

Advance Genetic Engineering

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GENETIC ENGINEERING VECTORS

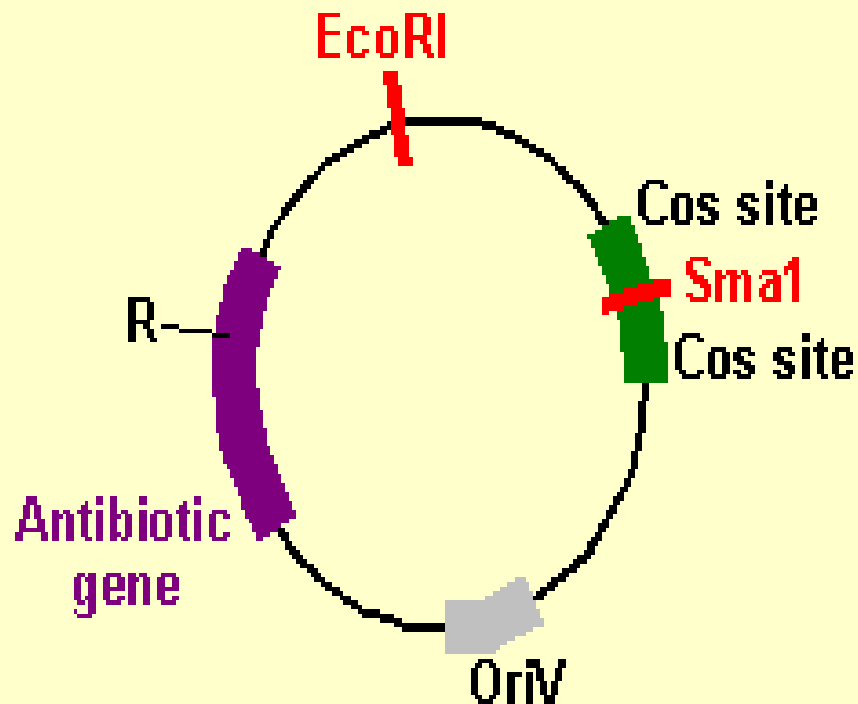
PART II : COSMIDS VIRUSES, EXPRESSION VECTORS & ARTIFICIAL CHROMOSOMES

Cosmids

- first described by Collins and Hohn in 1978
- hybrid plasmid that contains a Lambda phage *cos* sequence
- Cosmids can contain 37 to 52 (normally 45) kb of DNA,
- limits based on the normal bacteriophage packaging size
- They can replicate as plasmids if they have a suitable origin of replication

- contain a gene for selection such as antibiotic resistance
- Unlike plasmids, they can also be packaged in phage capsids
- Cos sequences are ~200 base pairs long and essential for packaging.
- They contain a *cosN* site where DNA is nicked at each strand, 12 bp apart, by terminase. This causes linearization of the circular cosmid with two "cohesive" or "sticky ends" of 12bp.

Basic Features of a Cosmid



KEY

OriV - origin of replication.

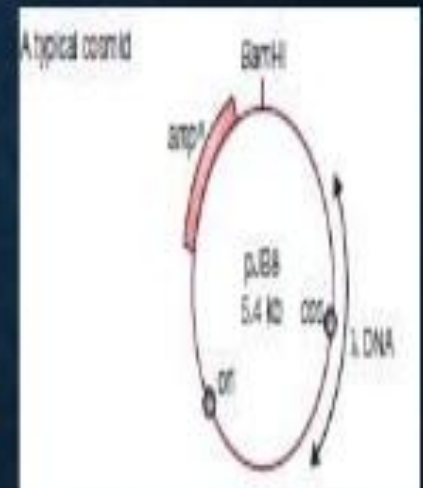
Cos sites - provide blunt ends.

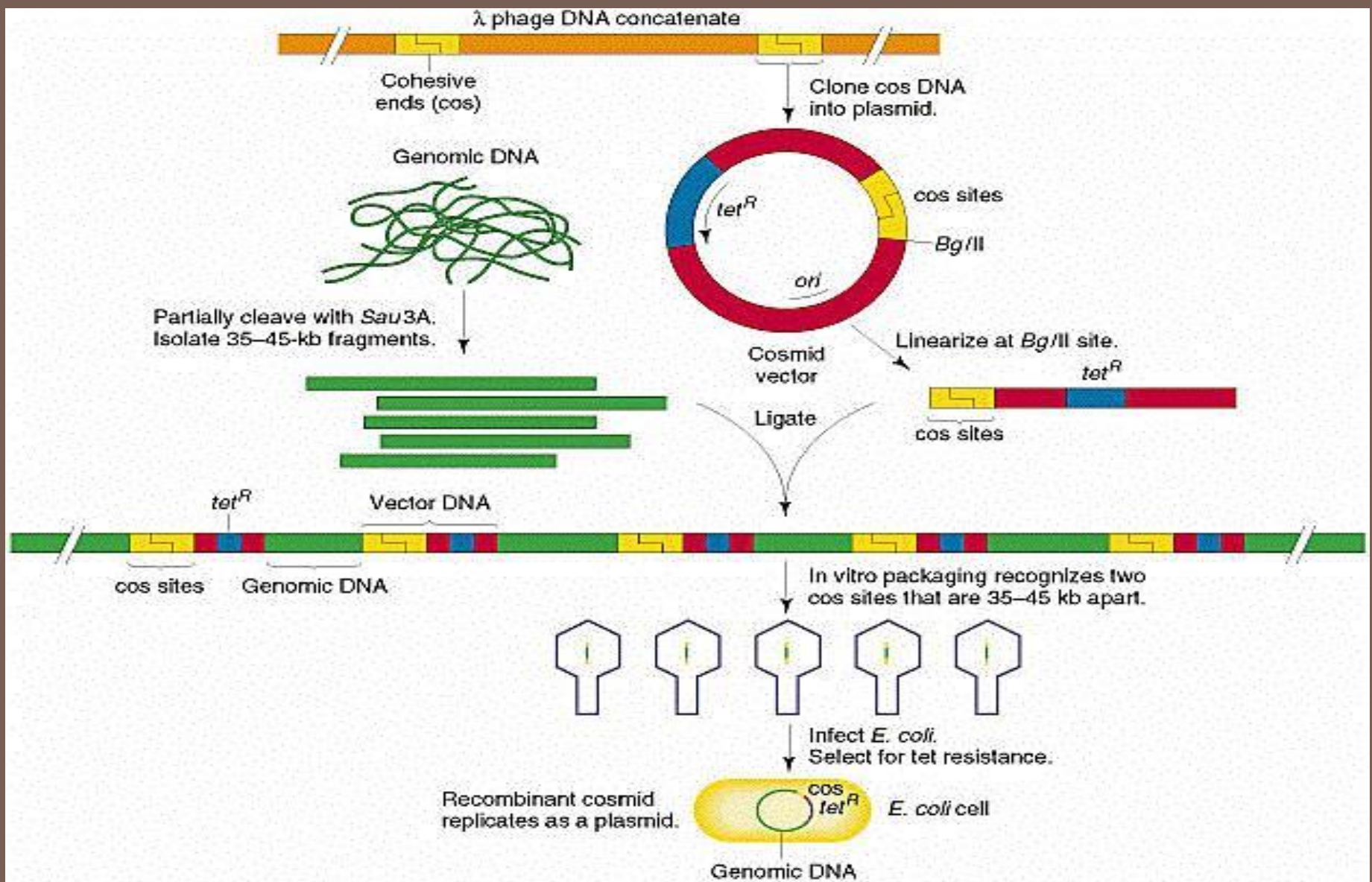
R - recombinant site

EcoRI } - Restriction endonuclease
SmaI } recognition sequence.

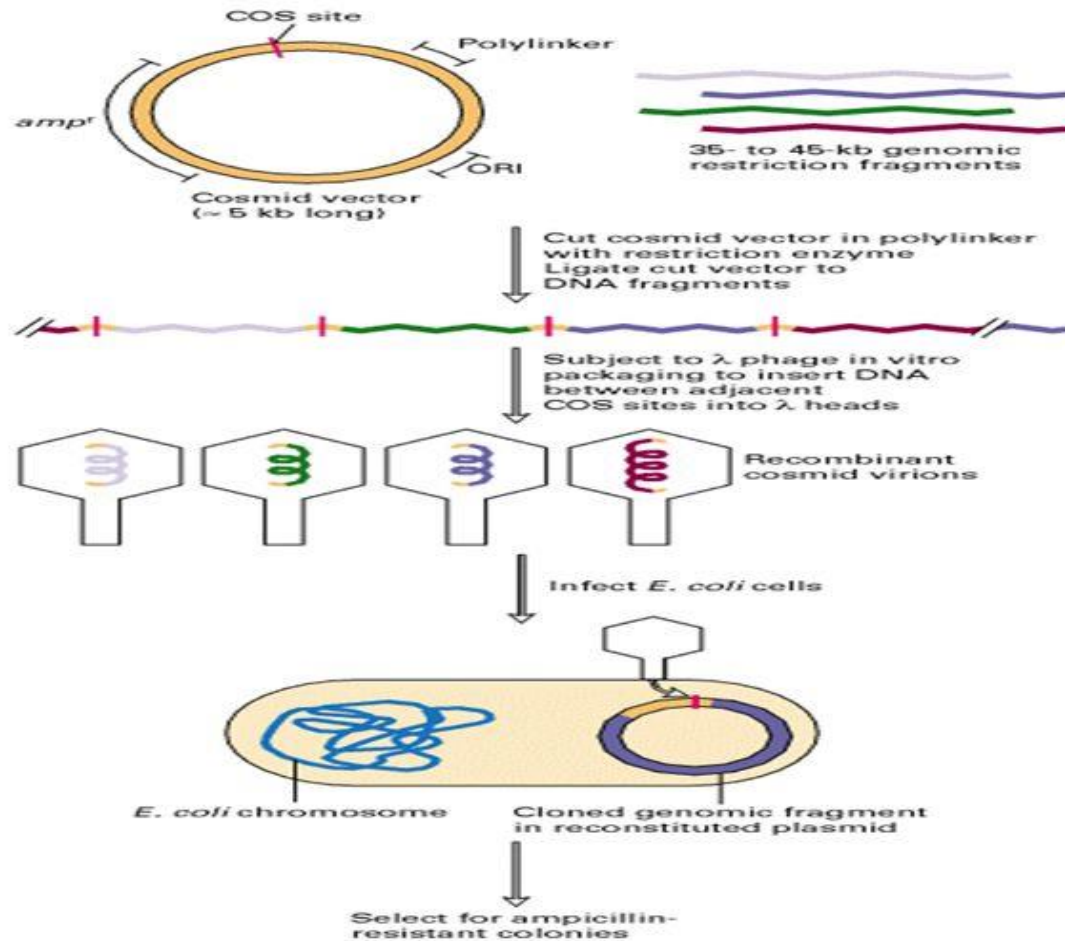
COSMIDS

- Cosmids are **hybrids between a phage DNA molecule and a bacterial plasmid**, and their design centers on the fact that the enzymes that package the λ DNA molecule into the phage protein coat need only the **cos sites** in order to function.
- The **in vitro packaging reaction** works not only with λ genomes, but also with any molecule that **carries cos sites** separated by 37–52 kb of DNA.
- A cosmid is basically a plasmid that carries a **cos site**.
- It also needs a **selectable marker**, such as the **ampicillin resistance gene**, and a plasmid **origin of replication**, as cosmids lack all the λ genes and so do not produce plaques.
- Instead colonies are formed on selective media, just as with a plasmid vector.





Cosmids



Problems associated with lambda and cosmid cloning

- Since repeats occur in eukaryotic DNA rearrangements can occur via recombination of the repeats present on the DNA inserted into lambda or cosmid.**
- Cosmids are difficult to maintain in a bacterial cell because they are somewhat unstable.**

VIRUSES

- They are complex molecules with unsafe genome, hence they are with limited application in cloning.

-Viral vectors are generally genetically - engineered viruses carrying modified viral DNA or RNA that has been rendered noninfectious, but still contain viral promoters and also the transgene, thus allowing for translation of the transgene through a viral promoter.

**-because viral vectors frequently are -
lacking infectious sequences, they require
helper viruses or packaging lines for large-
scale transfection.**

**-Viral vectors are often designed for
permanent incorporation of the insert into
the host genome.**

Examples: CamV, SV40, BPV

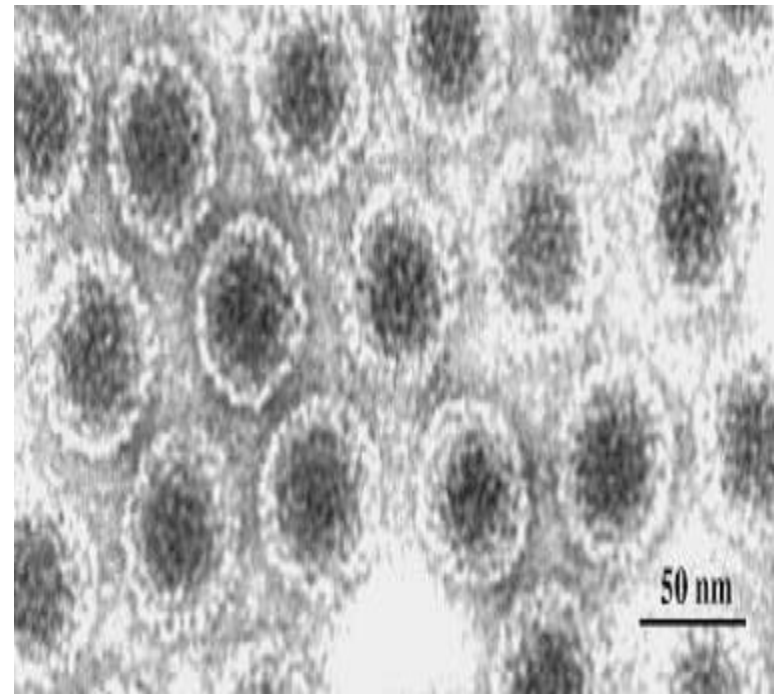
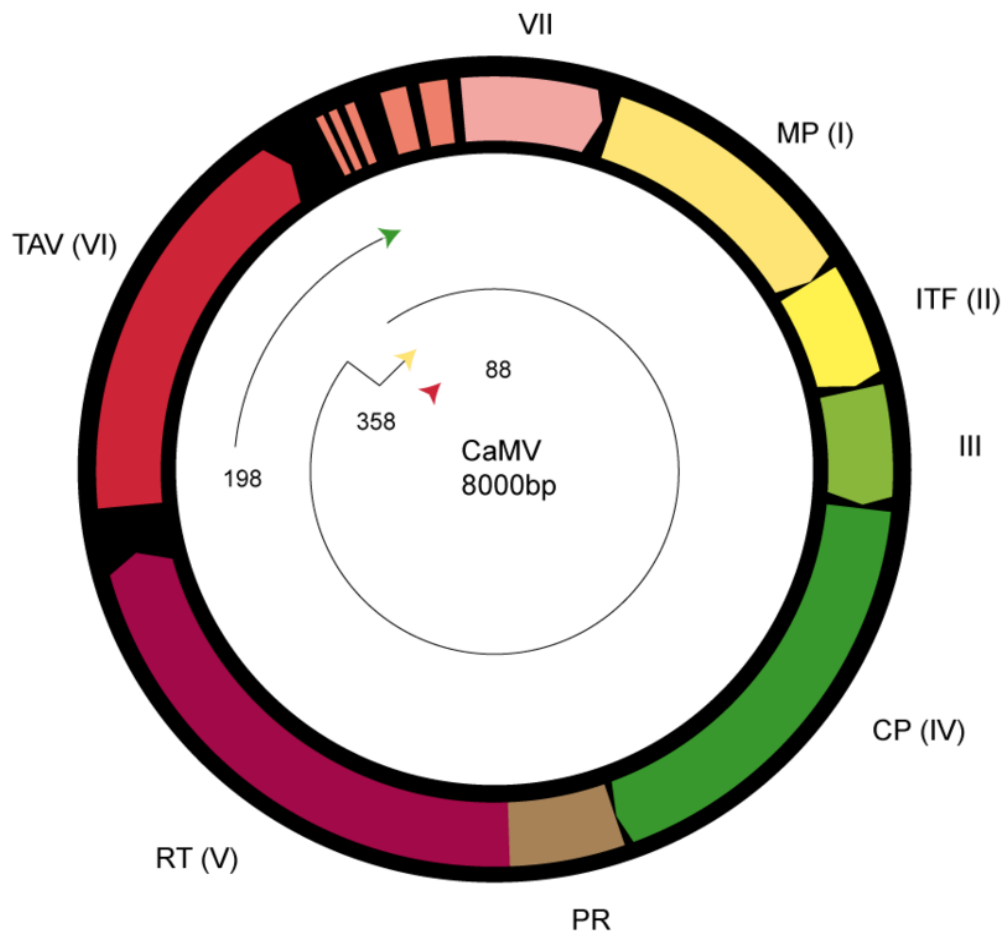
Caulimo viruse – Cauliflower mosaic virus-CaMV

-a member of the genus Caulimovirus, that infect plants.

-Pararetroviruses replicate through reverse transcription just like retroviruses, but the viral particles contain DNA instead of RNA.

CaMV infects mostly plants of - the Brassicaceae family (such as cauliflower and turnip) but some CaMV strains (D4 and W260) are also able to infect Solanaceae species of the genera Datura and Nicotiana.

- CaMV induces a variety of systemic symptoms such as - mosaic, necrotic lesions on leaf surfaces, stunted growth, and deformation of the overall plant structure. -
- CaMV contains a circular double-stranded DNA - molecule of about 8.0 kb with 6 genes plus intergenic region.
- After entering the host cell, these single stranded - "nicks" in the viral DNA are repaired, forming a supercoiled molecule that binds to histones. This DNA is transcribed into a full length.
- packaged as phage with 300bp capacity-





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Simian 40 virus- SV40

-Mammalian virus

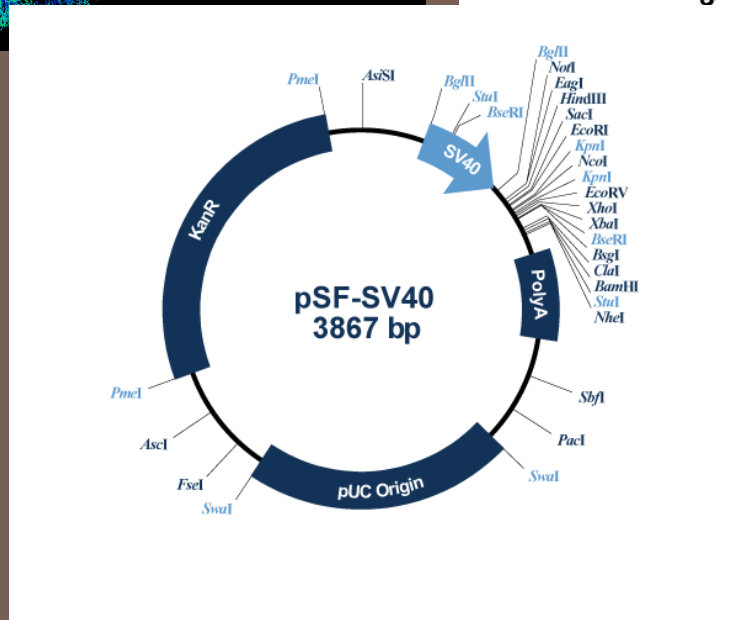
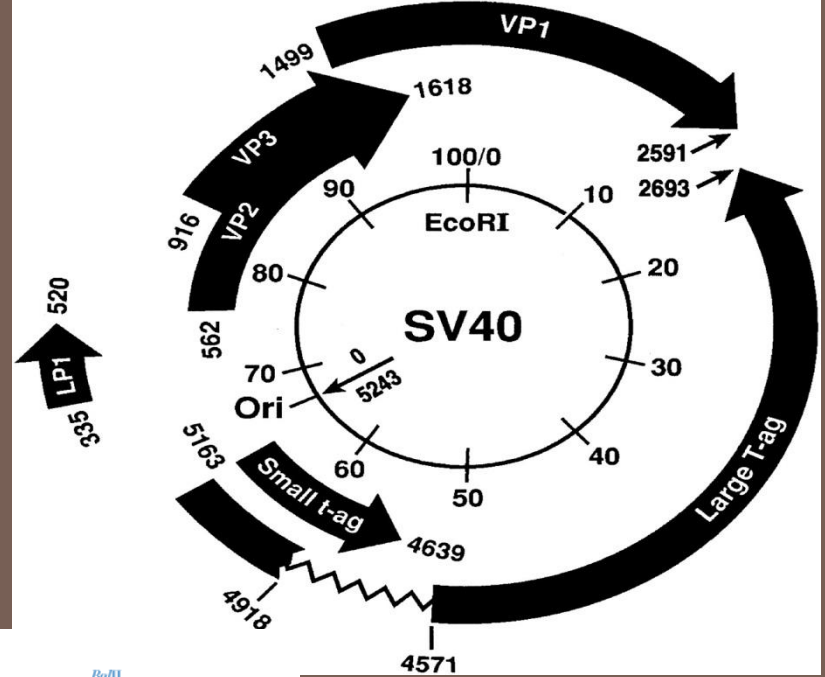
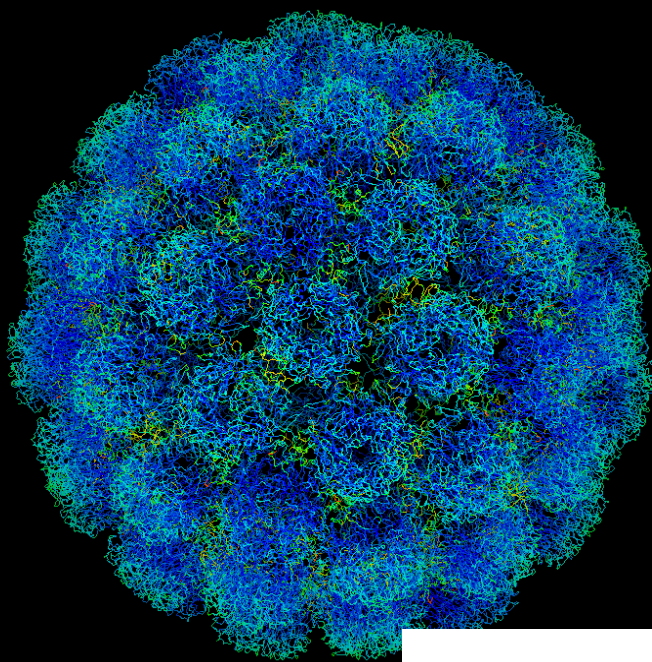
-5.2 Kb with 200-300bp capacity.

-need other virus for replication.

-a polyomavirus that is found in both monkeys and humans.

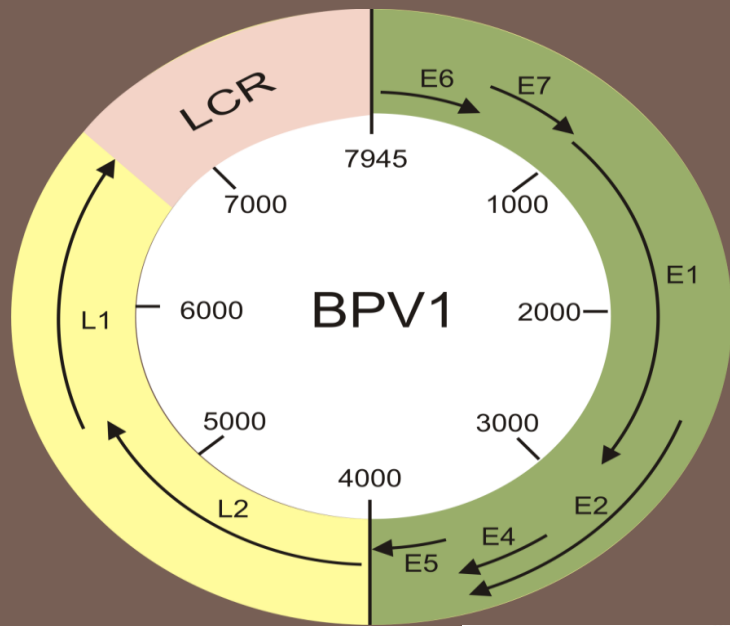
-It was named for the effect it produced on infected green monkey cells, which developed an unusual number of vacuoles.

-Like other polyomaviruses, SV40 is a DNA virus that has the potential to cause tumors in animals, but most often persists as a latent infection.



Bovine Papillom virus

- A double circular DNA with 8 kb.-
- Behave as plasmid inside cells with many copies.
- Transmit from cells to their progeny.
- Need immuno compatibility with host .
- Modified with PBR 322 plasmid to increase capacity to 10 kb and to infect different types of human cells and bacteria.

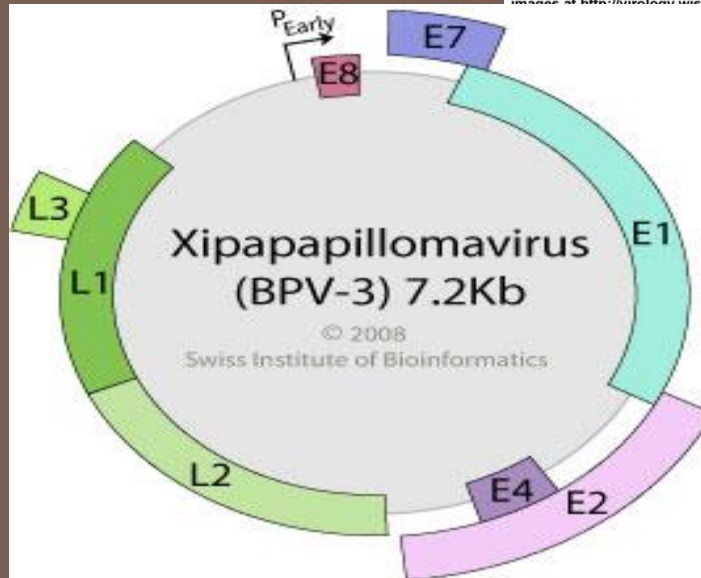
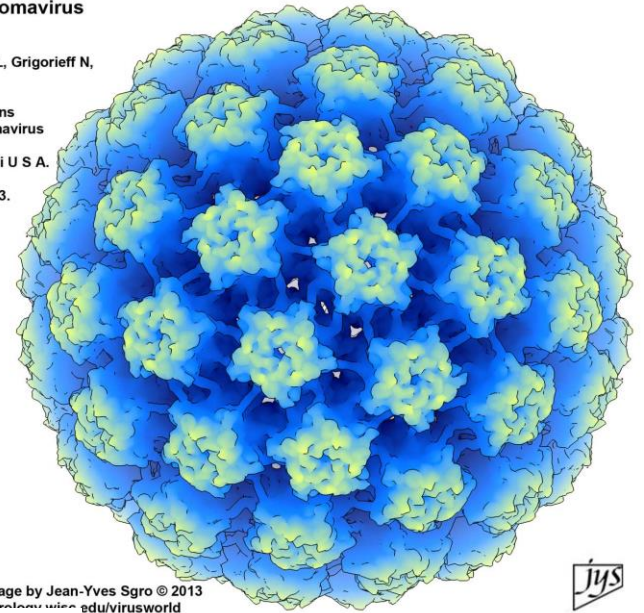


Bovine papillomavirus
PDB: 3iyj

Wolf M, Garcea RL, Grigorieff N, Harrison SC.

Subunit interactions
in bovine papillomavirus

Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A.
2010 April 6;
107(14): 6298-6303.



Human cytomegalovirus

Next Week...Students Talk

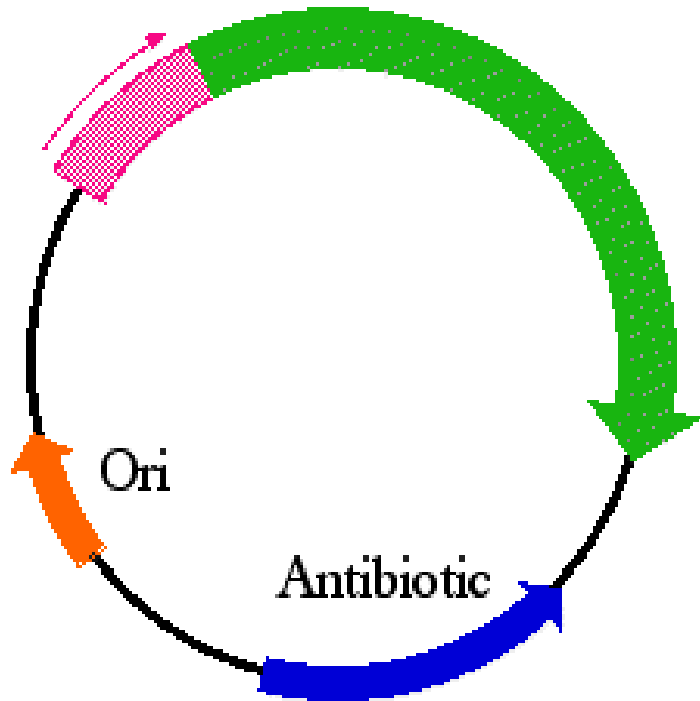
Expression vectors

Vectors with suitable strong promoter and gene expression control sequences to have maximum gene expression.

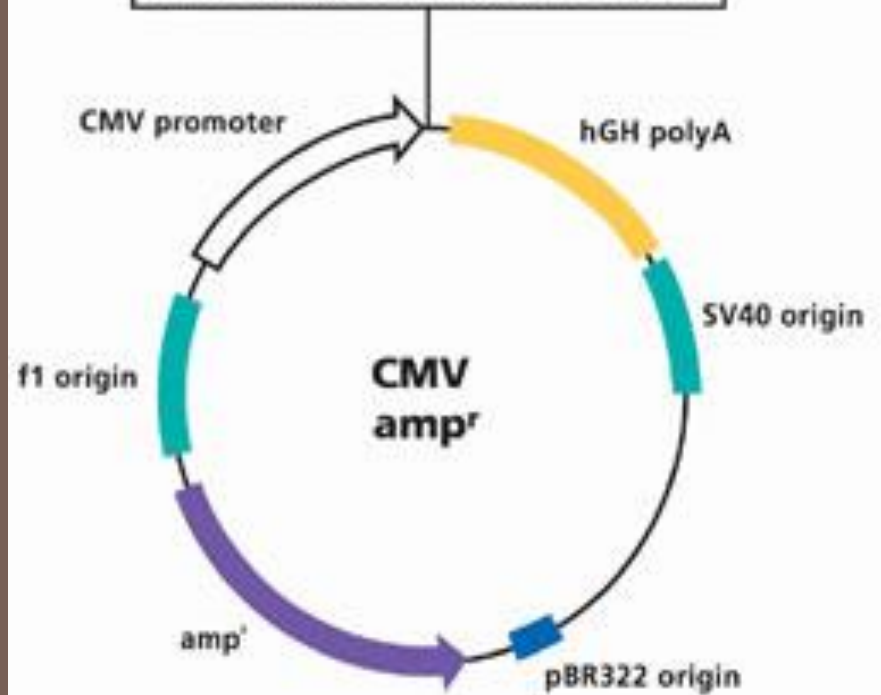
1. Insertion of a strong promoter.
2. Insertion of a strong termination codon.
3. Adjustment of distance between promoter and cloned gene.
4. Insertion of transcription termination sequences.
5. Insertion of a strong translation initiation sequence.

Promoter

Your Gene



MCS Regions Shown Below



Promoter	Expression Level	Applications
CMV	High	Commonly used in most cell lines (HeLa, HEK293, HT1080)
MCSV	High	Hematopoietic and Stem cells
EF1	Medium	Robust in most cell types, primary cells and Stem cells
PGK	Medium	Robust in most cell types, primary cells and Stem cells
UbC	Low	Low and steady in most cell types, primary cells and Stem cells

Types of expression vector

1. Simple EV
2. Cassette EV
3. Prokaryotes EV
4. Eukaryotes EV

Simple Expression vectors

1. With low or medium or strong promoter plus cloning site.

e.g. Trp, tac, lac, lambda PL, rec A promoters.

2. Gene expression controlled by adding or omitting media materials.

e.g.

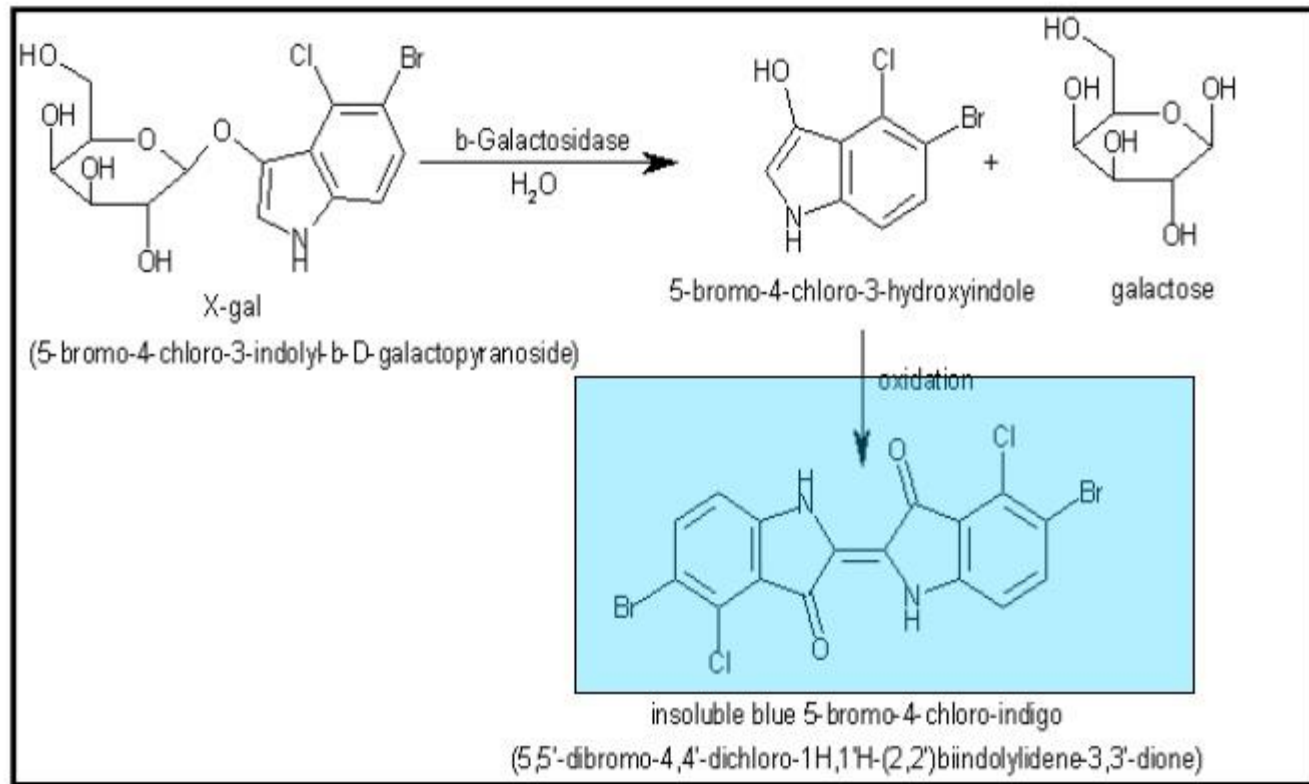
--Add tryptophan to stop expression and remove tryptophan for inducing expression.

--3-indoly acetic acid for trp

--isopropyl-B-D-thiogalactoside-IPTG for Lac and tac

Problems?????

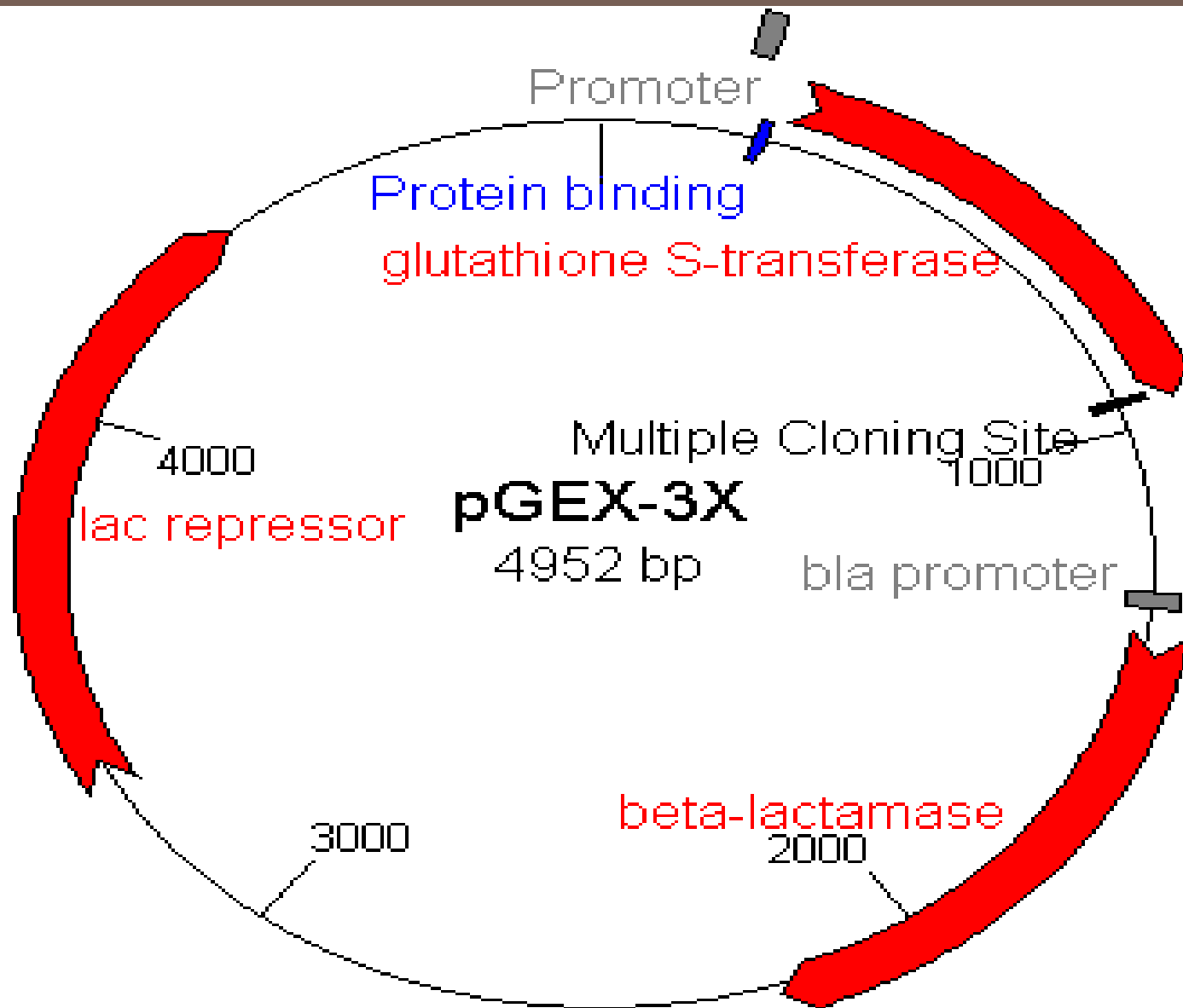
Based on the enzymatic reaction of β -galactosidase



Cassette Expression Vectors

1. with strong promoter.
2. With all gene expression parts.
3. With many restriction enzyme sites.
4. With ribosomal association site.
5. With terminator .

Problems????



Artificial chromosome

- 1. Constructed from cloned structural elements and centromere.**
- 2. The best characterized human DNA associated with the centromeric region of the chromosomes is the human α -satellite present at the centromeres of all normal human chromosomes.**

yeast artificial chromosomes (YAC)

The basis of a YAC are the vector arms, which contain all functions necessary for mitotic segregation in yeast, including a centromeric sequence (CEN), an autonomous replication sequence (ARS), and telomere sequences (TEL). In addition, the vector arms harbor selectable markers (*TRP1* and *URA3*, mediating tryptophan and uracil autotrophy in suitable yeast hosts) and an interruptible marker containing the *EcoRI* cloning site (*SUP4-o*, mediating a red/white color selection for DNA insertion events). The most frequently used YAC vector is pYAC4 (1), which, besides the elements previously mentioned, contains the Col E1 replication origin and the ampicillin selectable marker for propagation in *Escherichia coli*.

YAC map and schematic of YAC cloning

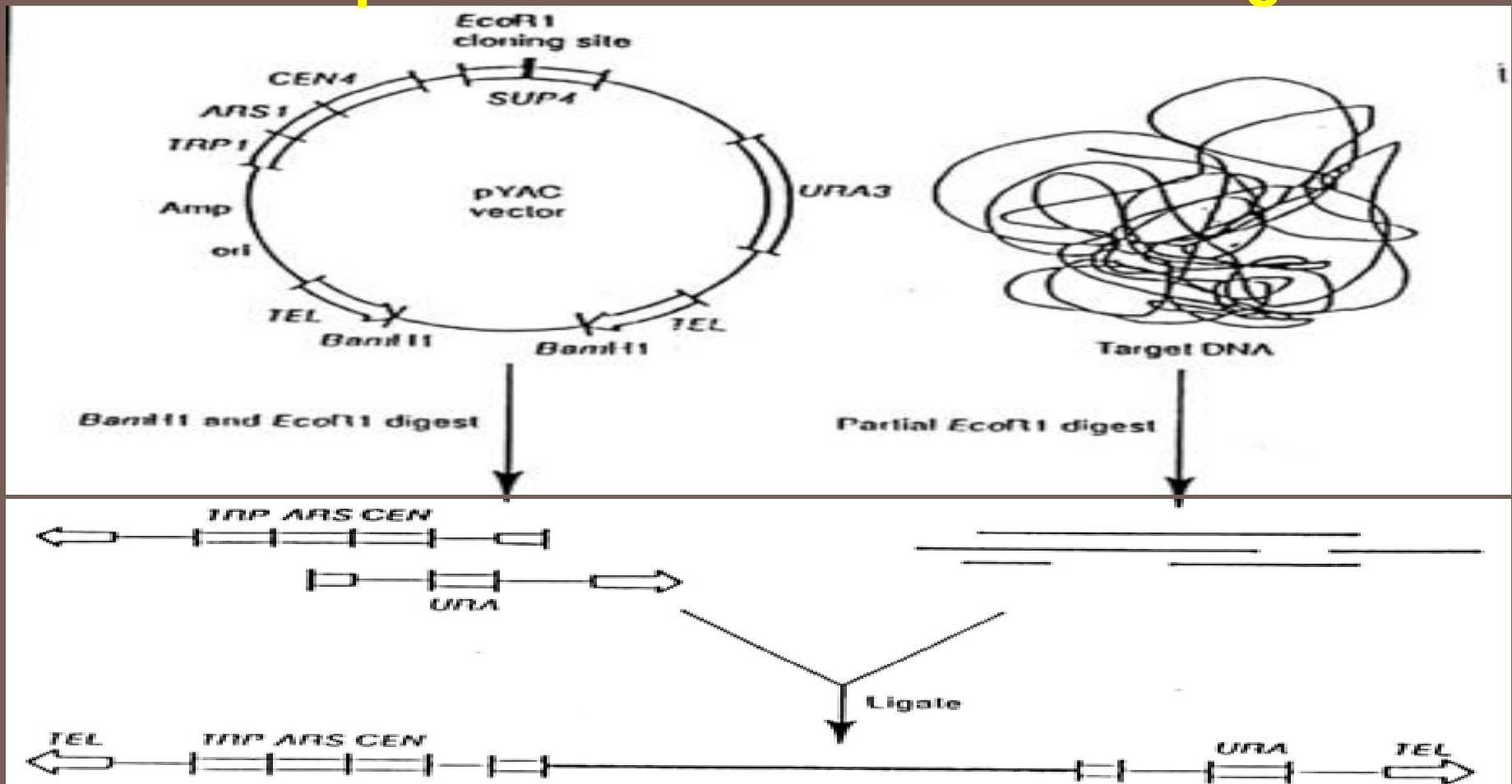


Fig. 1. Construction of a yeast artificial chromosome cloning system. A plasmid containing inverted repeats of telomeric (TEL) sequences, a centromere sequence (CEN4) and selectable markers (TRP1 and URA3) provides the two vector "arms" after cleavage in a cloning site in the SUP4 gene and at the BamHI sites, which can be healed by yeast to give functional telomeres. After dephosphorylation the vector arms are ligated to large DNA fragments. Transformation is used to introduce these constructs into yeast, where they are maintained as synthetic chromosomes. Modified from Ref. 9.

Next week

**you have talks about
mammalian, bacterial and
yeast artificial chromosomes**