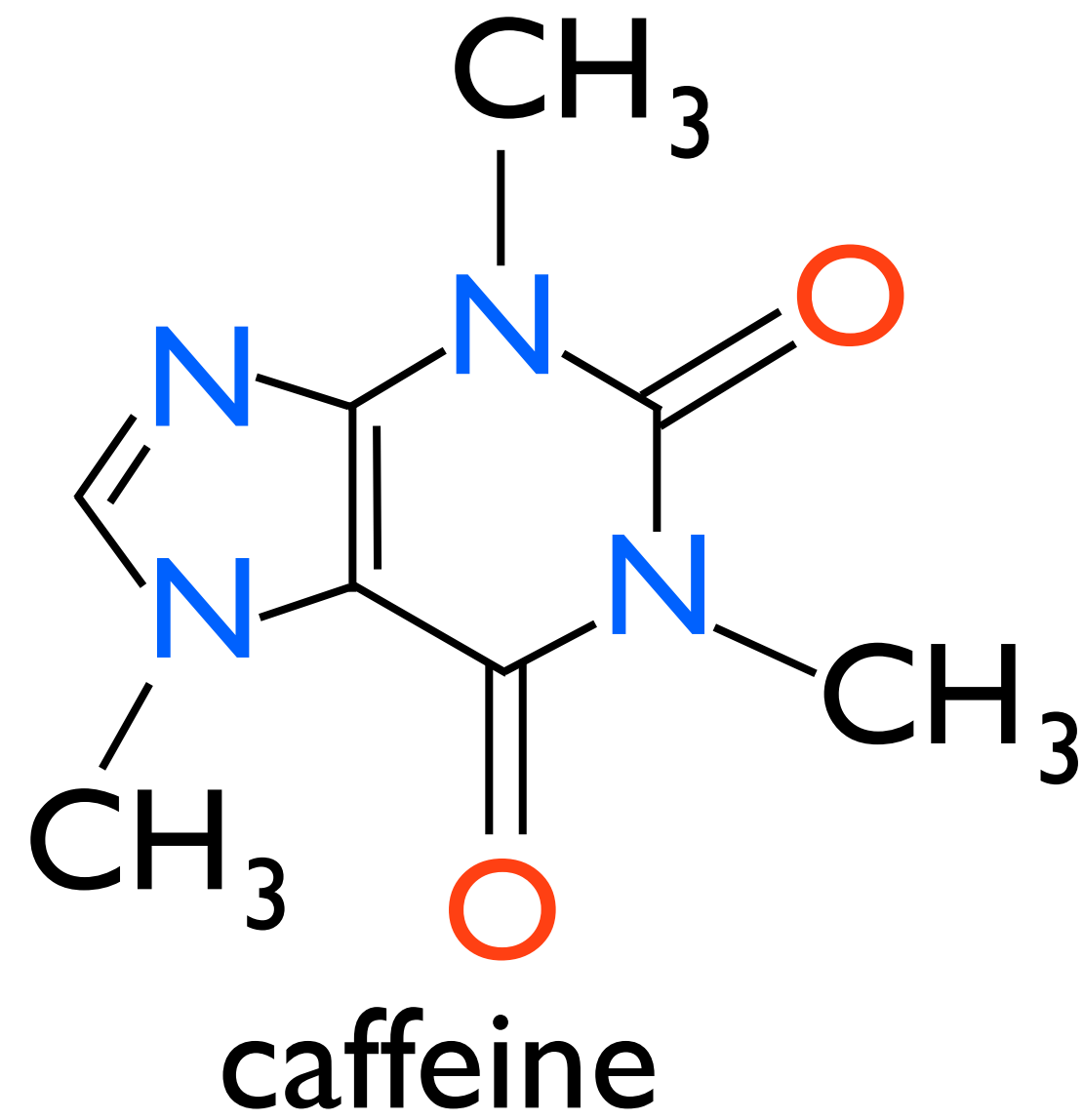
Biosensor Module



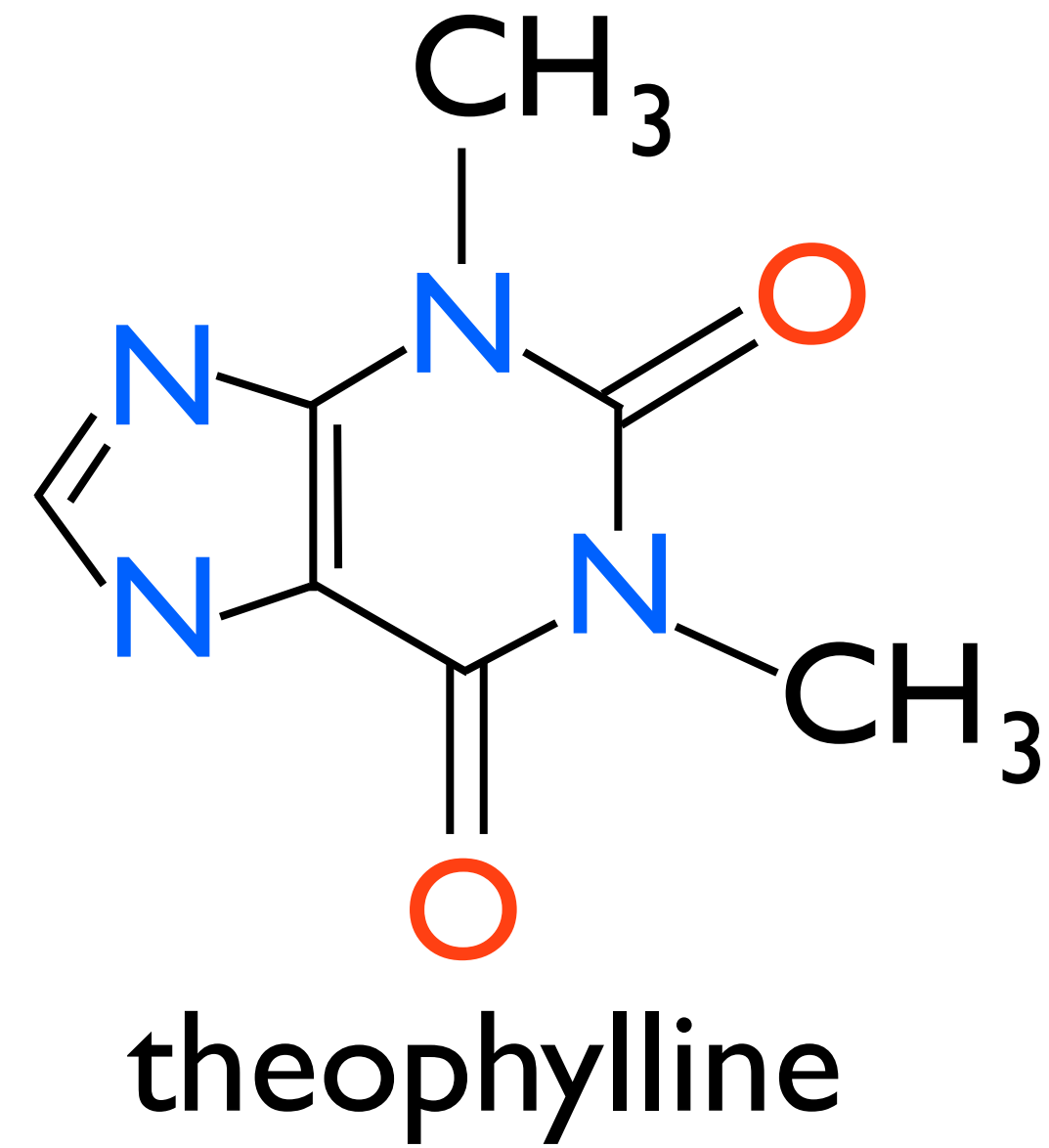
Stress Response Module



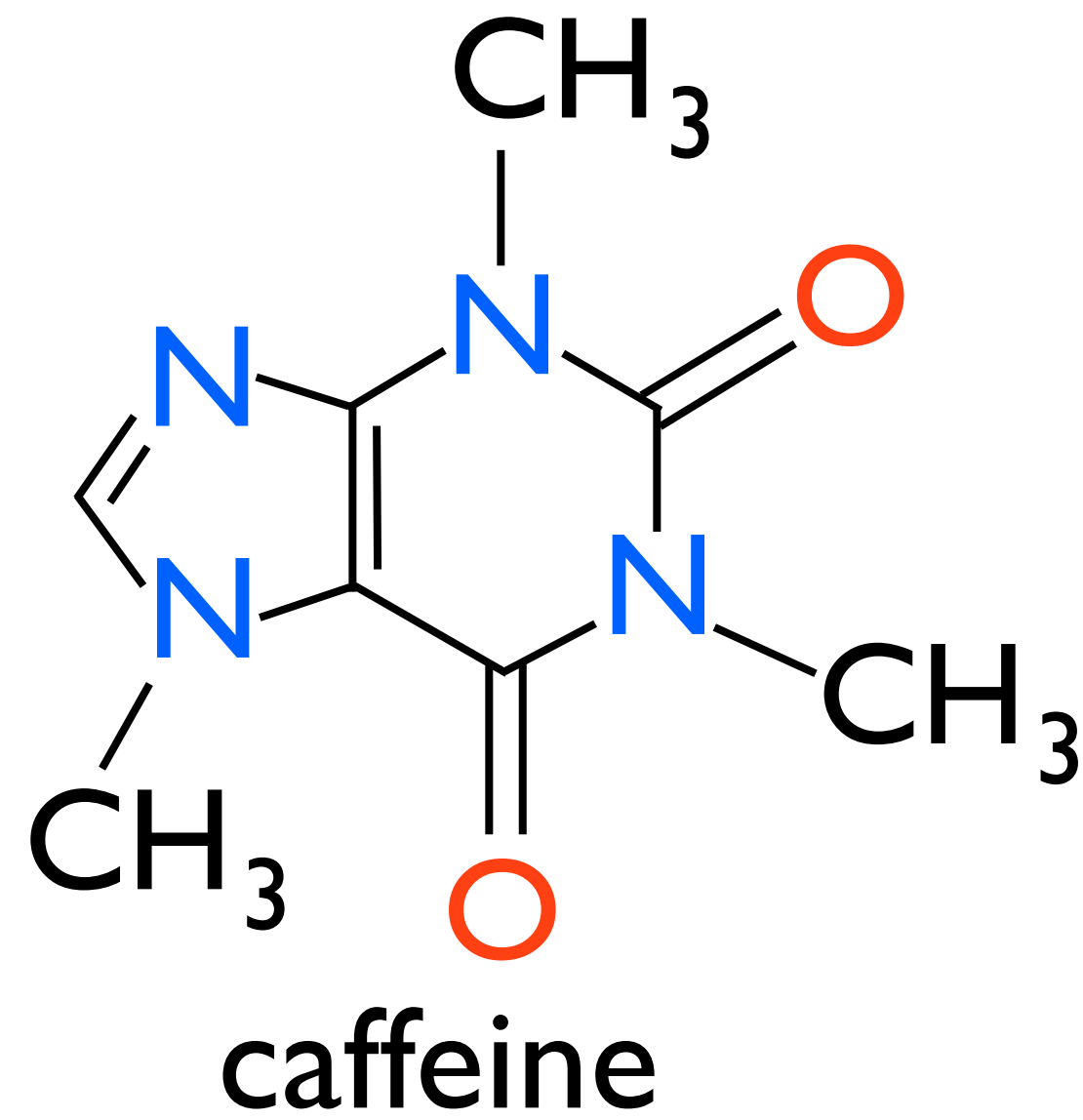
# How to Build a Biosensor



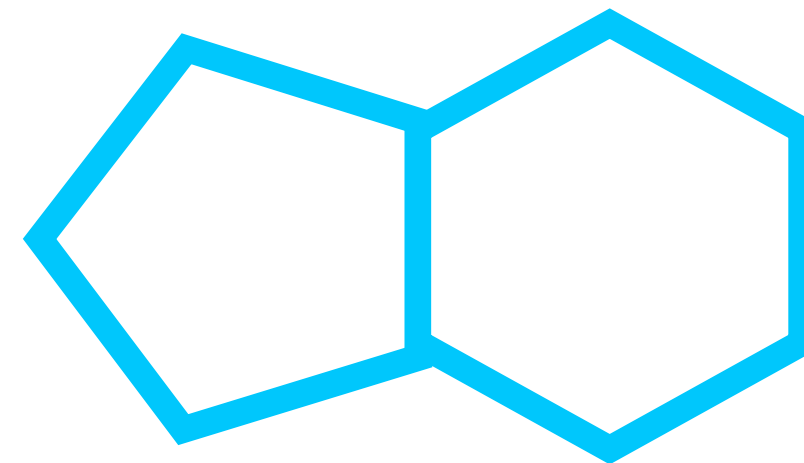
CDM  
➔



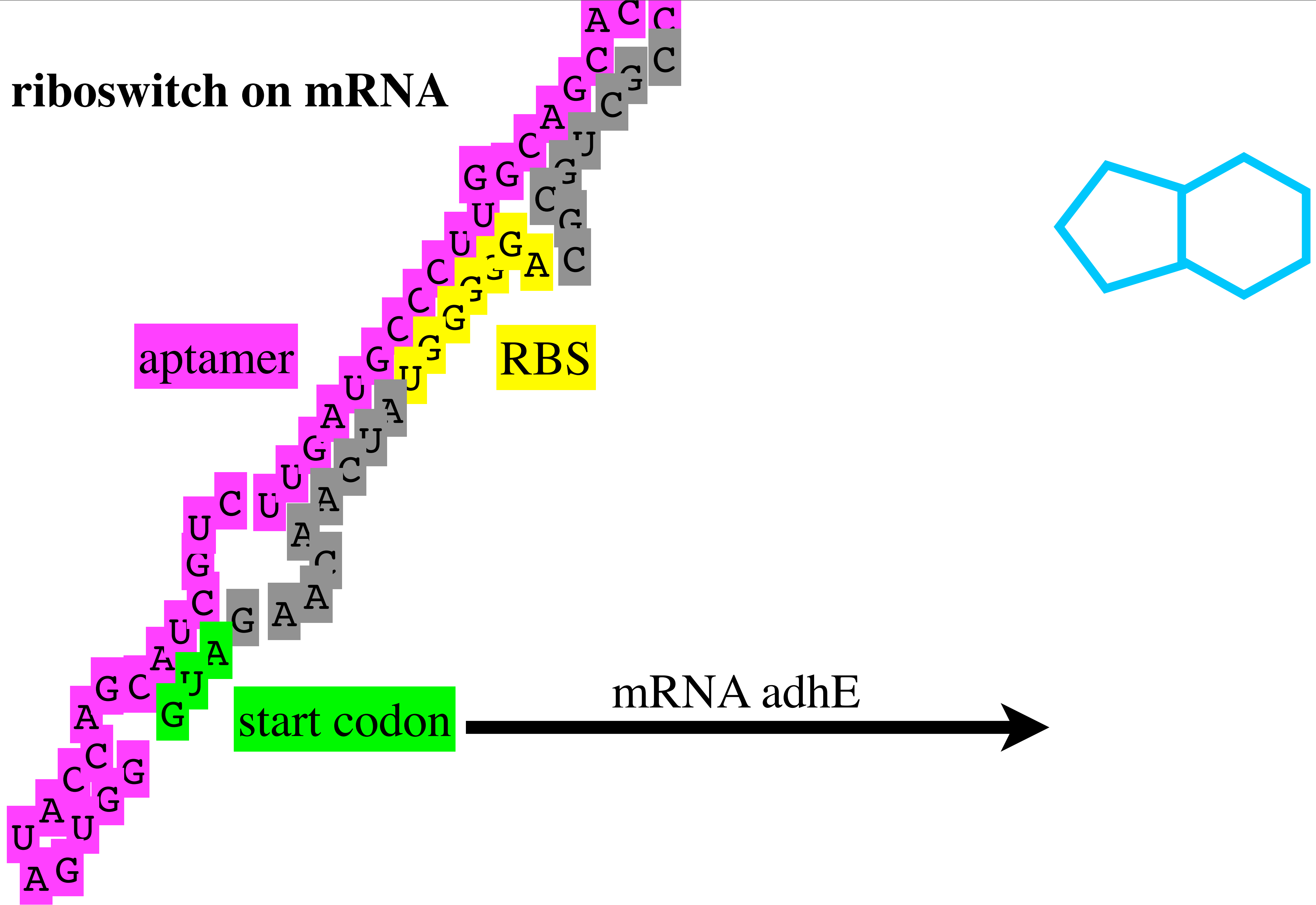
# How to Build a Biosensor



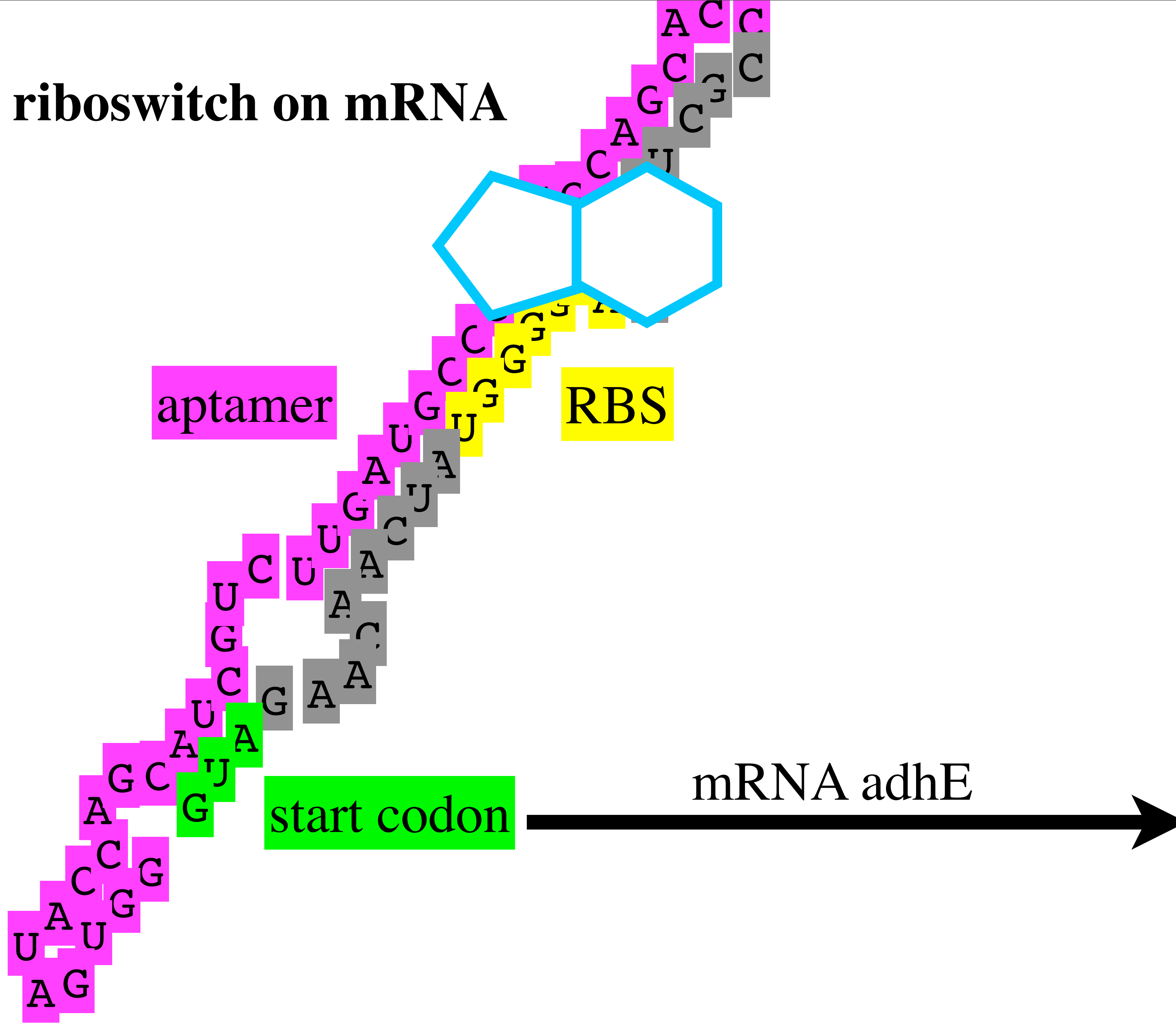
CDM  
→

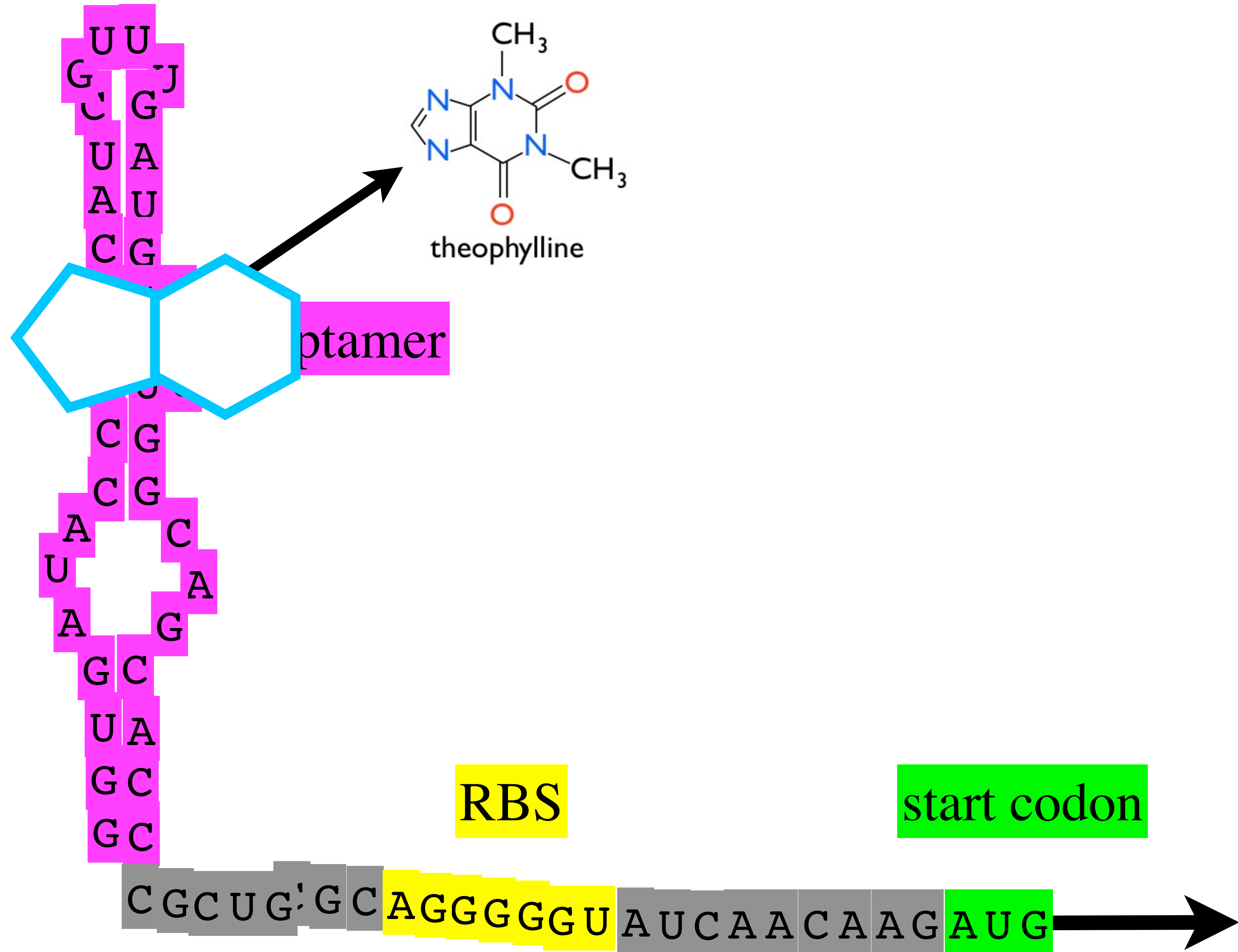


# riboswitch on mRNA



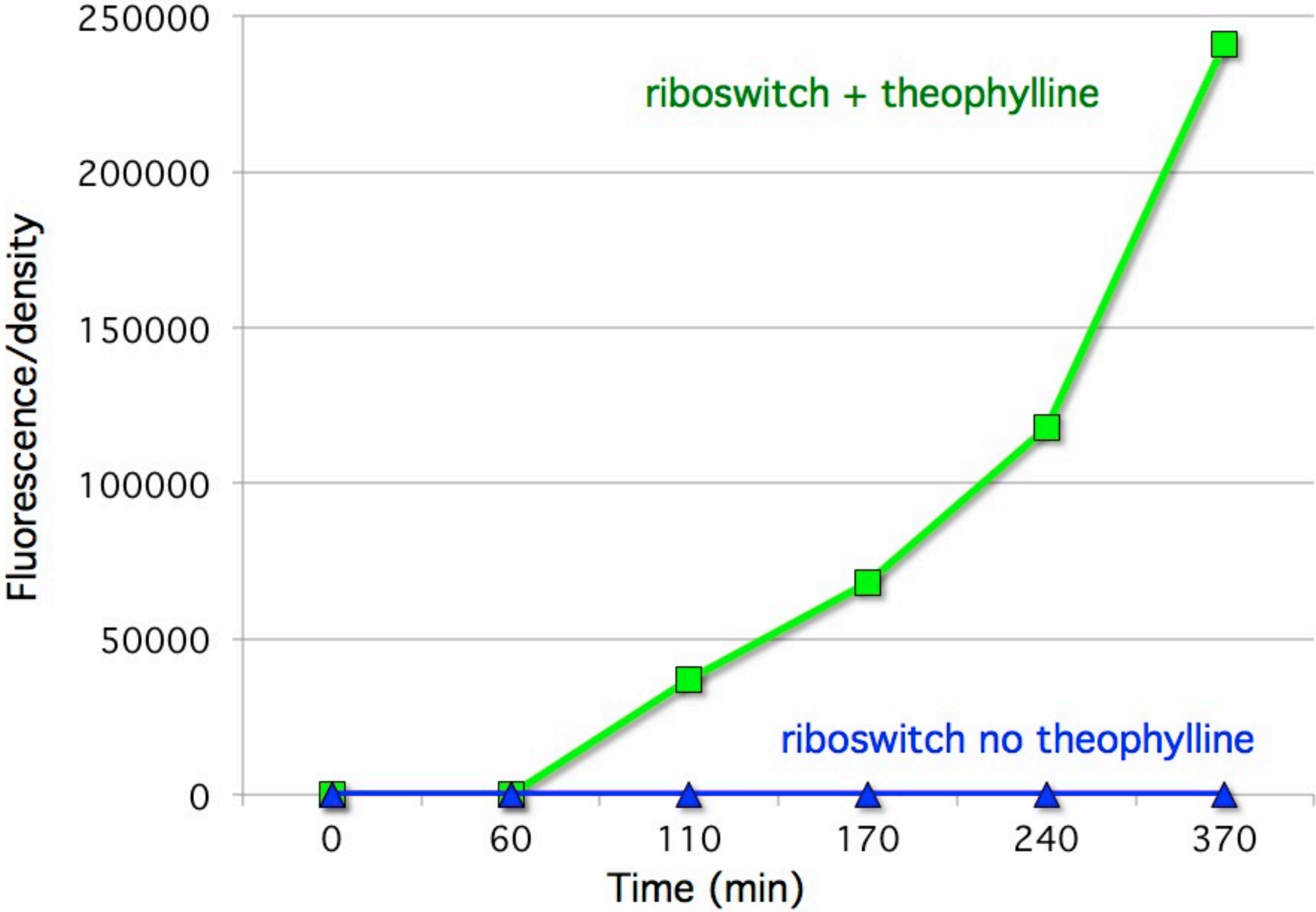
# riboswitch on mRNA



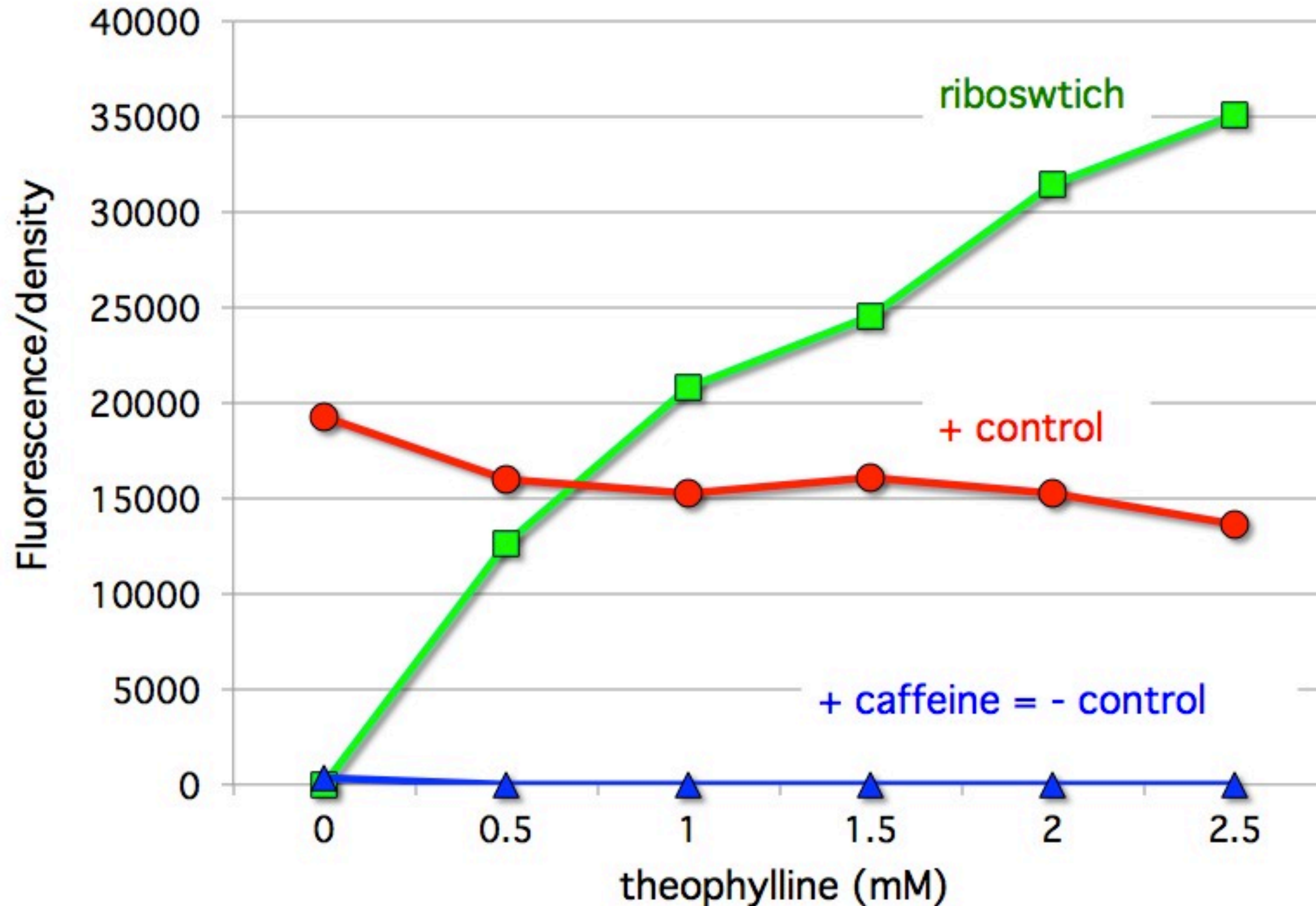




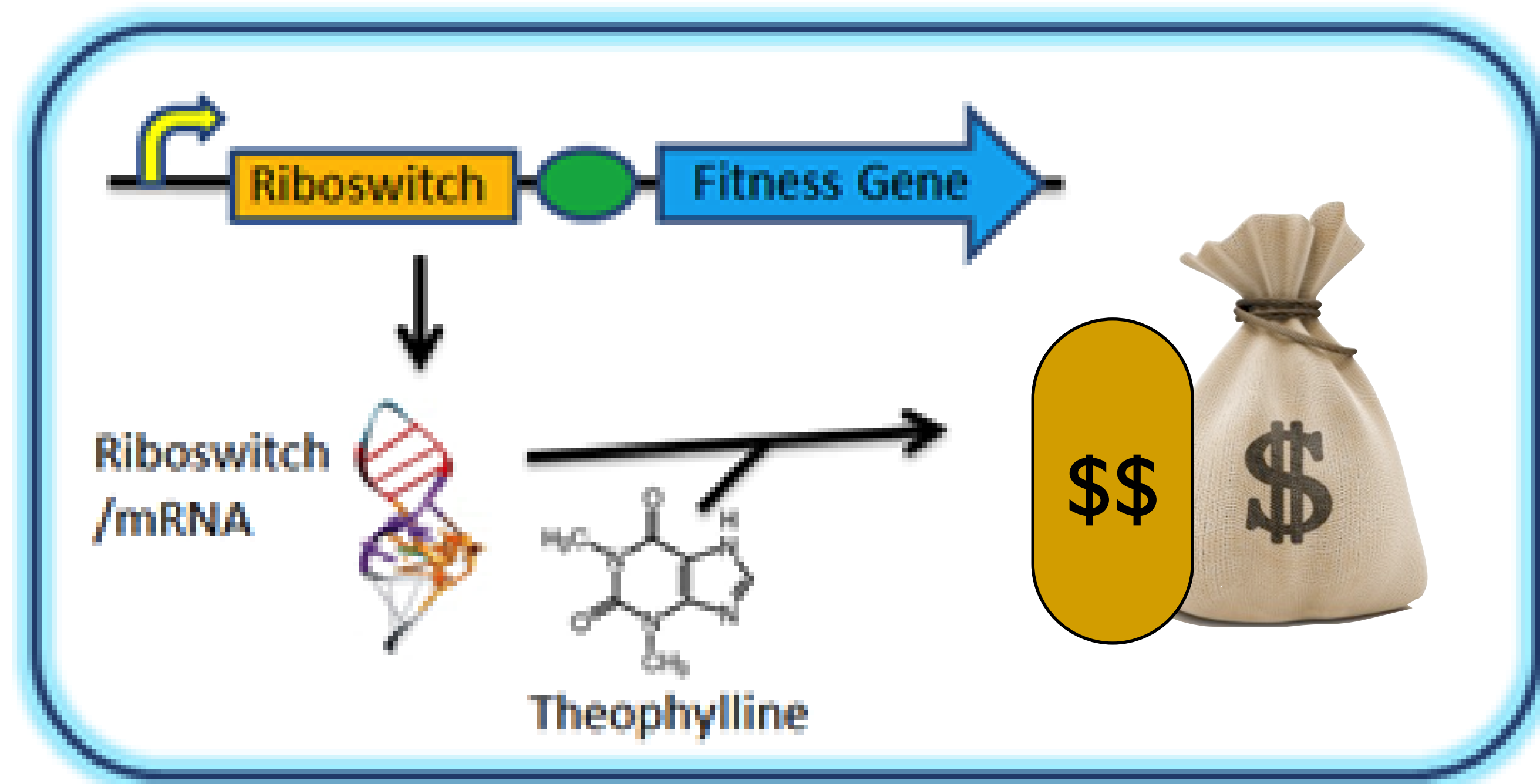
# Biosensor Detects Theophylline



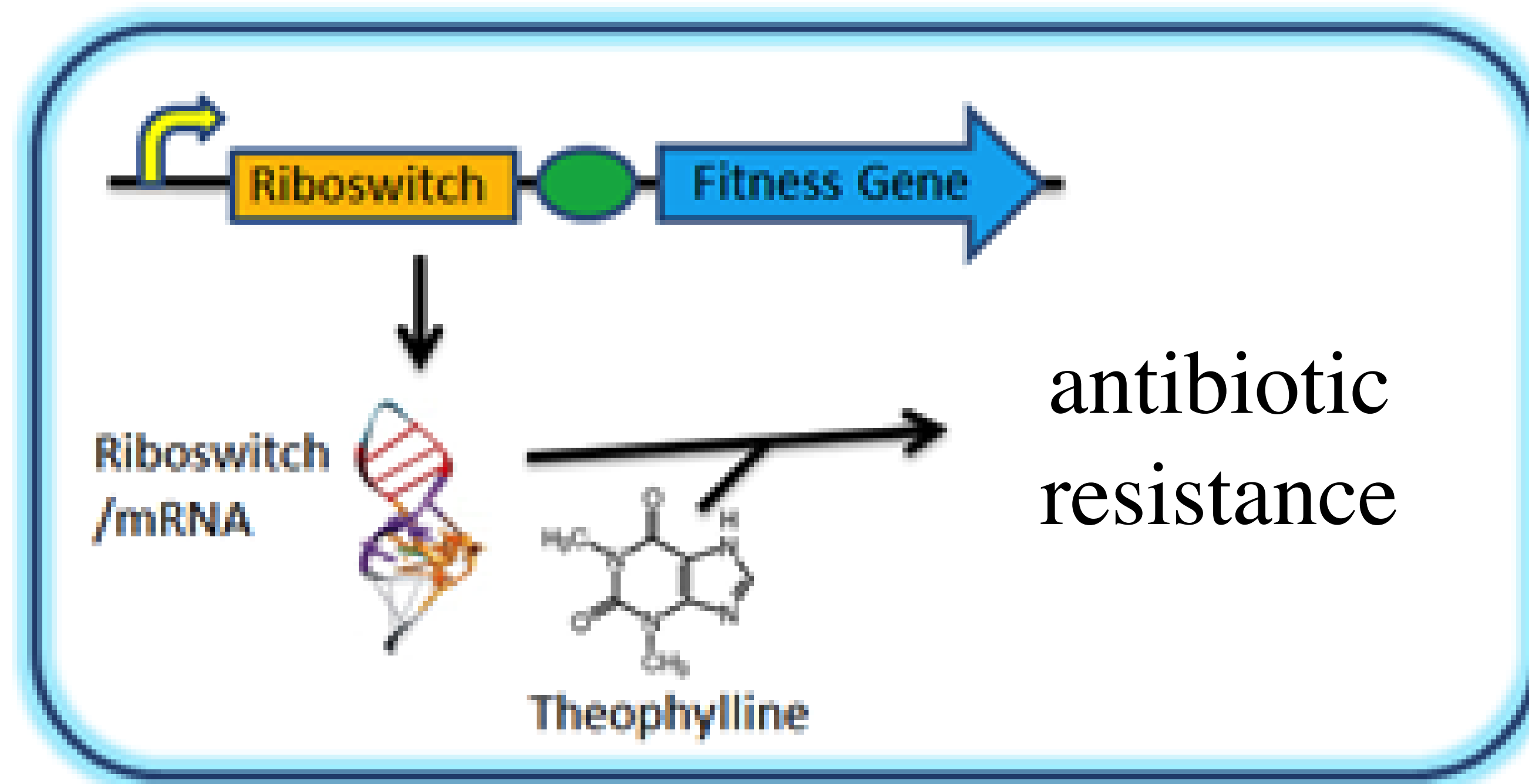
# Biosensor Detects Theophylline



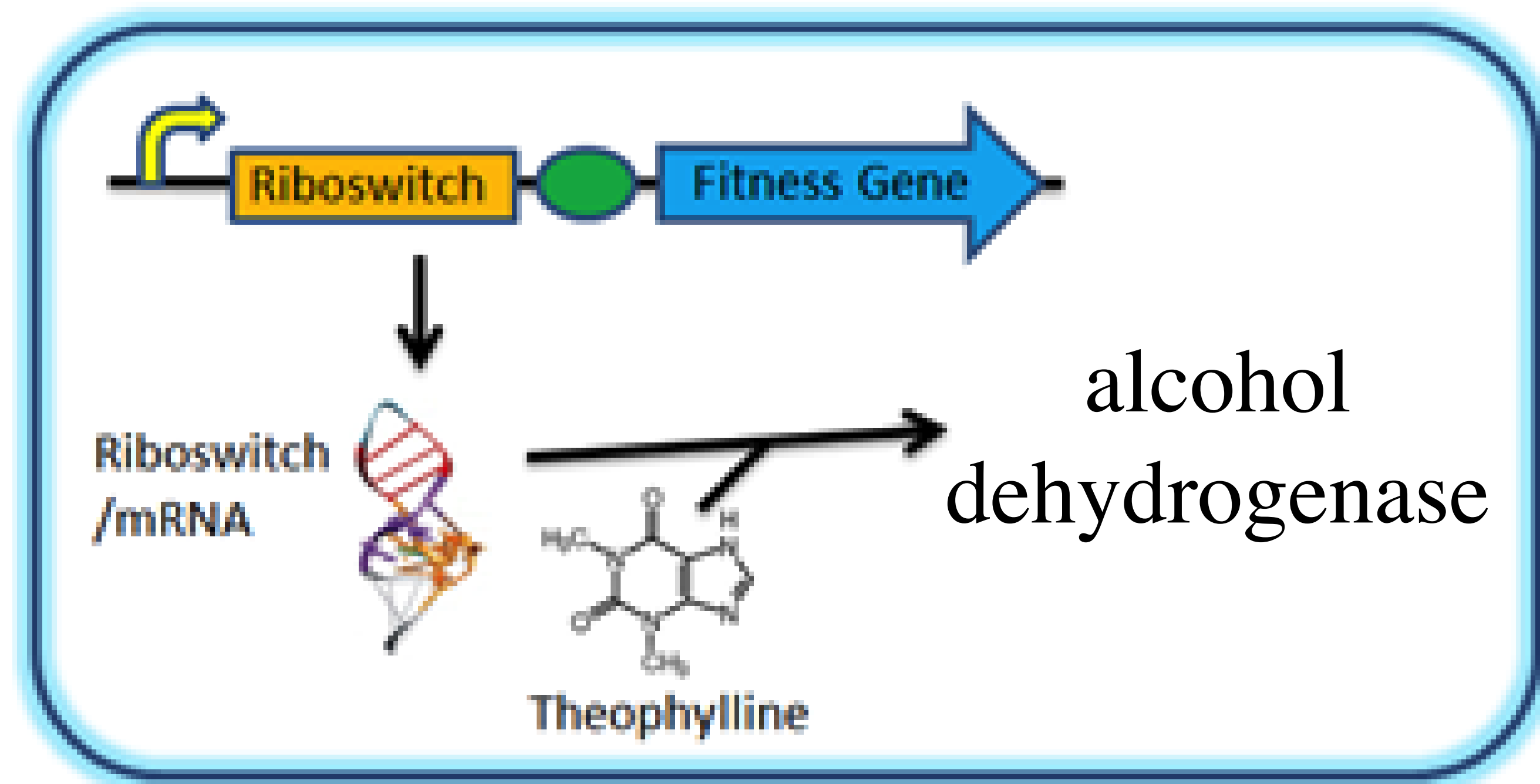
# Fitness Module



# Fitness Module



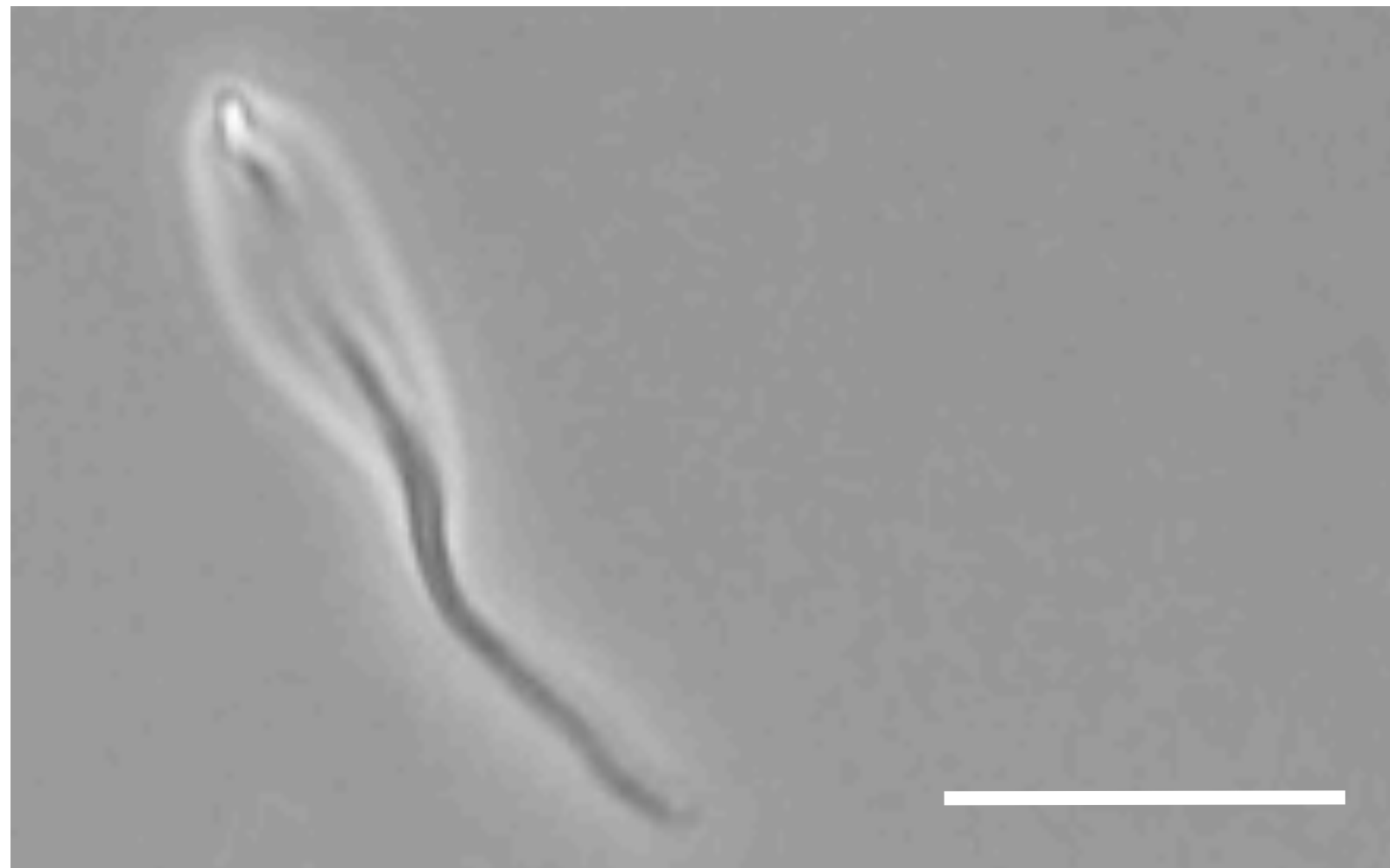
# Fitness Module



# Develop New Fitness Module

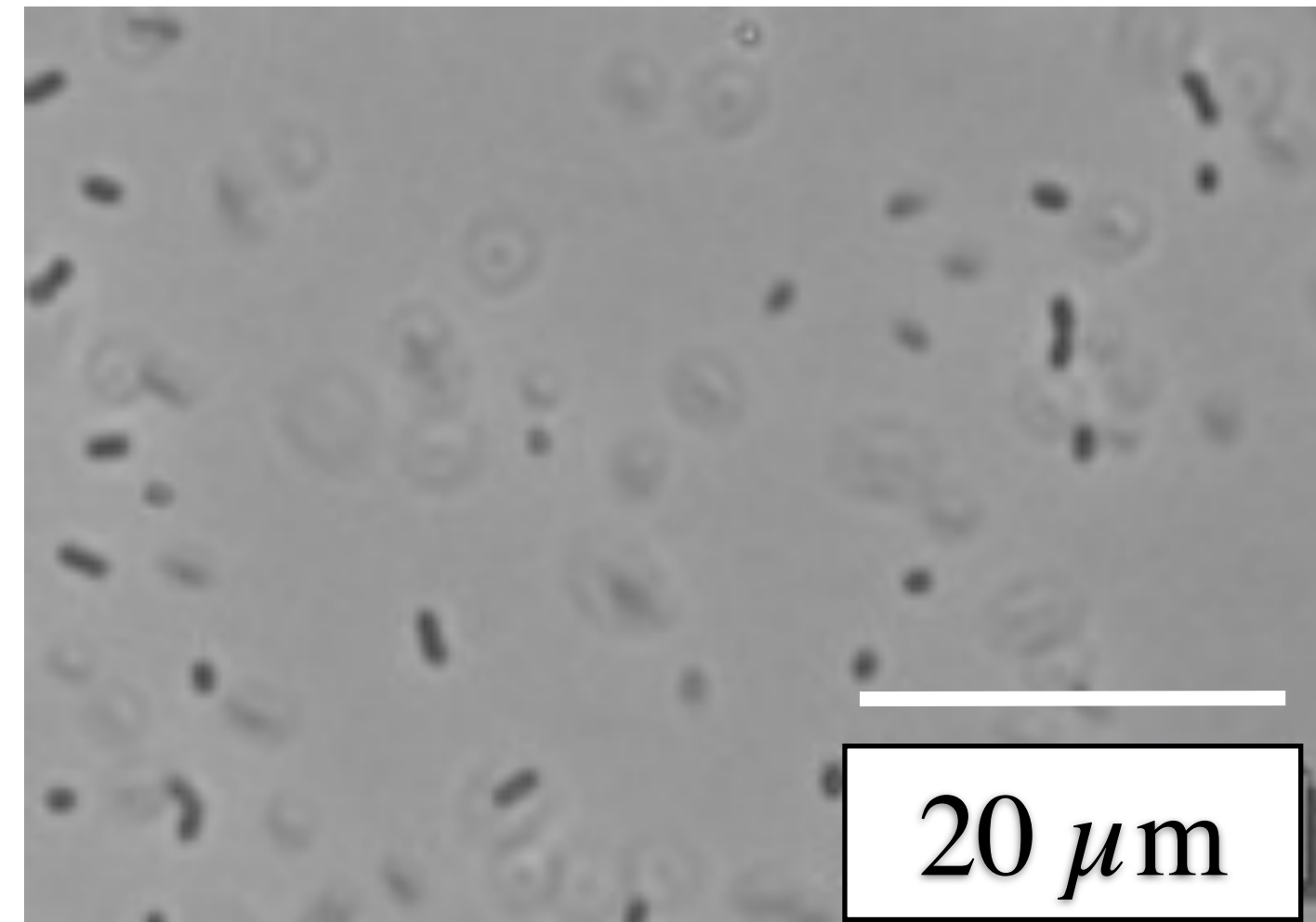
Elizabeth Brunner '16

*thyA*⁻ mutant



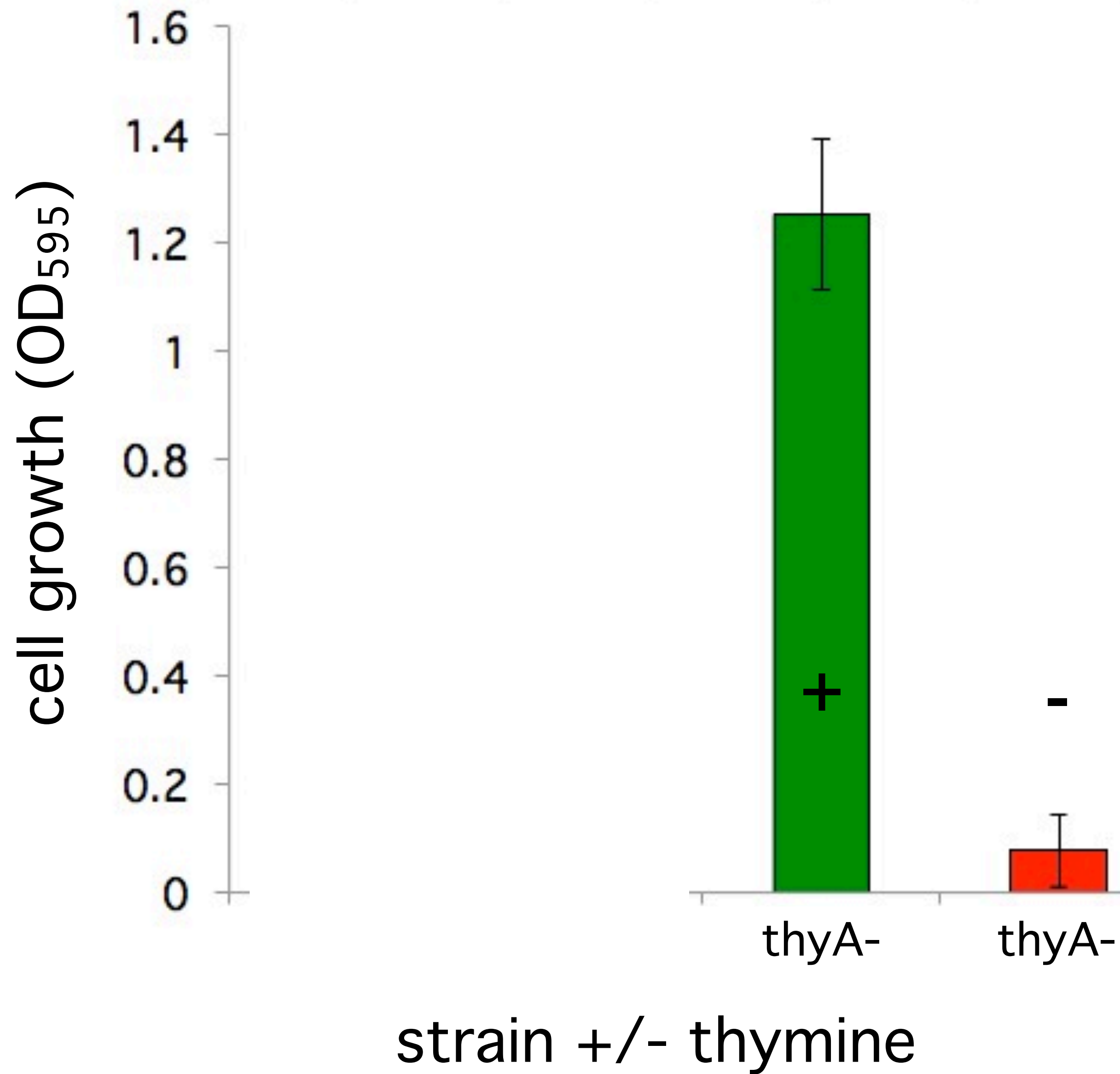
no DNA synthesis  
no cell division

**J100135**

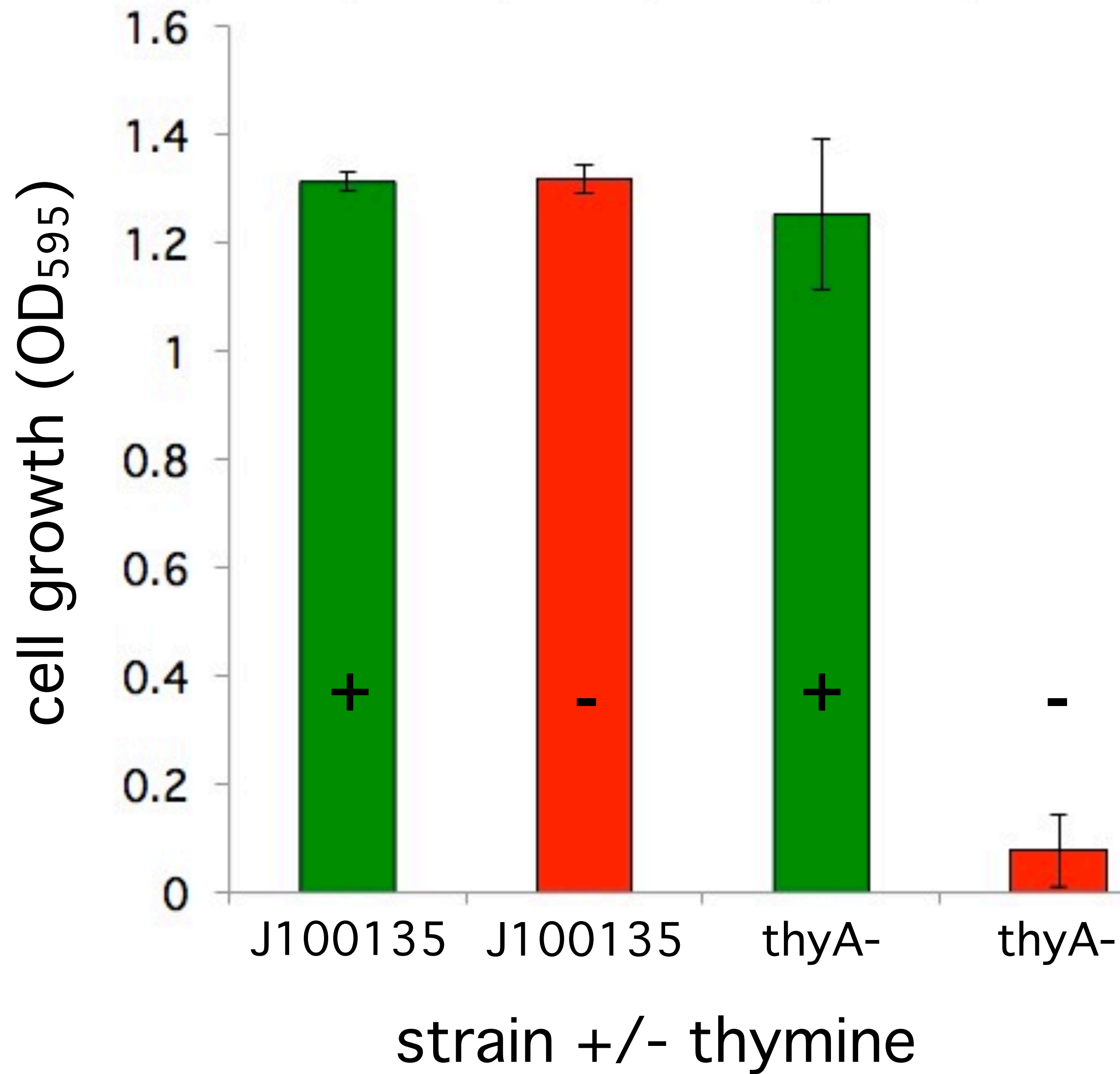


*thyA*⁻ mutant  
+ *thyA* transgene

# *thyA* Fitness Module



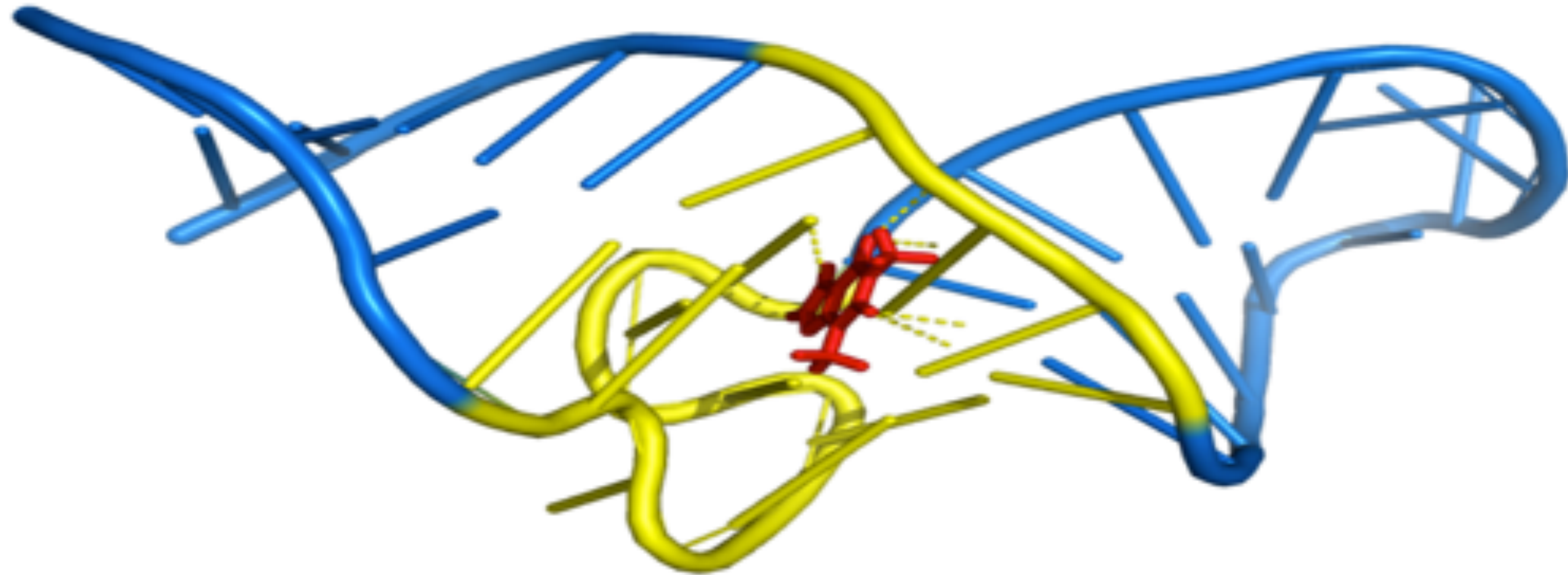
# *thyA* Fitness Module





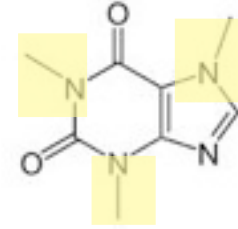
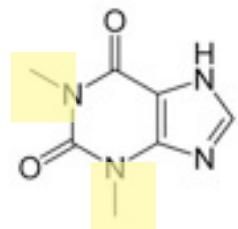
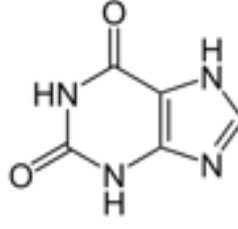
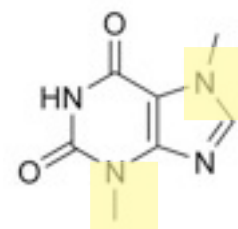
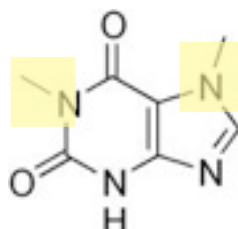
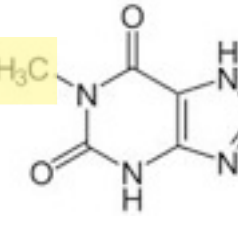
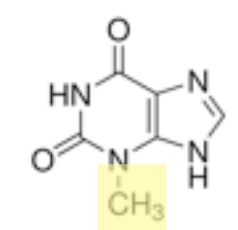
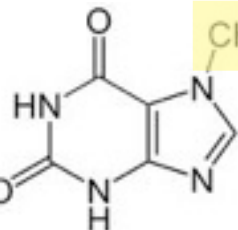
# Can We Make New Riboswitches?

Catherine Doyle '14

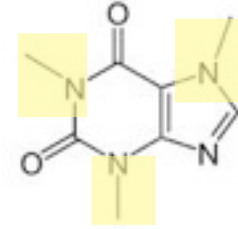
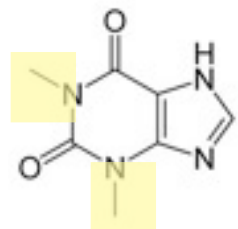
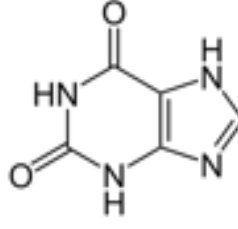
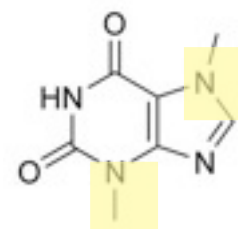
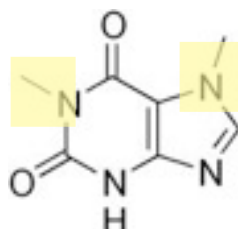
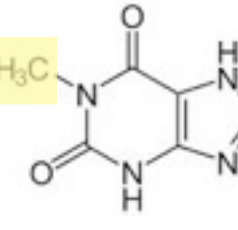
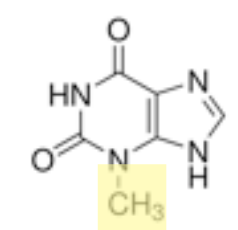
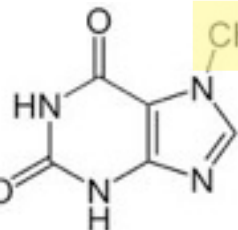


theophylline aptamer

# Need New Riboswitches

Name	Structure	Aptamer?	Riboswitch?
caffeine		yes	no
theophylline		yes	yes
xanthine		yes	no
theobromine		no	no
paraxanthine		no	no
1-methylxanthine		no	no
3-methylxanthine		yes	no
7-methylxanthine		no	no

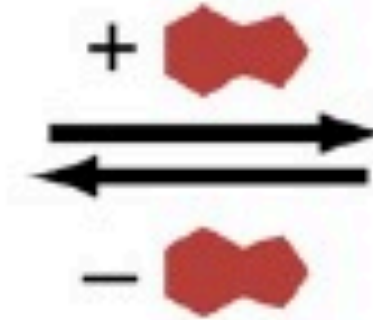
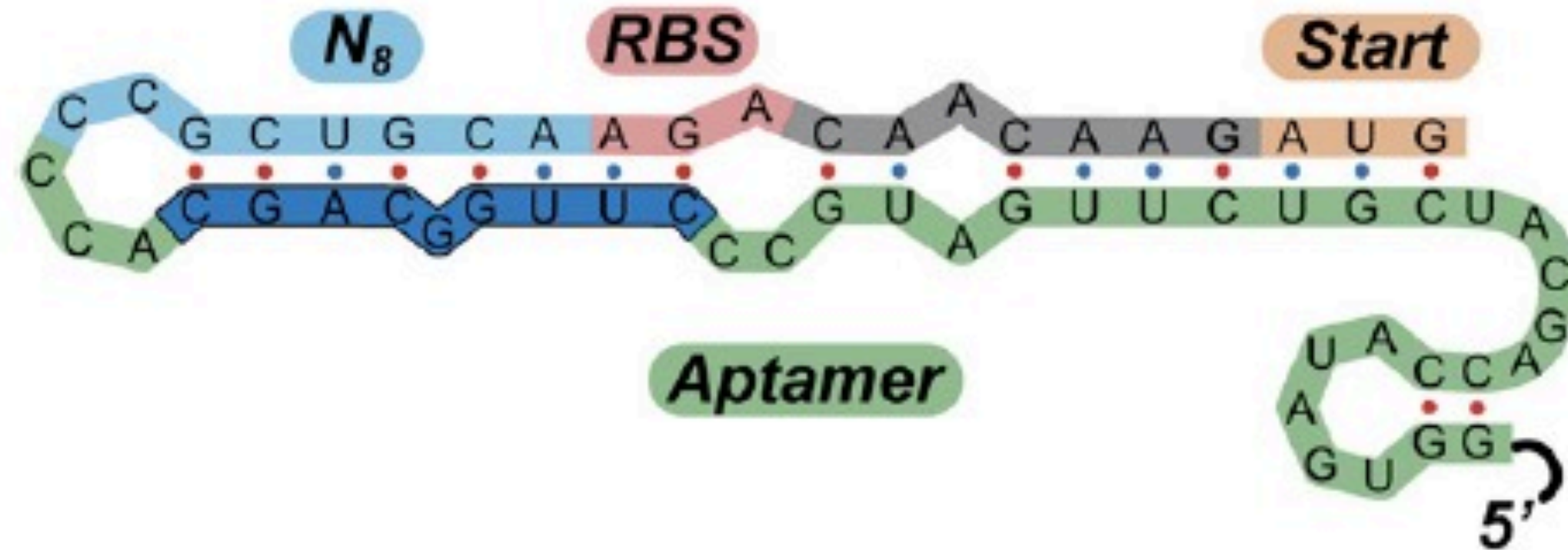
# Make New Riboswitches

Name	Structure	Aptamer?	Riboswitch?
caffeine		yes	no
theophylline		yes	yes
xanthine		yes	no
theobromine		no	no
paraxanthine		no	no
1-methylxanthine		no	no
3-methylxanthine		yes	no
7-methylxanthine		no	no

# Can we design new riboswitches?

**“Off”**

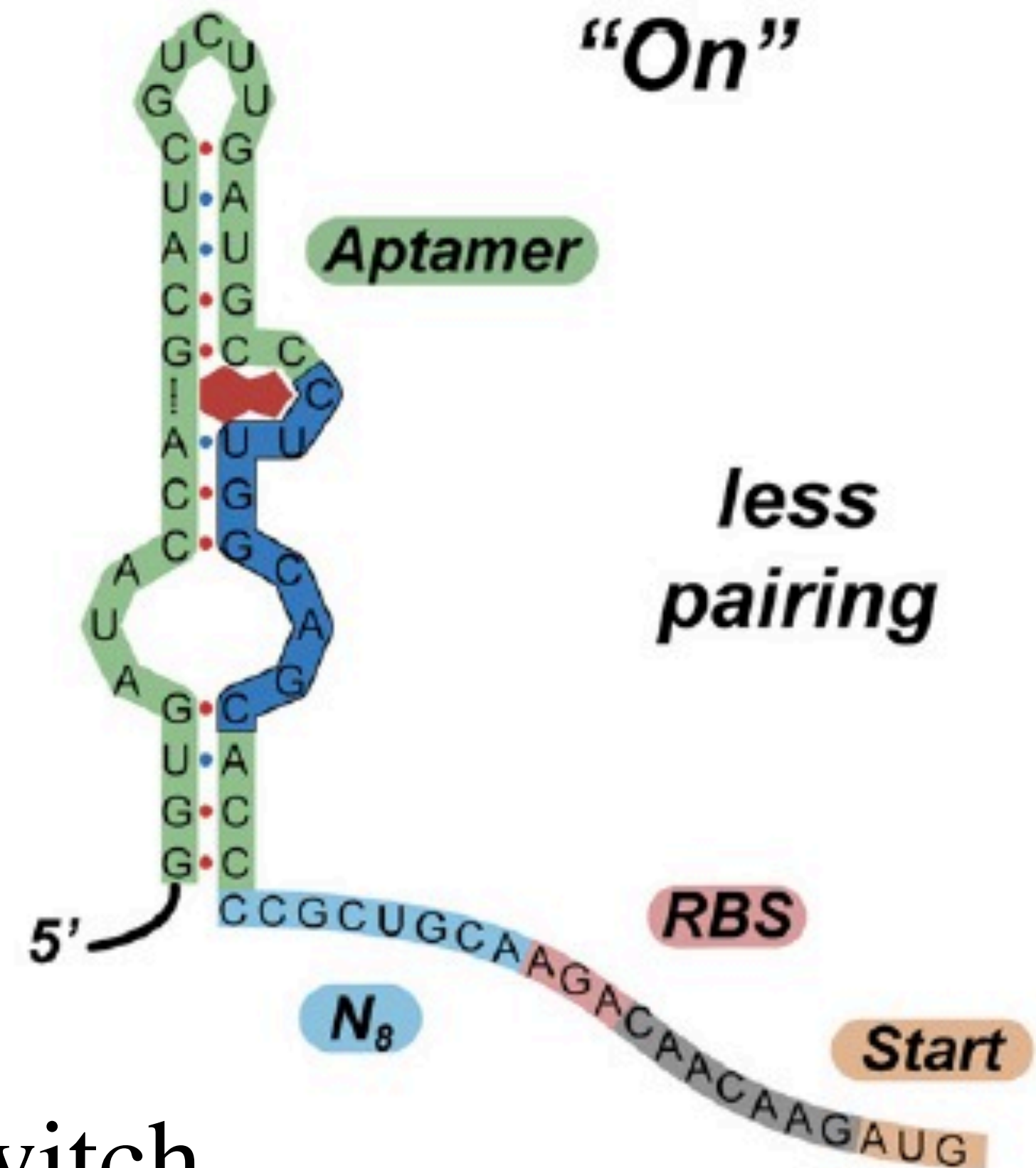
*extensive pairing*



**“On”**

**Aptamer**

*less pairing*

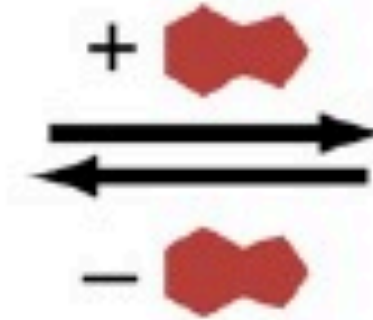
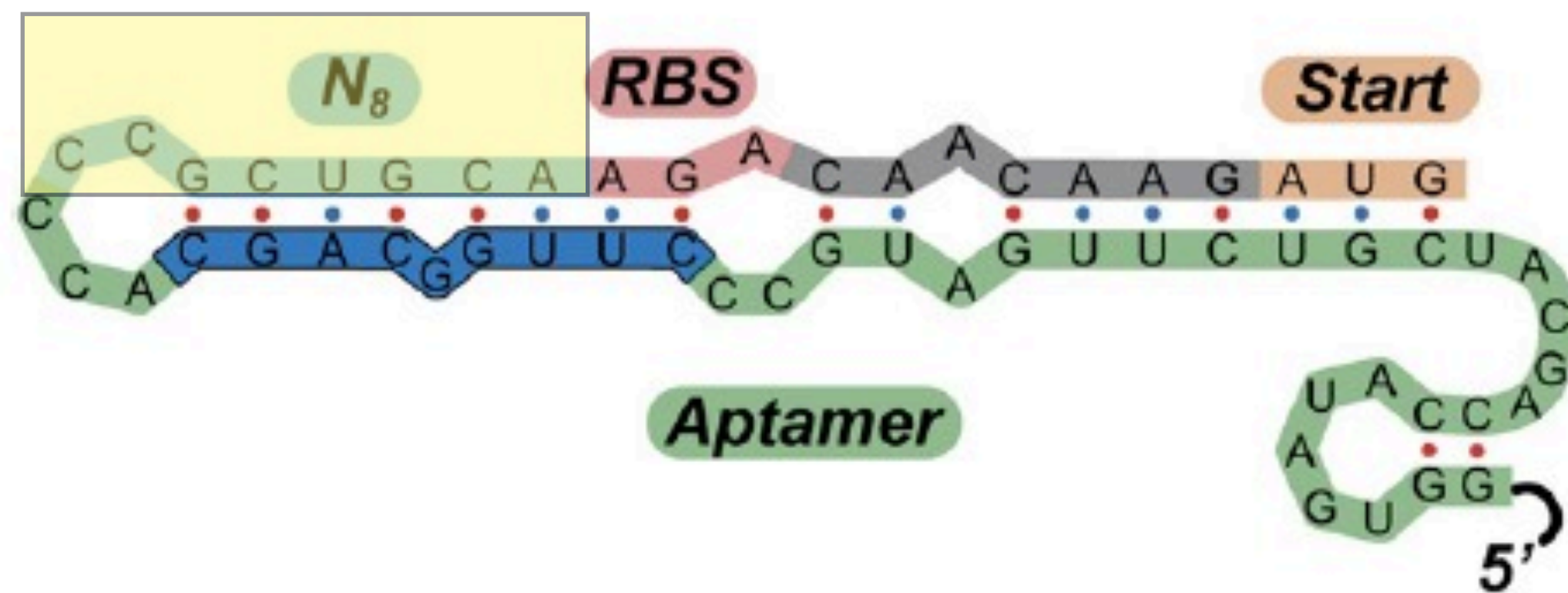


theophylline riboswitch

# Can we design new riboswitches?

**“Off”**

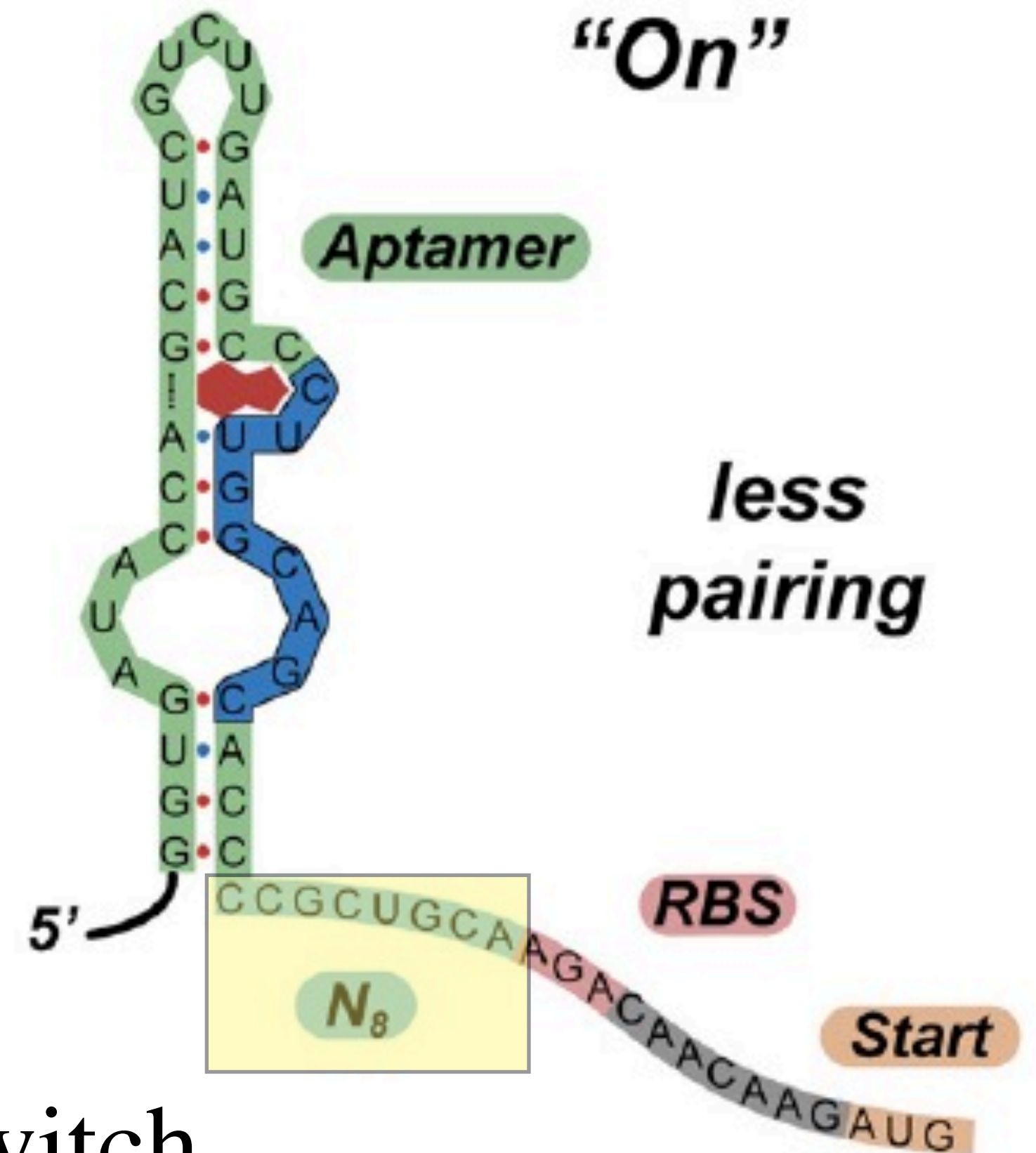
*extensive pairing*



**“On”**

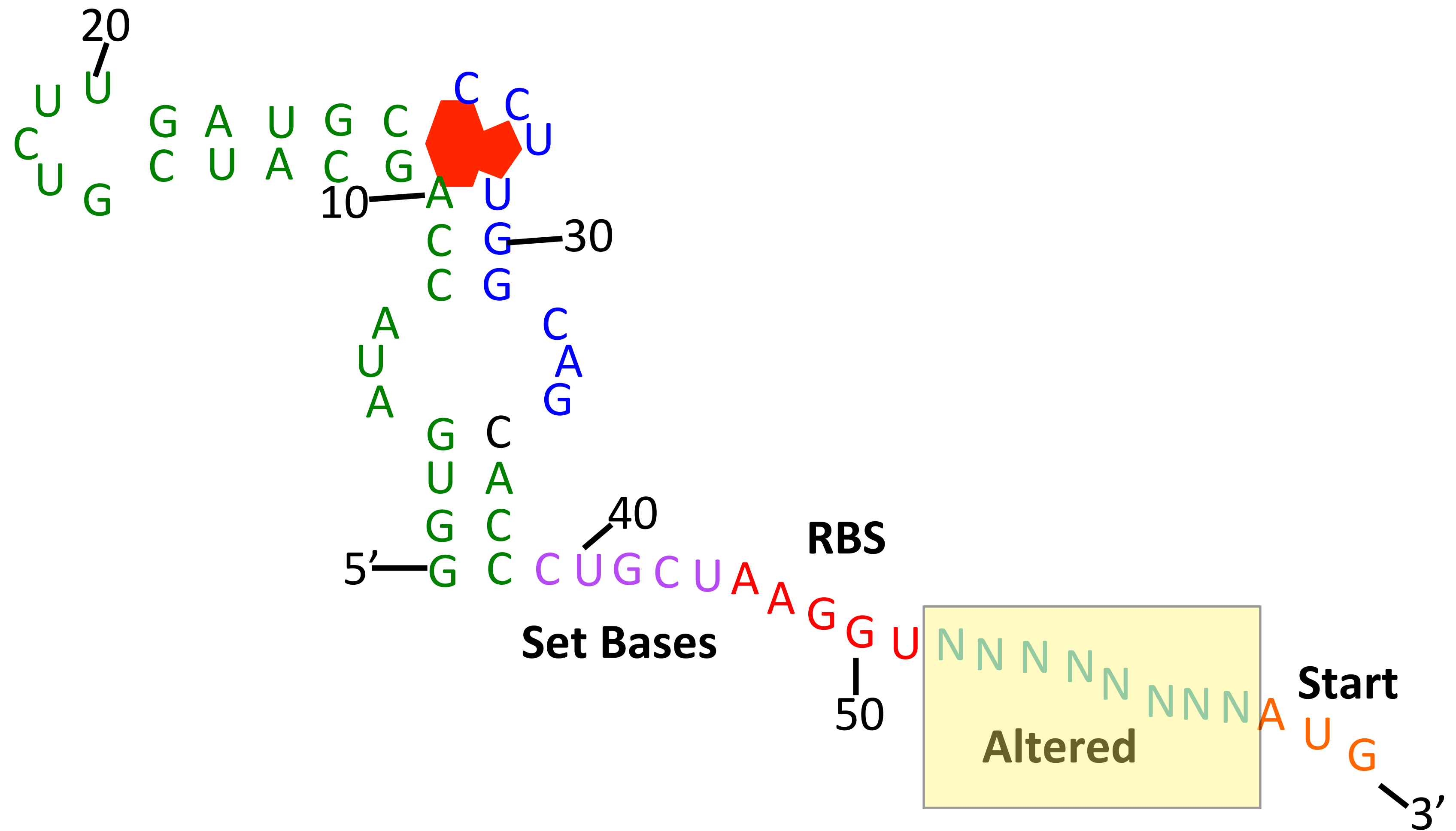
**Aptamer**

*less pairing*

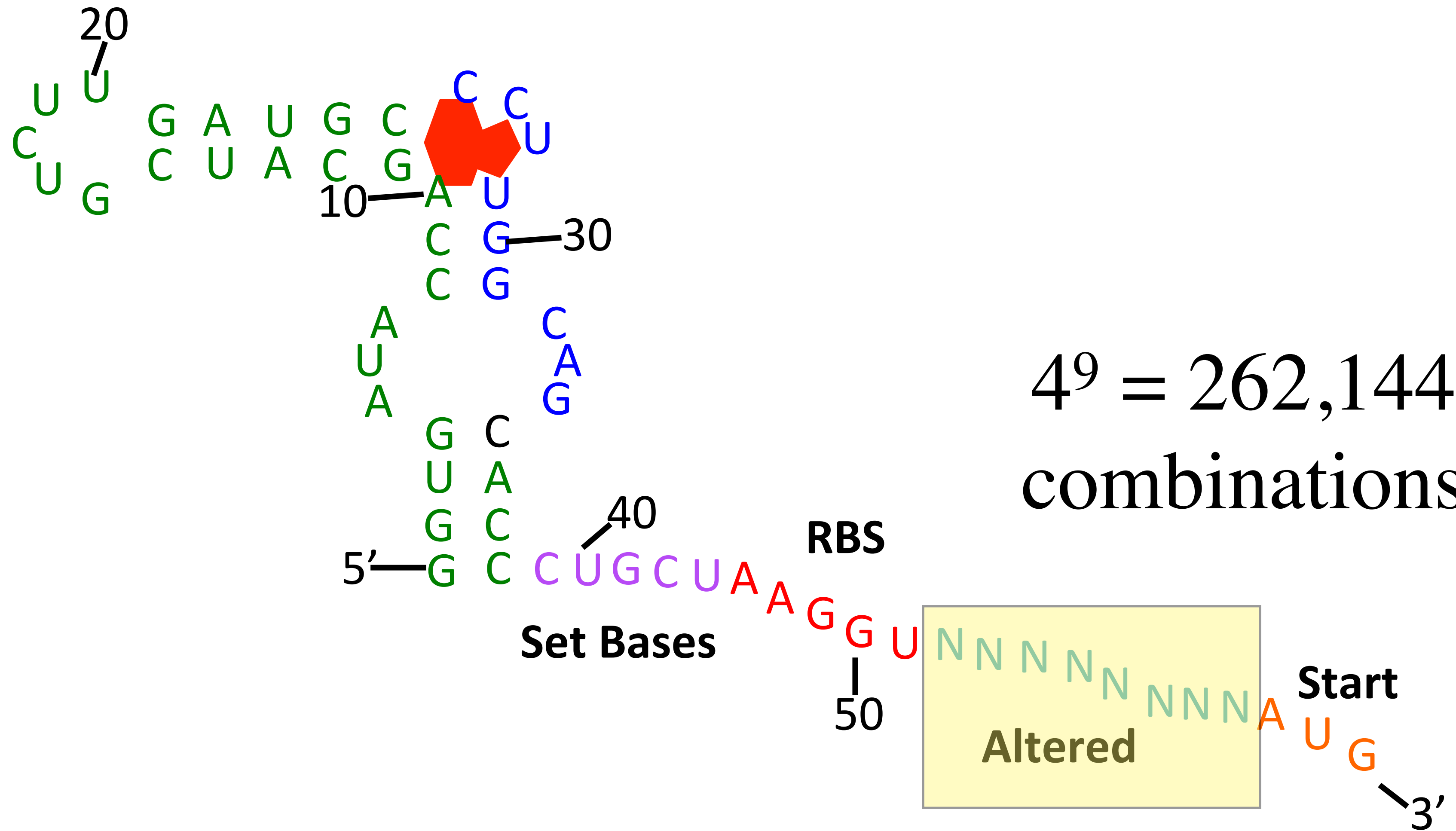


theophylline riboswitch

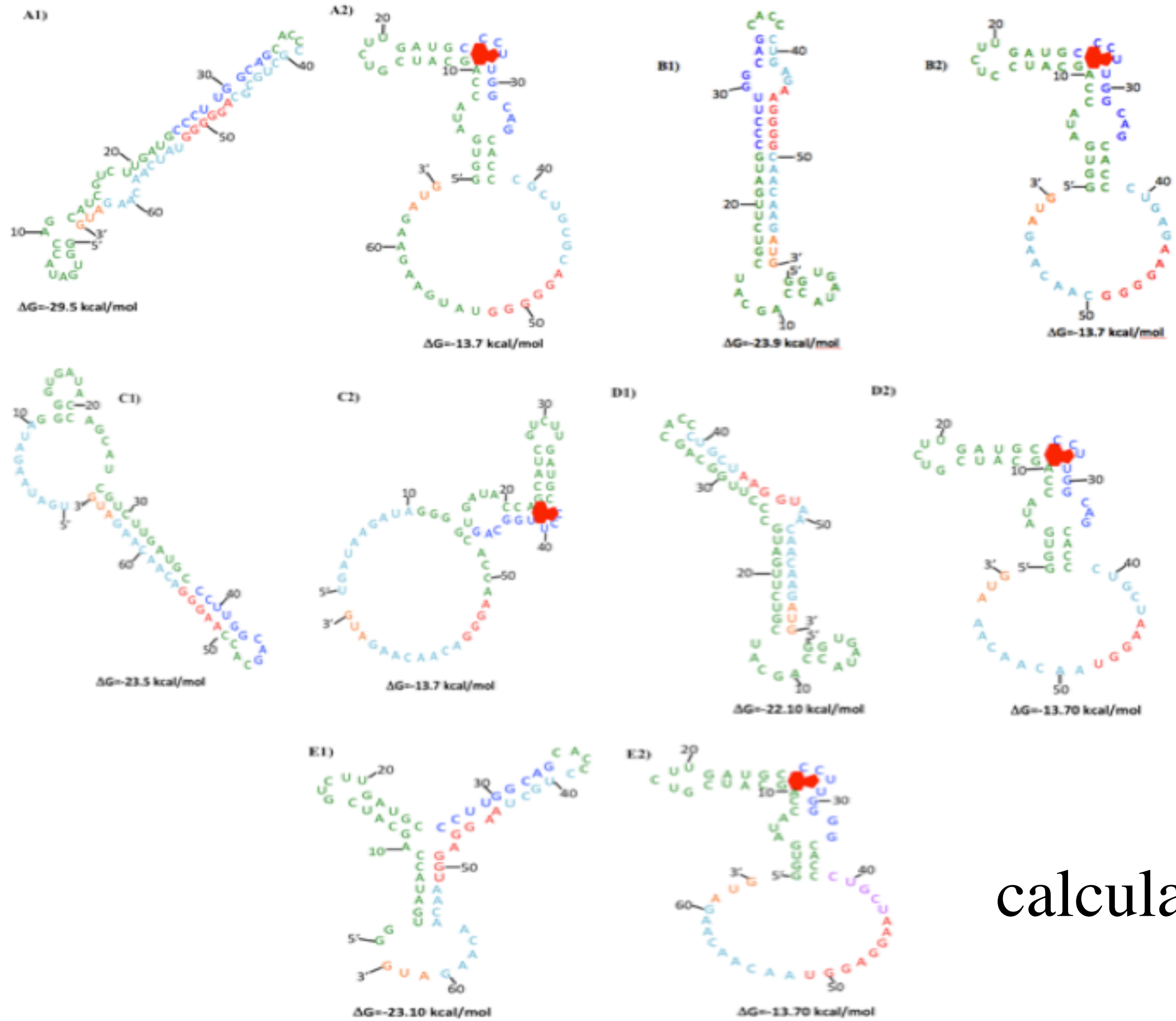
# Optimizing Riboswitches



# Optimizing Riboswitches



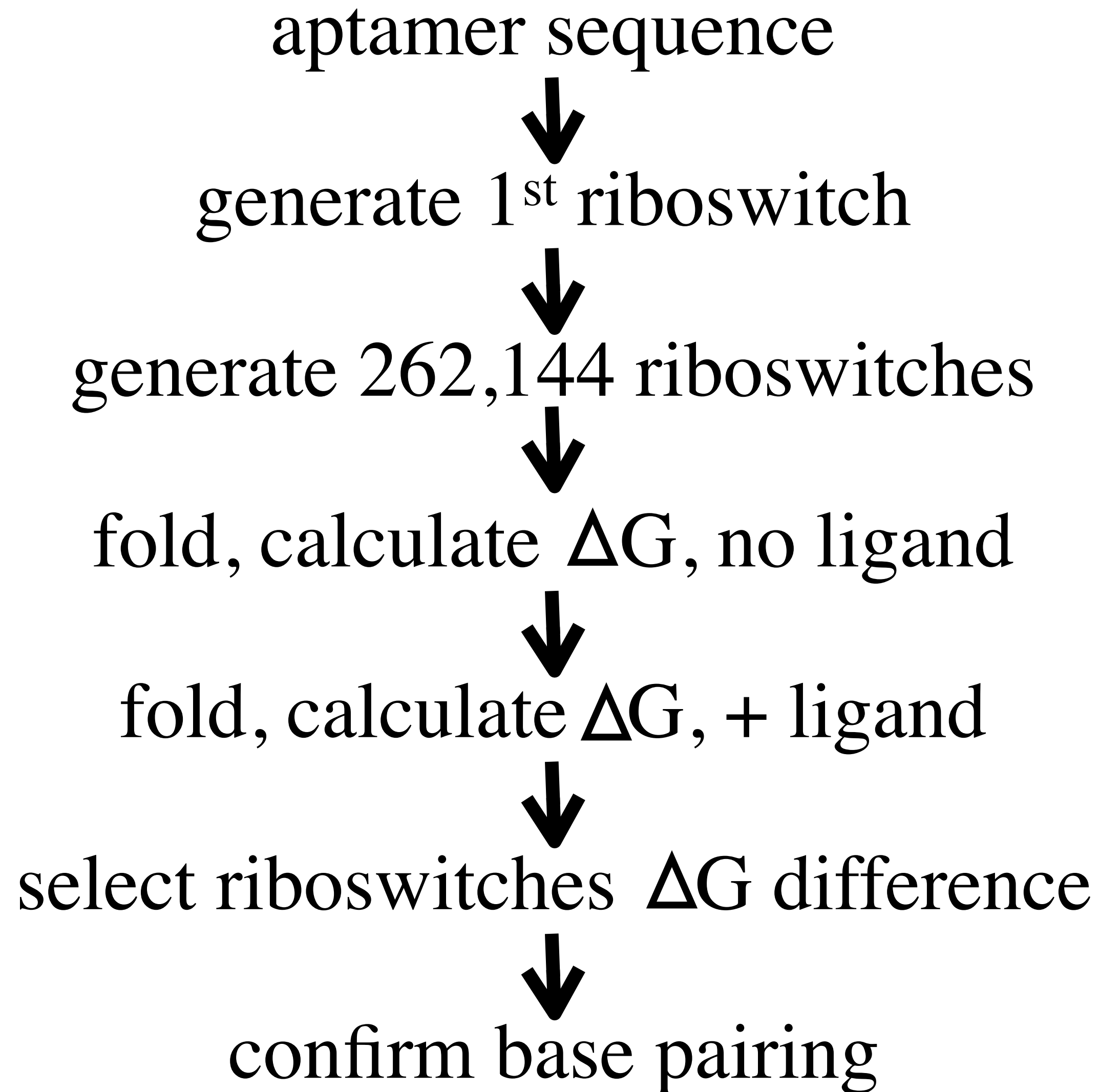
# Fold Candidate Riboswitches



calculate free energy

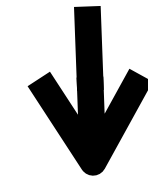


# Python Scripts for *in silico* Screening

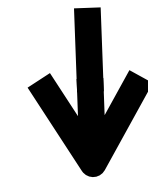


# Python Scripts for *in silico* Screening

aptamer sequence



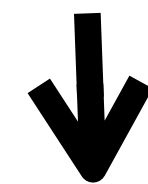
generate 1st riboswitch



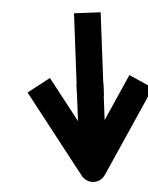
generate 262,144 riboswitches



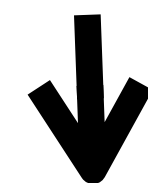
fold, calculate  $\Delta G$ , no ligand



fold, calculate  $\Delta G$ , + ligand



select riboswitches  $\Delta G$  difference



confirm base pairing

**8 theophylline**

**17 caffeine**

# What's Next?

✓ make all 25 candidate riboswitches

✓ test candidate riboswitches

incorporate *thyA* fitness module

optimize CDM production

publish paper

buy beach house in Caribbean

# What is the secret to success?

“Would you like me to give you a formula for success? It's quite simple, really. **Double your rate of failure.** You are thinking of failure as the enemy of success. But it isn't at all. You can be discouraged by failure or you can learn from it, so go ahead and make mistakes. Make all you can. Because remember, that's where you will find success.”

Thomas J. Watson  
Founder of IBM

**The scenery only changes for the lead dog.**



# The scenery only changes for the lead dog.



# Acknowledgements

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The Duke Endowment, NSF, HHMI

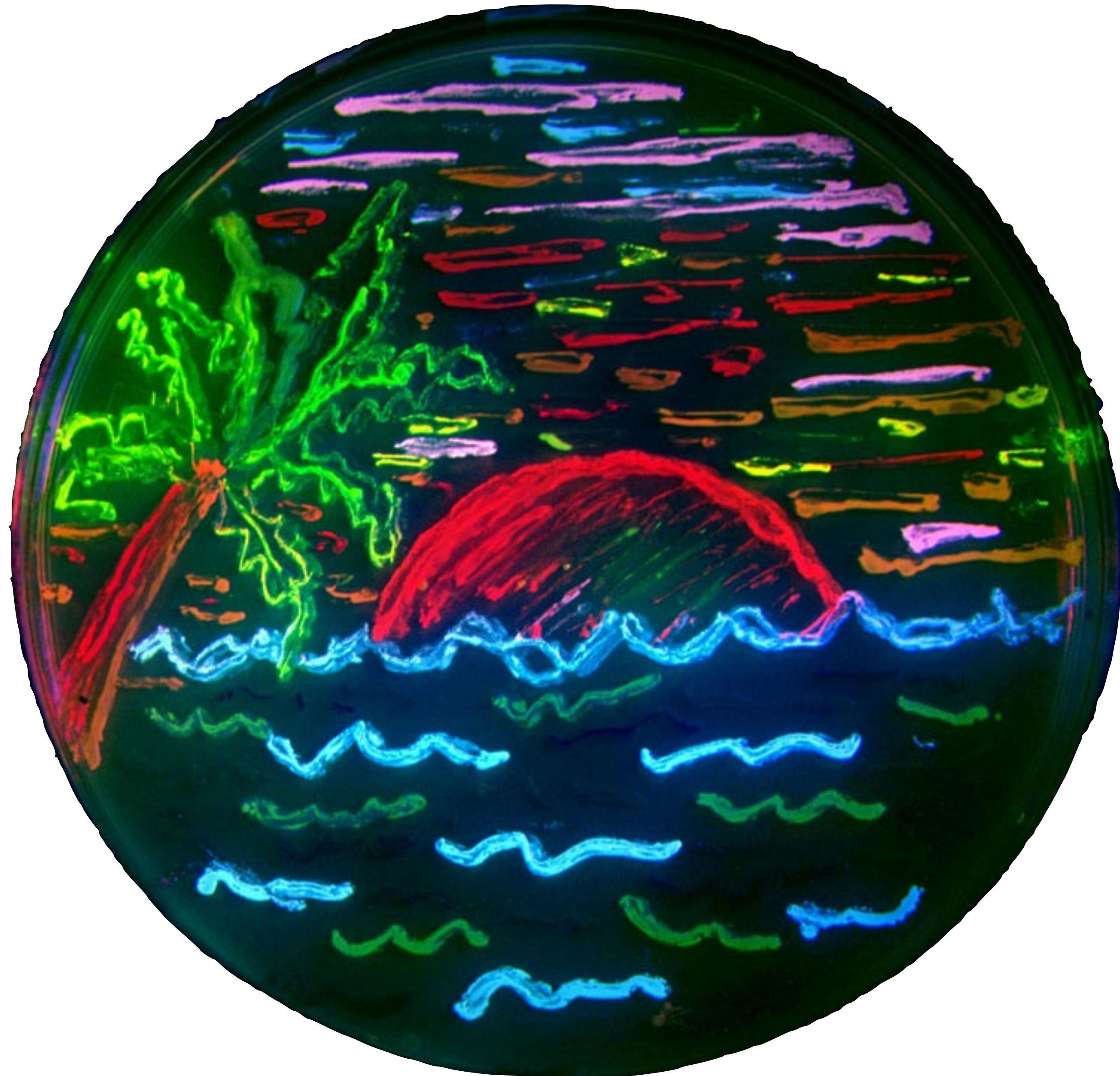
Genome Consortium for Active Teaching (GCAT)

Davidson College James G. Martin Genomics Program

MWSU SGA, Foundation & Summer Research Institute



# The End





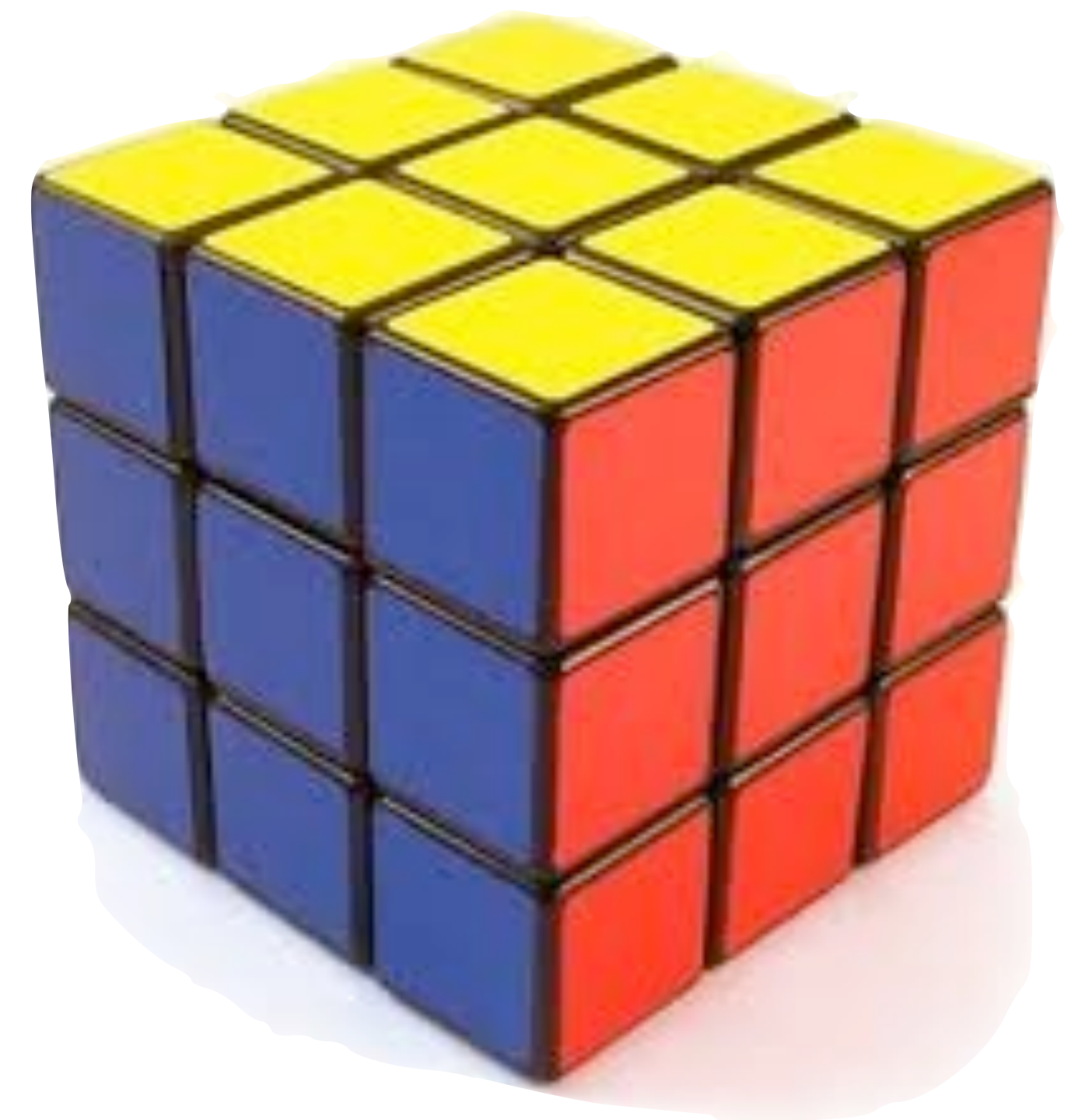


# Math Modeling of Programmed Evolution

metabolic flux =  $f(\text{promoter, RBSs, alleles, \# plasmids})$



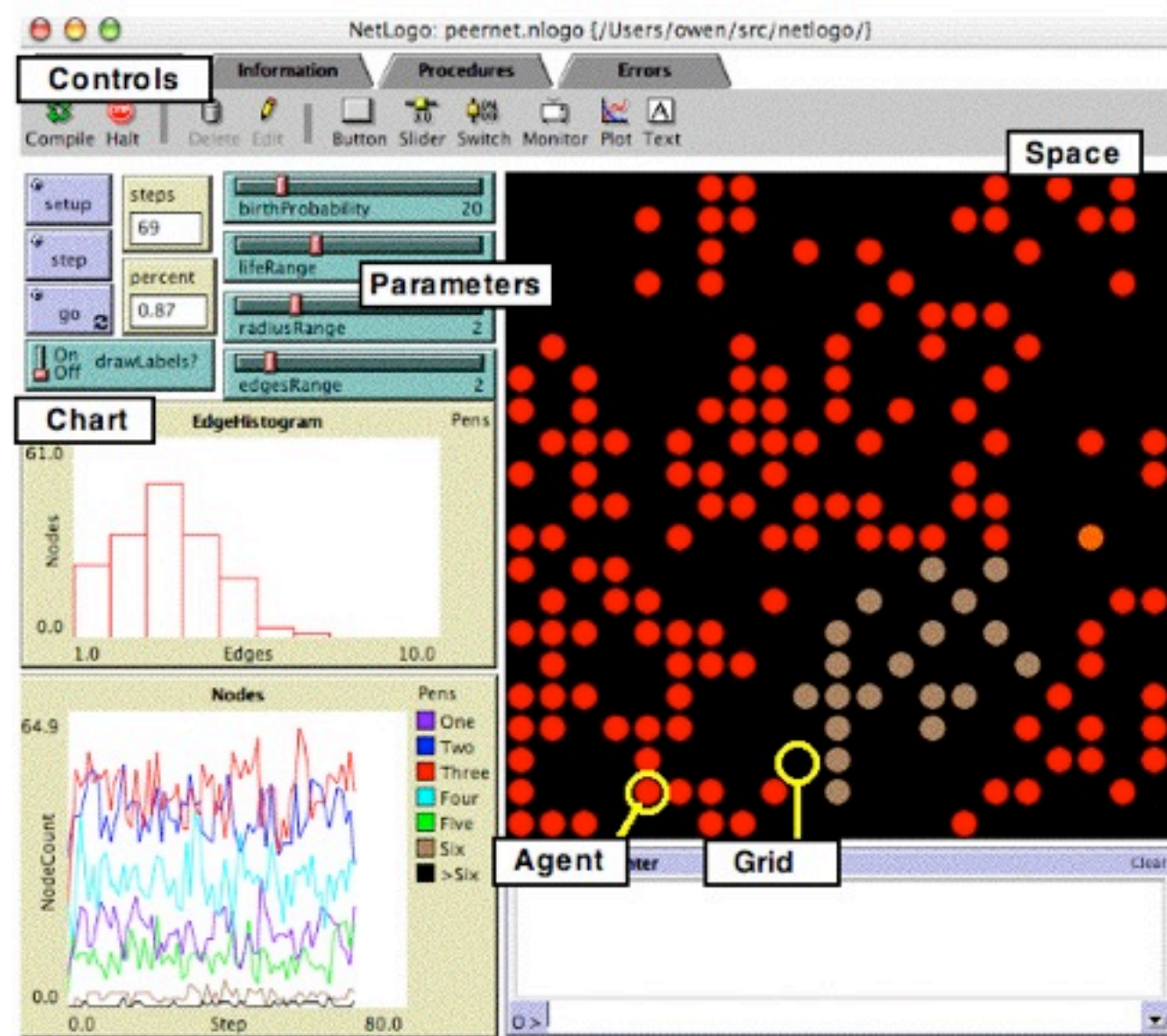
humans  
→  
bacteria



searching multi-dimensional space

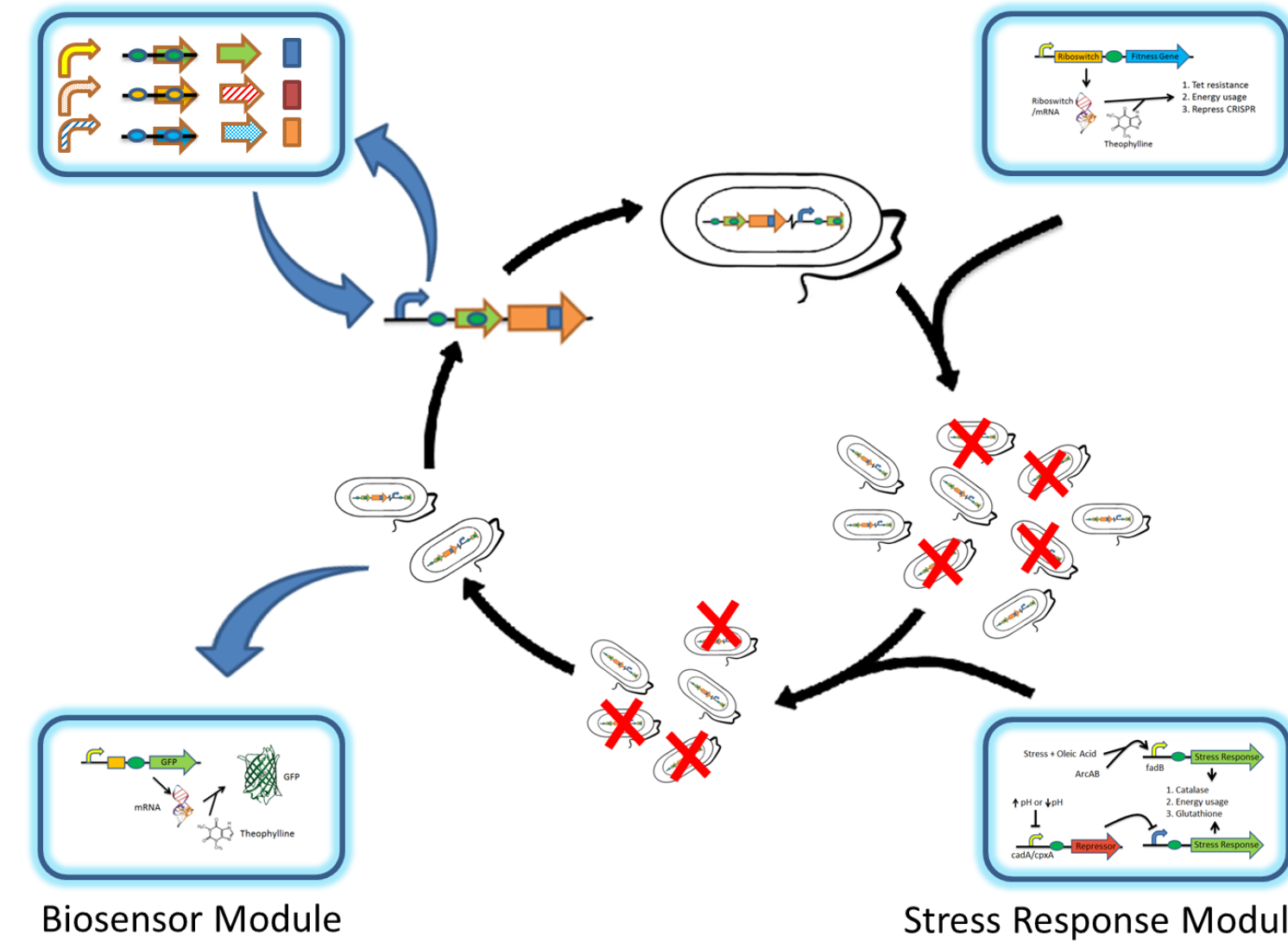
# Agent-Based Models of Programmed Evolution

NetLogo

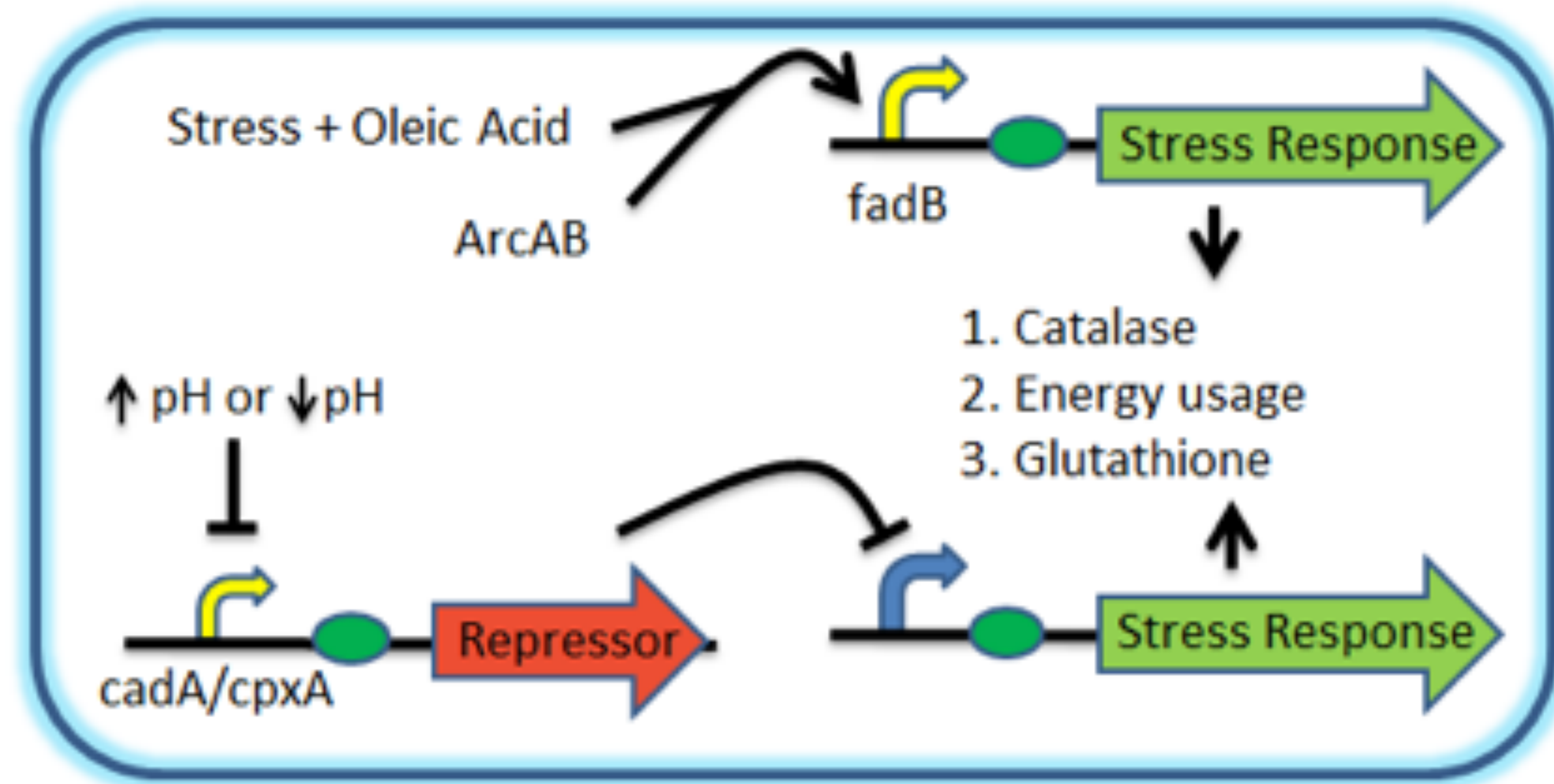


Combinatorics Module

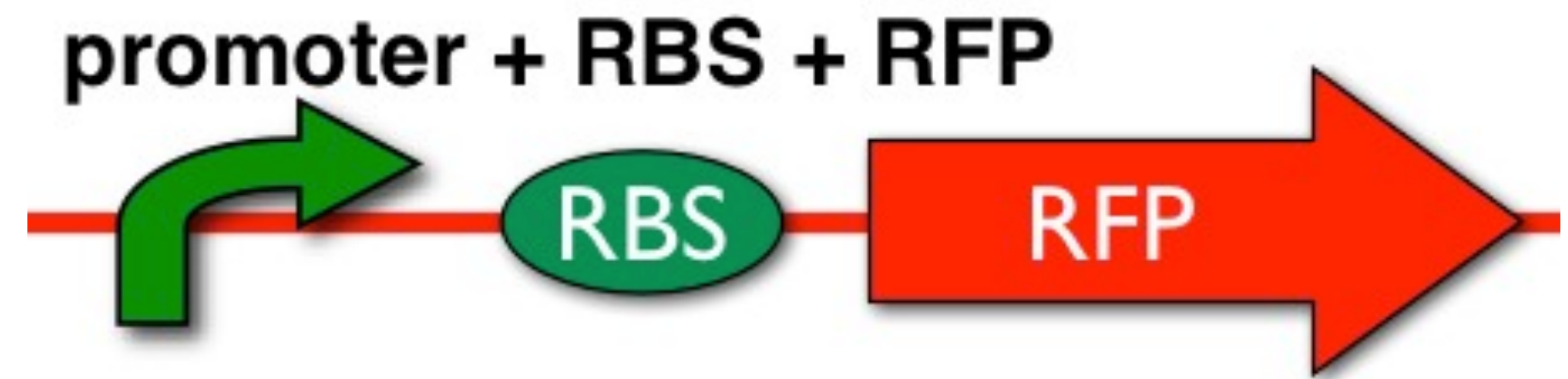
Fitness Module



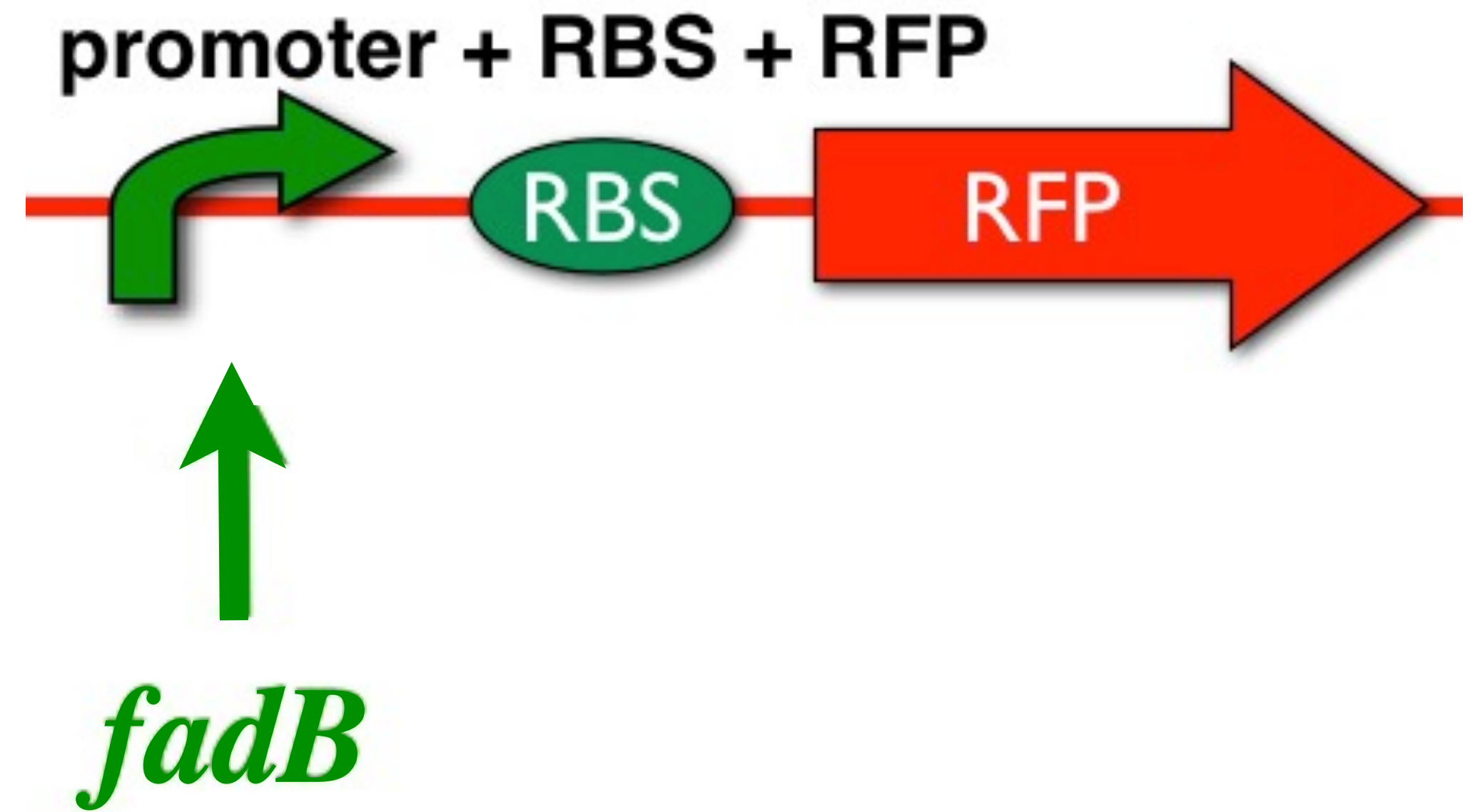
# Stress Response Module



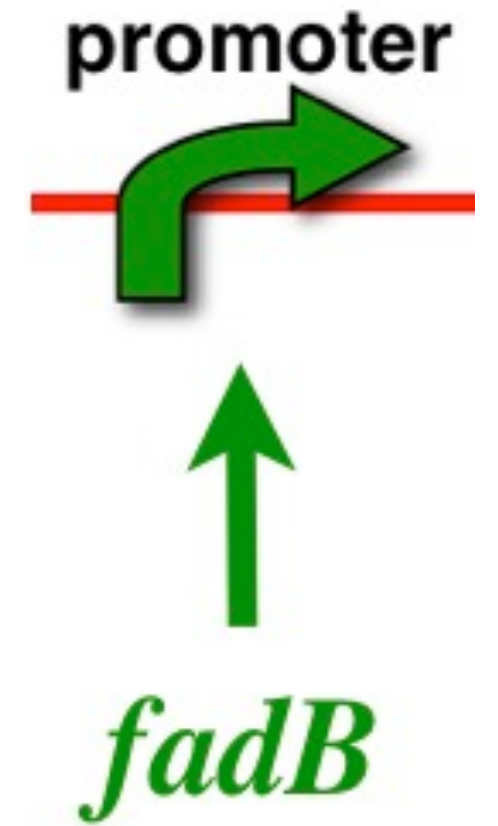
# Engineering a Stress Module



# Engineering a Stress Module



# Engineering a Stress Module



AATTCGCGGCCGCTTCTAGAGATCGGCATTTCTTTAATCTTTTGTTTGCATATTTTTAACACAAAATACACACTTCGACTCATCTGGTACGACCAGATCACCTTGCTACTAGTAGCGGCCGCTGCA  
GCGCCGGCGAAGATCTCTAGCCGTAAAGAAATTAGAAAACAAACGTATAAAAATTGTGTTTTATGTGTGAAGCTGAGTAGACCATGCTGGTCTAGTGGAACGATGATCATCGCCGGCG

# Engineering a Stress Module

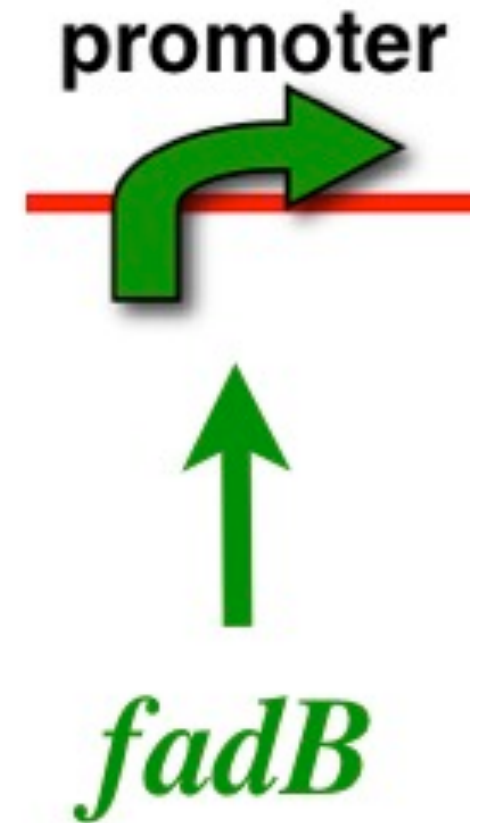
AATTCGCGGCCGCTTCTAGAGATCGG

ATTTCTTTAATCTTTTGTTTGCATATTTTAAACACAAAATACACACTTCGACTCATCTGGTACGACC

ACGTCGCCGGCGATGATCATCGTTCCACTAGA

GCGCCGGCGAAGATCTCTAGCCGTAAAGAAATTAGAAAACAAACGTATAAAAATTGTGTTTTATGTG

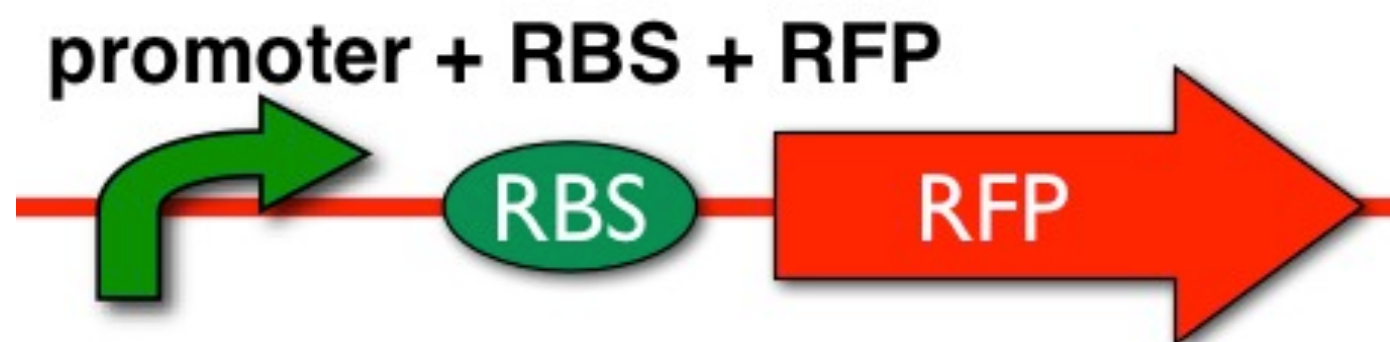
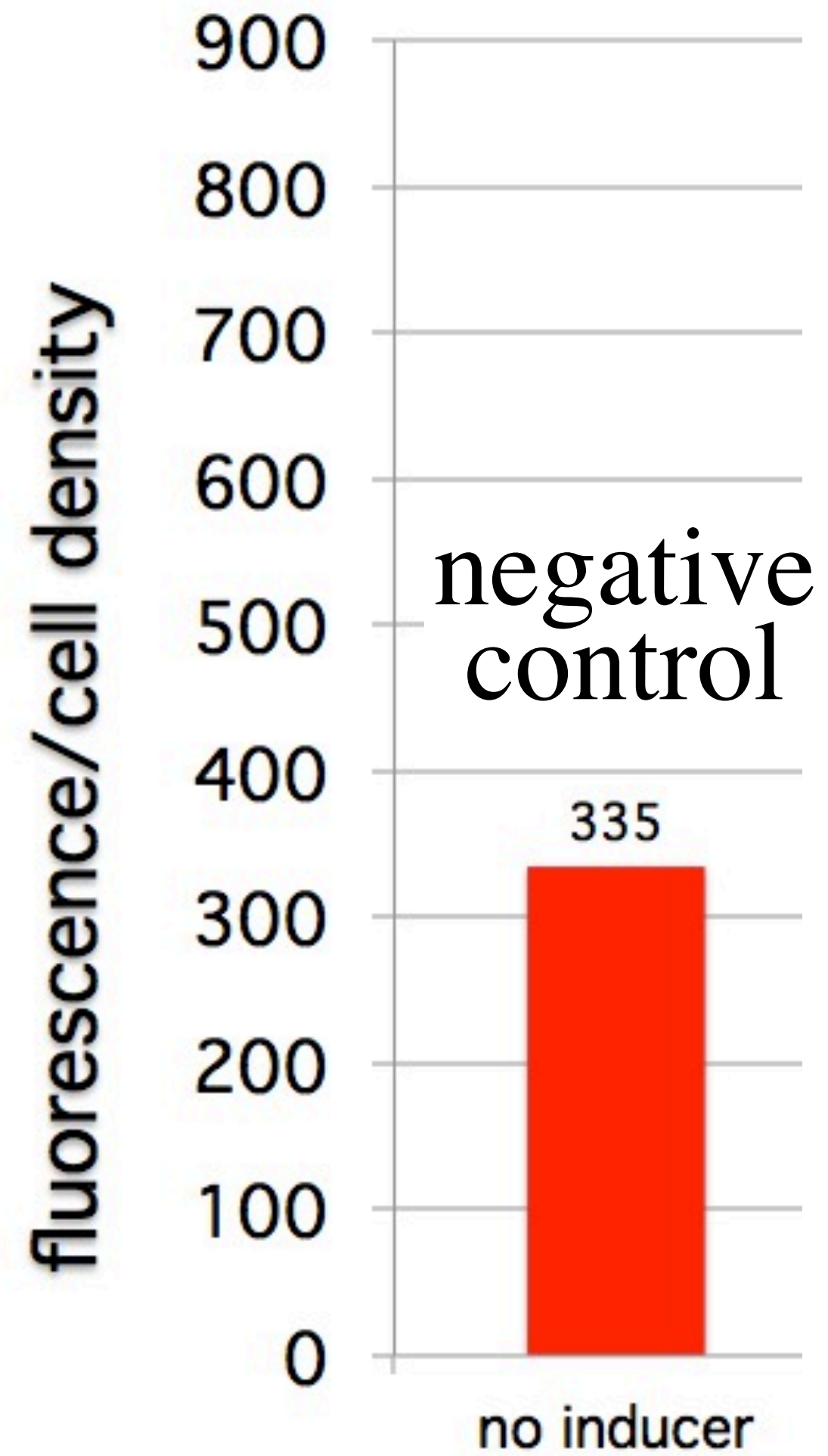
TGAAGCTGAGTAGACCATGCTGGTCTAGTGGAACGATGATCATCGCCGGCG



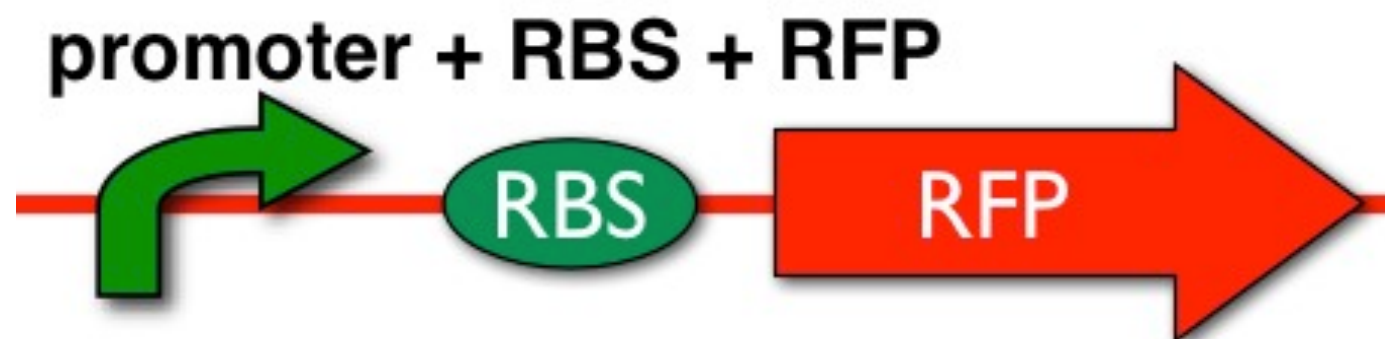
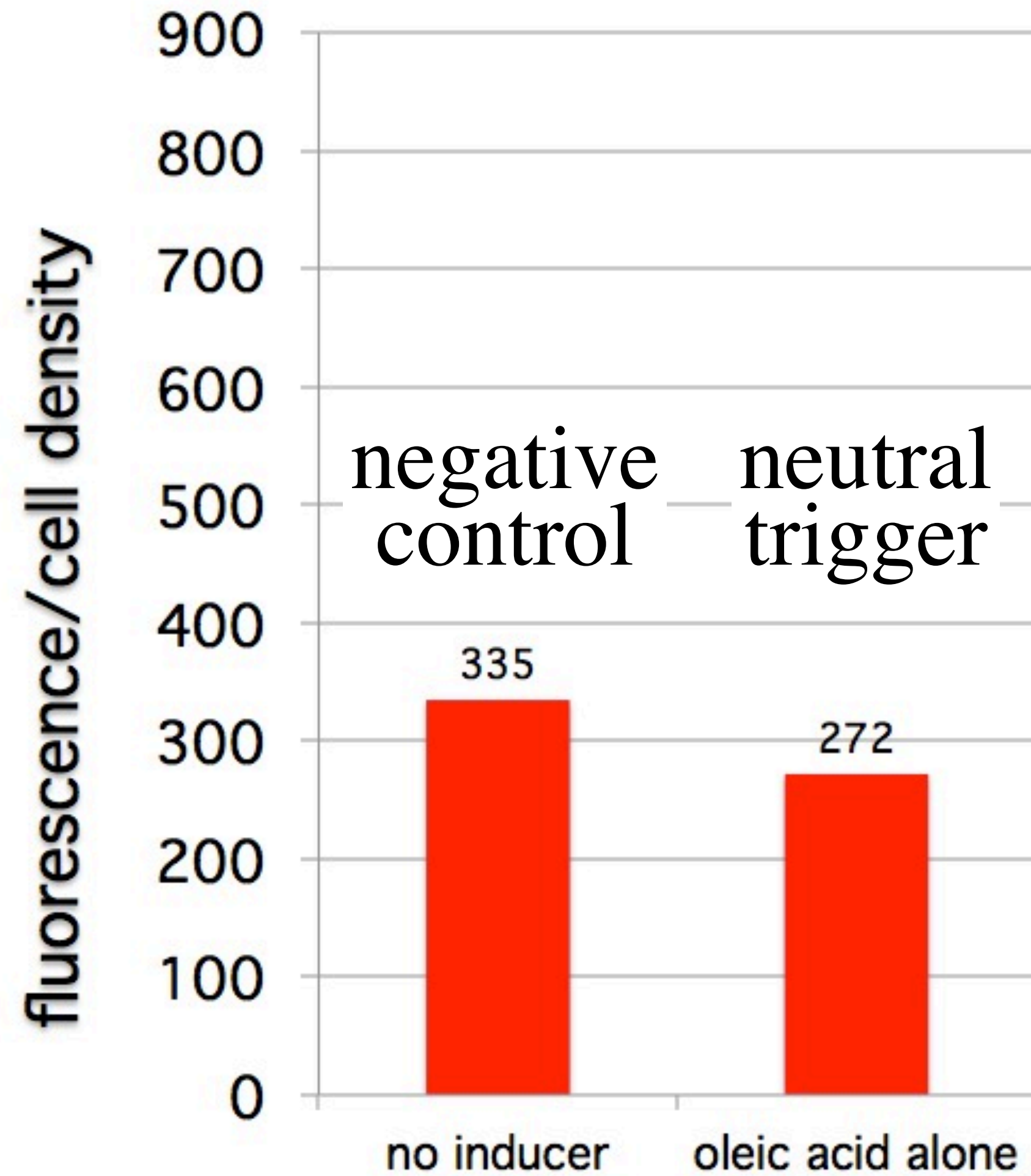
AATTCGCGGCCGCTTCTAGAGATCGGCATTTCTTTAATCTTTTGTTTGCATATTTTAAACACAAAATACACACTTCGACTCATCTGGTACGACCAGATCACCTTGCTACTAGTAGCGGCCGCTGCA  
GCGCCGGCGAAGATCTCTAGCCGTAAAGAAATTAGAAAACAAACGTATAAAAATTGTGTTTTATGTGTGAAGCTGAGTAGACCATGCTGGTCTAGTGGAACGATGATCATCGCCGGCG



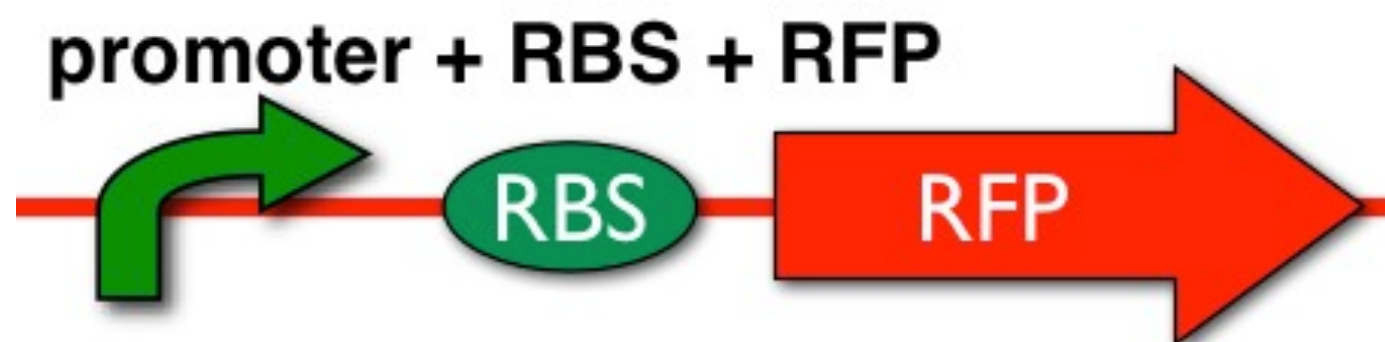
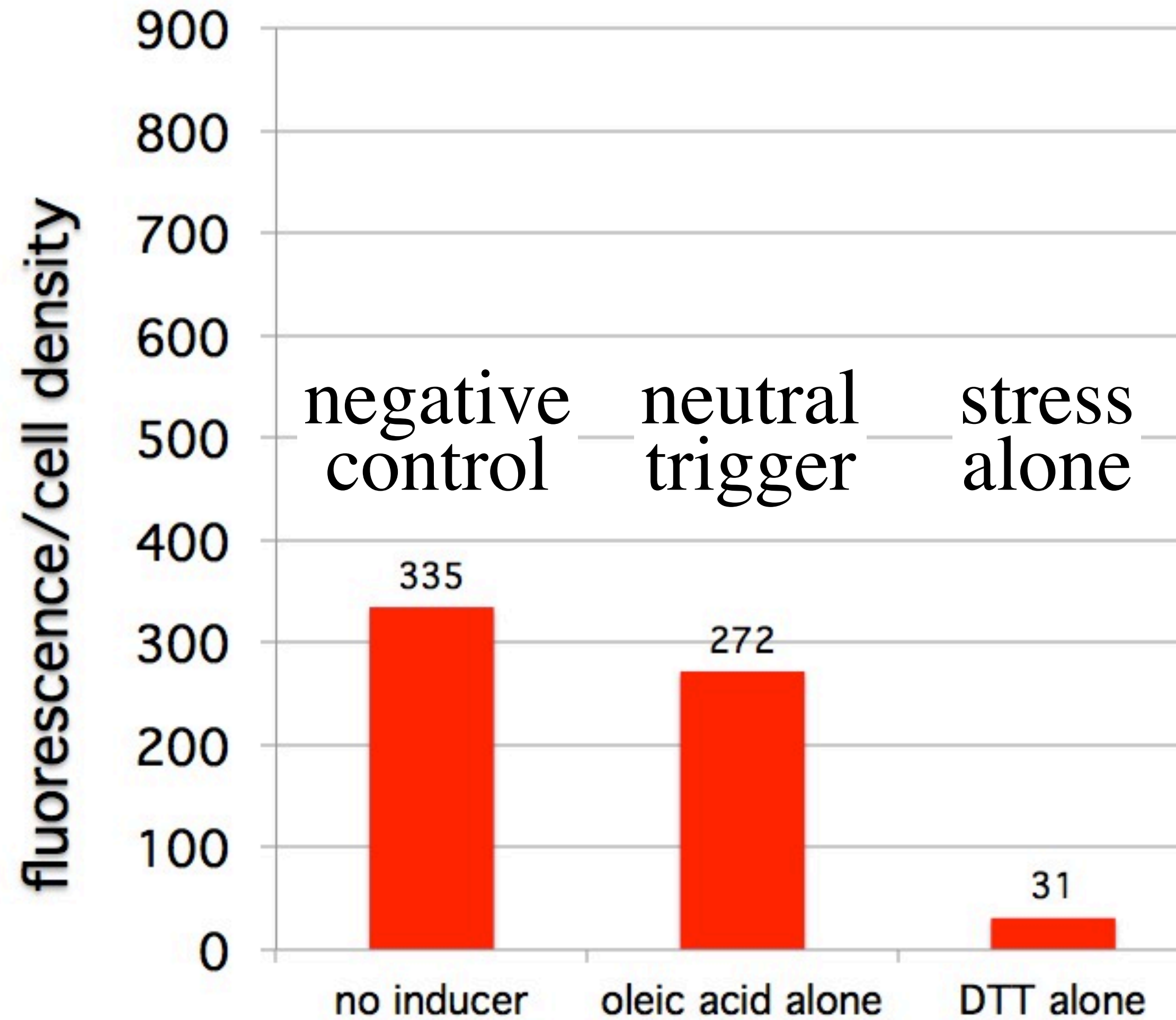
# Testing Stress Module



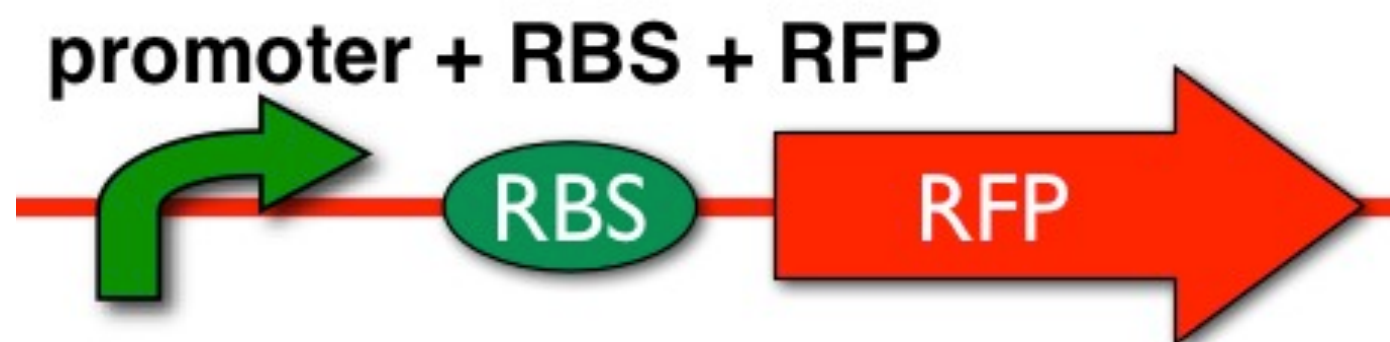
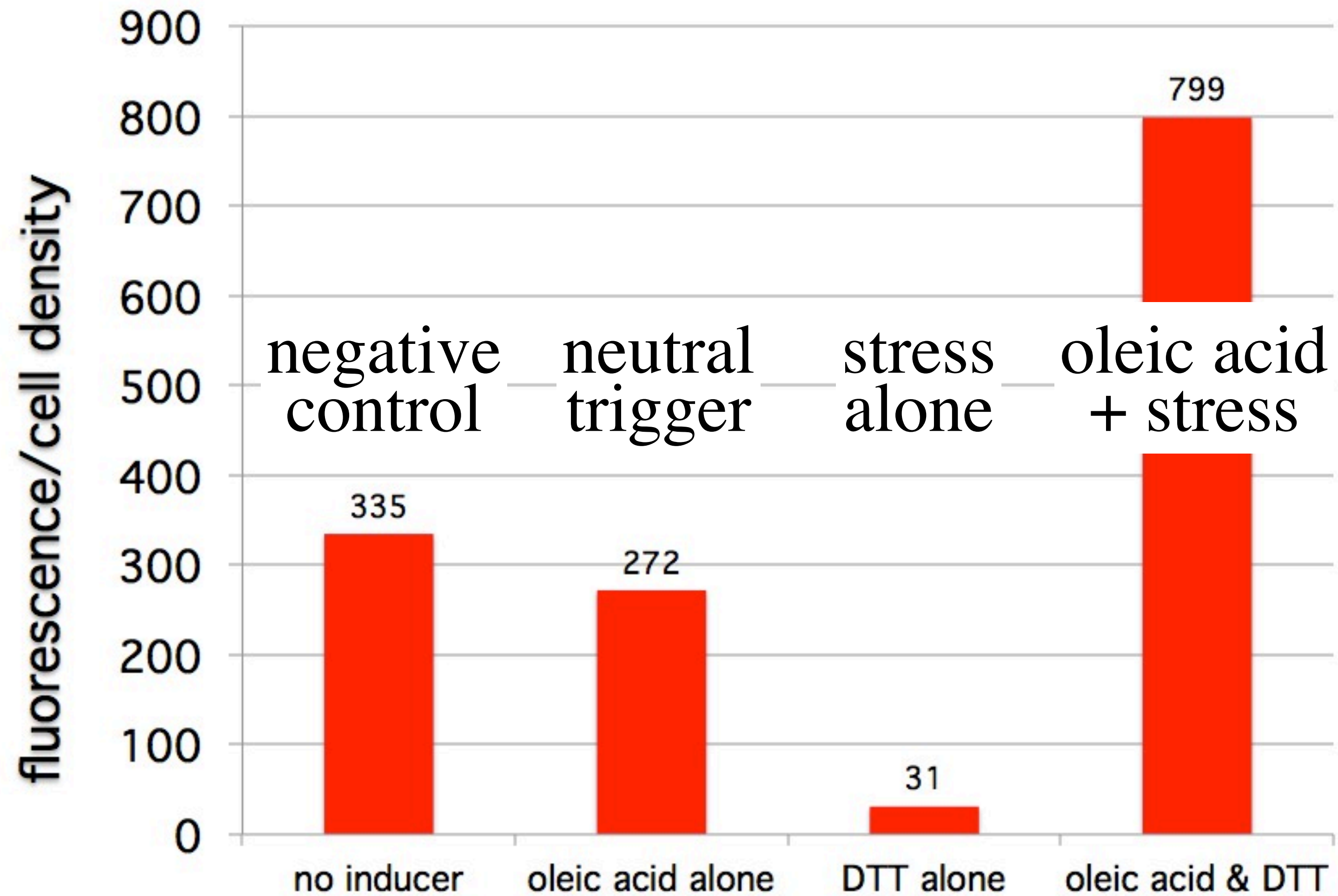
# Testing Stress Module



# Testing Stress Module



# Testing Stress Module



# Testing Stress Module

